

# ECE569/AI539 Convex Optimization - Mid-term Exam

Fall 2022  
School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
Oregon State University

**Due: 11:59 PM, Oct. 31, 2022**

Note: please submit through Canvas. Please also sign the attached statement in the last page.

- This cover sheet must be signed and submitted along with the exam answers.
- By submitting the exam answers with my name affixed above,
  - I understand that exam answers submitted at 11:59 PM Oct. 31, 2022, or later will not be accepted,
  - I acknowledge that I am aware of the Oregon State University policy concerning academic misconduct (see <https://studentlife.oregonstate.edu/studentconduct>),
  - I attest that the work I am submitting for this exam is solely my own,
  - I understand that suspiciously similar answers submitted by multiple individuals will be reported to the School of EECS and College of Engineering for investigation, and
  - I understand that the exam materials are **confidential** and will not disclose the materials to any third party.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pradyumn', is written over a horizontal line.

$$1a) S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}} x_i \leq \alpha\}$$

$\alpha \in \mathbb{R}.$

If  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are in set  $S$ .

Say  $\max x_{1i} \leq \alpha$  &  $\max x_{2i} \leq \alpha$

for convexity check  $\theta x_1 + (1-\theta)x_2 = x_3$

applying the function  $\max$

$$\theta x_1 + (1-\theta)x_2 = x_3$$

applying  $\max$  on LHS.

$$\max(\theta x_1 + (1-\theta)x_2) = \max(\theta x_1) + \max((1-\theta)x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta \max x_{1i} + (1-\theta) \max x_{2i}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta \alpha + (1-\theta) \alpha = \theta \alpha + 1\alpha - \theta \alpha = \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = x_3 \text{ which satisfies the condition } x_i \leq \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow x_3 \text{ is in set } S$$

$$\Rightarrow S \text{ is a convex set}$$

$$1b) S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \frac{a^T x + b}{c^T x + d} \leq 1, c^T x + d > 0\}$$

$$\frac{a^T x + b}{c^T x + d} \leq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow a^T x + b \leq c^T x + d$$

$$\Rightarrow a^T x - c^T x \leq d - b$$

which is of the form  $a^T x \leq b$

$\Rightarrow (a^T - c^T)x \leq (d - b)$  which is of the form of halfspace

Halfspaces are convex.

$$1c) f(x) = \|Ax - b\|_2^2 - \gamma \|x\|_2^2$$

where  $\gamma > 0$

$$\|Ax - b\|_2^2 = (Ax - b)^T (Ax - b)$$

$$\|x\|_2^2 = x^T x$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = (Ax - b)^T (Ax - b) - \gamma (x^T x)$$

$$x^T A^T A x - x^T A^T b - b^T A x + b^T b - \gamma x^T x$$

$$\Rightarrow x^T (A^T A - \gamma I) x - x^T A^T b - b^T A x + b^T b$$

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

$$= 2(Ax - b)^T A - \gamma 2x$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x^2} = 2(A^T A) + 2(Ax - b)^T (0) - \gamma 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x^2} = 2A - \gamma \cdot 2 = 2(A - \gamma I)$$

It's convex

$$1d) f(x) = \max_P \{ \|APx - b\|_4 \mid P \text{ is Permutation matrix} \}$$

Suppose maximum is  $P_{\max}$

$$f(x) = \|AP_{\max}x - b\|_4$$

$AP_{\max}x - b$  is an affine function

$\Rightarrow$  It's convex as in  $\|AP_{\max}x - b\|_4$

~~is affine function of x~~

is affine function of  $x$   
4 norm is convex.

1e) ~~The~~ Set  $S = \{x \in S^n; \text{rank}(x) \leq 1\}$

Let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  belong to  $S$

$$\text{rank}(x_1) \leq 1 \quad \text{rank}(x_2) \leq 1$$

$$x_3 = \theta x_1 + (1-\theta)x_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{rank}(\theta x_1) + \text{rank}((1-\theta)x_2)$$

$$= \theta \text{rank}(x_1) + (1-\theta) \text{rank}(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{rank}(x_1 + x_2) \leq \text{rank}(x_1) + \text{rank}(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{rank}(x_1) + \text{rank}(x_2) - \theta \text{rank}(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{rank}(x_1) + \text{rank}(x_2) \leq 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$\text{rank}(x_1) + \text{rank}(x_2) \leq 2.$$

for convex ~~convex~~ ~~set~~ rank must  $\leq 1 \forall x \in S^n$   
 $\therefore$  not convex



2a) given

$$X = WH^T$$

$$X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

$$W \in \mathbb{R}_+^{m \times r}$$

$$H \in \mathbb{R}_+^{r \times n}$$

Note:

Conic Hull in a set  $C$  is set of all conic combinations of points in  $C$

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i x_i, \text{ where } \theta_i \geq 0 \ \forall i=1 \dots k$$

→ conic combination of  $x_1 \dots x_k$  — (1)

S.T.  $X(:, l) \in \text{cone}(w) \ \forall l=1, \dots, n$

$X(:, l) \rightarrow l^{\text{th}}$  column of  $X$

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} w_{11} & w_{12} & \dots & w_{1r} \\ w_{21} & & & w_{2r} \\ w_{31} & & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ w_{m1} & & & w_{mr} \end{bmatrix}^{m \times r}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & \dots & h_{1n} \\ h_{21} & & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ h_{r1} & & & h_{rn} \end{bmatrix}^{r \times n}$$

$$WH^T = \begin{bmatrix} w_{11} & \dots & w_{1r} \\ w_{21} & & \\ \vdots & & \\ w_{m1} & & w_{mr} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & \dots & h_{1n} \\ h_{21} & & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ h_{r1} & h_{r2} & \dots & h_{rn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} w_{11}h_{11} + \dots + w_{1r}h_{r1} & w_{11}h_{12} + \dots + w_{1r}h_{r2} & \dots & w_{11}h_{1n} + \dots + w_{1r}h_{rn} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ w_{m1}h_{11} + \dots + w_{mr}h_{r1} & w_{m1}h_{12} + \dots + w_{mr}h_{r2} & \dots & w_{m1}h_{1n} + \dots + w_{mr}h_{rn} \end{bmatrix}$$

which has  $n$  columns and  $m$  rows

~~$X(:, l) = \sum_{j=1}^r w_{ij} h_{jl}$~~  Say for an  $l^{\text{th}}$  column in  $X$  where  $l \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

$$X(:, l) = \begin{bmatrix} w_{11}h_{1l} + \dots + w_{1r}h_{rl} \\ w_{21}h_{1l} + \dots + w_{2r}h_{rl} \\ w_{31}h_{1l} + \dots + w_{3r}h_{rl} \\ \vdots \\ w_{m1}h_{1l} + \dots + w_{mr}h_{rl} \end{bmatrix}^{m \times 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow X(:, l) = \left[ \sum_{j=1}^r h_{jl} w_{ij} \right]_{i=1}^m, \quad h_{jl} \geq 0, \quad (j=1 \dots r)$$

from question  $H \in \mathbb{R}_+^{r \times n}$

$\Rightarrow X(:, l)$  is a conic combination of  $w_{ij} \ \forall j \in \{1, \dots, r\}$

$\Rightarrow H^T \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times r}$

$\Rightarrow X(:, l) \in \text{cone}(w), \ \forall l \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

— from (1)

2b)  $\tilde{X}$  normalized model

$$\tilde{X}(:, l) = \begin{cases} \frac{X(:, l)}{\|X(:, l)\|_1} & , \|X(:, l)\|_1 \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{(all zero vec with len } m), \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

By expanding  $\tilde{X}(:, l)$

~~$$\tilde{X}(:, l) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i H_{i,l}$$~~

$$\tilde{X}(:, l) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i H_{i,l}}{\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n w_i H_{i,l} \right\|_1} \quad \begin{matrix} w_i \in \mathbb{R}_+^{m \times n} \\ H_i \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n} \end{matrix}$$

$\Rightarrow \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n w_i H_{i,l} \right\|_1$ , checks if all elements in the vector are non zero

~~$$\tilde{X}(:, l) = \frac{w_1 H_{1,l}}{\|w_1 H_{1,l} + \dots + w_n H_{n,l}\|_1} + \dots + \frac{w_n H_{n,l}}{\|w_1 H_{1,l} + \dots + w_n H_{n,l}\|_1}$$~~

$$\tilde{X}(:, l) = \frac{w_1 H_{1,l}}{\|w_1 H_{1,l} + \dots + w_n H_{n,l}\|_1} + \dots + \frac{w_n H_{n,l}}{\|w_1 H_{1,l} + \dots + w_n H_{n,l}\|_1}$$

Multiplying and dividing by  $\|w_i\|_1$  for each  $i$ th term where  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

$$= \left( \frac{w_1 H_{1,l}}{\|w_1 H_{1,l} + \dots + w_n H_{n,l}\|_1} \times \frac{\|w_1\|_1}{\|w_1\|_1} \right) + \dots +$$

$$= \left( \frac{w_1}{\|w_1\|_1} \cdot \frac{H_{1,l} \|w_1\|_1}{\sum_{i=1}^n \|w_i\|_1 H_{i,l}} \right) + \dots + \left( \frac{w_n}{\|w_n\|_1} \cdot \frac{H_{n,l} \|w_n\|_1}{\sum_{i=1}^n \|w_i\|_1 H_{i,l}} \right)$$

which is a convex combination of  $\frac{w_i}{\|w_i\|_1}$ ,  $i \in 1, \dots, n$ .  
which is a convex hull.

$$\left\{ \frac{\|w_1\|_1 H_{1,l}}{\sum_{i=1}^n \|w_i\|_1 H_{i,l}}, \dots, \frac{\|w_n\|_1 H_{n,l}}{\sum_{i=1}^n \|w_i\|_1 H_{i,l}} \right\} \in [0, 1] - \textcircled{3}$$

Since  $\textcircled{2}$  &  $\textcircled{3}$  are achieved

$$\tilde{X}(:, l) \in \text{conv} \left( \frac{w_i}{\|w_i\|_1} \right) \quad i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$



$$2c) \quad K = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$\text{ST} \quad H(x_i)^\top = \alpha_i e_i \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

where  $\alpha_i > 0 \quad \forall i=1, \dots, n$  &  $e_i \in \mathbb{R}^r$  is  $i^{\text{th}}$  unit

$$\hat{l} = \arg \max_{l \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \|X(:, l)\|_2$$

$$\text{ST:} \quad X(:, \hat{l}) \in \{w(:, 1)\alpha_1, \dots, w(:, n)\alpha_n\}$$

hint ST  $\hat{l} \in K$

By expanding  $X(:, \hat{l})$

$$X(:, \hat{l}) = \max_{l \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \|\tilde{X}(:, l)\|_2$$

$$\Rightarrow X(:, \hat{l}) = \max_{l \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \left\| \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i H_i l}{\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n w_i H_i l \right\|_1} \right\|_2 \quad l \in \{1, \dots, n\} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

If the convex hull has max points in  $\{x_1, \dots, x_q\}$

$$x_{\max} = \max_{x \in \{x_1, \dots, x_q\}} \|x\|_2$$

If we take the comb<sup>n</sup> of pts that belong to max class, we have

$$= c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2 + c_3 x_3 + \dots + c_q x_q \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\text{where } c_i \in [0, 1] \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, q\} \\ \sum c_i = 1$$

Using the triangle inequality on  $\|(1)\|_2$

$$\|c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2 + \dots + c_q x_q\|_2 \leq c_1 \|x_1\|_2 + c_2 \|x_2\|_2 + \dots \\ \leq c_1 \|x_{\max}\|_2 + \dots + c_q \|x_{\max}\|_2$$

$H^T(:, l)$  for all  $l_i$  is a linear combination and it is sparse, will have only one term.

$$3a) \quad a \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad a_1 \geq a_2 \geq a_3 \geq \dots \geq a_n > 0$$

$$b \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad b_k = 1/a_k.$$

$$\text{minimize} \quad -\log(a^T x) - \log(b^T x)$$

$$\text{subject to} \quad x \geq 0, \quad 1^T x = 1$$

$$(A) \quad f(x) = -\log(a^T x) - \log(b^T x)$$

$$\Rightarrow -[\log(a^T x) + \log(b^T x)]$$

$$= -[\log(a^T x \cdot b^T x)]$$

which can be written as

$$-\log(x^T a b^T x)$$

we know that  $x \geq 0$  is convex  
 $1^T x = 1$  is affine.

$ab^T \rightarrow$  is a number of  $1 \times 1 \Rightarrow$  PSD  
 and determinant is  
 number itself.

$\Rightarrow -\log$  is convex function  $\therefore$  the problem is  
 a convex problem.



3b) KKT of minimize  $-\log(a^T x) - \log(b^T x)$   
 subject to  $x \geq 0$   
 $1^T x = 1$

$$1^T x^* = 1, \quad x^* \geq 0$$

$$1^T x^* - 1 = 0, \quad -x^* \leq 0$$

$$\lambda^* \geq 0$$

$$\lambda^* x_i^* = 0$$

$$L(x^*, \lambda^*, v^*)$$

$$= -\log(a^T x^*) - \log$$

$$L(x^*, \lambda^*, v^*) = -\log(a^T x^*) - \log(b^T x^*)$$

$$-\lambda x^* + v^* (1^T x^* - 1)$$

Taking the gradient

$$= -\frac{1}{a^T x^*} \cdot a_i - \frac{1}{b^T x^*} \cdot b_i - \lambda_i^* + v^* 1^T = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow) \quad -\frac{a_i}{a^T x^*} - \frac{b_i}{b^T x^*} - \lambda_i^* + v^* 1^T = 0$$

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} f_i(x^*) \leq 0, \quad i=1 \dots m \\ h_i(x^*) = 0, \quad i=1 \dots p \\ \lambda_i^* \geq 0, \quad i=1 \dots m \\ \lambda_i^* f_i(x^*) = 0, \quad i=1 \dots m \\ \nabla f_0(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* \nabla f_i(x^*) \\ + \sum_{i=1}^p v_i^* \nabla h_i(x^*) \end{array} \right.$$

3c) Verify that  $x^* = [1/2, 0, \dots, 0, 1/2]^T$  is an optimal solution

from (3b) problem we know that

$$-\frac{a_i}{a^T x^*} - \frac{b_i}{b^T x^*} - \lambda_i^* + v^* = 0$$

from values given in  $x^*$ ;  $k=1, n$ .

$$\lambda_i^* = -\frac{a_i}{a^T x^*} - \frac{b_i}{b^T x^*} + v^*$$

$i=1, n \rightarrow$  writing a generalised form

$$\lambda_i^* = -\frac{a_i}{a^T x^*} - \frac{b_i}{b^T x^*} + v^*$$

$$= -\frac{a_i}{\frac{a_1 + a_n}{2}} - \frac{b_i}{\frac{b_1 + b_n}{2}} + v^*$$

$$= -\frac{a_i \cdot 2}{a_1 + a_n} - \frac{b_i \cdot 2}{b_1 + b_n} + v^*$$

$$= -\frac{2(a_i(b_1 + b_n) + b_i(a_1 + a_n))}{(a_1 + a_n)(b_1 + b_n)} + v^*$$

$$= -2 \left( a_i \cdot 1 + b_i \left( \frac{a_1 + a_n}{b_1 + b_n} \right) \right) \frac{1}{(a_1 + a_n)} + v^*$$

$$= -2 \left( a_i \cdot 1 + b_i \left( \frac{a_1 + a_n}{a_1 + a_n} \right) \right) \frac{1}{(a_1 + a_n)} + v^*; \quad b_1 = 1/a_1, b_n = 1/a_n$$

$$\lambda_i^* = \frac{-2(a_i + b_i a_i a_n)}{(a_1 + a_n)} + v^*$$

We know that  $\lambda_i^* x_i^* = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_1^* x_1^* = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_1^* = 0$  as  $x_1^* = 1/2$   
by substituting we get  $\parallel$ ly  $\lambda_n^* = 0$  as  $x_n^* = 1/2$

$$0 = \frac{-2(a_1 + 1/a_1 a_1 a_n)}{(a_1 + a_n)} + v^* \Rightarrow \underline{v^* = 2}$$

$$0 = \frac{-2(a_n + 1/a_n a_1 a_n)}{(a_1 + a_n)} + v^* \Rightarrow \underline{v^* = 2}$$

$x^*$  is optimal as  $x^* = [1/2, 0, \dots, 0, 1/2]^T$ ;  $\lambda^* = [0, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n, 0]$   
 $\boxed{v^* = 2} \Rightarrow x^*, \lambda^*, v^*$  satisfy KKT.

4a) minimize  $\text{Tr}(Cx)$

Subject to  $\text{Tr}(AX)=1$  — (1)

$$X \succeq 0$$

$$\text{rank}(X)=1$$

minimize  $\text{Tr}(Lx)$

Subject to  $\text{Tr}(AX)=1$  — (2)

$$X \succeq 0$$

$V^*$  and  $V_{\text{SDR}}^*$  are optimal values of (1) & (2)

From (2) it can be observed that the rank  $\neq 1$  as it is relaxed which implies that in (2) there will only be a lower bound on the optimal objective value

$$\text{Hence, } V_{\text{SDR}}^* \leq V^*$$



$$f^i(x^*) \leq k_i \quad 0, \quad i=1 \dots m$$

$$h_i(x^*) = 0, \quad i=1 \dots p$$

$$\lambda_i^* \geq k_i \quad 0, \quad i=1 \dots m$$

$$\lambda^{*T} \nabla f(x^*) = 0, \quad i=1 \dots m$$

$$\nabla f(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \nabla f_i(x^*)^T \lambda_i^* + \sum_{i=1}^p v_i^* \nabla h_i(x^*) = 0$$

4b) from the question  
 minimize  $\text{Tr}(CX)$   
 Subject to  $\text{Tr}(AX) = 1$  — (2)  
 $X \succeq 0$

$$\text{Tr}(AX) = 1 \Rightarrow f(x) \geq 0 \Rightarrow -x^* \leq_{k_i} 0 \quad i=1$$

$$\text{Tr}(AX) - 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda_i^* \geq_{k_i} 0 \quad i=1$$

$$\lambda_i^{*T} x^* = 0 \quad i=1$$

Note:  $\frac{\partial \text{tr } AB}{\partial a_{ij}} = b_{ji}$ ;  $\nabla_A \text{tr } AB = B^T$

$$\Rightarrow L(x^*, \lambda^*, v^*) = \text{Tr}(Cx^*) - \lambda^{*T} x^* + v^*(\text{Tr}(Ax^*) - 1)$$

$$\nabla_A \text{tr}(CA) = C^T$$

$$1^{\text{st}} \text{ term} = C^T$$

$$2^{\text{nd}} \text{ term after gradient} = \lambda^{*T} I$$

$$3^{\text{rd}} \text{ term} = v^* A^T$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla_x L(x^*, \lambda^*, v^*) = C^T - \lambda^{*T} I + v^* A^T = 0$$

4c)

$$x^*_{\text{SDR}} = \arg \min (2)$$

$$\text{rank}(x^*_{\text{SDR}}) \leq 1$$

from KKT

$$\lambda^*{}^T f_1(x^*) = 0$$

$$\lambda^* x^* = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^* = 0 \text{ as } x^* > 0$$

$$\text{Taking } c^T - \lambda^* I + v^* A^T = 0$$

2nd term becomes 0 as  $\lambda^* I = 0$

$$c^T + v^* A^T = 0$$

$$c^T = -v^* A^T \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

rank of  $Cx$  is full rank

rank( $Cx$ ) is same as rank( $x$ )

Multiply  $x^*$  on both sides of (3)

$$c^T x^* = -v^* A^T x^*$$

$$\text{rank}(c^T x^*) = \text{rank}(-v^* A^T x^*)$$

$$\text{rank}(x^*) = \text{rank}(-v^* A^T x^*)$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1} \begin{bmatrix} c^T \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}_{1 \times n} \text{ which will have a rank 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{rank}(-v^* A^T x^*) = \text{rank}(A^T x^*)$$

$\Rightarrow x^*$  needs to have a rank 1 at the most

$$\Rightarrow \text{rank}(x^*) \leq 1$$