

CHAPTER 5-DUALITY

①

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize } f_0(x) \\ \text{subject to } f_i(x) \leq 0, \quad i=1, \dots, m \\ \quad h_i(x) = 0, \quad i=1, \dots, p \end{array} \right\} \quad (5.1)$$

STANDARD FORM
OPTIMIZATION
PROBLEM.
DOES NOT NEED
TO BE convex.

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^m. \quad D = \bigcap_{i=0}^m \text{dom } f_i \cap \bigcap_{i=1}^p \text{dom } h_i$$

DEFINITION: LAGRANGIAN $L: \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

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

$\text{dom } L = D \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^p$. λ_i : LAGRANGE MULTIPLIER ASSOCIATED WITH i -TH INEQUALITY. $f_i(x) \leq 0$. ν_i : LAGRANGE MULTIPLIER ASSOCIATED WITH i -TH EQUALITY CONSTRAINT $h_i(x) = 0$. λ, ν : DUAL VARIABLES OR LAGRANGE MULTIPLIER VECTORS

DEFINITION: (LAGRANGE) DUAL FUNCTION $g: \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

$$g(\lambda, \nu) = \inf_{x \in D} L(x, \lambda, \nu) = \inf_{x \in D} \left[f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(x) \right]$$

$\text{dom } g = \{(\lambda, \nu) : g(\lambda, \nu) > -\infty\}$. IT IS ALWAYS CONCAVE, AS THE INFIMUM OF LINEAR FUNCTIONS, IRRESPECTIVE OF f_0, f_i, h_i . IT COULD BE $-\infty$.

5.1.3

BASIC PROPERTIES OF $g(\lambda, \nu)$:

$$\forall \lambda \geq 0, \forall \nu, \quad g(\lambda, \nu) \leq p^*$$

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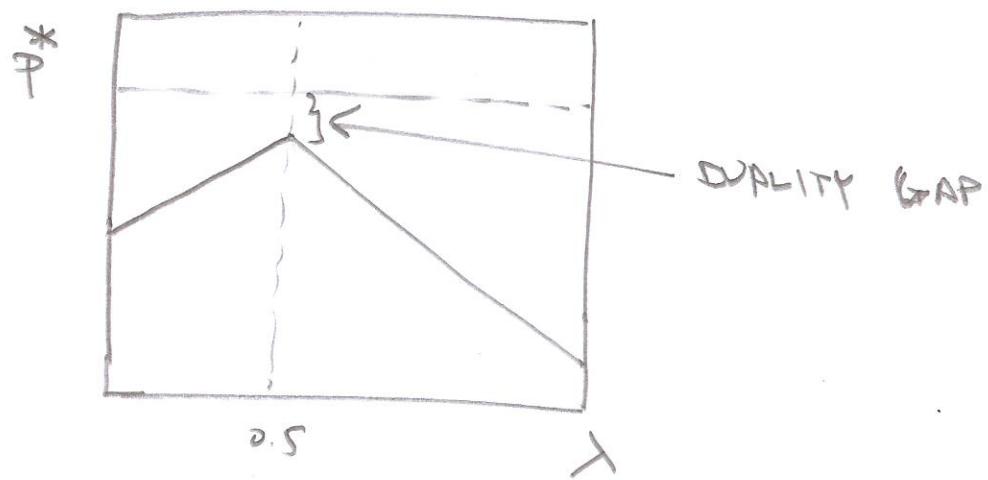
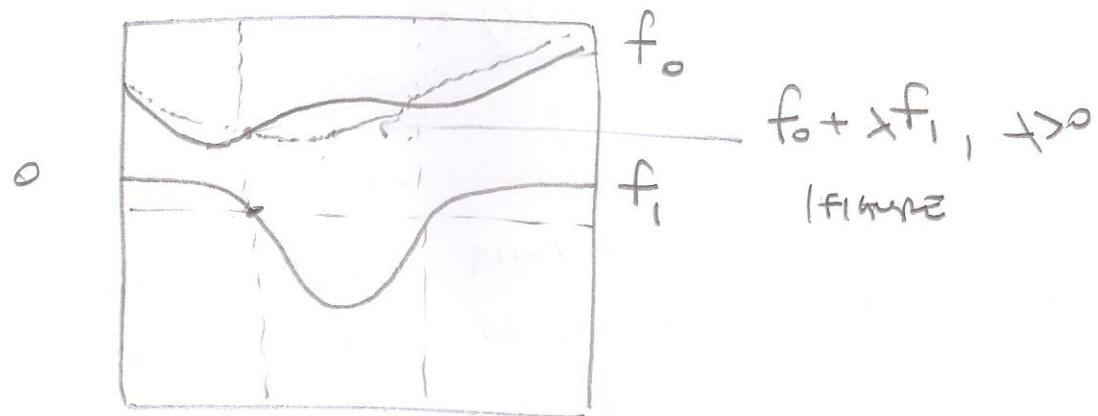
Proof: Let \tilde{x} feasible. Then

$$L(\tilde{x}, \lambda, \gamma) = f_0(\tilde{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(\tilde{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^p \gamma_i h_i(\tilde{x}) \leq f_0(\tilde{x})$$

$$\Rightarrow g(\lambda, \gamma) = \inf_{x \in D} L(x, \lambda, \gamma) \leq L(\tilde{x}, \lambda, \gamma) \leq f_0(\tilde{x})$$

THIS HOLD FOR ALL \tilde{x} , SO $g(\lambda, \gamma) \leq p^*$
DEFINITION
 ANY PAIR (λ, γ) WITH $\lambda \geq 0, (\lambda, \gamma) \in \text{dom}$
 IS DUAL FEASIBLE

Example:



S.1.4 LINEAR APPROXIMATION INTERPRETATION

$$\text{let } I_{-(n)} = \begin{cases} 0, & n \leq 0 \\ \infty, & n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$I_0(n) = \begin{cases} 0, & n \leq 0 \\ \infty, & n > 0 \end{cases}$$

(3)

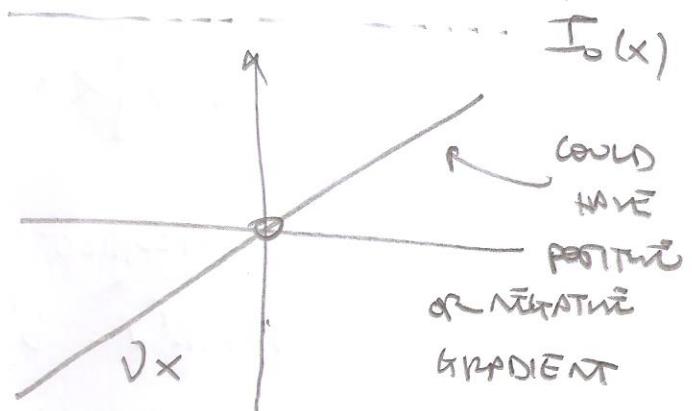
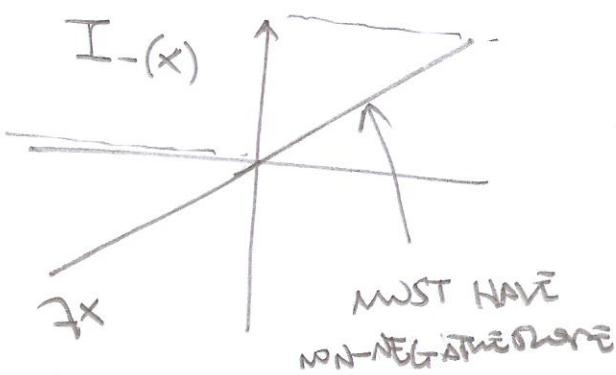
THEN ORIGINAL PROGRAM:

$$\text{minimize } f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m I_-(f_i(x)) + \sum_{i=1}^p I_0(h_i(x))$$

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE DUAL FUNCTION COMES FROM:

$$\text{minimize } f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(x)$$

SO WE SUBSTITUTE HARD BOUNDS WITH SOFT LOWER BOUNDS:

WE MAY THINK OF λ_i, ν_i AS EXPRESSING DISPLEASURE (OR PLEASURE) FOR VIOLATION OF BOUNDS5.1.5 EXAMPLES

minimize:

$$x^T x$$

subject to: $Ax=b$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ EXAMPLE I: LEAST SQUARESLAGRANGIAN $L(x, \nu) = x^T x + \nu^T (Ax - b)$, DOMAIN $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^p$

DUAL FUNCTION:

$$g(\nu) = \inf_x [x^T x + \nu^T (Ax - b)] \quad \begin{matrix} \leftarrow & \text{CONVEX QUADRATIC} \\ & \text{FUNCTION} \end{matrix}$$

$$\nabla_\nu L(x, \nu) = 2x + A^T \nu = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = -\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)A^T \nu$$

$$\left(\text{NOTE: } \nabla\left(\frac{1}{2}x^T P x\right) = Px, \quad \nabla^T x = q \quad \right)$$

(4)

$$g(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = L\left(-\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\boldsymbol{\beta}^T \boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\beta}\right) =$$

$$\boldsymbol{\beta}^T A \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(-\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \boldsymbol{\beta}\right) + \boldsymbol{\beta}^T \left[A \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \boldsymbol{\beta} - b \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T A A^T \boldsymbol{\beta} - \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T A A^T \boldsymbol{\beta} - \boldsymbol{\beta}^T b = -\frac{1}{4} \boldsymbol{\beta}^T A A^T \boldsymbol{\beta} - \boldsymbol{\beta}^T b$$

WHICH IS CONVEX, AS EXPECTED, SINCE

$$\boldsymbol{x}^T \left[-\frac{1}{4} (A A^T)\right] \boldsymbol{x} = -\frac{1}{2} \left[[A^T \boldsymbol{x}]^T [A^T \boldsymbol{x}] \right] \leq 0 \quad \forall \boldsymbol{x}$$

THE INEQUALITY SPECIFIES

$$-\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \boldsymbol{\beta}^T A A^T \boldsymbol{\beta} - b^T \boldsymbol{\beta} \leq \inf \left\{ \boldsymbol{x}^T \boldsymbol{x} \mid A \boldsymbol{x} = b \right\}$$

EXAMPLE 2: STANDARD FORM LP

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize: } \boldsymbol{c}^T \boldsymbol{x} \\ \text{subject to: } A \boldsymbol{x} = b \\ \boldsymbol{x} \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{INEQUALITY CONSTRAINT FUNCTIONS:} \\ f_i(\boldsymbol{x}) = -x_i \end{array}$$

LAGRANGIAN:

$$\begin{aligned} L(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\beta}) &= \boldsymbol{c}^T \boldsymbol{x} - \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i + \boldsymbol{\beta}^T [A \boldsymbol{x} - b] \\ &= [\boldsymbol{c} + \boldsymbol{\beta}^T A - \boldsymbol{\lambda}] \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{\beta}^T b \end{aligned}$$

DUAL FUNCTION:

$$g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\beta}) \leq \inf_{\boldsymbol{x}} L(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\beta}) \leq -\boldsymbol{\beta}^T b + \inf_{\boldsymbol{x}} [\boldsymbol{c} + \boldsymbol{\beta}^T A - \boldsymbol{\lambda}] \boldsymbol{x}$$

$$\text{so } g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\beta}) = \begin{cases} -\boldsymbol{\beta}^T b, & \boldsymbol{\beta}^T A \boldsymbol{\lambda} - \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T C = 0, \\ -\infty, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(5)

therefore, when $A^T \mathbf{1} - \lambda + c = 0$, $\lambda \geq 0$,

$-b^T \mathbf{x}$ is a lower bound of the original problem.

Example 3: Two-way partitioning problem.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize} \quad \mathbf{x}^T W \mathbf{x} \\ \text{subject to} \quad x_i^2 = 1, \quad i=1, \dots, n \end{array} \right\}$$

INTERPRETATION: $\mathbf{x}^T W \mathbf{x} = \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} x_i x_j w_{ij}$.

We NEED TO BUNCH people IN TWO GROUPS. WHEN i, j
 $i=1, \dots, n$.

WE TOGETHER, WE HAVE lost w_{ij} . WHEN THEY ARE
 IN DIFFERENT GROUPS, WE HAVE lost $-w_{ij}$.

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

$$g(\mathbf{v}) = \inf_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{x}^T [W + \text{diag}(\mathbf{v})] \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{v} \\ = \begin{cases} -\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{v}, & W + \text{diag}(\mathbf{v}) \succeq 0 \\ -\infty, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

THIS IS A LOWER BOUND TO OPTIMAL. FOR EXAMPLE, WE

SET $\mathbf{v} = -\lambda \text{min}(W) \mathbf{I}$, IN WHICH CASE $W + \text{diag}(\mathbf{v}) \succeq 0$.

indeed: $\mathbf{x}^T [W - \lambda \text{min}(W) \mathbf{I}] \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^T W \mathbf{x} - \lambda \text{min}(W) \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$

(6)

$$\geq \lambda_{\min}(w) \|x\|^2 - \lambda_{\max}(w) \|x\|^2 \geq 0, \text{ BECAUSE}$$

\Leftrightarrow BASIC PROPERTY OF EIGENVALUES

$$x^T w x \geq \lambda_{\min} \|x\|_2^2.$$

(THEOREM: IF A SYMMETRIC,

$$\max_{\{x : \|x\|=1\}} x^T A x = \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{m+n} =$$

$$\min_{\{x : \|x\|=1\}} x^T A x$$

SIMILAR DIVISION TO THIRD CHAPTER:

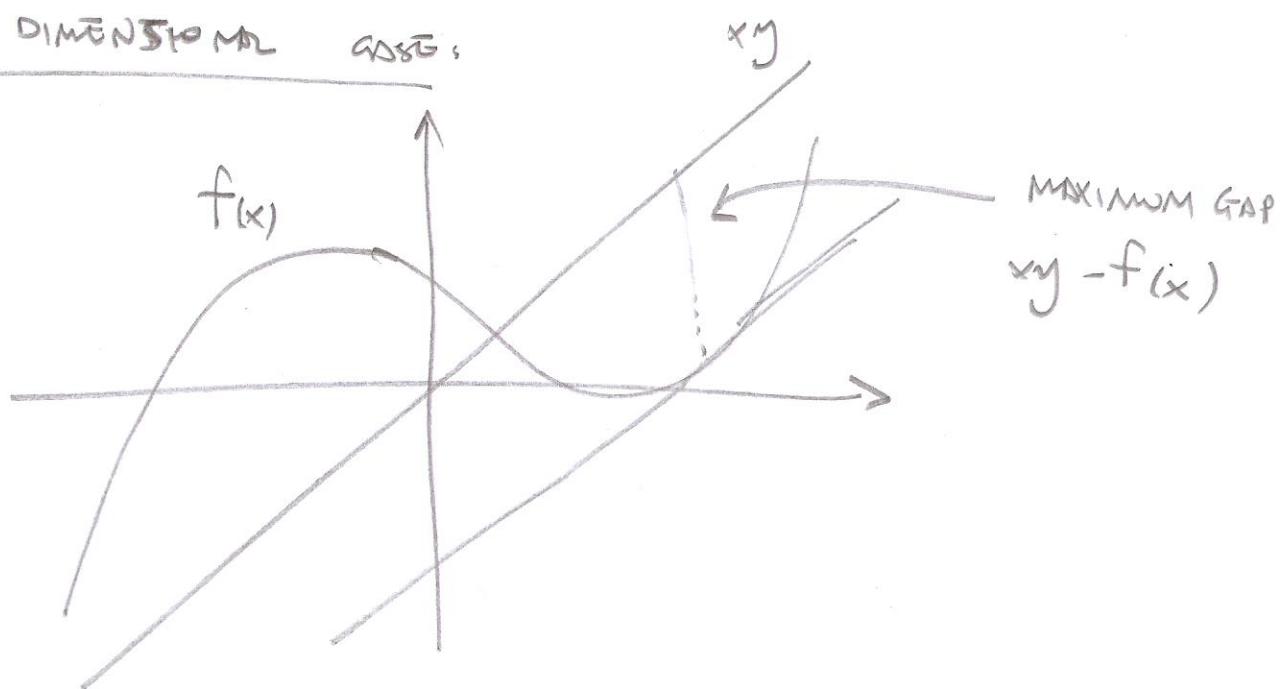
3.3 THE CONJUGATE FUNCTION

LET $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. THE CONJUGATE $f^*: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
IS DEFINED AS

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

WITH $\text{dom } f^* = \{y : \text{THE ABOVE SUPREMUM IS FINITE}\}$

ONE DIMENSIONAL CASE:



OBSERVE THAT THE CONJUGATE IS CONVEX, BECAUSE IT IS
THE SUPREMUM OF AFFINE FUNCTIONS ⑦

EXAMPLE: ONE-DIMENSIONAL CASES

1) $f(x) = ax + b$

$$f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \text{dom } f} (yx - ax - b),$$

WHICH IS ALSO SIMPLE $y = ar \Rightarrow$

$$f^*(y) = -b, \text{ dom } f^* = \{ar\}$$

2) $f(x) = -\log x, f^*(y) = \sup_{x \in \text{dom } f} \{yx + \log x\}$

SO WE NEED

$$y < 0, \text{ IN WHICH CASE } (yx + \log x)' =$$

$$y + \frac{1}{x} = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = -\frac{1}{y} \Rightarrow \boxed{f^*(y) = -1 - \log(-y)} \quad y < 0$$

3) $f(x) = e^x$

$$f^*(y) = \sup_x [yx - e^x] \quad \text{WE NEED } y \geq 0,$$

OTHERWISE $\sup = \infty$. IF $y = 0, f^*(0) = 0$. IF $y > 0$,

$$(yx - e^x)' = y - e^x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = \log y \Rightarrow$$

$$f^*(y) = y \log y - y \Rightarrow \boxed{f^*(y) = y \log y - y, y \geq 0}$$

4) $f(x) = x \log x, x \geq 0 \quad (\text{only } x \stackrel{\Delta}{=} 0)$

$$f^*(y) = \sup [yx - x \log x], \text{ WHICH EXISTS FOR ALL } y \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$(yx - x \log x)' = y - \log x - 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = e^{y-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow f^*(y) = y e^{y-1} - e^{y-1} (y-1) = e^{y-1}, \quad y \in \mathbb{R}$$

5) $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}, \quad x > 0 \quad f^*(y) = \sup_x \left(yx - \frac{1}{x} \right),$

which is bounded above for $y < 0$. For $y \leq 0$,

$$f^*(0) = \infty. \quad \text{for } y < 0, \quad \left(yx - \frac{1}{x} \right)' = y + \frac{1}{x^2} < 0$$

$$x^2 = -\frac{1}{y} \Leftrightarrow x = \sqrt{-\frac{1}{y}} \Rightarrow f^*(y) = y \sqrt{-\frac{1}{y}} - \left(\sqrt{-\frac{1}{y}} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{-\sqrt{-y}}{\sqrt{-y}} - \sqrt{-y} = -2(-y)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad y < 0, \quad \text{so}$$

$$f^*(y) = -2\sqrt{-y}, \quad y < 0$$

Example: STRICTLY CONVEX QUADRATIC FUNCTION

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^T Q x, \quad Q \in S_{++}^n. \quad f^*(y) = \sup_x \left(y^T x - \frac{1}{2} x^T Q x \right)$$

which always has a maximum.

$$\nabla \left[y^T x - \frac{1}{2} x^T Q x \right] = y - Qx = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = Q^{-1}y$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow f^*(y) &= y^T Q^{-1} y - \frac{1}{2} y^T (Q^{-1})^T Q Q^{-1} y \\ &= y^T Q^{-1} y - \frac{1}{2} y^T Q^{-1} y \Rightarrow \boxed{f^*(y) = \frac{1}{2} y^T Q^{-1} y} \end{aligned}$$

Example: (LOG-SUM-EXP)

$$f(x) = \log \left[\sum_{i=1}^m e^{x_i} \right]$$

(THIS FUNCTION IMPROVES LINEARITY IN ALL PRINCIPAL DIRECTIONS AND SLOWS DOWN IN ALL OTHER DIRECTIONS)

(3)

$$\nabla [y^T x - f(x)] = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$y_i = \frac{e^{x_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^n e^{x_j}}$$

THIS CONDITION IS SUFFICIENT AND NECESSARY BECAUSE $y^T x - f(x)$ IS CONCAVE.

OTHERWISE

THEOREM: WE NEED $\sum_i y_i = 1, y \geq 0$, THERE CAN BE NO SOLUTION.

1) IF $y_i < 0$ FOR SOME i , SET $x_i = -t, x_j = 0$ AND WE GET

$$y^T x - f(x) = (-y_i)t - \log \left[(n-1) + e^{-t} \right] \rightarrow \infty$$

2) IF $y \geq 0, \sum_i y_i \neq 1$, WE SET $x = t \vec{1}$,

$$y^T x - f(x) = t(y^T \vec{1}) - \log [n e^t] =$$

$t(y^T \vec{1} - 1) - \log n$, WHICH CAN GO TO ∞ BY TAKING $t \rightarrow \infty$.

3) IF $\sum_i y_i = 1, y \geq 0$ BUT SOME $y_i = 0$, THEN MAXIMUM IS ACHIEVED FOR $x_i \rightarrow -\infty$.

4) IF $\sum_i y_i = 1, y > 0$, THERE IS A SOLUTION:

$$y^T x - \log \left(\sum_{i=1}^n e^{x_i} \right) = \sum_i y_i x_i - \log \left(\sum_{i=1}^n e^{x_i} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log y_i + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log \left(\sum_{j=1}^n e^{x_j} \right)}_{z} - \log \left(\sum_{i=1}^n e^{x_i} \right)$$

 \Rightarrow

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow \log y_i = x_i - \log \left(\sum_{j=1}^n e^{x_j} \right)$$

$$f^*(y) = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log y_i, \quad y \geq 0, \quad \mathbf{1}^T y = 1$$

(Some details are missing)

BASIC PROPERTIES

- 1) IF f CONVEX AND epif IS CLOSED, THEN $f^* = f$.
- 2) CONJUGATE OF $g(x) = \alpha f(x) + b$ IS

$$g^*(y) = \alpha f^*\left(\frac{y}{\alpha}\right) - b.$$

- 3) LET $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ NONSINGULAR, $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$. THEN
CONJUGATE OF $g(x) = f(Ax + b)$ IS
- $$g^*(y) = f^*(A^{-T}y) - b^T A^{-T}y.$$

- 4) SUM OF INDEPENDENT FUNCTIONS

IF $f(w, z) = f_1(w) + f_2(z)$, f_1, f_2 convex,

THEN

$$f^*(w, z) = f_1^*(w) + f_2^*(z)$$

PROOF OF STATED THAT DOES NOT NEED CONVEXITY (SO I AM CONFUSED):

$$\begin{aligned} f^*(w, z) &= \sup_{w, z} [w^T w + z^T z - f_1(w) - f_2(z)] \\ &= \sup_w [w^T w - f_1(w)] + \sup_z [z^T z - f_2(z)] \\ &= f_1^*(w) + f_2^*(z) \end{aligned}$$

BACK TO CHAPTER 5:S.16 LAGRANGE DUAL FUNCTION AND THE CONJUGATE

CONSIDER THE PROBLEM

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize: } f_0(x) \\ \text{subject to: } Ax \leq b \\ Cx = d \end{array} \right\}$$

THE DUAL FUNCTION IS:

$$\begin{aligned} g(\lambda, \nu) &= \inf_x [f_0(x) + \lambda^T [Ax - b] + \nu^T (Cx - d)] \\ &= -b^T \lambda - d^T \nu + \inf_x [f_0(x) + (A^T \lambda + C^T \nu)^T x] \\ &= -b^T \lambda - d^T \nu - \sup_x [-(A^T \lambda + C^T \nu)^T x - f_0(x)] \\ &= -b^T \lambda - d^T \nu - f_0^*(-A^T \lambda + C^T \nu) \end{aligned}$$

WITH $\text{dom } g = \{(\lambda, \nu) : -A^T \lambda - C^T \nu \in \text{dom } f_0^*\}$ EXAMPLE #1

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize: } f_0(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \log x_i \\ \text{subject to: } Ax \leq b \\ I^T x = 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

THE CONJUGATE OF $x \log x$ IS e^{y-1} , AND THE CONJUGATE OF SUM IS SUM OF CONJUGATES, SO

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

ALSO, $C = I^T$, $d = 1$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$
 $\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ALSO, LET $A = [\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m] \Leftrightarrow A^T = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1^T \\ \alpha_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_m^T \end{bmatrix}$ ALSO, $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$g(\lambda, \nu) = -b^T \lambda - \nu - f_0^*(-A^T \lambda - \nu I)$$

$$= -b^T \lambda - \nu - \sum_{i=1}^m e^{-\alpha_i^T \lambda - \nu} - 1$$

$$= -b^T \lambda - \nu - e^{-\nu - 1} \sum_{i=1}^m e^{-\alpha_i^T \lambda}$$

S.2 THE LAGRANGE DUAL PROBLEM

WHAT IS THE BEST LOWER BOUND PROVIDED BY THE DUAL FUNCTION? \Rightarrow

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{maximize } g(\lambda, \nu) \\ \text{subject to } \lambda \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{LAGRANGE} \\ \text{DUAL PROBLEM} \end{array}$$

x^*, ν^* ARE DUAL OPTIMAL OR OPTIMAL LAGRANGE MULTIPLIERS. THIS PROGRAM IS ALWAYS CONVEX, IRREGULAR SPECIE OF PRIMAL ONE.

EXAMPLE #1: LAGRANGE DUAL OF STANDARD FORM LP:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize: } c^T x \\ \text{subject to: } Ax \leq b \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{WE HAVE SEEN:}$$

$$g(\lambda, \nu) = \begin{cases} -b^T \nu, & A^T \nu - c = 0, \\ -\infty, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

DUAL
SO PROGRAM IS:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{maximize } g(\lambda, \nu) \\ \text{subject to } \lambda \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{maximize: } -b^T \nu, \\ \text{subject to: } A^T \nu - c = 0 \\ \lambda \geq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{maximize } -b^T \nu \\ \text{subject to: } A^T \nu + c \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{LP IN INEQUALITY FORM!}$$

Example #2: LAGRANGE DUAL OF INEQUALITY form LP

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize } c^T x \\ \text{subject to } Ax \leq b \end{array} \right\} \quad (1)$$

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

$$g(\lambda) = \inf_x L(x, \lambda) = \begin{cases} -b^T \lambda & A^T \lambda + c \leq 0, \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Therefore, the dual problem is

$$\begin{cases} \text{maximize } -b^T \lambda \\ \text{subject to } A^T \lambda + c \leq 0 \\ \lambda \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

which is an LP in standard form

We can also show that the dual of (2) is (1).

S.2.2 WEAK DUALITY

Let d^* be optimal of dual problem

Let p^* be optimal of primal problem.

$d^* \leq p^*$: weak duality. (This also holds)

when $p^* = -\infty$ or $+\infty$, or $d^* < \infty$)

$p^* - d^*$ = optimal duality gap.

Bound allows us to find how good a solution we already have is.

$d^* = p^* \Rightarrow$ strong duality

WHEN DOES STRONG DUALITY HOLD?

NOT ALWAYS! SIMPLY WHEN ORIGINAL PROBLEM IS COMPL.

A CONDITION THAT ENFORCES THIS IS CALLED
CONSTRAINT QUALIFICATION.

SLATER'S CONDITION: DUALITY GAP IS ZERO IF

$$\exists \text{ relint } D \text{ such that } \begin{cases} f_i(x) < 0, i=1, \dots, m, \\ Ax = b \end{cases}$$

AND THE PROBLEM IS COMPL. THE ABOVE CONDITION MEANS THAT THE POINT x IS STRICTLY FEASIBLE.

REFINEMENT: DUALITY GAP IS ZERO EVEN IF STRICT FEASIBILITY DOES NOT HOLD FOR AFFINE INEQUALITY CONSTRAINTS:

IF f_1, \dots, f_k ARE AFFINE, THEN
STRONG DUALITY HOLDS IF $\exists \text{ relint } D$ WITH
 $f_i(x) \leq 0, i=1, \dots, k,$
 $f_i(x) < 0, i=k+1, \dots, m, \quad Ax = b$

NOTES:

- 1) IF DOMAIN IS OPEN AND WE HAVE ONLY LINEAR INEQUALITY AND EQUALITY CONSTRAINTS, THEN DUALITY GAP IS ZERO, BY SLATER'S CONDITION.
- 2) SLATER'S CONDITION ALSO IMPLIES THAT DUAL OPTIMAL VALUE IS ATTAINED, WHEN $j^* > -\infty$, i.e.
 \exists DUAL FEASIBLE (x^*, v^*) : $g(x^*, v^*) \leq j^* = p^*$