

On the computation of the nondominated set by scalarizations with adaptive parameter selection

Kerstin Dächert

joint work with Kathrin Klamroth (University of Wuppertal, Germany)

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Host institute: Université Paris-Dauphine - LAMSADE

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JFRO Université Paris VI

Outline

1. Introduction

- ▶ Notation and definitions
- ▶ Scalarizations
- ▶ Parametric algorithm
- ▶ Bicriteria case, relevant literature

2. Systematic, redundancy-free decomposition of the search region

- ▶ Generic decomposition, redundancy
- ▶ Split criterion to avoid redundancy
- ▶ Linear worst-case bound in the tricriteria case

3. Numerical study

4. Conclusion

Notation

- ▶ Multicriteria optimization problem:

$$\min_{x \in X} [f_1(x), \dots, f_m(x)]^\top$$

with $f_i : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, i = 1, \dots, m$ objectives
 $m \in \mathbb{N}, m \geq 2$ number of objectives
 $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ feasible set

- ▶ Formulation in the image space $Z := f(X)$:

$$\min_{z \in Z} [z_1, \dots, z_m]^\top$$

- ▶ In this talk Z discrete, finite

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Concepts of optimality

Definition (Efficiency, Nondominance)

$\bar{x} \in X$ efficient (Pareto-optimal), $f(\bar{x})$ nondominated

$:\Leftrightarrow \nexists x \in X : f(x) \leq f(\bar{x})$, i.e. $f_i(x) \leq f_i(\bar{x})$ for all $i = 1, \dots, m$ and
 $f_j(x) < f_j(\bar{x})$ for at least one $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$

Geometrically:

$$\left(\{f(\bar{x})\} - \mathbb{R}_{\leq}^m \right) \cap Z = \{f(\bar{x})\}$$

with

$$\mathbb{R}_{\leq}^m := \{z \in \mathbb{R}^m : z_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, m\}$$

Z_N set of nondominated points, X_E set of efficient solutions

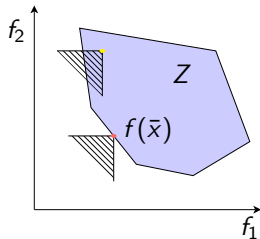
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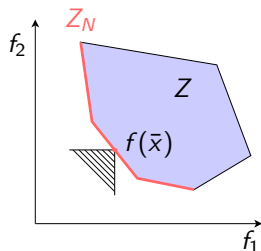
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Concepts of optimality (cont.)

Definition (Weak efficiency, weak nondominance)

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Geometrically:

$$(\{f(\bar{x})\} - \mathbb{R}_{>}^m) \cap Z = \emptyset$$

with

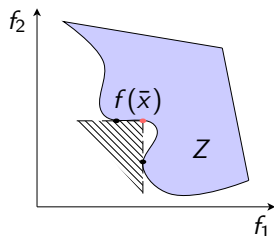
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Concepts of optimality (cont.)

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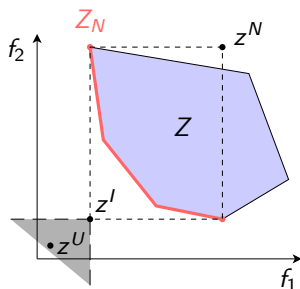
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Bounds on the nondominated set



- ▶ Ideal point $z^I \in \mathbb{R}^m$:

$$\begin{aligned} z_i^I &:= \min_{x \in X_E} f_i(x) \\ &= \min_{x \in X} f_i(x) \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, m \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Utopian point $z^U \in \mathbb{R}^m$:

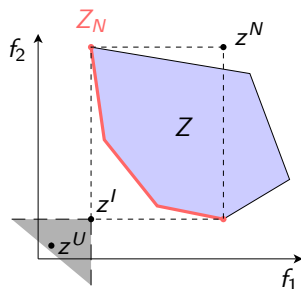
$$z^U \in (\{z^I\} - \mathbb{R}_{>}^m)$$

- ▶ Nadir point $z^N \in \mathbb{R}^m$:

$$z_i^N := \max_{x \in X_E} f_i(x) \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, m$$

(difficult to compute for $m \geq 3!$)

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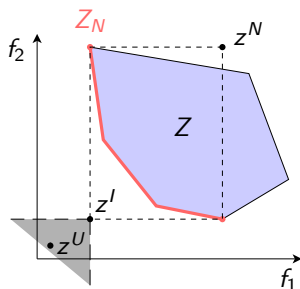
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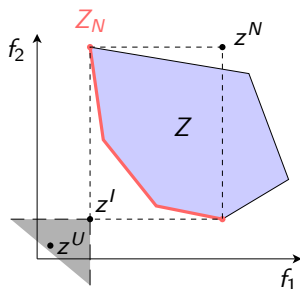
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Solution concepts

Scalarization

Convert vector-valued into scalar-valued problem

Classic scalarization methods:

1. Weighted Sum Method
2. ε -constraint method
3. Weighted Tchebycheff method

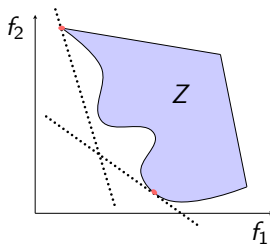
Weighted Sum Method

Formulation (Gass & Saaty, 1955):

$$\min_{x \in X} \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i f_i(x) \quad (\text{WS})$$

with

$$\lambda_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, m, \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i = 1$$



Properties:

- ▶ Every optimal solution of (WS) is weakly efficient, for $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_{>}^m$ efficient
- ▶ For every nondominated point $f(x) \in \partial \text{conv}(Z)$ exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq}^m$ such that x optimal solution of (WS)

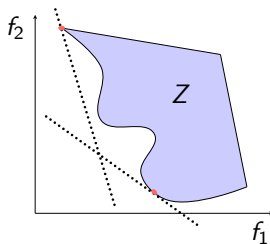
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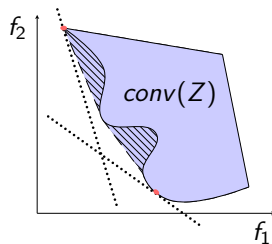
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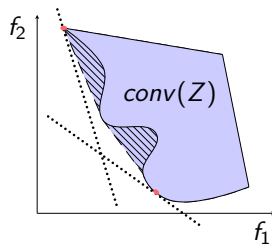
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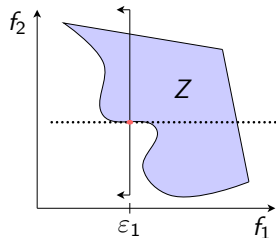
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ε -Constraint Method

Formulation (Haimes et al., 1971):

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & f_i(x) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & f_k(x) \leq \varepsilon_k \quad \forall k \neq i \\ & x \in X \end{aligned} \quad (\text{EC})$$

with $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ arbitrary



Properties:

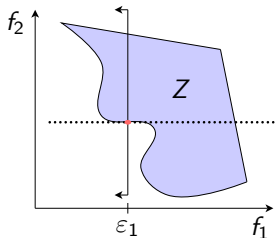
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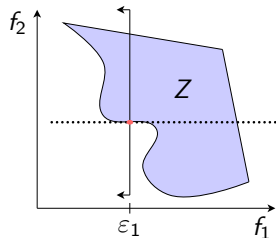
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Weighted Tchebycheff Method

Formulation (Bowman, 1976):

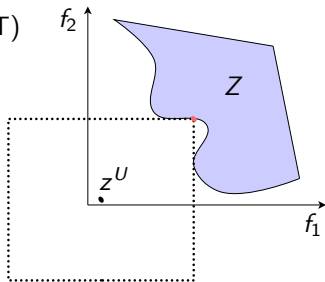
$$\min_{x \in X} \max_{i=1, \dots, m} \{w_i |f_i(x) - z_i^U|\} \quad (\text{WT})$$

with

$$w_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, m,$$

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z^U utopian point



Properties:

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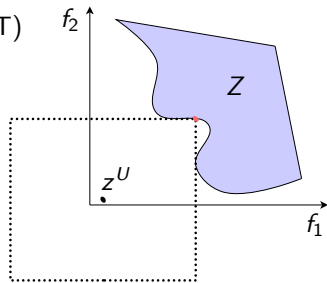
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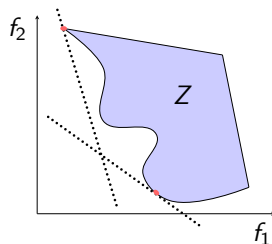


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Subproblem and Parametric Algorithm

- ▶ One scalarized problem yields (at most) one nondominated point
- ▶ Vary parameters in a systematic way in order to obtain Z_N (or a subset of it)



We use the following definitions:

Definition (Subproblem)

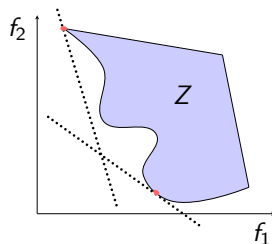
= Scalarized problem with a certain parameter choice

Definition (Parametric algorithm)

= Iterative solution of subproblems with different parameter choices

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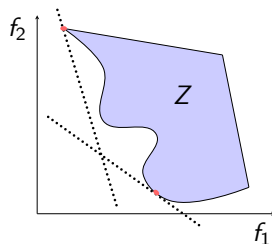
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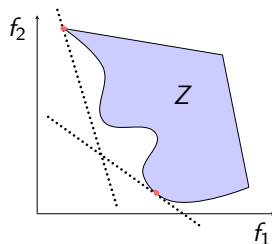
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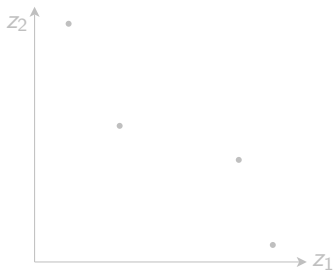
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Adaptive Parametric Algorithm

- ▶ determine parameters during parametric algorithm
- ▶ dependent on nondominated points that are already known

Parametric algorithm in the discrete, bicriteria case (well-known):

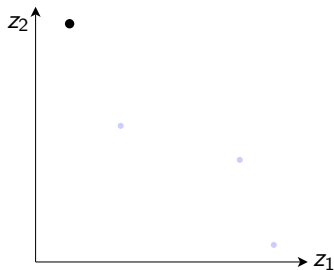


Example with four nondominated points

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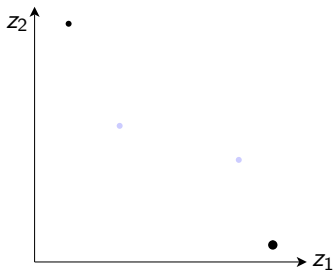


Compute lexicographic minima,
determine bounds

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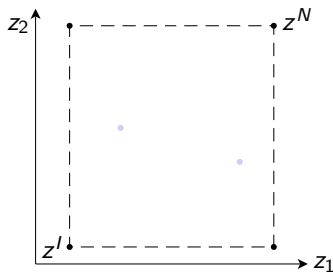


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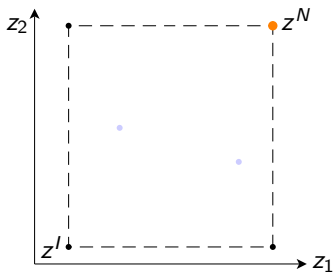


Initial search region

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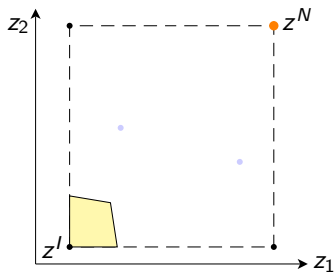


Select rectangle, given by its (local) upper bound

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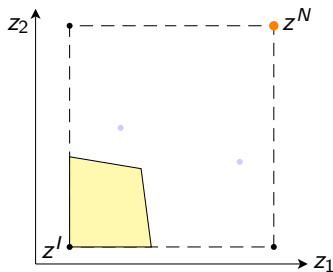


Solve subproblem
(e.g. augmented weighted Tchebycheff problem with z^I as reference point)

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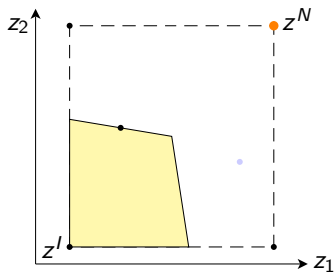
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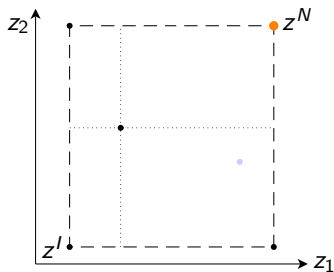


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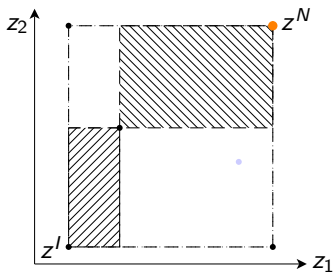


New found nondominated point

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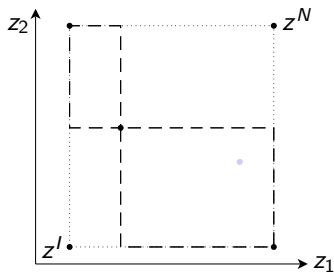


Exclude sets that cannot contain further nondominated points

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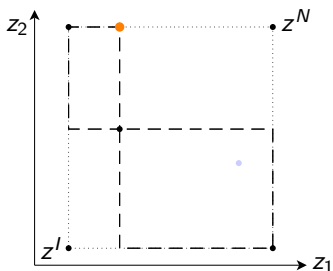


Reduce search region
(split former rectangle into two new rectangles)

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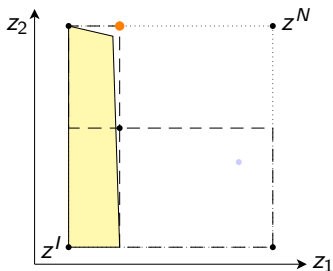


New iteration:
select rectangle

Adaptive Parametric Algorithm

- ▶ determine parameters during parametric algorithm
- ▶ dependent on nondominated points that are already known

Parametric algorithm in the discrete, bicriteria case (well-known):

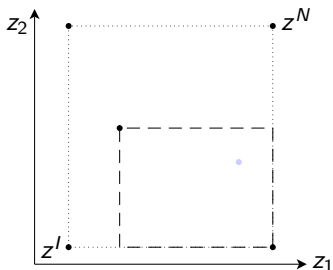


Solve subproblem
(no new nondominated point found)

Adaptive Parametric Algorithm

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Parametric algorithm in the discrete, bicriteria case (well-known):

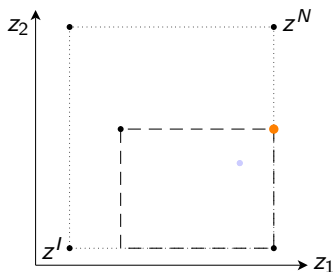


Reduce search region
(remove investigated subset)

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Parametric algorithm in the discrete, bicriteria case (well-known):

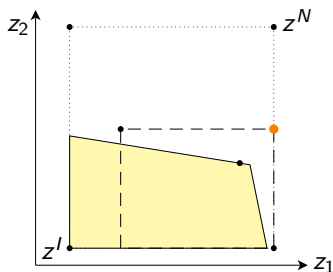


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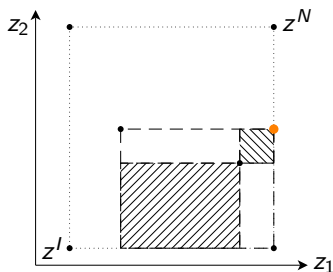


Solve subproblem

Adaptive Parametric Algorithm

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Parametric algorithm in the discrete, bicriteria case (well-known):

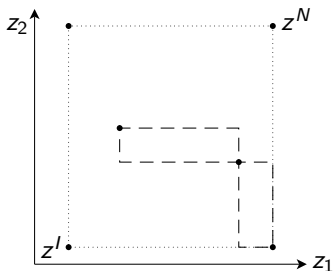


Decompose search region

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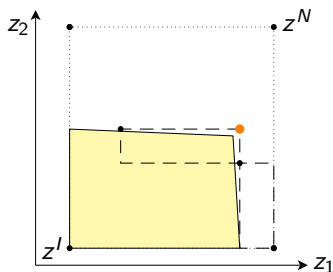


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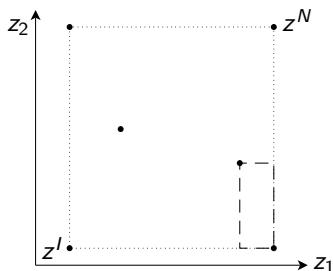


Select rectangle,
solve subproblem

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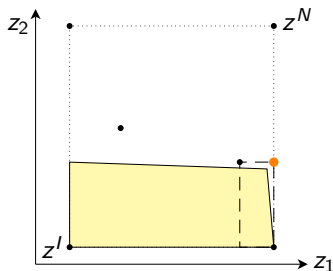


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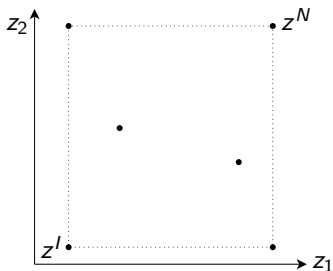


Select rectangle,
solve subproblem

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Parametric algorithm in the discrete, bicriteria case (well-known):

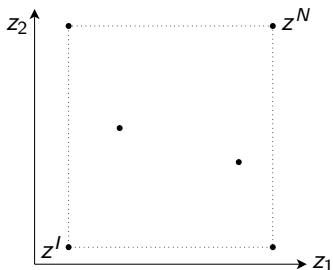


Reduce search region,
no rectangles left \Rightarrow done

Adaptive Parametric Algorithm

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Parametric algorithm in the discrete, bicriteria case (well-known):



Particular interest in the discrete case: How many subproblems do we have to solve?

$$N + (N - 1) = 2N - 1$$

(independent of scalarization!)

Literature

	Reference	Scalarization	Subproblems
$m = 2$	Aneja & Nair (1979) Chalmet et al. (1986) Ralphs et al. (2006)	WS EC WT/AWT	$2N - 1$

$m \geq 2$	Laumanns et al. (2006) Özlen & Azizoğlu (2009) Lokman & Köksalan (2013) Ozlen et al. (2014) Kirlık & Sayın (2014)	EC	$\mathcal{O}(N^{m-1})$
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Case $m = 3$

- ▶ Best known worst-case bound on number of subproblems: $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$
- ▶ All algorithms use ε -constraint method as scalarization
- ▶ Numerical studies in the literature suggest that less than $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$ subproblems are needed
- ▶ Open question: Linear worst-case bound?

Contribution:

New adaptive parametric algorithm

- ▶ $\mathcal{O}(N)$ subproblems for $m = 3$
- ▶ independent of particular scalarization

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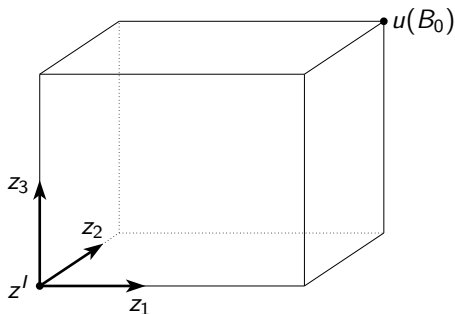
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Decomposition of search region for $m \geq 2$

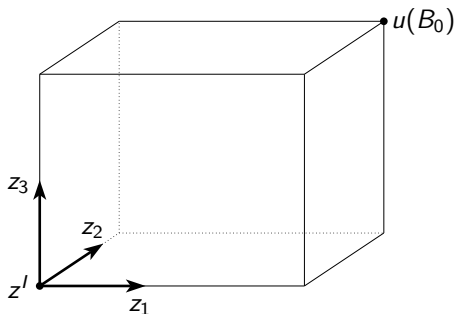


Initial search region (box)

$$B_0 := \{z \in \mathbb{R}^m : z^l \leq z < u\}$$

with $u_i := \max_{x \in X} \{f_i(x)\} + \delta$, $i = 1, \dots, m$, $\delta > 0$

Decomposition of search region for $m \geq 2$

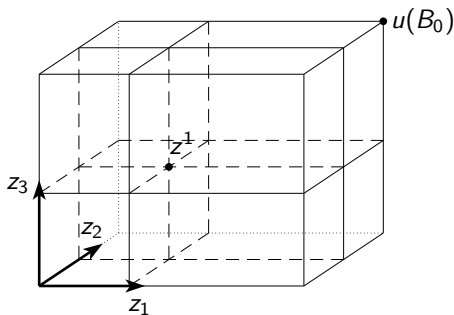


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↪ Note: Every box B characterized by $u(B)$

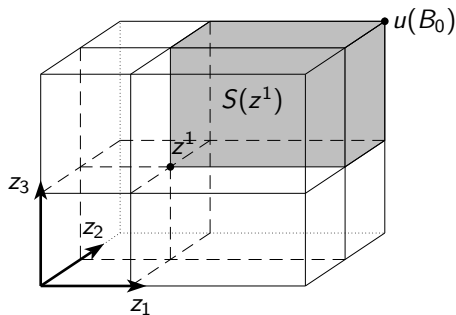
Decomposition of search region for $m \geq 2$



Solve subproblem in $B_0 \rightsquigarrow z^1 \in Z_N \cap B_0$

Insertion of z^1 into B_0

Decomposition of search region for $m \geq 2$

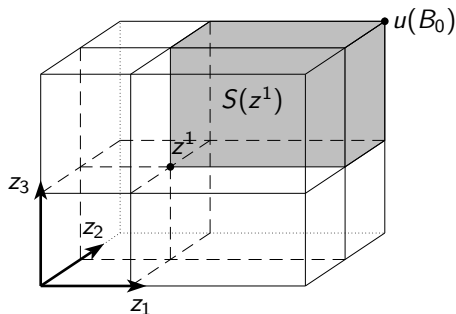


By definition of nondominance:

$$Z_N \cap S(z^1) = \{z^1\} \quad \text{with} \quad S(z^1) := \{z \in B_0 : z \geq z^1\}$$

\Rightarrow All $z \in Z_N \setminus \{z^1\}$ contained in $B_0 \setminus S(z^1)$

Decomposition of search region for $m \geq 2$

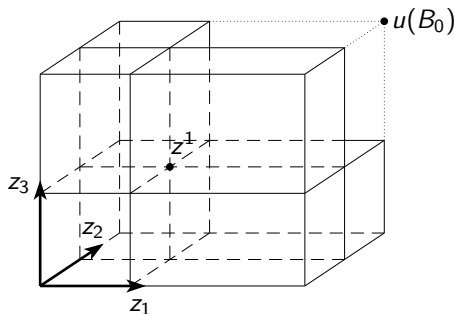


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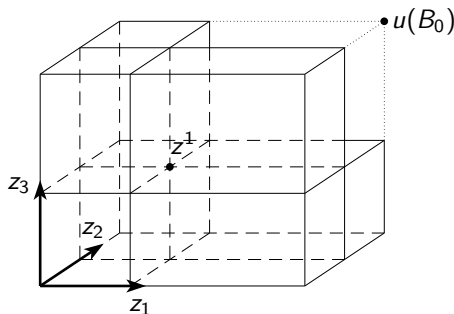


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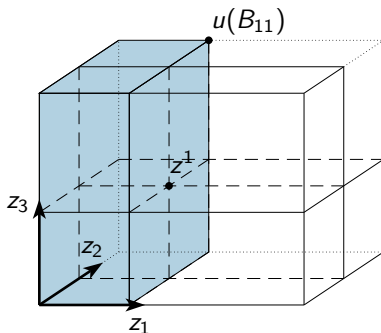


Representation of $B_0 \setminus S(z^1)$ by $\bigcup_{i=1}^m B_{1,i}$ with

$$B_{1,i} := \{z \in B_0 : z_i < z_i^1\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m,$$

i.e. $u_i(B_{1,i}) := z_i^1$, $u_j(B_{1,i}) := u_j(B_0) \quad \forall j \neq i$

Decomposition of search region for $m \geq 2$

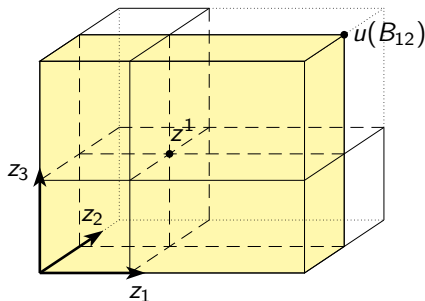


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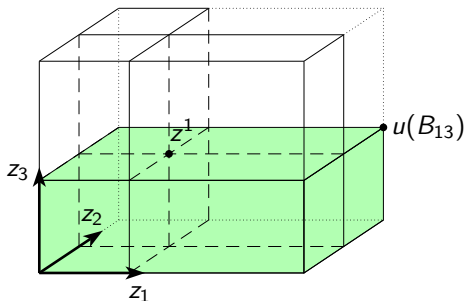


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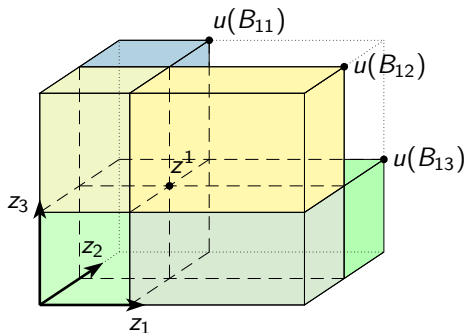


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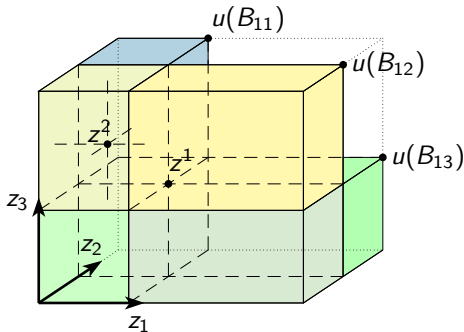
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Decomposition of search region for $m \geq 2$



\Rightarrow Decomposition of $B_0 \setminus S(z^1)$ into m (non-disjoint) subboxes
 (see Dhaenens et al. (2010), Przybylski et al. (2010))

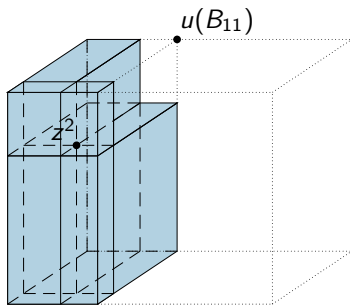
Redundancy for $m \geq 3$



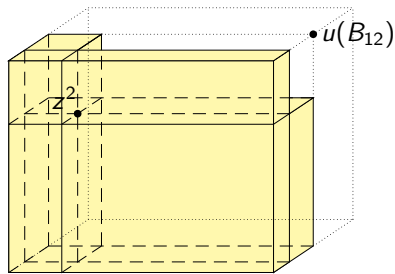
Let $z^2 \in (B_{11} \cap B_{12})$

\Rightarrow Split B_{11} and B_{12} into 3 new boxes, resp.

Redundancy for $m \geq 3$



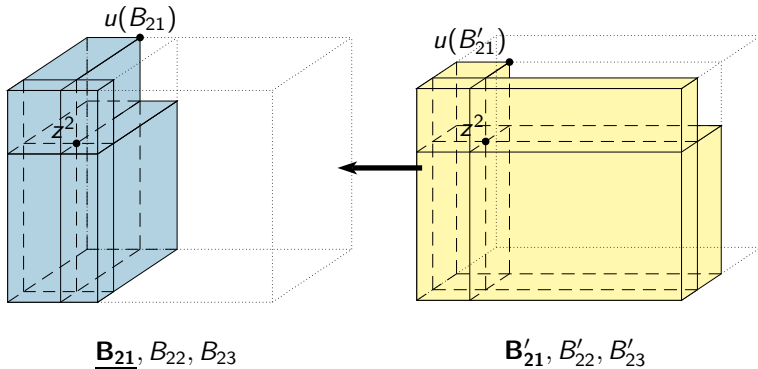
B_{21}, B_{22}, B_{23}



$B'_{21}, B'_{22}, B'_{23}$

Split of B_{11} and B_{12} wrt. z^2

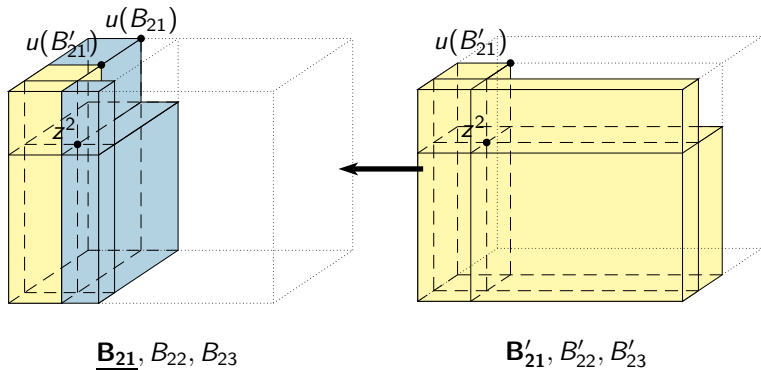
Redundancy for $m \geq 3$



Split wrt. $i = 1$:

$$B'_{21} \subseteq B_{21} \iff u(B'_{21}) \leq u(B_{21})$$

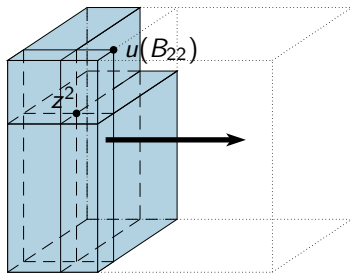
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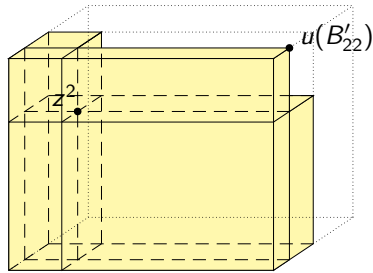
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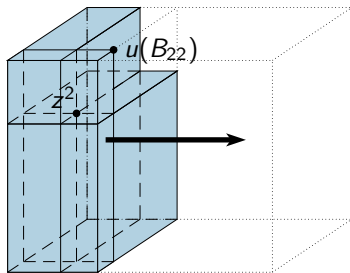


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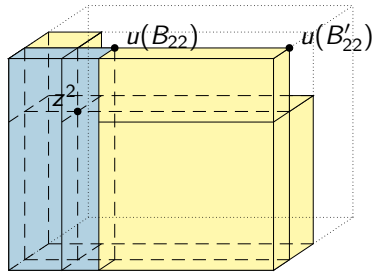
Split wrt. $i = 2$:

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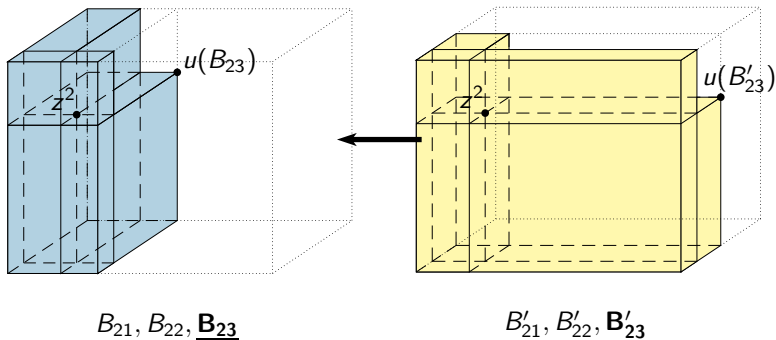


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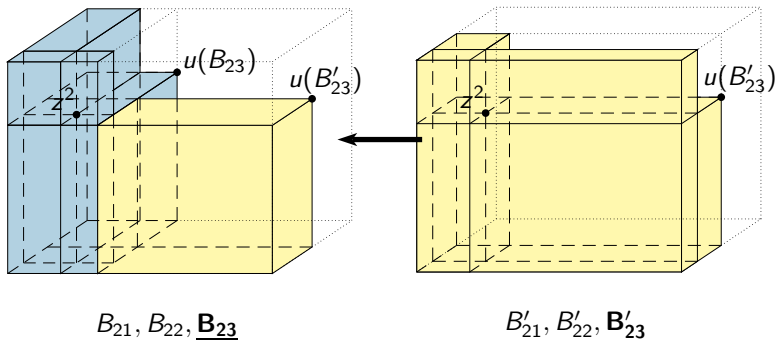
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Redundancy for $m \geq 3$



Split wrt. $i = 3$:
no redundancy

Redundancy for $m \geq 3$



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Redundancy

Generic split produces redundant boxes

- ▶ Example: already in 2nd iteration, two of the six new boxes redundant
- ▶ if redundant boxes are kept in decomposition
 - ▶ additional, unnecessary subproblems are solved
 - ▶ increases running time of algorithm

⇒ avoid redundant boxes

Identifying redundant boxes:

1. compare upper bounds $u(B)$ pairwise, remove redundant ones (Przybylski et al. (2010))
2. detect redundant boxes before their creation, i.e. only generate non-redundant boxes

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Individual subsets

Observation:

B non-redundant $\iff B$ contains non-empty subset which is not part of any other box of the decomposition

Definition (Individual subsets)

For every $\bar{B} \in \mathcal{B}_s$, the set

$$V(\bar{B}) := \bar{B} \setminus \left(\bigcup_{B \in \mathcal{B}_s \setminus \{\bar{B}\}} B \right)$$

is called individual subset of \bar{B} .

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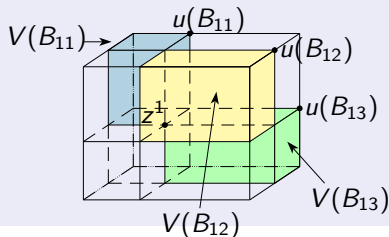
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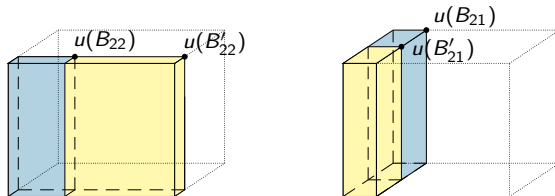
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Individual subsets

- ▶ Maintaining non-redundant boxes \iff maintaining boxes with non-empty individual subset



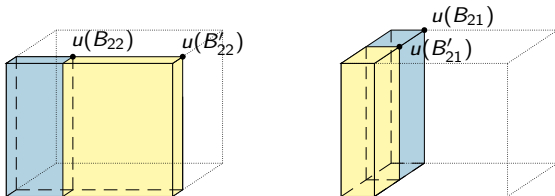
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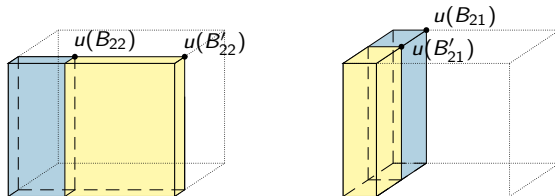
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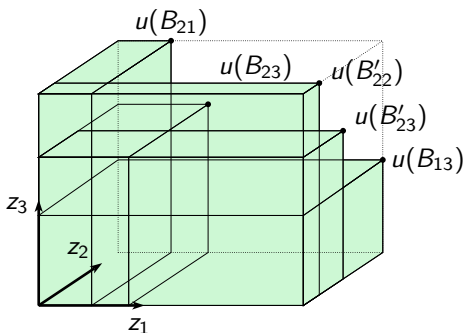
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Preliminary technical assumption

For all $z, \bar{z} \in Z_N, z \neq \bar{z}$, let $z_i \neq \bar{z}_i$ for all $i = 1, \dots, m$

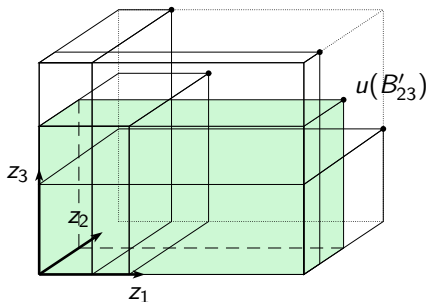
Representation of $V(B)$

- ▶ Individual subsets are determined by other boxes
- ▶ Idea: For each component exists exactly one box that limits $V(B)$



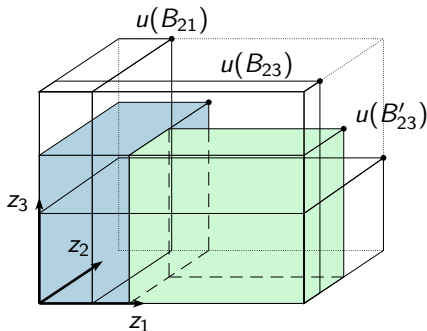
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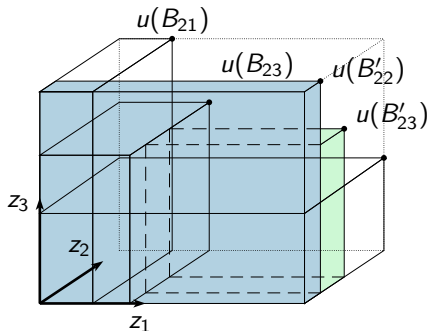
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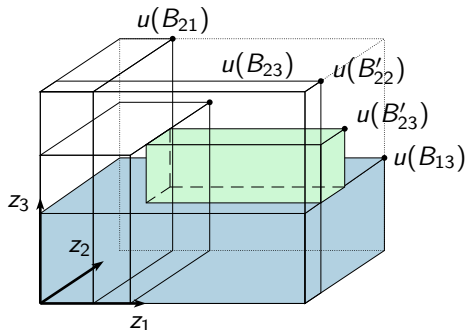
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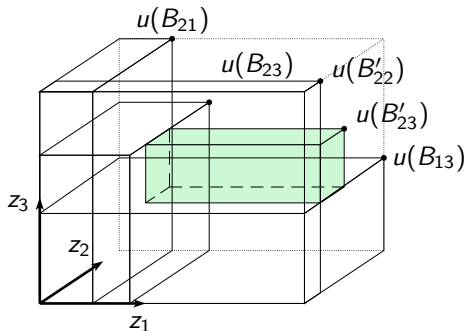
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Lemma (Existence of unique neighbor for $m = 3$)

For every $\bar{B} \in \mathcal{B}_s$ and for every $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ with $u_i(\bar{B}) > \min_{B \in \mathcal{B}_s} \{u_i(B)\}$ there exists a unique $\hat{B} \in \mathcal{B}_s$ such that

$$u_i(\hat{B}) < u_i(\bar{B})$$

$$u_j(\hat{B}) > u_j(\bar{B}) \quad \text{for some } j \neq i$$

$$u_k(\hat{B}) = u_k(\bar{B}) \quad \text{for } k \neq i, j$$

and $u_i(\hat{B})$ maximal with these properties.

Remark: This result can be generalized to higher dimensions.

Representation of $V(B)$ for $m = 3$

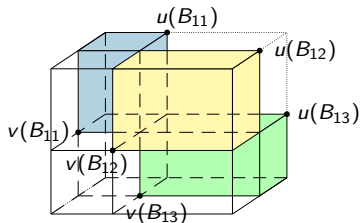
The individual subsets $V(B), B \in \mathcal{B}_s$, can be represented by

$$V(B) = \{z \in B : v(B) \leq z\}$$

with

$$v_i(B) := \begin{cases} u_i(B_i^s(B)), & \text{if } B_i^s(B) \neq \emptyset \\ z_i^l, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$$

and $B_i^s(B)$ denoting the neighbor of B wrt. i in iteration s



For example

$$v(B_{12}) = \begin{pmatrix} u_1(B_{11}) \\ z_2^l \\ u_3(B_{13}) \end{pmatrix}$$

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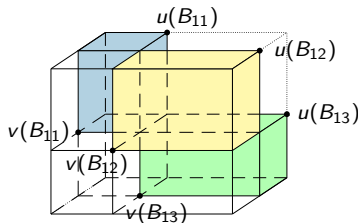
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The v -split-criterion to avoid redundancy

Recall:

Split box B wrt component $i \iff V(B_i) \neq \emptyset$

Lemma

Let $z^s \in B$, i.e. $z^s < u(B)$, and let B_i be the box obtained from B by a split wrt component $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$.

Then B_i is non-redundant $\iff z_i^s \geq v_i(B)$.

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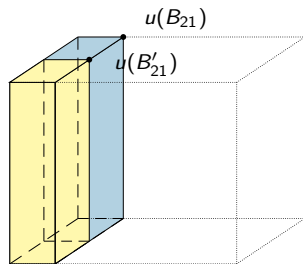
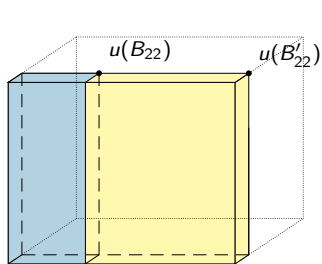
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Example revisited

Generic split: Two redundant boxes

- ▶ B_{22} (Split of B_{11} wrt. $i = 2$)
- ▶ B'_{21} (Split of B_{12} wrt. $i = 1$)

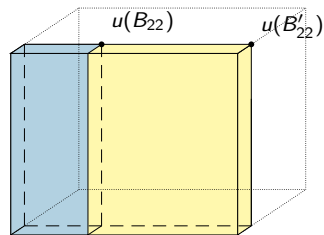
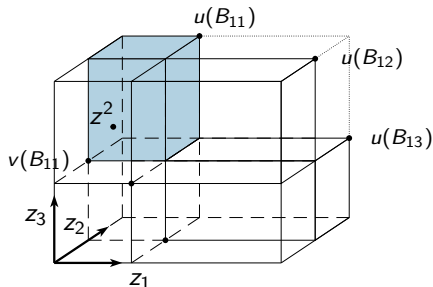


Example revisited

v -Split in B_{11} :

$$\begin{aligned} z_1^2 &> v_1(B_{11}) \quad \checkmark \\ z_2^2 &< v_2(B_{11}) \\ z_3^2 &> v_3(B_{11}) \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow Split B_{11} wrt. $i = 1$ and $i = 3$ (Redundant box B_{22} not generated!)

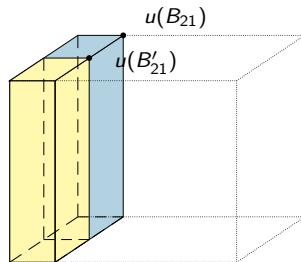
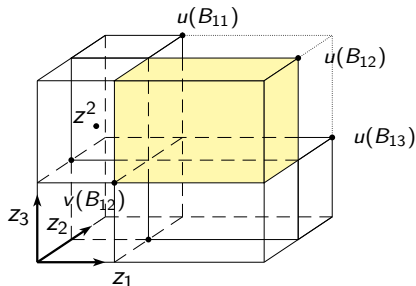


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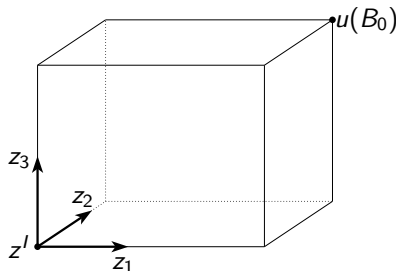
\Rightarrow Split B_{12} wrt. $i = 2$ and $i = 3$ (Redundant box B'_{21} not generated!)



Use v -split to derive worst-case linear bound

Observation from example:

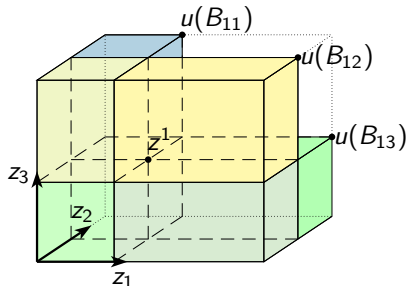
- ▶ Initialization: one box
- ▶ After 1st iteration: 3 boxes (+2)
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- ▶ ...?



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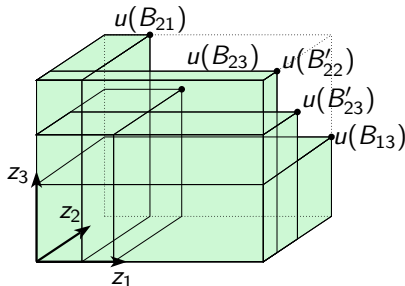
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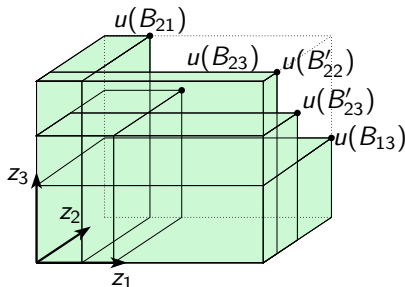
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Lemma

In every iteration $s \geq 1$ of the v -split algorithm, in which a new nondominated point z^s is found, the number of boxes in the decomposition increases by at most two.

Sketch of proof.

Case 1: one box is split \Rightarrow 3 boxes replace one ($-1 + 3 = 2$ ✓)

Case 2: more than one box split:

• If 2 boxes split into 2 components

• no pair of boxes split into the same 2 components

• at most $2 + 2 = 4$ additional boxes

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Case 2: more than one box split:

• one box is split into 2 boxes

• the pair of boxes splits into 3 boxes (2 components)

• at most $2 + 2 - 2 = 2$ additional boxes

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Theorem

For Z_N finite ($N = |Z_N|$) and given appropriate initial search region with $lb = z^l$, the v -split algorithm requires at most $3N - 2$ subproblems in order to generate the entire nondominated set.

Sketch of proof.

- ▶ in every iteration one subproblem solved
⇒ number of subproblems equals number of iterations
- ▶ for every nondominated point generated
⇒ number of boxes increases by at most two (previous Lemma)
- ▶ every nondominated point is generated exactly once,
every empty box is investigated exactly once
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Linear bound in line with results from the field of computational geometry:

1. Boissonnat et al. (1998) show that
 - ▶ for a set of n points in \mathbb{R}^m the maximum complexity of the union of n axis-parallel hypercubes in \mathbb{R}^m is $\mathcal{O}(n^{\lceil m/2 \rceil})$
 - ▶ If all hypercubes have the same size, the complexity can be improved to $\mathcal{O}(n^{\lfloor m/2 \rfloor})$ for $m \geq 2$. It remains $\mathcal{O}(n)$ for $m = 1$.
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 - ▶ an instance in which all boxes share one common vertex ($z^!$) can be transformed into an instance in which all boxes have the same size

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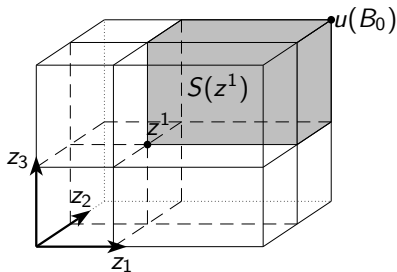
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The ε -constraint scalarization as a special case

Number of subproblems in v -split algorithm can be improved further:

- ▶ Assume we minimize wrt first component
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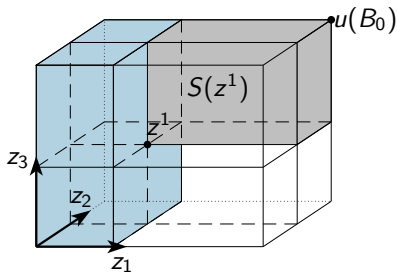


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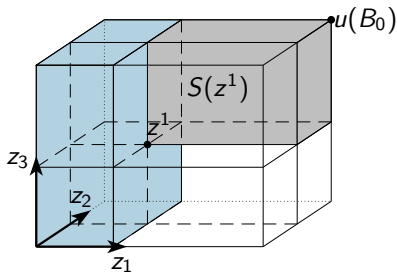


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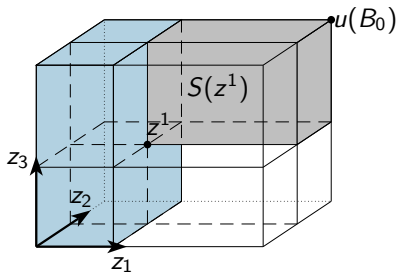


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Numerical results

Matlab-Implementation of the v -split-algorithm with 3D-visualization

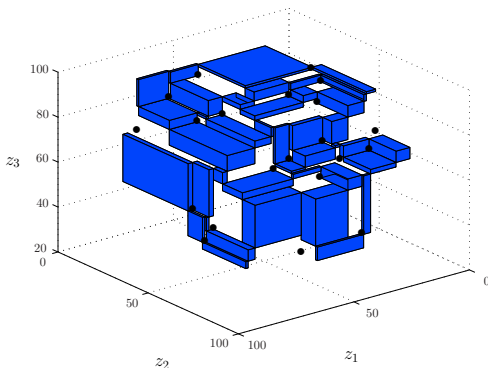


Figure: Example with 21 nondominated points
(Illustration of the individual subsets of all boxes at the end of the algorithm)

Setting

- ▶ Multidimensional, tricriteria knapsack problem
- ▶ Test problem from Laumanns et al. (2006)
- ▶ Original data
- ▶ Scalarizations: Weighted Tchebycheff (WT) and ε -Constraint (EC), both in variants Two-stage (TS) and Augmented (A)
- ▶ IBM ILOG CPLEX Optimization Studio Version 12.5 (no parallelization)
- ▶ MATLAB R2013a
- ▶ 4x Intel Xeon E7540 CPUs (2.0 GHz), 128 GB memory

Computational experiments (1)

Validation of theoretical upper bounds $3N - 2$ (WT) and $2N - 1$ (EC)

n	N		WT		EC	
			CPU	#SP	CPU	#SP
10	9	TS	10.03	25	7.97	17
		A	7.81		6.09	
20	61	TS	56.42	181	43.29	121
		A	42.72		30.02	
30	195	TS	213.31	583	163.15	389
		A	163.29		114.39	
40	389	TS	464.47	1165	361.74	777
		A	361.01		257.64	
50	1048	TS	1552.56	3142	1369.89	2095
		A	1174.90		1012.15	

Conclusion

1. New adaptive parametric algorithm for multicriteria, particularly tricriteria optimization problems
2. New split criterion for tricriteria problems avoids redundant boxes
3. Linear worst-case bound on number of subproblems

Ongoing research:

1. Explicit use of neighborhood structure for any number of criteria
2. Generation of representative subsets with quality criteria

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