



Convex optimization

References:

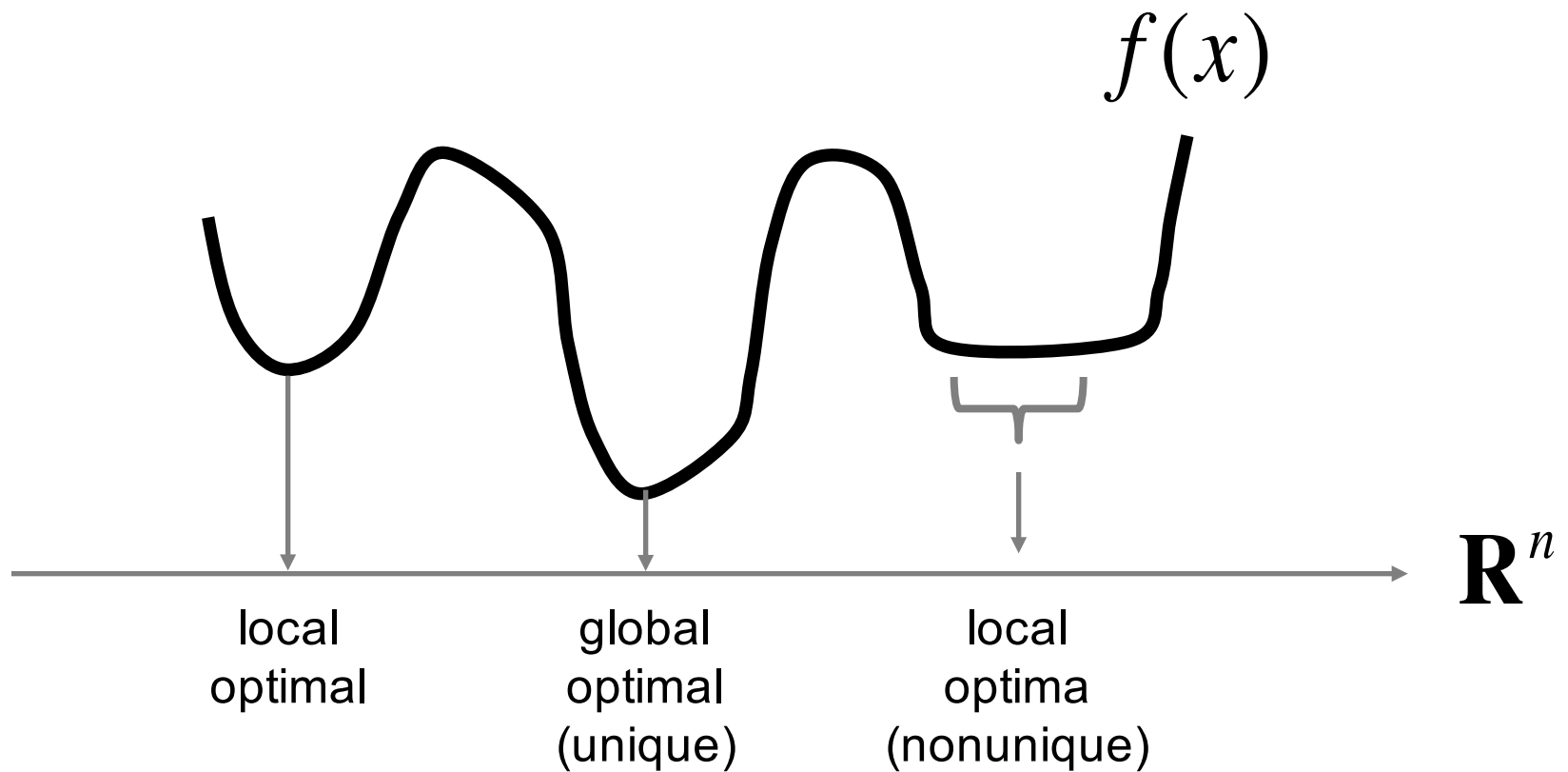
Boyd and Vandenberghe, Convex optimization, 2004

Ben-Tal and Nemirovski, Lectures on modern convex optimization, 2013



Unconstrained optimization

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f(x)$$



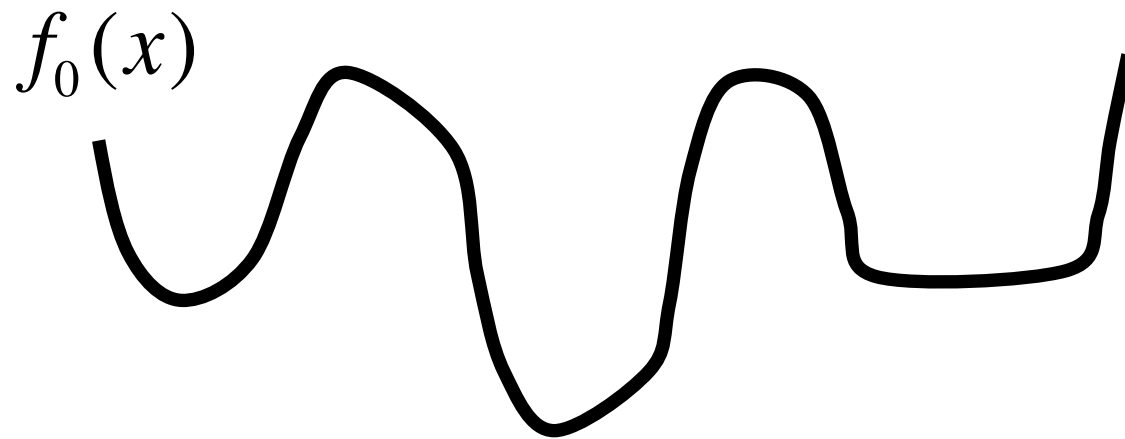


Constrained optimization

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x)$$

$$\text{s. t. } f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K$$

$$g_k(x) = 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, M$$



feasible
set

$$\mathbf{X} := \left\{ x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid f_k(x) \leq b_k, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \right\}$$

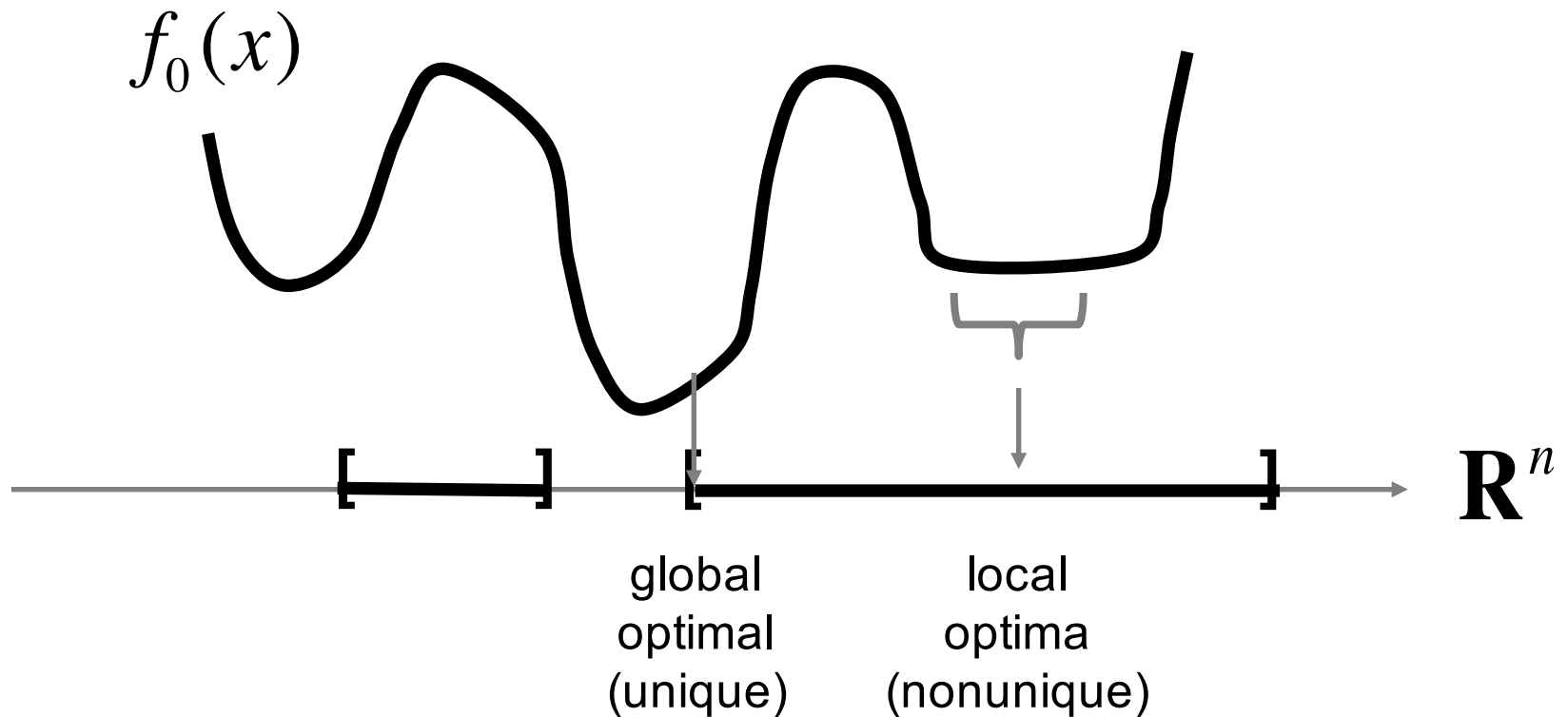


Constrained optimization

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Constrained optimization

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$$g_k(x) = 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, M$$

Definition

□ (Global) minimizers/optima:

$$\mathbf{X}^* := \left\{ x^* \in \mathbf{X} \mid f_0(x^*) \leq f_0(x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbf{X} \right\}$$

□ A minimizer $x^* \in \mathbf{X}$ is *unique* if

$$f_0(x^*) < f_0(x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbf{X}$$



Convex optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \quad & f_0(x) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

Definition

Convex optimization if

- $f_k(x)$ are *convex functions* for $k = 0, 1, \dots, K$

The feasible set \mathbf{X} is a *convex set*

Convex optimization is polynomial-time



Convex optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \quad & f_0(x) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

Questions

- How to recognize a convex program
- How to characterize minimizers?
- How to compute a minimizer?



Convex optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \quad & f_0(x) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

Questions

- How to recognize a convex program
 - Convex set, convex function
- How to characterize minimizers?
 - KKT condition, duality theorem
- How to compute a minimizer?
 - First-order algorithms, Newton algorithms
 - Distributed algorithms



Convex optimization

- Convex set
- Convex function
- Duality and KKT condition
- Algorithms

References:

Boyd and Vandenberghe, Convex optimization, 2004

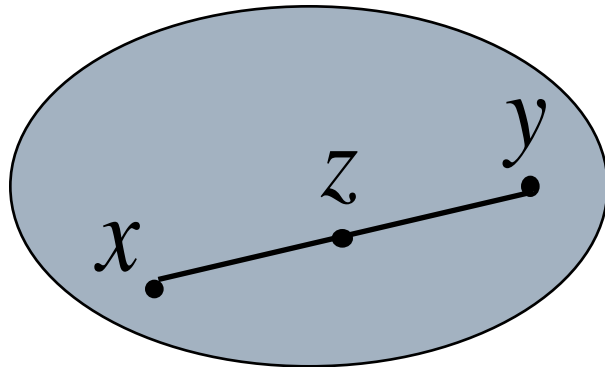
Ben-Tal and Nemirovski, Lectures on modern convex optimization, 2013



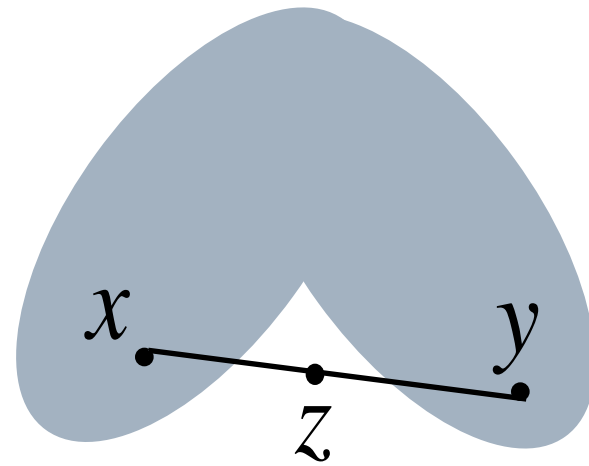
Convex set

Definition

A set S is **convex** if for all $x, y \in S$
for all $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, $z := \alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y \in S$



S is convex



S is nonconvex

S can be in an arbitrary space, not necessarily in \mathbf{R}^n



Convex set

Examples

□ Half-plane or half-space

$$S := \left\{ x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid a^T x = b \right\} \quad (a \neq 0)$$

$$S := \left\{ x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid a^T x \leq b \right\} \quad (a \neq 0)$$



Convex set

Examples

- Norm ball (any norm)

$$S := \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \|x - c\| \leq r\} = \{c + ru \mid \|u\| \leq 1\}$$

- Ellipsoid

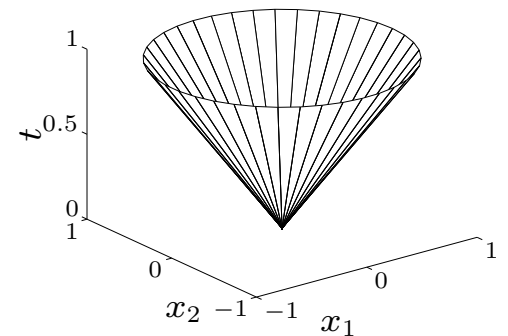
$$S := \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid (x - c)^T P^{-1} (x - c) \leq 1\} \quad (P \text{ pd})$$

$$S := \{c + Au \mid \|u\|_2 \leq 1\} \quad (A \text{ nonsingular})$$

- Norm cone (any norm)

$$S := \{(x, t) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} \mid \|x\| \leq t\}$$

$\|\cdot\|_2$: second-order cone





Convex set

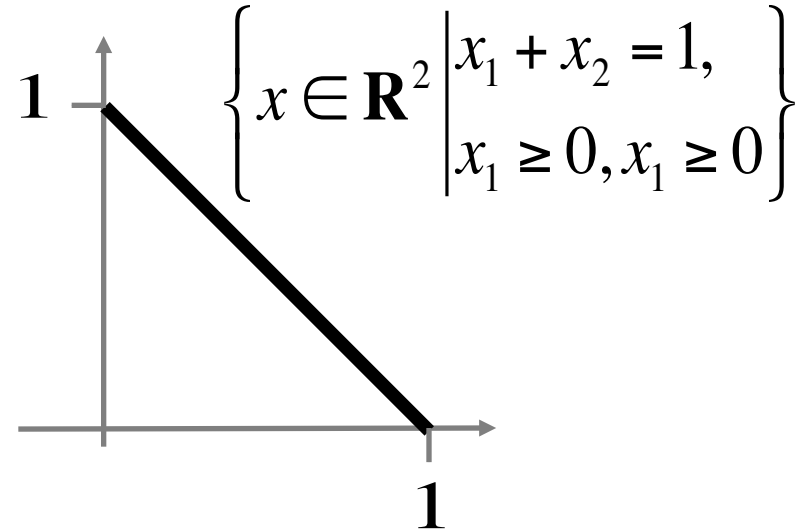
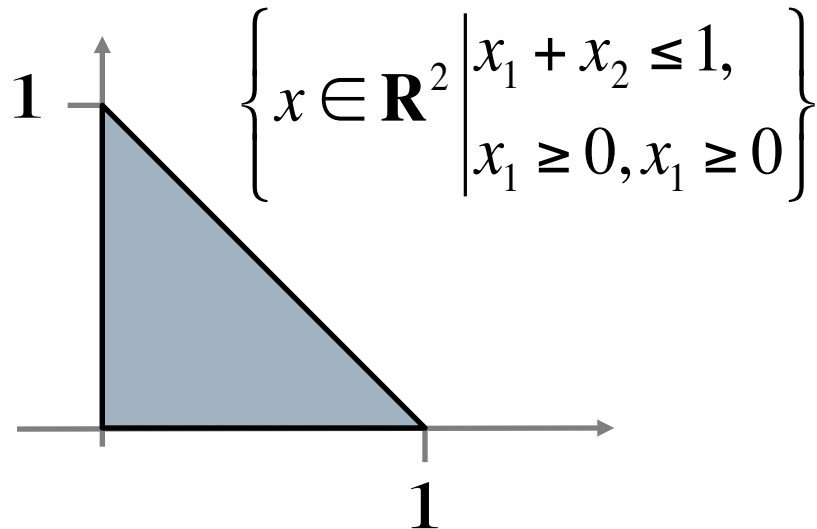
Examples: polyhedra

□ Linear equality and inequality:

$$S := \left\{ x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid A_1 x = b_1, A_2 x \geq b_2 \right\}$$

for some $A_j \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}, b_j \in \mathbf{R}^m$

Polyhedron: finite intersection of halfplanes and halfspaces





Convex set

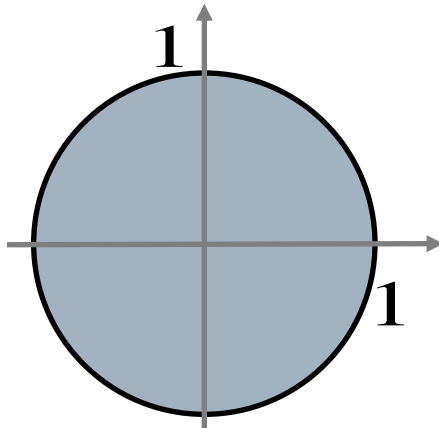
Examples

□ Nonlinear convex inequality:

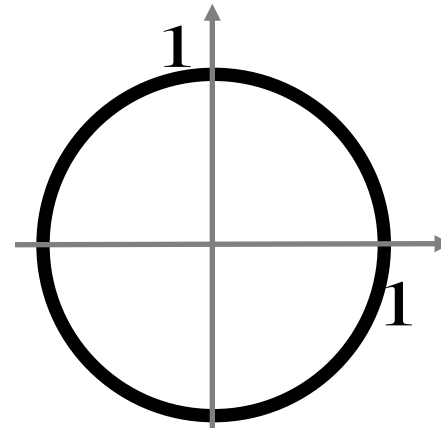
$$S := \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid g(x) \leq 0\}$$

for some convex function $g(x)$ [see below]

$$\{x \in \mathbf{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 1\}$$



$$\{x \in \mathbf{R}^2 \mid x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1\}$$



nonconvex !



Convex set

Examples: positive semidefinite cones

- Hermitian matrices

$$\mathbf{S}^n := \left\{ A \in \mathbf{C}^{n \times n} \mid A = A^H \right\}$$

- Positive semidefinite (psd) matrices

$$\mathbf{S}_+^n := \left\{ A \in \mathbf{S}^n \mid x^H A x \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbf{C}^n \right\}$$

- Positive definite (pd) matrices

$$\mathbf{S}_{++}^n := \left\{ A \in \mathbf{S}^n \mid x^H A x > 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbf{C}^n \right\}$$



Convex set

To recognize a convex set S

- Verify definition

- Show S is obtained from simple convex sets (polyhedra, balls, ellipsoids, cones, ...) by operations that **preserve convexity**
 - intersection
 - affine functions
 - perspective function
 - linear fractional functions



Convex set

Convexity-preserving operations

Suppose $A_k \subseteq \mathbf{R}^n, k = 1, \dots, K$, are convex.

Then the following sets are convex:

□ $B := \bigcap_k A_k$

set of sd matrices $\mathbf{S}_+^n := \bigcap_{\substack{z \neq 0 \\ z \in \mathbf{R}^n}} \{X \in \mathbf{S}^n : z^T X z \geq 0\}$

i.e., arbitrary intersection of convex sets is convex

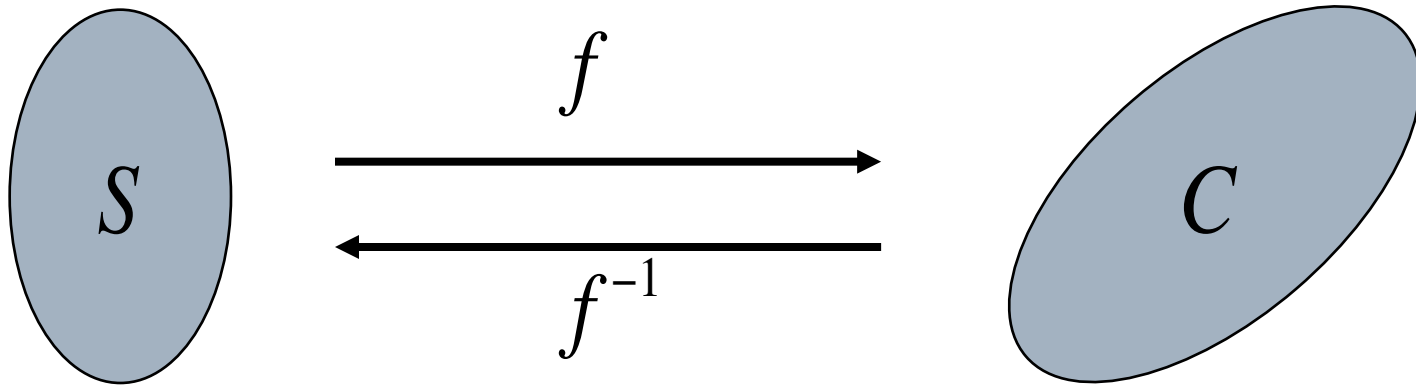
□ $B := A_1 \times \dots \times A_K$

□ $B := \sum_k A_k := \left\{ \sum_k x_k \mid x_k \in A_k \right\}$



Convex set

Affine function: $f(x) := Ax + b$



$$S = f^{-1}(C) := \{x \mid Ax + b \in C\}$$

$$C = f(S) := \{Ax + b \mid x \in S\}$$

S is convex iff *C* is convex

Application

□ Scaling, translation, projection



Convex set

Affine function: $f : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_+^m$

□ Solution set of LMI

$$S := \left\{ x \mid x_1 A_1 + \cdots + x_n A_n \preceq B \right\} \quad (A, B \in \mathbf{S}^m) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{symmetric} \\ \text{matrices} \end{array}$$

because:

$$f : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_+^m : f(x) = B - A(x)$$

$$C : \text{psd cone } \mathbf{S}_+^m := \{ f(x) \succeq 0 \}$$

$$S := f^{-1}(C)$$



Convex set

Affine function: $f : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$

□ Hyperbolic cone

$$S := \left\{ x \mid x^T P x \leq (c^T x)^2 \right\} \quad (P \in \mathbf{S}^m, c \in \mathbf{R}^n)$$

because:

$$f : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1} : f(x) = \left(P^{1/2} x, c^T x \right)$$

$$C := \left\{ (y, t) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} \mid y^T y \leq t^2 \right\} \quad \text{second-order cone}$$

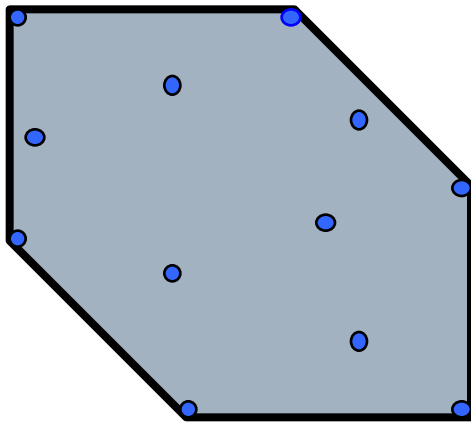
$$S := f^{-1}(C)$$



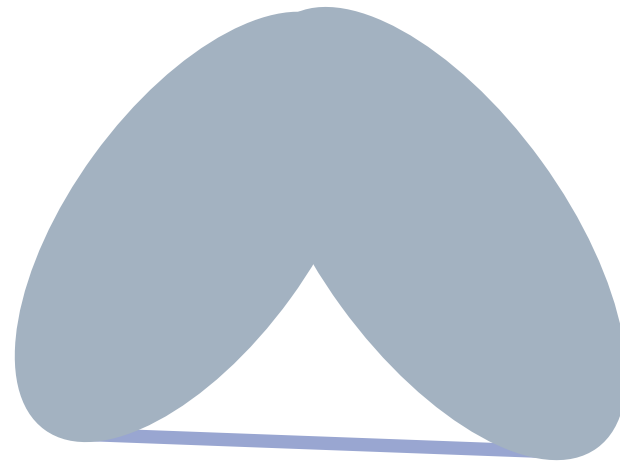
Convex set

Definition

The **convex hull** $\text{conv } S$ of an arbitrary set S is the smallest convex set that contains S



$\text{conv } S$



$\text{conv } S$



Convex set

Examples

$$\square \quad S := \left\{ A \in \mathbf{C}^{n \times n} \mid \text{psd}, \text{rank } A \leq 1 \right\}$$

$$\text{conv } S = \mathbf{S}_+^n \quad (\text{the set of psd matrices})$$



Convex optimization

- Convex set
- Convex function
- Duality and KKT condition
- Algorithms

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Ben-Tal and Nemirovski, Lectures on modern convex optimization, 2013



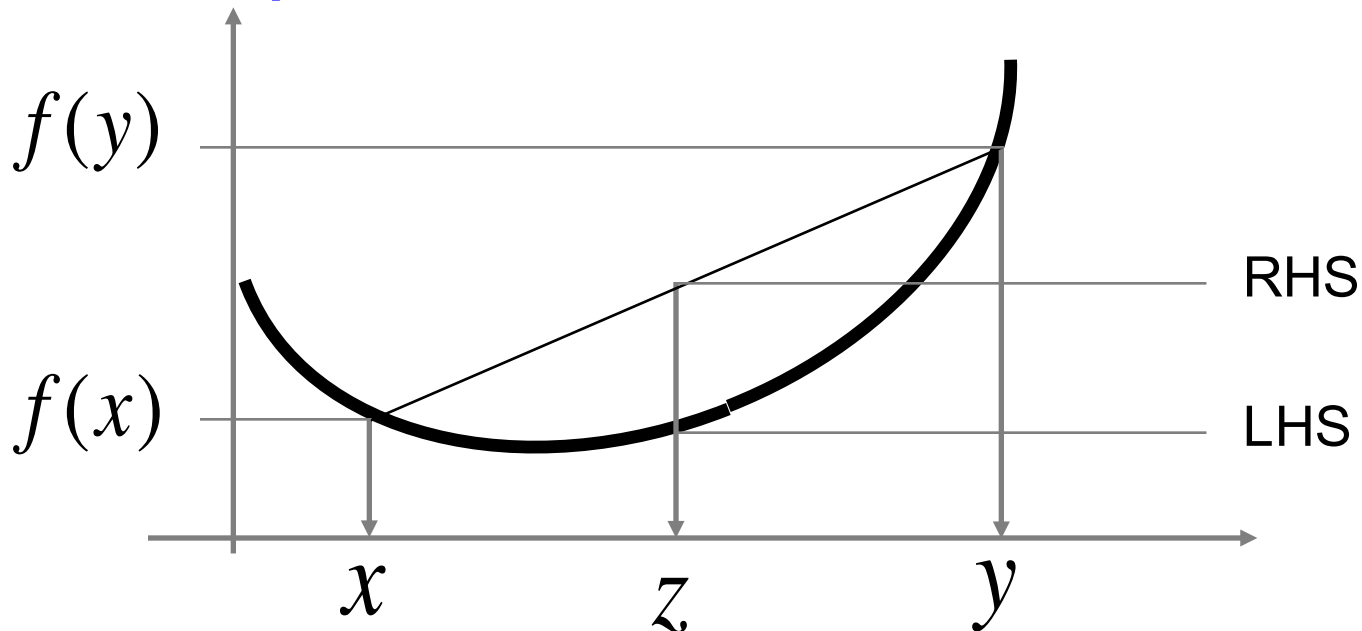
Convex function

Definition

$f(x) : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is **convex** if $\text{dom } f$ is a convex set and for all $x, y \in \text{dom } f$, $\alpha \in [0, 1]$

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y)$$

f is **strictly convex** if " $<$ "





Convex function

Characterization:

$f(x) : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is convex iff for all $x, y \in \mathbf{R}^n$
and $t \in \mathbf{R}$ s.t. $x + ty \in \text{dom } f$

$$g(t) := f(x + ty) \text{ is convex}$$

Note: $g(t)$ is a function of a scalar t . It says that start from any point x , go in any direction y , the function g is convex.

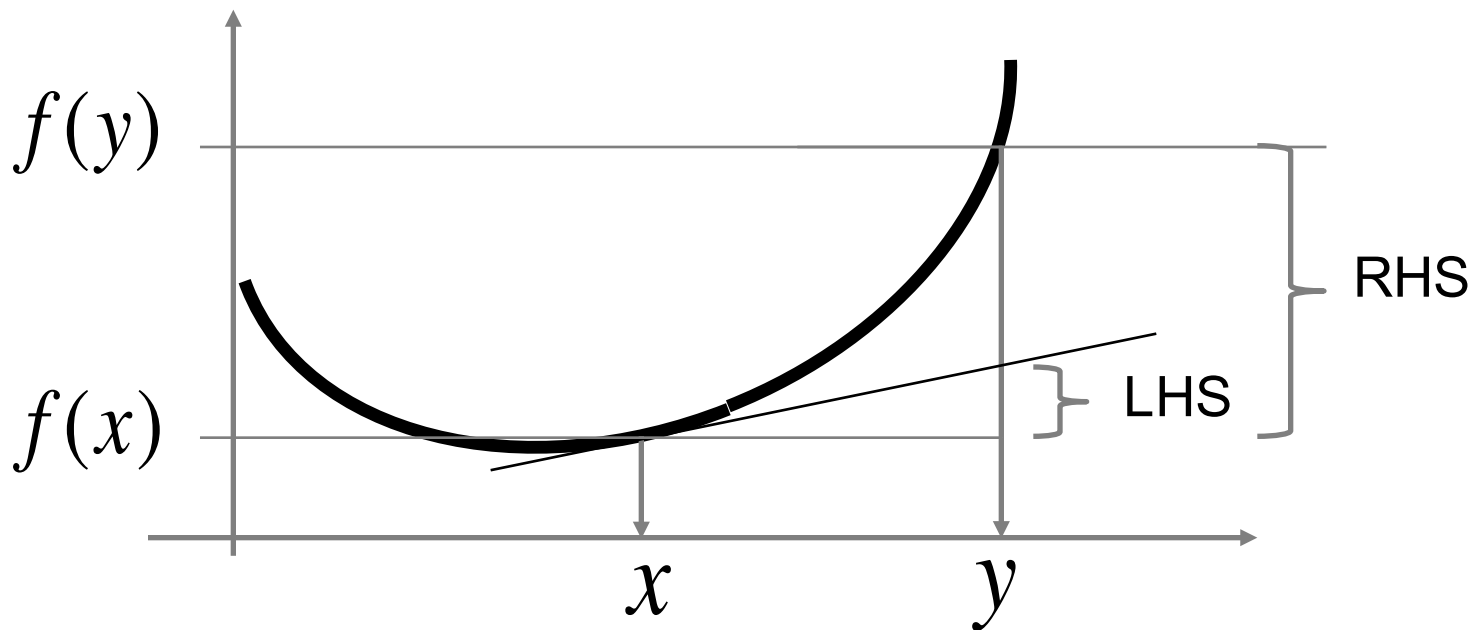


Convex function

Characterization: $\nabla f(x)$ exists, convex dom f
 $f(x) : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is convex iff for all $x, y \in \text{dom } f$

$$(\nabla f(x))^T (y - x) \leq f(y) - f(x)$$

strictly convex iff " $<$ "



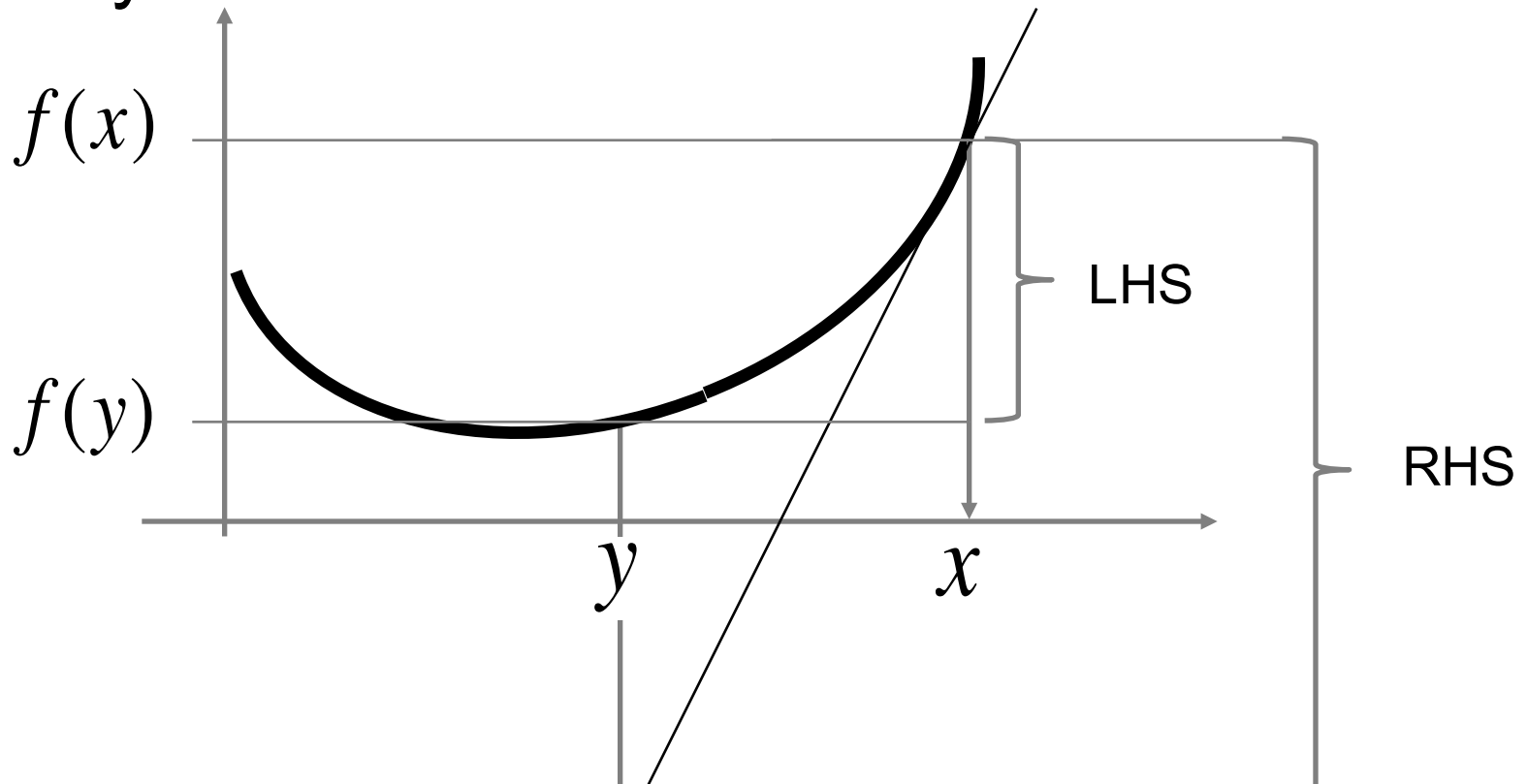


Convex function

Characterization: $\nabla f(x)$ exists, convex dom f
 $f(x) : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is *convex* iff for all $x, y \in \mathbf{R}^n$

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

strictly convex iff “<”





Convex function

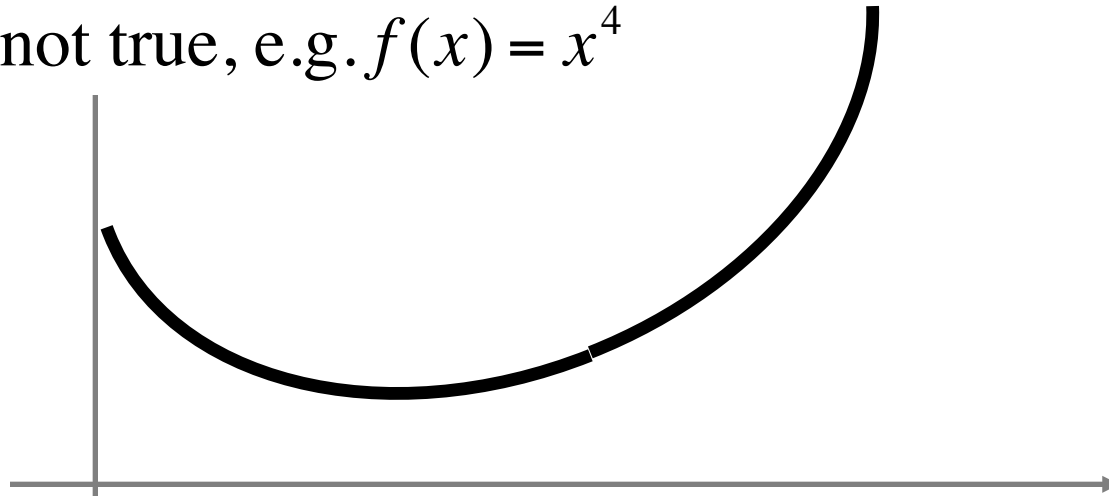
Characterization: $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(x)$ exists, convex dom f

$f(x): D \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is *convex* on D iff for all $x \in D$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(x) \geq 0 \quad (\text{positive semidefinite})$$

strictly convex iff “>” (positive definite)

converse not true, e.g. $f(x) = x^4$





Common mistake

Note that $\forall x \in D \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(x) \geq 0$ means

fix any $x \in D \quad \forall y \in \mathbf{R}^n \quad y^T \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(x) y \geq 0$

and is different from

$$\forall x \in D \quad x^T \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(x) x \geq 0$$



Common mistake

Example

$$f(x) = x_1 x_2 \quad \forall x \in D := \{(x_1, x_2) \mid x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0\}$$

Then
$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

ev-ev's : $(1, y_1 = [1 \ 1]^T), (-1, y_2 = [1 \ -1]^T)$

1. f is not convex on D $\left(\because \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(x) \text{ not psd bc } y_2^T \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} y_2 \leq 0 \right)$

2. $x^T \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(x) x = [x_1 \ x_2] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = 2x_1 x_2 \geq 0 \text{ over } D$



Convex function

Examples

□ $f(x) = x^2$

Definition:

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha f(x) + (1 - \alpha)f(y) - f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \\ &= \left(\alpha x^2 + (1 - \alpha)y^2 \right) - \left(\alpha^2 x^2 + (1 - \alpha)^2 y^2 + 2\alpha(1 - \alpha)xy \right) \\ &= \alpha(1 - \alpha)(x - y)^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



Convex function

Examples

□ $f(x) = x^2$

Characterization 1:

$$g(t) := f(x + ty) = (y \cdot t + x)^2$$

which is clearly convex in t



Convex function

Examples

□ $f(x) = x^2$

Characterization 2:

$$\begin{aligned} & (f(y) - f(x)) - (\nabla f(x))^T (y - x) \\ &= (y^2 - x^2) - 2x(y - x) \\ &= (x - y)^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



Convex function

Examples

□ $f(x) = x^2$

Characterization 3:

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(x) = 2 \geq 0$$



Convex function

Examples

□ $f(x) = x^2$

□ $f(x) = e^x$

□ $f(x) = -\log x$

□ $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

□ any norm $\|x\|$



Convex function

To recognize a convex function f

- Verify definition
- Apply one of 3 characterizations
- Show f is obtained from simple convex functions (linear, quadratic, exp, -log, ...) by operations that **preserve convexity**
 - nonnegative weighted sum
 - composition with affine function
 - pointwise supremum
 - composition



Convex function

Convexity-preserving operations

Suppose $f_k : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, $k = 1, \dots, K$ are convex.

Then the following functions are convex:

□ $g(x) := \sum_k a_k f_k(x)$, $a_k \geq 0$

□ $g(x) := \max_k f_k(x)$ $g(x) := \sup_{y \in Y} f(x, y)$

□ $g(x) := h(f_1(x))$ provided $h : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is convex and h is nondecreasing

$\tilde{h}(x) := h(x)$, $x \in \text{dom } h$, $\tilde{h}(x) := \infty$, $x \notin \text{dom } h$



Convex function

Composition

- Composition with affine function

$f(Ax + b)$ is convex if f is convex

Example:

- Any norm of affine function $\|Ax + b\|$



Convex function

Composition

□ Composition with affine function

$f(Ax + b)$ is convex if f is convex

Example:

Log barrier for linear inequalities

$$f(x) := - \sum_i \log(b_i - a_i^T x)$$

$$\text{dom } f := \left\{ x \mid a_i^T x < b_i \quad \forall i \right\}$$



Convex function

Composition

- Composition with max function

$\sup_{y \in Y} f(x; y)$ is convex if $f(\cdot; y)$ is convex $\forall y$

Example:

- max eigenvalue of matrix $X \in \mathbf{S}^n$

$$\lambda_{\max}(X) = \max_{\|y\|_2=1} y^T X y = \max_{\|y\|_2=1} \underbrace{\text{tr}(yy^T)} X$$

linear (convex) in X



Convex optimization

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- Convex function
- Duality and KKT condition
- Algorithms

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Convex optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \quad & f_0(x) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

$f_k(x)$: convex functions for $k = 0, 1, \dots, K$



Convex optimization

Advantages

Local optimality implies global optimality

- Sufficient to focus on local optimal

First-order optimality condition is sufficient

- Not only necessary

Polynomial-time computable

- Nonconvex programs are NP-hard in general

Duality theory and Lagrange multipliers

- Important for both structure and computation



Duality theory

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x)$$

$$\text{s. t. } f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K$$

$$Ax = b, \quad A \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbf{R}^m$$



Dual problem

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x)$$

$$\text{s. t. } f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K$$

$$Ax = b, \quad A \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbf{R}^m$$

Lagrange
multipliers

$$\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_+^K$$

$$\mu \in \mathbf{R}^m$$



Dual problem

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x)$$

$$\text{s. t. } f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K$$

$$Ax = b, \quad A \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbf{R}^m$$

Lagrange
multipliers

$$\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_+^K$$

$$\mu \in \mathbf{R}^m$$

Lagrangian

$$L(x; \lambda, \mu) := f_0(x) + \sum_{k=1}^K \lambda_k f_k(x) + \mu^T (Ax - b)$$

Convert constraints into penalties !

- one Lagrange multiplier per constraint
- inequality constraints $\rightarrow \lambda \geq 0$
- equality constraints $\rightarrow \mu$



Dual problem

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x)$$

$$\text{s. t. } f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K$$

$$Ax = b, \quad A \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbf{R}^m$$

Lagrange
multipliers

$$\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_+^K$$

$$\mu \in \mathbf{R}^m$$

Lagrangian

$$L(x; \lambda, \mu) := f_0(x) + \sum_{k \geq 1} \lambda_k f_k(x) + \mu^T (Ax - b)$$

Dual objective function

$$D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu) \quad \longleftarrow \text{unconstrained min}$$



Dual problem

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} & f_0(x) \\ \text{s. t.} & f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \\ & Ax = b, \quad A \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbf{R}^m \end{array}$$

Lagrange
multipliers
 $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_+^K$
 $\mu \in \mathbf{R}^m$

Lagrangian

$$L(x; \lambda, \mu) := f_0(x) + \sum_{k \geq 1} \lambda_k f_k(x) + \mu^T (Ax - b)$$

Dual objective function

$$D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu) \quad \leftarrow \text{unconstrained min}$$

$$\text{Dual problem: } \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu} D(\lambda, \mu)$$



Weak duality

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad Ax = b$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu} D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu)$$



Weak duality

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad Ax = b$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu} D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu)$$

Theorem: weak duality

For any primal feasible x and dual feasible (λ, μ)

$$D(\lambda, \mu) \leq f_0(x)$$

In particular

$$D(\lambda^*, \mu^*) \leq f_0(x^*)$$

weak duality holds for nonconvex programs



Strong duality

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad Ax = b$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu} D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu)$$

$$\text{Slater's condition: } \exists x \in \text{relint } \mathbf{D} := \bigcap_{k \geq 0} \text{dom } f_k \quad \text{s.t.} \\ f_k(x) < 0 \quad \text{if } f_k \text{ is not affine}$$



Strong duality

Primal: $\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad Ax = b$

Dual: $\max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu} D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu)$

Slater's condition: $\exists x \in \text{relint } \mathbf{D} := \bigcap_{k \geq 0} \text{dom } f_k \quad \text{s.t.}$
 $f_k(x) < 0 \quad \text{if } f_k \text{ is not affine}$

Theorem: strong duality

Suppose Primal is convex and Slater's cond holds

□ $D(\lambda^*, \mu^*) = f_0(x^*)$

□ If dual is feasible then dual is attained



Optimality condition

Theorem (KKT condition)

Suppose Primal is convex and Slater's cond holds

x^* is optimal if and only if there exist (λ^*, μ^*) s.t.

□ primal feasible: $f_k(x^*) \leq 0, Ax^* = b$

□ dual feasible: $\lambda^* \geq 0$

□ first-order cond: $\nabla f_0(x^*) + \sum_{k \geq 1} \lambda_k^* \nabla f_k(x^*) + \mu^{*T} A = 0$

□ complementary slackness: $\lambda_k^* f_k(x^*) = 0$



Convex optimization

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- Duality and KKT condition
- **Algorithms**

References:

Boyd and Vandenberghe, Convex optimization, 2004

Ben-Tal and Nemirovski, Lectures on modern convex optimization, 2013



Algorithms

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad Ax = b$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu} D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu)$$

- Many algorithms compute solutions to KKT condition

$$\nabla f_0(x^*) + \sum_{k \geq 1} \lambda_k^* \nabla f_k(x^*) + \mu^{*T} A = 0$$

- Primal algorithm (if projection to feasible set is easy)
- Dual algorithm (if unconstrained primal is easy)
- Primal-dual algorithm
- Second-order algorithm



Primal algorithm

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad Ax = b$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu} D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu)$$

$$x(t+1) = \text{Proj}(x(t) - \gamma_t \nabla f_0(x(t)))$$

↑
stepsize

- Steepest descent followed by projection to feasible set
- First-order algorithm



Dual algorithm

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad Ax = b$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu} D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu)$$

$$y(t) := (\lambda(t), \mu(t))$$

$$y(t+1) = \text{Proj}\left(y(t) + \gamma_t \underbrace{\nabla_y L(x(y(t)); y(t))}_{\text{argmin}}\right)$$

$$\text{argmin}_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda(t), \mu(t))$$

- Lagrangian is concave in y
- First-order algorithm



Primal-dual algorithm

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} f_0(x) \quad \text{s. t.} \quad f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad Ax = b$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max_{\lambda \geq 0, \mu} D(\lambda, \mu) := \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda, \mu)$$

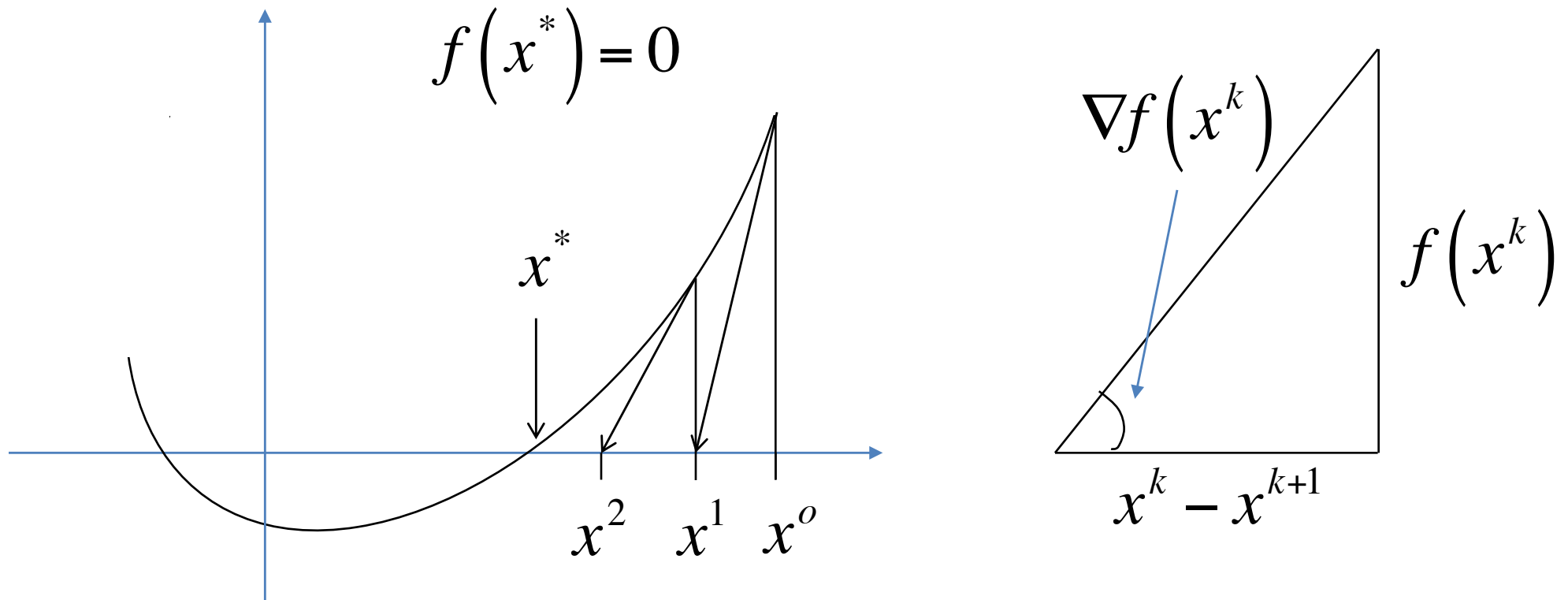
$$x(t+1) = x(t) - \gamma_t \nabla_x L(x(t); y(t))$$

$$y(t+1) = \text{Proj}\left(y(t) + \gamma_t \nabla_y L(x(t); y(t))\right)$$

- Do not have to project to primal feasible set nor compute $\min x$
- Lagrangian is convex in x and concave in y
- First-order algorithm to approach a saddle point



Newton-Raphson method



$$\nabla f(x^k)(x^k - x^{k+1}) = f(x^k)$$

N-R iteration:
$$x^{k+1} = x^k - \left[\nabla f(x^k) \right]^{-1} f(x^k)$$



More preliminaries

- Semidefinite programs
- QCQP and semidefinite relaxations
- Partial matrices and completions
- Chordal relaxation





Convex optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & f_0(x) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

Definition

Convex optimization if

- $f_k(x)$ are *convex functions* for $k = 0, 1, \dots, K$

The feasible set \mathbf{X} is a *convex set*

Convex optimization is polynomial-time



Convex optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & f_0(x) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

Questions

- How to recognize a convex program
- How to characterize minimizers?
- How to compute a minimizer?



Convex optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & f_0(x) \\ \text{s. t.} \quad & f_k(x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

Questions

- How to recognize a convex program
 - Convex set, convex function
- How to characterize minimizers?
 - KKT condition, duality theorem
- How to compute a minimizer?
 - First-order algorithms, Newton algorithms
 - Distributed algorithms



2nd order cone program (SOCP)

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c_0^H x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|C_k x + b_k\| \leq c_k^H x + d_k \quad k \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

If c_k are complex, how to ensure $C_k^H x$ is real ?

- $C_k \in \mathbf{C}^{(n_k-1) \times n}$, $b_k \in \mathbf{C}^{n_k-1}$, $c_k \in \mathbf{C}^n$, $d_k \in \mathbf{R}$
- $\| \cdot \|$: Euclidean norm
- Feasible set is 2nd order cone and convex
- Includes LP, convex QP as special cases
- Special case of SDP, but much simpler computationally



2nd order cone program (SOCP)

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c_0^H x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|C_k x + b_k\| \leq c_k^H x + d_k \quad k \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

- $C_k \in \mathbf{R}^{(n_k-1) \times n}$, $b_k \in \mathbf{R}^{n_k-1}$, $c_k \in \mathbf{C}^n$, $d_k \in \mathbf{R}$
- $\| \cdot \|$: Euclidean norm
- Feasible set is 2nd order cone and convex
- Includes LP, convex QP as special cases
- Special case of SDP, but much simpler computationally



SOCP in rotated form

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c_0^H x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|C_k x + b_k\|^2 \leq (c_k^H x + d_k)(\hat{c}_k^H x + \hat{d}_k) \end{aligned}$$

- Useful for OPF:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c_0^H x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & C_k x = b_k \quad k \geq 1 \\ & \|w_m\|^2 \leq y_m z_m \quad m \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

- Transformation:

$$\|w\|^2 \leq yz, \quad y \geq 0, \quad z \geq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 2w \\ y - z \end{bmatrix} \right\| \leq y + z$$



Semidefinite program (SDP)

Primal:
$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i \quad \text{s. t.} \quad A_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i A_i \preceq 0$$

Linear SDP

- What is the Lagrangian?
- What is the dual problem?
- What is KKT condition?

... let's first review the case of linear program



Linear program

Primal: $\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i \quad \text{s. t.} \quad a_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i a_i \leq 0$



Linear program

Primal: $\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i \quad \text{s. t.} \quad a_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i a_i \leq 0$

Lagrangian:

$$L(x; \lambda) := \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i + \lambda \left(a_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i a_i \right), \quad \lambda \geq 0$$

$$= a_0 \lambda + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i (a_i \lambda + c_i)$$



Linear program

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i \quad \text{s. t.} \quad a_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i a_i \leq 0$$

Lagrangian:

$$L(x; \lambda) := a_0 \lambda + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i (a_i \lambda + c_i), \quad \lambda \geq 0$$

Dual:

$$\begin{aligned} D(\lambda) &:= \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda) = a_0 \lambda + \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i (a_i \lambda + c_i) \\ &= \begin{cases} a_0 \lambda & \text{if } a_i \lambda + c_i = 0 \text{ for all } i \\ -\infty & \text{else} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$



Linear program

Primal:

$$\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i \quad \text{s. t.} \quad a_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i a_i \leq 0$$

Lagrangian:

$$L(x; \lambda) := a_0 \lambda + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i (a_i \lambda + c_i), \quad \lambda \geq 0$$

Dual:

$$D(\lambda) = \begin{cases} a_0 \lambda & \text{if } a_i \lambda + c_i = 0 \text{ for all } i \\ -\infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\max_{\lambda \geq 0} a_0 \lambda \quad \text{s. t.} \quad a_i \lambda + c_i = 0 \text{ for all } i$$



Linear program

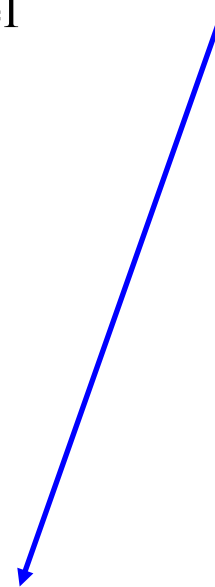
Lagrangian: $L(x; \lambda) := a_0 \lambda + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i (a_i \lambda + c_i)$

Primal: $\min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \max_{\lambda \geq 0} L(x; \lambda)$

Dual: $\max_{\lambda \geq 0} \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} L(x; \lambda)$

Complementary Slackness:

$$x_i (a_i \lambda + c_i) = 0 \quad \forall i$$





Semidefinite program (SDP)

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i \quad \text{s. t.} \quad A_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i A_i \preceq 0$$

Lagrangian: for $\Lambda \succeq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} L(x; \Lambda) &:= \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i + \text{tr} \Lambda \left(A_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i A_i \right) \\ &= \text{tr} (A_0 \Lambda) + \sum_{i=1}^n (\text{tr} (A_i \Lambda) + c_i) x_i \end{aligned}$$

$$D(\Lambda) = \begin{cases} \text{tr} (A_0 \Lambda) & \text{if } \text{tr} (A_i \Lambda) + c_i = 0 \quad \forall i \\ -\infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



Semidefinite program (SDP)

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i \quad \text{s. t.} \quad A_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i A_i \leq 0$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max_{\Lambda \geq 0} \text{tr}(A_0 \Lambda) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr}(A_i \Lambda) + c_i = 0 \quad \forall i$$

We will later use an inequality form:

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\Lambda \geq 0} \text{tr}(A_0 \Lambda) \\ & \text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr}(A_i \Lambda) \leq c_i \quad \forall i \end{aligned}$$

equivalent to equality form through slack variables



PSD cones are convex

Examples: positive semidefinite cones

- Hermitian matrices

$$\mathbf{S}^n := \left\{ A \in \mathbf{C}^{n \times n} \mid A = A^H \right\}$$

- Positive semidefinite (psd) matrices

$$\mathbf{S}_+^n := \left\{ A \in \mathbf{S}^n \mid x^H A x \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbf{C}^n \right\}$$

- Positive definite (pd) matrices

$$\mathbf{S}_{++}^n := \left\{ A \in \mathbf{S}^n \mid x^H A x > 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbf{C}^n \right\}$$



Semidefinite program (SDP)

$$\text{Primal: } \min_{x \in \mathbf{R}^n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i \quad \text{s. t.} \quad A_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i A_i \leq 0$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max_{\Lambda \geq 0} \text{tr}(A_0 \Lambda) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr}(A_i \Lambda) + c_i = 0 \quad \forall i$$

Theorem: strong duality

primal optimal value = dual optimal value



Semidefinite program (SDP)

Theorem: The following are equivalent

- (x^*, Λ^*) is primal-dual optimal
- (x^*, Λ^*) is a saddle pt of Lagrangian

$$L(x^*, \Lambda) \leq L(x^*, \Lambda^*) \leq L(x, \Lambda^*) \quad \forall \text{feasible } x, \Lambda$$

- KKT:
$$A_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^* A_i \leq 0,$$

$$\Lambda^* \geq 0, \quad \text{tr}(A_i \Lambda^*) + c_i = 0 \quad \forall i$$

$$\text{tr} \Lambda^* \left(A_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^* A_i \right) = 0$$



Mathematical preliminaries

- Semidefinite programs
- QCQP and semidefinite relaxations
- Partial matrices and completions
- Chordal relaxation





QCQP

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & x^H C_0 x \\ \text{over} & x \in \mathbf{C}^n \\ \text{s.t.} & x^H C_k x \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \end{array}$$

- $C_k, k \geq 0$, Hermitian $\Rightarrow x^H C_k x$ is real
 $b_k \in \mathbf{R}^n$
- Convex problem if all C_k are psd
Nonconvex otherwise



QCQP

$$\min \quad x^H C_0 x$$

$$\text{over} \quad x \in \mathbf{C}^n$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad x^H C_k x \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1$$

- $x^H C_k x = \text{tr} x^H C_k x = \text{tr} C_k (x x^H)$



QCQP

$$\min \quad \text{tr } C_0 (xx^H)$$

$$\text{over } x \in \mathbf{C}^n$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr } C_k (xx^H) \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1$$

- $x^H C_k x = \text{tr } x^H C_k x = \text{tr } C_k (xx^H)$



QCQP

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{tr } C_0 (xx^H) \\ \text{over} \quad & x \in \mathbf{C}^n \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \underbrace{\text{tr } C_k (xx^H)}_{X \in \mathbf{S}_+^n} \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

- $x^H C_k x = \text{tr } x^H C_k x = \text{tr } C_k (xx^H)$



QCQP

$$\min \quad \text{tr } C_0 X$$

$$\text{over } \quad X \in \mathbf{S}_+^n$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr } C_k X \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1$$

$$\text{rank } X = 1 \quad \leftarrow \text{only nonconvexity}$$

- Any solution X yields a unique x through
$$X = xx^H$$
- Feasible sets are *equivalent*



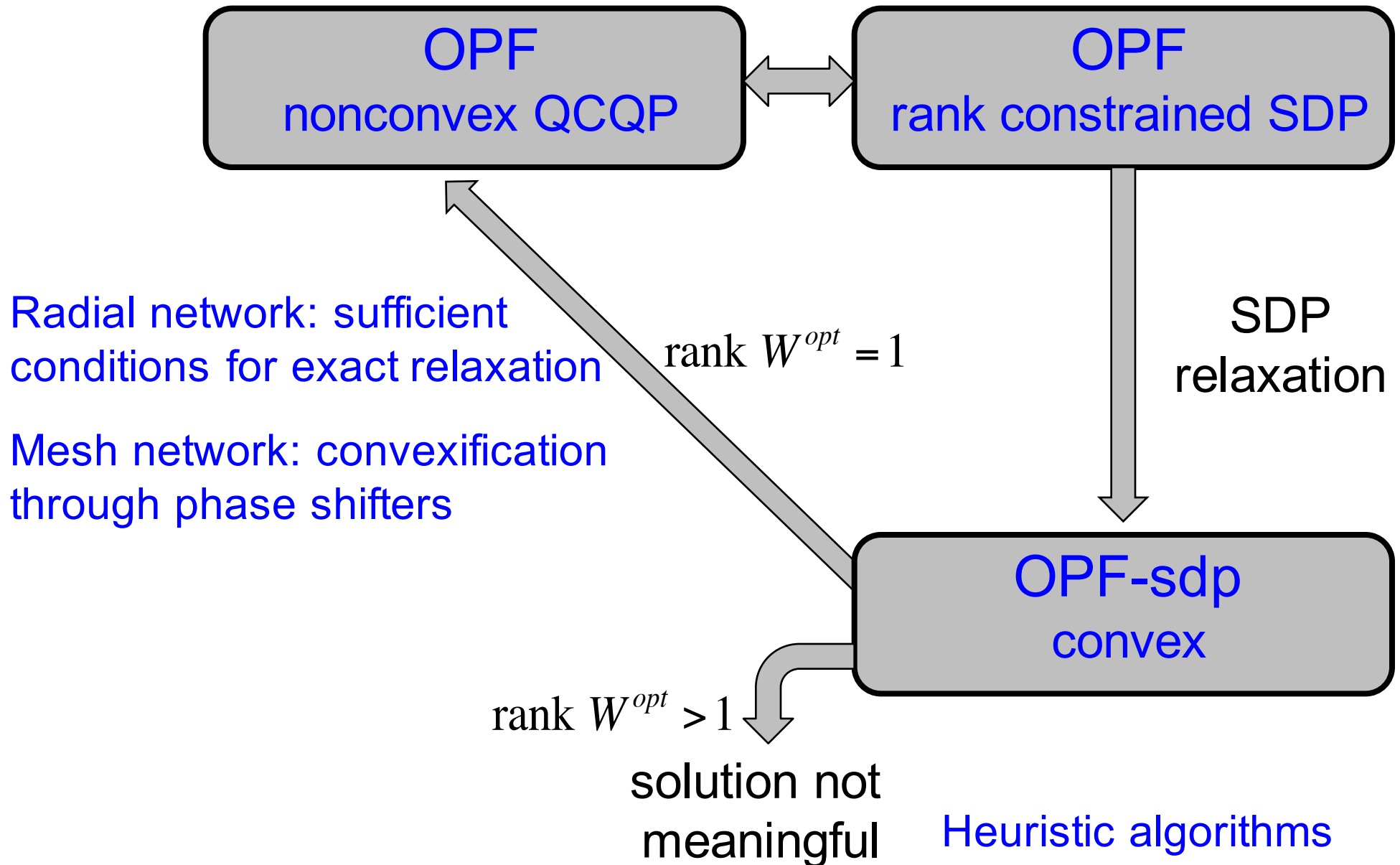
Semidefinite program (SDP)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & \text{tr } C_0 X \\ \text{s.t.} & \text{tr } C_k X \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \\ & X \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- Feasible set of QCQP is an *effective subset* of feasible set of SDP
- SDP is a *relaxation* of QCQP



Preview: solution strategy





SOCP in rotated form

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c_0^H x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|C_k x + b_k\|^2 \leq (c_k^H x + d_k)(\hat{c}_k^H x + \hat{d}_k) \end{aligned}$$

- Useful for OPF:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c_0^H x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & C_k x = b_k \quad k \geq 1 \\ & \|w_m\|^2 \leq y_m z_m \quad m \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

- Transformation:

$$\|w\|^2 \leq yz, \quad y \geq 0, \quad z \geq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 2w \\ y - z \end{bmatrix} \right\| \leq y + z$$



Recap: QCQP, SDP, SOCP

QCQP

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x^H C_0 x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x^H C_k x \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

SDP

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{tr } C_0 X \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \text{tr } C_k X \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \\ & X \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

SOCP

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c_0^H x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & C_k x = b_k \quad k \geq 1 \\ & \|w_m\|^2 \leq y_m z_m \quad m \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$



Mathematical preliminaries

- Semidefinite programs
- QCQP and semidefinite relaxations
- Partial matrices and completions
- Chordal relaxation





Graphs

Graph $G = (V, E)$

Complete graph: all node pairs adjacent

Clique: complete subgraph of G

- An edge is a clique
- *Maximal* clique: a clique that is not a subgraph of another clique

Chordal graph: all minimal cycles have length 3

- *Minimal* cycle: cycle without chord

Chordal ext: chordal graph containing G

- Every graph has a chordal extension
- Chordal extensions are not unique



Partial matrices

Fix an undirected graph $G = (V, E)$

Partial matrix X_G :

$$X_G := \left([X_G]_{jj}, j \in V, [X_G]_{jk}, (j, k) \in E \right)$$

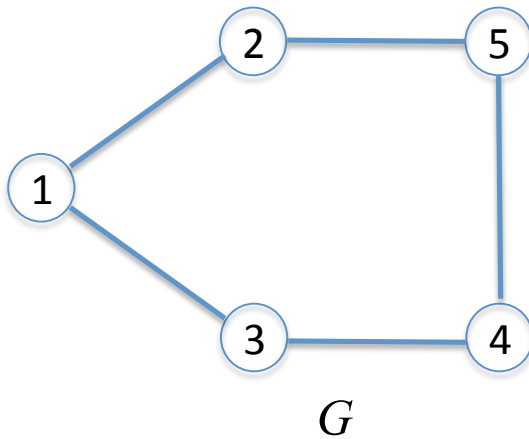
Completion X of a partial matrix X_G :

$$X = X_G \text{ on } G$$



Example

partial matrix $X_G := \{ \text{complex numbers on } G \}$



n-vertex complete graph

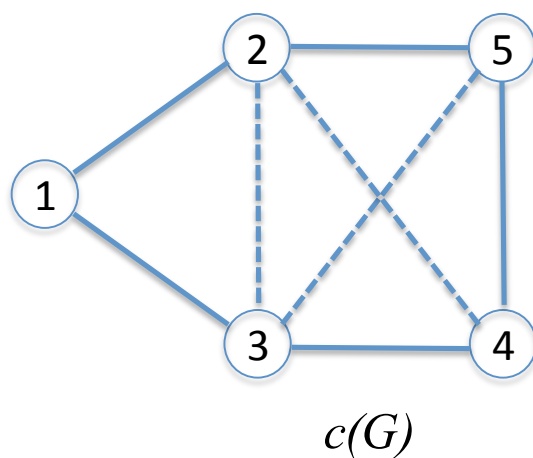
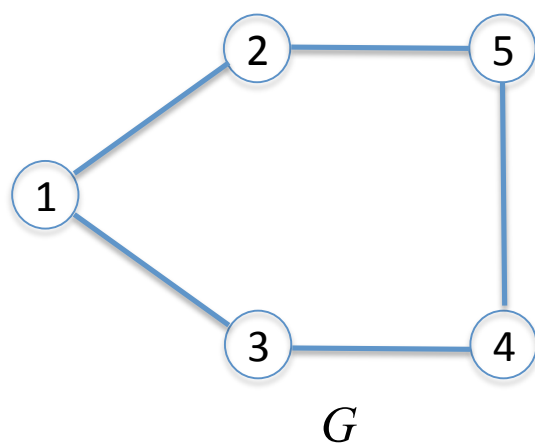
$$X_G = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} & & \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & & & x_{25} \\ x_{31} & & x_{33} & x_{34} & \\ & & x_{43} & x_{44} & x_{45} \\ & x_{52} & & x_{54} & x_{55} \end{bmatrix}$$

completion: full matrix X that agrees with X_G on G



Example

chordal ext $X_{c(G)} := \{ \text{complex numbers on } c(G) \}$



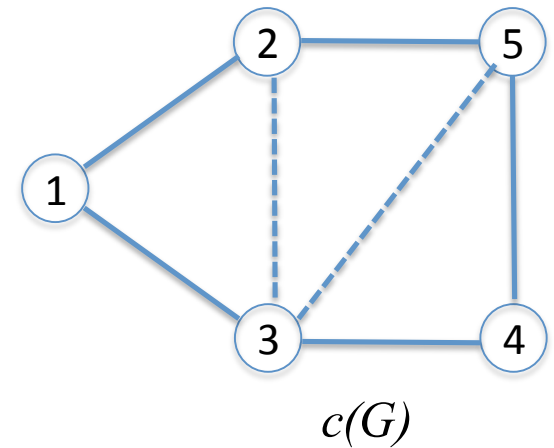
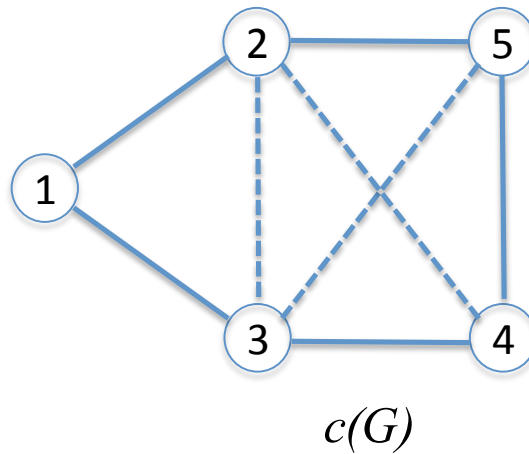
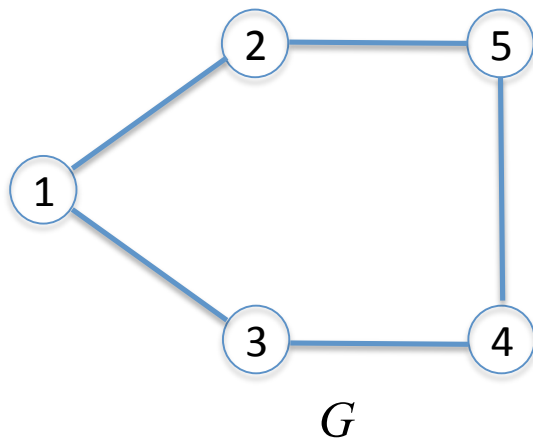
$$X_G = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} & & & \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & & & x_{25} & \\ x_{31} & & x_{33} & x_{34} & & \\ & & x_{43} & x_{44} & x_{45} & \\ & & & x_{52} & x_{54} & x_{55} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X_{c(G)} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} & & & \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & x_{23} & x_{24} & x_{25} & \\ x_{31} & x_{32} & x_{33} & x_{34} & x_{35} & \\ & x_{42} & x_{43} & x_{44} & x_{45} & \\ & x_{52} & x_{53} & x_{54} & x_{55} & \end{bmatrix}$$



Example

chordal ext $X_{c(G)} := \{ \text{complex numbers on } c(G) \}$



$$X_G = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} & & & & & & & \\ & x_{21} & x_{22} & & & & & & & x_{25} \\ & & & x_{31} & & & x_{33} & x_{34} & & & \\ & & & & & & & x_{43} & x_{44} & x_{45} & \\ & & & & & & & & x_{52} & & x_{54} & x_{55} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Partial matrices

Fix an undirected graph $G = (V, E)$

A partial matrix X_G is *psd* if

$$X_G(q) \succeq 0 \text{ for all maximal cliques } q$$

A partial matrix X_G is *rank-1* if

$$\text{rank } X_G(q) = 1 \text{ for all maximal cliques } q$$



Matrix completion

Theorem [Grone et al 1984]

Every psd partial matrix X_G has a psd completion if and only if G is chordal

□ Motivates chordal relaxation



Chordal relaxation

QCQP

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x^H C_0 x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x^H C_k x \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

SDP

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \text{tr } C_0 X \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \text{tr } C_k X \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \\ & X \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

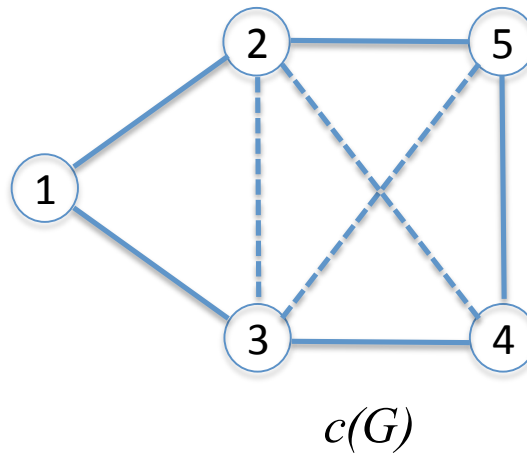
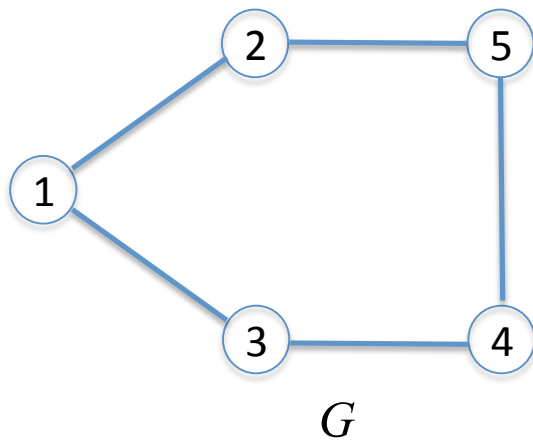
Chordal

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X_{c(G)}} \quad & \text{tr } C_0 X_G \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \text{tr } C_k X_G \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \\ & X_{c(G)} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



Example

chordal ext $X_{c(G)} := \{ \text{complex numbers on } c(G) \}$



$$X_G = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} & & \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & & & x_{25} \\ x_{31} & & x_{33} & x_{34} & \\ & & x_{43} & x_{44} & x_{45} \\ & & x_{52} & x_{54} & x_{55} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Chordal relaxation

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X_{c(G)}} \quad & \text{tr } C_0 X_G \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \text{tr } C_k X_G \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \\ & X(q_1) \geq 0, \quad X(q_2) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$X(q_1) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & x_{23} \\ x_{31} & x_{32} & x_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X(q_2) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{22} & x_{23} & x_{24} & x_{25} \\ x_{32} & x_{33} & x_{34} & x_{35} \\ x_{42} & x_{43} & x_{44} & x_{45} \\ x_{52} & x_{53} & x_{54} & x_{55} \end{bmatrix}$$



Chordal relaxation

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X_{c(G)}} \quad & \text{tr } C_0 X_G \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \text{tr } C_k X_G \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1 \\ & X'(q_1) \geq 0, \quad X(q_2) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$u_{jk} = x_{jk}, \quad j, k = 2, 3$$

$$X'(q_1) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} \\ x_{21} & u_{22} & u_{23} \\ x_{31} & u_{32} & u_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad X(q_2) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{22} & x_{23} & x_{24} & x_{25} \\ x_{32} & x_{33} & x_{34} & x_{35} \\ x_{42} & x_{43} & x_{44} & x_{45} \\ x_{52} & x_{53} & x_{54} & x_{55} \end{bmatrix}$$



Chordal relaxation

$$\min_{X_{c(G)}} \quad \text{tr } C_0' X'$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr } C_k' X' \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1$$

$$X' \geq 0$$

$$\text{tr } C_r' X' = 0 \quad r = 1, 2, 3, 4$$

$$X' = \begin{bmatrix} X'(q_1) & 0 \\ 0 & X(q_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

- This is SDP in standard form
- Size of X' and #equality constraints depend on $c(G)$



Chordal relaxation

$$\min_{X_{c(G)}} \quad \text{tr } C_0' X'$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \text{tr } C_k' X' \leq b_k \quad k \geq 1$$

$$X' \geq 0$$

$$\text{tr } C_r' X' = 0 \quad r = 1, 2, 3, 4$$

$$X' = \begin{bmatrix} X'(q_1) & 0 \\ 0 & X(q_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Simpler than SDP for sparse graph G
- Equivalent to SDP in worst case