## Convex Sets

Lijun Zhang

zlj@nju. edu. cn

http://cs. nju. edu. cn/zlj





## Outline

- Affine and Convex Sets
- □ Operations That Preserve Convexity
- ☐ Generalized Inequalities
- □ Separating and Supporting Hyperplanes
- Dual Cones and Generalized Inequalities
- □ Summary



## Outline

- Affine and Convex Sets
- Operations That Preserve Convexity
- ☐ Generalized Inequalities
- □ Separating and Supporting Hyperplanes
- Dual Cones and Generalized Inequalities
- □ Summary

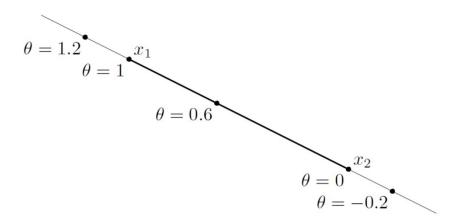


## Line

#### ☐ Lines

$$y = \theta x_1 + (1 - \theta)x_2$$
$$y = x_2 + \theta(x_1 - x_2)$$

- $\theta \in \mathbf{R}$
- $x_1 \neq x_2$
- ☐ Line segments
  - $\theta \in [0,1]$
  - $x_1 \neq x_2$





## Affine Sets (1)

#### Definition

 $\mathbb{C} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is affine, if

$$\theta x_1 + (1 - \theta)x_2 \in C$$

for any  $x_1, x_2 \in C$  and  $\theta \in \mathbf{R}$ 

#### □ Generalized form

Affine Combination

$$\theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2 + \dots + \theta_k x_k \in C$$

 $\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \cdots + \theta_k = 1$ 



## Affine Sets (2)

## Subspace

$$V = C - x_0 = \{x - x_0 | x \in C\}$$

- $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is an affine set,  $x_0 \in C$
- Subspace is closed under sums and scalar multiplication

$$\alpha v_1 + \beta v_2 \in V$$
,  $\forall v_1, v_2 \in V$ 

C can be expressed as a subspace plus an offset  $x_0 \in C$ 

$$C = V + x_0$$

Dimension of C: dimension of V



## Affine Sets (3)

■ Solution set of linear equations is affine

$$C = \{x | Ax = b\}$$

■ Suppose  $x_1, x_2 \in C$ 

$$A(\theta x_1 + (1 - \theta)x_2) = \theta Ax_1 + (1 - \theta)Ax_2$$
$$= \theta b + (1 - \theta)b$$
$$= b$$

■ Every affine set can be expressed as the solution set of a system of linear equations.



## Affine Sets (4)

#### ☐ Affine hull of set C

aff 
$$C = \{\theta_1 x_1 + \dots + \theta_k x_k \mid x_1, \dots, x_k \in C, \theta_1 + \dots + \theta_k = 1\}$$

Affine hull is the smallest affine set that contains C

#### ■ Affine dimension

- Affine dimension of a set C as the dimension of its affine hull aff C
- Consider the unit circle  $B = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 | x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1\}$ , aff B is  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . So affine dimension is 2



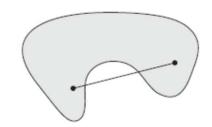
## Convex Sets (1)

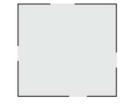
#### Convex sets

A set C is convex if for any  $x_1, x_2 \in C$ , any  $\theta \in [0,1]$ , we have

$$\theta x_1 + (1 - \theta)x_2 \in C$$







#### Generalized form

Convex combination

$$\theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2 + \dots + \theta_k x_k \in C$$

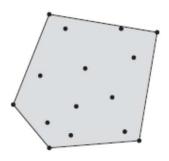
$$\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \dots + \theta_k = 1, \theta_i \ge 0, i = 1, \dots, k$$



## Convex Sets (2)

#### Convex hull

$$\operatorname{conv} C = \{\theta_1 x_1 + \dots + \theta_k x_k | \\ x_i \in C, \theta_1 + \theta_2 + \dots + \theta_k = 1, \theta_i \ge 0, i = 1, \dots, k \}$$





☐ Infinite sums, integrals

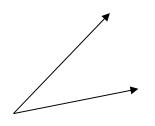
# NAVALLY OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

# Cone (1)

#### ☐ Cone

Cone is a set that

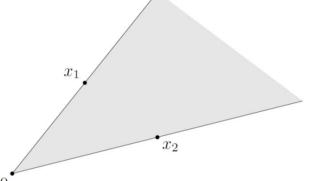
$$x \in C, \theta \ge 0 \Longrightarrow \theta x \in C$$



#### Convex cone

For any  $x_1, x_2 \in C$ ,  $\theta_1, \theta_2 \ge 0$ 

$$\theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2 \in C$$



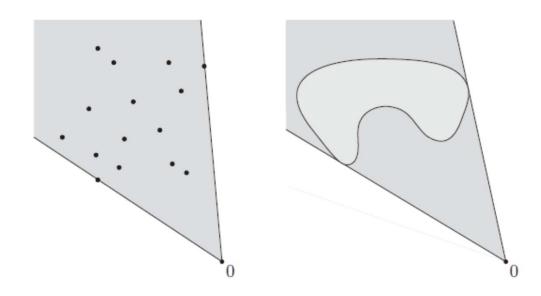
#### Conic combination

# ALLIS UNIVERSE

# Cone (2)

### ☐ Conic hull

$$\{\theta_1 x_1 + \dots + \theta_k x_k | x_i \in C, \ \theta_i \ge 0, i = 1, \dots, k\}$$





# Some Examples

- ☐ The empty set  $\emptyset$ , any single point  $\{x_0\}$ , and the whole space  $\mathbf{R}^n$  are affine (hence, convex) subsets of  $\mathbf{R}^n$
- □ Any line is affine. If it passes through zero, it is a subspace, hence also a convex cone.
- □ A line segment is convex, but not affine (unless it reduces to a point).
- □ A ray, which has the form  $\{x_0 + \theta v | \theta \ge 0\}$ , where  $v \ne 0$ , is convex, but not affine. It is a convex cone if its base  $x_0$  is 0.
- □ Any subspace is affine, and a convex cone (hence convex).



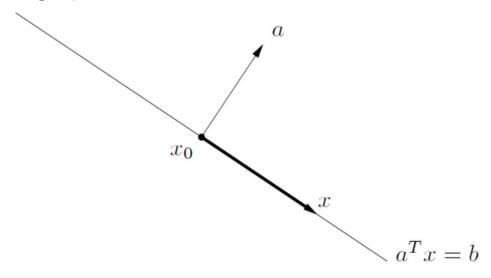
## Hyperplanes

$${x|a^{\mathsf{T}}x = b}$$

- $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $a \neq 0$  and  $b \in R$
- □ Other Forms

$$\{x | a^{\mathsf{T}}(x - x_0) = 0\}$$

 $\blacksquare$   $x_0$  is any point such that  $a^Tx_0 = b$ 





## Hyperplanes

$${x|a^{\mathsf{T}}x = b}$$

- $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $a \neq 0$  and  $b \in R$
- □ Other Forms

$$\{x | a^{\mathsf{T}}(x - x_0) = 0\}$$

 $\blacksquare$   $x_0$  is any point such that  $a^Tx_0 = b$ 

$$\{x | a^{\mathsf{T}}(x - x_0) = 0\} = x_0 + a^{\mathsf{T}}$$



## Halfspaces

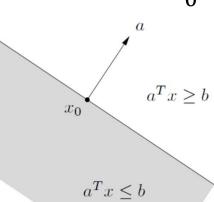
$$\{x | a^{\mathsf{T}} x \le b\}$$

- $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $a \neq 0$  and  $b \in R$
- □ Other Forms

$$\{x | a^{\mathsf{T}}(x - x_0) \le 0\}$$

 $\blacksquare$   $x_0$  is any point such that  $a^Tx_0 = b$ 

- Convex
- Not affine





## Balls

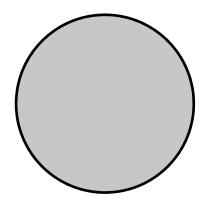
#### Definition

$$B(x_c, r) = \{x | \|x - x_c\|_2 \le r\}$$

$$= \{x | (x - x_c)^{\top} (x - x_c) \le r^2\}$$

$$= \{x_c + ru | \|u\|_2 \le 1\}$$

- ightharpoonup r > 0, and  $\|\cdot\|_2$  denotes the Euclidean norm
- Convex



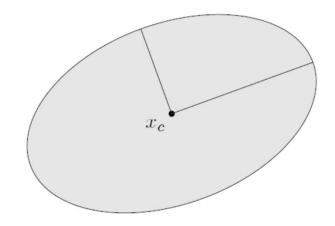


## Ellipsoids

#### Definition

$$\mathcal{E} = \{x | (x - x_c)^{\mathsf{T}} P^{-1} (x - x_c) \le 1\}$$
  
= \{x\_c + Au | ||u||\_2 \le 1\}

- $P \in \mathbf{S}_{++}^n$  determines how far the ellipsoid extends in every direction from  $x_c$ ;
- Lengths of semi-axes are  $\sqrt{\lambda_i}$
- Convex





## Norm Balls and Norm Cones

#### ■ Norm balls

$$C = \{x | ||x - x_c|| \le r\}$$

- $\blacksquare$   $\|\cdot\|$  is any norm on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x_c$  is the center
- Norm cones

$$C = \{(x, t) \mid ||x|| \le t\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$$

Second-order Cone

$$C = \{(x,t) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} | ||x||_2 \le t\}$$

$$= \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ t \end{bmatrix} \middle| \begin{bmatrix} x \\ t \end{bmatrix}^\mathsf{T} \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ t \end{bmatrix} \le 0, t \ge 0 \right\}$$

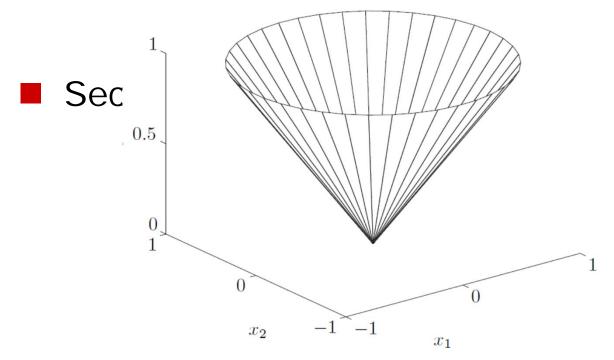


## Norm Balls and Norm Cones

■ Norm balls

$$C = \{x | ||x - x_c|| \le r\}$$

- $\blacksquare$   $\|\cdot\|$  is any norm on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x_c$  is the center
- Norm cones





# Polyhedra (1)

## Polyhedron

$$\mathcal{P} = \{x | a_j^{\mathsf{T}} x \le b_j, j = 1, \dots, m, c_j^{\mathsf{T}} x = d_j, j = 1, \dots, p\}$$

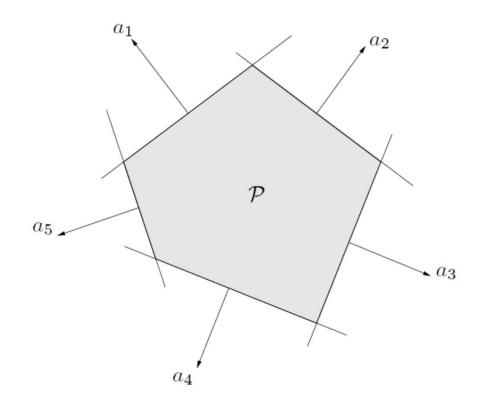
- Solution set of a finite number of linear equalities and inequalities
- Intersection of a finite number of halfspaces and hyperplanes
- Affine sets (e.g., subspaces, hyperplanes, lines), rays, line segments, and halfspaces are all polyhedra



# Polyhedra (2)

## □ Polyhedron

$$\mathcal{P} = \{x | a_j^{\mathsf{T}} x \le b_j, j = 1, \dots, m, c_j^{\mathsf{T}} x = d_j, j = 1, \dots, p\}$$





# Polyhedra (2)

## Polyhedron

$$\mathcal{P} = \{x | a_j^{\mathsf{T}} x \le b_j, j = 1, \dots, m, c_j^{\mathsf{T}} x = d_j, j = 1, \dots, p\}$$

Matrix Form

$$\mathcal{P} = \{x | Ax \le b, Cx = d\}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1^\mathsf{T} \\ \cdots \\ a_m^\mathsf{T} \end{bmatrix}, \ C = \begin{bmatrix} c_1^\mathsf{T} \\ \cdots \\ c_p^\mathsf{T} \end{bmatrix}$$

 $u \leq v$  means  $u_i \leq v_i$  for all i



# Simplexes

□ An important family of polyhedra

$$C = \operatorname{conv}\{v_0, \cdots, v_k\} = \{\theta_0 v_0 + \cdots + \theta_k v_k | \theta \geq 0, 1^{\mathsf{T}}\theta = 1\}$$

- k+1 points  $v_0, \dots, v_k$  are affinely independent
- $\blacksquare$  The affine dimension of this simplex is k
- ☐ 1-dimensional simplex: line segment
- ☐ 2-dimensional simplex: triangle
- □ Unit simplex:  $x \ge 0, 1^T x \le 1$ 
  - n-dimensional
- $\square$  Probability simplex:  $x \ge 0, 1^T x = 1$ 
  - $\blacksquare$  (n-1)-dimensional

# The positive semidefinite cone

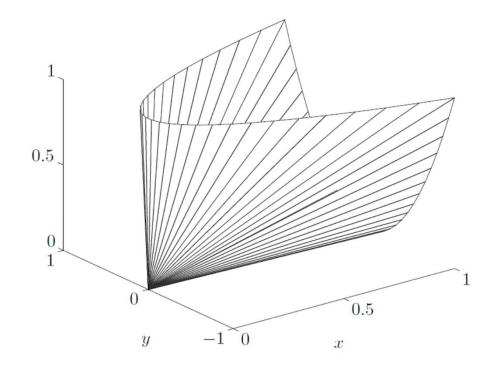
- $\square$   $S^n = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} | X = X^T \}$  is the set of symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices
  - Vector space with dimension n(n+1)/2
- $Arr S_+^n = \{X \in \mathbf{S}^n | X \ge 0\}$  is the set of symmetric positive semidefinite matrices
  - Convex cone
- $\square$   $\mathbf{S}_{++}^n = \{X \in \mathbf{S}^n | X > 0\}$  is the set of symmetric positive definite

# NANLING UNITHE

# The positive semidefinite cone

#### $\square$ PSD Cone in $\mathbb{S}^2$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ y & z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{S}_{+}^{2} \iff x \ge 0, z \ge 0, xz \ge y^{2}$$





## **Outline**

- Affine and Convex Sets
- ☐ Operations That Preserve Convexity
- ☐ Generalized Inequalities
- □ Separating and Supporting Hyperplanes
- Dual Cones and Generalized Inequalities
- Summary



## Intersection

- ☐ If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are convex, then  $S_1 \cap S_2$  is convex
  - □ A polyhedron is the intersection of halfspaces and hyperplanes
- □ if  $S_{\alpha}$  is convex for every  $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$ , then  $\cap_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} S_{\alpha}$  is convex
  - Positive semidefinite cone

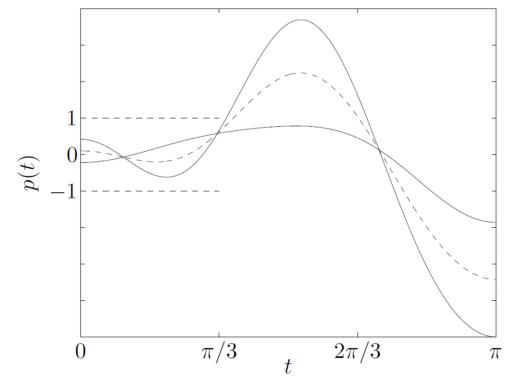
$$\mathbf{S}_{+}^{n} = \bigcap_{z \neq 0} \{ X \in \mathbf{S}^{n} | z^{\mathsf{T}} X z \ge 0 \}$$



# A Complicated Example (1)

$$S = \left\{ x \in \mathbf{R}^m || p(t)| \le 1 \text{ for } |t| \le \frac{\pi}{3} \right\}$$

 $p(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{m} x_k \cos kt$ 





# A Complicated Example (2)

$$S = \left\{ x \in \mathbf{R}^m || p(t)| \le 1 \text{ for } |t| \le \frac{\pi}{3} \right\}$$

 $p(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{m} x_k \cos kt$ 

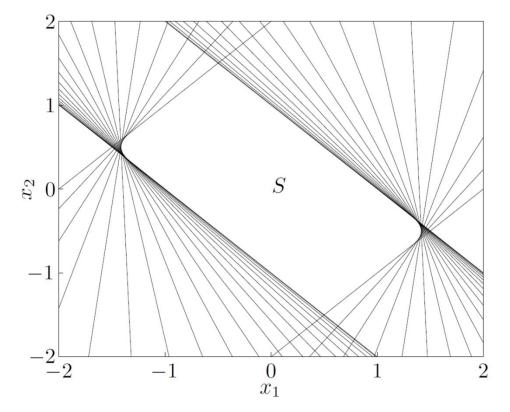
$$S = \bigcap_{|t| \le \pi/3} S_t$$

 $S_t = \{x | -1 \le (\cos t, ..., \cos mt)^{\mathsf{T}} x \le 1\}$ 



# A Complicated Example (3)

$$S = \bigcap_{|t| \le \pi/3} S_t = \bigcap_{|t| \le \pi/3} \{x | -1 \le (\cos t, ..., \cos mt)^{\mathsf{T}} x \le 1\}$$





## **Affine Functions**

 $\square$  Affine function  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$ 

$$f(x) = Ax + b, A \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbf{R}^m$$

 $\square S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is convex

 $\square$  Then, the image of S under f

$$f(S) = \{ f(x) \mid x \in S \}$$

and the inverse image of S under f

$$f^{-1}(S) = \{x | f(x) \in S\}$$

are convex



## Examples (1)

□ Scaling

$$\alpha S = \{\alpha x \mid x \in S\}$$

□ Translation

$$S + a = \{x + a \mid x \in S\}$$

Projection of a convex set onto some of its coordinates

$$T = \{x_1 \in \mathbf{R}^m | (x_1, x_2) \in S \text{ for some } x_2 \in \mathbf{R}^n \}$$

 $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$  is convex



# Examples (2)

#### ■ Sum of two sets

$$S_1 + S_2 = \{x + y | x \in S_1, y \in S_2\}$$

- Cartesian product:  $S_1 \times S_2 = \{(x_1, x_2) | x_1 \in S_1, x_2 \in S_2\}$
- Linear function:  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2$
- $\square$  Partial sum of  $S_1, S_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m$

$$S = \{(x, y_1 + y_2) | (x, y_1) \in S_1, (x, y_2) \in S_2\}$$

- $\blacksquare$  m=0, intersection of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$
- = n = 0, set addition



# Examples (3)

## □ Polyhedron

$${x|Ax \le b, Cx = d} = {x|f(x) \in \mathbf{R}_+^m \times {0}}$$

$$f(x) = (b - Ax, d - Cx)$$

## □ Linear Matrix Inequality

$$A(x) = x_1 A_1 + \dots + x_n A_n \le B$$

■ The solution set  $\{x | A(x) \le B\}$ 

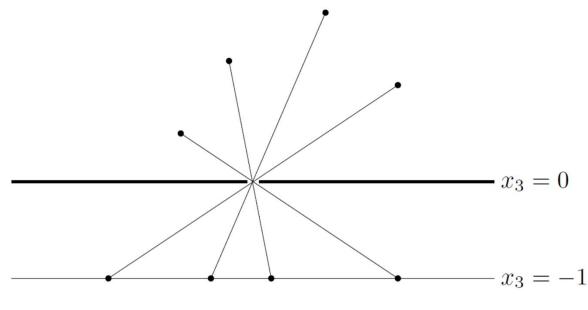
$$\{x|A(x) \le B\} = \{x|B - A(x) \in \mathbf{S}_{+}^{m}\}\$$



# Perspective Functions (1)

 $\square$  Perspective function  $P: \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \to \mathbb{R}^n$ 

$$P(z,t) = \frac{z}{t}, \text{dom } P = \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}_{++}$$



$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) \mapsto -(x_1/x_3, x_2/x_3, 1)$$



## Perspective Functions (2)

 $\square$  Perspective function  $P: \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \to \mathbb{R}^n$ 

$$P(z,t) = \frac{z}{t}$$
, dom  $P = \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}_{++}$ 

 $\square$  If  $C \subseteq \text{dom } P$  is convex, then its image

$$P(C) = \{P(x) | x \in C\}$$

is convex

 $\square$  If  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is convex, the inverse image

$$P^{-1}(C) = \left\{ (x, t) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} \middle| \frac{x}{t} \in C, t > 0 \right\}$$

is convex



## Linear-fractional Functions (1)

 $\square$  Suppose  $g: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^{m+1}$  is affine

$$g(x) = \begin{bmatrix} A \\ c^{\mathsf{T}} \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} b \\ d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Ax + b \\ c^{\mathsf{T}}x + d \end{bmatrix}$$

□ The function  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$  given by  $P \circ g$ 

$$f(x) = \frac{Ax + b}{c^{\mathsf{T}}x + d}, \text{dom } f = \{c^{\mathsf{T}}x + d > 0\}$$



## Linear-fractional Functions (2)

□ If C is convex and  $\{c^{\mathsf{T}}x + d > 0 \text{ for } x \in C\}$ , then

$$f(C) = \left\{ \frac{Ax + b}{c^{\mathsf{T}}x + d} \middle| x \in C \right\}$$

is convex

□ If  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  is convex, then the inverse image

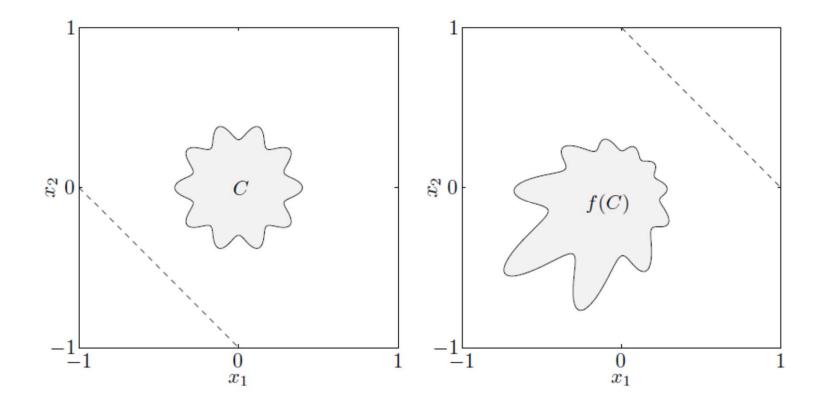
$$f^{-1}(C) = \left\{ x \middle| \frac{Ax + b}{c^{\mathsf{T}}x + d} \in C \right\}$$

is convex



## Example

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x_1 + x_2 + 1} x, \text{dom } f = \{(x_1, x_2) | x_1 + x_2 + 1 > 0\}$$





#### **Outline**

- Affine and Convex Sets
- Operations That Preserve Convexity
- ☐ Generalized Inequalities
- Separating and Supporting Hyperplanes
- Dual Cones and Generalized Inequalities
- Summary



### Proper Cones

- $\square$  A cone  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is called a proper cone if it satisfies the following
  - $\blacksquare$  K is convex.
  - $\blacksquare$  K is closed.
  - K is solid, which means it has nonempty interior.
  - K is pointed, which means that it contains no line  $(x \in K, -x \in K \Longrightarrow x = 0)$ .
- ☐ A proper cone *K* can be used to define a generalized inequality



### Generalized Inequalities

 $\square$  We associate with the proper cone K the partial ordering on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  defined by

$$x \leq_K y \iff y - x \in K$$

We define an associated strict partial ordering by

$$x \prec_K y \iff y - x \in \text{int } K$$



### Examples

- Nonnegative Orthant and Componentwise Inequality
  - $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{R}_{+}^{n}$
  - $\blacksquare$   $x \leq_K y$  means that  $x_i \leq y_i, i = 1, ..., n$ .
  - $\blacksquare$   $x \prec_K y$  means that  $x_i < y_i, i = 1, ..., n$ .
- Positive Semidefinite Cone and Matrix Inequality
  - $K = \mathbf{S}_{+}^{n}$
  - $X \leq_K Y$  means that Y X is PSD
  - $\blacksquare$   $X \prec_K Y$  means that Y X is positive definite

## Properties of Generalized Inequalities



- $\square \leq_K$  is preserved under addition: If  $x \leq_K y$  and  $u \leq_K v$ , then  $x + u \leq_K y + v$ .
- $\square \leqslant_K$  is transitive: if  $x \leqslant_K y$  and  $y \leqslant_K z$ , then  $x \leqslant_K z$ .
- $\square \leq_K$  is preserved under nonnegative scaling: if  $x \leq_K y$  and  $\alpha \geq 0$  then  $\alpha x \leq_K \alpha y$ .
- $\square \leq_K$  is reflexive:  $x \leq_K x$ .
- $\square \leqslant_K$  is antisymmetric: if  $x \leqslant_K y$  and  $y \leqslant_K x$ , then x = y.
- $\square \leqslant_K$  is preserved under limits: if  $x_i \leqslant_K y_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, ..., x_i \to x$  and  $y_i \to y$  as  $i \to \infty$ , then  $x \leqslant_K y$ .

# Properties of Strict Generalized Inequalities

- $\square$  If  $x \prec_K y$  then  $x \leqslant_K y$ .
- $\square$  If  $x \prec_K y$  and  $\alpha > 0$  then  $\alpha x \prec_K \alpha y$ .
- $\square x \lessdot_K x$ .
- $\square$  If  $x \prec_K y$ , then for u and v small enough,  $x + u \prec_K y + v$ .

#### Minimum and Minimal Elements

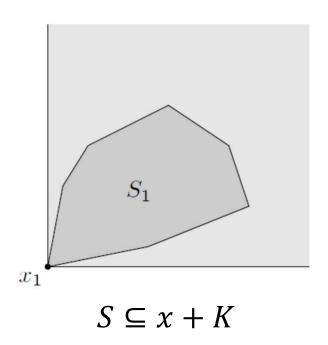
- $\square x \in S$  is the minimum element
  - If for every  $y \in S$ , we have  $x \leq_K y$
  - $S \subseteq x + K$
  - Minimum element is unique, if exists
- $\square x \in S$  is a minimal element
  - $\blacksquare \text{ if } y \in S, \ y \leqslant_K x \text{ only if } y = x$
  - $(x K) \cap S = \{x\}$
  - May have different minimal elements
- Maximum, Maximal



## Example

#### $\square$ The Cone $\mathbb{R}^2_+$

 $x \le y$  means y is above and to the right of x



$$(x - K) \cap S = \{x\}$$

$$S_2$$

$$x_2$$



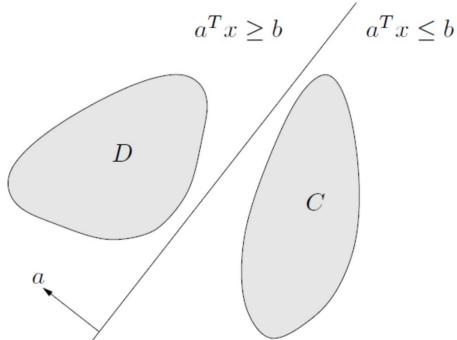
#### **Outline**

- Affine and Convex Sets
- Operations That Preserve Convexity
- ☐ Generalized Inequalities
- □ Separating and Supporting Hyperplanes
- Dual Cones and Generalized Inequalities
- Summary

## Separating Hyperplane Theorem



□ Suppose C and D are nonempty disjoint convex sets, i.e.,  $C \cap D = \emptyset$ . Then, there exist  $a \neq 0$  and b such that



## Separating Hyperplane Theorem

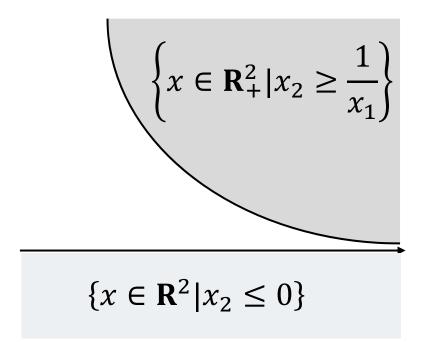


- □ Suppose C and D are nonempty disjoint convex sets, i.e.,  $C \cap D = \emptyset$ . Then, there exist  $a \neq 0$  and b such that  $a^{T}x \leq b$  for all  $x \in C$  and  $a^{T}x \geq b$  for all  $x \in D$ .
- $\square$  { $x | a^T x = b$ } is called a separating hyperplane for the sets C and D.



## Strict Separation

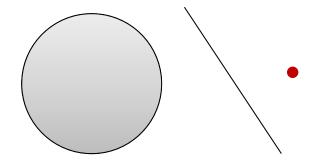
- $\Box$   $a^{\mathsf{T}}x < b$  for all  $x \in C$  and  $a^{\mathsf{T}}x > b$  for all  $x \in D$
- May not be possible in general





## Strict Separation

- $\Box$   $a^{\mathsf{T}}x < b$  for all  $x \in C$  and  $a^{\mathsf{T}}x > b$  for all  $x \in D$
- May not be possible in general
- A Point and a Closed Convex Set

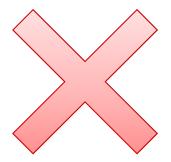


A closed convex set is the intersection of all halfspaces that contain it

# Converse separating hyperplane theorems



Suppose *C* and *D* are convex sets, and there exists an affine function *f* that is nonpositive on *C* and nonnegative on *D*. Then *C* and *D* are disjoint.



# Converse separating hyperplane theorems



- □ Suppose *C* and *D* are convex sets, with *C* open, and there exists an affine function *f* that is nonpositive on *C* and nonnegative on *D*. Then *C* and *D* are disjoint.
- $\square$  Any two convex sets  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ , at least one of which is open, are disjoint if and only if there exists a separating hyperplane.

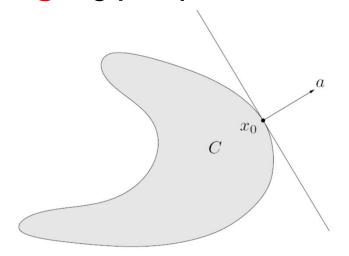


### Supporting Hyperplanes

□ Suppose  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $x_0$  is a point in its boundary bd C, i.e.,

$$x_0 \in \text{bd } C = \text{cl } C \setminus \text{int } C$$

☐ If  $a \neq 0$  satisfies  $a^{\mathsf{T}}x \leq a^{\mathsf{T}}x_0$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{C}$ . The hyperplane  $\{x | a^{\mathsf{T}}x = a^{\mathsf{T}}x_0\}$  is called a supporting hyperplane to  $\mathcal{C}$  at the point  $x_0$ 





### Supporting Hyperplanes

□ Suppose  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $x_0$  is a point in its boundary bd C, i.e.,

$$x_0 \in \text{bd } C = \text{cl } C \setminus \text{int } C$$

- ☐ If  $a \neq 0$  satisfies  $a^{\mathsf{T}}x \leq a^{\mathsf{T}}x_0$  for all  $x \in C$ . The hyperplane  $\{x | a^{\mathsf{T}}x = a^{\mathsf{T}}x_0\}$  is called a supporting hyperplane to C at the point  $x_0$ 
  - The point  $x_0$  and the set C are separated by the hyperplane  $\{x | a^{\mathsf{T}}x = a^{\mathsf{T}}x_0\}$
  - The hyperplane  $\{x|a^{\mathsf{T}}x=a^{\mathsf{T}}x_0\}$  is tangent to C at  $x_0$ , and the halfspace  $\{x|a^{\mathsf{T}}x\leq a^{\mathsf{T}}x_0\}$  contains C



#### Two Theorems

#### Supporting Hyperplane Theorem

For any nonempty convex set C, and any  $x_0 \in \operatorname{bd} C$ , there exists a supporting hyperplane to C at  $x_0$ .

#### Converse Theorem

If a set is closed, has nonempty interior, and has a supporting hyperplane at every point in its boundary, then it is convex.



#### **Outline**

- Affine and Convex Sets
- Operations That Preserve Convexity
- ☐ Generalized Inequalities
- □ Separating and Supporting Hyperplanes
- □ Dual Cones and Generalized Inequalities
- Summary

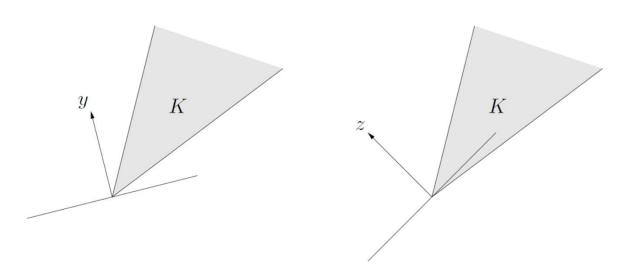


#### **Dual Cone**

#### □ Dual Cone of a Given Cone *K*

$$K^* = \{y | x^\top y \ge 0 \text{ for all } x \in K\}$$

- $\blacksquare$   $K^*$  is convex, even when K is not
- $y \in K^*$  if and only if -y is the normal of a hyperplane that supports K at the origin





### Examples

#### ■ Subspace

The dual cone of a subspace  $V \in \mathbf{R}^n$  $V^{\perp} = \{y | v^{\top}y = 0 \text{ for all } v \in V\}$ 

#### ■ Nonnegative Orthant

The cone  $\mathbf{R}^n_+$  is its own dual  $x^{\mathsf{T}}y \geq 0$  for all  $x \geq 0 \iff y \geq 0$ 

#### Positive Semidefinite Cone

■  $\mathbf{S}_{+}^{n}$  is self-dual  $\operatorname{tr}(XY) \geq 0$  for all  $X \geq 0 \iff Y \geq 0$ 



### Properties of Dual Cone

- $\square$   $K^*$  is closed and convex.
- $\square$   $K_1 \subseteq K_2$  implies  $K_2^* \subseteq K_1^*$
- $\square$  If K has nonempty interior, then  $K^*$  is pointed.
- ☐ If the closure of K is pointed then  $K^*$  has nonempty interior.
- $\square$   $K^{**}$  is the closure of the convex hull of K. (Hence if K is convex and closed,  $K^{**} = K$ .)



## Dual Generalized Inequalities

- □ Suppose that the convex cone K is proper, so it induces a generalized inequality  $\leq_K$ .
- ☐ Its dual cone  $K^*$  is also proper. We refer to the generalized inequality  $\leq_{K^*}$  as the dual of the generalized inequality  $\leq_{K^*}$ .



## Dual Generalized Inequalities

- □ Suppose that the convex cone K is proper, so it induces a generalized inequality  $\leq_K$ .
- ☐ Its dual cone  $K^*$  is also proper. We refer to the generalized inequality  $\leq_{K^*}$  as the dual of the generalized inequality  $\leq_{K^*}$ .
  - $\blacksquare x \leq_K y$  if and only if  $\lambda^\top x \leq \lambda^\top y$  for all  $\lambda \geqslant_{K^*} 0$

$$x \leq_{K} y \Rightarrow y - x \in K$$

$$\lambda \geq_{K^{*}} 0 \Rightarrow \lambda \in K^{*}$$

$$\lambda^{\top}(y - x) \geq 0$$

$$K^{*} = \{y | x^{\top}y \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \in K\}$$



## Dual Generalized Inequalities

- □ Suppose that the convex cone K is proper, so it induces a generalized inequality  $\leq_K$ .
- □ Its dual cone  $K^*$  is also proper. We refer to the generalized inequality  $\leq_{K^*}$  as the dual of the generalized inequality  $\leq_{K^*}$ .
  - $\blacksquare x \leq_K y$  if and only if  $\lambda^\top x \leq \lambda^\top y$  for all  $\lambda \geqslant_{K^*} 0$
  - $x \prec_K y \text{ if and only if } \lambda^\top x < \lambda^\top y \text{ for all } \lambda \geqslant_{K^*} 0, \\ \lambda \neq 0$
  - These properties hold if the generalized inequality and its dual are swapped

## Dual Characterization of Minimum Element



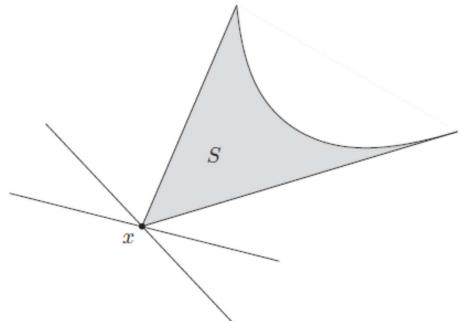
- $\square$  x is the minimum element of S, with respect to the generalized inequality  $\leq_K$ , if and only if for all  $\lambda \succ_{K^*} 0$ , x is the unique minimizer of  $\lambda^T z$  over  $z \in S$ .
- □ That means, for any  $\lambda \succ_{K^*} 0$ , the hyperplane  $\{z \mid \lambda^{\mathsf{T}}(z x) = 0\}$  is a strict supporting hyperplane to S at x.

$$\lambda^{\mathsf{T}}z \ge \lambda^{\mathsf{T}}x \Leftrightarrow -\lambda^{\mathsf{T}}z \le -\lambda^{\mathsf{T}}x, \quad \forall z \in S$$

## Dual Characterization of Minimum Element



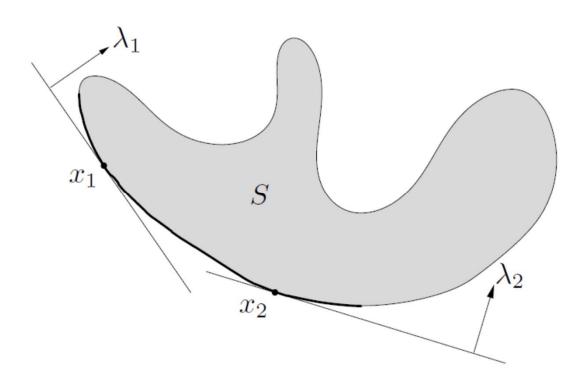
 $\square$  x is the minimum element of S, with respect to the generalized inequality  $\leq_K$ , if and only if for all  $\lambda \succ_{K^*} 0$ , x is the unique minimizer of  $\lambda^T z$  over  $z \in S$ .



# Dual Characterization of Minimal Elements (1)



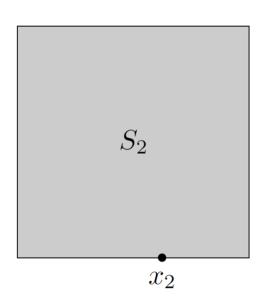
□ If  $\lambda \succ_{K^*} 0$ , and x minimizes  $\lambda^T z$  over  $z \in S$ , then x is minimal.



# Dual Characterization of Minimal Elements (1)



□ Any minimizer of  $\lambda^T z$  over  $z \in S$ , with  $\lambda \geq_{K^*} 0$ , is minimal.

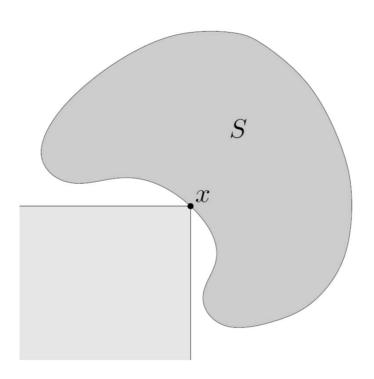


 $x_2$  minimizes  $\lambda^T z$  over  $z \in S_2$  for  $\lambda = (0,1) \ge 0$ 

# Dual Characterization of Minimal Elements (2)



□ If *x* is minimal, then *x* minimizes  $\lambda^T z$  over  $z \in S$  with  $\lambda \succ_{K^*} 0$ .

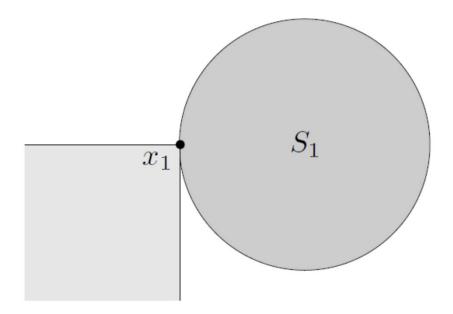


## Dual Characterization of Minimal Elements (2)



If *S* is convex, for any minimal element *x* there exists a nonzero  $\lambda \geq_{K^*} 0$  such that *x* minimizes  $\lambda^T z$  over

 $z \in S$ .

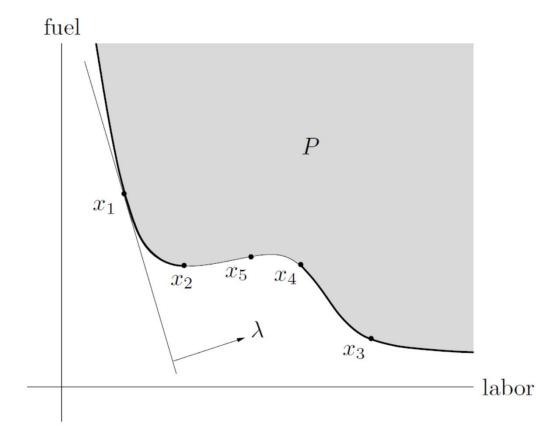


 $x_1$  minimizes  $\lambda^T z$  over  $z \in S_1$  for  $\lambda = (1,0) \ge 0$ 

## Pareto Optimal Production Frontier



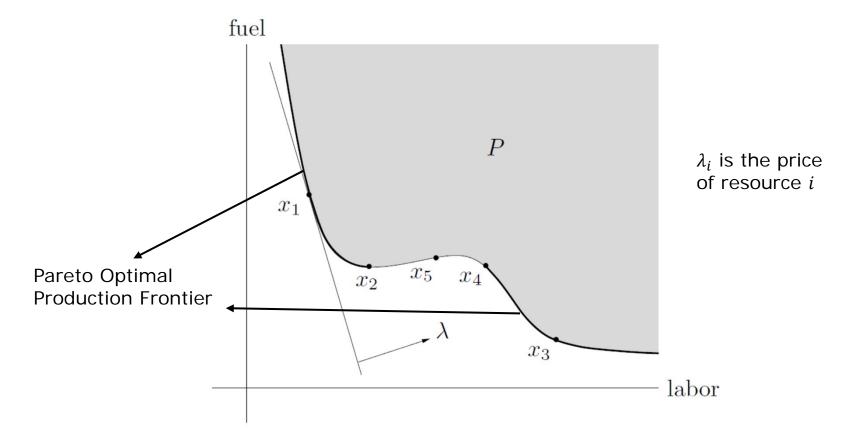
- $\square$  A product which requires n sources
- $\square$  A resource vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$



## Pareto Optimal Production Frontier



- $\square$  A product which requires n sources
- $\square$  A resource vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$





#### **Outline**

- Affine and Convex Sets
- Operations That Preserve Convexity
- □ Generalized Inequalities
- Separating and Supporting Hyperplanes
- Dual Cones and Generalized Inequalities
- □ Summary



## Summary

- Affine and convex
- Operations that preserve convexity
- ☐ Generalized Inequalities
- Separating and supporting hyperplanes
  - Theorems
- Dual cones and generalized inequalities