jobshop scheduling

We have

- a set of resources
- a set of jobs
 - a job is a sequence of operations/activities
- sequence the activities on the resources

An example: 3×4



- We have 4 resources: green, yellow, red and blue
- a job is a sequence of operations (precedence constraints)
- each operation is executed on a resource (resource constraints)
- each resource can do one operation at a time
- the duration of an operation is the length of its box
- we have a due date, giving time windows for operations (time constraints)



Assign a start time to each operation such that (a) no two operations are in process on the same machine at the same time and (b) temporal constraints are respected

The problem is NP complete

Alternatively ... sequence operations on resources

This gives a set of solutions, and might be considered a "least commitment approach"



On the "green" resource, put a *direction* on the arrows

A disjunctive graph



On the "green" resource, put a *direction* on the arrows

A disjunctive graph

7x6

76 210316375346 What is makespan! 182540500034 253458091147 150525334859 291345540331 133359004421 244402375213 //alogoiden //ceticov (topere) isajo // cetriplan operations (netrigeditionair) // cetapetioneques //-andie Oct // -additionaliatratie (100) ///werdersmistationequestcompless // //minnelessonie57



For a long time, unsolved

Why bother?

- Minimise makespan
 - what is makespan?
- Maximise start
 - JIT, minimise inventory levels
- minimise idle time on resources
 - maximise ROI
- ...



Find the smallest value for end minimise makespan

How can we view this as a csp?

Each operation is a variable domain is set of start times there are precedence constraints between operation in a job operations on a resource have *disjunctive constraints*



What is the complexity of this problem?

- Assume we have m resources and n jobs
- on each resource we will have n operations
- we can order these in n! ways
- therefore we have $O(n!^m)$ states to explore

 $O(n!^m)$

But we want to optimise, not satisfy

How do you optimise with CP?

A sequence of decision problems

Is there a solution with makespan 395?
Yip!

- Is there a solution with makespan 300?
 - Let me think about that ...
 - Yes
- Is there a solution with makespan 299?
 - Hold on, ..., hold on
 - NO!
- Minimum makespan is 300.

When optimising, via a sequence of decision problems, will all decisions be equally difficult to answer?

What does branch and bound (BnB) do?

Who cares about jobshop scheduling?

Manufacturing inc.

Is CP any good for this class of problem?

- Main competitor is OR technology
- Mark Fox 1980's,
 - ISIS constraint directed search(CMU)
- OPIS
 - Steve Smith, Peng Si Ow (CMU)
- DAS
 - Burke et al (SU)
- MicroBoss
 - Norman Sadeh (CMU)
- Edge-finding
 - a novel technique to infer constraints on a resources
 - J Carlier & E. Pinson 1994
 - CP solves open benchmarks, beats OR
- Texture based heuristics
 - J-C Beck and Mark Fox 1990's
- ILOG-Scheduler
 - Claude Le Pape, Wim Nuijten, Philippe Babtiste, J-Chris Beck
 - and many others
- 2000s
 - ILOG buy CPLEX

Is CP any good for this class of problem?





Variants of jsp

- openness:
 - variety of resources can perform an operation
 - processing time dependant on resource used
- set up costs, between jobs (transition cost)
- consumable resources
 - such as gas, oil, etc
- pre-emption
 - can stop and restart an operation
- resource can perform multiple operations simultaneously
 - batch processing
- secondary resources
 - people, tools, cranes, etc
- etc

Chris Beck (2006) "The jssp has never been spotted in the wild."

Why might CP be technology of choice for scheduling?

- can model rich real-world problems
 - addition of side constraints etc
- incorporate domain knowledge
 - in the form of variable and value ordering heuristics
- powerful reasoning/inference allied to novel search techniques

We can get a solution up and running quickly





Apache/2.2.3 (CentOS) Server at www.dcs.gla.ac.uk Port 80

25-Oct-2017 11:30

26-Oct-2017 12:01

25-Oct-2017 11:30

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results-2015/

results/

slides/

Operation



Operation - Notepad		X	3
File Edit Format View Help			
<pre>import org.chocosolver.solver.Model; import org.chocosolver.solver.variables.IntVar; import org.chocosolver.solver.constraints.Constraint;</pre>			*
public class Operation { String id; String resId; int duration; IntVar start; Model model;			
<pre>Operation(String id,String resId,int duration,int earliestStart,int latestStart,Model model){ this.id = id; this.resId = resId; // resource id this.duration = duration; this.model = model; start = model.intVar(id,earliestStart,latestStart); }</pre>			
public String toString(){ return "{" + id + " " + resId + " " + duration + " [" + start.getLB() + "," + start.getUB() }	+ "]	}";	
Constraint before(Operation op2){ return model.arithm(op2.start,">=",start,"+",duration);			
// // this operation is before operation op2 // Therefore, if this operation starts at time t and has duration d // it finishes at time t+d. Therefore operation op2 can start immediately // at time t+d or any time after that			
} //			~
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Operation - Notepad		×	
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<pre>import org.chocosolver.solver.Model; import org.chocosolver.solver.variables.IntVar; import org.chocosolver.solver.constraints.Constraint;</pre>		*	
<pre>public class Operation { String id; String resId; int duration; Intvar start; Model model; Operation(String id,String resId,int duration,int earli this.id = id; this.resId = resId; // resource id this.duration = duration; Operation(string = duration;</pre>			
<pre>this.model = model; start = model.intVar(id,earliestStart,latestStart); }</pre>			
<pre>public String toString(){ return "{" + id + " " + resId + " " + duration + " [" + start.getLB() + "," + start.getUB() }</pre>	+ "]}	} " ;	
Constraint before(Operation op2){ return model.arithm(op2.start,">=",start,"+",duration);			
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} //		-	-
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Operation - Notepad	- 0	×
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import org.chocosolver.solver.Model; import org.chocosolver.solver.variables.IntVar; import org.chocosolver.solver.constraints.Constraint;		*
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<pre>public string tostring(){ return "{" + id + " " + resId + " " + duration + " [" + start.getLB() + "," + start.getUB() }</pre>) + "]]	}";
Constraint before(Operation op2){ return model.arithm(op2.start,">=",start,"+",duration); } //		
<pre>// this operation is before operation op2 // Therefore, if this operation starts at time t and has duration d // it finishes at time t+d. Therefore operation op2 can start immediately // at time t+d or any time after that</pre>		
} //		-
∢		► _{ai}



Operation - Notepad	x
File Edit Format View Help	
import org.chocosolver.solver.Model; import org.chocosolver.solver.variables.IntVar; import org.chocosolver.solver.constraints.Constraint;	*
public class Operation { String id; String resId; int duration; IntVar start; Model model;	
Operation(String id,String resId,int duration,int earliestStart,int latestStart,Model model){	
public String toString(){ return "{" + id + " " + resId + " " + duration + " [" + start.getLB() + "," + start.getUB() + "] }	}";
Constraint before(Operation op2){ return model.arithm(op2.start,">=",start,"+",duration); } // // this operation is before operation op2 // Therefore, if this operation starts at time t and has duration d // it finites at time to d. Therefore operation on2 can start immediately.	
<pre>// it finishes at time t+d. Therefore operation op2 can start immediately // at time t+d or any time after that // }</pre>	Ŧ
	E. ≜

```
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// therefore, if this operation starts at time t and has duration d
// it finishes at time t+d. Therefore operation op2 can start immediately
// at time t+d or any time after that
//
```

see next slides









Constrained integer variable represents start time

op1.before(op2)



op1.before(op2) → op1.start() + op1.duration() ≤ op2.start()



op1.before(op2) → op1.start() + op1.duration() ≤ op2.start()

Update earliest start of operation op2



op1.before(op2) → op1.start() + op1.duration() ≤ op2.start()

Update latest start of operation op1

No effect on this instance

propagate

op1.before(op2)



op1 and op2 cannot be in process at same time op1.before(op2) *OR* op2.before(op1)

Not easy to propagate until decision made (disjunction broken)
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The Free Encyclopedia	From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia								
Main page Contents	For the type of boolean algebra called interval algebra, see Boolean algebra (structure)								
Featured content	Allen's interval algebra is a calculus for temporal reasoning that was introduced by James F. Allen in 1983.							- 11	
Current events Random article Donate to Wikipedia	The calculus defines possible relations between time intervals and provides a composition table that can be used as a basis for reasoning about temporal descriptions of events.								



Job



```
23
  Job - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
import java.util.ArrayList;
import org.chocosolver.solver.Model;
public class Job {
   String id;
   ArrayList<Operation> operations;
   int length:
   Model model:
   Job(String id,Model model){
        this.id = id:
        operations = new ArrayList<Operation>():
        length = 0;
       this.model = model;
    }
   void add(Operation op){
        if (!operations.isEmpty()) operations.get(length-1).before(op).post();
        operations.add(op);
        length++;
    }
   77
    // adding operations in sequence to a job, such that
    // operation op_i is before operation op_i+1
   // i.e. precedence constraints between operations in a job.
   Operation get(int i){return operations.get(i);}
   public String toString(){
        String s = "(" + id + " ":
        for (int i=0;i<operations.size();i++) s = s + ((Operation)operations.get(i)).toString() + " ";</pre>
       return s + ")";
    }
```



```
public class Job {
   String id;
   ArrayList<Operation> operations;
   int length;
   Model model;
   Job(String id,Model model){
      this.id = id;
      operations = new ArrayList<Operation>();
      length = 0;
      this.model = model;
   }
}
```

Job is a sequence of operations



```
void add(Operation op){
    if (!operations.isEmpty()) operations.get(length-1).before(op).post();
    operations.add(op);
    length++;
}
//
// adding operations in sequence to a job, such that
// operation op_i is before operation op_i+1
// i.e. precedence constraints between operations in a job.
//
```

Creating/building a job as a sequence of operations each one *before* the other

Decision

op1.before(op2)



Use a 0/1 decision variable d[i][j] as follows

 $d[i][j] = 0 \rightarrow op[i]1.before(op[j])$ $d[i][j] = 1 \rightarrow op[j]1.before(op[i])$

op1.before(op2)



o[j]) op1 before op2

 $d[i][j] = 0 \rightarrow op[i]1.before(op[j])$

op1.before(op2)



]) op1 before op2

 $d[i][j] = 0 \rightarrow op[i]1.before(op[j])$

op1.before(op2)



 $d[i][j] = 1 \rightarrow op[j]1.before(op[i])$

op2 before op1

op1.before(op2)



 $d[i][j] = 1 \rightarrow op[j]1.before(op[i])$

op2 before op1



Decision - Notepad			x
File Edit Format View Help			
<pre>import org.chocosolver.solver.variables.IntVar;</pre>			*
public class Decision { IntVar d; Operation op_i; Operation op_j;			
<pre>Decision(IntVar d,Operation op_i,Operation op_j){ this.d = d; this.op_i = op_i; this.op_j = op_j; }</pre>			
public String toString(){return "{" + d + " " + op_i + " " + op_	_j + '	'}";]	ł
<pre>IntVar getD(){return d;} Operation getOp_i(){return op_i;} Operation getOp_j(){return op_j;} }</pre>			
// // A Decision is a triple where 0/1 variable d decides // the ordering between two operations on a resource //			Ŧ
•			▶

```
public class Decision {
    IntVar d;
    Operation op_i;
    Operation op_j;
    Decision(IntVar d,Operation op_i,Operation op_j){
        this.d = d;
        this.op_i = op_i;
        this.op_j = op_j;
    }
}
```

A decision is a triple:

- a zero/one variable d
- an operation op_i
- an operation op_j

Value of d decides relative order of The two operations (before or after) Resource



```
public class Resource {
   String id;
   ArrayList<Operation> operations;
   ArrayList<Decision> decisions;
   Model model;

   Resource(String id,Model model){
      this.id = id;
      operations = new ArrayList<Operation>();
      decisions = new ArrayList<Decision>();
      this.model = model;
   }
}
```

Resource is a collection of operations and decisions that will be made on their ordering/sequencing on this resource

```
Resource
```

```
void add(Operation op){
    int n = operations.size();
    for (int i=0;i<n;i++){
        Operation op_i = operations.get(i);
        IntVar decision = model.intVar("dec_"+ i +","+ n,0,1);
        decisions.add(new Decision(decision,op_i,op));
        model.ifThen(model.arithm(decision,"=",0),op_i.before(op));
        model.ifThen(model.arithm(decision,"=",1),op.before(op_i));
    }
    operations.add(op);
}</pre>
```

Add an operation to a resource and then constrain it ...

decision = 0 implies op_i before op decision = 1 implies op before op_i JSSP

- D X JSSP - Notepad File Edit Format View Help import java.io.*; import java.util.*; import org.chocosolver.solver.Model; import org.chocosolver.solver.Solver; import org.chocosolver.solver.variables.IntVar; import org.chocosolver.solver.constraints.IIntConstraintFactory.*; import org.chocosolver.solver.search.strategy.Search; import org.chocosolver.solver.exception.ContradictionException; public class JSSP { String id; // file name // number of jobs int n; number of resources int m; int dueDate; aka makespan ArrayList<Job> jobs; // jobs to complete ArrayList<Resource> resources; // resources to use Operation endOp; // last operation for ALL jobs! Model model: JSSP(String fname, int dueDate) throws IOException Scanner sc = new Scanner(new File(fname)); = fname; id = sc.nextInt(); // number of jobs = sc.nextInt(); // number of resources n m jobs = new ArrayList<Job>(); resources = new ArrayList<Resource>(); this.dueDate = dueDate: = new Model("id"); mode1 = new Operation("endOp", "nullRes", 0, 0, dueDate, model); endOp int totalDuration = 0: for (int i=0;i<m;i++) resources.add(new Resource("r_"+i,model));</pre> for (int i=0; i<n; i++){ Job job = new Job("job_"+i,model);</pre> for (int j=0;j<m;j++){ Resource resource = resources.get(sc.nextInt()); int duration = sc.nextInt(); totalDuration = totalDuration + duration; Operation operation = new Operation("op_"+i+"_"+j,resource.id,duration,0,dueDate,model); resource.add(operation); job.add(operation); job.add(endOp); jobs.add(job); model.arithm(endOp.start,"<=",totalDuration).post();</pre> sc.close(); } public String toString(){ String s = "JSSP " + n + "X" + m + "\n"; for (int i=0;i<jobs.size();i++){</pre> Job job = (Job)jobs.get(i); s = s + job + "\n"; return s; } IntVar getMakeSpan(){return endOp.start;} Decision[] getDecisions(){ Decision[] decisions = new Decision[((n * (n-1))/2) * m]; for (int i=0,k=0;i<m;i++)</pre> for (Decision decision : resources.get(i).decisions) decisions[k++] = decision; return decisions; to be used with min-slack dvo 11 IntVar[] getDecisionIntVars(){ IntVar[] decisions = new IntVar[((n * (n-1))/2) * m]; for (int i=0,k=0;i<m;i++)</pre> for (Decision decision : resources.get(i).decisions) decisions[k++] = decision.getD(); return decisions; to be used with lex dvo

_ D X JSSP - Notepad File Edit Format View Help import java.io.*; import java.util.*; import org.chocosolver.solver.Model; import org.chocosolver.solver.Solver; import org.chocosolver.solver.variables.IntVar; import org.chocosolver.solver.constraints.IIntConstraintFactory.*; import org.chocosolver.solver.search.strategy.Search; import org.chocosolver.solver.exception.ContradictionException; public class JSSP { String id; // file name number of jobs int n; number of resources int m; int dueDate; aka makespan ArrayList<Job> jobs; // jobs to complete ArrayList<Resource> resources; // resources to use Operation endOp; // last operation for ALL jobs! Model model: JSSP(String fname, int dueDate) throws IOException Scanner sc = new Scanner(new File(fname)); id = fname; = sc.nextInt(); // number of jobs = sc.nextInt(); // number of resources n m jobs = new ArrayList<Job>(); resources = new ArrayList<Resource>(); this.dueDate = dueDate: = new Model("id"); mode1 = new Operation("endOp", "nullRes", 0, 0, dueDate, model); endOp int totalDuration = 0: for (int i=0;i<m;i++) resources.add(new Resource("r_"+i,model));</pre> for (int i=0; i<n; i++){ Job job = new Job("job_"+i,model);</pre> for (int j=0;j<m;j++){ Resource resource = resources.get(sc.nextInt()); int duration = sc.nextInt(); totalDuration = totalDuration + duration; Operation operation = new Operation("op_"+i+"_"+j,resource.id,duration,0,dueDate,model); resource.add(operation); job.add(operation); job.add(endOp); jobs.add(job); model.arithm(endOp.start,"<=",totalDuration).post();</pre> sc.close(); } public String toString(){ String s = "JSSP " + n + "X" + m + "\n"; for (int i=0;i<jobs.size();i++){</pre> Job job = (Job)jobs.get(i); s = s + job + "\n"; return s; } IntVar getMakeSpan(){return endOp.start;} Decision[] getDecisions(){ Decision[] decisions = new Decision[((n * (n-1))/2) * m]; for (int i=0,k=0;i<m;i++)</pre> for (Decision decision : resources.get(i).decisions) decisions[k++] = decision; return decisions; to be used with min-slack dvo 11 IntVar[] getDecisionIntVars(){ IntVar[] decisions = new IntVar[((n * (n-1))/2) * m]; for (int i=0,k=0;i<m;i++)</pre> for (Decision decision : resources.get(i).decisions) decisions[k++] = decision.getD(); return decisions; to be used with lex dvo

Ouch!

JSSP

```
JSSP
```

A jssp is a collection of jobs and resources

```
JSSP(String fname, int dueDate) throws IOException {
                      = new Scanner(new File(fname));
    Scanner sc
    id
                      = fname;
                      = sc.nextInt(); // number of jobs
    n
                      = sc.nextInt(); // number of resources
    m
    iobs
                      = new ArrayList<Job>();
                      = new ArrayList<Resource>();
    resources
    this.dueDate
                      = dueDate;
    model
                      = new Model("id");
    endOp
                      = new Operation("endOp", "nullRes", 0, 0, dueDate, model);
    int totalDuration = 0:
    for (int i=0;i<m;i++) resources.add(new Resource("r_"+i,model));</pre>
    for (int i=0; i<n; i++){</pre>
        job job = new Job("job_"+i,model);
        for (int j=0; j<m; j++){
            Resource resource = resources.get(sc.nextInt());
            int duration
                               = sc.nextInt();
            totalDuration
                               = totalDuration + duration;
            Operation operation = new Operation("op_"+i+"_"+j,resource.id,duration,0,dueDate,model);
            resource.add(operation);
            job.add(operation);
        job.add(endOp);
        jobs.add(job);
    }
    model.arithm(endOp.start, "<=",totalDuration).post();</pre>
    sc.close();
```

}

```
JSSP(String fname, int dueDate) throws IOException {
                        = new Scanner(new File(fname));
    Scanner sc
    id
                        = fname;
                        = sc.nextInt(); // number of jobs
= sc.nextInt(); // number of resources
    n
    m
                        = new ArrayList<Job>();
    jobs
                        = new ArrayList<Resource>();
    resources
    this.dueDate
                       = dueDate;
    model
                       = new Model("id");
                        = new Operation("endop", "nullRes", 0, 0, dueDate, model);
    endOp
```

JSSP(String fname, int	dueDate) throws IOException {
Scanner sc	= new Scanner(new File(fname));
id	= fname;
n	<pre>= sc.nextInt(); // number of jobs</pre>
m	<pre>= sc.nextInt(); // number of resources</pre>
jobs	= new ArrayList <job>();</job>
resources	<pre>= new ArrayList<resource>();</resource></pre>
this dueDate	= dueDate;
model	nen Hoder (ra),
endOp	<pre>= new Operation("endOp","nullRes",0,0,dueDate,model);</pre>

```
int totalDuration = 0;
for (int i=0;i<m;i++) resources.add(new Resource("r_"+i,model));
for (int i=0;i<m;i++){
    Job job = new Job("job_"+i,model);
    for (int j=0;j<m;j++){
        Resource resource = resources.get(sc.nextInt());
        int duration = sc.nextInt();
        totalDuration = totalDuration + duration;
        Operation operation = new Operation("op_"+i+"_"+j,resource.id,duration,0,dueDate,model);
        resource.add(operation);
        job.add(operation);
        job.add(endop);
        jobs.add(job);
}
model.arithm(endop.start,"<=",totalDuration).post();
sc.close();
```

```
int totalDuration 0;
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        int duration = sc.nextInt();
        totalDuration = totalDuration + duration;
        Operation operation = new Operation("op_"+i+"_"+j,resource.id,duration,0,dueDate,model);
        resource.add(operation);
        job.add(operation);
        job.add(endop);
        jobs.add(job);
}
model.arithm(endop.start,"<=",totalDuration).post();
sc.close();
```

```
int totalDuration = 0;
for (int i=0;i<m;i++) resources.add(new Resource("r_"+i,model));
for (int i=0;i<n;i++){
    leb jeb new leb("jeb_"+i,medel);
    for (int j=0;j<m;j++){
        Resource resource = resources.get(sc.nextInt());
        int duration = sc.nextInt();
        totalDuration = totalDuration + duration;
        Operation operation = new Operation("op_"+i+"_"+j,resource.id,duration,0,dueDate,model);
        resource.add(operation);
        job.add(operation);
        job.add(endop);
        jobs.add(job);
}
```

```
model.arithm(endOp.start,"<=",totalDuration).post();</pre>
```

```
sc.close();
```

```
int totalDuration = 0;
for (int i=0;i<m;i++) resources.add(new Resource("r_"+i,model));
for (int i=0;i<m;i++){
    Job job = new Job("job_"+i,model);
    for (int j=0;j<m;j++){
        Resource resource = resources.get(sc.nextInt());
        int duration = sc.nextInt();
        totalDuration = totalDuration + duration;
        Operation operation = new Operation("op_"+i+"_"+j,resource.id,duration,0,dueDate,model);
        resource.add(operation);
        job.add(endop);
        job.add(endop);
        jobs.add(job);
}
model.arithm(endop.start,"<=",totalDuration).post();
sc.close();
```

```
int totalDuration = 0;
for (int i=0;i<m;i++) resources.add(new Resource("r_"+i,model));
for (int i=0;i<m;i++) {
    Job job = new Job("job_"+i,model);
    for (int j=0;j<m;j++) {
        Resource resource = resources.get(sc.nextInt());
        int duration = sc.nextInt();
        totalDuration = totalDuration + duration;
        Operation operation = new Operation("op_"+i+"_"+j,resource.id,duration,0,dueDate,model);
        resource.add(operation);
        job.add(operation);
        job.add(endop);
        jobs.add(iob);
    }
    model.arithm(endop.start,"<=",totalDuration).post();
    sc.close();
```

DecisionProblem

```
public class DecisionProblem {
 public static void main(String[] args) throws FileNotFoundException, IOException {
     int dueDate
                         = Integer.parseInt(args[1]);
                        = new JSSP(args[0], dueDate);
     JSSP jssp
     solver solver = jssp.model.getSolver();
     Decision[] decisions = jssp.getDecisions();
                        = decisions.length;
     int n
                         = jssp.getMakeSpan();
     IntVar makeSpan
     solver.setSearch(Search.inputOrderUBSearch(jssp.getDecisionIntVars()));
     System.out.println("solved: " + solver.solve());
     System.out.println(makeSpan + " ["+ makeSpan.getLB() +","+ makeSpan.getUB() +"]");
     }
  is there a legal schedule with a make span of dueDate, or less?
```



```
public class optimize {
 public static void main(String[] args) throws FileNotFoundException, IOException {
     int timeLimit
                    = Integer.parseInt(args[1]);
                        = new JSSP(args[0],9999);
     JSSP jssp
Model model
                      = jssp.model;
     Solver solver = model.getSolver();
     Decision[] decisions = jssp.getDecisions();
     int n
                        = decisions.length;
     IntVar makeSpan
                        = jssp.getMakeSpan();
     solver.limitTime(timeLimit*1000);
     solver.setSearch(new IntStrategy(jssp.getDecisionIntVars(), new MinSlackHeuristic(jssp.getDecisions()), new IntDomainMax()));
       attach a variable & value ordering heuristic to solver
     // alternative way to optimize
     // Solution solution = solver.findoptimalSolution(makeSpan,false);
     // trace optimisation
     model.setObjective(Model.MINIMIZE,makeSpan);
     System.out.println("nodes: "+ solver.getMeasures().getNodeCount() +
                        cpu: "+ solver.getMeasures().getTimeCount();
 }
```

Wot!? No heuristics!?!!!

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Maintaining Singleton Arc Consistency

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Abstract. Singleton Arc-Consistency (SAC) is a simple and strong level of consistency, but is expensive to enforce. To date, research has focused on improving the performance of algorithms that achieve SAC. These algorithms tend to be somewhat complex and non-trivial to implement. Furthermore, these algorithms have mostly been tested out as a preprocessing step before actually solving a problem. Here, we show how a basic and simple SAC algorithm can be incorporated into a constraint programming toolkit and then used within search. We then propose limited degrees of SAC, in particular SAC on the upper and lower bounds of variables (Bound-SAC) and SAC on only the first value in domains (First-SAC). We investigate the effects of limiting the amount of SAC maintained whilst solving a problem instance, i.e. by limiting the values in domains that are made SAC and the variables that are made SAC. Our studies show that judicious use of SAC within the search process can indeed pay off.

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Instance	MAC	$B-SAC_{dn}$	$B-SAC_{st}$	B-SAC
la01	666	666	666	666
1a02	655	655	655	655
1a03	653	597	603	603
1a04	628	598	590	590
la05	593	665	665	665
1a06	1245	1146	1233	1237
la07	1214	897	1336	1359
la08	1161	1084	1400	1393
1a09	1498	1049	1527	1520
la10	1658	972	1192	1259
la11	1453	1787	_	—
la12	1467	1504	_	_
la13	2899	2310	_	_
la14	1970	1784	_	_
la15	2368	2200	_	—

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Table 1. Cost of best solution found for Lawrence job-shop scheduling instances, given 10 minutes CPU

5 A study of Golomb rulers

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In [16], experiments were performed on Golomb rulers. In particular, given the length l

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