

# Polynomial Optimization

Sums of squares and moments

Part 2



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Solving polynomial equations

Finite rank moment matrices

## Recap on polynomial optimization

Given polynomials  $p, g_1, \dots, g_m$ , compute:

$$p_{\min} = \inf_{x \in K} p(x), \quad K = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : g_1(x) \geq 0, \dots, g_m(x) \geq 0\}.$$

**Recall:**

- $\bar{p} = (p_\alpha)_\alpha$  is the vector of coefficients of  $p$ .
- $[x]_\infty = (x^\alpha)_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n}$  is the vector of monomials.
- $p(x) = \sum_\alpha p_\alpha x^\alpha = \bar{p}^\top [x]_\infty$ .
- Define the set  $\mathcal{C}_\infty(K) = \text{conv}\{[x]_\infty : x \in K\}$ .
- Then,  $p_{\min} = \inf_{x \in K} \bar{p}^\top [x]_\infty = \inf_{y=(y_\alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}^n}} \{\bar{p}^\top y : y \in \mathcal{C}_\infty(K)\}$ .

**Goal:** Describe the set  $\mathcal{C}_\infty(K)$

# Plan of the lecture

1. For an ideal  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}[x]$ , basic facts about the quotient algebra  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{R}[x]/I$ :
  - Relate  $\dim \mathcal{A}$  and  $|V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)|$ .
  - The eigenvalue method to find  $V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)$ .
2. Moment matrices  $M(y)$ :
  - The kernel of  $M(y)$  is an ideal  $I$ .
  - If  $M(y) \succeq 0$  then  $I$  is a real radical ideal.
3. Characterization of the sequences  $y \in \mathcal{C}_{\infty}(K)$  in terms of positivity and finite rank condition on the moment matrix  $M(y)$ .

## Ideals and varieties

Let  $I \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x]$  be an ideal.

- $V_{\mathbb{C}}(I) = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^n : f(x) = 0 \ \forall f \in I\}$  is the **complex variety** of  $I$ .
- $V_{\mathbb{R}}(I) = V_{\mathbb{C}}(I) \cap \mathbb{R}^n$  is the **real variety** of  $I$ .
- If  $I = (h_1, \dots, h_m)$  is generated by  $h_1, \dots, h_m$ , the elements  $v \in V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)$  are the **common complex roots** of  $h_1, \dots, h_m$ .
- The **vanishing ideal** of a subset  $V \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$  is

$$\mathcal{I}(V) = \{f \in \mathbb{C}[x] : f(v) = 0 \ \forall v \in V\}.$$

- Clearly:  $I \subseteq \mathcal{I}(V_{\mathbb{C}}(I))$ .

## Radical ideals and Hilbert's Nullstellensatz

- The **radical** of  $I$  is the ideal:

$$\sqrt{I} = \{f \in \mathbb{C}[x] : f^m \in I \text{ for some } m \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

- Clearly:  $I \subseteq \sqrt{I} \subseteq \mathcal{I}(V_{\mathbb{C}}(I))$ .
- **Example:** For  $I = (x^2)$ ,  $V_{\mathbb{C}}(I) = \{0\}$ ,  $x \in \sqrt{I}$ , but  $x \notin I$ .
- **Hilbert's Nullstellensatz:**  $\sqrt{I} = \mathcal{I}(V_{\mathbb{C}}(I))$ .

*A polynomial  $f$  vanishes at all common complex roots of  $I$  if and only if some power of  $f$  belongs to  $I$ .*

- **Definition:** The ideal  $I$  is said to be **radical** if  $I = \sqrt{I}$  or, equivalently, if  $I = \mathcal{I}(V_{\mathbb{C}}(I))$ .

# Real radical ideals & the Real Nullstellensatz

Let  $I$  be an ideal in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ .

- The **real radical** of  $I$  is the ideal:

$$\sqrt[\mathbb{R}]{I} = \{f \in \mathbb{R}[x] : f^{2m} + s \in I \text{ for some } m \in \mathbb{N}, s \in \Sigma\}.$$

- Clearly:  $I \subseteq \sqrt[\mathbb{R}]{I} \subseteq \mathcal{I}(V_{\mathbb{R}}(I))$ .
- **Example:** For  $I = (x^2 + y^2)$ , we have  $V_{\mathbb{R}}(I) = \{(0, 0)\}$ .  
Then,  $x, y \in \sqrt[\mathbb{R}]{I}$ , but  $x, y \notin I$ .
- **Real Nullstellensatz:**  $\sqrt[\mathbb{R}]{I} = \mathcal{I}(V_{\mathbb{R}}(I))$ .
- **Definition:** The ideal  $I$  is said to be **real radical** if  $I = \sqrt[\mathbb{R}]{I}$  or, equivalently, if  $I = \mathcal{I}(V_{\mathbb{R}}(I))$ .

## Some technical lemmas

1. **Lemma 1:**  $I$  is **real radical** if and only if

$$\forall f_1, \dots, f_m \in \mathbb{R}[x] \quad f_1^2 + \dots + f_m^2 \in I \implies f_1, \dots, f_m \in I.$$

2. **Lemma 2:** If  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}[x]$  is a real radical ideal and  $|V_{\mathbb{R}}(I)| < \infty$ , then

$$V_{\mathbb{C}}(I) = V_{\mathbb{R}}(I).$$

3. **Lemma 3:** Let  $V \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$  be a finite set. There exist **interpolation polynomials**  $p_v \in \mathbb{C}[x]$  for  $v \in V$ , i.e., satisfying:

$$p_v(u) = \delta_{u,v} \quad \forall u, v \in V.$$

If  $V = \overline{V}$ , the interpolation polynomials  $p_v$  can be chosen in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ .

For any polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ ,  $f - \sum_{v \in V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)} f(v)p_v \in \mathcal{I}(V)$ .



The quotient algebra  $\mathbb{R}[x]/I$

## The quotient algebra $\mathbb{C}[x]/I$

Let  $I \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x]$  be an ideal.

The quotient  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{C}[x]/I$  is an algebra:

- Elements: cosets  $[f] = f + I = \{f + q : q \in I\}$ .
- Addition:  $[f] + [g] = [f + g]$ .
- Scalar multiplication:  $\lambda[f] = [\lambda f]$ .
- Multiplication:  $[f][g] = [fg]$ .

A set  $\mathcal{B} = \{[b_1], [b_2], \dots\} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  is a **linear basis** of  $\mathcal{A}$  if any polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x]$  can be written (uniquely) as

$$[f] = \sum_i \lambda_i [b_i] \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad f = \sum_i \lambda_i b_i + q,$$

where  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $q \in I$ .

## The dimension of $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{C}[x]/I$

**Lemma 4:** Let  $p_v$  ( $v \in V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)$ ) be interpolation polynomials at  $V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)$  and define

$$\mathcal{L} := \{[p_v] : v \in V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)\}.$$

- $\mathcal{L}$  is linearly independent in  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- $\mathcal{L}$  is generating in  $\mathbb{C}[x]/\mathcal{I}(V_{\mathbb{C}}(I))$ .
- $\mathcal{L}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{A}$  if  $I$  is radical.

**Theorem:**

1.  $\dim \mathcal{A} < \infty \iff |V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)| < \infty$ .
2. Assume  $|V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)| < \infty$ . Then,

$$|V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)| \leq \dim \mathcal{A},$$

with equality if and only if the ideal  $I$  is radical (i.e.,  $I = \sqrt{I}$ ).

# Multiplication operators and roots of equations

Given a polynomial  $h$ , define the ‘**multiplication by  $h$** ’ linear map:

$$\begin{aligned} m_h : \mathcal{A} &\rightarrow \mathcal{A} \\ [f] &\mapsto [fh]. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem:** Assume  $|V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)| < \infty$ .

1. Let  $\mathcal{B} = \{[b_1], \dots, [b_N]\}$  be a basis of  $\mathcal{A}$  and let  $M_h$  be the matrix of  $m_h$  in the basis  $\mathcal{B}$ . For  $v \in V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)$ , the vector  $[v]_{\mathcal{B}} = (b_i(v))_{i=1}^N$  is a left **eigenvector** of  $M_h$ :

$$[v]_{\mathcal{B}}^T M_h = h(v)[v]_{\mathcal{B}}^T.$$

2.  $\{h(v) : v \in V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)\}$  is the set of all the **eigenvalues** of  $M_h$ .

$\rightsquigarrow$  **Can compute  $V_{\mathbb{C}}(I)$  via the eigenvalues/eigenvectors of  $M_h$**   
for random linear  $h = \sum_{i=1}^n h_i x_i \rightsquigarrow$  the eigenvalues  $h(v)$  are all distinct, so one can recover  $[v]_{\mathcal{B}}$  and thus  $v$ .

## Univariate example

- Let  $I = (x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6)$  be generated by

$$x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6 = (x - 1)(x - 2)(x - 3).$$

- Thus:  $V_{\mathbb{C}}(I) = \{1, 2, 3\}$ .
- The set  $\mathcal{B} = \{[1], [x], [x^2]\}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{R}[x]/I$ .
- 'Multiplication by  $x$ ' matrix (*companion matrix*):

$$M_x = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} [x] & [x^2] & [x^3] \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} [1] \\ [x] \\ [x^2] \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 1 & 0 & -11 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

- $M_x^T$  has three eigenvectors:
  - (1, 1, 1) with eigenvalue  $\lambda = 1$ ,
  - (1, 2, 4) with eigenvalue  $\lambda = 2$ ,
  - (1, 3, 9) with eigenvalue  $\lambda = 3$ .

Eigenvectors are indeed of the form  $[v]_{\mathcal{B}} = (1, v, v^2)$  for  $v \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

# Finite rank moment matrices

## Recap on moment matrices

**Definition:** Let  $y = (y_\alpha)_\alpha$  be a sequence of real numbers indexed by  $\mathbb{N}^n$ .

1. Define the corresponding **linear functional**  $L_y$  on  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} L_y : \quad \mathbb{R}[x] &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x^\alpha &\mapsto L_y(x^\alpha) = y_\alpha \\ f = \sum_\alpha f_\alpha x^\alpha &\mapsto L_y(f) = \sum_\alpha f_\alpha y_\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

2. Define the **moment matrix**  $M(y)$ , as the real symmetric matrix indexed by  $\mathbb{N}^n$  with

$$M(y)_{\alpha,\beta} = L_y(x^\alpha x^\beta) = y_{\alpha+\beta} \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}^n.$$

**Example:** If  $y = [v]_\infty$  with  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $L_y$  is the **evaluation at**  $v$ :

$$L_y(f) = f(v) \quad \forall f \in \mathbb{R}[x],$$

and

$$M(y) = (v^{\alpha+\beta})_{\alpha,\beta}.$$

## Positivity conditions for $M(y)$ and $L_y$

**Lemma 5:** Let  $y = (y_\alpha)_\alpha$  and  $L_y$  the associated linear functional on  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ .

For  $f, g \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ :

$$L_y(f^2) = \bar{f}^T M(y) \bar{f}, \quad L_y(gf^2) = \bar{f}^T M(\textcolor{red}{g}y) \bar{f},$$

where  $\textcolor{red}{g}y \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}^n}$  is the new sequence with  $\alpha$ -th entry

$$(\textcolor{red}{g}y)_\alpha = L_y(gx^\alpha) = L_y\left(\left(\sum_{\gamma} g_{\gamma} x^{\gamma}\right) x^{\alpha}\right) = \sum_{\gamma} g_{\gamma} y_{\alpha+\gamma} \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n.$$

Therefore,

$$L_y \geq 0 \text{ on } \Sigma \iff M(y) \succeq 0,$$

$$L_y \geq 0 \text{ on } \textcolor{red}{g}\Sigma \iff M(\textcolor{red}{g}y) \succeq 0.$$



## The kernel of $M(y)$ is an ideal

**Lemma 6:** Let  $y = (y_\alpha)_\alpha$  and  $L_y$  the associated linear functional on  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ . Set

$$I := \{f \in \mathbb{R}[x] : L_y(hf) = 0 \ \forall h \in \mathbb{R}[x]\}.$$

Then:

1. A polynomial  $f$  belongs to  $I$  if and only if its coefficient vector  $\bar{f}$  belongs to the kernel of  $M(y)$ .

So we can write:  $I = \ker M(y)$ .

2.  $I$  is an **ideal** in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ .
3. If  $M(y) \succeq 0$  then  $I$  is a **real radical ideal**.

using the facts:

- $f \in I \iff L(f^2) = 0$ .
- $I$  is real radical if and only if  $\sum_i f_i^2 \in I \implies f_i \in I$  for all  $i$

## Characterization of the set $\mathcal{C}_\infty(K)$

**Finite rank moment matrix theorem:** [Curto-Fialkow 1996, 2000]

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

Let  $y = (y_\alpha)_\alpha$  and  $L_y$  the corresponding linear functional on  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ .

The following assertions are equivalent:

- (1)  $y \in \mathcal{C}_\infty(K)$ , i.e.,  $y = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i [v_i]_\infty$  for  $\lambda_i > 0$ ,  $\sum_i \lambda_i = 1$ ,  $v_i \in K$ ,  
i.e.,  $y$  has a representing measure which is **finite atomic and supported by  $K$** .
- (2)  $y_0 = 1$ ,  $\text{rank } M(y) < \infty$ ,  $M(y) \succeq 0$  and  $M(g_j y) \succeq 0$  for  $j \in [m]$ .
- (3)  $y_0 = 1$ ,  $\text{rank } M(y) < \infty$  and  $L_y \geq 0$  on  $\Sigma + g_1 \Sigma + \dots + g_m \Sigma$ .

## Proof of the implication (2) $\implies$ (1)

1.  $I := \ker M(y)$  is a real radical ideal. [since  $M(y) \succeq 0$ ]
2.  $\dim \mathbb{R}[x]/I = \text{rank } M(y) =: r$ .
3.  $V_{\mathbb{C}}(I) = \{v_1, \dots, v_r\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ . [ $I$  real radical with finite variety]
4. Let  $p_{v_1}, \dots, p_{v_r} \in \mathbb{R}[x]$  be interpolation polynomials at  $v_1, \dots, v_r$ .  
Their cosets form a basis of  $\mathbb{R}[x]/I$ .
5.  $L_y = \sum_{i=1}^r L_y(p_{v_i}) \mathcal{L}_{v_i}$ . [ $\mathcal{L}_{v_i}$  = 'evaluation at  $v_i$ ' liner functional]
6.  $L_y(p_{v_i}) > 0$ . [since  $p_{v_i} - (p_{v_i})^2 \in I$ ]
7.  $\sum_{i=1}^r L_y(p_{v_i}) = 1$ . [since  $1 - \sum_{i=1}^r p_{v_i} \in I$ ]
8.  $v_1, \dots, v_r \in K$ . [since  $0 \leq L_y(g_j(p_{v_i})^2) = L_y(p_{v_i})g_j(v_i)$ ]

We are done:

$$y = \sum_{i=1}^r L_y(p_{v_i}) [v_i]_{\infty} \in \mathcal{C}_{\infty}(K).$$

Polynomial optimization:

Stopping criterion (flatness condition)

Extracting global minimizers

## Flat extension of matrices

**Lemma 1:** Consider a matrix in block form:  $X = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ B^T & C \end{pmatrix}$ .

Assume  $\text{rank } X = \text{rank } A$  (call  $X$  a **flat extension** of  $A$ ). Then

$$\ker X = \ker(A \ B)$$

**Lemma 2:** Given  $y \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}_{2s}^n}$ , assume  $\text{rank } M_s(y) = \text{rank } M_{s-1}(y)$ , i.e.,  $M_s(y)$  is a **flat extension** of  $M_{s-1}(y)$  (then call  $y$  **flat**).

Then, for any polynomials  $f, g$ :

$$f \in \ker M_s(y), \deg(fg) \leq s \implies fg \in \ker M_s(y).$$

**Proof:**

- Suffices to show the result for  $g = x_i$  (then iterate).
- Suffices to show  $L(u(fx_i)) = 0 \ \forall u \in \mathbb{R}[x]_{s-1}$ . [by Lemma 1]

Indeed:  $L(u(fx_i)) = L((x_i u)f) = 0$  as  $\deg(x_i u) \leq s$  and  $f \in \ker M_s(y)$ .

**Hence:**  $\ker M_s(y)$  behaves like a '**truncated**' ideal.

## Flat extension of moment matrices

**Theorem 1:** [Flat extension theorem of Curto-Fialkow 1996]

Given  $y \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}_{2s}^n}$ , assume:

$$\text{rank } M_s(y) = \text{rank } M_{s-1}(y).$$

Then one can **extend  $y$  to a sequence  $\tilde{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}^n}$**  satisfying:

$$\text{rank } M(\tilde{y}) = \text{rank } M_s(y).$$

Moreover, the ideal  $I = \ker M(\tilde{y})$  satisfies:

- (1) If  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}_{s-1}^n$  indexes a column base of  $M_{s-1}(y)$ , then  $\{[x^{\alpha_1}], \dots, [x^{\alpha_r}]\}$  is a base of  $\mathbb{R}[x]/I$ .
- (2)  $I$  is generated by the polynomials in  $\ker M_s(y)$ :

$$I = (\ker M_s(y)).$$

## Sketch of proof of Theorem 1

**Goal:** Find a matrix  $M = \begin{pmatrix} M_s(y) & B \\ B^\top & C \end{pmatrix}$ , indexed by  $\mathbb{N}_{s+1}^n$ , satisfying:

- (1)  $M$  is a **flat extension** of  $M_s(y)$ :  $\text{rank } M = \text{rank } M_s(y) =: r$
- (2)  $M$  is a **moment matrix**:  $M_{\alpha,\beta} = M_{\alpha',\beta'}$  for all  $\alpha, \beta, \alpha', \beta' \in \mathbb{N}_{s+1}^n$

**Key ideas:**

- Let  $\mathcal{B} = \{x^{\alpha_1}, \dots, x^{\alpha_r}\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}[x]_{s-1}$  index a maximum linearly independent set of columns of  $M_s(y)$ .
- Let  $|\gamma| = t + 1$ . Say,  $\gamma_i \geq 1$ . **If such  $M$  exists it must satisfy:**  
 $x^{\gamma - e_i} - r(x) \in \ker M_s(y) \subseteq \ker M$ , for some  $r \in \text{Span}(\mathcal{B})$   
and thus  $x_i^\gamma - x_i r(x) = x_i(x^{\gamma - e_i} - r(x)) \in \ker M$ . [by Lemma 2]  
This permits to define the  $\gamma$ th column of  $M$  in terms of columns of  $M_s(y)$  (and thus to define  $B$  and  $C$ ).
- Remains to verify that this is a **good** definition:
  - it does not depend on the choice of index  $i$  such that  $\gamma_i \geq 1$ ,
  - and the matrix  $M$  obtained in this way is a moment matrix.

## Stopping criterion and extracting global minimizers

- $K_p^*$ : set of all **global minimizers** of  $p$  in  $K$ .
- $d_p = \lceil \deg(p)/2 \rceil$ ,  $d_K = \max\{\lceil \deg(g_j)/2 \rceil : j \in [m]\}$ .

**Theorem 2:** [Lasserre 2001]

Let  $L$  be an optimal solution to

$$p_{\text{mom},t} = \inf\{L(p) : L \in (\mathbb{R}[x]_{2t})^*, L(1) = 1, L \geq 0 \text{ on } \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{g})_{2t}\}$$

with associated sequence  $y = (L(x^\alpha))_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_{2s}^n}$ . Assume:

$\text{rank } M_s(y) = \text{rank } M_{s-d_K}(y)$  for some  $s$  with  $\max\{d_p, d_K\} \leq s \leq t$ .

Then:

- (1) The relaxation is exact:  $p_{\text{mom},t} = p_{\min}$ .
- (2) All common roots of the polynomials in  $\ker M_s(y)$  are real and they are **global minimizers**:  $V_{\mathbb{C}}(\ker M_s(y)) \subseteq K_p^*$ .
- (3) If  $L$  is an optimal solution for which the matrix  $M_t(y)$  has maximum possible rank, then:

$$V_{\mathbb{C}}(\ker M_s(y)) = K_p^*.$$



## Proof of Theorem 2

1. **Apply the ‘flat extension theorem’:** There exists a sequence  $\tilde{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}^n}$  **extending the subsequence**  $(y_\alpha)_{|\alpha| \leq 2s}$  satisfying:

(a)  $\text{rank } M(\tilde{y}) = \text{rank } M_s(y) = \text{rank } M_{s-d_K}(y) =: r.$

(b)  $I := \ker M(\tilde{y}) = (\ker M_s(y)).$

(c) If  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}_{s-d_K}^n$  indexes a column basis of  $M_{s-d_K}(y)$ , then  $\mathcal{B} = \{[x^{\alpha_1}], \dots, [x^{\alpha_r}]\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}[x]/I.$

2. **Apply the ‘finite rank moment matrix theorem’:**

(a)  $V_{\mathbb{C}}(I) = V_{\mathbb{C}}(\ker M_s(y)) = \{v_1, \dots, v_r\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n.$

(b)  $\tilde{y} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i [v_i]_\infty$ , where  $v_i \in K$ ,  $\lambda_i > 0$ ,  $\sum_i \lambda_i = 1.$

(c)  $(y_\alpha)_{|\alpha| \leq 2s} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i [v_i]_{2s}$  where  $v_i \in K$ ,  $\lambda_i > 0$ ,  $\sum_i \lambda_i = 1.$

3. **Hence:**  $p_{\text{mom},t} = p_{\min}$  and  $v_1, \dots, v_r$  are global minimizers.

## Proof of Theorem 2 (continued)

Assume now  $L_y$  is an optimal solution for which  $\text{rank } M_t(y)$  is **maximum**.

That is, for any other optimal solution  $z$  to  $p_{\text{mom},t}$ , we have  $\text{rank } M_t(z) \leq \text{rank } M_t(y)$ .

This implies

$\ker M_t(y) \subseteq \ker M_t(z)$ , and thus

$\ker M_s(y) \subseteq \ker M_s(z)$ ,

$V_{\mathbb{C}}(\ker M_s(z)) \subseteq V_{\mathbb{C}}(\ker M_s(y)) = V_{\mathbb{C}}(I) = \{v_1, \dots, v_r\}$ . .

Let  $x^* \in K$  be a global minimizer of  $p$ .

Then  $z = [x^*]_{2t}$  is an optimal solution of  $p_{\text{mom},t}$ .

Therefore,  $\{x^*\} = V_{\mathbb{C}}(\ker M_s(z)) \subseteq \{v_1, \dots, v_r\}$ .

## Some observations

- Use the ‘eigenvalue method’ to extract the global minimizers: via the eigenvectors of the multiplication matrix  $M_h$  for  $h = \sum_{i=1}^n h_i x_i$ .

**All needed information is contained in  $M_s(y)$ :** the entries of  $M_h = \sum_{i=1}^n h_i M_{x_i}$  can be derived directly by expressing each  $[x_i x^{\alpha_j}]$  in the basis  $\mathcal{B} = \{[x^{\alpha_1}], \dots, [x^{\alpha_r}]\}$ .

- If the flatness condition holds then  $p$  has **finitely many global minimizers** in  $K$ .

The converse is **not** true!

**Example:** Let  $K = \{x : \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \leq 1\}$  and assume  $p$  is homogeneous,  $p > 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $p$  is not SOS. Then,  $p_{\min} = 0$ , attained **only** at 0. But,  $p_{\text{sos},t} = p_{\text{mom},t} < p_{\min} = 0$  for all  $t \geq d_p$ .

**Fact:**  $p \in \mathcal{M}(1 - \sum_i x_i^2) \implies p \in \Sigma$

- The flatness condition holds **generically**.

[Nie 2014]