

### Ch 3. convex functions.

凸函数:  $\forall \theta \in [0,1], \text{dom } f \ni x, y. f(\theta x + (1-\theta)y) \leq \theta f(x) + (1-\theta)f(y)$   
 严格凸  $<$ .

判断凸函数: First-order condition.  $\nabla f$ .

$$\text{dom } f \ni x \oplus y \Rightarrow f(y) \geq f(x) + \nabla f(x)^T (y-x) \quad \forall x, y.$$

First-order 严格凸.

$$\text{def } \nabla \oplus \forall x \neq y. f(y) > f(x) + \nabla f(x)^T (y-x)$$

second-order  $\nabla^2 f$ .

$$f = \text{可微} \oplus \forall x \in \text{dom } f, \nabla^2 f(x) \succeq 0.$$

严格凸的条件是 ~~充分~~ 充分不必要的:  $\nabla^2 f(x) \succ 0$ .

Some examples:

凸:  $e^{ax}, a \in \mathbb{R}; x^a$  when  $a \geq 1$  or  $a \leq 0$ ;  $|x|^p, p \geq 1$ ;  $x \log x$ ;  $\| \cdot \|$ ;  $\max$ ;  $\log \sum \exp$   
 二次线性分式  $f(x,y) = \frac{x^2}{y}$

凹:  $x^a, 0 \leq a \leq 1$ ;  $\log x$ ; 几何平均  $f(x) = (\prod_{i=1}^n x_i)^{1/n}$ ;  $\log \det X$ ;

technique for proving: prove on a direction.  $x+tV$ .

$\alpha$  下水平集 (sublevel set)  $C_\alpha = \{x \in \text{dom } f : f(x) \leq \alpha\}$

$\alpha$  上水平集.  $\{x : f(x) \geq \alpha\}$

上镜图. epigraph.  $\text{epi } f = \{(x,t) \mid x \in \text{dom } f, f(x) \leq t\}$

亚图:  $\text{hypo } f = \{(x,t) : f(x) \geq t\}$

convex function  $\Leftrightarrow$  epigraph convex.

concave function  $\Leftrightarrow$  hypograph convex.

$\Rightarrow$  Matrix fractional function.  $f(x,y) = x^T Y^{-1} x$  convex.  
 [note: Matrix definiteness & Schur complete]

上镜图在边界点  $(x, f(x))$  上的支撑超平面:  $(\nabla f(x), -1)$ .

凸函数的保凸运算.

① nonnegative weighted sum.  $f = w_1 f_1 + \dots + w_m f_m$  /  $g(x) = \int w(y) f(x,y) dy$  if  $\forall y, f(x,y)$  convex for  $x$ .

② 复合仿射映射:  $f$  convex.  $g(x) = f(Ax+b)$  convex.

Concave  $g(x)$  concave.

③ pointwise maximum & supremum.  $f_1, f_2$  凸.  $f(x) = \max \{f_1(x), f_2(x)\}$

$\forall y, f(x,y)$  关于  $x$  凸.  $\sup_y f(x,y) = g(x)$  凸.

仿射函数表示定理: every convex function can be expressed as pointwise supremum of a family of affine function.

$$f(x) = \sup \{ g \mid g \text{ 仿射}, g(z) \leq f(z), \forall z \}$$

④

Composition: [1] Scalar composition  $f = h \circ g(x)$ . 在所有定理中.  $f$  和  $h$  保持一致.

$g$  与  $h$  是否保持一致  $\pm$

$h$  的单调增/减  $\pm$



[2] Vector composition.  $f = h \circ g(x) = f(g_1(x), \dots, g_k(x))$

是列在每一维上情况的延拓和伸.

⑤ 最小化:  $\inf$ . 也可保凸, 但有比  $\sup$  更严苛的条件.

$f(x, y)$  关于  $(x, y)$  凸. ④ 非空凸. ④ for  $g(x) = \inf_{y \in C} f(x, y)$ .  $\exists x$  s.t.  $g(x) > -\infty \Rightarrow g$  凸.

⑥ the perspective function of a function.

$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . 透视图函数  $g(x, t) = tf(\frac{x}{t})$ . 保凸也保凹. 凹  
 $\rightarrow$  relative entropy & KL divergence are convex.

共轭

共轭函数.  $\nabla$  conjugate function of  $f$ :  $f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \text{dom } f} (y^T x - f(x))$   $y \in \text{dom } f^* \Leftrightarrow y^T x - f(x)$  upper bdd.

important examples: ①  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^T a x$ ,  $a \in S_{++}^n \Rightarrow f^*(y) = \frac{1}{2} y^T a^{-1} y$ .

②  $f(x) = \log \det x^{-1}$ ,  $x \in S_{++}^n \Rightarrow f^*(y) = \log \det (-Y)^{-1} - n$  矩阵范数内积  $\text{tr}(Y^T X)$ .

③ indicator function  $I_S(x) = 0$  if  $x \in S$ ,  $= \infty$  if  $x \notin S$ .  $\Rightarrow I_S^*(y) = \sup_{x \in S} y^T x$  support function of  $S$ .

④ norm:  $f(x) = \|x\|$ .  $f^*(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \|y\|_* \leq 1 \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} = I_{\|y\|_* \leq 1}$  two notes: • dual norm:  $\|y\|_* = \sup_{\|x\| \leq 1} x^T y$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|x\|^2 \quad f^*(y) = \frac{1}{2} \|y\|_*^2$$

important properties: ① Fenchel/Young inequality  $x^T y \leq f(x) + f^*(y)$ .

②  $f$  convex & closed.  $\Rightarrow f^{**} = f$  define  $f$  closed: epi  $f$  closed.

③ when  $f$  is differentiable:  $f^*(y) = [(\nabla f^*(y))]^T y - f((\nabla f^*(y)))$

④ 伸缩和复合仿射变换:  $g(x) = af(x) + b$ ,  $a > 0 \Rightarrow g^*(y) = af^*(\frac{y}{a}) - b$ .

$g(x) = f(Ax + b)$ ,  $A$  nonsingular  $\Rightarrow g^*(y) = f^*(A^{-T}y) - b^T A^{-T}y$ .  
 $\text{dom } g^* = A^T \text{dom } f^*$ .

⑤  $f_1(u)$ ,  $f_2(v)$  convex.

$$f_1 + f_2 [f_1(u) + f_2(v)]^*(w, z) = f_1^*(w) + f_2^*(z)$$

拟凸函数 Quasiconvex function.

[1]  $f$  quasiconvex  $\Leftrightarrow \text{dom } f$  convex & all sublevel sets of  $f$  convex.

$\Leftrightarrow \text{dom } f$  convex &  $f(\theta x + (1-\theta)y) \leq \max\{f(x), f(y)\}$   $0 \leq \theta \leq 1$ ,  $x, y \in \text{dom } f$ .

[2] quasiconcave:  $-f$  quasiconvex.

[3] under the condition  $f$  continuous.

$f$  quasiconvex  $\Leftrightarrow$  one of these holds:

①  $f$  non decreasing

②  $f$  non increasing

③  $f$  

有一点给单调递减分界.

[4] operations preserve quasiconvexity (refer to book P.101).



log-concave & log-convex.

defined through concave [unlike defining convex].

→  $f(x) \geq 0$ , log f concave  $\Leftrightarrow f(\theta x + (1-\theta)y) \geq f(x)^\theta f(y)^{1-\theta}$

log-convex:  $\frac{1}{f(x)}$  log-concave.

important examples:

log-concave

affine function  $f(x) = a^T x + b$ .

$f(x) = x^a \quad a \geq 0$

$\Phi(x)$ . Gaussian cumulative.

$\det X$ .

$\frac{\det X}{\det t(X)}$

density functions: ① normal

② exponential

③ uniform (on convex set)

④ Wishart:

$X_1, \dots, X_p \sim \text{iid } N(0, \Sigma)$

$X = \sum_{i=1}^p X_i X_i^T$

$f(X) = \frac{1}{\det(\Sigma)} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\Sigma^{-1} X)}$

~~Moment generating function~~

under the condition  $f(x)$  differentiable:

$\nabla^2 \log f(x) = \frac{1}{f(x)} \nabla^2 f(x) - \frac{1}{f^2(x)} \nabla f(x) \nabla f(x)^T$

log-convex  $\Leftrightarrow f(x) \nabla^2 f(x) \geq \nabla f(x) \nabla f(x)^T$

log-concave  $\Leftrightarrow f(x) \nabla^2 f(x) \leq \nabla f(x) \nabla f(x)^T$

log 保凹/保凸: ① Multiplication preserve both.

② sum. 不保凹, 只保凸

③ integration 保凸.  $\forall y \in C$ .  $f(x, y)$  关于  $x$  对数凸.  $g(x) = \int_C f(x, y) dy$  对数凸.

④ integration 保凹, 但要求  $f(x, y)$  对  $x, y$  凹.

⑤ convolution 保凹. require both  $f, g$  log-concave

⑥ marginal dist of log-concave density.

log-convex.

$f(x) = x^a \quad a \leq 0$ .

$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty u^{x-1} e^{-u} du \quad x \geq 1$ . gamma function.

Moment generating function  $\cdot f = X$  (any distrib.)

$\downarrow$   
 $E e^{-xt}$

Laplace transform of density function.  $\square$