



Generalized Disjunctive Programming: Helping Creative Researchers Develop Efficient Models Systematically

Pedro M. Castro



INVESTIGADOR
FCT

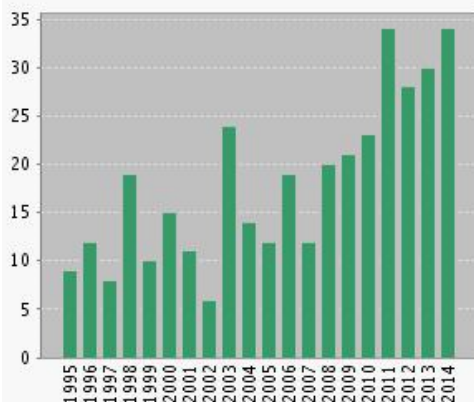


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Ignacio's citation report



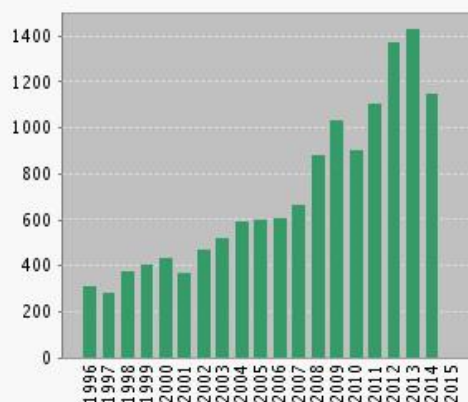
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- ☐ 1. **AN OUTER-APPROXIMATION ALGORITHM FOR A CLASS OF MIXED-INTEGER NONLINEAR PROGRAMS**
By: DURAN, MA; GROSSMANN, IE
MATHEMATICAL PROGRAMMING Volume: 36 Issue: 3 Pages: 307-339 Published: DEC 1986
- ☐ 2. **A COMBINED PENALTY-FUNCTION AND OUTER-APPROXIMATION METHOD FOR MINLP OPTIMIZATION**
By: VISWANATHAN, J; GROSSMANN, IE
COMPUTERS & CHEMICAL ENGINEERING Volume: 14 Issue: 7 Pages: 769-782 Published: JUL 1990
- ☐ 3. **SIMULTANEOUS-OPTIMIZATION MODELS FOR HEAT INTEGRATION .2. HEAT-EXCHANGER NETWORK SYNTHESIS**
By: YEE, TF; GROSSMANN, IE
COMPUTERS & CHEMICAL ENGINEERING Volume: 14 Issue: 10 Pages: 1165-1184 Published: OCT 1990
- ☐ 4. **A STRUCTURAL OPTIMIZATION APPROACH IN PROCESS SYNTHESIS .2. HEAT-RECOVERY NETWORKS**
By: PAPOULIAS, SA; GROSSMANN, IE
COMPUTERS & CHEMICAL ENGINEERING Volume: 7 Issue: 6 Pages: 707-721 Published: 1983
- ☐ 5. **State-of-the-art review of optimization methods for short-term scheduling of batch processes**
By: Mendez, Carlos A.; Cerda, Jaime; Grossmann, Ignacio E.; et al.
COMPUTERS & CHEMICAL ENGINEERING Volume: 30 Issue: 6-7 Pages: 913-946 Published: MAY 15 2006

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total	Average Citations per Year
1108	1378	1432	1152	4	14855	412.64
17	38	28	28	0	432	14.90
15	21	21	11	0	393	15.72
25	27	35	31	0	329	13.16
15	19	20	15	0	294	9.19
35	44	38	31	0	281	31.22

Impact of my publications with Ignacio



• My contribution to Ignacio's h-index (64)

☐	88.	Two new continuous-time models for the scheduling of multistage batch plants with sequence dependent changeovers By: Castro, Pedro M.; Grossmann, Ignacio E.; Novais, Augusto Q. INDUSTRIAL & ENGINEERING CHEMISTRY RESEARCH Volume: 45 Issue: 18 Pages: 6210-6226 Published: AUG 30 2006	13	5	4	5	0	51	5.67
☐	91.	New continuous-time MILP model for the short-term scheduling of multistage batch plants By: Castro, PM; Grossmann, IE INDUSTRIAL & ENGINEERING CHEMISTRY RESEARCH Volume: 44 Issue: 24 Pages: 9175-9190 Published: NOV 23 2005	8	5	3	3	0	50	5.00

– Zero!

Solid paper!

• Maybe we have just a few joint papers?

– False! I am #3 in co-authors list

• How about Ignacio's impact on my papers?

☐	1.	Simple continuous-time formulation for short-term scheduling of batch and continuous processes By: Castro, PM; Barbosa-Povoa, AP; Matos, HA; et al. INDUSTRIAL & ENGINEERING CHEMISTRY RESEARCH Volume: 43 Issue: 1 Pages: 105-118 Published: JAN 7 2004	9	12	4	5	0	88	8.00
☐	2.	An improved RTN continuous-time formulation for the short-term scheduling of multipurpose batch plants By: Castro, P; Barbosa-Povoa, APFD; Matos, H INDUSTRIAL & ENGINEERING CHEMISTRY RESEARCH Volume: 40 Issue: 9 Pages: 2059-2068 Published: MAY 2 2001	5	3	5	5	0	84	6.00
☐	3.	Improvements for mass-exchange networks design By: Castro, P; Matos, H; Fernandes, MC; et al. CHEMICAL ENGINEERING SCIENCE Volume: 54 Issue: 11 Pages: 1649-1665 Published: JUN 1999	5	5	9	2	0	63	3.94

- ☐ GROSSMANN IE (460)
- ☐ CABALLERO JA (31)
- ☐ MARTIN M (26)
- ☐ CASTRO PM (18)
- ☐ BIEGLER LT (16)
- ☐ KRAVANJA Z (15)

– My top 3 papers? Before I met him!

My research work with Ignacio



- First met him in 2004
 - ESCAPE-14, 16-19 May, Portugal
- Visiting researcher to CMU
 - Sep 2004 - Jul 2005
 - Scheduling of single & multistage batch plants
 - Continuous-time, Multiple time grids, Constraint Programming, Hybrid MILP/CP
 - Ago-Dec 2008
 - Scheduling of batch & continuous plants
 - Time-dependent electricity costs, Decomposition methods, Dinkelbach algorithm
 - Oct-Nov 2011
 - Multiparametric Disaggregation Technique (lower bound)
 - Development of continuous-time models from GDP
 - Oct-Nov 2013
 - Global optimal scheduling of crude oil blending operations
 - Planning & Scheduling I, Thursday, 1:33 PM, Hilton 406-407

Heuristics for efficient MILP models



- Amongst valid choices pick exactly one (exclusive OR)
 - $\sum_{i,i \neq j} y_{i,j} = 1 \quad \forall j \quad \sum_{j,i \neq j} y_{i,j} = 1 \quad \forall i$
 - Traveling salesman problem (one arrival & departure from each city)
- Although they look similar
 - Capacity constraints are good
 - $x_i \leq M y_i \quad \forall i$
 - Big-M constraints are bad
 - $x_i - x_{i'} \leq M(1 - y_i) \quad \forall i, i' > i$
- Adding summations makes things tighter
 - $T_{t+1} - T_t \geq \frac{\bar{\xi}_{i,t,t+1}}{\rho_i^{max}} \quad \forall i, t \quad \Rightarrow \quad T_{t+1} - T_t \geq \sum_i \frac{\bar{\mu}_{r,i} \bar{\xi}_{i,t,t+1}}{\rho_i^{max}} \quad \forall r, t$
 - Timing constraints by equipment unit r rather than task i (Castro et al. 2004)
 - Excess resource balances (Pantelides, 1994)

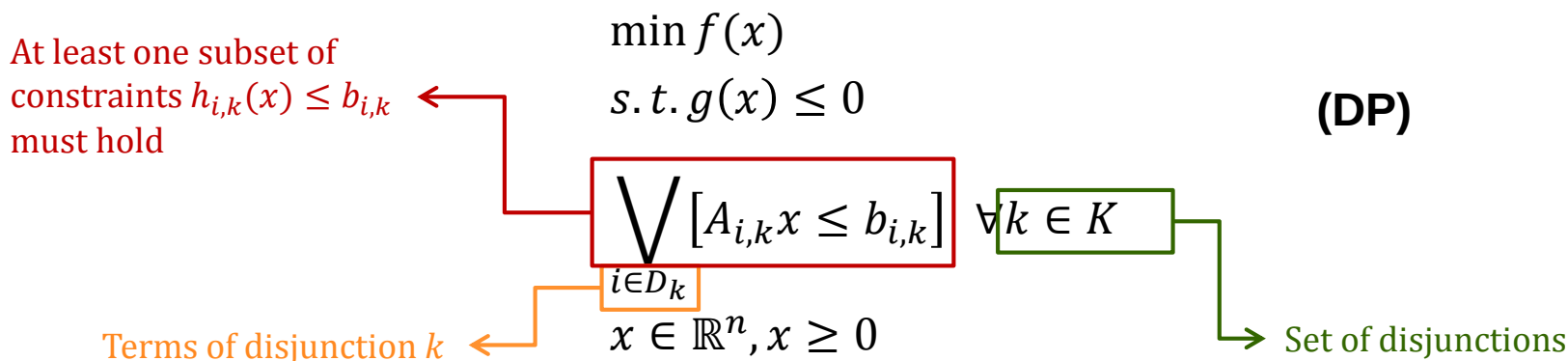
	RMIP	Solution	CPUs
Before	7273	2601	52.2
After	2689		15.6
Before	7361	2638	200,652
After	2695		1913

Generalized Disjunctive Programming: Systematic Modeling Framework to Derive MILPs

Disjunctive Programming (Balas, 1979)



- Most natural & straightforward way of stating problems involving logical conditions
- Any mixed-integer program can be stated as a DP, usually in more than one way
- Various formulations may give rise to linear relaxations of varying strengths
 - Affects computational performance

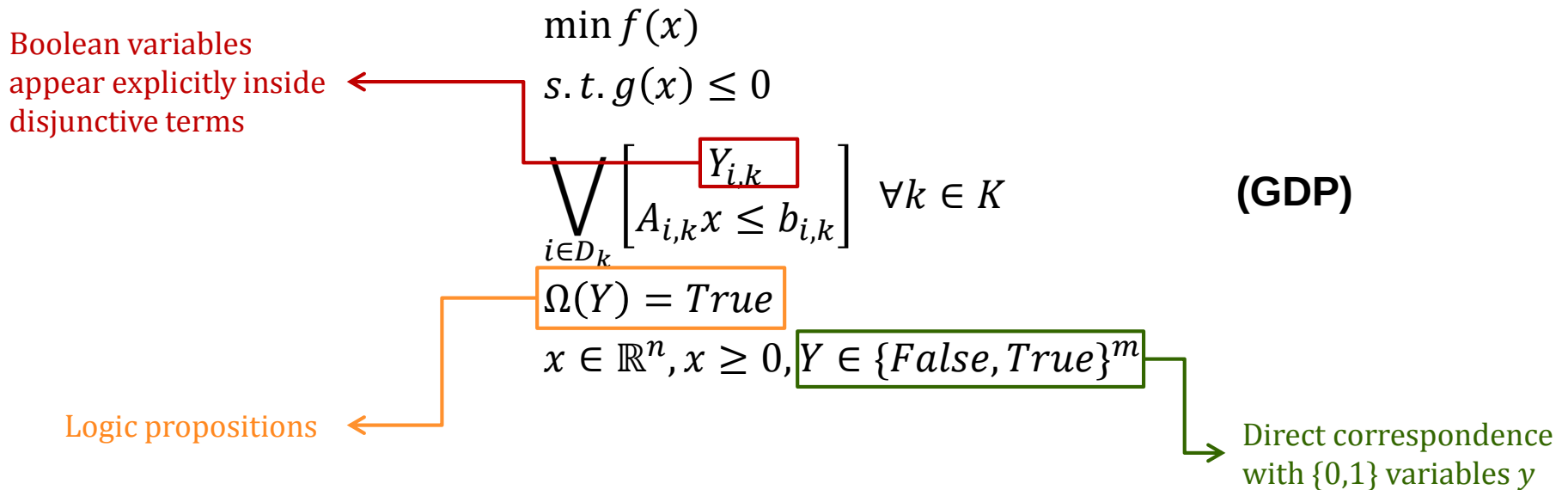


- No 0-1 variables explicitly included in the model

Generalized Disjunctive Programming



- Logic-based modelling framework (Raman & Grossmann, 1994)
 - 220 citations, #8 (web of Science)
- Adds Boolean variables and logic propositions
 - Selection of a given term in a disjunction may affect other constraints
 - Chemical process synthesis (Raman & Grossmann, 1991)



Reformulation of a GDP into MILP



- Disjunctions (Balas, 1985)

- Big-M

- Simplest form but yields poor relaxations

$$A_{i,k}x \leq b_{i,k} + M_{i,k}(1 - y_{i,k}) \quad \forall k \in K, i \in D_k$$

Tightest big-M parameters

$$M_{i,k} = \max\{A_{i,k}x - b_{i,k} : 0 \leq x^L \leq x \leq x^U\} \quad \forall k \in K, i \in D_k$$

- Convex hull

- At least as tight as big-M but increases problem size and is much harder

$$A_{i,k}\hat{x}_{i,k} \leq b_{i,k}y_{i,k} \quad \forall k \in K, i \in D_k$$

Tighter
bounds

$$\hat{x}_{i,k}^L y_{i,k} \leq A_{i,k}\hat{x}_{i,k} \leq \hat{x}_{i,k}^U y_{i,k} \quad \forall k \in K, i \in D_k$$

$$x = \sum_{i \in D_k} \hat{x}_{i,k} \quad \forall k \in K$$

Disaggregated variables
(new set)

- Common constraint

$$\sum_{i \in D_k} y_{i,k} \geq 1 \quad \forall k \in K$$

- Logic propositions

- Replace with linear inequalities (Clocksin & Mellish, 1981)

Remarks about big-M way of modeling

- Used extensively by many researchers

- Avoids bilinear terms

IF $y_{i,k} = 1$ THEN $A_{i,k}x \leq b_{i,k}$



$$A_{i,k}xy_{i,k} \leq b_{i,k}y_{i,k}$$

Holds true
for $y_{i,k} = 0$
regardless
of x



$$A_{i,k}x \leq b_{i,k} + M_{i,k}(1 - y_{i,k})$$

- Few bother to calculate $M_{i,k}$ (global value M used instead)

- Output from big-M reformulation might not be a big-M constraint

- Example from scheduling with multiple time grids (Castro & Grossmann, 2012)

$$\bigvee_i \begin{bmatrix} y_{i,k} \\ x_{k+1} - x_k \geq p_i \\ x_k \geq r_i \end{bmatrix} \forall k$$



$$x_{k+1} - x_k \geq p_i - M_{i,k}^1(1 - y_{i,k}) \forall i, k$$

$$x_k \geq r_i - M_{i,k}^2(1 - y_{i,k}) \forall i, k$$



$$x_{k+1} - x_k \geq p_i \cdot y_{i,k} \forall i, k$$

$$x_k \geq r_i \cdot y_{i,k} \forall i, k$$

But we can infer that

$$M_{i,k}^1 = \max \{x_k - x_{k+1} + p_i : x_k - x_{k+1} \leq 0\} = p_i$$

$$M_{i,k}^2 = \max \{-x_k + r_i : x_k \geq 0\} = r_i$$

Remarks about convex hull reformulation



- Always check if disaggregated variables can be removed
 - Compact or sharp formulation (Jeroslow and Lowe, 1984)
 - Example 1: Modeling a semi-continuous variable
 - Flow in a unit only if the unit is selected from the superstructure

$$\left[x^L \leq x \leq x^U \right] \bigvee \left[x = 0 \right] \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} x = \hat{x}^1 + \hat{x}^2 \\ x^L y \leq \hat{x}^1 \leq x^U y \\ \hat{x}^2 = 0 \cdot (1 - y) \end{array} \Rightarrow x^L y \leq x \leq x^U y$$

- Example 2: Scheduling with multiple time grids revisited

$$\bigvee_i \left[\begin{array}{l} y_{i,k} \\ x_{k+1} - x_k \geq p_i \\ x_k \geq r_i \end{array} \right] \forall k \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} x_k = \sum_i \hat{x}_{k,i,k} \quad \forall k \\ x_{k+1} = \sum_i \hat{x}_{k+1,i,k} \quad \forall k \\ \hat{x}_{k+1,i,k} - \hat{x}_{k,i,k} \geq p_i \cdot y_{i,k} \quad \forall i, k \\ \hat{x}_{k,i,k} \geq r_i \cdot y_{i,k} \quad \forall i, k \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} x_{k+1} - x_k \geq \sum_i p_i \cdot y_{i,k} \quad \forall k \\ x_k \geq \sum_i r_i \cdot y_{i,k} \quad \forall k \end{array}$$

Similar to big-M

CPU's	Big-M (up to 1 h)	Convex hull	Compact Convex hull
EX6	Suboptimal	123	1.53
EX7	No solution	21.6	1.07
EX8	No solution	80.3	1.80
EX9	No solution	63.3	0.59
EX10	No solution	213	3.91

$$\sum_i y_{i,k} = 1 \quad \forall k \rightarrow \text{Shared by convex hull \& compact convex hull}$$

Advantages of modeling with GDP



- GDP model much easier to understand
 - Constraints
 - In their simplest (linear) form
 - Fewer in number
 - Particularly relevant for complex problems
 - Not uncommon to find research papers featuring MILP models with 50-100 constraints, mostly big-M
 - How can one assess model efficiency?
- Conversion to MILP format can be automated
 - LogMIP for GAMS (Vecchietti & Grossmann, 2007)
 - Works for very simple cases, cannot handle disjunctions over a set
- Useful guidelines for hands-on approach needed
 - When is it worth to derive convex hull reformulation?

Worth to derive convex hull?



- General precedence

$$\left[\boxed{Tm_{t,m}} + sd_t \leq \boxed{Tm_{t',m'}} \right] \bigvee \left[\boxed{Tm_{t',m'}} + sd_{t'} \leq \boxed{Tm_{t,m}} \right] \quad \forall t, t', m' > m$$

Shutdown (t,m) $Y_{t,m,t',m'} = True$
 $Y_{t,m,t',m'} = False$
Shutdown (t,m)

Shutdown (t',m')
Shutdown (t',m')

Two variables involved

Similar constraint but the indices have changed

- Answer: **No** (disaggregated variables with 6 indices)

- Forbid task execution on a given time window

$$\left[\boxed{Tm_{t,m}} + sd_t \leq u_{tu}^L \right] \bigvee \left[\boxed{Tm_{t,m}} \geq u_{tu}^U \right] \quad \forall t, m, tu$$

Shutdown (t,m) $Z_{t,m,tu} = True$
 $Z_{t,m,tu} = False$

Unavailable period tu
Unavailable period tu

Single variable

Different constraint

- **Maybe** (disaggregated variables with 3 indices)

- Single task per unit

$$\bigvee_{\boxed{i}} \left[\frac{y_{i,k}}{\boxed{x_{k+1} - x_k}} \geq p_i \right] \quad \forall k$$

Variables index different than disjunction index

- **Absolutely**, no additional variables and constraints

Success Cases:

Optimization Approaches

Relaxation of bilinear term $z_{ij} = x_i x_j$



- Tightest continuous relaxation

- McCormick (1976)

Underestimators

$$z_{ij} \geq x_i \cdot x_j^L + x_i^L \cdot x_j - x_i^L \cdot x_j^L$$

$$z_{ij} \geq x_i \cdot x_j^U + x_i^U \cdot x_j - x_i^U \cdot x_j^U$$

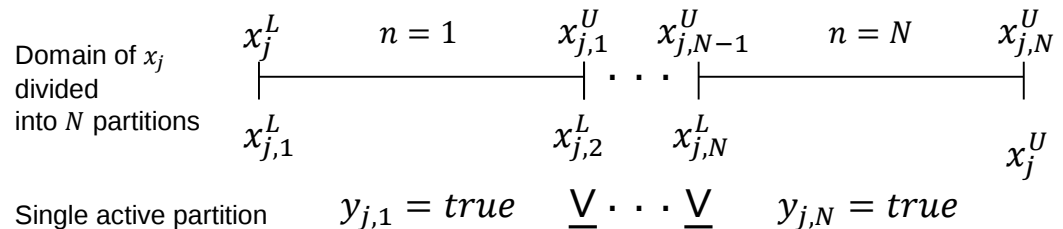
$$z_{ij} \leq x_i \cdot x_j^L + x_i^U \cdot x_j - x_i^U \cdot x_j^L$$

$$z_{ij} \leq x_i \cdot x_j^U + x_i^L \cdot x_j - x_i^L \cdot x_j^U$$

Overestimators

- Piecewise McCormick envelopes

- Bergamini et al. (2005)



Partition dependent bounds for x_j

Disjunction index (n)
 $\neq$ variables index (i, j)

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} y_{j,n} \\ z_{ij} \geq x_i \cdot x_{j,n}^L + x_i^L \cdot x_j - x_i^L \cdot x_{j,n}^L \\ z_{ij} \geq x_i \cdot x_{j,n}^U + x_i^U \cdot x_j - x_i^U \cdot x_{j,n}^U \\ z_{ij} \leq x_i \cdot x_{j,n}^L + x_i^U \cdot x_j - x_i^U \cdot x_{j,n}^L \\ z_{ij} \leq x_i \cdot x_{j,n}^U + x_i^L \cdot x_j - x_i^L \cdot x_{j,n}^U \\ x_{j,n}^L \leq x_j \leq x_{j,n}^U \end{array} \right] \quad \forall i, j$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_i^L &\leq x_i \leq x_i^U \\ x_{j,n}^L &= x_j^L + (x_j^U - x_j^L) \cdot (n-1)/N \\ x_{j,n}^U &= x_j^L + (x_j^U - x_j^L) \cdot n/N \end{aligned}$$

PCM relaxation of bilinear program



- MILP is derived from convex hull reformulation

$$\min z^R = f_0(x) = \sum_{(i,j) \in BL} a_{ij0} w_{ij} + h_0(x)$$

$$f_q(x) = \sum_{(i,j) \in BL} a_{ijq} w_{ij} + h_q(x) \leq 0 \quad \forall q \in Q \setminus \{0\}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} z_{ij} &\geq \sum_{n=1}^N (\hat{x}_{ijn} \cdot x_{jn}^L + x_i^L \cdot \hat{x}_{jn} - x_{ijn}^L \cdot x_{jn}^L \cdot y_{jn}) \\ z_{ij} &\geq \sum_{n=1}^N (\hat{x}_{ijn} \cdot x_{jn}^U + x_i^U \cdot \hat{x}_{jn} - x_{ijn}^U \cdot x_{jn}^U \cdot y_{jn}) \\ z_{ij} &\leq \sum_{n=1}^N (\hat{x}_{ijn} \cdot x_{jn}^L + x_i^U \cdot \hat{x}_{jn} - x_{ijn}^U \cdot x_{jn}^L \cdot y_{jn}) \\ z_{ij} &\leq \sum_{n=1}^N (\hat{x}_{ijn} \cdot x_{jn}^U + x_i^L \cdot \hat{x}_{jn} - x_{ijn}^L \cdot x_{jn}^U \cdot y_{jn}) \\ x_i &= \sum_{n=1}^N \hat{x}_{ijn} \end{aligned} \right\} \forall (i,j) \in BL$$

Summation eliminates the need for disaggregated variables linked to z_{ij}

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x_{jn}^L &= x_j^L + \frac{(x_j^U - x_j^L) \cdot (n-1)}{N} \\ x_{jn}^U &= x_j^L + \frac{(x_j^U - x_j^L) \cdot n}{N} \\ x_{jn}^L \cdot y_{jn} &\leq \hat{x}_{jn} \leq x_{jn}^U \cdot y_{jn} \end{aligned} \right\} \forall \{j | (i,j) \in BL\}, n \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

$$x_i^L \cdot y_{jn} \leq \hat{x}_{ijn} \leq x_i^U \cdot y_{jn} \quad \forall (i,j) \in BL, n \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x_j &= \sum_{n=1}^N \hat{x}_{jn} \\ \sum_{n=1}^N y_{jn} &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\} \forall \{j | (i,j) \in BL\}$$

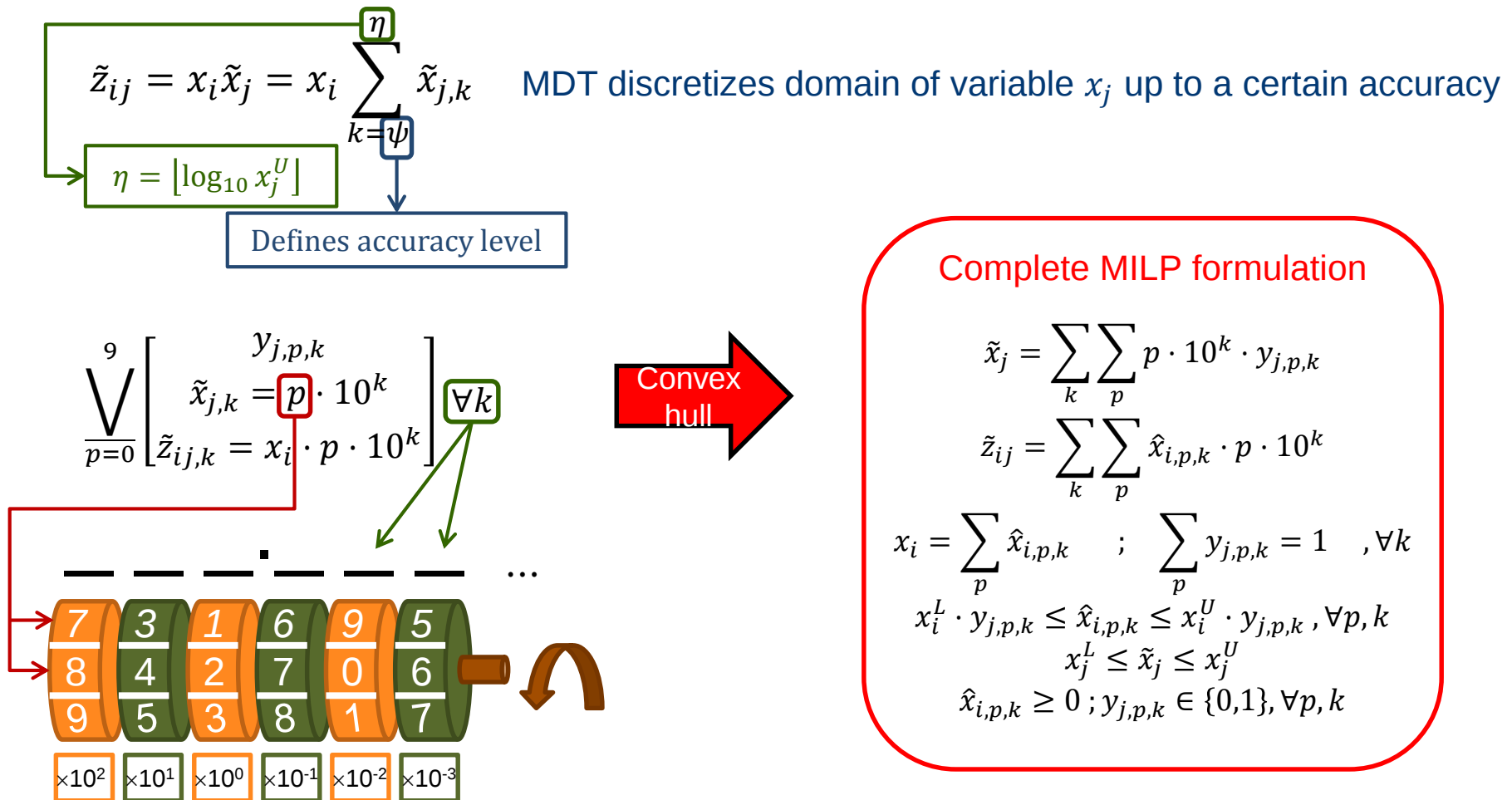
$$\begin{aligned} x^L &\leq x \leq x^U \\ x &\in \mathbb{R}^m \end{aligned}$$

$$y_{jn} \in \{0,1\} \quad \forall \{j | (i,j) \in BL\}, n \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

Bilinear term approximation $\tilde{z}_{ij} \approx z_{ij} = x_i x_j$



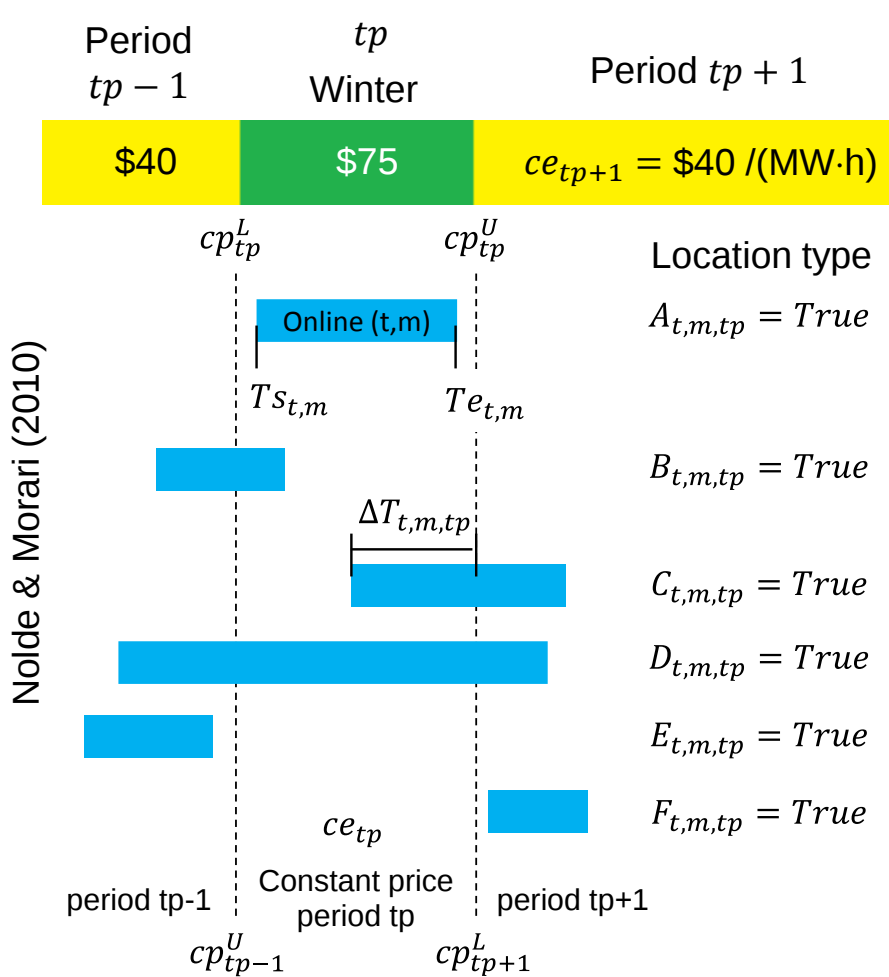
- Multiparametric disaggregation (Teles et al. 2013)



Success cases:

Industrial scheduling problems
dealing with energy

Seasonal electricity tariffs in a power plant



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left[\begin{array}{c} A_{t,m,tp} \\ Ts_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^L \\ Ts_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^U \\ Te_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^L \\ Te_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^U \\ \Delta T_{t,m,tp} = P_{t,m} \end{array} \right] \bigvee \left[\begin{array}{c} B_{t,m,tp} \\ Ts_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^L \\ (Ts_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^U) \\ Te_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^L \\ Te_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^U \\ \Delta T_{t,m,tp} = Te_{t,m} - cp_{tp}^L \end{array} \right] \bigvee \\
 & \bigvee \left[\begin{array}{c} C_{t,m,tp} \\ Ts_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^L \\ Ts_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^U \\ (Te_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^L) \\ Te_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^U \\ \Delta T_{t,m,tp} = cp_{tp}^U - Ts_{t,m} \end{array} \right] \bigvee \left[\begin{array}{c} D_{t,m,tp} \\ Ts_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^L \\ (Ts_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^U) \\ (Te_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^L) \\ Te_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^U \\ \Delta T_{t,m,tp} = cp_{tp}^U - cp_{tp}^L \end{array} \right] \bigvee \\
 & \bigvee \left[\begin{array}{c} E_{t,m,tp} \\ (Ts_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^L) \\ (Ts_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^U) \\ Te_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^L \\ (Te_{t,m} \leq cp_{tp}^U) \\ \Delta T_{t,m,tp} = 0 \end{array} \right] \bigvee \left[\begin{array}{c} F_{t,m,tp} \\ (Ts_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^L) \\ Ts_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^U \\ (Te_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^L) \\ (Te_{t,m} \geq cp_{tp}^U) \\ \Delta T_{t,m,tp} = 0 \end{array} \right] \forall t, m, tp
 \end{aligned}$$

Tightening constraint

$$\sum_{tp} \Delta T_{t,m,tp} \leq P_{t,m} \forall t, m$$

$$A_{t,m,tp} + B_{t,m,tp} + C_{t,m,tp} + D_{t,m,tp} + E_{t,m,tp} + F_{t,m,tp} = 1$$

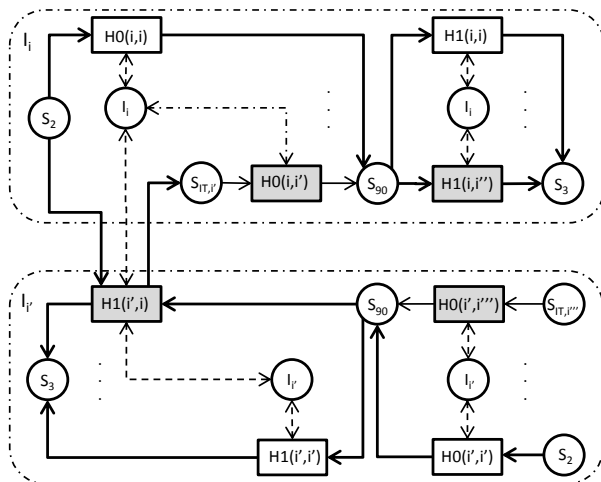
$$\max \text{Revenue} = \sum_t \sum_m \sum_{tp} \Delta T_{t,m,tp} \cdot ce_{tp} \cdot pw_m$$

Steam sharing in a pulp plant



- Multipurpose plant, single grid, RTN-based approach

- Superstructure (2001)



- Multistage plant, multiple time grids, GDP-based

- Embedded disjunctions (2013)

- Wednesday, 5 PM, Hilton 406-7

$$\bigvee_{i' \neq i} \left[\begin{array}{ccc} \text{H1}(i') & \text{HO}(i,i') & \text{H1}(i) \\ p_{i',m} & p_{i,i'}^{H0} & p_{i,m} \end{array} \right]_{\substack{Te_{t,m-1} \\ Ts_{t,m} \\ Ts_{t,m}^{90} \\ Te_{t,m}}} \bigvee \left[\begin{array}{cc} \text{HO}(i,i) & \text{H1}(i) \\ p_{i,i}^{H0} & p_{i,m} \end{array} \right]_{\substack{Ts_{t,m} \\ Ts_{t,m}^{90} \\ Te_{t,m}}} \quad \forall i \in I, \\ m \in M^{SL}, \\ t \in T$$

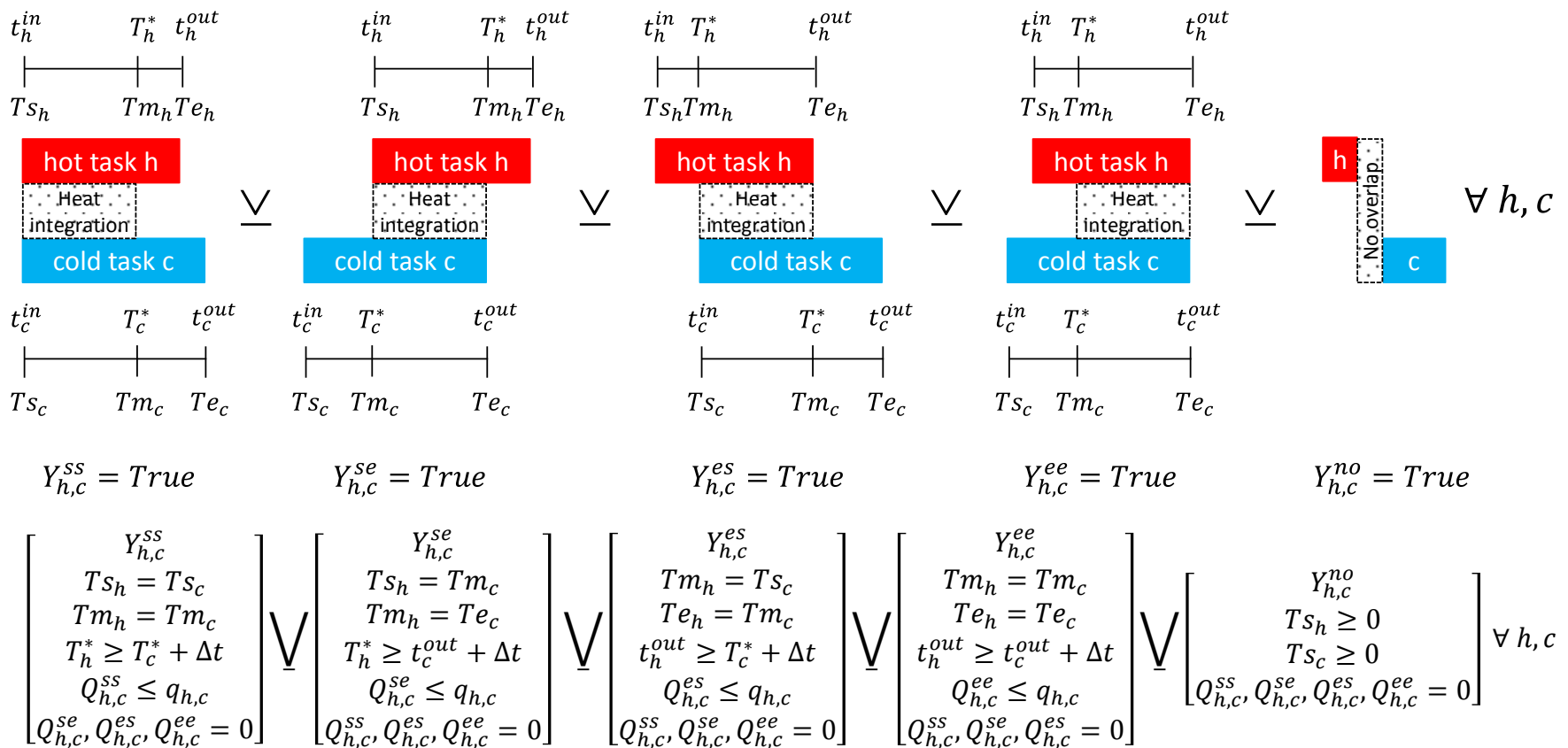
$$Z_{i,i',t} = \text{True} \quad Z_{i,i,t} = \text{True}$$

$$\bigvee_i \left[\begin{array}{c} Y_{i,t} \\ Te_{t,m} = Ts_{t,m}^{90} + p_{i,m} \\ Z_{i,i',t} \\ Ts_{t,m}^{90} = Ts_{t,m} + p_{i,i'}^{H0} \\ Te_{t,m-1} \leq Ts_{t,m} - p_{i',m} \end{array} \right] \bigvee \left[\begin{array}{c} Z_{i,i,t} \\ Ts_{t,m}^{90} = Ts_{t,m} + p_{i,i}^{H0} \end{array} \right] \quad \forall m, t$$

Approach	Discrete-time	Continuous-time		Discrete-time	Continuous-time	
		Single grid	Multiple grids		Single grid	Multiple grids
Binary variables	33263	2688	79	31583	3584	79
Constraints	30932	3331	132	29372	4435	132
Cycle time H (min)	594	606	594	564	571	564
Total CPU (s)	563	576	0.11	217	25252	0.21

Direct heat integration in a batch plant

- Extension of Yee et al. (1990) model for continuous plants
 - Two-stage heating/cooling with matches in parallel
 - Possible interactions between hot & cold stream modelled with GDP



Conclusions



- Overview of the basics of linear GDP
- Identification of desired type of disjunctions
 - Leading to sharp (compact) convex hull reformulations
- Examples of global optimization approaches that validate such analysis
 - Piecewise McCormick envelopes
 - Multiparametric Disaggregation Technique
- GDP makes it easier to model complex scheduling problems
 - Alternative formulation with improved performance
 - Orders of magnitude
- Much more about GDP
 - Recent reviews by Grossmann & Trespalacios (2013,14)
 - Further tightening through basic steps
 - Logic based algorithms for convex GDP
 - Non-convex GDP
- Several research groups worldwide rely on GDP for modeling
 - Many more need to realize how powerful it is!