

**EE236A Linear Programming**  
**Quiz 1**  
**Tuesday October 13, 2020**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ UID: \_\_\_\_\_

This quiz has 3 questions, for a total of 20 points.

Open book.  
The exam is for a total of 1:00 hour. **Please, write your name and UID on the top of each sheet you upload.**

**Good luck!**

Problem	Mark	Total
P1		6
P2		7
P3		7
Total		20

**Problem 1** (6 points) Let  $x$  be a real-valued random variable which takes values in  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  where  $0 < a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_n$ , and  $\Pr(x = a_i) = p_i$ . Obviously  $p$  satisfies  $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$ .

Consider the problem of determining the probability distribution that maximizes the expected value  $\mathbf{E}x$  subject to the constraint that  $\Pr(x \geq \alpha) = b$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && \mathbf{E}x \\ & \text{subject to} && \Pr(x \geq \alpha) = b \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $b$  are given ( $a_1 < \alpha < a_n$ , and  $0 \leq b \leq 1$ ). Write (2) as an LP.

**Problem 2** (7 points): Can you solve the following problem by solving an (equivalent) LP? If yes, explain how you would do that, if no, explain why it is not possible.

Consider the  $n$  dimensional real vectors  $x = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$  and  $z = [z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n]$ , we want to

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \|\alpha x\|_2^2 - \|z\|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \max_i x_i^2 \leq \beta, \quad i = 1 \dots n \\ & && -1 \leq z_i \leq 1, \quad i = 1 \dots n \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are given real nonnegative constants.

**Problem 3** (7 points) Formulate the following problem as an LP and find its solution.

Four wireless basestations  $n_1, n_2, n_3$  and  $n_4$  are placed on the circumference of a circle, as depicted in Fig. 1. When node  $i$  transmits, the two nodes closest to it cannot transmit, because they would cause interference. For example, when basestation 1 transmits, basestations 2 and 4 cannot transmit. Each basestation  $i$  transmits at a rate of  $r_i$  (the rates  $r_i$  are given constants) packets per time unit; moreover, each basestation needs to transmit for at least  $1/8$  of each time unit. Write an LP that maximizes the total amount of rate, transmitted from all four basestations, during a time unit. Find its solution.

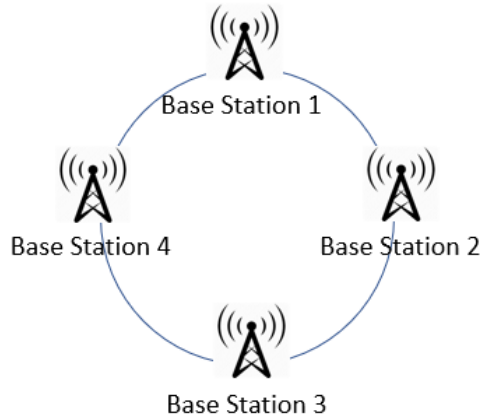


Figure 1: Wireless basestations positioned on a circle