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# Solving unconstrained 0-1 polynomial programs through quadratic convex reformulation 

Sourour Elloumi ${ }^{1,2}$. Amélie Lambert ${ }^{1}$. Arnaud Lazare ${ }^{1,2}$

12 March 2020


#### Abstract

We propose a method called Polynomial Quadratic Convex Reformulation (PQCR) to solve exactly unconstrained binary polynomial problems (UBP) through quadratic convex reformulation. First, we quadratize the problem by adding new binary variables and reformulating (UBP) into a non-convex quadratic program with linear constraints (MIQP). We then consider the solution of (MIQP) with a speciallytailored quadratic convex reformulation method. In particular, this method relies, in a pre-processing step, on the resolution of a semi-definite programming problem where the link between initial and additional variables is used. We present computational results where we compare PQCR with the solvers Baron and Scip. We evaluate PQCR on instances of the image restoration problem and the low auto-correlation binary sequence problem from MINLPLib. For this last problem, 33 instances were unsolved in MINLPLib. We solve to optimality 10 of them, and for the 23 others we significantly improve the dual bounds. We also improve the best known solutions of many instances.


Keywords Unconstrained binary polynomial programming, Global optimization, Semi-definite programming, Quadratic convex reformulation

## 1 Introduction

In this paper, we are interested in solving the unconstrained binary polynomial optimization problem that can be stated as follows:

[^0]\[

(U B P)\left\{$$
\begin{array}{l}
\min F(x)=\sum_{p=1}^{m} a_{p} \prod_{i \in \mathcal{M}_{p}} x_{i} \\
\text { s.t. } \quad x_{i} \in\{0,1\}, \quad i \in I
\end{array}
$$\right.
\]

where $I=\{1, . ., n\}, F(x)$ is an $n$-variable multi-linear function of degree $d$ and $m$ is the number of monomials. For a monomial $p, \mathcal{M}_{p}$ is the subset of $I$ containing the indexes of the variables involved in $p$. It follows that $d=\max _{p}\left|\mathcal{M}_{p}\right|$.

Unconstrained binary polynomial optimization is a general model that allows to formulate many important problems in optimization. The special case where the polynomial objective function of (UBP) is a quadratic function (i.e. $d=2$ ) has been widely studied. In this case, (UBP) has many applications, including those from financial analysis [28], cluster analysis [35], computer aided design [24] or machine scheduling [36. Moreover, many graph combinatorial optimization problems such as determining maximum cliques, maximum cuts, maximum vertex packing or maximum independent sets can be formulated as quadratic optimization problems [5, 13, 34. In the cubic case (i.e. $d=3$ ), the important class of satisfiability problems known as 3 -SAT, can be formulated as (UBP) [23]. In the case where $d \geq 3$, there also exists many applications including, for example: the construction of binary sequences with low aperiodic correlation [7] that is one of the most challenging problems in signal design theory, or the image restoration problem in computer vision [16.

Problem (UBP) is NP-hard in general [18. Practical difficulties come from the non-convexity of $F$ and the integrality of its variables. Several algorithms can handle (UBP). In particular, methods were designed to solve the more general class of mixed-integer nonlinear programs. These methods are branch-and-bound algorithms based on a convex relaxation of (UBP). The most classical relaxation consists in the complete linearization of (UBP), but quadratic convex relaxations can also be used. For instance, the well known $\alpha$-branch-and-bound algorithm [2] computes, at each node, convex under-estimators of nonlinear functions by perturbing the diagonal of the Hessian matrix of the objective function. Several implementations of these algorithms are available, see for instance Baron [37], Antigone [32], SCIP [1] or Couenne [6].

In the case where the objective function is a polynomial, but the variables are continuous, Lasserre proposes in [26] an algorithm based on a hierarchy of semi-definite relaxations. The idea is, at each rank of the hierarchy, to successively tighten semidefinite relaxations in order to reach its optimal solution value. It is also proven in [26] that this hierarchy converges in a finite number of iterations. Further, this work has been extended to hierarchies of second order conic programs 3, 19, 25, and of sparse doubly non-negative relaxation [22]. Although these algorithms were not originally tailored for binary programming, they can handle (UBP) by considering the quadratic constraint $x_{i}^{2}=x_{i}$. Methods devoted to the binary polynomial case were also proposed. In [14]27, the authors use separable or convex under-estimators to approximate a given polynomial. Other methods based on linear reformulations can be found in 16 38, in which linear equivalent formulations to (UBP) are proposed and then improved. In [15], the authors focus on a polyhedral description of the linearization of a binary polynomial program. Finally, the work in 4] considers quadratizations with a minimal number of additional variables.

In the quadratic case $(d=2),(\mathrm{UBP})$ can be exactly solved by quadratic convex reformulation. This general approach allows to reformulate any non-convex mixed integer quadratic problem into a convex mixed-integer quadratic problem. An equivalent convex formulation, with the sharpest continuous relaxation bound, is obtained from the solution of a semi-definite programming relaxation, in a pre-processing phase of the whole method. An initial version, named QCR, was introduced in [8, [12. An improved version, named MIQCR, was further proposed in 9,10 17. MIQCR relies on the solution of a heavier SDP program than QCR in order to reach sharper reformulated problems.

## Our contribution in this paper:

We extend quadratic convex reformulation to polynomial problems like (UBP). We start by adding some auxiliary variables in order to reformulate (UBP) into an equivalent mixed integer quadratic problem having a quadratic objective function, linear constraints, and binary variables. To the best of our knowledge, this quadratization is original. Then, we experimentally observe that QCR and MIQCR methods are not able to solve our equivalent quadratic formulation. We hence devise a specific quadratic convex reformulation that uses the links between the original and auxiliary variables. This new quadratic convex reformulation, that we call PQCR (Polynomial Quadratic Convex Reformulation), relies on an SDP relaxation which is stronger than QCR, but weaker than MIQCR. We show that PQCR computationally outperforms both, and is moreover competitive with state-of-the-art exact methods for (UBP).

The outline of the paper is the following. In Section 2, we define and present our quadratizations of (UBP). In Section 3, we introduce our family of convex reformulations and we prove how we compute the best parameters. Then, in Section 4, we present our computational results on polynomial instances of degree 4 coming from the literature. Section 5 draws a conclusion.

## 2 Phase 1: Quadratization of (UBP)

In this section, we present how we build equivalent quadratic formulations to (UBP). For this, in each monomial of degree 3 or greater, we iteratively replace each product of two variables by an additional variable. Hence, any additional variable is the product of two other initial or additional variables.

More formally, we define the set of indexes of the additional variables $\mathcal{A}=\{n+$ $1, . ., N\}$, where $N$ is the total number of initial and additional variables. We also define the subsets $\mathcal{E}_{i}$ for both initial and additional variables, and the mapping $f$ and $s$ defining any additional variable as the product of two other variables as follows:

Definition 1 Quadratization $\mathcal{Z}=(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}, f, s)$
We define $\mathcal{E}_{i} \forall i \in I \cup \mathcal{A}$ and mappings $f: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow I \cup \mathcal{A}$ and $s: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow I \cup \mathcal{A}$ as follows:

- If $i \in I$, i.e. $x_{i}$ is an initial variable, then we set $\mathcal{E}_{i}=\{i\}$
- If $i \in \mathcal{A}$, i.e. $x_{i}$ is an additional variable, then there exist two indexes $(f(i), s(i)) \in$ $(I \cup \mathcal{A})^{2}$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
x_{i}=x_{f(i)} x_{s(i)} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

and we set $\mathcal{E}_{i}=\mathcal{E}_{f(i)} \cup \mathcal{E}_{s(i)}$

It follows from Definition 1 that, $\forall i \in I \cup \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}_{i}$ is the subset of indexes from $I$ whose product is equal to $x_{i}$, precisely:

$$
\begin{equation*}
x_{i}=\prod_{i^{\prime} \in \mathcal{E}_{i}} x_{i^{\prime}} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

We now define a valid quadratization as a reformulation with $N$ variables where any monomial of degree at least three is replaced by the product of two variables.

Definition 2 Valid quadratization
A quadratization $\mathcal{Z}=(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}, f, s)$ is a valid quadratization with $N=|I \cup \mathcal{A}|$ variables if, for any monomial $p$ of degree greater than or equal to 3 (i.e. $\left|\mathcal{M}_{p}\right| \geq 3$ ), there exist $(j, k) \in(I \cup \mathcal{A})^{2}$ such that $\mathcal{M}_{p}=\mathcal{E}_{j} \cup \mathcal{E}_{k}$ and $\prod_{i \in \mathcal{M}_{p}} x_{i}=x_{j} x_{k}$. Then the monomial $p$ is replaced by a quadratic term.

In Section 3 (see Algorithm 2), we present an algorithm that allows to build a valid quadratization, and that we use in our experiments. Now, we are rather interested in the reformulation that one can deduce from a given quadratization.

Given a valid quadratization $\mathcal{Z}=(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}, f, s)$ and with a slight misuse of notation, we will consider that $x$ is a vector of $N$ variables and that the objective function $F$ of (UBP) can be applied to this $N$-dimensional vector. We derive from Definition 2 the following reformulation of $F(x)$ into a quadratic form $g^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)$ :

$$
g^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)=\sum_{\substack{p:\left|\mathcal{M}_{p}\right| \geq 3 \\ \mathcal{M}_{p}=\mathcal{E}_{j} \cup \mathcal{E}_{k}}} a_{p} x_{j} x_{k}+\sum_{p:\left|\mathcal{M}_{p}\right| \leq 2} a_{p} \prod_{i \in \mathcal{M}_{p}} x_{i}
$$

and by splitting $g^{\mathcal{Z}}$ into its quadratic and linear parts and introducing the symmetric $N \times N$ matrix $Q$ and the $N$-vector $c$ with the right entries deduced from coefficients $a_{p}$, we will below adopt the following notation for function $g^{\mathcal{Z}}$ :

$$
g^{\mathcal{Z}}(x) \equiv x^{T} Q x+c^{T} x
$$

From Definitions 1 and 2, it holds that $g^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)=F(x)$ for any $x$ satisfying 11 . Our reformulation of (UBP) into a non-convex mixed-integer quadratic program $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ follows from all this.

$$
\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right) \begin{cases}\min g^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)=x^{T} Q x+c^{T} x &  \tag{3}\\ \text { s.t. } & \\ x_{i} \leq x_{f(i)} & i \in \mathcal{A} \\ x_{i} \leq x_{s(i)} & i \in \mathcal{A} \\ x_{i} \geq x_{f(i)}+x_{s(i)}-1 & i \in \mathcal{A} \\ x_{i} \geq 0 & i \in \mathcal{A} \\ x_{i} \in\{0,1\} & i \in I \cup \mathcal{A}\end{cases}
$$

Where Constraints (3)-(6) are the standard linearization inequalities that, together with $\sqrt[7]{7}$, enforce the identity (1). In the following we denote by $\mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ the set of solutions defined by Constraints (3)-(7).

We now focus on the solution of problem $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ in order to solve our original problem (UBP). The quadratic reformulation $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ still has two difficulties: the non-convexity of its objective function $g^{\mathcal{Z}}$ and the integrality of its variables. Some state-of-the-art solvers can solve $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ to global optimality. These solvers may not be enough efficient for solving dense instances. In the next section, we present method PQCR, a new algorithm tailored for binary polynomial optimisation. The key idea is that the convexification phase can take advantage of the quadratization $\mathcal{Z}$ to compute an equivalent convex formulation to $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$.

## 3 Phase 2: A quadratic convex reformulation of ( $M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}$ )

In this section, we consider the problem of reformulating $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ by an equivalent quadratic $0-1$ program with a convex objective function. To do this, we define a new convex function whose value is equal to the value of $g^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)$, but whose Hessian matrix is positive semi-definite. More precisely, we first add to $g^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)$ a combination of four sets of functions that vanish on the feasible set $\mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}$. Then we focus on computing the best combination that leads to a convex function and that maximize the optimal value of the continuous relaxation of the reformulated problem.
3.1 Valid quadratic equalities on the set $\mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}$

Given a quadratization $\mathcal{Z}=(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}, f, s)$, we introduce null quadratic functions over the set $\mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}$.
Lemma 1 The following quadratic forms vanish over the set $\mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ :

$$
\left(S^{\mathcal{Z}}\right) \begin{cases}x_{i}^{2}-x_{i}=0 & i \in I \cup \mathcal{A}  \tag{8}\\ x_{i}-x_{f(i)} x_{s(i)}=0 & i \in \mathcal{A} \\ x_{i}-x_{i} x_{j}=0 & (i, j) \in \mathcal{A} \times(I \cup \mathcal{A}): \mathcal{E}_{j} \subset \mathcal{E}_{i} \\ x_{i} x_{j}-x_{k} x_{l}=0 & (i, j, k, l) \in(I \cup \mathcal{A})^{4}: \mathcal{E}_{i} \cup \mathcal{E}_{j}=\mathcal{E}_{k} \cup \mathcal{E}_{l}\end{cases}
$$

Proof. Constraints (8) trivially hold since $x \in\{0,1\}^{N}$. Constraints (9) come from Equality (1). For proving the validity of Constraints 10) and (11), we start by observing that by definition and since $x \in\{0,1\}^{N}$, we have:

$$
x_{i} x_{j}=\prod_{i^{\prime} \in \mathcal{E}_{i}} x_{i^{\prime}} \prod_{j^{\prime} \in \mathcal{E}_{j}} x_{j^{\prime}}=\prod_{i^{\prime} \in \mathcal{E}_{i} \cup \mathcal{E}_{j}} x_{i^{\prime}}
$$

- Constraints 10): since $x \in\{0,1\}^{N}$, and $\mathcal{E}_{j} \subset \mathcal{E}_{i}$, we have:

$$
x_{i} x_{j}=\prod_{i^{\prime} \in \mathcal{E}_{i}} x_{i^{\prime}}=x_{i}
$$

- Constraints 11): since $x \in\{0,1\}^{N}$, and $\mathcal{E}_{i} \cup \mathcal{E}_{j}=\mathcal{E}_{k} \cup \mathcal{E}_{l}$, we have:

$$
x_{i} x_{j}=\prod_{i^{\prime} \in \mathcal{E}_{i} \cup \mathcal{E}_{j}} x_{i^{\prime}}=\prod_{k^{\prime} \in \mathcal{E}_{k} \cup \mathcal{E}_{l}} x_{k^{\prime}}=x_{k} x_{l}
$$

3.2 An equivalent quadratic convex formulation to $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$

We now compute a quadratic convex reformulation of $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ and thus of (UBP). For this, we add to the objective function $g^{\mathcal{Z}}$ the null quadratic forms in (8)-11. For each of them, we associate a real scalar parameter: $\alpha_{i}$ for Constraints (8), $\beta_{i j}$ for Constraints 10, $\delta_{i j k}$ for Constraints (9), and $\lambda_{i j k l}$ for Constraints (11). We get the following parameterized function:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)= g^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)+\sum_{i \in I \cup \mathcal{A}} \alpha_{i}\left(x_{i}^{2}-x_{i}\right)+\sum_{i \in \mathcal{A}} \delta_{i}\left(x_{i}-x_{f(i)} x_{s(i)}\right) \\
&+\sum_{\substack{(i, j) \in \mathcal{A} \times(I \cup \mathcal{A}) \\
\mathcal{E}_{j} \subset \mathcal{E}_{i}}} \beta_{i j}\left(x_{i}-x_{i} x_{j}\right)+\sum_{\substack{(i, j, j, l),(I \cup \mathcal{A})^{4} \\
\mathcal{E}_{i} \cup \mathcal{E}_{j}=\mathcal{E}_{k} \cup \mathcal{E}_{l}}} \lambda_{i j k l}\left(x_{i} x_{j}-x_{k} x_{l}\right) \\
&
\end{aligned}
$$

It follows from Lemma 1 that $g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)$ has the same value as $g^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)$ for any $x \in \mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}$. Moreover, there exist vector parameters $\alpha, \beta, \delta$ and $\lambda$ such that $g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ is a convex function. Take for instance, $\alpha$ equals to the opposite of the smallest eigenvalue of $Q$ (the Hessian matrix of $g^{\mathcal{Z}}$ ), and $\beta=\delta=\lambda=0$.

By replacing $g^{\mathcal{Z}}$ by the new function, we obtain the following family of convex mixed-integer quadratic equivalent formulations to $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ :

$$
\left(M I Q P_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\min g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}(x)=x^{T} Q_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda} x+c_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{T} x \\
\text { s.t. } \\
\quad x \in \mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}
\end{array}\right.
$$

where $Q_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda} \in S_{N}$ is the Hessian matrix of $g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)$, and $c_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^{N}$ is the vector of linear coefficients of $g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)$.

We are interested in parameters $(\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda)$ such that:
i) $g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ is a convex function,
ii) the continuous relaxation of $\left(M I Q P_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ gives the the tightest bound.

More formally, we want to solve the following optimization problem:

$$
(C P): \max _{\substack{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda \\ Q_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda} \succeq 0}}\left\{\min _{x \in \overline{\mathcal{F}}^{\mathcal{Z}}} g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)\right\}
$$

where $\overline{\mathcal{F}}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ is the set $\mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ where Constraints 7 are relaxed, i.e. $x \in[0,1]^{N}$.
In the rest of this section, we will focus on solving ( $C P$ ).
3.3 Computing an optimal solution to $(C P)$

The following theorem shows that problem $(C P)$ is equivalent to the dual of a semidefinite relaxation of $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$.

Theorem 1 The optimal value of $(C P)$ is equal to the optimal value of the following semi-definite program $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ :

$$
\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right) \begin{cases}\min <Q, X>+c^{T} x &  \tag{12}\\
\text { s.t. } & \\
X_{i i}-x_{i}=0 & i \in I \cup \mathcal{A} \\
x_{i}-X_{f(i) s(i)}=0 & i \in \mathcal{A} \\
x_{i}-X_{i j}=0 & (i, j) \in \mathcal{A} \times(I \cup \mathcal{A}): \mathcal{E}_{j} \subset \mathcal{E}_{i} \\
X_{i j}-X_{k l}=0 & (i, j, k, l) \in(I \cup \mathcal{A})^{4}: \mathcal{E}_{i} \cup \mathcal{E}_{j}=\mathcal{E}_{k} \cup \mathcal{E}_{l} \\
\left(\begin{array}{ll}
1 & x^{T} \\
x & X
\end{array}\right) \succeq 0 & \\
x \in \mathbb{R}^{N}, X \in S_{N} & \end{cases}
$$

Proof. For simplicity, we rewrite $\mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}$ as follows: $\mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}=\left\{x \in\{0,1\}^{N}: A x \leq b\right\}$ where $A$ is a $M \times N$-matrix, $b \in \mathbb{R}^{M}$, and we introduce $T=N+T_{1}+T_{2}+T_{3}$ the number of Constraints (8)-11) respectively. We also introduce $(\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda)$ the dual variables associated with constraints (12) - 15 respectively.

We start by observing that $x \in[0,1]^{N}$ is equivalent to $x^{2} \leq x$, thus, $(C P)$ is equivalent to:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\max _{\substack{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{N} \\ \beta \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{1}} 1 \in \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{2}} \\ Q_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda} \geq 0}}\left\{\min _{x \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{3}}}\left\{g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}(x)\right\}\right. \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

18) is a convex optimization problem over a convex set. If we consider the solution $\tilde{x}_{i}=0.5 \forall i \in I$ and $\tilde{x}_{i}=\tilde{x}_{f(i)} \tilde{x}_{s(i)}, \forall i \in \mathcal{A}$, the obtained $\tilde{x}$ is an interior point and the Slater's conditions are satisfied for the minimization sub-problem. Then, by Lagrangian duality, 18 is equivalent to :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\max _{\substack{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{N} \\ \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{3}} \omega \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{1}} \delta \in \mathbb{R}^{N} \\ Q_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}\left(\gamma \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{M}\right.}}\left\{\min _{x \in \mathbb{R}^{N}} g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}(x)+\omega^{T}\left(x^{2}-x\right)+\gamma^{T}(A x-b)\right\} \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\gamma$ are the dual variables associated to Constraints $A x \leq b$. It holds that 19 ) is equivalent to:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\max _{\substack{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{N} \beta \in \mathbb{R}^{T} T_{\delta \in \mathbb{R}^{T^{T}} \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{T}} \\ Q_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{M}}}\left\{\min _{x \in \mathbb{R}^{N}} g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}(x)+\gamma^{T}(A x-b)\right\} \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

Indeed, if $\left(\alpha^{*}, \beta^{*}, \delta^{*}, \lambda^{*}, \omega^{*}, \gamma^{*}\right)$ is an optimal solution of 19), the solution ( $\alpha^{\prime}=$ $\left.\alpha^{*}+\omega^{*}, \beta^{*}, \delta^{*}, \lambda^{*}, \gamma^{*}\right)$ is also feasible to with the same value. Moreover, a necessary condition for the quadratic function $g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{\mathcal{Z}}(x)+\gamma^{T}(A x-b)$ to have a finite minimum is that matrix $Q_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}$ is positive semi-definite. Therefore 20 is equivalent to:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\max _{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{N}} \max ^{T_{1}} \operatorname{R}_{\delta \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{2}}}^{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{3}}} \gamma \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{M} .\left\{\min _{x \in \mathbb{R}^{N}} g_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}(x)+\gamma^{T}(A x-b)\right\} \tag{21}
\end{equation*}
$$

We know from [29] that 21) is equivalent to problem $(D)$ :

$$
(D)\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\max -\gamma^{T} b-t \\
\text { s.t. } \\
\left(\begin{array}{c}
t \\
\frac{1}{2}\left(c_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}+A^{T} \gamma\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\left(c_{\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda}^{T}+\gamma^{T} A\right) \\
\quad t \in \mathbb{R}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{N}, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{1}}, \delta \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{2}}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{T_{3}}, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{M}
\end{array}\right) \succeq 0
\end{array}\right.
$$

By semi-definite duality of program $(D)$, and with $\alpha, \beta, \delta, \lambda$ being the dual variables associated with Constraints 120 - 15 respectively, we get the following program $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)$ :

$$
\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\min <Q, X>+c^{T} x \\
\text { s.t. } \\
\sqrt{12}-\sqrt{17} \\
A x \leq b
\end{array}\right.
$$

We check that there is no duality gap between $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)$ and $(D)$. For this, following [33, we verify that the two following conditions hold.
(i) The primal $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)$ has a non empty feasible region since the solution $x=0$, $X=0$ is feasible, and then $(D)$ is bounded.
(ii) ( $D$ ) has a non empty-interior, take $\bar{\beta}, \bar{\delta}, \bar{\lambda}$, and $\bar{\gamma}$ equal to 0 , we get $Q_{\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta}, \bar{\delta}, \bar{\lambda}}=$ $Q+\operatorname{diag}(\bar{\alpha})$, and $c_{\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta}, \bar{\delta}, \bar{\lambda}}=c-\bar{\alpha}$. By Schur complement, we have:
$\left(\begin{array}{cc}t & \frac{1}{2}(c-\bar{\alpha})^{T} \\ \frac{1}{2}(c-\bar{\alpha}) Q+\operatorname{diag}(\bar{\alpha})\end{array}\right) \succ 0 \Longleftrightarrow Q+\operatorname{diag}(\bar{\alpha}) \succ 0$ and $t-(c-\bar{\alpha})^{T}(Q+$ $\operatorname{diag}(\bar{\alpha}))(c-\bar{\alpha})>0$. Take for all $i$ a positive $\bar{\alpha}_{i}>\sum_{j \neq i}\left|q_{i j}\right|-q_{i i}$ so that the diagonal dominance holds for matrix $Q+\operatorname{diag}(\bar{\alpha})$ and $t$ large enough.

From these equivalences, we know that we can build an optimal solution of ( $C P$ ) from the optimal dual variables of $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)$. However, we show that constraints $A x \leq b$ are redundant in $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)$ and we thus prove that $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)$ and $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ are equivalent.

Claim Due to Constraints $12-14$ and $16, A x \leq b$ are redundant in $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)$.
Proof.
Recall that $A x \leq b$ correspond to Constraints (3)-(6). The basic idea used here is that, since matrix $\left(\begin{array}{cc}1 & x^{T} \\ x & X\end{array}\right)$ is positive semi-definite, all its symmetric minors are non-negative.

- Constraint 60: $x_{i} \geq 0$. We consider the determinant $\left|\begin{array}{cc}1 & x_{i} \\ x_{i} & X_{i i}\end{array}\right|$, which implies $X_{i i}-x_{i}^{2} \geq 0$. By we obtain $x_{i}-x_{i}^{2} \geq 0$ and thus $x_{i} \geq 0$.
- Constraint (3): $x_{i} \leq x_{f(i)}$. Considering the determinant of the symmetric minor $\left|\begin{array}{cc}X_{f(i) f(i)} & X_{f(i) i} \\ X_{i f(i)} & X_{i i}\end{array}\right| \stackrel{12}{ } \stackrel{\text { and }}{=}\left|\begin{array}{cc}x_{f(i)} & x_{i} \\ x_{i} & x_{i}\end{array}\right|=x_{i}\left(x_{f(i)}-x_{i}\right) \geq 0$, and since $x_{i} \geq 0$, we get $x_{i} \leq x_{f(i)}$.
- Constraint 4): $x_{i} \leq x_{s(i)}$. By symmetry, i.e. considering the determinant $\left|\begin{array}{cc}X_{s(i) s(i)} & X_{s(i) i} \\ X_{i s(i)} & X_{i i}\end{array}\right|$, the inequality holds.
- Constraint $50: x_{i} \geq x_{f(i)}+x_{s(i)}-1$. By definition 16 implies $z^{T}\left(\begin{array}{ll}1 & x^{T} \\ x & X\end{array}\right) z \geq 0$, $\forall z \in \mathbb{R}^{N+1}$. By taking $\bar{z}=(1,0, . ., 0, \underbrace{-1}_{f(i)}, 0, . ., 0, \underbrace{-1}_{s(i)}, 0, . ., 0, \underbrace{1}_{i}, 0, . ., 0)$, we have:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\bar{z}^{T}\left(\begin{array}{cc}
1 & x^{T} \\
x & X
\end{array}\right) \bar{z} & =\left(x_{i}+1-x_{f(i)}-x_{s(i)}\right)-\left(x_{f(i)}-X_{f(i) f(i)}-X_{s(i) f(i)}+X_{i f(i)}\right) \\
& -\left(x_{s(i)}-X_{s(i) s(i)}-X_{f(i) s(i)}+X_{i s(i)}\right)+\left(x_{i}-X_{f(i) i}-X_{s(i) i}+X_{i i}\right) \\
= & \left(x_{i}+1-x_{f(i)}-x_{s(i)}\right) \geq 0 \text { by 12, 14) and 13). }
\end{aligned}
$$

We now conclude the proof of Theorem 1 since:
(i) $v(C P)=v(D)$,
(ii) there is no duality gap between $(D)$ and $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)$, then we have $v(D)=$ $v\left(S D P^{Z^{\prime}}\right)$,
(iii) finally, by Claim 1, we get $v(C P)=v(D)=v\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}^{\prime}}\right)=v\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$.

From the proof of Theorem 1, we state Corollary 1 that shows that from an optimal dual solution to $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ we can build an optimal solution to $(C P)$.

Corollary 1 By Theorem 1, we have $v(C P)=v\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$, where $v($.$) is the optimal$ value of problem (.). Moreover, an optimal solution ( $\alpha^{*}, \beta^{*}, \delta^{*}, \lambda^{*}$ ) of ( $C P$ ) corresponds to the optimal values of the dual variables associated with constraints (12)(15) of $\left(S D P^{Z}\right)$ respectively.

To sum up, we obtain $\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)$, the best equivalent convex formulation to $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ :

$$
\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\min g_{\alpha^{*}, \beta^{*}, \delta^{*}, \lambda^{*}}(x) \\
\text { s.t. } \\
x \in \mathcal{F}^{\mathcal{Z}}
\end{array}\right.
$$

Corollary 1 also says that the continuous relaxation bound of $\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)$ is equal to the optimal value of $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$, i.e. $v\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)=v\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)$. From Theorem 1, we deduce the following Algorithm 1 to solve (UBP).

```
Algorithm 1 PQCR an exact solution method for (UBP)
    Step 1: Apply a quadratization \(\mathcal{Z}=(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}, f, s)\) to (UBP). In our experiments,
    we use the Lex quadratization described in Algorithm 2.
    Step 2: Solve \(\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)\), deduce optimal values \(\alpha^{*}, \beta^{*}, \delta^{*}, \lambda^{*}\), and build ( \(M I Q P^{*}\) ).
    Step 3: Solve \(\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)\) by a branch-and-bound based on continuous relaxation.
```

```
Algorithm 2 Lex quadratization ( \(F\) )
Require: A polynomial \(F\) of degree \(d>2\)
Ensure: \((\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}, f, s)\), a valid quadratization of \(F\) (cf. Definition 2)
    Initialization : \(\mathcal{A}=\emptyset\) and \(\mathcal{E}_{i}=\{i\} \forall i \in I\)
    for each monomial \(p\) from 1 to \(m\) do
        Sort \(p\) by lexicographical order
        \(d \leftarrow \operatorname{deg}(p)\)
        while \(d>2\) do
            for \(\ell\) from 1 to \(\left\lfloor\frac{d}{2}\right\rfloor\) do
            Consider the \(\ell^{t h}\) consecutive pair of variables \(x_{j} x_{k}\)
            if there is no \(i \in \mathcal{A}\), with \(f(i)=j\) and \(s(i)=k\) then
                Create an additional variable \(x_{i}\) and add it to \(\mathcal{A}\)
                set \(f(i)=j\) and \(s(i)=k\)
                set \(\mathcal{E}_{i} \leftarrow \mathcal{E}_{f(i)} \cup \mathcal{E}_{s(i)}\)
            end if
            Replace \(x_{j} x_{k}\) by \(x_{i}\)
        end for
        \(d \leftarrow\left\lceil\frac{d}{2}\right\rceil\)
    end while
    end for
```


## 4 Numerical results

In this section, we evaluate PQCR on two applications. The first one is the image restoration problem [16], which results are presented in Section 4.1. The instances of this application are quite sparse with an average ratio $\frac{m}{n}$ of about 7 . Then, in Section 4.2, we present the results of the second application, the Low Auto-correlation Binary Sequence (LABS) problem [7] which instances are much denser (average ratio $\frac{m}{n}$ of about 212). These instances are available on the MINLPLib website 31, and are very hard to solve. For most of them, the optimal solution value is not known.

In our experiments, we compare several algorithms/solvers:
i) PQCR: the Lex quadratization is implemented in C. For solving $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$, we used a tailored semi-definite solver that combines csdp together with the Conic Bundle library 20, see 11 for more details. Then, we used the C interface of the solver Cplex 12.9 to solve ( $M I Q P^{*}$ ).
ii) Lex + QCR and Lex + MIQCR: we used the Lex quadratization, followed by the original QCR [12] or MIQCR 9, 10
iii) Baron 17.4.1 [37] and Scip 6.0.2 [1] both with sub-solver Cplex 12.9, and the gams interface. We also tried to run the instances with Gloptipoly [21], but the it fails even for the smaller/sparser considered instances.

Our experiments were carried out on a server with 2 CPU Intel Xeon each of them having 12 cores and 2 threads of 2.5 GHz and $4 * 16 \mathrm{~GB}$ of RAM using a Linux operating system.

### 4.1 The image restoration problem

The goal of the image restoration problem is to reconstruct an original sharp base image from a blurred image. An image is a rectangle containing $n=l \times h$ pixels. This rectangle is modeled as a binary matrix of the same dimension. The problem can be written as the minimization of a degree 4 polynomial of binary variables where each variable represents a pixel. The coefficients of the monomials are indicative of how likely a configuration is to appear on the sharp base image. The size of the considered instances are $l \times h=10 \times 10,10 \times 15$, and $15 \times 15$, or in the polynomial formulation $n=100,150$ and 225 , with a number of monomials of $m=668,1033$, and 1598 respectively. In our experiments, 15 instances of each size are considered obtaining a total of 45 instances. Observe that the 15 instances of the same size have identical monomials with different coefficients. The name of each image restoration instance describes its characteristics im.l.h.r: 1 is the number of lines, h is the number of columns and $r$ is the index of the instance with the same characteristics.

We run these instances with the solvers Baron 17.4.1 and Scip 6.0.2 and show that, only PQCR is able to solve the whole set of 45 instances within the time limit of one hour. We report the results in Table 1. Column Gap $_{i}$ is the initial gap of method PQCR , i.e. $G a p_{i}=\left|\frac{B K N-L B_{i}}{B K N}\right| * 100$, where $B K N$ is the optimal solution value, and $L B_{i}$ is the root bound value (from Theorem 1 it is also $v\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ ). Column Time reports the CPU time in seconds or the final gap $\left(G a p_{f}\right)$ if the time limit of one hour is reached, where $G a p_{f}=\left|\frac{B K N-L B}{B K N}\right| * 100$, with $L B$ the final lower bound. Column Nodes is the number of nodes visited by the branch-and-bound algorithm. We observe that the solvers Baron and Scip are significantly faster than PQCR on the medium size instances ( $n=100$ or 150), but fail in solving most of the larger instances within the time limit. Indeed, for $n=225$, Baron solves 7 instances, and Scip 9 instances out of 15 . The final gaps (after one hour of computation) of Baron and Scip are about 193 and 1631, respectively, times larger than the initial gap of PQCR equals to $0.27 \%$ on average. We mention that the reformulation time that corresponds to the solution of $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ represents most of the CPU time, since the CPU time for solving $\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)$ is always smaller than 600 seconds.

We now focus on the comparison with convexifications QCR or MIQCR applied to $\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)$. Our observations are summed up in Tables 2 and 3, where each line corresponds to the average of the instances with the same sizes. In Column \#var $Q P$ we report the number of variables of the equivalent convex reformulations of each method, and Column \#cont SDP the number of constraints considered in the

| Instance |  | PQCR |  |  | Baron 17.4.1 |  | Scip 6.0.2 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Name | $n$ | Gapi | Time | Nodes | Time | Nodes | Time | Nodes |
| im.10.10.1 | 100 | 0.84 | 122 | 272 | 1 | 1 | 98 | 2800 |
| im.10.10.2 | 100 | 0.47 | 125 | 65 | 1 | 1 | 73 | 2825 |
| im.10.10.3 | 100 | 0.13 | 84 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 35 | 961 |
| im.10.10.4 | 100 | 0.33 | 89 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 28 | 759 |
| im.10.10.5 | 100 | 0.40 | 91 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 38 | 1046 |
| im.10.10.6 | 100 | 0.12 | 120 | 57 | 1 | 1 | 72 | 2007 |
| im.10.10.7 | 100 | 0.05 | 115 | 32 | 1 | 1 | 76 | 1580 |
| im.10.10.8 | 100 | 1.69 | 103 | 45 | 1 | 1 | 37 | 1067 |
| im.10.10.9 | 100 | 3.34 | 111 | 108 | 1 | 1 | 35 | 1084 |
| im.10.10.10 | 100 | 4.04 | 134 | 151 | 1 | 1 | 36 | 1074 |
| im.10.10.11 | 100 | 0.79 | 127 | 106 | 3 | 1 | 83 | 3548 |
| im.10.10.12 | 100 | 0.21 | 131 | 76 | 2 | 1 | 135 | 6325 |
| im.10.10.13 | 100 | 0.00 | 79 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 28 | 954 |
| im.10.10.14 | 100 | 0.04 | 79 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 25 | 722 |
| im.10.10.15 | 100 | 0.06 | 83 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 28 | 807 |
| Average |  | 0.83 | 106.2 | 62 | 1.0 | 1 | 55.2 | 1837 |
| im.10.15.1 | 150 | 0.55 | 536 | 492 | 3 | 1 | 318 | 6349 |
| im.10.15.2 | 150 | 0.13 | 502 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 311 | 4565 |
| im.10.15.3 | 150 | 0.02 | 406 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 226 | 5538 |
| im.10.15.4 | 150 | 0.71 | 439 | 53 | 2 | 1 | 135 | 2566 |
| im.10.15.5 | 150 | 0.06 | 408 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 163 | 3291 |
| im.10.15.6 | 150 | 0.83 | 567 | 649 | 5 | 1 | 665 | 13927 |
| im.10.15.7 | 150 | 0.07 | 511 | 33 | 4 | 1 | 396 | 5884 |
| im.10.15.8 | 150 | 1.85 | 458 | 70 | 1 | 1 | 197 | 3894 |
| im.10.15.9 | 150 | 2.24 | 421 | 50 | 2 | 1 | 167 | 4835 |
| im.10.15.10 | 150 | 2.09 | 432 | 53 | 2 | 1 | 155 | 2643 |
| im.10.15.11 | 150 | 0.12 | 552 | 73 | 5 | 1 | 357 | 8045 |
| im.10.15.12 | 150 | 0.62 | 520 | 111 | 21 | 1 | 388 | 9784 |
| im.10.15.13 | 150 | 0.06 | 367 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 103 | 1924 |
| im.10.15.14 | 150 | 0.13 | 392 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 118 | 2397 |
| im.10.15.15 | 150 | 0.01 | 370 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 91 | 1757 |
| Average |  | 0.63 | 458.7 | 107 | 3.6 | 1 | 252.6 | 5160 |
| im.15.15.1 | 225 | 0.32 | 2622 | 1046 | (42.50\%) | 39 | (149.03\%) | 75251 |
| im.15.15.2 | 225 | 0.61 | 2661 | 2586 | (70.75\%) | 42 | (235.98\%) | 107023 |
| im.15.15.3 | 225 | 0.09 | 1928 | 16 | (6.68\%) | 45 | 404 | 5001 |
| im.15.15.4 | 225 | 0.01 | 1886 | 13 | (34.08\%) | 39 | 738 | 6688 |
| im.15.15.5 | 225 | 0.04 | 1874 | 13 | 736 | 7 | 294 | 2915 |
| im.15.15.6 | 225 | 0.30 | 2263 | 597 | (51.78\%) | 44 | 131.61\%) | 76508 |
| im.15.15.7 | 225 | 0.46 | 2235 | 1458 | (73.19\%) | 49 | (825.55\%) | 339448 |
| im.15.15.8 | 225 | 0.52 | 2017 | 38 | 2437 | 35 | 566 | 5357 |
| im.15.15.9 | 225 | 0.44 | 2008 | 33 | 1868 | 27 | 575 | 7444 |
| im.15.15.10 | 225 | 0.48 | 1972 | 33 | 909 | 13 | 393 | 4159 |
| im.15.15.11 | 225 | 0.36 | 2180 | 150 | (64.96\%) | 49 | (1133.55\%) | 522819 |
| im.15.15.12 | 225 | 0.34 | 2256 | 560 | (74.77\%) | 53 | (162.00\%) | 131142 |
| im.15.15.13 | 225 | 0.05 | 1700 | 0 | 213 | 3 | 364 | 4136 |
| im.15.15.14 | 225 | 0.08 | 1834 | 0 | 750 | 11 | 505 | 5113 |
| im.15.15.15 | 225 | 0.02 | 1750 | 0 | 16 | 1 | 249 | 3117 |
| Average |  | 0.27 | 2079.1 | 436 | 989.8 (7) | 14 (7) | 454.2 (9) | 4881 (9) |

Table 1: Comparison of PQCR, Scip 6.0.2 and Baron 17.4.1 for the image restoration instances. Time limit 1 hour.
semi-definite program solved to compute the best reformulation. Column Gap ${ }_{i}$ is the initial gap, and Column Time is the total CPU times in seconds necessary to solve the instances. If the time limit of one hour is reached, we report the final gap ( $G a p_{f}$ ). The most striking observation is that MIQCR is unable to handle these instances. We also remark that QCR has a very poor bound at the root node of the branch-andbound. The weakness of this bound leads to combinatorial explosion and makes it impracticable to resolve these instances with QCR.

| Instance |  |  | PQCR |  | Lex+QCR |  | Lex+ MIQCR |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Name | $n$ | $N$ | \#var QP | \#cont SDP | \#var QP | \#cont SDP | \#var QP |  |
| \#cont SDP |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| im.10.10 | 100 | 352 | 352 | 3550 | 352 | 352 | 62128 |  |
| im.10.15 | 150 | 542 | 542 | 5610 | 542 | 542 | 496672 |  |
| im.15.15 | 225 | 827 | 827 | 8740 | 827 | 827 | 342378 |  |

Table 2: Comparison of the number of variables of the equivalent formulation, and of the number of constraints of the associated semi-definite relaxation for 3 methods $P Q C R$, Lex $+Q C R$, and Lex $+M I Q C R$ on the image restoration instances.

| Instance |  |  | PQCR |  | Lex+QCR |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Name | $n$ | $N$ | Gap $_{i}$ | Time | Gap $i$ | Time |
| im.10.10 | 100 | 352 | 0.83 | 106 | 812.13 | $(477 \%)$ |
| im.10.15 | 150 | 542 | 0.63 | 459 | 794.6 | $(602 \%)$ |
| im.15.15 | 225 | 827 | 0.27 | 2079 | 717.07 | $(616 \%)$ |

Table 3: Comparison of the 2 methods $P Q C R$ and Lex $+Q C R$ for the image restoration instances: initial gaps and time criterion - time limit 1 hour. Lex + MIQCR cannot handle these instances.

### 4.2 The Low Auto-correlation Binary Sequence problem

The problem is to find binary sequences with low off-peak auto-correlations. More formally, let $S$ be a sequence $S=\left(s_{1}, \ldots, s_{n}\right)$ with $s_{i} \in\{-1,1\}$, and for a given $k=1, \ldots, n-1$, we define the auto-correlation $C_{k}(S)$ of $S$ :

$$
C_{k}(S)=\sum_{i=1}^{n-k} s_{i} s_{i+k}
$$

The problem is to find a sequence $S$ of length $n$ that minimizes $E(S)$, a degree 4 polynomial:

$$
E(S)=\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} C_{k}^{2}(S)
$$

This problem has numerous practical applications in communication engineering, or theoretical physics [7. For our experiments, we consider truncated instances, i.e. sequences of length $n$ where we compute low off-peak auto-correlation up to a certain distance $n_{0} \leq n$, i.e. we consider the following function to minimize:

$$
E_{n_{0}}(S)=\sum_{k=1}^{n_{0}-1} C_{k}^{2}(S)
$$

In order to apply PQCR, we convert the variables from $\{-1,1\}$ to $\{0,1\}$ using the standard transformation $x=\frac{s+1}{2}$. This problem admits a lot of symmetries. In particular the correlations $C_{k}$ are identical for a sequence $S$ and its complement. We exploited this symmetry by fixing to 0 the variable that appears the most. Each instance is labeled b.n. $\mathrm{n}_{0}$. These instances were introduced by [30] and can be found on the MINLPLib 31 website.


Fig. 1: Performance profile of the CPU times between PQCR, Baron 17.4.1 and Scip 6.0.2 for the LABS instances - Time limit 3 hours

We do not report the results for methods Lex+QCR and Lex+MIQCR since they have failed to solve all the considered instances.

In Figure 1, we present the performance profile of the CPU times for PQCR, Baron 17.4 .1 and Scip 6.0.2 over the $19 L A B S$ instances solved within the time limit of 3 hours by at least one method. The detailed results are reported in Table 5 (Appendix). In this profile we can see that PQCR outperforms the two solvers both in terms of the total CPU time and of the number of instances solved. We observe that Baron solves 10 instances, Scip solves 6 instances, while PQCR solves 19 instances out of 45 within the time limit of 3 hours. We mention that the number of valid equalities generated by PQCR in $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ can be more than one million for the largest/densest instances ( 1484800 for b.60.60). Moreover, the average final gaps of Baron and Scip have the same order of magnitude ( $842 \%$ and $881 \%$, respectively), while the one of PQCR is much smaller ( $3.62 \%$ on average).

Last, we increase the time limit for PQCR and compare our results to the best lower bounds and the best known solution values reported in MINLPLib. We present in Table 4 the values of the best solutions $(B K N)$ and of the final lower bounds ( BestLB) obtained by PQCR, and those available on the MINLPLib website. Each line corresponds to one instance stated as unsolved on MINLPLib. For MINLPLib, Columns BKN and BestLB are the best upper and lower bounds, respectively, among the results of the solvers Antigone, Baron, Couenne, Lindo, and Scip. We also report the final gaps in Column Gap $_{f}=\left|\frac{B K N-B e s t L B}{B K N}\right| * 100$. In the MINLPLib website, the time limit is not reported. For method PQCR, we limit the time for steps 2 and 3 of Algorithm 1 to 5 hours each. We mention that the time for the generation of the valid equalities of $\left(S D P^{z}\right)$ can be significant for the larger/denser instances. We observe that PQCR solves to optimality 10 unsolved instances (labeled as ${ }^{* *}$ ). It also improves the best known solution values of 13 instances (labeled as \#), and improves the final dual bounds of all the unsolved instances (labeled as *). Column Imp is the improvement factor of PQCR.

| Instance | MINLPLib [3] |  |  | PQCR |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Name | BKN | BestLB | $G a p_{f}$ | BKN | BestLB | $G a p_{f}$ | Imp. |
| b.25.19** | -14644 | -16108 | 10.00 | -14644 | -14644.00 |  |  |
| b.25.25** | -10664 | -12494 | 17.16 | -10664 | -10664.00 |  |  |
| b.30.15** | -15744 | -19780 | 25.64 | -15744 | -15744.00 |  |  |
| b. 30.23 ** | -30420 | -72030 | 136.79 | -30460 | -30460.00 |  |  |
| b.30.30** | -22888 | -54014 | 135.99 | -22888 | -22888.00 |  |  |
| b. $35.09^{* *}$ | -5108 | -6312 | 23.57 | -5108 | -5108.00 |  |  |
| b. $35.18^{* *}$ | -31160 | -74586 | 139.36 | -31168 | -31168.00 |  |  |
| b. 35.26 \#* | -55184 | -191466 | 246.96 | -55288 | -55484.64 | 0.36 | 694 |
| b.35.35 \#* | -41068 | -290424 | 607.18 | -41068 | -41730.96 | 1.61 | 376 |
| b. $40.10^{* *}$ | -8240 | -14618 | 77.40 | -8248 | -8248.00 |  |  |
| b. 40.20 \#* | -50516 | -162365 | 221.41 | -50576 | -51248.66 | 1.33 | 166 |
| b. 40.30 \#* | -94768 | -398617 | 320.62 | -94952 | -102375.97 | 7.82 | 41 |
| b. 40.40 * | -67964 | -302028 | 344.39 | -67928 | -78364.82 | 15.36 | 22 |
| b. $45.11^{* *}$ | -12740 | -30771 | 141.53 | -12748 | -12748.00 |  |  |
| b. 45.23 \#* | -85248 | -320397 | 275.84 | -85424 | -88547.05 | 3.66 | 75 |
| b. $45.34 *$ | -152368 | -752427 | 393.82 | -152248 | -164316.84 | 7.93 | 50 |
| b. $45.45{ }^{*}$ | -112764 | -685911 | 508.27 | -112568 | -142414.81 | 26.51 | 19 |
| b.50.06\#* | -2160 | -2921 | 35.23 | -2160 | -2199.87 | 1.85 | 19 |
| b.50.13** | -23772 | -74768 | 214.52 | -23792 | -23792.00 |  |  |
| b. 50.25 \#* | -124748 | -562446 | 350.87 | -124948 | -138994.51 | 11.24 | 31 |
| b. $50.38{ }^{\text {\#* }}$ | -232496 | -1318325 | 467.03 | -232664 | -270363.98 | 16.20 | 29 |
| b.50.50* | -168216 | -1173058 | 597.35 | -167824 | -246094.07 | 46.64 | 13 |
| b.55.06\#* | -2400 | -3439 | 43.29 | -2400 | -2460.02 | 2.50 | 17 |
| b.55.14\#* | -33168 | -116748 | 251.99 | -33272 | -33717.52 | 1.34 | 188 |
| b.55.28\#* | -190472 | -989145 | 419.31 | -190696 | -214840.20 | 12.66 | 33 |
| b.55.41* | -337388 | -2494477 | 639.35 | -335840 | -474910.72 | 41.41 | 15 |
| b.55.55* | -241912 | -1947633 | 705.10 | -241780 | -302301.26 | 25.03 | 28 |
| b.60.08\#* | -6792 | -13915 | 104.87 | -6792 | -7008.60 | 3.19 | 33 |
| b. $60.15^{\text {\#* }}$ | -44896 | -169767 | 278.13 | -45232 | -46160.31 | 2.05 | 136 |
| b. 60.30* | -261048 | -1491016 | 471.17 | -260304 | -324244.90 | 24.56 | 19 |
| b. $60.45^{*}$ | -478528 | -3687344 | 670.56 | -476664 | -951320.31 | 99.58 | 7 |
| b.60.60* | -350312 | -3021077 | 762.40 | -349560 | -496399.25 | 42.01 | 18 |

Table 4: Comparison of the best known solution and best lower bound values of PQCR and of MINLPLib for the unsolved LABS instances. **: solved for the first time, \#: best known solution improved, and $*$ : best known lower bound improved

## 5 Conclusion

We consider the general problem (UBP) of minimizing a multi-linear function where the variables are binary. In this paper, we present PQCR a solution approach for (UBP). We start by a quadratization $\mathcal{Z}$, where we rewrite (UBP) as an equivalent quadratic program $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$. Then, by introducing new valid quadratic equalities, we build a family of tailored quadratic convex reformulations of $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$ that exploits its specific structure. We further focus on finding, within this family, the
best equivalent convex formulation $\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)$ from the continuous relaxation point of view. We show that it can be computed by solving a semi-definite relaxation of $\left(M I Q P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$. Finally, we solve $\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)$ with a quadratic convex programming solver. A future research direction would be to characterize which quadratization best fit with our convexification phase from the continuous relaxation value point of view.

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## Appendix

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| Instance |  | PQCR |  |  | Scip 6.0.2 |  |  | Baron 17.4.1 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Name | $B K N$ | Best | Nodes | Time | Best | Nodes | Time | Best | Nodes | Time |
| b. 20.03 | -72 | -72 | 0 | 0 | -72 | 1 | 0 | -72 | 1 | 0 |
| b. 20.05 | -416 | -416 | 1201 | 0 | -416 | 131731 | 191 | -416 | 1 | 3 |
| b. 20.10 | -2936 | -2936 | 4388 | 34 | -2936 | 267990 | 1087 | -2936 | 7 | 193 |
| b. 20.15 | -5960 | -5960 | 60274 | 3435 | -5904 | 9 | (1556.9\%) | -5952 | 5278 | (227.9\%) |
| b. 25.03 | -92 | -92 | 0 | 0 | -92 | 1 | 0 | -92 | 1 | 0 |
| b. 25.06 | -960 | -960 | 43883 | 6 | -960 | 3286874 | 5154 | -960 | 37 | 107 |
| b. 25.13 | -8148 | -8148 | 20843 | 3665 | -8148 | 1170781 | (165.2\%) | -8148 | 61 | 3706 |
| b. 25.19 | -14644 | -14644 | 74440 | 8788 | -14624 | 689115 | (168.6\%) | -14644 | 31 | (33.58\%) |
| b. 25.25 | -10268 | -10268 | 60475 | 4832 | -10660 | 446419 | (367.3\%) | -10656 | 19 | (54.0\%) |
| b. 30.04 | -324 | -324 | 2079 | 1 | -324 | 12964181 | 9179 | -324 | 19 | 13 |
| b. 30.08 | -2952 | -2952 | 235867 | 857 | -2952 | 4492349 | (280.8\%) | -2952 | 217 | 2665 |
| b. 30.15 | -15744 | -15744 | 174797 | 7456 | -15648 | 911094 | (262.3\%) | -15668 | 21 | (62.9\%) |
| b. 30.23 | -30460 | -30460 | 527903 | 8118 | -30460 | 365485 | (518.8\%) | -30240 | 5 | (158.1\%) |
| b. 30.30 | -22888 | -22888 | 201710 | 9838 | -22728 | 120753 | (644.9\%) | -22840 | 3 | (174.8\%) |
| b. 35.04 | -384 | -384 | 7846 | 2 | -384 | 15024343 | (110.5\%) | -384 | 25 | (44.8\%) |
| b. 35.09 | -5108 | -5108 | 1989577 | 7833 | -5056 | 1458986 | (615.3\%) | -5108 | 199 | (30.2\%) |
| b. 35.18 | -31168 | -31168 | 2337227 | (0.3\%) | -31072 | 308769 | (472.0\%) | -30960 | 4 | (158.7\%) |
| b. 35.26 | -55288 | -55240 | 60441 | (2.8\%) | -53984 | 5765 | (963.5\%) | -54872 | 1 | (262.9\%) |
| b. 35.35 | -41068 | -41052 | 19765 | (5.2\%) | ME | ME | ME | -40640 | 8 | (637.5\%) |
| b. 40.05 | -936 | -936 | 275307 | 34 | -932 | 9337240 | (325.6\%) | -936 | 1019 | 3837 |
| b. 40.10 | -8248 | -8248 | 11039761 | 10550 | -8120 | 613581 | (664.2\%) | -8200 | 29 | (79.9\%) |
| b. 40.20 | -50576 | -50576 | 434637 | (3.9\%) | -49364 | 30692 | (681.8\%) | -50140 | 1 | (212.3\%) |
| b. 40.30 | -94952 | -94600 | - | - | -93560 | 9402 | (1012.4\%) | -93816 | 1 | (426.2\%) |
| B. 40.40 | -67964 | -67912 | 7787 | (10.6\%) | -64076 | 1432 | (1416.2\%) | -60636 | 1 | (610.3\%) |
| b. 45.05 | -1068 | -1068 | 851051 | 67 | -1048 | 8467858 | (378.6\%) | -1064 | 2444 | (6.7\%) |
| b. 45.11 | -12748 | -12748 | 5925351 | (1.3\%) | -12428 | 729065 | (748.7\%) | -12600 | 12 | (149.6\%) |
| b. 45.23 | -85424 | -85192 | 11046 | (4.9\%) | -82252 | 4275 | (1036.2\%) | -84704 | 1 | (275.1\%) |
| b. 45.34 | -152368 | -151240 | - | - | -147144 | 11512 | (1323.1\%) | 0 | 1 | (566.3\%) |
| b. 45.45 | -112764 | -111276 | - | - | -106940 | 5365 | (1398.3\%) | 0 | 1 | (3539.5\%) |
| b. 50.06 | -2160 | -2160 | 25015489 | (2.8\%) | -2128 | 4012214 | (590.5\%) | -2160 | 688 | (33.6\%) |
| b. 50.13 | -23792 | -23788 | 2114159 | (1.7\%) | -23324 | 46707 | (1073.2\%) | -23152 | 4 | (213.6\%) |
| b. 50.25 | -124948 | -124144 | - | - | -118268 | 2366 | (1200.8\%) | -123628 |  | (322.5\%) |
| b. 50.38 | -232664 | -231560 | - | - | -221192 | 55 | (1729.0\%) | 0 | 1 | (692.3\%) |
| b.50.50 | -168216 | -163912 | - | - | -157512 | 1215 | (1601.6\%) | 0 | 1 | (3587.8\%) |
| b. 55.06 | -2400 | -2400 | 20567148 | (3.1\%) | -2400 | 3824456 | (620.1\%) | -2400 | 461 | (45.6\%) |
| b. 55.14 | -33272 | -33240 | 98692 | (3.7\%) | -23736 | 38 | (1515.5\%) | -32368 | 3 | (246.2\%) |
| b. 55.28 | -190696 | -189668 | - | - | -184316 | 890 | (1497.4\%) | -188556 | 1 | (413.5\%) |
| b. 55.41 | -337388 | - | - | - | ME | ME | ME | 0 | 1 | (3659.5\%) |
| b. 55.55 | -241912 | -239052 | - | - | ME | ME | ME | 0 | 2 | (3628.2\%) |
| b. 60.08 | -6792 | -6792 | 6664937 | (3.2\%) | -6548 | 902923 | (942.0\%) | -6728 | 45 | (103.8\%) |
| b.60.15 | -45232 | -44248 | - | - | -41132 | 38 | (1552.6\%) | -44608 | 1 | (266.2\%) |
| b. 60.30 | -261048 | -258856 | - | - | -236808 | 222 | (1635.4\%) | -255552 | 1 | (424.7\%) |
| b. 60.45 | -478528 | - | - | - | ME | ME | ME | 0 | 2 | (3687.0\%) |
| b. 60.60 | -350312 | -349940 | - | - | ME | ME | ME | 0 | 2 | (3629.6\%) |

Table 5: Results of PQCR, Scip 6.0.2 and Baron 17.4.1 for the 45 LABS instances. Column BKN is the best know solution (reported in the MINLPLib website [31] or found by PQCR). In Columns Best, we report the best solution found by each solver within the time limit, where ME means that the solution fails because of a memory error, and for method PQCR symbol - means that the time limit of 3 hours was two small to start the solution of $\left(S D P^{\mathcal{Z}}\right)$, or and of $\left(M I Q P^{*}\right)$.
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[^0]:    1. UMA-ENSTA

    828 Boulevard des Maréchaux, 91120 Palaiseau, France
    E-mail: \{sourour.elloumi,arnaud.lazare\}@ensta-paris.fr
    2. CEDRIC-Cnam

    292 rue saint Martin, F-75141 Paris Cedex 03, France
    E-mail: amelie.lambert@cnam.fr

