

Proof without translation:

Want:

$$\xi^T(x-\bar{x}) + f(\bar{x}) \leq f(x) \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\xi^T(x-\bar{x}) \geq 0 \quad x \in C.$$

$$\Lambda_1 = \{ (x, y) : x \in \mathbb{R}^n, y \geq f(x) \}$$

$$\Lambda_2 = \{ (x, y) : x \in C, y \leq f(\bar{x}) \}$$

Case 1/2/3/4

$$\xi_0^T x + \mu y \leq \alpha \quad (x, y) \in \Lambda_1$$

$$\xi_0^T x + \mu y \geq \alpha \quad (x, y) \in \Lambda_2$$

$$(\bar{x}, y) \in \Lambda_2, \text{ so } \alpha \leq \xi_0^T \bar{x} + \mu y \leq f(\bar{x}).$$

$$(\bar{x}, y) \text{ ~~not large~~ in } \Lambda_1, \text{ so } \mu \leq 0 \text{ for all } y > f(\bar{x})$$

$$\text{so } \alpha \geq \xi_0^T \bar{x} + \mu y \quad \text{so } \alpha = \xi_0^T \bar{x} + \mu f(\bar{x}),$$

and  $\mu \leq 0$ .

$$\text{If } \mu = 0: \xi_0^T x \leq \xi_0^T \bar{x} \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n. \therefore \xi_0 = 0.$$

So  $\mu < 0$ .

$$\text{Let } \xi = \frac{-\xi_0}{\mu}$$

Also

$$\xi^T x - y \leq \xi^T \bar{x} - f(\bar{x}), \text{ i.e. } \xi^T(x-\bar{x}) + f(\bar{x}) \leq f(x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\xi^T x - y \geq \xi^T \bar{x} - f(\bar{x}), \text{ i.e. } \xi^T(x-\bar{x}) \geq y - f(x) \quad \forall (x, y) \in C, \xi^T(x-\bar{x}) \geq 0$$

Corollary 1 If  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  open,  $\bar{x}$  is an optimal solution 50

$\Leftrightarrow \exists$  zero subgradient of  $f$  at  $\bar{x}$ .

In particular, if  $C = \mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $\bar{x}$  is a global minimum of  $f$  and only if there exists a zero subgradient of  $f$  at  $\bar{x}$ .

Proof: All directions out of  $\bar{x}$  are valid, so  $\xi^T d \geq 0 \forall d$   
 $\Rightarrow \xi = 0$ .  $\square$

Corollary 2 If in addition,  $f$  is differentiable,  $\bar{x}$  is an optimal solution

$\Leftrightarrow \nabla f(\bar{x})^T (x - \bar{x}) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in C$ .

Furthermore, if  $C$  is open then  $\bar{x}$  is an optimal solution if and only if  $\nabla f(\bar{x}) = 0$ .

Lemma Let  $f: C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be convex on the convex set  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Let  $\bar{x} \in C$ . The set of subgradients of  $f$  at  $\bar{x}$  is a convex set.

Proof Let  $\xi^1, \xi^2$  be subgradients to  $f$  at  $\bar{x}$

Let  $\xi = \lambda \xi^1 + (1-\lambda) \xi^2, \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$

Then  $\forall x \in C, f(\bar{x}) + \xi^T (x - \bar{x}) = f(\bar{x}) + \lambda (\xi^1)^T (x - \bar{x}) + (1-\lambda) (\xi^2)^T (x - \bar{x})$   
 $= \lambda (f(\bar{x}) + (\xi^1)^T (x - \bar{x})) + (1-\lambda) (f(\bar{x}) + (\xi^2)^T (x - \bar{x}))$   
 $\leq \lambda f(x) + (1-\lambda) f(x)$  since  $\xi^1, \xi^2$  are subgradients  
 $= f(x)$ . True  $\forall x \in C$ .  $\square$

Ex: min  $\frac{1}{2} \max \{x^2 + \frac{1}{x}, 3-x\}$ ,  
 $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

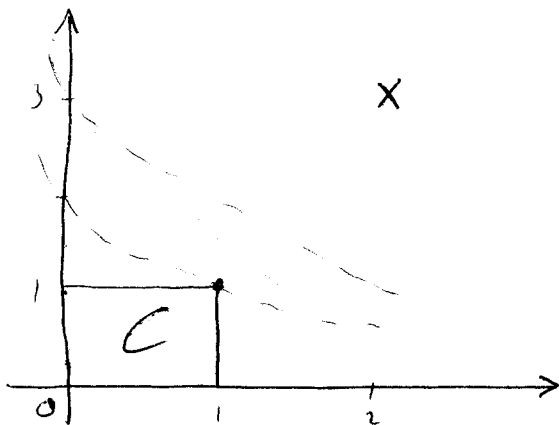
At  $x=1$ , set of subgradients

is  $[-1, 2] \ni 0$ .  $\quad \text{S1}$

Example.

$$\min (x_1 - 2)^2 + (x_2 - 3)^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \begin{aligned} x_1 &\leq 1 \\ x_2 &\leq 1 \\ x_1 &\geq 0 \\ x_2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\nabla f = \begin{pmatrix} 2(x_1 - 2) \\ 2(x_2 - 3) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\nabla f \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\nabla f \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\nabla f \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\nabla f \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  makes positive inner product with any feasible direction out of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$\nabla f \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  makes negative inner product with some feasible directions.

Eg A nondifferentiable function, with a subgradient  $\xi$  satisfying  $\xi^T(x-\bar{x}) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in X$  at the optimal  $\bar{x}$ :

$$\text{min. } |x_1 - x_2| + \frac{1}{2} (x_1 + x_2 + \frac{1}{2})^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \quad \cancel{x_i} \quad x_i \geq 0, i=1, 2.$$

Optimal solution is the origin.

$$\text{As } x_1 - x_2 \rightarrow 0_+, \quad \nabla f(x) = \begin{Bmatrix} 1 + x_1 + x_2 + \frac{1}{2} \\ -1 + x_1 + x_2 + \frac{1}{2} \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\text{As } x_1 - x_2 \rightarrow 0_-, \quad \nabla f(x) = \begin{Bmatrix} -1 + x_1 + x_2 + \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 + x_1 + x_2 + \frac{1}{2} \end{Bmatrix}.$$

So, two subgradients of  $f$  at the origin are:

$$\xi^1 = \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{3}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{Bmatrix}, \quad \xi^2 = \begin{Bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{3}{2} \end{Bmatrix} \quad \left( \text{by evaluating the gradient at the limits} \right)$$

$$\text{Let } \xi = \frac{1}{2} \xi^1 + \frac{1}{2} \xi^2 = \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{Bmatrix}.$$

Then  $\xi^T(x-\bar{x}) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in X$ , since  $\bar{x} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix}$  and  $x \geq 0$ .

Convex Cone

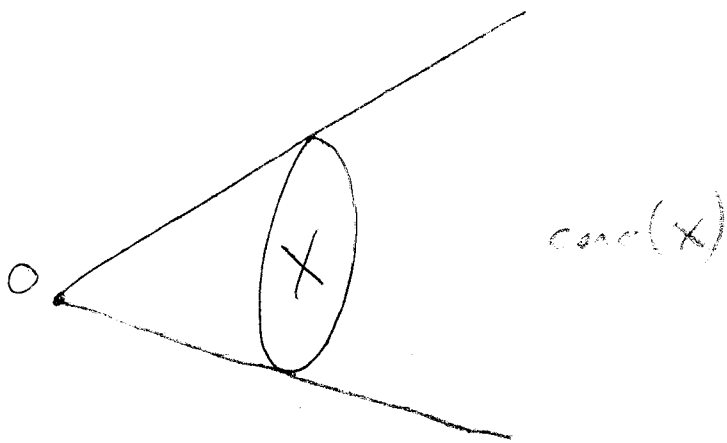
Lemma Assume  $X$  is a convex set. Then the set

$$\text{cone}(X) := \{ \gamma x : x \in X, \gamma \geq 0 \}$$

is a convex cone.

Proof

See text



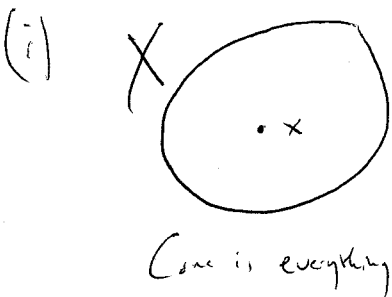
$\text{cone}(X)$  is the cone generated by  $X$ .

Given a convex set  $X$  at a point  $x \in X$ :

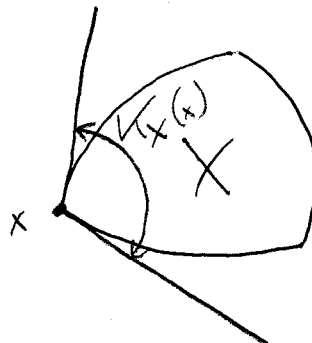
DEFN The cone of feasible directions of  $X$  at  $x$  (or the radial cone)

(i)  $\mathcal{K}_X(x) = \text{cone}(X-x)$ . (It is a convex cone.)

Eg:



(ii)



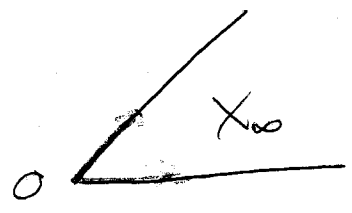
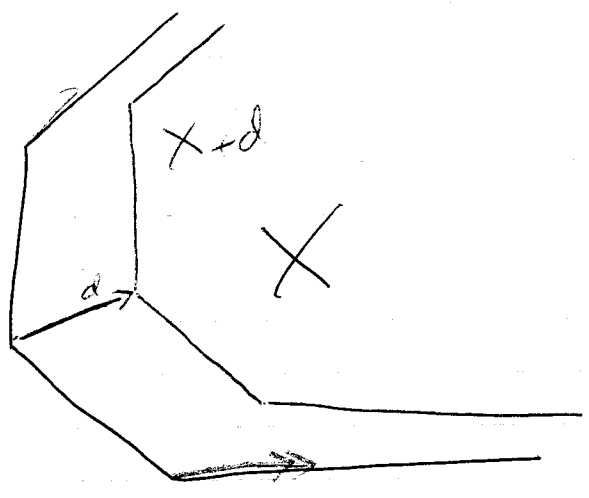
DEFN Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  be a convex set. The set

$$X_\infty := \{d \in \mathbb{R}^m : X+d \subseteq X\}$$

is the RECESSION CONE of  $X$ . (It is a convex cone.)

These are the directions you can go in forever from any point in  $X$ .

Eg:



DEFN Let  $K$  be a cone in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The set

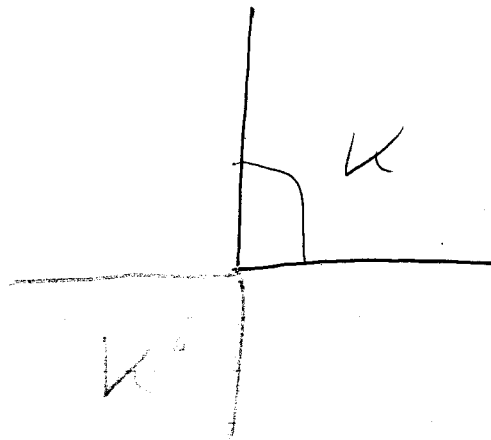
$$K^{\circ} := \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n : y^T x \leq 0 \ \forall x \in K\}$$

is the POLAR CONE of  $K$ .

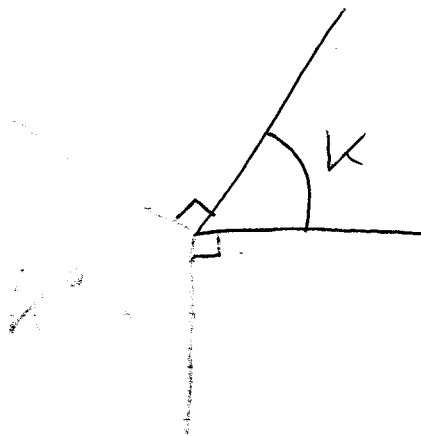
Eg: (i)  $K = \mathbb{R}_+^1$ .

Then  $K^{\circ} = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^1 : y \leq 0\}$ .

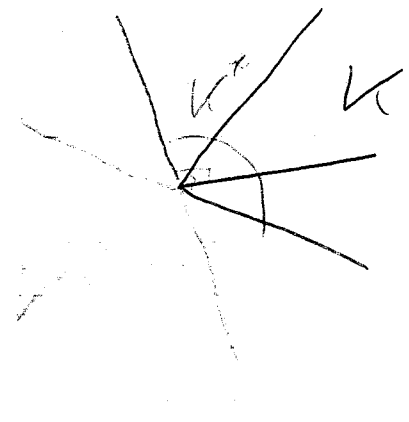
(i)



(ii)



(iii)



DEFN The negative of the polar cone is  $K^* := -K^{\circ}$  and is the DUAL CONE

Eg: Let  $C$  be a convex set, and let  $\bar{x} \in C$ .

Our optimality conditions for  $\min_{x \in C} f(x)$   $f$  convex

involved finding a subgradient satisfying  $\xi^T(x - \bar{x}) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in C$ .

Now,  $K_C(\bar{x}) = \{ \gamma d : d \in X - \bar{x}, \gamma \geq 0 \}$

cone of feasible directions  $= \{ \gamma d : d = x - \bar{x}, \gamma \geq 0, x \in C \}$

$= \{ \gamma(x - \bar{x}) : \gamma \geq 0, x \in C \}$

So requiring  $\xi^T(x - \bar{x}) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in C$  is equivalent to

requiring  $\xi^T d \geq 0 \quad \forall d \in K_C(\bar{x})$

So  $-\xi$  is in the polar cone to the cone of feasible directions.

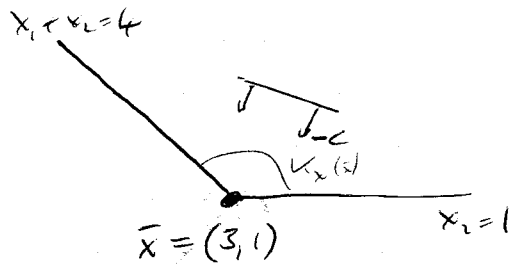
Or,  $\xi$  is in the dual cone to the cone of feasible directions.

DEFN Given a convex set  $X$  and a point  $\bar{x} \in X$ , the NORMAL CONE to  $X$  at  $\bar{x}$  is  $N_X(\bar{x}) = [con(X - \bar{x})]^\circ$ ; the polar cone to the cone of feasible directions.

Eg: Look at an LP:

max  $x_1 + 2x_2$   
 st.  $x_1 + x_2 \geq 4$   
 ~~$x_1 \geq 1$~~   
 ~~$x_2 \geq 1$~~

$X = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x_1 + x_2 \geq 4, x_2 \geq 1 \}$



$K_X(\bar{x}) = \{ d : d_1 - d_2 \geq 0, d_2 \geq 0 \}$

Polar cone:  $K_X^\circ(\bar{x}) = \{ d \in \mathbb{R}^2 : d_1 \leq 0, d_1 + d_2 \geq 0 \}$   
 $= \{ d \in \mathbb{R}^2 : d = \gamma_1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + \gamma_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \geq 0 \}$

$\bar{x}$  is optimal if  $-c = -\nabla f(\bar{x}) \in K_X^\circ(\bar{x})$ , ie,  $-c = \gamma_1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + \gamma_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,

or  $\gamma_1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \gamma_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \geq 0$ . Exactly LP optimality conditions.

THEOREM For every convex cone  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , the polar cone is closed and convex, and  $K^\circ = (\text{cl}(K))^\circ$ . Further, if  $K$  is a closed convex cone then  $K^{\circ\circ} = K$ .

Proof: See text.  $\square$

FARKAS LEMMA

Let  $A$  be  $m \times n$  matrix and let  $K = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq 0\}$

Then  $K^\circ = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^m : y = A^T \lambda, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m, \lambda \geq 0\}$ .

Equivalently, exactly one of the following two systems has a solution:

- (i)  $Ax \leq 0$  and  $c^T x > 0$
- (ii)  $A^T \lambda = c, \lambda \geq 0$ .

Proof See text.  $\square$

Why are these two formulations equivalent?

$$y \in K^\circ \iff y = A^T \lambda$$

$$\iff \exists c \text{ such that (i) holds.}$$

$$\text{Also, } y \in K^\circ \iff y = A^T \lambda, \lambda \geq 0, \text{ and } Ay^T x \leq 0 \forall x \in K$$

$$\iff \begin{matrix} \text{(i) holds,} & \text{(i) doesn't.} \end{matrix}$$

$$y \notin K^\circ \iff \exists x \in K \text{ with } x^T y > 0$$

(i) doesn't hold, with  $y=c$ .

(i) holds, with  $c=y$ .



Example (eg 231, page 31)

$\mathcal{S}^n$ : set of symmetric matrices of dimension  $n \times n$

$\mathcal{S}_+^n$ : set of all psd  $n \times n$  matrices.

$\mathcal{S}_+^n$  is a convex cone: exercise.

To define polar cone, need to define inner product.

$$\langle A, B \rangle := \text{trace}(AB) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} b_{ij}, \text{ since symmetric.}$$

(Frobenius inner product)

Polar cone:

$$[\mathcal{S}_+^n]^\circ = \{ B \in \mathcal{S}^n : \text{tr}(BA) \leq 0 \quad \forall A \in \mathcal{S}_+^n \}.$$

Then  $[\mathcal{S}_+^n]^\circ = -\mathcal{S}_+^n$

Proof: Let  $B \in -\mathcal{S}_+^n$ ,  $A \in \mathcal{S}_+^n$ . Want to show  $\text{tr}(BA) \leq 0$ .

Let  $d^1, \dots, d^n$  be evecs of  $A$ , with evals  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ .

Then  $A = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i d_i^i d_i^{iT}$

So  $\text{tr}(BA) = \text{tr}(B \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i d_i^i d_i^{iT}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \text{tr}(B d_i^i d_i^{iT})$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \text{tr}(d_i^{iT} B d_i^i)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i d_i^{iT} B d_i^i$$

$$\leq 0 \text{ since } -B \text{ psd.}$$

Thus  $[\mathcal{S}_+^n]^\circ \supseteq -\mathcal{S}_+^n$ .

Conversely, let  $B \in [S_+^n]^\circ$ .

Pick  $d \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $A = dd^T \in S_+^n$ .

Since  $B \in [S_+^n]^\circ$ , we have

$$0 \geq \text{tr}(BA) = \text{tr}(Bdd^T) = \text{tr}(d^T B d) = d^T B d$$

Thus  $-d^T B d \geq 0$  for any  $d \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

So  $-B \in S_+^n$

