

# In Progress: Summary of Notation and Basic Results

## Convex Analysis C&O 663, Fall 2009

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### Abstract

This contains a list of definitions/hyperlinks and basic results in Convex Analysis. Please notify the instructor about any errors and/or missing content.

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# 1 Euclidean Spaces, Linear Manifolds, Hyperplanes

**Definition 1.1** A Euclidean space  $\mathbb{E}$  is a finite dimensional vector space over the reals,  $\mathbb{R}$ , equipped with an inner product,  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ .

Definitions and basic results on the following well know results are available at e.g. wikipedia. Hyperlinks are provided for several of them here:  
linear manifold, polyhedral set/polyhedron, Minkowski-Weyl Theorem, hyperplanes and halfspaces, affine hull, span, linear transformation, adjoint, relative interior, closure, boundary, Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem.

## 1.1 Basics for Background

- **Unit ball in  $\mathbb{E}$ .**  $B = \{x \in \mathbb{E} : \|x\| \leq 1\}$
- **Open set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .**  $\forall x \in S, \exists \delta > 0, \{x\} + \delta B \subseteq S$
- **Interior of  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .**  $\text{int}(S) = \{x \in \mathbb{E} : \{x\} + \delta B \subseteq S \text{ for some } \delta > 0\} = \text{union of all open sets contained in } S$
- **Closed set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .**  $\forall x \notin S, \exists \delta > 0, (\{x\} + \delta B) \cap S = \emptyset$
- **Closure of  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .**  $\text{cl}(S) = \{x \in \mathbb{E} : \forall \delta > 0, (\{x\} + \delta B) \cap S \neq \emptyset\} = \text{intersection of all closed sets containing } S$
- **Linear subspace  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .**  $\forall x, y \in S, \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda x + \mu y \in S$
- **Linear function  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$ .**  $\forall x, y \in \text{dom}(f), \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}, f(\lambda x + \mu y) = \lambda f(x) + \mu f(y)$
- **Lower semicontinuous function  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$  at  $x$ .**  $\liminf_{y \rightarrow x} f(y) \geq f(x)$
- **Linear map  $L : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$ .**  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{E}, \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}, L(\lambda x + \mu y) = \lambda L(x) + \mu L(y)$
- **Adjoint of linear map  $A : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$ .** Linear map  $A^{\text{adj}} : \mathbb{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$  satisfying  $\forall x \in \mathbb{E}, \forall y \in \mathbb{Y}, \langle A^{\text{adj}} y, x \rangle_{\mathbb{E}} = \langle y, Ax \rangle_{\mathbb{Y}}$
- **Affine subspace  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .** (1)  $\forall x, y \in S, \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y \in S$   
(2)  $S = V + \{x\}$  for some linear subspace  $V$  and vector  $x$

- **Affine function**  $a : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$ . (1)  $\forall x, y \in \text{dom}(a), \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, a(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) = \lambda a(x) + (1 - \lambda)a(y)$   
(2)  $a : x \mapsto f(x) + r$  for some linear function  $f$  and real number  $r$
- **Affine map**  $A : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$ . (1)  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{E}, \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, A(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) = \lambda A(x) + (1 - \lambda)A(y)$   
(2)  $A : x \mapsto L(x) + b$  for some linear map  $L$  and vector  $b$
- **Affine hull of**  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .  $\text{Af}(S) = \{\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y : x, y \in S, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}\}$  = intersection of all affine subspaces containing  $S$
- **Cone**  $K \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .  $\forall x \in K, \forall \lambda > 0, \lambda x \in K$
- **Positively-homogeneous function**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ . (1)  $\forall x \in \mathbb{E}, \forall \lambda > 0, f(\lambda x) = \lambda f(x)$   
(2)  $\text{epi}(f)$  is a cone
- **Relatively open set**  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .  $\forall x \in S, \exists \delta > 0, (\{x\} + \delta B) \cap \text{Af}(S) \subseteq S$
- **Relative interior of**  $S$ .  $\text{ri}(S) = \{x \in \text{Af}(S) : (\{x\} + \delta B) \cap \text{Af}(S) \subseteq S \text{ for some } \delta > 0\}$
- **Domain of**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .  $\text{dom}(f) = \{x \in \mathbb{E} : f(x) < +\infty\}$
- **Proper function**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .  $\text{dom}(f) \neq \emptyset$  and  $f(x) > -\infty$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{E}$
- **Epigraph of**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .  $\text{epi}(f) = \{(x, r) \in \mathbb{E} \oplus \mathbb{R} : f(x) \leq r\}$
- **Sub-level set of**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$  **at level**  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ .  $S_r(f) = \{x \in \mathbb{E} : f(x) \leq r\}$
- **Closure of**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .  $\text{cl}(f) : x \in \mathbb{E} \mapsto \liminf_{y \rightarrow x} f(y)$
- **Infimum convolution of**  $f, g : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$ .  $f \odot g : x \in \mathbb{E} \mapsto \inf\{f(y) + g(x - y)\}$
- **Indicator function of**  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .  $\delta_S : x \in \mathbb{E} \mapsto 0 \text{ if } x \in S, +\infty \text{ otherwise}$

## 2 Convex Sets and Functions

### 2.1 Convex Sets

**Definition 2.1** *The set  $S \subset \mathbb{E}$  is a convex set if*

$$\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y \in S, \forall \lambda \in (0, 1), \forall x, y \in S.$$

**Proposition 2.2** *For a nonempty convex set  $C$ :*

1. *We have  $\text{relint } C \neq \emptyset$  and the affine hulls  $\text{aff } C = \text{aff relint } (C)$ . Moreover, for any  $x \in \text{relint } C$  and  $y \in \text{cl } C$ , the line segment  $[x, y) \subset \text{relint } C$  and thus  $\text{relint } C$  is convex. Furthermore,*

$$\text{cl } C = \text{cl relint } C, \quad \text{relint } C = \text{relint cl } C.$$

2.  $\text{relint } C \subset C \subset \text{cl } C$ .

**Include definitions and basic results on:** Basic (strong, strict) separation theorems; convex hull; convex combination, recession cones, Caratheodory Theorem.

## 2.2 Convex Functions

**Definition 2.3** The epigraph of a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$  is defined as

$$\text{epi}(f) = \{(x, r) : f(x) \leq r\}.$$

**Definition 2.4** The function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$  is a convex function if

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y), \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n, \forall \lambda \in [0, 1].$$

**Definition 2.5** The convex hull or convex envelope of a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined as

$$\text{conv}(f)(x) = \inf\{t : (x, t) \in \text{conv} \text{epi } f\}.$$

**Proposition 2.6** A convex function  $f$  is locally Lipschitz on the interior of its domain.

**Include definitions and basic results on:** composing convex functions, convex growth conditions, locally Lipschitz

## 2.3 Basics for Convex Functions and Convex Sets

- **Convex set.**  $\forall x, y \in S, \forall \lambda \in (0, 1), \lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y \in S$
- **Convex function**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .  $\text{epi}(f)$  is convex; note that  $f$  is a *proper convex function* if its domain is nonempty and it does not take on the value  $-\infty$ .
- **Sublinear function**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .  $f$  is positively-homogeneous and convex
- **Subadditive function**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .  $\forall x, y \in \text{dom}(f), f(x + y) \leq f(x) + f(y)$
- **Convex hull of**  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .  $\text{conv}(S) = \{\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y : x, y \in S, \lambda \in (0, 1)\}$
- **Convex hull of**  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .  $\text{conv}(f) : x \mapsto \inf\{r : (x, r) \in \text{conv}(\text{epi}(f))\}$
- **Locally Lipschitz**  $f$  at  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$ .  $\exists K > 0, \exists \delta > 0, \forall y, z \in \{x\} + \delta B, |f(y) - f(z)| \leq K\|y - z\|$

## 3 Duality of Functions and Sets

### 3.1 Conjugate, Positively Homogeneous, Sublinear Functions

**Definition 3.1** The Fenchel conjugate of  $h : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$  is

$$h^*(\phi) := \sup_{x \in \mathbb{E}} \{\langle \phi, x \rangle - h(x)\}.$$

**Proposition 3.2** 1.  $f \geq g \Rightarrow f^* \leq g^*$

## 3.2 Indicator Functions, Support Functions and Sets, Closures

**Definition 3.3** The indicator function of a set  $S \subset \mathbb{E}$  is

$$\delta_S(x) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in S \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Definition 3.4** The support function of a set  $S \subset \mathbb{E}$  is

$$\sigma_S(\phi) := \sup_{x \in S} \{\langle \phi, x \rangle\}.$$

**Definition 3.5** A function  $f$  is positively homogeneous if

$$f(\lambda x) = \lambda f(x), \forall \lambda > 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{E}.$$

**Remark 3.6** Equivalently, the function  $f$  is positively homogeneous if

$$f(\lambda x) \leq \lambda f(x), \forall \lambda > 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{E}.$$

And, a support function is positively homogeneous.

**Definition 3.7** A function is sublinear if it is subadditive and positively homogeneous, equivalently, if

$$f(\alpha x + \beta y) \leq \alpha f(x) + \beta f(y), \forall \alpha > 0, \beta > 0, \forall x, y \in \mathbb{E}.$$

**Definition 3.8** The set  $S_f := \{\phi : \langle \phi, x \rangle \leq f(x), \forall x\}$  is the set supported by  $f$ .

**Proposition 3.9** Suppose that the function  $f$  is positively homogeneous. Then the conjugate function

$$f^* = \delta_{S_f}.$$

### 3.2.1 Closures of Sets and Functions

**Proposition 3.10**  $\delta_S^{**} = \delta_S$  iff  $S$  is closed and convex.

**Proposition 3.11** The second conjugate function  $f^{**} = f$  iff  $f$  is a closed and convex function.

**Definition 3.12** The closure of a function  $f$  is defined as

$$\text{cl}(f)(x) = \inf \left\{ \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f(x^k) : x^k \rightarrow x \text{ and } \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f(x^k) \text{ exists} \right\}$$

**Proposition 3.13** The second conjugate functions:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_S^{**} &= \delta_{\text{cl}(\text{conv}(S))} \\ \sigma_S^{**} &= \sigma_{\text{cl}(\text{conv}(S))} \\ f^{**} &= \text{cl}(\text{conv}(f)) \end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 3.14** The second polar  $S^{\circ\circ} = \text{cl}(\text{conv}(S \cup \{0\}))$ .

### 3.2.2 Convex Cones

**Proposition 3.15** *If  $K$  is a nonempty cone, then  $K^{--} = \text{cl}(\text{conv}(K))$ .*

### 3.2.3 More on Support Functions

**Theorem 3.16** 1. *If  $\emptyset \neq S \subset \mathbb{E}$  is a closed, convex set, then the support function  $\sigma_S$  is a proper, closed, sublinear function.*

2. *Moreover, if  $f$  is a proper, closed and sublinear function, then*

$$f = \sigma_{S_f},$$

*i.e. it is the support function of the set supported by  $f$ .*

3. *Thus  $S \leftrightarrow \sigma_S$  is a bijection between {closed, convex sets} and {closed, sublinear functions}.*

## 3.3 Gauge Functions, Polar of a Function, Norms and Dual Norms

**Definition 3.17** *The function defined by  $\gamma_S(x) := \inf\{\lambda \geq 0 : x \in \lambda S\}$  is called the gauge of  $S$ .*

**Definition 3.18** *The polar of a function  $g$  is*

$$g^\circ(\phi) := \inf\{\lambda > 0 : \langle \phi, x \rangle \leq \lambda g(x), \forall x\}$$

**Proposition 3.19** 1. *The support function of the polar set of  $S$ ,  $\sigma_{S^\circ}$ , is majorized by the gauge function of  $S$ ,  $\gamma_S$ .*

2.  $\gamma_S \geq 0$  and  $\gamma(0) = 0$ .

3.  $\gamma_S$  is positively homogeneous.

4. If  $S$  is convex, then  $\gamma_S$  is sublinear.

5. If  $S$  is closed and convex, then  $\gamma_S$  is closed and sublinear.

6.

$$\gamma_S = \gamma_S^{**} = \delta_{S^\circ}^* = \sigma_{S^\circ}.$$

7. A gauge function is a non-negative sublinear function which maps the origin to 0.

8. A norm is a gauge function. Conversely, the gauge function of a closed, convex set containing 0 is a norm.

**Proposition 3.20** *Given a norm  $\|\cdot\|$ , then the polar function  $\|\cdot\|^\circ$ , is also a norm, called the dual norm. Moreover,*

$$S_{\|\cdot\|} = \{\phi : \|\phi\|^\circ \leq 1\}, \quad S_{\|\cdot\|^\circ} = \{x : \|x\| \leq 1\} = S_{\|\cdot\|}^\circ.$$

### 3.4 Subdifferentials, Directional Derivatives, Set Constrained Optimization

#### 3.4.1 Subdifferentials and Directional Derivatives

**Theorem 3.21** *Let  $f$  be a differentiable function on an open convex subset  $S \subset \mathbb{E}$ . Each of the following conditions is necessary and sufficient for  $f$  to be convex on  $S$ :*

1.  $f(x) - f(y) \geq \langle x - y, \nabla f(y) \rangle, \forall x, y \in S$ .
2.  $\langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle \geq 0, \forall x, y \in S$ .
3.  $\nabla^2 f(x)$  is positive semidefinite for all  $x \in S$  whenever  $f$  is twice differentiable on  $S$ .

To extend results as in Theorem 3.21 to the nondifferentiable case, we use the following.

**Definition 3.22** *The vector  $\phi$  is called a subgradient of  $f$  at  $x$  if*

$$f(y) - f(x) \geq \langle \phi, y - x \rangle, \forall y \in \mathcal{E}.$$

*The subdifferential of  $f$  at  $x$  is*

$$\partial f(x) = \{ \phi : f(y) - f(x) \geq \langle \phi, y - x \rangle, \forall y \in \mathcal{E} \}.$$

$\partial f(x) = \emptyset$ , if  $x \notin \text{dom}(f)$ .

**Proposition 3.23** *Suppose that  $f$  is convex. Then  $\partial f(x)$  is a closed convex set. And,  $x \in \text{argmin}_x f(x)$  if and only if  $0 \in \partial f(x)$ .*

**Proposition 3.24** *Suppose that  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty]$  is convex. Let*

$$g(t) := \frac{f(x + td) - f(x)}{t}.$$

*Then for all  $x, d \in \mathbb{E}$ ,  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$ , the function  $g$  is monotonically nondecreasing for  $t > 0$  (and for  $t < 0$ ).*

**Definition 3.25** *The directional derivative of  $f$  at  $x$  (in  $\text{dom}(f)$ ) along  $d$  is*

$$f'(x; d) := \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} f(x + td) - f(x)$$

*if it exists.*

**Theorem 3.26** *Suppose that  $f$  is convex. Then for all  $x, d \in \mathbb{E}$ ,  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$ , the directional derivative*

$$f'(x; d) = \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{f(x + td) - f(x)}{t}$$

*exists in  $[-\infty, +\infty]$ .*

### 3.4.2 Properties of $f'(x; d), \partial f(x)$

**Proposition 3.27** *Let  $f$  be convex and  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$ . Then  $\phi$  is a subgradient of  $f$  at  $x$  iff  $f'(x; d) \geq \langle \phi, d \rangle, \forall d \in \mathbb{E}$ .*

**Proposition 3.28** *Let  $f, g$  be proper convex functions.*

1.  $f'(x; \cdot)$  is positively homogeneous.
2. If  $f$  is convex, then  $f'(x; \cdot)$  is convex; hence it is sublinear.
3. If  $f$  is convex, then  $\forall x \in \text{dom}(f)$  we have

$$\partial f(x) = S_{f'(x; \cdot)}.$$

4.

$$\partial(f + g)(x) \supset \partial f(x) + \partial g(x).$$

5. With  $f(x)$  finite:

- (a)  $\partial f(x) \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow f(x) = f^{**}(x)$ .
- (b)  $f(x) = f^{**}(x) \Rightarrow \partial f(x) = \partial f^{**}(x)$ .
- (c)  $y \in \partial f(x) \Rightarrow x \in \partial f(y)$ .

**Example 3.29** *Let  $X \in \mathbb{S}^n$ ,  $f(X) := \lambda_{\max}(X)$  denote the largest eigenvalue of  $X$ , and let  $V$  be the corresponding eigenspace, i.e. the subspace of eigenvectors  $V = \{v : Xv = \lambda_{\max}(X)v\}$ . Then the directional derivative in the direction  $D \in \mathbb{S}^n$  is*

$$f'(X; D) = \max_{\|v\|=1, v \in V} v^T D v = \sigma_{\partial f(X)}.$$

*Therefore,  $f$  is differentiable if  $\partial f(X)$  is a singleton, i.e. if the eigenvalue  $\lambda_{\max}(X)$  is a singleton so the dimension of the eigenspace  $V$  is 1.*

## 3.5 Basics for Duality of Functions and Sets

- **Polar set of  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .**  $S^\circ = \bigcap_{x \in S} \{\phi \in \mathbb{E} : \langle \phi, x \rangle \leq 1\}$
- **Polar cone of  $K \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .**  $K^- = \bigcap_{x \in K} \{\phi \in \mathbb{E} : \langle \phi, x \rangle \leq 0\}$
- **Fenchel conjugate of  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .**  $f^* : \phi \in \mathbb{E} \mapsto \sup_{x \in \text{dom}(f)} \{\langle \phi, x \rangle - f(x)\}$
- **Support function of  $S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$ .**  $\sigma_S = \delta_S^* : \phi \mapsto \sup\{\langle \phi, x \rangle : x \in S\}$
- **Set supported by  $f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$ .**  $S_f = \{\phi \in \mathbb{E} : \forall x \in \mathbb{E}, \langle \phi, x \rangle \leq f(x)\}$



## 4 Optimization

### 4.1 Set Constrained Optimization and Normal Cones

**Proposition 4.1** Suppose that  $f$  is a differentiable convex function and  $S$  is an open convex set. Then  $\bar{x} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in S} f(x)$  iff  $\nabla f(\bar{x}) = 0$ .

**Definition 4.2** The normal cone to the convex set  $C$  in  $\mathbb{E}$  at  $\bar{x} \in C$  is

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

**Definition 4.3** The (convex) tangent cone to the convex set  $C$  in  $\mathbb{E}$  at  $\bar{x} \in C$  is

$$T_C(\bar{x}) := \operatorname{cl} \operatorname{cone}(C - \bar{x}).$$

**Definition 4.4** The set of feasible directions to the convex set  $C$  in  $\mathbb{E}$  at  $\bar{x} \in C$  is

$$D_C(\bar{x}) := \operatorname{cone}(C - \bar{x}).$$

**Proposition 4.5** Suppose that  $C$  is a convex set and  $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . If  $\bar{x}$  is a local minimum of  $f$  on  $C$ , then

$$f'(\bar{x}; x - \bar{x}) \geq 0, \forall x \in C. \quad (4.1)$$

If  $f$  is differentiable, this is equivalent to  $\nabla f(\bar{x}) \in -N_C(\bar{x})$ .

If, in addition,  $f$  is convex on  $C$ , then the condition (4.1) is sufficient for  $\bar{x}$  to be a minimum of  $f$  on  $C$ , i.e. we get (if  $f$  is lsc on  $S$ ) that

$$\bar{x} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in C} f(x) \text{ iff } \exists \phi \in (-N_C(\bar{x})) \cap \partial f(\bar{x}).$$

### 4.2 Basics for Optimization

- **Subdifferential of  $f$  at  $x \in \operatorname{dom}(f)$ .**  $\partial f(x) = \{\phi \in \mathbb{E} : \forall y \in \operatorname{dom}(f), \langle \phi, y - x \rangle \leq f(y) - f(x)\}$
- **Subgradient of  $f$  at  $x \in \operatorname{dom}(f)$ .**  $\phi \in \partial f(x)$
- **Directional derivative of  $f$  at  $x \in \operatorname{dom}(f)$  in direction  $d \in \mathbb{E}$ .**  $f'(x; d) = \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} [f(x + td) - f(x)]$ , if exists
- **Differentiability of  $f$  at  $x \in \operatorname{dom}(f)$ .**  $\exists \nabla f(x) \in \mathbb{E}, \forall d \in \mathbb{E}, f'(x; d) = \langle \nabla f(x), d \rangle$ ;  $\nabla f(x)$  is called the gradient
- **Normal cone to convex set  $S$  at  $x \in S$ .**  $N_S(x) = \bigcap_{y \in S} \{\phi \in \mathbb{E} : \langle \phi, y - x \rangle \leq 0\} = \partial \delta_S(x)$

## 5 Theorems

### 5.1 Convexity

- **Relative interior.**  
 $S \text{ convex} \implies \emptyset \neq \operatorname{ri}(S) = \{x \in S : \forall y \in S, \exists \delta > 0, x + \delta(x - y) \in S\} = \{x \in S : \bigcup_{t \geq 0} t(S - \{x\}) \text{ is a linear subspace}\}$

- **Convexity preserving operations.** Suppose that  $\{S_t : t \in T\}$  is a collection of convex sets,  $\{f_t : t \in T\}$  is a collection of convex functions, and  $A$  is an affine map. Then the following are convex:

$$\begin{array}{llll}
-: \bigcap_{t \in T} S_t & -: \bigoplus_{t \in T} S_t \text{ (T finite)} & -: \sum_{t \in T} S_t \text{ (T finite)} & \\
-: A(S_t) \text{ (t} \in T) & -: A^{-1}(S_t) \text{ (t} \in T) & -: \text{ri}(S_t) \text{ (t} \in T) & -: \text{cl}(S_t) \text{ (t} \in T) \\
-: \sup_{t \in T} f_t & -: \sum_{t \in T} f_t \text{ (T finite)} & -: \odot_{t \in T} f_t \text{ (T finite)} & -: f_t \circ A \text{ (t} \in T)
\end{array}$$

- **Monotonicity of gradient.** Suppose  $f$  continuous over  $\text{dom}(f)$  and differentiable over  $\text{int}(\text{dom}(f))$ ,  $\text{dom}(f)$  convex, and  $\text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \neq \emptyset$ .

$$\begin{array}{l}
-: f \text{ convex} \iff \forall x, y \in \text{int}(\text{dom}(f)), \langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle \geq 0 \\
-: f \text{ strictly convex over } \text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \iff \forall x, y \in \text{int}(\text{dom}(f)), \langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle > 0
\end{array}$$

- **Interior representation of convexity.**  $-: S \subseteq \mathbb{E}$  is convex  $\iff S = \text{conv}(S)$   
 $-: f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$  is convex  $\iff f = \text{conv}(f)$

- **Basic separation.**  $S$  is a closed, convex set and  $x \notin S \implies \exists a \in \mathbb{E}, \exists b \in \mathbb{R}, \forall y \in S, \langle a, x \rangle > b \geq \langle a, y \rangle$ .

If  $S$  is a cone, we may take  $b = 0$ .

- **Characterization of sublinearity.**  $f$  is sublinear  $\iff f$  is positively-homogeneous and subadditive.

$$f \text{ is proper, closed and sublinear} \iff S_f \neq \emptyset \text{ and } f = \sigma_{S_f}$$

- **Continuity of convex functions.**  $f$  is proper and convex, and  $x \in \text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \implies f$  is locally Lipschitz at  $x$

## 5.2 Duality

- **Exterior representation of convexity.**

$$\begin{array}{l}
-: S \subseteq \mathbb{E} \text{ is closed, convex and contains } 0 \iff S = (S^\circ)^\circ \\
-: f : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty] \text{ is closed and convex} \iff f = (f^*)^*
\end{array}$$

- **Fenchel-Young inequality.**  $\forall \phi, x \in \mathbb{E}, f(x) + f^*(\phi) \geq \langle \phi, x \rangle$ , with equality iff  $\phi \in \partial f(x)$

- **Polar Calculus.** Suppose  $S, T$  are nonempty sets,  $K$  a nonempty cone.

$$\begin{array}{l}
-: (S^\circ)^\circ = \text{cl}(\text{conv}(S \cup \{0\})) \\
-: (K^-)^- = \text{cl}(\text{conv}(K)) \\
-: (S \cup T)^\circ = S^\circ \cap T^\circ \\
-: (S \cap T)^\circ \supseteq \text{cl}(\text{conv}(S^\circ \cup T^\circ)), \text{ with equality when } S, T \text{ are closed, convex and contain } 0
\end{array}$$

- **Conjugate calculus.** Suppose  $f, g, f_1, \dots, f_m$  are proper.

$$\begin{array}{l}
-: (f^*)^* = \text{cl}(\text{conv}(f)) \\
-: f, g \text{ convex} \implies (f \odot g)^* = f^* + g^* \\
-: f, g \text{ convex} \implies (f + g)^* \leq f^* \odot g^*. \text{ Equality holds when } \text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \cap \text{dom}(g) \neq \emptyset
\end{array}$$

–:  $f$  convex, and  $A$  a linear map  $\implies (f \circ A)^*(\phi) \leq \inf\{f^*(\psi) : A^{\text{adj}}\psi = \phi\}$ .

Equality holds when  $\exists y, Ay \in \text{int}(\text{dom}(f))$ , in which case infimum is attained when finite

–:  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  convex with common domain  $\implies (\max_i f_i)^*(\phi) \leq \inf\{\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i^*(\phi^i) : \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i (\phi^i, 1) = (\phi, 1), \lambda_i \geq 0\}$ .

Equality holds when  $\text{int}(\text{dom}(f_i)) \neq \emptyset$ , in which case the infimum is attained when finite

- **Fenchel duality.** Suppose  $f, g$  are proper and convex

–:  $\inf\{f(x) + g(x)\} \geq \sup\{-f^*(-\phi) - g^*(\phi)\}$

–: Equality holds when  $\text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \cap \text{dom}(g) \neq \emptyset$ , in which case the supremum is attained when finite

- **Convex conic duality.** Suppose  $K$  is a convex cone, and  $A, D$  are linear maps

–:  $\inf_x \{\langle c, x \rangle : b - Ax \in K, Dx = e\} \geq \sup_{\phi, \eta} \{\langle b, \phi \rangle + \langle e, \eta \rangle : A^{\text{adj}}\phi + D^{\text{adj}}\eta = c, \phi \in K^-\}$

–: Equality holds when  $\exists x, Dx = e, b - Ax \in \text{int}(K)$ , in which case the supremum is attained if finite

- **Lagrange duality.** Suppose  $f, g_1, \dots, g_m$  are proper,  $L : (x, \lambda) \in \mathbb{E} \oplus \mathbb{R}^m \mapsto f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i g_i(x)$ , and  $D = \text{dom}(f) \cap (\bigcap_{i=1}^m \text{dom}(g_i))$ .

–:  $\inf\{f(x) : g_i(x) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m\} \geq \sup_{\lambda \geq 0} \inf_x L(x, \lambda)$

–:  $\exists x \in D, \lambda \geq 0, (g_i(x) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m) \wedge (x \text{ minimizes } y \mapsto L(y, \lambda) \text{ over } D) \wedge (\lambda_i g_i(x) = 0, i = 1, \dots, m)$

$\implies$  equality holds with  $x$  and  $\lambda$  attaining the infimum and supremum respectively

–:  $(f, g_1, \dots, g_m \text{ convex}) \wedge (\exists y \in \text{dom}(f), \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\} g_i(y) < 0) \wedge (x \text{ attains the infimum})$   
 $\implies$  equality holds and  $\exists \lambda \geq 0, (x \text{ minimizes } y \mapsto L(y, \lambda) \text{ over } D) \wedge (\lambda_i g_i(x) = 0, i = 1, \dots, m)$

–:  $(f, g_1, \dots, g_m \text{ closed and convex}) \wedge (\exists \lambda \geq 0, x \mapsto L(x, \lambda) \text{ has bounded sub-level sets})$

$\implies$  equality holds and the infimum is attained if finite

### 5.3 Optimization

- **Convex optimality conditions.** Suppose  $f, g_1, \dots, g_m$  are proper and convex, and  $S$  is nonempty and convex

–:  $x$  minimizes  $f \iff 0 \in \partial f(x)$

–:  $0 \in \partial f(x) + N_S(x) \implies x$  minimizes  $f$  over  $S$ . The converse is true when  $\text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \cap S \neq \emptyset$

–: (KKT condition) Suppose  $S = \{y : g_i(y) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m\}$ ,  $x \in S$  and  $f, g_1, \dots, g_m$  are differentiable at  $x$ .

$\exists \lambda \geq 0, (\nabla f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \nabla g_i(x) = 0) \wedge (\lambda_i g_i(x) = 0, i = 1, \dots, m) \implies x$  minimizes  $f$  over  $S$ .

The converse is true when  $\exists y \in \text{dom}(f), \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\}, g_i(y) < 0$

- **Subdifferential calculus.** Suppose  $f, g, f_1, \dots, f_m$  are proper and convex with  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  sharing same domain, and  $A$  is a linear map.

–:  $\forall x \in \text{dom}(f) \cap \text{dom}(g), \partial(f + g)(x) \supseteq \partial f(x) + \partial g(x)$ . Equality holds when  $\text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \cap \text{dom}(g) \neq \emptyset$

- :  $\forall x \in \text{dom}(f \circ A), \partial(f \circ A)(x) \supseteq A^{\text{adj}} \partial f(Ax)$ . Equality holds when  $\exists y, Ay \in \text{int}(\text{dom}(f))$
- :  $\forall x \in \text{dom}(f_i), \partial(\max_i f_i)(x) = \bigcup \{ \partial(\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i f_i)(x) : \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i = 1, \lambda_i \geq 0 \} \supseteq \text{conv}(\bigcup_{i \in I} \partial f_i(x))$ , where  $I = \{i : f_i(x) = f(x)\}$ . Equality holds when  $\text{int}(\text{dom}(f_i)) \neq \emptyset$ .
- **Sublinearity of directional derivatives.** Suppose  $f$  is proper and convex.
  - :  $x \in \text{dom}(f) \implies f'(x; \cdot) : d \in \mathbb{E} \mapsto f'(x; d)$  is sublinear and  $\partial f(x) = S_{f'(x; \cdot)}$  is closed and convex
  - :  $x \in \text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \implies \partial f(x)$  is closed, convex and bounded, and  $f'(x; \cdot) = \max_{\phi \in \partial f(x)} \langle \phi, \cdot \rangle$  is closed.
  - :  $x \in \text{dom}(f) \setminus \text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \implies \partial f(x)$  is either empty or unbounded.
- **Directional derivatives of max-function.**  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  are proper and convex,  $x \in \bigcap_{i=1}^m \text{int}(\text{dom}(f_i))$  and  $I = \{i : f_i(x) = f(x)\} \implies \forall d \in \mathbb{E}, f'(x; d) = \max_{i \in I} \{f'_i(x; d)\}$
- **Unique subgradient.** Suppose  $f$  is proper and convex and  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$ 
  - :  $f$  is differentiable at  $x \iff \partial f(x)$  is a singleton

## 6 Nonsmooth (Nonconvex)

### 6.1 Definitions

- **Dini directional derivative of locally Lipschitz  $f$  at  $x$  in direction  $d$ .**  $f^-(x; d) = \liminf_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} [f(x + td) - f(x)]$
- **Michel-Penot directional derivative of locally Lipschitz  $f$  at  $x$  in direction  $d$ .**  $f^\diamond(x; d) = \sup_{u \in \mathbb{E}} \limsup_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} [f(x + tu + td) - f(x + tu)]$
- **Clarke directional derivative of locally Lipschitz  $f$  at  $x$  in direction  $d$ .**  $f^\circ(x; d) = \limsup_{y \rightarrow x, t \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} [f(y + td) - f(y)]$
- **Dini subdifferential of locally Lipschitz  $f$  at  $x$ .**  $\partial_- f(x) = \{\phi \in \mathbb{E} : \forall d \in \mathbb{E}, \langle \phi, d \rangle \leq f^-(x; d)\}$
- **Michel-Penot subdifferential of locally Lipschitz  $f$  at  $x$ .**  $\partial_\diamond f(x) = \{\phi \in \mathbb{E} : \forall d \in \mathbb{E}, \langle \phi, d \rangle \leq f^\diamond(x; d)\}$
- **Clarke subdifferential of locally Lipschitz  $f$  at  $x$ .**  $\partial_\circ f(x) = \{\phi \in \mathbb{E} : \forall d \in \mathbb{E}, \langle \phi, d \rangle \leq f^\circ(x; d)\}$
- **Nonsmooth subgradients.** members of nonsmooth subdifferentials
- **Regularity of locally Lipschitz  $f$  at  $x$ .**  $\forall d \in \mathbb{E}, f'(x; d) = f^\circ(x; d)$
- **Distance function of  $S$ .**  $d_S : x \in \mathbb{E} \mapsto \inf\{\|x - y\| : y \in S\}$
- **Clarke normal cone of  $S$  at  $x \in S$ .**  $N_S(x) = \text{cl}(\bigcup_{t \geq 0} t \partial_\diamond d_S(x))$
- **Clarke tangent cone of  $S$  at  $x \in S$ .**  $T_S(x) = N_S(x)^- = \{d \in \mathbb{E} : d_S^\circ(x; d) = 0\}$

### 6.2 Theorems

- **Bounded nonsmooth directional derivatives.**  $f$  locally Lipschitz at  $x$  with Lipschitz constant  $K$   
 $\implies \forall d \in \mathbb{E}, f^-(x; d) \leq f^\diamond(x; d) \leq f^\circ(x; d) \leq K\|d\|$
- **Bounded nonsmooth subdifferentials.**  $f$  locally Lipschitz at  $x$  with Lipschitz constant  $K$   
 $\implies \partial_- f(x) \subseteq \partial_\diamond f(x) \subseteq \partial_\circ f(x) \subseteq KB$
- **Sublinearity of nonsmooth directional derivatives.** Suppose  $f$  locally Lipschitz at  $x$ 
  - $f^\diamond(x; \cdot) : d \in \mathbb{E} \mapsto f^\diamond(x; d)$  and  $f^\circ(x; \cdot) : d \in \mathbb{E} \mapsto f^\circ(x; d)$  are sublinear and finite everywhere
  - $f^\diamond(x; \cdot) = \sigma_{\partial_\diamond f(x)}$  and  $f^\circ(x; \cdot) = \sigma_{\partial_\circ f(x)}$
- **Characterization of regularity.** Suppose  $f$  locally Lipschitz at  $x$ .  
 $f$  is regular at  $x \iff \forall d \in \mathbb{E}, f^-(x; d) = f^\diamond(x; d) = f^\circ(x; d)$
- **Regularity of convex functions.**  $f$  is proper and convex, and  $x \in \text{int}(\text{dom}(f)) \implies f$  is regular at  $x$ .

- **Nonsmooth subdifferential calculus.** Suppose  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  are locally Lipschitz at  $x$ . It holds  $\partial_\diamond(\sum_{i=1}^m f_i)(x) \subseteq \sum_{i=1}^m \partial_\diamond f_i(x)$ ,  $\partial_\circ(\sum_{i=1}^m f_i)(x) \subseteq \sum_{i=1}^m \partial_\circ f_i(x)$ ,  $\partial_\diamond(\max_i f_i)(x) \subseteq \text{conv}(\bigcup_{i \in I} \partial_\diamond f_i(x))$ , and  $\partial_\circ(\max_i f_i)(x) \subseteq \text{conv}(\bigcup_{i \in I} \partial_\circ f_i(x))$ , where  $I = \{i : f_i(x) = f(x)\}$ . Equalities hold throughout when  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  are regular at  $x$ .
- **Nonsmooth directional derivatives of max-function.**  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  locally Lipschitz at  $x$  and  $I = \{i : f_i(x) = f(x)\} \implies \forall d \in \mathbb{E}, (f^\diamond(x; d) \leq \max_{i \in I} \{f_i^\diamond(x; d)\}) \wedge (f^\circ(x; d) \leq \max_{i \in I} \{f_i^\circ(x; d)\})$
- **Nonsmooth optimality conditions.** Suppose  $f, g_1, \dots, g_m$  locally Lipschitz at  $x$ , and  $S$  nonempty
  - $x$  minimizes  $f \implies 0 \in \partial_\diamond f(x) \subseteq \partial_\circ f(x)$
  - $x$  minimizes  $f$  over  $S \implies 0 \in \partial_\circ f(x) + N_S(x) \implies \forall d \in T_S(x), f^\circ(x; d) \geq 0$
  - $x$  minimizes  $f$  over  $\{y : g_i(y) \leq 0, i = 1, \dots, m\}$   
 $\implies \exists \lambda \geq 0, (\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i > 0) \wedge (\lambda_0 \partial_\circ f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \partial_\circ g_i(x) = 0) \wedge (\lambda_i g_i(x) = 0, i = 1, \dots, m)$ .  
 We can take  $\lambda_0 = 1$  when  $\exists d \in \mathbb{E}, (g_i(x) < 0) \vee (g_i^\circ(x; d) < 0)$

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## 7 Bibliography

1. The main source of the content is from the course textbook on Convex Analysis [3] and the classic book by Rockafellar [6].
2. Another good source for information are the two books on Convex Analysis and Optimization: [2] and [5]; and the books on variational inequalities [1, 4].

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