

# Convex Analysis

Uncultured Tramp

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# 1 Convex Functions

## 1.1 Subject

$$\text{epigraph} :: \prod V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \prod D \subset V . \left( D \rightarrow^{\infty} \mathbb{R} \right) \rightarrow ?(V \oplus \mathbb{R})$$

$$\text{epigraph}(f) = \text{epi } f := \{(x, \phi) | x \in D, \phi \in \mathbb{R}, \phi \geq f(x)\}$$

$$\text{Convex} :: \prod V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \prod D \subset V . ? \left( D \rightarrow^{\infty} \mathbb{R} \right)$$

$$f : \text{Convex} \iff \text{Convex}(V \oplus \mathbb{R}, \text{epi } f)$$

$$\text{effectiveDomain} :: \prod V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \prod D \subset V . \text{Convex}(V, D) \rightarrow ?D$$

$$\text{effectiveDomain}(f) = \text{dom } f := \pi_1 \text{epi } f$$

$$\text{DomainIsConvex} :: \forall V \in \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall D \subset V . \forall f : \text{Convex}(V, D) . \text{Convex}(V, \text{dom } f)$$

**Proof** =

As a linear image of convex set.

□

$$\text{ProperConvexFunction} :: \prod V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . ? \text{Convex}(V, V) .$$

$$f : \text{ProperConvexFunction} \iff \forall x \in V . f(x) > -\infty \ \& \ \exists x \in V . f(x) < +\infty$$

**InterpolationProperty** ::

$$:: \forall V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall C : \text{Convex}(V) . \forall f : C \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty] .$$

$$. \text{Convex}(V, C, f) \iff \forall x, y \in C . \forall \lambda \in [0, 1] .$$

$$. f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y)$$

**Proof** =

( $\Rightarrow$ ) : assume that  $f$  is convex.

Then  $f$  has convex epigraph.

Take arbitrary  $x, y \in C$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ .

If  $f$  takes value  $+\infty$  either in  $x$  or  $y$ , then the inequality follows, so assume the contrary.

Then  $(x, f(x)), (y, f(y))$  trivially belong to the epigraph,

so by convexity  $(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y, \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y))$  is also in epigraph.

The definition of epigraph produces the inequality  $f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y)$  .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) : now assume that inequality always hold.

Assume  $(x, \phi), (y, \psi)$  belong to the epigraph and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ .

Then  $\lambda \phi + (1 - \lambda)\psi \geq \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y) \geq f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y)$ .

So  $\lambda(x, \phi) + (1 - \lambda)(y, \psi)$  belong to the epigraph.

Thus, epigraph is convex and  $f$  is convex.

**JensensIneq** ::

$:: \forall V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall C : \text{Convex}(V) . \forall f : C \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty] .$

$. \forall n \in \mathbb{N} . \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^n . \forall \mathbb{N} : \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k = 1 . \forall v \in V^n . f \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k v_k \right) \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k f(v_k)$

**Proof** =

Iterate the interpolation property.

□

**SecondDerivativeConvexityTest** ::  $\forall I : \text{OpenInterval}(\mathbb{R}) . \forall f \in C^2(I) .$

$. \text{Convex}(\mathbb{R}, I, f) \iff f'' \geq 0$

**Proof** =

$(\Rightarrow)$  : assume there is a  $t \in I$  such that  $f''(t) < 0$ .

As  $f''$  must be continuous there is whole open interval  $(a, b)$  such that  $f''(j) < 0$  for all  $j \in (a, b)$ .

Take some  $x, y \in (a, b)$  with  $x < y$  and define  $z = \lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y$  for some  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ .

Then  $f(z) - f(x) = \int_x^z f'(t) dt > f'(z)(z - x)$  and  $f(y) - f(z) = \int_z^y f'(t) dt < f'(z)(y - z)$ .

Then from definition of  $z$  we get  $f(z) > f(x) - (1 - \lambda)f'(z)(y - x)$  and  $f(z) > f(y) + \lambda f'(z)(y - x)$ .

By adding two inequalities with multipliers  $\lambda$  and  $(1 - \lambda)$  one gets  $f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) > \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y)$ .

But this contradicts a convexity.

$(\Rightarrow)$  : use same inequalities but with different sign to prove the convexity.

□

**ExponentIsConvexity** ::  $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R} . \text{Convex}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}, \lambda t \in \mathbb{R} . e^{\alpha t})$

**Proof** =

write  $f(t) = e^{\alpha t}$ .

Then  $f''(t) = \alpha^2 e^{\alpha t} \geq 0$ .

□

**MonomialConvexity1** ::  $\forall p \in [1, +\infty) . \text{Convex}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}_{++}, \lambda t \in \mathbb{R} . t^p)$

**Proof** =

Write  $f(t) = t^p$ .

Then  $f''(t) = p(p - 1)t^{p-2} \geq 0$  for  $t > 0$ .

□

**MonomialConvexity2** ::  $\forall p \in [0, 1) . \text{Convex}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}_{++}, \lambda t \in \mathbb{R} . -t^p)$

**Proof** =

Write  $f(t) = t^p$ .

Then  $f''(t) = p(1 - p)t^{p-2} \geq 0$  for  $t > 0$ .

□

**MonomialConvexity3** ::  $\forall p \in (-\infty, 0] . \text{Convex}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}_{++}, \Lambda t \in \mathbb{R} . t^p)$

**Proof** =

write  $f(t) = t^p$ .

Then  $f''(t) = p(p-1)t^{p-2} \geq 0$  for  $t > 0$ .

□

**GeneralizedArcsinDerivativeIsConvex** ::  $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}_{++} . \text{Convex}\left(\mathbb{R}, (-\alpha, \alpha), \Lambda t \in \mathbb{R} . \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 - t^2}}\right)$

**Proof** =

Write  $f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 - t^2}}$ .

Then  $f'(t) = \frac{t}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 - t^2}^3}$ .

And  $f''(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 - t^2}^3} + \frac{3t^2}{\sqrt{\alpha^2 - t^2}^5} > 0$  for  $t \in (-\alpha, \alpha)$ .

□

**NegativeLogIsConvex** ::  $\text{Convex}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}_{++}, \Lambda t \in \mathbb{R} . -\ln(t))$

**Proof** =

Write  $f(t) = -\ln(t)$ .

Then  $f''(t) = \frac{1}{t^2} > 0$  for  $t > 0$ .

□

**NegativeEntropyIsConvex** ::  $\text{Convex}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}_{++}, \Lambda t \in \mathbb{R} . t \ln(t))$

**Proof** =

Write  $f(t) = t \ln(t)$ .

Then  $f'(t) = \ln(t) + 1$ .

And  $f''(t) = \frac{1}{t} > 0$  for  $t > 0$ .

□

**Concave** ::  $\prod V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \prod D \subset V . ?(D \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$

$f : \text{Concave} \iff \text{Convex}(V, D, -f)$

**SecondDerivativeConvexityTest2** ::  $\forall V : \text{EuclideanSpace} . \forall U : \text{Open} \ \& \ \text{Convex}(V) . \forall f \in C^2(U) .$   
 $\text{Convex}(\mathbb{R}, U, f) \iff \mathbf{D}^2 f \geq 0$

**Proof** =

For  $x \in U$  and  $v \in V \setminus \{0\}$  define  $\phi_{x,v}(t) = f(x + tv)$  with a domain  $I_{x,v} = \{t \in \mathbb{R} | x + tv \in C\}$ .

Then  $f$  is convex iff every  $\phi_{x,v}$  does.

But  $\phi_{x,v}''(t) = \langle v, \mathbf{D}^2 f|_y v \rangle$ , where  $y = x + tv$ .

So  $f$  is convex iff  $\mathbf{D}^2 f$  is positive-semidefinite.

□

**GeometricMeanIsConcave** ::

$$:: \forall V : \text{EuclideanSpace} . \text{Concave} \left( V, V_{++}, \Lambda x \in V . \prod_{k=1}^n \sqrt[n]{x_k} \right) \quad \text{where} \quad n = \dim V$$

**Proof** =

$$\text{write } f(x) = \prod_{k=1}^n \sqrt[n]{x_k}.$$

$$\text{Then } \nabla f|_x = \left( \frac{1}{n \sqrt[n]{x_i}^{n-1}} \prod_{j \neq i}^n \sqrt[n]{x_j} \right)_{i=1}^n.$$

$$\text{And } \mathbf{D}_{i,j}^2 f|_x = \frac{1}{n^2 \sqrt[n]{x_i x_j}^{n-1}} \prod_{k \neq i,j}^n \sqrt[n]{x_k} \text{ when } i \neq j, \text{ and } \mathbf{D}_{i,i}^2 f|_x = -\frac{n-1}{n^2 \sqrt[n]{x_i}^{2n-1}} \prod_{j \neq i}^n \sqrt[n]{x_j}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } \mathbf{D}^2 f|_x(v, v) &= -\frac{n-1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{v_i^2}{\sqrt[n]{x_i}^{2n-1}} \prod_{j \neq i}^n \sqrt[n]{x_j} + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i \neq j}^n \frac{v_i v_j}{\sqrt[n]{x_i x_j}^{n-1}} \prod_{k \neq i,j}^n \sqrt[n]{x_k} = \\ &= f(x) \left( -\frac{n-1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{v_i^2}{x_i^2} + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i \neq j}^n \frac{v_i v_j}{x_i x_j} \right) = -\frac{f(x)}{n^2} \left( n \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{v_i^2}{x_i^2} - \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{v_i}{x_i} \right)^2 \right) \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

This follows from obvious matching schema.

□

**NormsAreConvex** ::  $\forall V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall \eta : \text{Norm}(V) \text{Convex}(V, V, \eta)$

**Proof** =

$$\text{Write } \eta(v) = \|v\|.$$

$$\text{Just use triangle inequality } \left\| \lambda x + (1-\lambda)y \right\| \leq \left\| \lambda x \right\| + \left\| (1-\lambda)y \right\| = \lambda \|x\| + (1-\lambda) \|y\|.$$

□

**convexIndicator** ::  $\forall V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \text{Convex}(V) \rightarrow \text{Convex}(V, V)$

$$\text{convexIndicator}(C) = \Lambda x \in V . \chi(x|A) := \Lambda x \in V . \infty[x \in C^c]$$

**supportFunction** ::  $\forall V : \mathbb{R}\text{-HIL} . \text{Convex}(V) \rightarrow \text{Convex}(V, V)$

$$\text{supportFunction}(C) = \Lambda x \in V . \chi^*(x|A) := \sup_{y \in C} \langle x, y \rangle$$

**gauge** ::  $\forall V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \text{Convex}(V) \rightarrow \text{Convex}(V, V)$

$$\text{gauge}(C) = \Lambda x \in V . \gamma(x|A) := \Lambda x \in V . \inf \{ \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_{++} | x \in \lambda C \}$$

**ConvexFunctionHasConvexLevelSets** ::

$$:: \forall V \in \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall f : \text{Convex}(V, V) . \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^\infty . \text{Convex} \left( V, \{v \in V : f(v) \geq \alpha\} \right)$$

**Proof** =

...

□

**ConvexFunctionHasConvexStrictLevelSets** ::

$$:: \forall V \in \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall f : \text{Convex}(V, V) . \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^\infty . \text{Convex} \left( V, \{v \in V : f(v) > \alpha\} \right)$$

**Proof** =

...

□

**ConvexlyBoundedRegionIsConvex** ::

$$:: \forall V \in \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall I \in \text{SET} . \forall \alpha : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\infty} . \forall f : I \rightarrow \text{Convex}(V, V) . \text{Convex}\left(V, \{v \in V : \forall i \in I . f_i(v) > \alpha_i\}\right)$$

**Proof** =

$$\text{GeneralizedAMGMIneq} :: \forall n \in \mathbb{N} . \forall \lambda : \mathbb{R}_+^n . \forall x : \mathbb{R}_{++}^n . \forall \lambda : \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i \geq \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{\lambda_i}$$

**Proof** =

$$\text{By Jensen inequality for natural logarithm } \ln\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i\right) \geq \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \ln(x_i).$$

$$\text{Then by exponentiating both parts } \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i \geq \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{\lambda_i}.$$

□

$$\text{PositivelyHomogeneous} :: \prod V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . ?\left(V \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]\right)$$

$$f : \text{PositivelyHomogeneous} \iff \forall v \in V . \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}_{++} . f(\alpha v) = \alpha f(v)$$

$$\text{PositiveHomogeneousZeroPositivity} :: \forall V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall f : \text{PositivelyHomogeneous}(V) . f(0) \geq 0$$

**Proof** =

$$\text{Note that } f(0) = f(t0) = tf(0) \text{ for all } t \in \mathbb{R}_{++}.$$

$$\text{This means that } f(0) \text{ is either } 0 \text{ or } +\infty.$$

□

$$\text{PositiveHomogeneousConvexity} :: \forall V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall f : \text{PositivelyHomogeneous}(V) .$$

$$. \text{Convex}(V, V, f) \iff \forall x, y \in V . f(x + y) \leq f(x) + f(y)$$

**Proof** =

$$(\Rightarrow) : \text{assume } f \text{ is convex.}$$

$$\text{Then } f(x + y) = f\left(\frac{2}{2}x + \frac{2}{2}y\right) \leq \frac{1}{2}f(2x) + \frac{1}{2}f(2y) = f(x) + f(y) \text{ for any } x, y \in V.$$

$$(\Leftarrow) : \text{assume the inequality holds .}$$

$$\text{Then } f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq f(\lambda x) + f((1 - \lambda)y) = \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y) \text{ when } \lambda \in (0, 1) \text{ and } x, y \in V .$$

$$\text{Otherwise, when } \lambda = 0, 1, \text{ convexity condition holds trivially.}$$

□

$$\text{Conic} := \lambda V \in \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \text{Convex}(V, V) \times \text{PositivelyHomogeneous}(V) : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} \rightarrow \text{Type};$$

$$\text{ConicIneq} :: \forall V : \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall f : \text{Convex}(V, V) \ \& \ \text{PositivelyHomogeneous}(V) . \forall n \in \mathbb{N} . \forall x \in V^n .$$

$$. \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^n . f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f(x_i)$$

**Proof** =

$$\text{Iterate previous theorem.}$$

□

**ConicEpigraph** ::  $\forall V \in \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall f : V \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty) . \text{Conic}(V, f) \iff \text{ConvexCone}(V, \text{epi } f)$

**Proof** =

...

□

**ConicIsSupersymmetric** ::  $\forall V \in \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall f \in \text{Conic}(f) . \forall v \in V . f(v) \geq -f(-v)$

**Proof** =

Write  $f(x) + f(-x) \geq f(x - x) = f(x) \geq 0$ .

So  $f(x) \geq -f(-x)$ .

□

**ConicIsLinearIffsymmetric** ::  $\forall V \in \mathbb{R}\text{-VS} . \forall f \in \text{Conic}(f) . f \in V^* \iff \forall v \in V . f(-v) = -f(v)$

**Proof** =

$(\Rightarrow)$  : this is trivial.

$(\Leftarrow)$  : assume that the property holds .

Let  $x, y \in V$  .

Then  $f(x) + f(y) \geq f(x + y) \geq -f(-x - y) \geq -f(-x) - f(-y) = f(x) + f(y)$  .

This mean  $f(x) + f(y) = f(x + y)$  .

But as  $x$  and  $y$  were arbitrary  $f$  must be additive and hence linear.

□



1.2 Convexity Preserving Operations

1.3 Closures

1.4 Continuity

2 Duality

3 (Sub)differential Calculus

4 From Optimization to Convex Algebra

Sources

1. Convex Analysis — R. T. Rockafeller 1972