
DATA130026.01 Optimization

Assignment 2

Due Time: at the beginning of the class, Mar. 30, 2021

1. For each of the following sets determine whether they are convex or not (explaining your choice).

(a) $C_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|x\|^2 = 1\}$.

(b) $C_2 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \max_{i=1,2,\dots,n} x_i \leq 1\}$.

(c) $C_3 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \min_{i=1,2,\dots,n} x_i \leq 1\}$.

(d) $C_4 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_{++}^n : \prod_{i=1}^n x_i \leq 1\}$, where $\prod_{i=1}^n x_i = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n$.

2. Let $C \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be a convex set. Let f be a convex function over C , and let g be a strictly convex function over C . Show that the sum function $f + g$ is strictly convex over C .

3. Show that the following functions are convex over the specified domain C :

(a) $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = -\sqrt{x_1 x_2} + 2x_1^2 + 2x_2^2 + 3x_3^2 - 2x_1 x_2 - 2x_2 x_3$ over \mathbb{R}_{++}^3 .

(b) $f(x) = \|x\|^4$ over \mathbb{R}^n .

(c) $f(x) = \sqrt{x^T Q x + 1}$ over \mathbb{R}^n , where $Q \succeq 0$ is an $n \times n$ matrix.

4. [Only required for DATA130026h.01.]

- (a) Show that the function

$$f(x) = \frac{\|Ax - b\|_2^2}{1 - x^T x}$$

is convex on $\{x \mid x^T x \leq 1\}$.

- (b) A *quadratic-over-linear composition theorem*. Suppose that $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is non-negative and convex, and $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is positive and concave. Show that the function f^2/g , with domain $\text{dom} f \cap \text{dom} g$, is convex.