
Simulated Annealing for Makespan Scheduling

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Overview

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- ❖ **Simulated Annealing**
 - ❖ Cooling Schedule
 - ❖ Initial Temperature

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- ❖ **Experimental Results**
 - ❖ Various research questions explored

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- ❖ Slight modification to track the best solution found by the algorithm
- ❖ Free parameters:
 1. Neighbourhood: 2-exchange “jump”
 2. Cooling schedule
 3. Initial temperature value

Simulated Annealing: Cooling Schedules

❖ 4 different cooling schedules considered:

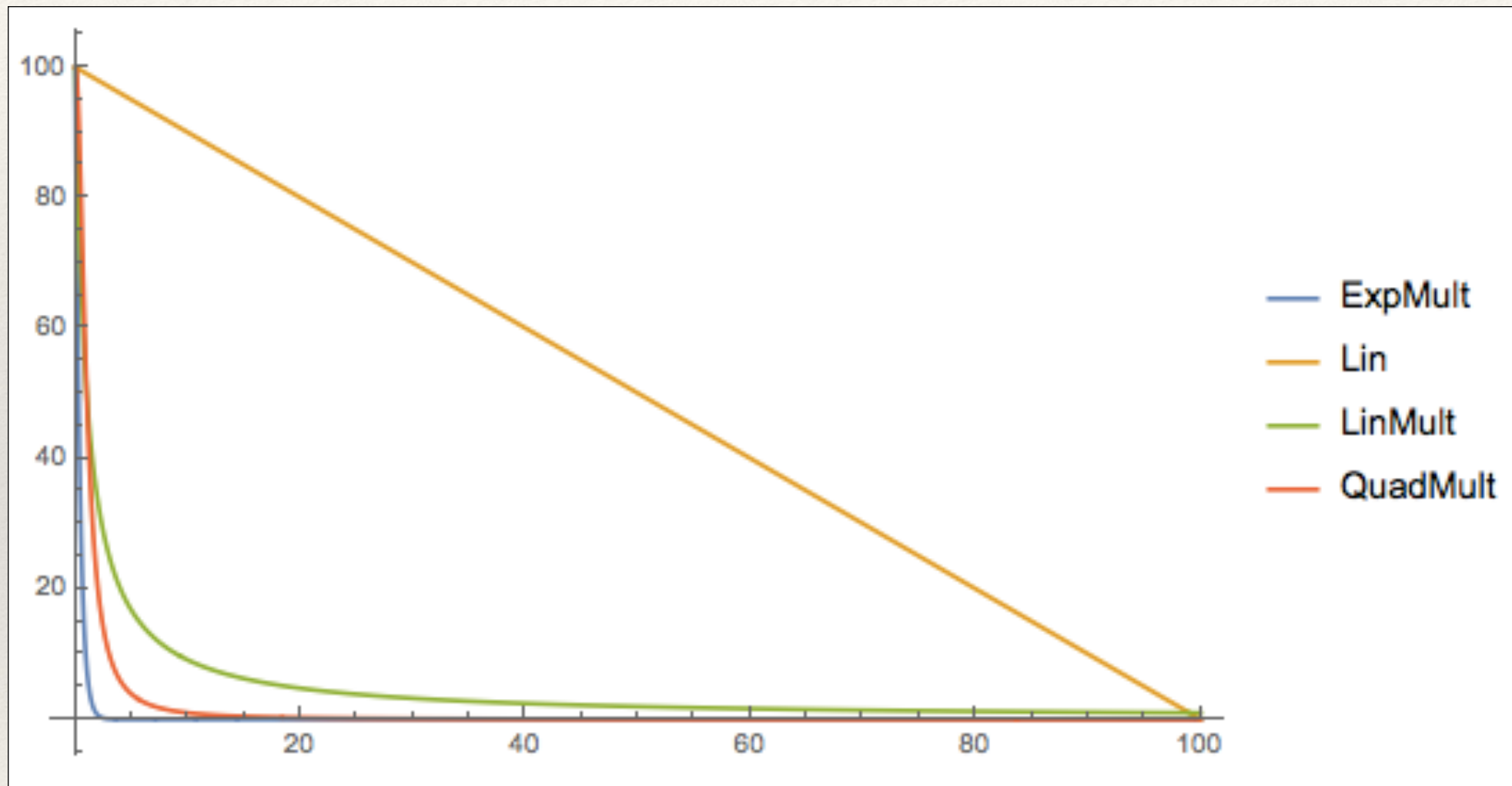
1. Exponential multiplicative: $f_1(T_0, I) = T_0 \cdot \mu^I$

2. Simple exponential: $f_2(T_0, I) = T_0 - I$

3. Linear multiplicative: $f_3(T_0, I) = \frac{1}{1 + I} \cdot T_0$

4. Quadratic multiplicative: $f_4(T_0, I) = \frac{1}{1 + I^2} \cdot T_0$

Simulated Annealing: Cooling Schedules



Simulated Annealing: Initial Temperature

- ❖ Good choice of initial temperature depends largely on instance
- ❖ Algorithm by Ben-Ameur [1]:
 - ❖ Generates a temperature so that the probability of accepting a cost increase is equal to a specified value

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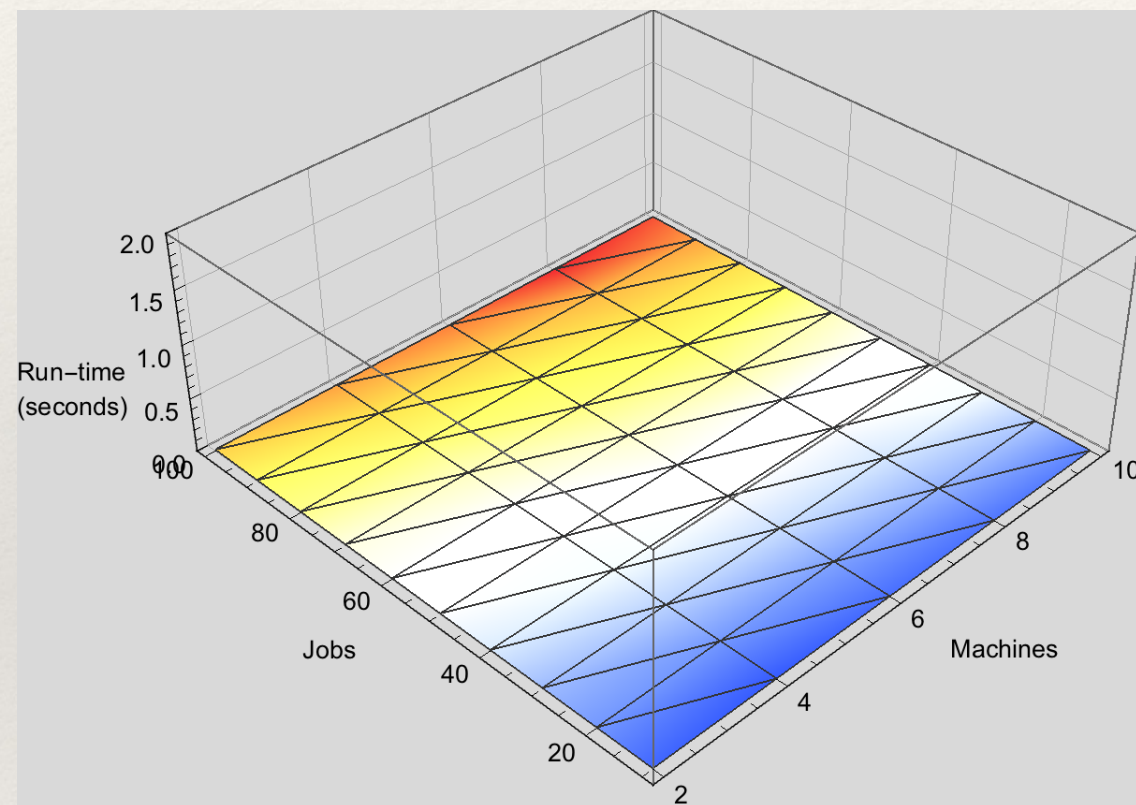
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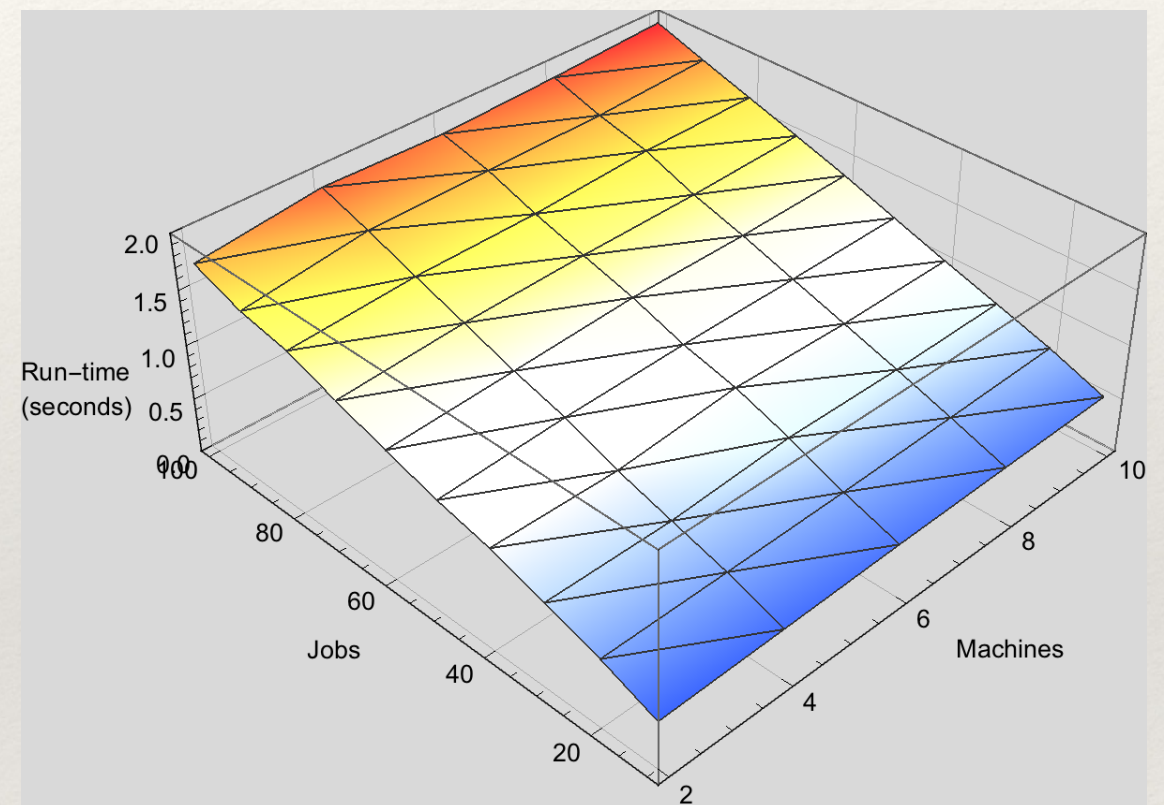
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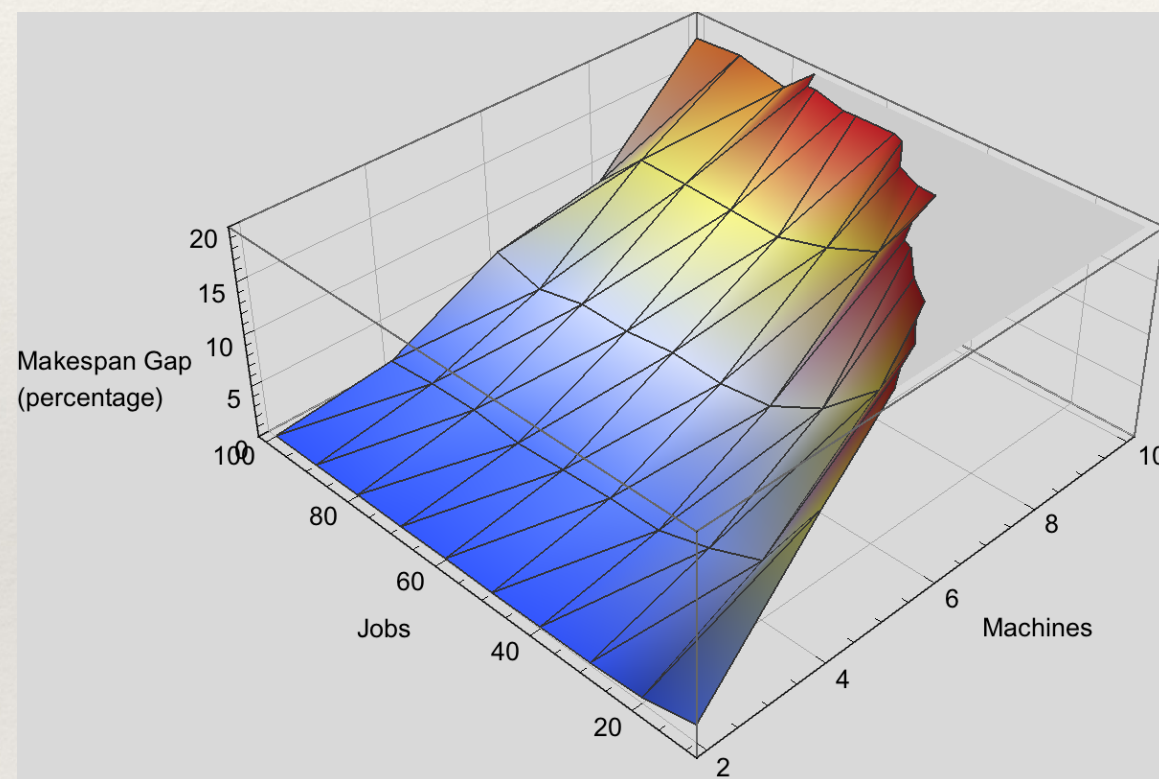
Linear Multiplicative Cooling



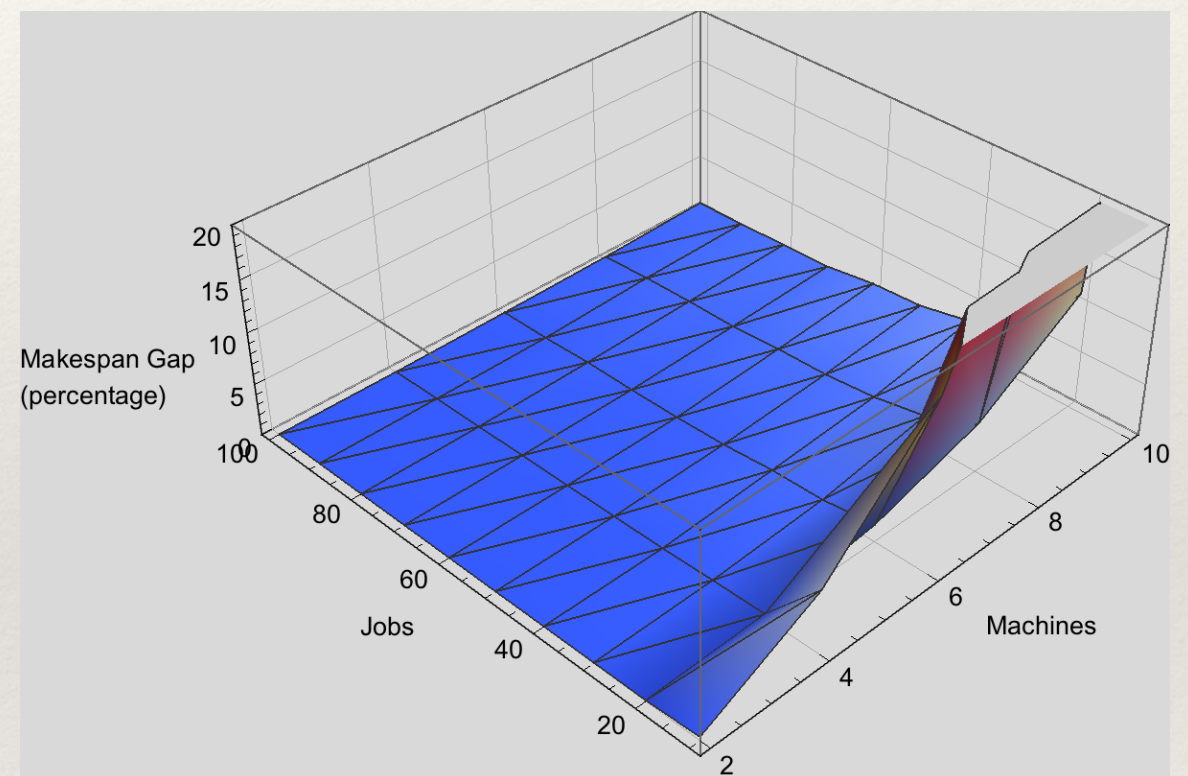
Quadratic Multiplicative Cooling

Run time

Experiments: Cooling Schedules



Linear Multiplicative Cooling



Quadratic Multiplicative Cooling

Makespan Gap

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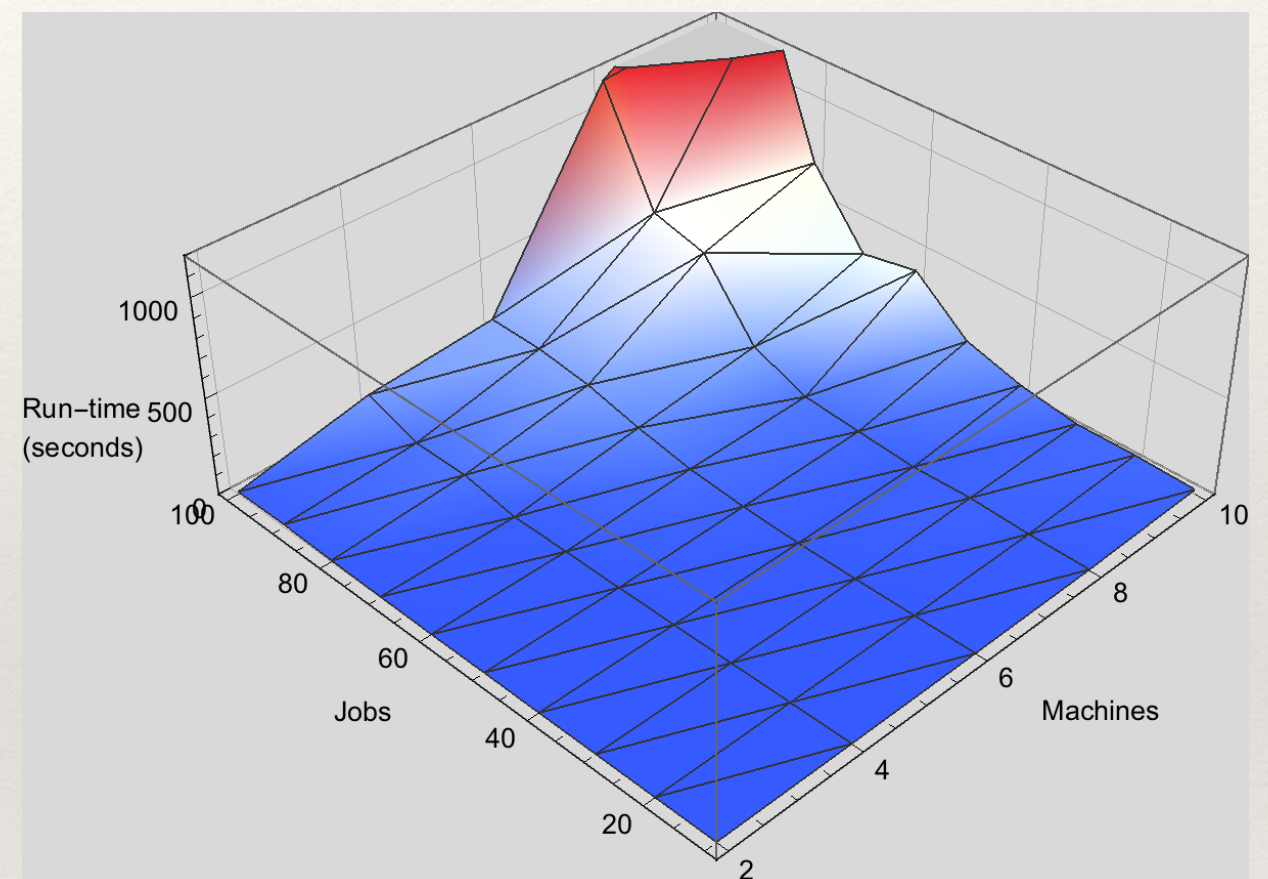
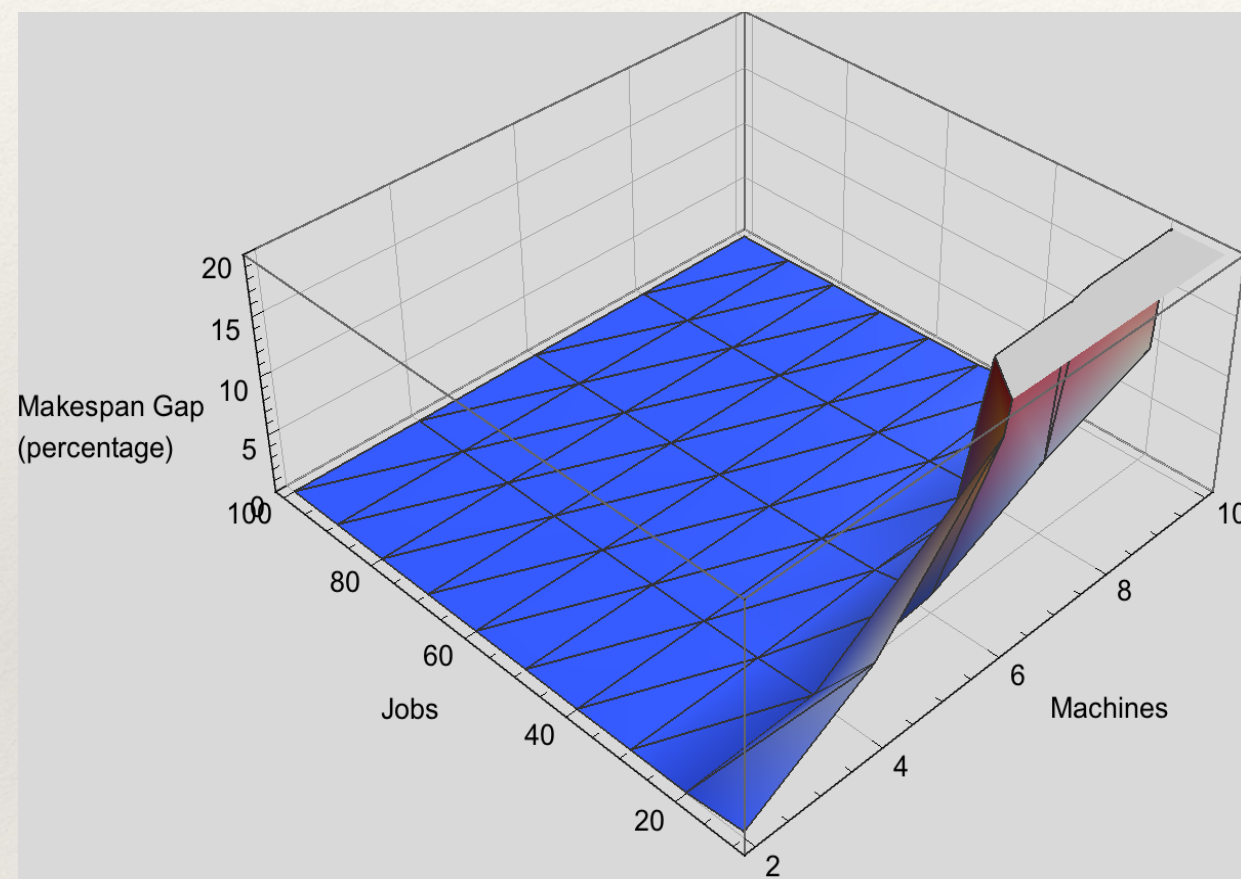
Experiments: Initial Temperature

- ❖ Including initial temperature algorithm as part of Simulated Annealing is not time efficient
- ❖ Temperatures generated for a range of instances of different sizes
- ❖ Conclusion: choose initial temperature to be 1.5 times the maximum processing time

Experiments: Research Questions

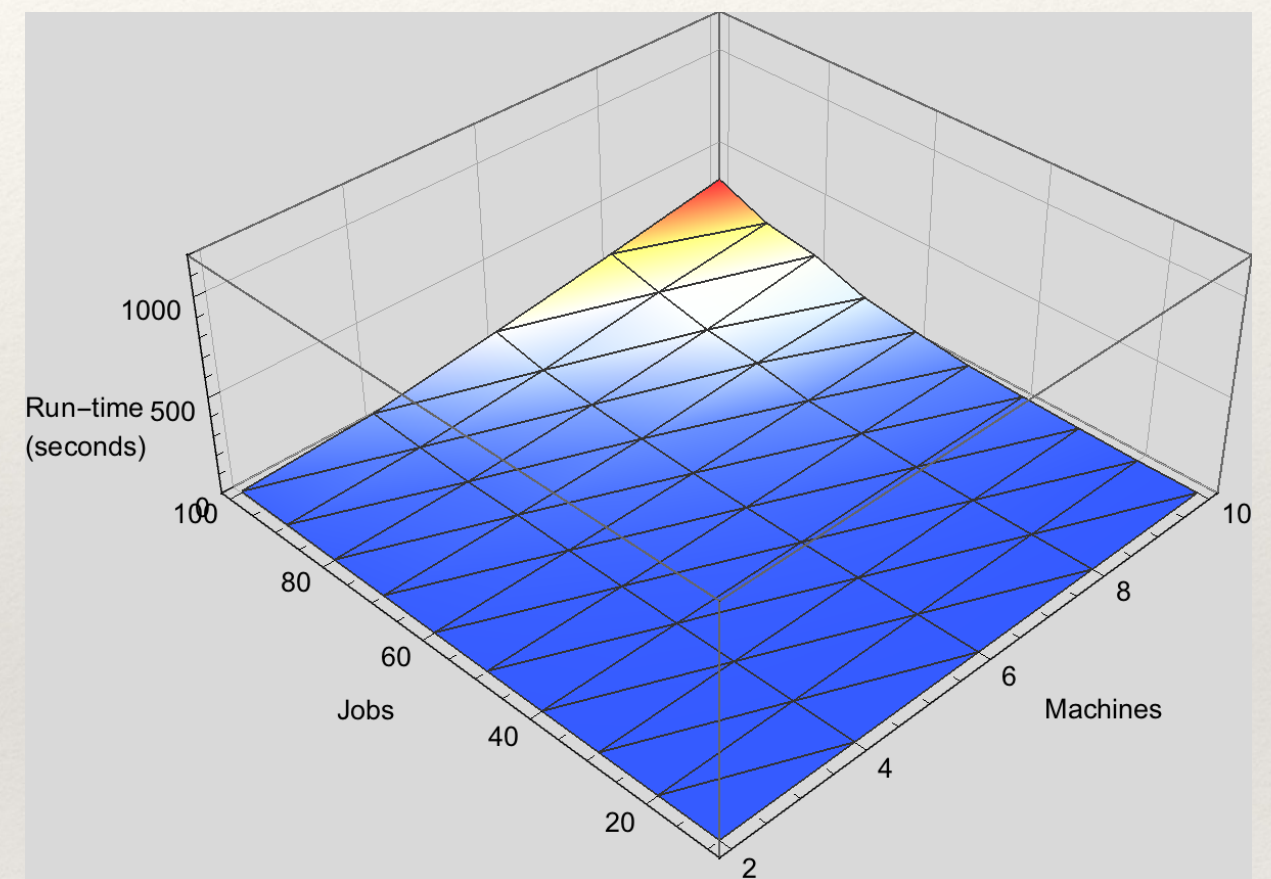
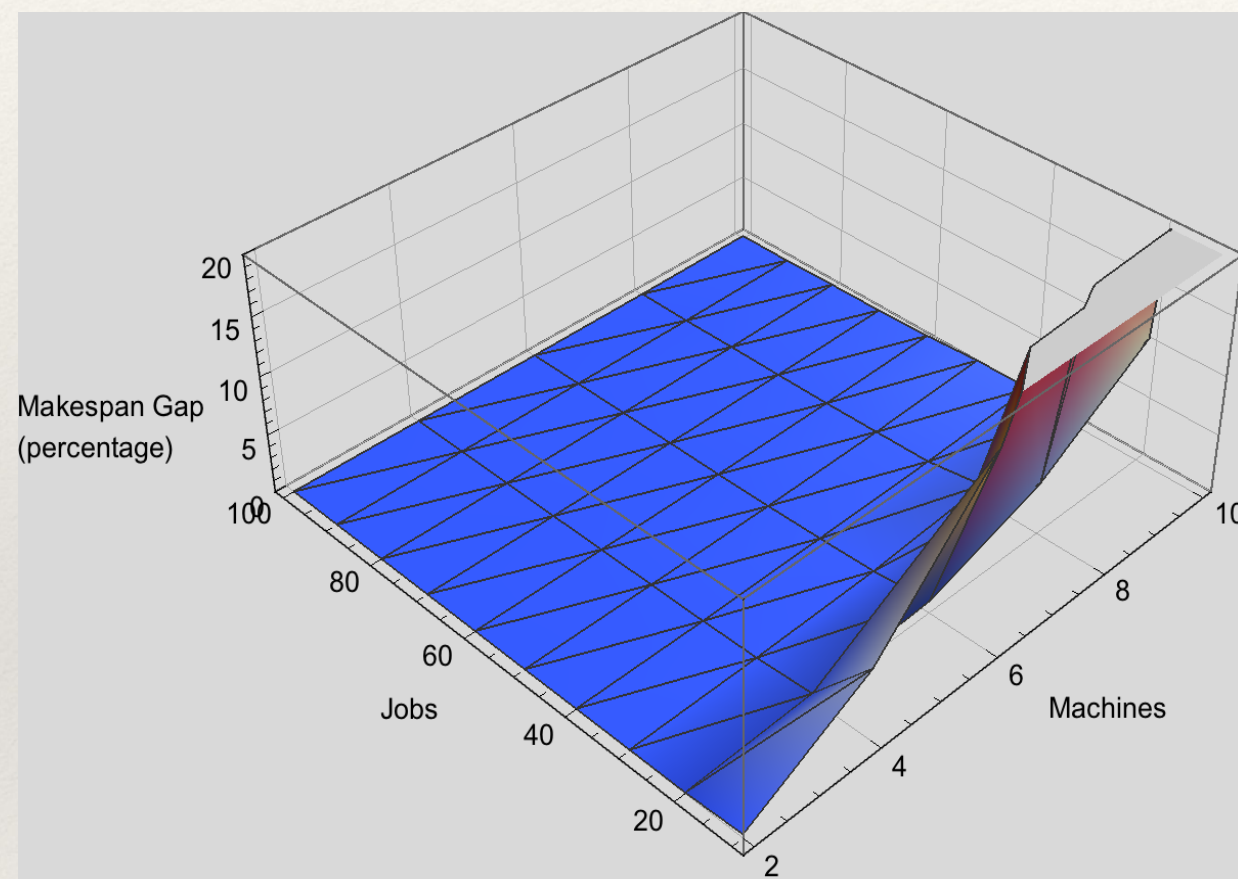
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Experiments: SA Comparison to GLS



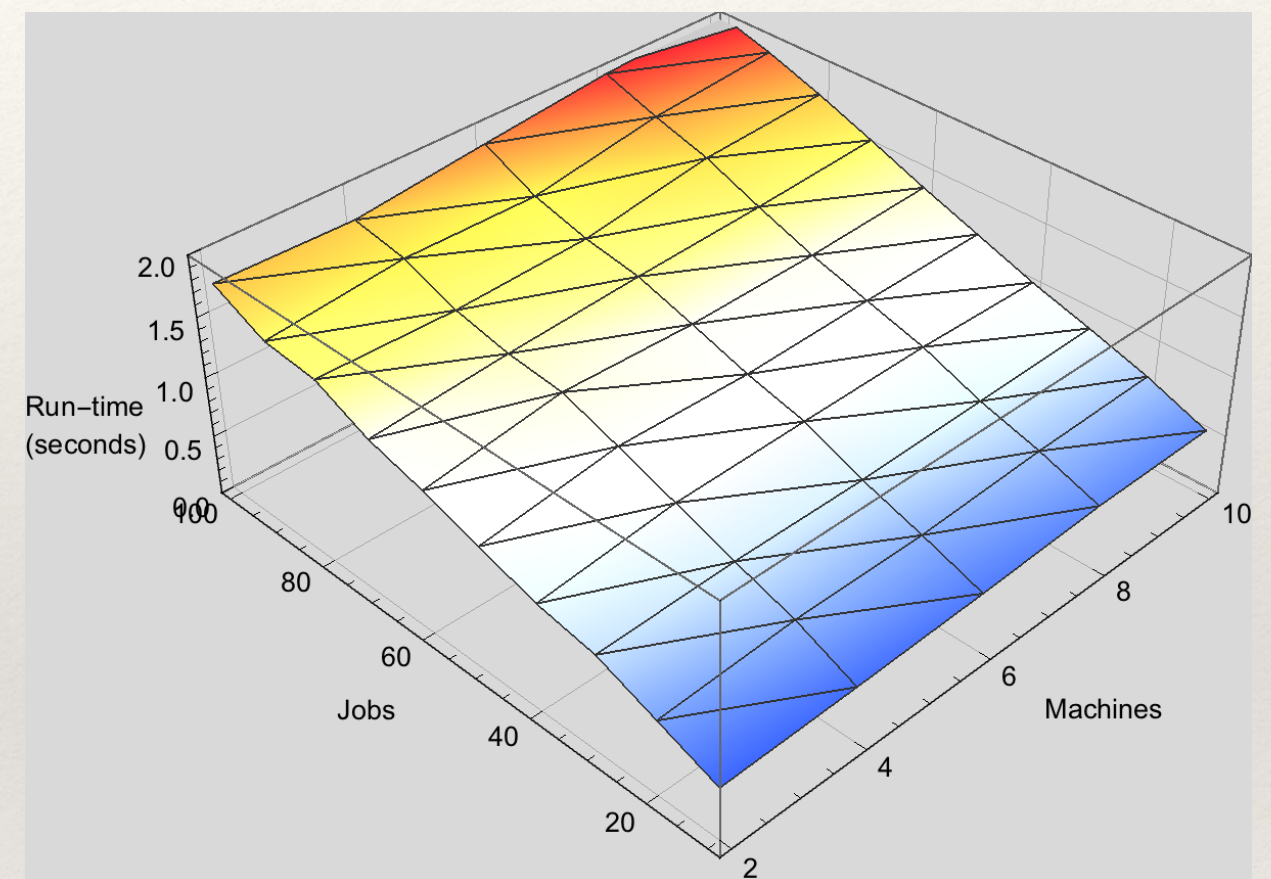
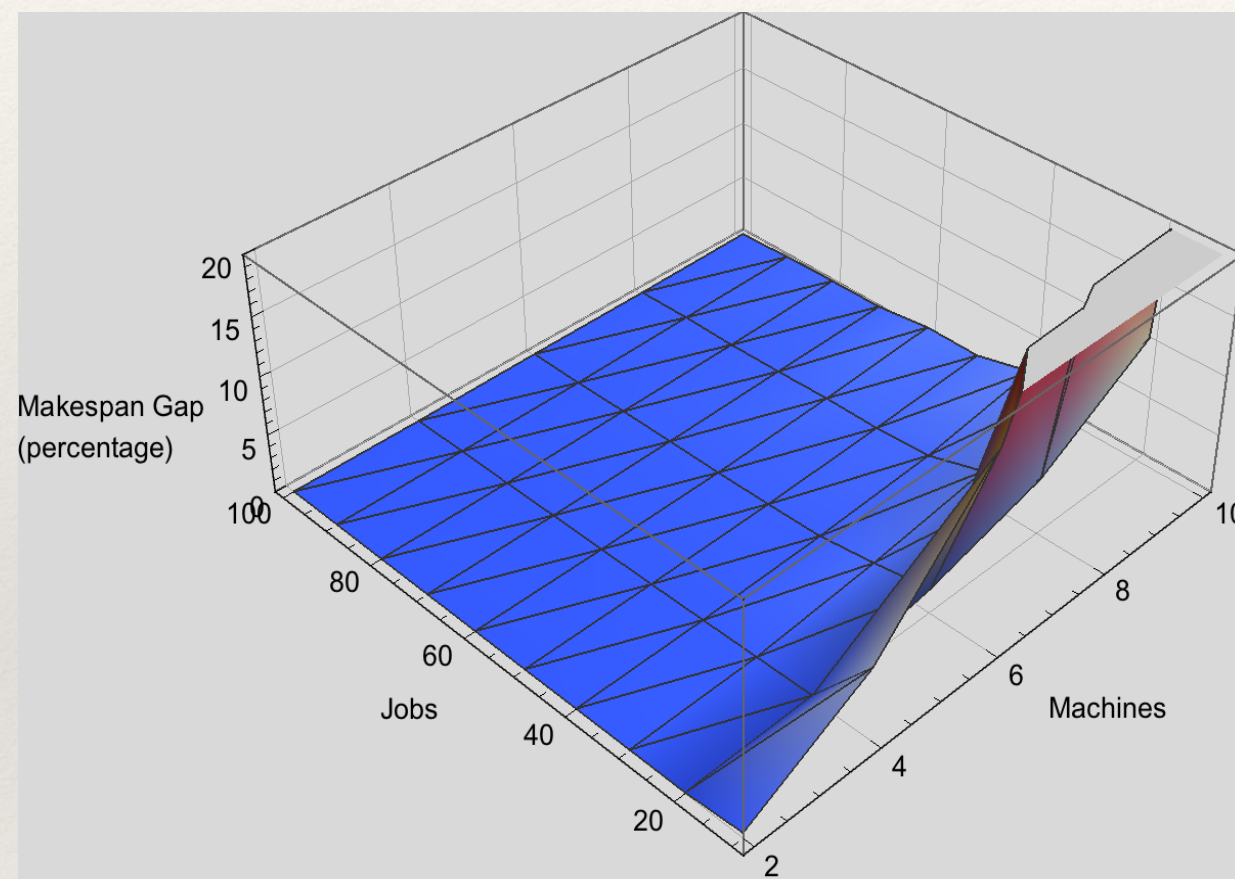
GLS Results
(Initial Solution: GMS)

Experiments: SA Comparison to VDS



VDS Results
(Initial Solution: GMS)

Experiments: SA Results



SA Results
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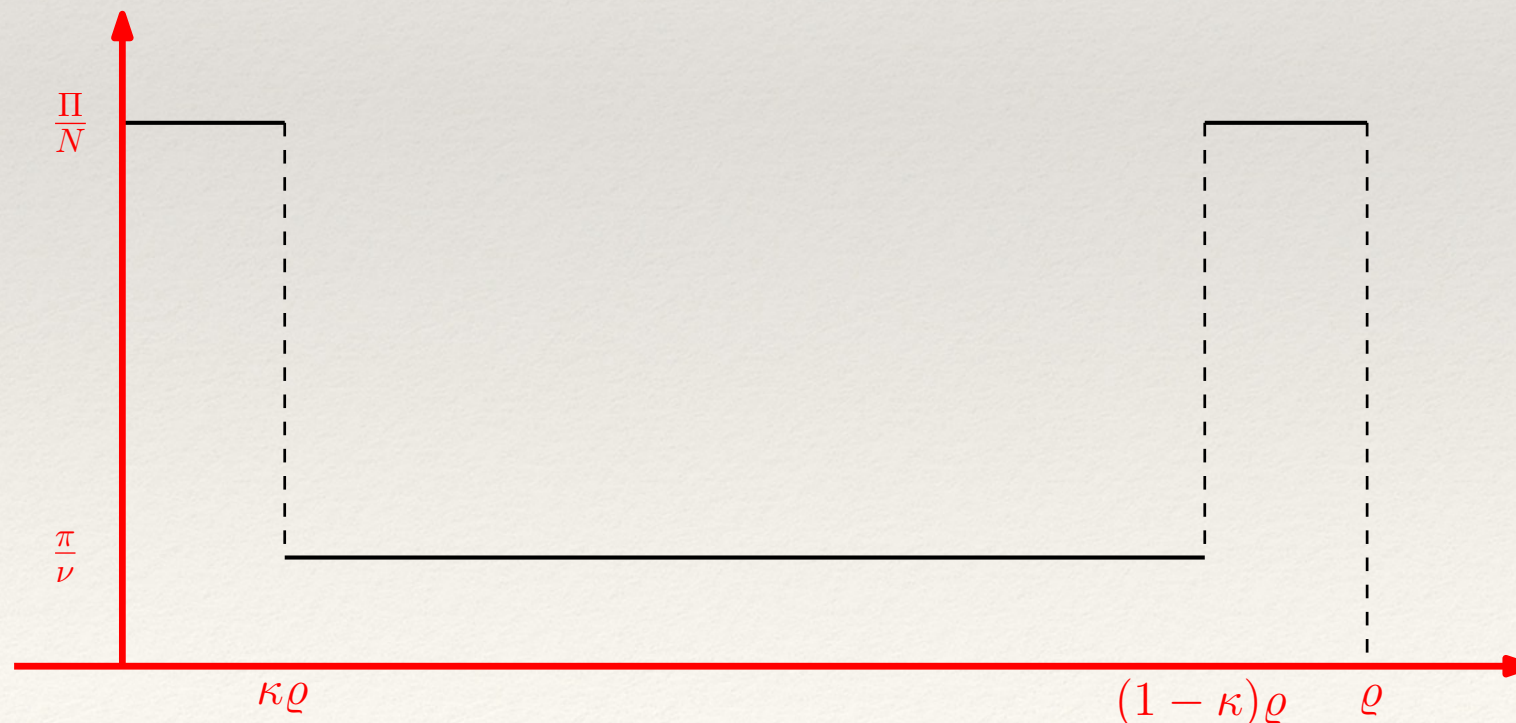
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- ❖ Is there a distribution for which Simulated Annealing gives bad solutions?

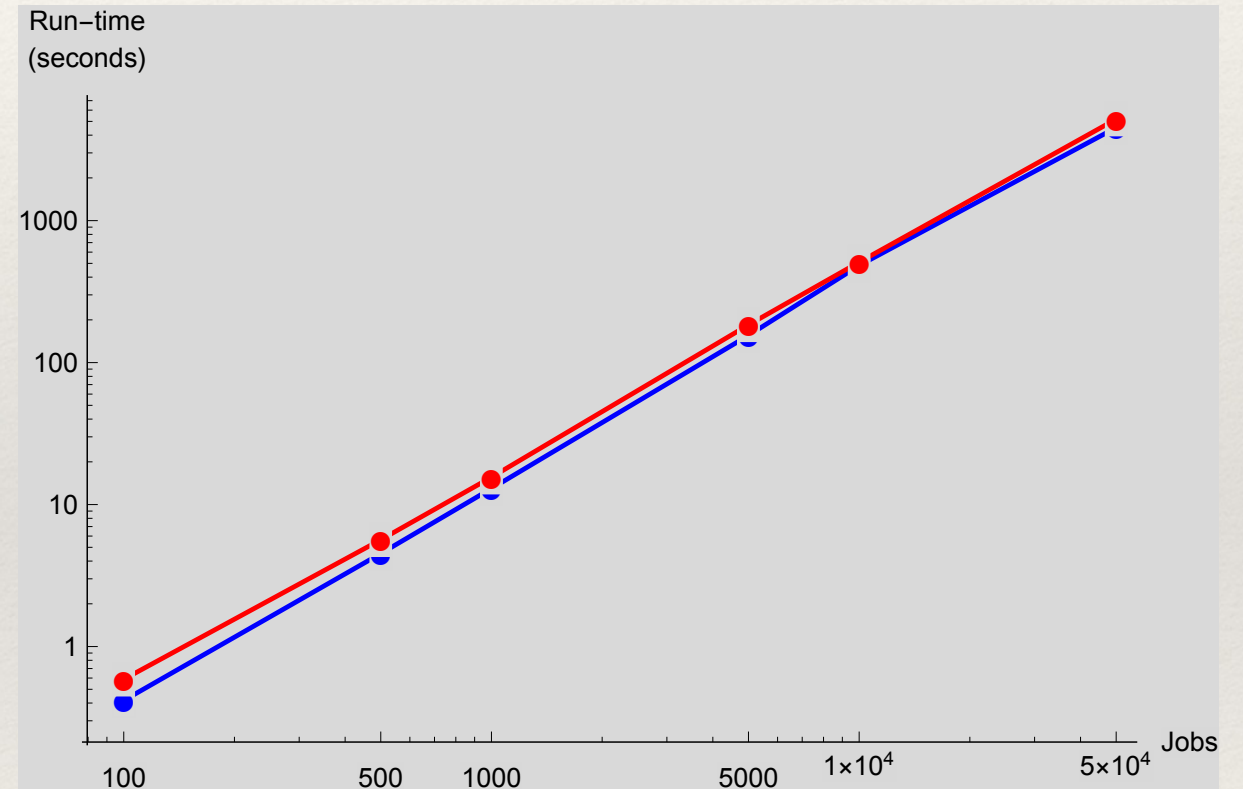
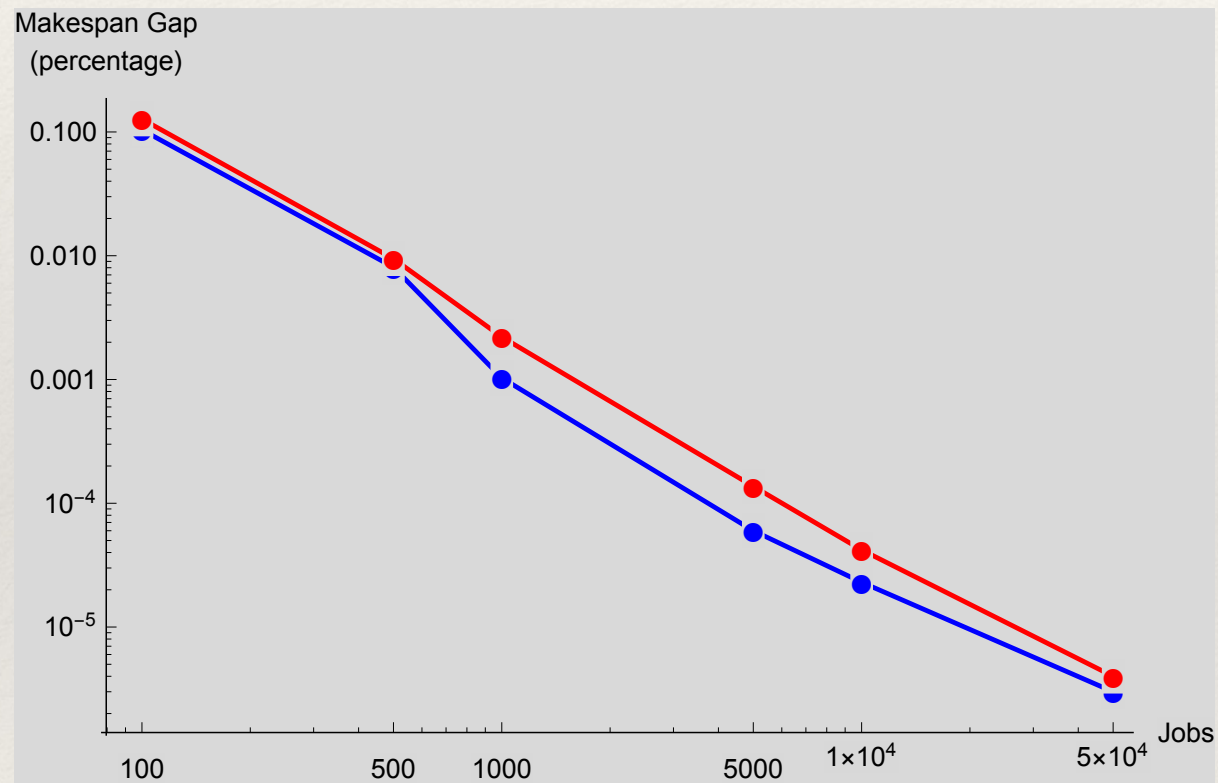
Experiments: Performance Limitations

- ❖ So far: uniform distribution used to generate processing times
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Experiments: Performance Limitations

- ❖ Increase size of instance: 500, 1000, 5000, 10000 jobs...



— Uniform Distribution
— Poor Distribution

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- ❖ Fractional lower bound is not a good measure of solution quality when n and m are comparable
- ❖ Constraint Programming (CP) model to generate an optimal solution
- ❖ Runtime of CP model varies drastically, especially for larger instances

Experiments: Solution Quality Measure

$\begin{array}{c} \backslash \\ m \end{array} \begin{array}{c} n \\ \end{array}$	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
2	0.24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0.04	0.28	0.12	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.02	0
6	0	1.32	0.66	0.43	0.28	0.22	0.09	0.13	0.10	0.08
8	0	1.37	1.85	1.16	0.74	0.42	0.39	0.25	0.26	0.18
10	0	0.33	4.20	3.30	1.74	0.79	0.63	0.69	0.22	0.10

The optimality gap (in %) of the SA solution to the optimal solution (by CP),
for instances that were solved to optimality within 5 minutes.

Summary

- ❖ We applied Simulated Annealing to the Makespan Scheduling problem
- ❖ Investigated different cooling schedules, an algorithm for initial temperature, performance limitations
- ❖ Simulated Annealing found to be much faster than GLS, VDS and CP

Thank you!

References

1. Ben-Ameur, W. (2004). *Computing the initial temperature of simulated annealing*. *Computational Optimization and Applications*, 29(3):369–385.