

PS 22: Problem 2.32

(a) The Legendre transform of a function $f(x)$ is given by

$$\mathcal{G}[m(x)] = f(x) - xm \quad (1)$$

where $m = f'(x)$.

Let $f = x^3$. Its Legendre transform is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}[m(x)] &= x^3 - x(3x^2) \\ &= -2x^3 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

But this must be expressed only in terms of m . Using $m = f'(x)$,

$$\begin{aligned} m &= 3x^2 \\ x &= \sqrt{\frac{m}{3}} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Thus,

$$\boxed{\mathcal{G}[x^3] = -2\left(\frac{m}{3}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \quad (4)$$

(b) Let $f(x) = x$. Its Legendre transform is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}[m(x)] &= f(x) - xm \\ &= x - x(1) \\ \boxed{\mathcal{G}[x] &= 0} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Let $f(x) = \sin(x)$. Its Legendre transform is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}[m(x)] &= \sin(x) - x \cos(x) \\ x &= \cos^{-1}(m) \\ \mathcal{G}[m(x)] &= \sin(\cos^{-1}(m)) - m \cos^{-1}(m) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

We can simplify this using the property

$$\sin(\cos^{-1}(m)) = \sqrt{1 - m^2} \quad (7)$$

Using this, we rewrite (6) as

$$\boxed{\mathcal{G}[\sin(x)] = \sqrt{1 - m^2} - m \cos^{-1}(m)} \quad (8)$$