**Report for Project Work**

**Combinatorial Decision Making and Optimization**

**Module 1**

**(CP Solution)**

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**1 Introduction**

VLSI (Very Large Scale Integration) refers to the trend of integrating circuits into silicon chips. A typical example is the smartphone. The modern trend of shrinking transistor sizes, allowing engineers to fit more and more transistors into the same area of silicon, has pushed the integration of more and more functions of cellphone circuitry into a single silicon die (i.e. plate). This enabled the modern cellphone to mature into a powerful tool that shrank from the size of a large brick-sized unit to a device small enough to comfortably carry in a pocket or purse, with a video camera, touchscreen, and other advanced features.In this project,a fixed-width plate and a list of rectangular circuits are given,all the circuits should be put on the plate and the height need to be minimized.

**2 Implementation**

The code is implemented in python with minizinc library.All the input and output are done in python by using the constraint programming model defined in minizinc.The solver is Gecode 6.3.0.

**2.1 parameters**

**2.1.1 Input**

The input variables are the following ones:

w - the width of the silicon plate

n - the number of circuits

[width1,width2,..,widthn] - the width of every circuit

[height1,height2,..,heightn] - the height of every circuit

**2.1.2 Output**

**2.1.2.1 Normal model output**

Once the program finished optimization process and find solution,it will give output

as following:

w h

n

Width1 height1 x1 y1

Width2 height2 x2 y2

.....

Widthn heightn xn yn

Among these parameters:

* h is the minimum height the program needs to optimize.
* xi and yi correspond to the left bottom point’s x-coordinate and y-coordinate of the i circuit.
* w,n,widthi,heighti are same as the input.

And it will generate a picture as Figure 1:

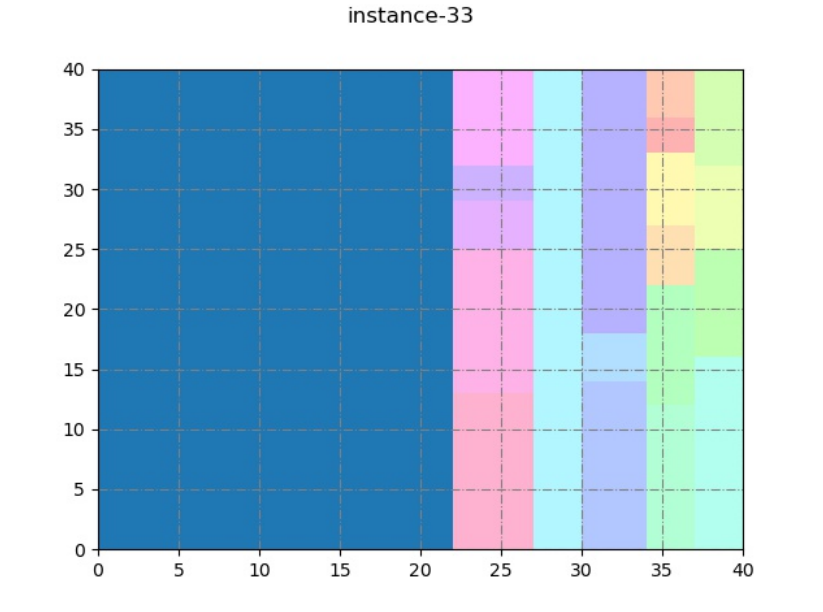


Figure 1:Instance 33 with width=40,n=20 and height=40

**2.1.2.2 Rotation model output**

Output format is as following:

w h

n

Width1 height1 x1 y1  Rotation1

Width2 height2 x2 y2 Rotation2

.....

Widthn heightn xn yn Rotation2

* Rotation is boolean variable.When it is true,it means the circuit has been rotated.On the contrary,false means it is not rotated.
* Other variables’ meaning is same as 2.1.2.1
* It will also generate a picture like Figure 1.

**3 Normal model Constraints**

**3.1 Implied constraint**

When taking in to account this problem,we can not ignore the implied constraint of the problem itself.As the plate’s width is fixed,all the circuits inside could not exceed the left,right and button boundary of the plate.In the solution,the left-bottom corner of plate is the coordinate’s origin,and bottom edge is X axis and left edge is Y axis.So there should have formulae:

**3.2 Global constraints**

**3.2.1** **cumulative**

In this strip packing problem,it can be treated as resource scheduling problem.Each circuit can be viewed as a task, the horizontal axis of the plate corresponds to the time, the vertical axis corresponds to the capacity, the start time and duration of each task can be viewed as the horizontal axis and width of the circuit, while the amount of resources required corresponds to the height.On the other hand,when the duration be represented by vertical axis and the amount of resource is showed by horizontal one,that is also reasonable.Thus,the global constraint cumulative() can be used at here:

**3.2.2 No Overlapping**

Circuit cannot overlap with other circuits, so some restrictions are required on the code. In the minizinc tutorial, there is a global constraint Diffn () which can realize the no overlapping function by giving circuits’s origins and sizes:

**3.2.3 Remove gap**

To make sure there is no gap between circuits,so constraint must be added:

forall(r in Circuit)(

member([0] ++ [x[i] + width[i] | i in Circuit where i != r], x[r]) /\

member([0] ++ [y[i] + height[i] | i in Circuit where i != r], y[r]))

**3.3 Symmetry breaking constraints**

Symmetry may lead to a solution/failure which will have many symmetrically equivalent states.For example,exchange circuits with same width and height;flip the plate horizontally or vertically;rotate the plate 180°. In order to get higher

efficiency,we need to reduce the solution and search space by defining some symmetry breaking constraints:

* Sort all circuits by area from largest to smallest,and let the one with the largest area in the lower part of the second largest circuit.In this way,the circumstances including horizontal and vertical flip as well as 180° rotation are all ruled out.
* Put the circuit with biggest area to the left lower part of the plate.
* To limit the switching of circuits with same width and height:

**4 Rotation Model**

In this model,the only difference with the formal model is that the circuit’s width and height and be exchanged.

So an array of boolean variable is added which named Rotation.If the rotation[i] is true then it means the ith circuit has been rotated and its width has been swapped with height.

There will be a new implied limitation in this model:if a circuit’s height is larger than the plate’s width,then it can not be rotated.

**5 Search**

According to the information in the minizinc tutorial,there are many choice for variable and constraint during search.In addition,it also contain restart strategy to solve the problem.

**Variable choice:**

* input\_order
* first\_fail
* Smallest
* dom\_w\_deg

**Constraint choice:**

* indomain\_min
* indomain\_median
* indomain\_random
* indomain\_split

**Restart:**

* restart\_constant(100)
* restart\_linear(100)
* restart\_geometric(1.5,100)
* restart\_luby(100)

Some of them are combined to test during the search period.The search function has been built like the below one.

solve

::int\_search([y[r] | r in circuitOrder], input\_order, indomain\_min,

complete)

::int\_search([x[r] | r in circuitOrder], input\_order, indomain\_min,

complete)

::int\_search([h], input\_order, indomain\_min, complete)

minimize h;

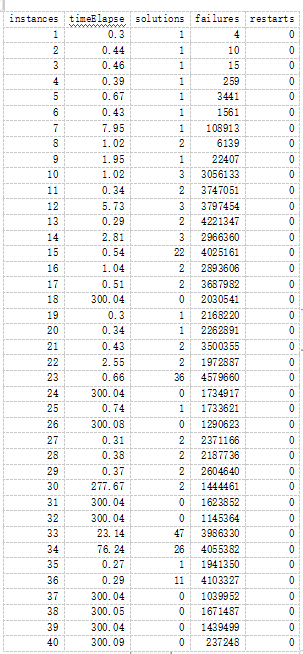
**6 Result**

**6.1 Normal model**

As the chart shown below,there are difference between input order,first\_fail and dom\_w\_deg.And the input\_order performs better than the other two.

**6.2 Rotation model**

As shown in the figure below,it is the result of the rotation model with input\_order,indomain\_min and without restart.Even though some instances takes less than 300 second to find the solution,it is not the best solution.This model is more complex than the normal one.



**6.3 Comparison between normal model and rotation model**

For comparison,the normal and rotation model both use search strategy input\_order and domain\_min with no restart.It looks that the normal model works better than the rotation model.