

## Supplementary material

### Proof of the convergence of the two-tier iterative algorithm

When all binary variables become constants, the two-tier iteration process is simplified to **Algorithm 2**.  $P_{i,t}^{P2P}$ ,  $P_{ij,t}^{P2P}$  and  $p_{i,t}$  are simplified as  $x_i$ ,  $x_{ij}$  and  $y$  for brevity, respectively. The augmented Lagrangian functions  $L_\rho^x$  and  $L_\rho^y$  are simplified as

$$L_\rho^x = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \left( f_i(x_i) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{i\}} \lambda_{ij}(x_{ij} + x_{ji}) + \mu_{i,t}(x_i - y) \right) + \frac{\rho}{2} \left( \sum_{j \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{i\}} \|x_{ij} + x_{ji}\|_2^2 + \|x_i - y\|_2^2 \right), x_i \in \mathcal{M}_i \quad (1)$$

$$L_\rho^y = g(y) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \left( \mu_i(x_i - y) + \frac{\rho}{2} \|x_i - y\|_2^2 \right), y \in \mathcal{N} \quad (2)$$

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#### Algorithm 2 Simplified two-tier iterative process

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1 While  $\|r^h\| \geq \varepsilon_h^{\text{pri}}$  or  $\|s^h\| \geq \varepsilon_h^{\text{dual}}$  do
2   Set  $k=0$ 
3   While  $\|r^k\| \geq \varepsilon_k^{\text{pri}}$  or  $\|s^k\| \geq \varepsilon_k^{\text{dual}}$  do
4      $(x_i^{(h+1,k+1)}, x_{ij}^{(h+1,k+1)}) = \arg \min$ 
        $L_\rho^x(x_i, x_{ij}, \lambda_{ij}^{(h,k)}, y^{(h)}, \mu_i^{(h)})$ 
        $\lambda_{ij}^{(h+1,k+1)} = \lambda_{ij}^{(h+1,k)}$ 
        $+\rho(x_{ij}^{(h+1,k+1)} + x_{ji}^{(h+1,k+1)})$ 
5      $k=k+1$ 
6   End
7    $x_i^{(h+1,*)} = x_i^{(h+1,k)}$ 
8    $y^{(h+1)} = \arg \min L_\rho^y(x_i^{(h+1,*)}, y, \mu_i^{(h)})$ 
9    $\mu_i^{(h+1)} = \mu_i^{(h)} + \rho(x_i^{(h+1,*)} - y^{(h+1)})$ 
10   $h=h+1$ 
11 End
12 Output  $x_i^{(*)} = x_i^{(h,*)}, y^{(*)} = y^{(h)}$ 

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Assume that  $f_i(x_i)$  and  $g(y)$  are closed convex functions, and the feasible domains of the optimization problem are not empty. **Lines 3-7** constitute typical ADMM iteration steps, and the iteration sequence  $\{x_i^{(h+1,k)}, x_{ij}^{(h+1,k)}, \lambda_{ij}^{(h+1,k)}\}$  will converge to a certain fixed sequence  $\{x_i^{(h+1,*)}, x_{ij}^{(h+1,*)}, \lambda_{ij}^{(h+1,*)}\}$ . According to the KKT conditions, it follows that

$$0 \in \frac{\partial f_i(x_i)}{\partial x_i} \bigg|_{x_i=x_i^{(h+1,*)}} + \mu_i^{(h)} + \rho(x_i^{(h+1,*)} - y^{(h)}), \forall i \in \mathcal{I} \quad (3)$$

Due to that  $\mu_i^{(h+1)} = \mu_i^{(h)} + \rho(x_i^{(h+1,*)} - y^{(h+1)})$  we have

$$0 \in \frac{\partial f_i(x_i)}{\partial x_i} \bigg|_{x_i=x_i^{(h+1,*)}} + \mu_i^{(h+1)} + \rho(y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)}), \forall i \in \mathcal{I} \quad (4)$$

so that

$$x_i^{(h+1,*)} = \arg \min f_i(x_i) + [\mu_i^{(h+1)} + \rho(y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)})] x_i, \forall i \in \mathcal{I} \quad (5)$$

Similarly,

$$y^{(h+1)} = \arg \min g(y) - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (\mu_i^{(h+1)}) y \quad (6)$$

According to the optimality theory, the following inequality can be obtained:

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} f_i(x_i^{(h+1,*)}) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} [\mu_i^{(h+1)} + \rho(y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)})] x_i^{(h+1,*)} \leq \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} f_i(x_i^{(*)}) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} [\mu_i^{(h+1)} + \rho(y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)})] x_i^{(*)} \quad (7)$$

$$g(y^{(h+1)}) - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (\mu_i^{(h+1)}) y^{(h+1)} \leq g(y^{(*)}) - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} (\mu_i^{(h+1)}) y^{(*)} \quad (8)$$

Add (7) and (8), define that  $p^{(h+1)} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} f_i(x_i^{(h+1,*)}) + g(y^{(h+1)})$ , and according to the KKT conditions, we obtain

$$p^{(h+1)} - p^{(*)} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \mu_i^{(h+1)} (x_i^{(h+1)} - y^{(h+1)}) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \rho(y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)}) x_i^{(h+1)} \leq \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \rho(y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)}) x_i^{(*)} \quad (9)$$

Let  $r_i^{(h)} = x_i^{(h)} - y^{(h)}$ , (9) can be expressed as

$$p^{(h+1)} - p^{(*)} \leq - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \mu_i^{(h+1)} r_i^{(h+1)} + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \rho(y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)}) (-r_i^{(h+1)} - (y^{(h+1)} - y^{(*)})) \quad (10)$$

Further, analogously to the derivation of [S1], we can conclude that

$$p^{(*)} - p^{(h+1)} \leq \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \mu_i^{(*)} r_i^{(h+1)} \quad (11)$$

$$V^{(h+1)} \leq V^{(h)} - \rho \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \|r_i^{(h+1)}\|_2^2 - \rho \|y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)}\|_2^2 \quad (12)$$

where  $V^{(h)} = 1/\rho \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \|\mu_i^{(h+1)} - \mu_i^{(*)}\|_2^2 + \rho \|y^{(h)} - y^{(*)}\|_2^2$ . Summing both sides of (12) in terms of  $h$  yields

$$\rho \sum_{h=0}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \|r_i^{(h+1)}\|_2^2 + \|y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)}\|_2^2 \right) \leq V^0 \quad (13)$$

Hence,  $r_i^{(h)} \rightarrow 0$ , i.e.  $\mu_i^{(h+1)} - \mu_i^{(*)} \rightarrow 0$ . And  $y^{(h+1)} - y^{(h)} \rightarrow 0$ . This implies that the iterations for both the primal and dual variables converge. For (10) and (11), when  $h \rightarrow \infty$ , the right-hand side of the equation both converges to 0 and hence  $p^{(h+1)}$  converges to  $p^{(*)}$ . The proof is complete. ■

#### REFERENCES

[S1] S. Boyd, N. Parikh, and E. Chu, "Distributed optimization and statistical learning via the alternating direction method of multipliers," *Foundations and Trends® in Machine learning* 3.1, pp 1-122, 2011.