

# SOS-Convex Lyapunov Functions for Switched Systems

**Amir Ali Ahmadi**

**Goldstine Fellow, Mathematical Programming Group  
IBM Watson Research Center**

Joint work with:

**Raphaël Jungers**  
UC Louvain

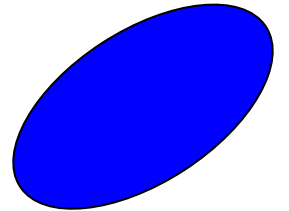


# Convex Lyapunov functions

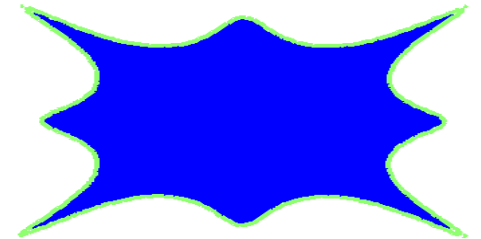
- **Q:** What do we gain/lose by requiring a Lyapunov function to be convex?

- Quadratic Lyapunov functions are automatically convex:

$$x^T P x \text{ convex} \Leftrightarrow \text{psd}$$



- Not necessarily true for more complicated Lyapunov functions, e.g., polynomials of higher degree:



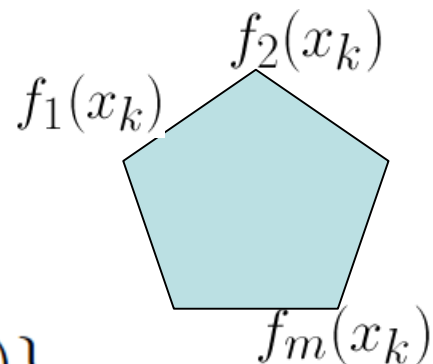
# Our setting: switched systems

- Uncertain and time-varying nonlinear system:

$$x_{k+1} = \tilde{f}(x_k)$$

$$\tilde{f}(x_k) \in \text{conv}\{f_1(x_k), \dots, f_m(x_k)\}$$

$$f_1, \dots, f_m : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$



- Interested in: *asymptotic stability under arbitrary switching*
- Special case:  $x_{k+1} \in \text{conv}\{A_i x_k\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m$
- Stability equivalent to “**JSR<1**”

Joint spectral radius (JSR):

$$\rho(\mathcal{A}) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max_{\sigma \in \{1, \dots, m\}^k} \|A_{\sigma_k} \dots A_{\sigma_2} A_{\sigma_1}\|^{1/k}$$



# Agenda for today

1. Computational search for convex polynomial Lyapunov functions
  1. sos-convex Lyapunov functions (SDP based)
- 2. Convexity in analysis of switched linear systems**
- 3. Convexity in analysis of switched nonlinear systems**
4. Max-of-convex-polynomial Lyapunov functions and path-complete graphs



# Algorithmic aspects

- How to search for convex polynomial Lyapunov functions?
- For quadratics is easy: CQLF is a straight LMI...
- Higher degree is a different story:

**Thm:** Deciding whether a degree-4 polynomial is convex is NP-hard in the strong sense.

[AAA, Olshevsky, Parrilo, Tsitsiklis – *Math Prog.* '13]

- If can't decide, certainly can't optimize
- Tractable relaxations?

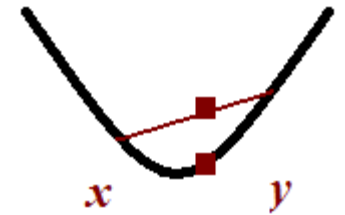


# Equivalent characterizations of convexity

- Basic definition:

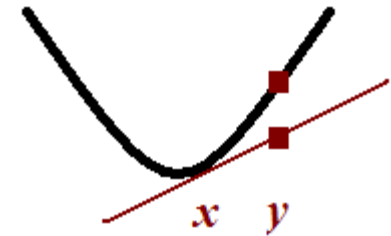
$$\lambda p(x) + (1 - \lambda) p(y) \geq p(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda) y)$$

$$\forall x, y \forall \lambda \in [0, 1] \quad (\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \text{ enough})$$



- First order condition:

$$p(y) \geq p(x) + \nabla^T p(x)(y - x) \quad \forall x, y$$



- Second order condition:

$$y^T H(x) y \geq 0 \quad \forall x, y$$

- Algebraic relaxations: “**simply replace  $\geq$  with sos**”

- All become an SDP



# Each condition can be SOS-ified

▪ Basic definition:

$$\textcircled{A} \quad g_{\frac{1}{2}}(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} p(x) + \frac{1}{2} p(y) - p\left(\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}y\right) \text{ SOS}$$

▪ First order condition:

$$\textcircled{B} \quad g_{\nabla}(x, y) = p(y) - p(x) - \nabla^T p(x)(y - x) \text{ SOS}$$

▪ Second order condition:

$$\textcircled{C} \quad g_{\nabla^2}(x, y) = y^T H(x) y \text{ SOS}$$



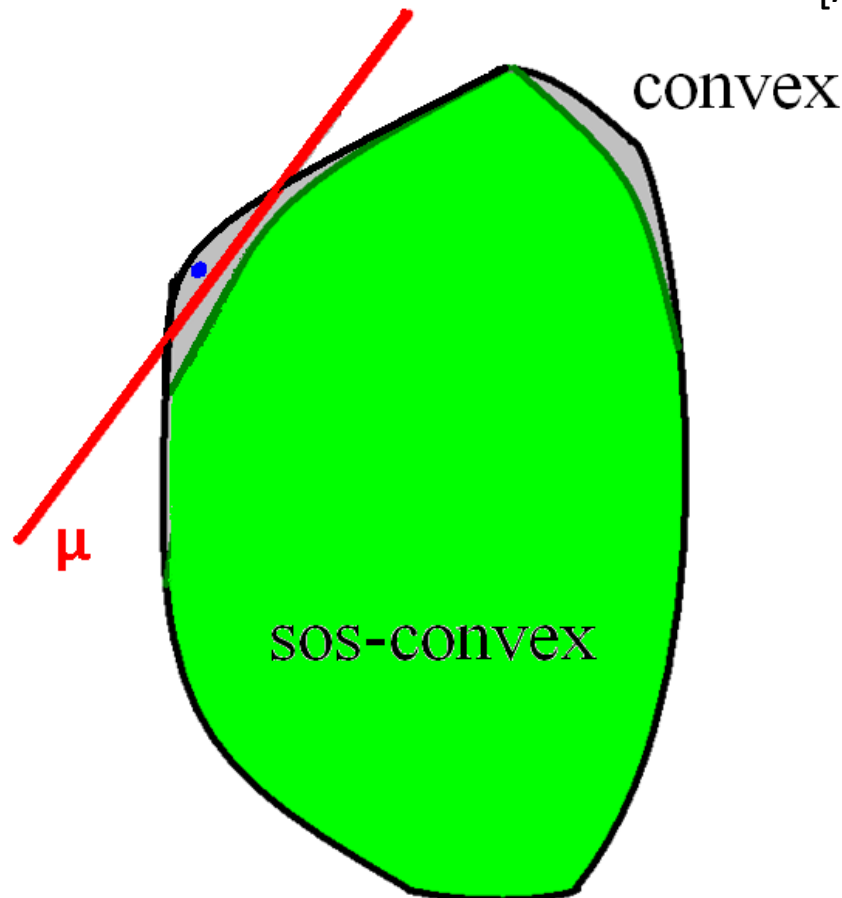
[AAA, Parrilo – *SIAM J. on Optimization*, '13]



# A convex polynomial that is not sos-convex

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) = & 32x_1^8 + 118x_1^6x_2^2 + 40x_1^6x_3^2 + 25x_1^4x_2^4 - 43x_1^4x_2^2x_3^2 \\ & - 35x_1^4x_3^4 + 3x_1^2x_2^4x_3^2 - 16x_1^2x_2^2x_3^4 + 24x_1^2x_3^6 + 16x_2^8 \\ & + 44x_2^6x_3^2 + 70x_2^4x_3^4 + 60x_2^2x_3^6 + 30x_3^8 \end{aligned}$$

[AAA, Parrilo – *Math Prog.*, '11]





# Convexity = SOS-Convexity?

- We have a complete characterization:

## Polynomials

n,d	2	4	$\geq 6$
1	yes	yes	yes
2	yes	yes	no
3	yes	no	no
$\geq 4$	yes	no	no

## Forms (homog. polynomials)

n,d	2	4	$\geq 6$
1	yes	yes	yes
2	yes	yes	yes
3	yes	yes	no
$\geq 4$	yes	no	no

[AAA, Parrilo – *Math Prog.*, '11]

[AAA, Parrilo – *SIAM J. on Opt.*, '13]

[AAA, Blekherman, Parrilo – upcoming]



# SOS-convex Lyapunov functions

$$x_{k+1} \in \text{conv}\{A_i x_k\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

**Defn:** An *sos-convex Lyapunov function* is a homogenous polynomial  $V(x)$  (of even degree) that satisfies:

$$\begin{array}{ll} V(x) & \text{sos-convex} \\ V(x) - V(A_i x) & \text{sos for } i = 1, \dots, m. \end{array}$$

## Notes:

- Search for  $V(x)$  is an SDP
- More tractable alternatives based on DSOS and SDSOS programming (LP and SOCP) [AAA, Majumdar'13]
- Convex forms are automatically nonnegative
- SOS-convex forms are sos



# A converse Lyapunov theorem

$$x_{k+1} \in \text{conv}\{A_i x_k\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

**Thm:** SOS-convex Lyapunov functions are *universal* (i.e., *necessary and sufficient*) for stability.

## Notes:

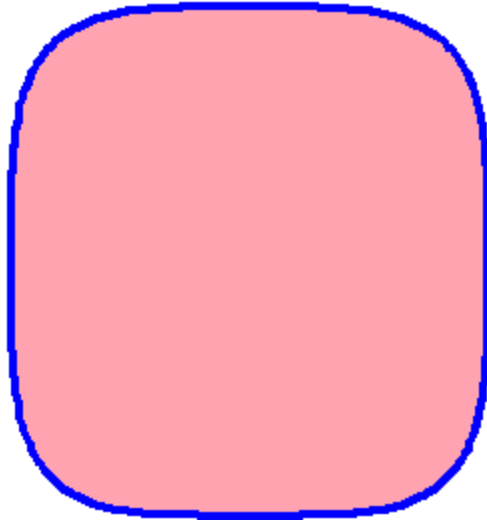
- Previously known:
  - Convex (norm) Lyapunov functions universal (classical)
  - Polynomial (and sos) Lyapunov functions universal [Parrilo, Jadbabaie]

## Proof idea:

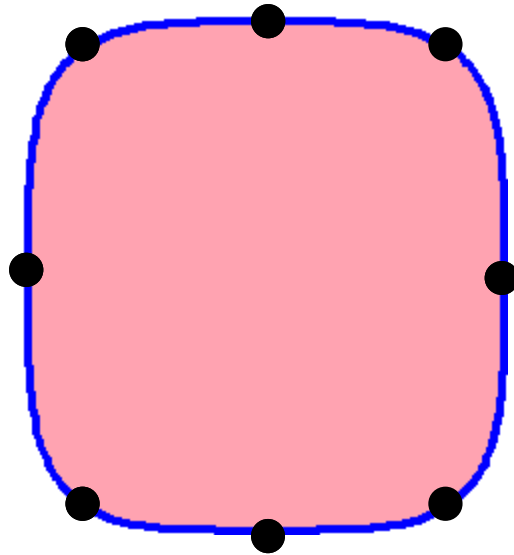
- Approximate norms with convex polynomials
  - Similar construction by Mason et al. in continuous time
- In a second step, go from convex to sos-convex



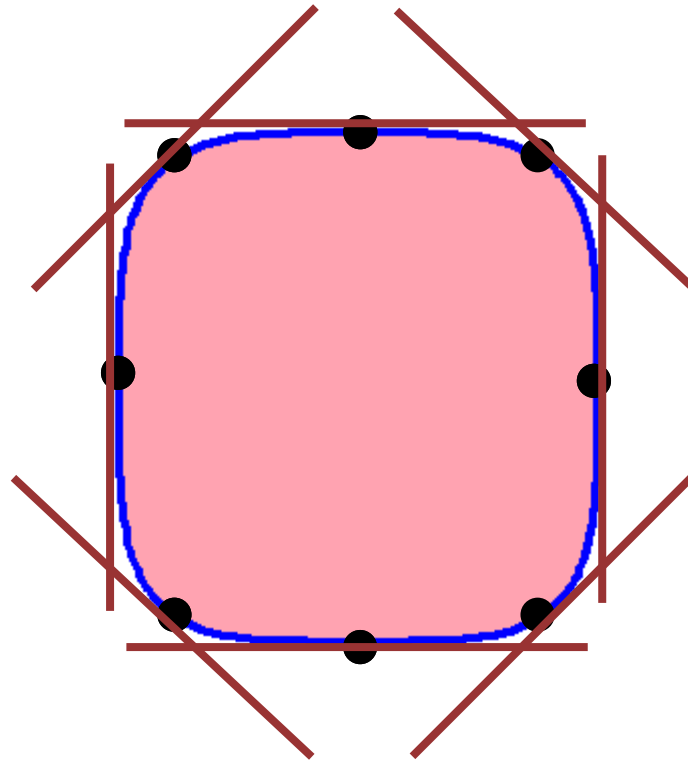
# Proof idea



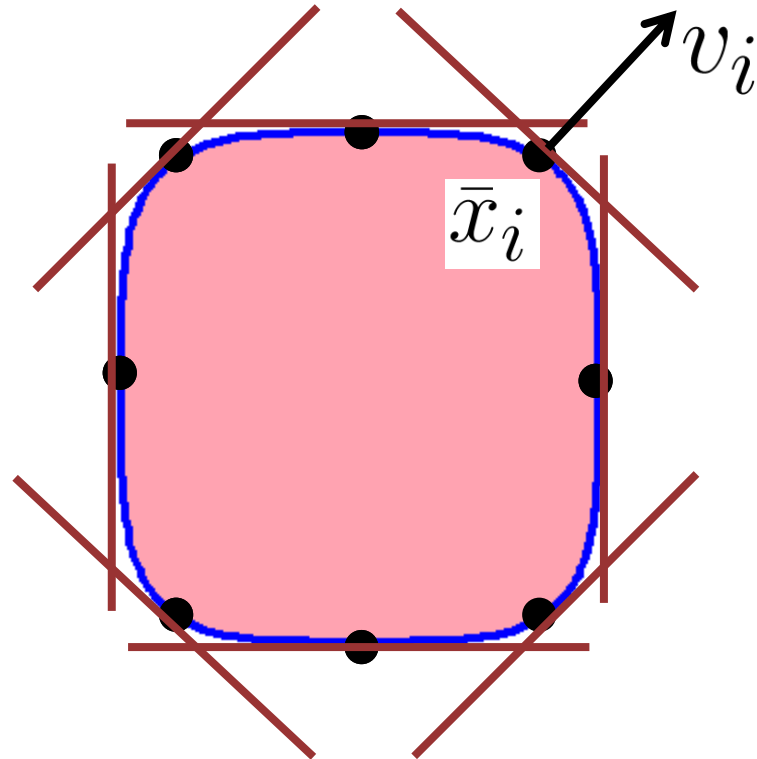
# Proof idea



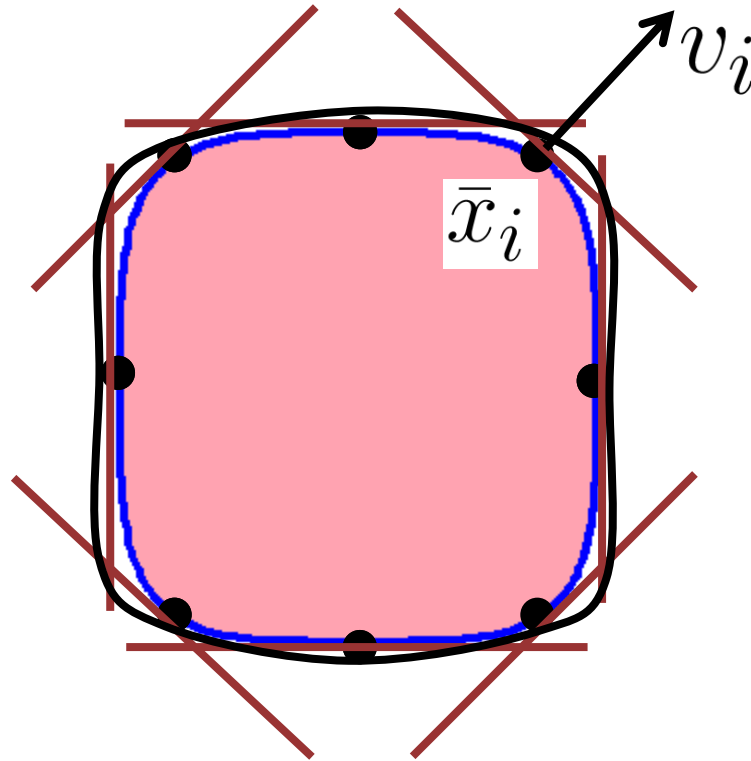
# Proof idea



# Proof idea



# Proof idea



$$p(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{v_i^T x}{v_i^T \bar{x}_i} \right)^{2d} \quad (\text{clearly convex})$$





# From convex to sos-convex

## Thm:

convex polynomial Lyapunov function  $\rightarrow$  **sos-convex** Lyapunov function

- Proof is algebraic.

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{v_i^T x}{v_i^T \bar{x}_i} \right)^{2d}$$

- This is already an sos-convex polynomial
- But need to worry about:

$$p(x) - p(A_i x), \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

not being sos.

This can happen; see [AAA, Parrilo, CDC'11]



# From convex to sos-convex

- A recent Positivstellensatz result of Claus Scheiderer:

**Thm:** (Scheiderer'11) Given any two positive definite forms  $g$  and  $h$ , there exists an integer  $k$  such that  $g \cdot h^k$  is sos.

Our new Lyapunov function:  $q(x) = p^k(x)$  (for large enough  $k$ )

$$q(x) - q(A_i x) = p^k(x) - p^k(A_i x) \leftarrow \text{will be sos}$$

Nice identity: 
$$a^k - b^k = (a - b) \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} a^{k-1-l} b^l$$



# Polynomial vs. convex polynomial

**Thm:** The minimum degree of a convex polynomial Lyapunov function can be **arbitrarily higher** than a non-convex one.

**Proof:**

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\{\gamma A_1, \gamma A_2\}$

- Stable for  $\gamma < 1$
- But degree of convex polynomial Lyapunov function  $\rightarrow \infty$  as  $\gamma \rightarrow 1$
- However, a polynomial Lyapunov function of degree 4 works for all  $\gamma < 1$

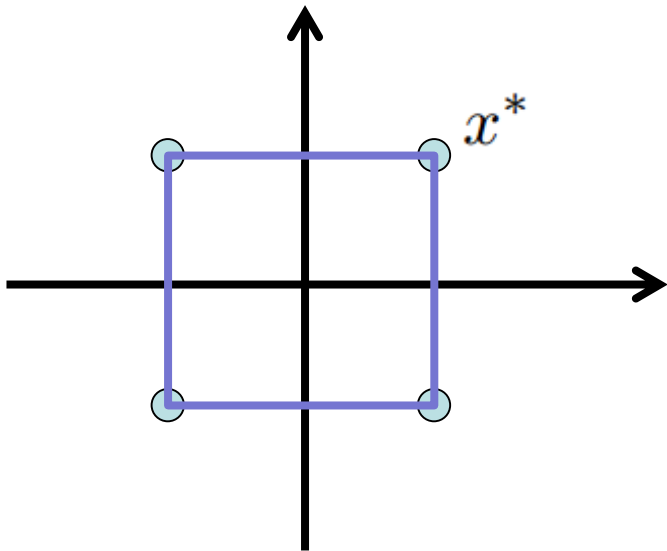


# Proof

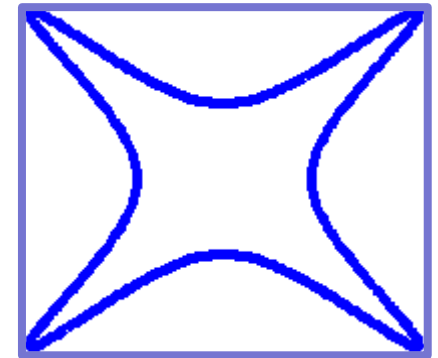
What can the 1-level set of a convex Lyapunov function look like?

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \subset \mathcal{A}^*$$



How can a non-convex polynomial do this?



## Lemma:

- If  $S$  is invariant, then  $\text{conv}(S)$  is also invariant.
- The **Minkowski norm** that  $\text{conv}(S)$  defines is a new convex (non-polynomial) Lyapunov function.

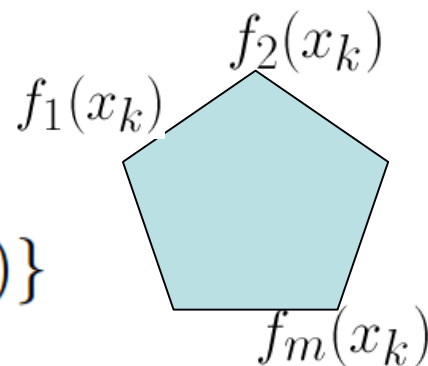


# Nonlinear switched systems

$$x_{k+1} = \tilde{f}(x_k)$$

$$\tilde{f}(x_k) \in \text{conv}\{f_1(x_k), \dots, f_m(x_k)\}$$

$$f_1, \dots, f_m : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$



## Lemma:

- Unlike the linear case, stability of a switched system on the corners only **does not imply** stability of the convex hull.
- Unlike the linear case, a common Lyapunov function for the corners **does not imply** stability of the convex hull.

Ex.

**Common Lyapunov function:**

$$f_1(x) = (x_1x_2, 0)^T$$

$$V(x) = x_1^2x_2^2 + (x_1^2 + x_2^2)$$

$$f_2(x) = (0, x_1x_2)^T$$

$$V(f_i(x)) = x_1^2x_2^2 < V(x) = x_1^2x_2^2 + (x_1^2 + x_2^2)$$

**But unstable:**

$$f(x) = \left( \frac{x_1x_2}{2}, \frac{x_1x_2}{2} \right) \in \text{conv}\{f_1(x_k), f_2(x_k)\}$$

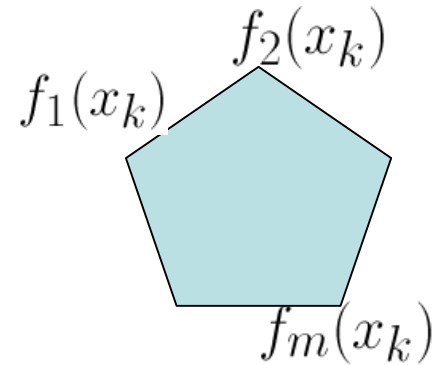


# But a convex Lyapunov function implies stability

$$x_{k+1} = \tilde{f}(x_k)$$

$$\tilde{f}(x_k) \in \text{conv}\{f_1(x_k), \dots, f_m(x_k)\}$$

$$f_1, \dots, f_m : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$



Suppose we can find a **convex** common Lyapunov function:

$$V(x) > 0, \quad V(f_i(x)) < V(x) \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m$$

Then, then we have stability of the convex hull.

**Proof:** 
$$V(\tilde{f}(x)) = V\left(\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i f_i(x)\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i V(f_i(x)) < V(x)$$



# Example revisited

Ex.

**Common Lyapunov function:**

$$f_1(x) = (x_1x_2, 0)^T$$

$$V(x) = x_1^2x_2^2 + (x_1^2 + x_2^2)$$

$$f_2(x) = (0, x_1x_2)^T$$

$$V(f_i(x)) = x_1^2x_2^2 < V(x) = x_1^2x_2^2 + (x_1^2 + x_2^2)$$

**But unstable:**

$$f(x) = \left( \frac{x_1x_2}{2}, \frac{x_1x_2}{2} \right) \in \text{conv}\{f_1(x_k), f_2(x_k)\}$$

---

**A different Lyapunov function:**  $W(x) = x_1^2 + x_2^2$

$$W(f_i(x)) = x_1^2x_2^2$$

$$< x_1^2 + x_2^2$$

$$= W(x)$$

$$\text{on } S = \{x : -1 \leq x_1, x_2 \leq 1\}$$

And  $S$  is invariant  $\rightarrow S$  is part of the ROA under switching



# ROA Computation via SDP

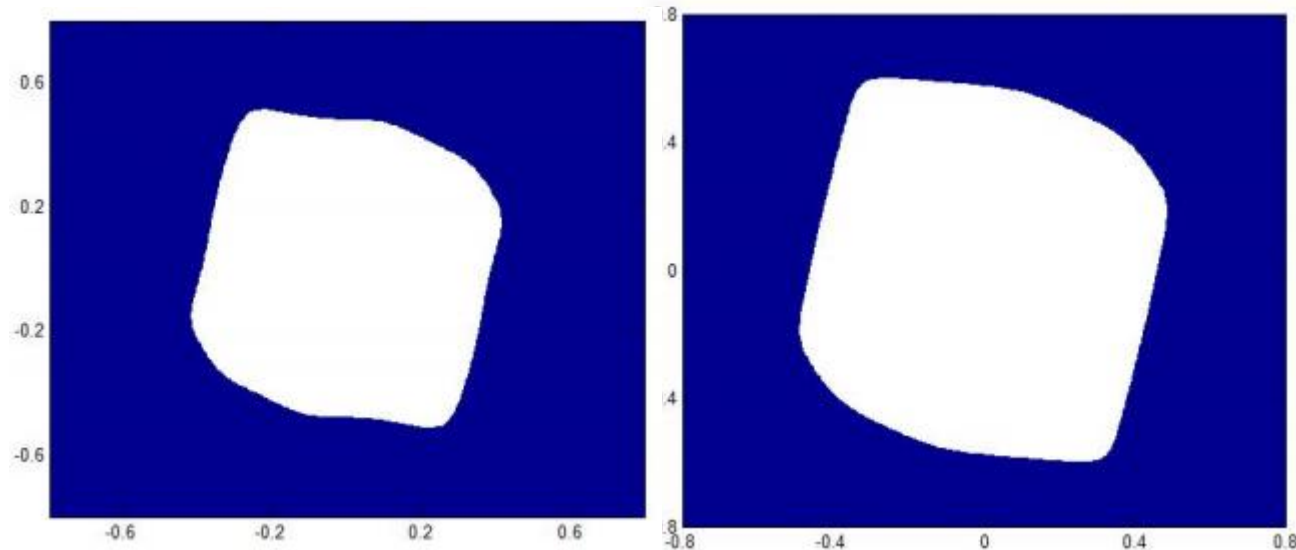
$$f_1(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.687x_1 + 0.558x_2 - .0001x_1x_2 \\ -0.292x_1 + 0.773x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f_2(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.369x_1 + 0.532x_2 - .0001x_1^2 \\ -1.27x_1 + 0.12x_2 - .0001x_1x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Linearization:

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.687 & 0.558 \\ -0.292 & 0.773 \end{pmatrix}, A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.369 & 0.532 \\ -1.27 & 0.12 \end{pmatrix}$$

- JSR < 1
- No polynomial Lyapunov function of degree less than 12
- No convex polynomial Lyapunov function of degree less than 14



non-convex, deg=12

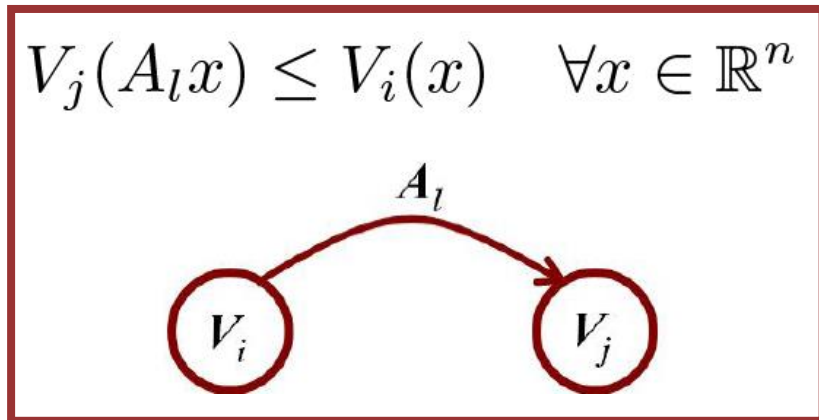
sos-convex, deg=14

- **Left:**  
Cannot make any statements about ROA
- **Right:**  
A second SOS problem verifies the largest level set included in the ROA



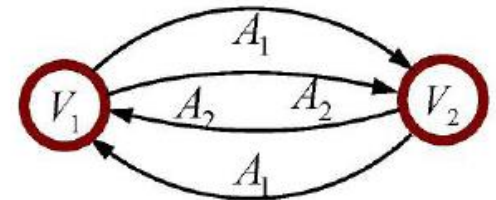
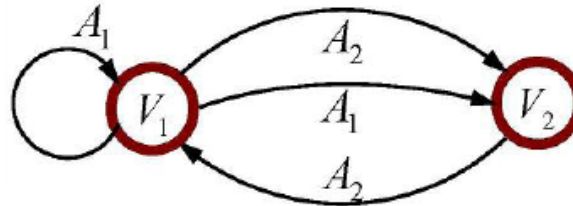
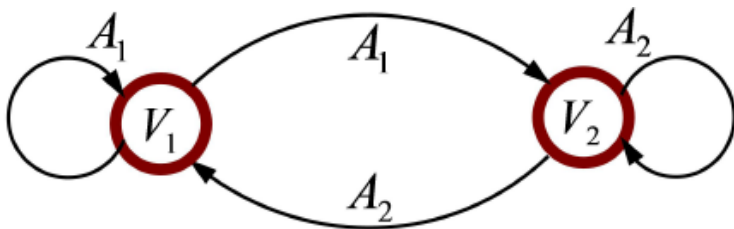
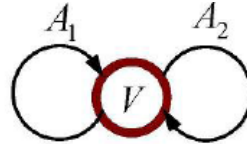
# Convex, but beyond polynomials

- Parameterization of *pointwise maximum* of (sos-convex) Lyapunov functions



**Nodes:** Lyapunov functions  
**Edges:** Lyapunov inequalities  
**Edge labels:** transition maps

- Take **any** graph whose nodes have **incoming edges with all labels**



More general story:

- Path-completeness:** a characterization of **all** stability-proving LMIs



Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

Want to know more?

<http://aaa.lids.mit.edu/>

