

Convex optimization problems involving finite autocorrelation sequences

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Abstract

We discuss convex optimization problems where some of the variables are constrained to be finite autocorrelation sequences. Problems of this form arise in signal processing and communications, and we describe applications in filter design and system identification. Autocorrelation constraints in optimization problems are often approximated by sampling the corresponding power spectral density, which results in a set of linear inequalities. They can also be cast as linear matrix inequalities via the Kalman-Yakubovich-Popov lemma. The linear matrix inequality formulation is exact, and results in convex optimization problems that can be solved using interior-point methods for semidefinite programming. However, it has an important drawback: to represent an autocorrelation sequence of length n , it requires the introduction of a large number $(n(n+1)/2)$ of auxiliary variables. This results in a high computational cost when general-purpose semidefinite programming solvers are used. We present a more efficient implementation based on duality and on interior-point methods for convex problems with generalized linear inequalities.

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1 Introduction

A vector $x = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ is a *finite autocorrelation sequence* if there exists a vector $y = (y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ such that

$$x_k = \sum_{i=0}^{n-k} y_i y_{i+k}, \quad k = 0, \dots, n.^1 \tag{1}$$

In this paper we study optimization problems with the constraint that some of the variables, or an affine combination of the variables, form a finite autocorrelation sequence. As will become clear in §2, this is a convex constraint, because the set of autocorrelation sequences in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} is a convex cone. Optimization problems involving autocorrelation sequences are common in signal processing, system identification, and communications. We will discuss several examples and applications in §3.

It is well known in system theory that the set of autocorrelation sequences can be described using linear matrix inequalities (LMIs). Specifically, we will see that x is a finite autocorrelation sequence if and only if there exists a symmetric matrix $P \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} P & \tilde{x} \\ \tilde{x}^T & x_0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix}$$

is positive semidefinite, where $\tilde{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n$ is defined as $\tilde{x} = [x_n \ x_{n-1} \ \dots \ x_1]^T$. This condition is an LMI in x and the auxiliary variable P . As a consequence, many convex problems involving autocorrelation sequences can be solved using interior-point methods for semidefinite programming (SDP). However this is not necessarily the most efficient solution, since the conversion to an SDP requires the introduction of a large number of auxiliary variables (the $n(n+1)/2$ elements of P). The goal of this paper is to develop more direct and much more efficient interior-point methods for handling autocorrelation sequences. For a typical example, these techniques reduce the cost per iteration from $O(n^6)$ floating-point operations when using the SDP embedding to $O(n^3)$ flops.

Two groups of researchers have recently and independently arrived at similar conclusions. Dumitrescu, Tabus and Stoica in [DTS00] have noted that the computational cost of representing autocorrelation sequences via the SDP embedding can be drastically reduced (typically from $O(n^6)$ to $O(n^4)$) by solving the dual SDP. The method presented here is based on the same observation, and achieves a further reduction (from $O(n^4)$ to $O(n^3)$) by taking advantage of the Toeplitz structure in the dual. Genin, Hachez, Nesterov and Van Dooren in [GHN00a, GHN00b] have developed efficient algorithms for convex optimization problems over pseudo-polynomial matrices, which include autocorrelation sequences as a special case. The techniques presented in this paper provide an alternative approach and lead to algorithms with the same efficiency.

The outline of the paper is as follows. We start in the next paragraph by listing a number of equivalent characterizations and geometrical properties of autocorrelation sequences. In particular we show that the set of finite autocorrelation sequences forms a closed convex

¹Throughout the paper we use zero-based indexing for vectors and matrices. The first component of a vector x is x_0 , the first element of a matrix A is A_{00} , etc.

cone. We also describe the corresponding dual cone. In §3 we present examples and applications in filter design and system identification. The section includes a new formulation of piecewise-constant filter magnitude constraints as linear generalized inequalities with respect to the autocorrelation cone. In §4 we present general background on barrier methods for convex optimization problems with cone constraints. In §5 we describe the two most widely used methods for handling autocorrelation cone constraints and discuss their shortcomings. In §6 we describe an efficient dual barrier method for problems with autocorrelation cone constraints. The main contribution in this section is an efficient method for evaluating the Hessian of the dual barrier function. We present numerical results in §7, and conclude with a summary and some topics for future research in §8.

2 The cone of finite autocorrelation sequences

We denote by \mathcal{C}_{n+1} the set of finite autocorrelation sequences in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} . In other words, $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ if and only if x satisfies (1) for some $y \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$. In this section we present a number of characterizations and interpretations of \mathcal{C}_{n+1} that will be useful later. These definitions (with the possible exception of the second) are well known (see, for example, [KN77, BEFB94, Gra72, SM97]), and will be presented here without proof. (Some of the proofs are given in the appendix. A longer version of this paper, including complete proofs, is available as the technical report [AV00a].)

2.1 Equivalent definitions

Frequency-domain characterization

The Fourier transform of the sequence

$$\dots, 0, 0, x_n, x_{n-1}, \dots, x_1, x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n, 0, 0, \dots$$

is a function $X : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ defined as

$$X(\omega) = x_0 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \cos k\omega.$$

We have the following property: $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ if and only if X is nonnegative, *i.e.*,

$$X(\omega) \geq 0, \quad \omega \in [0, \pi]. \quad (2)$$

(Note that X is periodic with period 2π and even, so it is sufficient to consider $\omega \in [0, \pi]$.)

This frequency-domain characterization of \mathcal{C}_{n+1} has several important consequences. First, it immediately implies that \mathcal{C}_{n+1} is a *cone*: if $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$, then obviously $tx \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ for all $t \geq 0$. Secondly, we can note that for fixed ω , the inequality (2) is a linear inequality in x , *i.e.*, it defines a closed halfspace in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} . In (2) we express \mathcal{C}_{n+1} as the intersection of infinitely many halfspaces, parametrized by ω . As a consequence, \mathcal{C}_{n+1} is a closed convex cone.

Linear matrix inequality characterization

In the second characterization, we describe \mathcal{C}_{n+1} as the image of the cone of positive semidefinite matrices in $\mathbf{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$ under a linear transformation. We first note that we can write the equation (1) as

$$x_k = y^T E^k y = \mathbf{Tr} E^k y y^T, \quad k = 0, \dots, n \quad (3)$$

where $\mathbf{Tr} A$ denotes the trace of a square matrix A , and the matrix E is the unit-shift matrix, defined as

$$E = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (4)$$

In (3), E^k denotes the k th power of E , *i.e.*, E^0 is the identity matrix, and for $k > 0$, E^k has zeros everywhere, except on the k th subdiagonal. Multiplying a vector y with E^k corresponds to shifting the components of y over k positions:

$$E^k y = (0, \dots, 0, y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{n-k}).$$

In (3) we represent \mathcal{C}_{n+1} as the image of a non-convex set (the set of positive semidefinite rank-one matrices yy^T) under a linear transformation. Remarkably, we obtain the same set if we relax the rank-one constraint. It can be shown that $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ if and only if

$$x_k = \mathbf{Tr} E^k Y, \quad k = 0, \dots, n \quad (5)$$

for some $Y = Y^T \succeq 0$.² We refer to the appendix for a proof of this result.

For given x , (5) is a set of $n + 1$ linear equations in Y , and it defines an affine set of dimension $n(n+1)/2$ in the space of symmetric $(n+1) \times (n+1)$ -matrices. We can parametrize the same set explicitly as follows. It can be shown that Y satisfies (5) if and only if there exists a $P = P^T \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} P & \tilde{x} \\ \tilde{x}^T & x_0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix}$$

where $\tilde{x} = [x_n \ x_{n-1} \ \cdots \ x_1]^T$. We therefore obtain the following equivalent LMI characterization for \mathcal{C}_{n+1} : $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ if and only if there exists a $P = P^T \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} P & \tilde{x} \\ \tilde{x}^T & x_0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0. \quad (6)$$

This is an LMI in the variables $P = P^T$ and x .

This second form can also be derived directly from the Kalman-Yakubovich-Popov lemma in linear system theory (see the appendix for details).

² $A \succeq 0$ denotes matrix inequality. If A is a symmetric matrix, then $A \succeq 0$ means A is positive semidefinite. $A \succ 0$ means A is positive definite.

Solution set of an infinite LMI

We can also characterize \mathcal{C}_{n+1} as the solution set of an ‘infinite’ linear matrix inequality. It can be shown that $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ if and only if the Toeplitz matrices $T_N(x) \in \mathbf{R}^{N \times N}$, defined as

$$T_N(x)_{ij} = \begin{cases} x_{|i-j|} & \text{if } 0 \leq |i-j| \leq n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

are positive semidefinite for all N :

$$T_N(x) \succeq 0, \quad N = 1, 2, \dots \quad (7)$$

Here we express \mathcal{C}_{n+1} as the intersection of the solution sets of infinitely many linear matrix inequalities, which again confirms that \mathcal{C}_{n+1} is a convex set.

Stochastic interpretation

Our use of the term ‘autocorrelation sequence’ is justified by the following property: $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ if and only if there exists a wide-sense stationary random sequence $w(t)$, $t = 0, 1, \dots$, such that

$$\mathbf{E} w(t)w(t+k) = \begin{cases} x_k & 0 \leq k \leq n \\ 0 & k > n. \end{cases}$$

Nonnegative polynomials on $[-1, 1]$

Any $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ can be associated with a polynomial of degree n , defined as

$$P(t) = x_0 + 2x_1p_1(t) + 2x_2p_2(t) + \dots + 2x_np_n(t)$$

where $p_k(t)$ is the Chebyshev polynomial of degree k . We have the following result: $P(t) \geq 0$ for $-1 \leq t \leq 1$ if and only if $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$. This follows immediately from the definition of Chebyshev polynomials:

$$p_k(t) = \cos(k \cos^{-1}(t)) \text{ for } t \in [-1, 1].$$

As a consequence, we can identify \mathcal{C}_{n+1} with the cone of polynomials of degree n that are nonnegative on $[-1, 1]$.

2.2 The dual cone

The dual of the autocorrelation cone will play a fundamental role in the numerical techniques we discuss later. The dual cone of \mathcal{C}_{n+1} is defined as

$$\mathcal{C}_{n+1}^* = \{z \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} \mid z^T x \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}\}.$$

An explicit characterization of the dual cone can be derived as follows: $z^T x \geq 0$ for all $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ if and only if

$$\sum_{k=0}^n z_k \sum_{i=0}^{n-k} y_i y_{i+k} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} y_0 & y_1 & \cdots & y_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2z_0 & z_1 & z_2 & \cdots & z_n \\ z_1 & 2z_0 & z_1 & \cdots & z_{n-1} \\ z_2 & z_1 & 2z_0 & \cdots & z_{n-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ z_n & z_{n-1} & z_{n-2} & \cdots & 2z_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \geq 0$$

for all $y \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$. Therefore, $z \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}^*$ if and only if

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2z_0 & z_1 & z_2 & \cdots & z_n \\ z_1 & 2z_0 & z_1 & \cdots & z_{n-1} \\ z_2 & z_1 & 2z_0 & \cdots & z_{n-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ z_n & z_{n-1} & z_{n-2} & \cdots & 2z_0 \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0.$$

In other words, we can identify the dual cone with the cone of positive semidefinite Toeplitz matrices in $\mathbf{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$.

2.3 Spectral factorization

Returning to the original definition (1), the question arises of checking whether a given x is a finite autocorrelation sequence. In other words, for a given x , we would like to be able to either construct a y that satisfies (1), or find a hyperplane that separates x from \mathcal{C}_{n+1} . This can be achieved very efficiently by a technique called *spectral factorization*. Several very efficient methods for spectral factorization exist, and we refer to [WBV98, p.242] for a brief survey. For a given x , there may be multiple solutions y that satisfy (1). Spectral factorization methods usually compute the *minimum-phase* spectral factor, which satisfies the property that the complex function

$$y_0 + y_1 z^{-1} + \cdots + y_n z^{-n}$$

is nonzero for $|z| > 1$.

2.4 Generalized inequality notation

The fact that \mathcal{C}_{n+1} is a closed convex cone justifies the following notation. If $x \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$, we will use the inequality $x \succeq 0$ to denote $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$. More generally, $x \succeq y$ means $x - y \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$, and $x \succ y$ means $x - y \in \mathbf{int} \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$. Similarly, if $z, w \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$, then $z \succeq_* w$ means $z - w \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}^*$, and $z \succ_* w$ means $z - w \in \mathbf{int} \mathcal{C}_{n+1}^*$.

Note that we use the same inequality sign for generalized inequality with respect to the cone \mathcal{C}_{n+1} and for matrix inequality. The meaning will always be clear from the context: if X is a symmetric matrix, then $X \succeq 0$ means that X is positive semidefinite; if x is a vector in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} , then $x \succeq 0$ denotes $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$.

3 Examples and applications

3.1 Enforcing nonnegativity of estimated spectral densities

Suppose we measure or estimate the first $n + 1$ autocorrelation coefficients of a stationary time series $w(t)$, *i.e.*, we have estimates \hat{r}_k , $k = 0, \dots, n$, satisfying

$$\hat{r}_k \approx \mathbf{E} w(t)w(t + k). \tag{8}$$

The coefficients \hat{r}_k might be obtained, for example, by taking an average of sampled values of $w(t)w(t + k)$. Due to estimation errors, we may not have equality in (8). Moreover, even if the values \hat{r}_k are exact, they only represent a finite part of an underlying autocorrelation sequence $\mathbf{E} w(t)w(t + k)$ of unknown and possibly infinite length. So we do not expect the sequence $\hat{r}_0, \dots, \hat{r}_n$ to be a finite autocorrelation sequence, and as a result, the estimated power spectral density

$$\hat{r}_0 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^n \hat{r}_k \cos(k\omega)$$

might be not be nonnegative. One approach to this problem is to approximate \hat{r} by the closest finite autocorrelation sequence, *i.e.*, to solve the problem

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \|x - \hat{r}\|^2 \\ &\text{subject to} && x \succeq 0. \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

This problem was studied in [SMS93, ML91], where it was solved using semi-infinite optimization methods.

Stoica, McKelvey, and Mari [SMM00] mention similar constraints in the context of MA (Moving Average) signal estimation. For example, they consider the problem

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && (x - \hat{r})^T W (x - \hat{r}) \\ &\text{subject to} && x \succeq 0 \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

where $W = W^T \succ 0$ and $\hat{r} \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ are given, and x is the variable. This problem was solved via the SDP embedding and general-purpose SDP software in [SMM00]. In [DTS00, AV00b] it was pointed out that the dual of the resulting SDP has a much smaller number of variables than the primal, so the problem can be solved more efficiently via the dual. In [AV00b] the complexity was further reduced by taking advantage of the Toeplitz structure in the dual problem, as described below in §6.

3.2 Frequency-domain system identification

Consider the problem of fitting a rational function $H : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$, defined as

$$H(z) = \frac{a_0 + a_1 z^{-1} + \dots + a_n z^{-n}}{b_0 + b_1 z^{-1} + \dots + b_m z^{-m}}, \tag{11}$$

to measurements of its power spectrum $|H(e^{j\omega})|^2$ (where $j = \sqrt{-1}$). Specifically, we are interested in the problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \max_{i=0,\dots,N} ||H(e^{j\omega_i})|^2 - P_i| \\ & \text{subject to} && b^T b = 1, \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

where the variables are the coefficients $a \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ and $b \in \mathbf{R}^{m+1}$, and the problem data are the measurement pairs ω_i, P_i for $i = 0, \dots, N$. The equality constraint in (12) is added to normalize the solution.

Problem (12) is not convex in the variables a and b , but can be reformulated as a quasi-convex problem via a nonlinear change of variables. Define $u \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}, v \in \mathbf{R}^{m+1}$ as

$$u_k = \sum_{i=0}^{n-k} a_i a_{i+k}, \quad v_k = \sum_{i=0}^{m-k} b_i b_{i+k},$$

i.e., u and v are the autocorrelation sequences of the vectors a and b . It is easily shown that

$$|H(e^{j\omega})|^2 = \frac{U(\omega)}{V(\omega)}$$

for all ω , where

$$\begin{aligned} U(\omega) &= u_0 + 2u_1 \cos \omega + \dots + 2u_m \cos n\omega, \\ V(\omega) &= v_0 + 2v_1 \cos \omega + \dots + 2v_n \cos m\omega. \end{aligned}$$

We can therefore express problem (12) as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \max_{i=0,\dots,N} \left| \frac{U(\omega_i)}{V(\omega_i)} - P_i \right| \\ & \text{subject to} && v_0 = 1 \\ & && u \succeq 0, \quad v \succeq 0, \end{aligned}$$

This problem can be reformulated as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \gamma \\ & \text{subject to} && -\gamma V(\omega_i) \leq U(\omega_i) - P_i V(\omega_i) \leq \gamma V(\omega_i), \quad i = 0, \dots, N \\ & && v_0 = 1 \\ & && u \succeq 0, \quad v \succeq 0, \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

and solved via bisection on γ . From the optimal u and v we can obtain a globally optimal solution a and b by spectral factorization. (Choosing minimum phase spectral factors yields a function H with no poles and zeros outside the unit disk.)

Figure 1 shows an example. The dimensions of the problem are $N = 99, m = 15$ and $n = 14$. The data were generated by adding noise to a 25th order transfer function.

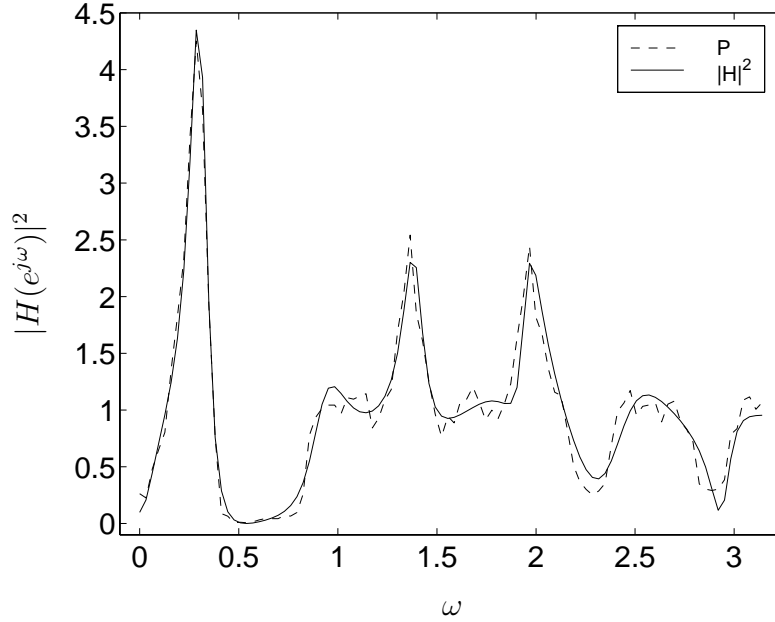


Figure 1: Power spectrum of an order 15 rational transfer function obtained via a minimax fit to the data shown with a dashed line.

3.3 FIR magnitude filter design

A *finite impulse response* (FIR) filter is a linear system described by the input-output relation

$$y(t) = \sum_{k=0}^n h_k u(t - k),$$

where $u(t)$ is the input at time t , $y(t)$ is the output at time t , and h_0, \dots, h_n are the filter coefficients. The transfer function $H : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ of the filter is

$$H(z) = h_0 + h_1 z^{-1} + \dots + h_n z^{-n}.$$

Pointwise upper and lower bounds on the magnitude of the frequency response $|H(e^{j\omega})|$, *i.e.*, constraints of the form

$$L \leq |H(e^{j\omega})| \leq U, \quad \omega \in [\alpha, \beta]$$

are usually not convex in the filter coefficients h . However several researchers [Sam88, WBV96, WBV98, DLW00] have pointed out that these magnitude constraints are convex as a function of the *autocorrelation coefficients*

$$x_k = \sum_{i=0}^{n-k} h_i h_{k+i}, \quad k = 0, \dots, n, \quad (14)$$

and, as a consequence, a wide variety of FIR filter design problems can be solved via convex optimization.

As an example, consider the problem of designing a multiband FIR filter with $N + 1$ bands $[\alpha_k, \beta_k]$, $k = 0, 2, \dots, N$. We assume that $0 \leq \alpha_k < \beta_k \leq \pi$, and that none of the intervals overlap. In each band, we have a lower bound $L_k \geq 0$ and an upper bound $U_k > L_k$ on the filter magnitude. We are interested in minimizing the stopband squared error subject to peak constraints on the magnitude response. This is a variation on the peak-constrained least-squares filter design formulation introduced by Adams [AS98].

The problem can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \sum_{k=0}^N w_k \int_{\alpha_k}^{\beta_k} |H(e^{j\omega})|^2 d\omega \\ & \text{subject to} && L_k \leq |H(e^{j\omega})| \leq U_k, \quad \omega \in [\alpha_k, \beta_k], \quad k = 0, \dots, N, \end{aligned}$$

where $w_k = 0$ if band k is a passband, and $w_k = 1$, $L_k = 0$ if band k is a stopband. (Taking stopband weights w_k different from one allows us to balance the minimization over different stopbands.) This problem is not convex in the filter coefficients h . However, in terms of the autocorrelation coefficients x , defined by (14), the problem reduces to

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \sum_{k=0}^N w_k \int_{\alpha_k}^{\beta_k} X(\omega) d\omega \\ & \text{subject to} && L_k^2 \leq X(\omega) \leq U_k^2, \quad \omega \in [\alpha_k, \beta_k], \quad k = 0, \dots, N \\ & && X(\omega) \geq 0, \quad \omega \in [0, \pi], \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

where X is defined as $X(\omega) = x_0 + 2x_1 \cos \omega + \dots + 2x_n \cos n\omega$. The objective function is linear in x ; the constraints are an infinite set of linear inequalities, so this problem is convex in the variable x .

Two methods exist for dealing with the semi-infinite nature of the constraints in (15). The most popular method is to sample the frequency response, *i.e.*, we replace the constraint

$$L^2 \leq X(\omega) \leq U^2, \quad \omega \in [\alpha, \beta] \tag{16}$$

with a large finite set of inequality constraints

$$L^2 \leq X(e^{j\omega_k}) \leq U^2, \quad k = 0, \dots, m$$

where $\alpha \leq \omega_0 < \omega_2 < \dots < \omega_m \leq \beta$. Using this approach, we can approximate problem (15) by a linear program with a large, but finite, set of inequalities [WBV98].

A second and more recent method is based on semidefinite programming. We have already seen that for $\alpha = 0$ and $\beta = \pi$, the constraint (16) can be cast as two linear matrix inequalities. Davidson *et al.* in [DLS00] and Genin *et al.* in [GHNV00a] have recently extended this formulation, and derived LMI formulations of the constraints (16) for *arbitrary* α and β . Using these methods, a problem such as (15) can be cast as a semidefinite programming problem (SDP), without any approximation or sampling, and solved via general-purpose semidefinite programming software.

The constraints (16) can also be represented as generalized linear inequalities with respect to the cone \mathcal{C}_{n+1} , as follows. We first consider the constraint

$$X(\omega) \geq 0, \quad \omega \in [\alpha, \beta]. \quad (17)$$

To simplify notation, we make a change of variable $t = \cos \omega$. This maps the interval $0 \leq \omega \leq \pi$ to $-1 \leq t \leq 1$, and the function $\cos k\omega$ to the k th *Chebyshev polynomial* $p_k(t) = \cos(k \cos^{-1} t)$ [PM96, p.684]. Therefore $X(\omega)$ is mapped to the polynomial

$$P(t) = x_0 p_0(t) + 2 \sum_{k=1}^n x_k p_k(t),$$

so it is clear that $P(t) \geq 0$ for $t \in [-1, 1]$ if and only if $x \succeq 0$. Now consider the constraint (17). It is satisfied if and only if $P(t) \geq 0$ for $t \in [\cos \beta, \cos \alpha]$. Let $A(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbf{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$ be defined as follows: the components of $A(\alpha, \beta)x$ are the coordinates of P in the basis

$$p_0(at - b), \quad 2p_1(at - b), \quad \dots, \quad 2p_n(at - b),$$

where $a = 2/(\cos \beta - \cos \alpha)$, and $b = (\cos \beta + \cos \alpha)/(\cos \beta - \cos \alpha)$. In other words, if we take $y = A(\alpha, \beta)x$, we can express $P(t)$ as

$$P(t) = y_0 p_0(at - b) + 2 \sum_{k=1}^n y_k p_k(at - b). \quad (18)$$

The matrix $A(\alpha, \beta)$ is readily constructed based on the recursion for Chebyshev polynomials

$$p_0(t) = 1, \quad p_1(t) = t, \quad p_k(t) = 2tp_{k-1}(t) - p_{k-2}(t), \quad k \geq 2.$$

We refer to the appendix for the details of constructing the matrix $A(\alpha, \beta)$ for given α, β . From (18) and the definition of a and b , it is clear that $P(t) \geq 0$ for $t \in [\cos \beta, \cos \alpha]$ if and only if

$$y_0 p_0(\tau) + 2 \sum_{k=1}^n y_k p_k(\tau) \geq 0, \quad \tau \in [-1, 1].$$

In other words, x satisfies the constraint (16) if and only if $A(\alpha, \beta)x \succeq 0$, which is a generalized linear inequality with respect to \mathcal{C}_{n+1} .

More generally, we can express the magnitude constraints (16) as a pair of generalized linear inequalities

$$L^2 e \preceq A(\alpha, \beta)x \preceq U^2 e$$

where $e = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ is the first unit vector in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} .

Returning to the multiband filter design example, we can now use the generalized inequality notation to express problem (15) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && c^T x \\ & \text{subject to} && L_k^2 e \preceq A_k x \preceq U_k^2 e, \quad k = 0, \dots, N \\ & && x \succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

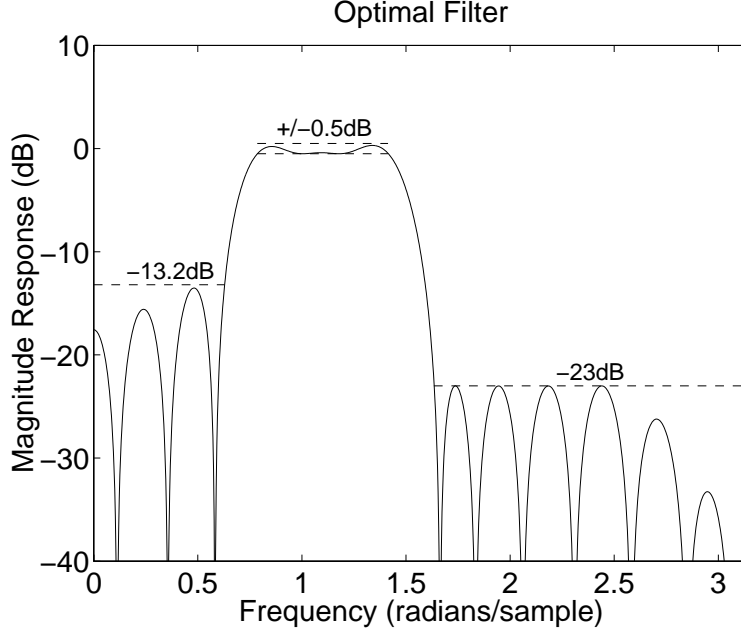


Figure 2: Length 24 bandpass filter.

where $A_k = A(\alpha_k, \beta_k)$ and

$$c_0 = \sum_{k=0}^N w_k(\beta_k - \alpha_k), \quad c_k = 2 \sum_{k=0}^N w_k \int_{\alpha_k}^{\beta_k} \cos k\omega \, d\omega,$$

for $k = 1, \dots, n$.

Figure 2 shows the magnitude response of a length $n = 24$ bandpass filter designed via this formulation, and using the algorithm described later in this paper. The first stopband is the interval $[0, 0.2\pi]$ (radians-per-sample), with an upper bound constraint of -13.2 dB. The passband is the interval $[0.25\pi, 0.45\pi]$ (radians-per-sample), with passband gain constrained to ± 0.5 dB. The second stopband is the interval $[0.52\pi, \pi]$ (radians-per-sample), with an upper bound constraint of -23 dB. We minimize the weighted sum of the two stopband squared errors, with weights inversely proportional to the stop band widths. The problem can be formulated in terms of the filter coefficients h as

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && (1/(0.2\pi)) \int_0^{0.2\pi} |H(e^{j\omega})|^2 d\omega + (1/(0.48\pi)) \int_{0.52\pi}^{\pi} |H(e^{j\omega})|^2 d\omega \\ &\text{subject to} && 20 \log_{10} |H(e^{j\omega})| \leq -13.2, \quad \omega \in [0, 0.2\pi] \\ &&& -0.5 \leq 20 \log_{10} |H(e^{j\omega})| \leq 0.5, \quad \omega \in [0.25\pi, 0.45\pi] \\ &&& 20 \log_{10} |H(e^{j\omega})| \leq -23, \quad \omega \in [0.52\pi, \pi]. \end{aligned}$$

3.4 IIR magnitude filter design

The techniques described in the previous paragraph are readily extended to magnitude design of *infinite impulse response* (IIR) filter design, *i.e.*, filters with a transfer function

$$H(z) = \frac{a_0 + a_1 z^{-1} + \dots + a_n z^{-n}}{b_0 + b_1 z^{-1} + \dots + b_m z^{-m}}.$$

For example, we can design a lowpass IIR filter with maximum stopband attenuation, subject to peak constraints on the magnitude response in the passband, by solving

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \sup_{\omega \in [\omega_s, \pi]} |H(e^{j\omega})| \\ & \text{subject to} && 1 - \delta \leq |H(e^{j\omega})| \leq 1 + \delta, \quad \omega \in [0, \omega_p] \\ & && b^T b = 1. \end{aligned}$$

The variables are $a \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ and $b \in \mathbf{R}^{m+1}$. The problem data are the passband limit ω_p , the stopband limit ω_s , and the allowable passband ripple α . The equality constraint is added to normalize the solution.

This problem is not convex in the variables a and b , but can be reformulated as a quasi-convex problem via the nonlinear change of variables described in §3.2. If we define $u \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ and $v \in \mathbf{R}^{m+1}$ as the autocorrelation coefficients associated with a and b , respectively, the problem can be reformulated as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \gamma \\ & \text{subject to} && (1 - \delta)^2 V(\omega) \leq U(\omega) \leq (1 + \delta)^2 V(\omega), \quad \omega \in [0, \omega_p], \\ & && -\gamma V(\omega) \leq U(\omega) \leq \gamma V(\omega), \quad \omega \in [\omega_s, \pi], \\ & && v_0 = 1, \\ & && v \succeq 0, \quad u \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

We can also express the semi-infinite constraints using the formulation described above, by defining $A_1 = A(0, \omega_p)$ and $A_2 = A(\omega_s, \pi)$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \gamma \\ & \text{subject to} && (1 - \delta)^2 A_1 v \preceq A_1 u \preceq (1 + \delta)^2 A_1 v, \\ & && -\gamma A_2 v \preceq A_2 u \preceq \gamma A_2 v, \\ & && v_0 = 1, \\ & && v \succeq 0, \quad u \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

This is a quasiconvex problem with variables u , v and γ .

4 Cone programming

In the remainder of this paper we will use the *cone programming problem* (or CP) as a standard formulation of a general convex optimization problem. A cone program is defined

as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && c^T x \\ & \text{subject to} && F_i x + g_i \preceq_{K_i} 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, L \\ & && Ax = b, \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

where the optimization variable is $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ and the problem parameters are $c \in \mathbf{R}^n$, $F_i \in \mathbf{R}^{m_i \times n}$, $g_i \in \mathbf{R}^{m_i}$, $A \in \mathbf{R}^{p \times n}$, and $b \in \mathbf{R}^p$. The inequalities are generalized inequalities with respect to closed, pointed, and solid convex cones K_i , *i.e.*, $F_i x + g_i \preceq_{K_i} 0$ means $-F_i x - g_i \in K_i$ (see [NN94, §4.2], [BV99], [LSZ97]).

The most commonly used cones in cone programming are the nonnegative real axis $\{x \in \mathbf{R} \mid x \geq 0\}$, the positive semidefinite cone, and the second-order cone $\{(x, t) \mid \|x\| \leq t\}$. However, cone programming is in fact very general, and any convex optimization problem can be expressed as a cone program (see [NN94, p.103]).

The examples in §3 are all readily expressed as cone programs as follows. Problem (10) can be reformulated as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && t \\ & \text{subject to} && \begin{bmatrix} W^{1/2}(x - \hat{r}) \\ t \end{bmatrix} \succeq_K 0 \\ & && x \succeq 0 \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

where t is an auxiliary variable, and K is the second-order cone in \mathbf{R}^{n+2} , *i.e.*,

$$\begin{bmatrix} W^{1/2}(x - \hat{r}) \\ t \end{bmatrix} \succeq_K 0 \iff \|W^{1/2}(x - \hat{r})\| \leq t.$$

To solve problem (13) we can solve a sequence of feasibility problems with (scalar) linear inequalities (*i.e.*, inequalities with respect to the nonnegative real axis) and generalized inequalities with respect to the cone of autocorrelation sequences. Problem (19) is already a cone program.

Efficient interior-point methods for solving cone programs with scalar linear inequalities, linear matrix inequalities (*i.e.*, with respect to the positive semidefinite cone), and second-order cone constraints can be found in the literature on linear, semidefinite, and second-order cone programming. In this paper, we focus on special techniques for problems where one or more of the cones K_i are autocorrelation cones.

We first briefly review the general theory on duality and interior-point methods for cone programming. (More details can be found in [NN94, BV99].) In §5 we will explain why specialized methods for autocorrelation cone constraints are important, despite the fact that the autocorrelation cone can be embedded in the positive semidefinite cone. In §6 we will discuss an efficient method for problems with autocorrelation cone constraints.

4.1 The dual cone program

We can associate with the cone program (20) the dual cone program

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{maximize} && \sum_{k=1}^L g_k^T z_k - b^T \nu \\
 & \text{subject to} && \sum_{k=1}^L F_k^T z_k + A^T \nu + c = 0 \\
 & && z_k \succeq_{K_i^*} 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, L,
 \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

where K_i^* is the dual cone of K_i , *i.e.*,

$$K_i^* = \{z \in \mathbf{R}^{m_i} \mid x^T z \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \in K_i\}.$$

We will refer to (20) as the *primal* problem of the (dual) cone program (22).

It can be shown that if p^* and d^* are the optimal values of (20) and (22) respectively, then $p^* \geq d^*$. Moreover, $p^* = d^*$ if the primal or the dual problem is strictly feasible.

As an example, the dual of problem (21) is

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{maximize} && \hat{r}^T W^{1/2} u \\
 & \text{subject to} && -W^{1/2} u - z = 0, \quad v = 1 \\
 & && \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} \succeq_{K^*} 0, \quad z \succeq_* 0,
 \end{aligned}$$

where the variables are $u \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$, $v \in \mathbf{R}$, and $z \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$. The dual cone K^* of the second-order cone is itself, so the problem can be written more compactly as

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{maximize} && -\hat{r}^T z \\
 & \text{subject to} && \|W^{-1/2} z\| \leq 1 \\
 & && z \succeq_* 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

4.2 Logarithmic barrier functions

Let $K \subseteq \mathbf{R}^m$ be a closed, pointed, and solid convex cone. A *logarithmic barrier function* for K is a function $\psi : \mathbf{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ with the following properties:

- $\text{dom } \psi = \text{int } K$ and $\psi(y) \rightarrow \infty$ as $y \in \text{int } K$ approaches the boundary of K
- ψ is smooth and strictly convex
- there exists a constant $\theta > 0$ such that

$$\psi(sy) = \psi(y) - \theta \log s$$

for all $y \in \text{int } K$ and all $s > 0$. The parameter θ is called the *degree* of ψ .

It can be shown that for all $y \in \mathbf{int} K$,

$$\nabla\psi(y) \prec_{K^*} 0 \quad (23)$$

and

$$y^T \nabla\psi(y) = -\theta. \quad (24)$$

In practice, some additional properties are necessary or desirable. It is important that ψ and its first and second derivatives can be cheaply evaluated. Secondly, polynomial worst-case complexity results for barrier methods have only been developed under the assumption that the barrier functions are *self-concordant*, *i.e.*, satisfy a certain condition involving second and third derivatives [NN94].

Examples of self-concordant logarithmic barriers include the function $\psi(y) = -\log y$, which is a logarithmic barrier function for the nonnegative real axis and has degree $\theta = 1$, $\psi(Y) = -\log \det Y$, which is a logarithmic barrier function for the positive semidefinite cone

$$K = \{Y = Y^T \in \mathbf{R}^{l \times l} | Y \succeq 0\}$$

and has degree $\theta = l$, and $\psi(y, t) = -\log(t^2 - y^T y)$, which is a logarithmic barrier for the second-order cone, with degree $\theta = 2$.

4.3 Dual barrier method

The dual barrier method for solving (20) is based on the following observation. Let ψ_i be a logarithmic barrier function for the dual cone K_i^* in problem (22), with degree θ_i . If we minimize a weighted sum of the dual objective in (22) and the dual barrier functions, *i.e.*, we solve

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize} \quad & t \left(-\sum_{k=1}^L g_k^T z_k + b^T \nu \right) + \sum_{k=1}^L \psi_k(z_k) \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \sum_{k=1}^L F_k^T z_k + A^T \nu + c = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

where $t > 0$ is a parameter, then the minimizer (z_1, \dots, z_L, ν) satisfies the following optimality conditions:

$$-tg_k + \nabla\psi_k(z_k) - F_k y = 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, L, \quad tb - Ay = 0 \quad (26)$$

for some $y \in \mathbf{R}^p$. We also have $\nabla\psi_k(z_k) \prec_{K_i} 0$ (by the general property (23)), and therefore

$$F_k(y/t) + g_k \prec_{K_i} 0, \quad A(y/t) = b.$$

In other words, $x = y/t$ is strictly feasible for the primal problem (20). Furthermore, using the property (24) we can evaluate the duality gap between this primal feasible point $x = y/t$ and the minimizer (z_1, \dots, z_L, ν) of (25), *i.e.*, the difference between the primal objective evaluated at x and the dual objective evaluated at (z_1, \dots, z_L, ν) :

$$c^T(y/t) - \left(-\sum_{k=1}^L g_k^T z_k + b^T \nu \right) = -\frac{1}{t} \sum_{k=1}^L z_k^T \nabla\psi_k(z_k) = \left(\sum_{k=1}^L \theta_k \right) / t.$$

This allows us to place a bound on how suboptimal $x = y/t$ is:

$$c^T x - p^* \leq c^T x - \left(-\sum_{k=1}^L g_k^T z_k + b^T \nu\right) = \left(\sum_{k=1}^L \theta_k\right)/t,$$

where p^* is the optimal value of (20). In summary, we can find primal feasible points with $c^T x - p^* \leq \epsilon$, by minimizing (25) with $t \geq \sum_k \theta_k/\epsilon$. Problem (25) is a smooth, convex optimization problem with equality constraints, and can be efficiently solved using Newton's method.

The dual barrier method is based on this idea, but solves (25) for a sequence of increasing values of t until $t \geq \sum_k \theta_k/\epsilon$, where ϵ is the desired accuracy. This often requires a smaller total number of Newton iterations, than solving (25) directly for $t = \sum_k \theta_k/\epsilon$.

Dual barrier method

given tolerance ϵ , initial $t > 0$, $\mu > 1$.

repeat

1. Calculate the solution (z_1, \dots, z_L, ν) of (25).
2. Determine x by solving $Ax = b$, $F_k x = -g_k + \nabla\psi_k(z_k)/t$, $k = 1, \dots, L$.
3. If $\sum_k \theta_k/t < \epsilon$, return x ; otherwise set $t = \mu t$ and go to step 1.

The minimization in step 1 is usually implemented using Newton's method with a backtracking line search. It requires a strictly feasible starting point (z_1, \dots, z_L, ν) in the first iteration. In subsequent iterations we can use the previous minimizer at starting point. In step 2 we solve x from an overdetermined set of linear equations, that is guaranteed to have a solution if (z_1, \dots, z_L, ν) satisfies the optimality conditions (26). The parameter μ in step 3 controls the rate at which we increase t . Typical values are $\mu = 20, \dots, 50$.

The complexity of the barrier method is dominated by the cost of calculating the Newton directions $(\Delta z_1, \dots, \Delta z_L, \Delta \nu)$, which are given by the solution of the set of linear equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} \nabla^2\psi_1(z_1) & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & F_1 \\ 0 & \nabla^2\psi_2(z_2) & \cdots & 0 & 0 & F_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \nabla^2\psi_L(z_L) & 0 & F_L \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & A \\ F_1^T & F_2^T & \cdots & F_L^T & A^T & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta z_1 \\ \Delta z_2 \\ \vdots \\ \Delta z_L \\ \Delta \nu \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} tg_1 - \nabla\psi_1(z_1) \\ tg_2 - \nabla\psi_2(z_2) \\ \vdots \\ tg_L - \nabla\psi_L(z_L) \\ -tb \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

5 Embedding or approximating the autocorrelation cone

The frequency-domain and the LMI characterization given in §2 are the basis of two widely used methods for representing the autocorrelation cone. In this section we describe both methods, and discuss their shortcomings, as a motivation for the new methods discussed later.

Sampling

The definition (2) describes \mathcal{C}_{n+1} as the intersection of an infinite number of linear inequalities, one for each value of ω . A popular method of handling the constraint $X(\omega) \geq 0$, is to sample this infinite set of linear inequalities. In this method we choose a large number of frequencies ω_i , $i = 0, \dots, N$, in the interval $[0, \pi]$, and replace the constraint (2) by a finite set of N linear inequalities

$$x_0 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \cos k\omega_i \geq 0, \quad i = 0, \dots, N. \quad (27)$$

Geometrically, we approximate the cone \mathcal{C}_{n+1} with a polyhedral cone that contains it.

As an example, if we apply this approach to problem (9), we obtain a quadratic programming problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \|x - \tilde{x}\|^2 \\ & \text{subject to} && x_0 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \cos k\omega_i \geq 0, \quad i = 0, \dots, N, \end{aligned}$$

which is readily expressed as a second-order cone program.

The sampling method works well in practice, provided we choose N sufficiently large (typically $N = 15n$). However, it is not exact; it is possible to satisfy (27), and still have $X(\omega) < 0$ for some ω .

LMI embedding

The LMI characterization of (1) allows us to represent the constraint $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ *exactly* by introducing new matrix variables Y or P . As an example, we can express (9) as the optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \|x - \tilde{x}\|^2 \\ & \text{subject to} && x_k = \mathbf{Tr} E^k Y, \quad k = 0, \dots, n \\ & && Y \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

with variables $x \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ and $Y = Y^T \in \mathbf{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$. An alternative form is

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \|x - \tilde{x}\|^2 \\ & \text{subject to} && \begin{bmatrix} P & \tilde{x} \\ \tilde{x}^T & x_0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

which has variables x and $P = P^T \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$. In both cases we obtain a cone-LP with a linear matrix inequality and a second-order cone constraint.

No approximation is involved here, in contrast with the sampling method. The drawback of the LMI representation is the large number ($O(n^2)$) of auxiliary variables that we have to introduce.

6 Dual barrier for autocorrelation cone constraints

In this section we present a dual barrier method for solving problems (20) and (22), where some of the inequalities are with respect to the autocorrelation cone. To implement the dual barrier method of §4.3, we need a logarithmic barrier for the dual cone, and efficient methods to evaluate its gradient and Hessian.

Recall from our discussion of the dual cone \mathcal{C}_{n+1}^* in §2.2 that $z \succeq_* 0$ if and only if

$$F(z) = \begin{bmatrix} 2z_0 & z_1 & z_2 & \cdots & z_n \\ z_1 & 2z_0 & z_1 & \cdots & z_{n-1} \\ z_2 & z_1 & 2z_0 & \cdots & z_{n-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ z_n & z_{n-1} & z_{n-2} & \cdots & 2z_0 \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{k=0}^n z_k (E^k + (E^k)^T) \succeq 0, \quad (28)$$

where the matrices E^k are defined in (4). We will use the function

$$\psi(z) = \log \det F(z)^{-1}, \quad (29)$$

with domain $\mathbf{dom} \psi = \{z \mid F(z) \succ 0\}$, as a barrier function for the dual cone \mathcal{C}_{n+1}^* . This is the standard log-det barrier for the cone of positive semidefinite matrices, and it is well known that this function is convex and self-concordant. It is also logarithmic with degree $n+1$, since

$$\psi^*(sz) = \psi^*(s) - (n+1) \log s$$

for $z \prec_* 0$ and $s > 0$. For future reference, we note that the first and second derivatives of ψ are given by

$$\nabla \psi(z)_j = -\mathbf{Tr}(E^j + (E^j)^T)F(z)^{-1} = -2 \mathbf{Tr} E^j F(z)^{-1}, \quad (30)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^2 \psi(z)_{ij} &= \mathbf{Tr} F(z)^{-1}(E^i + (E^i)^T)F(z)^{-1}(E^j + (E^j)^T) \\ &= 2 \mathbf{Tr} E^i F(z)^{-1} E^j F(z)^{-1} + 2 \mathbf{Tr} E^i F(z)^{-1} E^{jT} F(z)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

for $i, j = 0, 1, \dots, n$.

Note that for *general* (dense, unstructured) symmetric matrices $A_i \in \mathbf{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$, the cost of evaluating the function

$$\log \det(z_0 A_0 + z_1 A_1 + \cdots + z_n A_n)^{-1},$$

and its gradient is $O(n^3)$ flops, and the cost of evaluating the Hessian is $O(n^4)$ flops. In fact the cost of evaluating the Hessian in barrier methods for semidefinite programming often dominates the cost of solving the Newton equations. The purpose of this section is to describe an algorithm for evaluating the barrier $\psi(z)$ and its gradient in $O(n^2)$ flops, and the Hessian in $O(n^3)$ flops, by taking advantage of the Toeplitz structure of $F(z)$.

The Levinson-Durbin algorithm

The Levinson-Durbin algorithm allows us to efficiently calculate the Cholesky factorization of $F(z)^{-1}$. We will write the Cholesky factorization as

$$F(z)^{-1} = RR^T$$

where the matrix

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} r_{00} & r_{01} & r_{02} & \cdots & r_{0,n-1} & r_{0n} \\ 0 & r_{11} & r_{12} & \cdots & r_{1,n-1} & r_{1n} \\ 0 & 0 & r_{22} & \cdots & r_{2,n-1} & r_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & r_{n-1,n-1} & r_{n-1,n} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & r_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

is upper triangular with positive diagonal elements. The algorithm proceeds as follows.

Levinson-Durbin algorithm

$$r_{00} = 1/\sqrt{2z_0}$$

for $k = 0$ **to** $n - 1$ **{**

$$r_{k+1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \alpha_k^2}} (Er_k + \alpha_k \tilde{r}_k) \text{ where } \alpha_k = -r_{kk} z^T Er_k$$

}

Here, r_k denotes the k th column of R and \tilde{r}_k is the k th column flipped upside down, and shifted up over $n - k$ positions, *i.e.*,

$$\tilde{r}_k = (r_{kk}, r_{k-1,k}, r_{k-2,k}, \dots, r_{0k}, 0, \dots, 0).$$

Each new column r_{k+1} is constructed as a linear combination Er_k (*i.e.*, the previous column r_k shifted down over one position) and \tilde{r}_k . It can be shown that $|\alpha_k| < 1$ if $F(z) \succ 0$.

From the Cholesky factors we immediately obtain the value of the barrier function

$$\psi(z) = 2 \sum_{k=0}^n \log r_{kk}.$$

The cost of one iteration of the Levinson-Durbin algorithm is $O(n)$ flops, so the total cost is $O(n^2)$. The algorithm therefore provides a very efficient way of evaluating the barrier function ψ . Below we examine the cost of calculating the gradient and the Hessian of ψ .

Formulas for the gradient and Hessian of ψ

We start by rewriting expressions (30) and (31) in terms of the Cholesky factors of $F(z)^{-1}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \psi(z)_j &= -2 \mathbf{Tr} R^T E^j R \\ &= -2 \sum_{k=0}^n r_k^T E^j r_k \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla^2 \psi(z)_{ij} &= 2 \operatorname{Tr} R^T E^i R R^T E^j R + 2 \operatorname{Tr} R^T E^i R R^T E^{jT} R \\
&= 2 \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{l=0}^n \left((r_k^T E^i r_l) (r_l^T E^j r_k) + (r_k^T E^i r_l) (r_l^T E^{jT} r_k) \right) \\
&= 2 \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{l=0}^n (r_k^T E^i r_l) (r_l^T E^j r_k + r_k^T E^j r_l).
\end{aligned}$$

More compactly,

$$\nabla \psi(z) = -2 \sum_{k=0}^n c(k, k) \quad (31)$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi(z) = 2 \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{l=0}^n c(k, l) (c(l, k) + c(k, l))^T, \quad (32)$$

where $c(k, l) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ denotes the *crosscorrelation* between the vectors r_k and r_l , *i.e.*,

$$c_i(k, l) = r_k^T E^i r_l = \sum_{j=0}^{n-j} r_{k,j+i} r_{lj}.$$

The cost of a straightforward evaluation of the expressions (31) and (32) is $O(n^3)$ flops and $O(n^4)$ flops, respectively. It takes $O(n^3)$ flops to calculate the autocorrelation vectors $c(k, k)$ by working out the inner products in the definition, and the addition in (31) costs $O(n^2)$ flops. Evaluating all crosscorrelation vectors $c(k, l)$ would take $O(n^4)$ flops, and the sum in (32) requires another $O(n^4)$ flops.

We now outline a more efficient method based on the *discrete Fourier transform* (DFT). The DFT is defined as follows. We define a complex matrix $W \in \mathbf{C}^{N \times (n+1)}$, where $N \geq 2(n+1)$, and with elements

$$W_{ik} = e^{-ik(2\pi\sqrt{-1}/N)}, \quad i = 0, \dots, N-1, \quad k = 0, \dots, n.$$

(The choice of N is not important for our present purposes, as long as $N \geq 2(n+1)$; we can assume that $N = 2(n+1)$. In practice, if we use the fast Fourier transform to implement the DFT, we would choose for N the smallest power of two greater than or equal to $2(n+1)$.)

The DFT of a vector $x \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ is the vector $X \in \mathbf{C}^N$, defined as

$$X = Wx.$$

(More precisely, X is the DFT of the N -vector obtained by appending $N - n - 1$ zeros to x .) It is readily verified that $\frac{1}{N} W^* W = I$, so we can easily obtain the inverse DFT of a vector $X \in \mathbf{C}^N$, using

$$x = \frac{1}{N} W^* X.$$

The cost of evaluating the DFT or the inverse DFT is $O(n \log n)$ flops (assuming that $N = O(n)$).

We now return to the expressions for the gradient and Hessian in (31) and (32). Let $R_k = W r_k$ and $C(k, l)$ be the DFTs of r_k and $c(k, l)$. The DFT $C(k, l)$ is readily computed from R_k and R_l using well known properties of the DFT [OS89, §8]:

$$C(k, l) = \mathbf{diag}(R_k) \bar{R}_l = \mathbf{diag}(\bar{R}_l) R_k$$

where \bar{R}_l denotes the complex conjugate of R_l , and $\mathbf{diag} R_k$ is the diagonal matrix with R_k on its diagonal. In particular, we note that $C(k, l) = \bar{C}(l, k)$, and that $C(k, k)$ is real.

The previous expression (31) for the gradient can be written in terms of the vectors R_k as follows:

$$\nabla \psi(z) = -\frac{2}{N} W^* \sum_{k=0}^n C(k, k) = -\frac{2}{N} W^* \sum_{k=0}^n \mathbf{diag}(R_k) \bar{R}_k. \quad (33)$$

In other words, the gradient is the inverse DFT of a vector with components

$$-2 \sum_{k=0}^n R_{ki} \bar{R}_{ki} = -2 \sum_{k=0}^n |R_{ki}|^2,$$

for $i = 0, \dots, N$. The expression for the Hessian (32) is more complicated. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^2 \psi(z) &= \frac{2}{N^2} W^* \left(\sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{l=0}^n C(k, l) (C(l, k) + C(k, l))^* \right) W \\ &= \frac{2}{N^2} W^* \left(\sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{l=0}^n \left(\mathbf{diag}(\bar{R}_l) R_k (R_k^T \mathbf{diag}(\bar{R}_l) + R_k^* \mathbf{diag}(R_l)) \right) \right) W \\ &= \frac{2}{N^2} W^* \left(\sum_{l=0}^n \mathbf{diag}(\bar{R}_l) \left(\left(\sum_{k=0}^n R_k R_k^T \right) \mathbf{diag}(\bar{R}_l) + \left(\sum_{k=0}^n R_k R_k^* \right) \mathbf{diag}(R_l) \right) \right) W. \quad (34) \end{aligned}$$

The formulas (33) and (34) suggest a much more efficient way of evaluating gradient and Hessian. Calculating the gradient from the vectors R_k requires only $O(n^2)$ flops, while calculating the Hessian via (34) takes $O(n^3)$ flops.

Summary

In summary, the proposed algorithm for evaluating the dual barrier function $\psi(z)$, its gradient $\nabla \psi(z)$ and Hessian $\nabla^2 \psi(z)$, proceeds as follows:

1. calculate the Cholesky factorization $F(z)^{-1} = R R^T$ via the Levinson-Durbin algorithm ($O(n^2)$ flops)
2. the value of the barrier function is given by $\psi(z) = 2 \sum_{k=0}^n \log r_{kk}$
3. choose an integer $N \geq 2(n+1)$ (for example, the smallest power of 2 greater than $2(n+1)$), and calculate the DFTs R_k of the columns of R ($O(n^2 \log n)$ flops)
4. evaluate the gradient via the expression (33) ($O(n^2)$ flops)

5. evaluate the Hessian via (34) ($O(n^3)$ flops)

The total cost is $O(n^3)$.

We note that several further improvements are possible. For example, we can eliminate step 3 if we adapt the Levinson-Durbin algorithm so that it directly computes the DFTs R_k rather than the vectors r_k . Such a modification is straightforward, using basic properties of the DFT. Other possible improvements of the basic algorithm would take advantage of the fact that z and R are real, both in the implementation of the Levinson-Durbin algorithm and the DFT. Finally, we could speed up the formation of the gradient and Hessian, by using the recursion that relates the vectors R_k .

We also point out that the $O(n^4)$ to $O(n^3)$ reduction in complexity results from the use of the DFT in forming the Hessian, and not from the application of the Levinson-Durbin algorithm. In fact, for numerical reasons, a standard Cholesky algorithm (with a cost of $O(n^3)$) flops might be preferable. The Levinson-Durbin algorithm is interesting when only the gradient is needed, for example, in line searches.

7 Numerical results

Dual barrier evaluations

Table 1 lists CPU times required for evaluation of the gradient and Hessian of $\psi(z)$ as a function of problem size. The code was written in C++. Calls were made to optimized

$n + 1$	time (sec.)
100	0.14
200	0.78
300	4.00
400	4.65
500	5.52
600	25.36

Table 1: CPU times for evaluating Hessian and gradient of the dual barrier.

BLAS, LAPACK and FFT libraries. Specifically, the multi-threaded Intel Math Kernel Library and Signal Processing Library were used. The code was executed on a dual 350MHz Pentium II based computer. Notice the jump in CPU time when the problem size crosses a power of two. This is due to the change in the length of the FFT that is used.

Projection on the autocorrelation cone

Table 2 lists CPU times required for solving (10) with $Q = I$, and randomly generated vectors \hat{r} . The results were averaged over five instances for each problem size. The CPU time per iteration is more relevant than the total CPU time, because we used a basic implementation (typically requiring over 50 Newton iterations) of the dual barrier method (SUMT), with the optimized C++ code for evaluating gradients and Hessians. Using a more sophisticated

$n + 1$	time (sec.)	time/iter. (sec.)
100	5.3	0.16
200	34.7	0.89
300	252.7	4.37
400	312.1	5.10
500	324.7	6.13
600	2033.8	27.94

Table 2: CPU times for the projection problem.

interior-point method, with the same optimized code for evaluating the barrier function, would require fewer iterations, and roughly the same amount of time per iteration.

Note that for $n = 600$ the primal SDP embedding would involve solving an SDP with about 180,000 variables.

Frequency domain identification

Table 3 lists CPU times required for solving problem (13) with the measurement data of Figure 1. A total of 16 bisection iterations were required for each problem size in order to

m	time/bisect. (sec.)	Newton-iter./bisect.	time/Newton-iter. (sec.)
10	57.0	33.5	1.7
15	72.1	39.2	1.8
20	86.7	43.1	2.0
25	87.1	40.8	2.1
30	94.5	41.2	2.3
35	113.5	45.3	2.5

Table 3: CPU times for solving the frequency-identification problem. Each problem required 16 bisections.

reduce the gap between the upper and lower bounds of γ to an absolute accuracy within 10^{-4} . The problem dimensions were $N = 99$ and $n = m - 1$. A basic Matlab implementation of the SUMT method was used, with C++ code for evaluating the dual barrier and its derivatives. The problems were solved on a 300MHz Pentium II based laptop computer.

The substantial difference between the CPU times per iteration in tables 2 and 3 is not only due to the fact that a Matlab implementation was used in the second example. In problem (13) we also have $2(N + 1)$ linear inequality constraints, and an additional $2(N + 1)$ dual variables. The cost of assembling the part of the Hessian associated with the linear inequalities in this problem outweighs the cost of forming the part associated with the autocorrelation cone constraints.

8 Conclusions

Semidefinite programming problems in system and control are often derived from the Kalman-Yakubovich-Popov (KYP) lemma. These LMIs involve an auxiliary matrix variable, introduced to express a semi-infinite frequency-domain inequality as a convex constraint in a finite-dimensional space with a finite number of variables. The number of auxiliary variables introduced this way is often very large compared to the number of original optimization variables. This has important consequences for the computational efficiency of interior-point methods, since the amount of work per iteration grows at least as the cube of the number of variables. For this reason, several researchers have recently proposed using cutting-plane methods as an efficient method to take advantage of the specific structure in LMI problems derived from the KYP lemma (see, for example, [Par00, Chapter 3]). In this paper we have shown for a specific constraint (the LMI representation (6) follows from the KYP lemma), that the same goal can be achieved using interior-point methods. In a typical application (such as problem (10)), the cost of applying a general-purpose SDP solver to the SDP derived from the KYP lemma is $O(n^6)$ flops per iteration. Using the implementation described in this paper, the complexity is reduced to $O(n^3)$ per iteration. This reduction in complexity results from two observations. First, the number of variables in the dual problem is usually much smaller than in the primal problem, so the complexity of solving the dual problem is lower. Secondly, when solving the dual problem, one can take advantage of the Toeplitz structure in the dual LMI constraints.

As an interesting topic for future research, we can mention the possibility of developing primal or primal-dual methods (for example, using the primal-dual methods for nonsymmetric cones developed by Tunçel [Tun99]). A suitable logarithmic barrier for the (primal) autocorrelation cone is the Legendre transform of the dual barrier ψ , which is defined as

$$\phi(x) = \sup_z (-x^T z - \psi(z)),$$

for $x \succ 0$. It follows from [NN94, §2.4] that ϕ is a logarithmic and self-concordant barrier function for the autocorrelation cone. Although it is not clear what the most efficient method is to evaluate ϕ , it can certainly be evaluated numerically, by maximizing $-x^T z - \psi(z)$ over z using Newton's method, at a cost of $O(n^3)$ operations per Newton iteration. This allows us to implement a primal barrier method, with a similar gain in efficiency over general purpose SDP methods, as the dual method described in this paper.

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A LMI characterization of autocorrelation sequences

In this appendix, we prove the two LMI characterizations of autocorrelation sequences given in §2. We will give two different proofs, although the results are equivalent, as mentioned in §2.

First form

We show that $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ if and only if there exists a $Y = Y^T \succeq 0$ such that $x_k = \mathbf{Tr} E^k Y$ for $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$.

The first part is obvious. Assume $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$. We can rewrite the definition (1) as

$$x_k = y^T E^k y = \mathbf{Tr} E^k y y^T, \quad i = 0, \dots, n,$$

i. e., (3) holds for $Y = y y^T$.

Conversely, suppose that there exists a $Y = Y^T \succeq 0$ that satisfies (2), *i. e.*,

$$x_k = \mathbf{Tr} E^k Y, \quad k = 0, \dots, n, \quad Y = Y^T \succeq 0. \quad (35)$$

One can verify that for any $z \in \mathbf{C}$,

$$x_0 + x_1(z^{-1} + z) + x_2(z^{-2} + z^2) + \dots + x_n(z^{-n} + z^n) = \mathbf{Tr} ZY$$

where Z is defined as

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & z^{-1} & z^{-2} & \dots & z^{-n} \\ z & 1 & z^{-1} & \dots & z^{-(n-1)} \\ z^2 & z & 1 & \dots & z^{-(n-2)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ z^n & z^{n-1} & z^{n-2} & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

For $z = e^{j\omega}$ the matrix Z is Hermitian positive semidefinite. By assumption $Y \succeq 0$. Therefore the inner product $\mathbf{Tr} ZY \geq 0$ for $z = e^{j\omega}$, *i. e.*,

$$X(\omega) = x_0 + x_1(e^{-j\omega} + e^{j\omega}) + x_2(e^{-2j\omega} + e^{2j\omega}) + \dots + x_n(e^{-nj\omega} + e^{nj\omega}) \geq 0$$

for all ω . Therefore $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$.

Second form

We show that $x \in \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$ if and only if there exists a P such that the LMI (5) holds.

First of all we can verify that for all ω , and *any* $P = P^T$, the following identity holds:

$$X(\omega) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{-jn\omega} & e^{-j(n-1)\omega} & \dots & e^{-j\omega} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \left(\begin{bmatrix} P & \tilde{x} \\ \tilde{x}^T & x_0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} e^{jn\omega} \\ e^{j(n-1)\omega} \\ \vdots \\ e^{j\omega} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Therefore if P satisfies the LMI (6), then $X(\omega) \geq 0$ for all ω .

The converse can be derived from a theorem of alternatives for semidefinite programming (see [VB99]), which states that if the LMI is infeasible, then there exists a $Z = Z^T \in \mathbf{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$ such that $Z \succeq 0$,

$$\mathbf{Tr} Z \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \tilde{1}x \\ \tilde{x}^T & x_0 \end{bmatrix} < 0 \quad (36)$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_n & 0 \end{bmatrix} Z \begin{bmatrix} I_n \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I_n \end{bmatrix} Z \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ I_n \end{bmatrix}, \quad (37)$$

i.e., the upper-left $n \times n$ block of Z is identical to its lower-right $n \times n$ block. In other words, Z is Toeplitz. Let us write Z as

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 2z_0 & z_1 & z_2 & \cdots & z_n \\ z_1 & 2z_0 & z_1 & \cdots & z_{n-1} \\ z_2 & z_1 & 2z_0 & \cdots & z_{n-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ z_n & z_{n-1} & z_{n-2} & \cdots & 2z_0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We know that $Z \succeq 0$ and, from (36),

$$x_0 z_0 + x_1 z_2 + \cdots + x_n z_n < 0.$$

Now assume x is a finite autocorrelation sequence, *i.e.*, $x_i = \sum_k y_i y_{k+i}$. Then we have a contradiction:

$$y^T Z y = \sum_i y_i \left(\sum_k z_i y_{k+i} \right) = \sum_i z_i x_i < 0$$

and on the other hand, $Z \succeq 0$, *i.e.*, $y^T Z y \geq 0$. In other words, if the LMI (6) is infeasible, then $x \notin \mathcal{C}_{n+1}$.

Connection with the KYP-lemma

The Kalman-Yakubovich-Popov lemma [AM79] states that a transfer function $H = C(zI - A)^{-1}B + D$ with A stable, (A, B, C) minimal and $D + D^T \geq 0$ satisfies

$$H(e^{j\omega}) + H(e^{-j\omega}) \geq 0$$

for all ω , if and only if there exists a $P = P^T$ such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} P - A^T P A & C^T - A^T P B \\ C - B^T P A & D + D^T - B^T P B \end{bmatrix} \geq 0.$$

This reduces to the LMI (6) if we take

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}^n, \quad C = [x_n \quad x_{n-1} \quad \cdots \quad x_2 \quad x_1]$$

and $D = x_0/2$, for which

$$H(e^{j\omega}) = \frac{1}{2}x_0 + x_1e^{-j\omega} + \cdots + x_n e^{-jn\omega}$$

(see [WBV96, AHD74]).

B Representing spectral mask constraints

We have shown in §3.3 that the constraint

$$X(\omega) \geq 0, \omega \in [\alpha, \beta], \quad (38)$$

where $0 \leq \alpha < \beta \leq \pi$, can be expressed as a generalized linear inequality $A(\alpha, \beta)x \succeq 0$, where $A(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbf{R}^{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$ depends only on α and β . (Some authors refer to (38) as a *spectral mask constraint* [DLS00].) In this appendix we describe a method for constructing $A(\alpha, \beta)$.

Recall that $y = A(\alpha, \beta)x$ is the linear transformation defined by

$$x_0 + 2x_1p_1(t) + \cdots + 2x_np_n(t) = y_0 + 2y_1p_1(at - b) + \cdots + 2y_np_n(at - b),$$

where $a = 2(\cos \beta - \cos \alpha)$ and $b = (\cos \beta + \cos \alpha)/(\cos \beta - \cos \alpha)$, and $p_k(t)$ is the k th Chebyshev polynomial.

The matrix $A(\alpha, \beta)$ must satisfy

$$\begin{bmatrix} p_0(t) \\ 2p_1(t) \\ 2p_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ 2p_n(t) \end{bmatrix} = A(\alpha, \beta)^T \begin{bmatrix} p_0(at + b) \\ 2p_1(at + b) \\ 2p_2(at + b) \\ \vdots \\ 2p_n(at + b) \end{bmatrix}.$$

We can calculate $A(\alpha, \beta)$ as $A(\alpha, \beta) = C^{-1}D$ where C and D are defined by

$$\begin{bmatrix} p_0(t) \\ 2p_1(t) \\ 2p_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ 2p_n(t) \end{bmatrix} = D^T \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ t \\ t^2 \\ \vdots \\ t^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} p_0(at + b) \\ 2p_1(at + b) \\ 2p_2(at + b) \\ \vdots \\ 2p_n(at + b) \end{bmatrix} = C^T \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ t \\ t^2 \\ \vdots \\ t^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The columns of $D = [d_0 \ d_1 \ \cdots \ d_n]$ can be constructed recursively as

$$d_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad d_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad d_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad d_k = 2Ed_{k-1} - d_{k-2}, \quad k = 3, \dots, n,$$

where E is the unit-shift matrix defined in (4). This follows from the fact that $p_0(t) = 1$, $p_1(t) = t$, and from the recursion

$$p_k(t) = 2tp_{k-1}(t) - p_{k-2}(t), \quad k = 2, \dots, n.$$

Similarly, the columns of $C = [c_0 \ c_1 \ \dots \ c_n]$ can be constructed as

$$c_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad c_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2b \\ 2a \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad c_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4b^2 - 2 \\ 8ab \\ 4a^2 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad c_k = (2aE + bI)c_{k-1} - c_{k-2}, \quad k = 3, \dots, n.$$

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