

Goal: Link the "polytope view" with the "proof view"

- Let $Q = \{q_1 \geq 0, \dots, q_m \geq 0\}$ be a system of polynomial inequalities over vars $x_1 \dots x_n$.
- $B = \{x_i^2 - x_i \geq 0, x_i - x_i^2 \geq 0\}_{i=1}^n$
- $\forall S, T \subseteq [n], S \cap T = \emptyset$, let $\mathcal{I}_{S,T} := \prod_{i \in S} x_i \prod_{j \in T} (1 - x_j)$
- A **conical junta** is a non-negative linear combination of $\mathcal{I}_{S,T}$'s:

$$y := \sum_{i=1}^L c_i \mathcal{I}_{S_i, T_i} \quad c_i \in \mathbb{R}$$
- An **SA-refutation** of Q is given by a list of conical juntas

$$y_1, \dots, y_m, \mathcal{H}_1, \dots, \mathcal{H}_{2n}$$

such that
$$\sum_{i=1}^m y_i q_i + \sum_{j=1}^{2n} \mathcal{H}_j p_j = -1$$

where $p_j \in B$, $q_i \in Q$.

Thm There is a degree- d Sherali-Adams refutation of Q iff $SA_d(Q) = \emptyset$.

Need a link between "polynomial" representations and the "linear" representations, use **pseudo-expectation**

Defn Let q be a polynomial over x_1, \dots, x_n . The multilinearization of q is the polynomial obtained by replacing all terms x_i^c with x_i in q .

A degree- d pseudo-expectation for \mathcal{Q} is a linear function

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} : \{\text{polynomials over } x_1, \dots, x_n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t.}$$

$$(1) \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[1] = 1$$

$$(2) \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\mathcal{I}_{S,T}] \geq 0 \text{ for all degree-}d \text{ non-neg juntas } \mathcal{I}_{S,T}$$

$$(3) \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[q \mathcal{I}_{S,T}] \geq 0 \text{ for any } q \in \mathcal{Q}, \text{ all } \mathcal{I}_{S,T} \text{ with } \deg(\mathcal{I}_{S,T}) \leq d.$$

$$(4) \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[p] = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[q] \text{ if } p \text{ and } q \text{ have the same multilinearization.}$$

Lemma Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{\binom{[n]}{\leq d}}$, consider any function

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} : \{\text{polys over } x_1, \dots, x_n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

by

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}\left[\prod_{i \in S} x_i\right] = \alpha_S$$

and then extended by (multi)linearity.

Then

$$\alpha \in \text{SA}_d(\mathcal{Q}) \iff \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \text{ is a degree-}d \text{ pseudo-expectation}$$

Pf Sketch Let $S, T \subseteq [n]$ satisfy $|S \cup T| \leq d$, $S \cap T = \emptyset$. Consider the inequality in $\text{SA}_d(\mathcal{Q})$:

$$\sum_{R \subseteq T} (-1)^{|R|} \alpha_{\text{SUR}} \geq 0$$

$$SA_d(Q) \stackrel{v}{\alpha_p} = 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{R \subseteq T} (-1)^{|R|} \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[\prod_{i \in \text{SUR}} x_i \right] \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left[\sum_{R \subseteq T} (-1)^{|R|} \prod_{i \in \text{SUR}} x_i \right] \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{E}} [S_{S,T}] \geq 0 \quad \text{other inequalities follow similarly.} \quad \square$$

Thm There is a degree- d Sherali-Adams refutation of Q iff $SA_d(Q) = \emptyset$.

Pf (\Rightarrow) Suppose by contradiction $\alpha \in SA_d(Q)$, and let $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_\alpha$ be the pseudo-expec. for α .

Let's consider a degree- d SA ref. of Q :

$$\sum_{i=1}^m y_i q_i + \sum_{j=1}^{2n} \gamma_j p_j = -1$$

$q_i \in Q$, $p_j \in B$, γ_i, γ_j are conical juntas.

Apply $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_\alpha$ to both sides:

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_\alpha \left[\sum_{i=1}^m y_i q_i + \sum_{j=1}^{2n} \gamma_j p_j \right] = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_\alpha [-1] = -1$$

$x_i^2 - x_i$, so $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_\alpha [x_i^2 - x_i] = \tilde{\mathbb{E}} [x_i] - \tilde{\mathbb{E}} [x_i] = 0$
 \downarrow
 ≥ 0 $= 0$

Contradiction! So $SA_d(Q) = \emptyset$!

(\Leftarrow) Suppose $SA_d(Q) = \emptyset$. Since $SA_d(Q) = \emptyset$,

there is a non-negative linear combination of the defining inequalities that yields -1 : "Farkas Lemma"

$$\sum_i c_i \underline{L_i^0} = -1$$

where $c_i \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, each

L_i^0 is a linear inequality from $SA_d(Q)$.

Replace each L_i^0 with its corresponding polynomial term:

$$\sum_i c_i \mathcal{S}_{s_i, t_i} q_i^0$$

→ we might not get -1 right away because this isn't the linearization!

So: use boolean inequalities to linearize!

ex) $\mathcal{S}_{s_1, t_1} = x_1 x_2$ $q_{s_1}^0 = x_1 + x_2 - 1 \leftarrow x_1 + x_2 \geq 1$

$$\hookrightarrow x_1^2 x_2 + x_1 x_2^2 - x_1 x_2$$

Add $x_2(x_1^2 - x_1) + x_1(x_2^2 - x_2)$ to get

$$x_1 x_2 + x_1 x_2 - x_1 x_2 = x_1 x_2. \text{ Multilinear!}$$

After multilinearizing we get

$$\sum_i c_i \mathcal{S}_{s_i, t_i} q_{s_i}^0 + \sum_{j=1}^{2^n} \mathcal{H}_j^0 p_j^0 = -1 \quad \square$$

By working a little bit harder we can prove derivational completeness

Thm Let \mathcal{Q} be a system of polynomial inequalities.
Consider another inequality

$$p(x) \geq c$$

Then there is a SA-proof of $p(x) - c$ from \mathcal{Q}

\iff

$p(x) \geq c$ holds for all $x \in \{0,1\}^n$ that satisfy all inequalities in \mathcal{Q} .

Applications

Because of this strong completeness, SA can reason about optimization problems!

ex) Vertex Cover \rightarrow A vertex cover of a graph $G=(V,E)$ is a subset of vertices $U \subseteq V$ that touch every edge in G

LP Relaxation

$$\min \sum_{u \in V} x_u$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_u + x_v \geq 1 \quad \forall uv \in E$$

$$0 \leq x_u \leq 1$$

This LP relaxation achieves a 2-approximation in the sense that

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{VC}(G) \leq \text{val}_{\text{LP}}(G) \leq \text{VC}(G)$$

Equivalently: if $\sum_{u \in V} x_u \geq s$ is a valid inequality for the smallest VC of G , then

$$\sum_u x_u \geq \frac{1}{2} s$$

from the inequalities in the LP.

Achieve 2-approx, provable by degree-0 Sherali-Adams!

Question. We know $\sum_u x_u \geq \text{VC}(G)$ is a valid inequality over the VC inequalities for G .

What degree of SA is needed to prove

$$\sum_u x_u \geq \text{VC}(G) ?$$

$$\text{or } \sum_u x_u \geq \left(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon\right) \text{VC}(G) \text{ for } \varepsilon > 0 ?$$

[Charikar-Makarychev-Makarychev 09]

There are infinite families of graphs $\{G_n\}$ s.t. any SA proof of

$$\sum_u x_u \geq \left(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon\right) \text{VC}(G)$$

requires degree n^{δ} for $\delta(\varepsilon) > 0$.

Def Let $P: \{0,1\}^k \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ be any predicate. An instance \mathcal{I} of P -CSP is given by e.g. k -SAT

$$P(T_1) \wedge P(T_2) \wedge \dots \wedge P(T_m) \quad P := \text{OR}$$

where each T_i is an ordered list of boolean literals x_j^0 or x_j^1 .

The goal is to find an input assignment x such that

$$\mathcal{I}(x) := \sum_{i=1}^m P(T_i(x))$$

i.e. maximize the # of sat constraints.

Thm [Chan et al 13, Kothari et al 17]

Suppose that degree- d SA cannot achieve an α -approximation for the P -CSP problem. Then **no** "structured" linear programming relaxation with at most $n^{o(d)}$ constraints achieving an α -approximation for P -CSP.

Defn [Linear Extended Formulation]

A polytope \mathcal{Q} is a "structured" LP relaxation of P -CSP if for every instance \mathcal{I} and every $x \in \{0,1\}^n$ there are vectors $w_{\mathcal{I}} \in \mathbb{R}^D$, $v_x \in \mathcal{Q}$ s.t.

$$\mathcal{I}(x) = w_{\mathcal{I}} \cdot v_x.$$