

Answers and Comments¹

1. a) No, since the dual system ((**) on page 135) has a solution $y = (2, 1, 3)^T$.
b) See the proof to Lemma 1, p. 43.
2. a) Vector **a** is the Newton direction (it minimizes the quadratic form in one step.)
Vector **b** is none (it is a tangent vector). Vector **c** is none (it could be the Steepest descent direction, but it has the wrong sign).
b) Vectors **a** and **b**, since $\mathbf{a} = -x_0$, $\mathbf{c} \parallel \nabla f(x_0) = 2Hx_0$ and $\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{c} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{b}^T H \mathbf{a} = 0$.
3. a) Pick (s_1, x_1, x_2) as a BFS, $\min = 1$ at $x_{opt} = (0, 1, 1)$.
b) The dual problem has the solution $y_{opt} = (0, 1, 0)$, $\max = 1$.
4. a) Not convex (e.g. draw the set profile for $y = 0$).
b) Convex, since $f = x^2 + y^2 - z$ and $g = x^2 + y^2 + z$ are both convex $\Rightarrow h = \max\{f, g\}$ convex $\Rightarrow \{h \leq 1\}$ is a convex set.
c) Only for $\alpha = 0$ (e.g. study the Hessian by (modified) Sylvester criterion for $\alpha \neq 0, 1$ and study cases $\alpha = 0$ and $\alpha = 1$ separately).
5. The set is compact $\Rightarrow \min$ exists. No CQ points. KKT points: $(0, 0, 0)$ with $f = 0$, $\pm(1, -1, 0)$ with $f = -2$ and $\pm(1, 1, -4)$ with $f = -14$. The last two are the minimum points.
6. a) The Lagrange function L is a quadratic function with the indefinite Hessian $\Rightarrow \Theta(u, v) = -\infty$ for all $u \geq 0$ and v . Maximization gives again $-\infty$. The obvious duality gap makes it impossible to use the dual problem in order to solve the primal one.
b) To minimize f is the same as to minimize $g = f^2$. The stationary point equation $\nabla g = 0$ is equivalent to the normal equation \Rightarrow the solution to the normal equation is the stationary point + g is convex \Rightarrow it is the global minimum.

¹For re-exams only answers are provided.