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# Incorrectly Posed Systems of (max, min)-linear Equations and Inequalities. 

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## Basic Concepts.

- Max-separable function $f: R^{n} \longmapsto R$ :

$$
f(x)=\max _{j \in J} f_{j}\left(x_{j}\right)
$$

where $J=1, \ldots, n, x=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$.

- Special cases:
(max, +)-linear functions

$$
f(x)=\max _{j \in J}\left(c_{j}+x_{j}\right)
$$

(max, min)-linear functions

$$
f(x)=\max _{j \in J}\left(\min \left(c_{j}, x_{j}\right)\right)=\max _{j \in J}\left(c_{j} \wedge x_{j}\right) .
$$

## Basic Concepts.

- System of max-separable inequalities:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \max _{j \in J}\left(a_{i j} \wedge r_{i j}\left(x_{j}\right)\right) \geq b_{i}, \quad i \in I  \tag{1}\\
& \max _{j \in J}\left(a_{i j} \wedge r_{i j}\left(x_{j}\right)\right) \leq b_{i}, \quad i \in K  \tag{2}\\
& \underline{x}_{j} \leq x_{j} \leq \bar{x}_{j}, j \in J \tag{3}
\end{align*}
$$

where $a_{i j}, b_{i}, \underline{x}_{j}, \bar{x}_{j} \in R, r_{i j}: R \longmapsto R$, Range $\left(r_{i j}\right)=R$, continuous and strictly increasing functions, $I, K$ finite index sets, $\alpha \wedge \beta \equiv \min (\alpha, \beta)$ for $\alpha, \beta \in R$.

- If $r_{i j}\left(x_{j}\right)=d_{i j}+x_{j}$ and $a_{i j}$ sufficiently large, we obtain a (max, +)-linear system.
- If $r_{i j}\left(x_{j}\right)=x_{j}$, we obtaining a (max, min)-linear system.
[Vorobjov], [Korbut], [Carre], [Cuninghame-Green], [Gondran], [Minoux], [Helbig], [Nachtigal], [Olsder], [Maslov], [Litvinov], [Krivulin], [Pap], [Gaubert], [Akian], [de la Ponte], [Sergeyev], [Nitica], [Singer], [Nedoma], [Butkovic], [Gavalec], [Cechlarova], and others. $(R, \oplus, \otimes)=(\max ,+),(R, \oplus, \otimes)=(\max , \min )$ and others

$$
f(x)=\Sigma_{j}^{\oplus}\left(c_{j} \otimes x_{j}\right)=c_{1} \otimes x_{1} \oplus \ldots c_{n} \otimes x_{n}
$$

$(\oplus, \otimes)$-linear functions.

- Extremal algebra, path algebra, max-min algebra, max-plus algebra, fuzzy algebra, idempotent algebra, tropical algebra etc
- Applications to machine time scheduling, capacity and reliability of networks, discrete event problems, fuzzy set problems.


## Motivating Example 1

- Example 1.
- $a_{i j}$.............................capacity of link $D_{i} P_{j}$;
- $x_{j} \ldots \ldots \ldots . . . . .$. capacity of link $P_{j} T$ (to be found);
- $a_{i j} \wedge x_{j} \ldots \ldots \ldots . .$. capacity of $D_{i} P_{j} T$;
- $a_{i}(x)=\max _{j \in J}=\left(a_{i j} \wedge x_{j}\right)$;
- Requirements:

$$
a_{i}(x)=b_{i}, \forall i \in I \text { or } \underline{b}_{i} \leq a_{i}(x) \leq \bar{b}_{i} \quad \forall i \in I
$$

## Motivating Example 2

- Example 2.
- Let us assume that we have $m$ fuzzy sets $A_{i}$, $i \in I \equiv\{1, \ldots, m\}$ with a finite support $J \equiv\{1, \ldots, n\}$ and membership functions $\mu_{i}: J \rightarrow[0,1]$. We have to find fuzzy set $X$ with membership function $\mu_{X}: J \rightarrow[0,1]$. Let functions $\mu_{i X}: J \rightarrow[0,1]$ be defined as follows:

$$
\mu_{i X}(j) \equiv \mu_{i}(j) \wedge \mu_{X}(j)
$$

where symbol $\wedge$ is used to denote the minimum of two numbers, i.e. $\alpha \wedge \beta \equiv \min (\alpha, \beta)$ for any real numbers $\alpha, \beta$. Then for each $i \in I$ function $\mu_{i x}$ is the membership function of the intersection of fuzzy set $A_{i}$ and $X$.

## Motivating Example 2 - conitnued.

- The expressions

$$
H_{i}(X) \equiv \max _{j \in J}\left(\mu_{i X}(j)\right)
$$

are the heights of the intersections of fuzzy sets $A_{i}, X$ for all $i \in I$.

- We require that the heights $H_{i}(X)$ are equal $\hat{b}_{i}$ for all $i \in I$, i.e.

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{i}(X) \equiv \max _{j \in J}\left(\mu_{i x}(j)\right)=\hat{b}_{i}, \forall i \in I \tag{*}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Motivating Example 2 - conitnued.

- Let us set $a_{i j} \equiv \mu_{i}(j), x_{j} \equiv \mu_{X}(j)$ for all $i \in I, j \in J$.
- Then in this new notations relations $\left(^{*}\right)$ have the form

$$
\max _{j \in J}\left(a_{i j} \wedge x_{j}\right)=\hat{b}_{i}, \forall i \in I
$$

which is the system of (max, min)-linear equations.

## Properties of the Inequality System.

- We can replace the inequality system (2) - (3) by
- $\underline{x}_{j} \leq x_{j} \leq x_{j}(b) \quad \forall j \in J$, where

$$
x_{j}(b)=\min _{i \in I_{j}} r_{i j}^{-1}\left(b_{i}\right) \wedge \bar{x}_{j}, \forall j \in J \text { and } I_{j}=\left\{i \in K ; a_{i j}>b_{i}\right\}
$$

- If $x$ solves the inequality system (1) - (3), it must be $x \leq x \leq x(b)$


## Properties of the Inequality System.

- We replace system (1) - (3) by

$$
\begin{align*}
& \max _{j \in J}\left(a_{i j} \wedge r_{i j}\left(x_{j}\right)\right) \geq b_{i}, \quad i \in I  \tag{4}\\
& \underline{x} \leq x \leq x(b) \tag{5}
\end{align*}
$$

- Let $M(b)$ denote the set of solutions of system (4) - (5).
- If $M(b) \neq \emptyset$, then $\underline{x} \leq x(b)$.


## Properties of the Inequality System.

- Let for all $i \in I, j \in J$

$$
T_{i j}=\left\{x_{j} ; \underline{x}_{j} \leq x_{j} \leq x_{j}(b) \& a_{i j} \wedge r_{i j}\left(x_{j}\right) \geq b_{i}\right\}
$$

- Lemma 1.

If $T_{i j} \neq \emptyset$, then

$$
T_{i j}=\left[\max \left(\underline{x}_{j}, r_{i j}^{-1}\left(b_{i}\right)\right), x_{j}(b)\right]
$$

- Lemma 2.

Let $j \in J$ be fixed, $I=\{1, \ldots, m\}$. Then there exists a permutation $\left\{i_{1}, \ldots, i_{m}\right\}$ of indices of $I$ such that

$$
T_{i_{1} j} \subseteq T_{i 2 j} \subseteq \ldots T_{i_{m} j}
$$

## Properties of the Inequality System.

- Lemma 3.
$M(b) \neq \emptyset$ if and only if $\forall i \in I \exists j(i) \in J$ such that $T_{i j(i)} \neq \emptyset$.


## Incorrectly Posed Problems - Formulation.

- Let us consider the following system of equations:

$$
\begin{equation*}
a_{i}(x) \equiv \max _{j \in J}\left(a_{i j} \wedge x_{j}\right)=\hat{b}_{i}, \quad i \in I \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $a_{i j}, \hat{b}_{i} \in R, \forall i \in I \equiv\{1, \ldots, m\}, j \in J \equiv\{1, \ldots, n\}$.

- Let the set of solutions of system (8) be denoted $M(\hat{b})$.
- Let $M(\hat{b})=\emptyset$.


## Incorrectly Posed Problems - Formulation.

- We will consider the following optimization problem:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|b-\hat{b}\| \equiv \max _{i \in I}\left|b_{i}-\hat{b}_{i}\right| \longmapsto \min \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

subject to

$$
\begin{equation*}
b \in R(A) \equiv\left\{b \in R^{m} ; M(b) \neq \emptyset\right\} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

- Note that

$$
R(A)=\left\{b ; \exists x \in R^{n} \text { such that } a_{i}(x)=b_{i}, \forall i \in I\right\}
$$

and

$$
R(A)=\operatorname{Range}\left(A: R^{n} \longmapsto R^{m}\right)
$$

where we set $A(x)=\left(a_{1}(x), \ldots, a_{m}(x)\right)$.

## Incorrectly Posed Problems - Reformulation.

- Let for any $t \in R$

$$
M(\hat{b}, t) \equiv\{b \in R(A) ;\|b-\hat{b}\| \leq t\}
$$

- Let us consider the following optimization problem:

$$
\begin{equation*}
t \longmapsto \min \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

subject to

$$
\begin{equation*}
M(\hat{b}, t) \neq \emptyset \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

- Note that

$$
M(\hat{b}, t)=\left\{b=A(x) ; \exists x \in R^{n} \text { such that } \hat{b}_{i}-t \leq a_{i}(x) \leq \hat{b}_{i}+t \forall i\right\}
$$

## Incorrectly Posed Problems - Reformulation.

- In other words $M(\hat{b}, t) \neq \emptyset$ if and only if inequality system

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{b}_{i}-t \leq a_{i}(x) \forall i \in I \& a_{i j} \wedge x_{j} \leq \hat{b}_{i}+t, \forall i \in I, \forall j \in J \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

has a solution.

- Therefore $M(\hat{b}, t)$ is non-empty if system (13) is solvable. Then problem (11) - (12) is equivalent to

$$
\begin{equation*}
t \longmapsto \min \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

subject to (13) has a solution

## Incorrectly Posed Problems - Reformulation.

- Let $\hat{b}+t=\left(\hat{b}_{1}+t, \ldots, \hat{b}_{m}+t\right)$.
- Note that $a_{i j} \wedge x_{j} \leq \hat{b}_{i}+t \forall i \in I, j \in J$ implies

$$
x_{j} \leq x_{j}(\hat{b}+t) \quad \forall j \in J
$$

- where for all $j \in J$

$$
x_{j}(\hat{b}+t) \equiv \min _{k \in l_{j}(t)} \hat{b}_{k}+t, I_{j}(t)=\left\{k \in I ; a_{k j}>\hat{b}_{k}+t\right\}
$$

## Incorrectly Posed Problems - Reformulation.

- it follows that $b=A(x) \in M(\hat{b}, t)$ implies $x \leq x(\hat{b}+t)$.
- Let for all $i \in I, j \in J$

$$
T_{i j}(t)=\left\{x_{j} ; \hat{b}_{i}-t \leq a_{i j} \wedge x_{j} \& x_{j} \leq x_{j}(\hat{b}+t)\right\}
$$

- Note that
(a) $T_{i j}(t) \neq \emptyset$ for a sufficiently large $t$;
(b) $\hat{b}_{i}-t$ is strictly decreasing in $t$ and $x_{j}(\hat{b}+t)$ is partially continuous and strictly increasing in $t$ with maximum $m$ jumps.


## Incorrectly Posed Problems - Reformulation.

- Lemma 4. $T_{i j}(t) \neq \emptyset$ if and only if $\hat{b}_{i}-t \leq a_{i j} \wedge x_{j}(\hat{b}+t)$.
- Lemma 5.

For any $i \in I, j \in J$ there exists $\tau_{i j}$ such that $T_{i j}(t) \neq \emptyset$ if and only if $t \geq \tau_{i j}$.

- Theorem 2.

Let $t^{o p t}$ be the optimal solution of optimization problem (14) - (15) and $b^{o p t}$ be the optimal solution of optimization problem (9) - (10). Then we have:

$$
\begin{gathered}
t^{o p t}=\max _{i \in I} \min _{j \in J} \tau_{i j} \\
b^{o p t}=A\left(x\left(\hat{b}+t^{o p t}\right)\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

## Modifications of the Problem.

- (1) we can consider an unsolvable system of inequalities;
- (2) Additional restrictions on $b \in R(A)$, e.g. $b_{i}=\hat{b}_{i}$ for some $i \in I$;
- (3) Changing of $a_{i j}$ 's instead of the right hand sides $\hat{A}-t \leq A \leq \hat{A}+t$;
- (4) Other max-separable objective functions of the form $f(b)=\max _{i \in I} f_{i}\left(b_{i}\right)$ defined on $R(A)$, e.g. $\max _{i \in I} w_{i}\left|b_{i}-\hat{b}_{i}\right|$.


## Generalizations or Extensions of the Problem.

- We can consider systems of the form

$$
\max _{j \in J}\left(a_{i j} \wedge r_{i j}\left(x_{j}\right)=\hat{b}_{i}, \quad i \in I\right.
$$

where $r_{i j}: R \longmapsto R$ are strictly increasing and continuous.

- We can consider various formulations of the problem for some types of two-sided systems.
- Post optimal analysis of the problems (i.e. finding out which changes will improve the value of the objective function).
- Interval coefficients.

