

# CS/ISyE 719:Benders Decomposition for Solving Two-stage Stochastic Optimization Models

Jim Luedtke

Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

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# Module Overview

- ➊ Review some linear programming terms and theory
- ➋ Benders decomposition for problems with relatively complete recourse
- ➌ Extension removing that assumption
- ➍ Multi-cut vs. Single-cut versions
- ➎ Advanced Benders cut selection

Next module: Improved methods via regularization

# Some definitions

## Definition: Polyhedron

A **polyhedron** is a set that can be written as  $P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$ .

## Definition: Extreme point (vertex)

$x \in P$  is an **extreme point** (**vertex**) of  $P$  if there does not exist  $x^1, x^2 \in P$  and  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$  such that  $x^1 \neq x^2$  and  $x = \lambda x^1 + (1 - \lambda)x^2$

## Some definitions (2)

### Definition: Ray and Extreme Ray

- $r \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a **ray** of  $P$  if  $x + \lambda r \in P$  for all  $x \in P$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$
- $r \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is an **extreme ray** of  $P$  if  $r$  is a ray of  $P$ , and there does not exist rays  $r^1$  and  $r^2$  of  $P$  and  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$  such that  $r^1 \neq \alpha r^2$  for any  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $r = \lambda r^1 + (1 - \lambda)r^2$ .

# Characterization of rays of a polyhedron

## Definition

The **recession cone** of a polyhedron  $P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$  is the set

$$\text{recc}(P) := \{r \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ar \leq 0\}$$

## Theorem

A vector  $r \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a ray of a polyhedron  $P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$  if and only if  $r \in \text{recc}(P)$ .

# Fundamental Theorem

## Minkowski's Theorem

Let  $P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$  be a polyhedron with nonempty set of extreme points  $V(P) = \{v^1, v^2, \dots, v^t\}$  and extreme rays  $R(P) = \{r^1, r^2, \dots, r^p\}$ . Then,

$$P = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \begin{array}{l} x = \sum_{j=1}^t \lambda_j x^j + \sum_{j=1}^p \mu_j r^j, \\ \sum_{j=1}^t \lambda_j = 1, \\ \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^t, \mu \in \mathbb{R}_+^p \end{array} \right\}.$$

- Provides an alternative representation of a polyhedron.

## A few more LP facts

### Theorem

Suppose  $P \neq \emptyset$ . The linear program  $\max\{c^\top x : x \in P\}$  is unbounded if and only if there exists an **extreme ray**  $r \in R(P)$  with  $c^\top r > 0$ .

### Theorem

If a linear program has an optimal solution, then it has an extreme point optimal solution.

# And finally...

## Strong Duality Theorem

Consider a primal and dual pair of linear programs. Exactly one of the following holds:

- Both the primal and the dual have an optimal solution, and their objective values are equal.
- The primal problem is unbounded, and the dual problem is infeasible.
- The dual problem is unbounded, and the primal problem is infeasible.
- Both the primal and dual problems are infeasible.



# Recall – Two-Stage Stochastic LP with Recourse

$$\begin{aligned} z^{SP} = \min \quad & c^\top x + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k Q_k(x) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax = b \\ & x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} \end{aligned}$$

where for  $k = 1, \dots, K$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_k(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Q(x, \xi^k) = \min \quad & q_k^\top y \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & W_k y = h_k - T_k x \\ & y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2} \end{aligned}$$

How to solve this problem?

- Previously: Extensive form  $\Rightarrow$  Large-scale LP
- This Module: Benders decomposition  $\Rightarrow$  Exploit structure

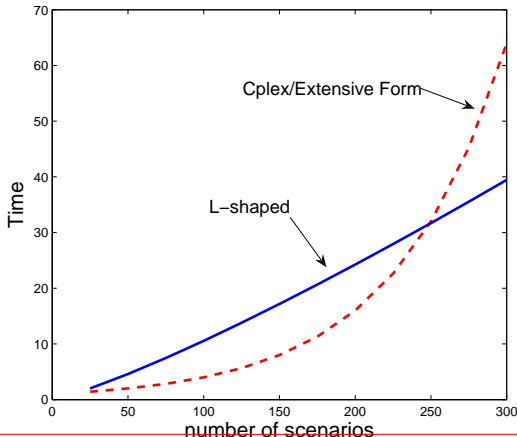
# Review: Extensive Form

Easiest way to solve a two-stage stochastic program is to build and solve the extensive form

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} c^\top x & + & p_1 q_1^\top y_1 & + & p_2 q_2^\top y_2 & + & \cdots & + & p_K q_K^\top y_K \\ Ax & & & & & & & & = & b \\ T_1 x & + & W_1 y_1 & & & & & & = & h_1 \\ T_2 x & & & + & W_2 y_2 & & & & = & h_2 \\ \vdots & & & & & \ddots & & & & \vdots \\ T_K x & & & & & & & + & W_K y_K & = & h_K \\ x \in X & & y_1 \geq 0 & & y_2 \geq 0 & & & & & y_K \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- This is sometimes called the **deterministic equivalent**, but I prefer the term **extensive form**

# Small SP's are Easy!



- Using **barrier/interior point** method is usually faster than simplex methods for solving extensive form LPs.

# The Upshot

- If it is too large to solve directly, exploit the structure.
- Fix the first stage variables  $x$ , then the problem **decomposes** by scenario

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 c^\top x & + & p_1 q_1^\top y_1 & + & p_2 q_2^\top y_2 & + & \cdots & + & p_K q_K^\top y_K & & \\
 Ax & & & & & & & & & = & b \\
 T_1 x & + & W_1 y_1 & & & & & & & = & h_1 \\
 T_2 x & & & + & W_2 y_2 & & & & & = & h_2 \\
 \vdots & & & & & & \ddots & & & & \vdots \\
 T_K x & & & & & & & + & W_K y_K & = & h_K \\
 x \in X & & y_1 \geq 0 & & y_2 \geq 0 & & & & y_K \geq 0 & & 
 \end{array}$$

## Key Idea

- **Benders Decomposition**: Characterize the solution of a scenario linear program as a function of first stage solution  $x$

# Recall: Good Modeling Assumption

## Relatively Complete Recourse

For every feasible first-stage feasible solution ( $Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1}$ ) and every scenario  $k$  there exists a feasible recourse decision  $y_k$  ( $W_k y_k = h_k - T_k x, y_k \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2}$ ).

Simplifies Benders decomposition algorithm

- We'll first present the algorithm under this assumption
- Then relax the assumption

Assumption is **very important** when using sample average approximation

- Relatively complete recourse should hold **for all** possible realizations of random outcomes
- Otherwise, solution to SAA problem may not even be feasible to original problem

# Scenario Value Function

## Primal

$$\begin{aligned} Q_k(x) = \min_y \quad & q_k^\top y \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & W_k y = h_k - T_k x \\ & y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2} \end{aligned}$$

## Dual

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\pi} \quad & \pi^\top (h_k - T_k x) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \pi^\top W_k \leq q_k \end{aligned}$$

## Assumption

$$\Pi_k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\pi : \pi^\top W_k \leq q_k\} \neq \emptyset.$$

If this assumption is violated:

- $\Rightarrow$  **For every**  $x$ , second-stage primal problem is either infeasible or unbounded
- $\Rightarrow$  Stochastic LP is either infeasible or unbounded

# Scenario Value Function

## Primal

$$\begin{aligned} Q_k(x) &= \min_y q_k^\top y \\ \text{s.t. } & W_k y = h_k - T_k x \\ & y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2} \end{aligned}$$

## Dual

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\pi} \quad & \pi^\top (h_k - T_k x) \\ \text{s.t. } \quad & \pi^\top W_k \leq q_k \end{aligned}$$

## Assumption

$$\Pi_k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\pi : \pi^\top W_k \leq q_k\} \neq \emptyset.$$

Relatively complete recourse  $\Rightarrow$  Primal has a feasible solution

- Combine the two  $\Rightarrow$  Strong duality applies: Primal and dual each have an optimal solution

# Using Strong Duality

Assuming  $\Pi_k \neq \emptyset$  and relatively complete recourse:

$$\begin{aligned} Q_k(x) &= \min_y \{q_k^\top y : W_k y = h_k - T_k x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2}\} \\ &= \max_{\pi} \{\pi^\top (h_k - T_k x) : \pi^\top W_k \leq q_k\} \\ &= \max\{(\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) : \pi^k \in V(\Pi_k)\} \end{aligned}$$

where  $V(\Pi_k)$  is the **finite set** of extreme points of  $\Pi_k$ .

## Structure of $Q_k(\cdot)$

$Q_k(\cdot)$  is a piecewise-linear convex function.



# Benders Reformulation

$$\begin{aligned} z^{SP} = \min_x c^\top x + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k Q_k(x) &= \min_{x, \theta} c^\top x + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \theta_k \\ \text{s.t. } Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} &\quad \text{s.t. } Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} \\ &\quad \theta_k \geq Q_k(x), \quad k = 1, \dots, K \end{aligned}$$

Observe:

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_k \geq Q_k(x) &\Leftrightarrow \theta_k \geq \max_{\pi} \{ \pi^\top (h_k - T_k x) : \pi^\top W_k \leq q_k \} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \theta_k \geq \max \{ (\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) : \pi^k \in V(\Pi_k) \} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \theta_k \geq (\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x), \quad \pi^k \in V(\Pi_k) \end{aligned}$$

# Benders Reformulation

$$\begin{aligned} z^{SP} = \min_{x, \theta} \quad & c^\top x + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \theta_k \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} \\ & \theta_k \geq (\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x), \quad k = 1, \dots, K, \pi^k \in V(\Pi_k) \end{aligned}$$

Explicit linear program formulation

- Many **fewer variables** than deterministic equivalent form (just 1 per scenario)
- Potentially **HUGE** number of constraints
- Theoretically solvable by ellipsoid algorithm
- Practically solvable by a **cutting plane algorithm**  $\Rightarrow$  Benders decomposition/L-shaped algorithm

# Benders Decomposition (L-Shaped Method)

At iteration  $t$  of Benders decomposition, a **Master Problem (MP)** is solved:

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{MP})_t : z_t &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \min_{\theta, x} c^\top x + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \theta_k \\ \text{s.t. } &Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} \\ &\theta_k \geq (\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x), k = 1, \dots, K, \pi^k \in \hat{V}^{k,t} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\hat{V}^{k,t} \subseteq V(\Pi_k)$  for  $k = 1, \dots, K$

- $|\hat{V}^{k,t}| \leq t$ , so constraints of  $(\text{MP})_t$  are a (small) **subset** of constraints of Benders reformulation
- $\Rightarrow z_t \leq z^{SP}$
- Given an optimal solution  $(\hat{x}^t, \hat{\theta}^t)$  to  $(\text{MP})_t$ , we must determine if any of the excluded constraints are violated

# Benders Subproblems

Let  $(\hat{x}^t, \hat{\theta}^t)$  be an optimal solution to  $(MP)_t$ :

- For each  $k$ , are the following constraints all satisfied?

$$\hat{\theta}_k^t \geq (\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x}^t), \quad \pi^k \in V(\Pi_k)$$

- True if and only if:

$$\hat{\theta}_k^t \geq \max\{\pi^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x}^t) : \pi \in \Pi_k\} = Q_k(\hat{x}^t)$$

Thus, for each  $k$ , we solve the second-stage subproblem:

$$\begin{aligned} Q_k(\hat{x}^t) &= \max_{\pi} \{\pi^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x}^t) : \pi^\top W_k = q_k\} \\ &= \min_y \{q_k^\top y : W_k y = h_k - T_k \hat{x}^t, y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2}\} \end{aligned}$$

# Benders Subproblems

For each  $k$ , we solve the second-stage subproblem:

$$\begin{aligned} Q_k(\hat{x}^t) &= \max_{\pi} \{ \pi^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x}^t) : \pi^\top W_k = q_k \} \\ &= \min_y \{ q_k^\top y : W_k y = h_k - T_k x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2} \} \end{aligned}$$

If  $\hat{\theta}_k^t \geq Q_k(\hat{x}^t)$ : Do nothing!

- All the constraints for scenario  $k$  are satisfied

If  $\hat{\theta}_k^t < Q_k(\hat{x}^t)$ :

- Let  $\hat{\pi}^k$  be an extreme point optimal dual solution
- The constraint  $\theta_k \geq (\hat{\pi}^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x)$  is violated by  $(\hat{x}^t, \hat{\theta}^t)$
- Add to the master problem:  $\hat{V}^k \leftarrow \hat{V}^k \cup \{\hat{\pi}^k\}$

# Upper bounds

- At each iteration, master problem objective value provides a **lower bound** on  $z^{SP}$
- Because  $\hat{x}^t$  is a **feasible solution**, we also obtain an **upper bound** after having solved the scenario subproblems:

$$z^{SP} \leq c^\top \hat{x}^t + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k Q_k(\hat{x}^t)$$

- Thus, we can terminate the algorithm when these bounds are equal, or “close enough” (e.g., within  $\epsilon$ )

# Recap: Benders Decomposition

Assume for simplicity:  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} : Ax = b\}$  is bounded

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Initialization:

- Let  $\hat{x}^0$  be an optimal solution to  $\min\{c^\top x : Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1}\}$
- For each scenario  $k$ , solve scenario subproblem  $Q_k(\hat{x}^0)$ , let  $\hat{\pi}^k$  be an optimal dual solution, and set  $\hat{V}^k = \{\hat{\pi}^k\}$ .

For  $t = 1, 2, \dots$

1. Solve Master Problem to obtain solution  $(\hat{x}^t, \hat{\theta}^t)$  with objective value  $\hat{z}_t$
2. For each  $k = 1, \dots, K$ :
  - Solve scenario subproblem to evaluate  $Q_k(\hat{x}^t)$ , and let  $\hat{\pi}^k$  be an optimal dual solution
  - If  $\hat{\theta}_k^t < Q_k(\hat{x}^t)$ : Set  $\hat{V}^k \leftarrow \hat{V}^k \cup \{\hat{\pi}^k\}$
3. If  $\hat{z}_t \geq c^\top \hat{x}^t + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k Q_k(\hat{x}^t) - \epsilon$ : Break.

## Convergence/correctness

When algorithm finds no violated cuts, it has found optimal solution

- At every iteration,  $\hat{z}_t \leq z^{SP}$ .
- No cuts  $\Rightarrow$

$$\hat{z}_t = c^\top \hat{x}^t + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \hat{\theta}_k^t \geq c^\top \hat{x}^t + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k Q_k(\hat{x}^t) \geq z^{SP}$$

The algorithm terminates finitely

- Only finitely many extreme point dual solutions
- Worst-case (would be terrible!), algorithm enumerates all extreme point dual solutions, and no more violated cuts could be found

No guarantee on **rate** of convergence (similar to simplex)

- In practice, often converges “pretty fast”, but occasionally disastrous



# Implementation Notes

Must use a cut violation tolerance, e.g.,  $\delta \approx 10e^{-6}$ :

- Numerically, conclude  $\hat{\theta}_k^t < Q_k(\hat{x}^t)$  only if  $\hat{\theta}_k^t < Q_k(\hat{x}^t) - \delta$
- $\delta$  should match the feasibility tolerance of LP solver
- Otherwise, you may add a “cut” that LP solver does not think is violated  $\Rightarrow$  infinite loop

Not necessary to solve **all** scenario subproblems in every iteration

- But only obtain an upper bound (and hence can consider terminating) when all are solved
- Focus on “useful” scenarios

Scenario subproblems can be solved in parallel

- Parallel scalability eventually limited by master problem

## Implementation Notes (cont'd)

Benders decomposition is a cutting plane algorithm for solving LPs. Which algorithm should we use to solve the master LP? Why?

We should use the dual simplex algorithm!

- Dual solution remain feasible after adding cuts
- So the algorithm can be initialized with that dual solution/basis

# A First Example

$$\min x_1 + x_2$$

subject to

$$\xi_1 x_1 + x_2 \geq 7$$

$$\xi_2 x_1 + x_2 \geq 4$$

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$

- $\xi = (\xi_1, \xi_2) \in \Xi = \{(1, 1/3), (5/2, 2/3), (4, 1)\}$
- Each outcome has  $p_k = \frac{1}{3}$

Huh?

- This problem doesn't make sense!

# Recourse Formulation

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x_1 + x_2 + \sum_{k=1}^3 p_k Q_k(x) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} Q_k(x) = \min \quad & y_1 + y_2 \\ & \xi_{1k}x_1 + x_2 + y_1 \geq 7 \\ & \xi_{2k}x_1 + x_2 + y_2 \geq 4 \\ & y_1, y_2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- $(\xi_{1k}, \xi_{2k}) \in \{(1, 1/3), (5/2, 2/3), (4, 1)\}$
- Each outcome has  $p_k = \frac{1}{3}$

# Benders for Stochastic MIP

Let  $X = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_+^{p_1} : Ax = b\}$  be a **mixed-integer** set

- But assume all recourse variables are continuous!
- 

Benders algorithm is **exactly the same**, except master problem is updated:

$$(\text{MP})_t : z_t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \min_{\theta, x} c^\top x + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \theta_k$$

$$\text{s.t. } x \in X$$

$$\theta_k \geq (\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x), \quad k = 1, \dots, K, \quad \pi^k \in \hat{V}^{k,t}$$

where  $\hat{V}^{k,t} \subseteq V(\Pi_k)$  for  $k = 1, \dots, K$

- Master problems is now a mixed-integer linear program

## Example: Facility location

Example data:

- Three possible facilities and four customers
  - Fixed costs:  $f = [120, 100, 90]$
  - Capacity:  $C = [26, 25, 18]$
  - Two equally likely scenarios:  $d^1 = [12, 8, 6, 11]$ ,  $d^2 = [8, 11, 7, 6]$
  - Penalty for unmet demand:  $\lambda_j = 20$
- 

Iteration 1: Master problem (no  $\theta$  variable yet)

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & 120x_1 + 100x_2 + 90x_3 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \in \{0, 1\}, i = 1, 2, 3 \end{aligned}$$

Optimal solution:  $\hat{x} = (0, 0, 0)$

Optimal value (lower bound on SMIP): 0

## Example: Iteration 1

Subproblems with  $\hat{x} = (0, 0, 0)$ :

$\begin{array}{ll}\min & \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^4 c_{ij} y_{ij} + \sum_{j=1}^4 30z_j \\ \text{s.t.} & \sum_{i=1}^4 y_{ij} + z_j = d_j^1, \forall j \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 26 \cdot 0 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 25 \cdot 0 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 18 \cdot 0 \\ & y_{ij} \geq 0, z_j \geq 0\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{ll}\min & \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^4 c_{ij} y_{ij} + \sum_{j=1}^4 30z_j \\ \text{s.t.} & \sum_{i=1}^4 y_{ij} + z_j = d_j^2, \forall j \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 26 \cdot 0 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 25 \cdot 0 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 18 \cdot 0 \\ & y_{ij} \geq 0, z_j \geq 0\end{array}$
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Yields Benders cut:

$$\theta_1 \geq 1140 - 728x_1 - 675x_2 - 468x_3$$

Yields Benders cut:

$$\theta_2 \geq 990 - 728x_1 - 675x_2 - 468x_3$$

Upper bound:  $\sum_i f_i \hat{x}_i + \sum_k p_k Q_k(\hat{x}) = 0 + 1/2(1140 + 990) = 1065$

## Example: Iteration 2

Updated master problem

$$\begin{array}{ll}\min & 120x_1 + 100x_2 + 90x_3 + 1/2(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \\ \text{s.t.} & \theta_1 \geq 1140 - 728x_1 - 675x_2 - 468x_3 \\ & \theta_2 \geq 990 - 728x_1 - 675x_2 - 468x_3 \\ & x_i \in \{0, 1\}, i = 1, 2, 3\end{array}$$

Optimal solution:  $\hat{x} = (0, 1, 1)$ ,  $\hat{\theta} = (0, 0)$

Optimal value (lower bound on SMIP): 190



## Example: Iteration 2

Subproblems with  $\hat{x} = (0, 1, 1)$ :

$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^4 c_{ij} y_{ij} + \sum_{j=1}^4 30z_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^4 y_{ij} + z_j = d_j^1, \quad \forall j \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 26 \cdot 0 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 25 \cdot 1 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 18 \cdot 1 \\ & y_{ij} \geq 0, z_j \geq 0 \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^4 c_{ij} y_{ij} + \sum_{j=1}^4 30z_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^4 y_{ij} + z_j = d_j^2, \quad \forall j \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 26 \cdot 0 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 25 \cdot 1 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 18 \cdot 1 \\ & y_{ij} \geq 0, z_j \geq 0 \end{aligned}$
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Yields Benders cut:

$$\theta_1 \geq 200 - 130x_1 - 18x_3$$

Yields Benders cut:

$$\theta_2 \geq 142 - 104x_1$$

Upper bound:  $\sum_i f_i \hat{x}_i + \sum_k p_k Q_k(\hat{x}) = 190 + 1/2(182 + 142) = 352$

## Example: Iteration 3

Updated master problem

$$\begin{array}{ll}\min & 120x_1 + 100x_2 + 90x_3 + 1/2(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \\ \text{s.t.} & \theta_1 \geq 1140 - 728x_1 - 675x_2 - 468x_3 \\ & \theta_1 \geq 200 - 130x_1 - 18x_3 \\ & \theta_2 \geq 990 - 728x_1 - 675x_2 - 468x_3 \\ & \theta_2 \geq 142 - 104x_1 \\ & x_i \in \{0, 1\}, i = 1, 2, 3\end{array}$$

Optimal solution:  $\hat{x} = (1, 0, 1)$ ,  $\hat{\theta} = (52, 38)$

Optimal value (lower bound on SMIP): 255

## Example: Iteration 3

Subproblems with  $\hat{x} = (1, 0, 1)$ :

$\begin{array}{ll}\min & \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^4 c_{ij} y_{ij} + \sum_{j=1}^4 30z_j \\ \text{s.t.} & \sum_{i=1}^4 y_{ij} + z_j = d_j^1, \forall j \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 26 \cdot 1 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 25 \cdot 0 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 18 \cdot 1 \\ & y_{ij} \geq 0, z_j \geq 0\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{ll}\min & \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^4 c_{ij} y_{ij} + \sum_{j=1}^4 30z_j \\ \text{s.t.} & \sum_{i=1}^4 y_{ij} + z_j = d_j^2, \forall j \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 26 \cdot 1 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 25 \cdot 0 \\ & \sum_{j=1}^4 y_{ij} \leq 18 \cdot 1 \\ & y_{ij} \geq 0, z_j \geq 0\end{array}$
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Yields Benders cut:

$$\theta_1 \geq 237 - 26x_1 - 125x_2$$

Yields Benders cut:

$$\theta_2 \geq 208 - 26x_1 - 125x_2$$

Upper bound:  $\sum_i f_i \hat{x}_i + \sum_k p_k Q_k(\hat{x}) = 210 + 1/2(211 + 182) = 406.5$

## Example: Iteration 5 (skipped one!)

Updated master problem

$$\begin{array}{ll}\min & 120x_1 + 100x_2 + 90x_3 + 1/2(\theta_1 + \theta_2) \\ \text{s.t.} & \theta_1 \geq 1140 - 728x_1 - 675x_2 - 468x_3 \\ & \theta_1 \geq 200 - 130x_1 - 18x_3 \\ & \theta_1 \geq 237 - 26x_1 - 125x_2 \\ & \theta_1 \geq 141 - 36x_3 \\ & \theta_2 \geq 990 - 728x_1 - 675x_2 - 468x_3 \\ & \theta_2 \geq 142 - 104x_1 \\ & \theta_2 \geq 208 - 26x_1 - 125x_2 \\ & \theta_2 \geq 124 - 36x_3 \\ & x_i \in \{0, 1\}, i = 1, 2, 3\end{array}$$

Optimal solution:  $\hat{x} = (0, 1, 1)$ ,  $\hat{\theta} = (182, 142)$

Optimal value (lower bound on SMIP): 352

- Matches upper bound from Iteration 2  $\Rightarrow$  Optimal
- Subproblems yield no violated cuts

## Without Relatively Complete Recourse

Recall the second-stage scenario subproblem:

$$Q_k(x) = \min_y \{q_k^\top y : W_k y = h_k - T_k x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2}\}$$

Without relatively complete recourse, this problem might be infeasible for some  $x$ :

- Yields implicit constraints on  $x$
- Let  $C_k = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1} : \exists y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2} \text{ s.t. } W_k y = h_k - T_k x\}$

Need to make these implicit constraints explicit in two-stage formulation:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c^\top x + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k Q_k(x) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} \\ & x \in C_k, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \end{aligned}$$

# Characterizing implicit constraints

For what  $x$  is this problem feasible?

$$Q_k(x) = \min_y \{q_k^\top y : W_k y = h_k - T_k x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2}\}$$

Recall the dual:

$$\max_{\pi} \{\pi^\top (h_k - T_k x) : \pi^\top W_k \leq q_k\}$$

- Dual assumed to be feasible: Primal feasible  $\Leftrightarrow$  Dual bounded
- Dual bounded  $\Leftrightarrow (r^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) \leq 0$  for every **extreme ray**  $r^k \in \mathcal{R}(\Pi_k)$  of dual feasible region  $\Pi_k$
- Thus, subproblem for scenario  $k$  is feasible if and only if

$$x \in C_k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1} : (r^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) \leq 0, r^k \in \mathcal{R}(\Pi_k)\}$$

# Modified Benders Reformulation

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x, \theta} \quad & c^\top x + \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \theta_k \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} \\ & \theta_k \geq (\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x), \quad k = 1, \dots, K, \pi^k \in V(\Pi_k) \\ & (r^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K, r^k \in R(\Pi_k) \end{aligned}$$

Again can solve with a cutting plane algorithm

# Solving Modified Benders Reformulation

Master problem:

- Replace full set of extreme points  $V(\Pi_k)$  with a subset  $\hat{V}^k$
- Replace full set of extreme rays  $R(\Pi_k)$  with a subset  $\hat{R}^k$

Given a master solution  $(\hat{x}^t, \hat{\theta}^t)$  solve each scenario  $k$  subproblem:

- If subproblem  $k$  feasible and  $\hat{\theta}_k^t < Q_k(\hat{x}^t)$ :
  - Add “optimality cut”:  $\hat{V}^k \leftarrow \hat{V}^k \cup \{\hat{\pi}^k\}$
- If subproblem  $k$  is infeasible:
  - Simplex algorithm yields a dual extreme ray  $\hat{r}^k$  with  $(\hat{r}^k)^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x}^t) > 0$
  - Add “feasibility cut”:  $\hat{R}^k \leftarrow \hat{R}^k \cup \{\hat{r}^k\}$



# Single-cut vs. Multi-cut Benders

Benders algorithm we have seen is referred to as **multi-cut** version

- Cuts are used to approximate value function of **each scenario**
- Many cuts may be added in each iteration

Alternative: Single-cut implementation

- Define  $Q(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K Q_k(x)$
- Basis of Benders reformulation: A **single** variable  $\Theta$
- Any scenario subproblem infeasible  $\Rightarrow Q(x)$  not defined:  
Enforce all feasibility cuts as in multi-cut Benders

$$\min_{x, \Theta} c^\top x + \Theta$$

$$\text{s.t. } Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1}$$

$$(r^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K, r^k \in R(\Pi_k)$$

$$\Theta \geq Q(x)$$

Need explicit reformulation of last constraint...

# Single-cut Benders decomposition

Assuming all scenario subproblems are feasible for some  $x$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{Q}(x) &= \sum_{k=1}^K p_k Q_k(x) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \min_y \{q_k^\top y : W_k y = h_k - T_k x, y \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_2}\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \max_{\pi} \{\pi^\top (h_k - T_k x) : \pi^\top W_k = q_k\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \max \{(\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) : \pi^k \in V(\Pi_k)\}\end{aligned}$$

# Single-cut Benders decomposition

Assuming all scenario subproblems are feasible for some  $x$ :

$$\mathcal{Q}(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \max\{(\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) : \pi^k \in V(\Pi_k)\}$$

Therefore  $\Theta \geq \mathcal{Q}(x)$  if and only if:

$$\Theta \geq \sum_{k=1}^K p_k (\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x), \quad (\pi^1, \dots, \pi^K) \in V(\Pi_1) \times \dots \times V(\Pi_K)$$

- HUGE number of constraints
- But for cutting plane algorithm only need to be able to efficiently find a violated constraint

# Single-cut Benders master problem

Master problem after adding  $t$  optimality cuts

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x, \Theta} \quad & c^\top x + \Theta \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax = b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n_1} \\ & \Theta \geq d_i - c_i^\top x, \quad i = 1, \dots, t \\ & (r^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) \leq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, K, r^k \in \hat{R}^k \end{aligned}$$

The constraints  $\Theta \geq d_i - c_i^\top x$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$  are just a compact way of writing a subset of these constraints:

$$\Theta \geq \sum_{k=1}^K p_k (\pi^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x), \quad (\pi^1, \dots, \pi^K) \in V(\Pi_1) \times \dots \times V(\Pi_K)$$

# Single-cut Benders master problem

Let  $(\hat{x}, \hat{\Theta})$  be a master problem optimal solution

- Solve **all** scenario subproblems for this  $x$
- If any one of them is infeasible: Add feasibility cut(s)
- Else if  $\hat{\Theta} \geq \sum_{k=1}^K Q_k(\hat{x})$ : Solution is feasible, hence optimal
- Else:
  - Let  $\hat{\pi}^k$  be optimal extreme point dual solution,  $k = 1, \dots, K$
  - Add following cut which is violated by  $(\hat{x}, \hat{\Theta})$ :

$$\Theta \geq \sum_{k=1}^K p_k (\hat{\pi}^k)^\top (h_k - T_k x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} d_{t+1} - c_{t+1}^\top x$$

where  $d_{t+1} = \sum_{k=1}^K p_k (\hat{\pi}^k)^\top h_k$  and  $c_{t+1} = \sum_{k=1}^K (\hat{\pi}^k)^\top T_k$

# Single-cut vs. Multi-cut Benders

## Single-cut Benders

- Fewer variables and optimality cuts  $\Rightarrow$  Master problem typically solves faster
- Must solve all subproblems to generate an optimality cut

## Multi-cut Benders

- Many cuts added per iteration  $\Rightarrow$  Typically converges in many fewer iterations
- Master problem may become large and slow to solve
- Do not need to solve all subproblems every iteration

# Cut Selection (in Multi-cut Benders)

Given  $(\hat{x}, \hat{\theta})$  optimal to master problem, key step is finding a violated cut:

- Optimality cut: Dual solution  $\hat{\pi}^k$  with  $\hat{\theta}_k < (\hat{\pi}^k)^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x})$
- Feasibility cut: Dual extreme ray  $\hat{r}^k$  with  $(\hat{r}^k)^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x}) > 0$

Benders method provides a recipe for finding **some** violated constraint whenever one exists

- But, there may be many different violated constraints
- “Good” choice can lead to faster convergence

# Alternative Cut Generation Problem

Proposed by Fischetti, Salvagnin, and Zanette (2010):

$$\hat{v}_k = \max \pi^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x}) - \hat{\theta}_k \pi_0$$

$$\text{s.t. } \pi^\top W_k \leq q_k \pi_0$$

$$\|\pi\|_1 + \pi_0 \leq 1$$

$$\pi_0 \geq 0$$

## Theorem

- If  $\hat{v}_k = 0$ , then  $\hat{\theta}_k \geq Q_k(\hat{x})$ .
- If  $\hat{v}_k > 0$ , then either there exists  $\hat{\pi}^k \in \Pi_k$  with

$$\hat{\theta}_k < (\hat{\pi}^k)^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x})$$

or there exists a ray  $\hat{r}^k$  of  $\Pi_k$  with

$$(\hat{r}^k)^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x}) > 0.$$



# Alternative Cut Generation Problem

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{v}_k &= \max \pi^\top (h_k - T_k \hat{x}) - \hat{\theta}_k \pi_0 \\ \text{s.t. } &\pi^\top W_k \leq q_k \pi_0 \\ &\|\pi\|_1 + \pi_0 \leq 1 \\ &\pi_0 \geq 0\end{aligned}$$

Conclusion from Theorem:

- We can solve this problem for each scenario to generate either feasibility or optimality cuts

Convergence?

- Theorem does not guarantee  $\hat{\pi}^k$  or  $\hat{r}^k$  are **extreme** point/ray
- No problem: There are finitely many extreme point solutions to the **cut generation linear program**