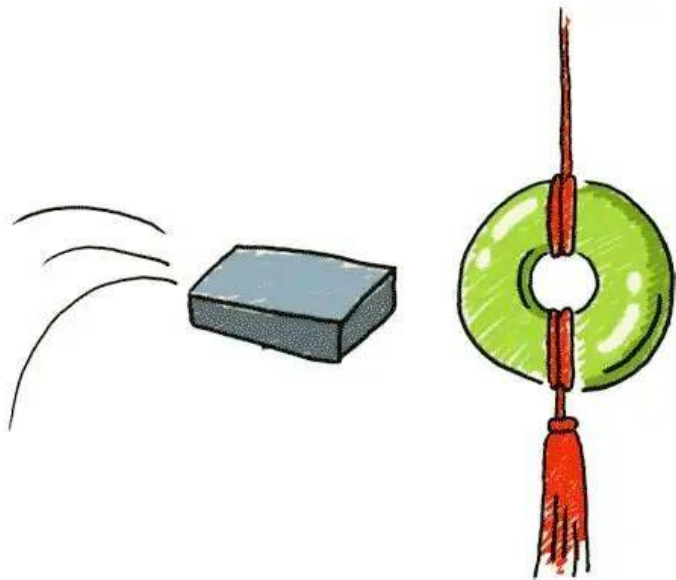**Warning**

These slides are strictly for teaching purpose only.

Please do not distribute them to public domains.

Prologue

Last update on 2024-02-24 17:26

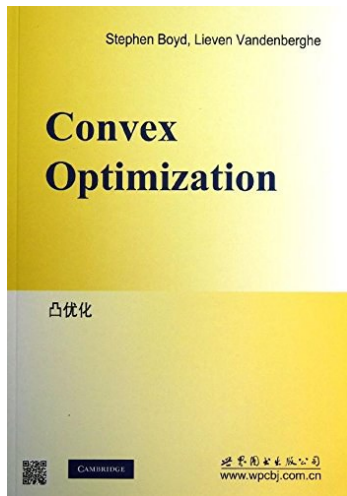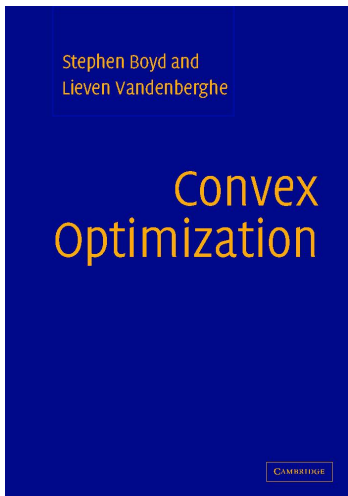| pāo	zhuān	yǐn	yù
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to offer one's own relatively worthless words, opinions, or services in order to attract others' more valuable contributions

reasons why you should NOT take the course

- ▶ your lecturer is an absolute beginner, just like many of you
- ▶ this course is very demanding, thus no easy credits
- ▶ this course is neither about mathematics, nor about programming
- ▶ excellent skills in calculus and linear algebra are crucial
- ▶ linear programming is not strictly required as a prerequisite, but you will miss a lot of motivation and experience if you have not learned it

despite of all the disappointments, you are guaranteed to **make great progress** by **working hard** through the course

the original blue-covered version (uploaded on BB) shall prevail in case of discrepancy

how to achieve the most from the course

- ▶ read textbook carefully   the most important ever
- ▶ solve as many exercises as possible   extremely important
- ▶ attend lectures and participate   very important
- ▶ complete group project and exam   important

regular performance: 10%

▶ biweekly exercises (ample flexibility, solutions will be provided)
▶ lecture attendance (penalty for missing lectures is possible)

group project: 20%

▶ start to search for possible topics as early as possible
▶ tentative presentation date: June 3 (week 15)
▶ tentative due date for project report: June 16 (end of week 16)

unit tests: 30%

▶ a total of 2 tests lasting for approximately 45 minutes each
▶ tentative test dates: April 1 (week 6) & May 6 (week 11)

final exam: 40%

▶ week 17 or 18 (to be arranged by university administration)

tentative schedule (subject to change)

week numbers	book contents	extra activities
1	chap 1 & appendix A	
2	chap 2	
3	chap 2 & chap 3	
4	chap 3	
5	chap 4	
6	chap 4	unit test
7	chap 5	
8	chap 5 & appendix C	
9	chap 9	
10	chap 9 & chap 10	
11	chap 10 & chap 11	unit test
12	chap 11	
13	chap 8	
14	chap 8 & review	
15	N/A	project presentations
16	TBA	public holiday ???

Opinions or suggestions?

- ▶ talk to me directly
- ▶ or fill in the form anonymously

Office hours

- ▶ Mondays 1pm-3pm, IMS 516
- ▶ or by appointment