

| Functions | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| Function | Convex? | Proof | |
| $\mathbf{y} = \max(f_1, f_2)$ | Yes, if f_1 and f_2 are convex functions | | |
| $\mathbf{y} = \min(f_1, f_2)$ | Not always | | |
| $C = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m\}$ | It is an affine set (all affine set is a convex set) | | |
| $y = \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}$ (linear function) | Yes (but not strictly convex) | | |
| $y = \ \mathbf{x}\ _p$ (p-norm) | Yes (for any $p \in \mathbb{N}_+$) | $\ \theta \mathbf{x} + (1 - \theta) \mathbf{y}\ \leq \theta \ \mathbf{x}\ + (1 - \theta) \ \mathbf{y}\ $ (triangular inequality) | |
| $f(g(\mathbf{x}))$ | Yes, if f, g are convex | | |
| Function | Domain | Codomain | Comments |
| System of linear equation: $\mathbf{b} = f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{Ax}$ | $D = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \in C, \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}\}$ | $C = \{\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{Ax}, \forall \mathbf{x} \in D\}$ | If D is an affine set, so C is also affine set which, in turn, is a convex set. |

| Sets | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Set | Convex? | Commens |
| Convex hull: $\text{conv } C = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i \mathbf{x}_i \mid \mathbf{x}_i \in C, 0 \leq \theta_i \leq 1 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k, \mathbf{1}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta} = 1 \right\}$ | Yes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A will be the smallest convex set that contains C. $\text{conv } C$ will be a finite set as long as C is also finite. |
| Affine hull: $\text{aff } C = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i \mathbf{x}_i \mid \mathbf{x}_i \in C \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k, \mathbf{1}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta} = 1 \right\}$ | Yes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A will be the smallest affine set that contains C. Different from the convex set, θ_i is not restricted between 0 and 1 $\text{aff } C$ will always be an infinite set. If $\text{aff } C$ contains the origin, it is also a subspace. |
| Conic hull: $A = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i \mathbf{x}_i \mid \mathbf{x}_i \in C, \theta_i > 0 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k \right\}$ | Yes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A will be the smallest convex conic that contains C. Different from the convex and affine sets, θ_i does not need to sum up 1. |
| Hyperplane: $\mathcal{H} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{x} = b\}$ $\mathcal{H} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{a}^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) = 0\}$ $\mathcal{H} = \mathbf{x}_0 + a^\perp$ | Yes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is an infinite set $\mathbb{R}^{n-1} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ that divides the space into two halfspaces. $a^\perp = \{\mathbf{v} \mid \mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{v} = 0\}$ is the set of vectors perpendicular to \mathbf{a}. It passes through the origin. a^\perp is offset from the origin by \mathbf{x}_0, which is any vector in \mathcal{H}. |
| Halfspace: \mathcal{H}_- or $\mathcal{H}_+ \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{x} \leq b\}$ | Yes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They are infinite sets of the parts divided by \mathcal{H}. |
| Euclidean ball: $B(\mathbf{x}_c, r) = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \ \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c\ _2 \leq r\}$ $B(\mathbf{x}_c, r) = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \mid (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c)^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c) \leq r^2 \right\}$ $B(\mathbf{x}_c, r) = \{\mathbf{x}_c + r \ \mathbf{u}\ \mid \ \mathbf{u}\ \leq 1\}$ | Yes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $B(\mathbf{x}_c, r)$ as long as $r < \infty$. \mathbf{x}_c is the center of the ball. r is its radius. |
| Ellipsoid: $\mathcal{E} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c)^\top \mathbf{P}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c) \leq 1\}$ $\mathcal{E} = \{\mathbf{x}_c + \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u} \mid \ \mathbf{u}\ \leq 1\}$ | Yes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \mathcal{E} is a finite set as long as \mathbf{P} is a finite matrix. \mathbf{P} is symmetric and positive definite, that is, $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}^\top \succ 0$. \mathbf{x}_c is the center of the ellipsoid. The lengths of the semi-axes are given by $\sqrt{\lambda_i}$. $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P}^{1/2}$. \mathbf{A} is invertible. When it is not, we say that \mathcal{E} is a degenerated ellipsoid (degenerated ellipsoids are also convex). |
| Norm cone: $C = \left\{ [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, t]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \mid \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \ \mathbf{x}\ _p \leq t \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ | Yes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although it is named “Norm cone”, it is a set, not a scalar. The cone norm increases the dimension of \mathbf{x} in 1. For $p = 2$, it is called the second-order cone, quadratic cone, Lorentz cone or ice-cream cone. |
| Polyhedra: $\mathcal{P} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{a}_j^\top \mathbf{x} \leq b_j, j = 1, \dots, m, \mathbf{a}_j^\top \mathbf{x} = d_j, j = 1, \dots, p\}$ $\mathcal{P} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{Ax} \preceq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{Cx} = \mathbf{d}\},$ where $\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{a}_m]^\top$ and $\mathbf{C} = [\mathbf{c}_1 \quad \mathbf{c}_2 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{c}_m]^\top$ | Yes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polyhedron is the intersection of m halfspaces. The polyhedron may or may not be an infinite set. Subspaces, hyperplanes, lines, rays line segments, and halfspaces are all polyhedra. The <i>nonnegative orthant</i>, $\mathbb{R}_+^n = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_i \geq 0 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n\} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{Ix} \succeq \mathbf{0}\}$, is a special polyhedron <i>Simplexes</i>, , are another family of polyhedra, where $\{\mathbf{v}_m\}_{m=0}^k$ is a affinely independent set. It forms a k-dimensional shape in \mathbb{R}^n, thus being called k-dimensional simplex in \mathbb{R}^n. |
| Simplex: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> $\mathcal{S} = \text{conv } \{\mathbf{v}_m\}_{m=0}^k = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^k \theta_i \mathbf{v}_i \mid \mathbf{0} \preceq \boldsymbol{\theta} \preceq \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta} = 1 \right\}$ $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{x} \preceq \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{A}_2 \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}_2 \mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{x} \leq 1 + \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{v}_0\}$ $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{x} \prec \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{Cx} = \mathbf{d}\}$ (Polyhedra form), where $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A}_2, \mathbf{d} = \mathbf{A}_2 \mathbf{v}_0$ | Yes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also called k-dimensional Simplex in \mathbb{R}^n. |
| $C = A \cup B$ | Not always. | |
| $C = A \cap B$ | Yes, if A and B are convex sets. | |

- All convex set is quasiconvex, but not all quasiconvex is convex.
- It is possible to solve quasiconvex functions, even if it is not convex (see Algorithm 4.1). But not all quasiconvex functions that are nonconvex can be solved(?).
- Superlevel set (a set) 3.3.6, all convex functions have all convex α sub-level set, but not all functions that have convex α sub-level set are convex (see slide 3.11).