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Applications of Constraint Programming



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CRT-AI CP Week 2024

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Applications are important

- Provide motivation for basic research
 - Which constraints, methods are needed
- Provide realistic benchmark problems
 - Easy to optimize for pointless results
- Shows that research has potential benefits
 - Much easier to convince funding agencies
- Typically much easier to explain than solver internals
 - Interest students, do outreach

Main Application Areas for CP

- Scheduling
 - By far the largest application area
- Product Configuration
 - No longer much of a research focus
 - Start with Ulrich Junker's chapter in Handbook of Constraint Programming
- Rostering and Assignment
 - Propagation is very powerful
 - Start with Demirović, E., Stuckey, P.J. (2018). Constraint Programming for High School Timetabling: A Scheduling-Based Model with Hot Starts. CPAIOR 2018.
- Software/Hardware Design and Testing
 - Sometimes using specialized domains (uint32)
 - Start with Arnaud Gotlieb video
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1Seayx3eXU>
- Transportation
 - Hybrids with other techniques
 - Start with Augustin Delecluse, Pierre Schaus, and Pascal Van Hentenryck. Sequence Variables for Routing Problems. CP 2022.

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Insight 

A Survey of the Existing Literature

- Joint work with Cemalettin Ozturk, MTU
- What is out there
- Where to start
- Where to publish
- I'm interested in some specific topic, what is relevant

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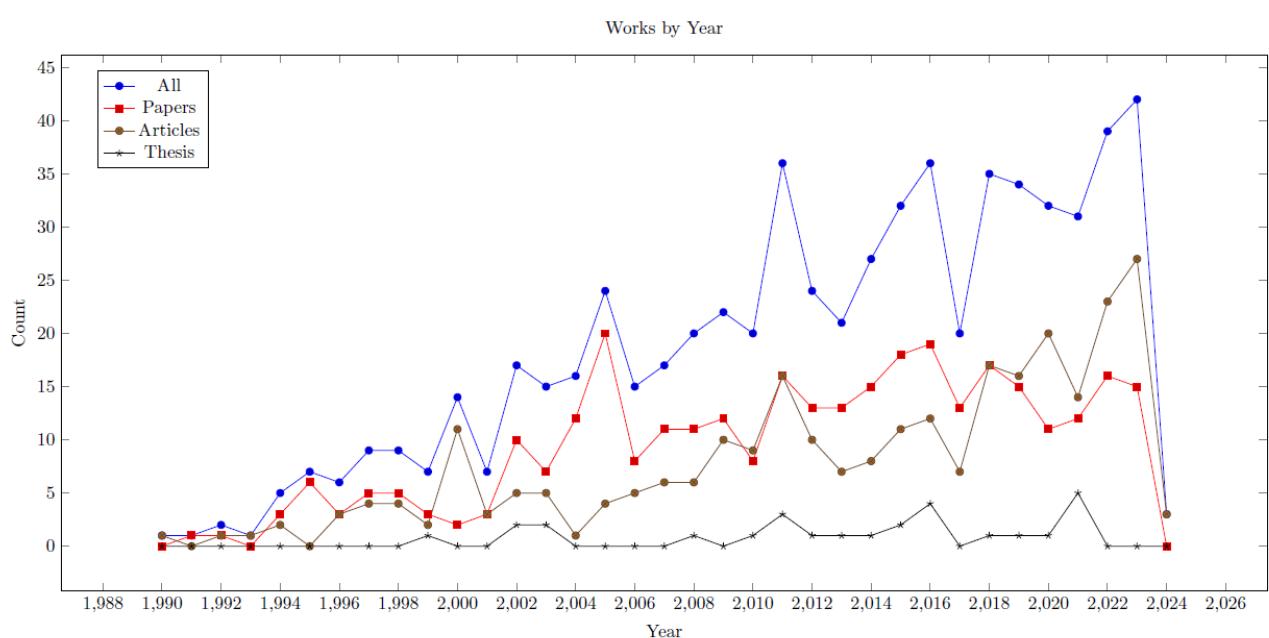
CP and Scheduling Literature Survey

Insight 

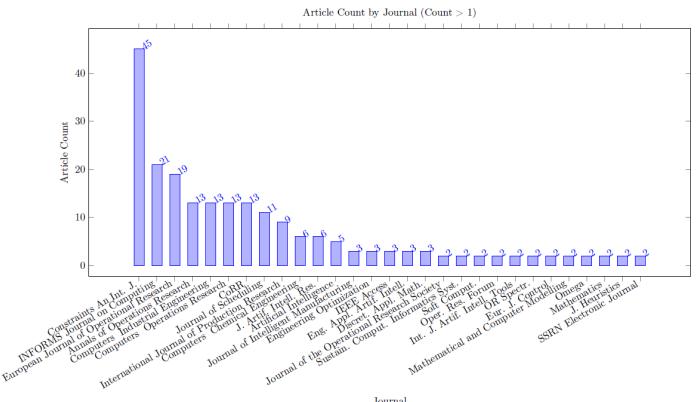
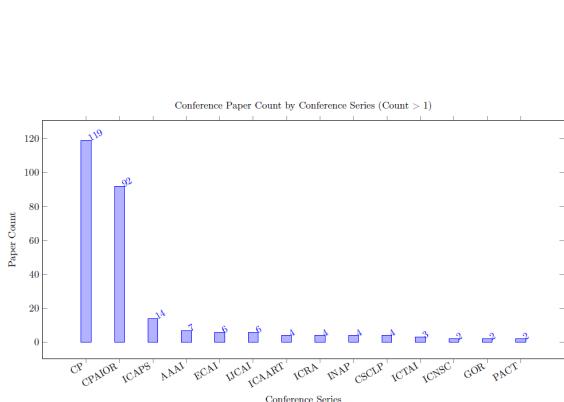
Methodology

- Manually curated list of works, somewhat inclusive
- Starting with bibtex files
- Citation links through OpenCitations (open access)
- Content analysis on local copies of pdf files
- Closure of domain by analyzing missing cited and citing works
- Limited manual analysis of works (datasets, code)
- Results presented as LaTeX documents
- Open source analysis on git: <https://hsimonis.github.io/pthg24/>

Overall Analysis (Based on 671 Works)



Origin of Papers/Articles



Most Recent Articles

Table 5: Works from bibtex (Total 274)

Automatically Extracted Article Features

Table 6: Automatically Extracted ARTICLE Properties (Requires Local Copy)

Work	Pages	Concepts	Classification	Constraints	Prog Languages	CP Systems	Areas	Industries	Benchmarks	Algorithm	a	c
Laborie03 [369]	38	task, precedence, order, cmax, machine, job, activity, re-scheduling, setup-time, release-date, inventory, preempt, job-shop, resource, scheduling, make-span		cycle, table constraint, cumulative, disjunctive	C++	Ilog Scheduler			benchmark	edge-finding, not-last, energetic reasoning, not-first, time-tabling	1201	1731
LaborieRSV18 [372]	41	release-date, job-shop, resource, activity, precedence, sequence dependent setup, earliness, scheduling, machine, inventory, transportation, manpower, due-date, setup-time, batch process, order, tardiness, flow-shop, job, make-span, re-scheduling, task, distributed	psplib, parallel machine, RCPSP	alternative constraint, cumulative, noOverlap, disjunctive, span constraint, cycle, alwaysIn, endBeforeStart	C, Python, C++, Java	CHIP, Gecode, Ilog Solver, Cplex, Ilog Scheduler, OPL, Choco Solver, CPO	semiconductor, railway, container terminal, satellite, robot, pipeline, aircraft, shipping line	chemical industry, petro-chemical industry	real-world, CSPlib, benchmark	edge-finding	1080	1610
LacknerMMWW23 [374]	42	release-date, batch process, setup-time, job, order, due-date, tardiness, scheduling, make-span, machine, task, lateness, job-shop, earliness	parallel machine, OSP, single machine	alternative constraint, disjunctive, bin-packing, noOverlap, cumulative, endBeforeStart	Chuffed, Cplex, OPL, CPO, OR-Tools, MiniZinc, Gurobil	semiconductor, oven scheduling	electronics industry, steel industry, manufacturing industry	random instance, industrial partner, benchmark, instance generator, real-life	time-tabling	984	1514	
LammaMM97 [377]	15	job-shop, resource, scheduling, precedence, order, task, job, distributed, no-wait		disjunctive circuit, disjunctive	C++, Prolog	ECLIPSe, OPL, CHIP	railway		benchmark, generator, real-life	1230	1760	
LetortCB15 [385]	52	machine, make-span, job, precedence, resource, scheduling, task, order	psplib	cumulative, cycle, bin-packing	Java, Prolog	Choco Solver, CHIP, SICStus		generated instance, Roader, benchmark, random instance	energetic reasoning, sweep, edge-finding	1110	1640	
LiW08 [386]	18	precedence, activity, resource, completion-time, setup-time, make-span, scheduling, machine, preempt, job-shop, no preempt, job, re-scheduling, open-shop, due-date, task, order	RCPSP	disjunctive, cycle, bin-packing	OZ	Ilog Solver, OZ, Cplex, ECLIPSe, OPL, CHIP		real-world		1178	1708	
LiessM08 [388]	12	preempt, resource, scheduling, machine, job, activity, precedence, job-shop, task, make-span, order, cmax	RCPSP, psplib	disjunctive, cumulative	C++	OZ		benchmark	edge-finding	1179	1709	
LimtanyakulS12 [393]	32	release-date, scheduling, order, completion-time, job, resource, activity, tardiness, machine, due-date, precedence		table constraint, disjunctive, bin-packing, cumulative	OZ, Ilog Scheduler, Cplex	robot, automotive	automotive industry	random instance, real-life, generated instance, industrial partner, benchmark	not-last, energetic reasoning, not-first, edge-finding	1133	1663	
LombardiM10a [402]	30	due-date, distributed, order, job, make-span, release-date, re-scheduling, task, completion-time, resource, activity, precedence, preempt, scheduling, machine	TCSP	cycle, span constraint, cumulative, disjunctive, table constraint	C	Cplex		real-world, benchmark, real-life	sweep	1160	1690	

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Manually Extracted Article Features

Table 4: Manually Defined PAPER Properties

Key	Title (Local Copy)	CP System	Bench	Links	Data Avail	Sol Avail	Code Avail	Related To	Classification	Constraints	a	b
AalianPG23	Optimization of Short-Term Underground Mine Planning Using Constraint Programming	CP Opt	real-world	1	n	n	n	-	?		1	325
Bit-Monnot23 [1]	Enhancing Hybrid CP-SAT Search for Disjunctive Scheduling	ARIES CP Opt OR-Tools Mistral	real-world, github, benchmark	1	y	y	-	JSSP OSSP	-		2	371
EfthymiouY23	Predicting the Optimal Period for Cyclic Hoist Scheduling Problems		benchmark, random instance, generated instance, real-life, industrial instance	3	n	n	-	CHSP	-		3	415
JuvinHHL23	An Efficient Constraint Programming Approach to Preemptive Job Shop Scheduling	CP Opt Mistral	supplementary material, github, benchmark	6	ref	y		PJSSP	endBeforeStart span noOverlap	4	476	
JuvinHHL23 [328]	Constraint Programming for the Robust Two-Machine Flow-Shop Scheduling Problem with Budgeted Uncertainty	CP Opt Cplex	real-world	0	ref	n	-	Perm FSSP	endBeforeStart noOverlap sameSequence cumulative	5	477	
KameugneFND23	Horizontally Elastic Edge Finder Rule for Cumulative Constraint Based on Slack and Density	?	benchmark	5	BL PSplib	n	-	RCPPSPs		6	480	
KimCMILLP23	Iterated Greedy Constraint Programming for Scheduling Steelmaking Continuous Casting	Gurobi OR-Tools	real-world, benchmark, zenodo	0	y	n	-	SCC	alternative noOverlap	7	485	
Mehdizadeh-Somarin23	A Constraint Programming Model for a Reconfigurable Job Shop Scheduling Problem with Machine Availability	CP Opt	random instance	0	n	n	-	JSSP RMS	alternative endBeforeStart noOverlap table disjunctive	8	529	
Mehdizadeh-Somarin23 [430]	A Constraint Programming Model for Scheduling the Unloading of Trains in Ports	custom	real-world, generated instance	0	n	n	-	SUTP		9	553	
PerezGSL23 [496]	Partially Preemptive Multi Skill/Mode Resource-Constrained Project Scheduling with Generalized Precedence Relations and Calendars	CP Opt MiniZinc Chuffed	real-world, github, benchmark, industrial instance, real-life	4	y	y		PP-MS- MMRCPSP/max- cal		10	557	
SquillaciPR23	Scheduling Complex Observation Requests for a Constellation of Satellites: Large Neighborhood Search Approaches	Cplex Studio	github, benchmark	2	y	n	-	EOSP	?	11	584	
TardivoDFMP23	Constraint Propagation on GPU: A Case Study for the Cumulative Constraint	MiniCPP MiniZinc	bitbucket, github, benchmark, real-world	9	PSPLib BL Pack	y	-	RCPPSP	cumulative	12	590	
TasseIGS23	An End-to-End Reinforcement Learning Approach for Job-Shop Scheduling Problems Based on Constraint Programming	custom Choco	industrial instance, real-world, supplementary material, github, benchmark	0	ref	y	-	JSSP	noOverlap	13	591	
WangB23	Dynamic All-Different and Maximal Cliques Constraints for Fixed Job Scheduling	Facile and Solving	real-world, domain instance	0	628	FJS	-			14	620	
YuraszeczkMC23 [649]	A competitive constraint programming approach for the group shop scheduling problem	CP Opt	github, benchmark	0	ref	n	-	GSSP	noOverlap endBeforeStart	15	633	

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Extracted Features: Application Areas

Table 16: Works for Concepts of Type ApplicationAreas

Type	Keyword	High	Medium	Low
ApplicationAreas	COVID	GuoZ23 [260]	GeibingerKKMMW21 [234]	Fatemi-AnarakiTFV23 [212], Mehdizadeh-Somarin23 [430], GurPAE23 [270], JuvinHL23a [331], OujanaAYB22 [487], Lemos21 [381]
ApplicationAreas	HVAC	LimHTB16 [390], LimBTBB15 [391], GrimesIOS14 [260]		AkramNHIRSA23 [13], BenderWS21 [84], HamPK21 [275], Astrand21 [36], QinWLS21 [611], AstrandoF21 [36], Mejia21 [141]
ApplicationAreas	agriculture			PerezSS13 [509], PovedaAA23 [506], Adelgren2023 [7], EttimaniesfahaniGMS22 [202], ElcioOH22 [195], ZarandiAS20 [654], HaideriIRPA20 [283], abs-1902-09244 [252], Hoogerl19 [312], LaborieRSV18 [372], Hoogerl17 [134], TranA16 [594], Lombardi16 [398], Laborie99 [370], Kovacs108 [355], KrogstLPHJ07 [608], MartinPY01 [427], SimonisCK06 [560], GruianK08 [264], Darby-BowmanLM19 [797], Wallace96 [625], Simonis95 [557], Simonis93 [661]
ApplicationAreas	aircraft	PohlAK22 [502], WangB20 [628], TranDRFWOB16 [506], Fahim16 [205], BajestanB13 [42], LombardiM12 [405], BajestanB11 [41], FrankK05 [219], ArtouchineB05 [34], Simonis90 [558]	WangB23 [629], GombolayWS18 [253], Ham18 [273], Simonis07 [559], SakkoutWoo [620], Simonis95a [556]	PovedaAA23 [509], PovedaAA23 [506], Adelgren2023 [7], EttimaniesfahaniGMS22 [202], ElcioOH22 [195], ZarandiAS20 [654], abs-1902-09244 [252], Hoogerl19 [312], LaborieRSV18 [372], Hoogerl17 [134], TranA16 [594], Lombardi16 [398], Laborie99 [370], Kovacs108 [355], KrogstLPHJ07 [608], MartinPY01 [427], SimonisCK06 [560], GruianK08 [264], Darby-BowmanLM19 [797], Wallace96 [625], Simonis95 [557], Simonis93 [661]
ApplicationAreas	automotive		GuoZ23 [260], YuraszeckMPV22 [650], EmdeZD22 [199], Groicea21 [261], LimtanyakulS12 [393], SunLYL10 [567], Lombardi10 [398], BarlattCG08 [52], SchildW00 [532]	PovedaAA23 [506], NaderIRR23 [460], CzerniachowskaWZ23 [159], NaderIRB22 [457], NaderIRB22a [458], AntuoriHHEN21 [222], HubnerGSV21 [318], AbreuAPNM21 [166], KochlerBFHPSS21 [348], VilKT19 [628], BarzegaranZIP20 [61], GeibingerMM19 [236], abs-1911-04766 [235], BonfettiILM16 [112], Stala15a [552], SchmidH15 [533], AleksiNBG14 [181], HarjunkoskiMBC14 [279], BeniniBCM06 [88], KovacsV06 [360], Wallace96 [625]
ApplicationAreas	cable tree	KoehlerBFFHPSS21 [348]		BeldiceanuC94 [78], PerezGSL23 [496], TouatBT22 [502], CauwelaertDS20 [142], Wallace96 [627], ZarandiAS20 [654], FallahiAC20 [209], Hoogerl19 [312], CauwelaertDS16 [140], DejemeppeI16 [172], DejemeppeS15 [173], Novash17 [476], CorrealR07 [158], LimRX07 [339]
ApplicationAreas	car manufacturing		AntuoriHHEN21 [22]	NaderIRR23 [460], WangB23 [629], Adelgren2023 [7], EttimaniesfahaniGMS22 [202], NaderIRB22 [457], NaderIRB22a [458], AntuoriHHEN21 [222], HubnerGSV21 [318], abs-2312-13682 [497], PerezGSL23 [496], TouatBT22 [502], CauwelaertDS20 [142], ZarandiAS20 [654], FallahiAC20 [209], Hoogerl19 [312], CauwelaertDS16 [140], DejemeppeI16 [172], DejemeppeS15 [173], Novash17 [476], CorrealR07 [158], LimRX07 [339]
ApplicationAreas	container terminal	QinDCS20 [512], SacramentoSP20 [526]	LaborieRSV18 [372]	
ApplicationAreas	crew-scheduling	ZarandiASC20 [654], PourDERB18 [505]	BourreauGGLT22 [118], Zahoult21 [652], GombolayWS18 [253], Mason01 [429], Touraivanen9 [593]	
ApplicationAreas	dairies			Hartak02 [564], Bartak02a [53]
ApplicationAreas	dairy	EscobetPQPRA19 [201]		Groicea21 [261]
ApplicationAreas	datacenter	HermenierDL11 [390]		Zahoult21 [652], GalleguillosKSB19 [225], Mad-WambaLOBM17 [418], Letort13 [382], IfrimOS12 [320], LetortBC12 [383]
ApplicationAreas	datacentre			
ApplicationAreas	day-ahead market			
ApplicationAreas	deep space			
ApplicationAreas	drone	MontemannID23a [446], MontemannID23 [447], Ham18 [273]		
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Prolific Authors

Table 8: Co-Authors of Articles/Papers

Author	Nr Works	Nr Cites	Entries
J. Christopher Beck	49	701	LuoB22 [416], ZhangBB22 [658], TangB20 [573], RoshanaiBAUB20 [521], TranPZLDB18 [597], TranVNBN17 [599], TranVNBN17a [600], CohenH17 [154], BoothNB16 [114], Kub16 [365], TranAB16 [594], TranWDRFOVB16 [601], LuoLB16 [415], TranDRFWOB16 [596], BajestanB13 [43], KoschB14 [353], TerekhovTDB14 [581], LouieVN14 [412], HeinzB13 [294], HeinzB13 [291], BajestanB13 [42], TranTDB13 [598], HeinzB12 [290], TerekhovDOB12 [580], TranB12 [595], ZarandiB12 [213], KovacsB11 [356], BeckFW11 [66], HeckermanB11 [289], BajestanB11 [41], WuB309 [643], BidotVLB09 [94], CarchraeB09 [131], WatsonB08 [632], KovacsB08 [355], BeckW07 [73], Beck07 [64], KovacsB07 [354], Beck06 [63], CarchraeB05 [132], WuB05 [642], BeckW05 [72], BeckR03 [70], BeckPS03 [69], BeckF00 [68], Beck99 [62], BeckF98 [67], BeckDP97 [65]
Michela Milano	31	297	BorghesiBLMB18 [115], BonfettiZLM16 [113], BridiBLMB16 [120], BridiLBMB16 [121], LombardiBM15 [399], BartoliniBBLM14 [60], BonfietiBLM14 [111], BonfietiBLM14 [109], BonfietiBLM13 [103], LombardiM13 [406], LombardiBM13 [407], LombardiBLM12 [408], LombardiM12a [404], BonfettiM12 [112], BonfettiBLM11 [107], LombardiBM11 [407], LombardiBM11 [409], BeniniLMR11 [400], BeniniLMT08 [438], LombardiM10 [403], LombardiM10a [402], MilanoW06 [440], MilanoORT06 [439], LammaM07 [377], BrusoniCLMTM96 [128], YangSS19 [644], GoldwaserSS18 [364], GoldwaserSS18 [455], KreterSS17 [363], KreterSS17 [646], GoldwaserS17 [250], SchuttsS16 [543], SzerediS16 [570], KreterSS15 [362], EvenSH15 [203], EvenSH15a [204], SchutFSW15 [542], ThiruvadyWGS14 [585], GuSSWC14 [266], SchutTSF13 [537], SchutTSF13 [265], GuSS13 [536], SchutTSW13 [541], ChuGNSW13 [147], SchutTCW12 [535], SchutFSW11 [540], SchutTSW11 [540], SchutTSW10 [541], abs-1009-0347 [539], SchutTSW09 [538], SchutTSW05 [545]
Andreas Schutt	27	322	BorghesiBLMB18 [115], CaunelaertSL18 [111], KreterSS18 [364], MusiliuSS18 [455], KreterSS17 [363], SchutTS16 [543], SchutTSW10 [541], LombardiMRB10 [408], LombardiM09 [401], RuggieroBBMA09 [525], MilanoW09 [441], BeniniLMT08 [439], BeniniBCM06 [88], MilanoW06 [440], MilanoORT06 [439], LammaM07 [377], BrusoniCLMTM96 [128], YangSS19 [644], KreterSS18 [364], GoldwaserS17 [250], SchutTS16 [543], SzerediS16 [570], KreterSS15 [362], EvenSH15 [203], EvenSH15a [204], SchutFSW15 [542], ThiruvadyWGS14 [585], GuSSWC14 [266], SchutTSF13 [537], SchutTSF13 [265], GuSS13 [536], SchutTSW13 [541], ChuGNSW13 [147], SchutTCW12 [535], SchutFSW11 [540], SchutTSW11 [540], SchutTSW10 [541], abs-1009-0347 [539], SchutTSW09 [538], SchutTSW05 [545]
Michele Lombardi	25	194	BorghesiBLMB18 [115], CaunelaertSL18 [111], BridiBLMB16 [120], BridiLBMB16 [121], LombardiBM15 [399], BartoliniBBLM14 [60], BonfietiBLM14 [111], BonfietiBLM14 [109], BonfietiBLM13 [110], LombardiM13 [406], LombardiBM13 [407], LombardiBLM12 [408], LombardBLM10a [402], LombardBLM10 [403], LombardBLM10 [404], BonfietiBLM12 [108], LombardBLM12a [404], BonfietiBLM11 [107], LombardBLM11 [407], LombardBLM11 [409], BeniniLMR11 [400], BeniniLMT08 [438], LombardBLM10 [403], LombardBLM10a [402], LombardBLM10 [404], LombardBLM10 [405], LombardBLM10 [406], LombardBLM10 [407], LombardBLM10 [408], LombardBLM10 [409], LombardBLM10 [410], LombardBLM10 [411], LombardBLM10 [412], LombardBLM10 [413], LombardBLM10 [414], LombardBLM10 [415], LombardBLM10 [416], LombardBLM10 [417], LombardBLM10 [418], LombardBLM10 [419], LombardBLM10 [420], LombardBLM10 [421], LombardBLM10 [422], LombardBLM10 [423], LombardBLM10 [424], LombardBLM10 [425], LombardBLM10 [426], LombardBLM10 [427], 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Limitations

- Limited coverage by OpenCitations
- Difficult to have local access to some publication types (book, incollection)
- Heavily biased towards publications in English
- More powerful NLP analysis of works possible?

Problem: Count for Most Cited Papers

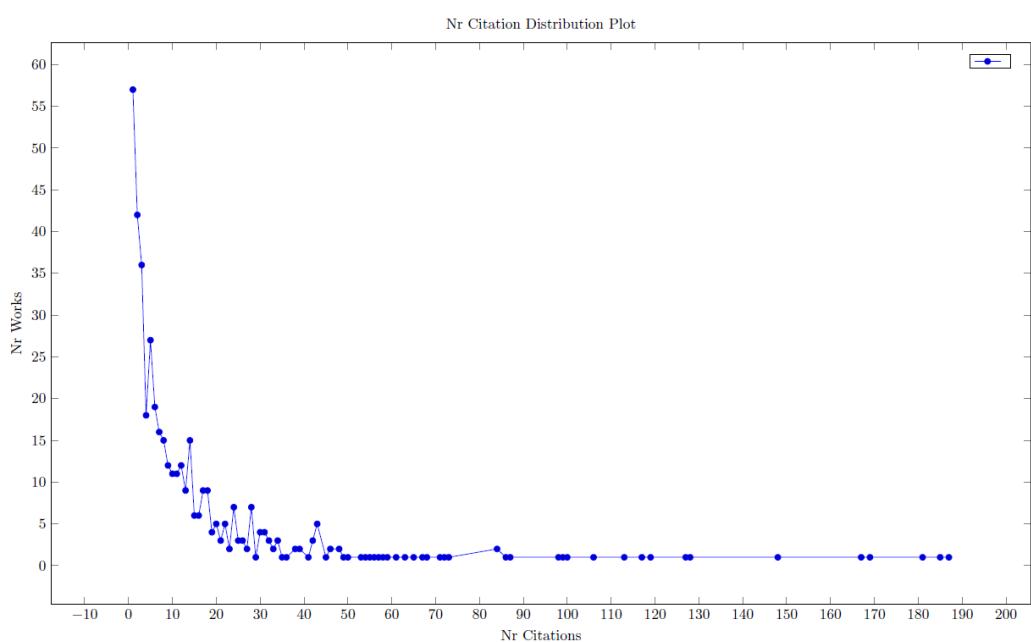
Table 9: Works from bibtex (Total 30)

Key	Authors	Title	LC	Cite	Year	Conference /Journal	Pages	Nr Cites	Nr Refs	b	c
JainM99 JainM99	A. Jain, S. Meeran	Deterministic job-shop scheduling: Past, present and future	Yes	322	1999	European Journal of Operational Research	45	490	150	1352	1753
HarjunkoskiMBC14 HarjunkoskiMBC14	I. Harjunkoski, Christos T. Maravelias, P. Bongers, Pedro M. Castro, S. Engell, Ignacio E. Grossmann, John N. Hooker, C. Méndez, G. Sand, J. Wassick	Scope for industrial applications of production scheduling models and solution methods	Yes	279	2014	Computers & Chemical Engineering	33	381	176	1335	1649
BlazewiczDP96 BlazewiczDP96	J. Blazewicz, W. Domschke, E. Pesch	The job shop scheduling problem: Conventional and new solution techniques	Yes	125	1996	European Journal of Operational Research	33	344	127	1278	1762
HookerO03 HookerO03	John N. Hooker, G. Ottosson	Logic-based Benders decomposition	Yes	313	2003	Mathematical Programming	28	317	0	1347	1729
BaptistePN01 BaptistePN01	P. Baptiste, Claude Le Papd, W. Nuijten	Constraint-Based Scheduling	No	50	2001	Book	null	296	0	No	n/a
JainG01 JainG01	V. Jain, Ignacio E. Grossmann	Algorithms for Hybrid MILP/CP Models for a Class of Optimization Problems	Yes	323	2001	INFORMS Journal on Computing	19	279	23	1351	1738
AggounB93 AggounB93	A. Aggoun, N. Beldiceanu	Extending CHIP in order to solve complex scheduling and placement problems	Yes	9	1993	Mathematical and Computer Modelling	17	187	11	1247	1767
Hooker00 Hooker00	John N. Hooker	Logic Based Methods for Optimization: Combining Optimization and Constraint Satisfaction	No	304	2000	Book	null	185	0	No	n/a
Hooker07 Hooker07	John N. Hooker	Planning and Scheduling by Logic-Based Benders Decomposition	Yes	309	2007	Operations Research	29	181	19	1345	1715
HarjunkoskiG02 HarjunkoskiG02	I. Harjunkoski, Ignacio E. Grossmann	Decomposition techniques for multistage scheduling problems using mixed-Integer and constraint programming methods	Yes	278	2002	Computers & Chemical Engineering	20	169	11	1334	1733
BeldiceanuC94 BeldiceanuC94	N. Beldiceanu, E. Contejean	Introducing Global Constraints in CHIP	Yes	78	1994	Mathematical and Computer Modelling	27	167	8	1271	1765
LaborieRSV18 LaborieRSV18	P. Laborie, J. Rogerie, P. Shaw, P. Vilim	IBM ILOG CP optimizer for scheduling - 20+ years of scheduling with constraints at IBM/ILOG	Yes	372	2018	Constraints An. Int. J.	41	148	35	1370	1610
Laborie03 Laborie03	P. Laborie	Algorithms for propagating resource constraints in AI planning and scheduling: Existing approaches and new results	Yes	369	2003	Artificial Intelligence	38	128	10	1369	1731
OhrimenkoSC09 OhrimenkoSC09	O. Ohrimenko, Peter J. Stuckey, M. Codish	Propagation via lazy clause generation	Yes	483	2009	Constraints An. Int. J.	35	127	15	1417	1702
KuiB16 KuiB16	W. Kui, J. Christopher Beck	Mixed Integer Programming models for job shop scheduling: A computational analysis	Yes	365	2016	Computers & Operations Research	9	119	17	1367	1630
Rodriguez07 Rodriguez07	J. Rodriguez	A constraint programming model for real-time train scheduling at junctions	Yes	520	2007	Transportation Research Part B: Methodological	15	117	6	1430	1716
LiW08 LiW08	H. Li, K. WOMER	Scheduling projects with multi-skilled personnel by a hybrid MILP/CP based decomposition algorithm	Yes	386	2008	Journal of Scheduling	18	113	31	1374	1708
CorreaLR07 CorreaLR07	Ayoub Insa Corréa, A. Langevin, L. Rousseau	Scheduling and routing of automated guided vehicles: A hybrid approach	Yes	158	2007	Computers & Operations Research	20	106	20	1296	1714
MengZRL20 MengZRL20	L. Meng, C. Zhang, Y. Ren, B. Zhang, C. Lv	Mixed-integer linear programming and constraint programming formulations for solving distributed flexible job shop scheduling problem	Yes	435	2020	Computers & Industrial Engineering	13	100	62	1393	1574
BensanalV99 BensanalV99	E. Bensanal, M. Lemaitre, G. Verfaillie	Earth Observation Satellite Management	Yes	91	1999	Constraints An. Int. J.	7	99	0	1276	1752

OpenCitation Count Compared to Google Scholar

Key	Type	Google	OC	Ratio
JainM99	article	1116	490	2.28
HarjunkoskiMBC14	article	588	381	1.54
BlazewiczDP96	article	796	344	2.31
BaptistePN01	book	1039	296	3.51
AggounB93	article	502	187	2.68
LaborieRSV18	article	309	148	2.09
BensanaLV99	article	251	99	2.54
DincbasSH90	article	271	86	3.15
Thorsteinsson01	paper	205	67	3.06
DincbasSH88	paper	287	0	:@

Problem: Citation Count Distribution



Reuse Example: Survey of Car Sequencing

Table 9: Works from bibtex (Total 29)

Key	Authors	Title	LC	Cite	Year	Conference /Journal	Pages	Nr Cites	Nr Refs	b	c
BoysenFS09 BoysenFS09	[N. Boysen, M. Fiedner, A. Scholl]	Sequencing mixed-model assembly lines: Survey, classification and model critique	No	[2]	2009	European Journal of Operational Research	null	308	167	No	58
SolnonCNA08 SolnonCNA08	[C. Solnon, V. Cung, A. Nguyen, C. Artigues]	The car sequencing problem: Overview of state-of-the-art methods and industrial case-study of the ROADEF'2005 challenge problem	No	[21]	2008	European Journal of Operational Research	16	146	22	No	61
ParrelloK86 ParrelloK86	[Bruce D. Parrello, Waldo C. Kabat]	Job-Shop Scheduling Using Automated Reasoning: A Case Study of the Car-Sequencing Problem	Yes	[14]	1986	J. Autom. Reason.	42	74	0	46	66
Kis04 [Kis04]	[T. Kis]	On the complexity of the car sequencing problem	No	[9]	2004	Operations Research Letters	null	69	3	No	62
ReginP97 ReginP97	[J. Régin, J. Puget]	A Filtering Algorithm for Global Sequencing Constraints	Yes	[16]	1997	CP 1997	15	53	3	17	25
GottliebPS03 GottliebPS03	[J. Gottlieb, M. Puchta, C. Solnon]	A Study of Greedy, Local Search, and Ant Colony Optimization Approaches for Car Sequencing Problems	Yes	[7]	2003	EvoWorkshop 2003	12	46	5	13	24
HoevePR506 HoevePR506	[Willem Jan van Hoeve, G. Pesant, L. Rousseau, A. Sabharwal]	Revisiting the Sequence Constraint	Yes	[23]	2006	CP 2006	15	33	7	14	21
OzturkTHO13 OzturkTHO13	[C. Ozturk, S. Tunali, B. Hnich, M. Arslan Ornek]	Balancing and scheduling of flexible mixed model assembly lines	No	[13]	2013	Constraints An Int. J.	36	31	44	No	57
WarwickT95 WarwickT95	[T. Warwick, Edward P. K. Tsang]	Tackling Car Sequencing Problems Using a Generic Genetic Algorithm	No	[25]	1995	Evolutionary Computation	null	28	0	No	64
HindilP94 HindilP94	[Khalil S. Hindil, G. Płoszajski]	Formulation and solution of a selection and sequencing problem in car manufacture	No	[8]	1994	Computers Industrial Engineering	null	24	4	No	65
PerronS04 PerronS04	[L. Perron, P. Shaw]	Combining Forces to Solve the Car Sequencing Problem	Yes	[15]	2004	CPAIOR 2004	15	17	9	16	23
SialaHH155 SialaHH155	[M. Siala, E. Hebrard, M. Huguet]	A study of constraint programming heuristics for the car-sequencing problem	No	[20]	2015	Eng. Appl. Artif. Intell.	11	15	10	No	54
GolleRB14 GolleRB14	[U. Golle, F. Rothlauf, N. Boysen]	Iterative beam search for car sequencing	No	[6]	2014	Annals of Operations Research	null	15	15	No	55
HoevePR509 HoevePR509	[Willem-Jan van Hoeve, G. Pesant, L. Rousseau, A. Sabharwal]	New filtering algorithms for combinations of among constraints	No	[24]	2009	Constraints An Int. J.	null	13	8	No	59
MoyaCB19 MoyaCB19	[I. Moya, M. Chica, J. Bautista]	Constructive metaheuristics for solving the Car Sequencing Problem under uncertain partial demand	No	[12]	2019	Computers Industrial Engineering	1	8	44	No	50
SialaHH14 SialaHH14	[M. Siala, E. Hebrard, M. Huguet]	An optimal arc consistency algorithm for a particular case of sequence constraint	Yes	[19]	2014	Constraints An Int. J.	27	3	14	47	56
ZhangGWH17 ZhangGWH17	[X. ZHANG, L. GAO, L. WEN, Z. HUANG]	Parallel Construction Heuristic Combined with Constraint Propagation for the Car Sequencing Problem	No	[29]	2017	Chinese Journal of Mechanical Engineering CPAIOR 2014	null	3	32	No	52
ArtiguesHMW14 ArtiguesHMW14	[C. Artigues, E. Hebrard, V. Mayer-Eichberger, M. Siala, T. Walsh]	SAT and Hybrid Models of the Car Sequencing Problem	Yes	[11]	2014	CPAIOR 2014	16	2	16	10	18
YuLZCLW22 YuLZCLW22	[Y. Yu, X. Lu, T. Zhao, M. Cheng, L. Liu, W. Wei]	Heuristic approaches for the car sequencing problems with block batches	No	[28]	2022	EURASIP Journal on Wireless Communications and Networking	null	2	37	No	48
DincbasSH88 DincbasSH88	[M. Dincbas, H. Simonis, Pascal Van Hentenryck]	Solving the Car-Sequencing Problem in Constraint Logic Programming	Yes	[5]	1988	ECAI 1988	6	0	0	12	26
Siala15 Siala15	[M. Siala]	Search, propagation, and learning in sequencing and scheduling problems. (Recherche, propagation et apprendre dans les problèmes de séquencement et d'ordonnancement)	Yes	[18]	2015	INSA Toulouse, France	200	0	0	134	n/a

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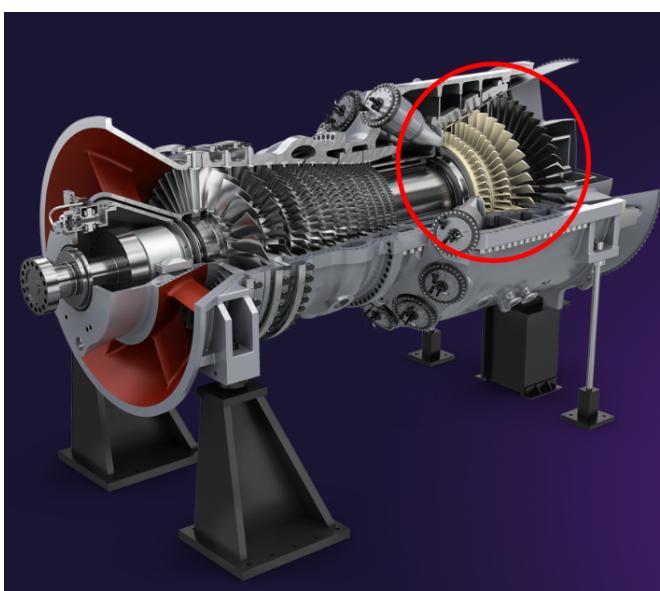
More Detailed Example Applications

- Production Planning and Scheduling
 - Siemens Energy, part of ASSISTANT project
- Outpatient Waitlist Management
 - Working within health service
- Elevator Maintenance Planning and Scheduling
 - Combination with simulation
- Selection of other problem types
 - Only summary slide shown

An Industrial Example

- ASSISTANT project Siemens Energy use case
- Mid/Long-term scheduling/production planning
- Realistic/not real data
- Rather complex constraint model
 - Multi-stage BOM
 - Alternative Process Paths
 - Alternative machines
 - Quality/cost based routing preferences
 - Potential outsourcing of certain steps
 - Machine specific calendars
 - Infeasible release/due date pairs
 - Calendar dependent speed reduction
 - Complex manpower constraints

Assistant Siemens Energy Use Case



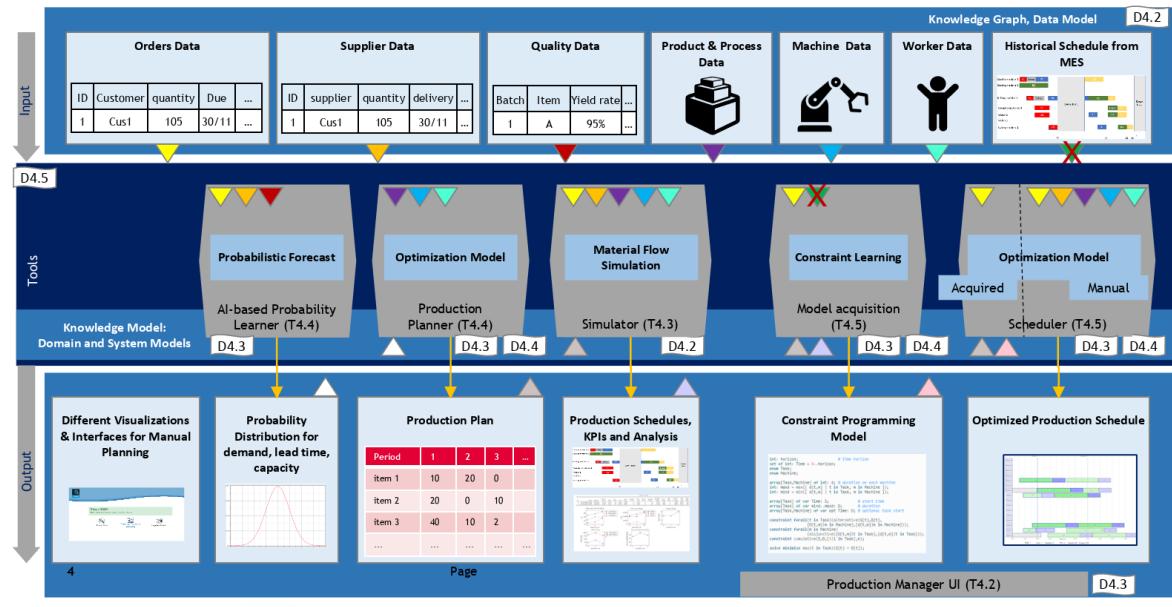
Use Case Scenarios

- Schedule *validation* of gas turbine blades and vanes manufacturing operations in Berlin plant
- Schedule *optimization* to manage short-term, mid-term and long-term load fluctuations
- Generate *Make-or-Buy proposals* for workload balancing within the manufacturing network

Digital Twin

Intelligent digital twin for process planning and scheduling

ASSISTANT

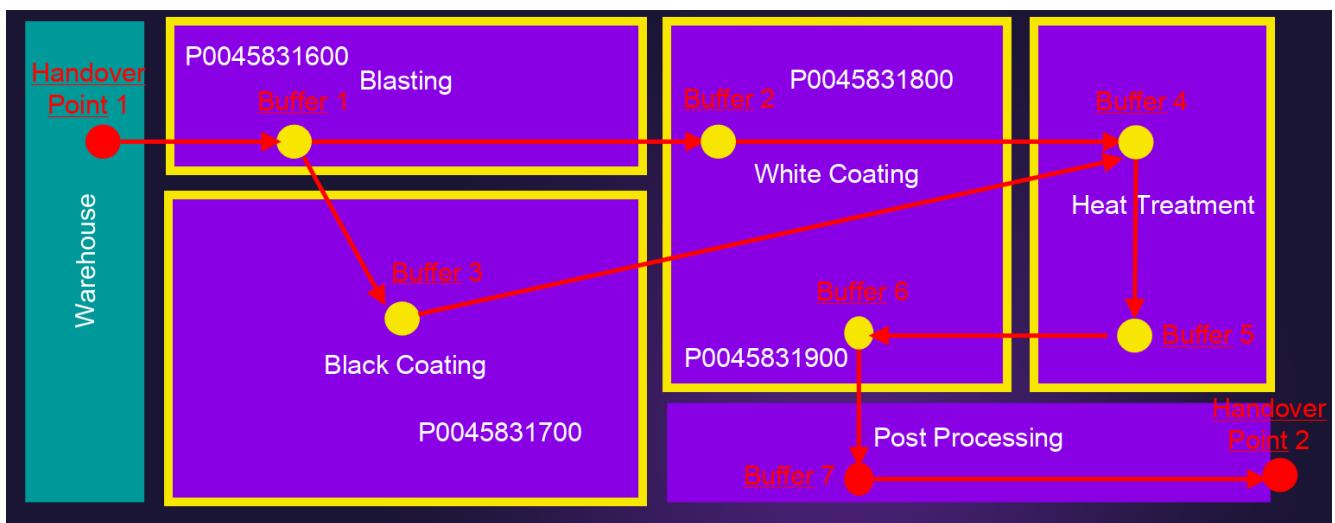


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ASSISTANT SE Use Case

Insight

SE Product Routing



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ASSISTANT SE Use Case

Insight

Datasets

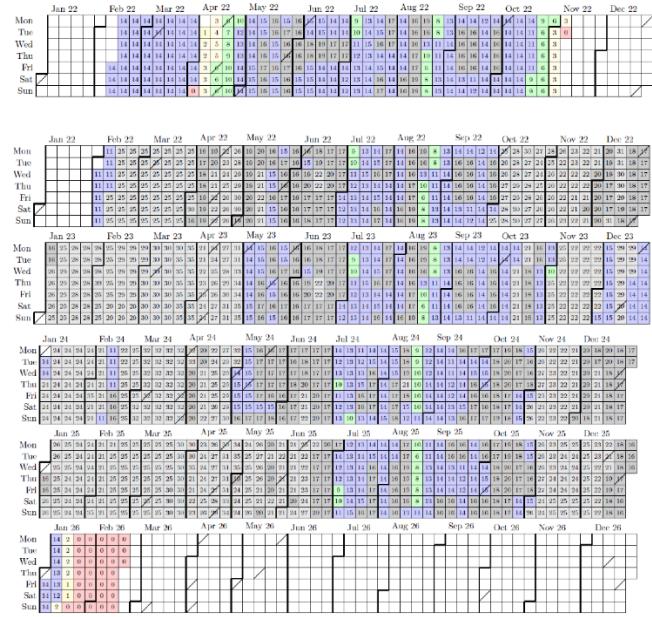
Full Scale Datasets

Berlin06: 96 orders, 9 months horizon, previous review

Berlin07: 450 orders, 4 years horizon

Berlin08: 559 orders, Christmas gap added

Berlin08a: 670 orders, filling gaps



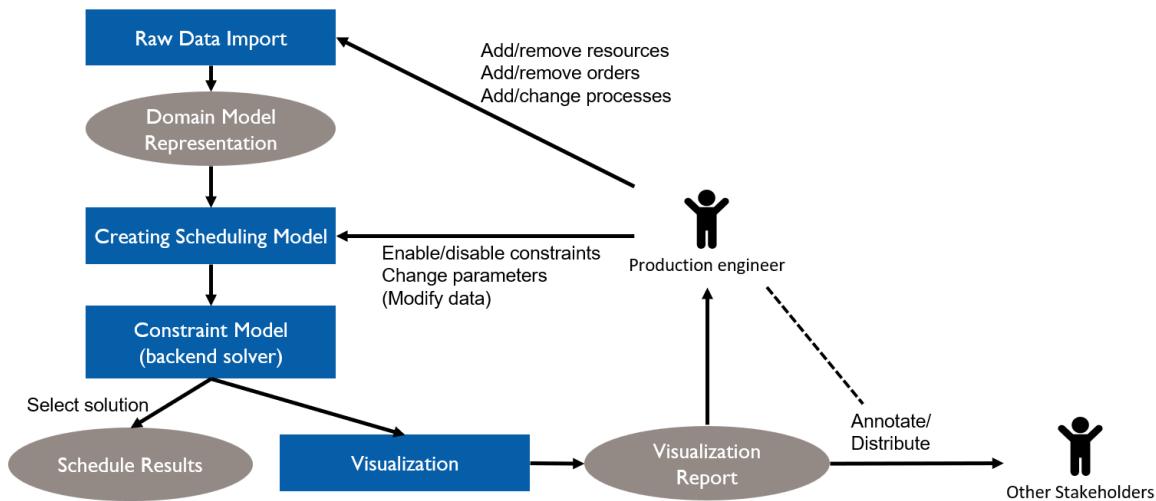
Value in cell indicates active orders
Yellow and red colors indicate low order volume

ASSISTANT SE Use Case

Insight

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Optimizer High Level Structure



ASSISTANT SE Use Case

Insight

28

Raw Data - Manual Data Entry Causes Problems

- Raw data come from spreadsheet
 - 20 tabs
 - Excel is a particularly bad input data format
 - Realistic, not real data
 - Created by hand/automatically from existing test scenarios
 - Series of files Berlin01 - Berlin05 were too inconsistent to run
 - Berlin06 still contains some errors
 - Optimizer explains all issues that it finds

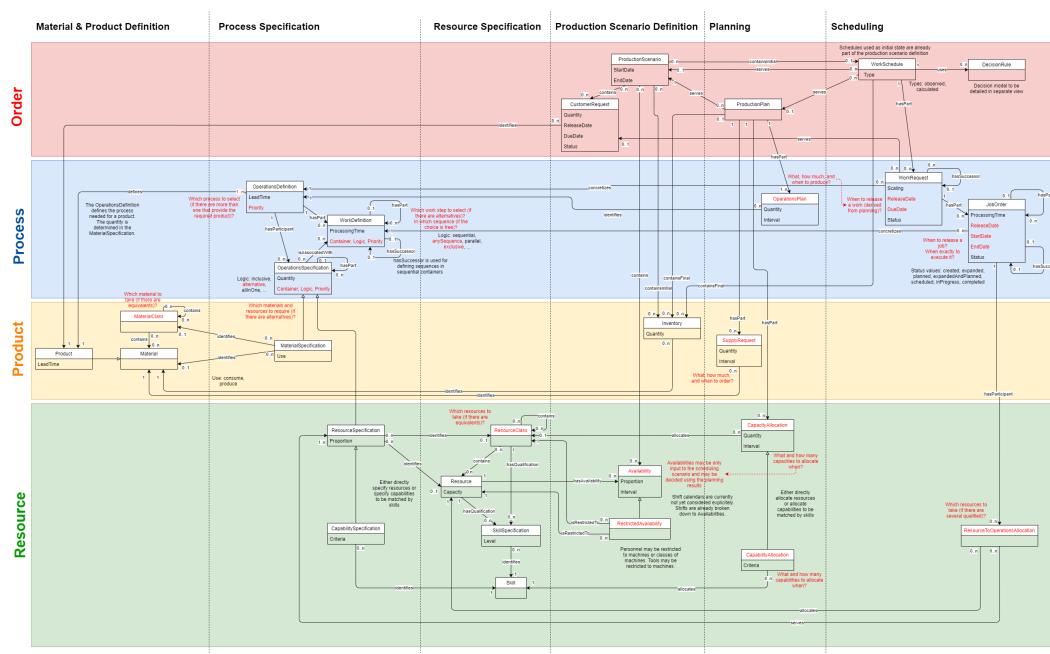
ASSISTANT Project Siemens Energy Use Case - Insight SFI Centre for Data Analytics						
File	Edit	Scenario	View	Window	Help	
RawIssue X						
Name	Severity	Sheet	RowNr	ColNr	Description	
Issue1	Major	t_Load	129	11	DateTime not formatted correctly; found 2022-02-2800:00:00 format yyyy-MM-dd'T'HHmmss	
Issue2	Minor	t_Products	1	15		Extra Empty Header
Issue3	Minor	t_Availabilities	1	8		Extra Empty Header
Issue4	Minor	t_Unavailabilities	1	8		Extra Empty Header
Issue5	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	1	6		Extra Empty Header
Issue6	Major	t_Shift_Segments	1	1	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.250000 format HHmmss	
Issue7	Major	t_Shift_Segments	1	2	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.583333 format HHmmss	
Issue8	Major	t_Shift_Segments	2	1	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.291667 format HHmmss	
Issue9	Major	t_Shift_Segments	2	2	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.302083 format HHmmss	
Issue10	Major	t_Shift_Segments	3	1	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.483333 format HHmmss	
Issue11	Major	t_Shift_Segments	3	2	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.479167 format HHmmss	
Issue12	Major	t_Shift_Segments	4	1	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.583333 format HHmmss	
Issue13	Major	t_Shift_Segments	4	2	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.916667 format HHmmss	
Issue14	Major	t_Shift_Segments	5	1	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.666667 format HHmmss	
Issue15	Major	t_Shift_Segments	5	2	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.677083 format HHmmss	
Issue16	Major	t_Shift_Segments	6	1	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.770833 format HHmmss	
Issue17	Major	t_Shift_Segments	6	2	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.791667 format HHmmss	
Issue18	Major	t_Shift_Segments	7	1	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.916667 format HHmmss	
Issue19	Major	t_Shift_Segments	7	2	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.250000 format HHmmss	
Issue20	Major	t_Shift_Segments	8	1	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.000000 format HHmmss	
Issue21	Major	t_Shift_Segments	8	2	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.010417 format HHmmss	
Issue22	Major	t_Shift_Segments	9	1	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.083333 format HHmmss	
Issue23	Major	t_Shift_Segments	9	2	TimeOnly not formatted correctly; found 0.104167 format HHmmss	
Issue24	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	10	0		First Column Empty
Issue25	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	11	0		First Column Empty
Issue26	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	12	0		First Column Empty
Issue27	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	13	0		First Column Empty
Issue28	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	14	0		First Column Empty
Issue29	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	15	0		First Column Empty
Issue30	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	16	0		First Column Empty
Issue31	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	17	0		First Column Empty
Issue32	Minor	t_Shift_Segments	18	0		First Column Empty
Issue33	Minor	t_Shift_Patterns	1	9		Extra Empty Header
Issue34	Minor	t_Shift_Patterns	7	0		First Column Empty
Issue35	Minor	t_Shift_Patterns	8	0		First Column Empty

29

ASSISTANT SF | Use Case



Domain Model - Knowledge Graph

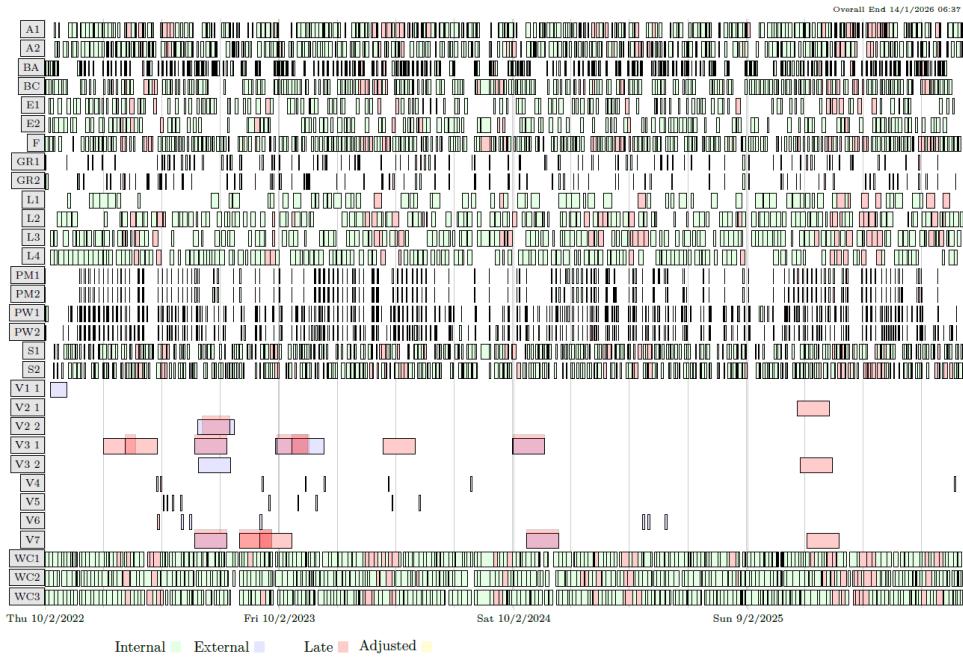


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ASSISTANT SE Use Case



Single Solution for Berlin 08a - Shows Only 20% of Tasks in Model



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ASSISTANT SE Use Case

Insight

Implementation

- Requirement capture done inside project
- Data checking/cleaning most time consuming aspect
- Some specified functionality was rejected by Betriebsrat
- Built in Java
- Uses IBM's CPO back-end
- 120k LoC, 110k generated, 3k solver
- Outperforms both
 - Current in-house tool
 - Simulation based tool based on commercial simulator
- System installed at SE site, but not in daily use

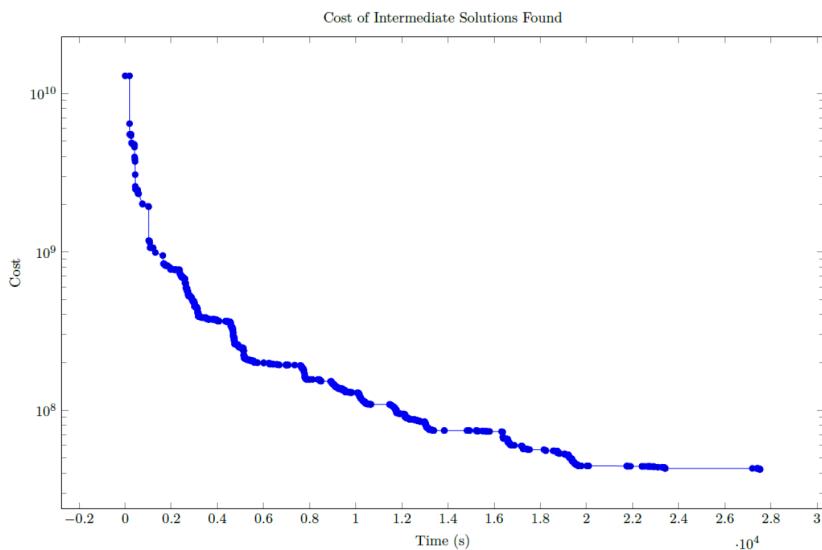
32

ASSISTANT SE Use Case

Insight

CPO Keeps on Trucking

Figure 23: Evolution of Intermediate Solution Cost over Time, Dataset08, Pref 2 Options, time limit 8 hours



Conclusion

“Within less than eight hours the ASSISTANT tools provided us thousands of manufacturing scenarios including different make-or-buy recommendations for making deliberate decisions on the way to proceed for strategic planning.”

Siemens SE final project review assessment

Joint work with...

- Mike O'Keeffe
- Adrian O'Leary
- Barry O'Sullivan
- At Insight Centre for Data Analytics, University College Cork

Real-World Problem

- Healthcare in Ireland
- Wait times for patients are out of control, even before Covid-19
- Longer wait times, poorer patient outcomes
- Critical to understand where to invest
- Currently: no tools to understand how changes affect performance

Research Challenges

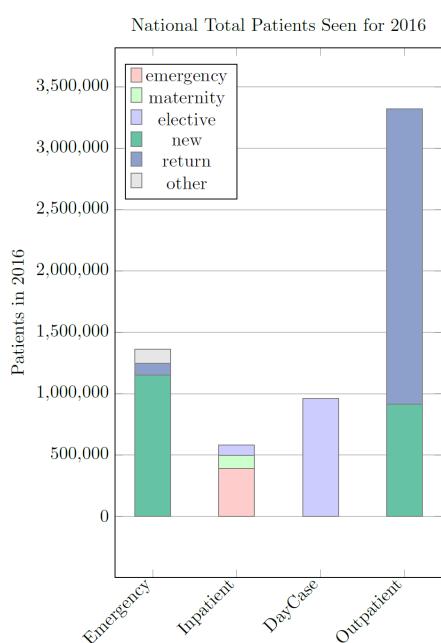
- How to model hospital environment, many independent actors
- Deal with uncertain demand, and uncertain outcomes
- Understand where capacity is lost/not used

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Outpatient Waitlist Management

Insight 

Hospital Services Overview



Data: HSE Management Data Report, Dec 2016

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Outpatient Waitlist Management

Insight 

Outpatient Types

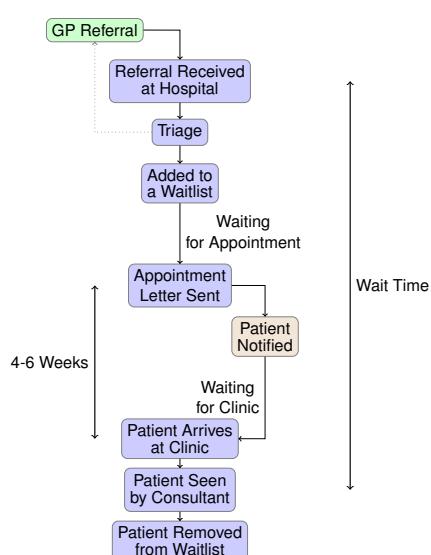
Rapid access seen within 14 days

Urgent seen within 28 days

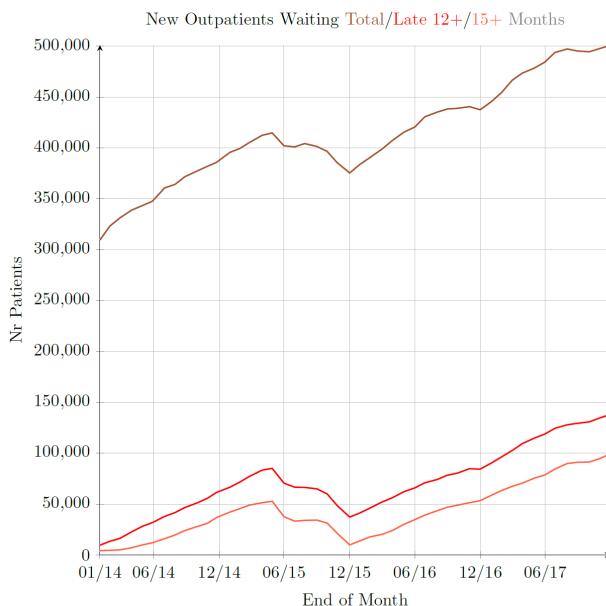
Soon seen within 3 months

Routine seen within 12 months (13 weeks, 15 months, 18 months?)

Outpatient Waitlist Management Process (Simplified)

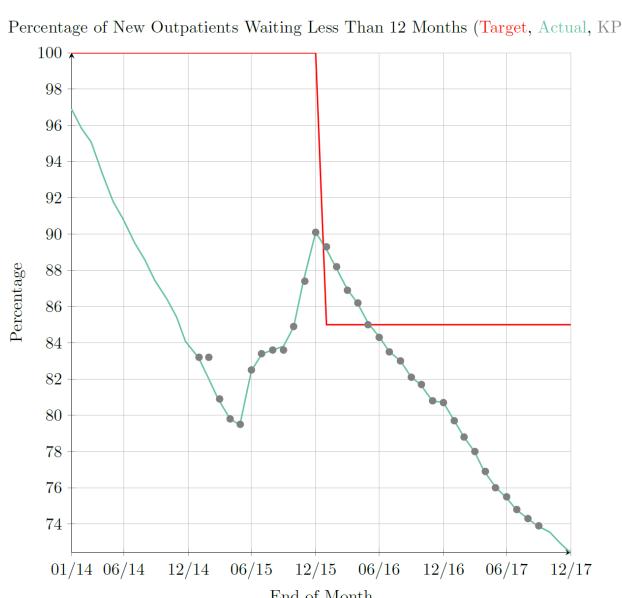


The Bad News



Data: NTPF

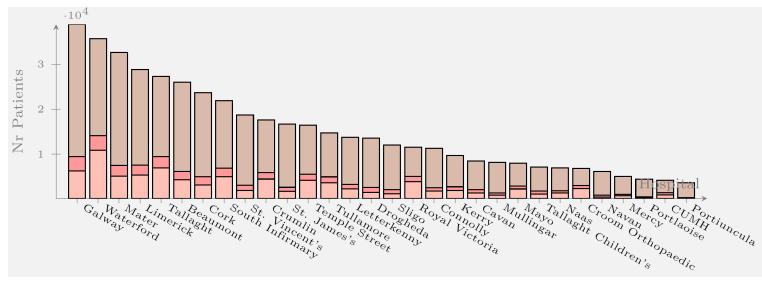
KPI: Waiting Time Percentage



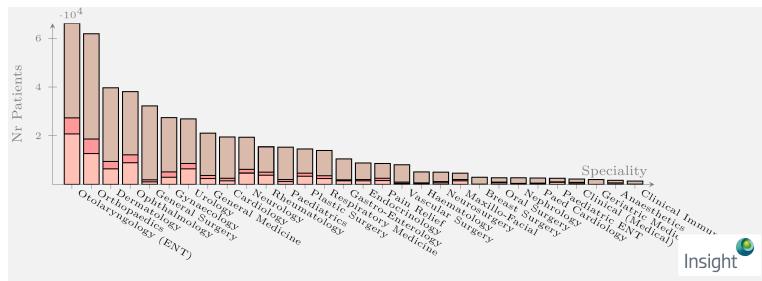
Data: HSE

A Near Universal Problem in Ireland

By Hospital



By Speciality



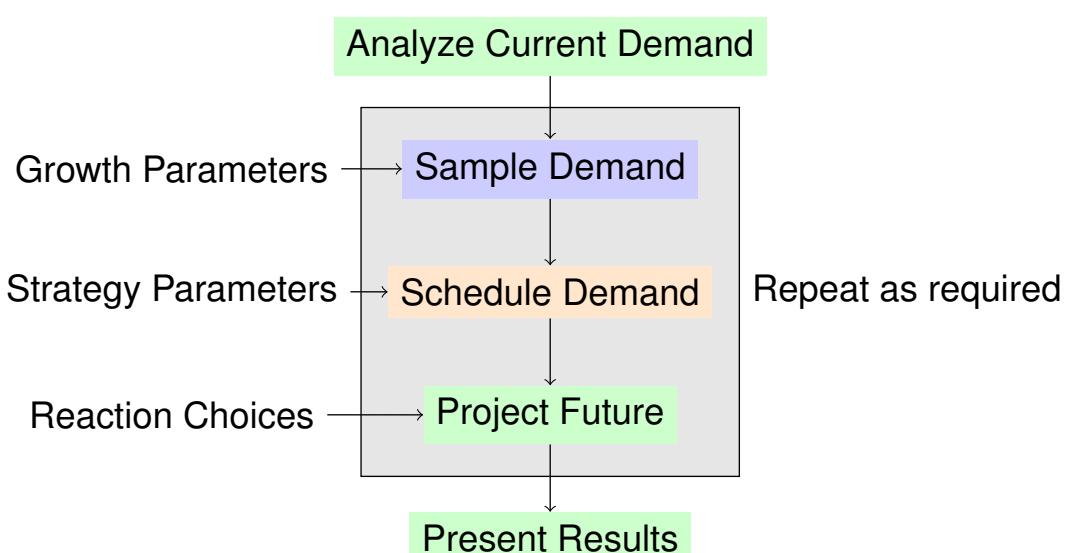
Our Brief

- Concentrate on Outpatients
- Develop strategy for appointment decision making
- What-if tool to understand the impact of decisions
- Support current stakeholders
- Not: Build automated appointment scheduling tool

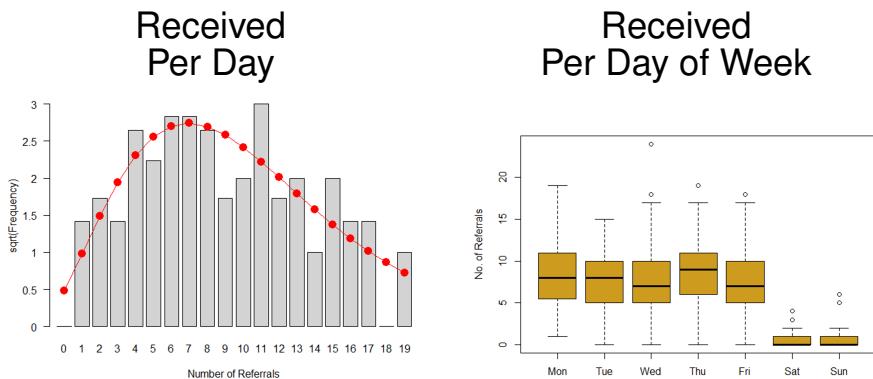
The Appointment Conundrum

- We have to give “routine” appointment before knowing “urgent” demand
- There is limited capacity
- No overtime allowed (Croke Park agreement)
- How much capacity to set aside for urgent cases?
- How much overbooking is possible?

Methodology

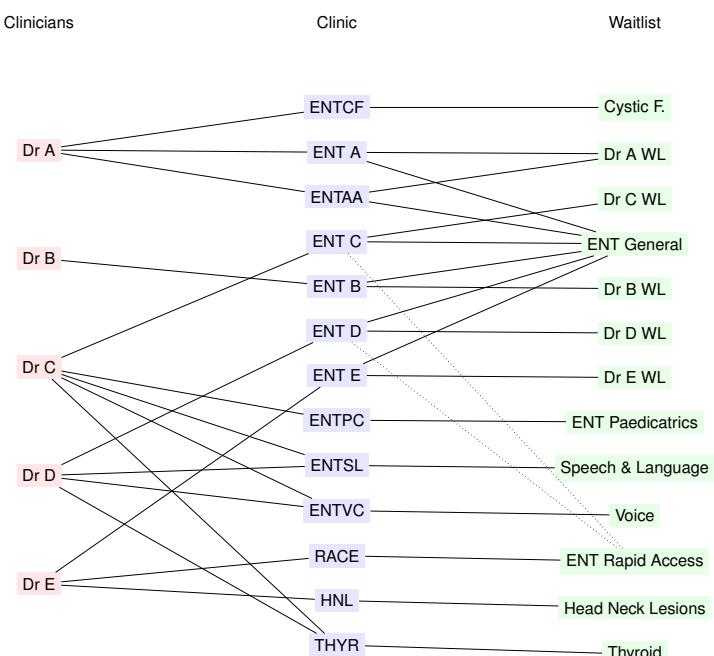


Demand Data (Not Public)

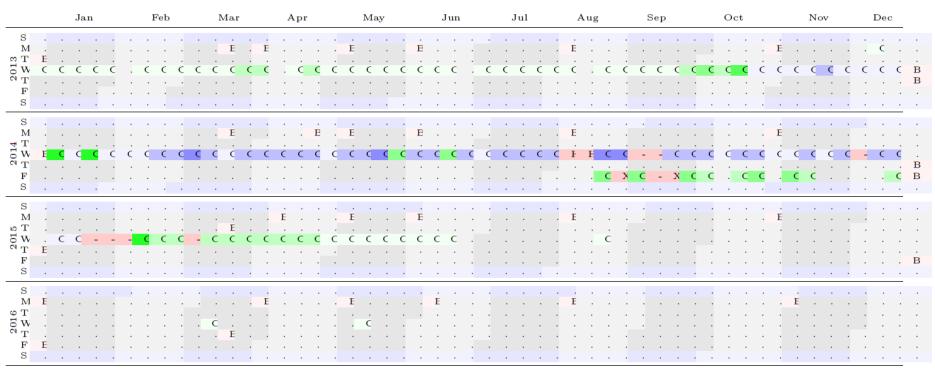


- Fitting distributions
 - Poisson, not good fit
 - Negative Binomial
- Limited Seasonality (unlike Emergency Department)

Waitlist/Clinic Model



Learning Capacity from Historical Data

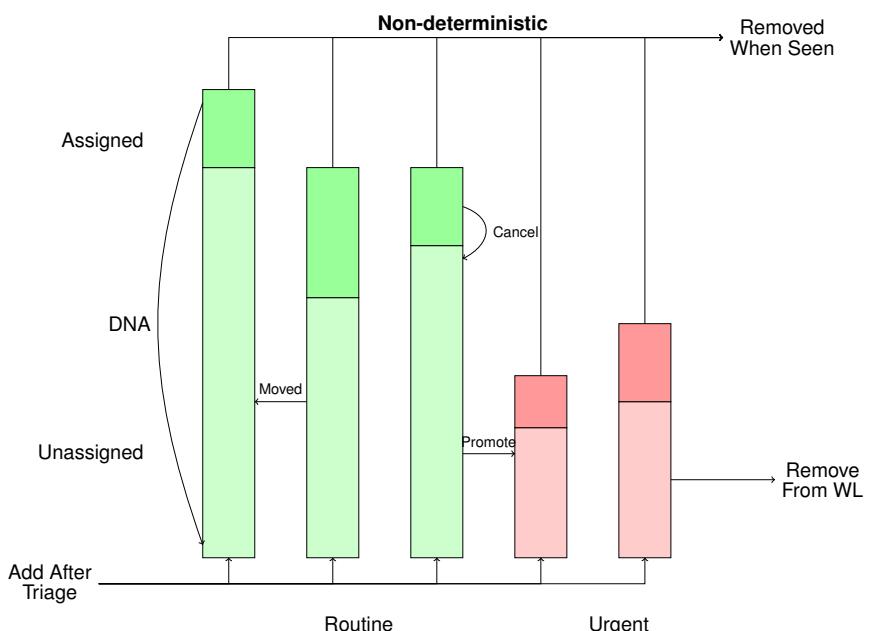


- Repeat frequency
- Capacity
- Cancellation frequency
- Replacement clinics

Optimization Problem

- Assign waiting patients to slots in clinics
- Use appropriate clinic for given patient
- Make appointments k_p days in advance
- Free and reuse slots when patients cancel
- Reschedule patients when clinic cancelled
- Do not change appointments otherwise
- Reserve u slots for urgent cases
- Solved for each day

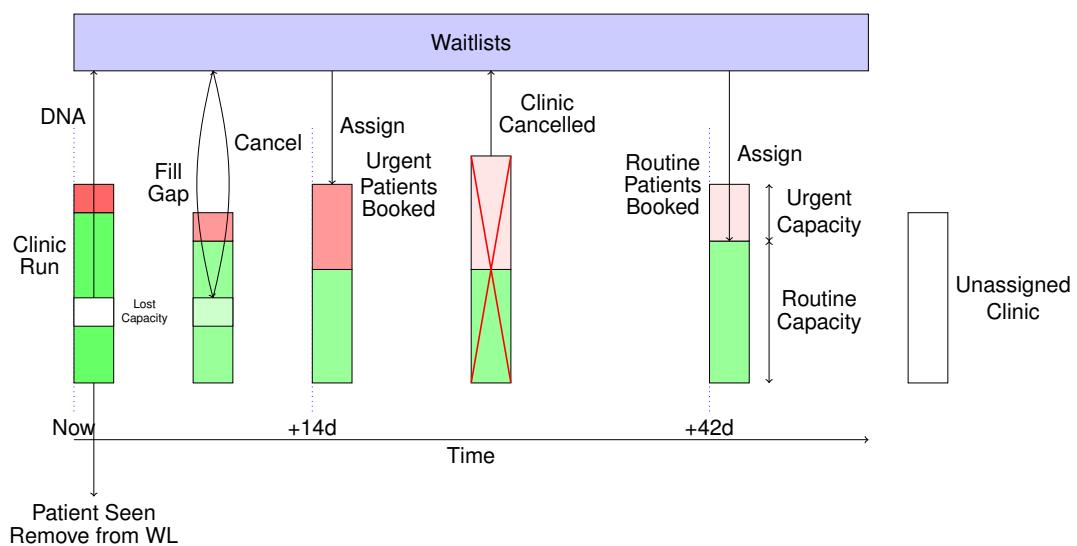
Waitlist Actions



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Outpatient Waitlist Management

Clinic Allocation



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Outpatient Waitlist Management

Baseline Analysis, Management View



OWL2 (baseline): Thursday 4th August, 2016, at 22:58

Insight

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Outpatient Waitlist Management

Insight

Scenario: Balance Patients Between Hospitals



OWL2 (balanced; ENTMH can serve all hospitals with overall capacity): Thursday 4th August, 2016, at 17:02

Insight

55

Outpatient Waitlist Management

Insight

Scenario: Reduce DNA (Did not attend) to 5%



OWL2 (DNA 5 percent for routine patients): Thursday 4th August, 2016, at 16:59

Insight

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Outpatient Waitlist Management

Insight

Scenario: Add Capacity



OWL2 (25 New Patients per Week from 1/10/2016): Thursday 4th August, 2016, at 17:06

Insight

57

Outpatient Waitlist Management

Insight

Summary

- Presented case study from Irish health system
- Strategy for outpatient appointments
- Mix of analytics, simulation, and optimization
- Nation-wide analysis of available data
- What-if tool for selected departments

Joint work with...

- Mark Antunes, Vincent Armant, Kenneth N. Brown, Gabriel G. Castane, Daniel Desmond, Guillaume Escamocher, Michele Garraffa, Anne-Marie George, Diarmuid Grimes, Mike O'Keefe, Yiqing Lin, Barry O'Sullivan, Cemalettin Ozturk, Luis Quesada, Mohamed Siala, Helmut Simonis and Nic Wilson

Real World Problem

- Manufacturing Industry, after sales support
- Maintenance is crucial for safety/availability of product
- Preventive/Predictive/Reactive Maintenance influence each other
- How to organize service, what to do?

Research Challenge

- How to plan/schedule if events interrupt planned work
- How to use predictive maintenance to avoid problems before they occur
- What is the right problem decomposition?

Travelling Repair Person (TRP)

- Providing service for devices at customer premises
- Planned preventive maintenance and testing, regular visits
- Technicians travel to multiple, but few customers per day
- Unplanned repair work after faults, response-time critical
- Service times quite variable
- Impact of skills and local knowledge

Why is this important? (1)

 South China Morning Post

Connecting quality brands in **different industries** with educated and affluent readers.

Law and Crime

Lift firm Otis fined HK\$320,000 over Hong Kong mall escalator accident that injured 18

Company, which pleaded guilty to four summonses, could have discovered safety issues with escalator three months before malfunction, court told



Jasmine Siu

Published: 8:15pm, 9 Mar, 2018 ▾

Why is this important? (2)

BIG STORY 10 APRIL 5, 2016 / 6:40 AM / 3 YEARS AGO

Schindler sells Japanese business to Otis after accident

2 MIN READ



ZURICH (Reuters) - Elevator maker Schindler is selling its Japanese business to United Technologies' Otis unit after its new installations in the country were halted following a 2006 accident.

Source:  REUTERS

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Elevator Maintenance Planning and Scheduling

Insight 

Why is this important? (3)

Elevator at one of Chicago's tallest skyscrapers plunges 84 floors after hoist rope breaks

NOVEMBER 19, 2018 / 10:47 AM / CBS NEWS



Source: By Chris6d - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=78201640>

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Elevator Maintenance Planning and Scheduling

Insight 

High-level View

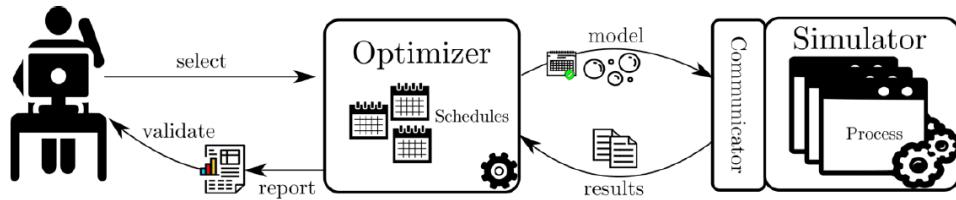


Figure 1 High level overview of the framework

- Optimizer deals with planning, load balancing, efficient schedules
- Simulator explores how to react to changes
- Simulator also provides one result as assumed reality

Optimizer Design

- Infeasible to build homogenous model for complete problem
- Added business process constraint
 - Technicians should be responsible for “their” buildings
 - Improves service quality
 - Customers see familiar face
- All work in one building should be performed by the same engineer, if possible
- Engineers should be assigned compact areas of work
- Balanced workload within the same depot

Optimizer Decomposition

Clustering

Route Generation

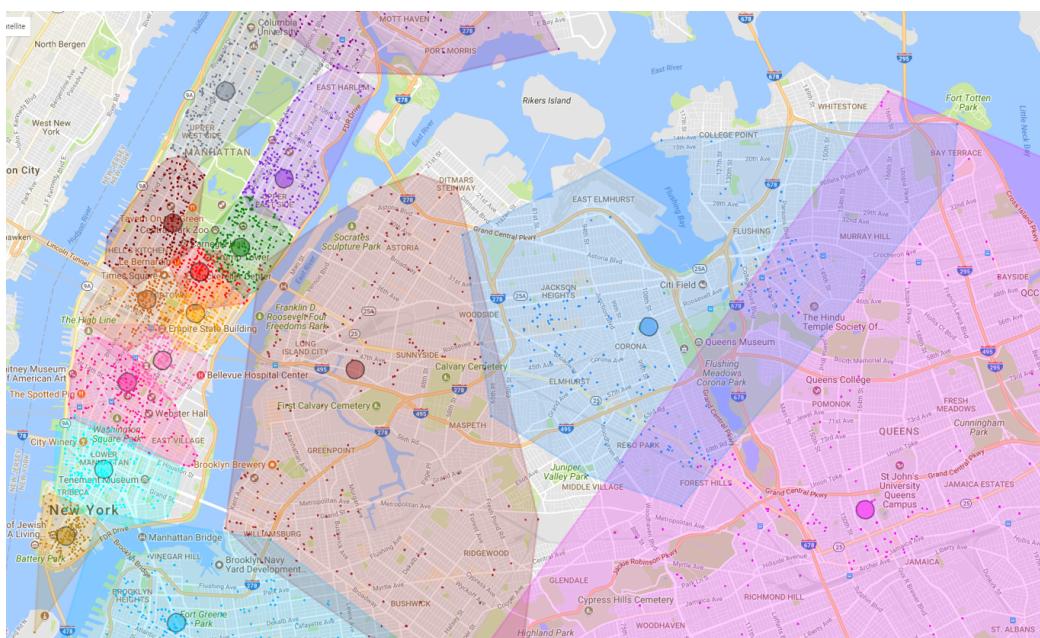


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Elevator Maintenance Planning and Scheduling

Insight

Clustering and Depot Assignment



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Elevator Maintenance Planning and Scheduling

Insight

Scheduling: One Day of Monthly Plan



Methods Used

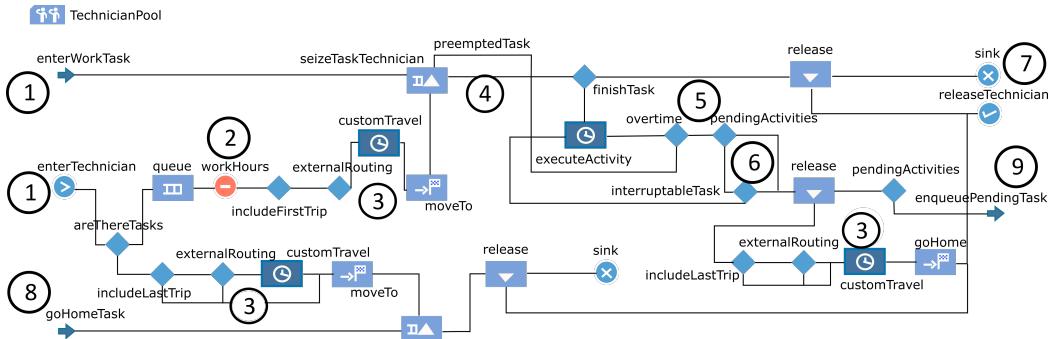
Clustering Connected components on generated graph

Routing Which places to visit in one trip

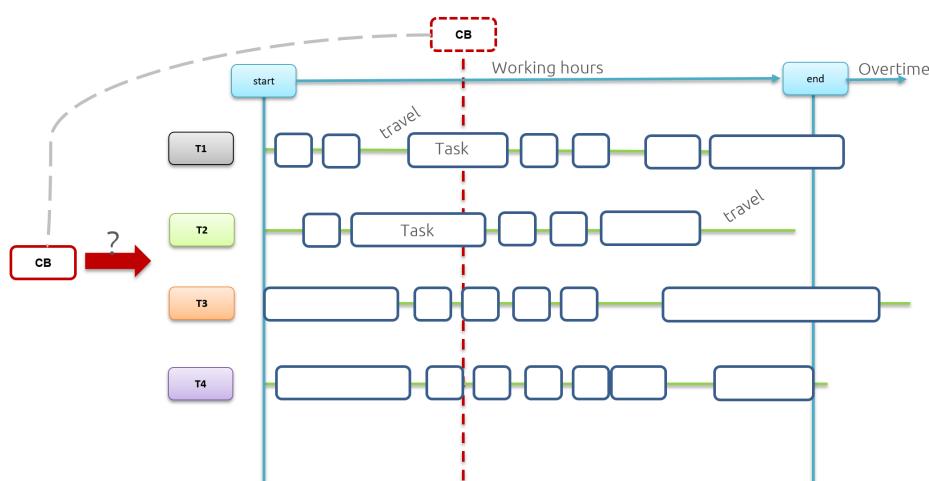
- Core MIP Model
- Iterative MIP inside Clustering
- Two stage grouping of locations to reduce expected travel
- Local Search

Scheduling Dynamic Programming and Set Partitioning

Simulator Process Modelling



Dealing with Unplanned Callbacks



- Who is dealing with the callback?
- How to adjust the schedule after callback?

Use Cases

- Compare variants of problem to understand impact of changes
- Examples
 - Where to place depots and their area?
 - How many technicians are needed in which depots?
 - Should technicians do both planned and unplanned work?
 - When is overtime the better choice?

Scenario Evaluation: KPI Comparison

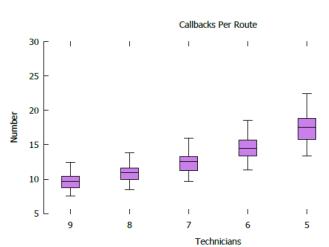


Figure 6 Callbacks per route (technician)

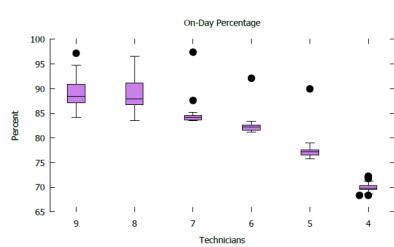


Figure 7 Percentage of tasks performed per tasks

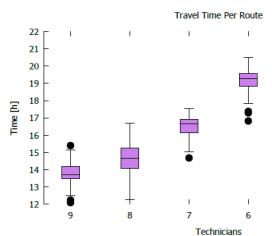


Figure 9 Travel time per technician

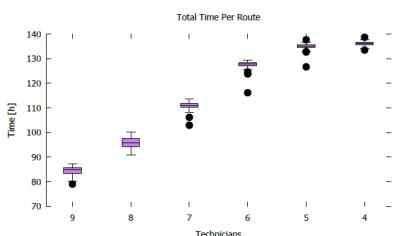
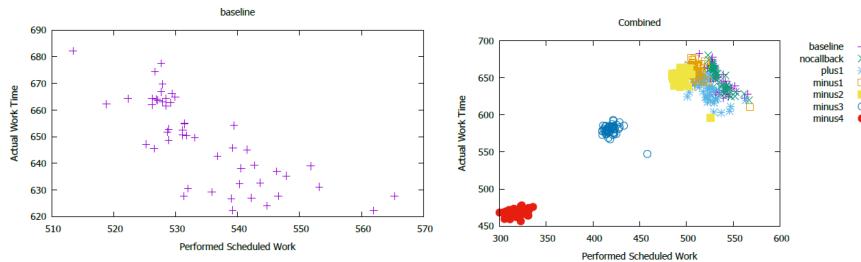


Figure 8 Total time per technician

Scenario Evaluation: Qualitative Differences



- On left, each point shows the outcome of one month of optimization+simulation
- On right, compare outcomes for different scenarios, clear clustering of results

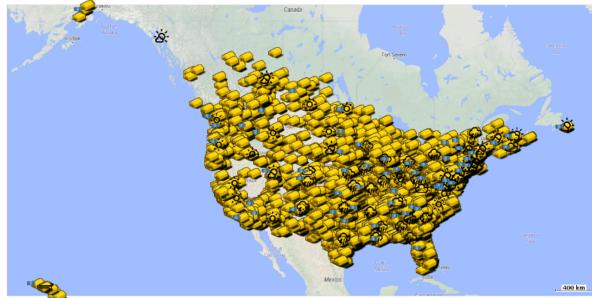
Challenges: Data

- We need company internal data to understand problem
- Problem for publication, for continued work
- Open data as alternatives
 - New York City
 - 76,000 elevators with locations
 - Toronto, ON
 - 40,000 elevators
 - Inspection dates, outcomes
 - Accident and injury reports

Challenges: Scalability

Data source	Locations
Arby's	3347
Burger King	7269
Dairy Queen	5189
Dominos Pizza	3261
Dunking donuts	8134
KFC	5637
Little Caesars	4019
Mc Donald's	15474
Papa John's	3089
Pizza Hut	6672
Starbucks	11788
Subway	2213
Taco bell	6996
Wendy's	6140
Walmart	22212

- 136663 total locations (cleaned noisy data)
- 1 Unit per location
- 63 areas (US + Canada)
- Experiments definition:
 - 1, 10, 100, 1000, 10000 technicians per area



Challenges: Tools and Results

- We provide research and experimental software
- **Not** a solution
- End-user would like applicable results
- Managing expectations is important

Conclusions

- We presented the Travelling Repair Person Problem
- Important as an industrial problem
- Interesting as a research challenge
- We use combination of optimization and simulation to deal with novel properties of problem
- System transferred to customer in 2019

Other Noteworthy Applications

- NVD LoadBuilder
- Boliden Tara Mines Dewatering
- Dental School Timetabling
- Irish Naval Service Rostering
- Data Centre Load Consolidation
- Scheduling with Time Variable Energy Prices
- Characterizing EDF Power Plants with Timeseries Constraints
- Optical Network Design
- Supplier Selection Problem
- Optimizing UCC's CHP Plant Operation
- CP Conference Paper Assignment Tool

NVD LoadBuilder

- Real-World Problem
 - Deliver cars/vans from factory/ports to dealers
 - Group cars into loads for joint delivery
 - Using specialized transporters with complex configurations
 - Balance distance travelled, utilization of fleet, priority of orders
- Status
 - In daily use at customer since 2020
 - Start-up company CMC to further develop tool



- Research Challenges
 - Vehicle routing problem with complex capacity constraints
 - Decide which cars to deliver today
 - What impact does this have tomorrow
 - Explaining solutions to end-user
- Solution Approach
 - Decomposition
 - MIP, Constraint Programming, Local Search, Data Analytics

Boliden Tara Mines Dewatering

- Real-World Problem
 - When/how to pump water out of mine
 - Multiple pumps, reservoirs
 - Electricity cost major cost factor
 - Safe operation of mine paramount
- Status
 - Student-led project with DCU
 - Paper at AAAI 2016
 - Major flooding event in 2021



- Research Challenges
 - Scheduling with uncertain energy prices (real-time tariff)
 - Uncertain water ingress depends on operations
 - Capacity (min/max) constraints for storage
- Solution Approach
 - Electricity price prediction
 - Optimization

Dental School Timetabling

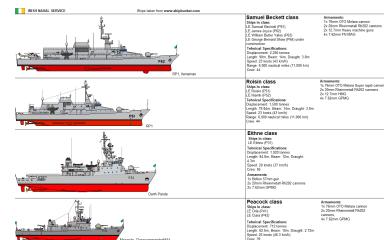
- Real-World Problem
 - Change time table during period of teaching capacity increase
 - Previous schedule no longer feasible
 - Multiple courses share same lab space (dental chairs) at the same time
 - Hard capacity limits on available resources and time slots
- Status
 - Used by dental school during transition period
 - Paper in IAAI 2013, AI Mag 2014



- Research Challenges
 - Very different from standard timetabling problem
 - Hard/soft capacity constraints
 - Tool cleaning setup time constraints
- Solution Approach
 - Optimization
 - Flexible prioritization of constraints

Irish Naval Service Yearly Rostering

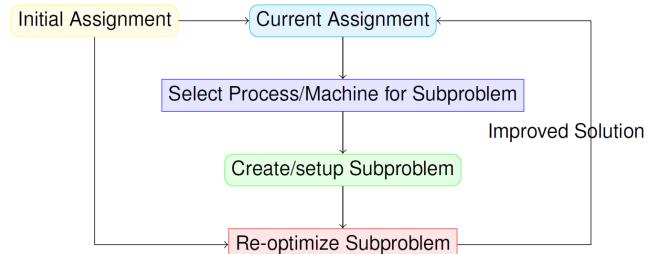
- Real-World Problem
 - Decide which ships are performing which type of duty over the year
 - Budget limitations on total time at sea
 - Fair share of work across fleet
 - Fixed maintenance periods for certain ships
 - Special events (flotilla exercises, detached duty)
- Status
 - Prototype results produced for service



- Research Challenges
 - Finding the best tool and model for problem
 - Balanced assignment under budget constraints
 - Provide consistent force levels over whole year
 - Fair assignment of work/rest days across fleet
- Solution Approach
 - Optimization

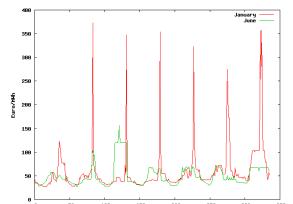
Data Centre Load Consolidation

- Real-World Problem
 - Move virtual machines between servers in a data centre
 - Balance/concentrate workload on multiple resource types
 - Extend to multiple data centres across world
- Status
 - 2nd place in Google Roadef/Euro Challenge 2012
 - Multiple papers



- Research Challenges
 - Reassignment problem
 - Multi-bin packing constraints
 - Large neighbourhood search to deal with problem size
- Solution Approach
 - Optimization
 - New tools/propagators

Scheduling with Time Variable Energy Prices

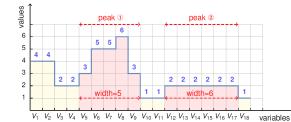


- Real-World Problem
 - How do time-variable electricity prices affect scheduling of use
 - Uncertainty of prices, sudden peak prices common in Ireland
 - In most cases, we have to commit to production before price is known
 - Deal with risk/possible rewards
- Status
 - Multiple papers
 - Continued work on price prediction with industry

- Research Challenges
 - Can we use time variable electricity prices to our advantage?
 - Which properties should a price prediction model have to help with scheduling?
 - Can we tune price prediction for the use case it is intended for?
- Solution Approach
 - Machine Learning
 - Optimization

Characterizing EDF Power Plants

- Real-World Problem
 - Unit Commitment Model for electricity supply
 - Decide which units to run when to satisfy demand/minimize cost
 - Change of production for different units is limited over time
 - Very error-prone integration into global model
- Status
 - Joint work with IMT-Atlantique, EDF Research
 - Series of papers on time-series constraints, Volume II of Global Constraint Catalog



• Research Challenges

- Can we characterize the production limits of power plants as time-series constraints?
- Learn constraints from historical data (planned/actual)
- Create model of individual plants to describe their capabilities
- Find redundant constraints to overcome limits of propagation

• Solution Approach

- Machine Learning
- Automata constraints
- Generated code for propagators

Optical Network Design

- Real-World Problem
 - Core optical network design
 - Different from traditional IP network design
 - Define paths from source to sink
 - Use multiple frequency (light) bands over same fibre
- Status
 - paper ICTAI 2014



• Research Challenges

- Modelling Choices
- Amount of propagation achieved
- Scalability of methods

• Solution Approach

- Global Constraints

Supplier Selection Problem

Texas Instruments © SN7400N Logic IC Operating temperature 0..+70 °C Series SN7400 Function: Quad / 2 Input / NAND Manufacturer: Texas Instruments Package: DIL 14 Technology: TTL							€0.631	Add to BOM	 Datasheet at TI.com	 CAD Models
Distributor	SKU	Stock	MOQ	Pkg	1	10	100	1,000	10,000	
Digi-Key	296-146615-ND	3,644	1	Tube	EUR	1.39	12.4	0.967	0.631	
Verical	SN7400N	9,975	525		EUR*	1.34	11.5	0.894	0.564	
Avnet	SN7400N	513	1		EUR*	1.32	1.32	0.893	0.564	
Farnell	1105937	874	1		EUR	1.32	1.32	0.893	0.549	
TI Store	SN7400N	5,787	1	Tube	EUR*	1.26	11.2	0.886	0.478	

Show All

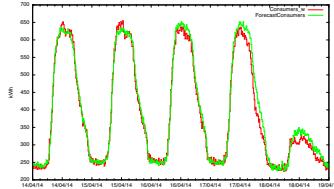
Specs Descriptions Manufacturer Page

- Real-World Problem
 - Which suppliers to select to provide list of components
 - Limit number of suppliers by ordering multiple items from same supplier
 - Price/lead time/quality of service are competing objectives
- Status
 - Work with industry partner
 - Paper in Annals of Operations Research

- Research Challenges
 - How do we learn which choices are preferred
 - Difficult to assign fixed weights to different aspects of solution quality
 - Iterative, interactive learning of preferences
- Solution Approach
 - Preference Learning
 - Optimization

Optimizing UCC's CHP Plant Operation

- Real-World Problem
 - When to run UCC's CHP plant to create electricity/heat on-site
 - Needs demand forecast for heat and electricity
 - Uncertain Real-time grid electricity price
 - Heat and electricity demand of campus not in sync
- Status
 - Tested for several weeks with operator of plant
 - Part of EU Discipl project

- 
- Research Challenges
 - Heat and Electricity Demand prediction for campus
 - Price prediction for real-time grid price
 - Integration of plant operational constraints
 - Wider impact of heating strategy on campus
 - Solution Approach
 - Machine Learning
 - Optimization

CP Conference Paper Assignment Tool



- Real-World Problem
 - Which reviewers to assign to papers
 - Consider bids by reviewers, avoid assigning unwanted papers
 - Deal with reviewers shared between multiple tracks
 - Balance assignment between reviewers
 - Allow pre-assignment, specific capacity constraints
- Status
 - Joint work with Data61, INRA
 - Used in 2020, 2021
 - Paper at ModRef 2020

- Research Challenges
 - Fair treatment of papers and reviewers
 - Finding mechanisms to allow Program Chair to control process
 - Not a black-box assignment
 - Integration with easychair
- Solution Approach
 - Optimization

Summary

- Teaser for CP & Scheduling Survey
 - Live at <https://hsimonis.github.io/pthg24/>
- Provided details on some application work at Insight
- Shows the impact of practical problems on basic research
- Research can have a real impact
- It takes time to do application based research