

# Using the CoinAll Software

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## **Abstract**

This is the User's Manual for the CoinAll project. It is part of the documentation for the CoinEasy project which is designed to help new users of COIN-OR get up and running. The CoinAll project is actually a meta-project consisting of most of the COIN-OR solvers and supporting utility projects. We recommend that users download the binary of CoinAll, which includes executables as well as compiled libraries of many COIN-OR projects, which can then be linked against in user code. This manual describes how to use this binary.

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# 1 The Optimization Services (OS) Project

The objective of Optimization Services (OS) is to provide a general framework consisting of a set of standards for representing optimization instances, results, solver options, and communication between clients and solvers in a distributed environment using Web Services. This COIN-OR project provides source code for libraries and executable programs that implement OS standards. See the COIN-OR Trac page <http://projects.coin-or.org/OS> or the Optimization Services Home Page <http://www.optimizationservices.org> for more information.

Like other COIN-OR projects, OS has a versioning system that ensures end users some degree of stability and a stable upgrade path as project development continues. The current stable version of OS is 2.4, and the current stable release is 2.4.1, based on trunk version 4340.

The OS project provides the following:

1. A set of XML based standards for representing optimization instances (OSiL), optimization results (OSrL), and optimization solver options (OSoL). There are other standards, but these are the main ones. The schemas for these standards are described in Section 7.
2. Open source libraries that support and implement many of the standards.
3. A robust solver and modeling language interface (API) for linear and nonlinear optimization problems. Corresponding to the OSiL problem instance representation there is an in-memory object, `OSInstance`, along with a collection of `get()`, `set()`, and `calculate()` methods for accessing and creating problem instances. This is a very general API for linear, integer, and nonlinear programs. Extensions for other major types of optimization problems are also in the works. Any modeling language that can produce OSiL can easily communicate with any solver that uses the `OSInstance` API. The `OSInstance` object is described in more detail in Section 12. The nonlinear part of the API is based on the COIN-OR project CppAD by Brad Bell (<http://projects.coin-or.org/CppAD>) but is written in a very general manner and could be used with other algorithmic differentiation packages. More detail on algorithmic differentiation is provided in Section 13.
4. A command line executable `OSSolverService` for reading problem instances (OSiL format, AMPL nl format, MPS format) and calling a solver either locally or on a remote server. This is described in Section 4.
5. Utilities that convert AMPL nl files and MPS files into the OSiL XML format. This is described in Section 11.3.
6. Standards that facilitate the communication between clients and optimization solvers using Web Services. In Section 11.1 we describe the `OSAgent` part of the OS library that is used to create Web Services SOAP packages with OSiL instances and contact a server for solution.
7. An executable program `OSAmplClient` that is designed to work with the AMPL modeling language. The `OSAmplClient` appears as a “solver” to AMPL and, based on options given in AMPL, contacts solvers either remotely or locally to solve instances created in AMPL. This is described in Section 5.1.

## 2 Quick Roadmap

If you want to:

- Download the OS binaries (executables and libraries) – see Section 3.
- Use the `OSSolverService` to read files in `nl`, `OSiL`, or `MPS` format and call a solver locally or remotely – see Section 4.
- Use modeling languages to generate model instances in `OSiL` format – see Section 5.
- Use `AMPL` to solve problems either locally or remotely with a COIN-OR solver, `Cplex`, `GLPK`, or `LINDO` – see Section 5.1.
- Use `GAMS` to solve problems either locally or remotely – see Section 5.2.
- Use `MATLAB` to generate problem instances in `OSiL` format and call a solver either remotely or locally – see Section 5.3.
- Create your own applications by linking against the binaries – see Sections 9 and 10.
- Use the OS library to build model instances or use solver APIs – see Sections 11.3, 11.5 and 12.
- Use the OS library for algorithmic differentiation (in conjunction with COIN-OR `CppAD`) – see Section 13.
- Build the OS project from the source code – see Section 10.1.

### 3 Downloading the CoinAllBinaries

The CoinAll project is actually a meta-project consisting of most of the COIN-OR solvers and supporting utility projects. We describe how to download this project.

Most users will only be interested in obtaining the binaries, which we describe next. It is also possible to obtain the source code for the project, which will be of interest mostly to developers. If binaries are not provided for a particular operating system, it may be possible to build them from the source. For details it is best to start reading the OS web page at <http://projects.coin-or.org/OS/>.

The repository of the binaries is at <http://www.coin-or.org/download/binary/OS/>.

The binary distribution for the OS library and executables follows the following naming convention:

`OS-version_number-platform-compiler-build_options.tgz` (zip)

For example, OS Release 2.1.0 compiled with the Intel 9.1 compiler on an Intel 32-bit Linux system is:

`OS-2.1.0-linux-x86-icc9.1.tgz`

For more detail on the naming convention and examples see:

<https://projects.coin-or.org/CoinBinary/wiki/ArchiveNamingConventions>

After unpacking the `tgz` or `zip` archives, the following folders are available.

**bin** – this directory has the executables `OSSolverService` and `OSAmplClient`.

**include** – the header files that are necessary in order to link against the OS library.

**lib** – the libraries that are necessary for creating applications that use the OS library.

**share** – license and author information for all the projects used by the OS project.

Files are also provided for an Apache Tomcat Web server along with the associated Web service that can read SOAP envelopes with model instances in OSiL format and/or options in OSoL format, call the `OSSolverService`, and return the optimization result in OSrL format. The naming convention for the server binary is

`OS-server-version_number.tgz (.zip)`

For example, the files associated with OS server release 2.0.0 are in the binary distribution

`OS-server-2.0.0.tgz`

There is no platform information given since the server and related binaries were written in Java.

Finally for Windows users we provide Visual Studio project files (and supporting libraries and header files) for building projects based on the OS library and libraries used by the OS project. The binary for this is named

`OS-version_number-VisualStudio.zip`

For example, the necessary files associated with OS stable 2.4 are in the binary distribution

`OS-2.4-VisualStudio.zip`

The binaries provided are based on Visual Studio Express 2008.

## 4 The `OSSolverService`

The `OSSolverService` is a command line executable designed to pass problem instances in either OSiL, AMPL nl, or MPS format to solvers and get the optimization result back to be displayed either to standard output or a specified browser. The `OSSolverService` can be used to invoke a solver locally or on a remote server. It can communicate with a remote solver both synchronously and asynchronously. At present six service methods are implemented, `solve`, `send`, `retrieve`, `getJobID`, `knock` and `kill`. These methods are explained in more detail in Section 4.4. Only the `solve` method is available locally.

There are two ways to use the `OSSolverService` executable. The first way is to use the interactive shell. The interactive shell is invoked by either double clicking on the icon for the `OSSolverService` executable, or by opening a command window, connecting to the directory holding the executable, and then typing in `OSSolverService` with no arguments. Using the interactive shell is fairly intuitive and we do not discuss in detail. The second way to use the `OSSolverService` executable is to provide arguments at the command line. This is discussed next. The command line arguments are also valid for the interactive shell.

### 4.1 `OSSolverService` Input Parameters

At present, the `OSSolverService` takes the following parameters. The order of the parameters is irrelevant. Not all the parameters are required.

**osil** `xxx.osil` This is the path information and name of the file that contains the optimization instance in OSiL format. It is assumed that this file is available on the machine that is running `OSSolverService`. This parameter can be omitted, as there are other ways to specify an optimization instance. Although we endorse the convention that OSiL schema files have the extension `.osil`, OSoL files have the extension `.osol`, etc., it is not required. Any other path and file name could be substituted for `xxx.osil`

**osol** `xxx.osol` This is the path information and name of the file that contains the solver options. It is assumed that this file is available on the machine that is running `OSSolverService`. It is not necessary to specify this parameter.

**osrl** `xxx.osrl` This is the path information and name of the file to which the solver solution will be written upon return. A valid file path must be given on the machine that is running `OSSolverService`. It is not necessary to specify this parameter. If this parameter is not specified then the solver solution is displayed to the screen.

**osplInput** `xxx.ospl` The name of an input file in the OS Process Language (OSpL); this is used as input to the `knock` method. If `serviceMethod` `knock` is specified, this parameter is also needed.

**osplOutput** `xxx.ospl` The name of an output file in the OS Process Language (OSpL); this is the output string from the `knock` and `kill` method. If not present, the output is displayed to the terminal screen.

**serviceLocation** `url` This is the URL of the solver service. It is not required, and if not specified it is assumed that the problem is solved locally.

**serviceMethod** `methodName` This is the service method to be invoked. The options are `solve`, `send`, `kill`, `knock`, `getJobID`, and `retrieve`. The use of these options is illustrated in the examples below. This parameter is not required, and the default value is `solve`.

**mps** `xxx.mps` This is the path information and name of the MPS file if the problem instance is in MPS format. It is assumed that this file is available on the machine that is running `OSSolverService`. The default file format is OSiL so this option is not required.

**nl** `xxx.nl` This is the path information and name of the AMPL nl file if the problem instance is in AMPL nl format. It is assumed that this file is available on the machine that is running `OSSolverService`. The default file format is OSiL so this option is not required.

**solver** `solverName` **Note that this option only has effect for local calls.** For a remote solve or send, put the solver name into the field `<solverToInvoke>` in an OSoL file and specify this file with `osol ....` Possible values of this parameter depend on the installation. The default configurations can be read off from Table 1. Other solvers supported (if the necessary libraries are present) are `cplex` (Cplex through COIN-OR Osi), `glpk` (GLPK through COIN-OR Osi) and `lindo` (LINDO). If no value is specified for this parameter, then a default solver is used for the (local) `solve` method. The default solver depends on the problem type and can be read off from table 2.

**browser** `browserName` This parameter is a path to the browser on the local machine. If this optional parameter is specified then the solver result in OSrL format is transformed using XSLT into HTML and displayed in the browser.



Table 1: Solver configurations

	binaries (Section 3)	UNIX build (See OS User's Manual)	MSVS build (See OS User's Manual)
Bonmin	x	x <sup>1</sup>	x <sup>1,2</sup>
Cbc	x	x	x
Clp	x	x	x
Couenne	x	x <sup>1</sup>	—
DyLP	x	x	—
Ipsol	x	x <sup>1</sup>	x <sup>1,2</sup>
SYMPHONY	x	x	x
Vol	x	x	x

Explanations:

<sup>1</sup>Requires third-party software to be downloaded

<sup>2</sup>Requires Fortran compiler

Table 2: Default solvers

Problem type	Default solver
Linear, continuous	Clp
Linear, integer	Cbc
Nonlinear, continuous	Ipsol
Nonlinear, integer	Bonmin

**config xxx.config** This optional parameter specifies a path on the local machine to a text file containing values for the input parameters. This is convenient for the user not wishing to constantly retype parameter values.

**--help** This parameter prints out the list of available options (in essence, this list). Synonyms for **--help** are **-h** and **-?**.

**--version** This parameter prints version and licence information. **-v** is an acceptable synonym.

The input parameters to the **OSSolverService** may be given entirely in the command line or in a configuration file. We first illustrate giving all the parameters in the command line. The following command will invoke the **Clp** solver on the local machine to solve the problem instance **parincLinear.osil**.

**Remark.** When invoking the commands below involving **OSSolverService** we assume that the user is connected to the directory where the **OSSolverService** executable is located. If the binary download was successful, the **OSSolverService** is in the **bin** directory, and the relative path to the data directory is **../examples/data**. There are several subdirectories corresponding to different file types used and illustrated in the following examples. The user may wish to execute **OSSolverService** from the **bin** directory so that all that follows is correct in terms of path definitions.

```
./OSSolverService solver clp osil ../examples/data/osilFiles/parincLinear.osil
```

Alternatively, these parameters can be put into a configuration file. Assume that the configuration file of interest is `testlocalclp.config`. It would contain the two lines of information

```
osil ../examples/data/osilFiles/parincLinear.osil
solver clp
```

Then the command line is

```
./OSSolverService config ../examples/data/configFiles/testlocalclp.config
```

**Windows users** should **note** that the folder separator is always the forward slash ('/') instead of the customary backslash ('\').

Parameters specified in the configure file are overridden by parameters specified at the command line. This is convenient if a user has a base configure file and wishes to override only a few options. For example,

```
./OSSolverService config ../examples/data/configFiles/testlocalclp.config solver lindo
```

or

```
./OSSolverService solver lindo config ../examples/data/configFiles/testlocalclp.config
```

will result in the LINDO solver being used even though Clp is specified in the `testlocalclp` configure file.

Some things to note:

1. The default `serviceMethod` is `solve` if another service method is not specified. The service method cannot be specified in the OSoL options file.
2. The command line parameters are intended to only influence the behavior of the local `OSSolverService`. In particular, only the service method is transmitted to a remote location. Any communication with a remote solver other than setting the service method **must** take place through an OSoL options file.
3. Only the `solve()` method is available for local calls to `OSSolverService`.
4. If the options `send`, `kill`, `knock`, `getJobID`, or `retrieve` are specified, a `serviceLocation` must be specified.
5. When using the `send()` or `solve()` methods a problem instance must be specified.

## 4.2 The Command Line Parser

The top layer of the local `OSSolverService` is a command line parser that parses the command line and the config file (if one is specified) and passes the information on to a local solver or a remote solver service, depending on whether a `serviceLocation` was specified. If a `serviceLocation` is specified a call is made to a remote solver service, otherwise a local solver is called.

If a local solve is indicated, we pass to a solver in the OSLibrary two things: an OSoL file if one has been specified and a problem instance. The problem instance is the instance in the OSiL file specified by the `osil` option. If there is no OSiL file, then it is the instance specified in the `nl` file. If there is no `nl` file, it is the instance in the `mps` file. If no OSiL, `nl` or `mps` file is specified, an error is thrown.

The OSoL file is simply passed on to the OSLibrary; it is not parsed at this point. The OSoL file elements `<solverToInvoke>` and `<instanceLocation>` cannot be used for local calls. One can specify which solver to use in the OSLibrary through the `solver` option. If this option is empty, a default solver is selected (see Table 2).

If the `serviceLocation` parameter is used, a call is placed to the remote solver service specified in the `serviceLocation` parameter. Two strings are passed to the remote solver service: a string which is the OSoL file if one has been specified, or the empty string otherwise, and a string containing an instance if one has been specified. The instance can be specified using the `osil`, `nl`, or `mps` option. If an OSiL file is specified in the `osil` option, it is used. If there is no OSiL file, then the instance specified in the `nl` file is used. If there is no `nl` file, the `mps` file is used. If no file is given, an empty string is sent.

For remote calls, the solver can only be set in the `osol` file, using the element `<solverToInvoke>`; the `solver` option has no effect.

### 4.3 Solving Problems Locally

Generally, when solving a problem locally the user will use the `solve` service method. The `solve` method is invoked synchronously and waits for the solver to return the result. This is illustrated in Figure 1. As illustrated, the `OSSolverService` reads a file on the hard drive with the optimization instance, usually in OSiL format. The optimization instance is parsed into a string which is passed to the OSLibrary (see the OS User’s Manual), which is linked with various solvers. Similarly an option file in OSoL format is parsed into a string and passed to the OSLibrary. *No interpretation of the options is done at this stage*, so that any `<solverToInvoke>` or `<instanceLocation>` directives in the OSoL file will be ignored for local solves. The result of the optimization is passed back to the `OSSolverService` as a string in OSrL format.

Here is an example of using a configure file, `testlocal.config`, to invoke `Ipopt` locally using the `solve` command.

```
osil ../examples/data/osilFiles/parincQuadratic.osil
solver ipopt
serviceMethod solve
browser /Applications/Firefox.app/Contents/MacOS/firefox
osrl /Users/kmartin/temp/test.osrl
```

The first line of `testlocal.config` gives the local location of the OSiL file, `parincQuadratic.osil`, that contains the problem instance. The second parameter, `solver ipopt`, is the solver to be invoked, in this case COIN-OR `Ipopt`. The third parameter `serviceMethod solve` is not really needed, since the default solver service is `solve`. It is included only for illustration. The fourth parameter is the location of the browser on the local machine. The fifth parameter is `osrl`. The value of this parameter, `/Users/kmartin/temp/test.osrl`, specifies the location on the local machine where the OSrL result file will get written.

### 4.4 Solving Problems Remotely with Web Services

In many cases the client machine may be a “weak client” and using a more powerful machine to solve a hard optimization instance is required. Indeed, one of the major purposes of Optimization Services is to facilitate optimization in a distributed environment. We now provide examples that illustrate using the `OSSolverService` executable to call a remote solver service. By remote solver service we mean a solver service that is called using Web Services. The OS implementation of the

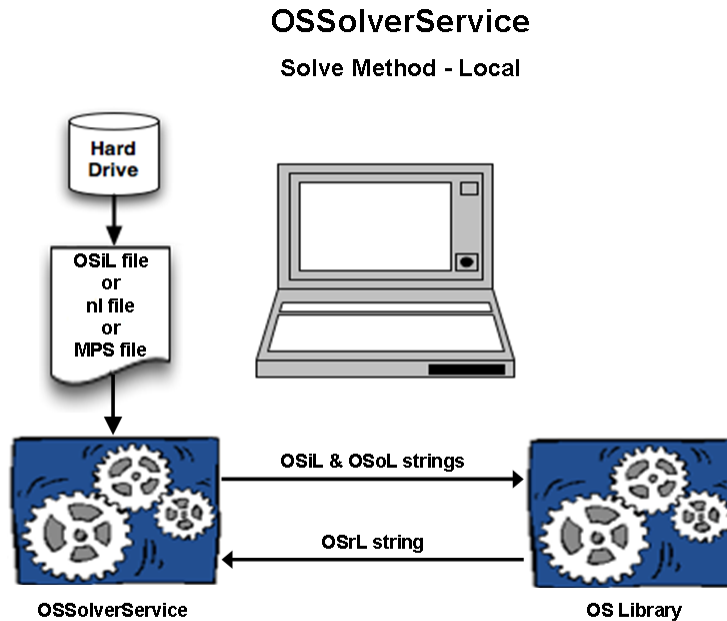


Figure 1: A local call to solve.

solver service uses Apache Tomcat. See [tomcat.apache.org](http://tomcat.apache.org). The Web Service running on the server is a Java program based on Apache Axis. See [ws.apache.org/axis](http://ws.apache.org/axis). This is described in greater detail in the OS User's Manual. This Web Service is called `OSSolverService.jws`. It is not necessary to use the Tomcat/Axis combination.

See Figure 2 for an illustration of this process. The client machine uses `OSSolverService` executable to call one of the six service methods, e.g., `solve`. The information such as the problem instance in OSiL format and solver options in OSoL format are packaged into a SOAP envelope and sent to the server. The server is running the Java Web Service `OSSolverService.jws`. This Java program running in the Tomcat Java Servlet container implements the six service methods. If a `solve` or `send` request is sent to the server from the client, an optimization problem must be solved. The Java solver service solves the optimization instance by calling the `OSSolverService` on the server. So there is an `OSSolverService` on the client that calls the Web Service `OSSolverService.jws` that in turn calls the executable `OSSolverService` on the server. The Java solver service passes options to the server's `OSSolverService` in form of two strings, an osil string representing the instance and an osol string representing the options (if any).

For remote calls the instance location can be specified either as a command parameter (on the command line or in a config file) or through the `<instanceLocation>` element in the OSoL options file. OSiL files specified in the `<instanceLocation>` element must be converted to an osil string by the solver service. If two instance files are specified in this way — one through the local command interface, the other in an options file — the information on the command line takes precedent.

In the following sections we illustrate each of the six service methods.

#### 4.4.1 The solve Service Method

First we illustrate a simple call to `OSSolverService.jws`. The call on the client machine is

## OSSolverService

### Solve Method

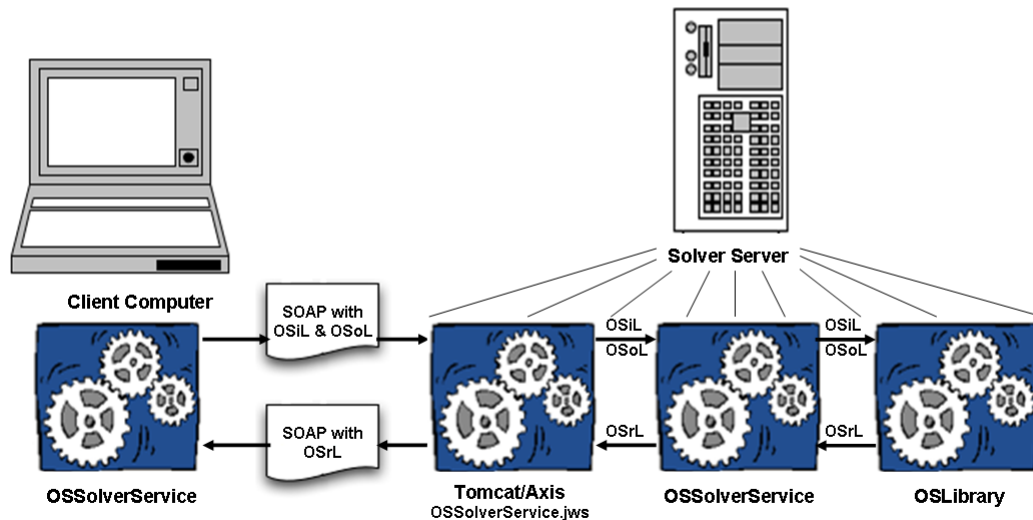


Figure 2: A remote call to solve.

```
./OSSolverService config ../examples/data/configFiles/testremote.config
```

where the `testremote.config` file is

```
osil ../examples/data/osilFiles/parincLinear.osil
serviceLocation http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/os/OSSolverService.jws
```

No solver is specified and by default the Clp solver is used by the OSSolverService, since the problem is a continuous linear program. If, for example, the user wished to solve the problem with the SYMPHONY solver then this is accomplished either by using the `solver` option on the command line

```
./OSSolverService config ../examples/data/configFiles/testremote.config solver symphony
```

or by adding the line

```
solver symphony
```

to the `testremote.config` file. When solver information is given both on the command line and in the config file, the command line information supercedes the config file.

Next we illustrate a call to the remote SolverService and specify an OSiL instance that is actually residing on the remote machine that is hosting the OSSolverService and not on the client machine.

```
./OSSolverService osol ../examples/data/osolFiles/remoteSolve1.osol
serviceLocation http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/os/OSSolverService.jws
```

where the `remoteSolve1.osol` file is

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<osol xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
  <general>
    <instanceLocation locationType="local">c:\parincLinear.osil</instanceLocation>
    <contact transportType="smtp">kipp.martin@chicagogsb.edu</contact>
    <solverToInvoke>ipopt</solverToInvoke>
  </general>
</osol>

```

If we were to change the `locationType` attribute in the `<instanceLocation>` element to `http` then we could specify the instance location on yet another machine. This is illustrated below for `remoteSolve2.osol`. The scenario is depicted in Figure 3. The OSiL string passed from the client to the solver service is empty. However, the OSoL element `<instanceLocation>` has an attribute `locationType` equal to `http`. In this case, the text of the `<instanceLocation>` element contains the URL of a third machine which has the problem instance `parincLinear.osil`. The solver service will contact the machine with URL `http://www.coin-or.org/OS/parincLinear.osil` and download this test problem. So the `OSSolverService` is running on the server `kipp.chicagobooth.edu` which contacts the server `www.coin-or.org` for the model instance.

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<osol xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
  <general>
    <instanceLocation locationType="http">
      http://www.coin-or.org/OS/parincLinear.osil
    </instanceLocation>
    <solverToInvoke>ipopt</solverToInvoke>
  </general>
</osol>

```

**Note:** The `solve` method communicates synchronously with the remote solver service and once started, these jobs cannot be killed. This may not be desirable for large problems when the user does not want to wait for a response or when there is a possibility for the solver to enter an infinite loop. The `send` service method should be used when asynchronous communication is desired.

#### 4.4.2 The send Service Method

When the `solve` service method is used, then the `OSSolverService` does not finish execution until the solution is returned from the remote solver service. When the `send` method is used, the instance is communicated to the remote service and the `OSSolverService` terminates after submission. An example of this is

```
./OSSolverService config ../examples/data/configFiles/testremoteSend.config
```

where the `testremoteSend.config` file is

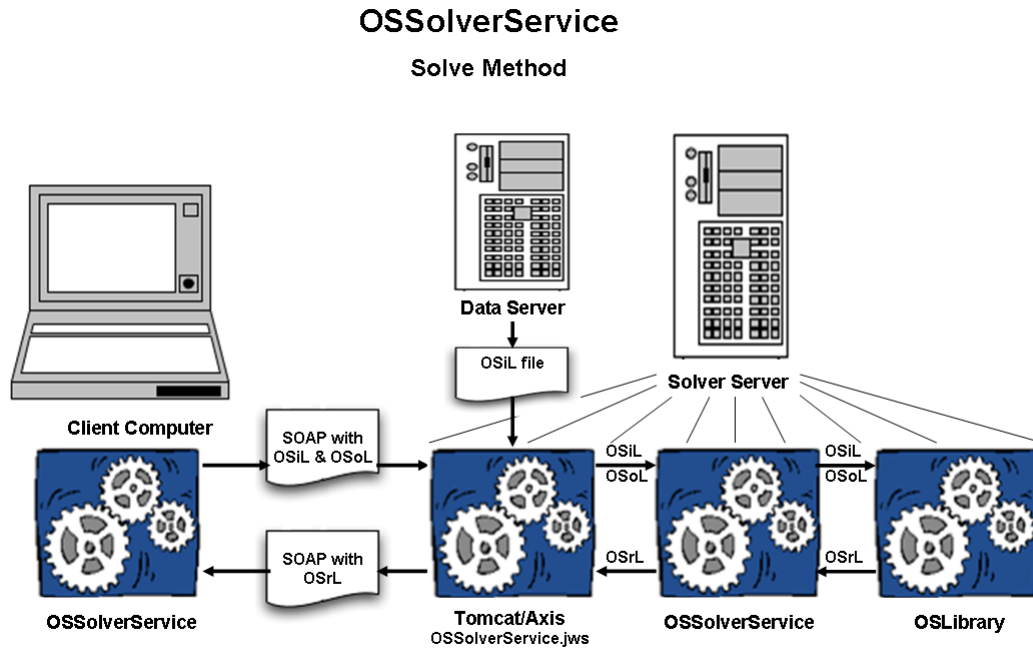


Figure 3: Downloading the instance from a remote source.

```

-nl ../examples/data/amplFiles/hs71.nl
serviceLocation http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/os/OSSolverService.jws
serviceMethod send

```

In this example the COIN-OR Ipopt solver is specified. The input file `hs71.nl` is in AMPL `nl` format. Before sending this to the remote solver service the `OSSolverService` executable converts the `nl` format into the OSiL XML format and packages this into the SOAP envelope used by Web Services.

Since the `send` method involves asynchronous communication the remote solver service must keep track of jobs. The `send` method requires a `JobID`. In the above example no `JobID` was specified. When no `JobID` is specified the `OSSolverService` method first invokes the `getJobID` service method to get a `JobID`, puts this information into an OSoL file it creates, and sends the information to the server. More information on the `getJobID` service method is provided in Section 4.4.4. The `OSSolverService` prints the OSoL file to standard output before termination. This is illustrated below,

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<osol xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
  <general>
    <jobID>
      gsbrkm4__127.0.0.1__2007-06-16T15.46.46.075-05.00149771253
    </jobID>
  
```

```

        <solverToInvoke>ipopt</solverToInvoke>
    </general>
</osol>

```

The JobID is one that is randomly generated by the server and passed back to the OSSolverService. The user can also provide a JobID in their OSoL file. For example, below is a user-provided OSoL file that could be specified in a configuration file or on the command line.

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<osol xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
    <general>
        <jobID>123456abcd</jobID>
        <solverToInvoke>ipopt</solverToInvoke>
    </general>
</osol>

```

The same JobID cannot be used twice, so if 123456abcd was used earlier, the result of `send` will be an error condition.

In order to be of any use, it is necessary to get the result of the optimization. This is described in Section 4.4.3. Before proceeding to this section, we describe two ways for knowing when the optimization is complete. One feature of the standard OS remote SolverService is the ability to send an email when the job is complete. Below is an example of the OSoL that uses the email feature.

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<osol xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
    <general>
        <jobID>123456abcd</jobID>
        <contact transportType="smtp">
            kipp.martin@chicagogsb.edu
        </contact>
        <solverToInvoke>ipopt</solverToInvoke>
    </general>
</osol>

```

The remote Solver Service will send an email to the above address when the job is complete. A second option for knowing when a job is complete is to use the `knock` method. (See Section 4.4.5.)

Note that in all of these examples we provided a value for the `<solverToInvoke>` element. A default solver is used (see Table 2) if another solver is not specified.

### 4.4.3 The retrieve Service Method

The `retrieve` method is used to get information about the instance solution. This method has a single string argument which is an OSoL instance. Here is an example of using the `retrieve` method with OSSolverService.



```
./OSSolverService config ../examples/data/configFiles/testremoteRetrieve.config
```

The testremoteRetrieve.config file is

```
serviceLocation http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/os/OSSolverService.jws
osol ../examples/data/osolFiles/retrieve.osol
serviceMethod retrieve
osrl /home/kmartin/temp/test.osrl
```

and the retrieve.osol file is

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<osol xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
  <general>
    <jobID>123456abcd</jobID>
  </general>
</osol>
```

The OSoL file `retrieve.osol` contains a tag `<jobID>` that is communicated to the remote service. The remote service locates the result and returns it as a string. The `<jobID>` should reflect a `<jobID>` that was previously submitted using a `send()` command. The result is returned as a string in OSrL format. The user must modify the line

```
osrl /home/kmartin/temp/test.osrl
```

to reflect a valid path for their own machine. (It is also possible to delete the line in which case the result will be displayed on the screen instead of being saved to the file indicated in the `osrl` option.)

#### 4.4.4 The getJobID Service Method

Before submitting a job with the `send` method a JobID is required. The `OSSolverService` can get a JobID with the following options.

```
serviceLocation http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/os/OSSolverService.jws
serviceMethod getJobID
```

Note that no OSoL input file is specified. In this case, the `OSSolverService` sends an empty string. A string is returned with the JobID. This JobID is then put into a `<jobID>` element in an OSoL string that would be used by the `send` method.

#### 4.4.5 The knock Service Method

The `OSSolverService` terminates after executing the `send` method. Therefore, it is necessary to know when the job is completed on the remote server. One way is to include an email address in the `<contact>` element with the attribute `transportType` set to `smtp`. This was illustrated in Section 4.4.1. A second way to check on the status of a job is to use the `knock` service method. For example, assume a user wants to know if the job with JobID `123456abcd` is complete. A user would make the request

```
./OSSolverService config ../examples/data/configFiles/testRemoteKnock.config
```

where the testRemoteKnock.config file is

```
serviceLocation http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/os/OSSolverService.jws
osplInput ../examples/data/osolFiles/demo.ospl
osol ../examples/data/osolFiles/retrieve.osol
serviceMethod knock
```

the demo.ospl file is

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<ospl xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org">
  <processHeader>
    <request action="getAll"/>
  </processHeader>
  <processData/>
</ospl>
```

and the retrieve.osol file is as in Section 4.4.3.

The result of this request is a string in OSPL format, with the data contained in its `processData` section. The result is displayed on the screen; if the user desires it to be redirected to a file, a command should be added to the testRemoteKnock.config file with a valid path name on the local system, e.g.,

```
osplOutput ../result.ospl
```

Part of the return format is illustrated below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<ospl xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org">
  <processHeader>
    <serviceURI>http://localhost:8080/os/ossolver/CGSolverService.jws</serviceURI>
    <serviceName>CGSolverService</serviceName>
    <time>2006-05-10T15:49:26.7509413-05:00</time>
  </processHeader>
  <processData>
    <statistics>
      <currentState>idle</currentState>
      <availableDiskSpace>23440343040</availableDiskSpace>
      <availableMemory>70128</availableMemory>
      <currentJobCount>0</currentJobCount>
      <totalJobsSoFar>1</totalJobsSoFar>
      <timeServiceStarted>2006-05-10T10:49:24.9700000-05:00</timeServiceStarted>
      <serviceUtilization>0.1</serviceUtilization>
    </statistics>
    <jobs>
      <job jobID="123456abcd">
        <state>finished</state>
        <serviceURI>http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/ipopt/IPOPTSolverService.jws</serviceURI>
        <submitTime>2007-06-16T14:57:36.678-05:00</submitTime>
      </job>
    </jobs>
  </processData>
</ospl>
```

```

        <startTime>2007-06-16T14:57:36.678-05:00</startTime>
        <endTime>2007-06-16T14:57:39.404-05:00</endTime>
        <duration>2.726</duration>
    </job>
</jobs>
</statistics>
</processData>
</ospl>

```

Notice that the `<state>` element in `<job jobID="123456abcd">` indicates that the job is finished.

When making a `knock` request, the OSoL string can be empty. In this example, if the OSoL string had been empty the status of all jobs kept in the file `ospl.xml` is reported. In our default solver service implementation, there is a configuration file `OSParameter` that has a parameter `MAX_JOBIDS_TO_KEEP`. The current default setting is 100. In a large-scale or commercial implementation it might be wise to keep problem results and statistics in a database. Also, there are values other than `getAll` (i.e., get all process information related to the jobs) for the OSpL `action` attribute in the `<request>` tag. For example, the `action` can be set to a value of `ping` if the user just wants to check if the remote solver service is up and running. For details, check the OSpL schema.

#### 4.4.6 The kill Service Method

If the user submits a job that is taking too long or is a mistake, it is possible to kill the job on the remote server using the `kill` service method. For example, to kill job 123456abcd, at the command line type

```
./OSSolverService config ../examples/data/configFiles/kill.config
```

where the configure file `kill.config` is

```
osol ../examples/data/osolFiles/kill.osol
serviceLocation http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/os/OSSolverService.jws
serviceMethod kill
```

and the `kill.osol` file is

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<osol xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
  <general>
    <jobID>123456abcd</jobID>
  </general>
</osol>

```

The result is returned in OSpL format.

#### 4.4.7 Summary and description of the API

The six service methods just described are also available as callable routines. Below is a summary of the inputs and outputs of the six methods. See also Figure 4. A test program illustrating the use of the methods is described in Section 9.8.

- `solve( osil, osol )`:
  - Inputs: a string with the instance in OSiL format and an optional string with the solver options in OSoL format
  - Returns: a string with the solver solution in OSrL format
  - Synchronous call, blocking request/response
- `send( osil, osol )`:
  - Inputs: a string with the instance in OSiL format and a string with the solver options in OSoL format (same as in `solve`)
  - Returns: a string with the status of the send (indicating either success or some error condition).
  - Has the same signature as `solve`
  - Asynchronous (server side), non-blocking call
  - The `osol` string should have a `JobID` in the `<jobID>` element
- `getJobID( osol )`:
  - Inputs: a string with the solver options in OSoL format (in this case, the string may be empty because no options are required to get the `JobID`)
  - Returns: a string which is the unique job id generated by the solver service
  - Used to maintain session and state on a distributed system
- `knock( osp1, osol )`:
  - Inputs: a string in OSpL format and an optional string with the solver options in OSoL format
  - Returns: process and job status information from the remote server in OSpL format
- `retrieve( osol )`:
  - Inputs: a string with the solver options in OSoL format
  - Returns: a string with the solver solution in OSrL format
  - The `osol` string should have a `JobID` in the `<jobID>` element
- `kill( osol )`:
  - Inputs: a string with the solver options in OSoL format
  - Returns: process and job status information from the remote server in OSpL format
  - Critical in long running optimization jobs

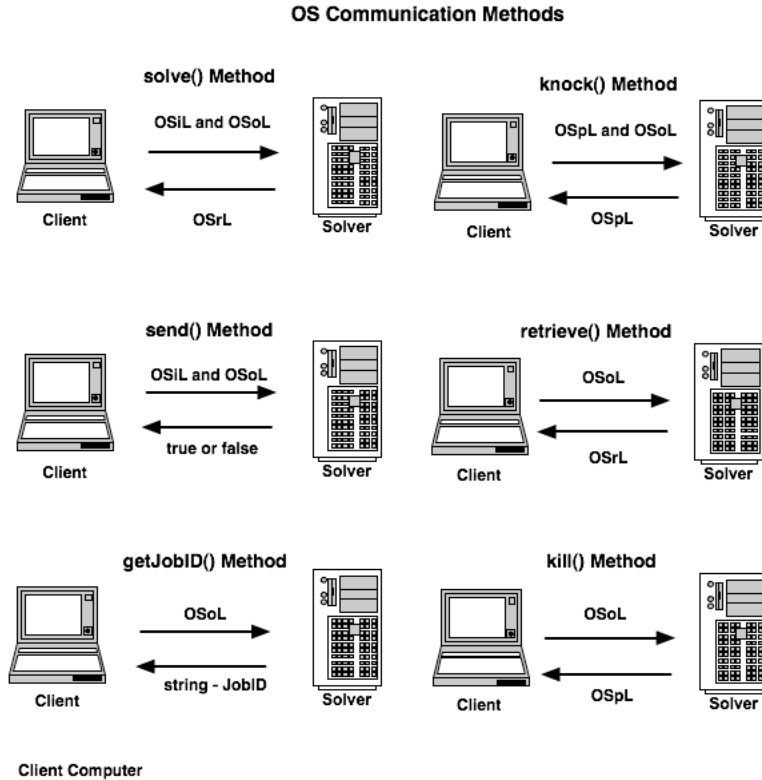


Figure 4: The OS Communication Methods

## 4.5 Passing Options to Solvers

The OSoL (Optimization Services option Language) protocol is used to pass options to solvers. When using the `OSSolverService` executable this will typically be done through an OSoL XML file by specifying the `osol` option followed by the location of the file. However, it is also possible to write a custom application that links to the OS library and to build an `OSOption` object in memory and then pass this to a solver. We next describe the feature of the OSoL protocol that will be the most useful to the typical user.

In the OSoL protocol there is an element `<solverOptions>` that can have any number of `<solverOption>` children. (See the file `parsertest.osol` in `OS/data/osolFiles`.) Each `<solverOption>` child can have six attributes, all of which except one are optional. These attributes are:

- **name:** this is the only required attribute and is the option name. It should be unique.
- **value:** the value of the option.
- **solver:** the name of the solver associated with the option. At present the values recognized by this attribute are "ipopt", "bonmin", "couenne", "cbc", and "osi". The last option is used for all solvers that are accessed through the Osi interface, which are `clp`, `DyLP`, `SYMPHONY` and `Vol`, in addition to `Glpk` and `Cplex`, if the latter are included in the particular build of `OSSolverService`.
- **type:** this will usually be a data type (such as integer, string, double, etc.) but this is not necessary.

- **category:** the same solver option may apply in more than one context (and with different meaning) so it may be necessary to specify a category to remove ambiguities. For example, in LINDO an option can apply to a specific model or to every model in an environment. Hence we might have

```
<solverOption name="LS_IPARAM_LP_PRINTLEVEL"
  solver="lindo" category="model" type="integer" value="0"/>
<solverOption name="LS_IPARAM_LP_PRINTLEVEL"
  solver="lindo" category="environment" type="integer" value="1"/>
```

where we specify the print level for a specific model or the entire environment. The category attribute should be separated by a colon (':') if there is more than one category or additional subcategories, as in the following hypothetical example.

```
<solverOption name="hypothetical"
  solver="SOLVER" category="cat1:subcat2:subsubcat3"
  type="string" value="illustration"/>
```

- **description:** a description of the option; typically this would not get passed to the solver.

As of trunk version 2164 the reading of an OSoL file is implemented in the `OSCoinSolver`, `OSBonmin` and `OSIpopt` solver interfaces. The `OSBonmin`, and `OSIpopt` solvers have particularly easy interfaces. They have methods for integer, string, and numeric data types and then take options in form of (name, value) pairs. Below is an example of options for `Ipopt`.

```
<solverOption name="mu_strategy" solver="ipopt"
  type="string" value="adaptive"/>
<solverOption name="tol" solver="ipopt"
  type="numeric" value="1.e-9"/>
<solverOption name="print_level" solver="ipopt"
  type="integer" value="5"/>
<solverOption name="max_iter" solver="ipopt"
  type="integer" value="2000"/>
```

We have also implemented the `OSOption` class for the `OSCoinSolver` interface. This can be done in two ways. First, options can be set through the Osi Solver interface (the `OSCoinSolver` interface wraps around the Osi Solver interface). We have implemented all of the options listed in `OsiSolverParameters.hpp` in Osi trunk version 1316. In the Osi solver interface, in addition to string, double, and integer types there is a type called `HintParam` and a type called `OsiHintParam`. The value of the `OsiHintParam` is an `OsiHintStrength` type, which may be confusing. For example, to have the following Osi method called

```
setHintParam(OsiDoReducePrint, true, hintStrength);
```

the user should set the following `<solverOption>` tags:

```
<solverOption name="OsiDoReducePrint" solver="osi"
  type="OsiHintParam" value="true" />
<solverOption name="OsiHintIgnore" solver="osi"
  type="OsiHintStrength" />
```

There should be only one `<solverOption>` with type `OsiHintStrength` and if there are more than one in the OSOL file (string) the last one is the one implemented.

In addition to setting options using the Osi Solver interface, it is possible to pass options directly to the Cbc solver. By default the following options are sent to the Cbc solver,

```
-log=0 -solve
```

The option `-log=0` will keep the branch-and-bound output to a minimum. Default options are overridden by putting into the OSOL file at least one `<solverOption>` tag with the `solver` attribute set to `cbc`. For example, the following sequence of options will limit the search to 100 nodes, cut generation turned off.

```
<solverOption name="maxN" solver="cbc" value="100" />
<solverOption name="cuts" solver="cbc" value="off" />
<solverOption name="solve" solver="cbc" />
```

Any option that Cbc accepts at the command line can be put into a `<solverOption>` tag. We list those below.

Double parameters:

```
dualB(ound) dualT(olerance) primalT(olerance) primalW(eight)
```

Branch and Cut double parameters:

```
allow(ableGap) cuto(ff) inc(rement) inf(easibilityWeight) integerT(olerance)
preT(olerance) ratio(Gap) sec(onds)
```

Integer parameters:

```
cpp(Generate) force(Solution) idiot(Crash) maxF(actor) maxIt(erations)
output(Format) slog(Level) sprint(Crash)
```

Branch and Cut integer parameters:

```
cutD(epth) log(Level) maxN(odes) maxS(olutions) passC(uts)
passF(easibilityPump) passT(reeCuts) pumpT(une) strat(egy) strong(Branching)
trust(PseudoCosts)
```

Keyword parameters:

```
chol(esky) crash cross(over) direction dualP(ivot)
error(sAllowed) keepN(ames) mess(ages) perturb(ation) presolve
primalP(ivot) printi(ngOptions) scal(ing)
```

Branch and Cut keyword parameters:

```
clique(Cuts) combine(Solutions) cost(Strategy) cuts(OnOff) Dins
DivingS(ome) DivingC(oefficient) DivingF(ractional) DivingG(uided) DivingL(ineSearch)
DivingP(seudoCost) DivingV(ectorLength) feas(ibilityPump) flow(CoverCuts) gomory(Cuts)
greedy(Heuristic) heur(isticsOnOff) knapsack(Cuts) lift(AndProjectCuts) local(TreeSearch)
mixed(IntegerRoundingCuts) node(Strategy) pivot(AndFix) preprocess probing(Cuts)
rand(omizedRounding) reduce(AndSplitCuts) residual(CapacityCuts) Rens Rins
round(ingHeuristic) sos(Options) two(MirCuts)
```

Actions or string parameters:

```
allS(lack) barr(ier) basisI(n) basisO(ut) directory
dirSample dirNetlib dirMiplib dualS(implex) either(Simplex)
end exit export help import
initialS(olve) max(imize) min(imize) netlib netlibD(ual)
netlibP(rimal) netlibT(une) primalS(implex) printM(ask) quit
restore(Model) saveM(odel) saveS(olution) solu(tion) stat(istics)
stop unitTest userClp
```

Branch and Cut actions:

```
branch(AndCut) doH(euristic) miplib prio(rityIn) solv(e)
strengthen userCbc
```

The user may also wish to specify an initial starting solution. This is particularly useful with interior point methods. This is accomplished by using the `<initialVariableValues>` tag. Below we illustrate how to set the initial values for variables with an index of 0, 1, and 3.

```
<initialVariableValues numberOfVar="3">
  <var idx="0" value="1"/>
  <var idx="1" value="4.742999643577776" />
  <var idx="3" value="1.379408293215363"/>
</initialVariableValues>
```

As of trunk version 2164 the initial values for variables can be passed to the `Bonmin` and `Ipopt` solvers.

When implementing solver options in-memory, the typical calling sequence is:

```
solver->buildSolverInstance();
solver->setSolverOptions();
solver->solve();
```

## 5 OS Support for Modeling Languages, Spreadsheets and Numerical Computing Software

Algebraic modeling languages can be used to generate model instances as input to an OS compliant solver. We describe two such hook-ups, `OSAmplClient` for AMPL, and `CoinOS` for GAMS (version 23.3 and above).

### 5.1 AMPL Client: Hooking AMPL to Solvers

It is possible to call all of the COIN-OR solvers listed in Table 1 (p.9) directly from the AMPL (see <http://www.ampl.com>) modeling language. In this discussion we assume the user has already obtained and installed AMPL. The binary download described in Section 3 contains an executable, `OSAmplClient.exe`, that is linked to all of the COIN-OR solvers listed in Table 1. From the perspective of AMPL, the `OSAmplClient` acts like an AMPL “solver”. The `OSAmplClient.exe` can be used to solve problems either locally or remotely.

#### 5.1.1 Using OSAmplClient for a Local Solver

In the following discussion we assume that the AMPL executable `ampl.exe`, the `OSAmplClient`, and the test problem `eastborne.mod` are all in the same directory.

The problem instance `eastborne.mod` is an AMPL model file included in the OS distribution in the `amplFiles` directory. To solve this problem locally by calling `OSAmplClient.exe` from AMPL, first start AMPL and then open the `eastborne.mod` file inside AMPL. The test model `eastborne.mod` is a linear integer program.

```
model eastborne.mod;
```

The next step is to tell AMPL that the solver it is going to use is `OSAmplClient.exe`. Do this by issuing the following command inside AMPL.

```
option solver OSAmplClient;
```



It is not necessary to provide the `OSAmplclient.exe` solver with any options. You can just issue the `solve` command in AMPL as illustrated below.

```
solve;
```

Of the six methods described in Section 4 only the `solve` method has been implemented to date.

If no options are specified, the default solver is used, depending on the problem characteristics (see Table 2 on p.9). If you wish to specify a specific solver, use the `solver` option. For example, since the test problem `eastborne.mod` is a linear integer program, `Cbc` is used by default. If instead you want to use `SYMPHONY`, then you would pass a `solver` option to the `OSAmplclient.exe` solver as follows.

```
option OSAmplClient_options "solver symphony";
```

Valid values for the `solver` option are installation-dependent. The solver name in the `solver` option is case insensitive.

### 5.1.2 Using OSAmplClient to Invoke an OS Solver Server

Next, assume that you have a large problem you want to solve on a remote solver. It is necessary to specify the location of the server solver as an option to `OSAmplClient`. The `serviceLocation` option is used to specify the location of a solver server. In this case, the string of options for `OSAmplClient_options` is:

```
serviceLocation http://xxx/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
```

where `xxx` is the URL for the server. This string is used to replace the string ‘`solver symphony`’ in the previous example. The `serviceLocation` option will send the problem to the location `http://xxx` and, assuming the remote executable is indeed found in the indicated folder, will start the executable.

However, each call

```
option OSAmplClient_options
```

is memoryless. That is, the options set in the last call will overwrite any options set in previous calls and cause them to be discarded. For instance, the sequence of option calls

```
option OSAmplClient_options "solver symphony";
option OSAmplClient_options "serviceLocation
    http://xxx/OSServer/services/OSSolverService";
solve;
```

will result in the default solver being called.

If the intent is to use the `SYMPHONY` solver at the remote location, the option must be declared as follows:

```
option OSAmplClient_options "solver symphony
    serviceLocation http://xxx/OSServer/services/OSSolverService";
solve;
```

For brevity we will omit the AMPL instruction

```
option OSAmplClient_options
```

the double quotes and the trailing semicolon in the remaining examples.

Finally, the user may wish to pass options to the individual solver. This is done by specifying an options file. (A sample options file, `solveroptions.osol` is provided with this distribution). The name of the options file is the value of the `osol` option. The string of options to `OSAmplClient_options` is now

```
serviceLocation http://xxx/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
osol solveroptions.osol
```

This `solveroptions.osol` file contains four solver options; two for `Cbc`, one for `Ipopt`, and one for `SYMPHONY`. You can have any number of options. Note the format for specifying an option:

```
<solverOption name="maxN" solver="cbc" value="5" />
```

The attribute `name` specifies that the option name is `maxN` which is the maximum number of nodes allowed in the branch-and-bound tree, the `solver` attribute specifies the name of the solver that the option should be applied to, and the `value` attribute specifies the value of the option. As a second example, consider the specification

```
<solverOption name="max_iter" solver="ipopt" type="integer" value="2000"/>
```

In this example we are specifying an iteration limit for `Ipopt`. Note the additional attribute `type` that has value `integer`. The `Ipopt` solver requires specifying the data type (string, integer, or numeric) for its options. Different solvers have different options, and we recommend that the user look at the documentation for the solver of interest in order to see which options are available. A good summary of options for COIN-OR solvers is <http://www.coin-or.org/GAMSLinks/gamscoin.pdf>.

If you examine the file `solveroptions.osol` you will see that there is an XML tag with the name `<solverToInvoke>` and that the solver given is `symphony`. **This has no effect on a local solve!** However, if this option file is paired with

```
serviceLocation http://xxx/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
osol solveroptions.osol
```

then in our reference implementation the remote solver service will parse the file `solveroptions.osol`, find the `<solverToInvoke>` tag and then pass the `symphony` solver option to the `OSSolverService` on the remote server.

### 5.1.3 AMPL Summary

1. Tell AMPL to use the `OSAmplClient` as the solver:

```
option solver OSAmplClient;
```

2. Specify options to the `OSAmplClient` solver by using the AMPL command

```
option OSAmplClient\_options "(option string)";
```

3. There are three possible options to specify:
  - the location of the options file using the `osol` option;
  - the location of the remote server using the `serviceLocation` option;
  - the name of the solver using the `solver` option; valid values for this option are installation-dependent. For details, see Table 1 on page 9 and the discussion in Section 4.1.

These three options behave *exactly like* the `solver`, `serviceLocation`, and `osol` options used by the `OSSolverService` described in Section 4.2. Note that the `solver` option only has an effect with a local solve; if the user wants to invoke a specific solver with a remote solve, then this must be done in the OSoL file using the `<solverToInvoke>` element.

4. The options given to `OSAmplClient_options` can be given in any order.
5. If no solver is specified using `OSAmplClient_options`, the default solver is used. (For details see Table 2).
6. A remote solver is called if and only if the `serviceLocation` option is specified.

## 5.2 GAMS and Optimization Services

This section pertains to GAMS version 23.3 (and above) that now includes support for OS. Here we describe the GAMS implementation of Optimization Services. We assume that the user has installed GAMS.

There are two ways to access an OS Solver Service from GAMS, on the local machine or on a remote server. The difference between the two approaches is explained in the next two sections.

### 5.2.1 Using GAMS to Invoke the Local OS Solver Service CoinOS

In GAMS, OS is implemented through the `CoinOS` solver that is packaged with GAMS. The GAMS `CoinOS` solver is really a *solver interface* and is linked through the OS library to the following COIN-OR solvers: `Bonmin`, `Cbc`, `Clp`, `Glpk`, and `Ipsopt`. Think of `CoinOS` as a *metasolver*. As an example (we assume a Windows operating system and use the `.exe` extension), consider:

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms MIP=CoinOS
```

The solver name `CoinOS` is not case sensitive and

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms MIP=coinos
```

will also work. In addition, if

```
Option MIP = CoinOS ;
```

is present in the GAMS file, then writing `MIP=CoinOS` on the command line is unnecessary. Since `Option MIP = CoinOS;` is present in the GAMS model file `eastborne.gms`, we will not specify it explicitly on the command line in the ensuing discussion. To summarize,

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms
```

is equivalent to the two versions of the command given previously. Executing any of the commands will result in the model being solved on the local machine using the COIN-OR solver `Cbc`, the default solver for mixed-integer linear models (MIP).

It is possible to control which solver is selected by `CoinOS`. This is done by providing an *options file* to GAMS. Since the solver is named `CoinOS`, the options file should be named `CoinOS.opt` (the file name is not case sensitive) and the command line call is

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms optfile 1
```

Calling multiple GAMS options files uses the convention

```
optfile=1 corresponds to CoinOS.opt
optfile=2 corresponds to CoinOS.op2
...
optfile=99 corresponds to CoinOS.o99
```

We now explain the valid options that can go into a GAMS option file when using the `CoinOS` solver. They are:

**solver (string):** Specifies the solver that is used to solve an instance. Valid values are `clp`, `cbc`, `glpk`, `ipopt`, and `bonmin`. If a solver name is specified that is not recognized, the default solver for the problem type is used. The value for the solver option is case insensitive. For example, if the file `CoinOS.opt` contains a single line

```
solver glpk
```

then executing

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms optfile 1
```

will result in using `Glpk` to solve the problem.

**writeosil (string):** If this option is used, GAMS will write the optimization instance to file (string) in OSiL format.

**writeosrl (string):** If this option is used, GAMS will write the result of the optimization to file (string) in OSrL format.

The options just described are options for the GAMS modeling language. It is also possible to pass options directly to the COIN-OR solvers by using the `OS` interface. This is done by passing the name of an options file that conforms to the `OSoL` standard. The option

**readosol (string)** specifies the name of an OS option file in `OSoL` format that is given to the solver. Note: The file `CoinOS.opt` is an option file for GAMS but the GAMS option `readosol` in the GAMS options file is specifying the name of an OS options file.

The file `solveroptions.osol` is contained in the OS distribution in the `osolFiles` directory in the `data` directory. This file contains four solver options; two for `Cbc`, one for `Ipopt`, and one for `SYMPHONY` (which is available for remote server calls, but not locally). You can have any number of options. Note the format for specifying an option:

```
<solverOption name="maxN" solver="cbc" value="5" />
```

The attribute **name** specifies that the option name is **maxN** which is the maximum number of nodes allowed in the branch-and-bound tree, the **solver** attribute specifies the name of the solver to which the option should be applied, and the **value** attribute specifies the value of the option.

As a second example, consider the specification

```
<solverOption name="max_iter" solver="ipopt" type="integer" value="2000"/>
```

In this example we are specifying an iteration limit for **Ipopt**. Note the additional attribute **type** that has value **integer**. The **Ipopt** solver requires specifying the data type (string, integer, or numeric) for its options. For a list of options that solvers take, see the file

`docs/solvers/coin.pdf`

inside the GAMS directory. An up-to-date online version of this list is available at <http://www.coin-or.org/GAMSlinks/gamscoin.pdf>.

### 5.2.2 Using GAMS to Invoke a Remote OS Solver Service

We now describe how to call a remote OS solver service using the GAMS **CoinOS**. Before proceeding, it is important to emphasize that when calling a remote OS solver service, the remote service may be a different implementation of OS than the GAMS implementation in **CoinOS**. For example, the remote implementation may also provide access to solvers such as **SYMPHONY**, **Couenne**, and **DyLP**. There are several reasons why you might wish to use a remote OS solver service.

- Have access to a faster machine.
- Be able to submit jobs to run in asynchronous mode – submit your job, turn off your laptop, and check later to see if the job ran.
- Call several additional solvers (**SYMPHONY**, **Couenne** and **DyLP**).

In order to use the COIN-OR solver service it is necessary to specify the service URL. This is done using the **service** option.

**service (string)**: Specifies the URL of the COIN-OR solver service

Use the following value for this option.

```
service http://webdss.ise.ufl.edu:2646/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
```

Default solver values are present, depending on the problem characteristics. For more details, consult Table 2 (p.9). In order to control the solver used, it is necessary to specify the name of the solver inside the XML tag **<solverToInvoke>**. The example **solveroptions.osol** file contains the XML tag

```
<solverToInvoke>symphony</solverToInvoke>
```

If, for example, the **CoinOS.opt** file is

```
solver ipopt
service http://webdss.ise.ufl.edu:2646/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
readosol solveroptions.osol
writeosrl temp.osrl
```

then `Ipopt` is ignored as a solver option and the remote server uses the `SYMPHONY` solver. Valid values for the remote solver service specified in the `<solverToInvoke>` tag are `clp`, `cbc`, `dylp`, `glpk`, `ipopt`, `bonmin`, `couenne`, `symphony`, and `vol`. If the problem is solved using a remote solver service the value specified by the GAMS `solver` option is irrelevant and ignored.

The GAMS `CoinOS` solver behaves differently from other implementations of OS in the following way. Although it is possible to put the address of the remote server in the OS options file, it is not read by the GAMS `CoinOS` solver. The only way to specify a remote solver is through the GAMS `service` option.

By default, the call to the server is a *synchronous* call. The GAMS process will wait for the result and then display the result. This may not be desirable when solving large optimization models. The user may wish to submit a job, turn off his or her computer, and then check at a later date to see if the job is finished. In order to use the remote solver service in this fashion, i.e., *asynchronously*, it is necessary to use the `service_method` option.

`service_method` (string) specifies the method to execute on a server. Valid values for this option are `solve`, `getJobID`, `send`, `knock`, `retrieve`, and `kill`. We explain how to use each of these.

The default value of `service_method` is `solve`. A `solve` invokes the remote service in synchronous mode. When using the `solve` method you can optionally specify a set of solver options in an OSoL file by using the `readosol` option. The remaining values for the `service_method` option are used for an asynchronous call. We illustrate them in the order in which they would most logically be executed.

**service\_method getJobID:** When working in asynchronous mode, the server needs to uniquely identify each job. The `getJobID` service method will result in the server returning a unique job id. For example if the following `CoinOS.opt` file is used

```
service http://webdss.ise.ufl.edu:2646/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
service_method getJobID
```

with the command

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms optfile=1
```

the user will see a rather long job id returned to the screen as output. Assume that the job id returned is `coinor12345xyz`. This job id is used to submit a job to the server with the `send` method. Any job id can be sent to the server as long as it has not been used before.

**service\_method send:** When working in asynchronous mode, use the `send` service method to submit a job. When using the `send` service method a job id is required. An options file must be present and must specify a job id that has not been used before. Assume that in the file `CoinOS.opt` we specify the options:

```
service http://webdss.ise.ufl.edu:2646/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
service_method send
readosol sendWithJobID.osol
```

The `sendWithJobID.osol` options file is identical to the `solveroptions.osol` options file except that it has an additional XML tag:

```
<jobID>coinor12345xyz</jobID>
```

We then execute

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms optfile=1
```

If all goes well, the response to the above command should be: “Problem instance successfully sent to OS service”. At this point the server will schedule the job and work on it. It is possible to turn off the user computer at this point. At some point the user will want to know if the job is finished. This is accomplished using the `knock` service method.

**service\_method knock:** When working in asynchronous mode, this is used to check the status of a job. Consider the following `CoinOS.opt` file:

```
service http://webdss.ise.ufl.edu:2646/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
service_method knock
readosol sendWithJobID.osol
readospl knock.ospl
writeospl knockResult.ospl
```

The `knock` service method requires two inputs. The first input is the name of an options file, in this case `sendWithJobID.osol`, specified through the `readosol` option. In addition, a file in OSPL format is required. You can use the `knock.ospl` file provided in the binary distribution. This file name is specified using the `readospl` option. If no job id is specified in the OSOL file then the status of all jobs on the server will be returned in the file specified by the `writeospl` option. If a job id is specified in the OSOL file, then only information on the specified job id is returned in the file specified by the `writeospl` option. In this case the file name is `knockResult.ospl`. We then execute

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms optfile=1
```

The file `knockResult.ospl` will contain information similar to the following:

```
<job jobID="coinor12345xyz">
  <state>finished</state>
  <serviceURI>http://192.168.0.219:8443/os/OSSolverService.jws</serviceURI>
  <submitTime>2009-11-10T02:13:11.245-06:00</submitTime>
  <startTime>2009-11-10T02:13:11.245-06:00</startTime>
  <endTime>2009-11-10T02:13:12.605-06:00</endTime>
  <duration>1.36</duration>
</job>
```

Note that the job is complete as indicated in the `<state>` tag. It is now time to actually retrieve the job solution. This is done with the `retrieve` method.

**service\_method retrieve:** When working in asynchronous mode, this method is used to retrieve the job solution. It is necessary when using `retrieve` to specify an options file and in that options file specify a job id. Consider the following `CoinOS.opt` file:

```
service http://webdss.ise.ufl.edu:2646/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
service_method retrieve
readosol sendWithJobID.osol
writeosrl answer.osrl
```

When we then execute

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms optfile=1
```

the result is written to the file `answer.osrl`.

Finally there is a `kill` service method which is used to kill a job that was submitted by mistake or is running too long on the server.

**service\_method kill:** When working in asynchronous mode, this method is used to terminate a job. You should specify an OSoL file containing the JobID by using the `readosol` option.

### 5.2.3 GAMS Summary:

1. In order to use OS with GAMS you can either specify `CoinOS` as an option to GAMS at the command line,

```
gams eastborne.gms MIP=CoinOS
```

or you can place the statement `Option ProblemType = CoinOS;` somewhere in the model *before* the `Solve` statement in the GAMS file.

2. If no options are given, then the model will be solved locally using the default solver (see Table 2 on p.9).
3. In order to control behavior (for example, whether a local or remote solver is used) an options file, `CoinOS.opt`, must be used as follows

```
gams.exe eastborne.gms optfile=1
```

4. The `CoinOS.opt` file is used to specify *eight potential options*:

- **service (string):** using the COIN-OR solver server; this is done by giving the option  

```
service http://webdss.ise.ufl.edu:2646/OSServer/services/OSSolverService
```

- **readosol (string):** whether or not to send the solver an options file; this is done by giving the option

```
readosol solveroptions.osol
```

- **solver (string):** if a local solve is being done, a specific solver is specified by the option

```
solver solver_name
```

Valid values are `clp`, `cbc`, `glpk`, `ipopt` and `bonmin`. When the COIN-OR solver service is being used, the only way to specify the solver to use is through the `<solverToInvoke>` tag in an OSoL file. In this case the valid values for the solver are `clp`, `cbc`, `dylp`, `glpk`, `ipopt`, `bonmin`, `couenne`, `symphony` and `vol`.

- **writeosrl (string):** the solution result can be put into an OSrL file by specifying the option

```
writeosrl osrl_file_name
```



- **writesil (string)**: the optimization instance can be put into an OSiL file by specifying the option

```
writesil  osil_file_name
```

- **writespl (string)**: Specifies the name of an OSpL file in which the answer from the knock or kill method is written, e.g.,

```
writespl  write_ospl_file_name
```

- **readspl (string)**: Specifies the name of an OSpL file that the knock method sends to the server

```
readspl  read_ospl_file_name
```

- **service\_method (string)**: Specifies the method to execute on a server. Valid values for this option are `solve`, `getJobID`, `send`, `knock`, `retrieve`, and `kill`.

5. If an OS options file is passed to the GAMS CoinOS solver using the GAMS CoinOS option `readsol`, then GAMS does not interpret or act on any options in this file. The options in the OS options file are passed directly to either: i) the default local solver, ii) the local solver specified by the GAMS CoinOS option `solver`, or iii) to the remote OS solver service if one is specified by the GAMS CoinOS option `service`.

### 5.3 MATLAB: Using MATLAB to Build and Run OSiL Model Instances

MATLAB has powerful matrix generation and manipulation routines. This section is for users who wish to use MATLAB to generate the matrix coefficients for linear or quadratic programs and use the OS library to call a solver and get the result back. Using MATLAB with OS requires the user to compile a file `OSMatlabSolverMex.cpp` into a MATLAB executable file (these files will have a `.mex` extension) after compilation. This executable file is linked to the OS library and works through the MATLAB API to communicate with the OS library.

The OS MATLAB application differs from the other applications in the `OS/applications` folder in that makefiles are not used. The file

```
OS/applications/matlab/OSMatlabSolverMex.cpp
```

must be compiled inside the MATLAB command window. Building the OS MATLAB application requires the following steps.

**Step 1:** The MATLAB installation contains a file `mexopts.sh` (UNIX) or `mexopts.bat` (Windows) that must be edited. This file typically resides in the `bin` directory of the MATLAB application. This file contains compile and link options that must be properly set. Appropriate paths to header files and libraries must be set. This discussion is based on the assumption that the user has either done a `make install` for the OS project or has downloaded a binary archive of the OS project. In either case there will be an `include` directory with the necessary header files and a `lib` directory with the necessary libraries for linking.

First edit the `CXXFLAGS` option to point to the header files in the `cppad` directory and the `include` directory in the project root. For example, it should look like:

```
CXXFLAGS='-fno-common -no-cpp-precomp -fexceptions
-I/Users/kmartin/Documents/files/code/cpp/OScpp/COIN-OS/
-I/Users/kmartin/Documents/files/code/cpp/OScpp/COIN-OS/include'
```

Next edit the CXXLIBS flag so that the OS and supporting libraries are included. For example, it should look like the following<sup>1</sup> on a MacIntosh:

```
CXXLIBS="$MLIBS -lstdc++ -L/Users/kmartin/coin/os-trunk/vpath/lib
-lOS -lbonmin -lIpopt -l0siCbc -l0siClp -l0siSym -l0siVol
-l0siDyIp -lCbc -lCgl -l0si -lClp -lSym -lVol -lDyIp
-lCoinUtils -lCbcSolver -lcoinmumps -ldl -lpthread
/usr/local/lib/libgfortran.dylib -lgcc_s.10.5 -lgcc_ext.10.5 -lSystem -lm
```

**Important:** It has been the authors' experience that setting the necessary MATLAB compiler and linker options to build the `mex` can be tricky. We include in

`OS/applications/matlab/macOSXscript.txt`

the exact options that work on a 64 bit Mac with MATLAB release R2009b.

**Step 2:** Build the MATLAB executable file. Start MATLAB and in the MATLAB command window connect to the directory `OS/examples/matlab` which contains the file

`OSMatlabSolverMex.cpp`

**Step 3:** Execute the command:

```
mex -v OSMatlabSolverMex.cpp
```

On a 64 bit machine the command should be

```
mex -v -largeArrayDims OSMatlabSolverMex.cpp
```

The name of the resulting executable is system dependent. On an Intel MAC OS X 64 bit chip the name will be `OSMatlabSolver.mexmaci64`, on a Windows system it is `OSMatlabSolver.mexw32`.

**Step 4:** Set the MATLAB path to include the directory `OS/applications/matlab` (or more generally, the directory with the `mex` executable).

**Step 5:** In the MATLAB command window, connect to the directory `OS/data/matlabFiles`. Run either of the MATLAB files `markowitz.m` or `parincLinear.m`. The result should be displayed in the MATLAB browser window.

---

<sup>1</sup>The libraries to include in CXXLIBS depends upon which projects were compiled with OS.

To use the `OSMatlabSolver` it is necessary to put the coefficients from a linear, integer, or quadratic problem into MATLAB arrays. We illustrate for the linear program:

$$\text{Minimize} \quad 10x_1 + 9x_2 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Subject to} \quad .7x_1 + x_2 \leq 630 \quad (2)$$

$$.5x_1 + (5/6)x_2 \leq 600 \quad (3)$$

$$x_1 + (2/3)x_2 \leq 708 \quad (4)$$

$$.1x_1 + .25x_2 \leq 135 \quad (5)$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \quad (6)$$

The MATLAB representation of this problem in MATLAB arrays is

```
% the number of constraints
numCon = 4;
% the number of variables
numVar = 2;
% variable types
VarType='CC';
% constraint types
A = [.7 1; .5 5/6; 1 2/3 ; .1 .25];
BU = [630 600 708 135];
BL = [];
OBJ = [10 9];
VL = [-inf -inf];
VU = [];
ObjType = 1;
% leave Q empty if there are no quadratic terms
Q = [];
prob_name = 'ParInc Example'
password = '';
%
%
%the solver
solverName = 'ipopt';
%the remote service address
%if left empty we solve locally -- must solve locally for now
serviceAddress='';
% now solve
callMatlabSolver( numVar, numCon, A, BL, BU, OBJ, VL, VU, ObjType, ...
    VarType, Q, prob_name, password, solverName, serviceAddress)
```

This example m-file is in the data directory and is file `parincLinear.m`. Note that in addition to the problem formulation we can specify which solver to use through the `solverName` variable. If solution with a remote solver is desired this can be specified with the `serviceAddress` variable. If the `serviceAddress` is left empty, i.e.,

```
serviceAddress='';
```

then a local solver is used. In this case it is crucial that the appropriate solver is linked in with the `matlabSolver` executable using the `CXXLIBS` option.

The data directory also contains the m-file `template.m` which contains extensive comments about how to formulate the problems in MATLAB. The user can edit `template.m` as necessary and create a new instance.

A second example which is a quadratic problem is given in Section 5.3. The appropriate MATLAB m-file is `markowitz.m` in the `data/matlabFiles` directory. The problem consists in investing in a number of stocks. The expected returns and risks (covariances) of the stocks are known. Assume that the decision variables  $x_i$  represent the fraction of wealth invested in stock  $i$  and that no stock can have more than 75% of the total wealth. The problem then is to minimize the total risk subject to a budget constraint and a lower bound on the expected portfolio return.

Assume that there are three stocks (variables) and two constraints (not counting the upper limit of .75 on the investment variables).

```
% the number of constraints
numCon = 2;
% the number of variables
numVar = 3;
```

All the variables are continuous:

```
VarType='CCC';
```

Next define the constraint upper and lower bounds. There are two constraints, an equality constraint (an  $=$ ) and a lower bound on portfolio return of .15 (a  $\geq$ ). These two constraints are expressed as

```
BL = [1    .15];
BU = [1    inf];
```

The variables are nonnegative and have upper limits of .75 (no stock can comprise more than 75% of the portfolio). This is written as

```
VL = [];
VU = [.75 .75 .75];
```

There are no nonzero linear coefficients in the objective function, but the objective function vector must always be defined and the number of components of this vector is the number of variables.

```
OBJ = [0 0 0 ]
```

Now the linear constraints. In the model the two linear constraints are

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 1 \\ 0.3221x_1 + 0.0963x_2 + 0.1187x_3 &\geq .15 \end{aligned}$$

These are expressed as

```
A = [ 1 1 1 ;
      0.3221 0.0963 0.1187 ];
```

Now for the quadratic terms. The only quadratic terms are in the objective function. The objective function is

$$\min 0.425349694x_1^2 + 0.445784443x_2^2 + 0.231430983x_3^2 + 2 \times 0.185218694x_1x_2 \\ + 2 \times 0.139312545x_1x_3 + 2 \times 0.13881692x_2x_3$$

To represent quadratic terms MATLAB uses an array, here denoted  $Q$ , which has four rows, and a column for each quadratic term. In this example there are six quadratic terms. The first row of  $Q$  is the row index where the terms appear. By convention, the objective function has index -1, and constraints are counted starting at 0. The first row of  $Q$  is

```
-1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1
```

The second row of  $Q$  is the index of the first variable in the quadratic term. We use zero based counting. Variable  $x_1$  has index 0, variable  $x_2$  has index 1, and variable  $x_3$  has index 2. Therefore, the second row of  $Q$  is

```
0 1 2 0 0 1
```

The third row of  $Q$  is the index of the second variable in the quadratic term. Therefore, the third row of  $Q$  is

```
0 1 2 1 2 2
```

Note that terms such as  $x_1^2$  are treated as  $x_1 * x_1$  and that mixed terms such as  $x_2x_3$  could be given in either order.

The last (fourth) row is the coefficient. Therefore, the fourth row reads

```
.425349654 .445784443 .231430983 .370437388 .27862509 .27763384
```

The full array is

```
Q = [ -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1;
       0 1 2 0 0 1 ;
       0 1 2 1 2 2;
       .425349654 .445784443 .231430983 .370437388 .27862509 .27763384
     ];
```

Finally, name the problem, specify the solver (in this case `ipopt`), the service address (and password if required by the service), and call the solver.

```

% replace Template with the name of your problem
prob_name = 'Markowitz Example from Anderson, Sweeney, Williams, and Martin';
password = '';
%
%the solver
solverName = 'ipopt';
%the remote service service address
%if left empty we solve locally -- must solve locally for now
serviceAddress='';
% now solve
OSCallMatlabSolver( numVar, numCon, A, BL, BU, OBJ, VL, VU, ObjType, VarType, ...
    Q, prob_name, password, solverName, serviceAddress)

```

## 6 File Upload: Using a File Upload Package

When the `OSAgent` class methods `solve` and `send` are used, the problem instance in OSiL format is packaged into a SOAP envelope and communication with the server is done using Web Services (for example Tomcat Axis). However, packing an XML file into a SOAP envelope may add considerably to the size of the file (e.g., each `<` is replaced with `&lt;` and each `>` is replaced with `&gt;`). Also, communicating with a Web Services servlet can further slow down the communication process. This could be a problem for large instances. An alternative approach is to use the `OSFileUpload` executable on the client end and the Java servlet `OSFileUpload` on the server end. The `OSFileUpload` client executable is contained in the `fileUpload` directory inside the `applications` directory.

This servlet is based upon the Apache Commons FileUpload. See

<http://jakarta.apache.org/commons/fileupload/>

The `OSFileUpload` Java class, `OSFileUpload.class` is in the directory

`webapps\os\WEB-INF\classes\org\optimizationservices\oscommon\util`

relative to the Web server root. The source code `OSFileUpload.class` is in the directory

`COIN-OS/OS/applications/fileUpload`

Before you can use `OSFileUpload`, you must give a valid URL for the location of the server. This information must be provided in line 82 of the source code `OSFileUpload.cpp` before issuing the `make` command (in a unix environment) or the `build` (under MS VisualStudio).

The `OSFileUpload` client executable (see `OS/applications/fileUpload`) takes one argument on the command line, which is the location of the file on the local directory to upload to the server. For example,

```
OSFileUpload ../../data/osilFiles/parincQuadratic.osil
```

The `OSFileUpload` executable first creates an `OSAgent` object.

```

OSSolverAgent* osagent = NULL;
osagent = new OSSolverAgent("http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/fileupload/servlet/OSFileUpload");

```

The `OSAgent` has a method `OSFileUpload` with the signature

```
std::string OSFileUpload(std::string osilFileName, std::string osil);
```

where `osilFileName` is the name of the OSiL problem instance to be written on the server and `osil` is the string with the actual instance. Then

```
osagent->OSFileUpload(osilFileName, osil);
```

will place a call to the server, upload the problem instance in the `osil` string, and cause the server to write on its hard drive a file named `osilFileName`. In our implementation, the uploaded file (`parincQuadratic.osil`) is saved to the `/home/kmartin/temp/parincQuadratic.osil` on the server hard drive. This location is used in the `osol` file as shown below.

Once the file is on the server, invoke the local `OSSolverService` by

```
./OSSolverService config ../data/configFiles/testremote.config
```

where the `config` file is as follows. Notice there is no `osil` option as the OSiL file has already been uploaded and its instance location (“local” to the server) is specified in the `osol` file.

```
osol ../data/osolFiles/remoteSolve2.osol
serviceLocation http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/os/OSSolverService.jws
serviceMethod solve
```

and the `osol` file is

```
<osol xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
  <general>
    <instanceLocation locationType="local">
      /home/kmartin/temp/parincQuadratic.osil
    </instanceLocation>
    <solverToInvoke>ipopt</solverToInvoke>
  </general>
</osol>
```

## 7 OS Protocols

The objective of OS is to provide a set of standards for representing optimization instances, results, solver options, and communication between clients and solvers in a distributed environment using Web Services. These standards are specified by W3C XSD schemas. The schemas for the OS project are contained in the `schemas` folder under the OS root. There are numerous schemas in this directory that are part of the OS standard. For a full description of all the schemas see Ma [4]. We briefly discuss the standards most relevant to the current version of the OS project.

### 7.1 OSiL (Optimization Services instance Language)

OSiL is an XML-based language for representing instances of large-scale optimization problems including linear programs, mixed-integer programs, quadratic programs, and very general nonlinear programs.

OSiL stores optimization problem instances as XML files. Consider the following problem instance, which is a modification of an example of Rosenbrock [6]:

$$\text{Minimize } (1 - x_0)^2 + 100(x_1 - x_0^2)^2 + 9x_1 \quad (7)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_0 + 10.5x_0^2 + 11.7x_1^2 + 3x_0x_1 \leq 25 \quad (8)$$

$$\ln(x_0x_1) + 7.5x_0 + 5.25x_1 \geq 10 \quad (9)$$

$$x_0, x_1 \geq 0 \quad (10)$$

There are two continuous variables,  $x_0$  and  $x_1$ , in this instance, each with a lower bound of 0. Figure 5 shows how we represent this information in an XML-based OSiL file. Like all XML files, this is a text file that contains both *markup* and *data*. In this case there are two types of markup, *elements* (or *tags*) and *attributes* that describe the elements. Specifically, there are a `<variables>` element and two `<var>` elements. Each `<var>` element has attributes `lb`, `name`, and `type` that describe properties of a decision variable: its lower bound, “name”, and domain type (continuous, binary, general integer).

To be useful for communication between solvers and modeling languages, OSiL instance files must conform to a standard. An XML-based representation standard is imposed through the use of a *W3C XML Schema*. The W3C, or World Wide Web Consortium ([www.w3.org](http://www.w3.org)), promotes standards for the evolution of the web and for interoperability between web products. XML Schema ([www.w3.org/XML/Schema](http://www.w3.org/XML/Schema)) is one such standard. A schema specifies the elements and attributes that define a specific XML vocabulary. The W3C XML Schema is thus a schema for schemas; it specifies the elements and attributes for a schema that in turn specifies elements and attributes for an XML vocabulary such as OSiL. An XML file that conforms to a schema is called *valid* for that schema.

By analogy to object-oriented programming, a schema is akin to a header file in C++ that defines the members and methods in a class. Just as a class in C++ very explicitly describes member and method names and properties, a schema explicitly describes element and attribute names and properties.

```
<variables numberOfVariables="2">
  <var lb="0" name="x0" type="C"/>
  <var lb="0" name="x1" type="C"/>
</variables>
```

Figure 5: The `<variables>` element for the example (1)–(4).

```
<xs:complexType name="Variables">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element name="var" type="Variable" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </xs:sequence>
  <xs:attribute name="numberOfVariables"
    type="xs:positiveInteger" use="required"/>
</xs:complexType>
```

Figure 6: The `Variables` complexType in the OSiL schema.



Figure 6 is a piece of our schema for OSiL. In W3C XML Schema jargon, it defines a *complexType*, whose purpose is to specify elements and attributes that are allowed to appear in a valid XML instance file such as the one excerpted in Figure 5. In particular, Figure 6 defines the complexType named **Variables**, which comprises an element named `<var>` and an attribute named `numberOfVariables`. The `numberOfVariables` attribute is of a standard type `positiveInteger`, whereas the `<var>` element is a user-defined complexType named **Variable**. Thus the complexType **Variables** contains a sequence of `<var>` elements that are of complexType **Variable**. OSiL's schema must also provide a specification for the **Variable** complexType, which is shown in Figure 7.

In OSiL the linear part of the problem is stored in the `<linearConstraintCoefficients>` element, which stores the coefficient matrix using three arrays as proposed in the earlier LPFML schema [2]. There is a child element of `<linearConstraintCoefficients>` to represent each array: `<value>` for an array of nonzero coefficients, `<rowIdx>` or `<colIdx>` for a corresponding array of row indices or column indices, and `<start>` for an array that indicates where each row or column begins in the previous two arrays. This is shown in Figure 8.

The quadratic part of the problem is represented in Figure 9.

The nonlinear part of the problem is given in Figure 10.

The complete OSiL representation can be found in the Appendix (Section 14.1).

## 7.2 OSnL (Optimization Services nonlinear Language)

The OSnL schema is imported by the OSiL schema and is used to represent the nonlinear part of an optimization instance. This is explained in greater detail in Section 11.2.4. Also refer to Figure 10 for an illustration of elements from the OSnL standard. This figure represents the nonlinear part of the objective in equation (7), that is,

$$(1 - x_0)^2 + 100(x_1 - x_0^2)^2.$$

```
<xs:complexType name="Variable">
  <xs:attribute name="name" type="xs:string" use="optional"/>
  <xs:attribute name="init" type="xs:string" use="optional"/>
  <xs:attribute name="type" use="optional" default="C">
    <xs:simpleType>
      <xs:restriction base="xs:string">
        <xs:enumeration value="C"/>
        <xs:enumeration value="B"/>
        <xs:enumeration value="I"/>
        <xs:enumeration value="S"/>
      </xs:restriction>
    </xs:simpleType>
  </xs:attribute>
  <xs:attribute name="lb" type="xs:double" use="optional" default="0"/>
  <xs:attribute name="ub" type="xs:double" use="optional" default="INF"/>
</xs:complexType>
```

Figure 7: The **Variable** complexType in the OSiL schema.

```

<linearConstraintCoefficients numberOfValues="3">
  <start>
    <el>0</el><el>2</el><el>3</el>
  </start>
  <rowIdx>
    <el>0</el><el>1</el><el>1</el>
  </rowIdx>
  <value>
    <el>1.</el><el>7.5</el><el>5.25</el>
  </value>
</linearConstraintCoefficients>

```

Figure 8: The `<linearConstraintCoefficients>` element for constraints (8) and (9).

```

<quadraticCoefficients numberOfQuadraticTerms="3">
  <qTerm idx="0" idxOne="0" idxTwo="0" coef="10.5"/>
  <qTerm idx="0" idxOne="1" idxTwo="1" coef="11.7"/>
  <qTerm idx="0" idxOne="0" idxTwo="1" coef="3."/>
</quadraticCoefficients>

```

Figure 9: The `<quadraticCoefficients>` element for constraint (8).

### 7.3 OSrL (Optimization Services result Language)

OSrL is an XML-based language for representing the solution of large-scale optimization problems including linear programs, mixed-integer programs, quadratic programs, and very general nonlinear programs. An example solution (for the problem given in (7)–(10) ) in OSrL format is given below.

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?xml-stylesheet type = "text/xsl"
  href = "/Users/kmartin/Documents/files/code/cpp/OScpp/COIN-OSX/OS/stylesheets/OSrL.xslt"?>
<osrl xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
  http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
  <general>
    <generalStatus type="normal"/>
    <serviceName>Solved using a LINDO service</serviceName>
    <instanceName>Modified Rosenbrock</instanceName>
  </general>
  <optimization numberOfSolutions="1" numberOfVariables="2" numberOfConstraints="2"
    numberOfObjectives="1">
    <solution targetObjectiveIdx="-1">
      <status type="optimal"/>
      <variables>
        <values numberOfVar="2">
          <var idx="0">0.87243</var>
          <var idx="1">0.741417</var>
        </values>

```

```

<nl idx="-1">
  <plus>
    <power>
      <minus>
        <number value="1.0"/>
        <variable coef="1.0" idx="0"/>
      </minus>
      <number value="2.0"/>
    </power>
    <times>
      <power>
        <minus>
          <variable coef="1.0" idx="0"/>
          <power>
            <variable coef="1.0" idx="1"/>
            <number value="2.0"/>
          </power>
        </minus>
        <number value="2.0"/>
      </power>
      <number value="100"/>
    </times>
  </plus>
</nl>

```

Figure 10: The `<nl>` element for the nonlinear part of the objective (7).

```

    <other numberOfVar="2" name="reduced costs" description="the variable reduced costs">
      <var idx="0">-4.06909e-08</var>
      <var idx="1">0</var>
    </other>
  </variables>
  <objectives>
    <values numberOfObj="1">
      <obj idx="-1">6.7279</obj>
    </values>
  </objectives>
  <constraints>
    <dualValues numberOfCon="2">
      <con idx="0">0</con>
      <con idx="1">0.766294</con>
    </dualValues>
  </constraints>
</solution>
</optimization>

```

## 7.4 OSoL (Optimization Services option Language)

OSoL is an XML-based language for representing options that get passed to an optimization solver or a hosted optimization solver Web service. It contains both standard options for generic services

and extendable option tags for solver-specific directives. Several examples of files in OSoL format are presented in Section 4.4.

## 7.5 OSpL (Optimization Services process Language)

This is a standard used to enquire about dynamic process information that is kept by the Optimization Services registry. The string passed to the `knock` method is in the OSpL format. See the example given in Section 4.4.5.

## 8 The OSInstance API

The OSInstance API can be used to:

- get information about model parameters, or convert the `OSExpressionTree` into a prefix or postfix representation through a collection of `get()` methods,
- modify, or even create an instance from scratch, using a number of `set()` methods,
- provide information to solvers that require function evaluations, Jacobian and Hessian sparsity patterns, function gradient evaluations, and Hessian evaluations.

### 8.1 Get Methods

The `get()` methods are used by other classes to access data in an existing `OSInstance` object or get an expression tree representation of an instance in postfix or prefix format. Assume `osinstance` is an object in the `OSInstance` class created as illustrated in Figure 13. Then, for example,

```
osinstance->getVariableNumber();
```

will return an integer which is the number of variables in the problem,

```
osinstance->getVariableTypes();
```

will return a `char` pointer to the variable types (C for continuous, B for binary, and I for general integer),

```
getVariableLowerBounds();
```

will return a `double` pointer to the lower bound on each variable. There are similar `get()` methods for the constraints. There are numerous `get()` methods for the data in the `<linearConstraintCoefficients>` element, the `<quadraticCoefficients>` element, and the `<nonlinearExpressions>` element.

When an `osinstance` object is created, it is stored as an expression tree in an `OSExpressionTree` object. However, some solver APIs (e.g., LINDO) may take the data in a different format such as postfix and prefix. There are methods to return the data in either postfix or prefix format.

First define a `vector` of pointers to `OSnLNode` objects.

```
std::vector<OSnLNode*> postfixVec;
```

then get the expression tree for the objective function (index = -1) as a postfix vector of nodes.

```
postfixVec = osinstance->getNonlinearExpressionTreeInPostfix( -1);
```

If, for example, the `osinstance` object was the in-memory representation of the instance illustrated in Section 14.1 and Figure 17 then the code

```
for (i = 0 ; i < n; i++){  
    cout << postfixVec[i]->snodeName << endl;  
}
```

will produce

```
number  
variable  
minus  
number  
power  
number  
variable  
variable  
number  
power  
minus  
number  
power  
times  
plus
```

This postfix traversal of the expression tree in Figure 17 lists all the nodes by recursively processing all subtrees, followed by the root node. The method `processNonlinearExpressions()` in the `LindoSolver` class in the `OSSolverInterfaces` library component illustrates the use of a postfix vector of `OSnLNode` objects to build a Lindo model instance.

## 8.2 Set Methods

The `set()` methods can be used to build an in-memory `OSInstance` object. A code example of how to do this is in Section 9.2.

## 8.3 Calculate Methods

The `calculate()` methods are described in Section 13.

## 8.4 Modifying an `OSInstance` Object

The `OSInstance` API is designed to be used to either build an in-memory `OSInstance` object or provide information about the in-memory object (e.g., the number of variables). This interface is not designed for problem modification. We plan on later providing an `OSModification` object for this task. However, by directly accessing an `OSInstance` object it is possible to modify parameters in the following classes:

- Variables
- Objectives
- Constraints

- **LinearConstraintCoefficients**

For example, to modify the first nonzero objective function coefficient of the first objective function to 10.7 the user would write,

```
osinstance->instanceData->objectives->obj[0]->coef[0]->value = 10.7;
```

If the user wanted to modify the actual number of nonzero coefficients as declared by

```
osinstance->instanceData->objectives->obj[0]->numberOfObjCoef;
```

then the only safe course of action would be to delete the current **OSInstance** object and build a new one with the modified coefficients. It is strongly recommend that no changes are made involving allocated memory – i.e., any kind of **numberOf\*\*\***. Modifying an objective function coefficient is illustrated in the **OSModDemo** example. See Section 9.4.

After modifying an **OSInstance** object, it is necessary to set certain boolean variables to true in order for these changes to get reflected in the OS solver interfaces.

- **Variables** – if any changes are made to a parameter in this class set

```
osinstance->bVariablesModified = true;
```

- **Objectives** – if any changes are made to a parameter in this class set

```
osinstance->bObjectivesModified = true;
```

- **Constraints** – if any changes are made to a parameter in this class set

```
osinstance->bConstraintsModified = true;
```

- **LinearConstraintCoefficients** – if any changes are made to a parameter in this class set

```
osinstance->bAMatrixModified = true;
```

At this point, if the user desires to modify an **OSInstance** object that contains nonlinear terms, the only safe strategy is to delete the object and build a new object that contains the modifications.

## 8.5 Printing a Model for Debugging

The OSiL representation for the test problem **rosenbrockmod.osil** is given in Appendix 14.1. Many users will not find the OSiL representation useful for model debugging purposes. For users who wish to see a model in a standard infix representation we provide a method **printModel()**. Assume that we have an **osinstance** object in the **OSInstance** class that represents the model of interest. The call

```
osinstance->printModel( -1)
```

will result in printing the (first) objective function indexed by -1. In order to print constraint *k* use

```
osinstance->printModel( k)
```

In order to print the entire model use

```
osinstance->printModel( )
```

Below we give the result of `osinstance->printModel( )` for the problem `rosenbrockmod.osil`.

Objectives:

```
min 9*x_1 + (((1 - x_0) ^ 2) + (100*((x_1 - (x_0 ^ 2)) ^ 2)))
```

Constraints:

```
(((((10.5*x_0)*x_0) + ((11.7*x_1)*x_1)) + ((3*x_0)*x_1)) + x_0) <= 25  
10 <= ((ln( x_0*x_1)) + (7.5*x_0)) + (5.25*x_1))
```

Variables:

```
x_0 Type = C Lower Bound = 0 Upper Bound = 1.7976931348623157e308  
x_1 Type = C Lower Bound = 0 Upper Bound = 1.7976931348623157e308
```

## 9 Code samples to illustrate the OS Project

The binary distribution contains a number of sample applications that illustrate the use of the OS libraries and other aspects of the OS project. The sample code is found in the `examples` folder. Each application contains a makefile for unix users; there are also MS Visual Studio project files for Windows users. At present only MS Visual Studio 2008 is supported.

Under Windows, connect to the `MSVisualStudio-v9` directory and open `examples.sln` in Visual Studio. All examples can then be built simply by pushing F7 (Build solution). To build only selected examples it is necessary to open the Configuration Manager from the Build menu and select the projects desired to be built.

To build any of the examples under unix, it is at present necessary to set the environment variable `PKG_CONFIG_PATH` to point to the folder `lib/pkgconfig`. Unless some directories were moved after installing the download, the following unix command will suffice:

```
export PKG_CONFIG_PATH=../../lib/pkgconfig
```

After that, connect to the appropriate directory for the desired project and run `make`. For instance, the code and makefile for the `osModDemo` example of section 9.4 is in the directory

`examples/osModDemo`

The `Makefile` in each example directory is fairly simple and is designed to be easily modified by the user if necessary. The part of the `Makefile` to be adjusted, if necessary, is

```
#####  
# You can modify this example makefile to fit for your own program. #  
# Usually, you only need to change the five CHANGEME entries below. #  
#####  
  
# CHANGEME: This should be the name of your executable  
EXE = OSModDemo  
# CHANGEME: Here is the name of all object files corresponding to the source  
# code that you wrote in order to define the problem statement
```

```

OBS = OSModDemo.o
# CHANGE: Additional libraries
ADDLIBS =
# CHANGE: Additional flags for compilation (e.g., include flags)
ADDINCFLAGS = -I${prefix}/include
# CHANGE: SRC: is the path to the source code; VPATH is the path to
# the executable. It is assumed that the lib directory is in prefix/lib
# and the header files are in prefix/include
SRC = /Users/kmartin/Documents/files/code/cpp/OScpp/COIN-OS/OS/examples/osModDemo
VPATH = /Users/kmartin/Documents/files/code/cpp/OScpp/COIN-OS/OS/examples/osModDemo
prefix = /Users/kmartin/Documents/files/code/cpp/OScpp/vpath

```

Developers can use the Makefiles as a starting point for building applications that use the OS project libraries.

## 9.1 Algorithmic Differentiation: Using the OS Algorithmic Differentiation Methods

In the `OS/examples/algorithmicDiff` folder is test code `OSAlgorithmicDiffTest.cpp`. This code illustrates the key methods in the `OSInstance` API that are used for algorithmic differentiation. These methods are described in Section 13.

## 9.2 Instance Generator: Using the OSInstance API to Generate Instances

This example is found in the `instanceGenerator` folder in the `examples` folder. This example illustrates how to build a complete in-memory model instance using the `OSInstance` API. See the code `OSInstanceGenerator.cpp` for the complete example. Here we provide a few highlights to illustrate the power of the API.

The first step is to create an `OSInstance` object.

```

OSInstance *osinstance;
osinstance = new OSInstance();

```

The instance has two variables,  $x_0$  and  $x_1$ . Variable  $x_0$  is a continuous variable with lower bound of  $-100$  and upper bound of  $100$ . Variable  $x_1$  is a binary variable. First declare the instance to have two variables.

```

osinstance->setVariableNumber( 2);

```

Next, add each variable. There is an `addVariable` method with the signature

```

addVariable(int index, string name, double lowerBound, double upperBound, char type);

```

Then the calls for these two variables are

```

osinstance->addVariable(0, "x0", -100, 100, 'C');
osinstance->addVariable(1, "x1", 0, 1, 'B');

```

There is also a method `setVariables` for adding more than one variable simultaneously. The objective function(s) and constraints are added through similar calls.

Nonlinear terms are also easily added. The following code illustrates how to add a nonlinear term  $x_0 * x_1$  in the `<nonlinearExpressions>` section of `OSiL`. This term is part of constraint 1 and is the second of six constraints contained in the instance.



```

osinstance->instanceData->nonlinearExpressions->numberOfNonlinearExpressions = 6;
osinstance->instanceData->nonlinearExpressions->nl = new Nl*[ 6 ];
osinstance->instanceData->nonlinearExpressions->nl[ 1] = new Nl();
osinstance->instanceData->nonlinearExpressions->nl[ 1]->idx = 1;
osinstance->instanceData->nonlinearExpressions->nl[ 1]->osExpressionTree =
new OSExpressionTree();
// the nonlinear expression is stored as a vector of nodes in postfix format
// create a variable nl node for x0
nlNodeVariablePoint = new OSnLNodeVariable();
nlNodeVariablePoint->idx=0;
nlNodeVec.push_back( nlNodeVariablePoint);
// create the nl node for x1
nlNodeVariablePoint = new OSnLNodeVariable();
nlNodeVariablePoint->idx=1;
nlNodeVec.push_back( nlNodeVariablePoint);
// create the nl node for *
nlNodePoint = new OSnLNodeTimes();
nlNodeVec.push_back( nlNodePoint);
// now the expression tree
osinstance->instanceData->nonlinearExpressions->nl[ 1]->osExpressionTree->m_treeRoot =
nlNodeVec[ 0]->createExpressionTreeFromPostfix( nlNodeVec);

```

### 9.3 branchCutPrice: Using Bcp

This example illustrates the use of the COIN-OR Bcp (Branch-cut-and-price) project. This project offers the user with the ability to have control over each node in the branch and process. This makes it possible to add user-defined cuts and/or user-defined variables. At each node in the tree, a call is made to the method `process_lp_result()`. In the example problem we illustrate 1) adding COIN-OR Cgl cuts, 2) a user-defined cut, and 3) a user-defined variable.

### 9.4 OSModificationDemo: Modifying an In-Memory OSInstance Object

The `osModificationDemo` folder holds the file `OSModificationDemo.cpp`. This is similar to the `instanceGenerator` example. In this case, a simple linear program is generated. However, this example also illustrates how to modify an in-memory `OSInstance` object. In particular, we illustrate how to modify an objective function coefficient. Note the dual occurrence of the following code

```
solver->osinstance->bObjectivesModified = true;
```

in the `OSModificationDemo.cpp` file (lines 177 and 187). This line is critical, since otherwise changes made to the `OSInstance` object will not be passed to the solver.

This example also illustrates calling a COIN-OR solver, in this case `C1p`.

**Important:** the ability to modify a problem instance is still extremely limited in this release. A better API for problem modification will come with a later release of OS.

### 9.5 OSSolverDemo: Building In-Memory Solver and Option Objects

The code in the example file `OSSolverDemo.cpp` in the folder `osSolverDemo` illustrates how to build solver interfaces and an in-memory `OSOption` object. In this example we illustrate building a solver

interface and corresponding `OSOption` object for the solvers `Clp`, `Cbc`, `SYMPHONY`, `Ipopt`, `Bonmin`, and `Couenne`. Each solver class inherits from a virtual `OSDefaultSolver` class. Each solver class has the string data members

- `osil` -- this string conforms to the OSiL standard and holds the model instance.
- `osol` -- this string conforms to the OSoL standard and holds an instance with the solver options (if there are any); this string can be empty.
- `osrl` -- this string conforms to the OSrL standard and holds the solution instance; each solver interface produces an `osrl` string.

Corresponding to each string there is an in-memory object data member, namely

- `osinstance` -- an in-memory `OSInstance` object containing the model instance and `get()` and `set()` methods to access various parts of the model.
- `osoption` -- an in-memory `OSOption` object; solver options can be accessed or set using `get()` and `set()` methods.
- `osresult` -- an in-memory `OSResult` object; various parts of the model solution are accessible through `get()` and `set()` methods.

For each solver we detail five steps:

Step 1: Read a model instance from a file and create the corresponding `OSInstance` object. For four of the solvers we read a file with the model instance in OSiL format. For the `Clp` example we read an MPS file and convert to OSiL. For the `Couenne` example we read an AMPL nl file and convert to OSiL.

Step 2: Create an `OSOption` object and set options appropriate for the given solver. This is done by defining

```
OSOption* osoption = NULL;
osoption = new OSOption();
```

A key method in the `OSOption` interface is `setAnotherSolverOption()`. This method takes the following arguments in order.

```
std::string name – the option name;
std::string value – the value of the option;
std::string solver – the name of the solver to which the option applies;
std::string category – options may fall into categories. For example, consider the
Couenne solver. This solver is also linked to the Ipopt and Bonmin solvers and it is
possible to set options for these solvers through the Couenne API. In order to set an
Ipopt option you would set the solver argument to couenne and set the category
option to ipopt.
```

`std::string type` – many solvers require knowledge of the data type, so you can set the type to `double`, `integer`, `boolean` or `string`, depending on the solver requirements. Special types defined by the solver, such as the type `numeric` used by the Ipopt solver, can also be accommodated. It is the user's responsibility to verify the type expected by the solver.

`std::string description` – this argument is used to provide any detail or additional information about the option. An empty string ("") can be passed if such additional information is not needed.

For excellent documentation that details solver options for Bonmin, Cbc, and Ipopt we recommend

<http://www.coin-or.org/GAMSlinks/gamscoin.pdf>

Step 3: Create the solver object. In the OS project there is a *virtual* solver that is declared by

```
DefaultSolver *solver = NULL;
```

The Cbc, Clp and SYMPHONY solvers as well as other solvers of linear and integer linear programs are all invoked by creating a `CoinSolver()`. For example, the following is used to invoke Cbc.

```
solver = new CoinSolver();  
solver->sSolverName = "cbc";
```

Other solvers, particularly Ipopt, Bonmin and Couenne are implemented separately. So to declare, for example, an Ipopt solver, one should write

```
solver = new IpoptSolver();
```

The syntax is the same regardless of solver.

Step 4: Import the `OSOption` and `OSInstance` into the solver and solve the model. This process is identical regardless of which solver is used. The syntax is:

```
solver->osinstance = osinstance;  
solver->osoption = osoption;  
solver->solve();
```

Step 5: After optimizing the instance, each of the OS solver interfaces uses the underlying solver API to get the solution result and write the result to a string named `osr1` which is a string representing the solution instance in the `OSrL` XML standard. This string is accessed by

```
solver->osr1
```

In the example code `OSSolverDemo.cpp` we have written a method,

```
void getOSResult(std::string osrl)
```

that takes the `osrl` string and creates an `OSResult` object. We then illustrate several of the `OSResult` API methods

```
double getOptimalObjValue(int objIdx, int solIdx);
std::vector<IndexValuePair*> getOptimalPrimalVariableValues(int solIdx);
```

to get and write out the optimal objective function value, and optimal primal values. See also Section 9.6.

We now highlight some of the features illustrated by each of the solver examples.

- **Clp** – In this example we read in a problem instance in MPS format. The class `OSmps2osil` has a method `mps2osil` that is used to convert the MPS instance contained in a file into an in-memory `OSInstance` object. This example also illustrates how to set options using the Osi interface. In particular we turn on intermediate output which is turned off by default in the Coin Solver Interface.
- **Cbc** – In this example we read a problem instance that is in OSiL format and create an in-memory `OSInstance` object. We then create an `OSOption` object. This is quite trivial. A plain-text XML file conforming to the OSiL schema is read into a string `osil` which is then converted into the in-memory `OSInstance` object by

```
OSiLReader *osilreader = NULL;
OSInstance *osinstance = NULL;
osilreader = new OSiLReader();
osinstance = osilreader->readOSiL( osil);
```

We set the linear programming algorithm to be the primal simplex method and then set the option on the pivot selection to be Dantzig rule. Finally, we set the print level to be 10.

- **SYMPHONY** – In this example we also read a problem instance that is in OSiL format and create an in-memory `OSInstance` object. We then create an `OSOption` object and illustrate setting the `verbosity` option.
- **Ipopt** – In this example we also read a problem instance that is in OSiL format. However, in this case we do not create an `OSInstance` object. We read the OSiL file into a string `osil`. We then feed the `osil` string directly into the Ipopt solver by

```
solver->osil = osil;
```

The user always has the option of providing the OSiL to the solver as either a string or in-memory object.

Next we create an `OSOption` object. For Ipopt, we illustrate setting the maximum iteration limit and also provide the name of the output file. In addition, the `OSOption` object can hold initial solution values. We illustrate how to initialize all of the variable to 1.0.

```

numVar = 2; //rosenbrock mod has two variables
xinitial = new double[numVar];
for(i = 0; i < numVar; i++){
    xinitial[ i] = 1.0;
}
osoption->setInitVarValuesDense(numVar, xinitial);

```

- **Bonmin** – In this example we read a problem instance that is in OSiL format and create an in-memory `OSInstance` object just as was done in the Cbc and SYMPHONY examples. We then create an `OSOption` object. In setting the `OSOption` object we intentionally set an option that will cause the Bonmin solver to terminate early. In particular we set the `node_limit` to zero.

```

osoption->setAnotherSolverOption("node_limit","0","bonmin","", "integer","");

```

This results in early termination of the algorithm. The `OSResult` class API has a method

```

std::string getSolutionStatusDescription(int solIdx);

```

For this example, invoking

```

osresult->getSolutionStatusDescription( 0)

```

gives the result:

```

LIMIT_EXCEEDED[BONMIN]: A resource limit was exceeded, we provide the current solution.

```

- **Couenne** – In this example we read in a problem instance in AMPL nl format. The class `OSnl2osil` has a method `nl2osil` that is used to convert the nl instance contained in a file into an in-memory `OSInstance` object. This is done as follows:

```

// convert to the OS native format
OSnl2osil *nl2osil = NULL;
nl2osil = new OSnl2osil( nlFileName);
// create the first in-memory OSInstance
nl2osil->createOSInstance() ;
osinstance = nl2osil->osinstance;

```

This part of the example also illustrates setting options in one solver from another. Couenne uses Bonmin which uses Ipopt. So for example,

```

osoption->setAnotherSolverOption("max_iter","100","couenne","ipopt","integer","");

```

identifies the solver as `couenne`, but the category of value of `ipopt` tells the solver interface to set the iteration limit on the Ipopt algorithm that is solving the continuous relaxation of the problem. Likewise, the setting

```

osoption->setAnotherSolverOption("num_resolve_at_node","3","couenne","bonmin","integer","");

```

identifies the solver as `couenne`, but the category of value of `bonmin` tells the solver interface to tell the Bonmin solver to try three starting points at each node.

## 9.6 OSResultDemo: Building In-Memory Result Object to Display Solver Result

The OS protocol for representing an optimization result is `OSrL`. Like the `OSiL` and `OSoL` protocol, this protocol has an associated in-memory `OSResult` class with corresponding API. The use of the API is demonstrated in the code `OSResultDemo.cpp` in the folder `OS/examples/OSResultDemo`. In the code we solve a linear program with the `Clp` solver. The OS solver interface builds an `OSrL` string that we read into the `OSrLReader` class and create an `OSResult` object. We then use the `OSResult` API to get the optimal primal and dual solution. We also use the API to get the reduced cost values.

## 9.7 OSCglCuts: Using the OSInstance API to Generate Cutting Planes

In this example, we show how to add cuts to tighten an LP using COIN-OR `Cgl` (Cut Generation Library). A file (`p0033.osil`) in `OSiL` format is used to create an `OSInstance` object. The linear programming relaxation is solved. Then, Gomory, simple rounding, and knapsack cuts are added using `Cgl`. The model is then optimized using `Cbc`.

## 9.8 OSRemoteTest: Calling a Remote Server

This example illustrates the API for the six service methods described in Section 4.4. The file `osRemoteTest.cpp` in folder `osRemoteTest` first builds a small linear example, solves it remotely in synchronous mode and displays the solution. The asynchronous mode is also tested by submitting the problem to a remote solver, checking the status and either retrieving the answer or killing the process if it has not yet finished.

**Windows users should note** that this project links to `wsock32.lib`, which is not part of the Visual Studio Express Package. It is necessary to also download and install the Windows Platform SDK, which can be found at

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=E6E1C3DF-A74F-4207-8586-711EBE331CDC&displaylang=en>.

Further information is provided in the OS User's Manual.

## 9.9 OSJavaInstanceDemo: Building an OSiL Instance in Java

In this example we demonstrate how to build an `OSiL` instance using the Java `OSInstance` API. The example code also illustrates calling the `OSSolverService` executable from Java. In order to use this example, the user should do an svn checkout:

```
svn co https://projects.coin-or.org/svn/OS/branches/OSjava OSjava
```

The `OSjava` folder contains the file `INSTALL.txt`. Please follow the instructions in `INSTALL.txt` under the heading:

**== Install Without a Web Server==**

These instructions assume that the user has installed the Eclipse IDE. See <http://www.eclipse.org/downloads/>. At this link we recommend that the user get Eclipse Classic. In addition, the user should also have a copy of the `OSSolverService` executable that is compatible with his or her platform. The `OSSolverService` executable for several different platforms is available at <http://www.coin-or.org/download/binary/OS/OSSolverService/>. The user can also build the executable as described in this Manual. See Section 10.1. The code base for this example is in the folder:

OSjava/OSJavaExamples/src/OSJavaInstanceDemo.java

The code in the file `OSJavaInstanceDemo.java` demonstrates how the Java `OSInstance` API that is in `OSCommon` can be used to generate a linear program and then call the C++ `OSSolverService` executable to solve the problem. Running this example in Eclipse will generate in the folder

OSjava/OSJavaExamples

two files. It will generate `parincLinear.osil` which is a linear program in the OS OSiL format, it will also call the `OSSolverService` executable which generates the result file `result.osrl` in the OS OSrL format.

## 10 Using Dip (Decomposition In Integer Programming)

**Important Note:** This example uses COIN-OR projects that are not part of the OS distribution and assumes you have downloaded the `CoinAll` binary.

We follow the notation of Ralphs and Galati [5]. The integer program of interest is:

$$z_{IP} = \min -c^\top x \mid A'x \geq b', A''x \geq b'', x \in \mathbb{Z}^{n''} \quad (11)$$

The problem is divided into two constraint sets,  $A'x \geq b'$  which we refer to as the *relaxed, coupling, or block constraints*, and the *core constraints*  $A''x \geq b''$ . We then define the following polyhedron based on the relaxed constraints.

$$\mathcal{P} = \text{conv}(\{x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid A'x \geq b'\}) \quad (12)$$

The LP relaxation of the original problem is:

$$z_{LP} = \min -c^\top x \mid A'x \geq b', A''x \geq b'', x \in \mathbb{R}^{n''} \quad (13)$$

We also make use of another, related problem  $z_D$ , defined by

$$z_D = \min -c^\top x \mid A'x \geq b', x \in \mathcal{P}, x \in \mathbb{R}^{n''}. \quad (14)$$

Ideally, the constraints  $A'x \geq b'$  should be selected so that solving  $Z_D$  is an easy *hard problem* and provides better bounds than  $Z_{LP}$ .

A generic block-angular decomposition algorithm is now available. We employ an implementation that uses the Optimization Services (OS) project together with another COIN-OR project, Decomposition in Integer Programming (Dip). We call this the OS Dip solver. It has the following features:

1. All subproblems are solved via an oracle; either the default oracle contained in our distribution (see below) or one provided by the user.
2. The OS Dip Solver code is independent of the oracle used to optimize the subproblems.
3. Variables are assigned to blocks using an OS option file; the block definition and assignment of variables to these blocks has no effect on the OS Dip Solver code.
4. Different blocks can be assigned different solver oracles based on the option values given in the OSoL file.

5. There is a default oracle implemented (called `OSDipBlockCoinSolver`) that currently uses `Cbc`.
6. Users can add their own oracles without altering the OS Dip Solver code. This is done via polymorphic factories. The user creates a separate file containing the oracle class. The user-provided Oracle class inherits from the generic `OSDipBlockSolver` class. The user need only:
  - 1) add the object file name for the new oracle to the Makefile, and 2) add the necessary line to `OSDipFactoryInitializer.h` indicating that the new oracle is present.

In particular, the implementation of the OS Dip solver provides a virtual class `OSDipBlockSolver` with a pure virtual function `solve()`. The user is expected to provide a class that inherits from `OSDipBlockSolver` and implements the method `solve()`. The `solve()` method should optimize a linear objective function over  $\mathcal{P}$ . More details are provided in Section 10.2. The implementation is such that the user only has to provide a class with a solve method. The user does not have to edit or alter any of the OS Dip Solver code. By using polymorphic factories the actual solver details are hidden from the OS Solver. A default solver, `OSDipBlockCoinSolver`, is provided. This default solver takes no advantage of special structure and simply calls the COIN-OR solver `Cbc`.

## 10.1 Building and Testing the OS-Dip Example

Currently, the Decomposition in Integer Programming (**Dip**) package is not a dependency of the Optimization Services (**OS**) package – **Dip** is not included in the **OS** Externals file. In order to run the OS Dip solver it is necessary to download both the **OS** and **Dip** projects. Download order is irrelevant. In the discussion that follows we assume that for both **OS** and **Dip** the user has successfully completed a `configure`, `make`, and `make install`. We also assume that the user is working with the trunk version of both **OS** and **Dip**.

The OS Dip solver C++ code is contained in `TemplateApplication/osDip`. The `configure` will create a `Makefile` in the `TemplateApplication/osDip` folder. The `Makefile` must be edited to reflect the location of the **Dip** project. The `Makefile` contains the line

```
DIPPATH = /Users/kmartin/coin/dip-trunk/vpath-debug/
```

This setting assumes that there is a **lib** directory:

```
/Users/kmartin/coin/dip-trunk/vpath-debug/lib
```

with the **Dip** library that results from `make install` and an `include` directory

```
/Users/kmartin/coin/dip-trunk/vpath/include
```

with the **Dip** header files generated by `make install`. The user should adjust

```
/Users/kmartin/coin/dip-trunk/vpath/
```

to a path containing the **Dip** `lib` and `include` directories. After building the executable by executing the `make` command, run the `osdip` application using the command:

```
./osdip --param osdip.parm
```

This should produce the following output.



```

FINISH SOLVE
Status= 0 BestLB= 16.00000 BestUB= 16.00000 Nodes= 1
SetupCPU= 0.01 SolveCPU= 0.10 TotalCPU= 0.11 SetupReal= 0.08
SetupReal= 0.12 TotalReal= 0.16
Optimal Solution
-----
Quality = 16.00
0      1.00
1      1.00
12     1.00
13     1.00
14     1.00
15     1.00
17     1.00

```

If you see this output, things are working properly.

The file `osdip.parm` is a parameter file. The use of the parameter file is explained in Section 10.7.

## 10.2 The OS Dip Solver – Code Description and Key Classes

The OS Dip Solver uses **Dip** to implement a Dantzig-Wofe decomposition algorithm for block-angular integer programs. Here are some key classes.

**OSDipBlockSolver:** This is a virtual class with a pure virtual function:

```
void solve(double *cost, std::vector<IndexValuePair*> *solIndexValPair,
double *optVal)
```

**OSDipBlockSolverFactory:** This is also virtual class with a pure virtual function:

```
OSDipBlockSolver* create()
```

This class also has the static method

```
OSDipBlockSolver* createOSDipBlockSolver(const string &solverName)
```

and a map

```
std::map<std::string, OSDipBlockSolverFactory*> factories;
```

**Factory:** This class inherits from the class **OSDipBlockSolverFactory**. Every solver class that inherits from the **OSDipBlockSolver** class should have a **Factory** class member and since this **Factory** class member inherits from the **OSDipBlockSolverFactory** class it should implement a `create()` method that creates an object in the class inheriting from **OSDipBlockSolver**.

**OSDipFactoryInitializer:** This class initializes the static map

```
OSDipBlockSolverFactory::factories
```

in the **OSDipBlockSolverFactory** class.

**OSDipApp:** This class inherits from the **Dip** class **DecompApp**. In **OSDipApp** we implement methods for creating the core (coupling) constraints, i.e., the constraints  $A''x \geq b''$ . This is done by implementing the **createModels()** method. Regardless of the problem, none of the relaxed or block constraints in  $A'x \geq b'$  are created. These are treated implicitly in the solver class that inherits from the class **OSDipBlockSolver**. This class also implements a method that defines the variables that appear only in the blocks (**createModelMasterOnlys2**), and a method for generating an initial master (the method **generateInitVars()** ).

Since the constraints  $A'x \geq b'$  are treated explicitly by the Dip solver the **solveRelaxed()** method must be implemented. In our implementation we have the **OSDipApp** class data member

```
std::vector<OSDipBlockSolver* > m_osDipBlockSolver;
```

when the **solveRelaxed()** method is called for block **whichBlock** in turn we make the call

```
m_osDipBlockSolver[whichBlock]->solve(cost, &solIndexValPair, &varRedCost);
```

and the appropriate solver in class **OSDipBlockSolver** is called. Finally, the **OSDipApp** class also initiates the reading of the OS option and instance files. How these files are used is discussed in Section 10.6. Based on option input data this class also creates the appropriate solver object for each block, i.e., it populates the **m\_osDipBlockSolver** vector.

**OSDipInterface:** This class is used as an interface between the **OSDipApp** class and classes in the **OS** library. This provides a number of get methods to provide information to **OSDipApp** such as the coefficients in the  $A''$  matrix, objective function coefficients, number of blocks etc. The **OSDipInterface** class reads the input OSiL and OSoL files and creates in-memory data structures based on these files.

**OSDipBlockCoinSolver:** This class inherits from the **OSDipBlockSolver** class. It is meant to illustrate how to create a solver class. This class solves each block by calling **Cbc**. Use of this class provides a generic block angular decomposition algorithm.

There is also **OSDipMain.cpp:** which contains the **main()** routine and is the entry point for the executable. It first creates a new price-branch-and-cut decomposition algorithm and then an **Alps** solver for which the **solve()** method is called.

### 10.3 User Requirements

The **OSDipBlockCoinSolver** class provides a solve method for optimizing a linear objective function over  $\mathcal{P}$  given a linear objective function. However, this takes no advantage of the special structure available in the blocks. Therefore, the user may wish to implement his or her own solver class. In this case the user is required to do the following:

1. implement a class that inherits from the **OSDipBlockSolver** class and implements the solve method,
2. implement a class **Factory** that inherits from the class **OSDipBlockSolverFactory** and implements the **create()** method,
3. edit the file **OSDipFactoryInitializer.h** and add a line:

```
OSDipBlockSolverFactory::factories["MyBlockSolver"] = new
MyBlockSolver::Factory;
```

4. alter the Makefile to include the new source code.

**Important – Directory Structure:** In order to keep things clean, there is a directory **solvers** in the **osDip** folder. We suggest using the **solvers** directory for all of the solvers that inherit from **OSDipBlockSolver**.

## 10.4 Simple Plant/Lockbox Location Example

The problem is to minimize the sum of the cost of capital due to float and the cost of operating the lock boxes.

**Parameters:**

$m$ – number of customers to be assigned a lock box

$n$ – number of potential lock box sites

$c_{ij}$ – annual cost of capital associated with serving customer  $j$  from lock box  $i$

$f_i$ – annual fixed cost of operating a lock box at location  $i$

**Variables:**

$x_{ij}$ – a binary variable which is equal to 1 if customer  $j$  is assigned to lock box  $i$  and 0 if not

$y_i$ – a binary variable which is equal to 1 if the lock box at location  $i$  is opened and 0 if not

The integer linear program for the lock box location problem is

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m c_{ij} x_{ij} + \sum_{i=1}^n f_i y_i \quad (15)$$

$$(LB) \quad x_{ij} - y_i \leq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad j = 1, \dots, m \quad (16)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n x_{ij} = 1, \quad j = 1, \dots, m \quad (17)$$

$$x_{ij}, y_i \in \{0, 1\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad j = 1, \dots, m. \quad (18)$$

The objective (15) is to minimize the sum of the cost of capital plus the fixed cost of operating the lock boxes. Constraints (16) are forcing constraints and require that a lock box be open if a customer is served by that lock box. For now, we consider these the  $A'x \geq b'$  constraints. The requirement that every customer be assigned a lock box is modeled by constraints (17). For now, we consider these the  $A''x \geq b''$  constraints.

**Location Example 1:** A three plant, five customer model.

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & 2x_{11} + 3x_{12} + 4x_{13} + 5x_{14} + 7x_{15} + 2y_1 + \\ & 4x_{21} + 3x_{22} + x_{23} + 2x_{24} + 6x_{25} + 3y_2 + \\ & 5x_{31} + 4x_{32} + 2x_{33} + x_{34} + 3x_{35} + 3y_3 \end{aligned}$$

		CUSTOMER					FIXED COSTS
		1	2	3	4	5	
PLANT	1	2	3	4	5	7	2
	2	4	3	1	2	6	3
	3	5	4	2	1	3	3

Table 3: Data for a 3 plant, 5 customer problem

$$\begin{aligned}
& x_{11} \leq y_1 \leq 1 \\
& x_{12} \leq y_1 \leq 1 \\
& x_{13} \leq y_1 \leq 1 \\
& x_{14} \leq y_1 \leq 1 \\
& x_{15} \leq y_1 \leq 1 \\
& x_{21} \leq y_2 \leq 1 \\
& x_{22} \leq y_2 \leq 1 \\
& x_{23} \leq y_2 \leq 1 \quad A'x \geq b' \text{ constraints} \\
& x_{24} \leq y_2 \leq 1 \\
& x_{25} \leq y_2 \leq 1 \\
& x_{31} \leq y_3 \leq 1 \\
& x_{32} \leq y_3 \leq 1 \\
& x_{33} \leq y_3 \leq 1 \\
& x_{33} \leq y_3 \leq 1 \\
& x_{33} \leq y_3 \leq 1 \\
& x_{ij}, y_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad j = 1, \dots, m.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{s.t.} \quad & x_{11} + x_{21} + x_{31} = 1 \\
& x_{12} + x_{22} + x_{32} = 1 \\
& x_{13} + x_{23} + x_{33} = 1 \quad A''x \geq b'' \text{ constraints} \\
& x_{14} + x_{24} + x_{34} = 1 \\
& x_{15} + x_{25} + x_{35} = 1
\end{aligned}$$

**Location Example 2 (SPL2):** A three plant, three customer model.

		CUSTOMER			FIXED COSTS
		1	2	3	
PLANT	1	2	1	1	1
	2	1	2	1	1
	3	1	1	2	1

Table 4: Data for a three plant, three customer problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & 2x_{11} + x_{12} + x_{13} + y_1 + \\ & x_{21} + 2x_{22} + x_{23} + y_2 + \\ & x_{31} + x_{32} + 1x_{33} + y_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{11} &\leq y_1 \leq 1 \\ x_{12} &\leq y_1 \leq 1 \\ x_{13} &\leq y_1 \leq 1 \\ x_{21} &\leq y_2 \leq 1 \\ x_{22} &\leq y_2 \leq 1 \\ x_{23} &\leq y_2 \leq 1 \\ x_{31} &\leq y_3 \leq 1 \\ x_{32} &\leq y_3 \leq 1 \\ x_{33} &\leq y_3 \leq 1 \\ x_{ij}, y_i &\geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad j = 1, \dots, m. \end{aligned} \quad A'x \geq b' \text{ constraints}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{s.t.} \quad & x_{11} + x_{21} + x_{31} = 1 \\ & x_{12} + x_{22} + x_{32} = 1 \\ & x_{13} + x_{23} + x_{33} = 1 \end{aligned} \quad A''x \geq b'' \text{ constraints}$$

## 10.5 Generalized Assignment Problem Example

A problem that plays a prominent role in vehicle routing is the *generalized assignment problem*. The problem is to assign each of  $n$  tasks to  $m$  servers without exceeding the resource capacity of the servers.

**Parameters:**

$n$  – number of required tasks

$m$  – number of servers

$f_{ij}$  – cost of assigning task  $i$  to server  $j$

$b_j$  – units of resource available to server  $j$

$a_{ij}$  – units of server  $j$  resource required to perform task  $i$

**Variables:**

$x_{ij}$  – a binary variable which is equal to 1 if task  $i$  is assigned to server  $j$  and 0 if not

The integer linear program for the generalized assignment problem is

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m f_{ij} x_{ij} \quad (19)$$

$$(GAP) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{j=1}^m x_{ij} = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \quad (20)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} x_{ij} \leq b_j, \quad j = 1, \dots, m \quad (21)$$

$$x_{ij} \in \{-0, 1\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad j = 1, \dots, m. \quad (22)$$

The objective function (19) is to minimize the total assignment cost. Constraint (20) requires that each task is assigned a server. These constraints correspond to the  $A''x \geq b''$  constraints. The requirement that the server capacity not be exceeded is given in (21). These correspond to the  $A'x \geq b'$  constraints that are used to define  $\mathcal{P}$ . The test problem used in the file `genAssign.osil` is:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & 2x_{11} + 11x_{12} + 7x_{21} + 7x_{22} \\ & + 20x_{31} + 2x_{32} + 5x_{41} + 5x_{42} \\ & x_{11} + x_{12} = 1 \\ & x_{21} + x_{22} = 1 \\ & x_{31} + x_{32} = 1 \\ & x_{41} + x_{42} = 1 \\ & 3x_{11} + 6x_{21} + 5x_{31} + 7x_{41} \leq 13 \\ & 2x_{12} + 4x_{22} + 10x_{32} + 4x_{42} \leq 10 \end{aligned}$$

## 10.6 Defining the Problem Instance and Blocks

Here we describe how to use the OSOption and OSInstance formats. We illustrate with a simple plant location problem. Refer back to the example in Table 3 for a three-plant, five-customer problem. We treat the fixed charge constraints as the block constraints, i.e., we treat constraint set (16) as the set  $A'x \geq b'$  constraints. These constraints naturally break into a block for each plant, i.e., there is a block of constraints:

$$x_{ij} \leq y_i \quad (23)$$

In order to use the OS Dip solver it is necessary to: 1) define the set of variables in each block and 2) define the set of constraints that constitute the core or coupling constraints. This information is communicated to the OS Dip solver using Optimization Services option Language (OSoL). The OSoL input file for the example in Table 3 appears in Figures 11 and 12. See lines 32-55. There is an `<other>` option with `name="variableBlockSet"` for each block. Each block then lists the variables in the block. For example, the first block consists of the variables indexed by 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 15. These correspond to variables  $x_{11}$ ,  $x_{12}$ ,  $x_{13}$ ,  $x_{13}$ ,  $x_{14}$ , and  $y_1$ . Likewise the second block corresponds to the variable for the second plant and the third block corresponds to variables for the third plant.

```

1  <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
2  <osol>
3    <general>
4      <instanceName>spl1 -- setup constraints are the blocks</instanceName>
5    </general>
6    <optimization>
7      <variables numberOfOtherVariableOptions="6">
8        <other name="initialCol" solver="Dip" numberOfVar="6" value="0">
9          <var idx="0" value="1"/>
10         <var idx="1" value="1"/>
11         <var idx="2" value="1"/>
12         <var idx="3" value="1"/>
13         <var idx="4" value="1"/>
14         <var idx="15" value="1"/>
15       </other>
16       <other name="initialCol" solver="Dip" numberOfVar="6" value="1">
17         <var idx="5" value="1"/>
18         <var idx="6" value="1"/>
19         <var idx="7" value="1"/>
20         <var idx="8" value="1"/>
21         <var idx="9" value="1"/>
22         <var idx="16" value="1"/>
23       </other>
24       <other name="initialCol" solver="Dip" numberOfVar="6" value="2">
25         <var idx="10" value="1"/>
26         <var idx="11" value="1"/>
27         <var idx="12" value="1"/>
28         <var idx="13" value="1"/>
29         <var idx="14" value="1"/>
30         <var idx="17" value="1"/>
31       </other>
32       <other name="variableBlockSet" solver="Dip" numberOfVar="6" value="MySolver1">
33         <var idx="0"/>
34         <var idx="1"/>
35         <var idx="2"/>
36         <var idx="3"/>
37         <var idx="4"/>
38         <var idx="15"/>
39       </other>
40       <other name="variableBlockSet" solver="Dip" numberOfVar="6" value="MySolver2">
41         <var idx="5"/>
42         <var idx="6"/>
43         <var idx="7"/>
44         <var idx="8"/>
45         <var idx="9"/>
46         <var idx="16"/>
47       </other>

```

Figure 11: A sample OSoL file – SPL1.osol

It is also necessary to convey which constraints constitute the core constraints. This is done in lines 58-64. The core constraints are indexed by 15, 16, 17, 18, 19. These constitute the demand constraints given in Equation (17).

Notice also that in lines 32, 40, and 48 there is an attribute `value` in the `<other>` variable element with the attribute `name` equal to `variableBlockSet`. The attribute `value` should be the name of the solver factory that should be assigned to solve that block. For example, if the optimization problem that results from solving a linear objective over the constraints defining the first block is solved using `MySolver1` then this must correspond to a

```
OSDipBlockSolverFactory::factories["MySolver1"] = new
MySolver1::Factory;
```

in the file **OSDipFactoryInitializer.h**. In the test file, `spl1.osol` for the first block we set the solver to a specialized solver for the simple plant location problem (`OSDipBlockSplSolver`) and for the other two blocks we use the generic solver (`OSDipBlockCoinSolver`).

```

48      <other name="variableBlockSet" solver="Dip" numberOfVar="6" value="MySolver3">
49          <var idx="10"/>
50          <var idx="11"/>
51          <var idx="12"/>
52          <var idx="13"/>
53          <var idx="14"/>
54          <var idx="17"/>
55      </other>
56  </variables>
57  <constraints numberOfOtherConstraintOptions="1">
58      <other name="constraintSet" solver="Dip" numberOfCon="5" type="Core">
59          <con idx="15"/>
60          <con idx="16"/>
61          <con idx="17"/>
62          <con idx="18"/>
63          <con idx="19"/>
64      </other>
65  </constraints>
66 </optimization>
67 </osol>
```

Figure 12: A sample OSoL file – SPL1.osol (Continued)

One can use the OSoL file to specify a set of starting columns for the initial restricted master. In Figure 11 see lines 8-31. In an OS option file (OSoL) there is `<variables>` element that has `<other>` children. Initial columns are specified using the `<other>` elements. This is done by using the `name` attribute and setting its value to `initialCol`. Then the children of the tag contain index-value pairs that specify the column. For example, the first initial column corresponds to setting:

$$x_{11} = 1, \quad x_{12} = 1, \quad x_{13} = 1, \quad x_{14} = 1, \quad x_{15} = 1, \quad y_1 = 1$$



Finally note that in all of this discussion we know to apply the options to **Dip** because the attribute **solver** always had value **Dip**. It is critical to set this attribute in all of the option tags.

## 10.7 The Dip Parameter File

The **Dip** solver has a utility class **UtilParameters**, for parsing a parameter file. The **UtilParameters** class constructor takes a parameter file as an argument. In the case of the OS Dip solver the name of the parameter file is **osdip.parm** and the parameter file is read in at the command line with the command

```
./osdip -param osdip.parm
```

The **UtilParameters** class has a method **GetSetting()** for reading the parameter values. In the OS Dip implementation there is a class **OSDipParam** that has as data members key parameters such as the name of the input OSiL file and input OSoL file. The **OSDipParam** class has a method **getSettings()** that takes as an argument a pointer to an object in the **UtilParameters** and uses the **GetSetting()** method to return the relevant parameter values. For example:

```
OSiLFile = utilParam.GetSetting("OSiLFile", "", common);  
OSoLFile = utilParam.GetSetting("OSoLFile", "", common);
```

In the current **osdip.parm** file we have:

```
#first simple plant location problem  
OSiLFile = spl1.osil  
#setup constraints as blocks  
OSoLFile = spl1.osol  
#assignment constraints as blocks  
#OSoLFile = spl1-b.osol  
  
#second simple plant location problem  
#OSiLFile = spl2.osil  
#setup constraints as blocks  
#OSoLFile = spl2.osol  
#assignment constraints as blocks  
#OSoLFile = spl2-b.osol  
  
#third simple plant location problem -- block matrix data not used  
#OSiLFile = spl3.osil  
#setup constraints as blocks  
#OSoLFile = spl3.osol  
  
#generalized assignment problem  
#OSiLFile = genAssign.osil  
#OSoLFile = genAssign.osol  
  
#Martin textbook example  
#OSiLFile = smallIPBook.osil  
#OSoLFile = smallIPBook.osol
```

By commenting and uncommenting you can run one of four problems that are in the **data** directory. The first example, **spl1.osil**, corresponds to the simple plant location model given in Table 3. Using the option file **spl1.osol** treats the setup forcing constraints 16 as the  $A'x \geq b'$  constraints. Using the option file **spl1-b.osol** treats the demand constraints 17 as the  $A'x \geq b'$  constraints. Likewise for the problem **spl2.osil** which corresponds to the simple plant location data given in Table 4.

In both examples **spl1.osil** and **spl2.osil** the  $A'x \geq b'$  constraints are explicitly represented in the OSiL file. However, this is not necessary. The solver Factory **OSDipBlockSlpSolver** is a special oracle that only needs the objective function coefficients and pegs variables based on the sign of the objective function coefficients. The **spl3.osil** is the example given in Table 3 but without the setup forcing constraints. Each block uses the **OSDipBlockSlpSolver** oracle.

The **genAssign.osil** file corresponds to the generalized assignment problem given in Section 10.5. The option file **genAssign.osol** treats the capacity constraints 21 as the  $A'x \geq b'$  constraints.

The last problem defined in the file **smallIPBook.osil** is based on Example 16.3 on page 567 in *Large Scale Linear and Integer Optimization*. The option file treats the constraints

$$4x_1 + 9x_2 \leq 18, \quad -2x_1 + 4x_2 \leq 4$$

as the  $A'x \geq b'$  constraints.

The user should also be aware of the parameter **solverFactory**. This parameter is the name of the default solver Factory. If a solver is not named for a block in the OSoL file this value is used. We have set the value of this string to be **OSDipBlockCoinSolver**.

## 10.8 Issues to Fix

- Enhance solveRelaxed to allow parallel processing of blocks. See ticket 30.
- Does not work when there are 0 integer variables. See ticket 31.
- Be able to set options in C++ code. See ticket 41. It would be nice to be able to read all the options from a generic options file. It seems like right now options for the **DecompAlgo** class cannot be set inside C++.
- Problem with Alps bounds at node 0. See ticket 43
- Figure out how to use BranchEnforceInMaster or BranchEnforceInSubProb so I don't get the large bonds on the variables. See ticket 47.

## 10.9 Miscellaneous Issues

If you want to terminate at the root node and just get the dual value under the **ALPS** option put:

```
[ALPS]
nodeLimit = 1
```

More from Matt:

Kipp - the example you sent finds the optimal solution after a few passes of pricing and there

If it prices out and has not yet found optimal, then it will proceed to cuts.

This is parameter driven.

```
You'll see in the log file (LogDebugLevel = 3),  
PRICE_AND_CUT  LimitRoundCutIters      2147483647  
PRICE_AND_CUT  LimitRoundPriceIters     2147483647
```

This is the number of Price/Cut iterations to take before switching off (i.e., MAXINT).

To force it to cut before pricing out, change this parameter in the parm file. For example, if

```
[DECOMP]  
LimitRoundPriceIters = 1  
LimitRoundCutIters   = 1
```

It will then go into your generateCuts after one pricing iteration.

\vskip 12pt

If there is an integer solution at the root node, it may be the case that we are still not optimal. By default, DIP assumes, that if problem is LP feasible to the linear system and IP feasible

For an example of using this see, [url{https://projects.coin-or.org/Dip/browser/trunk/Dip/example}](https://projects.coin-or.org/Dip/browser/trunk/Dip/example)

## 11 The OS Library Components

### 11.1 OSAgent

The **OSAgent** part of the library is used to facilitate communication with remote solvers. It is not used if the solver is invoked locally (i.e., on the same machine). There are two key classes in the **OSAgent** component of the OS library. The two classes are **OSSolverAgent** and **WSUtil**.

The **OSSolverAgent** class is used to contact a remote solver service. For example, assume that **sOSiL** is a string with a problem instance and **sOSoL** is a string with solver options. Then the following code will call a solver service and invoke the **solve** method.

```
OSSolverAgent *osagent;  
string serviceLocation = http://kipp.chicagobooth.edu/os/OSSolverService.jws  
osagent = new OSSolverAgent( serviceLocation );  
string sOSrL = osagent->solve(sOSiL, sOSoL);
```

Other methods in the **OSSolverAgent** class are **send**, **retrieve**, **getJobID**, **knock**, and **kill**. The use of these methods is described in Section 4.4.

The methods in the **OSSolverAgent** class call methods in the **WSUtil** class that perform such tasks as creating and parsing SOAP messages and making low level socket calls to the server running the solver service. The average user will not use methods in the **WSUtil** class, but they are available to anyone wanting to make socket calls or create SOAP messages.

There is also a method, **OSFileUpload**, in the **OSAgentClass** that is used to upload files from the hard drive of a client to the server. It is very fast and does not involve SOAP or Web Services.

The `OSFileUpload` method is illustrated and described in the example code `OSFileUpload.cpp` described in Section 6.

## 11.2 OSCommonInterfaces

The classes in the `OSCommonInterfaces` component of the OS library are used to read and write files and strings in the `OSiL` and `OSrL` protocols. See Section 7 for more detail on `OSiL`, `OSrL`, and other OS protocols. For a complete listing of all of the files in `OSCommonInterfaces` see the Doxygen documentation we deposited at <http://www.doxygen.org>. Users who have Doxygen installed on their system can also create their own version of the documentation (see the OS Users' Manual). Below we highlight some key classes.

### 11.2.1 The OSInstance Class

The `OSInstance` class is the in-memory representation of an optimization instance and is a key class for users of the OS project. This class has an API defined by a collection of `get()` methods for extracting various components (such as bounds and coefficients) from a problem instance, a collection of `set()` methods for modifying or generating an optimization instance, and a collection of `calculate()` methods for function, gradient, and Hessian evaluations. See Section 12. We now describe how to create an `OSInstance` object and the close relationship between the `OSiL` schema and the `OSInstance` class.

### 11.2.2 Creating an OSInstance Object

The `OSCommonInterfaces` component contains an `OSiLReader` class for reading an instance in an `OSiL` string and creating an in-memory `OSInstance` object. Assume that `sOSiL` is a string that will hold the instance in `OSiL` format. Creating an `OSInstance` object is illustrated in Figure 13.

```
OSiLReader *osilreader = NULL;
OSInstance *osinstance = NULL;
osilreader = new OSiLReader();
osinstance = osilreader->readOSiL( sOSiL);
```

Figure 13: Creating an `OSInstance` Object

### 11.2.3 Mapping Rules

The `OSInstance` class has two members, `instanceHeader` and `instanceData`. These correspond to the XML elements `<instanceHeader>` and `<instanceData>`. They are of type `InstanceHeader` and `InstanceData`, respectively, which in turn correspond to the `OSiL` schema's complexTypes `InstanceHeader` and `InstanceData`, and in themselves are C++ classes.

Moving down one level, Figure 15 shows that the `InstanceData` class has in turn the members `variables`, `objectives`, `constraints`, `linearConstraintCoefficients`, `quadraticCoefficients`, and `nonlinearExpressions`, corresponding to the respective elements in the `OSiL` file that have the same name. Each of these are instances of associated classes which correspond to complexTypes in the `OSiL` schema.

```

class OSInstance{
public:
    OSInstance();
    InstanceHeader *instanceHeader;
    InstanceData *instanceData;
}; //class OSInstance

```

Figure 14: The OSInstance class

```

class InstanceData{
public:
    InstanceData();
    Variables *variables;
    Objectives *objectives;
    Constraints *constraints;
    LinearConstraintCoefficients *linearConstraintCoefficients;
    QuadraticCoefficients *quadraticCoefficients;
    NonlinearExpressions *nonlinearExpressions;
}; // class InstanceData

```

Figure 15: The InstanceData class

Figure 16 uses the `Variables` class to provide a closer look at the correspondence between schema and class. On the right, the `Variables` class contains the data member `numberOfVariables` and a pointer to the object `var` of class `Variable`. The `Variable` class has data members `lb` (double), `ub` (double), `name` (string), and `type` (char). On the left the corresponding XML `complexType`s are shown, with arrows indicating the correspondences. The following rules describe the mapping between the OSiL schema and the `OSInstance` class. (In order to facilitate the mapping, we insist in the schema construction that every `complexType` be named, even though this is not strictly necessary in XML.)

- Each `complexType` in an OSiL schema corresponds to a class in `OSInstance`. Thus the OSiL schema's `complexType Variables` corresponds to `OSInstance`'s class `Variables`. Elements in an actual XML file then correspond to objects in `OSInstance`; for example, the `<variables>` element that is of type `Variables` in an OSiL file corresponds to a `variables` object in `OSInstance`.
- An attribute or element used in the definition of a `complexType` is a member of the corresponding `OSInstance` class, and the type of the attribute or element matches the type of the member. In Figure 16, for example, `lb` is an attribute of the OSiL `complexType` named `Variable`, and `lb` is a member of the `OSInstance` class `Variable`; both have type `double`. Similarly, `<var>` is an element in the definition of the OSiL `complexType` named `Variables`, and `var` is a member of the `OSInstance` class `Variables`; the `<var>` element has type `Variable` and the `var` member is a `Variable` object.
- A schema sequence corresponds to an array. For example, in Figure 16 the `complexType Variables` has a sequence of `<var>` elements that are of type `Variable`, and the corresponding

Variables class has a member that is an array of type Variable.

- XML allows a wide range of data subtypes, which do not always have counterparts in the OSInstance object. For instance, the attribute `type` in the `<var>` element forms an enumeration, while the corresponding member of the `Variable` class is declared as `char`.
- XML allows default values for optional attributes; these default values can be set inside of the constructor of the corresponding data member.

General nonlinear terms are stored in the data structure as `OSExpressionTree` objects, which are the subject of the next section.

The `OSInstance` class has a collection of `get()`, `set()`, and `calculate()` methods that act as an API for the optimization instance and are described in Section 12.

Schema complexType	In-memory class
<pre> &lt;xs:complexType name="Variables"&gt; &lt;-----&gt;   &lt;xs:sequence&gt;     &lt;xs:element name="var" type="Variable" maxOccurs="unbounded"/&gt; &lt;-----&gt;   &lt;/xs:sequence&gt;   &lt;xs:attribute name="numberOfVariables" type="xs:nonnegativeInteger"     use="required"/&gt; &lt;-----&gt; &lt;/xs:complexType&gt; </pre>	<pre> class Variables{ public:   Variables();   Variable *var;    int numberOfVariables; }; // class Variables </pre>
<pre> &lt;xs:complexType name="Variable"&gt; &lt;-----&gt;   &lt;xs:attribute name="name" type="xs:string" use="optional"/&gt; &lt;-----&gt;   &lt;xs:attribute name="type" use="optional" default="C"&gt; &lt;-----&gt;   &lt;xs:simpleType&gt;     &lt;xs:restriction base="xs:string"&gt;       &lt;xs:enumeration value="C"/&gt;       &lt;xs:enumeration value="B"/&gt;       &lt;xs:enumeration value="I"/&gt;       &lt;xs:enumeration value="S"/&gt;       &lt;xs:enumeration value="D"/&gt;       &lt;xs:enumeration value="J"/&gt;     &lt;/xs:restriction&gt;   &lt;/xs:simpleType&gt; &lt;/xs:complexType&gt; </pre>	<pre> class Variable{ public:   Variable();   string name;   char type;    double lb;   double ub; }; // class Variable </pre>
OSiL elements	In-memory objects
<pre> &lt;variables numberOfVariables="2"&gt;   &lt;var lb="0" name="x0" type="C"/&gt;   &lt;var lb="0" name="x1" type="C"/&gt; &lt;/variables&gt; </pre>	<pre> OSInstance *osinstance; osinstance-&gt;instanceData-&gt;variables-&gt;numberOfVariables=2; osinstance-&gt;instanceData-&gt;variables-&gt;var=new Variable*[2]; osinstance-&gt;instanceData-&gt;variables-&gt;var[0]-&gt;lb=0; osinstance-&gt;instanceData-&gt;variables-&gt;var[0]-&gt;name="x0"; osinstance-&gt;instanceData-&gt;variables-&gt;var[0]-&gt;type='C'; osinstance-&gt;instanceData-&gt;variables-&gt;var[1]-&gt;lb=0; osinstance-&gt;instanceData-&gt;variables-&gt;var[1]-&gt;name="x1"; osinstance-&gt;instanceData-&gt;variables-&gt;var[1]-&gt;type='C'; </pre>

Figure 16: The `<variables>` element as an `OSInstance` object

### 11.2.4 The OSExpressionTree OSnLNode Classes

The `OSExpressionTree` class provides the in-memory representation of the nonlinear terms. Our design goal is to allow for efficient parsing of OSiL instances, while providing an API that meets the needs of diverse solvers. Conceptually, any nonlinear expression in the objective or constraints is represented by a tree. The expression tree for the nonlinear part of the objective function (7), for example, has the form illustrated in Figure 17. The choice of a data structure to store such a tree — along with the associated methods of an API — is a key aspect in the design of the `OSInstance` class.

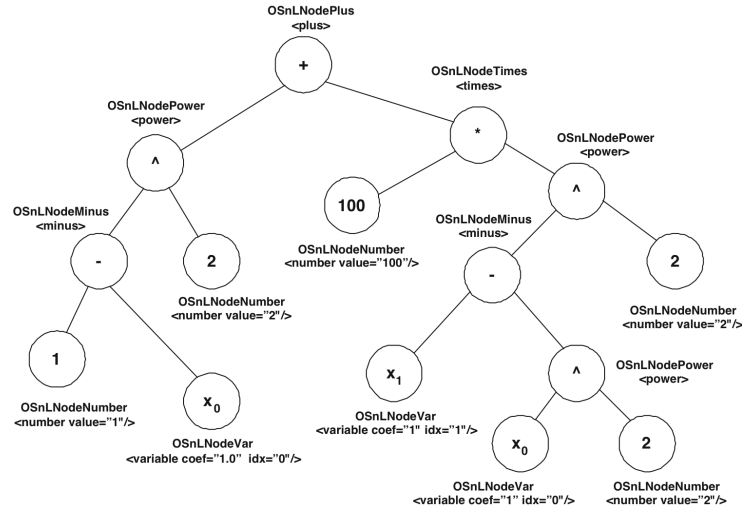


Figure 17: Conceptual expression tree for the nonlinear part of the objective (7).

A base abstract class `OSnLNode` is defined and all of an OSiL file's operator and operand elements used in defining a nonlinear expression are extensions of the base element type `OSnLNode`. There is an element type `OSnLNodePlus`, for example, that extends `OSnLNode`; then in an OSiL instance file, there are `<plus>` elements that are of type `OSnLNodePlus`. Each `OSExpressionTree` object contains a pointer to an `OSnLNode` object that is the root of the corresponding expression tree. To every element that extends the `OSnLNode` type in an OSiL instance file, there corresponds a class that derives from the `OSnLNode` class in an `OSInstance` data structure. Thus we can construct an expression tree of homogenous nodes, and methods that operate on the expression tree to calculate function values, derivatives, postfix notation, and the like do not require switches or complicated logic.

```
double OSnLNodePlus::calculateFunction(double *x){
    m_dFunctionValue =
        m_mChildren[0]->calculateFunction(x) +
        m_mChildren[1]->calculateFunction(x);
    return m_dFunctionValue;
} //calculateFunction
```

Figure 18: The function calculation method for the `plus` node class with polymorphism

The `OSInstance` class has a variety of `calculate()` methods, based on two pure virtual functions in the `OSInstance` class. The first of these, `calculateFunction()`, takes an array of `double` values corresponding to decision variables, and evaluates the expression tree for those values. Every class that extends `OSnLNode` must implement this method. As an example, the `calculateFunction` method for the `OSnLNodePlus` class is shown in Figure 18. Because the OSiL instance file must be validated against its schema, and in the schema each `<OSnLNodePlus>` element is specified to have exactly two child elements, this `calculateFunction` method can assume that there are exactly two children of the node that it is operating on. The use of polymorphism and recursion makes adding new operator elements easy; it is simply a matter of adding a new class and implementing the `calculateFunction()` method for it.

Although in the OSnL schema, there are 200+ nonlinear operators, only the following `OSnLNode` classes are currently supported in our implementation.

- `OSnLNodeVariable`
- `OSnLNodeTimes`
- `OSnLNodePlus`
- `OSnLNodeSum`
- `OSnLNodeMinus`
- `OSnLNodeNegate`
- `OSnLNodeDivide`
- `OSnLNodePower`
- `OSnLNodeProduct`
- `OSnLNodeLn`
- `OSnLNodeSqrt`
- `OSnLNodeSquare`
- `OSnLNodeSin`
- `OSnLNodeCos`
- `OSnLNodeExp`
- `OSnLNodeIf`
- `OSnLNodeAbs`
- `OSnLNodeMax`
- `OSnLNodeMin`
- `OSnLNodeE`
- `OSnLNodePI`
- `OSnLNodeAllDiff`



### 11.2.5 The OSOption Class

The `OSOption` class is the in-memory representation of the options associated with a particular optimization task. It is another key class for users of the OS project. This class has an API defined by a collection of `get()` methods for extracting various components (such as initial values for decision variables, solver options, job parameters, etc.), and a collection of `set()` methods for modifying or generating an option instance. The relationship between in-memory classes and objects on one hand and complexTypes and elements of the OSoL schema follow the same mapping rules laid out in Section 11.2.3.

### 11.2.6 The OSResult Class

Similarly the `OSResult` class is the in-memory representation of the results returned by the solver and other information associated with a particular optimization task. This class has an API defined by a collection of `set()` methods that allow a solver to create a result instance and a collection of `get()` methods for extracting various components (such as optimal values for decision variables, optimal objective function value, optimal dual variables, etc.). The relationship between in-memory classes and objects on one hand and complexTypes and elements of the OSoL schema follow the same mapping rules laid out in Section 11.2.3.

## 11.3 OSModelInterfaces

This part of the OS library is designed to help integrate the OS standards with other standards and modeling systems.

### 11.3.1 Converting MPS Files

The MPS standard is still a popular format for representing linear and integer programming problems. In `OSModelInterfaces`, there is a class `OSmps2osil` that can be used to convert files in MPS format into the OSiL standard. It is used as follows.

```
OSmps2osil *mps2osil = NULL;
DefaultSolver *solver = NULL;
solver = new CoinSolver();
solver->sSolverName = "cbc";
mps2osil = new OSmps2osil( mpsFileName);
mps2osil->createOSInstance() ;
solver->osinstance = mps2osil->osinstance;
solver->solve();
```

The `OSmps2osil` class constructor takes a string which should be the file name of the instance in MPS format. The constructor then uses the `CoinUtils` library to read and parse the MPS file. The class method `createOSInstance` then builds an in-memory `osinstance` object that can be used by a solver.

### 11.3.2 Converting AMPL nl Files

AMPL is a popular modeling language that saves model instances in the AMPL nl format. The `OSModelInterfaces` library provides a class, `OSnl2osil`, for reading an nl file and creating a corresponding in-memory `osinstance` object. It is used as follows.

```

OSnl2osil *nl2osil = NULL;
DefaultSolver *solver = NULL;
solver = new LindoSolver();
nl2osil = new OSnl2osil( nlFileName);
nl2osil->createOSInstance() ;
solver->osinstance = nl2osil->osinstance;
solver->solve();

```

The `OSnl2osil` class works much like the `OSmps2osil` class. The `OSnl2osil` class constructor takes a string which should be the file name of the instance in `nl` format. The constructor then uses the AMPL ASL library routines to read and parse the `nl` file. The class method `createOSInstance` then builds an in-memory `osinstance` object that can be used by a solver.

In Section 5.1 we describe the `OSAmplClient` executable that acts as a “solver” for AMPL. The `OSAmplClient` uses the `OSnl2osil` class to convert the instance in `nl` format to `OSiL` format before calling a solver either locally or remotely.

## 11.4 OSParsers

The `OSparsers` component of the `OS` library contains reentrant parsers that read `OSiL`, `OSoL` and `OSrL` strings and build, respectively, in-memory `OSInstance`, `OSOption` and `OSResult` objects.

The `OSiL` parser is invoked through an `OSiLReader` object as illustrated below. Assume `osil` is a string with the problem instance.

```

OSiLReader *osilreader = NULL;
OSInstance *osinstance = NULL;
osilreader = new OSiLReader();
osinstance = osilreader->readOSiL( osil);

```

The `readOSiL` method has a single argument which is a (pointer to a) string. The `readOSiL` method then calls an underlying method `yygetOSInstance` that parses the `OSiL` string. The major components of the `OSiL` schema recognized by the parser are

```

<instanceHeader>
<instanceData>
<variables>
<objectives>
<constraints>
<linearConstraintCoefficients>
<quadraticCoefficients>
<nonlinearExpressions>

```

There are other components in the `OSiL` schema, but they are not yet implemented. In most large-scale applications the `<variables>`, `<objectives>`, `<constraints>`, and `<linearConstraintCoefficients>` will comprise the bulk of the instance memory. Because of this, we have “hard-coded” the `OSiL` parser to read these specific elements very efficiently. The parsing of the `<quadraticCoefficients>` and `<nonlinearExpressions>` is done using code generated by `flex` and `bison`. The typical `OS` user will have no need to edit either `OSParseosil.l` or `OSParseosil.y` and therefore will not have to worry about running either `flex` or `bison` to generate the parsers.

The files `OSParseosrl.l` and `OSParseosrl.y` are used by `flex` and `bison` to generate the code `OSParseosrl.cpp` and `OSParseosrl.tab.cpp` for parsing strings in `OSrL` format. The comments

made above about the OSiL parser apply to the OSrL parser. The OSoL parser follows the same layout and rules. The files `OSParseosol.l` and `OSParseosol.y` are used by `flex` and `bison` to generate the code `OSParseosol.cpp` and `OSParseosol.tab.cpp` for parsing strings in OSoL format.

## 11.5 OSSolverInterfaces

The `OSSolverInterfaces` library is designed to facilitate linking the OS library with various solver APIs. We first describe how to take a problem instance in OSiL format and connect to a solver that has a COIN-OR OSI interface. See the OSI project [www.projects.coin-or.org/0si](http://www.projects.coin-or.org/0si). We then describe hooking to the COIN-OR nonlinear code `Ipopt`. See [www.projects.coin-or.org/Ipopt](http://www.projects.coin-or.org/Ipopt). Finally we describe hooking to the commercial solver LINDO. The OS library has been tested with the following solvers using the Osi Interface.

- Bonmin
- Cbc
- Clp
- Couenne
- Cplex
- DyLP
- Glpk
- Ipopt
- SYMPHONY
- Vol

In the `OSSolverInterfaces` library there is an abstract class `DefaultSolver` that has the following key members:

```
std::string osil;
std::string osol;
std::string osrl;
OSInstance *osinstance;
OSResult    *osresult;
OSOption    *osoption;
```

and the pure virtual function

```
virtual void solve() = 0 ;
```

In order to use a solver through the COIN-OR `Osi` interface it is necessary to create an object in the `CoinSolver` class which inherits from the `DefaultSolver` class and implements the appropriate `solve()` function. We illustrate with the `Clp` solver.

```
DefaultSolver *solver = NULL;
solver = new CoinSolver();
solver->m_sSolverName = "clp";
```

Assume that the data file containing the problem has been read into the string `osil` and the solver options are in the string `osol`. Then the `Clp` solver is invoked as follows.

```
solver->osil = osil;  
solver->osol = osol;  
solver->solve();
```

Finally, get the solution in `OSrL` format as follows

```
cout << solver->osrl << endl;
```

Some commercial solvers, e.g., LINDO, do not have a COIN-OR `Osi` interface, but it is possible to write wrappers so that they can be used in exactly the same manner as a COIN-OR solver. For example, to invoke the LINDO solver we do the following.

```
solver = new LindoSolver();
```

A similar call is used for `Ipopt`. In this case, the `IpoptSolver` class inherits from both the `DefaultSolver` class and the `IpoptTNLP` class. See

[smallhttps://projects.coin-or.org/Ipopt/browser/stable/3.5/Ipopt/doc/documentation.pdf?format=r](https://projects.coin-or.org/Ipopt/browser/stable/3.5/Ipopt/doc/documentation.pdf?format=r)

for more information on the `Ipopt` solver C++ implementation and the `TNLP` class.

In the examples above, the problem instance was assumed to be read from a file into the string `osil` and then into the class member `solver->osil`. However, everything can be done entirely in memory. For example, it is possible to use the `OSInstance` class to create an in-memory problem representation and give this representation directly to a solver class that inherits from `DefaultSolver`. The class member to use is `osinstance`. This is illustrated in the example given in Section 9.2.

## 11.6 OSUtils

The `OSUtils` component of the `OS` library contains utility codes. For example, the `FileUtil` class contains useful methods for reading files into `string` or `char*` and writing files from `string` and `char*`. The `OSDataStructures` class holds other classes for things such as sparse vectors, sparse Jacobians, and sparse Hessians. The `MathUtil` class contains a method for converting between sparse matrices in row and column major form.

## 12 The OSInstance API

The `OSInstance` API can be used to:

- get information about model parameters, or convert the `OSExpressionTree` into a prefix or postfix representation through a collection of `get()` methods,
- modify, or even create an instance from scratch, using a number of `set()` methods,
- provide information to solvers that require function evaluations, Jacobian and Hessian sparsity patterns, function gradient evaluations, and Hessian evaluations.

## 12.1 Get Methods

The `get()` methods are used by other classes to access data in an existing `OSInstance` object or get an expression tree representation of an instance in postfix or prefix format. Assume `osinstance` is an object in the `OSInstance` class created as illustrated in Figure 13. Then, for example,

```
osinstance->getVariableNumber();
```

will return an integer which is the number of variables in the problem,

```
osinstance->getVariableTypes();
```

will return a `char` pointer to the variable types (C for continuous, B for binary, and I for general integer),

```
getVariableLowerBounds();
```

will return a `double` pointer to the lower bound on each variable. There are similar `get()` methods for the constraints. There are numerous `get()` methods for the data in the `<linearConstraintCoefficients>` element, the `<quadraticCoefficients>` element, and the `<nonlinearExpressions>` element.

When an `osinstance` object is created, it is stored as an expression tree in an `OSExpressionTree` object. However, some solver APIs (e.g., LINDO) may take the data in a different format such as postfix and prefix. There are methods to return the data in either postfix or prefix format.

First define a vector of pointers to `OSnLNode` objects.

```
std::vector<OSnLNode*> postfixVec;
```

then get the expression tree for the objective function (index = -1) as a postfix vector of nodes.

```
postfixVec = osinstance->getNonlinearExpressionTreeInPostfix( -1);
```

If, for example, the `osinstance` object was the in-memory representation of the instance illustrated in Section 14.1 and Figure 17 then the code

```
for (i = 0 ; i < n; i++){  
    cout << postfixVec[i]->snodeName << endl;  
}
```

will produce

```
number  
variable  
minus  
number  
power  
number  
variable  
variable  
number  
power  
minus  
number  
power  
times  
plus
```

This postfix traversal of the expression tree in Figure 17 lists all the nodes by recursively processing all subtrees, followed by the root node. The method `processNonlinearExpressions()` in the `LindoSolver` class in the `OSSolverInterfaces` library component illustrates the use of a postfix vector of `OSnLNode` objects to build a Lindo model instance.

## 12.2 Set Methods

The `set()` methods can be used to build an in-memory `OSInstance` object. A code example of how to do this is in Section 9.2.

## 12.3 Calculate Methods

The `calculate()` methods are described in Section 13.

## 12.4 Modifying an OSInstance Object

The `OSInstance` API is designed to be used to either build an in-memory `OSInstance` object or provide information about the in-memory object (e.g., the number of variables). This interface is not designed for problem modification. We plan on later providing an `OSModification` object for this task. However, by directly accessing an `OSInstance` object it is possible to modify parameters in the following classes:

- `Variables`
- `Objectives`
- `Constraints`
- `LinearConstraintCoefficients`

For example, to modify the first nonzero objective function coefficient of the first objective function to 10.7 the user would write,

```
osinstance->instanceData->objectives->obj[0]->coef[0]->value = 10.7;
```

If the user wanted to modify the actual number of nonzero coefficients as declared by

```
osinstance->instanceData->objectives->obj[0]->numberOfObjCoef;
```

then the only safe course of action would be to delete the current `OSInstance` object and build a new one with the modified coefficients. It is strongly recommend that no changes are made involving allocated memory – i.e., any kind of `numberOf***`. Modifying an objective function coefficient is illustrated in the `OSModDemo` example. See Section 9.4.

After modifying an `OSInstance` object, it is necessary to set certain boolean variables to true in order for these changes to get reflected in the OS solver interfaces.

- `Variables` – if any changes are made to a parameter in this class set

```
osinstance->bVariablesModified = true;
```

- `Objectives` – if any changes are made to a parameter in this class set

```
osinstance->bObjectivesModified = true;
```

- **Constraints** – if any changes are made to a parameter in this class set

```
osinstance->bConstraintsModified = true;
```

- **LinearConstraintCoefficients** – if any changes are made to a parameter in this class set

```
osinstance->bAMatrixModified = true;
```

At this point, if the user desires to modify an **OSInstance** object that contains nonlinear terms, the only safe strategy is to delete the object and build a new object that contains the modifications.

## 12.5 Printing a Model for Debugging

The OSiL representation for the test problem `rosenbrockmod.osil` is given in Appendix 14.1. Many users will not find the OSiL representation useful for model debugging purposes. For users who wish to see a model in a standard infix representation we provide a method `printModel()`. Assume that we have an `osinstance` object in the **OSInstance** class that represents the model of interest. The call

```
osinstance->printModel( -1)
```

will result in printing the (first) objective function indexed by -1. In order to print constraint  $k$  use

```
osinstance->printModel( k)
```

In order to print the entire model use

```
osinstance->printModel( )
```

Below we give the result of `osinstance->printModel( )` for the problem `rosenbrockmod.osil`.

Objectives:

```
min 9*x_1 + (((1 - x_0) ^ 2) + (100*((x_1 - (x_0 ^ 2)) ^ 2)))
```

Constraints:

```
(((((10.5*x_0)*x_0) + ((11.7*x_1)*x_1)) + ((3*x_0)*x_1)) + x_0) <= 25  
10 <= ((ln( (x_0*x_1)) + (7.5*x_0)) + (5.25*x_1))
```

Variables:

```
x_0 Type = C Lower Bound = 0 Upper Bound = 1.7976931348623157e308  
x_1 Type = C Lower Bound = 0 Upper Bound = 1.7976931348623157e308
```

## 13 The OS Algorithmic Differentiation Implementation

The OS library provides a set of `calculate` methods for calculating function values, gradients, and Hessians. The `calculate` methods are part of the **OSInstance** class and are designed to work with solver APIs. For instance, **Ipopt** requires derivatives but does not provide its own differentiation routines, expecting the user to make them available through callbacks.

### 13.1 Algorithmic Differentiation: Brief Review

First and second derivative calculations are made using *algorithmic differentiation*. Here we provide a brief review of this topic. An excellent reference on algorithmic differentiation is Griewank [3]. The OS package uses the COIN-OR project CppAD (<http://projects.coin-or.org/CppAD>), which is also an excellent resource with extensive documentation and information about algorithmic differentiation. See the documentation written by Brad Bell [1]. The development here is from the CppAD documentation. Consider the function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . (That is,  $Y = f(X)$ .) Assume that  $f$  is twice continuously differentiable, so that in particular the second order partials

$$\frac{\partial^2 f_k}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial^2 f_k}{\partial x_j \partial x_i} \quad (24)$$

exist and are equal to each other for all  $k = 1, \dots, m$  and  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ . The task is to compute the derivatives of  $f$ .

First express the input vector as a function of  $t$  by

$$X(t) = x^{(0)} + x^{(1)}t + x^{(2)}t^2 \quad (25)$$

where  $x^{(0)}$ ,  $x^{(1)}$ , and  $x^{(2)}$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $t$  is a scalar. By judiciously choosing  $x^{(0)}$ ,  $x^{(1)}$ , and  $x^{(2)}$  we will be able to derive many different expressions of interest. Note first that

$$\begin{aligned} X(0) &= x^{(0)}, \\ X'(0) &= x^{(1)}, \\ X''(0) &= 2x^{(2)}. \end{aligned}$$

In general,  $x^{(k)}$  corresponds to the  $k^{\text{th}}$  order Taylor coefficient, i.e.,

$$x^{(k)} = \frac{1}{k!} X^{(k)}(0), \quad k = 0, 1, 2. \quad (26)$$

Then  $Y(t) = f(X(t))$  is a function from  $\mathbb{R}^1$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and is expressed in terms of its Taylor series expansion as

$$Y(t) = y^{(0)} + y^{(1)}t + y^{(2)}t^2 + o(t^3), \quad (27)$$

where

$$y^{(k)} = \frac{1}{k!} Y^{(k)}(0), \quad k = 0, 1, 2. \quad (28)$$

The following are shown in Bell [1].

$$y^{(0)} = f(x^{(0)}). \quad (29)$$

Let  $e^{(i)}$  denote the  $i^{\text{th}}$  unit vector. If  $x^{(1)} = e^{(i)}$  then  $y^{(1)}$  is equal to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of the Jacobian matrix of  $f(x)$  evaluated at  $x^{(0)}$ . That is

$$y^{(1)} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x^{(0)}). \quad (30)$$

In addition, if  $x^{(1)} = e^{(i)}$  and  $x^{(2)} = 0$  then for function  $f_k(x)$ , (the  $k^{\text{th}}$  component of  $f$ )

$$y_k^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_i \partial x_i}. \quad (31)$$



In order to evaluate the mixed partial derivatives, one can instead set  $x^{(1)} = e^{(i)} + e^{(j)}$  and  $x^{(2)} = 0$ . This gives for function  $f_k(x)$ ,

$$y_k^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_i \partial x_i} + \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} + \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_j \partial x_i} + \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_j \partial x_j} \right), \quad (32)$$

or, expressed in terms of the mixed partials,

$$\frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} = y_k^{(2)} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_i \partial x_i} + \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_j \partial x_j} \right). \quad (33)$$

### 13.2 Using OSInstance Methods: Low Level Calls

The code snippets used in this section are from the example code `algorithmicDiffTest.cpp` in the `algorithmicDiffTest` folder in the `examples` folder. The code is based on the following example.

$$\text{Minimize} \quad x_0^2 + 9x_1 \quad (34)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad 33 - 105 + 1.37x_1 + 2x_3 + 5x_1 \leq 10 \quad (35)$$

$$\ln(x_0 x_3) + 7x_2 \geq 10 \quad (36)$$

$$x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0 \quad (37)$$

The OSiL representation of the instance (34)–(37) is given in Appendix 14.2. This example is designed to illustrate several features of OSiL. Note that in constraint (35) the constant 33 appears in the `<con>` element corresponding to this constraint and the constant 105 appears as a `<number>` OSnL node in the `<nonlinearExpressions>` section. This distinction is important, as it will lead to different treatment by the code as documented below. Variables  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  do not appear in any nonlinear terms. The terms  $5x_1$  in (35) and  $7x_2$  in (36) are expressed in the `<objectives>` and `<linearConstraintCoefficients>` sections, respectively, and will again receive special treatment by the code. However, the term  $1.37x_1$  in (35), along with the term  $2x_3$ , is expressed in the `<nonlinearExpressions>` section, hence  $x_1$  is treated as a nonlinear variable for purposes of algorithmic differentiation. Variable  $x_2$  never appears in the `<nonlinearExpressions>` section and is therefore treated as a linear variable and not used in any algorithmic differentiation calculations. Variables that do not appear in the `<nonlinearExpressions>` are never part of the algorithmic differentiation calculations.

Ignoring the nonnegativity constraints, instance (34)–(37) defines a mapping from  $\mathbb{R}^4$  to  $\mathbb{R}^3$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} x_0^2 + 9x_1 \\ 33 - 105 + 1.37x_1 + 2x_3 + 5x_1 \\ \ln(x_0 x_3) + 7x_2 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 9x_1 \\ 33 + 5x_1 \\ 7x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} x_0^2 \\ -105 + 1.37x_1 + 2x_3 \\ \ln(x_0 x_3) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 9x_1 \\ 33 + 5x_1 \\ 7x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x) \\ f_2(x) \\ f_3(x) \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

$$\text{where } f(x) := \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x) \\ f_2(x) \\ f_3(x) \end{bmatrix}. \quad (39)$$

The OSiL representation for the instance in (34)–(37) is read into an in-memory OSInstance object as follows (we assume that `osil` is a `string` containing the OSiL instance)

```
osilreader = new OSiLReader();
osinstance = osilreader->readOSiL( &osil);
```

There is a method in the OSInstance class, `initForAlgDiff()` that is used to initialize the non-linear data structures. A call to this method

```
osinstance->initForAlgDiff( );
```

will generate a map of the indices of the nonlinear variables. This is critical because the algorithmic differentiation only operates on variables that appear in the `<nonlinearExpressions>` section. An example of this map follows.

```
std::map<int, int> varIndexMap;
std::map<int, int>::iterator posVarIndexMap;
varIndexMap = osinstance->getAllNonlinearVariablesIndexMap( );
for(posVarIndexMap = varIndexMap.begin(); posVarIndexMap
    != varIndexMap.end(); ++posVarIndexMap){
    std::cout << "Variable Index = " << posVarIndexMap->first << std::endl ;
}
```

The variable indices listed are 0, 1, and 3. Variable 2 does not appear in the `<nonlinearExpressions>` section and is not included in `varIndexMap`. That is, the function  $f$  in (39) will be considered as a map from  $\mathbb{R}^3$  to  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Once the nonlinear structures are initialized it is possible to take derivatives using algorithmic differentiation. Algorithmic differentiation is done using either a forward or reverse sweep through an expression tree (or operation sequence) representation of  $f$ . The two key public algorithmic differentiation methods in the OSInstance class are `forwardAD` and `reverseAD`. These are actually generic “wrappers” around the corresponding CppAD methods with the same signature. This keeps the OS API public methods independent of any underlying algorithmic differentiation package.

The `forwardAD` signature is

```
std::vector<double> forwardAD(int k, std::vector<double> vdX);
```

where `k` is the highest order Taylor coefficient of  $f$  to be returned, `vdX` is a vector of doubles in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and the function return is a vector of doubles in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . Thus, `k` corresponds to the  $k$  in Equations (26) and (28), where `vdX` corresponds to the  $x^{(k)}$  in Equation (26), and the  $y^{(k)}$  in Equation (28) is the vector in range space returned by the call to `forwardAD`. For example, by Equation (29) the following call will evaluate each component function defined in (39) corresponding only to the nonlinear part of (38) – the part denoted by  $f(x)$ .

```
funVals = osinstance->forwardAD(0, x0);
```

Since there are three components in the vector defined by (39), the return value `funVals` will have three components. For an input vector,

```
x0[0] = 1; // the value for variable x0 in function f
x0[1] = 5; // the value for variable x1 in function f
x0[2] = 5; // the value for variable x3 in function f
```

the values returned by `osinstance->forwardAD(0, x0)` are 1, -63.15, and 1.6094, respectively. The Jacobian of the example in (39) is

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_0 & 9.00 & 0.00 & 0.00 \\ 0.00 & 6.37 & 0.00 & 2.00 \\ 1/x_0 & 0.00 & 7.00 & 1/x_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (40)$$

and the Jacobian  $J_f$  of the nonlinear part is

$$J_f = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_0 & 0.00 & 0.00 \\ 0.00 & 1.37 & 2.00 \\ 1/x_0 & 0.00 & 1/x_3 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (41)$$

When  $x_0 = 1$ ,  $x_1 = 5$ ,  $x_2 = 10$ , and  $x_3 = 5$  the Jacobian  $J_f$  is

$$J_f = \begin{bmatrix} 2.00 & 0.00 & 0.00 \\ 0.00 & 1.37 & 2.00 \\ 1.00 & 0.00 & 0.20 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (42)$$

A forward sweep with  $k = 1$  will calculate the Jacobian column-wise. See (30). The following code will return column 3 of the Jacobian (42) which corresponds to the nonlinear variable  $x_3$ .

```
x1[0] = 0;
x1[1] = 0;
x1[2] = 1;
osinstance->forwardAD(1, x1);
```

Now calculate second derivatives. To illustrate we use the results in (31)-(33) and calculate

$$\frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_3} \quad k = 1, 2, 3.$$

Variables  $x_0$  and  $x_3$  are the first and third nonlinear variables so by (32) the  $x^{(1)}$  should be the sum of the  $e^{(1)}$  and  $e^{(3)}$  unit vectors and used in the first-order forward sweep calculation.

```
x1[0] = 1;
x1[1] = 0;
x1[2] = 1;
osinstance->forwardAD(1, x1);
```

Next set  $x^{(2)} = 0$  and do a second-order forward sweep.

```
std::vector<double> x2( n);
x2[0] = 0;
x2[1] = 0;
x2[2] = 0;
osinstance->forwardAD(2, x2);
```

This call returns the vector of values

$$y_1^{(2)} = 1, \quad y_2^{(2)} = 0, \quad y_3^{(2)} = -0.52.$$

By inspection of (38) (or by appropriate calls to `osinstance->forwardAD` — not shown here),

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 f_1(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_0} &= 2, & \frac{\partial^2 f_1(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_3 \partial x_3} &= 0, \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_2(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_0} &= 0, & \frac{\partial^2 f_2(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_3 \partial x_3} &= 0, \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_3(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_0} &= -1, & \frac{\partial^2 f_3(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_3 \partial x_3} &= -0.04.\end{aligned}$$

Then by (33),

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 f_1(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_3} &= y_1^{(2)} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 f_1(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_0} + \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_3 \partial x_3} \right) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}(2 + 0) = 0, \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_2(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_3} &= y_2^{(2)} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 f_2(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_0} + \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_3 \partial x_3} \right) = 0 - \frac{1}{2}(0 + 0) = 0, \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_3(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_3} &= y_3^{(2)} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 f_3(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0 \partial x_0} + \frac{\partial^2 f_k(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_3 \partial x_3} \right) = -0.52 - \frac{1}{2}(-1 - 0.04) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Making all of the first and second derivative calculations using forward sweeps is most effective when the number of rows exceeds the number of variables.

The `reverseAD` signature is

```
std::vector<double> reverseAD(int k, std::vector<double> vdlambda);
```

where `vdlambda` is a vector of Lagrange multipliers. This method returns a vector in the range space. If a reverse sweep of order  $k$  is called, a forward sweep of all orders through  $k - 1$  must have been made prior to the call.

### 13.2.1 First Derivative Reverse Sweep Calculations

In order to calculate first derivatives execute the following sequence of calls.

```
x0[0] = 1;
x0[1] = 5;
x0[2] = 5;
std::vector<double> vlamba(3);
vlamba[0] = 0;
vlamba[1] = 0;
vlamba[2] = 1;
osinstance->forwardAD(0, x0);
osinstance->reverseAD(1, vlamba);
```

Since `vlamba` only includes the third function  $f_3$ , this sequence of calls will produce the third row of the Jacobian  $J_f$ , i.e.,

$$\frac{\partial f_3(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_0} = 1, \quad \frac{\partial f_3(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_1} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial f_3(x^{(0)})}{\partial x_3} = 0.2.$$

### 13.2.2 Second Derivative Reverse Sweep Calculations

In order to calculate second derivatives using **reverseAD** forward sweeps of order 0 and 1 must have been completed. The call to **reverseAD(2, vlambd)** will return a vector of dimension  $2n$  where  $n$  is the number of variables. If the zero-order forward sweep is **forwardAD(0, x0)** and the first-order forward sweep is **forwardAD(1, x1)** where  $x1 = e^{(i)}$ , then the return vector  $z = \text{reverseAD}(2, vlambd)$  is

$$z[2j - 2] = \frac{\partial L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n \quad (43)$$

$$z[2j - 1] = \frac{\partial^2 L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n \quad (44)$$

where

$$L(x, \lambda) = \sum_{k=1}^m \lambda_k f_k(x). \quad (45)$$

For example, the following calls will calculate the third row (column) of the Hessian of the Lagrangian.

```
x0[0] = 1;
x0[1] = 5;
x0[2] = 5;
osinstance->forwardAD(0, x0);
x1[0] = 0;
x1[1] = 0;
x1[2] = 1;
osinstance->forwardAD(1, x1);
vlambd[0] = 1;
vlambd[1] = 2;
vlambd[2] = 1;
osinstance->reverseAD(2, vlambd);
```

This returns

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_0} &= 3, & \frac{\partial L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_1} &= 2.74, & \frac{\partial L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_3} &= 4.2, \\ \frac{\partial^2 L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_3 \partial x_0} &= 0, & \frac{\partial^2 L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_3 \partial x_1} &= 0, & \frac{\partial^2 L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_3 \partial x_3} &= -.04. \end{aligned}$$

The reason why

$$\frac{\partial L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_1} = 2 \times 1.37 = 2.74$$

and not

$$\frac{\partial L(x^{(0)}, \lambda^{(0)})}{\partial x_1} = 1 \times 9 + 2 \times 6.37 = 9 + 12.74 = 21.74$$

is that the terms  $9x_1$  in the objective and  $5x_1$  in the first constraint are captured in the linear section of the OSiL input and therefore do not appear as nonlinear terms in **<nonlinearExpressions>**. As noted before, **forwardAD** and **reverseAD** only operate on variables and terms in either the **<quadraticCoefficients>** or **<nonlinearExpressions>** sections.

### 13.3 Using OSInstance Methods: High Level Calls

The methods `forwardAD` and `reverseAD` are low-level calls and are not designed to work directly with solver APIs. The `OSInstance` API has other methods that most users will want to invoke when linking with solver APIs. We describe these now.

#### 13.3.1 Sparsity Methods

Many solvers such as `Ipopt` ([projects.coin-or.org/Ipopt](http://projects.coin-or.org/Ipopt)) require the sparsity pattern of the Jacobian of the constraint matrix and the Hessian of the Lagrangian function. Note well that the constraint matrix of the example in Section 13.2 constitutes only the last two rows of (39) but does include the linear terms. The following code illustrates how to get the sparsity pattern of the constraint Jacobian matrix

```
SparseJacobianMatrix *sparseJac;
sparseJac = osinstance->getJacobianSparsityPattern();
for(idx = 0; idx < sparseJac->startSize; idx++){
    std::cout << "number constant terms in constraint " << idx << " is "
    << *(sparseJac->conVals + idx) << std::endl;
    for(k = *(sparseJac->starts + idx); k < *(sparseJac->starts + idx + 1); k++){
        std::cout << "row idx = " << idx << "
        col idx = "<< *(sparseJac->indexes + k) << std::endl;
    }
}
```

For the example problem this will produce

```
JACOBIAN SPARSITY PATTERN
number constant terms in constraint 0 is 0
row idx = 0  col idx = 1
row idx = 0  col idx = 3
number constant terms in constraint 1 is 1
row idx = 1  col idx = 2
row idx = 1  col idx = 0
row idx = 1  col idx = 3
```

The constant term in constraint 1 corresponds to the linear term  $7x_2$ , which is added after the algorithmic differentiation has taken place. However, the linear term  $5x_1$  in constraint 0 does not contribute a nonzero in the Jacobian, as it is combined with the term  $1.37x_1$  that is treated as a nonlinear term and therefore accounted for explicitly. The `SparseJacobianMatrix` object has a data member `starts` which is the index of the start of each constraint row. The `int` data member `indexes` gives the variable index of every potentially nonzero derivative. There is also a `double` data member `values` that gives the value of the partial derivative of the corresponding index at each iteration. Finally, there is an `int` data member `conVals` that is the number of constant terms in each gradient. A constant term is a partial derivative that cannot change at an iteration. A variable is considered to have a constant derivative if it appears in the `<linearConstraintCoefficients>` section but not in the `<nonlinearExpressions>`. For a row indexed by `idx` the variable indices are in the `indexes` array between the elements `sparseJac->starts + idx` and `sparseJac->starts + idx + 1`. The first `sparseJac->conVals + idx` variables listed are indices of variables with

constant derivatives. In this example, when `idx` is 1, there is one variable with a constant derivative and it is variable  $x_2$ . (Actually variable  $x_1$  has a constant derivative but the code does not check to see if variables that appear in the `<nonlinearExpressions>` section have constant derivative.) The variables with constant derivatives never appear in the AD evaluation.

The following code illustrates how to get the sparsity pattern of the Hessian of the Lagrangian.

```
SparseHessianMatrix *sparseHessian;
sparseHessian = osinstance->getLagrangianHessianSparsityPattern( );
for(idx = 0; idx < sparseHessian->hessDimension; idx++){
    std::cout << "Row Index = " << *(sparseHessian->hessRowIdx + idx) ;
    std::cout << "    Column Index = " << *(sparseHessian->hessColIdx + idx);
}
```

The `SparseHessianMatrix` class has the `int` data members `hessRowIdx` and `hessColIdx` for indexing potential nonzero elements in the Hessian matrix. The `double` data member `hessValues` holds the value of the respective second derivative at each iteration. The data member `hessDimension` is the number of nonzero elements in the Hessian.

### 13.3.2 Function Evaluation Methods

There are several overloaded methods for calculating objective and constraint values. The method

```
double *calculateAllConstraintFunctionValues(double* x, bool new_x)
```

will return a `double` pointer to an array of constraint function values evaluated at `x`. If the value of `x` has not changed since the last function call, then `new_x` should be set to `false` and the most recent function values are returned. When using this method, with this signature, all function values are calculated in `double` using an `OSExpressionTree` object.

A second signature for the `calculateAllConstraintFunctionValues` is

```
double *calculateAllConstraintFunctionValues(double* x, double *objLambda,
    double *conLambda, bool new_x, int highestOrder)
```

In this signature, `x` is a pointer to the current primal values, `objLambda` is a vector of dual multipliers, `conLambda` is a vector of dual multipliers on the constraints, `new_x` is true if any components of `x` have changed since the last evaluation, and `highestOrder` is the highest order of derivative to be calculated at this iteration. The following code snippet illustrates defining a set of variable values for the example we are using and then the function call.

```
double* x = new double[4]; //primal variables
double* z = new double[2]; //Lagrange multipliers on constraints
double* w = new double[1]; //Lagrange multiplier on objective
x[ 0] = 1;    // primal variable 0
x[ 1] = 5;    // primal variable 1
x[ 2] = 10;   // primal variable 2
x[ 3] = 5;    // primal variable 3
z[ 0] = 2;    // Lagrange multiplier on constraint 0
z[ 1] = 1;    // Lagrange multiplier on constraint 1
w[ 0] = 1;    // Lagrange multiplier on the objective function
calculateAllConstraintFunctionValues(x, w, z, true, 0);
```

When making all high level calls for function, gradient, and Hessian evaluations we pass all the primal variables in the `x` argument, not just the nonlinear variables. Underneath the call, the nonlinear variables are identified and used in AD function calls.

The use of the parameters `new_x` and `highestOrder` is important and requires further explanation. The parameter `highestOrder` is an integer variable that will take on the value 0, 1, or 2 (actually higher values if we want third derivatives etc.). The value of this variable is the highest order derivative that is required of the current iterate. For example, if a callback requires a function evaluation and `highestOrder = 0` then only the function is evaluated at the current iterate. However, if `highestOrder = 2` then the function call

```
calculateAllConstraintFunctionValues(x, w, z, true, 2)
```

will trigger first and second derivative evaluations in addition to the function evaluations.

In the `OSInstance` class code, every time a forward (`forwardAD`) or reverse sweep (`reverseAD`) is executed a private member, `m_iHighestOrderEvaluated` is set to the order of the sweep. For example, `forwardAD(1, x)` will result in `m_iHighestOrderEvaluated = 1`. Just knowing the value of `new_x` alone is not sufficient. It is also necessary to know `highestOrder` and compare it with `m_iHighestOrderEvaluated`. For example, if `new_x` is false, but `m_iHighestOrderEvaluated = 0`, and the callback requires a Hessian calculation, then it is necessary to calculate the first and second derivatives at the current iterate.

There are *exactly two* conditions that require a new function or derivative evaluation. A new evaluation is required if and only if

1. The value of `new_x` is true

–OR–

2. For the callback function the value of the input parameter `highestOrder` is strictly greater than the current value of `m_iHighestOrderEvaluated`.

For an efficient implementation of AD it is important to be able to get the Lagrange multipliers and highest order derivative that is required from inside *any* callback – not just the Hessian evaluation callback. For example, in `Ipopt`, if `eval_g` or `eval_f` are called, and for the current iterate, `eval_jac` and `eval_hess` are also going to be called, then a more efficient AD implementation is possible if the Lagrange multipliers are available for `eval_g` and `eval_f`.

Currently, whenever `new_x = true` in the underlying AD implementation we do not reape (record into the CppAD data structure) the function. This is because we currently throw an exception if there are any logical operators involved in the AD calculations. This may change in a future implementation.

There are also similar methods for objective function evaluations. The method

```
double calculateFunctionValue(int idx, double* x, bool new_x);
```

will return the value of any constraint or objective function indexed by `idx`. This method works strictly with `double` data using an `OSExpressionTree` object.

There is also a public variable, `bUseExpTreeForFunEval` that, if set to `true`, will cause the method

```
calculateAllConstraintFunctionValues(x, objLambda, conLambda, true, highestOrder)
```

to also use the OS expression tree for function evaluations when `highestOrder = 0` rather than use the operator overloading in the CppAD tape.



### 13.3.3 Gradient Evaluation Methods

One `OSInstance` method for gradient calculations is

```
SparseJacobianMatrix *calculateAllConstraintFunctionGradients(double* x, double *objLambda,  
    double *conLambda, bool new_x, int highestOrder)
```

If a call has been placed to `calculateAllConstraintFunctionValues` with `highestOrder = 0`, then the appropriate call to get gradient evaluations is

```
calculateAllConstraintFunctionGradients( x, NULL, NULL, false, 1);
```

Note that in this function call `new_x = false`. This prevents a call to `forwardAD()` with order 0 to get the function values.

If, at the current iterate, the Hessian of the Lagrangian function is also desired then an appropriate call is

```
calculateAllConstraintFunctionGradients(x, objLambda, conLambda, false, 2);
```

In this case, if there was a prior call

```
calculateAllConstraintFunctionValues(x, w, z, true, 0);
```

then only first and second derivatives are calculated, not function values.

When calculating the gradients, if the number of nonlinear variables exceeds or is equal to the number of rows, a `forwardAD(0, x)` sweep is used to get the function values, and a `reverseAD(1,  $e^k$ )` sweep for each unit vector  $e^k$  in the row space is used to get the vector of first order partials for each row in the constraint Jacobian. If the number of nonlinear variables is less than the number of rows then a `forwardAD(0, x)` sweep is used to get the function values and a `forwardAD(1,  $e^i$ )` sweep for each unit vector  $e^i$  in the column space is used to get the vector of first order partials for each column in the constraint Jacobian.

Two other gradient methods are

```
SparseVector *calculateConstraintFunctionGradient(double* x,  
    double *objLambda, double *conLambda, int idx, bool new_x, int highestOrder);
```

and

```
SparseVector *calculateConstraintFunctionGradient(double* x, int idx,  
    bool new_x );
```

Similar methods are available for the objective function; however, the objective function gradient methods treat the gradient of each objective function as a dense vector.

### 13.3.4 Hessian Evaluation Methods

There are two methods for Hessian calculations. The first method has the signature

```
SparseHessianMatrix *calculateLagrangianHessian( double* x,  
    double *objLambda, double *conLambda, bool new_x, int highestOrder);
```

so if either function or first derivatives have been calculated an appropriate call is

```
calculateLagrangianHessian( x, w, z, false, 2);
```

If the Hessian of a single row or objective function is desired the following method is available

```
SparseHessianMatrix *calculateHessian( double* x, int idx, bool new_x);
```

## 14 Appendix – Sample OSiL files

### 14.1 OSiL representation for problem given in (7)–(10) (p.40)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<osil xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
  <instanceHeader>
    <name>Modified Rosenbrock</name>
    <source>Computing Journal 3:175-184, 1960</source>
    <description>Rosenbrock problem with constraints</description>
  </instanceHeader>
  <instanceData>
    <variables numberOfVariables="2">
      <var lb="0" name="x0" type="C"/>
      <var lb="0" name="x1" type="C"/>
    </variables>
    <objectives numberOfObjectives="1">
      <obj maxOrMin="min" name="minCost" numberOfObjCoef="1">
        <coef idx="1">9.0</coef>
      </obj>
    </objectives>
    <constraints numberOfConstraints="2">
      <con ub="25.0"/>
      <con lb="10.0"/>
    </constraints>
    <linearConstraintCoefficients numberOfValues="3">
      <start>
        <el>0</el><el>2</el><el>3</el>
      </start>
      <rowIdx>
        <el>0</el><el>1</el><el>1</el>
      </rowIdx>
      <value>
        <el>1.</el><el>7.5</el><el>5.25</el>
      </value>
    </linearConstraintCoefficients>
    <quadraticCoefficients numberOfQuadraticTerms="3">
      <qTerm idx="0" idxOne="0" idxTwo="0" coef="10.5"/>
```

```

    <qTerm idx="0" idxOne="1" idxTwo="1" coef="11.7"/>
    <qTerm idx="0" idxOne="0" idxTwo="1" coef="3."/>
  </quadraticCoefficients>
  <nonlinearExpressions numberOfNonlinearExpressions="2">
    <nl idx="-1">
      <plus>
        <power>
          <minus>
            <number type="real" value="1.0"/>
            <variable coef="1.0" idx="0"/>
          </minus>
          <number type="real" value="2.0"/>
        </power>
        <times>
          <power>
            <minus>
              <variable coef="1.0" idx="0"/>
              <power>
                <variable coef="1.0" idx="1"/>
                <number type="real" value="2.0"/>
              </power>
            </minus>
            <number type="real" value="2.0"/>
          </power>
          <number type="real" value="100"/>
        </times>
      </plus>
    </nl>
    <nl idx="1">
      <ln>
        <times>
          <variable coef="1.0" idx="0"/>
          <variable coef="1.0" idx="1"/>
        </times>
      </ln>
    </nl>
  </nonlinearExpressions>
</instanceData>
</osil>

```

## 14.2 OSiL representation for problem given in (34)–(37) (p.81)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<osil xmlns="os.optimizationservices.org"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="os.optimizationservices.org
      http://www.optimizationservices.org/schemas/2.0/OSiL.xsd">
  <instanceHeader>
    <description>A test problem for Algorithmic Differentiation</description>
  </instanceHeader>
  <instanceData>
    <variables numberOfVariables="4">
      <var lb="0" name="x0" type="C"/>
      <var lb="0" name="x1" type="C"/>
      <var lb="0" name="x2" type="C"/>
      <var lb="0" name="x3" type="C"/>
    </variables>
    <objectives numberOfObjectives=" 1">
      <obj maxOrMin="min" name="minCost" numberOfObjCoef="1">
        <coef idx="1">9.0</coef>
      </obj>
    </objectives>
    <constraints numberOfConstraints="2">
      <con ub="10.0" constant="33"/>
      <con lb="10.0"/>
    </constraints>
    <linearConstraintCoefficients numberOfValues="2">
      <start>
        <el>0</el>
        <el>0</el>
        <el>1</el>
        <el>2</el>
        <el>2</el>
      </start>
      <rowIdx>
        <el>0</el>
        <el>1</el>
      </rowIdx>
      <value>
        <el>5</el>
        <el>7</el>
      </value>
    </linearConstraintCoefficients>
    <nonlinearExpressions numberOfNonlinearExpressions="3">
      <nl idx="1">
        <ln>
          <times>
            <variable coef="1.0" idx="0"/>

```

```

        <variable coef="1.0" idx="3"/>
    </times>
</ln>
</nl>
<nl idx="0">
    <sum>
        <number type="real" value="-105"/>
        <variable coef="1.37" idx="1"/>
        <variable coef="2" idx="3"/>
    </sum>
</nl>
<nl idx="-1">
    <power>
        <variable coef="1.0" idx="0"/>
        <number type="real" value="2.0"/>
    </power>
</nl>
</nonlinearExpressions>
</instanceData>
</osil>

```

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