

Research Progress 7.8

Yang Xiao

1 PREVIOUS PROGRESS

Given PSD matrices A, B , we can expand $\text{per}(A + B)$ as:

$$\text{per}(A + B) = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \langle \mathbb{1}, (A^{\otimes k} \otimes B^{\otimes n-k}) \mathbb{1} \rangle$$

We can further expand the bilinear term by:

$$\langle \mathbb{1}, (A^{\otimes k} \otimes B^{\otimes n-k}) \mathbb{1} \rangle = k!(n-k)! \sum_{S, T \in \binom{[n]}{k}} \text{per}(A[S; T]) \text{per}(B[\bar{S}; \bar{T}])$$

So we have:

$$\text{per}(A + B) = \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{S, T \in \binom{[n]}{k}} \text{per}(A[S; T]) \text{per}(B[\bar{S}; \bar{T}])$$

Therefore, if we can utilize the fact that $\begin{pmatrix} A[S; T] & 0 \\ 0 & B[\bar{S}; \bar{T}] \end{pmatrix}$ is low rank and come up with an SDP relaxation to better approximate each bilinear term, we get a better approximation for $\text{per}(A + B)$.

Now let's consider the SDP relaxation for $\sum_{S, T \in \binom{[n]}{k}} \text{per}(A[S; T]) \text{per}(B[\bar{S}; \bar{T}])$:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \sum_{S \in \binom{[n]}{k}} \prod_{i=1}^k D_{S_i, S_i} \prod_{j=1}^{n-k} Q_{\bar{S}_j, \bar{T}_j} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & D \succeq A \\ & Q \succeq B \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

We have proven that this convex relaxation is an upper bound of $\sum_{S, T \in \binom{[n]}{k}} \text{per}(A[S; T]) \text{per}(B[\bar{S}; \bar{T}])$, and is also poly-time solvable. Now we are trying to find a metaphor relation between this and some maximum product of linear forms.

2 THIS WEEK'S WORK

2.1 Lagrangian duality

We first show that the following pair of programmings are dual to each other:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^*(A) &:= \min \prod_{i=1}^n D_{i,i} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & D \succeq A \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\nu^*(A) &:= \max \prod_{i=1}^n v_i^* P v_i \\
s.t. & \text{tr}(P) = n \\
&D \succeq 0
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

1. **Approach 1: Taking the dual of $\mu^*(A)$ and successfully end up with $\nu^*(A)$**

Let $A = V^*V$ Notice that $\mu^*(A)$ is equivalent to the following program:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\min \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\alpha_i} \\
s.t. & \text{Diag}^{-1}(\alpha) \succeq V^*V
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

which is also equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\min \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\alpha_i} \\
s.t. & \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* \preceq I
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

We first take a log on the objective function to get the log of dual, at last we eliminate the log. Define:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mu^{**}(A) &:= \min - \sum_{i=1}^n \ln \alpha_i \\
s.t. & \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* \preceq I
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

Let $P \succeq 0$ be the Lagrangian multiplier for the only inequality, then the Lagrangian function is:

$$L(\alpha, P) = - \sum_{i=1}^n \ln \alpha_i - \langle P, \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* - I \rangle$$

Then the dual of $\mu^{**}(A)$ is $\sup_P \inf_{\alpha} L(\alpha, P)$. Now fix P , $L(\alpha, P)$ is minimized when the gradient of α is 0, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla_{\alpha} L &= \left(-\frac{1}{\alpha_1} + \langle P, v_1 v_1^* \rangle, \dots, -\frac{1}{\alpha_n} + \langle P, v_n v_n^* \rangle \right)^T = 0 \\
&\Rightarrow \alpha_i = \frac{1}{\langle P, v_i v_i^* \rangle}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, the dual of $\mu^{**}(A)$ is:

$$\sup_P \sum_{i=1}^n \ln \langle P, v_i v_i^* \rangle + n - \text{tr}(P)$$

Further, since there exists Slater point in primal program (take α to be sufficiently small), strong duality holds, and any pair of optimal solution (α^*, P^*) must satisfy KKT condition, in particular, they must satisfy stationarity and complimentary slackness, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\alpha} L(\alpha^*, P^*) = 0 &\Rightarrow \alpha_i^* = \frac{1}{\langle P^*, v_i v_i^* \rangle} \quad (\text{stationarity}) \\ - \langle P^*, \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i^* v_i v_i^* - I \rangle &= 0 \Rightarrow \text{tr}(P) = n \quad (\text{complementarity}) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the dual program of $\mu^{**}(A)$ is the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \nu^{**}(A) &:= \max \sum_{i=1}^n \ln \langle P, v_i v_i^* \rangle \\ \text{s.t. } \text{tr}(P) &= n \\ P &\succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

By exponentiate the objective function, we've recovered $\nu^*(A)$.

2. Approach 2: Taking the dual of $\nu^*(A)$ but failed

By taking the equivalent form and taking a log on the objective function, we get the following program:

$$\begin{aligned} \nu^{**}(A) &:= \max \ln \prod_{i=1}^n t_i \\ \text{s.t. } \langle v_i v_i^*, P \rangle &\geq t_i \quad \forall i \in [n] \\ \langle I, P \rangle &= n \\ P &\succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

which is equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned} \nu^{**}(A) &:= - \min - \ln \prod_{i=1}^n t_i \\ \text{s.t. } \langle v_i v_i^*, P \rangle &\geq t_i \quad \forall i \in [n] \\ \langle I, P \rangle &= n \\ P &\succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

We first ignore the negative sign before 'min' on the objective function, and try to add it back after we get the dual. Consider the Lagrangian function:

$$\begin{aligned} L(P, t, \alpha, \lambda, Q) &= - \ln \prod_{i=1}^n t_i - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i (\langle v_i v_i^*, P \rangle - t_i) + \lambda (\langle I, P \rangle - n) - \langle Q, P \rangle \\ &= - \ln \prod_{i=1}^n t_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i t_i - \lambda n + \langle \lambda I - Q - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^*, P \rangle \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha_i \geq 0$, λ (free), $Q \succeq 0$ are Lagrangian multipliers. Then the dual program is

$$\sup_{\alpha \geq 0, \lambda, Q \succeq 0} \inf_{P, t > 0} L(P, t, \alpha, \lambda, Q)$$

Note that fixing α, λ, Q , we can always take $P = -k(\lambda I - Q - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^*)$, where k is a positive constant. If $\lambda I - Q - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* \neq 0$, then $L(P, t, \alpha, \lambda, Q) \rightarrow -\infty$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$, so $\inf_{P, t > 0} L(P, t, \alpha, \lambda, Q) = -\infty$, which will not be an optimal solution for dual.

Thus, the dual program is equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{\alpha \geq 0, \lambda, Q \succeq 0} \inf_{P, t > 0} -\ln \prod_{i=1}^n t_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i t_i - \lambda n \\ & s.t. \lambda I - Q - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda I \succeq \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* \end{aligned}$$

Following the same procedure as Approach 1, fix feasible λ, α, Q that satisfies $\lambda I \succeq \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^*$, then the Lagrangian function $L(P, t, \alpha, \lambda, Q)$ is minimized when the gradient of t is 0, i.e.

$$\nabla_t L = \left(-\frac{1}{t_1} + \alpha_1, \dots, -\frac{1}{t_n} + \alpha_n\right)^T = 0 \Rightarrow t_i = \frac{1}{\alpha_i}$$

So the dual program is equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{\alpha \geq 0, \lambda, Q \succeq 0} \ln \prod_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - (\lambda - 1)n \\ & s.t. \lambda I - Q - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda I \succeq \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* \end{aligned}$$

And thus I'm stuck here and don't know what to do.

However, if instead of taking the gradient of α to be 0, we take $\alpha_i = \frac{\lambda}{t_i}$, then the "fake" dual would be:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{\alpha \geq 0, \lambda, Q \succeq 0} \ln \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda}{\alpha_i} \\ & s.t. \lambda I - Q - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda I \succeq \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i v_i^* \end{aligned}$$

by taking exponential on the objective function and make a change of variable, this program is equivalent to $\mu^*(A)$, which I'm still not clear why.