Second-Order Cone Relaxations for Binary Quadratic Polynomial Programs

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Several types of relaxations for binary quadratic polynomial programs can be obtained using linear, second-order cone, or semidefinite techniques. In this paper, we propose a general framework to construct conic relaxations for binary quadratic polynomial programs based on polynomial programming. Using our framework, we re-derive previous relaxation schemes and provide new ones. In particular, we present three relaxations for binary quadratic polynomial programs. The first two relaxations, based on second-order cone and semidefinite programming, represent a significant improvement over previous practical relaxations for several classes of non-convex binary quadratic polynomial problems. From a practical point of view, due to the computational cost, semidefinite-based relaxations for binary quadratic polynomial problems can be used only to solve small to mid-size instances. To improve the computational efficiency for solving such problems, we propose a third relaxation based purely on second-order cone programming. Computational tests on different classes of non-convex binary quadratic polynomial problems, including quadratic knapsack problems, show that the second-order cone-based relaxation outperforms the semidefinite-based relaxations that are proposed in the literature in terms of computational efficiency and is comparable in terms of bounds.

Key words: binary quadratic polynomial program, polynomial programming, sum-of-squares, second-order cone.

1. Introduction

Binary quadratic polynomial problems (BQPP) can be expressed as optimizing a quadratic polynomial objective subject to quadratic polynomial equalities and inequalities. Several types of relaxations can be obtained using linear, second-order cone [13; 15], or semidefinite techniques [3; 7; 14; 25]. In this paper we study relaxations for general BQPPs based on polynomial programming.

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Polynomial programming includes a broad class of problems and is known to be $\mathcal{NP}$-hard. Polynomial programming problems can be relaxed to tractable problems by using sum-of-squares (SOS) decompositions which lead to semidefinite programming (SDP) relaxations. This technique was first proposed by Shor [35] to obtain bounds on the optimal value of the unconstrained case. This idea was then generalized by Parrilo [26; 28] and Lasserre [18] for the constrained case.

In this paper, we use a characterization of non-negative linear polynomials over the ball to propose second-order cone (SOC) relaxations of binary quadratic polynomial problems. We use the polynomial programming framework to re-derive, compare and strengthen existing relaxation schemes. We present a new second-order and semidefinite-based construction where we are able to theoretically show that the resulting relaxations provide bounds stronger than other computationally practical semidefinite-based relaxations proposed in the literature. Additionally, our proposed framework enables us to isolate expensive components of existing relaxations, namely the semidefinite terms. By removing the semidefinite terms, we obtain relaxations based purely on second-order cones. We present computational tests exploring the performance of these relaxations, comparing them to existing ones in terms of bounds and computational time on general quadratic constrained problems, quadratic linear constrained problems, and quadratic knapsack problems. The computational experiments confirm our theoretical results where we obtain that the SOC-SDP-based relaxations give the best bounds. Our experiments also show that the purely SOC-based relaxations produce bounds that are competitive with the existing SDP bounds but computationally much more efficient. Furthermore, our approach can be in principle extended to mixed binary polynomial programs where some of the variables are continuous.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we present an overview of polynomial programming and its SOS and SOC relaxations. In Section 3, we describe our solution methodology and present several relaxations for the binary quadratic polynomial problem including our three new proposed relaxations. In Section 4, we apply our proposed relaxations to the three classes of problems mentioned above, and theoretically compare them to other existing relaxations from the literature. In Section 5, we report computational results for these problems. Finally, conclusions and future research directions are discussed in Section 6.

2. Background

2.1. Preliminaries

Given an $n$-tuple $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \cdots, \alpha_n)$ where $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{Z}_+$, the total degree of the monomial $x^\alpha := x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots x_n^{\alpha_n}$ is the non-negative integer $d = |\alpha| := \sum \alpha_i$. There are $N = \binom{n+d}{d}$ monomials of degree at most $d$. A polynomial is a finite linear combination of monomials
where the vector of coefficients \( c \in \mathbb{R}^N \). We denote the cone of real polynomials (of degree at most \( d \)) that are SOS by \( \Psi \subseteq \mathbb{R}[x] \) (resp. \( \Psi_d \)) where \( \mathbb{R}[x] := \mathbb{R}[x_1, \ldots, x_n] \) (resp. \( \mathbb{R}_d[x] \)) denotes the set of polynomials in \( n \) variables with real coefficients (resp. of degree at most \( d \)). Notice that in particular \( \Psi_d = \{ \sum_{i=1}^{N} p_i(x)^2 : p(x) \in \mathbb{R}_{(d/2)}[x] \} \) and \( \Psi_d = \Psi_{d-1} \) for every odd \( d \). Given \( S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \), we denote \( P_d(S) := \{ p(x) \in \mathbb{R}_d[x] : p(s) \geq 0 \text{ for all } s \in S \} \) to be the cone of polynomials of degree at most \( d \) that are non-negative over \( S \).

2.2. Polynomial Programming

Consider the multivariate polynomials \( f(x) \) and \( g_j(x) \) for \( 1 \leq j \leq m \) with \( x \in \mathbb{R}^n \). A polynomial programming problem has the form:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(PP-P)} \quad & \sup f(x) \\
\text{s.t.} & \quad g_j(x) \geq 0, \quad 1 \leq j \leq m.
\end{align*}
\]

Equality constraints of the form \( h_j(x) = 0 \) can be included as they can be expressed as the inequality constraints \( h_j(x) \geq 0 \) and \( h_j(x) \leq 0 \).

Solving polynomial programming problems is an area being actively studied. For the unconstrained case, Shor introduced the idea of computing the minimum value \( \lambda \) such that \( \lambda - f(x) \) is a SOS to obtain an upper bound for the supremum of \( f \) [35]. Such a minimum \( \lambda \) can be computed in polynomial-time using semidefinite programming. This idea was further developed by Parrilo [26] and Parrilo and Sturmfels [29] for the constrained case using SOS decompositions. Lasserre [18] proposed a general solution approach for polynomial optimization problems via semidefinite programming using methods based on moment theory. Refinements of such ideas have been used in several instances. de Klerk and Pasechnik [8] approximated the copositive cone via a hierarchy of linear or semidefinite programs of increasing size using decompositions into sum-of-squares and polynomials with non-negative coefficients. Kojima, Kim, and Waki exploited the sparsity of the polynomials to reduce the size of the semidefinite problem [16]. Peña, Vera, and Zuluaga [30] presented solution schemes exploiting the equality constraints. In addition, the idea of approximating a set of non-negative polynomials is also present in the work of several authors such as Nesterov [24], Parrilo [28; 27], Sturmfels, Demmel, and Nie [37], Laurent [20], and Zuluaga, Vera, and Peña [40].
Consider $\lambda$ to be the optimal value for (PP-P), then $\lambda$ is the smallest value such that $\lambda - f(x) \geq 0$ for all $x \in S := \{x : g_j(x) \geq 0; 1 \leq j \leq m\}$. As a result, we can express problem (PP-P) as:

$$(\text{PP-D}) \quad \inf \lambda \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \lambda - f(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in S. \quad (1)$$

To obtain computable relaxations (via SDP) of (1), one can use a SOS decomposition with restricted degree of the (unknown) polynomials. This can be re-phrased in terms of a linear system of equations involving positive semidefinite matrices [40]. Thus, solving a polynomial problem can be relaxed to solving an easier problem involving SOS which can be re-cast as a semidefinite programming problem [35; 39].

The condition $\lambda - f(x) \geq 0$ for all $x \in S$ is NP-hard in general. Relaxing this condition to $\lambda - f(x) \in K$ for a suitable $K \subseteq P_d(S)$ and defining

$$z^*_K = \inf \lambda \quad \text{s.t.} \quad f(x) - \lambda \in K,$$

we have $z^*_K \geq z^*_P$. Finding a good approximation $K$ of $P_d(S)$ is a key factor in obtaining a good bound of the original problem. At the same time, having a tractable approximation, i.e., one that uses linear, second-order, and semidefinite cones, is essential to be able to solve the resulting relaxation efficiently using interior-point methods.

2.3. Sum-of-Squares and Second-Order Cone Relaxations

Consider a polynomial $p(x)$ of degree $d$. A necessary condition for the polynomial $p(x)$ to be non-negative for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is that the degree of $p$ is even. A sufficient condition is the existence of a sum-of-squares decomposition, i.e., the existence of polynomials $q_1(x), \cdots, q_k(x)$ such that $p(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k q_i(x)^2$, or equivalently, $p \in \Psi$. If $p(x)$ is a sum-of-squares polynomial then it is a non-negative polynomial for all values of $x$; however the inverse does not hold. A simple counter-example is the Motzkin polynomial [23].

SOS conditions can be written as SDP constraints by applying the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.** [35] A polynomial $p(x)$ of degree $d$ is SOS if and only if $p(x) = \sigma(x)^T Q \sigma^T(x)$, where $\sigma$ is a vector of monomials in the $x_i$ variables, $\sigma(x) = [x^\alpha]$ with $|\alpha| \leq \frac{d}{2}$ and $Q \in S_N$, $N = \binom{n+d/2}{d/2} = |\sigma|$.

The size of the matrix $Q$ in the corresponding SDP is $\binom{n+d/2}{d/2} \times \binom{n+d/2}{d/2}$. In addition, we have $\binom{n+d}{d}$ equality constraints. If $d$ is fixed, then this problem is solvable in polynomial-time.

The following results will allow us to use second-order cone relaxations when working with non-negative polynomials over the ball $B := \{x : \|x\|^2 = n\}$. 
Lemma 1. \( f(x) \in \mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{B}) \) if and only if \( f(x) = f^T \left( \sqrt{n} \right) \) with \( f \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1} \), where \( \mathcal{L}^{n+1} \) is the second-order cone.

Further, by the S–Lemma of Yakubovich (see [33]), the non-negativity over the ball of a polynomial \( f(x) \) of degree two can be represented using SOS:

Lemma 2. \( f(x) \in \mathcal{P}_2(\mathcal{B}) \) if and only if \( f(x) = s(x) + t(n - \|x\|^2) \), where \( s(x) \) is SOS and \( t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \).

The key feature of semidefinite and second-order cones is their tractability. As a result, we can use these techniques to compute global upper bounds for (PP-P).

3. Binary Quadratic Polynomial Programming

Binary quadratic polynomial programming problem is a classical combinatorial problem. It is the problem of minimizing or maximizing a quadratic function of several binary variables, subject to quadratic and linear constraints. The problem can be formally expressed as:

\[
\text{(BQPP)} \quad \text{max } x^T Q x + p^T x \\
\text{s.t. } a^T_j x = b_j \quad \forall j \in \{1, \cdots, t\} \\
c^T_j x \leq d_j \quad \forall j \in \{1, \cdots, u\} \\
x^T F_j x + e^T_j x = k_j \quad \forall j \in \{1, \cdots, v\} \\
x^T G_j x + h^T_j x \leq l_j \quad \forall j \in \{1, \cdots, w\} \\
x_i \in \{-1, 1\} \quad \forall i \in \{1, \cdots, n\}. 
\]

Note that constraint (6) can be modified to allow some continuous variables. In this paper we focus on pure binary quadratic polynomial programs although our solution methodology can be applied to mixed-binary quadratic polynomial programs with bounded continuous variables.

There are many well-known problems that can be naturally written as binary quadratic polynomial problems. For instance, folding of proteins in three-dimension by Phillips and Rosen [31], machine scheduling and unconstrained task allocation by Alidaee, Kochenberger, and Ahmadian [1], capital budgeting and financial analysis such as in Laughhunn [19], as well as other examples arising in physics and engineering applications such as the spin glass problem and circuit board layout design by Grötschel, Jünger, and Reinelt [10]. Furthermore, Boros and Hammer [4] and Boros and Prekopa [5] formulated many satisfiability problems as BQPPs. In addition, there are several applications related to combinatorial problems such as the single-row facility layout problem [2] and the quadratic assignment problem [21].
3.1. Polynomial Programming-Based Relaxations

Using (1), (BQPP) is equivalent to

$$\min \lambda$$

s.t. $\lambda - q(x) \in P_2(H \cap S),$

where $q(x) = \sum_{i,j} Q_{ij} x_i x_j + \sum_i p_i x_i,$ $S = \{ x : a^T_j x = b_j, c^T_j x \geq d_j, x^T G_j x + h^T_j x \geq l_j \}$, and $H := \{-1, 1\}^n.$ Note that even checking if a polynomial is in $P_2(H) \cap \Sigma$ is $\mathcal{NP}$-hard, therefore tractable approximations of $P_2(H \cap S)$ are needed. A hierarchy of approximations to $P_2(H \cap S)$ is obtained using the cones

$$K_r := \left( \Psi_{r+2} + \sum_i (1 - x_i^2) R_0[x] + \sum_j (b_j - a_j^T x) R_{r+1}[x] + \sum (d_j - c_j^T x) \Psi_{r+1} \right) \cap R_2[x]$$

$$\subseteq P_2(H \cap S),$$

for an integer $r \geq 0.$ The result is a hierarchy of relaxations:

$$(\text{BQPP}_{K_r}) \min \lambda$$

s.t. $\lambda - q(x) \in K_r \quad (7)$$

whose optimal value converges to the optimal value of (BQPP) due to the fact that at the limit the cone $K_r$ contains the interior of $P_2(H \cap S).$ The following theorem follows by applying Corollary 1 of [30] and Putinar’s theorem [34]

**Theorem 2.** The sequence of cones $K_r$ satisfies

$$K_r \subseteq K_{r+1} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq P_2(H \cap S) \text{ and } \text{int}(P_2(H \cap S)) \subseteq \bigcup_{r=0}^{\infty} K_r \subseteq P_2(H \cap S).$$

Hence $\lambda^*_{\text{BQPP}_{K_r}} \uparrow z^*_\text{BQPP}.$

The size of the relaxations produced in the previous theorem grows exponentially in $r.$ For this reason, instead of looking at the hierarchy of relaxations, we will concentrate on the first and simplest relaxation where $r = 0,$

$$K_0 = \Psi_2 + \sum_i (1 - x_i^2) R_0 + \sum_j (b_j - a_j^T x) R_1[x] + \sum (d_j - c_j^T x) R_0^+$$

$$+ \sum_j (k_j - x^T F_j x - e_j^T x) R_0 + \sum_j (l_j - x^T G_j x - h_j^T x) R_0^+.$$
a representation theorem for non-negative linear polynomials over \( B \) which results in second-order cone conditions. These yield stronger approximations than \( \mathcal{K}_0 \) with an insignificant impact on the computational time.

### 3.2. New Conic Relaxations of BQPP

In this section, we present three relaxations for the BQPP problem. Two of these relaxations are based on second-order cone and semidefinite programming and the final relaxation is solely based on second-order cone programming.

#### 3.2.1. SOC-SDP-based Relaxations of BQPP

Recall the previous polynomial formulation of the binary quadratic polynomial problem. First, notice that \( x \in H \) implies \( \|x\|^2 = n \). Therefore, \( S \cap H \subseteq B \) and by defining \( \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_0 \) as

\[
\tilde{\mathcal{K}}_0 = \mathcal{P}_2(B) + \sum_i (1 + x_i) \mathcal{P}_1(B) + \sum_i (1 - x_i) \mathcal{P}_1(B) + \sum_i (1 - x_i^2) \mathcal{R}_0 + \sum_j (b_j - a_j^T x) \mathcal{R}_1[x] + \sum_j (d_j - c_j^T x) \mathcal{P}_1(B) + \sum_j (k_j - x^T F_j x - e_j^T x) \mathcal{R}_0 + \sum_j (l_j - x^T G_j x - h_j^T x) \mathcal{R}_0^+, \]

we have \( \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{P}_2(S \cap B \cap H) = \mathcal{P}_2(S \cap H) \).

Using Lemmas 1 and 2, we can write the condition \( \lambda - q(x) \in \tilde{\mathcal{K}}_0 \) as

\[
\lambda - q(x) = s(x) + \sum_i (1 + x_i) \alpha_i(x) + \sum_i (1 - x_i) \beta_i(x) + \sum_i \gamma_i(1 - x_i^2) + \sum_j \delta_j(x)(b_j - a_j^T x) + \sum_j \eta_j(x)(d_j - c_j^T x) + \sum_j \theta_j(k_j - x^T F_j x - e_j^T x) + \sum_j \xi_j(l_j - x^T G_j x - h_j^T x),
\]

with \( s(x) = (1^T x^T) S \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{pmatrix} \) and \( S \in \mathcal{S}^{n+1}_+ \), \( \alpha_i(x) = \alpha_i^T \left( \sqrt{n} x \right) \), \( \beta_i(x) = \beta_i^T \left( \sqrt{n} x \right) \), and \( \eta_j(x) = \eta_j^T \left( \sqrt{n} x \right) \) where \( \alpha_i, \beta_i, \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1} \), \( \delta_j(x) \in R_1[x] \), \( \gamma_i, \theta_j \in \mathbb{R} \), and \( \xi_j \in \mathbb{R}_+ \).

We then obtain the following relaxation of (BQPP):

\[(\text{BQPP}_{\text{ss}}) \min_{\lambda} \lambda
\text{ s.t. } \lambda - q(x) = (1^T x^T) S \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_i (1 + x_i) \alpha_i^T \left( \sqrt{n} x \right) + \sum_i (1 - x_i) \beta_i^T \left( \sqrt{n} x \right) + \sum_i \gamma_i(1 - x_i^2) + \sum_j \delta_j(x)(b_j - a_j^T x) + \sum_j (d_j - c_j^T x) \eta_j^T \left( \sqrt{n} x \right) + \sum_j \theta_j(k_j - x^T F_j x - e_j^T x) + \sum_j \xi_j(l_j - x^T G_j x - h_j^T x),
\]

\[
S \in \mathcal{S}^{n+1}_+ , \quad \alpha_i, \beta_i, \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1} , \quad \gamma_i, \theta_j \in \mathbb{R} , \quad \xi_j \in \mathbb{R}_+ .
\]

To strengthen this relaxation we can add valid inequalities to the original problem (BQPP) which is equivalent to adding more variables to the relaxation due to the next lemma.
**LEMMA 3.** For any \( S, d, \) and \( f \in \mathbb{R}_d[x] \)

\[
\mathcal{P}_d(S \cap \{ x : f(x) \geq 0 \}) \supseteq \mathcal{P}_d(S) + f(x)\mathcal{P}_{d,\deg(f)}(S).
\]

Notice that products of linear constraints, such as \((d_k - c_k^T x)(1 + x_i), (d_k - c_k^T x)(1 - x_i), (d_k - c_k^T x)(d_l - c_l^T x), (1 - x_j)(1 - x_i), (1 + x_j)(1 + x_i), \) and \((1 - x_j)(1 + x_i)\) are also considered as valid inequalities and can be added to \((\text{BQPP}_\text{SS})\) to further strengthen the relaxation. Hence we obtain

\[
(\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}^*}) \min \lambda \\
\text{s.t. } \lambda - q(x) = (1 \ x^T) S \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_i (1 + x_i) \alpha_i^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_i (1 - x_i) \beta_i^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_i \gamma_i (1 - x_i^2) + \sum_j \delta_j (x) (b_j - a_j^T x) + \sum_j (d_j - c_j^T x) \eta_j^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_j \theta_j (k_j - x^T F_j x - e_j^T x) + \sum_i \xi_i (l_i - x^T G_i x - h_i^T x) \\
+ \sum_{i,k} \sigma_{ik} (d_k - c_k^T x)(1 + x_i) + \sum_{i,k} \mu_{ik} (d_k - c_k^T x)(1 - x_i) \\
+ \sum_{k \leq l} \nu_{kl} (d_k - c_k^T x)(d_l - c_l^T x) + \sum_{i \leq j} \tau_{ij} (1 - x_i)(1 - x_j) \\
+ \sum_{i \leq j} \omega_{ij} (1 + x_i)(1 + x_j) + \sum_{i,j} \phi_{ij} (1 - x_i)(1 + x_j) \\
S \in \mathcal{S}_d^{n+1}, \quad \alpha_i, \beta_i, \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1}, \quad \gamma_i, \theta_j \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \xi_j, \sigma_{ik}, \mu_{ik}, \nu_{kl}, \tau_{ij}, \omega_{ij}, \phi_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}_+.
\]

### 3.2.2. Pure SOC-based Relaxations of BQPP

The relaxation \((\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}})\) can further be relaxed by removing the positive semidefinite variable leading to the following relaxation:

\[
\min \lambda \\
\text{s.t. } \lambda - q(x) = \sum_i (1 + x_i) \alpha_i^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_i (1 - x_i) \beta_i^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_i \gamma_i (1 - x_i^2) \\
+ \sum_j \delta_j (x) (b_j - a_j^T x) + \sum_j (d_j - c_j^T x) \eta_j^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_j \theta_j (k_j - x^T F_j x - e_j^T x) \\
+ \sum_j \xi_j (l_j - x^T G_j x - h_j^T x), \\
\alpha_i, \beta_i, \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1}, \quad \gamma_i, \theta_j \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \xi_j \in \mathbb{R}_+.
\]

One type of valid inequalities that we consider for BQPP is:

\[
-1 \leq x_i x_j \leq 1. \quad (8)
\]

These inequalities are not violated in the presence of the SDP term. However, once the SDP term is removed these constraints are no longer satisfied and adding them will strengthen the SOC relaxation.
Hence, we obtain our proposed SOC-based relaxation:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(BQPP}_{\text{SOC}}) \quad & \min \lambda \\
\text{s.t.} \quad & \lambda - q(x) = \sum_i (1 + x_i) \alpha_i^T \left( \sqrt{\frac{n}{x}} \right) + \sum_i (1 - x_i) \beta_i^T \left( \sqrt{\frac{n}{x}} \right) + \gamma_i (1 - x_i^2) \\
& + \sum_j \delta_j (x) (b_j - a_j^T x) + \sum_j (d_j - c_j^T x) \eta_j^T \left( \sqrt{\frac{n}{x}} \right) + \sum_j \theta_j (k_j - x^T F_j x - e_j^T x) \\
& + \sum \xi_j (l_j - x^T G_j x - h_j^T x) + \sum_{i<j} h_{ij}^+ (1 + x_i x_j) + \sum_{i<j} h_{ij}^- (1 - x_i x_j) \\
\alpha_i, \beta_i, \eta_j \in \mathbb{L}^{n+1}, & \quad \gamma_i, \theta_j \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \xi_j, h_{ij}^+, h_{ij}^- \in \mathbb{R}^+.
\end{align*}
\]

By construction we have the following theorem relating the three presented relaxations:

**THEOREM 3.** Let \( \lambda^*_\text{BQPP}_{\text{SOC}}, \lambda^*_\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}}, \) and \( \lambda^*_\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}^+} \) be the optimal solution value of \( \text{(BQPP}_{\text{SOC}}) \), \( \text{(BQPP}_{\text{SS}}) \), and \( \text{(BQPP}_{\text{SS}^+}) \) respectively, then

\[
\lambda^*_\text{BQPP}_{\text{SOC}} \geq \lambda^*_\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}} \geq \lambda^*_\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}^+} \geq z^*_\text{BQPP}.
\]

4. Applications

In this section, we apply our proposed framework to the following classes of constrained BQPPs:

- General quadratic polynomial problems;
- Quadratic linear constrained problems;
- Quadratic knapsack problems.

First, we start with the most general class of binary quadratic polynomial problems (BQPP) where we have quadratic and linear constraints. Then we consider the special case with only linear constraints and finally we consider problems with a single linear constraint. We re-derive existing relaxations that have been proposed in the literature for each of these problems and theoretically compare our proposed two SOC-SDP-based relaxations to them. We show theoretically that we obtain stronger relaxations based on applying the methodology of Section 3. In addition, in Section 5 we compare the relaxations computationally for each of these three classes of binary quadratic problems. Our computational results show that more efficient relaxations are obtained if the SDP term is omitted.

4.1. General Quadratic Polynomial Problems

In this section, we consider the general binary quadratic problem (BQPP). Lasserre [17] introduced SDP relaxations for binary polynomial programs by approximating \( P_2(H \cap S) \) using the cone

\[
\Gamma_r := \left( \Psi_{r+2} + \sum_i (1 - x_i^2) \Psi_r + \sum_i (x_i^2 - 1) \Psi_r + \sum_i (b_i - a_i^T x) \Psi_r + \sum_i (a_i^T x - b_i) \Psi_r + \sum_i (d_i - c_i^T x) \Psi_r \\
+ \sum_i (k_i - x^T F_i x - e_i^T x) \Psi_r + \sum_i (x^T F_i x + e_i^T x - k_i) \Psi_r + \sum_i (l_i - x^T G_i x - h_i^T x) \Psi_r \right) \cap \mathbb{R}_2[x],
\]

for even \( r \geq 0 \).
Lemma 4. $\Gamma_r \subseteq \mathcal{K}_r$.

Notice that from the definition of $\Psi_r$, $\Gamma_r$ is equal to $\Gamma_{r-1}$ for all odd $r$. Taking $r = 0$, we obtain the following relaxation for the BQPP problem:

$$\text{(BQPP}_{\text{Las}}) \min \lambda$$

$$\text{s.t. } \lambda - q(x) \in \Gamma_0.$$

Theorem 4. Let $\lambda^*_{\text{BQPPLas}}$, $\lambda^*_{\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}}}$, and $\lambda^*_{\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}^+}}$ be the optimal solution value of $(\text{BQPP}_{\text{Las}})$, $(\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}})$, and $(\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}^+})$ respectively, then

$$\lambda^*_{\text{BQPPLas}} \geq \lambda^*_{\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}}} \geq \lambda^*_{\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}^+}} \geq z^*_{\text{BQPP}}.$$  

Proof: Define

$$H_1 = \Psi_1 + \sum_i (1 - x_i)R_0 + \sum_i (b_i - a_i^T x)R_1(x) + \sum_i (d_i - c_i^T x)P_1(B) + \sum_i (k_i - x^T F_i x - e_i^T x)R_0 + \sum_i (l_i - x^T G_i x - h_i^T x)R_0^+.$$  

$$H_2 = H_1 + \sum_i (d_i - c_i^T x)P_1(B) + \sum_i (1 + x_i)P_1(B) + \sum_i (1 - x_i)P_1(B) = \mathcal{K}_0.$$  

$$H_3 = H_1 + \sum_{i,k} \Psi_0(1 + x_i)(d_k - c_k^T x) + \sum_{i,k} \Psi_0(1 - x_i)(d_k - c_k^T x) + \sum_{k \leq j} \Psi_0(d_k - c_k^T x)(d_l - c_l^T x) + \sum_{i \leq j} \Psi_0(1 + x_i)(1 + x_j) + \sum_{i \leq j} \Psi_0(1 - x_i)(1 - x_j) + \sum_{i,j} \Psi_0(1 + x_i)(1 - x_j).$$

We have

$$\Psi_1 = R_0^+ \subseteq P_1(B) \Rightarrow \mathcal{K}_0 \subseteq H_1.$$  

In addition, from Lemma 4, by setting $r$ to zero we have $\Gamma_0 \subseteq \mathcal{K}_0$ and therefore,

$$\Gamma_0 \subseteq \mathcal{K}_0 \subseteq H_1 \subseteq H_2 \subseteq H_3.$$  

From Theorem 4, we obtain that $(\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}^+})$ provides the best bound for the BQPP problem while $(\text{BQPP}_{\text{SS}})$ has a better bound than Lasserre’s relaxation. Further, as presented in Table 1 the computational complexity of the three problems is similar. Table 1 summarizes the number of variables (and for SDPs, the dimension) for each of the resulting optimization problems. Recall that the (BQPP) problem has $t$ linear equalities, $u$ linear inequalities, $v$ quadratic equalities, $w$ quadratic inequalities, and $n$ binary variables.
Table 1  Problem dimension for various BQPP relaxations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>(BQPP\textsubscript{law})</th>
<th>(BQPP\textsubscript{ss})</th>
<th>(BQPP\textsubscript{ss+})</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SDP</td>
<td>$(n+1) \times (n+1)$</td>
<td>$(n+1) \times (n+1)$</td>
<td>$(n+1) \times (n+1)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC</td>
<td>$-2n+u, (n+1)$</td>
<td>$(2n+u), (n+1)$</td>
<td>$(2n+u), (n+1)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Non-negative</td>
<td>$2n+2t+2v+u+w$</td>
<td>$w$</td>
<td>$w+2tn+(t+1)+2(n+1)+n^2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Free</td>
<td>$n+(n+1)t+v$</td>
<td>$n+(n+1)t+v$</td>
<td>$n+(n+1)t+v$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2. Quadratic Linear Constrained Problems

Without loss of generality, we formulate the binary quadratic linear constrained problem as:

$$(QLCP) \quad \text{max} \ x^TQx + p^Tx$$

s.t. $a_j^Tx \leq b_j \quad \forall j \in \{1, \cdots, m\}$

$x \in \{-1,1\}^n$.

Specializing the results of Section 3.2 to (QLCP), we obtain the following polynomial programming relaxations:

$$(QLCP\textsubscript{ss}) \quad \text{min} \ \lambda$$

s.t. $\lambda - q(x) = (1x) S \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{j=1}^{m} (b_j - a_j^Tx) d_j^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1+x_i)f_i^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix}$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1-x_i)g_i^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i (1-x_i^2)$$

$c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad f_i, g_i, d_j \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1}, \quad S \in \mathcal{S}_+^{n+1}$;

$$(QLCP\textsubscript{ss+}) \quad \text{min} \ \lambda$$

s.t. $\lambda - q(x) = (1x) S \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{j=1}^{m} (b_j - a_j^Tx) d_j^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1+x_i)f_i^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix}$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1-x_i)g_i^T \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{n} \\ x \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \alpha_{ik}(1+x_i)(b_k - a_k^T x)$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \beta_{ik}(1-x_i)(b_k - a_k^T x) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \gamma_{ij}(1+x_i)(1+x_j)$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \delta_{ij}(1-x_i)(1-x_j) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \zeta_{ij}(1+x_i)(1-x_j)$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \sum_{l=1}^{m} \eta_{kl}(b_k - a_k^T x)(b_l - a_l^T x) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i (1-x_i^2)$$

$c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \alpha_{ik}, \beta_{ik}, \gamma_{ij}, \delta_{ij}, \zeta_{ij}, \eta_{kl} \in \mathbb{R}_+^n, \quad f_i, g_i, d_j \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1}, \quad S \in \mathcal{S}_+^{n+1}$;
\[ \text{\textbf{(QLCP}_{soc})} \min \lambda \]
\[ \text{s.t.} \quad \lambda - q(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{m} (b_j - a_j^T x) d_j^T \left( \sqrt{n} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 + x_i) f_i^T \left( \sqrt{n} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 - x_i) g_i^T \left( \sqrt{n} \right) \]
\[ + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i (1 - x_i^2) + \sum_{i<j} h_{ij}^+ (1 + x_i x_j) + \sum_{i<j} h_{ij}^- (1 - x_i x_j) \]
\[ c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad h_{ij}^+, h_{ij}^- \in \mathbb{R}^+ \]
\[ f_i, g_i, d_j \in L_n^+ \]

4.2.1. The Relaxation of Burer and Lovász-Schrijver

Burer [6] presented an SDP-based relaxation for the QLCP where the variables are 0-1. We introduce the following relaxation that is at least as strong as the relaxation presented by Burer [38]:

\[ \text{\textbf{(QLCP}_{Burer})} \min \lambda \]
\[ \text{s.t.} \quad \lambda - q(x) = (1 \ x \ s \ t) (M + N) \left( \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 1 - x \\ b - a^T x \end{array} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i x_i (1 - x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 - x_i - s_i) l_i(x) \]
\[ + \sum_{j=1}^{m} (b_j - a_j^T x - t_j) k_j(x) \]
\[ c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad l_i, k_i \in \mathbb{R}_1 [x, s, t], \quad M \in S_+^{2n+m+1}, \quad N \in \mathbb{R}_+^{2n+m+1}, \]

where \( m \) is the number of linear constraints. Further \( \text{\textbf{(QLCP}_{Burer})} \) is equivalent to:

\[ \min \lambda \]
\[ \text{s.t.} \quad \lambda - q(x) = (1 \ x \ 1 - x \ b - a^T x) (M + N) \left( \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 1 - x \\ b - a^T x \end{array} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i x_i (1 - x_i) \]
\[ c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad M \in S_+^{2n+m+1}, \quad N \in \mathbb{R}_+^{2n+m+1}, \]
which can be written as

\[
\begin{align*}
\min & \lambda \\
\text{s.t.} & \lambda - q(x) = (1 \ x) M' \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i x_i (1 - x_i) \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \alpha_{ik} x_i (b_k - a_k^T x) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \beta_{ik} (1 - x_i) (b_k - a_k^T x) \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \gamma_{ij} x_i x_j + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \delta_{ij} (1 - x_i) (1 - x_j) \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \zeta_{ij} x_i (1 - x_j) + \sum_{k=1}^{m} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \eta_{kl} (b_k - a_k^T x) (b_l - a_l^T x) \\
& c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \alpha_{ik}, \beta_{ik} \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad M' \in S^{n+1}_+.
\end{align*}
\]

Notice that \((\text{QLCP}_{\text{Burer}})\) reduces to the \(N^+\) relaxation of Lovász and Schrijver [22] by setting the variables \(\gamma_{ij}, \delta_{ij}, \zeta_{ij}, \eta_{kl}\) to zero. That is, \(N^+\) is equivalent to the following relaxation:

\[
(\text{QLCP}_{N^+}) \min \lambda \\
\text{s.t.} \lambda - q(x) = (1 \ x) S \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i x_i (1 - x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \alpha_{ik} x_i (b_k - a_k^T x) \\
& + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \beta_{ik} (1 - x_i) (b_k - a_k^T x) \\
& c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \alpha_{ik}, \beta_{ik} \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad S \in S^{n+1}_+.
\]

4.2.2. Comparing Relaxations for QLCP

We can prove the following result:

**Theorem 5.** Let \(\lambda_{\text{QLCP}_{N^+}}, \lambda_{\text{QLCP}_{\text{Burer}}},\) and \(\lambda_{\text{QLCP}_{SS^+}}\) be the optimal solution value of \((\text{QLCP}_{N^+}),(\text{QLCP}_{\text{Burer}}),\) and \((\text{QLCP}_{SS^+})\) respectively, then

\[
\lambda_{\text{QLCP}_{N^+}} \geq \lambda_{\text{QLCP}_{\text{Burer}}}, \quad \lambda_{\text{QLCP}_{SS^+}} \geq \lambda_{\text{QLCP}_{SS^+}} \geq z^*_\text{QLCP}.
\]

**Proof:** Define

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{H}_4 &= \Psi_2 + \sum_{i,k} \Psi_0 (1 + x_i) (b_k - a_k^T x) + \sum_{i,k} \Psi_0 (1 - x_i) (b_k - a_k^T x) + \sum_{i} (1 - x_i^2) R_0 \\
\mathcal{H}_5 &= \mathcal{H}_4 + \sum_{i \leq j} \Psi_0 (1 + x_i) (1 + x_j) + \sum_{i \leq j} \Psi_0 (1 - x_i) (1 - x_j) + \sum_{i,j} \Psi_0 (1 + x_i) (1 - x_j) \\
& + \Psi_0 \sum_{k \leq l} (b_k - a_k^T x) (b_l - a_l^T x) \\
\mathcal{H}_6 &= \mathcal{H}_5 + \sum_{j} (b_j - a_j^T x) P_1 (B) + \sum_{i} (1 + x_i) P_1 (B) + \sum_{i} (1 - x_i) P_1 (B).
\end{align*}
\]

Hence,

\[
\mathcal{H}_4 \subseteq \mathcal{H}_5 \subseteq \mathcal{H}_6.
\]
After a simple change of variables from \([-1, 1]\) to \([0, 1]\), \(\mathcal{H}_4\) and \(\mathcal{H}_5\) correspond to the representations \((\text{QLCP}_{N^+})\) and \((\text{QLCP}_{\text{Burer}'})\) respectively, while \(\mathcal{H}_6\) corresponds to the representation \((\text{QLCP}_{SS^+})\). □

Table 2 lists the number of variables required to formulate the various relaxations for the QLCP problem of Theorem 5 where we have \(m\) linear constraints and \(n\) binary variables. While both relaxations have the same computational complexity, \((\text{QLCP}_{SS^+})\) provides the best bounds as shown in Theorem 5 and confirmed by the computational results of Section 5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>((\text{QLCP}_{N^+}))</th>
<th>((\text{QLCP}_{\text{Burer}'}))</th>
<th>((\text{QLCP}_{SS^+}))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SDP</td>
<td>(1, (n + 1) \times (n + 1))</td>
<td>(1, (n + 1) \times (n + 1))</td>
<td>(1, (n + 1) \times (n + 1))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>((2n + m), (n + 1))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Non-negative</td>
<td>(2nm)</td>
<td>(2nm + n^2 + 2\binom{n+1}{2} + \binom{m+1}{2})</td>
<td>(2nm + n^2 + 2\binom{n+1}{2} + \binom{m+1}{2})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Free</td>
<td>(n)</td>
<td>(\binom{n+1}{2}/n)</td>
<td>(\binom{m+1}{2}/n)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remark 1. We are unable to compare theoretically \((\text{QLCP}_{SS})\) with \((\text{QLCP}_{N^+})\) and \((\text{QLCP}_{\text{Burer}'})\). However in our computational experiments in Section 5.2, \((\text{QLCP}_{SS})\) always provides a strictly better bound than \((\text{QLCP}_{N^+})\) while \((\text{QLCP}_{\text{Burer}'})\) provides a strictly better bound than \((\text{QLCP}_{SS})\).

4.3. Quadratic Knapsack Problem

In this section, we consider the quadratic knapsack problem (QKP) which is the particular case of QLCP where \(m = 1\). The QKP was introduced by Gallo, Hammer, and Simeone [9] and is \(\mathcal{NP}\)-hard. The QKP can be interpreted as follows: we are given \(n\) items with a non-negative weight \(w_i\) assigned to item \(i\), and a \((n + 1) \times (n + 1)\) symmetric matrix \(Q\) with real entries. The QKP is the problem of selecting a subset of items so as to maximize the overall profit such that the total weight of the selected items does not exceed a given capacity \(c\). Introducing the binary variable \(x_i\) such that

\[
x_i = \begin{cases} 
1 & \text{if item } i \text{ is selected} \\
-1 & \text{otherwise,}
\end{cases}
\]

the problem may be formulated as:

\[
(\text{QKP-P}) \quad \max q(x) = \left(1\ x\right)^T Q \left(1\ x\right) \\
\text{s.t. } w^T x \leq c \\
x \in \{-1, 1\}^n.
\]

The QKP is a generalization of the linear knapsack problem (where the objective function is linear). As in the case of the linear knapsack problem, the QKP often appears as a sub-problem to
other complex problems such as the graph partitioning problem described in Johnson, Mehrotra, and Nemhauser [12]. Since the QKP is a constrained version of the binary quadratic problem, all valid inequalities for the unconstrained BQPP problem are also valid for the QKP and hence they can be used to tighten bounds for this problem. Using the same approach as in Section 3.2, we obtain the following relaxations of (QKP-P):

\[(QKP_{\text{ss}}) \min \lambda \]
\[
\text{s.t. } \lambda - q(x) = (1 \ x) S \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) + (c - w^T x)d^T \left( \sqrt{n} \ x \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 + x_i)f_i^T \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{x} \right)
+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 - x_i)g_i^T \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{x} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i(1 - x_i^2)
\]
\[c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad f_i, g_i, d \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1}, \quad S \in \mathcal{S}_+^{n+1};\]

\[(QKP_{\text{ss}+}) \min \lambda \]
\[
\text{s.t. } \lambda - q(x) = (1 \ x) S \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) + (c - w^T x)d^T \left( \sqrt{n} \ x \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 + x_i)f_i^T \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{x} \right)
+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 - x_i)g_i^T \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{x} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i(1 - x_i)(c - w^T x)
+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_i(1 - x_i)(c - w^T x)
+ \sum_{i \leq j \leq n} \gamma_{ij}(1 + x_j)(1 + x_i)
+ \sum_{i \leq j \leq n} \delta_{ij}(1 - x_j)(1 - x_i)
+ \sum_{i \leq j \leq n} \zeta_{ij}(1 - x_j)(1 + x_i)
+ \sum_{i \leq j \leq n} c_i(1 - x_i^2)
\]
\[c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_{ij}, \delta_{ij}, \zeta_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad f_i, g_i, d \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1}, \quad S \in \mathcal{S}_+^{n+1};\]

\[(QKP_{\text{soc}}) \min \lambda \]
\[
\text{s.t. } \lambda - q(x) = (c - w^T x)d^T \left( \sqrt{n} \ x \right) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 + x_i)f_i^T \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{x} \right)
+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} (1 - x_i)g_i^T \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{x} \right)
+ \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i(1 - x_i^2)
+ \sum_{i < j} h_{ij}^+(1 + x_i x_j)
+ \sum_{i < j} h_{ij}^-(1 - x_i x_j)
\]
\[c_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad h_{ij}^+, h_{ij}^- \in \mathbb{R}^+, \quad f_i, g_i, d \in \mathcal{L}^{n+1}.\]

4.3.1. Helmberg-Rendl-Weismantel QKP Relaxation

Helmberg et al. [11] presented four SDP-based relaxations for the QKP where the discrete set is \(\{0,1\}^n\). These relaxations are obtained by considering the semidefinite matrix \(X = xx^T\). In particular they studied the relaxation
\[(QKP_{HRW4}) \max \langle P, X \rangle + \text{cst}
\text{s.t. } \sum_j w_j X_{ij} - \bar{c}X_{ii} \leq 0 \quad 1 \leq i \leq n
\]
\[X - \text{diag}(X)\text{diag}(X)^T \succeq 0,
\]
where \(\bar{c} = \frac{1}{2}(\sum_i w_i - c)\), \(P\) is an \(n \times n\) matrix with entries \(P_{ij} = 4Q_{ij}\) (for \(i \neq j\)) and \(P_{ii} = 4Q_{ii} - 4\sum_j Q_{ij} + 4Q_{0i}\), and \(\text{cst} = Q_{00} - 2\sum_i Q_{0i} + \sum_{i,j} Q_{ij}\) are obtained by mapping the variables from \([-1,1]\) to \([0,1]\). Helmberg et al. [11] showed that the optimal objective value of \((QKP_{HRW4})\), \(\lambda_{QKP_{HRW4}}\), provides the best bound among the SDP relaxations they provided. Actually, \((QKP_{HRW4})\) provides the tightest known SDP relaxation for the QKP in the literature. We will be using this relaxation for comparison purposes in our computational results. In addition, Helmberg et al. [11] strengthen these proposed relaxations by using cutting planes that are valid for BQPP. To illustrate the quality of these SDP relaxations and of the cutting planes, Helmberg et al. [11] present computational results on instances with up to 61 items.

4.3.2. Comparing Relaxations for QKP
In this section, we compare \((QKP_{HRW4})\) and our proposed relaxation. First we re-derive \((QKP_{HRW4})\) in a different way by considering the problem
\[(QKP-D) \min \lambda
\text{s.t. } \lambda - p(x) = 1 \in P_2(\{0,1\}^n \cap \{x : (\bar{c} - w^T x) \geq 0\}),
\]
where \(p(x) = \sum_{i,j} P_{ij}x_i x_j + \text{cst}\). This problem can be relaxed using
\[P_2(\{0,1\}^n \cap \{x : (\bar{c} - w^T x) \geq 0\}) \supseteq \Psi_2 + \sum_i \Psi_0 x_i (\bar{c} - w^T x) + \sum_i x_i (1 - x_i)R_0,
\]
obtaining
\[\min \lambda
\text{s.t. } \lambda - p(x) = (1 \ x) S \left( \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ x \end{array} \right) + \sum_i d_i x_i (\bar{c} - w^T x) + \sum_i c_i x_i (1 - x_i),
\]
where \(S \in S_+^{n+1}, d_i \in \mathbb{R}_+,\) and \(c_i \in \mathbb{R}\). By equating the coefficients of the monomials of the above problem, we rewrite it as
\[(QKP_{HRW4-D}) \min \lambda
\text{s.t. } \lambda - \text{cst} - S_{00} = 0,
\]
\[c_i + \bar{c}d_i + S_{0i} + S_{0i} = 0,
\]
\[
\frac{d_i w_j + d_j w_i}{2} - S_{ij} + c_i \delta_{i=j} = P_{ij}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n
\]
\[S \succeq 0, \quad d_i \geq 0.
\]
where \(\delta_{i=j}\) equals 1 if \(i = j\) and 0 otherwise. Taking the dual of \((QKP_{HRW4-D})\), we obtain
\[ \max \langle \bar{P}, \bar{X} \rangle \]
\[ \text{s.t. } \bar{X}_{00} = 1 \quad (9) \]
\[ \bar{X}_{ii} - \bar{X}_{i0} = 0 \quad 1 \leq i \leq n \quad (10) \]
\[ \sum_{j=1}^{n} w_j \bar{X}_{ij} - c \bar{X}_{ii} \leq 0 \quad 1 \leq i \leq n \quad (11) \]
\[ \bar{X} \succeq 0, \quad (12) \]

where \( \bar{P} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{cst} & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{pmatrix} \). Since \( X - \text{diag}(X)\text{diag}(X)^T \succeq 0 \) is equivalent to \( \bar{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \text{diag}(X)^T \\ \text{diag}(X) & X \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \), the above problem is a reformulation of (QKP\text{HRW4}). Taking \( X = I \), \( X \) is strictly feasible for (QKP\text{HRW4}), therefore Slater’s constraint qualification is satisfied for (QKP\text{HRW4}). In addition, \( X - \text{diag}(X)\text{diag}(X)^T \succeq 0 \) implies \( -\frac{1}{8} \leq X_{ij} \leq 1 \) [11]. As a result, the objective \( \langle P, X \rangle \) is bounded by \( \sum_{i,j} |P_{ij}| \) and we have strong duality.

**Theorem 6.** Let \( \lambda^*_{\text{QKP\text{HRW4-D}}} \) and \( \lambda^*_{\text{QKP\text{SS+}}} \) be the optimal solution values of (QKP\text{HRW4-D}) and (QKP\text{SS+}) respectively, then

\[ \lambda^*_{\text{QKP\text{HRW4-D}}} = \lambda^*_{\text{QKP\text{HRW4}}} \geq \lambda^*_{\text{QKP\text{SS+}}} \geq z^*_{\text{QKP}}. \]

**Proof:** Define

\[ \mathcal{H}_7 = \Psi_2 + \sum_i \Psi_0(1 + x_i)(c - w^T x) + \sum_i (1 - x_i^2)R_0 \]
\[ \mathcal{H}_8 = \mathcal{H}_7 + \sum_i \Psi_0(1 - x_i)(c - w^T x) + \sum_{i \leq j} \Psi_0(1 + x_i)(1 + x_j) + \sum_{i \leq j} \Psi_0(1 - x_i)(1 - x_j) \]
\[ + \sum_{i,j} \Psi_0(1 + x_i)(1 - x_j) + (c - w^T x)P_1(B) + \sum_i (1 + x_i)P_1(B) + \sum_i (1 - x_i)P_1(B). \]

Hence,

\[ \mathcal{H}_7 \subseteq \mathcal{H}_8. \]

After mapping the variables from \( \{-1,1\} \) to \( \{0,1\} \), \( \mathcal{H}_7 \) corresponds to the approximation of \( \mathcal{P}_2(\{0,1\}^n \cap \{x: (c - w^T x) \geq 0\}) \) that is equivalent to (QKP\text{HRW4-D}) and \( \mathcal{H}_8 \) corresponds to the representation (QKP\text{SS+}). □

Table 3 presents the number of variables for the relaxations (QKP\text{HRW4-D}) and (QKP\text{SS+}). Notice that both relaxations have the same computational complexity. However, the (QKP\text{SS+}) relaxation provides the best bounds as shown in Theorem 6.

**Remark 2.** In some instances, even when using the weaker relaxation (QKP\text{SS}), we obtain a strictly better bound than (QKP\text{HRW4}) as shown in Section 5.3. For those instances (QKP\text{SS+}) is also strictly better than (QKP\text{HRW4}).
Table 3 Problem dimension for various QKP relaxations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>(QKPHRW+L-D)</th>
<th>(QKPss+)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SDP</td>
<td>1, (n + 1) x (n + 1)</td>
<td>1, (n + 1) x (n + 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>(2n + 1), (n + 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Non-negative</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>2n + n^2 + 2(n+1)^2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Free</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>n</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Computational Results

In this section, we present computational results obtained by implementing the proposed relaxations of Section 3.2 to the three classes of BQPP problems considered in Section 4. We conduct comparisons based on computational time and on the quality of the bounds. The focus is on verifying the efficiency of the proposed SOC relaxations compared to the SOS/SDP-based relaxations. All relaxations were implemented with MATLAB 7.9.0 for constructing the problems and SeDuMi solver version 1.3 [36] was used to solve the conic problems. The experiments were done on a 1200 MHz Sun Sparc machine and the reported computational time is in cpu seconds.

5.1. General BQPPs Computational Results

In this section, we compare our proposed relaxations with the approach adopted by Lasserre [17] to solve general binary quadratic problems. We compare the following four relaxations:

(BQPP_{Las}): the relaxation presented in Section 4.1;
(BQPP_{ss+}): the relaxation presented in Section 3.2;
(BQPP_{ss}): the SOC-SDP-based relaxation presented in Section 3.2;
(BQPP_{soc}): the SOC relaxation presented in Section 3.2.

We consider 100 randomly generated instances that vary in size, n, from 10 items up to 70 and density from 20% to 100%. In addition the number of linear constraints, m, varies from 1 to $\frac{n}{2}$ and the number of quadratic constraints, m, also varies from 1 to $\frac{n}{2}$. We implemented Lasserre’s relaxation using our code. In Table 4, we report the average gap and the average computational time of all four relaxations (the average is computed over 5 instances for each value of n and m).

The gap (in %) is calculated as follows:

$$gap = 100 \times \frac{ub_{relaxation} - ub_{best}}{ub_{best}} \%,$$

where the best upper bound is the one obtained by the (BQPP_{ss+}) relaxation.

From Table 4 and Figure 1, we notice that (BQPP_{soc}) is the most computationally efficient relaxation in most cases. When the number of linear constraints has a value of $\frac{n}{2}$, then (BQPP_{Las}) is slightly more efficient but for those cases the bounds provided by (BQPP_{Las}) are weaker than
Table 4  Computational results for the BQPP instances. The avg. gaps are with respect to (BQPP_{SS}+).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>n</th>
<th>m</th>
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<th>(BQPP_{SS})</th>
<th>(BQPP_{Las})</th>
<th>(BQPP_{SOC})</th>
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<td>Gap</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Gap</td>
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Figure 1  Computational time for BQPP (logarithmic scale).

those provided by (BQPP_{SOC}).

The bound of (BQPP_{SS}+) is the strongest among the four relaxations. Therefore, we compare the average gaps of (BQPP_{SOC}), (BQPP_{Las}), and (BQPP_{SS}) relative to (BQPP_{SS}+). Further, (BQPP_{SS}) provides better gaps than (BQPP_{SOC}) and (BQPP_{Las}) for all instances and for the latter two relaxations we indicate the gap with lower value in bold. Notice that from Table 4, (BQPP_{SOC})
frequently has better gaps than (BQPPP₁₃).  

5.2. QLCP Computational Results

In this section, we compare our proposed relaxations of QLCP with the approach proposed by Burer [6] to solve binary quadratic polynomial problems with linear constraints. Table 5 reports the average gap (in %) between each relaxation’s upper bound and the optimal objective value (known a priori), as well as the average computational time. We compare five relaxations:

(QLCP_{Burer}'): the relaxation presented in Section 4.2;
(QLCP_{N}'): the Lovász-Schrijver relaxation presented in Section 4.2;
(QLCP_{SS}'): the strengthened SDP relaxation presented in Section 4.2;
(QLCP_{SS}): the SOC-SDP relaxation presented in Section 4.2;
(QLCP_{SOC}): the SOC relaxation presented in Section 4.2.

We consider 732 instances that vary in size from 10 up to 50 items, and with density varying from 1% to 100%. The number of the linear constraints varies from 1 to 25. The data for the instances and their optimal objective values, as well as the upper bounds and computational time of Burer’s specialized implementation, labeled as Time₁ in Table 5, were all provided by Burer [6]. We also implemented Burer’s relaxation using our code (as described in Section 4.2) and we report the average computational time we obtained for it as Time₂ in Table 5.

Table 5  Computational results for the QLCP instances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>n</th>
<th>m</th>
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<th>( (QLCP_{Burer}') )</th>
<th>( (QLCP_{SS}) )</th>
<th>( (QLCP_{N}') )</th>
<th>( (QLCP_{SS}') )</th>
<th>( (QLCP_{SOC}) )</th>
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<td>Gap</td>
<td>Time1</td>
<td>Time2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avg.</td>
<td>6.19</td>
<td>6.24</td>
<td></td>
<td>9.16</td>
<td>13.92</td>
<td>17.50</td>
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</table>

From Table 5, we see that Burer’s relaxation is the most efficient in terms of computational time but this is due to the fact that Burer’s algorithm is specialized for solving problems of this form.
However, in theory, it is an SDP-based relaxation and thus the computational time has a higher order of complexity than the SOC-based relaxation, (QLCP\(_{SOC}\)). This can be seen when comparing Time2 with the computational time of the (QLCP\(_{SOC}\)) relaxation where the latter is on average 4 times more efficient for large \(n\) (see Figure 2). Among the four SDP-based relaxations, (QLCP\(_{SS}\)) is the most computationally efficient as seen from Figure 2.

As shown in Theorem 5 and Table 2, (QLCP\(_{ss^+}\)) provides the strongest bounds for the QLCP relaxation and has the same computational complexity as (QLCP\(_{Burer'}\)). On the other hand, both (QLCP\(_{N^+}\)) and (QLCP\(_{SS}\)) are semidefinite-based relaxations but with less computational complexity than (QLCP\(_{ss^+}\)) and (QLCP\(_{Burer'}\)). We notice that (QLCP\(_{SS}\)) provides better bounds than (QLCP\(_{N^+}\)) for all instances and is more computationally efficient. The average percentage gap for (QLCP\(_{ss}\)) is 9.16% while that of (QLCP\(_{N^+}\)) is 13.92%. In addition, (QLCP\(_{SOC}\)) provides comparable bounds with (QLCP\(_{N^+}\)) with an average percentage gap of 17.50% but is computationally the most efficient.

5.3. QKP Computational Results

In this section, we compare the performance of our proposed relaxations for the QKP with the relaxation of Helmberg et al. [11] presented in Section 4.3.1. We generated test instances using the approach proposed in [32]. The \(P_{ij}\) and \(w_j\) values are discrete taken from a uniform random distribution in [1, 100] and [1, 50] respectively. The capacity \(\bar{c}\) is uniformly distributed in \([50, \sum_{j=1}^n w_j]\). The density \(d\) of the \(P\) matrix varies from 10 to 90%.

The presented computational results are based on the following four types of relaxations for the quadratic knapsack problem:

(QLP\(_{HRW4}\)) the Helmberg et al. SDP relaxation presented in Section 4.3.1;
(QKP$_{ss+}$): the relaxation presented in Section 4.3;
(QKP$_{ss}$): the SOC-SDP relaxation presented in Section 4.3;
(QKP$_{soc}$): the SOC relaxation presented in Section 4.3.

Table 6 reports results for 45 instances. These instances vary in size and density. The size varies from 20 to 100 items and the density varies from 10 to 90% with a step size of 20%. For each instance, we report the upper bound and the solution time in seconds.

In terms of computational time, (QKP$_{soc}$) is the most computationally efficient for all instances. For example, for the largest instances ($n = 100$) the (QKP$_{soc}$) relaxation is on average 23 times faster than the (QKP$_{ss+}$), 19 times faster than the (QKP$_{ss}$) relaxation, and 10 times faster than the (QKP$_{hrw4}$) relaxation (see Figure 3).

Further for all the tested instances, the (QKP$_{ss+}$) and (QKP$_{ss}$) bounds are strictly tighter than the ones provided by (QKP$_{hrw4}$), even though the bounds for the (QKP$_{hrw4}$) relaxation are known to be strong [11; 32]. In addition, we report the gap between the bounds of (QKP$_{ss+}$), (QKP$_{hrw4}$), and (QKP$_{soc}$) and the bound of (QKP$_{ss+}$). Over all instances, the percentage gap of the (QKP$_{soc}$) relaxation with respect to the (QKP$_{hrw4}$) relaxation ranges from -8% to around 31% with an average of 4.39%, where a negative sign implies that the (QKP$_{soc}$) relaxation is better. Notice that (QKP$_{soc}$) performs particularly well for instances with high density. In particular, (QKP$_{soc}$) obtains better bounds than (QKP$_{hrw4}$) for all the instances with $d = 90%$.

![Figure 3](image-url)  
Figure 3 Computational time for QKP (logarithmic scale).
Table 6: Computational results for the QKP instances. The gaps are with respect to \((QKP_{SS^+})\).

<table>
<thead>
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<th>d</th>
<th>(QKP_{SS^+})</th>
<th>(QKP_{SS^+})</th>
<th>(QKP_{HW4})</th>
<th>(QKP_{soc})</th>
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<td>Gap</td>
<td>UB</td>
<td>Gap</td>
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6. Conclusion and Future Work

In this research we used polynomial programming approaches to produce tractable relaxations for general binary quadratic polynomial optimization problems. These approximations utilize linear, second-order and semidefinite cones over which it is known how to optimize efficiently. We proposed...
a second-order cone relaxation for the general BQPP and applied it to several binary quadratic polynomial problems. When compared to SDP-based relaxations, these SOC-based relaxations are significantly more computationally efficient with only a small degradation of bounds.

For the general BQPP, we proposed two SOC-SDP-based relaxations and compared them theoretically and experimentally with Lasserre’s relaxation. By exploiting the linear constraints using second-order cones we are able to obtain a stronger relaxation than Lasserre’s. We also conducted computational results on binary quadratic linear constrained problems and showed that the quality of the bounds provided by our SOC-SDP-based relaxation is competitive with those from the very recent specialized relaxation of Burer for this problem [6]. Finally, for the quadratic knapsack problem we showed that the two proposed SOC-SDP-based relaxations are a strict improvement on the best relaxation in the literature. Theoretical results as well as computational experiments show that our SOC-SDP-based relaxation outperforms the relaxation of Helmberg et al. [11] in terms of bound while both relaxations are comparable in terms of computational time. We also relaxed our proposed relaxation to obtain a weaker SOC-only relaxation that is computationally more efficient while still providing comparable bounds to [11] and for problems with high density it provides better bounds.

The main objective of our research is to develop an exact algorithm for solving general binary quadratic polynomial problems. Our SOC relaxations show strong potential, both in terms of bounds and of computational time, to be used in an exact algorithm scheme to find optimal solutions for large instances of such problems in a reasonable time. Future research will investigate the use of SOC-based relaxations with additional valid inequalities. In particular, we are developing non-linear cuts based on polynomial programming to further strengthen the proposed relaxations.

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References


