

5. Consider the canonical form linear programming problem

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Minimize } z = z(x) &= c^T x \\ \text{subject to } Ax &\geq b, \quad x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

and its dual canonical form problem

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Maximize } w = w(y) &= b^T y \\ \text{subject to } A^T y &\leq c, \quad y \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Prove that if x and y are feasible solutions to the given problem and its dual, respectively, then $w(y) \leq z(x)$. You should assume any properties of matrices that you need. Be sure to indicate how and where you make use of the facts that $x \geq 0$ and $y \geq 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} A^T y &\leq c \text{ then } (A^T y)^T \leq c^T, \text{ that is} \\ y^T A &\leq c^T \text{ so } y^T A x \leq c^T x \text{ since } x \geq 0 \\ Ax &\geq b \text{ then } x^T A^T \geq b^T \text{ so } x^T A^T y \geq b^T y \\ \text{since } y &\geq 0 \text{ Now } x^T A^T y \text{ is one-by-one} \\ \text{so } x^T A^T y &= (x^T A^T y)^T = y^T A x \text{ and thus} \\ w(y) = b^T y &\leq x^T A^T y = y^T A x \leq c^T x = z(x) \end{aligned}$$