

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

A Project Proposal for Crew Scheduling & Vehicle Routing

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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

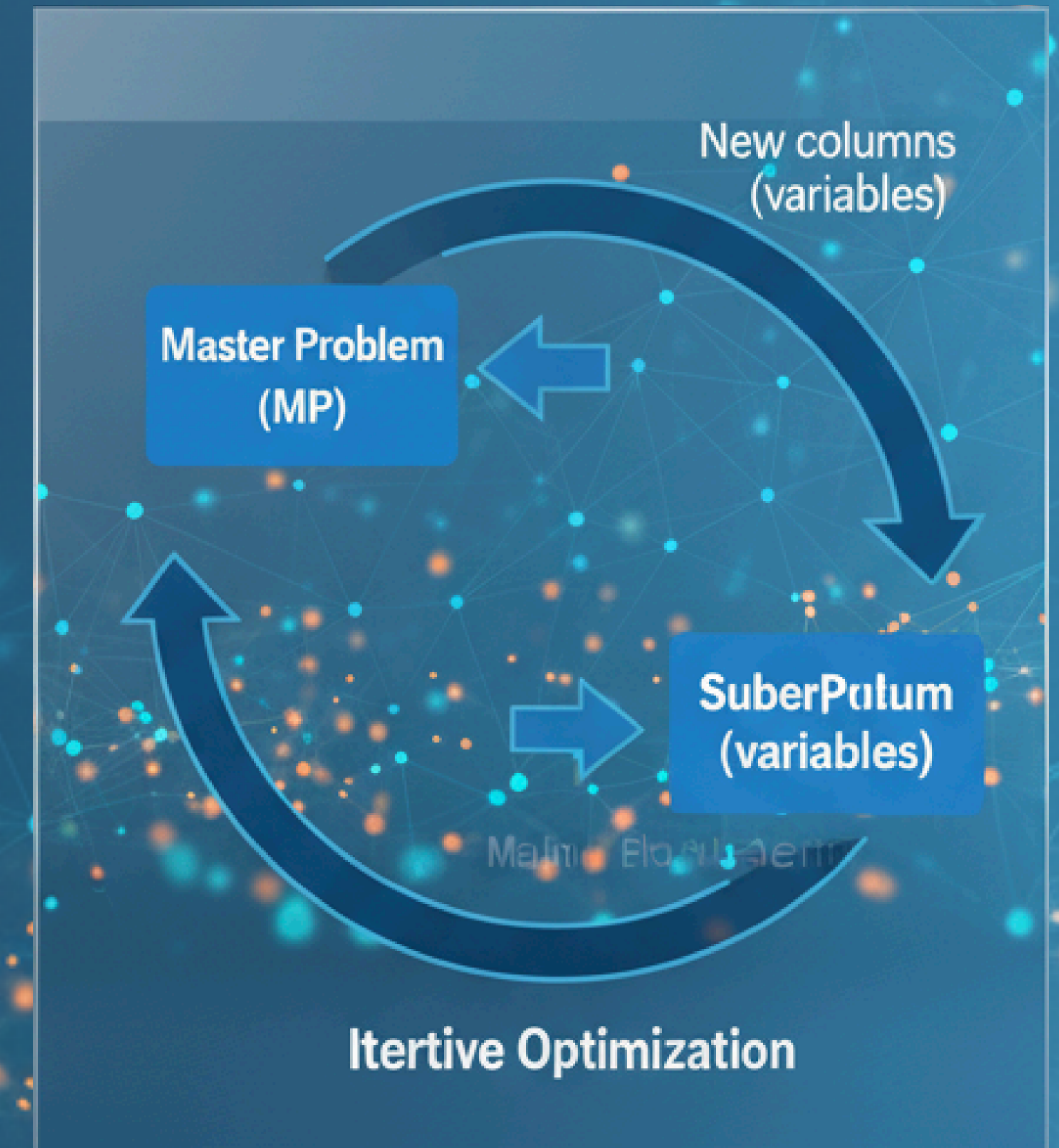
Large-Scale for & IP Problems

Key Points:

- **Focus:** Implementing a Column Column 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.

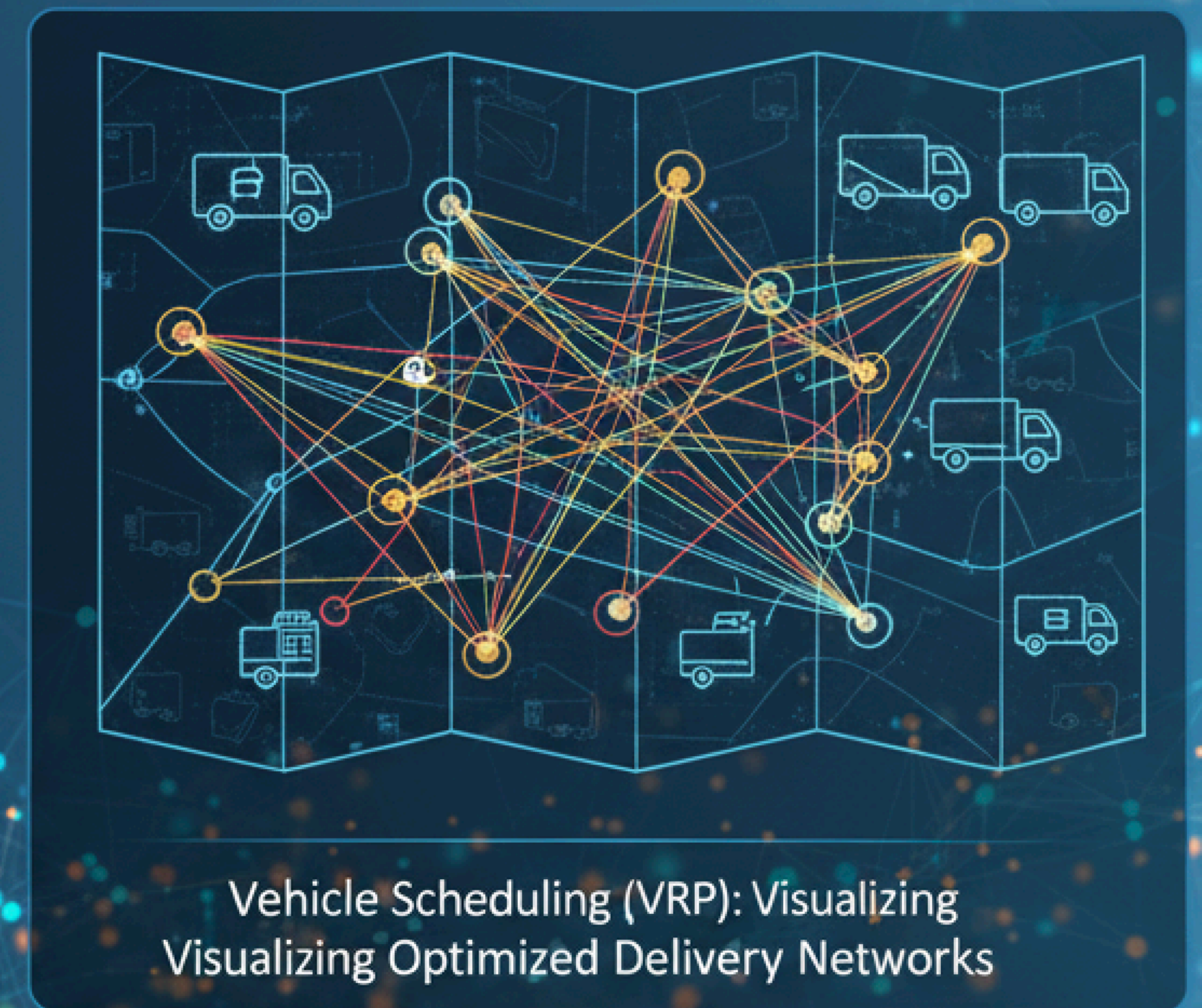
Crew Scheduling Problem (CSP)

- **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.



Thank you