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Robust Optimization using a new Volume-Based Clustering approach

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We introduce an uncertainty set construction method based on a newly developed **volume-based clustering** approach.

Robust optimization

Uncertainty set (\mathcal{U})

In robust optimization, We consider the following constraint:

 $(\bar{\mathbf{a}} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{u})^{\top}\mathbf{x} \le b \quad \forall \mathbf{u} \in \mathscr{U}$

Figure 1: Fundamental uncertainty sets

Box	$\mathscr{U} = \{\mathbf{u} : \mathbf{u} _{\infty} \le \rho\}$
Ellipsoidal	$\mathscr{U} = \{\mathbf{u}: \mathbf{u} _2 \leq \rho\}$
Polyhedral	$\mathscr{U} = \{\mathbf{u}: \mathbf{u} _1 \leq \rho\}$

The proposed uncertainty set construction method resulting in **less-conservative** solutions with minimizing volume of the uncertainty set and clustering.

Minimum volume ellipsoid Clustering (MVEC)

For an ellipsoid

$$\{x: ||Ax + b|| \le 1\}$$

which is represented by (A, b), the volume is proportional to $\frac{1}{\det A}$.

Hence, MVEC can be represented in the following mathematical optimization:

$$\max_{A_j, b_j} \sum_{j=1}^{K} \log \det(A_j)$$

subject to $||A_j x^i + b_j|| \le 1 \quad \forall x^i \in C_j, j = 1, ..., K$

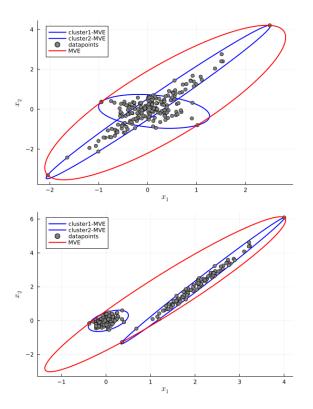


Figure 2: Uncertainty set based on MVEC

Then the proposed uncertainty set is:

$$\mathscr{U} = \bigcup_{j=1}^k U_j,$$

where

$$U_j = x : A_j x + b_j \le 1$$

Operations, Planning, Accounting and Control (OPAC)