

# Scalable Preconditioning of Block-Structured Linear Algebra Systems using ADMM

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## Abstract

We study the solution of block-structured linear algebra systems arising in optimization by using iterative solution techniques. These systems are the core computational bottleneck of many problems of interest such as parameter estimation, optimal control, network optimization, and stochastic programming. Our approach uses a Krylov solver (GMRES) that is preconditioned with an alternating method of multipliers (ADMM). We show that this ADMM-GMRES approach overcomes well-known scalability issues of Schur complement decomposition in problems that exhibit a high degree of coupling. The effectiveness of the approach is demonstrated using linear systems that arise in stochastic optimal power flow problems and that contain up to 2 million total variables and 4,000 coupling variables. We find that ADMM-GMRES is nearly an order of magnitude faster than Schur complement decomposition. Moreover, we demonstrate that the approach is robust to the selection of the augmented Lagrangian penalty parameter, which is a key advantage over the direct use of ADMM.

**Keywords:** Schur complement decomposition; ADMM; iterative; linear algebra; large-scale

## 1 Introduction

The scalability of optimization solvers relies quite heavily on the solution of the underlying linear algebra systems. Advances in direct sparse linear algebra solvers have been instrumental in the widespread use of quadratic programming and nonlinear programming solvers such as Ipopt, OQP, and Knitro [1, 2, 27]. Specialized direct solution techniques have also been developed to tackle large-scale and *block-structured* systems (using variants of Schur complement decomposition techniques) [10, 20, 21, 38, 39]. Block structures appear in many important applications such as parameter estimation, stochastic programming, network optimization, and optimal control. Schur

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26 decomposition techniques can also leverage *parallel computing architectures* and have enabled the so-  
27 lution of problems with millions to billions of variables and constraints. Unfortunately, many appli-  
28 cations of interest still remain inaccessible due to fundamental scalability limitations of Schur com-  
29 plement techniques. Specifically, Schur complement decomposition does not scale well in problems  
30 that exhibit high degrees of *block coupling*. This is because high degrees of coupling require assem-  
31 bling and factorizing large Schur complement matrices (which are often highly dense).

32 Iterative solution techniques [5, 6, 12, 13, 31, 33] and associated preconditioning strategies [8, 17,  
33 19, 32, 35, 44] have been proposed to address fundamental scalability issues of direct linear algebra  
34 strategies. In the context of block-structured problems, attempts have been made to solve the Schur  
35 complement system by using iterative solution techniques (to avoid assembling and factorizing the  
36 Schur complement). Preconditioners for Schur complements arising in special problem classes such  
37 as multi-commodity networks and stochastic programs have been developed [8]. Unfortunately,  
38 preconditioning strategies for general problem classes are still lacking. Another important issue that  
39 arises in this context is that the implementation of advanced linear algebra strategies is non-trivial  
40 (e.g., it requires intrusive modifications of optimization solvers).

41 Along a separate line of research, significant advances have been made in the development of  
42 *problem-level* decomposition techniques such as the alternating direction method of multipliers (ADMM)  
43 and Lagrangian dual decomposition [18, 22, 23, 23, 25, 26, 34]. Such approaches are flexible and rather  
44 easy to implement but suffer from slow convergence. Recently, it has been proposed to use ADMM  
45 as a preconditioner for Krylov-based iterative solvers such as GMRES [41, 42]. In this work, we pro-  
46 vide a detailed derivation of this ADMM-GMRES approach and test its performance in the context  
47 of block-structured linear algebra systems. We demonstrate that this approach overcomes the scala-  
48 bility issues of Schur complement decomposition. We also demonstrate that this approach is signif-  
49 icantly more effective than using ADMM directly. Our tests are facilitated by the use of `PyNumero`,  
50 a recently-developed Python framework that enables the implementation and benchmarking of op-  
51 timization algorithms. We use the proposed framework to tackle problems with hundreds of thou-  
52 sands to millions of variables generated from standard benchmark sets and power grid applications.

53 In their original work, Zhang and White [41, 42] present an excellent discussion on the use of  
54 ADMM as a GMRES preconditioner for solving one-block problems. Within their analysis they com-  
55 pare ADMM-GMRES with popular preconditioning techniques and with standard ADMM. Their  
56 work, however, does not discuss the scalability of the approach on large-scale problems and does  
57 not study the performance of ADMM-GMRES on problems with decomposable block-structure. We  
58 demonstrate the benefits of using ADMM-GMRES on problems with decomposable primal space  
59 and we focus on analyzing behavior in problems in which the number of coupling variables is large  
60 (i.e., stochastic problems with large dimensionality in the first stage). Our analysis also focuses on  
61 demonstrating that ADMM-GMRES overcomes limitations of Schur-complement decomposition.

62 The paper is structured as follows. In Section 2 we define the problem of interest and provide  
63 preliminary information on the use of Schur complement decomposition and ADMM approaches.  
64 In Section 3 we provide a detailed derivation of the ADMM-GMRES approach and in Section 4.1 we  
65 provide benchmark results.

## 66 2 Preliminaries

We study the solution of block-structured quadratic programs (QP) of the form:

$$\min_{x_i, z} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} \frac{1}{2} x_i^T D_i x_i + c_i^T x_i \quad (1a)$$

$$\text{s.t. } J_i x_i = b_i, \quad (\lambda_i) \quad i \in \mathcal{P} \quad (1b)$$

$$A_i x_i + B_i z = 0, \quad (y_i) \quad i \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (1c)$$

67 Here,  $\mathcal{P} := \{1, \dots, P\}$  is a set of block variable partitions. Each partition contains a vector of primal  
 68 variables  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{x_i}}$  and the vector  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{n_z}$  contains the primal variables that the couple partitions.  
 69 The total number of primal variables is  $n := n_z + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} n_{x_i}$ . Equation (1b) are the partition constraints  
 70 with their respective dual variables  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m_i}$ . Equation (1c) are the constraints that *link* partitions  
 71 across set  $\mathcal{P}$  and have associated dual variables  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^{l_i}$ . We assume that the partition matrices  
 72  $J_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m_i \times n_i}$  have full row rank and that the right-hand-side coefficients  $b_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m_i}$  are in the column  
 73 space of  $J_i$ . The total number of partition constraints is  $m := \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} m_i$ . We refer to  $A_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_z \times n_i}$  and  
 74  $B_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_z \times n_z}$  as linking matrices and we assume them to have full rank. The total number of linking  
 75 constraints is  $l := \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} l_i$ . The QP under study is the main computational kernel behind nonlinear  
 76 programming strategies because it is used for computing primal-dual search steps.

77 We make the blanket assumption that the block-structured QP is strongly convex and that the  
 78 combined Jacobian matrix (obtained by assembling partition and coupling constraints) has full row  
 79 rank. Strong convexity can be obtained by ensuring that all block Hessian matrices  $D_i$  are positive  
 80 definite. Strong convexity and full-rank conditions guarantee that the primal-dual solution of the  
 81 QP exists and is unique. Moreover, these assumptions guarantee that the QP solution is a unique  
 82 minimizer and that this can be found by solving the first-order stationarity conditions. Additional  
 83 assumptions will also be needed on the nature of the building blocks of the QP (associated with  
 84 each partition). Such assumptions are needed to ensure that proposed decomposition schemes are  
 85 well-defined and will be stated as we proceed (in order to maintain clarity in the presentation).

The Lagrange function of (1) can be expressed as:

$$\mathcal{L}(x, z, \lambda, y) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} \frac{1}{2} x_i^T D_i x_i + c_i^T x_i + y_i^T (A_i x_i + B_i z) + \lambda_i^T (J_i x_i - b_i), \quad (2)$$

86 where  $x := (x_1, \dots, x_P)$ ,  $\lambda := (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_P)$  and  $y := (y_1, \dots, y_P)$ . The first-order optimality condi-  
 87 tions of (1) are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{x_i} \mathcal{L} &= 0 = D_i x_i + c_i + J_i^T \lambda_i + A_i^T y_i, \quad i \in \mathcal{P} \\ \nabla_{\lambda_i} \mathcal{L} &= 0 = J_i x_i - b_i, \quad i \in \mathcal{P} \\ \nabla_{y_i} \mathcal{L} &= 0 = A_i x_i - B_i z, \quad i \in \mathcal{P} \\ \nabla_z \mathcal{L} &= 0 = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} B_i^T y_i. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

88 These conditions form a *block-structured* linear system of the form shown in (6). For the sake of

89 compactness and ease of notation, we rewrite (6) as:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} K & A^T \\ A & B \end{bmatrix}}_H \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} v \\ z \\ y \end{bmatrix}}_u = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \gamma \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_r. \quad (4)$$

90 where  $v = (v_1, \dots, v_P)$ ,  $v_i = (x_i, \lambda_i)$ ,  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_P)$ ,  $\gamma_i = (-c_i, b_i)$ ,  $u = (v, z, y)$ ,  $r = (\gamma, 0, 0)$ , and  
 91  $K = \text{blkdiag}\{K_1, K_2, \dots, K_P\}$ . We also have  $A = \text{blkdiag}\{\tilde{A}_1, \tilde{A}_2, \dots, \tilde{A}_P\}$ ,  $B = \text{rowstack}\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_P\}$   
 92 with:

$$K_i = \begin{bmatrix} D_i & J_i^T \\ J_i & \end{bmatrix} \quad \tilde{A}_i = \begin{bmatrix} A_i & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad i \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_1 & J_1^T & & & A_1^T & & & & \\ J_1 & & & & & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & & & & \\ & & & D_P & J_P^T & & A_P^T & & \\ & & & J_P & & & & & \\ & & & & & & B_1^T & \cdots & B_P^T \\ A_1 & & & & & B_1 & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & \vdots & & & \\ & & & A_P & & B_P & & & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_P \\ \lambda_P \\ z \\ y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_P \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -c_1 \\ b_1 \\ \vdots \\ -c_P \\ b_P \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

## 93 2.1 Solution using Schur Decomposition

94 One can solve large instances of the block-structured QP by using a Schur-complement decomposi-  
 95 tion method (we refer to this approach simply as Schur decomposition) [40]. This approach decom-  
 96 poses (1) by using block Gaussian elimination on a permuted version of the linear system (6). The  
 97 permuted system has the structure:

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_1 & J_1^T & A_1^T & & & & & & \\ J_1 & & & & & & & & \\ A_1 & & & & & & B_1 & & \\ & & \ddots & & & & \vdots & & \\ & & & D_P & J_P^T & A_P^T & & & \\ & & & J_P & & & & & \\ & & & A_P & & & B_P & & \\ & & B_1^T & \cdots & & & B_P^T & & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \lambda_1 \\ y_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_P \\ \lambda_P \\ y_P \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -c_1 \\ b_1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ -c_P \\ b_P \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

98 This system can be expressed in compact form as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} K_s & B_s \\ B_s^T & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_s \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_s \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

99 where  $v_s = (v_{s_1}, \dots, v_{s_P})$ ,  $v_{s_i} = (x_i, \lambda_i, y_i)$ ,  $\gamma_s = (\gamma_{s_1}, \dots, \gamma_{s_P})$ , and  $\gamma_i = (-c_i, b_i, 0)$ . We also have  
 100  $K_s = \text{blkdiag}\{K_{s_1}, K_{s_2}, \dots, K_{s_P}\}$  and  $B_s = \text{rowstack}\{B_{s_1}, B_{s_2}, \dots, B_{s_P}\}$  with:

$$K_{s_i} = \begin{bmatrix} D_i & J_i^T & A^T \\ J_i & & \\ A & & \end{bmatrix} \quad B_{s_i} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & B_i^T \end{bmatrix}^T, \quad i \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (9)$$

101 Because we have assumed that  $D_i$  is positive definite and the combined constraint Jacobian  $(J_i, A)$   
 102 has full row rank, we have that  $K_{s_i}$  is nonsingular. This also implies  $K_s$  is nonsingular and, as a  
 103 result, we can form the Schur complement system:

$$(B_s^T K_s^{-1} B_s)z = B_s^T K_s^{-1} \gamma_s. \quad (10)$$

104 We refer to the coefficient matrix of (10) as the Schur complement. Since  $K_s$  is block-diagonal, one can  
 105 assemble the Schur complement by factorizing the blocks  $K_{s_i}$  independently. By using this assembled  
 106 Schur complement, one can then factorize the Schur complement matrix and solve system (10) to find  
 107 a solution for the coupling variables  $z$ . Having  $z$ , one then proceeds to find solutions for the partition  
 108 variables  $v_s$  by solving the following system:

$$K_s v_s = \gamma_s - B_s z. \quad (11)$$

109 Here, again, one can solve for each element  $v_{s_i}$  independently because  $K_s$  is block-diagonal. The  
 110 Schur decomposition method is summarized in Algorithm 1. We refer the reader to [29] for details  
 111 on the implementation of Schur decomposition approaches.

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**Algorithm 1:** Schur Decomposition for Block-Structured QP

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- 1 Let  $S = 0$  and  $r_{sc} = 0$
  - 2 Factorize  $K_s$  matrix :
  - 3 **foreach**  $i \in \mathcal{P}$  **do**
  - 4 | Factorize  $K_{s_i}$
  - 5 Form Schur complement system:
  - 6 **foreach**  $i \in \mathcal{P}$  **do**
  - 7 |  $S = S + B_i^T K_{s_i}^{-1} B_i$
  - 8 |  $r_{sc} = r_{sc} + B_i^T K_{s_i}^{-1} \gamma_{s_i}$
  - 9 Factorize  $S$  and compute coupling variables by solving:
  - 10  $Sz = r_{sc}$
  - 11 Compute partition variables:
  - 12 **foreach**  $i \in \mathcal{P}$  **do**
  - 13 |  $K_{s_i} v_{s_i} = \gamma_{s_i} - B_i z$
-

113 Schur decomposition is a flexible approach that enables the solution of problems with many block  
 114 partitions. A fundamental limitation of this approach, however, is that one needs to assemble and  
 115 factorize the Schur complement matrix  $S$  (which is often highly dense). As a result, Schur decom-  
 116 position does not scale well with the number of coupling variables  $z$ . Iterative approaches can in  
 117 principle be used to solve the Schur system but effective preconditioning strategies do not currently  
 118 exist for general block-structured systems.

## 119 2.2 Solution using ADMM

The block-structured QP can also be decomposed and solved by using ADMM. This approach seeks to minimize the augmented Lagrangian function:

$$\mathcal{L}_\rho(x, z, \lambda, y) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} x_i^T D_i x_i + c_i^T x_i + (A_i x_i + B_i z)^T y_i + \lambda_i^T (J_i x_i - b_i) + \frac{\rho}{2} \|A_i x_i + B_i z\|^2 \quad (12)$$

120 by performing alternating minimization with respect to the block variables  $(x_i, y_i)$  and the coupling  
 121 variables  $z$ . A standard implementation of ADMM for solving the QP of interest is presented in  
 122 Algorithm 2.

---

### Algorithm 2: ADMM for Block-Structured QP

---

**Input:** Starting point  $u^0 = (v^0, y^0, z^0)$ , maximum number of iterations  $N_{\text{ADMM}}$ , penalty parameter  $\rho > 0$ , and convergence tolerance  $\epsilon > 0$

```

1 for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N$  do
2   Update partition variables:
3   foreach  $i \in \mathcal{P}$  do
4      $x_i^{k+1} = \arg \min_{x_i \in \mathcal{X}_i} x_i^T D_i x_i + c_i^T x_i + (A_i x_i + B_i z^k)^T y_i^k + \frac{\rho}{2} \|A_i x_i + B_i z^k\|^2$ 
5   Update coupling variables:
6      $z^{k+1} = \arg \min_z \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} (A_i x_i^{k+1} + B_i z)^T y_i^k + \frac{\rho}{2} \|A_i x_i^{k+1} + B_i z\|^2$ 
7   Update dual variables:
8   foreach  $i \in \mathcal{P}$  do
9      $y_i^{k+1} = y_i^k + \rho (A_i x_i^{k+1} + B_i z^{k+1})$ 
10  if  $\|y^{k+1} - y^k\| \leq \epsilon$  and  $\|\rho A^T B \cdot (z^{k+1} - z^k)\| \leq \epsilon$  then
11  | stop
```

**Output:**  $u$

---

123  
 124 In the above algorithm,  $\mathcal{X}_i = \{x \mid J_i x - b_i = 0\}$  is used to denote the feasible set of each partition (the  
 125 inner block constraints are satisfied exactly). The ADMM algorithm can be implemented by solving  
 126 the first-order conditions of each subproblem directly. This is because each block subproblem is  
 127 strongly convex and the block Jacobian has full row rank. This approach is sketched in Algorithm 3.

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**Algorithm 3:** ADMM( $u^0, N, \rho$ )

---

**Input:** starting point  $u^0 = (v^0, y^0, z^0)$ , maximum number of iterations  $N_{\text{ADMM}}$ , penalty parameter  $\rho > 0$ , and convergence tolerance  $\epsilon > 0$

```

1 Factorize  $K_\rho$  and  $B^T B$  matrix:
2 foreach  $i \in \mathcal{P}$  do
3   | Factorize partition matrices  $K_{\rho_i}$  and  $B_i^T B_i$ 
4 for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N$  do
5   | Update partition variables :
6   | foreach  $i \in \mathcal{P}$  do
128 7   |   |  $K_{\rho_i} v^{k+1} = - \left( \gamma_i + \begin{bmatrix} \rho A_i^T B_i z^k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} A_i^T y_i^k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$ 
8   |   | Update coupling variables:
9   |   |  $z^{k+1} = -[B^T B]^{-1} \left( B^T A v^{k+1} + \frac{1}{\rho} B^T y^k \right)$ 
10  |   | Update dual variables:
11  |   | foreach  $i \in \mathcal{P}$  do
12  |   |   |  $y_i^{k+1} = y_i^k + \rho \left( \tilde{A}_i v_i^{k+1} + B_i z^{k+1} \right)$ 
13  |   |   | if  $\|y^{k+1} - y^k\| \leq \epsilon$  and  $\|\rho A^T B \cdot (z^{k+1} - z^k)\| \leq \epsilon$  then
14  |   |   |   | stop

```

**Output:**  $u$

---

129 In the above algorithm we have that  $K_\rho = \text{blkdiag}\{K_{\rho_1}, K_{\rho_2}, \dots, K_{\rho_P}\}$  with

$$K_{\rho_i} = \begin{bmatrix} D_i + \rho A_i^T A_i & J_i^T \\ J_i & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (13)$$

130 We note that the update of the coupling variables still requires forming and factorizing the matrix  
131  $B^T B$ . This operation only needs to be performed once and can be computed efficiently by exploiting  
132 the sparsity of  $B_i$ . We first note that  $B^T B = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} B_i^T B_i$  and block-structured problems typically have  
133 sparse  $B_i$  matrices of zeros and ones. In stochastic programming problems, for example, the  $B_i$  ma-  
134 trices are identity matrices of dimension  $n_z \times n_z$  resulting in  $[B^T B]^{-1} = [\sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} I]^{-1} = \frac{1}{P} I$ . Thus, the  
135 update of coupling variables follows a simple averaging operator. For other structured  $B$  matrices,  
136 like those that arise in temporal decomposition, the calculation of  $[B^T B]^{-1}$  also exploits the sparsity  
137 pattern on  $B_i$  (to compute specialized averaging operators over coupled blocks). We refer the reader  
138 to [34] for further details. As a result, the update step for the coupling variables in ADMM is far  
139 cheaper than that of Schur decomposition and can thus overcome the main computational bottleneck  
140 of the latter. Unfortunately, it is well-known that ADMM exhibits slow convergence and thus the  
141 ability to perform fast operations might be shadowed by the need to perform many iterations.

### 142 3 Solution using ADMM-GMRES

143 The key observation that motivates our work is that ADMM can be used as a *preconditioner* for it-  
144 erative linear algebra techniques such as GMRES [41, 42]. To derive the ADMM preconditioning

145 strategy, we consider the *regularized* QP (1):

$$\min_{x_i, z} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} \frac{1}{2} x_i^T D_i x_i + c_i^T x_i + \frac{\rho}{2} \|Ax_i + B_i z\|^2 \quad (14a)$$

$$\text{s.t. } J_i x_i = b_i, \quad (\lambda_i) \quad i \in \mathcal{P} \quad (14b)$$

$$A_i x_i + B_i z = 0, \quad (y_i) \quad i \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (14c)$$

146 The solution of this problem is also a solution of (1) (since the penalization term vanishes at the  
147 solution). The optimality conditions of the regularized QP are given by:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} K_\rho & \rho A^T B & A^T \\ \rho B^T A & \rho B^T B & B^T \\ A & B & \end{bmatrix}}_{H_\rho} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} v \\ z \\ y \end{bmatrix}}_u = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \gamma \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_r. \quad (15)$$

148 We refer to (15) as the *KKT system* and to  $H_\rho$  as the *KKT matrix*. ADMM can be interpreted as a  
149 Gauss-Seidel (alternating) minimization of the block and coupling variables and the dual variables  
150 [7, 11, 34]. This induces a splitting operator  $H_\rho = M_\rho - N_\rho$  satisfying:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} K_\rho & \rho A^T B & A^T \\ \rho B^T A & \rho B^T B & B^T \\ A & B & \end{bmatrix}}_{H_\rho} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} K_\rho & & \\ \rho B^T A & \rho B^T B & \\ A & B & -\frac{1}{\rho} I \end{bmatrix}}_{M_\rho} - \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -\rho A^T B & -A^T \\ & -B^T \\ & & -\frac{1}{\rho} I \end{bmatrix}}_{N_\rho} \quad (16)$$

151 Applying splitting (16) to (15) gives the operator:

$$T_\rho(u) := G_\rho u + f_\rho \quad (17)$$

152 where  $G_\rho = M_\rho^{-1} N_\rho$  and  $f_\rho = M_\rho^{-1} r$ . Note that any  $u$  satisfying the fixed-point  $T_\rho(u) = u$  also satisfies  
153  $(I - G_\rho)u = f_\rho$  and is a solution of the preconditioned KKT system:

$$M_\rho^{-1} H_\rho u = M_\rho^{-1} r. \quad (18)$$

154 This follows from  $M_\rho^{-1} H_\rho = M_\rho^{-1} (M_\rho - N_\rho) = I - G_\rho$ . This motivates the development of a Richard-  
155 son recursion of the form  $u^{k+1} = G_\rho u^k + f_\rho$ , which converges to a  $u$  satisfying  $(I - G_\rho)u = f_\rho$  and  
156  $M_\rho^{-1} H_\rho u = M_\rho^{-1} r$  (provided that the eigenvalues of  $G_\rho$  are inside the unit circle). In Appendix A we  
157 show that the operator  $T_\rho(u)$  can be computed by performing one ADMM iteration (using  $u$  as start-  
158 ing point). In other words, we have that  $T_\rho(u) = \text{ADMM}(u, N=1, \rho)$ . This also implies that the Richard-  
159 son recursion can be written as  $u^{k+1} = \text{ADMM}(u^k, N=1, \rho)$ . Consequently, the Richardson recursion  
160 (and thus ADMM) are consistent preconditioner choices.

The key idea behind ADMM-GMRES is to solve the system  $M_\rho^{-1} H_\rho u = M_\rho^{-1} r$  by using the Krylov solver GMRES. This is equivalent to solving  $(I - G_\rho)u = f_\rho$ . The right-hand side of this system can be computed as  $f_\rho = T_\rho(0)$ . GMRES requires the computation of matrix-vector products with the



preconditioned coefficient matrix of the form  $M_\rho^{-1}H_\rho h=(I - G_\rho)h$ . This can be done by using the operator (17) as:

$$M_\rho^{-1}H_\rho h = h - [T_\rho(h) - T_\rho(0)], \quad (19)$$

This follows from the observation that:

$$\begin{aligned} M_\rho^{-1}H_\rho h &= h - [T_\rho(h) - T_\rho(0)] \\ &= h - [G_\rho h + f_\rho - f_\rho] \\ &= h - G_\rho h \\ &= (I - G_\rho)h. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

161 From (20) we note that asking the ADMM oracle  $\text{ADMM}(h, N, \rho)$  to iterate until reaching convergence  
 162 will deliver  $T_\rho(h)=h$  satisfying  $M_\rho^{-1}H_\rho h=f_\rho$ . In such a case, the ADMM preconditioner is perfect  
 163 (since it solves the actual preconditioned KKT system). Consequently, the quality of the ADMM  
 164 preconditioner will improve as one increases  $N$ . For details on the properties of the preconditioner,  
 165 we refer the reader to [41, 42]. The ADMM-GMRES strategy is summarized in Algorithm 4.

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**Algorithm 4:**  $\text{ADMM\_GMRES}(N_{\text{GMRES}}, N_{\text{ADMM}}, \rho)$

---

**Input:** maximum number of GMRES iterations  $N_{\text{GMRES}}$ , maximum number of ADMM iterations  $N_{\text{ADMM}}$ , penalty parameter  $\rho > 0$ , and tolerance  $\epsilon > 0$

1 Compute right-hand-side vector:

166 2  $f_\rho = \text{ADMM}(0, N_{\text{ADMM}}, \rho)$

3 Call GMRES solver<sup>a</sup>:

4  $u = \text{GMRES}(I - G_\rho, f_\rho, N_{\text{GMRES}}, \epsilon)$

**Output:**  $u$

---

<sup>a</sup>Matrix-vector products are computed as  $(I - G_\rho)h=h - (T_\rho(h) - f_\rho)$ , where  $T_\rho(h)=\text{ADMM}(h, N_{\text{ADMM}}=1, \rho)$ .

## 167 4 Numerical Results

168 In this section we discuss the implementation of ADMM-GMRES and present results for different  
 169 benchmark problems. All numerical experiments were performed using `PyNumero`, which is an  
 170 open-source framework written in Python and C++ that combines modeling capabilities of the al-  
 171 gebraic modeling language `Pyomo` [24] with efficient libraries like the `AMPL` solver library [14], the  
 172 Harwell Subroutine Library (HSL), and `NumPy/SciPy` [28]. It uses object-oriented principles that fa-  
 173 cilitate the implementation of algorithms and problem formulations that exploit block-structures via  
 174 polymorphism and inheritance. All these features facilitate the implementation of ADMM, Schur de-  
 175 composition, and ADMM-GMRES. The optimization models were implemented in `Pyomo/PyNumero`  
 176 and all linear algebra operations were performed in compiled code. Within `PyNumero`, we used an  
 177 `MA27` interface to perform all direct linear algebra operations. We use the `GMRES` implementation  
 178 available in `Scipy` to perform all iterative linear algebra operations. Iterative linear algebra routines  
 179 available in `KRYPY` [15] were also used to validate results. To implement the power grid models we

180 used EGRET <sup>1</sup>, a *Pyomo*-based package that facilitates the formulation of optimization problems that  
 181 arise in power systems. The convergence criterion for GMRES and ADMM requires that the norm of  
 182 the KKT system residual  $Hu - r$  is smaller than  $\epsilon = 1 \cdot 10^{-8}$ . If the convergence criterion is not satisfied  
 183 after 2,000 iterations, the algorithm was aborted and we report the final residual achieved. The linear  
 184 solver MA27 was used with a pivoting tolerance of  $1 \cdot 10^{-8}$ . Readers may contact the corresponding  
 185 author for getting access to the code used to produce the results in this section.

## 186 4.1 Standard Benchmark Problems

We first conducted tests with randomly generated instances to study qualitatively the performance of ADMM-GMRES on block-structured optimization problems. This section focuses on two-stage stochastic programs of the form:

$$\min_{x_i, z} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{P}} \frac{1}{2} x_i^T D x_i + c^T x_i \quad (21a)$$

$$\text{s.t. } J x_i = b_i, \quad (\lambda_i) \quad i \in \mathcal{P} \quad (21b)$$

$$A_i x_i - z = 0, \quad (y_i) \quad i \in \mathcal{P} \quad (21c)$$

187 where  $\mathcal{P}$  is the scenario set,  $x_i$  are the second-stage (recourse) variables, and  $z$  are first-stage (cou-  
 188 pling) variables. We defined a nominal vector  $b$  and create scenarios with right-hand-side vector  $b_i$   
 189 using the nominal vector  $b$  as the mean and a standard deviation  $\sigma=0.5b$ . We first demonstrate the  
 190 scalability of Algorithm 4 when solving instances of problem (21) with high dimensionality in the  
 191 coupling variables  $z$ . The stochastic problem was constructed in the following manner:  $D$  was set  
 192 to a  $4,800 \times 4,800$  block diagonal matrix with 16 dense symmetric blocks. Each block was generated  
 193 following Algorithm 14 from [42] with log-standard-deviation  $s=0.5$  (see [42] for details). The ran-  
 194 dom matrix  $J$  has dimensions of  $100 \times 4,800$ . The number of scenarios was set to 50, giving an initial  
 195 problem with 240,000 variables and 5,000 constraints. To investigate the scalability of Algorithm 4,  
 196 the number of complicating variables was varied from 100 to 4,000. Note that, as  $n_z$  increases, the  
 197 number of constraints of (21) increases as  $50n_z$ . The largest problem solved contained 244,000 total  
 198 variables and 205,000 total constraints.

199 We solved (21) using four different strategies. Figure 1 summarizes the results obtained with  
 200 Schur decomposition, GMRES (without preconditioner), ADMM, and ADMM-GMRES. These results  
 201 confirm the observations of Section 2. Specifically, Schur decomposition does not scale well as  $n_z$   
 202 increases. The main reason for this behavior is that, as  $n_z$  increases, the number of operations required  
 203 to form the Schur-complement increase. In addition, because the Schur-complement matrix is a dense  
 204  $n_z \times n_z$  matrix, the factorization time increases cubically as  $n_z$  increases. We observe that GMRES  
 205 takes the longest time to solve the problem. For ADMM and ADMM-GMRES we see more favorable  
 206 scalability as  $n_z$  increases. Specifically, we see that ADMM-GMRES converges faster and that the  
 207 savings increase as the number of coupling variables increases. We also note that ADMM-GMRES  
 208 mimics the trend in performance of ADMM but is significantly faster.

<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/grid-parity-exchange/Egret>

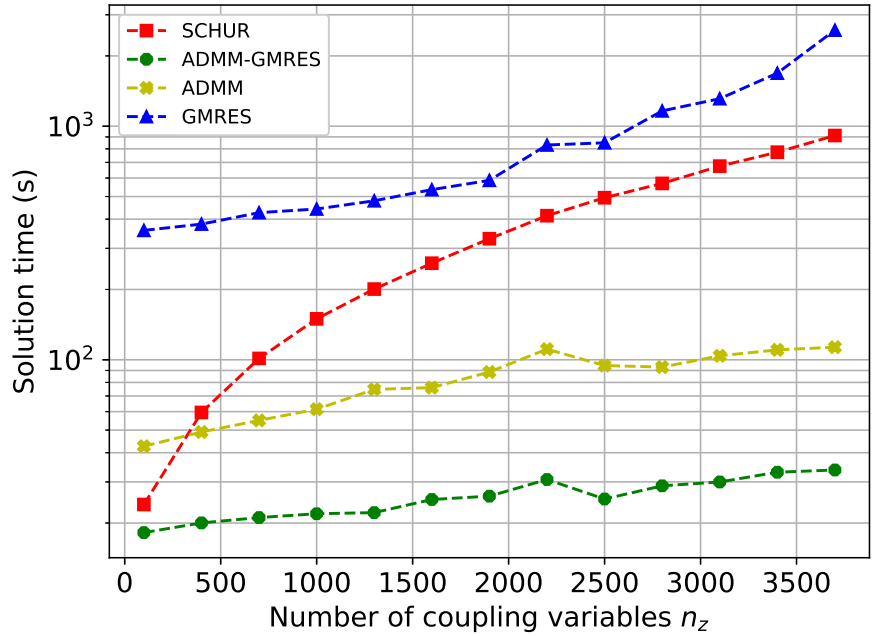


Figure 1: Scalability analysis of Schur decomposition, GMRES (without preconditioner), ADMM, and ADMM-GMRES.

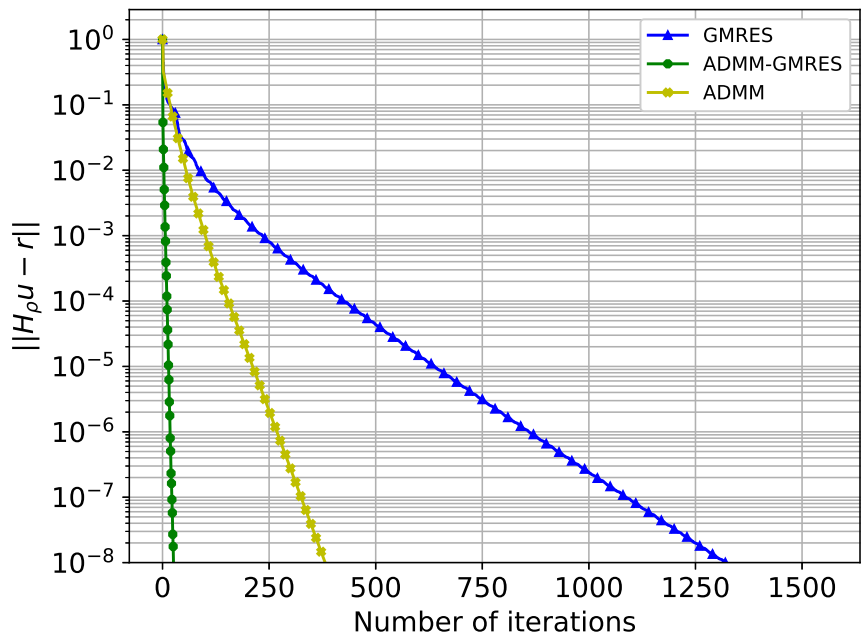


Figure 2: Evolution of residuals for GMRES (without preconditioner), ADMM, and ADMM-GMRES.

209 Figure 2 shows the residuals for the iterative approaches for a problem with 1,000 complicating  
210 variables. We can see that all methods exhibit linear convergence but that ADMM-GMRES outper-

211 forms both ADMM and GMRES (unpreconditioned). Notably, ADMM-GMRES converges in just 35  
 212 iterations while ADMM and GMRES require over 300 iterations and 1,000 iterations, respectively.  
 213 Moreover, we note that ADMM-GMRES can reach high accuracy levels (of  $1 \cdot 10^{-8}$ ), which is a desir-  
 214 able feature of iterative solution strategies.

215 An important drawback of ADMM is the need to tune the penalty parameter  $\rho$ . The work in  
 216 [16] shows that an optimal value for  $\rho$  can be chosen based on the smallest and largest eigenval-  
 217 ues of the matrix  $A^T D^{-1} A$ . In principle, this selection of  $\rho$  is optimal for ADMM-GMRES as well.  
 218 However, for large-scale structured problems such as the ones considered here, computing the eigen-  
 219 values of  $A^T D^{-1} A$  is expensive. Heuristic approaches have also been proposed to select  $\rho$  at every  
 220 ADMM iteration with the objective of accelerating convergence [37]. Unfortunately these heuristics  
 221 do not provide guarantees and might incur additional overhead. In particular, for the QP problems  
 222 considered here, varying  $\rho$  at every ADMM iteration will require forming and factorizing the  $K_{\rho_i}$   
 223 repetitively. Interestingly, we now proceed to demonstrate that ADMM-GMRES is fairly insensitive  
 224 to the choice of  $\rho$ .

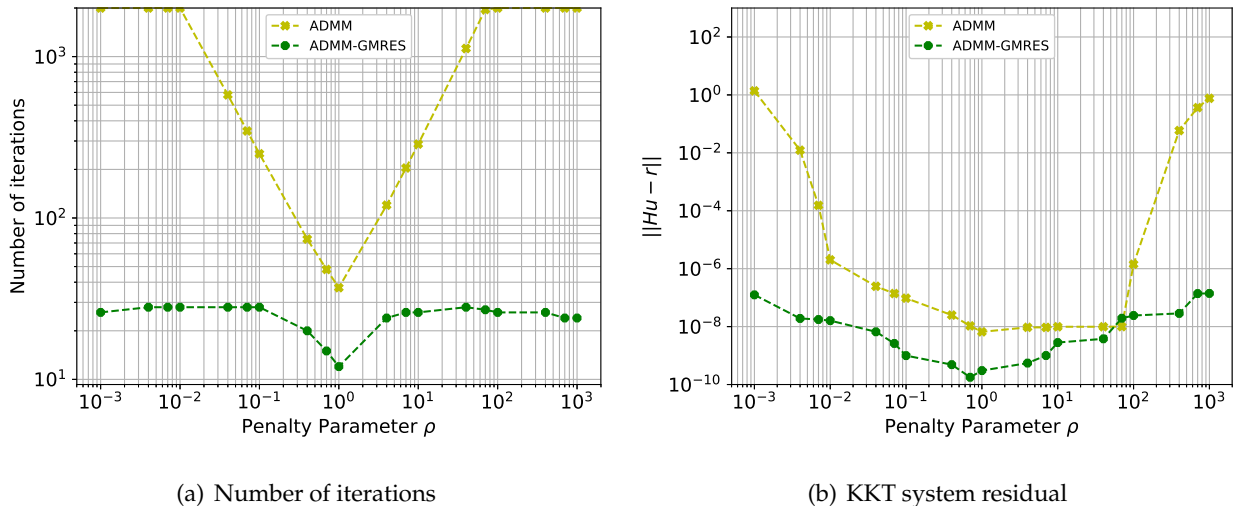


Figure 3: Sensitivity of ADMM and ADMM-GMRES to penalty parameter  $\rho$ .

225 Figure 3 compares the performance of ADMM against that of ADMM-GMRES for a stochastic  
 226 program with  $n_z=1,000$  and different values of  $\rho$  ranging from  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^3$ . Here we measure per-  
 227 formance in terms of the number of iterations. Our results on the block-structured problem are in  
 228 agreement with those in [41], where a single block problem is solved. We see that ADMM-GMRES  
 229 is remarkably robust to the choice of  $\rho$  (the number of iterations remain below 30). ADMM, on the  
 230 other hand, fails to converge within 2,000 iterations for small and large values of  $\rho$ . The superior  
 231 performance of ADMM-GMRES is attributed to the fact that the selection of  $\rho$  only has an effect on  
 232 the preconditioner and not on the convergence properties of GMRES. Nevertheless, we do observe  
 233 that an optimal selection of  $\rho$  improves performance of both ADMM and ADMM-GMRES. The ro-  
 234 bustness of ADMM-GMRES is a desirable feature when using the solver within more advanced SQP-  
 235 based solvers. In particular, recent developments of augmented lagrangian interior-point approaches

236 [9, 30] provide promising frameworks for ADMM-GMRES because the selection of  $\rho$  is made based  
 237 on information from the outer-iteration of the interior-point [3, 4]. Finally, recent developments of  
 238 inertia-free methods for nonconvex nonlinear optimization enable the use of iterative linear solvers  
 239 for the Newton subproblem.

## 240 4.2 Optimal Power Flow Problems

241 We now demonstrate the computational benefits of using ADMM-GMRES by solving stochastic op-  
 242 timal power flow problems. The optimal power flow problem is frequently used in power networks  
 243 to determine an efficient dispatch of power generators that satisfy demand and maintains feasible  
 244 operation conditions. This approach assumes that demand forecasts are accurate and determines a  
 245 nominal operation point for power generation, power flow in transmission lines and voltage angle  
 246 at each bus in the power grid. We solve the DC-power flow problem for 35 benchmark problems  
 247 available in the PGLIB\_OPF library [43] and determine nominal operation points for each of them.  
 248 The solution of each benchmark problem was also obtained using Ipopt.

To assess the computational performance of ADMM-GMRES, we formulated a set-point problem that  
 uses the nominal solution of the DC-power flow problem but seeks to minimize the effect of potential  
 uncertainty in electricity demand values. The optimization solved is the quadratic problem:

$$\min_{x_i, z} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{P}} \sum_{j \in \Omega_G} w_j (P_{G_{j,s}} - P_{G_j}^\dagger)^2 + \sum_{i,j \in \Omega_L} w_{i,j} (P_{F_{i,j,s}} - P_{F_{i,j}}^\dagger)^2 + \sum_{j \in \Omega_B} w_j (\theta_{j,s} - \theta_j^\dagger)^2 \quad (22a)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{j \in \Omega_{G_i}} P_{G_{j,s}} - P_{L_{i,s}} = \sum_{j \in \Omega_i} P_{F_{i,j,s}}, \quad i \in \Omega_B, s \in \mathcal{P} \quad (22b)$$

$$P_{F_{i,j,s}} = \frac{\theta_{i,s} - \theta_{j,s}}{X_{i,j}}, \quad i, j \in \Omega_L, s \in \mathcal{P} \quad (22c)$$

$$P_{G_{j,s}} - z_j = 0, \quad j \in \Omega_G, s \in \mathcal{P} \quad (22d)$$

$$\theta_{0,s} = 0, \quad s \in \mathcal{P}. \quad (22e)$$

249 Here,  $\Omega_B$  and  $\Omega_L$  denote the set of buses and transmission lines in the network,  $\Omega_G$  the set of genera-  
 250 tors,  $\Omega_{G_i}$  the set of generators at bus  $i$ , and  $\Omega_i$  the set of buses connected to bus  $i$ . The variables in the  
 251 model are the generator outputs  $P_G$ , the flow in the transmission lines  $P_F$ , and the voltage angles  
 252  $\theta_j$ . As parameters we have the reactance of the lines  $X_{i,j}$ , the loads  $P_L$ , and the set-point values  $P_{G_j}^\dagger$ ,  
 253  $P_{F_{i,j}}^\dagger$ , and  $\theta_j^\dagger$  obtained from the DC-power flow solution. We denote the reference bus as  $\theta_0$  and define  
 254 objective weight values  $w$ . The goal of formulation (22) is to find the closest feasible operation to the  
 255 optimal DC-power flow solution while accounting for potential uncertainty in the demands. In this  
 256 problem the first-stage variables are the output of the generators for which we use Equation (22d) to  
 257 enforce the same power generation across the set of scenarios. The dimensionality of the first-stage  
 258 of this problem is given by the number of generators in the power network. Hence, this number  
 259 varies from three to 4,092 in the 35 different benchmark problems considered in our study. For each  
 260 benchmark we generated 50 random scenarios with normal random distributed noise on the load  $P_L$

261 Tables 1 and 2 summarize the results for the 35 benchmarks. The problems were sorted according  
 262 to their number of coupling variables. Table 1 presents the results for benchmarks with a first-stage  
 263

264 dimension greater than 100. Results for the smaller benchmarks are shown in Table 2. We see that,  
265 for the smaller problems, Schur decomposition is the best alternative as it can give exact solutions  
266 in about the same time as ADMM. However, for all benchmarks shown in Table 1, ADMM-GMRES  
267 finds an  $\epsilon$ -accurate solution in less time than ADMM and Schur decomposition. In particular, for  
268 case13659\_pegase (with 4,091 first-stage variables), ADMM-GMRES solved the problem almost an  
269 order of magnitude faster than Schur decomposition. By observing the trend for the rest of the  
270 problems, we conclude that these favorable scalability results can be expected to hold as the num-  
271 ber of coupling variables increases. We highlight that, for many of the problems shown in Table 1,  
272 ADMM does not converge after 2,000 iterations; ADMM-GMRES, on the other hand, consistently  
273 achieves  $\epsilon$ -accurate solutions in few iterations and regardless of the choice of  $\rho$ . In summary, our  
274 results demonstrate that ADMM-GMRES provides a plausible approach to overcome the limitations  
275 of Schur complement decomposition.

Pglib-matpower Case	$n_x$	$n_z$	Solution Time (s)			Iteration Count			$\ Hu - r\ $		
			Schur	ADMM	ADGM	ADMM	ADGM	Schur	ADMM	ADGM	
P1. case13659_pegase	2115450	4091	1670.692	723.158	183.298	2000	325	2.798E-09	3.466E-03	1.602E-08	
P2. case9241_pegase	1408950	1444	369.058	507.632	81.278	2000	165	3.841E-09	3.869E-05	2.981E-09	
P3. case6470_rte	849800	760	124.416	336.881	51.106	2000	139	2.981E-10	3.932E-03	1.984E-10	
P4. case6515_rte	845950	683	112.975	333.421	40.883	2000	109	3.206E-10	7.631E-04	2.627E-10	
P5. case6495_rte	843650	679	111.035	320.943	37.302	2000	108	2.427E-10	7.128E-04	4.291E-10	
P6. case2868_rte	389850	560	49.152	174.801	23.113	2000	105	3.228E-10	4.195E-04	1.404E-10	
P7. case2848_rte	382250	510	43.584	168.000	22.508	2000	100	1.631E-10	2.329E-04	4.032E-11	
P8. case2869_pegase	423500	509	48.424	189.774	38.293	2000	154	4.435E-10	1.135E-03	6.830E-10	
P9. case6468_rte	813250	398	62.343	326.375	24.449	2000	65	2.774E-10	5.404E-04	4.416E-10	
P10. case3012wp_k	367050	378	32.732	174.999	18.422	2000	74	7.032E-11	1.356E-05	1.338E-11	
P11. case1951_rte	263900	365	24.864	132.780	19.566	2000	80	2.764E-10	2.836E-05	3.227E-10	
P12. case2383wp_k	295900	319	24.458	152.102	17.499	2000	58	6.209E-11	7.444E-07	1.632E-10	
P13. case1888_rte	249900	289	19.114	129.940	16.811	2000	66	1.534E-10	2.708E-06	2.935E-10	
P14. case3120sp_k	367900	272	23.729	175.397	12.998	2000	56	3.402E-11	1.214E-08	2.220E-10	
P15. case1354_pegase	193200	259	15.185	112.178	6.520	2000	47	1.453E-10	3.649E-07	2.728E-10	
P16. case240_pserc	48650	142	5.262	64.665	4.737	2000	59	3.942E-10	1.902E-08	7.815E-10	
P17. case2746wp_k	311600	103	8.455	100.004	11.080	1287	35	4.171E-11	9.925E-10	4.428E-10	

Table 1: Performance for ADMM-GMRES (ADGM), ADMM, and Schur decomposition (Schur) on problem (22) with  $n_z \geq 100$ .

Pglib-matpower Case	$n_x$	$n_z$	Solution Time (s)			Iteration Count			$\ Hu - r\ $		
			Schur	ADMM	ADGM	ADMM	ADGM	Schur	ADMM	ADGM	
P18. case73_ieee_rts	19200	95	3.161	21.751	2.914	772	38	1.001E-11	9.795E-10	6.237E-11	
P19. case2746wop_k	311100	84	7.033	78.842	10.125	1022	34	2.763E-11	9.911E-10	1.306E-09	
P20. case2736sp_k	308400	81	6.758	81.199	9.796	1054	35	2.538E-11	9.978E-10	4.499E-10	
P21. case300_ieee	41200	56	2.212	41.976	6.157	1305	38	6.341E-11	9.891E-10	6.844E-10	
P22. case2737sop_k	305650	53	4.668	54.118	9.791	696	34	1.808E-11	9.905E-10	3.925E-10	
P23. case200_pseirc	26000	37	1.440	13.064	3.150	428	28	3.524E-12	9.645E-10	2.619E-11	
P24. case24_ieee_rts	6250	31	1.096	6.219	2.059	231	30	3.218E-12	9.918E-10	5.142E-11	
P25. case118_ieee	17050	18	0.799	10.767	2.212	375	32	1.329E-11	9.662E-10	2.874E-10	
P26. case162_ieee_dtc	23450	11	0.618	4.629	1.829	148	20	7.489E-12	8.752E-10	1.347E-10	
P27. case89_pegase	16100	11	0.588	3.927	1.936	132	23	4.015E-12	9.344E-10	1.228E-10	
P28. case39_epri	5200	9	0.476	3.471	1.516	124	18	8.340E-12	8.749E-10	1.543E-10	
P29. case30_as	4100	5	0.360	2.386	0.573	81	11	1.632E-13	9.865E-09	5.271E-11	
P30. case30_fsr	4100	5	0.362	2.047	0.577	73	11	1.997E-13	8.138E-09	3.175E-11	
P31. case5_pjm	1000	4	0.319	2.707	0.474	103	8	2.434E-13	9.123E-09	3.137E-10	
P32. case57_ieee	7200	3	0.314	2.382	0.747	82	7	7.034E-13	9.208E-09	2.171E-09	
P33. case14_ieee	1850	1	0.237	1.343	0.346	48	3	1.355E-13	9.339E-09	3.045E-11	
P34. case30_ieee	3700	1	0.243	1.357	0.354	47	3	5.790E-14	9.653E-09	6.383E-12	
P35. case3_lmhd	450	1	0.235	1.233	0.342	44	3	1.515E-13	7.080E-09	1.520E-12	

Table 2: Performance for ADMM-GMRES (ADGM), ADMM and Schur decomposition (Schur) on problem (22) with  $n_z \leq 100$ .



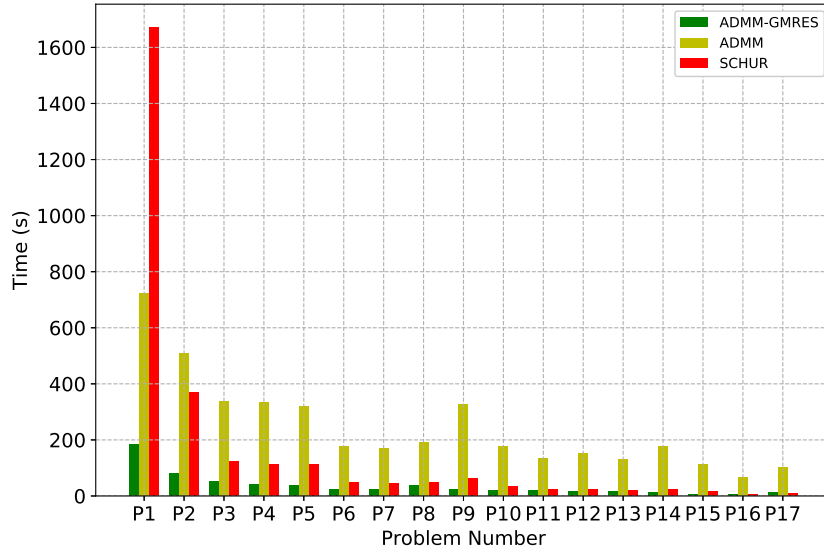


Figure 4: Computational times for Schur decomposition, ADMM, and ADMM-GMRES for problems with  $n_z \geq 100$ .

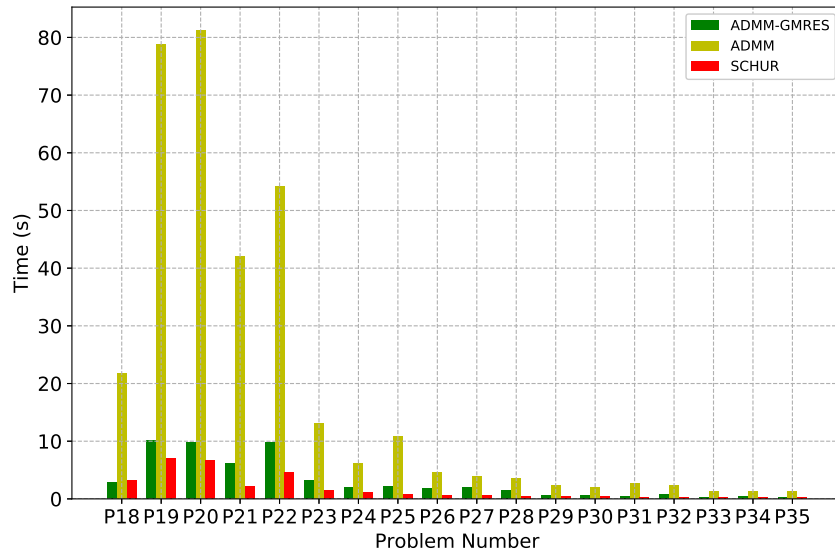


Figure 5: Computational times for Schur decomposition, ADMM, and ADMM-GMRES for problems with  $n_z < 100$ .

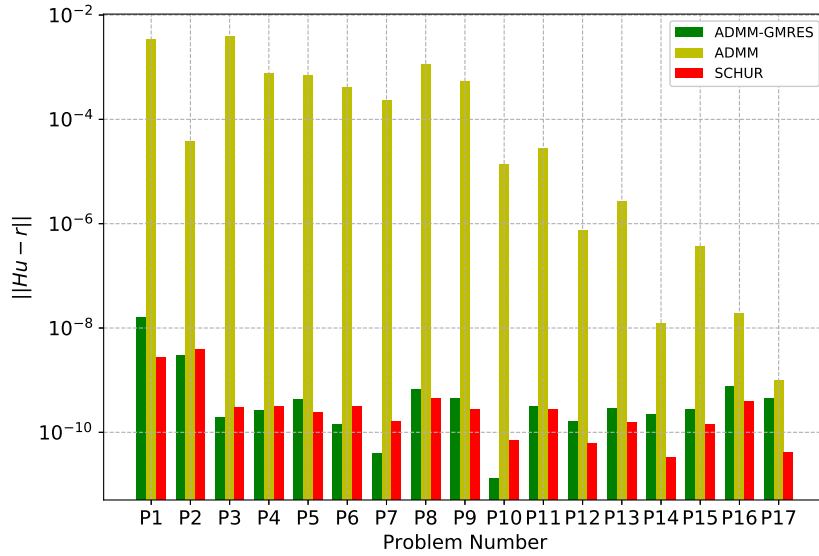


Figure 6: Residuals for Schur decomposition, ADMM, and ADMM-GMRES for problems with  $n_z \geq 100$ .

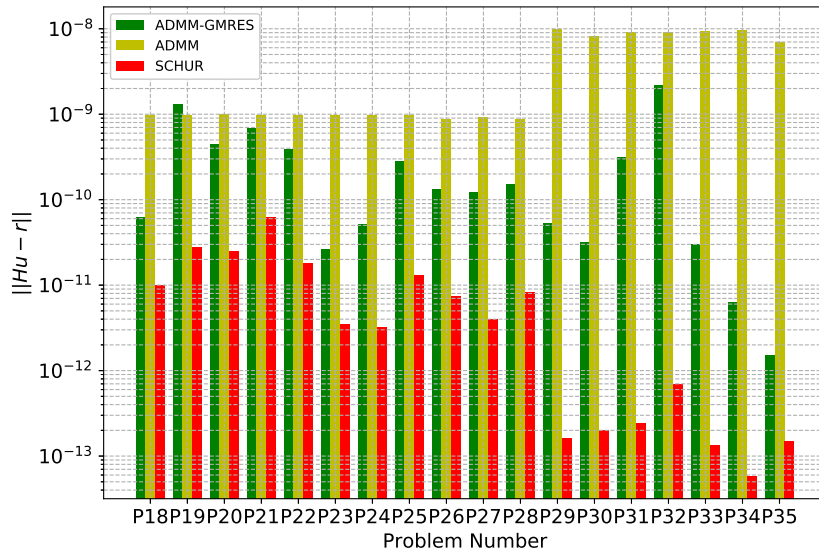


Figure 7: Residuals for Schur decomposition, ADMM, and ADMM-GMRES for problems with  $n_z < 100$ .

276 **5 Conclusions and Future Work**

277 We have demonstrated that ADMM provides an effective mechanism to precondition iterative linear  
278 solvers and with this overcome scalability limitations of Schur complement decomposition. Our

279 results also demonstrate that the approach is robust to the choice of the penalty parameter. As part  
280 of future work, we will investigate the performance of ADMM-GMRES within a nonlinear interior-  
281 point framework. Here, it will be necessary to relax our assumptions on strong convexity and on  
282 the full row rank of the Jacobian. Preliminary results reported in the literature indicate that different  
283 types of primal-dual regularized KKT systems can be used to compute search steps within interior-  
284 point methods under such relaxed conditions [9]. For instance, the primal-dual regularized system  
285 correspond to the optimality conditions of the QP problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x,z,r} \quad & \frac{1}{2}x^T(D + \delta I)x + c^T x + \frac{1}{2\rho}\|r\|^2 + \frac{\rho}{2}\|Ax + Bz - \frac{1}{\rho}r\|^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax + Bz - \frac{1}{\rho}r = 0, \quad (y) \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

286 We will investigate ADMM variants to precondition such systems. The effectiveness of using  
287 ADMM as a preconditioner makes us wonder whether other approaches can be used for precondition-  
288 ing as well. For instance, inexact dual Newton strategies can potentially be used to precondition  
289 structured KKT systems. This is an interesting direction of future work. We will also investigate ad-  
290 vanced ADMM strategies that use second-order multiplier updates to accelerate the preconditioner.

291 We will also investigate using ADMM-GMRES for computing step directions within an interior-  
292 point framework to solve problems with bounds and/or inequality constraints. For this task we  
293 will need to compute the  $D$  matrix as  $\tilde{D} = D + \Sigma_x$  in every interior-point iteration, where the  $\Sigma_x$   
294 matrix corrects for the presence of bounds (see [36]). This  $\Sigma_x$  matrix introduces ill-conditioning as  
295 the interior-point iterations progress and we plan to investigate the robustness of ADMM-GMRES to  
296 the presence of  $\Sigma_x$ .

## 297 Disclaimer

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## 410 **A Computing Operator $T_\rho(u)$ using ADMM**

Here we prove that the operator  $T_\rho(u)$  can be computed by applying one ADMM iteration. Consider, without loss of generality (and in order to simplify the presentation), the case of a single block problem of the form:

$$\min_{x,z} \frac{1}{2}x^T D x + c^T x + \frac{\rho}{2}\|Ax + Bz\|^2 \quad (24a)$$

$$\text{s.t. } Ax + Bz = 0, (y). \quad (24b)$$

411 The results that we derive next can be extended to multiple blocks using induction. The KKT system  
412 for problem (24) is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} K_\rho & \rho A^T B & A^T \\ \rho B^T A & \rho B^T B & B^T \\ A & B & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -c \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (25)$$

413 where  $K_\rho = D + \rho A^T A$ . Applying a Gauss-Seidel splitting to this system at a point  $u = (x, z, y)$  leads  
414 to the update  $u^+ = T_\rho(u) = G_\rho u + f_\rho$ , where  $G_\rho = M_\rho^{-1} N_\rho$  and  $f_\rho = M_\rho^{-1} r$ . The explicit form of  $M_\rho^{-1}$   
415 is given by:

$$M_\rho^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} K_\rho^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ -\Sigma^{-1} B^T A K_\rho^{-1} & \frac{1}{\rho} \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ \rho(I - B \Sigma^{-1} B^T) A K_\rho^{-1} & B \Sigma^{-1} & -\rho I \end{bmatrix} \quad (26)$$

416 where  $\Sigma := B^T B$ . Having  $M_\rho^{-1}$  we construct:

$$\begin{aligned} G_\rho = M_\rho^{-1} N_\rho &= \begin{bmatrix} K_\rho^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ -\Sigma^{-1} B^T A K_\rho^{-1} & \frac{1}{\rho} \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ \rho(I - B \Sigma^{-1} B^T) A K_\rho^{-1} & B \Sigma^{-1} & -\rho I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\rho A^T B & -A^T \\ 0 & 0 & -B^T \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\rho} I \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\rho K_\rho^{-1} A^T B & -K_\rho^{-1} A^T \\ 0 & \rho \Sigma^{-1} B^T A K_\rho^{-1} A^T B & \Sigma^{-1} B^T (A K_\rho^{-1} A^T - \frac{1}{\rho} I) \\ 0 & \rho^2 (B \Sigma^{-1} B^T - I) A K_\rho^{-1} A^T B & \rho (B \Sigma^{-1} B^T - I) A K_\rho^{-1} A^T - B \Sigma^{-1} B^T + I \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

417 and the right-hand-side-vector

$$\begin{aligned} f_\rho = M_\rho^{-1} r &= \begin{bmatrix} K_\rho^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ -\Sigma^{-1} B^T A K_\rho^{-1} & \frac{1}{\rho} \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ \rho(I - B \Sigma^{-1} B^T) A K_\rho^{-1} & B \Sigma^{-1} & -\rho I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -c \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -K_\rho^{-1} c \\ \Sigma^{-1} B^T A K_\rho^{-1} c \\ \rho (B \Sigma^{-1} B^T - I) A K_\rho^{-1} c \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

418 By defining  $Q := A K_\rho^{-1} A^T$  we can write the explicit form of the update  $u^+$  as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \\ y \end{bmatrix}^+ = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\rho K_\rho^{-1} A^T B & -K_\rho^{-1} A^T \\ 0 & \rho \Sigma^{-1} B^T Q B & \Sigma^{-1} B^T (Q - \frac{1}{\rho} I) \\ 0 & \rho^2 (B \Sigma^{-1} B^T - I) Q B & \rho (B \Sigma^{-1} B^T - I) Q - B \Sigma^{-1} B^T + I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \\ y \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -K_\rho^{-1} c \\ \Sigma^{-1} B^T A K_\rho^{-1} c \\ \rho (B \Sigma^{-1} B^T - I) A K_\rho^{-1} c \end{bmatrix} \quad (29)$$

Upon expansion we obtain the update  $u^+ = (x^+, z^+, y^+)$ :

$$x^+ = -\rho K_\rho^{-1} A^T B z - K_\rho^{-1} A^T y - K_\rho^{-1} c \quad (30a)$$

$$z^+ = \rho \Sigma^{-1} B^T Q B z + \Sigma^{-1} B^T (Q - \frac{1}{\rho} I) y + \Sigma^{-1} B^T A K_\rho^{-1} c \quad (30b)$$

$$y^+ = \rho^2 (B \Sigma^{-1} B^T - I) Q B z + [\rho (B \Sigma^{-1} B^T - I) Q - B \Sigma^{-1} B^T + I] y + \rho (B \Sigma^{-1} B^T - I) A K_\rho^{-1} c \quad (30c)$$

419 We now show that ADMM delivers the same updates after one iteration. We use the augmented  
420 Lagrange function:

$$\mathcal{L}(x, z, y) = x^T D x + c^T x + (A x + B z)^T y + \frac{\rho}{2} \|A x + B z\|^2. \quad (31)$$

421 Initializing at  $u = (x, z, y)$ , the update  $x^+$  is given by:

$$x^+ = \arg \min_x \mathcal{L}_\rho(x, z, y) \quad (32)$$

For which the optimality conditions are

$$\nabla_x \mathcal{L}_\rho(x, z, y) = (D + \rho A^T A) x + \rho A^T B z + A^T y + c = 0 \quad (33)$$

and thus,

$$\begin{aligned} x^+ &= -(D + \rho A^T A)^{-1} [\rho A^T B z + A^T y + c] \\ &= -K_\rho^{-1} [\rho A^T B z + A^T y + c] \\ &= -\rho K_\rho^{-1} A^T B z - K_\rho^{-1} A^T y - K_\rho^{-1} c \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

422 We note that (34) and (30a) are equivalent. The update for the coupling variables  $z^+$  is given by:

$$z^+ = \arg \min_z \mathcal{L}_\rho(x^+, z, y) \quad (35)$$

The optimality conditions are given by:

$$\nabla_z \mathcal{L}_\rho(x^+, z, y) = B^T y + \rho B^T A x^+ + \rho B^T B z = 0 \quad (36)$$



and thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
 z^+ &= -(B^T B)^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{\rho} B^T y + B^T A x^+ \right] \\
 &= -\Sigma^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{\rho} B^T y + B^T A x^+ \right] \\
 &= -\Sigma^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{\rho} B^T y - \rho B^T A^{-1} K_\rho A^T B z - B^T A^{-1} K_\rho A^T y - B^T A K_\rho^{-1} c \right] \\
 &= -\Sigma^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{\rho} B^T y - \rho B^T Q B z - B^T Q y - B^T A K_\rho^{-1} c \right] \\
 &= -\Sigma^{-1} \left[ B^T \left( \frac{1}{\rho} I - Q \right) y - \rho B^T Q B z - B^T A K_\rho^{-1} c \right] \\
 &= \rho \Sigma^{-1} B^T Q B z + \Sigma^{-1} B^T \left( Q - \frac{1}{\rho} I \right) y + \Sigma^{-1} B^T A K_\rho^{-1} c \tag{37}
 \end{aligned}$$

423 We thus have that (37) and (30b) are equivalent. Finally, the dual variables are updated as  $y^+ =$   
 424  $y + \rho(Ax^+ + Bz^+)$ . Substituting (34) and (37) in this expression leads to (30c).