

Chalmers/GU  
Mathematics

**EXAM SOLUTION**

**TMA947/MAN280  
APPLIED OPTIMIZATION**

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## Question 1

(the Simplex method)

- (2p) a) After adding two slack variables, a BFS cannot be found directly. We create the phase I problem through an added artificial variable  $a_1$  in the second linear constraint; the value of  $a_1$  is to be minimized. We use the BFS based on the variable pair  $(s_1, a_1)$  as the starting BFS for the phase I problem, terminating the simplex method with the optimal BFS given by  $(s_1, x_2) = (3/2, 2)$ , which is a BFS for the original problem.
- Starting phase II with this BFS, the optimal basis for the problem is given by  $(x_1, x_2) = (3/2, 1)$ .
- (1p) b) In the new problem the reduced cost vector for the non-basic variables is given by  $\bar{\mathbf{c}}_N^T = (-7/3, 1/3)$ , indicating that the BFS is not optimal in the new problem. After one iteration of the simplex method, the optimal BFS reached is given by  $(s_1, x_2) = (3/2, 2)$ ; hence  $\mathbf{x}^* = (0, 2)^T$ .
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## Question 2

(the Karush–Kuhn–Tucker conditions)

- (1p) a)  $\mathbf{x}^* = (1, 1)^T$  is the only feasible point, hence guaranteed to be globally optimal in the problem.
- (2p) b) Both constraints are active at  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ; their respective normals (writing them as “ $\leq$ ” constraints) are  $(2, 2)^T$  and  $(-2, -2)^T$ , respectively. They are not linearly independent, thus violating the LICQ; the problem also violates the Slater CQ, since no interior point exists. The vector  $-\nabla f(\mathbf{x}^*) = (-1, 0)^T$  cannot be written as a nonnegative linear combination of the normals of the active constraints, so the KKT conditions are not satisfied.
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## Question 3

(The Frank–Wolfe method)

- (2p) a)  $f$  is in  $C^1$  and strictly convex on  $X$  and  $X$  is closed, convex and bounded,

hence the problem has a unique optimal solution. Moreover, the Frank–Wolfe method converges to this point from any starting point. (The unconstrained minimum is  $\frac{1}{15}(-8, 32)$ .)

Starting at  $\mathbf{x}_0 = (0, 0)^T$ , the algorithm proceeds as follows:  $f(\mathbf{x}_0) = 0$ ;  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}_0) = (0, -2)^T$ ;  $\mathbf{y}_0 = (0, 1)^T$  (for example); the lower bound  $z(\mathbf{y}_0) = f(\mathbf{x}_0) + \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_0)^T(\mathbf{y}_0 - \mathbf{x}_0) = -2$ ;  $\mathbf{p}_0 = \mathbf{y}_0 - \mathbf{x}_0 = (0, 1)^T$ ;  $f(\mathbf{x}_0 + \alpha\mathbf{p}_0) = \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2 - 2\alpha$ , which yields the unique minimum  $\alpha = 1$  over the interval  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ ;  $\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{y}_0 = (0, 1)^T$ ;  $f(\mathbf{x}_1) = -3/2$ ;  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}_1) = (1/4, -1)^T$ ;  $\mathbf{y}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1 = (0, 1)^T$ ;  $z(\mathbf{x}_1) = f(\mathbf{x}_1) = -3/2$ . The lower and upper bounds are equal, hence  $\mathbf{x}_1 = (0, 1)^T = \mathbf{x}^*$ , with the optimal value  $f^* = -3/2$ .

- (1p) b) The number of extreme points of  $X$  is 4; hence, the maximum number of iterations of the simplicial decomposition method needed is also 4.

## Question 4

(convexity of functions)

- (1p) a) See Theorem 3.40(a) in AEP05.

- (2p) b) See Theorem 3.41(a) in AEP05.

## (3p) Question 5

(linear programming duality and optimality)

- (1p) a)  $\mathbf{x}^* = (1, 2)^T$ ; the set of optimal dual solutions is  $\{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \mathbf{y} = (-1 + t, -2 + t, -t)^T, \quad t \in [0, 1]\}$ .

- (2p) b) The three primal BFSs  $(x_1, x_2, s_1)^T$ ,  $(x_1, x_2, s_2)^T$ , and  $(x_1, x_2, s_3)^T$  correspond to the dual basic solutions  $\mathbf{y} = (0, -1, -1)^T$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = (1, 0, -2)^T$ , and  $\mathbf{y} = (-1, -2, 0)^T$ , out of which the second one is infeasible—recall that the dual variables are restricted to be non-positive! Hence, the primal BFSs  $(x_1, x_2, s_1)^T$  and  $(x_1, x_2, s_3)^T$  are optimal, but the BFS  $(x_1, x_2, s_2)^T$  is not.

**(3p) Question 6**

(fixed points)

**(1p)** a)  $\mathbf{x}_5 \approx 7.2900005977804794852799144749137 \cdot 10^{-7}$ ; convergence is very rapid. Alternative (2) does not converge for any starting value  $\mathbf{x}_0$ .

**(2p)** b) With  $g(x) = \frac{x^2+b}{-a}$  we can either establish the contraction property [hence utilize Banach's Theorem 4.34(a) in AEP05] or the convergence criterion that states that

$$|g'(x)| \leq \alpha < 1 \text{ holds on } S$$

(which is Exercise 4.9 in AEP05). Utilizing the latter, we obtain the condition that  $2|\frac{x}{a}| \leq \alpha < 1$  holds on  $S$ , that is, that the value of  $a$  is "large enough" in comparison with  $x$  on  $S$ .

**Question 7**

(linear programming duality and matrix games)

**(1p)** a) Under the given conditions we have that

$$\begin{aligned} z^* &= \text{minimum } \{ \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}^n \} \\ &= \text{maximum } \{ \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \leq \mathbf{c}, \quad \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{0}^m \} \\ &= \text{maximum } \{ (-\mathbf{c})^T \mathbf{y} \mid -\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \leq -\mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{0}^n \} \\ &= \text{maximum } \{ (-\mathbf{c})^T \mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{0}^n \} \\ &= -z^*, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $z^* = 0$ .

**(2p)** b) The self-dual skew symmetric LP problem sought is

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize } \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}, \\ &\text{subject to } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0}^{m \times n} & -\mathbf{A}^T \\ \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{0}^{n \times m} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix} \geq \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix}, \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \geq \mathbf{0}^n \times \mathbf{0}^m. \end{aligned}$$