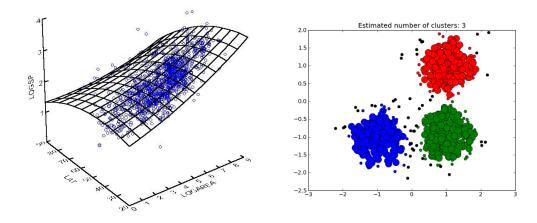
## Learning-Based Methods for Large-Scale Optimization

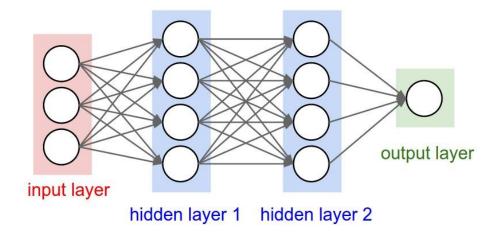
John Hooker Carnegie Mellon University

Whitney Symposium GE Global Research Center October 2016

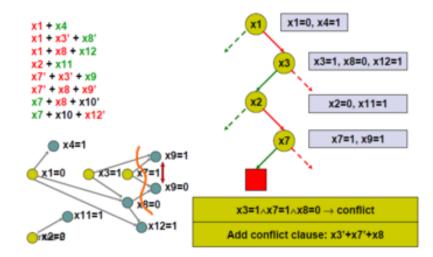
- Learning lies at the core of artificial intelligence
  - Statistical methods
    - Regression, clustering, pattern recognition



- Neural networks
  - "Deep learning" in multilayer networks



- Another type of learning has been developing in the optimization and constraint solving communities.
  - Conflict-directed learning



#### Conflict-directed learning

- Satisfiability (SAT) solvers
  - Conflict-directed clause learning
  - Modern solvers can deal with huge problems

#### Decomposition methods

- Conflict-directed constraint learning
- Yields logic-based Benders cuts
- Can break huge problems into smaller pieces
- Common strategy: learn from your mistakes

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#### Decomposition methods

- Conflict-directed constraint learning
- Yields logic-based Benders cuts
- Can break huge problems into smaller pieces
- Common strategy: learn from your mistakes
- This is all coming together
  - Conflict clauses = special case of Benders cuts!

# Outline

- Learning in **satisfiability** (SAT) algorithms
  - Example: product configuration
  - Example: robot motion planning
  - Applications of SAT
  - SAT solvers
- Learning in Benders decomposition
  - Classical Benders decomposition
  - Logic-based Benders decomposition
  - Example: machine scheduling
  - Applications of logic-based Benders
  - Example: logical inference
  - Example: home health care
  - References

# Outline

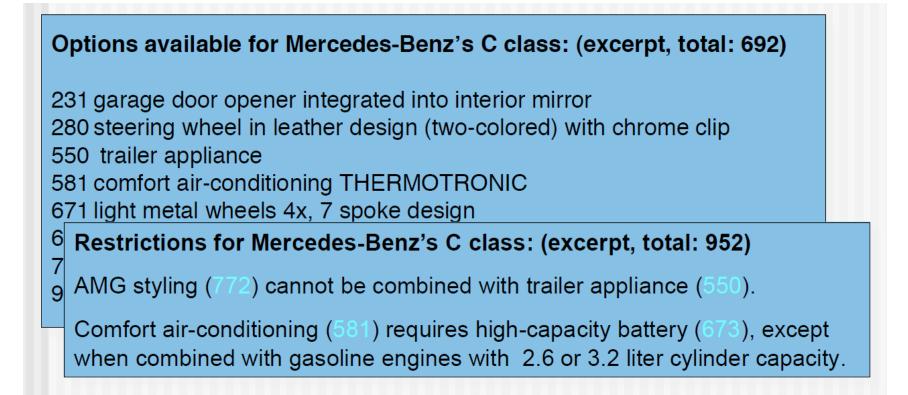
- Regarding the future of AI
  - Codifying ethics
  - Autonomous machines and ethics

# **Two SAT Applications**

- Product configuration
  - Daimler-Benz
- Robot motion planning







Source: Carsten Sinz, Johannes Kepler University Linz

#### Restrictions for Mercedes-Benz's C class: (excerpt, total: 952)

AMG styling (772) cannot be combined with trailer appliance (550).

Comfort air-conditioning (581) requires high-capacity battery (673), except when combined with gasoline engines with 2.6 or 3.2 liter cylinder capacity.

#### Configuration rule

not (772 and 550)

Translation to logical clause(s)

#### Restrictions for Mercedes-Benz's C class: (excerpt, total: 952)

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Comfort air-conditioning (581) requires high-capacity battery (673), except when combined with gasoline engines with 2.6 or 3.2 liter cylinder capacity.

#### Configuration rule

not (772 and 550)

if not(2.6L or 3.2L)then (581 implies 673) Translation to logical clause(s)

$$\neg 772 \lor \neg 550$$

 $2.6L \lor 3.2L \lor \neg 581 \lor 673$ 

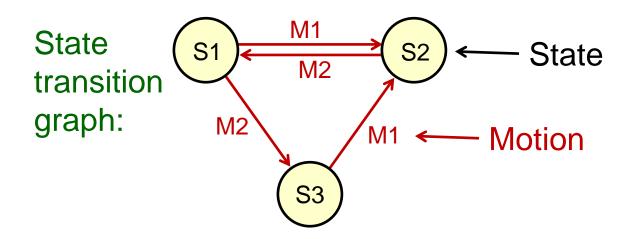
#### More realistic configuration rule:

 $\begin{array}{l} ((-L/(M111+M23+M001/M112+M28/M113)+- \\ (220/248/289/331/480/481/500/540/611/656/657+956/819/875+-(460/M113)/882/W10/Y94/Y95/X35/\\ X59/X62))+-R)+((-L/M113+-X62/M112+M28+-(772/774/X62)/M111+M23+M001+-(280+-460/772/774/X62))+-R)+((-L/M112+M28+222+223+231+254+292+423+(460/249+461+551+810)+(524+668+634+636/820)+543+581+679+(955+265+657+(140A/200A))/956+570+(201A/208A))+809/M112+M28+221+222+231+254+292+(349/460)+423+(460/249+461+551+810)+(524+668+634+636/820)+543+581+679+955+265+657+(140A/200A))+800/M112+M28+221+222+231+254+292+(349/460)+423+(460/249+461+551+810)+(524+668+634+636/820)+543+581+679+955+265+657+(140A/200A)+800/M112+M28+221+222+231+254+292+(349/460)+423+(460/249+461+551+810)+(524+668+634+636/820)+543+580A+800/M113+231+249+254+265+(34)+(460/461)+(551/460)+(524+668+634+636/820)+543+580A+800/M113+231+249+254+265+(34)+(460/461)+(551/460)+(810/460)+(524+668+634+636/820)+543+580A+800/M113+231+249+254+265+(34)+(3400)+(411+(460/461)+(551/460)+(810/460)+(524+668+634+636/820)+543+580A+800/M111+M2)+(521+231+249+254+265+(34)+3400)+(521+231+249+254+265+(34)+360/820)+543+580A+800/M111+M2)+(521+231+249+254+292+423+(524+668+634+636/820)+543+580A+800/M111+M2)+(521+231+249+254+292+423+(524+634...)) \\ \end{array}{$ 

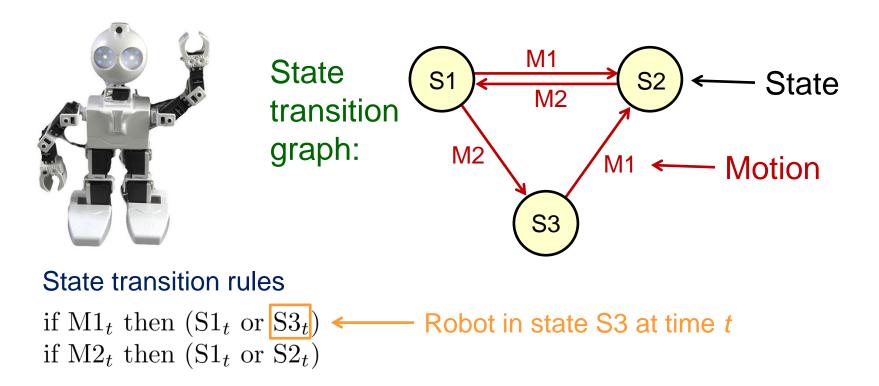
Combine rules and customer choices to form a clause set. Solve a SAT problem to check if configuration is feasible.

#### **Robot Motion Planning**





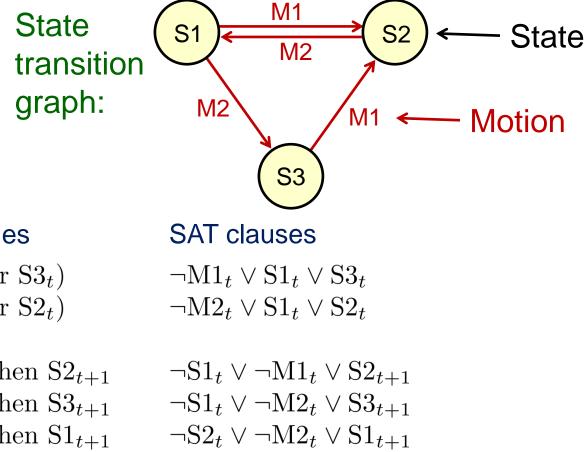
#### **Robot Motion Planning**



if  $(S1_t \text{ and } M1_t)$  then  $S2_{t+1}$ if  $(S1_t \text{ and } M2_t)$  then  $S3_{t+1}$ if  $(S2_t \text{ and } M2_t)$  then  $S1_{t+1}$ if  $(S3_t \text{ and } M1_t)$  then  $S2_{t+1}$ not $(M1_t \text{ and } M2_t)$ 

#### **Robot Motion Planning**





 $\neg S3_t \lor \neg M1_t \lor S2_{t+1}$ 

 $\neg M1_t \lor \neg M2_t$ 

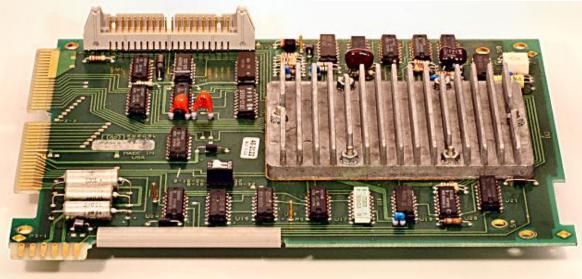
#### State transition rules

if  $M1_t$  then  $(S1_t \text{ or } S3_t)$ if  $M2_t$  then  $(S1_t \text{ or } S2_t)$ 

if  $(S1_t \text{ and } M1_t)$  then  $S2_{t+1}$ if  $(S1_t \text{ and } M2_t)$  then  $S3_{t+1}$ if  $(S2_t \text{ and } M2_t)$  then  $S1_{t+1}$ if  $(S3_t \text{ and } M1_t)$  then  $S2_{t+1}$ not $(M1_t \text{ and } M2_t)$ 

- Model checking
  - Microprocessor verification
  - Software debugging
  - Device driver verification
  - Expert system verification





- AI Planning
  - Robot motion planning
  - Autonomous vehicle control
  - Spacecraft mission planning
  - Equipment maintenance
  - Evacuation planning





- Combinatorial design
  - Design of experiments
  - Cryptography
  - Drug design and testing
  - Crop rotation schedules





- Product configuration
- Other applications
  - Test pattern generation
  - Traffic network scheduling
  - Optimal control
  - Multi-agent systems
  - Electronic auctions
  - Sports scheduling
  - Puzzle solving (e.g. sudoku)



5	3	4	6	7	8	9	1	2
6	7	2	1	9	5	3	4	8
1	9	8	3	4	2	5	6	7
8	5	9	7	6	1	4	2	3
4	2	6	8	5	3	7	9	1
7	1	3	9	2	4	8	5	6
9	6	1	5	3	7	2	8	4
2	8	7	4	1	9	6	3	5
3	4	5	2	8	6	1	7	9

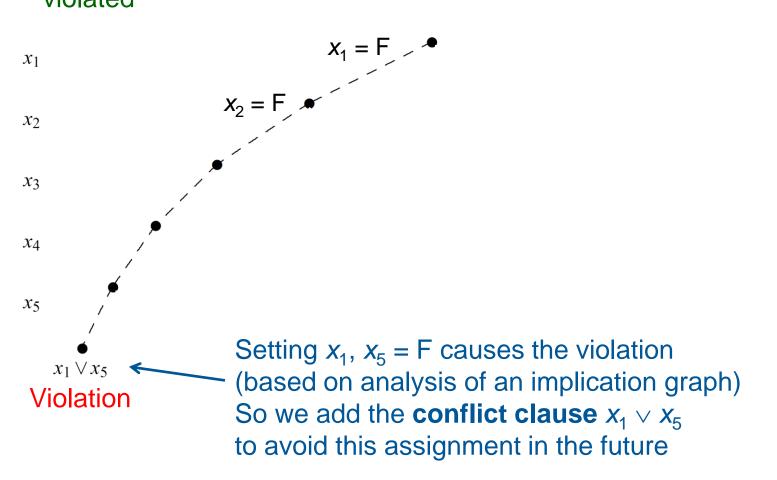
## SAT Solver Improvement

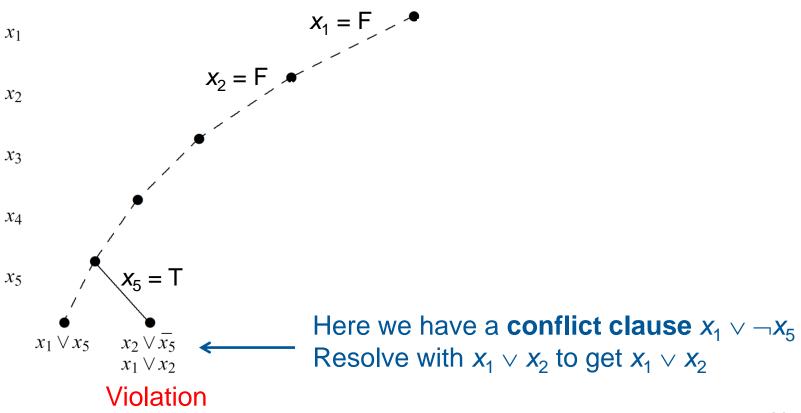
- Early 1990s:
  - 100 variables, 200 clauses
- Today:
  - > 1 million variables, > 5 million clauses
  - Mainly algorithmic improvements, not faster computers
- How is this possible?
  - Mainly due to **conflict-directed clause learning**
  - That is, generation of **conflict clauses**

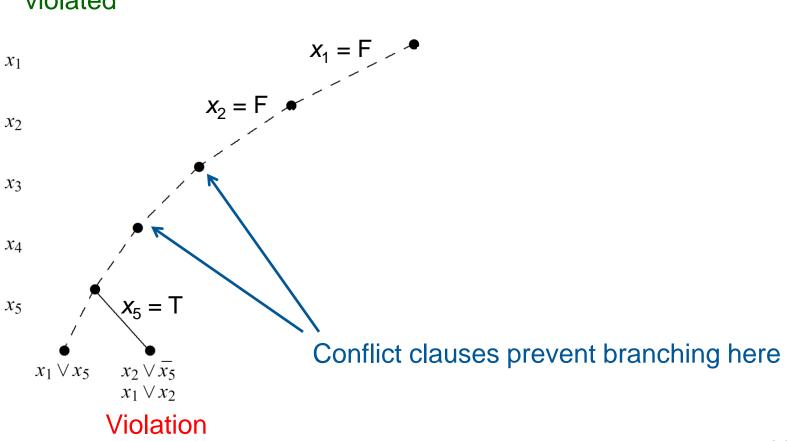
• We wish to solve the SAT instance

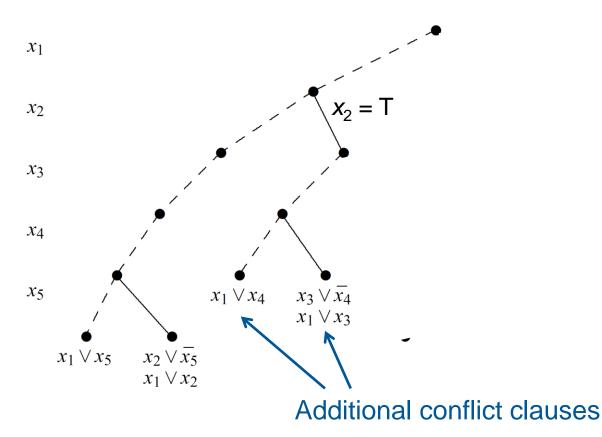
$x_1$			$\lor$	$x_4$	$\lor$	$x_5$	
$x_1$			$\lor$	$x_4$	$\lor$	$\bar{x}_5$	
$x_1$					$\lor$	$x_5$	$\lor x_6$
$x_1$					$\lor$	$x_5$	$\vee \bar{x}_6$
	$x_2$				$\lor$	$\bar{x}_5$	$\lor x_6$
	$x_2$				$\lor$	$\bar{x}_5$	$\vee \bar{x}_6$
		$x_3$	$\lor$	$\bar{x}_4$	$\lor$	$x_5$	
		$x_3$	$\lor$	$\bar{x}_4$	$\lor$	$\bar{x}_5$	

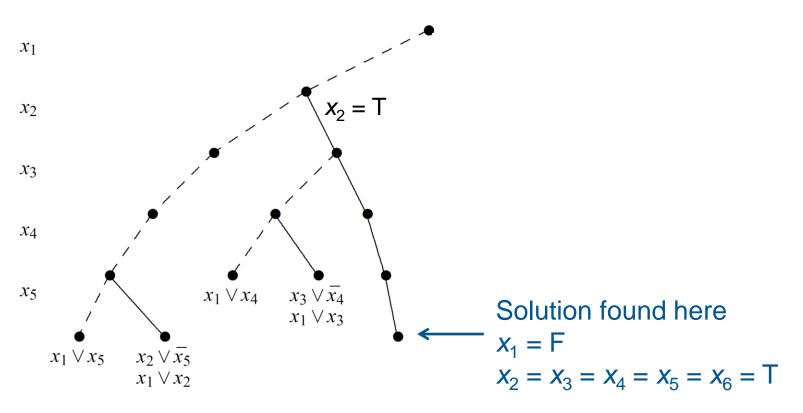
Find an assignment of True and False to variables  $x_j$  that satisfies all clauses











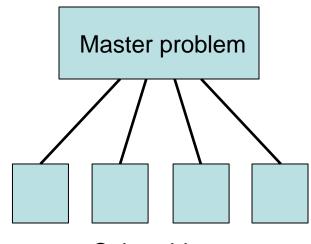
# Decomposition

- **Decomposition** breaks a large problem into subproblems that can be solved separately.
  - But with some kind of communication among the subproblems.
  - Decomposition is an **essential strategy** for solving today's ever larger and more interconnected models.



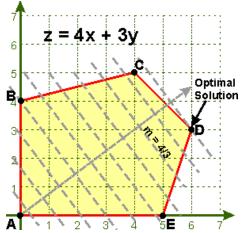
# **Benders Decomposition**

- **Benders decomposition** is a classical strategy that does not sacrifice overall optimality.
  - Separates the problem into a master problem and multiple subproblems.
    - Variables are partitioned between master and subproblems.
    - Exploits the fact that the problem may radically simplify when the master problem variables are fixed to a set of values.

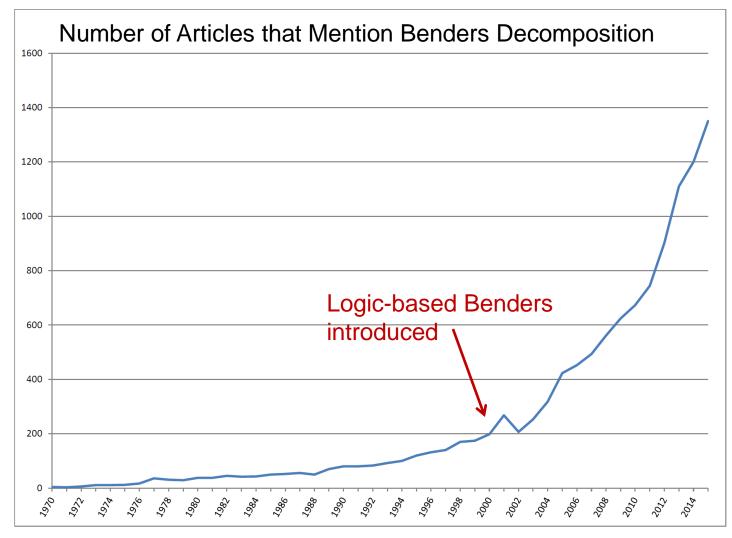


# **Benders Decomposition**

- But classical Benders decomposition has
   **a serious limitation.**
  - The subproblems must be linear programming problems.
    - Or continuous nonlinear programming problems.
    - The linear programming dual provides the Benders cuts.



- Logic-based Benders decomposition attempts to overcome this limitation.
  - The subproblems can, in principle, be any kind of optimization problem.
    - The Benders cuts are obtained from an inference dual.
  - Speedup over state of the art can be several orders of magnitude.
  - Yet the Benders cuts must be designed specifically for every class of problems.



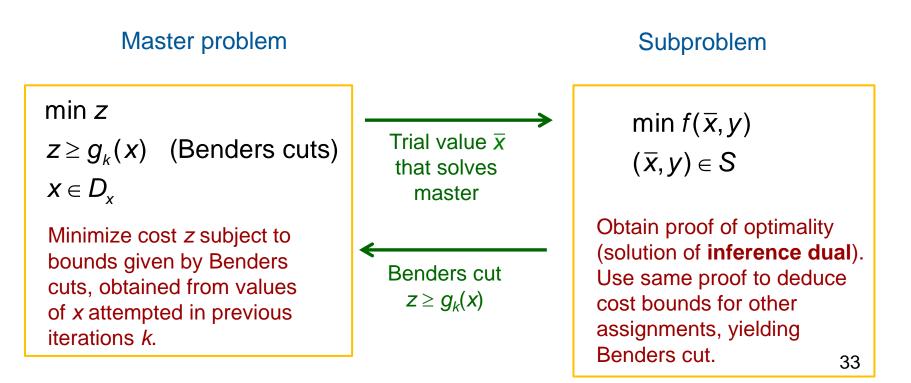
Source: Google Scholar

 Logic-based Benders decomposition solves a problem of the form

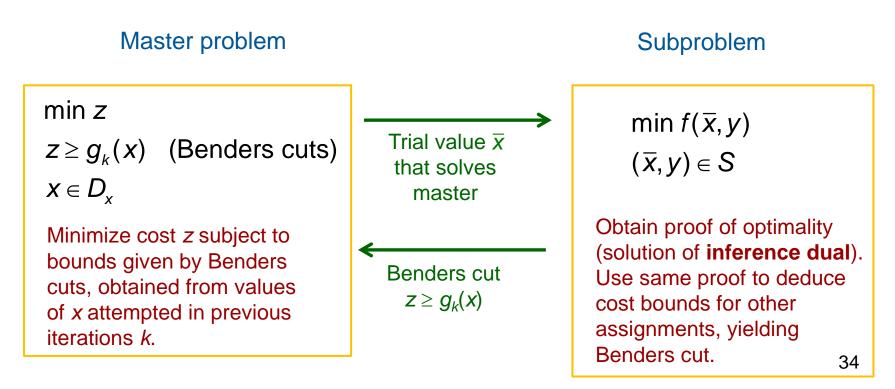
 $\min f(x, y)$  $(x, y) \in S$  $x \in D_x, y \in D_y$ 

Where the problem simplifies when *x* is fixed to a specific value.

- Decompose problem into master and subproblem.
  - Subproblem is obtained by fixing x to solution value in master problem.



- Iterate until master problem value equals best subproblem value so far.
  - This yields optimal solution.

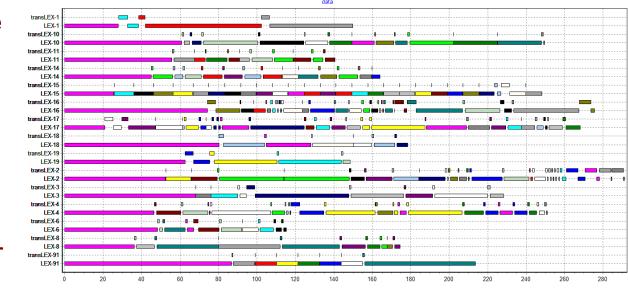


# **Machine Scheduling**

- Assign tasks to machines.
- Then schedule tasks assigned to each machine.
  - Subject to time windows.
  - Cumulative scheduling: several tasks can run simultaneously, subject
     to resource

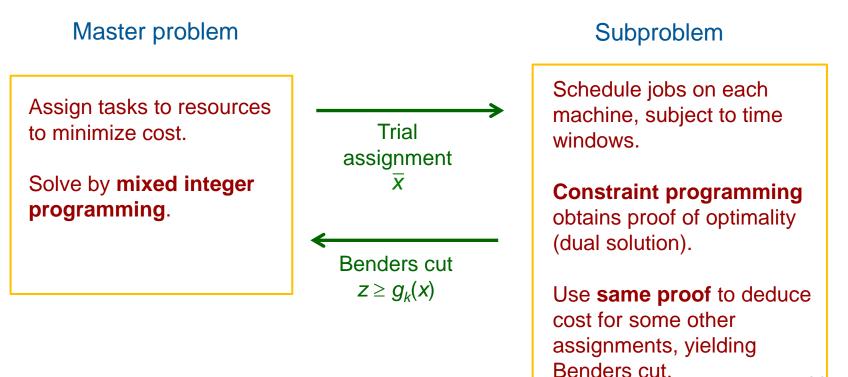
limits.

Scheduling problem
 decouples
 into a
 separate
 problem for
 each
 machine.



# **Machine Scheduling**

- Assign tasks in master, schedule in subproblem.
  - Combine mixed integer programming and constraint programming



# **Machine Scheduling**

- Objective function
  - Cost is based on task assignment only.

cost =  $\sum_{ij} c_{ij} x_{ij}$ ,  $x_{ij} = 1$  if task *j* assigned to resource *i* 

- So cost appears only in the **master problem**.
- Scheduling subproblem is a feasibility problem.

# **Machine Scheduling**

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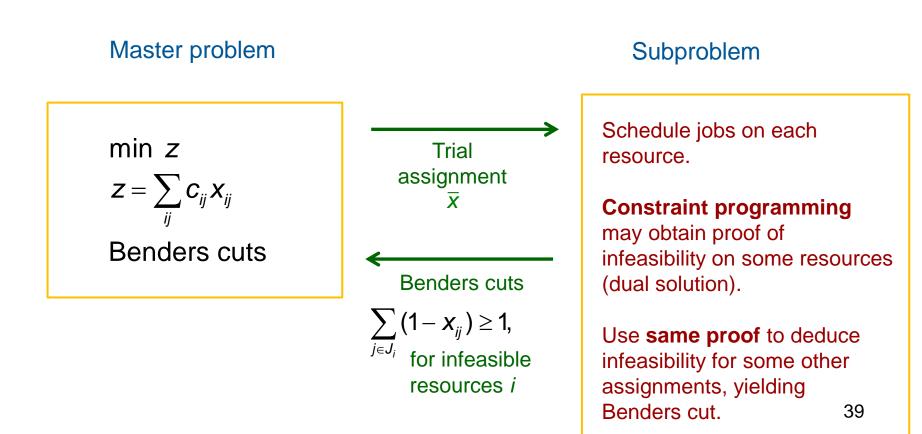
- So cost appears only in the **master problem**.
- Scheduling subproblem is a feasibility problem.
- Benders cuts

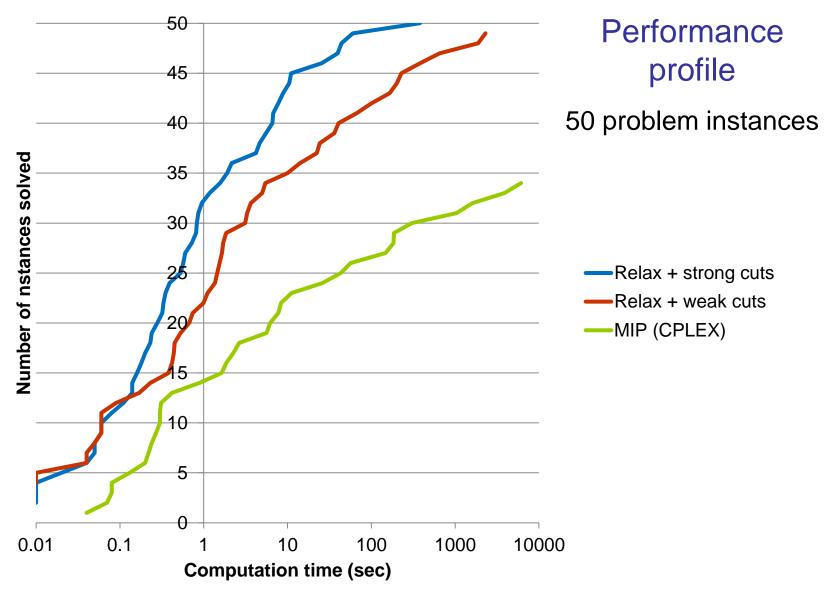
- They have the form 
$$\sum_{j \in J_i} (1 - x_{ij}) \ge 1$$
, all *i*

- where  $J_i$  is a set of tasks that create infeasibility when assigned to resource *i*.

# **Machine Scheduling**

• Resulting Benders decomposition:





- Planning and scheduling:
  - Machine allocation and scheduling
  - Steel production scheduling
  - Chemical batch processing (BASF, etc.)
  - Auto assembly line management (Peugeot-Citroën)
  - Allocation and scheduling of multicore processors (IBM, Toshiba, Sony)
  - Worker assignment in a queuing environment



- Other scheduling
  - Lock scheduling
  - Shift scheduling
  - Permutation flow shop scheduling with time lags
  - Resource-constrained scheduling
  - Hospital scheduling
  - Optimal control of dynamical systems
  - Sports scheduling



- Routing and scheduling
  - Vehicle routing
  - Home health care
  - Food distribution
  - Automated guided vehicles in flexible manufacturing
  - Traffic diversion around blocked routes
  - Concrete delivery



- Location and Design
  - Wireless local area network design
  - Facility location-allocation
  - Stochastic facility location and fleet management
  - Capacity and distanceconstrained plant location
  - Queuing design and control





- Other
  - Logical inference
  - Logic circuit verification
  - Bicycle sharing
  - Service restoration in a network
  - Inventory management
  - Supply chain management
  - Space packing



- A fundamental problem in the information age.
  - Can use SAT solvers or logic-based Benders to deduce facts from a knowledge base.



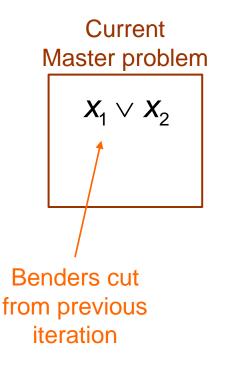
- Draw inferences from a clause set
  - Infer everything we can about propositions  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ ,  $x_3$

We can deduce  $X_1 \lor X_2$  $X_1 \lor X_3$ 

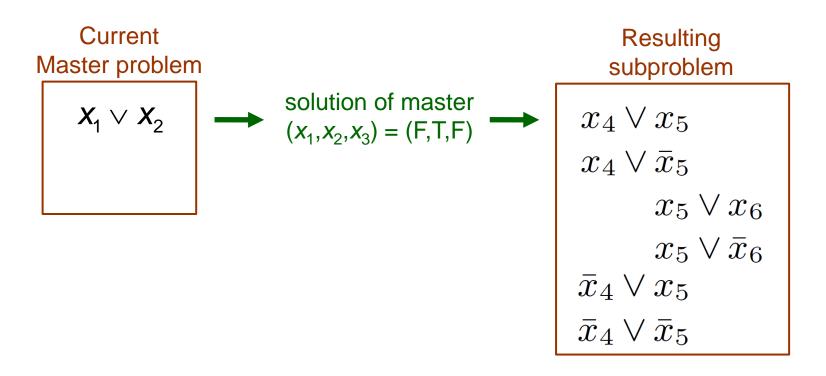
This is a **projection** onto  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ ,  $x_3$ 

$x_1$			$\lor x_4 \lor x_5$
$x_1$			$\lor x_4 \lor \bar{x}_5$
$x_1$			$\lor x_5 \lor x_6$
$x_1$			$\lor x_5 \lor \bar{x}_6$
	$x_2$		$\vee \bar{x}_5 \vee x_6$
	$x_2$		$\vee \bar{x}_5 \vee \bar{x}_6$
		$x_3$	$\lor \bar{x}_4 \lor x_5$
		$x_3$	$\vee \bar{x}_4 \vee \bar{x}_5$

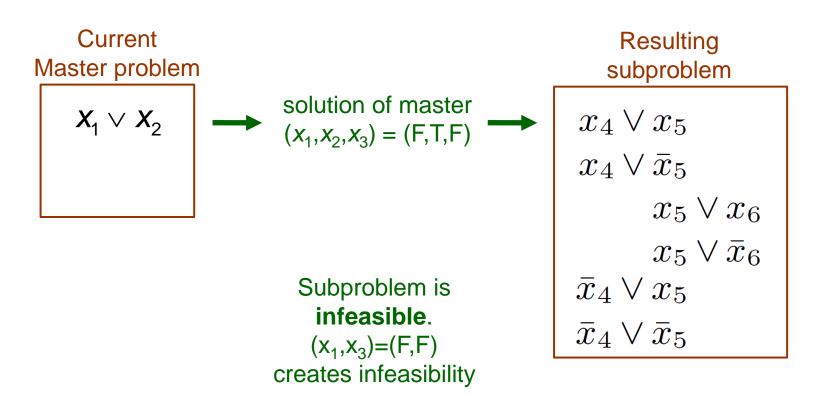
- Benders decomposition computes a projection!
  - Benders cuts describe projection onto master problem variables.



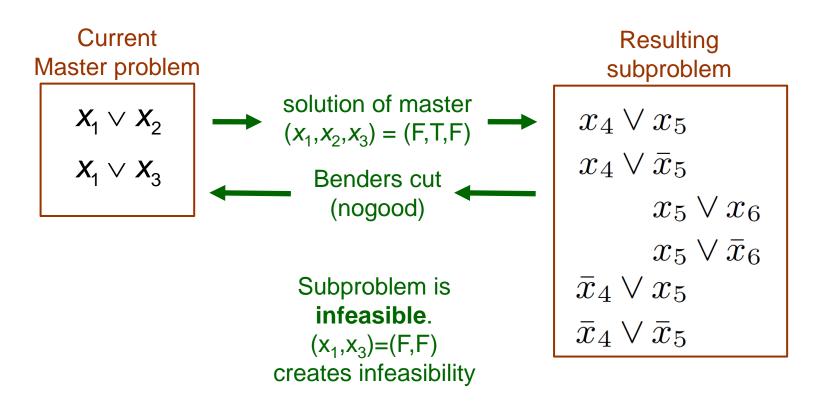
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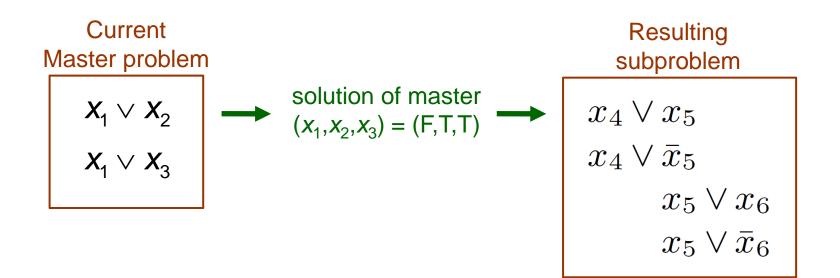
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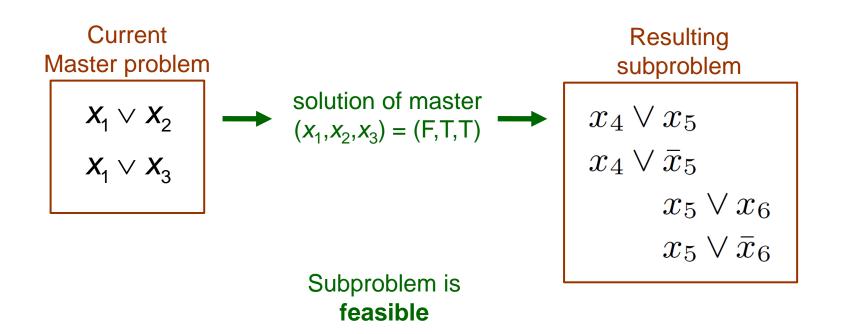
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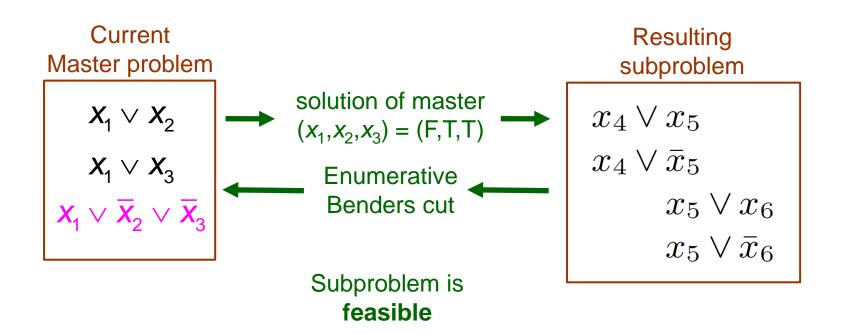
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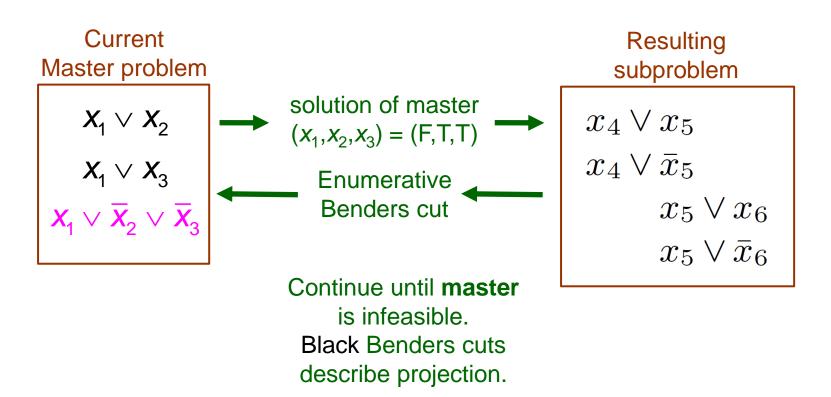
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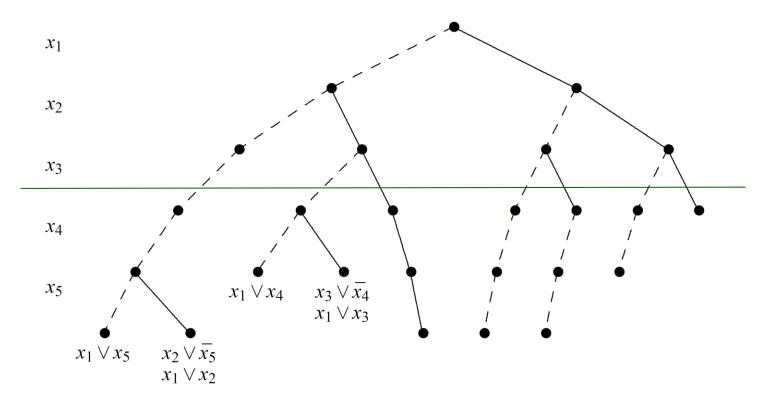
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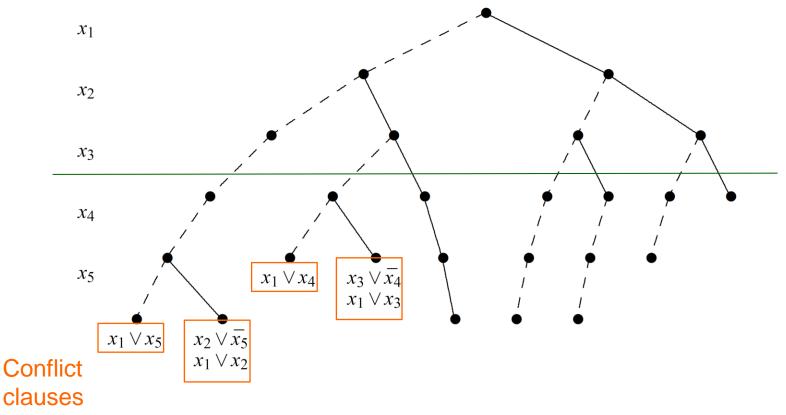
- Satisfiability methods solve the problem by generating Benders cuts!
  - Conflict clauses = Benders cuts

Benders cuts = conflict clauses in a SAT algorithm

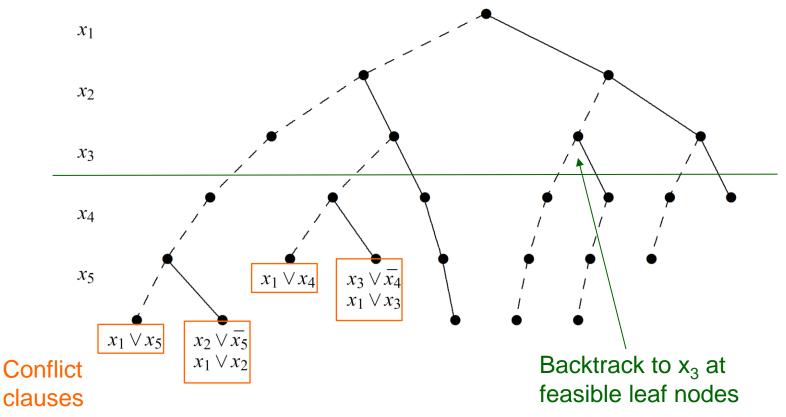
<sup>-</sup> Branch on  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ ,  $x_3$  first.



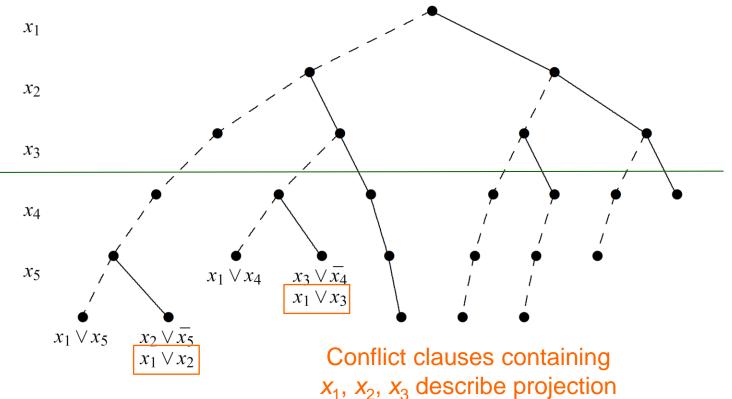
- Benders cuts = conflict clauses in a SAT algorithm
  - Branch on  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ ,  $x_3$  first.



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- Benders cuts = conflict clauses in a SAT algorithm
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- General home health care problem.
  - Assign aides to homebound patients.
    - ...subject to constraints on aide qualifications and patent preferences.
    - One patient may require a team of aides.
  - Route each aide through assigned patients, observing time windows.
    - ...subject to constraints on hours, breaks, etc.



- A large industry, and rapidly growing.
  - Roughly as large as all courier and delivery services.

#### Projected Growth of Home Health Care Industry

	2014	2018
U.S. revenues, \$ billions	75	150
World revenues, \$ billions	196	306

#### Increase in U.S. Employment, 2010-2020

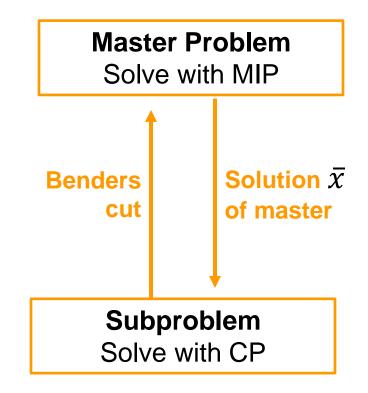
Home health care industry	70%
Entire economy	14%

- Advantages of home health care
  - Lower cost
    - Hospital & nursing home care is very expensive.
  - No hospital-acquired infections
    - Less exposure to superbugs.
  - Preferred by patients
    - Comfortable, familiar surroundings of home.
    - Sense of control over one's life.
  - Supported by new equipment & technology
    - IT integration with hospital systems.
    - Online consulting with specialists.

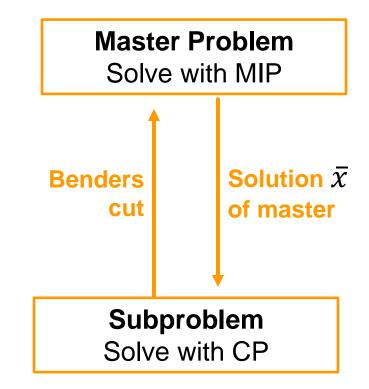
- Critical factor to realize cost savings:
  - Aides must be **efficiently** scheduled.
- This is our task.
  - Focus on home hospice care.
  - Rolling schedule update as patient population evolves



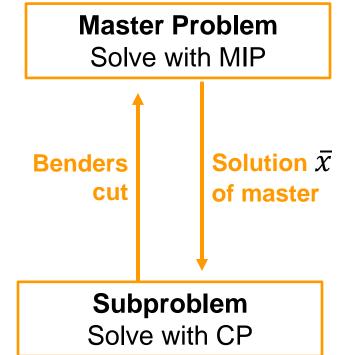
- Solve with Benders decomposition.
  - Assign aides to patients in master problem.
    - Maximize number of patients served by a given set of aides.

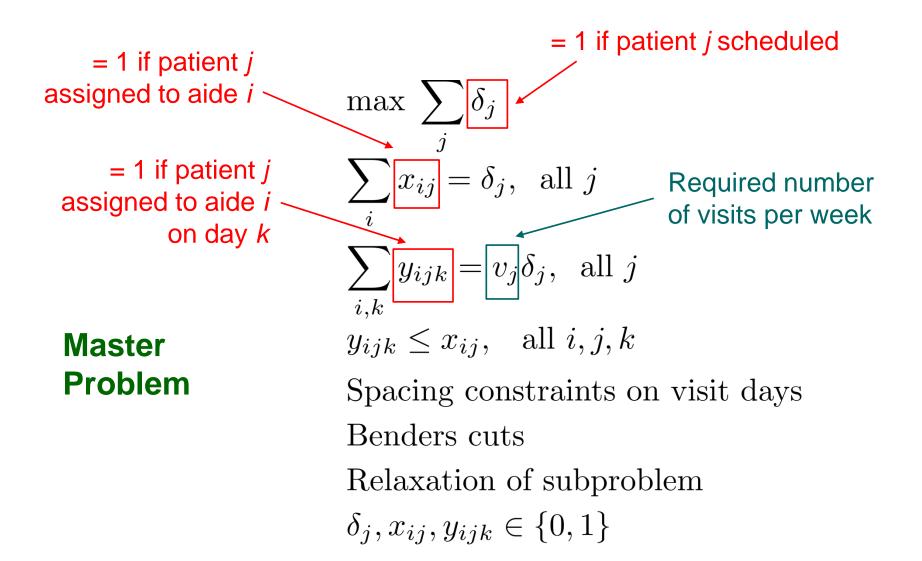


- Solve with Benders decomposition.
  - Assign aides to patients in master problem.
    - Maximize number of patients served by a given set of aides.
  - Schedule home visits in subproblem.
    - Cyclic weekly schedule.
    - No visits on weekends.



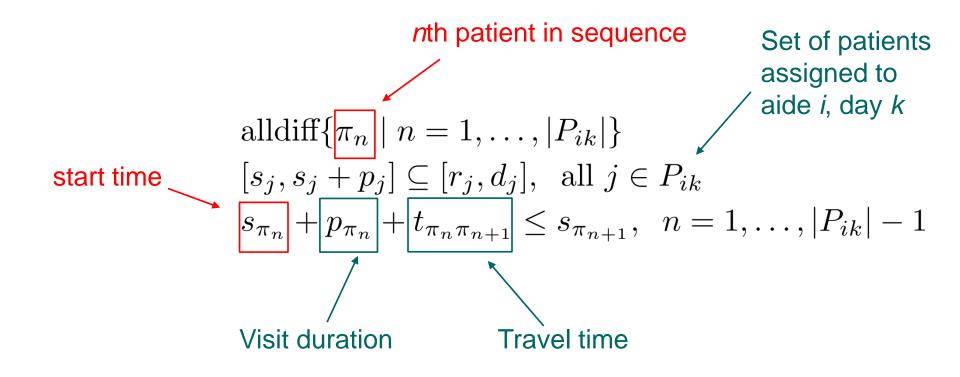
- Solve with Benders decomposition.
  - Assign aides to patients in master problem.
    - Maximize number of patients served by a given set of aides.
  - Schedule home visits in subproblem.
    - Cyclic weekly schedule.
    - No visits on weekends.
  - Subproblem decouples into a scheduling problem for each aide and each day of the week.





- For a rolling schedule:
  - Schedule new patients, drop departing patients from schedule.
    - Provide continuity for remaining patients as follows:
  - Old patients served by same aide on same days.
    - Fix  $y_{ijk} = 1$  for the relevant aides, patients, and days.

#### Scheduling subproblem for aide *i*, day *k*



Modeled with interval variables in CP solver.

- Benders cuts.
  - Find a small set of patients that create infeasibility...
    - ...by re-solving the each infeasible scheduling problem repeatedly.

$$\sum_{j\in\bar{P}_{ik}}(1-y_{ijk})\geq 1$$

Reduced set of patients whose assignment to aide *i* on day *k* creates infeasibility

- Auxiliary cuts based on symmetries.
  - A cut for valid for aide *i*, day *k* is also valid for aide *i* on other days.
    - This gives rise to a large number of cuts.
  - The auxiliary cuts can be summed without sacrificing optimality.
    - Original cut ensures convergence to optimum.
    - This yields 2 cuts per aide:

$$\sum_{j\in\bar{P}_{ik}}(1-y_{ijk})\ge 1$$

$$\sum_{k \neq k} \sum_{j \in \bar{P}_{ik}} (1 - y_{ijk'}) \ge 4$$

- Include relaxation of subproblem in the master problem.
  - Necessary for good performance.
  - Use time window relaxation for each scheduling problem.
  - Simplest relaxation for aide *i* and day *k*:

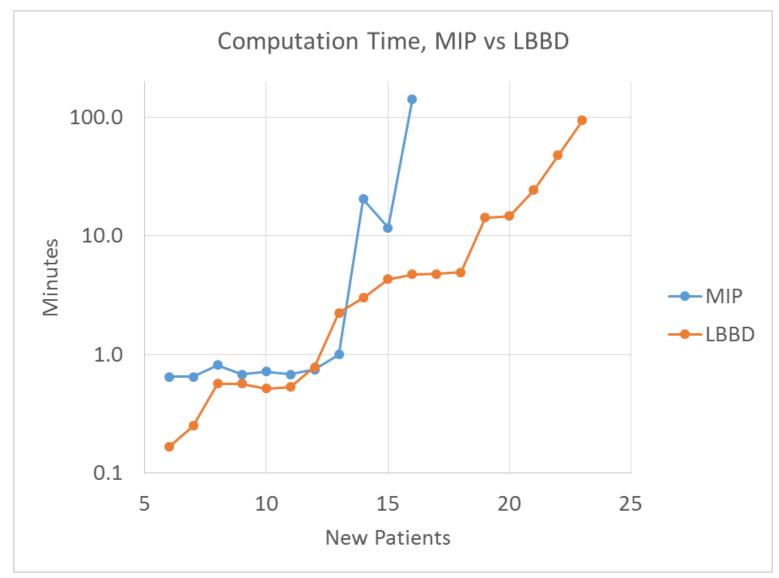
$$\sum_{j \in J(a,b)} p_j y_{ijk} \le b - a$$

$$f$$
Set of patients whose time window

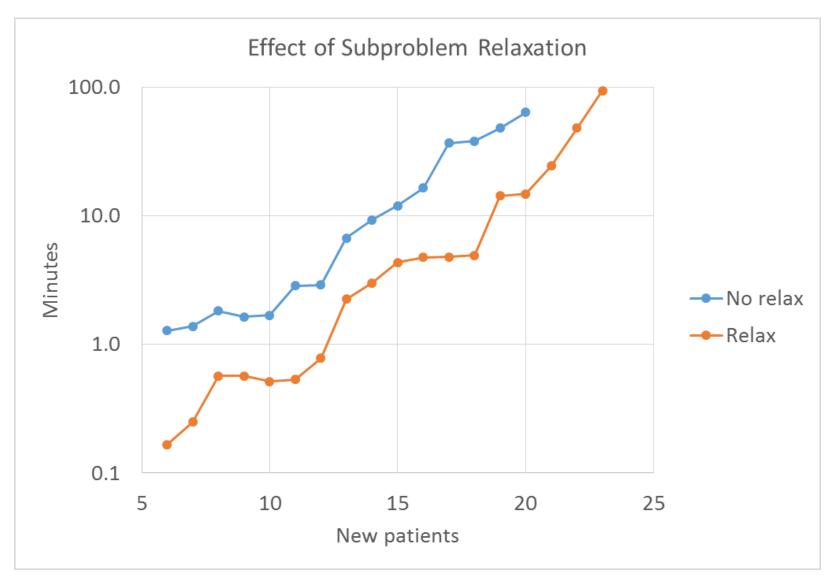
fits in interval [a, b].

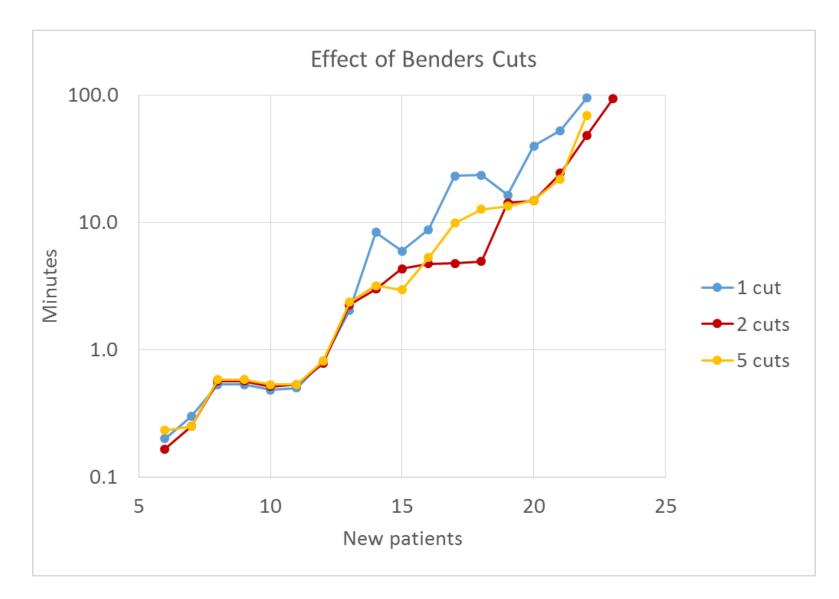
Can use several intervals.

- Improved relaxation.
  - Basic idea: Augment visit duration p<sub>j</sub> with travel time to (or from) location j from closest patient or aide home base.



- Practical implications
  - LBBD scales up to realistic size
    - One month advance planning in 60 patient population
    - Assuming 5-8% weekly turnover
  - Advantage of **exact** solution method
    - We know **for sure** whether existing staff will cover projected demand.





#### References

#### **Applications of Logic-Based Benders Decomposition**

Benders decomposition [7] was introduced in 1962 to solve applications that become linear programming (LP) problems when certain *search variables* are fixed. "Generalized" Benders decomposition, proposed by Geoffrion in 1972 [25], extended the method to nonlinear programming subproblems.

*Logic-based Benders decomposition* (LBBD) allows the subproblem to be any optimization problem. LBBD was introduced in [32], formally developed in 2000 [33], and tested computationally in [39]. *Branch and check* is introduced in [33] and tested computationally in [69]. *Combinatorial Benders cuts* for mixed integer programming are proposed in [18].

One of the first applications [43] was a planning and scheduling problem. Updated experiments [17] show that LBBD is orders of magnitude faster than state-of-the-art MIP, with the advantage over CP even greater). Similar results have been obtained for various planning and scheduling problems [15, 21, 30, 34, 35, 37, 71].

Other successful applications of LBBD include steel production scheduling [29], inventory management [74], concrete delivery [44], shop scheduling [3, 13, 27, 28, 59], hospital scheduling [57], batch scheduling in chemical plants [49, 70], computer processor scheduling [8, 9, 12, 22, 31, 46, 47, 48, 58, 62], logic circuit verification [40], shift scheduling [5, 60], lock scheduling [73], facility location [23, 66], space packing [20, 50], vehicle routing [19, 51, 53, 56, 61, 75], bicycle sharing [45], network design [24, 52, 63, 65], home health care [16], service restoration [26], supply chain management [68], food distribution [64], queuing design and control [67], optimal control of dynamical systems [11], propositional satisfiability [1], quadratic programming [2, 41, 42], chordal completion [10], and sports scheduling [14, 54, 55, 72]. LBBD is compared with branch and check in [6]. It is implemented in the general-purpose solver SIMPL [76].

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# Future of AI

- Superintelligence + autonomy = a threat?
  - How do we formulate ethics for a machine?
  - Or for humans!
  - We are making progress: analytical normative ethics.
- Do autonomous machines have rights and duties?
  - Do you have to be nice to your robot?
  - A truly autonomous machine is ethical!

