CS6135 VLSI Physical Design Automation Homework 4: Placement Legalization

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1. Goal

Implement the algorithm "Abacus: fast legalization of standard cell circuits with minimal movement" in ISPD, 2008.

2. Design Concept

因為作業格式有障礙物,需先將 row 做切割,變成 subrow。 一開始先將 cells 根據 x 方向由小到大排序,並且跟 row 和 site 做好對齊。 接下來根據 paper 實作 Abacus(), placeRow()和 clustering()

```
Algorithm 1: Our legalization approach "Abacus"
 1 Sort cells according to x-position;
 {f 2} for
each cell\ i do
      c_{hest} \leftarrow \infty:
       foreach row r do
        Insert cell i into row r;
 6
          PlaceRow r (trial);
          Determine cost c;
 7
 8
          if c < c_{best} then c_{best} = c, r_{best} = r;
9
        Remove cell i from row r;
10
      Insert Cell i to row r_{best};
11
      PlaceRow r_{best} (final);
13 end
```

clustering():將兩個 cell 合併,其中內部以 dfs 方式更新 cell 的位置。
placeRow():為一個 DP approach,過程不斷更新 cell 位置,如果有 overlap
則將兩個 cell 合併,其中使用了 stack 結構來實作 previous cell。

3. Discussion

The details of your implementation. If there is anything different between your implementation and the algorithm in the ISPD-08 paper, please reveal the difference(s) and explain the reasons.

基本上跟 paper 一樣的方式,但是作業格式要求要 align site,這部分需要額外處理。如果 clustering 後結果超出 row 的前後,則嘗試排在此 row 的第一個 site 或最後一個 site。

What tricks did you do to speed up your program or to enhance your solution

quality? Also plot the effects of those different settings like the ones shown below.

不需要所有 row 都試過,因為是以排序過的 cell list,而 row 也是照 y 方向由小到大排序。如果遇到 cost 增加,則可以 break 掉。

另外一開始先將 cell 最靠近的 row 記錄下來,之後直接從那個 row 開始找起,也可以加速。

Cell 結構有紀錄 which row 和 which site 方便作搬移。

使用 call by reference 方式作 trial placeRow()。

What have you learned from this homework? What problem(s) have you encountered in this homework?

要考慮很多 cases 不然很容易 segmentation fault。到了 deadline 的前天才發現有 site aligning constraint 的規則。很遺憾最後無法通過測資,site aligning constraint 還是無法通過。

4. Result

How to run?

./hw4 ../testcases/<.aux>

	adaptec1	adaptec3	ibm01	ibm07	ibm09
displacement	501 e+06	5490 e+06	1.59 e+06	5.98 e+06	6.87 e+06
Runtime (s)	15.22	23.38	0.34	2.88	3.55
Max dis	N	N	Υ	Υ	Υ
Overlap	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y