

Robust Optimization: Applications

Seyed Hassan Amini¹

¹Mining Engineering
West Virginia University
Morgantown, WV USA

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Outline

- 1 Overview
 - Theory of Robust Optimization
 - Applications of Robust Optimization

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- Shortest Path Problem
- Facility Location Problem
- Portfolio Selection Problem

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- In real-world applications of optimization, even a small uncertainty in the data can make the nominal optimal solution to the problem completely meaningless from a practical viewpoint.
- Consequently, in optimization, there exist a real need of a methodology capable of detecting cases when data uncertainty can heavily effect the quality of the nominal solution.

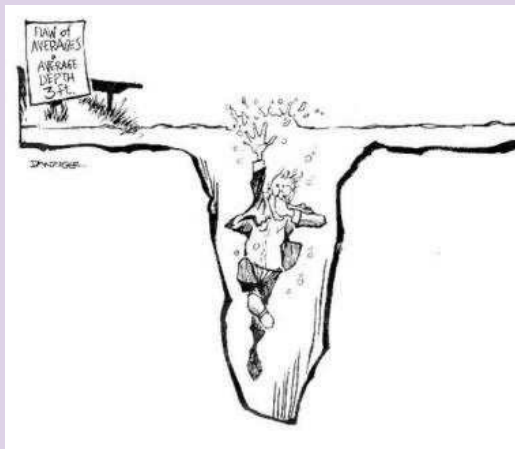
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$$3.030 \cdot 1000 - 2.999 \cdot 1000 = 31 > 1$$

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 - Remains computationally tractable.
 - Sometimes is too pessimistic.

LP Programming with uncertainty

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- Uncertain LP form:

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- Chance Constrain:

$$\mathbf{P}(\tilde{\mathbf{A}} \cdot \mathbf{x} > \mathbf{b}) \leq \varepsilon$$

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Now, replacing the uncertain parameter with the above equation:

$$(\mathbf{A}^0 + \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbf{A}_j \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_j) \cdot x \leq \mathbf{b}$$

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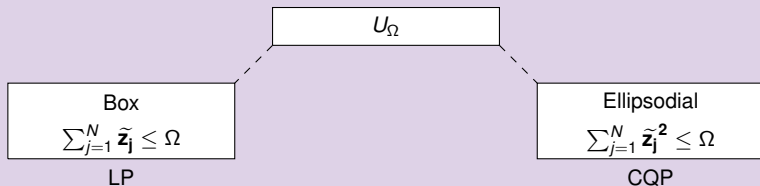
Box

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_j \leq \Omega$$

LP

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- $\Omega = 0$ means no uncertainty and $\Omega = \sqrt{N}$ is worse case budget.

$$\mathcal{E} = \exp\left(-\frac{\Omega^2}{2}\right)$$

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- Civil Engineering:
 - Shortest path problem;
 - Facility locations: uncertainty of demand.
- Electrical Engineering:
 - Circuit design: minimizing delay in digital circuits when the underlying gate delays are not known exactly.
- Finance:
 - Robust portfolio optimization: random returns;
 - Robust risk management: uncertainty of Value at Risk.

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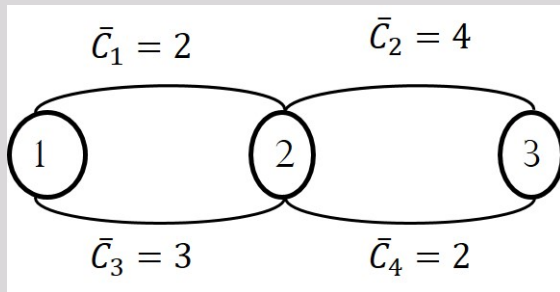
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where:

$$\tilde{z}_1^2 + \tilde{z}_2^2 \leq \Omega$$

$$\Omega \in (0, 1, 2)$$

Example

$\Omega=0$	\tilde{y}_{k1}	\tilde{y}_{k1}	ROBUST SP	CLASSICAL SP
1-2	0	0	6	6
1-4	0	0	4	4
3-2	0	0	7	7
3-4	0	0	5	5

Example

$\Omega=1$	\tilde{y}_{k1}	\tilde{y}_{k1}	ROBUST SP	CLASSICAL SP
1-2	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$\sqrt{2}/2$	8.83	6
1-4	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$\sqrt{2}/2$	8.24	4
3-2	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$\sqrt{2}/2$	9.82	7
3-4	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$\sqrt{2}/2$	7.82	5

Example

$\Omega=2$	\tilde{y}_{k1}	\tilde{y}_{k1}	ROBUST SP	CLASSICAL SP
1-2	1	1	10.00	6
1-4	1	1	10.00	4
3-2	1	1	11.00	7
3-4	1	1	9.00	5

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Application of Facility Location Models

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- Bathroom location in a facility etc..

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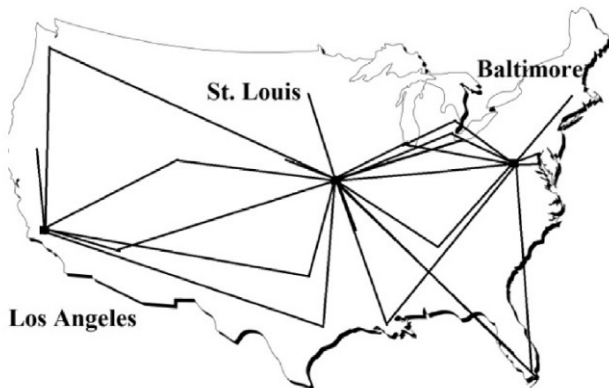
Example

- The goal of the facility location problem for airline industry is to find an optimal location of hubs.

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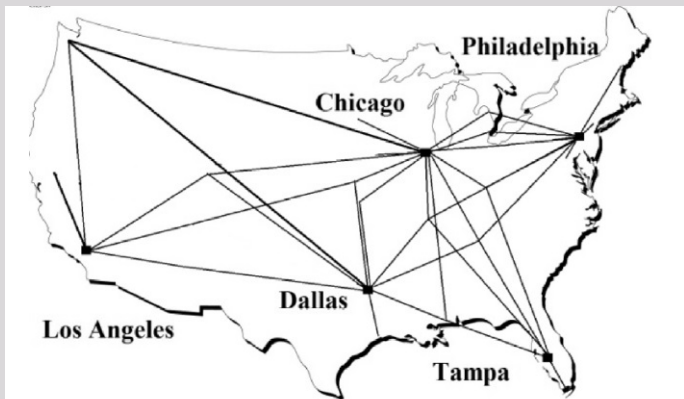
- The goal of the facility location problem for airline industry is to find an optimal location of hubs.
- Where demand is uncertain and its distribution is not fully specified.

Example



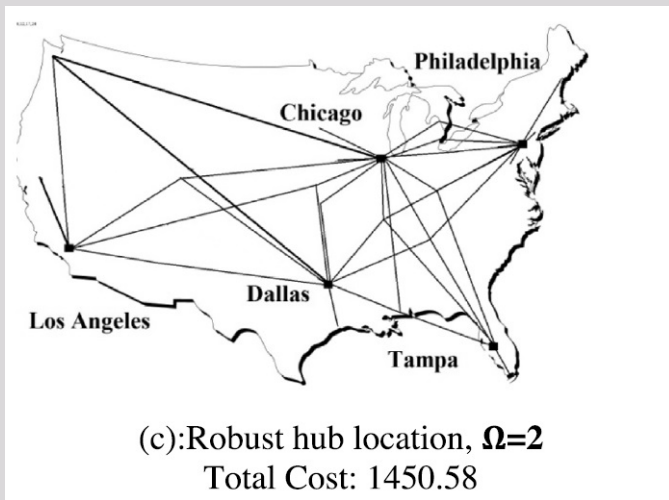
(a): Base hub location
Total Cost: 1336.19

Example



(b): Robust hub location, $\Omega=1.5$
Total Cost: 1450.58

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x_1 and x_2 are first and second assets.

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$TE(x)$ represents the tracking error of the portfolio with respect to the half-and-half benchmark.

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$$TE = \sqrt{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 - 0.5 \\ x_2 - .05 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} 0.1764 & 0.09702 & 0 \\ 0.09702 & 0.1089 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - 0.5 \\ x_2 - .05 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}}$$

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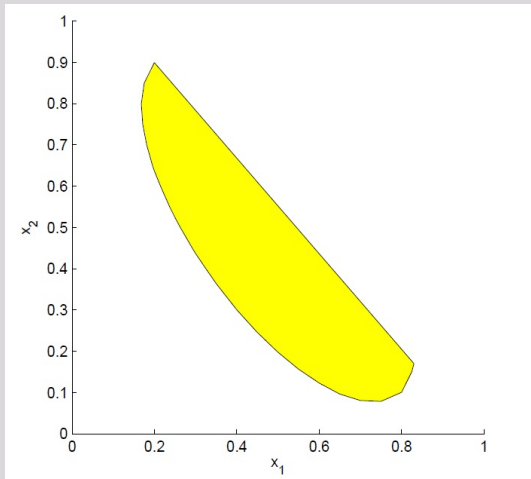


Figure: The feasible set of the portfolio selection problem

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So, the objective values will be:

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- Scenario 2: 5.662
- Scenario 3: 5.000

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Example

choosing a maximum tolerable regret level of 0.75 we get the following feasibility problem:

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Example

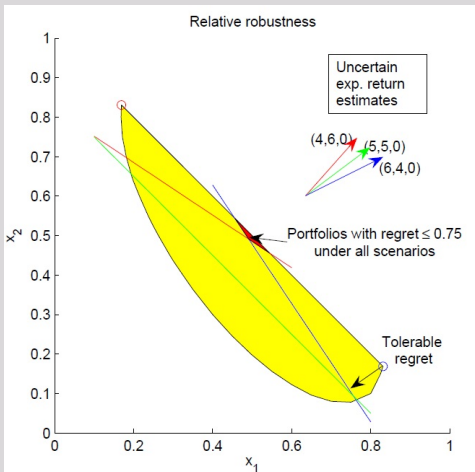


Figure: Set of solutions with regret less than 0.75