

# Set convexity analysis with Interval Analysis.

Nicolas Delanoue, Didier Henrion

LISA, Université d'Angers, LAAS Toulouse,  
GT MEA - Groupe de travail du GDR MACS du CNRS

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## Aims

Prove  $S = \bigcap_{i=1}^r \{x \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^n; f_i(x) \leq 0\}$  is convex

where

- $D$  is a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,
- $f_i \in \mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}), i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ .

# Outline

- 1 Introduction - Motivation
  - Convex set
  - Convex function
  - Application optimization
- 2 Sufficient condition for set convexity
  - A weak sufficient condition
  - Not necessary
  - Sufficient condition
  - Proof idea, by contradiction
  - Example
- 3 theorem discussion and other methods
- 4 Conclusion

Interval analysis is often able to prove that a set defined by inequalities is empty.

## Example

Let

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto (\sin x - x^2 + 1) \cos x \end{aligned}$$

Let us prove that  $S = \{x \in [0; \frac{1}{2}], f(x) = 0\} = \emptyset$

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One defines  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [f] : \mathbb{IR} \rightarrow \mathbb{IR} \\ [x] \mapsto (\sin[x] - [x]^2 + 1) \cos[x] \end{array} \right.$

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$$[f]([0; \frac{1}{2}]) = (\sin[0; \frac{1}{2}] - [0; \frac{1}{2}]^2 + 1) \cos[0; \frac{1}{2}]$$

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$$= (\sin[0; \frac{1}{2}] - [0; \frac{1}{4}] + 1) \cos[0; \frac{1}{2}]$$

$$= (\sin[0; \frac{1}{2}] + [-\frac{1}{4}; 0] + 1) \cos[0; \frac{1}{2}]$$

$$= ([0; \sin \frac{1}{2}] + [\frac{3}{4}; 1])[\cos \frac{1}{2}; 1]$$

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$$[f]([0; \frac{1}{2}]) \subset [0.65818; 1.4795]$$

## Conclusion

$0 \notin [f]([0; \frac{1}{2}])$ , therefore  $S = \emptyset$

## Definition (Convex)

A subset  $X$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is *convex* if

$$\forall x, y \in X, \forall t \in [0, 1], tx + (1 - t)y \in X$$

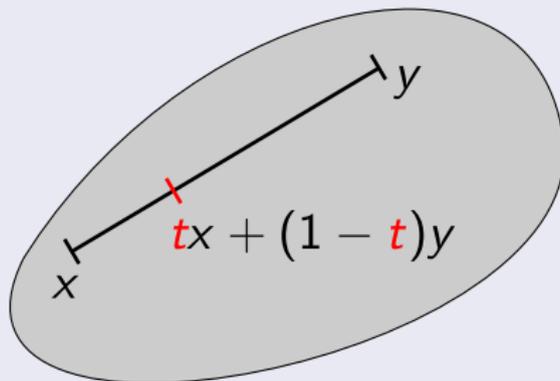


FIG.: Convex set

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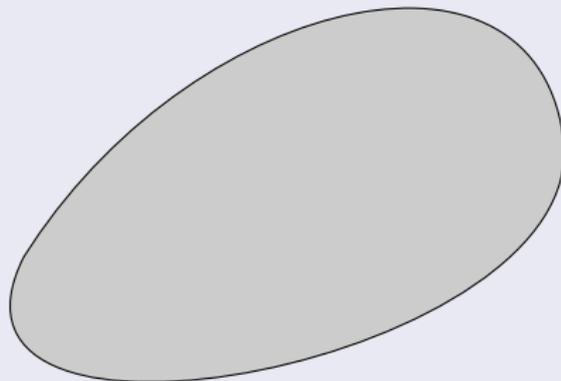


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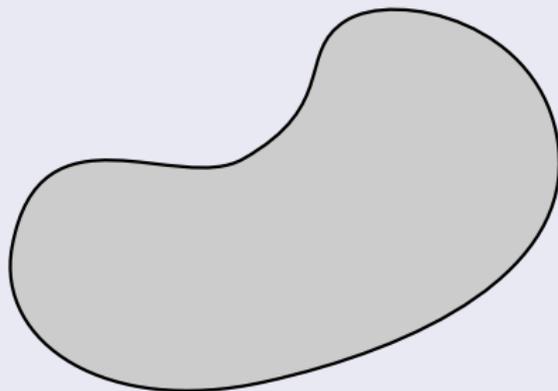


FIG.: Non convex set

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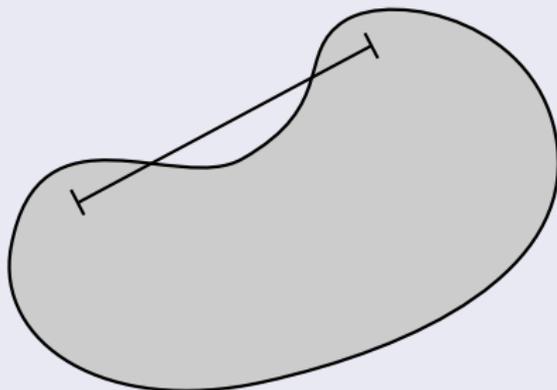


FIG.: Non convex set

## Proposition

$A$  and  $B$  convex  $\Rightarrow A \cap B$  convex.

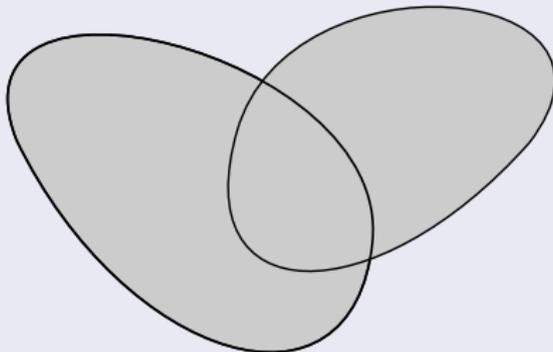


FIG.: Intersection

## Proposition

$A$  and  $B$  convex  $\Rightarrow A + B$  convex.

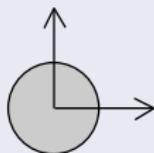


FIG.: Addition

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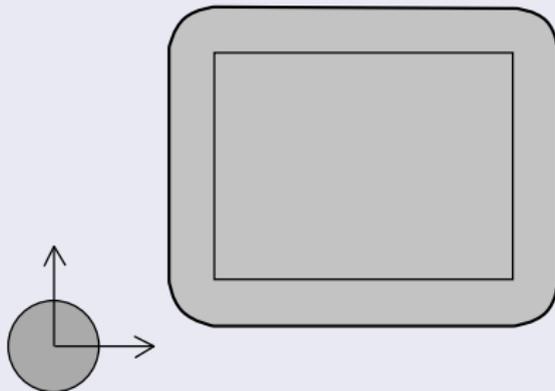


FIG.: Addition

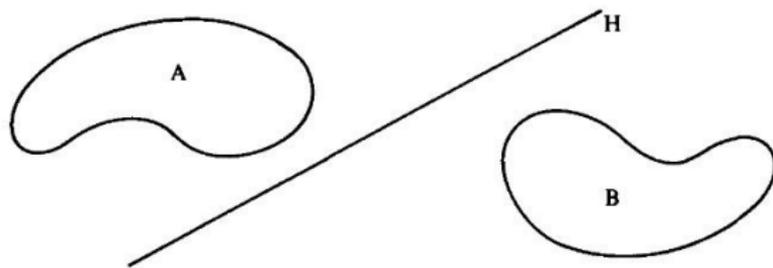
## Hahn-Banach Theorem

Let  $A, B$ , two convex, nonempty and disjoint sets.

$A$  is closed and  $B$  is compact.

Then there is a hyperplane  $H$  which strictly separates  $A$  and  $B$ .

Geométricamente la separación significa que  $A$  y  $B$  se sitúan «de un lado y de otro de  $H$ ».



Recordemos finalmente que un conjunto  $A \subset E$  es **convexo** si

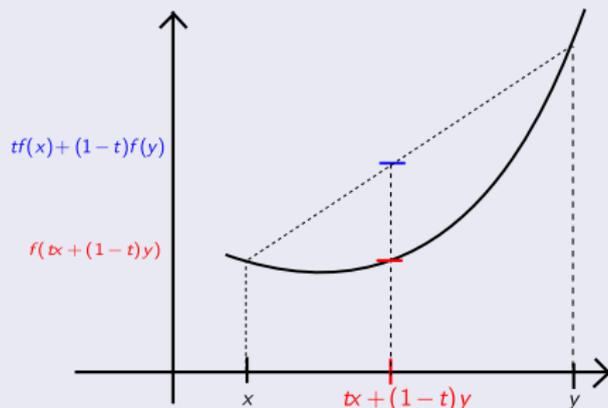
$$tx + (1 - t)v \in A \quad \forall x, v \in A, \quad \forall t \in [0, 1].$$

FIG.: Haïm Brézis, Analyse fonctionnelle - Théorie et applications

## Definition (Convex function)

A real-valued function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called convex if

$$\forall x \in X, \forall y \in X, \forall t \in [0, 1], f(tx + (1-t)y) \leq tf(x) + (1-t)f(y).$$



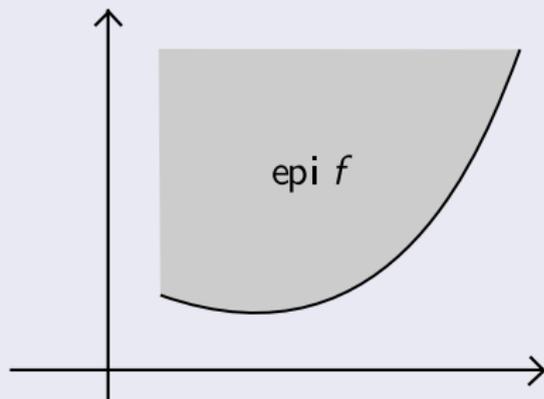
## Proposition

- 1 If  $f$  and  $g$  are convex functions,  
then so are  $x \mapsto \max(f(x), g(x))$  and  $x \mapsto f(x) + g(x)$ .
- 2 If  $f$  and  $g$  are convex functions and if  $g$  is increasing,  
then  $h(x) = g \circ f(x)$  is convex.
- 3 Convexity is invariant under affine maps :  
if  $x \mapsto f(x)$  is convex with  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $g : y \mapsto Ay + b$   
then so is  $y \mapsto f \circ g(y) = f(Ay + b)$ ,  
where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

## Definition (epigraph)

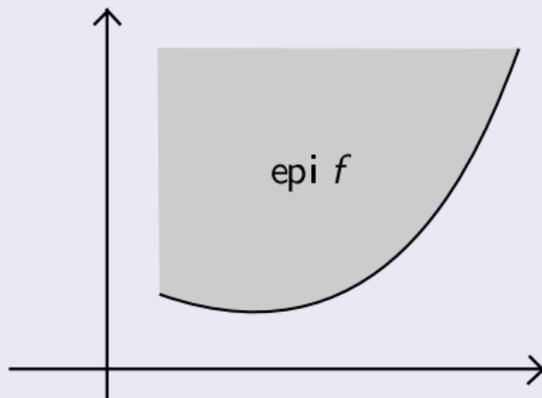
The epigraph of a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  is the set of points lying on or above its graph :

$$\text{epi } f = \{(x, y) : x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mu \in \mathbb{R}, f(x) \leq y\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n+1}.$$



## Proposition

A function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is convex if and only if its epigraph is convex.



## Proposition

A function  $f \in \mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$  is convex if and only if  $\forall x, \nabla^2 f(x)$  is semi definite positive (i.e.  $\forall x, \nabla^2 f(x) \succeq 0$ ).

## Example

- $f : \mathbb{R} \ni x \mapsto x^2 \in \mathbb{R}$  is convex since  $f''(x) = 2 \geq 0$ .
- $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \ni (x, y) \mapsto x^2 + y^2 \in \mathbb{R}$  is convex since

$$\nabla^2 f(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

is positive definite.

$$\min_{x \in S \subset \mathbb{R}^n} f(x)$$

### theorem - uniqueness

If  $S$  is a convex subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $f \in \mathcal{C}^2(D, \mathbb{R})$  a convex function, the following conditions are equivalent

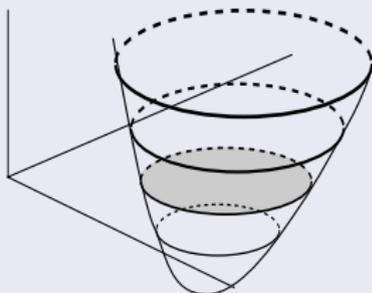
- $\underline{x}$  is a local minimum.
- $\underline{x}$  is a global minimum.

## Corollary

Let  $f \in \mathcal{C}^2(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$ .

If  $\forall x \in D, \nabla^2 f(x) \succeq 0$  then

$\{x \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) \leq 0\}$  is a convex set



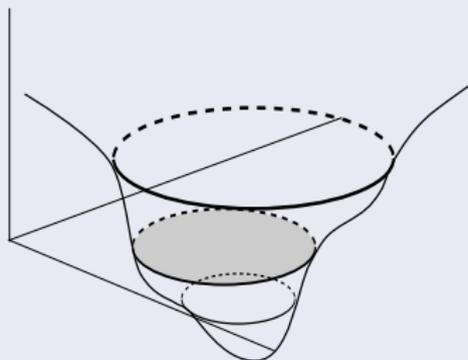
## Example

The set  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid f(x) = x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0\}$  is convex since  
 $\forall x, \nabla^2 f(x) \succeq 0$ .

## Not necessary

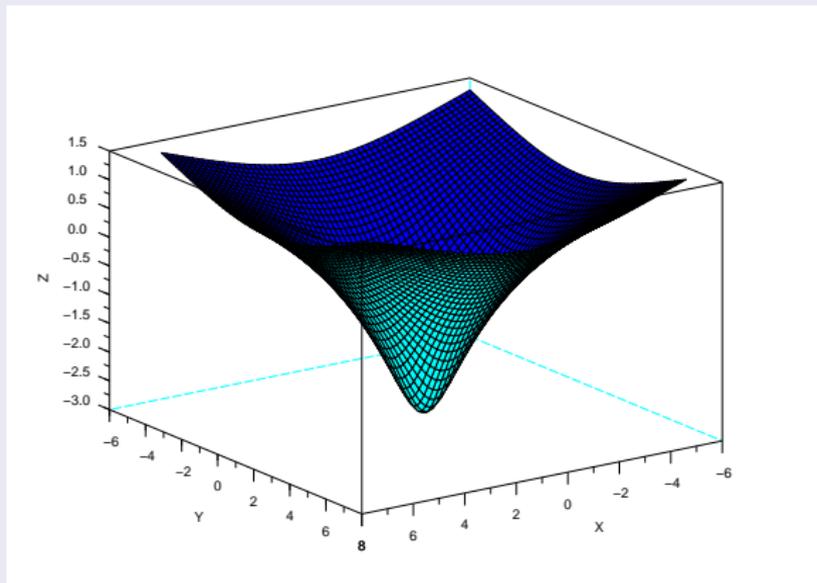
There exists function such that

$$\begin{cases} \{x \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) \leq 0\} \text{ is a convex set} \\ \exists x \in D, \nabla^2 f(x) \not\leq 0 \end{cases}$$



## Example

$$f(x, y) = \log(x^2 + y^2 + 1) - 3$$



Let us denote by

$S$  the set  $\{x \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) \leq 0\}$  and

$\partial S$  the set  $\{x \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) = 0\}$

## Theorem

Suppose that

- $D$  is convex,
- $S$  is path-connected,
- $\forall x \in \partial S, \ker \nabla f(x)$  has codimension 1,

If  $\forall x \in \partial S, \nabla^2 f(x)|_{\ker \nabla f(x)} \succ 0$  then  $S$  is convex.

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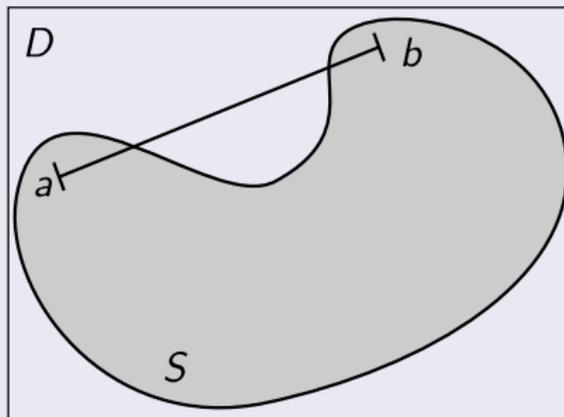
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If  $S$  is non convex then  $\exists x \in \partial S, \nabla^2 f(x)|_{\ker \nabla f(x)} \neq 0$

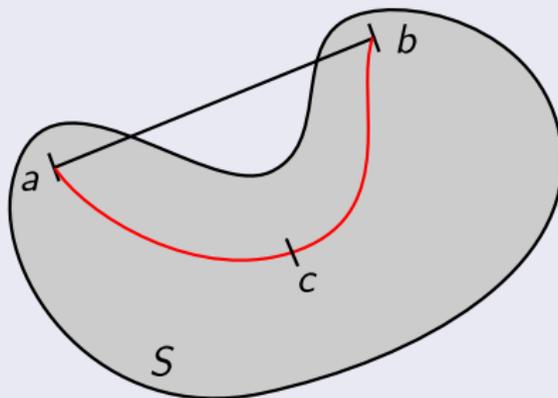
If  $S$  is non convex then  $\exists x \in \partial S, \nabla^2 f(x)|_{\text{Ker} \nabla f(x)} \neq 0$

Since  $D$  is convex,

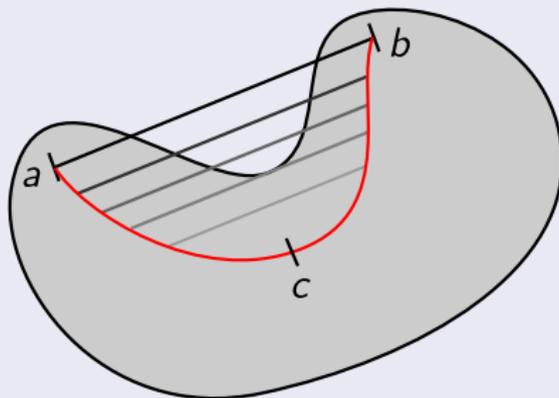


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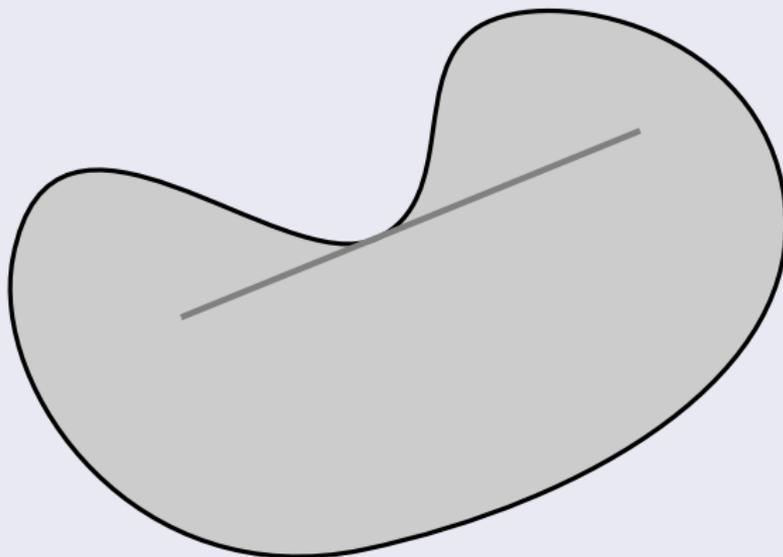


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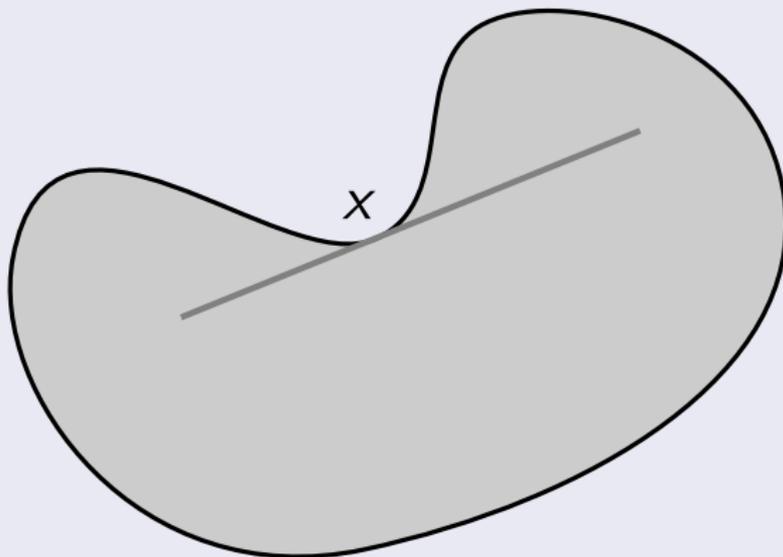
If  $S$  is non convex then  $\exists x \in \partial S, \nabla^2 f(x)|_{\text{Ker} \nabla f(x)} \neq 0$   
i.e.

$$\exists x \in \partial S, \exists h \in \ker \nabla f(x), h^T \nabla^2 f(x) h \leq 0$$



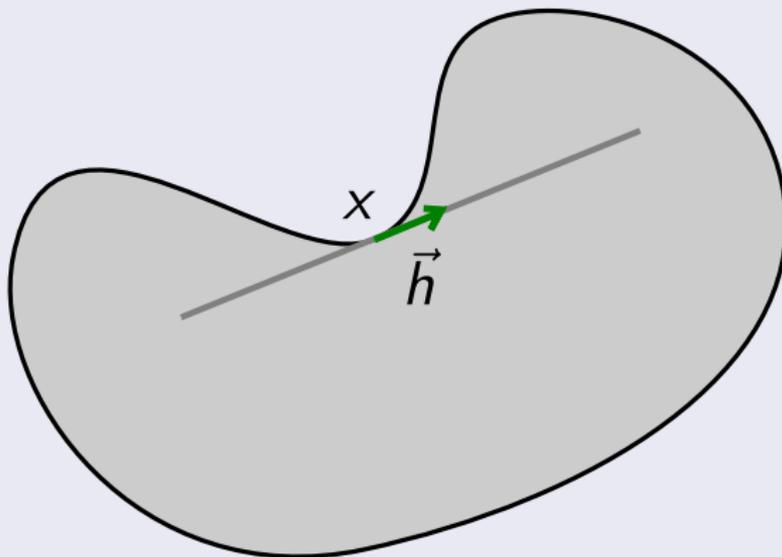
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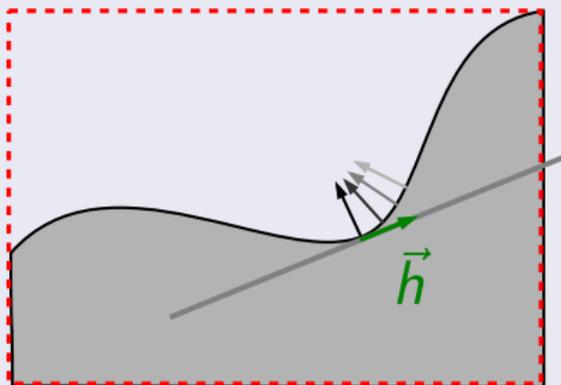
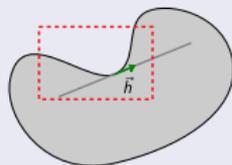


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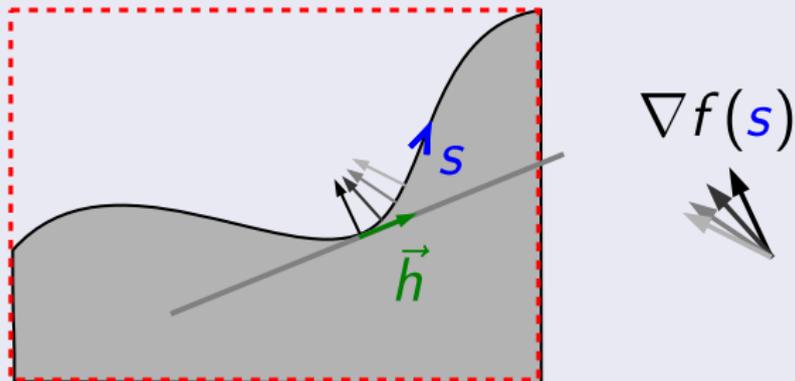


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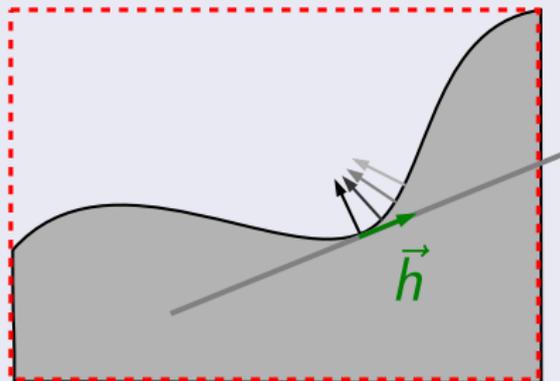
$$s(0) = x, \dot{s}(0) = h$$



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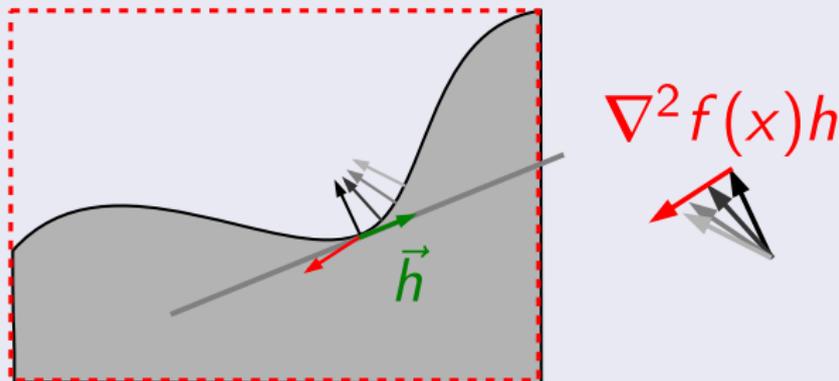
$$\frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \nabla f(s(t)) = \frac{d \nabla f(x)}{dx} (s(0)) \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} s(t) = \nabla^2 f(x) h$$



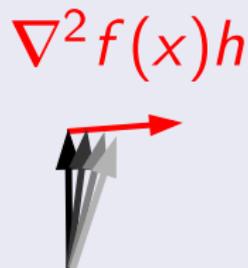
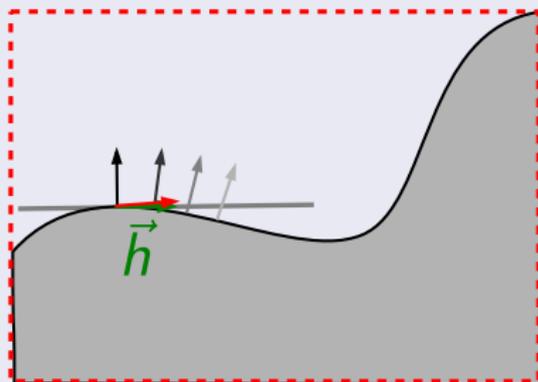
$$\nabla^2 f(x) h$$

A diagram showing a red vector and several gray arrows originating from a point, representing the result of the Hessian matrix applied to the vector  $h$ .

$$\exists x \in \partial S, \exists h \in \ker \nabla f(x), h^T \nabla^2 f(x) h \leq 0$$



$$x \in \partial S, h \in \ker \nabla f(x), h^T \nabla^2 f(x) h \geq 0$$



## Example

Let  $f$  be the function

$$\begin{aligned} f : [-10, 10] &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y) &\mapsto \log(x^2 + y^2 + 1) - 3 \end{aligned}$$

To prove that  $S = \{(x, y) \in [-10, 10]^2 \mid f(x, y) \leq 0\}$  is convex, one only has to check that :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} S \text{ is path-connected} \\ f(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \nabla f(x) \neq 0 \\ f(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \nabla^2 f(x) \succ 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{cases} f(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \nabla f(x) \neq 0 \\ f(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \nabla^2 f(x)|_{\ker \nabla f(x)} \succ 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} f(x) = 0 \wedge \nabla f(x) = 0 \text{ has no solution} \\ f(x) = 0 \wedge \nabla^2 f(x)|_{\ker \nabla f(x)} \not\succeq 0 \text{ has no solution} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} f(x) = 0 \wedge \nabla f(x) = 0 \text{ has no solution} \\ f(x) = 0 \wedge h \in \ker \nabla f(x) \wedge h^T \nabla^2 f(x) h \leq 0 \text{ has no solution} \end{cases}$$

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$$\begin{cases} \log(x^2 + y^2 + 1) - 3 = 0 \\ \frac{2x}{y^2+x^2+1} = 0 \\ \frac{2y}{y^2+x^2+1} = 0 \end{cases} \text{ has no solution}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \log(x^2 + y^2 + 1) - 3 = 0 \\ \frac{8x^2+8y^2}{x^6+3x^4y^2+3x^4+3x^2y^4+6x^2y^2+3x^2+y^6+3y^4+3y^2+1} \leq 0 \end{cases} \text{ has no solution}$$

Convex - Nicolas DELANOUE

File

Pour vérifier  
$$\frac{8x^2+8y^2}{x^6+3x^4y^2+3x^4+3x^2y^4+3x^2+y^6+3y^4+3y^2+1}$$

Convex Information

 Cette méthode a mis 80 ms pour montrer que cet ensemble est convexe.

Valider

Calcul Vue ++

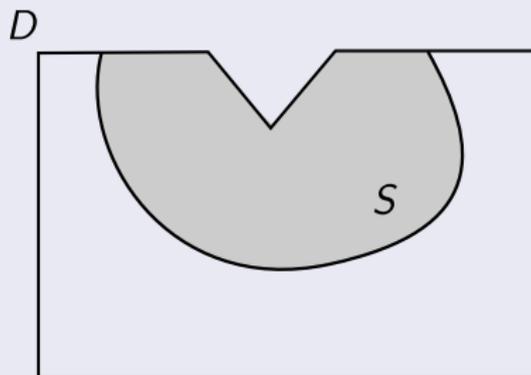
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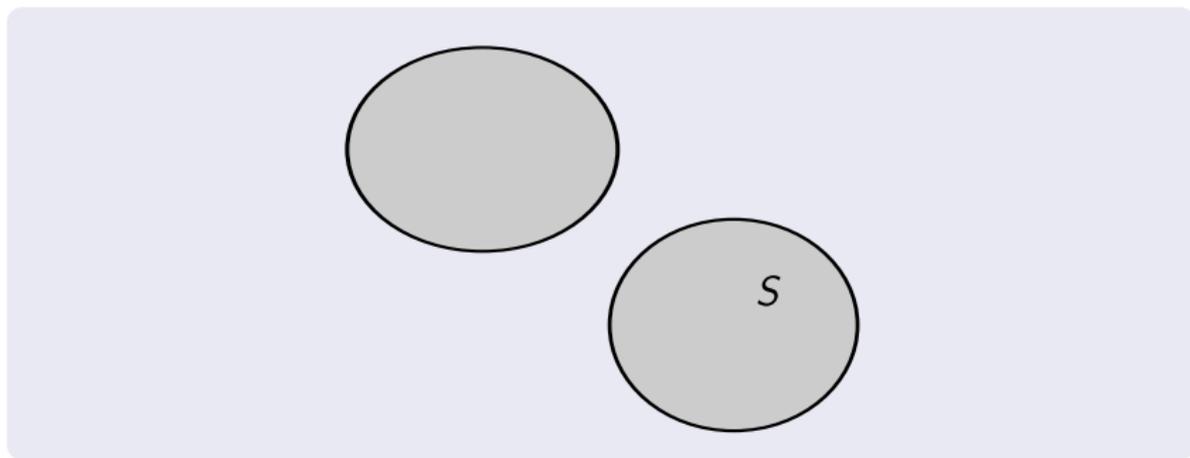
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If  $\forall x \in \partial S, \nabla^2 f(x)|_{\text{Ker} \nabla f(x)} \succ 0$  then  $S$  is convex.

If  $D$  is non convex,

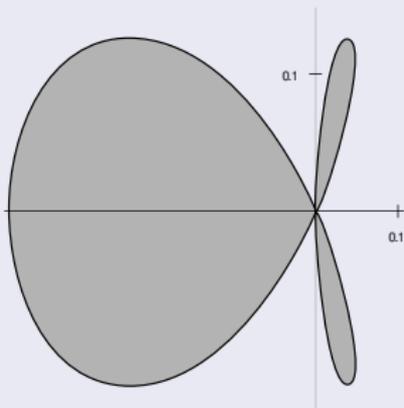


If  $S$  is not path-connected,



If  $\exists x \in \partial S$ ,  $\ker \nabla f(x)$  has not codimension 1,

$$\{(x_1, x_2) \mid (x_2^2 + x_1^2)^2 + \frac{x_1 x_2^2}{2} + \frac{x_1^3}{2} \leq 0\}$$



- 1 CVX : Matlab Software for Disciplined Convex Programming
- 2 Cylindrical algebraic decomposition

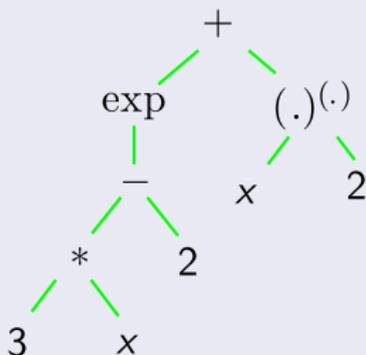
# CVX : Matlab Software for Disciplined Convex Programming

- constraint propagation
- symbolic differentiation

- C. Crusius.  
*A parser/solver for convex optimization problems.*  
PhD thesis, Stanford Univ., USA, 2002.
- M. C. Grant.  
*Disciplined convex programming.*  
PhD thesis, Stanford Univ., USA, 2004.

# CVX : Matlab Software for Disciplined Convex Programming

$x \mapsto f(x) = \exp(3x - 2) + x^2$  is convex since



# Cylindrical algebraic decomposition

## Tarski's theorem

The solution set of a quantified system of real algebraic equations and inequations is a semialgebraic set (Tarski 1951, Strzebonski 2000).

- Tarski's theorem gives rise to an impractical method (Davenport and Heintz 1988)
- A much more efficient procedure for implementing quantifier elimination is called *cylindrical algebraic decomposition*. It was developed by Collins (1975).

## Proposition

If  $P$  and  $Q$  have a common root then  $Res(P, Q) = 0$ .

## Proof

Let  $P$  and  $Q$  have a common root  $a$  with  $\deg P = p$  and  $\deg Q = q$ .

One has  $P(X) = (X - a)\tilde{P}(X)$  and  $Q(X) = (X - a)\tilde{Q}(X)$ , then :

$$P\tilde{Q} - Q\tilde{P} = 0$$

where  $\deg \tilde{P} = p - 1$  and  $\deg \tilde{Q} = q - 1$ .

## Proof

Note that

$$(b_2X^2 + b_1X + b_0)(a_2X^2 + a_1X + a_0) = c_4X^4 + c_3X^3 + c_2X^2 + c_1X + c_0$$

is equivalent to

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_2 & b_1 & b_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_2 & a_1 & a_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_2 & a_1 & a_0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_2 & a_1 & a_0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_4 & c_3 & c_2 & c_1 & c_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Proof

$$\exists \tilde{P} \neq 0 \exists \tilde{Q} \neq 0, P\tilde{Q} - Q\tilde{P} = 0$$

is equivalent to  $\det Syl = 0$  with :

$$Syl = \begin{pmatrix} a_p & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & a_0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & & & & & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & & & & & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & a_p & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & a_0 \\ b_q & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & b_0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & & & & & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & & & & & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & b_q & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & b_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Example

$$P(X) = (X - 1)(X - 2) = X^2 - 3X + 2$$

$$Q(X) = (X - 1)(X - 3) = X^2 - 4X + 3$$

have common root,

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 2 \\ 1 & -4 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

## Example

$$P(X) = (X - 1)(X - 2) = X^2 - 3X + 2$$

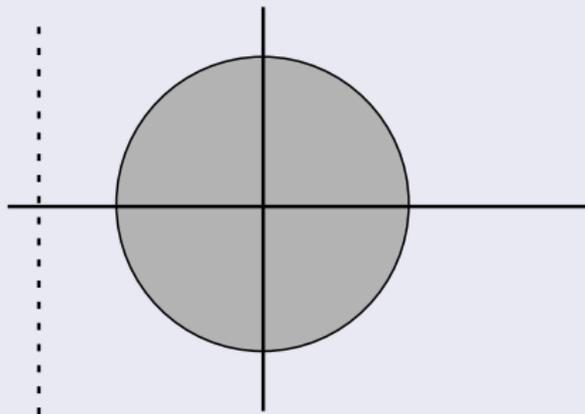
$$Q(X) = (X - 1)(X - 3) = X^2 - 4X + 3$$

have common root since

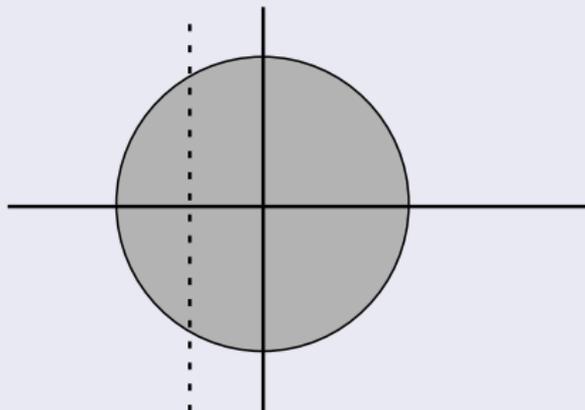
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 2 \\ 1 & -4 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(X - 3)P(X) - (X - 2)Q(X) = 0$$

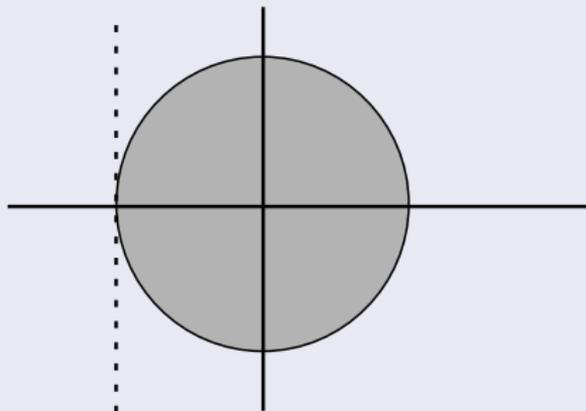
$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$



$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$



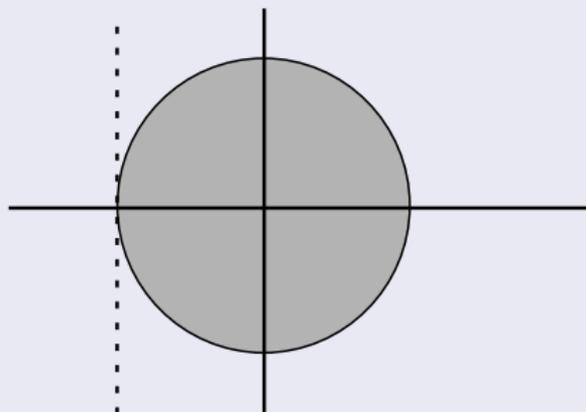
$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$



$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$

$y \mapsto P(x, y)$  and  $y \mapsto \frac{d}{dy} P(x, y)$  has a common root.

i.e.  $1 * Y^2 + 0 * Y^1 + (X^2 - 1) * Y^0$  and  $2 * Y^1$  has a common root.



$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$

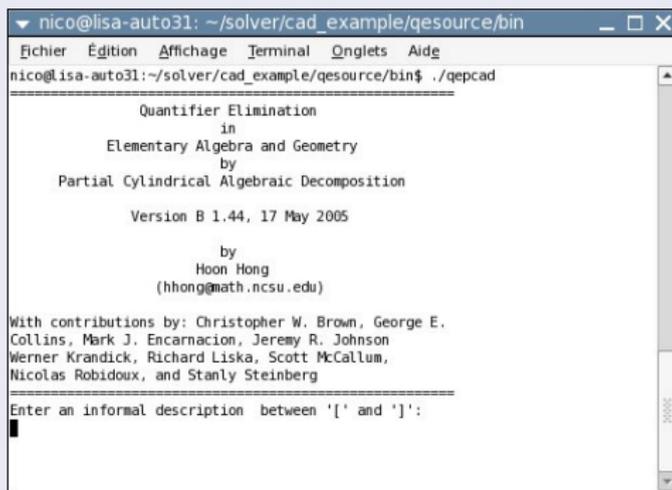
$1 * Y^2 + 0 * Y^1 + (X^2 - 1) * Y^0$  and  $2 * Y^1$  has a common root.

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & X^2 - 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (-2)(-2)(X^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (X^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$



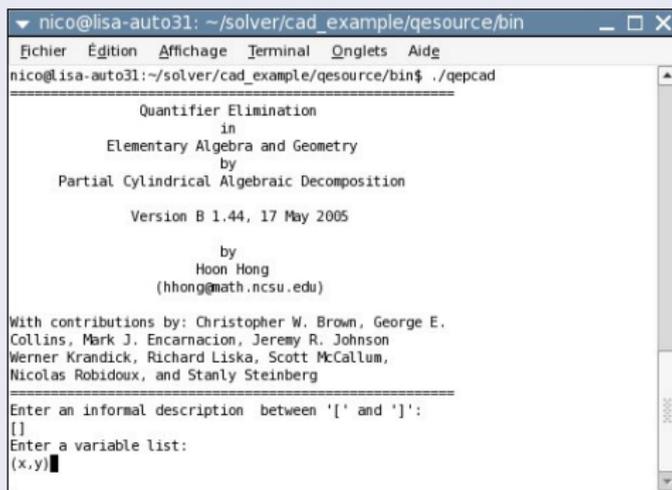
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nico@lisa-auto31:~/solver/cad_example/qesource/bin$ ./qepcad
=====
          Quantifier Elimination
            in
      Elementary Algebra and Geometry
            by
    Partial Cylindrical Algebraic Decomposition

          Version B 1.44, 17 May 2005

            by
        Hoon Hong
    (hhong@math.ncsu.edu)

With contributions by: Christopher W. Brown, George E.
Collins, Mark J. Encarnacion, Jeremy R. Johnson
Werner Krandick, Richard Liska, Scott McCallum,
Nicolas Robidoux, and Stanly Steinberg
=====
Enter an informal description between '[' and ']':
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$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$



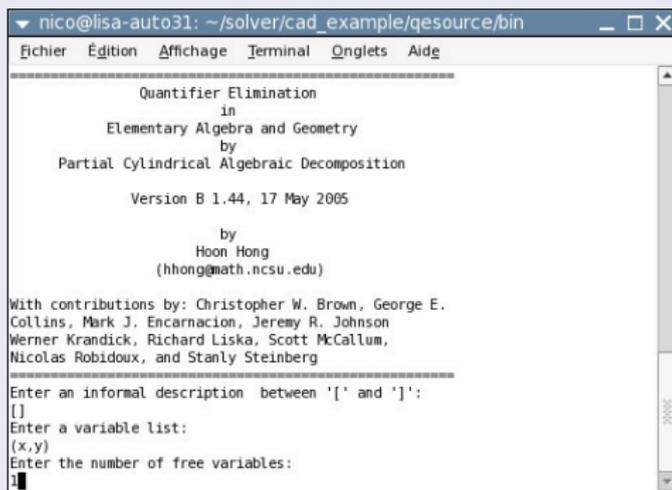
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Enter an informal description between '[' and ']':
[ ]
Enter a variable list:
(x,y)
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$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$



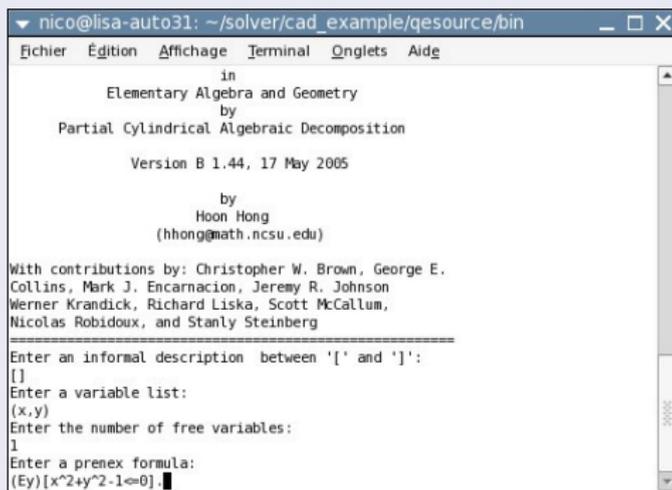
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Enter an informal description between '[' and ']':
[]
Enter a variable list:
(x,y)
Enter the number of free variables:
1
```

$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$



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Enter an informal description between '[' and ']':
[]
Enter a variable list:
(x,y)
Enter the number of free variables:
1
Enter a prenex formula:
(Ey)[x^2+y^2-1<=0]
```

$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$

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Enter a variable list:
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Enter the number of free variables:
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Enter a prenex formula:
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Before Normalization >
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$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$

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Enter a variable list:
(x,y)
Enter the number of free variables:
1
Enter a prenex formula:
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=====
Before Normalization >
finish
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$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$

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Enter a prenex formula:
(Ey)[x^2+y^2-1<=0].

=====

Before Normalization >
finish

An equivalent quantifier-free formula:

x + 1 >= 0 ^\ x - 1 <= 0

===== The End =====

-----
0 Garbage collections, 0 Cells and 0 Arrays reclaimed, in 0 milliseconds.
490802 Cells in AVAIL, 500000 Cells in SPACE.

System time: 32 milliseconds.
System time after the initialization: 8 milliseconds.
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```

$$\exists y \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 + y^2 - 1 \leq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x + 1 \geq 0) \wedge (x - 1 \leq 0)$$

## Proposition

Convexity is a semi-algebraic property.

Let  $S$  be a semi-algebraic set,  $S$  is convex if

$$\forall x \forall y \forall t, (t \in [0, 1], x \in S, y \in S \Rightarrow tx + (1 - t)y \in S)$$

Let  $S$  be a semi-algebraic set,  $S$  is convex if

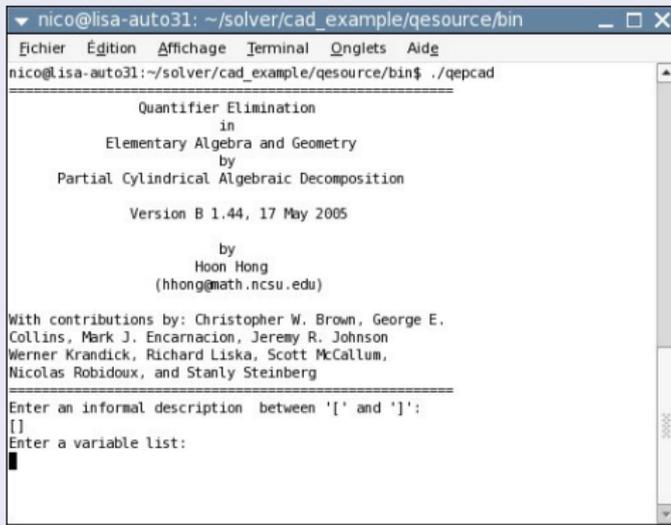
$$\forall x \forall y \forall t, (t \in [0, 1], x \in S, y \in S \Rightarrow tx + (1 - t)y \in S)$$

### Example

Proving that  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 - 1 \leq 0\} = [-1, 1]$  is convex remains to prove :

$$\forall x \forall y \forall t, 0 \leq t \leq 1 \wedge x^2 - 1 \leq 0 \wedge y^2 - 1 \leq 0 \Rightarrow (tx + (1 - t)y)^2 - 1 \leq 0$$

$\{x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 - 1 \leq 0\} = [-1, 1]$  is convex.



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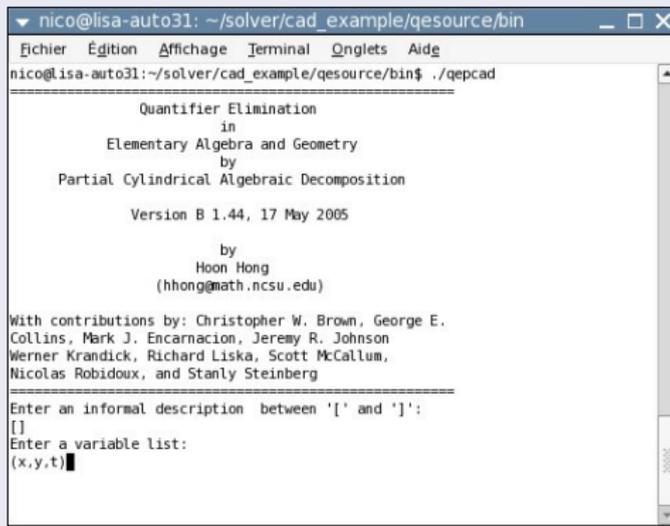
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Enter an informal description between '[' and ']':
[]
Enter a variable list:
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```

$\{x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 - 1 \leq 0\} = [-1, 1]$  is convex.



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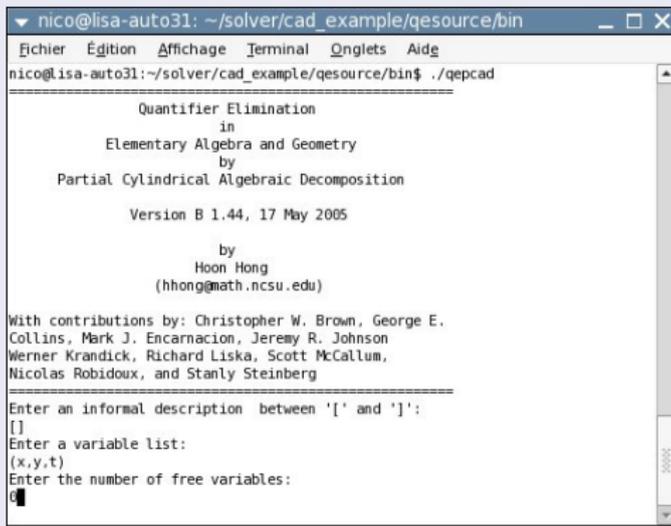
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Enter an informal description between '[' and ']':
[]
Enter a variable list:
(x,y,t)
```

$\{x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 - 1 \leq 0\} = [-1, 1]$  is convex.



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Enter an informal description between '[' and ']':
[]
Enter a variable list:
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Enter the number of free variables:
0
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$\{x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 - 1 \leq 0\} = [-1, 1]$  is convex.

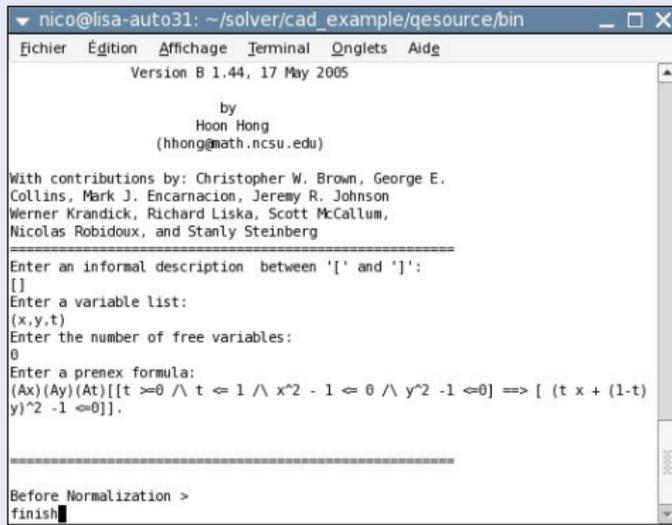
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=====
Enter an informal description between '[' and ']':
[]
Enter a variable list:
(x,y,t)
Enter the number of free variables:
0
Enter a prenex formula:
(Ax)(Ay)(At)[[t >= 0 ^ t <= 1 ^ x^2 - 1 <= 0 ^ y^2 - 1 <= 0] ==> [ (t x + (1-t)
y)^2 - 1 <= 0]]
```

$\{x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 - 1 \leq 0\} = [-1, 1]$  is convex.

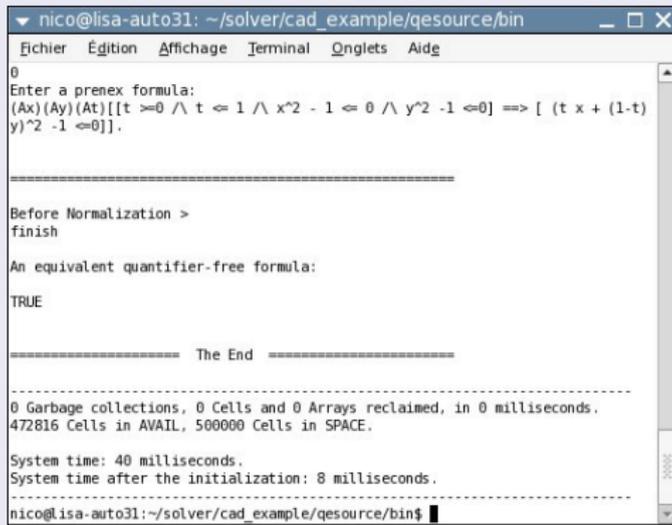


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Enter an informal description between '[' and ']':
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Enter a variable list:
(x,y,t)
Enter the number of free variables:
0
Enter a prenex formula:
(Ax)(Ay)(At)[[t >= 0 /\ t <= 1 /\ x^2 - 1 <= 0 /\ y^2 - 1 <= 0] ==> [(t x + (1-t)
y)^2 - 1 <= 0]].
=====
Before Normalization >
finish
```

$\{x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 - 1 \leq 0\} = [-1, 1]$  is convex.



```
nico@lisa-auto31: ~/solver/cad_example/qesource/bin
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0
Enter a prenex formula:
(Ax)(Ay)(At)[[t >= 0 ^ t <= 1 ^ x^2 - 1 <= 0 ^ y^2 - 1 <= 0] ==> [ (t x + (1-t)
y)^2 - 1 <= 0]].

=====

Before Normalization >
finish

An equivalent quantifier-free formula:

TRUE

===== The End =====

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0 Garbage collections, 0 Cells and 0 Arrays reclaimed, in 0 milliseconds.
472816 Cells in AVAIL, 500000 Cells in SPACE.

System time: 40 milliseconds.
System time after the initialization: 8 milliseconds.
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nico@lisa-auto31:~/solver/cad_example/qesource/bin$
```

# Conclusion

Let us denote by

$S$  the set  $\{x \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) \leq 0\}$  and

$\partial S$  the set  $\{x \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) = 0\}$

## Theorem

Suppose that

- $D$  is convex,
- $S$  is path-connected,
- $\forall x \in \partial S, \ker \nabla f(x)$  has codimension 1,

If  $\forall x \in \partial S, \nabla^2 f(x)|_{\ker \nabla f(x)} \succ 0$  then  $S$  is convex.

## Future works

- Prove that the proposed algorithm terminates in the generic case.
- Expand this method to cases where  $f_i$  depends of unknown parameters.