



planetmath.org

Math for the people, by the people.

Wulff theorem

Canonical name	WulffTheorem
Date of creation	2013-03-22 15:19:50
Last modified on	2013-03-22 15:19:50
Owner	paolini (1187)
Last modified by	paolini (1187)
Numerical id	8
Author	paolini (1187)
Entry type	Theorem
Classification	msc 52A21
Related topic	FinslerGeometry
Defines	Wulff shape

Definition 1 (Wulff shape). *Let $\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ be a non-negative, convex, coercive, positively 1-homogeneous function. We define the Wulff shape relative to ϕ as the set*

$$W_\phi := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n: \langle x, y \rangle \leq 1 \text{ for all } y \text{ such that } \phi(y) \leq 1\}$$

(where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is the Euclidean inner product in \mathbb{R}^n .)

Theorem 1 (Wulff). *Let $\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ be a non-negative, convex, coercive, 1-homogeneous function. Given a regular open set $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ we consider the following anisotropic surface energy:*

$$F_\phi(D) = \int_{\partial D} \phi(\nu_D(x)) d\sigma(x)$$

where $\nu_D(x)$ is the outer unit normal to ∂D , and σ is the surface area on ∂D . Then, given any set D with the same volume as W_ϕ , i.e. $|D| = |W_\phi|$, one has $F_\phi(D) \geq F_\phi(W_\phi)$. Moreover if $|D| = |W_\phi|$ and $F_\phi(D) = F_\phi(W_\phi)$ then D is a translation of W_ϕ i.e. there exists $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $D = v + W_\phi$.