

Subject card

Subject name and code	Mathematical Optimization and Applications, PG_00209690						
Field of study	Mathematics						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		English		
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits		5.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Felix Huber				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	60
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	60		3.0		62.0	125
Subject objectives	The aims of the course is to get an understanding of mathematical optimization. In particular so that the student knows the theory of convex optimization methods such as linear, quadratic, and semidefinite programming as well as their applications in theory and practise. The aim is also that the student will be confident in using numerical software packages.						
Learning outcomes	Course outcome		Subject outcome		Method of verification		
	[MATMU2_W01] knows and understands in depth the theory of selected areas of mathematics or related fields, the complex relationships between them and their development trends		Knows theory and applications of linear, quadratic, and semidefinite programming.		[SW4] test/exam - oral or written		
	[MATMU2_U05] is able to apply new or adapt existing methods and tools from a selected field of mathematics and information and communication technologies in related fields		Knows how to use modern solvers, how to apply linear, quadratic, and semidefinite programming		[SU5] implementation of a problem task		
Subject contents	1 Review of linear algebra (matrix decompositions, positive semidefinite matrices, convex geometry) 2 Linear programming (duality theory, Farkas lemma, maximum weight matching) 3 Second-order cone programming 4 Semidefinite Programming (infeasibility certificates, duality theory, Lovasz theta bound on independent set size, euclidean distance matrices) 5 Approximation algorithms and randomized rounding (quadratic binary optimization, Goeman-Williamson randomized rounding) 6 Non-negative polynomials and sum-of-square certificates (Motzkin Polynomial, Putinar Positivstellensatz) 7 Polynomial optimization (Lasserre hierarchy)						
Prerequisites and co-requisites							
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria		Passing threshold		Percentage of the final grade		
	Working in classes		51.0%		20.0%		
	Written or verbal exam		51.0%		80.0%		

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Lecture notes by Lovász, https://sites.math.washington.edu/~thomas/teaching/m514_web/Lovasz_semidef.pdf Blekherman et al, Semidefinite Optimization and convex algebraic geometry, https://www.mit.edu/~parrilo/sdocag/
	Supplementary literature	None.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	What is a Gram matrix? What is the Löwner order? Define convex cone, convex hull, dual cone, self-dual cone. Give examples of self-dual cones. Explain Farkas Lemma and its use. What is an approximation ratio? How is the Lovasz theta number defined as an SDP? Define independence number, chromatic number. What are their computational complexities? How does the Goeman-Williamson algorithm work? What is its approximation ratio? Formulate the primal and dual standard formulations of semidefinite programs. What are the problem parameters? Show weak duality.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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