

A "joint+marginal" algorithm for 0/1 optimization

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- Semidefinite Programming
- The "joint+marginal" approach
- Parametric Optimization
- Application to 0/1 optimization
- Some experiments on MAXCUT, k -cluster, Knapsack.

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Semidefinite Programming

The **CONVEX** optimization problem:

$$\mathbf{P} \rightarrow \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{ c' x \mid \sum_{i=1}^n A_i x_i \succeq b \},$$

is called a **semidefinite program** with **DUAL**:

$$\mathbf{P}^* \rightarrow \max_{Y \in \mathcal{S}_m} \{ \langle b, Y \rangle \mid Y \succeq 0; \langle A_i, Y \rangle = c_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \}$$

- $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $b, A_i, Y \in \mathcal{S}_m$ ($m \times m$ symmetric matrices)
- $Y \succeq 0$ means Y semidefinite positive; $\langle A, B \rangle = \text{trace}(AB)$.

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P and its dual **P*** are **convex** problems that are **solvable in polynomial time** to arbitrary precision $\epsilon > 0$.

= generalization to the convex cone \mathcal{S}_m^+ ($X \succeq 0$) of **Linear Programming** on the convex polyhedral cone \mathbb{R}_+^m ($x \geq 0$).

Several academic **SDP software packages** exist, (e.g. MATLAB “LMI toolbox”, SeduMi, SDPT3, ...). However, so far, **size limitation is more severe** than for LP software packages. Pioneer contributions by **A. Nemirovsky, Y. Nesterov, N.Z. Shor, B.D. Yudin,...**

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Consider the 0/1 polynomial optimization problem

$$\mathbf{P} : \quad f^* = \min \{ \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}; \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n \}$$

where $\mathbf{K} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is the basic semi-algebraic set

$$\mathbf{K} := \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : g_j(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0, j = 1, \dots, m \}$$

for some polynomials $(\mathbf{f}, g_j) \in \mathbb{R}[\mathbf{x}]$.

Semidefinite-relaxations

One may define a hierarchy of **semidefinite relaxations** with optimal value f_k^* such that $f_k^* \uparrow f^*$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. In fact finite convergence takes place and $f_k^* = f^*$ for every $k \geq k_0$.

Moreover, ... **practice** seems to reveal that in general, convergence is fast ..

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However

The size of the k -th semidefinite relaxation grows like $O(n^k)$ and in view of the present status of SDP-solvers, only the first (sometimes the second) relaxation can be implemented, providing only a lower bound f_k^* on f^* !

So an important issue is:

How can we use the result of the k -th semidefinite relaxation to help obtain a (good) feasible solution for problem P ?

Example: After solving the first semidefinite relaxation ($k = 1$), the randomized rounding procedure for MAXCUT provides an approximate solution with guaranteed performance!

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The underlying idea

Let $\mathbf{Y} := \{0, 1\}$ and let $y \in \mathbf{Y}$, fixed:

Consider the y -parametric optimization problem

$$J(y) = \min_{\mathbf{x}} \{ \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}; \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n; x_1 = y \}$$

i.e., problem \mathbf{P} where the variable x_1 is fixed at the value y

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$$f^* = \min_y \{ J(y) : y \in \mathbf{Y} \}$$

Suppose that one has an approximation $J_k : \mathbf{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $J_k(y) \rightarrow \rho(y)$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Then a (likely) reasonable strategy is:

- Select $x_1 := 0$ if $J_k(0) < J_k(1)$ and select $x_1 := 1$ otherwise!
- repeat with the $(n - 1)$ -variable 0/1 problem:

$$\mathbf{P}(x_1) : \min \{ \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}; \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n; x_1 = x_1 \}$$

and its associated y -parametric optimization problem:

$$J(y) = \min_{\mathbf{x}} \{ \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}; \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n; x_1 = x_1; x_2 = y \}$$

i.e., problem \mathbf{P} where the variable x_1 is fixed at the value x_1 , and the variable x_2 is fixed at the value $y \in \mathbf{Y}$.

- etc. until one obtains $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$.

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Features

- For problems where **feasibility is easy to determine** (e.g., MAXCUT, k -cluster, 0/1-knapsack, ...), one ends up with a feasible $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$.
- To compute $J_k(y)$ one does **NOT** need to solve 2 semidefinite relaxations to get $J_k(0)$ AND $J_k(1)$ as in a **Branch and Bound** procedure. It suffices to compute the k -th semidefinite relaxation associated with \mathbf{P} , with k additional **linear constraints**!
- An optimal solution of the dual provides us with the function $y \mapsto J_k(y)$, a linear polynomial $\lambda_0 + \lambda_1 y$.
- and so one selects $x_1 = 0$ if $\lambda_1 > 0$ and $x_1 = 1$ otherwise.

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- The same approach can be done with a block of s parameters $(y_1, \dots, y_s) \in \mathbf{Y} := \{0, 1\}^s$. To compute $J_k(y_1, \dots, y_s)$, one only needs to solve **ONE** k -th semidefinite relaxation with $O(s^{2k})$ additional linear constraints instead of solving 2^s semidefinite relaxations!
- The function $(y_1, \dots, y_s) \mapsto J_k(y_1, \dots, y_s)$ is a (square free) polynomial of degree s .

$$J_k(y_1, \dots, y_s) = \lambda_0 + \sum_{i=1}^s \lambda_i y_i + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq s} \lambda_{ij} y_i y_j + \dots$$

- Select $(x_1, \dots, x_s) \in \{0, 1\}^s$ that minimizes J_k on \mathbf{Y} by inspection of the corresponding 2^s values of J_k .
- Repeat with the $(n - s)$ -variable problem $\mathbf{P}(x_1, \dots, x_s)$:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \{ \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}; \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n; x_k = x_k, k = 1, \dots, s \}$$

and associated (y_{s+1}, \dots, y_{2s}) -parametric problem, etc.

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and associated (y_{s+1}, \dots, y_{2s}) -parametric problem, etc.

Parametric Optimization

Let $\mathbf{Y} \subset \mathbb{R}^p$ be a compact set, called the **parameter** set.

Let $\mathbf{K} \subset \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^p$ be the set:

$$\mathbf{K} := \{ (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) : \mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}; \quad h_j(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \geq 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, m \},$$

for some continuous functions $h_j : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Consider the following optimization problem:

$$J(\mathbf{y}) := \inf_{\mathbf{x}} \{ f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{y}} \},$$

where for each $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}$, the $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{y}} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined by:

$$\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{y}} := \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \in \mathbf{K} \}$$

Parametric optimization is concerned with:

- the **global optimal value** function $\mathbf{y} \mapsto J(\mathbf{y})$, and
- the **global minimizer** set function $\mathbf{y} \mapsto \mathbf{x}_i^*(\mathbf{y})$
- the **optimal dual multiplier** set function $\mathbf{y} \mapsto \lambda_j^*(\mathbf{y})$ associated with the constraint $h_j(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \geq 0$.

In general, getting **full** information is impossible, and one is satisfied with **local information** (e.g. **sensitivity analysis**) around some (even **local**) minimizer $\mathbf{x}^*(\mathbf{y}) \in \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{y}}$, $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}$. (See e.g. the book by **Bonnans and Shapiro**.)

However ...

For **polynomial optimization** much more is possible!

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The "joint+marginal" approach

Let φ be a Borel probability measure on \mathbf{Y} , with a positive density with respect to the Lebesgue measure on the smallest affine variety that contains \mathbf{Y} . For instance,

$$\varphi(B) := \left(\int_{\mathbf{Y}} d\mathbf{y} \right)^{-1} \int_B d\mathbf{y}, \quad \forall B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{Y}),$$

is **uniformly distributed** on \mathbf{Y} .

For a **discrete** set of parameters \mathbf{Y} (finite or countable) take for φ a discrete probability measure on \mathbf{Y} with strictly positive weight at each point of the support.

Sometimes, e.g. in the context of **optimization with data uncertainty**, φ is already specified.

A related infinite-dimensional linear program:

Consider the infinite-dimensional LP:

$$\mathbf{P} : \quad \rho := \inf_{\mu \in \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{K})} \left\{ \int_{\mathbf{K}} f d\mu : \pi\mu = \varphi \right\}$$

where: $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{K})$ is the set of Borel probability measures on \mathbf{K} , and $\pi : \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{K}) \rightarrow \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{Y})$ is the **projection** (or, **marginal**) on \mathbf{Y} .

Whence the name "joint+marginal"-approach since:

- μ is a **joint distribution** on the variables \mathbf{x} **AND** the parameters \mathbf{y} .
- φ is the **marginal** of μ on \mathbf{Y} (fixed, as a constraint on μ).

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The dual \mathbf{P}^* is the infinite-dimensional LP:

$$\mathbf{P}^* : \quad \rho^* := \sup_{g \in C(\mathbf{Y})} \int_{\mathbf{Y}} g(\mathbf{y}) d\varphi(\mathbf{y})$$
$$f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) - g(\mathbf{y}) \geq 0 \quad \forall (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \in \mathbf{K}.$$

where $C(\mathbf{Y})$ is the set of continuous functions on \mathbf{Y} .

In other words, among the continuous functions g on \mathbf{Y} such that:

$$f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \geq g(\mathbf{y}) \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{y}},$$

one searches for the one that maximizes $\int_{\mathbf{Y}} g d\varphi$.

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Why those LPs?

We assume that \mathbf{K} is compact.

As we shall see

Any optimal solution μ^* of the primal \mathbf{P} encodes *all information* on the optimal solutions $\mathbf{x}^*(\mathbf{y})$ of $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{y}}$.

Similarly

There is *no duality gap* $\rho = \rho^*$ and so, in particular, the optimal value function $\mathbf{y} \mapsto J(\mathbf{y})$ of $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{y}}$ can be nicely *approximated by polynomials*.

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Theorem (The primal side ...)

Assume that \mathbf{K} is compact and $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{y}} \neq \emptyset$ for every $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}$. Let

$\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{y}}^* := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = J(\mathbf{y})\}$, $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}$. Then:

(a) $\rho = \int_{\mathbf{Y}} J(\mathbf{y}) d\varphi(\mathbf{y})$ and \mathbf{P} has an optimal solution.

(b) For every optimal solution μ^* of \mathbf{P} , and for φ -almost all $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}$, there is a probability measure $\psi^*(d\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y})$ on \mathbb{R}^n , concentrated on $\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{y}}^*$, such that:

$$\mu^*(C \times B) = \int_B \psi^*(C | \mathbf{y}) d\varphi(\mathbf{y}), \quad \forall B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{Y}), C \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

continued ...

(c) Assume that for φ -almost all $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}$, the set of minimizers $\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{y}}^*$ is the singleton $\{\mathbf{x}^*(\mathbf{y})\}$ for some $\mathbf{x}^*(\mathbf{y}) \in \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{y}}$. Then there is a measurable mapping $g : \mathbf{Y} \rightarrow \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{y}}$ such that

$$g(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x}^*(\mathbf{y}) \text{ for every } \mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}; \quad \rho = \int_{\mathbf{Y}} f(g(\mathbf{y}), \mathbf{y}) d\varphi(\mathbf{y}),$$

and for every $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n$, and $\beta \in \mathbb{N}^p$:

$$\int_{\mathbf{K}} \mathbf{x}^{\alpha} \mathbf{y}^{\beta} d\mu^*(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \int_{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{y}^{\beta} g(\mathbf{y})^{\alpha} d\varphi(\mathbf{y}).$$

Theorem (The dual side ...)

(a) There is *no duality gap*, i.e.,

$$\rho = \rho^* = \int_{\mathbf{Y}} J(\mathbf{y}) d\varphi(\mathbf{y}),$$

(b) One may use polynomials of $\mathbb{R}[\mathbf{y}]$ to approximate ρ^* .

(c) Let $(p_i) \subset \mathbb{R}[\mathbf{y}]$ be any *maximizing sequence*. Then:
 L_1 -norm convergence:

$$\text{as } i \rightarrow \infty, \quad \int_{\mathbf{Y}} |J(\mathbf{y}) - p_i(\mathbf{y})| d\varphi(\mathbf{y}) \rightarrow 0$$

φ -almost sure convergence: Let $\tilde{p}_i := \max_{k=0,\dots,i} p_k$. Then

$$\text{as } i \rightarrow \infty, \quad \tilde{p}_i \rightarrow J \quad \varphi\text{-almost surely in } \mathbf{Y}$$

Polynomial Parametric Optimization

In general, \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{P}^* are **intractable!**

However when:

- \mathbf{Y} and \mathbf{K} , are **basic semi-algebraic sets**, and:
- either one already knows the moments of φ , or \mathbf{Y} is **simple enough** (e.g. a box, a simplex, a hyper-sphere) so that they can be computed.

.... then one can approximate the optimal value ρ of \mathbf{P} , and:

- The **optimal value mapping** $\mathbf{y} \mapsto J(\mathbf{y})$
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... via the hierarchy of semidefinite relaxations

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More details in:

The "joint+marginal" approach for parametric optimization

SIAM J. Optim. **20** (2010).

A "joint+marginal" algorithm for 0/1 optimization

With $\mathbf{K} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ being the basic semi-algebraic set

$$\mathbf{K} := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : g_j(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0, j = 1, \dots, m\}$$

Consider the 0/1 polynomial optimization problem

$$\mathbf{P} : f^* = \min \{f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}; \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n\}$$

and its associated y -parametric optimization problem:

$$\rho(y) = \min_{\mathbf{x}} \{f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}; \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n; x_1 = y\}$$

The moment-s.o.s. approach

Let $\mathbb{N}_i^n := \{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n : \sum_j \alpha_j \leq i\}$.

With a sequence $\mathbf{z} = (z_\alpha)$, indexed in the canonical basis (x^α) of $\mathbb{R}[x]$, let $L_{\mathbf{z}} : \mathbb{R}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the linear mapping:

$$f (= \sum_{\alpha} f_{\alpha} x^{\alpha}) \mapsto L_{\mathbf{z}}(f) := \sum_{\alpha} f_{\alpha} z_{\alpha}, \quad f \in \mathbb{R}[x].$$

The moment matrix $\mathbf{M}_i(\mathbf{z})$

associated with a sequence $\mathbf{z} = (z_{\alpha})$, has its rows and columns indexed in the canonical basis (x^{α}), and with entries.

$$\mathbf{M}_i(\mathbf{z})(\alpha, \beta) = L_{\mathbf{z}}(x^{\alpha} x^{\beta}) = z_{\alpha+\beta},$$

for every $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}_i^n$

Let q be the polynomial $x \mapsto q(x) := \sum_u q_u x^u$.

The **localizing matrix** $\mathbf{M}_i(q, \mathbf{z})$ associated with

$q \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ and a sequence $\mathbf{z} = (z_\alpha)$, has its rows and columns indexed in the canonical basis (x^α) , and with entries.

$$\mathbf{M}_i(q, \mathbf{z})(\alpha, \beta) = L_{\mathbf{z}}(q(x)x^\alpha x^\beta) = \sum_{u \in \mathbb{N}^n} q_u z_{\alpha+\beta+u}$$

for every $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}_i^n$.

Primal semidefinite relaxations:

Let $v_j := \lceil (\deg g_j)/2 \rceil$ for every $j = 1, \dots, m$ and let $i_0 := \max[\lceil (\deg f)/2 \rceil, \max_j v_j]$.

For $k \geq i_0$, consider the semidefinite program:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_k = \quad & \inf_{\mathbf{z}} L_{\mathbf{z}}(f) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{M}_k(\mathbf{z}) \succeq 0 \\ & \mathbf{M}_{k-v_j}(g_j \mathbf{z}) \succeq 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, m \\ & L_{\mathbf{z}}(x^\alpha) = L_{\mathbf{z}}(x^{1_{\alpha>0}}), \quad \forall |\alpha| \leq 2k \\ & L_{\mathbf{z}}(1) = 1 \\ & L_{\mathbf{z}}(x_1) = 1/2 \end{aligned}$$

where $1_{\alpha>0} = (1_{\alpha_1>0}, \dots, 1_{\alpha_n>0})$. (Comes from $x_i^2 = x_i, \forall i$).

$$\rho_{i_0} \leq \dots \leq \rho_k \leq \dots \leq \rho.$$

Dual semidefinite relaxation

The dual reads:

$$\rho_k^* = \sup_{\lambda, (\sigma_j)} \lambda_0 + \lambda_1/2$$

$$\text{s.t. } f(x) - (\lambda_0 + \lambda_1 x_1) = \sigma_0(x) + \sum_{j=1}^m \sigma_j(x) g_j(x), \forall x$$

$$\sigma_j \in \Sigma[x], \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$

$$\deg \sigma_j g_j \leq 2k, \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$

Set $y \mapsto J_k(y) := \lambda_0^k + \lambda_1^k y$ for an optimal solution $(\lambda_0^k, \lambda_1^k, \sigma_j^k)$, and observe that, and observe that

$$\lambda_0^k + \lambda_1^k/2 = \int_{\mathbf{Y}} J_k(y) d\varphi(y) = \int_{\{0,1\}} J_k(y) d\varphi(y).$$

with $\varphi(\{0\}) = 1/2$ and $\varphi(\{1\}) = 1/2$.

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Theorem

Consider the *dual* semidefinite relaxations. Then:

(a) $\rho_k^* \uparrow \rho$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

(b) Let $(\lambda_0^k, \lambda_1^k, \sigma_j^k)$ be an optimal solution. Then:

$$J_k(0) = \lambda_0^k \leq J(0) \quad \text{and} \quad J_k(1) = \lambda_0^k + \lambda_1^k \leq J(1).$$

Moreover, as $k \rightarrow \infty$,

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Hence .. if k is sufficiently large,

$$\lambda_1^k > 0 \Rightarrow x_1^* = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_1^k < 0 \Rightarrow x_1^* = 1$$

in any optimal solution x^* of **P**!

... which provides a rationale for the following

"joint+marginal" algorithm for 0/1 optimization

While $i < n$ repeat:

- Consider the 0/1 problem $\mathbf{P}(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$ which is **P** where the first $i - 1$ components of x are already fixed.
- Solve the k -th semidefinite relaxation with parameter x_i associated with $\mathbf{P}(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$, and get an optimal solution $(\lambda_0^k, \lambda_1^k, \sigma_j^k)$ of the dual.
- If $\lambda_1^k > 0$ set $x_i = 0$ and $x_i = 1$ otherwise.
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The rationale behind the "joint+marginal" algorithm:

- The larger k , the better the approximation of $J(\mathbf{y})$ by the univariate polynomial $J_k(\mathbf{y}) = \lambda_0^k + \lambda_1^k y$. And so in minimizing $J_k(\mathbf{y})$ over \mathbf{Y} one has a good chance to obtain $x_1 \approx x_1^*$, where \mathbf{x}^* is a global minimizer of \mathbf{P} . And so at the end one may expect $\mathbf{x} \approx \mathbf{x}^*$.
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EX: MAX-CUT problem: $\max \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n$

- $\mathbf{Y} = \{-1, 1\}$, and let $\varphi(\{1\}) = \varphi(\{-1\}) = 1/2$.
- We fix $k = 1$. The semidefinite program

$$\mathbf{Q}_1 : \begin{cases} \max & \text{trace}(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{X}) \\ \text{s.t.} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \mathbf{x}' \\ \mathbf{x} & \mathbf{X} \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \\ & X_{ii} = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{cases}$$

is the first semidefinite relaxation of \mathbf{P} (with celebrated Goemans & Williamson performance guarantee).

- The 1-th parametric semidefinite relaxation reads:

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which is \mathbf{Q}_1 with ONE additional constraint $x_1 = 1/2$.

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We have tested the "joint+marginal" algorithm on a sample of 50 and 100 randomly generated MAXCUT instances with $n = 20, 30$ and 40 nodes in the corresponding graph. An arc (i, j) is generated with probability $1/2$. and A_{ij} is generated according to a uniform distribution on $[0, 10]$.

Let P_1 be the values of the solution generated by the "joint+marginal" algorithm.

n	20	30	40
$(P_1 - Q_1)/ Q_1 $	10.3%	12.3%	12.5%

Table: Relative error for MAXCUT

† We implemented the "max-gap" variant which instead of selecting x_1 , then x_2 , etc. selects first the variable x_i with maximum gap $|J_1(-1) - J_1(1)|$, etc.

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0/1 knapsack problem

$$\mathbf{P} : \max_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i : \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i \leq b; \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n \right\}$$

The first semidefinite relaxation of \mathbf{P} is:

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For the 1-th parametric semidefinite relaxation it suffices to add the linear constraint $x_1 = 1/2$.

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$$x_\ell \left[\sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i - b \right] \leq 0 \quad \ell = 1, \dots, n,$$

which read

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We have tested the "joint+marginal" algorithm on a sample of problems with $n = 40$ and $n = 50$ variables where:

- $b = \sum_i a_i/2$, and the integers a_i 's are generated uniformly in $[10, 100]$.
- The vector \mathbf{c} is generated by: $c_j = s * \epsilon + a_j$ with $s = 0.1, 1, 5, 10$ and ϵ is a random variable uniformly distributed in $[0, 1]$.

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Table: Relative error for 0/1 KNAPSACK: $n = 40$

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k -cluster problem

$$\mathbf{P} : \max_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}' \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} : \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = k; \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n \right\}$$

where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is real symmetric matrix associated with a graph. The first semidefinite relaxation of \mathbf{P} is:

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