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Distributionally Robust Optimization with ROME (part 1)

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Guest Lecture

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Classical Robust Optimization

- Robust optimization (RO) has been traditionally used to immunize an uncertain optimization problem from infeasibility.
- Classical approach: define a support set for the uncertainties, and use duality arguments to construct the robust counterpart (RC).
- RC: a deterministic equivalent of the uncertain optimization problem that ensures feasibility with probability 1.
- E.g. Soyster (1973), Ben-Tal and Nemirovski (1998), Bertsimas and Sim (2004), El Ghaoui, Oustry, and Lebret (1998).



Affinely Adjustable Robust Counterpart (AARC)

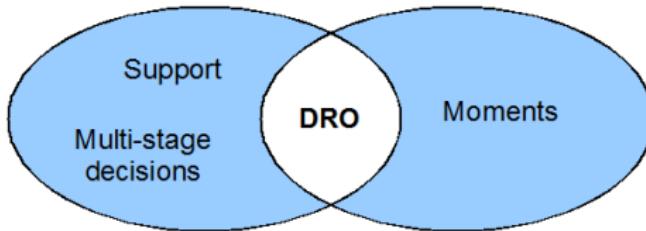
- Ben-Tal, Goryashko, Guslitzer, and Nemirovski (2004) introduced Affinely-Adjustable RC (AARC), to allow delayed decision-making. (aka LDR)
- Decisions are affine functions of uncertainties.
- Can model two-stage and multi-stage problems.
- Advantage: Tractable approximation of many stochastic programs, and is distribution-free.
- Disadvantage: Can be too conservative for some problems.

Using Moments for RO

- A different perspective on RO: *Moment* Information
- Goes back to Scarf (1958) Distribution-free newsvendor with known mean and variance.
- El Ghaoui, Oks, and Oustry (2004): Use mean and covariance to compute WVaR for portfolio of assets.
- Popescu (2007) Use mean-covariance information to robustly optimize expected utility.

DRO Combines These Ideas

- Distributionally Robust Optimization (DRO) is at the intersection of these research threads.



- Existing work:
 - Chen, Sim, Sun, and Zhang (2008) LDR extensions
 - Chen and Sim (2009) Goal driven optimization
 - Natarajan, Sim, and Uichanco (2009) Expected utility

Design Goals of DRO

- To design a unified theoretical framework for DRO
- To build a software modeling tool to solve DRO problems within this framework
- Key ingredients:
 - Multi-stage decisions, but more flexible compared to LDRs.
 - Distribution-free, but partially characterized by support, moments, and directional deviations (Chen, Sim, and Sun, 2007).

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Notation

- $\tilde{z} \in \Re^N$: uncertainties with distribution $\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}$.
- $x \in \Re^n$: “here-and-now” decision variables.
- $y^k(\tilde{z}) \in \Re^{m_k}$: “wait-and-see” decision rules, $\forall k \in [K]$.
- Each decision rule need not depend on the full uncertainty vector. We introduce K information index sets, to capture the dependency structure, denoted by $I_k \subseteq [N], \forall k \in [K]$.

$$y^k \in \mathcal{Y}(m_k, N, I_k) \quad \forall k \in [K]$$

$$\mathcal{Y}(m, N, I) \triangleq \left\{ f : \Re^N \rightarrow \Re^m : f \left(z + \sum_{i \notin I} \lambda_i e^i \right) = f(z), \forall \lambda \in \Re^N \right\}$$

$$I \subseteq [N] \equiv \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$$

Information Index Set Example

- Suppose you have a Decision Rule, $\mathbf{y}^1(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})$ which has information index set I_1 , i.e. $\mathbf{y}^1 \in \mathcal{Y}(m, N, I_1)$.
- The information index set contains two elements, $I_1 = \{2, 3\}$.
- Then, the Decision Rule can be equivalently expressed as $\mathbf{y}^1(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) = \mathbf{y}^1(\tilde{z}_2, \tilde{z}_3)$.

Information Index Sets

- Allows us to handle more general non-anticipative scenarios than multi-stage problems.
- For a multistage problem with sequential decisions, we have

$$I_1 \subseteq I_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq I_K$$

- Reflects the requirement that we only can make use of uncertainties *in the past*.
- Other set inclusions (especially occurring in network problems) lead to more general non-anticipative constraints.

Model of Uncertainty

- Actual uncertainty distribution \mathbb{P} lies in a family of distributions \mathbb{F}
- Partially characterized by distributional properties:
 - Support \mathcal{W} : Tractable conic representable, full-dim.
 - Mean Support $\hat{\mathcal{W}}$: Tractable conic representable.
 - Covariance matrix Σ : Positive definite
 - Upper bounds on Directional Deviations for stochastically independent components ($\mathbf{H}_\sigma, \sigma_f, \sigma_b$).
 - The original uncertainties may not have independent components, but we allow the possibility that a linear transformation of the uncertainties by \mathbf{H}_σ may have independent components.
 - i.e. $\tilde{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{H}_\sigma \tilde{\mathbf{z}}$ might have independent components.

General Model

$$Z_{GEN}^* =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\boldsymbol{x}, \{\boldsymbol{y}^k(\cdot)\}_{k=1}^K} \quad & \boldsymbol{c}' \boldsymbol{x} + \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{y}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{z}}) \right) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \boldsymbol{c}' \boldsymbol{x} + \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{y}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{z}}) \right) \leq b_l \quad \forall l \in [M] \\ & \boldsymbol{T}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{z}}) \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{U}^k \boldsymbol{y}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{z}}) = \boldsymbol{v}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{z}}) \\ & \underline{\boldsymbol{y}}^k \leq \boldsymbol{y}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{z}}) \leq \bar{\boldsymbol{y}}^k \quad \forall k \in [K] \\ & \boldsymbol{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \\ & \boldsymbol{y}^k \in \mathcal{Y}(m_k, N, I_k) \quad \forall k \in [K] \end{aligned}$$

- Convention: All (in)equalities involving uncertainties are taken to hold with probability 1 over all distributions $\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}$.

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General Model (data in red)

$$Z_{GEN}^* =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x}, \{\mathbf{y}^k(\cdot)\}_{k=1}^K} \quad & \mathbf{c}^0' \mathbf{x} + \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{d}^{0,k} \mathbf{y}^k(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \right) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{c}^l' \mathbf{x} + \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{d}^{l,k} \mathbf{y}^k(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \right) \leq b_l \quad \forall l \in [M] \\ & \mathbf{T}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \mathbf{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{U}^k \mathbf{y}^k(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) = \mathbf{v}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \\ & \underline{\mathbf{y}^k} \leq \mathbf{y}^k(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \leq \bar{\mathbf{y}}^k \quad \forall k \in [K] \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \\ & \mathbf{y}^k \in \mathcal{Y}(m_k, N, \mathbf{I}_k) \quad \forall k \in [K] \end{aligned}$$

- We assume $\mathbf{T}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}), \mathbf{v}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})$, are affine functions of $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}$, i.e.

$$\mathbf{T}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) = \mathbf{T}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{T}^i \tilde{z}_i, \quad \mathbf{v}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) = \mathbf{v}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{v}^i \tilde{z}_i$$

Example: Piecewise-linear terms

- Common to find $E_{\mathbb{P}} ((\cdot)^+)$ in terms in optimization problems in the OM setting. E.g. Newsvendor / inventory models.
- A distributionally robust version can be cast in our framework too:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathcal{F}} E_{\mathbb{P}} (\mathbf{y}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})^+) \leq \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}(m, N, I) \\ & \Downarrow \\ & \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathcal{F}} E_{\mathbb{P}} (s(\tilde{\mathbf{z}})) \leq \mathbf{b} \\ & s(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \geq \mathbf{0} \\ & s(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \geq \mathbf{y}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \\ & s, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}(m, N, I) \end{aligned}$$

Using Linear Decision Rules (LDRs)

- General model is intractable. Intuitively, the space of all functions is “too big”.
- Following Ben-Tal et. al. (2004), we restrict ourselves to LDRs, where the recourse decisions are affinely dependent on the model uncertainties.
- Define the space of LDRs

$$\mathcal{L}(m, N, I) = \left\{ \mathbf{f} : \Re^N \rightarrow \Re^m : \exists (\mathbf{y}^0, \mathbf{Y}) \in \Re^m \times \Re^{m \times N} : \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{y}^0 + \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{z} \\ \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{e}^i = \mathbf{0}, \forall i \notin I \end{array} \right.$$

- Use this approximate $\mathcal{Y}(m, N, I)$

LDR Approximation of General Model

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{LDR} = \\ \min_{\mathbf{x}, \{\mathbf{y}^k(\cdot)\}_{k=1}^K} \quad & \mathbf{c}^{0'} \mathbf{x} + \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{d}^{0,k'} \mathbf{y}^k(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \right) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{c}^{l'} \mathbf{x} + \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{d}^{l,k'} \mathbf{y}^k(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \right) \leq b_l \quad \forall l \in [M] \\ & \mathbf{T}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \mathbf{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{U}^k \mathbf{y}^k(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) = \mathbf{v}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \\ & \underline{\mathbf{y}}^k \leq \mathbf{y}^k(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \leq \bar{\mathbf{y}}^k \quad \forall k \in [K] \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \\ & \mathbf{y}^k \in \mathcal{L}(m_k, N, I_k) \quad \forall k \in [K] \end{aligned}$$

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LDR Approx. of General Model (Explicit)

$$Z_{LDR} =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min_{\boldsymbol{x}, \{\boldsymbol{y}^{0,k}, \boldsymbol{Y}^k\}_{k=1}^K} \quad \boldsymbol{c}^{0'} \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{y}^{0,k} + \sup_{\hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \in \hat{\mathcal{W}}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{Y}^k \hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \right) \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \boldsymbol{c}^l' \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{y}^{0,k} + \sup_{\hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \in \hat{\mathcal{W}}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{Y}^k \hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \right) \leq b_l \quad \forall l \in [M] \\
 & \boldsymbol{T}^0 \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{U}^k \boldsymbol{y}^{0,k} = \boldsymbol{v}^0 \\
 & \boldsymbol{T}^j \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{U}^k \boldsymbol{Y}^k \boldsymbol{e}^j = \boldsymbol{v}^j \quad \forall j \in [N] \\
 & \underline{\boldsymbol{y}}^k \leq \boldsymbol{y}^{0,k} + \boldsymbol{Y}^k \boldsymbol{z} \leq \bar{\boldsymbol{y}}^k \quad \forall \boldsymbol{z} \in \mathcal{W} \quad \forall k \in [K] \\
 & \underline{\boldsymbol{Y}}^k \boldsymbol{e}^j = \mathbf{0} \quad \forall j \notin I_k, \forall k \in [K] \\
 & \boldsymbol{x} \geq \mathbf{0}
 \end{aligned}$$

Is LDR Approximation too Conservative?

- LDR approximation of General Model is tractable, but is it too conservative?
- will proceed by using the basic LDR approximation as a starting point, and aim to find other more complex decision rules which are better.

$$Z_{GEN}^* \leq ??? \leq ??? \leq Z_{LDR}$$

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Segregating the Uncertainties

- Idea: to re-map the **uncertainties** into a higher-dimensional space, and apply an LDR on the new uncertainties, for more flexibility.
- E.g. for a scalar uncertainty, we can segregate into positive and negative parts (as was done by Chen, Sim, Sun, and Zhang, 2008).

$$\tilde{z} = \underbrace{\tilde{z}^+}_{\xi_1} - \underbrace{\tilde{z}^-}_{\xi_2}$$

- Can segregate more generally into distinct **segments** of the real line.

General Segregations

- Consider $L + 1$ *partition points* on the extended real line
- Ordered, denoted by $\{\xi_k\}_{k=1}^{L+1}$, $\xi_1 = -\infty, \xi_{L+1} = +\infty$.
- Segregating mapping function:

$$\mathbf{M} : \Re \rightarrow \Re^L, \zeta = \mathbf{M}(z)$$

$$\zeta_k = \begin{cases} z & \text{if } \xi_k \leq z \leq \xi_{k+1} \\ \xi_k & \text{if } z \leq \xi_k \\ \xi_{k+1} & \text{if } z \geq \xi_{k+1} \end{cases}$$

- Define image of supports under the mapping:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{V}^* &\triangleq \{\mathbf{M}(z) : z \in \mathcal{W}\} \\ \hat{\mathcal{V}}^* &\triangleq \left\{\mathbf{M}(\hat{z}) : \hat{z} \in \hat{\mathcal{W}}\right\}\end{aligned}$$

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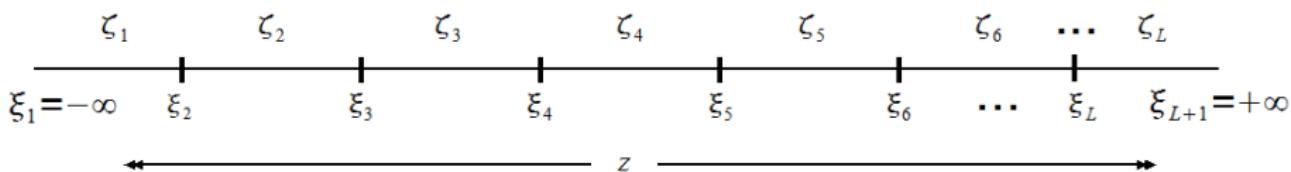
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General Segregations (Pictorial)



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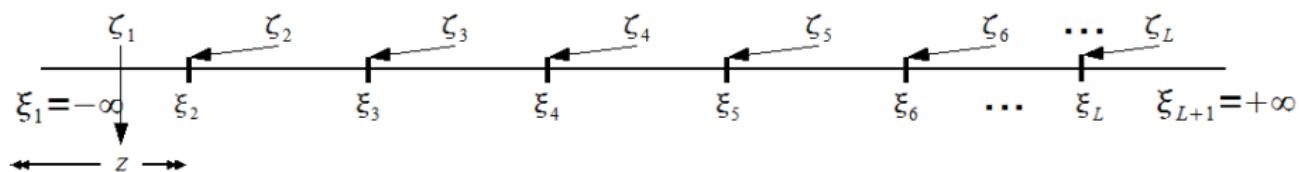
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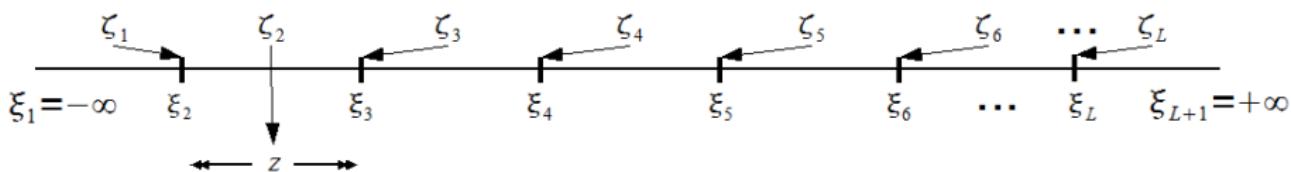
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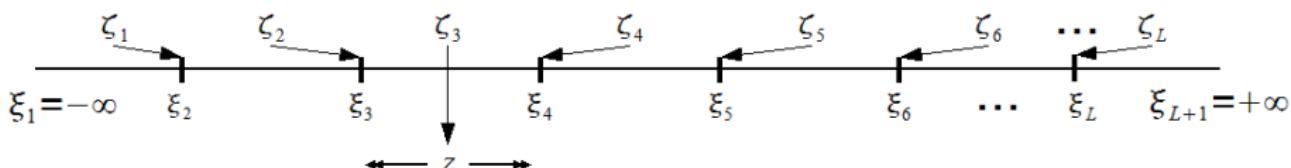
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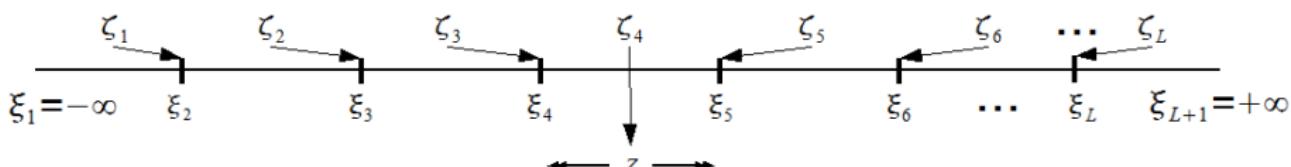
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Segregations are Affinely-infertile

$$\sum_{i=1}^L \zeta_i = z + \sum_{i=2}^L \xi_i \iff z = \sum_{i=1}^L \zeta_i - \sum_{i=2}^L \xi_i$$

- In general, for vector uncertainties, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} z &= FM(z) + g \quad \forall z \in \Re^N \\ F &= [I \quad I \quad \dots \quad I] \\ g &= \text{constant} \end{aligned}$$

- We can now define a new set of LDRs on the (higher-dimensional) segregated uncertainties, i.e.

$$y^k(\tilde{z}) = r^k(M(\tilde{z})) = r^{0,k} + R^k M(\tilde{z}), \quad \forall k \in [K]$$

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General Model under SLDR (Exact)

$$Z_{SLDR}^* =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\boldsymbol{x}, \{\boldsymbol{r}^k(\cdot)\}_{k=1}^K} \quad & \boldsymbol{c}^0' \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} + \sup_{\boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \hat{\mathcal{V}}^*} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{R}^k \hat{\boldsymbol{\zeta}} \right) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \boldsymbol{c}^l' \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} + \sup_{\boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \hat{\mathcal{V}}^*} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{R}^k \hat{\boldsymbol{\zeta}} \right) \leq b_l \quad \forall l \in [M] \\ & \boldsymbol{T}(\boldsymbol{F}\boldsymbol{\zeta} + \boldsymbol{g})\boldsymbol{x} + \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{U}^k \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} + \boldsymbol{U}^k \boldsymbol{R}^k \boldsymbol{\zeta} \right) = \boldsymbol{v}(\boldsymbol{F}\boldsymbol{\zeta} + \boldsymbol{g}) \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \mathcal{V}^* \\ & \underline{\boldsymbol{y}}^k \leq \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} + \boldsymbol{R}^k \boldsymbol{\zeta} \leq \bar{\boldsymbol{y}}^k \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \mathcal{V}^*, \forall k \in [K] \\ & \underline{\boldsymbol{x}} \geq \mathbf{0} \\ & \boldsymbol{r}^k \circ \boldsymbol{M} \in \mathcal{Y}(m_k, N, I_k) \quad \forall k \in [K] \end{aligned}$$

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General Model Under SLDR (Approximated)

$$Z_{SLDR} =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min_{\boldsymbol{x}, \{\boldsymbol{r}^{0,k}, \boldsymbol{R}^k\}_{k=1}^K} \quad \boldsymbol{c}^{0'} \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} + \sup_{\boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \hat{\mathcal{V}}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{R}^k \boldsymbol{\zeta} \right) \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \boldsymbol{c}^{l'} \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} + \sup_{\boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \hat{\mathcal{V}}} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{R}^k \boldsymbol{\zeta} \right) \leq b_l \quad \forall l \in [M] \\
 & \boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}}^0 \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{U}^k \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} = \boldsymbol{\nu}^0 \\
 & \boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}}^j \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{U}^k \boldsymbol{R}^k \boldsymbol{e}^j = \boldsymbol{\nu}^j \quad \forall j \in [N_E] \\
 & \underline{\boldsymbol{y}}^k \leq \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} + \boldsymbol{R}^k \boldsymbol{\zeta} \leq \bar{\boldsymbol{y}}^k \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \mathcal{V} \quad \forall k \in [K] \\
 & \boldsymbol{R}^k \boldsymbol{e}^j = \mathbf{0} \quad \forall j \notin \Phi_k, \forall k \in [K] \\
 & \boldsymbol{x} \geq \mathbf{0}
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Properties of SLDR

Theorem

For the general problem, $Z_{SLDR} \leq Z_{LDR}$

- Increases the size of the problem (and computational effort needed), but retains the linear structure.
- Can we do better?

$$Z_{GEN}^* \leq ??? \leq Z_{SLDR} \leq Z_{LDR}$$

- Will base further improvement on the SLDR.

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$$\text{Robust Bounds on } \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathcal{F}} E_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\left(r^0 + r' \tilde{\xi} \right)^+ \right)$$

- We will need this later for the BDLDLDR
- Different pairs of distributional properties lead to different upper bounds.
 - Mean + Support
 - Mean + Covariance
 - Mean + Directional Deviations
- Innermost argument: Scalar-valued SLDR

(Mean + Support) & (Mean + Covariance)

- To bound $\sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\left(r^0 + \mathbf{r}' \tilde{\zeta} \right)^+ \right)$
- \mathbb{F} characterized by $\hat{\mathcal{V}}$ and \mathcal{V} (Mean, Support)

$$\pi^1(r^0, \mathbf{r}) \triangleq \inf_{\mathbf{s} \in \Re^{N_E}} \left(\sup_{\hat{\zeta} \in \hat{\mathcal{V}}} \left\{ \mathbf{s}' \hat{\zeta} \right\} + \sup_{\zeta \in \mathcal{V}} \left(\max \left\{ r^0 + \mathbf{r}' \zeta - \mathbf{s}' \zeta, -\mathbf{s}' \zeta \right\} \right) \right)$$

- \mathbb{F} characterized by $\hat{\mathcal{V}}$ and Σ (Mean, Covariance)

$$\pi^2(r^0, \mathbf{r}) \triangleq \inf_{\mathbf{y} \in \{ \mathbf{y} : \mathbf{F}' \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{r} \}} \left\{ \sup_{\hat{\zeta} \in \hat{\mathcal{V}}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left(r^0 + \mathbf{r}' \hat{\zeta} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{(r^0 + \mathbf{r}' \hat{\zeta})^2 + \mathbf{y}' \Sigma \mathbf{y}} \right\} \right\}$$

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Mean + Directional Deviation

- \mathbb{F} characterized by $\hat{\mathcal{V}}$ and $(\mathbf{H}_\sigma, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_f, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_b)$ (Mean, Directional Deviations)

$$\pi^3(r^0, \mathbf{r}) \triangleq \inf_{\substack{s^0, \mathbf{s}, x^0, \mathbf{x} \\ x^0 + \mathbf{x}' \mathbf{g}_\sigma = r^0 \\ \mathbf{F}'_\sigma \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{r}}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (r^0 - s^0 - \mathbf{s}' \mathbf{g}_\sigma) + \sup_{\hat{\zeta} \in \hat{\mathcal{V}}} (\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{s}' \mathbf{F}_\sigma) \hat{\zeta} \\ + \psi(s^0 - x^0, \mathbf{s} - \mathbf{x}) + \psi(s^0, \mathbf{s}) \end{array} \right.$$

- Where $\psi(x^0, \mathbf{x}) = \inf_{\lambda > 0} \left\{ \frac{\lambda}{e} \exp \left(\frac{1}{\lambda} \sup_{\hat{\mathbf{z}}_\sigma \in \hat{\mathcal{W}}_\sigma} \{x^0 + \mathbf{x}' \hat{\mathbf{z}}_\sigma\} + \frac{\|\mathbf{u}\|_2^2}{2\lambda^2} \right) \right\}$

$$\begin{aligned} u_j &= \max \{x_j \sigma_{f,j}, -x_j \sigma_{b,j}\} \\ \mathbf{F}_\sigma &= \mathbf{H}_\sigma \mathbf{F} \\ \mathbf{g}_\sigma &= \mathbf{H}_\sigma \mathbf{g} \end{aligned}$$

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- \mathbb{F} characterized by all of these properties

- Use infimal convolution to combine bounds
- Resulting bound is better than individual bounds
- But not tight

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(r^0, \mathbf{r}) = \min & \quad \pi^1(r^{0,1}, \mathbf{r}^1) + \pi^2(r^{0,2}, \mathbf{r}^2) + \pi^3(r^{0,3}, \mathbf{r}^3) \\ \text{s.t.} & \quad r^0 = r^{0,1} + r^{0,2} + r^{0,3} \\ & \quad \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}^1 + \mathbf{r}^2 + \mathbf{r}^3\end{aligned}$$

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Review of Deflected LDR (DLDR)

- Originally introduced by Chen, Sim, Sun, and Zhang (2008) to circumvent restrictiveness imposed by the LDR.
 - The structure of the set of constraints might allow some piecewise-linear decision rules to be used instead.
 - Apply bounds on expected positive part of an LDR to exploit piecewise-linearity.
- Bi-deflected LDR seeks to improve and extend the DLDR.
 - Improve: Reduce the objective even further.
 - Extend: Explore modeling scenarios (non-anticipativity, expectations in constraints) which the DLDR didn't handle.

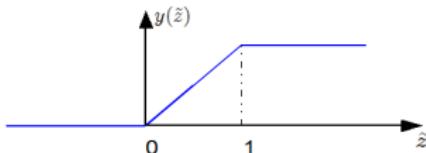
Motivating Example

- Scalar uncertainty \tilde{z} with unknown distribution \mathbb{P} in a family \mathbb{F} .
- \mathbb{F} defined by infinite support, zero mean, and unit variance. Consider the following problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{y(\cdot)} \quad & \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}} (|y(\tilde{z}) - \tilde{z}|) \\ & 0 \leq y(\tilde{z}) \leq 1 \\ & y \in \mathcal{Y}(1, 1, \{1\}) \end{aligned}$$

- Solution is pretty straightforward: piecewise-linear recourse function:

$$y_{sol}(\tilde{z}) = \begin{cases} \tilde{z} & \text{if } 0 \leq \tilde{z} \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } \tilde{z} \leq 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } \tilde{z} \geq 1 \end{cases}$$



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Example Reformulated into DRO Framework

- Apply the identities $x = x^+ - x^-$, $|x| = x^+ + x^-$.
- Model reformulates into DRO framework:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{y(\cdot)} \quad & \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathcal{F}} E_{\mathbb{P}} (|y(\tilde{z}) - \tilde{z}|) \\ & 0 \leq y(\tilde{z}) \leq 1 \\ & y \in \mathcal{Y}(1, 1, \{1\}) \\ & \Updownarrow \\ \min_{y(\cdot), u(\cdot), v(\cdot)} \quad & \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathcal{F}} E_{\mathbb{P}} (u(\tilde{z}) + v(\tilde{z})) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & u(\tilde{z}) - v(\tilde{z}) = y(\tilde{z}) - \tilde{z} \\ & 0 \leq y(\tilde{z}) \leq 1 \\ & u(\tilde{z}), v(\tilde{z}) \geq 0 \\ & y, u, v \in \mathcal{Y}(1, 1, \{1\}) \end{aligned}$$

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Using Different Decision Rules

- Using LDR, problem is infeasible, objective = $+\infty$.
- Using DLDR (of Chen et. al. 2008), we get the piecewise-linear decision rule:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{u}_D(z) &= (u^0 + uz)^+ + (v^0 + vz)^- \\ \hat{v}_D(z) &= (v^0 + vz)^+ + (u^0 + uz)^- \\ y(z) &= y^0 + yz\end{aligned}$$

- After applying bounds, becomes an SOCP

$$\begin{aligned}Z_{DLDR} &= \min_{u^0, u, v^0, v} \left\| \begin{pmatrix} u^0 \\ u \end{pmatrix} \right\|_2 + \left\| \begin{pmatrix} v^0 \\ v \end{pmatrix} \right\|_2 \\ \text{s.t. } & u - v = -1 \\ & 0 \leq u^0 - v^0 \leq 1\end{aligned}$$

- Objective = 1.

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Different Decision Rules (II)

- Consider this hypothetical decision rule, which satisfies the model constraints:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{u}(z) &= (u^0 + uz)^+ + (v^0 + vz)^- + (y^0 + yz)^- \\ \hat{v}(z) &= (v^0 + vz)^+ + (u^0 + uz)^- + (y^0 - 1 + yz)^+ \\ \hat{y}(z) &= (y^0 + yz)^+ - (y^0 - 1 + yz)^+\end{aligned}$$

- Applying robust bounds, problem transforms into the SOCP:

$$\begin{array}{ll}\min_{y^0, y, u^0, u, v^0, v} & \left\| \begin{pmatrix} u^0 \\ u \end{pmatrix} \right\|_2 + \left\| \begin{pmatrix} v^0 \\ v \end{pmatrix} \right\|_2 + \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{pmatrix} y^0 \\ y \end{pmatrix} \right\|_2 + \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{pmatrix} y^0 - 1 \\ y \end{pmatrix} \right\|_2 - \frac{1}{2} \\ \text{s.t.} & u^0 - v^0 = y^0 \\ & u - v = y - 1\end{array}$$

- Objective = 0.707 (better!)
- Aim to find algorithm to automatically predict this decision rule

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Two-stage Bi-deflected LDR Problem Setup

- Consider a simpler two-stage model first:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{r}(\cdot)} \quad & \boldsymbol{c}' \boldsymbol{x} + \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\boldsymbol{d}' \boldsymbol{r}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \right) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \boldsymbol{T}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \boldsymbol{x} + \boldsymbol{U} \boldsymbol{r}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) = \boldsymbol{\nu}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \\ & \underline{\boldsymbol{y}} \leq \boldsymbol{r}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \leq \bar{\boldsymbol{y}} \\ & \boldsymbol{r} \in \mathcal{L}(m, N_E, [N_E]) \end{aligned}$$

- Define the index sets of non-infinite bounds:

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{J} &= \left\{ i \in [m] : \underline{y}_i > -\infty \right\} \\ \bar{J} &= \left\{ i \in [m] : \bar{y}_i < +\infty \right\} \end{aligned}$$

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Two-stage BDLD Sub-problems

- We solve a series of sub-problems:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min_{\boldsymbol{p}} & d' \boldsymbol{p} \\ \text{s.t.} & \boldsymbol{U} \boldsymbol{p} = \mathbf{0} \\ & p_i = 1 \\ & p_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in \underline{J} \\ & p_j \leq 0 \quad \forall j \in \overline{J} \setminus \{i\} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} \min_{\boldsymbol{q}} & d' \boldsymbol{q} \\ \text{s.t.} & \boldsymbol{U} \boldsymbol{q} = \mathbf{0} \\ & q_i = -1 \\ & q_j \leq 0 \quad \forall j \in \overline{J} \\ & q_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in \underline{J} \setminus \{i\} \end{array}$$

Feasible $i \in \underline{J}^\circ$

Feasible $i \in \overline{J}^\circ$

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Two-stage BDLDR

- Consider an LDR which satisfies the relaxed constraints:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T}(\tilde{\zeta})\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{U}\mathbf{r}(\tilde{\zeta}) &= \boldsymbol{\nu}(\tilde{\zeta}) \\ r_j(\tilde{\zeta}) &\geq \underline{y}_j & \forall j \in \underline{J} \setminus \underline{J}^\circ \\ r_j(\tilde{\zeta}) &\leq \bar{y}_j & \forall j \in \bar{J} \setminus \bar{J}^\circ\end{aligned}$$

- The two-stage BDLDR is defined as:

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}}(\tilde{\zeta}) \triangleq \underbrace{\mathbf{r}(\tilde{\zeta})}_{\text{Linear Part}} + \sum_{i \in \underline{J}^\circ} \left(r_i(\tilde{\zeta}) - \underline{y}_i \right)^- \underbrace{\bar{\mathbf{p}}^i}_{\substack{\text{Optimal solution of the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ sub-problem} \\ (\text{Deflected Part})}} + \sum_{i \in \bar{J}^\circ} \left(r_i(\tilde{\zeta}) - \bar{y}_i \right)^+ \underbrace{\bar{\mathbf{q}}^i}_{}$$

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Two-stage BDLDR Properties

Theorem

The Bi-Deflected Linear Decision Rule, $\hat{r}(\tilde{\zeta})$, satisfies the following properties

1. $\mathbf{U}\hat{r}(\tilde{\zeta}) = \mathbf{U}r(\tilde{\zeta})$
2. $\underline{y} \leq \hat{r}(\tilde{\zeta}) \leq \bar{y}$

- For Reference:

$$\hat{r}(\tilde{\zeta}) \triangleq \underbrace{r(\tilde{\zeta})}_{\text{Linear Part}} + \sum_{i \in \underline{J}^\circ} \left(r_i(\tilde{\zeta}) - \underline{y}_i \right)^- \underbrace{\bar{p}^i}_{\text{Optimal solution of the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ sub-problem (Deflected Part)}} + \sum_{i \in \overline{J}^\circ} \left(r_i(\tilde{\zeta}) - \bar{y}_i \right)^+ \underbrace{\bar{q}^i}_{}$$

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BDLDR Approximation of Two-stage Problem

- Using the BDLDR, the problem becomes:

$$Z_{BDLDR} =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{r}(\cdot)} \quad & \boldsymbol{c}' \boldsymbol{x} + \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} E_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\boldsymbol{d}' \boldsymbol{r}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \right) \\ & + \sum_{i \in \underline{J}_R^{\circ}} \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} E_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\left(r_i(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) - \underline{y}_i \right)^- \right) \boldsymbol{d}' \bar{\boldsymbol{p}}^i \\ & + \sum_{i \in \overline{J}_R^{\circ}} \sup_{\mathbb{P} \in \mathbb{F}} E_{\mathbb{P}} \left(\left(r_i(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) - \bar{y}_i \right)^+ \right) \boldsymbol{d}' \bar{\boldsymbol{q}}^i \end{aligned}$$

s.t.

$$\boldsymbol{T}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \boldsymbol{x} + \boldsymbol{U} \boldsymbol{r}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) = \boldsymbol{\nu}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}})$$

$$r_j(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \geq \underline{y}_j \quad \forall j \in \underline{J} \setminus \underline{J}^{\circ}$$

$$r_j(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \leq \bar{y}_j \quad \forall j \in \overline{J} \setminus \overline{J}^{\circ}$$

$$\boldsymbol{r} \in \mathcal{L}(m, N_E, [N_E])$$

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Performance of Two-stage BDLDR

Theorem

For the two-stage problem, $Z_{BDLDR} \leq Z_{DLDR} \leq Z_{LDR}$.

- Proof is a bit tedious, but the basic idea is that the BDLDR includes the DLDR as a special case, and hence is more flexible and therefore yields a lower objective.
- Next, to generalize the BDLDR for use together with non-anticipativity requirements and expectation constraints.

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BDLDR for General Model

- Define the following sets $\forall k \in [K]$:

$$\begin{aligned} N^+(k) &= \{j \in [K] : \Phi_k \subseteq \Phi_j\} \\ N^-(k) &= \{j \in [K] : \Phi_j \subseteq \Phi_k\} \end{aligned}$$

- Similarly, we have two sub-problems:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\forall k \in [K], \forall i \in \underline{J}_k}{\sum_{j \in N^+(k)} \mathbf{U}^j \mathbf{p}^{i,k,j}} &= \mathbf{0} \\ p_l^{i,k,j} &\geq 0 \quad \forall l \in \underline{J}_j \quad \forall j \in N^+(k) \\ p_l^{i,k,j} &\leq 0 \quad \forall l \in \overline{J}_j \quad \forall j \in N^+(k) \setminus \{k\} \\ p_l^{i,k,k} &\leq 0 \quad \forall l \in \overline{J}_k \setminus \{i\} \\ p_i^{i,k,k} &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\forall k \in [K], \forall i \in \overline{J}_k}{\sum_{j \in N^+(k)} \mathbf{U}^j \mathbf{q}^{i,k,j}} &= \mathbf{0} \\ q_l^{i,k,j} &\leq 0 \quad \forall l \in \overline{J}_j \quad \forall j \in N^+(k) \\ q_l^{i,k,j} &\geq 0 \quad \forall l \in \underline{J}_j \quad \forall j \in N^+(k) \setminus \{k\} \\ q_l^{i,k,k} &\geq 0 \quad \forall l \in \underline{J}_k \setminus \{i\} \\ q_i^{i,k,k} &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

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Constructing the BDLDLR

- Consider an LDR which satisfies the relaxed constraints

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T}(\tilde{\zeta})\mathbf{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{U}^k \mathbf{r}^k(\tilde{\zeta}) &= \boldsymbol{\nu}(\tilde{\zeta}) \\ r_j^k(\tilde{\zeta}) &\geq \underline{y}_j^k & \forall k \in [K], \forall j \in \underline{J}_k \setminus \underline{J}_k^\circ \\ r_j^k(\tilde{\zeta}) &\leq \bar{y}_j^k & \forall k \in [K], \forall j \in \bar{J}_k \setminus \bar{J}_k^\circ \\ \mathbf{r}^k &\in \mathcal{L}(m_k, N_E, \Phi_k) & \forall k \in [K] \end{aligned}$$

- The non-anticipative BDLDLR is defined as:

$$\hat{r}^k(\tilde{\zeta}) \triangleq \underbrace{\mathbf{r}^k(\tilde{\zeta})}_{\text{Linear Part}} + \sum_{j \in N^-(k)} \left(\sum_{i \in \underline{J}_j^\circ} (r_i^j(\tilde{\zeta}) - \underline{y}_i^j)^- \underbrace{\mathbf{p}^{i,j,k}}_{\substack{\text{Optimal solution of } i^{\text{th}} \text{ sub-problem} \\ (\text{Deflected Part})}} + \sum_{i \in \bar{J}_j^\circ} (r_i^j(\tilde{\zeta}) - \bar{y}_i^j)^+ \underbrace{\mathbf{q}^{i,j,k}}_{\substack{\text{Optimal solution of } i^{\text{th}} \text{ sub-problem} \\ (\text{Deflected Part})}} \right)$$

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BDLDR Properties

Theorem

Each non-anticipative BDLDR, $\hat{\mathbf{r}}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}})$ satisfies the following properties:

1. $\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{U}^k \hat{\mathbf{r}}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) = \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{U}^k \mathbf{r}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}})$
2. $\underline{\mathbf{y}}^k \leq \hat{\mathbf{r}}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \leq \bar{\mathbf{y}}^k, \quad \forall k \in [K]$

- For reference:

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) \triangleq \underbrace{\mathbf{r}^k(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}})}_{\text{Linear Part}} + \sum_{j \in N^-(k)} \left(\sum_{i \in \underline{J}_j^\circ} \left(r_i^j(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) - \underline{y}_i^j \right)^- \underbrace{\mathbf{p}^{i,j,k}}_{\substack{\text{Optimal solution of } i^{th} \text{ sub-problem} \\ (\text{Deflected Part})}} + \sum_{i \in \overline{J}_j^\circ} \left(r_i^j(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}) - \bar{y}_i^j \right)^+ \underbrace{\mathbf{q}^{i,j,k}}_{\substack{\text{Optimal solution of } i^{th} \text{ sub-problem} \\ (\text{Deflected Part})}} \right)$$

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Explicit BDLDR Applied to General Problem

$$\begin{aligned}
 & Z_{BDLDR} \\
 = & \min_{\boldsymbol{x}, \{\boldsymbol{r}^{0,k}, \boldsymbol{R}^k\}_{k=1}^K} \boldsymbol{c}^{0'} \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} + \sup_{\hat{\zeta} \in \hat{\mathcal{V}}} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{R}^k \hat{\zeta} \right\} \\
 & + \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j \in N^-(k)} \sum_{i \in \underline{J}_{0,j,k}^\circ} \pi \left(-r_i^{0,j} + \underline{y}_i^j, -\boldsymbol{R}^{j'} \boldsymbol{e}^i \right) \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{p}^{i,j,k} \\
 & + \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j \in N^-(k)} \sum_{i \in \overline{J}_{0,j,k}^\circ} \pi \left(r_i^{0,j} - \overline{y}_i^j, \boldsymbol{R}^{j'} \boldsymbol{e}^i \right) \boldsymbol{d}^{0,k'} \boldsymbol{q}^{i,j,k} \\
 \text{s.t. } & \boldsymbol{c}^l' \boldsymbol{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{r}^{0,k} + \sup_{\hat{\zeta} \in \hat{\mathcal{V}}} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^K \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{R}^k \hat{\zeta} \right\} \\
 & + \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j \in N^-(k)} \sum_{i \in \underline{J}_{l,j,k}^\circ} \pi \left(-r_i^{0,j} + \underline{y}_i^j, -\boldsymbol{R}^{j'} \boldsymbol{e}^i \right) \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{p}^{i,j,k} \\
 & + \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j \in N^-(k)} \sum_{i \in \overline{J}_{l,j,k}^\circ} \pi \left(r_i^{0,j} - \overline{y}_i^j, \boldsymbol{R}^{j'} \boldsymbol{e}^i \right) \boldsymbol{d}^{l,k'} \boldsymbol{q}^{i,j,k} \leq b_l \quad \forall l \in [M]
 \end{aligned}$$

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Explicit BDLDLDR Applied to General Problem (cont.)

s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{T}^0 \mathbf{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{U}^k \mathbf{r}^{0,k} = \boldsymbol{\nu}^0 \\ & \mathcal{T}^j \mathbf{x} + \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{U}^k \mathbf{R}^k \mathbf{e}^j = \boldsymbol{\nu}^j \quad \forall k \in [K], \forall j \in [N_E] \\ & r_j^{0,k} + \mathbf{e}^{j'} \mathbf{R}^k \boldsymbol{\zeta} \geq \underline{y}_j^k \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \mathcal{V} \quad \forall k \in [K], j \in \underline{J}_k \setminus \underline{J}_k^\circ \\ & r_j^{0,k} + \mathbf{e}^{j'} \mathbf{R}^k \boldsymbol{\zeta} \leq \overline{y}_j^k \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\zeta} \in \mathcal{V} \quad \forall k \in [K], j \in \overline{J}_k \setminus \overline{J}_k^\circ \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

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BDLDR Performance

Theorem

For the general problem, we have

$$Z_{GEN}^* \leq Z_{BDLDR} \leq Z_{SLDR} \leq Z_{LDR}$$

- The k^{th} BDLDR sums over $j \in N^-(k)$,
 - These are the indices which are **contained by** the current (k^{th}) information index set,
 - BDLDR does not violate non-anticipative of the LDR which it is based upon.

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Summary

- Presented a framework for using different decision rules for Distributionally Robust Optimization.
- LDRs: Tractable approximation
 - Poor performance
- SLDRs: Improves performance
 - Retains linear structure
- BDLDRs: Improves performance beyond SLDR
 - Requires robust bounds
 - Problem becomes complex

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- ROME: Robust Optimization Made Easy
- Solves problems within our DRO framework
- Comprehensive modeling examples