THE EXISTENCE AND USEFULNESS OF EQUALITY CUTS IN THE MULTI-DEMAND MULTIDIMENSIONAL KNAPSACK PROBLEM

by

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Abstract

Integer programming (IP) is a class of mathematical models useful for modeling and optimizing many theoretical and industrial problems. Unfortunately, IPs are \mathcal{NP} -complete, and many integer programs cannot currently be solved.

Valid inequalities and their respective cuts are commonly used to reduce the effort required to solve IPs. This thesis poses the questions, do valid equality cuts exist and can they be useful for solving IPs?

Several theoretical results related to valid equalities are presented in this thesis. It is shown that equality cuts exist if and only if the convex hull is not full dimensional. Furthermore, the addition of an equality cut can arbitrarily reduce the dimension of the linear relaxation.

In addition to the theory on equality cuts, the idea of infeasibility conditions are presented. Infeasibility conditions introduce a set of valid inequalities whose intersection is the empty set. infeasibility conditions can be used to rapidly terminate a branch and cut algorithm.

Applying the idea of equality cuts to the multi-demand multidimensional knapsack problem resulted in a new class of cutting planes named anticover cover equality (ACE) cuts. A simple algorithm, FACEBT, is presented for finding ACE cuts in a branching tree with complexity $O(m \cdot n \log n)$.

A brief computational study shows that using ACE cuts exist frequently in the MDMKP instances studied. Every instance had at least one equality cut, while one instance had over 500,000. Additionally, computationally challenging instances saw an 11% improvement in computational effort. Therefore, equality cuts are a new topic of research in IP that is beneficial for solving some IP instances.

Table of Contents

Li	st of	Figure	es	V
Li	st of	Tables	3	vi
1	Intr	oducti	on	1
	1.1	Motiva	ation	3
	1.2	Contri	butions	3
	1.3	Outlin	e	. 4
2	Bac	kgrour	nd Information	5
	2.1	Intege	r Programming	5
		2.1.1	Knapsack Problems	9
		2.1.2	Demand Constraint Problems	10
		2.1.3	Demand Knapsack Problems	. 11
	2.2	Polyhe	edral Theory	12
		2.2.1	Cutting Planes and Faces	. 14
		2.2.2	Covers	. 17
3	Equ	ality (Cuts and Infeasibility Conditions	19
	3.1	Equali	ty Cuts	19
	3.2	Antico	over Cover Equality Cuts	23
		3.2.1	Anticovers	23
		3.2.2	Anticover Cover Equality Cuts	26

		3.2.3	Finding ACE Cuts in Branching Trees	29
		3.2.4	Infeasibility Conditions	33
4	Con	nputat	ional Results	37
	4.1	Bench	mark Instances	37
	4.2	Impler	nentation	38
	4.3	Comp	utational Results and Discussions	40
5	Con	clusio	ns and Future Research	49
	5.1	Future	Research	50
Bi	bliog	graphy		51
\mathbf{A}	Con	nputat	ional Results	54

List of Figures

2.1	A Branch and Bound Tree	8
2.2	Cutting Planes Example	16
3.1	Branching Tree for Example 3.2.1 Without Equality Cut	30
3.2	Branching Tree for Example 3.2.1 with Equality Cut	31
3.3	Branching Tree without Equality Cut and Objective Min $5x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 +$	
	$5x_4 + x_5$	32
3.4	Branching Tree with Equality Cut and Objective Min $5x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + 5x_4 + x_5$	33
3.5	Branching Tree for Example 3.2.2	36

List of Tables

4.1	Cut Table for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 0$	44
4.2	Cut Table for $n = 250, m = 5, q = 5, z = 0$	44
4.3	Cut Table for $n = 100, m = 10, q = 10, z = 0$	45
4.4	Nodes Evaluated for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5$	46
4.5	Nodes Evaluated for $n = 250, m = 5, q = 5$	47
4.6	Nodes Evaluated for $n = 100, m = 10, q = 10$	48
A.1	Cut Table for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 0$	55
A.2	Cut Table for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 1$	55
A.3	Cut Table for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 2$	56
A.4	Cut Table for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 3$	56
A.5	Cut Table for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 4$	57
A.6	Cut Table for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 5$	57
A.7	Cut Table for $n = 100, m = 10, q = 10, z = 0$	58
A.8	Nodes Evaluated for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 0 \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$	59
A.9	Nodes Evaluated for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 1 \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$	60
A.10	Nodes Evaluated for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 2 \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$	61
A.11	Nodes Evaluated for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 3 \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$	62
A.12	Nodes Evaluated for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 4 \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$	63
A.13	Nodes Evaluated for $n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 5 \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$	64

Chapter 1

Introduction

Integer Programming is a widely studied class of mathematical models. An Integer Program (IP) is defined as, maximize $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}$ and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n$, where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$. This research develops new techniques to improve the time required to solve integer programs by creating equality cuts and infeasibility conditions.

Integer programming has been used to model and solve many different problems in many different fields. Some of the fields where IPs have been applied are genetic research⁵, portfolio management^{3,17}, transporting goods^{8,18,19,21}, and fighting cancer^{11,12}.

There are various classes of IPs and one of the most widely studied is called the Knapsack Problem (KP). KP models the classical analogy of a camper packing his/her knapsack before a trip. The camper can take items and each item has an associated benefit and weight. The camper wants to pack the knapsack in such a way that he/she has the maximum benefit, while still being able to carry the knapsack. The knapsack problem and variations of it, have numerous real world applications. Some examples include Merkle Hellman cryptography¹⁴ and portfolio optimization⁹.

A problem closely related to KP is the Demand Constraint Problem (DCP). DCP models a business deciding on a combination of marketing strategies. Each different strategy has a known cost and benefit. DCP seeks to minimize the cost spent while meeting certain market share requirements.

This thesis focuses on a particular class of IPs, called the Multi-Demand Multidimensional Knapsack Problem (MDMKP). The Demand Knapsack Problem contains both a knapsack and a demand constraint. Combining multiple demand constraints and multiple knapsack constraints results in the MDMKP. Formally, MDMKP has the form maximize $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{A}'\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}'$, and $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$, where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}_+, \mathbf{A}' \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times n}_+, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m_+$ and $\mathbf{b}' \in \mathbb{R}^q_+$. The MDMKP has numerous real world applications. Some examples are project selection²⁰, capital budgeting¹³, and cutting stock⁴.

Unfortunately, IPs and MDMKPs are \mathcal{NP} -complete⁷ and thus solving them can require exponential time. Some real world IPs still have no known solution. Additionally, even small IP instances are not guaranteed to be solvable within a reasonable time frame. This has motivated a significant amount of research into improving methods of solving IPs. The two most common solution methods are Branch and Bound¹⁰ and cutting planes.

Branch and Bound, the primary method for solving IPs, works by solving the linear relaxation of each IP within the branching tree. The linear relaxation is the IP without the integer requirements. After solving a linear relaxation, branch and bound splits the problem of the parent node into two separate problems. This process is repeated until all the nodes have been fathomed. A node is fathomed if the solution at that node is integer, the linear relaxation at that node is infeasible, or the objective value at that node is worse than the objective value of the best integer solution found thus far. Once all nodes have been fathomed the best integer solution found is the optimal solution for the problem. If all the nodes have been fathomed and no integer solution was found, the problem is infeasible.

Solving IPs using cutting planes uses the idea of a valid inequality. The goal of a valid inequality, $\boldsymbol{\alpha}^T \mathbf{x} \leq \beta$, is to remove portions of the linear relaxation space without eliminating a feasible integer point. The theoretical strength of a valid inequality can be measured by

its induced face. Facet defining inequalities are the strongest theoretical valid inequalities.

Much research has been done on finding cutting planes for KP instances. A popular method to generate cuts is to use covers^{1,22} on a knapsack constraint. Cover cuts can be facet defining, are easy to find and are commonly implemented in modern software.

1.1 Motivation

The following question motivated this research. Why are valid inequalities defined as $\boldsymbol{\alpha}^T \mathbf{x} \leq \beta$? Would it be possible to have a valid equality, $\boldsymbol{\alpha}^T \mathbf{x} = \beta$? This research answers this latter question in the affirmative and demonstrates how to find such equality cuts for some MDMKP instances.

1.2 Contributions

This thesis presents the idea of an equality set and corresponding valid equality. It is shown that equality sets only exist when the IPs convex hull is not full dimensional. Additionally, it is shown that although equality cuts can never be facet defining, the addition of an equality cut can arbitrarily reduce the dimension of an IPs linear relaxation.

The idea of equality cuts is applied to MDMKP by utilizing covers and introducing the concept of an associated anticover inequality. In certain instances, there exists an anticover cover equality set. Several examples of equality cuts are presented. These examples demonstrate the existence of equality sets and provide substantial discussion regarding their potential benefit.

A third contribution of this research is a formal definition of infeasibility conditions in general. If an infeasibility condition exists for an IP, then the IP is infeasible. Infeasibility conditions using anticovers and covers for the MDMKP are presented. An example demonstrates that although the linear relaxation may be full dimensional, an infeasibility condition can exist. Thus, such an IP would not need to be solved by branch and bound.

The final contribution of this work is a computational study of both equality cuts and infeasibility conditions for the MDMKP. Implementing anticover cover equality cuts and anticover cover infeasibility conditions resulted in an average of about a 7% improvement on small benchmark instances and an 11% gain on large benchmark instances.

1.3 Outline

Chapter 2 presents basic concepts of integer programming and polyhedral theory along with other background information requisite for understanding the research presented in this thesis. Some of the topics covered in this chapter include the Integer Programming, Polyhedral Theory, the Knapsack Problem, the Demand Problem, the Multi-Demand Multidimensional Knapsack Problem, Cutting Planes, Branch and Cut, and Covers.

Chapter 3 contains the advancements of this research. The concept of an equality set with corresponding valid equality is introduced along with results about their existence and theoretical usefulness. An simple algorithm for finding anticover cover equality (ACE) cuts on the MDMKP is presented with its running time. Finally the idea of infeasibility conditions by combining cuts is introduced.

The computational results of applying ACE on MDMKP can be found in Chapter 4. This chapter presents the results, an interpretation, and some discussions relating to the implementation.

Chapter 5 summarizes this thesis and discusses several ideas for further research on valid equalities. Additional topics are provided on both the theoretical and computational side.

Chapter 2

Background Information

This chapter provides a brief discussion of material prerequisite to understand this thesis. Topics such as integer programming, the knapsack problem, polyhedral theory, cutting planes and covers are discussed. To study this material in greater detail, refer to the classic text by Nemhauser and Wolsey¹⁵.

2.1 Integer Programming

Integer programs (IP's) are a class of mathematical models useful for solving optimization problems. An IP is of the form:

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

Subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}$
 $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^n_+$

where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

An optimal solution to an IP takes the form z^* and \mathbf{x}^* , where $z^* = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^*$. The set of feasible solutions is denoted as $P = {\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^n_+ : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}}$. Furthermore, the set of indices is

 $N = \{1, ..., n\}.$

Integer programming has been used to model and solve many different problems in many different fields. Some of the fields where IPs have been applied are genetic research⁵, portfolio management^{3,17}, transporting goods^{8,18,19,21}, and fighting cancer^{11,12}. There are numerous other applications for integer programs not mentioned here. Additionally, there exist many problems where integer programming would be useful, but due to the IP's size, complexity and the lack of efficient methods for solving IPs, solutions are obtained using other techniques with no guarantee of optimality.

Integer programs have been shown to be \mathcal{NP} -hard⁷. Thus, no polynomial time algorithm has yet been discovered to solve IPs and such an algorithm is unlikely to exist. IPs are typically solved by utilizing the linear relaxation. The linear relaxation (LR) of an IP is the IP without the integer constraint. Thus the LR takes the form

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

Subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}$
 $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$

where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$. The linear relaxation space is defined as $P^{LR} = {\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}}$. The optimal solution to the LR is denoted z^{*LR} and \mathbf{x}^{*LR} , where $z^{*LR} = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^{*LR}$.

Since no polynomial time algorithm has yet been discovered to solve IPs, much research effort has been given to improving current solution techniques. The most common such methods are branch and bound¹⁰ and cutting planes.

Branch and bound begins by solving the linear relaxation. If $\mathbf{x}^{*LR} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n$, then \mathbf{x}^{*LR} , z^{*LR} is an optimal integer solution and the algorithm terminates. Otherwise, the algorithm selects some non-integer variable $x_i = q$ for branching. The original problem is considered the parent node and each branch creates two child nodes. One child node contains the original problem plus an additional constraint $x_i \leq \lfloor q \rfloor$; while the other child node is the original problem plus the constraint $x_i \geq \lceil q \rceil$. The algorithm repeats this process until all nodes have been fathomed.

A node is fathomed if the LR is infeasible, has an integer solution, or z^{*LR} at that node is worse than the best integer solution found thus far. Once all the nodes have been fathomed the best integer solution from any node is known to be the global optimal solution. If no integer solution exists the IP is infeasible.

Consider the following branch and bound example.

Example 2.1.1. Given the following IP:

Minimize
$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5$$

Subject to $3x_1 + 13x_2 + 7x_3 + 5x_4 + 11x_5 \leq 23$
 $5x_1 + 2x_2 + 7x_3 + 11x_4 + 3x_5 \geq 19$
 $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \in \{0, 1\}$

In this example Branch and Bound uses a depth first left search strategy. Solving the linear relaxation at the root node (1) results in $z^* = 2\frac{1}{5}$ and $\mathbf{x}^* = (\frac{1}{5}, 0, 1, 1, 0)$. Since $\mathbf{x}^* \notin \mathbb{Z}^n$, branching begins. Node (2) is formed by adding the constraint $x_1 \leq 0$. Following the depth first left search strategy this process continues until node (4) which is infeasible. Thus the node is fathomed. The algorithm then returns to node (3) to find any unfathomed nodes. This logic is followed until all nodes have been fathomed. To see the full branching tree, which requires solving 15 linear relaxations, refer to Figure 2.1.



2.1.1 Knapsack Problems

A widely studied class of IPs is the Knapsack Problem (KP). The classical analogy depicts a camper packing his/her knapsack before a trip. There are n items that can be taken, every item j is associated with a benefit, c_j , and a nonnegative weight, a_j . The camper wants to pack the knapsack in such a way that he/she has the maximum benefit while still being able to carry the knapsack, a total weight less than or equal to b.

To model KP as an IP, let $x_j = 1$ if the camper selects item j; otherwise, $x_j = 0$. The IP formulation of the KP is,

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

Subject to $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b$
 $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$

where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$, and $b \in \mathbb{R}_+$.

A knapsack problem with more than one constraint is referred to as a multidimensional knapsack problem. Formally,

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

Subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}$
 $\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n$

where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}_+$, and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m_+$.

Define the set of feasible solutions of a knapsack as $P_{KP} = \{x \in \{0,1\}^n : \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b\}$. Similarly, let $P_{MK} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}\}$ be the set of feasible solutions for the multidimensional knapsack problem.

An important generalization is that no item *i* has a weight a_i , such that $a_i > b$. In this case, the item can never be included so it is not allowed in the KP instance. This is important to show that KP is full dimensional. A proof of this is shown in the section on polyhedral theory.

The knapsack problem and variations of it, have numerous real world applications. Some examples include Merkle Hellman cryptography¹⁴ and portfolio optimization⁹.

2.1.2 Demand Constraint Problems

A class of problems closely associated with the knapsack problem is the Demand Constraint Problem (DCP). An analogy for the DCP depicts a business deciding on a combination of marketing strategies. Each different strategy j has a known cost c_j and an estimated increase in demand a'_j . The problem seeks to minimize the cost, while achieving a certain minimum level of product demand, b'.

To model this problem as an IP, let $x_j = 1$ if strategy j is used; otherwise, $x_j = 0$. The IP formulation is,

Minimize
$$\mathbf{c'}^T \mathbf{x}$$

Subject to $\mathbf{a'}^T \mathbf{x} \ge b'$
 $\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n$

where $\mathbf{c}' \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{a}' \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$, and $b' \in \mathbb{R}_+$.

A demand problem with more than one constraint is referred to as the multidimensional demand constraint problem (MDCP). Formally,

Minimize
$$\mathbf{c'}^T \mathbf{x}$$

Subject to $\mathbf{A'x} \ge \mathbf{b'}$
 $\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n$

where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}_+$, and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m_+$.

Define the set of feasible solutions of a DCP as $P_{DCP} = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n : \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b \}.$

Similarly let $P_{MDCP} = {\mathbf{x} \in {\{0,1\}}^n : \mathbf{Ax} \ge \mathbf{b}}$, be the set of feasible solutions for the multidimensional demand constraint problem.

Observe that any DCP can be transformed into a KP by substituting $(1 - x'_i)$ for x_i . This substitution results in an objective function of Maximize $\mathbf{c}'^T \mathbf{x}' - \mathbf{c}'^T \mathbf{1}$. The demand constraint becomes $\mathbf{a}'^T \mathbf{x}' \leq \mathbf{a}'^T \mathbf{1} - b'$. Thus, the DCP is equivalent to the KP. A demand constraint formed using this substitution is called an associated demand constraint for the knapsack instance. Likewise, a knapsack constraint can be formed from a demand constraint using this substitution is called the associated knapsack constraint.

Due to this substitution, much less work has focused on DCP. Fortunately, results from KP can be trivially extended to DCP instances. Thus, DCP has the same real world applications as the KP and similar theoretical results. The converse is also true.

2.1.3 Demand Knapsack Problems

An extension of the KP and DCP is the Demand Knapsack Problem (DKP). A DKP is formed by adding a demand constraint to a knapsack problem. Formally,

Maximize
$$\mathbf{c}^t \mathbf{x}$$

Subject to $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b$
 $\mathbf{a}^{\prime T} \mathbf{x} \geq b^{\prime}$
 $\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n$

where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}' \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$, and $b, b' \in \mathbb{R}_+$.

Observe that the demand constraint in a DKP cannot be transformed into knapsack constraint. This is because the variable substitution of $(1 - x'_j)$ for x_j merely flips which constraint is the demand constraint and which constraint is the knapsack constraint. Thus, the DKP problem is different from either the KP or DCP. Consequently, results for either KP or DCP cannot automatically be applied to DKP instances.

A DKP with more than one knapsack or demand constraint is referred to as the Multi-Demand Multidimensional Knapsack Problem (MDMKP). The MDMKP is considered throughout this thesis. MDMKP has the following IP,

Maximize
$$\mathbf{c}^t \mathbf{x}$$

Subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}$
 $\mathbf{A}'\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}'$
 $\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n$

where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}_+$, $\mathbf{A}' \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times n}_+$, $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m_+$, and $\mathbf{b}' \in \mathbb{R}^q_+$.

Define the set of feasible solutions as $P_{DKP} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n : \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b, \mathbf{a}'^T \mathbf{x} \geq b'\}$. Similarly let $P_{MDMKP} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \{0,1\}^n : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{A}'\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}'\}$. This thesis focuses on P_{MDMKP} .

The MDMKP has numerous real world applications. Some examples include topics related to project selection²⁰, capital budgeting¹³, and cutting stock⁴.

2.2 Polyhedral Theory

Polyhedral theory is an area of research in mathematical programming and is used to study the feasible space for integer and linear programs. Relevant definitions from polyhedral theory are discussed in this section.

A linear relaxation of an IP is a linear program. The feasible space P^{LP} for a linear program is defined by a finite set of linear inequalities, written $P^{LP} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}\},\$ where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$. The solution space for an inequality is $\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j \leq b_i\},\$ and is called a halfspace. The set of all points P formed by the intersection of a finite number of halfspaces is a polyhedron. By definition, the feasible space of a linear program is a polyhedron. A polyhedron P with some bound k such that $|\mathbf{x}| \leq k$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in P$ is called a polytope.

A set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is convex if and only if $\lambda \mathbf{x} + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{x}' \in S$ for all $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \in S$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$. The convex hull of S, written $S^{CH} = conv(S)$, is the intersection of all convex sets S' such that $S \subseteq S'$. It can easily be seen that S^{CH} is convex. This thesis focuses on $P_{MDMKP}^{CH} = conv(\{\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{A}'\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}'\})$. As such, results are also provided relative to P_{KP}^{CH} , P_{DC}^{CH} and P_{DKP}^{CH} .

The feasible space for a linear program is a convex set and has dimension defined as the number of linearly independent vectors in P^{LP} . The feasible region of an IP, P, is only a collection of points so no vectors are feasible. Consequently, the dimension of P^{CH} is determined using affine independence. The intuition behind this is to take any one of the affinely independent feasible points in P and make linearly independent vectors from this point to the other affinely independent points that are also in P. Thus, these vectors must be contained in P^{CH} .

A collection of points $\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, ..., \mathbf{p}_r \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is affinely independent if $\sum_{j=1}^r \lambda_j p_j = 0, \sum_{j=1}^r \lambda_j = 0$ is uniquely solved by the trivial solution $\lambda_j = 0$ for all j = 1, ..., r. The dimension of the convex hull of an IP is defined as the number of affinely independent points minus one. To identify points in \mathbb{R}^n , define \mathbf{e}_i to be the i^{th} identity point, the point that is translated one unit from the origin in the i^{th} dimension. Also let **0** and **1** be the vector of 0s and 1s, respectively.

A polyhedron $P^{LP} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is said to be full dimensional if $dim(P^{LP}) = n$. If P^{LP} is not full dimensional, then $dim(P^{LP}) < n$, and there is at least one inequality $\alpha_j \mathbf{x} \leq \beta_j$ that is satisfied at equality by all points in P.

The following arguments demonstrate the concepts of the dimension of P_{KP}^{CH} and P_{DC}^{CH} . These arguments require some standard assumptions that are used throughout this thesis.

Recall that Section 2.1.1 argued that each a_i of a knapsack instance is less than or equal

to b or x_i can be eliminated. In addition to this assumption, assume that the indices of all KP instances are sorted in descending order according to their **a** coefficients. With these assumptions, the dimension of KP is trivially bounded from above by n, due to the n variables. To show that the dim (P_{KP}^{CH}) is |N|, there must be |N| + 1 affinely independent points. Consider the points $\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{e_1}, \mathbf{e_2}, ..., \mathbf{e}_{|\mathbf{N}|} \in P_{KP}^{CH}$. These points are all affinely independent making the $dim(P_{KP}^{CH}) = |N|$.

For DC instances, assume that the indices are sorted in descending order according to the **a'** coefficients. If $\sum_{i=2}^{n} a'_i < b'$, then x_1 must equal to one for every feasible solution and it can be eliminated from the problem with the proper adjustments to b' and c. Thus, assume that $\sum_{i=2}^{n} a'_i \geq b'$. With this assumption, $\dim(P_{DC}^{CH}) = |N|$. Consider the points **1** and $\mathbf{1} - e_i$ for each $i \in N$. These points are affinely independent and clearly in P_{DC} , so $\dim(P_{DC}^{CH}) = |N|$.

Let $M = \{1, ..., m\}$ be the set of inequalities defining P^{LP} with the inequality set $M^{\leq} = \{j \in M : \alpha_j \mathbf{x} < \beta_j \text{ for some } \mathbf{x} \in P^{LP}\}$ sometimes denoted as $(\mathbf{A}^{\leq}, \mathbf{b}^{\leq})$, and the equality set $M \setminus M^{\leq} = M^{=} = \{j \in M : \alpha_j \mathbf{x} = \beta_j \ \forall \ \mathbf{x} \in P^{LP}\}$ sometimes denoted $(\mathbf{A}^{=}, \mathbf{b}^{=})$. A common result is that $dim(P^{LP}) + rank(\mathbf{A}^{=}, \mathbf{b}^{=}) = n$.

A fundamental result is that P^{CH} is a polyhedron and can be exactly defined by a finite number of inequalities. Furthermore, all of the extreme points of P^{CH} are integer. Thus, if a set of equalities is known that exactly defines P^{CH} , an optimal integer solution can be found in P^{CH} by solving an LP. This is the motivation for cutting planes.

2.2.1 Cutting Planes and Faces

If $P^{LR} = P^{CH}$, then a solution to the IP can be found in polynomial time. Cutting planes are used to remove points in $P^{LR} \setminus P^{CH}$. An inequality $\sum_{j \in N} \alpha_j x_j \leq \beta$ is said to be a valid inequality for P^{CH} if, and only if $\sum_{j \in N} \alpha_j x'_j \leq \beta$ is satisfied for every $\mathbf{x}' \in P$.

The set of all points in a polyhedron that exactly satisfy a valid inequality is defined as

a face $F = \{ \mathbf{x} \in P^{CH} : \sum_{j \in N} \alpha_j x_j = \beta \}$. If $F \subseteq P^{CH}$ and $F \neq \emptyset$, then F is said to support P^{CH} . A face is said to be proper if F supports P^{CH} and $F \neq P^{CH}$.

A facet defining inequality of P^{CH} defines a face of P^{CH} with dimension exactly one less than the dimension of P^{CH} . A face defined by a facet defining inequality is called a facet. All of the facets of P^{CH} are necessary and sufficient to define P^{CH} . The following example helps to explain these concepts.

Example 2.2.1. Given the integer program:

Maximize
$$x_1 + 2x_2$$

Subject to $3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 12$
 $3x_1 + 4x_2 \leq 15$
 $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$

The first constraint, $3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 12$, passes through points (0, 6), C, and D. The second constraint, $3x_1 + 4x_2 \leq 15$, passes through the points A, B, C, and (5, 0). The linear relaxation space of the IP is defined by these two constraints, the x_1 axis, and x_2 axis. The large circles represent the feasible integer points, P, of the problem as shown in Figure 2.2.

Clearly there is space within the linear relaxation that is outside the feasible integer points. The aim of a cutting plane is to remove this non-integer solution space without eliminating any of the feasible integer points. The dashed line represents the inequality $x_1 + x_2 \leq 4$ and passes through the points (0, 4), B, and D. This cutting plane eliminates the region BCD of the linear relaxation space without cutting off any feasible integer points. Thus, it is a valid inequality and a cutting plane.

By finding the dimension of P^{CH} and the dimension of the cut's faces, this cutting plane can be classified as facet defining. The dimension of the polyhedron, P^{CH} , is 2, because it contains three affinely independent points (0,0), (0,1), and (1,0). Next the dimension of the cut's face is found by listing affinely independent points that meet the inequality at



Figure 2.2: Cutting Planes Example

equality. In this case, (1,3) and (0,4) can be used as these points. Furthermore, it is evident that the face does not define P^{CH} . Consequently, $x_1 + x_2 \leq 4$ is a facet defining inequality.

For this example, the other facet defining inequalities are $x_1 \ge 0$, $x_2 \ge 0$, and $x_2 \le 3$. If these inequalities are added, then P^{CH} is defined. Notice that all corner points are integer.

This example shows the simplicity of finding the valid inequalities in a two dimensional integer programming problem. As the number of variables increases, so does the complexity of finding valid inequalities and facet defining inequalities.

Combining the concepts of cutting planes within a branch and bound algorithm results in branch and cut¹⁶. Branch and cut follows the same idea as branch and bound. The difference is that at any unfathomed node, cutting planes may be included instead of a branch. If cutting planes are added, then only one child is created.

There are typically two classes of cutting planes, local and global cuts, added in branch and cut. Local cutting planes are applied to any node that is a descendant of this node. A global cut applies to all of the nodes of the tree. This research implements a branch and cut algorithm when solving MDMKPs using local cuts.

2.2.2 Covers

One of the most commonly implemented and studied cutting planes is derived from a cover on a knapsack constraint. A cover represents a collection of items that is too heavy for the hiker to carry. Thus, a cover represents an infeasible point.

Formally, given a knapsack constraint, a cover is a set $C \subseteq N$ such that $\sum_{i \in C} a_j > b$. Thus, setting $x_i = 1$ for all $i \in C$ is infeasible. A cover C has a corresponding valid inequality of the form, $\sum_{i \in C} x_i \leq |C| - 1$.

There are various classes of covers. A cover is said to be minimal if $\sum_{i \in C \setminus \{j\}} a_i \leq b$ for each $j \in C$. A cover is supporting if $\sum_{i \in C \setminus \{i_1\}} a_i \leq b$, where i_1 is the first element in C. Covers are also commonly called dependent sets and edges in a conflict hypergraph. A cover inequality is typically strengthened by viewing its extension. An extended cover E(C) is created by adding elements to C with coefficients larger than every other coefficient associated with an index in the cover. Thus, $E(C) = C \cup \{i \in N \setminus C : a_i \geq max_{j \in C}\{a_j\}\}$. Clearly, an extended cover induces a valid inequality of P_{KP}^{CH} of the form $\sum_{i \in E(C)} x_i \leq |C| - 1$. The following example depicts these ideas.

Example 2.2.2. Given the knapsack constraint $3x_1 + 5x_2 + 6x_3 + 7x_4 + 4x_5 \leq 17$, it can easily be seen that $C = \{1, 2, 3, 5\}$ is a cover because 3 + 5 + 6 + 4 = 18 > 17. The corresponding valid inequality for C is $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_5 \leq 3$. This inequality is a cutting plane because $(1, 1, \frac{5}{6}, 0, 1) \in P^{LR}$ and clearly violates this inequality. Since $a_4 = 7 \geq a_3 \geq a_2 \geq a_5 \geq a_1$, index 4 is in the extended cover, $E(C) = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$, with the valid inequality $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 \leq 3$. This extended inequality is facet defining for P_{KP}^{CH} because the 5 points, (0, 1, 1, 0, 1), (1, 0, 1, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0, 0, 1), (1, 1, 1, 0, 0) and (1, 1, 0, 1, 0), are in P_{KP} and are affinely independent.

Chapter 3

Equality Cuts and Infeasibility Conditions

This chapter provides the theoretical advancement of this research. It begins by introducing equality sets and their respective equality cuts along with several theoretical results related to equality cuts. Some results on the existence of equality cuts are shown for the MDMKP problem by finding anticovers and covers. The chapter concludes by discussing infeasibility conditions and showing examples.

3.1 Equality Cuts

The primary contribution of this thesis is the introduction of the concept of a valid equality for an integer program. A valid equality is a hyperplane in \mathbb{R}^n and takes the form $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$. However, not all hyperplanes are valid equalities for an IP.

Formally, given an IP an equality tuple takes the form (S, α, β) where $S \subseteq N$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{|S|}$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$. An equality tuple is valid if $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x'_i = \beta$ for all $\mathbf{x}' \in P$. The associated equality $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$ is said to be a valid equality of P^{CH} . At first glance, a valid equality may seem inherently defined by the linear relaxation, but this is not always the case. A valid equality is defined as an equality cut if there exists some $x' \in P^{LR}$ such that $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x'_i \neq \beta$. Thus, any equality constraint in an IP is always a valid equality, but never an equality cut.

The idea of an equality cut may seem absurd to someone familiar with research in IP. Recall from Chapter 2, that classical IP research only defines a valid inequality as $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i \leq \beta$. Furthermore, only valid inequalities can define a facet, and thus an equality cut can never be facet defining. Additionally, the face defined by the equality cut must contain P^{CH} . Consequently, any equality cut cannot induce a proper face and must therefore be improper. Due to these reasons, valid equalities have not been pursued by the IP research community and to the best of the author's knowledge, this work provides the first extensive endeavor into this realm of research.

There are surprisingly several theoretical results related to valid equalities. First, a valid equality exists if and only if P^{CH} is not full dimensional.

Theorem 3.1.1. Given an IP, P^{CH} has a valid equality of the form $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$ if and only if $\dim(P^{CH}) < n$.

Proof: Assume P^{CH} has a valid equality of the form $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$. Since every $x' \in P$ satisfies $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$, this equality is contained in $M^=$ for P^{CH} and the $rank(M^=) \ge 1$. Because $dim(P^{CH}) + rank(M^=) = n$, $dim(P^{CH}) \le n - 1$.

Conversely, assume that $dim(P^{CH}) < n$. Since $dim(P^{CH}) + rank(M^{=}) = n$, the $rank(M^{=}) \ge 1$. The definition of $M^{=}$ is a collection of hyperplanes that are satisfied by every $\mathbf{x} \in P$. Thus, there must exist at least one $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$ such that every $\mathbf{x} \in P$ satisfies this equality and (N, α, β) is a valid equality tuple.

Even though valid equalities exist, that does not imply that they could ever be useful. The following theorem answers this question and demonstrates that adding an equality cut to a linear relaxation space can arbitrarily decrease the dimension of the linear relaxation space. Furthermore, such a cut must decrease P^{LR} 's dimension by at least 1.

Theorem 3.1.2. If P^{CH} has an equality cut of the form $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$, then including this equality cut to the linear relaxation decreases the dimension of P^{LR} by $q \in \mathbb{Z}$ where $1 \leq q \leq \dim(P^{LR})$.

Proof: Assume that $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$ is an equality cut for P^{CH} . Since this is an equality cut there exists an $\mathbf{x}' \in P^{LR}$ such that $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x'_i \neq \beta$. Define P'^{LR} to be $P^{LR} \cap \sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$. Since $\mathbf{x}' \notin P'^{LR}$, \mathbf{x}' is trivially affinely independent from every point in P'_{LR} . Therefore, $dim(P'^{LR}) \leq dim(P^{LR}) - 1$.

To prove the second statement consider the integer program with $N = \{1, ..., q + r\}$ and the feasible points, P, defined by the following constraints.

$$3x_{1} + \sum_{i=2}^{q} x_{i} \leq 3$$

$$2x_{1} + x_{2} \geq 2$$

$$\sum_{i=q+1}^{r+q} x_{j} \leq 1$$

$$x_{i} \in \{0,1\} \text{ for } i \in \{1, ..., q+r\}$$

Due to the construction of P, $x_1 = 1$ is clearly a valid equality of P^{CH} . Since the point $\mathbf{x}' = \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2$ is in P^{LR} and $x'_1 \neq 1$, $x_1 = 1$ is an equality cut.

To demonstrate the arbitrary reduction in dimension, it is first necessary to find the dimension of P^{LR} . Clearly $dim(P^{LR}) \leq q + r$ due to the number of variables. Consider the following q+r+1 points, $\mathbf{e}_1, \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2, \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2 + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{e}_j$ for each $j \in \{3, ..., q\}, \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{e}_1 + \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{e}_2 + \sum_{j=3}^{q} \frac{1}{3q}\mathbf{e}_j$, and $\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_k$ for each $k \in \{q+1, ..., q+r\}$. Each point is clearly in P^{LR} . Furthermore, these points are trivially affinely independent. Thus, P^{LR} is full dimensional, $dim(P^{LR}) = q + r$.

Let \mathbf{x}' be any point in P'^{LR} . Clearly $x'_1 = 1$ and $x'_j = 0$ for all $j \in \{2, ..., q\}$ due to the first constraint. Thus, the maximum dimension of P'^{LR} can be at most r. The points \mathbf{e}_1 and $\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_k$ for each $k \in \{q + 1, ..., q + r\}$ are in P'^{LR} , thus $dim(P'^{LR}) = r$. Consequently,

including the equality cut reduced the dimension of P^{LR} by q where $1 \le q \le dim(P^{LR})$.

Theorem 3.1.2 provides some potential benefit of equality cuts. If an equality cut exists, then including this cut to P^{LR} reduces its dimension by at least one. Even if the equality cut only reduces the dimension by 1, the maximum depth that could be achieved by a branch and bound algorithm is decreased by one. Consequently, if a complete branch and bound tree was required, slightly over 50% of the nodes are at the greatest depth and these nodes would all be eliminated. Thus one would expect equality cuts to be quite useful.

Since finding a valid inequality is \mathcal{NP} -complete⁷, finding a valid equality is also NPcomplete. A technique to find a valid equality is to find two opposite valid inequalities and then combine them to form a valid equality. That is, if $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i \leq \beta$ and $\sum_{i \in N} -\alpha_i x_i \leq -\beta$ are valid inequalities of P^{CH} , then $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$ is a valid equality
of P^{CH} as the following proposition shows.

Proposition 3.1.3. Given an IP, if $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i \leq \beta$ and $\sum_{i \in N} -\alpha_i x_i \leq -\beta$ are valid inequalities of P^{CH} , then $\sum_{i \in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$ is a valid equality of P^{CH} .

Proof: Assume $\sum_{i\in N} \alpha_i x_i \leq \beta$ and $\sum_{i\in N} -\alpha_i x_i \leq -\beta$ are valid inequalities of P^{CH} . Multiplying the second inequality by a -1 results in $\sum_{i\in N} \alpha_i x_i \geq \beta$ being valid for P^{CH} . Thus, $\sum_{i\in N} \alpha_i x_i = \beta$ is a valid equality of P^{CH} .

The next section describes how to use Proposition 3.1.3 and the other results from this section to obtain one class of equality cuts for MDMKP. This class of cuts uses both covers and anticovers.

3.2 Anticover Cover Equality Cuts

The previous section introduced equality cuts in the general sense. Clearly, there are an infinite number of possibilities to attempt to create equality cuts. This section describes how to implement the theory of covers to create equality cuts. To achieve these outcomes, anticovers are explained and then combined with a cover to create an equality tuple. This section concludes with an example problem that demonstrates these ideas.

3.2.1 Anticovers

As shown in Chapter 2, a demand constraint is a knapsack constraint with the appropriate substitution. This association enables a natural extension of the idea of a cover in a knapsack constraint to an anticover in the associated demand constraint. This section provides some of the basic definitions and properties of anticovers.

Given a demand constraint of the form $\sum_{i \in N} a'_i x_i \ge b'$, a set $AC \subseteq N$ is an anticover if $\sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a'_i < b'$. Throughout this section and without loss of generality, assume that $a'_1 \ge a'_2 \ge ... \ge a'_n$ and that $AC = \{i_1, i_2, ..., i_{|AC|}\}$ is listed in this order.

Similar to covers, anticovers can be used to generate valid inequalities. If $x'_i = 0$ for all $i \in AC$, then \mathbf{x}' can never satisfy the demand constraint. Thus, every anticover induces a valid inequality of the form $\sum_{j \in AC} x_j \ge 1$.

Anticover inequalities can be strengthened as follows. An anticover has parameter p if $\sum_{j=1}^{p-1} a'_{i_j} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a'_i < b'$ and $\sum_{j=1}^{p} a'_{i_j} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a'_i \geq b'$. If an anticover has parameter p, then $\sum_{j \in AC} x_j \geq p$ is a valid inequality as the following proposition shows.

Proposition 3.2.1. Given a demand constraint and anticover $AC \subseteq N$ with parameter p, then $\sum_{j \in AC} x_j \ge p$ is a valid inequality of P_{DP}^{CH} .

Proof: Let $AC = \{i_1, ..., i_{|AC|}\} \subseteq N$ be an anticover with parameter $p \leq |N|$. For contradiction, let $x' \in P_{DP}$ such that $\sum_{j \in AC} x'_j \leq p-1$. Since $x' \in P_{DP}$, $\sum_{i \in AC} a_i x'_i + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i x'_i \geq b'$.

Thus, $b' \leq \sum_{i \in AC} a_i x'_i + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i x'_i \leq \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} a_{i_j} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i \leq \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} a_{i_j} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i$. Consequently, AC has a parameter of p-1 or less, a contradiction. Therefore $\sum_{j \in AC} x_j \geq p$ is a valid inequality.

Since KPs are associated with DC's, it is not surprising that covers have an associated anticover in the associated demand constraint. The following theorem describes this equivalence.

Theorem 3.2.2. Given a KP and its substituted DCP. Then C is a supporting cover of KP if and only if AC is an anticover in DCP with parameter p where |AC| - |C| + 1 = p and $C \subseteq AC \subseteq E(C)$.

Proof: Given a KP, $\sum_{i \in N} a_i x_i \leq b$ and its associated DCP, $\sum_{i \in N} a_i x_i \geq \sum_{i \in N} a_i - b = b'$. Assume $C \subseteq N$ is a supporting cover with extended cover E(C). Let $AC \subseteq E(C)$ such that $AC \supseteq C$. Since C is a cover, $\sum_{i \in C} a_i > b$. Clearly $\sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i + \sum_{i \in AC \setminus C} a_i = \sum_{i \in N} a_i - \sum_{i \in C} a_i < \sum_{i \in N} a_i - b = b'$. Thus, AC is an anticover. Due to the sorted order of AC, setting |AC| - |C| elements to 0 can never be feasible and so AC's parameter must be at least |AC| - |C| + 1.

Examine the point $\mathbf{x}' = \sum_{i \in N \setminus C} \mathbf{e}_i + \mathbf{e}_j$ where j is the first member of C. This point must be in P_{KP} because C is supporting. Substituting \mathbf{x}' into the DC constraints results in $\sum_{i \in N \setminus C} a_i + a_j$. Since C is a supporting cover, $\sum_{i \in C \setminus \{j\}} a_i \leq b$. Thus, $b' = \sum_{i \in N} a_i - b \geq$ $\sum_{i \in N \setminus C} a_i + a_j - \sum_{i \in C \setminus \{j\}} a_i$. Since $\sum_{i \in N \setminus C} a_i + a_j$ can be rewritten as $\sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i + \sum_{j=1}^{|AC|-|C|+2} a_{i_j}$, AC's parameter is strictly less than |AC| - |C| + 2. These two conclusions and the fact that p must be integer imply that AC's parameter is |AC| - |C| + 1.

Conversely, assume that $AC = \{i_1, i_2, ..., i_{|AC|}\}$ is listed in descending order and is an anticover with parameter p in the DC instance. Let C be the last |AC| - p + 1 indices of AC, $C = \{i_p, i_{p+1}, ..., i_{|AC|}\}$. Since AC has parameter p, $\sum_{j=1}^{p-1} a_{i_j} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i < b'$.

Since $b' = \sum_{i \in N} a_i - b$, one obtains $\sum_{j=1}^{p-1} a_{i_j} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i < \sum_{i \in N} a_i - b$. This implies $\sum_{j=p}^{|AC|} -a_{i_j} < -b$. Thus, $\sum_{j=p}^{|AC|} a_{i_j} > b$ or equivalently $\sum_{j \in C} a_j > b$ and C is a cover.

Since AC has parameter p = |AC| - |C| + 1, $\sum_{j=1}^{p} a_{i_j} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i \ge b'$. Since $b' = \sum_{i \in N} a_i - b$, one obtains $\sum_{j=1}^{p} a_{i_j} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a_i < \sum_{i \in N} a_i - b$. This implies $\sum_{j=p+1}^{|AC|} -a_{i_j} \ge -b$. Thus, $\sum_{j=p+1}^{|AC|} a_{i_j} \le b$ or equivalently $\sum_{j \in C \setminus \{i_p\}} a_j \le b$. Thus, C is a supporting cover of the KP.

Since covers and anticovers are now equivalent, it is simple to extend results between the two. Common results such as facet defining properties and lifting can now easily be applied. Here we provide the result on facet defining to aid the reader in making these straightforward translations.

Theorem 3.2.3. Given a DP with constraint $\mathbf{a}^{T}\mathbf{x} \geq b'$, an anticover $AC = \{i_1, i_2, ..., i_{|AC|}\}$ with parameter p is facet defining on DP if the following three conditions are met.

$$i) \sum_{j=2}^{p+1} a'_j + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a'_i \ge b'$$

$$ii) \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} a'_{i_j} + a'_{i_{|AC|}} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a'_i \ge b'$$

$$iii) \sum_{j=1}^{p} a'_{i_j} + \sum_{i \in (N \setminus AC) \setminus \{k\}} a'_i \ge b' \text{ where } k \text{ is the first index in } N \setminus AC.$$

Proof: Given a demand constraint $\mathbf{a}'_{i}\mathbf{x}_{i} \geq \mathbf{b}'$, let $AC = \{i_{1}, i_{2}, ..., i_{|AC|}\}$ be an anticover with parameter p such that $\sum_{j=2}^{p+1} a'_{i_{j}} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a'_{i} \geq b'$, $\sum_{j=1}^{p-1} a'_{i_{j}} + a'_{i_{|AC|}} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} a'_{i} \geq b'$ and $\sum_{j=1}^{p} a'_{i_{j}} + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC \setminus \{k\}} a'_{i} \geq b'$ where k is the first index in $N \setminus AC$. Let $F = \{\mathbf{x} \in P_{DC}^{CH} : \sum_{i \in AC} x_{i} = p\}$. For AC to be facet defining dim(F) must be one less than the $dim(P_{DC}^{CH})$.

As shown in Chapter 2, $dim(P_{DC}^{CH}) = |N|$. Now consider the set of points $S' = \{\sum_{i=1}^{p+1} \mathbf{e}_i + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} \mathbf{e}_i - \mathbf{e}_j \text{ for each } j \in \{1, ..., p+1\}\} \bigcup \{\sum_{i=1}^{p-1} \mathbf{e}_i + \mathbf{e}_j + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} \mathbf{e}_i \text{ for each } j \in \{p+2, ..., |AC|\}\} \bigcup \{\sum_{i \in \{1,...,p\}} \mathbf{e}_i + \sum_{i \in N \setminus AC} \mathbf{e}_i - \mathbf{e}_j \text{ for each } j \in N \setminus AC\}\}$. Each of these points is in P_{DC} , due to the assumptions and the fact that DC is sorted in descending order. It can be seen that $S' \subseteq F$ and |S'| = |N|, making $dim(F) \ge |N| - 1$. Since the point

 $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{1} \in P_{DC}^{CH}$ and is not in F, the $dim(F) < dim(P_{DC}^{CH})$. Therefore $dim(F) + 1 = dim(P_{DC}^{CH})$ and $\sum_{i \in AC} x_i \ge p$ is a facet defining inequality.

With a formal understanding of anticovers, it is now possible to use both anticovers and covers to create valid equalities. This idea is the topic of the next section.

3.2.2 Anticover Cover Equality Cuts

This section describes the existence of Anticover-Cover Equality cuts (ACE) in P_{DKP}^{CH} . In order for an ACE to be valid, there must exist a cover in the knapsack constraint coupled with an anticover in the demand constraint such that the cover anticover pair meet the conditions of Proposition 3.1.3. If such a situation exists, then a new set is created, which is called an equality set (*ES*). This equality set coupled with **1** and |C| - 1 creates an valid equality tuple (*ES*, **1**, |C| - 1) with a corresponding valid equality of P_{DKP}^{CH} .

Formally, given a DKP instance, a cover C in the knapsack constraint and an anticover AC in the demand constraint. If C = AC and the anticover's parameter has p = |C| - 1, then the cover inequality is $\sum_{i \in C} x_i \leq |C| - 1$ and the anticover inequality is $\sum_{i \in AC} x_i \geq p$, which is equivalent to $\sum_{i \in C} x_i \geq |C| - 1$. Thus $\sum_{i \in C} x_i = |C| - 1$ is a valid equality of P_{DKP}^{CH} as shown in the following theorem.

Theorem 3.2.4. Given a DKP instance, a cover C for the knapsack constraint and an anticover AC of the demand constraint. If C = AC and the anticover's parameter has p = |C| - 1, then C is an equality set and $\sum_{i \in C} x_i = |C| - 1$ is a valid equality for P_{DKP}^{CH} .

Proof: Let C be a cover for the knapsack constraint and AC be an anticover of the demand constraint such that C = AC and AC's parameter p = |C| - 1. By the definition of a cover every point in P_{DKP}^{CH} satisfies the inequality $\sum_{i \in C} x_i \leq |C| - 1$. Similarly by the definition of an anticover with parameter p, every point in P_{DKP}^{CH} satisfies the inequality $\sum_{i \in AC} x_i \geq p$. Since C = AC and p = |C| - 1, $\sum_{i \in AC} x_i \ge p$ can be rewritten as $\sum_{i \in C} x_i \ge |C| - 1$ by substitution. Thus, every point in P_{DKP}^{CH} satisfies the equality $\sum_{i \in C} x_i = |C| - 1$. Thus, C is an equality set with valid equality $\sum_{i \in C} x_i = |C| - 1$.

Since a MDMKP is an extension of DKP, Theorem 3.2.4 trivially extends to P_{MDMKP}^{CH} . Additionally, an extended cover has a valid inequality of the form $\sum_{i \in E(C)} x_i \leq |C| - 1$. Thus, Theorem 3.2.5 can be strengthened by expanding from covers to extended covers as shown in the following corollary.

Corollary 3.2.5. Given a MDMKP instance, let C be a cover of a knapsack constraint and AC be an anticover of a demand constraint. If $C \subseteq AC \subseteq E(C)$ and the anticover's parameter has p = |C| - 1, then AC is an equality set and $\sum_{i \in AC} x_i = |C| - 1$ is a valid equality for P_{MDMKP}^{CH} .

The following example demonstrates these concepts and shows how an anticover and cover can be used to create equality cuts. Additionally, it will be shown that by introducing the cut the dimension of the linear relaxation space decreases.

Example 3.2.1. Given a KDP instance with constraints K_1 and D_1

 $K_1 : 3x_1 + 13x_2 + 7x_3 + 5x_4 + 11x_5 \le 23$ $D_1 : 5x_1 + 2x_2 + 7x_3 + 11x_4 + 3x_5 \ge 19$ $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \in \{0, 1\}.$

Observe that $C = \{1, 3, 4, 5\}$ is a cover on K_1 , with the corresponding inequality $x_1 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 \leq 3$. The extended cover is $C = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ with a valid inequality of $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 \leq 3$.

To establish an equality cut for this extended cover inequality, one needs an AC to be either C or E(C). The set $AC = \{1, 3, 4, 5\}$ is an anticover with parameter 2 because

 $a'_2 + a'_4 = 13 < 19 = b'$ and $a'_2 + a'_4 + a'_3 = 20 \ge 19 = b'$. Even though there are 3 coefficients being summed, a'_2 does not contribute to the *p* parameter because 2 is not in *AC*. Thus, the anticover inequality is $x_1 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 \ge 2$, which when coupled with the cover inequality does not satisfy Proposition 3.1.1 and does not create a valid equality.

The set $AC = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ is an anticover with parameter 3 because $a'_4 + a'_3 = 18 < 19$ and $a'_4 + a'_3 + a'_1 = 23 \ge 19 = b'$. Thus, its valid inequality is $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 \ge 3$. Since p is the same as |C| - 1, a valid anticover cover equality exists for P_{DKP}^{CH} of the form $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 3$.

It has been shown that $(AC, \mathbf{1}, 3)$ is a valid equality tuple. However, the associated valid equality cut must cut off linear relaxation solutions for it to be useful. Consider the linear relaxation solution $\mathbf{x}'^{LR} = (\frac{1}{3}, 0, 1, 1, 0)$. Checking \mathbf{x}'^{LR} against K_1 and D_1 , one gets $3(\frac{1}{3}) + 13(0) + 7(1) + 5(1) + 11(0) = 13 \leq 23$ and $5(\frac{1}{3}) + 2(0) + 7(1) + 11(1) + 3(0) = 19\frac{2}{3} \geq 19$. Thus \mathbf{x}'^{LR} is feasible. Checking this point against the valid equality, $\frac{1}{3} + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 = 2\frac{1}{3} \neq 3$, demonstrates that this is an equality cut. Since this is an equality cut, the dimension of the linear relaxation decreases by at least one due to Theorem 3.1.2.

The \mathbf{x}' from above shows that the anticover cut eliminates points. Consider $\mathbf{x}''^{LR} = (1, 0, 1, 1, \frac{7}{11})$. Clearly \mathbf{x}'' is feasible in the linear relaxation. But, $1+0+1+1+\frac{7}{11}=3\frac{7}{11}\neq 3$. Thus, the cover cut eliminates linear relaxation space. Consequently, using the equality cut eliminates more linear relaxation space than either the cover or anticover cut individually.

To further emphasize the potential benefit of ACE equality cuts, consider solving this problem using branch and bound. Branch and bound has a maximum depth of 5 in this problem, with a total of up to $2^6 - 1 = 63$ nodes. In contrast, adding the ACE equality cut has a maximum depth of 4. Any branch after having branched on two 0s or 2 1s, must have a linear relaxation that is integer or infeasible. Thus, a maximum number of nodes evaluated is bounded by $2^5 - 1 = 31$.

To show the benefit of the equality cut, consider solving this instance with branch and

bound. There are an infinite number of objective functions that could be considered. Here let the objective function be equal to minimize $\sum_{i \in N} x_i$. The branching tree requires 15 nodes and is given in Figure 3.1. In contrast, including the equality cut results in an integer solution at the root node as shown in Figure 3.2.

Since numerous objective functions could be evaluated, another objective function, minimize $5x_1+2x_2+2x_3+4x_4+x_5$, was included to this set of constraints. Without the equality cut, the branching tree required 13 nodes as shown in Figure 3.3. With the equality with the branching tree is only 3 nodes as shown in Figure 3.4. This example also demonstrates that equality cuts could be quite valuable.

3.2.3 Finding ACE Cuts in Branching Trees

In practice, it is unlikely that equality cuts are easy to find at the root node of a branching tree. However, because each node in a tree represents an IP, equality cuts could exist at nodes deeper in the branching tree. The branching forces variables to fixed values, which increases the likelihood of finding ACE cuts. When found, these cuts are then applied as local cuts at that node in a branch and cut algorithm.

During a branch and cut application, the algorithm has made various branches to arrive at a particular node T_k . The linear relaxation at T_k has variables set at their upper and lower bound as required by the branching structure. Let $B^1 = \{i \in N : x_i = 1 \text{ is a constraint in} T'_k s \text{ linear relaxation}\}$ and $B^0 = \{i \in N : x_i = 0 \text{ is a constraint in } T'_k s \text{ linear relaxation}\}$.



z = 3	(1)
(0, 0, 1,	1, 1)

The following simple algorithm, Finding ACE in Branching Trees, seeks for equality cuts at a given node. This algorithm does not necessarily find any or all cuts at a node. The algorithm requires a MDMKP instance. Let the first m constraints be the knapsack constraints and let q be the number of demand constraints.

Finding ACE in Branching Trees (FACEBT)

```
ES \leftarrow \emptyset
c \leftarrow |N|
ac \leftarrow 0
for i := 1 to m do
     k \leftarrow 0
     s \leftarrow \sum_{j \in B^1} a_{ij}
     Ascending Sort(\mathbf{A}_i)
     for j \notin B^0 \cup B^1 do
          s \leftarrow s + a_{ij}
          if s \leq b_i then
                k \leftarrow k+1
           end if
     end for
     c \leftarrow \min(k, c)
end for
for i := m + 1 to q do
     k \leftarrow 0
     s \leftarrow \sum_{j \in B^1} a_{ij}
     Descending Sort(\mathbf{A}_{i})
     for j \notin B^0 \cup B^1 do
          if s < b_i then
                s \leftarrow s + a_{ij}
                k \leftarrow k+1
           end if
     end for
```



Figure 3.3: Branching Tree without Equality Cut and Objective Min $5x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + 5x_4 + x_5$

Figure 3.4: Branching Tree with Equality Cut and Objective Min $5x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + 5x_4 + x_5$



 $ac \leftarrow \max(k, c)$ end for if c = ac and ac > 0 then $ES \leftarrow N \setminus (B^0 \cup B^1)$ end if report ES, c

The running time is on the order $O((m+q)n\log(n))$. However, **A** and **A'** only need to be sorted the first time the algorithm is run during branch and bound reducing the running time at every subsequent node to O((m+q)n).

3.2.4 Infeasibility Conditions

At times, applying the algorithm for finding an equality cut during the computational study did not result in covers and anticovers that met the conditions of Theorem 3.2.5. As the branching tree progressed, a parent node failed to create an equality set, but a child had an anticover with parameter p that was at least as big as the number of elements in the cover. Such a condition implies an infeasible IP. This section discusses results related to infeasible conditions, extends the idea in general and demonstrates through an example that the associated linear relaxation space may be full dimensional even when $P = \emptyset$.

Formally, given an IP instance such that $P = \emptyset$, then the IP is clearly infeasible. Since

the IP is infeasible, every inequality and equality is valid. Thus, such inequalities as $x_1 \leq -1$ and $x \geq 1$ are valid. Including these two inequalities results in an infeasible linear relaxation, which creates an infeasibility condition.

Given an IP, let $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \gamma$ be a collection of valid inequalities of P^{CH} where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times n}$ and $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times 1}$. If $\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \gamma\} = \emptyset$, then $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \gamma$ is called an infeasibility condition. Clearly, including the cuts of an infeasibility condition is only helpful if $P^{LR} \neq \emptyset$.

This infeasibility condition definition implies that the linear relaxation is infeasible only due to the cuts added and is not based upon P^{LR} . Certainly other definitions could be pursued, one obvious choice would be $P^{LR} \cap \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \gamma\} = \emptyset$. The end goal of an infeasibility condition is to label a node in the branching tree as infeasible when branching would have occurred without the cuts.

During the computational study numerous anticover cover infeasibility conditions occurred. Given a MDMKP instance along with a cover C from a knapsack constraint and an anticover AC from a demand constraint such that $AC \subseteq E(C) \subseteq N$, $|AC| \ge |C|$ and AC's parameter has $p \ge |C|$, then $\sum_{i \in AC} x_i \le |C| - 1$ and $\sum_{i \in AC} x_i \ge p \ge |C|$. Since $\sum_{i \in AC} x_i$ cannot be both less than or equal to |C| - 1 and greater than or equal to |C|, AC implies an anticover cover infeasibility condition and AC is called an anticover cover infeasible set (ACIS).

It is simple to modify FACEBT to add an additional check for ACIS. These steps are left for the reader. However, one naturally questions whether or not identifying an infeasible condition could ever be computationally useful. The following example demonstrates the potential power of ACIS.

Example 3.2.2. Given a pair of knapsack and demand constraints K_1 and D_1 $K_1: 2x_1 + 5x_2 + 6x_3 + 7x_4 + 1x_5 \le 17$ $D_1: 1x_1 + 6x_2 + 7x_3 + 5x_4 + 2x_5 \ge 17.$ Observe that $C = \{2, 3, 4\}$ is a valid cover on K_1 , with corresponding inequality $x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \leq 2$. The set $AC = \{2, 3, 4\}$ is an anticover with parameter 3 because $a'_1 + a'_5 + a'_3 + a'_2 = 16 < 17$ and $a'_1 + a'_5 + a'_3 + a'_2 + a'_4 = 21 \geq 17$. Thus, the valid anticover cut is $x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \geq 3$. Coupling the anticover cut and the cover cut creates a set of cuts that can never be satisfied by any point in \mathbb{R}^n . Thus, this cover and anticover form an ACIS. Adding these two cuts to P^{LR} results in an infeasible LR, $P_{KDP} = \emptyset$, and branch and bound terminates at the root node.

To demonstrate that ACIS is useful, observe that $P^{LR} \neq \emptyset$. In fact, P^{LR} is full dimensional as shown by the following points. $\mathbf{x}^1 = (0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 1, 1)$, $\mathbf{x}^2 = (\frac{1}{8}, 1, 1, \frac{4}{5}, 0)$, $\mathbf{x}^3 = (0, 1, 1, \frac{6}{7}, 0)$, $\mathbf{x}^4 = (\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 1, \frac{7}{8})$, $\mathbf{x}^5 = (0, 1, 1, \frac{1}{2}, 1)$, $\mathbf{x}^6 = (\frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 1)$ Clearly, $\mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2, \mathbf{x}^3, \mathbf{x}^4, \mathbf{x}^5, \mathbf{x}^6 \in P^{LR}$. Furthermore, they are all affinely independent, so the dimension of P^{LR} is 5. Notice that by adding the cuts of the infeasibility condition, the dimension of P^{LR} is reduced to -1. Thus, these cuts fully reduce the dimension of P^{LR} and terminate branch and bound rapidly.

As further evidence of ACIS's usefulness, Figure 3.2 presents the branching tree without adding the infeasibility cuts. Again the objective function minimizes $\sum_{i \in N} x_i$. Observe that these infeasibility cuts saved 6 nodes. Alternatively, if the objective was minimize $5x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + 5x_4 + x_5$, one might expect a different number of nodes to be evaluated. In this example that was not the case and the exact same branching tree was obtained, resulting in a 6 node improvement with the addition of the infeasibility condition.

Now that both equality cuts and infeasibility conditions have been presented along with some evidence that they could be helpful, the next chapter presents a computational study. This computational study shows that this new theory can be useful.



Figure 3.5: Branching Tree for Example 3.2.2

Chapter 4

Computational Results

The purpose of this section is to provide computational results to support the usefulness of equality cuts and infeasibility conditions in the MDMKP. The computational results show that equality sets frequently exist and are easy to find in MDMKP instances. Additionally, performance gains were achieved in some instances using the theory presented in this thesis.

The computational study was performed on an Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-3770 3.4 GHz processor with 16.0 GB of RAM. All MDMKP instances were solved using CPLEX 12.5. An important computational note is that CPLEX was set up to store the node file on the hard drive instead of RAM due to the size of the instances. This setting changes the way CPLEX explores the tree so even though the node files for small instances may have fit completely in RAM, they were still stored on the hard drive for accurate comparisons.

4.1 Benchmark Instances

This computational study was performed on three sets of 15 MDMKP benchmark instances from the OR-Library². The instances were generated using the procedure suggested by⁶. Each instance takes the form,

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

Subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}$
 $\mathbf{A}'\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}'$
 $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^n$

where $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}_+, \mathbf{A}' \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times n}_+, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m_+$, and $\mathbf{b}' \in \mathbb{R}^q_+$. The \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{A}' coefficients are generated according to a uniform distribution between 0 and 1000. The RHS b for a knapsack constraint i is $b_i = \alpha \sum_{j \in N} a_{ij}$. Similarly, b' for a demand constraint i is $b'_i = \alpha \sum_{j \in N} a'_{ij}$. The alpha values for each set were .25, .5, and .75 for instances 1-5, 6-10, and 11-15 respectively. The objective coefficient for variable i is calculated as $c_i =$ $\sum_{j=1}^m a_{ji} + \lfloor 500r_i \rfloor$, where r_i is a real number drawn from a continuous uniform distribution U(0, 1).

Many of the MDMKP benchmark instances could not be solved. This computational studied focused on problems with 100 variables and problems with 250 variables. These instances had either 5 demand and 5 knapsack constraints or 10 demand and 10 knapsack constraints. These instances are associated with files mdmkp_ct1.txt, mdmkp_ct2.txt , and mdmkp_ct4.txt from the OR-Library website. The OR Library website offers 6 objective functions for each type of problem and this study only solved the first objective function for the large instances, but all 6 were solved for the small instances. Thus, this study compares a total of 120 IPs.

4.2 Implementation

To compare the usefulness of equality cuts, each instance was first solved using the default CPLEX settings and then solved using three different conditions. The first added any equality cuts found, another added only infeasibility cuts and the final added any equality cut or infeasibility condition found. The results are then compared based upon the number of nodes evaluated.

The implementation in CPLEX used the default MIP solver along with a user defined cut callback routine. A cut callback routine is a user defined algorithm that is executed at each node in the branching tree to look for cuts. If a cut is found, CPLEX adds the cut forming a single child node with the IP from before the callback plus the added cut.

During the computational study, ACE cuts were not found until deep in the tree. Thus, to save computational effort one might want to set a threshold depth that must be reached before looking for ACE cuts. However, in this computational study no such threshold was used in an attempt to try and understand where ACE exist in the branching tree. This was accomplished by looking for ACE cuts and ACIS at every node and simply records the minimum depth of cut (DOC) and minimum depth of an infeasibility condition (DOI).

The cut callback routine had no measurable effect on the runtime of CPLEX other than the difference realized by exploring a different number of nodes. Therefore, it was not relevant to report the runtime differences in the computation study. However, it may be of some interest to know that the small instances n = 100, m = 5, q = 5 each took anywhere between 1-5 minutes to solve. The instances where n = 100, m = 10, q = 10 each took between 2-60 minutes and the instances where n = 250, m = 5, q = 5 each took between 10-120 minutes to solve.

This computation study implemented the simple algorithm presented in chapter 3. At any node the algorithm only looks for equality sets containing all of the variables not in the branching tree. If an equality set ES is present with parameter p a local cut is added of the form $\sum_{i \in ES} x_i = p$. If no equality set was found using all of the variables unbranched at the current node, then no cut was added.

One of the important aspects of ACE cuts is where they are found in the branching tree.

One way to measure their location is with branching depth. In this thesis the depth is the number of variables currently branched on, not the number of branches. This distinction is only important when branching on sets is allowed. CPLEX sometimes uses branching on sets, and it is important to note that the depth that CPLEX reports is different than the depth reported in this thesis.

Several difficulties arose when trying to leverage infeasibility conditions for computation improvement. The first challenge was telling CPLEX to fathom the node. Without drastically modifying the search, the author could not find a method of telling CPLEX to fathom a node when an infeasibility condition was discovered. In order to solve this problem a series of cuts were added to fathom the node. These cuts set every variable not in the branching tree equal to .5. The intended effect was for CPLEX to fathom the node after the first branch was evaluated. Sometimes this caused a significant increase in the number of nodes evaluated when solving an IP. The author has no good explanation for why this happened, but did find several online discussions/forums where other researchers were having similar problems.

4.3 Computational Results and Discussions

One outcome of the computational study was the existence of numerous equality cuts and infeasibility conditions. Another outcome describes the computational benefits and analysis including ACE cuts and ACISs.

In the computational study, the minimum number of equality cuts found in an instance was 85 when n = 100, m = 5, q = 5 and the maximum was 81,997 when n = 250, m =5, q = 5. Every instances had at least two infeasibility conditions and one instance with n = 100, m = 10, q = 10 had over 800 infeasibility conditions. This demonstrates that both ACE and ACIS commonly exist and are easy to find in the benchmark MDMKP. More specifically, the number of cuts, minimum DOC, infeasibility conditions and minimum DOI for the instances using the first objective row, where n = 100, m = 5, q = 5are provided in Table 4.1. On average there were 4,767 equality cuts and 239 infeasibility conditions. The majority of these equality cuts were obtained deep in the branch and bound tree (on average depth 84). The variance on these instances was high and two instances found over 15,000 equality cuts while every instance found at least 400. The results for the small instances using the other 5 objective functions are included in Appendix A.

When n = 250, m = 5, q = 5, the number of cuts, minimum DOC, infeasibility conditions, and minimum DOI for the instances are provided in Table 4.2. On average there were 184,832 equality cuts and 5325 infeasibility conditions. The majority of these equality cuts were obtained deep in the branch and bound tree (on average depth 222). It is quite surprising that CPLEX would obtain such a deep tree and indicates that these instances are quite challenging. The variance on these instances was high and one instances found over 500,000 equality cuts while every problem found at least 900.

For the final instances, the number of cuts, minimum DOC, infeasibility conditions and minimum DOI, where n = 100, m = 10, q = 10, are provided in Table 4.3. On average there were 13,944 equality cuts and 320 infeasibility conditions. The majority of these equality cuts were obtained deep in the branch and bound tree (on average depth 79). The variance on these instances was high and one instance found over 49,000 equality cuts while every problem found at least 700.

In addition to demonstrating the existence of equality cuts a goal of this study was to determine if the addition of equality cuts could improve the performance of commercial IP solvers. This was accomplished by evaluating the number of nodes that had to be evaluated to solve an instance with and without cuts. The number of ticks was also reported, but the percent improvement was highly correlated with the number of nodes evaluated. Thus, the percent of effort is measured in total nodes evaluated. The number of nodes evaluated for the instances where n = 100, m = 5, q = 5 is provided in Table 4.4. In total there were 42,754 less nodes evaluated when using equality cuts and infeasibility conditions than without the cuts. This is a 17% improvement in the total number of nodes evaluated. However, using only equality cuts resulted in an increase of only 12% in the number of nodes required and using only infeasibility conditions only 16%. Even though the the average indicates a improvement, individual instances saw decreases in performance as high as 29%.

The number of nodes evaluated for the instances where n = 250, m = 5, q = 5 is provided in Table 4.5. On average there were 903, 688 fewer nodes evaluated when using equality cuts and infeasibility conditions than without the cuts. This is an average decrease in the total number of nodes evaluated by about 8%. Using only equality cuts resulted in an increase of 15% in the number of nodes required and using only infeasibility conditions saw an increase of 4%. Individual instances saw improvements as high as 83% and as low as -31%.

The number of nodes evaluated for the instances where n = 100, m = 10, q = 10 is provided in Table 4.6. In total there were 12, 491, 283 fewer nodes evaluated when using equality cuts and infeasibility conditions than without the cuts. This is a decrease in the total number of nodes evaluated of about 11%. Using only equality cuts resulted in an decrease of 9% in the number of nodes required and using only infeasibility conditions saw an increase of 6%. On these instances there was an overall improvement in performance. One possible reason for the improvement is the increase in the number of constraints. This potentially allows for cuts to be found more often because there are more covers and anticovers explored by the algorithm. Individual instances saw improvements as high as 32% and performance decreases as low as 33%.

Some takeaways from this study is that equality cuts and infeasibility conditions exist frequently in MDMKP instances. Additionally, performance gains as high as a 48% reduction in the number of nodes evaluated were seen. It was surprising that the introduction of cuts significantly increased the number of nodes evaluated for some instances. This is believed to be a result of CPLEX's dynamic branching scheme and a difficulty telling CPLEX to fathom a node when an infeasibility condition was found.

Even though the use of equality cuts did not always improve the computational effort, it is important to note that every instance solved contained at least one equality cut and every instance had at least one infeasibility condition. Furthermore, ACE or ACIS was found on every instance.

Case #	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	3703	83	154	90
2	1781	79	101	87
3	1957	84	78	90
4	442	85	12	91
5	4860	83	174	87
6	21162	80	1047	86
7	2773	80	132	84
8	6930	81	229	90
9	15767	80	940	87
10	944	84	38	91
11	1764	88	62	88
12	1177	89	80	89
13	3197	89	214	89
14	983	89	68	89
15	4058	82	250	82
Average	4767	84	239	88

Table 4.1: Cut Table for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 0

Table 4.2: Cut Table for n = 250, m = 5, q = 5, z = 0

Case #	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	188929	222	5183	231
2	24344	227	449	236
3	911	230	20	240
4	30811	225	913	233
5	117519	219	3020	229
6	289126	220	5927	232
7	118132	221	2548	233
8	284977	221	7215	226
9	589939	224	12857	231
10	139980	220	3620	232
11	152469	216	5432	227
12	42536	221	1735	232
13	5584	224	322	227
14	357881	217	12303	228
15	429337	222	18334	230
Average	184832	222	5325	231

Case #	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	8960	79	200	86
2	3969	77	147	82
3	43669	79	802	86
4	27531	77	449	85
5	1781	82	66	89
6	20827	80	365	86
7	49557	87	838	87
8	8113	87	133	87
9	8942	81	185	89
10	2103	82	38	87
11	7888	72	234	85
12	16637	77	313	86
13	5789	70	224	86
14	708	83	708	91
15	2691	79	105	81
Average	13944	79	320	86

Table 4.3: Cut Table for n = 100, m = 10, q = 10, z = 0

ons	% Difference	1%	16%	-6%	2%	-25%	-16%	12%	26%	59%	17%	%06-	9%	2%	22%	15%	12%
Inf. Conditi	Difference	4856	14826	-10311	342	-50635	-154807	16116	170902	424444	9052	-23097	3684	1628	14298	24825	29742
	Nodes	392736	75657	187860	20910	250700	1122556	114173	498263	291473	43562	48677	36616	93047	51167	141480	224592
uts	% Difference	-10%	8%	-3%	-28%	-3%	2%	23%	41%	32%	15%	4%	24%	8%	10%	10%	16%
Equality Cr	Difference	-40766	6894	-5778	-5914	-5637	65152	30032	276061	229139	8097	962	9636	7765	6485	16841	39931
	Nodes	438358	83589	183327	27166	205702	902597	100257	393104	486778	44517	24618	30664	86910	58980	149464	214402
f. Conditions	% Difference	6%	0%	-16%	-11%	-13%	-3%	19%	48%	37%	31%	-29%	31%	22%	35%	18%	17%
Cuts and In	Difference	25607	-389	-27728	-2298	-25965	-27032	24979	318371	261488	16204	-7541	12570	20517	22723	29811	42754
Equality 6	Nodes	371985	90872	205277	23550	226030	994781	105310	350794	454429	36410	33121	27730	74158	42742	136494	211579
No Cuts	Nodes	397592	90483	177549	21252	200065	967749	130289	669165	715917	52614	25580	40300	94675	65465	166305	254333
	Case #		2	33	4	IJ	9	2	×	6	10	11	12	13	14	15	Average

Table 4.4: Nodes Evaluated for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5

ons	$\% \ Difference$	-33%	39%	29%	-3%	-17%	3%	6%	1%	-13%	-1%	%6	12%	-7%	-8%	-26%	-4
Inf. Conditic	Difference	-3076435	2944167	148723	-62239	-1286555	632969	604842	136092	-3737661	-97913	1006260	337683	-14994	-751177	-3345228	-437431
	Nodes	12473807	4558362	363337	2057904	8688341	23849188	8842506	18756510	32547242	16220391	9823396	2412899	239772	9704557	16117589	11110387
ts	% Difference	-41%	41%	36%	-22%	-21%	9%	14%	6%	-75%	%6-	23%	16%	6%	12%	-55%	-15
Equality Cut	Difference	-3849129	3053738	185133	-430981	-1568818	2285872	1362740	1176583	-21749211	-1464876	2482824	435539	13590	1030626	-6966860	-1600215
	Nodes	13246501	4448791	326927	2426646	8970604	22196285	8084608	17716019	50558792	17587354	8346832	2315043	211188	7922754	19739221	12273171
. Conditions	% Difference	-31	38	83	n	-14	12	13	×	ი	2	14	35	×	18	21	8
Cuts and Inf	Difference	-2958599	2818448	424221	53852	-1038439	2820396	1233974	1538259	724456	1179631	1497819	975194	17235	1650392	2618483	903688
Equality (Nodes	12355971	4684081	87839	1941813	8440225	21661761	8213374	17354343	28085125	14942847	9331837	1775388	207543	7302988	10153878	9769268
No Cuts	Nodes	9397372	7502529	512060	1995665	7401786	24482157	9447348	18892602	28809581	16122478	10829656	2750582	224778	8953380	12772361	10672956
	Case #	1	5	n	4	2	9	2	×	6	10	11	12	13	14	15	Average

Table 4.5: Nodes Evaluated for n = 250, m = 5, q = 5

ons	% Difference	17%	-34%	1%	-1%	13%	34%	-12%	-12%	%0	-10%	1%	6%	36%	8%	-13%	2 %
inf. Conditic	Difference	525990	-624485	690730	-192838	234252	7003628	-4043339	-386420	-2081	-118428	28199	436245	312023	8500	-48335	254909
	Nodes	2597872	2481268	56265902	28695030	1563777	13838108	39109598	3740382	1956117	1305124	3244364	7233071	565645	92162	419379	10873853
ts	% Difference	19%	-7%	1%	12%	19%	35%	14%	-24%	4%	-28%	-5%	9%	27%	7%	-5%	10
Equality Cu	Difference	604815	-123249	611161	3297457	335235	7195810	5060408	-817207	74657	-335345	-155981	659413	238977	6846	-18310	1108979
	Nodes	2519047	1980032	56345471	25204735	1462794	13645926	30005851	4171169	1879379	1522041	3428544	7009903	638691	93816	389354	10019784
. Conditions	% Difference	21	-5	2	13	22	35	14	×,	-38	-16	12	×	2-	2-	-17	12
Cuts and Inf	Difference	666899	-98438	3762847	3660386	389697	7360518	4896003	-255023	-735282	-189004	408110	582985	-63527	-6922	-61955	1354486
Equality (Nodes	2456963	1955221	53193785	24841806	1408332	13481218	30170256	3608985	2689318	1375700	2864453	7086331	941195	107584	432999	9774276
No Cuts	Nodes	3123862	1856783	56956632	28502192	1798029	20841736	35066259	3353962	1954036	1186696	3272563	7669316	877668	100662	371044	11128763
	Case #	1	2	n	4	IJ	9	7	~	6	10	11	12	13	14	15	Average

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Chapter 5

Conclusions and Future Research

The goal of this thesis was to examine valid equality cuts. It was shown that valid equalities do indeed exist for binary IPs and although they can never be facet defining it was shown that an equality cut can reduce the dimension of search space by an arbitrary integer r, where $1 \le r \le |N|$.

After formally defining an anticover inequality, the idea of equality cuts was applied to the MDMKP by utilizing covers and an anticover inequality. It was demonstrated through an example that anticover cover equality cuts can significantly reduce the number of nodes needed to solve an IP.

In this thesis a formal definition of infeasibility conditions was given for an IP. Along with this definition infeasibility conditions for the MDMKP were presented. An example demonstrated the potential usefulness of infeasibility conditions by showing that an infeasibility condition can exist even if the linear relaxation space is full dimensional.

In addition to the theory, an algorithm was presented for finding equality cuts on MDMKP instances in polynomial time. Using the algorithm on benchmark problems at least one equality cut was found in every instance. Applying these equality cuts to benchmark instances improved the computational effort by about 7%.

5.1 Future Research

The validity of equality cuts for binary IPs was demonstrated in this thesis. Extending this theory to general integer programs is one possibility for future work. If possible this would significantly increase the number of applications for equality cuts.

Another theoretical extension of this work would be to develop new methods for finding the existence of equality sets. One idea to pursue would be to calculate the distance between two constraints at the linear relaxation solution. If the distance is below some threshold value that may indicate the existence of an equality set or an infeasibility condition.

A final idea for theoretical extension of this work would be to try combine the lifting and equality cuts. Lifting would allow a cut to be strengthened. Additionally, two cuts that do not form an equality set could possibly be lifted to form an equality set.

One of the biggest shortcomings of the computational study presented was that the equality cuts used contained all of the variables not in the tree. A major area of further research would be the development of algorithms for finding equality sets on smaller subsets of variables. These algorithms could also potentially identify infeasibility conditions.

Another applied extension of this work would be to perform a computational study on many different problems to try and identify which types of problems typically contain equality sets. This analysis could potentially be integrated into a commercial solver to determine when to generate equality cuts.

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Appendix A

Computational Results

Case $\#$	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	3703	83	154	90
2	1781	79	101	87
3	1957	84	78	90
4	442	85	12	91
5	4860	83	174	87
6	21162	80	1047	86
7	2773	80	132	84
8	6930	81	229	90
9	15767	80	940	87
10	944	84	38	91
11	1764	88	62	88
12	1177	89	80	89
13	3197	89	214	89
14	983	89	68	89
15	4058	82	250	82
Average	4767	84	239	88

Table A.1: Cut Table for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 0

Table A.2: Cut Table for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 1

Case $\#$	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	1853	82	57	91
2	2111	75	55	90
3	1297	81	40	88
4	986	81	50	92
5	9077	80	196	89
6	8258	80	265	88
7	8558	80	309	84
8	2006	82	98	90
9	1407	84	74	86
10	5750	80	186	87
11	454	80	21	91
12	4615	79	302	86
13	2068	82	65	90
14	5953	78	413	83
15	400	82	20	90
Average	3653	80	143	88

Case $\#$	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	85	81	2	92
2	191	88	3	94
3	1769	81	80	90
4	1076	81	39	89
5	3247	82	100	88
6	10452	82	218	87
7	2715	83	47	89
8	901	78	51	88
9	3511	82	89	90
10	14910	81	491	87
11	2335	83	90	90
12	2732	81	111	89
13	4564	82	147	89
14	4712	78	165	87
15	2388	84	132	89
Average	3706	82	118	89

Table A.3: Cut Table for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 2

Table A.4: Cut Table for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 3

Case #	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	5048	81	165	88
2	350	86	17	94
3	12811	77	536	86
4	19928	80	729	87
5	5519	79	138	89
6	7051	80	265	88
7	18269	74	633	88
8	8748	81	237	88
9	8109	82	254	89
10	8498	81	252	89
11	3299	80	171	87
12	4165	75	196	86
13	1390	82	65	87
14	3151	75	137	86
15	2009	79	92	87
Average	7223	79	259	88

Case $\#$	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	13159	79	365	87
2	1832	82	56	86
3	6602	83	138	88
4	6001	79	157	89
5	5655	80	189	89
6	10097	81	307	88
7	1320	84	46	89
8	1460	83	35	90
9	10684	81	242	89
10	2562	82	57	86
11	248	82	16	87
12	1632	83	56	90
13	1559	84	58	88
14	966	79	30	91
15	5476	82	240	89
Average	4617	82	133	88

Table A.5: Cut Table for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 4

Table A.6: Cut Table for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 5

Case #	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	3158	82	93	90
2	390	86	14	92
3	4198	83	146	89
4	2790	83	66	91
5	3309	84	94	88
6	12774	83	305	88
7	1688	81	41	89
8	18051	81	554	88
9	1128	81	37	91
10	9246	85	177	87
11	575	82	14	89
12	299	82	10	91
13	1680	82	51	88
14	1373	81	55	89
15	308	84	7	92
Average	4064	83	111	89

Case #	# Equality Cuts	Min DOC	# Infeasibility Conditions	Min DOI
1	8960	79	200	86
2	3969	77	147	82
3	43669	79	802	86
4	27531	77	449	85
5	1781	82	66	89
6	20827	80	365	86
7	49557	87	838	87
8	8113	87	133	87
9	8942	81	185	89
10	2103	82	38	87
11	7888	72	234	85
12	16637	77	313	86
13	5789	70	224	86
14	708	83	708	91
15	2691	79	105	81
Average	13944	79	320	86

Table A.7: Cut Table for n = 100, m = 10, q = 10, z = 0

ions	% Difference	1%	16%	-6%	2%	-25%	-16%	12%	26%	59%	17%	-90%	9%	2%	22%	15%	12%
Inf. Condit	Difference	4856	14826	-10311	342	-50635	-154807	16116	170902	424444	9052	-23097	3684	1628	14298	24825	29742
	Nodes	392736	75657	187860	20910	250700	1122556	114173	498263	291473	43562	48677	36616	93047	51167	141480	224592
uts	% Difference	-10%	8%	-3%	-28%	-3%	7%	23%	41%	32%	15%	4%	24%	8%	10%	10%	16%
Equality C	Difference	-40766	6894	-5778	-5914	-5637	65152	30032	276061	229139	8097	962	9636	7765	6485	16841	39931
	Nodes	438358	83589	183327	27166	205702	902597	100257	393104	486778	44517	24618	30664	86910	58980	149464	214402
if. Conditions	% Difference	6%	0%0	-16%	-11%	-13%	-3%	19%	48%	37%	31%	-29%	31%	22%	35%	18%	17%
Cuts and Ir	Difference	25607	-389	-27728	-2298	-25965	-27032	24979	318371	261488	16204	-7541	12570	20517	22723	29811	42754
Equality	Nodes	371985	90872	205277	23550	226030	994781	105310	350794	454429	36410	33121	27730	74158	42742	136494	211579
No Cuts	Nodes	397592	90483	177549	21252	200065	967749	130289	669165	715917	52614	25580	40300	94675	65465	166305	254333
	Case #	-	2	c,	4	5	9	2	×	6	10	11	12	13	14	15	Average

Table A.8: Nodes Evaluated for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 0

cions	% Difference	28%	-19%	1%	6%	-1%	36%	-39%	4%	31%	2%	1%	5%	-63%	2%	6%	4%
Inf. Condit	Difference	22661	-21110	1309	3810	-3218	174956	-128412	3561	47636	15114	108	7957	-32788	4318	919	6455
	Nodes	59474	130289	100911	64016	356781	306404	453625	77721	106504	213811	15235	146717	84569	177141	13965	153811
uts	% Difference	3%	0%	20%	2%	4%	-21%	-13%	20%	11%	18%	-5%	10%	1%	10%	5%	0%0
Equality C	Difference	2422	361	20685	1074	12555	-98925	-42407	16436	16296	42176	-820	15022	683	17626	780	264
	Nodes	79713	108818	81535	66752	341008	580285	367620	64846	137844	186749	16163	139652	51098	163833	14104	160001
if. Conditions	$\% \ Difference$	-28%	-58%	9%	-2%	7%	-16%	-19%	20%	38%	20%	1%	10%	2%	15%	10%	-1%
Cuts and Ir	Difference	-22956	-62849	9386	-1175	25130	-78431	-61053	16011	58496	44699	180	15340	892	26723	1416	-1879
Equality	Nodes	105091	172028	92834	69001	328433	559791	386266	65271	95644	184226	15163	139334	50889	154736	13468	162145
No Cuts	Nodes	82135	109179	102220	67826	353563	481360	325213	81282	154140	228925	15343	154674	51781	181459	14884	160266
	Case #		2	33	4	IJ	9	2	×	6	10	11	12	13	14	15	Average

Table A.9: Nodes Evaluated for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 1

ions	$\% \ Difference$	0%	0%	1%	-26%	-3%	-4%	-21%	-21%	11%	8%	20%	-2%	5%	-42%	-2%	-2%
Inf. Condit:	Difference	9	12	1668	-17449	-7490	-55496	-57228	-11779	40124	84426	23627	-2455	10527	-113668	-2351	-7168
	Nodes	10396	10315	111250	83715	267056	1291630	324940	66759	334326	1009144	95149	158186	196360	385533	102494	296484
uts	% Difference	2%	5%	11%	-37%	13%	6%	-38%	%6-	-7%	10%	10%	15%	14%	-52%	%0	%0
Equality C	Difference	166	547	12555	-24460	34587	79204	-100860	-4939	-26673	112379	12361	23217	29967	-142310	278	401
	Nodes	10236	9780	100363	90726	224979	1156930	368572	59919	401123	981191	106415	132514	176920	414175	99865	288914
f. Conditions	% Difference	2%	4%	11%	-13%	19%	-19%	-17%	-9%	21%	8%	9%	16%	11%	-1%	1%	0%0
Cuts and In	Difference	160	447	12495	-8907	49021	-236241	-44300	-5028	77748	86552	11155	25538	21803	-2459	1368	-710
Equality	Nodes	10242	9880	100423	75173	210545	1472375	312012	60008	296702	1007018	107621	130193	185084	274324	98775	290025
No Cuts	Nodes	10402	10327	112918	66266	259566	1236134	267712	54980	374450	1093570	118776	155731	206887	271865	100143	289315
	Case #		2	33	4	IJ	9	2	×	6	10	11	12	13	14	15	Average

Table A.10: Nodes Evaluated for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 2

ions	$\% \ \text{Difference}$	2%	0%	31%	-7%	17%	20%	-21%	-13%	23%	-2%	10%	-2%	-7%	3%	%2	4%
Inf. Condit:	Difference	6220	59	256831	-82924	78565	86591	-168030	-160933	286325	-17492	12830	-1539	-6059	4041	7182	20111
	Nodes	311479	40192	577893	1201086	388247	350525	960194	1367575	952224	750732	116039	89988	98079	122017	91005	494485
uts	% Difference	9%	-15%	32%	-10%	21%	15%	9%	41%	16%	3%	-28%	21%	4%	-8%	21%	14%
Equality C	Difference	27965	-5839	268568	-114009	98670	63923	72838	489048	197973	19336	-36213	18261	3410	-10310	21081	74313
	Nodes	289734	46090	566156	1232171	368142	373193	719326	717594	1040576	713904	165082	70188	88610	136368	77106	440283
f. Conditions	% Difference	7%	20%	-30%	-16%	33%	22%	16%	41%	37%	13%	6%	-1%	5%	1%	-1%	13%
Cuts and In	Difference	23609	7977	-248707	-176356	152827	94954	129629	489881	455174	95492	8073	-578	4448	1691	-604	69167
Equality	Nodes	294090	32274	1083431	1294518	313985	342162	662535	716761	783375	637748	120796	89027	87572	124367	98791	445429
No Cuts	Nodes	317699	40251	834724	1118162	466812	437116	792164	1206642	1238549	733240	128869	88449	92020	126058	98187	514596
	Case #		2	c,	4	ы	9	7	~	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Average

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Inf. Conditions	% Difference	-27%	8%	0%	63%	91%	0%	1%	-10%	-137%	-8%	12%	2%	-19%	-2%	-17%	-19%
	Difference	-307445	9794	2532	217667	525583	-3047	1687	-10776	-1442318	-14298	1452	1229	-13286	-1369	-53916	-72434
	Nodes	1451031	113504	849971	127845	54375	692910	144202	115238	2495715	185205	10871	70286	84096	69493	367965	455514
Equality Cuts	% Difference	8%	6%	2%	35%	4%	-1%	22%	-21%	3%	-8%	4%	3%	-32%	-15%	5%	5%
	Difference	86739	7765	15661	121886	22305	-5492	32610	-21895	34201	-13253	446	2310	-22379	-10287	16164	17785
	Nodes	1056847	115533	836842	223626	557653	695355	113279	126357	1019196	184160	11877	69205	93189	78411	297885	365294
Equality Cuts and Inf. Conditions	% Difference	0%	12%	1%	-36%	3%	-3%	18%	-21%	4%	3%	8%	3%	-19%	-2%	-6%	-1%
	Difference	-151	14330	6389	-123275	16316	-21950	26574	-22072	44890	4329	1004	2032	-13577	-1136	-18230	-5635
	Nodes	1143737	108968	846114	468787	563642	711813	119315	126534	1008507	166578	11319	69483	84387	69260	332279	388715
No Cuts	Nodes	1143586	123298	852503	345512	579958	689863	145889	104462	1053397	170907	12323	71515	70810	68124	314049	383080
	Case #		2	33	4	5	9	2	×	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Average

Table A.12: Nodes Evaluated for n = 100, m = 5, q = 5, z = 4

Inf. Conditions	% Difference	-3%	-5%	-58%	25%	-39%	9%	2%	-19%	-43%	-4%	-29%	2%	0%	-3%	%0	-5%
	Difference	-11065	-1742	-345896	268023	-170986	256474	5880	-426444	-53188	-79785	-13429	789	-318	-4062	-91	-38389
	Nodes	407540	36359	937797	796003	606187	2532036	310263	2719097	177314	2178169	60076	32000	106785	127607	45289	738168
Equality Cuts	% Difference	9%	13%	-20%	18%	16%	14%	5%	6%	-6%	13%	-84%	10%	-2%	-4%	20%	6%
	Difference	35545	4459	-117633	192727	70305	384149	16125	140729	-7878	267725	-38958	3135	-1914	-4492	9207	63549
	Nodes	360930	30158	709534	871299	364896	2404361	300018	2151924	132004	1830659	85605	29654	108381	128037	35991	636230
f. Conditions	% Difference	-15%	9%	-17%	33%	-27%	15%	11%	15%	-4%	5%	0%	8%	0%0	-18%	17%	6%
Equality Cuts and In	Difference	-57791	3171	-101648	351709	-118096	424107	33655	350635	-5535	109181	145	2681	-106	-21726	7899	65219
	Nodes	454266	31446	693549	712317	553297	2364403	282488	1942018	129661	1989203	46502	30108	106573	145271	37299	634560
No Cuts	Nodes	396475	34617	591901	1064026	435201	2788510	316143	2292653	124126	2098384	46647	32789	106467	123545	45198	67796
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