

# Appendix: New Pruning Rules for $P||C_{\max}$

## 1 PROOF OF THEOREM 1

PROOF. By induction. For  $i = n$  this property is clear.

For  $i < n$ , we assume that the statement holds true for  $i + 1$ . Given that  $RET[i][u] = RET[i][u']$ , we know that  $RET[i+1][u] = RET[i+1][u']$  and  $RET[i+1][u + w_i] = RET[i+1][u' + w_i]$ . With our inductive assumption, this implies that

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(j_i, u) &= \phi(j_{i+1}, u) \cup \{j_i \cup x \mid x \in \phi(j_{i+1}, u + w_i)\} \\ &= \phi(j_{i+1}, u') \cup \{j_i \cup x \mid x \in \phi(j_{i+1}, u' + w_i)\} \\ &= \phi(j_i, u').\end{aligned}$$

Given that  $RET[i][u] \neq RET[i][u']$ , we know either  $left(i, u) \neq left(i, u')$  or  $right(i, u) \neq right(i, u')$ . We assume w.l.o.g. that  $u < u'$ . If  $left(i, u) \neq left(i, u')$ , then by our inductive assumption,  $\phi(j_{i+1}, u) \supsetneq \phi(j_{i+1}, u')$ . We thus know that  $\phi(j_i, u) \supsetneq \phi(j_i, u')$  since all other elements in either set must contain  $j_i$ . The case where  $right(i, u) \neq right(i, u')$  proceeds analogously. Induction thus proves both directions in the above theorem.  $\square$

## 2 COMPARISON TO ILP

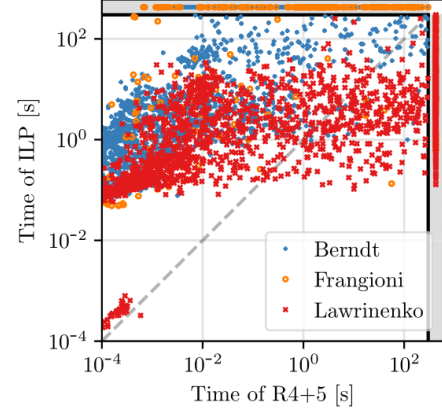
We present an experimental comparison of our best approach (R4+5) to a recent ILP-based approach [3].

We used three different benchmarks sets:

- Lawrinenko: 3500 benchmarks as described by Mrad and Souayah [3], originating from unpublished work by Lawrinenko et al.
- Berndt: 5000 benchmarks generated as described by Berndt et al. [1].
- Frangioni: 780 benchmarks as described by Frangioni et al. [2].

Results are provided in Fig. 1. Our approach outperforms the ILP approach on Berndt (2860 vs. 2418 solved) and Frangioni (379 vs. 256 solved), whereas the ILP approach performs substantially better on their own benchmark set Lawrinenko (3237 vs. 1579 solved). For sufficiently difficult instances, our approach (with our compressed representation of the RET) uses around *two orders of magnitude* less

main memory, in particular for Frangioni, which features some instances with makespans ranging in the millions.



**Figure 1: Per-instance scatter plot of our best approach (R4+5) versus the ILP-based approach by Mrad and Souayah.**

## 3 DATA AVAILABILITY

We provide the full experimental data at <https://github.com/anon943310/spaa24-pcmax-bnb>. In the final version we will also refer to our (non anonymized) software.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Sebastian Berndt, Max A Deppert, Klaus Jansen, and Lars Rohwedder. 2022. Load balancing: The long road from theory to practice. In *Proc. ALENEX*. 104–116. <https://doi.org/10.1137/1.9781611977042.9>
- [2] Antonio Frangioni, Emiliano Necciari, and Maria Grazia Scutella. 2004. A multi-exchange neighborhood for minimum makespan parallel machine scheduling problems. *Journal of Combinatorial Optimization* 8 (2004), 195–220.
- [3] Mehdi Mrad and Nizar Souayah. 2018. An Arc-Flow Model for the Makespan Minimization Problem on Identical Parallel Machines. *IEEE Access* 6 (2018), 5300–5307. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2018.2789678>

Received 24 January 2024; revised XX MM 2024; accepted XX MM 2024