New Programming Interfaces for the AMPL Modeling Language

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New Programming Interfaces for the AMPL Modeling Language

Though fundamentally declarative in design, optimization modeling languages are invariably implemented within larger modeling systems that provide a variety of programming options. Although programming is not used to describe models, it facilitates the integration of models into broader algorithmic schemes and business applications. This presentation surveys ways in which a programming interface can be useful, with examples from the AMPL modeling language and system. The focus is on new APIs (application programming interfaces) for controlling AMPL from programs in Python and in R, and on new facilities for invoking Python programs from within AMPL.

3 Ways to Program in an Optimization Modeling System

Work inside the modeling system

Write scripts using modeling language constructs

Call the modeling system from a programming language

Make calls to the modeling system's APIs from general-purpose programming languages

Use a programming language inside the modeling system

 Embed programming language statements within modeling language scripts



Features

- Algebraic modeling language
- Built specially for optimization
- Designed to support many solvers

Programming alternatives

- Scripting based on modeling language extensions
- ❖ *APIs* for C++, C#, Java, MATLAB, Python, R
- Embedded Python (coming soon)

Application-building toolkits (not covered here)

- QuanDec / built on Java API
- Opalytics (Accenture) / connected via Python API

Outline

AMPL model

Optimal roll cutting

AMPL script

Trading off waste versus overruns

AMPL API programs

- ❖ Pattern enumeration in Python / R
- Pattern generation in Python

Embedded Python (a preview)

- Sending Python data to an AMPL model
- Executing Python sttements inside AMPL
- Handling callbcks

Roll-cutting problem

- ❖ Fill orders for rolls of various widths
 - * by cutting raw rolls of one (large) fixed width
 - * using a variety of cutting patterns

Optimization model

- Decision variables
 - * number of raw rolls to cut according to each pattern
- Objective
 - * minimize number of raw rolls used
- Constraints
 - * meet demands for each ordered width

Mathematical Formulation

Given

```
w width of "raw" rolls
```

W set of (smaller) ordered widths

n number of cutting patterns considered

and

```
a_{ij} occurrences of width i in pattern j, for each i \in W and j = 1, ..., n
```

- b_i orders for width i, for each $i \in W$
- o limit on overruns

Mathematical Formulation (cont'd)

Determine

 X_j number of rolls to cut using pattern j, for each j = 1, ..., n

to minimize

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} X_{j}$$

total number of rolls cut

subject to

$$b_i \leq \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} X_j \leq b_i + o$$
, for all $i \in W$

number of rolls of width *i* cut must be at least the number ordered, and must be within the overrun limit

AMPL Formulation

Symbolic model

```
param rawWidth;
set WIDTHS;

param nPatterns integer > 0;
set PATTERNS = 1..nPatterns;

param rolls {WIDTHS,PATTERNS} >= 0, default 0;

param order {WIDTHS} >= 0;
param overrun;

var Cut {PATTERNS} integer >= 0;

minimize TotalCut: sum {p in PATTERNS} Cut[p];

subject to OrderLimits {w in WIDTHS}:
    order[w] <= sum {p in PATTERNS} rolls[w,p] * Cut[p] <= order[w] + overrun;</pre>
```

$$b_i \le \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} X_j \le b_i + o$$

AMPL Formulation (cont'd)

Explicit data (independent of model)

```
param rawWidth := 64.5 ;

param: WIDTHS: order :=
     6.77    10
     7.56    40
     17.46    33
     18.76    10 ;

param nPatterns := 9 ;

param rolls: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 :=
     6.77    0 1 1 0 3 2 0 1 4
     7.56 1 0 2 1 1 4 6 5 2
     17.46 0 1 0 2 1 0 1 1 1
     18.76 3 2 2 1 1 1 0 0 0;

param overrun := 6 ;
```

AMPL Command Language

Model + data = problem instance to be solved

```
ampl: model cut.mod;
ampl: data cut.dat;
ampl: option solver cplex;
ampl: solve;
CPLEX 12.8.0.0: optimal integer solution; objective 20
3 MIP simplex iterations
0 branch-and-bound nodes
ampl: option omit_zero_rows 1;
ampl: option display_1col 0;
ampl: display Cut;
4 13 8 5 9 2
```

Command Language (cont'd)

Solver choice independent of model and data

```
ampl: model cut.mod;
ampl: data cut.dat;
ampl: option solver gurobi;
ampl: solve;
Gurobi 8.0.0: optimal solution; objective 20
7 simplex iterations
1 branch-and-cut nodes
ampl: option omit_zero_rows 1;
ampl: option display_1col 0;
ampl: display Cut;
2 1 4 13 8 5 9 1
```

Command Language (cont'd)

Results available for browsing

Trade off two objectives

- ❖ Minimize rolls cut
 - **★** Fewer overruns, possibly more waste
- * Minimize waste
 - * Less waste, possibly more overruns

```
minimize TotalCut:
    sum {p in PATTERNS} Cut[p];
minimize TotalWaste:
    sum {p in PATTERNS}
    Cut[p] * (rawWidth - sum {w in WIDTHS} w * rolls[w,p]);
```

Parametric Analysis of Tradeoff

Minimize rolls cut

Set large overrun limit in data

Minimize waste

- * Reduce overrun limit 1 roll at a time
- ❖ If there is a change in number of rolls cut
 - * record total waste (increasing)
 - * record total rolls cut (decreasing)
- Stop when no further progress possible
 - * problem becomes infeasible *or*
 - * total rolls cut falls to the minimum
- Report table of results

Parametric Analysis (cont'd)

Script (setup and initial solve)

```
model cutTradeoff.mod:
data cutTradeoff.dat;
set OVER default {} ordered by reversed Integers;
param minCut;
param minCutWaste;
param minWaste {OVER};
param minWasteCut {OVER};
param prev_cut default Infinity;
option solver gurobi;
option solver_msg 0;
objective TotalCut;
solve >Nul;
let minCut := TotalCut;
let minCutWaste := TotalWaste;
objective TotalWaste;
```

Parametric Analysis (cont'd)

Script (looping and reporting)

```
for \{k \text{ in overrun } ... 0 \text{ by } -1\}
   let overrun := k;
   solve >Nul;
   if solve_result = 'infeasible' then break;
   if TotalCut < prev_cut then {</pre>
      let OVER := OVER union {k};
      let minWaste[k] := TotalWaste;
      let minWasteCut[k] := TotalCut;
      let prev_cut := TotalCut;
   if TotalCut = minCut then break;
}
printf 'Min%3d rolls with waste%6.2f\n\n', minCut, minCutWaste;
printf ' Over Waste Cut\n';
printf {k in OVER}: '%4d%8.2f%5d\n', k, minWaste[k], minWasteCut[k];
```

Parametric Analysis (cont'd)

Script run

```
ampl: include cutTradeoff.run
Min 20 rolls with waste 62.04

Over Waste Number
10 46.72 22
7 47.89 21
5 54.76 20

ampl:
```

AMPL API Program

Solve by pattern enumeration

- Set up a cutting-stock model
- * Read data
 - * demands, raw width
 - * orders, overrun limit
- Compute data: all "good" patterns
 - * extract widths from demand list
 - * enumerate all non-dominated patterns
- Solve for the cutting plan

Hybrid approach

- Control & pattern enumeration in a programming language
- Model & modeling expressions in AMPL

Pattern Enumeration

Principles of APIs

- APIs for "all" popular languages
 * C++, C#, Java, MATLAB, Python, R
- Common overall design
- ❖ Common implementation core in C++
- Customizations for each language and its data structures

Key to examples: Python and R

- * AMPL entities
- ❖ AMPL API Python/R objects
- ❖ AMPL API Python/R methods
- Python/R functions etc.

AMPL Model File

Same pattern-cutting model

```
param nPatterns integer > 0;
set PATTERNS = 1..nPatterns; # patterns
set WIDTHS;
                             # finished widths
param order {WIDTHS} >= 0;  # rolls of width j ordered
                    # permitted overrun on any width
param overrun;
                                  # width of raw rolls to be cut
param rawWidth;
param rolls {WIDTHS,PATTERNS} >= 0, default 0;
                                  # rolls of width i in pattern j
var Cut {PATTERNS} integer >= 0; # raw rolls to cut in each pattern
minimize TotalRawRolls: sum {p in PATTERNS} Cut[p];
subject to FinishedRollLimits {w in WIDTHS}:
   order[w] <= sum {p in PATTERNS} rolls[w,p] * Cut[p] <= order[w] + overrun;
```

Some Python Data

A float, an integer, and a dictionary

```
roll_width = 64.5
overrun = 6
Orders = {
    6.77: 10,
    7.56: 40,
    17.46: 33,
    18.76: 10
}
```

... can also work with lists and Pandas dataframes

Some R Data

A float, an integer, and a dataframe

```
roll_width <- 64.5
overrun <- 6
orders <- data.frame(
  width = c( 6.77, 7.56, 17.46, 18.76 ),
  demand = c( 10, 40, 33, 10 )
)</pre>
```

Pattern Enumeration in Python

Load & generate data, set up AMPL model

```
def cuttingEnum(dataset):
    from amplpy import AMPL

# Read orders, roll_width, overrum
    exec(open(dataset+'.py').read(), globals())

# Enumerate patterns

widths = list(sorted(orders.keys(), reverse=True))
    patmat = patternEnum(roll_width, widths)

# Set up model

ampl = AMPL()
    ampl.option['ampl_include'] = 'models'
    ampl.read('cut.mod')
```

Pattern Enumeration in R

Load & generate data, set up AMPL model

```
cuttingEnum <- function(dataset) {
   library(rAMPL)

# Read orders, roll_width, overrum
source(paste(dataset, ".R", sep=""))

# Enumerate patterns
patmat <- patternEnum(roll_width, orders$width)
cat(sprintf("\n%d patterns enumerated\n\n", ncol(patmat)))

# Set up model
ampl <- new(AMPL)
ampl$setOption("ampl_include", "models")
ampl$read("cut.mod")</pre>
```

Pattern Enumeration in Python

Send data to AMPL

```
# Send scalar values
ampl.param['nPatterns'] = len(patmat)
ampl.param['overrun'] = overrun
ampl.param['rawWidth'] = roll_width

# Send order vector
ampl.set['WIDTHS'] = widths
ampl.param['order'] = orders

# Send pattern matrix
ampl.param['rolls'] = {
    (widths[i], 1+p): patmat[p][i]
    for i in range(len(widths))
    for p in range(len(patmat))
}
```

Pattern Enumeration in R

Send data to AMPL

```
# Send scalar values
ampl$getParameter("nPatterns")$set(ncol(patmat))
ampl$getParameter("overrun")$set(overrun)
ampl$getParameter("rawWidth")$set(roll_width)

# Send order vector
ampl$getSet("WIDTHS")$setValues(orders$width)
ampl$getParameter("order")$setValues(orders$demand)

# Send pattern matrix
df <- as.data.frame(as.table(patmat))
df[,1] <- orders$width[df[,1]]
df[,2] <- as.numeric(df[,2])
ampl$getParameter("rolls")$setValues(df)</pre>
```

Pattern Enumeration in Python

Solve and get results

```
# Solve
ampl.option['solver'] = 'gurobi'
ampl.solve()

# Retrieve solution
CuttingPlan = ampl.var['Cut'].getValues()
cutvec = list(CuttingPlan.getColumn('Cut.val'))
```

Pattern Enumeration in R

Solve and get results

```
# Solve
ampl$setOption("solver", "gurobi")
ampl$solve()

# Retrieve solution
CuttingPlan <- ampl$getVariable("Cut")$getValues()
solution <- CuttingPlan[CuttingPlan[,-1] != 0,]</pre>
```

Pattern Enumeration in Python

Display solution

```
# Prepare solution data
summary = {
    'Data': dataset,
    'Obj': int(ampl.obj['TotalRawRolls'].value()),
    'Waste': ampl.getValue(
                 'sum {p in PATTERNS} Cut[p] * \
                    (rawWidth - sum {w in WIDTHS} w*rolls[w,p])'
solution = [
    (patmat[p], cutvec[p])
    for p in range(len(patmat))
    if cutvec[p] > 0
# Create plot of solution
cuttingPlot(roll_width, widths, summary, solution)
```

Pattern Enumeration in R

Display solution

```
# Prepare solution data
data <- dataset
obj <- ampl$getObjective("TotalRawRolls")$value()
waste <- ampl$getValue(
    "sum {p in PATTERNS} Cut[p] * (rawWidth - sum {w in WIDTHS} w*rolls[w,p])"
)
summary <- list(data=dataset, obj=obj, waste=waste)
# Create plot of solution
cuttingPlot(roll_width, orders$width, patmat, summary, solution)
}</pre>
```

Pattern Enumeration in Python

Enumeration routine

```
def patternEnum(roll_width, widths, prefix=[]):
    from math import floor

max_rep = int(floor(roll_width/widths[0]))

if len(widths) == 1:
    patmat = [prefix+[max_rep]]

else:
    patmat = []
    for n in reversed(range(max_rep+1)):
        patmat += patternEnum(roll_width-n*widths[0], widths[1:], prefix+[n])

return patmat
```

Pattern Enumeration in R

Enumeration routine

```
patternEnum <- function(roll_width, widths, prefix=c()) {</pre>
  cur_width <- widths[length(prefix)+1]</pre>
  max_rep <- floor(roll_width/cur_width)</pre>
  if (length(prefix)+1 == length(widths)) {
      return (c(prefix, max_rep))
  } else {
      patterns <- matrix(nrow=length(widths), ncol=0)</pre>
      for (n in 0:max_rep) {
          patterns <- cbind(</pre>
               patterns,
               patternEnum(roll_width-n*cur_width, widths, c(prefix, n))
      return (patterns)
```

Pattern Enumeration in Python

Plotting routine

Pattern Enumeration in R

Plotting routine

```
cuttingPlot <- function(roll_width, widths, patmat, summary, solution) {
  pal <- rainbow(length(widths))
  par(mar=c(1,1,1,1))
  par(mfrow=c(1,nrow(solution)))

for(i in 1:nrow(solution)) {
    pattern <- patmat[, solution[i, 1]]
    data <- c()
    color <- c()}</pre>
```

Pattern Enumeration in Python

Plotting routine (cont'd)

```
for p, (patt, rep) in enumerate(solution):
   for i in range(len(widths)):
      for j in range(patt[i]):
         vec = [0]*len(solution)
         vec[p] = widths[i]
         plt.barh(ind, vec, 0.6, acc,
                   color=colorlist[i%len(colorlist)], edgecolor='black')
         acc[p] += widths[i]
plt.title(summ['Data'] + ": " +
   str(summ['Obj']) + " rolls" + ", " +
   str(round(100*summ['Waste']/(roll_width*summ['Obj']),2)) + "% waste"
plt.xlim(0, roll_width)
plt.xticks(np.arange(0, roll_width, 10))
plt.yticks(ind, tuple("x {:}".format(rep) for patt, rep in solution))
plt.show()
```

Pattern Enumeration in R

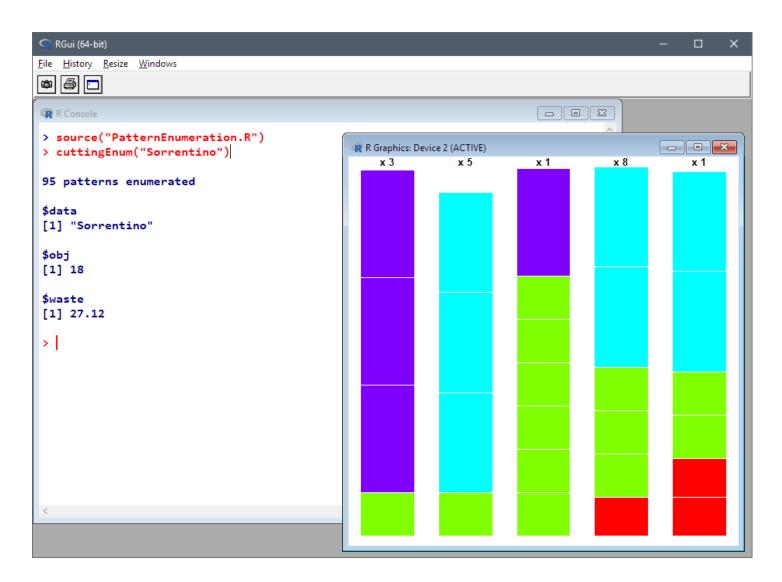
Plotting routine (cont'd)

```
for(j in 1:length(pattern)) {
    if(pattern[j] >= 1) {
        for(k in 1:pattern[j]) {
            data <- rbind(data, widths[j])
            color <- c(color, pal[j])
        }
    }
    }
    label <- sprintf("x %d", solution[i, -1])
    barplot(data, main=label, col=color,
            border="white", space=0.04, axes=FALSE, ylim=c(0, roll_width))
    }
    print(summary)
}</pre>
```

Pattern Enumeration in Python



Pattern Enumeration in R



AMPL API Program

Solve by pattern generation

- Solve continuous relaxation using subset of "easy" patterns
- ❖ Add "most promising" pattern to the subset
 - * Minimize reduced cost given dual values
 - * Equivalent to a one-constraint ("knapsack") problem
- Iterate as long as there are promising patterns
 - * Stop when minimum reduced cost is zero
- Solve IP using all patterns found

Two AMPL objects

- * Master is the cutting model with current pattern subset
- Sub is the one-constraint knapsack problem

Pattern Generation in Python

Get data, set up master problem

```
function cuttingGen(dataset)
  from amplpy import AMPL
  # Read orders, roll_width, overrun; extract widths
  exec(open(dataset+'.py').read(), globals())
  widths = list(sorted(orders.keys(), reverse=True))
  # Set up cutting (master problem) model
  Master = AMPL()
  Master.option['ampl_include'] = 'models'
  Master.read('cut.mod')
  # Define a param for sending new patterns
  Master.eval('param newPat {WIDTHS} integer >= 0;')
  # Set solve options
  Master.option['solver'] = 'gurobi'
  Master.option['relax_integrality'] = 1
```

Pattern Generation in Python

Send data to master problem

```
# Send scalar values
Master.param['nPatterns'] = len(widths)
Master.param['overrun'] = overrun
Master.param['rawWidth'] = roll_width

# Send order vector
Master.set['WIDTHS'] = widths
Master.param['order'] = orders

# Generate and send initial pattern matrix
Master.param['rolls'] = {
    (widths[i], 1+i): int(floor(roll_width/widths[i]))
        for i in range(len(widths))
}
```

Pattern Generation in Python

Set up subproblem

```
# Define knapsack subproblem
Sub = AMPL()
Sub.option['solver'] = 'gurobi'
Sub.eval('''
   set SIZES;
  param cap >= 0;
  param val {SIZES};
  var Qty {SIZES} integer >= 0;
   maximize TotVal: sum {s in SIZES} val[s] * Qty[s];
   subject to Cap: sum {s in SIZES} s * Qty[s] <= cap;</pre>
111)
# Send subproblem data
Sub.set['SIZES'] = widths
Sub.param['cap'] = roll_width
```

Pattern Generation in Python

Generate patterns and re-solve cutting problems

```
# Alternate between master and sub solves
while True:
    Master.solve()
    Sub.param['val'].setValues(Master.con['OrderLimits'].getValues())
    Sub.solve()
    if Sub.obj['TotVal'].value() <= 1.00001:</pre>
       break
    Master.param['newPat'].setValues(Sub.var['Qty'].getValues())
    Master.eval('let nPatterns := nPatterns + 1;')
    Master.eval('let {w in WIDTHS} rolls[w, nPatterns] := newPat[w];')
# Compute integer solution
Master.option['relax_integrality'] = 0
Master.solve()
```

Pattern Generation in Python

Display solution

```
# Retrieve solution
cutting_plan = Master.var['Cut'].getValues()
cutvec = list(cutting_plan.getColumn('Cut.val'))
# Prepare summary data
summary = {
      'Data': dataset,
      'Obj': int(Master.obj['TotalRawRolls'].value()),
      'Waste': Master.getValue(
               'sum {p in PATTERNS} Cut[p] * \
                  (rawWidth - sum {w in WIDTHS} w*rolls[w,p])'
# Retrieve patterns and solution
npatterns = int(Master.param['nPatterns'].value())
rolls = Master.param['rolls'].getValues().toDict()
cutvec = Master.var['Cut'].getValues().toDict()
```

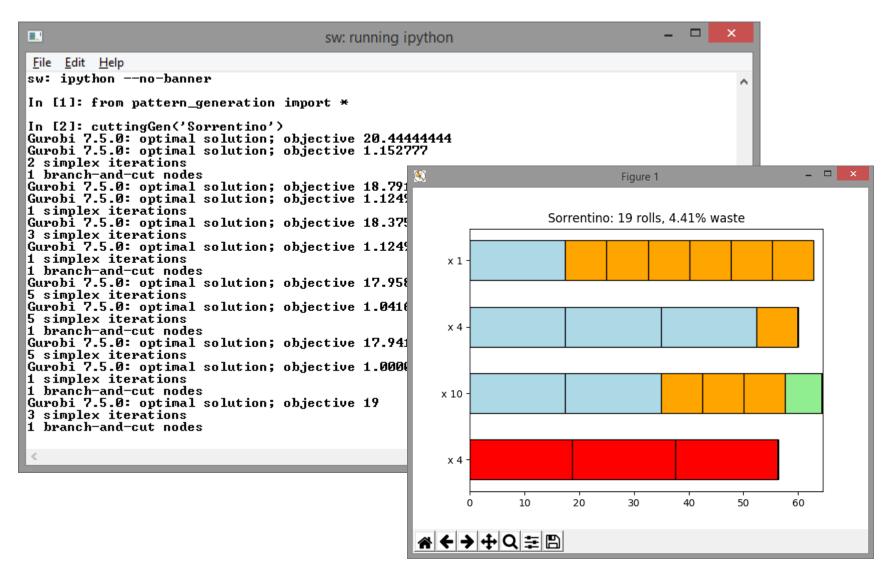
Pattern Generation in Python

Display solution

```
# Prepare solution data
solution = [
    ([int(rolls[widths[i], p+1][0]))
        for i in range(len(widths))], int(cutvec[p+1][0]))
    for p in range(npatterns)
    if cutvec[p+1][0] > 0
]

# Create plot of solution
cuttingPlot(roll_width, widths, summary, solution)
```

Pattern Generation in Python



Embedded Python (a preview)

Sending Python data to an AMPL model

- via AMPL API for Python
- ❖ via Python references in the AMPL model

Executing Python statements inside AMPL

Handling callbacks

- Write callback function in Python
- ❖ Export problem + callback, solve, import results

AMPL Model

Symbolic sets, parameters, variables, objective, constraints

```
# DATA
set FOOD;
set NUTR:
param cost { FOOD } > 0;
param f_min { FOOD } >= 0;
param f_max {j in FOOD } >= f_min [j];
param n_min { NUTR } >= 0;
param n_max {i in NUTR } >= n_min [i];
param amt {NUTR , FOOD } >= 0;
# MODEL
var Buy {j in FOOD } >= f_min [j], <= f_max [j];</pre>
minimize total_cost:
    sum {j in FOOD } cost [j] * Buy[j];
subject to diet {i in NUTR }:
    n_min [i] <= sum {j in FOOD } amt[i,j] * Buy[j] <= n_max [i];</pre>
```

Embedded Python

Python Data

Lists, dictionaries

Sending Data to AMPL (API)

Call ampl methods to read model, send data

```
from amplpy import AMPL
ampl = AMPL()
ampl.read('diet.mod')
ampl.set['FOOD'] = food
ampl.param['cost'] = cost
ampl.param['f_min'] = f_min
ampl.param['f_max'] = f_max
ampl.set['NUTR'] = nutr
ampl.param['n_min'] = n_min
ampl.param['n_max'] = n_max
ampl.param['amt'] = {
    (n, f): amt[i][j]
    for i, n in enumerate(nutr)
    for j, f in enumerate(food)
}
ampl.solve()
```

Sending Data to AMPL (Embedded)

Move data correspondences into the model

```
# SYMBOLIC DATA WITH PYTHON LINKS
$SET[FOOD] { food };
$PARAM[cost{^FOOD}]{ cost };
$PARAM[f_min{^FOOD}]{ f_min };
$PARAM[f_max{^FOOD}]{ f_max };
$SET[NUTR]{ nutr };
$PARAM[n_min{^NUTR}]{ n_min };
$PARAM[n_max{^NUTR}]{ n_max };
$PARAM[amt]{{
      (n, f): amt[i][j]
      for i, n in enumerate(nutr)
      for j, f in enumerate(food)
    }}:
# MODEL
var Buy {j in FOOD } >= f_min [j], <= f_max [j];</pre>
. . . . . . .
```

Embedded Python

Sending Data to AMPL (Embedded)

Move data correspondences into the model

```
from amplpy import AMPL
from pympl import PyMPL
ampl = AMPL(langext=PyMPL())
ampl.read('dietpy.mod')
ampl.solve()
```

Embedded Python

Executing Python inside AMPL

Fix AMPL variables according to Python variable

Callback Functions

Export problem, solve, import solution

```
def callback(model, where):
    """Gurobi callback function."""
    if where == gpy.GRB.Callback.MIPSOL:
        nodecnt = model.cbGet(gpy.GRB.Callback.MIPSOL_NODCNT)
        obj = model.cbGet(gpy.GRB.Callback.MIPSOL_OBJ)
        solcnt = model.cbGet(gpy.GRB.Callback.MIPSOL_SOLCNT)
        print(
            '**** New soln at node {:.0f}, obj {:g}, sol {:d} ****'.format(
                nodecnt, obj, solcnt
grb_model = ampl.exportGurobiModel()
grb_model.optimize(callback)
ampl.importGurobiSolution(grb_model)
ampl.display('{i in OBJECTS: x[i] != 0} x[i]')
```