

Examples (cont'd)

3) New cones from old ones via Cartesian product

Let K_1, \dots, K_ℓ be closed pointed cones with non-empty interior.

Then,

$$K \triangleq K_1 \times \dots \times K_\ell = \{ (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_\ell) : x_i \in K_i, \forall i \}$$

is a closed pointed cone with non-empty interior.

e.g. $\mathbb{R}_+^5 = \mathbb{R}_+^2 \times \mathbb{R}_+^3$; $K = \mathcal{Q}^{n+1} \times \dots \times \mathcal{Q}^{n+1}$

$$K = \mathbb{R}_+^n \times \mathcal{Q}^{m+1} \times \mathcal{S}_+^d$$

Conic LP

Recall the standard form LP:

$$\min \langle c, x \rangle$$

$$s.t. \langle a_i, x \rangle = b_i, \quad i=1, \dots, m,$$

$$x \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$$

$$K \triangleq \mathbb{R}_+^n \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \triangleq E$$

$$c, a_i \in E, \quad b_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$: inner product on E

This gives us a natural way to extend LP to conic LP:

Standard form CLP (P)

$$\inf \langle c, x \rangle$$

$$s.t. \langle a_i, x \rangle = b_i, \quad i=1, \dots, m,$$

$$x \in K$$

K closed pointed cone with non-empty interior in the Euclidean space E (i.e., $K \subseteq E$),

Note: This is a convex optimization problem

$c, a_i \in E$; $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ inner product on E ; $b_i \in \mathbb{R}$

Examples

1) Second-order cone programming (SOCP)

$$E = \mathbb{R}^{n+1}, \quad K = \mathcal{Q}^{n+1} = \{ (t, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n : t \geq \|x\|_2 \}$$

$$\langle u, v \rangle = u^T v \quad (\text{usual inner product on } E); \quad c, a_i \in E; \quad b_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \inf \quad & \langle c, x \rangle \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \langle a_i, x \rangle = b_i, \\ & x \in \mathbb{Q}^{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

2) Semidefinite Programming (SDP)

$$E = S^n, \quad K = S_+^n = \{Y \in S^n : u^T Y u \geq 0 \quad \forall u \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$$

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \text{tr}(AB) = \sum_{i,j} A_{ij} B_{ij} \quad \text{inner product on } E$$

$$\begin{aligned} C, A_i \in E, \quad b_i \in \mathbb{R} \\ \inf \quad & \langle C, X \rangle \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \langle A_i, X \rangle = b_i, \\ & X \in S_+^n \end{aligned}$$

How to derive the dual of (P)?

Recall that for LP, we derive the dual as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 1) \quad & \text{Choose } y \quad \text{s.t.} \quad A^T y \leq c \\ & \text{(i.e., } c - \sum_{i=1}^m y_i a_i \geq 0) \end{aligned} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} -a_1^T \\ \vdots \\ -a_m^T \end{bmatrix}$$

2) Observe

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \langle c, x \rangle & \geq & \langle A^T y, x \rangle & = & \langle y, Ax \rangle & = & \langle y, b \rangle \\ \text{primal} & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \text{dual} \\ \text{obj. val} & & x \geq 0 & & Ax = b & & \text{obj. val} \\ & & c - A^T y \geq 0 & & & & \end{array}$$

3) This gives the dual

$$\begin{aligned} \sup \quad & b^T y \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & c - \sum_{i=1}^m y_i a_i \in \mathbb{R}_+^n \end{aligned}$$

Let us mimic this strategy to derive the dual of (P):

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \sum_{i=1}^m y_i b_i & = & \sum_{i=1}^m y_i \langle a_i, x \rangle & = & \langle \sum_{i=1}^m y_i a_i, x \rangle & \leq & \langle c, x \rangle \\ & \uparrow & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \\ & \langle a_i, x \rangle = b_i & \text{Use linearity} & & \text{Want} & & \end{array}$$

$\langle a_i, x \rangle = b_i \quad \forall_i$
↑
↑
 Use linearity of inner product
 ↑
 want

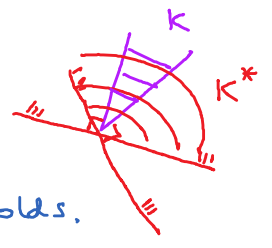
That means we want

$$\underbrace{\langle c - \sum_{i=1}^m y_i a_i, x \rangle}_{\in E} \geq 0 \quad \text{--- } (*)$$

Q: How to choose y to ensure $(*)$ holds?

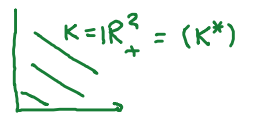
A: Consider the set

$$K^* = \{ w \in E : \langle w, x \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in K \}$$



If $c - \sum_{i=1}^m y_i a_i \in K^*$, then $(*)$ automatically holds.

The set K^* is called the dual cone of K .



This gives us the following dual of (P):

$$\begin{aligned}
 (D) \quad & \text{Sup} \quad \sum_{i=1}^m b_i y_i \\
 & \text{s.t.} \quad c - \sum_{i=1}^m y_i a_i \in K^* \subseteq E
 \end{aligned}$$

CLP:
 optimize a linear function
 s.t.
 output of affine map
 belongs to closed pointed
 cone (with non-empty interior)

Observations

- (1) Fact: If K is a closed pointed cone with non-empty interior, then so is K^*
- (2) In (D), the objective function is linear and

$$\mathbb{R}^m \ni y \mapsto M(y) \triangleq c - \sum_{i=1}^m y_i a_i \in E$$

is affine (i.e., for $y, z \in \mathbb{R}^m, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$M(\alpha y + (1-\alpha)z) = \alpha M(y) + (1-\alpha) M(z)$$

→ Both (P) and (D) are CLPs.