

Model-Method Iteration: Solving Good Problems and Detecting Bad Ones

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Mixed Complementarity Problems

Focus on complementarity problems with equalities

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 0 \leq x & \perp & F(x, y) \geq 0 \\ & & y \quad G(x, y) = 0 \end{array}$$

where $F : \mathbb{R}^{n+m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ and $G : \mathbb{R}^{n+m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ are continuously differentiable.



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Good algorithms couple a Newton method to a globalization strategy.

PATH solves mixed linear complementarity problems

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \\ y \end{array} \perp \begin{array}{l} Mx + Ny + q \geq 0 \\ Ax + By + c = 0 \end{array}$$

with a line search on a suitable merit function.



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- ▶ In great models, B^{-1} exists and $M - NB^{-1}A$ is positive semidefinite.



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$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \\ y \end{array} \perp \begin{array}{l} F(x, y) \geq 0 \\ G(x, y) = 0 \end{array}$$

where $F : \Re^{n+m} \rightarrow n$ and $G : \Re^{n+m} \rightarrow m$ are continuously differentiable.

Good algorithms couple a Newton method to a globalization strategy.

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$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \\ y \end{array} \perp \begin{array}{l} Mx + Ny + q \geq 0 \\ Ax + By + c = 0 \end{array}$$

with a line search on a suitable merit function.

- ▶ In great models, B^{-1} exists and $M - NB^{-1}A$ is positive semidefinite.
- ▶ In good models, $(B + \delta I)^{-1}$ exists and

$$M + \delta I - N(B + \delta I)^{-1}A$$

is positive definite for any $\delta > 0$.



Outline

1. Modeling Complementarity Problems
2. Analyzing Complementarity Problems
3. Solving Complementarity Problems



Part I

Modeling Complementarity Problems



Motivation

- ▶ What constitutes a good model?
- ▶ How are they constructed?
- ▶ Why are they good?

Relevant for most of the available algorithms



Section 1

Linear Problems



Bimatrix Games

Problem Specification

- ▶ Players select strategies to minimize expected loss
 - ▶ $p \in \mathfrak{R}^n$ is the probability player 1 chooses each strategy
 - ▶ $q \in \mathfrak{R}^m$ is the probability player 2 chooses each strategy
 - ▶ $A \in \mathfrak{R}^{n \times m}$ is the loss matrix for player 1
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- ▶ Optimization problem for player 1 given q^*

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & p^T A q^* \\ 0 \leq p & \\ \text{subject to} & e^T p = 1 \end{array}$$



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- ▶ Optimization problem for player 2 given p^*

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{0 \leq q} & q^T B p^* \\ \text{subject to} & e^T q = 1 \end{array}$$



Bimatrix Games

Mixed Complementarity Formulations

- ▶ Assemble first-order optimality conditions

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 0 \leq p & \perp & Aq - \lambda_1 \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq q & \perp & Bp - \lambda_2 \geq 0 \\ & & \lambda_1 \quad e^T p = 1 \\ & & \lambda_2 \quad e^T q = 1 \end{array}$$



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- ▶ Equivalent formulation (negative multipliers)

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 0 \leq p & \perp & Aq + \lambda_1 \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq q & \perp & Bp + \lambda_2 \geq 0 \\ & & \lambda_1 \quad e^T p = 1 \\ & & \lambda_2 \quad e^T q = 1 \end{array}$$



Bimatrix Games

Equation Sign Important

For hard models, solvers will add a diagonal perturbation to regularize the model. They generally employ a single positive perturbation independent of the structure of *your* particular problem.

- ▶ First formulation can be a good model

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \quad \perp \quad (M + \delta I)x - A^T \lambda + q \geq 0 \\ \lambda \quad \quad \quad Ax + \delta \lambda + b = 0 \end{array}$$

has the reduced formulation

$$0 \leq x \quad \perp \quad (M + \delta I + \frac{1}{\delta} A^T A)x + q + \frac{1}{\delta} A^T b \geq 0$$

that inherits the properties of M .



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For hard models, solvers will add a diagonal perturbation to regularize the model. They generally employ a single positive perturbation independent of the structure of *your* particular problem.

- ▶ Second formulation is not a good model

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has reduced formulation

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that does not inherit properties of M .



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A Family of Equivalent Problems

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$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{0 \leq p} & p^T (A + \alpha_2 E) q^* \\ \text{subject to} & e^T p = 1 \end{array}$$



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- ▶ Optimization problem for player 2 given p^*

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{0 \leq q} & q^T (B + \alpha_1 E) p^* \\ \text{subject to} & e^T q = 1 \end{array}$$



Bimatrix Games

Knowledge is Not Always Power

If $A + \alpha_2 E < 0$ and $B + \alpha_1 E < 0$, then

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq p \quad \perp \quad (A + \alpha_2 E)q + \lambda_1 \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq q \quad \perp \quad (B + \alpha_1 E)p + \lambda_2 \geq 0 \\ \lambda_1 \quad \quad e^T p = 1 \\ \lambda_2 \quad \quad e^T q = 1 \end{array}$$

is equivalent to

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which can be further reduced to finding nonzero p and q with

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 0 \leq p & \perp & (A + \alpha_2 E)q + e \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq q & \perp & (B + \alpha_1 E)p + e \geq 0 \end{array}$$



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$$\begin{array}{rcl} 0 \leq p & \perp & (A + \alpha_2 E)q + e \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq q & \perp & (B + \alpha_1 E)p + e \geq 0 \end{array}$$

and the matrix class is not pleasant.



Bimatrix Games

Knowledge is Sometimes Power

If $A + \alpha_2 E > 0$ and $B + \alpha_1 E > 0$, then

$$\begin{array}{ll} 0 \leq p & \perp (A + \alpha_2 E)q - \lambda_1 \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq q & \perp (B + \alpha_1 E)p - \lambda_2 \geq 0 \\ \lambda_1 & e^T p = 1 \\ \lambda_2 & e^T q = 1 \end{array}$$

is equivalent to

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and a special Lemke method can be applied.



Bimatrix Games

Strictly Positive Matrix Formulation

If $A + \alpha_2 E > 0$ and $B + \alpha_1 E > 0$, then

$$\begin{array}{ll} 0 \leq p & \perp \quad \alpha_1 E p + (A + \alpha_2 E) q - \lambda_1 \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq q & \perp \quad (B + \alpha_1 E) p + \alpha_2 E q - \lambda_2 \geq 0 \\ \lambda_1 & e^T p = 1 \\ \lambda_2 & e^T q = 1 \end{array}$$

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which can be further reduced to

$$\begin{array}{ll} 0 \leq p & \perp \quad \alpha_1 E p + (A + \alpha_2 E) q - e \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq q & \perp \quad (B + \alpha_1 E) p + \alpha_2 E q - e \geq 0 \end{array}$$



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and a Lemke's method (with lexicographic pivoting) can be applied.



Bimatrix Games

Symmetric Diagonal Scaling

Symmetric can be applied to

- ▶ Improve condition number of matrices
- ▶ Reduce degeneracy with Lemke's method

without changing matrix properties or affecting rank.



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For our problem we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq p \quad \perp \quad & \alpha_1 S_1 E S_1 p + S_1 (A + \alpha_2 E) S_2 q - S_1 e \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq q \quad \perp \quad & S_2 (B + \alpha_1 E) S_1 p + \alpha_2 S_2 E S_2 q - S_2 e \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

for positive diagonal matrices S_1 and S_2 .



Complementarity Between Functions

Problem Formulations

Find an x such that

$$0 \leq Mx + q \quad \perp \quad Nx + r \geq 0$$



Complementarity Between Functions

Problem Formulations

Find an x such that

$$0 \leq Mx + q \quad \perp \quad Nx + r \geq 0$$

Add one slack variable to obtain the problem

$$\begin{array}{l} x \\ 0 \leq s \end{array} \quad \perp \quad \begin{array}{l} Mx - s + q = 0 \\ Nx + r \geq 0 \end{array}$$

with the reduced, perturbed problem

$$0 \leq s \quad \perp \quad (N(M + \delta I)^{-1} + \delta I)s + \tilde{r} \geq 0$$

that may be a good model.



Complementarity Between Functions

Alternative Formulations

Add two slack variables to obtain

$$\begin{array}{r} Mx - s + q = 0 \\ t - Nx - r = 0 \\ 0 \leq s \quad \perp \quad t \geq 0 \end{array}$$

where solver matches variables to equations.

- ▶ Good match

$$\begin{array}{r} x \quad Mx - s + q = 0 \\ t \quad t - Nx - r = 0 \\ 0 \leq s \quad \perp \quad t \geq 0 \end{array}$$

may result in a good reduced, perturbed model

$$0 \leq s \quad \perp \quad (N(M + \delta I)^{-1} + \delta(1 + \delta)I)s + \tilde{r} \geq 0$$



Complementarity Between Functions

Alternative Formulations

Add two slack variables to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Mx - s + q &= 0 \\ t - Nx - r &= 0 \\ 0 \leq s \quad \perp \quad t &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

where solver matches variables to equations.

- ▶ Unfortunate match

$$\begin{aligned} t \quad & Mx - s + q = 0 \\ x \quad & t - Nx - r = 0 \\ 0 \leq s \quad \perp \quad t &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

may result in a “bad” reduced, perturbed model

$$0 \leq s \quad \perp \quad ((N - \delta I)(M + \delta N - \delta^2 I)^{-1} + \delta I)s + \tilde{r} \geq 0$$

- ▶ Do not rely on the solver to perform a good match!



Summary

- ▶ Always match equations to appropriate variables
 - ▶ Automatically performing a good match is difficult
 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match



Summary

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 - ▶ Automatically performing a good match is difficult
 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match
- ▶ Always prefer a monotone formulation over other formulations
 - ▶ Sign on the equations matters when perturbing
 - ▶ Use skew symmetric version of optimality conditions
 - ▶ Use problem knowledge if the result is a “better” problem



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 - ▶ Beware when using unscaled solution!
- ▶ Rank deficiency can still be an issue
 - ▶ Solver can sometimes identify and eliminate dependencies
 - ▶ Solver may add a positive diagonal perturbation
 - ▶ Improve condition number of matrices
 - ▶ Eliminate dependencies for good models



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- ▶ Rank deficiency can still be an issue
 - ▶ Solver can sometimes identify and eliminate dependencies
 - ▶ Solver may add a positive diagonal perturbation
 - ▶ Improve condition number of matrices
 - ▶ Eliminate dependencies for good models
- ▶ Always check the solution reported!



Section 2

Nonlinear Problems



Nash Games

Problem Formulation

- ▶ Non-cooperative game played by n individuals
 - ▶ Each player selects a strategy to optimize their objective
 - ▶ Strategies for the other players are fixed
- ▶ Equilibrium reached when no improvement is possible



Nash Games

Problem Formulation

- ▶ Non-cooperative game played by n individuals
 - ▶ Each player selects a strategy to optimize their objective
 - ▶ Strategies for the other players are fixed
- ▶ Equilibrium reached when no improvement is possible
- ▶ Characterization of two player equilibrium (x^*, y^*)

$$x^* \in \begin{cases} \arg \min_{x \geq 0} & f_1(x, y^*) \\ \text{subject to} & c_1(x) \leq 0 \end{cases}$$
$$y^* \in \begin{cases} \arg \min_{y \geq 0} & f_2(x^*, y) \\ \text{subject to} & c_2(y) \leq 0 \end{cases}$$



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- ▶ Many applications
 - ▶ Walrasian (traffic) equilibrium
 - ▶ Arrow-Debreau (economic) models
 - ▶ Cournot duopoly models



Nash Games

Complementarity Formulation

- ▶ Assume each optimization problem is convex
 - ▶ $f_1(\cdot, y)$ is convex for each y
 - ▶ $f_2(x, \cdot)$ is convex for each x
 - ▶ $c_1(\cdot)$ and $c_2(\cdot)$ convex and satisfy constraint qualification
- ▶ Then the first-order conditions are necessary and sufficient

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{x \geq 0} & f_1(x, y^*) \\ \text{subject to} & c_1(x) \leq 0 \end{array} \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{ll} 0 \leq x & \perp \quad \nabla_x f_1(x, y^*) + \lambda_1^T \nabla_x c_1(x) \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq \lambda_1 & \perp \quad -c_1(x) \geq 0 \end{array}$$



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 - ▶ $c_1(\cdot)$ and $c_2(\cdot)$ convex and satisfy constraint qualification
- ▶ Then the first-order conditions are necessary and sufficient

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{y \geq 0} & f_2(x^*, y) \\ \text{subject to} & c_2(y) \leq 0 \end{array} \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{ll} 0 \leq y & \perp \quad \nabla_y f_2(x^*, y) + \lambda_2^T \nabla_y c_2(y) \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq \lambda_2 & \perp \quad -c_2(y) \geq 0 \end{array}$$



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 - ▶ $f_1(\cdot, y)$ is convex for each y
 - ▶ $f_2(x, \cdot)$ is convex for each x
 - ▶ $c_1(\cdot)$ and $c_2(\cdot)$ convex and satisfy constraint qualification
- ▶ Then the first-order conditions are necessary and sufficient

$$\begin{aligned}0 \leq x & \perp \nabla_x f_1(x, y) + \lambda_1^T \nabla_x c_1(x) \geq 0 \\0 \leq y & \perp \nabla_y f_2(x, y) + \lambda_2^T \nabla_y c_2(y) \geq 0 \\0 \leq \lambda_1 & \perp -c_1(x) \geq 0 \\0 \leq \lambda_2 & \perp -c_2(y) \geq 0\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Nonlinear complementarity problem
 - ▶ Each solution is an equilibrium for the Nash game
 - ▶ Formulation is not correct for nonconvex problems
 - ▶ Writing the first-order conditions is error prone
 - ▶ Recommend using the MOPEC machinery



Nash Games

Constant Elasticity of Substitution

Ensure functions and Jacobians are defined

- ▶ Confront and reformulate at the modeling stage
- ▶ Report remaining domain violations to solver
 - ▶ Function undefined will cause backtrack in line search
 - ▶ Function defined and Jacobian undefined will abort solve
- ▶ Provide a starting point where functions are defined



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$$(\alpha_1 x_1^\gamma + \alpha_2 x_2^\gamma)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$$

where $x_1 \geq 0$ and $x_2 \geq 0$



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$$(\alpha_1(x_1 + \epsilon)^\gamma + \alpha_2(x_2 + \epsilon)^\gamma - (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)\epsilon^\gamma)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$$



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$$(\alpha_1(x_1 + \epsilon)^\gamma + \alpha_2(x_2 + \epsilon)^\gamma)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} - (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \epsilon$$
- ▶ Smoothing the functions changes the answer
 - ▶ Modeler needs to determine permissible perturbation
 - ▶ Modeler may want to determine sensitivity to perturbation



Nash Games

Slack Variables and Equations

Permissible to add slack variables in the formulation

$$\begin{aligned}0 \leq x & \perp \nabla_x f_1(x, y) + \lambda_1^T \nabla_x c_1(x) \geq 0 \\0 \leq y & \perp \nabla_y f_2(x, y) + \lambda_2^T \nabla_y c_2(y) \geq 0 \\0 \leq s_1 & \perp \lambda_1 \geq 0 \\0 \leq s_2 & \perp \lambda_2 \geq 0 \\ \lambda_1 & \quad -c_1(x) - s_1 = 0 \\ \lambda_2 & \quad -c_2(y) - s_2 = 0\end{aligned}$$

provided skew symmetric form of optimality conditions used.



Nash Games

Slack Variables and Equations

Changing the sign of the equations

$$\begin{array}{ll} 0 \leq x & \perp \quad \nabla_x f_1(x, y) + \lambda_1^T \nabla_x c_1(x) \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq y & \perp \quad \nabla_y f_2(x, y) + \lambda_2^T \nabla_y c_2(y) \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq s_1 & \perp \quad \lambda_1 \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq s_2 & \perp \quad \lambda_2 \geq 0 \\ \lambda_1 & \quad c_1(x) + s_1 = 0 \\ \lambda_2 & \quad c_2(y) + s_2 = 0 \end{array}$$

causes problems when positive diagonal perturbation added.



Nash Games

Slack Variables and Equations

For general mixed nonlinear complementarity problems, use

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \quad \perp \quad F(x) - A^T \lambda \geq 0 \\ \lambda \quad \quad \quad Ax = b \end{array}$$

rather than

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \quad \perp \quad F(x) + A^T \lambda \geq 0 \\ \lambda \quad \quad \quad Ax = b \end{array}$$

and match the equations to the variables!



Nash Games

Scaling the Problem

- ▶ Any scaling can be applied to original optimization problems
 - ▶ Ensure consistency in scaled variables across problems
 - ▶ Form optimality conditions of the scaled problems



Nash Games

Scaling the Problem

- ▶ Any scaling can be applied to original optimization problems
 - ▶ Ensure consistency in scaled variables across problems
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- ▶ Apply only symmetric scaling to the complementarity problem

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \\ y \end{array} \perp \begin{array}{l} SF(Sx, Ry) \geq 0 \\ RG(Sx, Ry) = 0 \end{array}$$



Nash Games

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- ▶ For linear constraints, R is the multiplier scaling

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Beware when using unscaled solution!



Summary

- ▶ Always ensure functions and Jacobians are defined
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- ▶ Recommend using the MOPEC machinery when possible
 - ▶ Conveys more information that the solver can use
 - ▶ Relieves modeler of writing code for the derivatives
 - ▶ Formulates optimality conditions correctly for the solver



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- ▶ Recommend using the MOPEC machinery when possible
 - ▶ Conveys more information that the solver can use
 - ▶ Relieves modeler of writing code for the derivatives
 - ▶ Formulates optimality conditions correctly for the solver
- ▶ Always match equations to appropriate variables
- ▶ Always prefer a monotone formulation over other formulations
- ▶ Use scaling when appropriate
 - ▶ Any consistent scaling for optimization problems
 - ▶ Symmetric diagonal scaling for complementarity problems
 - ▶ Beware when using unscaled solution!
- ▶ Rank deficiency can still be an issue
 - ▶ Solver can sometimes identify and eliminate dependencies
 - ▶ Solver may add a positive diagonal perturbation
- ▶ Always check the solution reported!



Part II

Analyzing Complementarity Problems



Motivation

Given a complementarity problem:

- ▶ What tools can be used to analyze it?
- ▶ What do the tools say about the problem?
- ▶ What can be done to address any issues uncovered?



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Given a complementarity problem:

- ▶ What tools can be used to analyze it?
- ▶ What do the tools say about the problem?
- ▶ What can be done to address any issues uncovered?

Based on PATH solver with specified options



Section 3

Variational Inequalities



Variational Inequalities

Definition

- ▶ Let $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be continuously differentiable
- ▶ Let $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be a closed convex set
- ▶ Variational inequality is to find $x \in X$ such that

$$\langle F(x), y - x \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall y \in X$$



Variational Inequalities

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$$\langle F(x), y - x \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall y \in X$$

- ▶ Equivalent formulation is the generalized equation

$$0 \in F(x) + N_X(x)$$

where the normal cone to X at $x \in X$ is

$$N_X(x) := \{\bar{x} \mid \langle \bar{x}, y - x \rangle \leq 0 \quad \forall y \in X\}$$



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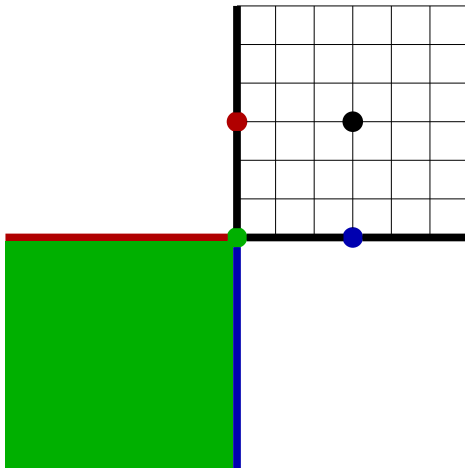
where the normal cone to X at $x \in X$ is

$$N_X(x) := \{ \bar{x} \mid \langle \bar{x}, y - x \rangle \leq 0 \quad \forall y \in X \}$$

- ▶ Special cases include
 - ▶ Nonlinear equations when $X = \mathfrak{R}^n$
 - ▶ Nonlinear complementarity when $X = \mathfrak{R}_+^n$
 - ▶ Mixed complementarity when $X = [l, u]^n$

Variational Inequalities

Normal Cone



Variational Inequalities

Simplified Theory (Robinson)

- ▶ Let $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$.



Variational Inequalities

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- ▶ Let $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$.
- ▶ If x and λ solve

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \\ \lambda \end{array} \perp \begin{array}{l} F(x) - A^T \lambda \geq 0 \\ Ax + b = 0 \end{array} \quad (1)$$

then

$$0 \in F(x) + N_X(x) \quad (2)$$

where $X = \{x \mid x \geq 0 \text{ and } Ax + b = 0\}$.



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Note: X and $N_X(\cdot)$ are geometric objects and we are free to choose among equivalent algebraic representations.



Variational Inequalities

Basic Preprocessing Methodology

- ▶ Given an arbitrary complementarity problem



Variational Inequalities

Basic Preprocessing Methodology

- ▶ Given an arbitrary complementarity problem
- ▶ Discover skew symmetric structure within the problem



Variational Inequalities

Basic Preprocessing Methodology

- ▶ Given an arbitrary complementarity problem
- ▶ Discover skew symmetric structure within the problem
- ▶ Convert the problem into the equivalent variational inequality
- ▶ Choose representation of the polyhedral constraint set
 - ▶ Reduce model size and complexity
 - ▶ Improve algorithm performance
 - ▶ Detect unsolvable models



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 - ▶ Detect unsolvable models
- ▶ Recover reduced complementarity problem



Variational Inequalities

Discovering Generalized Skew Symmetry

- ▶ Provided with a list of linear rows and columns for the problem
- ▶ For each linear row we perform the following
 - ▶ Check that the column is linear
 - ▶ Reject rows having a diagonal entry
 - ▶ Establish nonzero pattern is identical
 - ▶ Ensure elements have the opposite signs



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 - ▶ Ensure elements have the opposite signs
 - ▶ Can negate rows corresponding to equalities

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \\ y \\ z \end{array} \perp \begin{array}{l} x + y + z \geq 0 \\ x + y + \frac{1}{3}z = 4 \\ 2x - y = 5 \end{array}$$

is equivalent to

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \leq x \\ y \\ z \end{array} \perp \begin{array}{l} 2x + 2y + 2z \geq 0 \\ -3x - 3y - z = -12 \\ -2x + y = -5 \end{array}$$



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The `check_skew_symmetry` option will report findings and can be used to check the correctness of your formulation!



Variational Inequalities

Single Constraint Reductions

- ▶ Reductions on a single constraint include
 - ▶ Singleton rows
 - ▶ Doubleton rows with a column singleton
 - ▶ Forcing conditions



Variational Inequalities

Single Constraint Reductions

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- ▶ An example of a singleton row
 1. Complementarity problem

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq x &\perp x^2 - y + 1 \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq y &\perp x - 1 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



Variational Inequalities

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1. Complementarity problem

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq x &\perp x^2 - y + 1 \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq y &\perp x - 1 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

2. Form equivalent polyhedral problem

$$0 \in x^2 + 1 + N_X(x)$$

where $X = \{x \mid x \geq 0 \text{ and } x \geq 1\}$



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3. Recover reduced complementarity problem

$$1 \leq x \perp x^2 + 1 \geq 0$$

with the solution $x = 1$



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with the solution $x = 1$

4. Compute multiplier $y = 2$



Variational Inequalities

Assembling Polyhedral Sets

- ▶ Given skew symmetric rows and columns
- ▶ Reject those requiring scaling or sign changes (can be relaxed)
- ▶ Use a greedy heuristic to assemble maximal polyhedral set
 - ▶ Choose a remaining skew symmetric row
 - ▶ Add next row sharing some nonzero entries if possible
 - ▶ Continue adding rows until no more rows can be added
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- ▶ Reductions using polyhedral sets include
 - ▶ Duplicate rows
 - ▶ Implied variable bounds



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- ▶ Reductions using polyhedral sets include
 - ▶ Duplicate rows
 - ▶ Implied variable bounds
- ▶ Structure can be conveyed to capable solvers
 - ▶ A primal/dual structure recovered for optimization problems
 - ▶ Polyhedral variational inequalities for other problems



Variational Inequalities

Duplicate Rows Example

1. Identify the polyhedral constraints

$$0 \leq x \perp Qx - A^T \lambda + c \geq 0$$

$$0 \leq y \perp -b^T \lambda + d \geq 0$$

$$0 \leq z \perp b^T \lambda - d \geq 0$$

$$0 \leq \lambda \perp Ax + by - bz \geq 0$$



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2. Construct the polyhedral problem

$$0 \in Qx - A^T \lambda + c + N_{\mathbb{R}_+^n}(x)$$

$$0 \in A\lambda + c + N_Y(\lambda)$$

where $Y = \{y \mid y \geq 0, -b^T y + d \geq 0, \text{ and } b^T y - d \geq 0\}$



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3. Replace the polyhedral set

$$Y = \{y \mid y \geq 0 \text{ and } b^T y - d = 0\}$$



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3. Replace the polyhedral set

$$Y = \{y \mid y \geq 0 \text{ and } b^T y - d = 0\}$$

4. Recover reduced mixed complementarity problem

$$0 \leq x \perp Qx - A^T \lambda + c \geq 0$$

$$y \perp -b^T \lambda + d = 0$$

$$0 \leq \lambda \perp Ax + by \geq 0$$



Variational Inequalities

Summary

- ▶ Critical for preprocessing to correctly match equations and variables
 - ▶ Automatically performing a good match is difficult
 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match



Variational Inequalities

Summary

- ▶ Critical for preprocessing to correctly match equations and variables
 - ▶ Automatically performing a good match is difficult
 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match
- ▶ Skew symmetric form of optimality conditions is essential
 - ▶ Needed to construct polyhedral variational inequalities
 - ▶ Check your model to obtain a report on skew symmetry
`check_skew_symmetry yes`



Variational Inequalities

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 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match
- ▶ Skew symmetric form of optimality conditions is essential
 - ▶ Needed to construct polyhedral variational inequalities
 - ▶ Check your model to obtain a report on skew symmetry
`check_skew_symmetry yes`
- ▶ Reductions may determine model is infeasible
 - ▶ Infeasible models should be fixed by the modeler
 - ▶ List of preprocessing reductions can be obtained
`output_presolve_level 3`



Section 4

Block Structure



Block Structure

Example

- ▶ Exploitation requires structural identification

x	x	0	0	0	0	0
x	x	0	0	0	0	0
x	0	x	x	x	0	0
x	0	x	x	x	0	0
x	0	x	x	x	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	x	x
x	0	x	x	x	x	x



Block Structure

Example

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x	x	0	0	0	0	0
x	x	0	0	0	0	0
x	0	x	x	x	0	0
x	0	x	x	x	0	0
x	0	x	x	x	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	x	x
x	0	x	x	x	x	x

- ▶ Focus on small block sizes (at most 3×3)
 - ▶ Start from a single row
 - ▶ Add constraints for variables
 - ▶ Stop when no constraints to add or block too big
 - ▶ Equations removed via Schur complement when possible



Block Structure

Example

- ▶ Exploitation requires structural identification

x	x		0	0	0		0	0
x	x		0	0	0		0	0
<hr/>								
x	0		x	x	x		0	0
x	0		x	x	x		0	0
x	0		x	x	x		0	0
<hr/>								
0	0		0	0	0		x	x
x	0		x	x	x		x	x

- ▶ Focus on small block sizes (at most 3×3)
 - ▶ Start from a single row
 - ▶ Add constraints for variables
 - ▶ Stop when no constraints to add or block too big
 - ▶ Equations removed via Schur complement when possible
- ▶ Apply reductions
 - ▶ Preblocks use uniqueness arguments
 - ▶ Postblocks use existence arguments



Block Structure

Example

- ▶ Exploitation requires structural identification

x	x		0	0	0		0	0
x	x		0	0	0		0	0
<hr/>								
x	0		x	x	x		0	0
x	0		x	x	x		0	0
x	0		x	x	x		0	0
<hr/>								
0	0		0	0	0		x	x
x	0		x	x	x		x	x

- ▶ Focus on small block sizes (at most 3×3)
 - ▶ Start from a single row
 - ▶ Add constraints for variables
 - ▶ Stop when no constraints to add or block too big
 - ▶ Equations removed via Schur complement when possible
- ▶ Apply reductions
 - ▶ Preblocks use uniqueness arguments
 - ▶ Postblocks use existence arguments
- ▶ Matrix classes form the foundation for these methods



Block Structure

Preblocks and Uniqueness

- ▶ Small linear complementarity problem

$$0 \leq x \leq u \quad \perp \quad Mx + q$$

- ▶ Existence and uniqueness for fixed vector q



Block Structure

Preblocks and Uniqueness

- ▶ Small linear complementarity problem

$$0 \leq x \leq u \quad \perp \quad Mx + q$$

- ▶ Existence and uniqueness for fixed vector q
- ▶ Partial uniqueness for fixed vector q
 - ▶ Remaining problem does not rely on non-unique components
 - ▶ Remaining block can be reformulated



Block Structure

Preblocks and Uniqueness

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- ▶ Existence and uniqueness for fixed vector q
- ▶ Partial uniqueness for fixed vector q
 - ▶ Remaining problem does not rely on non-unique components
 - ▶ Remaining block can be reformulated
- ▶ Computational method is applied for 2×2 blocks
 - ▶ Compute all solutions
 - ▶ Eliminate if solution is unique
 - ▶ Check compact reformulation if not unique



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Preblocks and Uniqueness

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- ▶ Computational method is applied for 2×2 blocks
 - ▶ Compute all solutions
 - ▶ Eliminate if solution is unique
 - ▶ Check compact reformulation if not unique
- ▶ For larger preblock matrices
 - ▶ Test for P matrix
 - ▶ Compute unique solution and eliminate



Block Structure

Postblocks and Existence

- ▶ Small linear complementarity problem

$$0 \leq x \leq u \quad \perp \quad Mx + Q$$

- ▶ Existence for fixed set Q (lower and upper function bounds)



Block Structure

Postblocks and Existence

- ▶ Small linear complementarity problem

$$0 \leq x \leq u \quad \perp \quad Mx + Q$$

- ▶ Existence for fixed set Q (lower and upper function bounds)
- ▶ Computational method can be applied for 2×2 blocks
 - ▶ Evaluate each subproblem
 - ▶ Determine sets for which solution exists
 - ▶ If Q is a subset of the union, then eliminate
 - ▶ Otherwise, compute Q for which no solution exists
 - ▶ Use information to (sometimes) restrict remaining variables



Block Structure

Postblocks and Existence

- ▶ Small linear complementarity problem

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- ▶ Computational method can be applied for 2×2 blocks
 - ▶ Evaluate each subproblem
 - ▶ Determine sets for which solution exists
 - ▶ If Q is a subset of the union, then eliminate
 - ▶ Otherwise, compute Q for which no solution exists
 - ▶ Use information to (sometimes) restrict remaining variables
- ▶ For larger postblock matrices
 - ▶ Existence of trivial solution when $Q \geq 0$
 - ▶ Generalize condition for upper bounds
 - ▶ Existence for compact sets $0 \leq x \leq u < \infty$
 - ▶ Otherwise test for strictly semimonotone matrix



Block Structure

Embedded Blocks and Forcing Conditions

- ▶ Determine subproblems with unique solution
 - ▶ Find a small index set α such that $M_{\alpha,\alpha}$ is strictly semimonotone
 - ▶ Determine possible right-hand sides Q_α
 - ▶ If $Q_\alpha \geq 0$, then fix $x_\alpha = 0$ and eliminate



Block Structure

Embedded Blocks and Forcing Conditions

- ▶ Determine subproblems with unique solution
 - ▶ Find a small index set α such that $M_{\alpha,\alpha}$ is strictly semimonotone
 - ▶ Determine possible right-hand sides Q_α
 - ▶ If $Q_\alpha \geq 0$, then fix $x_\alpha = 0$ and eliminate
- ▶ All strictly semimonotone 2×2 matrices
 - ▶ Positive diagonal for singletons
 - ▶ Positive diagonals with one positive off diagonal for doubletons
 - ▶ Positive diagonals with positive determinant for doubletons
- ▶ Identification based the Jacobian structure



Block Structure

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 - ▶ Positive diagonal for singletons
 - ▶ Positive diagonals with one positive off diagonal for doubletons
 - ▶ Positive diagonals with positive determinant for doubletons
- ▶ Identification based the Jacobian structure
- ▶ Currently implemented only for singleton subproblems



Block Structure

Summary

- ▶ Matrix classes are foundational in preprocessing blocks
 - ▶ Evaluate small blocks – brute force is possible
 - ▶ Otherwise look for identifiable submatrices
 - ▶ P matrices
 - ▶ Small strictly semimonotone matrices
- ▶ Make improvements to the model
 - ▶ Only some rules are enabled by default
 - ▶ More expensive rules turned on with options



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Summary

- ▶ Matrix classes are foundational in preprocessing blocks
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 - ▶ Small strictly semimonotone matrices
- ▶ Make improvements to the model
 - ▶ Only some rules are enabled by default
 - ▶ More expensive rules turned on with options
- ▶ Reductions may determine model is infeasible
 - ▶ Infeasible models should be fixed by the modeler
 - ▶ List of preprocessing reductions can be obtained
`output_presolve_level 3`



Other Preprocessing Operations

- ▶ Duplicate rows
- ▶ Duplicate columns
- ▶ Inequality based reductions
 - ▶ Forcing conditions
 - ▶ Complicated by preserving squareness and no side inequalities
 - ▶ Iterative procedure that constructs implications
 - ▶ Analogous to logic tables in integer programs
 - ▶ Implied bounds



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- ▶ Duplicate columns
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 - ▶ Implied bounds

Analysis can be very complicated!



Section 5

Diagnostics



Diagnostics

Produce Simple Report

INITIAL POINT STATISTICS

Maximum of X	3.0000e+02	var: (x(seattle,chicago))
Maximum of F	3.8922e+02	eqn: (prdemand(chicago))
Maximum of Grad F	1.0811e+04	eqn: (prdemand(chicago)) var: (p(chicago))

INITIAL JACOBIAN NORM STATISTICS

Maximum Row Norm	1.0813e+04	eqn: (prdemand(chicago))
Minimum Row Norm	2.0000e+00	eqn: (profit(seattle,new-york))
Maximum Column Norm	1.0813e+04	var: (p(chicago))
Minimum Column Norm	2.0000e+00	var: (x(seattle,new-york))



Summary

- ▶ Critical for preprocessing to correctly match equations and variables
 - ▶ Automatically performing a good match is difficult
 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match



Summary

- ▶ Critical for preprocessing to correctly match equations and variables
 - ▶ Automatically performing a good match is difficult
 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match
- ▶ Skew symmetric form of optimality conditions is essential
 - ▶ Needed to construct polyhedral variational inequalities
 - ▶ Check your model to obtain a report on skew symmetry
`check_skew_symmetry yes`



Summary

- ▶ Critical for preprocessing to correctly match equations and variables
 - ▶ Automatically performing a good match is difficult
 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match
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 - ▶ Analysis can be very complicated!



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 - ▶ Infeasible models should be fixed by the modeler
 - ▶ List of preprocessing reductions can be obtained
`output_presolve_level 3`
 - ▶ Analysis can be very complicated!
- ▶ Diagnostics can help identify scaling problems



Part III

Solving Complementarity Problems



Motivation

Given an analyzed complementarity problem:

- ▶ What numerical methods are available?
- ▶ How does one know a solution is computed?
- ▶ What can be done to address any issues uncovered?



Motivation

Given an analyzed complementarity problem:

- ▶ What numerical methods are available?
- ▶ How does one know a solution is computed?
- ▶ What can be done to address any issues uncovered?

Based on PATH solver with specified options



Section 6

Numerical Methods



Numerical Methods

Overview

- ▶ Sequential linearization methods (PATH)

1. Solve the linear complementarity problem

$$0 \leq x \perp F(x_k) + \nabla F(x_k)(x - x_k) \geq 0$$

2. Perform a line search along merit function
3. Repeat until convergence



Numerical Methods

Overview

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2. Perform a line search along merit function
3. Repeat until convergence

- ▶ Semismooth reformulation methods (SEMI)

- ▶ Solve linear system of equations to obtain direction
- ▶ Globalize with a trust region or line search

- ▶ Interior-point methods



Numerical Methods

Semismooth Reformulation

- ▶ Define Fischer-Burmeister function

$$\phi(a, b) := a + b - \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

- ▶ $\phi(a, b) = 0$ iff $a \geq 0$, $b \geq 0$, and $ab = 0$
- ▶ Define the system

$$[\Phi(x)]_i = \phi(x_i, F_i(x))$$

- ▶ x^* solves complementarity problem iff $\Phi(x^*) = 0$
- ▶ Nonsmooth system of equations



Numerical Methods

Semismooth Algorithm

1. Calculate $H^k \in \partial_B \Phi(x^k)$ and solve the following system for d^k :

$$H^k d^k = -\Phi(x^k)$$

If this system either has no solution, or

$$\nabla \Psi(x^k)^T d^k \leq -\rho_1 \|d^k\|^{p_2}$$

is not satisfied, let $d^k = -\nabla \Psi(x^k)$.



Numerical Methods

Semismooth Algorithm

1. Calculate $H^k \in \partial_B \Phi(x^k)$ and solve the following system for d^k :

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If this system either has no solution, or

$$\nabla \Psi(x^k)^T d^k \leq -\rho_1 \|d^k\|^{p_2}$$

is not satisfied, let $d^k = -\nabla \Psi(x^k)$.

2. Compute smallest nonnegative integer i^k such that

$$\Psi(x^k + \beta^{i^k} d^k) \leq \Psi(x^k) + \sigma \beta^{i^k} \nabla \Psi(x^k) d^k$$

3. Set $x^{k+1} = x^k + \beta^{i^k} d^k$, $k = k + 1$, and go to 1.



Section 7

PATH Algorithm



PATH Algorithm

Overview

1. Crash a basis and determine proximal point
2. Solve the linearized complementarity problem
3. Perform a search with semismooth merit function
4. Restart with different options when the method fails



PATH Algorithm

Crashing a Basis

- ▶ Compute reduced problem

$$\begin{aligned}J_1 &= \{i \mid \ell_i < x_i < u_i\} \\J_2 &= \{i \mid \ell_i = x_i \text{ and } F_i(x) < 0\} \\J_3 &= \{i \mid u_i = x_i \text{ and } F_i(x) > 0\} \\J &= J_1 \cup J_2 \cup J_3\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Calculate modified direction

$$[\nabla F(x) + \mu I]_{J,J} d_J = -F_J(x)$$

- ▶ Perturbation $\mu > 0$ chosen to prevent singularity
- ▶ Search along direction to minimize merit function
- ▶ Update x, μ and repeat

Relevant options: `crash_method` and `crash_perturb`.



PATH Algorithm

Solving Linearization

- ▶ Variant of Lemke's method for solving

$$0 \in Mx + q + N_B(x)$$

- ▶ Construct a piecewise linear path
- ▶ Simplex method with complementarity pivoting



PATH Algorithm

Solving Linearization

- ▶ Variant of Lemke's method for solving

$$0 \in Mx + q + N_B(x)$$

- ▶ Construct a piecewise linear path
- ▶ Simplex method with complementarity pivoting
- ▶ Regular starts
 - ▶ Given initial starting point x^k
 - ▶ Construct invertible basis
 - ▶ Track path from x^k to \bar{x}^k
 - ▶ Piecewise linear path may cycle



PATH Algorithm

Solving Linearization

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- ▶ Construct a piecewise linear path
- ▶ Simplex method with complementarity pivoting
- ▶ Regular starts
 - ▶ Given initial starting point x^k
 - ▶ Construct invertible basis
 - ▶ Track path from x^k to \bar{x}^k
 - ▶ Piecewise linear path may cycle
- ▶ Lemke ray starts
 - ▶ Start from a ray
 - ▶ Path does not cycle for nondegenerate problems
 - ▶ Many pivots usually required from all slack basis
 - ▶ Advanced basis can be chosen to reduce pivots
 - ▶ Used during first major iteration if solve fails

Relevant options: `lemke_start` and `lemke_start_type`.



PATH Algorithm

Linear Method I

1. Check given basis for rank deficiency
 - ▶ Eliminate linearly dependent columns
 - ▶ Replace with slack or artificial variables
 - ▶ If process fails, then use all slack basis
2. Construct covering vector that enters basis
3. Determine leaving variable by ratio test
 - ▶ Expanded and devex ratio tests implemented
 - ▶ Priority assigned to artificial variables
 - ▶ If no leaving variable, then stop with ray termination
4. Determine entering variable by complementarity pivoting
 - ▶ If x_i leaves basis, then corresponding slack enters
 - ▶ If slack leaves basis, then corresponding x_i enters
 - ▶ If covering vector leaves basis, then stop at solution



PATH Algorithm

Linear Method II

5. Check for cycling in piecewise linear path
 - ▶ Count number of times variable enters basis
 - ▶ Reset counters when
 - ▶ Artificial variable leaves basis
 - ▶ Homotopy parameter larger than previous maximum
 - ▶ If count larger than threshold, then stop with cycling
6. If iteration limit reached, then stop
7. Go to Step 3
8. Refine solution
 - ▶ Project nonbasic variables onto bounds
 - ▶ Refactor the basis
 - ▶ Compute values for the basic variables
 - ▶ Project basic variables onto bounds



PATH Algorithm

Linear Algebra and Options

- ▶ LUSOL used for factorization and updates (Saunders)
 - ▶ Markovitz strategy for pivot selection
 - ▶ Threshold partial pivoting
 - ▶ Sparse rank-1 updates
- ▶ Relevant tolerance options
 - ▶ `factorization_small_tolerance`
 - ▶ `factorization_pivot_tolerance`
 - ▶ `factorization_zero_tolerance`
 - ▶ `factorization_update_limit`
- ▶ Diagnosing rank deficiency
 - ▶ `output_warnings`
 - ▶ `output_factorization_singularities`
- ▶ Cycling and artificial variables
 - ▶ `output_minor_iteration_frequency`



PATH Algorithm

Additional Details

- ▶ Scale the linear problems



PATH Algorithm

Additional Details

- ▶ Scale the linear problems
- ▶ Globalize with Fischer-Burmeister merit function
 - ▶ Nonmonotone search with watchdog strategy
 - ▶ Gradient steps used when direction is not good
 - ▶ Projections onto box within search



PATH Algorithm

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- ▶ Apply proximal point with resets
 - ▶ Used to deal with singularity problems
 - ▶ Modifies nonlinear problem with diagonal perturbation
 - ▶ Reset when difficulty encountered by linear solver



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- ▶ Apply proximal point with resets
 - ▶ Used to deal with singularity problems
 - ▶ Modifies nonlinear problem with diagonal perturbation
 - ▶ Reset when difficulty encountered by linear solver
- ▶ Use spacer steps performed after each major iteration
- ▶ Restart when necessary
 - ▶ Detect when algorithm is stalling
 - ▶ Restart algorithm with alternate options

Most relevant options: `nms_mstep_frequency` and `nms_memory_size`.



PATH Algorithm

Merit Functions

- ▶ Many merit functions can be used to measure progress
 - ▶ Complementarity error: $\|(-x_+), (-F(x))_+, x_+ \odot F(x)_+\|$
 - ▶ Normal map: $\|F(x_+) + x - x_+\|$
 - ▶ Minimum map: $\|\min\{x, F(x)\}\|$
 - ▶ Fischer-Burmeister function: $\|\Phi(x, F(x))\|$
 - ▶ Gradient of Fischer-Burmeister function: $\nabla \left[\frac{1}{2} \|\Phi(x, F(x))\|_2^2 \right]$



PATH Algorithm

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- ▶ Observe vastly different values for some problems
 - ▶ Particularly when $x \rightarrow \infty$ or $F(x) \rightarrow \infty$
 - ▶ Can happen when domain violations occur at solution



PATH Algorithm

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- ▶ Observe vastly different values for some problems
 - ▶ Particularly when $x \rightarrow \infty$ or $F(x) \rightarrow \infty$
 - ▶ Can happen when domain violations occur at solution
- ▶ Want *all* to be near zero to trust the solution

Inf-Norm of Complementarity	1.0311e-11	eqn: (profit(san-diego,new-york))
Inf-Norm of Normal Map	1.1369e-13	eqn: (prdemand(new-york))
Inf-Norm of Minimum Map	1.1369e-13	eqn: (prdemand(new-york))
Inf-Norm of Fischer Function	1.1369e-13	eqn: (prdemand(new-york))
Inf-Norm of Grad Fischer Fcn.	2.4809e-10	eqn: (prdemand(topeka))
Two-Norm of Grad Fischer Fcn.	3.4958e-10	



PATH Algorithm

Convergence Behaviors

- ▶ Superlinear/quadratic convergence – best outcome



PATH Algorithm

Convergence Behaviors

- ▶ Superlinear/quadratic convergence – best outcome
- ▶ Linear convergence
 - ▶ Far from a solution – merit function is large
 - ▶ Jacobian is incorrect – disrupts quadratic convergence
 - ▶ Jacobian is rank deficient – gradient of merit function is small
 - ▶ Converge to local minimizer – guarantees rank deficiency
 - ▶ Limits of finite precision arithmetic
 1. Merit function converges quadratically to small number
 2. Merit function hovers around that number with no progress



PATH Algorithm

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 - ▶ Limits of finite precision arithmetic
 1. Merit function converges quadratically to small number
 2. Merit function hovers around that number with no progress
- ▶ Domain violations – excessive backtracking in line search



Summary I

- ▶ Always ensure functions and Jacobians are defined
 - ▶ Confront and reformulate at the modeling stage
 - ▶ Report remaining domain violations to solver
 - ▶ Provide a good starting point



Summary I

- ▶ Always ensure functions and Jacobians are defined
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- ▶ Always match equations to appropriate variables
 - ▶ Automatically performing a good match is difficult
 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match
 - ▶ Required for effective preprocessing



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 - ▶ Confront and reformulate at the modeling stage
 - ▶ Report remaining domain violations to solver
 - ▶ Provide a good starting point
- ▶ Always match equations to appropriate variables
 - ▶ Automatically performing a good match is difficult
 - ▶ Modeler knows their problem and should convey the match
 - ▶ Required for effective preprocessing
- ▶ Always prefer a monotone formulation over other formulations
 - ▶ Use skew symmetric version of optimality conditions
 - ▶ Required for preprocessing and proximal perturbation
 - ▶ Check the skew symmetry report when in doubt



Summary II

- ▶ Analysis may determine model is infeasible
 - ▶ Infeasible models should be fixed by the modeler
 - ▶ List of preprocessing reductions can be obtained



Summary II

- ▶ Analysis may determine model is infeasible
 - ▶ Infeasible models should be fixed by the modeler
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- ▶ Use scaling when appropriate
 - ▶ Any consistent scaling for optimization problems
 - ▶ Symmetric diagonal scaling for complementarity problems
 - ▶ Beware when using unscaled solution!



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 - ▶ Beware when using unscaled solution!
- ▶ Rank deficiency can still be an issue
 - ▶ Solver can sometimes identify and eliminate dependencies
 - ▶ Solver may add a positive diagonal perturbation
 - ▶ Use linear algebra options to obtain report



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 - ▶ Solver can sometimes identify and eliminate dependencies
 - ▶ Solver may add a positive diagonal perturbation
 - ▶ Use linear algebra options to obtain report
- ▶ Always check the solution reported
 - ▶ Look for convergence issues in the iteration log
 - ▶ Make sure *all* the merit functions are close to zero

