

1. Expand the following summations:

(For example, the answer to part (a) is  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3$ .)

$$(a) \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 x_i \quad (d) \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=2}^4 (x_i + y_{ij})$$

$$(b) \quad \sum_{t=1}^3 \frac{x^{2t}}{t!} \quad (e) \quad \sum_{k=-1}^3 (2k+1)x_{k+1}$$

$$(c) \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^i x_{ij} \quad (f) \quad \sum_{n=3}^5 \sum_{m=n+1}^{n+3} x_n y_m$$

Note that by definition  $t! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdots (t-1) \cdot t$  for integer  $t \geq 1$ .

$$(a) \quad x_1 + x_2 + x_3$$

$$(b) \quad x^2 + \frac{x^4}{2!} + \frac{x^6}{3!} = x^2 + \frac{x^4}{2} + \frac{x^6}{6}$$

$$(c) \quad x_{11} + x_{21} + x_{22} + x_{31} + x_{32} + x_{33}$$

$$(d) \quad (x_1 + y_{12}) + (x_1 + y_{13}) + (x_1 + y_{14}) \\ + (x_2 + y_{22}) + (x_2 + y_{23}) + (x_2 + y_{24}) \\ + (x_3 + y_{32}) + (x_3 + y_{33}) + (x_3 + y_{34})$$

$$(e) \quad -x_0 + x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 + 7x_4$$

$$(f) \quad \sum_{m=4}^6 x_3 y_m + \sum_{m=5}^7 x_4 y_m + \sum_{m=6}^8 x_5 y_m$$

$$= x_3 y_4 + x_3 y_5 + x_3 y_6 + x_4 y_5 + x_4 y_6 + x_4 y_7 + x_5 y_6 + x_5 y_7 + x_5 y_8$$

2. Consider the following two vectors:  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$ , and a matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 & -1 \\ 3 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Let  $n$  be the dimension of  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ . What is the value of  $n$ ?
- Compute  $3\mathbf{x} - 2\mathbf{y}$ .
- Compute the inner product  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{y}$ .
- Compute  $\mathbf{x}\mathbf{y}^\top$ .
- Compute the Euclidean norm  $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i)^2}$ . Also called the  $\ell_2$ -norm.
- Compute the  $\ell_1$ -norm  $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - y_i|$ .
- Compute the  $\ell_\infty$ -norm  $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i - y_i|$ .
- Compute  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{y}$ .

(a)  $n = 3$

(b)  $3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} - 2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$

(c)  $(2 \ 1 \ 4) \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = 2 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 5 = 24$

(d)  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} (2 \ 0 \ 5) = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 10 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 8 & 0 & 20 \end{pmatrix}$

(e)  $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 = \sqrt{(2-2)^2 + (1-0)^2 + (4-5)^2} = \sqrt{2}$

(f)  $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\| = |0| + |1| + |1| = 2$

(g)  $(|0|^p + |1|^p + |1|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow \infty} \max(|0|, |1|, |1|) = 1$

(h)  $(2 \ 1 \ 4) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 & -1 \\ 3 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

$$= (2 \ 1 \ 4) \begin{pmatrix} 12 \\ -9 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= 2 \cdot (2 + 1 \cdot (-9) + 4 \cdot 1)$$

$$= 19$$

3. State whether each of the following sets is convex or not. Explain your reasoning.

(a)  $X = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 2x_1^2 + 5|x_2| \leq 10\}$ .

(b)  $X = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 2x_1^2 - 5|x_2| \leq 10\}$ .

(c)  $X = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid \frac{x_1}{(x_2-2)} \leq 2, \ x_2 \geq 1\}$ .

(d)  $X = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid \frac{x_1}{(x_2-2)} \leq 2, \ x_2 \geq 2\}$ .

### Solution to Problem 3

(a)  $X = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 2x_1^2 + 5|x_2| \leq 10\}$

**Not convex.** Reason: The term  $|x_2|$  is not a convex function. For example,  $(0, 2)$  and  $(0, -2)$  belong to the set, but their midpoint  $(0, 0)$  satisfies  $2(0)^2 + 5|0| = 0 \leq 10$  and belongs to the set, but in general convex combinations may not belong to the set.

(b)  $X = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 2x_1^2 - 5|x_2| \leq 10\}$

**Not convex.** Reason: The term  $-5|x_2|$  makes the boundary of the set non-convex. For example,  $(0, 2)$  and  $(0, -2)$  belong to the set, but their midpoint  $(0, 0)$  satisfies  $2(0)^2 - 5|0| = 0 \leq 10$  and belongs to the set, but in general convex combinations may not belong to the set.

(c)  $X = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid \frac{x_1}{(x_2-2)} \leq 2, \ x_2 \geq 1\}$

**Not convex.** Reason: The term  $\frac{x_1}{(x_2-2)}$  is not a convex function. The denominator  $(x_2 - 2)$  creates a singularity at  $x_2 = 2$ , and even though  $x_2 \geq 1$ , the function is not convex.

(d)  $X = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid \frac{x_1}{(x_2-2)} \leq 2, \ x_2 \geq 2\}$

**Convex.** Reason: The condition  $x_2 \geq 2$  ensures that the denominator  $(x_2 - 2) \geq 0$ , so  $\frac{x_1}{(x_2-2)} \leq 2$  becomes  $x_1 \leq 2(x_2 - 2)$ , which is a linear constraint. Linear constraints and linear inequalities form convex sets.

4. State whether the following problems are convex programs or not. Explain your reasoning.

(a)  $\min\{x_1^3 + x_2^2 : x_1 \leq 2, x_2 \leq 3\}$ .

(b)  $\max\{2x_1 + 3x_2 + 4x_3 + 5x_4 : x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2 \leq 1\}$ .

(c)  $\min\{\sum_{i=1}^n 2^i (x_i)^{2^i} : \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \geq 10\}$ .

## Solution to Problem 4

(a)  $\min\{x_1^3 + x_2^2 : x_1 \leq 2, x_2 \leq 3\}$

**Not a convex program.** Reason: The objective function  $x_1^3$  is not a convex function. Cubic functions are not convex.

(b)  $\max\{2x_1 + 3x_2 + 4x_3 + 5x_4 : x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2 \leq 1\}$

**Convex program.** Reason: The objective function is linear (convex), and the constraint  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2 \leq 1$  defines a convex set (sphere). Although it's a maximization problem, maximizing a linear objective function can be treated as a convex program.

(c)  $\min\{\sum_{i=1}^n 2^i (x_i)^{2^i} : \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \geq 10\}$

**Not a convex program.** Reason: The terms  $2^i (x_i)^{2^i}$  in the objective function are not convex functions. Even though they involve even powers, the coefficients  $2^i$  grow large, making them generally non-convex.

5. A quantity  $y$  is known to depend upon another quantity  $x$ . A set of  $n$  data pairs  $\{y_i, x_i\}_{i=1}^n$  has been collected.
- (a) Formulate an optimization model for fitting the “best” straight line  $y = a + bx$  to the data set, where best is with respect to the sum of absolute deviations. What kind of an optimization model is it?
  - (b) Re-formulate the optimization model in part (a) where best is with respect to the maximum absolute deviation. What kind of an optimization model is it?
  - (c) Formulate an optimization model for fitting the “best” quadratic curve  $y = a + bx + cx^2$  to the data set, where best is with respect to the maximum absolute deviations. What kind of an optimization model is it ?

## Solution to Problem 5

- (a) Optimization model with respect to sum of absolute deviations:

$$\min_{a,b} \sum_{i=1}^n |y_i - (a + bx_i)|$$

This is a **Linear Programming (LP) problem**. The absolute values can be expressed using linear constraints, making it a linear programming problem.

- (b) Optimization model with respect to maximum absolute deviation:

$$\min_{a,b} \max_{i=1,\dots,n} |y_i - (a + bx_i)|$$

This is a **Linear Programming (LP) problem**. The maximum value can be expressed using linear constraints, making it a linear programming problem.

- (c) Optimization model for quadratic curve with respect to maximum absolute deviation:

$$\min_{a,b,c} \max_{i=1,\dots,n} |y_i - (a + bx_i + cx_i^2)|$$

This is a **Linear Programming (LP) problem**. The quadratic term  $cx_i^2$  is treated as a constant since  $x_i$  are known data points, and the maximum value can be expressed using linear constraints, making it a linear programming problem.