Calculus of Variations

Spring 2017

Third Assignment

Due in ink at 1:25 p.m. on Monday, March 27, 2017

1. Find all admissible extremals for

$$J[y] = \int_{0}^{b} (x+1){y'}^{2} dx$$

with y(0) = 0 and b > 0 when (b, β) must lie on $y = 1 + \ln(x + 1)$. [10]

2. Find all admissible extremals for

$$J[y] = \int_{0}^{1} \left\{ y'^{2} + yy' + y' + \frac{1}{2}y \right\} dx$$

when

(a) y(0) = 0 but $y(1) = \beta$ is free.

(b) y(1) = 0 but $y(0) = \alpha$ is free.

In each case, discuss whether a minimum is achieved.

3. Find an admissible extremal for the problem of minimizing

$$J[y] = \int_{0}^{1} \{y^{2} + {y'}^{2} + 2ye^{2x}\} dx$$

with $y(0) = \frac{1}{3}$, $y(1) = \frac{1}{3}e^2$. Show that it satisfies the sufficient condition, explicitly identifying both a suitable field of extremals and its associated direction field. [10]

4. Find an admissible extremal for the problem of minimizing

(a)
$$J[y] = \int_{0}^{2} {y'}^{2} dx$$
 subject to $\int_{0}^{2} {y} dx = 8$

with y(0) = 1, y(2) = 3 and for the problem of minimizing

(b)
$$J[y] = \int_{1}^{3} {y'}^2 dx$$
 subject to $\int_{1}^{3} {y \, dx} = 2$
= 2, $y(3) = 4$. [10]

with y(1) =

[Perfect score: $4 \times 10 = 40$]

[10]