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We consider the following minimization which has a quadratic cost and quadratic constraints:

$$\begin{aligned} p = \min_x & x^T M_0 x + 2b_0^T x + a_0 \\ \text{subject to: } & x^T M_i x + 2b_i^T x + a_i \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

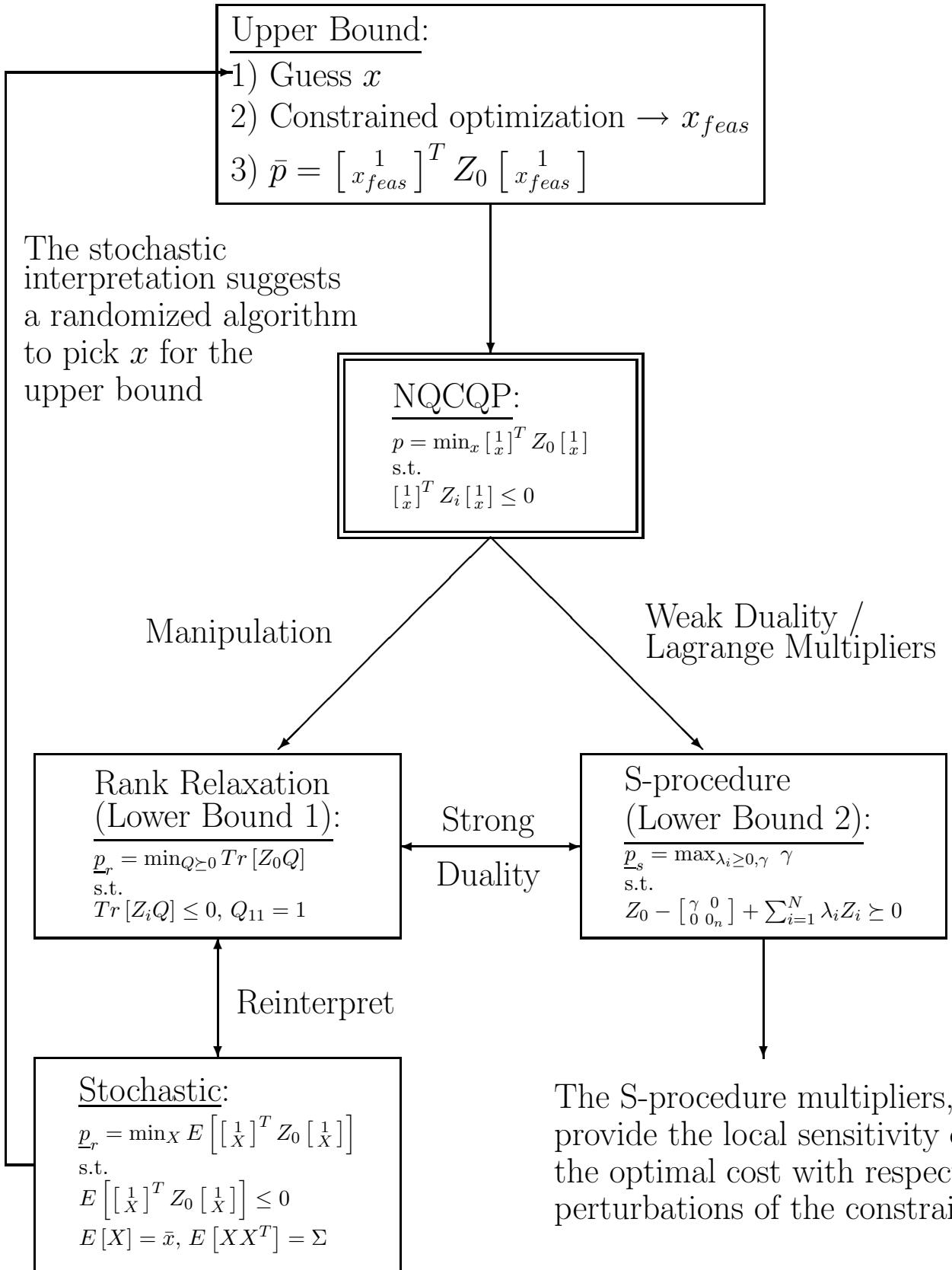
where $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$, $b_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and $M_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ($i = 0, \dots, N$) are given data.

To ease the notation, we define $Z_i := \begin{bmatrix} a_i & b_i^T \\ b_i & M_i \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$ for $i = 0, \dots, N$. With this notation, the minimization in Equation 1 can be written as:

$$\begin{aligned} p = \min_x & \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T Z_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{subject to: } & \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T Z_i \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Remarks:

- If $\{M_i\}_{i=0}^N$ are all positive semidefinite, this is known as a Quadratically Constrained, Quadratic Program (QCQP). It is a convex optimization that can be easily solved.
- The general case is known as a Nonconvex, Quadratically Constrained, Quadratic Program (NQCQP). It is computationally difficult to solve, so we will instead seek lower and upper bounds on p .



1. \mathbb{R} is the set of real numbers.
2. $\mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ is the set of $n \times m$ dimensional matrices with entries in \mathbb{R} . The entry in the i 'th row and j 'th column of a matrix M is denoted by M_{ij} or $(M)_{ij}$.
3. If $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ then M^T is the transpose of M , i.e. $(M^T)_{ij} = M_{ji}$.
4. The notation $f : X \rightarrow Y$ means that X and Y are sets, and f is a function mapping X into Y
5. Set notation:
 - $x \in X$ is read: “ x is an element of X ”
 - $X \subset Y$ is read: “ X is a subset of Y ”
 - The expression “ $\{\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{B}\}$ ” is read as: “The set of all \mathcal{A} such that \mathcal{B} .”
6. Optimizations:
 - If $p = \min_{x \in X} f(x)$, the minimum value, p , may not be achieved by any $x \in X$. Although we will not do so in the following slides, we should write $p = \inf_{x \in X} f(x)$ in this case. A similar statement holds with max and sup.
 - We define the conventions that if X is the empty set then $\min_{x \in X} f(x) = +\infty$ and $\max_{x \in X} f(x) = -\infty$
7. The expectation of a random variable, X , is defined as:

$$E[X] := \int xp(x)dx$$

Definition 1 For a square matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, the trace of A is defined as $\text{Tr}[A] = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{kk}$.

Definition 2 A symmetric matrix, $M = M^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, is positive semidefinite if $x^T M x \geq 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. M is positive definite if $x^T M x > 0 \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$. M positive semidefinite is denoted $M \succeq 0$ and M positive definite is denoted $M \succ 0$. Finally, M is negative (semi)definite if $-M$ is positive (semi)definite. These are denoted $M(\preceq) \prec 0$.

Remark: In the previous definition, we assumed M was symmetric. Any reference to sign definiteness in the following slides will implicitly mean that the matrix is symmetric.

Definition 3 Given matrices, $F_i = F_i^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ($i = 0, \dots, N$), the following is a Linear Matrix Inequality (LMI) constraint on $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$:

$$F(x) := F_0 + x_1 F_1 + \cdots + x_N F_N \succeq 0$$

Definition 4 A semidefinite program (SDP) is an optimization of the following form:

$$\min_x c^T x$$

$$\text{subject to: } \begin{cases} Ax = b \\ F(x) := F_0 + x_1 F_1 + \cdots + x_N F_N \succeq 0 \end{cases}$$

where $F_i = F_i^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ($i = 0, \dots, N$), $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times N}$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}$, and $c \in \mathbb{R}^N$ are given data. In words, an SDP involves minimizing a linear cost subject to linear and LMI constraints.

Fact 1 For any $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $\text{Tr}[AB] = \text{Tr}[BA]$.

Proof: This follows from the definition of $\text{Tr}[\cdot]$. ■

Remark: A common application is:

$$x^T Ax = \text{Tr}[x^T Ax] = \text{Tr}[Axx^T]$$

where $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$.

Fact 2 Define two sets:

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &:= \{Q \in \mathbb{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)} : Q \succeq 0, Q_{11} = 1, \text{rank}(Q) = 1\} \\ S_2 &:= \{Q \in \mathbb{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)} : \exists x \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ such that } Q = [\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix}] [\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix}]^T\} \end{aligned}$$

Then $S_1 = S_2$.

Proof: $S_2 \subset S_1$ follows immediately. We outline the proof for $S_1 \subset S_2$. If $Q \succeq 0$ and $\text{rank}(Q) = 1$, then $\exists z \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ such that $Q = zz^T$ (e.g. construct the eigenvalue decomposition of Q). Then $Q_{11} = 1$ and $Q \succeq 0$ together imply that $z_1 = 1$. ■

Fact 3 If $A \succeq 0$ and $B \succeq 0$ then $\text{Tr}[AB] \geq 0$

Proof: The eigenvalue decomposition of B has the form $B = U\Lambda U^T$ with $\Lambda \succeq 0$. Define $\tilde{A} := U^T A U$. Since A and \tilde{A} are related by a congruence transformation, $A \succeq 0$ implies $\tilde{A} \succeq 0$. Hence the diagonal entries of \tilde{A} are nonnegative. Equality (a) follows from Fact 1:

$$\text{Tr}[AB] = \text{Tr}[A(U\Lambda U^T)] \stackrel{(a)}{=} \text{Tr}[\tilde{A}\Lambda] = \sum_{k=1}^n \tilde{A}_{kk}\lambda_k \geq 0$$

Fact 4 $\min_x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \geq 0$ if and only if $M \succeq 0$.

Proof:

(\Leftarrow) By definition, $M \succeq 0$ implies $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \geq 0 \forall x$.

(\Rightarrow) Prove by contradiction. If $M \not\succeq 0$, then there exists a vector, v , such that $v^T M v < 0$. Block partition $v = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix}$ where $v_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ is the first entry of v . First assume $v_1 \neq 0$. Given this assumption, we can factor v_1 out:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 > v^T M v &= v_1^2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{1}{v_1} v_2 \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{1}{v_1} v_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\implies \min_x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} < 0 \end{aligned}$$

If $v_1 = 0$, then by continuity $\begin{bmatrix} \epsilon \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} < 0$ for $\epsilon > 0$ sufficiently small. Apply the argument above to show $\min_x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T M \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} < 0$. ■

Fact 5 Given any $A = A^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$\min_{Q \succeq 0} \text{Tr}[AQ] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } A \succeq 0 \\ -\infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Proof: By Fact 3, $Q, A \succeq 0$ implies $\text{Tr}[AQ] \geq 0$. Moreover, $Q = 0_n$ achieves $\text{Tr}[AQ] = 0$.

If $A \not\succeq 0$, then there exists an eigenvalue/eigenvector, (λ, v) , such that $Av = \lambda v$, $v^T v = 1$, and $\lambda < 0$. For $\alpha > 0$, define $Q_\alpha := \alpha v v^T \succeq 0$. Using Fact 1, $\text{Tr}[AQ_\alpha] = \alpha \text{Tr}[v^T Av] = \alpha \lambda < 0$. As $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$, $\text{Tr}[AQ_\alpha] \rightarrow -\infty$. ■

Fact 6 Given $A = A^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, and $C = C^T \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ with $A \succ 0$. Then:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & B^T \\ B & C \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \Leftrightarrow C - BA^{-1}B^T \succeq 0$$

Proof:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & B^T \\ B & C \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A^{1/2} & 0 \\ BA^{-1/2} & I_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_n & 0 \\ 0 & C - BA^{-1}B^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A^{1/2} & 0 \\ BA^{-1/2} & I_m \end{bmatrix}^T$$

The proof is completed by recalling that positive semidefiniteness is preserved under congruence transformations (i.e. for any matrices M and L , $M \succeq 0 \Rightarrow LML^T \succeq 0$). ■

Remark: We will apply this result with $A = 1$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & b^T \\ b & C \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \Leftrightarrow C - bb^T \succeq 0$$

Fact 7 Let $\{f_i\}_{i=0}^N$ and $\{g_k\}_{k=0}^M$ be given functions from \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R} . The following equality holds:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x f_0(x) \text{ s.t. : } & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} f_i(x) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, N \\ g_k(x) = 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, M \end{array} \right. \\ &= \min_x \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0, \gamma} f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{k=1}^M \gamma_k g_k(x) \end{aligned}$$

Proof: Define the Lagrangian:

$$L(x, \lambda, \gamma) := f_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i f_i(x) + \sum_{k=1}^M \gamma_k g_k(x)$$

For any x , the Lagrangian satisfies:

$$\max_{\lambda_i \geq 0, \gamma} L(x, \lambda, \gamma) = \begin{cases} f_0(x) & \text{if } f_i(x) \leq 0 \ (i = 1, \dots, N) \\ & \text{and } g_k(x) = 0 \ (k = 1, \dots, M) \\ +\infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

■

Remarks:

- Lagrange multipliers turn constrained minimizations into unconstrained min-max problems.
- Lagrange multipliers can also be used to turn constrained maximizations into unconstrained max-min problems.
- Fact 5 allows us to handle matrix constraints in a similar fashion.. For example, if $F_1 : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$, then:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_x f_0(x) &= \max_x \min_{Q \succeq 0} f_0(x) + \text{Tr} [F_1(x)Q] \\ \text{s.t.: } F_1(x) &\succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Fact 8 Given a function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and sets $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, the following inequality holds:

$$\max_{y \in Y} \min_{x \in X} f(x, y) \leq \min_{x \in X} \max_{y \in Y} f(x, y) \quad (3)$$

Proof: Assume X and Y are both nonempty. For any $(x_0, y_0) \in X \times Y$, $f(x_0, y_0) \leq \max_{y \in Y} f(x_0, y)$. Since this inequality holds $\forall (x_0, y_0) \in X \times Y$, it must also hold when we take the minimum over x on both sides:

$$\min_{x \in X} f(x, y_0) \leq \min_{x \in X} \max_{y \in Y} f(x, y)$$

The left side of this inequality is a function of y_0 while the right side is a constant:

$$\begin{aligned} h(y_0) &:= \min_{x \in X} f(x, y_0) \\ c &:= \min_{x \in X} \max_{y \in Y} f(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

Since $h(y_0) \leq c \ \forall y_0 \in Y$, it must hold for the maximum over y : $\max_{y \in Y} h(y) \leq c$. This is the desired result upon substituting back in for $h(y_0)$ and c .

If X and/or Y are empty, the result follows from our previously specified convention. Specifically, if X is empty then the Equation 3 holds because the right side is equal to $+\infty$. Similarly, if Y is empty then Equation 3 holds because the left side is equal to $-\infty$. ■

Fact 9 Let $A = A^T, B = B^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be given with $A \succeq 0, B \succeq 0$ and $\text{rank}(B) = n - r$. If $\text{Tr}[AB] = 0$ then there exists $\tilde{A}_{22} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r}, U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ such that $U^T U = I_n$ and $A = U \begin{bmatrix} 0_{n-r} & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{A}_{22} \end{bmatrix} U^T$.

Proof: Since $B \succeq 0$ and $\text{rank}(B) = n - r$, the eigenvalue decomposition of B has the form $B = U \begin{bmatrix} \Lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0_r \end{bmatrix} U^T$ where $U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \Lambda > 0$, and $U^T U = I_n$. Define $\tilde{A} := U^T A U$. Block partition $\tilde{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{A}_{11} & \tilde{A}_{12} \\ \tilde{A}_{12}^T & \tilde{A}_{22} \end{bmatrix}$ compatible with the dimensions of $\begin{bmatrix} \Lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0_r \end{bmatrix}$. Since $A \succeq 0$ and \tilde{A} are related by a congruence transformation, $A \succeq 0$ implies $\tilde{A} \succeq 0$ and hence the diagonal entries of \tilde{A}_{11} are nonnegative.

The following equalities hold:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = \text{Tr}[AB] &\stackrel{(a)}{=} \text{Tr}\left[U^T A U \begin{bmatrix} \Lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0_r \end{bmatrix}\right] \stackrel{(b)}{=} \text{Tr}\left[\tilde{A}_{11} \Lambda\right] \\ &\stackrel{(c)}{=} \sum_{k=1}^{n-r} \lambda_k \cdot (\tilde{A}_{11})_{kk} \\ &\stackrel{(d)}{\implies} (\tilde{A}_{11})_{kk} = 0 \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, n - r \end{aligned}$$

(a) follows from Fact 1 while (b) and (c) follow from the definition of $\text{Tr}[\cdot]$. Implication (d) follows because $\lambda_k > 0$ and $(\tilde{A}_{11})_{kk} \geq 0$ for $k = 1, \dots, n - r$. The proof is completed by noting this result implies $\tilde{A}_{11} = 0$ and hence $\tilde{A}_{12} = 0$. ■

Remark: If the $\text{rank}(B) = n - r$ is large then $\text{rank}(A) = r$ is necessarily small.

The following steps put the NQCQP in an equivalent form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 p &:= \min_x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T Z_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \text{ s.t. : } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T Z_i \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \\
 &\stackrel{(a)}{=} \min_x \operatorname{Tr} \left[Z_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T \right] \text{ s.t. : } \operatorname{Tr} \left[Z_i \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}^T \right] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \\
 &\stackrel{(b)}{=} \min_{Q \succeq 0, Q_{11}=1, \operatorname{rank}(Q)=1} \operatorname{Tr} [Z_0 Q] \text{ s.t. : } \operatorname{Tr} [Z_i Q] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N
 \end{aligned}$$

(a) follows from Fact 1 and (b) follows from Fact 2.

If we 'relax' (i.e. ignore) the rank constraint, we get a semidefinite program (SDP):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \underline{p}_r &:= \min_{Q \succeq 0, Q_{11}=1} \operatorname{Tr} [Z_0 Q] \\
 \text{subject to: } &\operatorname{Tr} [Z_i Q] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N
 \end{aligned}$$

Remarks:

- Removing the rank constraint means we are searching over a larger set of matrices and hence we can achieve a lower cost, $\underline{p}_r \leq p$.
- $\underline{p}_r = p$ if and only if the optimal solution to the SDP is rank 1.

We can use Lagrange multipliers and weak duality to obtain another lower bound on p :

$$\begin{aligned}
 p &:= \min_x \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right]^T Z_0 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right] \quad \text{s.t. : } \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right]^T Z_i \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \\
 &\stackrel{(a)}{=} \min_x \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0} \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right]^T Z_0 \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right] + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right]^T Z_i \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right] \\
 &\stackrel{(b)}{\geq} \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0} \min_x \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right]^T \left[Z_0 + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i Z_i \right] \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right] \\
 &\stackrel{(c)}{=} \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0, \gamma} \gamma \quad \text{s.t. : } \min_x \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right]^T \left[Z_0 + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i Z_i \right] \left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{smallmatrix} \right] \geq \gamma
 \end{aligned}$$

(a) is an application of Lagrange multipliers (Fact 7) and (b) follows from weak duality (Fact 8). Equality (c) just introduces a dummy variable.

We can now apply Fact 4 to convert the constraint in the final maximization into an LMI. This yields the following SDP:

$$\underline{p}_s := \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0, \gamma} \gamma \quad \text{subject to: } Z_0 - \begin{bmatrix} \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0_n \end{bmatrix} + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i Z_i \succeq 0$$

Remarks:

- In control theory, this is known as the S-procedure.
- By the steps given above, $\underline{p}_s \leq p$. If $\underline{p}_s = p$, the S-procedure is called 'lossless'.
- If $N = 1$, then step (b) holds with equality, i.e. the S-procedure is lossless (Boyd, et.al., 1994).

Weak duality gives that $\underline{p}_s \leq \underline{p}_r$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\underline{p}_s &:= \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0, \gamma} \gamma \text{ s.t. : } F(\lambda, \gamma) := Z_0 - \begin{bmatrix} \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0_n \end{bmatrix} + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i Z_i \succeq 0 \quad (4) \\
&\stackrel{(a)}{=} \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0, \gamma} \min_{Q \succeq 0} \gamma + \text{Tr}[F(\lambda, \gamma)Q] \\
&\stackrel{(b)}{\leq} \min_{Q \succeq 0} \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0, \gamma} \gamma + \text{Tr}[F(\lambda, \gamma)Q] \\
&\stackrel{(c)}{=} \min_{Q \succeq 0, Q_{11}=1} \text{Tr}[Z_0 Q] \text{ s.t. : } \text{Tr}[Z_i Q] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \quad (5) \\
&:= \underline{p}_r
\end{aligned}$$

(a) and (c) use Lagrange multipliers (Fact 7). (b) follows from weak duality (Fact 8). If $\underline{p}_s = \underline{p}_r$, we say strong duality holds.

Theorem 1 $\underline{p}_s = \underline{p}_r$ if either of the following holds:

1. Optimization 4 is strictly feasible: $\exists(\lambda, \gamma)$ such that $\lambda_i > 0$ and $F(\lambda, \gamma) \succ 0$.
2. Optimization 5 is strictly feasible: $\exists Q \succ 0$ such that $Q_{11} = 1$ and $\text{Tr}[Z_i Q] < 0$, $i = 1, \dots, N$.

Remarks:

- The proof is technical (Rockafellar, 1970).
- Conditions for strong duality can be weakened (Sturm, 1997).

If we define $Q := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{x}^T \\ \bar{x} & \Sigma \end{bmatrix}$, then the rank relaxation problem can be written as:

$$\underline{p}_r := \min_{\Sigma, \bar{x}} \text{Tr} [Z_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{x}^T \\ \bar{x} & \Sigma \end{bmatrix}]$$

subject to: $\begin{cases} \text{Tr} [Z_i \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{x}^T \\ \bar{x} & \Sigma \end{bmatrix}] \leq 0 & i = 1, \dots, N \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{x}^T \\ \bar{x} & \Sigma \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \end{cases}$

Let X be a random variable (r.v.) of dimension $n \times 1$ with $E[X] = \bar{x}$ and $E[XX^T] = \Sigma$. By Fact 1 and the linearity of $\text{Tr}[\cdot]$ and $E[\cdot]$,

$$E \left[\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix}^T Z_i \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix} \right] = \text{Tr} [Z_i \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{x}^T \\ \bar{x} & \Sigma \end{bmatrix}]$$

Thus rank relaxation is equivalent to:

$$\underline{p}_r := \min_X E \left[\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix}^T Z_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix} \right]$$

s.t. : $\begin{cases} E \left[\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix}^T Z_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix} \right] \leq 0 & i = 1, \dots, N \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{x}^T \\ \bar{x} & \Sigma \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \\ X \text{ is a r.v. with } E[X] = \bar{x}, E[XX^T] = \Sigma \end{cases}$

By Schur Complements (Fact 6), the second constraint is equivalent to $\Sigma - \bar{x}\bar{x}^T \succeq 0$. This constraint is trivially satisfied if X a random variable because $E[(X - \bar{x})(X - \bar{x})^T] = \Sigma - \bar{x}\bar{x}^T$ and variance matrices are always positive semidefinite.

Based on this discussion, rank relaxation is equivalent to a minimization involving the random variable X :

$$\underline{p}_r := \min_X E \left[\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix}^T Z_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix} \right]$$

s.t. : $\begin{cases} E \left[\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix}^T Z_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ X \end{bmatrix} \right] \leq 0 & i = 1, \dots, N \\ X \text{ is a r.v. with } E[X] = \bar{x}, E[XX^T] = \Sigma \end{cases} \quad (6)$

The original NQCQP is:

$$\begin{aligned} p = \min_x & [\frac{1}{x}]^T Z_0 [\frac{1}{x}] \\ \text{s.t. : } & [\frac{1}{x}]^T Z_i [\frac{1}{x}] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

The rank relaxation problem is:

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{p}_r := \min_{\Sigma, \bar{x}} & Tr [Z_0 [\frac{1}{\bar{x}} \bar{x}^T \Sigma]] \\ \text{subject to: } & \begin{cases} Tr [Z_i [\frac{1}{\bar{x}} \bar{x}^T \Sigma]] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \\ [\frac{1}{\bar{x}} \bar{x}^T \Sigma] \succeq 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

Rank relaxation is equivalent to the following minimization:

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{p}_r := \min_X & E \left[[\frac{1}{X}]^T Z_0 [\frac{1}{X}] \right] \\ \text{s.t. : } & \begin{cases} E \left[[\frac{1}{X}]^T Z_i [\frac{1}{X}] \right] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \\ X \text{ is a r.v. with } E[X] = \bar{x}, \quad E[XX^T] = \Sigma \end{cases} \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

Remarks:

- Equation 9 is similar to Equation 7, except that we search for a random variable rather than a specific vector.
- Let Σ_0, \bar{x}_0 denote an optimal point for Equation 8. Then, any distribution with mean, $E[X] = \bar{x}_0$, and second moment, $E[XX^T] = \Sigma_0$ is an optimal distribution for Equation 9.
- Recall that if $rank \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{x}_0^T \\ \bar{x}_0 & \Sigma_0 \end{bmatrix} = 1$, then $\underline{p}_r = p$. In this case, $\Sigma_0 = \bar{x}_0 \bar{x}_0^T$ and $E[(X - \bar{x}_0)(X - \bar{x}_0)^T] = 0_n$. Thus the optimal distribution for Equation 9 consists of a single point.

Find upper bounds using the following algorithm:

1. Solve the rank relaxation problem. Let $Q_0 := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{x}_0^T \\ \bar{x}_0 & \Sigma_0 \end{bmatrix}$ denote an optimal point for the rank relaxation problem.
2. Sample \mathbb{R}^n using any distribution with mean, $E[X] = \bar{x}_0$, and second moment, $E[XX^T] = \Sigma_0$.
3. Sampled points may not be feasible, but we can use them as initial conditions for a local search algorithm.
4. Any feasible point, x_{feas} , returned by a local search algorithm gives an upper bound: $p \leq \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x_{feas} \end{bmatrix}^T Z_0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x_{feas} \end{bmatrix}$.

Remarks:

- We typically solve the SDP arising from the S-procedure. Given an optimal solution to this problem, we would like to cheaply compute a Q_0 . This is covered on the next slide.
- Sedumi solves both lower bound SDPs simultaneously, so the first remark is not an issue.
- In many cases, Q_0 is low rank, so the optimal distribution has nonzero variance along a small number of dimensions.

The SDPs from the S-procedure and Rank Relaxation are:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{p}_s &:= \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0, \gamma} \gamma \quad \text{s.t. : } F(\lambda, \gamma) := Z_0 - \begin{bmatrix} \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0_n \end{bmatrix} + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i Z_i \succeq 0 \\ \underline{p}_r &:= \min_{Q \succeq 0, Q_{11}=1} \text{Tr}[Z_0 Q] \quad \text{s.t. : } \text{Tr}[Z_i Q] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N\end{aligned}$$

These SDPs are known as primal and dual forms of each other.

If strong duality holds, then there exists feasible $(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma})$ and \bar{Q} such that $\bar{\gamma} = \text{Tr}[Z_0 \bar{Q}]$. This implies:

$$\begin{aligned}0 &\stackrel{(a)}{\leq} \text{Tr}[F(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma}) \bar{Q}] \stackrel{(b)}{=} \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i \text{Tr}[Z_i \bar{Q}] \stackrel{(c)}{\leq} 0 \\ &\implies \text{Tr}[F(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma}) \bar{Q}] = 0\end{aligned}$$

Inequality (a) holds since $F(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma}), \bar{Q} \succeq 0$ (Fact 3). (b) follows by substituting for $F(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma})$ and using $\bar{\gamma} = \text{Tr}[Z_0 \bar{Q}]$. Inequality (c) follows by from the feasibility: $\lambda_i \geq 0$ and $\text{Tr}[Z_i Q] \leq 0$.

To summarize, the optimality conditions are given by:

$$\begin{array}{ll}F(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma}) \succeq 0, \bar{\lambda}_i \geq 0 & \text{Primal Feasibility} \\ \bar{Q} \succeq 0, \bar{Q}_{11} = 1, \text{Tr}[Z_i \bar{Q}] \leq 0 & \text{Dual Feasibility} \\ \text{Tr}[F(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma}) \bar{Q}] = 0 & \text{Complementary Slackness}\end{array}$$

These are known as the Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) conditions.

Remark: Given $(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma})$, we can compute a \bar{Q} from the KKT conditions. It typically happens that $F(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\gamma})$ has large rank. We can apply the complementary slackness condition and Fact 9 to conclude that \bar{Q} must have low rank.

The original NQCQP is:

$$\begin{aligned} p = \min_x & [\frac{1}{x}]^T Z_0 [\frac{1}{x}] \\ \text{s.t. : } & [\frac{1}{x}]^T Z_i [\frac{1}{x}] \leq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, N \end{aligned}$$

Consider the following perturbed version of the original NQCQP:

$$\begin{aligned} p(u) = \min_x & [\frac{1}{x}]^T Z_0 [\frac{1}{x}] \\ \text{s.t. : } & [\frac{1}{x}]^T Z_i [\frac{1}{x}] \leq u_i \quad i = 1, \dots, N \end{aligned}$$

When $u = 0$, $p(0)$ is the optimal cost for the original, unperturbed NQCQP. The theorems on the next two slides show that the S-procedure gives local sensitivity information. The proofs and interpretations are minor modifications of results in [Boyd and Vandenberghe].

First we introduce some notation. The SDP from the S-procedure can be written as:

$$\underline{p}_s := \max_{\lambda_i \geq 0} g(\lambda)$$

where $g(\lambda) := \min_x [\frac{1}{x}]^T \left[Z_0 + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i Z_i \right] [\frac{1}{x}]$. $g(\lambda)$ is known as the dual function. Let λ^* be the optimal vector of S-procedure multipliers, i.e $\underline{p}_s = g(\lambda^*)$.

Theorem 2

$$p(u) \geq \underline{p}_s - \lambda^{*T} u = p(0) - \lambda^{*T} u - [p(0) - \underline{p}_s]$$

Proof: For any x_0 that is feasible for the perturbed problem:

$$g(\lambda^*) \stackrel{(a)}{\leq} [\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x_0 \end{smallmatrix}]^T \left[Z_0 + \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i^* Z_i \right] [\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x_0 \end{smallmatrix}] \stackrel{(b)}{\leq} [\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x_0 \end{smallmatrix}]^T Z_0 [\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ x_0 \end{smallmatrix}] + \lambda^{*T} u$$

Inequality (a) follows from the definition of the dual function and (b) follows since x_0 satisfies the perturbed constraints. Minimizing the right side over x_0 subject to the constraints of the perturbed problem yields $g(\lambda^*) \leq p(u) + \lambda^{*T} u$. This is the desired inequality since $\underline{p}_s = g(\lambda^*)$. ■

Remarks:

- The bracketed term is bounded by the gap between upper and lower bounds: $p(0) - \underline{p}_s \leq \bar{p} - \underline{p}_s$. This gap is typically small.
- Suppose λ_i^* is large and the gap is negligible. If the i^{th} constraint is tightened (i.e. $u_i < 0$), then the optimal value $p(u)$ will increase greatly.
- Suppose λ_i^* is small and the gap is negligible. If the i^{th} constraint is relaxed (i.e. $u_i > 0$), then the optimal value $p(u)$ will not decrease too much.
- Note that the inequality in Theorem 2 is only a lower bound. Since it is not an upper bound, the interpretations in the previous two bullets are not symmetric.

Theorem 3 If $p(u)$ is differentiable at $u = 0$, then the gradient of $p(u)$ satisfies:

$$\left| [\nabla_u p(0)]^T u + \lambda^{*T} u \right| \leq \left[p(0) - \underline{p}_s \right] + o(u)$$

Proof: Since $p(u)$ is differentiable at $u = 0$, the definition of a gradient gives:

$$p(u) = p(0) + [\nabla_u p(0)]^T u + o(u)$$

From Theorem 2, the following two inequalities hold:

$$\begin{aligned} p(u) &\geq p(0) - \lambda^{*T} u - \left[p(0) - \underline{p}_s \right] \\ p(-u) &\geq p(0) + \lambda^{*T} u - \left[p(0) - \underline{p}_s \right] \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the Taylor series into these inequalities gives:

$$\begin{aligned} [\nabla_u p(0)]^T u + o(u) &\geq -\lambda^{*T} u - \left[p(0) - \underline{p}_s \right] \\ -[\nabla_u p(0)]^T u + o(u) &\geq \lambda^{*T} u - \left[p(0) - \underline{p}_s \right] \end{aligned}$$

The theorem follows from these inequalities. ■

Remarks:

- If the gap is negligible, then the inequality implies $\nabla_u p(0) = -\lambda^*$. In this case, the multipliers are exactly the local sensitivity of the optimal cost with respect to constraint perturbations:

$$\left. \frac{\partial p(u)}{\partial u_i} \right|_{u=0} = -\lambda_i$$

- If the gap is negligible, the interpretations are: Tightening constraint i by a small amount ($u_i < 0$) approximately increases $p(0)$ by $-\lambda_i^* u_i$. Similarly, relaxing this constraint a small amount ($u_i > 0$) approximately decreases $p(0)$ by $-\lambda_i^* u_i$.

Matrix facts can be found in:

- R.A. Horn and C.R. Johnson. *Matrix Analysis*. Cambridge University Press. 1990.

Optimization facts can be found in:

- J. Sturm. *Primal-dual interior point approach to semidefinite programming*. Thesis Publishers, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1997. Available at: <http://fewcal.kub.nl/sturm/>.
- R.T. Rockafellar. *Convex Analysis*. Princeton University Press. 1970.
- S. Boyd and L. Vandenberghe. *Convex Optimization*. Draft available at: <http://www.stanford.edu/class/ee364/reader.ps>.
- S. Boyd, and L. El Ghaoui, E. Feron, and V. Balakrishnan. *Linear Matrix Inequalities in System and Control Theory*. SIAM. 1994.