

# MECH 6327 - Homework 3

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## BV Textbook Problems

### 0.1 Problem 4.11

**Problem:** Formulate each problem as a LP and explained the relationship between the optimal solution of the problems and the solution of its LP.

**Solution:**

#### 0.1.1 Part a: Minimize $\|Ax - b\|_\infty$

Define the following minimization problem:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \|Ax - b\|_\infty \\ \text{subject to} & \text{math} \end{array} \quad (1)$$

From the definition of an  $\infty$ -norm as

$$\|x\|_\infty = \max_i |x_i|$$

the following can be derived:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & t \\ \text{subject to} & (Ax - b)_i \leq t, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & -(Ax - b)_i \leq t, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \end{array} \quad (2)$$

Which is equivalent to the following linear program

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & t \\ \text{subject to} & -\mathbf{1}t \leq Ax - b \leq \mathbf{1}t \end{array} \quad (3)$$

The resulted minimum to this equivalent problem,  $t^*$ , is equivalent to the minimum of the original problem,  $\|Ax^* - b\|_\infty$ .

From this the minimizing variable,  $x^*$ , can be found as:

$$x^* = A^{-1}(\mathbf{1}^T t^* + b)$$

### 0.1.2 Part b: Minimize $\|Ax - b\|_1$

Define the following minimization problem:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \|Ax - b\|_1 \\ \text{subject to} & \text{math} \end{array} \quad (4)$$

From the definition of an 1-norm as

$$\|x\|_1 = \sum_i |x_i|$$

the following can be derived:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & t_1 + \dots + t_n \\ \text{subject to} & (Ax - b)_i \leq t_i, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & -(Ax - b)_i \leq t_i, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \end{array} \quad (5)$$

Which is equivalent to the following linear program

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \mathbf{1}^T t \\ \text{subject to} & -t \leq Ax - b \leq t \end{array} \quad (6)$$

The resulted minimum to this equivalent problem,  $\mathbf{1}^T t$ , is equivalent to the minimum of the original problem,  $\|Ax - b\|_1$ .

From this the minimizing variable,  $x^*$ , can be found as:

$$x^* = A^{-1}(t^* + b)$$

**0.1.3 Part c: Minimize  $\|Ax - b\|_1$  subject to  $\|x\|_\infty \leq 1$**

Define the following minimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \|Ax - b\|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \|x\|_\infty \leq 1 \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

From the definition of an 1-norm as

$$\|x\|_1 = \sum_i |x_i|$$

and the definition of an  $\infty$ -norm as

$$\|x\|_\infty = \max_i |x_i|$$

the following can be derived:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && t_1 + \dots + t_n \\ & \text{subject to} && (Ax - b)_i \leq t_i, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & && -(Ax - b)_i \leq t_i, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & && x_i \leq 1, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & && -x_i \leq 1, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

Which is equivalent to the following linear program

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \mathbf{1}^T t \\ & \text{subject to} && -t \leq Ax - b \leq t \\ & && -\mathbf{1} \leq x \leq \mathbf{1} \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

The resulted minimum to this equivalent problem,  $\mathbf{1}^T t$ , is equivalent to the minimum of the original problem,  $\|Ax - b\|_1$ .

From this the minimizing variable,  $x^*$ , can be found as:

$$x^* = A^{-1}(t^* + b)$$

**0.1.4 Part d: Minimize  $\|x\|_1$  subject to  $\|Ax - b\|_\infty \leq 1$**

Define the following minimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \|x\|_1 \\ & \text{subject to} && \|Ax - b\|_\infty \leq 1 \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

From the definition of an 1-norm as

$$\|x\|_1 = \sum_i |x_i|$$

and the definition of an  $\infty$ -norm as

$$\|x\|_\infty = \max_i |x_i|$$

the following can be derived:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && t_1 + \dots + t_n \\ & \text{subject to} && x_i \leq t_i, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & && -x_i \leq t_i, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & && (Ax - b)_i \leq 1, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

From this a linear program can be defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \mathbf{1}^T t \\ & \text{subject to} && -t \leq x \leq t \\ & && Ax - b \leq \mathbf{1} \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

The resulted minimum to this equivalent problem,  $\mathbf{1}^T t$ , is equivalent to the minimum of the original problem,  $\|x\|_1$ .

From this the minimizing variable,  $x^*$ , can be found as:

$$x^* = t^*$$

**0.1.5 Part e: Minimize  $\|Ax - b\|_1 + \|x\|_\infty$**

Define the following minimization problem:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \|Ax - b\|_1 + \|x\|_\infty \\ \text{subject to} & \text{math} \end{array} \quad (13)$$

From the definition of an 1-norm as

$$\|x\|_1 = \sum_i |x_i|$$

and the definition of an  $\infty$ -norm as

$$\|x\|_\infty = \max_i |x_i|$$

the following can be derived:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & t_1 + \dots + t_n + s \\ \text{subject to} & (Ax - b)_i \leq t_i, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & -(Ax - b)_i \leq t_i, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & x_i \leq s, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \\ & -x_i \leq s, \forall i = 1, \dots, n \end{array} \quad (14)$$

This can be written as a standard linear program as:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \mathbf{1}^T t + s \\ \text{subject to} & -t \leq Ax - b \leq t \\ & -\mathbf{1}s \leq x \leq \mathbf{1}s \end{array} \quad (15)$$

The resulted minimum to this equivalent problem,  $\mathbf{1}^T t + s$ , is equivalent to the minimum of the original problem,  $\|Ax - b\|_1 + \|x\|_\infty$ . It should be noted that the  $s$  and  $\|x\|_\infty$  are not used to find the minimization variable, but are important in weighting for solving for the minimization itself.

From this the minimizing variable,  $x^*$ , can be found as:

$$x^* = A^{-1}(t^* + b)$$

## 0.2 Problem 4.16

Consider the system given as

$$x(t+1) = Ax(t) + bu(t), \quad t = 0, \dots, N-1 \quad (16)$$

with  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n, u(t) \in \mathbb{R}, \forall t = 0, \dots, N-1$  and  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $x(0) = 0$ .

The minimum fuel optimal control problem is to select the minimum amount of inputs to minimize the amount of fuel used, given as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && F = \sum_{t=1}^{N-1} f(u(t)) \\ & \text{subject to} && x(t+1) = Ax(t) + bu(t), \quad t = 0, \dots, N-1 \\ & && x(N) = x_{des} \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

with  $N$  as the time-horizon,  $x_{des} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  as the desired final state, and  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given as

$$f(a) = \begin{cases} |a| & |a| \leq 1 \\ 2|a| - 1 & |a| > 1 \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

**Problem:** Formulate this problem as a Linear Program.

**Solution:** First, 17 can be rewritten in an epigraph form (with the additional assumption that  $f(u(t))$  is always positive):

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && F_1 + \dots + F_{N-1} \\ & \text{subject to} && f(u(t)) = F_t, \quad \forall t = 1, \dots, N-1 \\ & && x(t+1) = Ax(t) + bu(t), \quad \forall t = 0, \dots, N-1 \\ & && x(N) = x_{des} \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Now looking at the nonlinear component, fuel usage as defined by (18), can be equated to:

$$\begin{aligned} |a| &\leq g \\ 2|a| - 1 &\leq g \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

or equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned} -g &\leq a \leq g \\ -g &\leq 2a - 1 \leq g \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

This represents an intersection of two half-spaces which is a simpler convex restriction. This can now be combined with (19) to produce the linear program:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && F_1 + \dots + F_{N-1} \\ & \text{subject to} && -F_t \leq u(t) \leq F_t, \quad \forall t = 1, \dots, N-1 \\ & && -F_t \leq 2u(t) - 1 \leq F_t, \quad \forall t = 1, \dots, N-1 \\ & && x(t+1) = Ax(t) + bu(t), \quad \forall t = 0, \dots, N-1 \\ & && x(N) = x_{des} \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$



Which can then be rewritten as:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{minimize} && \mathbf{1}^T F \\
& \text{subject to} && -F \leq \mathbf{u} \leq F \\
& && x(t+1) = Ax(t) + bu(t), \forall t = 0, \dots, N-1 \\
& && x(N) = x_{des}
\end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

### 0.3 Problem 4.28

Consider the convex quadratic program given as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \frac{1}{2}x^T Px + q^T x + r \\ & \text{subject to} && Ax \leq b \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

with a robust equivalent defined as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \sup_{P \in \mathcal{E}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2}x^T Px + q^T x + r \right\} \\ & \text{subject to} && Ax \leq b \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

where  $\mathcal{E}$  is the set of all possible matrices of  $P$ .

#### 0.3.1 Part a

**Problem:** Express the robust QP as a convex problem given  $\mathcal{E} = \{P_1, \dots, P_k\}$  where  $P_i \in S_+^n, \forall i = 1, \dots, k$ .

**Solution:** As a base assumption, by definition all quadratic programs are convex. Additionally when taking a pointwise supremum of convex sets, the result is also convex. Thus, for a supremum over the finite set of  $\mathcal{E}$  it is known that a resultant convex problem can be defined.

First, we can redefine the problem as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \frac{1}{2}x^T Px + q^T x + r \\ & \text{subject to} && P \in \mathcal{E} \\ & && Ax \leq b \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

This is just wrong..... as in I don't think this is even true...

## 0.4 Problem 4.43

Suppose  $A : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow S^m$  is affine such that

$$A(x) = A_0 + x_1 A_1 + \cdots + x_n A_n \quad (27)$$

where  $A_i \in S^m$ . Let  $\lambda_1(x) \geq \lambda_2(x) \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_m(x)$  be the eigenvalues of  $A(x)$ .

For each of the following minimization criteria, formulate the problem as an SDP.

### 0.4.1 Part a

**Problem:** Minimize the maximum eigenvalue of  $A$ :

$$\text{minimize } \lambda_1(x)$$

**Solution:** It is known that the eigenvalues of a sum of matrices is bounded below by the sum of the minimum eigenvalues of each and bounded above by the sum of the maximum eigenvalues. [1] i.e.

$$\lambda(A)_m + \lambda(B)_m \leq \lambda(A + B)_m \leq \lambda(A + B)_1 \leq \lambda(A)_1 + \lambda(B)_1$$

If this is to be expanded to the entire affine sum,  $A(x)$ , the objective of minimizing the eigenvalues of the weighted sum of symmetric matrices can be done by minimizing the weighted sum of the largest eigenvalues of individual matrices. This means this problem can be redefined as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && t^T x \\ & \text{subject to} && t_i = \lambda_1(A_i), \forall i = 1, \dots, m \\ & && s = \lambda_1(A_0) \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

Since  $s$  will remain constant regardless of  $x$ , this is equivalent to:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && t^T x \\ & \text{subject to} && t_i = \lambda_1(A_i), \forall i = 1, \dots, m \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

??

### 0.4.2 Part b

**Problem:** Minimize the spread of the eigenvalues of  $A$ :

$$\text{minimize } \lambda_1(x) - \lambda_m(x)$$

**Solution:**

It is known that the eigenvalues of a sum of matrices is bounded below by the sum of the minimum eigenvalues of each and bounded above by the sum of the maximum eigenvalues. [1] i.e.

$$\lambda(A)_m + \lambda(B)_m \leq \lambda(A+B)_m \leq \lambda(A+B)_1 \leq \lambda(A)_1 + \lambda(B)_1$$

If this is to be expanded to the entire affine sum,  $A(x)$ , the objective of minimizing the spread eigenvalues of the weighted sum of symmetric matrices can be done by minimizing the weighted sum of the spread of eigenvalues of individual matrices. This means this problem can be redefined as:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && t^T x + s \\ &\text{subject to} && t_i = (\lambda_1(A_i) - \lambda_m(A_i)), \forall i = 1, \dots, m \\ &&& s = (\lambda_1(A_0) - \lambda_m(A_0)) \end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

Since  $s$  remains constant regardless of  $x$  this is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && t^T x \\ &\text{subject to} && t_i = (\lambda_1(A_i) - \lambda_m(A_i)), \forall i = 1, \dots, m \end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

??  
WHAT???

### 0.4.3 Part c

**Problem:** Minimize the conditional number of  $A$  while remaining positive definite:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && k(A(x)) = \frac{\lambda_1(x)}{\lambda_m(x)} \quad \forall x \in \{x \mid A(x) \succ 0\} \\ &\text{subject to} && A(x) \succ 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**

# 1 Problem 1: Open-loop optimal control with 1– and $\infty$ – norms.

The following open-loop optimal regulation problem is given as:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize} \quad & \|x_T\|_p + \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \|x_t\|_p + \gamma \|u_t\|_q \\ \text{subject to} \quad & x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t, \quad t = 0, \dots, T-1 \\ & \|x_t\|_\infty \leq \bar{x}, \quad t = 0, \dots, T \\ & \|u_t\|_\infty \leq \bar{u}, \quad t = 0, \dots, T \end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

with  $x_t \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $u_t \in \mathbb{R}^m$  as the system state and control input respectively and parameter  $\gamma > 0$  governing the actuator and state regulation performance.

**Problem:** Express this problem as a linear program for (i)  $p = q = \infty$  and (ii)  $p = q = 1$ . Code both in CVX and for the problem data provided. Verify the equivalence between the original optimization problem and transformed linear program obtained and plot the optimal state and input trajectories for each.

**Solution:**

**1.1 Linear program for  $p = q = \infty$**

**1.2 Linear program for  $p = q = 1$**

**1.3 CVX Formulation and Results:**

## 2 Problem 2: Minimum time state transfer via quasiconvex optimization.

Consider the LTI system:

$$\begin{aligned} x_{t+1} &= Ax_t + Bu_t, \quad \forall t = 0, \dots, T \\ \underline{u} &\leq u_t \leq \bar{u}, \quad \forall t = 0, \dots, T \end{aligned} \tag{33}$$

with  $x_0$  as the initial state.

**Problem:** Show that the minimum time required to transfer the system from  $x_0$  to  $x_{des}$ , given as

$$f(u_0, \dots, u_T) = \min\{\tau \mid x_t = x_{des} \text{ for } \tau \leq t \leq T+1\} \tag{34}$$

is a quasiconvex function of the control input sequence. Implement a bisection algorithm to solve the problem for the given data.

**Solution:** Let the following optimization problem be defined:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \tau \\ &\text{subject to} && x_{t+1} = Ax_t + Bu_t, \quad \forall t = 0, \dots, T \\ & && \underline{u} \leq u_t \leq \bar{u}, \quad \forall t = 0, \dots, T \\ & && x(0) = x_0 \\ & && x_t = x_{des} \quad \forall \tau \leq t \leq T+1 \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

### 3 Problem 3: State feedback control design via SDP

Feedback control problems can be formulated using a semidefinite program, such as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize} \quad & \text{tr } P \text{ subject to} \quad \begin{bmatrix} R + B^T P B & B^T P A \\ A^T P B & Q + A^T P A - P \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \\ & P \succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

with variable  $P \in S^n$  and problem data  $A \in \Re^{n \times n}$ ,  $B \in \Re^{n \times m}$ ,  $Q \in S_+^n$ ,  $R \in S_+^m$ .

This problem is equivalent to the solution to the optimal solution to the infinite-horizon LQR problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize} \quad & \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} x_t^T Q x_t + u_t^T R u_t \\ \text{subject to} \quad & x_{t+1} = A x_t + B u_t, \quad t \geq 0, \quad x(t=0) = x_0 \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

This is also equivalent to the solution the the discrete-time richotte equation (DARE) and can be solved in matlab with dare(A,B,Q,R). The solution to the feedback controller is

$$u_t = K x_t K = -(R + B^T B)^{-1} B^T P^* A \quad (38)$$

**Problem:** Confirm the solution to the SDP given in (36) is equivalent to the LQR problem given in (37) for multiple randomly generated problems.

**Solution:** The following results are provided for various randomly generated problems and solutions. This was generated using the code in AppendixB.

`contents....`

## **A   MATLAB Code:**

All code I write in this course can be found on my GitHub repository:

<https://github.com/jonaswagner2826/MECH6327>



## **B Problem 3 MATLAB Code:**

All code I write in this course can be found on my GitHub repository:

<https://github.com/jonaswagner2826/MECH6327>

## References

- [1] “Bound on eigenvalues of sum of matrices.”