

# Star Scheduling

Nadia Brauner\*    Hadrien Cambazard\*    Benoit Cance\*  
Nicolas Catusse\*    Pierre Lemaire\*    Bernard Penz\*  
Anne-Marie Lagrange<sup>o</sup>    Pascal Rubini<sup>o</sup>

\* Grenoble Alpes, CNRS, G-SCOP, F-38000 Grenoble  
pierre.lemaire@grenoble-inp.fr

<sup>o</sup> CNRS, IPAG, F-38000 Grenoble, France

june 2015

# Star Scheduling

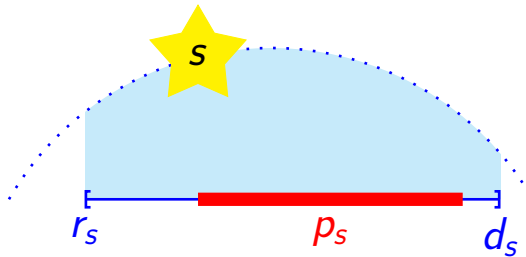
Nadia Brauner\*    Hadrien Cambazard\*    Benoit Cance\*  
Nicolas Catusse\*    Pierre Lemaire\*    Bernard Penz\*  
Anne-Marie Lagrange<sup>o</sup>    Pascal Rubini<sup>o</sup>

\* Grenoble Alpes, CNRS, G-SCOP, F-38000 Grenoble  
pierre.lemaire@grenoble-inp.fr

<sup>o</sup> CNRS, IPAG, F-38000 Grenoble, France

june 2015

## Looking at the stars

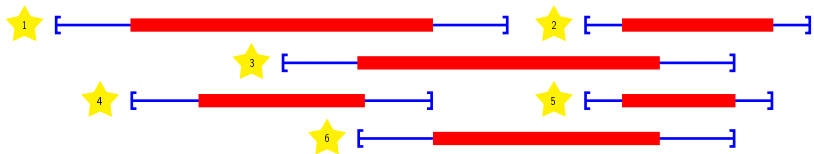


- $[r_s; d_s)$  is the visibility interval
- $p_s$  is the required duration of observation
- $w_s$  is the interest

scheduling the observation of star  $s$  means observing  $s$  for a continuous duration  $p_s$  within the visibility interval  $[r_s; d_s)$ , rewarding  $w_s$

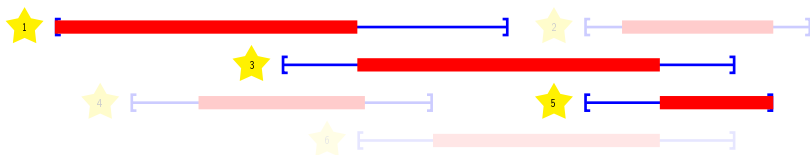
## Star scheduling (one night)

Instance: a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s$  and a visibility window  $[r_s; d_s)$



# Star scheduling (one night)

Instance: a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s$  and a visibility window  $[r_s; d_s]$

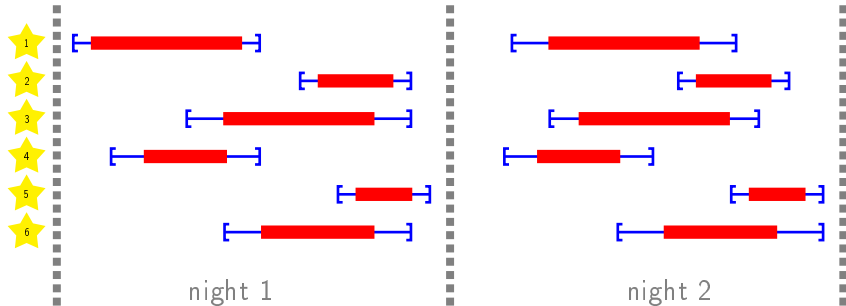


Question: find  $\mathcal{S}' \subset \mathcal{S}$  and starting times  $t_s, \forall s \in \mathcal{S}'$  such that

- for each  $s \in \mathcal{S}'$ :  $[t_s; t_s + p_s] \subset [r_s; d_s]$
- for each  $(s_1, s_2) \in \mathcal{S}'^2$ :  $[t_{s_1}; t_{s_1} + p_{s_1}] \cap [t_{s_2}; t_{s_2} + p_{s_2}] = \emptyset$
- $\sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}'} w_s$  is maximized

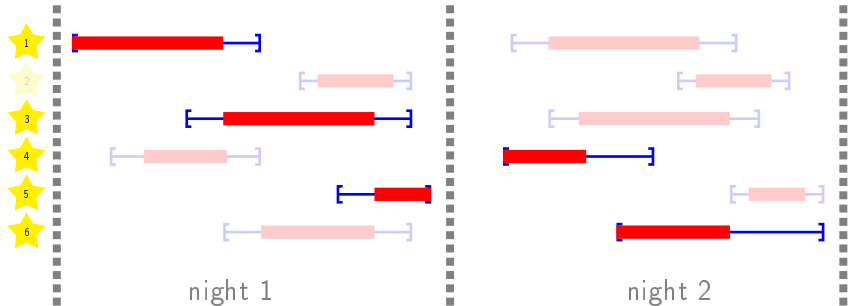
# Star scheduling (several nights)

Instance: a set  $\mathcal{N}$  of nights, a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s^n$  and a visibility window  $[r_s^n; d_s^n)$ , depending on the night  $n$  of the observation



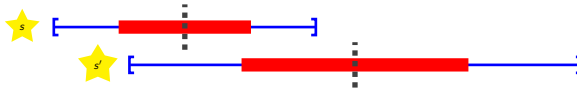
## Star scheduling (several nights)

Instance: a set  $\mathcal{N}$  of nights, a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s^n$  and a visibility window  $[r_s^n; d_s^n)$ , depending on the night  $n$  of the observation



## The order is known!

The meridian instant ( $m_s = \frac{r_s + d_s}{2}$ ) is a **mandatory** instant of observation, that is: for every star  $s$ ,  $p_s^n \geq \frac{d_s^n - r_s^n}{2}$



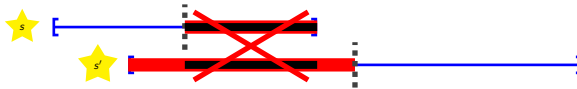
### Property

If for all star  $s$ :  $p_s^n \geq \frac{d_s^n - r_s^n}{2}$ , then observations must be scheduled by non-decreasing meridian time



## The order is known!

The meridian instant ( $m_s = \frac{r_s + d_s}{2}$ ) is a **mandatory** instant of observation, that is: for every star  $s$ ,  $p_s^n \geq \frac{d_s^n - r_s^n}{2}$

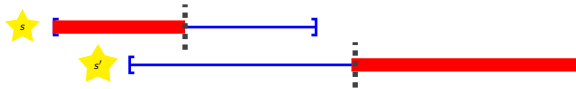


### Property

If for all star  $s$ :  $p_s^n \geq \frac{d_s^n - r_s^n}{2}$ , then observations must be scheduled by non-decreasing meridian time

## The order is known!

The meridian instant ( $m_s = \frac{r_s + d_s}{2}$ ) is a **mandatory** instant of observation, that is: for every star  $s$ ,  $p_s^n \geq \frac{d_s^n - r_s^n}{2}$



### Property

If for all star  $s$ :  $p_s^n \geq \frac{d_s^n - r_s^n}{2}$ , then observations must be scheduled by non-decreasing meridian time

## A MIP model

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} w_s z_s \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff } s \text{ observed} \\ \text{s.c.} \quad & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} z_s^n = z_s \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff } s \text{ observed on night } n \end{aligned}$$

# A MIP model

$$\max \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} w_s z_s \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff } s \text{ observed}$$

$$s.c. \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} z_s^n = z_s \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff } s \text{ observed on night } n$$

$$\text{visibility window of night } n \left\{ \begin{array}{l} r_s^n z_s^n \leq t_s \longrightarrow \text{starting time of observation } s \\ t_s + p_s^n z_s^n \leq d_s^n z_s^n + M(1 - z_s^n) \end{array} \right.$$

# A MIP model

$$\max \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} w_s z_s \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff } s \text{ observed}$$

$$s.c. \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} z_s^n = z_s \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff } s \text{ observed on night } n$$

$$\text{visibility window of night } n \left\{ \begin{array}{l} r_s^n z_s^n \leq t_s \longrightarrow \text{starting time of observation } s \\ t_s + p_s^n z_s^n \leq d_s^n z_s^n + M(1 - z_s^n) \end{array} \right.$$

$$s \prec s' \text{ if observed the same night} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} z_s^n + z_{s'}^n - 1 \leq y_{ss'} \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff } s \text{ and } s' \text{ observed the same night} \\ t_s + p_s^n \leq t_{s'} + M(1 - z_{ss'}) \end{array} \right.$$

Introduction

Complexity

Solving star scheduling

Conclusions and perspectives

## Scheduling one night

Instance: a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s$  and a visibility window  $[r_s; d_s)$  such that  $p_s \geq (d_s - r_s)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

## Scheduling one night

Instance: a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s$  and a visibility window  $[r_s; d_s)$  such that  $p_s \geq (d_s - r_s)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

- $1|r_j| \sum w_j U_j$  is NP-complete (Lenstra et al., 1977)



## Scheduling one night

Instance: a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s$  and a visibility window  $[r_s; d_s)$  such that  $p_s \geq (d_s - r_s)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

- $1|r_j| \sum w_j U_j$  is NP-complete (Lenstra et al., 1977)
- $1|r_j, p_j = p| \sum w_j U_j$  is polynomial (Baptiste, 1999)

## Scheduling one night

Instance: a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s$  and a visibility window  $[r_s; d_s)$  such that  $p_s \geq (d_s - r_s)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

- $1|r_j| \sum w_j U_j$  is NP-complete (Lenstra et al., 1977)
- $1|r_j, p_j = p| \sum w_j U_j$  is polynomial (Baptiste, 1999)
- what if  $p_j \geq (d_j - r_j)/2$ ?

## Scheduling one night

Instance: a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s$  and a visibility window  $[r_s; d_s)$  such that  $p_s \geq (d_s - r_s)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

- $1|r_j| \sum w_j U_j$  is NP-complete (Lenstra et al., 1977)
- $1|r_j, p_j = p| \sum w_j U_j$  is polynomial (Baptiste, 1999)
- what if  $p_j \geq (d_j - r_j)/2$ ?

Complexity of the one night case

Star scheduling of one night is NP-Hard (even if  $w_s = 1$ )

## Scheduling of one night is NP-hard

- Variant of Partition :  $2n$  pairs  $(a_{2i-1}, a_{2i})$  so that  $\sum_i a_i = 2B$ .  
Can a total of  $B$  be made with one item from each pair?

## Scheduling of one night is NP-hard

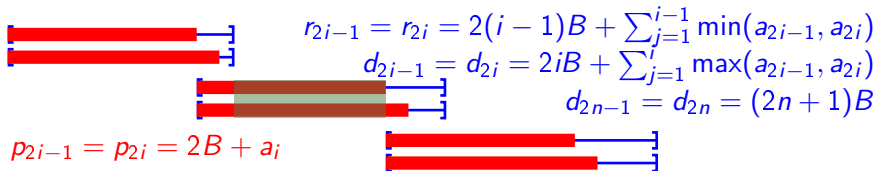
- Variant of Partition :  $2n$  pairs  $(a_{2i-1}, a_{2i})$  so that  $\sum_i a_i = 2B$ .  
Can a total of  $B$  be made with one item from each pair?
- For each pair of items  $(a_{2i}, a_{2i+1})$  create a pair of incompatible stars  $(s_{2i-1}, s_{2i})$ : same visibility window and  $p_s \geq (d_s - r_s)/2$



$$p_{2i-1} = p_{2i} = 2B + a_i$$

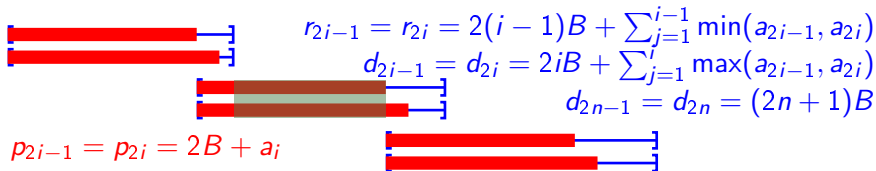
# Scheduling of one night is NP-hard

- Variant of Partition :  $2n$  pairs  $(a_{2i-1}, a_{2i})$  so that  $\sum_i a_i = 2B$ .  
Can a total of  $B$  be made with one item from each pair?
- For each pair of items  $(a_{2i}, a_{2i+1})$  create a pair of incompatible stars  $(s_{2i-1}, s_{2i})$ : same visibility window and  $p_s \geq (d_s - r_s)/2$
- Set visibility windows so that scheduling a star from a pair does not prevent scheduling a star from another pair and each pair of stars have dedicated instants



# Scheduling of one night is NP-hard

- Variant of Partition :  $2n$  pairs  $(a_{2i-1}, a_{2i})$  so that  $\sum_i a_i = 2B$ .  
Can a total of  $B$  be made with one item from each pair?
- For each pair of items  $(a_{2i}, a_{2i+1})$  create a pair of incompatible stars  $(s_{2i-1}, s_{2i})$ : same visibility window and  $p_s \geq (d_s - r_s)/2$
- Set visibility windows so that scheduling a star from a pair does not prevent scheduling a star from another pair and each pair of stars have dedicated instants
- “yes” to Partition  $\iff$  non-idling schedule of length  $(2n + 1)B$



## A pseudo-polynomial algorithm

$f(i, t)$ : maximum interest with stars 1 to  $i$ , and such that  $s_i$  ends before time  $t$

$f(i, t) =$

$$\begin{cases} \min(f(i-1, t), f(i-1, t-p_i) + w_i) & \forall i \in [1, m], t \in [r_i + p_i, T] \\ f(i-1, t) & \forall i \in [1, m], t \in [0, r_i + p_i[ \\ -\infty & \forall i \in [1, m], t < 0 \\ 0 & i = 0, \forall t \in [0, T] \end{cases}$$

We are looking for  $f(m, T)$  which can be computed in  $O(mT)$



## Scheduling several nights

Instance: a set of  $n$  nights, a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s^n$  and a visibility window  $[r_s^n; d_s^n)$  such that  $p_s^n \geq (d_s^n - r_s^n)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

## Scheduling several nights

Instance: a set of  $n$  nights, a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s^n$  and a visibility window  $[r_s^n; d_s^n)$  such that  $p_s^n \geq (d_s^n - r_s^n)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

- $P|r_j| \sum w_j U_j$  (identical nights) is NP-complete

## Scheduling several nights

Instance: a set of  $n$  nights, a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s^n$  and a visibility window  $[r_s^n; d_s^n)$  such that  $p_s^n \geq (d_s^n - r_s^n)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

- $P|r_j| \sum w_j U_j$  (identical nights) is NP-complete
- $p_s = (d_s - r_s)$ , identical nights: polynomial (Kolen et al., 2007)

## Scheduling several nights

Instance: a set of  $n$  nights, a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s^n$  and a visibility window  $[r_s^n; d_s^n)$  such that  $p_s^n \geq (d_s^n - r_s^n)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

- $P|r_j| \sum w_j U_j$  (identical nights) is NP-complete
- $p_s = (d_s - r_s)$ , identical nights: polynomial (Kolen et al., 2007)
- what if  $p_j \geq (d_j - r_j)/2$ ?

## Scheduling several nights

Instance: a set of  $n$  nights, a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of stars; each star  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  has an interest  $w_s$ , an observation duration  $p_s^n$  and a visibility window  $[r_s^n; d_s^n)$  such that  $p_s^n \geq (d_s^n - r_s^n)/2$ ; a bound  $W$

Question: find a subset of stars so that the total interest is at least  $W$ , visibility windows are respected and observations do not overlap

- $P|r_j| \sum w_j U_j$  (identical nights) is NP-complete
- $p_s = (d_s - r_s)$ , identical nights: polynomial (Kolen et al., 2007)
- what if  $p_j \geq (d_j - r_j)/2$ ?

### Complexity of the several nights case

Star scheduling of several nights is unary NP-Hard (even if  $w_s = 1$  and all nights are identical)

# Logic-based Bender decomposition

Master problem:  
assignment of stars to nights

$$\begin{array}{ll}\max & \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} w_s z_s \\ \text{s.c.} & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} z_s^n = z_s\end{array}$$

# Logic-based Bender decomposition

Master problem:  
assignment of stars to nights

Slave problem:  
scheduling of each nights

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} w_s z_s \\ \text{s.c.} & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} z_s^n = z_s \end{array}$$

Night 1: ok?

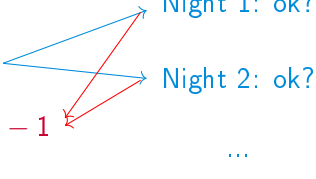
Night 2: ok?

...

# Logic-based Bender decomposition

Master problem:  
assignment of stars to nights

Slave problem:  
scheduling of each nights

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} w_s z_s \\
 \text{s.c.} \quad & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} z_s^n = z_s \\
 & \sum_{s \in C_k^n} z_s^n \leq |C_k^n| - 1
 \end{aligned}$$


Night 1: ok?

Night 2: ok?

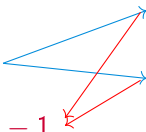
...



# Logic-based Bender decomposition

Master problem:  
assignment of stars to nights

Slave problem:  
scheduling of each nights

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} w_s z_s \\
 \text{s.c.} \quad & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} z_s^n = z_s \\
 & \sum_{s \in C_k^n} z_s^n \leq |C_k^n| - 1
 \end{aligned}$$


Night 1: ok?

Night 2: ok?

...

- efficient MIP
- upper bound at each iteration
- $n$  independent problems
- linear complexity

## Column generation

Night patterns:  $\Omega_n$ , set of all possible schedules for night  $n$

Pattern  $k$  for night  $n$ :  $p_{n1}^k \dots p_{n|S|}^k$ , where  $p_{ns}^k = 1$  iff star  $s$  belongs to the  $k$ -th pattern of night  $n$ ; weight  $w_n^k = \sum_{s \in S} w_s p_{ns}^k$

## Column generation

Night patterns:  $\Omega_n$ , set of all possible schedules for night  $n$

Pattern  $k$  for night  $n$ :  $p_{n1}^k \dots p_{n|S|}^k$ , where  $p_{ns}^k = 1$  iff star  $s$  belongs to the  $k$ -th pattern of night  $n$ ; weight  $w_n^k = \sum_{s \in S} w_s p_{ns}^k$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \Omega_n} w_n^k \rho_n^k & \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff pattern } k \text{ used, night } n \\
 \sum_{k \in \Omega_n} \rho_n^k & = 1 \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N} \\
 \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \Omega_n} p_{ns}^k \rho_n^k & \leq 1 \quad \forall s \in S \\
 \rho_n^k & \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}, \forall k \in \Omega_n
 \end{aligned}$$

## Column generation

Night patterns:  $\Omega_n$ , set of all possible schedules for night  $n$

Pattern  $k$  for night  $n$ :  $p_{n1}^k \dots p_{n|S|}^k$ , where  $p_{ns}^k = 1$  iff star  $s$  belongs to the  $k$ -th pattern of night  $n$ ; weight  $w_n^k = \sum_{s \in S} w_s p_{ns}^k$

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \max_{\alpha_n} & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \Omega_n} w_n^k \rho_n^k \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff pattern } k \text{ used, night } n \\
 \beta_s & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \Omega_n} p_{ns}^k \rho_n^k \leq 1 \quad \forall s \in S \\
 & \rho_n^k \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}, \forall k \in \Omega_n
 \end{array}$$

Reduced cost of  $\rho_n^k$ :  $w_n^k - \alpha_n - \sum_{s \in S} p_{ns}^k \beta_s$

## Column generation

Night patterns:  $\Omega_n$ , set of all possible schedules for night  $n$

Pattern  $k$  for night  $n$ :  $p_{n1}^k \dots p_{n|S|}^k$ , where  $p_{ns}^k = 1$  iff star  $s$  belongs to the  $k$ -th pattern of night  $n$ ; weight  $w_n^k = \sum_{s \in S} w_s p_{ns}^k$

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \max_{\alpha_n} & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \Omega_n} w_n^k \rho_n^k \longrightarrow = 1 \text{ iff pattern } k \text{ used, night } n \\
 \beta_s & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \Omega_n} p_{ns}^k \rho_n^k \leq 1 \quad \forall s \in S \\
 & \rho_n^k \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}, \forall k \in \Omega_n
 \end{array}$$

Reduced cost of  $\rho_n^k$ :  $w_n^k - \alpha_n - \sum_{s \in S} p_{ns}^k \beta_s$

Pattern of max reduced cost? Single Night Case with costs  $w_s - \beta_s$

# Local search

## Classical local-search procedure

### Neighborhoods:

- moving a star from one night to another
- inserting an unobserved star
- exchanging two stars

An optimal schedule for each night is computed systematically

# Solutions

instance	$ S $	$ N $	BD (OPT/ <i>UB</i> )		CG (UB)		LS (LB)	
			val	cpu(s)	val	cpu(s)	val	cpu(s)
pb1	200	32	<b>5200</b>	900	<b>5200</b>	1.47	<b>5200</b>	0.28
pb2	200	32	<b>3310</b>	900	<b>3310</b>	0.99	<b>3310</b>	0.33
pb3	200	69	<b>7800</b>	100	<b>7800</b>	1.59	<b>7800</b>	0.17
pb4	200	69	-	-	<b>4870</b>	1.63	<b>4870</b>	0.11
pb5	400	69	12660	900	<b>11910</b>	5.11	<b>11910</b>	12.39
pb6	400	69	9250	900	9099.9	19.57	9070	773.95
pb7	400	142	-	-	<b>13680</b>	11.85	<b>13680</b>	0.15
pb8	400	142	<b>9760</b>	900	<b>9760</b>	13.71	<b>9760</b>	0.21
real	800	142	18930	900	18620	92.41	18510	689.60
							18480	306.07

# Example solution

solution



# Star scheduling

- a particular interval-scheduling problem with known order
- NP-hardness is proven for both one night and general cases
- several solution methods are proposed and tested

## Work in progress...

- Instances
  - we need more instances!
  - study the structure of the real instance (e.g., similarity between nights)
- Solution methods
  - enrich numerical experiments
  - embed the CG into a branch & bound to get optimal solutions
  - analyze (and improve) LS behavior
  - get advantage of nights' similarities
- Complexity
  - draw precise complexity frontiers
  - study approximability