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Homework 1: convex optimization

MVA.

# Homework 1

## Exercise 1

1) Let's show that  $C := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \alpha_i \leq x_i \leq \beta_i, \forall i=1, \dots, m\}$

with  $\alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathbb{R}, \forall i=1, \dots, n$  is convex

$$\text{First } C = \bigcap_{i=1}^m \underbrace{\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \alpha_i \leq x_i \leq \beta_i\}},$$

$$\text{let } x \in \{1, \dots, m\} := C_i$$

$$C_i = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \alpha_i \leq x_i\} \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_i \leq \beta_i\}$$

$$= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \alpha_i \leq x_i \leq \beta_i\} \text{ with } e_i := \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } e_i^T x = x_i$$

So  $\forall i=1, \dots, n$ ,  $C_i$  is an intersection of 2 half-spaces, which are convex sets so  $C_i$  is convex.

Hence  $C$  is convex as it is an intersection of  $m$  convex sets.

2) Let's show that  $C := \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \mid x_1 x_2 \geq 1\}$  is convex,

We will use the definition, let  $\theta \in [0, 1]$  and  $x, y \in C$ ,

we want to show that  $z = \theta x + (1-\theta)y \in C$

$$z_1 z_2 = (\theta x_1 + (1-\theta)y_1)(\theta x_2 + (1-\theta)y_2)$$

$$= \underbrace{\theta^2}_{\gamma_1} \underbrace{x_1 x_2}_{\gamma_1} + \underbrace{(1-\theta)^2}_{\gamma_1} \underbrace{y_1 y_2}_{\gamma_1} + \underbrace{\theta(1-\theta)}_{\gamma_0} [\underbrace{x_1 y_2}_{\gamma_0} + \underbrace{x_2 y_1}_{\gamma_0}]$$

$$\gamma_1 \theta^2 + (1-\theta)^2 = 2\theta^2 + 1 - 2\theta = \underbrace{2\theta(\theta-1)}_{\gamma_0} + 1 \geq 1$$

As  $z_1 z_2 \geq 1$ ,  $z = \theta x + (1-\theta)y \in C$ , therefore  $C$  is convex

3) Let's show that  $C := \{x \mid \|x - x_0\|_2 \leq \|x - y\|_2 \text{ for all } y \in S\}$   
is convex.

$$C = \bigcap_{y \in S} \{x \mid \|x - x_0\|_2 \leq \|x - y\|_2\},$$

$$\text{we note } C_y := \{x \mid \|x - x_0\|_2 \leq \|x - y\|_2\}$$

$$x \in C_y \Leftrightarrow \|x - x_0\|_2^2 \leq \|x - y\|_2^2 \text{ by growth of square function}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \|x\|_2^2 - 2\langle x, x_0 \rangle + \|x_0\|_2^2 \leq \|x\|_2^2 - 2\langle x, y \rangle + \|y\|_2^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle x, y - x_0 \rangle \leq \frac{\|y\|_2^2 - \|x_0\|_2^2}{2}$$

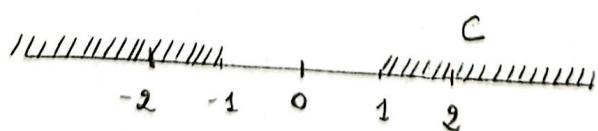
$$\Leftrightarrow (y - x_0)^T x \leq \frac{\|y\|_2^2 - \|x_0\|_2^2}{2}$$

$$C_y = \left\{ x \mid (y - x_0)^T x \leq \frac{\|y\|_2^2 - \|x_0\|_2^2}{2} \right\}$$

convex.

Therefore  $C$  is convex because it is an intersection of convex sets.

4) Let's show that  $C := \{x \mid \text{dist}(x, S) \leq \text{dist}(x, T)\}$   
where  $S, T \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\text{dist}(x, S) = \inf \{\|x - z\|_2 \mid z \in S\}$  is not convex. For instance, this is a counterexample for  $n=1$ :  
we define  $S = ]-\infty, 2] \cup [2, +\infty[$  and  $T = \{0\}$



$$C = ]-\infty, -1] \cup [1, +\infty[ \text{ which is clearly non convex.}$$

5) Let's show that  $C := \{x \mid x + s_2 \in S_1\}$  where  $S_1, S_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$   
 with  $S_1$  convex is convex. We use the definition.  
 Let  $\theta \in [0, 1]$  and  $x, y \in C$ ,  
 let  $z \in S_2$

$$\theta x + (1-\theta)y + z = \theta(x+z) + (1-\theta)(y+z)$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x \in C \\ y \in C \end{array} \stackrel{\text{so}}{\Rightarrow} \begin{array}{l} x+z \in S_1 \\ y+z \in S_1 \end{array}$$

$$\text{so, } \theta x + (1-\theta)y + z = \underbrace{\theta(x+z)}_{\in S_1} + \underbrace{(1-\theta)(y+z)}_{\in S_1} \in S_1 \text{ because } S_1 \text{ is convex.}$$

It means that  $\theta x + (1-\theta)y \in C$ .

Hence we prove that  $C$  is convex.

## Exercise 2:

Before starting the question 1. Let's derive two useful results

i) Let  $A \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$  symmetric, there exists a matrix  $P$  orthogonal such that  $A = PDP^{-1}$  with  $D$  a diagonal matrix with all the eigenvalues of  $A$  on the diagonal. We note  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  the eigenvalues.

Then  $\det(A) = \det(PDP^{-1}) = \det(P) \det(D) \frac{1}{\det(P)} = \det(D) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$

$$\text{Tr}(A) = \text{Tr}(PDP^{-1}) = \text{Tr}(PP^{-1}D) = \text{Tr}(D) = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$$

Hence: \*  $A \in S_2^+(\mathbb{R}) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \lambda_1 > 0 \\ \lambda_2 > 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \det(A) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 > 0$

\*  $A \in S_2^-(\mathbb{R}) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \lambda_1 < 0 \\ \lambda_2 < 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \det(A) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 < 0$

ii) If  $f: A \rightarrow B$  convex  $\Rightarrow f: A \rightarrow B$  quasi-convex

Let  $\theta \in [0, 1]$ ,  $x \in B$ ,  $n, y \in \{x \in A | f(x) \leq \alpha\} = C$

$$f(\theta n + (1-\theta)y) \leq \theta f(n) + (1-\theta)f(y) \leq \theta \alpha + (1-\theta)\alpha = \alpha$$

convex

n, y  $\in C$

1) Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$  and  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 x_2$ ,  $f$  is twice differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}_{++}^2$ .

$$\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) - t I_2) = t^2 - 1 = (t+1)(t-1), t \in \mathbb{R}$$

But the eigenvalues are the roots of the characteristic polynomial let  $\lambda_1 = -1, \lambda_2 = 1$  the eigenvalues.  $\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) \notin S_2^+$ , so  $f$  is not convex and  $\nabla^2(-f)(x_1, x_2) \notin S_2^+$

let us show that  $-f$  is quasi-convex ( $\Leftrightarrow f$  is quasi-concave)

$C := \{x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 | f(x_1, x_2) \geq \alpha\}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

• if  $\alpha < 0$  then  $C = \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$  hence convex

• if  $\alpha \geq 0$ , let  $\theta \in [0, 1]$  and  $x, y \in C$  (same as 2.1)

$$(x_1 + (1-\theta)y_1)(x_2 + (1-\theta)y_2) = \theta^2 \underbrace{x_1 x_2}_{> 0} + (1-\theta)^2 \underbrace{y_1 y_2}_{> 0} + \theta(1-\theta) \underbrace[x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1]_{\geq 0}$$

$$\geq \alpha [\theta^2 + (1-\theta)^2] \geq \alpha \frac{\theta^2 + (1-\theta)^2}{2\theta(1-\theta) + \alpha} > \alpha$$

So  $\theta x + (1-\theta)y \in C$ . Therefore  $C$  is convex.

Hence,  $f$  is quasi-concave (but not quasi-convex).

2) let  $x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$ ,  $f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{x_1 x_2}$ ,  $f$  is twice differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}_{++}^2$

$$\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{1}{x_1^2 x_2^2} \\ \frac{1}{x_1^2 x_2^2} & \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2)) = \frac{4}{x_1^4 x_2^4} - \frac{1}{x_1^4 x_2^4} = \frac{3}{x_1^4 x_2^4} > 0$$

$$\text{Tr}(\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2)) = \frac{2}{x_1^3 x_2} + \frac{2}{x_1 x_2^3} > 0$$

Hence, with the result derives at the beginning we can conclude that  $f$  is convex. In particular,  $f$  is quasi-convex. ( $f$  is not concave and quasi-concave)

3) let  $x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$ ,  $f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{x_1}{x_2}$ ,  $f$  is twice differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}_{++}^2$

$$\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{1}{x_2^2} \\ -\frac{1}{x_2^2} & \frac{2x_1}{x_2^3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\det(\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2)) = -\frac{1}{x_2^4}$  hence if we note  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  the eigenvalues of  $\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2)$  we get that  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 < 0$ .

It means  $[\lambda_1 > 0 \text{ and } \lambda_2 < 0]$  or  $[\lambda_1 < 0 \text{ and } \lambda_2 > 0]$ .

So  $\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) \notin S_+^2$  and  $\nabla^2 f(x_1, x_2) \notin S_+^{<2}$ .

$f$  is not convex and  $f$  not concave.

let's prove that  $f$  is quasi-linear.

$$\text{let } C_1 = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid f(x_1, x_2) \leq \alpha \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid x_2 - \alpha x_1 \leq 0 \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -\alpha \end{bmatrix}^T x \leq 0 \right\}$$

$C_1$  is an half-space so convex.  $f$  is quasi-convex

$$C_2 = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid -f(x_1, x_2) \leq \alpha \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid -\alpha x_2 - x_1 \leq 0 \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2 \mid \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -\alpha \end{bmatrix}^T x \leq 0 \right\}$$

$C_2$  is an half-space so convex

By definition,  $f$  quasi-concave.  $-f$  is quasi-convex

$f$  quasi concave + quasi convex  $\Rightarrow f$  is quasi linear

4) let  $x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^2$ ,  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^\alpha x_2^{1-\alpha}$

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_2 \left[ \frac{x_1}{x_2} \right]^\alpha = x_2 g\left(\frac{x_1}{x_2}\right), \text{ where } 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

$g$  is twice differentiable

$$(-g)''(t) = - \left[ \frac{\alpha(\alpha-1)}{x_0^2} \frac{t^{\alpha-2}}{x_0} \right] \geq 0, \text{ so } -g \text{ is convex}$$

$-f$  is the perspective function of the function  $-g$  convex

From the course,  $-f$  is convex. It means that  $f$  is concave. In particular  $f$  is quasi-concave (if not convex or quasi convex).

exercice 3:

1) Let's show that  $f(x) = \text{Tr}(x^{-1})$  is convex.

We use the proposition of restriction of a convex function to a line

$$f: S_{++}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ convex } \Leftrightarrow g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ is convex } \forall x \in S_{++}^m, \forall v \in S^m \quad t \mapsto g(x+tv)$$

let  $v \in S^m$ ,  $x \in S_{++}^m$ ,  $t \in \{t \in \mathbb{R} | x+tv \in S_{++}^m\}$

$$g(t) := f(x+tv)$$

$$g(t) = \text{Tr}(x+tv)^{-1}$$

$x \in S_{++}^m$ , from the Cholesky decomposition, there exists  $L \in M_n$  invertible and lower triangular such that  $x = LL^T$

$$\begin{aligned} g(t) &= \text{Tr}(x+tv)^{-1} \\ &= \text{Tr}((LL^T+tv)^{-1}) \\ &= \text{Tr}((L^T)^{-1}[I+tL^{-1}V(L^T)^{-1}]^{-1}L^{-1}) \quad , \text{Tr}(AB) = \text{Tr}(BA) \\ &= \text{Tr}(x^{-1}[I+tL^{-1}V(L^T)^{-1}]^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

$L^{-1}V(L^T)^{-1}$  is symmetric, from the spectral theorem, there exists  $D \in M_n$  a diagonal matrix and  $O$  an orthogonal matrix such that:  $L^{-1}V(L^T)^{-1} = ODO^T$ , with  $D$  a diagonal matrix whose coefficients are precisely the eigenvalues of  $L^{-1}V(L^T)^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned} g(t) &= \text{Tr}(x^{-1}[I+tODO^T]^{-1}) \\ &= \text{Tr}(OX^{-1}O^T(I+tD)^{-1}) \quad , \text{Tr}(AB) = \text{Tr}(BA) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m (OX^{-1}O^T)_{ii} (1+tD_{ii})^{-1} \quad \text{with } D_{ii} = \lambda_i \text{ the } i\text{th eigenvalues.} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m (OX^{-1}O^T)_{ii} \frac{1}{1+t\lambda_i} \quad , h(t) = \frac{1}{1+t\lambda_i} \text{ and } h'(t) = \frac{2\lambda_i^2}{(1+t\lambda_i)^3} \end{aligned}$$

$h'(t) > 0$  because  $t \in \{t \in \mathbb{R} | x+tv > 0, x \in S_{++}^m, v \in S^m\}$  in particular

$$v \in S^m, D \in S^m, I + tD > 0$$

let  $u$  the  $i$ th row of  $O$  and  $u^T$  the  $i$ th column of  $O^T \Rightarrow (OX^{-1}O^T)_{ii} = u^T x^{-1} u > 0$  because  $x^{-1} \in S_{++}^m$ .

$$\text{Hence, } g(t) = \sum_{i=1}^m \underbrace{(X^T X)}_{> 0} h_i(t)$$

So  $t \mapsto (X^T X) h_i(t)$  is convex because  $h_i$  convex and  $(X^T X) h_i > 0$   
g is a sum of convex functions therefore g is convex, for all  
 $X \in S^n_+, V \in S^m, t \in \mathbb{R} | X + tV \succ 0$ .

So f is convex

2) let  $X \in S_{++}^m$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$

From the course we have that  $\frac{1}{2} y^T X^{-1} y = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^m} (y^T x - \frac{1}{2} x^T X x)$

Let's prove this result:

It is equivalent to show that  $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^m} (y^T x - \frac{1}{2} x^T X x - \frac{1}{2} y^T X^{-1} y) = 0$

$$- y^T x + \frac{1}{2} x^T X x + \frac{1}{2} y^T X^{-1} y = \frac{1}{2} (X^{-1} y - x)^T X (X^{-1} y - x), 0 \text{ as } X \in S_{++}^m, (X^{-1} y - x) \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

So  $y^T x - \frac{1}{2} x^T X x \leq \frac{1}{2} y^T X^{-1} y$ , it is true for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$  so

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^m} (y^T x - \frac{1}{2} x^T X x) \leq \frac{1}{2} y^T X^{-1} y$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{for } x = X^{-1} y \text{ we get } y^T x - \frac{1}{2} x^T X x &= y^T X^{-1} y - \frac{1}{2} (X^{-1} y)^T X X^{-1} y \\ &= \frac{1}{2} y^T X^{-1} y, \text{ the bound is reached} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence } 2 \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^m} (y^T x - \frac{1}{2} x^T X x) = y^T X^{-1} y = f(X, y)$$

let define  $g(x, y, X) = 2y^T x - x^T X x$ . This function is convex

in  $y$  and in  $X$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .  $f(X, y) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^m} g(x, y, X)$

from the course  $f$  is convex as a pointwise supremum

$$3) f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^m \sigma_i(x) \text{ on dom } f = S^2 \text{ and } \sigma_1(x), \dots, \sigma_n(x)$$

are the singular values of  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

We can sort  $\sigma_1(x) \geq \sigma_2(x) \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n(x)$ :

By definition,  $\sigma_i(x) = \sqrt{\lambda_i(X^T X)}$  with  $\lambda_1(X^T X) \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n(X^T X)$  the eigenvalues of  $X^T X$ .

Let's define the optimization problem:

$$\sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1}} \|Xv\|_2 = \sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1}} \sqrt{v^T X^T X v}$$

Let's introduce the unit basis  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  of eigenvectors associated with the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ .

We can write  $v$  in this basis:  $v = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i u_i ; \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\text{So } v^T X^T X v = v^T \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\alpha_i X^T X u_i}{\lambda_i u_i} = v^T \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i \lambda_i u_i = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i^2 \lambda_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{But we have } \|v\|_2^2 &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i u_i, \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i u_i \right\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^m \langle \alpha_i u_i, u_j \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i^2 \text{ because } \langle u_i, u_j \rangle = \delta_{ij} \quad \forall i, j \in \{1, \dots, m\} \end{aligned}$$

$$= 1 \text{ because } \|v\|_2 = 1$$

$$\text{So } v^T X^T X v = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i^2 \lambda_i \leq \lambda_1 \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i^2 = \lambda_1 \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\Rightarrow \sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1}} v^T X^T X v \leq \lambda_1$$

$$\text{But } u_1^T X^T X u_1 = u_1^T \lambda_1 u_1 = \lambda_1, \text{ hence } \sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1}} v^T X^T X v = \lambda_1 \xrightarrow[X^T X \in S^m_+]{} 0$$

$$\text{We deduce that } \sigma_1 = \sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1}} \sqrt{v^T X^T X v}$$

The same argument shows that  $\sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n$  are the singular values of  $X$ .

let's consider the problem:

$$\sup_{v \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|Xv\|_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|v\|_2 &= 1 \\ v \perp u_1 \end{aligned}$$

We still have  $\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i^2 = 1$ ,  $v^T X^T X v = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i^2 \lambda_i$ .

But we also have that  $\langle v, u_1 \rangle = \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i u_i, u_1 \right\rangle = 0$

This means that  $\alpha_1 = 0$ .

Hence  $v^T X^T X v = \sum_{i=2}^m \alpha_i^2 \lambda_i \leq \lambda_2 \sum_{i=2}^m \alpha_i^2 = \lambda_2$   $\forall v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

We also have  $u_2^T X^T X u_2 = \lambda_2 \Rightarrow \sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1 \\ v \perp u_1}} v^T X^T X v = \lambda_2$

Therefore  $\sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1 \\ v \perp u_1}} \|Xv\|_2 = \sigma_2$

We can iterate and easily get that:

$$\sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1 \\ v \perp u_i \forall i \in \{1, \dots, k\}}} \|Xv\|_2 = \sigma_k$$

Hence  $\sum_{k=1}^m \sigma_k = \sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1}} \|Xv\|_2 + \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \sup_{\substack{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \|v\|_2=1 \\ v \perp u_i \forall i \in \{1, \dots, k\}}} \|Xv\|_2$

$f$  is defined as a sum of supremums of convex functions in  $X$  for all  $v$ . So each supremum is convex as pointwise supremum.

Finally  $f$  is a sum of convex functions hence  $f$  is convex.

#### Exercise 4:

i) let's show that  $K_{m+}$  is a proper cone.

i)  $K_{m+}$  is close.

$$K_{m+} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid n_1 > n_2 > \dots > n_m > 0\}$$

$$= \left[ \bigcap_{i=1}^{m-1} \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid n_i - n_{i+1} > 0\} \right] \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid n_m > 0\}$$

\*  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$

$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid n_i - n_{i+1} > 0\} = f_i^{-1}([0, +\infty[)$  with  $f_i: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 $f_i: x \mapsto n_i - n_{i+1}$   
 $f_i$  is continuous and  $[0, +\infty[$  close, so  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid n_i - n_{i+1} > 0\}$  is close

\*  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid n_m > 0\} = f_m^{-1}([0, +\infty[)$  with  $f_m: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
and  $[0, +\infty[$  close. So  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid n_m > 0\}$  is close

$K_{m+}$  is close by intersection of close sets.

ii)  $K_{m+}$  is solid because the interior of  $K_{m+}$  is not empty. Indeed,  
there are points that satisfy strictly the inequalities.  
For instance, the point  $x = [n, n-1, n-2, \dots, 1] \in K_{m+}^\circ$ .

Hence  $K_{m+}$  is solid.

iii)  $K_{m+}$  is pointed because it contains no line.  
let  $x \in K_{m+}$  such that  $-x \in K_{m+}$ .

$$x \in K_{m+} \Rightarrow n_1 > n_2 > \dots > n_m > 0$$

$$-x \in K_{m+} \Rightarrow -n_1 > -n_2 > \dots > -n_m > 0$$

$$\text{Therefore } x_m = -n_{m-1} = \dots = -n_1 = 0$$

That means that  $K_{m+}$  contains no line.

We show that  $K_{m+}$  is close, solid, pointed. so  $K_{m+}$  is a proper cone.

2) We want to find the dual cone  $K_{m+}^* = \{y \mid y^T x \geq 0 \forall x \in K_m\}$

let  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $x \in K_{m+}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 y^T x &= \sum_{i=1}^m y_i x_i, \quad y_i = \sum_{k=1}^i y_k - y_{k-1} \text{ by setting as convention that } y_0 = 0 \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^m x_i \sum_{k=1}^i y_k - y_{k-1} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^m x_i \left( \sum_{k=1}^i y_k - \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} y_k \right) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^m x_i \sum_{k=1}^i y_k - \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x_{i+1} \sum_{k=0}^i y_k \text{ as } \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x_{i+1}, \sum_{k=0}^i y_k = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} x_{i+1}, \sum_{k=1}^i y_k \\
 &= x_n \sum_{k=1}^m y_k + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (x_{i+1} - x_i) \sum_{k=1}^i y_k \quad (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us show that  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\} \sum_{k=1}^i y_k \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in K_{m+} y^T x \geq 0$

$(\Rightarrow)$  We suppose  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\} \sum_{k=1}^i y_k \geq 0$ , let  $x \in K_{m+}$  then  
 $x_n \geq 0$  and  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, m-1\} x_i - x_{i+1} \geq 0$  so  
 $\sum_{k=1}^m y_k \geq \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (x_i - x_{i+1}) \sum_{k=1}^i y_k \geq 0$  hence  $\forall x \in K_{m+} y^T x \geq 0$

$(\Leftarrow)$  We suppose that  $\forall x \in K_{m+} y^T x \geq 0$

$\forall k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , we define  $z_k = \begin{cases} [1, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0]^T & \text{if } k < m \\ [1, \dots, 1]^T & \text{if } k = m \end{cases}$

let  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ ,  $z_k \in K_{m+}$  hence  $y^T z_k \geq 0$  by hyp.

Therefore  $\forall k \in \{1, \dots, m\} \sum_{i=1}^k y_k \geq 0$

$$K_{m+}^* = \left\{ y \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \sum_{i=1}^k y_i \geq 0, k \in \{1, \dots, m\} \right\}$$

Exercise 5.

1)  $f(x) = \max_{i=1,\dots,m} x_i$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} (y^T x - \max_{i=1,\dots,m} x_i) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left( \sum_{i=1}^m y_i x_i - \max_{i=1,\dots,m} x_i \right)$$

We proceed by case disjunction:

- let  $i \in \{1,\dots,m\}$  such that  $y_i < 0$ , then we define  
 $x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ -t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow^{\text{4th}}$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^m y_i x_i - \max_{i=1,\dots,m} x_i = -y_i t - \max(0, -t) \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow +\infty]{} +\infty > 0$
- let  $y \geq 0$
- if  $\sum_{i=1}^m y_i > 1$  then we define  $x = \begin{bmatrix} t \\ \vdots \\ t \end{bmatrix}$  then  
 $\sum_{i=1}^m y_i x_i - \max_{i=1,\dots,m} x_i = t \left[ \sum_{i=1}^m y_i - 1 \right] \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow +\infty]{} +\infty$
- if  $\sum_{i=1}^m y_i = 1$ , by noticing that  
 $\sum_{i=1}^m y_i x_i - \max_{i=1,\dots,m} x_i \leq \max_{i=1,\dots,m} x_i \left[ \sum_{i=1}^m y_i - 1 \right] = 0$ , so  $f^*(y) \leq 0$

and for  $x = [0, \dots, 0]$  this bound is reached so  $f^*(y) = 0$

So :  $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left( \sum_{i=1}^m y_i x_i - \max_{i=1,\dots,m} x_i \right) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y \geq 0 \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^m y_i = 1 \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$$2) f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^r x_{[i]} \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i x_{[i]} - \sum_{i=1}^r x_{[i]}$$

- let  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $y_i < 0$ , then we define

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ i \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } \sum_{i=1}^n y_i x_i - \sum_{i=1}^r x_{[i]} = \underbrace{-y_i t}_{> 0} + \max(0, -t) \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow +\infty]{} +\infty$$

- let  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $y_i > 1$  then we define
- $$x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ i \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } \sum_{i=1}^n y_i x_i - \sum_{i=1}^r x_{[i]} = y_i t - \max(0, t)$$

for  $t > 0$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n y_i x_i - \sum_{i=1}^r x_{[i]} = t(y_i - 1) \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow +\infty]{} +\infty$$

- let  $0 \leq y \leq 1$ , let  $x = [t \dots t]^T$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n y_i t - x t = t \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - r \right] \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} t \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - r \right] = +\infty & \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^n y_i < r \\ \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} t \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - r \right] = +\infty & \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^n y_i > r \end{cases}$$

- let  $0 \leq y \leq 1$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n y_i = r$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n y_i x_i - \sum_{i=1}^r x_{[i]} = \sum_{i=1}^m y_{[i]} x_{[i]} - \sum_{i=1}^r x_{[i]} \quad \text{as } i \rightarrow c[i] \text{ is a permutation}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=1}^r (\underbrace{y_{[i]} - 1}_{< 0}) x_{[i]} + \sum_{i=r+1}^m y_{[i]} x_{[i]} \\ &\leq x_{[r]} \left( \sum_{i=1}^r y_{[i]} - 1 + \sum_{i=r+1}^m y_{[i]} \right) \\ &\leq x_{[r]} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^m y_{[i]} - r \right] = 0 \Rightarrow f^*(y) \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

and for  $x_1 = \dots = x_n = 0$ , this bound is reached so  $f^*(y) = 0$

So  $f^*(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq y \leq 1 \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^n y_i = r \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

3)  $f(n) = \max_{i=1, \dots, m} (a_i n + b_i)$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  with  $a_1 \leq \dots \leq a_m$

$a_i n + b_i$  are not redundant

$$f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} (xy - \max_{i=1, \dots, m} (a_i n + b_i))$$

As  $(a_i)_{i \in \{1, \dots, m\}}$  are sorted and  $(a_i n + b_i)_{i \in \{1, \dots, m\}}$  are not redundant we can define break points as,

$$\text{a.i} s.t. a_i + b_{i+1} = a_{i+1} n + b_i \quad i.e. \quad a_i = \frac{b_{i+1} - b_i}{a_{i+1} - a_i} \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}$$

we set  $x_0 = -\infty$  and  $x_{m+1} = +\infty$

$$g(x) := xy - \max_{i=1, \dots, m} (a_i n + b_i) = \sum_{i=1}^m xy \mathbf{1}_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]}(x) - \sum_{i=1}^m (a_i n + b_i) \mathbf{1}_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]}(x)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^m [n(y - a_i) + b_i] \mathbf{1}_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]}(x) \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}$$

- if  $y \in [a_1, a_m]$ , there exists  $i$  such that  $a_i \leq y \leq a_{i+1}$   
it means that

$$y - a_1 \geq 0, \dots, y - a_i \geq 0, y - a_{i+1} \leq 0, \dots, y - a_m \leq 0$$

so  $g$  increases until  $x_i$  and then decreases. So  $g$  reaches its maximum on  $\mathbb{R}$

$$f^*(y) = y \frac{b_{i+1} - b_i}{a_{i+1} - a_i} - a_i \frac{b_{i+1} - b_i}{a_{i+1} - a_i} + b_i = (y - a_i) \left[ \frac{b_{i+1} - b_i}{a_{i+1} - a_i} \right] + b_i$$

- if  $y < a_1$ , then  $y - a_1 < 0, \dots, y - a_m < 0$ ,  $g$  is strictly decreasing on  $\mathbb{R}$ .  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} g(x) = +\infty$

$$f^*(y) = +\infty$$

- if  $y > a_m$ , then  $y - a_1 > 0, \dots, y - a_m > 0$ ,  $g$  is strictly increasing on  $\mathbb{R}$ .  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} g(x) = +\infty$

$$f^*(y) = +\infty$$

Finally:  $f^*(y) = \begin{cases} (y - a_i) \left[ \frac{b_{i+1} - b_i}{a_{i+1} - a_i} \right] + b_i & \text{if there exists } i \in \{1, \dots, m-1\} \\ & \text{such that } y \in [a_i, a_{i+1}] \\ +\infty & \text{if } y \notin [a_1, a_m] \end{cases}$