

Embedded Optimization for Mixed Logic Dynamical Systems

Alexander Domahidi

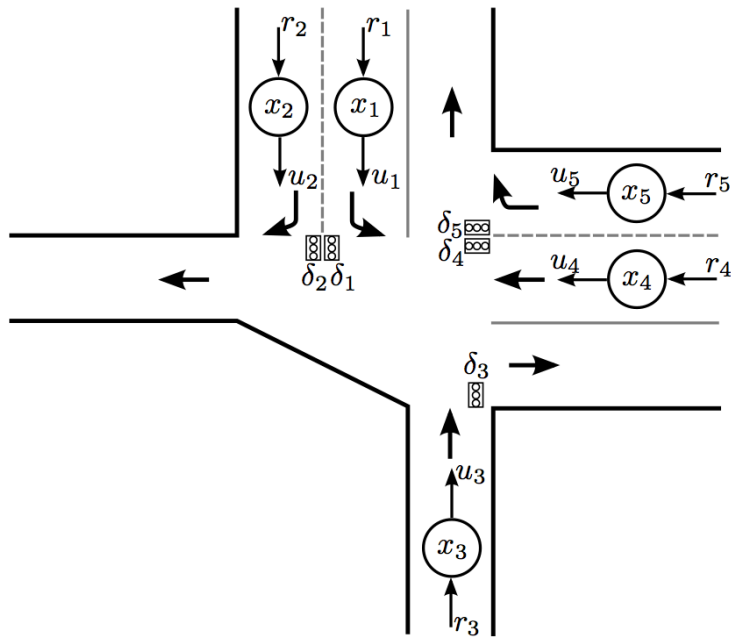
Joint work with Damian Frick and Manfred Morari

EMBOPT Workshop

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September 8, 2014

Application: Optimal Traffic Control

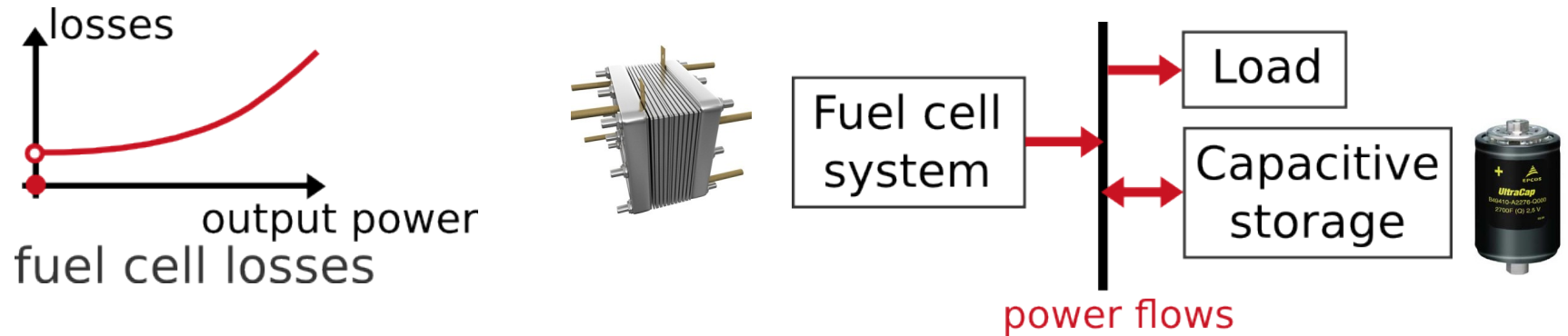


Source: sunshinekelly.com

- ▶ Discrete signaling with switching cost
- ▶ Logical constraints on signaling
- ▶ **Control objective:** minimize queue size

Medium-to-large-scale hybrid MPC problem

Application: Fuel Cell Power Management



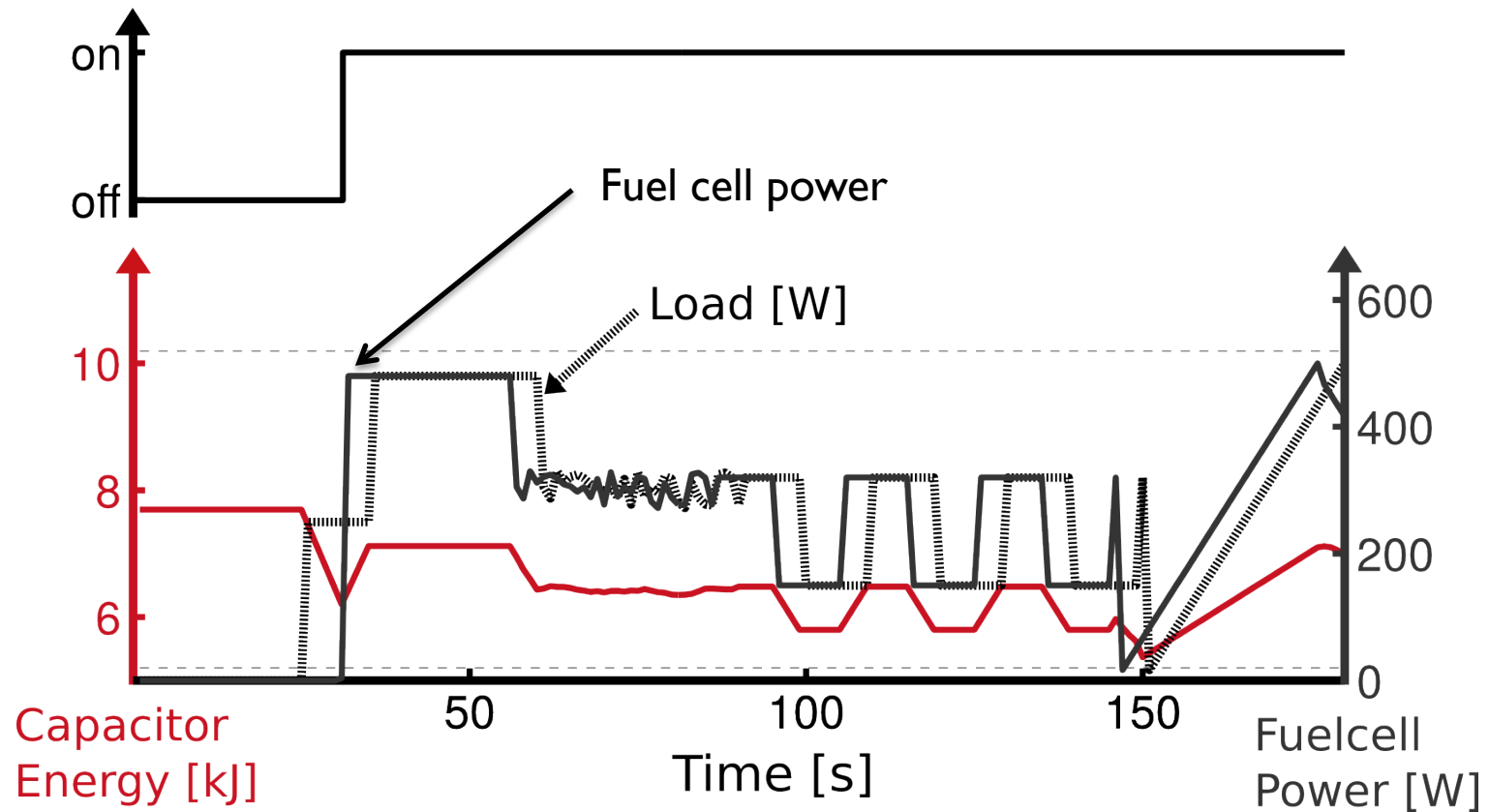
- ▶ Fuel cell power varied continuously, but discontinuity in losses
- ▶ Super-capacitor balances power

Control objectives:

- ▶ Meet (predicted) load profile
- ▶ Minimize losses (piecewise quadratic cost)
- ▶ Limit number of switchings to two per minute

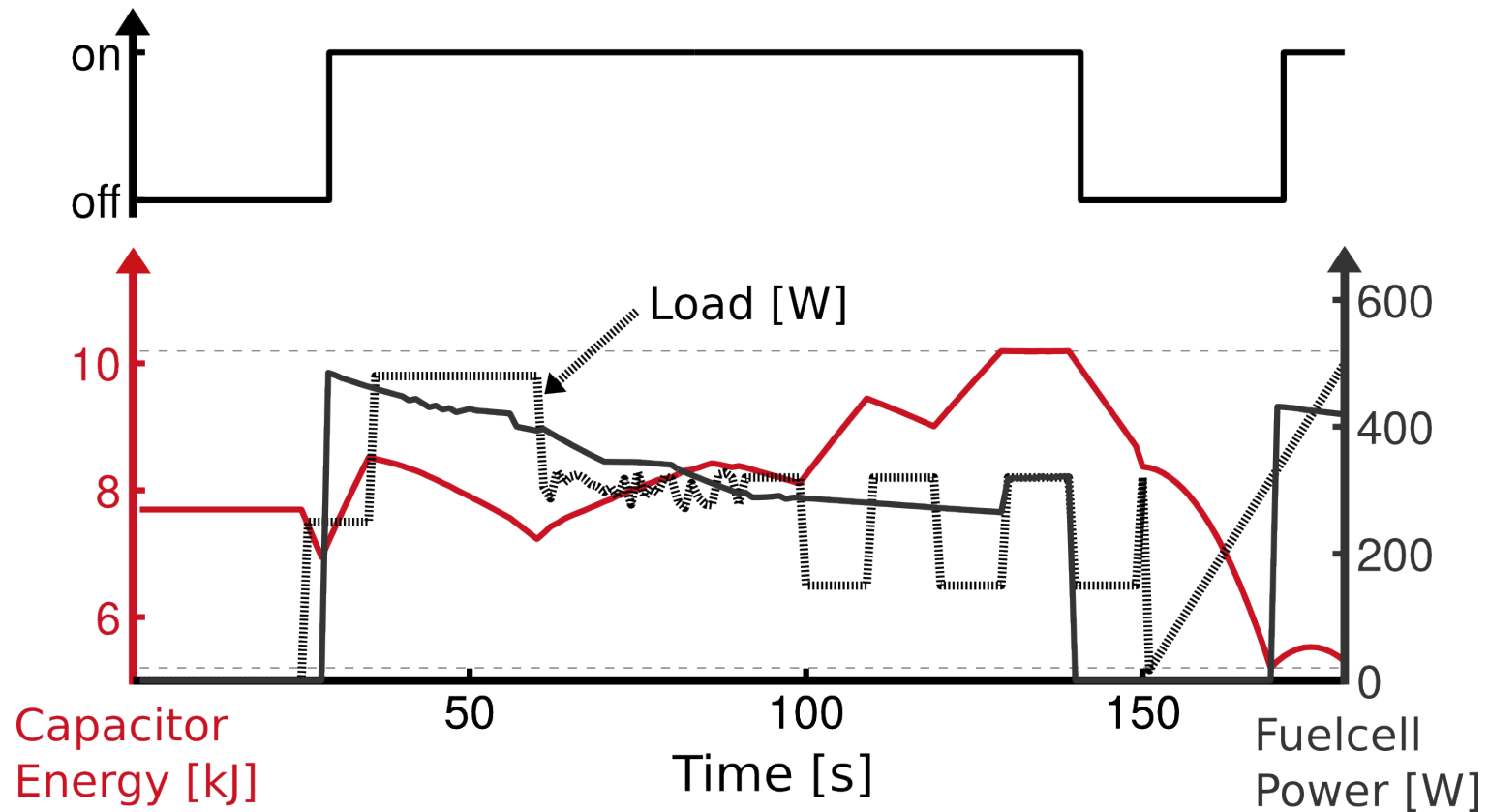
Application: Fuel Cell Power Management

Simulation profile for horizon 5s – losses: 31.5 kJ



Application: Fuel Cell Power Management

Simulation profile for horizon 60s – losses: 28.9 kJ



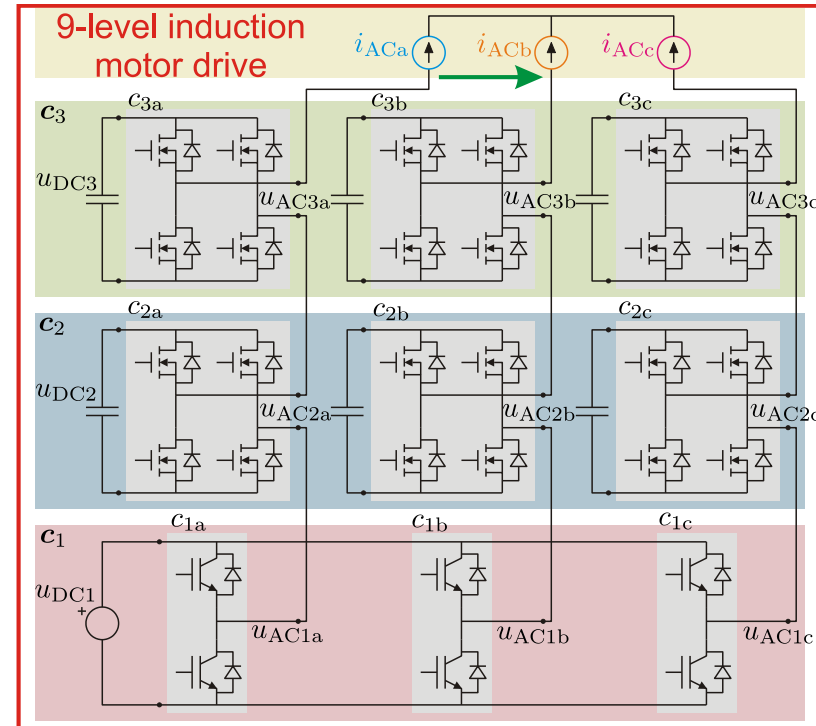
Losses reduced by 10% by long control horizon

Application: Multi-Level Inverters for Drives

- High efficiency and power quality

9-level induction motor drive:

- 6 capacitor voltages
- 3 motor currents
- 15 independent switches operated at frequency $> 1\text{ kHz}$



- **Control objective:** track current reference
- MPC dramatically improves losses, distortion and transient behavior [Geyer et al., 2011]

Needs ultra-fast solver to compute switch positions in real-time

Embedded Solvers for Hybrid MPC

- ▶ **Main idea:** use fast convex sub-problem solvers + branch-and-bound
- ▶ On FPGA, 1 MHz per sub-problem possible [Jerez et al., 2013]
- 1000 convex problems per millisecond – powerful decision making!

- ▶ **In this talk:**
 - Fast code-generated interior point solvers to cover general problems
 - Problem relaxations: exploit receding horizon + feedback in MPC
 - Pre-processing: detect infeasibility or sub-optimality without solving convex sub-problem

Goal: solver for hybrid MPC on embedded platforms

Outline

1. MLD models & hybrid MPC
2. Solution of mixed-integer programs via branch-and-bound
 - Standard branch & bound
 - Multistage problems & FORCES
3. Complexity reduction for embedded solvers
 - Rounding & branching strategy
 - Relaxations of optimality & feasibility
 - Pre-computations on binary constraints
4. Summary



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Hybrid Systems

$X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

$U = \{A, B, C\}$

Computer Science

Finite State
Machine

Control Theory

Continuous
Dynamical
Systems

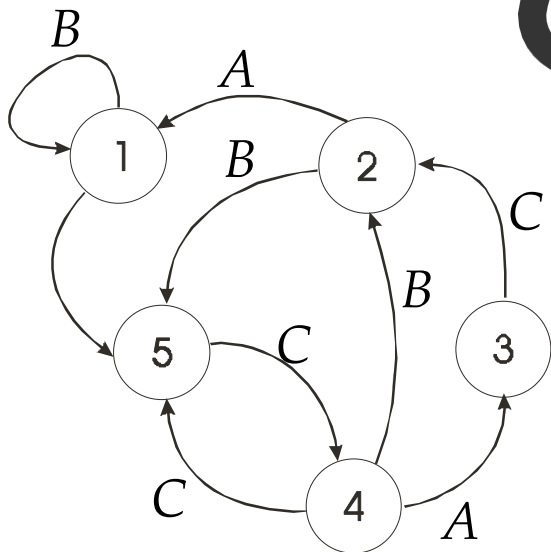
Hybrid Systems



$$x \in \mathbf{R}^n$$

$$u \in \mathbf{R}^m$$

$$y \in \mathbf{R}^p$$



$$x(k+1) = f(x(k), u(k))$$

$$y(k) = g(x(k), u(k))$$

► Hybrid Systems with Affine Dynamics

- **Descriptive** enough to capture system behavior
 - continuous dynamics (physical laws)
 - logic components (switches, automata)
 - interconnection between logic and dynamics
- **Simple** enough for analysis and synthesis
 - controllability, observability, reachability
 - controller / filter design
 - stability & constraint satisfaction

Mixed Logic Dynamical (MLD) Models

- ▶ Discrete time linear dynamics and logic can be combined into **Mixed Logic Dynamical (MLD) form** [Bemporad & Morari, 1999]

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + B_u u_k + B_w w_k + B_{aff}$$

$$y_k = Cx_k + D_u u_k + D_w w_k + D_{aff}$$

$$E_x x_k + E_u u_k + E_w w_k \leq E_{aff}$$

$$x \in \mathbf{R}^{n_c} \times \{0, 1\}^{n_b}$$

$$u \in \mathbf{R}^{m_c} \times \{0, 1\}^{m_b}$$

$$y \in \mathbf{R}^{p_c} \times \{0, 1\}^{p_b}$$

$$w \in \mathbf{R}^{q_c} \times \{0, 1\}^{q_b}$$

- ▶ Mature modeling tools exists, e.g. HYSDEL [Torrise & Bemporad, 2004]
- ▶ Equivalent to PWA, linear complementarity, max-min-plus-scaling

Hybrid MPC Problems with MLD Dynamics

$$\min_{x,u,w} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} x_k^T Q x_k^T + u_k^T R u_k + x_N^T P x_N$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_0 = x$$

$$x_{k+1} = A x_k + B_u u_k + B_w w_k + B_{aff} \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^{n_c} \times \{0, 1\}^{n_b}$$

$$E_x x_k + E_u u_k + E_w w_k \leq E_{aff} \quad u \in \mathbf{R}^{m_c} \times \{0, 1\}^{m_b}$$

$$x_k \in \mathcal{X}_k, \quad x_N \in \mathcal{X}_f, \quad u_k \in \mathcal{U}_k \quad w \in \mathbf{R}^{q_c} \times \{0, 1\}^{q_b}$$

- Optimization problem is mixed-integer QP (NP-hard)
- Desktop software often solves medium-scale problems efficiently

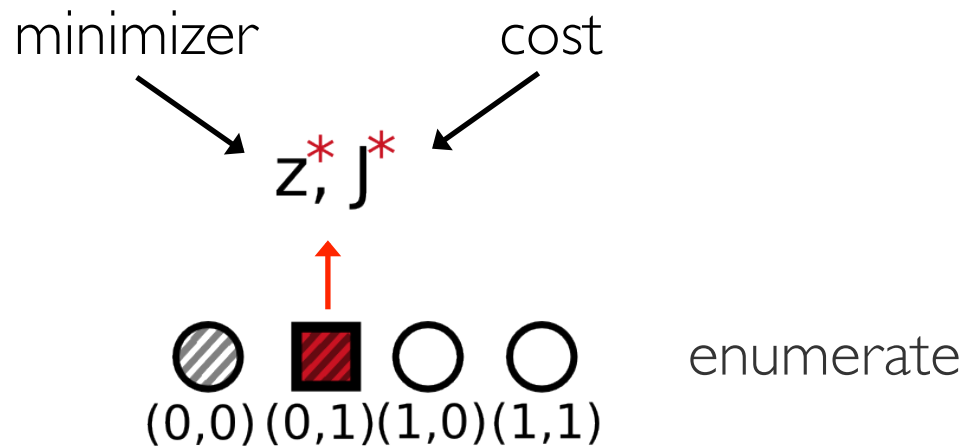
Embedded solvers exist only for small-scale problems (explicit)

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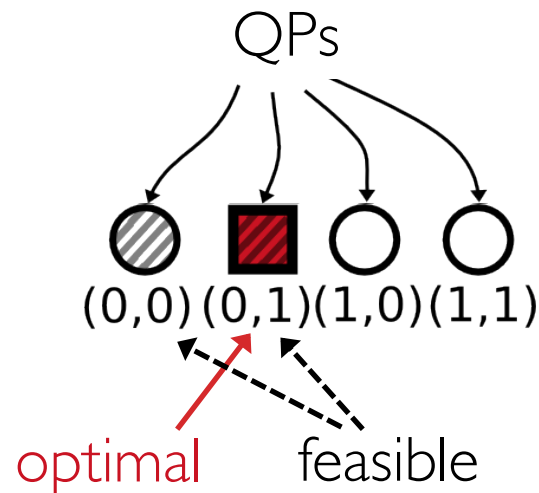
Standard branch-and-bound

- Find optimal solution to MIQP without enumerating all possibilities



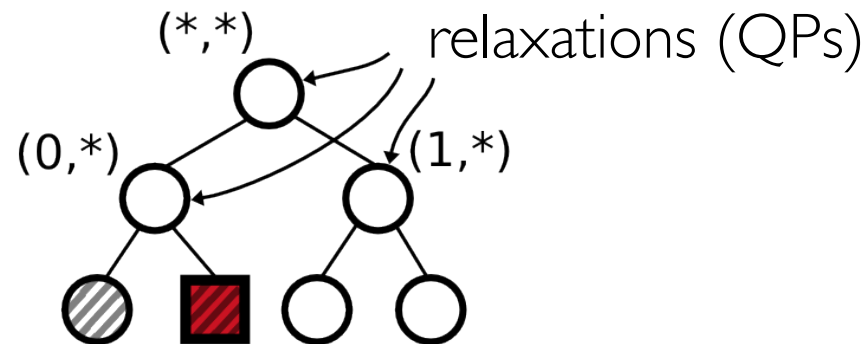
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Standard branch-and-bound

- Find optimal solution to MIQP without enumerating all possibilities
- Exploit bounds on optimal cost obtained from relaxations and integer-feasible solutions



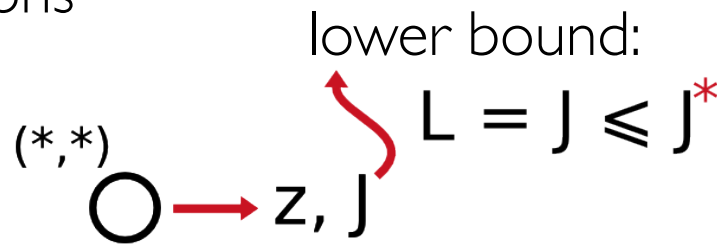
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$$(*,*) \circ \rightarrow z, J$$

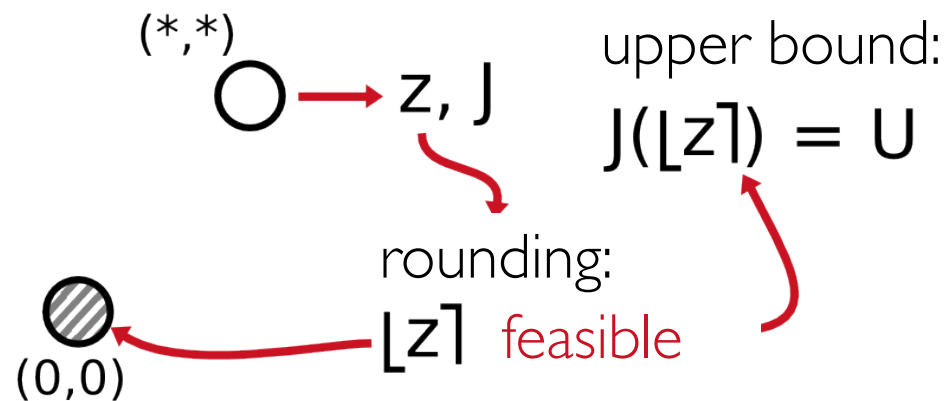
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► Standard branch-and-bound

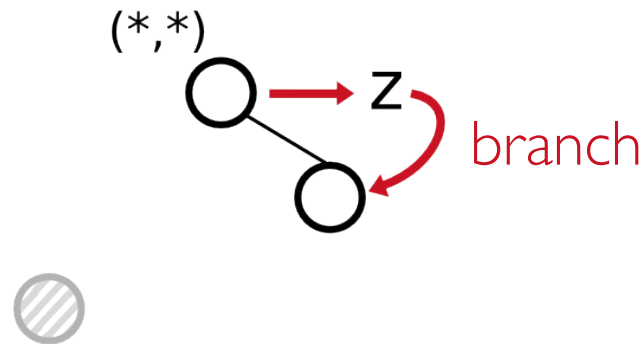
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$(*,*)$



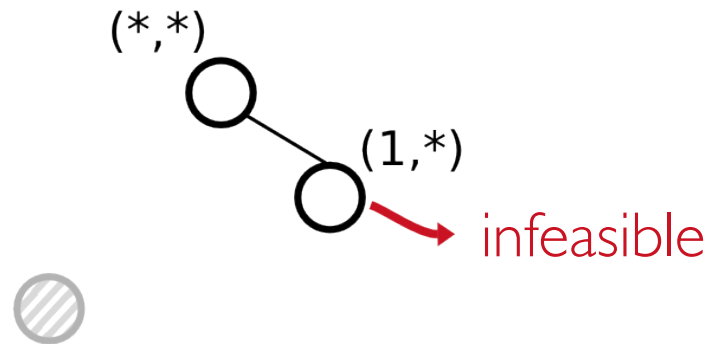

Standard branch-and-bound

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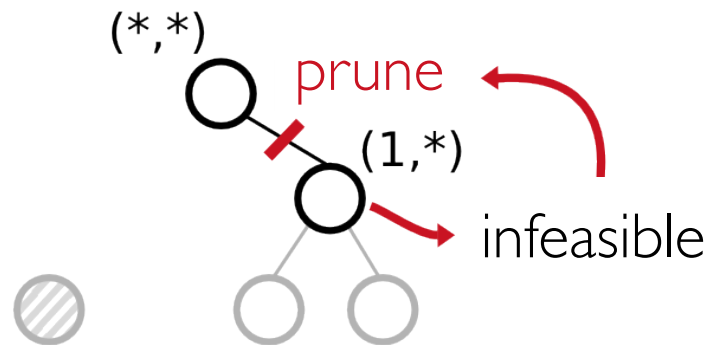
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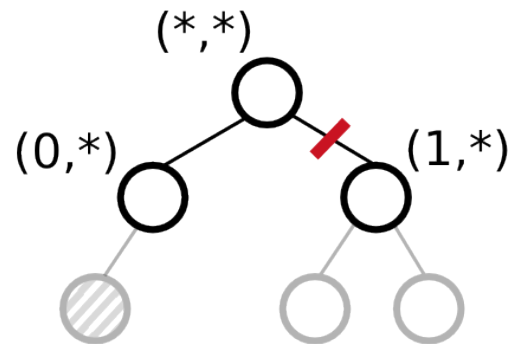
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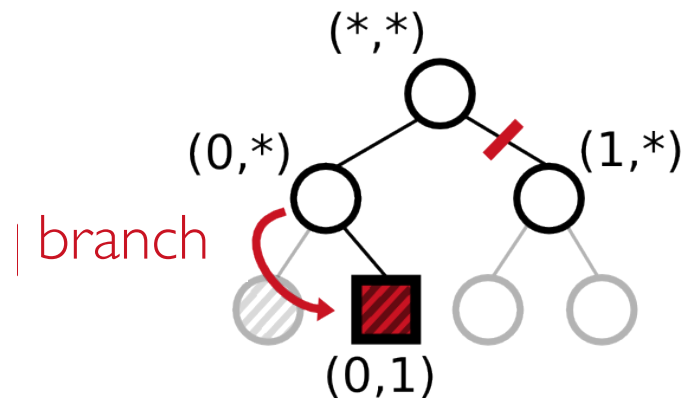
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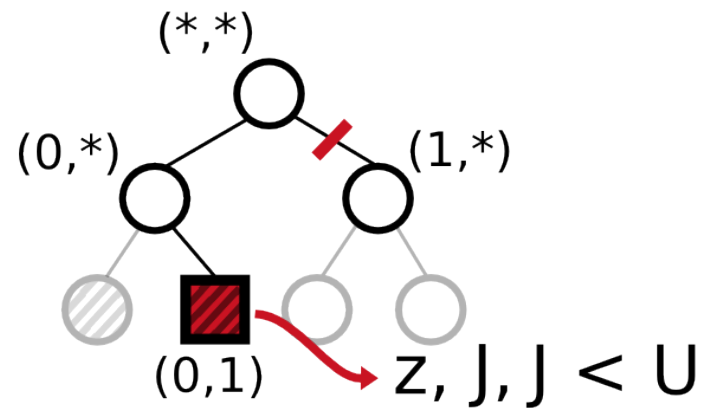
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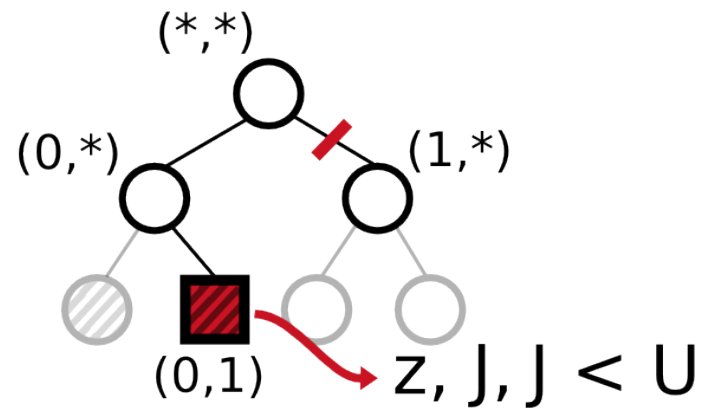
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Standard branch-and-bound

- Find optimal solution to MIQP without enumerating all possibilities
- Exploit bounds on optimal cost obtained from relaxations and integer-feasible solutions



- B&B code size: ~ 100 lines of C code

Key ingredient: fast, simple low-level (QC)QP solver

Multi-stage Convex QCQPs

$$\text{minimize} \quad \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2} v_i^T H_i v_i + f_i^T v_i$$

separable objective

$$\text{subject to} \quad \underline{v}_i \leq v_i \leq \bar{v}_i$$

upper/lower bounds

$$A_i v_i \leq b_i$$

affine inequalities

$$v_i^T Q_{i,j} v_i + l_{i,j}^T v_i \leq r_{i,j}$$

quadratic constraints

$$C_i v_i + D_{i+1} v_{i+1} = c_i$$

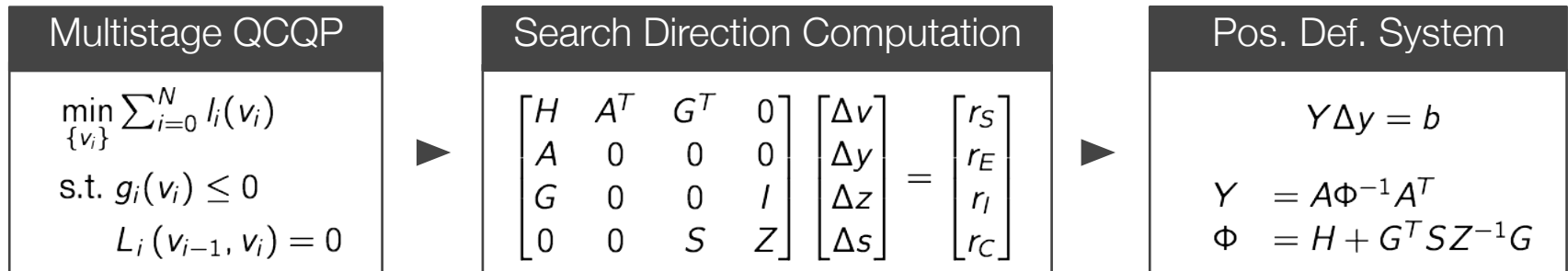
inter-stage equalities

- ▶ Structure allows for significant speedups
- ▶ Hybrid MPC sub-problems fit this problem structure

Idea: use code-generated convex solver for B&B sub-problems

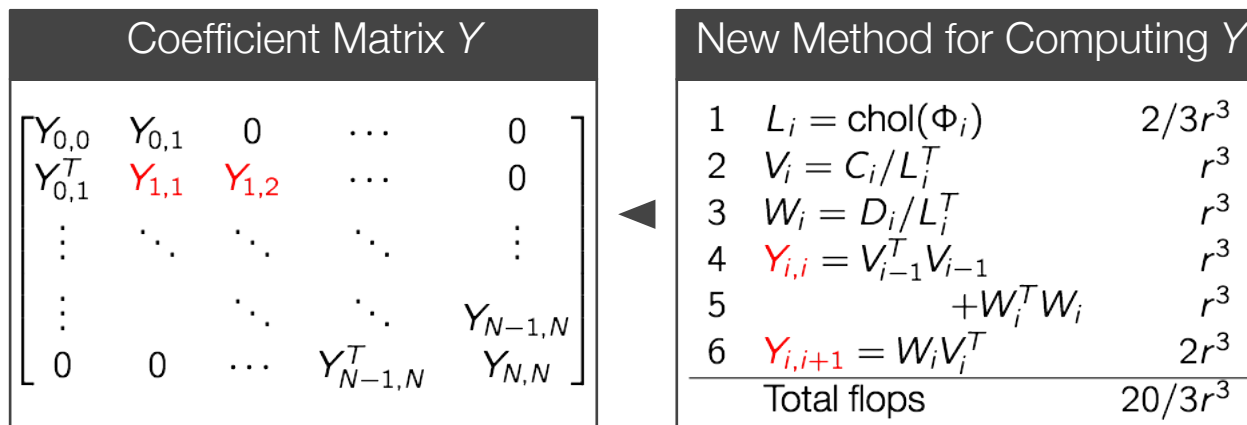
FORCES Exploits the Multistage Structure

- Main computation in interior point methods: solve linear system



1. Compute Y (~80% of cost), 2. factor $Y = LL^T$ (~20%), 3. fwd./bkwd. solve

- Exploit block-wise structure in KKT system



r : block size

- ✓ Saves $2r^3$ flops w.r.t. literature
- ✓ Cache efficient
- ✓ Numerically robust
- ✓ Parallelizable
- ✓ Enables further structure exploitation

Fine-Grained Structure Exploitation

- Additional structure exploitation possible for special cases:

Theoretical speedups compared to base case		Objective		
		$c_i^T v_i$	$v_i^T Q v_i, Q \text{ diag.}$	$v_i^T Q v_i, Q \text{ dense}$
Constraints	$\underline{v} \leq v_i \leq \bar{v}$	9.3x	9.3x	1.4x
	$F v_i \leq f_i$	1.0x	1.0x	1.0x
	$v_i^T M v_i \leq r, M \text{ diag.}$	6.7x	6.7x	1.4x
	$v_i^T M v_i \leq r, M \text{ dense}$	1.4x	1.4x	1.4x (1.8x if $M=Q$)

- Example for typical MPC problem: $\min x_N^T P x_N + \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} x_i^T Q x_i + u_i^T R u_i$
 • Stages 0...N-1: Q, R diagonal
 • Stage N: P dense
 s.t. $x_0 = x, x_{i+1} = A x_i + B u_i$
 $\underline{x} \leq x_i \leq \bar{x}, \underline{u} \leq u_i \leq \bar{u},$
 $x_N^T P x_N \leq \alpha$
 → ~75% complexity reduction

[Domahidi et al., CDC 2012]

Structure exploitation can be automatized by code generation

The FORCES Code Generator

Multistage QCQP

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2} v_i^T H_i v_i + f_i^T v_i \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \underline{z}_i \leq v_i \leq \bar{v}_i \\ & A_i v_i \leq b_i \\ & v_i^T Q_{ij} v_i + l_{ij}^T v_i \leq r_{ij} \\ & C_i v_i + D_{i+1} v_{i+1} = c_i \end{aligned}$$

Problem description

```
stage = MultiStageProblem(N+1);
for i = 1:N+1
% dimensions
stages(i).dims.n = 10;
stages(i).dims.r = 5;
stages(i).dims.lb = 3;

% cost
stages(i).cost.H = Hi;
stages(i).cost.f = fi;

% inequalities
stages(i).ineq.b.lidx = 3:5;
stages(i).ineq.b.lb = zeros(3,1);

% equalities
stages(i).eq.C = Ci;
stages(i).eq.c = ci;
stages(i).eq.D = Di;
end
generateCode(stages);
```

Embedded Hardware



?



FORCES



- ▶ C code generation of primal-dual Mehrotra interior point solvers
- ▶ LPs, QPs, QCQPs
- ▶ Parametric problems
- ▶ Multi-core platforms
- ▶ Library-free
- ▶ Available: forces.ethz.ch

Generated Code

Solver (ANSI-C)

```
/* dual measure */
MPCC_FLOAT mu;

/* dual measure (after affine step) */
MPCC_FLOAT mu_aff;

/* centering parameter */
MPCC_FLOAT sigma;

/* number of backtracking line search steps (affine direction) */
int l1st_aff;

/* number of backtracking line search steps (combined direction) */
int l1st_cc;

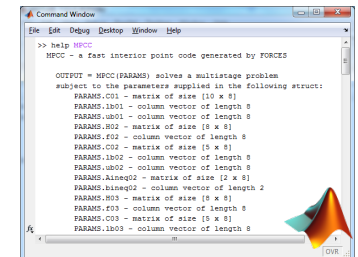
/* step size (affine direction) */
MPCC_FLOAT step_aff;

/* step size (combined direction) */
MPCC_FLOAT step_cc;
} MPCC_info;

/* SOLVER FUNCTION DEFINITION ..... */
/* examine exiting before using the results! */
int MPCC_solve(MPCC_params* params, MPCC_output* output, MPCC_info* info);
```

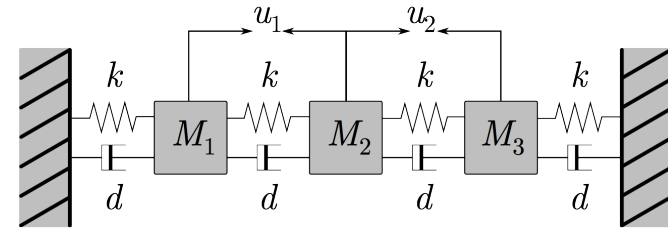
solver.h
solver.c
solver.m
solvermex.c
makemex

MATLAB MEX interface
for rapid prototyping

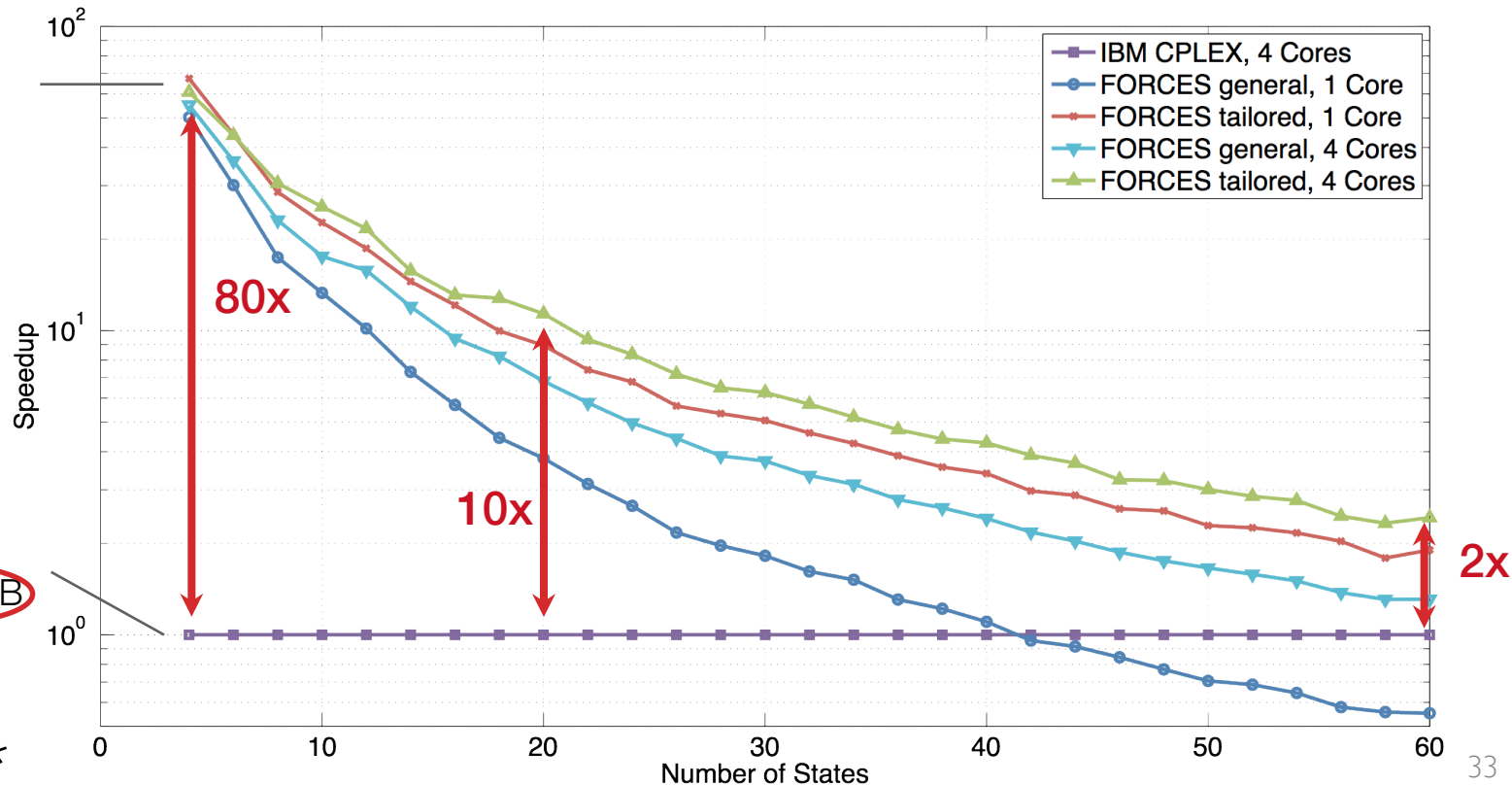


Speedups Compared to IBM CPLEX

- ▶ Standard MPC problem for oscillating chain of masses (on Intel i5 @3.1 GHz)
- ▶ CPLEX N/A on embedded systems



FORCES
Solve time: 90 μ s
Code size: 52 KB



CPLEX
Solve time: 5470 μ s
Code size: 11700 KB

Simple B&B Strategy with FORCES

- Generate a solver for QCQP with parametric lower- and upper bounds:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{2} v_i^T H_i v_i + f_i^T v_i \\ &\text{subject to} && \underline{v}_i \leq v_i \leq \bar{v}_i \\ &&& A_i v_i \leq b_i \\ &&& v_i^T Q_{i,j} v_i + l_{i,j}^T v_i \leq r_{i,j} \\ &&& C_i v_i + D_{i+1} v_{i+1} = c_i \end{aligned}$$

Change in each B&B sub-problem

- Relaxation: $0 \leq v_i \leq 1$ for binary variables
- Set $\underline{v}_{i,j} = \bar{v}_{i,j}$ to 0 or 1 to fix variable j in stage i

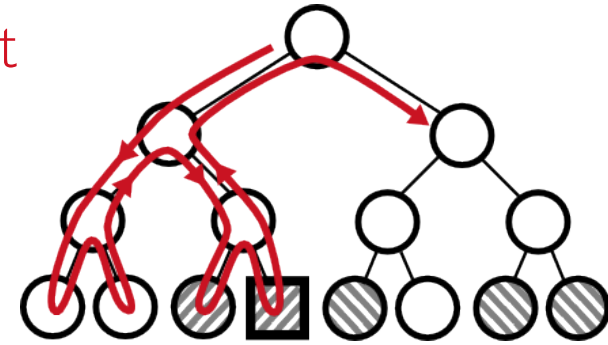
→ Low-footprint MI-QCQP solver for hybrid MPC

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Branch-and-bound: Branching Strategy

- ▶ Branch-and-bound tree is explored **depth-first**
 - Likely to find feasible solutions early
 - Low memory complexity (linear in #binaries)



- ▶ Use **stage-in-order** heuristic (fix in order $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$)
 - Motivated by receding horizon policy – fix early stages first
- ▶ In current stage, branch on **most ambiguous** relaxed variable, i.e. the one closest to 0.5 [Boyd & Mattingley, EE364b notes]

Branch-and-bound: Rounding Schemes

- ▶ Nearest-neighbor: computationally efficient, solution can be infeasible
- ▶ Combinatorial Integral Approximation [Sager et al. 2014]

$$\tilde{\delta} \triangleq \arg \min_{\delta \in \Omega} \max_{k=0, \dots, N} \max_j \left| \sum_{l=0}^k (\delta_{l,j}^* - \delta_{l,j}) \right|$$

- Need to solve MILP, but theoretical guarantees on approx. quality
- ▶ Sum-up-rounding: explicit solution of CIA if $\Omega \equiv \{0, 1\}^n$ [Sager et al. 2012]

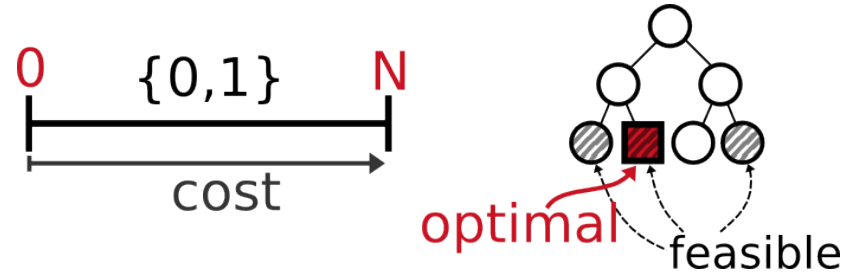
$$\tilde{\delta}_{k,j} \triangleq \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sum_{l=0}^k \delta_{l,j}^* - \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \tilde{\delta}_{l,j} \geq 0.5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



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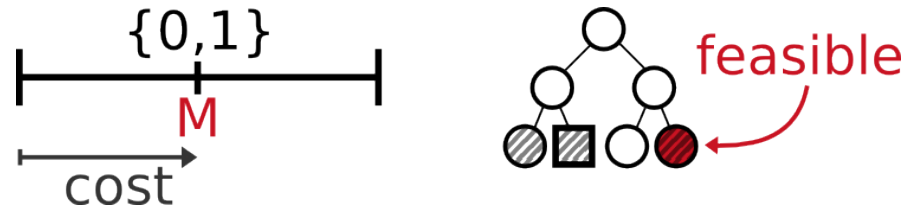
Relaxations



- ▶ Only first control action is applied in a receding horizon scheme
→ Can relax later stages to improve solve time
- ▶ Relax **integrality** or **optimality** after $M < N$ stages

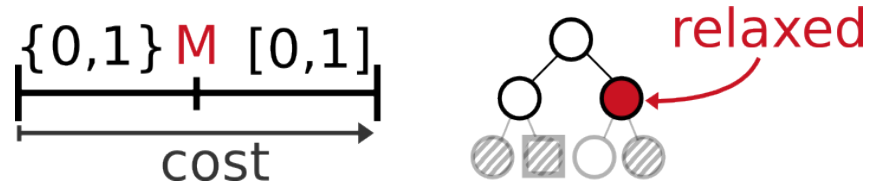
Trade-off computation time for performance

Relaxation of Optimality



- ▶ Relax **optimality** after M stages, preserve feasibility for all N stages
 - Often N -step feasible, M -step optimal solutions of sufficient quality for closed-loop control
 - Reduces complexity if feasible solutions can be found quickly
- ▶ Solution is feasible for original problem, but likely to be suboptimal

Relaxation of Integer Feasibility

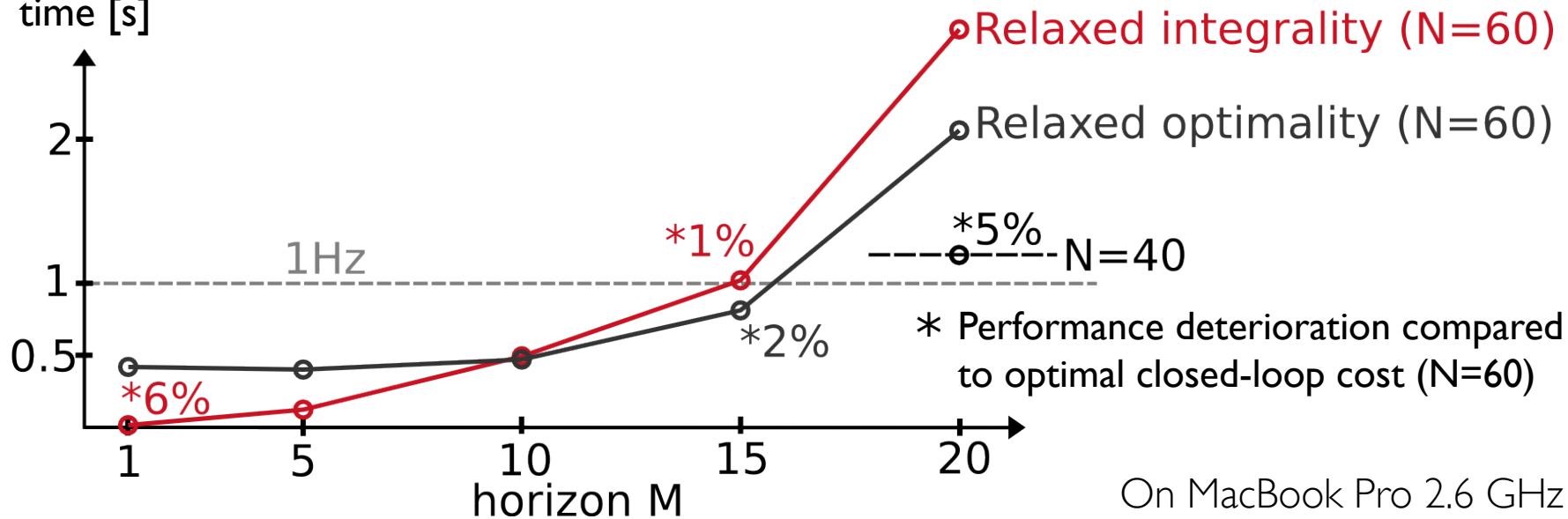


- ▶ Relax **integer feasibility** after M stages
 - Maintain benefits of long horizons for continuous dynamics
 - First control move likely to provide good performance
- ▶ Effective reduction of #binaries

Numerical Results: Fuel Cell Control

- Hybrid MPC problem with 60 binary and 242 continuous variables

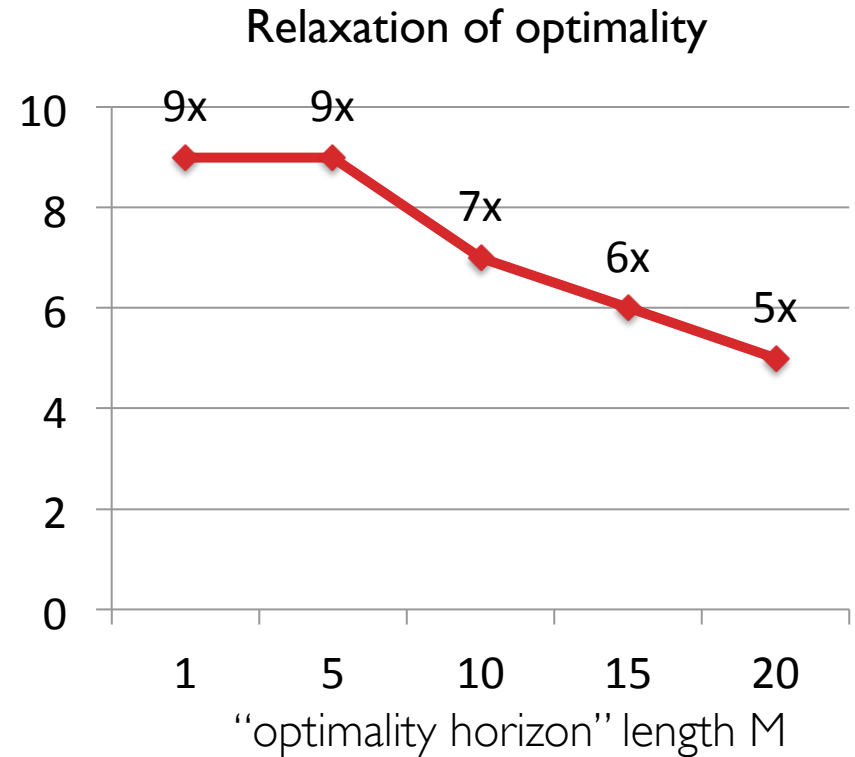
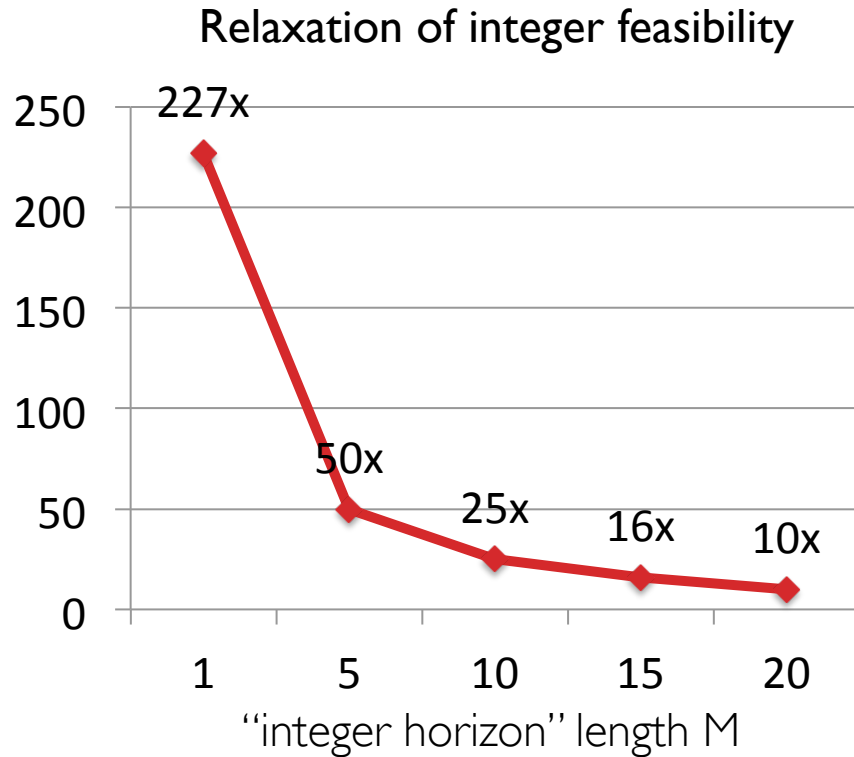
Maximum solution
time [s]



- Sampling time of 1s met with 1% performance deterioration
- Max. 208 QPs solved

Speedups Compared to IBM CPLEX

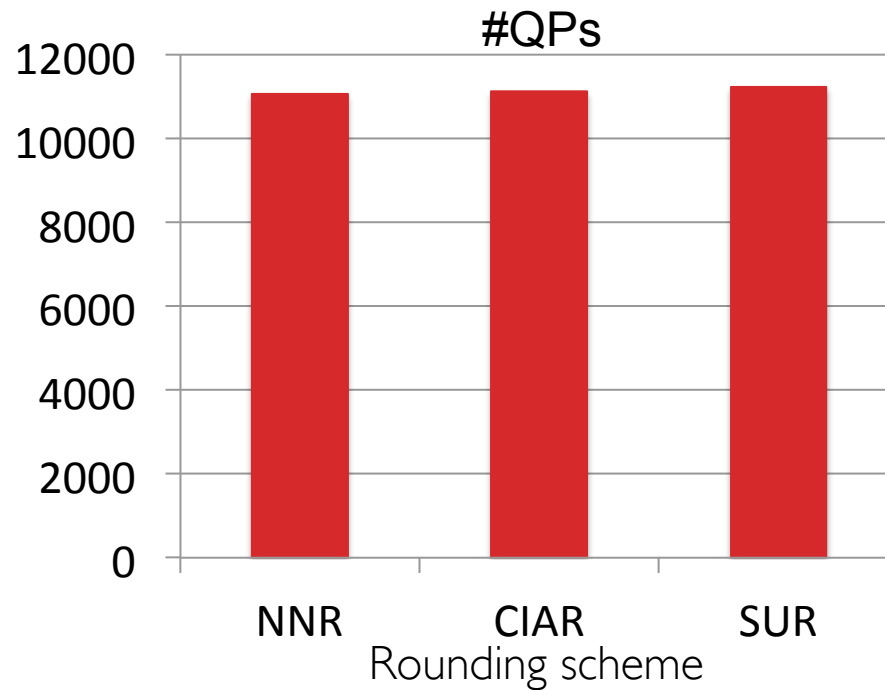
- Speedup of median compute time w.r.t. CPLEX solving full problem:



- In all cases with $M > 5$: performance deterioration less than 2%

Numerical Results: Optimal Traffic Control

- ▶ Horizon length $N=5$: 25 binary variables, 105 continuous variables
- ▶ Number of QPs applying standard approach without relaxations:



- ▶ Solution time ~ 20 seconds $\rightarrow$ too slow
- ▶ $\sim 96\%$ of time for “solving” **infeasible** sub-problems

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Pre-processing: Extended Constraint Functions

- Consider a constraint depending only on binaries:

$$g(\delta) \leq 0, \quad \delta \in \{0, 1\}^{n_b}$$

- Each B&B node can be represented by a set $\mathcal{I} \subseteq 2^{\{0,1\}^{n_b}}$ of possible binaries
- Goal: detect infeasibility of $g(\delta)$ for all $\delta \in \mathcal{I}$ efficiently
- **Extended constraint function** (ECF):

$$g_e(\mathcal{I}) \triangleq \min_{\delta} g(\delta) \\ \text{s.t. } \delta \in \mathcal{I}$$

with property: $g_e(\mathcal{I}) > 0 \Rightarrow g(\delta) > 0 \forall \delta \in \mathcal{I}$
(sufficient condition for infeasibility)

► Pre-processing: Extended Constraint Functions

$$g_e(\mathcal{I}) \triangleq \min_{\delta} g(\delta)$$

s.t. $\delta \in \mathcal{I}$

- ECF is a **parametric integer program**
- Cheap to evaluate $g_e(\cdot)$ for
 - Constraint on #switchings (fuel cell, power electronics)
 - Exclusive logical constraints (traffic control, multilevel inverter)
 - Lookup table, decision tree (for small number of variables)

► Infeasibility Pruning via ECFs

- Code for evaluating $g_e(\cdot)$ is generated at codegen time
- Evaluating $g_e(\cdot)$ is often more efficient than solving QP
- At each B&B node, evaluate $g_e(\mathcal{I})$ to test for infeasibility
- Example: constraint on #switchings (fuel cell)

$$g_e(\mathcal{I}) \triangleq \min_{\delta \in \mathcal{I}} \sum_{j=k-N_s+1}^k \delta_j - n_{switch}$$

window length (for past) # of past switchings

- Trivial evaluation: set relaxed binaries to zero & count fixed 1's

Use $g_e(\cdot)$ to prune infeasible sub-trees

Sub-optimality Pruning via ECFs

- **Key assumption I:** optimization problem has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{z, \delta} f(z, \delta) \\ \text{s.t. } (z, \delta) \in \mathcal{C} \subseteq R^{n_c} \times \{0, 1\}^{n_b} \\ I_G^T \delta \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

where I_G is the incidence matrix of the undirected graph $G \triangleq (V, E)$ modeling the dependency of binaries

- Models logical constraints that are exclusive
Example traffic control: only certain combinations of signals on green
- Consequence: every feasible δ is an **independent set** (i.e. nodes are not connected by edges)

Sub-optimality Pruning via ECFs

- **Key assumption 2:** cost does not increase when setting a 0 to 1, i.e.

for all feasible $\delta, \hat{\delta} \in \{0, 1\}^{n_b} : \|\delta\|_1 > \|\hat{\delta}\|_1 \Rightarrow h(\delta) \leq h(\hat{\delta})$

where $h(\delta) \triangleq \begin{cases} \min_z \{f(z, \delta) : (z, \delta) \in \mathcal{C}, l_G^T \delta \leq 1\} & \text{if feasible} \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

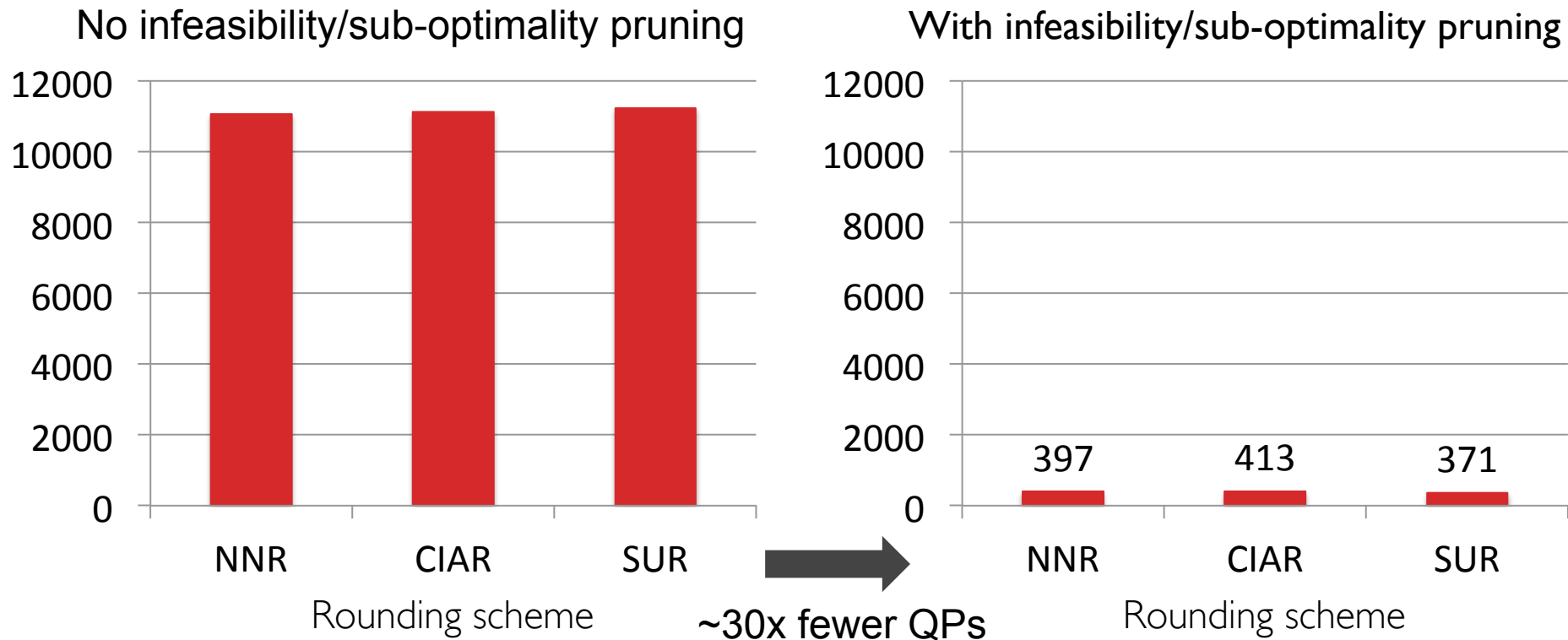
Example traffic control: set as many signals to green as feasible

- Consequence: every **optimal** δ is a **maximum independent set** (i.e. no node can be added such that all nodes are not connected)
- Set of maximum independent sets can be pre-computed

Use $g_e(\cdot)$ to prune non-maximum (suboptimal) independent sets

Numerical Results: Optimal Traffic Control

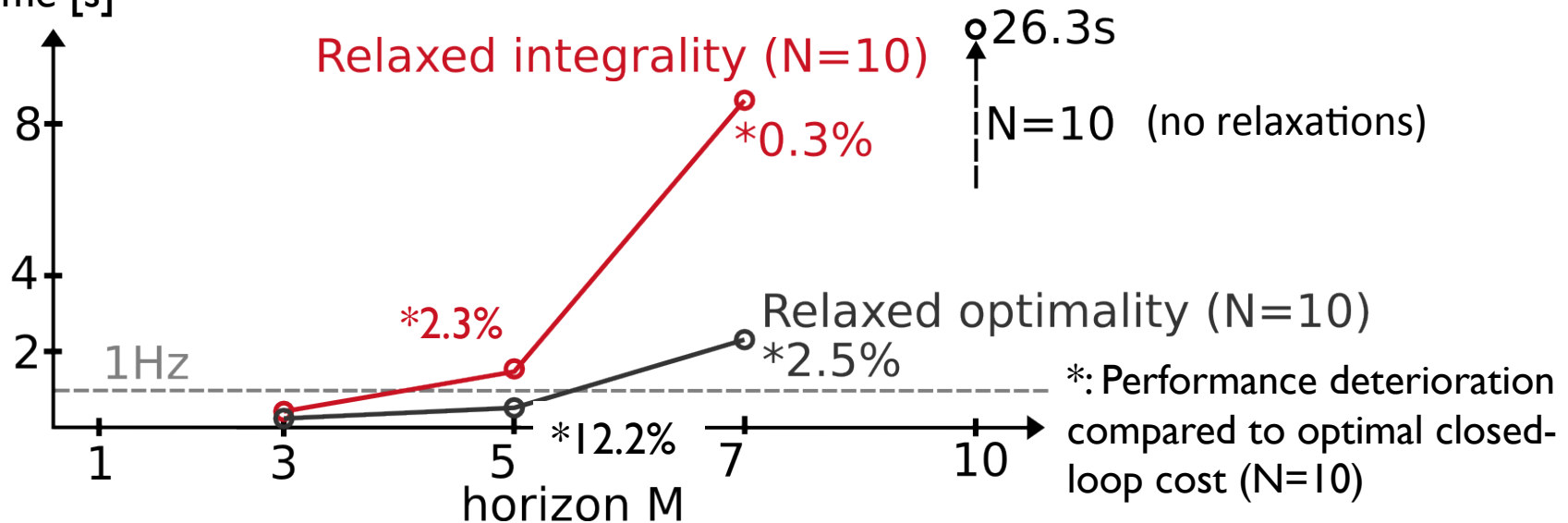
- For horizon length of 5: 25 binary variables, 105 continuous variables



Infeasibility & sub-optimality pruning drastically reduces #QPs

Numerical Results: Traffic Control

Maximum solution
time [s]



- Median computation times compared to CPLEX:
 - 30x slower for N=10 (full problem)
 - 3x slower for M=5 (2.3% performance loss)

Approaching speed of desktop solvers with embeddable code

Summary

- ▶ Many control problems need solution of MIPs on embedded systems
- ▶ First approach toward embedded solver for hybrid MPC:
 - Standard branch-and-bound + tailored, generated interior-point solver
 - Stage-in-order + most-ambiguous branching, nearest-neighbor rounding
 - Code size few tens of KB
- ▶ Pre-processing: detect infeasible/suboptimal nodes w/o solving QPs
 - Extended constraint functions can be generated at codegen time
 - Often much faster to evaluate than convex sub-problem

→ Simple embeddable solver approaching desktop performance

- ▶ Future work:
 - First-order sub-problem solvers (ADMM, gradient projection, ...)
 - Generate more tree-pruning cuts at code generation time