

HiOp – User Guide

version 0.3

by

Cosmin G. Petra

**Center for Applied Scientific Computing
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory**

7000 East Avenue,
Livermore, CA 94550, USA.

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Contents

1	Introduction	3
2	Installing/building HiOp	4
2.1	Prerequisites	4
2.2	Building, testing, and installing HiOp	4
2.3	Support of host-device computations using (generic)CPU-(NVIDIA)GPU hardware	4
3	Interfacing with HiOp	5
3.1	The NLP with <i>dense</i> constraints formulation requiring <i>up to first-order</i> derivative information	5
3.1.1	The C++ interface	6
3.1.2	Specifying the optimization problem	6
3.1.3	Specifying the inter-process/memory distribution of the problem	7
3.1.4	Calling HiOp for a <code>hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints</code> formulation	8
3.2	General sparse NLPs requiring <i>up to second-order</i> derivative information	9
3.2.1	C++ interface to solve sparse NLPs	10
3.2.2	Specifying the optimization problem	10
3.2.3	Calling HiOp for a <code>hiopInterfaceSparse</code> formulation	12
3.3	NLPs in the mixed dense-sparse (MDS) form	13
3.3.1	The C++ interface	14
3.3.2	Calling HiOp for a <code>hiopInterfaceMDS</code> formulation	17
3.4	Specifying a starting point for the optimization process	18
3.5	Compiling and linking your project with the HiOp library	19
4	Solver options	19
4.1	List of available options	19
5	Licensing and copyright	20
6	Acknowledgments	21

1 Introduction

This document describes the **HiOp** suite of HPC optimization solvers for some large-scale non-convex nonlinear programming problems (NLPs). Two main classes of optimization problems are supported. First class consists of NLPs with extremely large number of variables but with a relatively small number of general constraints; the solver for these problems is a memory-distributed, MPI-based quasi-Newton interior-point solver using limited-memory approximations for the Hessians. The second class of problems consists of NLPs that have dense and sparse blocks, for which a “Newton” interior-point solver is available together with a specialized, so called mixed dense-sparse (MDS) linear algebra capable of achieving good performance on host-device, *i.e.*, CPU-GPU, computing hardware.

This document includes instructions on how to obtain and build **HiOp** and a description of its interface, user options, and use as an optimization library. Guidelines on how is best to use the solver for parallel computations are also provided. The document generally targets users of **HiOp**, but also contains information relevant to potential developers or advanced users; these are strongly encouraged to also read the paper on the computational approach implemented in **HiOp** [2].

While the MPI quasi-Newton solver of **HiOp** targets DAE- and PDE-constrained optimization problems formulated in a “reduced-space” approach, it can be used for general nonconvex nonlinear optimization as well. For efficiency considerations, it is recommended to *use quasi-Newton HiOp for NLPs that have a relatively small number of general constraints*, say less than 100; note that there are no restrictions on the number of bounds constraints, *e.g.*, one can specify simple bounds on any, and potentially all the decision variables without affecting the computational efficiency. The minimizers computed by **HiOp** satisfies *local* first-order optimality conditions.

The goal of quasi-Newton solver of **HiOp** is to remove the parallelization limitations of existing state-of-the-art solvers for nonlinear programming (NLP) and match/surpass the parallel scalability of the underlying PDE or DAE solver. Such limitation occurs whenever the dimensionality of the optimization space is as large as the dimensionality of the discretization of the differential systems of equations governing the optimization. In these cases, the use of existing NLP solvers results in i. considerable long time spent in optimization, which affects the parallel scalability, and/or ii. memory requirements beyond the memory capacity of the computational node that runs the optimization. **HiOp** removes these scalability/parallelization bottlenecks (for certain optimization problems described above) by offering interface for a *memory-distributed* specification of the problem and parallelizing the optimization search using specialized parallel linear algebra technique.

The general computational approach in **HiOp** is to use existing state-of-the-art NLP algorithms and develop linear algebra kernels tailored to the specific of this class of problems. **HiOp** is based on an interior-point line search filter method [4, 5] and follows the implementation details from [6], which is the implementation paper for IPOPT open-source NLP solver. The quasi-Newton approach is based on limited-memory secant approximations of the Hessian [1], which is generalized as required by the specific of interior-point methods for constrained optimization problems [2]. The specialized linear algebra decomposition is obtained by using a Schur-complement reduction that leverages the fact that the quasi-Newton Hessian matrix has a small number of dense blocks that border a low-rank update of a diagonal matrix. The technique is described in [2]. The Newton interior-point solver of **HiOp** uses linear algebra specialized to the particular form of the MDS NLPs supported by this solver, for more details consult Section 3.3.

The C++ parallel implementation in **HiOp** is lightweight and portable since it is expressed

and implemented only in terms of parallel (multi-)vector operations (implemented internally using BLAS level 1 and level 2 operations and MPI for communication) and BLAS level 3 and LAPACK operations for small dense matrices.

By using multithreaded BLAS and LAPACK libraries, *e.g.*, INTEL MKL, GotoBlas, Atlas, etc, additional, intra-node parallelism can be achieved. These libraries are usually machine/hardware specific and available for a variety of computer architectures. A list of BLAS/LAPACK implementations can be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basic_Linear_Algebra_Subprograms#Implementations.

2 Installing/building HiOp

HiOp is available on Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) github's page at <https://github.com/LLNL/hiop>. HiOp can be obtained by cloning the repository or by downloading the release archive(s). To clone from the repository, one needs to simply run

```
> git clone https://github.com/LLNL/hiop.git
```

2.1 Prerequisites

HiOp is written in C++ (C++98) and requires a C++ compiler. Also it requires BLAS and LAPACK, and, optionally, MPI. Not having MPI enabled in HiOp results in HiOp running on one processor only; still, significant multi-core parallelization can be obtained by using multithreaded BLAS and LAPACK. The CMake-based build system of HiOp generally detects these prerequisites automatically.

At this point the build system only supports macOS and Linux operating systems. On the other hand, other than the build system, HiOp's code is platform independent and should run fine on Windows as well.

2.2 Building, testing, and installing HiOp

The build system is based on CMake. Up-to-date detailed information about HiOp custom builds and installs are kept at <https://github.com/LLNL/hiop>.

A quick way to build and code is run the following commands in the 'build/' directory in the root HiOp directory:

```
> cmake ..  
> make all  
> make test  
> make install
```

This will compile, build the static library and example executables, perform a couple of tests to detect potential issues during the installation, and will install HiOp's header and the static library in the root directory under '_build_defaultDist/'

2.3 Support of host-device computations using (generic)CPU-(NVIDIA)GPU hardware

Starting version 0.3, HiOp offers support for offloading computations to NVIDIA GPU accelerators. This feature is available only when solving NLPs in the mixed dense-sparse (MDS) form. First,

support for GPUs should be enabled during the build by using `-DHIOP_USE_GPU` option with `cmake`, which will result in using the GPU accelerators for the internal linear solves; in addition, the options `-DHIOP_USE_RAJA` and `-DHIOP_USE_UMPIRE` will employ RAJA portability abstraction to perform the remaining linear algebra computations on the device or on the host (with OpenMP acceleration).

HiOp's `cmake` build system is quite versatile to find the dependencies required to offload computations to the device GPUs since was developed and tested on a few GPU-enabled HPC platforms at Oak Ridge, Lawrence Livermore, and Pacific Northwestern National Laboratories. These dependencies consist of CUDA library version 10.1 or later and a recent Magma linear solver library (as well as a physical NVIDIA GPU device). HiOp offers an extensive build support for using customized NVIDIA libraries and/or Magma solver as well as for advanced troubleshooting. The user is referred to `cmake/FindHiopCudaLibraries.cmake` and `cmake/FindMagma.cmake` scripts.

Note: Installing NVIDIA CUDA (and likely the NVIDIA driver) and/or building Magma can be quite challenging. The user is encouraged to rely on preinstalled versions of these, as they are available via `module` utility on virtually all high-performance computing machines. An example of how to satisfy all the GPU dependencies on Summit supercomputer at Oak Ridge National Lab with a one commands are available at https://github.com/LLNL/hiop/blob/master/README_summit.md.

3 Interfacing with HiOp

Once HiOp is built, it can be used as the optimization solver in your application through the HiOp's C++ interfaces and by linking with the static library. A shared dynamic load library can be also built using `HIOP_BUILD_SHARED` option with `cmake`. There are three types of nonlinear optimization or NLP formulations currently supported by HiOp. They are described and discussed by the subsequent sections.

3.1 The NLP with *dense* constraints formulation requiring *up to first-order* derivative information

A first class of problems supported by HiOp consists of nonlinear nonconvex NLP with *dense* constraints of the form

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \quad (1)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad c(x) = c_E \quad [y_c] \quad (2)$$

$$[v_l] \quad d_l \leq d(x) \leq d_u \quad [v_u] \quad (3)$$

$$[z_u] \quad x_l \leq x \leq x_u \quad [z_u] \quad (4)$$

Here $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $c : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m_E}$, $d : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m_I}$. The bounds appearing in the inequality constraints (3) are assumed to be $d^l \in \mathbb{R}^{m_I} \cup \{-\infty\}$, $d^u \in \mathbb{R}^{m_I} \cup \{+\infty\}$, $d_i^l < d_i^u$, and at least of one of d_i^l and d_i^u are finite for all $i \in \{1, \dots, m_I\}$. The bounds in (4) are such that $x^l \in \mathbb{R}^n \cup \{-\infty\}$, $x^u \in \mathbb{R}^n \cup \{+\infty\}$, and $x_i^l < x_i^u$, $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. The quantities insides brackets are the Lagrange multipliers of the constraints. Whenever a bound is infinite, the corresponding multiplier is by convention zero.

The following quantities are required by HiOp:

D1 objective and constraint functions $f(x)$, $c(x)$, $d(x)$;

D2 the first-order derivatives of the above: $\nabla f(x)$, $Jc(x)$, $Jd(x)$;

D3 the simple bounds x_l and x_u , the inequalities bounds: d_l and d_u , and the right-hand size of the equality constraints c_E .

3.1.1 The C++ interface

The above optimization problem (1)-(4) can be specified by using the C++ interface, namely by deriving and providing an implementation for the `hiop::hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints` abstract class.

We present next the methods of this abstract class that needs to be implemented in order to specify the parts D1-D3 of the optimization problem.

Note: All the functions that return `bool` should return `false` when an error occurs, otherwise should return `true`.

3.1.2 Specifying the optimization problem

All the methods of this section are “pure” virtual in `hiop::hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints` abstract class and need to be provided by the user implementation.

```
1 bool get_prob_sizes(long long& n, long long& m);
```

Provides the number of decision variables and the number of constraints ($m = m_E + m_I$).

```
1 bool get_vars_info(const long long& n, double *xlow, double* xupp,  
2 NonlinearityType* type);
```

Provides the lower and upper bounds x_l and x_u on the decision variables. When a variable (let us say the i^{th}) has no lower or/and upper bounds, the i^{th} entry of `xlow` and/or `xupp` should be less than $-1e20$ or/and larger than $1e20$, respectively. The last argument is not used and can set to any value of the enum `hiop::hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints::NonlinearityType`.

```
1 bool get_cons_info(const long long& m, double* clow, double* cupp,  
2 NonlinearityType* type);
```

Similar to the above, but for the inequality bounds d_l and d_u . For equalities, set the corresponding entries in `clow` and `cupp` equal to the desired value (from c_E).

```
1 bool eval_f(const long long& n,  
2 const double* x, bool new_x,  
3 double& obj_value);
```

Implement this method to compute the function value $f(x)$ in `obj_value` for the provided decision variables x . The input argument `new_x` specifies whether the variables x have been changed since the previous call of one of the `eval_` methods. Use this argument to “buffer” the objective and gradients function and derivative evaluations when this is possible.

```
1 bool eval_grad_f(const long long& n,
```

```

2         const double* x, bool new_x,
3         double* gradf);

```

Same as above but for $\nabla f(x)$.

```

1 bool eval_cons(const long long& n, const long long& m,
2               const long long& num_cons,
3               const long long* idx_cons, const double* x,
4               bool new_x, double* cons);

```

Implement this method to provide the value of the constraints $c(x)$ and/or $d(x)$. The input parameter `num_cons` specifies how many constraints (out of `m`) needs to be evaluated; `idx_cons` array specifies the indexes, which are zero-based, of the constraints and is of size `num_cons`. These values should be provided in `cons`, which is also an array of size `num_cons`.

```

1 bool
2 eval_Jac_cons(const long long& n, const long long& m,
3               const long long& num_cons, const long long* idx_cons,
4               const double* x, bool new_x,
5               double** Jac);

```

Implement this method to provide the Jacobian of a subset of the constraints $c(x)$ and/or $d(x)$ in `Jac`; as above this subset is specified by the array `idx_cons`. To set the (i, j) entry of the Jacobian to v , one can use `Jac[i][j]=v;`. Alternatively, if you have a contiguous row-wise array storage of the Jacobian, simply (mem)copy it in `Jac[0]`.

3.1.3 Specifying the inter-process/memory distribution of the problem

HiOp uses *data parallelism*, meaning that the data [D1]-[D3] of the optimization problem is distributed across processes (MPI ranks). It is **crucial** to understand the data distribution scheme in order to use HiOp's interface properly.

The general rule of thumb is to distribute any data of the problem with storage depending on n , namely the decision variables x and their bounds x_l and x_u , the gradient $\nabla f(x)$, and the Jacobians $Jc(x)$ and $Jd(x)$. The Jacobians, which are assumed to be dense matrices with n columns, are distributed column-wise.

⚠ Note: All the `eval_` functions of the C++ interface provides local array slices of the above mentioned distributed data to the application code that implements HiOp's C++ interface. The size of these local slices is the "local size" (specified by the application code through the `get_vecdistrib_info` method explained below) and is different from the "global size" n and parameter `n` of methods.

⚠ Note: Since the Jacobians are distributed column-wise, the implementer should populate the `Jac` argument of `eval_Jac_cons` with the "local" columns.

On the other hand, the problem's data that does not have storage depending on n , is not distributed; instead, it is replicated on all ranks. Such data consist of c_E , d_l , d_u and the evaluations of $c(x)$ and $d(x)$.

```

1 bool get_MPI_comm(MPI_Comm& comm_out) ;

```

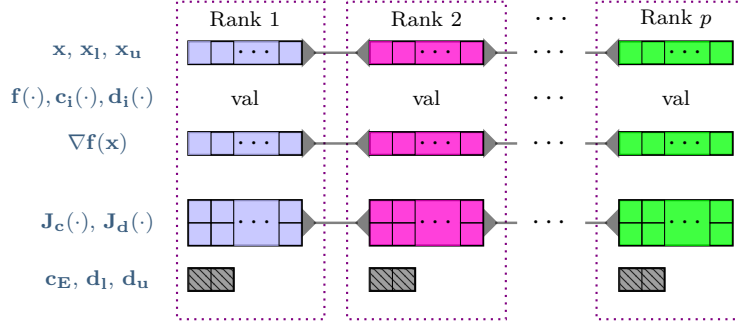



Figure 1: Depiction of the distribution of the data of the optimization problem (1)-(4) across MPI ranks. The vectors and matrices with storage dependent on the number of optimization variables are distributed. Other data, *i.e.*, scalar function values or vectors of small size (shown in dashed dark grey boxes), are replicated on each rank.

Use this method to specify the MPI communicator to be used by HiOp. It has a default implementation that will provide MPI_COMM_WORLD.

```
1 bool get_vecdistrib_info(long long global_n, long long* cols);
```

Use this method to specify the data distribution of the data of the problem that has storage depending on n . HiOp will call the implementation of this methods to obtain the partitioning/distribution of an hypothetical vector of size `global_n` across the MPI ranks. The array `cols` is of dimension number of ranks plus one and should be populated such that `cols[r]` and `cols[r+1]-1` specify the start and end indexes of the slice stored on rank r in the hypothetical vector. It has a default implementation that will returns `false`, indicating that HiOp should run in serial.

Note: HiOp also uses `get_vecdistrib_info` to obtain the information about the Jacobians' distribution across MPI ranks (this is possible since they are column-wise distributed).

Examples of how to use these functions can be found in the standalone drivers in `src/Drivers/` under the HiOp's root directory.

3.1.4 Calling HiOp for a `hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints` formulation

Once an implementation of the `hiop::hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints` abstract interface class containing the user's NLP representation is available, the user code needs to create a HiOp problem formulation that encapsulate the NLP representation, instantiate an optimization algorithm class, and start the numerical optimization process. Assuming that the NLP representation is implemented in a class named `NlpEx1` (deriving `hiop::hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints`), the aforementioned sequence of steps can be performed by:

```
1 #include "NlpEx1.hpp" //the NLP representation class
2 #include "hiopInterface.hpp" //HiOP encapsulation of the NLP
3 #include "hiopAlgFilterIPM.hpp" //solver class
4 using namespace hiop;
5 ...
6 NlpEx1 nlp_interface(); //instantiate your NLP representation↔
   class
7 hiopNlpDenseConstraints nlp(nlp_interface); //create HiOP encapsulation
```

```

8 nlp.options.SetNumericValue("mu0", 0.01); //set initial value for barrier ←
   parameter
9 hiopAlgFilterIPM solver(&nlp);           //create a solver object
10 hiopSolveStatus status = solver.run();   //numerical optimization
11 double obj_value = solver.getObjective(); //get objective
12 ...

```

Various output quantities of the numerical optimization phase (*e.g.*, the optimal objective value and (primal) solution, status of the numerical optimization process, and solve statistics) can be retrieved from HiOp's `hiopAlgFilterIPM` solver object. Most commonly used such methods are:

```

1 double getObjective() const;
2 void getSolution(double* x) const;
3 hiopSolveStatus getSolveStatus() const;
4 int getNumIterations() const;

```

The standalone drivers `nlpDenseCons_ex1`, `nlpDenseCons_ex2`, and `nlpDenseCons_ex3` inside directory `src/Drivers/` under the HiOp's root directory contain more detailed examples of the use of HiOp.

3.2 General sparse NLPs requiring *up to second-order* derivative information

The sparse NLP formulation supports sparse optimization problems and requires Hessians of the objective and constraints in addition to gradients/Jacobian of the objective/constraints.

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \quad (5)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad c(x) = c_E \quad [y_c] \quad (6)$$

$$[v_l] \quad d_l \leq d(x) \leq d_u \quad [v_u] \quad (7)$$

$$[z_u] \quad x_l \leq x \leq x_u \quad [z_u] \quad (8)$$

Here $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $c : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m_E}$, $d : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m_I}$. The bounds appearing in the inequality constraints (3) are assumed to be $d^l \in \mathbb{R}^{m_I} \cup \{-\infty\}$, $d^u \in \mathbb{R}^{m_I} \cup \{+\infty\}$, $d_i^l < d_i^u$, and at least of one of d_i^l and d_i^u are finite for all $i \in \{1, \dots, m_I\}$. The bounds in (4) are such that $x^l \in \mathbb{R}^n \cup \{-\infty\}$, $x^u \in \mathbb{R}^n \cup \{+\infty\}$, and $x_i^l < x_i^u$, $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. The quantities inside brackets are the Lagrange multipliers of the constraints. Whenever a bound is infinite, the corresponding multiplier is by convention zero.

The following quantities are required by HiOp:

D1 objective and constraint functions $f(x)$, $c(x)$, $d(x)$;

D2 the first-order derivatives of the above: $\nabla f(x)$, $Jc(x)$, $Jd(x)$;

D3 The Hessian of the Lagrangian

$$\nabla^2 L(x) = \lambda_0 \nabla^2 f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{m_E} \lambda_i^E \nabla^2 c_i(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{m_I} \lambda_i^I \nabla^2 d_i(x). \quad (9)$$

D4 the simple bounds x_l and x_u , the inequalities bounds: d_l and d_u , and the right-hand side of the equality constraints c_E .

3.2.1 C++ interface to solve sparse NLPs

The above optimization problem (5)-(8) can be specified by using the C++ interface, namely by deriving and providing an implementation for the `hiop::hiopInterfaceSparse` abstract class.

We present next the methods of this abstract class that needs to be implemented in order to specify the parts D1-D4 required to solve a sparse NLP problem.

Note: All the functions that have a `bool` return type should return `false` when an error occurs, otherwise should return `true`.

Note: `hiop::hiopInterfaceSparse` runs only in non-distributed/non-MPI mode. Intraprocess acceleration can be obtained using OpenMP or CUDA.

3.2.2 Specifying the optimization problem

All the methods of this section are “pure” virtual in `hiop::hiopInterfaceSparse` abstract class and need to be provided by the user implementation.

```
1 bool get_prob_sizes(long long& n, long long& m);
```

Provides the number of decision variables and the number of constraints ($m = m_E + m_I$).

```
1 bool get_vars_info(const long long& n, double *xlow, double* xupp,  
2                   NonlinearityType* type);
```

Provides the lower and upper bounds x_l and x_u on the decision variables. When a variable (let us say the i^{th}) has no lower or/and upper bounds, the i^{th} entry of `xlow` and/or `xupp` should be less than $-1e20$ or/and larger than $1e20$, respectively. The last argument is not used and can set to any value of the enum `hiop::hiopInterface::NonlinearityType`.

```
1 bool get_cons_info(const long long& m, double* clow, double* cupp,  
2                   NonlinearityType* type);
```

Similar to the above, but for the inequality bounds d_l and d_u . For equalities, set the corresponding entries in `clow` and `cupp` equal to the desired value (from c_E).

```
1 bool eval_f(const long long& n,  
2             const double* x, bool new_x,  
3             double& obj_value);
```

Implement this method to compute the function value $f(x)$ in `obj_value` for the provided decision variables x . The input argument `new_x` specifies whether the variables x have been changed since the previous call of one of the `eval_` methods. Use this argument to “buffer” the objective and gradients function and derivative evaluations when this is possible.

```
1 bool eval_grad_f(const long long& n,  
2                  const double* x, bool new_x,  
3                  double* gradf);
```

Same as above but for $\nabla f(x)$.

```

1 bool eval_cons(const long long& n, const long long& m,
2               const long long& num_cons,
3               const long long* idx_cons, const double* x,
4               bool new_x, double* cons);

```

Implement this method to provide the value of the constraints $c(x)$ and/or $d(x)$. The input parameter `num_cons` specifies how many constraints (out of `m`) needs to be evaluated; `idx_cons` array specifies the indexes, which are zero-based, of the constraints and is of size `num_cons`. These values should be provided in `cons`, which is also an array of size `num_cons`.

```

1 bool
2 eval_Jac_cons(const long long& n, const long long& m,
3               const long long& num_cons, const long long* idx_cons,
4               const double* x, bool new_x,
5               const int& nnzJacS, int* iJacS, int* jJacS, double* MJacS);

```

Implement this method to provide the Jacobian of a subset of the constraints $c(x)$ and/or $d(x)$ in `Jac`; this subset is specified by the array `idx_cons`. The last three arguments should be used to specify the Jacobian information in sparse triplet format. `iJacS` and `jJacS` needs to be jointly sorted: by indexes in `iJacS` and, for equal (row) indexes in `iJacS`, by indexes in `jJacS`.

Notes for implementer of this method:

2. When `iJacS` and `jJacS` are non-null, the implementer should provide the (i, j) indexes in these arrays.
3. When `MJacS` is non-null, the implementer should provide the values corresponding to entries specified by `iJacS` and `jJacS`.
4. `iJacS` and `jJacS` are both either non-null or null during the same call.
5. The pair $(iJacS, jJacS)$ and `MJacS` can be both non-null during the same call or only one of them non-null; but they will not be both null.

```

1 bool eval_Jac_cons(const long long& n, const long long& m,
2                   const double* x, bool new_x,
3                   const long long& nsparse, const long long& ndense,
4                   const int& nnzJacS, int* iJacS, int* jJacS, double* MJacS);

```

Evaluates the Jacobian of equality and inequality constraints *in one call*.

⚠ Note: HiOp will call this method whenever the implementer/user returns `false` from the previous, “two-calls” `eval_Jac_cons`. We remark that the two-calls method should return `false` during both calls (for equalities and inequalities) made to it by HiOp in order to let HiOp know that the Jacobian should be evaluated using the one-call callback listed above.

The main difference from the above `eval_Jac_cons` is that the implementer/user of this method does not have to split the constraints into equalities and inequalities; instead, HiOp does this internally.

Parameters:

- first four: number of variables, number of constraints, (primal) variables at which the Jacobian should be evaluated, and boolean flag indicating whether the variables `x` have changed since a previous call to any of the function and derivative evaluations.

- `nnzJacS`, `iJacS`, `jJacS`, `MJacS`: number of nonzeros, (i, j) indexes, and nonzero values of the sparse Jacobian matrix. `iJacS` and `jJacS` needs to be jointly sorted: by indexes in `iJacS` and, for equal (row) indexes in `iJacS`, by indexes in `jJacS`.

Note: Notes 1-5 from the previous, two-call `eval_Jac_cons` applies here as well.

```
1 bool eval_Hess_Lagr(const long long& n, const long long& m,
2                   const double* x, bool new_x, const double& obj_factor,
3                   const double* lambda, bool new_lambda,
4                   const long long& nsparse, const long long& ndense,
5                   const int& nnzHSS, int* iHSS, int* jHSS, double* MHSS)
```

Evaluates the Hessian of the Lagrangian function as a sparse matrix in triplet format.

Note: Notes 1-5 from `eval_Jac_cons` apply to arrays `iHSS`, `jHSS`, and `MHSS` that stores the sparse part of the Hessian.

Note: The array `lambda` contains first the multipliers of the equality constraints followed by the multipliers of the inequalities.

3.2.3 Calling HiOp for a `hiopInterfaceSparse` formulation

Once the sparse NLP is coded, the user code needs to create a `HiOp` problem formulation that encapsulate the NLP representation, instantiate an optimization algorithm class, and start the numerical optimization process. Assuming that the NLP representation is implemented in a class named `NlpEx6` (that derives from `hiop::hiopInterfaceSparse`), the aforementioned sequence of steps can be performed by:

```
1 #include "NlpEx6.hpp"           //the NLP representation class
2 #include "hiopInterface.hpp"    //HiOP encapsulation of the NLP
3 #include "hiopAlgFilterIPM.hpp" //solver class
4 using namespace hiop;
5 ...
6 NlpEx6 nlp_interface();         //instantiate your NLP representation↔
7 class
8 hiopNlpDenseConstraints nlp(nlp_interface); //create HiOP encapsulation
9 nlp.options.SetNumericValue("mu0", 0.01); //set a non-default initial value for ↔
10 barrier parameter
11 hiopAlgFilterIPM solver(&nlp);    //create a solver object
12 hiopSolveStatus status = solver.run(); //numerical optimization
13 double obj_value = solver.getObjective(); //get objective
14 ...
```

Various output quantities of the numerical optimization phase (*e.g.*, the optimal objective value and (primal) solution, status of the numerical optimization process, and solve statistics) can be retrieved from `HiOp`'s `hiopAlgFilterIPM` solver object. Most commonly used such methods are:

```
1 double getObjective() const;
2 void getSolution(double* x) const;
3 hiopSolveStatus getSolveStatus() const;
4 int getNumIterations() const;
```

The standalone drivers `nlpSparse_ex6` and `nlpSparse_ex7` inside directory `src/Drivers/` under the HiOp's root directory contain more detailed examples of the use of the sparse NLP interface of HiOp.

3.3 NLPs in the mixed dense-sparse (MDS) form

A second class of optimization problems supported by HiOp consists of nonlinear, possibly non-convex optimization problems that explicitly partition the optimization variables into so-called “dense” and “sparse” variables, x_d and x_s , respectively; this problem can be expressed compactly as

$$\min_{x_d \in \mathbb{R}^{n_d}, x_s \in \mathbb{R}^{n_s}} f(x_d, x_s) \quad (10)$$

$$\text{s.t. } c(x_d, x_s) = c_E, \quad (11)$$

$$d^l \leq d(x_d, x_s) \leq d^u, \quad (12)$$

$$x_d^l \leq x_d \leq x_d^u, \quad x_s^l \leq x_s \leq x_s^u. \quad (13)$$

Here $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $c : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m_E}$, and $d : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m_I}$, where n denotes the total number of variables, $n = n_d + n_s$. The bounds appearing in the inequality constraints (12) are assumed to be $d^l \in \mathbb{R}^{m_I} \cup \{-\infty\}$, $d^u \in \mathbb{R}^{m_I} \cup \{+\infty\}$, $d_i^l < d_i^u$, and at least of one of d_i^l and d_i^u are finite for each $i \in \{1, \dots, m_I\}$. The vector bounds x_d^l , x_d^u , x_s^l , and x_s^u in (13) need to satisfy identical requirements. For the rest of the paper m will denote $m_E + m_I$, *i.e.*, the total number of constraints excepting the simple bounds constraints (13).

The salient idea behind mixed dense-sparse problems of the form (10)–(13) is that the explicit partitioning of the optimization variables and a couple of (block) structural properties of the functions $f(\cdot)$, $c(\cdot)$, and $d(\cdot)$, which are elaborated below, allow orchestrating the computations of the optimization algorithm to heavily rely on matrix and vector *dense* kernels and to reduce the reliance on sparse linear algebra kernels.

As mentioned above we make a couple of assumptions on the block structure of the derivatives:

- A1. The “cross-term” Hessian matrices $\nabla_{x_d x_s}^2 f$, $\nabla_{x_s x_d}^2 f$, $\nabla_{x_d x_s}^2 c$, $\nabla_{x_s x_d}^2 c$, $\nabla_{x_d x_s}^2 d$, and $\nabla_{x_s x_d}^2 d$ are zero;
- A2. The Hessian matrix $\nabla_{x_s x_s}^2 L$ has a sparsity pattern that allows *computationally efficient* inversion of (or solving with) the matrix $\nabla_{x_s x_s}^2 L + D_{x_s}$ where D_{x_s} is a diagonal matrix with positive diagonal entries; in our target applications, namely, optimal power flow problems, $\nabla_{x_s x_s}^2 L$ is a diagonal matrix with nonnegative entries.

The optimization problem (10)–(13) is transformed internally by HiOp to an equivalent form that is more amenable to the use of interior-point methods as described on [3, Section 3]. Furthermore, HiOp implements the filter line-search interior-point algorithm of Wächter and Biegler [5, 4] (also implemented by IPOPT [6]) and makes explicit use of second-order derivatives/Hessians.

Starting version 0.3, HiOp offers support for NVIDIA GPU computations acceleration. This feature is available only when solving NLPs in the mixed dense-sparse (MDS) form and should be enabled during the build by using `-DHIOP_USE_GPU` option with `cmake`. HiOp's `cmake` build system is quite versatile to find the dependencies required to offload computations to the device GPUs since was developed and tested on a few GPU-enabled HPC platforms at Oak Ridge, Lawrence Livermore, and Pacific Northwestern National Laboratories. These dependencies consist of CUDA library version 10.1 or later and a recent Magma linear solver library (as well as an NVIDIA GPU).

If offloading computations to the device is not desired, the user can switch it off and perform only CPU (host) computations by setting HiOp's option `compute_mode` to `cpu`. The Newton interior-point solver for MDS problems offers ample device/GPU (and limited CPU/multicore) fine-grain parallelism, however it does not offer support of interprocess/internode parallelism.

The following quantities are required by HiOp:

D1 objective and constraint functions $f(x_d, x_s)$, $c(x_d, x_s)$, $d(x_d, x_s)$;

D2 the first-order derivatives: $\nabla f(x_d, x_s)$, $Jc(x_d, x_s)$, $Jd(x_d, x_s)$; the two Jacobians will have a MDS structure in the sense that the left blocks will be dense while the right blocks will be sparse in their expressions

$$Jc(x_d, x_s) = \begin{bmatrix} J_{x_d}c(x_d, x_s) & J_{x_s}c(x_d, x_s) \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

and

$$Jd(x_d, x_s) = \begin{bmatrix} J_{x_d}d(x_d, x_s) & J_{x_s}d(x_d, x_s) \end{bmatrix}. \quad (15)$$

HiOp does not track MDS structure within the gradient $\nabla f(x_d, x_s)$ and treats it as an unstructured vector.

D3 the second-order derivatives in the form of the Hessian of the Lagrangian

$$\nabla^2 L(x_d, x_s) = \lambda_0 \nabla^2 f(x_d, x_s) + \sum_{i=1}^{m_E} \lambda_i^E \nabla^2 c_i(x_d, x_s) + \sum_{i=1}^{m_I} \lambda_i^I \nabla^2 d_i(x_d, x_s). \quad (16)$$

We remark that $\nabla^2 L(x_d, x_s)$ has a so-called MDS structure in the sense that $\nabla_{x_d}^2 L(x_d, x_s)$ is dense, $\nabla_{x_s}^2 L(x_d, x_s)$ is sparse, and $\nabla_{x_d x_s}^2 L(x_d, x_s)$ and $\nabla_{x_s x_d}^2 L(x_d, x_s)$ are zero; this is a consequence of the assumptions A1 and A2 above,

D4 the simple bounds x_l and x_u , the inequalities bounds: d_l and d_u , and the right-hand size of the equality constraints c_E .

3.3.1 The C++ interface

The above optimization problem (10)–(13) can be specified by using the C++ interface, namely by deriving and providing an implementation for the `hiop::hiopInterfaceMDS` abstract class.

We present next the methods of this abstract class that needs to be implemented in order to specify the parts D1-D4 of the optimization problem. All the methods of this section are “pure” virtual in `hiop::hiopInterfaceMDS` abstract class and need to be provided by the user implementation.

⚠ Note: Unless stated otherwise, all the functions that return `bool` should return `false` when an error occurs, otherwise should return `true`.

```
1 bool get_prob_sizes(long long& n, long long& m);
```

Provides the number of decision variables and the number of constraints ($m = m_E + m_I$).

```
1 bool get_vars_info(const long long& n, double *xlow, double* xupp,
2                   NonlinearityType* type);
```

Provides the lower and upper bounds x_l and x_u on the decision variables. When a variable (let us say the i^{th}) has no lower or/and upper bounds, the i^{th} entry of `xlow` and/or `xupp` should be less than $-1e20$ or/and larger than $1e20$, respectively. The last argument is not used and can set to any value of the enum `hiop::hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints::NonlinearityType`.

```
1 bool get_cons_info(const long long& m, double* clow, double* cupp,
2                   NonlinearityType* type);
```

Similar to the above, but for the inequality bounds d_l and d_u . For equalities, set the corresponding entries in `clow` and `cupp` equal to the desired value (from c_E).

```
1 bool get_sparse_dense_blocks_info(int& nx_sparse, int& nx_dense,
2                                  int& nnz_sparse_Jaceq,
3                                  int& nnz_sparse_Jacineq,
4                                  int& nnz_sparse_Hess_Lagr_SS,
5                                  int& nnz_sparse_Hess_Lagr_SD);
```

Specifies the number of nonzero elements in the *sparse blocks* of the Jacobians of the constraints and of the Hessian of the Lagrangian, see (15) and (16), respectively. The last parameter `nnz_sparse_Hess_Lagr_SD` is not used momentarily and should be set to zero.

```
1 bool eval_f(const long long& n,
2             const double* x, bool new_x,
3             double& obj_value);
```

Implement this method to compute the function value $f(x)$ in `obj_value` for the provided decision variables x . The input argument `new_x` specifies whether the variables x have been changed since the previous call of one of the `eval_` methods. Use this argument to “buffer” the objective and gradients function and derivative evaluations when this is possible.

```
1 bool eval_grad_f(const long long& n,
2                  const double* x, bool new_x,
3                  double* gradf);
```

Same as above but for $\nabla f(x)$.

```
1 bool eval_cons(const long long& n, const long long& m,
2                const long long& num_cons,
3                const long long* idx_cons, const double* x,
4                bool new_x, double* cons);
```

Implement this method to provide the value of the constraints $c(x)$ and/or $d(x)$. The input parameter `num_cons` specifies how many constraints (out of `m`) needs to evaluated; `idx_cons` array specifies the indexes, which are zero-based, of the constraints and is of size `num_cons`. These values should be provided in `cons`, which is also an array of size `num_cons`.

```
1 eval_Jac_cons(const long long& n, const long long& m,
2               const long long& num_cons, const long long* idx_cons,
3               const double* x, bool new_x,
```



```

4      const long long& nsparse, const long long& ndense,
5      const int& nnzJacS, int* iJacS, int* jJacS, double* MJacS,
6      double** JacD);

```

Evaluates the Jacobian of constraints split in the sparse (triplet format) and dense submatrices (contiguous rows storage). The method is called by HiOp twice once for equalities and once for inequalities and passes during each of these calls the `idx_cons` array of the indexes of equalities and inequalities in the whole body of constraints.

It is advantageous to provide this method when the underlying NLP's constraints come naturally split in equalities and inequalities. When this is not convenient to do so, use `eval_Jac_cons` below.

Parameters:

- first six: see `eval_cons`.
- `nnzJacS`, `iJacS`, `jJacS`, `MJacS` are for number of nonzeros, (i, j) indexes, and nonzero values of the sparse Jacobian.
- `JacD`: dense Jacobian as a contiguous array storing the matrix by rows; the array is “primed” to support double indexing `JacD[i][j]`.

Notes for implementer of this method:

1. `JacD` parameter will be always non-null
2. When `iJacS` and `jJacS` are non-null, the implementer should provide the (i, j) indexes in these arrays.
3. When `MJacS` is non-null, the implementer should provide the values corresponding to entries specified by `iJacS` and `jJacS`.
4. `iJacS` and `jJacS` are both either non-null or null during a call.
5. The pair $(iJacS, jJacS)$ and `MJacS` can be both non-null during the same call or only one of them non-null; but they will not be both null.

```

1 bool eval_Jac_cons(const long long& n, const long long& m,
2                   const double* x, bool new_x,
3                   const long long& nsparse, const long long& ndense,
4                   const int& nnzJacS, int* iJacS, int* jJacS, double* MJacS,
5                   double** JacD);

```

Evaluates the Jacobian of equality and inequality constraints *in one call*. This Jacobian is mixed dense-sparse (MDS), which means is structurally split in the sparse (triplet format) and dense matrices (contiguous rows storage)

Note: HiOp will call this method whenever the implementer/user returns `false` from the previous, two-calls `eval_Jac_cons`; we remark that this method should return `false` during both calls (for equalities and inequalities) made to it by HiOp.

The main difference from the above `eval_Jac_cons` is that the implementer/user of this method does not have to split the constraints into equalities and inequalities; instead, HiOp does this internally.

Parameters:

- first four: number of variables, number of constraints, (primal) variables at which the Jacobian should be evaluated, and boolean flag indicating whether the variables \mathbf{x} have changed since a previous call to any of the function and derivative evaluations.
- **nsparse** and **ndense**: number of sparse and dense variables, respectively, adding up to **n**.
- **nnzJacS**, **iJacS**, **jJacS**, **MJacS**: number of nonzeros, (i, j) indexes, and nonzero values of the sparse Jacobian block; these indexes are within the sparse Jacobian block (not within the entire Jacobian).
- **JacD**: dense Jacobian block as a contiguous array storing the matrix by rows; array is “primed” to support double indexing **JacD**[i][j].

Note: Notes 1-5 from the previous, two-call **eval_Jac_cons** applies here as well.

```

1 bool eval_Hess_Lagr(const long long& n, const long long& m,
2                   const double* x, bool new_x, const double& obj_factor,
3                   const double* lambda, bool new_lambda,
4                   const long long& nsparse, const long long& ndense,
5                   const int& nnzHSS, int* iHSS, int* jHSS, double* MHSS,
6                   double** HDD,
7                   int& nnzHSD, int* iHSD, int* jHSD, double* MHSD);

```

Evaluates the Hessian of the Lagrangian function in three structural blocks given by the MDS structure of the problm. **nnzHSS**, **iHSS**, **jHSS**, and **MHSS** hold $\nabla^2 L(x_s, x_s)$ from (16). **HDD** stores $\nabla^2 L(x_d, x_d)$ from (16).

Note: The last four arguments, which are supposed to store the cross-Hessian $\nabla^2 L(x_s, x_d)$ from (16), are for now assumed to hold a zero matrix. The implementer should return **nnzHSD**=0 during the first call to **eval_Hess_Lagr**. On subsequent calls, **HiOp** will pass the sparse triplet HSD arrays set to NULL and the implementer (obviously) should not use them.

Note: Notes 1-5 from **eval_Jac_cons** apply to arrays **iHSS**, **jHSS**, and **MHSS** storing the sparse part of the Hessian as well as to the **HDD** array storing the dense block of the Hessian.

Note: The array **lambda** contains first the multipliers of the equality constraints followed by the multipliers of the inequalities.

3.3.2 Calling HiOp for a hiopInterfaceMDS formulation

Once an implementation of the **hiop::hiopInterfaceMDS** abstract interface class containing the user’s NLP representation is available, the user code needs to create a **HiOp** problem formulation that encapsulate the NLP representation, instantiate an optimization algorithm class, and start the numerical optimization process.

A detailed, self-contained example can be found in **src/Drivers/** directory in **nlpMDS_ex4_driver.cpp** files for an illustration of aforementioned sequence of steps. A synopsis of **HiOp** code that solves and MDS NLP implemented presumably in a class **Ex4** (implemented in **nlpMDSForm_ex4.hpp**) derived from **hiop::hiopInterfaceMDS** is as follows:

```

1 #include "nlpMDSForm_ex4.hpp" //the NLP representation class
2 #include "hiopInterface.hpp" //HiOP encapsulation of the NLP
3 #include "hiopAlgFilterIPM.hpp" //solver class

```

```

4 using namespace hiop;
5 ...
6 Ex4* my_nlp = new Ex4(n_sp, n_de); //instantiate your NLP representation class
7 hiopNlpMDS nlp(*my_nlp); //create HiOP encapsulation
8 nlp.options->SetStringValue("Hessian", "analytical_exact");
9 nlp.options->SetNumericValue("mu0", 0.01); //set initial value for barrier ←
    parameter
10 hiopAlgFilterIPMNewton solver(&nlp); //create a solver object
11 hiopSolveStatus status = solver.run(); //numerical optimization
12 double obj_value = solver.getObjective(); //get objective
13 ...

```

3.4 Specifying a starting point for the optimization process

The user can provide an initial primal or primal-dual point implementing the method `get_starting_point` of the NLP specification interfaces `hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints` or `hiopInterfaceMDS`.

```

1 bool get_starting_point(const long long& n, const long long& m,
2                        double* x0,
3                        bool& duals_avail,
4                        double* z_bndLO, double* z_bndU0,
5                        double* lambda0);

```

A second method is offered to user to provide an initial primal starting point. This method will be soon deprecated as its functionality is a subset of the method above and should be avoided.

```

1 bool get_starting_point(const long long& n, double* x0);

```

Parameters:

- `n` and `m` are the number of variables and the number of constraints.
- `x0` array of values for the initial primal variables/starting point.
- `duals_avail` boolean flag expressing whether the user wishes to specify the a starting point for dual variables.
- `z_bndLO` and `z_bndU0` starting points for the duals of the lower and upper bounds.
- `lambda0` is an array containing the starting point for the duals of the constraints. It is allocated to have the dimension of the constraints body and the entries in `lambda0` should have the same order as the constraints body (that is equalities may be mixed with inequalities), see `eval_cons` methods; HiOp keeps track internally whether each value in `lambda0` is a multiplier for an equality or for an inequality constraint.

These methods should return `true` if the user successfully provided starting values for the primal or for the primal and dual variables. If the first method above returns `false`, then HiOp will attempt calling the second method above. This behavior is for backward compatibility. If a starting point cannot be set by the user, both methods should return `false`. Also, we remark that the methods do not need to be implemented since default implementations returning `false` are provided by the base class; in this case, HiOp will use a starting point of all zeros (which is subjected to internal adjustments, see below).

Note: The starting point returned by the user in `x0` using the methods above is subject to internal adjustments in HiOp and may differ from `x0` with which the methods of the previous section are first called.

3.5 Compiling and linking your project with the HiOp library

HiOp's build system offers HiOp as a static library. For a straightforward integration of HiOp in the user's project, one needs to

- append to the compiler's include path the location of the HiOp's headers:
`-Ihiop-dir/include`
- specify `libhiop.a` to the linker, possibly adding the HiOp's library directory to the linker's libraries paths:
`-Lhiop-dir/lib -lhiop`

Here, `hiop-dir` is the HiOp's distribution directory (created using HiOp's build system, in particular by using `make install` command).

In addition, a shared dynamic load library can be also built by using `HIOP_BUILD_SHARED` option with `cmake`.

4 Solver options

HiOp prints all the available user options and their values on the standard output.

Note: Each option i. should be of one of types numeric/double, integer, and string; ii. has a value associated; iii. possess a range of values; and, iv. has a default value.

The user can set HiOp's options in two ways:

- via `hiop.options` file that should be placed in the same directory where the application driver using HiOp is executed. The format of the `hiop.options` is very basic, each of its lines should contain a single pair `option_name option_value`. Lines that begin with '#' are discarded. The option value is checked to have the correct type (numeric, integer, or string) and to be in the expected range. If the checks fail, then the option is set to the default value and a warning message is displayed.
- at runtime via the HiOp's API using the `options` member of the `hiop::hiopInterfaceDenseConstraints` or `hiop::hiopInterfaceMDS` classes. This object has three methods that allows the user to set options based on their types:

```
1 bool SetNumericValue(const char* name, const double& value);
2 bool SetIntegerValue(const char* name, const int& value);
3 bool SetStringValue (const char* name, const char* value);
```

Note: Options set in `hiop.options` file at runtime overwrite options set at runtime via the above API.

4.1 List of available options

Name	Type	Default	Range	Explanation
tolerance	numeric	1e-08	1e-14 – 0.1	Absolute error tolerance for the NLP
max_iter	integer	3000	1 to 1000000	Max number of iterations
acceptable_tolerance	numeric	1e-06	1e-14 – 0.1	HiOp will terminate if the NLP residuals are below this option for acceptable_iterations many consecutive iterations
acceptable_iterations	integer	15	1 – 1000000	Number of iterations of acceptable tolerance after which HiOp terminates
verbosity_level	integer	3	0 – 12	Verbosity level: 0 no output (only errors), 1=0+warnings, 2=1 (reserved), 3=2+optimization output, 4=3+scalars; larger values explained in hiopLogger.hpp
mu0	numeric	1.0	1e-06 – 1000	Initial log-barrier parameter mu
kappa_eps	numeric	10.0	1e-06 – 1000	mu is reduced when when log-bar error is below $\text{kappa_eps} \times \text{mu}$
kappa_mu	numeric	0.2	1e-08 – 0.999	linear reduction coefficient for mu (eqn. (7) in [6])
theta_mu	numeric	1.5	1.0 – 2.0	exponential reduction coefficient for mu (eqn. (7) in [6])
tau_min	numeric	0.99	0.9 – 0.99999	fraction-to-the-boundary parameter used in the line-search to back-off from the boundary (eqn. (8) in [6])
kappa1	numeric	1e-02	1e-08 – 1	sufficiently-away-from-the-boundary projection parameter used in the shift of the user-provided initial point
kappa2	numeric	1e-02	1e-08 – 0.49999	shift projection parameter used in initialization for double-bounded variables
dualsInitialization	string	"lsq"	"lsq" "zero"	type of update of the multipliers of the eq. cons.
dualsUpdateType	string	"lsq"	"lsq" "linear"	type of update of the multipliers of the eq. cons.
secant_memory_len	integer	6	0 – 256	length of the memory of the Hessian secant approximation
fixed_var	string	"none"	"remove" "relax" "none"	treatment of fixed variables; in order, they can be removed, their lower and upper bounds relaxed, or ignored. The last value causes a premature termination if fixed variables are detected.
fixed_var_tolerance	numeric	1e-15	1e-30 – 1e-2	tolerance for $ ub - lb $ under which a variable will be considered fixed.
fixed_var_perturb	numeric	1e-8	1e-14 – 0.1	Perturbation of the lower and upper bounds for a fixed variable relative to its magnitude: $lb/ub \text{ --/+} = \max(\text{abs}(ub), 1) \times \text{fixed_var_perturb}$
compute_mode	string	"auto"	"auto" "cpu" "hybrid"	Offloading of computations to GPUs: "hybrid" will use GPUs for linear systems, "auto" will decide between "cpu" and "hybrid" based on the other options passed, and "cpu" will only use device CPU.
mem_space	string	"default"	"default" "host" "device" "um" "pinned"	Memory space selection: the values currently supported are "default" (currently same the "host"), "host", and "um"; for more information consult UMPIRE documentation.
time_kkt	string	"off"	"on" "off"	Turns on/off internal performance timers and analysis and enables additional reporting of the computational constituents of the KKT solve process

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