

## Exercise sheet 4

Submission deadline: 10:00 on Friday, December 4, 2020

### Task 1: Duality of Linear Programs (20 points)

The lecture discussed how to transform a Linear Program – the *primal problem* or just *primal* – into the dual version of the Linear Program – the *dual problem* or just *dual*. The transformation takes a Linear Program of the form

$$\max(\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}) \text{ subject to } A\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b} \text{ and } \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

and gives the dual Linear Program of the form

$$\min(\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}) \text{ subject to } A^T \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{c} \text{ and } \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{0}.$$

#### Equilibrium Theorem

If the feasible solutions  $\mathbf{x}^*$  and  $\mathbf{y}^*$  are optimal solutions to the primal and dual problem, respectively, then

$$\mathbf{y}_i^* = 0 \quad \forall i \quad \text{for which} \quad \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j} x_j^* < b_i$$

and

$$\mathbf{x}_j^* = 0 \quad \forall j \quad \text{for which} \quad \sum_{i=1}^m a_{j,i} y_i^* > c_j.$$

#### Strong Duality Theorem

If  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is an optimal solution to the primal, then there is an optimal solution  $\mathbf{y}^*$  to the dual with

$$\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}^*.$$

#### Weak Duality Theorem

If  $\mathbf{x}$  is a feasible solution to the primal and  $\mathbf{y}$  is a feasible solution to the dual, then

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}.$$



- a) Show that the dual of the dual is the primal again. (6 points)
- b) Show that the Weak Duality Theorem follows from the Strong Duality Theorem. (6 points)  
(Without proof, you can assume: If there are feasible solutions to the primal and dual, then there is an optimal solution to the primal.)
- c) Draw the graphical solution of the Linear Program given below and identify the optimal solution  $\mathbf{x}^*$  as well as the so-called *carrier constraints* (see Equilibrium Theorem). Give the dual representation of the primal problem. With the help of the Equilibrium Theorem and the dual, explicitly determine the optimal solution  $\mathbf{y}^*$  of the dual problem.  
(8 points)

$$\text{maximize } 2x_1 + 3x_2$$

subject to

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 &\leq 6 \\ x_1 &\geq 2 \\ x_1 &\leq 5 \\ x_2 &\leq 4 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &\geq 0 \\ x_2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Prepare your solution as a .pdf file and submit it in moodle!