

CSE203B Convex Optimization:

Chapter 5 Duality

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Chapter 5 Duality

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Duality

Primal Problem (Feasible Solution)

$$\begin{aligned} \min f_0(x) \quad & x \in R^n \\ \text{s.t. } f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad & i = 1, \dots, m \\ h_i(x) = 0 \quad & i = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

domain D

$$= \text{dom } f_0 \cap_i \text{dom } f_i \cap_i \text{dom } h_i$$

feasible set

$$E = \left\{ x \mid f_i(x) \leq 0, h_i(x) = 0 \quad \forall x \in D \right\}$$

Opt: $x^*, p^* = f_0(x^*)$

Lagrangian: $L: R^n \times R^m \times R^p \rightarrow R$

$$L(x, \lambda, v) = f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p v_i h_i(x)$$

λ_i, v_i : Lagrange multiplier, $\lambda_i \in R_+, v_i \in R$.

$$E \subset D$$

Lagrange dual function

$$g(\lambda, v) = \inf_{x \in D} L(x, \lambda, v) \quad (\text{x may not be feasible})$$

$$g(\lambda, v) = \min_{x \in D} L(x, \lambda, v)$$

$$= - \max_{x \in D} -L(x, \lambda, v)$$

$$= - \max_{x \in D} \underbrace{-f_0(x) - \sum \lambda_i f_i(x) - \sum v_i h_i(x)}_{\text{convex wrt } \lambda_i, v_i}$$

convex w.r.t λ_i, v_i .

concave w.r.t λ_i, v_i .

Duality

Dual Problem (Infeasible Solution)

$$\max_{\lambda, v} g(\lambda, v) \quad \text{s.t. } \lambda \geq 0$$

- $g(\lambda, v)$ is concave
- $g(\lambda, v) \leq p^*$ an optimal value where $\lambda \geq 0$

Proof 1: By definition of $g(\lambda, v)$ and the convexity of pointwise max operation on convex functions.

Proof 2: For any feasible \tilde{x} and $\lambda \geq 0$

$$f_0(\tilde{x}) \geq L(\tilde{x}, \lambda, v) \quad (\text{Because } \sum \lambda_i f_i(\tilde{x}) + \sum v_i h_i(\tilde{x}) \leq 0)$$

$$L(\tilde{x}, \lambda, v) \geq g(\lambda, v) \quad \text{by definition of } g(\lambda, v)$$

Thus $p^* = f_0(x^*) \geq g(\lambda, v)$

$$\min_x \max_{\lambda, v} L(x, \lambda, v) \geq \max_{\lambda, v} \min_x L(x, \lambda, v)$$

Example: Linear Programming

Prime:

$$\min c^T x$$

$$\text{subject to } \begin{cases} Ax \leq b \\ x \geq 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} Ax - b \leq 0 \\ -x \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\nabla f_0(x) = c$$

$$K_1 = \{u \mid Au \leq 0\} \\ = K_1 = \{u \mid -Au \geq 0\}$$

Lagrangian

$$L(x, \lambda) = c^T x + \lambda_I^T (Ax - b) - \lambda_{II}^T x \\ = -\lambda_I^T b + (A^T \lambda_I - \lambda_{II} + c)^T x, \quad \lambda_I, \lambda_{II} \geq 0$$

$$g(\lambda) = \inf_x L(x, \lambda)$$

$$g(\lambda) = \begin{cases} -b^T \lambda_I, & A^T \lambda_I + c \geq 0 \quad (A^T \lambda_I - \lambda_{II} + c = 0) \\ -\infty, & \text{otherwise} \quad (A^T \lambda_I - \lambda_{II} + c \neq 0) \end{cases}$$

$$K_1^* = \{-A^T \theta \mid \theta \geq 0\}$$

$$A^T \lambda_I + c = \lambda_{II} \geq 0 \\ c = -A^T \theta \quad \theta \geq 0$$

Dual:

$$\max -b^T \lambda_I \quad (\min b^T \lambda_I)$$

$$\text{subject to } A^T \lambda_I + c \geq 0$$

$$\lambda_I \geq 0$$

$$c + A^T \theta = 0$$

$$K_2 = \{u \mid +I u \geq 0\}$$

$$K_2^* = \{-I \theta \mid \theta \geq 0\}$$

Example: Linear Programming

$$\text{Prime: } \min [-1 \ -1] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{subject to } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leq \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad x_1, x_2 \geq 0.$$

$$\text{Dual: } \max -[3 \ 2] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{subject to } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \geq \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \geq 0$$

$$\text{Results: } \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1/3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad p^* = -\frac{7}{3}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 \\ 2/3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad d^* = -\frac{7}{3}$$

Example: Linear Programming

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f_0(x) &= c \\ -x &\leq 0 \\ Ax - b &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min c^T x \\ \text{subject to } Ax &= b, x \geq 0, \text{ (or } -x \leq 0) \end{aligned}$$

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

Lagrange Dual: $g(\lambda, v) = \inf_x L(x, \lambda, v) \Rightarrow \nabla_x L = 0 \Rightarrow (c + A^T v - \lambda) = 0$

- If $A^T v - \lambda + c = 0 \rightarrow g(\lambda, v) = -b^T v$
- Else $\rightarrow g(\lambda, v) = -\infty$

Properties:

- g is linear on affine domain $\{(\lambda, v) | A^T v - \lambda + c = 0\}$, hence concave.
- If $\lambda \geq 0 \Rightarrow A^T v + c \geq 0$
 $p^* \geq -b^T v$ if $A^T v + c \geq 0$

$$\max -b^T v$$

$$A^T v + c \geq 0$$

or

$$\max b^T v$$

$$A^T v \leq c$$

$v \in \mathbb{R}^m$
 $v \rightarrow -v$
 changes sign of v

Example: Quadratic Programming

$$\begin{aligned} \min x^T x \\ \text{subject to } Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$
 $\text{Rank}(A) = m$
 (Assumption)

Lagrangian: $L(x, v) = x^T x + v^T (Ax - b) = x^T x + v^T A x - v^T b$

To minimize L over x , we set $\nabla_x L(x, v) = 2x + A^T v = 0$

$$\Rightarrow x = -\frac{1}{2} A^T v \quad (1)$$

Lagrange Dual Function:

$$g(v) = L\left(x = -\frac{1}{2} A^T v, v\right) = -\frac{1}{4} v^T A A^T v - b^T v$$

(A concave function of v)

Lower Bound Property: $p^* \geq -\frac{1}{4} v^T A A^T v - b^T v, \forall v$

To maximize $g(v)$, we set $v = -2(AA^T)^{-1} b$

Thus, we have $g(v) = -\frac{1}{4} v^T A A^T v - b^T v = b^T (AA^T)^{-1} b \quad (2)$

(3) From (1) and (2), we have $\begin{cases} x^* = A^T (AA^T)^{-1} b \\ p^* = x^{*T} x^* = b^T (AA^T)^{-1} b \end{cases}$

$$\begin{aligned} g(v) \Big|_{v = -2(AA^T)^{-1} b} &= -\frac{1}{4} [(-2(AA^T)^{-1} b)]^T A A^T (-2(AA^T)^{-1} b) - b^T (-2(AA^T)^{-1} b) \\ &= -b^T (AA^T)^{-1} b + 2b^T (AA^T)^{-1} b \end{aligned}$$

Example: Quadratic Program

Quadratic Program

$$\begin{aligned} \min x^T P x \quad & P \in S_{++}^n \\ \text{s.t. } Ax \leq b \end{aligned} \quad \longrightarrow \quad Ax - b \leq 0$$

Lagrange Dual Function:

$$\begin{aligned} g(\lambda) &= \min_x L(x, \lambda) = x^T P x + \lambda^T (Ax - b) \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} \lambda^T A P^{-1} A^T \lambda - b^T \lambda, \quad \lambda \geq 0. \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} \nabla_x L &= 2Px + A^T \lambda \\ x &= -(2P)^{-1} A^T \lambda \end{aligned}$$

Dual Problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \max -\frac{1}{4} \lambda^T A P^{-1} A^T \lambda - b^T \lambda \\ \text{s.t. } \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

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Example: Quadratic Program (nonconvex prob.)

$$\begin{aligned} \min x^T A x + 2b^T x \\ \text{s.t. } x^T x \leq 1 \end{aligned} \quad A \in S^n, A \not\geq 0$$

Dual Function:

$$g(\lambda) = \min_x L(x, \lambda) = x^T (A + \lambda I) x + 2b^T x - \lambda$$

Unbounded below if $A + \lambda I \not\geq 0$ or if $A + \lambda I \geq 0$ & $b \notin R(A + \lambda I)$

Minimized by $x = -(A + \lambda I)^+ b$

Otherwise $g(\lambda) = -b^T (A + \lambda I)^+ b - \lambda$

Dual Problem:

$$\begin{array}{l} \max -b^T (A + \lambda I)^+ b - \lambda \\ \text{s.t. } A + \lambda I \geq 0 \\ \quad b \in R(A + \lambda I) \end{array} \quad \left| \quad \begin{array}{l} \max -t - \lambda \\ \text{s.t. } \begin{bmatrix} A + \lambda I & b \\ b^T & t \end{bmatrix} \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ -((A + \lambda I)^+ b)^T & I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A + \lambda I & b \\ b^T & t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I & -(A + \lambda I)^+ b \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \geq 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A + \lambda I & 0 \\ 0 & -b^T (A + \lambda I)^+ b + t \end{bmatrix} \geq 0$$

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Example: Discrete Problem

Two-Way Partitioning Problem

Primal:

$$\begin{aligned} \min x^T W x & \quad x \in R^n, w_{ij} \in R \\ \text{s. t. } x_i^2 = 1 & \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ \text{i. e. } x_i \in \{-1, 1\}, & \quad x^T W x = \sum_{ij} x_i x_j w_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

Not a convex opt problem (Partitioning is an NP complete problem)

We can assume that

$$W \in S^n \quad (x^T W x = \frac{1}{2} x^T W x + \frac{1}{2} x^T W^T x = \frac{1}{2} x^T (W + W^T) x)$$

Lagrangian:

$$L(x, v) = x^T W x + \sum_{i=1}^n v_i (x_i^2 - 1) = x^T (W + \text{diag}(v)) x - I^T v$$

Lagrange dual function:

$$g(v) = \inf_x x^T (W + \text{diag}(v)) x - I^T v = \begin{cases} -I^T v, & W + \text{diag}(v) \succeq 0 \\ -\infty, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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Example: Discrete Problem

Dual:

$$\begin{aligned} \max g(v) & = -I^T v \\ \text{s. t. } W + \text{diag}(v) & \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Solution $v = -\lambda_{\min}(W) \mathbf{1}$

$$p^* \geq d^* = -\mathbf{1}^T v = n \lambda_{\min}(W)$$

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Examples: Minimum Volume Covering Ellipsoid

$$\begin{aligned} \min f_0(x) &= \log \det X^{-1}, \quad X \in S_{++}^n \\ \text{s.t. } a_i^T X a_i &\leq 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \end{aligned}$$

Lagrangian

$$L(x, \lambda) = \log \det X^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i a_i^T X a_i - 1^T \lambda, \quad \lambda \in R_+^m$$

Lagrange dual function

$$g(\lambda) = \min_x L(x, \lambda), \quad \lambda \in R_+^m$$

Dual Problem

$$\begin{aligned} \max \log \det (\sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i a_i a_i^T) - 1^T \lambda + n \\ \text{s.t. } \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i a_i a_i^T > 0, \quad \lambda \in R_+^m \end{aligned}$$

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Interpretation: Saddle-point

$$\max_{z \in Z} g(z) \leq \min_{w \in W} \max_{z \in Z} f(w, z) \leq \min_{w \in W} \max_{z \in Z} f(w, z)$$

λ, ν

$g(z) = \min_w f(w, z)$

Example : $f(w, z) = \begin{matrix} w = 1 & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \\ z = 1, 2, 3 \end{matrix}$

I. z decides first $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_{w \in W} f(w, 1) = 1 \\ \min_{w \in W} f(w, 2) = -1 \\ \min_{w \in W} f(w, 3) = -2 \end{array} \right. \max_{z \in Z} \min_{w \in W} f(w, z) = 1$

II. w decides first $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \max_{z \in Z} f(1, z) = 3 \\ \max_{z \in Z} f(2, z) = 2 \\ \max_{z \in Z} f(3, z) = 3 \end{array} \right. \min_{w \in W} \max_{z \in Z} f(w, z) = 2$

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Examples: Conjugate Function

$$\begin{aligned} \min f_0(x) \\ \text{s. t. } Ax \leq b \\ Cx = d \end{aligned}$$

Dual function

$$\begin{aligned} g(\lambda, v) &= \inf_{x \in \text{dom} f_0} (f_0(x) + \lambda^T (Ax - b) + v^T (Cx - d)) \\ &= \inf_{x \in \text{dom} f_0} (f_0(x) + (A^T \lambda + C^T v)^T x - b^T \lambda - d^T v) \\ &= -f_0^*(-A^T \lambda - C^T v) - b^T \lambda - d^T v \quad \text{Conjugate function} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Where } f_0^*(y) = \max_{x \in \text{dom} f} y^T x - f_0(x)$$

$\begin{aligned} \min c^T x \\ \text{s. t. } Ax = b \\ x \geq 0 \\ \max -b^T v \\ \text{s. t. } A^T v + c \geq 0 \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} \min c^T x \\ \text{s. t. } Ax \leq b \\ \max -b^T \lambda \\ \text{s. t. } A^T \lambda + c = 0 \\ \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$
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Examples: Entropy Maximization

$$\begin{aligned} \min f_0(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \log x_i, \quad x \in R_{++}^n \\ \text{s. t. } Ax &\leq b \\ 1^T x &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Since $f_0^*(y) = \sum_{i=1}^n e^{y_i - 1}, y_i \in R$

Thus, the dual function is

$$\begin{aligned} g(\lambda, v) &= -b^T \lambda - v - \sum_{i=1}^n e^{-a_i^T \lambda - v - 1} \\ &= -b^T \lambda - v - e^{-v-1} \sum_{i=1}^n e^{-a_i^T \lambda}, \quad a_i: \text{ the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ column of } A. \end{aligned}$$

To maximize $g(\lambda, v)$, we set $v = \log \sum_{i=1}^n e^{-a_i^T \lambda} - 1$

Dual Problem

$$\begin{aligned} \max -b^T \lambda - \log(\sum_{i=1}^n e^{-a_i^T \lambda}) \\ \text{s. t. } \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

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Interpretation: Saddle-point

$\min_x \max_{\lambda, D} L(x, \lambda)$ $\max_{\lambda, D} \min_x L(x, \lambda)$ $f(w, z)$
 $\min_w \max_z$

Claim : Result of II \geq Result of I

Given an arbitrary pair $(\tilde{w}, \tilde{z}) \in D$

$$\min_{w \in W} f(w, \tilde{z}) \leq f(\tilde{w}, \tilde{z}) \leq \max_{z \in Z} f(\tilde{w}, z) \quad \forall \tilde{w}, \tilde{z} \in D$$

$$\min_{w \in W} f(w, \tilde{z}) \leq \max_{z \in Z} f(\tilde{w}, z)$$

Thus $\max_{z \in Z} \min_{w \in W} f(w, z) \leq \min_{w \in W} \max_{z \in Z} f(w, z)$

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Interpretation: Saddle-point

Example : $f(w, z)$

$w =$	1	1	1
	2	2	2
	3	3	3
$z =$	1,	2,	3

$$\min_{w \in W} f(w, 1) = 1$$

$$\max_{z \in Z} f(1, z) = 1$$

$$\min_{w \in W} f(w, 2) = 1$$

$$\max_{z \in Z} f(2, z) = 2$$

$$\min_{w \in W} f(w, 3) = 1$$

$$\max_{z \in Z} f(3, z) = 3$$

$$\max_{z \in Z} \min_{w \in W} f(w, z) = 1$$

$$\min_{w \in W} \max_{z \in Z} f(w, z) = 1$$

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Interpretation: Saddle-point

$$\text{Example : } f(w, z) \quad w = \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$z = 1, 2, 3$$

$$\min_{w \in W} f(w, 1) = 1$$

$$\min_{w \in W} f(w, 2) = 1$$

$$\min_{w \in W} f(w, 3) = 1$$

$$\max_{z \in Z} \min_{w \in W} f(w, z) = 1$$

$$\max_{z \in Z} f(1, z) = 3$$

$$\max_{z \in Z} f(2, z) = 3$$

$$\max_{z \in Z} f(3, z) = 3$$

$$\min_{w \in W} \max_{z \in Z} f(w, z) = 3$$

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Interpretation: Saddle-point

$$\text{Example : } f(w, z) \quad w = \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$z = 1, 2, 3$$

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