

## SHT: Separating hyperplane theorem (a fundamental theorem)

If  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  are disjoint convex sets, i.e.,  $\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D} = \phi$ , then there exists  $\mathbf{a} \neq \mathbf{0}$ , with a  $b \in \Re$  such that

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b \text{ for } \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C},$$

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \geq b \text{ for } \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}.$$

That is, the hyperplane  $\{\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = b\}$  separates  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ .

- The separating hyperplane need not be unique though.
- Strict separation requires additional assumptions (e.g.,  $\mathcal{C}$  is closed,  $\mathcal{D}$  is a singleton).

## SHT: Separating hyperplane theorem (restated)

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- The separating hyperplane need not be unique though.
- Strict separation requires additional assumptions (e.g.,  $\mathcal{C}$  is closed,  $\mathcal{D}$  is a singleton).

## Proof of the Separating Hyperplane Theorem

We first note that the set  $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{D}\}$  is convex, since it is the sum of two convex sets. Since  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  are disjoint,  $\mathbf{0} \notin \mathcal{S}$ . Consider two cases:

- 1 Suppose  $\mathbf{0} \notin \text{closure}(\mathcal{S})$ . Let  $\mathcal{E} = \{0\}$  and  $\mathcal{F} = \text{closure}(\mathcal{S})$ . Then, the euclidean distance between  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$ , defined as

$$\text{dist}(\mathcal{E}; \mathcal{F}) = \inf \{ \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 | \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{E}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{F} \}$$

is positive, and there exists a point  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathcal{F}$  that achieves the minimum distance, i.e.,

$\|\mathbf{f}\|_2 = \text{dist}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F})$ . Define  $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{f}$ ,  $b = \|\mathbf{f}\|_2$ . Then  $\mathbf{a} \neq \mathbf{0}$  and the affine function  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} - b = \mathbf{f}^T (\mathbf{x} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{f})$  is nonpositive on  $\mathcal{E}$  and nonnegative on  $\mathcal{F}$ , i.e., that the

hyperplane  $\{\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = b\}$  separates  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$ . Thus,  $\mathbf{a}^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) > 0$  for all

$\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{S} \subseteq \text{closure}(\mathcal{S})$ , which implies that,  $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y}$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{D}$ .

# Proof of the Separating Hyperplane Theorem

- 2 Suppose,  $0 \in \text{closure}(\mathcal{S})$ . Since  $0 \notin \mathcal{S}$ , it must be in the boundary of  $\mathcal{S}$ .
- ▶ If  $\mathcal{S}$  has empty interior, it must lie in an affine set of dimension less than  $n$ , and any hyperplane containing that affine set contains  $\mathcal{S}$  and is a hyperplane. In other words,  $\mathcal{S}$  is contained in a hyperplane  $\{\mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{z} = b\}$ , which must include the origin and therefore  $b = 0$ . In other words,  $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y}$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}$  and all  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{D}$  gives us a trivial separating hyperplane.

## Proof of the Separating Hyperplane Theorem

② Suppose,  $0 \in \text{closure}(\mathcal{S})$ . Since  $0 \notin \mathcal{S}$ , it must be in the boundary of  $\mathcal{S}$ .

► If  $\mathcal{S}$  has a nonempty interior, consider the set

$$\mathcal{S}_{-\epsilon} = \{\mathbf{z} \mid B(\mathbf{z}, \epsilon) \subseteq \mathcal{S}\}$$

where  $B(\mathbf{z}, \epsilon)$  is the Euclidean ball with center  $\mathbf{z}$  and radius  $\epsilon > 0$ .  $\mathcal{S}_{-\epsilon}$  is the set  $\mathcal{S}$ , shrunk by  $\epsilon$ .  $\text{closure}(\mathcal{S}_{-\epsilon})$  is closed and convex, and does not contain  $\mathbf{0}$ , so as argued before, it is separated from  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$  by at least one hyperplane with normal vector  $\mathbf{a}(\epsilon)$  such that  $\mathbf{a}(\epsilon)^T \mathbf{z} \geq 0$  for all  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{S}_{-\epsilon}$ .

Without loss of generality assume  $\|\mathbf{a}(\epsilon)\|_2 = 1$ . Let  $\epsilon_k$ , for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  be a sequence of positive values of  $\epsilon_k$  with  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \epsilon_k = 0$ . Since  $\|\mathbf{a}(\epsilon_k)\|_2 = 1$  for all  $k$ , the sequence  $\mathbf{a}(\epsilon_k)$

contains a convergent subsequence, and let  $\bar{\mathbf{a}}$  be its limit. We have

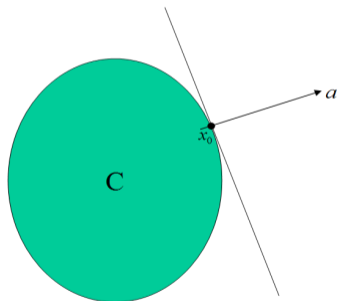
$$\mathbf{a}(\epsilon_k)^T \mathbf{z} \geq 0 \text{ for all } \mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{S}_{-\epsilon_k}$$

and therefore  $\bar{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{z} \geq 0$  for all  $\mathbf{z} \in \text{interior}(\mathcal{S})$ , and  $\bar{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{z} \geq 0$  for all  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{S}$ , which means  $\bar{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \bar{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{y}$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}$ , and  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{D}$ .

## Supporting hyperplane theorem (consequence of separating hyperplane theorem)

**Supporting hyperplane** to set  $\mathcal{C}$  at boundary point  $\mathbf{x}_o$ :

- $\{\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x}_o\}$
- where  $\mathbf{a} \neq 0$  and  $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x}_o$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}$



**Supporting hyperplane theorem:** if  $\mathcal{C}$  is convex, then there exists a supporting hyperplane at every boundary point of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

# Positive Semidefinite Cone and Convex Analysis

## More on Convex Sets and Advanced Material on Convex Analysis

- Positive Semi-definite cone.
- Positive Semi-definite cone: Example and Notes.
- Linear program and dual of LP.
- Properties of dual cones.
- Conic Program.
- Generalized Inequalities.



# Positive semidefinite cone: Notes

- 1 Claim :  $(S_+^n)^* = (S_+^n)$
- 2 i.e.  $\langle X, Y \rangle = \text{tr}(X^T Y) = \text{tr}(XY) \geq 0 \forall X \in (S_+^n)$  iff  $Y \in (S_+^n)$

Proof:

- 1
  - 1 Let us say  $Y \notin S_+^n$ . That is  $\exists z \in \mathbb{R}^n$  s.t.  $z^T Y z = \text{tr}(zz^T Y) < 0$
  - 2 i.e.  $\exists X = zz^T \in S_+^n$  s.t.  $\langle X, Y \rangle < 0$
  - 3  $\implies Y \notin (S_+^n)^*$
- 2
  - 1 Suppose  $Y, X \in S_+^n$ . Any  $X \in S_+^n$  can be written in terms of eigenvalue decomposition as:
  - 2  $X = \sum_{i=1:n} \lambda_i u_i u_i^T$  ( $\lambda_i \geq 0$ )
  - 3  $\therefore \langle Y, X \rangle = \text{tr}(YX) = \text{tr}(Y \sum_{i=1:n} \lambda_i u_i u_i^T) = \sum_{i=1:n} \lambda_i \text{tr}(Y u_i u_i^T) = \sum_{i=1:n} \lambda_i u_i^T Y u_i \geq 0$ .
  - 4 Since ( $\lambda_i \geq 0$ ) and ( $u_i^T Y u_i \geq 0$  as  $Y \in S_+^n$ )
  - 5  $\implies Y \in (S_+^n)^*$

## Positive semidefinite cone: Questions

- 1 Q) Is there some connection between  $Y = yy^T$  used for  $S_+^n = \{X \in S^n \mid \langle yy^T, X \rangle \geq 0\}$  and  $(S_+^n)^* = (S_+^n)$ .  
- (To be revisited as H/W)
- 2 Q)  $(S_{++}^n)^* = ?$ ,  $\text{int}(S_+^n) = (S_{++}^n)$   
- Ans:  $(S_{++}^n)^* = (S_+^n)$ , (will be done formally for general case of convex cones)  
-  $C = \text{convex cone}$ ,  $C^{**} = \text{cl}(C)$
- 3 Q) Consider an application of psd cone for optimization. (thru LP)
  - 1 We will first see (weak) duality in a linear optimization problem (LP).
  - 2 Next we look at generalized (conic) inequalities and the properties that the cone must satisfy for the inequality to be a valid inequality.
  - 3 Next, we generalize LP to conic program (CP) using generalized inequality and realize weak duality for CP thru dual cones.

## Linear program (LP) & dual of LP.

We will first see (weak) duality in a linear optimization problem (LP).

① LP:  $\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$  (Affine Objective)

subjected to  $-\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} \leq 0$

- ▶ Let  $\lambda \geq 0$  (i.e.  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ )
- ▶ Then  $\lambda^T(-\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}) \leq 0$
- ▶  $\implies \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + \lambda^T(-\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$
- ▶  $\implies \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \lambda^T \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T \lambda)^T \mathbf{x}$
- ▶ So,  $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \min_{\mathbf{x}} \lambda^T \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T \lambda)^T \mathbf{x}$
- ▶ Thus,

$$\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \begin{cases} \lambda^T \mathbf{b}, & \text{if } \mathbf{A}^T \lambda = \mathbf{c} \\ -\infty, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Note: LHS ( $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ ) is independent of  $\lambda$  and R.H.S ( $\lambda^T \mathbf{b}$ ) is independent of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

② Weak duality theorem for Linear Program:

Primal LP (lower bounded)  $\geq$  Dual LP (upper bounded):

$$(\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}) \geq (\max_{\lambda \geq 0} \mathbf{b}^T \lambda, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{A}^T \lambda = \mathbf{c})$$

## Conic program

We will motivate through linear programming (LP), generalized inequalities:

- 1 LP:  $\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} c^T \mathbf{x}$  (Affine Objective)  
subjected to  $-A\mathbf{x} + b \leq 0$ 
  - ▶ Note:  $-A\mathbf{x} + b \leq 0$  can be rewritten as  $A\mathbf{x} \geq 0$ .
  - ▶ So, constraint is  $A\mathbf{x} - b \in R_+^n$
  - ▶ Note:  $R_+^n$  is a CONE. How about defining generalized inequality for a cone  $K$  as:  
 $c \geq_K d$  iff  $c - d \in K$
- 2 So, a generalized conic program can be defined as:  
 $\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} c^T \mathbf{x}$   
subjected to  $-A\mathbf{x} + b \leq_K 0$ 
  - ▶ That is, constraint is  $A\mathbf{x} - b \in K$ .

## Properties of dual cones

- 1 If  $X$  is a Hilbert space &  $C \subseteq X$  then  $C^*$  is a closed convex cone.
  - ▶ We have already proven that  $C^*$  is a closed convex cone.
  - ▶  $C^* =$  intersection of infinite topological half spaces.
  - ▶  $C^* = \bigcap_{\mathbf{x} \in C} \{y \mid y \in X, \langle y, \mathbf{x} \rangle \geq 0\}$
  - ▶  $\implies C^*$  is closed.
- 2  $C_1 \subseteq C_2 \implies C_2^* \subseteq C_1^*$ .
- 3  $\text{interior}(C^*) = \{y \in X \mid \langle y, \mathbf{x} \rangle > 0\}$
- 4 If  $C$  is cone and has  $\text{int}(C) \neq \emptyset$  then  $C^*$  is pointed.
  - ▶ Since; if  $y \in C^*$  &  $-y \in C^*$ , then  $y = 0$ .
- 5 If  $C$  is cone then  $\text{closure}(C) = C^{**}$ 
  - ▶ If  $C =$  open half space, then  $C^{**} =$  closed half space.
- 6 If closure of  $C$  is pointed, then  $\text{interior}(C^*) \neq \emptyset$ .

$S$  is called conically spanning set of cone  $K$  iff  $\text{conic}(S) = K$ .

## Generalized Inequalities

a convex cone  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is a proper cone (or regular cone) if:  
(Some restrictions on  $K$  that we will require, H/W Why?)

- $K$  is closed (contains its boundary)
- $K$  is solid (has nonempty interior)
- $K$  is pointed (contains no line)
  - ▶ i.e.  $K$  has no straight lines passing through  $O$ .
  - ▶ i.e. if  $-a, a \in K$ , then  $a = 0$

examples

- non-negative orthant  $K = R_+^n = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, n\}$
- positive semidefinite cone  $K = S_+^n$
- nonnegative polynomials on  $[0,1]$ :  
 $K = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_1 + x_2 t + x_3 t^2 + \dots + x_n t^{n-1} \geq 0 \text{ for } t \in [0, 1]\}$

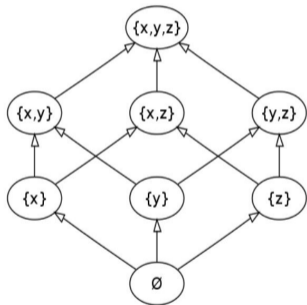
## Valid Inequality and Partial Order

To prove that  $K$  being closed, solid and pointed are necessary & sufficient conditions for  $\geq_K$  to be a valid inequality, recall that any partial order  $\geq$  should satisfy the following properties:(refer page 51 of [www2.isye.gatech.edu/~nemirovs/Lect\\_ModConvOpt.pdf](http://www2.isye.gatech.edu/~nemirovs/Lect_ModConvOpt.pdf)):

- 1 Reflexivity:  $a \geq a$ ;
- 2 Anti-symmetry: if both  $a \geq b$  and  $b \geq a$ , then  $a = b$ ;
- 3 Transitivity: if both  $a \geq b$  and  $b \geq c$ , then  $a \geq c$ ;
- 4 Compatibility with linear operations:
  - 1 Homogeneity: If  $a \geq b$  and  $\lambda$  is a nonnegative real, then  $\lambda a \geq \lambda b$ , i.e. one can multiply both sides of an inequality by a nonnegative real.
  - 2 Additivity: if both  $a \geq b$  and  $c \geq d$ , then  $a + c \geq b + d$ , i.e. One can add two inequalities of the same sign.

## Example of Partial Order

- Example of Partial Order  $\subseteq$  over sets
- The Hasse diagram of the set of all subsets of a three-element set  $\{x, y, z\}$ , ordered by inclusion (Inclusion, i.e. the Partial Order  $\subseteq$ ):



- (source [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partially\\_ordered\\_set](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partially_ordered_set))



# Dual Cones and Generalized Inequalities

Instructor: Prof. Ganesh Ramakrishnan

## Contents: Vector Spaces beyond $\mathbb{R}^n$

- Recap: Linear program (LP) & dual of LP.
- Recap: Conic program.
- Recap: Linear program (LP) & dual of LP.

## Linear program (LP) & dual of LP.

We will first see (weak) duality in a linear optimization problem (LP).

① LP:  $\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$  (Affine Objective)

subjected to  $-\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} \leq 0$

- ▶ Let  $\lambda \geq 0$  (i.e.  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^m$ )
- ▶ Then  $\lambda^T(-\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}) \leq 0$
- ▶  $\implies \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + \lambda^T(-\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$
- ▶  $\implies \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \lambda^T \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T \lambda)^T \mathbf{x}$
- ▶ So,  $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \min_{\mathbf{x}} \lambda^T \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T \lambda)^T \mathbf{x}$
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# Conic program

We will motivate through linear programming (LP), generalized inequalities:

- 1 A generalized conic program can be defined as:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} c^T \mathbf{x}$$

subjected to  $-A\mathbf{x} + b \leq_K 0$

- ▶ That is, constraint is  $A\mathbf{x} - b \in K$ .

- 2 Q: Has to generalize  $-A\mathbf{x} + b \leq 0$  to  $-A\mathbf{x} + b \leq_K 0$  s.t.  $\leq_K$  is a generalized inequality &  $K$  some set?
- 3 What properties should  $K$  satisfy so that  $\leq_K$  satisfies properties of generalized inequalities?

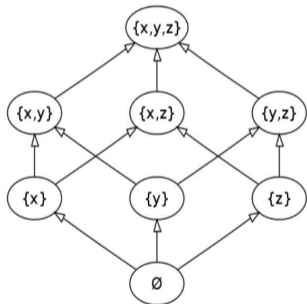
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To prove that  $K$  being closed, solid and pointed are necessary & sufficient conditions for  $\geq_K$  to be a valid inequality, recall that any partial order  $\geq$  should satisfy the following properties:(refer page 51 of [www2.isye.gatech.edu/~nemirovs/Lect\\_ModConvOpt.pdf](http://www2.isye.gatech.edu/~nemirovs/Lect_ModConvOpt.pdf)):

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## Proof of generalized inequality

To prove that  $K$  being closed, solid and pointed are necessary & sufficient conditions for  $\geq_K$  to be a valid inequality.

Proof:

- 1  $K$  being pointed convex cone  $\implies \geq_K$  is a partial order
  - 1 Reflexivity:  $a \geq_K a$ , since  $a - a = 0 \in K$  ( $\because K$  is cone)
  - 2 Anti-symmetry: If  $a \geq_K b$  &  $b \geq_K a$  then  $a = b$ , since  $a - b \in K$  &  $b - a \in K \implies a - b = 0$  ( $\because K$  is pointed)
  - 3 Transitivity: If both  $a \geq_K b$  &  $b \geq_K c$  then  $a \geq_K c$ , since  $a - b \in K$  &  $b - c \in K \implies (a - b) + (b - c) \in K$  ( $\because K$  is a convex cone i.e. contain all conic combinations of points in the set)
  - 4 Homogeneity: If both  $a \geq_K b$  &  $\lambda \geq 0$  then  $\lambda a \geq_K \lambda b$ , since  $a - b \in K$  &  $\lambda \geq 0 \implies \lambda(a - b) \in K$  ( $\because K$  is a cone)
  - 5 Additivity: If  $a \geq_K b$  &  $c \geq_K d$  then  $a + c \geq_K b + d$ , since  $a - b \in K$  &  $c - d \in K \implies (a + c) - (b + d) \in K$  ( $\because K$  is a convex cone)
- 2  $\geq_K$  is a partial order  $\implies K$  being pointed convex cone

## Proof of generalized inequality

To prove that  $K$  being closed, solid and pointed are necessary & sufficient conditions for  $\geq_K$  to be a valid inequality.

Proof:

- $\geq_K$  is a partial order  $\implies K$  being pointed convex cone
  - $K$  is convex cone: If  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in K$  then  $\theta_1 \mathbf{x} + \theta_2 \mathbf{y} \in K \forall \theta_1, \theta_2 \geq 0$ , since  $\mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{0}$  &  $\mathbf{y} \geq_K \mathbf{0} \implies \theta_1 \mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{0}$  &  $\theta_2 \mathbf{y} \geq_K \mathbf{0} \forall \theta_1, \theta_2 \geq 0$  (Homogeneity of  $\geq_K$ ) and thus  $\theta_1 \mathbf{x} + \theta_2 \mathbf{y} \geq_K \mathbf{0}$  (Additivity of  $\geq_K$ )
  - $K$  is pointed: If  $\mathbf{x} \in K$  &  $-\mathbf{x} \in K$  then  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , since  $\mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{x}$  &  $-\mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{0} \geq_K \mathbf{x}$  (reflectivity  $\mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{x}$ , and adding  $\mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{x}$  &  $-\mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{0}$  by additivity) and  $-\mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{x}$  (additivity on  $-\mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{0}$  &  $\mathbf{0} \geq_K \mathbf{x}$ ) and similarly  $\mathbf{x} \geq_K -\mathbf{x}$ , and by applying anti-symmetry on  $-\mathbf{x} \geq_K \mathbf{x}$  &  $\mathbf{x} \geq_K -\mathbf{x}$  we get  $\mathbf{x} = -\mathbf{x}$  i.e.  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .



## Additional properties over & above $K$ being pointed convex cone

- 1 Que: Suppose  $a^i \geq_K b^i \forall i$  &  $a^i \rightarrow a$  &  $b^i \rightarrow b$ , then for  $a \geq_K b$  what more is required of  $K$ ?
- 2 Ans: Necessary condition is that  $a^i - b^i \rightarrow a - b \in K$ . i.e.  $K$  is closed (Also happens to be a sufficient condition).
- 3 Que: What is required so that  $\exists a >_K b$  (i.e.  $b \not\geq_K a$ )?
- 4 Ans: Sufficient condition is that  $a - b \in \text{int}(K)$  i.e.  $\text{int}(K) \neq \emptyset$  OR  $K$  has non-empty interior.

## Linear program (LP) & Conic program.

We will first see (weak) duality in a linear optimization problem (LP).

- ① LP:  $\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} c^T \mathbf{x}$  (Affine Objective)  
subjected to  $-\mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{b} \leq 0$

$-\mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{b} \leq 0$  can be rewritten as  $\mathbf{Ax} \geq \mathbf{b}$  or  $\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ . Note:  $\mathbb{R}_+^n$  is a CONE. How about defining generalized inequality for a cone  $C$  as  $c \succ_K d$  iff  $c - d \in K$  and a general conic program as:

- ①  $\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} c^T \mathbf{x}$   
subjected to  $-\mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{b} \leq_K 0$

- That is, constraint is  $\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b} \in K$ .
- $K$  is a proper cone.

## Generalized Inequalities

a convex cone  $K \subseteq \mathfrak{R}^n$  is a proper cone (or regular cone) if:  
(Some restrictions on  $K$  that we will require, H/W Why?)

- $K$  is closed (contains its boundary)
- $K$  is solid (has nonempty interior)
- $K$  is pointed (contains no line)
  - ▶ i.e.  $K$  has no straight lines passing through  $O$ .
  - ▶ i.e. if  $-a, a \in K$ , then  $a = 0$

examples

- non-negative orthant  $K = R_+^n = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathfrak{R}^n \mid x_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, n\}$
- positive semidefinite cone  $K = S_+^n$
- nonnegative polynomials on  $[0,1]$ :  
 $K = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathfrak{R}^n \mid x_1 + x_2 t + x_3 t^2 + \dots + x_n t^{n-1} \geq 0 \text{ for } t \in [0, 1]\}$
- Que: What if  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , can you get proper cones under additional constraints?

# Linear program & its dual To Conic program and its dual.

Consider LP and its dual:

① LP:  $\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$  (Affine Objective)

subjected to  $-\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} \leq 0$

- ▶ Let  $\lambda \geq 0$  (i.e.  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ )
- ▶ Then  $\lambda^T(-\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}) \leq 0$
- ▶  $\implies \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + \lambda^T(-\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$
- ▶  $\implies \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \lambda^T \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T \lambda)^T \mathbf{x}$
- ▶ So,  $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \min_{\mathbf{x}} \lambda^T \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T \lambda)^T \mathbf{x}$
- ▶ Thus,

$$\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \begin{cases} \lambda^T \mathbf{b}, & \text{if } \mathbf{A}^T \lambda = \mathbf{c} \\ -\infty, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Note: LHS ( $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ ) is independent of  $\lambda$  and R.H.S ( $\lambda^T \mathbf{b}$ ) is independent of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

② Weak duality theorem for Linear Program:

Primal LP (lower bounded by dual)  $\geq$  Dual LP (upper bounded by primal):

$$(\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}) \geq (\max_{\lambda \geq 0} \mathbf{b}^T \lambda, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{A}^T \lambda = \mathbf{c})$$

## Conic program

Refer page 5 of <http://www2.isye.gatech.edu/~nemirovs/ICMNemirovski.pdf>:

- 1 Conic program:  
$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$$
subjected to  $-\mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{b} \leq_K \mathbf{0}$
- 2 Generalized conic program:  
$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in V} \langle \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{x} \rangle_V$$
subjected to  $\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b} \in K$
- 3  $K$  is a regular/proper cone.
- 4 We need an equivalent  $\lambda \in D \supseteq K^*$  s.t.  
$$\langle \lambda, \mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b} \rangle \geq 0.$$
- 5 This  $K^*$  s.t.  
$$D = \{ \lambda \mid \langle \lambda, \mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b} \rangle \geq 0, \lambda \in V \forall \mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b} \in K \}$$
&  $D \supseteq K^*$  is dual cone of  $K$

## Dual of Conic program

- 1 Refer page 7 of <http://www2.isye.gatech.edu/~nemirovs/ICMNemirovski.pdf>:  
 $K^* = \{\lambda : \lambda^T \xi \geq 0 \forall \xi \in K\}$  is the cone dual to  $K$ .
- 2 With this follows weak duality theorem for CONIC PROGRAM:  
Primal CP (lower bounded by dual)  $\geq$  Dual CP (upper bounded by primal):  
 $(\min_{\mathbf{x} \in V} \langle \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{x} \rangle_V, \text{ s.t. } \langle \lambda, A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b} \rangle \geq 0.) \geq (\max_{\lambda \in K^*} \langle \mathbf{b}, \lambda \rangle, \text{ s.t. } A^T \lambda = \mathbf{c})$

## Notes: LP and CP

- 1 Both LP and CP dealt with affine objectives.
- 2 CP dealt with the generalized conic inequalities.
- 3 Later, in convex optimization, we will deal with the more general convex functions in the objective.

### Some Generalizations:

- 1 If  $K = \mathbb{R}_+^n$ , the CP is an LP.
- 2 If  $K = S_+^n$  (Set of all  $n \times n$  SPD matrices), the CP is an SDP (Semi-definite program).
- 3 Any generic convex program can be expressed as a cone program (CP).

# Dual of dual

- 1 If  $K$  is a closed convex cone then  $K^{**} = K$ .
- 2 More generally, if  $K$  is just a convex cone,  $K^{**} = \text{closure}(K)$  (abbreviated as  $\text{Cl}(K)$ )

We will prove that if  $K$  is closed, then  $K^{**} = K$ :

- 1  $K \subseteq K^{**}$ , since  $\mathbf{x} \in K \implies \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \geq 0 \forall \mathbf{y} \in K^* \implies \mathbf{x} \in K^{**}$ .
- 2  $K^{**} \subseteq K$ , we will prove by contradiction. Suppose  $\mathbf{x} \in K^{**}$  but  $\mathbf{x} \notin K$ :
  - 1  $K^{**}$  is closed since any dual cone is intersection of half spaces that are closed.
  - 2  $\{\mathbf{x}\}$  is a singleton set.
  - 3  $\implies$  by "strict hyperplane theorem" (on next page and proved later):  
 $\exists \mathbf{a} \in V$  &  $\mathbf{b} \in \Re$  s.t.  $\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x} \rangle < \mathbf{b}$  &  $\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \geq \mathbf{b} \forall \mathbf{y} \in K$ .
  - 4  $\implies \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x} \rangle < 0 \leq \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \forall \mathbf{y} \in K$ . (Since  $\mathbf{y} = 0 \in K^{**}$ , Claim:  $\mathbf{b} = 0$  if  $V$  is a closed convex cone)
  - 5  $\implies \mathbf{a} \in K^*$  &  $\mathbf{x} \notin K^{**}$  [contradiction]



## Separating hyperplane theorem (a fundamental theorem)

If  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  are disjoint convex sets, *i.e.*,  $\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{D} = \phi$ , then there exists  $\mathbf{a} \neq \mathbf{0}$ , with a  $b \in \Re$  such that

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b \text{ for } \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C},$$

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \geq b \text{ for } \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}.$$

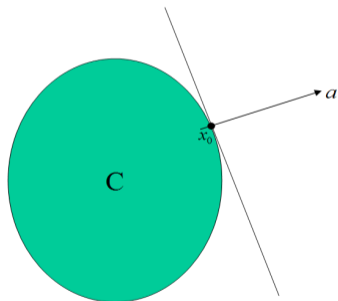
That is, the hyperplane  $\{\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = b\}$  separates  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ .

- The separating hyperplane need not be unique though.
- Strict separation requires additional assumptions (e.g.,  $\mathcal{C}$  is closed,  $\mathcal{D}$  is a singleton).

## Supporting hyperplane theorem (consequence of separating hyperplane theorem)

**Supporting hyperplane** to set  $\mathcal{C}$  at boundary point  $\mathbf{x}_o$ :

- $\{\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x}_o\}$
- where  $\mathbf{a} \neq 0$  and  $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x}_o$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}$



**Supporting hyperplane theorem:** if  $\mathcal{C}$  is convex, then there exists a supporting hyperplane at every boundary point of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

## Dual cones and generalized inequalities

In-fact, if  $K$  is a proper cone then  $K^*$  is also proper.

$K^* = \{\lambda : \lambda^T \xi \geq 0, \forall \xi \in K\}$  is the cone dual to  $K$ .

Examples:

- Self-dual cones

- ▶  $K = \mathfrak{R}_+^n : K^* = \mathfrak{R}_+^n$

- ▶  $K = \mathcal{S}_+^n : K^* = \mathcal{S}_+^n$

- ▶  $K = \{(\mathbf{x}, t) \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq t\} : K^* = \{(\mathbf{x}, t) \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq t\}$

- $K = \{(\mathbf{x}, t) \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 \leq t\} : K^* = \{(\mathbf{x}, t) \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty \leq t\}$

Dual cones of proper cones are proper, hence define generalized inequalities:

$$\mathbf{y} \succeq_{K^*} 0 \iff \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x} \geq 0 \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \succeq_K 0$$

# Minimum and minimal elements via dual inequalities

**minimum element** w.r.t  $\preceq_K$ :

- $\mathbf{x}$  is minimum element of  $S$  iff for all  $\lambda \succ_{K^*} 0$ ,  $\mathbf{x}$  is unique minimizer of  $\lambda^T \mathbf{z}$  over  $S$ .

**minimal element** w.r.t  $\preceq_K$ :

- If  $\mathbf{x}$  minimizes  $\lambda^T \mathbf{z}$  over  $S$  for some  $\lambda \succ_{K^*} 0$  then  $\mathbf{x}$  is minimal
- If  $\mathbf{x}$  is minimal element of convex set  $S$ , then there exists a nonzero  $\lambda \succeq_{K^*} 0$  such that  $\mathbf{x}$  minimizes  $\lambda^T \mathbf{z}$  over  $S$

## From Dual of Norm Cone to Dual Norm

Let  $\|\cdot\|$  be a norm on  $\mathfrak{R}^n$ . The dual of  $K = \{(\mathbf{x}, t) \in \mathfrak{R}^{n+1} \mid \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq t\}$  is:

$$K^* = \{(u, v) \in \mathfrak{R}^{n+1} \mid \|u\|_* \leq v\}$$

where  $\|u\|_* = \sup\{u^T \mathbf{x} \mid \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq 1\}$

Proof: We need to show that

$$\mathbf{x}^T u + tv \geq 0 \text{ whenever } \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq t \iff \|u\|_* \leq v$$