

Proposition. The image of a convex set under the perspective function is convex.

Proof. Let C be a convex set, and f be a perspective function.

We want to show that $f(C)$ is convex, that is, for any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ and for any $(x, s), (y, t) \in C$,

$$\lambda \frac{x}{s} + (1 - \lambda) \frac{y}{t} \in f(C),$$

where $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $s, t \in \mathbb{R}_{++}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \frac{x}{s} + (1 - \lambda) \frac{y}{t} &= \frac{\lambda tx + (1 - \lambda) sy}{st} = \frac{\frac{\lambda tx + (1 - \lambda) sy}{\lambda t + (1 - \lambda) s}}{\frac{st}{\lambda t + (1 - \lambda) s}} \\ &= \frac{\frac{\lambda t}{\lambda t + (1 - \lambda) s} x + \frac{(1 - \lambda) s}{\lambda t + (1 - \lambda) s} y}{\frac{\lambda t}{\lambda t + (1 - \lambda) s} s + \frac{(1 - \lambda) s}{\lambda t + (1 - \lambda) s} t} \end{aligned}$$

Since C is convex, both of the numerator and the denominator also belong to C , and thus, $\lambda \frac{x}{s} + (1 - \lambda) \frac{y}{t} \in f(C)$, which means that $f(C)$ is convex.