Representing polytopes: the Yannakakis theorem

João Gouveia

CMUC - Universidade de Coimbra

15 de Julho de 2014 - Encontro Nacional da SPM

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Section 1

Definitions and Motivation

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Representing polytopes

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The convex hull of a finite set of points in \mathbb{R}^n .



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Representing polytopes

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A linear program is an optimization problem of the type:

maximize $\langle c, x \rangle$

subject to

$$\langle a_1, x \rangle \leq b_1$$

 \vdots
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LP is easy: polynomial on the number of facets/vertices

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Travelling Salesman Problem

Given some cities, what is the shortest circular path through all, without repetitions?

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Travelling Salesman Polytope

For any circuit *C* of *n* cities, let $\chi_C \in \mathbb{R}^{\binom{n}{2}}$ be defined by $(\chi_C)_{\{i,j\}} = \delta_{\{i,j\} \in C}$.



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Travelling Salesman Problem Reformulated Given distances $d_{\{i,j\}}$ from city *i* to city *j* solve

> minimize $\langle d, x \rangle$ subject to $x \in \mathsf{TSP}(n)$



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Ben-Tal, Nemirovski

Regular 2^n -gons can be written as projections of polytopes with 2n facets.

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Parity Polytope

 P_n , the convex hull of all 0/1 vectors with even number of ones, has 2^{n-1} facets and vertices but is the projection of a polytope with $O(n^2)$ facets.

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Is the extension complexity of TSP(n) polynomial on *n*?

Attempts at proving P = NP used extensions of the TSP, and one motivation for Yannakakis was to prove them infeasible.

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Section 2

Yannakakis Theorem

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Let *P* be a polytope with facets given by $h_1(x) \ge 0, \dots, h_f(x) \ge 0$, and vertices p_1, \ldots, p_v .

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

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Example: For the unit cube.



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Equivalently, it is a collection of vectors a_1, \dots, a_m and $b_1, \dots b_n$ in \mathbb{R}^k_+ such that $M_{i,j} = \langle a_i, b_j \rangle$.

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A nonnegative factorization of M of size k is a factorization

$$M = \underbrace{A}_{m \times k} \times \underbrace{B}_{k \times n},$$

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Example:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem (Yannakakis 1991)

Let *P* be any polytope and *S* its slack matrix.

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We transform a very hard geometric problem into a very hard algebraic one.

Consider the regular hexagon.

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Consider the regular hexagon.

It has a 6 \times 6 slack matrix.



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Section 3

Recent results in extension complexity

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Theorem (Yannakakis 1991)

If an extension for TSP(n) respects the symmetry of TSP(n), then it has a number of facets exponential on *n*.

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Recently the assumption of symmetry was questioned.

Theorem (Kaibel-Pashkovich-Theis 2010)

Symmetry matters for sizes of extended formulations.

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Theorem (Kaibel-Pashkovich-Theis 2010)

Symmetry matters for sizes of extended formulations.

Finally the full result was proven.

 Theorem (Fiorini-Massar-Pokutta-Tiwary-Wolf 2012)

 xc(TSP(n)) grows exponentially with n.

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Matching Problem

Given an even set of points, split them in pairs so that the sum of all distances is minimal.

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Representing polytopes
Matching Problem Reformulated

Given distances $d_{\{i,j\}}$ from point *i* to point *j* solve

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Since the matching problem can be solved in polynomial time, one could expect potentially small lifts of MATCH(n).

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Symmetry is specially demanding in this case.

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Theorem (Rothvoss 2014)

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$$xc(P_3) = 3$$

$$xc(P_4) = 4$$

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$$xc(P_3) = 3 | xc(P_4) = 4 | xc(P_5) = 5 | xc(P_6) = 5 \text{ or } xc(P_6) = 6$$

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$$x_{C}(P_{3}) = 3$$
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Theorem (Shitov 2013)

All heptagons have extension complexity exactly 6.

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Corollary

All *n*-gons have extension complexity at most $\lceil 6n/7 \rceil$.

$$xc(P_7) = 6$$

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Lemma

The extension complexity of an *n*-gon is at least $log_2(n)$.

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Theorem (Ben-Tal - Nemirovski 2001)

The extension complexity of a regular *n*-gon is at most $2\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil$.

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The extension complexity of a regular *n*-gon is at most $2\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil$.

Theorem (Fiorini - Rothvoss - Tiwary 2011)

The extension complexity of a generic *n*-gon is at least $\sqrt{2n}$.

Section 4

Semidefinite extension complexity

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A symmetric matrix *A* is positive semidefinite $(A \succeq 0)$ if and only if $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, x^t A x \ge 0$

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A semidefinite program (SDP) is an optimization problem of the type: maximize $\langle c, x \rangle$

subject to
$$\sum_{i=1}^{m} A_i x_i \succeq 0$$

 $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

where A_i are symmetric $k \times k$ matrices.

A symmetric matrix *A* is positive semidefinite $(A \succeq 0)$ if and only if $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n, x^t A x \ge 0$ iff $eig(A) \subseteq \mathbb{R}_+$ iff $\exists B, A = BB^t$

A semidefinite program (SDP) is an optimization problem of the type: maximize $\langle c, x \rangle$

subject to
$$\left.\begin{array}{c}\sum_{i=1}^{m}A_{i}x_{i}\succeq0\\x\in\mathbb{R}^{n}\end{array}\right\}\Rightarrow x \text{ is in a spectrahedron }S$$

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Note

• If we restrict A_i to be diagonal we get back LP.

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Note

- If we restrict A_i to be diagonal we get back LP.
- SDP is efficiently solvable.

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A semidefinite representation of size k of a polytope P is a description

$$\boldsymbol{P} = \left\{ \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \exists \boldsymbol{y} \text{ s.t. } \boldsymbol{A}_0 + \sum \boldsymbol{A}_i \boldsymbol{x}_i + \sum \boldsymbol{B}_i \boldsymbol{y}_i \succeq \boldsymbol{0} \right\}$$

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The 0/1 square is the projection onto x_1 and x_2 of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_2 \\ x_1 & x_1 & y \\ x_2 & y & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

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The smallest *k* for which such a representation exists is the semidefinite extension complexity of *P*, $xc_{psd}(P)$.

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Let M be a m by n nonnegative matrix.

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The smallest k for which such factorization exists is the positive semidefinite rank of M, $rank_{psd}(M)$.

Theorem (G-Parrilo-Thomas 2013)

Let *P* be any polytope and *S* its slack matrix.
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 $xc_{psd}(P) = rank_{psd}(S).$

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In fact this theorem is more general than just polytopes and semidefinite representations.

Consider again the regular hexagon.



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The Hexagon

Consider again the regular hexagon.



Its 6×6 slack matrix.

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	4	2	0	0	2	4	T
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The regular hexagon must have a size 4 representation.

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Consider the affinely equivalent hexagon H with vertices $(\pm 1, 0), (0, \pm 1), (1, -1)$ and (-1, 1).



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Consider the affinely equivalent hexagon H with vertices $(\pm 1, 0), (0, \pm 1), (1, -1)$ and (-1, 1).



$$H = \left\{ (x_1, x_2) : \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_2 & x_1 + x_2 \\ x_1 & 1 & y_1 & y_2 \\ x_2 & y_1 & 1 & y_3 \\ x_1 + x_2 & y_2 & y_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \right\}$$

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In fact:

Theorem (G-Robinson-Thomas 2013+)

All hexagons have semidefinite extension complexity 4.

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Question 1

Does $xc_{psd}(TSP(n))$ grow exponentially with *n*?

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Does $xc_{psd}(TSP(n))$ grow exponentially with *n*?

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Does $xc_{psd}(MATCH(n))$ grow exponentially with n?

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Question 1

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Question 3

 $\operatorname{Can} \operatorname{xc}(P) >> \operatorname{xc}_{\operatorname{psd}}(P)$?

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Question 3

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A popular candidate for the last question is the polytope STAB(G) of a perfect graph, where STAB(G) is just the LP formulation of the max stable set problem.

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Directions of research

Examples of work done

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Directions of research

Examples of work done

Polytopes of dimension *d* have xc_{psd} at least *d* + 1. For which is it exactly *d* + 1? (G-Robinson-Thomas 2013)

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Examples of work I would really like to do

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Examples of work I would really like to do

- Useful upper/lower bounds for positive semidefinite rank.
- Explore connection to statistics and quantum computing.
- Understand the role of symmetry.

Conclusion

To learn more about this work:



Fawzi, G, Parrilo, Robinson, and Thomas. Positive semidefinite rank. Coming soon...



G, P.A. Parrilo, and R.R. Thomas.

Lifts of convex sets and cone factorizations. Mathematics of Operations Research, 38(2):248–264, 2013.

G, R.Z. Robinson, and R.R. Thomas.

Polytopes of minimum positive semidefinite rank. *Discrete & Computational Geometry*, 50(3):679–699, 2013. G, P.A. Parrilo, and R.R. Thomas. Approximate cone factorizations and lifts of polytopes. arXiv preprint arXiv:1308.2162, 2013.
G, R. Z. Robinson, and R. R. Thomas. Worst-case results for positive semidefinite rank. arXiv preprint arXiv:1305.4600, 2013.
H. Fawzi, G, and R. Z. Robinson. Rational and real positive semidefinite rank can be different.

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Thank you

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