

# The Dual Simplex Method

## Combinatorial Problem Solving (CPS)

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# Basic Idea

- **Abuse of terminology:**

Henceforth sometimes by “**optimal**” we will mean  
“**satisfying the optimality conditions**”

If not explicit, the context will disambiguate

- The algorithm as explained so far is known as **primal simplex**:

starting with **feasible** basis,

find **optimal** basis (= satisfying optimality conds.) while keeping **feasibility**

- There is an alternative algorithm known as **dual simplex**:

starting with **optimal** basis (= satisfying optimality conds.),

find **feasible** basis while keeping **optimality**

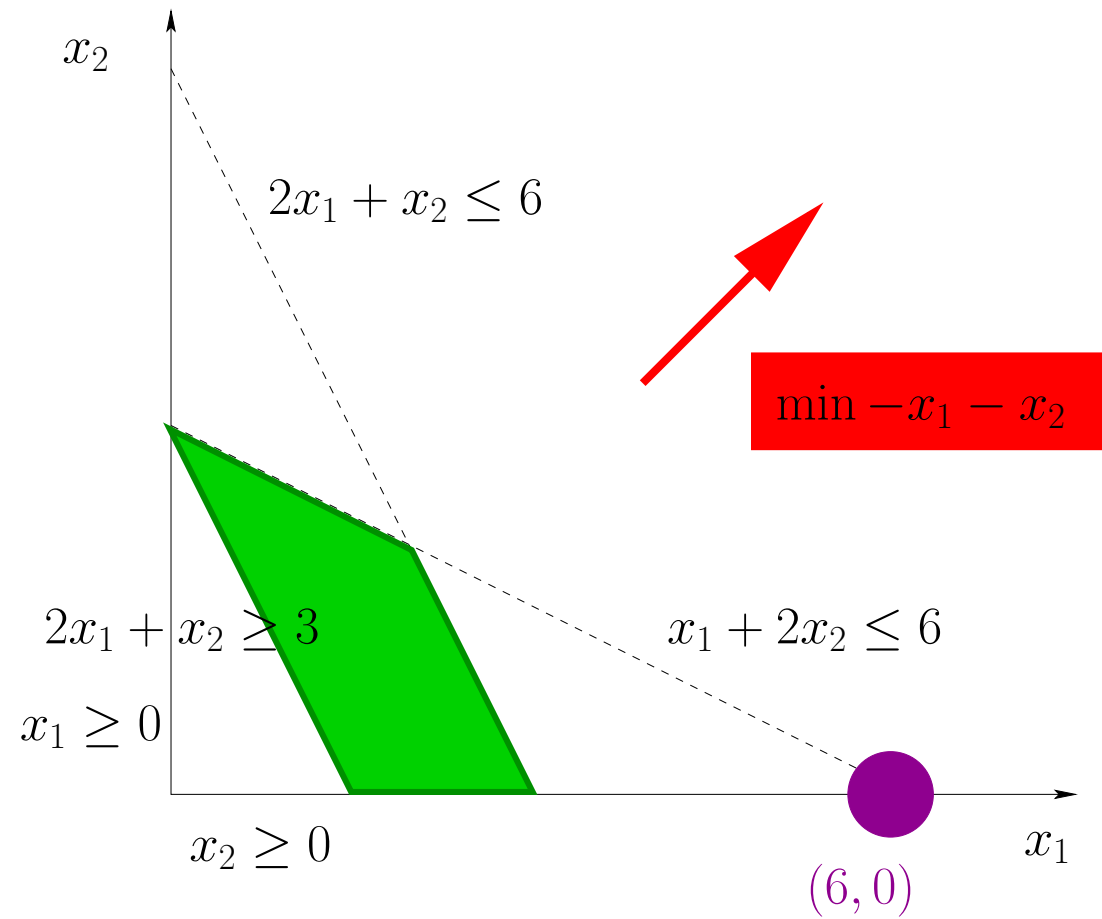
# Basic Idea

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min -x_1 - x_2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 \leq 6 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 6 \\ x_1 \geq 0 \\ x_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min -x_1 - x_2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \\ -2x_1 - x_2 \geq -6 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 \geq -6 \\ x_1 \geq 0 \\ x_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min -x_1 - x_2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 3 \\ -2x_1 - x_2 - x_4 = -6 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 - x_5 = -6 \\ x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min -6 + x_2 + x_5 \\ x_1 = 6 - 2x_2 - x_5 \\ x_3 = 9 - 3x_2 - 2x_5 \\ x_4 = -6 + 3x_2 + 2x_5 \end{array} \right.$$

Basis  $(x_1, x_3, x_4)$  is **optimal**  
(= satisfies **optimality conditions**)  
but is **not feasible!**

# Basic Idea



# Basic Idea

- Let us make a violating basic variable non-negative ...
  - ◆ Increase  $x_4$  by making it non-basic: then it will be 0
- ... while preserving optimality (= optimality conditions are satisfied)
  - ◆ If  $x_5$  replaces  $x_4$  in the basis,  
then  $x_5 = 3 + \frac{1}{2}(x_4 - 3x_2)$ ,  $-x_1 - x_2 = -3 + \frac{1}{2}(x_4 - x_2)$
  - ◆ If  $x_2$  replaces  $x_4$  in the basis,  
then  $x_2 = 2 + \frac{1}{3}(x_4 - 2x_5)$ ,  $-x_1 - x_2 = -4 + \frac{1}{3}(x_4 + x_5)$

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then  $x_2 = 2 + \frac{1}{3}(x_4 - 2x_5)$ ,  $-x_1 - x_2 = -4 + \frac{1}{3}(x_4 + x_5)$
  - ◆ To preserve optimality, we must swap  $x_2$  and  $x_4$

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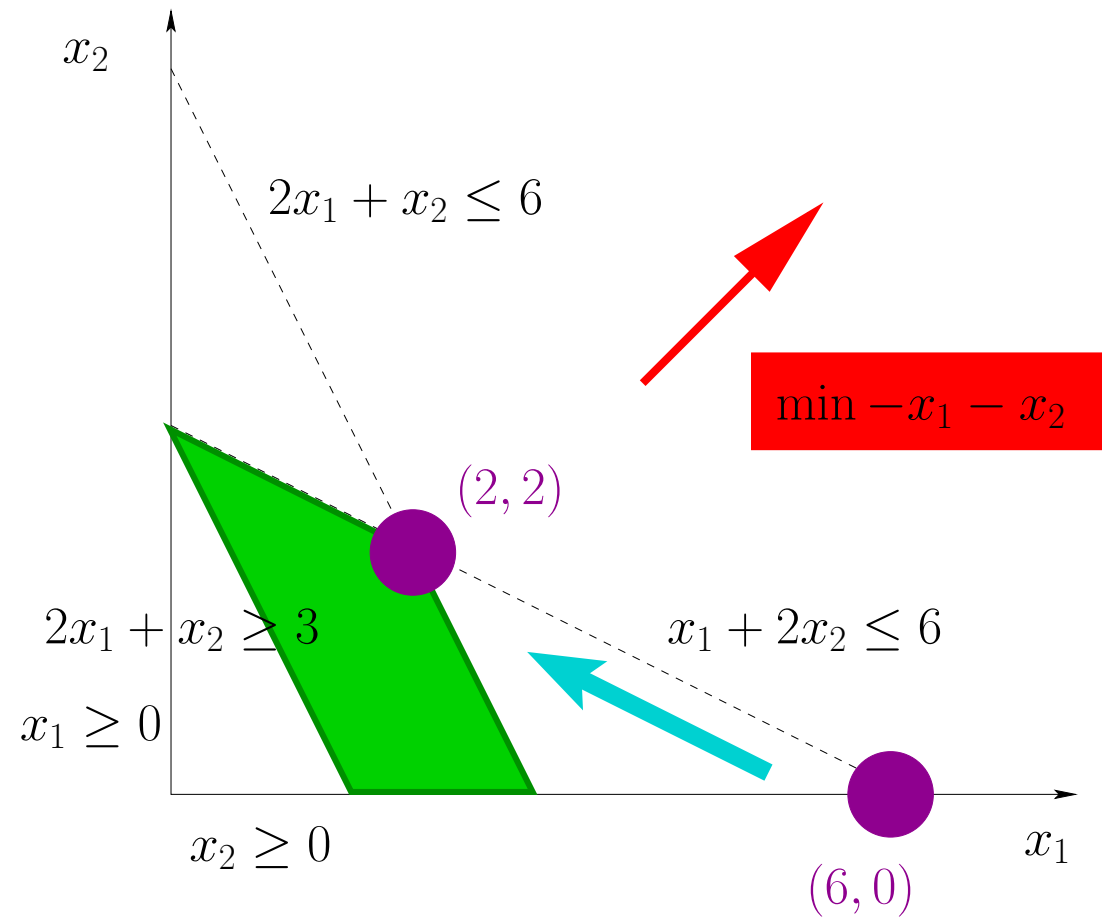
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- Current basis is **feasible** and **optimal**!



# Basic Idea



# Outline of the Dual Simplex

1. Initialization: Pick an optimal basis  
(= satisfies **optimality conditions**).
2. Dual Pricing: **If** all values in basic solution are  $\geq 0$ ,  
**then** return **OPTIMAL**.  
**Else** pick a basic variable with value  $< 0$ .
3. Dual Ratio Test: Find non-basic variable for swapping that  
preserves optimality, i.e., non-negativity constraints on reduced costs.  
**If** it does not exist,  
**then** return **INFEASIBLE**.  
**Else** swap chosen non-basic variable with violating basic variable.
4. Update: Update the tableau and **go to** 2.

# Duality

- To understand better how the dual simplex works: theory of **duality**
- We can get **lower bounds** on LP optimum value by adding **constraints** in a convenient way

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min -x_1 - x_2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \\ -2x_1 - x_2 \geq -6 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 \geq -6 \\ x_1 \geq 0 \\ x_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$
$$\begin{array}{rcl} -x_1 - 2x_2 & \geq & -6 \\ x_2 & \geq & 0 \\ \hline -x_1 - x_2 & \geq & -6 \end{array}$$

# Duality

- In general we can get **lower bounds** on LP optimum value by linearly combining **constraints** with convenient **multipliers**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min -x_1 - x_2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \\ -2x_1 - x_2 \geq -6 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 \geq -6 \\ x_1 \geq 0 \\ x_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$


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$$\begin{array}{rcl} 1 \cdot ( & 2x_1 + x_2 & \geq 3 \\ 2 \cdot ( & -2x_1 - x_2 & \geq -6 \\ 1 \cdot ( & x_1 & \geq 0 \end{array}$$


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$$\begin{array}{rcl} & 2x_1 + x_2 & \geq 3 \\ & -4x_1 - 2x_2 & \geq -12 \\ & x_1 & \geq 0 \end{array}$$


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$$-x_1 - x_2 \geq -9$$

- There may be different choices, each giving a different lower bound

# Duality

■ Let  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_5 \geq 0$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min -x_1 - x_2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \\ -2x_1 - x_2 \geq -6 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 \geq -6 \\ x_1 \geq 0 \\ x_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \mu_1 \cdot ( \quad 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \quad ) \\ \mu_2 \cdot ( \quad -2x_1 - x_2 \geq -6 \quad ) \\ \mu_3 \cdot ( \quad -x_1 - 2x_2 \geq -6 \quad ) \\ \mu_4 \cdot ( \quad x_1 \geq 0 \quad ) \\ \mu_5 \cdot ( \quad x_2 \geq 0 \quad ) \end{array}$$


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$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2\mu_1 x_1 + \mu_1 x_2 & \geq & 3\mu_1 \\ -2\mu_2 x_1 - \mu_2 x_2 & \geq & -6\mu_2 \\ -\mu_3 x_1 - 2\mu_3 x_2 & \geq & -6\mu_3 \\ \mu_4 x_1 & \geq & 0 \\ \mu_5 x_2 & \geq & 0 \end{array}$$

$$(2\mu_1 - 2\mu_2 - \mu_3 + \mu_4) x_1 + (\mu_1 - \mu_2 - 2\mu_3 + \mu_5) x_2 \geq 3\mu_1 - 6\mu_2 - 6\mu_3$$

■ If  $2\mu_1 - 2\mu_2 - \mu_3 + \mu_4 = -1$ ,  $\mu_1 - \mu_2 - 2\mu_3 + \mu_5 = -1$ ,  
 $\mu_1 \geq 0$ ,  $\mu_2 \geq 0$ ,  $\mu_3 \geq 0$ ,  $\mu_4 \geq 0$ ,  $\mu_5 \geq 0$ ,  
 then  $3\mu_1 - 6\mu_2 - 6\mu_3$  is a lower bound

# Duality

- We can skip the multipliers of the non-negativity constraints

- We have:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 \min -x_1 - x_2 \\
 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \\
 -2x_1 - x_2 \geq -6 \\
 -x_1 - 2x_2 \geq -6 \\
 x_1 \geq 0 \\
 x_2 \geq 0
 \end{array} \right.
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 \mu_1 \cdot ( \quad 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \quad ) \\
 \mu_2 \cdot ( \quad -2x_1 - x_2 \geq -6 \quad ) \\
 \mu_3 \cdot ( \quad -x_1 - 2x_2 \geq -6 \quad )
 \end{array}$$


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$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 2\mu_1 x_1 + \mu_1 x_2 & \geq & 3\mu_1 \\
 -2\mu_2 x_1 - \mu_2 x_2 & \geq & -6\mu_2 \\
 -\mu_3 x_1 - 2\mu_3 x_2 & \geq & -6\mu_3
 \end{array}$$

$$(2\mu_1 - 2\mu_2 - \mu_3) x_1 + (\mu_1 - \mu_2 - 2\mu_3) x_2 \geq 3\mu_1 - 6\mu_2 - 6\mu_3$$

- Imagine  $2\mu_1 - 2\mu_2 - \mu_3 \leq -1$ .

In the coefficient of  $x_1$  we can “complete”  $2\mu_1 - 2\mu_2 - \mu_3$  to reach  $-1$  by adding a suitable multiple of  $x_1 \geq 0$  (the multiplier will be the slack)

- If  $2\mu_1 - 2\mu_2 - \mu_3 \leq -1$ ,  $\mu_1 - \mu_2 - 2\mu_3 \leq -1$ ,  
 $\mu_1 \geq 0$ ,  $\mu_2 \geq 0$ ,  $\mu_3 \geq 0$ , then  $3\mu_1 - 6\mu_2 - 6\mu_3$  is a lower bound

# Duality

- Best possible lower bound with this “trick” can be found by solving

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \max \quad 3\mu_1 - 6\mu_2 - 6\mu_3 \\ 2\mu_1 - 2\mu_2 - \mu_3 \leq -1 \\ \mu_1 - \mu_2 - 2\mu_3 \leq -1 \\ \mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3 \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

- How far will it be from the optimum?

# Duality

- Best possible lower bound with this “trick” can be found by solving

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- How far will it be from the optimum?
- A best solution is given by  $(\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3) = (0, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \cdot ( \quad 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \quad ) \\ \frac{1}{3} \cdot ( \quad -2x_1 - x_2 \geq -6 \quad ) \\ \frac{1}{3} \cdot ( \quad -x_1 - 2x_2 \geq -6 \quad ) \end{array}$$

Matches the optimum!

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$$-x_1 - x_2 \geq -4$$



# Dual Problem

- If we multiply  $Ax \geq b$  by multipliers  $y^T \geq 0$  we get  $y^T Ax \geq y^T b$
- If  $y^T A \leq c^T$  then we get a lower bound  $y^T b$  for the cost function  $c^T x$
- Given an LP (called **primal** problem)

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c^T x \\ & Ax \geq b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

its **dual** problem is the LP

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & y^T b \\ & y^T A \leq c^T \\ & y^T \geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \begin{aligned} \max \quad & b^T y \\ & A^T y \leq c \\ & y \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Primal variables associated with columns of  $A$
- Dual variables (**multipliers**) associated with rows of  $A$
- Objective and right-hand side vectors swap their roles

# Dual Problem

- **Prop.** The **dual of the dual** is the **primal**.

**Proof:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & b^T y \\ A^T y \leq c & \implies \\ y \geq 0 & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} - \min (-b)^T y \\ -A^T y \geq -c \\ y \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} - \max & -c^T x \\ (-A^T)^T x \leq -b & \implies \\ x \geq 0 & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \min c^T x \\ Ax \geq b \\ x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- We say the primal and the dual form a **primal-dual pair**

# Dual Problem

■ **Prop.**  $\min_{\substack{Ax = b \\ x \geq 0}} c^T x$  and  $\max_{A^T y \leq c} b^T y$  form a primal-dual pair

Proof:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min c^T x & \\ Ax = b & \implies \\ x \geq 0 & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \min c^T x \\ Ax \geq b \\ -Ax \geq -b \\ x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max b^T y_1 - b^T y_2 & \\ A^T y_1 - A^T y_2 \leq c & \\ y_1, y_2 \geq 0 & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} y := y_1 - y_2 \\ \implies \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \max b^T y \\ A^T y \leq c \end{array}$$

# Duality Theorems

■ **Th. (Weak Duality)** Let  $(P, D)$  be a primal-dual pair

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min c^T x & \\ (P) \quad Ax = b & \text{and} \quad (D) \quad \max b^T y \\ x \geq 0 & A^T y \leq c \end{array}$$

If  $x$  is feasible solution to  $P$  and  $y$  is feasible solution to  $D$  then  $b^T y \leq c^T x$

**Proof:**

$c - A^T y \geq 0$ , i.e.,  $c^T - y^T A \geq 0$ , and  $x \geq 0$  imply  $c^T x - y^T Ax \geq 0$ .

So  $c^T x \geq y^T Ax$ , and

$$c^T x \geq y^T Ax = y^T b = b^T y$$

# Duality Theorems

- Feasible solutions to  $D$  give lower bounds on  $P$
- Feasible solutions to  $P$  give upper bounds on  $D$
- Will the two optimum values be always equal?

# Duality Theorems

- Feasible solutions to  $D$  give lower bounds on  $P$
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- Will the two optimum values be always equal?
- **Th. (Strong Duality)** Let  $(P, D)$  be a primal-dual pair

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min c^T x & \\ (P) \quad Ax = b & \text{and} \quad (D) \quad \max b^T y \\ x \geq 0 & A^T y \leq c \end{array}$$

If **any** of  $P$  or  $D$  has a **feasible solution** and a finite **optimum** then the **same** holds **for the other** problem and the two **optimum** values are **equal**.

# Duality Theorems

- Proof (Th. of Strong Duality):

By duality it is sufficient to prove only one direction.

Wlog. let us assume  $P$  is feasible with finite optimum.

# Duality Theorems

## ■ Proof (Th. of Strong Duality):

By duality it is sufficient to prove only one direction.

Wlog. let us assume  $P$  is feasible with finite optimum.

After executing the Simplex algorithm to  $P$  we find  $B$  optimal feasible basis. Then:

- ◆  $c_{\mathcal{B}}^T B^{-1} a_j \leq c_j$  for all  $j \in \mathcal{R}$  (optimality conds hold)
- ◆  $c_{\mathcal{B}}^T B^{-1} a_j = c_j$  for all  $j \in \mathcal{B}$

Hence  $c_{\mathcal{B}}^T B^{-1} A \leq c^T$ .

So  $\pi^T := c_{\mathcal{B}}^T B^{-1}$  is a dual feasible solution:  $\pi^T A \leq c^T$ , i.e.,  $A^T \pi \leq c$



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After executing the Simplex algorithm to  $P$  we find  $B$  optimal feasible basis. Then:

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Moreover,  $c_B^T \beta = c_B^T B^{-1} b = \pi^T b = b^T \pi$

By the theorem of weak duality,  $\pi$  is optimum for  $D$

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- If  $B$  is an optimal feasible basis for  $P$ ,  
then simplex multipliers  $\pi^T := c_B^T B^{-1}$  are optimal feasible solution for  $D$
- We can solve the dual by applying the simplex algorithm on the primal
- We can solve the primal by applying the simplex algorithm on the dual

# Duality Theorems

■ **Prop.** Let  $(P, D)$  be a primal-dual pair

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min c^T x & \\ (P) \quad Ax = b & \text{and} \quad (D) \quad \max b^T y \\ x \geq 0 & A^T y \leq c \end{array}$$

- (1) If  $P$  has a feasible solution but is unbounded, then  $D$  is infeasible
- (2) If  $D$  has a feasible solution but is unbounded, then  $P$  is infeasible

**Proof:**

Let us prove (1) by contradiction.

If  $y$  were a feasible solution to  $D$ ,  
by the weak duality theorem, objective of  $P$  would be lower bounded!

(2) is proved by duality.

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■ **And the converse?**

Does infeasibility of one imply unboundedness of the other?

# Duality Theorems

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■ **And the converse?**

Does infeasibility of one imply unboundedness of the other?

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & 3x_1 + 5x_2 \\ & x_1 + 2x_2 = 3 \\ & 2x_1 + 4x_2 = 1 \\ & x_1, x_2 \text{ free} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & 3y_1 + y_2 \\ & y_1 + 2y_2 = 3 \\ & 2y_1 + 4y_2 = 5 \\ & y_1, y_2 \text{ free} \end{array}$$

# Duality Theorems

Primal unbounded	$\implies$	Dual infeasible
Dual unbounded	$\implies$	Primal infeasible
Primal infeasible	$\implies$	Dual $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{infeasible} \\ \text{unbounded} \end{array} \right.$
Dual infeasible	$\implies$	Primal $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{infeasible} \\ \text{unbounded} \end{array} \right.$

# Karush Kuhn Tucker Opt. Conds.

- Consider a primal-dual pair of the form

$$\begin{array}{lll} \min c^T x & & \max b^T y \\ Ax = b & \text{and} & A^T y \leq c \\ x \geq 0 & & \end{array} \iff \begin{array}{l} \max b^T y \\ A^T y + w = c \\ w \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) optimality conditions are

$$\begin{array}{ll} \bullet Ax = b & \bullet x, w \geq 0 \\ \bullet A^T y + w = c & \bullet x^T w = 0 \text{ (complementary slackness)} \end{array}$$

- They are **necessary** and **sufficient** conditions for optimality of the pair of primal-dual solutions  $(x, y, w)$
- Used, e.g., as a test of quality in LP solvers

# Karush Kuhn Tucker Opt. Conds.

(*KKT*)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min c^T x & \max b^T y \\ (P) \quad Ax = b & (D) \quad A^T y + w = c \\ x \geq 0 & w \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- $Ax = b$
- $A^T y + w = c$
- $x, w \geq 0$
- $x^T w = 0$

■ **Th.**  $(x, y, w)$  is solution to *KKT* iff  
 $x$  optimal solution to *P* and  $(y, w)$  optimal solution to *D*

**Proof:**

$\Rightarrow$  By  $0 = x^T w = x^T (c - A^T y) = c^T x - b^T y$ , and Weak Duality

$\Leftarrow$   $x$  is feasible solution to *P*,  $(y, w)$  is feasible solution to *D*.

By Strong Duality  $x^T w = x^T (c - A^T y) = c^T x - b^T y = 0$   
as both solutions are optimal



# Relating Bases

- Consider a primal-dual pair of the form

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min z = c^T x & \max Z = b^T y \\ (P) \quad Ax = b & (D) \quad A^T y + w = c \\ x \geq 0 & w \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- Let us denote by  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  the columns of  $A$ , i.e.,  $A = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$
- Let  $B$  be a basis of  $P$ . Let us see how we can get a basis of  $D$ .

Assume that the basic variables are the first  $m$ :  $B = (a_1, \dots, a_m)$ .

Then  $R = (a_{m+1}, \dots, a_n)$ .

If slacks  $w$  are split into  $w_{\mathcal{B}}^T = (w_1, \dots, w_m)$ ,  $w_{\mathcal{R}}^T = (w_{m+1}, \dots, w_n)$ , then

$$A^T y + w = \begin{pmatrix} a_1^T y \\ \vdots \\ a_m^T y \\ \hline a_{m+1}^T y \\ \vdots \\ a_n^T y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \\ \hline w_{m+1} \\ \vdots \\ w_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} B^T y + w_{\mathcal{B}} \\ \hline R^T y + w_{\mathcal{R}} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Relating Bases

- Hence we have

$$A^T y + w = \begin{pmatrix} B^T y + w_{\mathcal{B}} \\ R^T y + w_{\mathcal{R}} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Then the matrix of the system in the dual problem  $D$  is

$$\left( \begin{array}{c|c|c} B^T & I & 0 \\ \hline R^T & 0 & I \end{array} \right) \begin{pmatrix} y \\ w_{\mathcal{B}} \\ w_{\mathcal{R}} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Now let us consider the submatrix of vars  $y$  and vars  $w_{\mathcal{R}}$ :

$$\hat{B} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} B^T & 0 \\ \hline R^T & I \end{array} \right)$$

- Note  $\hat{B}$  is a square  $n \times n$  matrix

# Relating Bases

- Dual variables  $\hat{\mathcal{B}} = (y, w_{\mathcal{R}})$  determine a basis of  $D$ :

$$\hat{B} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} B^T & 0 \\ \hline R^T & I \end{array} \right)$$

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- In the next slides we answer the following questions:
  1. If basis  $\hat{B}$  of the dual  $D$  is feasible, what can we say about basis  $B$  of the primal  $P$ ?
  2. If basis  $\hat{B}$  of the dual  $D$  is optimal (satisfies the optimality conds.), what can we say about basis  $B$  of the primal  $P$ ?
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  3. If we apply the simplex algorithm to the dual  $D$  using basis  $\hat{B}$ , how does that translate into the primal  $P$  and its basis  $B$ ?
- Recall that each variable  $w_j$  in  $D$  is associated to a variable  $x_j$  in  $P$ .
- Note that  $w_j$  is  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$ -basic iff  $x_j$  is **not**  $\mathcal{B}$ -basic

# Dual Feasibility = Primal Optimality

- If  $\hat{B}$  is feasible for dual  $D$ , what about  $B$  in primal  $P$ ?
- Let us compute the basic solution of basis  $\hat{B}$  in the dual problem  $D$

$$\begin{pmatrix} y \\ w_{\mathcal{R}} \end{pmatrix} = \hat{B}^{-1}c = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} B^{-T} & 0 \\ \hline -R^T B^{-T} & I \end{array} \right) \begin{pmatrix} c_{\mathcal{B}} \\ c_{\mathcal{R}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} B^{-T}c_{\mathcal{B}} \\ -R^T B^{-T}c_{\mathcal{B}} + c_{\mathcal{R}} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Recall that there is no restriction on the sign of  $y_1, \dots, y_m$
- Variables  $w_j$  have to be non-negative. But

$$-R^T B^{-T}c_{\mathcal{B}} + c_{\mathcal{R}} \geq 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad c_{\mathcal{R}}^T - c_{\mathcal{B}}^T B^{-1}R \geq 0$$

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- $\hat{B}$  is dual feasible iff  $d_j \geq 0$  for all  $j \in \mathcal{R}$
- Dual feasibility is primal optimality!



# Dual Optimality = Primal Feasibility

- If  $\hat{B}$  satisfies the optimality conds. for dual  $D$ , what about  $B$  in primal  $P$ ?
- Let us formulate the optimality conds. of basis  $\hat{B}$  in the dual problem  $D$
- Non  $\hat{B}$ -basic vars:  $w_{\mathcal{B}}$  with costs  $(0)$
- $\hat{B}$ -basic vars:  $(y \mid w_{\mathcal{R}})$  with costs  $(b^T \mid 0)$
- Matrix of non  $\hat{B}$ -basic vars:  $\begin{pmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
- Optimality condition:  $0 \geq$  reduced costs (maximization!)

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\geq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} b^T & \mid & 0 \end{pmatrix} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} B^{-T} & 0 \\ \hline -R^T B^{-T} & I \end{array} \right) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} b^T B^{-T} & \mid & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = -b^T B^{-T} = -\beta^T \text{ where } \beta = B^{-1}b \end{aligned}$$

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- In the dual, for all  $1 \leq p \leq m$  var  $w_{k_p}$  satisfies optimality cond. iff  $\beta_p \geq 0$
- Dual optimality is primal feasibility!

# Improving a Non-Optimal Solution

- Next we apply the simplex algorithm to basis  $\hat{B}$  in the dual problem  $D$  and translate it to the primal problem  $P$
- Let  $p$  (where  $1 \leq p \leq m$ ) be such that  $\beta_p < 0$ .  
I.e., the reduced cost of non-basic dual variable  $w_{k_p}$  is positive.  
So by giving  $w_{k_p}$  a larger value we can improve the dual objective value.  
If  $w_{k_p}$  takes value  $t \geq 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} y(t) \\ w_{\mathcal{R}}(t) \end{pmatrix} &= \hat{B}^{-1}c - \hat{B}^{-1}te_p = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} B^{-T}c_{\mathcal{B}} \\ d_{\mathcal{R}} \end{pmatrix} - \left( \begin{array}{c|c} B^{-T} & 0 \\ \hline -R^T B^{-T} & I \end{array} \right) \begin{pmatrix} te_p \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} B^{-T}c_{\mathcal{B}} - tB^{-T}e_p \\ d_{\mathcal{R}} + tR^T B^{-T}e_p \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- Dual objective value improvement is

$$\Delta Z = b^T y(t) - b^T y(0) = -tb^T B^{-T}e_p = -t\beta^T e_p = -t\beta_p$$

# Improving a Non-Optimal Solution

- Of all basic dual variables, only  $w_{\mathcal{R}}$  variables need to be  $\geq 0$
- For  $j \in \mathcal{R}$

$$w_j(t) = d_j + t a_j^T B^{-T} e_p = d_j + t e_p^T B^{-1} a_j = d_j + t e_p^T \alpha_j = d_j + t \alpha_j^p$$

where  $\alpha_j^p$  is the  $p$ -th component of  $\alpha_j = B^{-1} a_j$ . Hence:

$$w_j(t) \geq 0 \iff d_j + t \alpha_j^p \geq 0 \iff d_j \geq t(-\alpha_j^p)$$

- ◆ If  $\alpha_j^p \geq 0$  the constraint is satisfied for all  $t \geq 0$
  - ◆ If  $\alpha_j^p < 0$  we need  $\frac{d_j}{-\alpha_j^p} \geq t$
- **Best improvement** achieved with

$$\Theta_D := \min\left\{\frac{d_j}{-\alpha_j^p} \mid \alpha_j^p < 0\right\}$$

- Variable  $w_q$  is **blocking** when  $\Theta_D = \frac{d_q}{-\alpha_q^p}$

# Improving a Non-Optimal Solution

1. If  $\Theta_D = +\infty$  (there is no  $j \in \mathcal{R}$  such that  $\alpha_j^p < 0$ ):

Value of dual objective can be increased infinitely.

Dual LP is **unbounded**.

Primal LP is **infeasible**.

2. If  $\Theta_D < +\infty$  and  $w_q$  is blocking:

When setting  $w_{k_p} = \Theta_D$ ,

non-negativity constraints of basic vars of dual are respected

We can make a **basis change**:

- In dual:  $w_{k_p}$  enters  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $w_q$  leaves
- In primal:  $x_{k_p}$  leaves  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $x_q$  enters

# Update

- We do **not** actually **need** to form the **dual LP**:  
it is **enough** to have a representation of the **primal LP**
- New basic indices:  $\bar{\mathcal{B}} = (k_1, \dots, k_{p-1}, q, k_{p+1}, \dots, k_m)$
- New dual objective value:  $\bar{Z} = Z - \Theta_D \beta_p$
- New dual basic sol:  $\bar{y} = y - \Theta_D \rho_p$  where  $\rho_p = B^{-T} e_p$   
 $\bar{d}_j = d_j + \Theta_D \alpha_j^p$  if  $j \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  $\bar{d}_{k_p} = \Theta_D$
- New primal basic sol:  $\bar{\beta}_p = \Theta_P$ ,  $\bar{\beta}_i = \beta_i - \Theta_P \alpha_q^i$  if  $i \neq p$   
where  $\Theta_P = \frac{\beta_p}{\alpha_q^p}$
- New basis inverse:  $\bar{B}^{-1} = EB^{-1}$   
where  $E = (e_1, \dots, e_{p-1}, \eta, e_{p+1}, \dots, e_m)$  and  
$$\eta^T = \left( \left( \frac{-\alpha_q^1}{\alpha_q^p} \right), \dots, \left( \frac{-\alpha_q^{p-1}}{\alpha_q^p} \right), \frac{1}{\alpha_q^p} \left( \frac{-\alpha_q^{p+1}}{\alpha_q^p} \right), \dots, \left( \frac{-\alpha_q^m}{\alpha_q^p} \right) \right)^T$$

# Algorithmic Description

1. Initialization: Find an initial dual feasible basis  $\mathcal{B}$   
Compute  $B^{-1}$ ,  $\beta = B^{-1}b$ ,  
 $y^T = c_{\mathcal{B}}^T B^{-1}$ ,  $d_{\mathcal{R}}^T = c_{\mathcal{R}}^T - y^T R$ ,  $Z = b^T y$
2. Dual Pricing:  
If for all  $i \in \mathcal{B}$ ,  $\beta_i \geq 0$  then return **OPTIMAL**  
Else let  $p$  be such that  $\beta_p < 0$ .  
Compute  $\rho_p^T = e_p^T B^{-1}$  and  $\alpha_j^p = \rho_p^T a_j$  for  $j \in \mathcal{R}$
3. Dual Ratio Test: Compute  $\mathcal{J} = \{j \mid j \in \mathcal{R}, \alpha_j^p < 0\}$ .  
If  $\mathcal{J} = \emptyset$  then return **INFEASIBLE**  
Else compute  $\Theta_D = \min_{j \in \mathcal{J}} \left( \frac{d_j}{-\alpha_j^p} \right)$  and  $q$  st.  $\Theta_D = \frac{d_q}{-\alpha_q^p}$

# Algorithmic Description

4. Update:

$$\bar{\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{B} - \{k_p\} \cup \{q\}$$

$$\bar{Z} = Z - \Theta_D \beta_p$$

Dual solution

$$\bar{y} = y - \Theta_D \rho_p$$

$$\bar{d}_j = d_j + \Theta_D \alpha_j^p \text{ if } j \in \mathcal{R}, \bar{d}_{k_p} = \Theta_D$$

Primal solution

Compute  $\alpha_q = B^{-1} a_q$  and  $\Theta_P = \frac{\beta_p}{\alpha_q^p}$

$$\bar{\beta}_p = \Theta_P, \quad \bar{\beta}_i = \beta_i - \Theta_P \alpha_q^i \text{ if } i \neq p$$

$$\bar{B}^{-1} = E B^{-1}$$

Go to 2.



# Primal vs. Dual Simplex

## PRIMAL

- Can handle **bounds efficiently**
- **Many years** of research and implementation
- There are classes of LP's for which it is the best
- **Not suitable** for solving LP's with **integer** variables

## DUAL

- Can handle **bounds efficiently** (not explained here)
- Developments in the **90's** made it an alternative
- Nowadays **on average** it gives **better performance**
- **Suitable** for solving LP's with **integer** variables