

## 2. Quadratic from Positivity [10 pts]

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You're presented with the constraint:

$$2x^2 + 2y^2 + 9z^2 + 8xy - 6xz - 6yz \leq 1 \quad (1)$$

a) It turns out the above constraint is not convex. In other words, the set of  $(x, y, z)$  satisfying the constraint (1) is not an ellipsoid. Explain why this is the case.

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In [4]: # Symmetric equivalent matrix
V = [2  4 -3
      4  2 -3
      -3 -3  9]

val, vec = eig(V)

println(val)
println(vec)

[-2.0,3.0,12.0]
[0.707107 -0.57735 -0.408248; -0.707107 -0.57735 -0.408248; 0.0 -0.57735 0.816497]
```

By eigenvalue decomposition and some manipulation, we get:

$$2x^2 + 2y^2 + 9z^2 + 8xy - 6xz - 6yz = -2p^2 + 3q^2 + 12r^2$$

Which means it can be written as:

$$-2p^2 + 3q^2 + 12r^2 \leq 1$$

which is a nonconvex quadratic constraint, simply because of the negative eigenvalue, which makes this matrix **non-PSD**.

b) Show that the following QCQP is unbounded:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \\ \text{subject to} & (1) \end{array}$$

*Hint:* this is not a convex QCQP because as seen above, (1) is not convex. Moreover, the objective is not convex because it involves *maximizing* a positive definite quadratic. So do not attempt to solve this using JuMP! Instead, show how to construct a vector  $(x, y, z)$  of arbitrarily large magnitude that satisfies (1).

$$2x^2 + 2y^2 + 9z^2 + 8xy - 6xz - 6yz \leq 1 \quad (1)$$

Try  $(x, y, z) = (c, -c, 0)$

$$2c^2 + 2c^2 + 0 + -8c^2 - 0 - 0 \leq 1$$

$$-4c^2 \leq 1$$

$\therefore c^2$  **must be positive** when  $c \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\therefore -4c^2 \leq 0$$

and  $-4c^2 < 1$ , which means that the constraint **is always satisfied** when  $(x, y, z)$  is of the form  $(c, -c, 0)$ .

Our objective,  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2$ , when  $(x, y, z) = (c, -c, 0)$ , becomes  $2c^2$  which can be made arbitrarily large by choosing larger values of  $c$ . Because we have shown that any vector of the form  $(c, -c, 0)$  will have this property of being valid under the constraint (1), the solution is shown to be unbounded.