

To prove:

If x^* is primal feasible, (α^*, β^*) is dual feasible, and the duality gap is 0, i.e., $f_0(x^*) - g(\alpha^*, \beta^*) = 0$, then x^* and (α^*, β^*) are optimal solutions for the primal and dual problems, respectively, and the primal problem has strong duality.

Proof:

1. Given:

- 1) x^* is primal feasible (satisfies primal constraints).
- 2) (α^*, β^*) is dual feasible (satisfies dual constraints).
- 3) The duality gap is 0: $f_0(x^*) - g(\alpha^*, \beta^*) = 0$.

$$4) g(\alpha, \beta) = \min_{x \in \mathcal{D}} l(x, \alpha, \beta) = \min_{x \in \mathcal{D}} f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i h_i(x)$$

2. Implication of 0 Duality Gap:

The duality gap being 0 means that the objective value of the primal problem at x^* is equal to the objective value of the dual problem at (α^*, β^*) i.e., $f_0(x^*) = g(\alpha^*, \beta^*)$.

3. Optimality:

- 1) Since x^* is primal feasible and the primal objective is equal to the dual objective, x^* must be optimal. The reason is as below:

$$f_0(x^*) = g(\alpha^*, \beta^*) \leq f_0(x)$$

- 2) Since x^* is primal feasible and the primal objective is equal to the dual objective, (α^*, β^*) must be optimal. The reason is as below:

$$g(\alpha, \beta) \leq f_0(x^*) = g(\alpha^*, \beta^*)$$

4. Conclusion:

If the duality gap is 0, both x^* and (α^*, β^*) are optimal solutions, and the primal problem has strong duality (i.e., the primal and dual optimal values are equal).