Analysis and Differential Geometry Seminar

A characterization of the polarity transform for reflectors

Anastasia Svishcheva Emory University

Abstract: Convex reflectors arise as solutions to nonlinear second order elliptic partial differential equations (PDE's) of Monge-Ampère type expressing conservation laws in geometrical optics. Previously it was shown by V. Oliker that this transform can be viewed as duality with respect to the form $Q(X,Y) := |X||Y| - \langle X,Y \rangle$, $X,Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$. A natural and interesting geometric question is to find a minimal set of properties characterizing such duality transform between reflectors. I will speak about sufficient conditions for this transformation to be such duality.

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