

DM554/DM545  
Linear and Integer Programming

Lecture 10  
**IP Modeling**  
**Formulations, Relaxations**

Marco Chiarandini

Department of Mathematics & Computer Science  
University of Southern Denmark

1. Relaxations

2. Well Solved Problems

# Remarks on Assignment 1.1

- do not make statements without evidence supporting them
- summarize and comment the results/plots
- In PS, meaning of plots
- Try to use single letter for name of variables
- use  $\leq$ , not  $<=$
- $x[t]$  is programming language,  $x_t$  is math language
- $f(t)$  is a function, not an indexed variable/parameter
- define all variables, eg,  $y \in \mathbb{R}$
- $\forall t$  must be completed by the domain of  $t$ , eg,  $t = 1..3$ ,  $t \in T$
- In LaTeX use `\begin{array}` or `\begin{align}` or `\begin{equation}` to write your models
- Be short!

1. Relaxations

2. Well Solved Problems

# Optimality and Relaxation

$$z = \max\{c(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in X \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^n\}$$

How can we prove that  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is optimal?

$\bar{z}$  is UB

$\underline{z}$  is LB

stop when  $\bar{z} - \underline{z} \leq \epsilon$



- **Primal bounds** (here lower bounds): every feasible solution gives a primal bound  
may be easy or hard to find, heuristics
- **Dual bounds** (here upper bounds): Relaxations

Optimality gap (miplib): (gurobi  $(db - pb)/pb$ )

$$\text{gap} = \frac{db - pb}{\sup\{|z|, z \in [pb, db]\}} (\cdot 100) \quad \text{for a maximization problem}$$

(If  $pb \geq 0$  and  $db \geq 0$  then  $\frac{db - pb}{db}$ . If  $db = pb = 0$  then  $\text{gap} = 0$ . If no feasible sol found or  $pb \leq 0 \leq db$  then gap is not computed.)

## Proposition

(RP)  $z^R = \max\{f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in T \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n\}$  is a relaxation of  
(IP)  $z = \max\{c(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n\}$  if :

- (i)  $X \subseteq T$  or
- (ii)  $f(\mathbf{x}) \geq c(\mathbf{x}) \forall \mathbf{x} \in X$

## In other terms:

$$\max_{\mathbf{x} \in T} f(\mathbf{x}) \geq \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \max_{\mathbf{x} \in T} c(\mathbf{x}) \\ \max_{\mathbf{x} \in X} f(\mathbf{x}) \end{array} \right\} \geq \max_{\mathbf{x} \in X} c(\mathbf{x})$$

- $T$ : candidate solutions;
- $X \subseteq T$  feasible solutions;
- $f(\mathbf{x}) \geq c(\mathbf{x})$

How to construct relaxations?

1.  $IP : \max\{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n\}, P = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}\}$

$LP : \max\{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in P\}$

Better formulations give better bounds ( $P_1 \subseteq P_2$ )

## Proposition

(i) *If a relaxation  $RP$  is infeasible, the original problem  $IP$  is infeasible.*

(ii) *Let  $\mathbf{x}^*$  be optimal solution for  $RP$ . If  $\mathbf{x}^* \in X$  and  $f(\mathbf{x}^*) = c(\mathbf{x}^*)$  then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is optimal for  $IP$ .*

2. **Combinatorial relaxations** to easy problems that can be solved rapidly

Eg: TSP to Assignment problem Eg: Symmetric TSP to 1-tree

### 3. Lagrangian relaxation

$$IP : \quad z = \max\{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} : A\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \in X \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^n\}$$

$$LR : \quad z(\mathbf{u}) = \max\{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in X\}$$

$$z(\mathbf{u}) \geq z \quad \forall \mathbf{u} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

### 4. Duality:

#### Definition

Two problems:

$$z = \max\{c(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in X\} \quad w = \min\{w(\mathbf{u}) : \mathbf{u} \in U\}$$

form a **weak-dual pair** if  $c(\mathbf{x}) \leq w(\mathbf{u})$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in X$  and all  $\mathbf{u} \in U$ .

When  $z = w$  they form a **strong-dual pair**



### Proposition

$z = \max\{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n\}$  and  $w^{LP} = \min\{\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{b} : \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{u} \geq \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}_+^m\}$   
(ie, dual of linear relaxation) form a weak-dual pair.

### Proposition

Let  $IP$  and  $D$  be weak-dual pair:

- (i) If  $D$  is unbounded, then  $IP$  is infeasible
- (ii) If  $\mathbf{x}^* \in X$  and  $\mathbf{u}^* \in U$  satisfy  $\mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x}^*) = w(\mathbf{u}^*)$  then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is optimal for  $IP$  and  $\mathbf{u}^*$  is optimal for  $D$ .

The advantage is that we do not need to solve an LP like in the LP relaxation to have a bound, any feasible dual solution gives a bound.

Weak pairs:

Matching:  $z = \max\{\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{x} : A\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^m\}$

V. Covering:  $w = \min\{\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{y} : A^T \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n\}$

Proof: consider LP relaxations, then  $z \leq z^{LP} = w^{LP} \leq w$ .  
(strong when graphs are bipartite)

Weak pairs:

S. Packing:  $z = \max\{\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{x} : A\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n\}$

S. Covering:  $w = \min\{\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{y} : A^T \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^m\}$

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# Separation problem

$$\max\{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in X\} \equiv \max\{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in \text{conv}(X)\}$$

$X \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^n$ ,  $P$  a polyhedron  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $X = P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$

## Definition (Separation problem for a COP)

Given  $\mathbf{x}^* \in P$ ; is  $\mathbf{x}^* \in \text{conv}(X)$ ? If not find an inequality  $\mathbf{a}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}$  satisfied by all points in  $X$  but violated by the point  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

(Farkas' lemma states the existence of such an inequality.)

Four properties that often go together:

## Definition

- (i) **Efficient optimization property**:  $\exists$  a polynomial algorithm for  $\max\{\mathbf{c}\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n\}$
- (ii) **Strong duality property**:  $\exists$  strong dual D  $\min\{w(\mathbf{u}) : \mathbf{u} \in U\}$  that allows to quickly verify optimality
- (iii) **Efficient separation problem**:  $\exists$  efficient algorithm for separation problem
- (iv) **Efficient convex hull property**: a compact description of the convex hull is available

Example:

If explicit convex hull strong duality holds  
efficient separation property (just description of  $\text{conv}(X)$ )

Theoretical analysis to prove results about

- strength of certain inequalities that are facet defining 2 ways
- descriptions of convex hull of some discrete  $X \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^*$  several ways, we see one next

### Example

Let

$$X = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^m \times \mathbb{B}^1 : \sum_{i=1}^m x_i \leq my, x_i \leq 1 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m\}$$

$$P = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^m \times \mathbb{R}^1 : x_i \leq y \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m, y \leq 1\}$$

Polyhedron  $P$  describes  $\text{conv}(X)$

# Totally Unimodular Matrices

When the LP solution to this problem

$$IP : \max\{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} : A\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n\}$$

with all data integer will have integer solution?

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} & & & & & \\ & A_N & & A_B & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{b} \\ \hline & & & & & \\ \hline \mathbf{c}_N^T & & & \mathbf{c}_B^T & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$A_B \mathbf{x}_B + A_N \mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{0} \rightsquigarrow A_B \mathbf{x}_B = \mathbf{b},$$

$A_B$   $m \times m$  non singular matrix

$$\mathbf{x}_B \geq 0$$

Cramer's rule for solving systems of linear equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e \\ f \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} e & b \\ f & d \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}}$$

$$y = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} a & e \\ c & f \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = A_B^{-1} \mathbf{b} = \frac{A_B^{adj} \mathbf{b}}{\det(A_B)}$$

## Definition

- A square integer matrix  $B$  is called **unimodular** (UM) if  $\det(B) = \pm 1$
- An integer matrix  $A$  is called **totally unimodular** (TUM) if every square, nonsingular submatrix of  $A$  is UM

## Proposition

- If  $A$  is TUM then all vertices of  $R_1(A) = \{\mathbf{x} : A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$  are integer if  $\mathbf{b}$  is integer
- If  $A$  is TUM then all vertices of  $R_2(A) = \{\mathbf{x} : A\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$  are integer if  $\mathbf{b}$  is integer.

Proof: if  $A$  is TUM then  $[A|I]$  is TUM

Any square, nonsingular submatrix  $C$  of  $[A|I]$  can be written as

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} B & | & 0 \\ \hline -D & | & I_k \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $B$  is square submatrix of  $A$ . Hence  $\det(C) = \det(B) = \pm 1$



## Proposition

The transpose matrix  $A^T$  of a TUM matrix  $A$  is also TUM.

## Theorem (Sufficient condition)

An integer matrix  $A$  is TUM if

1.  $a_{ij} \in \{0, -1, +1\}$  for all  $i, j$
2. each column contains at most two non-zero coefficients ( $\sum_{i=1}^m |a_{ij}| \leq 2$ )
3. if the rows can be partitioned into two sets  $I_1, I_2$  such that:
  - if a column has 2 entries of same sign, their rows are in different sets
  - if a column has 2 entries of different signs, their rows are in the same set

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Proof: by induction

**Basis:** one matrix of one element  $\{0, +1, -1\}$  is TUM

**Induction:** let  $C$  be of size  $k$ .

If  $C$  has column with all 0s then it is singular.

If a column with only one 1 then expand on that by induction

If 2 non-zero in each column then

$$\forall j : \sum_{i \in I_1} a_{ij} = \sum_{i \in I_2} a_{ij}$$

but then a linear combination of rows is zero and  $\det(C) = 0$

Other matrices with integrality property:

- TUM
- Balanced matrices
- Perfect matrices
- Integer vertices

Defined in terms of forbidden substructures that represent fractionating possibilities.

### Proposition

*A is always TUM if it comes from*

- *node-edge incidence matrix of undirected bipartite graphs (ie, no odd cycles) ( $I_1 = U, I_2 = V, B = (U, V, E)$ )*
- *node-arc incidence matrix of directed graphs ( $I_2 = \emptyset$ )*

Eg: Shortest path, max flow, min cost flow, bipartite weighted matching

# Summary

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