

**What can be expressed via Conic Quadratic
and
Semidefinite Programming?**

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What can be expressed via CQP and SDP?

- Let us look at three generic families of convex programs:

- **Linear Programming:**

$$c^T x \rightarrow \min \mid Ax + b \geq 0 \quad (\text{LP})$$

- **Conic Quadratic Programming:**

$$c^T x \rightarrow \min \mid \|A_i x + b_i\|_2 \leq c_i^T x + d_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \quad (\text{CQP})$$

- **Semidefinite Programming:**

$$c^T x \rightarrow \min \mid \sum_{i=1}^n x_i A_i + B \succeq 0 \quad (\text{SDP})$$

- Geometrically, all these problems are of the form

$$c^T x \rightarrow \min \mid Ax + b \in \mathbf{K}, \quad (\text{CP})$$

where \mathbf{K} is a closed pointed convex cone with a nonempty interior belonging to a specific for the generic problem in question family \mathcal{K} of convex cones.

$$c^T x \rightarrow \min \mid Ax + b \in \mathbf{K} \quad [\mathbf{K} \in \mathcal{K}] \quad (\text{CP})$$

LP: \mathcal{K} is comprised of direct products of rays \mathbf{R}_+

CQP: \mathcal{K} is comprised of direct products of the Lorentz cones

$$\mathbf{L}^n = \{(x, t) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} : \|x\|_2 \leq t\}$$

SDP: \mathcal{K} is comprised of direct products of the semidefinite cones

$$\mathbf{S}_+^n = \{A \in \mathbf{S}^n : A \succeq 0\}$$

Note: *The above families of cones are closed w.r.t.*

- (1) *taking (finite) direct products of cones;*
- (2) *passing from a cone \mathbf{K} to its dual cone*

$$\mathbf{K}_* = \{\eta \mid \eta^T x \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbf{K}\}.$$

• Assume that we are given a family \mathcal{K} of finite-dimensional convex cones (closed, pointed and with a nonempty interior) and know how to solve problems of the form

$$c^T y \rightarrow \min \mid Ay + b \in \mathbf{K} \quad (*)$$

with all possible data (c, A, b) and all $\mathbf{K} \in \mathcal{K}$.

Question: What is the family of problems we can actually solve? When an optimization problem

$$e^T x \rightarrow \min \mid x \in X \subset \mathbf{R}^n \quad (\mathbf{P})$$

can be equivalently reformulated in the form of $(*)$?

An answer: This is the case when X is a \mathcal{K} -representable set (\mathcal{K} -r.s.), i.e., there exists a \mathcal{K} -representation (\mathcal{K} -r.) of X

$$X = \left\{ x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \exists u \in \mathbf{R}^k : Px + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K} \subset \mathcal{K}. \right\} \quad (\mathbf{R})$$

Indeed, given the data P, Q, b, \mathbf{K} of (\mathbf{R}) , we can rewrite (\mathbf{P}) equivalently in the form of $(*)$:

$$d^T x \rightarrow \min \mid x \in X$$

\Updownarrow

$$c^T y \equiv d^T x \rightarrow \min \mid \begin{array}{l} Ay + b \equiv Px + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K} \\ \left[y = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ u \end{pmatrix} \right] \end{array}$$

- Thus, a natural interpretation of the question

Given a possibility to solve problems

$$c^T x \rightarrow \min \mid Ax + b \in \mathbf{K} \in \mathcal{K}$$

what can we actually solve?

is

- *What are \mathcal{K} -representable sets?*
- *How to recognize \mathcal{K} -representability?*

- **Claim:** Consider a family \mathcal{K} of finite-dimensional closed pointed cones with a nonempty interior, and let this family be closed w.r.t.
 - taking direct products
 - passing from a cone to its dual.

There exists a simple and powerful “calculus” of \mathcal{K} -representable sets: essentially,

Every standard convexity-preserving operation as applied to (finitely many) \mathcal{K} -representable sets X_1, \dots, X_k , yields a \mathcal{K} -representable result X .

Moreover, a \mathcal{K} -representation of X is “readily given” by \mathcal{K} -representations of X_1, \dots, X_k .

- Applying the “calculus machinery” to (specific for a family \mathcal{K}) collection of “raw materials” – simple \mathcal{K} -representable sets – we get a possibility to recognize complicated \mathcal{K} -representable sets and thus to pose various optimization problems in the “ \mathcal{K} -form”.

I. The intersection of finitely many \mathcal{K} -r.s.'s is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.:

$$X_i = \{x \mid \exists u_i : P_i x + Q_i u_i + b_i \in \mathbf{K}_i\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

\Downarrow

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^k X = \left\{ u \mid \exists u = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \dots \\ u_k \end{pmatrix} : \begin{pmatrix} P_1 x + Q_1 u_1 + b_1 \\ \dots \\ P_k x + Q_k u_k + b_k \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{K}_1 \times \dots \times \mathbf{K}_k \right\}$$

II. The direct product of finitely many \mathcal{K} -r.s.'s is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.:

$$X_i = \{x_i \mid \exists u_i : P_i x_i + Q_i u_i + b_i \in \mathbf{K}_i\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

\Downarrow

$$X_1 \times \dots \times X_k = \left\{ x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \dots \\ x_k \end{pmatrix} \mid \exists u = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \dots \\ u_k \end{pmatrix} : \begin{pmatrix} P_1 x_1 + Q_1 u_1 + b_1 \\ \dots \\ P_k x_k + Q_k u_k + b_k \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{K}_1 \times \dots \times \mathbf{K}_k \right\}$$

III. The image of a \mathcal{K} -r.s. under an affine mapping is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.:

$$X = \{x \mid \exists u : Px + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K}\}$$

\Downarrow

$$AX + a = \{z \mid \exists v \in \text{Ker } A \exists u : PBz + Pv + Qu + [b - PBa] \in \mathbf{K}\}$$

[A is an onto mapping, $ABz = z \quad \forall z$]

IV. The inverse image of a \mathcal{K} -r.s. under an affine mapping is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.:

$$X = \{x \mid \exists u : Px + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K}\}, Z = \{z \mid Az + a \in X\}$$

\Downarrow

$$Z = \{z \mid \exists u : PAz + Qu + [b + Pa] \in \mathbf{K}\}$$

V. The arithmetic sum of finitely many \mathcal{K} -r.s.'s

$$X = X_1 + \dots + X_k = \{x \mid \exists x_i \in X_i : x = \sum_i x_i\}$$

is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.

Indeed, the arithmetic sum of k sets is the image of their direct product under the linear mapping

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \dots \\ x_k \end{pmatrix} \mapsto x_1 + \dots + x_k.$$

VI. A polyhedral set

$$X = \{x \mid a_i^T x + b_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, k\}$$

is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.

Indeed, let $\mathbf{K} \in \mathcal{K}$ and $0 \neq e \in \mathbf{K}$. Then

$$X = \left\{ x \mid \begin{pmatrix} [a_1^T x + b_1]e \\ \dots \\ [a_k^T x + b_k]e \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{K} \times \dots \times \mathbf{K} \right\}.$$

• **Intersection of infinitely many half-spaces not necessarily is \mathcal{K} -representable. It, however, is so when the half-spaces are “well-organized”.**

VIa. Assume that the data (α, β) defining a half-space

$$X_{\alpha, \beta} = \{x \mid \alpha^T x + \beta \geq 0\}$$

vary in a \mathcal{K} -r.s. \mathcal{U} :

$$\mathcal{U} = \{(\alpha, \beta) \mid \exists u : P\alpha + \beta p + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K}\}$$

and let the representation be *strictly feasible*:

$$\exists \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta}, \bar{u} : P\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta}p + Q\bar{u} + b \in \text{int } \mathbf{K}.$$

Then the set

$$X = \bigcap_{(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathcal{U}} X_{\alpha, \beta} = \{x \mid \alpha^T x + \beta \geq 0 \quad \forall (\alpha, \beta) \in \mathcal{U}\}$$

is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.

Indeed,

$$X = \left\{ x \mid 0 \leq \inf_{\alpha, \beta, u} \{ \alpha^T x + \beta : P\alpha + \beta p + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K} \} \right\}$$

\Downarrow [Conic Duality Theorem]

$$X = \left\{ x \mid 0 \leq \max_{\eta} \left\{ -b^T \eta : \begin{array}{l} \eta \in \mathbf{K}_* \\ P^T \eta = x \\ p^T \eta = 1 \\ Q^T \eta = 0 \end{array} \right\} \right\}$$

\Updownarrow

$$X = \left\{ x \mid \exists \eta : \begin{array}{l} \eta \in \mathbf{K}_* \\ P^T \eta = x \\ p^T \eta = 1 \\ Q^T \eta = 0 \\ b^T \eta \leq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

Thus, X is the projection of the intersection of the \mathcal{K} -r.s. \mathbf{K}_* and a polyhedral set and thus is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.

Several operations with sets “nearly preserve” \mathcal{K} -representability.

Definition. A set $X \subset \mathbf{R}$ is called *nearly \mathcal{K} -representable*, if there exists a \mathcal{K} -r.s. X' such that

$$X \subset X' \subset \text{cl } X. \quad (*)$$

A *nearly \mathcal{K} -representation* of X is a \mathcal{K} -representation of a set X' satisfying $(*)$.

Note: Nearly \mathcal{K} -representable *closed* set X is \mathcal{K} -representable, and every nearly \mathcal{K} -representation of such a set is its \mathcal{K} -representation.

VII. The conic hull

$$\text{Cone}(X) = \{0\} \cup \{(x, t) \in \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R} \mid t > 0, t^{-1}x \in X\}$$

of a nonempty \mathcal{K} -r.s. X is a nearly \mathcal{K} -r.s.:

$$X = \{x \mid \exists u : Px + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K}\}$$

\Downarrow

$$\text{Cone}(X) \subset X' \subset \overline{\text{Cone}(X)},$$

$$X' = \left\{ (x, t) \mid \exists u : \begin{pmatrix} Px + Qu + tb \\ te \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{K} \times \mathbf{K} \right\} \\ [0 \neq e \in \mathbf{K}]$$

VIII. [Yu. Nesterov] Convex hull of finitely many \mathcal{K} -r.s.'s is a nearly \mathcal{K} -r.s.:

$$X_i = \{x \mid \exists u_i : P_i x + Q_i u_i + b_i \in \mathbf{K}_i\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

\Downarrow

$$\text{Conv} \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^k X_i \right) \subset X \subset \overline{\text{Conv} \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^k X_i \right)},$$

$$X = \left\{ x \mid \exists (x_1, \dots, x_k, u_1, \dots, u_k, t_1, \dots, t_k) : \right. \\ \left. \begin{array}{l} \begin{pmatrix} P_1 x_1 + Q_1 u_1 + t_1 b_1 \\ \dots \\ P_k x_k + Q_k u_k + t_k b_k \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{K}_1 \times \dots \times \mathbf{K}_k \\ x = x_1 + \dots + x_k \\ t_1 + \dots + t_k = 1 \\ t_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, k \end{array} \right\}$$

\mathcal{K} -representability of X is readily given by the fact that X is the projection on the x -space of the intersection of the polyhedral (and thus \mathcal{K} -representable) set

$$\left\{ (x_1, \dots, x_k, u_1, \dots, u_k, t_1, \dots, t_k) \mid \begin{array}{l} x = x_1 + \dots + x_k \\ t_1 + \dots + t_k = 1 \\ t_i > 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, k \end{array} \right\}$$

and the clearly \mathcal{K} -r.s.

$$\left\{ (x_1, \dots, x_k, u_1, \dots, u_k, t_1, \dots, t_k) \mid \begin{pmatrix} P_1 x_1 + Q_1 u_1 + t_1 b_1 \\ \dots \\ P_k x_k + Q_k u_k + t_k b_k \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{K}_1 \times \dots \times \mathbf{K}_k \right\}$$

IX. Let

$$X = \{x \mid \exists u : Px + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K}\} \quad (*)$$

be a \mathcal{K} -r.s., and let the representation (*) be strictly feasible:

$$\exists(\bar{x}, \bar{u}) : P\bar{x} + Q\bar{u} + b \in \text{int } \mathbf{K}.$$

Then the polar cone of X – the set

$$X_* = \{(\eta, s) \mid \eta^T x \geq s \quad \forall x \in X\}$$

– is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.:

$$X^* = \left\{ (\eta, s) \mid \exists \zeta \in \mathbf{K}_* : \begin{array}{l} P^T \zeta = \eta \\ Q^T \zeta = 0 \\ s + b^T \zeta \leq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

- In many applications, sets are represented by (systems of) inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &\leq 0 \\ [f : \mathbf{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathbf{R} \cup \{+\infty\}] \end{aligned} \quad (*)$$

Definition: f is called a \mathcal{K} -representable function (\mathcal{K} -r.f.), if the epigraph of f

$$\text{Epi}(f) = \{(x, t) \mid t \geq f(x)\}$$

is a \mathcal{K} -r.s.

A \mathcal{K} -representation of $\text{Epi}(f)$ is called a \mathcal{K} -representation (\mathcal{K} -r.) of f .

Observation: If f is \mathcal{K} -representable, then so are all level sets

$$\{x \mid f(x) \leq a\} \quad [a \in \mathbf{R}]$$

of f .

Indeed,

$$f(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists u : Px + tp + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K}$$

\Downarrow

$$\{x \mid f(x) \leq a\} = \{x \mid \exists u : Px + Qu + [ap + b] \in \mathbf{K}\}$$

• Calculus of \mathcal{K} -representable sets can be straightforwardly converted into a “calculus of \mathcal{K} -representable functions”. The latter, essentially, can be summarized in the following statements:

(i). [Conic combinations and taking maximum] A linear combination, with nonnegative coefficients, and the maximum of finitely many \mathcal{K} -r.f.’s are themselves \mathcal{K} -r.f.’s.

(ii). [Adding affine form] The sum of a \mathcal{K} -representable and an affine function is \mathcal{K} -representable

(iii). [Affine substitution of argument] The superposition of a \mathcal{K} -r.f. and an affine mapping is a \mathcal{K} -r.f.

(iv). [Taking superpositions] Let functions

$$f_1, \dots, f_k : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$$

and a function

$$g : \mathbf{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$$

be \mathcal{K} -representable:

$$\begin{aligned} f_i(x) \leq t &\Leftrightarrow \exists u_i : P_i x + t p_i + Q_i u_i + b_i \in \mathbf{K}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, k \\ g(z) \leq t &\Leftrightarrow \exists v : Pz + Qv + b \in \mathbf{K}. \end{aligned}$$

Let also g be monotone on its domain:

$$g(z) < \infty, z \leq z' \Rightarrow g(z) \leq g(z').$$

Then the superposition

$$h(x) = g(f_1(x), \dots, f_k(x))$$

is a \mathcal{K} -r.f.:

$$h(x) \leq t$$

\Updownarrow

$$\exists \tau = (\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)^T, u_1, \dots, u_k, v :$$

$$\underbrace{P_i x + \tau_i p_i + Q_i u_i + b_i \in \mathbf{K}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, k}$$

says that $f_i(x) \leq \tau_i$

$$\underbrace{P\tau + Qv + b \in \mathbf{K}}$$

says that $g(\tau) \leq t$

(v). [Legendre transformation] The Legendre transformation

$$f_*(\eta) = \sup_x [\eta^T x - f(x)]$$

of a \mathcal{K} -r.f. f with strictly feasible \mathcal{K} -r. is itself a \mathcal{K} -r.f.:

$$f(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists u : Px + tp + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K}$$
$$[\exists \bar{x}, \bar{t}, \bar{u} : P\bar{x} + \bar{t}p + Q\bar{u} + b \in \text{int } \mathbf{K}]$$

↓

$$f_*(\eta) \leq \tau \Leftrightarrow \exists \zeta : \begin{array}{l} \zeta \in \mathbf{K}_* \\ P^T \zeta + \eta = 0 \\ Q^T \zeta = 0 \\ p^T \zeta = 1 \\ \tau - b^T \zeta \geq 0 \end{array}$$

(vi). [Conic transformation] Let $f : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ be a \mathcal{K} -r.f:

$$f(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists u : Px + tp + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K}$$

Then the *conic transformation of f* – the function

$$\text{Cone}[f](x, s) = \begin{cases} sf(x/s), & s > 0 \\ +\infty. & s \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

is a nearly \mathcal{K} -r.f.:

$$\text{Epi}(\text{Cone}[f]) \subset X \subset \overline{\text{Epi}(\text{Cone}[f])},$$

$$X = \{(x, s, t) \mid \exists u : Px + tp + Qu + sb \in \mathbf{K}\}$$

(vii). [Partial minimization] Let $f(x, y) : \mathbf{R}_x^m \times \mathbf{R}_y^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ be a \mathcal{K} -r.f.:

$$f(x, y) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists u : Px + Ry + tp + Qu + b \in \mathbf{K}.$$

Let

$$\phi(x) = \inf_y f(x, y),$$

and let inf be attained for every x where it is not $+\infty$. Then ϕ is a \mathcal{K} -r.f.:

$$\phi(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists y, u : Px + tp + [Ry + Qu] + b \in \mathbf{K}.$$

(viii). [inf-convolution] Let $f_i(x)$, $i = 1, \dots, k$, be \mathcal{K} -r.f.'s:

$$f_i(x) \leq t_i \Leftrightarrow \exists u_i : P_i x + t_i p_i + Q_i u_i + b_i \in \mathbf{K}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

Let

$$\phi(x) = \inf_{x_1, \dots, x_k : \sum_i x_i = x} \sum_i f_i(x_i),$$

and let the infimum be attained at every x where it is not $+\infty$. Then ϕ is a \mathcal{K} -r.f.:

$$\phi(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists \{x_i, u_i, t_i\} : \begin{cases} P_i x_i + t_i p_i + Q_i u_i + b_i \in \mathbf{K}_i, & i = 1, \dots, k \\ \sum_i x_i = x \\ \sum_i t_i \leq t \end{cases}$$

Note: All the rules of the Calculus of \mathcal{K} -representable functions/sets are “algorithmic and efficient”: a \mathcal{K} -r. of the result of an operation is readily given by \mathcal{K} -r.’s of the operands. E.g.,

$$f_i(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists u_i : P_i x + t p_i + Q_i u_i + b_i \in \mathbf{K}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

$$\alpha_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

↓

$$\sum_i \alpha_i f_i(x) \leq t$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$\exists t_1, \dots, t_k, u_1, \dots, u_k :$

$$\underbrace{P_i x + t_i p_i + Q_i u_i + b_i \in \mathbf{K}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, k}_{\text{says that } f_i(x) \leq t_i}$$

$$\sum_i \alpha_i t_i \leq t$$

$$\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{LP} \equiv \{\mathbf{R}_+^n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

- Of course,
 - \mathcal{LP} -representable sets are exactly the polyhedral sets,
 - \mathcal{LP} -representable functions are exactly convex piecewise linear functions.

E.g., the function

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{-\frac{1}{n}} : \text{int } \mathbf{R}_+^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$$

is not \mathcal{LP} -representable. But...

$$\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{CQ} \equiv \{\mathbf{L}^n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$$

$$\mathbf{L}^n = \{(x, t) \in \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R} \mid \|x\|_2 \leq t\}$$

Elementary \mathcal{CQ} -representable functions/sets

• The following functions/sets are \mathcal{CQ} -representable with explicit \mathcal{CQ} -r.'s:

1. An affine function $f(x) = a^T x + b$
2. The Euclidean norm $\|x\|_2: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$
3. The set

$$\{(x, s, t) \in \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} : s, t \geq 0, x^T x \leq st\}. \quad (*)$$

Indeed, this set is the inverse image of \mathbf{L}^{n+1} under the linear transformation

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ t \\ s \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x \\ \frac{t-s}{2} \\ \frac{t+s}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

4. The squared Euclidean norm $f(x) = x^T x : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$

Indeed, the epigraph of $x^T x$ is the intersection of the set (*) and the hyperplane $s = 1$.

Note: by Calculus it follows from 4. that every convex quadratic form is \mathcal{CQ} -representable.

5. A simple fractional-quadratic function

$$f(x, s) = \frac{x^2}{s} : \{(x, s) \in \mathbf{R}^2 \mid s \geq 0\} \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$$

is \mathcal{CQ} -representable.

Indeed, the epigraph of f is the \mathcal{CQ} -r.s.

$$\{(x, t, s) \in \mathbf{R}^3 \mid s, t \geq 0, x^2 \leq st\}$$

Application example: *The Multi-Load Truss Topology Design problem*

$$\tau \rightarrow \min \mid \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left(\begin{array}{cc} \tau & f_\ell^T \\ f_\ell & \sum_{i=1}^n t_i B_i B_i^T \end{array} \right) \succeq 0, \ell = 1, \dots, k \\ t \geq 0, Pt + p \geq 0 \\ \left[\sum_i B_i B_i^T \succ 0, \exists \bar{t} > 0 : P\bar{t} + p > 0 \right] \end{array} \right.$$

is equivalent to the **Conic Quadratic problem**

$$\begin{aligned} \tau &\rightarrow \min \\ \sum_{i=1}^n s_{i,\ell} &\leq \tau, \ell = 1, \dots, k \\ \left\| \left(\begin{array}{c} y_{i,\ell} \\ \frac{t_i - s_{i,\ell}}{2} \end{array} \right) \right\|_2 &\leq \frac{t_i + s_{i,\ell}}{2}, i = 1, \dots, n, \ell = 1, \dots, k \\ \sum_{i=1}^n B_i y_{i,\ell} &= f_\ell, \ell = 1, \dots, k \\ Pt + p &\geq 0 \\ t &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

6. Let π_1, \dots, π_k be positive rationals with $\sum_{i=1}^k \pi_i \leq 1$. Then the function

$$f(x) = - \prod_{i=1}^k x_i^{\pi_i} : \mathbf{R}_+^k \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$$

admits an explicit \mathcal{CQ} -r. The “size” of the representation is proportional to the magnitude of the common denominator of the fractions π_1, \dots, π_k .

Indeed,

A. The set

$$\{(t, u_1, u_2) \in \mathbf{R}_+^3 : t^2 \leq u_1 u_2\} \tag{1}$$

is \mathcal{CQ} -representable.

B. It follows that the set

$$X_r = \{(t, u_1, \dots, u_{2^r}) \in \mathbf{R}^{2^r+1} : t \leq (u_1, \dots, u_{2^r})^{\frac{1}{2^r}}\}$$

also is \mathcal{CQ} -representable.

Indeed, X_r is the projection onto the (t, u) -space of the set given by the inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} & u_1, \dots, u_{2^r} \geq 0 \\ & 0 \leq v_{1,j} \leq \sqrt{u_{2j-1} u_{2j}}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2^{r-1} \\ & 0 \leq v_{2,j} \leq \sqrt{v_{1,2j-1} v_{1,2j}}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq 2^{r-2} \\ & \dots\dots\dots \\ & 0 \leq v_{r-1,1} \leq \sqrt{v_{r-2,1} v_{r-2,2}}, 0 \leq v_{r-1,2} \leq \sqrt{v_{r-2,3} v_{r-2,4}} \\ & \quad 0 \leq t \leq \sqrt{v_{r-1,1} v_{r-1,2}} \end{aligned}$$

and the latter set is \mathcal{CQ} -representable as the intersection of $2^r - 1$ \mathcal{CQ} -representable sets (direct products of linear spaces and sets of type (1)).

C. Further, the set

$$\{(x_1, \dots, x_k, t) \in \mathbf{R}_+^{k+1} \mid t \leq x_1^{\frac{p_1}{q}} \dots x_k^{\frac{p_k}{q}}\} \quad (2)$$

is the inverse image of X_r with $2^r \geq q$ under the affine mapping

$$(x_1, \dots, x_k, t) \mapsto (t, \underbrace{x_1, \dots, x_1}_{p_1}, \dots, \underbrace{x_2, \dots, x_2}_{p_2}, \dots, \underbrace{x_k, \dots, x_k}_{p_k}, \underbrace{t, \dots, t}_{2^r - q}, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{q - p_1 - \dots - p_k})$$

D. Since the set (2) is \mathcal{CQ} -representable, so is the set

$$\{(x_1, \dots, x_k, t, s) \mid x_1, \dots, x_k \geq 0, 0 \leq s - t \leq x_1^{\pi_1} \dots x_k^{\pi_k}\}$$

(it is the inverse image of (2) under an affine mapping) and thus – the set

$$\{(x_1, \dots, x_k, t, s) \mid s, x_1, \dots, x_k \geq 0, 0 \leq s - t \leq x_1^{\pi_1} \dots x_k^{\pi_k}\} \quad (3)$$

E. Finally, the epigraph

$$\{(x_1, \dots, x_k, t) \mid x_1, \dots, x_k \geq 0, t \geq -x_1^{\pi_1} \dots x_k^{\pi_k}\}$$

of the function $f(x) = -\prod_{i=1}^k x_i^{\pi_i}$ of $x \geq 0$ is the projection on the (x, t) -space of the \mathcal{CQ} -r.s. (3).

7. Let π_1, \dots, π_k be positive rationals. Then the function

$$f(x) = \prod_{i=1}^k x_i^{-\pi_i} : \text{int } \mathbf{R}_+^k \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$$

admits an explicit \mathcal{CQ} -r.

8. Let $\pi \geq 1$ be a rational. Then the function

$$f_+(x) = (\max[x, 0])^\pi$$

admits an explicit \mathcal{CQ} -r.

So does the function

$$g(x) = |x|^\pi \quad [\equiv f(x) + f(-x)]$$

Indeed,

$$\{(t, x) \mid t \geq (\max[x, 0])^{\frac{p}{q}}\} = \{(t, x) \mid -x \geq -t^{\frac{q}{p}}, t \geq 0\}.$$

9. For rational $\pi \geq 1$, the π -norm $f(x) = \|x\|_\pi : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is \mathcal{CQ} -representable:

$$f(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists u_1, \dots, u_n \geq 0 : \begin{cases} |x_i| \leq t^{\frac{\pi-1}{\pi}} u_i^{\frac{1}{\pi}}, & i = 1, \dots, n \\ \sum_{i=1}^n u_i \leq t \end{cases}$$

Examples:

- A \mathcal{CQ} -r. of the set

$$t \geq -x_1^{\frac{1}{7}} x_2^{\frac{2}{7}} x_3^{\frac{3}{7}}, \quad x \geq 0$$

is

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists s, u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4 : \\ & \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \frac{x_1 - x_3}{2} \\ \frac{x_1 + x_3}{2} \\ u_3 \\ \frac{u_1 - u_2}{2} \\ \frac{u_1 + u_2}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2 \quad \begin{pmatrix} u_2 \\ \frac{s - t - 1}{2} \\ \frac{s - t + 1}{2} \\ u_4 \\ \frac{x_2 - x_3}{2} \\ \frac{x_2 + x_3}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2 \\ & \begin{pmatrix} s - t \\ \frac{u_3 - u_4}{2} \\ \frac{u_3 + u_4}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2 \\ & s \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- A \mathcal{CQ} -r. of the set

$$t \geq x_1^{-\frac{1}{7}} x_2^{-\frac{2}{7}} x_3^{-\frac{3}{7}}$$

is

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4, u_5, u_6 : \\ & \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \frac{x_2 - x_3}{2} \\ \frac{x_2 + x_3}{2} \\ u_4 \\ \frac{u_1 - u_2}{2} \\ \frac{u_1 + u_2}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2 \quad \begin{pmatrix} u_2 \\ \frac{t - 1}{2} \\ \frac{t + 1}{2} \\ u_5 \\ \frac{u_3 - u_4}{2} \\ \frac{u_3 + u_4}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2 \quad \begin{pmatrix} u_3 \\ \frac{x_2 - x_3}{2} \\ \frac{x_2 + x_3}{2} \\ u_6 \\ \frac{u_2 - t}{2} \\ \frac{u_2 + t}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2 \\ & \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{u_3 - u_6}{2} \\ \frac{u_3 + u_6}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2 \end{aligned}$$

• There are, of course, nice convex functions which are *not* \mathcal{CQ} -representable, e.g., the exponent

$$f(x) = \exp\{x\}.$$

But: for every $p \geq 1$,

$$\exp\{x\} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{\left(1 + \frac{x}{2^r} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{2^r}\right)^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{p!} \left(\frac{x}{2^r}\right)^p\right)^{(2^r)}}_{h_p\left(\frac{x}{2^r}\right)}$$

It follows that if p is such that $h_p(\cdot)$ is \mathcal{CQ} -representable and nonnegative, then $\exp\{x\}$ can be approximated by \mathcal{CQ} -r.f.

$$g_{p,r}(x) = h_p^{(2^r)}\left(\frac{x}{2^r}\right).$$

For p fixed and for a given bounded range $|x| \leq T$ of values of x , the quality of this approximation grows rapidly with r :

$$r \geq O\left(\ln\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right) + T\right), \quad |x| \leq T$$

↓

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \exp\{x\} \leq g_{p,r}(x) \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \exp\{x\}.$$

E.g.,

- $g_{4,18}(x)$ approximates $\exp\{x\}$ in the segment

$$\Delta = \{x \mid |x| \leq 512\} = \{x \mid 4.38e-223 \leq \exp\{x\} \leq 2.28e222\}$$

within relative accuracy $1.e-10$

- At the same time, $g_{4,18}|_{\Delta}$ admits the following simple \mathcal{CQ} -r.:

$ x \leq 512, g_{4,18}(x) \leq t$		
\Updownarrow		
$\exists u_1, \dots, u_{21} :$		
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 + \frac{x}{2^{18}} \\ \frac{1-u_1}{2} \\ \frac{1+u_1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2$	$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{5}{6} + \frac{x}{2^{19}} \\ \frac{1-u_2}{2} \\ \frac{1+u_2}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2$	$\begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \frac{1-u_3}{2} \\ \frac{1+u_3}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2$
$\frac{19}{72} + u_2 + \frac{1}{24}u_3 \leq u_4$		
$\begin{pmatrix} u_{\ell-1} \\ \frac{1-u_{\ell}}{2} \\ \frac{u_{\ell}+1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2, \ell = 5, \dots, 21$		
$\begin{pmatrix} u_{21} \\ \frac{1-t}{2} \\ \frac{1+t}{2} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}^2$		
$-512 \leq x \leq 512$		

Thus, for any practical purpose $\exp\{x\}$ is \mathcal{CQ} -representable!

“Whether Conic Quadratic Programming does exist?”

- Surprisingly, Lorentz cones (and thus – all \mathcal{CQ} -representable sets!) are “nearly polyhedrally representable”.

Theorem [BT-N, '98] For every $n > 0$ and every $\varepsilon \in (0, 1/2)$, there exist (and can be explicitly written down) matrices $P_{n,\varepsilon}$, $Q_{n,\varepsilon}$ and vector $b_{n,\varepsilon}$ such that

- (i) The row and the column sizes of $P_{n,\varepsilon}, Q_{n,\varepsilon}, b_{n,\varepsilon}$ do not exceed $O\left(n \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)$
- (ii) If

$$(x, t) \in \mathbf{L}^n = \{(x, t) \in \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R} \mid \|x\|_2 \leq t\},$$

then there exists a vector u such that

$$P_{n,\varepsilon}x + Q_{n,\varepsilon}u + b_{n,\varepsilon} \geq 0, \quad (*)$$

and “nearly vice versa”: if (x, t) can be extended by some u to a solution of $(*)$, then

$$(x, t) \in \mathbf{L}_\varepsilon^n = \{(x, t) \in \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R} \mid \|x\|_2 \leq (1 + \varepsilon)t\}.$$

Thus, \mathbf{L}^n “can be approximated within accuracy ε ” by a polyhedral cone \mathbf{P}_ε^n :

$$\mathbf{L}^n \subset \mathbf{P}_\varepsilon^n \subset \mathbf{L}_\varepsilon^n$$

admitting a “short” – of the size $O\left(n \ln \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)$ – \mathcal{LP} -r.:

$$\mathbf{P}_\varepsilon^n = \{(x, t) \mid \exists u : P_{n,\varepsilon}x + Q_{n,\varepsilon}u + b_{n,\varepsilon} \geq 0\}.$$

Corollary. Consider a conic quadratic program

$$c^T x \rightarrow \min \quad Ax + b \geq 0, \quad Px + q \in \mathbf{K} = \mathbf{L}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbf{L}^{n_k} \quad (\text{CQP})$$

and let the problem be both

r -strictly feasible for some $r > 0$:

$$\exists \bar{x} : A\bar{x} + b \geq 0 \ \& \ \forall (\xi : \|\xi\|_2 \leq r) : P\bar{x} + q + \xi \in \mathbf{K}$$

R -semibounded:

$$Ax + b \geq 0, Px + q \in \mathbf{K} \Rightarrow \|Px + q\|_2 \leq R.$$

For every $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$, there exists an LP program

$$c^T x \rightarrow \min \mid Bx + Cv + d \geq 0 \quad (\text{LP})$$

which is an ε -relaxation of (CQP) of polynomial complexity:

- **If x is feasible for (CQP), then x can be extended to a feasible solution (x, v) of (LP);**
- **If (x, v) is feasible for (LP), then the vector $(1 - \varepsilon)x + \varepsilon\bar{x}$ is feasible for (CQP).**
- **The size $\dim x + \dim v + \dim d$ of (LP) does not exceed**

$$\dim x + \dim b + O\left([\dim q] \ln \frac{2R}{\varepsilon r}\right)$$

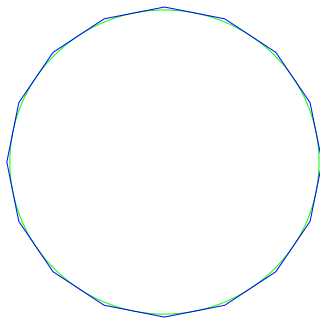
and the data (c, B, C, d) of (LP) is readily given by the data (c, A, b, P, q) of (CQP).

• “Fast polyhedral approximations” of the Lorentz cone are based on the fact that if P^ν is the polytope defined as

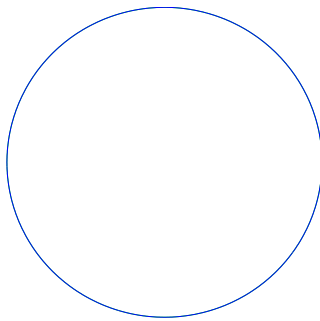
$$\left\{ (x, u) \in \mathbf{R}^2 \times \mathbf{R}^{2\nu+4} : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_0 \geq |x_1|; \\ u_1 \geq |x_2|; \\ u_{2j} = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2^{j+1}}\right) u_{2j-2} + \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2^{j+1}}\right) u_{2j-1}, \\ \quad j = 1, \dots, \nu; \\ u_{2j+1} \geq \left| -\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2^{j+1}}\right) u_{2j-2} + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2^{j+1}}\right) u_{2j-1} \right|, \\ \quad j = 1, \dots, \nu; \\ u_{2\nu+3} \leq 1; \\ u_{2\nu+4} \leq \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2^{\nu+1}}\right) u_{2\nu+3} \end{array} \right. \right\}$$

then the projection P_x^ν of the polytope on the x -plane approximates the unit 2D disk D_2 within accuracy

$$\frac{1}{\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2^{\nu+1}}\right)} - 1.$$



- P^3 “lives” in \mathbb{R}^9 and is given by 12 linear inequalities.
 P_x^3 approximates D_2 within accuracy $5.e-3$
(as good as the 16-side perfect polygon)



- P^6 “lives” in \mathbb{R}^{12} and is given by 18 linear inequalities.
 P_x^6 approximates D_2 within accuracy $3.e-4$
(as good as the 127-side perfect polygon)
- P^{12} “lives” in \mathbb{R}^{18} and is given by 30 linear inequalities.
 P_x^{12} approximates D_2 within accuracy $7.e-8$
(as good as the 8,192-side perfect polygon)
- P^{24} “lives” in \mathbb{R}^{30} and is given by 54 linear inequalities.
 P_x^{24} approximates D_2 within accuracy $4.e-15$
(as good as the 34,200,933-side perfect polygon)

$$\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{SD} \equiv \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Direct products of the cones of} \\ \text{positive semidefinite matrices} \end{array} \right\}$$

Examples of \mathcal{SD} -representable functions/sets

1-9. Every \mathcal{CQ} -r. function/set is \mathcal{SD} -r. as well.

Indeed, the Lorentz cone \mathbf{L}^n is \mathcal{SD} -r.:

$$(x, t) \in \mathbf{L}^n$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} t & x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \\ x_1 & t & & & \\ x_2 & & t & & \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ x_n & & & & t \end{pmatrix}}_{\Theta_n(x)} \succeq 0$$

Consequently, a \mathcal{CQ} -r. of a set X :

$$X = \{x \mid \exists u_1, \dots, u_k : P_i x + Q_i u + b_i \in \mathbf{L}^{n_i}, i = 1, \dots, k\}$$

can be straightforwardly converted into an \mathcal{SD} -r. of X :

$$X = \{x \mid \exists u_1, \dots, u_k : \Theta_{n_i}(P_i x + Q_i u_i + b_i) \succeq 0, i = 1, \dots, k\}.$$

10. Maximum eigenvalue $\lambda_{\max}(X)$ of a symmetric matrix X is \mathcal{SD} -representable:

$$t \geq \lambda_{\max}(X) \Leftrightarrow tI - X \succeq 0.$$

11. The sum

$$S_k(X) = \lambda_1(X) + \dots + \lambda_k(X)$$

of k largest eigenvalues of a symmetric matrix X is \mathcal{SD} -representable:

$$S_k(X) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists s, Z : \begin{cases} t - ks - \text{Tr}(Z) \geq 0 \\ Z \succeq 0 \\ Z - X + sI \succeq 0 \end{cases}$$

12. Let a function f on \mathbb{R}^n be symmetric (i.e., invariant w.r.t. permutations of coordinates) and \mathcal{SD} -representable:

$$f(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists u : Px + tp + Qu + b \succeq 0.$$

Then the function

$$\phi(X) = f(\lambda(X))$$

is \mathcal{SD} -r. with the representation

$$t \geq F(X) \Leftrightarrow \exists u, x_1, \dots, x_n : \begin{cases} Px + tp + Qu + b \succeq 0 \\ x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_n \\ x_1 + \dots + x_k \geq S_k(X), \\ \quad k = 1, \dots, n-1 \\ x_1 + \dots + x_n = \text{Tr}(X) \end{cases}$$

E.g., the following functions of a symmetric $n \times n$ matrix X are \mathcal{SD} -r.f.'s with explicit \mathcal{SD} -r.'s:

- $-(\text{Det } X)^\pi, X \succeq 0, 0 < \pi \leq \frac{1}{n}$ **is rational**

$$[f(x) = -(\prod_{i=1}^n x_i)^\pi, x \geq 0]$$

- $\|X\|_\pi \equiv \|\lambda(X)\|_\pi, \pi \geq 1$ **is rational**

$$[f(x) = \|x\|_\pi]$$

- $\|X_+\|_\pi \equiv \|\{\max[\lambda_i(X), 0]\}_{i=1}^n\|_\pi, \pi \geq 1$ **is rational**

$$[f(x) = \|\{\max[x_i, 0]\}_{i=1}^n\|_\pi]$$

13. Let a function f on \mathbf{R}_+^m be symmetric, monotone and \mathcal{SD} -representable:

$$f(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists u : Px + tp + Qu + b \succeq 0,$$

and let

$$\sigma(X) = \lambda \left(\sqrt{XX^T} \right)$$

be the vector of singular values of a rectangular $m \times n$ matrix ($m \leq n$). Then the function

$$\phi(X) = f(\sigma(X)) : \mathbf{R}^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$$

is \mathcal{SD} -r.:

$$\phi(X) \leq t \Leftrightarrow \exists u, x_1, \dots, x_m : \begin{cases} Px + tp + Qu + b \succeq 0 \\ x_1 \geq \dots \geq x_m \\ x_1 + \dots + x_k \geq S_k \left(\begin{pmatrix} & X \\ X^T & \end{pmatrix} \right), \\ k = 1, \dots, m. \end{cases}$$

E.g., the following functions of rectangular $m \times n$ matrix X are \mathcal{SD} -r.f.'s with explicit \mathcal{SD} -r.:

- $\| X \| = \sigma_{\max}(X) \left[\| X \| \leq t \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} tI_m & X \\ X^T & tI_n \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \right]$
- $\Sigma_k(X) = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i(X), 1 \leq k \leq m$
- $\| X \|_{\pi} = \| \sigma(X) \|_{\pi}, \pi \geq 1$ **is rational**

Convex hulls of some sets of matrices

14. Let $S \subset \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_n\}$ be an \mathcal{SD} -r.s.:

$$S = \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \exists u : Px + Qu + b \succeq 0\}.$$

14a. The set

$$\mathcal{CS}[S] = \text{Conv}\{X \in \mathbf{S}^n \mid \lambda(X) \in S\}.$$

is \mathcal{SD} -r. with \mathcal{SD} -r. induced by the relation

$$\mathcal{CS}[S] = \left\{ X \in \mathbf{S}^n \mid \begin{array}{l} Px + Qu + b \succeq 0 \\ \exists u, x : S_k(X) \leq x_1 + \dots + x_k, k < n \\ \text{Tr}(X) = x_1 + \dots + x_n \end{array} \right\}$$

14b. Let, in addition, S be monotone:

$$(y \geq 0, y_1 \geq y_2 \geq \dots \geq y_n, \exists x \in S : y \leq x) \Rightarrow y \in S.$$

The set

$$\mathcal{CR}[S] = \text{Conv}\{X \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n} \mid \sigma(x) \in S\} \quad [n \geq m].$$

is \mathcal{SD} -representable with \mathcal{SD} -r. induced by the relation

$$\mathcal{CR}[S] = \left\{ X \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n} \mid \exists u, x : \begin{array}{l} Px + Qu + b \succeq 0 \\ \Sigma_k(X) \leq x_1 + \dots + x_k, k \leq m \end{array} \right\}$$

15. [“General \succeq -convex quadratic matrix inequality”]

The set

$$\left\{ (X, Y) \in \mathbf{R}^{k \times \ell} \times \mathbf{R}^m \mid F(X) \equiv (AXB)(AXB)^T + CXD + (CXD)^T + E \preceq Y \right\}$$

is \mathcal{SD} -representable:

$$F(X) \preceq Y \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} I & (AXB)^T \\ AXB & Y - E - CXD - (CXD)^T \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

16. [“Fractional-quadratic matrix inequality”] The set

$$\mathcal{F} = \text{cl} \left\{ (X, V, Y) \in \mathbf{R}^{p \times q} \times \mathbf{S}^q \times \mathbf{S}^p \mid V \succ 0, F(X, V) = XV^{-1}X^T \preceq Y \right\}$$

is \mathcal{SD} -representable:

$$\mathcal{F} = \left\{ (X, V, Y) \mid \begin{pmatrix} Y & X \\ X^T & V \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \right\}$$

17. The set

$$\mathcal{X} = \text{cl} \left\{ (X, Y) \in \mathbf{S}^n \times \mathbf{S}^m \mid X \succ 0, Y \preceq (A^T X^{-1} A)^{-1} \right. \\ \left. [A^T A \succ 0] \right\}$$

is \mathcal{SD} -representable:

$$\mathcal{X} = \left\{ (X, Y) \mid \exists Z \in \mathbf{S}^m : \begin{array}{l} Z \succeq 0 \\ Y \preceq Z \\ X \succeq AZA^T \end{array} \right\}$$

Elementary \mathcal{SD} -representable functions/sets (cont.)
 \succeq -epigraphs of matrix-valued functions, II

18. [Square root of positive semidefinite matrix] The set

$$\mathcal{X} = \{(X, Y) \in \mathbf{S}^n \times \mathbf{S}^n \mid X \succeq 0, Y \preceq X^{1/2}\}$$

is \mathcal{SD} -representable:

$$\mathcal{X} = \left\{ (X, Y) \mid \exists Z \in \mathbf{S}^n : \begin{array}{l} \begin{pmatrix} X & Z \\ Z & I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \\ Z \succeq 0 \\ Y \preceq Z \end{array} \right\}$$

19. Let $\Delta \subset \mathbf{R}$ be a segment (perhaps infinite), and let

$$\mathcal{P}_k^+(\Delta) = \left\{ (x_0, \dots, x_k)^T \in \mathbf{R}^{k+1} : x(\tau) \equiv \sum_{p=0}^k x_p \tau^p \geq 0 \quad \forall \tau \in \Delta \right\}$$

be the set of coefficients of nonnegative on Δ polynomials of degree $\leq k$. It turns out that $\mathcal{P}_k^+(\Delta)$ admits an explicit \mathcal{SD} -r.

In particular, the function

$$f(x) = \sup_{\tau \in \Delta} x(\tau)$$

admits explicit \mathcal{SD} -r. induced by the relation

$$f(x) \leq t \Leftrightarrow (t - x_0, -x_1, \dots, -x_k) \in \mathcal{P}_k^+(\Delta).$$

\mathcal{SD} -r.'s of the sets $\mathcal{P}_k^+(\Delta)$ are as follows:

• $\Delta = \mathbf{R}$:

$$x(\tau) \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{2m} x_i \tau^i \geq 0 \quad \forall \tau \in \mathbf{R}$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$\exists X \in \mathbf{S}^m$:

$$\begin{aligned} X &\succeq 0 \\ x(\tau) &\equiv \underbrace{\sum_{i,j=1}^m X_{ij} \tau^{i+j-2}}_{X(\tau)} \end{aligned}$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} X &\succeq 0 \\ &\Downarrow \\ X &= \sum_i \xi_i \xi_i^T \\ &\Downarrow \\ X(\tau) &= \sum_i \left(\sum_p \xi_{i,p} \tau^p \right)^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Vice versa, a nonnegative polynomial is the sum of squares of two polynomials, whence

$$\begin{aligned} x(\cdot) &\geq 0 \\ &\Downarrow \\ \exists \xi_1, \xi_2 : x(\tau) &= \sum_{i=1}^2 \left(\sum_p \xi_{i,p} \tau^p \right)^2 \\ &\Downarrow \\ x(\cdot) = X(\cdot), X &= \xi_1 \xi_1^T + \xi_2 \xi_2^T \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- $\Delta = \mathbf{R}_+$:

The set

$$\mathcal{P}_k^+(\mathbf{R}_+) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{coefficients of nonnegative on } \mathbf{R}_+ \\ \text{polynomials of degree } \leq k \end{array} \right\}$$

is the inverse image of the set

$$\mathcal{P}_{2k}^+(\mathbf{R}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{coefficients of nonnegative on } \mathbf{R} \\ \text{polynomials of degree } \leq 2k \end{array} \right\}$$

under the linear mapping of the polynomial coefficients induced by the transformation

$$x(\tau) \mapsto (Ax)(\tau) \equiv x(\tau^2).$$

- $\Delta = [0, 1]$:

The set

$$\mathcal{P}_k^+([0, 1]) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{coefficients of nonnegative on } [0, 1] \\ \text{polynomials of degree } \leq k \end{array} \right\}$$

is the inverse image of $\mathcal{P}_{2k}^+(\mathbf{R})$ under the linear mapping of the polynomial coefficients induced by the transformation

$$x(\tau) \mapsto [Bx](\tau) = (1 + \tau^2)^k x\left(\frac{\tau^2}{1 + \tau^2}\right).$$

Thus, *SD-r.*'s of $\mathcal{P}_+^k(\mathbf{R}^+)$ and $\mathcal{P}_k^+([0, 1])$ are readily given by the above *SD-r.* of $\mathcal{P}_{2k}^+(\mathbf{R})$.

20. Let $\Delta \subset [-\pi, \pi]$ be a segment, and let

$$\mathcal{T}_k^+(\Delta) = \left\{ (\xi_0, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_{2k})^T \in \mathbf{R}^{2k+1} : \right. \\ \left. \xi(\phi) \equiv \xi_0 + \sum_{p=1}^k (\xi_{2p-1} \cos(p\phi) + \xi_{2p} \sin(p\phi)) \geq 0 \quad \forall \phi \in \Delta \right\}$$

be the set of coefficients of the nonnegative on Δ trigonometric polynomials of degree $\leq k$. The set $\mathcal{T}_k^+(\Delta)$ admits an explicit \mathcal{SD} -r.

In particular, the function

$$f(\xi) = \max_{\phi \in \Delta} \xi(\phi)$$

admits an explicit \mathcal{SD} -r.

Indeed, $\mathcal{T}_k^+(\Delta)$ is the inverse image of $\mathcal{P}_{2k}^+(\Gamma)$ under the linear mapping of coefficients induced by the transformation

$$\xi(\phi) \mapsto x(\tau) = (1 + \tau^2)^k \xi(2 \operatorname{atan}(\tau));$$

here

$$\Gamma = \{ \tau : 2 \operatorname{atan}(\tau) \in \Delta \}.$$

Elementary \mathcal{SD} -representable functions/sets (cont.)
Convex hulls of epigraphs of univariate polynomials

21. For a segment $\Delta \subset \mathbf{R}$ and a continuous function $p(\cdot)$ on Δ , let

$$\text{ConvEpi}(\Delta, p) = \text{Conv} \{(\tau, t) \mid \tau \in \Delta, t \geq p(\tau)\}$$

be the convex hull of the epigraph of Δ .

For every one of the following pairs (Δ, p) , the set $\text{ConvEpi}(\Delta, p)$ admits an explicit \mathcal{SD} -r.:

21.a. $\Delta = \mathbf{R}$, $p(\tau) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{2k} p_{\ell} \tau^{\ell}$ with $p_{2k} > 0$

21.b. $\Delta = \mathbf{R}_+$, $p(\tau) = \sum_{\ell=0}^k p_{\ell} \tau^{\ell}$ with $p_k > 0$

21.c. $\Delta = [0, 1]$, $p(\tau) = \sum_{\ell=0}^k p_{\ell} \tau^{\ell}$

E.g. in the case of **21.a** an \mathcal{SD} -r. of $\text{ConvEpi}(\Delta, p)$ is

$$\left\{ (\tau, t) \mid \exists \tau_2, \tau_3, \dots, \tau_{2k} : \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \tau & \tau_2 & \tau_3 & \cdots & \tau_k \\ \tau & \tau_2 & \tau_3 & \tau_4 & \cdots & \tau_{k+1} \\ \tau_2 & \tau_3 & \tau_4 & \tau_5 & \cdots & \tau_{k+2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \tau_k & \tau_{k+1} & \tau_{k+2} & \tau_{k+3} & \cdots & \tau_{2k} \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \right. \\ \left. p_0 + p_1 \tau + p_2 \tau_2 + p_3 \tau_3 + \dots + p_{2k} \tau_{2k} \leq t \right\}$$

• SD -r. of the above sets $\text{ConvEpi}(\Delta, p)$ are given by the following construction.

1. Let

$$p(\tau) = p_0 + p_1\tau + \sum_{\ell=2}^n p_\ell f_\ell(\tau),$$

$$\phi(\tau) = (1, \tau, f_2(\tau), \dots, f_n(\tau))^T : \Delta \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$$

Assume that

A. The set $Y = \overline{\text{Conv}}\{\phi(\tau) \mid \tau \in \Delta\}$ is SD -r. with a known SD -r.

Remark Y is the intersection of the cone dual to the “cone of nonnegative polynomials”

$$\mathcal{P}^+ = \{(p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n) \mid p(\tau) \geq 0 \quad \forall \tau \in \Delta\}$$

and the hyperplane $\{(1, \pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_n)^T \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}\}$.

B. The set $\text{ConvEpi}(\Delta, p)$ is closed.

Under these assumptions $\text{ConvEpi}(\Delta, p)$ admits the representation

$$\left\{ (\tau, t) \mid \exists \tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_n : \begin{array}{l} (\tau, \tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_n)^T \in Y \\ \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \tau_i \leq t \end{array} \right\}$$

Thus, $\text{ConvEpi}(\Delta, p)$ is a projection of a SD -r.s. (the intersection of Y and a half-space). By Calculus, an SD -r. of $\text{ConvEpi}(\Delta, p)$ is readily given by an SD -r. of Y .

2. In the situations 21.a – 21.c

- Assumption A is satisfied by the following reasons:
 - The corresponding “cone of nonnegative polynomials” is $\mathcal{P}_k^+(\Delta)$, for which we know \mathcal{SD} -r. which in fact is strictly feasible.
 - By Calculus, a strictly feasible \mathcal{SD} -r. of the cone $\mathcal{P}_k^+(\Delta)$ explicitly induces an \mathcal{SD} -r. of the cone dual to $\mathcal{P}_k^+(\Delta)$ and thus, by Remark – for Y .
- Assumption B holds true (a straightforward verification).

Families of ellipsoids

• Let

$$V(X, x) = \{u \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid u = Xv + x, v^T v \leq 1\} \quad [X \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}]$$

$$W(Y, y) = \{u \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid u^T Y^T Y u - 2u^T Y^T y + y^T y \leq 1\} \quad [Y \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}]$$

• $V(\cdot, \cdot)$ is a natural parameterization of ellipsoids in \mathbf{R}^n , including “flat” ones (an ellipsoid is the image of the unit Euclidean ball under affine mapping)

• $W(\cdot, \cdot)$ is a natural parameterization of ellipsoids in \mathbf{R}^n , including “elliptic cylinders” (an ellipsoid is a level set of a below bounded convex quadratic function)

Proposition [Boyd et al?]

$$\boxed{V(X, x) \subset W(Y, y)}$$

\Downarrow

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} \exists \lambda : \\ \left(\begin{array}{ccc} I & Yx - y & YX \\ x^T Y^T - y^T & 1 - \lambda & \\ X^T Y^T & & \lambda I \end{array} \right) \succeq 0 \end{array} \quad (1)}$$

Note: When one of the ellipsoids $V(X, x)$ or $W(Y, y)$ is fixed, (*) becomes a Linear Matrix Inequality in the parameters of the other ellipsoid and λ .

Thus, both the sets

$$\begin{aligned} & \{(X, x) \in \mathbf{S}_+^N \mid V(X, x) \subset W(A, a)\} \\ & \{(Y, y) \mid V(A, a) \subset W(Y, y)\} \end{aligned}$$

admit explicit \mathcal{SD} -r.'s.

As a result, both the problems

Find the smallest volume ellipsoid containing the union of a given finite family of ellipsoids

and

Find the largest volume ellipsoid contained in the intersection of a given finite family of ellipsoids

can be posed as semidefinite programs.

• **The problem**

Find the largest volume ellipsoid $V(X, x)$ contained in every one of given ellipsoids $W(Y_\ell, y_\ell)$, $\ell = 1, \dots, k$

is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} & \tau \rightarrow \max \\ & (\text{Det } X)^{\frac{1}{n}} \geq \tau \\ & \begin{pmatrix} I & Y_\ell x - y_\ell & Y_\ell X \\ x^T Y_\ell - y_\ell^T & 1 - \lambda_\ell & \\ XY_\ell & & \lambda_\ell I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0, \ell = 1, \dots, k \\ & X \succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad \text{(I)}$$

with design variables $x, X, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$.

• **The problem**

Find the smallest volume ellipsoid $W(Y, y)$ containing every one of given ellipsoids $V(X_\ell, y_\ell)$, $\ell = 1, \dots, k$

is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} & \tau \rightarrow \max \\ & (\text{Det } Y)^{\frac{1}{n}} \geq \tau \\ & \begin{pmatrix} I & Y x_\ell - y & Y X_\ell \\ x_\ell^T Y & 1 - \lambda_\ell & \\ X_\ell Y & & \lambda_\ell I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0, \ell = 1, \dots, k \\ & Y \succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad \text{(O)}$$

with design variables $y, Y, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$.

Since the feasible sets of every one of the constraints in (I) and (O) admit explicit \mathcal{SD} -r.'s, both problems can be straightforwardly converted to semidefinite programs.