

## Non squeezing for ellipsoids/Leonid Shartser

Let  $(V, \omega) = (\mathbb{R}^{2n}, \omega)$  be the standard symplectic vector space with

$$\omega(x, y) = \langle Jx, y \rangle,$$

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $Sp(n) = \{\phi : V \rightarrow V | \phi \text{ linear}, \phi^* \omega = \omega\}$  be the linear symplectic group. In this paper we treat the following question:

Let  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  be ellipsoids in  $V$ . When is it possible to "symplectically" embed  $E_1$  into  $E_2$ . i.e. when there exists a symplectic map  $\phi : E_1 \hookrightarrow E_2$ .

To give an invariant answer to this question we need some definitions. Let  $q$  be a quadratic positive definite form on  $V$ , that is  $\exists S = S^T > 0$  such that  $q(x) = \frac{1}{2} \langle Sx, x \rangle$ . Write  $\tilde{q}(x, y) := \langle Sx, y \rangle$ . An ellipsoid is a set of the form  $E(q) = \{x | q(x) < 1\}$ . Observe that we have a bijective correspondence between ellipsoids and quadratic positive definite forms. It can be expressed as  $E(q_1) = E(q_2) \Leftrightarrow q_1 = q_2$ . To see that we prove the following lemma.

**Lemma 1:**  $E(q_1) \subset E(q_2) \Leftrightarrow q_2 \leq q_1$ .

**Proof:**

$\Rightarrow$ : Suppose  $\exists x$  such that  $q_1(x) < q_2(x)$ . Find  $k > 0$  such that  $k^2 q_1(x) = q_1(kx) < 1$  and therefore  $q_2(kx) < 1$ . Replacing  $kx$  with  $x$  denote  $a = q_1(x), b = q_2(x)$ . Pick  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{b}} < r < \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}}$ . Observe,  $q_1(rx) = r^2 q_1(x) = r^2 a < 1$  but  $q_2(rx) = r^2 q_2(x) > 1$  that is  $\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$ .

$\Leftarrow$ : Let  $x \in E(q_1)$  then  $1 > q_1(x) \geq q_2(x)$  so  $x \in E(q_2)$ .  $\square$

Due to this correspondence we can associate to every ellipsoid  $E(q)$ ,  $n$  positive numbers  $\lambda(q) = (0 < \lambda_n \leq \dots \leq \lambda_1)$ .  $\mp i \lambda_j$  are the eigenvalues of  $X_q = -JS$ .

**Remark 1:**  $X_q(x)$  satisfies the Hamiltonian equation  $d\omega(X_q(x), y) = -dq(x)(y)$  as can be easily verified.

**Remark 2:**  $\lambda(q)$  is invariant under symplectic change of coordinates: Let  $\tau \in Sp(n)$ . We have then,  $q \circ \tau(x) = \frac{1}{2} \langle S\tau x, \tau x \rangle = \langle \tau^T S \tau, x \rangle$ . Note that  $\tau$  is symplectic, therefore

$$\langle Jx, y \rangle = \omega(x, y) = \tau^* \omega(x, y) = \omega(\tau x, \tau y) = \langle J\tau x, \tau y \rangle = \langle \tau^T J \tau x, y \rangle.$$

Hence  $J = \tau^T J \tau$  multiplying by  $J$  both sides we get  $I = J\tau^T J\tau$ . So we have,  $X_{q \circ \tau} = J\tau^T S \tau = (J\tau)^{-1} S \tau = \tau^{-1} J S \tau = \tau^{-1} X_q \tau$ . Hence,  $\lambda(q) = \lambda(q \circ \tau)$ .

Now we are ready to answer our question in terms of this invariant  $\lambda(q)$ .

**Theorem 1:** Let  $E(q_1)$  and  $E(q_2)$  be ellipsoids, then  $\exists \phi \in Sp(n), \phi(E_1) \subset E_2 \Leftrightarrow \lambda_j(q_1) \geq \lambda_j(q_2)$ .

At this point we only give a short sketch of the proof whereas the details will be filled later on. First suppose that  $\lambda_j(q_1) \geq \lambda_j(q_2)$ , and find  $\phi \in Sp(n)$  such that  $\phi(E_1) \subset E_2$ . Let's assume for a moment that we can find symplectic maps  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  such that:

$q_1 \circ \psi_1 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j(q_1)(x_j^2 + x_{n+j}^2)$  and  $q_2 \circ \psi_2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j(q_2)(x_j^2 + x_{n+j}^2)$   
Then it is clear that  $q_1 \circ \psi_1 \geq q_2 \circ \psi_2$  and thus by the previous lemma  $E(q_1 \circ \psi_1) \subset E(q_2 \circ \psi_2)$ . Therefore,  $\phi := \psi_2 \circ \psi_1^{-1}$  maps  $E(q_1)$  into  $E(q_2)$ . Since if  $x \in E(q_1)$  then  $\psi_1^{-1}(x) \in E(q_1 \circ \psi_1) \subset E(q_2 \circ \psi_2)$  so  $q_2(\psi_2(\psi_1^{-1}(x))) = q_2 \circ \psi_2(\psi_1^{-1}(x)) < 1$ . Therefore  $x \in E(q_2)$ . The fact that we can find  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  is the content of theorem 2.

Conversely, suppose we have  $\phi \in Sp(n)$  such that  $\phi(E_1) \subset E_2$  and we want to prove that  $\lambda_j(q_1) \geq \lambda_j(q_2)$ . Since  $\phi(E(q_1)) = E(q_1 \circ \phi^{-1}) \subset E(q_2)$ , we may assume w.l.o.g. that  $E(q_1) \subset E(q_2)$  and thus by the lemma,  $q_1 \geq q_2$ . So the result we need to complete this proof is  $q_1 \geq q_2 \Rightarrow \lambda_j(q_1) \geq \lambda_j(q_2)$ . This result is lemma 2.

**Theorem 2:** If  $q$  be positive definite quadratic form as above, then  $\exists \phi \in Sp(n)$  such that  $q \circ \phi = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j(q)(x_j^2 + x_{n+j}^2)$ .

**Proof:**

Define positive definite quadratic form  $K$  on  $V \times V$ ,  $K(x, y) = K_q(x, y) = q(x) + q(y)$ . This quadratic form induces an inner product on  $V \times V$  defined by the formula  $\langle\langle (x, y), (x', y') \rangle\rangle = K(x + x', y + y') - K(x, y) - K(x', y')$ . Denote  $\|x\|^2 := \langle\langle x, x \rangle\rangle = K(x)$  and  $|x|^2 = \langle x, x \rangle$ . Observe that  $\omega(x, y)$  is a quadratic form on  $V \times V$  and hence, there is  $4n \times 4n$  symmetric matrix  $\Omega$  such that  $\omega(x, y) = \langle\langle \Omega(x, y), (x, y) \rangle\rangle$ .

Consider the following extremum problem with constrains:

$$(*) \max_{\|(x,y)\|=1} \langle\langle \Omega(x, y), (x, y) \rangle\rangle$$

Let  $(a, b)$  be a such that  $\|(a, b)\| = 1$  and

$$\omega(a, b) = \max_{\|(x,y)\|=1} \omega(x, y) = \max_{\|(x,y)\|=1} \langle\langle \Omega(x, y), (x, y) \rangle\rangle.$$

**Note:** The critical set of  $\omega$  on  $\|\cdot\| = 1$  lies in a circle of critical points:

Let  $x(t) = \cos(t)x + \sin(t)y$ ,  $y(t) = \cos(t)y - \sin(t)x$  then, it can be easily verified that,  $K(x(t), y(t)) = K(x, y)$  and similarly we get  $\omega(x(t), y(t)) = \omega(x, y)$ .

Solve the extremum problem (\*) above using Lagrange multipliers. Let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  be the Lagrange multiplier of the critical point  $(a, b)$ .

$$\nabla \omega(x, y) = (-Jy, Jx)$$

( vector of size  $4n$ )

$$\nabla K(x, y) = (\tilde{q}(x, e_1), \dots, \tilde{q}(x, e_n), \tilde{q}(y, e_1), \dots, \tilde{q}(y, e_n))$$

So we have,  $\nabla K(a, b) = \lambda \nabla \omega(a, b)$ . That gives us:

$$(**) \tilde{q}(a, x) = \lambda \omega(x, b); \tilde{q}(a, x) = \lambda \omega(x, b)$$

And from that follows by computation that  $\omega(a, b) = \frac{1}{\lambda} > 0$ . The conclusion from here is that  $a, b$  are linearly independent in  $V$  (since  $\omega$  is antisymmetric).  $\omega(a, b) \neq 0$  so  $V_1 = sp\{a, b\} \subset V$  is symplectic vector space. And it can be easily checked that  $V_1$  is the eigen space of  $X_q$  corresponding to the eigen values  $\mp i\lambda$ . Once again simple computation shows that Lagrange multipliers equations (\*\*\*) are equivalent to

$$X_q(a) = \lambda b, X_q(b) = -\lambda a.$$

So  $X_q(a \pm ib) = \mp(i\lambda)(a \pm ib)$ . Introduce  $e_1 = \alpha a$ ,  $f_1 = -\alpha b$  a symplectic basis with  $\alpha^2 = \lambda$  so  $\omega(e_1, f_1) = 1$  and  $\tilde{q}(e_1, f_1) = 0, q(e_1) = q(f_1) = \frac{\lambda}{2}$ . To see that use  $X_q = -JS$  and  $\omega(a, b) = \frac{1}{\lambda}$ . Now, using the fact that  $\langle Sx, y \rangle = q(x + y) - q(x) - q(y)$  we get

$$q(\xi e_1 + \eta f_1) = \frac{\lambda}{2}(\xi^2 + \eta^2).$$

That is the desired result in  $V_1$ .

We may apply the same argument to  $V_1^\perp = \{v \in V | \omega(v_1, v) = 0 \forall v_1 \in V\}$ , Since  $V = V_1 \oplus V_1^\perp$ , and moreover,  $\forall x \in V_1, y \in V^\perp \tilde{q}(x, y) = 0$  due to (\*\*). So the result follows.

Observe that  $(a, b)$  is eigen vector of  $\Omega$  (see for a proof of spectral theorem for selfadjoint operators) and moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle\langle (a, b), (v, w) \rangle\rangle &= 0 \quad \forall (v, w) \in V_1^\perp \times V_1^\perp : \\ \langle\langle (a, b), (v, w) \rangle\rangle &= K(a + v, w + b) - K(a, b) - K(v, w) = \\ &= q(a + v) + q(w + b) - q(a) - q(b) - q(v) - q(w) = 0 \text{ since } a \in V_1, b \in V_1^\perp. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 2:** If  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  be quadratic positive definite forms then  $q_1 \geq q_2 \Rightarrow \lambda_j(q_1) \geq \lambda_j(q_2)$ .

**Proof:**

Recall from the previous proof that

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_n} = \max_{K_{q_1}=1} \omega = \omega(a, b)$$

$q_2(x) \leq q_1(x)$  for all  $x$  so find  $k \geq 1$  such that  $1 = K_{q_2}(ka, kb)$  so  $\omega(ka, kb) = k^2 \omega(a, b) \geq \omega(a, b)$ . That implies  $\frac{1}{\lambda_n(q_2)} \geq \frac{1}{\lambda_n(q_1)}$ . To get the other inequalities recall that  $\frac{1}{\lambda_j}$  are eigen values of the matrix  $\Omega$  so we can use the minimax principle to get

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_j} = \min_{W \in F_j} \max_{W \cap K_q=1} \omega$$

$F_j$  denotes the family of subspaces of  $V \times V$  of  $\dim = 2n + 2j$ . Note: The circle action was taken into account. If  $(a, b)$  is critical point then  $(-b, a)$  is also a critical point so each eigen value has at least multiplicity 2.