

# Robust to Dynamics Optimization

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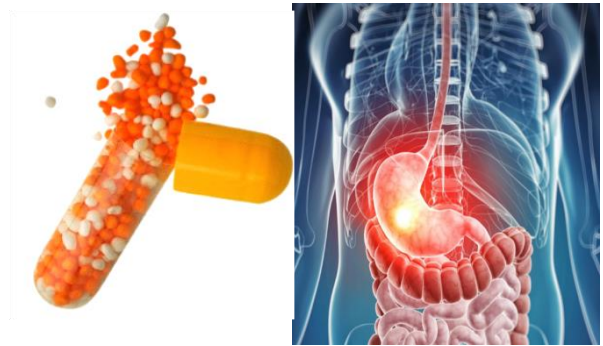
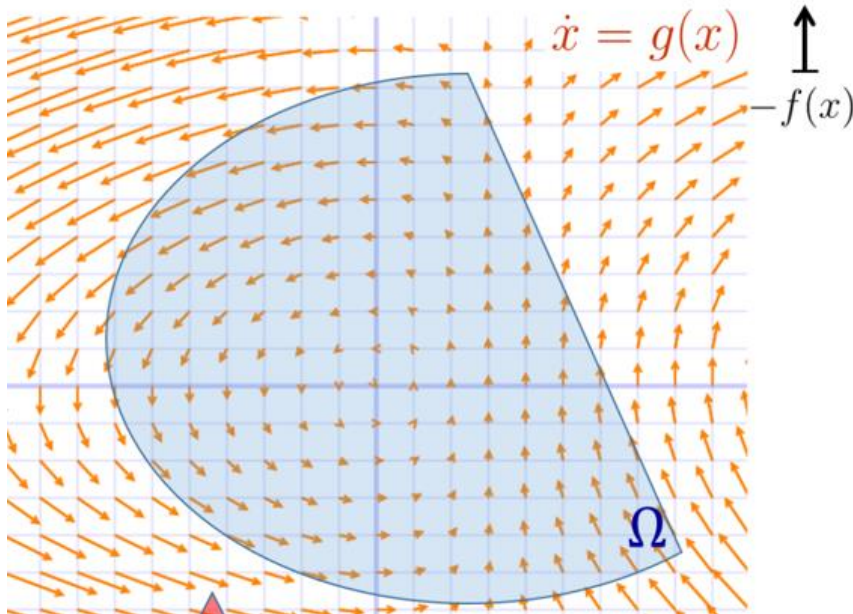
Princeton, ORFE  
(PACM, COS, MAE)

**Oktay Gunluk**

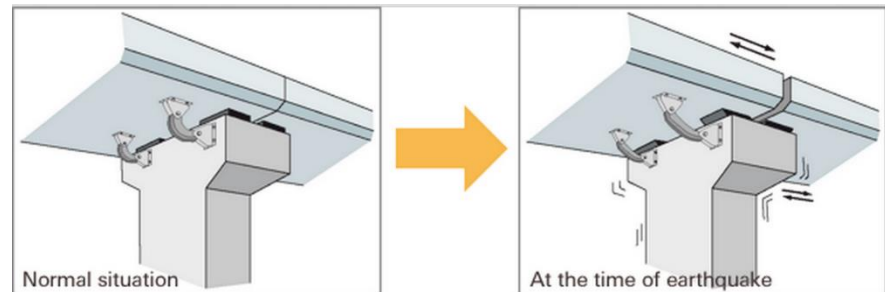
IBM Watson Research Center

# RDO (informally)

- You solve a constrained optimization problem today
- An external dynamical system may move your optimal point in the future and make it infeasible
- You want your initial decision to be “safe enough” to not let this happen



Drug design



Earthquake-resistant structures

# Robust to Dynamics Optimization (RDO)

An RDO is describe by two pieces of input:

1) An optimization problem:  $\min_x \{f(x) : x \in \Omega\}$

2) A dynamical system:  $x_{k+1} = g(x_k)$  (discrete time case)

RDO is then the following problem:

$$\min_{x_0} \{f(x_0) : x_k \in \Omega, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

**This talk:**

Optimization Problem	Dynamics
Linear Program	Linear
Quadratic Program	Nonlinear
Integer Program	Uncertain
Semidefinite Program	Time-varying
Polynomial Program, ...	Hybrid, ...

# Agenda for the rest of the talk

- 1) Robust to linear dynamics linear programming
- 2) Stability of uncertain/time-varying systems
  - The joint spectral radius (JSR)
  - SDP-based techniques for bounding the JSR
- 3) Robust to uncertain dynamics linear programming

# R-LD-LP

Robust to linear dynamics linear programming (R-LD-LP)

**Classical LP:**

$$\min_x \{c^T x : Ax \leq b\}$$

**Robust LP:**

$$\min_x \{c^T x : Ax \leq b, \forall A \in \mathbb{A}, b \in \mathbb{B}\}$$

**R-LD-LP:**

$$\min_{x_0} \{c^T x_0 : Ax_k \leq b, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots; x_{k+1} = Gx_k\}$$

# R-LD-LP

Robust to linear dynamics linear programming (R-LD-LP)

$$\min_{x_0} \{c^T x_0 : Ax_k \leq b, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots; x_{k+1} = Gx_k\}$$

Input data:  $A, b, c, G$

Alternative form:

$$\min_x \{c^T x : Ax \leq b, AGx \leq b, AG^2x \leq b, AG^3x \leq b, \dots\}$$

(An infinite LP)

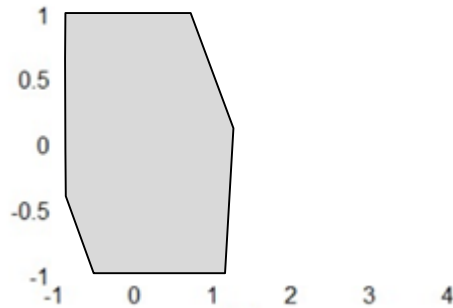
Feasible set of R-LD-LP:

$$\mathcal{S} := \bigcap_{k=0}^{\infty} \{x \mid AG^k x \leq b\}$$

# An example...

$$\min_{x_0} \{c^T x_0 : Ax_k \leq b, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots; x_{k+1} = Gx_k\}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, c = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, G = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & -0.4 \\ 0.8 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$S = \bigcap_{k=0}^{\infty} \{AG^k x \leq b\} = \bigcap_{k=0}^2 \{AG^k x \leq b\}$$

# Obvious way to get lower bounds

$$\min_x \{c^T x : Ax \leq b, AGx \leq b, AG^2x \leq b, AG^3x \leq b, \dots\}$$

Truncate!

(outer approximations to the feasible set)

## Natural questions:

- Is the feasible set of R-LD-LP always a polyhedron?
- When it is, how large are the number of facets?
- Does the feasible set have a tractable description?
- How to get **upper bounds**?!
  - (We'll see later: from semidefinite programming)



# The feasible set of an R-LD-LP

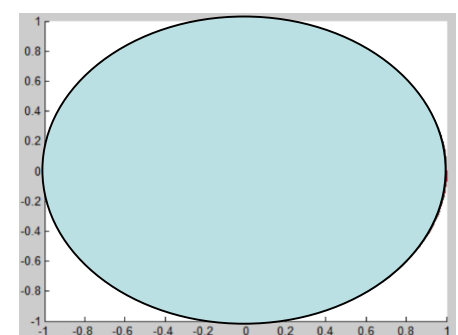
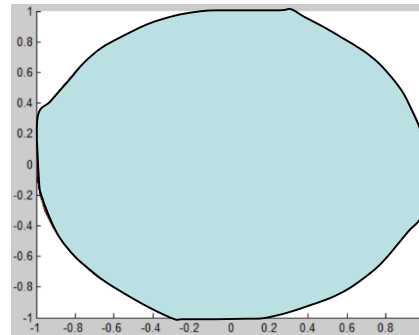
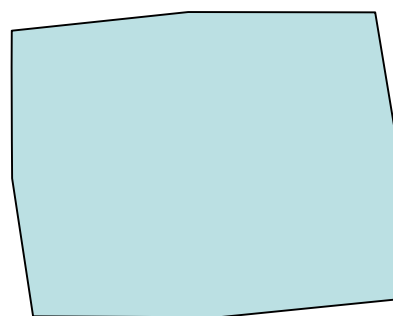
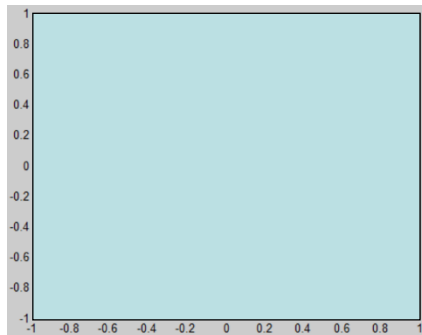
$$\mathcal{S} := \bigcap_{k=0}^{\infty} \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid AG^k x \leq b\}$$

## Theorem.

- (1) This set is always closed, convex, and invariant.
- (2) It is not always polyhedral.
- (3) Given  $A, b, G$ , and  $z \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ , it is NP-hard to check whether  $z \in \mathcal{S}$ .

## Proof of (2).

$$\{Ax \leq b\} \quad G = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) \\ -\sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \theta \text{ irrational}$$



# Finite convergence of outer approximations

$$\mathcal{S} := \bigcap_{k=0}^{\infty} \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid AG^k x \leq b\}$$

$$S_r := \bigcap_{k=0}^r \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid AG^k x \leq b\}$$

$$\mathcal{S} \subseteq \dots \subseteq S_{r+1} \subseteq S_r \subseteq \dots \subseteq S_2 \subseteq S_1 \subseteq S_0 = P.$$

**Lemma.** If  $S_r = S_{r+1}$ , then  $S_r = \mathcal{S}$ .

(Poly-time checkable condition for fixed  $r$ .)

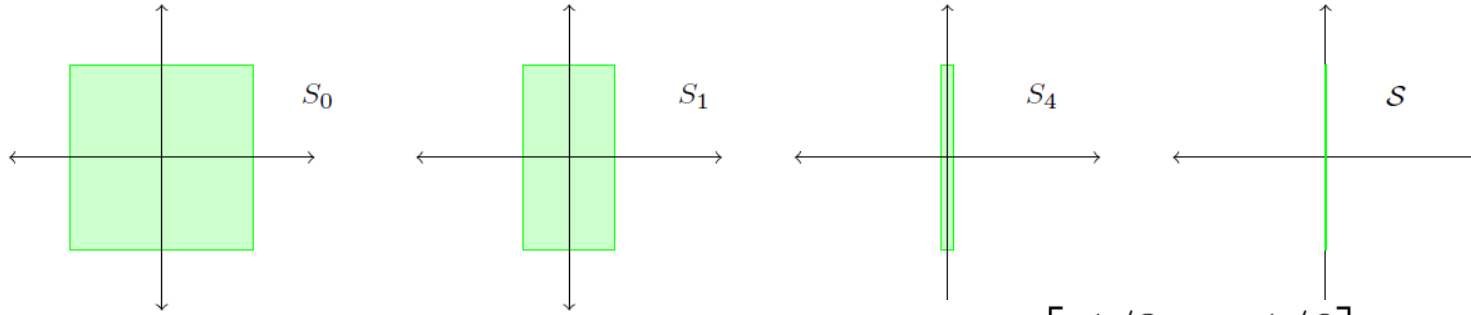
**Proposition.** There are **three barriers to finite convergence**:

- (1) Having  $\rho(G) \geq 1$ .
- (2) Having the origin on the boundary of  $P$ .
- (3) Having an unbounded polyhedron  $P$ .

# Barriers to finite convergence

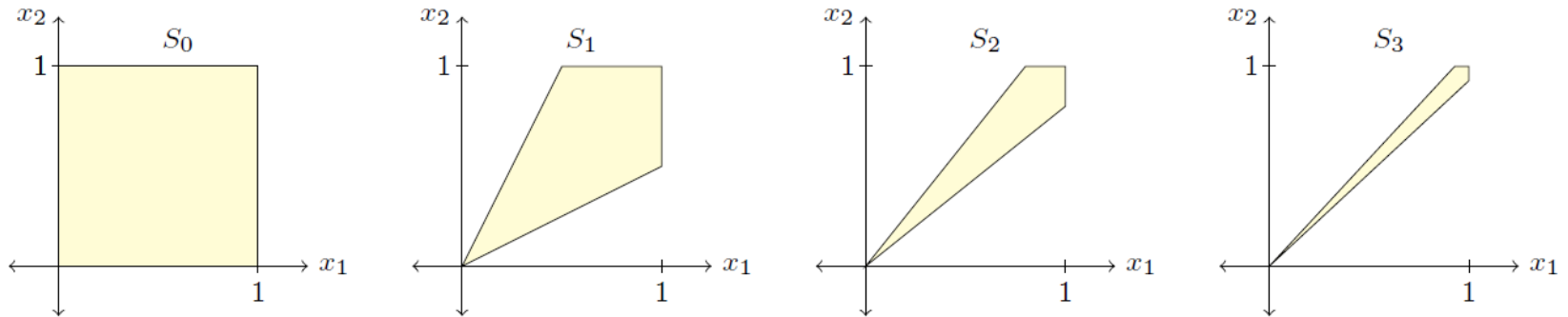
(1)  $\rho(G) \geq 1$ .

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

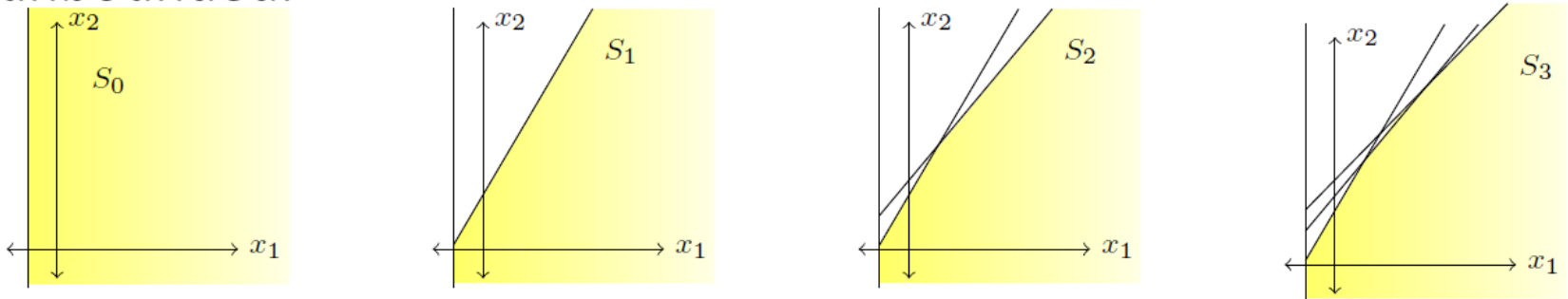


(2) The origin on the boundary of  $P$ .

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 & -1/6 \\ -1/6 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \rho(G) = \frac{1}{2}$$



(3)  $P$  unbounded.



# Computing time to convergence

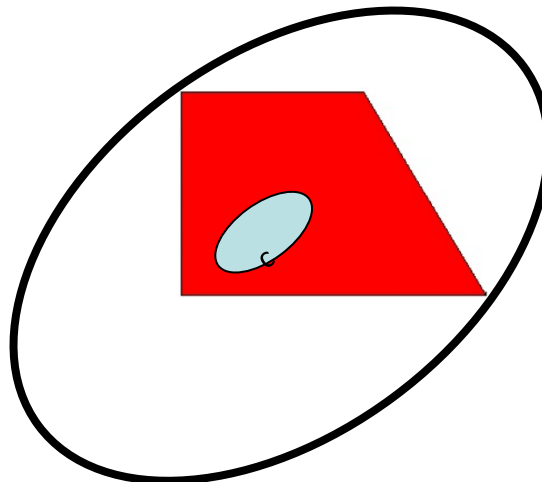
**Theorem:** If  $\rho(G) < 1$ ,  $P = \{Ax \leq b\}$  is bounded and contains the origin in its interior, then

(1)  $S = S_r$  for an integer  $r$  that can be computed in time  $\text{poly}(\sigma(A, b, G))$ .

(2) For any fixed  $\rho^* < 1$ , all instances of R-LD-LP with  $\rho(G) \leq \rho^*$  can be solved in time  $\text{poly}(\sigma(A, b, c, G))$ .

## Proof idea.

Invariant ellipsoid:  
 $\{x^T P x \leq 1\}$



# Upper bound on the number of iterations

- Find an invariant ellipsoid defined by a positive definite matrix  $P$
- Find a shrinkage factor  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$ ; i.e., a scalar satisfying  $G^T P G \preceq \gamma P$
- Find a scalar  $\alpha_2 > 0$  such that

$$\{Ax \leq b\} \subseteq \{x^T P x \leq \alpha_2\}$$

- Find a scalar  $\alpha_1 > 0$  such that

$$\{x^T P x \leq \alpha_1\} \subseteq \{Ax \leq b\}$$

- Let

$$r = \left\lceil \frac{\log \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2}}{\log \gamma} \right\rceil$$

# Finding an invariant ellipsoid

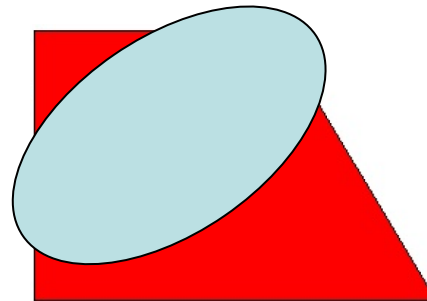
- Computation of  $P$ .

To find an invariant ellipsoid for  $G$ , we solve the linear system

$$G^T P G - P = -I,$$

where  $I$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix. This is called the Lyapunov equation.

The matrix  $P$  will automatically turn out to be positive definite.



# Finding the shrinkage factor

- Computation of  $\gamma$ .

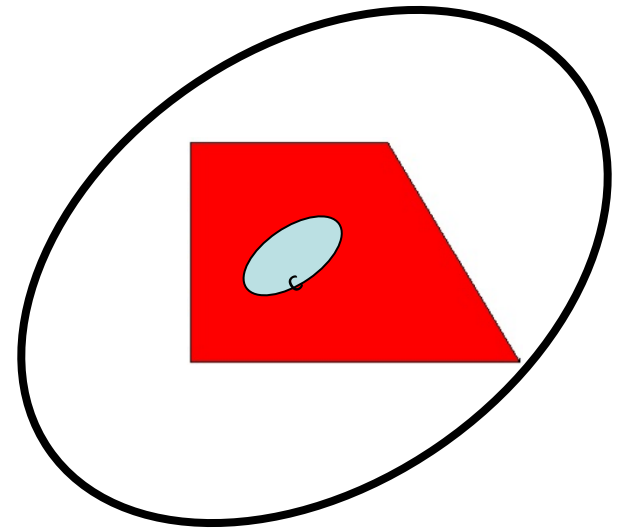
$$\gamma = 1 - \frac{1}{\max_i \{P_{ii} + \sum_{j \neq i} |P_{i,j}|\}}.$$

## Proof idea.

$$\begin{aligned} x^T G^T P G x &= x^T P x - x^T x \\ &\leq x^T P x (1 - \eta) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\eta$  is any number such that

$$\eta x^T P x \leq x^T x$$



Shrinkage is at least  $1 - \frac{1}{\lambda_{\max}(P)}$

$$\lambda_{\max}(P) \leq \max_i \{P_{ii} + \sum_{j \neq i} |P_{i,j}|\}.$$

(Bound from Greshgorin's circle theorem)

# Finding the outer ellipsoid

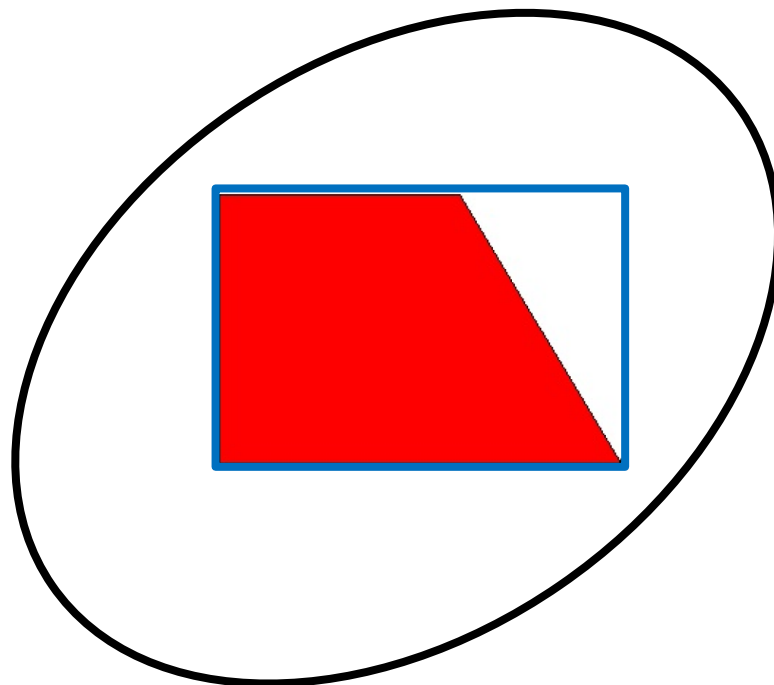
- **Computation of  $\alpha_2$ .** By solving, e.g.,  $n$  LPs, we can place our polytope  $\{Ax \leq b\}$  in a box; i.e., compute  $2n$  scalars  $l_i, u_i$  such that

$$\{Ax \leq b\} \subseteq \{l_i \leq x_i \leq u_i\}.$$

We then bound  $x^T P x = \sum_{i,j} P_{i,j} x_i x_j$  term by term to get  $\alpha_2$ :

$$\alpha_2 = \sum_{i,j} \max\{P_{i,j} u_i u_j, P_{i,j} l_i l_j, P_{i,j} u_i l_j, P_{i,j} l_i u_j\}.$$

This ensures that  $\{l_i \leq x_i \leq u_i\} \subseteq \{x^T P x \leq \alpha_2\}$ . Hence,  $\{Ax \leq b\} \subseteq \{x^T P x \leq \alpha_2\}$ .





# Finding the inner ellipsoid

- **Computation of  $\alpha_1$ .** For  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , we compute a scalar  $\eta_i$  by solving the convex program

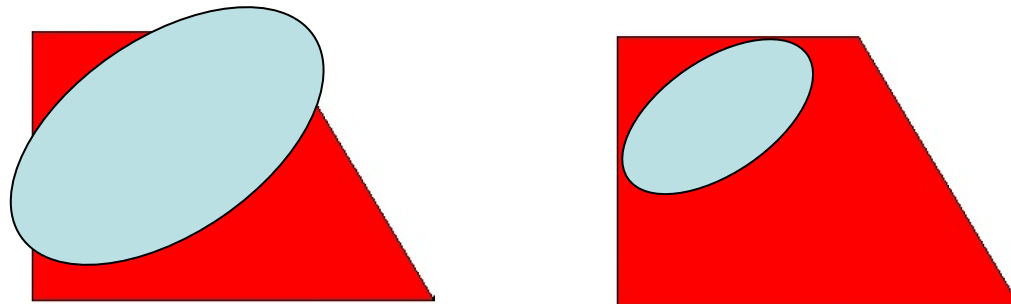
$$\eta_i := \min_x \{a_i^T x : x^T P x \leq 1\},$$

where  $a_i$  is the  $i$ -th row of the constraint matrix  $A$ . This problem has a closed form solution:

$$\eta_i = -\sqrt{a_i^T P^{-1} a_i}.$$

Note that  $P^{-1}$  exists since  $P \succ 0$ . We then let

$$\alpha_1 = \min_i \left\{ \frac{b_i^2}{\eta_i^2} \right\}.$$



# Recap

## R-LD-LP:

$$\min_x \{c^T x : Ax \leq b, AGx \leq b, AG^2x \leq b, AG^3x \leq b, \dots\}$$

$$\mathcal{S} := \bigcap_{k=0}^{\infty} \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid AG^k x \leq b\}$$

## Outer approximations:

(gives lower bounds on the optimal value)

$$S_r := \bigcap_{k=0}^r \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid AG^k x \leq b\}$$

$$\mathcal{S} \subseteq \dots \subseteq S_{r+1} \subseteq S_r \subseteq \dots \subseteq S_2 \subseteq S_1 \subseteq S_0 = P.$$

**What about upper bounds? Need inner approximations!**

# Upper bounds on R-LD-LP via SDP

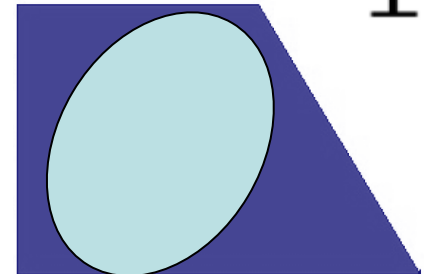
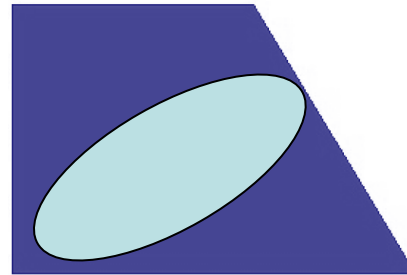
- Goal: Find the best invariant ellipsoid inside the original polytope and optimize over that.

$$\min_{x, P} c^T x$$
$$P \succ 0$$

$$G^T P G \succ P$$

$$x^T P x \leq 1$$

$$[\forall z, z^T P z \leq 1 \Rightarrow A z \leq b]$$



**Non-convex formulation**

**(even after the application of the S-lemma)**

# Upper bounds on R-LD-LP via SDP

- If we parameterize in terms of  $P^{-1}$  instead, then it becomes convex!



# An improving sequence of SDPs

- Goal: Find the best point that lands in an invariant set.

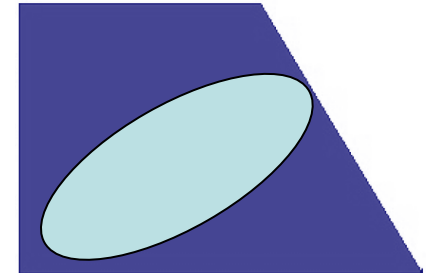
$$\min_{x, P} c^T x$$

$$P \succeq 0$$

$$G^T P G \succeq P$$

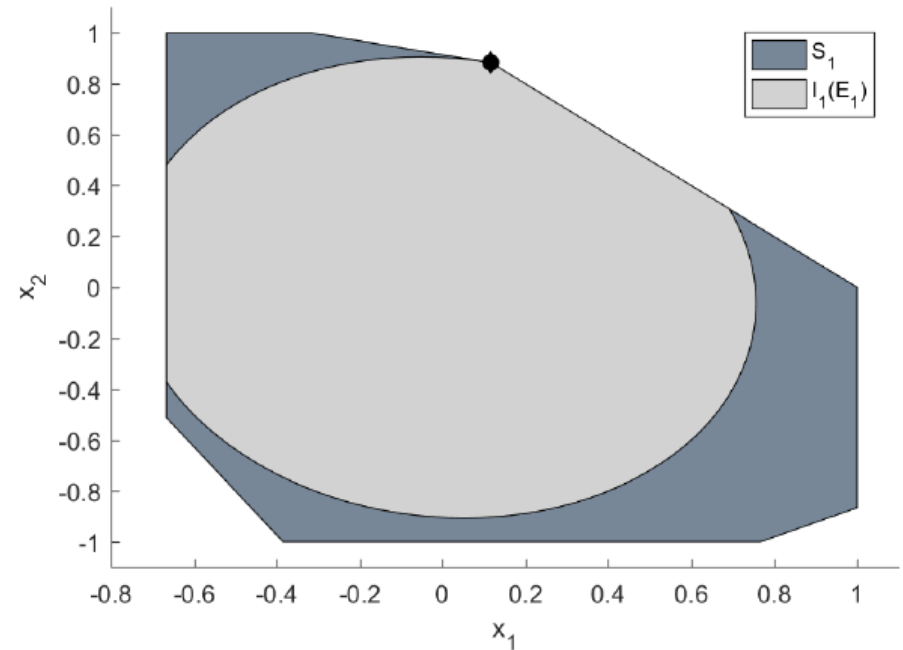
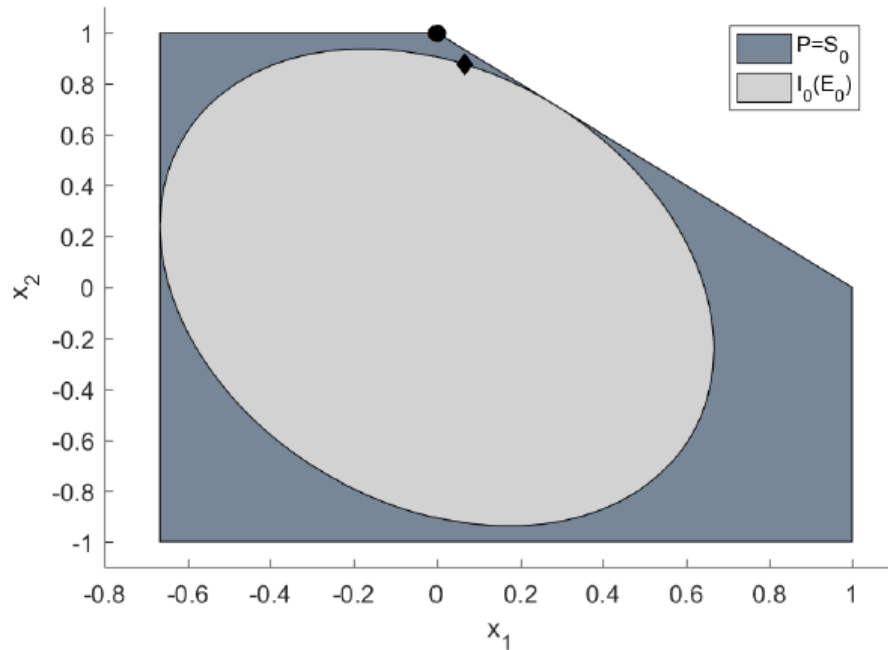
$$x^T P x \leq 1$$

$$[\forall z, z^T P z \leq 1 \Rightarrow Az \leq b]$$



# An example

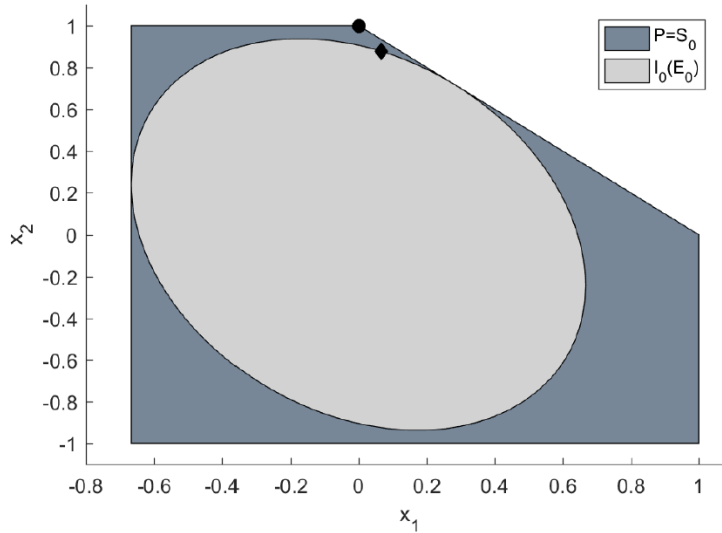
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad c = -(0.5 \ 1), \quad G = \frac{4}{5} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) \\ -\sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } \theta = \frac{\pi}{6}.$$



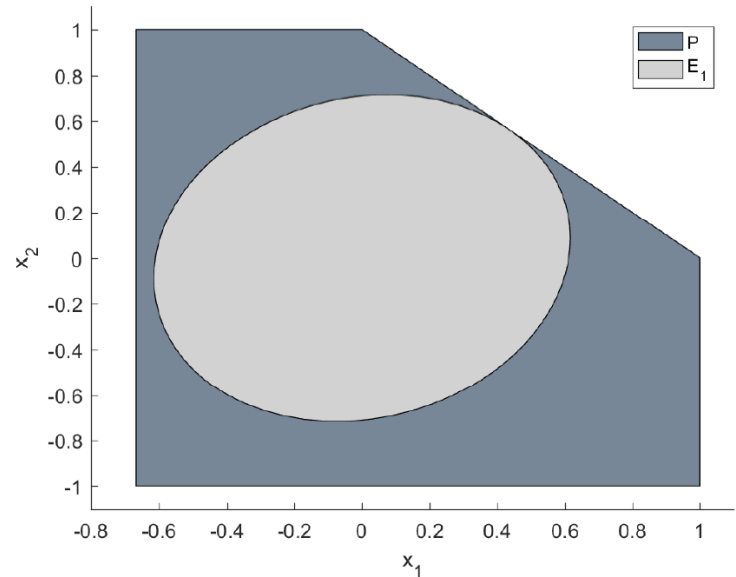
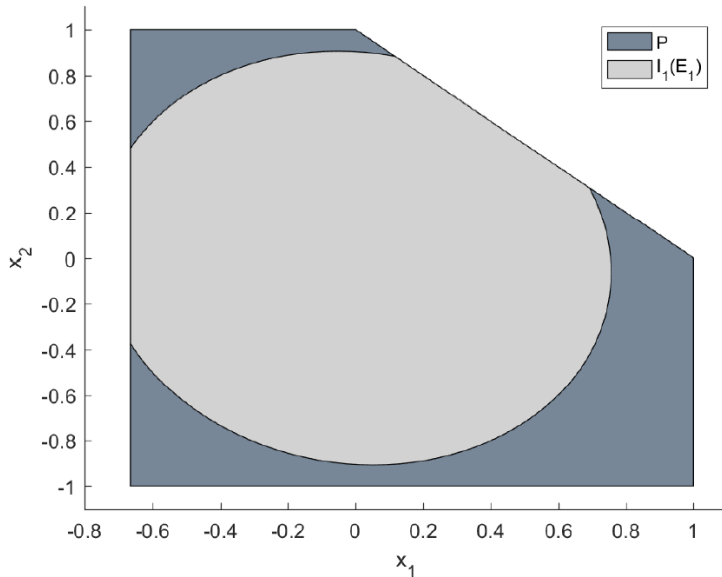
**Thm.** The SDP upper bound monotonically improves and gives the exact optimal value of R-LD-LP in  $r^*$  steps, where  $r^*$  is polynomially computable.

# Another interpretation

$r=0$



$r=1$



**LP**

**+**

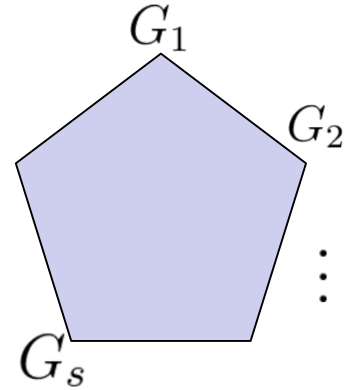
**Uncertain & time-varying  
linear systems**



# R-ULD-LP

Robust to uncertain linear dynamics linear programming (R-ULD-LP)

$$x_{k+1} \in \text{conv}\{G_1, \dots, G_S\}x_k$$



Models **uncertainty** and **variations with time** in the dynamics

$$\min_x \{c^T x : AGx \leq b, \forall G \in \mathbb{G}^*\} \quad (\text{An infinite LP})$$

$\mathbb{G}^*$ : set of all finite products of  $G_1, \dots, G_S$

# The joint spectral radius: Upper bounds via SDP

# The Joint Spectral Radius

Given a finite set of  $n \times n$  matrices  $\mathcal{G} = \{G_1, \dots, G_s\}$

Joint spectral radius (JSR):

$$\rho(\mathcal{G}) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max_{\sigma \in \{1, \dots, s\}^k} \|G_{\sigma_1} \dots G_{\sigma_k}\|^{1/k}$$

If only one matrix:

$$\mathcal{G} = \{G\}$$

Spectral Radius

$$\rho(G) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|G^k\|^{1/k}$$



G. C. Rota and W. G. Strang  
A note on the joint spectral radius  
*Indag. Math.*, 22:379–381, 1960.7

# JSR and Uncertain & Time-Varying Linear Systems

Linear dynamics:  $x_{k+1} = Gx_k$

Spectral radius:  $\rho(G) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|G^k\|^{1/k}$

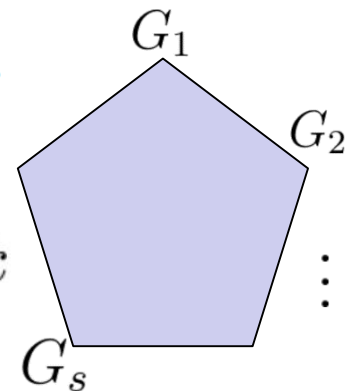
“Stable” iff  $\rho(G) < 1$

Uncertain and time-varying linear dynamics:

$$x_{k+1} \in \text{conv}\{G_1, \dots, G_s\}x_k$$

Joint spectral radius (JSR):

$$\rho(\mathcal{G}) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max_{\sigma \in \{1, \dots, s\}^k} \|G_{\sigma_1} \dots G_{\sigma_k}\|^{1/k}$$



“Uniformly stable” iff  $\rho(\mathcal{G}) < 1$

# Computation of JSR

If only one matrix:  $\mathcal{G} = \{G\}$

Testing if “ $\rho(G) < 1$ ” can be done in poly time.

For more than one matrix:

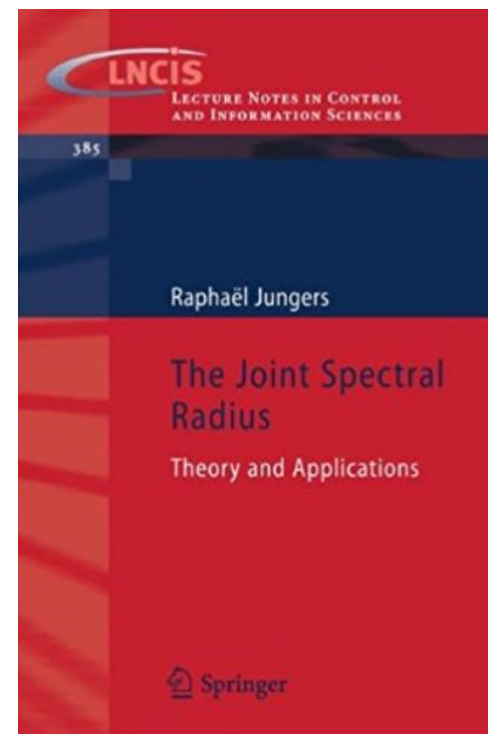
(even for 2 matrices of size 47x47)

Testing if “ $\rho(\mathcal{G}) \leq 1$ ” is undecidable.

[Blondel, Tsitsiklis]

■ **Goal: compute upper bounds on the JSR**

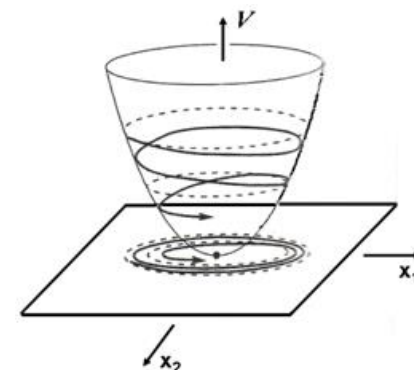
(equivalently, give sufficient conditions for uniform stability)



# Common Lyapunov function

$$x_{k+1} \in \text{conv}\{G_1, \dots, G_s\}x_k$$

If we can find a function  $V(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



such that

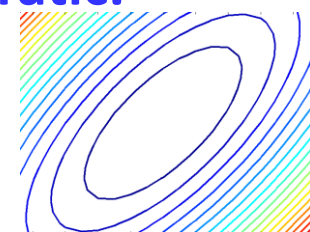
$$\begin{aligned} V(x) &> 0, \forall x \neq 0 \\ V(G_i x) &< V(x), \forall x \neq 0, i = 1, \dots, s \end{aligned}$$

then,  $\rho(\mathcal{G}) < 1$

- Such a function always exists!
- May be extremely hard to find. **Can easily fail to be quadratic.**

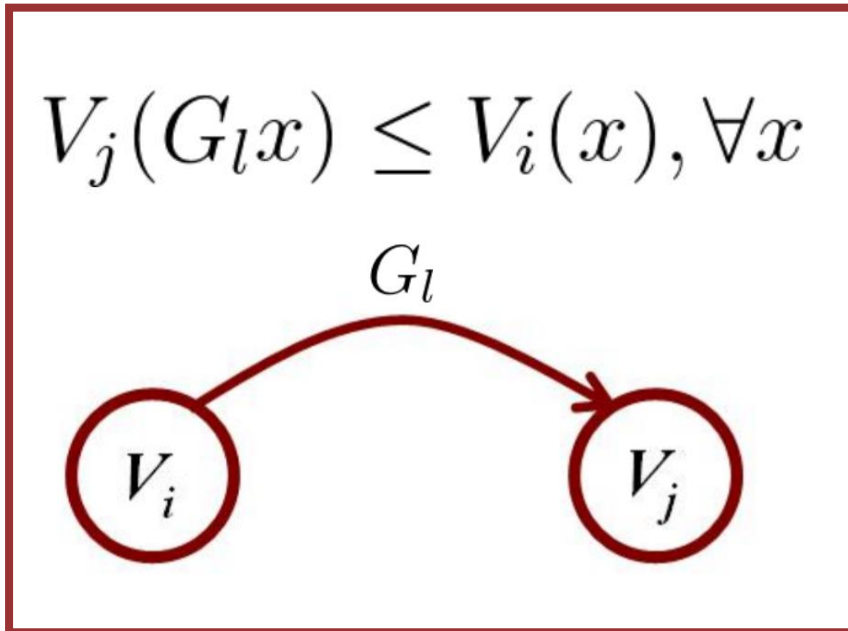
$$P \succ 0, G_i^T P G_i \preceq P, \forall i$$

Can be infeasible even if JSR < 1

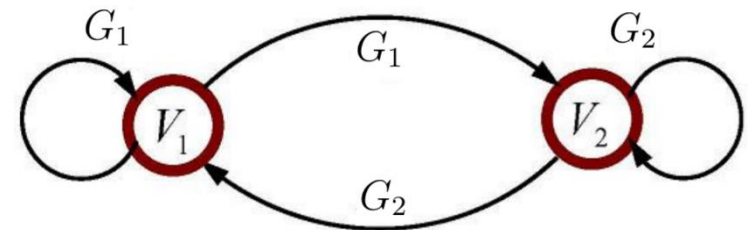
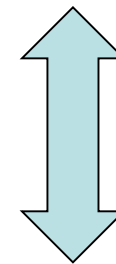


# Multiple Lyapunov functions

## Representation of Lyapunov inequalities via labeled graphs



$$\begin{aligned}
 G_1^T P_1 G_1 &\preceq P_1 \\
 G_1^T P_2 G_1 &\preceq P_1 \\
 G_2^T P_1 G_2 &\preceq P_2 \\
 G_2^T P_2 G_2 &\preceq P_2 \\
 P_{1,2} &\succ 0
 \end{aligned}$$



[AAA, Jungers, Parrilo, Roozbehani  
*SIAM J. on Control and Opt*]

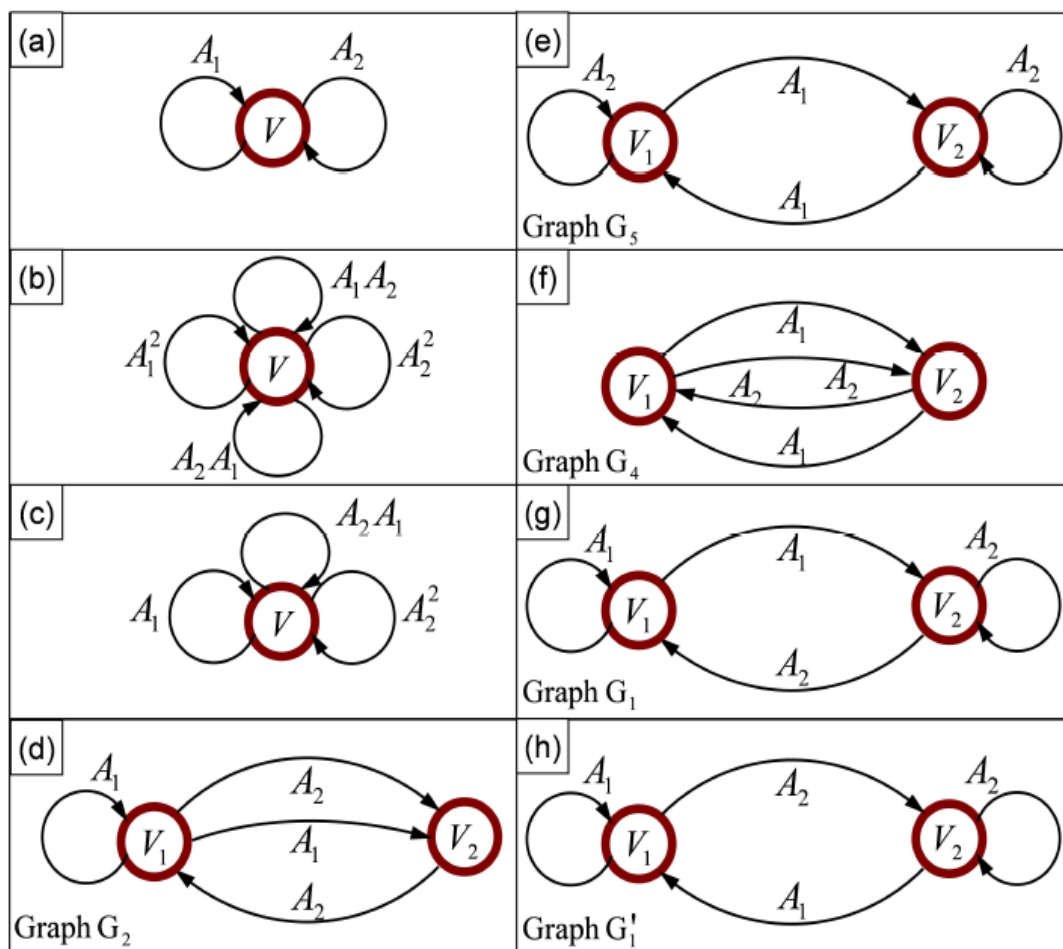
(Best SICON Paper Prize, 2013-2015)

■ What property of the graph implies stability?

# Path-complete graphs

**Defn.** A labeled directed graph  $G(N,E)$  is **path-complete** if for every word of finite length there is an associated directed path which reads that word.

■ Path-completeness can be checked with standard algorithms in **automata theory**

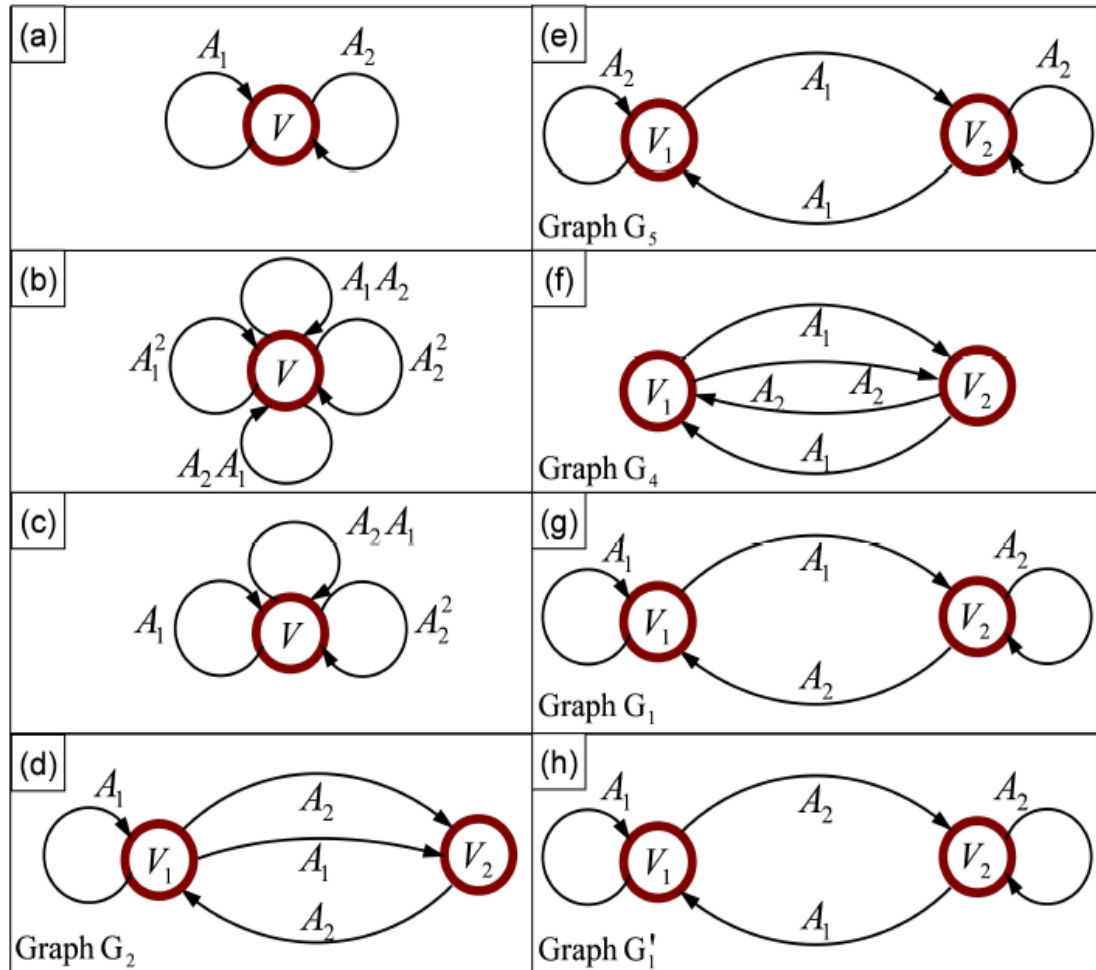




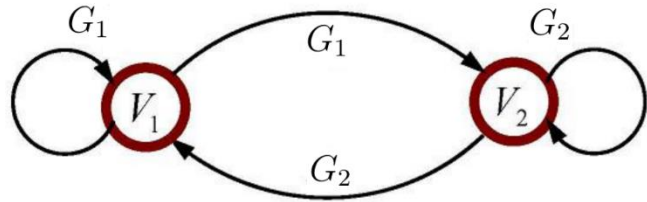
# Path-complete graphs and stability

**THM.** If Lyapunov functions satisfying Lyapunov inequalities associated with **any path-complete graph** are found, then the dynamical system is uniformly stable (i.e., JSR $<1$ ).

- Gives immediate proofs for existing methods
- Introduces numerous new methods

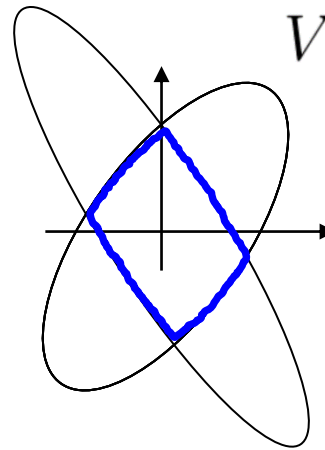


# Special cases

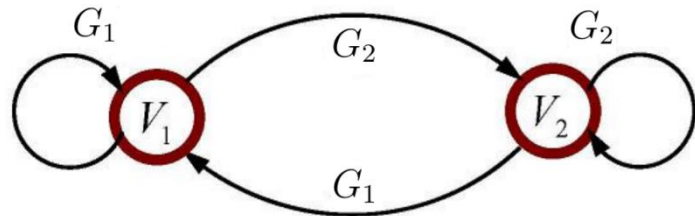


$$\begin{aligned}
 G_1^T P_1 G_1 &\preceq P_1 & P_{1,2} \succ 0 \\
 G_1^T P_2 G_1 &\preceq P_1 \\
 G_2^T P_1 G_2 &\preceq P_2 \\
 G_2^T P_2 G_2 &\preceq P_2
 \end{aligned}$$

max-of-quadratics

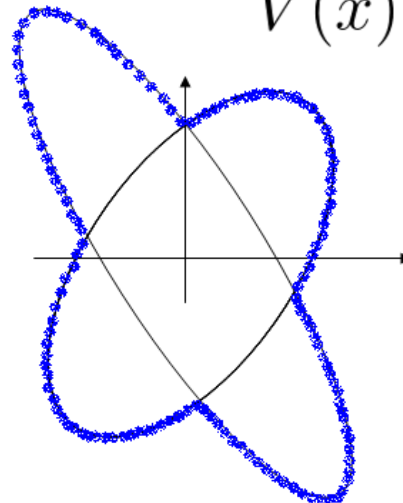


$$V(x) = \max\{x^T P_1 x, x^T P_2 x\}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 G_1^T P_1 G_1 &\preceq P_1 & P_{1,2} \succ 0 \\
 G_1^T P_2 G_1 &\preceq P_2 \\
 G_2^T P_1 G_2 &\preceq P_1 \\
 G_2^T P_2 G_2 &\preceq P_2
 \end{aligned}$$

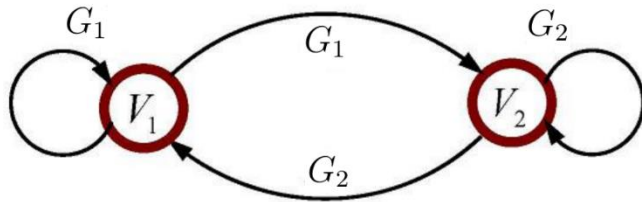
min-of-quadratics



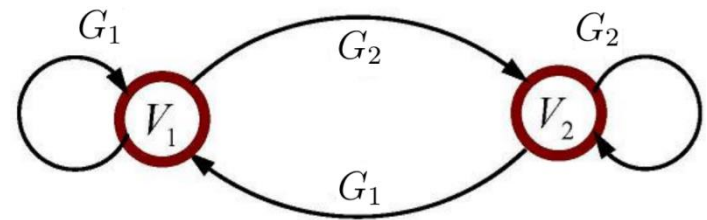
$$V(x) = \min\{x^T P_1 x, x^T P_2 x\}$$

# Approximation guarantees

min-of-quadratics



max-of-quadratics



$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[4]{n}} \hat{\rho}(\mathcal{G}) \leq \rho(\mathcal{G}) \leq \hat{\rho}(\mathcal{G})$$

- proof relies on the John's ellipsoid thm

**THM.** Given any desired accuracy

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt[2l]{n}} \hat{\rho}(\mathcal{G}) \leq \rho(\mathcal{G}) \leq \hat{\rho}(\mathcal{G})$$

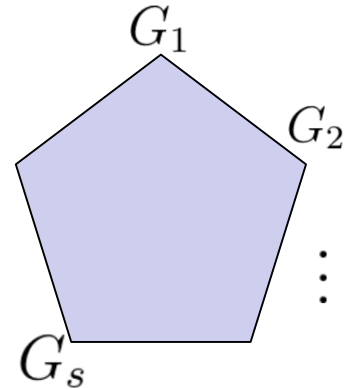
we can explicitly construct a graph  $G$  (**with  $s^{l-1}$  nodes**) such that the corresponding **SDP** achieves the accuracy.

# Back to R-ULD-LP

# R-ULD-LP

Robust to uncertain linear dynamics linear programming (R-ULD-LP)

$$x_{k+1} \in \text{conv}\{G_1, \dots, G_S\}x_k$$



Models **uncertainty** and **variations with time** in the dynamics

$$\min_x \{c^T x : AGx \leq b, \forall G \in \mathbb{G}^*\} \quad (\text{An infinite LP})$$

$\mathbb{G}^*$ : set of all finite products of  $G_1, \dots, G_S$

# Finite convergence of outer approximations

$$\mathcal{S} := \bigcap_{k=0}^{\infty} \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid AGx \leq b, \forall G \in \mathcal{G}^*\}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_r := \bigcap_{k=0}^r \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid AGx \leq b, \forall G \in \mathcal{G}^k\}$$

$$\mathcal{S} \subseteq \dots \subseteq \mathcal{S}_{r+1} \subseteq \mathcal{S}_r \subseteq \dots \subseteq \mathcal{S}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{S}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{S}_0 = P.$$

**Joint spectral radius (JSR):**

$$\rho(G_1, \dots, G_S) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max_{\sigma \in \{1, \dots, S\}^k} \|G_{\sigma_1} \cdots G_{\sigma_k}\|^{1/k}$$

**Theorem.** If  $\rho(G_1, \dots, G_S) < 1$ , and  $P = \{Ax \leq b\}$  is bounded and contains the origin in its interior, then  $S = \mathcal{S}_r$ , for some  $r$ .

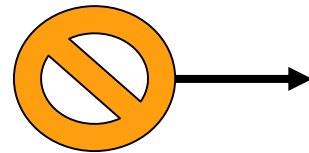
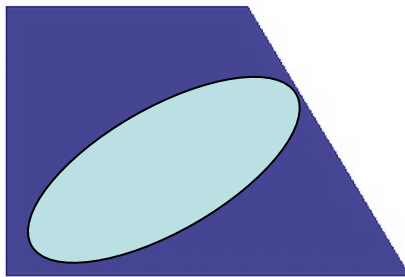
(However, number of facets of  $S$  is typically very large.)

# Lower and upper bounds for R-ULD-LP

- To get **lower bounds**, truncate the sequence and solve an LP.  
For example,

$$\min_x \{c^T x : Ax \leq b, AG_1 x \leq b, AG_1 G_2 x \leq b, \dots, AG_1 G_2 G_1 x \leq b\}$$

- What about **upper bounds**?



$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{x, Q} c^T x \\ & Q \succ 0 \\ & G Q G^T \preceq Q \\ & \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} Q & x \\ \hline x^T & 1 \end{array} \right] \succcurlyeq 0 \\ & a_i^T Q a_i \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Invariant ellipsoid may not exist even when JSR < 1

# Idea: search for intersection of ellipsoids instead!

minimize  
 $x \in \mathbb{R}^n, Q_{1,2} \in S^{n \times n}$

$$c^T x$$

$$\text{s.t. } Q_1 \succ 0, Q_2 \succ 0$$

$$G_1 Q_1 G_1^T \preceq Q_1$$

$$G_2 Q_1 G_2^T \preceq Q_2$$

$$G_1 Q_2 G_1^T \preceq Q_1$$

$$G_2 Q_2 G_2^T \preceq Q_2$$

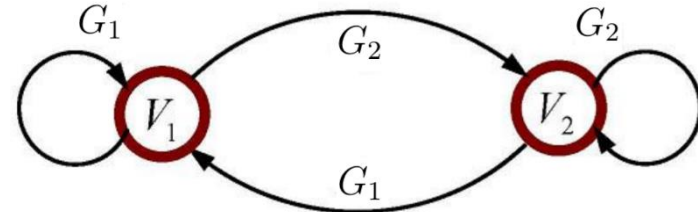
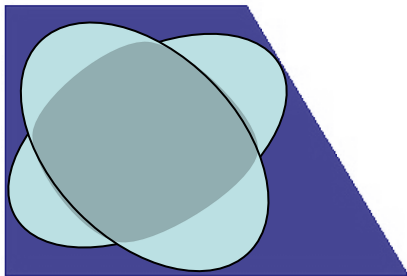
$$\begin{bmatrix} Q_1 & \tilde{G}x \\ (\tilde{G}x)^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0, \forall \tilde{G} \in \mathcal{G}^r$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} Q_2 & \tilde{G}x \\ (\tilde{G}x)^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0, \forall \tilde{G} \in \mathcal{G}^r$$

$$a_i^T Q_1 a_i \leq 1$$

$$a_i^T Q_2 a_i \leq 1$$

$$A \tilde{G} x \leq 1, \forall \tilde{G} \in \mathcal{G}^k, k = 0, \dots, r-1$$

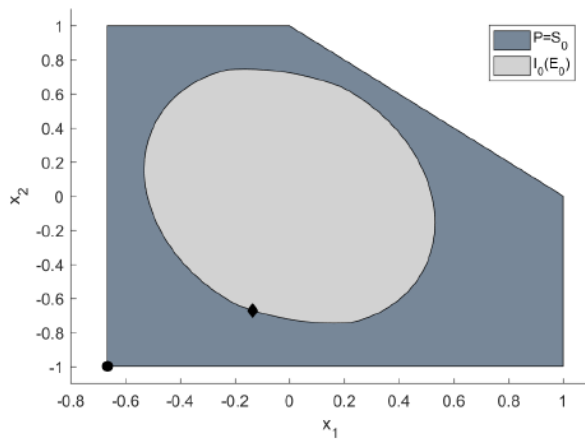


- The convexification tricks go through!
- Finite convergence of upper bounds is guaranteed.

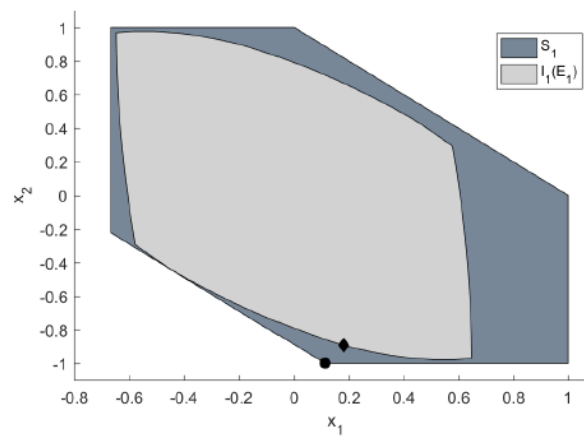


# A numerical example of an R-ULD-LP

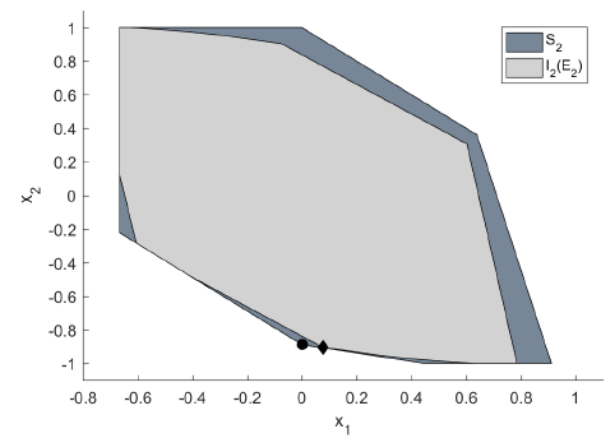
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, c = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, G_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1/4 & -1/4 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } G_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3/4 & 3/4 \\ -1/2 & 1/4 \end{pmatrix}.$$



(a)  $r = 0$



(b)  $r = 1$



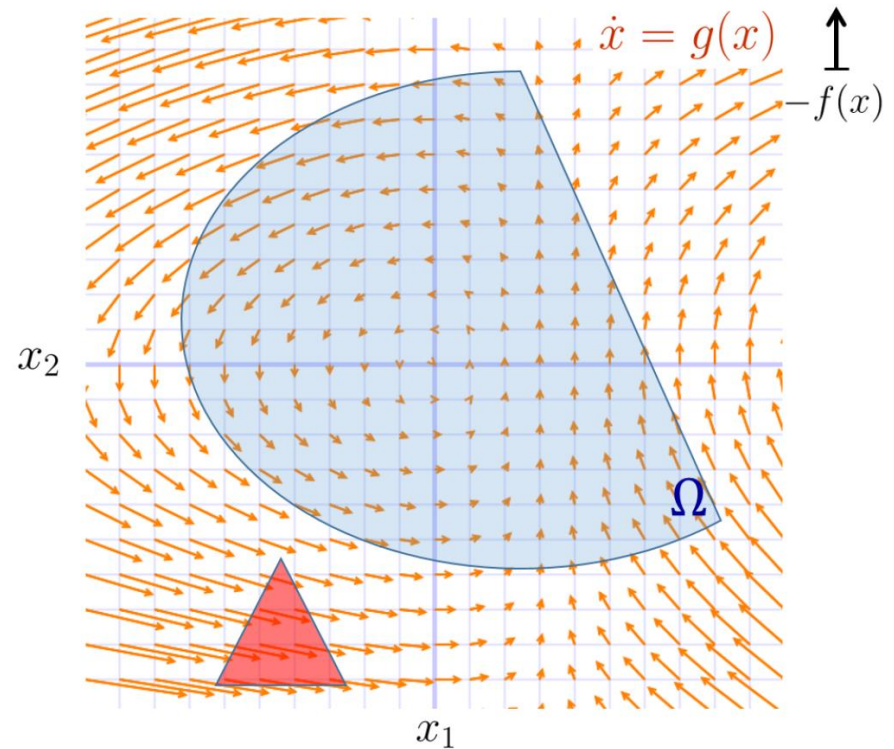
(c)  $r = 2$

	$r = 0$	$r = 1$	$r = 2$
Lower bounds	-1.3333	-0.9444	-0.8889
Upper bounds	-0.7395	-0.8029	-0.8669

# The broader perspective

## Optimization problems with dynamical systems (DS) constraints

minimize  $f(x)$   
 subject to  $x \in \Omega \cap \Omega_{DS}$ .



Optimization Problem “ $f, \Omega$ ”	Type of Dynamical System “ $g$ ”	DS Constraint “ $\Omega_{DS}$ ”
Linear program*	Linear*	Invariance*
Convex quadratic program*	Linear and uncertain/stochastic	Inclusion in region of attraction
Semidefinite program	Linear and time-varying*	Collision avoidance
Robust linear program	Nonlinear (polynomial)	Reachability
Polynomial program	Nonlinear and time-varying	Orbital stability
Integer program	Discrete/continuous/hybrid of both	Stochastic stability
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$