



GAMS

The Role and Impact of Algebraic Modeling Languages in and on Industrial Optimization

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Company

- Roots: World Bank, 1976
- Went commercial in 1987
- Locations
 - GAMS Development Corporation (Washington)
 - GAMS Software GmbH (Germany)
- Product: The **General Algebraic Modeling System**

GAMS - System Highlights

Powerful algebraic modeling language with open architecture

Robust, scalable state-of-the-art modeling technology for complex, large-scale modeling applications

Uniform interface to all major commercial and academic solvers (30+ integrated)

Broad User **Community and Network**

11,500+ licenses

Users: 50% academic, 50% commercial

GAMS used in more than 120 countries



25+ Years
GAMS Development

but...

“... - asking yourself why you would do optimization in GAMS, software that looks as modern and friendly as Richard Nixon.”

Customer review on Amazon.com for S. Zenios, S. Nielson, and A. Consiglio “Practical Financial Optimization: A Library of GAMS Models”, Wiley, 2009



Agenda

GAMS – Elements, Enhancements, and Examples

Enhancements around GAMS

Some Case Studies

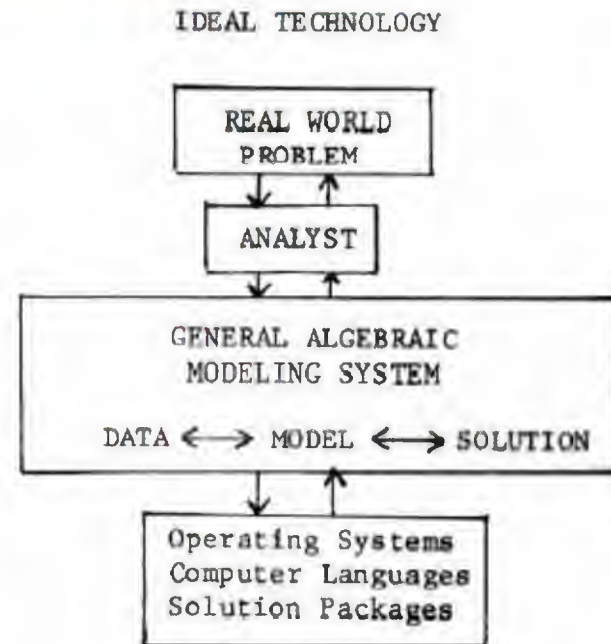
Past – Presence – Future

1976 - A World Bank Slide



The
Vision

GAMS came into being!



- RESULT:
- Limited drain of resources
 - Same representation of models for humans and machines
 - Model representation is also model documentation



What did this vision give us?

Simplified model development, changes, and transfer

Made mathematical optimization available to a broader audience (domain experts)

Increased productivity tremendously

Foundation of GAMS



Powerful algebraic modeling language

Open architecture and interfaces to other systems, independent layers (platform, solver, data, interface)

Simple Declarative Language

Similar to mathematical notation

Easy to learn - few basic language elements: sets, parameters, variables, equations, models

Model is executable description of the problem

Similar to Mathematical Notation

The algebraic representation of this problem is usually presented in a format similar to the following.

Indices:

i = plants

j = markets

Given Data:

a_i = supply of commodity of plant i (in cases)

b_j = demand for commodity at market j

c_{ij} = cost per unit shipment between plant i and market j (\$/case)

Decision Variables:

x_{ij} = amount of commodity to ship from plant i to market j (cases).

where $x_{ij} \geq 0$, for all i, j

Constraints:

Observe supply limit at plant i : $\sum_j x_{ij} \leq a_i$

Satisfy demand at market j : $\sum_i x_{ij} \geq b_j$

Objective Function: Minimize $\sum_i \sum_j c_{ij} x_{ij}$



Sets

```
i   canning plants   / seattle, san-diego /
j   markets           / new-york, chicago, topeka / ;
```

Parameters

```
a(i)  capacity of plant i in cases
b(j)  demand at market j in cases
c(i,j) transport cost in thousands of dollars per case ;
```

Variables

```
x(i,j) shipment quantities in cases
z       total transportation costs in thousands of dollars ;
```

Equations

```
cost          define objective function
supply(i)     observe supply limit at plant i
demand(j)     satisfy demand at market j ;
```

```
cost ..       z  =e=  sum((i,j), c(i,j)*x(i,j)) ;
supply(i) ..  sum(j, x(i,j))  =l=  a(i) ;
demand(j) ..  sum(i, x(i,j))  =g=  b(j) ;
```

```
Model transport /all/ ;
```

Model2Tex

Sets

```
i  canning plants / seattle, san-diego /
j  markets         / new-york, chicago, topeka
```

Parameters

```
a(i)  capacity of plant i in cases
b(j)  demand at market j in cases
c(i,j) transport cost in thousands of dollars per case
```

Variables

```
x(i,j) shipment quantities in cases
z      total transportation costs in thousands of dollars
```

Equations

```
cost      define objective function
supply(i) observe supply limit at plant i
demand(j) satisfy demand at market j ;
```

```
cost ..      z =e= sum((i,j), c(i,j)*x(i,j)) ;
supply(i) .. sum(j, x(i,j)) =l= a(i) ;
demand(j) .. sum(i, x(i,j)) =g= b(j) ;
```

```
Model transport /all/ ;
```

Symbols

Sets

Name	Domains	Description
i	*	canning plants
j	*	markets

Parameters

Name	Domains	Description
a	i	capacity of plant i in cases
b	j	demand at market j in cases
c	i, j	transport cost in thousands of dollars per case

Variables

Name	Domains	Description
x	i, j	shipment quantities in cases
z		total transportation costs in thousands of dollars

Equations

Name	Domains	Description
cost		define objective function
supply	i	observe supply limit at plant i
demand	j	satisfy demand at market j

Equation Definitions

cost

$$z = \sum_{i,j} (c_{i,j} \cdot x_{i,j})$$

supply_i

$$\sum_j (x_{i,j}) \leq a_i \quad \forall i$$

demand_j

$$\sum_i (x_{i,j}) \geq b_j \quad \forall j$$

$$x_{i,j} \geq 0 \quad \forall i, j$$



Mix of Declarative and **Imperative** Elements

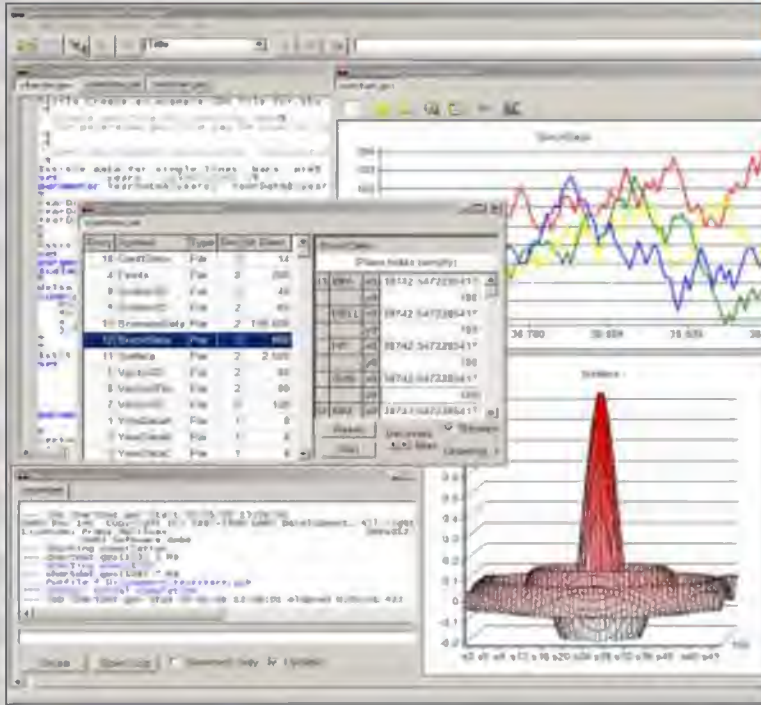
Control Flow Statements (e.g. loops, for, if,...), macros and functions

1. Build complex problem algorithms within GAMS
2. Simplified interaction with other systems:
 - Data exchange
 - GAMS process control

Strong Development Environment

GAMS IDE

- Project management
- Editor / Syntax coloring / Spell checks
- Tree view / Syntax-error navigation
- Model Debugging & Profiling
- Solver selection & setup
- Data viewer
 - Export
 - Charting
- GAMS Processes Control



System Documentation

The screenshot displays the GAMS documentation system. On the left, a 'Contents' sidebar lists categories: User Guides, Solvers, Tools, and APIs. Under 'User Guides', 'Release Notes' is selected. The main content area shows the 'Release Notes' page, which includes sections for 'Major releases', 'Minor releases', and 'Maintenance releases'. A red banner is visible below the 'Maintenance releases' section. Below the banner, the 'Distribution History' section lists versions: 24.4.2 (Maintenance rel) and 24.4.1 (Major release). On the right, a 'McCarl GAMS User Guide' window is open, showing a table of contents with various topics like 'Quick Start Tutorial', 'Language Basics', 'Running Jobs with GAMS', etc. A banner image with the GAMS logo is also visible in the background of the user guide window.

Search: Go [Scope](#) All topics

Contents

- User Guides
 - Release Notes
 - Installation Notes
 - A GAMS User's Guide (pdf)
 - A GAMS Tutorial (pdf)
 - McCarl Expanded GAMS User Guide
- Solvers
- Tools
- APIs

[User Guides >](#)

Release Notes

Each new release incorporates new components. A selected list of new components is provided for each release.

Major releases contain new components and the date of the major release.

Minor releases are mainly for updates to solver libraries. Additional features are added in minor releases. License Check Date remains the same as the prior major release.

Maintenance releases contain bug fixes, improvements, and minor changes to the prior major release. The date of this maintenance release is the same as the prior major release.

Distribution History

- [24.4.2](#) (Maintenance release)
- [24.4.1](#) (Major release)

McCarl GAMS User Guide

Hide Back Forward Home Print Options

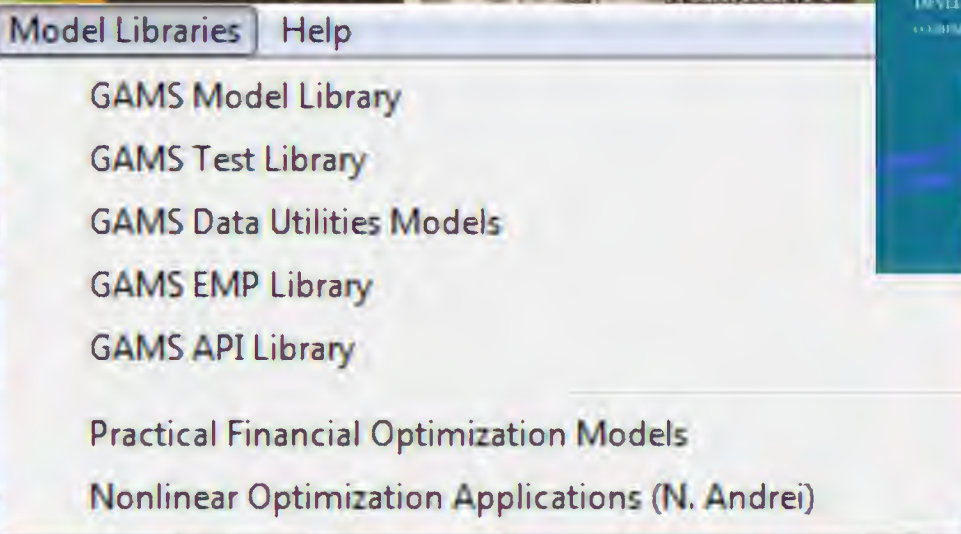
Contents Index Search Favorites

- McCarl GAMS User Guide
- Quick Start Tutorial
- Language Basics
- Changing licenses
- Running Jobs with GAMS and the GAMS
- Fixing Compilation Errors
- More Language Basics
- Doing a Comparative Analysis with GAMS
- GAMS Command Line Parameters
- Saves and Restarts
- Customizing GAMS
- Finding and Fixing Errors or Performance
- More Language Features
- Advanced Language Features
- Using GAMS Data Exchange or GDX File
- Links to Other Programs Including Spread
- Controlling GAMS from External Program
- Utilities included in GAMS
- Solver Option Files
- Advanced Basis Usage
- Mixed Integer, Semi, and SOS Program
- NLP and MCP Model Types
- Model Attributes
- Application Help: Model Library, Web Site
- Compressed and encrypted files
- Grid Computing
- Interfacing from other languages with AP
- Licensing

GAMS

A User's Guide

➤ **Html, Windows Help, Pdf (printed)**





Foundation



Powerful algebraic modeling language

Open architecture and interfaces to other systems, independent layers (platform, solver, data, interface)

Independence of **Model and Platform**

Supported Platforms



➤ Move models between platforms with ease!

Model

Platform

Solver

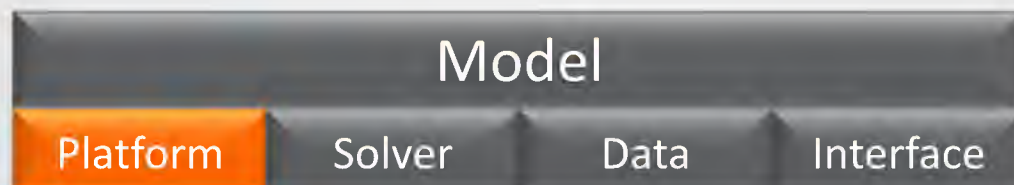
Data

Interface

Independence of **Model and Platform**

Local and distributed / remote execution

- Distributed MIP (CPLEX, GUROBI)
- Grid Computing Facility
- NEOS (Kestrel)

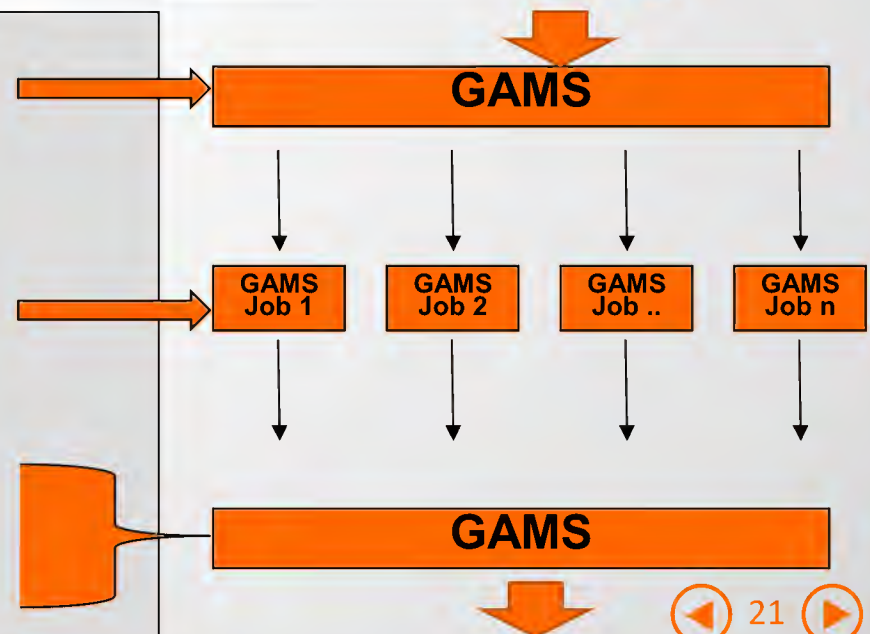


GAMS Grid Computing Facility

GAMS jobs in a **distributed** environment

- Scalable: supports large grids, but also works on local machine
- Platform independent, works with all solvers/model types
- Only minor changes to model required

1. Submission of jobs
2. “Grid Middleware”
 - Distribution of jobs
 - Job execution
3. Collection of solutions
4. Processing of results



Grid Computing Facility - Example

IDE

C:\Users\franz\Documents\gamsdir\projdir\trnsgrid.gms

trnsgrid.gms

trnsport.lst

```

h(s) store the instance handle;

dem(s,j)= b(j)*uniform(.95,1.15); // create some random d

loop(s,
  b(j) = dem(s,j)
  Solve transport using lp minimizing z;
  h(s) = transport.handle ); // save instance handle

parameter repx(s,i,j) solution report
           repy           summary report;

repy(s,'solvestat') = na;
repy(s,'modelstat') = na;

* we use the handle parameter to indicate that the soluti
repeat
  loop(s$handlecollect(h(s)),
    repx(s,i,j) = x.l(i,j);
    repy(s,'solvestat') = transport.solvestat;
    repy(s,'modelstat') = transport.modelstat;
    repy(s,'resusd' ) = transport.resusd;
    repy(s,'objval')  = transport.objval;
    display$handledelete(h(s)) 'trouble deleting handle
    h(s) = 0 ) ; // indicate that we have loaded the
    display$sleep(card(h)*0.2) 'was sleeping for some time
until card(h) = 0 or timeelapsed > 10; // wait until all

display repx, repy;

abort$sum(s$(repy(s,'solvestat')=na),1) 'Some jobs did no

```

IDE

No active process

trnsgrid

```

--- Job trnsgrid.gms Start 04/08/15 19:03:10 24.4.3 r51699
GAMS 24.4.3 Copyright (C) 1987-2015 GAMS Development. All
Licensee: Franz Nelissen
GAMS Software GmbH / GAMS Development Corporation

--- Starting compilation
--- trnsgrid.gms (101) 3 Mb
--- Starting execution: elapsed 0:00:00.124
--- trnsgrid.gms (75) 4 Mb
--- Generating LP model transport
--- trnsgrid.gms (77) 4 Mb
--- LOOPS s = 1
--- 6 rows 7 columns 19 non-zeroes
--- Submitting model transport with handle grid145000001
--- Executing after solve: elapsed 0:00:00.484
--- trnsgrid.gms (75) 4 Mb
--- Generating LP model transport
--- trnsgrid.gms (77) 4 Mb
--- LOOPS s = 2
--- 6 rows 7 columns 19 non-zeroes
--- Submitting model transport with handle grid145000002
--- Executing after solve: elapsed 0:00:00.602
--- trnsgrid.gms (75) 4 Mb
--- Generating LP model transport
--- trnsgrid.gms (77) 4 Mb
--- LOOPS s = 3
--- 6 rows 7 columns 19 non-zeroes
--- Submitting model transport with handle grid145000003
--- Executing after solve: elapsed 0:00:00.733
--- trnsgrid.gms (75) 4 Mb
--- Generating LP model transport
--- trnsgrid.gms (77) 4 Mb
--- LOOPS s = 4
--- 6 rows 7 columns 19 non-zeroes
--- Submitting model transport with handle grid145000004
--- Executing after solve: elapsed 0:00:00.879
--- trnsgrid.gms (75) 4 Mb

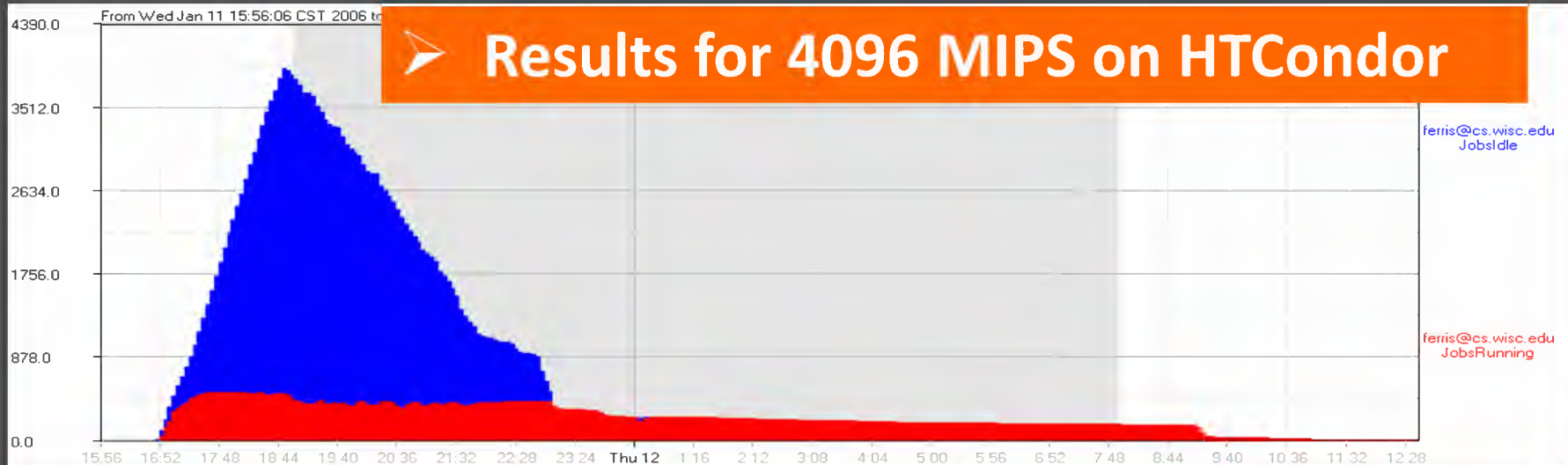
```



More Examples in the GAMS Model Library!

Grid Computing Facility - HTCondor

- Submission started Jan 11, 16:00
- All jobs submitted by Jan 11, 23:00
- All jobs returned by Jan 12, 12:40
 - 20 hours wall time, 5,000 CPU hours
 - Peak number of CPU's: 500



GAMS/Kestrel

- Remote Solver Execution on NEOS Servers
- Stay in your GAMS environment
- Results are being processed as with any local solver



Local Machine

```
Model transport /all/;  
Option lp=kestrel;  
transport.optfile=1;  
  
$onecho > kestrel.opt  
kestrel_solver xpress  
$offecho  
  
Solve transport using lp minimizing z;
```

Remote Cluster

```
--- Executing KESTREL: elapsed 0:00:00.006  
Connecting to: http://neos-server.org:3332  
NEOS Solver: xpress  
NEOS job#=3631352, pass=iJLdAkhP
```

```
Check the following URL for progress report :  
http://neos-server.org/neos/cgi-bin/nph-neos-  
solver.cgi?admin=results&jobnumber=3631352&pass=i  
JLdAkhP  
Job 3631352 dispatched  
password: iJLdAkhP  
----- Begin Solver Output -----  
Job submitted to NEOS HTCondor pool.
```

```
FICO-Xpress      24.3.3 r48116 Released Sep 19,  
2014 LEG x86 64bit/Linux
```

Independence of **Model and Solver**

Solver/Model type availability - 24.4												
	LP	MIP	NLP	MCP	MPEC	CNS	DNLP	MINLP	QCP	MIQCP	Stoch.	Global
ALPHAECIP								✓		✓		
ANTIGONE 1.1			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓*
BARON 14.4	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓*
BDMLP	✓	✓										
BONMIN 1.7								✓		✓		
CBC 2.8	✓	✓										
CONOPT 3	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓			
COUENNE 0.4			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓*
CPLEX 12.6	✓	✓							✓	✓		
DECIS	✓										✓	
DICOPT								✓		✓		
GLOMIO 2.3									✓	✓		✓*
GUROBI 6.0	✓	✓							✓	✓		
GUSS												
IPOPT 3.1												
KNITRO 9												
LGO												
LINDO 9												
LINDOGL												
LOCALSO												
MILES												
MINOS	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓			
MOSEK 7	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓		
MPSGE												
MSNLP			✓				✓		✓			✓
NLPEC				✓	✓							
OQNLP			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
PATH				✓		✓						
SBB								✓		✓		
SCIP 3.1		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓*
SNOPT	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓			
SOPLEX 1.0	✓											
SULUM 4.0	✓	✓										
XA	✓	✓										
XPRESS 27.01	✓	✓							✓	✓		

One environment for a wide range of model types and solvers

* deterministic global solver

Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

Independence of **Model and Solver**

Solver/Model type availability - 24.4												
	LP	MIP	NLP	MCP	MPEC	CNS	DNLP	MINLP	QCP	MIQCP	Stoch.	Global
ALPHAECIP								✓		✓		
ANTIGONE 1.1			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓*
BARON 14.4	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓*
BDMLP	✓	✓										
BONMIN 1.7								✓		✓		
CBC 2.8	✓	✓										
CONOPT 3	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓			
COUENNE 0.4			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓*
CPLEX 12.6	✓	✓							✓	✓		
DECIS	✓										✓	
DICOPT								✓		✓		
GLOMIO 2.3									✓	✓		✓*
GUROBI 6.0	✓	✓							✓	✓		
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LOCALSO												
MILES												
MINOS												
MOSEK 7												
MPSGE												
MSNLP			✓				✓		✓			✓
NLPEC				✓	✓							
OQNLP			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
PATH				✓		✓						
SBB								✓		✓		
SCIP 3.1		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓*
SNOPT	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓			
SOPLEX 1.0	✓											
SULUM 4.0	✓	✓										
XA	✓	✓										
XPRESS 27.01	✓	✓							✓	✓		

Average number of commercial solvers per license:

- Academic clients: 2.9
- Commercial clients: 2.2

* deterministic global solver

Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

Independence of **Model and Solver**

Uniform interface to all major solvers:

- Switching between solvers with one line of code
- Documentation
- Licensing (GAMS as a „license broker“)



Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

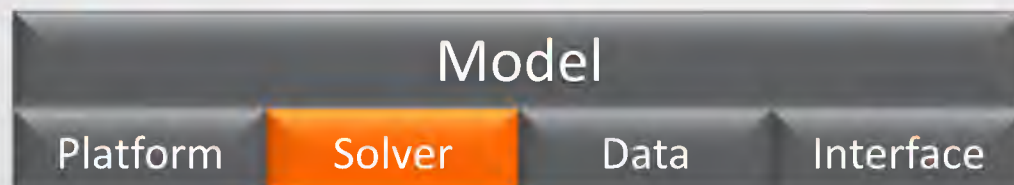
Independence of **Model and Solver**

One environment for a wide range of model types and solvers

Commercial LP/MIP solver available in GAMS



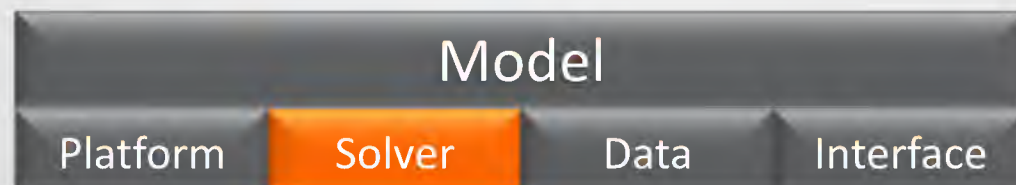
➤ Switching between solvers with one line of code



Independence of **Model and Solver**

One environment for a wide range of model types and solvers

Open Source Solver (COIN) available in GAMS



Independence of **Model and Solver**



CyBio Scheduler

- Scheduling software for high throughput screening
- Used in the pharmaceutical industry (drug discovery)
- Model optimizes throughput of robotic screening systems
- Solver
 - COIN for smaller instances
 - Commercial MIP solver for large problems
- Developed by **analytikjena**

Model

Platform

Solver

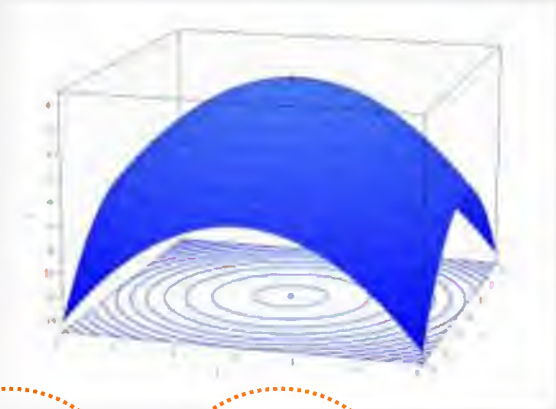
Data

Interface

Independence of **Model and Solver**

One environment for a wide range of model types and solvers

Commercial NLP Solvers available in GAMS



CONOPT

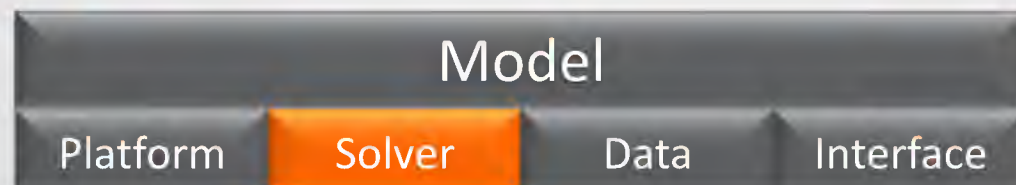
KNITRO

MINOS

PATH

SNOPT

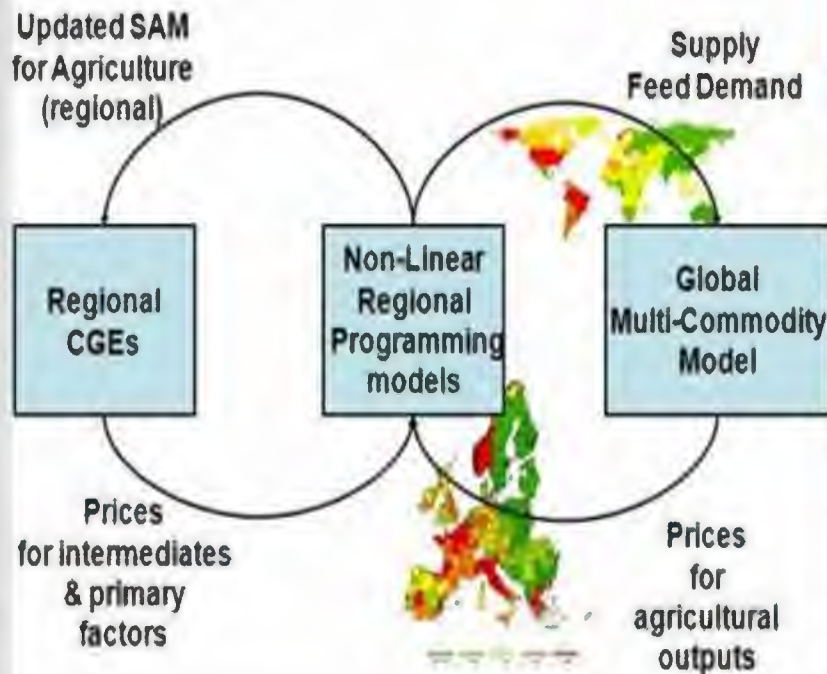
➤ Switching between solvers with one line of code



Independence of **Model and Solver**

CAPRI

- Global agricultural sector models with focus on EU27 members
- Evaluates impacts of agricultural and trade policies on production income, markets, trade, and the environment
- Different NLP solvers
- Open source approach with an active network of developers and users coordinated by University of Bonn



Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

Independence of **Model and Solver**

One environment for a wide range of model types and solvers

Commercial MINLP or Global Solver available in GAMS

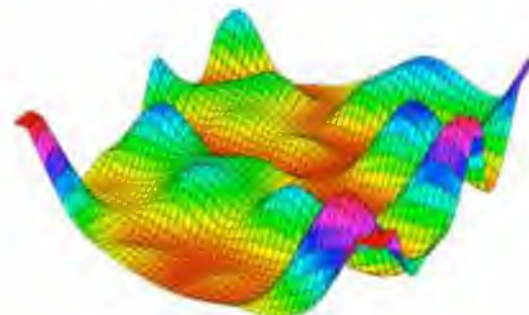
AlphaECP

new
ANTIGONE

BARON

DICOPT

LGO



new
Local
Solver

KNITRO

MSNLP

OQNLP

SBB

➤ **Switching between solvers with one line of code**

Model

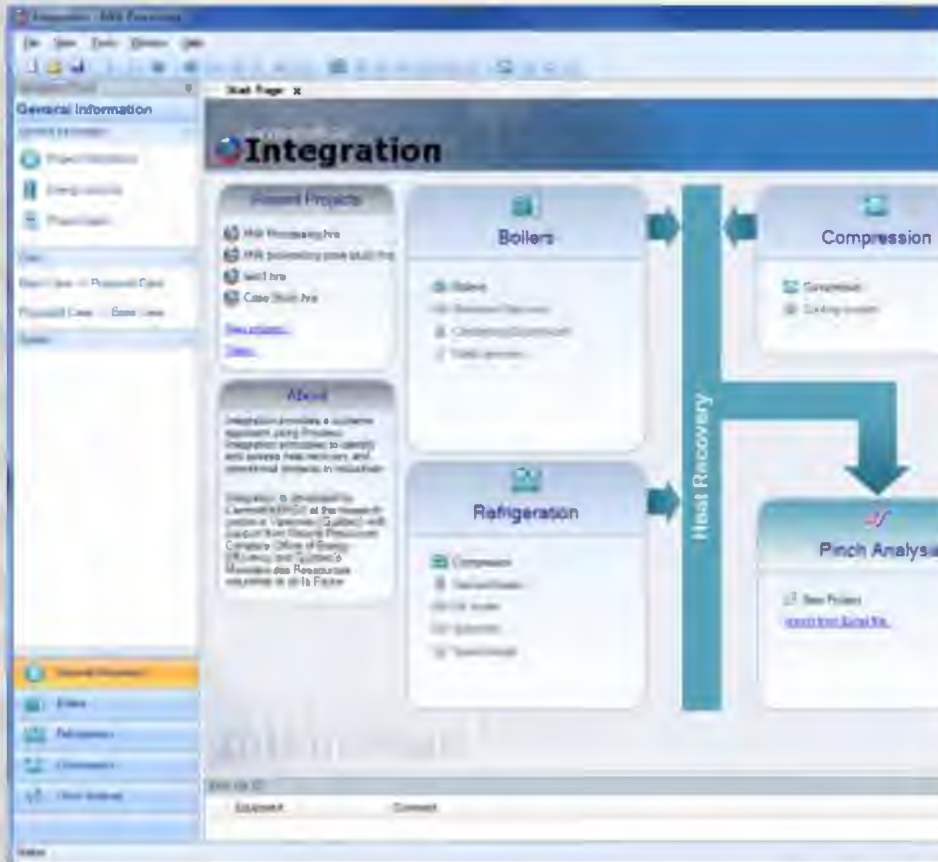
Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

Independence of **Model and Solver**



INTEGRATION

- Identifies, evaluates and selects energy efficiency projects in complex industrial facilities
- Solver:
 - BARON: MINLP
 - COIN: MIP
 - CONOPT: NLP
- Developed by Natural Resources Canada's CanmetENERGY research center

Model

Platform

Solver

Data

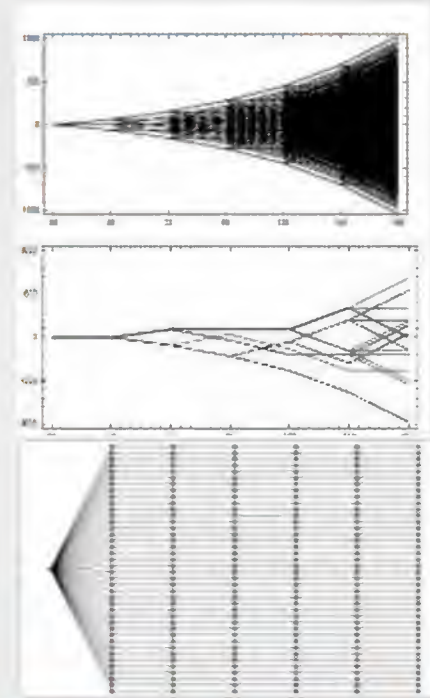
Interface



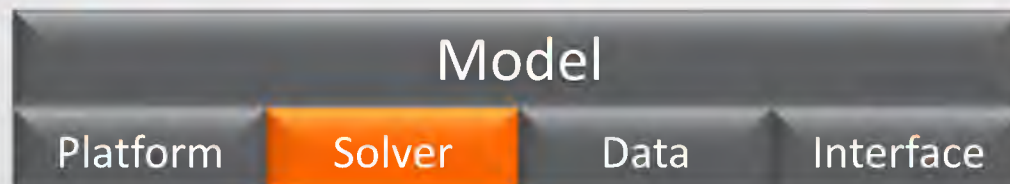
Independence of **Model and Solver**

One environment for a wide range of model types and solvers

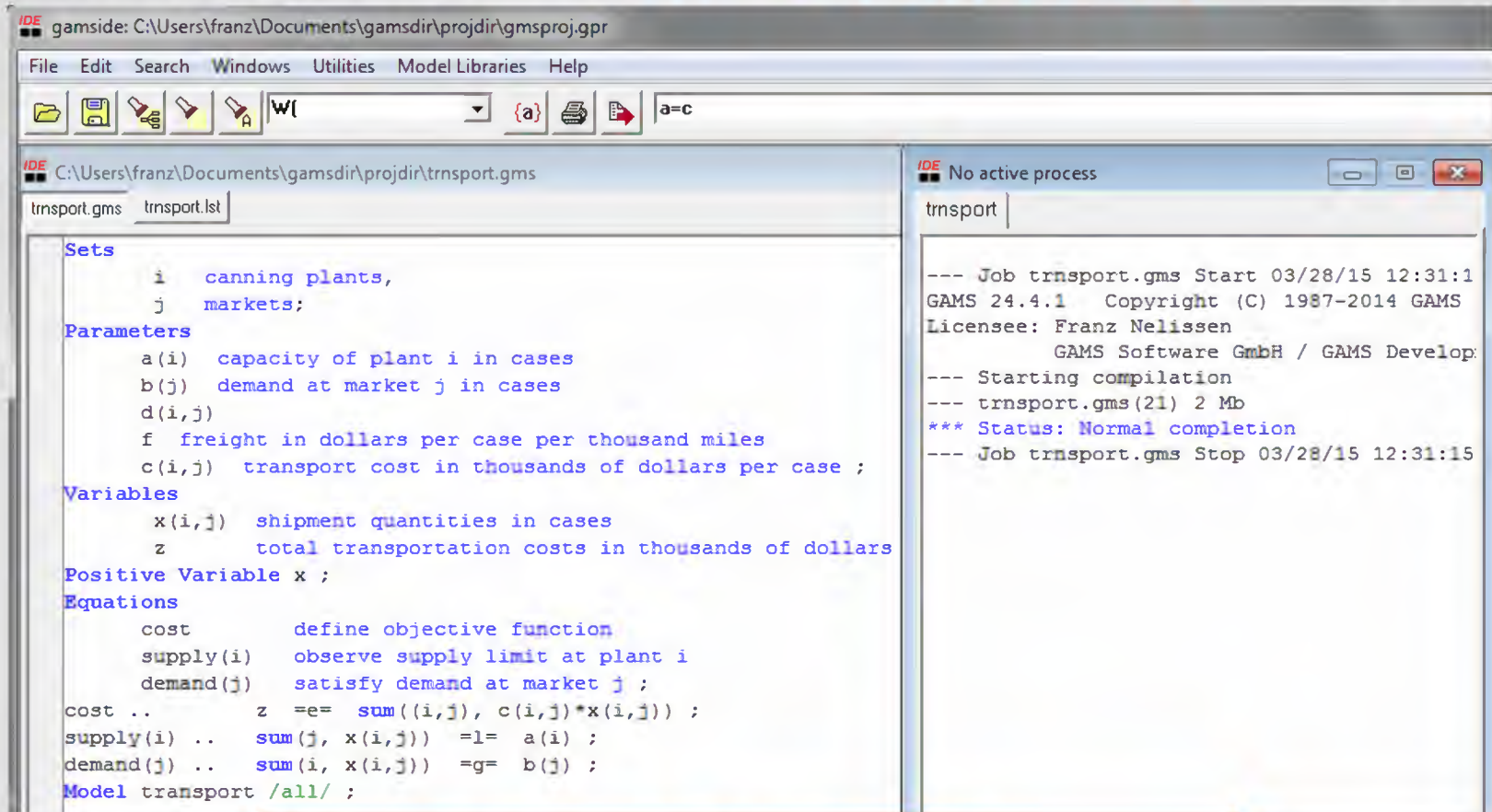
Stochastic Optimization in GAMS



➤ Switching between solvers with one line of code



Independence of Model and Data



The screenshot displays the GAMS IDE interface. The main window shows the file `transport.gms` with the following code:

```
Sets
    i  canning plants,
    j  markets;
Parameters
    a(i)  capacity of plant i in cases
    b(j)  demand at market j in cases
    d(i,j)
    f  freight in dollars per case per thousand miles
    c(i,j)  transport cost in thousands of dollars per case ;
Variables
    x(i,j)  shipment quantities in cases
    z  total transportation costs in thousands of dollars
Positive Variable x ;
Equations
    cost      define objective function
    supply(i)  observe supply limit at plant i
    demand(j)  satisfy demand at market j ;
cost ..      z =e= sum((i,j), c(i,j)*x(i,j)) ;
supply(i) .. sum(j, x(i,j)) =l= a(i) ;
demand(j) .. sum(i, x(i,j)) =g= b(j) ;
Model transport /all/ ;
```

The right-hand pane shows the execution log for the job `transport.gms`, indicating a successful completion:

```
--- Job transport.gms Start 03/28/15 12:31:1
GAMS 24.4.1 Copyright (C) 1987-2014 GAMS
Licensee: Franz Nelissen
GAMS Software GmbH / GAMS Develop
--- Starting compilation
--- transport.gms(21) 2 Mb
*** Status: Normal completion
--- Job transport.gms Stop 03/28/15 12:31:15
```

➤ Declarative Modeling

Model

Platform

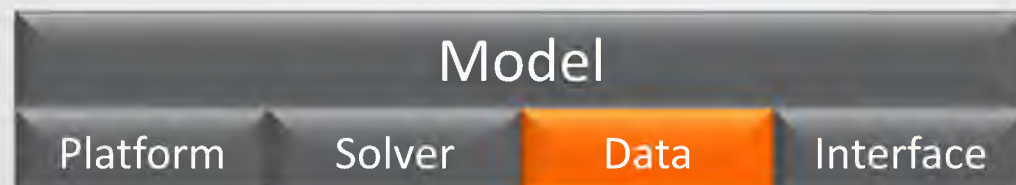
Solver

Data

Interface

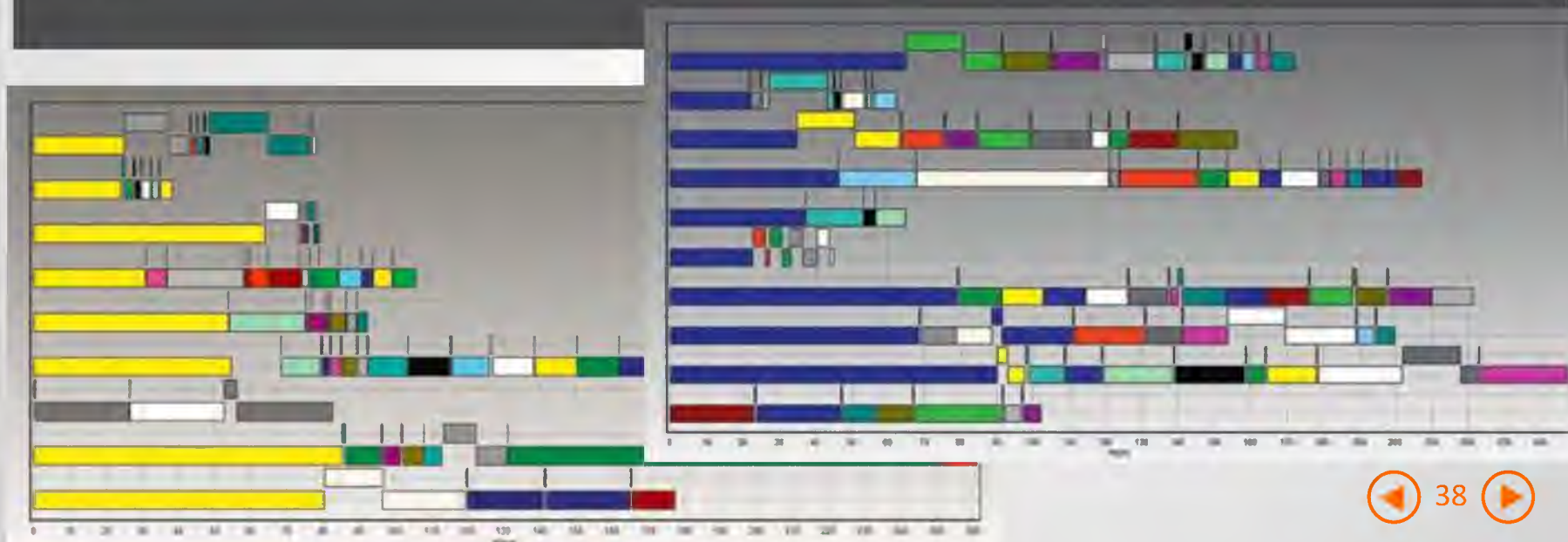
Independence of **Model** and **Data**

- ASCII: Initial model development
- GDX: Binary Data layer (“contract”) between GAMS and applications
 - Platform independent
 - Direct GDX interfaces and general API



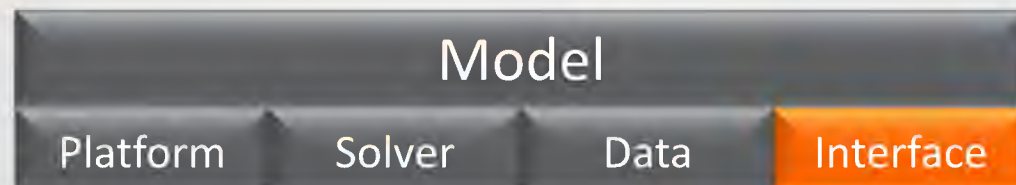
Scheduling and Planning **at BASF**

- Project Partners: BASF, Princeton University, University of Omsk, SAP, Mathesis GmbH
- Optimization of the operation of batch and continuous plants
- Used on a daily basis to improve planning and scheduling
- Hybrid methods and decomposition schemes to handle large instances of MIP problems
- **New interfacing technology and integration approaches to connect to SAP-APO**



Independence of **Model and User Interface**

- 1 { **Open architecture and interfaces to other systems**
→ No preference for a particular user interface
- 2 { **(OO) Application Programming Interfaces**
- 3 { **Smart Links to popular environments: Excel, MATLAB, R, ...**



Independence of **Model and User Interface**

API's

- *Low Level*
- **Object Oriented:** .Net, Java, Python
- No modeling capability:
Model is written in GAMS
- Wrapper class that
encapsulates a GAMS model



Model

Platform

Solver

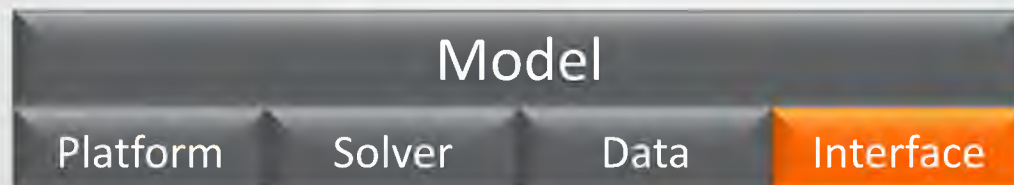
Data

Interface

Simple Encapsulation of a GAMS Model

Very simple interface

- Properties to **communicate** input data and results
- Properties to **change options** like the solver to use
- Run() method to **run the model**



Smart Links to other Applications

- User keeps working in his productive tool environment
- Application accesses all optimization capabilities of GAMS through API
- Visualization and analysis of model data and results in the application



```
v <- rgdx(fnSol, list(name = "fval", form = "display"))
nxt <- v$val[, 2]
# compute the sequence of cities, based on nxt
solSeq <- NA * c(1:n + 1)
k <- 1
for (j in c(1:n))
  solSeq[j] <-
    k <- nxt[k]
}
solSeq[n + 1] <-
if (k != 1) stop(
loc <- cmdscale(
rx <- range(x <-
ry <- range(y <-
tspres <- loc(sol
s <- seq(n)
```



Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface



Agenda

GAMS – Elements, Enhancements, and Examples

Enhancements around GAMS

Some Case Studies

Past – Presence – Future

Quality Assurance at GAMS

Solver/Platform availability - 24.4							
	x86 32bit MS Windows	x86 64bit MS Windows	x86 64bit Linux	x86 64bit MacOS X	x86 64bit SOLARIS	Sparc 64bit SOLARIS	IBM Power 64bit AIX
ALPHAECF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ANTIGONE 1.1	✓	✓	✓	✓			
BARON 14.4	✓	✓	✓				
BDMLP	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BONMIN 1.7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
CBC 2.8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
COUENNE 0.4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
CONOPT 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CPLEX 12.6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DECIS	✓	✓	✓			✓	
DICOPT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GLOMIO 2.3	✓	✓	✓	✓			
GUROBI 6.0	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
➤ 7 supported Platforms ➤ 30+ Integrated Solvers					✓		
					8.0		
					8.0		
					✓	✓	
MILES	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MINOS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

- What are the impacts of
 - new features
 - updated or new solvers?
- Is the new distribution backward compatible?

SOLUN 4.0	✓	✓	✓				
XA	✓	✓	✓				
XPRESS 27.01	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Quality Assurance - Motivation

Quality Assurance

- Essential component in most industries
- Important in most software engineering sectors

Mathematical Programming

- Less attention to quality assurance (small community)
- Specific QA issues for modeling systems (initially expensive)
- Different focus for industry and academia

Industry

Focus on reliability

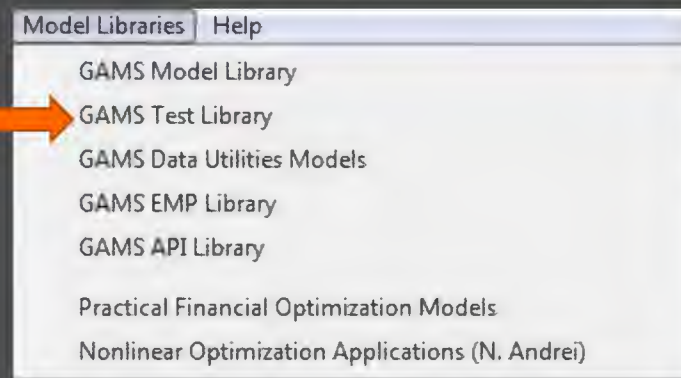


Academia

Focus on performance

Quality Test Model Library

- Tests to verify proper behavior of the system
- More than 680 quality test models, each containing numerous pass/fail tests
- Assurance about the basic functionality of the software!
- Give the tools in the hand of the user: Included in any distribution!



- Automatically executed every night for all solver combinations:
 - 13,000+ runs / platform (all tests)
 - Test summaries with different level of information

Nightly Quality Tests: Results

Latest GAMS System Builds and Test Results

Sunday 12Apr15 15:22 (UTC)

[\[Latest Builds | Alpha Builds | Beta Builds | Nightly Builds | a Help System | Glossary \]](#)
[Comments?](#)

NOTE: The (nightly) alpha builds are internal development versions of the GAMS system. They may have known bugs, unfinished features, beta versions of third-party software, or may not function at all! Not for production use!

nightly α	System	Libraries	Build	Rev	Status and Time (UTC)	Initial Tests	Full Tests
Saturday	aix	Download	24.5.0	51758	Test done 11Apr2015 09:29:07	385 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)	Report 3569 runs 1 failures (q=0,s=1)
Saturday	deg	Download	24.5.0	51758	Test started 11Apr2015 01:47:52	619 runs 1 failures (q=1,s=0)	Report results pending
Saturday	leg	Download	24.5.0	51758	Test started 11Apr2015 02:01:21	647 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)	Report results pending
Saturday	legONdrcooper	Download	24.5.0	51758	Test done 11Apr2015 09:05:50	629 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)	Report 10832 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)
Saturday	sig	Download	24.5.0	51758S	Test done 12Apr2015 04:24:15	493 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)	Report 7110 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)
Saturday	vs8	Download	24.5.0	51758	Test started 11Apr2015 02:45:42	654 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)	Report results pending
Saturday	wei	Download	24.5.0	51758	Test started 11Apr2015 05:06:52	652 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)	Report results pending
nightly β	System	Libraries	Build	Rev	Status and Time (UTC)	Initial Tests	Full Tests
Thursday	aix	Download	24.4.4	51738	Test done 09Apr2015 17:39:11	394 runs 2 failures (q=0,s=2)	Report 3615 runs 3 failures (q=0,s=3)
Monday	deg	Download	24.4.4	51709	Test done 08Apr2015 19:01:03	602 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)	Report 13030 runs 0 failures (q=0,s=0)

Nightly Quality Tests: Reports

GAMS System Builds and Test Results Archive

Sunday 12Apr15 15:26 (UTC)

[[Latest Builds](#) | [Alpha Builds](#) | [Beta Builds](#) | [Nightly Builds](#) | [Glossary](#)]

```
Total:      3569 runs      1 failures
Quality:    1117 runs      0 failures
Slvtest:    2339 runs      1 failures
EMP:        99 runs        0 failures
Data:       14 runs        0 failures
```

```
**** SLVTEST FAILURES (failures_slv.gms)
```

```
$call =gams slvtest lo=2 --prefix=aix --fail=failures_slvI.gms --test=bchtlbas u1="ord(s)=286" --runall=no --c1=sbb --ftr.
```

```
**** SLVTEST FAILURES DETAIL (slvtest.sum?)
```

```
25020 04/11/15 05:45:16 bchtlbas MINLP SBB Bad ModelSolveStat[13,13] minlp=sbb
```

GAMS/CONVERT

- Transforms a GAMS model instance into a scalar model into different formats: Models can then be passed on to others for investigation without confidentiality being lost
- A way of sharing GAMS test problems for use with other modeling systems or solvers
- More than 25 target formats

Option	Description			
		LindoMPI	Generate Lindo MPI file	lindo.mpi
All	Generates all supported file formats	Lingo	Generate Lingo input file	lingo.lng
AlphaECP	Generates AlphaECP input file	LocalSolver	Generate LocalSolver input file (only with ConvertD)	localsolver.lsp
Ampl	Generates Ampl input file	LSPSol	Generate Output function in LocalSolver input file (only with ConvertD)	lspsol.gms
AmplNLC	Generate Ampl NLC compatible file	Memo	Generate a memo file containing model statistics and files created.	memo.txt
Analyze	Generates three text files for rows columns and matrix	Minopt	Generate Minopt input file	minopt.dat
AnalyzeS	Generates short form of Analyze	NLP2dual	Generate the Wolfe dual of a smooth optimization model	gamsdual.gms
Baron	Generates Baron input file	NLP2MCP	Generates GAMS scalar MCP model	gamsmcp.gms
CplexLP	Generate CPLEX LP format input file	OSiL	Generates Optimization Services instance Language (OSiL) file	osil.xml
CplexMPS	Generate CPLEX MPS format input file	Pyomo	Generates Pyomo Concrete scalar model	gams.py
Dict	Generate Convert to GAMS Dictionary	SFS	Generates Solver Foundation Services OML file	sfs.oml
DictMap	Generate Convert to GAMS Dictionary Map	ViennaDag	Generate Vienna Dag input file	vienna.dag
FileList	Generate file list of file formats generated			
FixedMPS	Generate fixed format MPS file		fixed.mps	
Gams	Generate GAMS scalar model. This is the default conversion format used.		gams.gms	
Lgo	Generate an LGO Fortran file		lgomain.for	

GAMS/CONVERT - Example

GAMS Code

```

Variables
    x(i,j)  shipment quantities in cases
    z        total transportation costs in thousands
Positive Variable x ;
Equations
    cost      define objective function
    supply(i) observe supply limit at plant i
    demand(j) satisfy demand at market j ;
cost ..      z =e= sum((i,j), c(i,j)*x(i,j)) ;
supply(i) .. sum(j, x(i,j)) =l= a(i) ;
demand(j) .. sum(i, x(i,j)) =g= b(j) ;
Model transport /all/ ;
Solve transport using lp minimizing z ;

```

Scalar Model

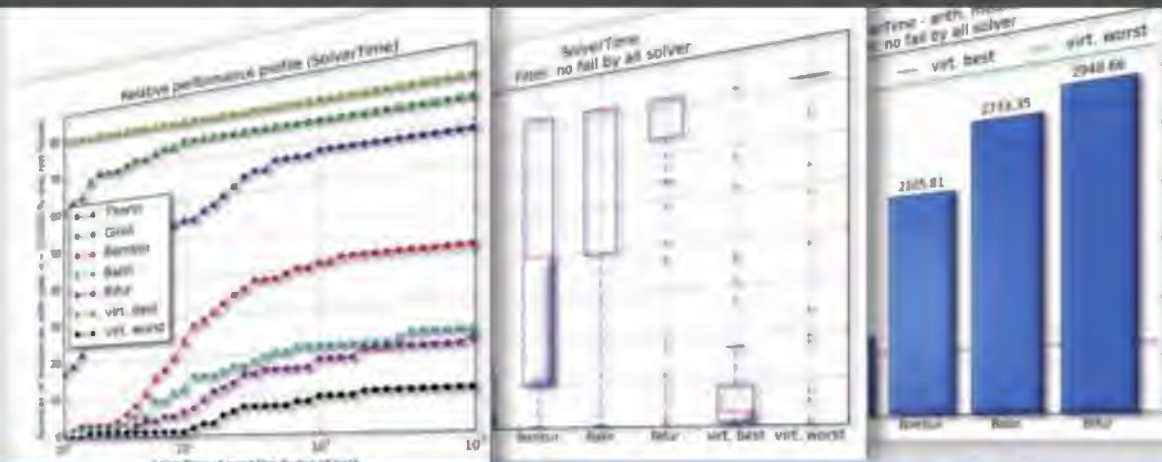
```

Variables  x1,x2,x3,x4,x5,x6,x7;
Positive Variables  x1,x2,x3,x4,x5,x6;
Equations  e1,e2,e3,e4,e5,e6;
e1..  - 0.225*x1 - 0.153*x2 - 0.162*x3 -
0.225*x4 - 0.162*x5 - 0.126*x6 + x7=E= 0;
e2..   x1 + x2 + x3 =L= 350;
e3..   x4 + x5 + x6 =L= 600;
e4..   x1 + x4 =G= 325;
e5..   x2 + x5 =G= 300;
e6..   x3 + x6 =G= 275;
Model m / all /;
m.limrow=0; m.limcol=0;
Solve m using LP minimizing x7;

```

Paver 2 – GAMS Performance Tools

- Automates the analysis and comparison of solver performance data
- Easy customization of performance metrics
- Computation and visualization of performance statistics
- Platform independent, simple use, high performance, and flexibility, open source
- Give the tools in the hand of the user: Make your own benchmarks!



What else is **new**?

GAMS Distribution 24.4

Distribution History

[24.4.2](#) (Maintenance release) March 15 . 2015

[24.4.1](#) (Major release) December 20 . 2014

GAMS Major Release 24.4.1 - December 20 , 2014

Table of Contents

- [Acknowledgments](#)
- [GAMS System](#)
 - [GAMS](#)
 - [Installer](#)
 - [Extrinsic Function libraries](#)
 - [Documentation](#)
- [Solvers](#)
 - [AlphaECP](#)
 - [ANTIGONE, GloMIQO](#)
 - [BARON](#)
 - [BENCH](#)
 - [CBC](#)
 - [Couenne](#)
 - [CONOPT](#)
 - [CPLEX](#)
 - [DICOPT](#)
 - [GUROBI](#)
 - [Knitro](#)
 - [LocalSolver](#)
 - [Lindo/LindoGlobal](#)
 - [Mosek](#)
 - [MSNLP, OQNLP](#)
 - [OS](#)
 - [SCIP](#)
 - [SoPlex](#)
 - [Sulum](#)
 - [XPRESS](#)
- [Tools](#)
 - [GAMSIDE](#)
 - [GDXDUMP](#)
 - [GDXXRW](#)
 - [GDXVIEWER](#)
 - [GDX2SQLite, Scenred, Scenred2](#)
 - [IDECMDS](#)
 - [MPS2GMS](#)
 - [MPSGE](#)
- [Expert Level APIs](#)
 - [Python](#)
- [Object Oriented APIs](#)
 - [Python](#)
- [Model Libraries](#)
 - [GAMS API Library](#)
 - [GAMS Data Library](#)
 - [GAMS Model Library](#)
 - [GAMS Test Library](#)





Agenda

GAMS – Elements, Enhancements, and Examples

Enhancements around GAMS

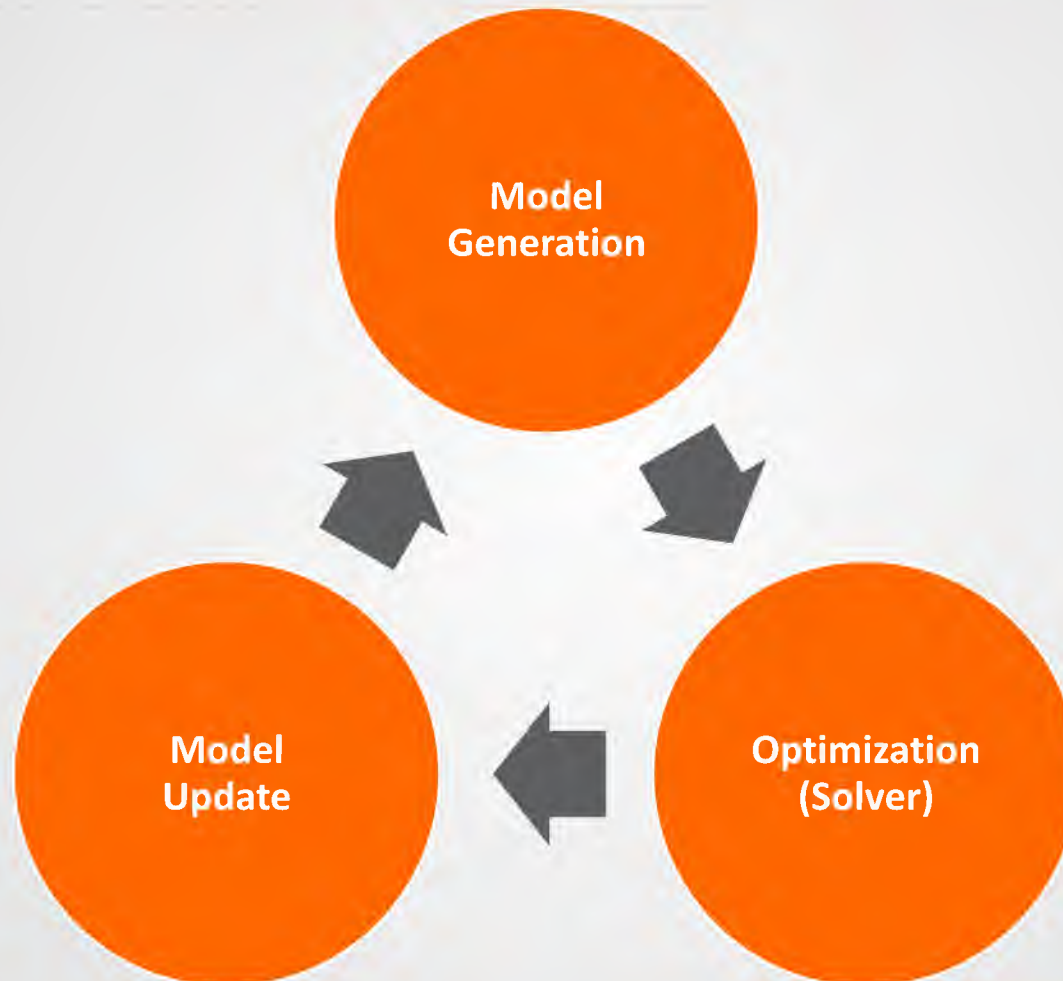
Some Case Studies

Past – Presence – Future

Three Case Studies

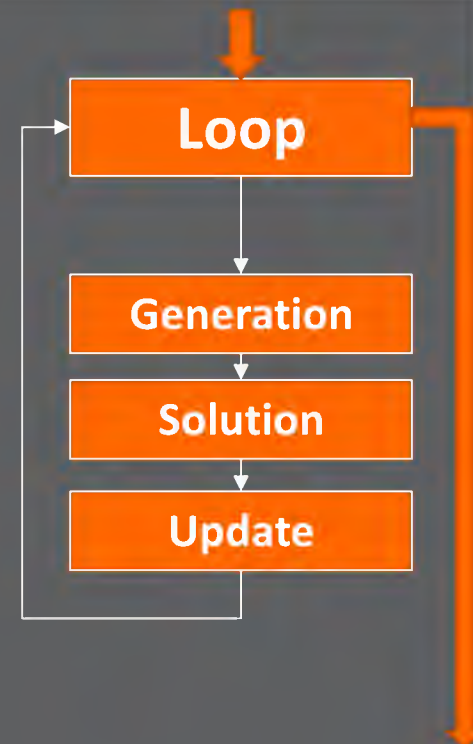
- 1 { **General Dynamics – efficient frontiers of multi-objective design optimization problems**
- 2 { **xyz Energy Company – solving many difficult MIP models in parallel on the Amazon cloud**
- 3 { **EMS-EDM Prophet – an Energy and Energy Data Management System**

Scenario Solving



Simple Serial Solve Loop

```
Set s /s*s10/;
Parameter
  A_s(s,i,j) "scenario data",
  xlo_s(s,i,j) "scenario lower bound for x.l",
  em_s(s,i) "scenario solution for e.m;
Loop(s,
  A(i,j) = A_s(s,i,j);
  x.lo(j)=xlo_s(s,j);
  solver mymodel min z using lp;
  xl_s(s,j) = x.l(j);
  em_s(s,i) = e.m(i);
);
```



Solving Scenarios

trnsport.gms (LP) solved 500 times with CPLEX:

```
Loop(s,  
    d(i,j) = dd(s,i,j);  
    f = ff(s);  
    solve transport using lp minimizing z;  
    rep(s) = transport.objval;  
);
```

Setting	Solve time (secs)
Solverlink=%Solverlink.ChainScript%	52.221
Solverlink=%Solverlink.CallModule%	37.366
Solverlink=%Solverlink.LoadLibrary%	03.252

Scenario Solver

- Generates model once and updates the algebraic model keeping the model “hot” inside the solver
- Platform independent, works with all solvers
- Performance close to native solver API

```
Set s /s*s10/;
```

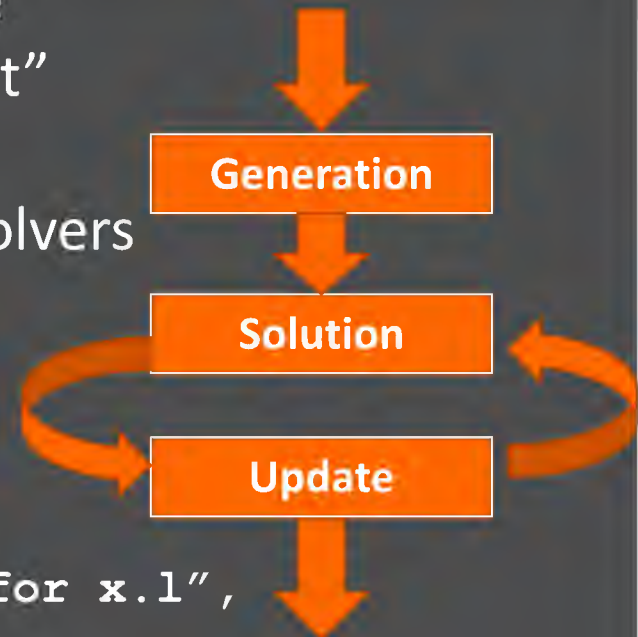
```
Parameter
```

```
  A_s(s,i,j) "scenario data",  
  xlo_s(s,i,j) "scenario lower bound for x.l",  
  em_s(s,i) "scenario solution for e.m;
```

```
Set dict / s. scenario. ' ',
```

```
  A. param.      A_s,  
  x. lower.      xlo_s,  
  x. level.      xl_s,  
  e. marginal.   em_s /;
```

```
solve mymodel min z using lp scenario dict;
```





Performance

Example: Stochastic model with 66,320 linear problems

Setting	Solve time (secs)	
Loop: Solvelink=%Solvelink.Chainscript (default)	7,204	Factor
Loop: Solvelink=%Solvelink.LoadLibrary%	2,481	
GAMS Scenario Solver	392	18.3
Cplex Concert Technology	210	
		1.86

Solving Independent Models

1. Small Ratio of solver time / GAMS time → Scenario Solver
2. Large ratio i.e. only solver time is relevant (pre/post processing not critical) → Grid Computing Facility, Cplex Remote Object or Gurobi Compute Server
3. If entire model run including pre processing/MP solve/post processing is costly → Parallel execution of entire model in the cloud

ACSOM



- **Advanced Collaborative System Optimization Modeler**
- Configuration of (expensive) military vehicles
- Project partners:
 - General Dynamics Land Systems (GDLS)
 - Industrial & Systems Engineering, Wayne State University
 - GAMS Development Corp
 - Amsterdam Optimization Group

Considers All to Make the Whole Full Spectrum

Numerous Subsystems with a multitude of options for each

Force Protection Approach?

Two, Three, Four Crew Members?

Auto loader ?

- Configuration/Approach?

Hull Material?

- Aluminum?
- Steel?
- Titanium?



Which Core
Data Network?

Power ?

- What Type of Engine?
- What Type Transmission?

Hull Design?

What Type of Suspension System?

- Torsion bars? Passive? Track?
- HSUs? Fully Active?

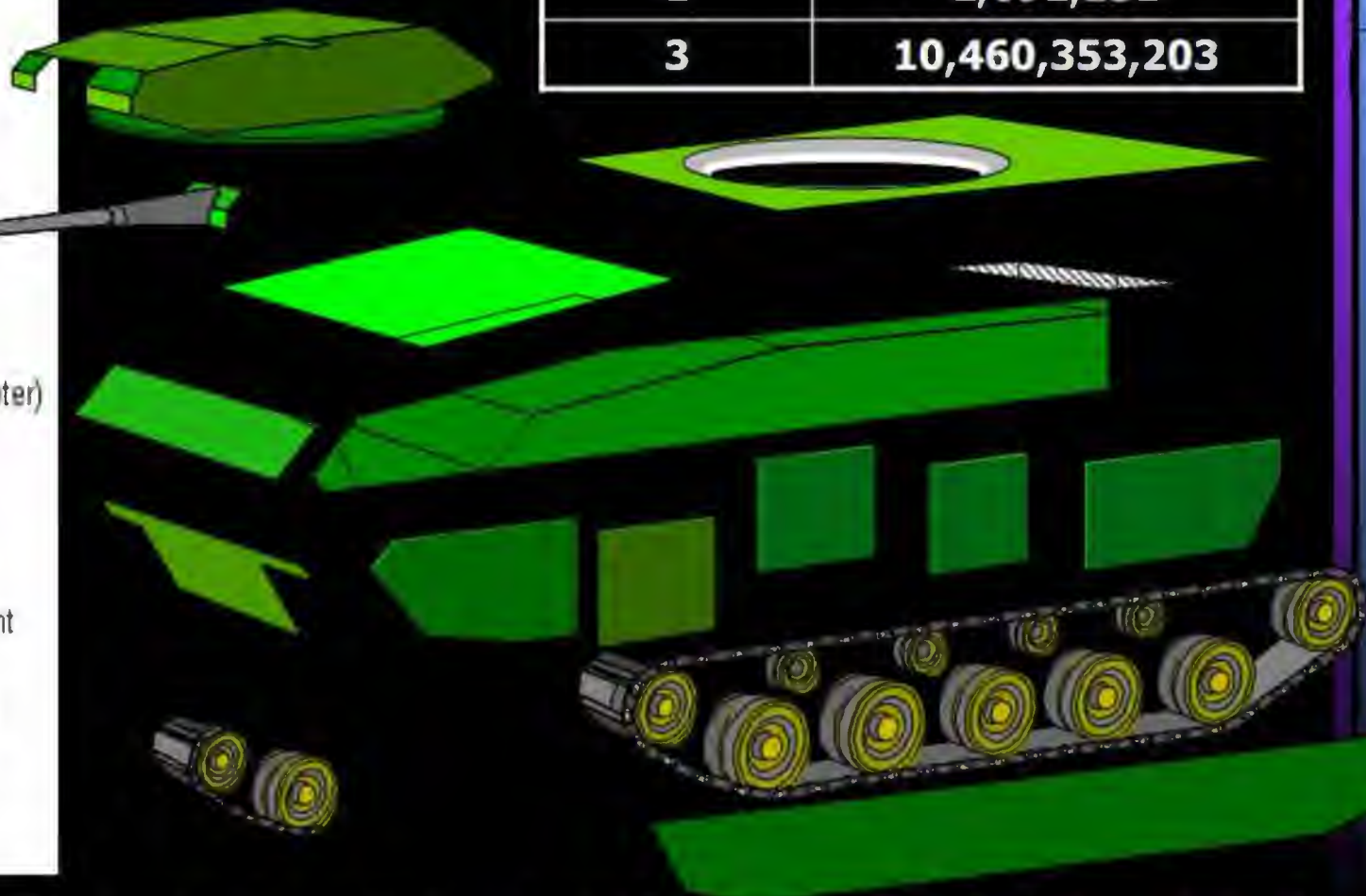
Which Servo Motor Controller Architecture?

The Whole-system Design Problem

21 SUBSYSTEMS

AFES
Armor
Chassis Structure
Crew Station
Defensive Armament
Dismountable
ECS
Fuel
Hit Avoidance
Lighting
Mission Equipment (Shooter)
Mission Station
Mission Structure
NBC
Platform Electronics
Power Distribution & Mgmt
Propulsion
Signature Management
Suspension
Turret Structure
Water Management

Options per subsystem	Theoretically Possible Subsystem Combinations
2	2,092,152
3	10,460,353,203





Project **Scope**

Generation of
Efficient Frontiers

Significant performance
improvements

- Use multiple cores:
 - For current setup (laptops)
 - For high-performance machines
- Prepare for advancing technologies (distributed)

Scenario Solver and Parallel Combined

Implementation	Number of MIP models	Solve time	Rest of algorithm	Total time
Traditional GAMS loop	100,000	1068 sec	169 sec	1237 sec
Scenario Solver	100,000	293 sec	166 sec	459 sec

Implementation	Number of MIP models	Worker Threads	Parallel sub-problem time	Rest of algorithm (serial)	Total time
Parallel + Scenario Solver	100,000	4	116 sec	67 sec	183 sec

<http://yetanothermathprogrammingconsultant.blogspot.de/2012/04/parallel-gams-jobs-2.html>

Retooling of an Application

Old System

- VB.Net
- MPL (single point)
- CPLEX
- SQL throughout

New System

- GAMS (complete algorithm; streamlined design)
- GAMS .NET API for ACE algorithm
- CPLEX
- Bulk SQL just once

Performance Improvements

On the same hardware:

- From hours and even days for large problems
- To minutes, up to an hour

xyz Energy Company

Massive Parallel for Large Scale MIP

- Failures with Stochastic and Robust Optimization
- Scenario Analysis worked!
- Task: Solve 1,000 scenarios (MIPs, ~1 hour per scenario) every week overnight in parallel
- Post processing of results outside GAMS
- Issues:
 - Automation
 - Licensing
 - Security in the cloud

Protecting IP and Sensitive Data

- Obfuscate or hide sensitive information
 - Extrinsic function libraries
 - External Equations
 - Secure work files
 - Encrypted source files
 - **Obfuscated files:** change all the names and other documentation related to a specific model run

Obfuscated Save/Restart File

Solver Log

Normal

Reduced LP has 5 rows, 6 columns, and 12 nonzeros.

Presolve time = 0.00 sec. (0.00 ticks)

Iteration	Dual Objective	In Variable	Out Variable
1	73.125000	x(seattle.new-york)	demand(new-york) slack
2	119.025000	x(seattle.chicago)	demand(chicago) slack
3	153.675000	x(san-diego.topeka)	demand(topeka) slack
4	153.675000	x(san-diego.new-york)	supply(seattle) slack

LP status(1): optimal

Obfuscated

Reduced LP has 5 rows, 6 columns, and 12 nonzeros.

Presolve time = 0.00 sec. (0.00 ticks)

Iteration	Dual Objective	In Variable	Out Variable
1	73.125000H('"!!!!!!!!'.'"!!!!!!!!')A00002('"!!!!!!!!' slack		
2	119.025000 H('"!!!!!!!!'.'#!!!!!!!!')A00002('#!!!!!!!!' slack		
3	153.675000H('"!!!!!!!!!!!!'.'"!!!!!!!!') A00002('"!!!!!!!!' slack		
4	153.675000H('"!!!!!!!!!!!!'.'"!!!!!!!!!!A00001('"!!!!!!!!' slack		

LP status(1): optimal

Obfuscated Save/Restart File

Looking at Results

Normal

12 demand	Equ	1	3			Level	Marginal
6 f	Par	0	1	seattle	new-york	50	
1 i	Set	1	2		chicago	300	
2 j	Set	1	3		topeka		0.036
11 supply	Equ	1	2	san-diego	new-york	275	
8 x	Var	2	6		chicago		0.009000000000000001
9 z	Var	0	1		topeka	275	

Obfuscated

3 C	Par	1	2			Level	Marginal
4 D	Par	1	3	"!!!!!"	"!!!!!"	50	
5 E	Par	2	6		#!!!!!"	300	
6 F	Par	0	1		"!!!!!"		0.036
7 G	Par	2	6	"!!!!!"	"!!!!!"	275	
8 H	Var	2	6		#!!!!!"		0.009000000000000001
9 I	Var	0	1		"!!!!!"	275	



Massive Parallel in the Cloud



- Deployment environment: „Cloud“ (Amazon EC2)
- Up to 1,000 parallel instances (workers)
- Automated setup, including
 - Start instances
 - Prepare & Submit GAMS jobs
 - Collect results
 - Stop instances
- Python
 - Boto: Python interface to Amazon webservice
 - Setup and control of instances (Workers)
 - GAMS OO API (Python): Control of GAMS jobs

Model

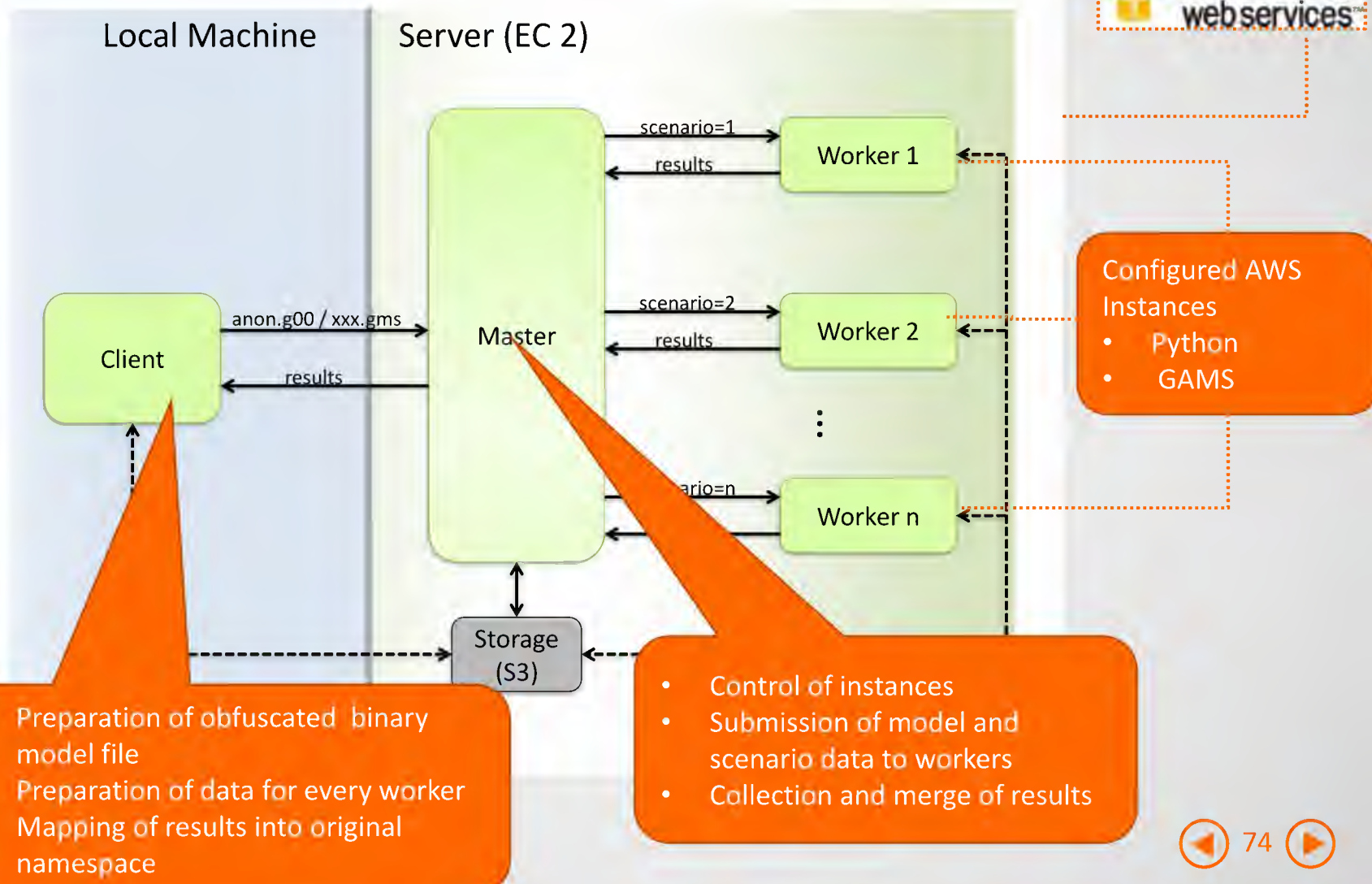
Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

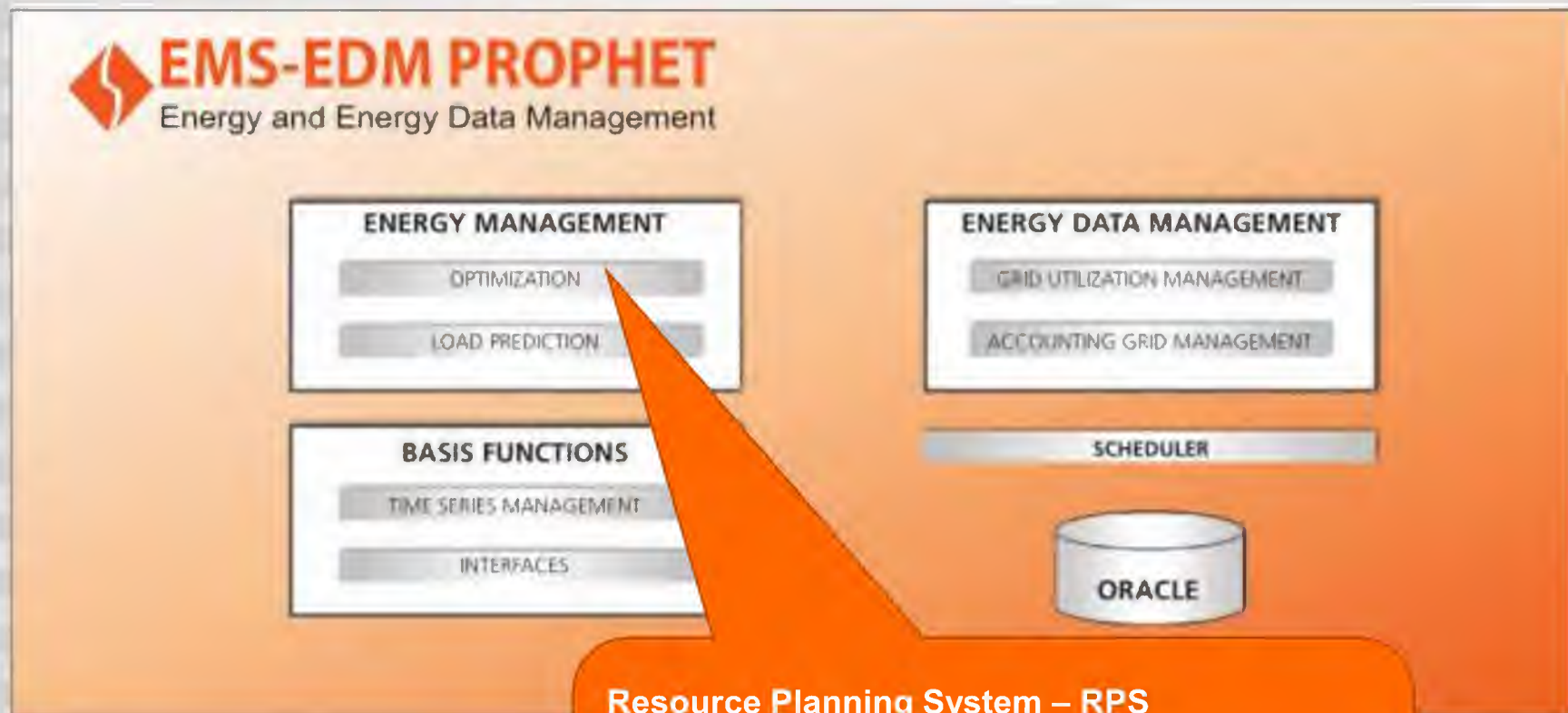
AWS Cloud Setup at xyz Company



Energy Systems



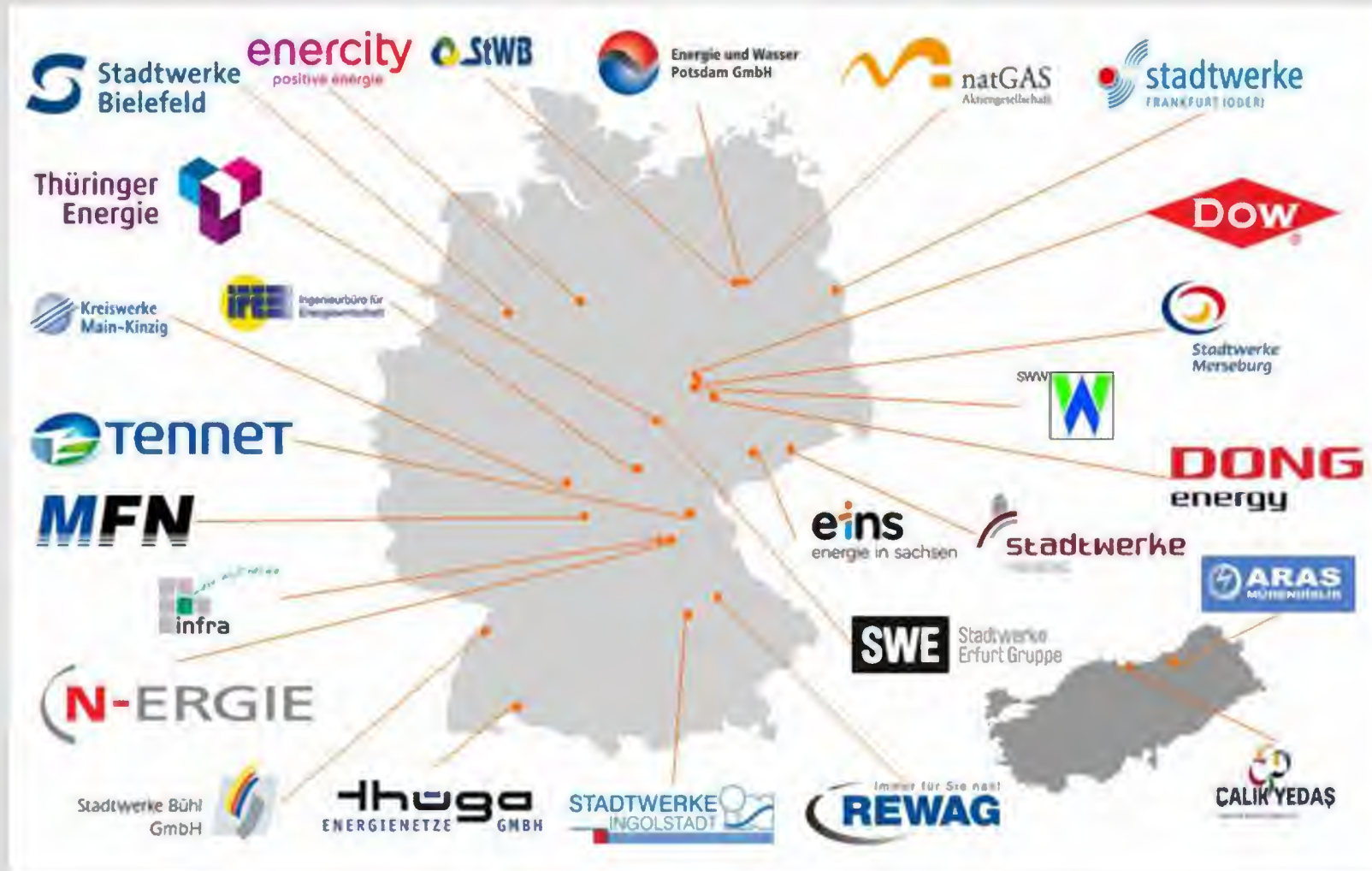
EMS-EDM PROPHET[®] – Modules 2015



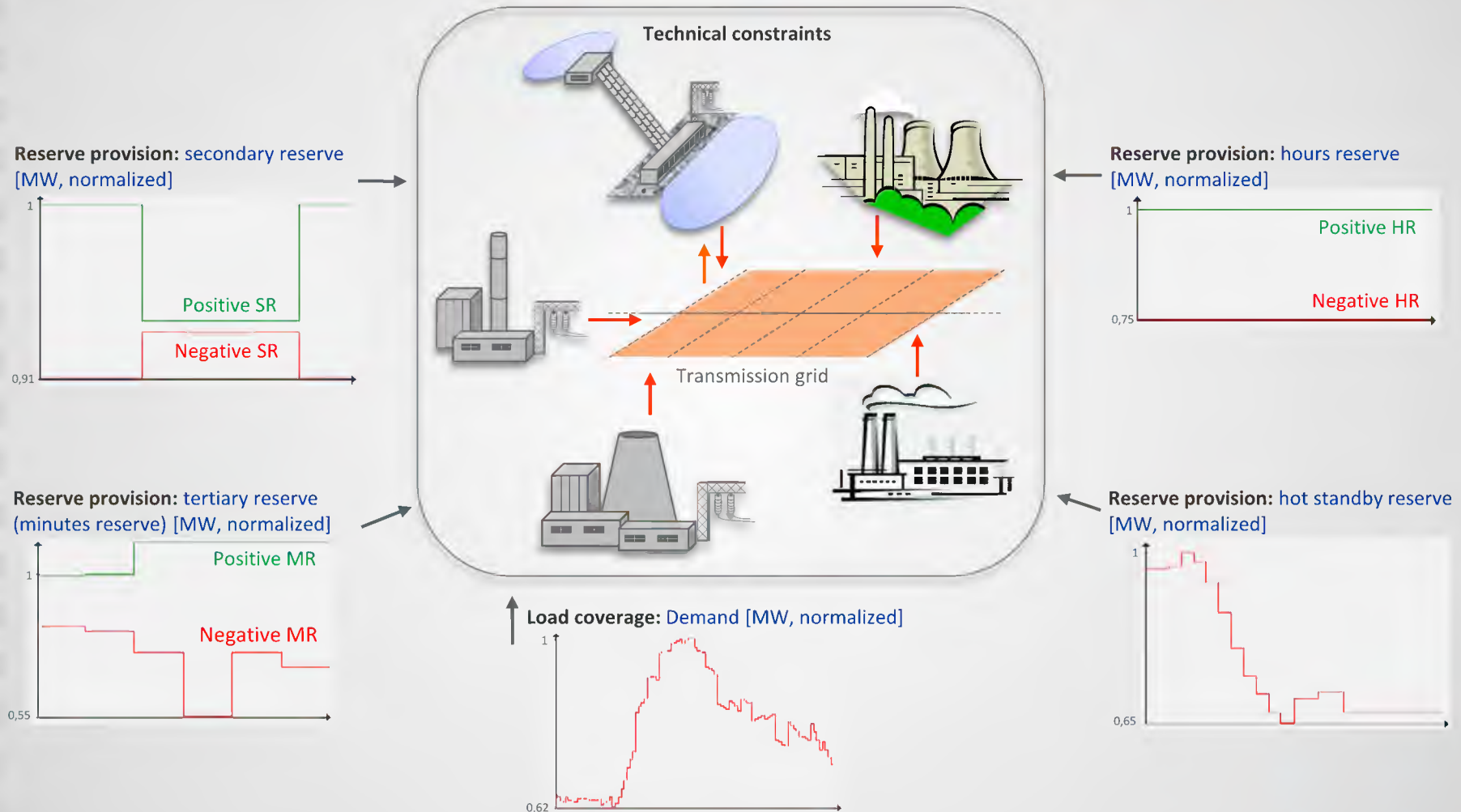
Resource Planning System – RPS

- LP & MIP optimization
- Deterministic & Stochastic
- High Performance Solver
- Short, medium & long term
- **Archiving (Oracle)**

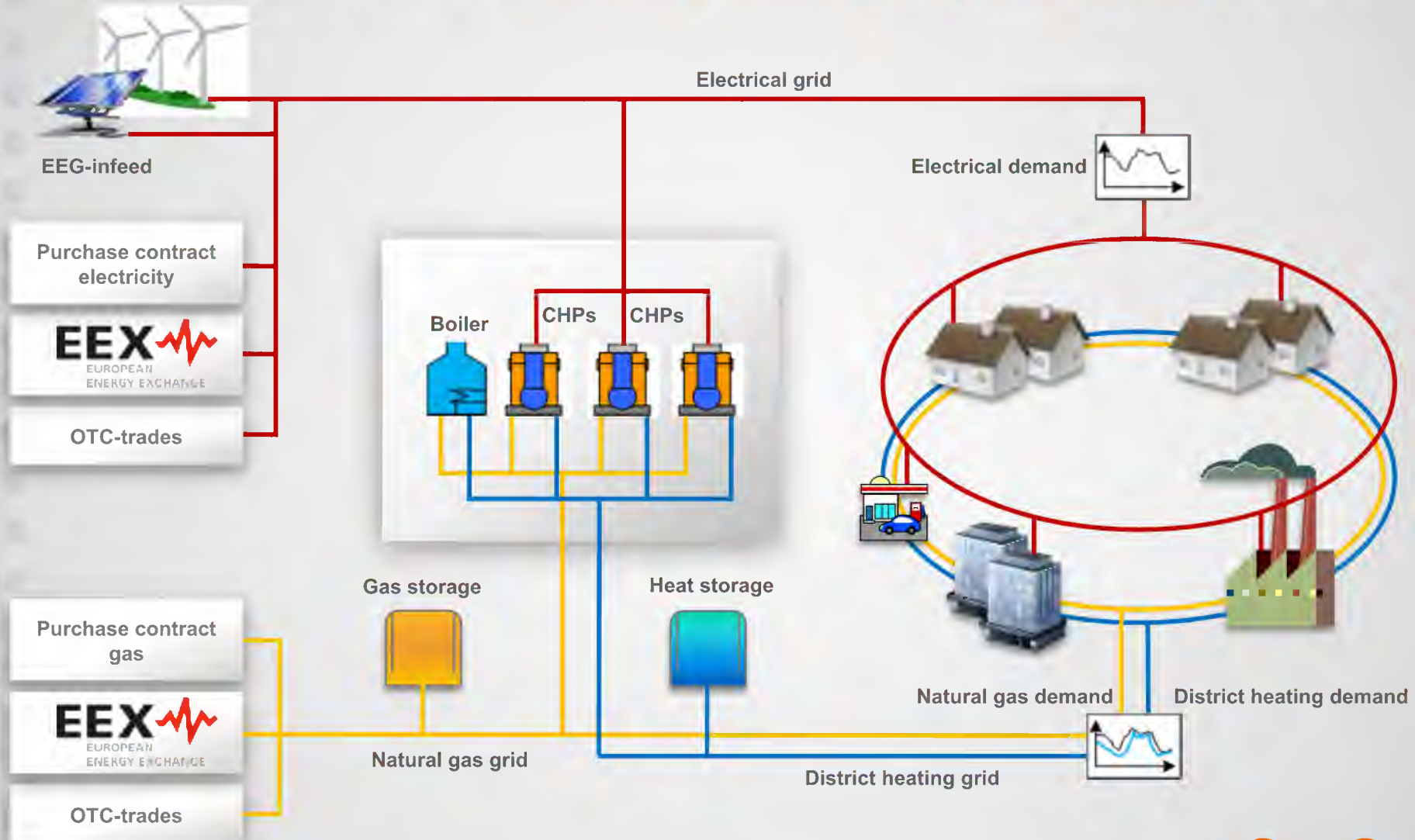
EMS-EDM PROPHET® – Customers



Optimization of power plant utilization



Optimization of multi-utility operation



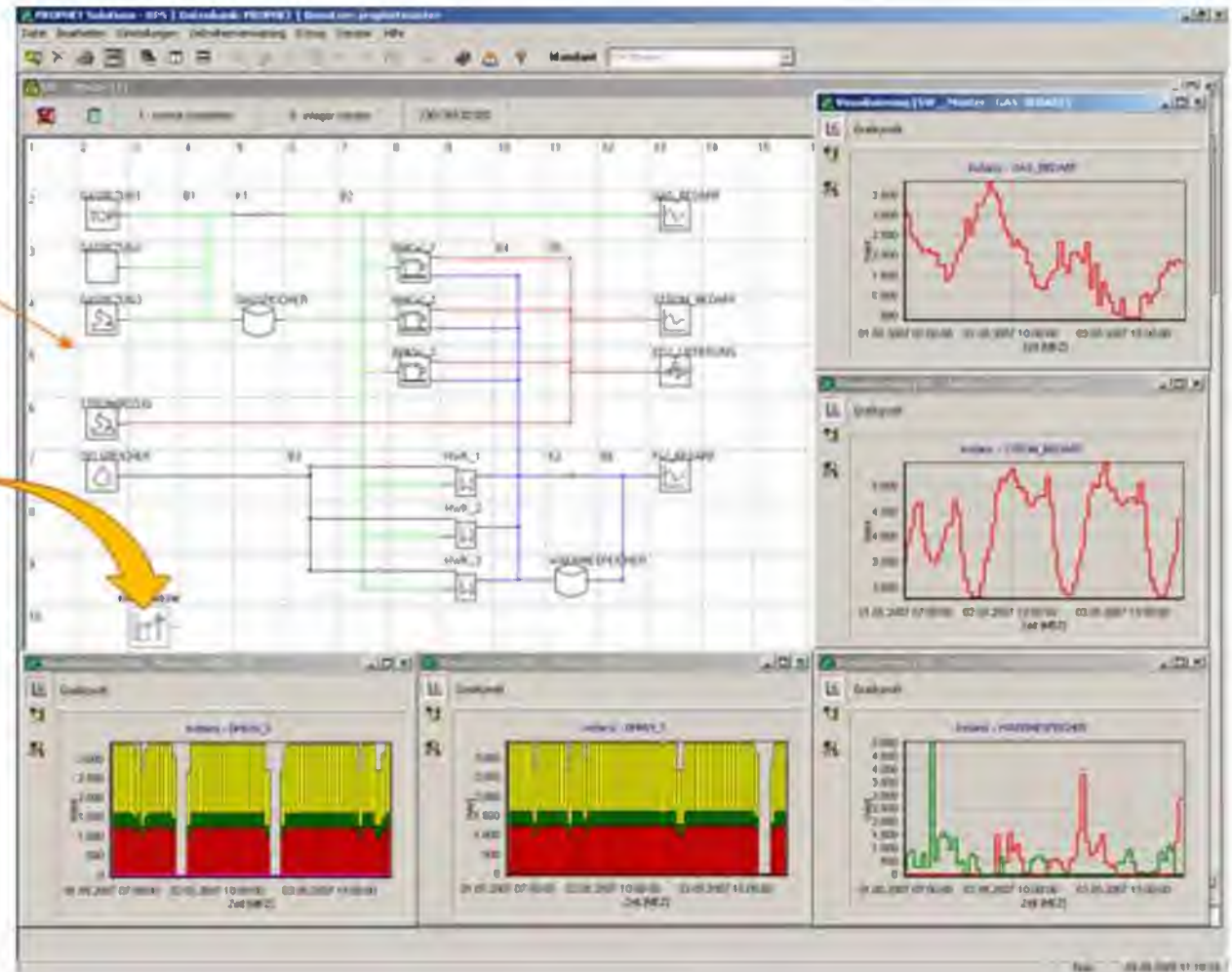
RPS – Graphical Modeling

Graphical modeling of optimization problems

Drag 'n Drop



Power plant



RPS – Interaction with GAMS

Lade Optimierungs-DLL
 Operation abgeschlossen 00:00
 Lade Zeitbasis
 Operation abgeschlossen: 00:00
 Erzeuge Porjektverzeichnis und entferne temporäre Dateien
 Operation abgeschlossen: 00:00
 Erzeuge GAMS-Datei ...
 schreibe Komponentendeklarationen
 schreibe GDX-Daten
 schreibe Instanzwerte
 schreibe Set-Datenwerte
 schreibe Set-Datenwerte für die Startbedingungen
 schreibe Tabellen
 schreibe Tabelle "Startzustandstabelle [NW_BK_034] "
 ...
 Zeitbedarf GDX-Datei-Erzeugung [hh:mm:ss]: 00:00:09
 schreibe Modelldaten
 schreibe Instanzgleichungen
 schreibe Bilanzgleichungen
 schreibe Untermodellgleichungen
 schreibe Objektfunktion
 Schreiben der Deklarationsdatenwerte
 Schreiben der Deklarationswerte abgeschlossen
 Erzeuge Optionsdatei (OptFile)
 Zeitbedarf GAMS-Datei-Erzeugung [hh:mm:ss]: 00:02:34
 ..
 Durchführung der Optimierung ... [19.03.2014 01:00 - 23.03.2014 00:00]
 Datei: "C:\GAMS\win64\24.3\gams.exe"
 Parameter: "C:\EMS-EDM PROPHET\system\Rps-

Data Exchange with GAMS (GDX)

Dynamic Model Generation (Source)

Solver Options

Optimization

Some Lessons Learned

- For successful applications know more than math/modeling or work with domain specific experts
- Applications (may) evolve over time: Appetite comes with eating..
- Be aware of non-technical constraints, e.g. legal requirements



Agenda

GAMS – Elements, Enhancements, and Examples

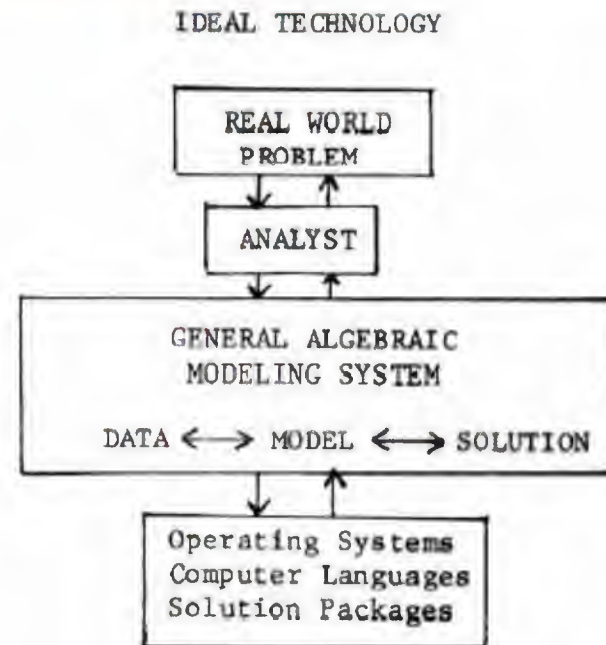
Enhancements around GAMS

Some Case Studies

Past – Presence – Future

1976 - A World Bank Slide

The Vision



- RESULT:
- Limited drain of resources
 - Same representation of models for humans and machines
 - Model representation is also model documentation

2012 INFORMS **Impact Prize**

36 Years
later

Originators of Algebraic Modeling Languages



Change in Focus: Past

```

DATE 07/30/76  TIME 22.12.21
PRINT OPTION = COMPLETE OUTPUT W/SPECIAL
NAME = CENTRAL  OBJ = OBJ  RMS = RMS1  BND = LIMITS  TIME = 28.18489
DIR = MAXIMIZE  COBJ =  CENS =  RAG =  0.0000  RPSRHS = 1.00
                                0.0000  RPSCHMS = 0.00

```

NUMBER	NAME	TYPE	STATUS	COIL ACTIVITY	OBJ COEF	D UPPER	MARGINAL
101	CHE1V..	PL	LOWER	.	-47.00000	+INF	
102	CHE2F..	PL	ACTIVE	.00087	-701.00000	+INF	-6.44851
103	CHE3C..	PL	ACTIVE	.	-10330.00000	+INF	.
104	CHE4F..	PL	LOWER	.	-2429.75000	+INF	.
105	CHE5C..	PL	LOWER	.	-9410.00000	+INF	-412.25118
106	CHE6C..	PL	ACTIVE	.	-5110.00000	+INF	-2342.38642
107	CHE7C..	PL	ACTIVE	.06067	-13.20000	+INF	.
108	CSG.V..	PL	ACTIVE	.	-231.57000	+INF	.
109	CSG.F..	PL	ACTIVE	.00226	-231.57000	+INF	.
110	CPD.V..	PL	ACTIVE	.	-139.67000	+INF	.
111	CPD.F..	PL	ACTIVE	.00002	-139.67000	+INF	.
112	CPD.C..	PL	ACTIVE	.00045	-139.67000	+INF	.
113	CEG.V..	PL	ACTIVE	.	-76.71000	+INF	.
114	CEG.F..	PL	ACTIVE	.00025	-76.71000	+INF	.
115	CEG.C..	PL	ACTIVE	.00128	-76.71000	+INF	.
116	CDA.C..	PL	ACTIVE	.07685	12.71000	+INF	.
117	CDP.C..	PL	LOWER	.	180.74000	+INF	-87.19134
118	CDC.C..	PL	LOWER	.	107.83000	+INF	-256.39963
119	CUS.C..	PL	ACTIVE	.00948	121.35000	+INF	.
120	CIL.C..	PL	ACTIVE	.00225	91.60000	+INF	.
121	CAB.C..	PL	ACTIVE	.00606	109.74000	+INF	.
122	CAL.C..	PL	ACTIVE	.00748	77.66000	+INF	.



Computation

→ Hardware / Algorithm
limits application
→ Users left out

Change in Focus: **Now**

IDE C:\Users\franz\Documents\gamsdir\projdir\epscmmip.gms

epscmmip.gms

```
posg(kml) = 0; iter=0; infeas=0; start=jnow;

repeat
  rhs(kml) = sum(grid(kml,g)$ (numg(g)=posg(kml)), gridrhs(kml,g));
  solve mod_epsmethod maximizing a_objval using mip;
  iter=iter+1;
  if (mod_epsmethod.modelstat<>%ModelStat.Optimal% and
      mod_epsmethod.modelstat<>%ModelStat.Integer Solution%,
      infeas=infeas+1; // not optimal is in this case infeasible
      put iter:5:0, ' infeasible' /;
      lastZero = 0; loop(kml$(posg(kml)>0 and lastZero=0), lastZero=numk(kml));
      posg(kml)$ (numk(kml)<=lastZero) = maxg(kml); // skip all solves for more demanding
  else
    put iter:5:0;
    loop(k, put z.l(k):12:2;
    jump(kml)=1;
    * find the first off max (obj function that hasn't reach the final grid point).
    * If this obj.fun is k then assign jump for the 1..k-th objective functions
    * The jump is calculated for the innermost objective function (km=1)
    jump(kml)$ (numk(kml)=1)=1+floor(s1.L(kml)/step(kml));
    loop(kml$(jump(kml)>1), put ' jump');
    put /;
  );
  * Proceed forward in the grid
  firstOffMax = 0;
  loop(kml$(posg(kml)<maxg(kml) and firstOffMax=0),
    posg(kml)=min((posg(kml)+jump(kml)),maxg(kml)); firstOffMax=numk(kml));
  posg(kml)$ (numk(kml)<firstOffMax) = 0;
until sum

finish=jnow
```



Computation

→ Hardware / Algorithm
limits application
→ Users left out

Model

→ Modeling skill limits
applications
→ Users involved

Solver Technology - Now

Progress in LP: 1988—2004

(Operations Research, Jan 2002, pp. 3—15, updated in 2004)

- Algorithms (*machine independent*):

Primal *versus* best of Primal/Dual/Barrier 3,300x

- Machines (workstations → PCs): 1,600x

- NET: Algorithm × Machine 5,300,000x

(2 months/5300000 ≈ 1 second)

Robert E. Bixby

Gurobi Optimization & Rice University

Change in **Focus: Now**

Mathematical Optimization

Computation

Well defined (narrow)
application area

Small set of methods (LP, MIP,
NLP,...)

Small amounts of (structured)
data

Visualization?

Niche market

Business Analytics

Application

Broad application area

Wide range of methods

Huge amounts of data

Visualization crucial

Big market

Computation

Model

Application

→ *Embedded Models*
→ *User hardly aware
of model*



Change in **Focus: Future**



Powerful algebraic modeling language

Open architecture and interfaces to other systems, independent layers



“I never predict. I just look out the window and see what is visible – but not yet seen”
(Peter Drucker)



Algebraic Problem Representation

Model as a communication device

- Helps defining the problem
- Gives structure for efficient (inter-team) communication
- Provides (data) contract between different parts of the application
- Executable description of the problem

Effort for model development is often small compared to the effort required for the rest of application



Evolving **Solver-Links**

GAMS provides uniform interface to all major solvers

Often new and interesting algorithmic features driven by implementation choices

But: Using solver specific features prevents easy exchange of solvers



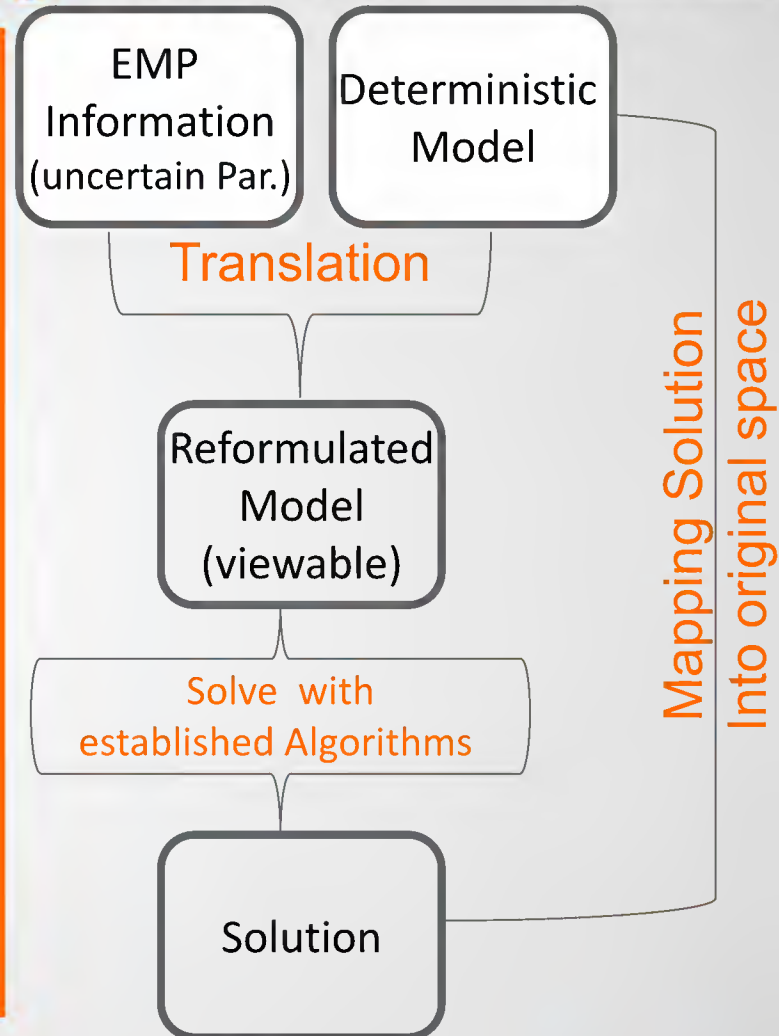
Evolving Solver-Links

Challenge: Find a concept that combines the essentials of new features independent of the particular implementation choices. Examples:

- **Logical Constraints:** $If\ y=1 \Rightarrow x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0;$
 - BigM-Formulation
`constr01.. x1 + x2 + x3 =L= M*(1-y); y ∈ {0,1};`
 - Indicator Constraints (CPLEX, XPRESS, SCIP):
`constr01.. x1 + x2 + x3 =L= 0; indic constr01$y 1`
 - Alternative: SOS1 (GUROBI):
`constr01.. x1 + x2 + x3 =L= M; SOS1:(y, M);`
 - (Generalized) Disjunctive Programming (Grossmann)
- **Stochastic Programming** - supported solvers through EMP/SP

Stochastic Programming EMP/SP

- Simple interface to add uncertainty to existing deterministic models
- (EMP) Keywords to describe uncertainty include: discrete and parametric random variables, stages, chance constraints, Value at Risk, ...
- Available solution methods:
 - Automatic generation of **Deterministic Equivalent** (can be solved with any solver)
 - Specialized commercial algorithms (DECIS, LINDO)





Open architecture and interfaces

Frequently optimization models only (important) element of larger system

GAMS provides environment to build robust and fail safe systems, because optimization

- May take longer than one is willing to wait
- Will eventually fail



Open architecture and interfaces

Don't lock developers and users into a certain environment. Adjust for:

- Advancing hardware and computer paradigms (e.g. cloud computing)
- New solver technology and solution methods
- New graphical user interfaces and deployment environments

From Model Development

Gilmore & Gomory (1961)

Master Model ↔ **Pricing Model**

Demand Duals (from Master to Pricing)

New Patterns (from Pricing to Master)

```

numpat..      z =e= sum(pp, xp(pp));
demand(i)..   sum(pp, aip(i,pp)*xp(pp)) =g= d(i);

model master /numpat, demand/;

* Pricing problem - Knapsack model
Variable y(i) new pattern;
Integer variable y; y.up(i) = ceil(r/w);

Equation defobj
knapsack knapsack constraint;

defobj..      z =e= 1 - sum(i, demand.m
knapsack..     sum(i, w(i)*y(i)) =l= r;

model pricing /defobj, knapsack/;

* Initialization - the initial pattern
pp(p) = ord(p)<=card(i);
aip(i,pp(p))$(ord(i)=ord(p)) = floor(r,
*display aip;

Scalar done loop indicator /0/;
Set pi(p) set of the last pattern;

option optcr=0,limrow=0,limcol=0,solpr:

While(not done and card(pp)<card(p),
  solve master using mpio minimizing z:

```

Reading data...
Starting Cplex...
Tried aggregator 1 time.
MIP Presolve eliminated 2 rows and 2 columns.
Reduced MIP has 3 rows, 5 columns, and 7 nonzeros.
Reduced MIP has 0 binaries, 5 generals, 0 SOSs, and 0 indicators.
Presolve time = 0.00 sec. (0.01 ticks)
Found incumbent of value 517.000000 after 0.00 sec. (0.02 ticks)

In Variable	Out
xp(p2)	demand(i
xp(p6)	demand(i
xp(p5)	demand(i

0.00 sec. (0.00 ticks)

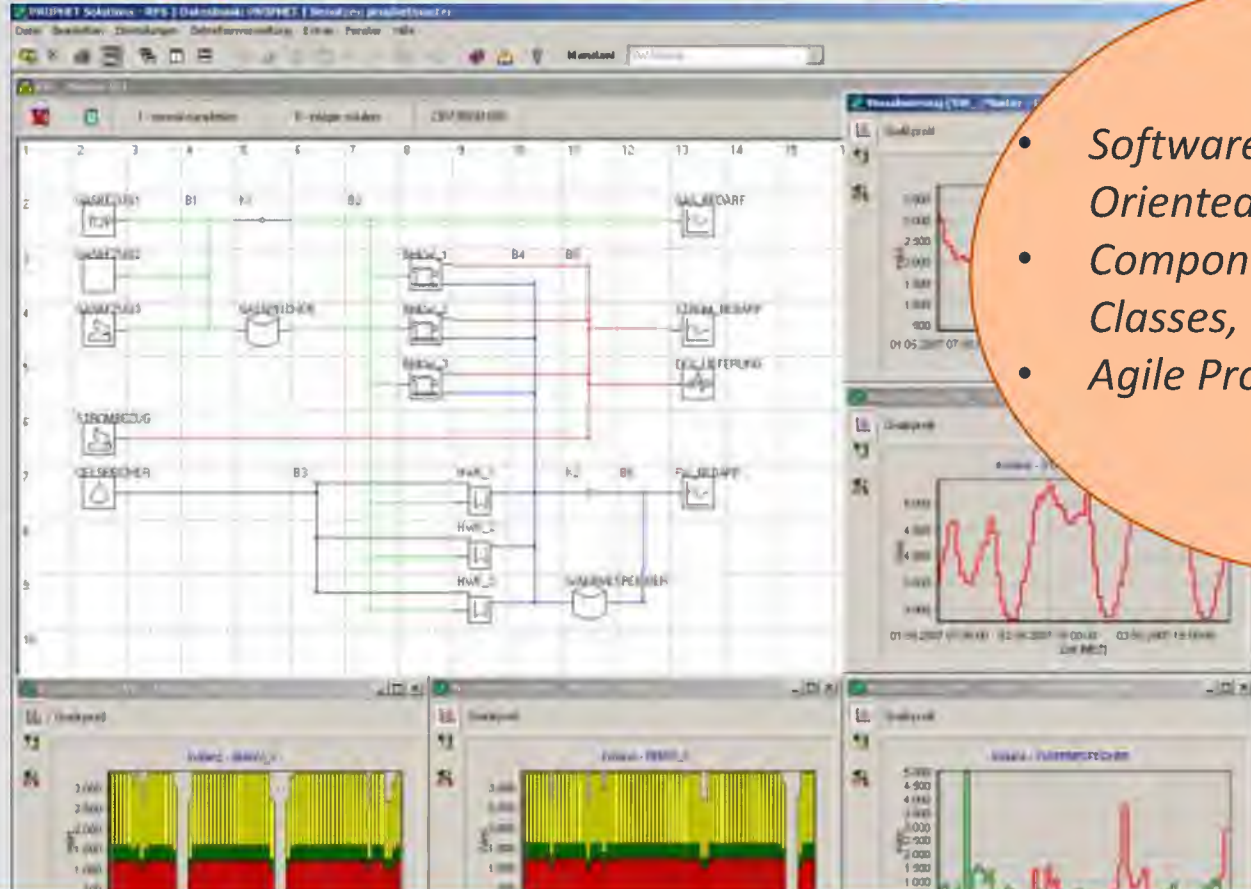
Best Integer	Cuts/ Best Bound	I
517.0000	49.0000	
0 after 0.05 sec.	(0.03 ticks)	
517.0000	452.7500	
	452.7500	
	(0.04 ticks)	
	452.7500	
	452.7500	

MB, solutions = :

Small Community:

- 2010 ~ 64k OR Analytic Professionals in the US
- INFORMS 10-12k members

to Application Building



- *Software Architecture, Object Oriented Design*
- *Components, Encapsulation, Classes, Data Access Layer,..*
- *Agile Programming, Mesh, ...*

Huge Community:

- 2006 ~ 3.3 Mill. IT Professionals in the US
- Rapidly changing IT environments



(Some of the) **Issues**

Role of Optimization within Application

Generalist (domain expert and modeling expert and IT expert) versus **Team of Specialists**

Quality of Data

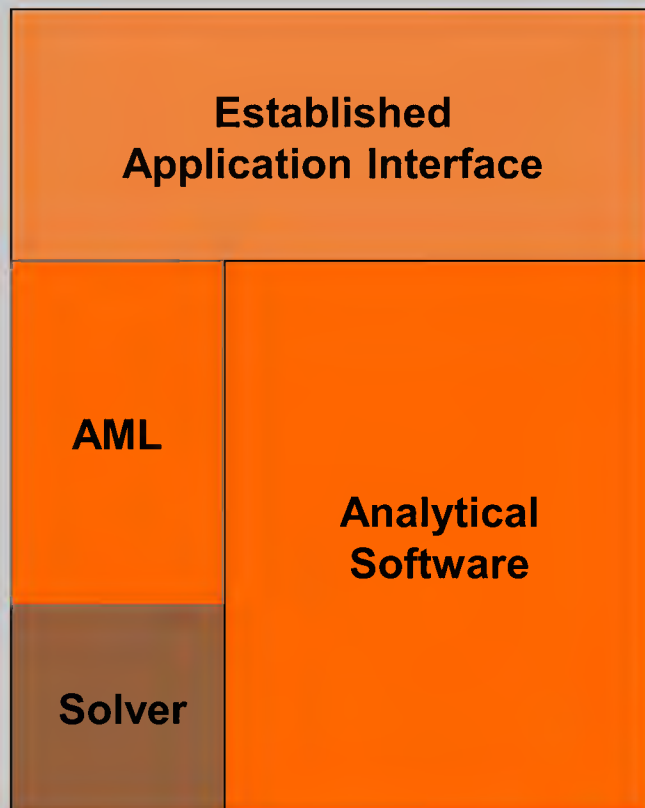
Standalone Application or Integration

Lifecycle of Application

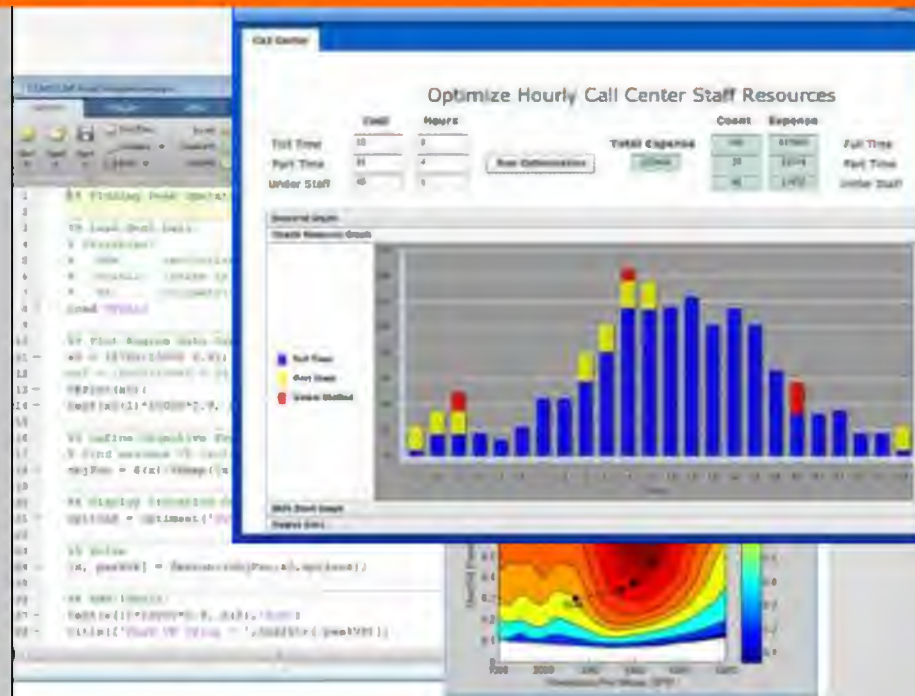


Example: All in One – Top Down

Monolithic Application



- Add “AML” to existing analytical software system
- “large” user base, e.g. MATLAB, or SAS





Example: All in One – Bottom Up

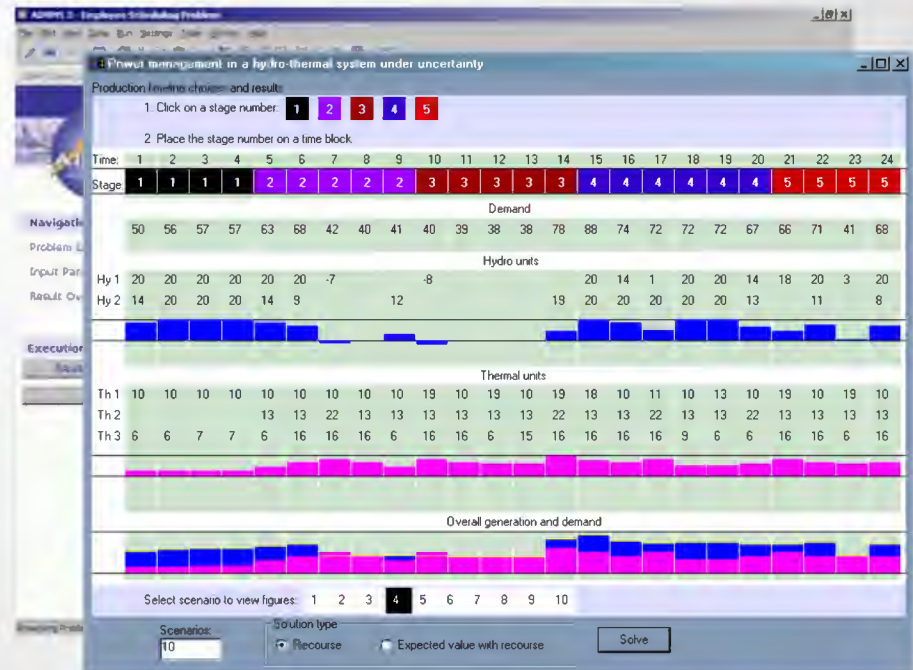
Monolithic Application

GUI Builder

AML

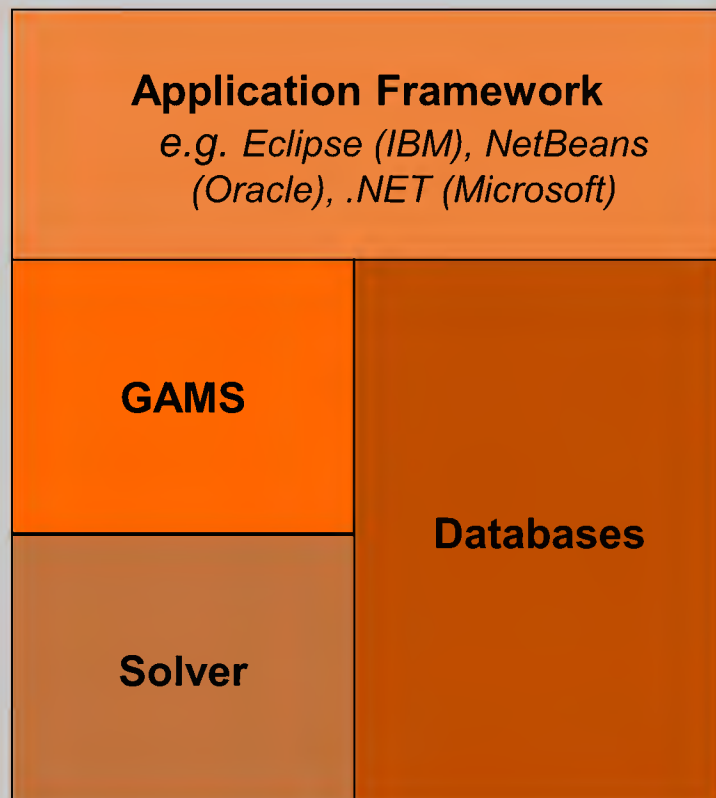
Solver

- Integrate GUI-builder into AML
- “small” user base, e.g. AIMMS (Pro) or FICO Xpress-Insight



Example: Composite Application

“Composite Application”



- “Construction Kit” with different connected elements
- Use existing frameworks to build applications, e.g. Oracle Application Express, MS .NET, IBM ODME,
- OO API to connect to framework



Summary

GAMS – Elements, Enhancements, and Examples

- **Simple, but powerful language**
- **Designed to interact**
- **Evolution** through more than 25 years of R&D and user feedback
- **Maturity** through experience and rigorous testing

Striving for Innovation and Compatibility

- **Increase productivity**
- Provide **cutting edge technology**
- Don't **lock** developers and users into a certain environment
- **Protect** investments of users



GAMS – Software Demo

- Steve Dirkse, GAMS Development
- An Introduction to Model Development with GAMS
- Monday, 1:50-2:40 pm
- Room: Goldenwest

GAMS

Thank You

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