gpkit Documentation

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Contents

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GPkit is a Python package for defining and manipulating geometric programming (GP) models, abstracting away the backend solver. Supported solvers are MOSEK and CVXOPT.

Geometric Programming 101

1.1 What is a GP?

A Geometric Program (GP) is a special type of constrained non-linear optimization problem.

A GP is made up of special types of functions called *monomials* and *posynomials*. In the context of GP, a monomial is defined as:

$$f(x) = cx_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} ... x_n^{a_n}$$

where c is a positive constant, $x_{1..n}$ are decision variables, and $a_{1..n}$ are real exponents. For example, taking x, y and z to be positive variables, the expressions

$$7x \qquad 4xy^2z \qquad \frac{2x}{y^2z^{0.3}} \qquad \sqrt{2xy}$$

are all monomials. Building on this, a posynomial is defined as a sum of monomials:

$$g(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} c_k x_1^{a_1 k} x_2^{a_2 k} ... x_n^{a_n k}$$

For example, the expressions

$$x^2 + 2xy + 1 \qquad 7xy + 0.4(yz)^{-1/3} \qquad 0.56 + \frac{x^{0.7}}{yz}$$

are all posynomials. Alternatively, monomials can be defined as the subset of posynomials having only one term. Using f_i to represent a monomial and g_i to represent a posynomial, a GP in standard form is written as:

$$lt \quad \text{minimize}$$
$$g_0(x)$$

$$\text{subject to}$$
$$f_i(x) = 1,$$
$$i = 1, ..., m$$

$$g_i(x) \leq 1,$$
$$i = 1, ..., n$$

Boyd et. al. give the following example of a GP in standard form:

$$llt \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{minimize} \\ x^{-1}y^{-1/2}z^{-1} + 2.3xz + 4xyz \\ \text{subject to} \\ (1/3)x^{-2}y^{-2} + (4/3)y^{1/2}z^{-1} \leq 1 \end{array}$$

$$x + 2y + 3z \leq 1$$

$$(1/2)xy = 1$$

1.2 Why are GPs special?

Geometric programs have several powerful properties:

1. Unlike most non-linear optimization problems, large GPs can be **solved extremely quickly**.

2. If there exists an optimal solution to a GP, it is guaranteed to be **globally optimal**.

3. Modern GP solvers require **no initial guesses** or tuning of solver parameters.

These properties arise because GPs become *convex optimization problems* via a logarithmic transformation. In addition to their mathematical benefits, recent research has shown that many **practical problems** can be formulated as GPs or closely approximated as GPs.

1.3 What are Signomials / Signomial Programs?

When the coefficients in a posynomial are allowed to be negative (but the variables stay strictly positive), that is called a Signomial. A Signomial Program has signomial constraints, and while they cannot be solved as quickly or to global optima, because they build on the structure of a GP they can be solved more quickly than a generic nonlinear program. More information on Signomial Programs can be found under "Advanced Commands".

1.4 Where can I learn more?

To learn more about GPs, refer to the following resources:

• A tutorial on geometric programming, by S. Boyd, S.J. Kim, L. Vandenberghe, and A. Hassibi.

• Convex optimization, by S. Boyd and L. Vandenberghe.

GPkit Overview

GPkit is a Python package for defining and manipulating geometric programming (GP) models, abstracting away the backend solver.

The primary goal of GPkit is to make it easy to create share and explore Geometric Programming models. Being fast and mathematically correct tend to align well with this goal.

2.1 Symbolic expressions

GPkit is a limited symbolic algebra language, allowing only for the creation of Geometric Program compatible equations (or Signomial Program compatible ones, if signomial programming is enabled). As mentioned in "Geometric Programming 101", one can look at monomials as posynomials with a single term, and posynomials as signomials that have only positive coefficients. The inheritance structure of these objects in GPkit follows this mathematical basis.
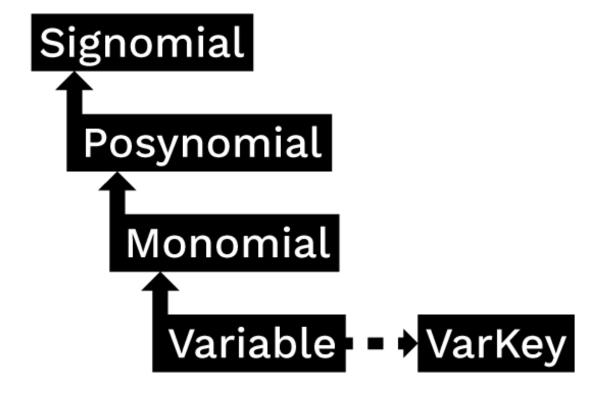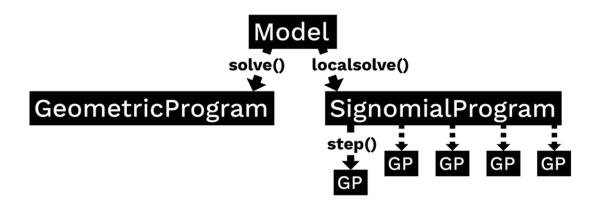
2.2 Substitution

The `Varkey` object in the graph above is not a algebraic expression, but what GPkit uses as a variable's "name". It carries the LaTeX representation of a variable and its units, as well as any other information the user wishes to associate with a variable. The use of `VarKeys` as opposed to numeric indexing is an important part of the GPkit framework, because it allows a user to keep their model entirely symbolic until they wish to solve it.

This means that any expression or Model object can replace any instance of a variable (as represented by a VarKey) with a number, new VarKey, or even an entire Monomial at any time with the `.sub()` method.

2.3 Model objects

In GPkit, a `Model` object represents a symbolic problem declaration. That problem may be either GP-compatible or SP-compatible. To avoid confusion, calling the `solve()` method on a model will either attempt to solve it for a global optimum (if it's a GP) or return an error immediately (if it's an SP). Similarly, calling `localsolve()` will either start the process of SP-solving (stepping through a sequence of GP-approximations) or return an error for GP-compatible Models. This framework is illustrated below.

Installation Instructions

If you encounter any bugs during installation, please email gpkit@mit.edu.

3.1 Mac OS X

3.1.1 1. Install Python and build dependencies

- Install the Python 2.7 version of Anaconda.

- If you don't want to install Anaconda, you'll need gcc and pip, and may find sympy, scipy, and iPython Notebook useful.

- If `which gcc` does not return anything, install the Apple Command Line Tools.

- *Optional:* to install gpkit into an isolated python environment you can create a new conda virtual environment with `conda create -n gpkit anaconda` and activate it with `source activate gpkit`.

- Run `pip install ctypesgen --pre` in the Terminal.

3.1.2 2. Install either the MOSEK or CVXOPT GP solvers

- **Download CVXOPT, then:**
  - Read the official instructions and requirements
  - In the Terminal, navigate to the `cvxopt` folder
  - Run `python setup.py install`
- **Download MOSEK, then:**
  - Move the `mosek` folder to your home directory
  - Follow these steps for Mac.
  - Request an academic license file and put it in `~/mosek/`

3.1.3 3. Install GPkit

- Run `pip install gpkit` at the command line.

- Run `python -c "import gpkit.tests; gpkit.tests.run()"`

- If you want units support, install pint with `pip install pint`.

3.2 Linux

3.2.1 1. Install either the MOSEK or CVXOPT GP solvers

- **Download CVXOPT, then:**
    - Read the official instructions and requirements
    - In a terminal, navigate to the `cvxopt` folder
    - Run `python setup.py install`
- **Download MOSEK, then:**
    - Move the `mosek` folder to your home directory
    - Follow these steps for Linux.
    - Request an academic license file and put it in `~/mosek/`

3.2.2 2. Install GPkit

- _Optional:_ to install gpkit into an isolated python environment, install virtualenv, run `virtualenv $DESTINATION_DIR` then activate it with `source activate $DESTINATION_DIR/bin`.
- Run `pip install ctypesgen --pre` at the command line.
- Run `pip install gpkit` at the command line.
- Run `python -c "import gpkit.tests; gpkit.tests.run()"`
- If you want units support, install pint with `pip install pint`.
- You may find sympy, scipy, and iPython Notebook to be useful additional packages as well.

3.3 Windows

3.3.1 1. Install Python dependencies

- Install the Python 2.7 version of Anaconda.
- If you don't want to install Anaconda, you'll need gcc and pip, and may find sympy, scipy, and iPython Notebook useful.
- *Optional:* to install gpkit into an isolated python environment you can create a new conda virtual environment with `conda create -n gpkit anaconda` and activate it with `source activate gpkit`.
- Run `pip install ctypesgen --pre` at an Anaconda Command Prompt.

3.3.2 2. Install either the MOSEK or CVXOPT GP solvers

- Download CVXOPT, then follow these steps to install a linear algebra library
- **Download MOSEK, then:**
    - Follow these steps for Windows.
    - Request an academic license file and put it in `~/mosek/`

3.3.3 3. Install GPkit

- Run `pip install gpkit` at an Anaconda Command Prompt.
- Run `python -c "import gpkit.tests; gpkit.tests.run()"`
- If you want units support, install pint with `pip install pint`.

Getting Started

GPkit is a Python package. We assume basic familiarity with Python. If you are new to Python take a look at Learn Python.

GPkit is also a command line tool. This means that you need to be in the terminal (OS X/Linux) or command prompt (Windows) to use it. If you are not familiar with working in the command line, check out this Learn Code the Hard Way tutorial.

The first thing to do is install GPkit . Once you have done this, you can start using GPkit in 3 easy steps:

1. Open your command line interface (terminal/Command Prompt).

2. Open a Python interpreter. This can be done by typing `python` (or `ipython` if installed).

3. Type `import gpkit`.

After doing this, your command line will look something like the following:

```
$ python
>>> import gpkit
>>>
```

From here, you can use GPkit commands to formulate and solve geometric programs. To learn how, see Basic Commands.

4.1 Writing GPkit Scripts

Another way to use GPkit is to write a script and save it as a .py file. To run this file (e.g. `myscript.py`), type the following in your command line:

```
$ python myscript.py
```

Again, `ipython` will also work here.

Basic Commands

5.1 Importing Modules

The first thing to do when using GPkit is to import the classes and modules you will need. For example,

```python
from gpkit import Variable, VectorVariable, GP
```

5.2 Declaring Variables

Instances of the `Variable` class represent scalar decision variables. They store a key (i.e. name) used to look up the Variable in dictionaries, and optionally units, a description, and a value (if the Variable is to be held constant).

5.2.1 Decision Variables

```python
# Declare a variable, x
x = Variable('x')

# Declare a variable, y, with units of meters
y = Variable('y','m')

# Declare a variable, z, with units of meters, and a description
z = Variable('z', 'm', 'A variable called z with units of meters')
```

Note: make sure you have imported the class `Variable` beforehand.

5.2.2 Fixed Variables

To declare a variable with a constant value, use the `Variable` class, as above, but specify the `value=` input argument:

```python
# Declare '\\rho' equal to 1.225 kg/m^3
rho = Variable('\\rho', 1.225, 'kg/m^3', 'Density of air at sea level')
```

In the example above, the key name ′\\rho′ is for LaTeX printing (described later). The unit and description arguments are optional.

```
#Declare pi equal to 3.14
pi = Variable('\\pi', 3.14)
```

5.2.3 Vector Variables

Vector variables are represented by the `VectorVariable` class. The first argument is the length of the vector. All other inputs follow those of the `Variable` class.

```
# Declare a 3-element vector variable 'x' with units of 'm'
x = VectorVariable(3, "x", "m", "3-D Position")
```

5.3 Creating Monomials and Posynomials

Monomial and posynomial expressions can be created using mathematical operations on variables. This is implemented under-the-hood using operator overloading in Python.

```
# create a Monomial term xy^2/z
x = Variable('x')
y = Variable('y')
z = Variable('z')
m = x * y**2 / z
type(m)  # gpkit.nomials.Monomial
```

```
# create a Posynomial expression x + xy^2
x = Variable('x')
y = Variable('y')
p = x + x * y**2
type(p)  # gpkit.nomials.Posynomial
```

5.4 Declaring Constraints

`Constraint` objects represent constraints of the form `Monomial >= Posynomial` or `Monomial == Monomial` (which are the forms required for GP-compatibility).

Note that constraints must be formed using <=, >=, or == operators, not < or >.

```
# consider a block with dimensions x, y, z less than 1
# constrain surface area less than 1.0 m^2
x = Variable('x', 'm')
y = Variable('y', 'm')
z = Variable('z', 'm')
S = Variable('S', 1.0, 'm^2')
c = (2*x*y + 2*x*z + 2*y*z <= S)
type(c)  # gpkit.nomials.Constraint
```

5.5 Declaring Objective Functions

To declare an objective function, assign a Posynomial (or Monomial) to a variable name, such as `objective`.

```
objective = 1/(x*y*z)
```

By convention, the objective is the function to be *minimized*. If you wish to *maximize* a function, take its reciprocal. For example, the code above creates an objective which, when minimized, will maximize x*y*z.

5.6 Formulating a GP

The GP class represents a geometric programming problem. To create one, pass an objective and list of Constraints:

```
objective = 1/(x*y*z)
constraints = [2*x*y + 2*x*z + 2*y*z <= S,
               x >= 2*y]
gp = GP(objective, constraints)
```

5.7 Solving the GP

```
sol = gp.solve()
```

5.8 Printing Results

```
print sol.table()
```

```
print "The x dimension is %s." % (sol(x))
```

Advanced Commands

6.1 Sensitivities and dual variables

When a GP is solved, the solver returns not just the optimal value for the problem's variables (known as the "primal solution") but also, as a side effect of the solving process, the effect that scaling the less-than side of each constraint would have on the overall objective (called the "dual solution", "shadow prices", or "posynomial sensitivities").

6.1.1 Using variable sensitivities

GPkit uses this dual solution to compute the sensitivities of each variable, which can be accessed most easily using a GPSolutionArray's `senssubinto()` method, as in this example:

```python
import gpkit
x = gpkit.Variable("x")
x_min = gpkit.Variable("x_{min}", 2)
sol = gpkit.GP(x, [x_min <= x]).solve()
assert sol.senssubinto(x_min) == 1
```

These sensitivities are actually log derivatives ($\frac{d\log(y)}{d\log(x)}$); whereas a regular derivative is a tangent line, these are tangent monomials, so the `1` above indicates that `x_min` has a linear relation with the objective. This is confirmed by a further example:
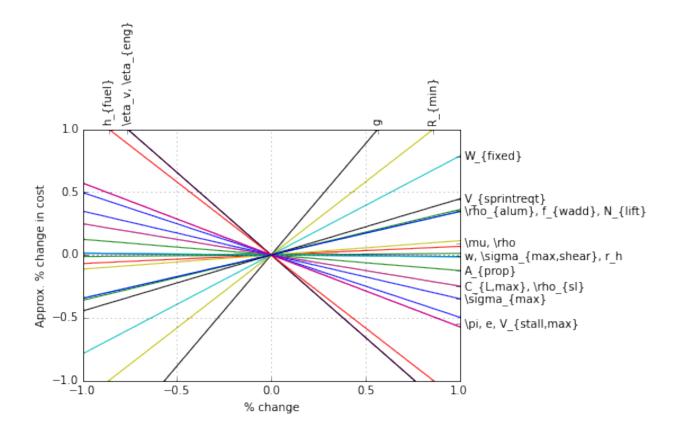
```python
import gpkit
x = gpkit.Variable("x")
x_squared_min = gpkit.Variable("x^2_{min}", 2)
sol = gpkit.GP(x, [x_squared_min <= x**2]).solve()
assert sol.senssubinto(x_squared_min) == 2
```

6.1.2 Plotting variable sensitivities

Sensitivities are a useful way to evaluate the tradeoffs in your model, as well as what aspects of the model are driving the solution and should be examined. To help with this, GPkit has an automatic sensitivity plotting function that can be accessed as follows:

```python
from gpkit.interactive.plotting import sensitivity_plot
sensitivity_plot(gp)
```

Which produces the following plot:

In this plot, steep lines that go up to the right are variables whose increase sharply increases (makes worse) the objective. Steep lines going down to the right are variables whose increase sharply decreases (improves) the objective.

6.2 Substitutions

Substitutions are a general-purpose way to change every instance of one variable into either a number or another variable.

6.2.1 Substituting into Posynomials, PosyArrays, and GPs

The examples below all use Posynomials and PosyArrays, but the syntax is identical for GPs (except when it comes to sweep variables).

```python
# adapted from t_sub.py / t_NomialSubs / test_Basic
from gpkit import Variable
x = Variable("x")
p = x**2
assert p.sub(x, 3) == 9
assert p.sub(x.varkeys["x"], 3) == 9
assert p.sub("x", 3) == 9
```

Here the variable x is being replaced with 3 in three ways: first by substituting for x directly, then by substituting for the `VarKey("x")`, then by substituting the string "x". In all cases the substitution is

understood as being with the VarKey: when a variable is passed in the VarKey is pulled out of it, and when a string is passed in it is used as an argument to the Posynomial's `varkeys` dictionary.

6.2.2 Substituting multiple values

```
# adapted from t_sub.py / t_NomialSubs / test_Vector
from gpkit import Variable, VectorVariable
x = Variable("x")
y = Variable("y")
z = VectorVariable(2, "z")
p = x*y*z
assert all(p.sub({x: 1, "y": 2}) == 2*z)
assert all(p.sub({x: 1, y: 2, "z": [1, 2]}) == z.sub(z, [2, 4]))
```

To substitute in multiple variables, pass them in as a dictionary where the keys are what will be replaced and values are what it will be replaced with. Note that you can also substitute for VectorVariables by their name or by their PosyArray.

6.2.3 Substituting with nonnumeric values

You can also substitute in sweep variables (see *Sweeps*), strings, and monomials:

```
# adapted from t_sub.py / t_NomialSubs
from gpkit import Variable
from gpkit.small_scripts import mag

x = Variable("x", "m")
xvk = x.varkeys.values()[0]
descr_before = x.exp.keys()[0].descr
y = Variable("y", "km")
yvk = y.varkeys.values()[0]
for x_ in ["x", xvk, x]:
    for y_ in ["y", yvk, y]:
        if not isinstance(y_, str) and type(xvk.units) != str:
            expected = 0.001
        else:
            expected = 1.0
        assert abs(expected - mag(x.sub(x_, y_).c)) < 1e-6
if type(xvk.units) != str:
    # this means units are enabled
    z = Variable("z", "s")
    # y.sub(y, z) will raise ValueError due to unit mismatch
```

Note that units are preserved, and that the value can be either a string (in which case it just renames the variable), a varkey (in which case it changes its description, including the name) or a Monomial (in which case it substitutes for the variable with a new monomial).

6.2.4 Substituting with replacement

Any of the substitutions above can be run with `p.sub(*args, replace=True)` to clobber any previously-substitued values.

6.2.5 Fixed Variables

When a GP is created, any fixed Variables are used to form a dictionary: `{var: var.descr["value"] for var in self.varlocs if "value" in var.descr}`. This dictionary in then substituted into the GP's cost and constraints before the `substitutions` argument.

6.2.6 Substituting from a GP solution array

`gp.solution.subinto(p)` will substitute the solution(s) for variables into the posynomial `p`, returning a PosyArray. For a non-swept solution, this is equivalent to `p.sub(gp.solution["variables"])`.

You can also substitute by just calling the solution, i.e. `gp.solution(p)`. This returns a numpy array of just the coefficients (`c`) of the posynomial after substitution, and will raise a` ValueError` if some of the variables in `p` were not found in `gp.solution`.

6.3 Sweeps

6.3.1 Declaring Sweeps

Sweeps are useful for analyzing tradeoff surfaces. A sweep "value" is an Iterable of numbers, e.g. `[1, 2, 3]`. Variables are swept when their substitution value takes the form (`'sweep'`, `Iterable`), (e.g. `'sweep', np.linspace(1e6, 1e7, 100)`). During variable declaration, giving an Iterable value for a Variable is assumed to be giving it a sweeep value: for example, `x = Variable("x", [1, 2, 3]`. Sweeps can also be declared during later substitution (`gp.sub("x", ('sweep', [1, 2, 3]))`), or if the variable was already substituted for a constant, `gp.sub("x", ('sweep', [1, 2, 3]), replace=True))`.

6.3.2 Solving Sweeps

A GP with sweeps will solve for all possible combinations: e.g., if there's a variable `x` with value (`'sweep'`, `[1, 3]`) and a variable `y` with value (`'sweep'`, `[14, 17]`) then the gp will be solved four times, for $(x, y) \in \{(1, 14), (1, 17), (3, 14), (3, 17)\}$. The returned solutions will be a one-dimensional array (or 2-D for vector variables), accessed in the usual way. Sweeping Vector Variables

Vector variables may also be substituted for: `y = VectorVariable(3, "y", value=('sweep' ,[[1, 2], [1, 2], [1, 2]])` will sweep $y \, \forall \, y_i \in \{1, 2\}$.

6.3.3 Parallel Sweeps

During a normal sweep, each result is independent, so they can be run in parallel. To use this feature, run `$ ipcluster start` at a terminal: it will automatically start a number of iPython parallel computing engines equal to the number of cores on your machine, and when you next import gpkit you should see a note like `Using parallel execution of sweeps on 4 clients`. If you do, then all sweeps performed with that import of gpkit will be parellelized.

This parallelization sets the stage for gpkit solves to be outsourced to a server, which may be valuable for faster results; alternately, it could allow the use of gpkit without installing a solver.

6.3.4 Linked Sweeps

Some constants may be "linked" to another sweep variable. This can be represented by a Variable whose value is (`'sweep'`, `fn`), where the arguments of the function `fn` are stored in the Varkeys's `args` attribute. If you declare a variables value to be a function, then it will assume you meant that as a sweep value: for example, `a_ = gpkit.Variable("a_", lambda a:  1-a,  "-",  args=[a])` will create a constant whose value is always 1 minus the value of a (valid for values of a less than 1). Note that this declaration requires the variable `a` to already have been declared.

6.3.5 Example Usage

```
# code from t_GPSubs.test_VectorSweep in tests/t_sub.py
from gpkit import Variable, VectorVariable, GP

x = Variable("x")
y = VectorVariable(2, "y")
gp = GP(x, [x >= y.prod()])
gp.sub(y, ('sweep', [[2, 3], [5, 7, 11]]))
a = gp.solve(printing=False)["cost"]
b = [10, 14, 22, 15, 21, 33]
assert all(abs(a-b)/(a+b) < 1e-7)
```

6.4 Composite Objectives

Given n posynomial objectives g_i, you can sweep out the problem's Pareto frontier with the composite objective:

$$g_0 w_0 \prod_{i \neq 0} v_i + g_1 w_1 \prod_{i \neq 1} v_i + ... + g_n \prod_i v_i$$

where $i \in 0...n-1$ and $v_i = 1 - w_i$ and $w_i \in [0, 1]$

GPkit has the helper function `composite_objective` for constructing these.

6.4.1 Example Usage

```
import numpy as np
import gpkit

L, W = gpkit.Variable("L"), gpkit.Variable("W")

eqns = [L >= 1, W >= 1, L*W == 10]

co_sweep = [0] + np.logspace(-6, 0, 10).tolist()

obj = gpkit.composite_objective(L+W, W**-1 * L**-3,
                                normsub={L:10, W: 10},
                                sweep=co_sweep)

gp = gpkit.GP(obj, eqns)
gp.solve()
```

The `normsub` argument specifies an expected value for your solution to normalize the different g_i (you can also do this by hand). The feasibility of the problem should not depend on the normalization, but the spacing of the sweep will.

The `sweep` argument specifies what points between 0 and 1 you wish to sample the weights at. If you want different resolutions or spacings for different weights, the `sweeps` argument accepts a list of sweep arrays.

6.5 Signomial Programming

Signomial programming finds a local solution to a problem of the form:

$$lt \qquad \text{minimize} \\ g_0(x)$$

$$\text{subject to} \\ f_i(x) = 1, \\ i = 1, ..., m$$

$$g_i(x) - h_i(x) \leq 1, \\ i = 1, ..., n$$

where each f is monomial while each g and h is a posynomial.

This requires multiple solutions of geometric programs, and so will take longer to solve than an equivalent geometric programming formulation.

The specification of the signomial problem affects its solve time in a nuanced way: `gpkit.SP(x, [x >= 0.1, x+y >= 1, y <= 0.1]).localsolve()` takes about four times as many iterations to solve as `gpkit.SP(x, [x >= 1-y, y <= 0.1]).localsolve()`, despite the two formulations being arithmetically equivalent.

In general, when given the choice of which variables to include in the positive-posynomial / g side of the constraint, the modeler should:

1. maximize the number of variables in g,

2. prioritize variables that are in the objective,

3. then prioritize variables that are present in other constraints.

The syntax `SP.localsolve` is chosen to emphasize that signomial programming returns a local optimum. For the same reason, calling `SP.solve` will raise an error.

By default, signomial programs are first solved conservatively (by assuming each h is equal only to its constant portion) and then become less conservative on each iteration.

6.5.1 Example Usage

```python
"""Adapted from t_SP in tests/t_geometric_program.py"""
import gpkit

# Decision variables
x = gpkit.Variable('x')
y = gpkit.Variable('y')

# must enable signomials for subtraction
gpkit.enable_signomials()

# create and solve the SP
sp = gpkit.SP(x, [x >= 1-y, y <= 0.1])
```

```
sol = sp.localsolve(printing=False)
assert abs(sol(x) - 0.9) < 1e-6

gpkit.disable_signomials()
```

When using the `localsolve` method, the `reltol` argument specifies the relative tolerance of the solver: that is, by what percent does the solution have to improve between iterations? If any iteration improves less than that amount, the solver stops and returns its value.

If you wish to start the local optimization at a particular point x_k, however, you may do so by putting that position (a dictionary formatted as you would a substitution) as the `xk` argument.

Examples

7.1 iPython Notebook Examples

More examples, including some in-depth and experimental models, can be seen on nbviewer.

7.2 A Trivial GP

The most trivial GP we can think of: minimize x subject to the constraint $x \geq 1$.

```python
from gpkit import Variable, GP

# Decision variable
x = Variable('x')

# Constraint
constraints = [x >= 1]

# Objective (to minimize)
objective = x

# Formulate the GP
gp = GP(objective, constraints)

# Solve the GP
sol = gp.solve(printing=False)

# print selected results
print "Optimal cost:  %s" % sol['cost']
print "Optimal x val: %s" % sol(x)
```

Of course, the optimal value is 1. Output:

```
Optimal cost:  1.0
Optimal x val: 1.0
```

7.3 Maximizing the Volume of a Box

This example comes from Section 2.4 of the GP tutorial, by S. Boyd et. al.

```python
from gpkit import Variable, GP

# Parameters
alpha = Variable("alpha", 2, "-", "lower limit, wall aspect ratio")
beta = Variable("beta", 10, "-", "upper limit, wall aspect ratio")
gamma = Variable("gamma", 2, "-", "lower limit, floor aspect ratio")
delta = Variable("delta", 10, "-", "upper limit, floor aspect ratio")
A_wall = Variable("A_{wall}", 200, "m^2", "upper limit, wall area")
A_floor = Variable("A_{floor}", 50, "m^2", "upper limit, floor area")

# Decision variables
h = Variable("h", "m", "height")
w = Variable("w", "m", "width")
d = Variable("d", "m", "depth")

#Constraints
constraints = [A_wall >= 2*h*w + 2*h*d,
               A_floor >= w*d,
               h/w >= alpha,
               h/w <= beta,
               d/w >= gamma,
               d/w <= delta]

#Objective function
V = h*w*d
objective = 1/V #To maximize V, we minimize its reciprocal

# Formulate the GP
gp = GP(objective, constraints)

# Solve the GP
sol = gp.solve(printing=False)

# Print results table
print sol.table()
```

The output is

```
Cost
----
 0.003674 [1/m**3]

Free variables
--------------
d : 8.17    [m] depth
h : 8.163   [m] height
w : 4.081   [m] width

Swept variables
--------------

Constants
---------
A_{floor} : 50   [m**2] upper limit, floor area
 A_{wall} : 200  [m**2] upper limit, wall area
    alpha : 2           lower limit, wall aspect ratio
     beta : 10          upper limit, wall aspect ratio
    delta : 10          upper limit, floor aspect ratio
    gamma : 2           lower limit, floor aspect ratio
```

```
Constant and swept variable sensitivities
-----------------------------------------
A_{wall} : -1.5 upper limit, wall area
   alpha : 0.5  lower limit, wall aspect ratio
```

7.4 Water Tank

Say we had a fixed mass of water we wanted to contain within a tank, but also wanted to minimize the cost of the material we had to purchase (i.e. the surface area of the tank):

```python
from gpkit import Variable, VectorVariable, GP
M   = Variable("M", 100, "kg", "Mass of Water in the Tank")
rho = Variable("\\rho", 1000, "kg/m^3", "Density of Water in the Tank")
A   = Variable("A", "m^2", "Surface Area of the Tank")
V   = Variable("V", "m^3", "Volume of the Tank")
d   = VectorVariable(3, "d", "m", "Dimension Vector")

constraints = (A >= 2*(d[0]*d[1] + d[0]*d[2] + d[1]*d[2]),
               V == d[0]*d[1]*d[2],
               M == V*rho
               )

gp = GP(A, constraints)
sol = gp.solve(printing=False)
print sol.table()
```

The output is

```
Cost
----
 1.293 [m**2]

Free variables
--------------
A : 1.293                         [m**2] Surface Area of the Tank
V : 0.1                           [m**3] Volume of the Tank
d : [ 0.464    0.464    0.464   ] [m]    Dimension Vector

Swept variables
---------------

Constants
---------
   M : 100   [kg]      Mass of Water in the Tank
\rho : 1000  [kg/m**3] Density of Water in the Tank

Constant and swept variable sensitivities
-----------------------------------------
   M : 0.6667  Mass of Water in the Tank
\rho : -0.6667 Density of Water in the Tank
```

7.5 Simple Wing

This example comes from Section 3 of Geometric Programming for Aircraft Design Optimization, by W. Hoburg and P. Abbeel.

```python
from gpkit.shortcuts import *
import numpy as np

# Define the constants in the problem
CDA0 = Var('(CDA_0)', 0.0306, 'm^2', label='Fuselage drag area')
C_Lmax = Var('C_{L,max}', 2.0, label='Maximum C_L, flaps down')
e = Var('e', 0.96, label='Oswald efficiency factor')
k = Var('k', 1.2, label='Form factor')
mu = Var('\\mu', 1.78E-5, 'kg/m/s', label='Viscosity of air')
N_lift = Var('N_{lift}', 2.5, label='Ultimate load factor')
rho = Var('\\rho', 1.23, 'kg/m^3', label='Density of air')
Sw_S = Var('\\frac{S_{wet}}{S}', 2.05, label='Wetted area ratio')
tau = Var('\\tau', 0.12, label='Airfoil thickness-to-chord ratio')
V_min = Var('V_{min}', 22, 'm/s', label='Desired landing speed')
W_0 = Var('W_0', 4940, 'N', label='Aircraft weight excluding wing')
cww1 = Var('cww1', 45.42, 'N/m^2', 'Wing weight area factor')
cww2 = Var('cww2', 8.71E-5, '1/m', 'Wing weight bending factor')

# Define decision variables
A = Var('A', label='Aspect ratio')
C_D = Var('C_D', label='Drag coefficient')
C_L = Var('C_L', label='Lift coefficient')
C_f = Var('C_f', label='Skin friction coefficient')
S = Var('S', 'm^2', label='Wing planform area')
Re = Var('Re', label='Reynolds number')
W = Var('Re', 'N', label='Total aircraft weight')
W_w = Var('W_w', 'N', label='Wing weight')
V = Var('V', 'm/s', label='Cruise velocity')

# Define objective function
objective = 0.5 * rho * V**2 * C_D * S

# Define constraints
constraints = [C_f * Re**0.2 >= 0.074,
               C_D >= CDA0 / S + k * C_f * Sw_S + C_L**2 / (np.pi * A * e),
               0.5 * rho * V**2 * C_L * S >= W,
               W >= W_0 + W_w,
               W_w >= (cww1*S +
                       cww2 * N_lift * A**1.5 * (W_0 * W * S)**0.5 / tau),
               0.5 * rho * V_min**2 * C_Lmax * S >= W,
               Re == rho * V * (S/A)**0.5 / mu]

# Formulate the GP
gp = GP(objective, constraints)

# Solve the GP
sol = gp.solve()

# Print the solution table
print sol.table()
```

The output is

```
Using solver 'cvxopt'
Solving for 9 variables.
Solving took 0.0629 seconds.

Cost
----
 255 [kg*m/s**2]

Free variables
--------------
  A : 12.7            Aspect ratio
C_D : 0.0231          Drag coefficient
C_L : 0.6512          Lift coefficient
C_f : 0.003857        Skin friction coefficient
 Re : 7189       [N]  Total aircraft weight
 Re : 2.598e+06       Reynolds number
  S : 12.08      [m**2] Wing planform area
  V : 38.55      [m/s] Cruise velocity
W_w : 2249       [N]   Wing weight

Swept variables
---------------

Constants
---------
        (CDA_0) : 0.0306   [m**2]    Fuselage drag area
      C_{L,max} : 2                  Maximum C_L, flaps down
       N_{lift} : 2.5                Ultimate load factor
        V_{min} : 22       [m/s]     Desired landing speed
            W_0 : 4940     [N]       Aircraft weight excluding wing
\frac{S_{wet}}{S} : 2.05             Wetted area ratio
            \mu : 1.78e-05 [kg/m/s]  Viscosity of air
           \rho : 1.23     [kg/m**3] Density of air
           \tau : 0.12               Airfoil thickness-to-chord ratio
           cww1 : 45.42    [N/m**2]  Wing weight area factor
           cww2 : 8.71e-05 [1/m]     Wing weight bending factor
              e : 0.96               Oswald efficiency factor
              k : 1.2                Form factor

Constant and swept variable sensitivities
-----------------------------------------
        (CDA_0) : 0.1097  Fuselage drag area
      C_{L,max} : -0.1307 Maximum C_L, flaps down
       N_{lift} : 0.2923  Ultimate load factor
        V_{min} : -0.2614 Desired landing speed
            W_0 : 0.9953  Aircraft weight excluding wing
\frac{S_{wet}}{S} : 0.4108 Wetted area ratio
            \mu : 0.08217 Viscosity of air
           \rho : -0.1718 Density of air
           \tau : -0.2923 Airfoil thickness-to-chord ratio
           cww1 : 0.09428 Wing weight area factor
           cww2 : 0.2923  Wing weight bending factor
              e : -0.4795 Oswald efficiency factor
              k : 0.4108  Form factor
```

Glossary

For an alphabetical listing of all commands, check out the genindex

8.1 The GPkit Package

Lightweight GP Modeling Package

For examples please see the examples folder.

8.1.1 Requirements

numpy MOSEK or CVXOPT scipy(optional): for complete sparse matrix support sympy(optional): for latex printing in iPython Notebook

8.1.2 Attributes

settings [dict] Contains settings loaded from `./env/settings`

`gpkit.`**`disable_signomials`**`()`
    Disables signomial support in a particular instance of GPkit.

`gpkit.`**`disable_units`**`()`
    Disables units support in a particular instance of GPkit.

    Posynomials created after calling this are incompatible with those created before.

    If gpkit is imported multiple times, this needs to be run each time.

    The correct way to call this is: import gpkit gpkit.disable_units()

    The following will *not* have the intended effect: from gpkit import disable_units disable_units()

`gpkit.`**`enable_signomials`**`()`
    Enables signomial support in a particular instance of GPkit.

`gpkit.`**`enable_units`**`()`
    Enables units support in a particular instance of GPkit.

    Posynomials created after calling this are incompatible with those created before.

    If gpkit is imported multiple times, this needs to be run each time.

8.2 Subpackages

8.2.1 gpkit.interactive

gpkit.interactive.plotting module

gpkit.interactive.printing module

gpkit.interactive.widget module

gpkit.interactive.ractor module

8.3 Submodules

8.3.1 gpkit.geometric_program

Module for creating GeometricProgram instances.

Example

```
>>> gp = gpkit.GeometricProgram(cost, constraints, substitutions)
```

class gpkit.geometric_program.**GPSolutionArray**
    Bases: *gpkit.small_classes.DictOfLists*

    DictofLists extended with posynomial substitution.

    getvars(*args*)

    senssubinto(*p*)
        Returns array of each solution's sensitivity substituted into p

        Returns only scalar values.

    subinto(*p*)
        Returns PosyArray of each solution substituted into p.

    table(*tables=['cost', 'freevariables', 'sweptvariables', 'constants', 'sensitivities'], fixed-cols=True*)

class gpkit.geometric_program.**GeometricProgram**(**args*, ***kwargs*)
    Bases: *gpkit.model.Model*

    Holds a model and cost function for passing to solvers.

    cost [Constraint] Posynomial to minimize when solving

    constraints [list of (lists of) Constraints] Constraints to maintain when solving (MonoEQConstraints will be turned into <= and >= constraints)

    substitutions [dict {varname: float or int} (optional)] Substitutions to be applied before solving (including sweeps)

    solver [str (optional)] Name of solver to use

    options [dict (optional)] Options to pass to solver

```
>>> gp = gpkit.GeometricProgram(  # minimize
                    0.5*rho*S*C_D*V**2,
                    [   # subject to
                        Re <= (rho/mu)*V*(S/A)**0.5,
                        C_f >= 0.074/Re**0.2,
                        W <= 0.5*rho*S*C_L*V**2,
                        W <= 0.5*rho*S*C_Lmax*V_min**2,
                        W >= W_0 + W_w,
                        W_w >= W_w_surf + W_w_strc,
                        C_D >= C_D_fuse + C_D_wpar + C_D_ind
                    ], substitutions)
>>> gp.solve()
```

model_nums = defaultdict(<type 'int'>, {})

solve(*args*, ***kwargs*)

test(*solver=None*, *printing=False*, *skipfailures=False*)

vars(*args*)

8.3.2 gpkit.model

Module for creating models.

Currently these are only used for GP instances, but they may be further abstractable.

class gpkit.model.**Model**

Bases: object

Abstract class with substituion, loading / saving, and p_idx/A generation

add_constraints(*constraints*)

checkbounds()

genA(*allpos=True*, *printing=True*)

load(*posytuple*)

rm_constraints(*constraints*)

sub(*substitutions*, *val=None*, *frombase='last'*, *replace=True*)

Substitutes into a model, modifying it in place.

gp.sub({'x': 1, y: 2}) gp.sub(x, 3, replace=True)

substitutions [dict or key] Either a dictionary whose keys are strings, Variables, or VarKeys, and whose values are numbers, or a string, Variable or Varkey.

val [number (optional)] If the substitutions entry is a single key, val holds the value

frombase [string (optional)] Which model state to update. By default updates the current state.

replace [boolean (optional, default is True)] Whether the substitution should only subtitute currently unsubstituted values (False) or should also make replacements of current substitutions (True).

No return value: the model is modified in place.

8.3.3 gpkit.nomials

Signomial, Posynomial, Monomial, Constraint, & MonoEQCOnstraint classes

class gpkit.nomials.**Constraint**(*p1*, *p2*)

> Bases: *gpkit.nomials.Posynomial*
>
> A constraint of the general form monomial > posynomial Stored internally (exps, cs) as a single Posynomial (1 >= self) Usually initialized via operator overloading, e.g. cc = y**2 >= 1 + x Additionally stores input format (lhs vs rhs) in self.right and self.left Form is self.left >= self.right.
>
> TODO: this documentation needs to address Signomial Constraints.

class gpkit.nomials.**MonoEQConstraint**(*p1*, *p2*)

> Bases: *gpkit.nomials.Constraint*
>
> A Constraint of the form Monomial == Monomial. Stored internally as a Monomial Constraint, (1 == self).

class gpkit.nomials.**Monomial**(*exps=None*, *cs=1*, *varlocsandkeys=None*, *require_positive=True*, ***descr*)

> Bases: *gpkit.nomials.Posynomial*
>
> A Posynomial with only one term
>
> Same as Signomial. Note: Monomial historically supported several different init formats
>
> > These will be deprecated in the future, replaced with a single __init__ syntax, same as Signomial.

class gpkit.nomials.**Posynomial**(*exps=None*, *cs=1*, *varlocsandkeys=None*, *require_positive=True*, ***descr*)

> Bases: *gpkit.nomials.Signomial*
>
> A Signomial with strictly positive cs
>
> Same as Signomial. Note: Posynomial historically supported several different init formats
>
> > These will be deprecated in the future, replaced with a single __init__ syntax, same as Signomial.

class gpkit.nomials.**Signomial**(*exps=None*, *cs=1*, *varlocsandkeys=None*, *require_positive=True*, ***descr*)

> Bases: object
>
> A representation of a signomial.
>
> **exps: tuple of dicts** Exponent dicts for each monomial term
>
> **cs: tuple** Coefficient values for each monomial term
>
> **varlocsandkeys: dict** mapping from variable name to list of indices of monomial terms that variable appears in
>
> **require_positive: bool** If True and signomials not enabled, c <= 0 will raise ValueError
>
> Signomial Posynomial (if the input has only positive cs) Monomial (if the input has one term and only positive cs)
>
> **descr**(*descr*)
>
> **diff**(*wrt*)
>
> > Derivative of this with respect to a Variable
> > **wrt (Variable):** Variable to take derivative with respect to
> > Signomial (or Posynomial or Monomial)
>
> **mono_approximation**(*x0*)
>
> **prod**()

sub (*substitutions*, *val=None*, *require_positive=True*)

   Returns a nomial with substitued values.

   3 == (x**2 + y).sub({'x': 1, y: 2}) 3 == (x).gp.sub(x, 3)

   substitutions [dict or key] Either a dictionary whose keys are strings, Variables, or VarKeys, and whose values are numbers, or a string, Variable or Varkey.

   val [number (optional)] If the substitutions entry is a single key, val holds the value

   require_positive [boolean (optional, default is True)] Controls whether the returned value can be a signomial.

   Returns substituted nomial.

subcmag (*substitutions*, *val=None*)

sum ()

to (*arg*)

value

   Self, with values substituted for variables that have values

   float, if no symbolic variables remain after substitution (Monomial, Posynomial, or Signomial), otherwise.

8.3.4 gpkit.posyarray

Module for creating PosyArray instances.

Example

```
>>> x = gpkit.Monomial('x')
>>> px = gpkit.PosyArray([1, x, x**2])
```

class gpkit.posyarray.**PosyArray**

   Bases: numpy.ndarray

   A Numpy array with elementwise inequalities and substitutions.

   input_array : array-like

```
>>> px = gpkit.PosyArray([1, x, x**2])
```

   c

   left

      Self, sampled one index down, with zeropad

   outer (*other*)

      Returns the array and argument's outer product.

   right

      Self, sampled one index up, with zeropad

   sub (*subs*, *val=None*, *require_positive=True*)

      Substitutes into the array

8.3.5 gpkit.small_classes

Miscellaneous small classes

class gpkit.small_classes.**CootMatrix**

    Bases: *gpkit.small_classes.CootMatrix*

    A very simple sparse matrix representation.

    append(*row*, *col*, *data*)

    shape = (None, None)

    tocoo()

        Converts to a Scipy sparse coo_matrix

    tocsc()

    tocsr()

    todense()

    todia()

    todok()

    update_shape()

gpkit.small_classes.**CootMatrixTuple**

    alias of *CootMatrix*

class gpkit.small_classes.**DictOfLists**

    Bases: dict

    A hierarchy of dicionaries, with lists at the bottom.

    append(*sol*)

        Appends a dict (of dicts) of lists to all held lists.

    atindex(*i*)

        Indexes into each list independently.

    toarray(*shape=None*)

        Converts all lists into arrays.

class gpkit.small_classes.**HashVector**(**args*, ***kwargs*)

    Bases: dict

    A simple, sparse, string-indexed vector. Inherits from dict.

    The HashVector class supports element-wise arithmetic: any undeclared variables are assumed to have a value of zero.

    arg : iterable

```
>>> x = gpkit.nomials.Monomial('x')
>>> exp = gpkit.small_classes.HashVector({x: 2})
```

class gpkit.small_classes.**PosyTuple**(*exps*, *cs*, *varlocs*, *substitutions*)

    Bases: tuple

    cs

        Alias for field number 1

    exps

        Alias for field number 0

    substitutions

        Alias for field number 3

> **varlocs**
> Alias for field number 2

gpkit.small_classes.**append_dict**(*i*, *o*)
> Recursviely travels dict o and appends items found in i.

class gpkit.small_classes.**count**
> Bases: object

gpkit.small_classes.**enlist_dict**(*i*, *o*)
> Recursviely copies dict i into o, placing non-dict items into lists.

gpkit.small_classes.**enray_dict**(*i*, *o*)
> Recursively turns lists into numpy arrays.

gpkit.small_classes.**index_dict**(*idx*, *i*, *o*)
> Recursviely travels dict i, placing items at idx into dict o.

8.3.6 gpkit.small_scripts

gpkit.small_scripts.**diff**(*p*, *vk*)

gpkit.small_scripts.**flatten**(*ible*, *classes*)
> Flatten an iterable that contains other iterables

> **l** [Iterable] Top-level container

> **out** [list] List of all objects found in the nested iterables

> **TypeError** If an object is found whose class was not in classes

gpkit.small_scripts.**invalid_types_for_oper**(*oper*, *a*, *b*)
> Raises TypeError for unsupported operations.

gpkit.small_scripts.**is_sweepvar**(*sub*)
> Determines if a given substitution indicates a sweep.

gpkit.small_scripts.**isequal**(*a*, *b*)

gpkit.small_scripts.**latex_num**(*c*)

gpkit.small_scripts.**locate_vars**(*exps*)
> From exponents form a dictionary of which monomials each variable is in.

gpkit.small_scripts.**mag**(*c*)
> Return magnitude of a Number or Quantity

gpkit.small_scripts.**mono_approx**(*p*, *x0*)

gpkit.small_scripts.**results_table**(*data*, *title*, *minval=0*, *printunits=True*, *fixed-cols=True*, *varfmt='%s : '*, *valfmt='%-.4g '*, *vecfmt='%-8.3g'*)
> Pretty string representation of a dict of VarKeys Iterable values are handled specially (partial printing)

> **data: dict whose keys are VarKey's** data to represent in table

> title: string minval: float

> > skip values with all(abs(value)) < minval

> printunits: bool fixedcols: bool

if True, print rhs (val, units, label) in fixed-width cols

varfmt: string format for variable names

valfmt: string format for scalar values

vecfmt: string format for vector values

gpkit.small_scripts.**sort_and_simplify**(*exps*, *cs*)
  Reduces the number of monomials, and casts them to a sorted form.

gpkit.small_scripts.**unitstr**(*units*, *into='%s'*, *options='~'*, *dimless='-'*)

8.3.7 gpkit.substitution

Module containing the substitution function

gpkit.substitution.**getsubs**(*varkeys*, *varlocs*, *substitutions*)

gpkit.substitution.**substitution**(*varlocs*, *varkeys*, *exps*, *cs*, *substitutions*, *val=None*)
  Efficient substituton into a list of monomials.

varlocs [dict] Dictionary mapping variables to lists of monomial indices.

exps [Iterable of dicts] Dictionary mapping variables to exponents, for each monomial.

cs [list] Coefficient for each monomial.

substitutions [dict] Substitutions to apply to the above.

val [number (optional)] Used to substitute singlet variables.

varlocs_ [dict] Dictionary of monomial indexes for each variable.

exps_ [dict] Dictionary of variable exponents for each monomial.

cs_ [list] Coefficients each monomial.

subs_ [dict] Substitutions to apply to the above.

gpkit.substitution.**vectorsub**(*subs*, *var*, *sub*, *varset*)
  Vectorized substitution

Citing GPkit

If you use GPkit, please cite it with the following bibtex:

```
@Misc{gpkit,
      author={MIT Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics},
      title={GPkit},
      howpublished={\url{https://github.com/convexopt/gpkit}},
      year={2015},
      note={Version 0.2}
      }
```

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- Marshall Galbraith for setting up continuous integration.
- Stephen Boyd for inspiration and suggestions.

Release Notes

This page lists the changes made in each point version of gpkit.

11.1 Version 0.2.0

- Various bug fixes
- Python 3 compatibility
- Added signomial programming support (alpha quality, may be wrong)
- Added composite objectives
- Parallelized sweeping
- Better table printing
- Linked sweep variables
- Better error messages
- Closest feasible point capability
- Improved install process (no longer requires ctypesgen; auto-detects MOSEK version)
- Added examples: wind turbine, modular GP, examples from 1967 book, maintenance (part replacement)
- Documentation grew by ~70%
- Added Advanced Commands section to documentation
- Many additional unit tests (more than doubled testing lines of code)

g

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