



262B-Lecture 23

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SDP: $\min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}} \langle D, X \rangle$ inner product: $\langle A, B \rangle = \text{trace}(AB)$

s.t. $\langle A_i, X \rangle = b_i \quad i = 1, \dots, m$ linear

Conic constraint: $(X \in C) \quad (X \succeq 0)$

$D, A_1, \dots, A_m =$ symmetric matrices

feasible set = intersection of an affine set

& a PSD cone

DUAL: $\max_{\mu \in \mathbb{R}^m} \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \mu_i$

s.t. $D - \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \mu_i \in C$

Thm: $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} - \text{primal: finite optimal value} \\ - \exists \bar{X} : \text{feasible, } \bar{X} \succeq 0 \end{array} \right.$

\Rightarrow no duality gap
+
existence
of
dual solution

{ - dual: finite optimal value
 - $\exists \bar{\mu} : D - \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \bar{\mu}_i \succ 0$

\Rightarrow no duality gap +

existence of primal solution

$$LP \subseteq QP \subseteq SOCP \stackrel{?}{\subseteq} SDP$$

$$\sqrt{x_1^2 + \dots + x_{n-1}^2} \leq x_n$$

$$\Leftrightarrow [x_1 \dots x_{n-1}] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \leq x_n^2, \quad x_n \geq 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ \hline B^T & C \end{bmatrix} \succ 0 \Leftrightarrow A \succ 0, \quad A - BC^{-1}B^T \succ 0$$

symmetric

(generalize to $\succeq 0$)

2x2 block matrix

Schur complement

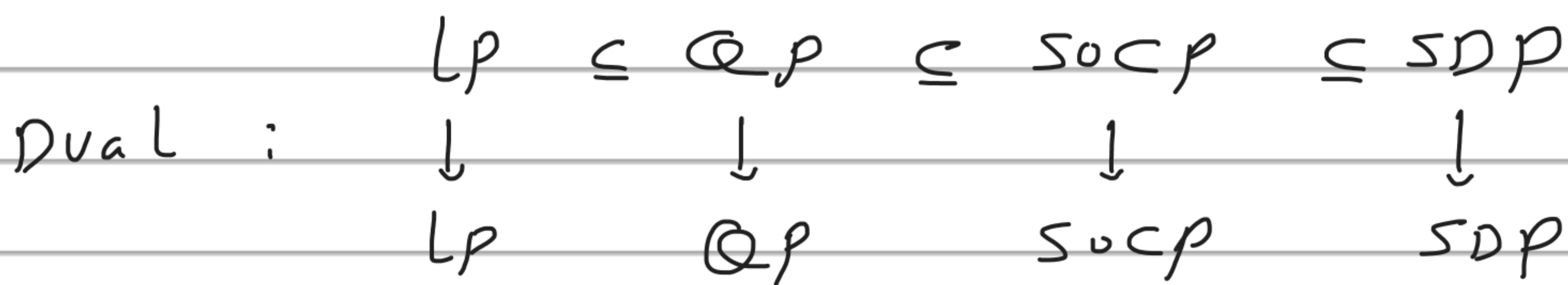
\Leftrightarrow

$$x_n \geq 0, \quad x_n - [x_1 \dots x_{n-1}] (x_n I)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \geq 0$$

\Leftrightarrow

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_n & [x_1 \dots x_{n-1}] \\ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} & x_n I \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \rightarrow \text{PSD Constraint}$$

Dual of SDP = SDP



Dual : $\max_{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \mu_i \quad \text{s.t.} \quad D - \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \mu_i \succeq 0$

Variable: vector μ rather than matrix X .

But there is a matrix constraint.

So, there are two ways to write SDPs:

vector variable & matrix variable.

LMI: Linear matrix inequality

LMI is a matrix inequality in the PSD sense

that is linear in the variable.

Ex: $D - \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \mu_i \succeq 0$

Linear in μ

$$\text{Ex: } x \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\text{LMI: } \begin{bmatrix} 1+x_1 & x_1-2x_2 \\ x_1-2x_2 & 3+x_1+x_2 \end{bmatrix} \preceq 0$$

two LMIs can be merged into one LMI:

$$\begin{cases} A_0 + \sum_{i=1}^m A_i x_i \succeq 0 \\ B_0 + \sum_{i=1}^m B_i x_i \succeq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A_0 & 0 \\ 0 & B_0 \end{bmatrix} + \sum_{i=1}^m \begin{bmatrix} A_i & 0 \\ 0 & B_i \end{bmatrix} x_i \succeq 0$$

SDP: minimize a linear objective subject to LMIs.

How to formulate problems as SDP?

Ex: Given $A_0, \dots, A_n \in \Sigma_{\text{symmetric}}^n$, solve

$$\min_x \lambda_{\max} \left(\underbrace{A_0 + A_1 x_1 + \dots + A_n x_n}_{\text{parametrized matrix}} \right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{ll} \min & \alpha \\ x \in \mathbb{R}^n & \\ \alpha \in \mathbb{R} & \end{array} \quad \text{(SDP)}$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \underbrace{A_0 + A_1 x_1 + \dots + A_n x_n}_{\text{LMI in } (x, \alpha)} \preceq \alpha I$$

$$\text{Ex:} \quad \max_x \lambda_{\min}(A_0 + A_1 x_1 + \dots + A_n x_n)$$



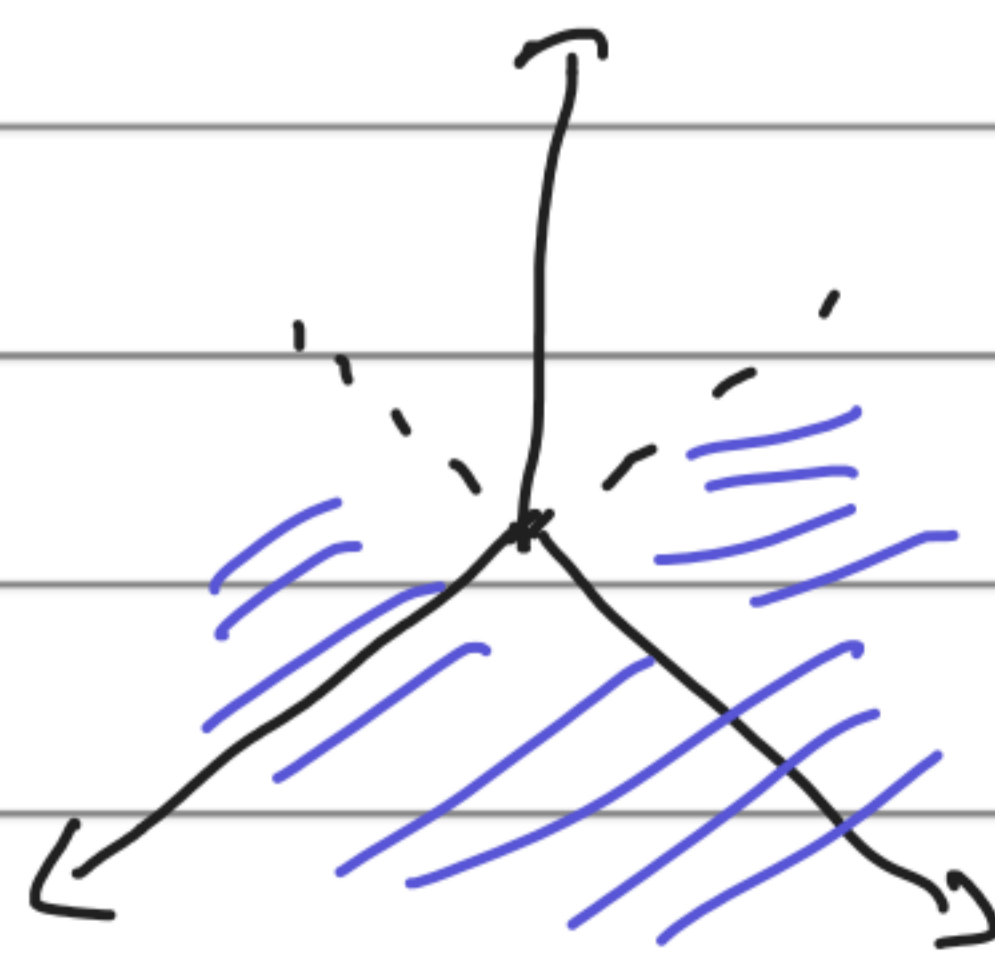
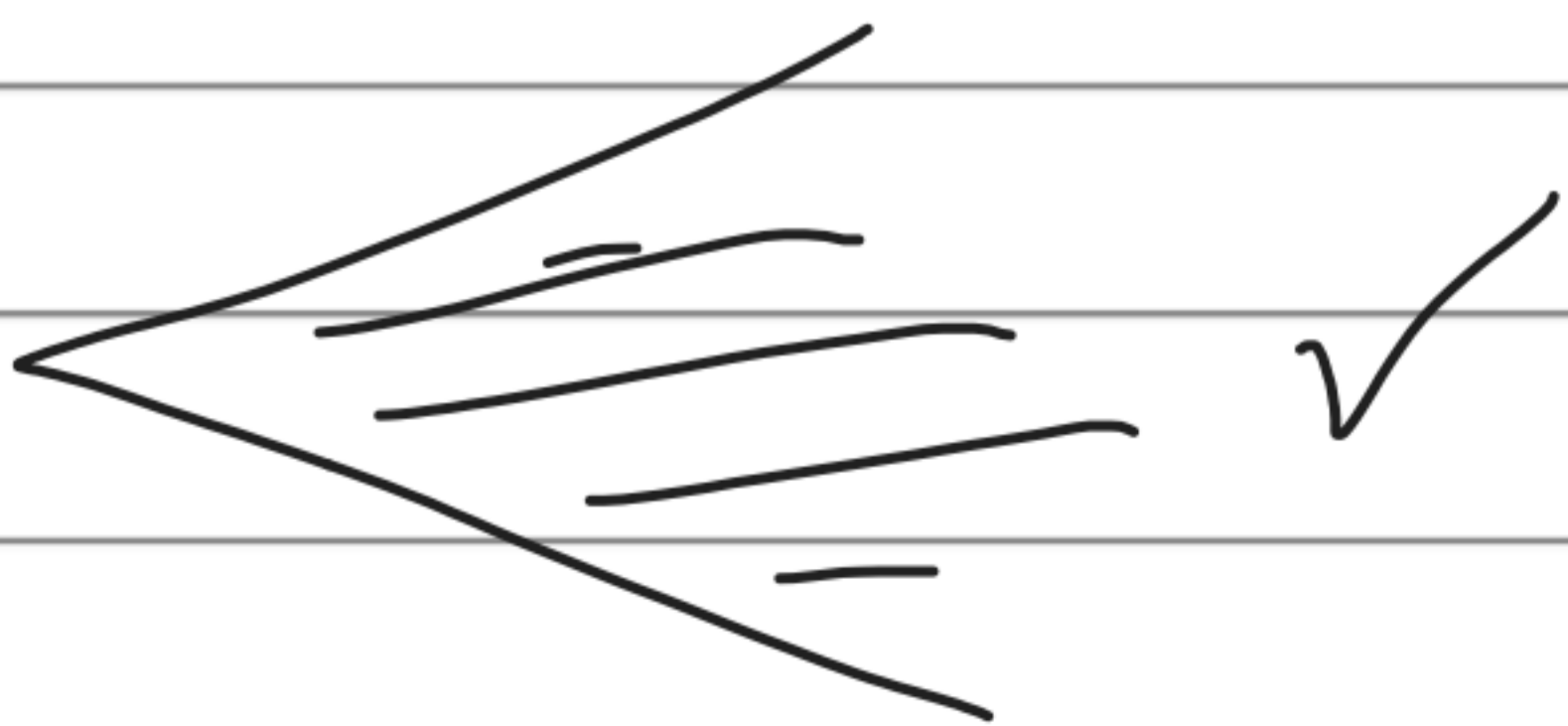
$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & \alpha \\ x, \alpha & \end{array} \quad \text{(SDP)}$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \alpha I \preceq A_0 + A_1 x_1 + \dots + A_n x_n$$

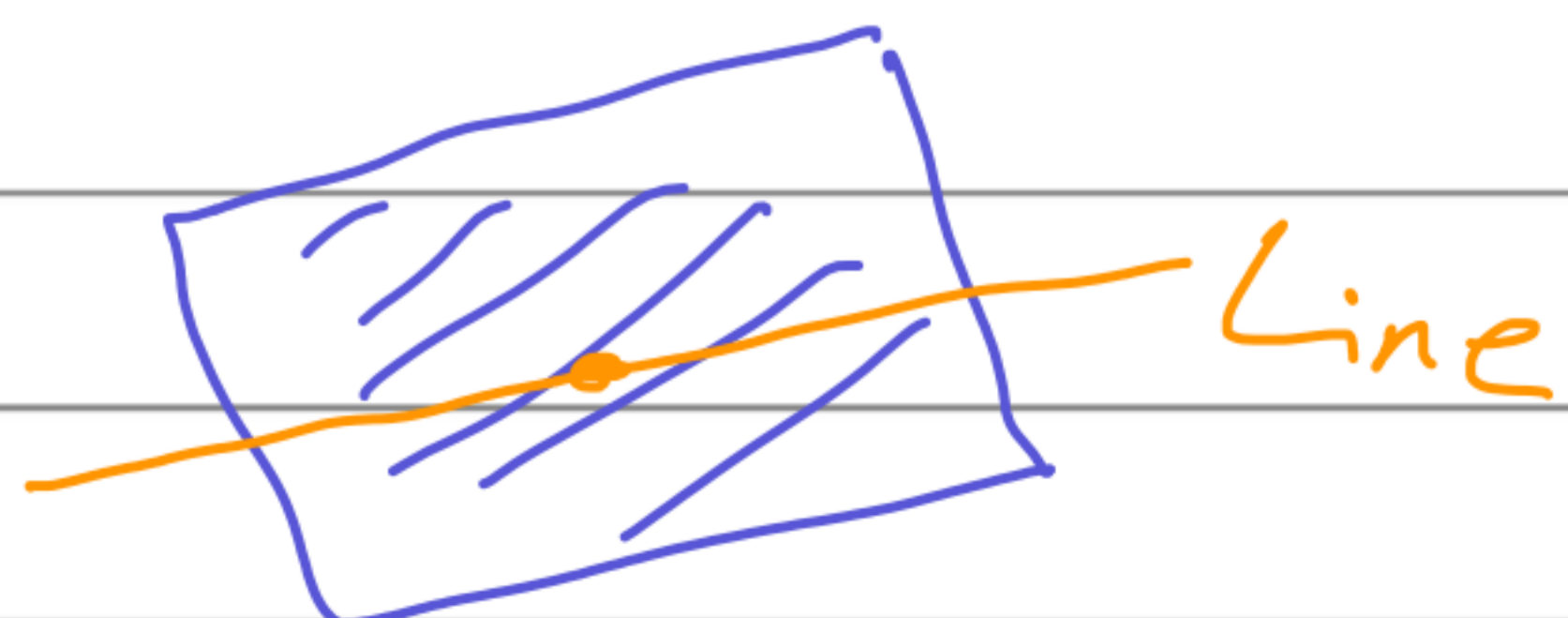
Generalized inequality:

Proper cone: convex, closed, non-empty interior,

contains no line.



→ horizontal surface



Line

Consider a proper cone C :

Define the notion of partial ordering:

- Say $x \preceq_C y$ if $y - x \in C$

$$(0 \preceq_C y \implies y \in C)$$

- Say $x \prec_C y$ if $y - x \in \underbrace{\text{int}(C)}_{\text{interior}}$

This is not perfect ordering and is partial ordering since it could happen that $\exists x, y$

s.t. $x \not\preceq_C y$, $y \not\preceq_C x$

$$C = \text{PSD} : x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

If $C = \mathbb{R}_+ \implies$ then $x \preceq_C y$

means $x \leq y$ or $y - x \geq 0$ in a regular sense

properties:

1 - addition:

$$x \underset{c}{\prec} y, u \underset{c}{\prec} v \Rightarrow x+u \underset{c}{\prec} y+v$$

2 - transitive

$$x \underset{c}{\prec} y, y \underset{c}{\prec} z \Rightarrow x \underset{c}{\prec} z$$

3 - non-negative scaling:

$$x \underset{c}{\prec} y, \alpha \geq 0 \Rightarrow \alpha x \underset{c}{\prec} \alpha y$$

4 - reflexive: $x \underset{c}{\prec} x$

5 - antisymmetric: $x \underset{c}{\prec} y, y \underset{c}{\prec} x$

$$\Rightarrow x = y$$

Optimization with generalized inequalities:

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

$$\text{s.t. } h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$g_j(x) \leq 0 \quad j = 1, \dots, r$$

scalar

standard opt

generalized

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

$$\text{s.t. } h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$g_j(x) \preceq_{C_j} 0 \quad j = 1, \dots, r$$

$(c_j) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_j}$

$C_1, \dots, C_r =$
proper cones

$f, h_i, g_j = \text{non-convex}$

Lagrange multipliers:

$$h_i(x) = 0 \longrightarrow \lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$g_j(x) \underset{C_j}{\succcurlyeq} 0 \longrightarrow \mu_j \in C_j^* \quad (\text{dual cone})$$

Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda, \mu) = & f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i h_i(x) \\ & + \sum_{j=1}^r \underbrace{\mu_j^T}_{\in \mathbb{R}^{n_j}} \underbrace{g_j(x)}_{\in \mathbb{R}^{n_j}} \\ & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{inner product}} \end{aligned}$$

Dual function:

$$q(\lambda, \mu) = \inf_x \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda, \mu)$$

$$\text{Dual optimization: } \max_{\lambda, \mu} q(\lambda, \mu)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \mu_j \underset{C_j^*}{\succcurlyeq} 0 \quad j=1, \dots, r$$

Define: f_* = optimal primal value

q_* = optimal dual value

Weak duality: $q_* \leq f_*$

Strong duality: ?

function: Convexity \longrightarrow Cone-Convexity
($g_j(x) \leq 0$) ($g_j(x) \leq c_j$)

C : proper cone $\in \mathbb{R}^L$

$g: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^L$

$g(x)$ is called C -cone if

$$g(\alpha x + (1-\alpha)y) \preceq_C (\alpha g(x) + (1-\alpha)g(y)),$$

$\forall x, y, \forall \alpha \in [0, 1]$

Scalar, vector, matrix

- If $L=1, C = \mathbb{R}_+$ \Rightarrow Cone-Convexity
=
regular Convexity

$g(x)$: Linear $\Rightarrow g$: Cone-Convex

$$\min f(x)$$

$$\text{s.t. } h_i(x) = 0 \quad i=1, \dots, m$$

$$g_j(x) \leq c_j \quad j=1, \dots, r$$

Strong duality: If

- $f(x)$ = convex

- $h_i(x)$ = Linear

- $g_j(x) = C_j$ = convex

and Slater holds ($\exists \bar{x}$ s.t.

$$h_i(\bar{x}) = 0 \quad i=1, \dots, m, \quad g_j(\bar{x}) \leq c_j \quad j=1, \dots, r)$$

\Rightarrow Strong duality holds ($f_* = g_*$)

+ existence of dual solution

If: $f, h_i, g_j = \text{Linear functions}$

\Rightarrow Linear conic optimization

$$\text{SDP: } \min_x \langle D, x \rangle$$

$$\text{s.t. } \langle A_i, x \rangle = b_i \quad i=1, \dots, m$$

$$x \in C$$

$$x \succeq_0$$



$$-x \preceq_0$$

Define Lagrange multipliers:

$$\langle A_i, x \rangle = b_i \rightarrow \lambda_i$$

$$-x \preceq_0 \rightarrow Y \in C_* \rightarrow Y \succeq_0$$

$$L(x, \lambda, Y) = \langle D, x \rangle + \sum_{i=1}^m (\langle A_i, x \rangle - b_i) \lambda_i$$

$$+ \underbrace{\langle -x, Y \rangle}$$

inner product of constraint & dual variable

$$\Rightarrow L(x, \lambda, \gamma) = \langle D + \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \lambda_i - \gamma, x \rangle + \left(- \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \lambda_i \right)$$

$$q(\lambda, \gamma) = \min_x L(x, \lambda, \gamma)$$

$$\min_x \langle D + \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \lambda_i - \gamma, x \rangle$$

Linear function, x arbitrary

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } D + \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \lambda_i - \gamma = 0 \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Dual opt: } \max_{\lambda, \gamma} - \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \lambda_i$$

$$\text{s.t. } D + \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \lambda_i - \gamma = 0$$

$$D + \sum_{i=1}^m A_i \lambda_i \succeq 0$$

Verification:

non-convex opt \rightarrow FOC, SOC, algorithms



how to find a global min \leftarrow

Extreme case:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x & x^T Q x \\ \text{s.t.} & x_i^2 = 1 \quad i=1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

2^n feasible points

$\rightarrow 2^n$ local minima \rightarrow So, notion of local minima is useless here

$\min_x f(x) \rightarrow$ non-convex

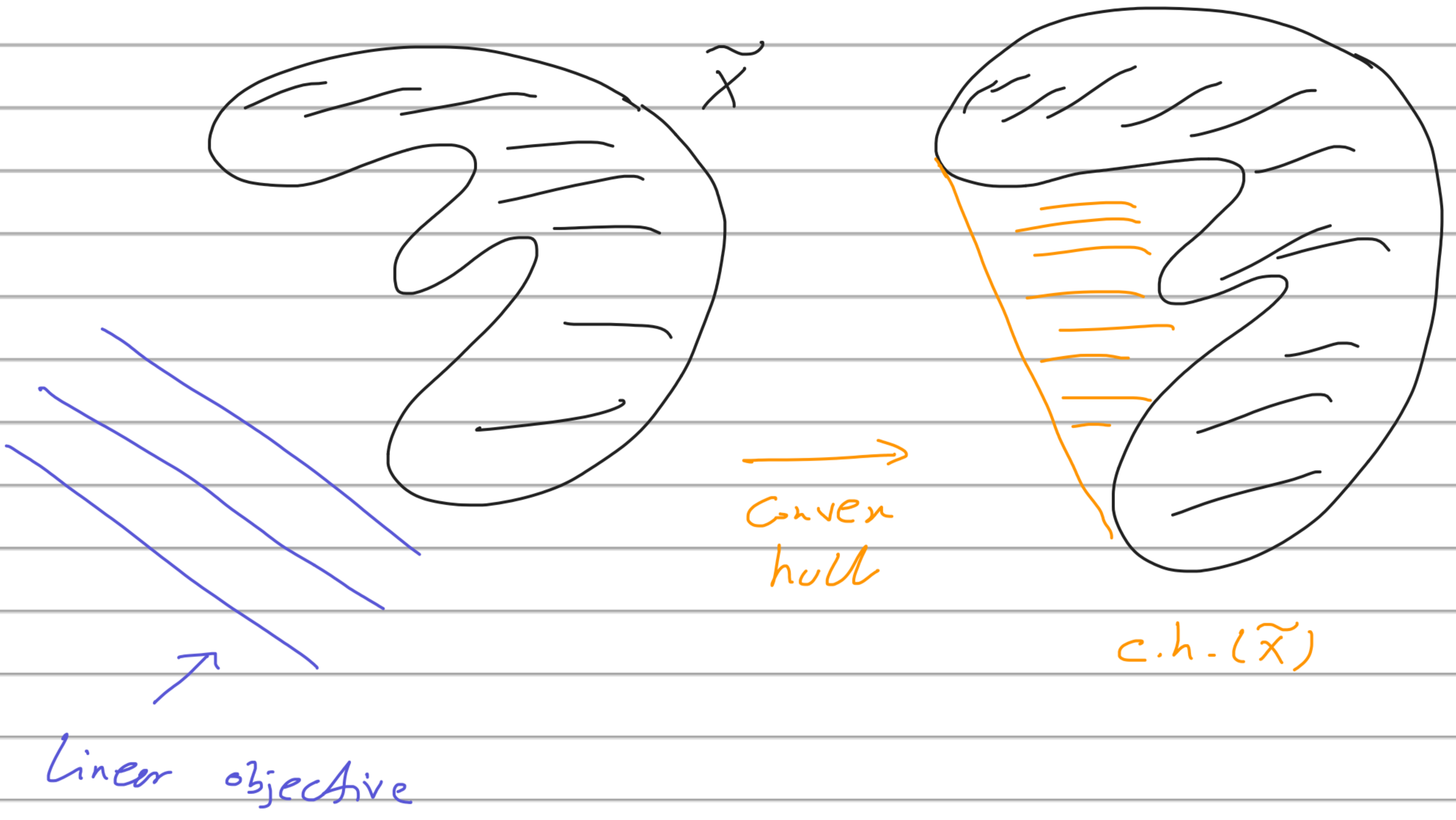
s.t. $x \in X$

non-convex feasible set

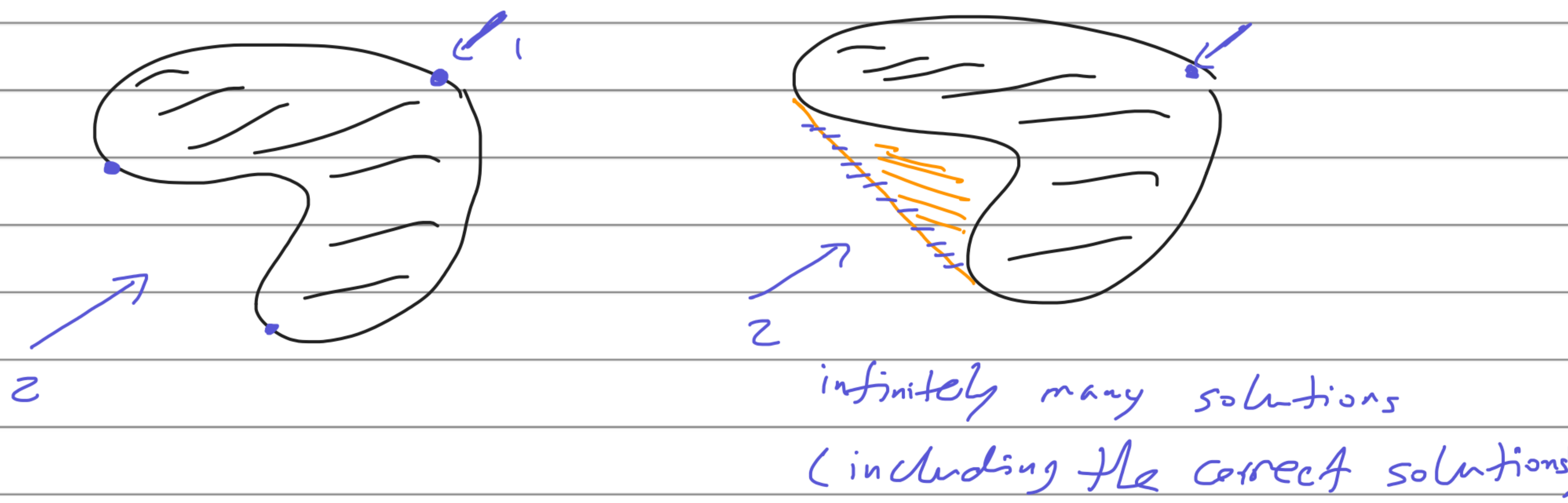
\rightarrow make the objective linear

$\min_{x, \alpha} \alpha$

s.t. $(x, \alpha) \in \tilde{X}$, $\tilde{X} = \{(x, \alpha) \mid x \in X, f(x) \leq \alpha\}$



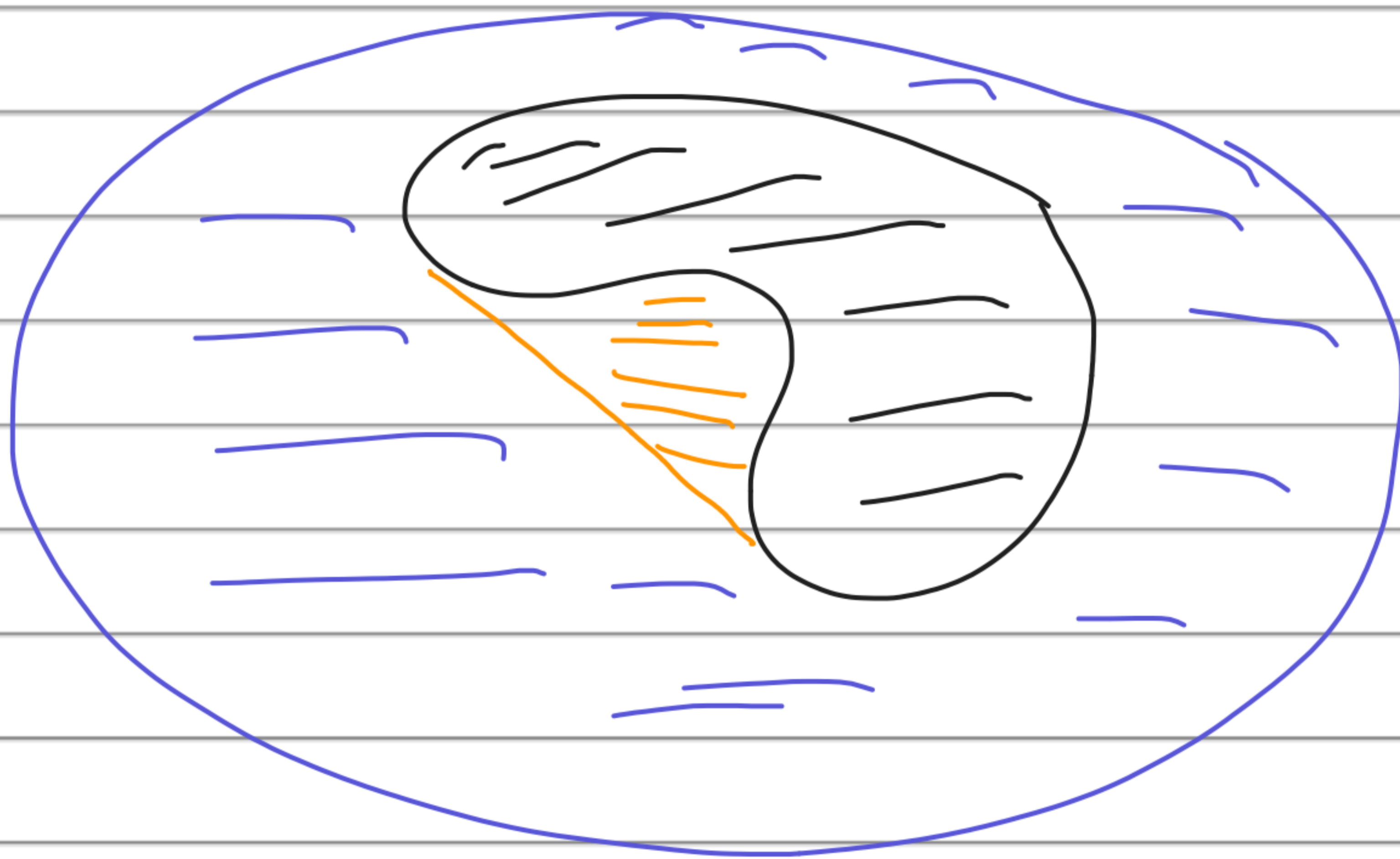
minimization of a linear function over a non-convex set X and its convex hull $c.h.(X)$ gives the same optimal objective value.



So, to avoid finding a non-global minimum,
we should find convex hull.

This is NP-hard.

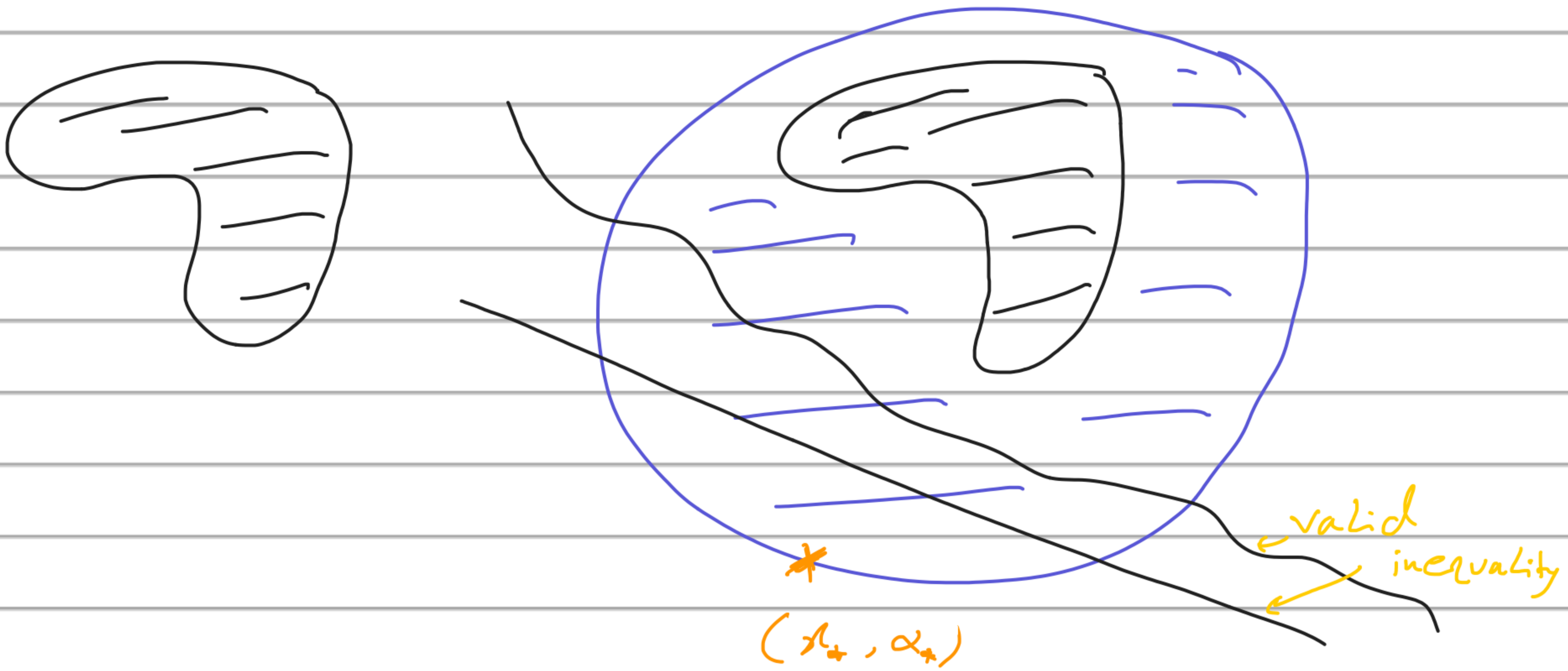
Remedy: Convex relaxation



minimize over a convex set that includes
the original feasible set.

$$\begin{array}{l} \min \alpha \\ \text{s.t. } (x, \alpha) \in \tilde{X} \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \min \alpha \\ \text{s.t. } (x, \alpha) \in \hat{X} \\ \underbrace{\hat{X}}_{\text{GIVEN } \epsilon \geq \tilde{X}} \end{array}$$

optimal objective value reduces (serves as
a lower bound) but solution could be infeasible
for original problem.

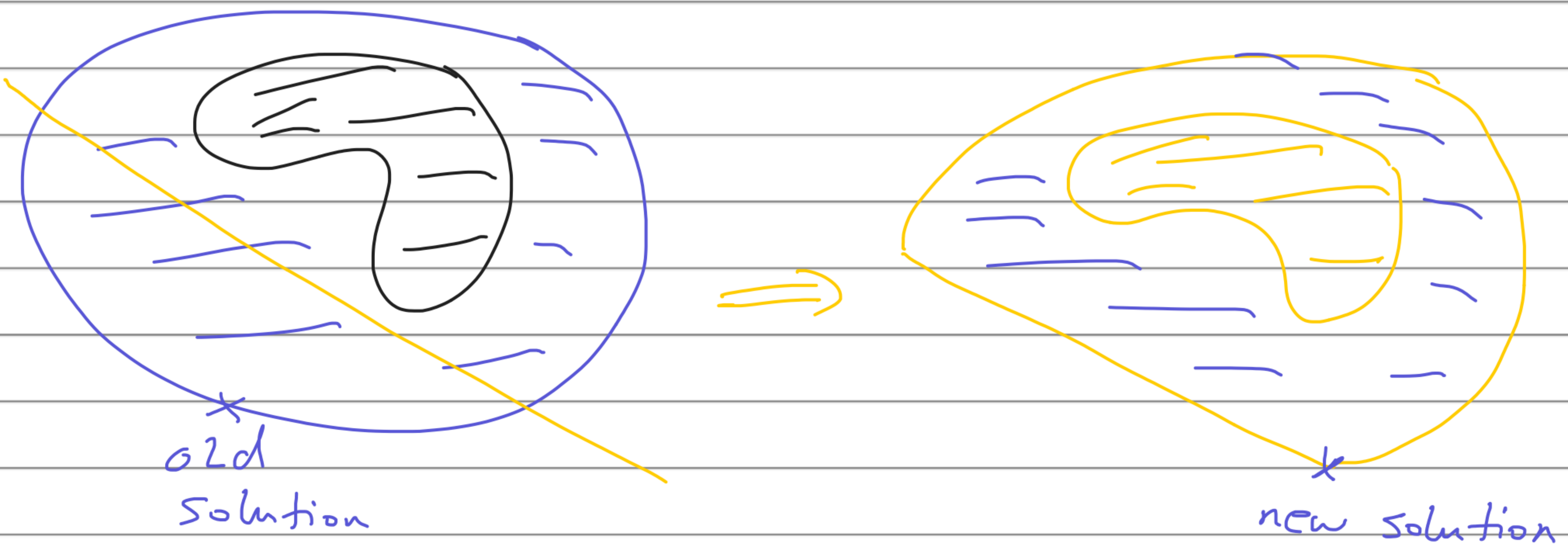


what if we add a convex constraint $K(x) \leq 0$

that is satisfied for $\forall x \in \tilde{X}$ but

$K(x_*) \not\leq 0$. This is called valid inequality.

If $K(x) = \text{linear} \Rightarrow \text{cutting plane}$.



- This generates a sequence of convex problems.

- It turns out that under mild conditions almost every smooth non-convex optimization can be solved to global optimality by

LP \rightarrow LP \rightarrow LP \rightarrow ... \Rightarrow LP hierarchy

SOCP \rightarrow SOCP \rightarrow SOCP \rightarrow ... \Rightarrow SOCP hierarchy

SDP \rightarrow SDP \rightarrow ... \Rightarrow SDP hierarchy

usually: dimension of LP/SOCP/SDP

grows as we take more iterations in the

sequence (Lifting).

LP \rightarrow LP \rightarrow LP \rightarrow ...
 $\underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{10 \text{ variables}} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{100} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{1000}$

Complexities:

LP

SOCP

SDP

Complexity per iteration:

fast

OK

slow

iteration complexity:

many

OK

a few

state of the art: SDP-based relaxation

for arbitrary non-convex (mixed-integer)

problems.
