

Robust Quadratically Constrained Programs

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Joint work with Donald Goldfarb

Convex quadratically constrained program

• Generic problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q}_i \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{q}_i^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma_i \leq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, p, \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n$, $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{R}^n$, $\mathbf{q}_i \in \mathbf{R}^n$ and $\mathbf{Q}_i = \mathbf{V}_i^T \mathbf{V}_i \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n} \succeq \mathbf{0}$ (positive semidefinite)

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- Convex quadratic constraint \Leftrightarrow *second-order cone constraint*

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 2\mathbf{V}\mathbf{x} \\ (1 + \gamma + 2\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} \right\| \leq 1 - \gamma - 2\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{x}$$

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- Convex quadratic constraint \Leftrightarrow *second-order cone constraint*
- This problem is a *second-order cone program (SOCP)*

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ & \text{subject to} && \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 2\mathbf{V}_i \mathbf{x} \\ (1 + \gamma_i + 2\mathbf{q}_i^T \mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} \right\| \leq 1 - \gamma_i - 2\mathbf{q}_i^T \mathbf{x}, \quad i = 1, \dots, p. \end{aligned}$$

Convex quadratically constrained program

- Parameters $\{(\mathbf{Q}_i, \mathbf{q}_i, \gamma_i), i = 1 \dots, p\}$ not known accurately
 - estimation errors
 - measurement/sensor errors
 - *implementation* errors

Robust quadtrically constrained program

- Parameters $\{(\mathbf{Q}_i, \mathbf{q}_i, \gamma_i), i = 1 \dots, p\}$ not known accurately
 - estimation errors
 - measurement/sensor errors
 - implementation errors*
- Uncertain $(\mathbf{Q}_i, \mathbf{q}_i, \gamma_i) \in \mathcal{S}_i$: robust problem

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{subject to} & \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q}_i \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{q}_i^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma_i \leq 0, \forall (\mathbf{Q}_i, \mathbf{q}_i, \gamma_i) \in \mathcal{S}_i \end{array}$$

For a large class of *uncertainty structures* \mathcal{S}_i the robust problem is a *semidefinite program (SDP)* (Nemirovski & Ben-Tal (1998), El Ghaoui et al (1997,1998))

Properties of uncertainty structures

- The uncertainty structures \mathcal{S}_i must be:
 - Flexible: model a large variety of perturbations
 - Parametrizable: parameters defining \mathcal{S} easy to estimate
 - “Optimizable”: resulting robust optimization problem tractable

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Outline of remaining talk

- Three families of uncertainty sets that admit a SOC representation
 - Polytopic uncertainty sets
 - Affine uncertainty sets
 - Factorized uncertainty sets

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Outline of remaining talk

- Three families of uncertainty sets that admit a SOC representation
 - Polytopic uncertainty sets
 - Affine uncertainty sets
 - Factorized uncertainty sets
- (Engineering ?) applications of robust quadratically constrained programs

Polytopic uncertainty set

- Uncertainty set

$$\mathcal{S}_a = \left\{ (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{q}, \gamma) : \begin{array}{l} (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{q}, \gamma) = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j (\mathbf{Q}_j, \mathbf{q}_j, \gamma_j), \mathbf{Q}_j \succeq \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{A}_2, \dots, \mathbf{A}_k] \boldsymbol{\lambda} = \mathbf{b}, \boldsymbol{\lambda} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{array} \right\}$$

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- Robust constraint: $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma \leq \alpha, \forall (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{q}, \gamma) \in \mathcal{S}_a$

- Define

$$c_j = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q}_j \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma_j, \quad j = 1, \dots, k$$

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$$c_j = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q}_j \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma_j, \quad j = 1, \dots, k$$

- Linear programming duality

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \mathbf{c} \leq \alpha, \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\lambda} \geq \mathbf{0} : \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\lambda} = \mathbf{b} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \exists \boldsymbol{\mu} : \mathbf{b}^T \boldsymbol{\mu} \leq \alpha, \quad \mathbf{A}^T \boldsymbol{\mu} \geq \mathbf{c}$$

Polytopic uncertainty set

- Uncertainty set

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- Robust constraint equivalent to

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathbf{b}^T \boldsymbol{\mu} & \leq & \alpha \\ \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q}_j \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma & \leq & \mathbf{A}_j^T \boldsymbol{\mu}, \quad j = 1, \dots, k \end{array}$$

Affine uncertainty set

- Combined linear and quadratic terms

$$\mathcal{S}_b = \left\{ (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{q}, \gamma) : \begin{array}{l} (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{q}, \gamma) = (\mathbf{Q}_0, \mathbf{q}_0, \gamma_0) + \sum_{j=1}^k u_j (\mathbf{Q}_j, \mathbf{q}_j, \gamma_j) \\ \mathbf{Q}_j \succeq \mathbf{0}, u_j \geq 0, \|\mathbf{u}\| \leq 1 \end{array} \right\}.$$

Problem NP-Hard if u_i unconstrained

Affine uncertainty set

- Combined linear and quadratic terms

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Problem NP-Hard if u_i unconstrained

- Separate linear and quadratic terms

$$\mathcal{S}_c = \left\{ (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{q}, \gamma) : \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{Q}_0 + \sum_{j=1}^k u_j \mathbf{Q}_j, \mathbf{Q}_j \succeq \mathbf{0}, \|\mathbf{u}\| \leq 1 \\ (\mathbf{q}, \gamma) = (\mathbf{q}_0, \gamma_0) + \sum_{j=1}^k v_j (\mathbf{q}_j, \gamma_j), \|\mathbf{v}\| \leq 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

Affine uncertainty set

- Robust quadratic constraint:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^T (\mathbf{Q}_0 + \sum_j u_j \mathbf{Q}_j) \mathbf{x} &\leq \beta, \quad \forall \mathbf{u} \\ &\iff \\ \exists \mathbf{f} \in \mathbf{R}^k, \quad \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q}_0 \mathbf{x} + \|\mathbf{f}\| &\leq \beta, \\ \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q}_j \mathbf{x} &\leq f_j, \quad j = 1, \dots, k. \end{aligned}$$

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- Robust linear constraint:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall \mathbf{v} : (\mathbf{q}_0 + \sum_j v_j \mathbf{q}_j)^T \mathbf{x} + (\gamma_0 + \sum_j v_j \gamma_j) &\leq \alpha \\ &\iff \\ \exists \mathbf{g} \in \mathbf{R}^k, \quad \mathbf{q}_0^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma_0 + \|\mathbf{g}\| &\leq \alpha, \\ g_j &= \mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma_j, \quad j = 1, \dots, k. \end{aligned}$$

Factorized uncertainty set

● Uncertainty set

$$\mathcal{S}_d = \left\{ (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{q}, \gamma_0) : \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{V}, \\ \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}_0 + \mathbf{\Delta} \succ \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Delta} = \mathbf{\Delta}^T, \|\mathbf{N}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{\Delta} \mathbf{N}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq \eta, \\ \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}_0 + \mathbf{W} \in \mathbf{R}^{m \times n}, \|\mathbf{W}_i\|_g \leq \rho_i, \forall i, \\ \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q}_0 + \boldsymbol{\zeta}, \|\mathbf{S}^{\frac{1}{2}} \boldsymbol{\zeta}\| \leq \delta. \end{array} \right\}$$

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- Models situations here \mathbf{Q} is not full-dimensional
- Not all perturbations may be present in applications

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- Models situations here \mathbf{Q} is not full-dimensional
- Not all perturbations may be present in applications
- Robust constraint:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{x} + \gamma_0 \leq 0, \quad \forall (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{q}, \gamma_0) \in \mathcal{S}_d \\ \Updownarrow \\ \max_{\mathbf{Q} \in \mathcal{S}_d} \left\{ \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} \right\} + \mathbf{q}_0^T \mathbf{x} + \delta \|\mathbf{S}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{x}\| + \gamma_0 \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Factorized uncertainty set

• Fix \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{F} : $\sup_{\mathbf{Q} \in \mathcal{S}_d} \{ \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} \} \leq \beta$

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• Worst case: all \mathbf{W}_i aligned

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• By \mathcal{S} -procedure: If and only if $\exists \tau \geq 0$ such that

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta - \tau - \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{V}_0^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{V}_0 \mathbf{x} & -r \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{V}_0^T \mathbf{F}^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ -r \mathbf{F}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{V}_0 \mathbf{x} & \tau \mathbf{G} - r^2 \mathbf{F} \end{bmatrix} \succeq \mathbf{0}$$

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- Let $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{G}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{G}^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{Q}^T$. Then $\mathbf{M} \succeq \mathbf{0}$ iff

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mathbf{0}^T \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{G}^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{M} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mathbf{0}^T \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{G}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{Q} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \nu - \tau - \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} & -r \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{\Lambda}^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ -r \mathbf{\Lambda}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{w} & \tau \mathbf{I} - r^2 \mathbf{\Lambda} \end{bmatrix} \succeq \mathbf{0}$$

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• Equivalently $\tau \geq r^2 \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{H})$, and Schur complement $\tau \mathbf{I} - r^2 \mathbf{\Lambda}$

$$\beta - \tau - \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} - r^2 \left(\sum_{i: \tau \neq r^2 \lambda_i} \frac{\lambda_i w_i^2}{\tau - r^2 \lambda_i} \right) \geq 0.$$

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- Equivalent to $\exists \tau, \sigma \geq 0$ and $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{R}_+^m$:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &\geq \tau + \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{t}, \\ r^2 &\leq \sigma \tau, \\ w_i^2 &\leq (1 - \sigma \lambda_i) t_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \\ \sigma &\leq \frac{1}{\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{H})}. \end{aligned}$$

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- The perturbation in \mathbf{F} can be handled by a simple extension

Some applications of polytopic uncertainty

- Decision problem with scenarios

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + \max_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{A}} \left\{ \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{E}^{\mathbf{p}}[\mathbf{Q}] \mathbf{x} \right\} \right\}$$

- \mathbf{Q} : discrete random variable with pmf \mathbf{p}
- \mathcal{A} : polyhedral subset of the probability simplex

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- Combining information from different sources

- Multiple “looks” at the same information

$$y_j = r_j x + n_j, \quad \mathbf{E}[n_j^2] = \sigma_j^2, j = 1, \dots, k$$

- Noise power: $\boldsymbol{\zeta} = (\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_k^2) \in \mathcal{P}$ a polytope.
- Output $z = \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{r})x + \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{n}$

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- Output $z = \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{r})x + \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{n}$
- Optimization problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{h}} \left\{ \sigma_x^2 (1 - \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{r})^2 + \max_{\boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \mathcal{P}} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^k \zeta_j h_j^2 \right\} \right\}$$

Linear least squares

- Linear least squares problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{y}\|_2$$

$$\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{a}_1 \ \mathbf{a}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{a}_m]^T = [\mathbf{A}_1 \ \mathbf{A}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{A}_n]$$

- Many applications:
 - Regression/Estimation
 - Image reconstruction
 - Output tracking

Linear least squares

- Linear least squares problem:

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- New: Robust least squares an SOCP when $\mathbf{A}_i \in \{\mathbf{a} : \mathbf{a} = \bar{\mathbf{a}} + \delta \mathbf{a}, \|\delta \mathbf{a}\|_g \leq \rho_i\}$

Portfolio selection

● Portfolio selection: $\mathbf{r} = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$, $(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ known.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \boldsymbol{\phi}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \boldsymbol{\phi}, \\ & \text{subject to} && \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \boldsymbol{\phi} \geq \alpha, \\ & && \mathbf{1}^T \boldsymbol{\phi} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Equivalent reformulations: maximum return problem, Sharpe ratio problem

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- Factor model: $\mathbf{r} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{f} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$
 - Mean return vector: $\boldsymbol{\mu}$
 - Factor loadings: \mathbf{V}
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- Justification and parametrization of the uncertainty structure

- Sets are implied by confidence regions around the MLE of $(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{F})$
- Parametrized by setting a confidence threshold ω

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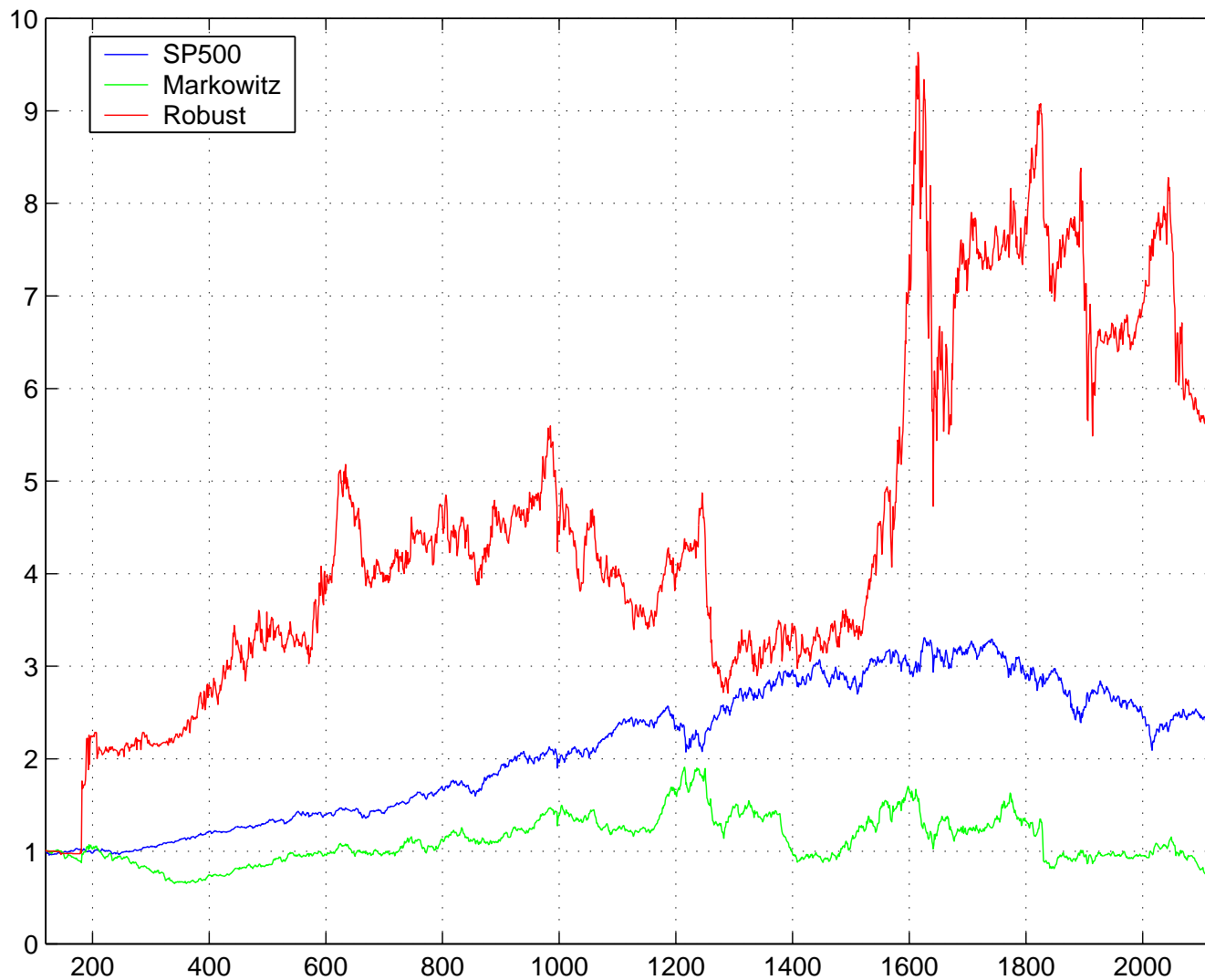
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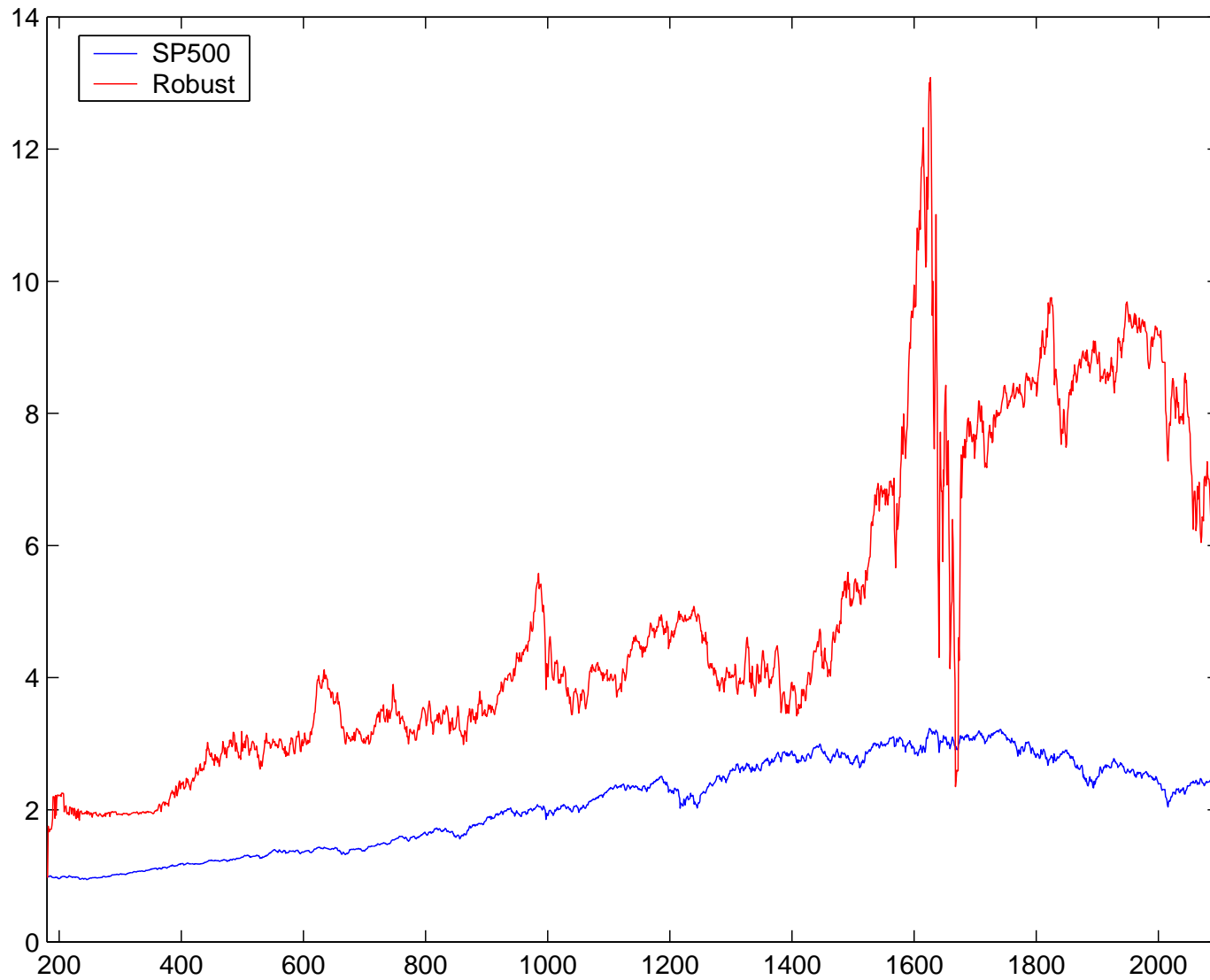
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- $S_m(\omega), S_v(\omega), S_f(\omega), S_d(\omega)$ is a combination of $S_a - S_d$... problem SOCP
- Translates ω into a confidence on the performance of the optimal portfolio $\boldsymbol{\phi}^*$

Historical performance of robust strategy

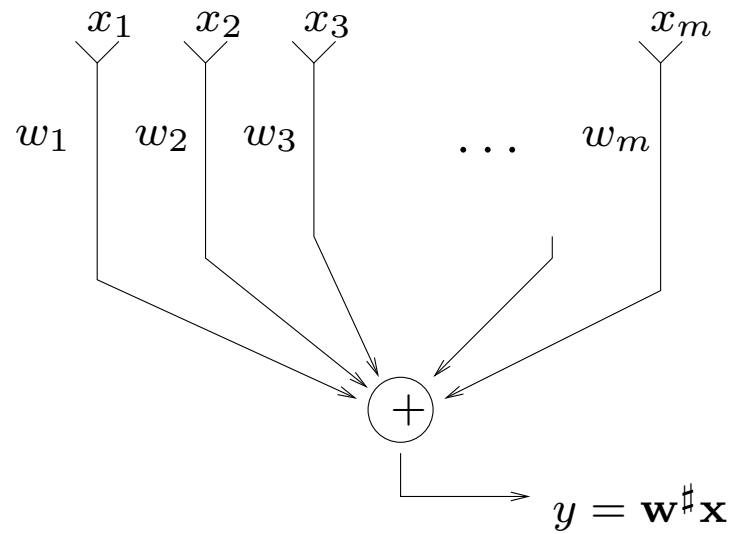


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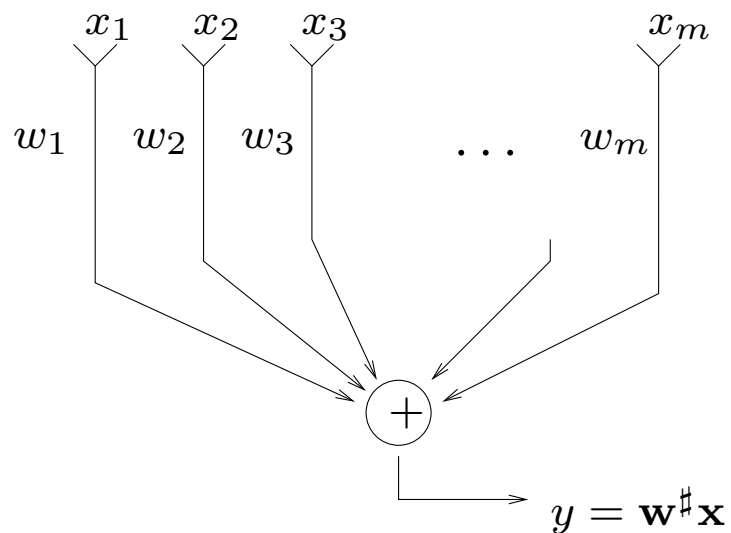
Antenna design problem (Tom Luo)

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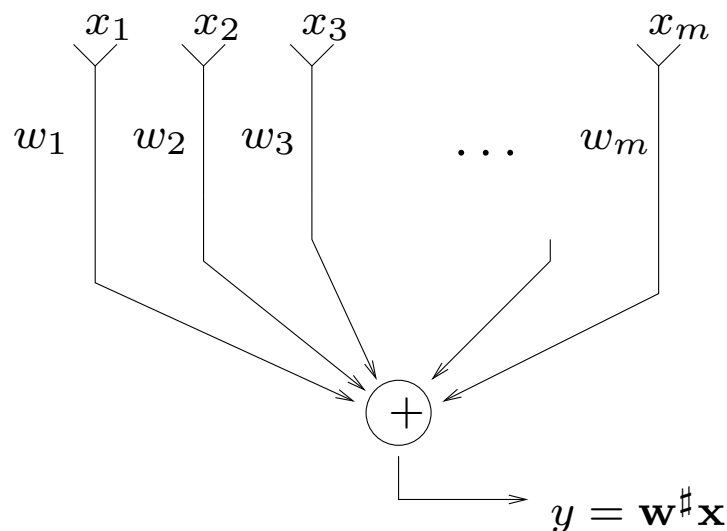


- User i uses **steering vector** \mathbf{a}_i , $i = 0, \dots, N - 1$

$$y = \mathbf{w}^\# \left(\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} x_i \mathbf{a}_i + \mathbf{n} \right)$$

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- Signal power: $P_s = \sigma_0^2 |\mathbf{w}^\# \mathbf{a}_0|^2$... Interference power $P_i = \mathbf{w}^\# (\mathbf{A}^\# \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{R}) \mathbf{w}$
 - $\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{a}_1 \ \mathbf{a}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{a}_{N-1}]$, $\mathbf{\Sigma} = \mathbf{diag}(\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_{N-1}^2)$, \mathbf{R} is the noise covariance

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- Optimization problem:

$$\max_{\mathbf{w}} \left\{ \frac{P_s}{P_i} \right\} = \max_{\mathbf{w}} \left\{ \frac{\sigma_0^2 |\mathbf{w}^\# \mathbf{a}_0|^2}{\mathbf{w}^\# (\mathbf{A}^\# \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{R}) \mathbf{w}} \right\}$$

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- Robust antenna: robust quadratically constrained problem

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- Uncertainty set $\mathcal{S} = \left\{ \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{A}^\# \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{R} : \|\mathbf{a}_i - \bar{\mathbf{a}}_i\| \leq \epsilon \right\}$

Hyperplane separation

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where the uncertainty set

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- The norm $\|\cdot\|$ and ρ can be chosen to “match” \mathcal{S} to confidence regions

Estimation in linear models

- Parameter: $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$
 - $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ unknown ... apriori estimate $\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$
 - $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \in \mathcal{S}_1 = \left\{ \boldsymbol{\Sigma} : \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\Delta} \succeq \mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Delta} = \boldsymbol{\Delta}^T, \|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \boldsymbol{\Delta} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0^{\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq \eta \right\}$

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- Measurement: $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{d} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{D}),$

$$\mathbf{D} \in \mathcal{S}_2 = \left\{ \mathbf{D} : \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{D} = \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}_0 + \boldsymbol{\Delta} \succeq \mathbf{0}, \|\mathbf{N}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \boldsymbol{\Delta} \mathbf{N}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq \eta, \\ \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}_0 + \mathbf{W}, \|\mathbf{W}_i\| \leq \rho_i, i = 1, \dots, m \end{array} \right\}$$

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$$\mathbf{D} \in \mathcal{S}_2 = \left\{ \mathbf{D} : \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{D} = \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}_0 + \boldsymbol{\Delta} \succeq \mathbf{0}, \|\mathbf{N}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \boldsymbol{\Delta} \mathbf{N}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq \eta, \\ \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}_0 + \mathbf{W}, \|\mathbf{W}_i\| \leq \rho_i, i = 1, \dots, m \end{array} \right\}$$

- Unbiased estimator: $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}} + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{y}$

Estimation in linear models

- Parameter: $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$
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- Robust optimization problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{K}} \max_{\{(\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \in \mathcal{S}_1, \mathbf{D} \in \mathcal{S}_2)\}} \max_{\{1 \leq j \leq m\}} \left\{ \mathbf{v}_j^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{C})\mathbf{v}_j + \mathbf{v}_j^T \mathbf{K}^T \mathbf{D}\mathbf{K}\mathbf{v}_j \right\}$$

Estimation in linear models

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- $\mathcal{S}_s, \mathcal{S}_d$ are factorized uncertainty sets ... problem SOCP

The punchline !

- Three classes of tractable uncertainties: SOCPs instead of SDPs
 - Polytopic uncertainty
 - Affine uncertainty
 - Factorized uncertainty

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- Three classes of tractable uncertainties: SOCPs instead of SDPs
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- These arise quite naturally in disparate application areas