

Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex function whose gradient $\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \right)$ exists at every point of \mathbb{R}^n and satisfies the condition

$$\exists L > 0 \forall x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n :$$

$$\|\nabla f(x_1) - \nabla f(x_2)\| \leq L\|x_1 - x_2\|.$$

Prove that

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\nabla f(x_1) - \nabla f(x_2)\|^2 \\ \leq L \langle \nabla f(x_1) - \nabla f(x_2), x_1 - x_2 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

In this formula $\langle a, b \rangle$ denotes the scalar product of the vectors a and b .