

1. CONVEX SETS

Definition 1.1. *Convex Set*

A subset $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is a convex set if $\forall x, y \in C, \forall \alpha \in [0, 1]$

$$(1 - \alpha)x + \alpha y \in C$$

Definition 1.2. *Unit Simplex*

The unit simplex $\Delta_{k-1} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^k$ is the set

$$\Delta_{k-1} = \{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+^k : \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i = 1\}$$

Definition 1.3. *Convex Combination*

A convex combination of $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is any vector of the form

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x_i$$

where $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k) \in \Delta_{k-1}$

Proposition 1.1. $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is convex $\iff \forall x_1, \dots, x_k \subseteq C, \forall \alpha \in \Delta_{k-1}, \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x_i \in C$

Definition 1.4. *Set of all possible convex combinations*

For $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, let $K(A) = \{\text{all possible convex combinations of points in } A\} = \{\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x_i : k \geq 1, \{x_1, \dots, x_k\} \subseteq A, \alpha \in \Delta_{k-1}\}$

Proposition 1.2. $K(A) \supseteq A$ is convex.

Proposition 1.3. If $\{C_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$ is a collection of convex sets in \mathbb{R}^n , then $\bigcap_{\alpha \in A} C_\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is convex.

Proposition 1.4. If $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ are convex, then $C \times D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m$ is convex

Definition 1.5. *Convex Hull*

For any $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, the convex hull of A is the smallest convex set that contains A . That is,

$$\text{co}(A) = \bigcap \{C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n : C \text{ is convex}, A \subseteq C\}$$

In other words, the convex hull of A is the intersection of all convex sets that contain A . Trivially, if A is convex, then $\text{co}(A) = A$.

Proposition 1.5. $\text{co}(A) = K(A)$

- $K(A)$ is like building the convex hull from within, while $\text{co}(A)$ is like shrinking the set until we get the smallest convex set.

Proposition 1.6. If $\{A_\alpha\}$ is a collection of convex sets, then $\bigcap_\alpha A_\alpha$ is also convex, where the intersection may be over a countable or uncountable collection.

- Implication: The convex hull $\text{co}(A)$ is well-defined and also convex, since the $\text{co}(A)$ is the intersection of all convex sets containing A .

Theorem 1.1. (Carathéodory)

Let $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, x \in \text{co}(A)$. Then, $\exists \{x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}\} \subseteq A$ and $\alpha \in \Delta_n$ such that $x = \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \alpha_i x_i$.

- In essence, we are starting with a convex combination and altering it such that we get the same convex combination but with one fewer point. So, if x is some convex combination of points in A , then we can find some other convex combination using one fewer vector such that we get the same point.

Definition 1.6. Hyperplane

A hyperplane in \mathbb{R}^n is a set

$$H(\alpha, b) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle \alpha, x \rangle = b, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n, \alpha \neq \mathbf{0}, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

- Recall that $\langle \alpha, x \rangle = \alpha^T x = \sum^n c_i x_i$ is the inner product.
- Equivalently, $\langle \alpha, x \rangle = \|\alpha\| \cdot \|x\| \cos \theta$, where θ is the angle between x and α .
- $x \perp \alpha \iff \langle \alpha, x \rangle = 0$.
- More intuitively, we can think of a hyperplane as an $(n-1)$ dimensional subspace shifted up/down in \mathbb{R}^n

Proposition 1.7. Take any $x_0 \in H$. Then, $\langle \alpha, x \rangle = b$, so I can write

$$H = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle \alpha, x - x_0 \rangle = 0, x_0 \in H\}$$

Remark 1.1.1. In the definition of a hyperplane, we call α the "normal vector", implying that α is the vector perpendicular to the hyperplane. In particular, we see this with the definition

$$H = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle \alpha, x - x_0 \rangle = 0, x_0 \in H\}$$

We can then generate the entire hyperplane by varying the vector x and taking all of the vectors whose projection onto the space spanned by α is c .

Definition 1.7. Closed Halfspace

The space above the hyperplane and space below the hyperplane (above/below vector α), each containing the plane.

- (1) $H^+ = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle \alpha, x \rangle \geq b\}$
- (2) $H^- = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle \alpha, x \rangle \leq b\}$

Definition 1.8. Interior of Halfspace

- (1) $\text{int}(H^+) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle \alpha, x \rangle > b\}$
- (2) $\text{int}(H^-) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle \alpha, x \rangle < b\}$

Definition 1.9. Linear Manifold

A linear manifold L is an intersection of hyperplanes. That is,

$$L = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax = b, A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^m\}$$

We can also think of a linear manifold as a translation of a linear subspace. That is, if $x_0 \in L$, implying that $Ax_0 = b$, then

$$L = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : A(x - x_0) = 0\} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle a_i^T, x - x_0 \rangle = 0\} = x_0 + \text{null}(A)$$

If there does not exist such an x_0 , then L is the empty set.

Definition 1.10. Affine Set

A set L is affine $\iff L$ contains all lines through any two points in the set (i.e., includes all linear combinations of elements of the set). That is,

$$L = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x_i \in L : \forall \{x_1, \dots, x_k\} \subseteq L, \sum \alpha_i = 1, k \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

Note that this differs from the definition of a convex set by the restriction on the coefficients. For a convex set, $\sum \alpha_i = 1, |\alpha_i| > 0$, while for an affine set, $\sum \alpha_i = 1$, meaning that we may have negative α_i 's.

Proposition 1.8. A set L is a linear manifold $\iff L$ is an affine set. That is,

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle a_i^T, x - x_0 \rangle = 0\} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x_i \in L : \forall \{x_1, \dots, x_k\} \subseteq L, \sum \alpha_i = 1, k \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

Definition 1.11. *Polyhedron*

$$S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$$

Note the similarity of the set definition of a polyhedron with that of a linear manifold. The only difference is that $Ax = b$ for a linear manifold, while $Ax \leq b$ for a polyhedron.

Definition 1.12. *Polytope*

A polytope is a bounded polyhedron. Note that this implies that not all polyhedron are bounded.

2. TOPOLOGICAL PROPERTIES OF CONVEX SETS

Definition 2.1. *Affine Hull*

For any set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, the affine hull of A , denoted $\text{aff}(A)$ is the smallest linear manifold (affine set) that contains A . That is,

$$\text{aff}(A) = \bigcap \{L \supseteq A : L \text{ is a linear manifold}\} = \bigcap \{L \supseteq A : L \text{ is an affine set}\}$$

Proposition 2.1. $\text{aff}(A) = \{\sum^k \alpha_i x_i : \{x_1, \dots, x_k\} \subseteq A, \sum^k \alpha_i = 1, k \in \mathbb{N}\}$

Definition 2.2. *Interior*

The interior of a set C is the set of all points of C around which you can draw an epsilon ball and remain in C . That is,

$$\text{int}(C) = \bigcup \{A : A \subseteq C, A \text{ is open}\}$$

Definition 2.3. *Relative Interior*

Let $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be convex. The relative interior of C is defined as

$$\text{ri}(C) = \{x \in C : \exists \varepsilon > 0 \text{ s.t. } N_\varepsilon \bigcap \text{aff}(C) \subseteq C\}$$

In other words, the relative interior is the interior of the hyperplane containing C .

Definition 2.4. *Closure*

A closure of a set A is the set A and all of its limit points. That is,

$$\text{cl}(A) = \{x : \forall \varepsilon > 0, N_\varepsilon \bigcap A \neq \emptyset\}$$

Equivalently, $\text{cl}(A)$ is the union of A and its boundary, as well as the intersection of all closed sets containing A .

Lemma 2.0.1. Let $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be convex. Let $x_1 \in \text{ri}(C)$ and $x_2 \in \text{cl}(C)$. Then $[x_1, x_2) \subseteq \text{ri}(C)$.

- In words, if I take the ball around a point $z \in [x_1, x_2)$, then the intersection of that ball and the affine hull of A will be contained in C .
- Think of $[x_1, x_2)$ as all convex combinations of x_1 and x_2 , not including x_2 .
- Two useful claims when proving this:
 - (1) For $z \in [x_1, x_2)$, i.e. $z = \alpha x_1 + (1 - \alpha)x_2$ for $\alpha \in (0, 1]$, $N_{\alpha \cdot \varepsilon} \bigcap \text{aff}(C) \subseteq C$.
 - (2) $\alpha y + (1 - \alpha)x \in \text{aff}(C) \iff y \in \text{aff}(C)$

Corollary 2.0.1. If $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is convex, then $\text{ri}(C)$ is also convex.

Corollary 2.0.2. Assume that C is convex. Then,

- (1) $\text{cl}(C) = \text{cl}(\text{ri}(C))$
- (2) $\text{ri}(C) = \text{ri}(\text{cl}(C))$

Note that this is not typically true for an arbitrary set C .

Lemma 2.0.2. If C is convex, then $\text{cl}(C)$ is also convex.

Lemma 2.0.3. If $O \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is open, then $\text{co}(O)$ is also open.

Lemma 2.0.4. If $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is compact, then $\text{co}(K)$ is compact.

Remark 2.0.1. If K is closed only (i.e., not bounded), then $\text{co}(K)$ may not be closed.

3. PROJECTION ONTO CONVEX SETS

Definition 3.1. *Orthogonal Projection*

Let $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be convex and $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. If $\exists x^* \in C$ such that $\|x - x^*\| < \|x - z\| \forall z \in C, z \neq x^*$, then we say that x^* is the orthogonal projection of x onto C , denoted as $x^* = \mathbb{P}_C(x)$.

- Trivially, if $x \in C$, then $x^* = x$.
- Note that $\|x - x^*\| \leq \|x - z\|, \forall z \in C, z \neq x^*$ asserts uniqueness.

Theorem 3.1. Let $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be closed and convex. Then,

- (1) *Existence:* $\mathbb{P}_C(x)$ exists $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
- (2) *Uniqueness:* $x^* = \mathbb{P}_C(x)$
- (3) *Characterization:* $x^* \in C$ and $\langle x - x^*, z - x^* \rangle \leq 0, \forall z \in C$.

In other words, the existence of $\mathbb{P}_C(x)$ implies that $\inf_{z \in C} \|x - z\| = \|x - x^*\|$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is attained and x^* is unique.

4. PROJECTION ONTO A LINEAR SUBSPACE

Remark 4.0.1. A linear subspace is convex and closed.

Corollary 4.0.1. Let $Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be a linear subspace. Then, for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$x^* \in Y \iff \langle x - x^*, y \rangle = 0, \forall y \in Y$$

Definition 4.1. *Orthogonal Set*

Let $W \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$. We define the orthogonal set to W as

$$W^\perp = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle x, w \rangle = 0, \forall w \in W\}$$

Proposition 4.1. Let Y be a linear subspace. Then,

- (1) Y^\perp is a linear subspace
- (2) If $Y = \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$, i.e. all linear combinations of vectors x_1, \dots, x_n , then $Y^\perp = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle x, x_i \rangle = 0, i = 1, \dots, n\}$
- (3) If Y is a linear subspace, then $Y \cap Y^\perp = \{\mathbf{0}\}$
- (4) If Y is a linear subspace, then $[Y^\perp]^\perp = Y$
- (5) If Y is a linear subspace, then for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, there exists a unique decomposition $x = y + z$, where $y = \mathbb{P}_Y(x) \in Y$ and $z = \mathbb{P}_Y^\perp(x) \in Y^\perp$

Corollary 4.0.2. If $Y = \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$, then

$$x^* = \mathbb{P}_Y(x) \iff \exists \alpha_j \in \mathbb{R}, j = 1, \dots, n \text{ s.t. } x^* = \sum \alpha_j x_j \text{ and } \sum \alpha_j \langle x_j, x_i \rangle = \langle x, x_i \rangle \forall i = 1, \dots, n$$

Note that $x^* \in Y \iff x^*$ can be written as a linear combination of the basis vectors x_1, \dots, x_n . Also observe that the projection x^* is perpendicular to each one of the basis vectors.

Lemma 4.0.1. Every linear subspace of \mathbb{R}^n has an orthonormal basis, i.e. basis vectors are linearly independent with norm 1.

Proposition 4.2. For $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, denoting $Y = \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$

$$x_0 - \mathbb{P}_Y(x) = \mathbf{0} \iff \langle x - x_0, x_i \rangle = 0, \forall i = 1, \dots, k$$

Remark 4.0.2. In summary,

- (1) For $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, S convex, and $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $x_0 = \mathbb{P}_S(x) \iff \langle x - x_0, y - x_0 \rangle \leq 0 \ \forall y \in S$
- (2) For $Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, Y linear subspace, and $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $x_0 = \mathbb{P}_Y(x) \iff \langle x - x_0, y \rangle = 0, \ \forall y \in Y$
- (3) For $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$, let $S = \text{span}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$. Then, for $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $x_0 = \mathbb{P}_S(x) \iff \langle x - x_0, x_i \rangle = 0, \ \forall i = 1, \dots, k$

Definition 4.2. Gram Matrix

For any $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$, we define the matrix of inner products to be the Gram Matrix as follows

$$G_{x_1, \dots, x_k} = \begin{bmatrix} \langle x_1, x_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle x_1, x_k \rangle \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle x_k, x_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle x_k, x_k \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that G is symmetric and has dimensions $(k \times k)$.

Definition 4.3. Linear Independence

A collection of vectors x_1, \dots, x_k are linearly independent if

$$\sum \lambda_i x_i = \mathbf{0} \iff \lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_k = 0$$

Lemma 4.0.2. G_{x_1, \dots, x_k} is invertible $\iff \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ are linearly independent.

Theorem 4.1. Let $x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be linearly independent vectors and take any $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Define $Y = \text{span}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$. Then,

$$x_0 = \mathbb{P}_Y(x) \iff x_0 = \lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_k x_k,$$

where $\lambda = [\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k]^T$ constitute the unique solution to the system

$$G_{x_1, \dots, x_k} \lambda = [\langle x_i, x \rangle]$$

and $[\langle x_i, x \rangle] = [\langle x_1, x \rangle, \dots, \langle x_k, x \rangle]^T$.

Definition 4.4. Range of a Matrix

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$. Then the range of A , denoted $\text{rng}(A)$, is

$$\text{rng}(A) = \{Ax : x \in \mathbb{R}^n\} = \text{span}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

where x_1, \dots, x_n are the column vectors of A . Note that $\text{rng}(A)$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^k , since each column vector contains k elements. We can also think of $\text{rng}(A)$ as the range of a function defined by A , since A is a linear operator.

Definition 4.5. (Column) Rank of a Matrix

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$. Then, $\text{rank}(A)$ is the number of independent columns of A . If $\text{rank}(A) = \min(k, n)$, then we say that A is full rank.

Application 4.1. Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^k$. Suppose we want to solve $Ax = b$, but A is $(k \times n)$ and b is $(k \times 1)$ (i.e. $Ax = b$ unsolvable). Then, we want to find the next best approximation of b in $\text{rng}(A)$.

- Problem: Minimize $\|Ax - b\|$ with respect to x
- Solution: Least Squares

$$(1) \ x_0 \text{ solves this problem} \iff Ax_0 = \mathbb{P}_{\text{rng}(A)}(b)$$

$$(2) \iff \langle b - Ax_0, y \rangle, y \in \text{rng}(A)$$

$$(3) = \langle b - Ax_0, Ax \rangle$$

$$(4) = 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

Proposition 4.3. For any $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$, $y \perp \text{rng}(A) \iff (Ay)^T = \mathbf{0}$

– In essence, $\text{rng}(A)^\perp = \text{null}(A^T)$

Corollary 4.1.1. Following from the proposition above, $\langle b - Ax_0, Ax \rangle = 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n \iff A^T(b - Ax_0) = \mathbf{0} \iff A^T Ax_0 = A^T b$.

Lemma 4.1.1. $A^T A$ is invertible $\iff \text{rank}(A) = n$, so A is full rank

– A being full rank \implies its columns are linearly independent

Theorem 4.2. If $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ has $\text{rank}(A) = n$ ("identification condition"), then the solution to the problem $Ax = b$ is

$$x_0 = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$$

5. SEPARATION BY HYPERPLANE AND CONVEX CONES

Theorem 5.1. *Hyperplane Separation Thm. (of Closed, Convex set from Point)*

Let S be a nonempty, closed, and convex set in \mathbb{R}^n . Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus S$. Then, $\exists \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ such that $\langle \alpha, x \rangle > \sup_{y \in S} \langle \alpha, y \rangle$.

- In words, a nonempty, closed, and convex set can be strictly separated by a hyperplane from any given point that lies outside that set.
- Proof idea is to project x onto our set S to get a supporting hyperplane of S and then to shift the hyperplane up so that it strictly separates x from S .
- And since S is closed and convex, there exists a unique nearest point in S to a point x outside of S , namely the projection of x onto S , $\mathbb{P}_S(x)$.
- $\langle \alpha, x \rangle > \langle \alpha, y \rangle$ just means that x and y are on different sides of the hyperplane.
- $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ is the normal vector in the definition of the hyperplane.

Application 5.1. *How to Find a Separating Hyperplane*

- (1) For existence, use hyperplane separation theorem
- (2)

Definition 5.1. *Cone*

A nonempty set $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is a cone if $\lambda x \in C$ for all $x \in C$ and $\lambda \geq 0$.

Remark 5.1.1. *Cones can never be bounded.*

- We can conceptualize them as sets made up of rays that go between the origin and a point contained in the set C .
- A cone always contains the origin.
- A cone need not be convex.

Definition 5.2. *Convex Cone*

If C is a cone and a convex set, then we call C a convex cone.

Lemma 5.1.1. A set $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, C \neq \emptyset$ is a convex cone $\iff \forall k \in \mathbb{N}, \forall x_1, \dots, x_k \in C$, and $\forall \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \geq 0, \sum \alpha_i x_i \in C$, i.e. linear combination of points from C is contained in C

Proposition 5.1. *Separation of a Closed, Convex Cone from a Point via Hyperplane*

Let C be a closed, convex cone in \mathbb{R}^n and let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$. Then, $\exists \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ such that

$$\langle \alpha, x \rangle > 0 = \max_{y \in C} \langle \alpha, y \rangle$$

- In words, a nonempty, closed, convex cone can be separated from any given point that lies outside that cone by a hyperplane that goes through the origin.
- This is just a particular instance of the hyperplane separation theorem.

Definition 5.3. *Conical Hull*

For any $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, we define the following set as the conical hull, the smallest convex cone containing S

$$\text{cone}(S) = \bigcap \{C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n : C \text{ is a convex cone, } S \subseteq C\}$$

- We can think of the conical hull as refining the convex cones containing S until we reach the smallest one – building from the outside inward.

Lemma 5.1.2.

$$\text{cone}(S) = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i x_i : k \in \mathbb{N}; x_1, \dots, x_k \in S; \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \geq 0 \right\}$$

Remark 5.1.2. A convex set S may have a conical hull $\text{cone}(S)$ that is not closed. For example, tangencies to axes can yield $\text{cone}(S)$ not closed.

Definition 5.4. Cone Generated by Set

We say that a convex cone $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is generated by a set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ if $C = \text{cone}(S)$.

- In essence, convex cone C is given to you and we want to find the S that generates it.
- In other words, the cone generated by a set is the conical hull of the set.

Definition 5.5. Finitely-Generated Cone

We say that cone $C = \text{cone}(S)$ is finitely-generated if $|S| < \infty$.

Definition 5.6. Basic Cone

We say that $C = \text{cone}(S)$ is basic if S consists of linearly independent vectors (and thus finitely-generated, since a set of linearly independent vectors in \mathbb{R}^n can consist of at most n vectors).

Lemma 5.1.3. $\text{cone}(\{x\})$ is closed $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

– Proof Sketch:

- (1) We proceed by constructing a sequence (y_m) in $\text{cone}(\{x\})$, and we WTS that if $y_m \rightarrow y$, then it converges within the set, i.e. $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
- (2) We are constructing a sequence in $\text{cone}(\{x\})$ whose elements are all scalar multiples of some fixed vector x , since the cone is generated by scaling up/down some vector x . This implies that we have a sequence of scalars that accompany each y_m .
- (3) More formally, for every $m \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists $\lambda_m \geq 0$ such that $y_m = \lambda_m x$. Since $\|\cdot\|$ is continuous¹, $\|y_m\| \rightarrow \|y\|$
 $\implies \|\lambda_m x\| \rightarrow \|y\|$
 $\implies \lambda_m \|x\| \rightarrow \|y\|$
 $\implies \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_m \|x\| \rightarrow \|y\|$
 $\implies \lambda = \frac{\|y\|}{\|x\|}$
- (4) Then, by finding that $\lambda_m \rightarrow \lambda = \frac{\|y\|}{\|x\|}$, we have $y_m = \lambda_m x \rightarrow \lambda x$, so long as $x \neq \mathbf{0}$.
 $\implies y = \lambda x \in \text{cone}(\{x\})$
- (5) Note that if we did in fact have $x = \mathbf{0}$, then $\text{cone}(\{x\}) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ is a singleton \implies any multiple of x is also $\mathbf{0}$ and we thus have a constant sequence which trivially converges to the constant, $\mathbf{0}$ in this case.

Lemma 5.1.4. Every basic cone in \mathbb{R}^n is closed.

Lemma 5.1.5. Let $x, x_1, \dots, x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $x = \sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i x_i$, where $\theta_i > 0, \forall i = 1, \dots, k$. Then, x can be expressed as a nonnegative linear combination of $k - 1$ many vectors from $\{x_1, \dots, x_k\} \iff \exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^k \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i x_i = \mathbf{0}$.

Lemma 5.1.6. For any set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$\text{cone}(S) = \bigcap \{ \text{cone}(T) : T \subseteq S, T \text{ linearly independent} \}$$

Theorem 5.2. Every finitely generated convex cone in \mathbb{R}^n is closed.

Corollary 5.2.1. Every linear subspace of \mathbb{R}^n is closed.

¹Recall that continuous functions preserve limits.

6. THE FARKAS LEMMA

Theorem 6.1. *Farkas Lemma*

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^k$. Then, either

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{R}^n, x \geq \mathbf{0} \text{ such that } Ax = b$$

or

$$\exists w \in \mathbb{R}^k \text{ such that } \langle w, b \rangle > 0 \text{ and } A^T w \leq \mathbf{0}$$

- This implies that if b is in the convex cone generated by the column vectors of A , $\text{cone}(\{a_1, \dots, a_n\})$, then there exists a solution x to $Ax = b$. And if b sits outside the convex cone generated by the column vectors of A , then we can find a hyperplane separating b from $\text{cone}(\{a_1, \dots, a_n\})$.
- Proving Farkas Lemma requires two parts:
 - (1) *Exclusivity:* Suppose both parts are true and derive a contradiction
 - (2) *If not p , then q :* Suppose one part fails. Show that the other must hold.
 - (3) *If p , then not q :* Suppose one part holds. Show the other must fail.

Corollary 6.1.1. *We can also state Farkas Lemma as follows:*

For any $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^k$

$$\exists x \geq \mathbf{0} \text{ such that } Ax = b \iff \forall w \in \mathbb{R}^k, \text{ either } \langle w, b \rangle \leq 0, \text{ or } A^T w > \mathbf{0} \text{ or both } \langle w, b \rangle \leq 0 \ \& \ A^T w > \mathbf{0}$$

Theorem 6.2. *Fredholm Alternative Thm.*

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^k$. Then, either

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ such that } Ax = b$$

or

$$\exists w \in \mathbb{R}^k \text{ such that } \langle w, b \rangle \neq 0 \text{ and } A^T w = \mathbf{0}$$

Corollary 6.2.1. *Note that for any $(k \times n)$ matrix A ,*

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ s.t. } Ax = b \implies b \in \text{range}(A)$$

On the other hand,

$$\exists w \in \mathbb{R}^k \text{ such that } \langle w, b \rangle \neq 0 \text{ and } A^T w = \mathbf{0} \implies b \notin \text{null}(A^T)^\perp$$

Therefore, the Fredholm Alternative Theorem tells us that either

$$b \in \text{rng}(A)$$

or

$$b \notin \text{null}(A^T)^\perp$$

And this holds if and only if $\text{rng}(A) = \text{null}(A^T)^\perp$. The latter equality holds as a consequence of the projection theorem.

Remark 6.2.1. Every vector x can be expressed as the difference between two nonnegative vectors $u, v \geq 0$. Thus, if $Ax = b$, then there exist $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$, where $u, v \geq 0$, such that $x = u - v$.

- We can manipulate Farkas Lemma by using this fact and introducing slack/surplus variables.

Corollary 6.2.2. *Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^k$. Then, either*

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ such that } Ax \geq b$$

or

$$\exists w \in \mathbb{R}^k, w \geq \mathbf{0}, \text{ such that } \langle w, b \rangle > 0 \text{ and } A^T w = \mathbf{0}$$

– Proof Sketch:

- (1) We first need to figure out a way to construct an analogous system of equations that (i) holds with equality (i.e. get rid of \geq) and (ii) guarantees a nonnegative solution vector so that we can apply Farkas Lemma.
- (2) Let $y_1, y_2, y_3 \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Let $x = y_1 - y_2$. Then, $Ax = b \implies A(y_1 - y_2) \geq b$. This holds with equality if we choose some nonnegative vector y_3 and subtract it from the LHS. In particular, we choose slack variable such that $y_3 = Ax - b$.
 $\implies A(y_1 - y_2) - y_3 = b$
- (3) By constructing an augmented matrix, we can reinterpret this as a system of equations
 $\implies [A - A - I]z = b$, where z is a $3n$ vector, $z \geq \mathbf{0}$, and $[A - A - I]$ is an augmented matrix.
- (4) Note that each of our k equations takes the form: $a_i y_1 - a_i y_2 - y_3 = b$ for a_i row vectors of A for $i = 1, \dots, k$.
- (5) Now we have our new system of equations that agrees with the structure of Farkas Lemma.
- (6) Furthermore, suppose $Ax \not\geq b$, i.e. part (i) is false. We WTS that part (ii) must hold.
- (7) $Ax \neq b \implies [A - A - I]z \neq b$. Therefore, we may apply Farkas Lemma to conclude that for some $w \in \mathbb{R}^k$, $\langle b, w \rangle > 0$ & $[A - A - I]^T w \leq \mathbf{0}$
 $\implies \langle b, w \rangle > 0$ & $A^T w = \mathbf{0}$ & $w \geq \mathbf{0}$ for some $w \in \mathbb{R}^k$

– Side-note: we know that $w \geq \mathbf{0}$ since if $\langle b, w \rangle > 0$, then neither b nor w can be $\mathbf{0}$.

Lemma 6.2.1. *Stiemke Lemma*

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^k$. Then, either

$$Ax = \mathbf{0}, \text{ for some } x \in \mathbb{R}^n, x >> \mathbf{0}$$

or

$$A^T w > \mathbf{0}, \text{ for some } w \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

– Proof Sketch:

- (1) To prove this lemma, we need to introduce slack variables and construct an augmented matrix as in the proof of the corollary above.
- (2) Note that $Ax = \mathbf{0}$ for some $x >> \mathbf{0}$ is the same as saying that $Ax = \mathbf{0}$ for some $x \geq \mathbf{1}$.
 – If all components of x are strictly positive, we could always scale the vector by some constant λ so that all values of the vector are strictly greater than 1. In other words, we don't have to worry about the case in which $x_i = 0 \implies \lambda x_i = 0$ for $\lambda > 0$.
- (3) $x \geq \mathbf{1} \implies -x \leq (-1, -1, \dots, -1) \implies -x + y = -1$ for some $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- (4) Therefore, $Ax = \mathbf{0} \iff Ax = \mathbf{0}$ & $-x + y = -1$ for some $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $x, y \geq \mathbf{0}$
 $\implies a_i x = 0$ for row vectors a_1, \dots, a_k & $-x + y = -1$
- (5) Thus, our $Ax = b$ system becomes:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{k1} & \cdots & a_{kn} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ -1 & \cdots & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & -1 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \\ y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ \vdots \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

And now our new system has the structure that Farkas Lemma requires, where A refers to the augmented version above and $b = [0, \dots, 0, -1, \dots, -1]^T \in \mathbb{R}^{k+n}$.

(6) Now, suppose that part (i) fails, i.e. $Ax \neq \mathbf{0}$. Then, $\nexists x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $x, y \geq \mathbf{0}$ s.t. the augmented system above holds. Farkas Lemma tells us that there instead exists some vector $w \in \mathbb{R}^{k+n}$ such that $\langle b, w \rangle > 0$ & $A^T w \leq \mathbf{0}$.

(7) Since $b \in \mathbb{R}^{k+n}$, we know that w is the concatenation of some $(k \times 1)$ vector u and some $(n \times 1)$ vector v . Thus, $b = [u \ v]^T$, so we can rewrite the Farkas Lemma condition (ii): $\langle b, w \rangle = \langle [u \ v]^T, [\mathbf{0} \ -\mathbf{1}]^T \rangle > 0$.

$$\implies b_1 w_1 + \dots + b_k w_k + b_{k+1} w_{k+1} + \dots + b_{k+n} w_{k+n} = -v_1 - \dots - v_n > 0$$

$$\implies -v_1 - \dots - v_n > 0$$

$$\implies v_1 + \dots + v_n < 0$$

(8) $A^T w \leq \mathbf{0}$ in the context of the Farkas Lemma $\implies A^T u - v \leq \mathbf{0}$ & $v \leq \mathbf{0}$, since our $A^T w$ in the context of this problem is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A^T & -\mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} \leq \mathbf{0}$$

$$\implies A^T u - v \leq \mathbf{0} \text{ \& } v \leq \mathbf{0} \implies A^T u \leq v \leq \mathbf{0}$$

(9) $v_1 + \dots + v_n < 0$ and $v \leq \mathbf{0} \implies v < \mathbf{0}$

(10) Therefore, $A^T u \leq v < \mathbf{0} \implies A^T u < \mathbf{0}$

Remark 6.2.2. $x \gg \mathbf{0}$ means that x has all strictly positive components, so $x_i \neq 0, \forall i$. On the other hand, $x \geq \mathbf{0}$ means that x has all nonnegative components.

– And note that the converse of $x \geq \mathbf{0}$, i.e. $x \not\geq \mathbf{0}$, is that at least one x_i is not nonnegative.

7. CONCAVITY

Definition 7.1. Concave

Let S be a nonempty, convex subset of \mathbb{R}^n . We say that a function $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is concave if $\forall \alpha \in (0, 1), \forall x, y \in S, x \neq y$

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \geq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$$

Definition 7.2. Convex

Let S be a nonempty, convex subset of \mathbb{R}^n . We say that $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is convex if $\forall \alpha \in (0, 1), \forall x, y \in S, x \neq y$

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$$

Put more concisely, we say that a f is convex if $-f$ is concave.

Definition 7.3. Affine

A function f is affine if it is convex and concave, i.e. $\forall \alpha \in (0, 1), \forall x, y \in S, x \neq y$

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) = \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$$

Proposition 7.1. Let S and T be two nonempty convex subsets of \mathbb{R}^n with $T \subseteq S$. If $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a (strictly) concave function, then the restriction of f to T , $f|_T : T \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, is (strictly) concave on T

Proposition 7.2. For any nonempty convex subset $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, a map $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is concave $\iff \{(x, t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} : t \leq f(x)\}$ is a convex set.

– Geometrically, concavity (convexity) of a real map f on an interval I means that the line segment between any two 2-vectors of the form $(x, f(x))$ and $(y, f(y))$ lies everywhere below (above) the graph of f . Put differently: f is concave if and only if the area below (above) the graph of f constitutes a convex subset of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Example 7.1. $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : x \mapsto \min_{i=1, \dots, n} x_i$ is a concave function.

– Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) &= \min_i \alpha x_i + (1 - \alpha)y_i \\
 &\geq \min_i \alpha x_i + \min_i (1 - \alpha)y_i \\
 &= \alpha \min_i x_i + (1 - \alpha) \min_i y_i \\
 &= \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 7.2. $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : x \mapsto \max_{i=1, \dots, n} x_i$ is a convex function.

Proposition 7.3. *Inverses of Convex Functions*

Let I be an interval and $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a strictly increasing and (strictly) convex function. Then, f^{-1} is a (strictly) concave function on $f(I)$.

– Proof Sketch:

- (1) Take any $x, y \in f(I)$ and $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. Then, $\exists z, w \in I$ such that $f(z) = x$ and $f(w) = y$. Then, by convexity of f

$$f(\alpha z + (1 - \alpha)w) \leq \alpha f(z) + (1 - \alpha)f(w) = \alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y$$

Since f and hence f^{-1} are strictly increasing, we can apply f^{-1} to both sides and preserve the inequality to get

$$\alpha z + (1 - \alpha)w \leq f^{-1}(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y)$$

And because $\alpha z + (1 - \alpha)w = \alpha f(z) + (1 - \alpha)f(w)$

$$\alpha f^{-1}(x) + (1 - \alpha)f^{-1}(y) \leq f^{-1}(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y)$$

thereby proving that f^{-1} is concave.

Example 7.3. Let T be a closed and convex set in \mathbb{R}^n . Then, $\text{dist}(x, T) = \inf_{t \in T} \|x - t\|$ is a convex function.

– Proof: Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ & $0 < \alpha < 1$. Set $x' = \mathbb{P}_T(x)$ and $y' = \mathbb{P}_T(y)$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{dist}(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y, T) &= \inf_{z \in T} \|\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y - z\| \\
 &\leq \|\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y - \alpha x' + (1 - \alpha)y'\| \\
 &\leq \alpha \|x - x'\| + (1 - \alpha)\|y - y'\| \\
 &= \alpha \text{dist}(x, T) + (1 - \alpha)\text{dist}(y, T)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Note that $\text{dist}(x, T) = \inf_{t \in T} \|x - t\| = \|x - \mathbb{P}_T(x)\|$, since by definition, the projection of x onto a set T is the distance between x and the point in T closest to x .

Example 7.4. *Convexity of Norms*

Let $\|\cdot\|$ be a norm on \mathbb{R}^n . Then, $\|\cdot\|$ is a convex function, since we know that $\|\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y\| \leq \alpha\|x\| + (1 - \alpha)\|y\|$.

- In fact, whatever norm you use on \mathbb{R}^n is a convex function (all strictly convex aside from $\|\cdot\|_\infty$).

Example 7.5. *Linearity of Inner Product*

The inner product with one of its arguments fixed $\langle \cdot, c \rangle$ is a linear function, and thus both convex and concave, since the inner product is linear in each of its arguments.

Example 7.6. Let S be a nonempty convex subset of \mathbb{R}^n and let k be a positive integer. If f_1, \dots, f_k are (strictly) concave functions on S , then for any $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k > 0$,

$$\lambda_1 f_1 + \dots + \lambda_k f_k$$

is a (strictly) concave function on S .

Example 7.7. Let S be a nonempty convex subset of \mathbb{R}^n and define $h : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$h(x) = \|x\|^2$$

Then, h is a convex function.

- Note that $h = g \circ f$, where $f : S \rightarrow [0, \infty) : x \mapsto \|x\|$ and $g : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : x \mapsto x^2$. Since f is convex, and g is increasing and convex, we can conclude that h is convex.

Example 7.8. Concavity of Quadratic Forms

Let Q be a symmetric $(n \times n)$ matrix, and let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : x \mapsto \langle Qx, x \rangle$. Let x, y be two arbitrarily chosen n -vectors, and let $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) &\geq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y) \\ \iff \alpha(\alpha - 1) &< \langle Q(x - y), x - y \rangle \geq 0 \\ \implies \langle Qz, z \rangle &\leq \forall z \in \mathbb{R}^n \end{aligned}$$

- (1) f is concave $\iff Q$ is negative semidefinite, i.e. $\langle Qz, z \rangle \leq 0, \forall z \in \mathbb{R}^n$ (all eigenvalues are nonpositive; visually, diagonal has all nonpositive values)
- (2) f is strictly concave $\iff Q$ is negative definite, i.e. $\langle Qz, z \rangle < 0, \forall z \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$

Proposition 7.4. Let $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and I is an interval such that $f(S) \subseteq I$, and $g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. In addition, let f be concave and let g be concave and strictly increasing. Then, $g \circ f$ is concave.

- Strictly increasing and concave transformation of a concave function yields a concave function

Proposition 7.5. Let \mathfrak{F} be the set of affine real functions on S . Assume that $\inf_{f \in \mathfrak{F}} f(x) > -\infty, \forall x \in S$. Then, $x \mapsto \inf_{f \in \mathfrak{F}} f(x)$ is a concave function.

- Pointwise infimum of functions is concave.
- The converse is also true: If $\inf_{f \in \mathfrak{F}} f(x) < -\infty \forall x \in S$, then we can get a set of affine real functions that approximates our function.
- At the kinks of $\inf_{f \in \mathfrak{F}} f(x)$, use hyperplane separation theorem.

Theorem 7.1. Jensen's Inequality

$f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is concave $\iff \forall k \geq 2, \forall x_1, \dots, x_k \in S$, and $\forall \alpha \in \Delta^{k-1}, f(\sum^k \alpha_i x_i) \geq \sum^k \alpha_i f(x_i)$

Definition 7.4. Quasiconcavity

Let S be a nonempty convex subset of \mathbb{R}^n . We say that a function $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is quasiconcave if

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \geq \min\{f(x), f(y)\}$$

for any distinct $x, y \in S$ and any $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

Remark 7.1.1. Strictly increasing and concave transformations preserve concavity of a function. Strictly increasing transformations preserve quasiconcavity. And concave implies quasiconcavity, but the converse not generally true.

Remark 7.1.2. For a concave function, if you look at the area below the graph, the area (set) will be convex. Similarly, for a convex function, look at the area above the graph, and the area (set) will be convex.

8. CONTINUITY OF CONCAVE FUNCTIONS

Remark 8.0.1. A concave function on a convex set need not be continuous. However, discontinuities can occur only at the boundary points of the domain of the function.

Lemma 8.0.1. *Locally Bounded*

Let O be a nonempty, open and convex subset of \mathbb{R}^n and let $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a concave function. Then, for every $x \in O$, $\exists \varepsilon, K > 0$ such that for every $y \in B(x, \varepsilon)$,

$$|f(y)| \leq K$$

Theorem 8.1. *Locally Lipschitz*

Let $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where $O \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is open and convex. Let f be a concave function. Then, $\forall x \in O$, $\exists \varepsilon > 0$ & $K_x > 0$ such that

$$|f(a) - f(b)| \leq K_x \|a - b\|, \quad \forall a, b \in B(x, \varepsilon)$$

- In words, concave functions are locally Lipschitz in \mathbb{R}^n (or more generally, on an open and convex set), and since the locally Lipschitz condition subsumes continuity, concave functions are implicitly continuous.

Corollary 8.1.1. Let S be a nonempty convex subset of \mathbb{R}^n and $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a concave function. Then, f is continuous on $\text{int}(S)$.

- Follows from the implication that a concave f is locally Lipschitz on $\text{int}(S)$, since the interior of a convex set in \mathbb{R}^n is also convex and the interior of a set is open by definition.

Corollary 8.1.2. If $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ for $O \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ and f concave $\implies f$ is continuous.

Proposition 8.1. Let I be an open interval (and thus convex, since intervals are convex by def'n). Let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a concave function. Then,

- (1) f is left-differentiable (i.e. left derivative exists everywhere)
- (2) f is right-differentiable (i.e. right derivative exists everywhere)
- (3) For any $x, y \in I, x > y$,

$$f'_+(x) \leq f'_-(x) \leq \frac{f(y) - f(x)}{y - x} \leq f'_+(y) \leq f'_-(y)$$

where $f'_-(x)$ denotes the left derivative at x , etc.

- (4) f'_- and f'_+ are decreasing functions; and if f is twice differentiable, $f'' < 0$

Corollary 8.1.3. For an open interval $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, differentiable (or twice-differentiable). Then, f is concave $\iff f'$ is decreasing (or $f'' \leq 0$ given that f'' exists).

Proposition 8.2. Let f, g be concave functions and g increasing. Then, $g \circ f$ is concave.

– Proof:

- (1) $g \circ f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \geq \lambda g \circ f(x) + (1 - \lambda)g \circ f(y)$
- (2) Since f is concave,

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \geq \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y)$$
- (3) Since g is increasing, we can apply $g(\cdot)$ to both sides and preserve the inequality

$$g(f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y)) \geq g(\lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y))$$
- (4) By the concavity of g ,

$$g(\lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y)) \geq \lambda g \circ f(x) + (1 - \lambda)g \circ f(y)$$

$$\implies g \circ f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \geq \lambda g \circ f(x) + (1 - \lambda)g \circ f(y)$$

Proposition 8.3. *Let $F : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-\infty\}$. If $F(x) = \inf\{f(x) : f \in A \subseteq \text{affine functions}\}$, then F is concave. Furthermore, if F is concave and continuous, then $\exists A \subseteq \text{affine functions}$ such that $F(x) = \inf\{f : f \in A, A \subseteq \text{affine functions}\}$.*

- *Proof uses supporting hyperplanes to construct our set of affine functions (since hyperplanes are affine) which approximate our concave function.*

9. OPTIMIZATION

Definition 9.1. *Differentiable*

Let $O \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be an open and convex set. $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable at $x \in O$ if for $f(y) = f(x) + \langle \nabla f(x), y - x \rangle + E(y - x)$,

$$\frac{E(y - x)}{\|y - x\|} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \|y - x\| \rightarrow 0,$$

where $E(y - x) = f(x + z) - f(x) - \langle \nabla f(x), z \rangle$ is the error function and $\nabla f(x)$ is the vector of partials evaluated at x . Therefore, the error $E(y - x)$ has to go to 0 faster than $\|y - x\|$ does.

Remark 9.0.1. If f is differentiable, then $\nabla f(x)$ is a vector of partials, but even if f is not differentiable, the vector of partials may still be well-defined.

Theorem 9.1. Let $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a (continuously) differentiable function. Then, f is concave $\iff f(y) \leq f(x) + \langle \nabla f(x), y - x \rangle, \forall x, y \in O, x \neq y$.

- If $O \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, then this is just like saying the first derivative is decreasing.
- We have a strict inequality if f is strictly concave.

Definition 9.2. *Local Maximizer*

Let $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be any function. We say that $x^* \in O$ is a local maximizer of f if $\exists \varepsilon > 0$ such that $f(x^*) \geq f(x) \forall x \in B(x, \varepsilon)$

Definition 9.3. *Global Maximizer*

Similarly, we say that x^* is a global maximizer if $f(x^*) \geq f(x) \forall x \in O$.

Theorem 9.2. Let $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function differentiable at x^* . If x^* is a local maximizer of f , then $\nabla f(x^*) = \mathbf{0}$.

Lemma 9.2.1. Suppose $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is concave. Then, every local maximizer of f is a global maximizer (if convex, then global minimizer).

Theorem 9.3. Let $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be concave. Suppose f is differentiable at $x^* \in O$. Then, x^* is a global maximizer of $f \iff \nabla f(x^*) = \mathbf{0}$.

Theorem 9.4. *KKT for Concave Programming*

Suppose we are interested in the following maximization problem:

$$\max f(x) \text{ s.t. } h_i(x) \geq 0 \forall i = 1, \dots, k$$

Let O be a nonempty, open, and convex set in \mathbb{R}^n . Let $f, h_1, \dots, h_k : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be differentiable, concave real-valued functions on O . Assume $\exists x \in O$ such that $h_i(x) > 0 \forall i = 1, \dots, k$; i.e., there is at least one point in the interior of the constraint set (closed since concave implies continuous) for which all constraints hold strictly—Slater's Condition. Then, for any $x^* \in O$, we have

$$x^* \in \arg \max \{f(x) : x \in O \text{ \& } h_i(x) \geq 0 \forall i\} \iff \exists \lambda^* \in [0, \infty)^k \text{ such that}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1. & \nabla f(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i^* \nabla h_i(x^*) = \mathbf{0} \text{ [FOC]} \\ 2. & \lambda_i^* h_i(x) = 0 \forall i = 1, \dots, k \end{aligned}$$

- Note that Slater's condition simply requires that we have some point x in the interior of the constraint set in which all constraints hold with strict inequality, i.e. $h_i(x) > 0 \forall i$.
- The condition of concave constraint functions implies that we have a convex constraint set. More generally, we just care that we have a convex constraint set $\cap h_i(X)$ (i.e. concavity of constraint functions not necessary).

- In words, the theorem tells us that if we have a solution x^* for a maximization problem with concave constraints h_1, \dots, h_k and a concave objective function f in which Slater's condition holds, then the KKT conditions (1) and (2) must also hold.
- And conversely, if we have a maximization problem with a convex constraint set and a concave objective function in which Slater's condition holds, then if the KKT conditions hold, then we have a solution x^* .
- Note that a solution x^* to a general maximization need not satisfy the KKT conditions (or Slater's condition for that matter).
 - e.g. Consider $\max x$ s.t. $x^2 \leq 0$. Slater's condition does not hold. By looking at the objective function, we can tell that $x = 0$ is an optimum, but we can't use the FOC since $1 + \lambda^* 0 = 1 \neq 0$.
 - e.g. Consider $\max -(x_1^2 + x_2^2)$ such that $(x_1 - 1)^3 - x_2 \geq 0$.

Lemma 9.4.1. *Directional Derivative*

If $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable at $x \in O$, then $\partial_z f(x) = \langle \nabla f(x), z \rangle \forall z \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Lemma 9.4.2. Let constraint set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be a nonempty, convex set. Let $O \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be an open convex set such that $A \subseteq O$. Let $f : O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a concave function. Then, $x^* \in \arg \max\{f(x) : x \in A\} \iff \partial_y f(x^*) \leq 0 \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $\exists T > 0$ with $x^* + ty \in A \forall t \in (0, T)$

- The "then" part (ii) of the lemma just says that in any direction $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ from proposed optimum x^* (so y is a vector of directions), we're moving downward/decreasing. And in particular, we are testing the behavior of the objective function f near x^* by seeing what f does when we perturb the input x^* with a perturbation of "magnitude" t and direction y , i.e. $x^* + ty$. The condition that $x^* + ty \in A$ just ensures that our perturbation is meaningful; i.e., the perturbed value still lives in the constraint set and is thus feasible.