



262B-Lecture 21

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weak duality : $\inf_{x \in X} L(x, \mu) \leq f_*$

\Rightarrow strong duality holds and μ_* is a geometric

multiplier if and only if $\exists \mu_*^{\geq 0}$ s.t.

the hyperplane with the normal vector $\begin{bmatrix} \mu_* \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and

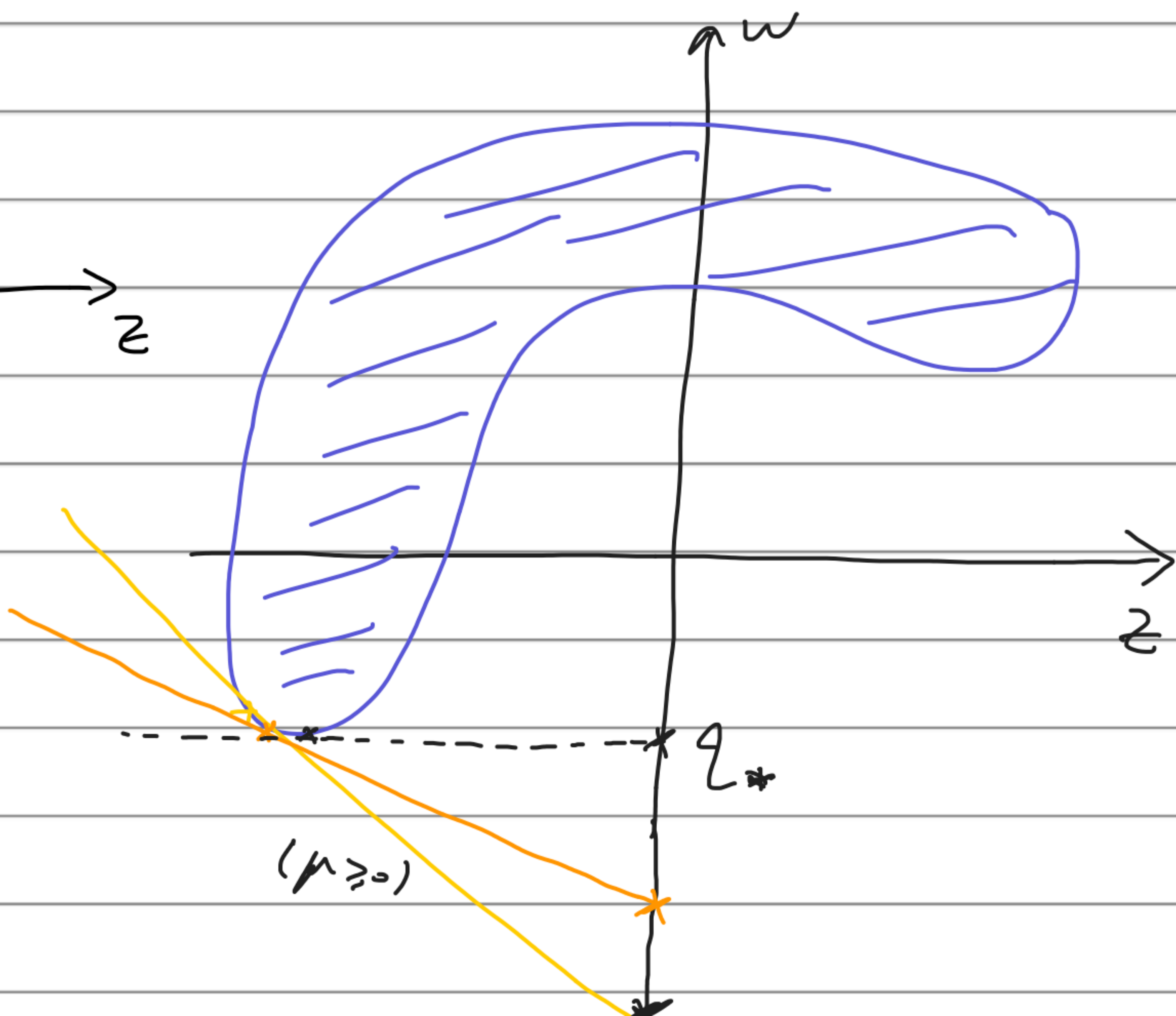
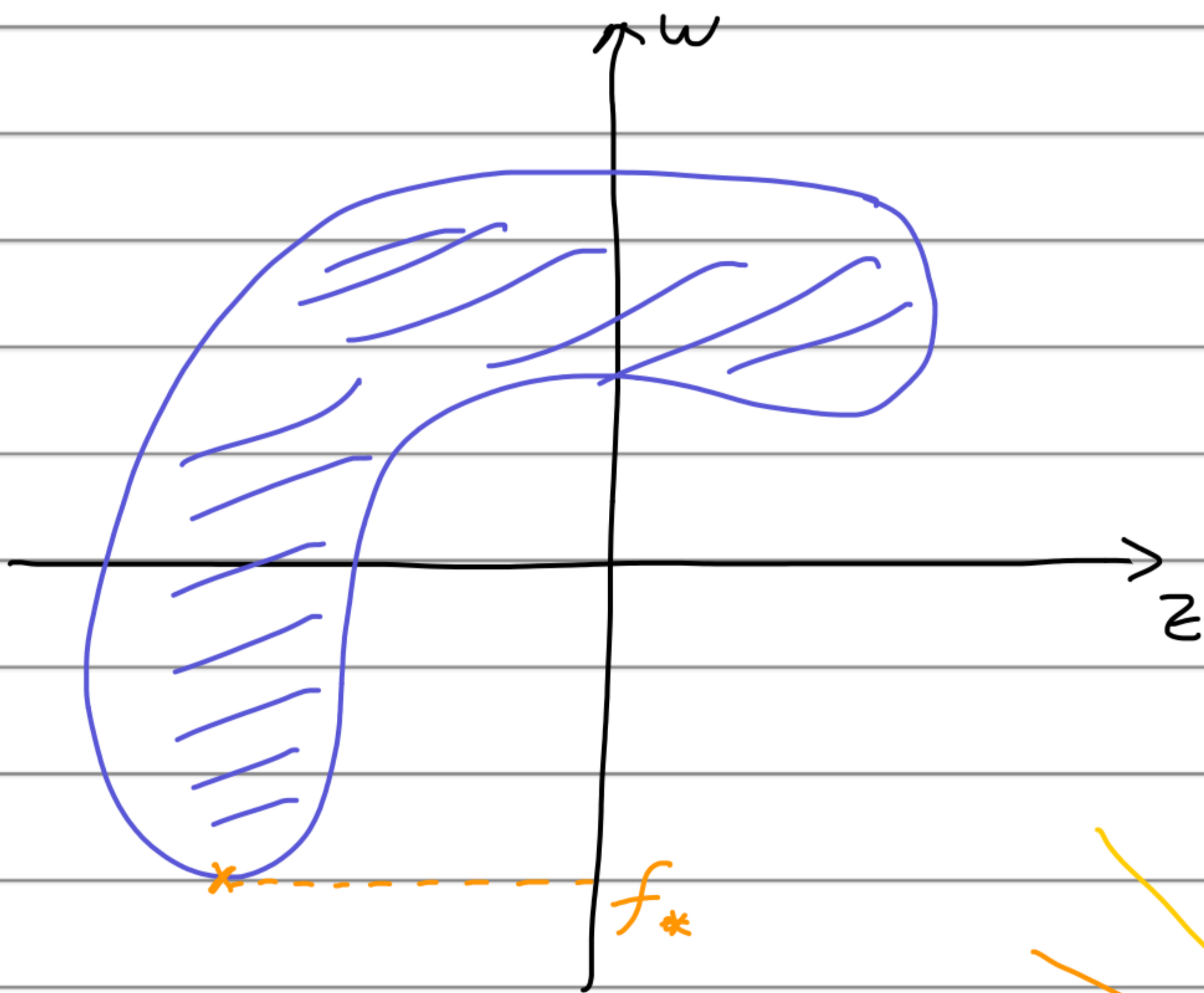
with the highest interception with the w -axis

and with Σ on its positive side gives the

interception level f_* .

$(\min_{x \in X} f(x) \text{ s.t. } g(x) \leq 0)$

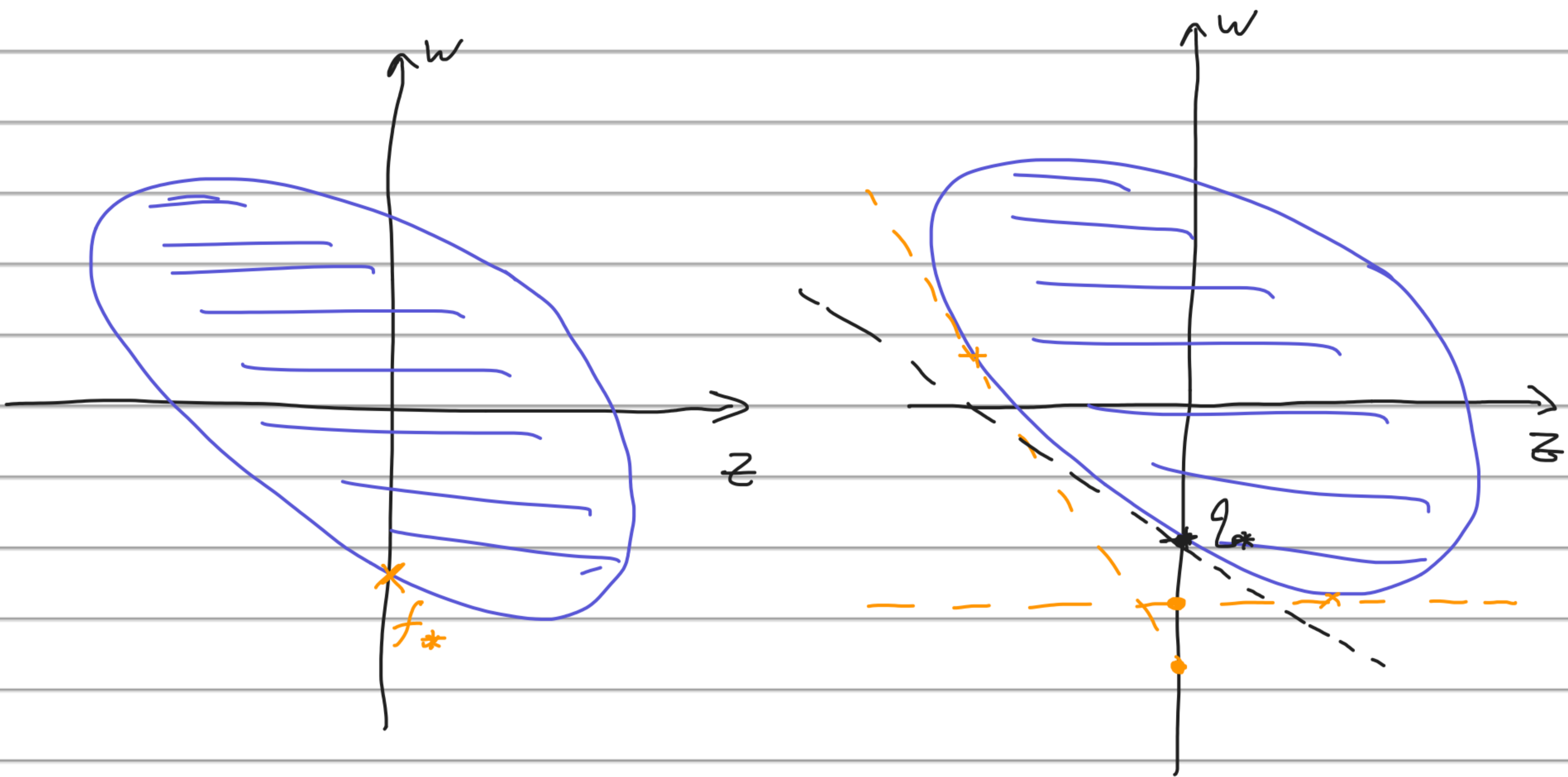
$(\Sigma = \{ (g(x), f(x)) \mid x \in X \})$



$\Rightarrow f_* = Q_*$ (non-convex)

$z_* = g(x_*) < 0, \mu_* = 0$

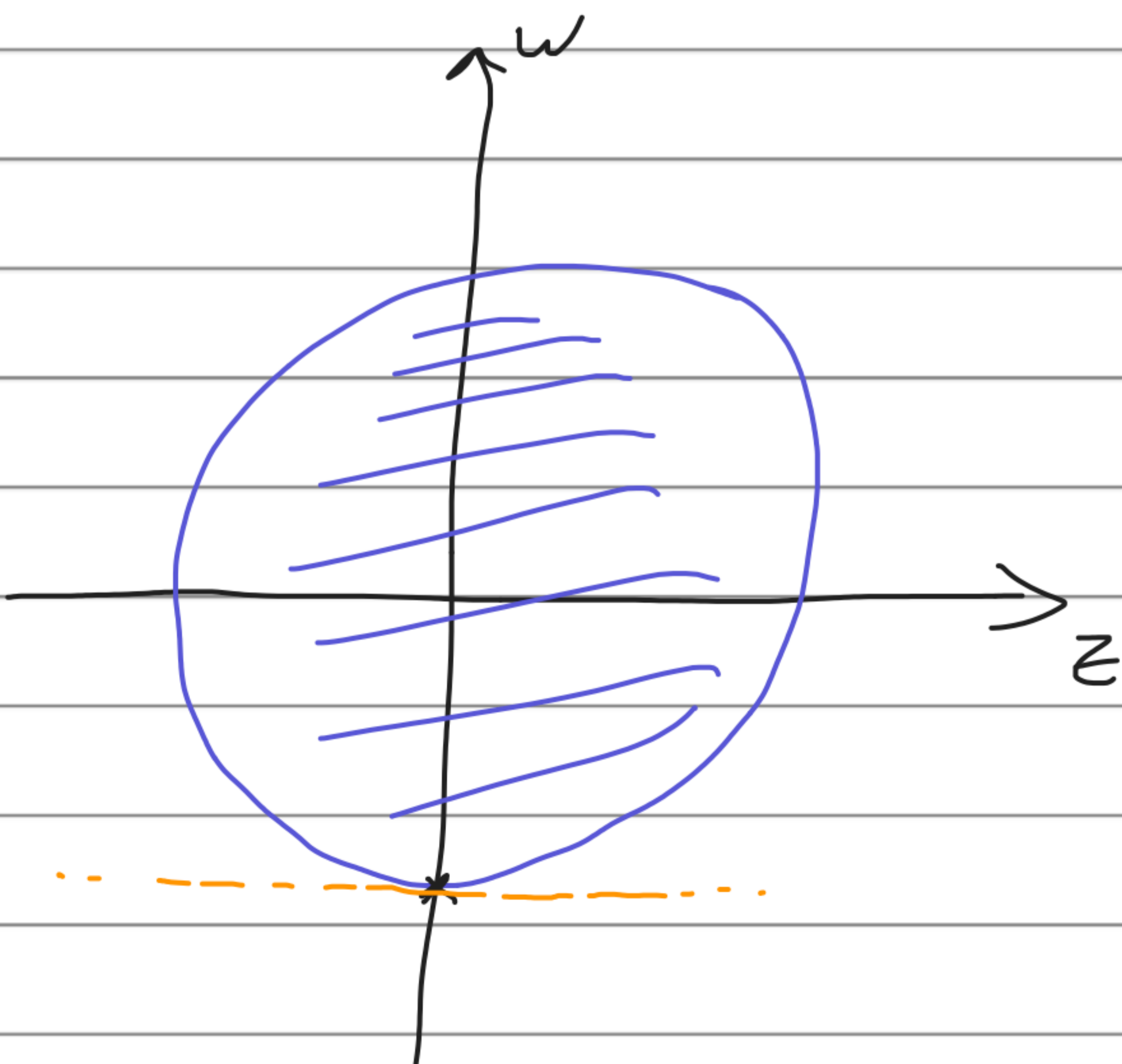
$\Rightarrow \mu_* g(x_*) = 0$: Complementary slackness



$\Rightarrow f_* = q_*$

$z_* = g(x_*) = 0$, $\mu_* > 0 \Rightarrow \mu_* g(x_*) = 0$

Complementary slackness

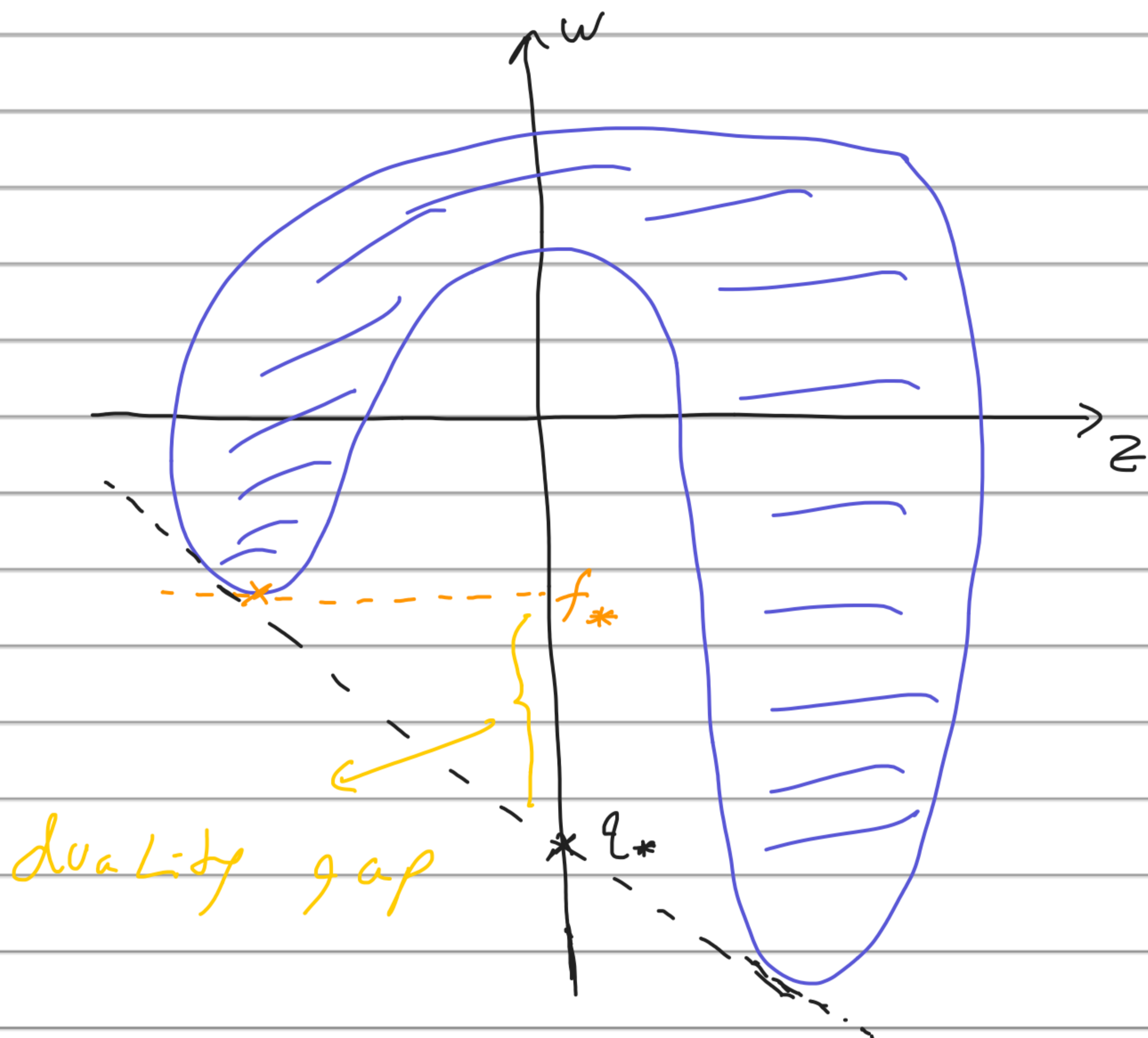


$f_* = q_*$

but $\mu_* = g(x_*) = 0$

degenerate case

Non-zero duality gap:



The issue with the definition of geometric

multiplier is that: $f_* = \inf_{x \in X} L(x, \lambda_*, \mu_*)$

f_* is unknown. So, we should somehow drop f_* .

Thm: A tuple (x_*, λ_*, μ_*) is a global min-
geometric multipliers if and only if

1 - primal feasibility: $x_* \in X$, $h(x_*) = 0$, $g(x_*) \leq 0$

2 - dual feasibility: $\mu_* \geq 0$

3 - Lagrangian optimality
(stronger than stationarity) $x_* \in \underbrace{\operatorname{argmin}_{x \in X} L(x, \lambda_*, \mu_*)}_{\text{global min}}$

4 - Complementary slackness: $\mu_j^* g_j(x_*) = 0$
 $j = 1, \dots, r$

Saddle point theorem: A tuple (x_*, λ_*, μ_*)

is an optimal (global) solution - geometric multipliers

if and only if

1 - $x_* \in X$

2 - $\mu_* \geq 0$

3 - (x_*, λ_*, μ_*) is a saddle point

for Lagrangian:

$L(x_*, \lambda, \mu) \leq L(x_*, \lambda_*, \mu_*) \leq L(x, \lambda_*, \mu_*)$
 $\forall x \in X, \lambda, \mu \geq 0$

A: x_* is a min

B: (λ_*, μ_*) is a max

So, at the point (x_*, λ_*, μ_*) the Lagrangian increases in the direction of x and decreases in the direction of (λ, μ) .

Proof:

1 - Assume (x_*, λ_*, μ_*) is min-geometric multipliers.

$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_* : \text{primal solution} \\ (\lambda_*, \mu_*) : \text{dual solution} \end{cases} \Rightarrow A \text{ holds}$

$$\text{Also, } L(x_*, \lambda, \mu) = f(x_*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \underbrace{h_i(x_*)}_{=0} + \sum_{j=1}^r \underbrace{\mu_j}_{\geq 0} \underbrace{g_j(x_*)}_{\leq 0} \leq f(x_*) = L(x_*, \lambda_*, \mu_*)$$

$\Rightarrow B \text{ holds.}$

2 - Assume A, B hold for some $x_* \in X, \lambda_*, \mu_* \geq 0$

$$\sup_{\substack{\lambda, \\ \mu \geq 0}} L(x_*, \lambda, \mu) = \sup_{\substack{\lambda, \\ \mu \geq 0}} \left\{ f(x_*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \overline{h_i(x_*)} + \sum_{j=1}^r \underbrace{\mu_j \overline{g_j(x_*)}}_{\geq 0} \right\}$$

Linear in λ, μ

$h_i(x_*) \neq 0$
or $g_j(x_*) \neq 0$
since we just assumed $x_* \in X$

$$= \begin{cases} f(x_*) & \text{if } h(x_*) = 0, g(x_*) \leq 0 \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

B holds $\Rightarrow \sup_{\substack{\lambda, \\ \mu \geq 0}} L(x_*, \lambda, \mu) \leq \underbrace{L(x_*, \lambda_*, \mu_*)}_{\text{finite}}$

$\Rightarrow h(x_*) = 0, g(x_*) \leq 0$

Then, solution of \sup : $\Rightarrow \mu_j^* g_j(x_*) = 0$

Also, A implies $\Rightarrow x_* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in X} L(x, \lambda_*, \mu_*)$

\Rightarrow All 4 conditions are satisfied

strong duality in special cases:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min f(x) \rightarrow \text{Convex} \\ \text{s.t. } a_i^T x = b_i \quad i=1, \dots, m \\ c_j^T x \leq d_j \quad j=1, \dots, r \\ X = \text{polyhedral} \end{array} \right.$$

Case 1: finite f_*

\Rightarrow no duality gap and there exists

at least one geometric multiplier

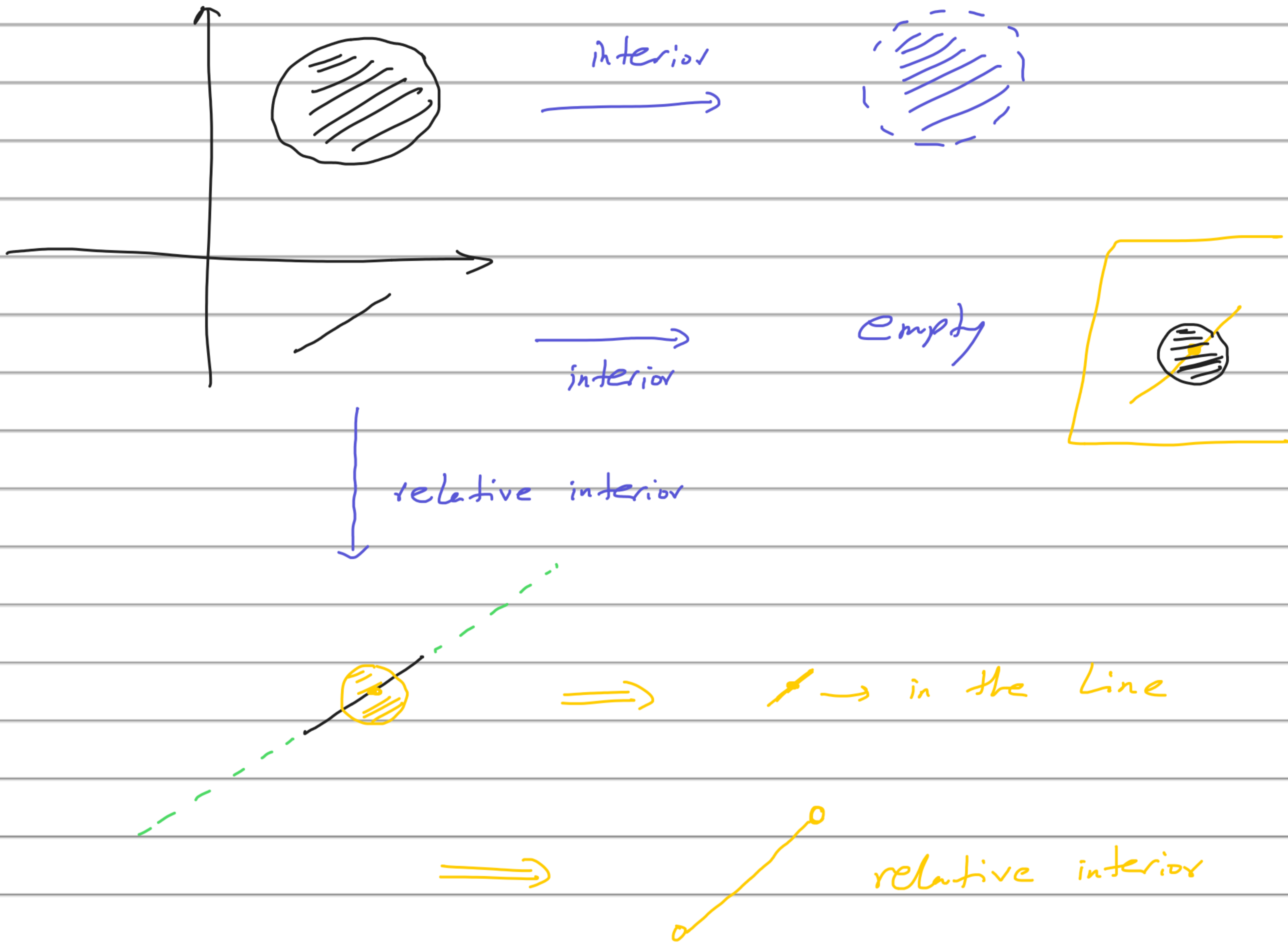
(dual solution)

Case 2: finite f_* , $f(x)$ = quadratic

(QP with X

\Rightarrow no duality gap and (constraint)

primal & dual solutions exist.



Two scenarios:

$$1 - \min f(x)$$

$$\text{s.t. } g_j(x) \leq 0 \quad j = 1, \dots, r$$

$$x \in X$$

(no equalities)

Assume: - f_* finite

- Convex opt ($f: \text{Convex}, g_j: \text{Convex},$

$X: \text{Convex}$)

- $\exists \bar{x}$ s.t.

$$\underbrace{\bar{x} \in X}_{\text{no need to be in interior}}, \quad \underbrace{g_j(\bar{x}) < 0}_{\text{strictly negative}}$$

\Rightarrow no duality gap & dual solution exists.

2 - min $f(x)$

s.t. $g_j(x) \leq 0 \quad j=1, \dots, r \quad \rightarrow$ non-linear inequalities

$a_i^T x = b_i \quad i=1, \dots, m \quad \rightarrow$ linear equalities

$c_k^T x \leq d_k \quad k=1, \dots, l \quad \rightarrow$ linear inequalities

$x \in X$

- Assume:
- Convex opt $(f, g_j, X = \text{convex})$
 - f_* finite
 - $X =$ intersection of a polyhedral & convex set C .

→ (special case:
 $C = \mathbb{R}^n$)

- $\exists \bar{x}$: feasible, $g_j(\bar{x}) < 0 \quad j=1, \dots, r$
, $\bar{x} \in \text{ri}(C)$

⇒ no duality gap & existence of dual solution.

(need to have a feasible point satisfying non-linear inequalities in a strict way and belonging to the relative interior of C .)

Fenchel duality:

$$\begin{cases} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} & f_1(x) - f_2(x) \\ \text{s.t.} & x \in X_1 \cap X_2 \end{cases}$$

⇓

(idea used extensively
in distributed
computation)

$$\begin{cases} \min_{\substack{y \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ z \in \mathbb{R}^n}} & f_1(y) - f_2(z) \\ & \{z = y\} \rightarrow \text{Lagrange multiplier } \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ & y \in X_1, z \in X_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow q(\lambda) = \inf_{\substack{y \in X_1 \\ z \in X_2}} (f_1(y) - f_2(z) + \lambda^T (z - y))$$

$$= \underbrace{\inf_{y \in X_1} (f_1(y) - \lambda^T y)}_{q_1(\lambda)} + \underbrace{\inf_{z \in X_2} (-f_2(z) + \lambda^T z)}_{q_2(\lambda)}$$

$$= \underbrace{\sup_{y \in X_1} (-f_1(y) + \lambda^T y)}_{q_1(\lambda)}$$

$$q_2(\lambda)$$

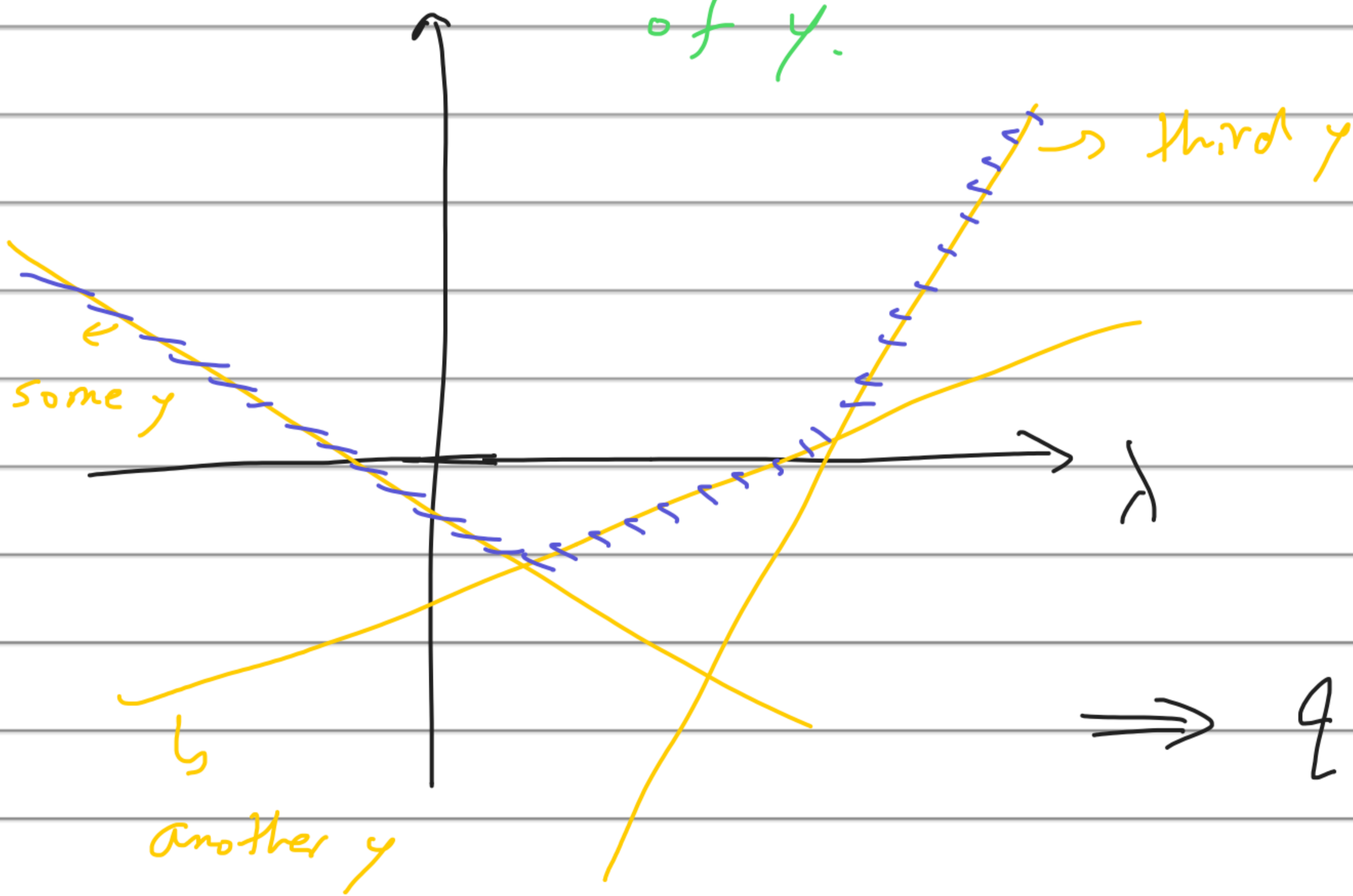
Conjugate convex
function

$$q_1(\lambda)$$

Conjugate convex function

$$q_1(\lambda) = \sup_{y \in X_1} (-f_1(y) + \lambda^T y)$$

maximum of infinitely many linear functions in λ for different values of y .



$$\Rightarrow q(\lambda) = \underbrace{q_2(\lambda)}_{\text{Concave}} - \underbrace{q_1(\lambda)}_{\text{Given}}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \min_x \quad f_1(x) - f_2(x) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad x \in X_1 \cap X_2 \end{array}$$

(P)



$$\begin{array}{l} \max_{\lambda} \quad q_2(\lambda) - q_1(\lambda) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad \lambda \in \Lambda_1 \cap \Lambda_2 \end{array}$$

(D)

$$\Lambda_1 = \{ \lambda \mid q_1(\lambda) < +\infty \}$$

$$\Lambda_2 = \{ \lambda \mid q_2(\lambda) > -\infty \}$$

(we want to make sure that the lower

bound $q(\lambda) \neq -\infty$, and so $q_2(\lambda) > -\infty$,

$-q_1(\lambda) > -\infty$)

Thm: A pair (x_*, λ_*) is global min -

dual solution if and only if

- Primal feasibility: $x_* \in X_1 \cap X_2$

- Dual feasibility: $\lambda_* \in \Lambda_1 \cap \Lambda_2$

- Lagrangian optimality:

$$x_* \in \operatorname{arg\,min}_{x \in X_1} (f_1(x) - \lambda_*^T x)$$

$$x_* \in \operatorname{arg\,min}_{x \in X_2} (\lambda_*^T x - f_2(x))$$

Note: $y \in X_1, z \in X_2$

$\Rightarrow (y, z) \in X_1 \times X_2$
↳ product

$\Rightarrow \text{ri}(X_1 \times X_2) = \text{ri}(X_1) \times \text{ri}(X_2)$

Thm: Assume

- Convexity:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X_1, X_2 = \text{convex} \\ f_1 = \text{convex on } X_1 \\ f_2 = \text{concave on } X_2 \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(not saying} \\ f_1, f_2 \text{ are convex} \\ \text{on } X_1 \cap X_2) \end{array}$$

- $\text{ri}(X_1) \cap \text{ri}(X_2) \neq \emptyset$

$\Rightarrow \exists$ dual solution & no duality gap

Does convexity of f_1 or concavity of f_2 matter?

No, we only care about epigraphs:

$$S_1 = \{ (x, w_1) \mid f_1(x) \leq w_1, x \in X_1 \}$$

$$S_2 = \{ (x, w_2) \mid f_2(x) \geq w_2, x \in X_2 \}$$

If S_1 and S_2 are convex & closed, then

$$f_1(x) \xrightarrow{\text{Conjugate}} q_1(\lambda) = \sup_{x \in X_1} (-f(x) + \lambda^T x)$$

↓ Conjugate

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \Omega_1} (-q_1(\lambda) + x^T \lambda) = \begin{cases} f_1(x) & \text{if } x \in X_1 \\ +\infty & \text{if } x \notin X_1 \end{cases}$$

$$f_2(x) \xrightarrow{\text{Conjugate}} q_2(\lambda) = \inf_{x \in X_2} (-f(x) + \lambda^T x)$$

↓ Conjugate

$$\inf_{\lambda \in \Omega_2} (-q_2(\lambda) + x^T \lambda) = \begin{cases} f_2(x) & \text{if } x \in X_2 \\ -\infty & \text{if } x \notin X_2 \end{cases}$$

\Rightarrow Conjugate of Conjugate = itself

\Rightarrow Thm: If S_1, S_2 : Convex & closed

$$- ri(\Omega_1) \cap ri(\Omega_2) \neq \emptyset$$

\Rightarrow no duality gap & existence of

primal
solution

(Convexity of X_1, X_2, f_1, f_2 are not

directly related to zero duality gap).

LP \subseteq QP \subseteq SOCP \subseteq SDP

\subseteq Linear Conic \subseteq Conic

\subseteq Convex