

Homework Set # 2

Due in class on Tuesday, September 20, 2011.

- 1). (a) Show that the set of all feasible solutions to the following linear program forms a convex set:
 $\min\{cx \mid Ax = b, x \geq 0\}$
(b) Prove that the set of optimal solutions to the linear program (of part (a)) forms a convex set.

- 2). An LP minimize cx subject to $Ax \geq b$ and $x \geq 0$ was solved. Denote x^* the optimal solution. Now a new constraint is added: $\alpha x \geq \beta$. Prove that if x^* is feasible to the new constraint, then it is also an optimal solution to the new LP.

- 3). (From 2003 midterm) Consider a maximization linear programming problem with 4 extreme points v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 and 3 extreme directions d_1, d_2, d_3 , and with objective function coefficients given by the vector c , such that $cv_1 = 5, cv_2 = 18, cv_3 = 4, cv_4 = 18, cd_1 = -5, cd_2 = 0, cd_3 = -2$.
(a). Write down the reformulated LP in terms of the extreme points and extreme directions.
(b). Is the LP unbounded? Does it have a finite optimal solution? If so what is the optimal z ? Does the LP have multiple optimal solutions? Explain! (Don't just say "yes" or "no".)

- 4). Consider the polyhedron $P = \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$.
(a). Show that $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ is an extreme point of P .
(b). Show that any $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x} \in P$ is not an extreme point. (Recall, $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$ means that at least one component of the vector \mathbf{x} is not 0. Therefore $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$, and $\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$ does *not* imply that $\mathbf{x} > \mathbf{0}$.)
(c). What are the extreme directions of P ? Recall, an extreme direction of a set is a direction \mathbf{d} that cannot be written as a *positive* combination of two distinct directions of the set, that is there do not exist directions \mathbf{d}_1 and \mathbf{d}_2 of the set, $\mathbf{d}_1 \neq \mathbf{d}_2$, and $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 > 0$ such that $\mathbf{d} = \alpha_1 \mathbf{d}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{d}_2$.