

Operations Research and Management MGT1060

Prof. Balaji J

Railway Operations Optimization

- Yasir Ahmad (22MIA1064)
- Naveen N (22MIA1049)

Background Case Study:

Railway operations rely heavily on the consistent availability and reliability of trains. Maintenance tasks, such as **engine servicing** and **track alignment**, are essential to ensure safety, efficiency, and long-term performance. However, these tasks must be carried out within strict time constraints to avoid delays in operations. Given the limited resources, such as maintenance crews, equipment, and facility availability, optimizing the sequence of maintenance tasks becomes a critical challenge.

This case study addresses the scheduling of maintenance tasks for multiple trains in a railway depot. By applying the principles of Job Sequencing Problems (n-jobs, 2-machines) from Operational Research, we aim to optimize the scheduling process, ensuring timely completion of tasks while minimizing downtime.

Digital Assignment - 3

Job Sequencing Problem: Optimizing Train Maintenance Operations

In this problem, we are considering a railway company's operations where two types of tasks need to be completed on each train: **Engine Servicing** and **Track Alignment**. The company wants to sequence these tasks across two machines (Machine 1 for Engine Servicing and Machine 2 for Track Alignment) in such a way that minimizes the total time required to process all jobs. The tasks for each train have different durations on each machine.

Objective:

We aim to optimize the job sequence in order to minimize the **makespan** (the total time required to complete all jobs) and also minimize the idle time for both machines.

Problem Setup:

- **Machine 1 (M1):** Engine Servicing
- **Machine 2 (M2):** Track Alignment
- **Jobs (Trains):** The jobs are represented by trains that require different durations on both machines.

Jobs Data:

Job ID	Engine Servicing (M1)	Track Alignment (M2)
T1	4 hours	3 hours
T2	2 hours	5 hours
T3	3 hours	2 hours
T4	6 hours	1 hour
T5	5 hours	4 hours

```
1 # Job data: Train ID, Engine Servicing (Machine 1) time, Track Alignment (Machine 2) time
2 jobs = [
3     {"id": "T1", "M1": 4, "M2": 3},
4     {"id": "T2", "M1": 2, "M2": 5},
5     {"id": "T3", "M1": 3, "M2": 2},
6     {"id": "T4", "M1": 6, "M2": 1},
7     {"id": "T5", "M1": 5, "M2": 4},
8 ]
9
10 # Function to apply Johnson's Algorithm for Job Sequencing with 2 Machines
11 def johnsons_algorithm(jobs):
12     # Step 1: Separate jobs based on machine times
13     jobs_m1 = [job for job in jobs if job['M1'] <= job['M2']]
14     jobs_m2 = [job for job in jobs if job['M1'] > job['M2']]
15     # Step 2: Sort jobs in jobs_m1 by M1 time and jobs_m2 by M2 time in descending order
16     jobs_m1.sort(key=lambda job: job['M1'])
17     jobs_m2.sort(key=lambda job: job['M2'], reverse=True)
18     # Step 3: Merge the two sorted lists to get the optimal sequence
19     optimal_sequence = []
20     while jobs_m1 or jobs_m2:
21         if jobs_m1 and (not jobs_m2 or jobs_m1[0]['M1'] <= jobs_m2[0]['M2']):
22             optimal_sequence.append(jobs_m1.pop(0))
23         else:
24             optimal_sequence.append(jobs_m2.pop(0))
25     return optimal_sequence
```

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14 jobs_m2 = [job for job in jobs if job['M1'] > job['M2']]
15
16 # Step 2: Sort jobs with the smallest processing time for M1 first, then M2
17 jobs_m1.sort(key=lambda x: x['M1']) # Sorting by M1 times
18 jobs_m2.sort(key=lambda x: x['M2']) # Sorting by M2 times
19
20 # Step 3: Combine the two sorted lists to form the final sequence
21 sequence = jobs_m1 + jobs_m2[::-1] # Reverse the second list for M2 tasks
22
23 return sequence
24
25 def calculate_schedule(sequence):
26     start_M1, start_M2 = 0, 0 # Initialize start times for M1 and M2
27     idle_M2 = 0 # Initialize total idle time for M2
28     schedule = []
29
30     for job in sequence:
31         # Calculate when each job finishes on Machine 1
32         time_in_M1 = start_M1
33         time_out_M1 = time_in_M1 + job['M1']
34         start_M1 = time_out_M1 # Update the start time for M1 after the job is processed
35
36         # Calculate when each job starts on Machine 2
37         time_in_M2 = max(start_M2, time_out_M1) # M2 starts after M1 finishes or its previous job on M2 finishes
38         if time_in_M2 > start_M2:
39             idle_M2 += time_in_M2 - start_M2 # Increment idle time if M2 has to wait
40
41         time_out_M2 = time_in_M2 + job['M2']
42         start_M2 = time_out_M2 # Update the start time for M2 after the job is processed
43
44         # Append the details of job, including the time in, time out, and duration for both machines
45         schedule.append((job['id'], time_in_M1, time_out_M1, time_in_M2, time_out_M2, job['M1'], job['M2']))
46
47     # Calculate idle time for M1
48     last_time_out_M1 = schedule[-1][2] # Time out on M1 for the last job
49     makespan = start_M2 # The time when the last job finishes on M2
50     idle_M1 = max(0, makespan - last_time_out_M1) # Idle time for M1 is the gap between its last job and M2's last job
51
52     return schedule, makespan, idle_M1, idle_M2
53
54
55 # Get the optimal job sequence using Johnson's Algorithm
56 optimal_sequence = johnsons_algorithm(jobs)
57
58 # Calculate the schedule, makespan, and idle times
59 schedule, makespan, idle_M1, idle_M2 = calculate_schedule(optimal_sequence)
60
61 # Output the results
62 print("***** Optimal Job Sequence *****")
63 print(f"Optimal Sequence of Jobs: {[job['id'] for job in optimal_sequence]}")
64 print("\n***** Maintenance Schedule *****")
65 print(f"{'Task ID':<10}{'Engine Servicing (M1)':<20}{'Track Alignment (M2)':<20}")
66 print(f"{'Time In':<10}{'Time Out':<10}{'Duration':<10}{'Time In':<10}{'Time Out':<10}{'Duration':<10}")
67 print("-" * 90)
68
69 for job in schedule:
70     print(f"{job[0]:<10}{job[1]:<10}{job[2]:<10}{job[5]:<10}{job[3]:<10}{job[4]:<10}{job[6]:<10}")
71
72 print("\n***** Final Results *****")
73 print(f"Total Makespan (Completion Time): {makespan} hours")
74 print(f"Idle Time for Engine Servicing (M1): {idle_M1} hours")
75 print(f"Idle Time for Track Alignment (M2): {idle_M2} hours")
76

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***** Optimal Job Sequence *****
Optimal Sequence of Jobs: ['T2', 'T5', 'T1', 'T3', 'T4']

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***** Maintenance Schedule *****

```

Task ID	Engine Servicing (M1)			Track Alignment (M2)		
	Time In	Time Out	Duration	Time In	Time Out	Duration
T2	0	2	2	2	7	5
T5	2	7	5	7	11	4
T1	7	11	4	11	14	3
T3	11	14	3	14	16	2
T4	14	20	6	20	21	1

```

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T2      0      2      2      2      7      5
T5      2      7      5      7     11      4
T1      7     11      4     11     14      3
T3     11     14      3     14     16      2
T4     14     20      6     20     21      1

```

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***** Final Results *****
Total Makespan (Completion Time): 21 hours
Idle Time for Engine Servicing (M1): 1 hours
Idle Time for Track Alignment (M2): 6 hours

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1 import pandas as pd
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 # ... (Your existing code) ...
5
6 # Create a DataFrame from the schedule
7 schedule_df = pd.DataFrame(schedule, columns=['Job ID', 'M1_Start', 'M1_End', 'M2_Start', 'M2_End', 'M1_Duration', 'M2_Duration'])
8
9 # Plotting the Gantt chart
10 plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
11
12 # Plot M1 tasks
13 for index, row in schedule_df.iterrows():
14     plt.barh(row['Job ID'], row['M1_Duration'], left=row['M1_Start'], color='skyblue', label='Engine Servicing (M1)' if index % 2 == 0 else None)
15
16 # Plot M2 tasks
17 for index, row in schedule_df.iterrows():
18     plt.barh(row['Job ID'], row['M2_Duration'], left=row['M2_Start'], color='lightcoral', label='Track Alignment (M2)' if index % 2 == 1 else None)
19
20 # Customize the plot
21 plt.xlabel("Time (hours)")
22 plt.ylabel("Train ID")
23 plt.title("Gantt Chart of Train Maintenance Schedule")
24 plt.legend()
25 plt.grid(axis='x')
26 plt.tight_layout()
27 plt.show()
28
29 # Display the DataFrame
30 print("\n***** Schedule DataFrame *****")
31 schedule_df

```



***** Schedule DataFrame *****

	Job ID	M1_Start	M1_End	M2_Start	M2_End	M1_Duration	M2_Duration
0	T2	0	2	2	7	2	5
1	T5	2	7	7	11	5	4
2	T1	7	11	11	14	4	3
3	T3	11	14	14	16	3	2
4	T4	14	20	20	21	6	1

