

LINEAR PROGRAMMING
&
COMBINATORIAL OPTIMIZATION

LECTURE 11

Agenda:

- 1. Proof of Farkas' lemma
- 2. An application of LP : Zero-sum games

PROOF OF FARKAS' LEMMA:

(iii) $Ax \leq b$ has a soln. iff

for every non-negative $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ s.t. $y^T A = 0$, we have $y^T b \geq 0$

Proof:

(\Rightarrow) Suppose \tilde{x} is a soln. to $Ax \leq b$.

Pick some y s.t. $y^T A = 0$

$$A\tilde{x} \leq b$$

$$\underbrace{y^T A}_{0} \tilde{x} \leq y^T b$$

$$0 \leq y^T b$$

(\Leftarrow) is not immediate.

FOURIER-MOTZKIN METHOD:

$5x + 4y + 2z \leq 15$
$2x + 2y - 3z \leq 10$
$-x + y + 4z \leq 20$



Get a system with 'y' and 'z' s.t.
original system has a soln. iff. the new system
has a soln.

With a single var:

$$\begin{array}{l} x \leq 4 \\ z \leq 5 \end{array} \Rightarrow z \leq 4$$

$$\begin{array}{l} -x \leq 2 \\ -z \leq -1 \end{array} \Rightarrow z \geq 1$$

$$z \geq -2$$

$$z \geq 1$$

$$-x \leq 4$$

$$-z \leq 5$$

$$x \leq 4$$

$$z \leq 5$$

Now: when there are multiple variables:

$$\begin{array}{l} x + 4y + 2z \leq 20 \\ x + 2y + 3z \leq 15 \\ x + y + 4z \leq 10 \\ x + 2y - 2z \leq 15 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{l} 5x + 4y + 2z \leq 15 \\ 2x + 2y - 3z \leq 10 \\ -x + y + 4z \leq 20 \\ -x + 2y - 2z \leq 15 \end{array}$$
$$10 \leq 5$$
$$10 \leq -1$$
$$x \leq \frac{15}{5} - \frac{4y}{5} - \frac{2z}{5}$$

give upper bounds on x

$$x \leq \frac{10}{2} - \frac{2y}{2} - \frac{3z}{2}$$

$$-x \leq 20 - y - 4z$$



$$x \geq -20 + y + 4z$$

give lower bounds.

$$-x \leq 15 - 2y + 2z$$



$$x \geq -15 + 2y - 2z$$

We will generate a system which declares that:

$$\max(\text{lower bounds of } x) \leq \min(\text{upper bounds for } x)$$

$$x \leq \frac{15}{5} - \frac{4y}{5} - \frac{2z}{5}$$
$$x \leq \frac{10}{2} - \frac{2y}{2} - \frac{3z}{2}$$

give upper
bounds on x

$$x \geq -20 + y + 4z$$
$$x \geq -15 + 2y - 2z$$

give lower
bounds.

$$-20 + y + 4z \leq \frac{15}{5} - \frac{4y}{5} - \frac{2z}{5}$$
$$-20 + y + 4z \leq \frac{10}{2} - \frac{2y}{2} - \frac{3z}{2}$$
$$-15 + 2y - 2z \leq \frac{15}{5} - \frac{4y}{5} - \frac{2z}{5}$$
$$-15 + 2y - 2z \leq \frac{10}{2} - \frac{2y}{2} - \frac{3z}{2}$$

new system with
one variable less.

Original system has a soln. iff new system has a soln.

Proof of Farkas' lemma: Suppose $Ax \leq b$ has no soln.

Induction on the number of variables 'n'.

Base case: $n=0$

$y:$

$$0 \quad 4 \leq 5$$

$$0 \quad -1 \leq 2$$

⋮

$$1 \dots 0 \leq -1$$

since $Ax \leq b$ has no soln.

$$0 \quad 2 \leq 3$$

⋮

$$0 \quad 14 \leq 20$$

What is A?

$n=1:$

$y:$

$$0 \quad x_1 \leq 4$$

$$0 \quad x_1 \leq 5$$

$$1 \quad x_1 \dots \leq 3 \quad 2$$

$$0 \quad x_1 \leq 7$$

$$0 \quad -x_1 \leq -1$$

$$\therefore -x_1 \leq -2$$

⋮

$$0 \quad -x_1 \leq 3$$

$$1 \quad -x_1 \leq -4 \quad j$$

$A =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} i \\ \downarrow \\ j \end{matrix}$$

$$y = [0 \ 0 \dots \underset{i}{1} \ 0 \dots \underset{j}{1} \ \dots \ 0]$$

$$y^T A = 0$$

$$y^T b = -1 \text{ in this example.}$$

In general, such a y will give $y^T A = 0$ and $y^T b < 0$

Induction case

$$Ax \leq b \quad x: n \text{ variables}$$

↓

Eliminate some variable using
Fourier Motzkin

$$A'\tilde{x} \leq b' \quad \tilde{x}: n-1 \text{ variables}$$

Since $Ax \leq b$ has no solution, we know:

$A'\tilde{x} \leq b'$ has no solution.

Apply induction hypothesis.

$$\exists \tilde{y} \text{ s.t. } \tilde{y} A' = 0 \text{ and } \tilde{y} b < 0$$

Now we need to generate y for $Ax \leq b$:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{matrix}
 & & A \\
 [0 \cdot 0 \cdot \dots \cdot 1] & \vdots & \vdots \\
 & i & j \\
 & \dots & \dots
 \end{matrix}
 \end{array}
 \left\{
 \begin{array}{l}
 ax + \dots \leq b_i \\
 -a'i x + \dots \leq b_j
 \end{array}
 \right\}
 \quad a, a' \geq 0$$

A' is obtained as some: $M A$

$$b' : M b$$

$$\begin{aligned} A' &= M A \\ b' &= M b \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{y}^T A' &= 0 & \Rightarrow \quad \tilde{y}^T M A &= 0 \\ \tilde{y}^T b' &< 0 & \quad \quad \quad \tilde{y}^T M b &< 0 \end{aligned}$$

Pick $\tilde{y}^T = \tilde{y}^T M$ $A: m \times n$

$$M: [m' \times m]$$

Then $y^T A = 0$

$$y^T b < 0$$

$$y = m \times 1$$

$$\tilde{y}^T M = 1 \times m$$

$$\tilde{y}^T M = 1 \times m$$

- Summary:
- Proof of Farkas' lemma
 - Proof of duality via Farkas' lemma.

APPLICATIONS OF LINEAR PROGRAMMING: ZERO - SUM GAMES

REFERENCE: Section 8.1 of text:

Understanding and Using Linear Programming

- Matoušek & Gärtner

ZERO-SUM GAMES:

Two players: Maximizer Vs Minimizer

- Maximizer has m - strategies $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, m\}$
- Minimizer has n - strategies $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$
- An $m \times n$ payoff matrix M is given

Example:

		Min chooses columns		
		1	2	3
Max chooses Rows	1	10	0	-1
	2	-2	4	0
	3	5	3	1
	4	7	2	-2
	5	4	-1	1
		→ M : Payoff matrix		

- When Max plays i and Min plays j ,
Payoff = m_{ij}

Max receives m_{ij} from Min

OBJECTIVE / GOAL OF THE GAME:

- Maximizer wants to maximize the payoff
- Minimizer wants to minimize the payoff

Zero-sum: One's loss is the other's gain

- A payoff of 5 to Max is -5 to Min
- A payoff of -3 to Max is +3 to Min

NOTE: Many situations in economics / AI / finance involving strategic reasoning can be modeled as zero-sum games.

SOME EXAMPLES:

	1	2	3
1	10	0	-1
2	-2	4	0
3	5	3	1
4	7	2	-2
5	4	-1	1

When Max plays 1, best strategy of Min is 3, Payoff = -1	2	1	-2
2	3	1	1
3	4	3	-2
4	5	2	-1

$$\boxed{\text{max min} = 1}$$

When Min plays 1, best strategy of Max is 1, Payoff = 10

2	2	4
3	3/5	1

$$\boxed{\text{min max} = 1}$$

II)

	1	2	3
1	10	0	-1
2	-2	4	0
3	5	3	7
4	7	2	-2
5	4	-1	1

When Max plays 1, best strategy of Min is 3, Payoff = -1

2	1	-2
3	2	3
4	3	-2
5	2	-1

$$\boxed{\text{max min} = 3}$$

When Min plays 1, best strategy of Max is 1, Payoff = 10

2	2	4
3	3	7

$$\boxed{\text{min max} = 4}$$

Remarks:

- max min:
- Max plays first.
 - Knowing Max's strategy Min gives her **best response**
 - Knowing that Min will play best response, Max plays a strategy that maximizes the payoff.

min max

- Min plays first
- Max gives her **best response**
- Min plays a strategy that minimizes the payoff, knowing that Max will play best response.

More formally:

Given a game represented by payoff matrix M :

$$\text{max-min-pure}(M) = \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, m\}} \min_{j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}} M_{ij}$$

$$\text{min-max-pure}(M) = \min_{j \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, m\}} M_{ij}$$

Pure strategies: - The choices $1, \dots, m$ for Max are called her pure / deterministic strategies

- Choices $1, \dots, n$ of Min are called her pure / deterministic strategies

Later we will see other kinds of strategies

Lemma: $\text{max-min-pure}(M) \leq \text{min-max-pure}(M) \quad \forall M$

Proof: For each $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ (a pure strategy of Max):

$$\min_{j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}} M_{ij} \leq \min_j \max_i M_{ij}$$

$$\text{Hence } \max_i \min_j M_{ij} \leq \min_j \max_i M_{ij} \quad \square$$

Saddle points:

We saw that $\text{max-min-pure}(M) \leq \text{min-max-pure}(M)$

In some cases, $\text{max-min-pure} = \text{min-max-pure}$

	1	2	3
1	10	0	-1
2	-2	4	0
3	5	3	1
4	7	2	-2
5	4	-1	1

$(3, 3)$

Least in row
Greatest in column

m_{kl} is a saddle point if $m_{kl} = \min_j m_{kj} = \max_i m_{il}$

- $\text{max-min-pure} = \text{min-max-pure}$ iff there is a saddle point.



Prove this statement: Exercise.

NASH EQUILIBRIUM (over pure strategies):

When $\text{max-min-pure } (M) = \text{min-max-pure } (M)$

the game is said to have a

Nash equilibrium over
pure strategies

- In this case, there exist strategies i, j for Max / Min s.t.

- i) j is the best response of Min to i
and
- ii) i is the best response of Max to j

	1	2	3
1	10	0	-1
2	-2	4	0
3	5	3	1
4	7	2	-2
5	4	-1	1

→ least in row
greatest in column

Nash equilibrium strategies: 3 for Max
3 for Min

- Max does not gain anything by deviating
- Similarly, Min does not have an incentive to deviate.

Summary:

- 1. Zero-sum games, Pure strategies
- 2. max-min-pure and min-max-pure
- 3. In general: $\text{max-min-pure} \leq \text{min-max-pure}$
- 4. Nash equilibrium: when $\text{max-min-pure} = \text{min-max-pure}$.

Where is Linear Programming in all this?

- Next : different kind of strategies,
 - ↳ max min and min max over such strategies
 - ↳ significant use of LP.

ZERO-SUM GAMES - Part 2

Last part: max min, min max over pure strategies

This part: Mixed / randomized strategies.

Example:



$$\text{max-min-pure } (M_{RPS}) = -1$$

$$\text{min-max-pure } (M_{RPS}) = +1$$

Consider a different strategy for Max:

- Max plays each strategy with $\frac{1}{3}$ Probability

Mixed Strategy

$$\sigma : \frac{1}{3} \text{ Rock} + \frac{1}{3} \text{ Paper} + \frac{1}{3} \text{ Scissors}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{If Min plays pure strategy Rock, "Expected Payoff"} &= \frac{1}{3} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot (-1) \\
 &= \frac{1}{3}(-1) + \frac{1}{3}(0) + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 \\
 &= \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{3}(-1) + \frac{1}{3}(0)
 \end{aligned}$$

When Max plays mixed strategy σ and Min plays some pure strategy, the expected payoff = 0

- But Min can also play mixed strategies. Suppose Min plays:

$$\tau : \frac{1}{3} \text{ Rock} + \frac{1}{3} \text{ Paper} + \frac{1}{3} \text{ Scissors}$$

- What is the expected payoff when σ and τ are played?

	Rock	Paper	Scissors
Rock	0	-1	+1
Paper	+1	0	-1
Scissors	-1	+1	0

$$\frac{1}{9} [(0 -1 +1) + (1 +0 -1) (-1 +1 +0)] = 0$$

↓ ↓ ↓
 Row 1 Row 2 Row 3

Mixed Strategy: is a probability distribution over pure strategies.

Maximizer's pure strategies : $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, m\}$

$$\in [0, 1]$$

Mixed strategy for Max : $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{i=1}^m x_i = 1$$

Minimizer's pure strategies : $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$

$$\in [0, 1]$$

Mixed strategy for Min : $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{j=1}^n y_j = 1$$

Payoff: Given $\sigma := (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$ and $\tau := (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$

$$\text{Payoff}(\sigma, \tau) = \sum_{i \in \{1, \dots, m\}} \sum_{j \in \{1, \dots, n\}} x_i \cdot y_j \cdot m_{ij}$$

$$\hookrightarrow = x^T M y$$

We are interested in the following quantities:

$$\max \min(M) = \max_{\substack{\text{mixed strategy } \sigma \\ \text{of Max}}} \min_{\substack{\text{mixed strategy } \tau \\ \text{of Min}}} \text{Payoff}(\sigma, \tau)$$

$$\min \max(M) = \min_{\substack{\text{mixed strategy } \tau \\ \text{of Min}}} \max_{\substack{\text{mixed strategy } \sigma \\ \text{of Max}}} \text{Payoff}(\sigma, \tau)$$

Notice that there are infinitely many mixed strategies.

Goal: Given M , how do we compute

$$\max \min(M) ?$$

- This does not look like a linear optimization problem since there is a mix of objectives and the cost that needs to be optimized: $x^T M y$ has bilinear terms

- We will now see that computing $\max \min(M)$ can be reduced to an LP problem.

- Suppose we fix a strategy $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle$ for Max
 - For example : $\langle \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \rangle$ in MRPs.
 - Given the strategy $\langle x_1, \dots, x_m \rangle$ we want to find:
- $\min_{\substack{\text{mixed strategies} \\ \text{of Min}}} x^T M y$

- This can be written as a linear program (as x_i 's are constants)

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && x^T M y \\ & \text{subject to} && y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_n = 1 \\ & && y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$
(*)

For example, with $\langle \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \rangle$ in RPs:

$$\text{minimize } -\frac{1}{3}y_2 + \frac{1}{3}y_3 + \frac{1}{3}y_1 - \frac{1}{3}y_3 - \frac{1}{3}y_1 + \frac{1}{3}y_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{subject to} && y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 1 \\ & && y_1, \dots, y_3 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

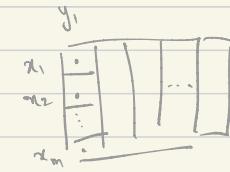
- The answer to above LP gives the best response of Min to Max's mixed strategy $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle$

Each $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle \rightarrow \pi_0$ (answer of above LP)

We want the maximum possible π_0 .

5. Let us first write the dual q (*):

$\text{minimize } \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{M} \mathbf{y}$ Subject to $y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_n = 1$ $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \geq 0$



$$\begin{array}{l} \min b^T y \\ A^T y = c \\ Ax \leq b \\ y \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{maximize } x_0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Subject to: } x_0 &\leq M_{11} x_1 + M_{21} x_2 + \dots + M_{m1} x_m \\ x_0 &\leq M_{12} x_1 + M_{22} x_2 + \dots + M_{m2} x_m \\ &\vdots \\ x_0 &\leq M_{1n} x_1 + M_{2n} x_2 + \dots + M_{mn} x_m \end{aligned}$$

$\text{maximize } x_0$ Subject to $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_0 \leq M^T x$ <small>n rows $\rightarrow n \times 1$</small>
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(**)

6. Primal is bounded (feasible region is contained in unit hypercube)

Hence: Optimum of primal = optimum of dual

- For a given strategy of Max $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle$, the payoff obtained when Min plays her best response is given by the optimum cost of LP (**).

7. We want to maximize the optimum of LP $(**)$ w.r.t. all mixed strategies of Maximizer.
- Hence we consider $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle$ as variables and add the constraint $\sum_{i=1}^m x_i = 1$ to $(**)$

$\text{maximize } x_0$ $\text{Subject to } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_0 \leq M^T x$ $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_m = 1$ $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \geq 0$

LP for $\max \min(M)$ [over mixed strategies]

Illustration on the RPS example:

$$\text{maximize } x_0$$

$$\text{Subject to: } x_0 \leq 0 \cdot x_1 + 1 \cdot x_2 - 1 \cdot x_3$$

$$x_0 \leq -1 \cdot x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 + 1 \cdot x_3$$

$$x_0 \leq 1 \cdot x_1 - 1 \cdot x_2 + 0 \cdot x_3$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0$$

	Rock	Paper	Scissors
Rock	0	-1	+1
Paper	+1	0	-1
Scissors	-1	+1	0

← LP to find $\max \min$.

APPLICATIONS OF LP: ZERO-SUM GAMES - Part 3:

Recall:

- For pure strategies, $\max \min \leq \min \max$, and equality is attained iff there are saddle points (Part 1)
- Mixed strategies, and an LP to compute $\max \min$ over mixed strategies. (Part 2)

Today: We will prove that over mixed strategies: $\max \min = \min \max$.

LP for max min:

maximize x_0

subject to: $x_0 \leq 0 \cdot x_1 + 1 \cdot x_2 - 1 \cdot x_3$

$x_0 \leq -1 \cdot x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 + 1 \cdot x_3$

$x_0 \leq +1 \cdot x_1 - 1 \cdot x_2 + 0 \cdot x_3$

$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1$

$x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0$

y_1	y_2	y_3
Rock	+1	-1
Paper	-1	0
Scissors	0	+1

LP for min max:

minimize y_0

subject to: $0 \cdot y_1 - 1 \cdot y_2 + 1 \cdot y_3 \leq y_0$

$1 \cdot y_1 + 0 \cdot y_2 - 1 \cdot y_3 \leq y_0$

$-1 \cdot y_1 + 1 \cdot y_2 + 0 \cdot y_3 \leq y_0$

$y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 1$

$y_1, y_2, y_3 \geq 0$

dual of the LP for max min:

maximize π_0

subject to: $y_1 \cdot \pi_0 \leq 0 \cdot x_1 + 1 \cdot x_2 - 1 \cdot x_3$

$$y_2 \cdot \pi_0 \leq -1 \cdot x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 + 1 \cdot x_3$$

$$y_3 \cdot \pi_0 \leq +1 \cdot x_1 - 1 \cdot x_2 + 0 \cdot x_3$$

$$y_0 \cdot x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0$$



minimize y_0

subject to: $y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 1 \quad (\pi_0)$

$$0 \cdot y_1 + 1 \cdot y_2 - 1 \cdot y_3 + y_0 \geq 0 \quad (x_1)$$

$$-1 \cdot y_1 + 0 \cdot y_2 + 1 \cdot y_3 + y_0 \geq 0 \quad (x_2)$$

$$+1 \cdot y_1 - 1 \cdot y_2 + 0 \cdot y_3 + y_0 \geq 0 \quad (x_3)$$

$$y_1, y_2, y_3 \geq 0 \quad (\text{inequalities in primal})$$



This is exactly the LP for min-max!

- Since primal is bounded and feasible, there is an optimum.

Hence primal-optimum = dual-optimum, i.e. max min = min max!

	rock	paper	scissors
Rock	0	-1	+1
Paper	+1	0	-1
Scissors	-1	+1	0

In general: Given game M

max-min LP:

maximize π_0

subject to:

$$\pi_0 \leq M_{11}x_1 + M_{21}x_2 + \dots + M_{m1}x_m$$

$$\pi_0 \leq M_{12}x_1 + M_{22}x_2 + \dots + M_{m2}x_m$$

:

$$\pi_0 \leq M_{1m}x_1 + M_{2m}x_2 + \dots + M_{mm}x_m$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_m = 1$$

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \geq 0$$

min-max LP:

minimize y_0

subject to:

$$y_0 \geq M_{11}y_1 + M_{12}y_2 + \dots + M_{1n}y_n$$

$$y_0 \geq M_{21}y_1 + M_{22}y_2 + \dots + M_{2n}y_n$$

:

$$y_0 \geq M_{m1}y_1 + M_{m2}y_2 + \dots + M_{mn}y_n$$

$$y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_n = 1$$

$$y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \geq 0$$

These two LPs are duals of each other.

Minimax theorem: max-min = min-max over mixed strategies

There exist mixed strategies \bar{x} and \bar{y} for Max and Min s.t.:

- \bar{y} is the best response to \bar{x} and
- \bar{x} is the best response to \bar{y}

There is a Nash equilibrium over mixed strategies for zero-sum games.