

Cooperation between Human and Machine for Shop Rescheduling

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Introduction

This work follows Julien Cegarra's PhD thesis [Cegarra, 2004]¹ who was interested in a psychological point of view for cooperation. Here we present a computer science point of view for this problem. [Cegarra, 2004] highlighted some points:

- Humans are good at relaxing constraints.
- Handmade schedules have good performances in general.
- When the human has to reschedule a computed schedule, the understanding of the algorithm does not seem very helpful.
- Inter-individual differences between human schedulers are important.

¹The management of complexity in planning: the case of scheduling situations

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to facilitate the cooperation between human and machine for shop rescheduling.

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Uncertainty

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Uncertainties describe the possible modifications of the data between the predictive phase and the reactive phase. (From [Esswein, 2003])

Examples:

- Delay of an operation;
- Insertion of a job;
- Distance between the reality and the model (for example, the transport time between two machines is not considered in the model);
- Machine breakdown;
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Different kinds of flexibility (From [Groupe flexibilité du GOTHa, 2002]):

- Flexibility on time (modifications only on operations' time (right shifting));
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Static Scheduling

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In practice, there is:

- A predictive phase: one or more schedules are constructed.
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Cooperation between Human and Machine

Human and machine complement each other: they have a different vision of the shop. Uncertainties can be different for the human and for the machine.

Many studies exhibit that combining human and machine gives better results than using only the human or the machine (cited by [Cegarra, 2004]).

The difficulty is to find an effective method that uses both the possibilities of the human and the machine.

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Paradigm

The idea is to generate a schedule that is flexible on sequences during the predictive phase.

To express the flexibility on sequences, the method uses “groups of permutable operations.”

Group scheduling is developed in

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Example: a Job Shop Problem

i is the job, j is the operation (operations are sequenced), $M_{i,j}$ is the machine needed for the operation j of the job i , and $p_{i,j}$ is the time needed for the operation j of the job i .

Problem

i	j	$M_{i,j}$	$p_{i,j}$
1	1	1	3
1	2	2	3
1	3	3	3
2	1	2	4
2	2	3	3
2	3	1	1
3	1	3	2
3	2	1	2
3	3	2	2

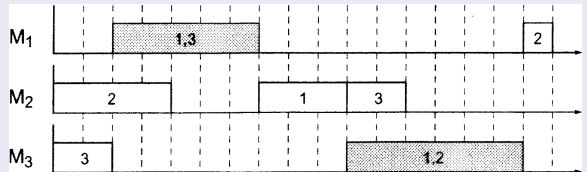
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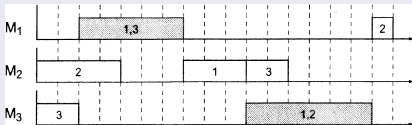
i	j	$M_{i,j}$	$p_{i,j}$
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A Solution

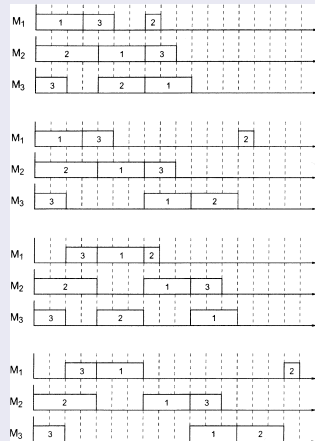


Execution of the Example

The group schedule



The Different Schedules



Why is Group Scheduling Interesting?

Why is group scheduling interesting?

- Predictive-reactive method;
- Flexibility on sequences;
- Evaluation of the worst schedule in polynomial time;
- Possibility to evaluate handmade modifications (for example insertion of an operation) in polynomial time;
- Uncertainties do not need to be modelled;
- Well-studied method.

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What is Machine Learning?

Machine learning topics:

- classification;
- regression.

Different types of algorithms:

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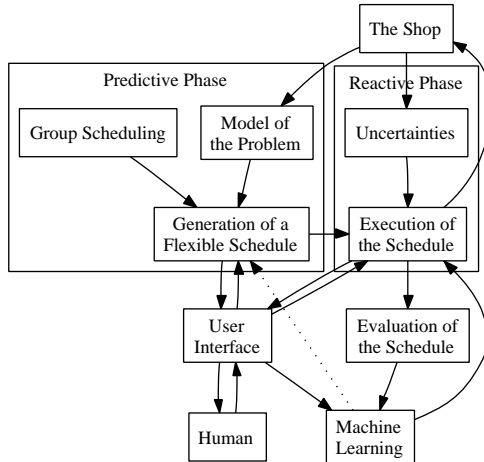


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