

# Optimization for Machine Learning (CSL4010)

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## PPT 2

### Convex Set and Convex Function

- For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $p$ -norm of  $x$  is defined as

$$\|x\|_p = \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

for  $p \geq 1$ .

- $\|x\|_p$  satisfies following properties
  - $\|x\|_p \geq 0$ ,  $\|x\| = 0$  if and only if  $x = 0$
  - $\|x - y\|_p = \|y - x\|_p$
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- For  $p = \infty$   $\|x\|_\infty = \max\{|x_i|, i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .
- We consider  $\|x\| = \|x\|_2$  until it is specified.

- For  $x^0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , closed ball centred at  $x^0$  with radius  $r$  is the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \|x - x_0\| \leq r\}$ .

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- For example:  $[0, 1]$ ,  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 1\}$  etc..
- If  $S$  is an open set then  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus S$  is a closed set and vice versa.

- A set  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be affine if the line through two distinct points in  $C$  lies in  $C$ . i.e if  $x^1, x^2 \in C$  then  $\theta x^1 + (1 - \theta)x^2 \in C$  for any real number  $\theta$ .

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- A linear combination of the form  $\theta_1 x^1 + \theta_2 x^2 + \cdots + \theta_n x^n$ ,  
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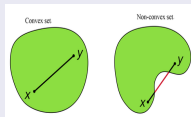
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- The set of all affine combinations of some set  $C$  is called affine hull of  $C$  and denoted by  $\text{aff } C$ . i.e.

$$\text{aff } C = \{\theta_1 x^1 + \theta_2 x^2 + \cdots + \theta_n x^n \mid x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n \in C, \theta_1 + \theta_2 + \cdots + \theta_n = 1\}.$$

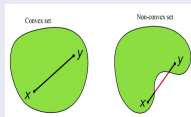
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- In the second picture, we can see that certain portion of the line segment joining  $x$  and  $y$  does not lie inside  $S_1$ . So  $S_1$  is not a convex set.

## Examples of convex set

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$$\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y = (\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)y_1, \lambda x_2 + (1 - \lambda)y_2)$$

This implies

$$\begin{aligned} & a_1(\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)y_1) + a_2(\lambda x_2 + (1 - \lambda)y_2) \\ &= \lambda(a_1x_1 + a_2x_2) + (1 - \lambda)(a_1y_1 + a_2y_2) \\ &= \lambda b + (1 - \lambda)b = b \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y \in S$  So  $S$  is a convex set.



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Hence  $\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y \in S$  So  $S$  is a convex set.

- Similarly we can show that  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_nx_n = c\}$  i.e.  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | a^T x = b\}$  is a convex set. The set  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | a^T x = b\}$  is called a hyperplane.

## Examples of convex set contd...

- The hyperplane  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | a^T x = b\}$  divides the space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  into two parts

$$S_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | a^T x \geq b\}$$

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- The set  $S_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | a^T x > b\}$  is called an open half space.
- Both half spaces (closed & open) are convex set (prove it).
- Intersection of  $m$  closed half space  $A_{m \times n} x \leq b$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is a convex set.

## Examples of convex set contd...

- The set  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 4\}$  is a convex set.

**Proof:** Suppose  $x = (x_1, x_2)^T$  and  $y = (y_1, y_2)^T$  be two points on  $S$ . Then  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 4$  and  $y_1^2 + y_2^2 \leq 4$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (\lambda x_1 + (1 - \lambda)y_1)^2 + (\lambda x_2 + (1 - \lambda)y_2)^2 \\
 = & \lambda^2 x_1^2 + 2\lambda(1 - \lambda)x_1 y_1 + (1 - \lambda)^2 y_1^2 + \lambda^2 x_2^2 - 2\lambda(1 - \lambda)x_2 y_2 \\
 & + (1 - \lambda)^2 y_2^2 - \lambda x_1^2 - \lambda x_2^2 - (1 - \lambda)y_1^2 - (1 - \lambda)y_2^2 + \lambda x_1^2 + x_2^2 + (1 - \lambda)y_1^2 + y_2^2 \\
 = & \lambda(x_1^2 + x_2^2) + (1 - \lambda)(y_1^2 + y_2^2) - \lambda(1 - \lambda)(x_1 - y_1)^2 - \lambda(1 - \lambda)(x_2 - y_2)^2 \\
 = & 4
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This implies  $\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y \in S$ . Hence  $S$  is a convex set.

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- The set  $S = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 4\}$  is not a convex set since  $x = (2, 0)^T$  and  $y = (0, 2)^T$  belong to  $S$  but  $0.5x + (1 - 0.5)y = (1, 1)^T$  does not belong to  $S$ .

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**Proof** Suppose  $s^1, s^2 \in f(S)$ . Then there exists  $x^1, x^2 \in S$  such that  $s^1 = f(x^1) = Ax^1 + b$  and  $s^2 = f(x^2) = Ax^2 + b$ . Now for  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda s^1 + (1 - \lambda)s^2 &= \lambda(Ax^1 + b) + (1 - \lambda)(Ax^2 + b) \\
 &= A(\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2) + b \\
 &= Ax^3 + b = f(x^3)
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $x^3 = \lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2$ . Since  $S$  is a convex set  $x^3 \in S$ . Hence  $\lambda s^1 + (1 - \lambda)s^2 = f(x^3)$  for some  $x^3 \in S$ . i.e.  $\lambda s^1 + (1 - \lambda)s^2 \in f(S)$ . So  $f(S)$  is a convex set.

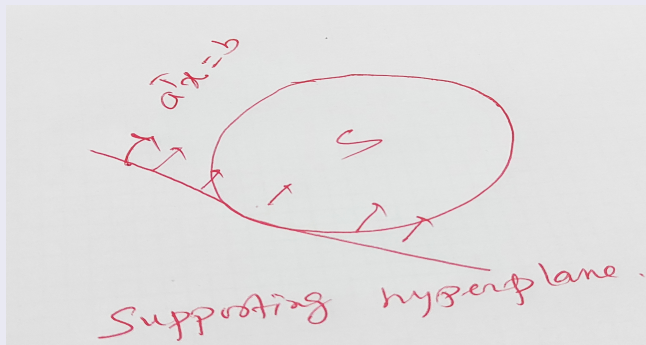
## Properties of convex sets

- Suppose  $S$  be a non-empty convex set. A hyperplane  $H = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | a^T x = b\}$  is said to be a supporting hyperplane of  $S$  if  $a^T y \geq b$  or  $a^T y \leq b$  for all  $y \in S$ .



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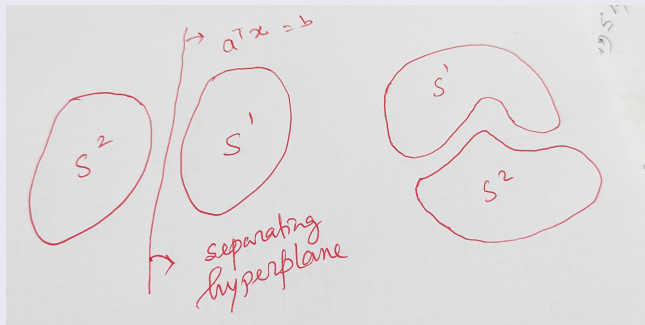
- If  $S$  is a convex set then there exists a supporting hyperplane at every boundary point of  $S$ .
- This result does not hold for non-convex sets.

## Properties of convex sets

- Suppose  $S^1$  and  $S^2$  be two disjoint convex sets. Then there exists hyperplane  $H = \{x | a^T x = b\}$  such that  $a^T x \geq b$  for all  $x \in S^1$  and  $a^T y \leq b$  for all  $y \in S^2$ . The hyperplane  $H$  is called a separating hyperplane.

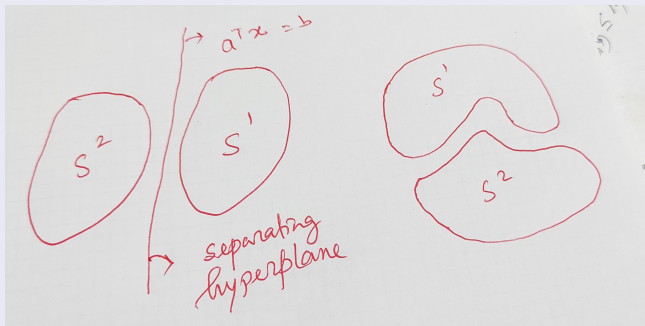
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- $H$  is a strict separating hyperplane if  $a^T x > b$  for all  $x \in S^1$  and  $a^T y < b$  for all  $y \in S^2$ .

- **Convex Combination:** Suppose  $\{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$  The linear combination  $\lambda_1 x^1 + \lambda_2 x^2 + \dots + \lambda_n x^n$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda_i \leq 1$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = 1$  is said to be a convex combination of  $x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n$ .

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- Suppose  $S = \{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$ . Collection of all convex combinations of  $S$  is said to be the convex hull of  $S$  and denoted by  $Conv(S)$  or  $Co(S)$ . i.e.

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### Theorem 1

*Suppose  $S = \{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$ . Then  $\text{Co}(S)$  is a convex set.*

## Theorem 1

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**Proof:** Suppose  $y^1, y^2 \in \text{Co}(S)$ . Then there exists  $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n)^T, \theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n)^T$  such that

$$y^1 = \mu_1 x^1 + \mu_2 x^2 + \dots + \mu_n x^n, \quad 0 \leq \mu_i \leq 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i = 1$$

$$y^2 = \theta_1 x^1 + \theta_2 x^2 + \dots + \theta_n x^n, \quad 0 \leq \theta_i \leq 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i = 1$$

Now for  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda y^1 + (1 - \lambda) y^2 &= \lambda(\mu_1 x^1 + \mu_2 x^2 + \dots + \mu_n x^n) + (1 - \lambda)(\theta_1 x^1 + \theta_2 x^2 + \dots + \theta_n x^n) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (\lambda \mu_i + (1 - \lambda) \theta_i) x^i \end{aligned}$$

Clearly  $\lambda \mu_i + (1 - \lambda) \theta_i \geq 0$  for all  $i$  and

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (\lambda \mu_i + (1 - \lambda) \theta_i) = \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i + (1 - \lambda) \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i = \lambda + (1 - \lambda) = 1$$

Hence  $\lambda y^1 + (1 - \lambda) y^2 \in \text{Co}(S)$ . So  $\text{Co}(S)$  is convex set.

## Theorem 2

*Suppose  $S$  be a non-empty convex set and  $A = \{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n\} \subseteq S$ . Then  $Co(A) \subseteq S$ .*

**Proof:** We prove the result by induction.

For  $n=2$ , the result holds from the definition of convex set.

Suppose the result holds for  $n-1$ , i.e.  $Co\{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^{n-1}\} \subseteq S$ .

Let

$$y = \lambda_1 x^1 + \lambda_2 x^2 + \dots + \lambda_n x^n \in Co(A) \quad (1)$$

Then  $\lambda_i \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = 1$ . Then  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \lambda_i = 1 - \lambda_n$ . This implies  $\frac{\lambda_i}{1-\lambda_n} \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{\lambda_i}{1-\lambda_n} = 1$ .

Hence  $z = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{\lambda_i}{1-\lambda_n} x^i \in Co\{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^{n-1}\} \subseteq S$  and

$$(1 - \lambda_n)z = \lambda_1 x^1 + \lambda_2 x^2 + \dots + \lambda_{n-1} x^{n-1}.$$

Then from (??),  $(1 - \lambda_n)z = y - \lambda_n x^n$ . This implies  $y = (1 - \lambda_n)z + \lambda_n x^n$ .

Since  $S$  is a convex set,  $z, x^n \in S$  implies  $y = (1 - \lambda_n)z + \lambda_n x^n \in S$ . Hence  $Co\{x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n\} \subseteq S$ .

- A set  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be a cone if  $x \in C$ ,  $\lambda > 0$  implies  $\lambda x \in C$ . For example  $C = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_1, x_2 \geq 0\}$ .

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- A cone is said to be convex if it is convex and cone. i.e.  $x^1, x^2 \in C$ ,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \geq 0$   $\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2 > 0$  imply  $\lambda_1 x^1 + \lambda_2 x^2 \in C$ .



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- A linear combination of the form  $\theta_1 x^1 + \theta_2 x^2 + \dots + \theta_n x^n$ ,  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n \geq 0$  is said to be a conic combination of  $x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n$ .

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- The set of all conic combinations of some set  $C$  is called conic hull of  $C$  and denoted by  $\text{cone}(C)$ . i.e.

$$\text{cone}(C) = \{\theta_1 x^1 + \theta_2 x^2 + \dots + \theta_n x^n \mid x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n \in C, \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n \geq 0\}.$$

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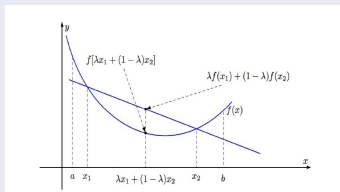
$$\text{cone}(C) = \{\theta_1 x^1 + \theta_2 x^2 + \dots + \theta_n x^n \mid x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n \in C, \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n \geq 0\}.$$

- A cone  $C$  is said to be a pointed cone if  $C \cap -C \subseteq \{0\}$ .

- A function  $f : X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be a convex function iff for any  $x, y \in X$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ ,

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y). \quad (2)$$

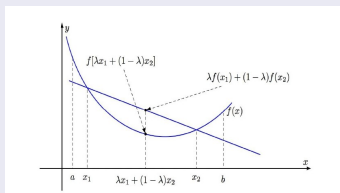
- Geometrically this inequality implies that the graph of  $f$  between  $x$  and  $y$  lies below the line segment joining  $(x, f(x))$  and  $(y, f(y))$ .



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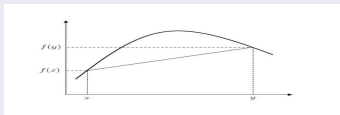


- A function is strictly convex if strict inequality holds in (??).

- A function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be a convex function iff for any  $x, y \in X$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ ,

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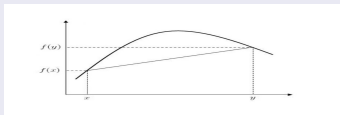
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- A function is strictly concave if strict inequality holds in (??).

- **Example of convex functions**  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2$ ,  $y = e^{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}$  are (strictly) convex functions in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n -\log(x_i)$ ,  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \log(x_i)$  are (strictly) convex function in  $\mathbb{R}_{++}^n = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n | x_i > 0, \forall i\}$ .
- If  $f$  is a convex function then  $-f$  is a concave function and vice-versa.
- If  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  two convex functions then  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i f_i$  ( $\alpha > 0$ ),  $\max\{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n\}$  are also convex functions.
- If  $f_1, f_2$  are two convex functions then  $\min\{f_1, f_2\}$  is not necessarily convex. For example suppose  $f_1(x) = x^2$  and  $f_2(x) = (x - 1)^2$ . Define  $f(x) = \min\{x^2, (x - 1)^2\}$ . Then  $f(1/2 * 0 + 1/2 * 1) > 1/2f(0) + 1/2f(1)$
- Affine functions  $f(x) = a^T x + b$  are both convex and concave function.



- If  $f$  is a convex function then the level set  $L = \{x : f(x) \leq \alpha\}$   $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  is a convex set.

**Proof:** Suppose  $x^1, x^2 \in L$ . Then  $f(x^1) \leq \alpha$  and  $f(x^2) \leq \alpha$ . Now for  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f(\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2) &\leq \lambda f(x^1) + (1 - \lambda)f(x^2) \\ &\leq \lambda \alpha + (1 - \lambda)\alpha \\ &= \alpha \end{aligned}$$

The first inequality holds, since  $f$  is a convex function. Hence  $f(\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2) \leq \alpha$  i.e.  $\lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2 \in L$ . So  $L$  is a convex set.

- If  $f$  is a concave function then the set  $S = \{x | f(x) \geq \alpha\}$  is a convex set. (prove it).
- If  $f$  is a convex function then the set  $L = \{x : f(x) \geq \alpha\}$   $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  is not necessarily a convex set (provide counter example).
- Every convex function is continuous in the interior of its domain.
- $f(x) = |x|$  is an example of non-differentiable convex function.

- Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a differentiable function. Then gradient of  $f$  at  $x^*$

is defined as  $\nabla f(x^*) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1}(x^*) \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2}(x^*) \\ \dots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n}(x^*) \end{bmatrix}$ .

- Suppose  $f(x) = a^T x = x^T a = a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots + a_n x_n$ . Then

$$\nabla f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \dots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = a.$$

- Suppose  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} & q_{12} \\ q_{12} & q_{22} \end{bmatrix}$  is an  $2 \times 2$  symmetric matrix and  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^T Q x = \frac{1}{2} (x_1, x_2) Q = \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} & q_{12} \\ q_{12} & q_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \{ q_{11} x_1^2 + 2q_{12} x_1 x_2 + q_{22} x_2^2 \}$$

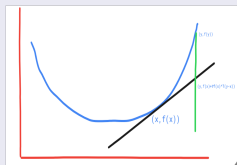
$$\text{Then } \nabla f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} x_1 + q_{12} x_2 \\ q_{12} x_1 + q_{22} x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} & q_{12} \\ q_{12} & q_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = Qx.$$

- Similarly for  $n$  dimensional square matrix  $Q$ , if  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^T Q x$  then  $\nabla f(x) = Qx$ .

- If a convex function is differentiable at  $x$ , then for any  $y$ ,

$$f(y) \geq f(x) + \nabla f(x)^T(y - x) \quad (4)$$

- Geometrically this inequality implies that the entire graph of  $f$  lies above the tangent plane at  $x$ .



- Suppose  $f$  is a convex function and  $\nabla f(x^*) = 0$  for some  $x^* \in X$ , then from (??)  $f(y) \geq f(x^*)$  for all  $y \in X$ . Hence  $x^*$  is a minima of  $f$ .
- Consider the problem  $\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$ . If  $f$  is convex, then  $\nabla f(x^*) = 0$  implies  $x^*$  is the solution of this problem.

- Consider the least square problem

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( x^T A^T A x - 2x^T A^T b + b^T b \right).$$

Here the objective function is convex. Hence  $\nabla \left( \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2 \right) = 0$  gives the optimal solution. Now  $\nabla \left( \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2 \right) = 0$  implies  $A^T A x - A^T b = 0$ , i.e.

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

which is the least square solution.

- An  $n \times n$  matrix  $H$  is said to be a
  - a positive semi-definite matrix if  $x^T H x \geq 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
  - a positive definite matrix if  $x^T H x > 0$  for all non-zeros  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
  - a negative semi-definite matrix if  $x^T H x \leq 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
  - a negative definite matrix if  $x^T H x < 0$  for all non-zeros  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Diagonal elements of a
  - a positive semi-definite matrix is greater than equal to 0.
  - a positive definite matrix is strictly greater then zero.
  - a negative semi-definite matrix is less than equal to zeros.
  - a negative definite matrix is less than zero.
- Converse of the above statements are not always true. For example if diagonal elements of a matrix is  $> 0$  then it is not necessarily a positive definite matrix. For example  $H = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  has strictly positive diagonal elements but  $H$  is not positive definite since  $(1, 2)H \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = -10 < 0$ .

- Eigen values of a symmetric
  - positive definite matrix are  $> 0$ .
  - positive semi definite matrix are  $\geq 0$ .
  - negative definite matrix are  $< 0$ .
  - negative semi definite matrix are  $\leq 0$ .
- **Definition:** Suppose  $H$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. A leading principal minor of  $H$  of order  $k$  is the minor of order  $k$  obtained by deleting the last  $n - k$  rows and columns.
- If  $H$  is a positive (semi) definite matrix then leading principal minors of  $H$  of order  $1, 2, \dots, n$  ( $\geq$ )  $> 0$ .
- If  $H$  is a negative (semi) definite matrix then leading principal minors of  $H$  of order  $k$  is ( $\leq$ )  $< 0$  if  $k$  is odd and ( $\geq$ )  $> 0$  if  $k$  is even for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

- Suppose  $H = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ . For any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , we have

$$x^T H x = (x_1 + x_2)^2 + (\sqrt{2}x_1 + \sqrt{2}x_3)^2 + (x_2 - x_3)^2 + x_3^2 > 0$$

for any  $x \neq 0$ . Hence  $H$  is a positive definite matrix.

- One can verify eigenvalues and leading principle minors of  $H$  are  $> 0$ .

- Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a twice differentiable function. Then Hessian of  $f$  at  $x$  is defined as

$$H(x) = \nabla^2 f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2}(x) & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 x_2}(x) & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 x_n}(x) \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 x_2}(x) & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2}(x) & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 x_n}(x) \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n x_2}(x) & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n x_2}(x) & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n^2}(x) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Since  $f$  is continuous, Hessian of  $f$  is a symmetric matrix.
- $f$  is a convex function in  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  if and only  $\nabla^2 f(x)$  is positive semi-definite for every  $x \in X$ .
- If Hessian of  $f$  is positive definite then  $f$  is strictly convex.

- Suppose  $f(x) = 2x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 + 2x_3^2 + 2x_1x_2 + 3x_1x_3 + 4x_2x_3$ . Then

$$\nabla f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 4x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 \\ 2x_1 + 6x_2 + 4x_3 \\ 3x_1 + 4x_2 + 4x_3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \nabla^2 f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 6 & 4 \\ 3 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- For any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , leading principle minors of  $\nabla^2 f(x)$  are 4, 20, 10. This implies  $\nabla^2 f(x)$  is positive definite for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . Hence  $f$  is a strictly convex function.
- If  $f$  is strictly convex then  $\nabla^2 f(x)$  is not necessarily positive definite. For example  $f(x) = x_1^4 + x_2^4$ . (verify)





- A function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be a  $\sigma$ -strongly convex for some  $\sigma > 0$  if for any  $x, y \in X$  and  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y) - \frac{\sigma}{2}\lambda(1 - \lambda)\|x - y\|^2.$$

$\sigma(> 0)$  is said to be the modulus of strong convexity. Sometimes, a  $\sigma$ -strongly convex function is called as 'a strongly convex function with modulus  $\sigma$ '.

- If  $f$  is a  $\sigma$ -strongly convex then  $g(x) = f(x) - \frac{\sigma}{2}\|x\|^2$  is a strictly convex function.
- Every strongly convex function is a strictly convex function but not converse. For example  $f(x) = e^x$ ,  $-\log(x)$  are strictly convex but not strongly convex function.
- If  $f$  is a  $\sigma$ -strongly convex function then  $d^T \nabla^2 f(x) d \geq \frac{\sigma}{2}\|d\|^2$  for every  $x \in X$  and  $d \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- The modulus of convexity  $\sigma = \min_{x \in X} \text{eig\_min} \nabla^2 f(x)$ , where  $\text{eig\_min}$  of a matrix  $H$  is the minimum eigenvalue of  $H$ .

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-  Boyd, S. and Vandenberghe L.: Introduction to applied linear algebra: vectors, matrices, and least squares. Cambridge university press, 2018.