

# Chapter II

## Inequality Constraints

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# 1 Optimality Conditions

## 2.1.1

Prove the normal cone is a closed convex cone.

**Proof:** Let  $C \subseteq \mathbb{E}$  be a convex set and  $\bar{x} \in C$ . Then

$$N_C(\bar{x}) = \{d \in \mathbb{E} : \langle d, x - \bar{x} \rangle \leq 0\}.$$

If  $d \in N_C(\bar{x})$ , then obviously  $\alpha d \in N_C(\bar{x})$  for  $\alpha \geq 0$ . Also, if  $d_i \in N_C(\bar{x})$  and  $d_i \rightarrow d \in \mathbb{E}$ , then for a fixed  $x \in C$ ,

$$\langle d_i, x - \bar{x} \rangle \rightarrow \langle d, x - \bar{x} \rangle,$$

and since  $\langle d_i, x - \bar{x} \rangle \leq 0$ ,  $\langle d, x - \bar{x} \rangle \leq 0$ . Thus  $d \in N_C(\bar{x})$  and so  $N_C(\bar{x})$  is closed. Convexity is also clear.

## 2.1.3 Self-dual cones

Prove that each of the following cones  $K$  satisfy the relationship  $N_K(0) = -K$ .

- $\mathbb{R}_+^n$

Proof: Recall that

$$N_K(\bar{x}) = \{d \in \mathbb{E} : \langle d, x - \bar{x} \rangle \leq 0\}.$$

Thus,  $d \in N_{\mathbb{R}_+^n}(0)$  if and only if

$$\langle d, x \rangle \leq 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}_+^n.$$

So, for  $x = e_i$ , we realize that  $x_i \leq 0$  and hence  $x \in -\mathbb{R}_+^n$ . Conversely, for all  $x \in -\mathbb{R}_+^n$  and all  $d \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$  we clearly have  $\langle d, x \rangle \leq 0$ . Thus  $N_{\mathbb{R}_+^n}(0) = -\mathbb{R}_+^n$ .

- $\mathbb{S}_+^n$

Proof: Recall that

$$N_{\mathbb{S}_+^n}(0) = \{X \in \mathbb{S}^n : \langle X, A \rangle \leq 0\} \quad \forall A \in \mathbb{S}_+^n.$$

So clearly if  $-X \in \mathbb{S}_+^n$  then  $X \in N_{\mathbb{S}_+^n}(0)$ . Conversely, suppose  $X \in N_{\mathbb{S}_+^n}(0)$ , then

$$a^T X a \leq 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ or equivalently } a^T (-X) a \geq 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Thus by definition  $-X \in \mathbb{S}_+^n$ .

- $K = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_1 \geq 0, x_1^2 \geq x_2^2 + \cdots + x_n^2\}$

Proof: Let  $y \in N_K(0)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \inf \langle -y, x \rangle \\ & x_1^2 \geq x_2^2 + \cdots + x_n^2 \end{aligned}$$

has nonnegative optimum value. Note that if  $\bar{x}$  is a local minimum of the function  $f(x) := \langle -y, x \rangle$ , then if  $\bar{x} \neq 0$  then  $\bar{x}_1 \neq 0$  as otherwise since  $\bar{x}_1^2 \geq \bar{x}_2^2 + \cdots + \bar{x}_n^2$ ,  $\bar{x} = 0$ . So  $y \in N_K(0)$  if and only if the following problem has optimum value at least 0,

$$\begin{aligned} & \inf -y_1 - \sum_{i=2}^n y_i x_i \\ & 1 \geq x_2^2 + \cdots + x_n^2. \end{aligned}$$

However,

$$\sum_{i=2}^n y_i x_i \leq (x_2^2 + \cdots + x_n^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} (y_2^2 + \cdots + y_n^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq (y_2^2 + \cdots + y_n^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Now let  $\bar{x} = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0)$  and so  $-y_1 \geq 0$ . Now let  $x_i = \frac{y_i}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=2}^n y_i^2}}$  for  $2 \leq i \leq n$ , the above inequality holds with equality. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup \sum_{i=2}^n x_i y_i \\ & 1 \geq x_2^2 + \cdots + x_n^2, \end{aligned}$$

has optimum value  $(y_2^2 + \cdots + y_n^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Thus,  $y \in N_K(0)$  if and only if  $(y_2^2 + \cdots + y_n^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq -y_1$  or equivalently  $-y \in N_K(0)$ .

### 2.1.7

Suppose a convex function  $g : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfies  $g(0) = 0$ . Prove the function  $t \in (0, 1] \mapsto g(t)/t$  is nondecreasing. Hence prove that for a convex function  $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and points  $\bar{x}, x \in C \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ , the quotient  $(f(\bar{x} + t(x - \bar{x})) - f(\bar{x}))/t$  is nondecreasing as a function of  $t$  in  $(0, 1]$ , and complete the proof of Proposition 2.1.2.

**Proof:** Note that  $g$  is convex and thus  $g(ts) \leq tg(s)$  for all  $t, s \in [0, 1]$ . Thus if  $t, s \neq 0$  then

$$\frac{g(ts)}{ts} \leq \frac{g(s)}{s},$$

and this means that  $g$  is nondecreasing. The rest is clear as  $t \in (0, 1] \mapsto (f(\bar{x} + t(x - \bar{x})) - f(\bar{x}))/t$  is convex. Hence, since  $f'(\bar{x}, x - \bar{x}) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (f(\bar{x} + t(x - \bar{x})) - f(\bar{x}))/t \geq 0$ , we conclude that  $(f(\bar{x} + 1(x - \bar{x})) - f(\bar{x}))/1 \geq 0$  or equivalently  $f(x) \geq f(\bar{x})$ .

### 2.1.10

- Prove the function  $f : \mathbb{S}_{++}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(X) = \text{Tr}(X^{-1})$  is differentiable on  $\mathbb{S}_{++}^n$ .
- Define a function  $f : \mathbb{S}_{++}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $f(X) = \log \det(X)$ . Prove  $\nabla f(I) = I$ . Deduce  $\nabla f(X) = X^{-1}$  for any  $X$  in  $\mathbb{S}_{++}^n$ .

**Proof:**

- Let  $f(X) = \text{Tr}(X^{-1})$ . Note that for  $H \in \mathbb{S}^n$  and small enough  $|t|$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}((X + tH)^{-1}) &= \text{Tr}(X^{-\frac{1}{2}}(I + tX^{-\frac{1}{2}}HX^{-\frac{1}{2}})^{-1}X^{-\frac{1}{2}}) = \\ &= \text{Tr}(X^{-\frac{1}{2}}(I - tX^{-\frac{1}{2}}HX^{-\frac{1}{2}} + O(t^2))X^{-\frac{1}{2}}) = \text{Tr}(X^{-1}) - t \text{Tr}(X^{-2}H) + O(t^2). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\nabla f(X)[H] = \text{Tr}(-X^{-2}H)$ . Thus,  $\nabla f(X) = -X^{-2}$ .

- Note that for  $H \in \mathbb{S}^n$ ,

$$\log \det(X + tH) = \log(1 + t \text{Tr}(X^{-\frac{1}{2}}HX^{-\frac{1}{2}}) + O(t^2)) + \log \det(X)$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f(X)(H) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \log(1 + t \text{Tr}(X^{-\frac{1}{2}}HX^{-\frac{1}{2}}) + O(t^2)) \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\text{Tr}(X^{-\frac{1}{2}}HX^{-\frac{1}{2}}) + O(t)}{1 + t \text{Tr}(X^{-\frac{1}{2}}HX^{-\frac{1}{2}}) + O(t^2)} = \text{Tr}(X^{-\frac{1}{2}}HX^{-\frac{1}{2}}) = \text{Tr}(X^{-1}H). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\nabla f(X) = X^{-1}$ .

**Side:** This is also an immediate consequence of chain rule via using the fact  $\nabla \det(X) = \text{adj}(X)$ .

**2.1.10 Matrix completion**

For a set  $\Delta \subseteq \{(i, j) : 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n\}$ , suppose the subspace  $L \subseteq \mathbb{S}^n$  of matrices with  $(i, j)$ th entry of zero for all  $(i, j)$  in  $\Delta$  satisfies  $L \cap \mathbb{S}_{++}^n \neq \emptyset$ . By considering the problem (for  $C \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n$ )

$$\inf\{\langle C, X \rangle - \log \det X : X \in L \cap \mathbb{S}_{++}^n\}, \quad (1)$$

prove there exists a matrix  $X$  in  $L \cap \mathbb{S}_{++}^n$  with  $C - X^{-1}$  having  $(i, j)$ th entry of zero for all  $(i, j)$  not in  $\Delta$ .

We now the function  $X \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n \mapsto \langle C, X \rangle - \log \det(X)$  has compact level sets. Now let  $A_{i,j} \in \mathbb{S}^n$  be symmetric matrices with  $(i, j)$ th and  $(j, i)$ th entry equals to 1 and 0 elsewhere. Then

$$L = \{X \in \mathbb{S}^n : \langle A_{i,j}, X \rangle = 0 \ \forall \ (i, j) \in \Delta\},$$

which is a closed subspace of  $\mathbb{S}^n$ . So the level sets of 1 are also compact and thus there exists a global minimizer  $\bar{X}$  in  $L \cap \mathbb{S}_{++}^n$ . So due to "First order conditions for linear constraints" there exists  $y_{i,j}$  for all  $(i, j) \in \Delta$  such that

$$C - \bar{X}^{-1} = \sum_{(i,j) \in \Delta} y_{i,j} A_{i,j}.$$

$\bar{X}$  satisfies the desired property.

**2.1.13. BFGS update** Given a matrix  $C$  in  $\mathbb{S}_{++}^n$  and vectors  $s$  and  $y$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying  $\langle s, y \rangle > 0$ , consider the problem

$$\inf\{\langle C, X \rangle - \log \det(X) : Xs = y, X \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n\}.$$

- Prove that for the problem above, the point

$$X = \frac{(y - \delta s)(y - \delta s)^T}{\langle s, y - \delta s \rangle} + \delta I$$

is feasible for small  $\delta > 0$ .

- Prove problem has an optimal solution.
- Use "First order conditions for linear constraints" to find the solution. (The solution is called BFGS update of  $C^{-1}$  under the secant condition  $Xs = y$ .)

**Proof:**

- Note that

$$Xs = \frac{(y - \delta s)(y - \delta s)^T s}{\langle s, y - \delta s \rangle} + \delta X = y - \delta X + \delta X = y.$$

Also, for  $\delta > 0$  small enough,  $\langle s, y - \delta s \rangle > 0$  and thus  $X$  will be the sum of a positive semi-definite matrix with  $\delta I$  and thus positive definite. Therefore,  $X$  is feasible for small  $\delta > 0$ .

- We know the map  $X \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n \mapsto \langle C, X \rangle - \log \det(X)$  has compact level sets and also  $\{X \in \mathbb{S}^n : Xs = y\}$  is a closed affine subspace of  $\mathbb{S}^n$ . Thus the map  $X \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n \cap \{X \in \mathbb{S}^n : Xs = y\} \mapsto \langle C, X \rangle - \log \det(X)$  has compact level sets.
- From "First order conditions for linear constraints" for a local minimum  $\bar{X}$  we know there exists  $w$  such that

$$C - \bar{X}^{-1} = sw^T + ws^T \Rightarrow (C - (sw^T + ws^T))^{-1} = \bar{X}.$$

Therefore,

$$(C - (sw^T + ws^T))y = s \Rightarrow (sw^T + ws^T)y = Cy - s.$$

So,

$$y^T (sw^T + ws^T)y = y^T Cy - y^T s \Rightarrow 2\langle y, s \rangle \langle y, w \rangle = y^T Cy - y^T s.$$

Now,

$$\langle w, y \rangle = \frac{y^T Cy - \langle s, y \rangle}{2\langle s, y \rangle}.$$

### 2.1.15. Nearest polynomial with a given root

Consider the Euclidean space of complex polynomials of degree no more than  $n$ , with inner product

$$\left\langle \sum_{j=0}^n x_j z^j, \sum_{j=0}^n y_j z^j \right\rangle = \sum_{j=0}^n \bar{x}_j y_j.$$

Given a polynomial  $p$  in this space, calculate the nearest polynomial with a given complex root  $\alpha$ , and prove the distance to this polynomial is

$$\left( \sum_{j=0}^n |\alpha|^{2j} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \|p(\alpha)\|.$$

**Proof:** The problem translates into the following optimization problem

$$\inf \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^n \|a_i - b_i\|^2 : \langle b, \bar{\alpha} \rangle = 0 \right\},$$

where  $p(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j x^j$  and  $\tilde{\alpha} = (1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{2n+2}$ . Note that  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathbb{R}^{2n+2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a linear map. Then for  $b \in \mathbb{R}^{2n+2}$  a local minimizer to the above problem, we have

$$b - a = z \tilde{\alpha} \text{ for some } z \in \mathbb{C}$$

Now note that

$$b_i - a_i = z \alpha^i \Rightarrow 0 = \sum_{i=0}^n b_i \alpha^i = p(\alpha) + z \sum_{i=0}^n |\alpha|^{2i}$$

So,

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \|a_i - b_i\|^2 \|z\|^2 \sum_{i=0}^n |\alpha|^{2i} \Rightarrow \sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^n \|a_i - b_i\|^2} = \left( \sum_{j=0}^n |\alpha|^{2j} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \|p(\alpha)\|.$$

## 2 Max Functions

### 2.3.3

Prove by induction that if the functions  $g_1, \dots, g_m : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are all continuous at the point  $\bar{x}$  then so is the max-function  $g(x) = \max_i \{g_i(x)\}$ .

**Proof:** It is clearly enough to prove the question for  $m = 2$ . If  $g_1(\bar{x}) \neq g_2(\bar{x})$  then for instance if  $g_1(\bar{x}) < g_2(\bar{x})$ , then due to continuity for a small neighborhood about  $\bar{x}$ ,  $g_1$  is smaller than  $g_2$  and thus  $g$  is equal to  $g_2$ . Since  $g_2$  is continuous at  $\bar{x}$  so is  $g$ .

So suppose that  $g_1(\bar{x}) = g_2(\bar{x})$  and let  $x^k \in \mathbb{E}$  be a converging sequence to  $\bar{x}$ . We aim to show  $g(x^k) \rightarrow g(\bar{x})$ . However, let  $R_1, R_2$  be two subsequences of  $\mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $r \in R_i$ ,  $g(x^r) = g_i(x^r)$ , note that  $R_1 \cap R_2$  is not necessarily empty, but  $R_1 \cup R_2 = \mathbb{N}$ . Now, suppose  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are both infinite sized, then  $g(x^k)$  is divided into two subsequences which both converge to  $g(\bar{x}) = g_1(\bar{x}) = g_2(\bar{x})$ . If only one of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are infinite, say for instance  $R_1$ , then  $\lim g(x^k) = \lim g_1(x^k) = g_1(\bar{x})$  which equals to  $g(\bar{x})$ . The proof is complete.

### 2.3.5. Cauchy-Schwarz and steepest descent

For a nonzero vector  $y$  in  $\mathbb{E}$ , use Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions to solve the problem

$$\inf \{ \langle y, x \rangle : \|x\|^2 \leq 1 \}$$

Deduce the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality.

**Proof:** Note that the feasible region is compact and the objective function is linear and thus continuous. So there exists an optimal solution, not necessary unique, denoted by  $\bar{x}$ . Suppose  $\bar{x} \neq 0$ , then  $\langle \nabla g(\bar{x}), -\bar{x} \rangle = 2\langle \bar{x}, -\bar{x} \rangle < 0$  and thus Mangasarian-Fromovitz constraint qualification holds at  $\bar{x}$ . Hence, there exists  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$  such that

$$y + \lambda \bar{x} = 0.$$

So, since  $y \neq 0$ ,  $\lambda$  is also nonzero and thus  $\|\bar{x}\| = 1$  and also  $\bar{x} = -\frac{1}{\lambda}y$ . Thus  $\lambda = \|y\|$ . Hence, the objective value at  $\bar{x}$  equals to

$$\langle y, \frac{-y}{\|y\|} \rangle = -\|y\| < 0,$$

which is negative and thus the assumption that  $\bar{x} \neq 0$  is justified. Finally we have for  $x \neq 0$

$$\langle y, \frac{x}{\|x\|} \rangle \geq -\|y\| \Rightarrow \langle y, x \rangle \geq -\|y\|\|x\|.$$

Intechanging  $x$  with  $-x$  results in, which also holds for  $x \neq 0$ .

$$-\|y\|\|x\| \leq \langle y, x \rangle \leq \|y\|\|x\|.$$

### 2.3.7.

Consider a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n$  and a real  $b > 0$ .

- Assuming the problem

$$\inf\{-\log \det X : \text{Tr } AX \leq b, X \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n\}$$

has a solution, find it.

- Repeat using the objective function  $\text{Tr}(X^{-1})$ .

**Proof:**

- Note that  $X \mapsto A^{\frac{1}{2}}XA^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is a homeomorphism and thus the following problem has a solution

$$\inf\{-\log \det(A^{\frac{1}{2}}XA^{\frac{1}{2}}) : \text{Tr } A^{\frac{1}{2}}XA^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq b, A^{\frac{1}{2}}XA^{\frac{1}{2}} \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n\}.$$

Thus without loss of generality suppose that  $A = I$ . Thus we know the problem

$$\inf\{-\log \det X : \text{Tr } X \leq b, X \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n\}$$

has a solution. Now, for any feasible matrix  $X$ , we have

$$\sqrt[n]{\det(X)} \leq \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(X) \leq \frac{b}{n} \Rightarrow \det(X) \leq \left(\frac{b}{n}\right)^n \Rightarrow -\log \det(X) \geq -\log\left(\frac{b}{n}\right)^n.$$

However, in the above equation, equality happens if and only if  $\lambda_1(X) = \dots = \lambda_n(X)$  and also  $\text{Tr}(X) = b$ . So the optimal solution equals to  $\bar{X} = \frac{b}{n}I$ .

Now for the original problem if  $X$  is the optimal solution  $\bar{X}$ , then  $A^{\frac{1}{2}}XA^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{b}{n}I$  and so  $\bar{X} = \frac{b}{n}A^{-1}$ .

- Note that  $\langle A, -A \rangle < 0$  and thus MFCQ holds at any  $X \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n$ . Now note that if  $\bar{X}$  is a local minimizer for the problem then since MFCQ holds at  $\bar{X}$  there exists  $\lambda \geq 0$  such that

$$-\bar{X}^{-1} + \lambda A = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{X}^{-1} = \lambda A$$

Note that  $\lambda$  can't be zero and so  $\text{Tr}(A\bar{X}) = b$ . Hence,  $\text{Tr}(\frac{1}{\lambda}I) = b$  and so  $\lambda = \frac{n}{b}$ . Finally,  $\bar{X} = \frac{b}{n}A^{-1}$ .

### 2.3.8. Minimum volume ellipsoid

- For a  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and the function  $g : \mathbb{S}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $g(X) = \|Xy\|_2$ , prove  $\nabla g(X) = Xyy^T + yy^TX$  for all the matrices  $X$  in  $\mathbb{S}^n$ .

- Consider a set  $\{y^1, \dots, y^m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ . Prove this set spans  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if and only if the matrix  $\sum_i y^i (y^i)^T$  is positive definite.
- Prove the problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \inf -\log \det X \\ & \text{subject to } \|Xy^i\|^2 - 1 \leq 0 \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, m \\ & X \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n \end{aligned}$$

has an optimal solution.

- Show that the Mangasarian-Fromovitz constraint qualification holds at  $\bar{X}$  by considering the direction  $d = -\bar{X}$ .
- Write down the KKT conditions that  $\bar{X}$  must satisfy.
- When  $\{y^1, \dots, y^n\}$  is the standard basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the optimal solution of the problem in part (c) is  $\bar{X} = I$ . Find the corresponding Lagrange multiplier vector.

**Proof:**

- Let  $A = yy^T \in \mathbb{S}^n$ , then  $g(X) = \text{Tr}(XAX)$  and thus

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} (g(X + tY) - g(X)) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} (t \text{Tr}(XAY) + \text{Tr}(AXY) + t^2 \text{Tr}(YAY)) = \text{Tr}((XA + AX)Y).$$

Thus  $\nabla g(X) = XA + AX$ . Note that in the above equation we are using the fact that  $\text{Tr}(YAX) = \text{Tr}(AXY)$ .

- Clearly,  $\sum_i y^i (y^i)^T \succeq 0$ , also note that

$$x^T \left[ \sum_i y^i (y^i)^T \right] x = \sum_i \langle x, y^i \rangle^2 \Rightarrow \left[ \sum_i y^i (y^i)^T \right] x = 0 \iff \langle x, y^i \rangle = 0 \forall i$$

So  $\text{Ker}(\sum_i y^i (y^i)^T) = 0$  if and only if it doesn't exist a vector  $x$  such that  $\langle x, y^i \rangle = 0$  for all  $i$  and this holds if and only if the set  $\{y^1, \dots, y^m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Now suppose the vector  $y^1, \dots, y^m$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

- Denote the feasible region of the above problem by  $\Omega$ . Let  $A = \sum_i y^i (y^i)^T$ . Then as  $y^1, \dots, y^m$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we have  $A \succ 0$ . Also for  $X \in \Omega$ , we have  $\langle X^2, A \rangle \leq n$ . Thus if for  $X \in \Omega$ ,  $-\log \det X \leq c$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then

$$\langle A, X^2 \rangle - \log \det X^2 \leq n - \frac{1}{2} \log \det X \leq n - \frac{1}{2} c.$$

But we know that the level sets of  $\langle C, X \rangle - \log \det X$  are compact for any  $C \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n$  from section 1.2, Question 14. However,  $X \mapsto X^2$  is a homeomorphism from  $\mathbb{S}_{++}^n$  to  $\mathbb{S}_{++}^n$ . Thus the set of  $x \in \Omega$  which satisfies  $-\log \det X \leq c$  lie in a compact set. Thus the optimum is obtained.

Now suppose that  $\bar{X}$  is an optimal solution for the problem in part (c).

- Note that for all  $i$

$$\langle \bar{X} y^i (y^i)^T + y^i (y^i)^T \bar{X}, -\bar{X} \rangle = -2 \text{Tr}(\bar{X} y^i (y^i)^T \bar{X}) = -2 < 0.$$

- The KKT conditions are as the followings

$$\begin{aligned} & \bar{X} \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n \\ & \|\bar{X} y^i\|^2 - 1 \leq 0 \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, m \\ & \exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^m, \text{ s.t. } -\bar{X}^{-1} + \sum_i \lambda_i (\bar{X} y^i (y^i)^T + y^i (y^i)^T \bar{X}) = 0 \\ & \lambda_i (\|X y^i\|^2 - 1) = 0 \forall i \end{aligned}$$

- Note that  $I \in \Omega$  and  $\log \det I = 0$ . So we need to show that for  $X \in \Omega$  we have  $\log \det X \leq 0$  or equivalently  $\det X \leq 1$ . However, as we mentioned before,  $\langle X, \sum_i y^i (y^i)^T \rangle \leq n$ , but  $\sum_i y^i (y^i)^T = I$  and thus  $\langle X, I \rangle = \text{Tr}(X) \leq n$ . Now if  $\lambda_1(X), \dots, \lambda_n(X) > 0$  are the eigenvalues of  $X$ , then we have

$$\sqrt[n]{\prod_i \lambda_i(X)} \leq \frac{1}{n} \left( \sum_i \lambda_i(X) \right) = \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(X) \leq 1 \Rightarrow \det(X) = \prod_i \lambda_i(X) \leq 1.$$

So  $I$  is the optimal solution. Now if  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$  is a Lagrange multiplier then

$$-I + 2 \text{diag}(\lambda) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_i = \frac{1}{2} \forall i.$$