# Optimization Methods

Fall 2022

# Homework 1

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## Notice

- The submission email is: optfall2022@163.com.
- Please use the provided LATEX file as a template.
- If you are not familiar with LATEX, you can also use Word to generate a PDF file.

## Problem 1: Inequalities

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , where n is a positive integer. Let  $\|\cdot\|$  denote the Euclidean norm.

- a) Prove the triangle inequality  $||x + y|| \le ||x|| + ||y||$ .
- b) Prove  $||x+y||^2 \le (1+\epsilon)||x||^2 + (1+\frac{1}{\epsilon})||y||^2$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$ .

*Hint*: You may need the Young's inequality for products, i.e. if a and b are nonnegative real numbers and p and q are real numbers greater than 1 such that 1/p + 1/q = 1, then  $ab \le \frac{a^p}{p} + \frac{b^q}{q}$ .  $\mathbb{H}_{\mathbf{c}}^{\mathbf{c}}$ 

- a) Prove the triangle inequality  $||x + y|| \le ||x|| + ||y||$ .
- b) Prove  $||x+y||^2 \le (1+\epsilon)||x||^2 + (1+\frac{1}{\epsilon})||y||^2$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$ .

# Problem 2: Definition of convexity

Convex  $C_c$  sets are the sets satisfying the constraints below:

$$\theta x_1 + (1 - \theta)x_2 \in C_c$$

for all, 
$$x_1, x_2 \in C_c, 0 \le \theta \le 1$$

Determine if each set below is convex.

a) 
$$\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2_{++} | x/y \le 1\}$$

b) 
$$\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2_{++} | x/y \ge 1\}$$

c) 
$$\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2_{++} | xy \le 1\}$$

- d)  $\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2_{++} | xy \ge 1\}$
- e)  $\{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2_{++} | y = \tanh(x) = \frac{e^x e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \}$

### Problem 3: Convex sets

- a) Show that a polyhedron  $P=\{x\in\mathbb{R}^n:Ax\leq b,A\in\mathbb{R}^{m\times n},b\in\mathbb{R}^m\}$  is convex.
- b) Show that if  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is convex, and  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , then  $A(S) = \{Ax : x \in S\}$ , is convex.
- c) Show that if  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  is convex, and  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , then  $A^{-1}(S) = \{x : Ax \in S\}$ , is convex.

#### Problem 4: Convex cone

Let K be a convex cone. The set  $K^* = \{y | x^\top y \ge 0, \forall x \in K\}$  is called the dual cone of K.

- a) Show that  $K^*$  is a convex cone (even K is not convex).
- b) Show that a dual cone of a subspace  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  (which is a cone) is its orthogonal complement  $V^+ = \{y | y^\top v = 0, \forall v \in V\}$ .
- c) What is the dual cone of the nonnegative orthant  $(\mathbb{R}_n^+)$ ?

$$K^* = \{(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} | ||u||_* \le v\}$$

where the dual norm is given by  $||u||_* = \sup\{u^\top x | ||x|| \le 1\}$ 

### Problem 5: Generalized Inequalities

Let  $K^*$  be the dual cone of a convex cone K. Prove the following,

- a)  $K^*$  is indeed a convex cone.
- b)  $K_1 \subseteq K_2$  implies  $K_2^* \subseteq K_1^*$ .