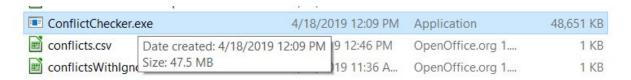
Conflict Checker

And How to Use it

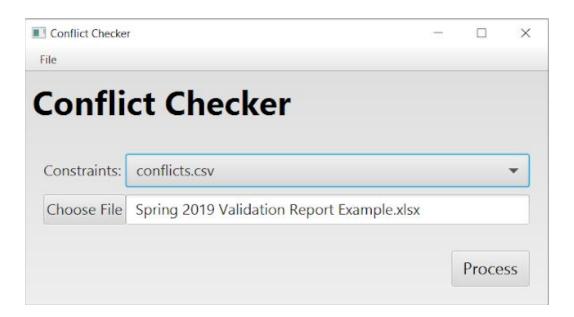
So you want to start using the Conflict Checker? Below is a tutorial detailing all you will need to know to begin using this application.

1) Open the application

Simply double click the ConflictChecker.exe in your file explorer to start the application. If java is not already installed on your computer, the program will open up your browser to the java install page.



2) A Graphic User Interface (GUI) will be opened with all the capabilities necessary to check for conflicts.

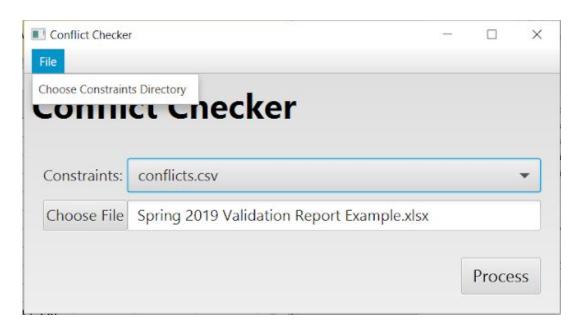


3) In order to check for conflicts, the class constraints must be described in a csv file. The file must be saved as a csv to work properly, but if you are using excel, you should be able to open, edit, and save your conflicts without any problems as a csv.

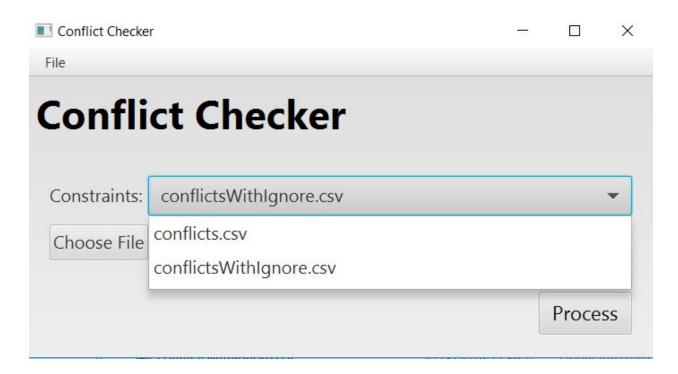
a. Each individual conflict is defined as a row in the conflicts file, while each line begins with the priority of that conflict. e.g.:

19	Priority	CS-HU250	CS271	CS310	CS390	ECE230	ECE330		
20	Non-priority	CS361	CS430	CS472	CS474	CS457	CS464	CS450	CS436
21	ignore	cs436	cs536						
22	ignore	cs475	cs575						

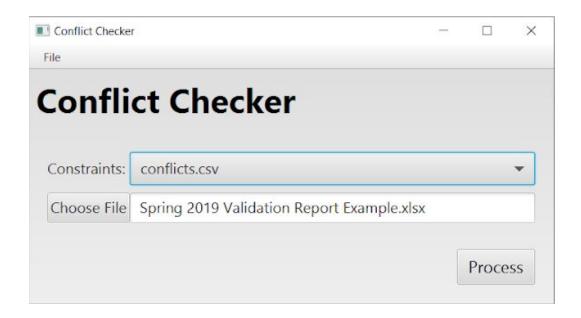
- b. On line 19, we are defining a Priority conflict that enforces CS-HU250, ECE230, and ECE330, etc... should not be scheduled together
- c. Conflicts should be defined with their class code only. No other information.
- d. The 'ignore' priority can be used to define classes that should not be checked for room and instructor conflicts (like dual listed undergrad and graduate classes).
- 4) The next step in the process is to tell the Conflict Checker where your conflicts.csv file is.
 - a. Taking a second look at the GUI, if you click "File", the option "Choose Constraint Directory" should appear.



b. Click that and navigate through the file chooser to the directory where your constraint files are located. The application remembers this directory, so you should only need to set this once.



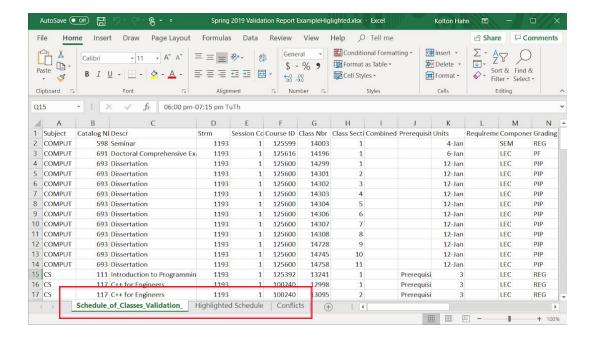
c. On the main GUI, select the constraints file you have just created.



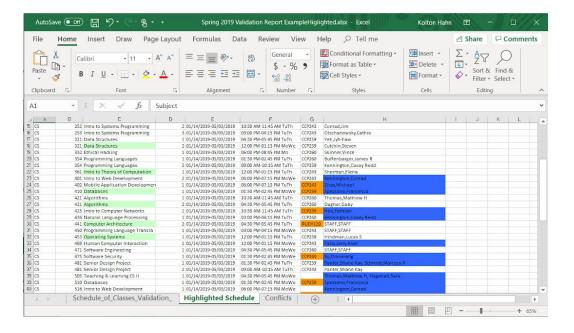
d. Finally click "Choose File" and select the .xlsx file that contains the current schedule from PeopleSoft that you would like to check for conflicts from. Finally click "Process" and let the program do its magic!

*protip: You can drag the schedule file into to program instead of using the file chooser

- 5) After selecting the necessary files, and clicking "Process", Excel will automatically open that contains the original schedule, a highlighted conflicts schedule, and a tree version of the conflicts. Below is how to read and use each of these.
 - a. First off, the excel file opens on the tab containing the original file, so nothing should appear different except for the new tabs on the bottom:

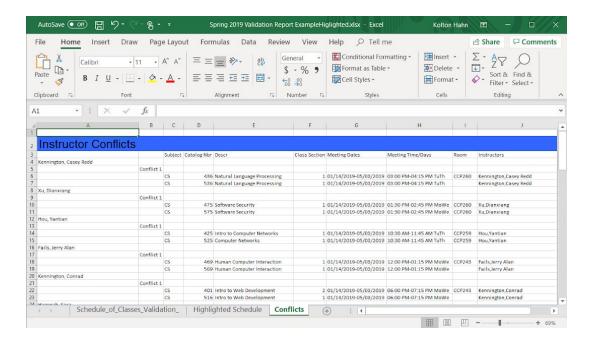


- b. Second in the line of Conflict Checker features is the "Highlighted Schedule" tab seen above. This tab contains an overview of the conflicts by reducing redundant columns and highlighting what is causing a conflict in any given row
 - Green = Constraint Conflict; Orange = Room Conflict; Blue = Instructor Conflict.
 - ii. Constraint Conflicts indicate an error with the file you created for the program, Room Conflicts indicate that a room is double booked, and an Instructor Conflict indicates an instructor is expected to be in two classes at one time.



- c. Finally, we have the tree view under the tab "Conflicts." This view will likely make narrowing down where a conflict is coming from the easiest.
 - In this view, each conflict is separated into three groups: Instructor, Room, and Constraint Conflicts. From there, the left most line indicates the exact reason for the conflict.
 - ii. If you follow the 'tree' structure depicted below, you can see which classes have invoked that conflict. Looking at this one, most the information you could need to detect conflicts should be readily apparent:

Continues on next page



Now that is all you need to know about the Conflict Checker! Delving into the program and exploring some of its functionality is the best way to become familiar with its features.

If you do need more information, refer to the project's README which contains some information on individual files.

Good luck with your scheduling needs!

Authors: Caleb Cook, Jordan Paoletti, Kolton Hahn

Developed for: Boise State Computer Science Department