

A Note on LP Relaxations for the 1D Cutting Stock Problem with Setup Costs

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- ▶ The cutting stock problem with setup costs
- ▶ A compact mathematical model
- ▶ Reformulations by discretization
- ▶ Reformulations' lower bound analysis
- ▶ The role of damned *big M*
- ▶ Some computational results

1D Cutting Stock Problem with setup costs

1D Cutting Stock Problem (CSP)

Input

- ▶ an unlimited number of identical stock items (e.g. steel bars) of given length w ;
- ▶ a set I of 1D part-types. For each $i \in I$, let $w_i \leq w$ and $d_i > 0$ be respectively the length and the demand of part-type i ;

Objective

- ▶ Satisfy the demand of part types minimizing the number z^* of used stock items

Output

- ▶ A set of *cutting patterns* and the number of times each pattern is replicated (*activation levels*).

Pattern Minimization Problem (PMP)

Objective

- ▶ Given z^* , minimize the number of different cutting patterns that are used (the number of cutting machine setups)

A mathematical model for PMP

a compact quadratic integer programming formulation (Vanderbeek, 1999) is the natural extension of the assignment formulation for CSP (Kantorovich, 1960).

Parameters:

w	length of stock items
(w_i, d_i)	lengths and demands of part-types ($i \in I$)
z^*	value of an optimal CSP solution

Binary variables:

$$y_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if cutting pattern } j \text{ is used at least once} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Integer variables:

x_{ij}	number of items of part-type i cut from a stock item when cutting pattern j is used
u_j	activation level of cutting pattern j

Number of distinct cutting patterns

Demand satisfaction of part type i (non linear)

feasibility of cutting pattern j

Upper bound on the number of used stock items

activation of cutting pattern j

$$\min \sum_{j=1}^{z^*} y_j$$

[KAN]

$$\sum_{j=1}^{z^*} z_j x_{ij} = d_i \quad i \in I$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} w_i x_{ij} \leq w y_j \quad j = 1, \dots, z^*$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{z^*} z_j \leq z^*$$

$$z_j \leq z^* y_j \quad j = 1, \dots, z^*$$

The formulation exhibits some symmetry

The linearization leads to a linear integer formulation having a weak linear relaxation

$$\min \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$$

where

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}$$

$$X = P \cap \mathbb{Z}_+$$

$$\mathbf{x} \in X$$

$P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is a polytope

secretization is an integer analogue to the Dantzig-Wolfe decomposition principle for linear programming.

$$X = \{\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_q\}$$

$$X = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \left| \mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^q \lambda_i \mathbf{p}_i, \sum_{i=1}^q \lambda_i = 1, \lambda \in \{0,1\}^q \right. \right\}$$

If $\text{conv}(X) \subset P$ the decomposition provides a reformulation whose linear programming relaxation yields a tight lower bound.

Substitution for \mathbf{x} yields an integer program whose linear relaxation is typically solved by column generation

Reformulation [VAN]

$$\sum_{j=1}^{z^*} y_j$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{z^*} z_j x_{ij} = d_i \quad i \in I$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} w_i x_{ij} \leq w y_j \quad j = 1, \dots, z^*$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{z^*} z_j \leq z^*$$

$$z_j \leq z^* y_j \quad j = 1, \dots, z^*$$

Polytope P

$$\min \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{x=1}^{u_k} \lambda_{kx}$$

[VAN]

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{x=1}^{u_k} x a_{ik} \lambda_{kx} = d_i \quad i \in I$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{x=1}^{u_k} x \lambda_{kx} \leq z^*$$

$$\lambda_{kx} \in \{0, 1\} \quad k \in K, x = 1, \dots, u_k$$

Parameters

K set of all the feasible cutting patterns

a_{ik} number of parts of type i yielded by pattern k

u_k upper bound to the activation level of pattern k

$$u_k = \min_{i \in I, a_{ik} > 0} \left\{ z^*, \lfloor d_i / a_{ik} \rfloor \right\}$$

Variables

$\lambda_{kx} = 1$ iff pattern k is applied x times in the solution

al prices

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mu: \\ \sigma: \end{array} \right. \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{x=1}^{u_k} x a_{ik} \lambda_{kx} = d_i \quad i \in I \\ \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{x=1}^{u_k} x \lambda_{kx} \leq z^* \end{array} \right.$$

$$\min \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{x=1}^{u_k} \lambda_{kx}$$

[VAN]

$$\lambda_{kx} \in \{0,1\}$$

$$k \in K, x = 1, \dots, u_k$$

Pricing Problem

$$\min \left(1 - x \left(\sum_{i \in I} \mu_i q_i - \sigma \right) \right)$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} w_i q_i \leq w$$

$$x q_i \leq d_i \quad i \in I$$

$$q_i \geq 0, \text{ integer} \quad i \in I$$

$$x \in \{1, \dots, x^{\max}\}$$

For fixed x the pricing problem is a bounded integer knapsack problem.

The integer non-linear pricing problem can be solved by considering a pseudo-polynomial number of knapsack problems.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^{z^*} y_j \\ \sum_{j=1}^{z^*} z_j x_{ij} &= d_i \quad i \in I \\ \sum_{i \in I} w_i x_{ij} &\leq w y_j \quad j = 1, \dots, z^* \\ \sum_{j=1}^{z^*} z_j &\leq z^* \\ z_j &\leq z^* y_j \quad j = 1, \dots, z^* \end{aligned}$$

Parameters

- K set of all the feasible cutting patterns
- a_{ik} number of parts of type i yielded by pattern k
- u_k upper bound to the activation level of pattern k

Variables

- x_k activation level of pattern k
- $\lambda_k = 1$ if pattern k is applied at least once

Polytope P

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \sum_{k \in K} \lambda_k \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{k \in K} a_{ik} x_k = d_i \quad i \in I \\ & \sum_{k \in K} x_k \leq z^* \\ & x_k \leq u_k \lambda_k \quad k \in K \\ & x_k \in \mathbb{N}, \lambda_k \in \{0, 1\} \quad k \in K \end{aligned}$$

$$u_k = \min_{i \in I, a_{ik} > 0} \left\{ z^*, \lfloor d_i / a_{ik} \rfloor \right\}$$

$$\text{ primal prices } \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \mu: & \sum_{k \in K} a_{ik} x_k = d_i \quad i \in I \\ \sigma: & \sum_{k \in K} x_k \leq z^* \\ \gamma: & \begin{array}{ll} x_k \leq u_k \lambda_k & k \in K \\ x_k \in \mathbb{N}, \lambda_k \in \{0,1\} & k \in K \end{array} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\min \sum_{k \in K} \lambda_k \quad \text{[GG]}$$

primal variables (x_k, λ_k) correspond to dual inequalities

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{i \in I} a_{ik} \mu_i - \sigma - \gamma_k \leq 0 \\ \gamma_k u_k \leq 1 \end{array} \right.$$

(μ, σ, γ) is dual feasible if

$$1 - u_k \left(\sum_{i \in I} a_{ik} \mu_i - \sigma \right) \geq 0$$

a profitable column (\mathbf{a}_k, u_k) is a cutting pattern satisfying

$$1 - u_k \left(\sum_{i \in I} a_{ik} \mu_i - \sigma \right) < 0$$

[VAN] vs. [GG]

	[VAN]	[GG]
# of constraints	$ I + 1$	$O(2^{ I })$
# of variables	$O(z^* \cdot 2^{ I })$	$O(2^{ I })$
Pricing problem	The <u>same</u> non-linear integer program	
Column generation	Pricing can be directly embedded in a column generation scheme	Column-and-row generation scheme is required

On lower bounds by linear relaxation

$[\text{VAN}^{\text{LP}}], [\text{GG}^{\text{LP}}]:$	linear relaxation of $[\text{VAN}]$ and $[\text{GG}]$
$(\mathbf{u}), z_{\text{GG}}^{\text{LP}}(\mathbf{u}):$	optimal value of programs $[\text{VAN}^{\text{LP}}]$ and $[\text{GG}^{\text{LP}}]$

Observation

$[\text{VAN}]$ and $[\text{GG}]$ can be obtained by mere dualization of $[\text{KAN}]$ *only if* $u_k = z^*$. In this case, duality theory tells us that formulation $[\text{GG}^{\text{LP}}]$ cannot be stronger than $[\text{VAN}^{\text{LP}}]$.
Both of them use specific upper bounds u_k instead of the trivial value z^* .

Proposition

$z_{\text{VAN}}^{\text{LP}}(\mathbf{u}) \leq z_{\text{GG}}^{\text{LP}}(\mathbf{u})$ and the inequality holds strict for some vector $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{|K|}$ of upper bounds u_k and the activation level of cutting patterns.

Proof: Dantzig-Wolfe decomposition applied to $[\text{GG}]$ transforms it into $[\text{VAN}]$ plus

$$\sum_{x=1}^{u_k} \lambda_{kx} \leq 1 \quad k \in K \quad (1)$$

The linear relaxation of $[\text{VAN}] + (1)$ is always equivalent to $[\text{GG}^{\text{LP}}]$ and better than $[\text{VAN}^{\text{LP}}]$ when $u_k < z^*$

continue

act, the convexification of constraints $x_k \leq u_k \lambda_k$ in [GG] has no effect on $z_{GG}^{LP}(\mathbf{u})$ since polyhedra

$$P_k = \{(x_k, \lambda_k) \in R^2 \mid x_k - u_k \lambda_k \leq 0, x_k \geq 0, 0 \leq \lambda_k \leq 1\} \quad k \in K$$

the integral extreme points $(0,0), (0,1), (u_k,1)$.

the other hand

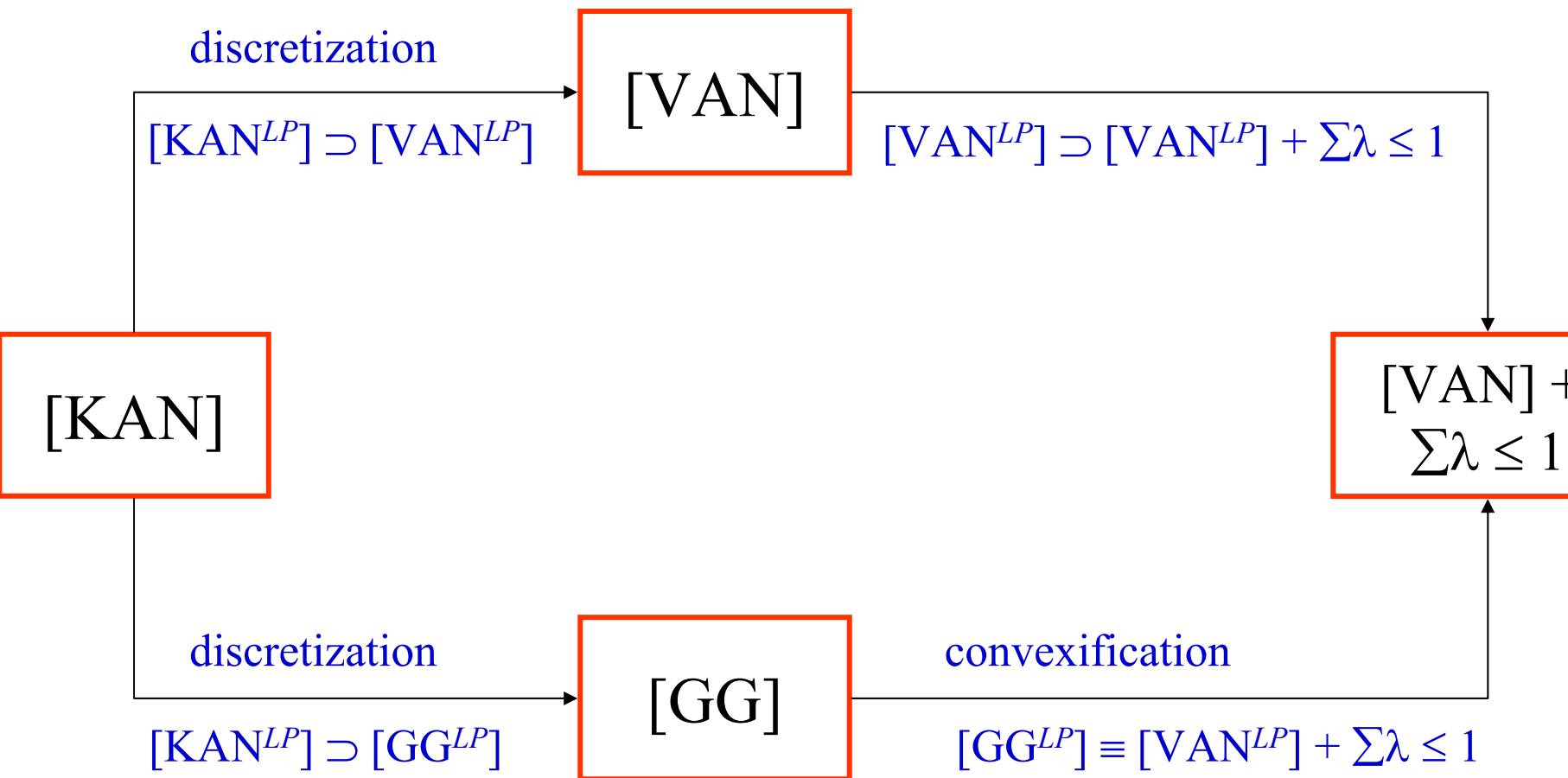
$$z_V^{LP}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{89}{88} < \frac{228}{225} = z_{GG}^{LP}(\mathbf{u})$$

$$= \{1,2\}, w = 50, (w_1, d_1) = (8,182), (w_2, d_2) = (9,91), \quad u_k = \min_{i \in I, a_{ik} > 0} \{z^*, \lfloor d_i / a_{ik} \rfloor\}$$

mark

en $u_k = z^*$ inequalities (1) are redundant in $[\text{VAN}^{LP}]$

the whole decomposition scheme



parts cannot be produced more than required

$$u_k^V \leq \lfloor d_i / a_{ik} \rfloor \quad i \in I, a_{ik} > 0$$

(Vanderbeck, 1999)

$$u_k^V = \min_{i \in I, a_{ik} > 0} \{z^*, \lfloor d_i / a_{ik} \rfloor\}$$

the waste yielded by cutting pattern k cannot

be greater than the total waste (Alves, 2005)

$$u_k^A (w - \sum_{i \in I} w_i a_{ik}) \leq z^* w - \sum_{i \in I} w_i d_i$$

$$u_k^A = \min \left\{ \frac{z^* w - \sum_{i \in I} w_i d_i}{w - \sum_{i \in I} w_i a_{ik}}, \min_{i \in I, a_{ik} > 0} \lfloor d_i / a_{ik} \rfloor \right\}$$

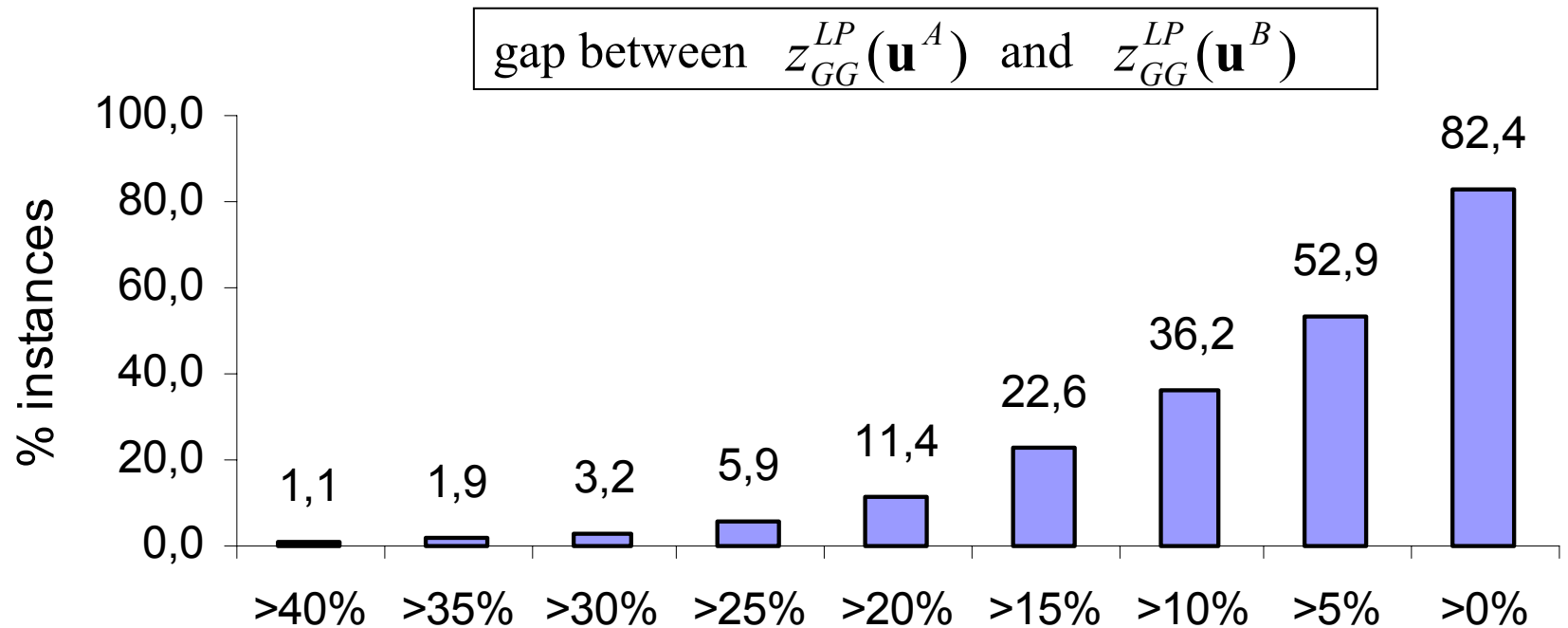
activating pattern k at level u_k might be infeasible, because the remaining $(z^* - u_k)$ stock

as might not be sufficiently many to cover the demand \mathbf{d}' not yet fulfilled. This is the case

if $\lceil z' \rceil > z^* - u_k$ where z' is a lower bound to the optimal value of 1-CSP defined on \mathbf{d}' . In

anyway a better bound u_k^B can be obtained.

575 random instances generated by *Cutgen1*, with $|I| = 10$, $w = 1000$, and mean part demand $d = 50$.



The linear relaxation lower bound computed by using \mathbf{u}^B is better in 310 cases.

In 43 cases $z_{GG}^{LP}(\mathbf{u}^B)$ improves the bound by more than 20%.

We show that reformulation [GG] is in general better than [VAN], and, at least from the theoretical point of view, it should not be discarded.

We observe that the upper bounds on the pattern activation levels play a crucial role in the implementation of a good and practical exact algorithm.

We propose a method to improve the better available upper bound

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2. Reformulations and lower bounds by linear relaxation

Reformulating $[Kan]$ by discretization, see [6], gives tighter bounds to the 1-PMP. Indeed, different master formulations can be drawn from $[Kan]$, depending on the set of dualized constraints. In [5], the author describes a 1-PMP master formulation $[Van]$ obtained by dualizing (1) and (3), or equivalently,

2

from discretization of the polyhedron defined by (2) and (4)-(8).

An alternative master formulation $[GG]$, very close to that of Gilmore and Gomory for the 1-CSP [2] with the addition of fixed setup costs, derives from discretizing the polyhedron defined by (2), (6) and (7).

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