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# Support Constraint on Variables in Polynomial Optimization (Not Complete)

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**Note type** standard

**Tags**

Given a [Polynomial Optimization Problem](#) with the added requirement that at most  $k < m$  of the variables can be nonzero, i.e. at most  $k$  variables are supported,

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_* &:= \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(\mathbf{x}) \\
 &\quad s. t. \quad g_j(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in [m] \\
 &\quad \quad h_k(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad \forall k \in [d] \\
 &\quad \quad \mathbf{x}^\alpha = 0 \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n \quad s. t. \quad |\text{supp}(\alpha)| \geq k+1 \\
 &= \\
 &\min L(f) \\
 &\quad s. t. \quad L : \mathbb{R}[\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}] \\
 &\quad \quad L(1) = 1 \\
 &\quad \quad M(g_0 L) := L(\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}[\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}]) \\
 &\quad \quad M(g_j L) := L(g_j(\mathbf{x})\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}[\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}]) \\
 &\quad \quad M(h_k L) := L(h_k\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}[\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}]) \\
 &\quad \quad L(\mathbf{x}^\alpha \mathbf{x}^\beta) = 0 \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}_{t-1}^n \quad s. t. \quad |\text{supp}(\alpha + \beta)| \geq k+1
 \end{aligned}$$

Where  $\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}$  is the vector of all [Definition Monomial](#)s that do not contain more than  $k$  distinct variables.

[Sums of \(polynomial\) Squares](#)

## Proof

Recall [Correspondence between Measures and Moments](#).

Suppose that  $\mu$  satisfies the first problem and let  $L$  be the corresponding linear functional noting that all the moments with support larger than  $k+1$  are set to zero.

$$L(\mathbf{x}^\alpha) = \begin{cases} 0 & |\text{supp}(\alpha)| \geq k+1 \\ \int \mathbf{x}^\alpha d\mu & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Hence, we may aswell ignore them. This results in the reformulation with  $\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}$  in stead of  $[\mathbf{x}]$ . The rest of the proof follows the same pattern as in [Result Polynomial Optimization is Equivalent to Optimization over Probability Measures](#) [Result Optimization over Probability Measures is equivalent to Optimization over Moments](#).

□

## How big are the moment matrices

Recall that

$$|[\mathbf{x}]_t| = \binom{n+t}{t}$$

Similarly we have

$$|\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}|_t = \sum_{j=k+1}^t \binom{j+k-1}{k-1}$$

The reasoning is as follows :

1. All monomials of degree  $k$  or less necessarily have support less than  $k+1$ .
2. Among all monomials of degree  $k+1$  the number of them that have support  $k+1$  is  $n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdots (n-k) = \frac{n!}{(n-k-1)!}$ . The number that have support  $k$  or less is given by  $\binom{k+1+(k-1)}{k-1}$ . You can think of this as having  $k+1$  objects to assign to  $k$  bins, [Stars and Bars](#).

## How does this affect the [Sums of Squares Relaxations](#)?

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} \lambda \\ & s.t. \quad f(x) - \lambda \in \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{2t}(g_1, g_2, \dots, g_m) + \widetilde{\mathcal{I}}_{2t}(h_1, h_2, \dots, h_d) \end{aligned} \quad (?)$$

Where

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}(g_1, g_2, \dots, g_m) := \left\{ \sigma_0 + \sum_{j \in [m]} g_j \sigma_j : \sigma_0, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m \in \Sigma[\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}] \right\}$$

and

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{I}}(h_1, h_2, \dots, h_d) := \left\{ \sum_{k \in [d]} h_k p_k : p_1, p_2, \dots, p_d \in \mathbb{R}[\widetilde{\mathbf{x}}] \right\}$$

## Consequences (TO DO)

- Find more literature on this topic.
- Convergence to a sparse solution
- If there is flatness does that mean we can extend flatly and keep the sparsity?
- Is there a bound on the difference between the full solution and the sparse one?
- What does this cardinality constraint do in the case of signomial optimization?
- Does it synergize with term/corr. sparsity?
- What other problems can be phrased like this?
  - Selection type problems.

Another way of looking at the constraint

$$L(\mathbf{x}^\alpha \mathbf{x}^\beta) = 0 \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}_{t-1}^n \quad s.t. \quad |\text{supp}(\alpha + \beta)| \geq k+1$$

is to look at the [Hamming Distance](#) of the supports of all pairs.....(Need to think on this.)