

# Spectrahedral relaxations of hyperbolicity cones

Markus Schweighofer

Universität  
Konstanz

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POEMA Workshop 3

Polynomial Optimization, Efficiency through Moments  
and Algebra

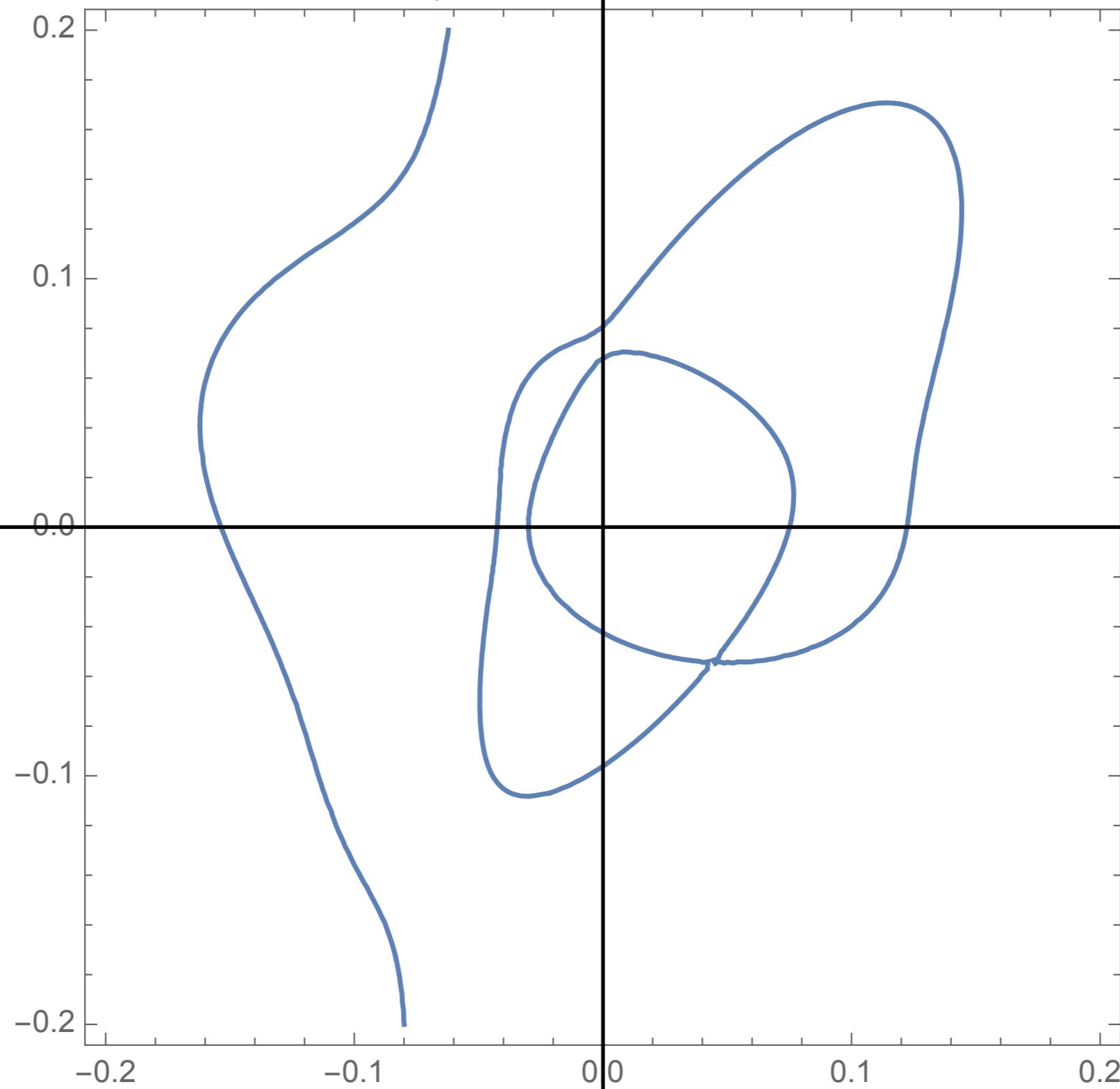
online due to pandemic

originally planned at INRIA Sophia Antipolis

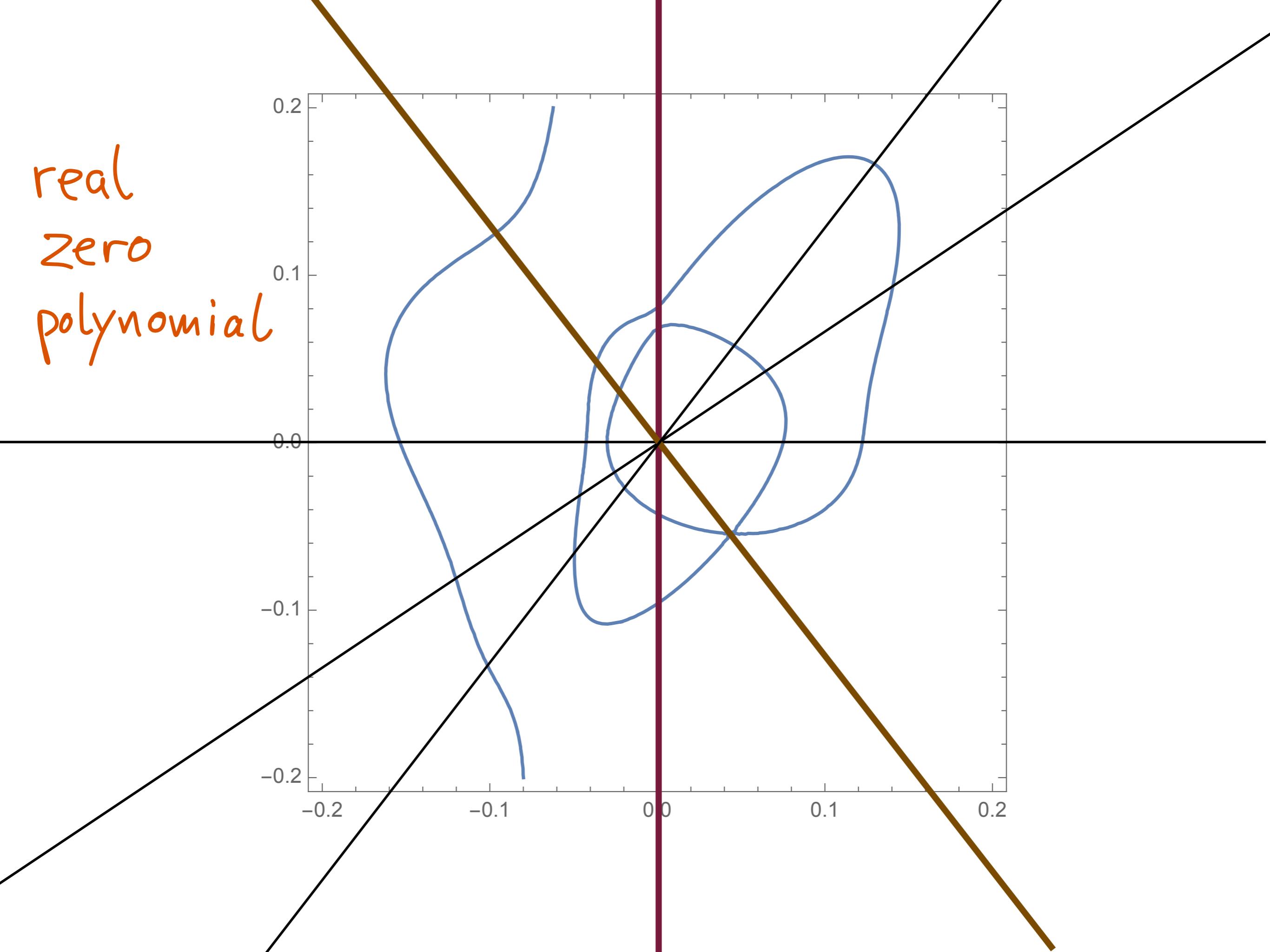
Very preliminary notes available:

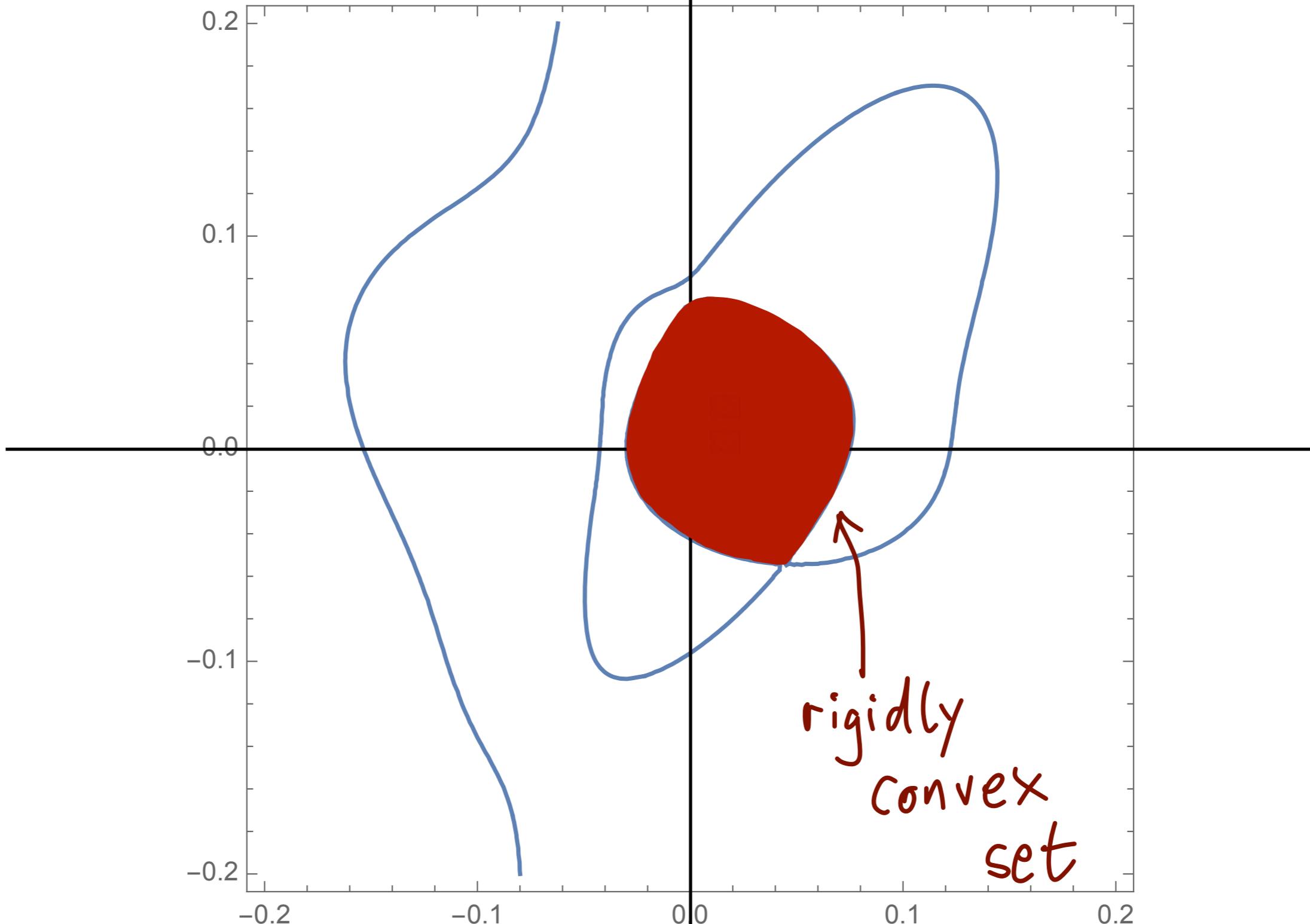
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1907.13611>

real zero set of  $p = 1 + 42x_1 + 6x_2 + \dots - 37900x_2^5$



real  
zero  
polynomial





# The generalized Lasc ~~as~~ conjecture (GLC)

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Every rigidly convex set is a spectrahedron.

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Impressive partial results by many people such as:

Helton & Vinnikov 2007

Netzer & Thom 2013

Brändén 2014

Kummer 2016

Saunderson 2018

Amini 2019

Kummer preprint 2020

Vinnikov announced 2020



positive

negative

Raghavendra & Ryder &  
Srivastava & Weitz 2019

Oliveira 2020

## Our contribution to GLC

If RZAC or at least WRZAC holds,  
then we can "wrap each rigidly convex set  
into a spectrahedron and tie it with cords".



Our contribution to GLC will explain in a minute

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will explain later



# The real zero amalgamation conjecture (RZAC)

Conjecture : Suppose that  $p \in \mathbb{R}[x,y]$  and  $q \in \mathbb{R}[x,z]$  are real zero polynomials of degree at most  $d$  such that  $p(x,0) = q(x,0)$ .

*l variables*

*m variables*

*n variables*

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Then there exists a real zero polynomial  $r \in \mathbb{R}[x,y,z]$  of degree at most  $d$  such that  $r(x,y,0) = p$  and  $r(x,0,z) = q$ .

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$l$  variables     $m$  variables     $n$  variables

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Can prove 3 special cases in 3 completely different ways :

$l = m = n = 1$

determinantal representations

Helton & Vinnikov

$l = 0$

stability preservers

Borcea & Brändén

$d = 2$

positive semidefinite matrix completion

Graña & Johnson & da Sa & Wolkowicz

# The weak real zero amalgamation conjecture (WRZAC)

Conjecture : Suppose that  $p \in \mathbb{R}[x, y]$  and  $q \in \mathbb{R}[x, z]$  are real zero polynomials such that  $p(x, 0) = q(x, 0)$ .

Then there exists a real zero polynomial  $r \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, y_1, z]$  such that  $r(x_1, y_1, 0) = p$  and  $r(x_1, 0, z) = q$ .  
 $\text{trunc}_3$        $\text{trunc}_3$

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This is trivial for  $l=0$ .

Of course, RZAC  $\Rightarrow$  WRZAC.

## Wrapping rigidly convex sets into spectrahedra and tying them with cords

Theorem : Suppose that RZAC or at least WRZAC holds. Then given a rigidly convex set and finitely many planes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , there is a spectrahedron in  $\mathbb{R}^{n'}$  containing the rigidly convex set and agreeing with it on each of the planes.

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Won't explain the proof but it uses again Helton & Vinnikov and a construction we now want to present.

# Wrapping rigidly convex sets into spectrahedra and tying them with ribbons

Theorem : Suppose that RZAC or at least WRZAC holds. Then given a rigidly convex set defined by a cubic real zero polynomial and finitely many three-dimensional subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , there is a spectrahedron in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  containing the rigidly convex set and agreeing with it on each of these subspaces.

Won't explain the proof but it uses a result of Buckley & Košir and a construction we now want to present.

# Exponential and logarithm on power series

$\mathbb{R}[[x]] := \mathbb{R}[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$  ring of formal power series

$$A := \left\{ p \in \mathbb{R}[[x]] \mid p(0) = 0 \right\}$$

$$\exp: A \rightarrow B, \quad p \mapsto \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{p^k}{k!}$$

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$$\forall p, q \in A: \exp(p+q) = (\exp p)(\exp q)$$

$$\forall p, q \in B: \log(pq) = (\log p) + (\log q)$$

## The associated linear form

Suppose  $p \in \mathbb{R}[[x]]$ ,  $p(0) \neq 0$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

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Suppose  $p \in \mathbb{R}[[x]]$ ,  $p(0) \neq 0$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

$L_{p,d} : \mathbb{R}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  linear

"linear form associated to  $p$  with respect to the virtual degree  $d$ "

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$$L_{p,d}(1) = d$$

$$-\log \frac{p(-x)}{p(0)} = \sum_{\substack{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n \\ \alpha \neq 0}} \frac{1}{|\alpha|} \binom{|\alpha|}{\alpha} L_p(x^\alpha) x^\alpha$$

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$|\alpha| := \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n$

$= \frac{|\alpha|!}{\alpha_1! \cdots \alpha_n!}$

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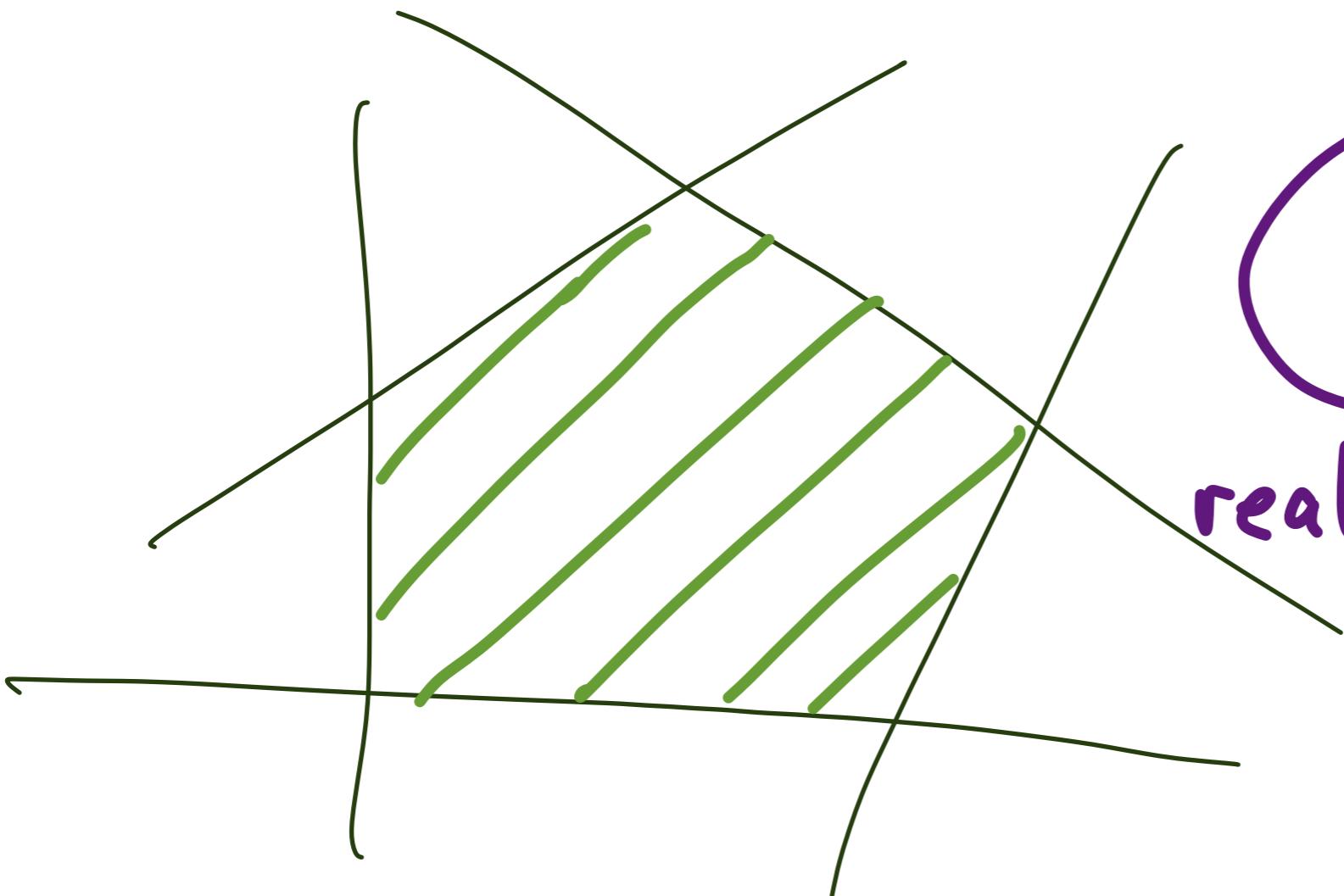
$$\forall p, q \in \mathbb{R}[x] : (p(0) \neq 0 \neq q(0)) \Rightarrow L_{pq} = L_p + L_q$$

## The associated linear form

If  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $a_1, \dots, a_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $p := \prod_{i=1}^d (1 + a_i^T x)$ ,  
then  $\forall q \in \mathbb{R}[x]: L_p(q) = \sum_{i=1}^d q(a_i)$ .

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prototype of all  
real zero polynomials

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If  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}$  are hermitian,

then  $p := \det(I_d + x_1 A_1 + \dots + x_n A_n) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$

and  $L_{p,d}(x^\alpha) = \text{tr}(\text{hur}_\alpha(A_1, \dots, A_n))$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ .

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" $\alpha$ -Hurwitz product"

$$\text{hur}_{(2,3)}(A_1, A_2) = \frac{1}{\binom{5}{2,3}} \underbrace{(A_1 A_1 A_2 A_2 A_2 + A_1 A_2 A_1 A_2 A_2 + \dots)}_{\binom{5}{2,3} \text{ terms}}$$

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Trivial but crucial observation:

If  $|\alpha| \leq 3$  and either  $n \leq 2$   
or ( $n \leq 3$  and each  $A_i$  real),

the  $A_i$  commute "here".

## The associated pencil

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$$M_{p,d} := A_0 + x_1 A_1 + \dots + x_n A_n \in \mathbb{R}[x]$$

"pencil associated to  $p$  with respect to the virtual degree  $d$ "

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by substituting  $x_0$  with 1 and  
then applying  $L_{p,d}$  entrywise.

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If  $p \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ , set  $M_p := M_{p, \deg p}$ .

If  $p$  is a product of  $d$  linear forms, then  
 $A_0$  is a moment matrix and the  $A_i$  are localization matrices.

Only degree 3

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then also higher degree

## The associated spectrahedron

Suppose  $p \in \mathbb{R}[[x]]$ ,  $p(0) \neq 0$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

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Suppose  $p \in \mathbb{R}[[x]]$ ,  $p(0) \neq 0$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

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If  $p$  is a product of  $d$  linear forms,

more precisely  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $a_1, \dots, a_d \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $p = \prod_{i=1}^d (1 + a_i^T x)$ ,  
then  $S(p) = \{a \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \forall q \in \mathbb{R}[x], \sum_{i=1}^d q(a_i)^2 (1 + a_i^T x) \geq 0\}$

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COULD DO IT FOR HIGHER DEGREE  $\rightsquigarrow$  finitely  
converging  
hierarchy

## A key lemma

Let  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , set  $V := \{M \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} \mid M \text{ symmetric}\}$  and let  $A_1, \dots, A_n \in V$ . Then

$$P := \det(I_d + x_1 A_1 + \dots + x_n A_n) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$$

is a real zero polynomial with

$$C(P) = \{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid I_d + \alpha_1 A_1 + \dots + \alpha_n A_n \succeq 0\}$$

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$$C(P) = \{a \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid I_d + a_1 A_1 + \dots + a_n A_n \succeq 0\}$$

$$= \{a \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \forall M \in \underbrace{V}_{\text{red}}: \text{tr}(M^2(I_d + a_1 A_1 + \dots + a_n A_n)) \geq 0\}$$

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Let  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , set  $V := \{M \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} \mid M \text{ symmetric}\}$  and let  $A_1, \dots, A_n \in V$ . Then

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Let  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , set  $V := \{M \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} \mid M \text{ hermitian}\}$  and let  $A_1, \dots, A_n \in V$ . Then

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$$\text{If } n \leq 2, \text{ then } C(P) = \{a \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \forall M \in V: \text{tr}(M^2(I_d + a_1 A_1 + \dots + a_n A_n)) \geq 0\}$$

~~$S_d(P) = \{a \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \forall \tilde{U} \subset U: \text{tr}(M^2(I_d + a_1 A_1 + \dots + a_n A_n)) \geq 0\}$~~

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# The Helton-Vinnikov Theorem

If  $p \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, x_2]$  is a real zero polynomial of degree  $d$  with  $p(0) = 1$ , then there exist symmetric  $A_1, A_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  such that

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e.g. Grinshpan &  
Kaliuzhnyi-Verbovetskyi &  
Vinnikov & Woerdeman 2016

Two variables only!

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If  $p$  is a real zero polynomial, then  $C(p) \subseteq S(p)$ .

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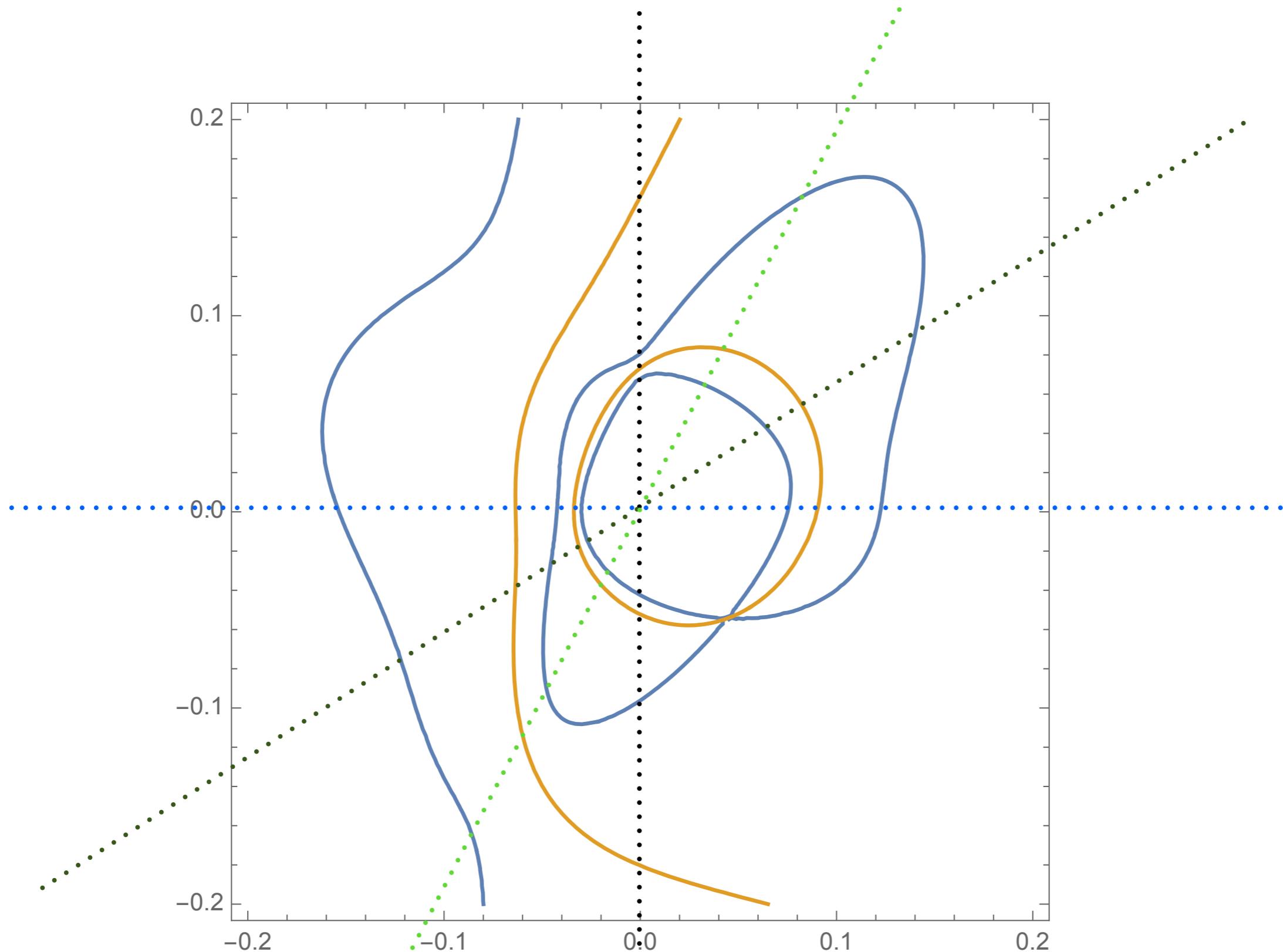
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A bit trickier than it seems:

- need compatibility of construction with orthogonal maps
- degree could drop.

# Interlacers



## Tightening the relaxation

If  $p, q \in \mathbb{R}[x]$  are

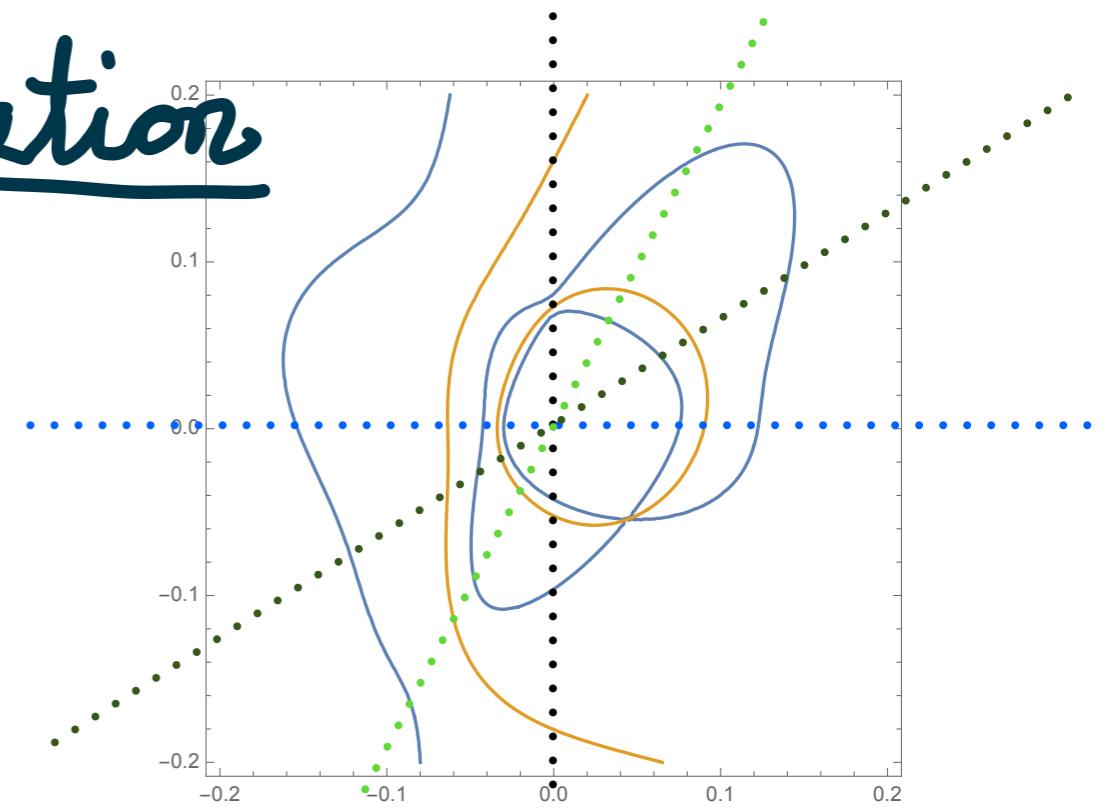
real zero polynomials

of degrees  $d$  and  $d-1$ , respectively,

and  $v$  is a new variable, then

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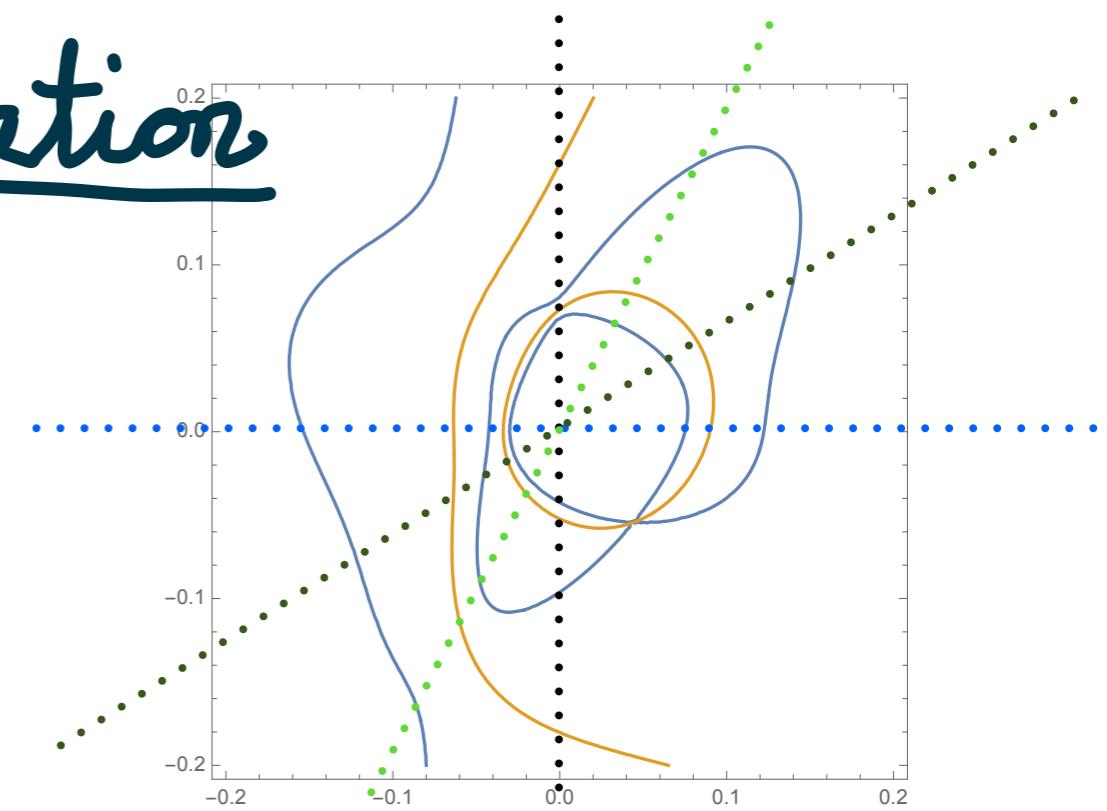
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Idea:  $S_d(p) \rightsquigarrow \{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid (\alpha, 0) \in S_d(p + vq)\}$



## Two hardness results

first one:

Raghavendra & Ryder & Srivastava & Weitz (2019)

$\exists N \in \mathbb{N} : \forall n, d \geq N :$  there is a real zero polynomial  
in  $n$  variables of degree  $d$  whose rigidly convex  
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exponential growth for, e.g.,  $n = 2d$ :

$$\left(\frac{n}{d}\right)^{\frac{d}{N}} \geq 2^{\frac{d}{N}} \geq 2^{\frac{1}{N}}$$

## Two hardness results

Second one:

Oliveira (2020)

under the hypothesis  $\text{VP} \neq \text{VNP}$

gives explicit example for Superpolynomial growth  
based on Amini's multivariate matching polynomials  
of complete bipartite graphs.

## Attacking GLC?

If  $p$  is a real zero polynomial in  $n$  variables of degree  $d$ ,  $S_d(p)$  depends only on  $\text{trunc}_3 p$  and  $d$  and is defined by a linear matrix inequality of size  $d+1$ .

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Due to information loss (unless  $d \leq 3$ ) and hardness results, no hope of getting exact. Could iteration of the "plus new variable times interlacer" idea work? Yes if  $p$  is a product of linear polynomials.