

# Revising the handling of nonlinear constraints in SCIP

Work in Progress Report

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**Ksenia Bestuzheva, Benjamin Müller, Felipe Serrano, Stefan Vigerske, Fabian Wegscheider**

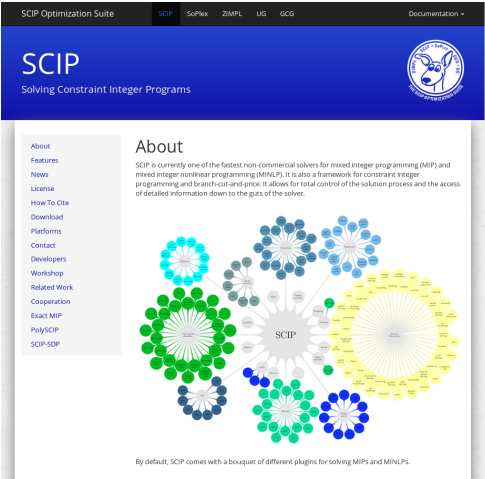


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# SCIP: Solving Constraint Integer Programs

- modular **branch-cut-and-price** framework for **constraint integer programming**
- includes full-fledged **MIP/MINLP solver**
- part of **SCIP Optimization Suite** (GCG, SCIP, SoPlex, UG, ZIMPL)
- Latest Release Report: The SCIP Optimization Suite 6.0 by Gleixner, Bastubbe, Eifler, Gally, Gamrath, Gottwald, Hendel, Hojny, Koch, Lübbecke, Maher, Miltenberger, Müller, Pfetsch, Puchert, Reffeldt, Schlösser, Schubert, Serrano, Shinano, Viernickel, Wegscheider, Witt, Witzig
- **free for academic use**

Download at [scip.zib.de](http://scip.zib.de):



SCIP Optimization Suite

SCIP SoPlex ZIMPL UG GCG Documentation

## SCIP

Solving Constraint Integer Programs

About

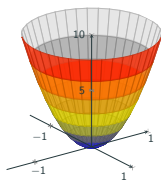
SCIP is currently one of the fastest non-commercial solvers for mixed integer programming (MIP) and mixed integer nonlinear programming (MINLP). It is also a framework for constraint integer programming and branch-cut-and-price. It allows for total control of the solution process and the access of detailed information down to the guts of the solver.

By default, SCIP comes with a bouquet of different plugins for solving MIPs and MINLPs.

# Mixed-Integer Nonlinear Programming

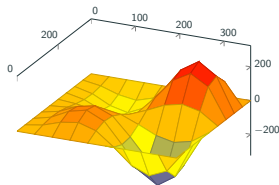
$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & g_k(x) \leq 0 \quad \forall k \in [m] \\ & x_i \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I} \subseteq [n] \\ & x_i \in [\ell_i, u_i] \quad \forall i \in [n] \end{aligned}$$

The functions  $g_k : [\ell, u] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  can be



convex

or



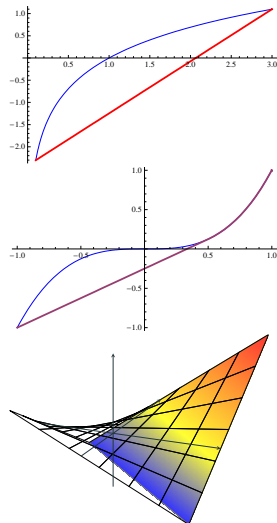
nonconvex

and are given in **algebraic form**.

# SCIP solves MINLPs by spatial Branch & Bound

## Ingredients:

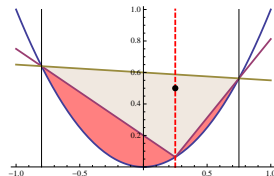
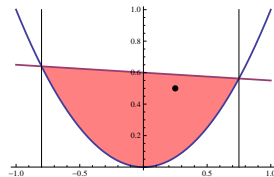
- constructing an LP relaxation by
  - relaxing integrality
  - convexifying non-convexities



# SCIP solves MINLPs by spatial Branch & Bound

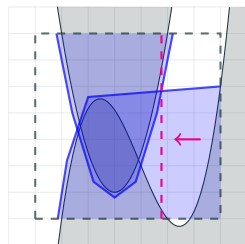
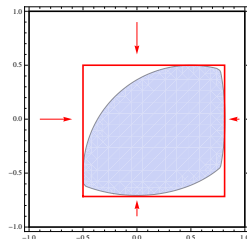
## Ingredients:

- constructing an LP relaxation by
  - relaxing integrality
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- branching on
  - fractional integer variables
  - variables in violated nonconvex constraints



## Ingredients:

- constructing an **LP relaxation** by
  - relaxing integrality
  - convexifying non-convexities
- **branching** on
  - fractional integer variables
  - variables in violated nonconvex constraints
- **tightening of variable bounds** (domain propagation)
- **primal heuristics**
- **presolving** / reformulation



## **Current Implementation (SCIP 6.0)**

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## Expression trees and graphs

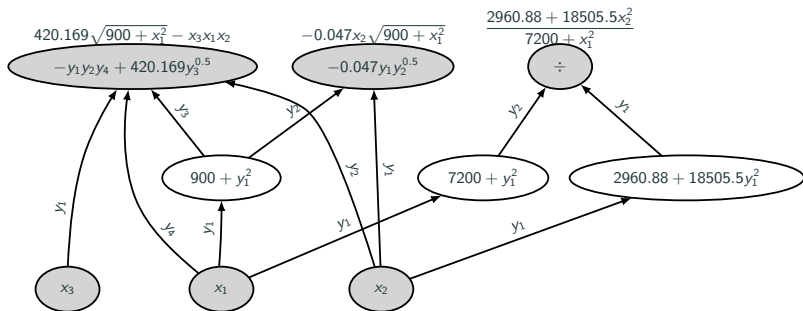
cons\_nonlinear (lhs  $\leq \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i + \sum_{j=1}^m c_j f_j(x) \leq$  rhs) stores the nonlinear functions  $f_j$  of all constraints in **one expression graph** (DAG).

For example (MINLPLib instance nvs01):

$$420.169\sqrt{900 + x_1^2} - x_3x_1x_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{2960.88 + 296088 \cdot 0.0625x_2^2}{7200 + x_1^2} - x_3 \geq 0$$

$$x_{obj} - 0.047x_2\sqrt{900 + x_1^2} \geq 0$$



- some use of common subexpression



### Operators (handled by cons\_nonlinear):

- variable index, constant
- $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $\div$
- $\cdot^2$ ,  $\sqrt{\cdot}$ ,  $\cdot^p$  ( $p \in \mathbb{R}$ ),  $\cdot^n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ),  $x \mapsto x|x|^{p-1}$  ( $p > 1$ )
- $\exp$ ,  $\log$
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- $\sum$ ,  $\prod$ , affine-linear, quadratic, signomial
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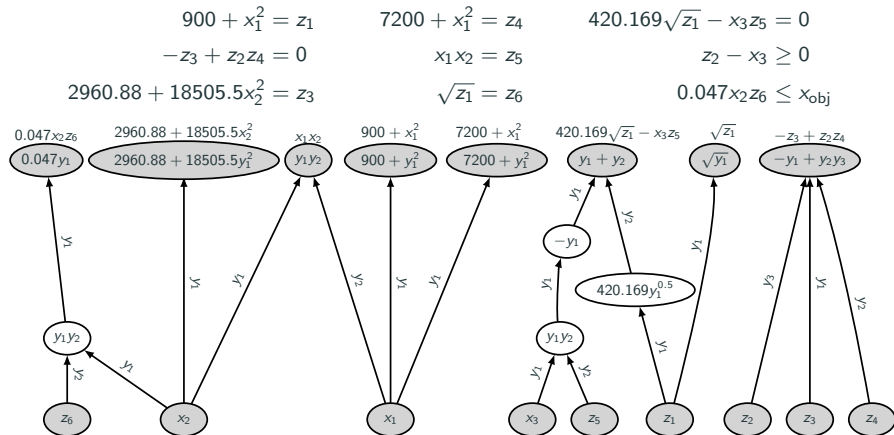
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### Additional constraint handler:

- quadratic
- abspower ( $x \rightarrow x|x|^{p-1}$ ,  $p > 1$ )
- SOC (second-order cones)
- (bivariate)

## Reformulation in cons\_nonlinear (during presolve)

Goal: Reformulate constraints such that only elementary cases (convex, concave, odd power, quadratic) remain.



- reformulates constraints by introducing **new variables and new constraints**
- other constraint handler can participate

## Problem with this approach

Consider

$$\min z$$

$$\text{s.t. } \exp(\ln(1000) + 1 + xy) \leq z$$

$$x^2 + y^2 \leq 2$$

An optimal solution:

$$x = -1$$

$$y = 1$$

$$z = 1000$$

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	$x^2 + y^2 \leq 2$	$y = 1$
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### SCIP reports

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SCIP Status      : problem is solved [optimal solution found]
Solving Time (sec) : 0.08
Solving Nodes    : 5
Primal Bound     : +9.99999656552062e+02 (3 solutions)
Dual Bound       : +9.99999656552062e+02
Gap              : 0.00 %
[nonlinear] <e1>: exp((7.9077552789821368151 +1 (<x> * <y>))) -1<z>[C] <= 0;
violation: right hand side is violated by 0.000673453314561812
best solution is not feasible in original problem

x          -1.00057454873626 (obj:0)
y          0.999425451364613 (obj:0)
z          999.999656552061 (obj:1)
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## Reformulated problem

Reformulation **takes apart**  $\exp(\ln(1000) + 1 + x y)$ , thus **SCIP actually solves**

min  $z$

s.t.  $\exp(w) \leq z$

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Violation

$$0.4659 \cdot 10^{-6} \leq \text{numerics/feastol} \checkmark$$

$$0.6731 \cdot 10^{-6} \leq \text{numerics/feastol} \checkmark$$

$$0.6602 \cdot 10^{-6} \leq \text{numerics/feastol} \checkmark$$

Solution (found by <relaxation>):

$$x = -1.000574549$$

$$y = 0.999425451$$

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⇒ **Explicit reformulation** of constraints ...

- ... **looses the connection to the original problem.**
- ... **looses distinction between original and auxiliary variables.** Thus, we may branch on auxiliary variables.
- ... **prevents simultaneous exploitation of overlapping structures.**

**A new framework for NLP in SCIP**  
**(work in progress)**

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## **A new framework for NLP in SCIP (work in progress)**

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**Fundamental structure**

## Everything is an expression.

- **ONE** constraint handler: `cons_expr`
- represent all nonlinear constraints in **one expression graph** (DAG)

$$\text{lhs} \leq \text{expression-node} \leq \text{rhs}$$

- all algorithms (check, separation, propagation, etc.) work on the expression graph (no upgrades to specialized nonlinear constraints)

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- **separate expression operators** (+, ×) and **high-level structures** (quadratic, etc.)
- ⇒ **avoid redundancy / ambiguity** of expression types (classic: +,  $\sum$ , linear, quad., ...)
- stronger identification of **common subexpressions**

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## Do not reformulate constraints.

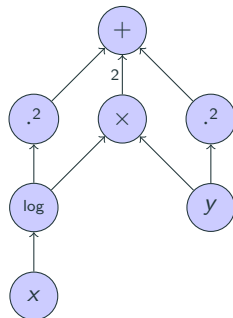
- introduce **auxiliary variables for the relaxation only**

## Constraint:

$$\log(x)^2 + 2 \log(x)y + y^2 \leq 4$$

This formulation is used to

- check feasibility,
- presolve,
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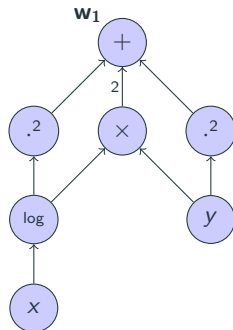
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## (Implicit) Reformulation:

$$w_1 \leq 4$$
$$\log(x)^2 + 2 \log(x)y + y^2 = w_1$$





# Enforcement

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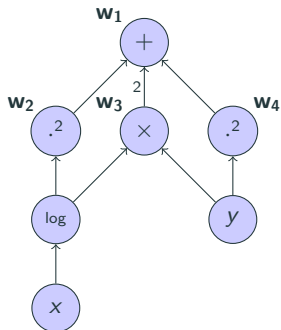
$$w_1 \leq 4$$

$$w_2 + 2w_3 + w_4 = w_1$$

$$\log(x)^2 = w_2$$

$$\log(x)y = w_3$$

$$y^2 = w_4$$



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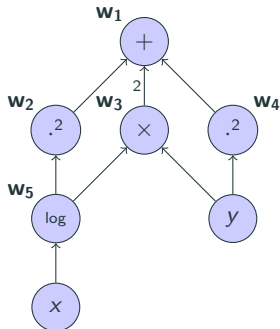
$$w_2 + 2w_3 + w_4 = w_1$$

$$w_5^2 = w_2$$

$$w_5 y = w_3$$

$$y^2 = w_4$$

$$\log(x) = w_5$$



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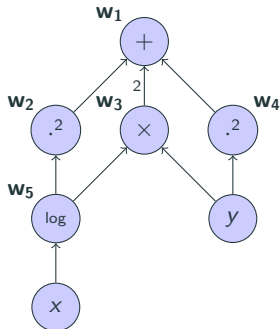
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Used to construct LP relaxation.

Each **operator type** (+, ×, pow, etc.) is implemented by an **expression handler**, which can provide a number of callbacks:

- **evaluate and differentiate** expression w.r.t. operands
- interval evaluation and **tighten bounds** on operands
- provide linear **under- and over-estimators**
- distribute **branching** scores to operands
- inform about curvature, monotonicity, integrality
- simplify, compare, print, parse, hash, copy, etc.

Expression handler are like other **SCIP plugins**, thus new ones can be added by users.

# Motivating example revisited

$$\min z \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \exp(\ln(1000) + 1 + xy) \leq z, \quad x^2 + y^2 \leq 2$$

## Classic:

```
presolving (5 rounds: 5 fast, 1 medium, 1 exhaustive):
  0 deleted vars, 0 deleted constraints, 1 added constraints,...
  0 implications, 0 cliques
presolved problem has 4 variables (0 bin, 0 int, 0 impl, 4 cont)
  and 3 constraints
    2 constraints of type <quadratic>
    1 constraints of type <nonlinear>
```

[...]

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## New:

```
presolving (3 rounds: 3 fast, 1 medium, 1 exhaustive):
  0 deleted vars, 0 deleted constraints, 0 added constraints,...
  0 implications, 0 cliques
presolved problem has 3 variables (0 bin, 0 int, 0 impl, 3 cont)
  and 2 constraints
    2 constraints of type <expr>
```

[...]

```
SCIP Status      : problem is solved [optimal solution found]
Solving Time (sec) : 0.47
Solving Nodes    : 15
Primal Bound     : +9.9999949950021e+02 (2 solutions)
Dual Bound       : +9.9999949950021e+02
Gap              : 0.00 %
```

```
x          -1.00000002499999 (obj:0)
y          1.00000002499999 (obj:0)
z          999.999949950021 (obj:1)
```

## Performance

- Testset: 1618 instances from MINLPLib<sup>1</sup>
- Time limit: 30 minutes, Optimality gap tolerance: 0.01%
- LP solver: CPLEX 12.9.0.0, NLP solver: IPOPT 3.12.11

	classic code	new code
# solution infeasible	90	9

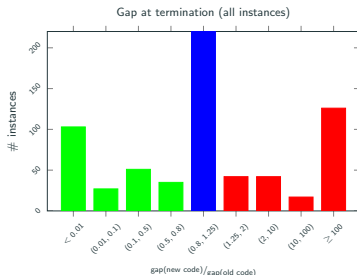
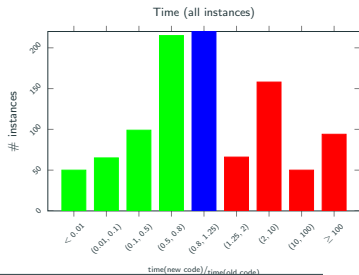
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	classic code	new code
# solution infeasible	90	9
# solved (out of 1618)	827	807
# solved by both	701	
mean time <sup>2</sup> (on solved by both)	3.73s	4.52s



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**Acceleration**

## Exploiting structure

**Constraint:**  $\log(x)^2 + 2 \log(x)y + y^2 \leq 4$

**Smarter reformulation:**

- Recognize that  $\log(x)^2 + 2 \log(x)y + y^2$  is **convex in  $(\log(x), y)$** .

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- ⇒ Introduce auxiliary variable for  $\log(x)$  only.

$$w^2 + 2wy + y^2 \leq 4$$

$$\log(x) = w$$

Handle  $w^2 + 2wy + y^2 \leq 4$  as convex constraint (“gradient-cuts”).

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$$w^2 + 2wy + y^2 \leq 4$$

$$\log(x) = w$$

Handle  $w^2 + 2wy + y^2 \leq 4$  as convex constraint (“gradient-cuts”).

**Nonlinearity Handler:**

- Adds **additional separation and propagation** algorithms for structures that can be identified in the expression graph.
- **Attached to nodes in expression graph**, but **does not define expressions** or constraints.
- Examples: quadratics, convex subexpressions, vertex-polyhedral

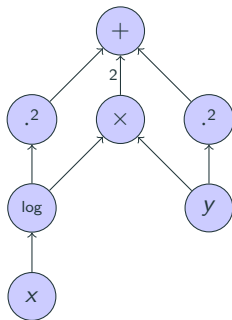
## Nonlinearity Handler in Expression Graph

- Nodes in the expression graph can have one or several nlhdlrs attached.
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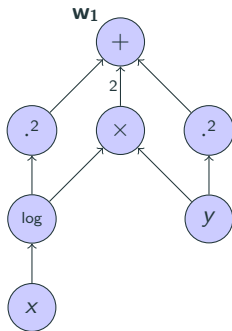
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1. Add auxiliary variable  $w_1$  for root.



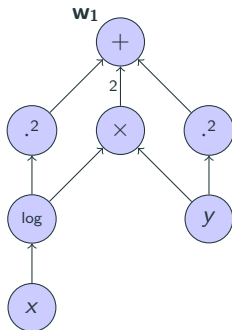
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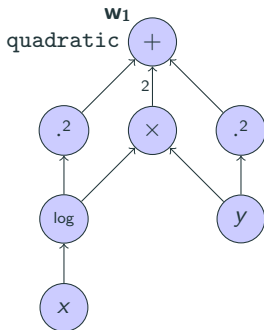
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  - `nlhdlr_quadratic` detects a **convex quadratic structure** and signals success.



## Nonlinearity Handler in Expression Graph

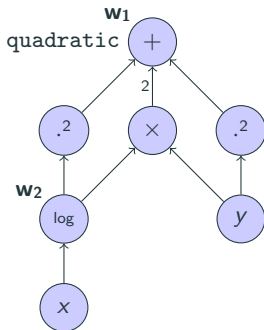
- Nodes in the expression graph can have one or several nlhdlrs attached.
- At beginning of solve, **detection callbacks** are run **only** for nodes that have **auxiliary variable**. Detection callback may **add auxiliary variables**.

**Constraint:**  $\log(x)^2 + 2 \log(x)y + y^2 \leq 4$

$$w_1 \leq 4$$

$$w_2^2 + 2w_2y + y^2 \leq w_1 \quad [\text{nlhdlr\_quadratic}]$$

1. Add auxiliary variable  $w_1$  for root.
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  - `nlhdlr_quadratic` **adds an auxiliary variable**  $w_2$  for `log` node.



## Nonlinearity Handler in Expression Graph

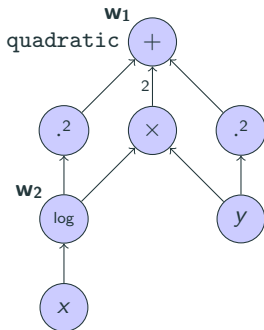
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  - `nlhdlr_quadratic` detects a **convex quadratic structure** and signals success.
  - `nlhdlr_quadratic` **adds an auxiliary variable**  $w_2$  for log node.
3. Run detect of all nlhdlrs on log node.



# Nonlinearity Handler in Expression Graph

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- At beginning of solve, **detection callbacks** are run **only** for nodes that have **auxiliary variable**. Detection callback may **add auxiliary variables**.

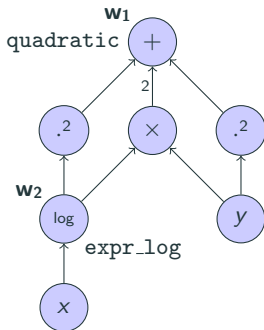
**Constraint:**  $\log(x)^2 + 2 \log(x)y + y^2 \leq 4$

$$w_1 \leq 4$$

$$w_2^2 + 2w_2y + y^2 \leq w_1 \quad [\text{nlhdlr\_quadratic}]$$

$$\log(x) = w_2 \quad [\text{expr\_log}]$$

1. Add auxiliary variable  $w_1$  for root.
2. Run detect of all nlhdlrs on  $+$  node.
  - `nlhdlr_quadratic` detects a **convex quadratic structure** and signals success.
  - `nlhdlr_quadratic` **adds an auxiliary variable**  $w_2$  for log node.
3. Run detect of all nlhdlrs on log node.
  - No specialized nlhdlr signals success. The expression handler will be used.



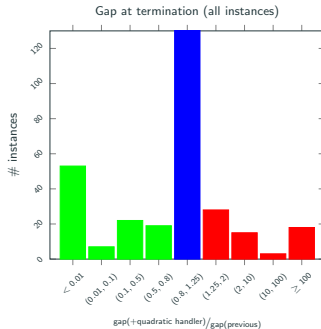
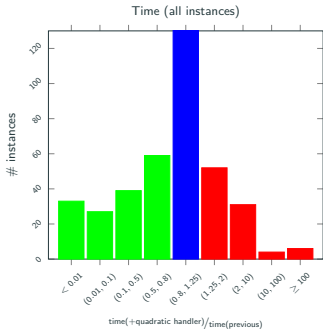
## Handler for quadratic subexpressions

- **Recognize quadratic forms** (sums of squares and products in two terms).
- **Recognize convexity** by checking coefficient matrix for positive semidefiniteness. Use this to provide **tight linear underestimators** by linearization.
- Provide better **bound tightening**, in particular for univariate quadratics:

$$\{ax^2 + bx : x \in [l, u]\} = \begin{cases} \text{conv}\{al^2 + bl, au^2 + bu, -\frac{b^2}{4a}\}, & \text{if } -\frac{b}{2a} \in [l, u], \\ \text{conv}\{al^2 + bl, au^2 + bu\}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$\{x : ax^2 + bx \geq c\} = \begin{cases} \left[ -\infty, -\sqrt{\frac{c}{a} + \frac{b^2}{4a^2}} - \frac{b}{2a} \right] \cup \left[ \sqrt{\frac{c}{a} + \frac{b^2}{4a^2}} - \frac{b}{2a}, \infty \right], & \text{if } a > 0, \\ \left[ -\sqrt{\frac{c}{a} + \frac{b^2}{4a^2}} - \frac{b}{2a}, \sqrt{\frac{c}{a} + \frac{b^2}{4a^2}} - \frac{b}{2a} \right], & \text{if } a < 0. \end{cases}$$

# Impact of handler for quadratics

	previous (base case)	+ quadratic handler
# solved (out of 1618)	807	843
# solved by both	790	
# solved by both and affected <sup>3</sup>	312	
mean time <sup>4</sup> (on solved&affected)	12.7s	9.7s



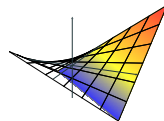
<sup>3</sup>affected = different search path, indicated by different number of B&B nodes or LP iterations

<sup>4</sup>shifted geometric mean with shift = 1s:  $\prod_{i=1}^n (t_i + 1)^{1/n} - 1$

# Separator for RLTL

- for **bilinear products**  $x_i x_j$ , we may have introduced **auxiliary variables**  $w_{i,j}$
- the expression handler for products generates **McCormick inequalities**:

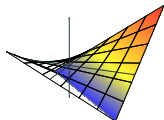
$$\begin{aligned}(x_i - l_i)(x_j - l_j) &\geq 0 &\Rightarrow w_{i,j} &\geq l_i x_j + l_j x_i - l_i l_j \\(x_i - u_i)(x_j - u_j) &\geq 0 &\Rightarrow w_{i,j} &\geq u_i x_j + u_j x_i - u_i u_j \\(x_i - l_i)(x_j - u_j) &\leq 0 &\Rightarrow w_{i,j} &\leq l_i x_j + u_j x_i - l_i u_j \\(x_i - u_i)(x_j - l_j) &\leq 0 &\Rightarrow w_{i,j} &\leq u_i x_j + l_j x_i - u_i l_j\end{aligned}$$



## Separator for RLT

- for **bilinear products**  $x_i x_j$ , we may have introduced **auxiliary variables**  $w_{i,j}$
- the expression handler for products generates **McCormick inequalities**:

$$\begin{aligned}(x_i - l_i)(x_j - l_j) &\geq 0 &\Rightarrow w_{i,j} &\geq l_i x_j + l_j x_i - l_i l_j \\(x_i - u_i)(x_j - u_j) &\geq 0 &\Rightarrow w_{i,j} &\geq u_i x_j + u_j x_i - u_i u_j \\(x_i - l_i)(x_j - u_j) &\leq 0 &\Rightarrow w_{i,j} &\leq l_i x_j + u_j x_i - l_i u_j \\(x_i - u_i)(x_j - l_j) &\leq 0 &\Rightarrow w_{i,j} &\leq u_i x_j + l_j x_i - u_i l_j\end{aligned}$$



### Reformulation-Linearization Technique [Adams and Sherali, 1986]:

- additional valid cuts can be obtained by **multiplication with linear constraints**:

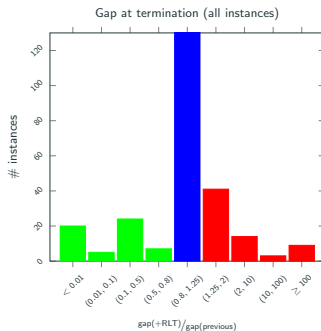
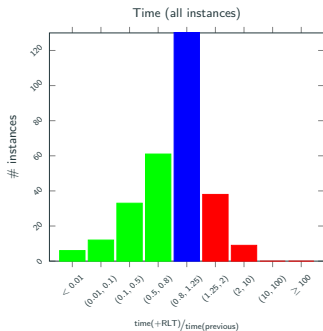
$$\begin{aligned}a^T x &\geq b \quad \times \quad x_j - l_j &\Rightarrow a^T w_{\cdot,j} - a^T x l_j &\geq b x_j - b l_j \\a^T x &= b \quad \times \quad x_j &\Rightarrow a^T w_{\cdot,j} &= b x_j\end{aligned}$$

- in our implementation, we only look for RLT cuts that **do not introduce new auxiliary variables**  $w_{i,j}$
- very effective for pooling problems



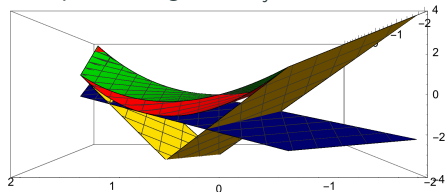
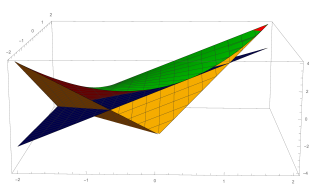
# Impact of RLT separator

	previous	+ RLT
# solved (out of 1618)	843	857
# solved by both	834	
# solved by both and affected	125	
mean time (on solved&affected)	7.5s	5.0s



## Tighter convex relaxations for bilinear terms

- McCormick inequalities give **convex hull** for  $x_i x_j$  on box  $[l_i, l_j] \times [u_i, u_j]$
- they **do not** if **additional inequalities** are present, e.g.,  $x_i \leq x_j$ :



**green** — graph of  $w_{ij} = x_i x_j$

**yellow** — McCormick relaxation of  $x_i x_j$  over  $[-2, 2]^2$

**red** — convex envelope of  $x_i x_j$  over  $\{(x_i, x_j) \in [-2, 2]^2 : x_i \leq x_j\}$

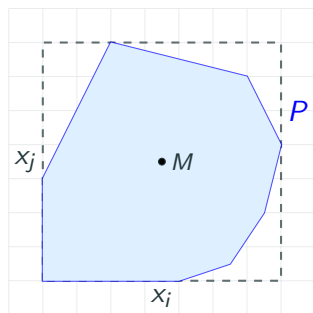
- closed formulas and algorithms are known [Linderoth 2004, Hijazi 2015, Locatelli 2016]

## 2D projections for $x_i x_j$

**Problem:** inequalities utilizing only  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  may not be present in problem

**Solution**<sup>5</sup>: **Project LP relaxation** onto  $(x_i, x_j)$ ,  $P := \text{proj}_{x_i, x_j}(\text{LP})$

- assume variable bounds are tight
- $M := (\frac{u_i + \ell_i}{2}, \frac{u_j + \ell_j}{2}) \in P$
- every facet of  $P$  separates at most one of the 4 corners



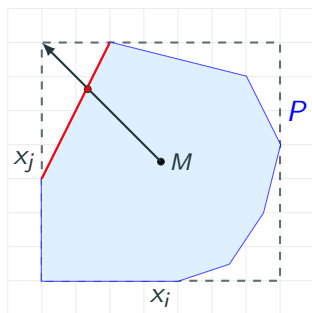
<sup>5</sup>Details: Benjamin Müller, Felipe Serrano, Ambros Gleixner, Using two-dimensional Projections for Stronger Separation and Propagation of Bilinear Terms, 2019, ZIB-Report 19-15

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- **optimize along directions from  $M$  to each corner**



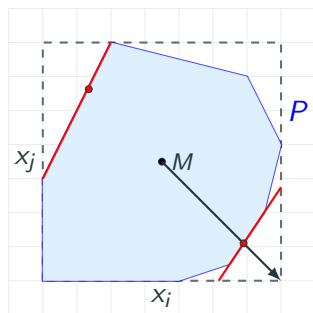
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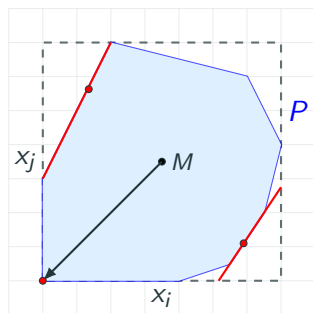
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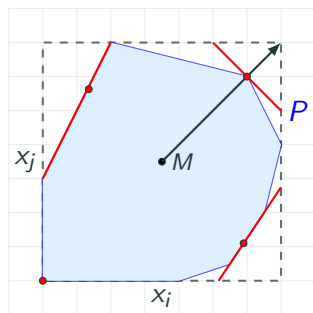
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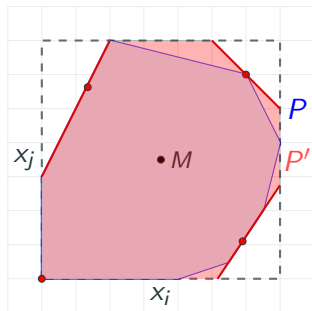
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  - **optimize along directions from  $M$  to each corner**
- $\Rightarrow P' \supseteq P$  described by at most
- 4 nontrivial inequalities
  - 4 axis-parallel inequalities



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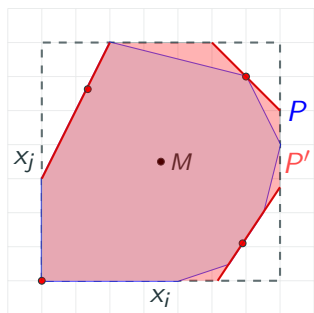


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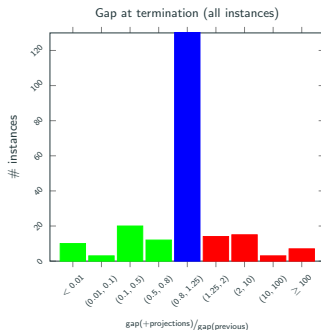
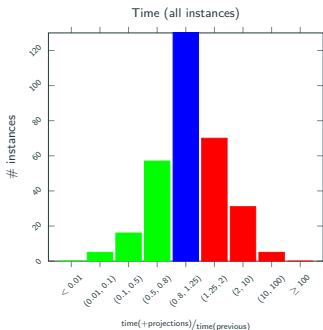
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  - **optimize along directions from  $M$  to each corner**
- $\Rightarrow P' \supseteq P$  described by at most
- 4 nontrivial inequalities
  - 4 axis-parallel inequalities
- close connections to **optimization-based bound tightening** (project LP onto one variable) [Gleixner and Weltge, 2013]
  - projections also used to **improve bound tightening** on  $x_i x_j$



<sup>5</sup>Details: Benjamin Müller, Felipe Serrano, Ambros Gleixner, Using two-dimensional Projections for Stronger Separation and Propagation of Bilinear Terms, 2019, ZIB-Report 19-15

# Impact of computing and utilizing 2D projections

	previous	+ projections
# solved (out of 1618)	857	857
# solved by both		849
# solved by both and affected		254
mean time (on solved&affected)	16.4s	17.3s



## Linearize

$$\prod_{i=1}^n x_i, \quad x_i \in \{0, 1\} :$$

- replace by a **new variable**  $z \in \{0, 1\}$
- if  $n = 2$ , **add linear constraints**  $z \leq x_1, z \leq x_2, z \geq x_1 + x_2 - 1$
- if  $n > 2$ , **add "and"-constraint**  $z = \bigwedge_{i=1}^n x_i$  (specialized constraint handler)

# Linearizations of products of binary variables

## Linearize

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## Linearize

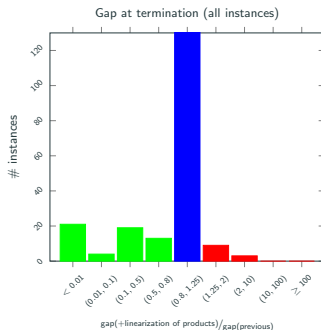
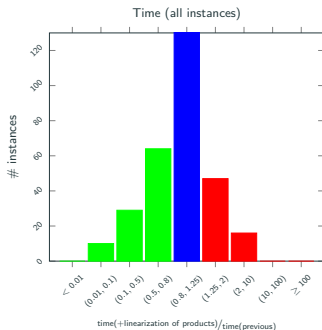
$$y \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j, \quad x_j \in \{0, 1\}, \quad n \geq 50 :$$

- replace by a **new variable**  $z \in \{0, 1\}$ , and
- **add linear constraints**

$$M^L y \leq z \leq M^U y, \\ \sum_j a_j x_j - M^U(1 - y) \leq z \leq \sum_j a_j x_j - M^L(1 - y)$$

# Impact of linearization of products of binary variables

	previous	+ linearization
# solved (out of 1618)	857	879
# solved by both		857
# solved by both and affected		70
mean time (on solved&affected)	24.3s	16.9s



## Detecting of convexity

- analyze expressions using a set of rules, e.g.,

$$f(x) \text{ convex} \Rightarrow a \cdot f(x) \begin{cases} \text{convex,} & a \geq 0 \\ \text{concave,} & a \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f(x), g(x) \text{ convex} \Rightarrow f(x) + g(x) \text{ convex}$$

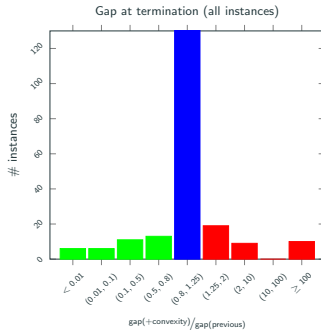
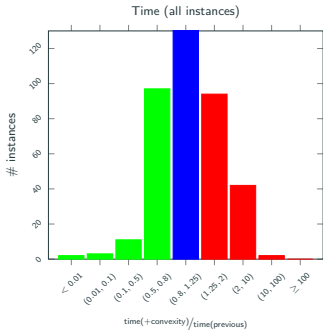
$$f(x) \text{ concave} \Rightarrow \log(f(x)) \text{ concave}$$

$$f(x) = \prod_i x_i^{e_i}, x_i \geq 0 \Rightarrow f(x) \begin{cases} \text{convex,} & e_i \leq 0 \forall i \\ \text{convex,} & \exists j : e_j \leq 0 \forall i \neq j; \sum_i e_i \geq 1 \\ \text{concave,} & e_i \geq 0 \forall i; \sum_i e_i \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

- find maximal convex subexpressions
- underestimate via gradient-cuts

# Impact of convexity detection

	previous	+ convexity
# solved (out of 1618)	879	875
# solved by both		868
# solved by both and affected		325
mean time (on solved&affected)	14.3s	14.7s



## “On/off“-terms

Given  $f(x)$  convex with  $x$  semicontinuous, i.e., there exists binary variable  $y$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}x &= x_0, & \text{if } y = 0, \\x &\in [\ell, u], & \text{if } y = 1.\end{aligned}$$



## “On/off“-terms

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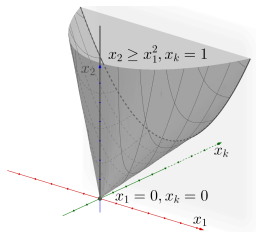
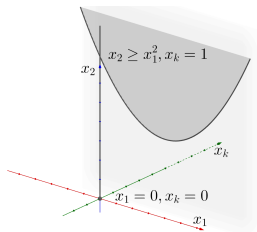
$$\begin{aligned}x &= x_0, & \text{if } y &= 0, \\x &\in [\ell, u], & \text{if } y &= 1.\end{aligned}$$

For  $x_0 = 0$ ,  $f(0) = 0$ , the **perspective cut** [Frangioni, Gentile, 2006]

$$f(\hat{x})y + \nabla f(\hat{x})(x - \hat{x}y) \leq w$$

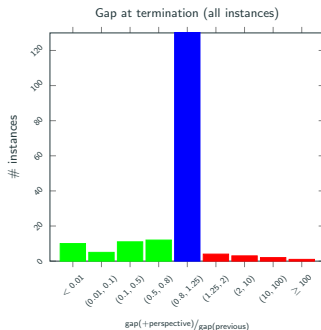
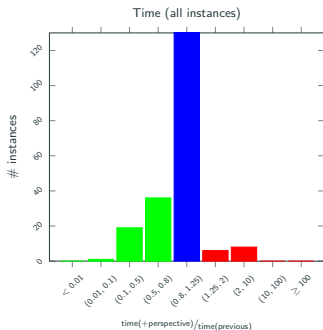
is valid for the disjunctive set

$$\{(x, y, z) : x = x_0, y = 0, f(x_0) \leq w\} \cup \{(x, y, z) : x \in [\ell, u], y = 1, f(x) \leq w\}.$$



# Impact of perspective cuts

	previous	+ perspective
# solved (out of 1618)	875	883
# solved by both		874
# solved by both and affected		112
mean time (on solved&affected)	19.8s	15.8s



**Example:**

$$\max x_1 + x_2 + x_3$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_1 + x_2 \geq 2$$

$$\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2} \leq 5$$

**Observation:** For any feasible solution, exchanging  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  provides a new feasible solution with same objective value.

# Symmetry detection

Example:

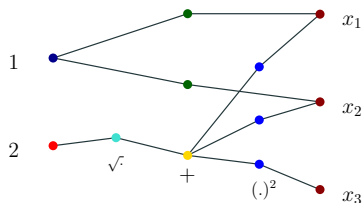
$$\max x_1 + x_2 + x_3$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_1 + x_2 \geq 2$$

$$\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2} \leq 5$$

**Observation:** For any feasible solution, exchanging  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  provides a new feasible solution with same objective value.

- can be detected by finding **automorphisms on a vertex-colored graph** [Liberti 2010]



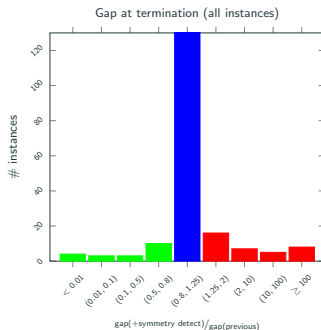
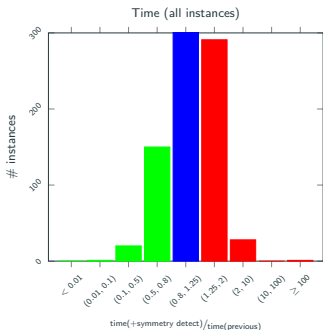
- SCIP aims to **find and break symmetries** on binary variables [SCIP 5 report, 2017]

# Impact of symmetry

# solved (out of 1618)  
# solved by both  
# solved by both and affected  
mean time (on solved&affected)

previous + symmetry detect

883	881
	875
	58
27.1s	19.1s



**A new framework for NLP in SCIP  
(work in progress)**

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**Conclusion**

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The new code will be **nicer**, **better**, **faster**, **greater**:

- less issues with slightly infeasible solutions
- easier to extend by own operators and structure-exploiting algorithms

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- **bilinear**: tighter estimators and bounds for  $x_i x_j$  over polytope
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**Symmetry detection**

# Not ready yet, but getting closer

	classic code	new code
# solved (out of 1618)	827	881
# solved by both	748	
mean time (on solved by both)	4.26s	5.19s

