

1. Prove the mean value theorem: Let P be an interior point of a volume V . Let y be a solution of the Laplace equation in V . Then $y(P)$ is the average of y over the surface of any sphere in V centered about P . [Hint: Use the integral equation.] Prove that the solution of the Laplace equation cannot have a maximum or a minimum in V .
2. Consider the Laplace equation $\nabla^2\phi = 0$ in a volume V with boundary S .

(a) Prove using the Green's identity, that for a function f ,

$$\int_V (f\nabla^2 f + |\nabla f|^2) dv = \oint_S f (\nabla f \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}) dS.$$

(b) Prove that the solution (assuming that it exists) to the Laplace equation in V with either Dirichlet or Neumann boundary conditions must be unique.

3. Prove that the Green's function for Laplace equation must be symmetric under exchange of its arguments, that is, $G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = G(\mathbf{r}', \mathbf{r})$. [Note: This result is true for all self-adjoint operators. Try and prove this result for Green's functions of Sturm-Liouville equations.]
4. Show that the Dirichlet Green's function for the unbounded space between $z = 0$ and $z = L$ planes is given by

$$G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{4}{L} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{im(\phi-\phi')} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z'}{L}\right) I_m\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\rho_{<}\right) K_m\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\rho_{>}\right).$$

5. For the same geometry of problem 4, show that alternate form of the Green's function is

$$G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = 2 \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^k dk e^{im(\phi-\phi')} J_m(k\rho) J_m(k\rho') \frac{\sinh(kz_{<}) \sinh[k(L-z_{>})]}{\sinh(kL)}.$$

6. Consider two parallel conducting plates $z = 0$ and $z = L$. The potential on the $z = 0$ plate is zero, and on $z = L$ is given by

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi, L) = \begin{cases} V & \rho \leq a \\ 0 & \rho > a. \end{cases}$$

(a) Show that the potential between the plates can be written as

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi, z) = V \int_0^{\infty} d\lambda J_1(\lambda) J_0(\lambda\rho/a) \frac{\sinh(\lambda z/a)}{\sinh(\lambda L/a)}$$