Semidefinite lifts of polytopes

João Gouveia

CMUC - Universidade de Coimbra

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João Gouveia (UC)

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Background - Polynomial Optimization

Linear Optimization over Algebraic Varieties

Maximize linear I(x) over all x such that

$$x \in S = \{x \mid p_i(x) = 0, i = 1, ..., t\}.$$



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$$\mathbf{x} \in \operatorname{conv} \mathbf{S} = \operatorname{conv} \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{p}_i(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}, \ i = 1, ..., t \}.$$



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 $\mathbf{x} \in \operatorname{conv} \mathbf{S} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid h(\mathbf{x}) \ge 0, \forall h \text{ linear s.t. } h|_{\mathbf{S}} \ge 0\}.$



 $\mathbf{x} \in \text{conv}\mathbf{S} = \{\mathbf{x} \mid h(\mathbf{x}) \ge 0, \forall h \text{ linear s.t. } h \equiv_{\mathcal{I}} \sum q_i^2 \}.$



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 $\mathbf{x} \in \operatorname{conv} S \subseteq \{\mathbf{x} \mid h(\mathbf{x}) \ge 0, \forall h \text{ linear s.t. } h \equiv_{\mathcal{I}} \sum q_i^2, \deg(q_i) \le k\}.$



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Many combinatorial problems can be stated in this way.

Given a graph G = (V, E), find the maximum stable set.

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Max stable set - reformulation Maximize $\sum_{i \in V} x_i$ over all x verifying

$$\mathbf{x_i}^2 - \mathbf{x_i} = \mathbf{0}, \forall i \in V; \quad \mathbf{x_i}\mathbf{x_j} = \mathbf{0}, \forall \{i, j\} \in E.$$

Why do we do this?

Main Motivation

$$TH_k(\mathcal{I}) = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid h(\mathbf{x}) \ge 0, \forall h \text{ linear s.t. } h \equiv_{\mathcal{I}} \sum q_i^2, \deg(q_i) \le k \}$$

has a description as a semidefinite program.

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For $\mathcal{I} = \langle x^2 - x, y^2 - y, z^2 - z, xz - yz \rangle$:

$$\mathsf{TH}_1 = \left\{ (\textbf{\textit{x}},\textbf{\textit{y}},\textbf{\textit{z}}) \mid \exists w_1, w_2, \begin{bmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 1 & x & y & z \\ x & x & w_1 & w_2 \\ y & w_1 & y & w_2 \\ z & w_2 & w_2 & z \end{bmatrix} \succeq \mathbf{0} \right\}.$$



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In combinatorial optimization, classes of graphs where we have **exactness at a fixed degree** correspond to classes of graphs where we can solve the problem in **poly-time**.

However, this is only one possible way to obtain good representations. What can we say in general?

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Slack matrix

The slack matrix of *P* is the matrix $S_P \in \mathbb{R}^{f \times v}$ given by $S_P(i, j) = h_i(p_j).$

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PSD factorizations

A PSD factorization of *M* of size *k* is a collection of $k \times k$ psd matrices A_1, \dots, A_m and B_1, \dots, B_m such that $M_{i,j} = \langle A_i, B_j \rangle$.

Theorem (G.-Parrilo-Thomas 11)

A polytope P has a semidefinite representation of size k if and only if its slack matrix S_P has a PSD_k -factorization.

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It has a 4×4 slack matrix.

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$$(x, y)$$
 s.t. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x & y \\ x & x & z \\ y & z & y \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0.$

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