

# Facial reduction for semidefinite programming and its application for the selection of rotamers in protein conformations

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# Outline: Modeling/Degeneracy in SDP Relaxation

- Model the NP-hard side chain positioning problem using a QQP: quadratic (objective) - quadratic (constraints) program
- Find the **standard semidefinite (SDP) relaxation** for the QQP
- show: SDP relaxation is degenerate (not strictly feasible) (causes problems in theory and numerics)
- Preprocess/regularize using **\*\*facial reduction\*\***
  - two types of facial reduction
  - facial reduction **improves/strengthens numerics**
- strengthen solutions using **redundant quadratic constraints in model** and using **cutting plane** techniques

We follow/improve/strengthen SDP relaxation approaches in:

-chazelle, Kingsford, Singh for SCP, 2004

-Qing, Karish, Rendl, W. for QAP, 1998.

## Side chain positioning (SCP)

- Given: constituent atoms of a protein; the **side chain positioning (SCP) problem** is one of the multiple subproblems of the hard problem of predicting a protein's three dimensional structure.
- Our protein macromolecule is a chain of **amino acids**, also called **residues**.

## Amino acid is characterized by composition of its side chain

- amino acid** consists of an "alpha" carbon atom ( $-C_{\alpha}-$ ), and three components attached to it:
  - (i) **amino group** ( $(H_2N-)$ );
  - (ii) **carboxyl group** ( $-COOH$ );
  - (iii) atom group called a **side chain**

## Backbone of the protein

- Atoms in the *backbone* of the protein form a repetitive sequence of triplets:  $\cdots\text{NC}_\alpha\text{C} \text{ NC}_\alpha\text{C} \text{ NC}_\alpha\text{C} \text{ NC}_\alpha\text{C}\cdots$  with each CN bonding being the result of a condensation reaction.
- Protein chain is a repetitive sequence of atoms with side chain groups sprouting from the alpha carbon atoms.

# Famous protein folding problem

## Outline:

For tractability, **accurate prediction of all atomic positions** for folded minimal energy conformation typically uses:

- 1 calculate the **positions of atoms in the backbone** (e.g., homology modeling; fold recognition techniques)
- 2 given the positions of backbone atoms, calculate the **conformations of all side chains, SCP**.

## Rotameric/discretization of side chain conformations

- side chain typically adopts a conformation close to one of **finitely** many possible dihedral angles; each of the finite number of three dimensional conformations is called a **rotamer**.
- In this work: our more complicated side chains have **rotamer sets with as many as 81 members** for the **twenty amino acids that make up proteins**.

$\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}, E)$  weighted, undirected graph

- node set  $\mathcal{V} = \bigcup_{i=1}^p \mathcal{V}_i$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_i$  subset of rotamers for  $i$ -th amino acid side chain/residue position,  $p$  is the number of residues.
- edge set  $\mathcal{E}$ ; weights (energy between rotamers)  $E_{uv}$  for edge  $uv \cong (u, v) \in \mathcal{E}$ ;  $E_{uu}$  is energy between backbone and chosen rotamer  $u$ . (ref. Kingsford thesis)

Further: SDP notation

- $\mathcal{S}^t$ ,  $t \times t$  real symmetric matrices, trace inner-product  $\langle S, T \rangle = \text{trace } ST$ ; Löwner partial order  $S \succeq T$ ,  $S \succ T$ .
- for  $v \in \mathbb{R}^s$ , corresp. diagonal matrix is  $\text{Diag}(v) \in \mathcal{S}^s$   
adjoint linear transformation is  $\text{Diag}^*(S) = \text{diag}(S) \in \mathbb{R}^s$   
the adjoint satisfies  $\langle \text{diag}(S), v \rangle = \langle S, \text{Diag}(v) \rangle$
- $\bar{e} = \bar{e}_p$  ones vector;  $\bar{E} = \bar{E}_k = \bar{e}_k \bar{e}_k^T$  ones matrix

## global minimum-energy conformation (GMEC)

Choose one rotamer from each set  $\mathcal{V}_i$ ; minimize sum of weights/energies on edges in  $E$ .

- $m := (m_1 \ \dots \ m_p)^T$  size of subsets  $\mathcal{V}_i$ .
- $n_0 = |\mathcal{V}| (= \sum_k m_k)$
- $n := n_0 + 1$  size of matrices in SDP relaxation.

## Computing the GMEC

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(QIP)} \quad \text{val}_{QIP} = & \min_x \sum_{(u,v) \in \mathcal{E}} E_{uv} x_u x_v \\ & \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{u \in \mathcal{V}_k} x_u = 1, \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, p, \\ & \quad \quad x_u \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \forall u \in \mathcal{V}, \end{aligned}$$

$$x_u = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if rotamer } u \text{ is chosen} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



# Prepare model for lifting

## Change to quadratic; Lift and Relax

Let  $x := (x_u)$  and  $y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Lift** to symmetric matrix space with

$$Y = yy^T, \quad (\succeq 0)$$

i.e.,  $Y_{uv}$  represents product  $x_u x_v$ ,  $Y_{0v}$  represents  $1 x_v$

**Relax:** ignore the (hard) rank one constraint on  $Y$ .

## Zero-one variables

Change to quadratic  $x_u^2 - x_u = 0$  This translates to the **arrow** constraint in the lifting: for  $Y$  (row-0 equals diagonal)

## Few constraints or many?

Few constraints means fewer constraints in the SDP relaxation. But adding more **redundant** constraints in the model means a possibly strengthened SDP relaxation.

## SDP is the Dual of Lagrangian relaxation

- Minimizing a quadratic subject to quadratic constraints leads to a Lagrangian dual which is the  $\max_{\lambda} \min_x L(x, \lambda)$ , where  $L$  is quadratic in  $x$ .  
(Thus more constraints implies stronger relaxation.)
- This leads to the constraint that the **Hessian of the Lagrangian is positive semidefinite, an SDP**.
- Take **dual again**; yields **SDP relaxation** of the original problem.

# Matrix formulation for QIP

relabel the  $n_0$  nodes in  $\mathcal{V}$

$\mathcal{V}_1 \cong \{1, \dots, m_1\}, \mathcal{V}_2 \cong \{m_1 + 1, \dots, m_1 + m_2\}, \dots,$  and  
 $\mathcal{V}_p \cong \left\{ \left( \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} m_k \right) + 1, \dots, n_0 \right\}.$

complete definition  $E_{uv} = 0$  if  $(u, v) \notin \mathcal{E}$

define assignment type matrix  $A \in \{0, 1\}^{p \times n_0}$

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} \bar{e}_{m_1}^T & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{e}_{m_2}^T & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{e}_{m_3}^T & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \bar{e}_{m_p}^T \end{bmatrix}; \quad A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{E}_{m_1} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{E}_{m_2} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \bar{E}_{m_3} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \bar{E}_{m_p} \end{bmatrix},$$

## Using $A$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(QIP)} \quad \text{val}_{QIP} = \min_x \quad & x^T E x \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax - \bar{e}_p = 0 \in \mathbb{R}^p \\
 & x = [v_1^T \quad v_2^T \quad \dots \quad v_p^T]^T \in \{0, 1\}^{n_0} \\
 & v_k \in \{0, 1\}^{m_k}, \forall k = 1, \dots, p.
 \end{aligned}$$

## QIP as QQP and **redundant constraints** within $\{$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(QQP)} \quad \text{val}_{QIP} = \text{val}_{QQP} = \min_x \quad & x^T E x \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \|\bar{e}_p - Ax\|^2 = 0 \\
 & x \circ x - x = 0 \\
 & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (A^T A - I) \circ (xx^T) = 0 \\ (xx^T)_{ij} \geq 0, \forall (i, j) \in \mathcal{I}, \end{array} \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

where:  $\circ$  is Hadamard/elementwise product (forces zeros in  $Y$ )  
 and  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \{(i, j) : 1 \leq i < j \leq n_0\}$  are valid inequalities

Start with QQP model with many constraints; apply recipe

- 1 form the Lagrangian relaxation;
- 2 apply homogenization;
- 3 simplify to obtain the dual and an equivalent SDP;
- 4 take the **dual of dual** to obtain the SDP relaxation of the original QIP
- 5 if strict feasibility fails, then **apply facial reduction**;  
-find the minimal face; obtain smaller problem with substitution  $Y = W\tilde{Y}W^T$ ,  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{n_0 \times t}$ ,  $t < n_0$ .
- 6 remove any redundant (linearly dependent) constraints.

# Facial reduction as preprocessing

Exploit  $Ax - \bar{e}_p = 0 \in \mathbb{R}^p$  constraint

Equivalently:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= e_i^T (Ax - \bar{e}_p), \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, p \\ &= x^T A^T e_i - 1, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, p \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ A^T e_i \end{pmatrix}, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

Let  $V = \left[ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ A^T e_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \dots \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ A^T e_p \end{pmatrix} \right]$ . Then  $y^T V = 0$ . Therefore

we can add the equivalent constraint to the SDP relaxation

$$Y(VV^T) = 0.$$

If range of  $W$  (full column rank) equals null space of  $V^T$ , then facial reduction (smaller  $\bar{Y}$ ) is:

$$Y = W\bar{Y}W^T.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_{\mathcal{I}}^{**} := \min_Y & \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & E \end{bmatrix}, Y \right\rangle = \langle E, \bar{Y} \rangle \\
 \text{s.t.} & Y_{00} = 1 \\
 & \text{e}^{\text{bdiag}}(Y) = \rho \\
 & \text{arrow}(Y) = 0 \\
 & \text{d}^{\text{bdiag}}(Y) = 0 \\
 & \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{I}}(Y) \geq 0 \\
 & Y = \begin{bmatrix} Y_{00} & y^T \\ y & \bar{Y} \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

(DSDP-1)

### Gangster operator

shoots holes/zeros in the matrix  $Y$ ; guarantees that the diagonal blocks are diagonal matrices.

# Smaller primal-dual pair - satisfying strong p-d duality

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_{\mathcal{I}}^{**} = \min_X \quad & \langle \hat{E}, X \rangle \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \text{arrow}(X) = 0, \\
 & \text{dbdiag}(X) = 0, \\
 & X_{00} = 1, \\
 & X \succeq 0, X \in \mathcal{S}^{n-p}, \\
 & (WXW^T)_{ij} \geq 0, \quad \forall (i,j) \in \mathcal{I},
 \end{aligned}$$

and:  $\hat{E} := W^T \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & E \end{bmatrix} W$ ,  $B_k := \begin{bmatrix} I_{k-1} \\ -\bar{e}_{k-1}^T \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times (k-1)}$

$$W = \begin{matrix} & & 1 & m_1-1 & m_2-1 & \dots & m_p-1 \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ m_1 \\ m_2 \\ \vdots \\ m_p \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ e_{m_1} & B_{m_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ e_{m_2} & 0 & B_{m_2} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ e_{m_p} & 0 & 0 & \dots & B_{m_p} \end{bmatrix}, \end{matrix}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 d_{\mathcal{I}}^{**} = \max_{t, w, \Lambda, \xi} \quad & t \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & {}^1\mathcal{O}(t) + \text{Arrow}(w) + {}^d\text{BDiag}(\Lambda) \\
 & + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{I}} \xi_{ij} W^T (e_i e_j^T + e_j e_i^T) W \preceq \hat{E} \\
 & \xi \geq 0, \xi \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{I}|}.
 \end{aligned}$$

We have both primal and dual **strong duality**, i.e., we have a zero duality gap and attainment.

## Cutting planes

- start with small initial set  $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{I}_{\geq 0}$ ; corresponding to largest entries in  $E$
- add most violated constraints, i.e.,  $Y_{ij} = (WXW^T)_{ij}$  is negative and  $E_{ij}(WXW^T)_{ij}$  is very negative

## Obtaining a good approximation for QIP from SDP

- **Perron-Frobenius rounding**: **normalized** eigenvector (largest) of  $Y^*$ :  $u' := \frac{p}{u_2 + \dots + u_n} (u_2, \dots, u_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_0}$  satisfies  $Au' = \bar{e}_p$ , and  $u' \geq 0$  if  $Y^* \geq 0$ . (Empirically true even without nonnegativity.)
- **Projection rounding**: use diagonal  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ u'' \end{pmatrix}$  of the optimal solution  $Y^*$  is used. Again,  $u''$  satisfies  $Au'' = \bar{e}_p$ ,  $u'' \geq 0$ .

## Four Methods

- 1 original SDP relaxation
- 2 SDP and facial reduction
- 3 SDP and cutting planes
- 4 SDP and facial reduction and cutting planes

## 26 protein data from PDB of various sizes

SCPCP consistently produces

- shorter cpu time,
- higher accuracy of SDP solution, and
- importantly, better integer solutions from rounding (essentially optimal - close to dual optimal value)

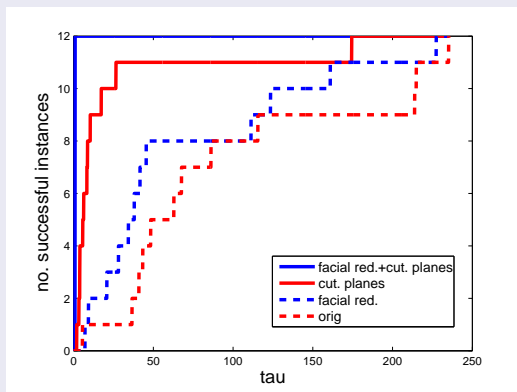
# Performance Profile

$t_{i,j}$  := run time for QIP final solution, instance  $i$  method  $j$

$1 \leq r_{i,j} := \frac{t_{i,j}}{\min\{t_{i,j}:j=1,2,3,4\}}$  perform. ratio method  $j$  on instance  $i$

$\rho(\tau)$  := number of instances  $i$  such that  $r_{i,j} \leq \tau$

Figure: Performance profile comparing the four methods



# Medium sized triose phosphate isomerase, 1TIM

**Table:** Information on input data for 1TIM

Total number of residues / partitions	249
Total number of rotamers / nodes	819
Number of energy values / edges	66520
$\max_{i,j} E_{i,j}$	5.80e+15
$\min_{i,j} E_{i,j}$	-7.7783
Number of valid nonnegativity constraints $\left( = \frac{1}{2} \left( n_0^2 - \sum_{k=1}^p m_k^2 \right) \right)$	329760

**Table:** Information on output for 1TIM

<b>Increments in cuts</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>180</b>
Total time elapsed (hr)	2.51	2.16	1.36
Number of iterations	12	11	9
Final number of nonneg. constr.	2306	2247	2217
Percentage of valid nonneg. constr. used	0.70 %	0.68 %	0.67%
dual SDP optval	685.61	685.61	685.61
objval for QIP	685.61	685.61	685.61
relative diff	5.81e-12	8.68e-12	4.62e-13

# Two tables

**Table 3 Results on small proteins**

Protein	n <sub>0</sub>	p	run time (sec)		dual SDP optval		objval in IQP		relative diff		relative gap	
			SCPCP	[c]	SCPCP	[c]	SCPCP	[c]	SCPCP	[c]	SCPCP	[c]
1AAC	117	85	6.58	296.06	-206.33	-206.33	-206.33	-206.33	5.75E-11	1.72E-05	1.30E-09	4.21E-04
1AHO	108	54	7.97	364.73	33.53	33.53	33.53	33.53	8.44E-11	4.95E-05	2.45E-09	4.68E-04
1BRF	130	45	14.96	977.08	-31.11	-31.11	-31.11	-31.11	3.92E-11	2.27E-05	3.08E-09	1.24E-04
1CC7	160	66	28.60	1059.06	-63.76	-2.30E+07	-63.76	3.73E+04	1.13E-11	2.01	1.27E-09	1.11
1CKU	115	60	5.46	815.18	113.83	113.83	113.83	113.83	7.17E-11	4.79E-05	3.42E-09	1.13E-04
1CRN	65	37	12.76	46.42	-14.87	-14.87	-14.87	-14.87	1.64E-12	3.05E-05	2.20E-10	3.66E-04
1CTJ	153	61	16.15	777.31	-129.53	-6.69E+06	-129.53	174.65	2.98E-11	2.00	2.29E-09	1.07
1D4T	188	89	41.32	2775.34	-173.03	-2.96E+07	-173.03	291.13	3.88E-11	2.00	1.35E-09	1.20
1IGD	82	50	5.51	189.04	-69.25	-69.25	-69.25	-69.25	4.79E-10	2.74E-06	5.76E-09	3.39E-05
1PLC	129	82	14.32	1766.03	-1.50	-1.50	-1.50	-1.50	1.28E-11	7.28E-04	4.60E-10	1.09E-03
1VFY	134	63	23.49	1765.36	-90.09	-90.09	-90.09	-90.09	1.67E-11	-1.11E-05	9.15E-10	3.79E-05
4RXN	98	48	18.44	366.48	-21.65	-21.65	-21.65	-21.65	1.48E-11	2.62E-05	4.19E-10	6.67E-05

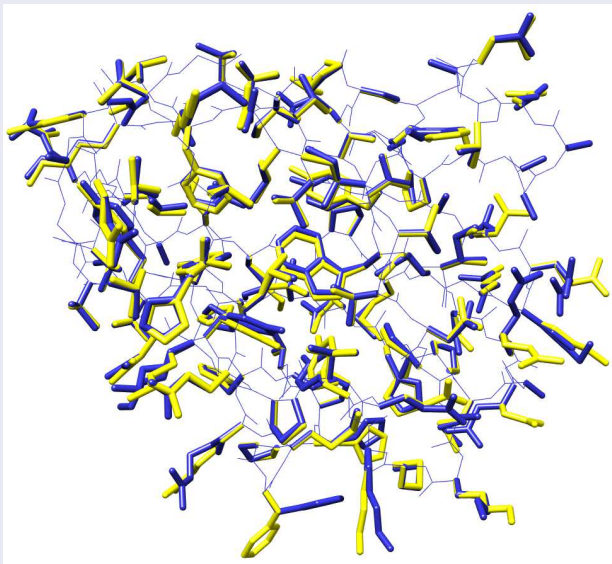
**Table 4 Results on medium-sized proteins**

Protein	n <sub>0</sub>	p	run time (min)		dual SDP optval		objval in IQP		relative diff		relative gap	
			SCPCP	[c]	SCPCP	[c]	SCPCP	[c]	SCPCP	[c]	SCPCP	[c]
1B9O	265	112	0.64	254.85	-140.24	-5.63E+07	-140.24	1.91E+06	1.19E-11	2.14	1.45E-09	1.24
1C5E	200	71	2.59	70.63	-131.75	-6.46E+04	-131.75	148.82	4.93E-11	2.01	5.02E-09	1.00
1C9O	207	53	2.15	66.50	-83.55	-1.88E+06	-83.55	1628.10	3.35E-12	2.00	2.77E-10	1.02
1CZP	237	83	1.90	143.95	-37.88	-2.26E+04	-37.88	1254.42	8.30E-11	2.24	1.03E-08	1.00
1MFM	216	118	0.19	102.11	-201.29	-7.36E+07	-201.29	1369.92	2.01E-11	2.00	1.24E-09	1.09
1QQ4	365	143	5.70	-	-102.40	-	-102.40	-	6.49E-11	-	2.27E-08	-
1QTN	302	134	5.04	-	-178.77	-	-178.77	-	2.24E-11	-	4.12E-09	-
1QU9	287	101	7.55	-	-124.96	-	-124.96	-	1.80E-11	-	5.52E-09	-

**Table 5 Results on large proteins (SCPCP only)**

Protein	$n_0$	$p$	run time (hr)	dual SDP optval	Objval in IQP	rel. diff	rel. gap	numcut	# iter	Final # cuts
<b>1CEX</b>	435	146	0.08	140.20	140.20	1.26E-11	5.57E-09	40	9	485
<b>1CZ9</b>	615	111	3.96	497.46	497.46	2.98E-13	6.37E-10	60	25	1997
<b>1QJ4</b>	545	221	0.15	-286.83	-286.83	5.31E-12	1.14E-09	60	14	1027
<b>1RCF</b>	581	142	0.85	-191.54	-191.54	3.71E-12	1.15E-08	60	17	1305
<b>2PTH</b>	930	151	29.65	-159.41	-159.41	8.69E-09	7.63E-06	120	34	7247
<b>5P21</b>	464	144	0.31	-135.75	-135.75	1.39E-12	7.33E-10	40	16	822

**Figure:** Superposition of the reconstruction (light grey) of 1AAC over the crystallized form described in the PDB (dark grey)





# Summary

- We model **protein design** using using a **QIP** and transform to a quadratic-quadratic model
- Lagrangian Relaxation leads to an SDP program and the dual is the **SDP relaxation**
- Adding **redundant constraints strengthens** the SDP relaxation
- The **strict feasibility fails** for SDP relaxation; but, it can be exploited using **facial reduction** to get a smaller/stable problem
- Cutting planes help yield stronger approximate solutions. Empirical evidence shows efficiency and robustness of adding redundant constraints and applying facial reduction.

Thanks for your attention!

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and its application for the selection of rotamers  
in protein conformations

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