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# High Performance Computing with GAMS

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M.Bussieck (GAMS), F. Fiand (GAMS)

October 2017

2017 INFORMS Annual Meeting – Houston, Texas October 22-25

**A PROJECT BY**



H L R I S



Deutsches Zentrum  
für Luft- und Raumfahrt  
German Aerospace Center

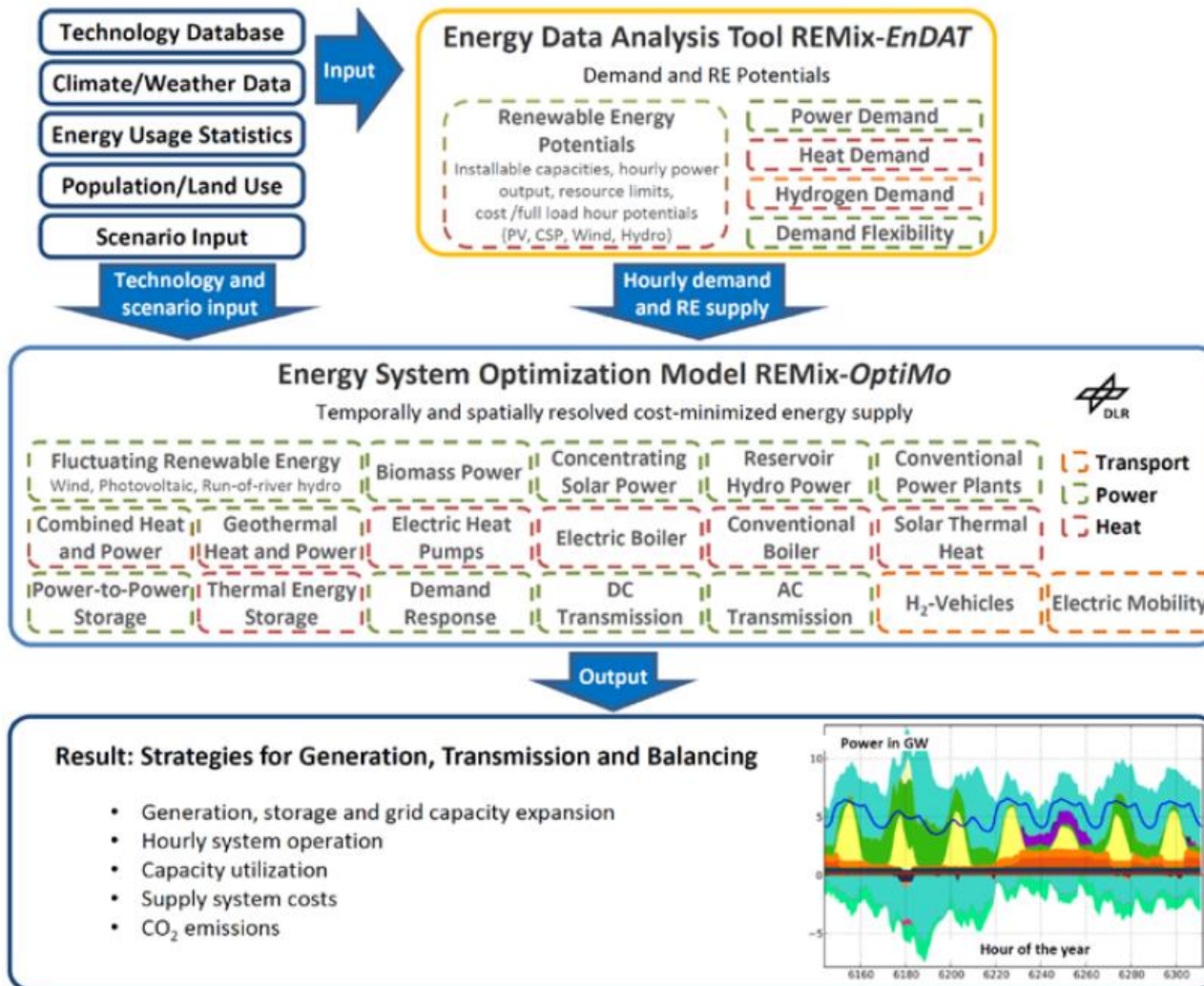


- Motivation & Project Overview
- Parallel Interior Point Solver PIPS-IPM
- GAMS/PIPS-IPM Solver Link
  - Model Annotation
  - Distributed Model Generation
- Computational Experiments
- Summary & Outlook

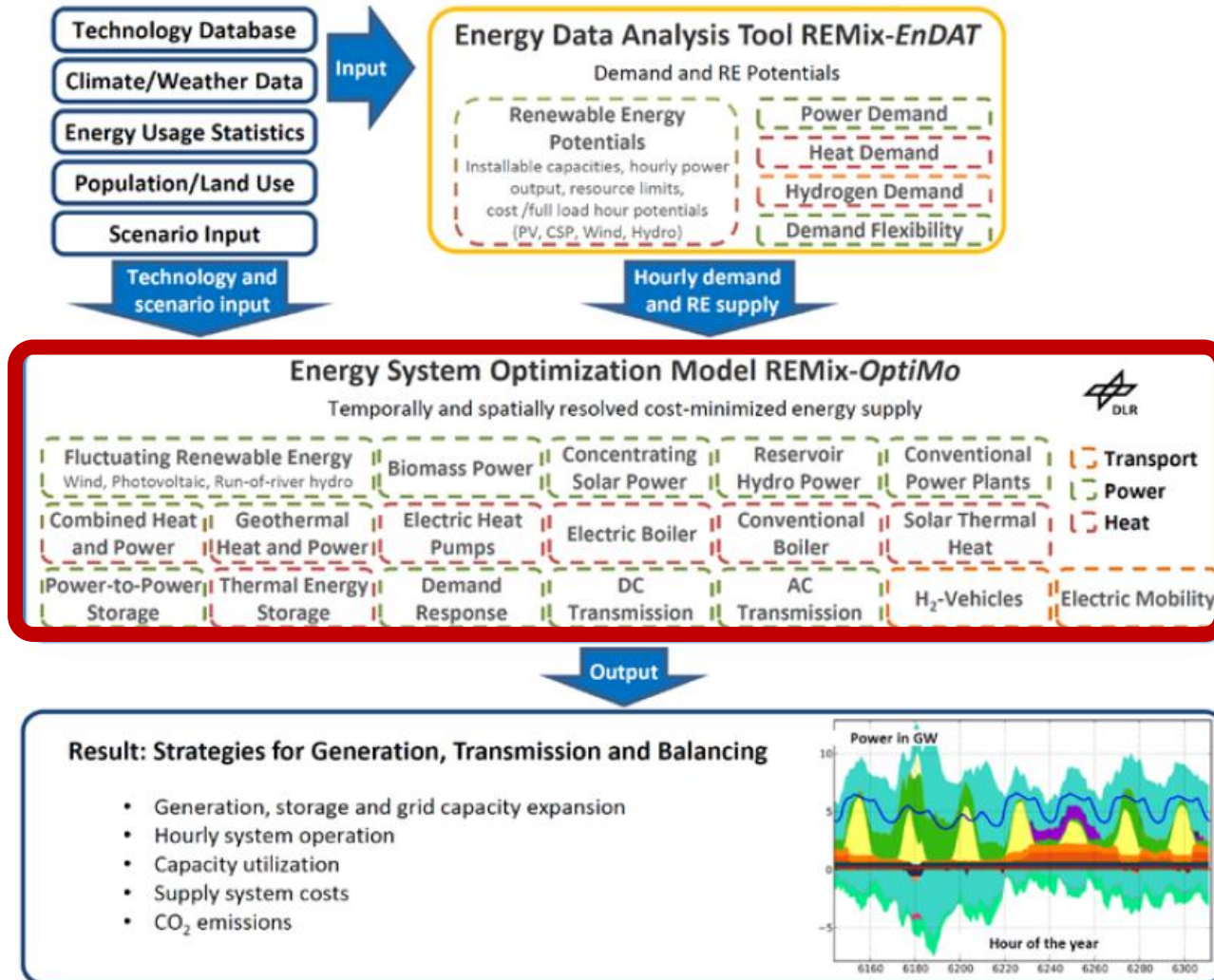
# Motivation

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## ESM REMix



## ESM REMix



Results in  
large-scale LP

- Energy system models (ESM) have to increase in complexity to provide valuable quantitative insights for policy makers and industry:
    - Uncertainty
    - Large shares of renewable energies
    - Complex underlying electricity systems
  - **Challenge:**
    - Increasing complexity makes solving ESM more and more difficult
- Need for new solution approaches

- Energy system models (ESM) have to increase in complexity to provide valuable quantitative insights for policy makers and industry:
    - Uncertainty
    - Large shares of renewable energies
    - Complex underlying elements
  - **Challenge:**
    - Increasing complexity and more difficult
- Need for new solution approaches

**Challenge appears in several areas.  
ESM is just one potential field of application.**

What exactly is BEAM-ME about?

*Realisierung von Beschleunigungsstrategien der  
anwendungsorientierten Mathematik und  
Informatik für optimierende  
Energiesystemmodelle*

*Implementation of acceleration strategies from  
mathematics and computational sciences for  
optimizing energy system models*



# The BEAM-ME Project cont.

## Energy System Modeling



## High Performance Computing



## Solver Development



## Modeling Language

# Parallel Interior Point Solver PIPS-IPM

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**PIPS-IPM:** Parallel interior-point solver for LPs (und QPs) from stochastic energy models.

Main developer: Cosmin Petra (Argonne National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory)

- PIPS-IPM is Open-Source.
- PIPS-IPM already solved problems with more than  $10^9$  variables.<sup>1</sup>
- PIPS-IPM originally supported linking variables but no linking constraints.
- PIPS-IPM extension to support linking constraints implemented by ZIB.

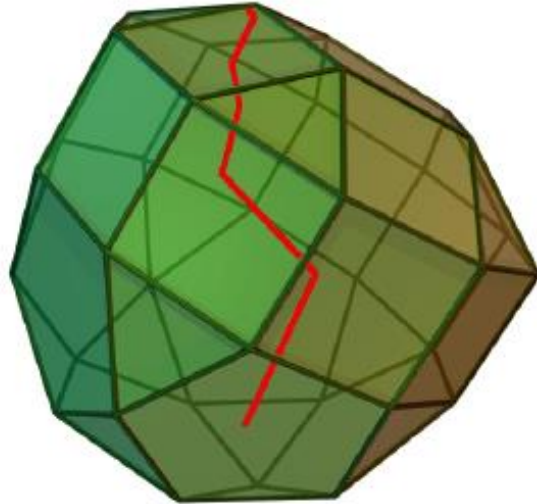
<sup>1</sup> Petra et al. 2014: “Real-Time Stochastic Optimization of Complex Energy Systems on High-Performance Computers”

All linear programs can be transformed into standard form

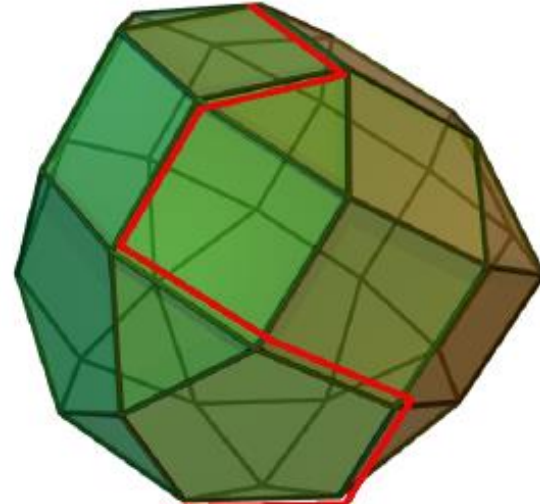
$$\begin{array}{ll}\min & c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} & Ax = b \\ & x \geq 0\end{array}$$

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

# Interior-Point vs. Simplex Algorithm

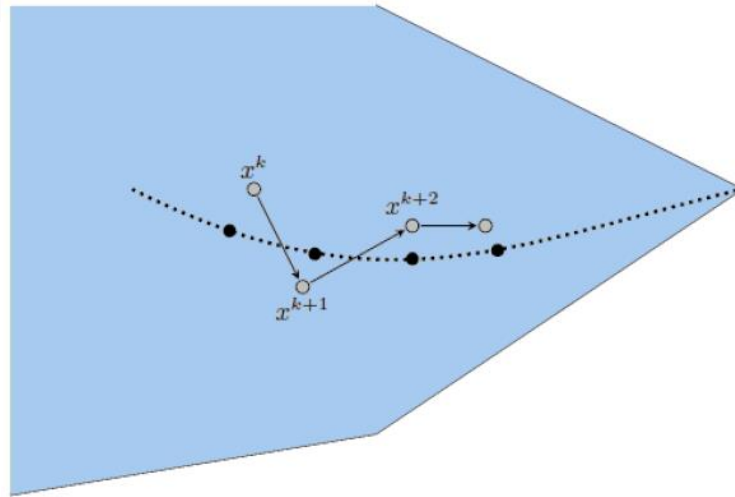


Picture: Wikipedia



- Choice of algorithm depends on problem to be solved
- But: interior-point usually faster for large-scale problems
- ...also for BEAM-ME LPs, see [Cao, Gleixner, Miltenberger, 16']

Sketch: towards optimal solution along Central Path



Two crucial points for practical solving:

1. Choice of direction and step length
2. Solving system of linear equations

Idea for BEAM-ME LPs: Exploit **block structure** to solve systems of linear equations in parallel

Consider LP with block-diagonal structure, linking constraints, and linking variables (the kind of problem we want to solve):

$$\begin{array}{llll}
 \min & c_0 & c_{s1} & c_{sn} \\
 & A^= & & = b \\
 b^{low} & \leq A^{\leq} & & \leq b^{upp} \\
 & T_{s1}^= & W_{s1}^= & = b_{s1} \\
 b_{s1}^{low} & \leq T_{s1}^{\leq} & W_{s1}^{\leq} & \leq b_{s1}^{upp} \\
 & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
 & T_{sn}^= & & W_{sn}^= = b_{sn} \\
 b_{sn}^{low} & \leq T_{sn}^{\leq} & & W_{sn}^{\leq} \leq b_{sn}^{upp} \\
 & C^= & C_{s1}^= \dots C_{sn}^= & = b_c \\
 b_c^{low} & \leq C^{\leq} & C_{s1}^{\leq} \dots C_{sn}^{\leq} & \leq b_c^{upp} \\
 x_0^{low} & \leq x_0 & & \leq x_0^{upp} \\
 x_{sn}^{low} & & & x_{sn} \leq x_{sn}^{upp}
 \end{array}$$

Consider LP with block-diagonal structure, linking constraints, and linking variables (the kind of problem we want to solve):

min		$c_0$	$c_{s1}$		$c_{sn}$	
		$A^=$				$= \quad b$
$b^{low}$	$\leq$	$A^{\leq}$				$\leq \quad b^{upp}$
		$T_{s1}^=$	$W_{s1}^=$			$= \quad b_{s1}$
$b_{s1}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{s1}^{\leq}$	$W_{s1}^{\leq}$			$\leq \quad b_{s1}^{upp}$
$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\ddots$			$\vdots$
		$T_{sn}^=$			$W_{sn}^=$	$= \quad b_{sn}$
$b_{sn}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{sn}^{\leq}$			$W_{sn}^{\leq}$	$\leq \quad b_{sn}^{upp}$
		$C^=$	$C_{s1}^=$	$\dots$	$C_{sn}^=$	$= \quad b_c$
$b_c^{low}$	$\leq$	$C^{\leq}$	$C_{s1}^{\leq}$	$\dots$	$C_{sn}^{\leq}$	$\leq \quad b_c^{upp}$
$x_0^{low}$	$\leq$	$x_0$				$\leq \quad x_0^{upp}$
$x_{sn}^{low}$	$\leq$				$x_{sn}$	$\leq \quad x_{sn}^{upp}$

Linking variables



Consider LP with block-diagonal structure, linking constraints, and linking variables (the kind of problem we want to solve):

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$b_{s1}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{s1}^{\leq}$	$W_{s1}^{\leq}$			$\leq \quad b_{s1}^{upp}$
$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\ddots$			$\vdots$
		$T_{sn}^=$			$W_{sn}^=$	$= \quad b_{sn}$
$b_{sn}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{sn}^{\leq}$			$W_{sn}^{\leq}$	$\leq \quad b_{sn}^{upp}$
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$x_0^{low}$	$\leq$	$x_0$				$\leq \quad x_0^{upp}$
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Linking constraints

Consider LP with block-diagonal structure, linking constraints, and linking variables (the kind of problem we want to solve):

min		$c_0$	$c_{s1}$		$c_{sn}$	
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$b^{low}$	$\leq$	$A^{\leq}$				$\leq \quad b^{upp}$
		$T_{s1}^=$	$W_{s1}^=$			$= \quad b_{s1}$
$b_{s1}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{s1}^{\leq}$	$W_{s1}^{\leq}$			$\leq \quad b_{s1}^{upp}$
$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\ddots$			$\vdots$
		$T_{sn}^=$			$W_{sn}^=$	$= \quad b_{sn}$
$b_{sn}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{sn}^{\leq}$			$W_{sn}^{\leq}$	$\leq \quad b_{sn}^{upp}$
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Recourse decision  
blocks

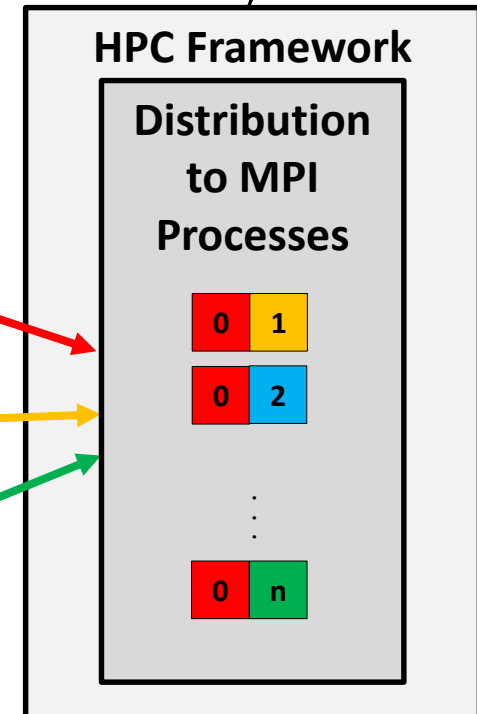
Consider LP with block-diagonal structure, linking constraints, and linking variables (the kind of problem we want to solve):

	min	$c_0$	$c_{s1}$		$c_{sn}$	
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		$T_{s1}^=$	$W_{s1}^=$			$= b_{s1}$
$b_{s1}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{s1}^{\leq}$	$W_{s1}^{\leq}$			$\leq b_{s1}^{upp}$
$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\ddots$			$\vdots$
		$T_{sn}^=$			$W_{sn}^=$	$= b_{sn}$
$b_{sn}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{sn}^{\leq}$			$W_{sn}^{\leq}$	$\leq b_{sn}^{upp}$
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- Block diagonal structure allows parallelization of linear algebra within PIPS-IPM
- Solve  $N$  systems of linear equations in parallel instead of one huge system

Consider LP with block-diagonal structure, linking constraints, and linking variables (the kind of problem we want to solve):

	min	$c_0$	$c_{s1}$		$c_{sn}$	
		$A^=$			$b$	
$b^{low}$	$\leq$	$A^{\leq}$			$b^{upp}$	
		$T_{s1}^=$	$W_{s1}^=$		$b_{s1}$	
$b_{s1}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{s1}^{\leq}$	$W_{s1}^{\leq}$		$b_{s1}^{upp}$	
$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\ddots$		$\vdots$	
		$T_{sn}^=$			$b_{sn}$	
$b_{sn}^{low}$	$\leq$	$T_{sn}^{\leq}$			$b_{sn}^{upp}$	
		$C^=$	$C_{s1}^=$	$\dots$	$C_{sn}^=$	$b_c$
$b_c^{low}$	$\leq$	$C^{\leq}$	$C_{s1}^{\leq}$	$\dots$	$C_{sn}^{\leq}$	$b_c^{upp}$
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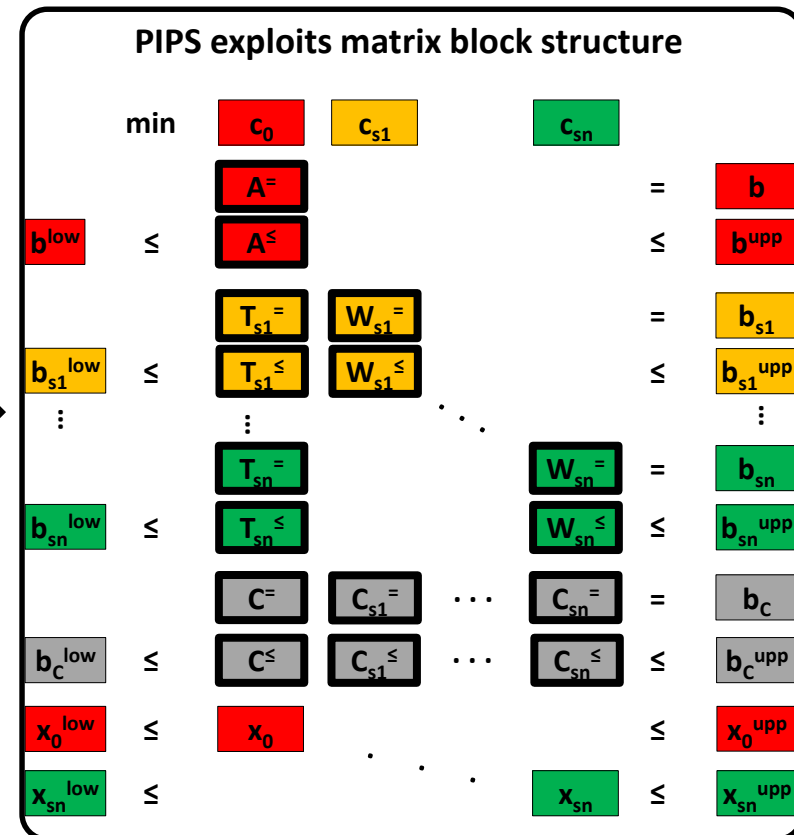
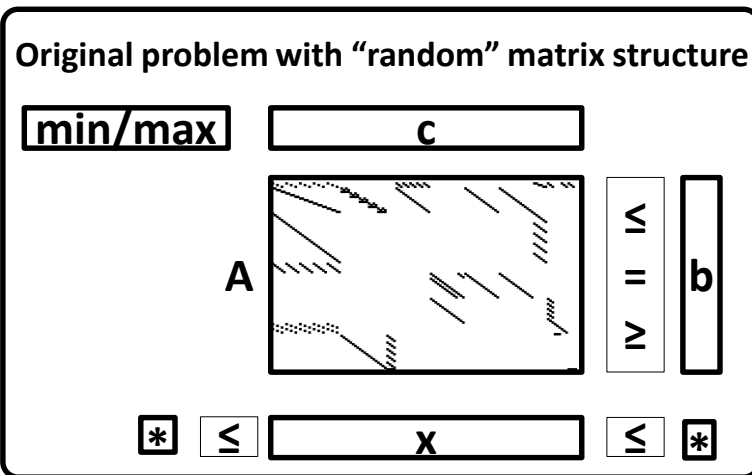
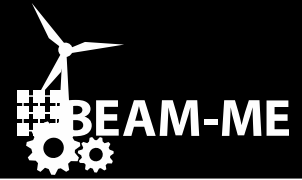
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- Solve  $N$  systems of linear equations in parallel instead of one huge system

# GAMS/PIPS-IPM Solver Link

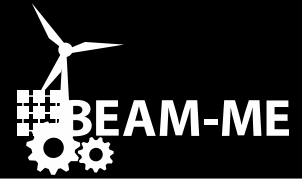
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*Model Annotation*

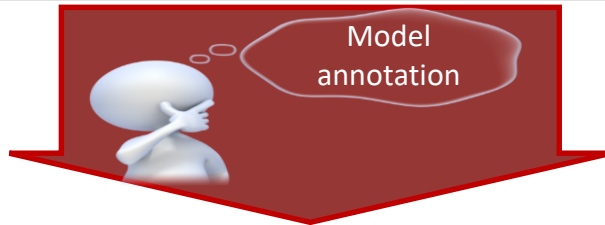
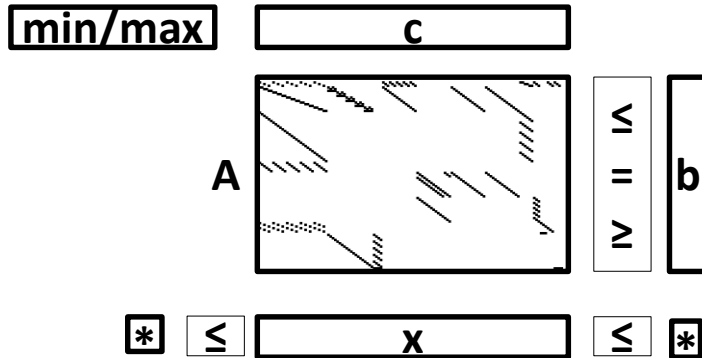
# GAMS/PIPS Solver Link - Overview



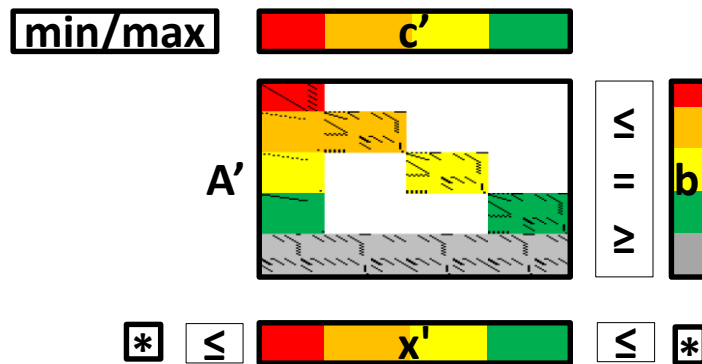
# GAMS/PIPS Solver Link - Overview



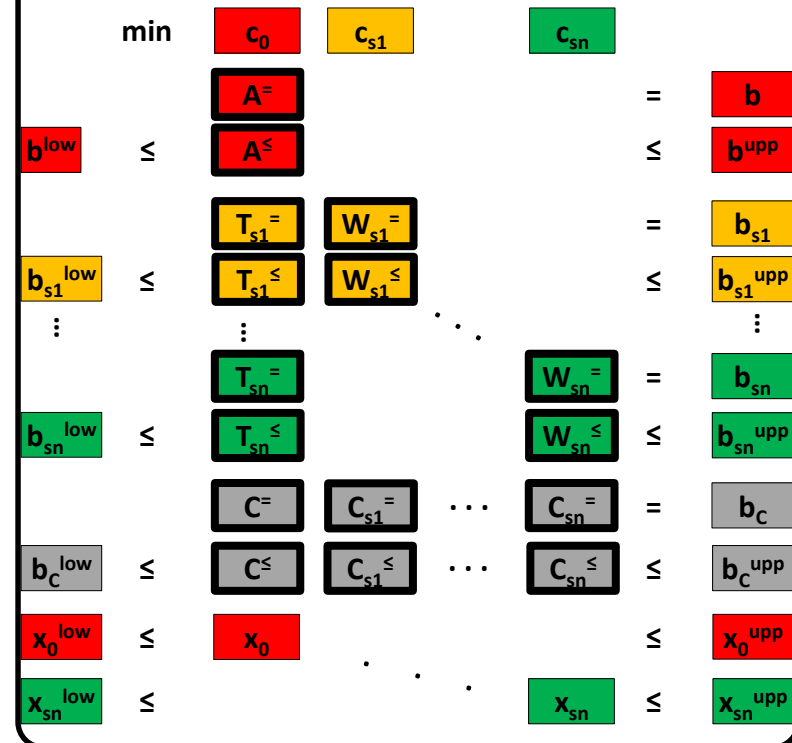
Original problem with “random” matrix structure



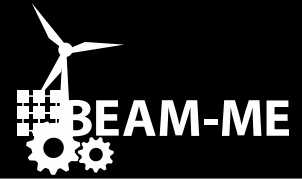
Permutation reveals block structure



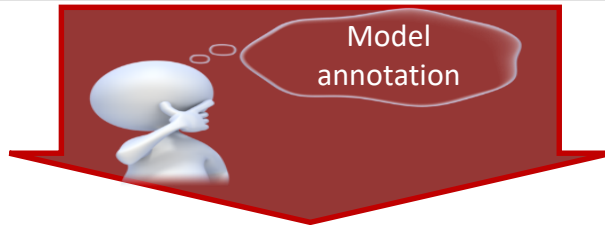
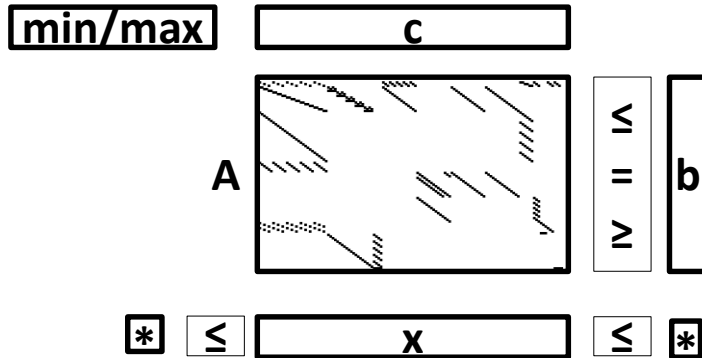
PIPS exploits matrix block structure



# GAMS/PIPS Solver Link - Overview

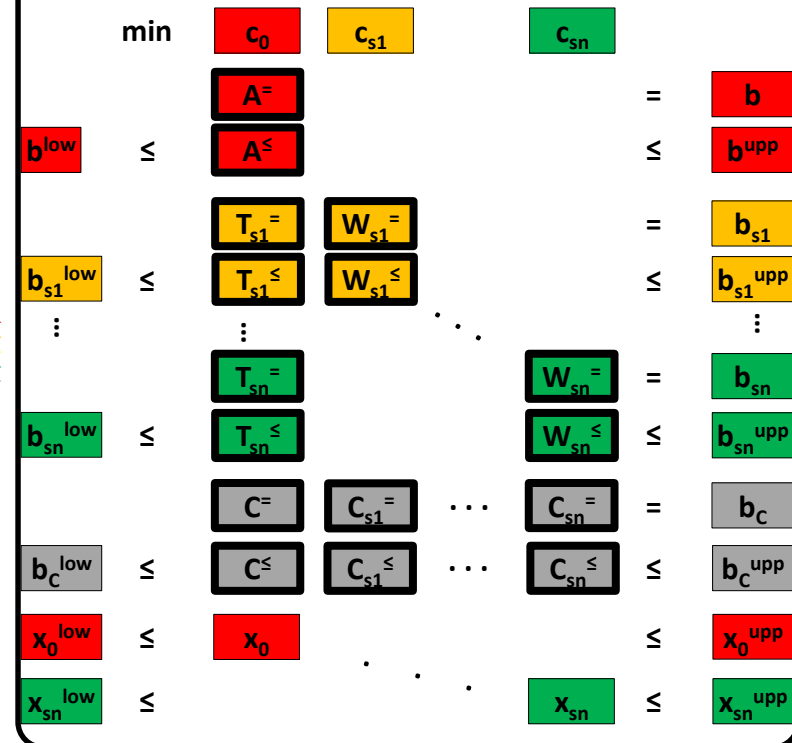


Original problem with “random” matrix structure

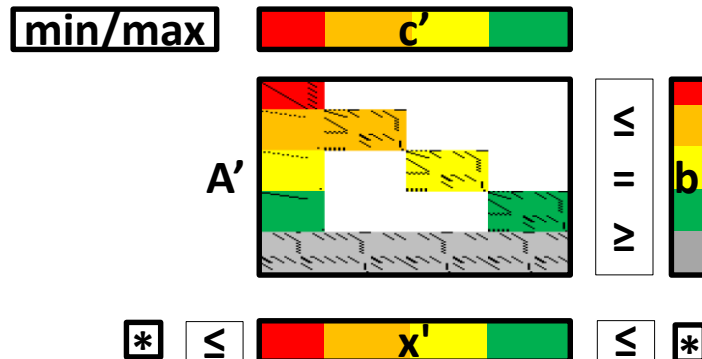


Model generation

PIPS exploits matrix block structure



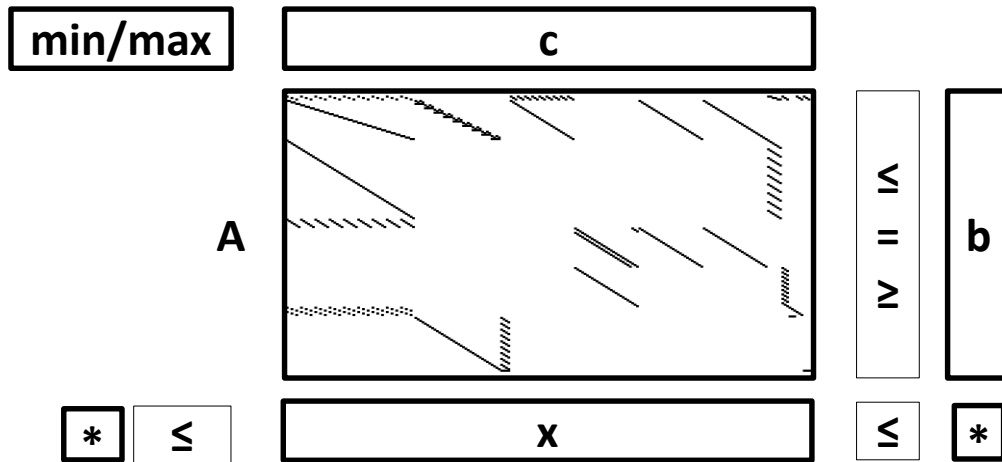
Permutation reveals block structure



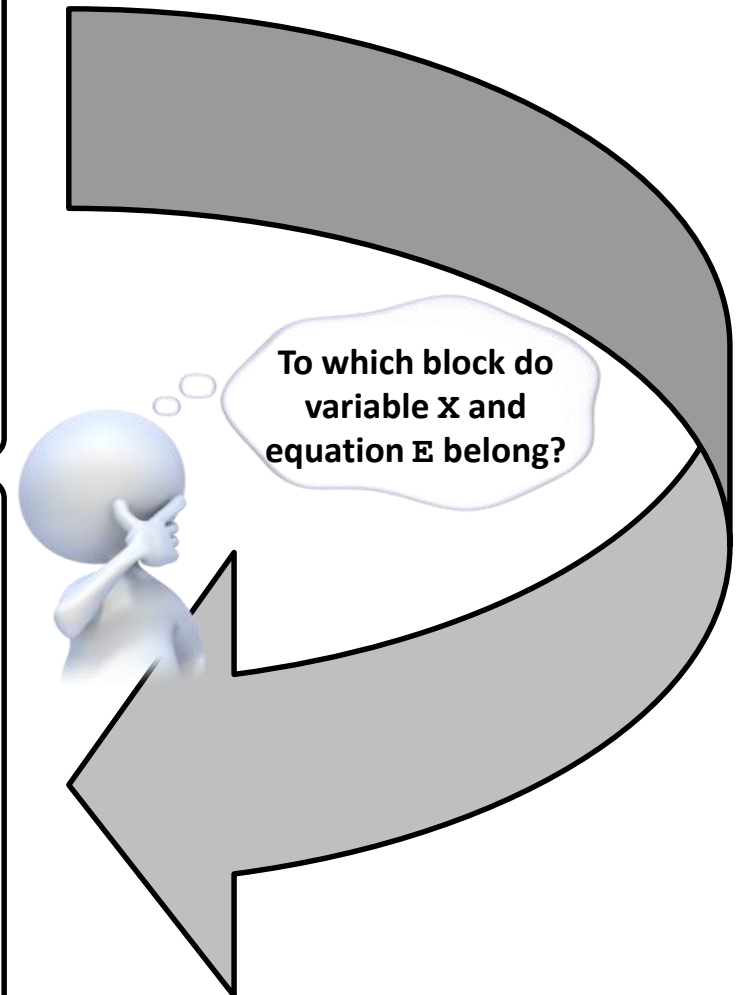
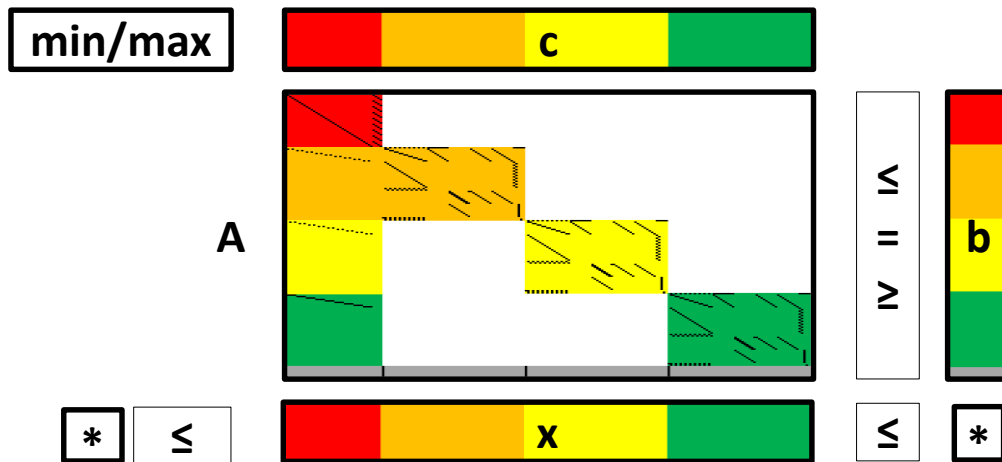


# Model Annotation

Original problem with “random” matrix structure

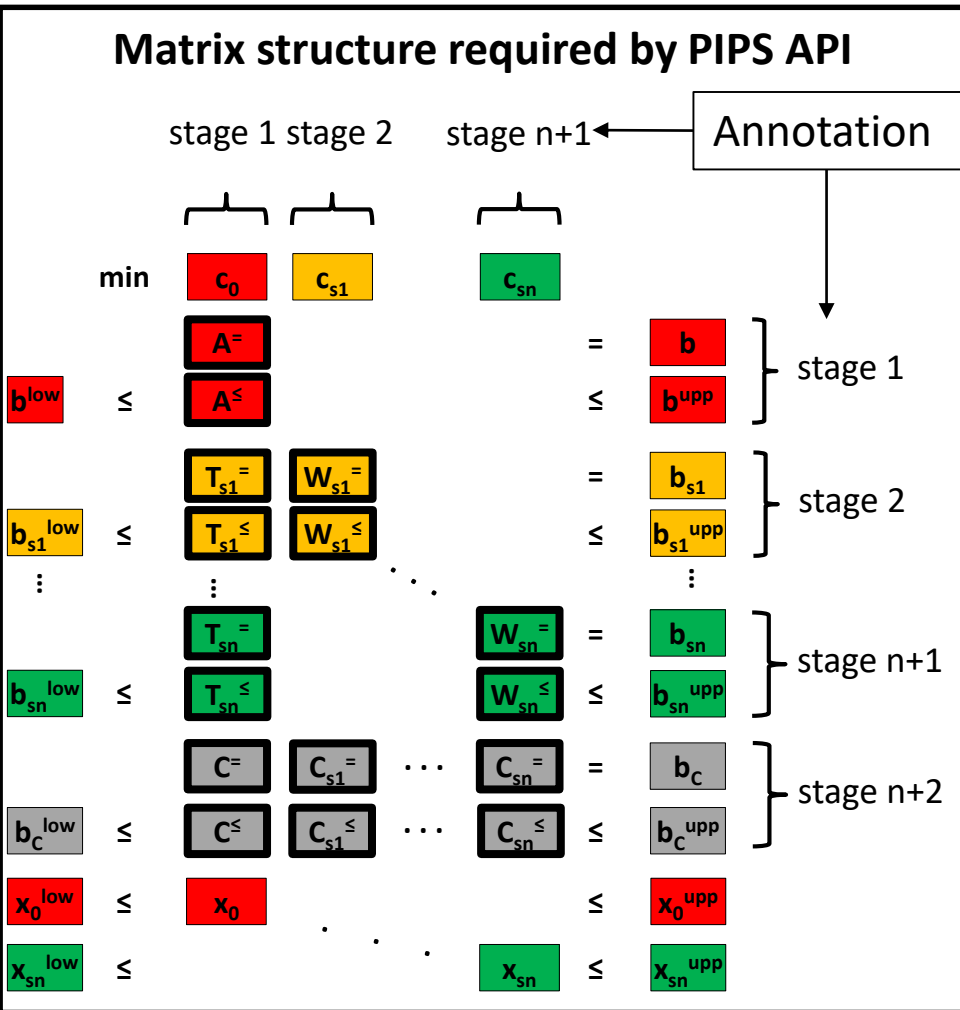


Permutation reveals block structure required by PIPS API



## Model Annotation by .Stage

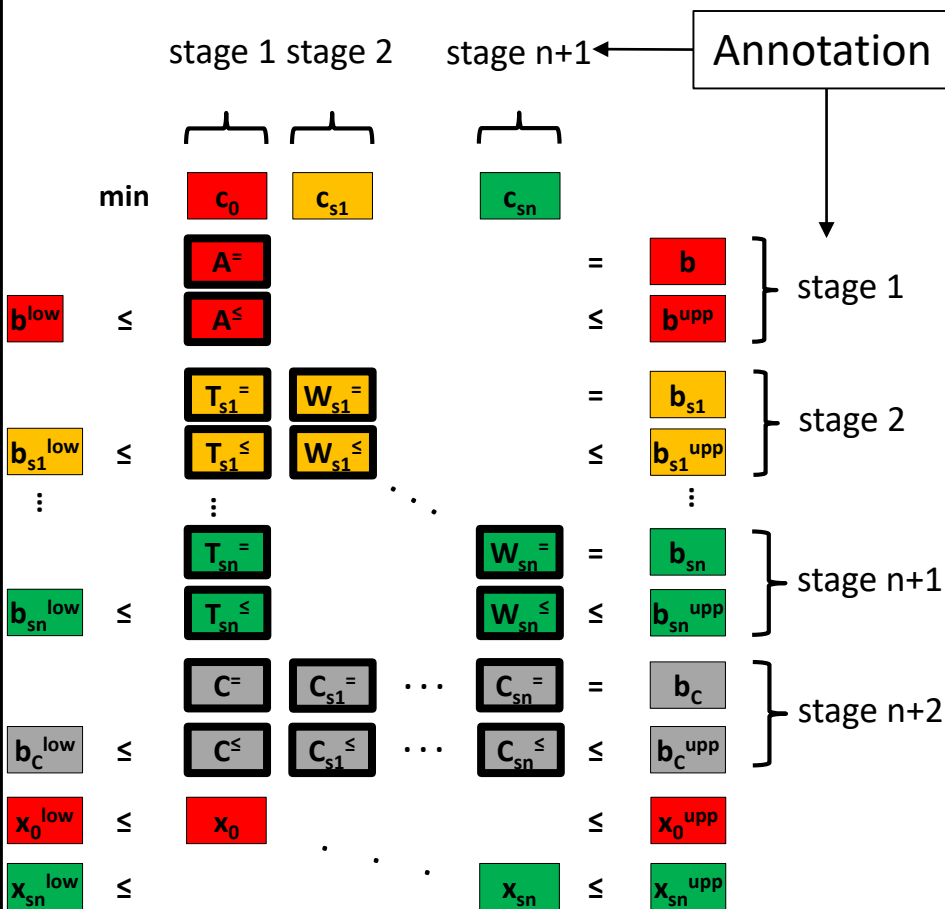
- The .stage attribute is available for variables/equations in GAMS



## Model Annotation by .Stage

- The .stage attribute is available for variables/equations in GAMS

### Matrix structure required by PIPS API

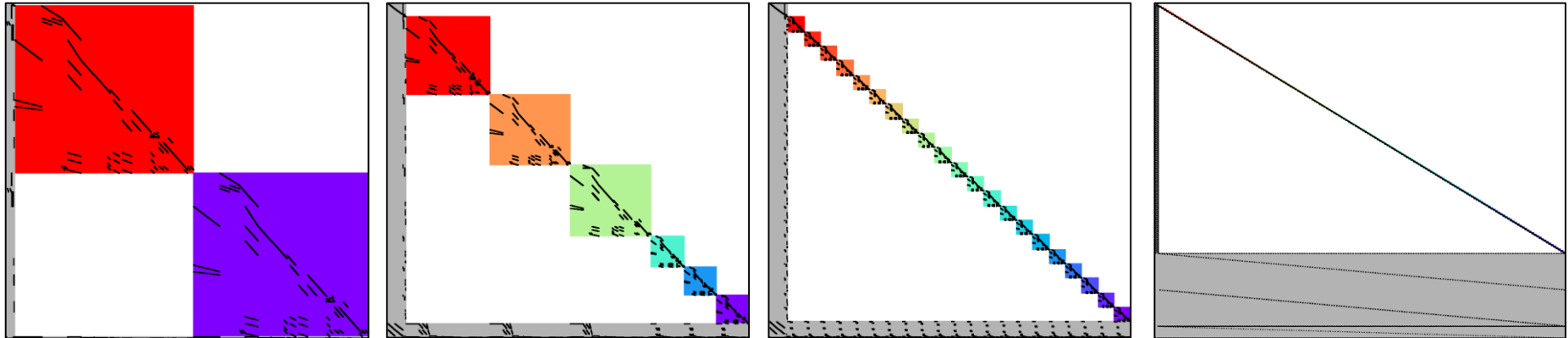


### Exemplary Annotation for simple ESM (regional decomposition)

```
[...]
* Master variables and equation
FLOW.stage(t,net(rr1,rr2)) = 1;
LINK_ADD_CAP.stage(net(rr1,rr2)) = 1;
[...]
* Block variables and equations
ROBJ.stage(rr) = ord(rr)+1;
POWER.stage(t,rp(rr,p)) = ord(rr)+1;
EMISSION_SPLIT.stage(rr,e) = ord(rr)+1;

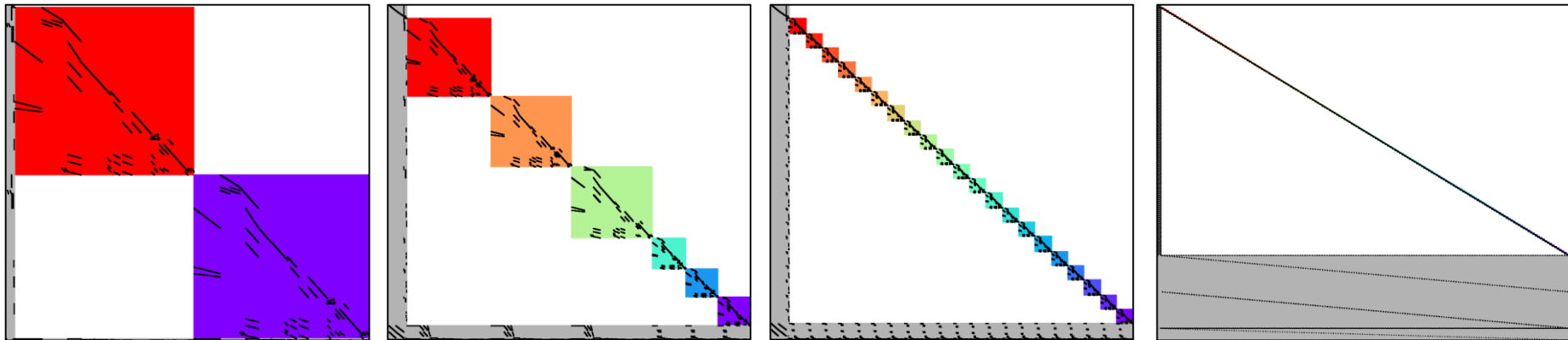
[...]
eq_emission_region.stage(rr,e) = ord(rr)+1;
eq_emission_cost.stage(rr,e) = ord(rr)+1;
[...]
* Linking Equation
eq_emission_cap.stage(e) = n+2;
```

- How to annotate Model depends on how the model should be “decomposed” (by region, time,...)



Plots show four different annotations of identical model

- How to annotate Model depends on how the model should be “decomposed” (by region, time,...)



Plots show four different annotations of identical model

- Blocks of equal size are beneficial

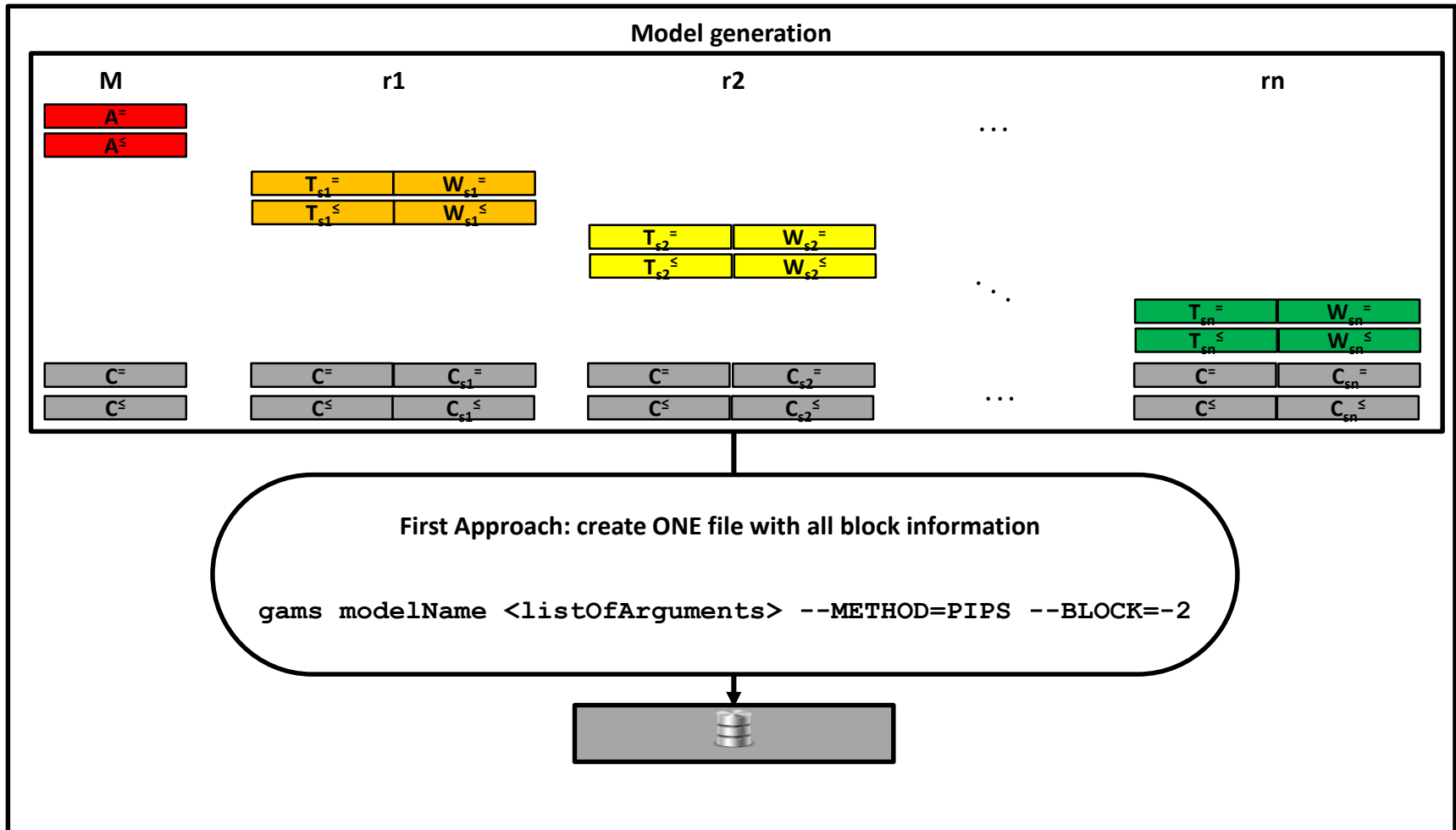
# GAMS/PIPS Solver Link

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*Distributed Model Generation*

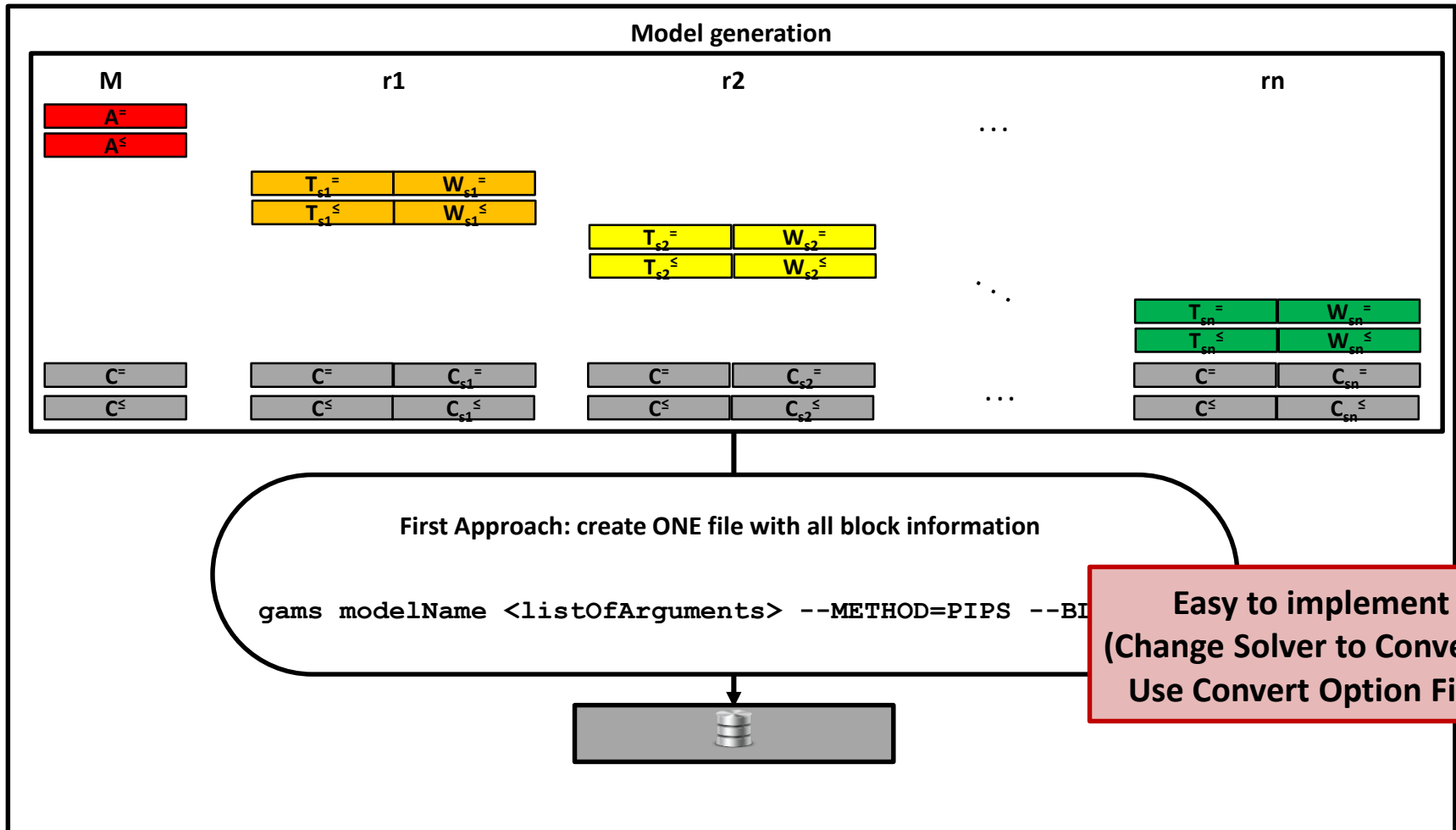
- “Usual Model”: model generation time  $\ll$  solver time
  - For **LARGE**-scale models the model generation may become significant:
    - due to time consumption
    - due to memory consumption
    - due to hard coded limitations of model size ( $\# \text{ non-zeroes} < \sim 2.1\text{e}9$ )
- Distributed “block-wise” model setup in PIPS
- Model annotation determines block membership of all variables and constraints
- Distributed GAMS processes can generate the separate blocks

Model + Annotation  $\rightarrow$  Block generation

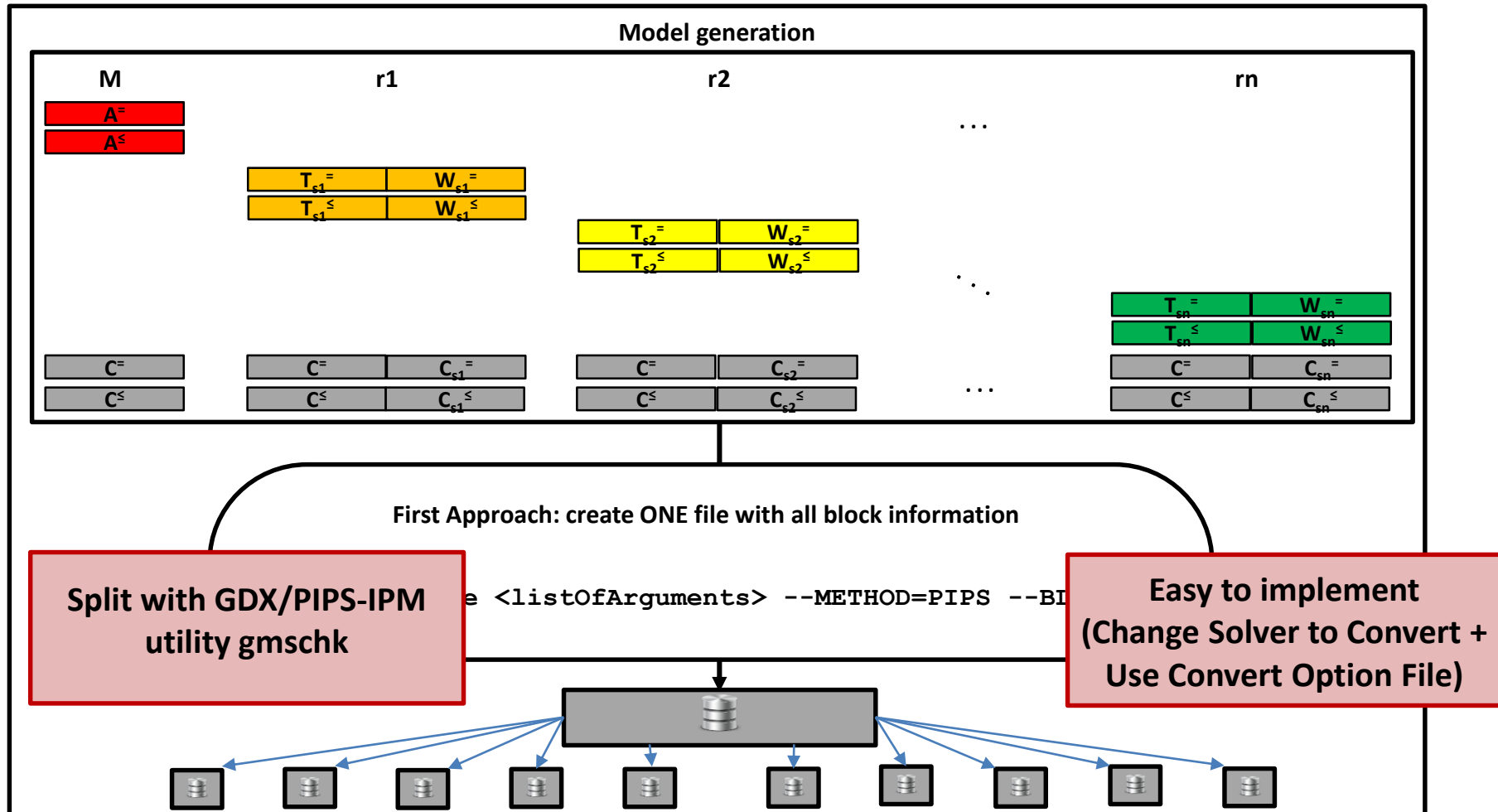




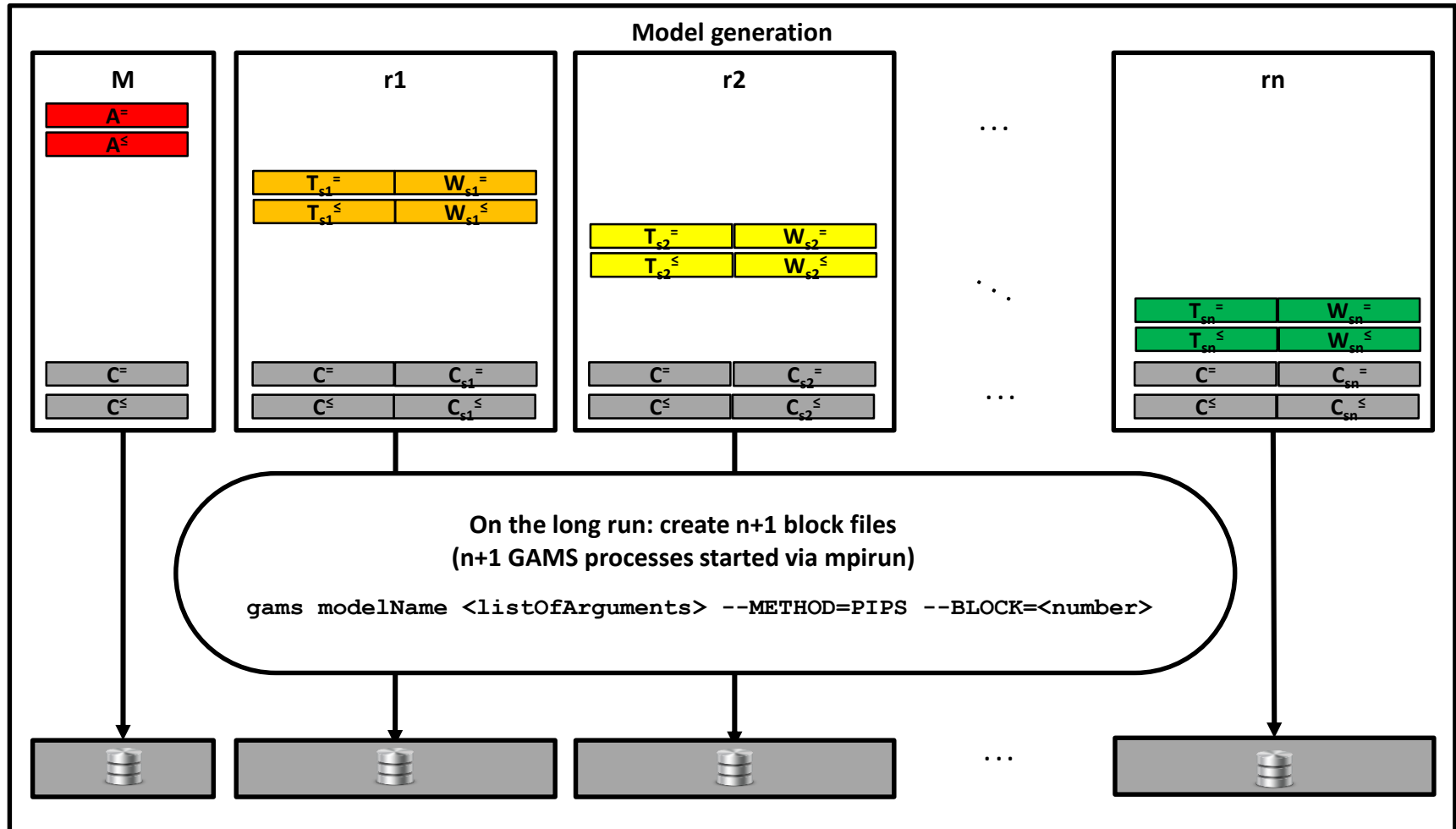
Model + Annotation  $\rightarrow$  Block generation



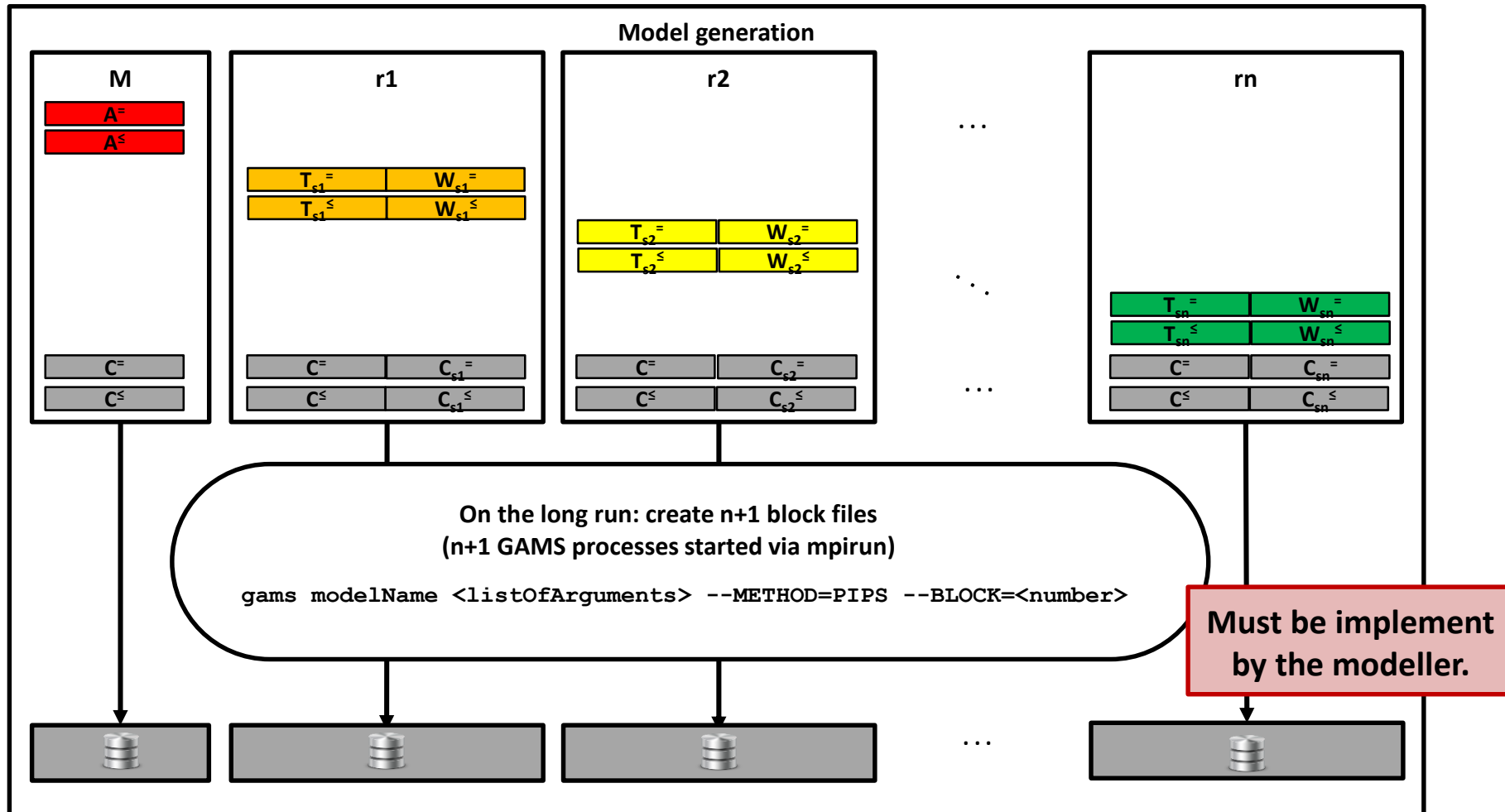
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Model + Annotation  $\rightarrow$  Block generation



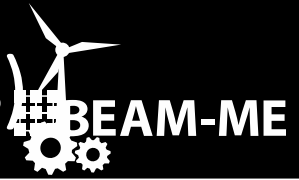
Model + Annotation  $\rightarrow$  Block generation



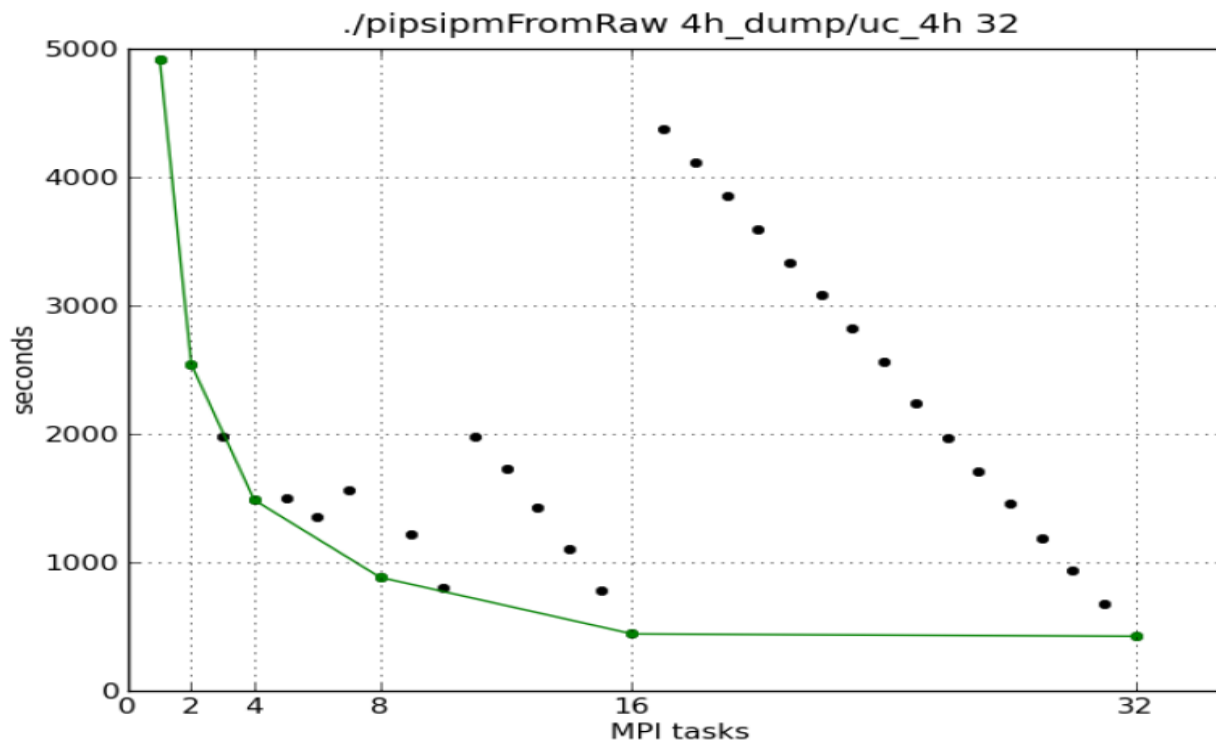
# Computational Experiments

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# Stochastic Problem (no coupling constraints)



- #blocks vs. #MPI tasks
  - #MPI tasks  $\leq$  #blocks
  - Best performance if #blocks % #MPI tasks = 0
  - Test case: 32 blocks (1 node, 1–32 MPI tasks)

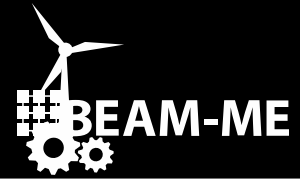


Slide provided by T. Breuer (JSC)

## Vampir Analysis of PIPS



# Limitations of “standard” Soft- & Hardware



#t	#r	#blocks	#rows (E6)	#cols (E6)	#NZ (E6)	~Mem (GB)	time
730	10	10	0.7	0.8	2.8	2.0	00:01:22
730	10	500	35.0	38.7	142.8	95.7	01:09:36
730	10	2,500	175.3	193.5	713.9	478.8	09:32:55
730	10	4,000	280.5	309.6	1,142.2	767.1	19:22:55
730	10	7,500	526.1	580.5	2,141.2	~1,436.4	–
8,760	10	10	8.4	9.3	34.3	18.2	00:28:57
8,760	10	50	42.1	46.4	171.6	90.4	02:26:25
...							

Test runs were made on JURECA @ JSC

- 2x Intel Xeon E5-2680 v3 (Haswell), 2 x 12 cores @ 2.5GHz
- “fat” node with 1,024 GB Memory
- GAMS 24.8.5 / CPLEX 12.7.1.0
- Barrier Algorithm, Crossover disabled, 24 threads

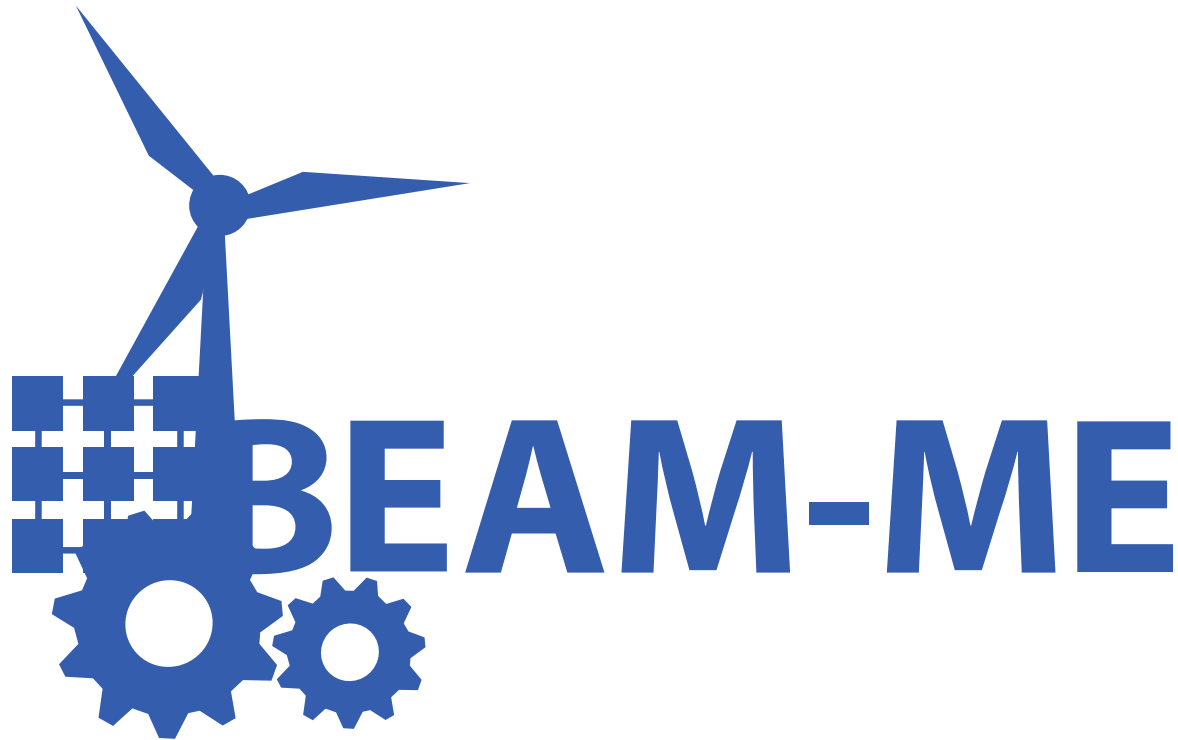


# Summary & Outlook

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- PIPS-IPM
  - Change(d) linear solver from MA27 (default) to PARDISO SC
  - Improve numerical stability
  - Implement (structure-preserving, parallel?) preprocessing
- GAMS/PIPS-IPM Link
  - Integrate model generation and solution into one user friendly process
  - Better user control of GAMS/PIPS
    - options (algorithmic, limits, tolerances)
- Annotation can be adapted for other Decomposition approaches (e.g. CPLEX Benders)
- GAMS-MPI/Embedded Code:
  - Implementation of Benders Decomposition in GAMS for ESM using the GAMS embedded code facility with Python package mpi4py to work with MPI (see talk of L. Westermann, *Tuesday, Oct 24, 10:30 - 12:00 track TB74 - room 372C*)
- Apply developed methods to several other large-scale ESM in Model Experiment: BALMOREL, DIMENSION, ...

# Project BEAM-ME



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