

A PARALLEL CONIC INTERIOR POINT DECOMPOSITION APPROACH FOR BLOCK-ANGULAR SEMIDEFINITE PROGRAMS

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Conic programming

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(P)} & \max c^T x \\ & \text{s.t. } Ax = b \\ & x \in \mathcal{K} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(D)} & \min b^T y \\ & \text{s.t. } A^T y - s = c \\ & s \in \mathcal{K} \end{array}$$

where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{K}_r$

- $r = 1, \mathcal{K} = \mathbb{R}_+^n = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x \geq 0\}$ **LP**
Very large LPs ($m, n \leq \mathbf{1,000,000}$) solvable by the simplex method and/or IPMs.
- $\mathcal{K}_i = \mathbb{Q}_+^{n_i} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i} : x_1 \geq \|x_{2:n_i}\|\}$ **SOCP**
Large SOCPs ($m, n \leq \mathbf{100,000}$) solvable by IPMs.
- $\mathcal{K}_i = \mathcal{S}_+^{n_i} = \{X \in \mathcal{S}^{n_i} : X \succeq 0\}$ **SDP**
Medium sized SDPs ($m, n \leq \mathbf{1000}$) solvable by IPMs.
(Beyond 10,000 seems impossible today!)

Every convex program is a conic problem

1. Consider the following convex program with $B \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} & x^T B^T B x + a^T x + b \leq 0 \\ & x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

2. Observe

$$x^T B^T B x + a^T x + b \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow u \succeq_Q 0, \text{ with}$$

$$u_1 = \frac{1 - a^T x - b}{2} \text{ and } u_{2:k+2} = \begin{pmatrix} Bx \\ \frac{1 + a^T x + b}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

3. This gives the conic problem

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & c^T x + 0^T u \\ \text{s.t.} & \begin{pmatrix} B & 0 & -I & 0 \\ -a^T & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ a^T & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ u_1 \\ u_{2:k+1} \\ u_{k+2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1+b}{2} \\ \frac{1-b}{2} \end{pmatrix} \\ & x \geq 0, u \succeq_Q 0 \end{array}$$

Semidefinite programming

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(SDP)} & \max C \bullet X \\ & \text{s.t. } \mathcal{A}(X) = b \\ & X \succeq 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(SDD)} & \min b^T y \\ & \text{s.t. } \mathcal{A}^T y - S = C \\ & S \succeq 0 \end{array}$$

• Notation

- $X, S, C \in \mathcal{S}^n, b \in \mathbb{R}^m$
- $A \bullet B = \text{trace}(AB) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{ij}B_{ij}$ (Frobenius inner product)
- The operator $\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{S}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ and its adjoint $\mathcal{A}^T : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathcal{S}^n$ are

$$\mathcal{A}(X) = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 \bullet X \\ \vdots \\ A_m \bullet X \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{A}^T y = \sum_{i=1}^m y_i A_i$$

where $A_i \in \mathcal{S}^n, i = 1, \dots, m$

Motivation

- (a) Exploit the **sparsity** and/or **symmetry** in the underlying SDP and pre-process it into an equivalent SDP having a **block angular structure**.
- (b) Solve block-angular SDP **iteratively** between a **conic master problem** over linear and smaller dimensional semidefinite cones; and **decomposed and distributed subproblems** (smaller SDPs) in a parallel high performance computing environment.
- (c) Improve the **scalability** of interior point methods (IPMs) by applying them instead on the smaller master problem, and subproblems (which are solved in parallel!)

This is our **parallel conic interior point decomposition** scheme.

Example 1: Combinatorial Optimization

1. Consider the following integer quadratic program

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & x^T L x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_i \in \{-1, 1\}^n, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

2. Setting $X = x x^T$, gives an **equivalent** formulation

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & L \bullet X \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X_{ii} = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\ & X \succeq 0 \\ & \text{rank}(X) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

3. Dropping the rank constraint gives an SDP **relaxation**

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & L \bullet X \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X_{ii} = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\ & X \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

4. **Goemans and Williamson** developed an 0.878 approximation algorithm for the maxcut problem which uses this SDP relaxation.

Example 2: Polynomial Optimization: 1

1. Consider the problem of minimizing Rosenbrock's function

$$\min \begin{aligned} & (1 - x_1)^2 + 100(x_2 - x_1^2)^2 = \\ & 100x_1^4 - 200x_1^2x_2 + 100x_2^2 + x_1^2 - 2x_1 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

2. Consider all monomials in two variables x_1 and x_2 with degree less than or equal to 4.
3. We associate each monomial in the function with a new variable, i.e., $x_1 = y_{10}$, $x_2 = y_{01}$, $x_1^2 = y_{20}$, $x_1x_2 = y_{11}$, \dots , $x_2^4 = y_{04}$ etc.
4. y_{ij} satisfy non-convex relations such as $y_{10}y_{01} = y_{11}$, $y_{10}y_{10} = y_{20}$ etc.
5. We relax these relations with the following constraint

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & y_{10} & y_{01} & y_{20} & y_{11} & y_{02} \\ y_{10} & y_{20} & y_{11} & y_{30} & y_{21} & y_{12} \\ y_{01} & y_{11} & y_{02} & y_{21} & y_{12} & y_{03} \\ y_{20} & y_{30} & y_{21} & y_{40} & y_{31} & y_{22} \\ y_{11} & y_{21} & y_{12} & y_{31} & y_{22} & y_{13} \\ y_{02} & y_{12} & y_{03} & y_{22} & y_{13} & y_{04} \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

Example 2: Polynomial Optimization: 2

1. Consider the following relaxation

$$\begin{array}{l} \min \quad 100y_{40} - 200y_{21} + 100y_{02} + y_{20} - 2y_{10} + 1 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & y_{10} & y_{01} & y_{20} & y_{11} & y_{02} \\ y_{10} & y_{20} & y_{11} & y_{30} & y_{21} & y_{12} \\ y_{01} & y_{11} & y_{02} & y_{21} & y_{12} & y_{03} \\ y_{20} & y_{30} & y_{21} & y_{40} & y_{31} & y_{22} \\ y_{11} & y_{21} & y_{12} & y_{31} & y_{22} & y_{13} \\ y_{02} & y_{12} & y_{03} & y_{22} & y_{13} & y_{04} \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \end{array}$$

2. This is an SDP with $m = 14$ and $n = 6$. Solution gives the global minimum $x^* = (1, 1)$ with objective value 0.
3. Develop a hierarchy of relaxations as follows: The next relaxation contains all monomials in x_1 and x_2 of degree upto 6, i.e., y_{10}, \dots, y_{06} .
4. The objective values of the SDPs in the hierarchy converge to the global minimum value of the polynomial optimization problem. There is also a solution extraction scheme ([Lasserre, Henrion & Lasserre](#)).

Semidefinite programs with a decomposable structure

1. **Preprocessed SDPs after matrix completion:**
Fukuda-Kojima-Nakata-Murota (2000)
2. **Control and stability analysis of interconnected subsystems:**
Langbort-D'Andrea-Xiao-Boyd (2003)
3. **Stochastic semidefinite programs:** Mehrotra-Ozëvin (2005)
4. **Polynomial optimization problems with symmetry/sparsity:**
Parrilo-Gatermann (2004), Waki-Kim-Kojima-Muramatsu (2005)
5. **Exploiting group symmetry in SDPs:**
Kanno et al. (2001), Parrilo-Gatermann (2004), De Klerk et al. (2005)

Semidefinite programming with block angular structure

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \sum_{i=1}^r C_i \bullet X_i \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^r \mathcal{A}_i(X_i) = b \\ & X_i \in \mathcal{C}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, r \end{aligned}$$

• Notes

- $X_i, C_i \in \mathcal{S}^{n_i}, b \in \mathbb{R}^m$.
- $\mathcal{C}_i = \{X_i : \mathcal{B}_i(X_i) = d_i, X_i \succeq 0\}$ - compact semidefinite feasibility sets.
- The objective function and coupling constraints are **block separable**.
- In the absence of coupling constraints, solve r independent problems

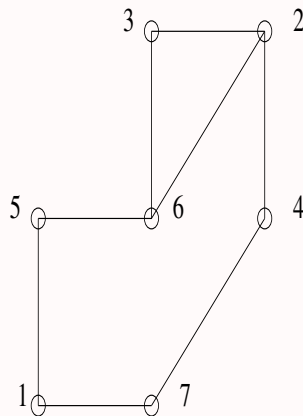
$$\max_{X_i \in \mathcal{C}_i} C_i \bullet X_i$$

Exploiting sparsity to get block-angular SDPs: 1

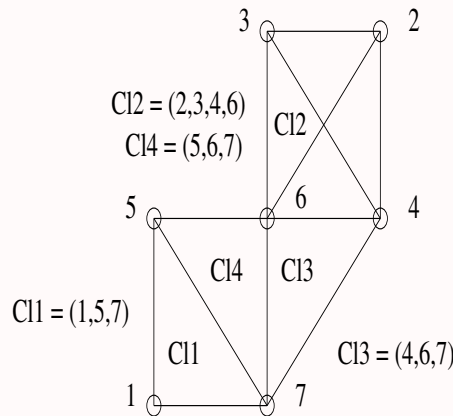
Consider the SDP

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & L \bullet X \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X_{ii} = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \\ & X \succeq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where L is the adjacency matrix of the graph



GRAPH



CHORDAL EXTENSION OF GRAPH

Exploiting sparsity: 2

Using **matrix completion**, one can reformulate the earlier SDP as

$$\max \sum_{k=1}^4 (L^k \bullet X^k)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad X_{23}^1 - X_{13}^4 = 0,$$

$$X_{34}^2 - X_{12}^3 = 0,$$

$$X_{23}^3 - X_{23}^4 = 0,$$

$$X_{ii}^k = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, |C_k|, \quad k = 1, \dots, 4,$$

$$X^k \succeq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, 4,$$

which is in **block-angular** form.

Exploiting sparsity: 3

1. Construct the aggregate sparsity graph $G = (V, E)$ from data matrices $A_0 = C$ and $A_i, i = 1, \dots, m$ of SDP. We have $V = \{1, \dots, n\}$ and

$$E = \{(i, j) \in V \times V : \exists k \in \{0, 1, \dots, m\} \text{ s.t. } (A_k)_{ij} \neq 0\}$$

2. Construct a minimal **chordal** extension $G' = (V, E')$ of $G = (V, E)$.
3. Find maximal cliques $Cl_i, i = 1, \dots, k$ in $G' = (V, E')$. We have

$$X \succeq 0 \Leftrightarrow X_{Cl_i, Cl_i} \succeq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

4. Each block in the block-diagonal SDP corresponds to a maximal clique.
5. Introduce additional equality constraints for common nodes and edges in the cliques ; for instance if cliques Cl_k and Cl_l share a common edge $\{i, j\}$ then $X_{ij}^k = X_{ij}^l$ etc.
6. In some special cases, the resulting block-diagonal SDP has a block-angular form.

Exploiting symmetry to get block-angular SDPs: 1

1. We are given a finite group G , elements $g \in G$ and its representation $\rho(g) : G \rightarrow GL(\mathcal{R}^n)$ (the set of real invertible matrices of size n). Also, assume $\rho(g)$ to be an orthogonal matrix.
2. We say that a SDP has the symmetry of group G if
 - (a) X feasible in the SDP implies $\rho(g)^T X \rho(g)$ is feasible too.
 - (b) $C\rho(g) = \rho(g)C, \forall g \in G$.
3. In this case, one can add the constraints

$$\rho(g)X = X\rho(g), \forall g \in G$$

to the SDP without changing its objective value. So, C and X commute with every representation $\sigma(g)$ of G .

4. **Schur's theorem** suggests that one can compute a symmetry adapted basis T (an orthogonal matrix) such that $T^T C T$ and $T^T X T$ are **block-diagonal**.

Exploiting symmetry: 2

1. This gives an equivalent SDP

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \sum_{i=1}^r n_i (C_i \bullet X_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^r \mathcal{A}_i(X_i) = b \\ & X_i \succeq 0 \quad i = 1, \dots, r \end{aligned}$$

where r is the number of irreducible representations of G and n_i is the dimension of the i th irreducible representation. Also, $X_i \in \mathcal{S}^{m_i}$ where m_i is the multiplicity of the i th irreducible representation in $\sigma(g)$.

2. In most cases, the above block-diagonal SDP is actually in block-angular form.
3. In some cases, $m_i = 1, \forall i$ and the SDP reduces to an LP.

Exploiting symmetry: 3

1. Consider the SDP

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & -X_{11} + X_{22} + X_{33} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X_{12} = X_{13} \\ & \text{trace}(X) = 1 \\ & X \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

2. SDP unchanged under a simultaneous permutation of the last two rows and columns of X , i.e., has the symmetry of the permutation group S_2 .

3. S_2 has two 1 dimensional irreducible representations 1 and -1 with multiplicities 2 and 1 in $\sigma(g)$ respectively

4. Apply a symmetry adapted transformation to get

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & -X_{11}^1 + X_{22}^1 + X^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \text{trace}(X^1) + X^2 = 1 \\ & X^1 \succeq 0 \\ & X^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

an SDP with a semidefinite cone of size 2 and a linear cone of size 1.

The Lagrangian dual problem

- The Lagrangian dual problem is

$$\min_y \theta(y) = b^T y + \sum_{i=1}^r \theta_i(y)$$

where

$$\theta_i(y) = \max_{X_i \in \mathcal{C}_i} (C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y) \bullet X_i$$

- Dual is an unconstrained **convex** but **nonsmooth** problem.
- Given y^k , we have $\theta(y^k) = b^T y^k + \sum_{i=1}^r (C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y^k) \bullet X_i^k$

and a subgradient $g(y^k) = (b - \sum_{i=1}^r \mathcal{A}_i(X_i^k))$ where

$$X_i^k = \operatorname{argmax}_{X_i \in \mathcal{C}_i} (C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y^k) \bullet X_i$$

(these can be computed in parallel!)

Solving the Lagrangian dual

1. Construct a model $\theta^k(y)$ an **underestimate** for $\theta(y)$

$$\theta^k(y) = b^T y + \sum_{i=1}^r \max_{j=1, \dots, J^k(i)} (C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y) \bullet X_i^j$$

from the function values and subgradient information.

2. The **regularized** master problem then is

$$\min_y \theta^k(y) + \frac{u^k}{2} \|y - x^k\|^2$$

where $u^k \geq 0$ and x^k is our current center (best iterate so far!)

3. The dual to this quadratic program (much easier to solve!) is

$$\max -\frac{1}{2u^k} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{j=1}^{J^k(i)} \mathcal{A}_i(X_i^j) \lambda_i^j - b \right\|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{j=1}^{J^k(i)} ((C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T x^k) \bullet X_i^j) \lambda_i^j$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{j=1}^{J^k(i)} \lambda_i^j = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, r$$

$$\lambda_i^j \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, r, \quad j = 1, \dots, J^k(i).$$

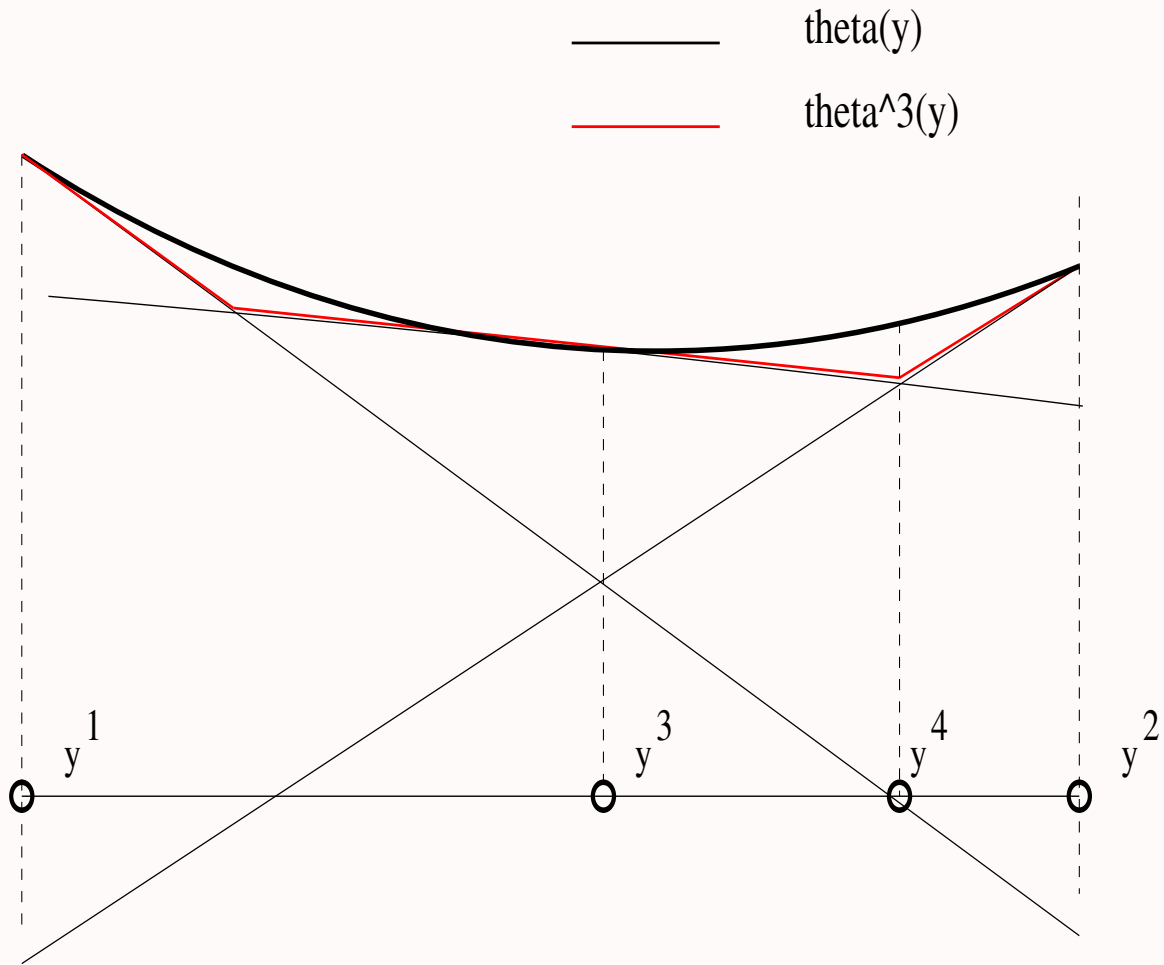


Figure 1: Solving the Lagrangian dual problem

The complete algorithm

1. **Initialize:** Set $k = 1$, $J^1(i) = \phi$, $z_i^1 = -\infty$, $i = 1, \dots, r$. Choose $u^1 > 0$, $y^1 \in \mathbb{R}^m$; and set $x^1 = y^1$, and $\theta^1(y^1) = -\infty$.
2. **Solve subproblems in parallel:** For $i = 1, \dots, r$, solve i th subproblem with $y = y^k$ for optimal objective value $\theta_i(y^k)$.
3. **Update model function:** If $\theta_i(y^k) > z_i^k$, update the i th model function $\theta_i^{k+1}(y)$ and set $J^k(i) = J^{k-1}(i) \cup \{k\}$. Else, $J^k(i) = J^{k-1}(i)$.
4. **Update the center x^k :** If $k = 1$ or if

$$\theta(y^k) \leq (1 - \gamma)\theta(x^{k-1}) + \gamma\theta^k(y^k)$$

then set $x^k = y^k$ (serious step); otherwise set $x^k = x^{k-1}$ (null step).

5. **Solve master problem:** Solve dual master QP for λ_i^j and $z^{k+1} = (z_1^{k+1}, \dots, z_r^{k+1})$ (dual variables). Compute y^{k+1} using

$$y^{k+1} = x^k + \frac{1}{u^k} (\sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{j=1}^{J^k(i)} \mathcal{A}_i(X_i^j) \lambda_i^j - b)$$

and let $\theta^{k+1}(y^{k+1}) = b^T y^{k+1} + \sum_{i=1}^r z_i^{k+1}$. If $\theta^{k+1}(y^{k+1}) = \theta(x^k)$, we are done! Else, set $k = k + 1$ and return to Step 2.

General case: Conic master problem

1. For some blocks, $\mathcal{C}_i = \{X_i : \text{trace}(X_i) = 1, X_i \succeq 0\}$. We will assume that the first s of the r blocks are of this type.

2. The function $\theta(y)$ is

$$\theta(y) = b^T y + \sum_{i=1}^s \lambda_{\max}(C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y) + \sum_{i=s+1}^r \max_{X_i \in \mathcal{C}_i} (C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y) \bullet X_i$$

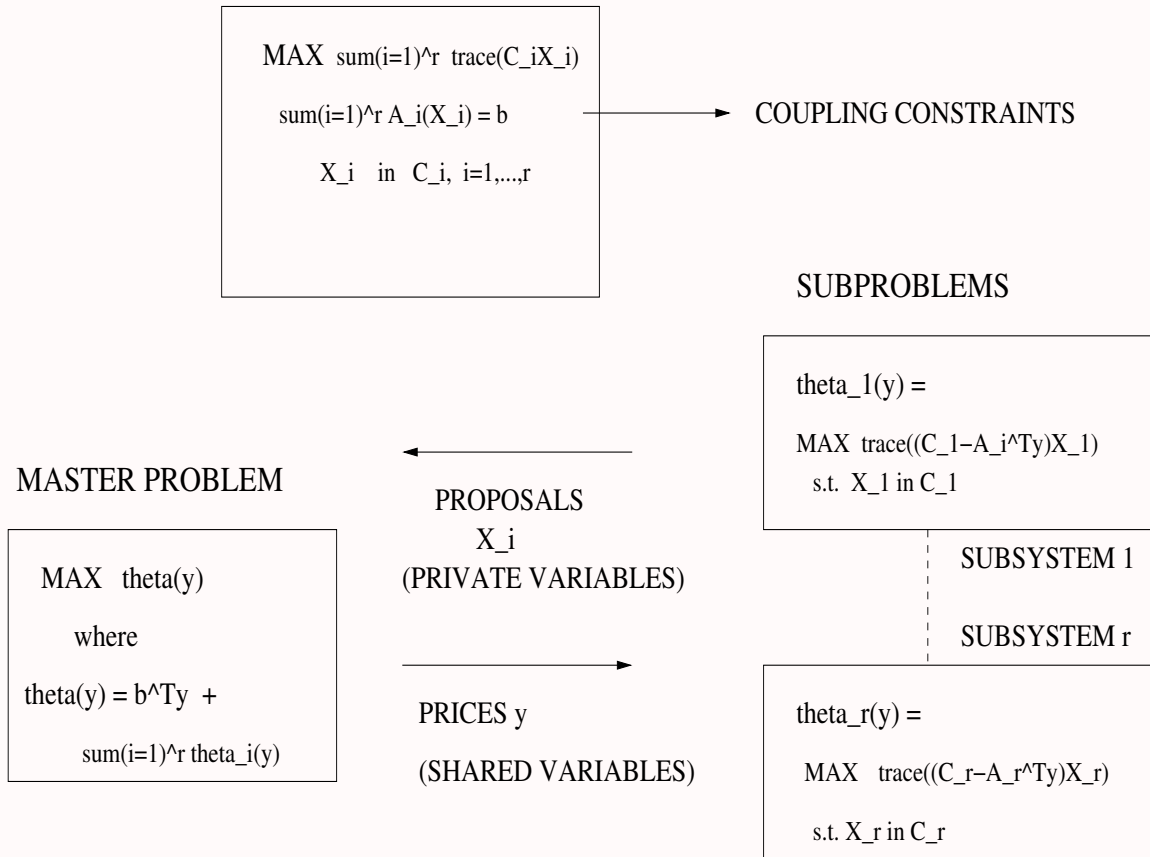
3. For the first s blocks, the subproblem is **Lanczos** solver that computes the maximum eigenvalue of $(C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y)$ and its associated eigenspace (fast and very easy to implement!).

4. Our model function $\theta^k(y)$ is then

$$\theta^k(y) = b^T y + \sum_{i=1}^s \max_{j=1, \dots, J^k(i)} \lambda_{\max}(P_i^j (C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y) P_i^j) + \sum_{i=s+1}^r \max_{j=1, \dots, J^k(i)} (C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y) \bullet X_i^j$$

where P_i^j contains the eigenspace associated with $\lambda_{\max}(C_i - \mathcal{A}_i^T y^j)$.

5. This gives rise to a master problem which is a quadratic conic problem over linear, and smaller dimensional semidefinite cones.



C_i are convex sets defined by LMIs

Figure 2: Decomposition by prices

Computational Results: 1

- Results on the IBM Blade Center Linux Cluster (Henry2) at NC State.
- Each of the 175 nodes is a 2.8-3.2 GHz processor with 4 GB of memory.
- Our code is in C and uses MPI for interprocessor communication.
- CPLEX 9.0 used to solve the master problem and CSDP 5.0 ([Borchers](#)) used to solve the subproblems.
- 3 digits of accuracy or an upper limit of 2 hours in computations.
- Used updating scheme due to [Kiwiel](#) to adjust the weight u .
- Employed aggregation scheme of [Kiwiel](#) to limit size of master problem.
- Warm-start master problem and subproblems.
- Tested on SDPs from SDPLIB and DIMACS repositories.
- Details can be found in [Sivaramakrishnan \(2006\)](#).

Computational Results: 2

Prob	n	Opt value	n_p	m_p	p	Our UB	Time (h:m:s)
mcp124-1	124	141.99	60(6)	172(43)	6	142.05	2
mcp250-1	250	317.26	176(9)	381(124)	9	317.36	34
mcp500-1	500	598.15	204(63)	1584(951)	10	598.71	38
maxG11	800	629.16	216(4)	1208(360)	4	629.51	47
maxG11	800	629.16	176(38)	2324(1228)	4	629.41	2:26
maxG51	1000	4003.81	971(24)	1677(517)	10	4008.95	38:5
maxG32	2000	1567.64	1022(3)	2830(786)	3	1568.78	8:46
maxG32	2000	1567.64	526(8)	5310(3143)	4	1568.57	15:46
qpG11	1600	2448.66	432(4)	1256(408)	4	2450.32	2:48
qpG11	1600	2448.66	254(83)	4515(3068)	8	2450.21	2:2
qpG32	4000	6226.55	1054(14)	5566(3370)	10	6229.84	31:28
qpG32	4000	6226.55	432(97)	16402(13318)	10	6229.88	47:44

Timing results

Prob	n_p	m_p	p	Serious steps	Null steps	Master (h:m:s)	Subproblem (h:m:s)
maxG11	216(4)	1208(360)	4	7	29	1	46
maxG11	176(38)	2324(1228)	4	13	65	21	2:05
maxG32	1022(3)	2830(786)	3	5	6	1	8:45
maxG32	526(8)	5310(3143)	4	11	50	30	15:15
qpG11	432(4)	1256(408)	4	7	16	1	2:47
qpG11	254(83)	4515(3068)	4	13	32	19	2:56
qpG32	1054(14)	5566(3370)	10	9	67	25	31.03
qpG32	432(97)	16402(13318)	10	15	160	30:04	17.40

Scalability of algorithm on test problems on up to 8 processors

Prob	n_p	m_p	1	2	4	8
maxG11	216(4)	1208(360)	2:47	1:28	47	-
maxG11	176(38)	2324(1228)	4:44	4:1	2:26	1:47
maxG32	1022(3)	2830(786)	14:47	8:46	-	-
maxG32	526(8)	5310(3143)	56:23	29:18	15:46	-
qpG11	432(4)	1256(408)	7:33	4:28	2:28	-
qpG11	254(83)	4515(3068)	6:24	4:8	2:21	2:2

Thank you for your attention!.

Questions, Comments, Suggestions ?

The slides from this talk are available online at
[http://www4.ncsu.edu/~kksivara/
publications/kartik-umn.pdf](http://www4.ncsu.edu/~kksivara/publications/kartik-umn.pdf)

A technical report appears at
[http://www4.ncsu.edu/~kksivara/
publications/parallel-conic-blockangular.pdf](http://www4.ncsu.edu/~kksivara/publications/parallel-conic-blockangular.pdf)

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