

Variationsrechnung

5. Übung, Lösungsvorschlag

Hausübung

H 1 Sei $f(x) = |x|^2$ für $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

1. Berechnen Sie die Legendretransformierte f^* von f .

We have $f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} (x \cdot y - f(x))$ and so

$$f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} (x \cdot y - |x|^2).$$

Observe that the above supremum is attained if x is parallel to y (then $x \cdot y$ has a maximum, while $|x|$ doesn't depend on the angle between x and y). Therefore $x = \lambda y$, where $\lambda > 0$ is the maximum of the function

$$g(\lambda) = \lambda y \cdot y - |\lambda y|^2 = (\lambda - \lambda^2)|y|^2.$$

This maximum is attained for $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$ and so $x = \frac{1}{2}y$ and $f^*(y) = \frac{1}{2}|y|^2 - \frac{1}{4}|y|^2 = \frac{1}{4}|y|^2$.

2. Zeigen Sie dass $f^*(\nabla f(x)) = \nabla f(x) \cdot x - f(x)$ gilt.

Observe that $\nabla f(x) = 2x$ and so

$$f^*(\nabla f(x)) - \nabla f(x) \cdot x + f(x) = \frac{1}{4}|2x|^2 - 2x \cdot x + |x|^2 = 0.$$

H 2 Sei $\bar{K} = \{|x| \leq 1\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ eine Kugel und sei $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$ definiert durch

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \in \bar{K} \\ +\infty, & x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \bar{K}. \end{cases}$$

1. Zeigen Sie, dass f konvex ist.

This follows from convexity of K and the fact that $f = \infty$ on $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \bar{K}$.

2. Berechnen Sie das Subdifferential ∂f von f .

The definition of subdifferential is: $v \in \partial f(x)$, when

$$\forall y \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad f(y) \geq f(x) + (v, y - x).$$

Observe that if $x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \bar{K}$, then $f(x) = \infty$ and taking $y \in K$ the above inequality cannot hold (since $f(y) = 0$). Therefore, $\partial f(x) = \emptyset$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \bar{K}$. Observe also, that for $x \in \text{Int } K$ we can take $\rho > 0$ so small that $B(x, \rho) \subset \text{Int } K$. Then, taking $y \in B(x, \rho)$ we have that $w = y - x \in B(0, \rho)$ and so

$$0 \geq 0 + (v, w)$$

which implies that $v = 0$. Therefore $\partial f(x) = \{0\}$ for $x \in \text{Int } K$.

It remains to compute what is $\partial f(x)$ for $x \in \partial K$. Observe that it is only sufficient to take $y \in K$. Then we have

$$0 \geq (v, y - x) \iff (v, x - y) \geq 0$$

for all $y \in K$. This means that the angle between v and $x - y$ is between $-\frac{\pi}{2}$ and $\frac{\pi}{2}$ and so $\partial f(x)$ is the half-space, tangent to K at x , not including K .