



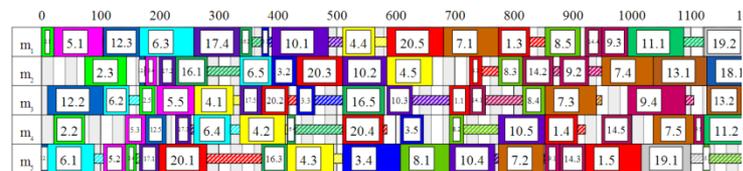
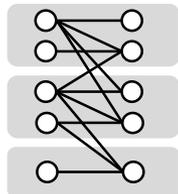
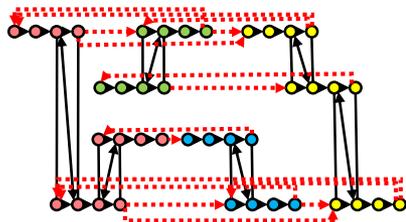
# Modeling and solving job shop problems with complex process features and complicated objectives

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# Overview

## 1. The Classical Job Shop Scheduling Problem

1. Introduction
2. A Combinatorial Formulation in a Disjunctive Graph
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## 2. Complex Process Features

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2. An Application: The BJS-RT and ALPHABOT

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2. A Class of Convex Cost Objectives

## 4. A Local Search Solution Approach

1. The Job Insertion Problem
2. Local Moves and Locally Improving Moves
3. Some Computational Results

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# 1. The Classical Job Shop Scheduling Problem

## 1.1. Introduction

- The classical job shop scheduling problem
  - A fundamental optimization problem in operations research
  - NP-hard and one of the most computationally stubborn combinatorial problem (Applegate and Cook, 1991)
  - Addressed by numerous researchers, and a large body of knowledge accumulated over the last 60 years

- Given

- A set  $M$  of machines  
(sometimes called resources)

$$M = \{m_1, m_2, m_3\}$$

- A set  $I$  of operations  
(sometimes called activities)

$$I = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$$

- A set  $\mathcal{J}$  of jobs and

$$\mathcal{J} = \{K, L, N, O\}$$

- A job  $J \in \mathcal{J}$  is an ordered set of operations  $J = (J_1, J_2, \dots, J_{|J|})$ ,  $J_i \in I$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, |J|\}$ , specifying a processing sequence

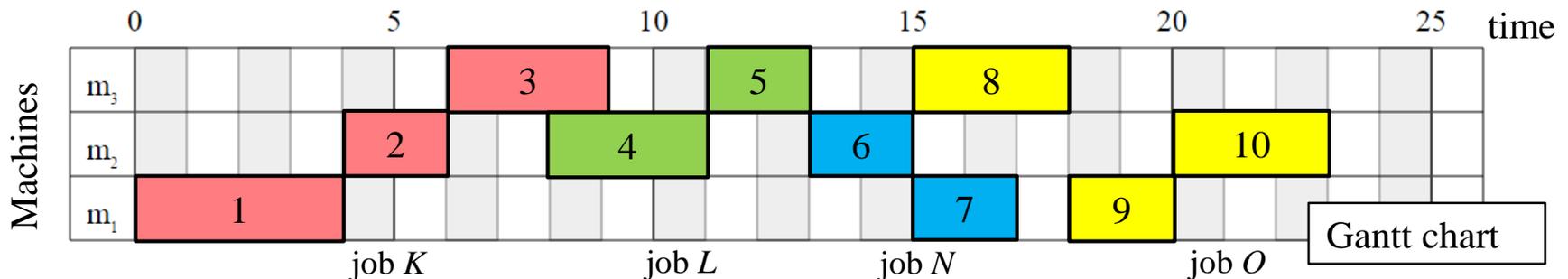
$$K = (1, 2, 3) \quad L = (4, 5) \quad N = (6, 7) \quad O = (8, 9, 10)$$

- (Note:  $\mathcal{J}$  is a partition of  $I$ , i.e. each operation is in exactly one job)
- Each operation  $i \in I$  executed on one machine  $m_i$  during  $p_i$  time units

- Data of the example:

<i>Proc. time p</i>	<i>First Op.</i>	<i>Sec. Op.</i>	<i>Third Op.</i>
<i>Job K</i>	$m_1, 4$	$m_2, 2$	$m_3, 3$
<i>Job L</i>	$m_2, 3$	$m_3, 2$	-
<i>Job N</i>	$m_2, 2$	$m_1, 2$	-
<i>Job O</i>	$m_3, 3$	$m_1, 2$	$m_2, 3$

- Find: A feasible schedule, i.e. a starting time of each operation:
  - Respect the processing sequences within the jobs
  - Each machine is used at most by one operation at any time (“unit capacity”)
  - No preemption (no interruption) of the processing of an operation
- A visual representation of a schedule



- Objective: minimize the makespan (i.e., total duration)

# A Problem Formulation

- Many different mathematical formulations exist
  - A main characteristic: continuous-time / discrete-time (time-indexed)
- Some references
  - Ku, Wen-Yang, and J. Christopher Beck. Mixed integer programming models for job shop scheduling: A computational analysis. *Computers & Operations Research* 73 (2016): 165-173
  - Brucker, P., & Knust, S. (2011). *Complex Scheduling*. Springer
- A continuous-time formulation
  - Based on: Manne, A. (1960). On the job-shop scheduling problem. *Operations Research*, 8(2), 219–223
  - Introduce fictive end operation  $\tau$
  - Call two operation  $i$  and  $j$  *consecutive* if  $j$  follows  $i$  in some job
  - For each machine  $m \in M$ , let  $I_m$  be the set of operations executed on  $m$
  - For each operation  $i \in I \cup \{\tau\}$ ,  $\alpha_i$  denotes the (variable) starting time

“Introduction to Constraint Programming”  
30 Oct - 1 Nov, Université Concordia

- A continuous-time formulation

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- For each operation  $i \in I \cup \{\tau\}$ ,  $\alpha_i$  denotes the (variable) starting time

## Disjunctive programming formulation

minimize  $\alpha_\tau$   
 subject to:  
 $\alpha_j - \alpha_i \geq p_i$  for all  $i$  and  $j$  consecutive in a job  
 $\alpha_\tau - \alpha_i \geq p_i$  for all  $i \in I$   
 $\alpha_j - \alpha_i \geq p_i$  OR  $\alpha_i - \alpha_j \geq p_j$  for all  $i, j \in I_m$   
 $\alpha_i \geq 0$  for all  $i \in I \cup \{\tau\}$

replace OR operator by:

## Mixed-integer linear progr. formulation

min. end time  
 minimize  $\alpha_\tau$   
 subject to:  
 job structure  $\alpha_j - \alpha_i \geq p_i$  for all  $i$  and  $j$  consecutive in a job  
 end operation  $\alpha_\tau - \alpha_i \geq p_i$  for all  $i \in I$   
 machine capacity  $\alpha_j - \alpha_i \geq p_i - M(1 - z_{ij})$ ,  
 $\alpha_i - \alpha_j \geq p_j - Mz_{ij}$  for all  $i, j \in I_m$   
 start after 0  $\alpha_i \geq 0$  for all  $i \in i \in I \cup \{\tau\}$   
 $z_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}$  for all  $i, j \in I_m$

$z_{ij}$ : 1 if  $i$  is before  $j$ , and 0 otherwise

$M$ : large constant, here e.g.,  $M = \sum_{i \in I} p_i$

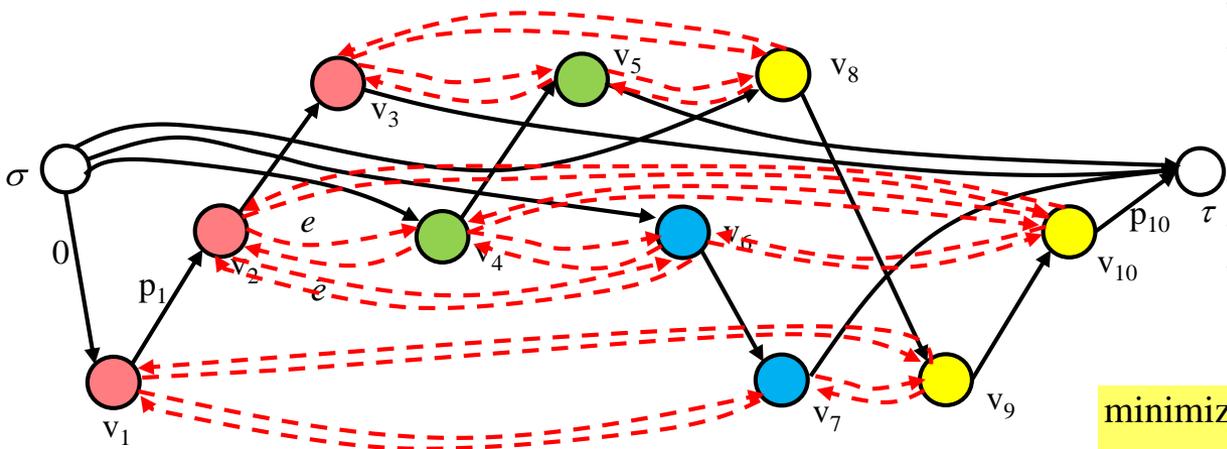
# 1.2. A Combinatorial Formulation in a Disjunctive Graph

- Constraints have all the same structure:  $\alpha_w - \alpha_v \geq d_{vw}$  Difference of two times  
*Precedence Constraints*
- Simplify the formulation by introducing a disjunctive graph

Disjunctive programming formulation

minimize  $\alpha_\tau - \alpha_\sigma$   
 subject to: a constant  
 $\alpha_j - \alpha_i \geq p_i$  for all  $i$  and  $j$  consecutive in a job conjunctive  
 $\alpha_\tau - \alpha_i \geq p_i$  for all  $i \in I$  conjunctive  
 $\alpha_j - \alpha_i \geq p_i$  OR  $\alpha_i - \alpha_j \geq p_j$  for all  $i, j \in I_m$  disjunctive  
 $\alpha_i \geq 0$  for all  $i \in I \cup \{\tau\}$  conjunctive  
(and  $\alpha_\sigma = 0$ , which is, actually, simple to fulfill)

$G=(V,A,E,\mathcal{E},d)$

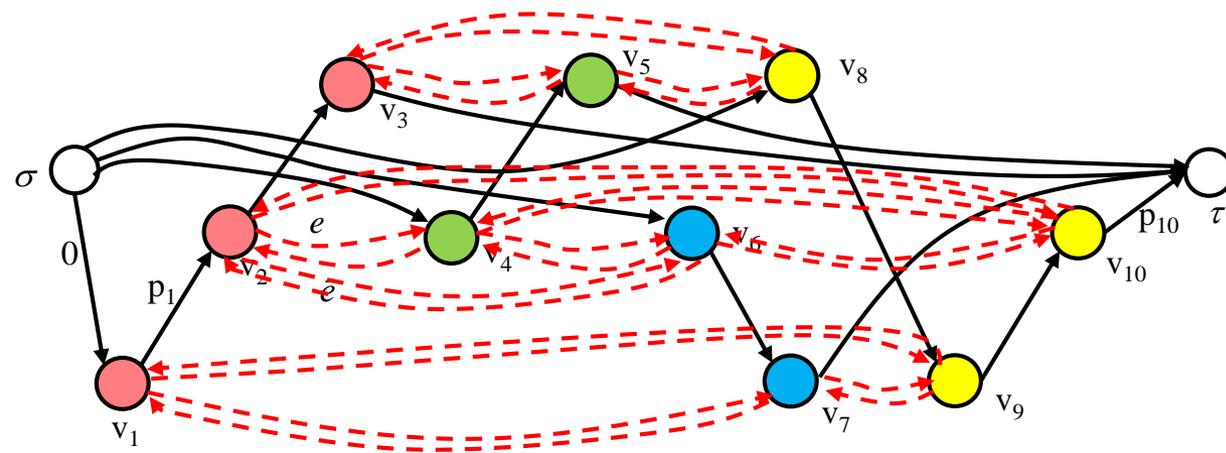


(some redundant arcs incident to  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  omitted)

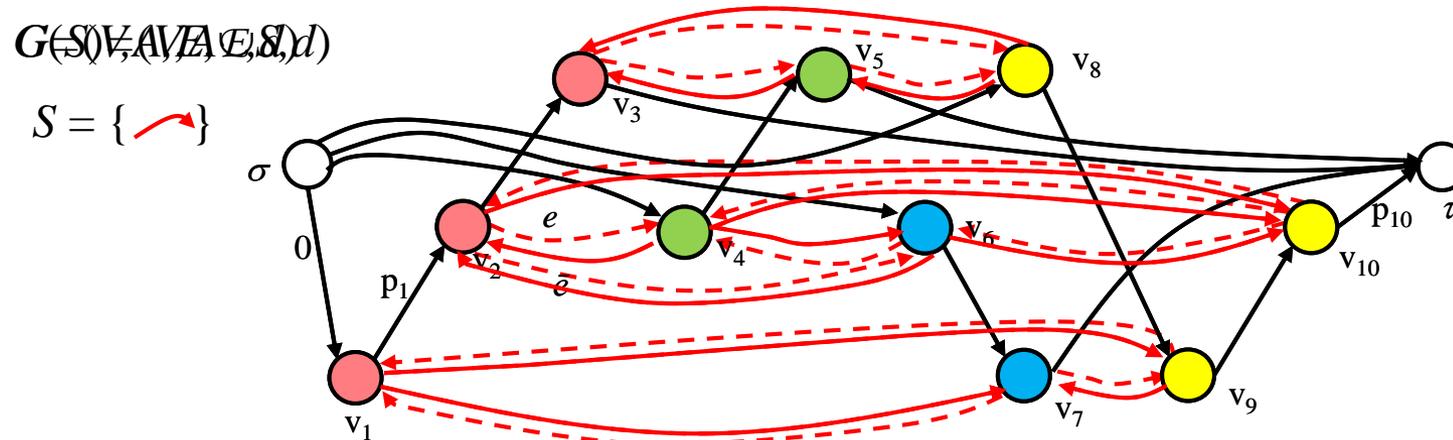
- Each operation is repres.by a node
- Each precedence constraint  $x_w - x_v \geq d_{vw}$  represented by an arc  $(v,w)$  with weight  $d_{vw}$
- Set of conjunctive arc  $A$  and
- Set of disjunctive arcs  $E$
- Disjunctive structure  $\mathcal{E}$ : consists of pairs of disjunctive arcs  $\{e, \bar{e}\} \in \mathcal{E}$

minimize  $\alpha_\tau - \alpha_\sigma$   
 subject to :  
 $\alpha_w - \alpha_v \geq d_{vw}$  for all  $(v,w) \in A$   
 $\alpha_w - \alpha_v \geq d_{vw}$  OR  $\alpha_{v'} - \alpha_{w'} \geq d_{v'w'}$   
 for all  $\{(v,w), (v',w')\} \in \mathcal{E}$

$$G=(V,A,E,\mathcal{E},d)$$



# Selections



- Capturing solutions:

## *Definition*

A **selection**: any set  $S \subseteq E$  of disjunctive arcs

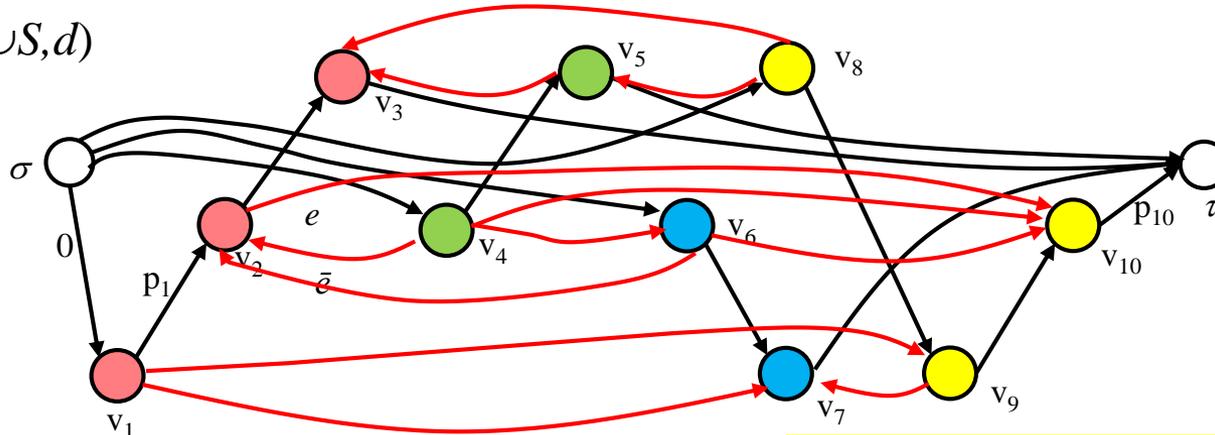
A selection  $S$  is **complete** if  $S \cap \{e, \bar{e}\} \neq \emptyset$  for all  $\{e, \bar{e}\} \in \mathcal{E}$

A selection  $S$  is **positive acyclic** if the graph  $G(S) = (V, A \cup S, d)$  has no cycle of positive length and **positive cyclic** otherwise.

# Timing Problem: Determine Starting Times

$$G(S) = (V, A \cup S, d)$$

$$S = \{ \text{red arrow} \}$$



- For any selection  $S$ , we have the following timing problem at hand:
  - A potential problem!

$$\text{minimize } \alpha_\tau - \alpha_\sigma$$

subject to:

$$\alpha_w - \alpha_v \geq d_{vw} \quad \text{for all } (v, w) \in A \cup S$$

- This is a (special) LP with the following dual:

- Well-known and easy to see: feasible times exist if and only if  $S$  is positive acyclic

- Hence, selection  $S$  called **feasible** if  $S$  is complete and positive acyclic

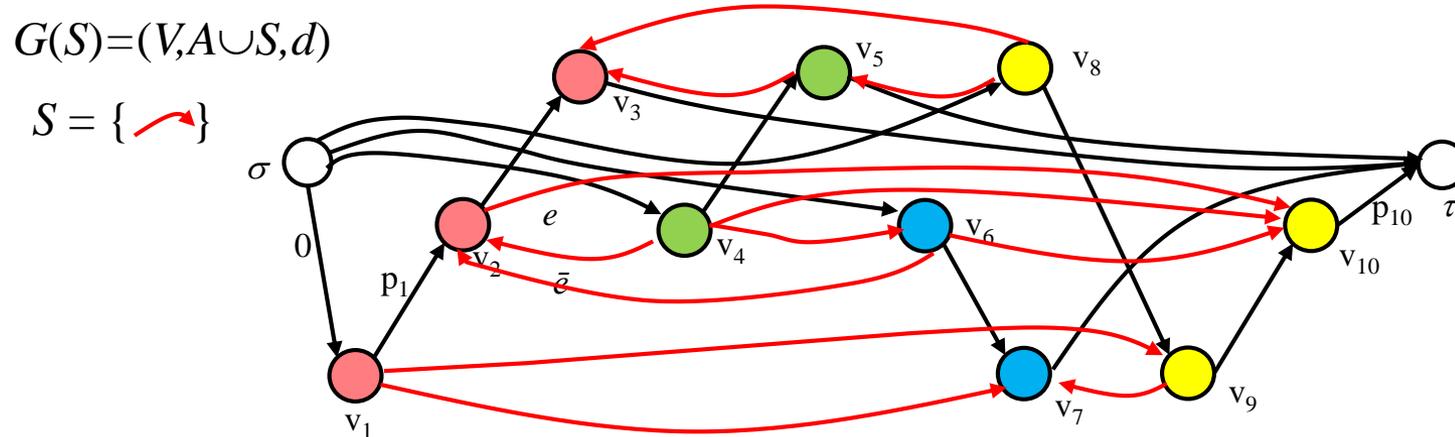
$$\text{maximize } \sum_{(v,w) \in A \cup S} d_{vw} x_{vw}$$

subject to:

$$\sum_{w:(w,v) \in A \cup S} x_{wv} - \sum_{w:(v,w) \in A \cup S} x_{vw} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } v = \tau \\ -1 & \text{for } v = \sigma \\ 0 & \text{for } v \in V - \{\sigma, \tau\} \end{cases}$$

$$x_{vw} \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } (v, w) \in A \cup S$$

A (simple) network flow problem!



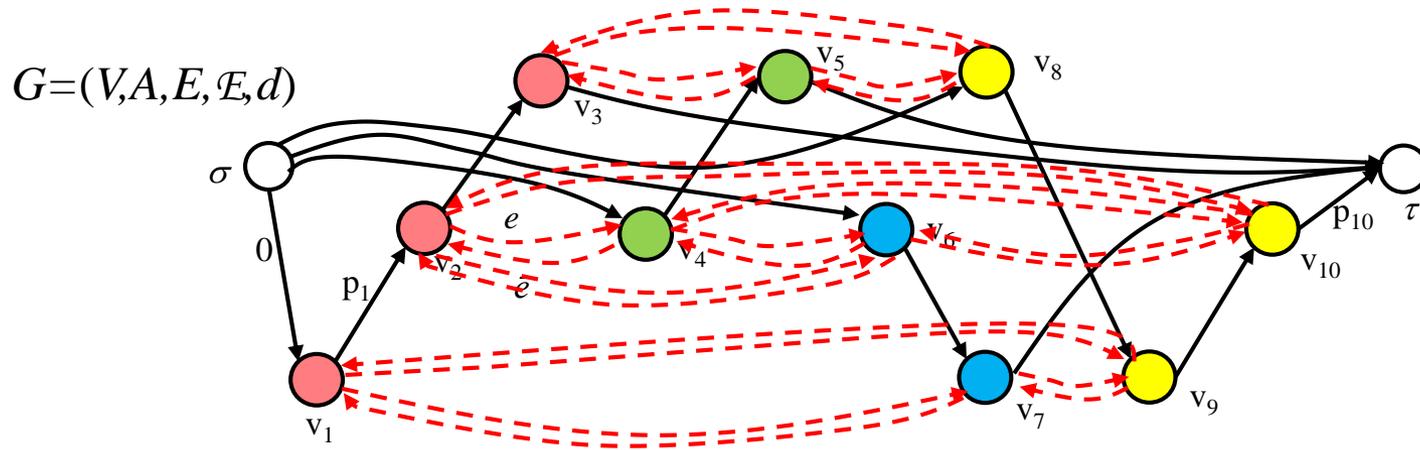
- For any feasible selection  $S$ , an optimal solution can be found by
  - Computing the earliest time schedule  $\alpha(S)$  where
  - For all  $v \in V$ ,  $\alpha_v(S)$ : length of a longest path from  $\sigma$  to node  $v$  in  $G(S)$
  - Can be done by topological sorting algorithm, time complexity:  $O(n+m)$

- Timing problem efficiently solvable!  
 Earliest time schedule of the selection above:

	0	5	10			
$m_3$	8	5			3	
$m_2$	4	6	2	10		
$m_1$	1		9	7		

**Makespan: 10**

# A Combinatorial Problem Formulation



Among all feasible selections, find a selection  $S$  minimizing the length of a longest path from  $\sigma$  to  $\tau$  in  $G(S)$ .

# 1.3. Applications in Practice



## Liebherr: construction machines, factory in Telfs, Austria

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-37jTfLe8o>



# Flexible Manufacturing Systems and Robotic Cells



Flexible manufacturing system (Kuka)

Source: <http://www.kuka-systems.com/NR/exeres/73B56636-DC3A-4CD8-A7E7-9D9E15345AB1>



A robotic cell:

Source: <http://www.canadianmetalworking.com/features/where-are-your-robots/>

Logendran, R., & Sonthinen, A. (1997). A tabu search-based approach for scheduling job-shop type flexible manufacturing systems. *Journal of the Operational Research Society*, 48(3), 264–277.

Hall, N. G., Kamoun, H., & Sriskandarajah, C. (1997). Scheduling in robotic cells: classification, two and three machine cells. *Operations Research*, 45(3), 421–439.

# Hoist Scheduling and Factory Cranes



Electroplating plant for surface treatment

Source: Surface Technology Solutions (stsindustrie.com)



A paper-roll shipping store with automated transports

Source: liftandhoist.com

Leung, J. M. Y., Zhang, G., Yang, X., Mak, R., & Lam, K. (2004). Optimal cyclic multi-hoist scheduling: a mixed integer programming approach. *Operations Research*, 52(6), 965–976.

Peterson, B., Harjunkoski, I., Hoda, S., & Hooker, J. N. (2014). Scheduling multiple factory cranes on a common track. *Computers and Operations Research*, 48, 102–112.

# Gantry Crane Scheduling



A rail-road terminal with gantry cranes

Source: dradio.de



Automated stacking cranes in a storage area

Source: wcms.demagrobots.info

Li, W., Wu, Y., Petering, M. E. H., Goh, M., & de Souza, R. (2009). Discrete time model and algorithms for container yard crane scheduling. *European Journal of Operational Research*, 198(1), 165–172.

Ng, W. C. (2005). Crane scheduling in container yards with inter-crane interference. *European Journal of Operational Research*, 164(1), 64–78.

# Train Scheduling



## Trains

Source: [www.thechronicle.com.au](http://www.thechronicle.com.au)



## Metro Stations

Source: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duomo\\_\(Milan\\_Metro\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duomo_(Milan_Metro))

Liu, S., & Kozan, E. (2011). Scheduling trains with priorities: a no-wait blocking parallel-machine job-shop scheduling model. *Transportation Science*, 45(2), 175–198

Mannino, C., & Mascis, A. (2009). Optimal Real-Time Traffic Control in Metro Stations. *Operations Research*, 57(4), 1026–1039

## Gap Between Theory and Practice

- However, the classical job shop rarely applicable in practice
- Process features that are not captured
  - Sequence-dependent setup times
    - Cleaning
    - Idle moving of robots
  - Routing flexibility
    - Multiple machines of the same type
  - Storage time restrictions
    - Chemical treatments
  - Storage space restrictions
    - Train is always on a rail section (= machines)
    - Robotic cells (predefined or no storage space)

- More complicated objectives than the makespan
  - Work-in process related
    - Total (weighted) flow time
  - Tardiness related
    - Total (weighted) linear tardiness costs
    - Total (weighted) squared tardiness costs
    - Number of tardy jobs
  - Earliness and tardiness related
    - “just-in-time objectives”: sum of earliness and tardiness costs, possibly non-linear
- Numerous new job shop scheduling models appeared
  - Mostly, capturing just few features
  - Specific, application-oriented solution approaches
  - Job shop scheduling research has become fragmented, and scheduling software highly specialized (Bulbul, K., & Kaminsky, P. (2013). A linear programming-based method for job shop scheduling. *Journal of Scheduling*, 16(2), 161–183)
- Our approach: **develop generic models and generic methods !**

**Goal of this talk: show what we do.**

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2. More Complex Process Features
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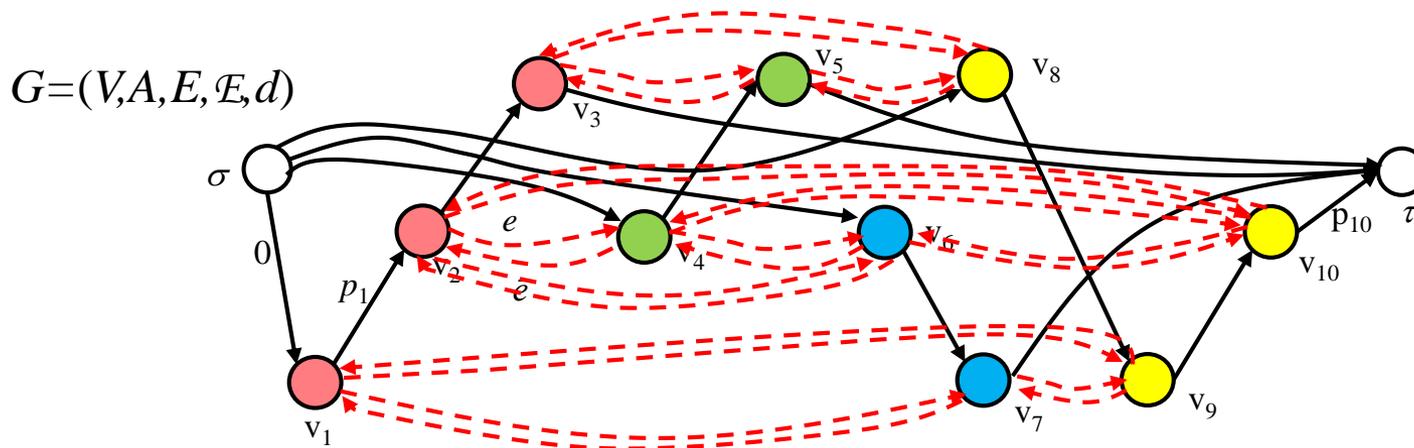
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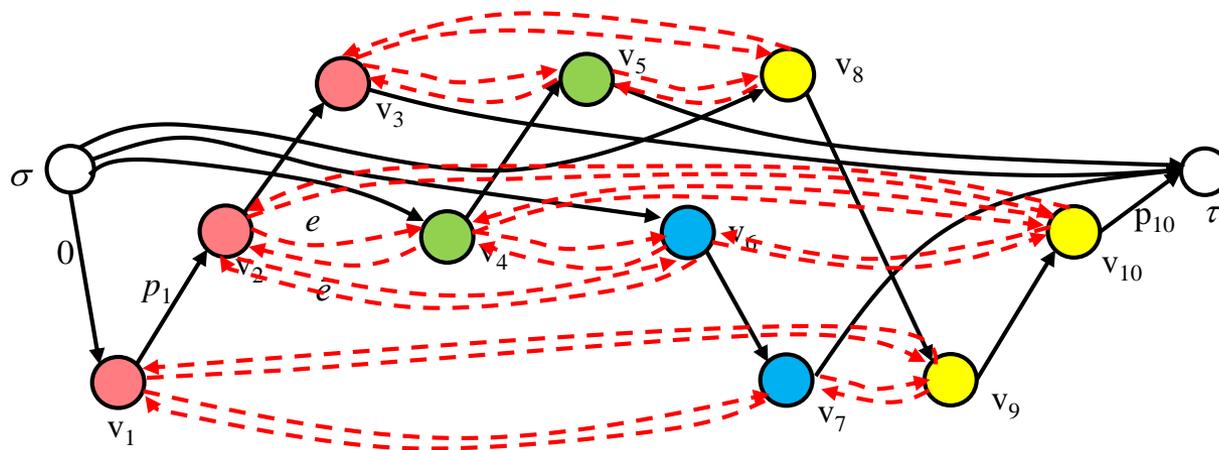
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## 2. Complex Process Features

- Incorporate additional process features in our disjunctive graph formulation



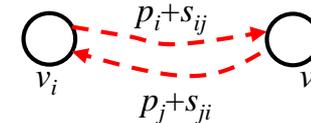
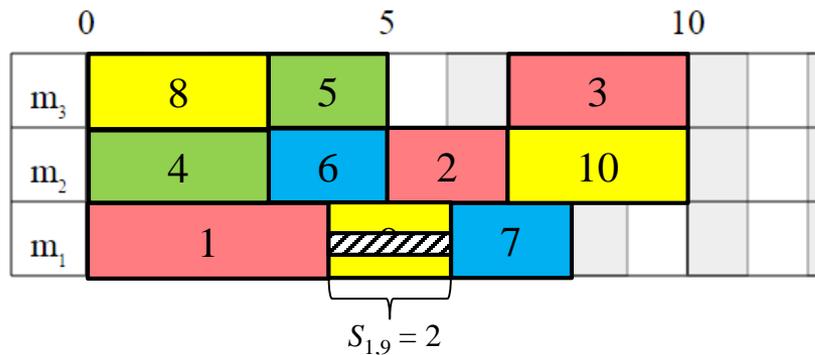
Among all feasible selections, find a selection  $S$  minimizing the length of a longest path from  $\sigma$  to  $\tau$  in  $G(S)$ .



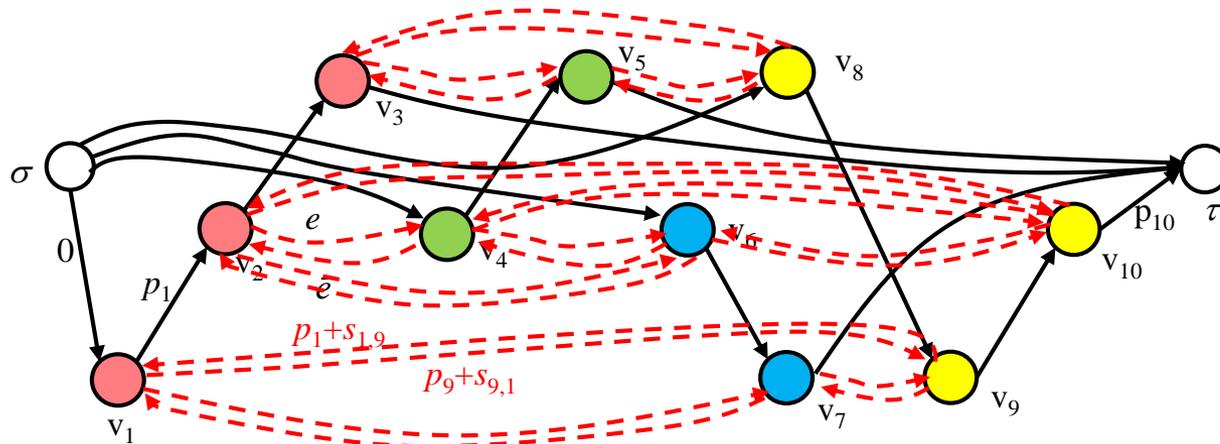
## 2.1. Some Process Features

### Sequence-Dependent Setup Times

- If op.  $j$  directly follows op.  $i$  on some machine, then a setup of duration  $s_{ij}$  occurs between the completion of  $i$  and the start of  $j$



(Note: setups must satisfy so-called weak triangle inequalities.)

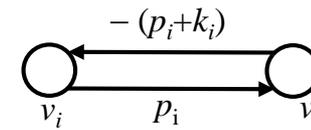
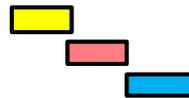


## Limited Storage Time

- After the completion of operation  $i$ , the job of  $i$  can be stored (or can wait) at most  $k_i$  time units before the processing of its next operation  $j$  starts (also called maximum time lag)

	0	5	10		
$m_3$	8	5		3	
$m_2$	4	6	2	10	
$m_1$	1	9	7		

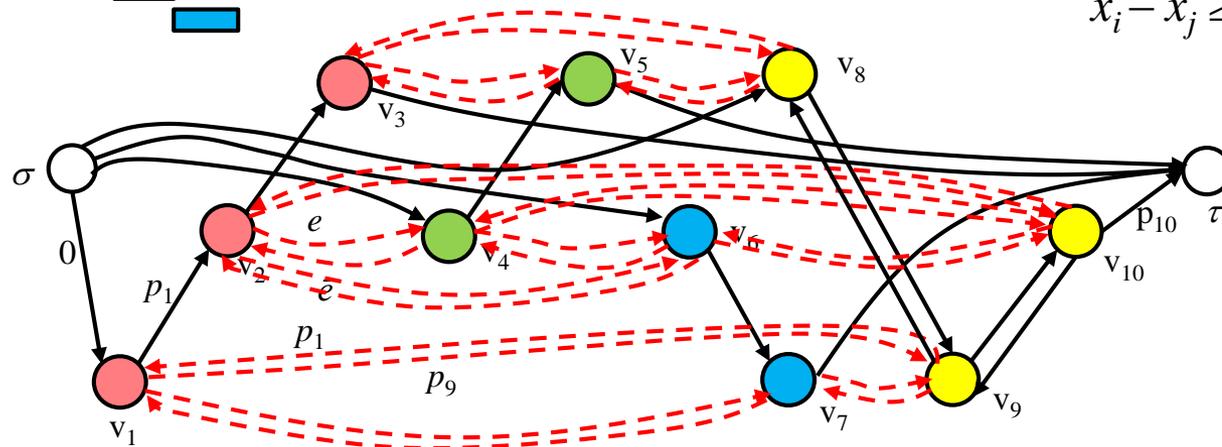
(Intermediate)  
Storage:



If  $k_i = 0$  then it is a no-wait constraint

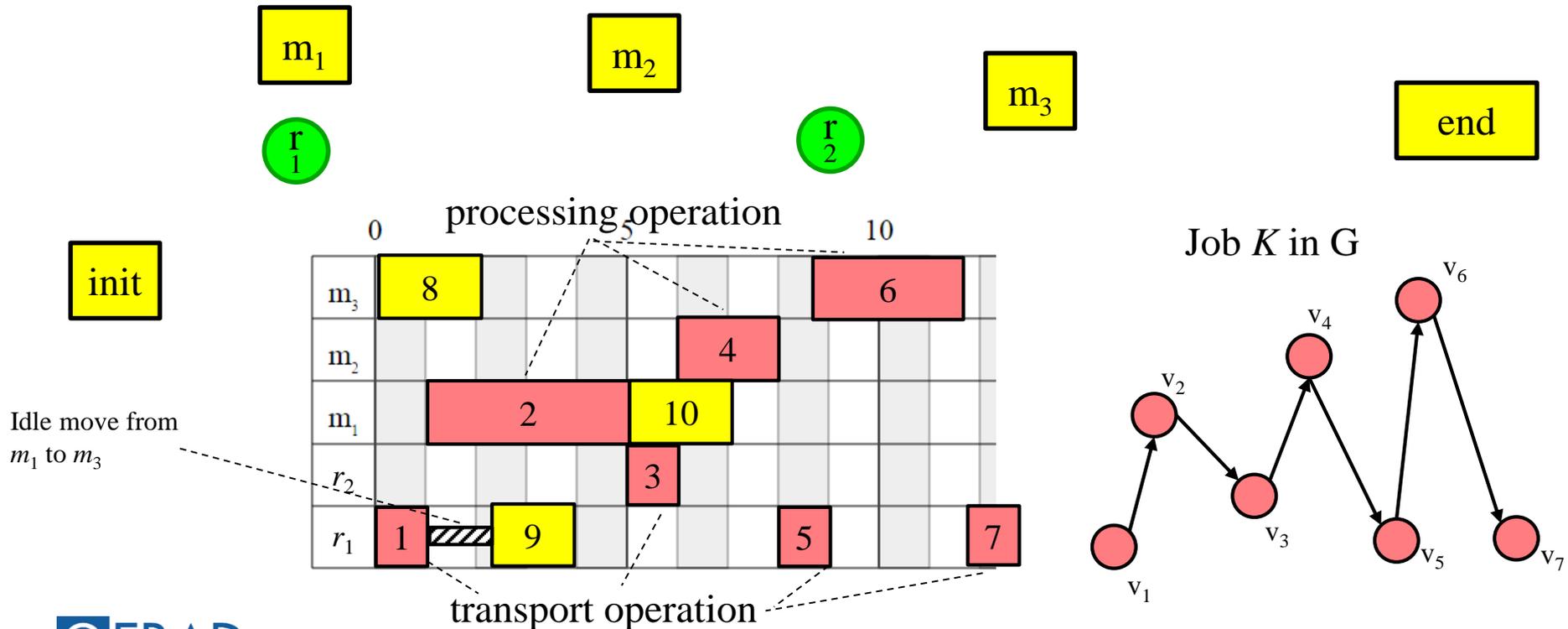
$$x_j - x_i \leq p_i + k_i \iff$$

$$x_i - x_j \geq -(p_i + k_i)$$



# Transportation by Mobile Devices

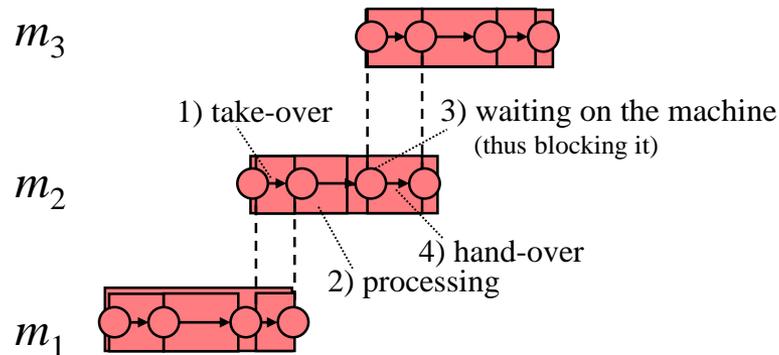
- Mobile devices transport the jobs between the machines
- If the mobile devices can hold at most one job at any time, model them as machines
- Use sequence-dependent setup times for idle moves.



## No (Intermediate) Storage Space - Blocking

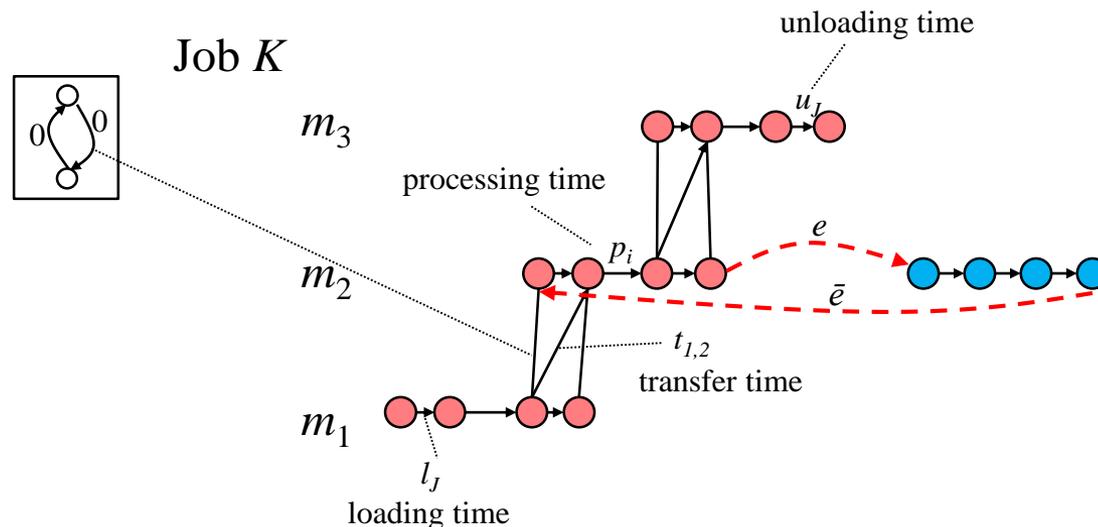
- In the classical job shop, storage is not considered
  - Assumption: jobs can be stored somewhere
- However, often the storage space is limited or no (intermediate) storage space at all (e.g. robotic cells)
- Assume no storage space available, so called blocking.

Job  $K$



## No (Intermediate) Storage Space - Blocking

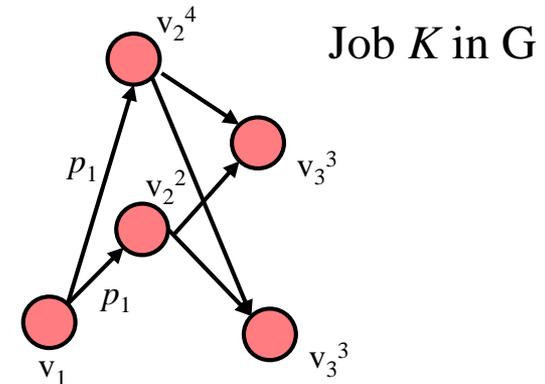
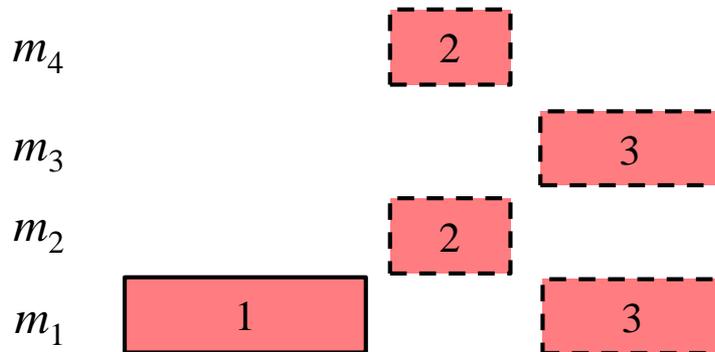
- In the classical job shop, storage is not considered
  - Assumption: jobs can be stored somewhere
- However, often the storage space is limited or no (intermediate) storage space at all (e.g. robotic cells)
- Assume no storage space available, so called blocking.



- Small number of storage units available: model them as machines

## Routing Flexibility

- Different types of routing flexibility
  - Kis, T. (2003). Job-shop scheduling with processing alternatives. *European Journal of Operational Research*, 151(2), 307–332
- Consider independent choice of the machine for each operation
  - For each operation  $i$ , the machine of  $i$  is not fixed but can be chosen from a subset of machines  $M_i \subseteq M$
  - (Variable) Mode  $\mu$ : choice of a machine  $\mu_i \in M_i$  for each operation  $i \in I$



- With given mode  $\mu$ , disjunctive graph  $G^\mu = (V^\mu, A^\mu, E^\mu, \mathcal{E}^\mu, d)$  (node-induced subgraph of  $G$  where nodes not belonging to mode  $\mu$  are deleted)
- Extended definition of selections:

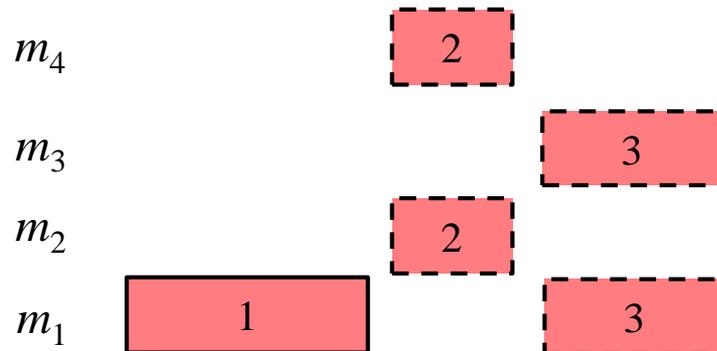
*Definition*

A **selection**  $(\mu, S)$ : any mode  $\mu$  and set  $S \subseteq E$  of disjunctive arcs

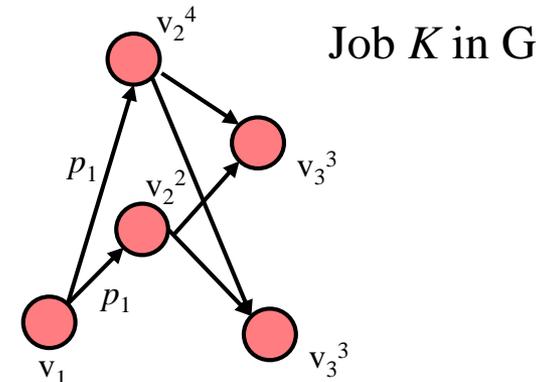
A selection  $S$  is **complete** if  $S \cap \{e, \bar{e}\} \neq \emptyset$  for all  $\{e, \bar{e}\} \in \mathcal{E}^\mu$

A selection  $S$  is **positive acyclic** if the graph  $G(\mu, S) = (V^\mu, A^\mu \cup S, d)$  has no cycle of positive length and **positive cyclic** otherwise.

Among all feasible selections, find a selection  $(\mu, S)$  minimizing the length of a longest path from  $\sigma$  to  $\tau$ .



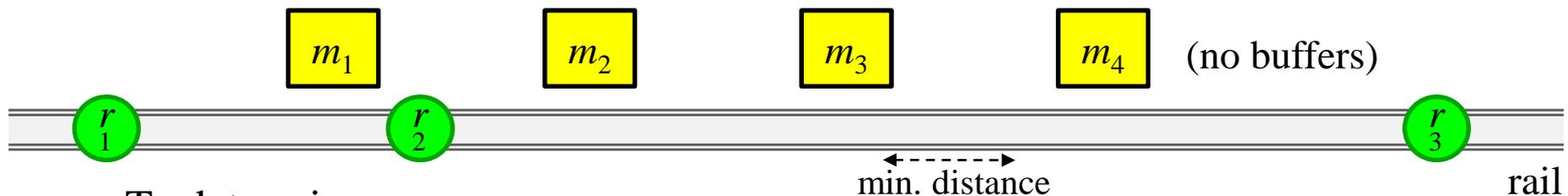
Gröflin, H., Pham, D. N., & Bürgy, R. (2011). The flexible blocking job shop with transfer and set-up times. *Journal of Combinatorial Optimization*, 22(2), 121–144.



## 2.2. An Application: The BJS-RT and ALPHABOT

### The BJS-RT

- Version of the blocking job shop (with routing flexibility) characterized by
- a rail-bound transportation system consisting of mobile devices (robots, cranes, ...)
  - Processing of jobs on machines
  - Transport from one machine to the next by a robot which can be chosen
  - Robots move on a rail along which the machines are located
  - Robots cannot pass each other, maintain a minimal distance from each other
  - Each robot can handle at most one job at any time
  - Each robot can move at a speed up to a (robot-dependent) speed limit

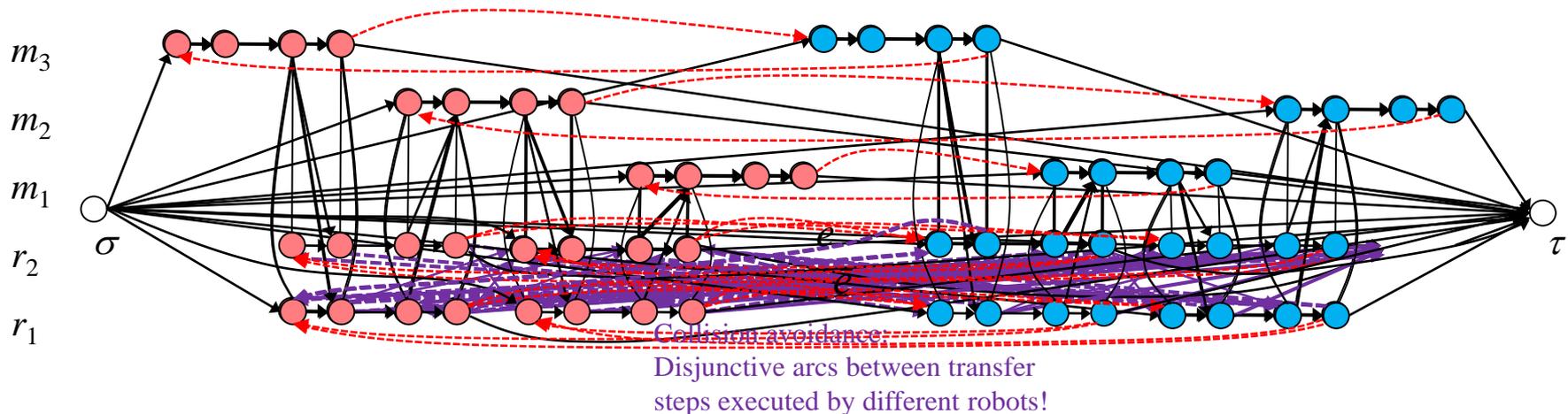


- To determine
  - Machine (robot) assignments and starting times (for processing and transport op.)
  - But also feasible trajectories of the robots

typical scheduling  
variables

No scheduling  
variables (and not in  
objective function)

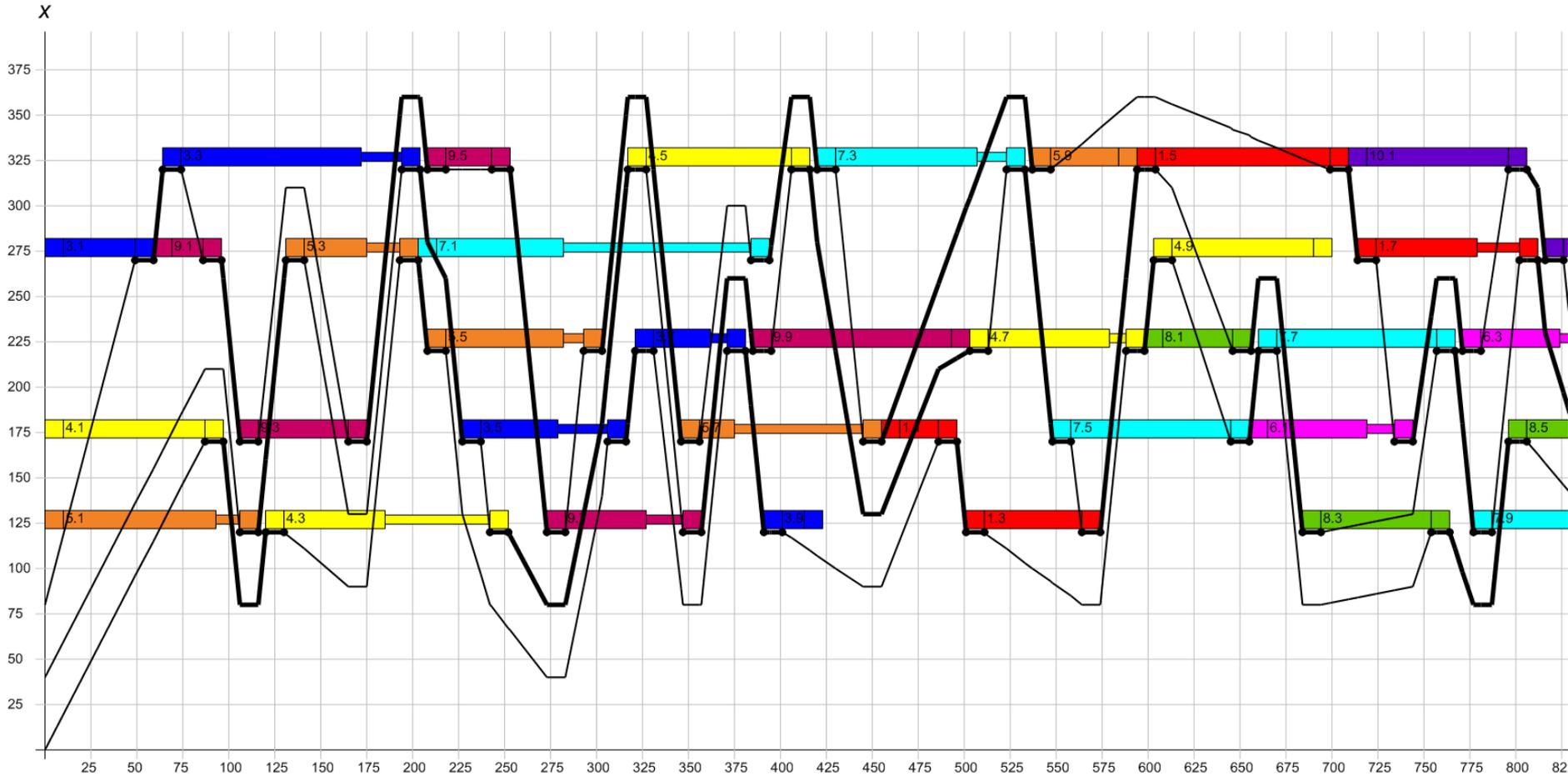
- Projection of the solution space onto the space of the assignment and time variables
  - Adding disjunctive arc pairs between *transfer steps* executed by *different robots!*



- Yielding a formulation of the BJS-RT in a disjunctive graph
- Allowing to apply our solution approach
- Establish efficient algorithms for the feasible trajectory problem

See: Bürgy, R., & Gröflin, H. (2016). The blocking job shop with rail-bound transportation. *Journal of Combinatorial Optimization*, 31(1), 151–181.

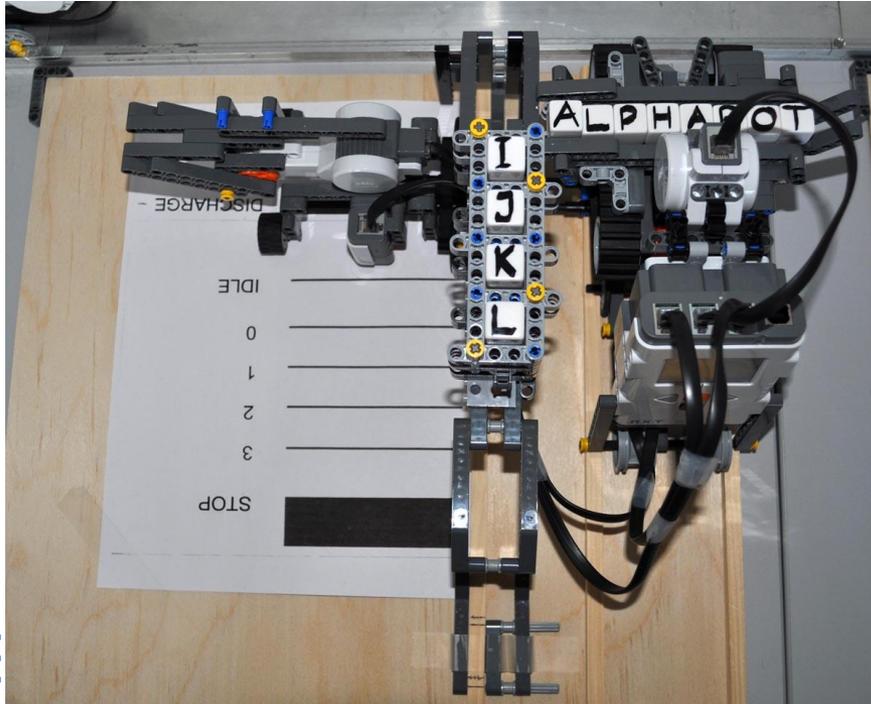
# BJS-RT Schedules



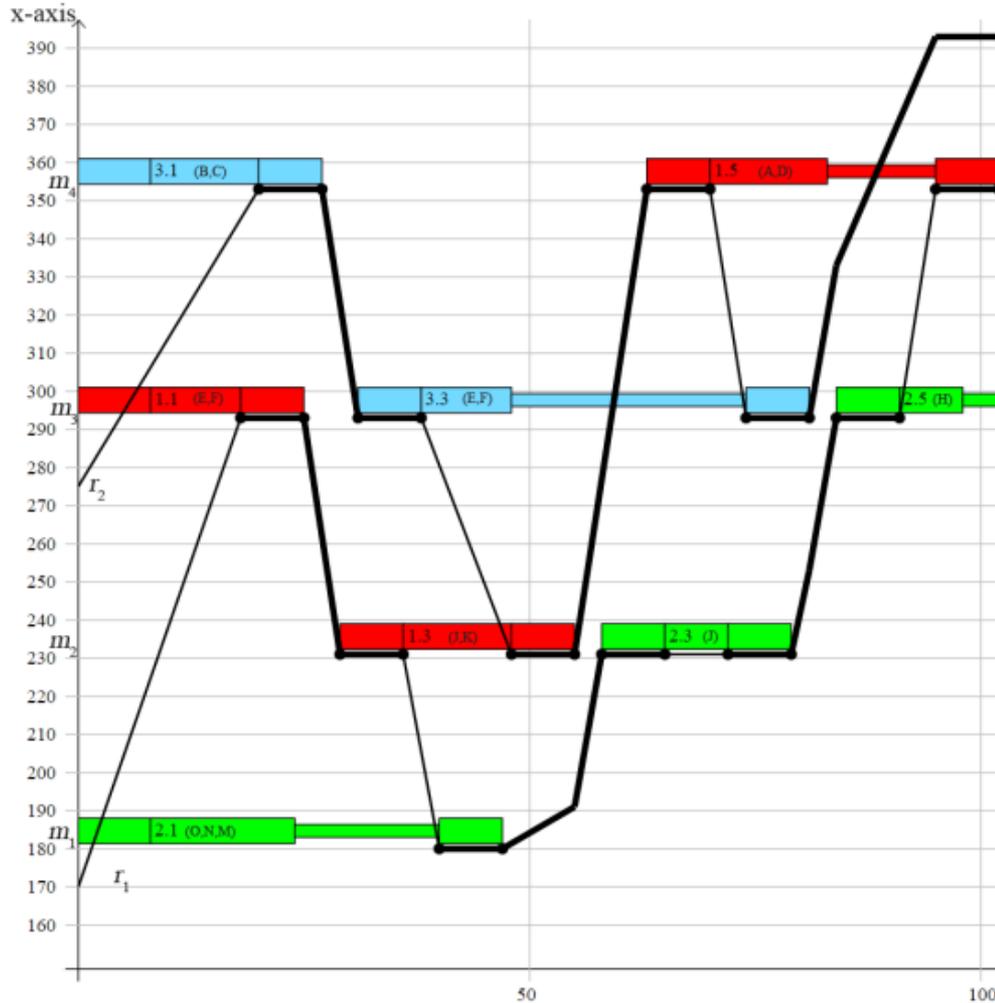
A "location-extended" Gantt chart

# The ALPHABOT

- A physical model of the BJS-RT
  - Machine: contains stacks of dices (with same letter)
  - Assemble words (a small container holds the dices)
  - Produce a given set of words as fast as possible



# ALPHABOT in Action

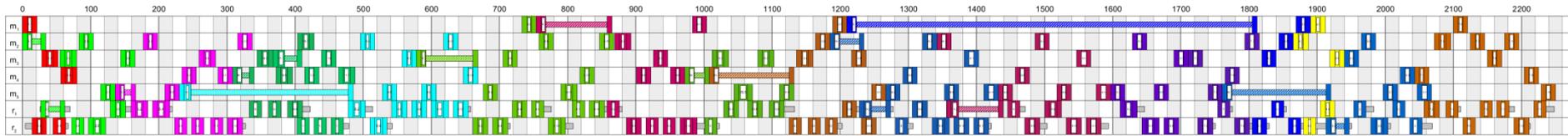


Robots and machines controlled by precedence constraints and NOT by (fixing) times!



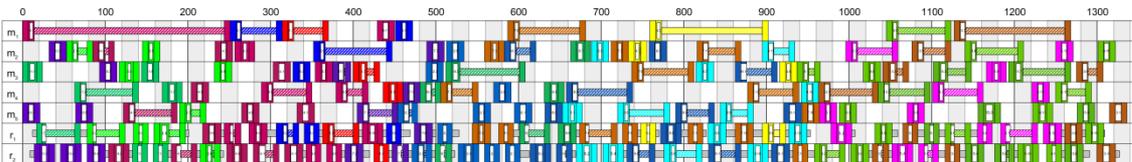
# The Value of Optimization

- Example: Instance with 18 words (names)
  - Simple solution (job permutation schedule):



(trajectories omitted)

- An optimized solution:



- Nontrivial (even impossible) to find good plans by hand

improvement of 40%

- Some benefits
  - Quality improvement
  - (Semi-) automating complex work (decision support)
  - The role of the planner changes (addressing tactical questions)
  - Increased flexibility in the planning task

# Overview

## 1. The Classical Job Shop Scheduling Problem

1. Introduction
2. A Combinatorial Formulation in a Disjunctive Graph
3. Applications in Practice

## 2. Complex Process Features

1. Some Process Features
2. An Application: The BJS-RT and ALPHABOT

## 3. Complicated Objectives

1. General Regular Objective
2. A Class of Convex Cost Objectives

## 4. A Local Search Solution Approach

1. The Job Insertion Problem
2. Local Moves and Locally Improving Moves
3. Some Computational Results

### 3. Complicated Objectives

- Consider again the timing problem in the classical job shop
- Timing subproblem:  
Given a selection  $S$ , solve:

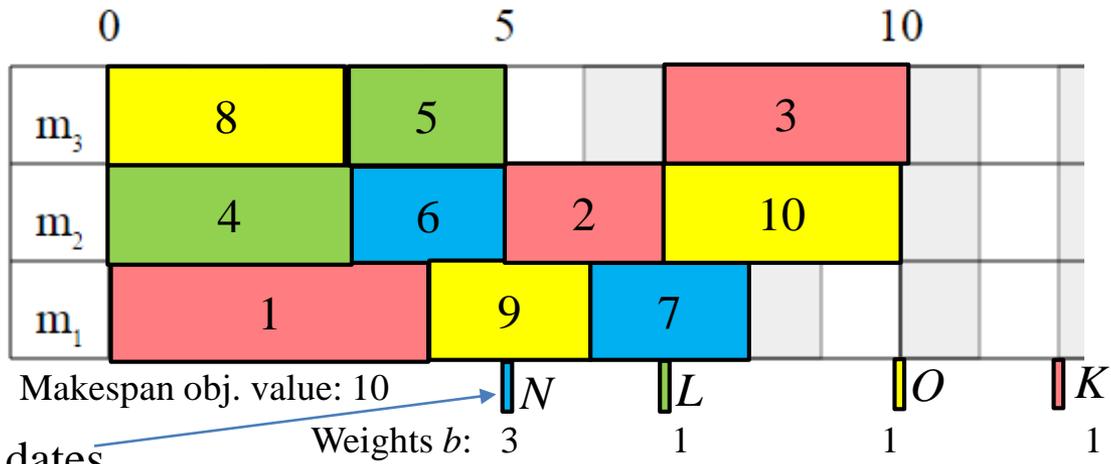
$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \alpha_\tau - \alpha_\sigma \\ & \text{subject to :} && \\ & && \alpha_w - \alpha_v \geq d_{vw} \quad \text{for all } (v,w) \in A \cup S \end{aligned}$$

- Its dual, is a (simple) network flow problem.
- How to solve it: an optimal solution can be found by
  - Computing the earliest time schedule  $\alpha(S)$  where
  - For all  $v \in V$ ,  $\alpha_v(S)$ : length of a longest path from  $\sigma$  to node  $v$  in  $G(S)$

## 3.1. General Regular Objective

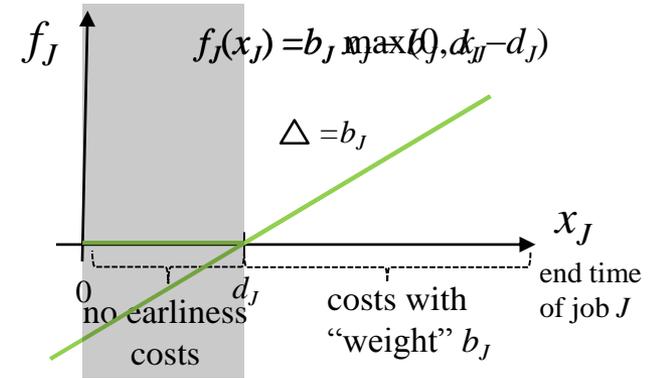
- It this procedure just applicable to the makespan objective?
- The class of **regular objectives**
  - “the earlier the better”
  - Formally, a function  $f: \mathcal{R}^V \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  is called regular if for all  $\alpha, \alpha' \in \mathcal{R}^V$ ,  $\alpha \leq \alpha' \Rightarrow f(\alpha) \leq f(\alpha')$
  - Comprises many objectives: makespan, total flow time, total (weighted) tardiness, total squared tardiness, etc.
- The earliest time schedule  $\alpha(S)$  is optimal
  - Let  $\Omega(S)$  be the solution space of the timing problem
  - Clearly,  $\alpha(S) \leq \alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in \Omega(S)$ , implying  $f(\alpha(S)) \leq f(\alpha')$
  - Timing problem efficiently solvable!
  - Similar computational effort as for makespan objective
  - Somewhat higher for “re-optimization”
    - Consider: Vidal, T., Crainic, T. G., Gendreau, M., & Prins, C. (2015). Timing Problems and Algorithms: Time Decisions for Sequences of Activities. *Networks*, 65(2), 102–128.

# An Example with Tardiness Costs

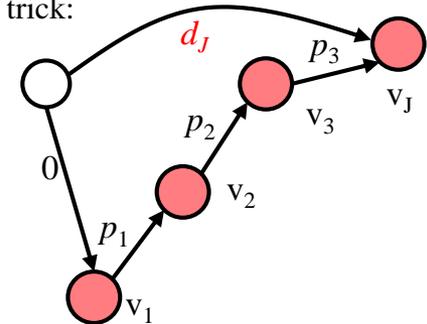


**Total linear tardiness costs: 9** (job  $N$  3 time units too late)

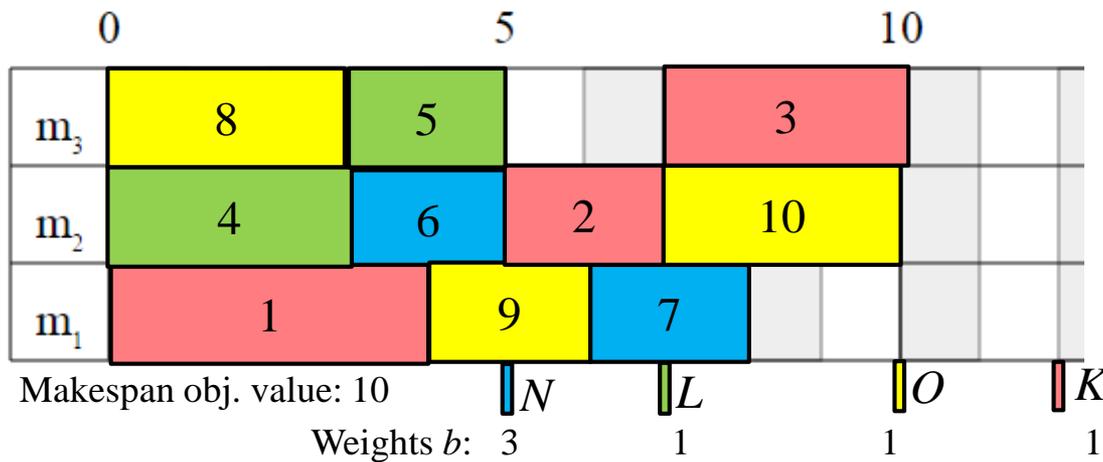
Linear tardiness costs (for each job  $J$ )



Note: non-linear function in  $x_J$ , simple "linearization" modeling trick:

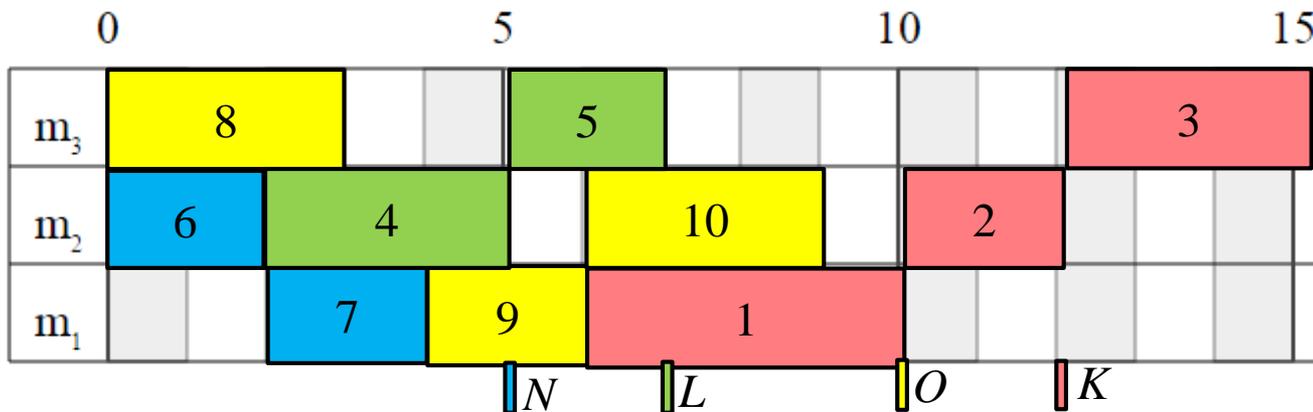


# An Example with Tardiness Costs



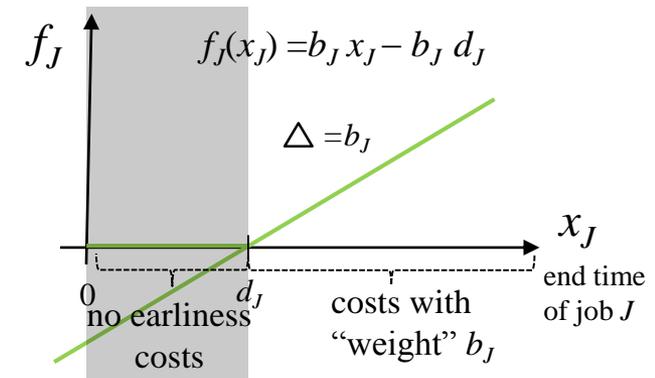
**Total linear tardiness costs: 9** (job  $N$  3 time units too late)

With improved sequencing:

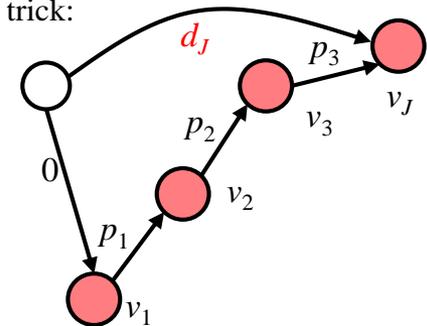


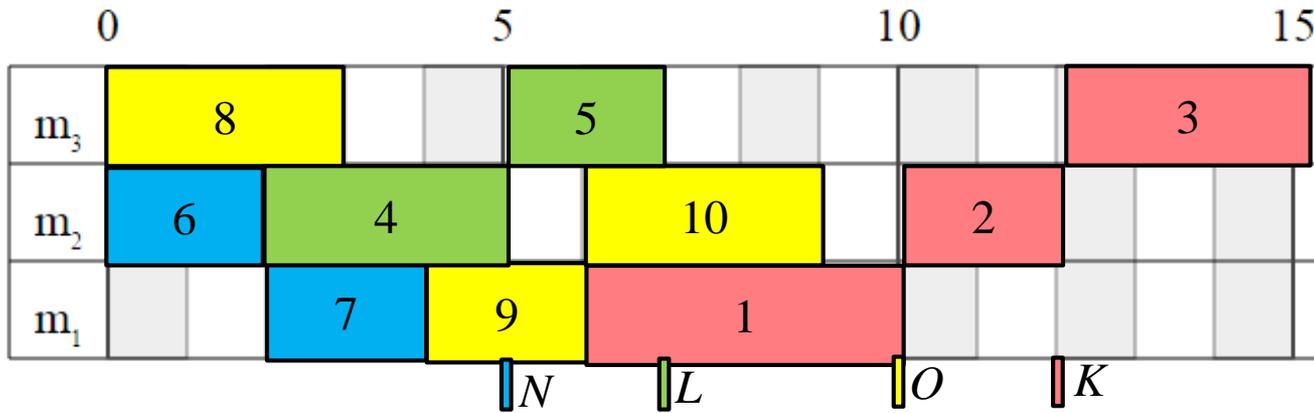
**Total linear tardiness costs: 3** (job  $K$  3 time units too late)

Linear tardiness costs (for each job  $J$ )



Note: non-linear function in  $x_J$ , simple "linearization" modeling trick:



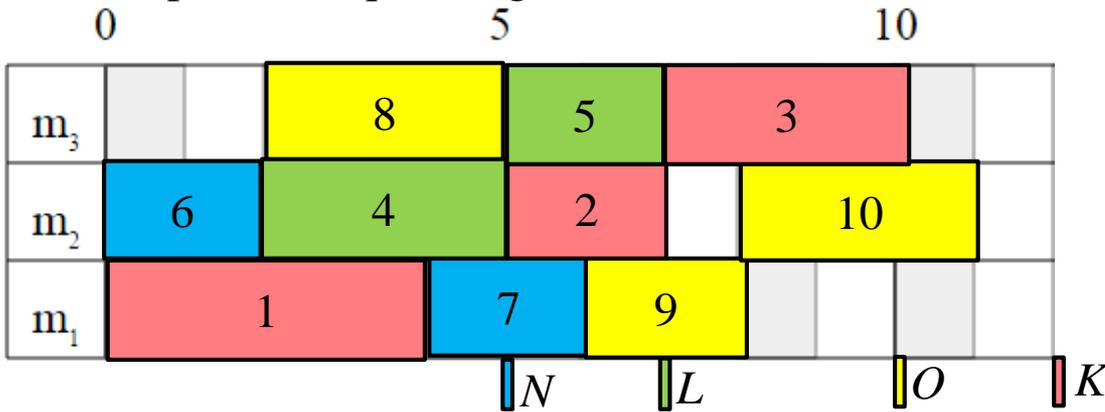


**Total linear tardiness costs: 3**  
(job K 3 time units too late)

**Total squared tardiness costs: 9** (job K 3 time units too late)

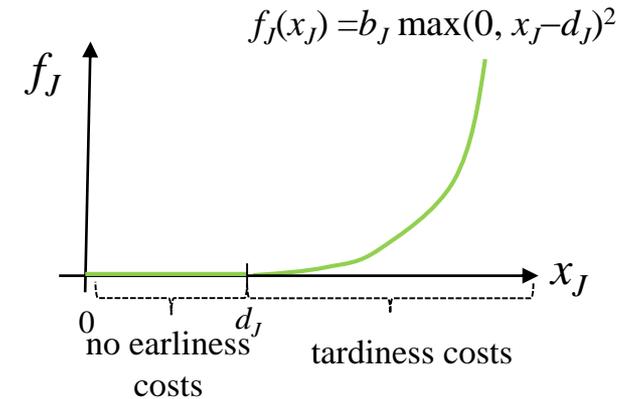
However, a large tardiness may be very undesirable in practice → squared tardiness costs:

With improved sequencing:



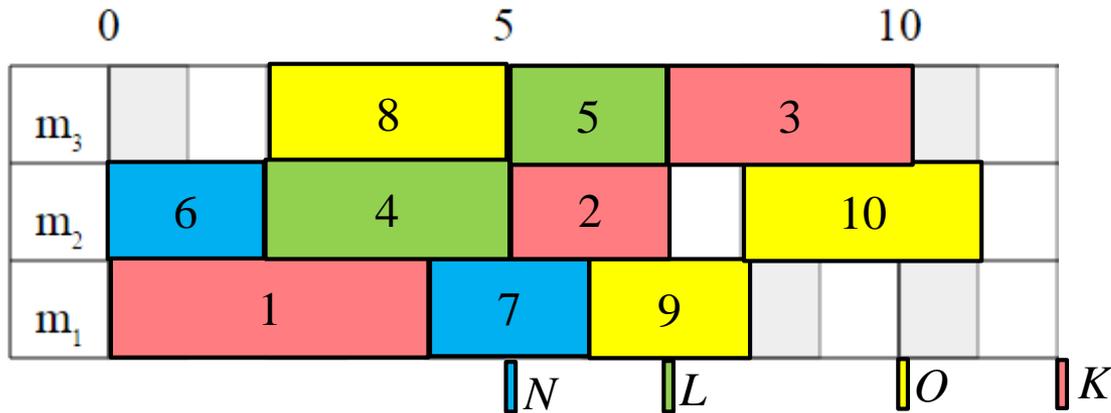
**Total squared tardiness costs: 4** (Job O 1 and Job N 1 time unit too late)

**Squared** tardiness costs



**still regular objective!**

# 3.2. A Class of Convex Cost Objectives

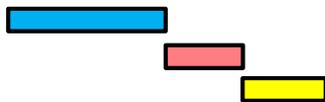


Total squared tardiness costs: 4 (Job O 1 and Job N 1 time unit too late)

Earliness:

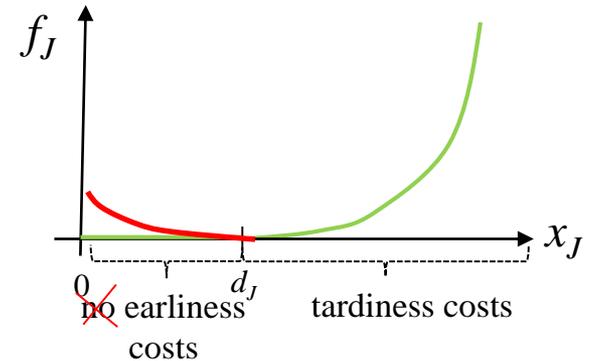


Storage:

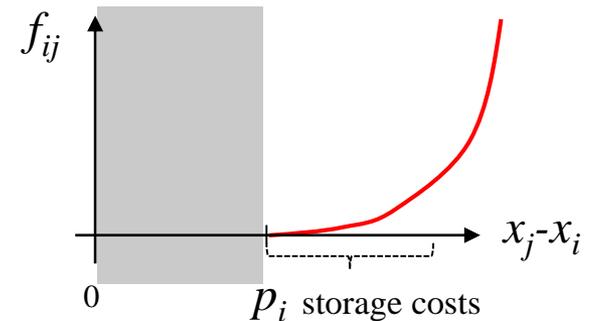


Just-in-time scheduling:

Take into account convex tardiness, earliness and storage costs!



Op. *i* and *j* consecutive in some job



# Total Convex Costs: The Timing Problem

Makespan objective:

$$\text{minimize } \alpha_\tau - \alpha_\sigma$$

subject to:

$$\alpha_w - \alpha_v \geq d_{vw} \text{ for all } (v,w) \in A \cup S$$

“Precision” of our plan.  
(implied with regular objective  
and integer data)

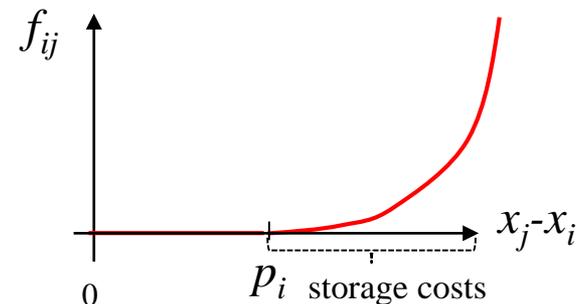
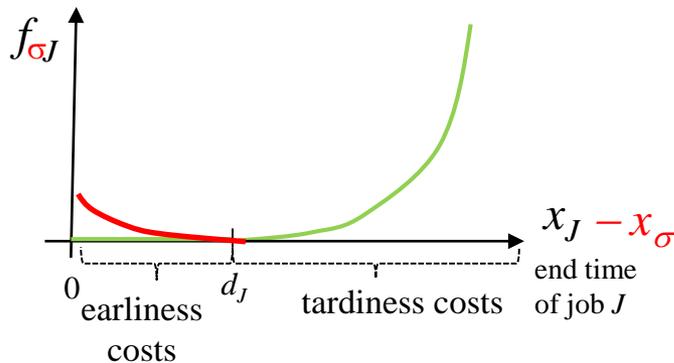
$U$ : “large” planning horizon  
(for technical reasons)

A total convex costs objective:

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{(v,w) \in F} f_{vw}(\alpha_w - \alpha_v) \quad f_{vw} \text{ convex}$$

subject to:

$$\alpha_w - \alpha_v \geq d_{vw} \text{ for all } (v,w) \in A \cup S$$



## A Solution Approach for This Timing Problem

 $f_{vw}$  convex

- Still a network flow problem?
- A convex cost integer dual network flow problem!

$$\text{minimize } \sum_{(v,w) \in F} f_{vw}(\alpha_w - \alpha_v)$$

subject to :

$$\alpha_w - \alpha_v \geq d_{vw} \quad \text{for all } (v,w) \in A \cup S$$

$$\alpha_v \text{ integer for all } v \in V$$

$$0 \leq \alpha_v \leq U \quad \text{for all } v \in V$$

Ahuja, R. K., Hochbaum, D. S., & Orlin, J. B. (2003). Solving the Convex Cost Integer Dual Network Flow Problem. *Management Science*, 49, 950–964

- Show that the Lagrangian relaxation of the problem (actually a reformulation) can be transformed to a network flow problem with (special) convex costs
- Adapt the cost-scaling algorithm for the minimum cost flow problem to solve the convex cost network flow problem (obtaining also an optimal dual solution)
- Overall time complexity:  $O(nm \log(n^2/m) \log(nU))$
- Hence, timing problem still efficiently solvable!
  - Higher time complexity than for regular objectives

also shown by:

Stephan Foldes and François Soumis. PERT and crashing revisited: Mathematical generalizations. *European Journal of Operational Research* 64.2 (1993): 286-294.

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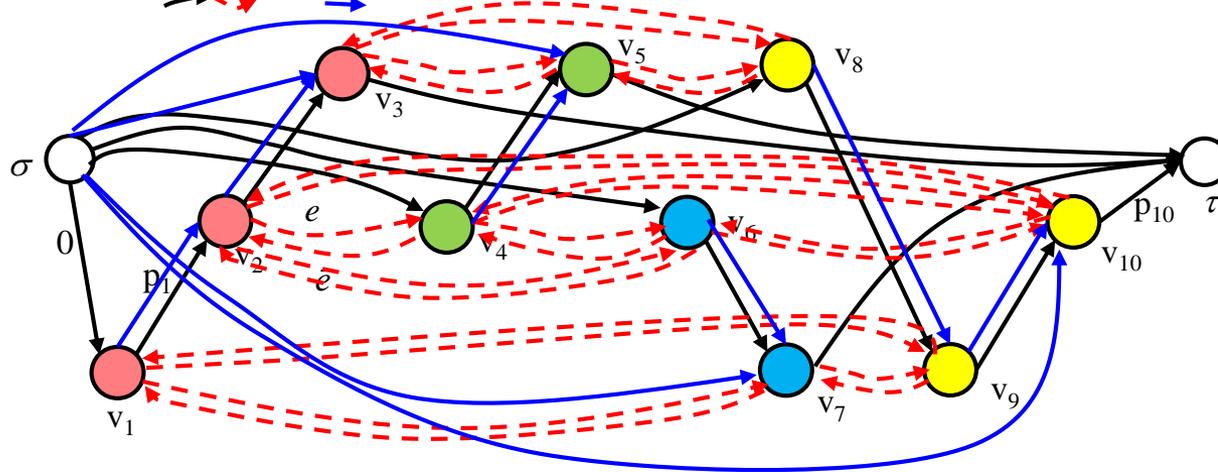
## 4. A Local Search Solution Approach

1. The Job Insertion Problem
2. Local Moves and Locally Improving Moves
3. Some Computational Results

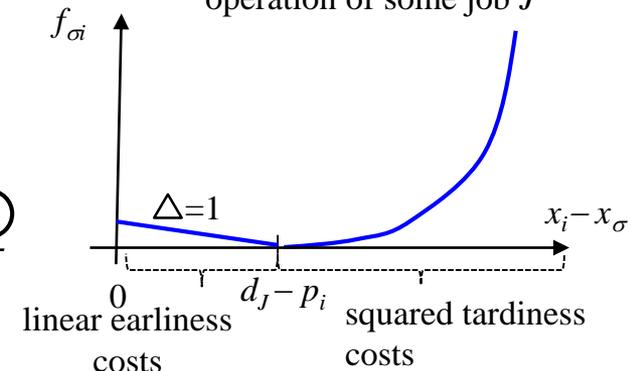
# 4. A Local Search Solution Approach

- The job shop scheduling problem with convex costs:

$$G=(V,A,E,\mathcal{E},d,F,f)$$



Op.  $i$  being the last operation of some job  $J$

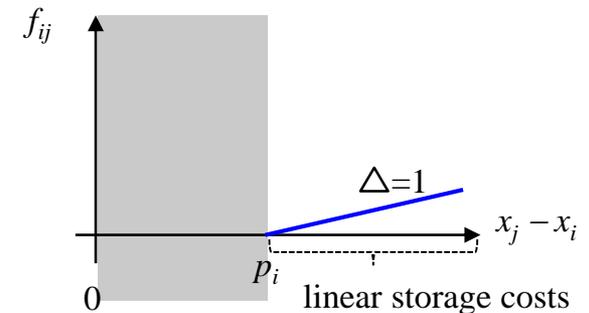


$$f_{oi}(x_i - x_\sigma) = \max(0, (d_J - p_i) - (x_i - x_\sigma)) + \max(0, (x_i - x_\sigma) - (d_J - p_i))^2$$

*Just-in-time job shop scheduling with squared tardiness costs and linear storage costs*

Among all feasible selections, find a selection  $S$  with minimum total convex costs.

Op.  $i$  and  $j$  consecutive in some job

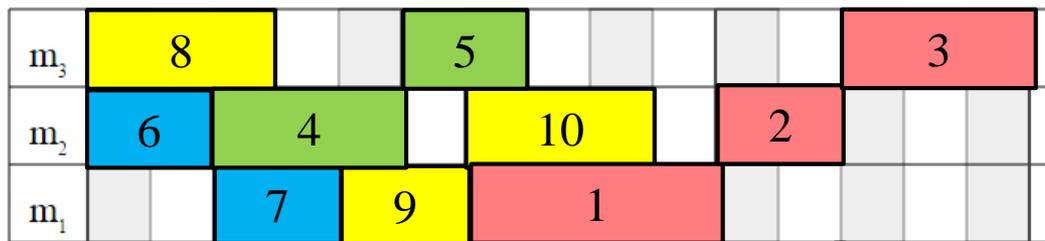
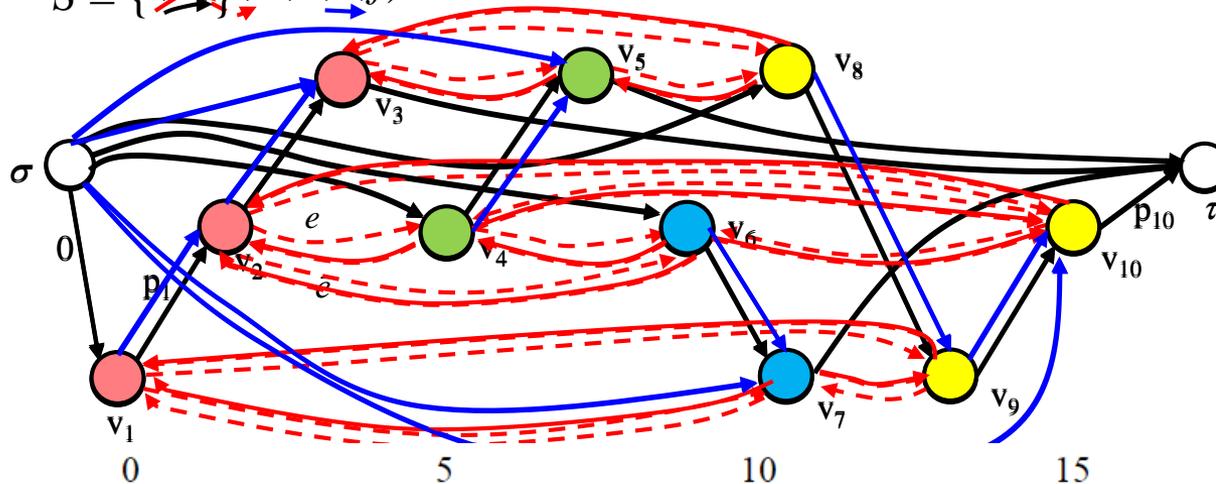


$$f_{oi}(x_j - x_i) = x_j - x_i - p_i$$

# General Scheme

- Local search based on a job insertion neighborhood

$$\mathcal{G} \equiv (V, A, E, \mathcal{E}, d, F, f)$$



Tardiness:  9

Earliness:  1  1

Storage:  1

**Total costs: 12**

**Neighbor generation:**  
Extract a job and re-insert it into the given schedule

„Given schedule“: fixing disjunctive arcs, not starting times!

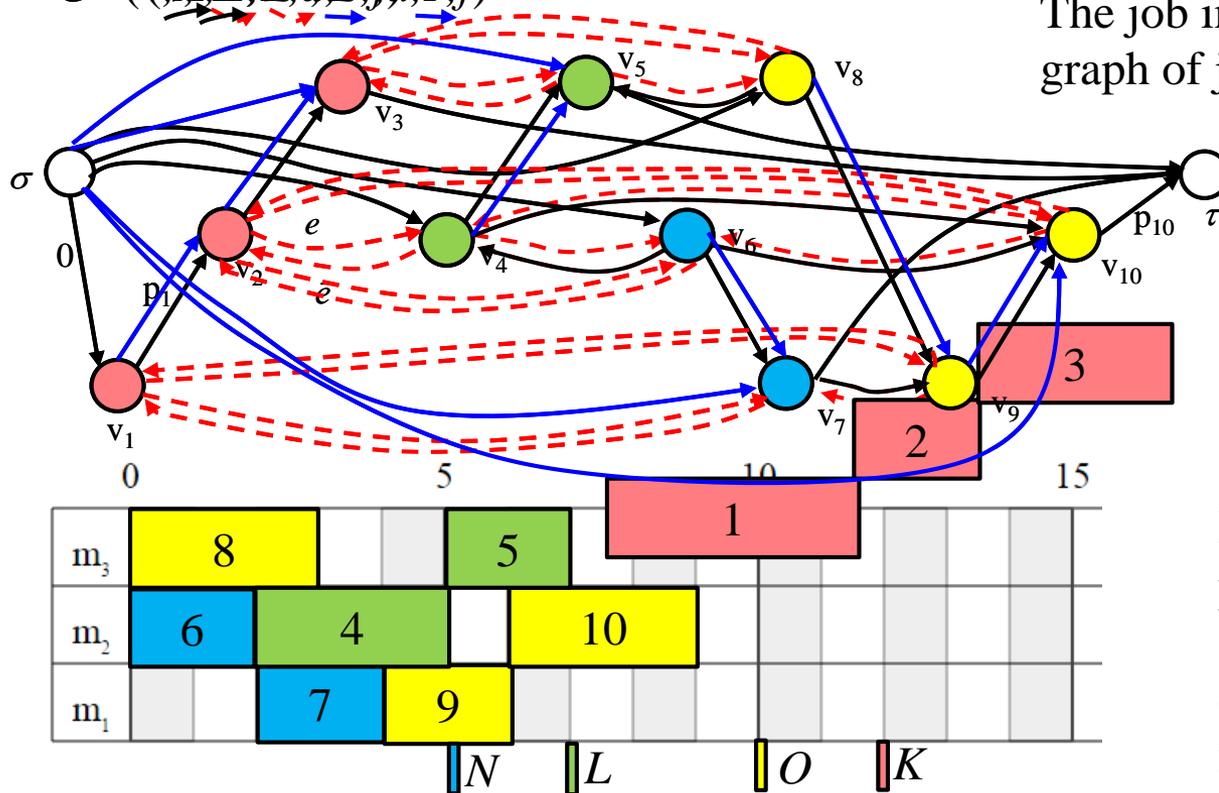
See:  
Gröflin, H., & Klinkert, A. (2007). Feasible insertions in job shop scheduling, short cycles and stable sets. *European Journal of Operational Research*, 177(2)

# 4.1. The Job Insertion Problem

- Problem formulation in its associated disjunctive graph:

$$G^K = (V, A, E, d, E', f, l, F, f)$$

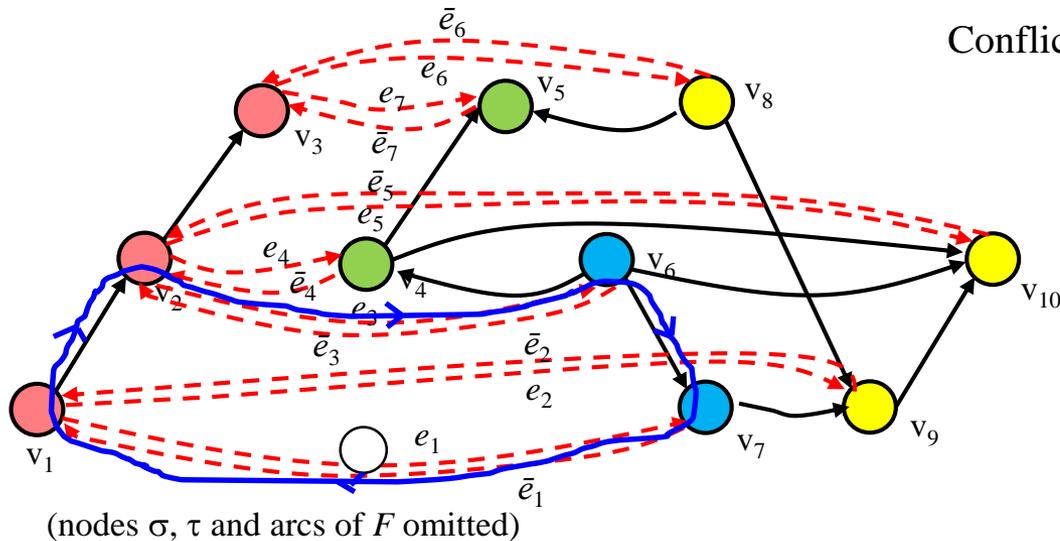
The job insertion disjunctive graph of job  $K$ .



In this graph, (complete, positive acyclic, feasible) **selections** (complete are called positive acyclic, feasible) **insertions**

# The Conflict Graph

- Characterize ALL feasible insertions in an associated graph

Conflict Graph  $H$ :

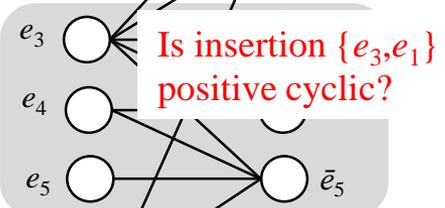
“out of Job”

“into Job”

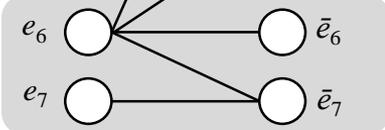
Op. 1



Op. 2



Op. 3

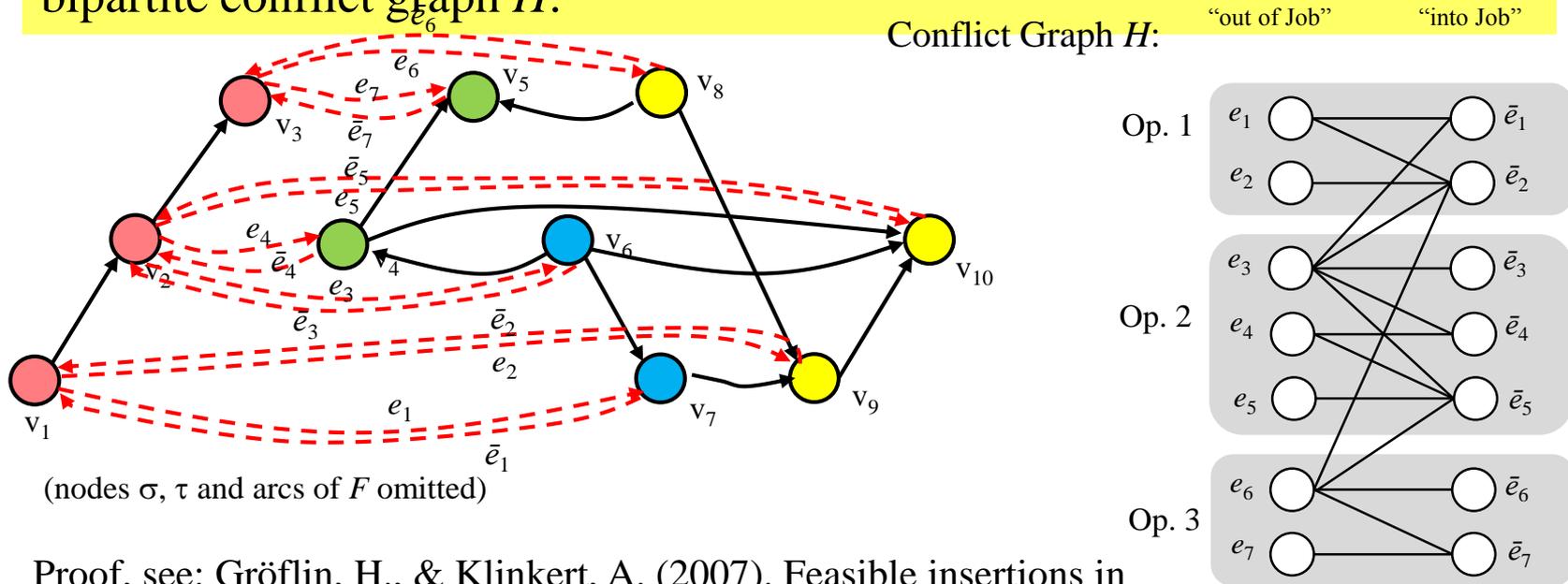


## Definition

Given a job insertion graph  $G^J = (V^J, A^J, E^J, \mathcal{E}^J, d, F, f)$ , the **conflict graph** of  $G^J$  is the undirected graph  $H = (E^J, U)$  where for any  $e, f \in E^J$ ,  $(e, f) \in U$  if insertion  $\{e, f\}$  is positive cyclic.

*Theorem*

Given a job insertion graph  $G^J = (V^J, A^J, E^J, \mathcal{E}^J, d)$ , the feasible insertions are in one-to-one correspondence with the stable sets of size  $|E^J|/2$  in the bipartite conflict graph  $H$ .

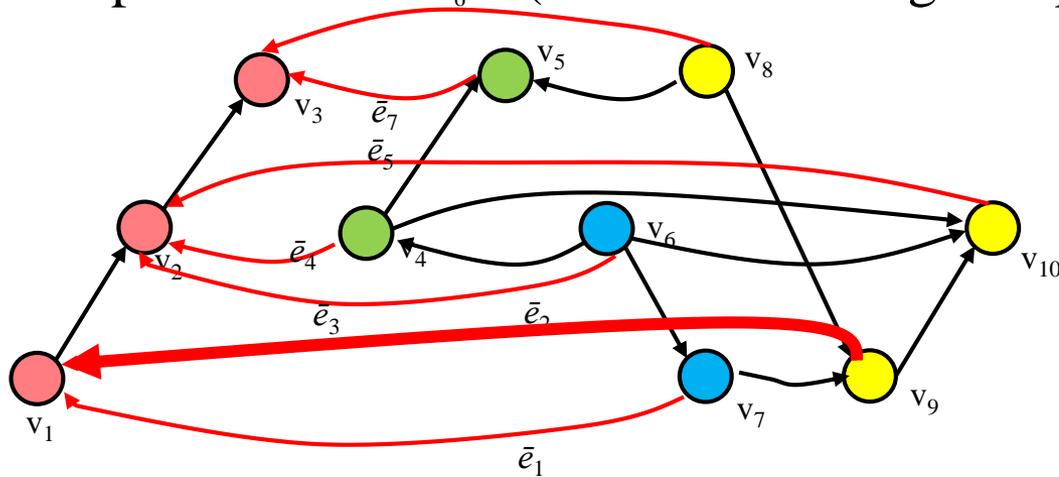


Proof, see: Gröflin, H., & Klinkert, A. (2007). Feasible insertions in job shop scheduling, short cycles and stable sets. *European Journal of Operational Research*, 177(2)

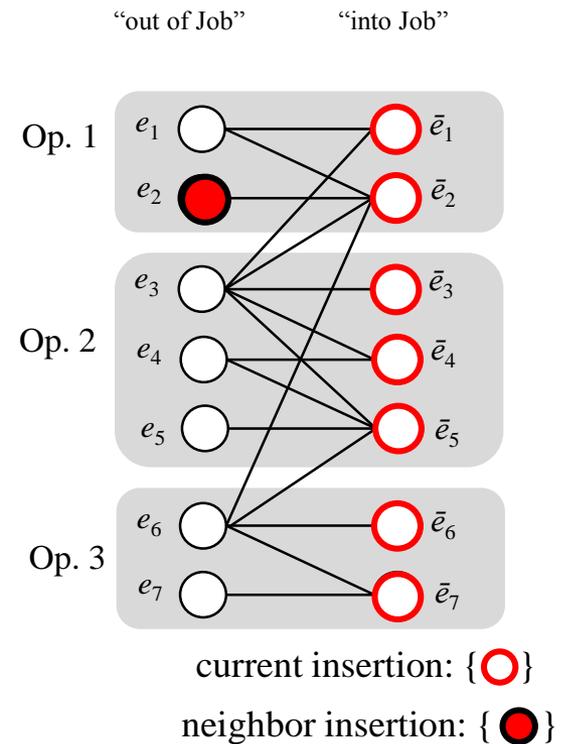
- $\Rightarrow$  Nice (polyhedral) characterization of all feasible insertions
- Generate neighbor insertions in the conflict graph.

# 4.2. Local Moves and Locally Improving Moves

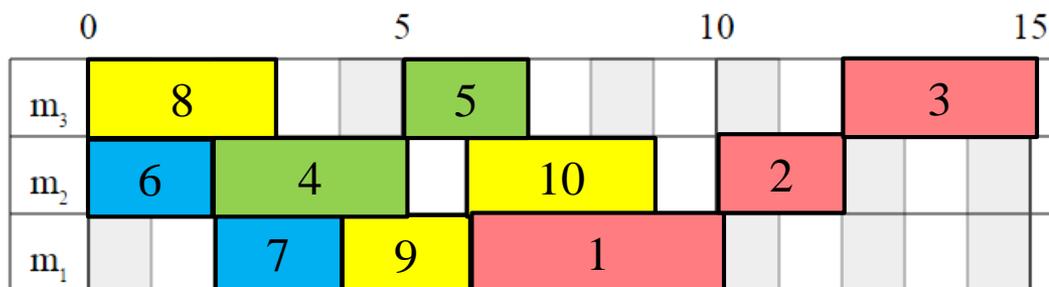
- Replace a “critical” disjunctive arc, i.e. a disjunctive arc with positive arc flow (in dual of timing sub-problem), by its mate



Conflict Graph  $H$ :



Arc flow of  $\bar{e}_7$  is 2. Replace  $\bar{e}_7$  by  $e_7$ .



Tardiness: ▬ 9

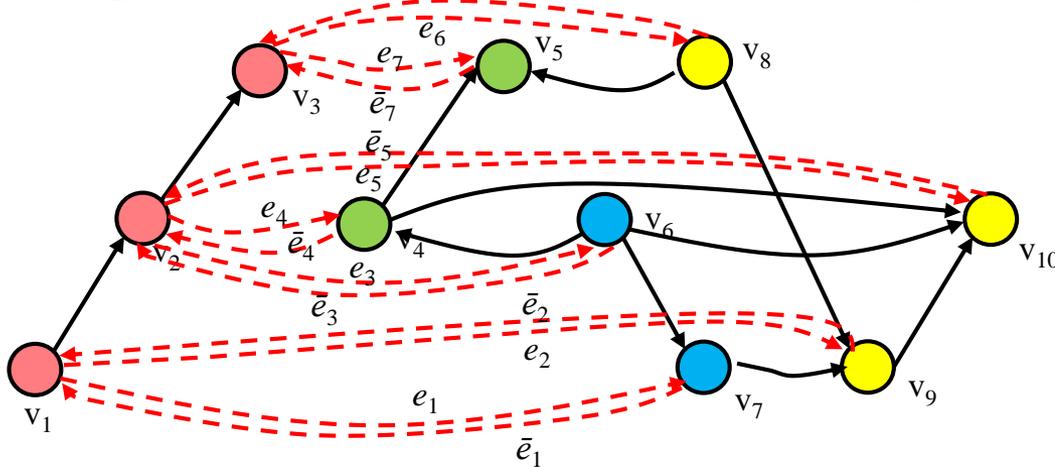
Earliness: ▬ 1 ▬ 1

Storage: ▬ 1

**Total costs: 12**

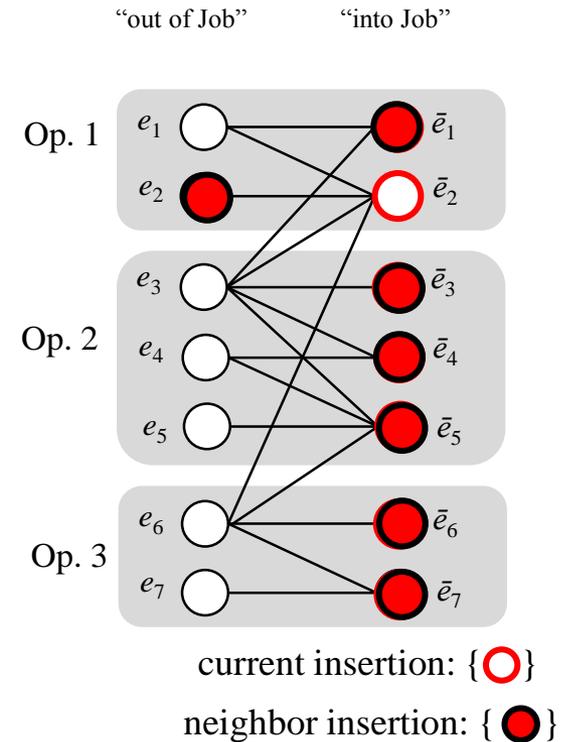
# 4.2. Local Moves and Locally Improving Moves

- Replace a “critical” disjunctive arc, i.e. a disjunctive arc with positive arc flow (in dual of timing sub-problem), by its mate



Arc flow of  $\bar{e}_2$  is 2. Replace  $\bar{e}_2$  by  $e_2$ .

Conflict Graph  $H$ :



- Generate nearest insertion:

$$T_{\bar{e}} = \bar{e} \cup (T^S \setminus \{e\})$$

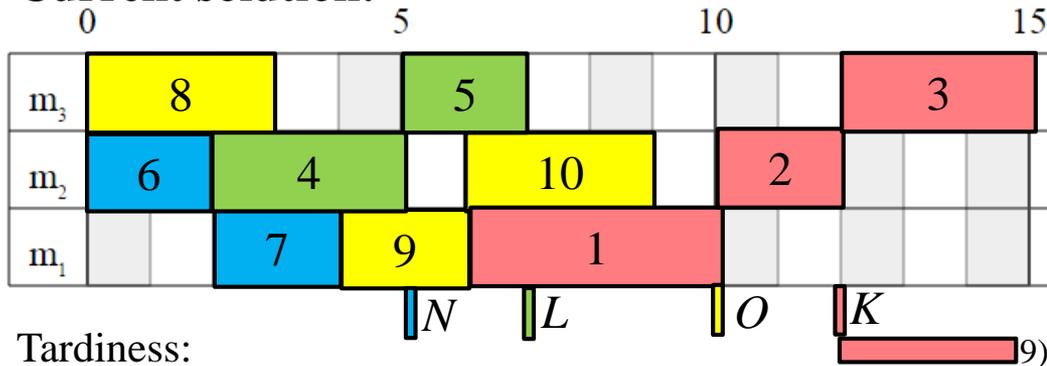
“Swapping” a critical arc!

*Proposition*

$T_{\bar{e}}$  is a feasible insertion.

See e.g. Brandimarte, P., & Maiocco, M. (1999). Job shop scheduling with a non-regular objective: A comparison of neighbourhood structures based on a sequencing/timing decomposition. *International Journal of Production Research*, 37(8), 1697–1715

**Current solution:**



Tardiness:

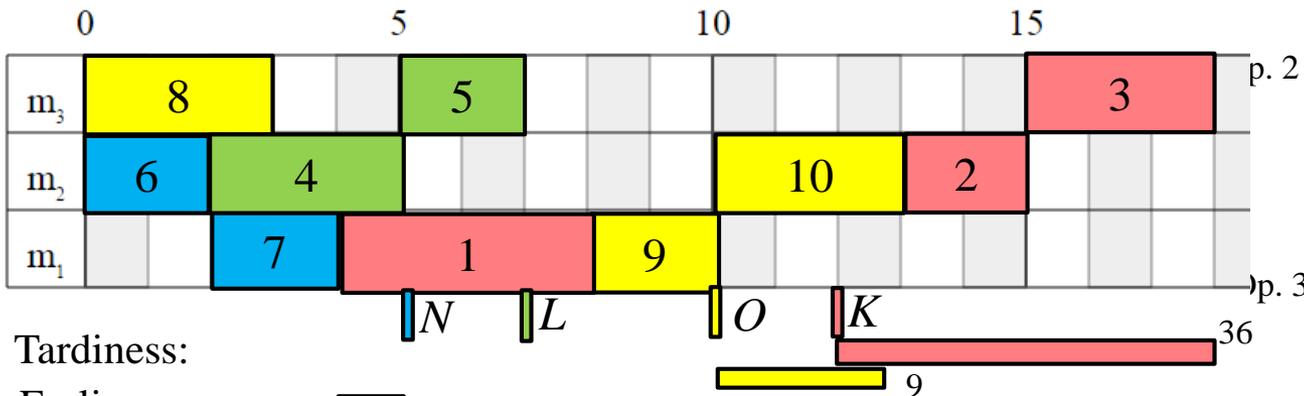
Earliness:

Storage:



**Total costs: 12**

**Neighbor solution:**



Tardiness:

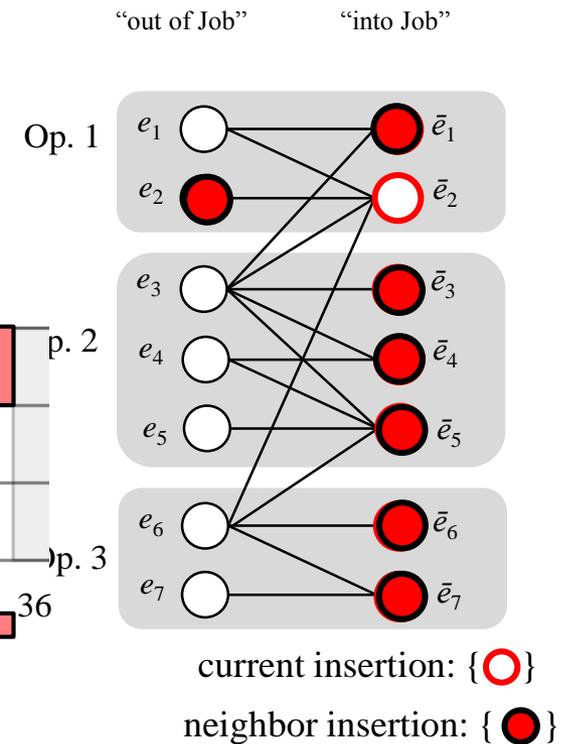
Earliness:

Storage:



**Total costs: 47**

**Conflict Graph  $H$ :**



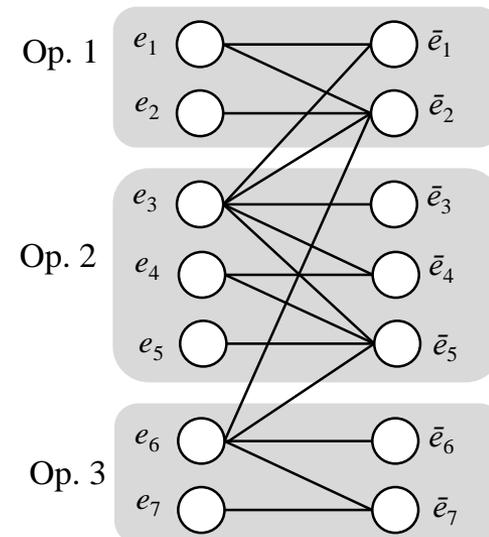
# Optimal Job Insertion

This problem is NP-hard already in the classical job shop.

- Use conflict graph and its associated MIP formulation to compute an optimal job insertion

Conflict Graph  $H = (E^J, U)$  :

“out of Job”      “into Job”



weights (see later)

## Opt. Job Insertion Algorithm

- Solve MIP
- IF MIP feasible *DO*
- compute optimal times,
- and store solution if best,
- forbid current insertion
- Go To 1.
- ELSE* stop

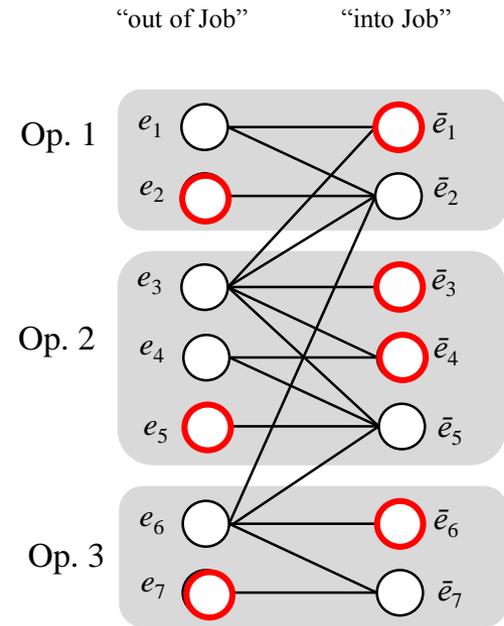
$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && \sum_{v \in E^J} \dot{c}_v x_v \\ &\text{subject to:} && \\ & && x_w + x_v \leq 1 \quad \text{for all } \{v, w\} \in U \\ & && x_v + x_w = 1 \quad \text{for all } \{v, w\} \in E^J \\ & && x_v \in \{0, 1\} \quad \text{for all } v \in E^J \end{aligned}$$

**Opt. Job Insertion Algorithm**

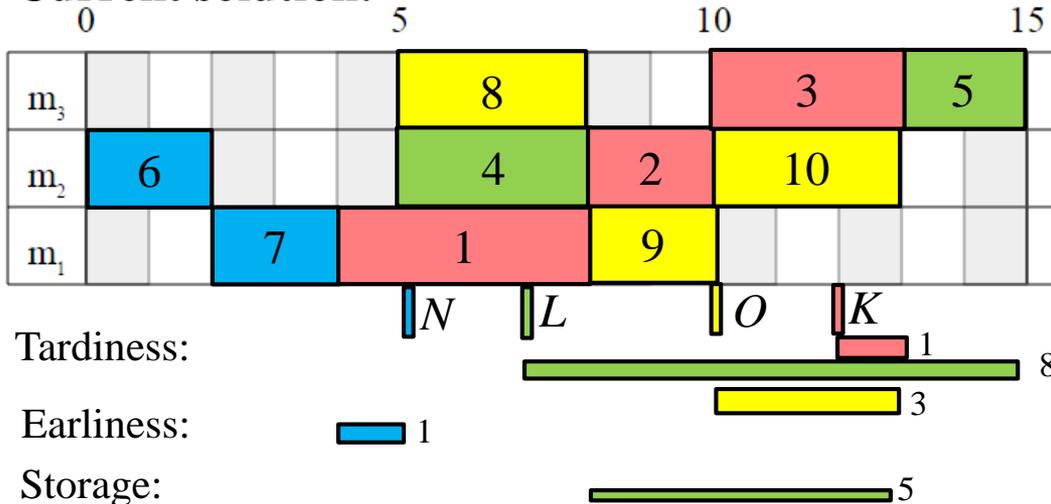
1. Solve MIP
2. IF MIP feasible *DO*
3.     compute optimal times,
4.     and store solution if best,
5.     forbid current insertion
6.     Go To 1.
7. ELSE stop

minimize  $\sum_{v \in E^J} c_v x_v$   
 subject to:  
 $x_w + x_v \leq 1$  for all  $\{v, w\} \in U$   
 $x_v + x_w = 1$  for all  $\{v, w\} \in E^J$   
 $x_v \in \{0,1\}$  for all  $v \in E^J$

Conflict Graph  $H = (E^J, U)$ :



**Current solution:**



**Total costs: 80**

Forbid current insertion  $I = \{\bigcirc\}$ :  
 (simple way) add constraint:

$$\sum_{v \in I} x_v \leq |I| - 1$$

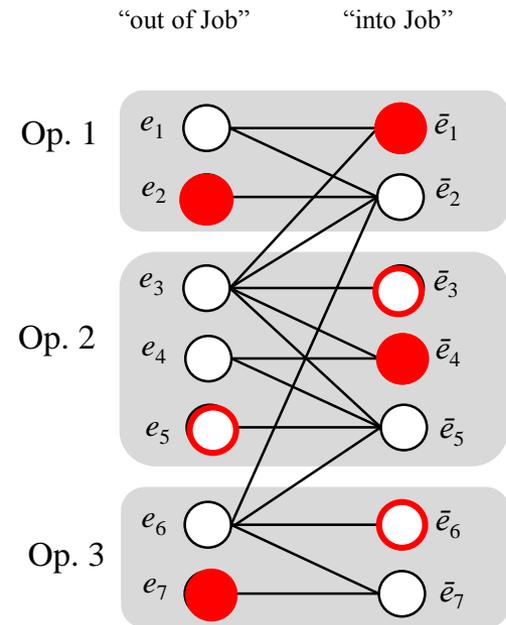
However, then ALL feasible insertions are enumerated! (there are already 25 in the small example)

**Opt. Job Insertion Algorithm**

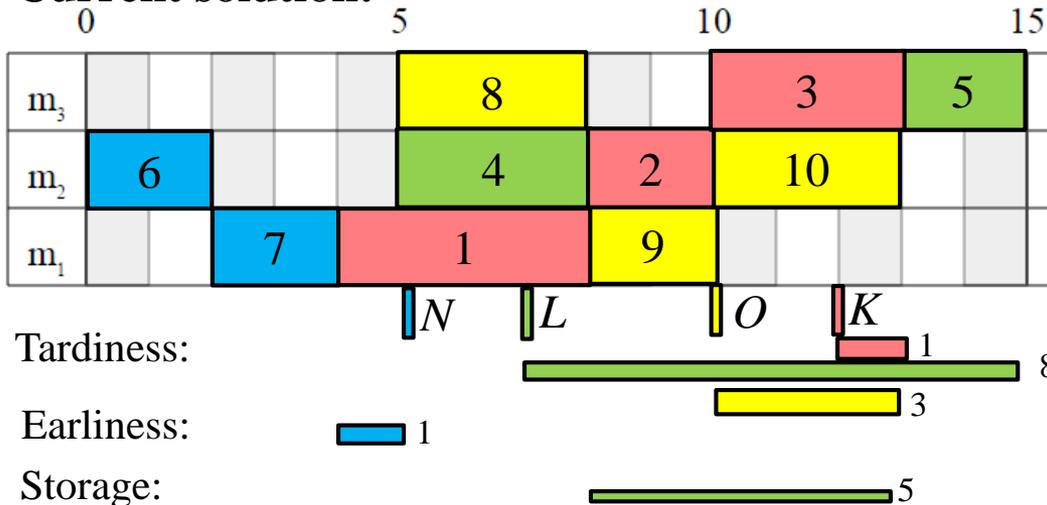
1. Solve MIP
2. IF MIP feasible *DO*
3.     compute optimal times,
4.     and store solution if best,
5.     forbid current insertion
6.     Go To 1.
7. ELSE stop

minimize  $\sum_{v \in E^J} c_v x_v$   
 subject to:  
 $x_w + x_v \leq 1$  for all  $\{v, w\} \in U$   
 $x_v + x_w = 1$  for all  $\{v, w\} \in E^J$   
 $x_v \in \{0,1\}$  for all  $v \in E^J$

Conflict Graph  $H = (E^J, U)$  :



**Current solution:**



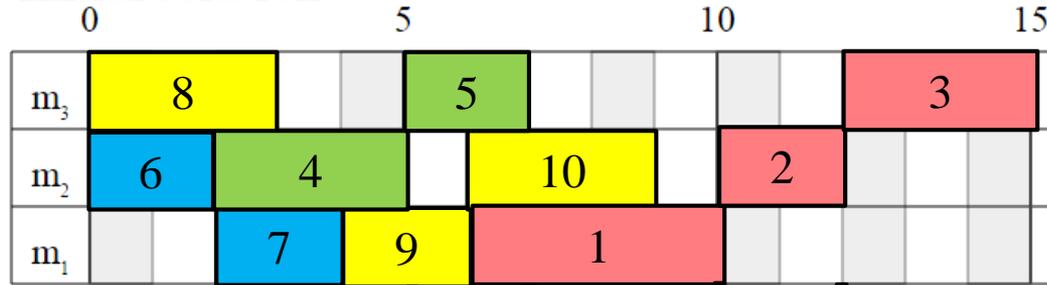
**Total costs: 80**

Forbid current insertion  $I = \{\bigcirc\}$ :  
**Better: just forbid critical arc set!**  
 $I^{crit} = \{\bullet\}$ : disj. arcs with positive flow  
 in dual solution of timing problem.

$$\sum_{v \in I^{crit}} x_v \leq |I^{crit}| - 1$$

In the example, we generate “just” 12 insertions.

**Initial solution:**



Tardiness:

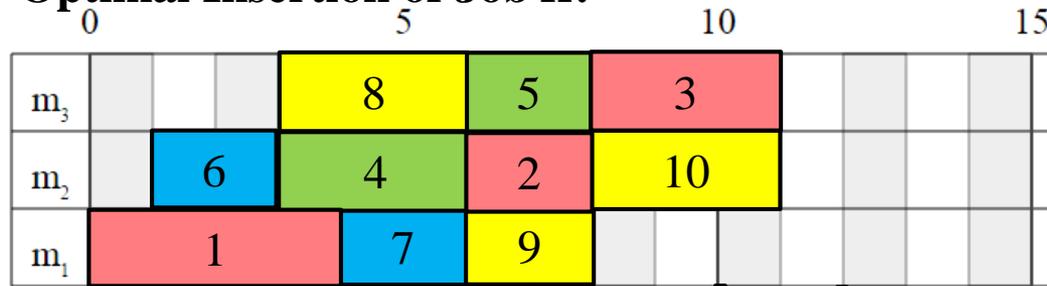
Earliness:

Storage:



**Total costs: 12**

**Optimal Insertion of Job K:**



Tardiness:

Earliness:

Storage:



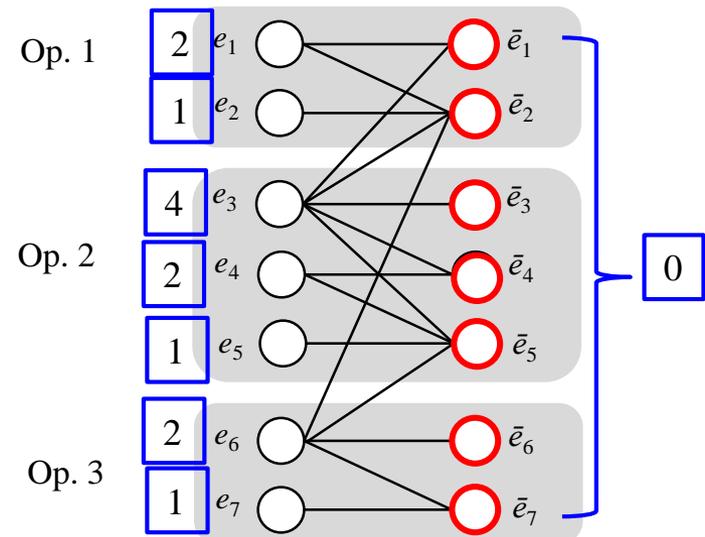
**Total costs: 7**

*Theorem*

Opt. Job Insertion Algorithm exactly solves the optimal job insertion problem.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \sum_{v \in E^J} c_v x_v \\ & \text{subject to:} && \\ & && x_w + x_v \leq 1 \quad \text{for all } \{v, w\} \in U \\ & && x_v + x_w = 1 \quad \text{for all } \{v, w\} \in E^J \\ & && x_v \in \{0,1\} \quad \text{for all } v \in E^J \end{aligned}$$

- However, time consuming for medium and large problems
- Locally improving
  - Use weights to generate local neighbors, and stop after a certain time (or number of generated insertions)
  - Obtaining a **locally improving neighborhood**
- A neighborhood (basic idea):  
Generate a locally improved neighbor for a subset of jobs and go to best neighbor



## 4.3. Some Preliminary Computational Results

- Tabu search with swap-based neighborhood
  - A neighbor for each critical arc
- Tabu search with locally improving neighborhood
  - At most 4 jobs are extracted and reinserted
  - At most 150 insertions are considered for each job
- Clearly, tabu search iterations are time consuming

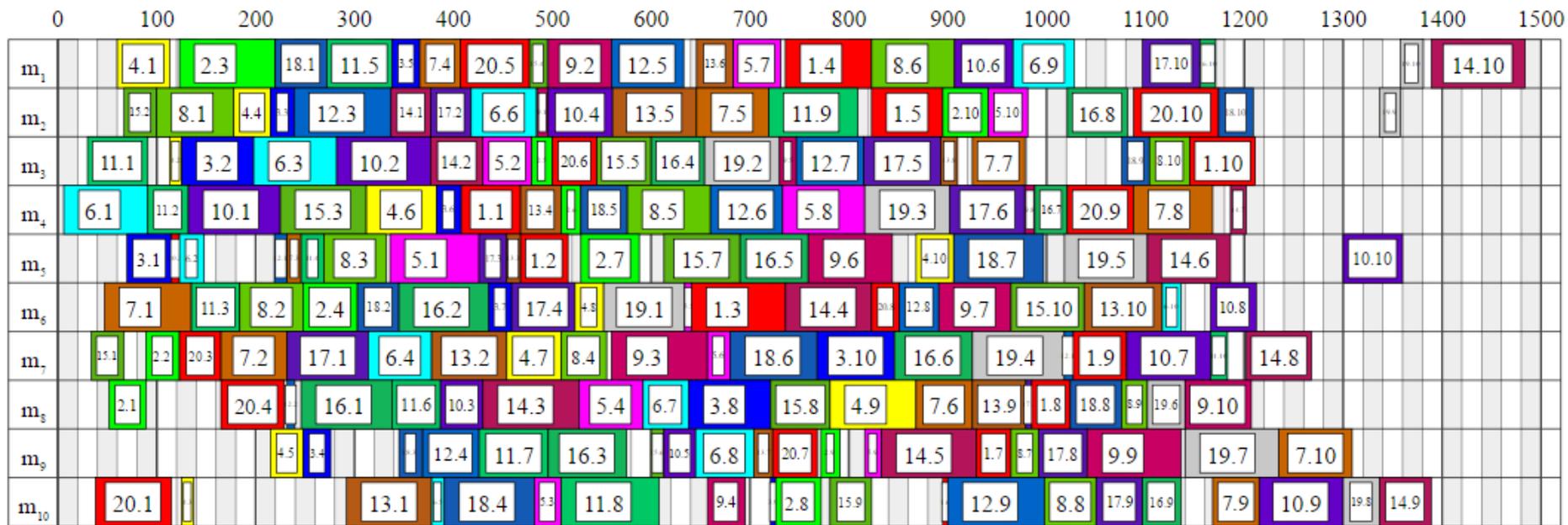
TS iter. / 100 sec.	20 jobs x 5 mach.	20 x 10
reg. objective	50000	3000
swap-based neigh.	140	30
locally improving neigh	4	1.5

- Hence, very important to
  - Start tabu search with a good initial solution
  - Select moves wisely (and improve implementation!)
- In our example: just-in-time job shop scheduling with squared tardiness costs and linear storage costs
  - Main component are tardiness costs → use solution approach for job shop with regular objectives
  - See, e.g., Bürgy, R. (2016). *A neighborhood for complex job shop scheduling problems with regular objective*. Les Cahiers du GERAD No. G-2016-34. Montreal, Canada
  - Total comp. time 2400 sec. (600 sec. for initial solution computation)

- Comparison with straightforward MIQP
  - MIQP solves some of the smallest instances (la01-la03) to optimality
  - Poor solution quality for larger instances (la26-la40)
- Swap-based neighborhood has a quite good performance
  - (Near-) optimal results in smallest instances
  - Significant improvement of “initial solution” (up to 50%, depending on “tightness” of due dates)
- Locally-improving neighborhood
  - Quite good results in small instances, but “moves too slowly”
  - May be combined with the swap-based neighborhood (adaptive neighborhoods)

# Concluding Remarks

- Importance and difficulty of scheduling increases
  - Automated production systems (robots!)
  - Versatile machines, e.g., additive manufacturing (3D printers)
  - Mass customization (“batches of size 1”, upward shift of the order penetration point)
  - Smart Manufacturing: pushed by US government (<https://www.manufacturing.gov/>), Germany (Industry 4.0, <http://www.plattform-i40.de/>), and others
- We established general models and methods for job shop scheduling
  - First, to the best of our knowledge, considering convex tardiness, earliness, and storage costs
  - More complex process features can be considered as well
- Future work
  - Just-in-time job shop scheduling: Improve details (implementation, parameters, etc.) and use parallelization techniques
  - Apply methods to interesting problems in practice



Just-in-time schedule  
for instance la26

MERCI, THANK YOU!