

Outline:

How to solve most convex optimization problems, IRL.

Polynomial time.

Convex problems we can solve in polynomial time.

$$\min_x f(x) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad g(x) \leq 0, \quad f, g \text{ convex}$$

$$\exists \lambda \geq 0 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad h_\lambda(x) = f(x) + \lambda g(x)$$

global min of  $h_\lambda(x)$  is solution

But which  $\lambda$ ?

$\lambda = 0$  just min  $f$

$\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  just min  $g$

$x_\lambda$  be sol to  $h_\lambda(x)$

$0 < \lambda < \infty$   $f(x_\lambda)$  gets bigger and  $g(x_\lambda)$  smaller

Binary search on  $\lambda$ ?  $g(x_\lambda) = 0$

Just hope for  $-\epsilon \leq g(x_\lambda) \leq 0$

$(1-t)f(x) + tg(x)$  search on  $t \in [0, 1]$

$$\sim f(x) + \frac{t}{1-t} g(x) \quad \lambda = \frac{t}{1-t}$$

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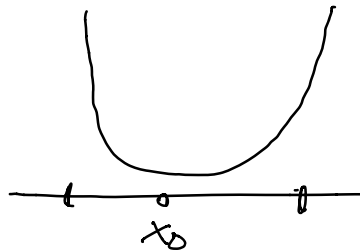
## Interior Point Methods (aka Barrier Methods)

Consider  $\min_x f(x) + \varepsilon \left( \frac{1}{-g(x)} \right) = f(x) - \frac{\varepsilon}{g(x)}$

s.t.  $g(x) \leq 0$

$g(x)$  convex  $\Rightarrow -g$  concave  $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{-g(x)}$  convex

Problem is still convex but, goes to  $\infty$  at boundary



Local approach to global with stays inside  $g(x) \leq 0$

Start with  $\varepsilon$  big - so just want a feasible point.  
Lower  $\varepsilon$ , and track solution as you go

Really, use  $f(x) - \varepsilon \log(-g(x))$   
 $-\log(-g(x)) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $g(x) \rightarrow 0$

Version 1:  $\min f(x)$  s.t.  $g_1(x) \leq 0, \dots, g_k(x) \leq 0$

$$f(x) - \varepsilon \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^k \log(-g_i(x))}_{\text{Barrier}}$$

Start with  $\varepsilon$

decrease  $\varepsilon \leftarrow \varepsilon/2$  or  $\varepsilon(1 - 1/\sqrt{n})$

$x_{\varepsilon_t}$  find  $x_{\varepsilon_{t+1}}$  start working from  $x_{\varepsilon_t}$ .

Usually only need high accuracy when  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$

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Usually use Newton's Method, not gradients.

min  $F(x)$  as Taylor approx to  $F$   
small  $\delta$

$$F(x+\delta) \approx F(x) + \nabla F(x)^T \delta + \frac{1}{2} \delta^T \underbrace{(\nabla^2 F(x))}_{\text{Hessian...}} \delta$$

$$\delta = - \underbrace{(\nabla^2 F(x))^{-1}} \nabla F(x)$$

Usually go to  $F(x+t\delta)$  some  $t$

Karmarkar solves LPs in polynomial time.

Solve for very small  $\varepsilon$ , and can then round to exact solution.

Generalized Ineqs  $x \in K_i \quad \mathbb{R}_+^n, S_+^n$

## Polynomial Time.

input size  $N$ . poly time always performs at most  $\leq O(N^c)$

for some fixed constant  $c$  ( $c=2$  or  $3$ ,  $c=6$ )

Gaussian Elim  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix  $N = n^2$  #s.

run time  $\leq O(n^3) = O(N^{3/2})$

Add two  $b$  bit #s, time  $\leq O(b)$ .

Comparison  $\leq O(b)$ .

Multiplying  $b$  bit #s time  $\leq \underline{O(b \log b)}$

$$x_0 = 3$$

for  $i$  in 1 to  $n$

$$x_i = x_{i-1}^2$$

$x_n = 3^{2^n}$  need  $\Theta(2^n)$  bits to write down.

LU factorization is poly time, even when count bits.

LP is poly time, but only when count bits.

# of ops actually depends on # of bits...

Running time really depends on  $K$ ,

poly in  $\log(K)$ .

and  $K$  can be  $\exp(\# \text{bits})$

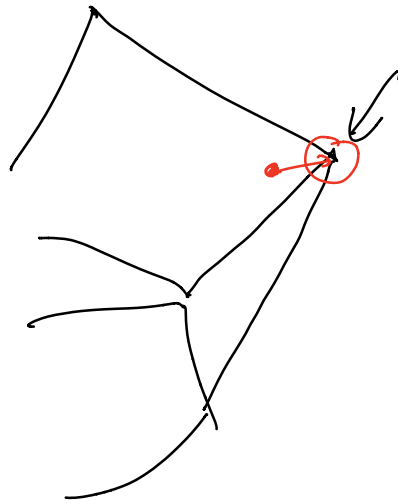
Approx Solve LP: given  $c, A, b, \epsilon > 0$

We can find an  $x$  s.t.  $Ax \leq b$

and  $c^T x \geq c^T x_* - \epsilon$

Time is poly in  $\# \text{bits}$  used to write  $x, b, c$  and  $\epsilon$

once  $\epsilon$  small enough, can round to a solution



Convex solution has poly in the input size.

True because true for  $Ax = b$

Use rationals. Write inputs as  $P/Q$ ,  
 $P$  and  $Q$  are integers.

# of bits to write  $P \leq 1 + 2 \lceil \log_2 P \rceil$  bits

$\text{size}(P) = \#$  bits used to write  $P$

$\text{size}(x) = \#$  bits to write  $x$ .

$$x = P/Q \quad \text{size}(x) \leq \text{size}(P) + \text{size}(Q)$$

$P_1 \dots P_n$  integers

$$\text{size}(\prod P_i) \leq \sum_i \text{size}(P_i)$$

$$\lceil \log \prod P_i \rceil \leq \sum_i \lceil \log P_i \rceil$$

rationals

$$\text{size}(\sum x_i) \leq \underline{2 \sum_i \text{size}(x_i)} \quad x_i = P_i/Q_i$$

$$\sum x_i = \frac{\sum_i P_i \prod_{j \neq i} Q_j}{\prod Q_i}$$

$$\text{size}(\prod Q_i) \leq \sum \text{size}(Q_i)$$

$$\leq (\sum P_i) (\prod Q_i)$$

$$\leq \text{size}(\sum P_i) + \text{size}(\prod Q_i)$$

$n$ -words  $(x_1 \dots x_n) \quad \text{size}(n) + \sum_i \text{size}(x_i)$

lem for  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$   
 $\text{size}(\det(A)) \leq 2 \cdot \text{size}(A)$

$$\det = \sum_{\text{perm } \pi} (-1)^{\text{sign}(\pi)} \prod_{i=1}^n A(i, \pi(i))$$

$$A(i, j) = P_{ij} / Q_{ij}$$

$$\det = P/Q \quad Q = \prod Q_{ij}$$

$$|\det(A)| \leq \prod_{i,j} (1 + |P_{ij}|)$$

$$\text{size} \downarrow \leq 2 \sum_{i,j} \text{size}(P_{ij})$$

lem  $Ax=b$ ,  $\text{size}(x) \leq 4n (\text{size}(A) + \text{size}(b))$

Cramer's rule says  $x(i) = \frac{\det(A_i)}{\det(A)}$

$A_i = A$ , but  $i$ th col replaced by  $b$ .

$$\text{size}(x(i)) \leq 2 (\text{size}(A) + (\text{size}(A) + \text{size}(b)))$$

$$\leq 4n (\text{size}(A) + \text{size}(b))$$

LU is poly time.

Thus the LP  $c^T x$  s.t.  $Ax \leq b$   
has solution vector  $x_*$  of size  
 $\leq 4d(\text{size}(A) + \text{size}(b))$

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$\min_x f(x)$  s.t.  $x \in C$  convex  $C, f$

$x$  is  $\epsilon$ -approx  $\exists$  optimal  $x_*$  s.t.  $\|x - x_*\| \leq \epsilon$

Need to be able to tell if  $x \in C$ .

Assume can call a function to tell.

Membership Oracle

$f$  given by a "function oracle".

$f(x) = c^T x$  is simple

on input  $x, \delta$  get back rational  $t$  s.t.

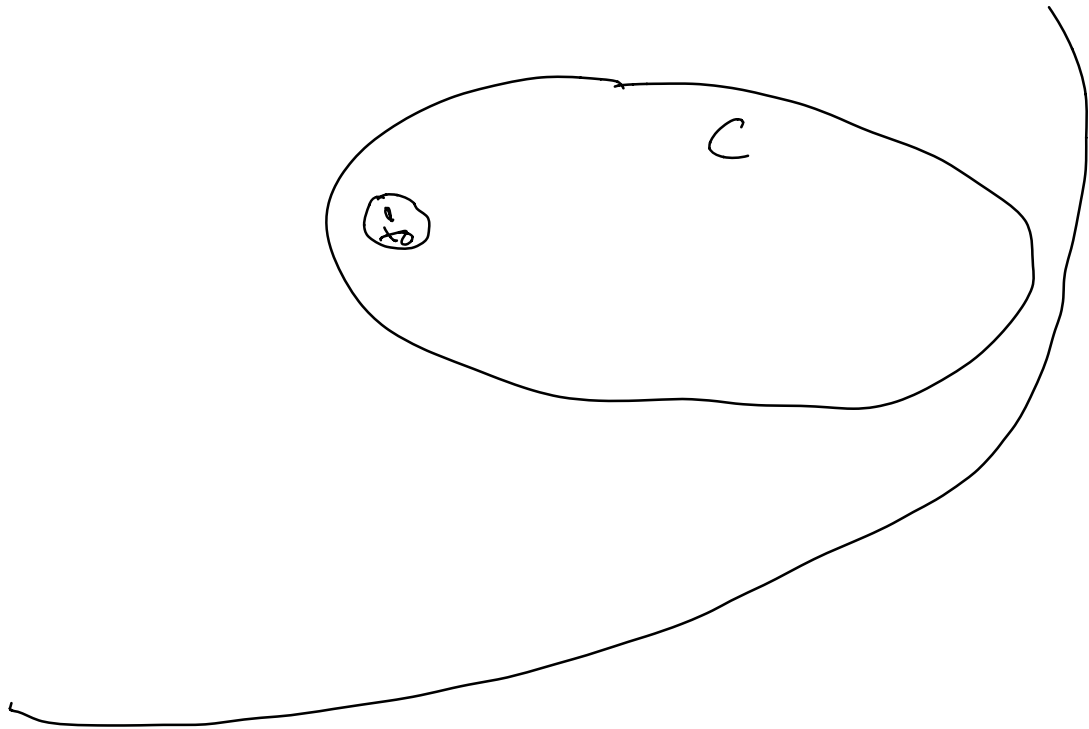
$$|t - f(x)| \leq \delta$$

and not too many bits.

need  $x_0 \in C$

and  $r, R$  s.t.  $B(x_0, r) \subseteq C \subseteq B(x_0, R)$





Can  $\epsilon$ -approx solutions in time poly in  
 $\log(C/\epsilon)$ ,  $\log(R/r)$ ,  $\text{size}(A_0)$ ,  $D$

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$