

One formulation of the convex regression problem is

$$\min_{f, \beta} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - f_i)^2 \quad (1.1)$$

$$\text{such that } f_{i'} \geq f_i + \beta_i^T (x_{i'} - x_i) \text{ for all } i, i' \quad (1.2)$$

The optimization for a convex additive model is

$$\min_{f, \beta} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( Y_i - \sum_{j=1}^p f_{ij} \right)^2 \quad (1.3)$$

$$\text{such that for all } j = 1, \dots, p: \quad (1.4)$$

$$f_{i'j} \geq f_{ij} + \beta_{ij} (x_{i'j} - x_{ij}) \text{ for all } i, i' \quad (1.5)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f_{ij} = 0. \quad (1.6)$$

In the convexity-pattern estimation problem, we want to estimate the regression function as  $m(x) = \sum_{j=1}^p \{f_j(x_j) + g_j(x_j)\}$  where  $f_j$  is convex,  $g_j$  is concave, and at most one of  $f_j$  and  $g_j$  is nonzero.

Formulate this as

$$\min_{f, g, \beta, \gamma, z, w} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( Y_i - \sum_{j=1}^p (f_{ij} + g_{ij}) \right)^2 \quad (1.7)$$

$$\text{such that for all } j = 1, \dots, p: \quad (1.8)$$

$$f_{i'j} \geq f_{ij} + \beta_{ij} (x_{i'j} - x_{ij}) \text{ for all } i, i' \quad (1.9)$$

$$g_{i'j} \leq g_{ij} + \gamma_{ij} (x_{i'j} - x_{ij}) \text{ for all } i, i' \quad (1.10)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f_{ij} = 0 \quad (1.11)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n g_{ij} = 0 \quad (1.12)$$

$$\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n f_{ij}^2} \leq z_j B \quad (1.13)$$

$$\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n g_{ij}^2} \leq w_j B \quad (1.14)$$

$$z_j + w_j \leq 1 \quad (1.15)$$

$$z_j, w_j \in \{0, 1\}. \quad (1.16)$$

Without the last nonconvex zero/one constraint, this is a second-order cone program (SOCP). A natural relaxation of this is to  $z_j, w_j \in [0, 1]$ . With the constraint it's a mixed integer second-order

cone program (MISOCP). While still a relatively new and specialized topic, there is work studying relaxations of MISOCPs that parallels the semi-definite hierarchies studied for integer quadratic programming. An overview article is [www.pages.drexel.edu/~us26/Tutorial.pdf](http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~us26/Tutorial.pdf)