

## Homework 1

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**HW 1** Consider the following convex optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}), \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbf{x} \preceq \mathbf{0}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, according to general optimality condition prove that the optimal point  $\mathbf{x}^*$  satisfies

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

**HW 2** Consider a linear programming

$$\begin{aligned} \min \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}, \\ \text{s.t. } A\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}. \end{aligned}$$

Show its Lagrange dual problem.

**HW 3** Compute the conjugate function:

(i)  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \delta_{B_\infty}(\mathbf{x}).$

(ii)  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \delta_{\mathbb{R}_-^n}(\mathbf{x}).$

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

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

(vi)  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \inf_{\mathbf{z}} \{ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}\|^2 + g(\mathbf{z}) \}.$

**HW 4** Consider the following problems:(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:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x}} \sum_i x_i \log(x_i), \\ \text{s.t. } A\mathbf{x} \succeq \mathbf{b}, \\ \sum_i x_i = 1. \end{aligned}$$

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  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}^*$  and  $\boldsymbol{\nu}^*$ , then compute the optimal primal variable  $\mathbf{x}^*$  by  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}^*$  and  $\boldsymbol{\nu}^*$ .

**HW 5** Show the Lagrange dual problems for

(i)

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) + g(A\mathbf{x}).$$

(ii) Ridge Regression:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \|A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2.$$

## References