

Teaching Optimization

[JuMP, cvxpy, Pyomo]

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UFRJ



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- More SP/JuMP packages since 2021 (`SamplingRB.jl`, `DualSDDP.jl`, `LDR.jl`)
- Two courses using Pyomo for MBA@UFRJ in Data Science (Zoom lectures)
- Short JuMP course in Summer Program @ FGV (inspired from Oscar's 2023 tutorials)

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- Very close to mathematical notation;
- “Program variables” vs “Problem variables”;
- Good (fast, reliable, free) solvers make a *big difference*!

What I like about cvxpy

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- Object-Oriented seems more natural than macros:
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- *Convexity checks* is good for teaching convex optimization and Disciplined Convex Programming rules;
- Enforces building a *computational graph*

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- The documentation;
- Re-solves (and hoping for ever more efficient warm-starts).

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- Can also use many solvers and is not restricted to convex problems;
- The `AbstractModel` is very close to how we think, and teach (and research); (in JuMP: see the Knapsack / design patterns tutorial)
 - Generator expressions are powerful, but some students find it too “magical”.

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- *Abstract Linear Algebra*, especially for structured matrices;
- Convexity checking / `Convex.jl` integration;
- Reduce TTFx without a 20 GB `.julia`.

- Comments?
- Suggestions?