

Linear Programming: Lecture 21.

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Integrality & duality.

Recall: if $P = \{x : Ax \leq b\}$ is a polytope, then there is a basic feasible soln (bfs) optimal for minimizing $c^T x$.

As always, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

We said: algorithm to obtain all basic (feasible) solutions:

- choose $I \subseteq [m]$, set of n linearly independent rows of A
- solve $\forall I \quad x = A_I^{-1} b_I$, check if feasible
- among all such solutions, pick optimal

LPs give fractional solutions. When is solution integral?

(i.e., each coordinate of x is an integer)

Sufficient conditions: all bfs are integral

$\Rightarrow \forall I \subseteq [m], A_I^{-1} b_I$ is integral

$$\text{let } x_I = A_I^{-1} b_I$$

$$\text{then } j^{\text{th}} \text{ component } x_{ij} = \frac{|A_{Ij}^j|}{|A_I|} \quad (\text{Cramer's Rule})$$

where A_{Ij}^j is A_I w/ j^{th} column replaced by b_I .

thus, if both $|A_{Ij}^j|, |A_I|$ are integral, then all basic solutions are integral

Total unimodularity :

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Matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is TU iff every square

submatrix of A has determinant $\in \{+1, 0, -1\}$.

(clearly this is sufficient, but not necessary)

Theorem : Let A be TUM, $b \in \mathbb{Z}^n$. Then $P = \{x : Ax \geq b\}$ is integral,
i.e., every bfs is integral.

(proof easy).

We said earlier can find ~~a~~ an optimal bfs for an LP in linear
polynomial time. If polytope is integral, this means we can find an
optimal integral solution in poly time. This is a very powerful
tool...

[Claim: The following statements are equivalent]

If and only if A is TU iff the following are TU:

(i) $-A$

(ii) A^T

(proof easy)

(iii) $[A \ e_i], [A \ -e_i]$

(iv) $[A \ I], [A \ -I]$

(v) $[A \ A^i]$, i.e., a column is repeated, and $[A \ -A^i]$

Corollary : If A is TU, and a, b, c, d are integral vectors, then the

polytope $Q = \{x : a \geq Ax \geq b, c \geq x \geq d\}$ is integral.

So how do we determine if A is TU? One way is to check all square submatrices. But we can give some sufficient (& necessary!) conditions for this also. (3)

Theorem: Let $A \in \{+1, 0, -1\}^{m \times n}$. Then A is TUM iff each set S of columns can be divided into sets S_1, S_2 s.t.

$$\sum_{i \in S_1} A^i - \sum_{i \in S_2} A^i \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^m$$

(proof skipped)

Here's a simple matrix that is NOT TU:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{since } |A| = -2.$$

(can also see that $Ax = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ has soln $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$)

ok, so now let's see some interesting LPs with integral polytopes (actually TU matrices for constraints).

Recall our LP for maximum bipartite matching:

$$\max \sum_e x_e$$

$$\text{w: } \sum_{e \text{ incident to } v} x_e \leq 1$$

$$\forall e: x_e \geq 0$$

We want to show that the constraint matrix is TU.

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Let's take a closer look:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} I & E \\ V & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & & \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & \cdots & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A' \\ I \end{bmatrix}$$

we will show that A^T is TU

again: let's write down A^T

$$|E| \left[\begin{array}{cc} 1 & 0 \dots \\ 0 & 1 \dots \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{array} \right] |V|$$

Since graph is bipartite, $V = A \cup B$
 all edges bw A & B.

→ each row has two non-zero entries, others as zero.

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Now we will show AIT is TU

Given any $S \subseteq V$ (columns), let $S_1 = S \cap A$, $S_2 = S \cap B$.

$$\text{Then consider } \sum_{i \in S_1} (A^T)^i - \sum_{i \in S_2} (A^T)^i \leftarrow (\text{say})$$

\uparrow
 $\in \{0,1\}^m$ $\in \{0,1\}^m$

diff $\in \{1, 0, -1\}^n$.

Thus A'^T is TU $\Rightarrow A'$ is TU $\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A' \\ I \end{bmatrix}$ is TU $\Rightarrow A$ is TU.

Thus by solving the linear program, we find

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maximum ~~and~~ bipartite matching is poly-time.

Further, we find max-cut bipartite matching also:

$$\max_w \sum_e w_e x_e$$

$$\text{s.t. } \forall v, \sum_{e \text{ incident to } v} x_e \leq 1$$

$$\text{and } x_e \geq 0.$$

(note that w & x may not be integral).

Example 2: Maximum flows? (why are we looking for integral solution?)

$$\text{Recall LP: } \max_{e \text{ out of } v} \sum_e x_e$$

$$\text{s.t. } \forall v \in V, \sum_{e \text{ into } v} x_e - \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} x_e = 0$$

$$\forall e \quad x_e \leq c_e$$

$$\forall e \quad x_e \geq 0$$

constraint matrix:

$$A = \begin{matrix} & |V|-2 \\ & \left| \begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 & & & \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & & \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 & \ddots & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & & & \\ \hline & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & & \\ & & & & I & & \\ & & & & \ddots & & \\ & & & & & I & \\ & & & & & & I \end{array} \right| & A^T \\ |E| & & & & & & \\ |E| & & & & & & \end{matrix}$$

will show A^T is TU: for any S_1 if $S_1 = S_2, S_2 = \emptyset$

Duality

Consider the LP

$$\min x_1 + 2x_2$$

$$x_1 - x_2 \geq 3 \quad (\text{---} g_1)$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 \geq 1 \quad (\text{---} g_2)$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$

Suppose what we want a lower bound on the optimal solution.

Let's multiply the constraints by $y_1, y_2 \geq 0$, and add.

$$\text{then: } x_1(y_1 + 2y_2) + x_2(-y_1 + y_2) \geq 3y_1 + y_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{if we further constrain } y_1, y_2 \text{ s.t. } y_1 + 2y_2 &\leq 1 \\ &-y_1 + y_2 \leq 2 \end{aligned}$$

then LHS is a lower bound (less than) on $x_1 + 2x_2$

hence, RHS is a lower bound on $x_1 + 2x_2$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.e., } 3y_1 + y_2 &\text{ is a lower bound on } x_1 + 2x_2 \\ \text{s.t. } y_1 + 2y_2 &\leq 1 & x_1 - x_2 &\geq 3 \\ -y_1 + y_2 &\leq 2 & 2x_1 + x_2 &\geq 1 \\ y_1, y_2 &\geq 0 & x_1, x_2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

here, $\max 3y_1 + y_2$ is a lower bound $\min x_1 + 2x_2$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{this is} &\rightarrow y_1 + 2y_2 \leq 1 & \text{on} & x_1 - x_2 \geq 3 \\ \text{called the} && -y_1 + y_2 \leq 2 & 2x_1 + x_2 \geq 1 \\ \text{dual LP} && y_1, y_2 \geq 0 & x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

↑
this is the
primal

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For every LP, there is a "dual" LP that provides a lower bound on the optimal value (assuring minimization objective).

(what if "primal" LP has unbounded optimal value?
dual LP is infeasible)

Further, dual of the dual is the primal.

more generally:

Primal: $\min \sum_i c_i x_i$ $a_{11}x_1 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \geq b_1 \quad x_1, \dots, x_n \geq 0$ $a_{21}x_1 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n \geq b_2$ \vdots $a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n \geq b_m$ $x_1, \dots, x_n \geq 0$	Dual: $\max \sum_j b_j y_j$ $a_{11}y_1 + \dots + a_{m1}y_m \leq c_1$ $a_{12}y_1 + \dots + a_{m2}y_m \leq c_2$ \vdots $a_{1n}y_1 + \dots + a_{nn}y_m \leq c_n$ $y_1, \dots, y_m \geq 0$
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or:

$\min c^T x$ $Ax \geq b$ $x \geq 0$	$\xleftarrow{\text{dual}}$	$\max b^T y$ $A^T y \leq c$ $y \geq 0$
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~~any feasible x~~

and if x, y feasible for primal & dual, then $c^T x \geq b^T y$.

This is called weak duality.