

## Ham sandwich Theorem Proof outline:

Let  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  be solids in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . We'll find a plane  $P$  that bisects all of them.

Following the hint, define  $g_1: S^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

by  $g_1(x) = v_1(x) - w_1(x)$ , where  $v_1(x)$  is the volume of  $A_1$  on the side of plane  $P_x$  ~~with normal vector~~ that contains  $x$ , and  $w_1(x)$  the volume of  $A_1$  on the other side — but we still need to specify which plane  $P_x$  is (there are many planes that have normal vector  $x$ ). So let  $P_x$  be a plane such that  $P_x$  has normal vector  $x$ , and  $P_x$  bisects  $A_3$ . (Such a plane exists by the intermediate value theorem).

Assuming  $A_3$  is nice (e.g. <sup>smooth boundary,</sup> can be approximated by rectilinear figures)  $P_x$  will vary smoothly with  $x$  (I did not expect you to prove this rigorously). So  $g_1$  is smooth also.

Similarly, let  $g_2(x) = v_2(x) - w_2(x)$ , where  $v_2(x)$  is the volume of  $A_2$  on the  $\vec{x}$  side of  $P_x$ , and  $w_2(x)$  the volume of  $A_2$  on the other side. Note  $g_i(-x) = -g_i(x)$

By Borsuk-Ulam consequence #2, the functions  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  have a common zero. For this  $x$ ,  $P_x$  bisects all three solids.

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Since  $P_{-x} = P_x$ , and ~~hence~~  $v_i(x) = -w_i(-x)$

$$\text{so } g_i(-x) = v_i(-x) - w_i(-x)$$

$$= w_i(x) - v_i(x) = -g_i(x)$$