

Question: What is the relation between $\Sigma_{n,2d}$ and $P_{n,2d}$?

Theorem 3 $\Sigma_{1,2d} = P_{1,2d}$.

Proof Let $p \in P_{1,2d}$ with $\deg p = 2d$. By the fundamental theorem of algebra

$$p(x) = c \prod_{i=1}^r (x - \alpha_i)^2 \prod_{i=1}^s (x - \beta_i)(x - \bar{\beta}_i),$$

where: α_i real root

$\beta_i, \bar{\beta}_i$ pairs of complex roots

$c > 0$ coefficient of monomial x^{2d} .

We have

$$\begin{aligned} (x - \beta_i)(x - \bar{\beta}_i) &= x^2 - (\beta_i + \bar{\beta}_i)x + \beta_i \bar{\beta}_i \\ &= x^2 - 2 \operatorname{Re} \beta_i x + (\operatorname{Re} \beta_i)^2 + (\operatorname{Im} \beta_i)^2 \\ &= (x - \operatorname{Re} \beta_i)^2 + (\operatorname{Im} \beta_i)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\prod_{i=1}^s (x - \beta_i)(x - \bar{\beta}_i) = \sum_{j=1}^m (q_j(x))^2$ for some $q_j \in \mathbb{R}[x]$.

Hence,

$$p(x) = \sum_{j=1}^m \left(\sqrt{c} \prod_{i=1}^r (x - \alpha_i) q_j \right)^2.$$

□

Example 4 Motzkin polynomial

$$M(x,y) = x^2 y^2 (x^2 + y^2 - 3) + 1 \in \mathcal{P}_{2,6} \setminus \Sigma_{2,6}.$$

Proof $M \in \mathcal{P}_{2,6}$: If $x^2 + y^2 - 3 \geq 0$, then $M(x,y) \geq 0$.

If $x^2 + y^2 - 3 < 0$, then define $z^2 = 3 - x^2 - y^2$ (> 0)

By the AM-GM inequality:

$$(x^2 y^2 z^2)^{1/3} \leq \frac{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}{3} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow M(x,y) \geq 0.$$

$$\parallel$$
$$(-M(x,y) + 1)^{1/3}$$

$M \notin \Sigma_{2,6}$: Suppose $M = \sum_{k=1}^m q_k^2$. Then $\deg q_k \leq 3$.

Coefficients of q_k :

$$\begin{array}{l} x^3 : 0 \\ y^3 : 0 \\ x^2 : 0 \\ y^2 : 0 \\ x : 0 \\ y : 0 \end{array}$$

So: $q_k = a_k x y^2 + b_k x^2 y + c_k x y + d_k$

Coefficient of $x^2 y^2$ in M is -3 , i.e. $-3 = \sum_{k=1}^m c_k^2$. ∇ \square

Theorem 5 (Hilbert, 1888)

$$\Sigma_{n,2d} = P_{n,2d} \iff \begin{array}{l} m=1 \text{ or} \\ d=1 \text{ or} \\ m=2, d=2. \end{array}$$

Proof : • $m=1$: Thm. 3

• $d=1$: Cholesky factorisation

• $m=2, d=2$: not so easy; not here.

• all other cases: use variants of Motzkin polynomial. □

Remarks • Decision problem " $p \in P_{n,4}$ " is NP-hard.

• Blekherman (2006): $P_{n,2d}$ is much bigger than $\Sigma_{n,2d}$.

§2 Global optimisation with polynomials

polynomial optimisation problem (POP)

given: $f, g_1, \dots, g_m \in \mathbb{R}[x]$

find: $p_{\min} = \inf_{x \in K} f(x)$

where $K = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : g_1(x) \geq 0, \dots, g_m(x) \geq 0\}$.

POP is very general and very difficult.

Dual approach: $\mathcal{P}(K) = \{p \in \mathbb{R}[x] : p(x) \geq 0 \forall x \in K\}$

is convex cone

Then $p_{\min} = \sup \{ \lambda : f - \lambda \in \mathcal{P}(K) \}$.

But Optimisation over $\mathcal{P}(K)$ is difficult.

SOS relaxation (Lasserre; Parrilo 2001)

- Find sequence of cones $C_1 \subseteq C_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq \mathcal{P}(K)$ for which it is easier to determine $\sup \{ \lambda : f - \lambda \in C_i \}$.
- Gives sequence $p_1 \leq p_2 \leq \dots \leq p_{\min}$ of lower bounds.

• optimisation over C_i is easier than optimisation over C_{i+1}

SOS hierarchy Define

$$P_{\text{SOS},i} = \sup \left\{ \lambda : p - \lambda \in \sum_{m, z_i} + g_1 \sum_{n, z_i} + \dots + g_m \sum_{n_i, z_i} \right\}$$

Then $P_{\text{SOS},1} \leq P_{\text{SOS},2} \leq \dots \leq p_{\min}$.

Theorem (Putinar, 1993)

If K is compact (and K is well represented by g_1, \dots, g_m ; "the quadratic module is Archimedean").

Then $p_{\min} = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} P_{\text{SOS},i}$.

→ important theoretical result; useful in practice.

→ sometimes: $P_{\text{SOS},i} = p_{\min}$ for small values of i .

→ starting point of ongoing research.