

# Effective Modeling in Answer Set Programming modulo Theories

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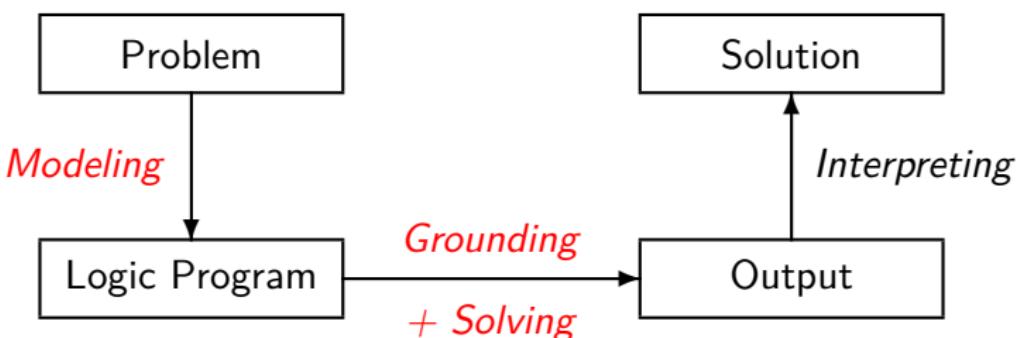


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# Answer Set Programming

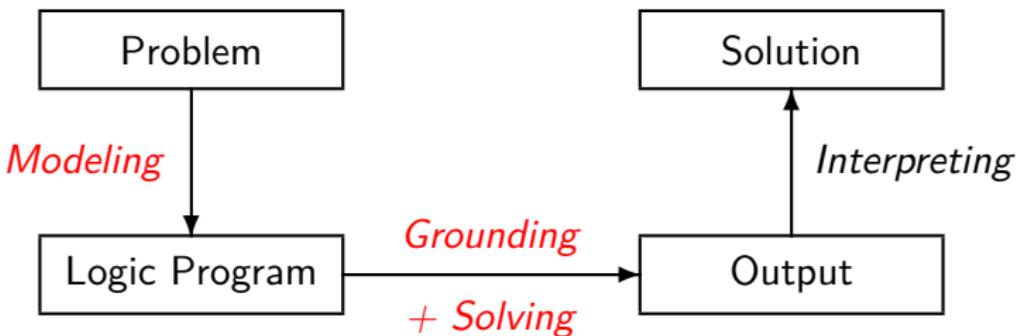
- ▶ Answer Set Programming (ASP) offers expressive first-order modeling language and powerful reasoning technology
  - **Ground instantiation** by semi-naive database evaluation [KS23]
  - **Search/Optimization** by conflict-driven learning [ADMR20, GKS12]



- ▶ Uniform problem representations separate instance data from **high-level problem encoding** for elaboration-tolerant modeling
  - Logic Program =  $\underbrace{\text{Facts}}_{\text{Instance}} + \underbrace{\text{Generate} + \text{Define} + \text{Test} + \text{Optimize}}_{\text{Encoding}}$

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# Answer Set Programming modulo Theories

- ▶ Large domains, even if discrete, lead to **grounding bottleneck**
  - ▶ Even linear/logarithmic **propositional representation** by binary or order encoding [CB94, War98] **prohibitive for large ranges**
    - Quantitative resources, spatial coordinates, **time horizons**
  - ▶ Extensions like **Constraint Answer Set Programming** (CASP) [Lie23] enable succinct representations of integer/real values
  - ▶ Difference Logic (DL) constitutes a **tractable** CASP fragment
    - clingo-dl [JKO<sup>+</sup>17] supplies **propagator**, similar to stability [GKS12], acyclicity [BGJ<sup>+</sup>16], or constraint [CDRS20] checking
-  Inspiration by Satisfiability modulo Theories (SMT) [BSST09]

From plain ASP to ASP modulo DL

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% at(Y) = at(X) + D
```

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at(Y,T+D) :- at(X,T), duration(X,Y,D).
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% at(X) - at(Y) <= -D    iff    at(Y) >= at(X) + D
&diff{at(X) - at(Y)} <= -D :- duration(X,Y,D).
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# Flexible Job-Shop Scheduling Problem (FJSSP)

- ▶ Classical NP-hard optimization problem [BEP<sup>+</sup>14]
- ▶ Various applications in manufacturing and logistics [XGP<sup>+</sup>19]
- ▶ Benchmark for Answer Set Programming (ASP), Constraint Programming (CP), Satisfiability (SAT) solver competitions

## Problem Specification

- ▶ An instance provides jobs and machines to process operations
  - Jobs = sequences of operations
  - An operation's processing time can vary between machines
- ▶ A schedule assigns a machine and start time to each operation
  - Processing times of operations on same machine do not overlap
  - Successor operations don't start before predecessor completion
- ▶ Minimization of makespan = maximum job completion time



Discrete start times give rise to potentially large integer ranges

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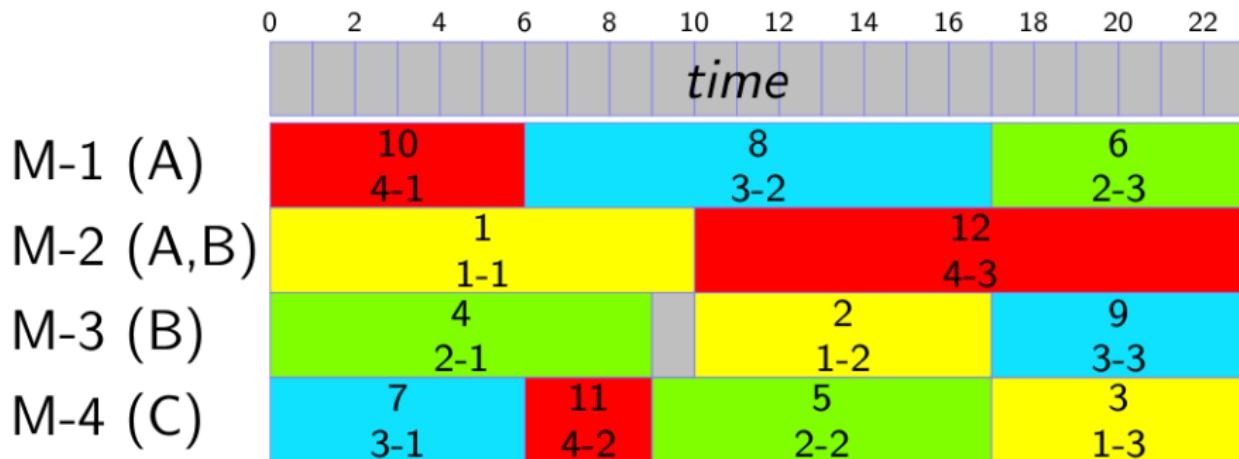


Discrete start times give rise to potentially **large integer ranges**

# FJSSP Instance

Opld	JobId	Pos	Type	M-1	M-2	M-3	M-4
1	1	1	A	11	10		
2	1	2	B		6	7	
3	1	3	C				6
4	2	1	B		8	9	
5	2	2	C				8
6	2	3	A	6	5		
7	3	1	C				6
8	3	2	A	11	10		
9	3	3	B		5	6	
10	4	1	A	6	5		
11	4	2	C				3
12	4	3	B		13	14	

# Optimal FJSSP Solution



👉 **Makespan:** 23 time units

# Instance Representation

```
operation(1,1,1).    mode(1,1,11).    mode(1,2,10).  
operation(2,1,2).    mode(2,2,6).    mode(2,3,7).  
operation(3,1,3).    mode(3,4,6).  
  
operation(4,2,1).    mode(4,2,8).    mode(4,3,9).  
operation(5,2,2).    mode(5,4,8).  
operation(6,2,3).    mode(6,1,6).    mode(6,2,5).  
  
operation(7,3,1).    mode(7,4,6).  
operation(8,3,2).    mode(8,1,11).    mode(8,2,10).  
operation(9,3,3).    mode(9,2,5).    mode(9,3,6).  
  
operation(10,4,1).    mode(10,1,6).    mode(10,2,5).  
operation(11,4,2).    mode(11,4,3).  
operation(12,4,3).    mode(12,2,13).    mode(12,3,14).  
  
time(0..50).
```

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operation(12,4,3).   mode(12,2,13).    mode(12,3,14).  
  
time(0..50).
```

# Vanilla ASP Encoding

```
% Choose one machine per operation
{process(X,M,P) : mode(X,M,P)} = 1 :- operation(X,J,N).

% Operations (of distinct jobs) on same machine have to be ordered
ordered(X,Y) :- operation(X,J1,N1), process(X,M,P1),
               operation(Y,J2,N2), process(Y,M,P2), J1 != J2.

% Choose the operation start times
{start(X,S) : time(S)} = 1 :- operation(X,J,N).

% Derive the operation end times
end(X,S+P) :- start(X,S), process(X,_,P).

% Operations (of distinct jobs) must be processed without overlaps
:- ordered(X,Y), start(X,S1), start(Y,S2), end(X,E1), S1 <= S2, S2 < E1.

% Successor operation must not start before end of its predecessor
:- operation(X,J,N), operation(Y,J,N+1), start(Y,S), end(X,E), S < E.

% Derive and minimize the makespan
makespan(K) :- K = #max{E : end(X,E),
                         operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1)}.

:- makespan(K). [K]
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# Let's Run!

```
clingo instance.lp vanilla.lp --stats
```

Solving...

Answer: 1

process(1,1,11) process(2,3,7) ... start(12,41)

...

Answer: 28

process(1,2,10) process(2,2,6) ... start(12,9)

Optimization: 23

OPTIMUM FOUND

Time : 8.981s (Solving: 3.69s ...)

Variables : 2099

Constraints : **1980906**



Highly problematic for ground instantiation size:

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% Choose an order of processing two operations on the same machine
{order(X,Y)} :- ordered(X,Y).
order(Y,X) :- ordered(X,Y), not order(X,Y).

% Derive lower bounds on operation start times
start(X,0) :- operation(X,J,1).
start(Y,E) :- end(X,E), order(X,Y).
start(Y,E) :- end(X,E), operation(X,J,N), operation(Y,J,N+1).

% Derive lower bounds on operation end times
end(X,S+P) :- start(X,S), process(X,_,P), time(S).

% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
:- start(X,S), not time(S).

% Derive processing interval and minimize the makespan
makespan(K) :- end(X,K), operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1).
makespan(K) :- makespan(K+1), 0 < K.
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:- makespan(K). [1,K]
```

# Let's Run Again!

```
clingo instance.lp compact.lp --stats & time(0..5000)
```

Solving...

Answer: 1

process(1,1,11) process(2,2,6) ... start(12,8)

...

Answer: 12

process(1,2,10) process(2,2,6) ... start(12,9)

Optimization: 23

OPTIMUM FOUND

Time : 0.026s (Solving: 0.01s ...)

Variables : 3816

Constraints : 12713



Many time points highly problematic for ground instantiation size

# Let's Run Again!

```
clingo instance.lp compact.lp --stats & time(0..5000)
```

Solving...

Answer: 1

process(1,2,10) process(2,2,6) ... start(12,8)

...

Answer: 5

process(1,2,10) process(2,2,6) ... start(12,9)

Optimization: 23

OPTIMUM FOUND

Time : 3.235s (Solving: 1.46s ...)

Variables : 483966

Constraints : 1685813



Many time points highly problematic for ground instantiation size

# ASP modulo DL Encoding

```
% Choose one machine per operation
{process(X,M,P) : mode(X,M,P)} = 1 :- operation(X,J,N).

% Operations (of distinct jobs) on same machine have to be ordered
ordered(X,Y) :- operation(X,J1,N1), process(X,M,P1),
               operation(Y,J2,N2), process(Y,M,P2), J1 < J2.

% Choose an order of processing two operations on the same machine
{order(X,Y)} :- ordered(X,Y).
order(Y,X) :- ordered(X,Y), not order(X,Y).

% Derive lower bounds on operation start times
start(X,0) :- operation(X,J,1).
start(Y,E) :- end(X,E), order(X,Y).
start(Y,E) :- end(X,E), operation(X,J,N), operation(Y,J,N+1).

% Derive lower bounds on operation end times
end(X,S+P) :- start(X,S), process(X,_,P), time(S).

% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
:- start(X,S), not time(S).

% Derive processing interval and minimize the makespan
makespan(K) :- end(X,K), operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1).
makespan(K) :- makespan(K+1), 0 < K.
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order(Y,X) :- ordered(X,Y), not order(X,Y).

% Derive lower bounds on operation start times
start(X) >= 0      :- operation(X,J,1).
start(Y) >= end(X) :- order(X,Y).
start(Y) >= end(X) :- operation(X,J,N), operation(Y,J,N+1).

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% Derive lower bounds on operation end times
end(X) >= start(X) + P :- process(X,_,P).

% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
:- start(X,S), not time(S).

% Derive processing interval and minimize the makespan
makespan(K) :- end(X,K), operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1).
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% Derive lower bounds on operation end times
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                           time(S), not time(S+1).

% Derive the makespan
makespan >= end(X) :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1).
```

# ASP modulo DL Encoding

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```

# Let's Run clingo-dl!

```
clingo-dl instance.lp difference.lp --stats  
--minimize-variable=makespan & time(0..5000)
```

Solving...

Answer: 1

```
process(1,1,11) process(2,3,7) ... dl(start(12),9)
```

...

Answer: 11

```
process(1,2,10) process(2,3,7) ... dl(start(12),10)
```

DL Optimization: 23

UNSATISFIABLE

Time : 0.013s (Solving: 0.00s ...)

Variables : 141

Constraints : 256



Time range makes no difference for ground instantiation size

# Let's Run clingo-dl!

```
clingo-dl instance.lp difference.lp --stats  
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```

Solving...

Answer: 1

```
process(1,1,11) process(2,3,7) ... dl(start(12),9)
```

...

Answer: 10

```
process(1,2,10) process(2,3,7) ... dl(start(12),10)
```

DL Optimization: 23

UNSATISFIABLE

Time : 0.031s (Solving: 0.00s ...)

Variables : 140

Constraints : 199



Time range makes no difference for ground instantiation size

# And The Winner is ...

- ▶ Time points don't increase ground instantiation size with DL
- ▶ Makespan minimization refers to a **single DL variable's value**



Perfect for: `clingo-dl --minimize-variable=makespan`

- ▶ Turning from makespan minimization

```
makespan(K) :- end(X,K), operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1).  
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- ▶ Native support of (lexicographic) multi-criteria optimization:

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- ▶ The optimization features provided for DL variables are not yet on a par with functionalities readily available in plain ASP



Research and implementation progress needed to **take burden of scripting custom DL optimization algorithms from the user**

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  - `:~ end(X,K), operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1). [K,J]`
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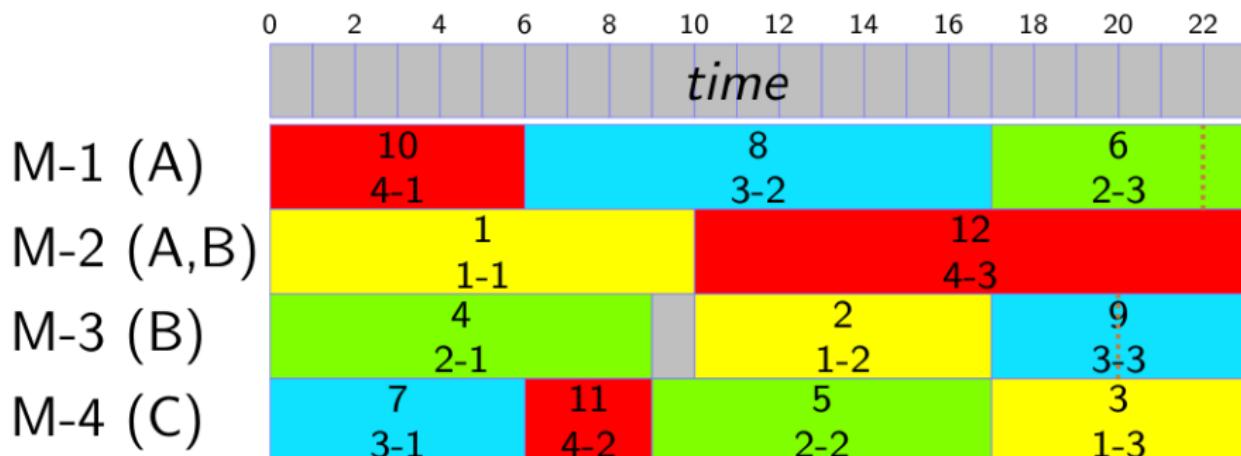
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# Let's Add Job Deadlines

deadline(1,23).      deadline(2,22).  
deadline(3,21).      deadline(4,23).



☞ Job 2 is **delayed** by one and Job 3 by two time units

# Minimize Number of Delayed Jobs

```
% Choose one machine per operation
{process(X,M,P) : mode(X,M,P)} = 1 :- operation(X,J,N).

% Operations (of distinct jobs) on same machine have to be ordered
ordered(X,Y) :- operation(X,J1,N1), process(X,M,P1),
               operation(Y,J2,N2), process(Y,M,P2), J1 < J2.

% Choose an order of processing two operations on the same machine
{order(X,Y)} :- ordered(X,Y).
order(Y,X) :- ordered(X,Y), not order(X,Y).

% Derive lower bounds on operation start times
&diff{ 0 - start(X)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,1).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- order(X,Y).
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% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
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                           time(S), not time(S+1).

% Derive the makespan
&diff{end(X) - makespan} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1).
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% Minimize number of delayed jobs
:- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
   deadline(J,D), not end(X) <= D. [1,J]
```

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% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
&diff{start(X) - 0} <= S :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
                           time(S), not time(S+1).

% Minimize number of delayed jobs
:- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
   deadline(J,D), not end(X) <= D. [1,J]
```

# Minimize Number of Delayed Jobs

```
% Choose one machine per operation
{process(X,M,P) : mode(X,M,P)} = 1 :- operation(X,J,N).

% Operations (of distinct jobs) on same machine have to be ordered
ordered(X,Y) :- operation(X,J1,N1), process(X,M,P1),
               operation(Y,J2,N2), process(Y,M,P2), J1 < J2.

% Choose an order of processing two operations on the same machine
{order(X,Y)} :- ordered(X,Y).
order(Y,X) :- ordered(X,Y), not order(X,Y).

% Derive lower bounds on operation start times
&diff{ 0 - start(X)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,1).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- order(X,Y).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,N), operation(Y,J,N+1).

% Derive lower bounds on operation end times
&diff{start(X) - end(X)} <= -P :- process(X,_,P).

% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
&diff{start(X) - 0} <= S :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
                           time(S), not time(S+1).

% Minimize number of delayed jobs
:- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
   deadline(J,D), not &diff{end(X) - 0} <= D. [1,J]
```

# Let's Run with Delayed Job Minimization!

```
clingo-dl instance.lp deadline.lp differences.lp  
--stats & time(0..1000)
```

Solving...

Answer: 1

```
process(1,1,11) process(2,3,7) ... dl(start(12),9)
```

...

Answer: 4

```
process(1,1,11) process(2,2,6) ... dl(start(12),10)
```

Optimization: 1

OPTIMUM FOUND

Time : 0.002s (Solving: 0.00s ...)

Conflicts : 37

Constraints : 256



Time range makes no difference for optimization performance

# Let's Run with Delayed Job Minimization!

```
clingo-dl instance.lp deadline.lp differences.lp  
--stats & time(0..1000)
```

Solving...

Answer: 1

```
process(1,1,11) process(2,3,7) ... dl(start(12),9)
```

...

Answer: 4

```
process(1,1,11) process(2,2,6) ... dl(start(12),10)
```

Optimization: 1

OPTIMUM FOUND

Time : 0.005s (Solving: 0.00s ...)

Conflicts : 43

Constraints : 256

👉 Time range makes no difference for optimization performance

# Minimize Sum of Job Delays

[...]

```
% Choose an order of processing two operations on the same machine
{order(X,Y)} :- ordered(X,Y).
order(Y,X)  :- ordered(X,Y), not order(X,Y).

% Derive lower bounds on operation start times
&diff{      0 - start(X)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,1).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- order(X,Y).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,N), operation(Y,J,N+1).

% Derive lower bounds on operation end times
&diff{start(X) - end(X)} <= -P :- process(X,_,P).

% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
&diff{start(X) - 0} <= S :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
                           time(S), not time(S+1).

% Minimize number of delayed jobs
:- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
   deadline(J,D), not &diff{end(X) - 0} <= D. [1,J]
```

# Minimize Sum of Job Delays

[...]

```
% Choose an order of processing two operations on the same machine
{order(X,Y)} :- ordered(X,Y).
order(Y,X)  :- ordered(X,Y), not order(X,Y).

% Derive lower bounds on operation start times
&diff{      0 - start(X)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,1).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- order(X,Y).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,N), operation(Y,J,N+1).

% Derive lower bounds on operation end times
&diff{start(X) - end(X)} <= -P :- process(X,_,P).

% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
&diff{start(X) - 0} <= S :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
                           time(S), not time(S+1).

% Minimize sum of job delays
delay(X,D,0..S+P-D-1) :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
                           mode(X,M,P), deadline(J,D),
                           time(S), not time(S+1).

:- delay(X,D,T), not end(X) <= D+T. [1,X,T]
```

# Minimize Sum of Job Delays

[...]

```
% Choose an order of processing two operations on the same machine
{order(X,Y)} :- ordered(X,Y).
order(Y,X)  :- ordered(X,Y), not order(X,Y).

% Derive lower bounds on operation start times
&diff{      0 - start(X)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,1).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- order(X,Y).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,N), operation(Y,J,N+1).

% Derive lower bounds on operation end times
&diff{start(X) - end(X)} <= -P :- process(X,_,P).

% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
&diff{start(X) - 0} <= S :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
                           time(S), not time(S+1).

% Minimize sum of job delays
delay(X,D,0..S+P-D-1) :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
                           mode(X,M,P), deadline(J,D),
                           time(S), not time(S+1).

:- delay(X,D,T), not end(X) <= D+T. [1,X,T]
```

# Minimize Sum of Job Delays

[...]

```
% Choose an order of processing two operations on the same machine
{order(X,Y)} :- ordered(X,Y).
order(Y,X)  :- ordered(X,Y), not order(X,Y).

% Derive lower bounds on operation start times
&diff{      0 - start(X)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,1).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- order(X,Y).
&diff{end(X) - start(Y)} <= 0 :- operation(X,J,N), operation(Y,J,N+1).

% Derive lower bounds on operation end times
&diff{start(X) - end(X)} <= -P :- process(X,_,P).

% Restrict lower bounds on start times to range given by time predicate
&diff{start(X) - 0} <= S :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
                           time(S), not time(S+1).

% Minimize sum of job delays
delay(X,D,0..S+P-D-1) :- operation(X,J,N), not operation(X+1,J,N+1),
                           mode(X,M,P), deadline(J,D),
                           time(S), not time(S+1).

:- delay(X,D,T), not &diff{end(X) - 0} <= D+T. [1,X,T]
```

# Let's Run with Delay Sum Minimization!

```
clingo-dl instance.lp deadline.lp differencet.lp  
--stats & time(0..1000)
```

Solving...

Answer: 1

```
process(1,1,11) process(2,3,7) ... dl(start(12),9)
```

...

Answer: 54

```
process(1,2,10) process(2,2,6) ... dl(start(12),9)
```

Optimization: 2

OPTIMUM FOUND

Time : 0.012s (Solving: 0.01s ...)

Conflicts : 699

Constraints : 256



Time range may deteriorate optimization performance

# Let's Run with Delay Sum Minimization!

```
clingo-dl instance.lp deadline.lp differencet.lp  
--stats & time(0..1000)
```

Solving...

Answer: 1

```
process(1,1,11) process(2,3,7) ... dl(start(12),9)
```

...

Answer: 3842

```
process(1,2,10) process(2,2,6) ... dl(start(12),9)
```

Optimization: 2

OPTIMUM FOUND

Time : 345.868s (Solving: 345.84s ...)

Conflicts : 937922

Constraints : 256

 Time range may deteriorate optimization performance

# Let's Run with Delay Sum Minimization!

```
clingo-dl instance.lp deadline.lp differencet.lp  
--stats --opt-heuristic=1 & time(0..1000)
```

Solving...

Answer: 1

```
process(1,2,10) process(2,2,6) ... dl(start(12),25)
```

...

Answer: 59

```
process(1,2,10) process(2,2,6) ... dl(start(12),9)
```

Optimization: 2

OPTIMUM FOUND

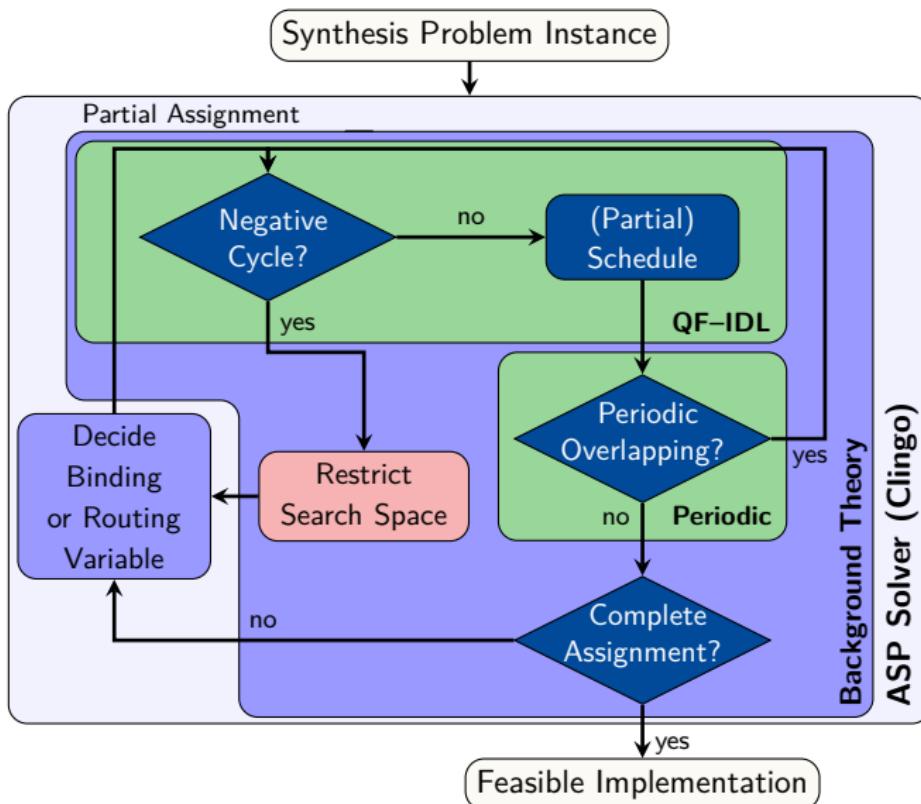
Time : 0.198s (Solving: 0.17s ...)

Conflicts : 667

Constraints : 256

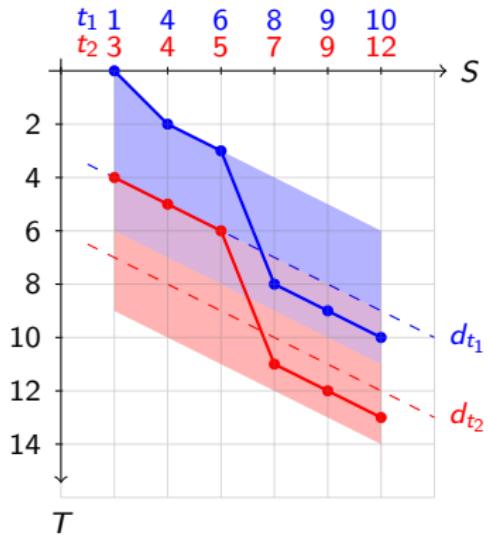
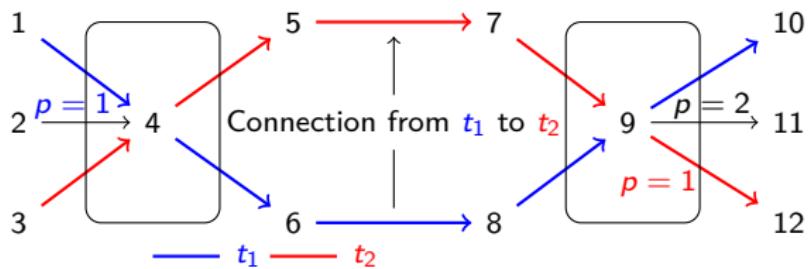
 Time range may deteriorate optimization performance

# Symbolic System Synthesis [NWSH17]



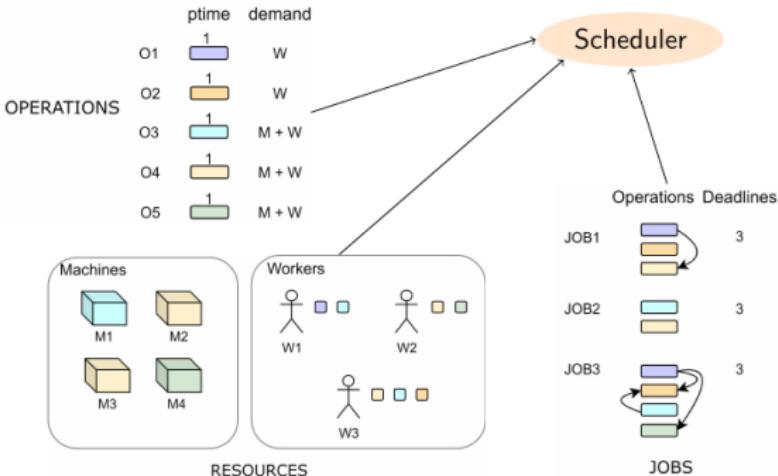
# Train Scheduling [AJO<sup>+</sup>19]

- ▶ Minimize **sum** of route penalties  $p$  and delays  $d$  at train stations

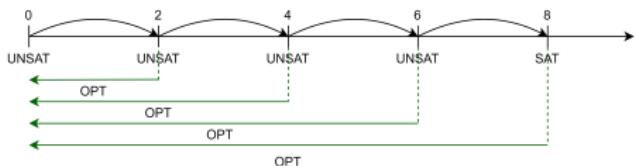


# Fault Analysis Lab Scheduling [FSE21]

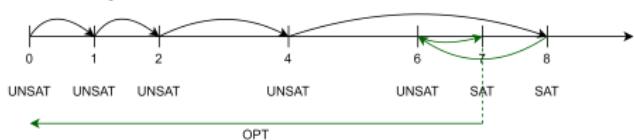
- Minimize **sum** of jobs' tardiness w.r.t. **feasible maximum** tardiness



- Linear search scheme:



- Exponential search scheme:



# Conclusion

- ▶ ASP modulo DL supplies **compact representation of quantities**
- ▶ Particularly useful to express **time, delays and non-overlapping**
- ▶ Optimization by `clingo-dl` limited to **single DL variable value**
- ▶ **Summation** and/or **lexicographic optimization** need
  - Dedicated propagators [NWSH18] or
  - Reification in plain/multi-shot ASP [AJO<sup>+</sup>19, FSE21]

- 👉 `clingo-dl` is great for solving **simplistic** ASP modulo DL **decision and optimization problems**
- 👉 Richer optimization functionalities on DL variables' values would be the cherry on the cake

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