

Advanced linear programming

Lagrangian relaxation (ILP duality)

Marjan van den Akker



Lagrangian relaxation

- can be viewed as ILP duality
- gives a bound at least as good as the linear programming relaxation
- Today:
 - Strength of Lagrangian dual
 - Knapsack example



Lagrangian relaxation

'Nasty'
constraints

$$Z_{IP} : \min cx$$

$$Ax \geq b$$

$$Dx \geq d$$

x integer

Lagrangian subproblem

$$p \geq 0:$$

$$\longrightarrow Z(p) : \min cx + p(b - Ax)$$

$$Dx \geq d$$

x integer

We do a minimization problem!

$$Z(p) \leq Z_{IP}$$

$$Z_{LP} = \min\{cx \mid Ax \geq b, Dx \geq d\}$$

You may violate
the constraints
but this has cost



Lagrangean relaxation (2)

$$Z_D : \max_{p \geq 0} Z(p)$$

Lagrangean dual

$$X = \{x \mid Dx \geq d, x \text{ integer}\}$$

Theorem: Z_D is equal to

$$\min cx$$

$$Ax \geq b$$

$$x \in \text{CH}(X) \text{ (i.e. convex hull of } X \text{)}$$

$$\text{Corollary: } Z_{LP} \leq Z_D \leq Z_{IP}$$

Corollary:

if $\text{CH}(x) = \{x \mid Dx \geq d\}$ (integrality redundant in subproblem), then $Z_D = Z_{LP}$

In general Z_D can be solved by the subgradient method.



Knapsack problem

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n c_j x_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j \leq B \\ & x_j \in \{0,1\} \end{aligned}$$

We now do a maximization problem!

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{IP} &\leq Z_D \leq Z_{LP} \\ \text{actually, } Z_D &\equiv Z_{LP} \end{aligned}$$

We can
check this.

Let $\lambda \geq 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} L(\lambda) = \max \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n c_j x_j + \lambda(B - \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j) \\ & x_j \in \{0,1\} \end{aligned}$$

$$Z_{IP} \leq L(\lambda)$$

Lagrangian dual (best bound):

$$Z_D = \min_{\lambda \geq 0} L(\lambda)$$



Wrap up

- ILP models many combinatorial optimization problems (Ch 10)
- ILP solved by algorithms with LP-relaxations as subproblems
- If constraint matrix TUM: LP-relaxation solves problem
- In general: use branch-and-bound with LP-relaxation as bound (Ch 11.2)
- LP-relaxation can be strengthened by cutting planes
- Results in branch-and-cut:
 - Framework algorithm, many features have to be included
 - This algorithm is used by well-known solvers like CPLEX and Gurobi, GLPK.



Wrap up

Dealing with very large models:

■ Decomposition on LP:

- Column generation = Dantzig Wolfe decomposition = cutting planes in dual (Ch 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4)
 - *Reduces the number of constraints at the cost of a very large number of variables, but you only add the necessary ones*
- Benders decomposition = Dantzig Wolfe decomposition in dual (Ch 6.5)
 - *Reduces the number of variables at the cost of a very large number of constraints, but you only add the necessary ones*

■ Decomposition on ILP:

- Lagrangean relaxation (Ch 11.4)

