

Lec 9: KKT, Perturbation Alternatives



• Complementary slackness

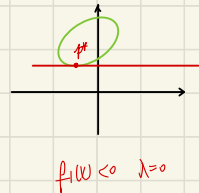
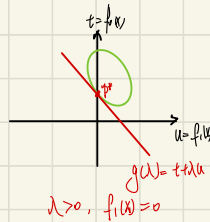
Assume strong duality holds, x^* is primal optimal, (λ^*, v^*) is dual optimal

$$\begin{aligned} f_0(x^*) &= g(\lambda^*, v^*) = \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}} [f_0(x) + \sum_i \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_i v_i h_i(x)] \\ &\leq f_0(x^*) + \sum_i \lambda_i f_i(x^*) + \sum_i v_i h_i(x^*) \\ &\leq f_0(x^*) \end{aligned}$$

hence the inequalities hold with equality

x^* minimizes the Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_i^* f_i(x^*) &= 0 \quad (\text{complementary slackness}) \\ \lambda_i^* > 0 &\Rightarrow f_i(x^*) = 0 \quad f_i(x^*) < 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_i^* = 0 \end{aligned}$$



• Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) conditions (for a problem with differentiable f_i, h_i)

1. KKT condition

primal feasibility: $f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad h_i(x) = 0$

dual feasibility: $\lambda_i \geq 0$

complementary slackness: $f_i(x) \cdot \lambda_i = 0$

Gradient of $\mathcal{L}$ w.r.t x variables:

$$\nabla_x \mathcal{L} = \nabla f_0(x) + \sum_i \lambda_i \nabla f_i(x) + \sum_i v_i \nabla h_i(x) = 0$$

if strong duality holds for a problem (convex or not)
the KKT conditions hold for a primal-optimal-dual-optimal pair.

2. KKT condition for convex problems

if $\bar{x}, \bar{\lambda}, \bar{v}$ satisfies the KKT condition $\Leftrightarrow$ then they are optimal

from complementary slackness $f_0(\bar{x}) = L(\bar{x}, \bar{\lambda}, \bar{v})$

from 4th condition (gradient) and convexity: $L(\bar{x}, \bar{\lambda}, \bar{v}) = g(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{v})$

hence $f_0(\bar{x}) = g(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{v})$

{ for any problem, convex or not, strong duality $\Rightarrow$ optimal satisfies KKT condition
for a convex problem, if Slater condition holds, KKT condition $\Leftrightarrow$ optimal

• Perturbation and sensitivity analysis

(unperturbed) optimization and its dual

$$\min. f_0(x)$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_i(x) \leq 0$$

$$h_i(x) = 0$$

$$\max. g(\lambda, v)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \lambda \geq 0$$

perturbed optimization and its dual (relaxed constraints)

$$\min. f_0(x)$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_i(x) \leq u_i \quad (\text{loosening and tightening})$$

$$h_i(x) = v_i \quad (\text{shifting i.e. hit a target})$$

$$\max. g(u, v) - \lambda^T u - v^T v$$

x is the primal variable, u and v are parameter.

$p^*(u, v)$ is optimal value as a function of u, v

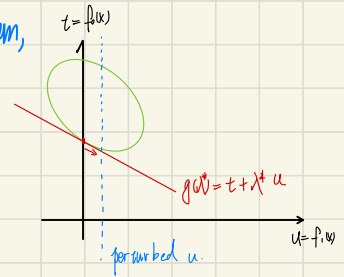
what can we say about $p^*(u, v)$ from the unperturbed problem and its dual

1. global sensitivity result:

assume strong duality holds for the unperturbed problem,
and λ^*, v^* is dual optimal of unperturbed problem

apply weak duality to perturbed problem:

$$\begin{aligned} p^*(u, v) &\geq g(\lambda^*, v^*) - \lambda^{*T} u - v^{*T} v \\ &= p^*(0, 0) - \lambda^{*T} u - v^{*T} v \end{aligned}$$



2. Sensitivity interpretation:

if λ_i^* large: p^* increase greatly if we tighten constraint i ($u_i < 0$)
(p^* becomes inf if perturbed problem is infeasible)

if λ_i^* small: p^* does not decrease much if we loosen constraint i ($u_i > 0$)

3. local sensitivity:

if $p^*(u, v)$ is differentiable at $(0, 0)$, then

$$\lambda_i^* = - \frac{\partial p^*(0, 0)}{\partial u_i} \quad v_i^* = - \frac{\partial p^*(0, 0)}{\partial v_i}$$

$$\begin{cases} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{p^*(t \cdot e_i, 0) - p^*(0, 0)}{t} = \frac{\partial p^*(0, 0)}{\partial u_i} \\ p^*(t \cdot e_i, 0) - p^*(0, 0) \geq -\lambda_i^* \cdot t \quad (\text{global sensitivity}) \end{cases}$$

$$\text{for } t > 0 \quad \frac{p^*(t \cdot e_i, 0) - p^*(0, 0)}{t} \geq -\lambda_i^*$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{p^*(t \cdot e_i, 0) - p^*(0, 0)}{t} = \frac{\partial p^*(0, 0)}{\partial u_i} \geq -\lambda_i^*$$

$$\text{for } t < 0 \quad \frac{p^*(t \cdot e_i, 0) - p^*(0, 0)}{t} \leq -\lambda_i^*$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{p^*(t \cdot e_i, 0) - p^*(0, 0)}{t} = \frac{\partial p^*(0, 0)}{\partial u_i} \leq -\lambda_i^*$$

$$\frac{\partial p^*(0, 0)}{\partial u_i} = \lambda_i^*$$

eg. min $f(x)$
s.t. $f_1(x) \leq 0$
 $\downarrow$
 $f_1(x^*) = -0.1 \quad \lambda_1^* = 0$
we can perturb the problem $f_1(x) \leq 0$
 p^* won't change

• Introducing new variables and equality constraints

$$\min. f_0(Ax+b)$$

$$\text{dual function } g(y) = \min_x f_0(Ax+b) = f^* \quad (\text{strong duality, but dual is useless})$$

reformulated problem and its dual

$$\min. f_0(y)$$

$$\text{s.t. } Ax+b-y=0$$

$$g(y) = \inf_{x,y} [f_0(y) - v^T y + v^T Ax + b^T v]$$

$$= -\sup_{x,y} [-f_0(y) + v^T y - v^T Ax - b^T v]$$

$$= \begin{cases} -f_0^*(v) + b^T v & A^T v = 0 \\ -\infty & A^T v \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \max. & b^T v - f_0^*(v) \\ \text{s.t.} & A^T v = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{eg. } \min. \|Ax-b\| \quad (\|\cdot\| \text{ is any norm})$$

$$\min. \|y\|$$

$$\text{s.t. } y = Ax-b$$

$$g(v) = \inf_{x,y} (\|y\| + v^T y - v^T Ax + b^T v)$$

$$= \inf_{x,y} (\|y\| + v^T y - v^T Ax) + b^T v$$

$$= \begin{cases} -\infty & A^T v \neq 0 \quad (\text{take } y = -\vec{0}, v^T(Ax) > 0 \text{ since } A^T v \neq 0 \text{ let } \|x\| \rightarrow \infty) \\ \inf_y (\|y\| + v^T y) + b^T v & A^T v = 0 \end{cases}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} \max. & \quad b^T v \\ \text{s.t.} & \quad A^T v = 0 \\ & \quad \|v\|_* \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

• Implicit constraints.

eg. LP with box constraints

$$\min. \quad C^T x$$

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

$$-1 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda, \lambda_1, \lambda_2) &= C^T x + V^T (Ax - b) + \lambda_1^T (x - 1) + \lambda_2^T (x + 1) \\ &= (C + A^T V + \lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^T x - b^T V + 1^T \lambda_1 - 1^T \lambda_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$g(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, V) = \inf_x \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, V) = \begin{cases} -b^T V + 1^T \lambda_1 - 1^T \lambda_2 & \text{if } C + A^T V + \lambda_1 - \lambda_2 \geq 0 \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\max. \quad -b^T V + 1^T \lambda_1 - 1^T \lambda_2$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad C + A^T V + \lambda_1 - \lambda_2 \geq 0$$

$$\lambda_1 \geq 0 \quad \lambda_2 \geq 0$$

$$\min. \quad f_0(x) = \begin{cases} C^T x & -1 \leq x \leq 1 \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} g(x, V) &= \inf_{-1 \leq x \leq 1} [C^T x + V^T (Ax - b)] \\ &= \inf_{-1 \leq x \leq 1} [(C + A^T V)^T x] - b^T V \\ &= -\|C + A^T V\|_1 - b^T V \end{aligned}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\max. \quad -\|C + A^T V\|_1 - b^T V$$

$$(\|X\|_\infty \leq 1)$$

• Theorem of alternatives

1. weak alternatives for nonstrict equalities

$$\text{determine the feasibility of } \begin{aligned} f_i(x) &\leq 0 \quad i=1, \dots, m \\ h_i(x) &= 0 \quad i=1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

$$D = \bigcap \text{dom } f_i \cap \text{dom } h_i$$

$$\min. \quad 0$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \begin{aligned} f_i(x) &\leq 0 \\ h_i(x) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

the problem has optimal value $f^* = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if feasible} \\ -\infty & \text{if infeasible} \end{cases}$

$$g(\lambda, V) = \inf_x \left(\sum_i \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_i v_i h_i(x) \right)$$

$$g(d\lambda, dV) = d g(\lambda, V) \text{ for } d > 0$$

$g(\lambda, V)$ is homogeneous in λ, V

$$\text{dual problem: } \max. \quad \inf_x \left(\sum_i \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_i v_i h_i(x) \right)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \lambda_i \geq 0$$

$$d^* = \begin{cases} \infty & \text{if } \lambda \geq 0 \quad g(\lambda, V) > 0 \text{ is feasible} \\ 0 & \text{if } \lambda \geq 0 \quad g(\lambda, V) > 0 \text{ is infeasible} \end{cases}$$

if $\lambda \geq 0$ $g(\lambda, v) > 0$ is feasible
 $d^* = 0$ $p^* = \infty$; the original problem is infeasible
 if the original problem is feasible
 $\exists \bar{x} \in D$ st. $f_i(\bar{x}) \leq 0$ $h_i(\bar{x}) = 0$
 $g(\lambda, v) = \inf_{x \in D} (\sum \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum v_i h_i(x)) \leq \sum \lambda_i f_i(\bar{x}) + \sum v_i h_i(\bar{x}) = 0$
 $\therefore g(\lambda, v) \leq 0$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad h_i(x) = 0 \\ \lambda \geq 0 \quad g(\lambda, v) > 0 \end{array} \right\}$ at most one of them is feasible

2. weak alternatives for strict inequalities

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & 0 \\ \text{st} & f_i(x) < 0 \\ & h_i(x) = 0 \end{array}$$

if the original problem is feasible
 $\exists \bar{x} \in D$ st. $f_i(\bar{x}) < 0$ $h_i(\bar{x}) = 0$
 $g(\lambda, v) = \inf_{x \in D} (\sum \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum v_i h_i(x))$
 $\leq \sum \lambda_i f_i(\bar{x}) + \sum v_i h_i(\bar{x})$
 < 0

$\therefore g(\lambda, v) > 0$ $\lambda_i \geq 0$ $\lambda \neq 0$ is infeasible

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f_i(x) < 0 \quad h_i(x) = 0 \\ g(\lambda, v) \geq 0 \quad \lambda_i \geq 0 \quad \lambda \neq 0 \end{array} \right\}$ at most one of them is feasible

3. Strong alternatives for strict inequality

$$\begin{array}{ll} f_i(x) < 0 & f_i(x) \text{ are convex} \\ Ax = b & \exists x \in \text{relint } D \text{ with } Ax = b \end{array}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min. & S \\ \text{st} & f_i(w) - S \leq 0 \quad (f_i^* < 0 \text{ iff the strict inequality system is feasible}) \\ & Ax = b \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L(x, \lambda, v) &= S + \sum \lambda_i (f_i(w) - S) + v^T (Ax - b) \\ \inf_{x \in D, S} L(x, \lambda, v) &= \inf_{x \in D, S} [(1 - \sum \lambda_i) S + \sum \lambda_i f_i(x) + v^T (Ax - b)] \\ &= \begin{cases} g(\lambda, v) & \sum \lambda_i = 1 \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$g(\lambda, v)$ is the dual function of $f_i \leq 0$ $Ax = b$

$$\begin{aligned} \max. & g(u,v) \\ \text{s.t.} & 1^T \lambda = 1 \\ & \lambda \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

the slacks condition holds for

$$\begin{aligned} \max. & s \\ \text{s.t.} & f(x) - s \leq 0 \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$

$$\Downarrow p^* = d^*$$

$\exists \tilde{x} \in \text{relint } D$ with $A\tilde{x} = b$

choosing any $\tilde{s} = \max f(\tilde{x})$

$(\tilde{x}, \tilde{s})$ is a strictly feasible point for the problem

$$\therefore p^* = d^*$$

$\exists (\lambda^*, v^*)$ such that

$$g(\lambda^*, v^*) = p^* \quad \lambda^* \geq 0 \quad 1^T \lambda^* = 1$$

1° Suppose $f(x) < 0$ $Ax = b$ is infeasible

$$p^* \geq 0$$

(λ^*, v^*) satisfies $\lambda \geq 0 \quad \lambda \neq 0 \quad g(\lambda, v) \geq 0$

2° Suppose $\lambda \geq 0 \quad \lambda \neq 0 \quad g(\lambda, v) \geq 0$ is feasible

$$p^* = d^* = \left\{ \max_{\lambda \geq 0, 1^T \lambda = 1} g(\lambda, v) \right\} \geq 0$$

$(g(\lambda, v))$ homogeneous in λ, v

$\therefore f(x) < 0 \quad Ax = b$ is infeasible

3° Suppose $f(x) < 0 \quad Ax = b$ is feasible

$$g(\lambda, v) = \inf \{ \sum \lambda_i f_i(x) + v^T (Ax - b) \}$$

< 0 when $\lambda_i \geq 0 \quad \lambda \neq 0$

$\therefore \lambda_i \geq 0 \quad \lambda \neq 0 \quad g(\lambda, v) \geq 0$ is infeasible

4° Suppose $\lambda \geq 0 \quad \lambda \neq 0 \quad g(\lambda, v) \geq 0$ is infeasible

$\lambda \geq 0 \quad 1^T \lambda = 1 \quad g(\lambda, v) \geq 0$ is infeasible

$$\therefore \left\{ \max_{\lambda \geq 0, 1^T \lambda = 1} g(\lambda, v) \right\} < 0$$

$$\therefore p^* = d^* < 0$$

$\therefore f(x) < 0 \quad Ax = b$ is feasible

$$\therefore \left\{ \begin{array}{l} f(x) < 0 \quad Ax = b \\ \lambda \geq 0 \quad \lambda \neq 0 \quad g(\lambda, v) \geq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

Strong alternative

exactly one of the two is feasible.

if $\exists x \in \text{relint } D$ with $Ax = b$

4. Strong alternatives for nonstrict inequalities

$$\begin{aligned}
 & f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad Ax=b \\
 & \Downarrow \\
 & \min s \\
 & \text{s.t. } f_i(x) - s \leq 0 \\
 & \quad Ax=b
 \end{aligned}
 \qquad
 \begin{aligned}
 \inf_{x,s} L &= \inf_{x,s} \left\{ s + \sum_i \lambda_i (f_i(x) - s) + v^T (Ax - b) \right\} \\
 &= \begin{cases} g(\lambda, v) & \text{if } I^T \lambda = 1 \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

suppose $\exists \tilde{x} \in \text{relint } D$ with $A\tilde{x}=b$
 choose $s > \max f_i(x)$ is strictly feasible
 $\therefore p^* = d^*$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \Downarrow \\
 & \max. \quad g(\lambda, v) \\
 & \text{s.t. } \lambda \geq 0 \quad I^T \lambda = 1 \\
 & g(\lambda^*, v^*) = p^* \quad \lambda^* \geq 0 \quad I^T \lambda^* = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

1° suppose the inequality system is infeasible
 $p^* = d^* > 0$
 (λ^*, v^*) satisfies $\lambda \geq 0, g(\lambda, v) > 0$

2° suppose the inequality system is feasible
 $p^* = d^* \leq 0$
 $g(\lambda, v) = \inf_x \left(\sum_i \lambda_i f_i(x) + v^T (Ax - b) \right) > 0$ is infeasible for $\lambda \geq 0$

3° suppose $\lambda \geq 0, g(\lambda, v) > 0$ is infeasible
 $\lambda \geq 0, g(\lambda, v) > 0, I^T \lambda = 1$ is infeasible
 $\therefore$ for $\lambda \geq 0, I^T \lambda = 1, d^* = p^* = g(\lambda^*, v^*) \leq 0$
 $\therefore$ the original problem is feasible

4° suppose $\lambda \geq 0, g(\lambda, v) > 0$ is feasible
 $p^* = d^* = \max_{\lambda, v} \{ g(\lambda, v), \lambda \geq 0, I^T \lambda = 1 \} > 0$ $g(\lambda, v)$ homogeneous in λ, v
 $\therefore$ the original problem is infeasible

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda \geq 0, g(\lambda, v) > 0 \\ f_i(x) \leq 0, Ax=b \end{array} \right\}$ Strong alternatives
 exactly one of these is feasible
 if $\exists x \in \text{relint } D$ s.t. $Ax=b$

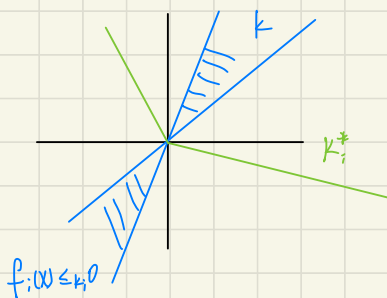
Generalized inequalities

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & f_0(x) \\ \text{s.t.} & f_i(x) \leq_{k_i} 0 \\ & h_i(x) = 0 \end{array} \quad \leq_{k_i} \text{ is generalized inequality on } \mathbb{R}^{k_i}$$

Lagrangian multiplier for $f_i(x) \leq_{k_i} 0$ is vector $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}^{k_i}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda, \dots, \lambda_m, v) &= f_0(x) + \sum_i \lambda_i^T f_i(x) + v^T (Ax - b) \quad \text{affine in } \lambda, v \\ g(\lambda, \dots, \lambda_m, v) &= \inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{L}(x, \lambda, v) \quad \text{point-wise infimum } \therefore \text{concave} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & g(\lambda, v) \\ \text{s.t.} & \lambda_i \geq_{k_i^*} 0 \end{array} \quad (\text{so that } \lambda_i^T f_i(x) \leq 0 \text{ for feasible } x)$$



lower bound property

$$\begin{aligned} g(\lambda, v) &= \inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} [f_0(x) + \sum_i \lambda_i^T f_i(x) + v^T (Ax - b)] \\ &\leq f_0(x^*) + \sum_i \lambda_i^T f_i(x^*) + v^T (Ax^* - b) \\ &\leq f_0(x^*) \quad \text{for } \lambda_i \geq_{k_i^*} 0 \end{aligned}$$

Weak duality $f^* \leq d^*$ always holds
strong duality $f^* = d^*$ with constraint qualification (Slater's condition eg)

eg semi-definite programming

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & C^T x \\ \text{s.t.} & x_1 F_1 + \dots + x_n F_n + G = 0 \quad (F_i, G \in S^k) \end{array}$$

Lagrangian multiplier is matrix $Z \in S^k$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(x, z) &= C^T x + \text{tr}(Z^T (x_1 F_1 + \dots + x_n F_n + G)) \\ &= C^T x + \text{tr}(Z (x_1 F_1 + \dots + x_n F_n + G)) \\ &= x_1 [C_1 + \text{tr}(Z F_1)] + \dots + x_n [C_n + \text{tr}(Z F_n)] + \text{tr}(Z G) \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{L}(x, z)$ is affine in x

$$g(z) = \inf_x \mathcal{L}(x, z) = \begin{cases} \text{tr}(Gz) & \text{tr}(Fz) + G_1 = 0 \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\max. \quad \text{tr}(Gz)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad z \succeq 0$$

$$(S^k)^* = S^k$$

$$z \succeq_{S^k} 0$$

$$\text{tr}(Fz) + G_1 = 0$$

$p^* = d^*$ if primal SDP is strictly feasible

• Complementary slackness for generalized inequality

assume $p^* = d^*$ attained at (x^*, λ^*, v^*)

$$f_0(x^*) = g(x^*, v^*)$$

$$= \inf_x [f_0(x) + \sum_i \lambda_i^{*T} f_i(x) + \sum_i v_i \cdot h_i(x)]$$

$$\leq f_0(x^*) + \sum_i \lambda_i^{*T} f_i(x^*) + \sum_i v_i \cdot h_i(x^*)$$

$$\leq f_0(x^*)$$

$$\therefore \lambda_i^{*T} f_i(x^*) = 0$$

$$\lambda_i^{*T} \succeq_{K_i^*} 0 \Rightarrow f_i(x^*) = 0$$

$$f_i(x^*) \prec_{K_i^*} 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_i^* = 0$$

• KKT condition for generalized inequality.

$$f_i(x^*) \leq 0$$

$$h_i(x^*) = 0$$

$$\lambda_i^* \succeq_{K_i^*} 0$$

$$\lambda_i^{*T} f_i(x^*) = 0$$

$$\nabla f_0(x^*) + \sum_i \nabla f_i(x^*) \lambda_i^* + \sum_i v_i^* \cdot \nabla h_i(x^*) = 0$$