

Integer Programming

ISE 418

Lecture 13

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Reading for This Lecture

- Nemhauser and Wolsey Sections II.1.1-II.1.3, II.1.6
- Wolsey Chapter 8
- CCZ Chapters 5 and 6
- “Valid Inequalities for Mixed Integer Linear Programs,” G. Cornuejols.
- “Generating Disjunctive Cuts for Mixed Integer Programs,” M. Perregaard.

Valid Inequalities from Disjunctions

- Valid inequalities for $\text{conv}(\mathcal{S})$ can also be generated from valid disjunctions.
- Let $X_i = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid A^i x \leq b^i\}$ for $i = 1, \dots, k$ constitute a disjunction valid for \mathcal{S} .
- Then inequalities valid for $\cup_{i=1}^k (\mathcal{P} \cap X_i)$ are also valid for $\text{conv}(\mathcal{S})$.

The Union of Polyhedra

- The convex hull of the union of polyhedra is not necessarily a polyhedron.
- Under mild conditions, we can characterize it, however.
- Consider a finite collection of polyhedra $\mathcal{P}_i = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid A^i x \leq b^i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq k\}$.
- Let Y be the polyhedron described by the following constraints:

$$\begin{aligned} A^i x^i &\leq b^i y_i \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, k \\ \sum_{i=1}^k x^i &= x \\ \sum_{i=1}^k y_i &= 1 \\ y &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Furthermore, for polyhedron \mathcal{P}_i , let $C_i = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid A^i x \leq 0\}$ and let $\mathcal{P}_i = Q_i + C_i$ where Q_i is a polytope.

The Convex Hull of the Union of Polyhedra

- Under the assumptions on the previous slide, we have the following result.

Proposition 1. *If either $\bigcup_{i=1}^k \mathcal{P}_i = \emptyset$ or $C_j \subseteq \text{cone}(\bigcup_{i:\mathcal{P}_i \neq \emptyset} C_i)$ for all j such that $\mathcal{P}_j = \emptyset$, then the following sets are identical:*

- $\overline{\text{conv}}(\bigcup_{i=1}^k \mathcal{P}_i)$
 - $\text{conv}(\bigcup_{i=1}^k Q_i) + \text{cone}(\bigcup_{i=1}^k C_i)$
 - $\text{proj}_x Y$.
- Note that the assumptions of the proposition are necessary, but are automatically satisfied if
 - $C^i = \{0\}$ whenever $\mathcal{P}^i = \emptyset$, or
 - all the polyhedra have the same recession cone.

The Convex Hull of the Union of Polyhedra (cont.)

- Note also that if all the polyhedra have the same recession cones, then $\overline{\text{conv}}(\cup_{i=1}^k \mathcal{P}_i) = \text{conv}(\cup_{i=1}^k \mathcal{P}_i)$ and $\cup_{i=1}^k \mathcal{P}_i$ is the projection of

$$\begin{aligned} A^i x^i &\leq b^i y_i \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, k \\ \sum_{i=1}^k x^i &= x \\ \sum_{i=1}^k y^i &= 1 \\ y &\in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

- This is the case when the polyhedra only differ in their right-hand sides, as is the case when branching on variables.

Valid Inequalities from Disjunctions

Another viewpoint for constructing valid inequalities based on disjunctions comes from the following result:

Proposition 2. *If (π^1, π_0^1) is valid for $\mathcal{S}_1 \subseteq \mathbb{R}_+^n$ and (π^2, π_0^2) is valid for $\mathcal{S}_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}_+^n$, then*

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \min(\pi_j^1, \pi_j^2) x_j \leq \max(\pi_0^1, \pi_0^2) \quad (1)$$

for $x \in \mathcal{S}_1 \cup \mathcal{S}_2$.

In fact, all valid inequalities for the union of two polyhedra can be obtained in this way.

Proposition 3. *If $\mathcal{P}^i = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid A^i x \leq b^i\}$ for $i = 1, 2$ are nonempty polyhedra, then (π, π_0) is a valid inequality for $\text{conv}(\mathcal{P}^1 \cup \mathcal{P}^2)$ if and only if there exist $u^1, u^2 \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such $\pi \leq u^i A^i$ and $\pi_0 \geq u^i b^i$ for $i = 1, 2$.*

Simple Disjunctive Inequalities

- We want to develop a procedure analogous to C-G for mixed-integer sets.
- It is straightforward to develop an analog of the rounding principle we used earlier that was geared towards pure integer programs.

Proposition 4. Let $T = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R}_+ \mid x_1 - x_2 \leq b\}$. Then the inequality

$$x_1 - \frac{1}{1 - f_0} x_2 \leq \lfloor b \rfloor.$$

is valid for T .

- The proof requires exploiting the disjunction

$$x_1 \leq \lfloor b \rfloor \text{ OR } x_1 \geq \lfloor b \rfloor + 1$$

Mixed Integer Rounding Inequalities

- We can generalize the inequality from the previous slide as follows.

Proposition 5. Let $T = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}_+^p \times \mathbb{R}_+^{n-p} \mid \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j \leq b\}$, where $a \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ and $b \in \mathbb{Q}$. Then the inequality

$$\sum_{j=1}^p (\lfloor a_j \rfloor + \frac{(f_j - f_0)^+}{1 - f_0}) x_j + \frac{1}{1 - f_0} \sum_{p+1 \leq j \leq n: a_j < 0} a_j x_j \leq \lfloor b \rfloor.$$

is valid for T , where $f_j = a_j - \lfloor a_j \rfloor$ and $f_0 = b - \lfloor b \rfloor$.

- In fact, if $a_j \in \mathbb{Z}$, $\gcd\{a_1, \dots, a_n\} = 1$, and $b \notin \mathbb{Z}$, then the above inequality is facet-inducing for $\text{conv}(T)$.
- The above inequality is called a *mixed integer rounding* (MIR) inequality.
- Its validity can be proved by aggregating the integer and continuous variables, respectively, and applying Proposition ??.

Gomory Mixed Integer Inequalities

- Let's consider again the set of solutions T to an IP with one equation.
- This time, we write T equivalently as

$$T = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n \mid \sum_{j:f_j \leq f_0} f_j x_j + \sum_{j:f_j > f_0} (f_j - 1)x_j = f_0 + k \text{ for some integer } k \right\}$$

- Since $k \leq -1$ or $k \geq 0$, we have the disjunction

$$\sum_{j:f_j \leq f_0} \frac{f_j}{f_0} x_j - \sum_{j:f_j > f_0} \frac{(1 - f_j)}{f_0} x_j \geq 1$$

OR

$$- \sum_{j:f_j \leq f_0} \frac{f_j}{(1 - f_0)} x_j + \sum_{j:f_j > f_0} \frac{(1 - f_j)}{(1 - f_0)} x_j \geq 1$$

The Gomory Mixed Integer Cut

- Applying Proposition ??, we get

$$\sum_{j: f_j \leq f_0} \frac{f_j}{f_0} x_j + \sum_{j: f_j > f_0} \frac{(1 - f_j)}{(1 - f_0)} x_j \geq 1$$

- This is called a *Gomory mixed integer* (GMI) inequality.
- GMI inequalities dominate the associated Gomory cut and can also be obtained easily from the tableau.
- In the case of the mixed integer set

$$T = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{Z}_+^p \times \mathbb{R}_+^{n-p} \mid \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j = a_0 \right\},$$

the GMI cut is

$$\sum_{\substack{0 \leq j \leq p \\ f_j \leq f_0}} \frac{f_j}{f_0} x_j + \sum_{\substack{0 \leq j \leq p \\ f_j > f_0}} \frac{(1 - f_j)}{(1 - f_0)} x_j + \sum_{\substack{p+1 \leq j \leq n \\ a_j > 0}} \frac{a_j}{f_0} x_j - \sum_{\substack{p+1 \leq j \leq n \\ a_j < 0}} \frac{a_j}{(1 - f_0)} x_j \geq 1$$

GMI vs. MIR

- Although we derived the GMI inequality using a different logic than that which we used for the MIR inequality, they are equivalent.
- Beginning with the inequality

$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j \leq b, \quad (2)$$

we add a slack variables $s = b - a^\top x$ to obtain

$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j + s = b.$$

- Deriving the GMI inequality from this equation and then substituting out the slack variable s , we obtain the MIR inequality associated with (??).

Gomory Mixed Integer Cuts from the Tableau

- Let's consider how to generate Gomory mixed integer cuts from the tableau when solving (??).
- As before, we first introduce a slack variable for each inequality in the formulation.
- Solving the LP relaxation, we look for a row in the tableau in which an integer variable is basic and has a fractional variable.
- We apply the GMI procedure to produce a cut.
- Finally, we substitute out the slack variables in order to express the cut in terms of the original variables only.

Example: GMI Cuts versus Gomory Cuts

Recall our example from last time.

$$\max \quad 2x_1 + 5x_2 \quad (3)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad 4x_1 + x_2 \leq 28 \quad (4)$$

$$x_1 + 4x_2 \leq 27 \quad (5)$$

$$x_1 - x_2 \leq 1 \quad (6)$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \quad (7)$$

The optimal tableau for the LP relaxation is:

Basic var.	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	s_3	RHS
x_2	0	1	-2/30	8/30	0	16/3
s_3	0	0	-1/3	1/3	1	2/3
x_1	1	0	8/30	-2/30	0	17/3

Table 1: Optimal tableau of the LP relaxation

The associated optimal solution to the LP relaxation is also shown in Figure ??.

Example: Gomory Cuts (cont.)

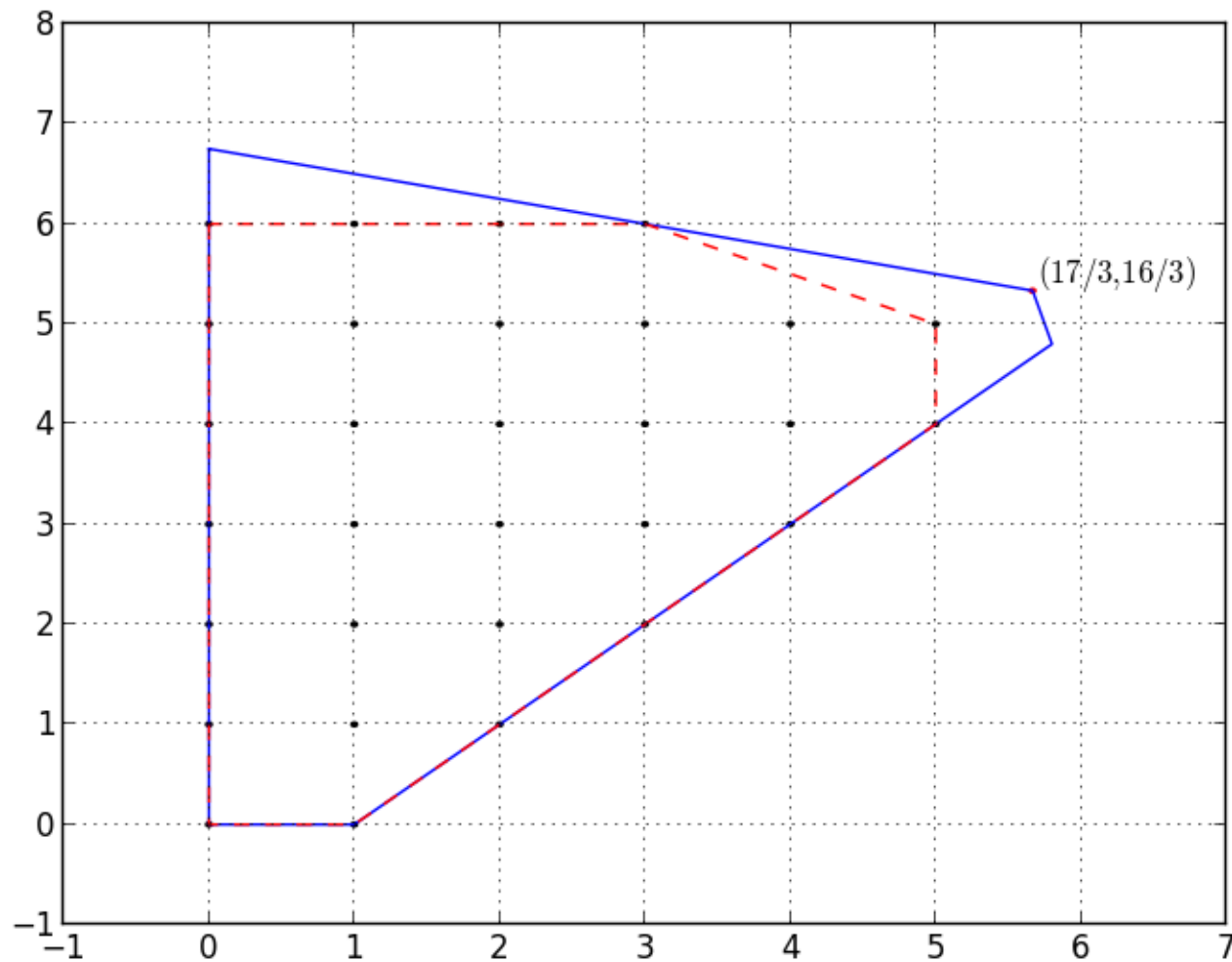


Figure 1: Convex hull of \mathcal{S}

Geometric Interpretation of GMI Cuts

- To understand the geometric interpretation of GMI cuts, we consider a relaxation of (??) associated with a basis of the LP relaxation.
- We simply relax the non-negativity constraints on the basic variables to obtain

$$T = \{ (x, s) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+m} \mid Ax + Is = b, x_N \geq 0, s_N \geq 0 \},$$

where x_N and s_N are the non-basic variables associated with basis B .

- This is equivalent to relaxing the non-binding constraints.
- The convex hull of T is the so-called *corner polyhedron* associated with the basis B .

Example: Corner Polyhedron

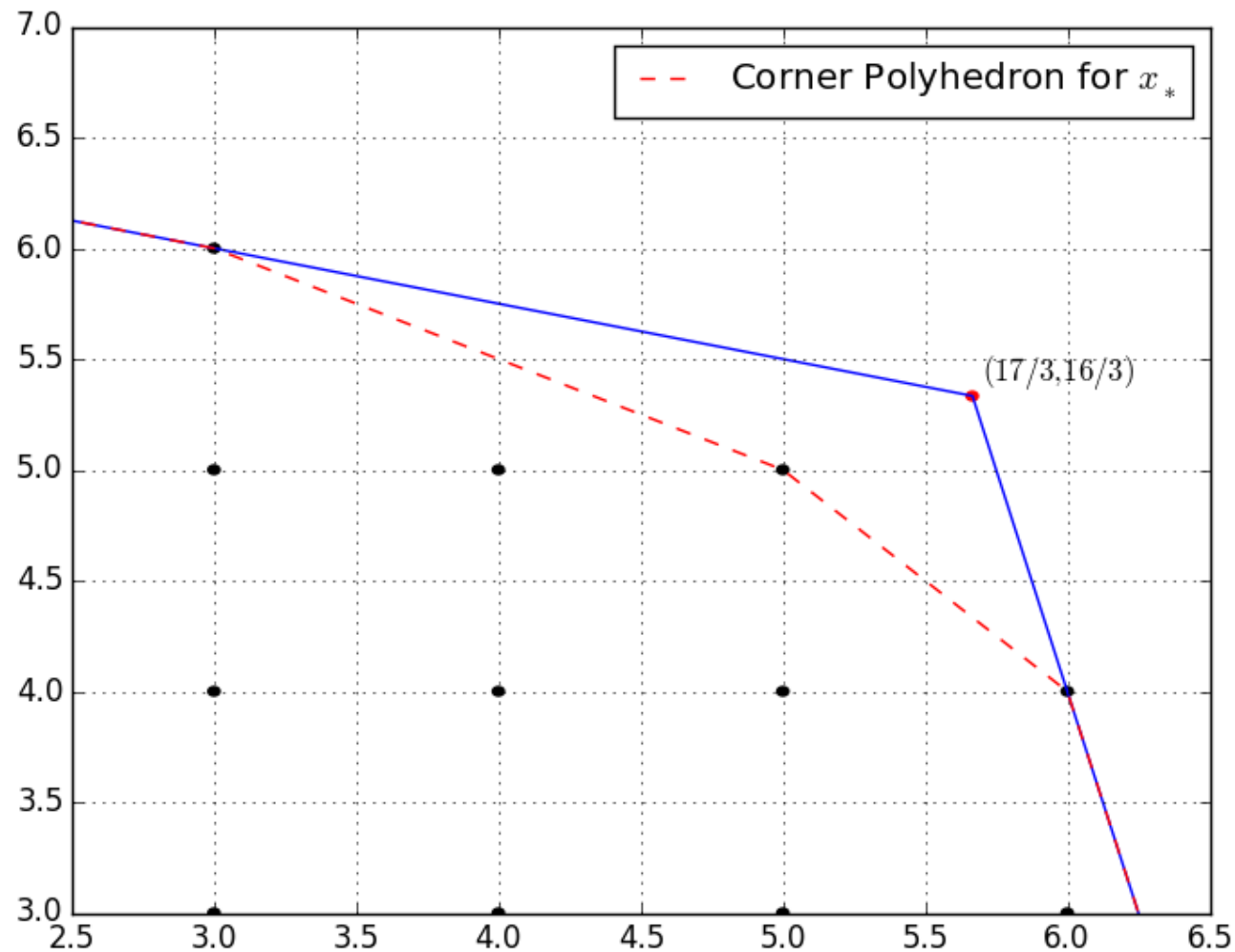


Figure 2: The corner polyhedron associated with the optimal basis of the LP relaxation of the earlier example.

Intersection Cuts

- A simple way to obtain inequalities valid for the corner polyhedron (and hence the original MILP) is as follows.
 - Construct a convex set C whose interior contains the solution x^* associated with the current basis and no other integer points.
 - Determine the points of intersection of each of the extreme rays of the corner polyhedron with the set C .
 - The unique hyperplane determined by these points of intersection then separates x^* from the corner polyhedron.
- This is a general paradigm and one can get different classes of valid inequality by choosing the set C in different ways.
- The GMI cut from row i of the tableau is precisely the intersection cut obtained by setting

$$C = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+m} \mid \lfloor x_j^* \rfloor \leq x_j \leq \lceil x_j^* \rceil\},$$

where x_j is the variable that is basic in row i .

Example: GMI Cut as an Intersection Cut

- Figure ?? shows the GMI cut derived from the second row of the tableau in our example as an intersection cut.
- The basic variable in this case is s_3 .
- In terms of the original variables, we have

$$C = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+m} \mid 0 \leq x_1 - x_2 \leq 1\}$$

Example: GMI Cut as an Intersection Cut

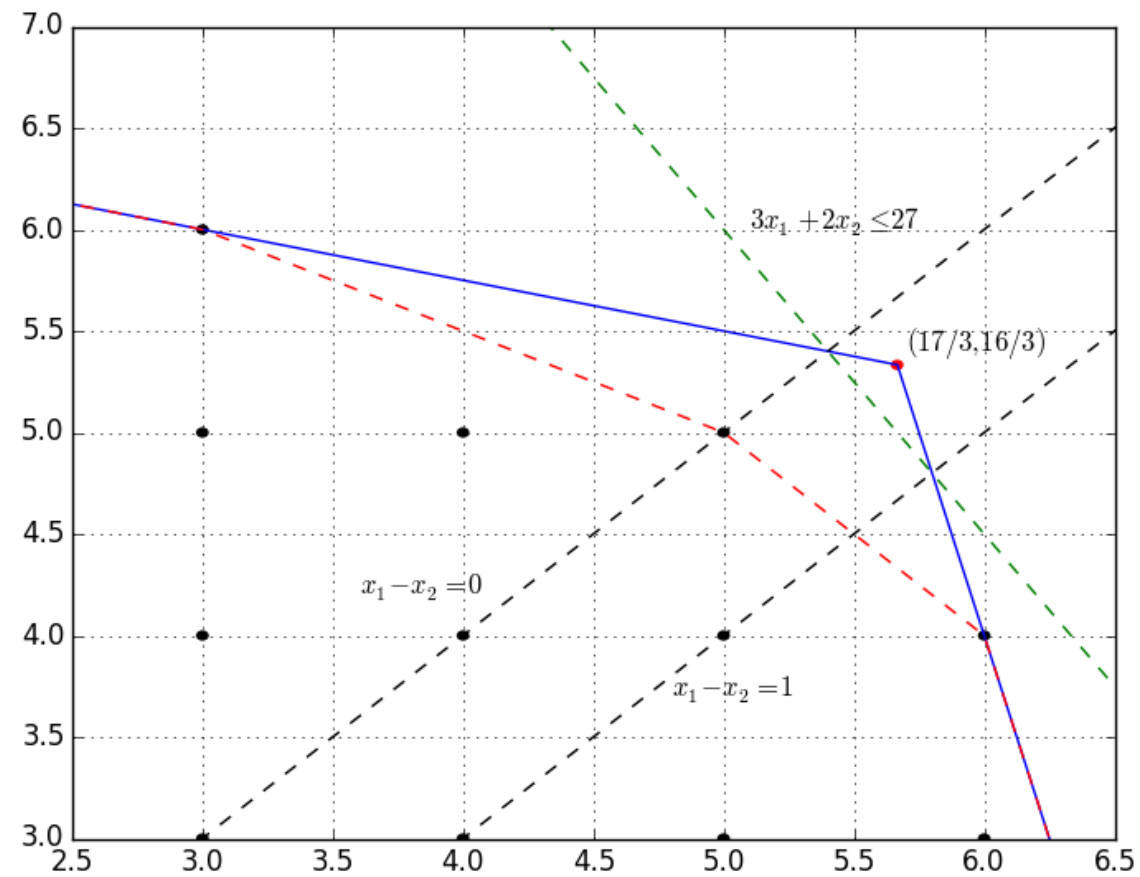


Figure 3: GMI Cut from row 2 as an intersection cut

GMI Cuts in Practice

Here is an example of the slow convergence sometimes seen in practice.

$$\begin{array}{ll}\min & 20x_1 + 15x_2 \\ & -2x_1 - 3x_2 \leq -5 \\ & -4x_1 - 2x_2 \leq -15 \\ & -3x_1 - 4x_2 \leq 20 \\ & 0 \leq x_1 \leq 9 \\ & 0 \leq x_2 \leq 6 \\ & x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{Z}\end{array}$$

We will solve this using the naive implementation in CuPPy.

The Polyhedra in Example

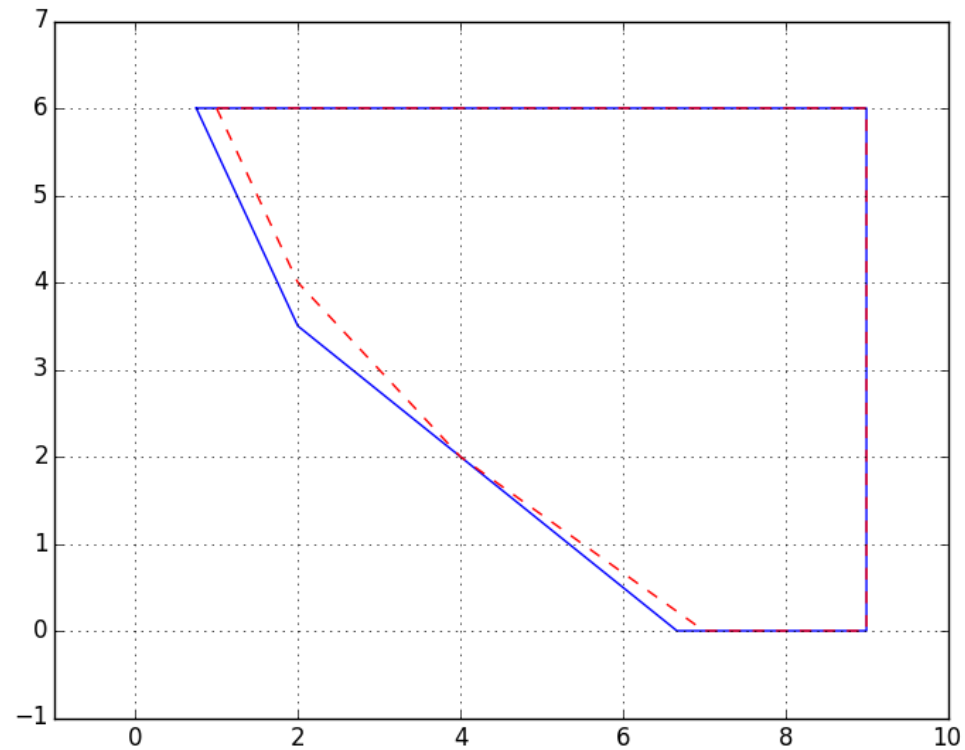


Figure 4: Feasible region of Example MILP

First Iteration

- The solution to the LP relaxation is $(2, 3.5)$.
- The tableau row in which x_2 is basic is

$$x_2 + 0.3s_2 - 0.4s_3$$

- Note that for purposes of illustration, we are explicitly included the bound constraints in the tableau.
- The GMI is

$$0.6s_2 + 0.8s_3 \geq 1$$

- In terms of the original variables, this is

$$-4.8x_1 - 4.4x_2 \leq -26$$

Second Iteration

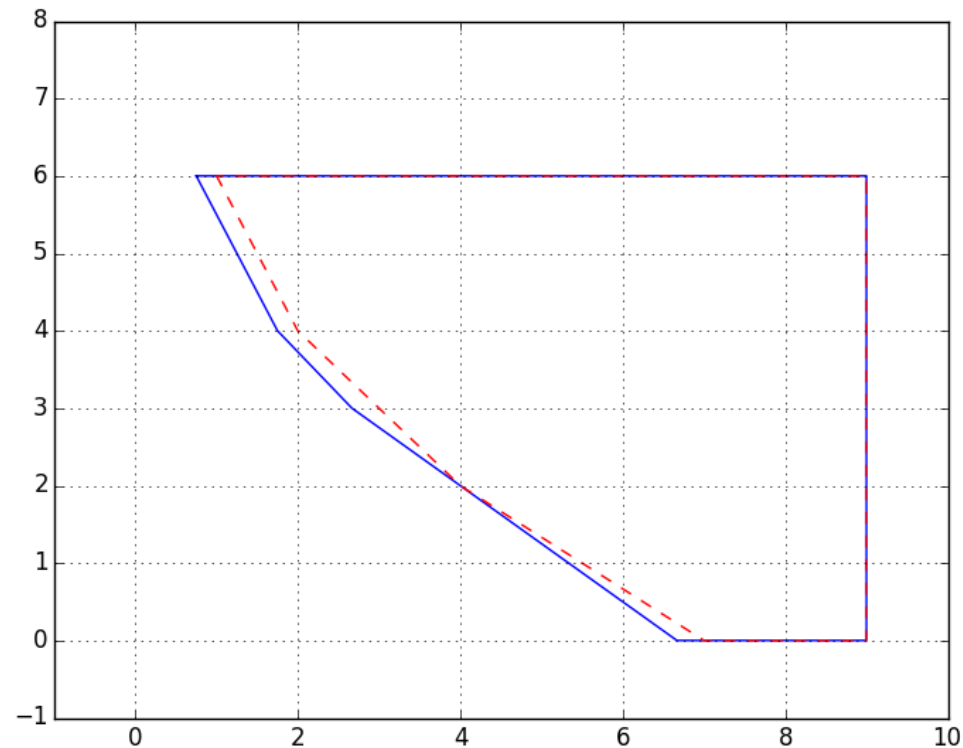


Figure 5: Feasible region of Example MILP after adding cut

The solution in the second iteration is $(1.75, 4)$ and the cut is $-10.4x_1 - 5.8667x_2 \leq -42.6667$.

Third Iteration

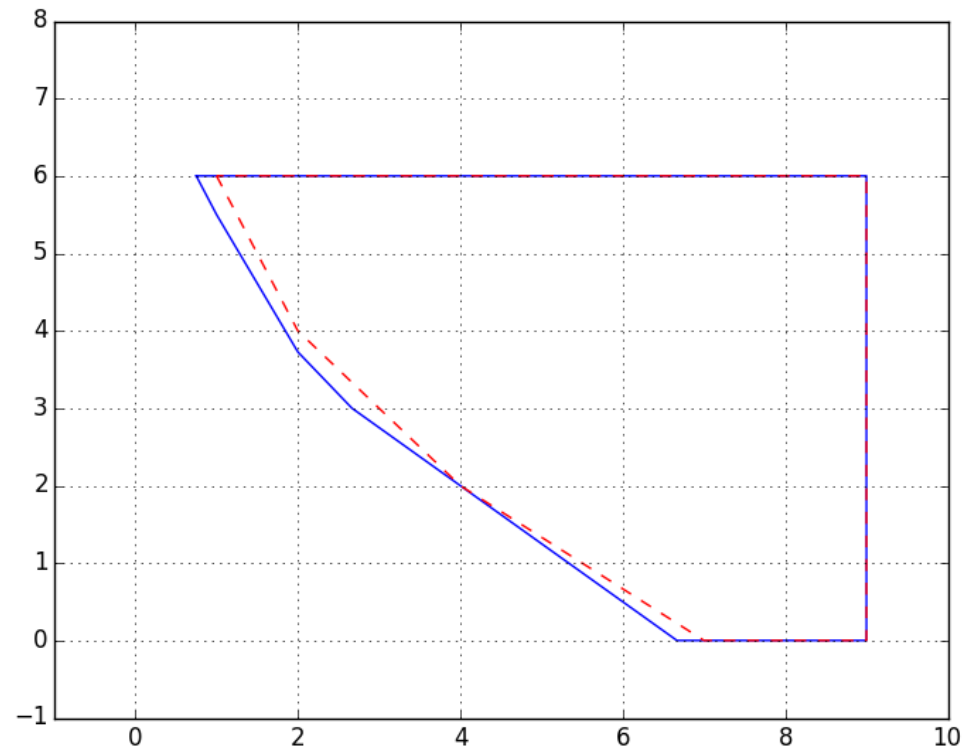


Figure 6: Feasible region of Example MILP after two cuts

The solution in the third iteration is $(2, 3.7273)$ and the cut is $-14.3x_1 - 11.7333x_2 \leq -73.3333$.

Further Iterations

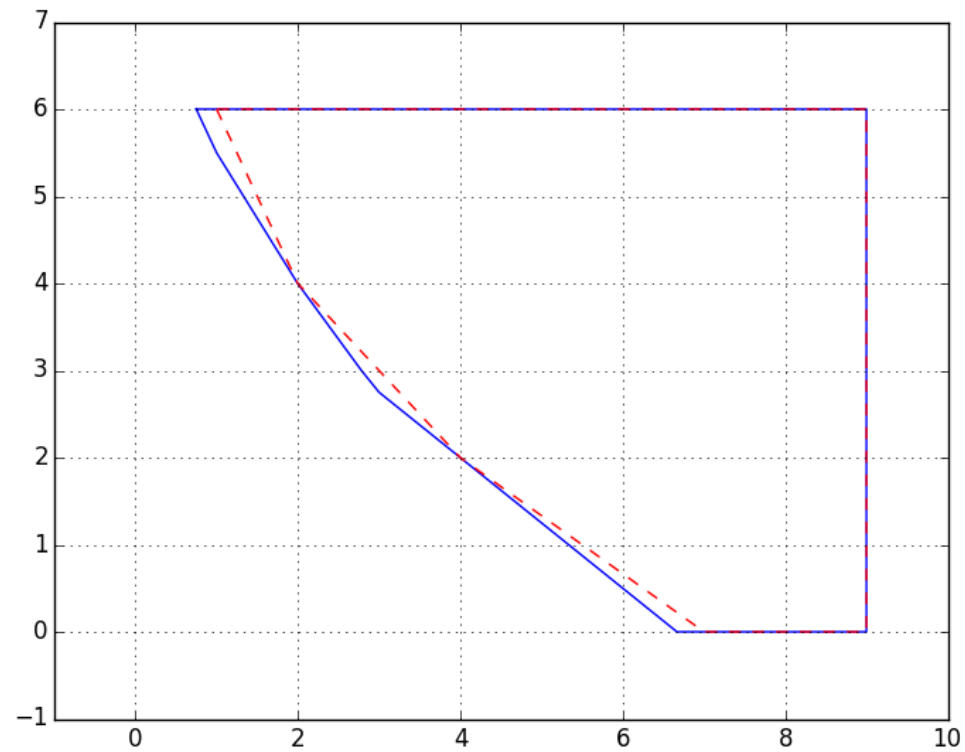


Figure 7: Feasible region of Example MILP after 100 cuts

Further Iterations

- Note the slow convergence rate.
- Not much progress is being made with each cut.
- After 100 iteration, the solution is $(1.9979, 4)$, which may be “close enough,” but would not be considered optimal by most solvers.
- It is surprising that such a small MILP would have such a high rank.
- This is at least partly due to numerical errors and the fact that our implementation is naive.
- We will delve further into these topics later in the course.

Lift and Project

- In lift and project, we directly write down the separation problem with respect to a given point and disjunction.
- We will use the variable disjunction on the j^{th} variable.
- We have that $\text{conv}(\mathcal{S}) \subseteq \text{conv}(\mathcal{P}_j^0 \cup \mathcal{P}_j^1)$ where $\mathcal{P}_j^0 = \mathcal{P} \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_j \leq \lfloor x_j^* \rfloor\}$ and $\mathcal{P}_j^1 = \mathcal{P} \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_j \geq \lceil x_j^* \rceil\}$.
- Applying Proposition ??, we see that the inequality (π, π_0) is valid for $\mathcal{P}_j = \text{conv}(\mathcal{P}_j^0 \cup \mathcal{P}_j^1)$ if there exists $u^i \in \mathbb{R}_+^m$, $v^i \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$, and $w^i \in \mathbb{R}_+$ for $i = 0, 1$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \pi &\leq u^0 A + w^0 e_j, \\ \pi &\leq u^1 A - w^1 e_j, \\ \pi^0 &\geq u^0 b + w^0 \lfloor x_j^* \rfloor, \\ \pi^0 &\geq u^1 b - w^1 \lceil x_j^* \rceil, \end{aligned}$$

- Notice that this is a set of linear constraints, i.e., we could write an LP to generate constraints based on this disjunction.

The Cut Generating LP

- This leads to the cut generating LP (CGLP), which generates the most violated inequality valid for \mathcal{P}_j .

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\max && \pi \hat{x} - \pi^0 \\
 &\text{s.t.} && \pi \leq uA + u^0 e_j, \\
 & && \pi \leq vA - v^0 e_j, \\
 & && \pi^0 \geq ub + u_0 \lfloor x_j^* \rfloor, && \text{(CGLP)} \\
 & && \pi^0 \geq vb - v_0 \lceil x_j^* \rceil, \\
 & && \sum_{i=1}^m u_i + u_0 + \sum_{i=1}^m v_i + v_0 = 1 \\
 & && u, u_0, v, v_0 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

- The last constraint is for normalization.
- There are a number of alternatives for normalization and the choice does have an impact (see Perregaard).
- This shows that the separation problem for \mathcal{P}_j is polynomially solvable.

Split Inequalities

- Let (α, β) be a split disjunction and define

$$\mathcal{P}_1 = \mathcal{P} \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \alpha^\top x \leq \beta\}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_2 = \mathcal{P} \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \alpha^\top x \geq \beta + 1\}$$

- Any inequality valid for $\text{conv}(\mathcal{P}_1 \cup \mathcal{P}_2)$ is valid for \mathcal{S} and is called a *split inequality*.

Separation Problem for Split Inequalities

- The LP (??) can be generalized straightforwardly to produce the most violated split cut.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\max && \pi \hat{x} - \pi^0 \\
 &\text{s.t.} && \pi \leq uA + u^0\alpha, \\
 &&& \pi \leq vA - v^0\alpha, \\
 &&& \pi^0 \geq ub + u_0\beta, \\
 &&& \pi^0 \geq vb - v_0(\beta + 1), \quad (\text{SCGLP}) \\
 &&& \sum_{i=1}^m u_i + u_0 + \sum_{i=1}^m v_i + v_0 = 1 \\
 &&& u, u_0, v, v_0 \geq 0 \\
 &&& \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}^n \\
 &&& \beta \in \mathbb{Z}
 \end{aligned}$$

- The separation problem is a mixed integer nonlinear optimization problem, however, and is not easy to solve.

Strengthening Lift-and-Project Cuts

- Note that (??) only explicitly accounts for the integrality of a single variable.
- We can strengthen the generated cuts using the integrality of the other variables (we consider the pure binary case, but this can be generalized).
- To do this, we simply replace the original coefficients

$$\pi_k = \min\{uA_k, vA_k\} \text{ for } k \neq j$$

$$\pi_j = \min\{uA_j + u^0, vA_j - v^0\}$$

for the integer variables indexed $1 \leq k \leq p$ with

$$\pi_k = \max\{uA_k + u_0 \lfloor m_k \rfloor, vA_k - v_0 \lceil m_k \rceil\},$$

where

$$m_i = \frac{vA_i - uA_i}{u_0 + v_0}$$

- The proof is to fix the values of u, v, u_0, v_0 obtained by solving (??) and then find an optimal (α, β) in (??).

GMI Cuts vs. Lift-and-Project Cuts

- There is a correspondence between GMI cuts generated from basic solutions of the LP relaxation and strengthened lift-and-project cuts.
 - We use the normalization $\pi_0 \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ in (??).
 - Then each of the former can be derived as the latter from some basic solution to (??) (and vice versa, though the relationship is not one-to-one).
- We may be able to get stronger GMI cuts from tableaus other than the one that is optimal to the current LP relaxation.
 - There are lift-and-project cuts that can only be obtained as GMI cuts from an *infeasible tableau*.
 - We may also be able to get stronger cuts from a basic solution that is suboptimal for the LP relaxation.
- By pivoting in the LP relaxation, we can implicitly solve the cut generating LP (see Balas and Perregaard).

Lift-and-Project Cut as GMI from Infeasible Basis

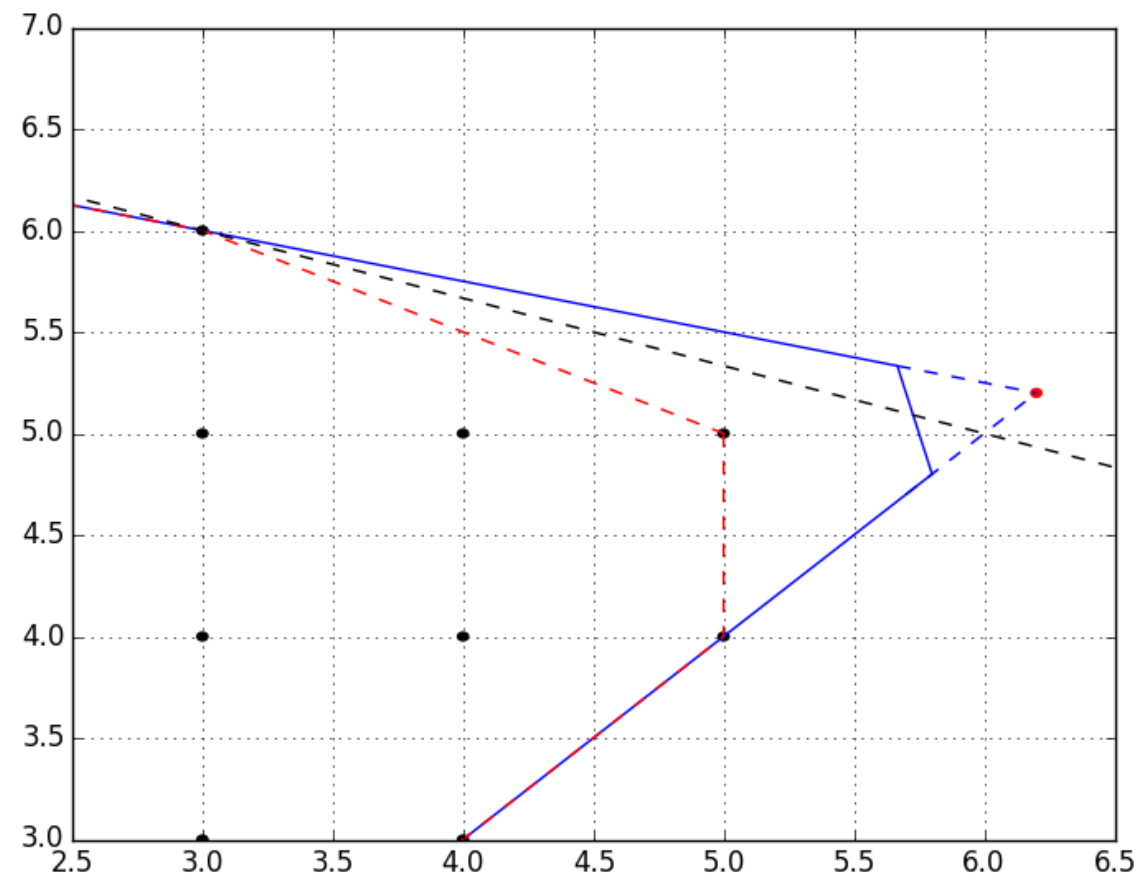


Figure 8: A GMI cut arising from an infeasible basis

Lift-and-Project Cut as GMI from Alternative Basis

- In our earlier example. the inequality $x_1 \leq 5$ dominates $3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 26$, but the latter was generated from the current basis.
- With respect to the basic solution $(5.8, 4.8)$, we obtain the cut $x_1 \leq 5$ as a GMI cut.

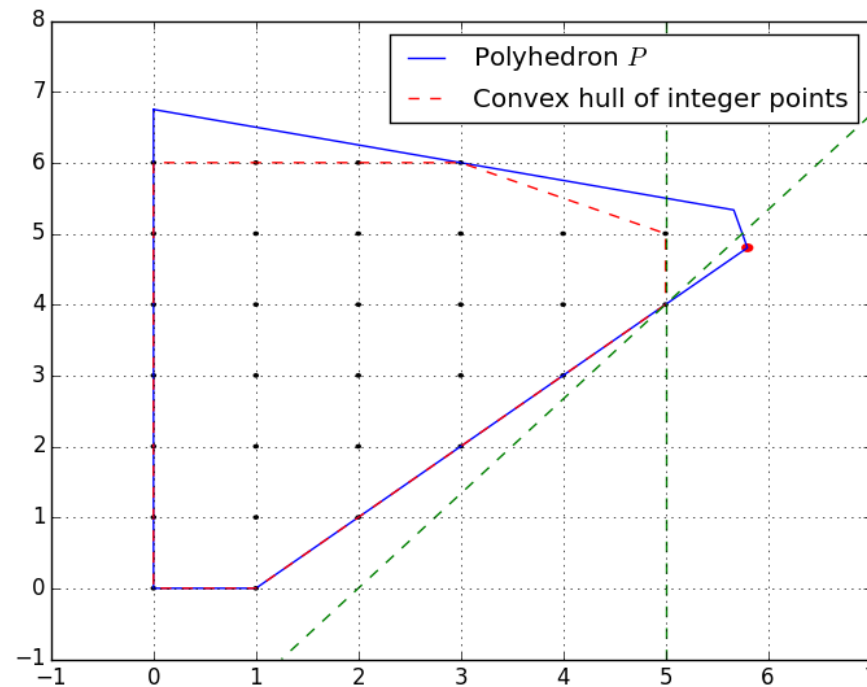


Figure 9: GMI cut arising from an alternative basis

Another Derivation for Binary Optimization

- Consider the following procedure:
 - 1: Select $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$.
 - 2: Generate the nonlinear system $x_j(Ax - b) \geq 0$, $(1 - x_j)(Ax - b) \geq 0$.
 - 3: Linearize the system by substituting y_i for $x_i x_j$, $i \neq j$, and x_j for x_j^2 .
Call this polyhedron M_j .
 - 4: Project M_j onto the x -space.
- In this case, the resulting polyhedron is again \mathcal{P}_j .
- This procedure can be strengthened in a number of different ways.

The Lift-and-Project Closure

- The lift-and-project closure is

$$\mathcal{P}^1 = \cap_{j=1}^n \mathcal{P}_j$$

- We have just shown that optimization over this closure can be accomplished in polynomial time.
- Let \mathcal{P}^k be the lift-and-project closure of \mathcal{P}^{k-1} for $k > 1$.
- The lift-and-project rank of \mathcal{P} is the smallest number k such that $\mathcal{P}^k = \text{conv}(\mathcal{S})$.
- Surprisingly, the lift-and-project rank is bounded by n in the binary and mixed binary case.

Example: Lift and Project Closure

We consider the polyhedron \mathcal{P} in two dimensions defined by the constraints

$$-8x_1 + 30x_2 \leq 115$$

$$-2x_1 - 4x_2 \leq -5$$

$$-14x_1 + 8x_2 \leq 1$$

$$2x_1 - 36x_2 \leq -5$$

$$30x_1 - 8x_2 \leq 191$$

$$10x_1 + 10x_2 \leq 127$$

Lift-and-Project Closure for Example

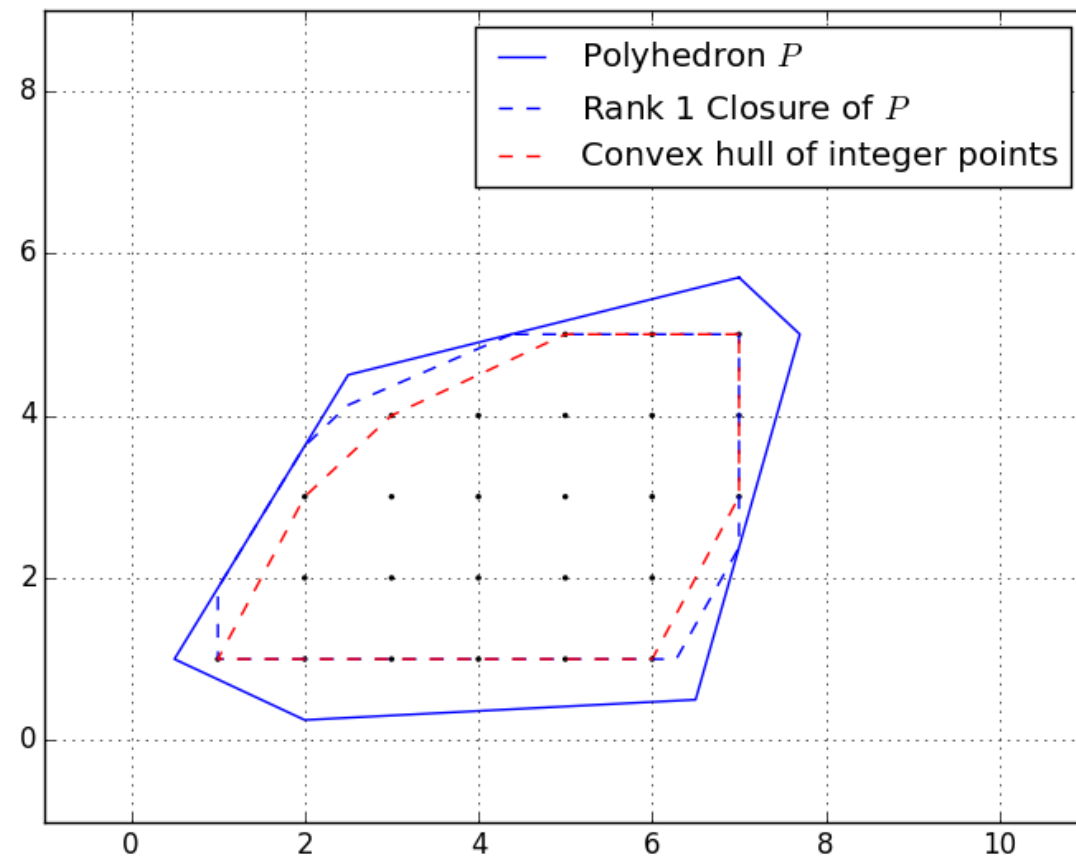


Figure 10: Lift-and-project closure for example

The GMI closure

- A GMI cut with respect to a polyhedron \mathcal{P} is any cut that can be derived using the GMI procedure starting from any inequality valid for \mathcal{P} .
- The GMI closure is obtained by adding all GMI cuts to the description of \mathcal{P} .
- The GMI closure is a polyhedron, but in contrast to the lift-and-project closure, optimizing over it is difficult (\mathcal{NP} -hard).
 - This seems like a paradox, since we have shown that most-violated GMI cuts are easy to generate.
 - This is only the case, however, for basic solutions to the LP relaxation—separating arbitrary points is difficult in general.
- The *GMI rank* of both valid inequalities and polyhedra can be defined in a fashion similar to that of the C-G rank (more on this later).

The GMI Closure and the Split Closure

- The *split closure* is the set of points satisfying all possible split cuts and is a polyhedron.
- Every split cut is also a GMI cut and vice versa.
- The split closure and the GMI closure are therefore *identical*.
- As expected, the GMI cut corresponding to a given split cut is not necessarily one that can be derived from a basic solution to the LP relaxation.
- We can define the *split rank* of an inequality and of a polyhedron as before.
- In the pure integer case, the split rank (and GMI rank) of \mathcal{P} is finite, but it may not be in the mixed case.
- In the mixed binary case, the split rank is bounded by n .

Aside: Selection Criteria

- The criteria by which we select cuts has a big impact on the overall effectiveness.
- We will see later that we in fact need two different kinds of selection criteria: one for generating cuts and one for choosing which cuts to add.
- We typically use bound improvement as a rough criteria when selecting disjunctions for branching, but we often use degree of violation with cuts.
- Why the difference?
- One simple answer is that degree of violation is a linear objective with respect to the cut generating LP.
- Generating cuts according to other criteria seems to be more difficult.
- See
<http://coral.ie.lehigh.edu/~ted/files/talks/DisjunctionINFORMS12.pdf>
<http://coral.ie.lehigh.edu/~jeff/mip-2006/posters/Fukasawa.pdf>