

This week's homework [Homework 3](#) is due no later than **Friday 26.11.2021 23:55**.

Problem 8.1: Robust LP with Polyhedral Uncertainty

Consider the following *robust* linear optimization problem with *polyhedral uncertainty*:

$$\min_x c^\top x \quad (1)$$

$$\text{subject to: } \max_{a_i \in \mathcal{P}_i} a_i^\top x \leq b_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (2)$$

with decision variables $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and polyhedral sets

$$\mathcal{P}_i = \{a_i : C_i a_i \leq d_i\}, \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, m.$$

The problem data are $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $C_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m_i \times n}$, $a_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $d_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m_i}$, and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$. We assume that the polyhedral sets \mathcal{P}_i are nonempty for all $i = 1, \dots, m$. Notice that the problem (1) – (2) is an example of a bilevel optimization problem that we studied in Exercise 7.

Show that the problem (1) – (2) is equivalent to the following linear optimization problem:

$$\min_{x, u} c^\top x \quad (3)$$

$$\text{subject to: } d_i^\top u_i \leq b_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (4)$$

$$C_i^\top u_i = x, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (5)$$

$$u_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (6)$$

with variables $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $u_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m_i}$ for all $i = 1, \dots, m$.

Hint: Replace the inner optimization problems in the constraints (2):

$$\max_{a_i \in \mathcal{P}_i} a_i^\top x, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (7)$$

by writing their Lagrangian dual problems with dual variables u_i for all $i = 1, \dots, m$.

Problem 8.2: Lagrangian of a Quadratic Optimization Problem

Consider the following quadratic optimization problem with inequality constraints:

$$\min_x \frac{1}{2} x^\top H x + d^\top x \quad (8)$$

$$\text{subject to: } A x \leq b \quad (9)$$

with decision variables $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. The problem data are $d \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$, and $H \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is a symmetric positive definite matrix. The objective function

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^\top H x + d^\top x$$

is thus a strictly convex function (why?). Write the Lagrangian dual problem of (8) – (9) and derive its dual explicitly.

Problem 8.3: Duality in Linear Optimization

Consider the following linear optimization problem:

$$\min_x c^\top x \tag{10}$$

$$\text{subject to: } Ax = b \tag{11}$$

$$x \geq 0 \tag{12}$$

with decision variables $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. The problem data are $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$. We will call (10) – (12) the *primal* problem.

- (a) Derive the dual problem of the primal (10) – (12) by using Lagrangian duality.
- (b) Show that the dual of the dual problem derived in part (a) is equivalent to the primal problem (10) – (12). *Hint:* Use Lagrangian duality.
- (c) Show that weak duality holds between the primal (10) – (12) and its dual problem.