

Part I: Different types of optimization programs / mathematical programming

$$LP \subset \overset{\text{(convex)}}{QP} \subset \overset{\text{(convex)}}{CQP} \subset SOCP \subset SDP$$

- restrictive, but still versatile
- widely used / easy to formulate
- ~~Simplex~~ worst case not Polynomial but 'usually' fast
- Cplex free for academic users.
- $10^5 - 10^7$ variables / constraints are quite routine.

- general
- hard to think / formulate
- Computationally intensive
- Usually need customized solvers though generic tools Cvx, SeDuMi, SDPT3, exists, and work well
- small scale problem usually

Technology \longleftrightarrow Art (turning technology)

LP:
$$\begin{aligned} \min & C^T x + d \\ \text{s.t.} & Gx \leq h \\ & Ax = b \end{aligned}$$



Examples: ① minimize cost while meeting demand by choosing the right decision x
 e.g. $x_1 \dots x_n$ are quantities of n foods
 $C_1 \dots C_n$ are the cost of them
 A_{ij} is the i th type of nutrition j th item contains.
 b is the requirement of some diet.

$$\begin{aligned} \min & C^T x \\ \text{s.t.} & Ax \geq b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

② Max flow min-cut. s : source t : terminal
 $G(V, E)$

$$\begin{aligned} \max & F \\ \text{s.t.} & f_{ij} \leq C_{ij} \text{ for all } i, j \in E \\ & \sum_j f_{ij} - \sum_k f_{ki} = 0 \text{ for all } i \in V \setminus \{s, t\} \\ & \sum_j f_{sj} - \sum_k f_{ks} = F \text{ for } s \\ & \sum_j f_{jt} - \sum_k f_{kt} = -F \text{ for } t \\ & f_{ij} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

min-cut is its dual!

LP is sometimes more powerful than it appears

③ Linear Fractional Programming Ratio: Cost / Profit

$$\min \frac{C^T x + d}{e^T x + f} \text{ s.t. } Gx \leq h, Ax = b \text{ and } e^T x + f > 0$$

A non-convex optimization problem!

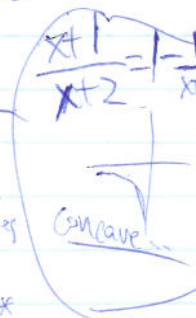
can be reformulated as an LP!

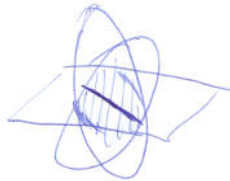
$y = \frac{x}{e^T x + f}, z = \frac{1}{e^T x + f}$ change of variables

we get an LP:

$$\begin{aligned} \min & C^T y + dz \\ \text{s.t.} & Gy \leq hz \\ & Ay = bz \\ & e^T y + fz = 1 \\ & z \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

then $x^* = \frac{y^*}{z^*}$





QP (quadratic programming)

$$\min \frac{1}{2} x^T P x + q^T x + r$$

$$\text{s.t. } Gx \leq h, Ax = b$$

This is convex when $P \succcurlyeq 0$

- EX
- Least squares $\min_x \|Ax - b\|^2$
 - Soft-thresholding operator $\min_x \frac{1}{2} \|x - b\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$
 - Lasso, ridge regression
 - SVM, soft-margin SVM $\min_{w,b} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$
 $\text{s.t. } y_i (w^T x_i - b) \geq 1 - \xi_i, \xi_i \geq 0$

QCQP (quadratically constrained)

QP

$$\min \frac{1}{2} x^T P_0 x + q_0^T x + r_0$$

$$\text{s.t. } \frac{1}{2} x^T P_i x + q_i^T x + r_i \leq 0 \text{ for } \forall i$$

$$Ax = b$$

We need $P_i \in S_+^n$ ← Ellipsoids!

- EX Constrained version of ~~QP~~
- Elastic-net $\min_x \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|^2 + \lambda \|x\|_1$
 $\text{s.t. } \|x\|_1 + \lambda \|x\|_2 \leq \delta$
 - Sparse Representation under fixed tolerance δ . $\min \|x\|_1$
 $\text{s.t. } \|Ax - b\|^2 \leq \delta$

SOCP (second order cone programming)

polytope

$$\min_x \sum_{i=1}^k \|x_i\|_2 \text{ s.t. } x \in P$$

↓

$$\min_{x,y} \sum_{i=1}^k y_i \text{ (SOCP!)} \text{ s.t. } x \in P$$

$$y_i \geq \|x_i\|_2 \text{ for } \forall i$$

SOCP (second order cone programming)

$$\min_x f^T x$$

when $C_i = 0$, QCQP.

$$\text{s.t. } \|A_i x + b_i\|_2 \leq c_i^T x + d_i, i=1, \dots, m$$

$$Fx = g$$

How does it look like?

$$\| \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \|_2 \leq x_3$$



EX most important application is probably Robust Optimization.

Stochastic Optimization

R.O. $\min C^T x$
 $\text{s.t. } a_i^T x \leq b_i \text{ for all } a_i \in \mathcal{E}_i, i=1, \dots, m$

↓
 uncertainty set!

S.O. $\min C^T x$
 $\text{s.t. } \Pr(a_i^T x \leq b_i) \geq 1 - \delta, i=1, \dots, m$

↓
 chance constraint!

Books: Bertal, Nemirovski, Papers: Bertsimas & Sim

Books: Birge & Louveaux Intro to stochastic programming

Remarks: R.O. and S.O. are often equivalent...

Choose $\mathcal{E}_i = \{ \bar{a}_i + P_i u \mid \|u\|_2 \leq 1 \}$
 This is an ellipsoidal uncertainty set.
 when $P_i = \lambda I$, this is a ball.

$a_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\bar{a}_i, \Sigma_i)$ - assume Gaussian model
 $\Pr(a_i^T x \leq b_i) = \Phi \left(\frac{b_i - \bar{a}_i^T x}{\| \Sigma_i^{1/2} x \|_2} \right)$. Φ is CDF

SOCP: $\min C^T x$
 $\text{s.t. } \bar{a}_i^T x + \|P_i^T x\|_2 \leq b_i$

Robust to perturbation, feasible/meet the demand with high margin.

SOCP: $\min C^T x$
 $\text{s.t. } \bar{a}_i^T x + \Phi^{-1}(1-\delta) \| \Sigma_i^{1/2} x \|_2 \leq b_i$

Prob(thin) $\leq \delta$

$\sup_{\|u\|_2 \leq 1} (\bar{a}_i + P_i u)^T x = \bar{a}_i^T x + \|P_i^T x\|_2$

SDP (Semidefinite Programming)

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x & c^T x && \text{EMI} \\ \text{s.t.} & x_1 F_1 + x_2 F_2 + \dots + x_n F_n + G \preceq 0 \\ & Ax = b, F_i, G \in S^k \end{aligned}$$

$Ax = b$ can be formulated as an LMI too!
How?

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & & \\ & x_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & x_n \end{bmatrix} \preceq \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & & \\ & b_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Examples
① Eigenvalue minimization

$$\min \lambda_{\max}(A(x)) \Leftrightarrow \min t \text{ s.t. } A(x) \preceq tI \quad \because \lambda_{\max}(A(x)) \leq t \Leftrightarrow A \preceq tI$$

$$A(x) = A_0 + A_1 x_1 + A_2 x_2 + \dots + A_n x_n; A_i \in S^k$$

② Nuclear Norm minimization

$$\|X\|_* = \min_{W_1, W_2} \frac{1}{2} (\text{tr}(W_1) + \text{tr}(W_2)) \text{ s.t. } \begin{bmatrix} W_1 & X \\ X^T & W_2 \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

Matrix Completion: $\min_X \|X\|_*$ s.t. $P_{\Omega}(X) = P_{\Omega}(Y)$ $\Leftrightarrow \min_{X, W_1, W_2} \frac{1}{2} (\text{tr}(W_1) + \text{tr}(W_2))$ s.t. $P_{\Omega}(X) = P_{\Omega}(Y)$ $\begin{bmatrix} W_1 & X \\ X^T & W_2 \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$

observation \downarrow risk

Robust PCA: $\min_{L, S} \|L\|_* + \|S\|_1$ s.t. $L + S = Y$ \Leftrightarrow SDP similarity

observation

* Note: SDP is powerful in formulating almost all interesting convex optimization into its standard form, and for analyzing a problem, or providing a lower bound. But it is often too slow to use for real problems in practice. There are way faster algorithms to solve MC and RPCA.

** SDP ~~is~~ does not have strong duality. Need to check Slater's Condition.
 always

Nuclear norm identity ~~idea~~ for cases when X is square. (Correcting what I've written wrongly on the black board.)
Again: change-of-variable. ① $\frac{\text{tr}(W_1) + \text{tr}(W_2)}{2} \geq \text{tr}(\sqrt{W_1 W_2})$

② $\text{tr}(\sqrt{X X^T}) = \|X\|_*$

③ $\begin{bmatrix} W_1 & X \\ X^T & W_2 \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \Rightarrow W_1 W_2 \succeq X X^T \Rightarrow \sqrt{W_1 W_2} \succeq \sqrt{X X^T} \Rightarrow \text{tr}(\sqrt{W_1 W_2}) \geq \text{tr}(\sqrt{X X^T})$