



Compact Course Polynomial Optimization – Series 4

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Exercise 4.1

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ and $L \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ be closed convex cones and let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$. Consider the problems

$$\alpha := \inf \{ \langle c, x \rangle \mid x \in K, Ax - b \in L \}$$

and

$$\beta := \sup \{ \langle y, b \rangle \mid y \in L^*, c - A^\top y \in K^* \}.$$

Show that the following hold:

- (a) The problems satisfy weak duality.
- (b) If there exists an x' with $x' \in \text{int}(K)$ and $Ax' - b \in \text{int}(L)$, then strong duality holds.
- (c) If there exists an y' with $y' \in \text{int}(L^*)$ and $c - A^\top y' \in \text{int}(K^*)$, then strong duality holds.

Exercise 4.2

Show that for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$ one has $(\mathcal{S}_+^k)^* = \mathcal{S}_+^k$ (i.e., the cone \mathcal{S}_+^k is self-dual).

Exercise 4.3

Formulate the problem of computing the largest eigenvalue of a symmetric matrix as an SDP.

Exercise 4.4

Consider the SDP

$$\inf \left\{ x : \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x \\ x & y \end{pmatrix} \text{ psd}, x \geq -1 \right\}.$$

- (a) What is the optimal value of this problem?
- (b) What is the optimal value of its dual?