

Homework 1

Exercise 1.

$$1) \{x \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid x_i \leq a_i \leq b_i, i=1, \dots, m\} = S$$

Let $x, y \in S$. So for every $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$, $\begin{cases} a_i \leq x_i \leq b_i \\ a_i \leq y_i \leq b_i \end{cases}$

Let $\theta \in [0, 1]$, and show that $\theta x + (1-\theta)y \in S$

Let θ . Let $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$.

$$x_i = \theta x_i + (1-\theta)x_i \leq \theta b_i + (1-\theta)a_i \leq \theta b_i + (1-\theta)b_i = b_i$$

$$\text{So } \theta x + (1-\theta)y \in S$$

By definition, S is convex

$$2) S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid x_1 x_2 \geq 1\}$$

As $(0, 0) \notin S$, we can write equivalently:

$$S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid x_1 x_2 \geq 1\}$$

$$= \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid y \geq \frac{1}{x}\}$$

Let $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ with $x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}$. $S = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid y \geq f(x)\}$

f is convex and $\text{dom } f = \mathbb{R}_{++}$ is a convex set

Let $x = (x_1, y_1), y = (x_2, y_2) \in S$ and $\theta \in [0, 1]$.

$$\theta y_1 + (1-\theta)y_2 \geq \theta f(x_1) + (1-\theta)f(x_2) \geq f(\theta x_1 + (1-\theta)x_2)$$

$$\begin{array}{l} y_1 \geq f(x_1) \\ y_2 \geq f(x_2) \end{array}$$

f is convex

So by definition, S is convex

$$3. E = \{x \mid \|x - x_0\| \leq \|x - y\| \text{ for all } y \in S\}$$

Let $x \in E$ and $y \in S$. We have:

$$\|x - x_0\|_2^2 \leq \|x - y\|_2^2$$

$$(=) \quad \langle x - x_0, x - x_0 \rangle \leq \langle x - y, x - y \rangle$$

$$(=) \quad \|x\|_2^2 - 2 \langle x, x_0 \rangle + \|x_0\|_2^2 \leq \|x\|_2^2 - 2 \langle x, y \rangle + \|y\|_2^2$$

$$(=) \quad 2 \langle x, y - x_0 \rangle \leq \|y\|_2^2 - \|x_0\|_2^2$$

$$(=) \quad 2(y - x_0)^T x \leq \|y\|_2^2 - \|x_0\|_2^2$$

$$\text{So } E = \{x \mid 2(y - x_0)^T x \leq \|y\|_2^2 - \|x_0\|_2^2 \text{ for all } y \in S\}$$

That set is an half-space for all $y \in S$, which is convex.

By an intersection, $E = \bigcap_{y \in S} \{x \mid 2(y - x_0)^T x \leq \|y\|_2^2 - \|x_0\|_2^2\}$

So E is convex by operation that preserves convexity.

$$4) E = \{x \mid \text{dist}(x, S) \leq \text{dist}(x, T)\}, S, T \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$$

Let us show with a counterexample that E is not convex.

$$5) E = \{x \mid x + S_2 \subseteq S_1\} \text{ and } x + S_2 = \{x + y \mid y \in S_2\}$$

So, if we note $f_{S_2}(x) = x + y$ with $y \in S_2$, we have an affine function

And affine functions preserve convexity, we have

$$E = \{x \mid f(x) \in S_1\} \text{ that is convex (inverse image of } f_{S_2})$$

Exercise 2 1) $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 x_2$, on \mathbb{R}_{++}^2

Let us compute the Hessian $\nabla^2 f$ of because is twice differentiable:

$$\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This definite positive because for all $x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$, $x^\top \nabla^2 f x = 2x_1 x_2 > 0$

So f is strictly convex

2) $f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{x_1 x_2}$ on \mathbb{R}_{++}^2

Let us compute the Hessian $\nabla^2 f$ of f because f is twice differentiable by composition.

Let $(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}(x_1, x_2) = -\frac{x_2}{(x_1 x_2)^2} = -\frac{1}{x_1^2 x_2}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}(x_1, x_2) = -\frac{1}{x_1 x_2^2}$$

$$\text{So } \nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{x_1^3 x_2} & \frac{x_1^2 x_2^2}{2} \\ \frac{1}{x_1^2 x_2^2} & \frac{1}{x_1 x_2^3} \end{pmatrix}$$

As every element of the matrix is strictly positive, for all $x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$, $x^T \nabla^2 f x > 0$

So Thus, f is strictly convex

$$3) f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{x_1}{x_2} \text{ on } \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$$

Let us compute the Hessian $\nabla^2 f$ as f is twice differentiable to show that f is neither convex nor concave

Let $(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{x_2}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}(x_1, x_2) = -\frac{x_1}{x_2^2}$$

$$\text{So } \nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{1}{x_2^2} \\ -\frac{1}{x_2^2} & \frac{2x_1 x_2}{x_2^3} \end{pmatrix}$$

Let $X = (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$

$$X^T \nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) X = -\frac{2xy}{x_2^2} + \frac{2x_1 x_2 y^2}{x_2^3}$$

And this expression depends on all variable so sign of this

The Hessian is neither semi definite positive nor negative

Thus f is neither convex nor concave.

Let us show that f is quasi linear, meaning quasi convex and quasi concave.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } \alpha \in \mathbb{R}. \quad S_\alpha^- &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid \frac{x_1}{x_2} \leq \alpha\} \\ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid x_1 \leq \alpha x_2\} \end{aligned}$$

This defines a half space of \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 , so S_α^- is convex

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Similarly, } S_\alpha^+ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid \frac{x_1}{x_2} \geq \alpha\} \\ &= \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid x_1 \geq \alpha x_2\} \end{aligned}$$

defines a half space of \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 so S_α^+ is concave, convex

So f is both quasi convex and quasi concave thus f is quasi linear

4) $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^\alpha x_2^{1-\alpha}$, where $0 < \alpha < 1$, on \mathbb{R}_{++}^2

Let us compute the Hessian $\nabla^2 f$ as f is twice differentiable

Let $(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} = \alpha x_1^{\alpha-1} x_2^{1-\alpha} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} = \alpha(\alpha-1) x_1^{\alpha-2} x_2^{1-\alpha}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} = (1-\alpha) x_1^\alpha x_2^{-\alpha} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} = -\alpha(1-\alpha) x_1^\alpha x_2^{-\alpha-1}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} = \alpha(\lambda-\alpha) x_1^{\alpha-1} x_2^{-\alpha}$$

$$\text{So } \nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha(\alpha-1)x_1^{\alpha-2} x_2^{1-\alpha} & (\lambda-\alpha)x_1^{\alpha-1} x_2^{-\alpha} \\ (\lambda-\alpha)x_1^{\alpha-1} x_2^{-\alpha} & -\alpha(\lambda-\alpha)x_1^{\alpha-2} x_2^{1-\alpha} \end{pmatrix}$$

To show that $\nabla^2 f$ is semi-definite positive we will show that $\det(\nabla^2 f)$ is positive and the leading principal minor is positive.

$$\det(\nabla^2 f) = -[\alpha(\alpha-1)x_1^{\alpha-2} x_2^{1-\alpha}] / [\alpha(\lambda-\alpha)x_1^{\alpha-2} x_2^{1-\alpha}] \\ - (\lambda-\alpha)x_1^{\alpha-1} x_2^{-\alpha})^2 \\ = 0$$

and $\alpha(\alpha-1)x_1^{\alpha-2} x_2^{1-\alpha} \leq 0$ because $\alpha \leq 1$

So $\nabla^2 f$ is semi-definite negative meaning that f is concave

Exercise 3. 1) $f(X) = \text{Tr}(X^{-1})$ on $\text{dom } f = S_{++}^m$

To show that this function is convex, we will show that

$$\forall X, Y \in S_{++}^m, (X+Y)^{-1} \leq X^{-1} + Y^{-1}$$

Let $X, Y \in S_{++}^m$ and $g(t) = (X+tY)^{-1}$ on \mathbb{R}_+

g is differentiable and $\frac{dg}{dt}(t) = -(X+tY)^{-1} Y (X+tY)^{-1}$

Since Y and $X+TY$ are definite positives, $\frac{dg}{dt}$ is definitely negative.

This means that g is a decreasing function of t , in particular:

$$g(1) \leq g(0) \Leftrightarrow (X+Y)^{-1} \leq X^{-1}$$

Similarly, we can show that $(X+Y)^{-1} \leq Y^{-1}$ with the function $\bar{h}(t) = \text{Tr}(Y + tX)^{-1}$ on \mathbb{R}_+

We just showed that $(X+Y)^{-1} \leq X^{-1} + Y^{-1}$

Moreover, the operator T_n is increasing so

$$\forall X, Y \in S_{++}^n, \quad T_n((X+Y)^{-1}) \leq T_n(X^{-1} + Y^{-1})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow T_n((X+Y)^{-1}) \leq T_n(X^{-1}) + T_n(Y^{-1})$$

1) Let $X, Y \in \text{dom } f$ and $\theta \in [0, 1]$. Let us show that

$$f(\theta X + (1-\theta)Y) \leq \theta f(X) + (1-\theta)f(Y)$$

We apply the inequality we showed before:

$$T_n((\theta X + (1-\theta)Y)^{-1}) \leq T_n(\theta X)^{-1} + T_n((1-\theta)Y)^{-1}$$

$$\leq \theta T_n(X^{-1}) + (1-\theta)T_n(Y^{-1})$$

So f is convex

2) $f(X, y) = y^\top X^{-1} y$ on $\text{dom } f = S_{++}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m$.

Ansatz

Let $(X, y) \in \text{dom } f$. As $X \in S_{++}^m$, X is diagonalizable

So : $\exists (V, D) \in S_{++}^m$, $X = VDV^T$ with $D = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_m)$
 d_1, \dots, d_m the eigenvalues
and V the matrix composed of eigenvectors

As $X \in S_{++}^m$, all eigenvalues are strictly positive so

$$\begin{aligned} X^{-1} &= (VDV^T)^{-1} = (V^T)^{-1} D^{-1} V^{-1} \\ &= V D^{-1} V^T \quad V \text{ is orthogonal} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{d_i} v_i v_i^T \quad \text{so } V^T = V^{-1} \\ &\quad \text{with } v_i \text{ the eigenvector} \\ &\quad \text{associated to the eigenvalue } d_i \end{aligned}$$

$$f(X, y) = y^T X^{-1} y$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{d_i} y^T v_i v_i^T y \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{d_i} z_i^2 \quad v_i^T y = (y^T v_i)^T \\ &\quad \text{and } z_i = y^T v_i \end{aligned}$$

We can see that sum as a supremum because z_i represents the projection of y into the space where X is diagonal but scaled with the corresponding eigenvalue. This means:

$$f(X, y) = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{d_i} z_i^2 = \sup_{\lambda_i, i \in \{1, \dots, m\}} \left(\frac{1}{d_i} \|y\|_2^2 \right)$$

As the norms are convex and the squared functions too,
 f is convex by applying a supremum to a convex function

$$3) f(X) = \sum_{i=1}^m \sigma_i(X) \text{ on } \text{dom } f = S^m$$

Let $X \in S^m$. X can be decomposed on singular value:

So:

$$\exists (U, V, D) \in S^m, X = UDV^T \text{ with } D = \text{diag}(\sigma_1(X), \dots, \sigma_m(X)) \\ U \text{ and } V \text{ are orthogonal}$$

Every singular value of a matrix ~~can be~~ is a maximum.

$$\text{For every } i \in \{1, \dots, m\}, \sigma_i(X) = \max_{\substack{\|y\|_2=1 \\ \in S^m}} \|Xy\|_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } f(X) &= \sum_{i=1}^m \max_{\substack{\|y\|_2=1 \\ \in S^m}} \langle Xy, e_i \rangle \text{ with } e_i \text{ the } i\text{-th singular basis} \\ &= \sup_{Y \in S^m} \sum_{i=1}^m \langle XY, e_i \rangle \\ &\quad \|Y\|_2=1 \end{aligned}$$

Thus f can be expressed as the supremum of an affine function, which is convex

Exercise 6.1) To show that $K_{m+} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_m \geq 0\}$ is a proper cone we need to show that it is non-empty, convex, closed and pointed.

This set is non empty because the vector $(1, 1, \dots, 1) \in K_{m+}$.

Let us show its convexity. Let $x, y \in K_{m+}$ and $\theta \in [0, 1]$.

We need to show that $\theta x + (1-\theta)y \in K_{m+}$.

But $\{x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_m \geq 0\} \Rightarrow \theta x_1 \geq \theta x_2 \geq \dots \geq \theta x_m \geq 0$
 $\{y_1 \geq y_2 \geq \dots \geq y_m \geq 0\} \Rightarrow (1-\theta)y_1 \geq (1-\theta)y_2 \geq \dots \geq (1-\theta)y_m \geq 0$

So $\theta x_1 + (1-\theta)y_1 \geq \theta x_2 + (1-\theta)y_2 \geq \dots \geq \theta x_m + (1-\theta)y_m \geq 0$

K_{m+} is thus convex.

This set is closed because it contains all its limit points and it is defined with inequalities that are continuous conditions.

Finally, K_{m+} is pointed, to show that let $\alpha \in K_{m+}$ such that $-\alpha \in K_{m+}$. We need to show that $\alpha = 0$.

We know, $\{x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_m \geq 0\}$ and
 $\{-x_1 \geq -x_2 \geq \dots \geq -x_m \geq 0\}$

So $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_m \leq 0 \leq x_n \leq \dots \leq x_2 \leq x_1$

The only vector that satisfies this condition is the null vector.

That shows that K_{m+} is pointed.

As K_{m+} is pointed, convex, non-empty and closed,
 K_{m+} is a proper cone

2) The dual cone of K_{m+} is defined as :

$$K_{m+}^* = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \langle x, y \rangle \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \in K_{m+}\}$$

We are going to show that $K_{m+}^* = K_{m+}$.

Let $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$. For all $x \in K_{m+1}$, $\langle y, x \rangle \geq 0$.

In particular, for $x = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ give us $y_1 \geq 0$,
Similarly, we obtain these conditions:

For $x = (1, 1, 0, \dots, 0) = y_1 + y_2 \geq 0$

For $x = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$, $\sum_{i=1}^m y_i \geq 0$

For $x = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$, $\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} y_i \geq 0$

From all those condition on y , we can see appear that all components need to be non negative and their sum also need to be positives.

We can then conclude that the component need to be ordered as their sum need to remain positive.

Thus, we concluded that y must be non negative and each conditions on the sum indicates that each component cannot exceed its predecessor, which comes:

$$y_1 \geq y_2 \geq \dots \geq y_m \geq 0.$$

We showed that $K_{m+1}^* = K_{m+1}$.