

# Column Generation Algorithm: Optimizing Large-Scale LP & IP Problems

A Project Proposal for Crew Scheduling & Vehicle Routing

Presented by: Md. Inzamamul Lohani  
Institute of Information Technology (IIT),  
University of Dhaka

Supervisor: Shah Mostafa Khaled, Ph.D.  
Institute of Information Technology (IIT),  
University of Dhaka

# Motivation: The need for Advanced optimization

## Challenges:

- Growing Complexity
- Inefficiency Cost
- Traditional Methods Limitations
- Demand for Agility

## Solution:

- Bridging the Gap
- Unlocking Efficiency
- Driving Innovation
- Real World Impact

# Technologies Used & Project Summary

## Languages or Tools to be used:

- Simplex Method
- Dual Problem
- Branch-and-Bound

**Programming Language:** C/C/++/JAVA

**Libraries:** IBM CPLEX Optimization Studio

**Tools:** Git, VS Code / Neovim

**Platform:** macOS

## Project Summary:

- Combines algorithmic research with practical optimization applications.
- Focus on operations research and logistics.



# Project Overview: Column Generation Algorithm

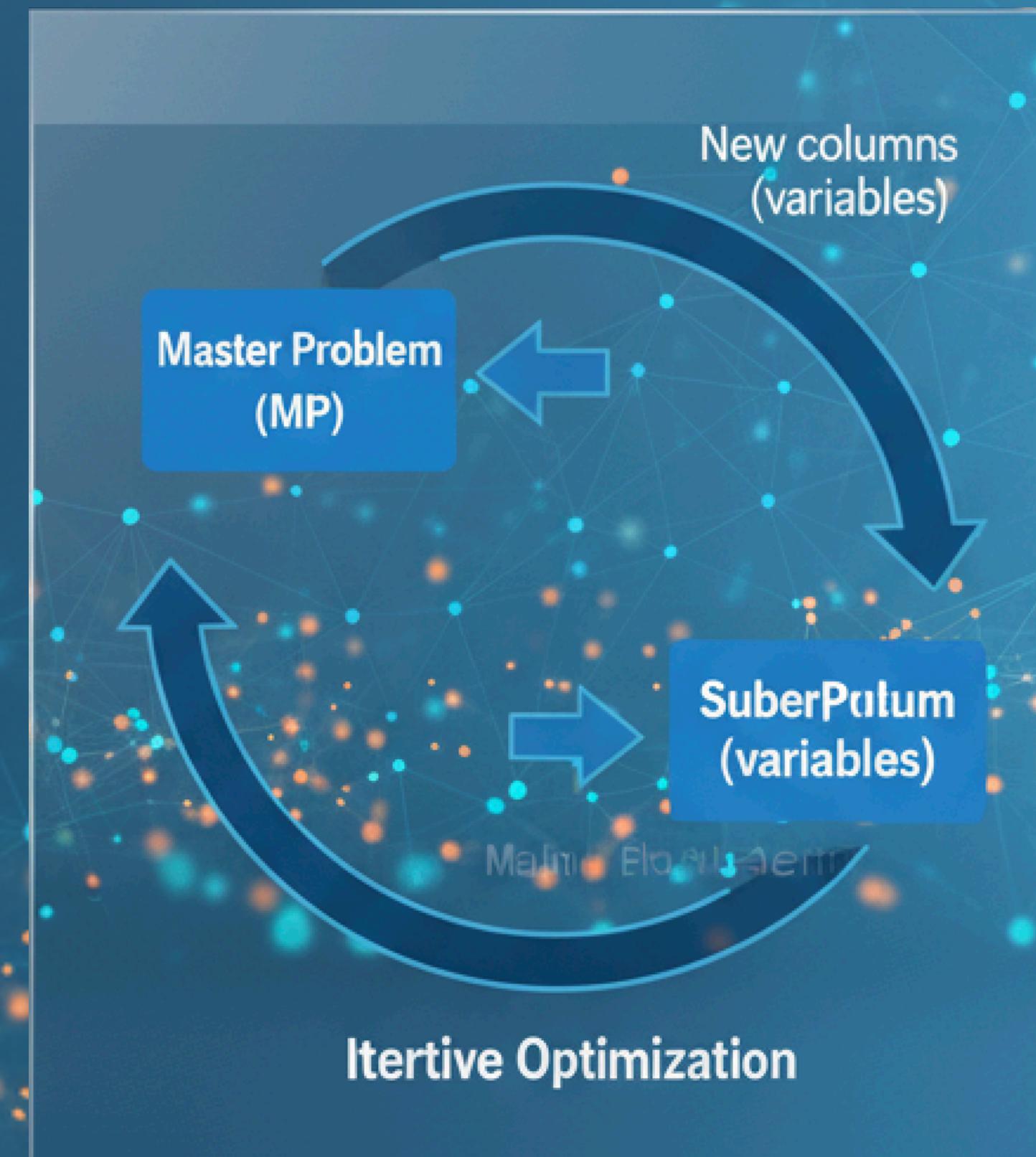
## Large-Scale for & IP Problems

### Key Points:

- **Focus:** Implementing a Column Generation Algorithm (CGA).
- **Application:** Solving large-scale (LP and Integer)
- **Specific Problem Domains:** Crew Scheduling Problems (CSP) & Vehicle Routing Problems (VRP).

### CGA Decomposition:

- **Master Problem (MP):** Formulated with a subset of variables.
- **Subproblem (SP):** Generates new variables (columns) with negative reduced cost to improve the MP solution.



# Implementation Approach & Real-World Applications

## Content:

- Simplex Method
- Dual Problem
- Branch-and-Bound (for integer constraints)

## Real-World Modeling

- Crew Scheduling Problem (CSP:Minimizing crew cost while ensuring trip coverage.
- Optimizing delivery routes to minimize total distance/cost.

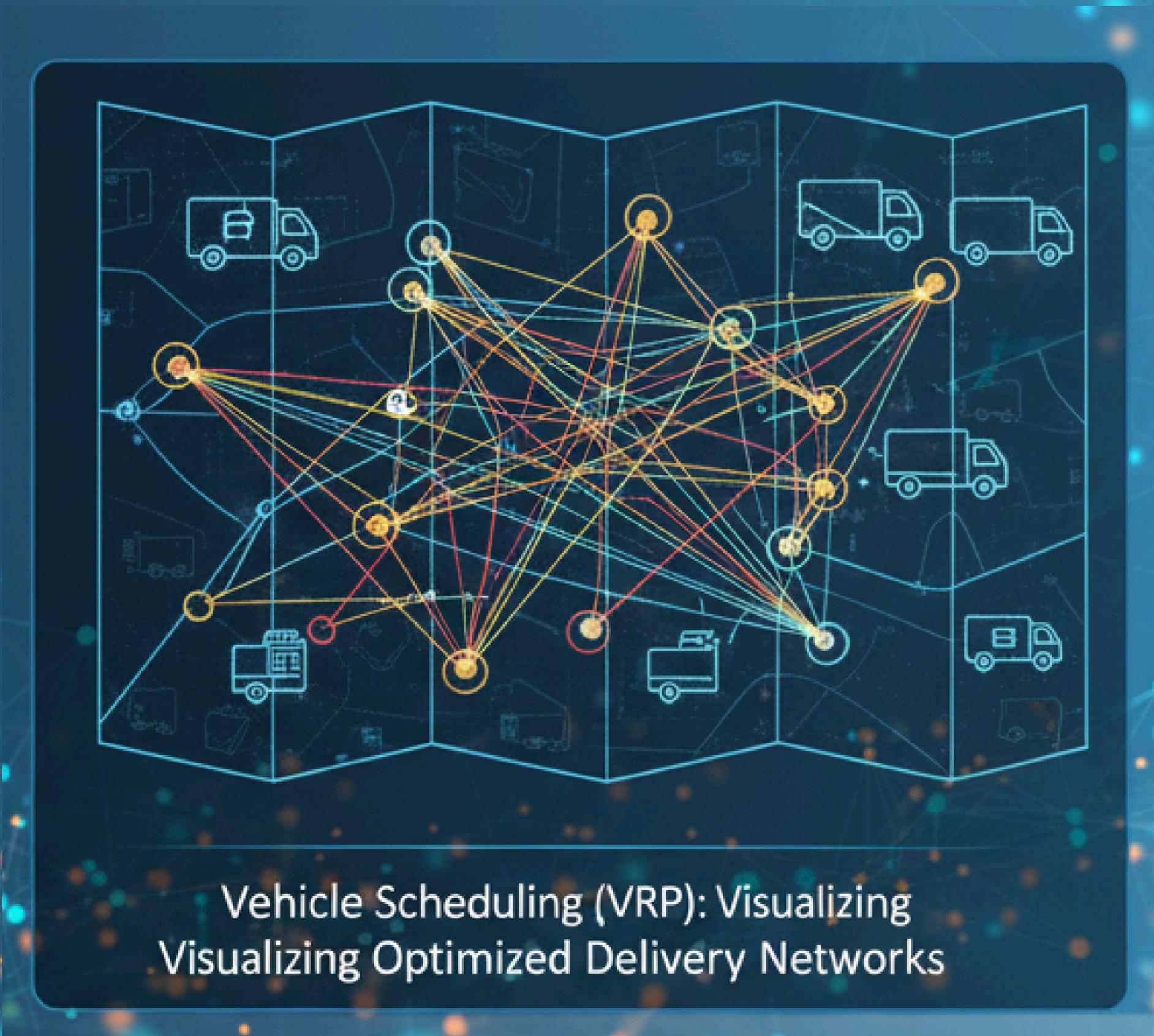
# Crew Scheduling Problem (CSP)

- **Definition:** Assigning crews (eg), airline, flight attendants to set scheduled tasks or trips.
- **Objective:** Minimize operational costs (salaries, overtime, layovers) while adhering complex regulations and labor rules.
- **Key Constraints:** Legal work-hour limits, rest periods, qualifications, base locations, and ensuring coverage's for all scheduled duties.
- **Challenges:** Large number of potential crew assignments leads to a massive search space.
- **Project Relevance:** Our Column Generation Algorithm is highly effective in solving large-scale CSPs, leading a significant cost savings and improved operational efficiency.



# Vehicle Routing Problem (VRP)

- **Definition:** Optimizing delivery or service routes for a fleet of vehicles.
- **Objective:** Minimize total distance traveled, cost, or time.
- **Key Constraints:** Vehicle capacities, time windows, customer locations, and delivery priorities.
- **Relevance to Project:** Our Column Generation approach provide efficient method an efficient method for solving complex VRP instances, ensuring optimal logistics and resource allocation.



2025

# Thank you