

Homework 1

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1 HW 1

1.1 Problem restatement

Consider the following convex optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & f(x), \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x \preceq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Then, according to general optimality condition prove that the optimal point x^* satisfies

$$\nabla f(x^*) \preceq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad x_i^* (\nabla f(x^*))_i = 0, i = 1, \dots, n$$

1.2 Proof

1. Proof of $\nabla f(x^*) \preceq 0$:

If $\exists \nabla f(x^*)_i > 0$, Let: $d = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ \nabla f(x^*)_i \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ which means only $d_i = \nabla f(x^*)_i$ and define the

parameter $t \rightarrow 0_+$,

$y = x^* - td$ then, $y \preceq 0$

Then, apply the Taylor expansion: $f(y) = f(x^*) + \langle \nabla f(x^*), y - x^* \rangle + O((y - x^*)^2)$

so,

$$f(y) = f(x^*) - t(\nabla f(x^*)_i)^2 + O(t^2(\nabla f(x^*)_i)^2)$$

$t > 0$, so $t(\nabla f(x^*)_i)^2 \geq 0$ Consider :

$$t(\nabla f(x^*)_i)^2 > O(t^2(\nabla f(x^*)_i)^2) \Rightarrow f(y) < f(x^*)$$

Contradicts with $f(x^*)$ is the minimum, So $\nabla f(x^*) \preceq 0$

2. Proof $x_i^* \nabla f(x^*)_i = 0$:

(1). $\nabla f(x^*)_i = 0$, then $x_i^* \nabla f(x^*)_i = 0$

(2) . $x_i^* = 0$, then $x_i^* f(x_i^*) = 0$

(3) . so ,only when $x_i^* < 0$ and $\nabla f(x^*)_i < 0, x_i^* f(x^*)_i \neq 0$

Consider the direction $d = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ t \nabla f(x^*)_i \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ which means only $d_i = t \nabla f(x^*)_i$ with the parameter

$t \rightarrow 0_-$,

so the $x^* + d \prec 0$ is in the feasible set

Use Taylor equation:

$$f(x^* + d) = f(x^*) + \langle \nabla f(x^*), x^* + d - x^* \rangle + O(t \nabla f(x^*))^2 = f(x^*) + t(\nabla f(x^*))^2 + O(t \nabla f(x^*))^2 < f(x^*)$$

Contradicts with $f(x^*)$ is the minimum, so $x_i^* \nabla f(x^*)_i = 0$

2 HW 2

2.1 Problem restatement

Consider a linear programming

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c^T x, \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax \leq b. \end{aligned}$$

Show its Lagrange dual problem

2.2 Answer

Step 1:

$$L(x, \lambda) = c^T x + \lambda^T (Ax - b) = (c^T + \lambda^T A)x - \lambda^T b$$

Step 2:

$$\begin{aligned} g(\lambda) &= \inf_{x \in D} \{(c^T + \lambda^T A)x - \lambda^T b\} \\ &= \begin{cases} -\lambda^T b & , c^T + \lambda^T A = 0 \\ -\infty & , otherwise \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Step 3:

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & -\lambda^T b \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & c^T + \lambda^T A = 0 \\ & \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

3 HW 3

3.1 Problem restatement

Compute the conjugate function: (i) $f(x) = \delta_{B_{\|\cdot\|_\infty}}$.

(ii) $f(x) = \delta_{R_+^n}(x)$.

(iii) $f(x) = \log(1 + e^x)$.

(iv) $f(x) = g(x - a) + \langle x, a \rangle$.

(v) $f(x) = \inf_z \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|x - z\|^2 + g(z) \right\}$

3.2 Answer

(i) $f^*(y) = \sup_x \{y^T x - f(x)\} = \sup_{\|x\|_\infty \leq 1} \{y^T x - f(x)\} = \sigma_{B_{\|\cdot\|_\infty}}(y)$

consider that:

$$y^T x \leq \|x\|_\infty \|y\|_1 \leq \|y\|_1$$

$$\text{if } x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_i \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \text{ with } x_i = \begin{cases} 1 & , y_i > 0 \\ -1 & , y_i \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

the " " holds

In conclusion, $f^*(y) = \|y\|_1$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(y) &= \sup_x \{y^T x - f(x)\} \\ &= \sup_x \{y^T x - \delta_{R_+^n}(x)\} \\ &= \sup_{x \in R_+^n} \{y^T x\} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & , y \in R_+^n \\ \infty & , otherwise \end{cases} \\ &= \delta_{R_+^n}(y) \end{aligned}$$

(iii) $f^*(y) = \sup_x \{y^T x - \log(1 + e^x)\}$

Let $L(x, y) = y^T x - \log(1 + e^x)$

$\nabla_x L(x, y) = y - \frac{e^x}{1+e^x}$, with the x goes up, the $\nabla_x L$ goes down.

Let $\nabla_x L = 0$, then $x = -\log(1 - y)$, $y \in (0, 1)$ so the $L(x, y)$ touch supreme at this point, and the value is:

$$y \log\left(\frac{y}{1-y}\right) + \log(1-y)$$

if $y > 1$, then $\nabla_x L \geq 0$ and L has no supreme.

if $y < 0$, then $\nabla_x L \leq 0$ and L has no supreme.

if $y = 0$, $\sup_x \{y^T x - \log(1 + e^x)\} = \sup_x \{-\log(1 + e^x)\} = 0$

if $y = 1$, $\sup_x \{y^T x - \log(1 + e^x)\} = \sup_x \{x - \log(1 + e^x)\} = 0$

$$\text{In conclusion: } f^*(y) = \begin{cases} y \log(\frac{y}{1-y}) + \log(1-y) & , y \in (0, 1) \\ 0 & , y = 0, y = 1 \\ \infty & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(iv)

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(y) &= \sup_x \{y^T x - f(x)\} \\ &= \sup_x \{y^T x - g(x-a) - b^T x\} \end{aligned}$$

Let $x - a = z$, then

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(y) &= \sup_z \{y^T(z+a) - g(z) - b^T(z+a)\} \\ &= \sup_z \{(y^T - b^T)(z+a) - g(z)\} \\ &= \sup_z \{(y^T - b^T)z - g(z)\} + (y^T - b^T)a \\ &= g^*(y^T - b^T) + (y^T - b^T)a \end{aligned}$$

(v)

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \inf_z \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|x - z\|^2 + g(z) \right\} \\ &= - \sup_z \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \|x - z\|^2 - g(z) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

then,

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(y) &= \sup_x \{y^T x - f(x)\} \\ &= \sup_x \left\{ \sup_z \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \|x - z\|^2 - g(z) \right\} + y^T x \right\} \\ &= \sup_x \sup_z \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \|x - z\|^2 - g(z) + y^T x \right\} \end{aligned}$$

In definition of $\sup_x f(x)$, it is obvious that

$$\sup_x \sup_z f(x, y) = \sup_z \sup_x f(x, y), \text{ so}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
f^*(y) &= \sup_z \sup_x \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \|x - z\|^2 - g(z) + y^T x \right\} \\
&= \sup_z \sup_x \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} x^T x + x^T z - \frac{1}{2} z^T z - g(z) + y^T x \right\} \\
&= \sup_z \left\{ \sup_x \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} x^T x + x^T z + y^T x \right\} - \frac{1}{2} z^T z - g(z) \right\} \\
&= \sup_z \left\{ \frac{(y + z)^T (y + z)}{2} - \frac{1}{2} z^T z - g(z) \right\} \\
&= \sup_z \{ y^T z - g(z) \} + \frac{y^T y}{2} \\
&= g^*(y) + \frac{y^T y}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

4 HW 4

4.1 Problem restatement

Consider the following problem:

(i) Define the negative entropy function is $f(x) = x \log(x)$ and $x \geq 0, 0 \log 0 = 0$, compute its conjugate function.

(ii) Consider the following entropy maximization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & \sum_i x_i \log(x_i), \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax \succeq b, \\ & \sum_i x_i = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Please compute its Lagrange dual problem.

(iii) Suppose the strong duality holds for the entropy maximization problem, and we have obtained the optimal dual variables λ^* and v^* , then compute the optimal primal variable x^* by λ^* and v^*

4.2 Answer

(1)

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(y) &= \sup_x \{yx - f(x)\} \\ &= \sup_x \{yx - x \log(x)\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L(x, y) &= yx - x \log(x) \\ \nabla_x L(x, y) &= y - \log(x) - 1 \end{aligned}$$

with the growth of x , the $\nabla_x L$ goes down, take:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_x L(x, y) = 0 &\Rightarrow x = e^{y-1} \\ \Rightarrow f^*(y) &= ye^{y-1} - e^{y-1}(y-1) = e^{y-1} \end{aligned}$$

(2)

The primal problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & \sum_i x_i \log(x_i), \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & b - Ax \preceq 0, \\ & \sum_i x_i = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Lagrange:

$$L(x, \lambda, v) = \sum_i x_i \log(x_i) + \lambda^T (b - Ax) + v(\mathbf{1}^T x - 1)$$

the variable v is a scalar.

Lagrange Dual Function:

$$\begin{aligned} g(\lambda, v) &= \inf_x L(x, \lambda, v) \\ &= \inf_x \left\{ \sum_i x_i \log(x_i) + \lambda^T (b - Ax) + v(\mathbf{1}^T x - 1) \right\} \\ &= \inf_x \left\{ (v\mathbf{1}^T - \lambda^T A)x + \sum_i x_i \log(x_i) \right\} + \lambda^T b - v \\ &= -\sup_x \left\{ (\lambda^T A - v\mathbf{1}^T)x - \sum_i x_i \log(x_i) \right\} + \lambda^T b - v \\ &= -f^*(A^T \lambda - \mathbf{1}v) + \lambda^T b - v \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(y) &= \sup_x \sum_i (y_i x_i - x_i \log x_i) = \sum_i \sup_x (y_i x_i - x_i \log x_i) = \sum_i e^{y_i - 1} \\ &\Rightarrow g(\lambda, v) = -\sum_i e^{a_i^T \lambda - v - 1} + \lambda^T b - v \end{aligned}$$

Lagrange Dual Problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\lambda, v} \quad & -\sum_i e^{a_i^T \lambda - v - 1} + \lambda^T b - v \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

(3)

$$L(x, \lambda^*, v^*) = \sum_i x_i \log(x_i) + \lambda^{*T} (b - Ax) + v^*(\sum_i x_i - 1)$$

$$\frac{\partial L(x, \lambda^*, v^*)}{\partial x_i} = 1 + \log(x_i) - (A^T \lambda^*)_i + v^* = 0 \Rightarrow x_i = \exp(-v^* + (A^T \lambda^*)_i - 1)$$

means the i th position of x^* satisfy $x_i = \exp(-v^* + (A^T \lambda^*)_i - 1)$

5 HW 5

5.1 Problem restatement

Show the Lagrange dual problems for

(i)

$$\min_x f(x) + g(Ax)$$

(ii) Ridge Regression:

$$\min_x \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_2^2$$

5.2 Answer

(1) primal problem:

$$\min_x f(x) + g(Ax)$$

equal to:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x f(x) + g(z) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad Ax = z \end{aligned}$$

Lagrange:

$$L(x, v) = f(x) + g(z) + v^T (Ax - z)$$

Lagrange Dual Function:

$$\begin{aligned} t(v) &= \inf_x L(x, v) \\ &= \inf_x \{f(x) + g(z) + v^T (Ax - z)\} \\ &= \inf_x \{f(x) + v^T Ax\} + \inf_x \{g(z) - v^T z\} \\ &= -\sup_x \{-f(x) - v^T Ax\} - \sup_x \{-g(z) + v^T z\} \\ &= -f^*(-A^T v) - g^*(v) \end{aligned}$$

Lagrange Dual Problem:

$$\max_v -f^*(-A^T v) - g^*(v)$$

(2)

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_x \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_2^2 \\ &= \min_x \sup_y \left((Ax - b)^T y - \frac{1}{2} \|y\|^2 \right) + \lambda \|x\|_2^2 \\ &\geq \sup_y \min_x \{ (Ax)^T y - b^T y - \frac{1}{2} \|y\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_2^2 \} \\ &= \sup_y \{ \min_x \{ (A^T y)^T x + \lambda \|x\|_2^2 \} - b^T y - \frac{1}{2} \|y\|^2 \} \\ &= \sup_y \{ - \sup_x \{ (-A^T y)^T x - \lambda \|x\|_2^2 \} - b^T y - \frac{1}{2} \|y\|^2 \} \\ &= \sup_y \{ -2\lambda \sup_x \{ (-\frac{A^T y}{2\lambda})^T x - \frac{1}{2} \|x\|_2^2 \} - b^T y - \frac{1}{2} \|y\|^2 \} \\ &= \sup_y \{ -\frac{1}{4\lambda} \|A^T y\|^2 - b^T y - \frac{1}{2} \|y\|^2 \} \end{aligned}$$

So, the lagrange dual problem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_y -\frac{1}{2} \|y\|_2^2 - \frac{1}{4\lambda} \|A^T y\|_2^2 - y^T b \\ & s.t. \quad \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

参考文献