

# Verified Semidefinite Programming

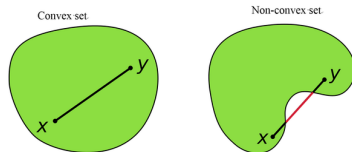
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# What is convex optimisation?



## Convex function

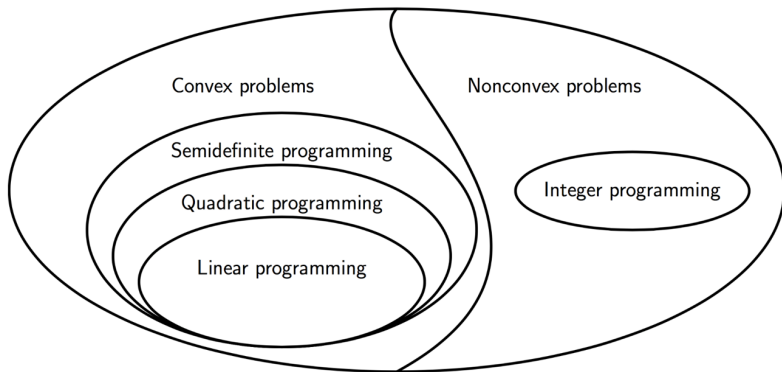
We say that  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is convex if for  $\theta \in [0, 1]$  and  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  we have that  $f(\theta x + (1 - \theta)y) \leq \theta f(x) + (1 - \theta)f(y)$ .

## Convex optimisation problem

Let  $f : D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be convex functions and  $h_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  affine functions. A convex optimisation problem is:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimise } f(x) \\ & \text{subject to } g_i(x) \leq 0 \text{ and } h_i(x) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

# What is convex optimisation?



Applications: control syntehsis, electronic circuit design, signal processing, finance, etc.

# Semidefinite programming

## Positive semidefinite matrix

A matrix  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is positive semidefinite if for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  we have that  $x^T M x \geq 0$ . We write  $X \succeq 0$ . Equivalently, it has a *Cholesky decomposition*  $X = L^T L$ .

## Semidefinite program

A semidefinite program has the form:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimise} & \text{Tr}(C^T X) \\ \text{subject to} & \text{Tr}(A_i^T X) = b_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, k \\ & X \succeq 0, \end{array}$$

where  $b_1, \dots, b_k \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $C, A_1, \dots, A_k \in \mathbb{S}^n$ , i.e. they are real symmetric matrices.

How are they solved? There are several ways but interior point methods are widely used. The idea is roughly the following:

- 1 Consider the dual problem.
- 2 By strong duality, the primal and dual problems attain the same value.
- 3 We follow the so-called central path in the direction here the distance between the primal and dual problem decreases.
- 4 We specify a tolerance and when the values of the two problems are close enough, return a solution.

# Semidefinite programming

Checking whether a polynomial  $p = x^{2d} + p_{2d-1}x^{2d-1} + \dots + p_1x + p_0$  is nonnegative is an NP-hard problem. However, checking whether it is a sum of squares can be solved efficiently by encoding it as a SDP. If we solve:

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{find} & Q \\ \text{subject to} & p_k = \sum_{i+j=k} Q_{ij} \\ & Q \succeq 0,\end{array}$$

we can conclude that  $p$  is SOS. Note that the affine constraints are set up so that  $p = [\vec{x}]_d^T Q [\vec{x}]_d$  where  $[\vec{x}]$  are the monomials of degree  $\leq d$ .

Issues:

- ① Many steps skipped when encoding a problem into a SDP.
- ② Result is only approximate, how can we make sure it actually solves our problem?

**Solution to both issues:** Use a theorem prover!

**Solution to issue 1:** Formalise the problems and the allowed translations.

**Solution to issue 2:** Try to find the Cholesky decomposition of the result matrix. Two ways:

- Brute-force search of rational nearby solutions.
- Use knowledge about how rounding errors are introduced by the Cholesky factorisation algorithm.



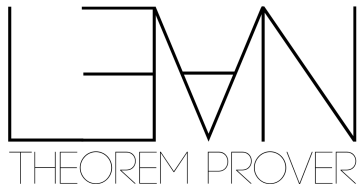
# Cholesky decomposition

If we're lucky, we only have that  $A \simeq L^T L$ , which is not good enough for a theorem prover. What do we do??

- Apply Cholesky on  $A' = A - \alpha I$  and obtain  $L$ .
- Let  $E = A' - L^T L$  and check that  $E + \alpha I$  is diagonally dominant (which implies positive definiteness).
- We have that  $A = L^T L + (E + \alpha I)$  and the sum of two PSD matrices is PSD so we are done.

All we need to do is find the appropriate  $\alpha$ , which is possible if  $A$  is strictly positive definite and we work with arbitrary precision.

# The Lean theorem prover



## Brief history:

- The project began in 2013 in Microsoft Research led by Leonardo de Moura.
- Major refactor in 2017. Lean 3 and mathlib released.<sup>1</sup>
- Another major refactor in 2021. Lean 4 released.
- Lots of interesting maths formalised: schemes, perfectoid spaces, liquid tensors, etc.

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<sup>1</sup>[https://leanprover-community.github.io/mathlib\\_stats.html](https://leanprover-community.github.io/mathlib_stats.html)

# The Lean theorem prover

Notable features:

- Based on a powerful dependent type theory.
- Small trusted kernel written in C++ (most of Lean is written in Lean).
- Supports constructive reasoning, quotients (natively) and classical reasoning.
- Powerful metaprogramming framework.
- (L4) Hygienic macros system.
- (L4) Built for extensibility.
- (L4) Efficient code generation.
- (L4) Tabled typeclass resolution.

# The Lean theorem prover

The Lean mathematical library:

- Smaller than the standard libraries of other systems but exponentially growing.
- We have smooth manifolds, p-adics, lots of category theory, set theory, main results in linear algebra and analysis, etc.
- Backward compatibility issues are being solved by tools like mathport, which allows to use Lean 3 objects in Lean 4.
- A \$20 million donation was recently announced to create the Hoskinson Centre for Formal Mathematics, which will focus largely on extending mathlib.

# The Lean theorem prover

```
/-- A Lie group is a group and a smooth manifold at the same time in which
the multiplication and inverse operations are smooth. -/
-- See note [Design choices about smooth algebraic structures]
@[ancestor has_smooth_mul, to_additive]
class lie_group {k : Type*} [nondiscrete_normed_field k]
  {H : Type*} [topological_space H]
  {E : Type*} [normed_group E] [normed_space k E] (I : model_with_corners k E H)
  (G : Type*) [group G] [topological_space G] [charted_space H G]
  extends has_smooth_mul I G : Prop :=
  (smooth_inv : smooth I I (λ a:G, a⁻¹))

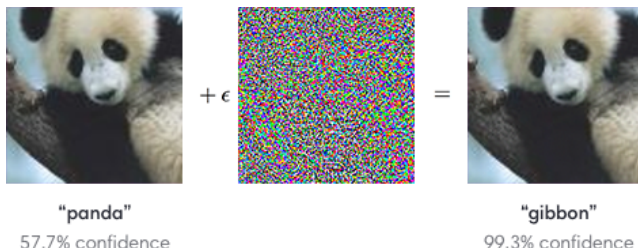
/-- The unit circle in `ℂ` is a Lie group. -/
instance : lie_group (ℝ 1) circle :=
{ smooth_mul := begin
  let c : circle → ℂ := coe,
  have h₁ : times_cont_mdifff _ _ _ (prod.map c c) :=
    times_cont_mdifff_coe_sphere.prod_map times_cont_mdifff_coe_sphere,
  have h₂ : times_cont_mdifff (ℳ(ℝ, ℂ).prod ℳ(ℝ, ℂ)) ℳ(ℝ, ℂ) ∞ (λ (z : ℂ × ℂ), z.fst * z.snd),
  { rw times_cont_mdifff_iff,
    exact (continuous_mul, λ x y, (times_cont_diff_mul.restrict_scalars ℝ).times_cont_diff_on ) },
  exact (h₂.comp h₁).cod_restrict_sphere _,
end,
smooth_inv := (complex.conj_cle.times_cont_diff.times_cont_mdifff.comp
  times_cont_mdifff_coe_sphere).cod_restrict_sphere _,
.. metric_sphere.smooth_manifold_with_corners }
```

Goals of the project:

- Link Lean with a convex optimiser.
- Formalise the theory of convex optimisation focusing on problem transformations.
- Check in Lean that the output satisfies the constraints.
- Use this framework to verify real-world systems.

# Neural Network Verification

Consider a trained deep and feed-forward neural network used for classification. The network computes a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ . We want to certify adversarial robustness. The network is  $\delta$ -locally-robust at  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  if for any  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $\|x - y\| < \delta$  we have that  $\|f(x) - f(y)\| < \epsilon$  for some small  $\epsilon$ .



This can be stated as an optimisation problem!

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximise} && \|f(x) - f(y)\| \\ & \text{subject to} && x^i = \text{ReLU}(W^{i-1}x^{i-1}) \\ & && \|x - y\| < \delta \end{aligned}$$

Solving it in this form is computationally expensive. The next step is to relax this problem to a semidefinite program that we can solve efficiently. The key observation is that a ReLU  $z = \max(x, 0)$  can be expressed as the quadratically constrained quadratic program

$$z(z - x) = 0 \wedge z \geq x \wedge z \geq 0.$$



# Thank you