#### Decomposition Methods for Integer Linear Programming

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# The Decomposition Principle in Integer Programming

**Basic Idea:** By leveraging our ability to solve the optimization/separation problem for a relaxation, we can improve the bound yielded by the LP relaxation.

$$z_{\text{IP}} = \min_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^{n}} \left\{ c^{\top} x \mid A' x \ge b', A'' x \ge b'' \right\}$$
  

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$$z_{\text{IP}} \ge z_{\text{D}} \ge z_{\text{DP}}$$

**Assumptions:** 

- $\operatorname{OPT}(\mathcal{P}, c)$  and  $\operatorname{SEP}(\mathcal{P}, x)$  are "hard"
- $\operatorname{OPT}(\mathcal{P}', c)$  and  $\operatorname{SEP}(\mathcal{P}', x)$  are "easy"
- $\mathcal{Q}''$  can be represented explicitly (description has polynomial size
- $\mathcal{P}'$  must be represented implicitly (description has exponential size)

 $\mathcal{P} = \operatorname{conv} \{ x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid A'x > b', A''x > b'' \}$ 

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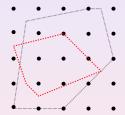
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$$z_{\text{LP}} = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ c^\top x \mid A'x \ge b', A''x \ge b'' \right\}$$
$$z_{\text{D}} = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ c^\top x \mid A''x \ge b'' \right\}$$

 $z_{
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$$\mathcal{Q}' = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid A'x \ge b' \}$$
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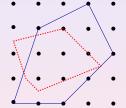
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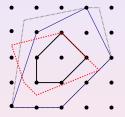
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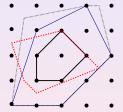
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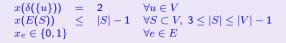
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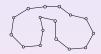


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## Example - Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP)

#### **Traveling Salesman Problem Formulation**

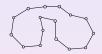




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#### Two possible decompositions

Find a spanning subgraph with |V| edges that satisfies the 2-degree constraints ( $\mathcal{P}' = 1$ -Tree)

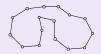
$$\begin{array}{lll} x(\delta(\{0\})) &=& 2\\ x(E(V)) &=& |V|\\ x(E(S)) &\leq& |S|-1 & \forall S \subset V \setminus \{0\}, 3 \leq |S| \leq |V|-1\\ x_e \in \{0,1\} & \forall e \in E \end{array}$$



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Find a 2-matching that satisfies the subtour constraints ( $\mathcal{P}' = 2$ -Matching)

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x(\delta(\{u\})) &=& 2 & \forall u \in V \\ x_e \in \{0,1\} & & \forall e \in E \end{array}$$



#### Outline

#### Thesis Contributions

#### 2 Decomposition Methods

- Traditional Methods
- Integrated Methods
- Structured Separation
- Decompose-and-Cut Method
- Algorithmic Details

#### 3 DIP Framework

#### Applications

- Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem
- ATM Cash Management Problem
- Generic Black-box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

#### Future Research

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- Conceptual framework tying together numerous decomposition-based methods for generating approximations of the convex hull of feasible solutions.
  - Traditional method for outer approximation: cutting plane method
  - Traditional methods for inner approximations: Dantzig-Wolfe method and Lagrangian method
  - Integrated methods: price-and-cut and relax-and-cut
- Introduction to a relatively new integrated method called decompose-and-cut, an associated class of cutting planes called decomposition cuts, and the concept of structured separation.
- Descriptions of numerous implementation considerations for branch-and-price-and-cut, including an introduction to a relatively unknown idea of using nested polyhedra for generating inner approximations.
- DIP (Decomposition for Integer Programming), an extensible open-source software framework for implementing decomposition-based methods with minimal user burden.
- MILPBlock, a DIP application and generic black-box solver for block-diagonal MILPs that fully automates the branch-and-price-and-cut algorithm with no additional user input.
- Computational results using DIP on three real-world applications coming from the marketing, banking, and retail industries.

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Thesis Contributions Traditional Methods Decomposition Methods Integrated Methods DIP Framework Structured Separation Applications Decompose-and-Cut Method Future Research Algorithmic Details

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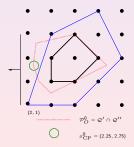
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### Cutting Plane Method (CPM)

**CPM** builds an *outer* approximation of  $\mathcal{P}'$  intersected with  $\mathcal{Q}''$ 

- Master:  $z_{CP} = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ c^\top x \mid Dx \ge d, A''x \ge b'' \right\}$
- Subproblem:  $SEP(\mathcal{P}', x_{CP})$

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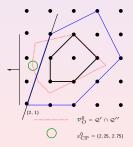
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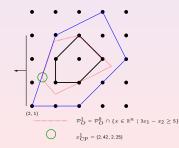
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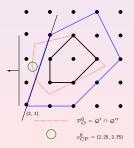
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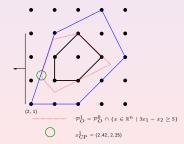
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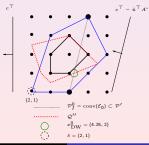
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- Subproblem: OPT  $\left(\mathcal{P}', c^{\top} u_{\mathrm{DW}}^{\top} A''\right)$

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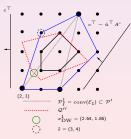
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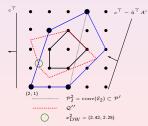
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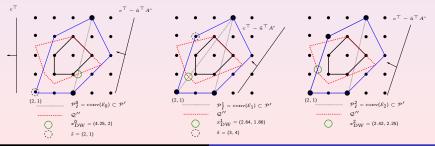
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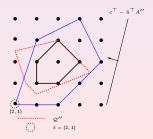


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### Lagrangian Method (LD)

- Master:  $z_{\text{LD}} = \max_{u \in \mathbb{R}^{m''}_+} \left\{ \min_{s \in \mathcal{E}} \left\{ c^\top s + u^\top (b'' A''s) \right\} \right\}$
- Subproblem: OPT  $\left(\mathcal{P}', c^{\top} u_{\text{LD}}^{\top} A''\right)$

$$z_{\mathrm{LD}} = \max_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}, u \in \mathbb{R}^{m''}_+} \left\{ \alpha + b''^\top u \ \left| \ \left( c^\top - u^\top A'' \right) s - \alpha \ge \mathbf{0} \ \forall s \in \mathcal{E} \right. \right\} = z_{\mathrm{DW}}$$

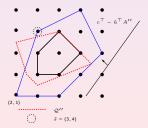


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- Master:  $z_{\text{LD}} = \max_{u \in \mathbb{R}^{m''}_+} \left\{ \min_{s \in \mathcal{E}} \left\{ c^\top s + u^\top (b'' A''s) \right\} \right\}$
- Subproblem: OPT  $\left(\mathcal{P}', c^{\top} u_{\text{LD}}^{\top} A''\right)$

$$z_{\rm LD} = \max_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}, u \in \mathbb{R}_+^{m''}} \left\{ \alpha + b''^\top u \ \Big| \ \left( c^\top - u^\top A'' \right) s - \alpha \ge \mathbf{0} \ \forall s \in \mathcal{E} \right\} = z_{\rm DW}$$

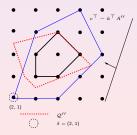


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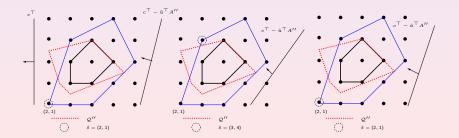


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Traditional Methods Integrated Methods Structured Separation Decompose-and-Cut Method Algorithmic Details

# Common Threads

• The LP bound is obtained by optimizing over the intersection of two explicitly defined polyhedra.

 $z_{\rm LP} = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{ c^\top x \mid x \in \mathcal{Q}' \cap \mathcal{Q}'' \}$ 

• The decomposition bound is obtained by optimizing over the intersection of one explicitly defined polyhedron and one implicitly defined polyhedron.

 $z_{\mathrm{CP}} = z_{\mathrm{DW}} = z_{\mathrm{LD}} = z_{\mathrm{D}} = \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \{ c^\top x \mid x \in \mathcal{P}' \cap \mathcal{Q}'' \} \ge z_{\mathrm{LP}}$ 

Traditional decomp-based bounding methods contain two primary steps

- Master Problem: Update the primal/dual solution information
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- Integrated decomposition methods further improve the bound by considering two implicitly defined polyhedra whose descriptions are iteratively refined.
  - Price-and-Cut (PC)
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Traditional Methods Integrated Methods Structured Separation Decompose-and-Cut Method Algorithmic Details

## Price-and-Cut Method (PC)

**PC** approximates  $\mathcal{P}$  by building an *inner* approximation of  $\mathcal{P}'$  (as in DW) intersected with an *outer* approximation of  $\mathcal{P}$  (as in CPM)

- Master:  $z_{\text{PC}} = \min_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{\mathcal{E}}} \left\{ c^{\top} \left( \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} s \lambda_s \right) \ \middle| \ D \left( \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} s \lambda_s \right) \ge d, \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} \lambda_s = 1 \right\}$
- Subproblem: OPT  $\left(\mathcal{P}', c^{\top} u_{\text{PC}}^{\top}D\right)$  or SEP  $\left(\mathcal{P}, x_{\text{PC}}\right)$
- As in CPM, separate  $\hat{x}_{PC} = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} s \hat{\lambda}_s$  from  $\mathcal{P}$  and add cuts to [D, d].
- Key Idea: Cut generation takes place in the space of the compact formulation, maintaining the structure of the column generation subproblem.

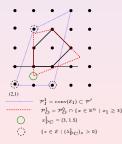


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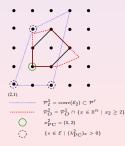


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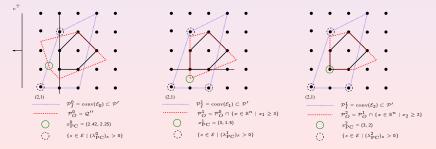
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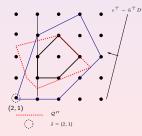
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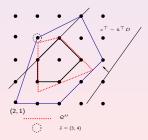
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- Advantage: Often easier to separate  $s \in \mathcal{E}$  from  $\mathcal{P}$  than  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .



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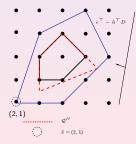
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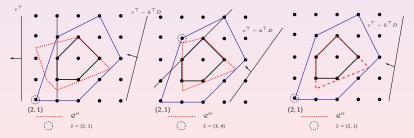
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Thesis Contributions	Traditional Methods
Decomposition Methods	Integrated Methods
DIP Framework	Structured Separation
Applications	Decompose-and-Cut Method
Future Research	Algorithmic Details

## Structured Separation

- In general, the complexity of OPT(X, c) = SEP(X, x).
- Observation: Restrictions on input or output can change their complexity.
- Template Paradigm, restricts the *output* of SEP(X, x) to valid inequalities that conform to a certain structure. This class of inequalities forms a polyhedron  $C \supset X$  (the *closure*).
- For example, let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the convex hull of solutions to the TSP.
  - $\operatorname{SEP}(\mathcal{P},x)$  is  $\mathcal{NP} ext{-}\operatorname{Complete}$ .
  - $\operatorname{SEP}(\mathcal{C},x)$  is polynomially solvable, for  $\mathcal{C}\supset\mathcal{P}$ 
    - $\mathcal{P}^{\text{Subtour}}$ , the Subtour Polytope (separation using Min-Cut), or
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- Structured Separation, restricts the *input* of SEP(X, x), such that x conforms to some structure. For example, if x is restricted to solutions to a combinatorial problem, then separation often becomes much easier.

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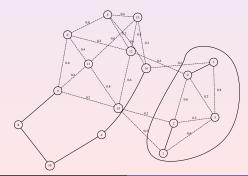
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• Separation of Subtour Inequalities:

 $x(E(S)) \le |S| - 1$ 

- $SEP(\mathcal{P}^{Subtour}, x)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  can be solved in  $O(|E||V| + |V|^2 \log |V|)$  (Min-Cut)
- $\operatorname{SEP}(\mathcal{P}^{\operatorname{Subtour}},s)$  for s a 2-matching, can be solved in O(|V|)
  - Simply determine the connected components  $C_i$ , and set  $S = C_i$  for each component (each gives a violation of 1).

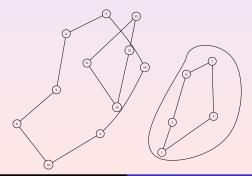


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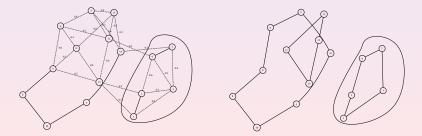


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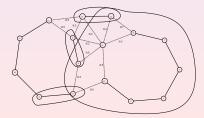


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Separation of Comb Inequalities:

$$x(E(H))+\sum_{i=1}^k x(E(T_i))\leq |H|+\sum_{i=1}^k (|T_i|-1)-\lceil k/2
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- SEP( $\mathcal{P}^{\text{Blossom}}, x$ ), for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  can be solved in  $O(|V|^2 |E| \log(|V|^2 / |E|))$  (Letchford, et al. )
- $\operatorname{SEP}(\mathcal{P}^{\operatorname{Blossom}},s)$ , for s a 1-tree, can be solved in  $O(|V|^2)$ 
  - Construct candidate handles H from BFS tree traversal and an odd ( $\geq$  3) set of edges with one endpoint in H and one in  $V \setminus H$  as candidate teeth (each gives a violation of  $\lceil k/2 \rceil 1$ ).
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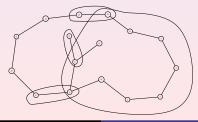


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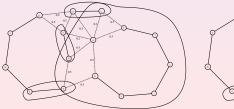


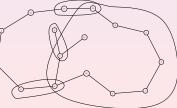
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Motivation	

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- Question: Can we take advantage of this in other contexts?
- LP theory says in order to *improve the bound*, it is *necessary and sufficient* to cut off the entire face of optimal solutions *F*.
- This condition is difficult to verify, so we typically use the *necessary condition* that the generated inequality be violated by some member of that face,  $x \in F$ .
  - In CPM, we solve  $\operatorname{SEP}(\mathcal{P}, x_{\operatorname{CP}}^t)$ , where  $x_{\operatorname{CP}}^t \in F^t$ , and  $F^t$  is optimal face over  $\mathcal{P}_O^t \cap \mathcal{Q}''$
  - In PC, we solve  $ext{SEP}(\mathcal{P}, x_{ ext{PC}}^t)$ , where  $x_{ ext{PC}}^t \in F^t$ , and  $F^t$  is optimal face over  $\mathcal{P}_I^t \cap \mathcal{P}_O^t$

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Thesis Contribution Decomposition Metho DIP Framewo Applicatio future Resear	ds Integrated Methods rk Structured Separation Decompose-and-Cut Method
Motivation	

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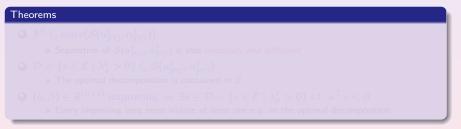
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Consider the following set

$$\mathcal{S}(u, lpha) = \left\{ s \in \mathcal{E} \; \left| \; \left( c^{ op} - u^{ op} A^{\prime \prime} 
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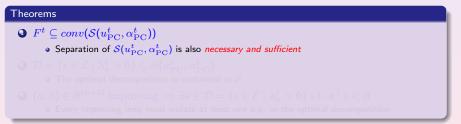
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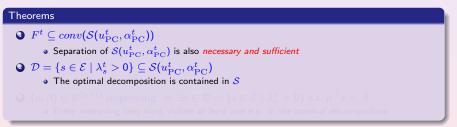
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#### Theorems

- Separation of  $\mathcal{S}(u_{\mathrm{PC}}^t, \alpha_{\mathrm{PC}}^t)$  is also necessary and sufficient
- - The optimal decomposition is contained in  ${\cal S}$
- $(a,\beta) \in \mathbb{R}^{(n+1)} \text{ improving } \Rightarrow \exists s \in \mathcal{D} = \{s \in \mathcal{E} \mid \lambda_s^t > 0\} \text{ s.t. } a^\top s < \beta$ 
  - Every improving ineq must violate at least one e.p. in the optimal decomposition

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Traditional Methods Integrated Methods Structured Separation Decompose-and-Cut Method Algorithmic Details

## Price-and-Cut (Revisited)

Price-and-Cut (Revisited): As normal, use DW as the bounding method, but use the decomposition obtained in each iteration to generate improving inequalities, as in RC.

- Key Idea: Rather than (or in addition to) separating  $\hat{x}_{PC}$ , separate each member of D
- As with **RC**, often much easier to separate  $s \in \mathcal{E}$  than  $\hat{x}_{\mathrm{PC}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
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Integrated Methods
Structured Separatic

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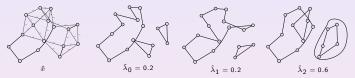
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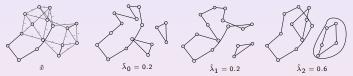
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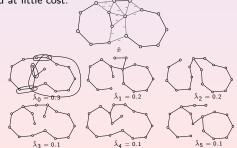
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Thesis Contributions Traditional Methods Decomposition Methods Integrated Methods DIP Framework Structured Separation Applications Euture Research Algorithmic Details
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Traditional Methods Integrated Methods Structured Separation Decompose-and-Cut Method Algorithmic Details

# Decompose-and-Cut Method (DC)

Decompose-and-Cut: Each iteration of CPM, decompose into convex combo of e.p.'s of  $\mathcal{P}'$ 

$$\min_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{E}}_+, (x^+, x^-) \in \mathbb{R}^n_+} \left\{ x^+ + x^- \ \left| \ \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} s\lambda_s + x^+ - x^- = \hat{x}_{\mathrm{CP}}, \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} \lambda_s = 1 \right. \right\}$$



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- If  $\hat{x}_{\mathrm{CP}}$  lies outside  $\mathcal{P}'$  the decomposition will fail
- By the Farkas Lemma the proof of infeasibility provides a valid and violated inequality

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- The machinery for solving this already exists (=column generation)
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  - $\hat{x}_i=0 \Rightarrow s_i=0$ , can remove constraints not in support, and
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Original idea proposed by Ralphs for VRP

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Traditional Methods Integrated Methods Structured Separation Decompose-and-Cut Method Algorithmic Details

- Add column bounds to [A'', b''] and map back to the compact space  $\hat{x} = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} s \hat{\lambda}_s$
- Variable branching in the compact space is constraint branching in the extended space
- This idea takes care of (most of) the design issues related to branching for inner methods
- Current Limitation: Identical subproblems are currently treated like non-identical

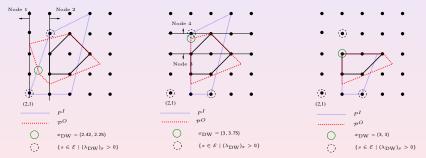
Thesis Contributions	
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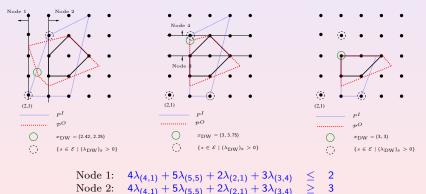
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Traditional Methods Integrated Methods Structured Separation Decompose-and-Cut Method Algorithmic Details

# Branching for Inner Methods (RC)

- In general, Lagrangian methods do *not* provide a primal solution  $\lambda$
- Let  ${\cal B}$  define the extreme points found in solving subproblems for  $z_{
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- Build an inner approximation using this set, then proceed as in PC



Closely related to volume algorithm and bundle methods



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#### Iraditional Methods Integrated Methods Structured Separation Decompose-and-Cut Method Algorithmic Details

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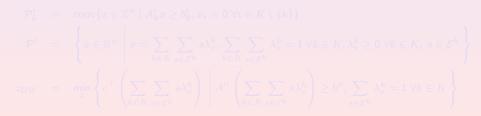
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Thesis Contributions	
Decomposition Methods	Integrated Methods
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# Relaxation Separability

- Key motivation of original DW was separability of the subproblem
- Independence lends itself nicely to parallel implementation
- Projections into subspace for each block, then take e.p.'s from each





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$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}'_k &= \operatorname{conv}\{x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid A'_k x \ge b'_k, x_i = \mathbf{0} \; \forall i \in K \setminus \{k\}\} \\ \mathcal{P}' &= \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n \; \left| \; x = \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}^k} s \lambda^k_s, \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}^k} \lambda^k_s = \mathbf{1} \; \forall k \in K, \lambda^k_s \ge \mathbf{0} \; \forall k \in K, \; s \in \mathcal{E}^k \right\} \\ x_{\mathrm{DW}} &= \left. \min_{\lambda} \left\{ c^\top \left( \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}^k} s \lambda^k_s \right) \; \left| \; A'' \left( \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}^k} s \lambda^k_s \right) \ge b'', \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}^k} \lambda^k_s = \mathbf{1} \; \forall k \in K \right\} \right. \end{aligned}$$

Thesis Contributions	Traditional Methods
Decomposition Methods	Integrated Methods
DIP Framework	Structured Separation
Applications	Decompose-and-Cut Method
Future Research	Algorithmic Details

# Relaxation Separability

- Key motivation of original DW was separability of the subproblem
- Independence lends itself nicely to parallel implementation
- Projections into subspace for each block, then take e.p.'s from each

### Generalized Assignment Problem (GAP)

min

$$\sum_{i \in M} \sum_{j \in N} c_{ij} x_{ij}$$

$$\sum_{j \in N} w_{ij} x_{ij} \leq b_i \quad \forall i \in M$$

$$\sum_{i \in M} x_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall j \in N$$

$$x_{ij} \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall i, j \in M \times N$$

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# **Identical Subproblems**

- One motivation for using inner methods like DW is to break symmetry
- Block-diagonal special-case: identical subproblems

### Vehicle Routing Problem (VRP)

Thesis Contributions	Traditional Methods
Decomposition Methods	Integrated Methods
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## Identical Subproblems

- One motivation for using inner methods like DW is to break symmetry
- Block-diagonal special-case: *identical subproblems*

$$\Lambda_s = \sum_{k \in K} s \lambda_s^k \; \forall s \in \mathcal{E}$$

$$z_{\mathrm{DW}} = \min_{\Lambda} \left\{ c^{\top} \left( s \Lambda_s \right) \; \middle| \; A^{\prime \prime} \left( \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} s \Lambda_s \right) \geq b^{\prime \prime}, \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} \Lambda_s^k = K \right\}$$

- Aggregation step breaks our dependence on one-to-one mapping  $\hat{x} = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} s \hat{\lambda}_s$
- Vanderbeck, et al. has been investigating disaggregation based on lexicographic ordering

Thesis Contributions	
Decomposition Methods	Integrated Methods
DIP Framework	
Applications	
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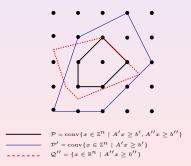
- Outer methods use various approximations to improve the bound (template paradigm)
- New Idea: generate inner points from multiple (nested) polyhedra
- For any polyhedron  $\mathcal{P}'_N \subset \mathcal{P}'$ , we can also *heuristically* solve  $\operatorname{OPT}(\mathcal{P}'_N, c^\top u^\top A'')$
- ullet Can greatly improve generation of incumbents, upper bounds on  $z_{
  m IP}$
- The more diverse the pool of columns, the better the chance to find good incumbents

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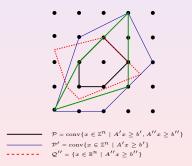
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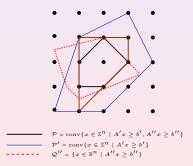


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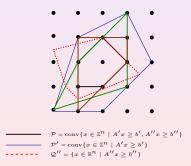


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### Nested Polyhedra - Example

#### Vehicle Routing Problem

• Relaxation: *b*-Matching  $\mathcal{P}' = \mathcal{P}^{bMatch}$ 

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Nested Polyhedra - Example

#### Vehicle Routing Problem

• Nested Relaxation: Multiple Traveling Salesman  $\mathcal{P}^{kTSP} \subset \mathcal{P}^{bMatch}$ 

 $\boldsymbol{x}$  $\boldsymbol{x}$ 



### Nested Polyhedra - Example

#### Vehicle Routing Problem

 $\begin{array}{lll} \min & \sum_{e \in E} c_e x_e \\ & x(\delta(\{0\})) &= 2k \\ & x(\delta(\{v\})) &= 2 & \forall v \in V \\ & x(\delta(S)) &\geq 2b(S) & \forall S \subseteq V, |S| > 1 \\ & x_e \in \{0, 1\} & \forall e \in E(V) \\ & x_e \in \{0, 1, 2\} & \forall e \in \delta(\{0\}) \end{array}$ 

• Nested Relaxation: *b*-Matching (plus some GSECs)  $\mathcal{P}^{bMatch+} \subset \mathcal{P}^{bMatch}$ 

Thesis Contributions	
Decomposition Methods	Integrated Methods
DIP Framework	
Applications	
Future Research	Algorithmic Details

- Integration of generic MILP cuts new idea
  - Using the mapping  $\hat{x} = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{E}} s \hat{\lambda}_s$  we can use generic MILP cuts in RC/PC context
- Initial columns
  - Solve  $\operatorname{OPT}(\mathcal{P}', c+r)$  for random perturbations
  - Solve  $OPT(\mathcal{P}_N)$  heuristically
  - Run several iterations of LD or DC collecting extreme points
- Price-and-branch heuristic
  - ullet For block-angular case, at end of each node, solve with  $\lambda\in\mathbb{Z}$
  - Used in root node by Barahona and Jensen ('98), we extend to tree
- Choice of master LP solver
  - Dual simplex after adding rows or adjusting bounds (warm-start dual feasible)
  - Primal simplex after adding columns (warm-start primal feasible)
  - Interior-point methods might help with stabilization vs extremal duals
- Compression of master LP and object pools
  - Reduce size of master LP, improve efficiency of subproblem processing

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### Outline

### Thesis Contributions

#### 2 Decomposition Methods

- Traditional Methods
- Integrated Methods
- Structured Separation
- Decompose-and-Cut Method
- Algorithmic Details

### OIP Framework

- Applications
  - Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem
  - ATM Cash Management Problem
  - Generic Black-box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

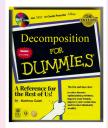
### 5 Future Research

# **DIP** Framework

### **DIP Framework**

DIP (Decomposition for Integer Programming) is an open-source software framework that provides an implementation of various decomposition methods with minimal user responsibility

- Allows direct comparison CPM/DW/LD/PC/RC/DC in one framework
- DIP abstracts the common, generic elements of these methods
- Key: The user defines application-specific components in the space of the compact formulation - greatly simplifying the API
  - Define  $[A^{\prime\prime},b^{\prime\prime}]$  and/or  $[A^{\prime},b^{\prime}]$
  - Provide methods for  $\operatorname{OPT}(\mathcal{P}',c)$  and/or  $\operatorname{SEP}(\mathcal{P}',x)$
- Framework handles all of the algorithm-specific reformulation

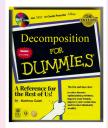


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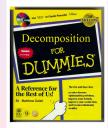


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### **DIP Framework: Implementation**

COmputational INfrastructure for Operations Research Have some DIP with your CHiPPs?



#### DIP was built around data structures and interfaces provided by COIN-OR

- The DIP framework, written in C++, is accessed through two user interfaces:
  - Applications Interface: DecompApp
  - Algorithms Interface: DecompAlgo
- DIP provides the bounding method for branch and bound
- ALPS (Abstract Library for Parallel Search) provides the framework for tree search
  - AlpsDecompModel : public AlpsModel
    - a wrapper class that calls (data access) methods from DecompApp
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# **DIP** - Creating an Application

- The base class DecompApp provides an interface for user to define the application-specific components of their algorithm
- Define the model(s)
  - setModelObjective(double \* c): define c
  - setModelCore(DecompConstraintSet \* model): define  $\mathcal{Q}''$
  - setModelRelaxed(DecompConstraintSet \* model, int block): define  $\mathcal{Q}'$  [optional]
- solveRelaxed(): define a method for  $OPT(\mathcal{P}', c)$  [optional, if  $\mathcal{Q}'$ , CBC is built-in]
- generateCuts(): define a method for  $\text{SEP}(\mathcal{P}', x)$  [optional, CGL is built-in]
- isUserFeasible(): is  $\hat{x} \in \mathcal{P}$ ? [optional, if  $\mathcal{P} = \operatorname{conv}(\mathcal{P}' \cap \mathcal{Q}'' \cap \mathbb{Z})$ ]
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DIP Framework: Compare and Contrast to COIN/BCP

```
int main(int argc, char ** argv){
  //create the utility class for parsing parameters
  UtilParameters utilParam(argc, argv);
  bool doCut
                     = utilParam.GetSetting("doCut", true);
  bool doPriceCut = utilParam.GetSetting("doPriceCut", false);
  bool doRelaxCut = utilParam.GetSetting("doRelaxCut". false):
  //create the user application (a DecompApp)
  SILP_DecompApp sip(utilParam):
  //create the CPM/PC/RC algorithm objects (a DecompAlgo)
  DecompAlgo * algo = NULL;
  if (doCut) algo = new DecompAlgoC (\&sip, &utilParam);
  if (doPriceCut) algo = new DecompAlgoPC(&sip, &utilParam);
  if (doRelaxCut) algo = new DecompAlgoRC(&sip, &utilParam);
  //create the driver AlpsDecomp model
  AlpsDecompModel alpsModel(utilParam, algo);
  //solve
  alpsModel.solve();
```

# DIP Framework: Compare and Contrast to COIN/BCP

- Limitations:
  - BCP: The user must derive methods for almost all of the algorithmic components: (master reformulation, expansion of rows and columns, branching in reformulated space, calculation of pricing mechanisms like reduced cost, etc).
  - DIP: There exists a compact formulation which forms the basis of the model attributes.
- Design:
  - BCP: The user defines the model attributes and algorithmic components based on one predefined solution *method* (i.e., PC or CPM).
  - DIP: The user defines the model attributes and algorithmic components based on one predefined compact formulation. The different algorithmic details are managed by the framework.
- Parallelization:
  - BCP: Designed for shared or distributed memory for branch-and-bound search.
  - DIP: Threaded for block-angular shared memory processing.
  - DIP: Built on top of Alps so potential for fully distributed branch-and-bound search (in the future).

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# DIP - Algorithms

- The base class DecompAlgo provides the shell (init / master / subproblem / update).
- Each of the methods described has derived default implementations DecompAlgoX : public DecompAlgo which are accessible by any application class, allowing full flexibility.
- New, hybrid or extended methods can be easily derived by overriding the various subroutines, which are called from the base class. For example,
  - Alternative methods for solving the master LP in DW, such as interior point methods
  - Add stabilization to the dual updates in LD (stability centers)
  - For LD, replace subgradient with volume providing an approximate primal solution
  - Hybrid init methods like using LD or DC to initialize the columns of the DW master
  - During PC, adding cuts to either master and/or subproblem.
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# **DIP** - Algorithms

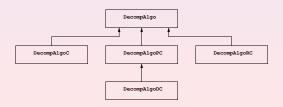
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# **DIP** - Algorithms

- The base class DecompAlgo provides the shell (init / master / subproblem / update).
- Each of the methods described has derived default implementations DecompAlgoX : public DecompAlgo which are accessible by any application class, allowing full flexibility.
- New, hybrid or extended methods can be easily derived by overriding the various subroutines, which are called from the base class. For example,
  - Alternative methods for solving the master LP in DW, such as interior point methods
  - Add stabilization to the dual updates in LD (stability centers)
  - For LD, replace subgradient with volume providing an approximate primal solution
  - Hybrid init methods like using LD or DC to initialize the columns of the DW master
  - During PC, adding cuts to either master and/or subproblem.
  - ...



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# **DIP** - Example Applications

Application	Description	$\mathcal{P}'$	$\mathbf{OPT}(c)$	$\mathbf{SEP}(x)$	Input
AP3	3-index assignment	AP	Jonker	user	user
ATM	cash management (SAS COE)	MILP(s)	CBC	CGL	user
GAP	generalized assignment	KP(s)	Pisinger	CGL	user
MAD	matrix decomposition	MaxClique	Cliquer	CGL	user
MILP	random partition into $A', A''$	MILP	CBC	CGL	mps
MILPBlock	user-defined blocks for $A'$	MILP(s)	CBC	CGL	mps, block
MMKP	multi-dim/choice knapsack	MCKP	Pisinger	CGL	user
		MDKP	CBC	CGL	user
SILP	intro example, tiny IP	MILP	CBC	CGL	user
TSP	traveling salesman problem	1-Tree	Boost	Concorde	user
		2-Match	CBC	Concorde	user
VRP	vehicle routing problem	<i>k</i> -TSP	Concorde	CVRPSEP	user
		b-Match	СВС	CVRPSEP	user

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

# Outline

## Thesis Contributions

### 2 Decomposition Methods

- Traditional Methods
- Integrated Methods
- Structured Separation
- Decompose-and-Cut Method
- Algorithmic Details

## 3 DIP Framework

## Applications

- Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem
- ATM Cash Management Problem
- Generic Black-box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem (MMKP)

• SAS Marketing Optimization - improve ROI for marketing campaign offers by targeting higher response rates, improving channel effectiveness, and reduce spending.

- Relaxation Multi-Choice Knapsack Problem (MCKP)
  - solver mcknap by Pisinger a DP-based branch-and-bound

$$\begin{array}{lll} \displaystyle \sum_{i \in N} \displaystyle \sum_{j \in L_i} r_{mij} x_{ij} & \leq & b_m \\ \displaystyle \sum_{j \in L_i} x_{ij} & = & 1 & \forall i \in N \\ \displaystyle x_{ij} & \in & \{0,1\} & \forall i \in N, j \in \end{array}$$

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

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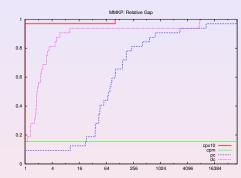
$$egin{array}{rll} \displaystyle\sum_{i\in N}\displaystyle\sum_{j\in L_i}r_{mij}x_{ij}&\leq b_m\ \displaystyle\sum_{j\in L_i}x_{ij}&=&\mathbf{1}\qquadorall i\in N\ x_{ij}&\in&\{\mathbf{0},\mathbf{1}\}\quadorall i\in N, j\in L_i \end{array}$$

Thesis Contributions Decomposition Methods DIP Framework Applications

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

# MMKP: CPX10.2 vs CPM/PC/DC

	CP3	<b>K10.2</b>	DIP-	СРМ	DI	P-PC	DIF	-DC
Instance	Time	Gap	Time	Gap	Time	Gap	Time	Gap
11	0.00	OPT	0.02	OPT	0.04	OPT	0.14	OPT
110	Т	0.05%	Т	$\infty$	Т	11.86%	Т	0.15%
111	Т	0.03%	Т	$\infty$	Т	12.25%	Т	0.14%
112	Т	0.01%	Т	$\infty$	Т	7.93%	Т	0.10%
113	Т	0.02%	Т	$\infty$	Т	11.89%	Т	0.12%
12	0.01	OPT	0.01	OPT	0.05	OPT	0.05	OPT
13	1.17	OPT	23.23	OPT	Т	1.07%	Т	0.75%
14	15.71	OPT	Т	$\infty$	Т	5.14%	Т	0.77%
15	0.01	0.01%	0.01	OPT	0.13	OPT	0.05	OPT
16	0.14	OPT	0.07	OPT	Т	0.28%	0.63	OPT
17	Т	0.08%	Т	$\infty$	Т	14.32%	Т	0.09%
18	Т	0.09%	Т	$\infty$	Т	13.36%	Т	0.20%
19	Т	0.06%	Т	$\infty$	Т	10.71%	Т	0.19%
INST01	Т	0.43%	Т	$\infty$	Т	9.99%	Т	0.70%
INST02	T	0.09%	Т	$\infty$	Т	7.39%	Т	0.45%
INST03	Т	0.38%	Т	$\infty$	Т	3.83%	Т	0.85%
INST04	Т	0.34%	Т	$\infty$	Т	7.48%	Т	0.45%
INST05	Т	0.18%	Т	$\infty$	Т	10.23%	Т	0.62%
INST06	Т	0.21%	Т	$\infty$	Т	9.82%	Т	0.38%
INST07	Т	0.36%	Т	$\infty$	Т	15.75%	Т	0.62%
INST08	Т	0.25%	Т	$\infty$	Т	11.55%	Т	0.46%
INST09	Т	0.21%	Т	$\infty$	Т	15.24%	Т	0.40%
INST11	Т	0.22%	Т	$\infty$	Т	7.96%	Т	0.39%
INST12	Т	0.18%	Т	$\infty$	Т	7.90%	Т	0.42%
INST13	Т	0.08%	Т	$\infty$	Т	2.97%	Т	0.14%
INST14	Т	0.05%	Т	$\infty$	Т	3.89%	Т	0.09%
INST15	Т	0.04%	Т	$\infty$	Т	3.43%	Т	0.10%
INST16	Т	0.06%	Т	$\infty$	Т	2.19%	Т	0.06%
INST17	Т	0.03%	Т	$\infty$	Т	2.09%	Т	0.09%
INST18	Т	0.03%	Т	$\infty$	Т	4.43%	Т	0.06%
INST19	Т	0.03%	Т	$\infty$	Т	3.13%	Т	0.04%
INST20	Т	0.03%	Т	$\infty$	Т	3.05%	Т	0.04%



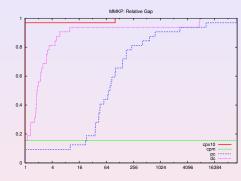
	CPX10.2	DIP-CPM	DIP-PC	DIP-DC
Optimal	5	5	3	4
$\leq$ 1% Gap	32	5	4	32
$\leq$ 10% Gap	32	5	22	32

CGL: missing Gub Covers

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

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12	0.01	OPT	0.01	OPT	0.05	OPT	0.05	OPT
13	1.17	OPT	23.23	OPT	Т	1.07%	Т	0.75%
14	15.71	OPT	Т	$\infty$	Т	5.14%	Т	0.77%
15	0.01	0.01%	0.01	OPT	0.13	OPT	0.05	OPT
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17	Т	0.08%	Т	$\infty$	Т	14.32%	Т	0.09%
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	CPX10.2	DIP-CPM	DIP-PC	DIP-DC
Optimal	5	5	3	4
$\leq$ 1% Gap	32	5	4	32
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CGL: missing Gub Covers

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

# MMKP: Nested Pricing

## Nested Relaxations:

• Multi-Choice 2-D Knapsack Problem (MC2KP):  $\mathcal{P}_p^{\mathrm{MC2KP}} \subset \mathcal{P}^{\mathrm{MCKP}} \; \forall p \in M \setminus \{m\}$ 

$$\begin{split} \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in L_i} r_{pij} x_{ij} &\leq b_p \\ \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in L_i} r_{mij} x_{ij} &\leq b_m \\ \sum_{j \in L_i} x_{ij} &= 1 \quad \forall i \in N \\ x_{ij} &\in \{0,1\} \quad \forall i \in N, j \in L \end{split}$$

• Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem (MMKP):  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{P}^{MCKP}$ 

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

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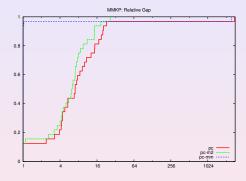
$$\begin{split} \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in L_i} r_{pij} x_{ij} &\leq b_p \\ \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in L_i} r_{mij} x_{ij} &\leq b_m \\ \sum_{j \in L_i} x_{ij} &= 1 \quad \forall i \in N \\ x_{ij} &\in \{0,1\} \quad \forall i \in N, j \in L \end{split}$$

• Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem (MMKP):  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{P}^{\mathrm{MCKP}}$ 

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

# MMKP: PC vs PC Nested with MC2KP and MMKP

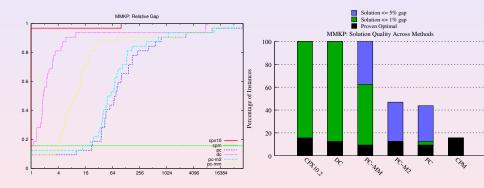
		P-PC		PC-M2		C-MM
Instance	Time	Gap	Time	Gap	Time	Gap
11	0.04	OPT	0.16	OPT	0.08	OPT
110	Т	11.86%	Т	6.99%	Т	0.63%
111	Т	12.25%	Т	11.15%	Т	0.60%
112	Т	7.93%	Т	11.41%	Т	0.79%
113	Т	11.89%	Т	13.65%	Т	0.52%
12	0.05	OPT	0.45	OPT	0.14	OPT
13	Т	1.07%	Т	1.18%	Т	1.10%
14	Т	5.14%	Т	3.18%	Т	1.23%
15	0.13	OPT	0.14	OPT	0.07	OPT
16	Т	0.28%	483.53	OPT	Т	0.25%
17	Т	14.32%	Т	4.85%	Т	0.97%
18	Т	13.36%	Т	9.79%	Т	0.67%
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INST01	Т	9.99%	Т	5.97%	Т	1.86%
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INST04	Т	7.48%	Т	7.04%	Т	1.56%
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INST13	Т	2.97%	Т	3.06%	Т	0.76%
INST14	Т	3.89%	Т	3.67%	Т	0.52%
INST15	Т	3.43%	Т	2.81%	Т	0.78%
INST16	Т	2.19%	Т	3.01%	Т	0.50%
INST17	Т	2.09%	Т	2.16%	Т	0.39%
INST18	Т	4.43%	Т	2.60%	Т	0.41%
INST19	Т	3.13%	Т	3.97%	Т	0.46%
INST20	Т	3.05%	Т	4.06%	Т	0.94%



	DIP-PC	DIP-PC-M2	DIP-PC-MM
Optimal	3	4	3
$\leq$ 1% Gap	4	4	20
$\leq$ 10% Gap	22	27	32

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

# MMKP: CPX10.2 vs CPM/PC/DC/PC-M2/PC-MM



## SAS Center of Excellence in Operations Research Applications (OR COE)

- Determine schedule for allocation of cash inventory at branch banks to service ATMs
- Define a polynomial fit for predicted cash flow need per day/ATM
- Predictive model factors include:
  - days of the week
  - weeks of the month
  - holidays
  - salary disbursement days
  - Iocation of the branches
- Cash allocation plans finalized at beginning of month deviations from plan are costly
- Goal: Determine multipliers for fit to minimize mismatch based on predicted withdrawals
- Constraints:
  - Regulatory agencies enforce a minimum cash reserve ratio at branch banks (per day)
  - For each ATM, limit on number of days cash-out based on predictive model (customer satisfaction)

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Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

# ATM Cash Management Problem - MINLP Formulation

- Simple looking nonconvex quadratic integer NLP.
- Linearize the absolute value, add binaries for count constraints.
- So far, no MINLP solvers seem to be able to solve this (several die with numerical failures).

$min\sum \sum  f_{ad} $		
$a \in A \ d \in D$		
s.t. $c_{ad}^{x}x_{a} + c_{ad}^{y}y_{a} + c_{ad}^{xy}x_{a}y_{a} + c_{ad}^{u}u_{a} + c_{ad} - w_{ad}$	$= f_{ad}$	$\forall a \in A, d \in D$
$\sum \left( f_{ad} + w_{ad}  ight)$	$\leq B_d$	$\forall d \in D$
$a \in A$		
$ \{d\in D\mid f_{ad}<0\} $	$\leq K_a$	$\forall a \in A$
$x_a, y_a$	$\in$ [0, 1]	$\forall a \in A$
$u_a$	$\geq$ 0	$\forall a \in A$
$f_{ad}$	$\geq -w_{ad}$	$\forall a \in A, d \in D$

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

Application - ATM Cash Management Problem - MILP Approx Formulation

- Discretization of x domain  $\{0, 0.1, 0.2, ..., 1.0\}$ .
- Linearization of product of binary and continuous, and absolute value.

$$\begin{split} \min \sum_{a \in A} \sum_{d \in D} \left( f_{ad}^{+} + f_{ad}^{-} \right) \\ \text{s.t.} \ c_{ad}^{x} \sum_{t \in T} c_{t} x_{at} + c_{ad}^{y} y_{a} + c_{ad}^{xy} \sum_{t \in T} c_{t} z_{at} + c_{ad}^{u} u_{a} - w_{ad} &= f_{ad}^{+} - f_{ad}^{-} \qquad \forall a \in A, d \in D \\ \sum_{t \in T} x_{at} &\leq 1 \qquad \forall a \in A \\ z_{at} &\leq x_{at} \qquad \forall a \in A, t \in T \\ z_{at} &\leq y_{a} \qquad \forall a \in A, t \in T \\ z_{at} &\geq x_{at} + y_{a} - 1 \qquad \forall a \in A, t \in T \\ f_{ad}^{-} &\leq w_{ad} v_{ad} \qquad \forall a \in A, d \in D \\ \sum_{a \in A} (f_{ad}^{+} - f_{ad}^{-} + w_{ad}) &\leq B_{d} \qquad \forall d \in D \\ \sum_{d \in D} v_{ad} &\leq K_{a} \qquad \forall a \in A \end{split}$$

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

# ATM Cash Management Problem - MILP Approx Formulation

$x_{at}$	$\in \{0,1\}$	$\forall a \in A, t \in T$
$z_{at}$	$\geq$ 0	$\forall a \in A, t \in T$
$v_{ad}$	$\in \{0,1\}$	$\forall a \in A, d \in D$
$y_a$	$\in$ [0, 1]	$\forall a \in A$
$u_a$	$\geq$ 0	$\forall a \in A$
$f^+_{ad}, f^{ad}$	$\in$ [0, $w_{ad}$ ]	$\forall a \in A, d \in D$

- The MILP formulation has a natural block-angular structure.
  - Master constraints are just the budget constraint.
  - Subproblem constraints (the rest) one block for each ATM.

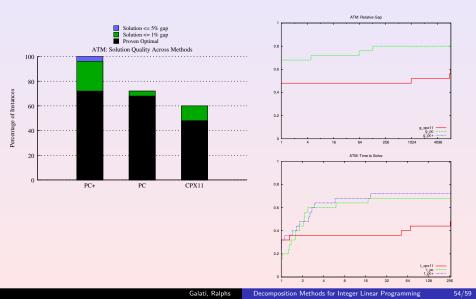
Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

# ATM: CPX11 vs PC/PC+

				CPX11		DIP-PC			D	DIP-PC+		
A	D	s	Time	Gap	Nodes	Time	Gap	Nodes	Time	Gap	Nodes	
5	25	1	0.76	OPT	467	1.62	OPT	6	1.96	OPT	6	
5	25	2	1.41	OPT	804	1.95	OPT	9	1.57	OPT	7	
5	25	3	0.42	OPT	147	7.38	OPT	32	8.03	OPT	32	
5	25	4	1.49	OPT	714	2.74	OPT	14	2.45	OPT	13	
5	25	5	0.16	OPT	32	0.98	OPT	7	0.95	OPT	6	
5	50	1	Т	0.10	1264574	162.74	OPT	127	164.46	OPT	131	
5	50	2	87.96	OPT	38341	183.28	OPT	273	263.24	OPT	275	
5	50	3	8.09	OPT	3576	17.58	OPT	36	22.28	OPT	35	
5	50	4	4.13	OPT	1317	3.13	OPT	3	3.17	OPT	3	
5	50	5	57.55	OPT	32443	91.30	OPT	145	141.29	OPT	147	
10	50	1	Т	0.76	998624	297.65	OPT	301	234.47	OPT	156	
10	50	2	1507.84	OPT	351879	28.84	OPT	29	52.99	OPT	29	
10	50	3	Т	0.81	667371	64.72	OPT	64	49.20	OPT	47	
10	50	4	1319.00	OPT	433155	7.97	OPT	1	5.00	OPT	1	
10	50	5	365.51	OPT	181013	12.49	OPT	3	5.18	OPT	3	
10	100	1	Т	$\infty$	128155	Т	$\infty$	20590	Т	0.11	13190	
10	100	2	Т	$\infty$	116522	Т	$\infty$	60554	2437.43	OPT	135	
10	100	3	Т	$\infty$	118617	Т	$\infty$	52902	Т	0.20	40793	
10	100	4	Т	$\infty$	108899	Т	$\infty$	47931	Т	1.51	59477	
10	100	5	Т	$\infty$	167617	Т	$\infty$	40283	Т	0.38	26490	
20	100	1	Т	$\infty$	93519	379.75	OPT	9	544.49	OPT	9	
20	100	2	Т	$\infty$	68863	Т	16.44	14240	Т	0.26	25756	
20	100	3	Т	$\infty$	95981	Т	15.37	41495	Т	0.12	3834	
20	100	4	Т	$\infty$	81836	Т	0.39	7554	Т	0.08	7918	
20	100	5	Т	$\infty$	101917	635.59	OPT	21	608.68	OPT	19	
Opti				12		17			18			
	% Gap			15			18			25		
_ <u>≤</u> 10	1% Gaj	)		15			18			25		

Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem ATM Cash Management Problem Generic Black-Box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

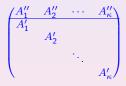
# ATM: CPX11 vs PC/PC+



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# MILPBlock - Block-Angular MILP (as a Generic Solver)

- Consulting work led to numerous MILPs that cannot be solved with generic (B&C) solvers
- Often consider a decomposition approach, since a common modeling paradigm is
  - independent departmental policies which are then coupled by some global constraints
- Development time was slow due to problem-specific implementations of methods



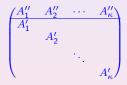
MILPBlock provides a black-box solver for applying integrated methods to generic MILP

- This is the *first* framework to do this (to my knowledge).
- Similar efforts are being talked about by F. Vanderbeck BaPCod (no cuts)
- Currently, the only input needed is MPS/LP and a block file
- Future work will attempt to embed automatic recognition of the block-angular structure using packages from linear algebra like: MONET, hMETIS, Mondriaan

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# Application - Block-Angular MILP (applied to Retail Optimization)

## **SAS** Retail Optimization Solution

- Multi-tiered supply chain distribution problem where each block represents a store
- Prototype model developed in SAS/OR's OPTMODEL (algebraic modeling language)

	CPX11			DIP-PC		
Instance	Time	Gap	Nodes	Time	Gap	Nodes
retail27	Т	2.30%	2674921	3.18	OPT	1
retail31	Т	0.49%	1434931	767.36	OPT	41
retail3	529.77	OPT	2632157	0.54	OPT	1
retail4	Т	1.61%	1606911	116.55	OPT	1
retail6	1.12	OPT	803	264.59	OPT	303

# Outline

## Thesis Contributions

## 2 Decomposition Methods

- Traditional Methods
- Integrated Methods
- Structured Separation
- Decompose-and-Cut Method
- Algorithmic Details
- 3 DIP Framework
- Applications
  - Multi-Choice Multi-Dimensional Knapsack Problem
  - ATM Cash Management Problem
  - Generic Black-box Solver for Block-Angular MILP

# Future Research

## • Branch-and-Relax-and-Cut - computational focus thus far has been on CPM/DC/PC

- Convergence issues and stabilization of duals (stability centers)
- Can we implement Gomory cuts in Price-and-Cut?
  - $\bullet\,$  Similar to Interior Point crossover to Simplex, we can crossover from  $\hat{x}$  to a feasible basis, load that into the solver and generate tableau cuts
  - Will the design of OSI and CGL work like this? YES. J Forrest has added a crossover to OsiClp
- Other generic MILP techniques for MILPBlock: heuristics, branching strategies, presolve
- DIP support for identical subproblems (using Vanderbeck's ideas)
- Parallelization of branch-and-bound
  - More work per node, communication overhead low use ALPS
- Parallelization related to relaxed polyhedra (work-in-progress):
  - Pricing in block-angular case
  - Nested pricing use idle cores to generate diverse set of columns simultaneously
  - Generation of decomposition cuts for various relaxed polyhedra diversity of cuts

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  - Traditional method for outer approximation: cutting plane method.
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  - Integrated methods: price-and-cut and relax-and-cut.
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