

ENG 104 , W 2010

Lecture 11

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Today

Linear Programming Basics.

See LP.pdf on BBoard  
for additional Presentation.

Motivation:

Consider

$$\min c^T x \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\text{such that } Ax = b$$

$Ax = b$  has 0, 1,  $\infty$   
# of solutions

If 1 solution, not interesting.

If  $\infty$  solutions, linear  
programming (LP)

Augmented  
~~Standard~~ form LP :

$$\min_x C^T x$$

Subject to  
(such that)

$$Ax = b$$

$$x \geq 0$$

} Augmented  
"Standard"  
form  
LP

$C \in E^n$  is cost vector

$x \in E^n$  is variable vector

$A \in E^{m \times n}$ ,  $b \in E^m$  define  
constraints

$x \geq 0$  positivity constraints

Example

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & 2x_1 + x_2 + 5x_3 \\ \text{s.t.} & x_1 + 3x_2 + 7x_3 = 11 \\ & 2x_1 + x_2 = 3 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0 \end{array}$$

Terminology

The set of  $x$  which satisfy

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} Ax = b \\ x \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{ is called the "feasible set".}$$

Note if  $x, y$  are feasible &  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$

$z = \alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y$  is also feasible!

Check  $Az = b$  and  $z \geq 0$ .

So the feasible set is a convex set.

Also  $C^T z = \alpha C^T x + (1-\alpha) C^T y$

so the objective function to be minimized is also convex.

From previous discussions,  
such problems have only  
global minima, so no purely  
local mins exist. This is  
good!

Examples See LP.pdf

- ① The Diet Problem
- ② The assignment problem
- ③ The transportation problem
- ④ Other examples

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Reducing problems to ~~Standard~~ <sup>Augmented</sup> ⑧  
LP form:

① unconstrained variables?

Suppose  $\min_x c^T x$

s.t.  $Ax = b$   
 $x \in E^n$  ?

Let  $x = y - z$ ,  $y, z \in E^n$   
 $y, z \geq 0$



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⑨

$$\text{Let } \omega = \begin{bmatrix} y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in E^{2n}$$

$$\min [c^T, -c^T] \omega$$

$$\text{s.t. } \begin{bmatrix} A & -A \end{bmatrix} \omega = b$$

$$\omega \geq 0$$

What if  $x_i \leq 0$  ?  $\rightarrow$  rewrite with  $-x_i$  ( $\geq 0$ )

What if  $x_i \geq d_i$   $\rightarrow$  rewrite with  $x_i - d_i = y_i \geq 0$

etc.

Example

$$\min \quad c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2$$

such that

$$a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 \leq b_1$$

$$x_1 \geq d_1$$

$x_2$  unconstrained

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Note

$$a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 \leq b_1$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + z_1 = b_1$$

where  ~~$B_{\text{opt}}$~~  -  $z_1 \geq 0$ .

Examples

①  $\min \|Ax - b\|_1$   $1$  norm

②  $\min \|Ax - b\|_\infty$   $\infty$  norm

In ①

$$|y| = \min u + v$$

such that  $u - v = y$

$u \geq 0, v \geq 0$

In ②

$$\|y\|_\infty = \min \alpha$$

s.t.  $\alpha \geq 0$

$-\alpha \leq y_i \leq \alpha$

Standard form LP

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} & Ax \leq b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

Canonical Form LP

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} & Ax \leq b \end{array}$$

Augmented form

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} & Ax = b, x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

## Bottom line

Very many problems with  
"linear"-type constraints can  
be put into  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Augmented} \\ \text{Standard} \\ \text{Canonical} \end{array} \right\}$  Form  
through the introduction of  
additional variables!

$\|\cdot\|_\infty$ ,  $\|\cdot\|_1$ , etc

Standard, Canonical &  
Augmented Forms are all  
equivalent.

Can mechanically convert one  
to the other.

Question: how to convert

$$Ax = b \quad \text{to} \quad Ax \leq b \quad ?$$

$$\text{Answer} \quad Ax = b \quad \text{iff} \quad \begin{cases} Ax \leq b \\ -Ax \leq -b \end{cases}$$

How to convert  $\min c^T x$   
to  $\max c^T x$ ?

Answer:  $\min c^T x = -\max -c^T x$

Let's do examples on HW2!

# "Duality"

Consider

$$\max \quad c^T x$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad Ax \leq b$$

$$x \geq 0$$



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(17)

$$C^T x = \min_{y \geq 0} C^T x + (b - Ax)^T y$$

if  $b \geq Ax$

$$-\infty = \min_{y \geq 0} C^T x + (b - Ax)^T y$$

if some  $b_i < (Ax)_i$   
ie if  $b \neq Ax$

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18

So

$$\max_{x \geq 0} \min_{y \geq 0} c^T x + (b - Ax)^T y = \max_{\substack{Ax \leq b \\ x \geq 0}} c^T x$$

Assume

$$\max_{x \geq 0} \min_{y \geq 0} w = \min_{y \geq 0} \max_{x \geq 0} w$$

"Saddle point"

$$\min_{y \geq 0} \max_{x \geq 0} c^T x + y^T (b - Ax)$$

$$\min_{y \geq 0} \max_{x \geq 0} c^T x + y^T (-Ax + b)$$

$$= \min_{y \geq 0} \max_{x \geq 0} y^T b + (c^T - y^T A) x$$

$$\max_{x \geq 0} y^T b + (c^T - y^T A) x = \infty$$

$$\text{if } c^T \not\leq y^T A$$

$$= y^T b$$

$$\text{if } c^T \leq y^T A$$

So

$$\min_{y \geq 0} \max_{x \geq 0} y^T b + (c^T - y^T A) x$$

$$= \min_{y \geq 0} y^T b$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad c^T \leq y^T A$$

$$= \min \left. \begin{array}{l} b^T y \\ A^T y \geq c \\ y \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{Dual LP}$$

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(21)

Primal

$$\max \quad c^T x$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad Ax \leq b$$

$$x \geq 0$$

Dual

$$\min \quad b^T y$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad A^T y \geq c^T$$

$$y \geq 0$$

Dual of Dual is Primal !

Linear Programs are types of optimization problems.

There are a variety of methods to solve LP's.

- ⇒
- ① Simplex Algorithm
  - ② Ellipsoid Methods
  - ③ Interior Point Methods