

After 4 pm today, see the course website to find:

① whether 'portal' is made available and has your term test marks

② what to bring to upcoming classes (examples).

Today Complementary slackness (end of §3.2)

Remark: If $a_i \geq 0, \dots, a_n \geq 0, b_i, \dots, \geq b$ but $a_i b_i + \dots + a_n b_n \leq 0$, then $a_i b_i = 0$, for $i=1, \dots, n$ and $a_i = 0$ or $b_i = 0$ for $i=1, \dots, n$.

Complementary Slackness Theorem

Consider the following dual problem

Maximize $z = c^T x$ s.t.

$$Ax \leq b$$

$$x \geq 0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

Minimize $z' = b^T w$ s.t.

$$A^T w \geq c$$

$$w \geq 0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

(A is $m \times n$)

and suppose x_0 & w_0 are optimal for the respective problems.

Then, for $i=1, \dots, m$, the product of the slack, at x_0 , in the i th primal constraint, and w_{i0} (the i th component of w_0) is 0.

Proof: After putting slack variables

$x' = \begin{bmatrix} x_{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ x_{n+m} \end{bmatrix}$ is the primal problem to put it in canonical form, its constraints read

$$Ax + x' = b, x \geq 0 \in \mathbb{R}^n, x' \geq 0 \in \mathbb{R}^m.$$

If $w = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, then

$$w^T Ax + w^T x' = w^T b$$

Taking transpose, $x^T A^T w + (x')^T w = b^T w$

At the new respective optimal solutions, x_0 & w_0 , $c^T x_0 = b^T w_0$ (strong duality).

So $c^T x_0 = x_0^T A^T w_0 + (x'_0)^T w_0$ (x'_0 has the values of the primal slack variables at $x = x_0$).

By the feasibility of w_0 for the dual problem $A^T w_0 \geq c$ so $x_0^T (A^T w_0) \geq x_0^T c$

($x_0 \geq 0$, so $x_0^T (A^T w_0 - c) \geq 0 \in \mathbb{R}$).

So $x_0^T (A^T w_0) \geq c^T x_0$ ($x_0^T c$ is a 1×1 matrix)

Putting the circled expressions together

$c^T x_0 \geq c^T x_0 + (x_0')^T w_0$, so that $0 \geq (x_0')^T w_0$

so each of the m terms $(x_0')^T w_0$,

$$x_{i0} \cdot w_{i0} = 0$$

Eg. Consider the primal problem:

Maximize $z = -x_1 - 5x_2 - 7x_3 - 6x_4$ s.t.

$$-2x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \geq 9$$

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 - 3x_4 = 2$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0, x_3 \geq 0, x_4 \geq 0$$

Its dual is

(using Maximize $z' = x_1 + 5x_2 + 7x_3 + 6x_4$)

Maximize $z' = 9w_1 + 2w_2$ s.t.

$$-2w_1 + w_2 \leq 1$$

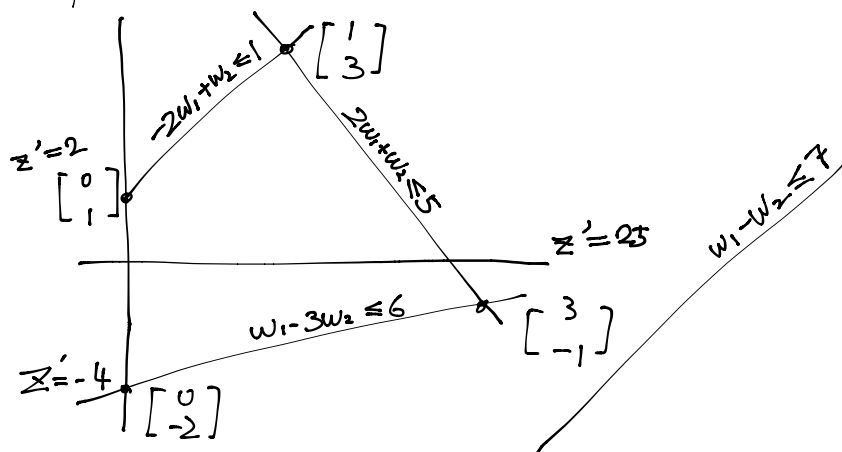
$$2w_1 + w_2 \leq 5$$

$$w_1 - w_2 \leq 7$$

$$w_1 - 3w_2 \leq 6$$

$$w_1 \geq 0, w_2 \text{ unrestricted}$$

Graphical solution



To find primal optimality:

At dual optimality neither dual variable, so both primal constraints are tight (have no slack) at optimality

At dual optimality the 1st & 3rd dual constraints have slack, so $x_1 = 0$, $x_3 = 0$, at primal optimality.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 2x_2 + 4x_4 = 9 \\ x_2 - 3x_4 = 2 \end{array} \right\} \text{at primal optimal}$$

Solving, get $x_2 = \frac{29}{7}$, $x_4 = \frac{5}{7}$ at primal optimality