## Introduction to Modern Control Systems Convex Optimization & Linear Matrix Inequalities

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#### References

#### Convex Optimization & Duality Theory:

- Boyd & Vandenberghe (2004) Convex Optimization, Cambridge University Press.
- Bertsekas (2009) Convex Optimization Theory, Athena Scientific.
- Rockafellar (1970) Convex Analysis, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

## Linear Matrix Inequalities (LMIs):

- Boyd, El Ghaoui, Feron & Balakrishnan (1994) Linear Matrix Inequalities in System and Control Theory, SIAM.
- VanAntwerp & Braatz (2000) A tutorial on linear and bilinear matrix inequalities, J. Process Control.

## **Convex Optimization**

- Optimization programs
- Convex sets
- Convex functions
- Operations that preserve convexity
- Convex optimization programs

## Linear Matrix Inequalities (LMIs)

- How do they look like?
- Are they convex?
- Why are they interesting

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## Optimization program - General description

A more common problem format:

$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} f_0(x)$$
  
subject to:  $f_i(x) \leq 0$   $i = 1, \dots, m$   
 $h_i(x) = 0$   $i = 1, \dots, p$ 

- Objective function  $f_0: \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}$
- **Domain**  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  of the objective function, from which the decision variable  $x := (x_1; x_2; ...; x_n)$  must be chosen.
- Inequality constraint functions  $f_i : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, m$
- Equality constraint functions  $h_i : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, p$
- ⇒ Maximization fit the framework with a change of sign.

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## Optimization program - Possible outcomes

#### Consider the problem

$$p^* = \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} f(x)$$

- If  $p^* = -\infty$ , then the problem is **unbounded below**.
- If the set  $\mathcal{X}$  is empty, then the problem is **infeasible** (and we set  $p^* = +\infty$ ).
- If  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^n$ , the problem is **unconstrained**.
- There might be more than one solution. The set of solutions is:

$$\arg\min_{x\in\mathcal{X}}f(x):=\{x\in\mathcal{X}\mid f(x)=p^*\}$$

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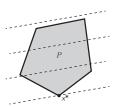
# Under convexity it is easier ...

#### Linear Program (LP):

$$\min_{x} c^{\top}x$$

subject to:  $Gx \le h$ 

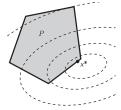
Ax = b



## Convex Quadratic Program (QP) $-P \succeq 0$ :

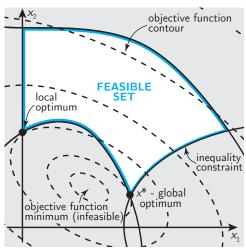
$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \quad \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^{\top} P \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{q}^{\top} \mathbf{x}$$

subject to:  $Gx \le h$ 



### ⇒ Convex programs: Local optimum = Global optimum

## Geometric view



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#### Convex sets

#### Definition (Convex Set)

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A set  $\mathcal{X}$  is convex if and only if for any pair of points x and y in  $\mathcal{X}$ , any **convex combination** of x and y lies in  $\mathcal{X}$ :

 $\mathcal{X}$  is convex  $\Leftrightarrow \lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y \in \mathcal{X}, \forall \lambda \in [0, 1], \forall x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ 

**Interpretation:** All line segments starting and ending in  $\mathcal{X}$  stay within  $\mathcal{X}$ .







Non-convex:

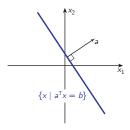
#### Convex sets

## Definitions (Hyperplanes and halfspaces)

A hyperplane is defined by  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid a^\top x = b\}$  for  $a \neq 0$ , where  $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the normal vector to the hyperplane.

A halfspace is defined by  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid a^\top x \leq b\}$  for  $a \neq 0$ . It can either be open (strict inequality) or closed (non-strict inequality).

For n = 2, hyperplanes define lines. For n = 3, hyperplanes define planes.



 $\{x \mid a^{\mathsf{T}}x \leq b\}$ 

A hyperplane

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A closed halfspace

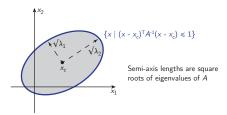
## Ellipsoid - Generalized norm ball

## Definition (Ellipsoid)

An ellipsoid is a set defined as

$$\mathcal{E} = \{ x \mid (x - x_c)^{\top} A^{-1} (x - x_c) \le 1 \},$$

where  $x_c$  is the centre of the ellipsoid, and  $A \succ 0$ .



Alternatively,  $\mathcal{E} = \{x \mid T(x) \leq 0\}$  where

$$T(x) = x^{\top}Ax + 2x^{\top}b + c$$
, with  $A = A^{\top} > 0$ .

#### Convex sets

### Definitions (Polyhedra and polytopes)

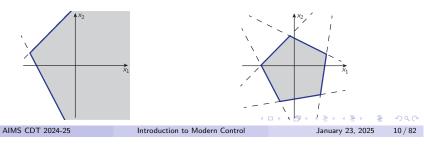
A polyhedron is the intersection of a *finite* number of closed halfspaces:

$$\mathcal{X} = \{x \mid a_1^\top x \le b_1, \ a_2^\top x \le b_2, \dots, a_m^\top \le b_m\} = \{x \mid Ax \le b\}$$

where  $A := [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m]^{\top}$  and  $b := [b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m]^{\top}$ .

A polytope is a bounded polyhedron.

Polyhedra and polytopes are always convex.

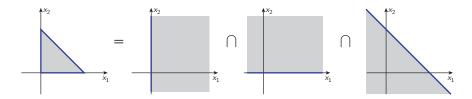


### Intersection of convex sets

#### Theorem

The intersection of two or more convex sets is itself convex.

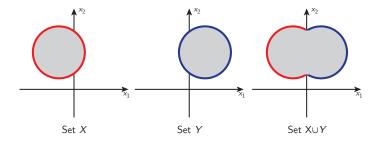
**Proof (for two sets):** Consider any two points a and b which both lie in both of two convex sets  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$ . For any  $\lambda \in [0,1]$ ,  $\lambda a + (1-\lambda)b$  is in both  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$ . Therefore  $\lambda a + (1 - \lambda)b \in \mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y}$ ,  $\forall \lambda \in [0, 1]$ . This satisfies the definition of convexity for set  $\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y}$ .



Think of simultaneous constraint satisfaction.

## Union of convex sets

Note that the union of two sets is not convex in general, regardless of whether the original sets were convex!



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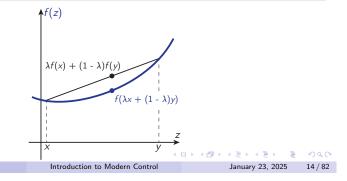
## Convex functions

#### Definitions (Convex function)

A function  $f : dom(f) \to \mathbb{R}$  is convex if and only if its domain dom(f) is convex and

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \le \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y), \quad \forall \lambda \in (0, 1), \quad \forall x, y \in \text{dom}(f)$$

The function f is strictly convex if this inequality is strict.



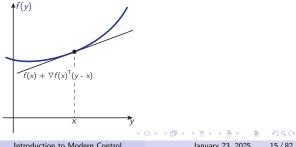
## Convex functions – 1st-order condition

A differentiable function  $f: dom(f) \to \mathbb{R}$  with a convex domain is **convex** if and only if

$$f(y) \ge f(x) + \nabla f(x)^{\top} (y - x), \quad \forall x, y \in \text{dom}(f)$$

i.e. a first order approximator of f around any point x is a global underestimator of f.

The gradient is given by 
$$\nabla f(x) = \left[\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_n}\right]^{\top}$$



### Convex functions – 2nd-order condition

A twice-differentiable function  $f: dom(f) \to \mathbb{R}$  is **convex** *if and only if* its domain dom(f) is convex and

$$\nabla^2 f(x) \succeq 0, \quad \forall x \in \text{dom}(f),$$

where the Hessian  $\nabla^2 f(x)$  is defined by

$$\nabla^2 f(x)_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}$$

If dom(f) is convex and  $\nabla^2 f(x) \succ 0$  for all  $x \in \text{dom}(f)$ , then f is **strictly** convex.

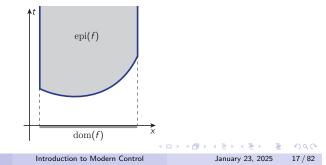
## Convex functions – Epigraph

The **epigraph** of a function  $f: dom(f) \to \mathbb{R}$  is the **set** 

$$\operatorname{epi}(f) = \left\{ \left[egin{array}{c} x \\ t \end{array} \right] \ \middle| \ x \in \operatorname{dom}(f), \ f(x) \leq t 
ight\} \subseteq \operatorname{dom}(f) imes \mathbb{R}$$

It has dimension one higher than the domain of f.

A function is convex if and only if its epigraph is a convex set.



## Convex optimization program – standard form

A standard form **convex** optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \quad f_0(x) \\ \text{subject to:} \quad f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ a_i^\top x = b_i \quad i = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

This problem is convex if:

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- The domain  $\mathcal{X}$  is a convex set.
- The objective function  $f_0$  is a convex function.
- The inequality constraint functions  $f_i$  are all convex.
- The equality constraint functions  $h_i(x) = a_i^\top x$  are all affine.

## Operations that preserve convexity

#### Theorem (Non-negative weighted sum)

If f is a function convex, then  $\alpha f$  is convex for  $\alpha > 0$ . For several convex functions  $f_i$ ,  $\sum_i \alpha_i f_i$  is convex if all  $\alpha_i \geq 0$ .

### Theorem (Composition with affine function)

If f is a convex function, then f(Ax + b) is convex.

**Example**: ||Ax - b|| is convex for any norm; Exponential functions.

### Theorem (Pointwise maximum)

If  $f_1, \ldots, f_m$  are convex functions, then  $f(x) = \max\{f_1(x), \ldots, f_m(x)\}$  is

**Example**: Piecewise linear functions  $\max_{i=1,...,m} \{a_i^\top x + b\}$  are convex. AIMS CDT 2024-25

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## Convex optimization program – standard form

A standard form **convex** optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \quad f_0(x) \\ \text{subject to:} & f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & Ax = b \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times m} \end{aligned}$$

This problem is convex if:

- The domain  $\mathcal{X}$  is a convex set.
- The objective function  $f_0$  is a convex function.
- The inequality constraint functions  $f_i$  are all convex.
- The equality constraint functions  $h_i(x) = a_i^{\top} x$  are all affine.

## Convex programs: Local optimum = Global optimum

#### Theorem

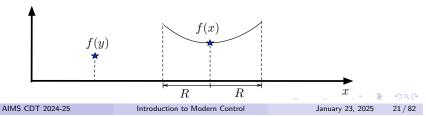
For a convex optimization problem, every locally optimal solution is globally optimal.

#### Proof:

- Assume that x is locally optimal, but not globally optimal.
- Therefore there is some other point y such that f(y) < f(x).
- x locally optimal implies that there is some R > 0 such that

$$||z-x||_2 \le R \Rightarrow f(x) \le f(z)$$

• The problem can't be convex.



## Example: Piecewise affine minimization (con'd)

#### Piecewise affine minimization:

$$\min_{x} \left[ \max_{i=1,\dots,m} \left\{ c_i^{\top} x + d_i \right\} \right]$$

subject to: Gx < h

is **equivalent** to an LP:

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{x,t} & t \\ \text{subject to:} & & c_i^\top x + d_i \leq t & \forall i = 1, \dots, m \\ & & \textit{Gx} \leq h \end{aligned}$$

Add variables and write the problem in epigraph form  $\Rightarrow$  epigraphic reformulation.

## Example: Piecewise affine minimization

#### Piecewise affine minimization:

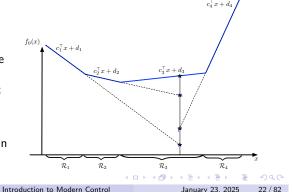
$$\min_{x} \quad \left[ \max_{i=1,\dots,m} \left\{ c_i^\top x + d_i \right\} \right]$$
 subject to:  $Gx < h$ 

The function is affine on

each region  $\mathcal{R}_i$ .

 Any convex and piecewise affine function can be written this way (e.g. 1st norm).

 Can be reformulated as an IP.



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### What are LMIs?

A **Linear Matrix Inequality** (LMI) is a constraint of the form:

$$x_1A_1 + x_2A_2 + \cdots + x_nA_n \leq B$$

where the matrices  $A_1, \ldots, A_n, B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  are all symmetric.

• This is a constraint that imposes matrix

$$B - \sum_{i}^{n} x_{i} A_{i}$$

to be positive semidefinite (positive definite if  $\prec$  replaced by  $\prec$ ).

- It is equivalent to imposing *m* polynomial inequalities
  - Not element-wise constraints.
  - All leading principle minors are positive (for positive definite matrices).

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#### What are LMIs?

A Linear Matrix Inequality (LMI) is a constraint of the form:

$$x_1A_1 + x_2A_2 + \cdots + x_nA_n \leq B$$

where the matrices  $(A_1, \ldots, A_n, B)$  are all symmetric.

Consider the constraint

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_2 & x_3 \end{bmatrix} \succ 0$$

• This is equivalent to (2 inequalities) leading principle minors as inequality is strict):

$$x_1 > 0$$
  

$$\det(Q) > 0 \Leftrightarrow x_1 x_3 - x_2^2 > 0$$

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## LMIs are convex constraints

#### Theorem

The following LMI constraint is convex.

$$F(x) = B - \sum_{i}^{n} x_{i} A_{i} \succeq 0$$

**Proof:** Let x, y such that F(x),  $F(y) \succeq 0$ , and  $\lambda \in (0,1)$ .

$$F(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) = B - \sum_{i} (\lambda x_{i} + (1 - \lambda)y_{i})A_{i}$$

$$= \lambda B + (1 - \lambda)B - \lambda \sum_{i} x_{i}A_{i} - (1 - \lambda)\sum_{i} y_{i}A_{i}$$

$$= \lambda F(x) + (1 - \lambda)F(y)$$

$$\succeq 0$$

#### General form LMIs

**Example 1:** 
$$y - x^2 > 0$$
,  $y > 0 \iff \begin{bmatrix} y & x \\ x & 1 \end{bmatrix} > 0$ 

- Check leading principle minors (as inequality is strict)
- That is an LMI: rewrite as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + x \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \succ 0$$

**Example 2:** 
$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 < 1 \iff \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & x_1 \\ 0 & 1 & x_2 \\ x_1 & x_2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \succ 0$$

• Leading principle minors are: 1 > 0,  $\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} > 0$ , and

$$1 \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_2 \\ x_2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - 0 \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & x_2 \\ x_1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + x_1 \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} > 0$$

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#### Theorem

The following LMI constraint is convex.

LMIs are convex constraints

$$F(x) = B - \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i A_i \succeq 0$$

**Alternative proof:** We want to show that the set  $\{x: F(x) \succeq 0\}$  is convex. We have that ...

$$\{x: F(x) \succeq 0\} = \{x: z^{\top} F(x) z \ge 0, \text{ for all } z\}$$
$$= \bigcap_{z} \{x: z^{\top} F(x) z \ge 0\}$$

... but this is an infinite intersection of sets affine in x ... so it is convex!

- LMI much harder than linear constraints an infinite number of them!
- Result can be piecewise affine LMIs nonlinear!

## Why are LMIs interesting?

Linear Matrix Inequalities:

- Appear in many common control design problems (more later on)
- Most of the problems presented so far can be written using LMI constraints

#### Linear constraints

$$Ax \le b \iff \operatorname{diag}(Ax) \le \operatorname{diag}(b)$$

Quadratic constraints (It will be clear later on)

$$x^{\top}Qx + b^{\top}x + c \leq 0, \quad Q \succ 0 \quad \iff \quad \begin{bmatrix} c + b^{\top}x & x^{\top} \\ x & -Q^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \leq 0$$

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Summarv

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Interplay between convex functions and sets (epigraphic reformulation)

• Generalize many of the well known constraints (e.g. linear, quadratic)

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## LMIs in optimization

Consider the following optimization program

Introduction to convex optimization

2 Linear Matrix Inequalities (LMIs)

LMI constraints are convex!

Nonlinear constraints

• Under convexity: local = global optima

Recognizing convexity makes life easier

$$\min \quad c^{\top}x$$
 (SDP): subject to:  $x_1A_1 + x_2A_2 + \cdots + x_nA_n \leq B$ 

where the matrices  $(A_1, \ldots, A_n, B)$  are all symmetric.

- We could also have equality constraints
- Optimization over LMI constraints

Why is this class of optimization programs interesting?

- Semidefinite programming (SDP)
- Many control analysis and synthesis problems can be written as SDPs
- Most of the problems presented so far can be written as SDPs

**Duality Theory** 

- The Lagrangian function
- The dual problem
- Weak and strong duality
- Optimality conditions
- Game theoretic view

## LMIs in optimization

- Semidefinite programming (SDP)
- The dual of an SDP

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## Semidefinite optimization programs (SDPs)

Consider the following optimization program

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{min} \quad c^{\top}x \\ \text{(SDP)}: \quad \text{subject to:} \quad x_1A_1+x_2A_2+\cdots x_nA_n \preceq B \end{array}$$

where the matrices  $(A_1, \ldots, A_n, B)$  are all symmetric.

- Assume we are interested in the optimal value  $p^*$  of (SDP)
- Can we construct a lower bound for  $p^*$ , i.e.  $d^* \leq p^*$ , by solving another problem?
- This problem, called *dual*, might sometimes be easier to solve

To do this we first need some machinery – Duality Theory

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Lagrange dual function

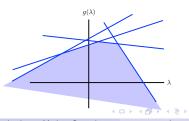
The dual function  $g: \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^p$  is

$$g(\lambda, \nu) = \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}} L(x, \lambda, \nu)$$

$$= \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \left[ f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(x) \right]$$

The dual function  $g(\lambda, \nu)$  is always a **concave** function.

•  $g(\lambda, \nu)$  is the pointwise infimum of affine functions Do you recall pointwise maximum?



## The Lagrangian function

Recall our standard form (primal) optimization problem:

$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} f_0(x)$$
  $(\mathcal{P}): \quad \text{subject to:} \quad f_i(x) \leq 0 \quad i = 1 \dots m \\ h_i(x) = 0 \quad i = 1 \dots p$ 

with (primal) decision variable x, domain  $\mathcal{X}$  and optimal value  $p^*$ .

**Lagrangian Function:**  $L: \mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^p \to \mathbb{R}$ 

$$L(x,\lambda,\nu) = f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(x)$$

- $\lambda_i$ : inequality Lagrange multiplier for  $f_i(x) < 0$ .
- $\nu_i$ : equality Lagrange multiplier for  $h_i(x) = 0$ .
- Lagrangian: weighted sum of the objective and constraint functions.

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Lagrange dual function

The dual function  $g: \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^p$  is

$$g(\lambda, \nu) = \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}} L(x, \lambda, \nu)$$
$$= \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \left[ f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i h_i(x) \right]$$

The dual function generates lower bounds for the primal optimal value, i.e.  $g(\lambda, \nu) \leq p^*$  for  $\lambda \geq 0$ :

#### Proof:

For any primal feasible solution  $\bar{x}$ :  $\sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_i f_i(\bar{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \nu_i h_i(\bar{x}) \leq 0$ 

$$g(\lambda, \nu) = \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}} L(x, \lambda, \nu) \le L(\bar{x}, \lambda, \nu) \le f_0(\bar{x}) \text{ for all } \bar{x}$$
$$g(\lambda, \nu) \le \inf_{x \in \mathcal{X}} f_0(x) \le p^*$$

 $\bullet \ g(\lambda,\nu) \ \text{might be} \ -\infty; \ \text{Non-trivial if dom} \ g := \{\lambda,\nu \mid g(\lambda,\nu) > -\infty\}$ 

## The dual problem

Every  $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$  produces a lower bound for  $p^*$  using the dual function.

Which is the best?

$$(\mathcal{D}): egin{array}{ccc} \max & g(\lambda, 
u) \\ \lambda, 
u & \text{subject to: } \lambda \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- Problem  $(\mathcal{D})$  is **convex**, even if  $(\mathcal{P})$  is not.
- Problem ( $\mathcal{D}$ ) has optimal value  $d^* < p^*$ .
- The point  $(\lambda, \nu)$  is **dual feasible** if  $\lambda > 0$  and  $(\lambda, \nu) \in \text{dom } g$ .
- Often impose the constraint  $(\lambda, \nu) \in \text{dom } g$  explicitly in  $(\mathcal{D})$ .

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## Example: Dual of LPs - (cont'd)

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} c^{\top}x$$

$$(\mathcal{P}): \text{ subject to: } Ax = b$$

$$Cx \le d$$

The dual problem is

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max_{\lambda,\nu} & -b^\top \nu - d^\top \lambda \\ (\mathcal{D}): & \text{subject to: } A^\top \nu + C^\top \lambda + c = 0 \\ & \lambda \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- Lower bound property:  $-b^{\top}\nu - d^{\top}\lambda < p^*$  whenever  $\lambda > 0$ .
- The dual of a linear program is also a linear program.

## Example: Dual of LPs

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} c^\top x$$

$$(\mathcal{P}) : \text{ subject to: } Ax = b$$

$$Cx \le d$$

The dual function is

$$g(\lambda, \nu) = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left[ c^\top \mathbf{x} + \nu^\top (A\mathbf{x} - b) + \lambda^\top (C\mathbf{x} - d) \right]$$

$$= \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left[ (A^\top \nu + C^\top \lambda + c)^\top \mathbf{x} - b^\top \nu - d^\top \lambda \right]$$

$$= \begin{cases} -b^\top \nu - d^\top \lambda & \text{if } A^\top \nu + C^\top \lambda + c = 0 \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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## Example: Dual of a mixed-integer linear program (MILP)

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} & c^\top x \\ (\mathcal{P}) : & \text{subject to: } & Ax \leq b \\ & \mathcal{X} = \{-1, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

The dual function is

$$g(\lambda) = \min_{x_i \in \{-1,1\}} \left[ c^\top x + \lambda^\top (Ax - b) \right]$$
$$= -\|A^\top \lambda + c\|_1 - b^\top \lambda$$

The dual problem is

$$(\mathcal{D}): egin{array}{cccc} \max_{\lambda} & -\|A^{ op}\lambda + c\|_1 - b^{ op}\lambda \ & ext{subject to:} & \lambda \geq 0 \end{array}$$

The dual of a mixed-integer linear program is a linear program!

## Weak and strong duality

#### Weak Duality

- It is always true that  $d^* < p^*$ .
- Sometimes the dual is much easier to solve than the primal (or vice-versa).
- Example: The dual of an MILP (difficult to solve) is a standard LP (easy to solve).

#### Strong Duality

- It is **sometimes** true that  $d^* = p^*$ .
- Strong duality usually holds for convex problems.
- Strong duality usually does not hold for non-convex problems.
- Can impose conditions on convex problems to guarantee that  $d^* = p^*$ .

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## Duality – A geometric view

Assume one inequality constraint only:

$$\mathcal{G} := \{(u,t) \mid t = f_0(x), \ u = f_1(x), \ x \in \mathcal{X}\}$$

Primal problem:

$$p^* = \min\{t \mid (u, t) \in \mathcal{G}, u \leq 0\}$$

Dual function:

$$g(\lambda) = \min_{(u,t) \in \mathcal{G}} (t + \lambda u)$$

Dual problem:

$$d^* = \max_{\lambda > 0} g(\lambda)$$

The quantity  $p^* - d^*$  is the **duality gap**.

## Strong duality for convex problems

An optimization problem with  $f_0$  and all  $f_i$  convex:

min 
$$f_0(x)$$

(
$$\mathcal{P}$$
): subject to:  $f_i(x) \leq 0$   $i = 1 \dots m$   
 $Ax = b$   $A \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ 

#### Slater Condition

If there is at least one **strictly feasible point**, i.e.

$$\left\{x \mid Ax = b, f_i(x) < 0, \forall i \in \{1, \ldots, m\}\right\} \neq \emptyset$$

Then  $p^* = d^*$ .

- Stronger version: Only the nonlinear functions  $f_i(x)$  must be strictly satisfiable (non-empty interior).
- Other constraint qualification conditions exist.

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## Primal and dual solution properties

Assume that strong duality holds, with optimal solution  $x^*$  and  $(\lambda^*, \nu^*)$ .

- From strong duality,  $d^* = p^* \Rightarrow g(\lambda^*, \nu^*) = f_0(x^*)$ .
- From the definition of the dual function:

[weak duality]

$$f_0(x^*) = g(\lambda^*, \nu^*) = \min_{x} \left\{ f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_i^* f_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \nu_i^* h_i(x) \right\}$$

$$\leq f_0(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_i^* f_i(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \nu_i^* h_i(x^*) \leq f_0(x^*)$$

$$\implies f_0(x^*) = g(\lambda^*, \nu^*) = f_0(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i^* f_i(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^p \nu_i^* h_i(x^*)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \lambda_i^* = 0 \text{ for every } f_i(x^*) < 0. \\ f_i(x^*) = 0 \text{ for every } \lambda_i^* > 0. \end{cases}$$
 Complementary slackness

 $g(\lambda) = t + u\lambda$ 

## Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) optimality conditions

Assume that all  $f_i$  and  $h_i$  are differentiable. **Necessary** conditions for optimality:

Primal Feasibility:

$$f_i(x^*) \le 0$$
  $i = 1, ..., m$   
 $h_i(x^*) = 0$   $i = 1, ..., p$ 

Dual Feasibility:

$$\lambda^* \geq 0$$

Complementary Slackness:

$$\lambda_i^* f_i(x^*) = 0$$
  $i = 1, \ldots, m$ 

Stationarity:

$$\nabla_{x} L(x^{*}, \lambda^{*}, \nu^{*}) = \nabla f_{0}(x^{*}) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_{i}^{*} \nabla f_{i}(x^{*}) + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \nu_{i}^{*} \nabla h_{i}(x^{*}) = 0$$

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### Game theoretic view

Assume inequality constraints only.

We have that for all x

$$\max_{\lambda \geq 0} L(x, \lambda) = \max_{\lambda \geq 0} \left( f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) \right)$$
$$= \begin{cases} f_0(x) & \text{if } f_i(x) \leq 0 \text{ for all i;} \\ \infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since this holds for all x, we then have that

$$p^* = \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \max_{\lambda > 0} L(x, \lambda)$$

$$d^* = \max_{\lambda > 0} \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}} L(x, \lambda)$$

# KKT optimality conditions

Assume that all  $f_i$  and  $h_i$  are differentiable and problem is convex:

- ① If  $(x^*, \lambda^*, \nu^*)$  satisfy the KKT conditions, then
  - they are primal and dual optimal
  - they result in zero duality gap, i.e.  $p^* = d^*$
- If in addition Slater's condition holds, then
  - duality gap is zero and the dual optimum is attained (existence of  $(\lambda^*, \nu^*)$  is guaranteed)
  - $x^*$  is optimal **if and only if** there exists  $(\lambda^*, \nu^*)$  that, together with  $x^*$ , satisfy the KKT conditions

#### Game theoretic view

• Game between primal (Peter) and dual (Debbie) variables:

$$p^* = \min_{x} \max_{\lambda} L(x, \lambda)$$
$$d^* = \max_{\lambda} \min_{x} L(x, \lambda)$$

• Consider the d\* game - Debbie plays first, Peter plays second

$$d^* = \max_{\lambda} \quad \min_{x} \quad L(x,\lambda) \leq \text{ any value}$$

$$= \forall \lambda \quad \exists x \quad L(x,\lambda) \leq \text{ any value}$$

$$= \exists x(\lambda) \quad \forall \lambda \quad L(x,\lambda) \leq \text{ any value} \quad [x(\cdot) \text{ is parametric in } \lambda]$$

$$\leq \exists x \quad \forall \lambda \quad L(x,\lambda) \leq \text{ any value}$$

$$= \min_{x} \quad \max_{\lambda} \quad L(x,\lambda)$$

$$= p^*$$

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#### Game theoretic view

• Game between primal (Peter) and dual (Debbie) variables:

$$p^* = \min_{x} \max_{\lambda} L(x, \lambda)$$
$$d^* = \max_{\lambda} \min_{x} L(x, \lambda)$$

• If Peter plays second  $\Rightarrow$ 

$$d^* \leq p^*$$
 [weak duality]

- Duality gap corresponds to the advantage of Peter
- Strong duality = Zero duality gap  $\Rightarrow$  No advantage for any of the players

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## Semidefinite programming

**Primal SDP problem** (all matrices are symmetric):

min 
$$c^{\top}x$$

subject to: 
$$x_1A_1 + x_2A_2 + \cdots + x_nA_n \leq B$$

Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}(x,\Lambda) = c^{\top}x + \sum_{i} \langle \Lambda, A_i \rangle x_i - \langle \Lambda, B \rangle,$$

where 
$$\langle X, Y \rangle = \operatorname{trace}(X^\top Y) = \sum_{i,j} X_{ij} Y_{ij}$$
.

This fact relies on "dual cone" arguments, and the fact that trace is the inner product for matrices. Alternatively, recall that

$$F(x) = \sum_{i} x_{i} A_{i} - B \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow z^{\top} F(x) z \leq 0, \ \forall z \neq 0$$
$$\Leftrightarrow \max_{z \neq 0} z^{\top} F(x) z \leq 0$$

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## Semidefinite programming – Interpretation of the dual

We can lift this constraint in the objective with Lagrange multiplier  $\lambda > 0$ :

$$c^{\top}x + \lambda \max_{z \neq 0} z^{\top}F(x)z = c^{\top}x + \lambda \max_{z \neq 0} \langle zz^{\top}, F(x) \rangle,$$

where  $z^{\top}F(x)z = \sum_{i,j} z_i z_j F(x)_{ij} = \sum_{i,j} (zz^{\top})_{ij} F(x)_{ij} = \langle zz^{\top}, F(x) \rangle$ . We have that

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{x} \max_{\lambda \geq 0, z \neq 0} c^\top x + \lambda \langle zz^\top, F(x) \rangle & \text{ combine max over } \lambda, z \\ & = \min_{x} \max_{\Lambda = \Lambda^\top \succeq 0} c^\top x + \langle \Lambda, F(x) \rangle & \text{ replace } \lambda(zz^\top) \text{ with } \Lambda = \Lambda^\top \succeq 0 \\ & \geq \max_{\Lambda = \Lambda^\top \succeq 0} \min_{x} c^\top x + \langle \Lambda, F(x) \rangle, & \text{ since min - max } \geq \max_{x} - \min_{x} c^\top x + \langle \Lambda, F(x) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda(zz^{\top})$  is symmetric, positive semi-definite, with trace equal to  $\lambda$ (that is to be optimized); we equivalently represent it by  $\Lambda \succeq 0$  (which has a non-negative trace). Set  $\mathcal{L}(x, \Lambda) = c^{\top}x + \langle \Lambda, F(x) \rangle$ .

## Semidefinite programming

#### **Primal SDP problem:**

$$\min \ c^{\top} x$$

subject to: 
$$x_1A_1 + x_2A_2 + \cdots + x_nA_n \leq B$$

where the matrices  $(A_1, \ldots, A_n, B)$  are all symmetric.

#### Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}(x,\Lambda) = c^{\top}x + \sum_{i} \langle \Lambda, A_{i} \rangle x_{i} - \langle \Lambda, B \rangle$$
$$= \sum_{i} (c_{i} + \langle \Lambda, A_{i} \rangle) x_{i} - \langle \Lambda, B \rangle$$

**Dual function:** 

$$g(\lambda) = \begin{cases} -\langle \Lambda, B \rangle & \text{if } c_i + \langle \Lambda, A_i \rangle = 0 \text{ for } i = 1 \dots n \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## Semidefinite programming

#### Primal SDP problem:

min 
$$c^{\top}x$$

subject to: 
$$x_1A_1 + x_2A_2 + \cdots + x_nA_n \leq B$$

where the matrices  $(A_1, \ldots, A_n, B)$  are all symmetric.

#### **Dual function:**

$$g(\lambda) = egin{cases} -\langle \Lambda, B 
angle & ext{if } c_i + \langle \Lambda, A_i 
angle = 0 ext{ for } i = 1 \dots n \ -\infty & ext{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

#### The dual problem:

max 
$$-\langle B, \Lambda \rangle$$

subject to: 
$$\langle A_i, \Lambda \rangle = -c_i$$
, for all  $i$ 

$$\Lambda \succeq 0$$

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## Semidefinite programming

#### **Primal SDP problem:**

min 
$$c^{\top}x$$

subject to: 
$$x_1A_1 + x_2A_2 + \cdots + x_nA_n \leq B$$

The dual problem:

max 
$$-\langle B, \Lambda \rangle$$

subject to: 
$$\langle A_i, \Lambda \rangle = -c_i$$
, for all  $i$ 

$$\Lambda \succ 0$$

Weak duality:  $p^* - d^* \ge 0$ 

### Strong duality:

Under Slater's condition, i.e. constraints in the primal need to be satisfied with  $\prec$  instead of  $\preceq$ . For SDPs the *dual of the dual* is the primal.

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## Semidefinite programming

#### **Primal SDP problem:**

min 
$$c^{\top}x$$

subject to: 
$$x_1A_1 + x_2A_2 + \cdots + x_nA_n \leq B$$

#### The dual problem:

max 
$$-\langle B, \Lambda \rangle$$

subject to: 
$$\langle A_i, \Lambda \rangle = -c_i$$
, for all *i*

$$\Lambda \succ 0$$

#### Weak duality:

$$p^* - d^* = c^\top x + \langle B, \Lambda \rangle$$
 [primal feasibility] 
$$\geq c^\top x + \sum_i \langle A_i, \Lambda \rangle x_i$$
 [dual feasibility] 
$$= \sum_i c_i x_i - \sum_i c_i x_i = 0$$

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## Summary

- Duality Theory
  - Construct  $d^* < p^*$  in three steps
    - Construct the Lagrangian (lift and weight constraints in the objective)
    - 2 Construct dual function and "eliminate" primal variables
    - § Formulate dual problem (don't forget constraints on dual variables)
  - Optimality conditions
  - Geometric and gaming interpretation of duality
- 2 LMIs in optimization
  - Semidefinite programming (SDP)
  - Construct the dual of an SDP (similar procedure with linear programs)
  - Weak duality, strong duality under Slater's condition

#### Reformulation in LMIs

- The Schur complement
  - Non-obvious LMIs
  - From nonlinear constraints to LMIs
- The *S*-procedure
  - From quadratic implications to LMIs
  - Turning set containment arguments in LMIs

## LMIs for stability & controller synthesis

- Recap of stability theorems
- Lyapunov matrix inequality
- Controller synthesis by means of an example

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## Schur complement

**Schur complement**: The non-strict case

Assume that  $Q(x) = Q(x)^{\top}$ ,  $R(x) = R(x)^{\top} \succ 0$ : affine functions of x

We then have that

$$Q(x) - S(x)R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top} \succeq 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} Q(x) & S(x) \\ S(x)^{\top} & R(x) \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

#### Example 1:

$$||A||_2 \le t \Leftrightarrow A^\top A \le t^2 I, \ t \ge 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} tI & A^\top \\ A & tI \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

Example 2: The QP (we have seen this before)

$$x^{\top}Qx + b^{\top}x + c \le 0, \quad Q \succ 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} c + b^{\top}x & x^{\top} \\ x & -Q^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \le 0$$

Non-obvious LMIs

Some cases (like the QP) are harder to write as LMIs.

The Schur complement provides the means to do so

**Schur complement**: Turns a nonlinear constraint into an LMI

#### Theorem (Schur complement)

Assume that  $Q(x) = Q(x)^{\top}$ ,  $R(x) = R(x)^{\top}$ : affine functions of x. We then have that

$$R(x) \succ 0 \text{ and } Q(x) - S(x)R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top} \succ 0$$
  
 $\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} Q(x) & S(x) \\ S(x)^{\top} & R(x) \end{bmatrix} \succ 0$ 

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## Schur complement – Proof for the strict case

Proof of  $(\Leftarrow)$ :

Assume  $\begin{bmatrix} Q(x) & S(x) \\ S(x)^{\top} & R(x) \end{bmatrix} \succ 0$ . For all  $[u \ v] \neq 0$  we have

$$F(u,v) = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} Q(x) & S(x) \\ S(x)^{\top} & R(x) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} > 0$$

Considering u = 0 we have

$$F(0, v) = v^{\top} R(x) v > 0$$
, for all  $v \neq 0 \Rightarrow R(x) \succ 0$ 

Consider now  $v = -R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top}u$ , with  $u \neq 0$ 

$$F(u,v) = u^{\top} (Q(x) - S(x)R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top})u > 0, \text{ for all } u \neq 0$$
  
$$\Rightarrow Q(x) - S(x)R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top} \succ 0$$

## Schur complement – Proof for the strict case

#### Proof of $(\Rightarrow)$ :

Now assume  $R(x) \succ 0$  and  $Q(x) - S(x)R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top} \succ 0$ , and as before

$$F(u,v) = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} Q(x) & S(x) \\ S(x)^{\top} & R(x) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} > 0$$

Fix u and minimize over v:  $\nabla_v F(u, v) = 2R(x)v + 2S(x)^\top u = 0$ . Since R(x) > 0, we have that  $v^* = -R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top}u$ . Substitute it in the expression of F(u, v) to obtain

$$F(u) = u^{\top} (Q(x) - S(x)R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top})u$$

Since  $Q(x) - S(x)R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top} \succ 0$ ,  $u^* = 0$  minimizes F(u). As a result,  $(u^*, v^*) = (0, 0)$  and  $F(u^*, v^*) = 0$ .

Hence, 
$$F(u, v) > 0$$
 for all  $u, v \neq 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} Q(x) & S(x) \\ S(x)^{\top} & R(x) \end{bmatrix} \succ 0$ .

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## Schur complement – Maximum singular value

Assume that  $Q(x) = Q(x)^{\top}$ ,  $R(x) = R(x)^{\top} > 0$ : affine functions of x. We then have that

$$Q(x) - S(x)R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top} \succeq 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} Q(x) & S(x) \\ S(x)^{\top} & R(x) \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

Let A(x): affine in x and real valued.

Let also  $\bar{\sigma}[A(x)]$  be the maximum singular value of A(x), i.e. the square root of the largest eigenvalue of  $A(x)A(x)^{\top}$ , i.e.  $\bar{\lambda}[A(x)A(x)^{\top}]^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

$$\bar{\sigma}(A(x)) \leq 1 \Leftrightarrow \bar{\lambda}[A(x)A(x)^{\top}] \leq 1$$
$$\Leftrightarrow A(x)A(x)^{\top} \leq I$$
$$\Leftrightarrow I - A(x)I^{-1}A(x)^{\top} \geq 0$$
$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} I & A(x) \\ A(x)^{\top} & I \end{bmatrix} \geq 0$$

## Schur complement – Ellipsoidal inequality

Assume that  $Q(x) = Q(x)^{\top}$ ,  $R(x) = R(x)^{\top} > 0$ : affine functions of x. We then have that

$$Q(x) - S(x)R(x)^{-1}S(x)^{\top} \succeq 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} Q(x) & S(x) \\ S(x)^{\top} & R(x) \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

Consider the ellipsoid

$$(x - x_c)^{\top} A^{-1} (x - x_c) \le 1, \quad A = A^{\top} > 0$$

( ... and recall that it is convex)

Setting Q(x) = 1, R(x) = A and  $S(x) = (x - x_c)^{\top}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & (x-x_c)^{\top} \\ (x-x_c) & A \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

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### S-procedure

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S-procedure: Turns quadratic implications to LMIs

Consider two quadratic functions

$$f_0(x) = x^{\top} A_0 x + 2x^{\top} b_0 + c_0$$
  
 $f(x) = x^{\top} A x + 2x^{\top} b + c,$ 

where all matrices/vectors are given, and  $A_0 = A_0^{\top}$ ,  $A = A^{\top}$ .

**Problem:** When is it true that one quadratic inequality implies another? In other words, when does

$$f(x) \ge 0, x \ne 0 \Rightarrow f_0(x) \ge 0$$

## *S*-procedure (cont'd)

#### Theorem

The following implication holds

$$f(x) \ge 0, x \ne 0 \Rightarrow f_0(x) \ge 0$$

**if** there exists

$$\tau \geq 0$$
 such that  $f_0(x) - \tau f(x) \geq 0$ 

Still not an LMI ... but  $f_0(x)$ , f(x), are quadratic in x.

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## *S*-procedure (cont'd)

#### Theorem

The following implication holds

$$f(x) \geq 0, x \neq 0 \Rightarrow f_0(x) \geq 0$$

**if** there exists

$$\tau \geq 0$$
 such that  $f_0(x) - \tau f(x) \geq 0$ 

Since  $f_0(x)$ , f(x), are quadratic in x, the condition above is equivalent to an LMI in au

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_0 & b_0 \\ b_0^\top & c_0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{\tau}{b} \begin{bmatrix} A & b \\ b^\top & c \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

## *S*-procedure (cont'd)

#### Theorem

The following implication holds

$$f(x) \ge 0, x \ne 0 \Rightarrow f_0(x) \ge 0$$

if there exists

$$\tau > 0$$
 such that  $f_0(x) - \tau f(x) > 0$ 

For a quadratic function  $f(x) = x^{T}Ax + 2x^{T}b + c$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} A & b \\ b^{\top} & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \ge 0, \ \forall x \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \xi x \\ \xi \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} A & b \\ b^{\top} & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \xi x \\ \xi \end{bmatrix} \ge 0, \ \forall x, \xi$$
$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A & b \\ b^{\top} & c \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

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# *S*-procedure (cont'd)

#### Theorem

The following implication holds

$$f(x) \ge 0, x \ne 0 \Rightarrow f_0(x) \ge 0$$

**if** there exists

$$\tau > 0$$
 such that  $f_0(x) - \tau f(x) > 0$ 

Since  $f_0(x)$ , f(x), are quadratic in x, this is equivalent to an LMI in  $\tau$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_0 & b_0 \\ b_0^\top & c_0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{\tau}{b} \begin{bmatrix} A & b \\ b^\top & c \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

The **only if** part also holds true (though non-obvious) if  $\exists \bar{x}$  such that  $f(\bar{x}) > 0$ , i.e. the "ellipsoids" have non-empty interior condition. In that case we get equivalence!

## A containment problem

**Problem:** Determine an ellipsoid  $\mathcal{E}$  centered at the origin

$$\mathcal{E} = \{ x \mid x^{\top} A^{-1} x \le 1 \},$$

that contains a polytope  $\mathcal{P}$  with vertices  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$ . In other words, we are looking for  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$ .

**Restate the problem:** If  $x \in \mathcal{P}$  then  $x \in \mathcal{E}$ . But  $x \in \mathcal{P}$  is equivalent to  $v_i \in \mathcal{P}$ , for all  $i = 1, \ldots, p$ . Hence,

$$v_i^{\top} A^{-1} v_i \leq 1$$
, for all  $i = 1, \dots, p$ .  
 $\Leftrightarrow 1 - v_i^{\top} A^{-1} v_i \geq 0$ , for all  $i = 1, \dots, p$ .

Using the Schur complement lemma we can turn it into an LMI

$$egin{bmatrix} 1 & v_i^{\top} \ v_i & A \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0, \text{ for all } i=1,\ldots,p.$$

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### Stability analysis recap – Linear systems

Consider the linear, time-invariant (LTI) dynamical system

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

where  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the system state and  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

It is called *autonomous* since there are no inputs.

**Definition:** The autonomous LTI system is asymptotically stable if, for all  $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\lim_{t\to\infty}x(t)=0.$$

What if n > 1? Can we work the same way? The ODE solution is then

$$x(t) = e^{At}x_0$$

where  $e^{At}$  is the matrix exponential, i.e.

$$e^{At} = I + At + \frac{1}{2}A^2t^2 + \frac{1}{3}A^3t^3 + \dots$$

## Stability analysis - Linear systems

Consider the linear, time-invariant (LTI) dynamical system

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

where  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the system state and  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

It is called *autonomous* since there are no inputs.

**Definition:** The autonomous LTI system is asymptotically stable if, for all  $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\lim_{t\to\infty}x(t)=0.$$

In the scalar case  $(n = 1 \text{ and } A = a \in \mathbb{R})$ , we can solve the ODE:

$$x(t) = e^{at}x_0$$

If a < 0, then the system is asymptotically stable.

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## Stability analysis recap – Linear systems

Consider the linear, time-invariant (LTI) dynamical system

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

where  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the system state and  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

It is called *autonomous* since there are no inputs.

**Definition:** The autonomous LTI system is asymptotically stable if, for all  $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\lim_{t\to\infty}x(t)=0.$$

What if n > 1? Can we work the same way? The ODE solution is then

$$x(t) = e^{At}x_0$$

where  $e^{At}$  is the matrix exponential. Can we do without computing  $e^{At}$ ?

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## Stability analysis recap – Linear systems

#### Theorem

An autonomous LTI system is asymptotically stable, i.e.  $\lim_{t\to\infty} x(t) = 0$ , if and only if A is Hurwitz, i.e. all its eigenvalues have negative real part.

Moved from matrix exponential to eigenvalue computation – there must be some connection with I MIs.

#### Theorem

Given some matrix  $Q = Q^{\top} \succ 0$ , a matrix A is Hurwitz if and only if there exists  $X = X^{\top} \succ 0$  that satisfies the Lyapunov Matrix Equation

$$A^{\mathsf{T}}X + XA = -Q$$

Equivalently, since  $Q \succ 0$  and it is arbitrary ...

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## Stability analysis recap - Nonlinear systems

Asymptotic stability for nonlinear systems; Lyapunov theory again

#### Theorem

Let x = 0 be an equilibrium of  $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$ , and let  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a domain containing x = 0. If there exists a continuous, differentiable function  $V: \mathcal{D} \to \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$V(0) = 0, \ V(x) > 0, \ \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{D} \setminus \{0\}$$
  
 $\dot{V}(x) < 0, \ \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{D} \setminus \{0\}$ 

**then** x = 0 is asymptotically stable.

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Linear systems stability comes then as a special case.

## Stability analysis recap – Linear systems

For asymptotic stability A has to be Hurwitz, i.e.

#### Theorem

Given some matrix  $Q = Q^{\top} \succ 0$ , a matrix A is Hurwitz if and only if there exists  $X = X^{\top} \succ 0$  that satisfies the Lyapunov Matrix Equation

$$A^{\mathsf{T}}X + XA = -Q$$

Equivalently, since  $Q \succ 0$  and it is arbitrary ...

#### Theorem

A matrix A is Hurwitz if and only if there exists  $X = X^{\top} \succ 0$  that satisfies the Lyapunov Matrix Inequality

$$A^{\top}X + XA \prec 0$$

#### This is an LMI in X!

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## Stability analysis recap – Nonlinear systems

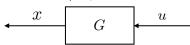
Linear systems stability comes then as a special case. Consider  $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t)$  and let  $V(x) = x^{\top}Xx$  be a Lyapunov function. The Lyapunov stability theorem requires

$$\begin{split} V(0) &= 0: & \text{ satisfied} \\ V(x) &> 0, & \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{D} \setminus \{0\}: & \Leftrightarrow & X \succ 0 \\ \dot{V}(x) &< 0, & \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{D} \setminus \{0\}: & \Leftrightarrow & x^\top \big(A^\top X + XA\big)x < 0 \\ & \Leftrightarrow & A^\top X + XA \prec 0 \end{split}$$

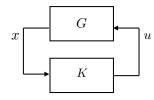
Using a quadratic Lyapunov function we can "prove" Lyapunov Matrix Equation from the nonlinear Lyapunov's stability theorem.

## State feedback control design

Consider a system G:  $\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$ 



Determine a feedback gain matrix K such that u = Kx renders the closed loop system stable.



Closed loop system:  $\dot{x} = (A + BK)x$ .

• Goal: Determine K such that A + BK is Hurwitz.

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## State feedback control design (cont'd)

Closed loop system:  $\dot{x} = (A + BK)x$ .

• Goal: Determine K such that A + BK is Hurwitz.

**Lyapunov stability**: A matrix A is stable if and only if there exists  $X = X^{\top} \succ 0$  such that

$$XA^{\top} + AX \prec 0$$

Enforce this condition with A + BK in place of A and determine K and X:

$$X(A+BK)^{\top}+(A+BK)X\prec 0$$

which leads to

$$XA^{\top} + (XK^{\top})B^{\top} + AX + B(KX) \prec 0$$

Closed loop system:  $\dot{x} = (A + BK)x$ .

• Goal: Determine K such that A + BK is Hurwitz.

**Lyapunov stability (recall from Lecture 3)**: A matrix A is Hurwitz if and only if there exists  $P = P^{\top} \succ 0$  such that

$$A^{\top}P + PA \prec 0$$

**Equivalent representation**: Multiply by  $P^{-1}$  from the left and right:

$$P^{-1}A^{\top}PP^{-1} + P^{-1}PAP^{-1} \prec 0$$

and set  $X = P^{-1}$ . We then have

$$XA^{\top} + AX \prec 0$$

## State feedback control design (cont'd)

Closed loop system:  $\dot{x} = (A + BK)x$ .

• Goal: Determine K such that A + BK is Hurwitz.

Lyapunov stability: A matrix A is stable if and only if there exists  $X = X^{\top} \succ 0$  such that

$$XA^{\top} + AX \prec 0$$

We are left with this condition which is not nice!

$$XA^{\top} + (XK^{\top})B^{\top} + AX + B(KX) < 0$$

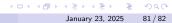
Setting Z = KX we have

$$XA^{\top} + Z^{\top}B^{\top} + AX + BZ < 0$$

Solve this LMI to determine X and Z and then compute  $K = ZX^{-1}$ 

## Summary

- Reformulation in LMI constraints
  - Schur complement
    - Commonly used "trick"
    - Appears in quadratic problems, and many others
  - The S-procedure
    - Turns quadratic implications in LMI constraints
    - Useful in set containment problems
- LMIs for stability & controller synthesis
  - Recap of stability theorems for linear and nonlinear systems
  - Lyapunov stability for linear systems by means of LMIs
  - Example for controller synthesis



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Thank you! Questions?

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