

Let $N = (V, D, C)$ be a constraint network. The constraint graph $G = (V, E)$ consists of V vertices which is the variables of our constraint network and E edges. There are some constraints $c \in C$ enforced on these edges. I have used *Arc consistency* algorithms for making the constraint network arc consistent.

1 Design of the solution

I have generated a random graph ($graph = nx.erdos_renyi_graph(N, P)$) using *networkx* library, where $N = \text{number of nodes}$, $P = \text{probability}$, which means *each edge is included in the graph with probability P independent from every other edge*. From the graph, I have generated the variables, domains and constraints list. *Domains* are randomly selected with a fixed length domain size and I have used 10 *constraints* which are assigned randomly to every node as I described my earlier problem description assignment. I have used this graph for all the arc-consistency algorithms and the comparisons and findings are described in the following sections.

2 Comparisons

I have compared all these four algorithms (**AC-1**, **AC-2**, **AC-3**, and **AC-4**) based on *total number of nodes vs run time* and *probability of edges vs run time*. For both cases, I have changed the domain size from 10 to 100, increased by 30. I have calculated the average run time for each domain size. I have taken an average of 200 iterations for both cases to calculate the average run time.

- *Total number of nodes vs Run time:*

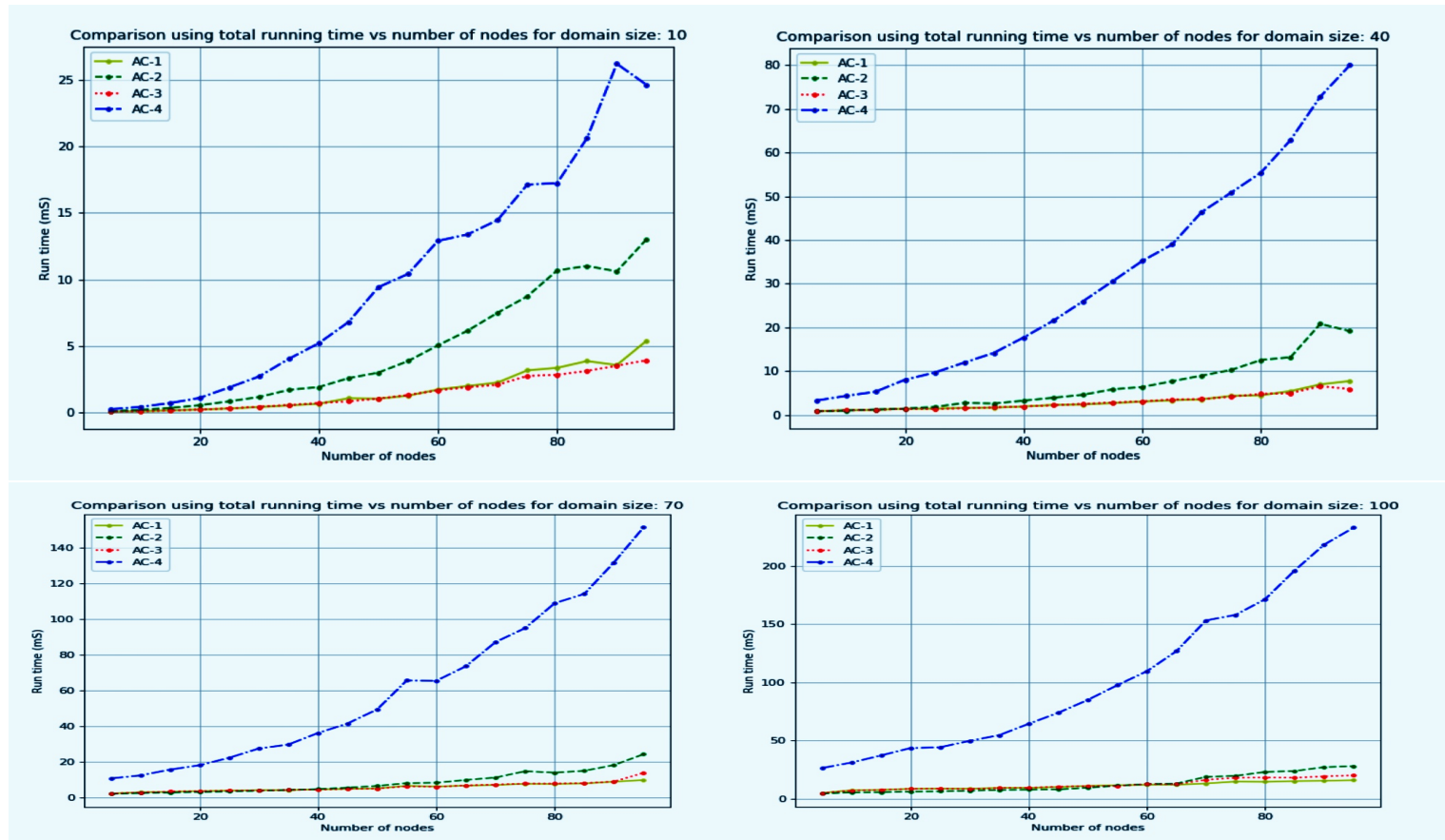


Figure 1: Total number of nodes vs Run-time for domain size 10, 40, 70, 100

• *Probability of edges vs Run time:*

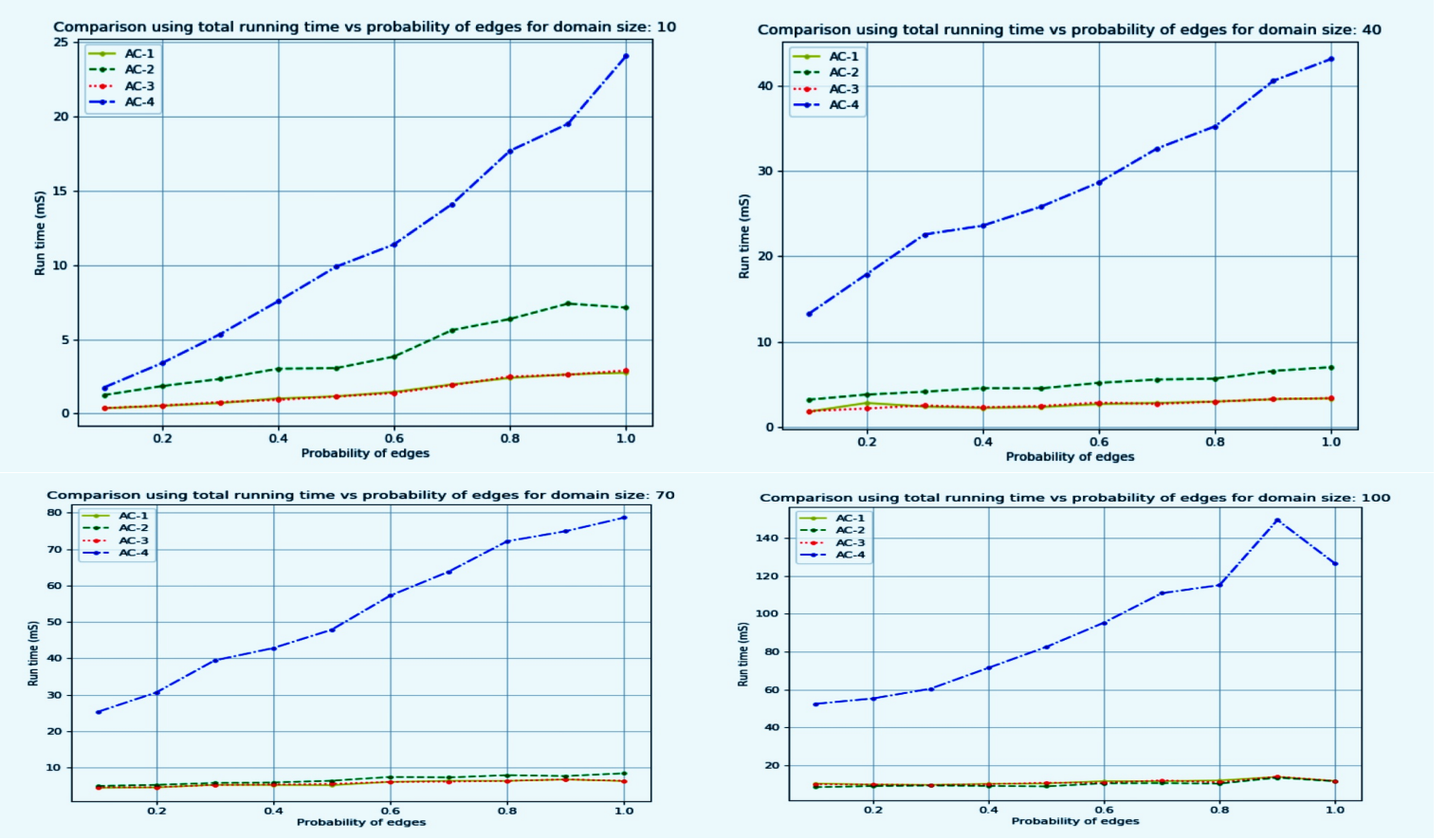


Figure 2: Probability of edges vs Run-time for domain size 10, 40, 70, 100

For comparing the *total number of nodes vs run time*, I have changed the value of the total number of nodes from 5 to 95, increased by 10. I have fixed the probability of edge to 0.5 for this case. Figure 1 shows the comparison for *total number of nodes vs run time*. For the second case, *probability of edges vs run time*, I have changed the value of the probability of edge from 0.1 to 1.0, increased by 0.1. I have fixed the number of total nodes to 50 for this case. Figure 2 shows the comparison for *probability of edges vs run time*.

3 Findings

From the relative comparisons, it is clear that the performance of these four algorithms depends highly on *domain size* as well as *constraints selected*, *number of nodes*, *edges*, and other factors. From Figure 1, we can say that, run time of AC-1 and AC-3 are close to one another. These two perform well in every case. This is because in the AC-3, if the domain of a node has changed then I have checked the domain of each nodes adjacent with that particular node. In AC-1 algorithm when the domain of a node has changed I have checked every nodes for revise. But I have returned false if the domain of a single node becomes empty for all the four algorithms. For this reason, time complexity becomes $O(e.k^3)$ for both cases and the run time of AC-1 and AC-3 are close in every case. For larger domain size, run time of AC-2 are also close to AC-1 and AC-3. In AC-2 algorithm, we have made the graph consistent in an iterative increment process. First of all, we have made the graph consisting of less or equal j ($j < total_nodes$) nodes consistent. Then we have tried to make the graph consisting of less or equal $j + 1, j + 2, \dots, i$ ($i = total_nodes$) nodes consistent. So, if domain size increases, time to perform a revise increases, but number of nodes are same. For this reason, AC-2 performs well in larger domain size. But AC-4 performs worst for all the cases. Time complexity of finding all the supports $S[v_j, a_j]$ and $counter(v_i, a_i, v_j)$ is $O(n.k)$ and $O(e.k)$ respectively, where $n = number\ of\ nodes$, $e = number\ of\ edges$, $k =$

maximun length of a domain. For these reasons, if the graph is already arc consistent or close to it, the best case time for *AC-1* and *AC-3* becomes $O(e.k)$. But for *AC-4* it is still $O(e.k^2)$. That is why, *AC-1* and *AC-3* are outperforming *AC-4* although *AC-4* has the best run time in the worst case scenario. In Figure 2, conditions are very similar to that of Figure 1. Running time of *AC-4* increases dramatically and *AC-2* performs well for larger domains.

4 Statistical significance Test

I have performed the one-way *ANOVA Tukey HSD Test* to determine whether there are any statistically significant differences between the mean running times of four arc consistency algorithms. Figure 3 shows that, all the possible pairs of arc consistency algorithm, the mean running times are significantly different except *AC-1* vs *AC-3*. This is quite expected, as we have seen from Figure 1 and Figure 2 that run time of *AC-1* and *AC-3* are very close to each other.

Tukey HSD results				Scheffé results			
treatments pair	Tukey HSD Q statistic	Tukey HSD p-value	Tukey HSD inference	treatments pair	Scheffé T-statistic	Scheffé p-value	Scheffé inference
A vs B	6.2528	0.0010053	** p<0.01	A vs B	4.4214	0.0002331	** p<0.01
A vs C	0.2527	0.8999947	insignificant	A vs C	0.1787	0.9984966	insignificant
A vs D	19.9457	0.0010053	** p<0.01	A vs D	14.1038	1.1102e-16	** p<0.01
B vs C	6.5054	0.0010053	** p<0.01	B vs C	4.6000	0.0001099	** p<0.01
B vs D	13.6930	0.0010053	** p<0.01	B vs D	9.6824	1.1102e-16	** p<0.01
C vs D	20.1984	0.0010053	** p<0.01	C vs D	14.2824	1.1102e-16	** p<0.01

Figure 3: One-way ANOVA with post-hoc Tukey HSD Test results