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**NEW PROOFS OF CONVERGENCE FOR THE
DUAL AFFINE SCALING ALGORITHM**

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ABSTRACT – We present two ideas that help in the analysis of the dual affine scaling algorithm: sorting the slacks and taking a QR factorization of the constraints. Using these ideas, we prove that the iterates always converge. The proof holds if at each iteration we move an arbitrary fraction of the step to the boundary of the feasible region and it needs no hypothesis on degeneracy. However, it does not show that the iterates converge to an optimal solution. We present a new proof of convergence to the optimum for primal nondegenerate programs and for programs with two variables.

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B I B L I O T E C A

New proofs of convergence for the dual affine scaling algorithm

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Abstract

We present two ideas that help in the analysis of the dual affine scaling algorithm: sorting the slacks and taking a QR factorization of the constraints. Using these ideas, we prove that the iterates always converge. The proof holds if at each iteration we move an arbitrary fraction of the step to the boundary of the feasible region and it needs no hypothesis on degeneracy. However, it does not show that the iterates converge to an optimal solution. We present a new proof of convergence to the optimum for primal nondegenerate programs and for programs with two variables.

key words. affine scaling algorithm, convergence, degeneracy.

1. Introduction

We discuss the convergence of the dual affine scaling algorithm [T], used for solving linear programs $\Pi(A, b, c)$ of the form

$$\text{minimize } z(x) = c^t x, \quad \text{subject to } A^t x \geq b. \quad (1.1)$$

The matrix A is $n \times m$ ($n \leq m$.) The feasible region of Π is $\mathcal{F}_\Pi = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ s.t. } A^t x \geq b \}$ and \mathcal{F}_Π^+ is its interior. As [MTW], we are interested in programs Π with an optimal solution and such that $c \neq 0$, $\mathcal{F}_\Pi^+ \neq \emptyset$, and A has full rank. We call such programs *acceptable*. We denote the fraction of the step to the boundary taken at each iteration by λ . We assume that the reader is familiar with the dual affine

scaling algorithm. In resume, the results of [MTW], when adapted to the dual affine scaling algorithm, show that the iterates converge regardless of degeneracy of Π and the size of λ . With the additional assumption that $\lambda \leq 2/3$, it is also shown that the dual estimates converge and the iterates converge to an optimal solution. In [M] we present a primal degenerate example in which some iterates converge to a vertex that is not optimal if $\lambda = 0.999$.

In this paper, we present a new proof of convergence for arbitrary programs and λ 's and prove convergence to the optimum for primal nondegenerate programs and for programs with only two variables. We hope that our ideas can help in the analysis of the behavior of other interior point methods near the boundary of \mathcal{F}_Π , which we call $\partial\mathcal{F}_\Pi$. Things get complicated near $\partial\mathcal{F}_\Pi$ because the algorithm steps in the direction $d(\Pi, x) = (A[A^t x - b]^{-2} A^t)^{-1} c$, where $[v]$ is the diagonal matrix with diagonal equal to v . Some of the slacks $\xi = A^t x - b$ vanish at $\partial\mathcal{F}_\Pi$ and $d(\Pi, x)$ is singular there. This is the main difficulty in the analysis of the algorithm. To simplify this analysis, we introduce the permutation P such that $P\xi$ is sorted in increasing order and the QR factorization $AP^t = QR$. The direction $d(\Pi, x)$ can then be written as

$$d(\Pi, x) = Q(R[P\xi]^{-2} R^t)^{-1} Q^t c. \quad (1.2)$$

This equation shows that we do not lose generality if we assume that the slacks are sorted in increasing order and A is upper triangular, if we want to analyze a single step. (This argument does not work for multiple steps because the order of the slacks may change from one iteration to the next.) Using (1.2) we prove the following lemma:

Lemma 1. *If the program Π is acceptable, then there exists $K_\Pi \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\|d(\Pi, x)\| \leq K_\Pi c^t d(\Pi, x)$ for all $x \in \mathcal{F}_\Pi^+$.*

Lemma 1 relates $\|x^{k+1} - x^k\|$ to the decay of the objective function, which cannot be too big because $c^t x^k$ is bounded from below. The reference [MTW] presents a different proof of Lemma 1 and shows how it implies the following Theorem:

Theorem 1. *For any acceptable program Π , $x^0 \in \mathcal{F}_\Pi^+$ and $\lambda \in (0, 1)$, the sequence $\{x^k\}$ converges to $\bar{x}(x^0, \lambda, \Pi)$ in the boundary of \mathcal{F} .*

As it can be seen in [MTW], it is straightforward to use Lemma 1 to show that x^k is a Cauchy sequence and prove Theorem 1. Therefore, we will not present a proof of this Theorem. Our proof of Lemma 1, in section 2, is self-contained. Theorem 1 does not claim that \bar{x} is optimum. We can guarantee the optimality of \bar{x} for all $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ for primal nondegenerate problems:

Theorem 2. *If the program Π is acceptable, $x^0 \in \mathcal{F}_\Pi^+$, $\lambda \in (0, 1)$, and the bind-*

ing restrictions at $\bar{x}(x^0, \lambda, \Pi)$ are linearly independent, then $\bar{x}(x^0, \lambda, \Pi)$ is optimal.

Theorem 2 is proved in section 3. In section 4 we prove convergence for problems with only two variables:

Theorem 3. *If the program Π is acceptable, $x^0 \in \mathcal{F}_\Pi^+ \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ and $\lambda \in (0, 1)$, then $\bar{x}(x^0, \lambda, \Pi)$ is optimal.*

The example of convergence to a non-optimal solution in [M] has three variables and five restrictions. Therefore, this example is minimal and the three theorems above are the best results we can hope for the convergence of x^k for an arbitrary $\lambda \in (0, 1)$. The appendix of [T] shows how to adapt these results to the primal affine scaling algorithm.

2. Convergence

Proof of Lemma 1. In this proof, x and Π are fixed and we omit their dependencies from several functions. We start by taking a permutation $P \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ such that $P\xi$ is sorted in increasing order, that is, $\psi = P\xi$ satisfies $\psi_{i+1} \geq \psi_i$. Next, we take the QR factorization of AP^t , i.e., $A = QRP$, with Q orthogonal and R upper triangular. Notice that $\text{rank}(R) = \text{rank}(A)$. Since Π is acceptable, R has full rank.

The statements in this proof are easy to verify in examples. However, the details needed to cover all cases are tedious. To motivate our arguments, we will illustrate them with the example

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & r_{12} & r_{13} & r_{14} & r_{15} & r_{16} \\ 0 & 0 & r_{23} & r_{24} & r_{25} & r_{26} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & r_{25} & r_{36} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.3)$$

The r_{ij} indicated above are different from 0. This example is quite general and if the reader understands the proof in this case, then it should not be hard to extend it to arbitrary R 's. Although we use the example as motivation, the proof below is general.

For each $i \leq n$, the i th row of R has a first non-zero entry. We call $j(R, i)$ the index j of this entry. Formally, $r_{ij(R,i)} \neq 0$ and if $j < j(R, i)$ then $r_{ij} = 0$. Notice that $j(R, i+1) > j(R, i) \geq i$. Let $\phi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be given by $\phi_i = \psi_{j(R,i)}$. From (1.2) we get

$$d = Q[\phi] \left([\phi]R[\psi]^{-2}R^t[\phi] \right)^{-1} [\phi]Q^tc = Q[\phi] \left(BB^t \right)^{-1} [\phi]Q^tc. \quad (2.4)$$

where $B = [\phi]R[\psi]^{-1}$. In the example (2.3), $j(R, 1) = 2$, $j(R, 2) = 3$, and $j(R, 3) =$

5. The vector ϕ equals $(\psi_2, \psi_3, \psi_5)^t$ and

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & r_{12} & r_{13} \frac{\psi_2}{\psi_3} & r_{14} \frac{\psi_2}{\psi_4} & r_{15} \frac{\psi_2}{\psi_5} & r_{16} \frac{\psi_2}{\psi_6} \\ 0 & 0 & r_{23} & r_{24} \frac{\psi_3}{\psi_4} & r_{25} \frac{\psi_3}{\psi_5} & r_{26} \frac{\psi_3}{\psi_6} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & r_{35} & r_{26} \frac{\psi_5}{\psi_6} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Notice that if $j < j(R, i)$, then $b_{ij} = r_{ij} = 0$. Otherwise,

$$b_{ij} = r_{ij} \frac{\phi_i}{\psi_j} = r_{ij} \frac{\psi_{j(R,i)}}{\psi_j}.$$

The vector ψ is sorted in increasing order and $j(R, i) \leq j$. Therefore, $b_{ij}^2 \leq r_{ij}^2$ and $\|B\|_F \leq \|R\|_F$. Here $\|M\|_F$ is the Frobenius norm of the matrix M , which is given by $\sqrt{\sum m_{ij}^2}$. Since Q and P are orthogonal, $\|R\|_F = \|A\|_F$ and the biggest singular value of B , $\sigma_{\max}(B)$, satisfies $\sigma_{\max}(B) \leq \|B\|_F \leq \|R\|_F = \|A\|_F$. Let $B = U\Sigma V^t$ be the singular value decomposition of B . It follows from (2.4) that

$$c^t d = c^t Q [\phi] U \Sigma^{-2} U^t [\phi] Q^t c \geq \frac{\|U[\phi] Q^t c\|^2}{\sigma_{\max}(B)^2} = \frac{\|[\phi] Q^t c\|^2}{\sigma_{\max}(B)^2} \geq \frac{\phi_\mu^2 \eta^2}{\|A\|_F^2}, \quad (2.5)$$

where η is the smallest absolute value of a nonzero entry of $Q^t c$ and μ is the biggest index for which $(Q^t c)_\mu \neq 0$.

From (1.2) we get

$$d = \left(Q [\phi]^{-2} [\phi]^2 R P [\xi]^{-2} P^t R^t Q^t \right)^{-1} c = Q \left([\phi]^2 R [\psi]^{-2} R^t \right)^{-1} [\phi]^2 Q^t c$$

and, calling $\sigma_{\min}(M)$ the smallest singular value of the matrix M ,

$$\|d\| \leq \frac{\|[\phi]^2 Q^t c\|}{\sigma_{\min}([\phi]^2 R [\psi]^{-2} R^t)} \leq \frac{\phi_\mu^2 \|c\|}{\sigma_{\min}([\phi]^2 R [\psi]^{-2} R^t)}. \quad (2.6)$$

In the example (2.3),

$$[\phi]^2 R [\psi]^{-2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & r_{12} & r_{13} \left(\frac{\psi_2}{\psi_3}\right)^2 & r_{14} \left(\frac{\psi_2}{\psi_4}\right)^2 & r_{15} \left(\frac{\psi_2}{\psi_5}\right)^2 & r_{16} \left(\frac{\psi_2}{\psi_6}\right)^2 \\ 0 & 0 & r_{23} & r_{24} \left(\frac{\psi_3}{\psi_4}\right)^2 & r_{25} \left(\frac{\psi_3}{\psi_5}\right)^2 & r_{26} \left(\frac{\psi_3}{\psi_6}\right)^2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & r_{35} & r_{26} \left(\frac{\psi_5}{\psi_6}\right)^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We now use the following lemma:

Lemma 2 If $R \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ is an upper triangular matrix with rank n , then there exists $K_R > 0$ such that if $\psi \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\psi > 0$, is sorted in increasing order and $\phi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined by $\phi_i = \psi_{j(R,i)}$ then $\sigma_{\min}([\phi]^2 R [\psi]^{-2} R^t) \geq K_R$.

There are $m!$ possible permutations of m columns. Therefore, there are at most $m!$ matrices Q and R that can be generated from A and there exists $k_\Pi > 0$ such that $K_R, \eta \geq k_\Pi$ for all possible R 's and Q 's. From (2.5) and (2.6), we get

$$\|d\| \leq \frac{\phi_\mu^2}{k_R} \|c\| \leq \frac{\phi_\mu^2 \|c\|}{k_\Pi} \leq \frac{\|c\| \|A\|_F^2}{k_\Pi \eta^2} c^t d \leq \frac{\|c\| \|A\|_F^2}{k_\Pi^3} c^t d.$$

To complete the proof of Lemma 1, take $K_\Pi = \|c\| \|A\|_F^2 / k_\Pi^3$.

Proof of Lemma 2. Let C be equal to $[\phi]^2 R [\psi]^{-2}$. Its entries are

$$c_{ij} = r_{ij} \left(\frac{\phi_i}{\psi_j} \right)^2. \quad (2.7)$$

For $j \geq j(R, 1)$, let β_j be the biggest k such that $j(R, k) \leq j$. For $j < j(R, 1)$, take $\beta_j = 0$. In the example (2.3), $\beta = (0, 1, 2, 2, 3, 3)^t$. Making $\prod_{k=r}^s p_k = 1$ if $s < r$, and noticing that $r_{ij} = 0$ if $j < j(R, i)$, it follows from (2.7) that

$$c_{ij} = r_{ij} \left(\frac{\phi_{\beta_j}}{\psi_j} \right)^2 \prod_{k=i}^{\beta_j-1} \left(\frac{\phi_k}{\phi_{(k+1)}} \right)^2.$$

For example, if R is given by (2.3), then $\beta_6 = 3$ and

$$c_{16} = r_{16} \left(\frac{\phi_1}{\psi_6} \right)^2 = r_{16} \left(\frac{\psi_2}{\psi_6} \right)^2 = r_{16} \left(\frac{\phi_3}{\psi_6} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\phi_1}{\phi_2} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\phi_2}{\phi_3} \right)^2 = r_{16} \left(\frac{\psi_5}{\psi_6} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\psi_2}{\psi_3} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\psi_3}{\psi_5} \right)^2.$$

Let us define $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ by $\Phi_n = 1$ and, for $k < n$,

$$\Phi_k = \left(\frac{\phi_k}{\phi_{(k+1)}} \right)^2. \quad (2.8)$$

Let $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^m$ be given by $\Psi_j = 1$ for $j \leq j(R, 1)$ and, for $j > j(R, 1)$,

$$\Psi_j = \left(\frac{\phi_{\beta_j}}{\psi_j} \right)^2. \quad (2.9)$$

In the example (2.3),

$$\Phi = \left(\left(\frac{\psi_2}{\psi_3} \right)^2, \left(\frac{\psi_3}{\psi_5} \right)^2, 1 \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \Psi = \left(1, 1, 1, \left(\frac{\psi_3}{\psi_4} \right)^2, 1, \left(\frac{\psi_5}{\psi_6} \right)^2 \right).$$

Notice that $\Psi_{j(R,i)} = 1$, because $\beta(j(R, i)) = i$. Therefore, (Φ, Ψ) belongs to the set

$$S(R) = \{(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+m} \text{ s.t. } \forall i, v_{j(R,i)} = u_n = 1 \text{ and } 0 \leq u_i, v_i \leq 1\}. \quad (2.10)$$

Let us define $F(R, u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, for $(u, v) \in \mathcal{S}(R)$, by

$$f_{ij}(R, u, v) = r_{ij} v_j \prod_{k=i}^{\beta_j-1} u_k. \quad (2.11)$$

Thus, $C = F(R, \Psi, \Phi)$.

In the example (2.3) we have

$$F(R, u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & r_{12} & r_{13}u_1 & r_{14}u_1v_4 & r_{15}v_5u_1u_2 & r_{16}v_6u_1u_2 \\ 0 & 0 & r_{23} & r_{24}v_4 & r_{25}v_5u_2 & r_{26}v_6u_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & r_{35} & r_{26}v_6 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.12)$$

The set $\mathcal{S}(R)$ is compact and $\sigma_{\min}(F(R, u, v)R^t)$ depends continuously on (u, v) . Therefore, $\sigma_{\min}(F(R, u, v)R^t)$ has a minimum (\bar{u}, \bar{v}) in $\mathcal{S}(R)$. If we take $K_R = \sigma_{\min}(F(\bar{u}, \bar{v})R^t)$, then $\sigma_{\min}(CR^t) \geq K_R$. We have then the following lemma

Lemma 3. *If $R \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ is an upper triangular matrix with rank n and $(u, v) \in \mathcal{S}(R)$, then $F(R, u, v)R^t$ is nonsingular.*

It follows from Lemma 3 that $K_R > 0$ and the proof of Lemma 2 is complete •

Proof of Lemma 3. We use induction on $nz(u)$, the number of zero entries of u . Let us start with the case $nz(u) = 0$. We can assume that $v > 0$. Otherwise, if $v_j = 0$ for some j 's then $j \neq j(R, i)$ for all i , since $v_{j(R, i)} = 1$. We drop the corresponding columns of R and entries of v and get R' , with rank n , and $v' > 0$ such that $F(R, u, v)R^t = F(R', u, v')(R')^t$.

The idea now is to bring back the ϕ 's and ψ 's. Take $\phi_n = 1$ and use (2.8) to find ϕ_k for $k < n$: $\phi_k = \sqrt{u_k}\phi_{k+1}$. Then use (2.9) to define ψ : $\psi_j = 1$ for $j < j(R, 1)$ and $\psi_j = \sqrt{v_j}/\phi_{\beta_j}$, otherwise. We have that $F(R, u, v)R^t = [\phi]^2 R[\psi]^{-2}$ and $F(R, u, v)R^t$ is nonsingular, because R has rank n and $\phi, \psi > 0$. Thus, we are done with $nz(u) = 0$.

Suppose now that Lemma 3 is true if $nz(u) < k$ and assume that $nz(u) = k$. Let u_s be one of the zero components of u . We must have $s < n$, because $u_n = 1$. Let us look at example (2.12) with $s = 2$. Notice that u_2 appears in F_{15}, F_{16}, F_{25} and F_{26} . Therefore,

$$F(R, u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & r_{12} & r_{13}u_1 & r_{14}u_1v_4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r_{23} & r_{24}v_4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & r_{35} & r_{26}v_6 \end{pmatrix}$$

and $F(R, u, v)R^t$ has the form

$$F(R, u, v)R^t = \begin{pmatrix} F(U, u_-, v_-) U^t & 0 \\ F(W, u_+, v_+) V^t & F(W, u_+, v_+) W^t \end{pmatrix},$$

where $u_- = (u_1, u_2)^t$, $u_+ = (u_3) = (1)$, $v_- = (v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4)^t = (1, 1, 1, v_4)^t$, $v_+ = (v_5, v_6)^t = (1, v_6)^t$, and

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & r_{12} & r_{13} & r_{14} \\ 0 & 0 & r_{23} & r_{24} \end{pmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} r_{15} & r_{16} \\ r_{25} & r_{26} \end{pmatrix}, \quad W = \begin{pmatrix} r_{35} & r_{36} \end{pmatrix}.$$

By induction, $F(U, u_-, v_-)U^t$ and $F(W, u_+, v_+)W^t$ are nonsingular. Therefore, $F(R, u, v)R^t$ is nonsingular and we are done with the proof in this example.

In the general case, partition R as

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} U & V \\ 0 & W \end{pmatrix},$$

where U has s rows and $j(R, s+1) - 1$ columns. Partition F accordingly:

$$F(R, u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} X(R, u, v) & Y(R, u, v) \\ 0 & Z(R, u, v) \end{pmatrix}.$$

If $j \geq j(R, s+1)$ then $\beta_j \geq s+1$ and $\beta_j - 1 \geq s$. Therefore, if $i \leq s$ and $j \geq j(R, s+1)$, then the term u_s is present in the product in (2.11) and $f_{ij}(R, u, v) = 0$. This shows that $Y(R, u, v) = 0$ and

$$F(R, u, v)R^t = \begin{pmatrix} X(R, u, v) U^t & 0 \\ Z(R, u, v) V^t & Z(R, u, v) W^t \end{pmatrix}.$$

We leave to the reader the proof that $j(U, i) = j(R, i)$ and $X(R, u, v) = F(W, u_-, v_-)$, for $v_- = (v_1, \dots, v_{s-1}, 1)$ and $u_- = (u_1, \dots, u_{s-1}, 1)^t$. Moreover, $(u_-, v_-) \in \mathcal{S}(U)$. Similarly, $Z(R, u, v) = F(U, v_+, u_+)$, for $v_+ = (v_{j(R, s+1)}, \dots, v_n)^t$ and $u_+ = (u_{s+1}, \dots, v_n)^t$, and $(u_+, v_+) \in \mathcal{S}(W)$. Since $nz(u_-)$ and $nz(u_+)$ are smaller than $nz(u)$, it follows from the induction hypothesis that $X(R, u, v)U^t$ and $Z(R, u, v)W^t$ are nonsingular. Therefore, $F(R, u, v)R^t$ is nonsingular and the proof of Lemma 3 is complete •

3. Convergence to the optimum

Proof of Theorem 2. Let $\bar{x} = \bar{x}(x^0, \lambda, \Pi) \in \partial \mathcal{F}_\Pi$ be the limit of the sequence x^k , let α be the number of zero components of $\bar{\xi} = A^t \bar{x} - b$, and let P be a permutation such that the first α components of $\bar{\psi} = P\bar{\xi}$ are equal to 0. Notice that

$$\bar{\psi} = P\bar{\xi} = P(A^t \bar{x} - b) = (AP^t)^t \bar{x} - Pb$$

and the first α columns of AP^t correspond to the binding restrictions at \bar{x} . Therefore, the first α columns of AP^t are linearly independent and there exists a matrix B such that

$$BAP^t = D = \begin{pmatrix} I_\alpha & R \\ 0 & S \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3.13)$$

It follows that $A = B^{-1}DP$ and $d(\Pi, x) = B^t(D[\psi]^{-2}D^t)^{-1}Bc$, for $\psi = P\xi$. Since $\xi^{k+1} = \xi^k - \lambda/\chi^k A^t d^k$ and $P^t A = D^t(B^t)^{-1}$, we have that

$$\psi^{k+1} = \psi^k - \lambda \frac{1}{\chi^k} P A^t d^k = \psi^k - \lambda \frac{1}{\chi^k} D^t (D[\psi^k]^{-2} D^t)^{-1} Bc.$$

Let us partition ψ^k as $(\phi^k, \eta^k) \in \mathbb{R}^\alpha \times \mathbb{R}^{m-\alpha}$, and partition $(D[\psi^k]^{-2} D^t)^{-1} Bc$ as $(u^k, v^k) \in \mathbb{R}^\alpha \times \mathbb{R}^{m-\alpha}$. It follows that

$$\phi^{k+1} = \phi^k - \lambda \frac{1}{\chi^k} u^k, \quad (3.14)$$

$$\eta^{k+1} = \eta^k - \lambda \frac{1}{\chi^k} v^k. \quad (3.15)$$

Partitioning $Bc = (w^1, w^2)$ accordingly, we obtain

$$([\phi^k]^{-2} + R[\eta^k]^{-2} R^t) u^k + R[\eta^k]^{-2} S^t v^k = w^1, \quad (3.16)$$

$$S[\eta^k]^{-2} R^t u^k + S[\eta^k]^{-2} S^t v^k = w^2. \quad (3.17)$$

Let us make the change of variables $r^k = [\phi^k]^{-2} u^k$. The last equations become

$$\begin{pmatrix} r^k \\ v^k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I + R[\eta^k]^{-2} R^t [\phi^k]^2 & R[\eta^k]^{-2} S^t \\ S[\eta^k]^{-2} R^t [\phi^k]^2 & S[\eta^k]^{-2} S^t \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} w^1 \\ w^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since $\phi^k \rightarrow 0$ and $\eta^k \rightarrow \bar{\eta} > 0$, it follows that (r^k, v^k) converges to

$$\begin{pmatrix} \bar{r} \\ \bar{v} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I & R[\bar{\eta}]^{-2} S^t \\ 0 & S[\bar{\eta}]^{-2} S^t \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} w^1 \\ w^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} w^1 - R[\bar{\eta}]^{-2} S^t \bar{v} \\ (S[\bar{\eta}]^{-2} S^t)^{-1} w^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3.18)$$

This shows that $u^k = [\phi^k]^2 r^k$ converges to 0. It also shows that $[\phi^k]^{-1} u^k \rightarrow 0$ and $[\eta^k]^{-1} v^k \rightarrow [\bar{\eta}]^{-1} \bar{v}$. Therefore the sequence $\chi^k = \max\{\max([\phi^k]^{-1} u^k), \max([\eta^k]^{-1} v^k)\}$, converges to $\max\{0, \max([\bar{\eta}]^{-1} \bar{v})\}$. Since η^k converges, it follows from (3.15) that v^k/χ^k converges to zero. Since χ^k converges, this implies that $v^k \rightarrow 0$. Using (3.18) we conclude that $w^2 = 0$ and $\bar{r} = w^1$.

We claim that all the components of w^1 are bigger than or equal to 0. In fact, suppose that $w_i^1 < 0$ for some $1 \leq i \leq \alpha$. It follows that $\bar{r}_i < 0$ and there exists k_0

such that $k > k_0 \Rightarrow \dot{r}_i^k < 0$. Therefore, if $k > k_0$ then $u_i^k = [\phi]^2 r_i^k < 0$ and (3.14) shows that $\phi^{k+1} > \phi^k$. However, $\phi^k > 0$ and this implies that ϕ does not converge to 0. This is an absurd and all the components of w^1 must be bigger than or equal to 0.

Notice that

$$c = B^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} w^1 \\ w^2 \end{pmatrix} = B^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} I_s \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} w^1.$$

Equation (3.13) shows that $B^{-1}(I_s, 0)^t$ is formed by the columns of A corresponding to the binding restrictions at \bar{x} . Therefore, c is a positive linear combination of these columns and \bar{x} is optimal. This concludes the proof of Theorem 2 •

4. Convergence for two variables

Proof of Theorem 3. Let $\bar{x} \in \partial \mathcal{F}_\Pi$ be the limit of x^k and let α be the number of binding restrictions at \bar{x} . Take a permutation P such that the first α columns of AP^t correspond to these α restrictions. Let B be the matrix formed by the first α columns of AP^t . The restrictions of Π , $A^t x \geq b$, are equivalent to $PA^t x \geq Pb$. The first α inequalities in this last expression give $B^t x \geq f$, where $f \in \mathbb{R}^\alpha$ is the vector with the first α components of Pb .

The proof proceeds by contradiction: suppose that \bar{x} is not optimal. This implies that the linear program

$$\Pi_2 : \text{minimize } v^t y \text{ subject to } By = c \text{ and } y \geq 0,$$

where $v = B^t(\bar{x} - x^0)$, has no feasible solution. The dual of Π_2 is

$$\Pi'_2 : \text{maximize } c^t x \text{ subject to } B^t x \leq v.$$

The restrictions of Π'_2 are satisfied by $x = \bar{x} - x^0$. Since Π_2 is infeasible, Π'_2 is unbounded and there exists $h \in \mathbb{R}^2$ such that $c^t h > 0$ and $B^t h \leq v$. Let $p \neq 0$ be a vector orthogonal to c such that $(B^t p)_1 \geq 0$. Since $c^t h > 0$, h and p are linearly independent. The matrix

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{c^t h} h^t \\ p^t \end{pmatrix}$$

is nonsingular and

$$DAP^t = E = \begin{pmatrix} r^t & u^t \\ s^t & v^t \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad Dc = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.19)$$

where $r = B^t h / c^t h = v / c^t h$, $s = B^t p$, and the vectors u and v are in $\mathbb{R}^{m-\alpha}$. Notice that $v = f - B^t x^0 < 0$, because $x^0 \in \mathcal{F}_\Pi^+$. Therefore, $r < 0$.

Take $y^k = (D^t)^{-1}x^k$ and $\bar{y} = (D^t)^{-1}\bar{x}$. Since $B^t x^k > f$,

$$y_1^k r + y_2^k s > f. \quad (4.20)$$

Analogously,

$$\bar{y}_1 r + \bar{y}_2 s = f. \quad (4.21)$$

Moreover, $z^k = c^t x^k = (Dc)^t (D^t)^{-1} x^k = y_1^k$. Since $z^k < z^{k+1}$, we have

$$y_1^k > y_1^{k+1} > \bar{y}_1. \quad (4.22)$$

It follows from (4.20) and (4.21) that $(y_1^k - \bar{y}_1)r + (y_2^k - \bar{y}_2)s > 0$ for all k . Therefore, $(y_2^k - \bar{y}_2)s > 0$, because $r < 0$ and $y_1^k - \bar{y}_1 > 0$. This implies that all the components of s have the same sign. By the way we have chosen p , $s_1 = (B^t p)_1 \geq 0$. Therefore, $s > 0$.

Let us analyze the evolution of $\psi^k = P\xi^k$ and y^k . Some algebra show that

$$y^{k+1} = y^k - \frac{\lambda}{\chi^k} \Delta^k, \quad (4.23)$$

$$\psi^{k+1} = \psi^k - \frac{\lambda}{\chi^k} E^t \Delta^k, \quad (4.24)$$

$$\chi^k = \max([\psi^k]^{-1} E^t \Delta^k), \quad (4.25)$$

where

$$\Delta^k = (D^t)^{-1} (D^{-1} E P [\xi^k] P^t E^t (D^t)^{-1})^{-1} c = (E[\psi^k]^{-2} E^t)^{-1} Dc. \quad (4.26)$$

Let us partition ψ^k as $(\phi^k, \eta^k)^t \in \mathbb{R}^\alpha \times \mathbb{R}^{m-\alpha}$. Multiplying (4.26) by $E[\psi^k]^{-2} E^t$ and using that $Dc = (1, 0)^t$, we get

$$(r^t [\phi^k]^{-2} r + u^t [\eta^k]^{-2} u) \Delta_1^k + (r^t [\phi^k]^{-2} s + u^t [\eta^k]^{-2} v) \Delta_2^k = 1, \quad (4.27)$$

$$(s^t [\phi^k]^{-2} r + v^t [\eta^k]^{-2} u) \Delta_1^k + (s^t [\phi^k]^{-2} s + v^t [\eta^k]^{-2} v) \Delta_2^k = 0. \quad (4.28)$$

Since $s, \phi^k, \eta^k > 0$, we can use (4.28) to conclude that

$$\Delta_2^k = - \frac{s^t [\phi^k]^{-2} r + v^t [\eta^k]^{-2} u}{s^t [\phi^k]^{-2} s + v^t [\eta^k]^{-2} v} \Delta_1^k \quad (4.29)$$

Equations (4.19) and (4.24) imply that

$$\phi_i^{k+1} = \phi_i^k - \frac{\lambda}{\chi^k} (\Delta_1^k r_i + \Delta_2^k s_i) = \phi_i^k - \frac{\lambda \Delta_1 s_i}{\chi^k} \left(\frac{r_i}{s_i} - \frac{s^t [\phi^k]^{-2} r + v^t [\eta^k]^{-2} u}{s^t [\phi^k]^{-2} s + v^t [\eta^k]^{-2} v} \right).$$

It follows from (4.22) and (4.23) that $\lambda\Delta_1/\chi^k > 0$. Since $s_i > 0$, $\phi_i^k - \phi_i^{k+1}$ has the same sign as

$$\frac{r_i}{s_i} - \frac{s^t[\phi^k]^{-2}r + v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}u}{s^t[\phi^k]^{-2}s + v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v} = \frac{\frac{r_i}{s_i} \sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} \frac{s_j^2}{(\phi_j^k)^2} + \frac{r_i}{s_i} v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v - \sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} \frac{r_i s_j}{(\phi_j^k)^2} + v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}u}{s^t[\phi^k]^{-2}s + v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v},$$

which has the same sign as

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} \left(\frac{r_i}{s_i} - \frac{r_j}{s_j} \right) \left(\frac{s_j}{\phi_j^k} \right)^2 + \frac{r_i}{s_i} v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v + v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}u.$$

Since $\phi_i^k > 0$ and $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \phi_i^k = 0$, for every $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists $k > k_0$ such that $\phi_i^k - \phi_i^{k+1} > 0$. Therefore, for every $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists $k > k_0$ such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} \left(\frac{r_i}{s_i} - \frac{r_j}{s_j} \right) \left(\frac{s_j}{\phi_j^k} \right)^2 + \frac{r_i}{s_i} v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v + v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}u > 0.$$

Take ν such that $r_\nu/s_\nu = \min\{r_i/s_i, i = 1, \dots, \alpha\}$. For all $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists $k > k_0$ such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} \left(\frac{r_\nu}{s_\nu} - \frac{r_j}{s_j} \right) \left(\frac{s_j \mu^k}{\phi_j^k} \right)^2 > -(\mu^k)^2 \left(\frac{r_\nu}{s_\nu} v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v + v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}u \right), \quad (4.30)$$

where $\mu^k = \max(\phi^k)$. Since $\mu^k \rightarrow 0$ and $\eta^k \rightarrow \bar{\eta} > 0$, the left hand side of (4.30) converges to 0 and for every $\epsilon > 0$, there exist k such that

$$0 \geq \sum_{j=1}^{\alpha} \left(\frac{r_\nu}{s_\nu} - \frac{r_j}{s_j} \right) \left(\frac{s_j \mu^k}{\phi_j^k} \right)^2 > -\epsilon.$$

Therefore, $r_j/s_j = r_\nu/s_\nu$ for all j , because $s_j \mu^k / \phi_j^k \geq s_j > 0$. Thus, $r = \beta s$, for $\beta = r_\nu/s_\nu$.

Some algebra and (4.29) show that

$$[\psi^k]^{-1} E^t \Delta^k = \Delta_1 \begin{pmatrix} [\phi^k]^{-1} \frac{\beta v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v - v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}u}{s^t[\phi^k]^{-2}s + v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v} s \\ [\eta^k]^{-1} \left(u - \frac{\Delta_2^k}{\Delta_1^k} \right) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.31)$$

Since $s > 0$, (4.31) and (4.29) imply that $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} [\psi^k]^{-1} E^t \Delta^k = (0, [\bar{\eta}]^{-1}(u - \beta v))^t$ and (4.25) shows that χ^k converges to some (finite) $\bar{\chi}$.

Solving (4.27) and (4.28) and using that $r = \beta s$, we get

$$\Delta_1^k = \frac{1 + \frac{v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v}{s^t[\phi^k]^{-2}s}}{(u - \beta v)^t[\eta^k]^{-2}(u - \beta v) + \frac{u^t[\eta^k]^{-2}u \ v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}v - (v^t[\eta^k]^{-2}u)^2}{s^t[\phi^k]^{-2}s}}. \quad (4.32)$$

The matrix E in (4.19) has the same rank as A : 2. Since $r = \beta s$, we must have $u \neq \beta v$. Taking the limit in (4.32) we obtain

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \Delta_1^k = \frac{1}{(u - \beta v)^t[\bar{\eta}]^{-2}(u - \beta v)} > 0.$$

This shows that $z^{k+1} - z^k = y_1^{k+1} - y_1^k = \lambda \Delta_1^k / \chi^k$ does not converge to zero, which is absurd since $z^k = c^t x^k$ converges to $c^t \bar{x}$. Therefore \bar{x} must be optimal and the proof of Theorem 3 is complete •

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