

20.1 Semidefinite Programming

A symmetric matrix $X \in R^{n \times n}$ is positive semi-definite (psd) if $\forall y \in R^n$, we have $y^T X y \geq 0$. Use $X \succeq 0$ to denote X is psd.

The following statements are equivalent if X is symmetric.

1. $X \succeq 0$
2. X has non-negative eigenvalues.
3. $X = V^T V$ for some $V \in R^{m \times n}$, $m \leq n$.
4. $X = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i w_i w_i^T$ for some $\lambda_i \geq 0$, $\forall i$, $\{w_i\}_i$ is orthonormal basis.

Semi-definite Programming (SDP)

There are two forms.

Form 1:

$$\begin{aligned} & \max/\min \sum_{i,j} c_{i,j} \cdot x_{i,j} \\ & \text{such that } \sum_{i,j} a_{k,i,j} \cdot x_{i,j} \geq b_k \quad (\forall k) \\ & x_{i,j} = x_{j,i} \quad (\forall i, j) \\ & X = (x_{i,j})_{i,j} \text{ is psd.} \end{aligned}$$

To use ellipsoid method to solve SDP form 1, we need:

- a separation oracle O
- if X is not psd, find y such that $y^T X y < 0$, return the constraint $(y y^T) \cdot X \geq 0$.

Lemma 20.1 $X = (X_{i,j})_{i,j}$ is psd $\iff \forall y \in R^n, (y y^T) \cdot X \geq 0$.

Proof: Define $A \cdot B = \sum_{i,j} A_{i,j} B_{i,j}$.

$$y^T X y = \sum_{i,j} y_i \cdot x_{i,j} \cdot y_j = \sum_{i,j} y_i \cdot y_j \cdot x_{i,j} = (y y^T) \cdot X \quad \blacksquare$$

Form 2: (Vector Programming)

$$\begin{aligned} & \max/\min \sum_{i,j} c_{i,j} \langle v_i, v_j \rangle \\ & \text{such that } \sum_{i,j} a_{k,i,j} \langle v_i, v_j \rangle \geq b_k \quad (\forall k) \\ & v_i \in R^n \quad (\forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n) \end{aligned}$$

How to convert from SDP form 2 to form 1:

Given v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n , define $x_{i,j} = \langle v_i, v_j \rangle$,

$$\text{then } X = \begin{pmatrix} \dots v_1 \dots \\ \dots v_2 \dots \\ \vdots \\ \dots v_n \dots \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \end{pmatrix} \text{ is psd.}$$

How to convert from SDP form 1 to form 2:

Given a psd X , $X = V^T V$,

$$\text{let } V = \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \end{pmatrix} \text{ then, } v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \text{ gives a solution form 2.}$$

Maximum Weight Cut Problem

Given $G = (V, E)$, $\{w_e\}_{e \in E}$,

find $S \subseteq V$ so as to maximize $\sum_{(u,v) \in E: |\{u,v\} \cap S|=1} w_{(u,v)}$.

Quadratic Programming for Maximum Weighted Cut

$\forall v \in V$, define

$$y_v = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } v \in S \\ -1 & \text{if } v \notin S \end{cases}$$

So, the quadratic programming will be as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \frac{1}{2} \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (1 - y_i y_j) \\ \text{such that} \quad & y_i^2 = 1 \quad (\forall i \in V) \end{aligned}$$

SDP relaxation can be formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \frac{1}{2} \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in E} (1 - \langle v_i, v_j \rangle) \\ \text{such that} \quad & \langle v_i, v_j \rangle = 1 \quad (\forall i \in V) \\ & v_i \in R^n \quad (\forall i \in V) \end{aligned}$$

Let Z_{up} be the value of SDP relaxation and OPT be the value of the optimum solution. Since SDP was defined on a larger set, we can say that $Z_{up} \geq OPT$.

Our goal is to find a solution S of value $\geq \alpha \cdot Z_{up}$ for some α .

Choose $r_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ for each $i \in V$.

$$r = (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n)$$

Let $i \in S$, if $\langle r, v_i \rangle \geq 0$ and $i \notin S$, if $\langle r, v_i \rangle < 0$.

$$\Rightarrow \text{prob}[(i, j) \text{ is cut}] = \frac{\arccos \langle v_i, v_j \rangle}{\pi}$$

Let P be the plane containing v_i and v_j , then the direction of r projected to P is uniform distributed.

$$\frac{\arccos \langle v_i, v_j \rangle}{(1 - \langle v_i, v_j \rangle)/2} \geq \alpha_{GW} := \inf_{x \in [-1, 1]} \frac{\arccos x / \pi}{(1 - x)/2} \approx -0.878$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\text{value of } S] = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{(i,j)} \cdot \frac{\arccos \langle v_i, v_j \rangle}{\pi} \geq \alpha_{GW} \cdot \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{(i,j)} \cdot \frac{1 - \langle v_i, v_j \rangle}{2} = \alpha_{GW} \cdot Z_{up} \geq \alpha_{GW} \cdot OPT$$