

2.10 Solution set of a quadratic inequality. Let $C \subseteq \mathbf{R}^n$ be the solution set of a quadratic inequality,

$$C = \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid x^T A x + b^T x + c \leq 0\},$$

with $A \in \mathbf{S}^n$, $b \in \mathbf{R}^n$, and $c \in \mathbf{R}$.

(a) Show that C is convex if $A \succeq 0$.

(b) Show that the intersection of C and the hyperplane defined by $g^T x + h = 0$ (where $g \neq 0$) is convex if $A + \lambda g g^T \succeq 0$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}$.

Are the converses of these statements true?

(a) 方法一:

设 $x=y+v$, 且 y 和 v 是对称矩阵

$$\therefore x^T A x + b^T x + c = (y^T + v^T) A (y + v) + b^T (y + v) + c$$

$$= y^T A y + (b^T + 2v^T A) y + v^T A v + b^T v + c$$

设 $v^T = -1/2 b^T (A)^{-1}$,

$$k = -(v^T A v + b^T v + c)$$

$$= -1/4 b^T (A)^{-1} b + 1/2 b^T (A)^{-1} b - c$$

$$= 1/4 b^T (A)^{-1} b - c$$

$$\text{设 } D = \{y \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid y^T A y \leq k\}$$

(1) $k < 0$

$D = \emptyset$

(2) $k = 0$

$$D = \{y \mid y = 0\}$$

(3) $k > 0$

$$D = \{y \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid y^T (A/k) y \leq 1\}$$

$\therefore A/k$ 半正定

\therefore 设 $A/k = B^T B$ 且 B 半正定

\therefore 设 $S = \{z \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid z^T z \leq 1\}$ 即 $S = \{z \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \text{norm}(z) \leq 1\}$

\therefore 任意 $z_1, z_2 \in S$, $\text{norm}(z_1) \leq 1$, $\text{norm}(z_2) \leq 1$

$$\text{任意 } \theta \in [0, 1], \text{norm}(\theta z_1 + (1-\theta)z_2) \leq \theta \text{norm}(z_1) + (1-\theta) \text{norm}(z_2) \leq 1$$

$\therefore S$ 是凸集

$\therefore D$ 是凸集

$\therefore C$ 是凸集

方法二:

$\therefore \mathbf{R}^n$ 是凸集, $\text{diff}((x^T A x + b^T x), 2) = 2A$ 半正定

$\therefore x^T A x + b^T x$ 是凸函数

\therefore 设 $\alpha = -c$, $x^T A x + b^T x$ 的 α 次水平集 C 是凸集

方法三: 本质上用定义二证明 $f(x)$ 凸函数, 然后凸函数的 α 次水平集

$\therefore \mathbf{R}^n$ 是凸集

$$\text{设 } f(x) = x^T A x + b^T x + c$$

$$\text{设 } g(t) = f(x + t v) = \dots$$

\therefore 设 $f(t) =$ 对任意 $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$, 任意 $v \in \mathbf{R}^n$, 任意 $t \in \mathbf{R}$

Converse:

取 x 为 1×1 时, $A = -1$, $b = 0$, $c = -1$

$\therefore C = \mathbf{R}$ 是凸集

$\therefore A$ 不是半正定

\therefore 不成立

(b) 方法一:

设 $D = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x'Ax + b'x + c \leq 0 \text{ 且 } g'x + h = 0\}$

即 $D = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x'Ax + b'x + c + (g'x + h)'(g'x + h) \leq 0 \text{ 且 } g'x + h = 0\}$

\therefore 任意 $x_1 \in D$, $g'x_1 + h = 0$

任意 $x_2 \in D$, $g'x_2 + h = 0$

\therefore 任意 $\theta \in [0, 1]$, $g'(\theta x_1 + (1-\theta)x_2) + h = \theta(g'x_1 + h) + (1-\theta)(g'x_2 + h) = 0$

$\therefore F = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid g'x + h = 0\}$ 是凸集

$\therefore x'Ax + b'x + c + \lambda(g'x + h)'(g'x + h)$

$$= x'(A + \lambda g g')x + (b' + \lambda h'g')x + \lambda x'g h + c + \lambda h'h$$

$\therefore \text{diff}(x'(A + \lambda g g')x + (b' + \lambda h'g')x + \lambda x'g h + c + \lambda h'h, 2)$

$$= 2(A + \lambda g g') \text{ 半正定}$$

设 $E = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x'Ax + b'x + c + (g'x + h)'(g'x + h) \leq 0\}$

\therefore 凸函数 $x'(A + \lambda g g')x + (b' + \lambda h'g')x + \lambda x'g h + c + \lambda h'h$ 的 0 次水平集 E 是凸集

$\therefore D = E \cap F$ 是凸集

方法二: 同 (1) 方法 (3)

Converse:

取 x 为 1×1 时, $A = -1$, $b = 0$, $c = -1$, $g = 0$, $h = 0$

$\therefore D = \mathbb{R}$ 是凸集

$\therefore A$ 不是半正定

\therefore 不成立

3.21 Pointwise maximum and supremum. Show that the following functions $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are convex.

(a) $f(x) = \max_{i=1, \dots, k} \|A^{(i)}x - b^{(i)}\|$, where $A^{(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $b^{(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\|\cdot\|$ is a norm on \mathbb{R}^m .

(b) $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^r |x|_{[i]}$ on \mathbb{R}^n , where $|x|$ denotes the vector with $|x|_i = |x_i|$ (i.e., $|x|$ is the absolute value of x , componentwise), and $|x|_{[i]}$ is the i th largest component of $|x|$. In other words, $|x|_{[1]}, |x|_{[2]}, \dots, |x|_{[n]}$ are the absolute values of the components of x , sorted in nonincreasing order.

(a) $\therefore \mathbb{R}^m$ 凸集

$\therefore \|x\|$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$ 是凸函数

$\therefore \mathbb{R}^n$ 凸集

$\therefore \|A(i)x - b(i)\|$, 是凸函数

$\therefore f(x) = \max(\|A(i)x - b(i)\|, i=1, \dots, k)$ 是凸函数

(b) \therefore 任意 $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, 任意 $\theta \in [0, 1]$

$$\begin{aligned} f(\theta x_1 + (1-\theta)x_2) &= \Sigma(\|\theta x_1 + (1-\theta)x_2\|_{[i]}) \\ &\leq \Sigma((\theta |x_1| + (1-\theta)|x_2|)_{[i]}) \\ &\leq \theta \Sigma(|x_1|_{[i]}) + (1-\theta) \Sigma(|x_2|_{[i]}) \\ &= \theta f(x_1) + (1-\theta)f(x_2) \end{aligned}$$