

Solving Signomial Programs with SAGE Certificates and Partial Dualization

Riley Murray

California Institute of Technology

September 27, 2019

Joint work with Venkat Chandrasekaran and Adam Wierman (Caltech).

Nonnegativity and Optimization

Given a function f and a set $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_X^* &= \inf\{f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \text{ in } X\} \\ &= \sup\{\gamma : f(\mathbf{x}) \geq \gamma \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \text{ in } X\}. \end{aligned}$$

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Tool: tractable *sufficient conditions* for nonnegativity.

Signomials

Signomials are functions of the form

$$\mathbf{x} \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^m c_i \exp(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i \cdot \mathbf{x})$$

for real scalars c_i , and row vectors $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i$ in \mathbb{R}^n .

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If allow arbitrary $c_i < 0$, then optimization becomes NP-Hard.

Definitions from Convex Analysis

The **relative entropy function** is the continuous extension of

$$D(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \sum_{i=1}^m u_i \log(u_i/v_i) \quad \text{to} \quad \mathbb{R}_+^m \times \mathbb{R}_+^m.$$

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the **dual cone** to K is

$$K^\dagger = \{\mathbf{y} : \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{x} \geq 0 \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \text{ in } K\}.$$

Theory of SAGE certificates.

The signomial X -nonnegativity cones

Define the X -nonnegativity cone for signomials over exponents α :

$$C_{\text{NNS}}(\alpha, X) \doteq \{ \mathbf{c} : \sum_{i=1}^m c_i \exp(\alpha_i \cdot \mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \text{ in } X \}.$$

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These nonnegativity cones exhibit affine-invariance:

$$C_{\text{NNS}}(\alpha, X) = C_{\text{NNS}}(\alpha - \mathbf{1}u, X) = C_{\text{NNS}}(\alpha V, V^{-1}X)$$

for all row vectors u in \mathbb{R}^n , and all invertible V in $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$.

X -SAGE \Rightarrow X -nonnegativity

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We take sums of X -AGE cones to obtain the **X -SAGE cone**

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Crucial question: How to represent the AGE cones?

The convex duality behind AGE cones

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$$\sum_{i=1}^m c_i \exp(\alpha_i \cdot x) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^m c_i \exp([\alpha_i - \alpha_k] \cdot x) &\geq 0 \\ \sum_{i \neq k} c_i \exp([\alpha_i - \alpha_k] \cdot x) &\geq -c_k. \end{aligned}$$

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Appeal to convex duality. The nonnegativity condition

$$\inf \left\{ \sum_{i \neq k} c_i \exp([\alpha_i - \alpha_k] \cdot x) : x \text{ in } X \right\} \geq -c_k$$

holds **if and only if**

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$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_X(\lambda) + D(\nu, c_{\setminus k}) - \nu^\top \mathbf{1} &\leq c_k, \text{ and} \\ [\alpha_{\setminus k} - \mathbf{1}\alpha_k]\nu + \lambda &= \mathbf{0}. \end{aligned}$$

X is tractable \Rightarrow X -SAGE is tractable

There are two constraints in an AGE cone:

- $[\alpha_{\setminus k} - \mathbf{1}\alpha_k]\nu + \lambda = \mathbf{0}$ definitely tractable
- $\sigma_X(\lambda) + D(\nu, c_{\setminus k}) - \nu^\top \mathbf{1} \leq c_k$ tractability unclear

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$$X = \mathbb{R}^n \Rightarrow \sigma_X(\lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \lambda = \mathbf{0} \\ +\infty & \text{if } \lambda \neq \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$$

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$$X = \{\mathbf{x} : \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}\| \leq r\} \Rightarrow \sigma_X(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \boldsymbol{\lambda}^\top \mathbf{a} + r\|\boldsymbol{\lambda}\|_*$$

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Suppose $X = \{x : Ax + b \in K\}$ is strictly feasible.

Then

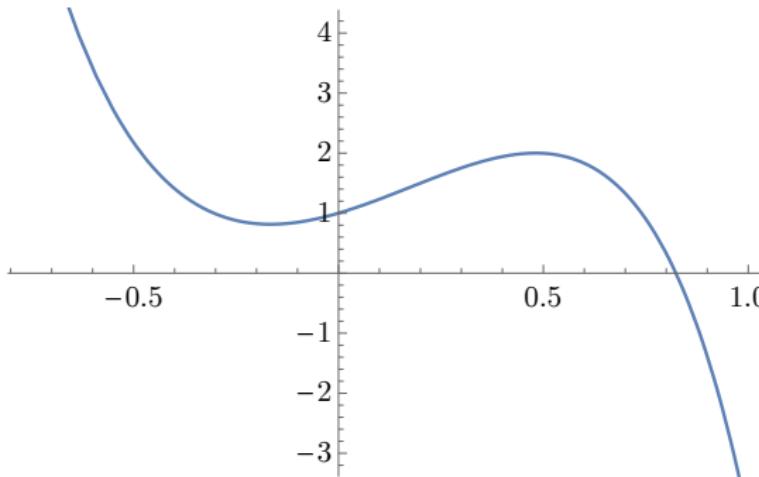
$$\sigma_X(\lambda) \leq t$$

if and only if some η satisfies

$$\eta \in K^\dagger, \quad A^\top \eta + \lambda = \mathbf{0}, \quad \text{and} \quad b^\top \eta \leq t.$$

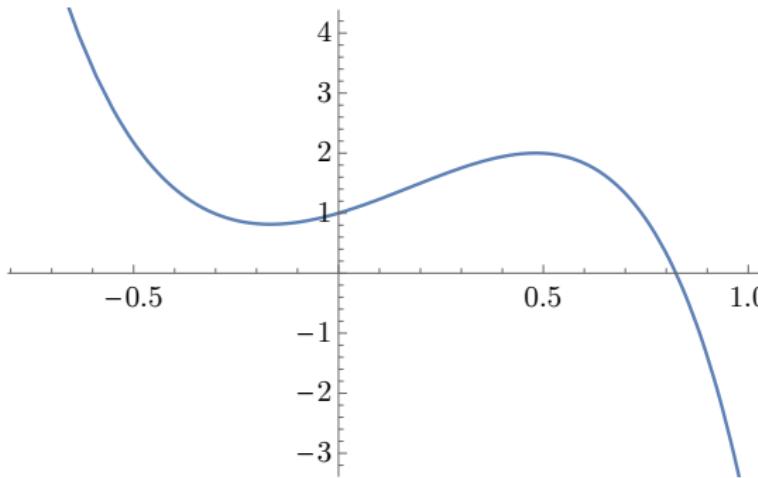
A univariate example

$$f(x) = e^{-3x} + e^{-2x} + 4e^x + e^{2x} - 4e^{-x} - 1 - e^{3x} \text{ over } x \leq 0$$



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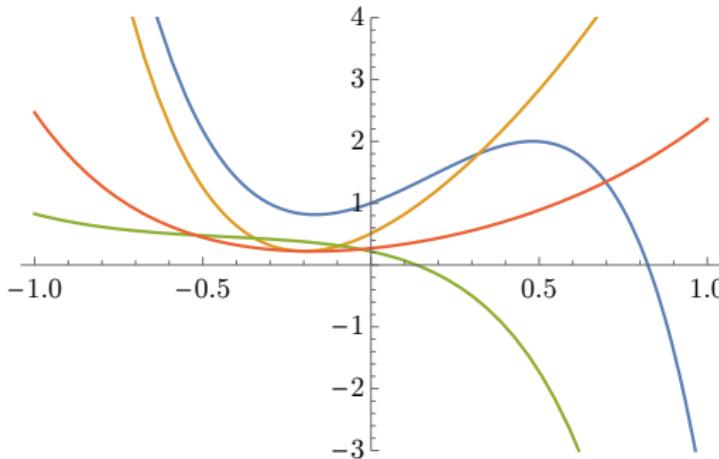
$$f_1(x) = 0.88 \cdot e^{-3x} + 0.82 \cdot e^{-2x} + 2.69 \cdot e^x + 0.12 \cdot e^{2x} - 4 \cdot e^{-x}$$

$$f_2(x) = 0.10 \cdot e^{-3x} + 0.15 \cdot e^{-2x} + 0.90 \cdot e^x + 0.12 \cdot e^{2x} - 1$$

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Geometric-form signomials

If $x > 0$, then

$$x \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^m c_i x^{\alpha_i}$$

is defined for any real α_i .

If $X \subset \mathbb{R}_{++}^n$, then

$$\{c : \sum_{i=1}^m c_i x^{\alpha_i} \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \text{ in } X\} = C_{\text{NNS}}(\alpha, \log X).$$

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Therefore

$$C_{\text{SAGE}}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}, \log X) \subset \{\mathbf{c} : \sum_{i=1}^m c_i \mathbf{x}^{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i} \geq 0 \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \text{ in } X\},$$

and the L.H.S. inherits tractability from $Y = \log X$.

Optimization.

Simple SAGE relaxations

Consider $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^m c_i \exp(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i \cdot \mathbf{x})$ with $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_1 = \mathbf{0}$. Fix convex X .

The primal and dual SAGE relaxations for f_X^* are

$$\begin{aligned} f_X^{\text{SAGE}} &= \sup\{\gamma : \mathbf{c} - \gamma(1, 0, \dots, 0) \text{ in } C_{\text{SAGE}}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}, X)\} \\ &= \inf\{\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{v} : v_1 = 1 \text{ and } \mathbf{v} \text{ in } C_{\text{SAGE}}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}, X)^\dagger\}. \end{aligned}$$

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The dual X -SAGE cone can be expressed as

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Solution recovery? Consider vectors $\mathbf{x}_k = \mathbf{z}_k/v_k$ for k in $[m]$.

A small example

$$\begin{aligned} \inf_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3} f(\mathbf{x}) &\doteq 0.5 \exp(x_1 - x_2) - \exp x_1 - 5 \exp(-x_2) \\ \text{s.t. } &\exp(x_2 - x_3) + \exp x_2 + 0.05 \exp(x_1 + x_3) \leq 100 \\ &\log 70 \leq x_1 \leq \log 150 \\ &\log 1.0 \leq x_2 \leq \log 30 \\ &\log 0.5 \leq x_3 \leq \log 21 \end{aligned}$$

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Compute $f_X^{\text{SAGE}} = -147.85713 \leq f_X^*$, recover feasible

$$\mathbf{x}^* = (5.01063529, 3.40119660, -0.48450710)$$

satisfying $f(\mathbf{x}^*) = -147.66666$. *This is actually optimal!*

Nonconvex constraints

Q: What should we do when some constraints are nonconvex?

A: Combine X -SAGE certificates with Lagrangian relaxations.

Concretely, suppose we want to minimize f over

$$\Omega \doteq X \cap \{\mathbf{x} : g(\mathbf{x}) \leq \mathbf{0}\}$$

where X is convex, but g_1, \dots, g_k are nonconvex signomials.

Then, if $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ are nonnegative dual variables, we have

$$\inf_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega} f(\mathbf{x}) \geq \sup \left\{ \gamma : f + \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i g_i - \gamma \text{ is } X\text{-SAGE} \right\}.$$

A bigger example

$$\inf 720H_c + 43200\varphi + 14400\varphi^3 + 5760\varphi^5 + R^2\varphi^3 + 0.4R^2\varphi^5 - 7198.2 \quad (\text{Ex11})$$

$$\text{s.t. } 15 \leq H \leq 25, \quad 15 \leq H_c \leq 25, \quad 12 \leq H_t \leq 19$$

$$330 \leq R \leq 380, \quad 330 \leq R_M \leq 380, \quad 0.05 \leq \varphi \leq 0.2$$

$$252.154H^{-2} + 4500R^{-2} \leq 1, \quad R^{-1}R_M - 0.5HR^{-1} = 1$$

$$0.0125H + 0.00833R\varphi + 0.0000694R\varphi^5 - 0.001389R\varphi^3 \leq 1$$

$$30.52132H_c^{-1} - 120H_c^{-1}\varphi - 40H_c^{-1}\varphi^3 - 16H_c^{-1}\varphi^5 \leq 1$$

$$2238.432H_c^{-3} + 53720.208H_c^{-4}\varphi + 17906.736H_c^{-4}\varphi^3 + 7162.694H_c^{-4}\varphi^5 \\ + 19.995H_c^{-1} - 8951.297H_c^{-4} - 120H_c^{-1}\varphi - 40H_c^{-1}\varphi^3 - 16H_c^{-1}\varphi^5 \leq 1$$

$$252.1543H_t^{-2} + 0.005837H_t^{-2}R^2\varphi^4 + 4500R^{-2} - 0.0175H_t^{-2}R^2\varphi^2 \\ - 0.000778H_t^{-2}R^2\varphi^6 \leq 1$$

$$67.73085H^{-1.8}R_M^{0.2}\varphi^{0.2} + 146.53487H^{-0.8}R_M^{-0.8}\varphi^{0.2} \\ + 393.09732H^{0.2}R_M^{-1.8}\varphi^{0.2} \leq 1$$

$$HH_t^{-1} + 0.5H_t^{-1}R\varphi^2 + 0.02777H_t^{-1}R\varphi^3 - 0.0416667H_t^{-1}R\varphi^4 \\ - 0.16663H_t^{-1}R\varphi - 0.001389H_t^{-1}R\varphi^5 = 1$$

$$2HR^{-1}\varphi^{-2} - 2H_cR^{-1}\varphi^{-2} - 0.41667\varphi^2 - 0.16944\varphi^4 = 1$$

Benchmark problem from 1970's. SAGE set a new record.

Use the sageopt python package.



- Python 3.5 or higher (recommend ≥ 3.6).
- “`pip install sageopt`”
- Signomial and polynomial optimization.
- Require open-source convex solver, ECOS.
- Recommend commercial solver, MOSEK.

Concluding Remarks

The content of this presentation is a small fraction of

Signomial and Polynomial Optimization via Relative Entropy and Partial Dualization

– a paper by R.M., Venkat Chandrasekaran, and Adam Wierman.