

Set	Convex sets	Comments
Convex hull: <ul style="list-style-type: none">conv $C = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i \mathbf{x}_i \mid \mathbf{x}_i \in C \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k, \mathbf{0} \leq \boldsymbol{\theta} \leq \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta} = 1 \right\}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">conv C is the smallest convex set that contains C.conv C is a finite set as long as C is also finite.	
Affine hull: <ul style="list-style-type: none">aff $C = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i \mathbf{x}_i \mid \mathbf{x}_i \in C \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k, \mathbf{1}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta} = 1 \right\}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">aff C is the smallest affine set that contains C.aff C is always an infinite set. If aff C contains the origin, it is also a subspace.Different from the convex set, θ_i is not restricted between 0 and 1	
Conic hull: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$A = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \theta_i \mathbf{x}_i \mid \mathbf{x}_i \in C, \theta_i \geq 0 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k \right\}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A is the smallest convex conic that contains C.Different from the convex and affine sets, θ_i does not need to sum up 1.	
Ray: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\mathcal{R} = \{ \mathbf{x}_0 + \theta \mathbf{v} \mid \theta \geq 0 \}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The ray is an infinite set that begins in \mathbf{x}_0 and extends infinitely in direction of \mathbf{v}. In other words, it has a beginning, but it has no end.The ray becomes a convex cone if $\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{0}$.	
Hyperplane: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\mathcal{H} = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{x} = b \}$$\mathcal{H}_- = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{a}^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) = \mathbf{0} \}$$\mathcal{H} = \mathbf{x}_0 + a^\perp$	<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.The inner product between \mathbf{a} and any vector in \mathcal{H} yields the constant value b.$a^\perp = \{ \mathbf{v} \mid \mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{v} = 0 \}$ is the infinite 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}.	
Halfspaces: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\mathcal{H}_- = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{x} \leq b \}$$\mathcal{H}_+ = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{x} \geq b \}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">They are infinite sets of the parts divided by \mathcal{H}.	
Euclidean ball: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$B(\mathbf{x}_c, r) = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \ \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c \ \leq r \}$$B(\mathbf{x}_c, r) = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c)^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c) \leq r^2 \}$$B(\mathbf{x}_c, r) = \{ \mathbf{x}_c + r \ \mathbf{u} \ \mid \ \mathbf{u} \ \leq 1 \}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">$B(\mathbf{x}_c, r)$ is a finite set as long as $r < \infty$.\mathbf{x}_c is the center of the ball.r is its radius.	
Ellipsoid: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\mathcal{E} = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c)^\top \mathbf{P}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_c) \leq 1 \}$$\mathcal{E} = \{ \mathbf{x}_c + \mathbf{P}^{1/2} \mathbf{u} \mid \ \mathbf{u} \ \leq 1 \}$	<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, $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}^\top > \mathbf{0}$. It determines how far the ellipsoid extends in every direction from \mathbf{x}_c.\mathbf{x}_c is the center of the ellipsoid.The lengths of the semi-axes are given by $\sqrt{\lambda_i}$.When $\mathbf{P}^{1/2} \geq \mathbf{0}$ but singular, we say that \mathcal{E} is a degenerated ellipsoid (degenerated ellipsoids are also convex).	
Norm cone: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$C = \left\{ (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \mid \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \ \mathbf{x} \ _p \leq t \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$	<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.	
Proper cone: $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a proper cone when it has the following properties <ul style="list-style-type: none">K is a convex cone, i.e., $\alpha K \equiv K, \alpha > 0$.$K$ is closed.K is solid.K is pointed, i.e., $-K \cap K = \{ \mathbf{0} \}$.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The proper cone K is used to define the <i>generalized inequality</i> (or <i>partial ordering</i>) in some set S. For the generalized inequality, one must define both the proper cone K and the set S.$\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{y} \iff \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \in K$ for $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in S$ (generalized inequality)$\mathbf{x} < \mathbf{y} \iff \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \in \text{int } K$ for $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in S$ (strict generalized inequality).There are two cases where K and S are understood from context and the subscript K is dropped out:<ul style="list-style-type: none">When $S = \mathbb{R}^n$ and $K = \mathbb{R}_+^n$ (the nonnegative orthant). In this case, $\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{y}$ means that $x_i \leq y_i$.When $S = \mathcal{S}^n$ and $K = \mathcal{S}_+^n$ or $K = \mathcal{S}_{++}^n$, where \mathcal{S}^n denotes the set of symmetric $n \times n$ matrices, \mathcal{S}_+^n is the space of the positive semidefinite matrices, and \mathcal{S}_{++}^n is the space of the positive definite matrices. \mathcal{S}_+^n is a proper cone in \mathcal{S}^n (??). In this case, the generalized inequality $\mathbf{Y} \succeq \mathbf{X}$ means that $\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}$ is a positive semidefinite matrix belonging to the positive semidefinite cone \mathcal{S}_+^n in the subspace of symmetric matrices \mathcal{S}^n. It is usual to denote $\mathbf{X} > \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{X} \geq \mathbf{0}$ to mean than \mathbf{X} is a positive definite and semidefinite matrix, respectively, where $\mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is a zero matrix.Another common usage is when $S = \mathbb{R}^n$ and $K = \{ \mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid c_1 + c_2 t + \dots + c_n t^{n-1} \geq 0, \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq 1 \}$. In this case, $\mathbf{x} \preceq_K \mathbf{y}$ means that $x_1 + x_2 t + \dots + x_n t^{n-1} \leq y_1 + y_2 t + \dots + y_n t^{n-1}$.The generalized inequality has the following properties:<ul style="list-style-type: none">If $\mathbf{x} \preceq_K \mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{u} \preceq_K \mathbf{v}$, then $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u} \preceq_K \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{v}$ (preserve under addition).If $\mathbf{x} \preceq_K \mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{y} \preceq_K \mathbf{z}$, then $\mathbf{x} \preceq_K \mathbf{z}$ (transitivity).If $\mathbf{x} \preceq_K \mathbf{y}$, then $\alpha \mathbf{x} \preceq_K \mathbf{y}$ for $\alpha \geq 0$ (preserve under nonnegative scaling).$\mathbf{x} \preceq_K \mathbf{x}$ (reflexivity).If $\mathbf{x} \preceq_K \mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{y} \preceq_K \mathbf{x}$, then $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$ (antisymmetric).If $\mathbf{x}_i \preceq_K \mathbf{y}_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots$, and $\mathbf{x}_i \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{y}_i \rightarrow \mathbf{y}$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$, then $\mathbf{x} \preceq_K \mathbf{y}$.It is called partial ordering because $\mathbf{x} \not\preceq_K \mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{y} \not\preceq_K \mathbf{x}$ for many $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in S$. When it happens, we say that \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are not comparable (this case does not happen in ordinary inequality, $<$ and $>$).$\mathbf{x} \in S$ is the <i>minimum</i> element of S with respect to the proper cone K if $\mathbf{y} \preceq_K \mathbf{x}, \forall \mathbf{y} \in S$ (for <i>maximin</i>, $\mathbf{x} \succeq_K \mathbf{y}, \forall \mathbf{y} \in S$). It means that $S \subseteq \mathbf{x} + K$ (for the maximum, $S \subseteq \mathbf{x} - K$), where $\mathbf{x} + K$ denotes the set K shifted from the origin by \mathbf{x}. Note that any point in $K + \mathbf{x}$ is comparable with \mathbf{x} and is greater or equal to \mathbf{x} in the generalized inequality mean. The set S does not necessarily have a minimum (maximum), but the minimum (maximum) is unique if it does.$\mathbf{x} \in S$ is the <i>minimal</i> element of S with respect to the proper cone K if $\mathbf{y} \preceq_K \mathbf{x}$ only when $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}$ (for the <i>maximal</i>, $\mathbf{y} \succeq_K \mathbf{x}$ only when $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}$). It means that $(\mathbf{x} - K) \cap S = \{ \mathbf{x} \}$ for minimal (for the maximal $(\mathbf{x} + K) \cap S = \{ \mathbf{x} \}$), where $\mathbf{x} - K$ denotes the reflected set K shift by \mathbf{x}. Note that any point in $\mathbf{x} - K$ is comparable with \mathbf{x} and is less than or equal to \mathbf{x} in the generalized inequality mean. The set S can have many different minimal (maximal) elements.When $K = \mathbb{R}_+$ and $S = \mathbb{R}$ (ordinary inequality), the minimal is equal to the minimum and the maximal is equal to the maximum.When we say that a scalar-valued function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is nondecreasing, it means that whenever $\mathbf{u} \preceq \mathbf{v}$, we have $\tilde{h}(\mathbf{u}) \leq \tilde{h}(\mathbf{v})$. Similar results hold for decreasing, increasing, and nonincreasing scalar functions.	
Subspace (cone set?) of the symmetric matrices: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\mathcal{S}^n = \{ \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}^\top \}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The positive semidefinite cone is given by $\mathcal{S}_+^n = \{ \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \mid \mathbf{X} \succeq \mathbf{0} \} \subset \mathcal{S}^n$. This is the proper cone used to define the generalized inequalities between matrices, e.g., $\mathbf{A} \leq \mathbf{B}$.The positive definite cone is given by $\mathcal{S}_{++}^n = \{ \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \mid \mathbf{X} > \mathbf{0} \} \subseteq \mathcal{S}_+^n$. This is the proper cone used to define the generalized inequalities between matrices, e.g., $\mathbf{A} < \mathbf{B}$.	
Dual cone: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$K^* = \{ \mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{y} \geq 0, \forall \mathbf{x} \in K \}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">K^* is a cone, and it is convex even when the original cone K is nonconvex.K^* has the following properties:<ul style="list-style-type: none">K^* is closed and convex.$K_1 \subseteq K_2$ implies $K_1^* \supseteq K_2^*$.If K has a nonempty interior, then K^* is pointed.If the closure of K is pointed then K^* has a nonempty interior.K^{**} is the closure of the convex hull of K. Hence, if K is convex and closed, $K^{**} = K$.	
Polyhedra: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$\mathcal{P} = \left\{ \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 \right\}$$\mathcal{P} = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{d} \}$, where $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 & \mathbf{a}_2 & \dots & \mathbf{a}_m \end{bmatrix}^\top$ and $\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}_1 & \mathbf{c}_2 & \dots & \mathbf{c}_m \end{bmatrix}^\top$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The polyhedron may or may not be an infinite set.Polyhedron is the result of the intersection of m halfspaces and p hyperplanes.Subspaces, hyperplanes, lines, rays line segments, and halfspaces are all special cases of polyhedra.The <i>nonnegative orthant</i>, $\mathbb{R}_+^n = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_i \geq 0 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n \} = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{I} \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \}$, is a special polyhedron.	
Simplex: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$S = \text{conv} \{ \mathbf{v}_m \}_{m=0}^k = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^k \theta_i \mathbf{v}_i \mid \mathbf{0} \leq \boldsymbol{\theta} \leq \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta} = 1 \right\}$$S = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{V} \boldsymbol{\theta} \}$, where $\mathbf{V} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_0 & \dots & \mathbf{v}_n - \mathbf{v}_0 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$$S = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \underbrace{\mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{x} \leq 1 + \mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{v}_0}_{\text{Linear inequalities in } \mathbf{x}}, \underbrace{\mathbf{A}_2 \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}_2 \mathbf{v}_0}_{\text{Linear equalities in } \mathbf{x}} \}$ (Polyhedra form), where $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_1 \\ \mathbf{A}_2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{V} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_{k \times k} \\ \mathbf{0}_{n-k \times n-k} \end{bmatrix}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Simplexes are a subfamily of the polyhedra set.Also called k-dimensional Simplex in \mathbb{R}^n.The set $\{ \mathbf{v}_m \}_{m=0}^k$ is a affinely independent, which means $\{ \mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_0, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k - \mathbf{v}_0 \}$ are linearly independent.$\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ is a full-rank tall matrix, i.e., $\text{rank}(\mathbf{V}) = k$. All its column vectors are independent. The matrix \mathbf{A} is its left pseudoinverse.	
α -sublevel set: <ul style="list-style-type: none">$C_\alpha = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \text{dom}(f) \mid f(\mathbf{x}) \leq \alpha \}$ (regarding convexity), where $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$C_\alpha = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \text{dom}(f) \mid f(\mathbf{x}) \geq \alpha \}$ (regarding concavity), where $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If f is a convex (concave) function, then sublevel sets of f are convexes (concaves) for any $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.The converse is not true: a function can have all its sublevel set convex and not be a convex function.$C_\alpha \subseteq \text{dom}(f)$	
Functions (or operators) and their implications regarding convexity		
Function	Convex (concave)?	Comments
Union: $C = A \cup B$	Not in most of the cases.	
Intersection: $C = A \cap B$	Yes, if A and B are convex sets.	
Convex function: $f : \text{dom}(f) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$	Yes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Graphically, the line segment between $(\mathbf{x}, f(\mathbf{x}))$ and $(\mathbf{y}, f(\$

