



Federal Ministry
of Economics
and Technology

An Auctioning Approach to Railway Track Allocation

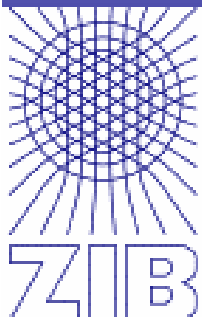
Thomas Schlechte

joint work with

Ralf Borndörfer and Martin Grötschel

16.07.2008

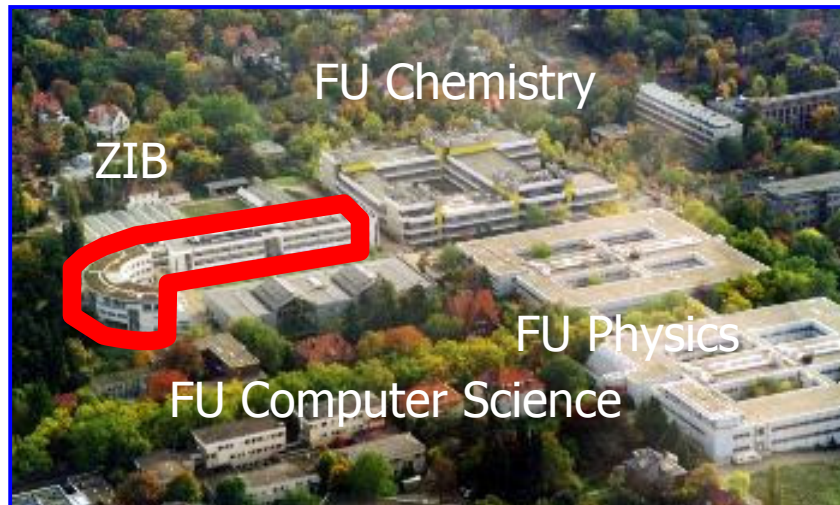
**IAROR Summer Course on Railway Timetable Optimization
2008 Delft (Netherlands)**



Thomas Schlechte ■ Zuse-Institute-Berlin Berlin (ZIB)

schlechte@zib.de <http://www.zib.de/schlechte>

Zuse-Institute-Berlin (ZIB)



Overview

1. Idea & Motivation
2. Train Timetabling Problem
3. Model and Algorithms
4. Computational Studies



Overview

1. Idea & Motivation
 1. Auction Setting
 2. Planning Process
2. Train Timetabling Problem
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4. Computational Studies



Examples

- **In ancient times ...**

- Auctions are known since 500 b.c.
- March 28, 193 a.d.: The pretorians auction the Roman Emperor's throne to Marcus Didius Severus Iulianus, who ruled as Iulianus I. for 66 days

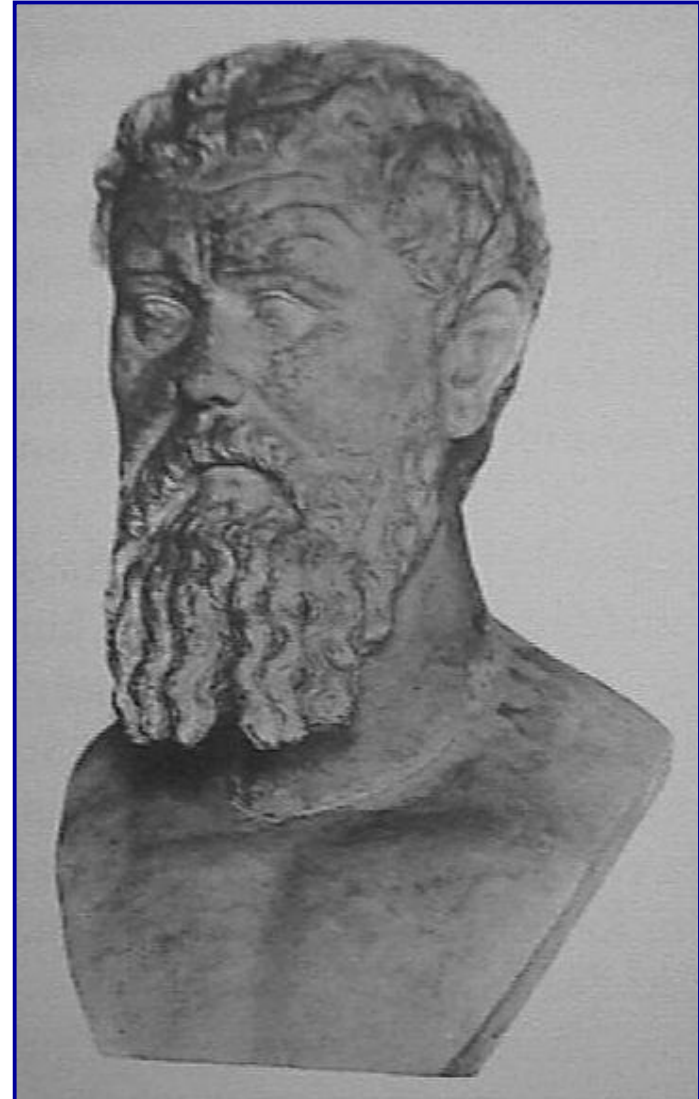


The Story of Didius Iulianus

(<http://www.roman-emperors.org/didjul.htm>)



[193 A.D., March 28] When the emperor **Pertinax** was killed trying to quell a mutiny, no accepted successor was at hand. **Pertinax's** father-in-law and urban prefect, Flavius Sulpicianus, entered the praetorian camp and tried to get the troops to proclaim him emperor, but he met with little enthusiasm. Other soldiers scoured the city seeking an alternative, but most senators shut themselves in their homes to wait out the crisis. **Didius Iulianus**, however, allowed himself to be taken to the camp, where one of the most notorious events in Roman history was about to take place. **Didius Iulianus** was prevented from entering the camp, but he began to make promises to the soldiers from outside the wall. Soon the scene became that of an auction, with Flavius Sulpicianus and **Didius Iulianus** outbidding each other in the size of their donatives to the troops. The Roman empire was for sale to the highest bidder. When Flavius Sulpicianus reached the figure of 20,000 sesterces per soldier, **Didius Iulianus** upped the bid by a whopping 5,000 sesterces, displaying his outstretched hand to indicate the amount. The empire was sold, **Didius Iulianus** was allowed into the camp and proclaimed emperor.



Arguments for Auctions

- Auctions can ...
 - resolve user conflicts in such a way that the bidder with the highest willingness to pay receives the commodity (efficient allocation, welfare maximization)
 - maximize the auctioneer's earnings
 - reveal the bidders' willingness to pay
 - reveal bottlenecks and the added value if they are removed
- Economists argue ...
 - that a "working auctioning system" is usually superior to alternative methods such as bargaining, fixed prices, etc.



Ebay



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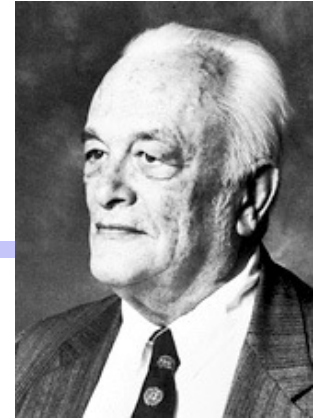
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Thomas
Schlechte

William Vickrey (1914-96)



William Vickrey invented this auction design. As in any auction the bidder with the highest value gets the surcharge, but he has only to **pay the value of the second best** (second-price-auction).

The advantage of this auction is that **truthful bidding is a dominant strategy** for all bidders.

That means gambling makes no sense in contrast to a first price auction and therefore all bidders would prefer to bid **equal to their willingness to pay**.

The submission of the bids is often sealed and performed as a **one shot auction**.



Game Theory

- Game (N, S, a)
 - $N = \{1, \dots, n\}$ player
 - $S = \{(s_1, \dots, s_n)\}$ strategies
 - $a: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ payoff
- Non-cooperative games
 - Dominance
 - (Nash-)Equilibrium $\hat{s}$

$$a_i(\hat{s}_1, \dots, s_i, \dots, \hat{s}_n) \leq a_i(\hat{s}_1, \dots, \hat{s}_n) \quad \forall i$$
 (i.g. no existence/uniqueness)
 - Matrix games: saddle point, minimax
- **Theorem (Nash):** Every finite non-cooperative n-person game has at least one equilibrium of mixed strategies.
- **Theorem (Nikaido, Isoda):** Generalization to auction frameworks.
- Cooperative games
 - Imputation (payoff to members of a coalition)
 - Concepts such as core, stable set, bargaining set, kernel, nucleolus, etc.

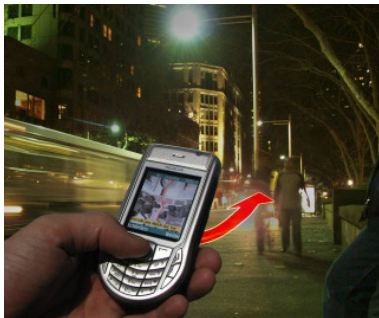


Combinatorial Auction - Easy Example

UMTS Frequencies ?



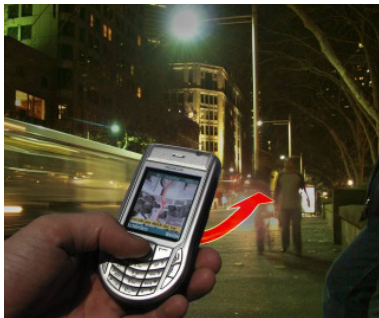
Frequency Auction



Frequency / Bidder	A	B	A and B
WodaPhon	10	10	10
Thelekom	20	20	20
F-Plus	0	0	24

Frequency Auction

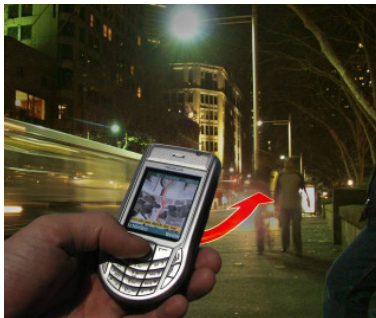
Winner



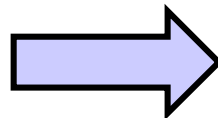
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Winner



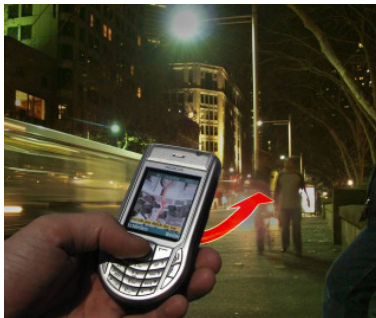
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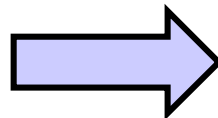
Vickrey-price for WodaPhon is $24 - (30 - 10) = 4$

Frequency Auction

Winner



Frequency / Bidder	A	B	A and B
WodaPhon	10	10	10
Thelekom	20	20	20
F-Plus	0	0	24



Vickrey-price for Thelekom is $24 - (30 - 20) = 14$

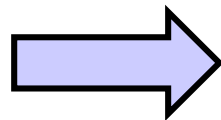
„Collusion“

Frequency / Bidder	A	B	A and B
WodaPhon	10	10	10
Thelekom	20	20	20
F-Plus	0	0	24



„Collusion“

Frequency / Bidder	A	B	A and B
WodaPhon	0	24	0
Thelekom	24	0	0
F-Plus	0	0	24



All vickrey-prices are 0
(= $24 - (48 - 24)$) !

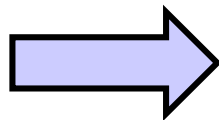


„Shill-bidding“

Frequency / Bidder	A	B	A and B
WodaPhon	10	10	10
Thelekom	20	20	20
F-Plus	0	0	24

„Shill-bidding“

Frequency / Bidder	A	B	A and B
WodaPhon	10	10	10
Thelekom	20	20	20
F-Plus	0	0	30



Vickrey-prices are maximal
(WodaPhon 10 and Thelekom 20)



Combinatorial Auction

- Combinatorial Auction Problem (CAP)
 - M objects, N bidders, $b^j(S)$ bid by j for $S \subseteq M$
 - $y(S,j)$ 0/1-variable for giving S to j

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & \sum_{S \subseteq M} \sum_{j \in N} b^j(S) y(S, j) \\
 \sum_{S \ni i} \sum_{j \in N} y(S, j) & \leq 1 \quad \forall i \in M \\
 y(S, j) & \in \{0,1\} \quad \forall S \subseteq M, j \in N
 \end{aligned}$$

- Set Packing Problem
- Auction framework



Vickrey Auction

(Nobel price in Economics 1996)

- Combinatorial auction

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(N, b) &:= \max \sum_{S \subseteq M} \sum_{j \in N} b^j(S) y(S, j) \\
 \sum_{S \ni i} \sum_{j \in N} y(S, j) &\leq 1 \quad \forall i \in M \\
 y(S, j) &\in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall S \subseteq M, j \in N
 \end{aligned}$$

- Private values v_j
- Mechanism
 - Bids $b_j = v_j$
 - Payments

$$z_j = E(N \setminus j, v) - E(N, v) | N \setminus j$$



Auctions

- **Commodities/Bids**
 - Independent commodities (classical auction)/ commodity bundles (combinatorial auction)
 - Combinatorial bids (and/or/xor)
- **Bidders**
 - Cooperation forbidden/ cooperation allowed
- **Payment**
 - First price/second price (Vickrey) auction
- **Information**
 - Private Values/Common Values (winner's curse)
 - Sealed Bid/Open Bid
- **Mechanism**
 - English auction/dutch auction
 - Increment/number of rounds
 - Activity rules/taking bids back
 - Direct bidding/clock/proxy auction

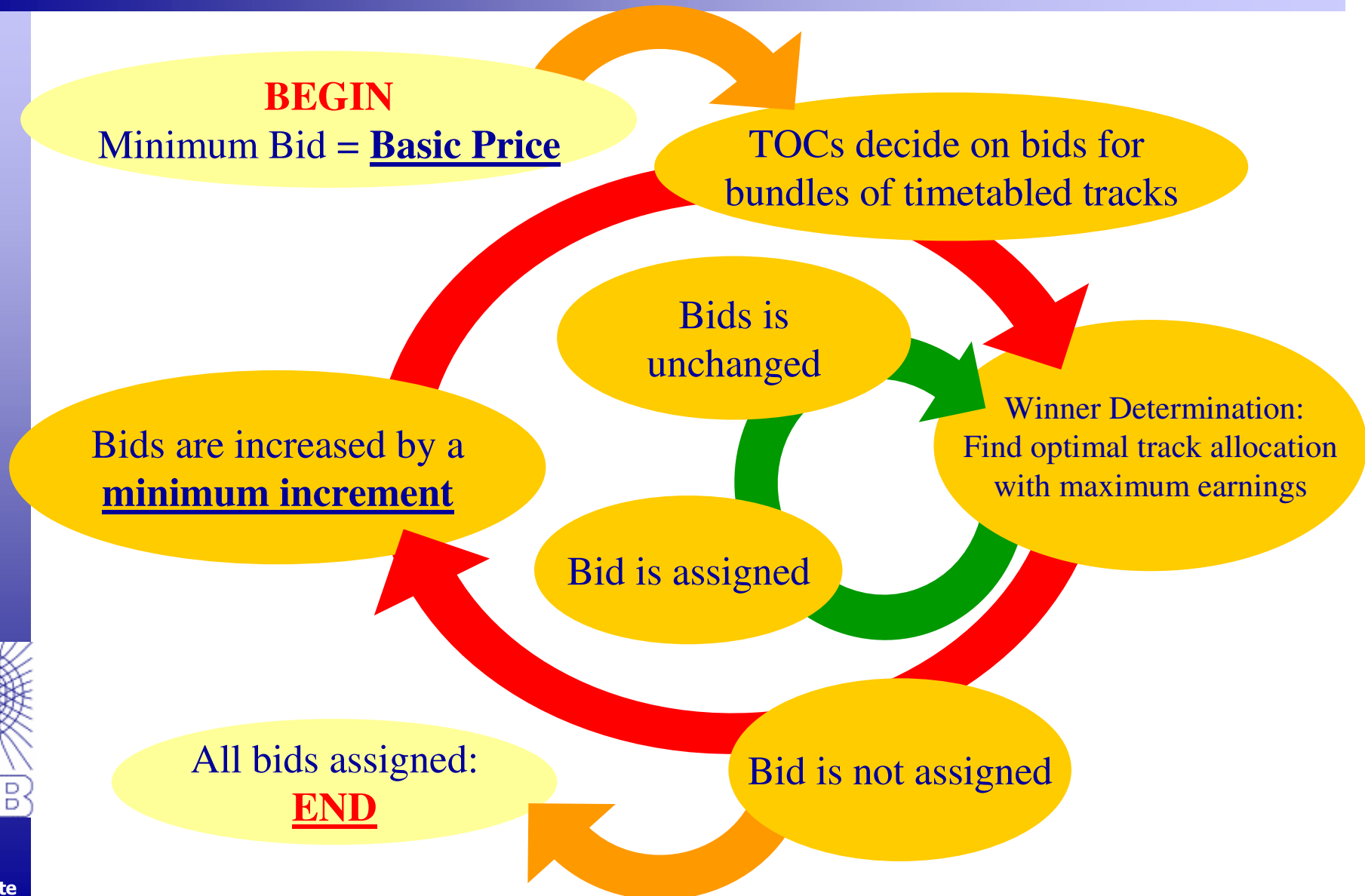


Rail Track Auctioning

- Goals
 - More traffic at lower cost
 - Better service
- How do you measure?
 - Possible answer: in terms of willingness to pay
- What is the "commodity" of this market?
 - Possible answer: timetabled track
= dedicated, timetabled track section
- How does the market work?
 - Possible answer: by auctioning timetabled tracks
- Auctions can be in-company auctions



Rail Track Auction



Sears, Roebuck & Co.

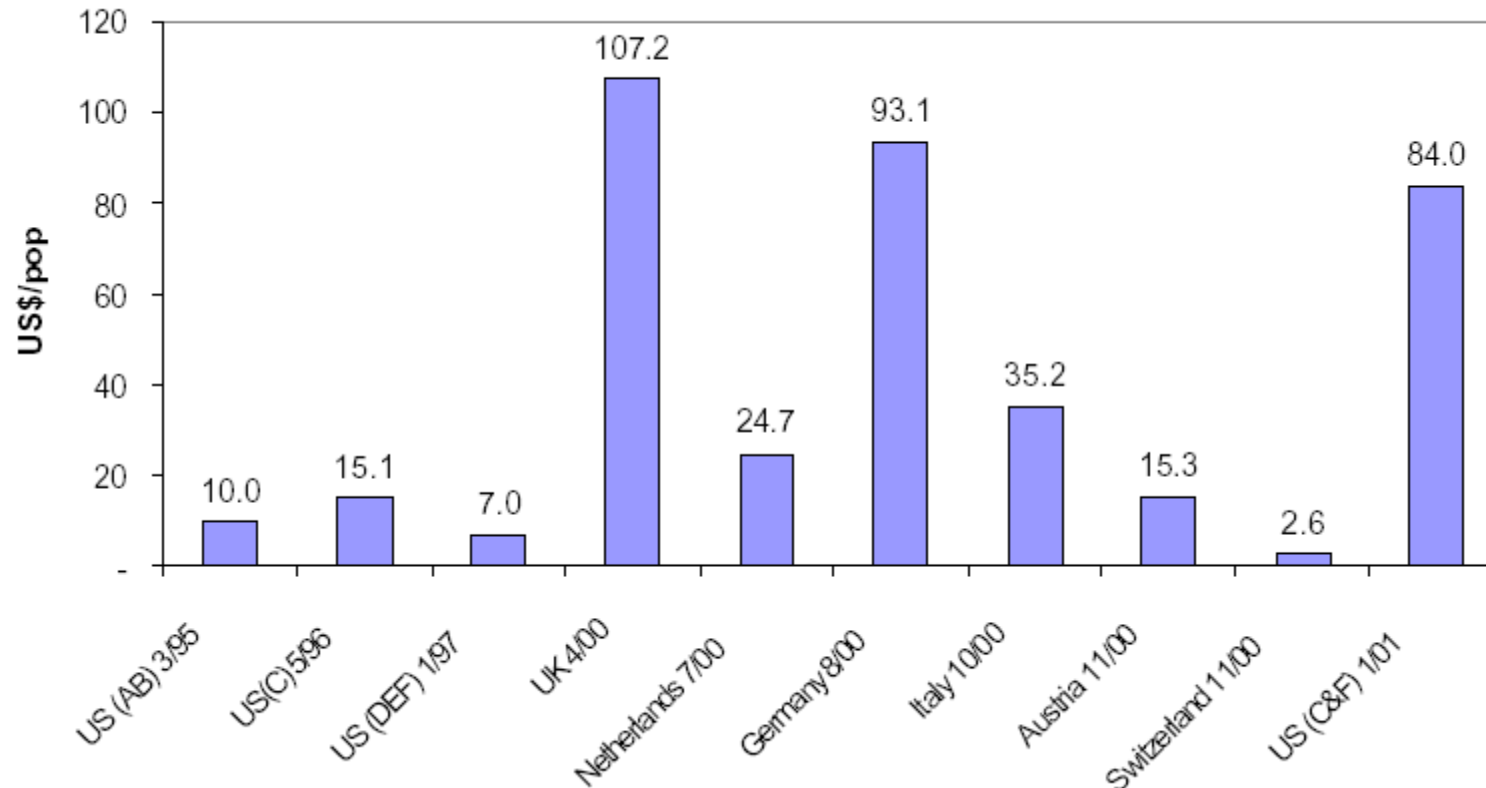


- 3-year contracts for transports on dedicated routes
- First auction in 1994 with 854 contracts
- Combinatorial auction
 - „And-“ and „or-“ bids allowed
 - 2^{854} ($\approx 10^{257}$) theoretically possible combinations
 - Sequential auction (5 rounds, 1 month between rounds)
- Results
 - 13% cost reduction
 - Extension to 1.400 contracts (14% cost reduction)



Frequency Auctions

(Cramton 2001, Spectrum Auctions, *Handbook of Telecommunications Economics*)



- Prices for mobile telecommunication frequencies (2x10 MHz+5MHz)
- Low earnings are not per se inefficient
- Only min. prices => insufficient cost recovery

Overview

1. Idea & Motivation

1. Auction Setting
2. Planning Process

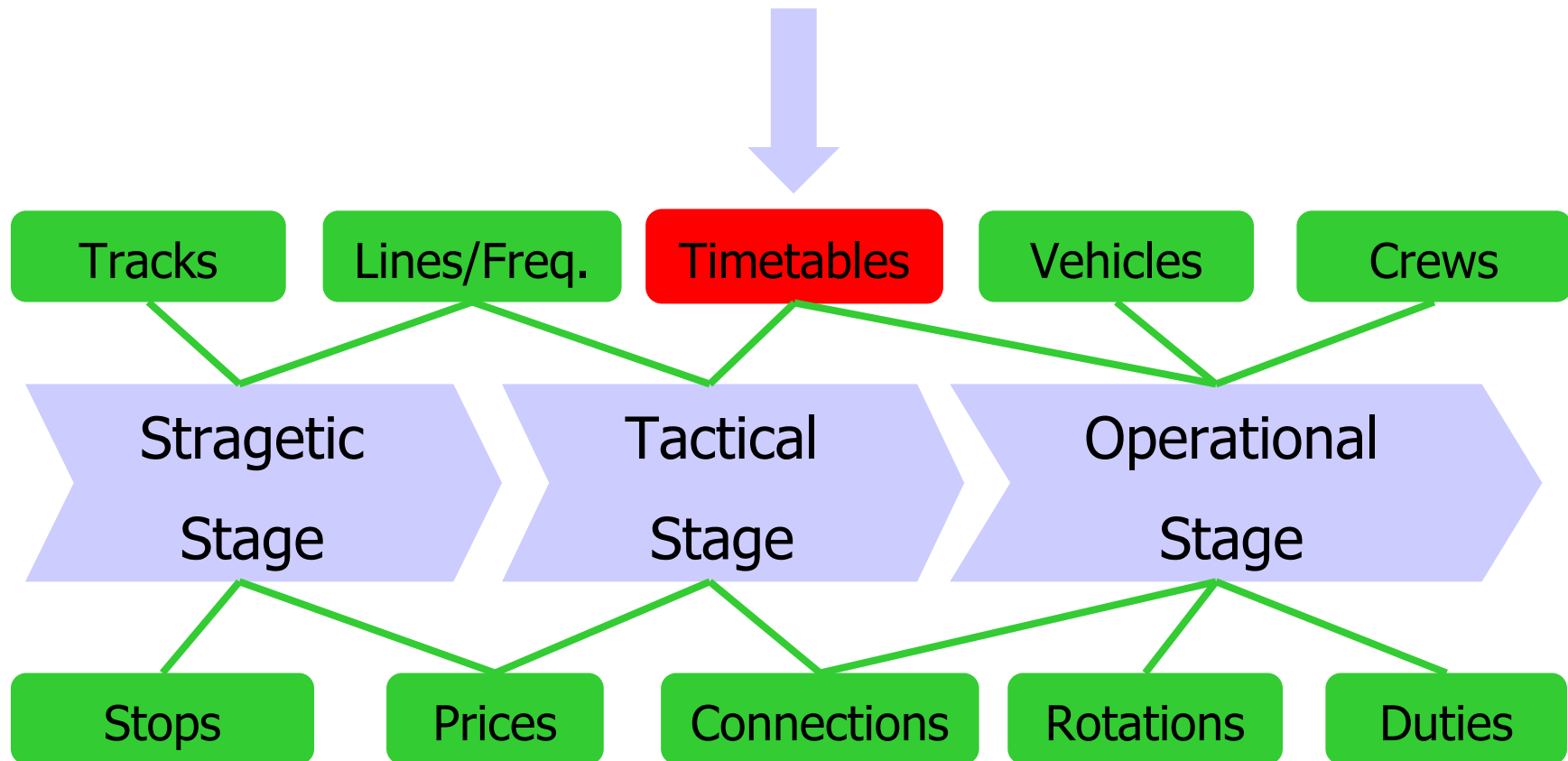
2. Train Timetabling Problem

3. Model and Algorithms

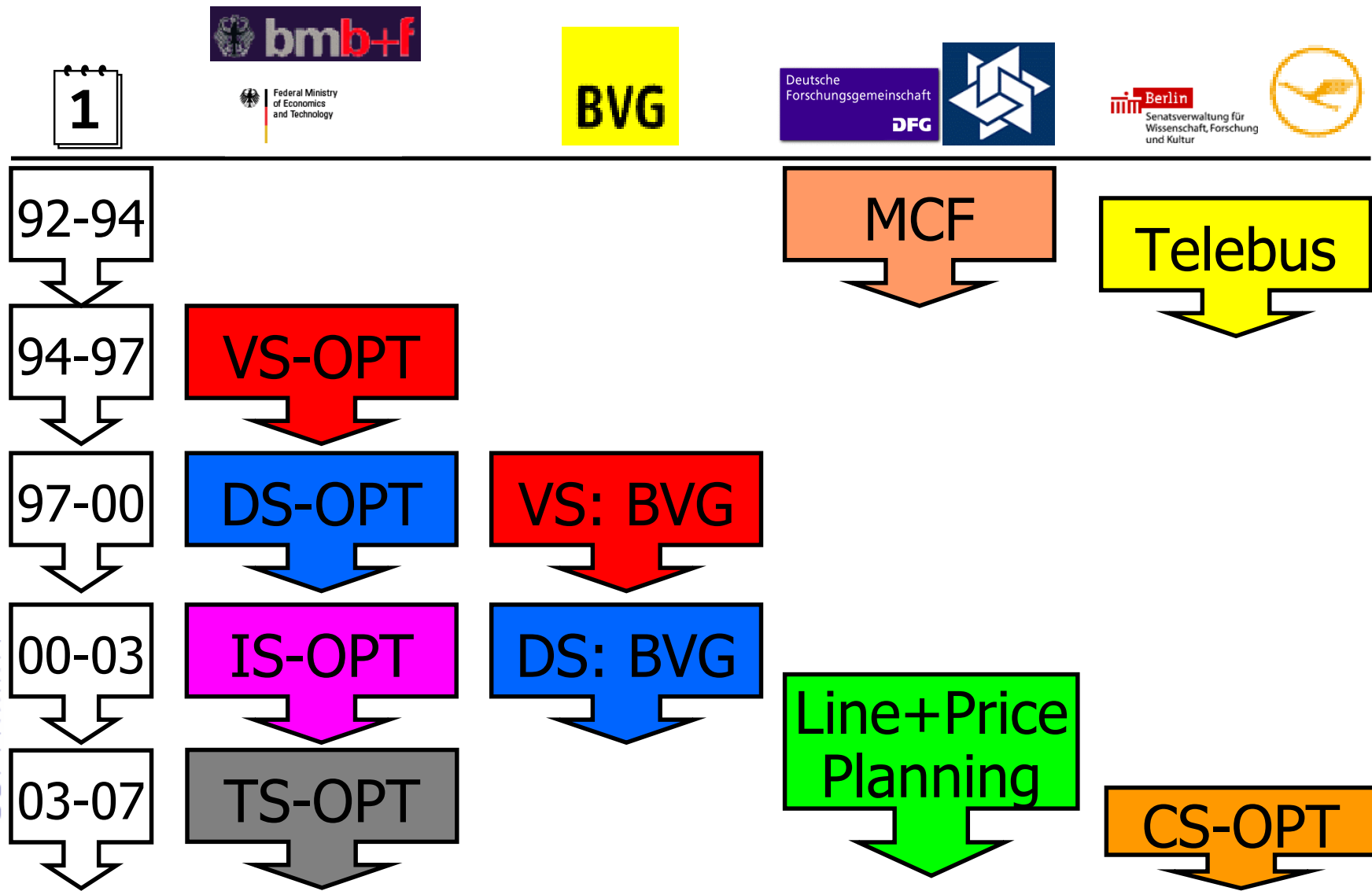
4. Computational Studies



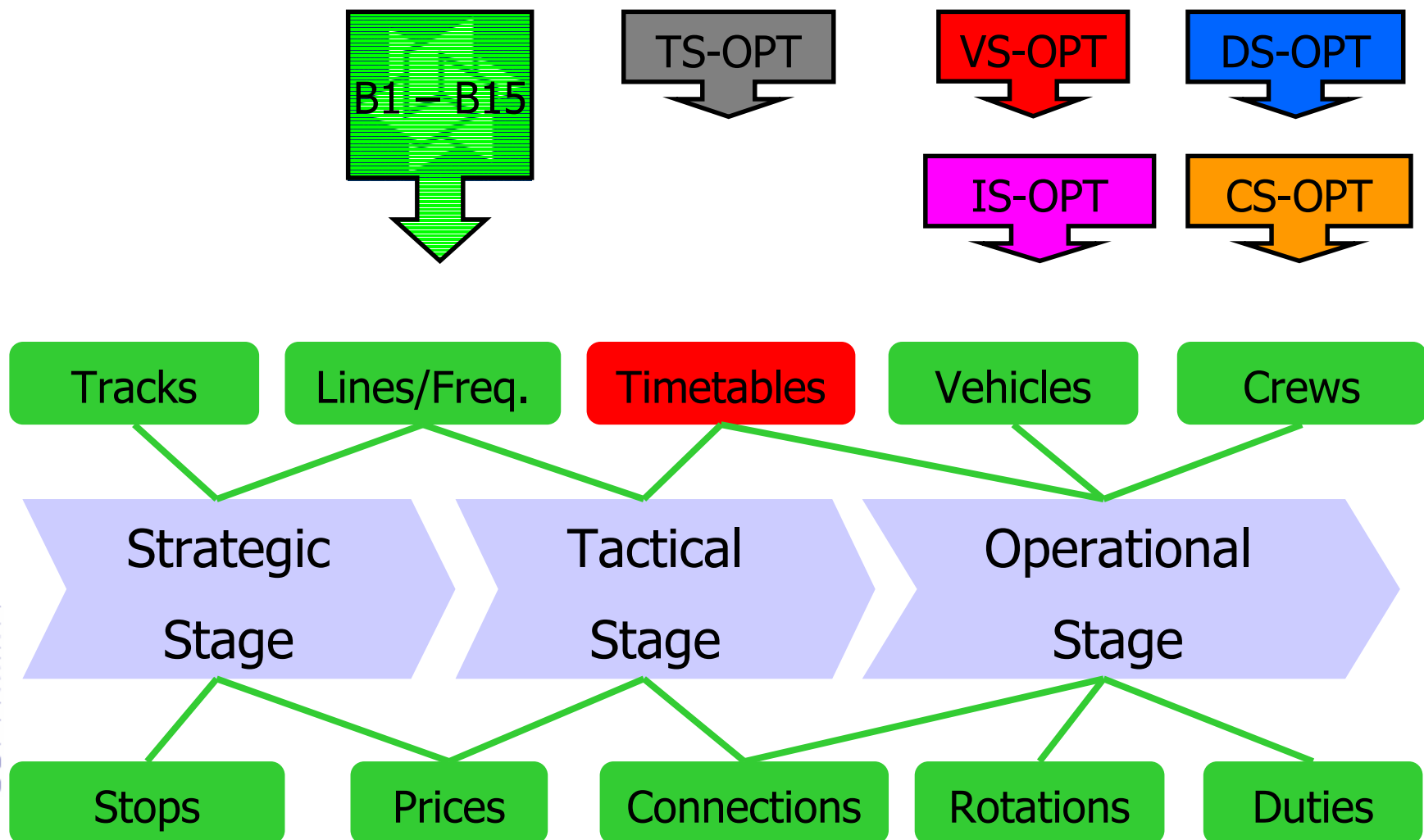
Planning in Public Transport



Traffic Projects @ ZIB



Planning in Public Transport



Overview

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Overview

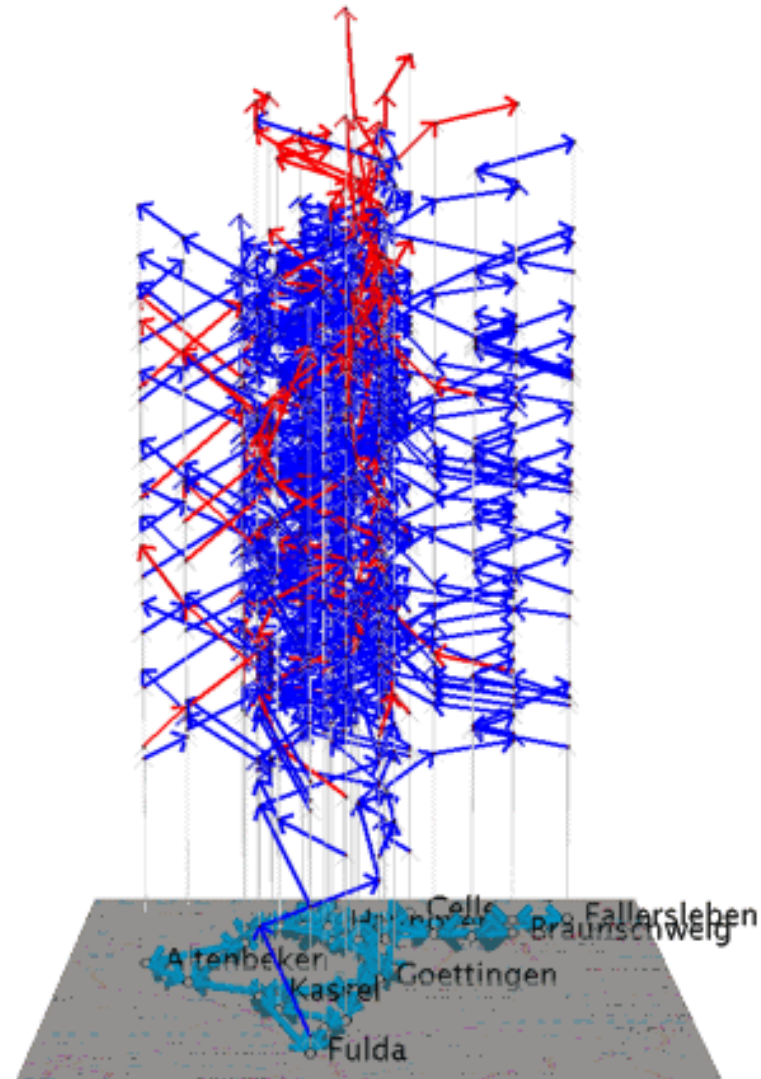
1. Idea & Motivation
2. Train Timetabling Problem
 1. Problem Definition
 2. Complexity Issues
 3. Standardization
3. Models and Algorithms
4. Computational Studies



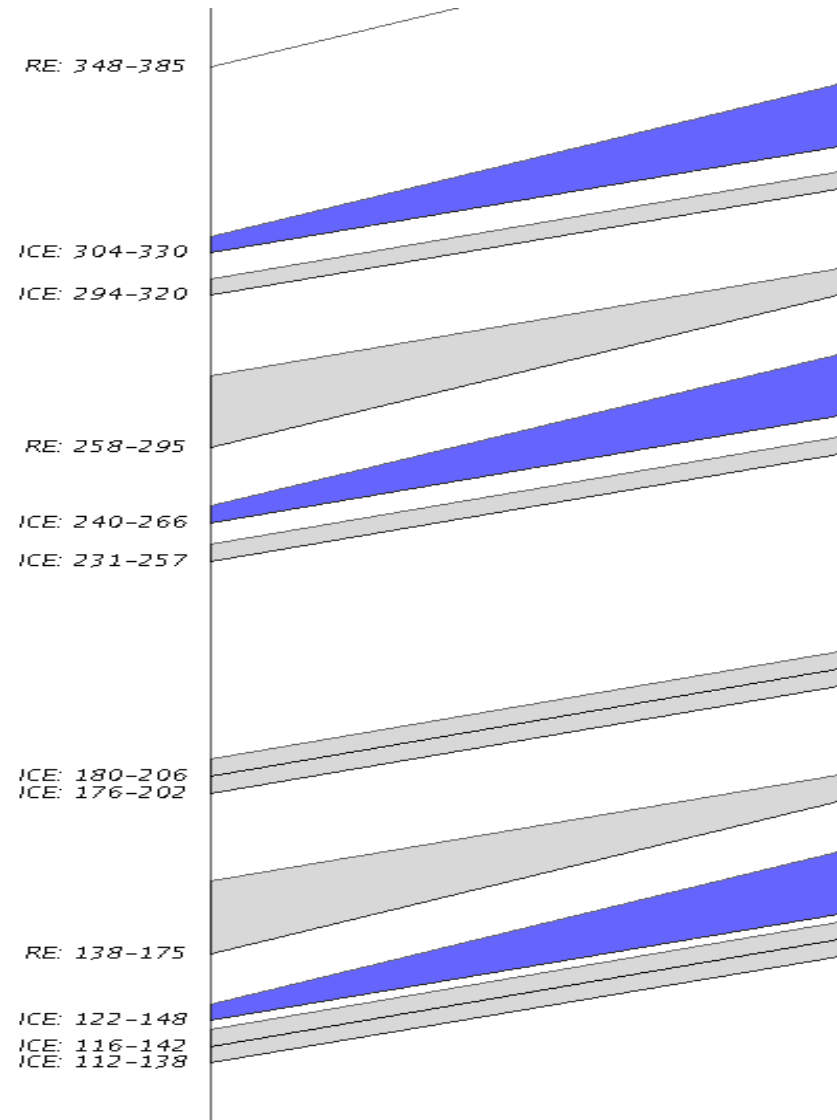
The Problem (TraVis by M.Kinder)



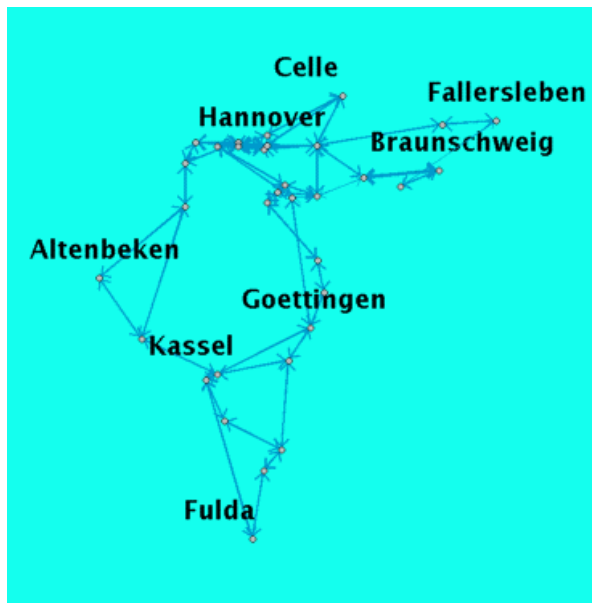
Schedule in 3d



Conflict-Free-Allocation



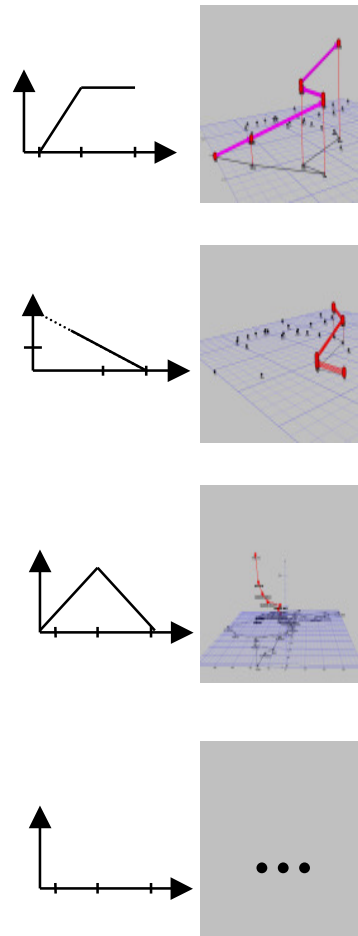
Railway Timetabling – State of the Art



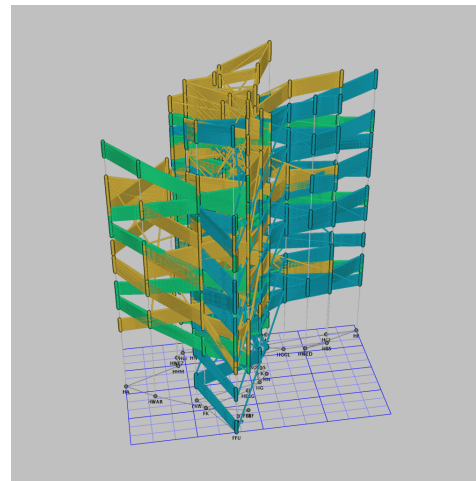
- Charnes and Miller (1956), Szpigel (1973), Jovanovic and Harker (1991),
- Cai and Goh (1994), Schrijver and Steenbeck (1994), Carey and Lockwood (1995)
- Nachtigall and Voget (1996), Odijk (1996) Higgings, Kozan and Ferreira (1997)
- **Brannlund, Lindberg, Nou, Nilsson (1998)**, Lindner (2000), Oliveira and Smith (2000)
- **Caprara, Fischetti and Toth (2002)**, Peeters (2003)
- Kroon and Peeters (2003), Mistry and Kwan (2004)
- Barber, Salido, Ingolotti, Abril, Lova, Tormas (2004)
- Semet and Schoenauer (2005),
- **Caprara, Monaci, Toth and Guida (2005)**
- Kroon, Dekker and Vromans (2005),
- Vansteenwegen and Van Oudheusden (2006),
- **Cacchiani, Caprara, T. (2006), Cachhiani (2007)**
- Caprara, Kroon, Monaci, Peeters, Toth (2006)
- **Borndorfer, Schlechte (2007)**

non-cyclic timetabling literature

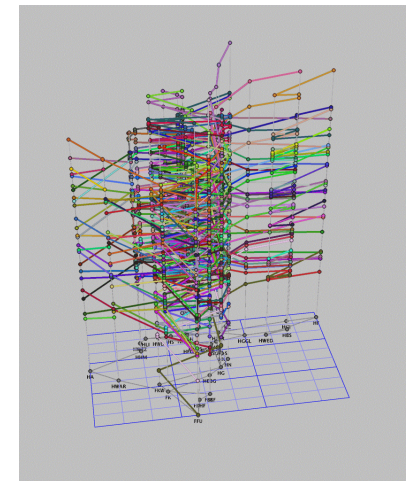
Track Allocation Problem



Train Requests



Scheduling Digraph



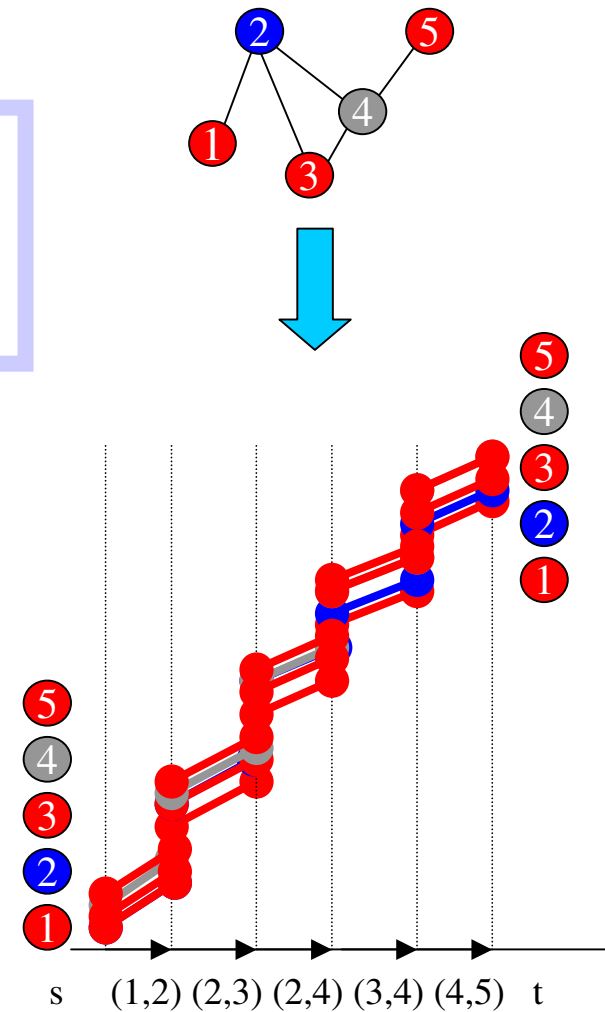
Timetable

Complexity

Proposition [Caprara, Fischetti, Toth (02)]:
OPTRA/TTP is $\mathcal{NP}$ -hard.

Proof:

Reduction from Independent-Set.

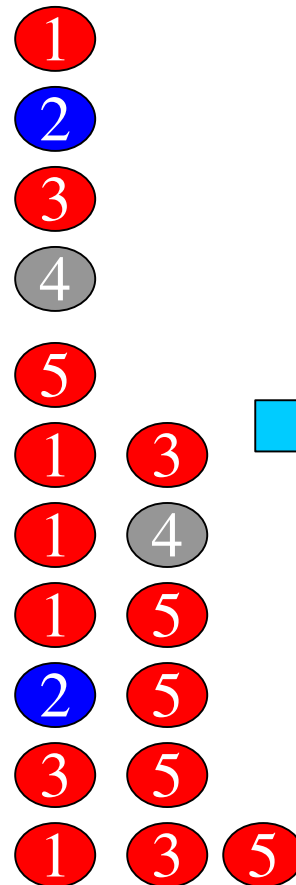
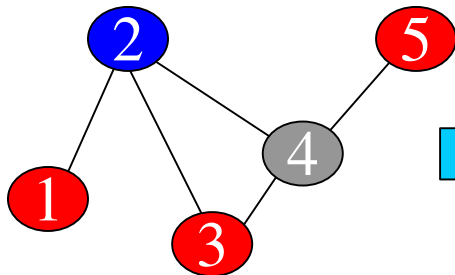


Independent/Stable Set Problem

$$S \subseteq 2^V$$

$$s \in S \Leftrightarrow \forall u, v \in s : (u, v) \notin E$$

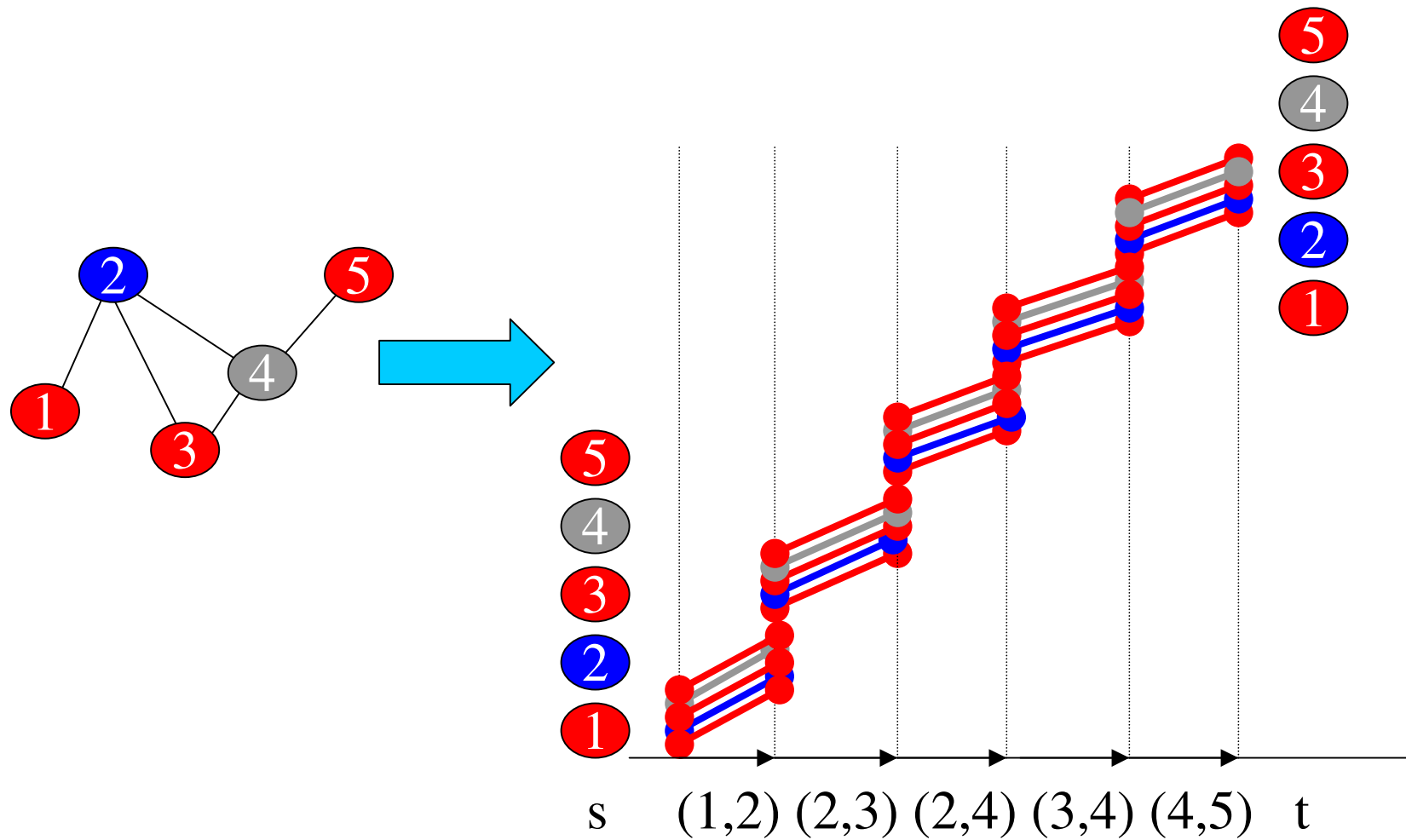
$G = (V, E)$



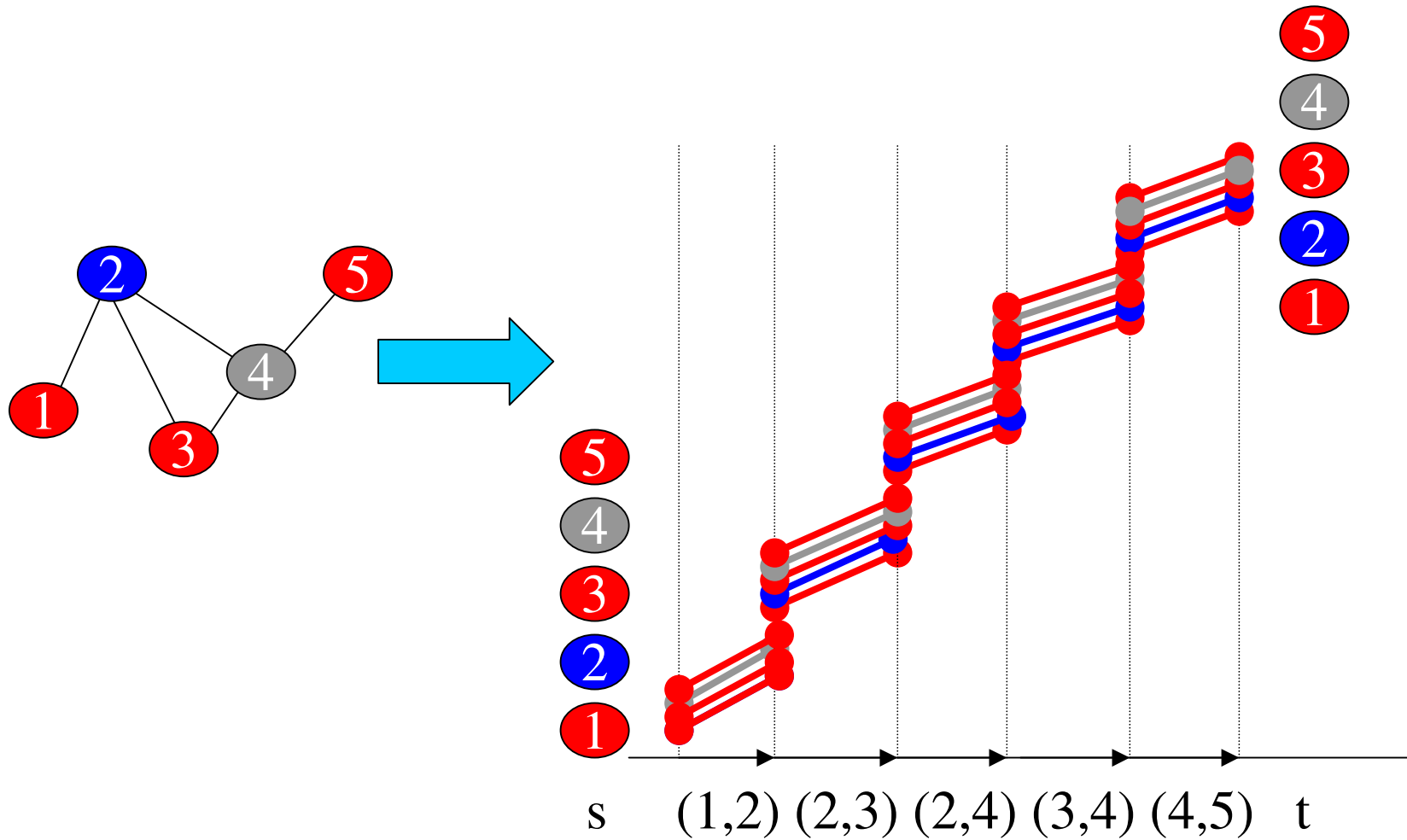
$\max_{s \in S} |s|$



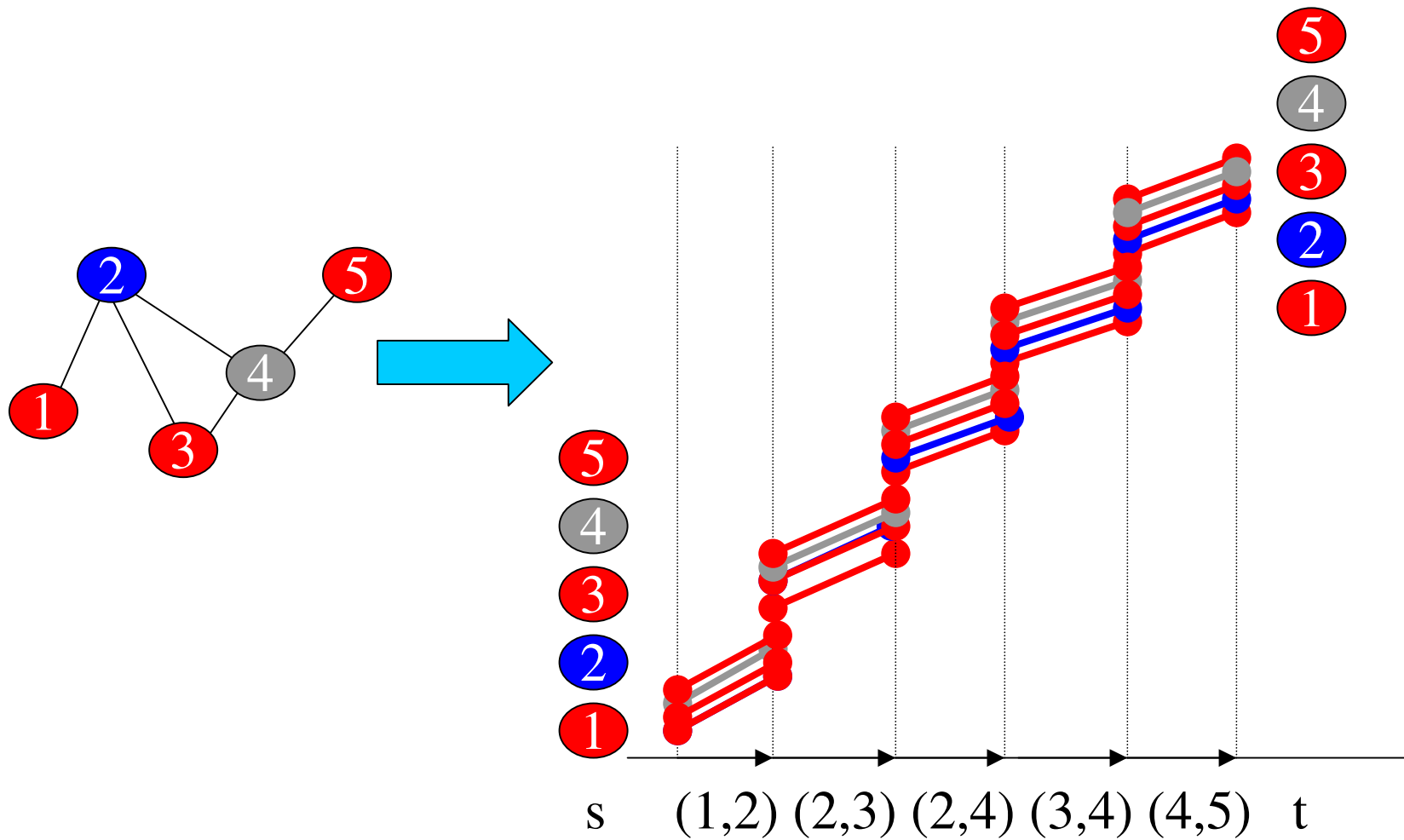
Polynomial Reduction



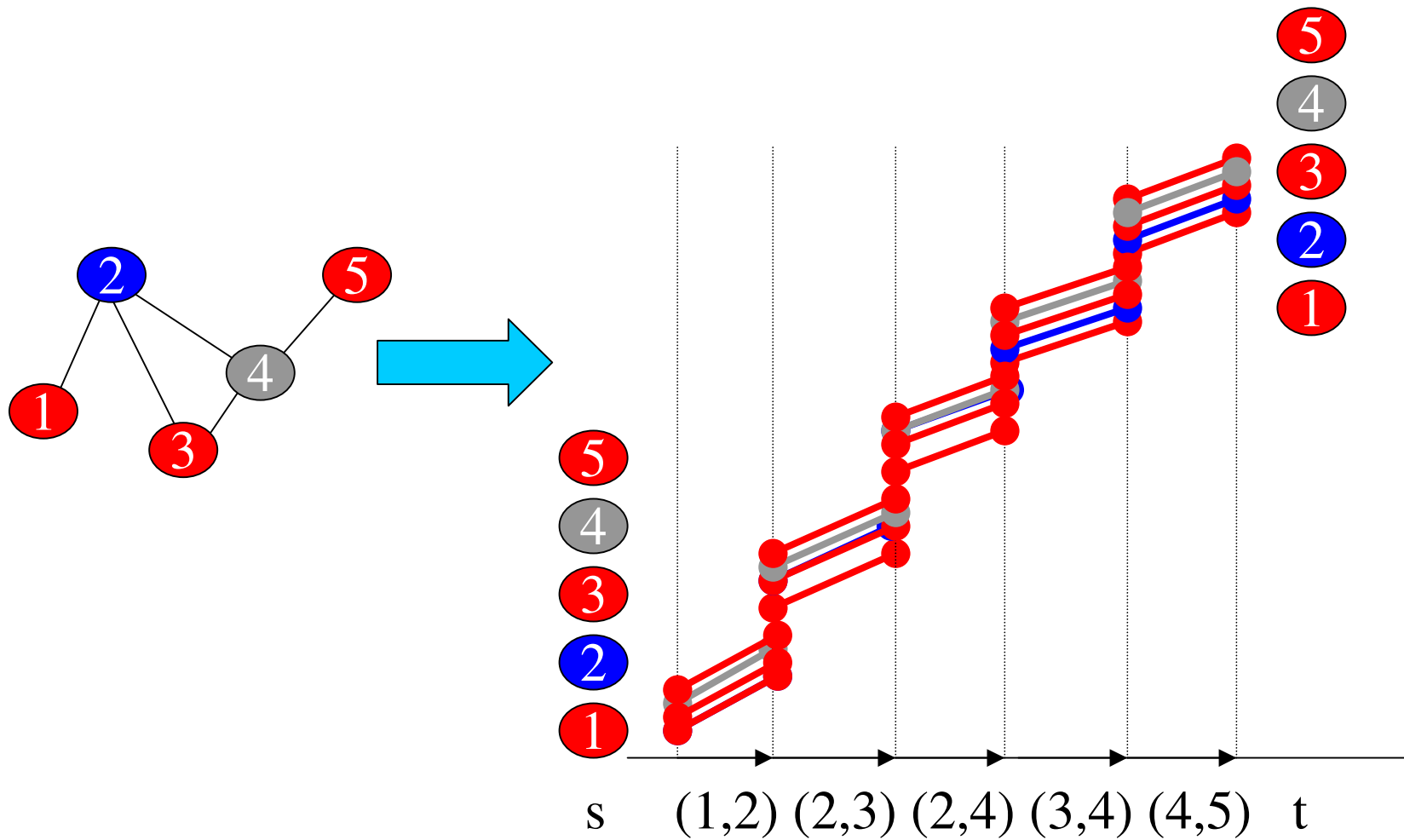
Conflict (1,2)



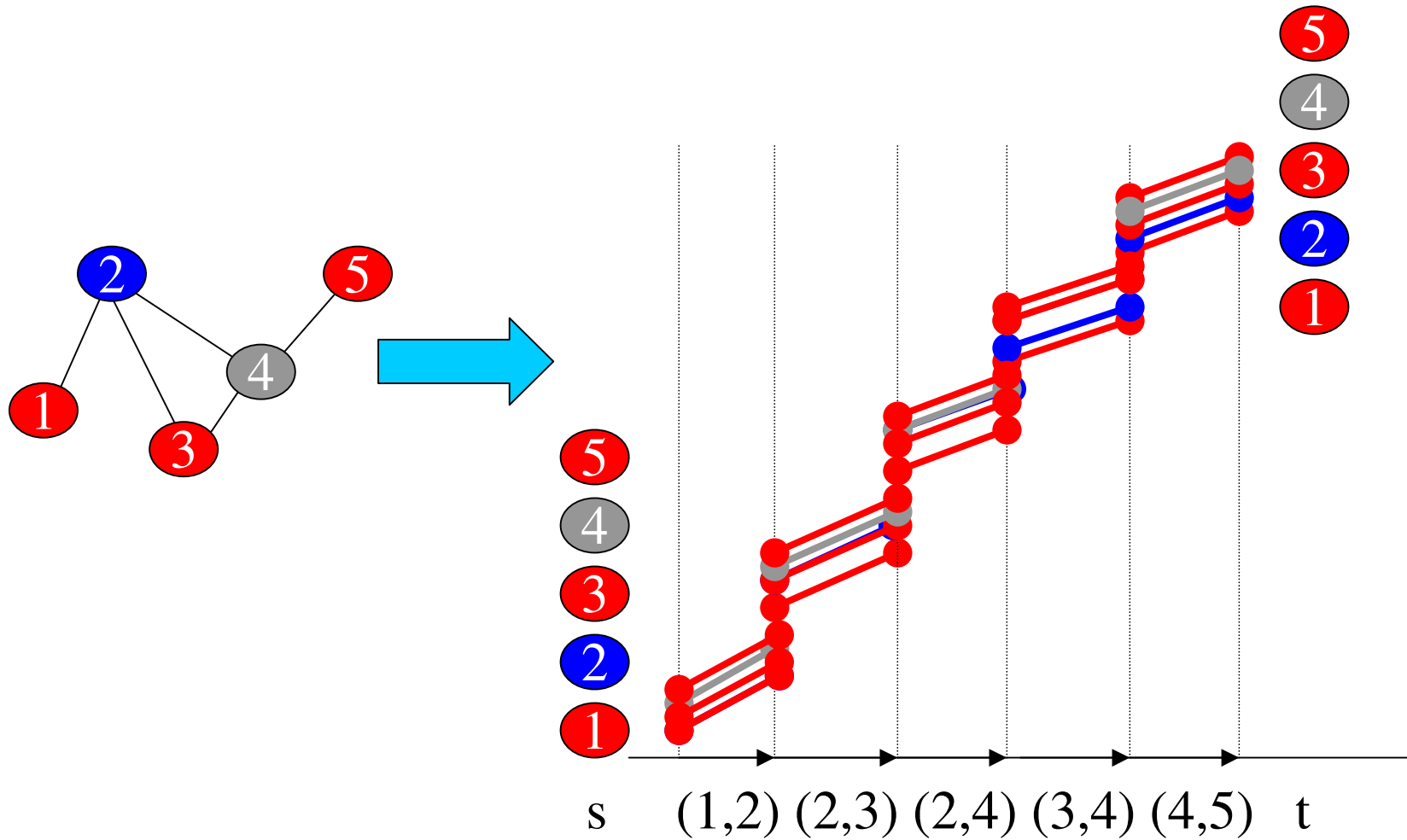
Conflict (2,3)



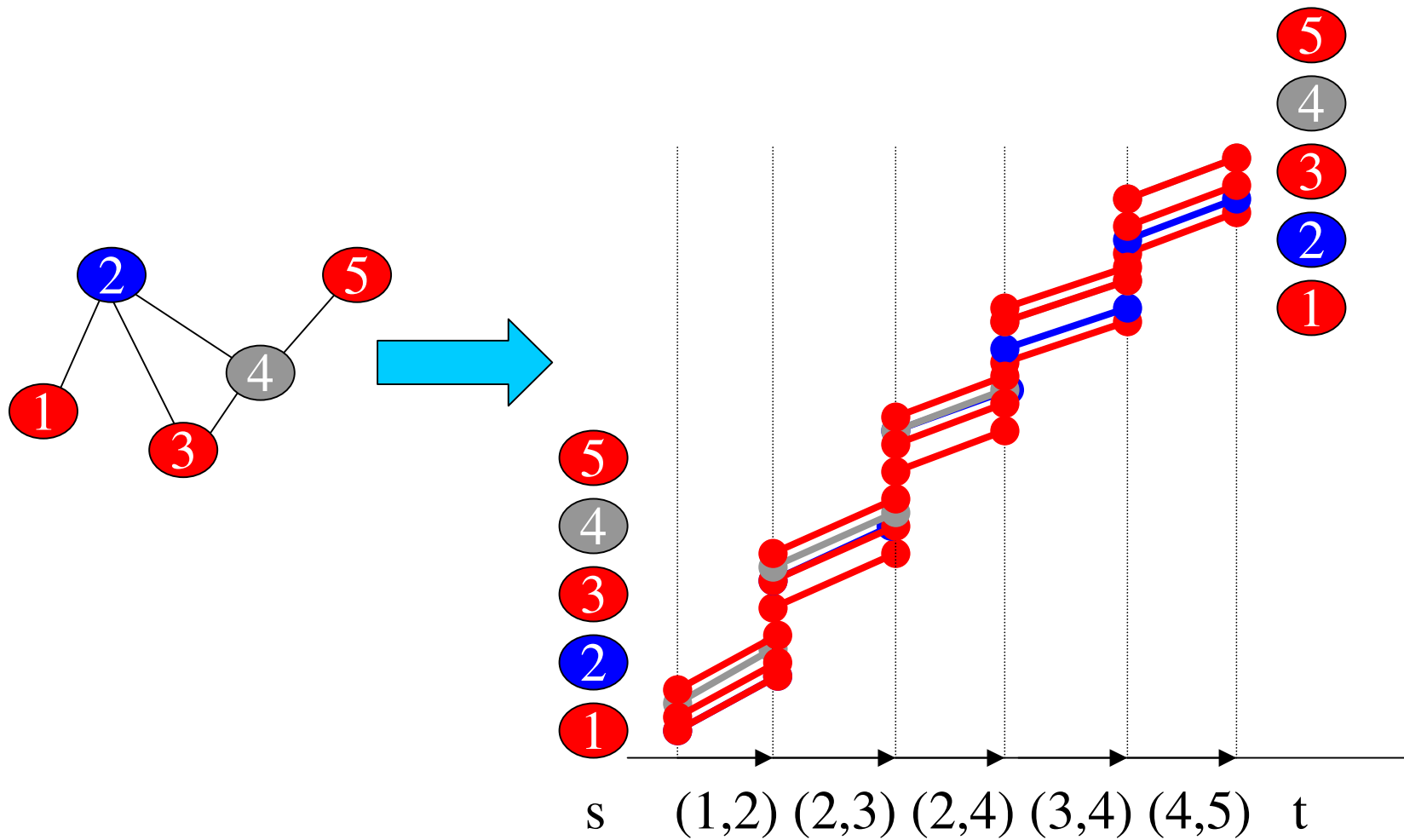
Conflict (2,4)



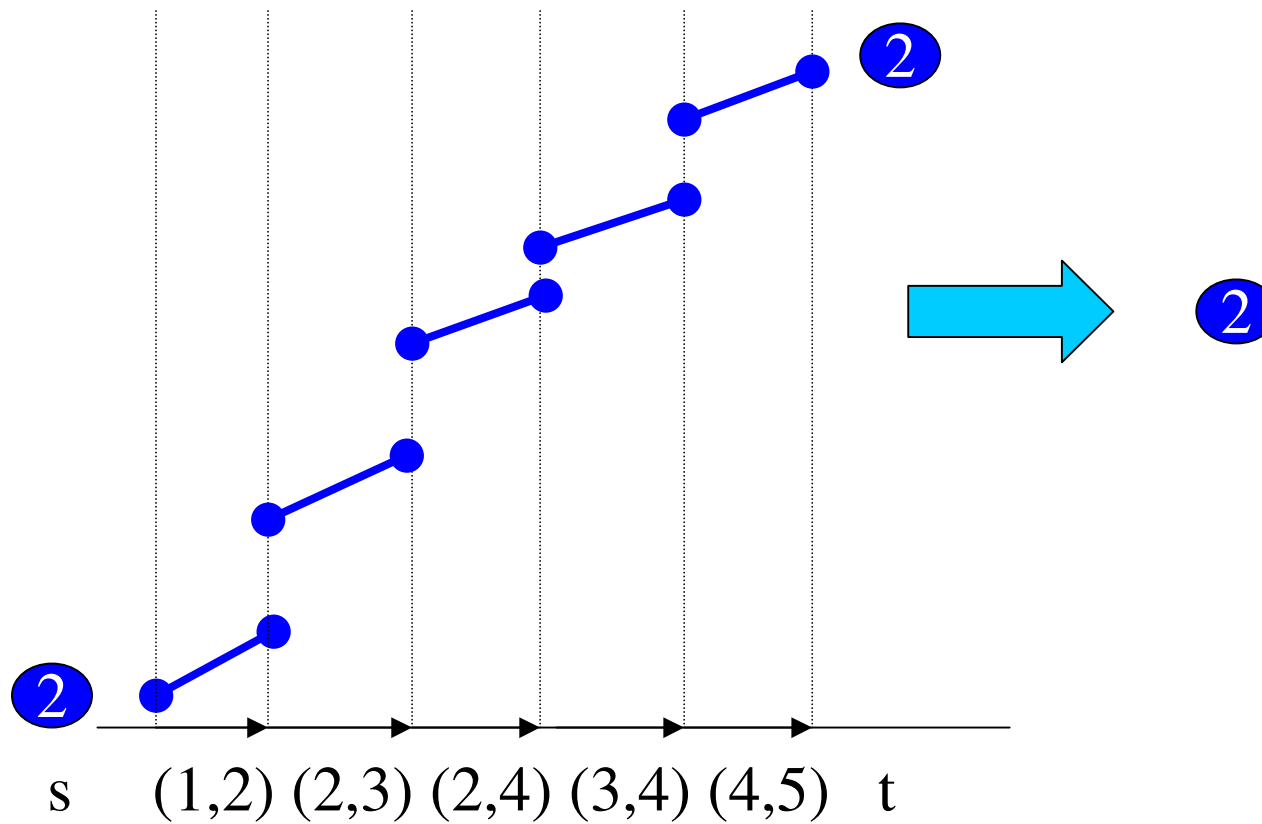
Conflict (3,4)



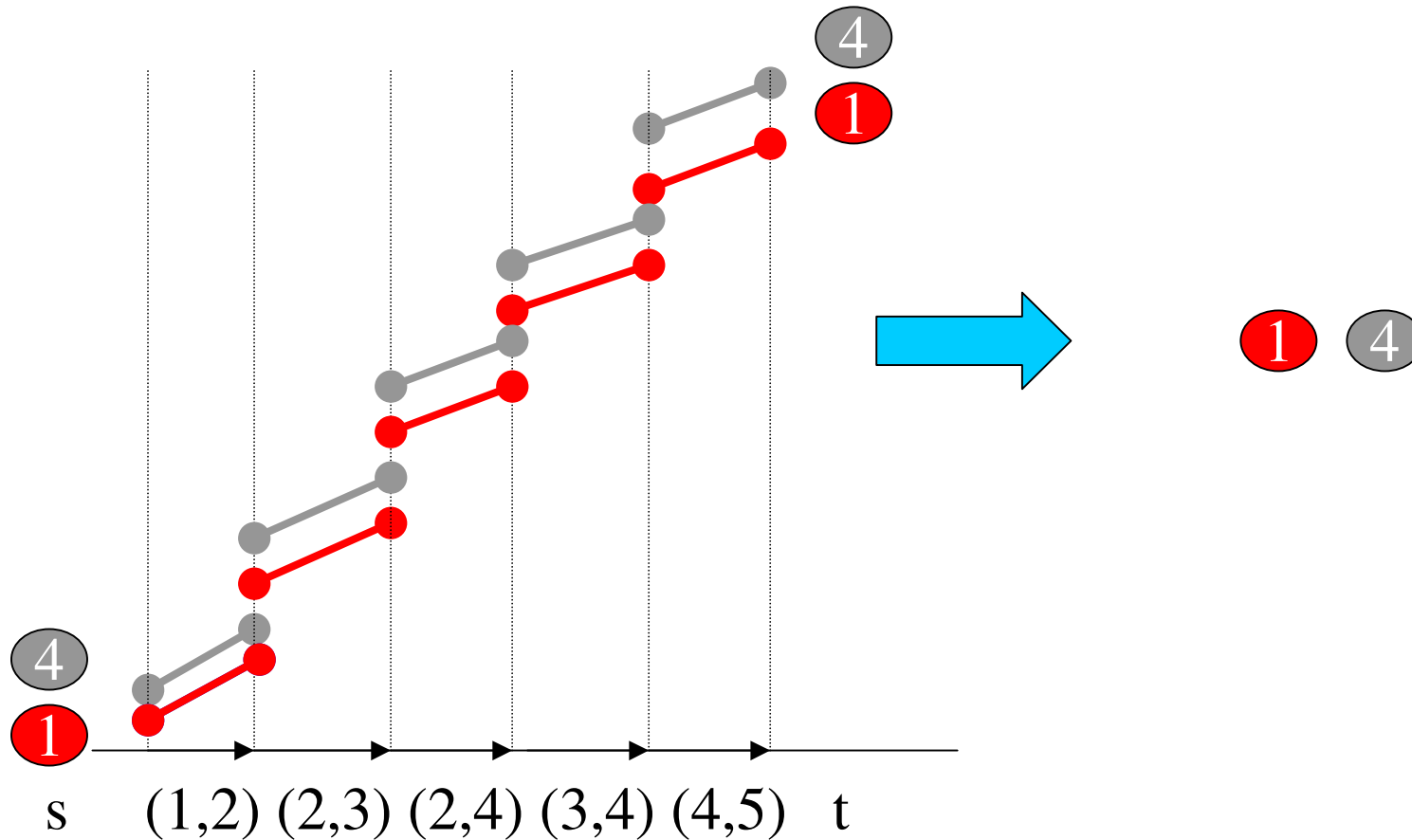
Conflict (4,5)



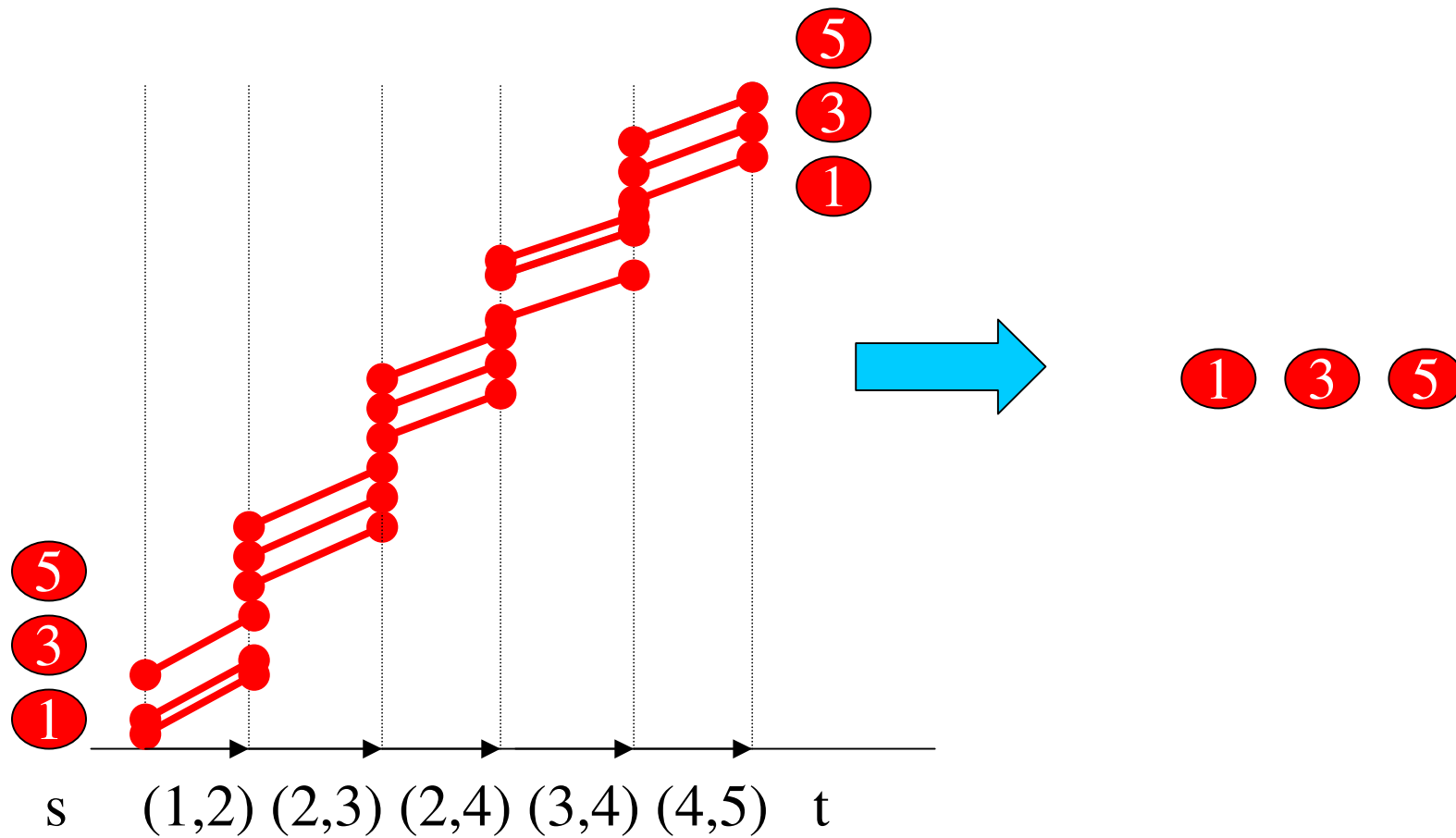
Feasible Train Set $\Leftrightarrow$ Stable Set



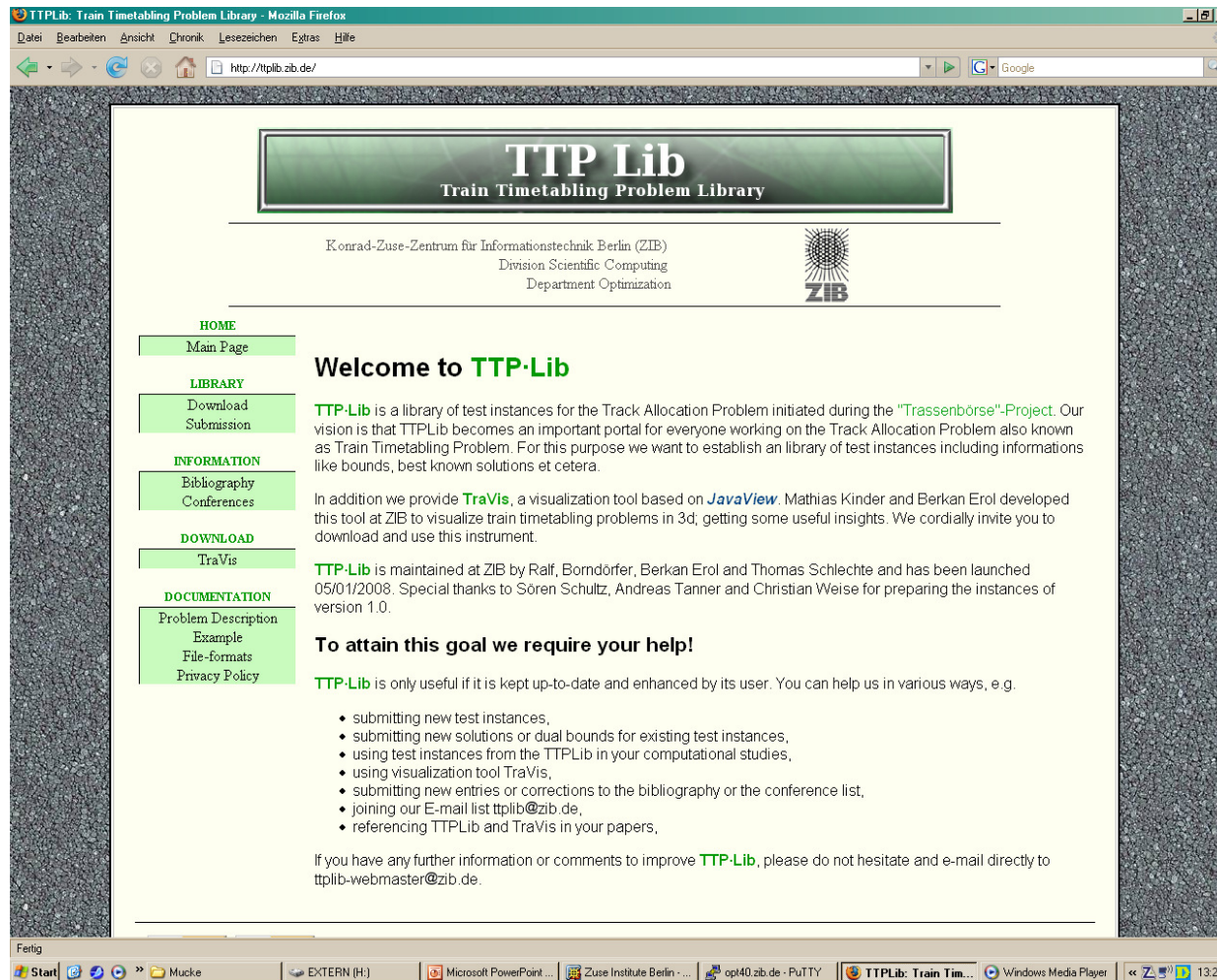
Feasible Train Set $\Leftrightarrow$ Stable Set



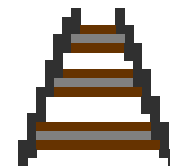
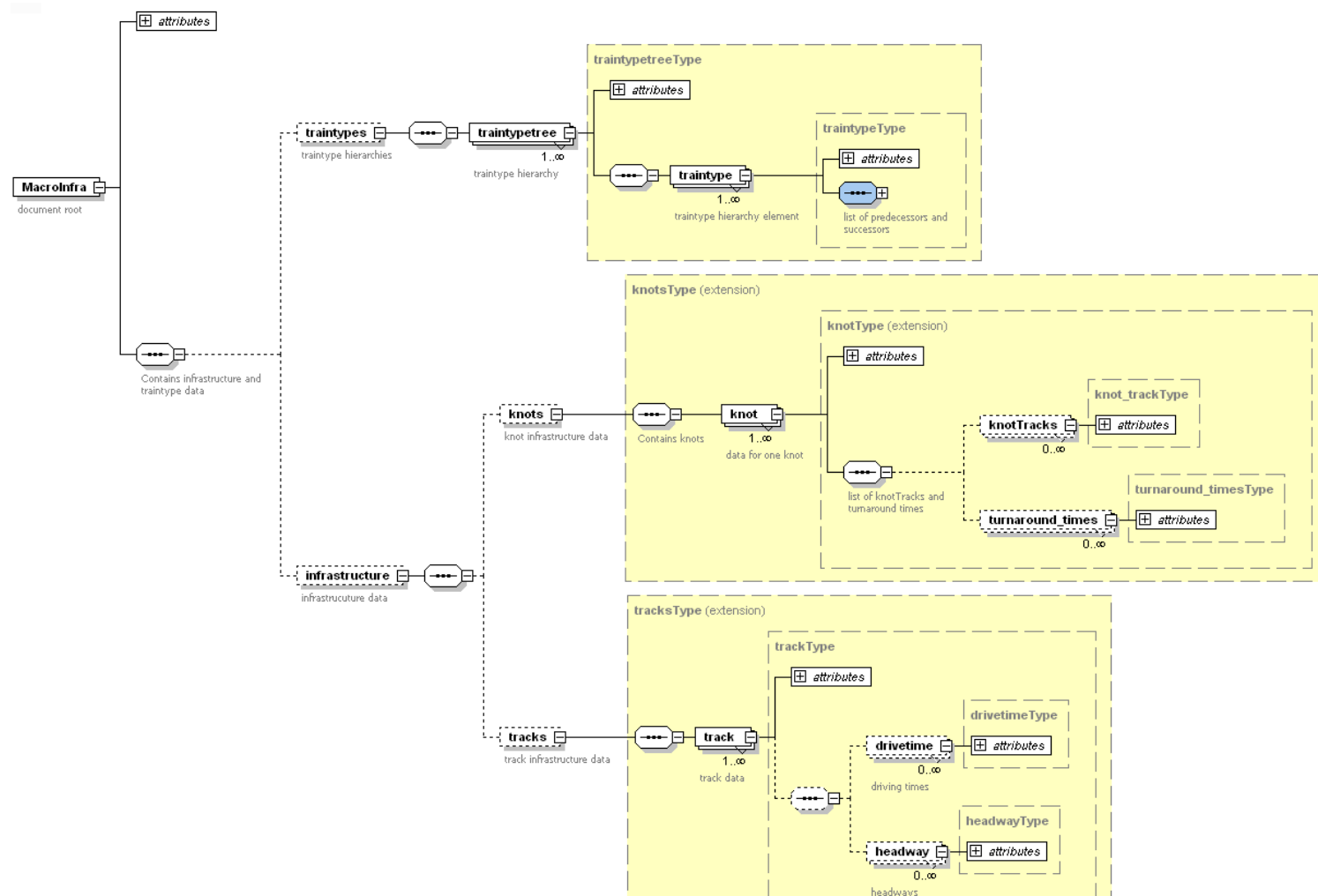
Feasible Train Set $\Leftrightarrow$ Stable Set



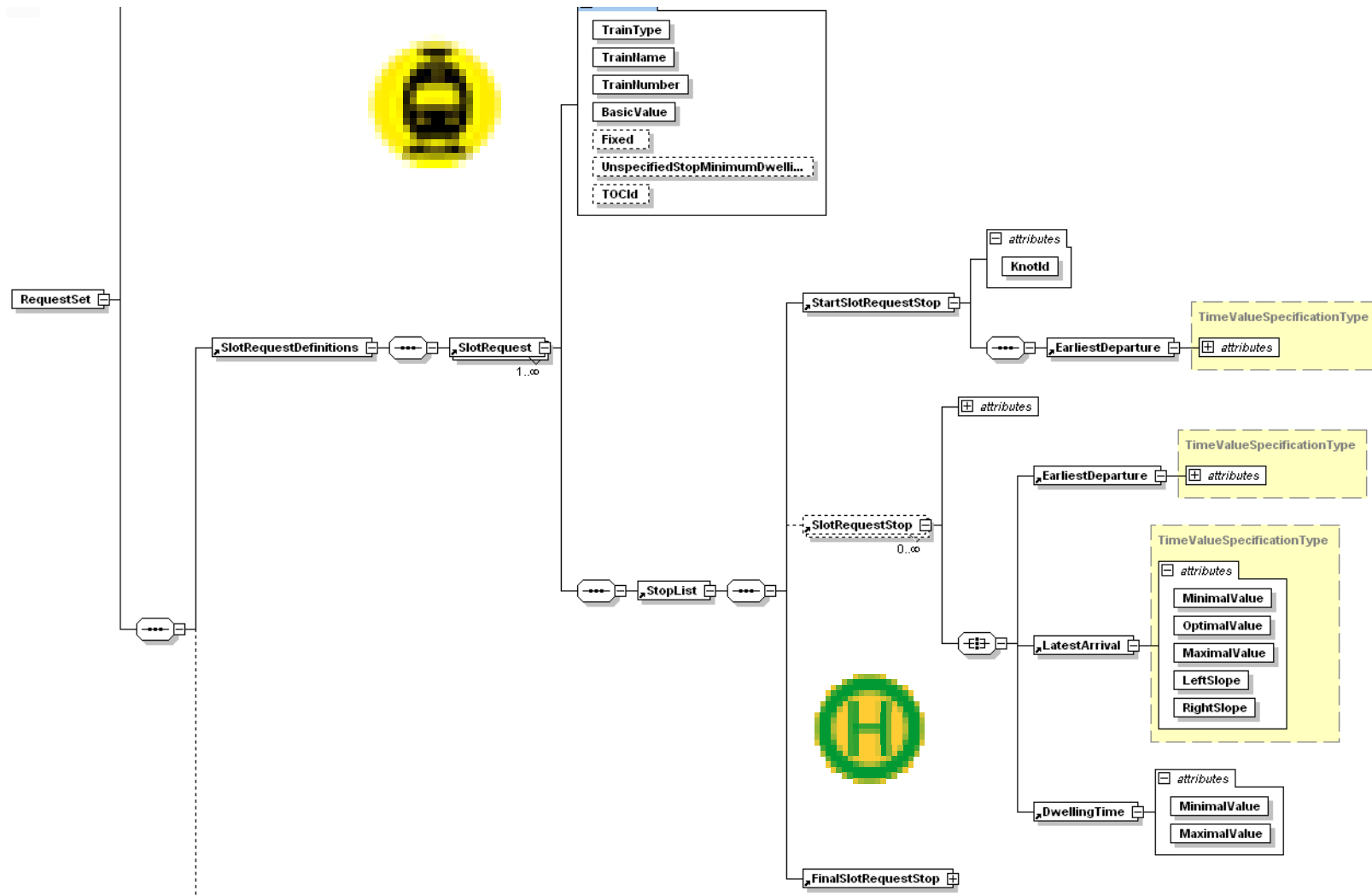
Standardization *http://ttplib.zib.de*



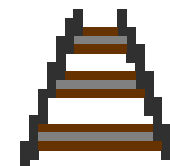
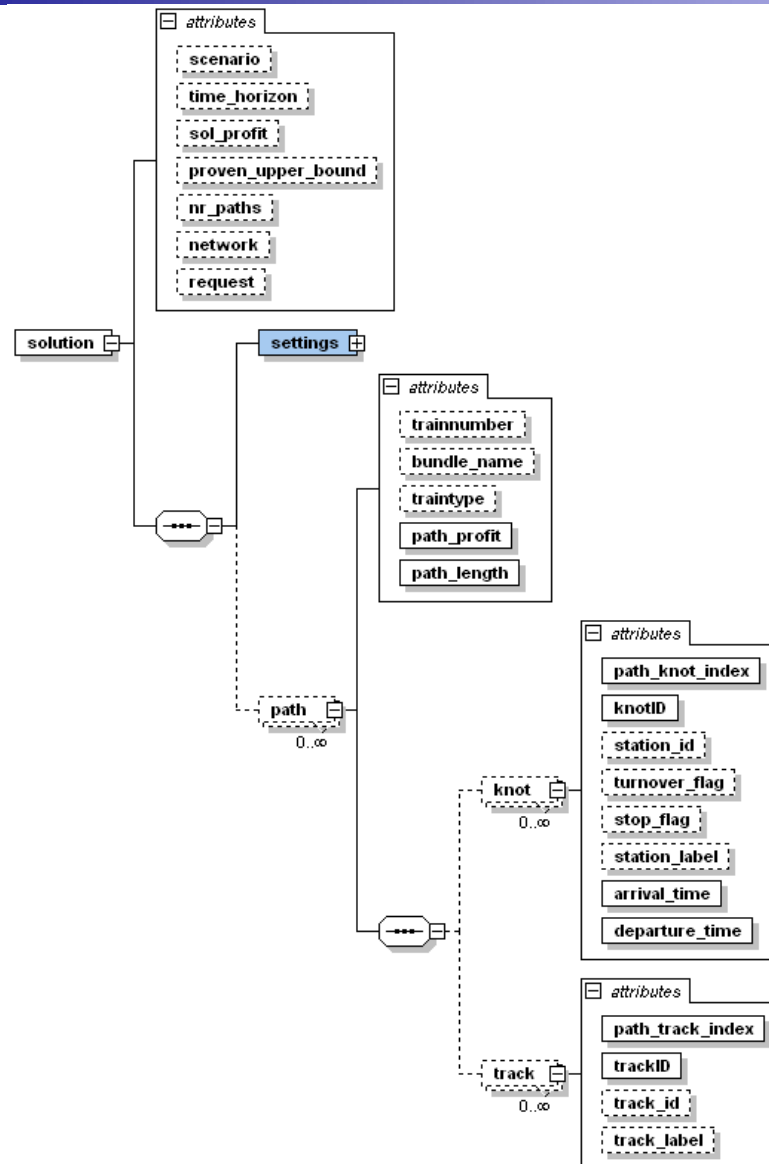
MacroInfra.xsd



RequestSet.xsd



MacroTimetable.xsd



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1. Idea & Motivation
2. Train Timetabling Problem
3. Models and Algorithms
 1. Historical Example
 2. IP Solving
 3. IP Models for TTP
 4. Column Generation
 5. Branch & Bound & Price
4. Computational Studies



Management Science vol. 3, No. 1, 1956

A MODEL FOR THE OPTIMAL PROGRAMMING OF RAILWAY FREIGHT TRAIN MOVEMENTS*

A. CHARNES AND M. H. MILLER
Purdue University and Carnegie Institute of Technology

The structure shown in Table 1 can be translated into equation form by moving a row of λ 's, one for each column, up through the rows and inserting the equal sign to the right of the P_0 column. The first two equations, for example, would be:

$$4 = 1\lambda_1 + 1\lambda_4 - 1\lambda_8 + 1\lambda_{12}$$

$$1 = 1\lambda_1 + 1\lambda_6 - 1\lambda_7 + 1\lambda_{13}$$

With the addition of the variables, the problem has been reduced to a standard simplex problem of the form:

$$\text{Min. } \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i c_i$$

subject to:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i P_i = P_0$$

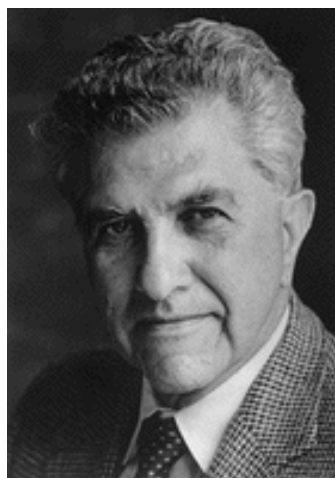
$$\lambda_i \geq 0$$

and can be solved by the simplex technique.



Abraham Charnes

Finalist for Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences 1975

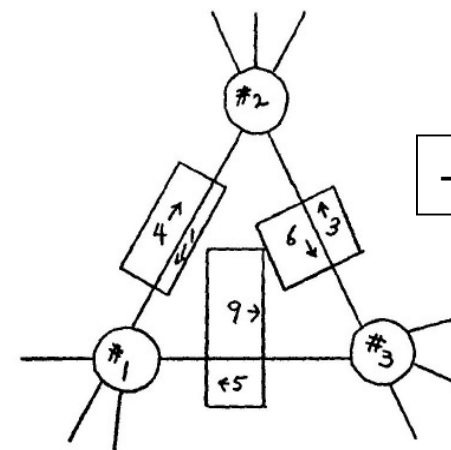


Merton H. Miller

Nobel Prize Winner in Economic Sciences 1990 with Markowitz and Sharpe

TABLE 1
Structural tableau of train-scheduling model

$c_j \rightarrow$			1.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	M	M	M	M	M	M	
From	To	Ship- ment Requirements	Routes						Surplus Vectors (light moves)						Artificial Vectors (legs)					
			1,2	1,3	2,3	1,2,3	1,3,2	1-2	2-1	1-3	3-1	2-3	3-2	1-2	2-1	1-3	3-1	2-3	3-2	
			P_0	P_1	P_2	P_3	P_4	P_5	P_6	P_7	P_8	P_9	P_{10}	P_{11}	P_{12}	P_{13}	P_{14}	P_{15}	P_{16}	P_{17}
1	2	4	1			1		-1					1							
2	1	1	1				1		-1						1					
1	3	9		1			1			-1						1				
3	1	5			1		1				-1						1			
2	3	6				1	1					-1						1		
3	2	2				1		1					-1							



+ Rules



CHART 1. Simplified map of terminal switching railroad, showing connections with trunklines, major interchange and customer yard areas, and traffic requirements (in trainloads) between major points.

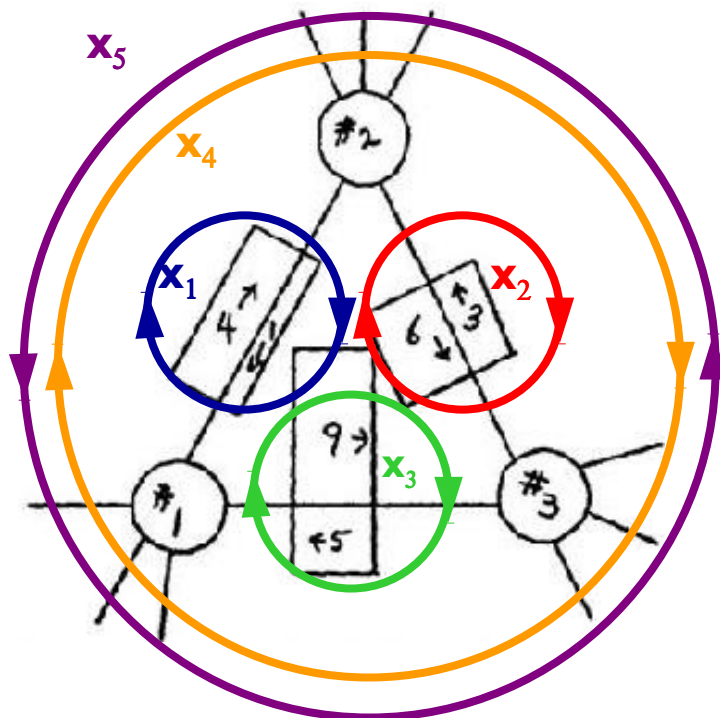
postponed until the description of the model and the computational routine has been completed.

Above the routes, in the row labeled c_j , are entered the costs of assigning a single crew and engine package to the route in question. These costs may be stated either as the standard crew and engine expense, or as the expected costs reflecting the fact that on longer runs there is a greater probability of running into overtime. We constructed working models both ways and found, that optimal programs were not particularly sensitive to variations in the cost of crews. In fact, it was usually possible to simplify the calculation by minimizing the number of crews, that is treating the cost of each crew as 1.

P_4 to P_{11} in the tableau are overfulfillment slack vectors. In the train scheduling context they correspond to "light moves", or trips by a crew and engine without cars. If, for example, four crews should be assigned to the route P_1 —which runs

Integer Program

- Graph Model



- Algebraic Model

$$\text{Min } x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 1.2x_4 + 1.2x_5$$

$$4 \leq x_1 + x_4$$

$$1 \leq x_1 + x_5$$

$$9 \leq x_3 + x_5$$

$$5 \leq x_3 + x_4$$

$$6 \leq x_2 + x_4$$

$$3 \leq x_2 + x_5$$

$$x \geq 0$$

$$x \text{ integer}$$

Linear Optimization



Leonid V. Kantorovich
Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences
1975



Tjalling C. Koopmans
Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences
1975



George W. Dantzig
Father of Linear Programming

- Algebraic Model
(LP, Simplex algorithm)

$$\text{Min } x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 1.2x_4 + 1.2x_5$$

$$4 \leq x_1 + x_4$$

$$1 \leq x_1 + x_5$$

$$9 \leq x_3 + x_5$$

$$5 \leq x_3 + x_4$$

$$6 \leq x_2 + x_4$$

$$3 \leq x_2 + x_5$$

$$x \geq 0$$



LP Progress: 1988-2004



(Operations Research, Jan 2002, pp. 3—15, updated in 2004)

- Algorithms (*machine independent*):

Primal *versus* best of Primal/Dual/Barrier 3300x

- Machines (workstations → PCs): 1600x

- NET: Algorithm × Machine 5 300 000x
(2 months/5300000 ≈ 1 second)



IP Solvers CPLEX, XPRESS, SCIP...

SCIP: Solving Constraint Integer Programs - Mozilla Firefox

http://scip.zib.de/

SCIP: Solving Constraint Integer Programs

Konrad-Zuse-Zentrum für Informationstechnik Berlin
Division Scientific Computing
Department Optimization

Main page

Information

- News
- What Is SCIP?
- Features
- License
- Supported Platforms
- Bugs & Mailing List
- Involved Persons
- Related Work
- Cooperation

Download

Documentation

- Doxygen-Docs
- Further Docs
- FAQ
- Examples

ZIBopt

- ZIMPL
- SoPlex
- SCIP

SCIP is currently the fastest non-commercial mixed integer programming solver. It is also a framework for Constraint Integer Programming and branch-cut-and-price. It allows total control of the solution process and the access of detailed information down to the guts of the solver.

Solver	Time (s)	Category
Ipsolve 5.5	10.7x	non-commercial
Symphony 5.1.8	9.7x	non-commercial
GLPK 4.26	8.0x	non-commercial
CBC 2.1	1.41x	non-commercial
SCIP 1.00 - SoPlex 1.3.2	1.21x	non-commercial
SCIP 1.00 - CLP 1.7	1.00x	non-commercial
Minto 3.1 - Cplex 9	1.70x	commercial
SCIP 1.00 - Cplex 11.01	0.32x	commercial
Cplex 11.01	0.09x	commercial

Geometric mean of results taken from the homepage of Hans Mittelmann (05/15/2008). Unsolved instances are accounted for with the time limit of 2 hours.

Recent News

- 02/27/2008 New SCIP Introduction by Cornelius Schwarz, see further documentation.
- 12/05/2007 Updated LP-interface for Mosek, see the download page.

Fertig

13:02 2008-06-30

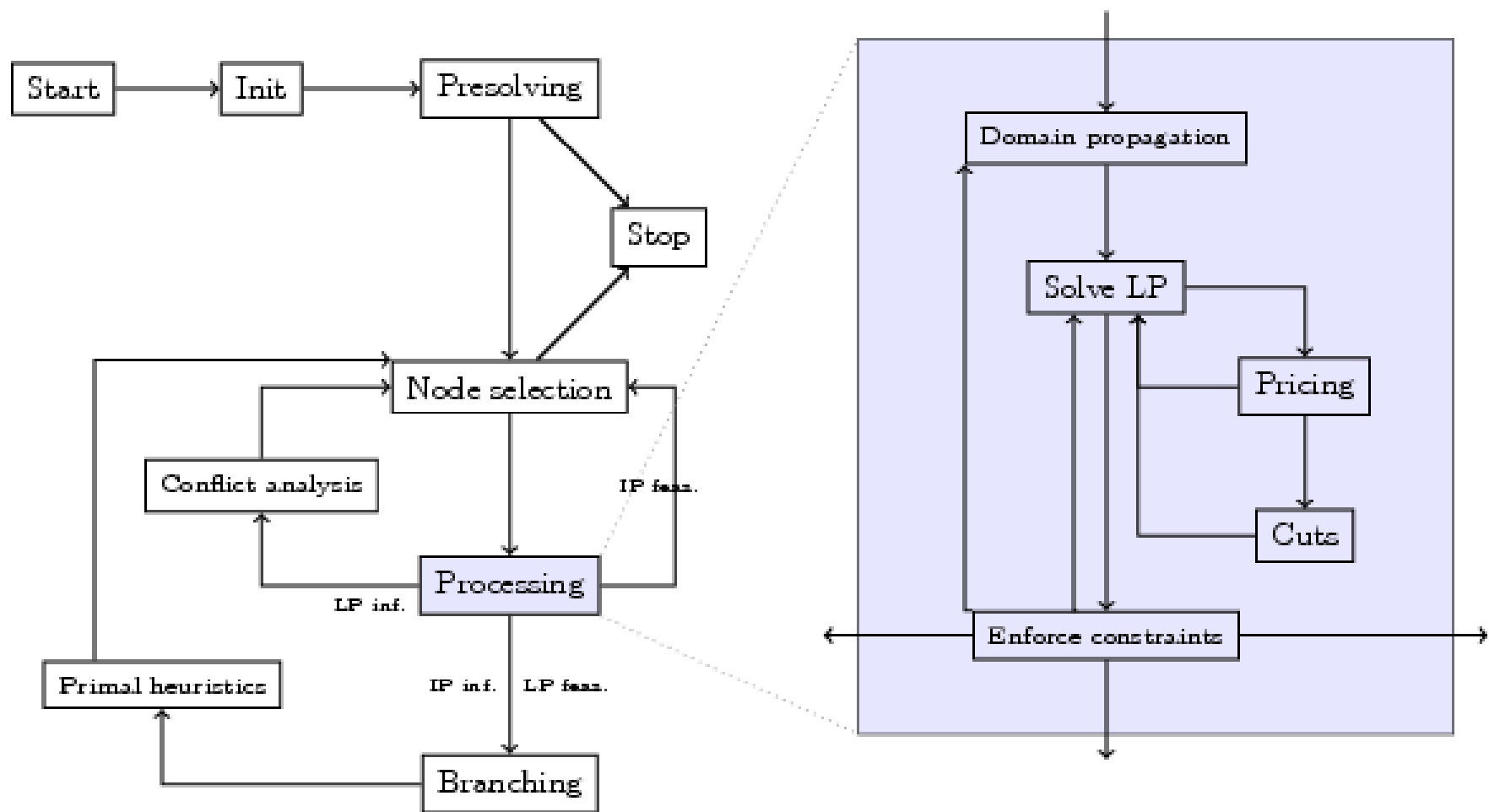


Overview

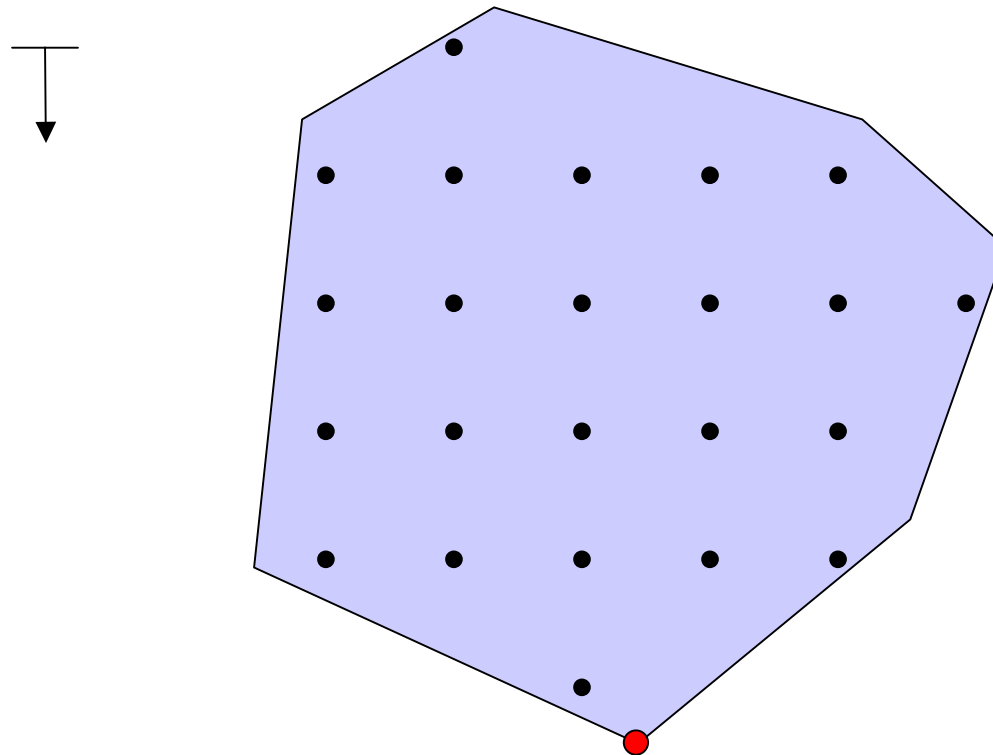
1. Idea & Motivation
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General Framework - SCIP

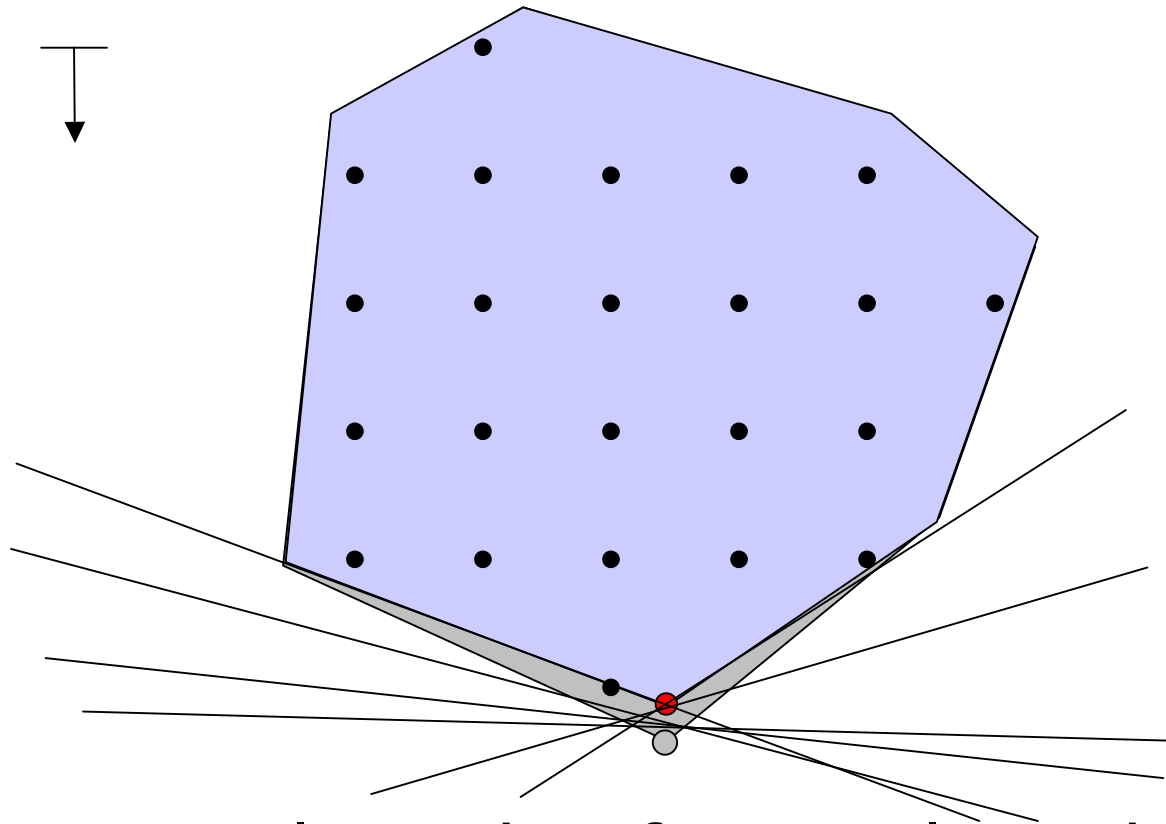


Linear Relaxation



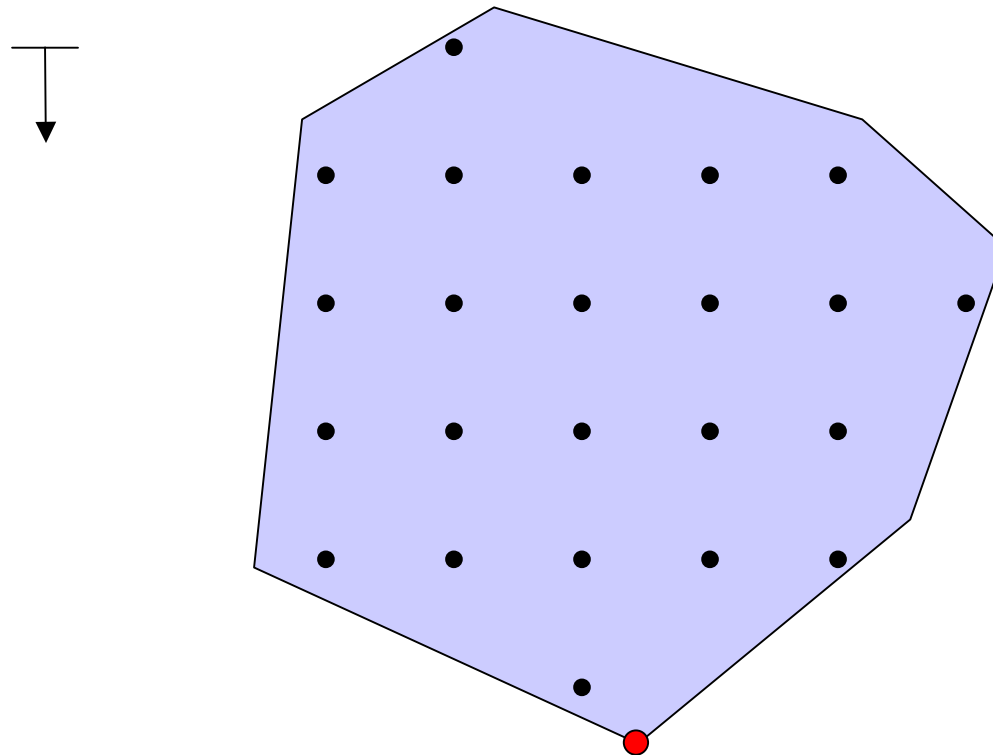
- solve linear program by primal, dual simplex or barrier (interior point method)

Cutting Planes



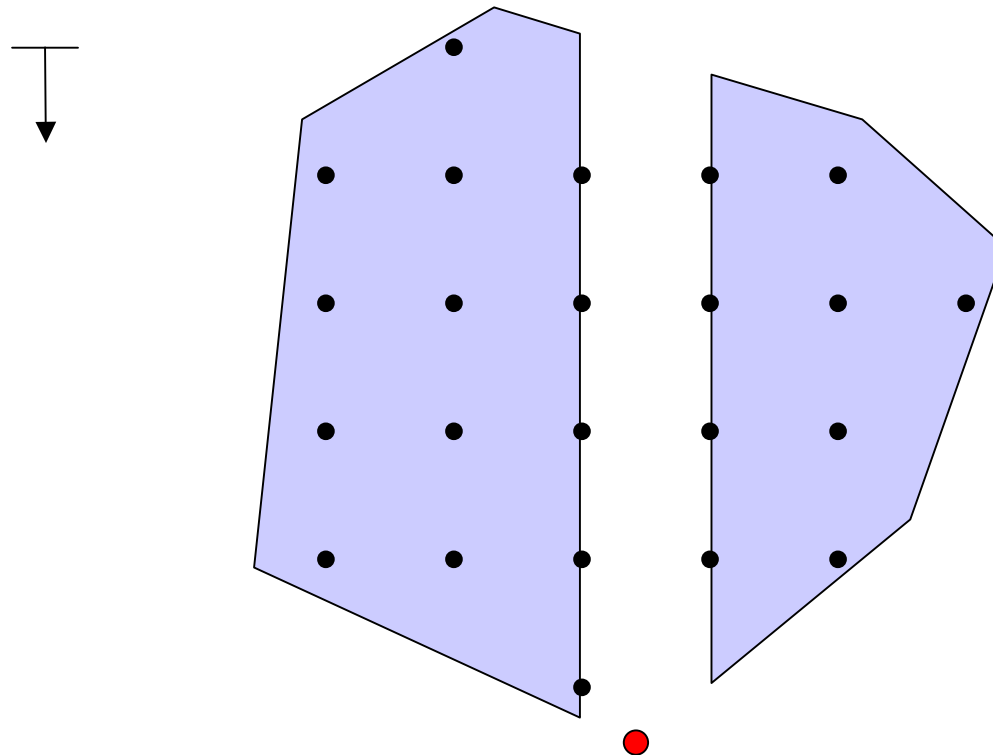
- current solution has fractional variables
- improve by valid cutting planes

Branching



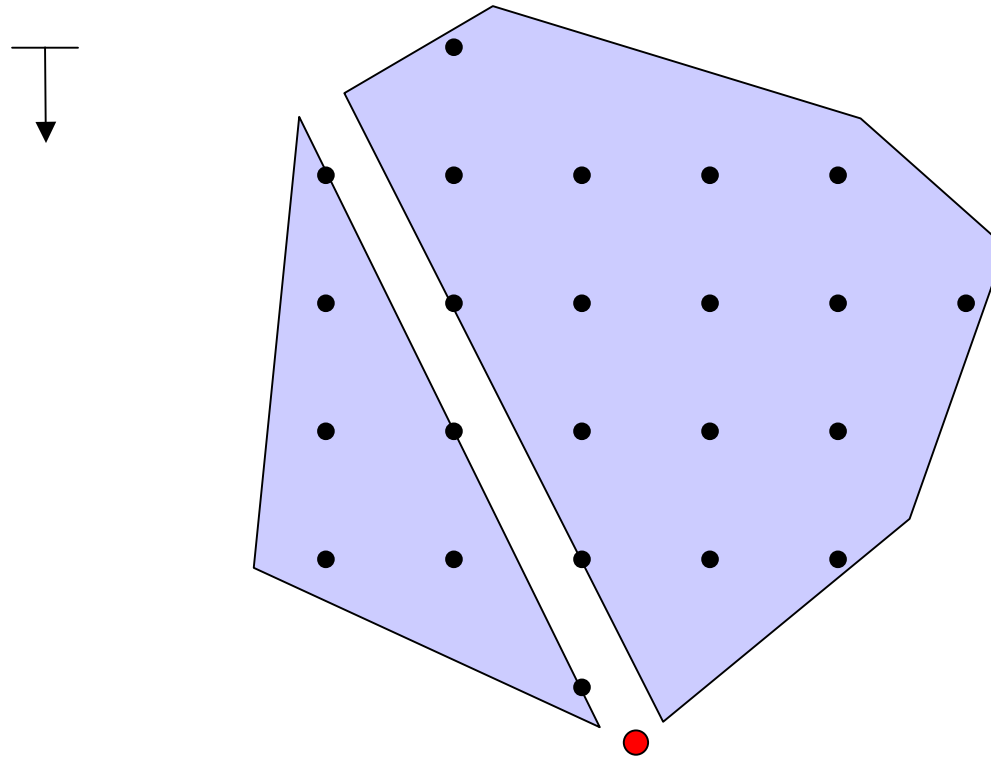
- current solution is infeasible (at least one forbidden fractional value)

Branching on Variables



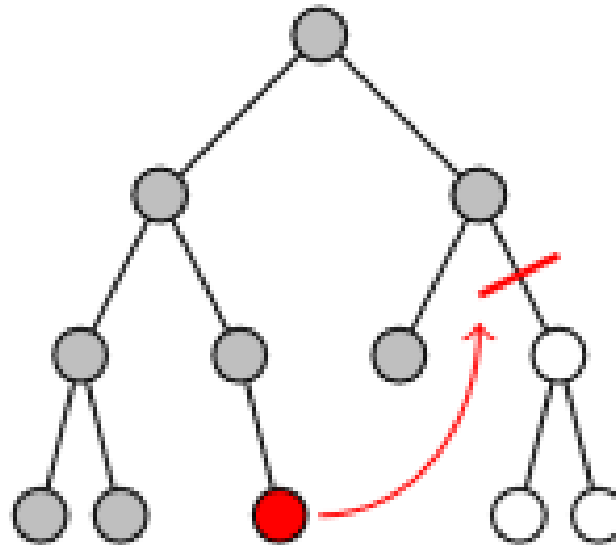
- split problems into sub problems to cut off current solution

Branching on Constraints



- split problems into subproblems to cut off current solution

Branch & Bound Tree



- divide and conquer (split problem into smaller subproblems)
- use conflict analysis (constraint propagation)

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Arc Packing Problem

(APP)

max

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \sum_{a \in A} p_a^i x_a^i$$

s.t.

$$\sum_{a \in \delta_i^{out}(v)} x_a^i - \sum_{a \in \delta_i^{in}(v)} x_a^i \leq \delta_i(v) \quad \forall v \in V, \forall i \in \mathcal{I} \quad (i)$$

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \sum_{a \in A} x_a^i \leq 1 \quad \forall c \in C \quad (ii)$$

$$x_a^i \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall a \in A, \forall i \in \mathcal{I} \quad (iii)$$

Variables

- Arc occupancy (request i uses arc a)

Constraints

- Flow conservation and
- Arc conflicts (pairwise)

Objective

- Maximize proceedings

(PPP) transformation from arc to path variables (see Cachhiani (2007))

TTP as APP

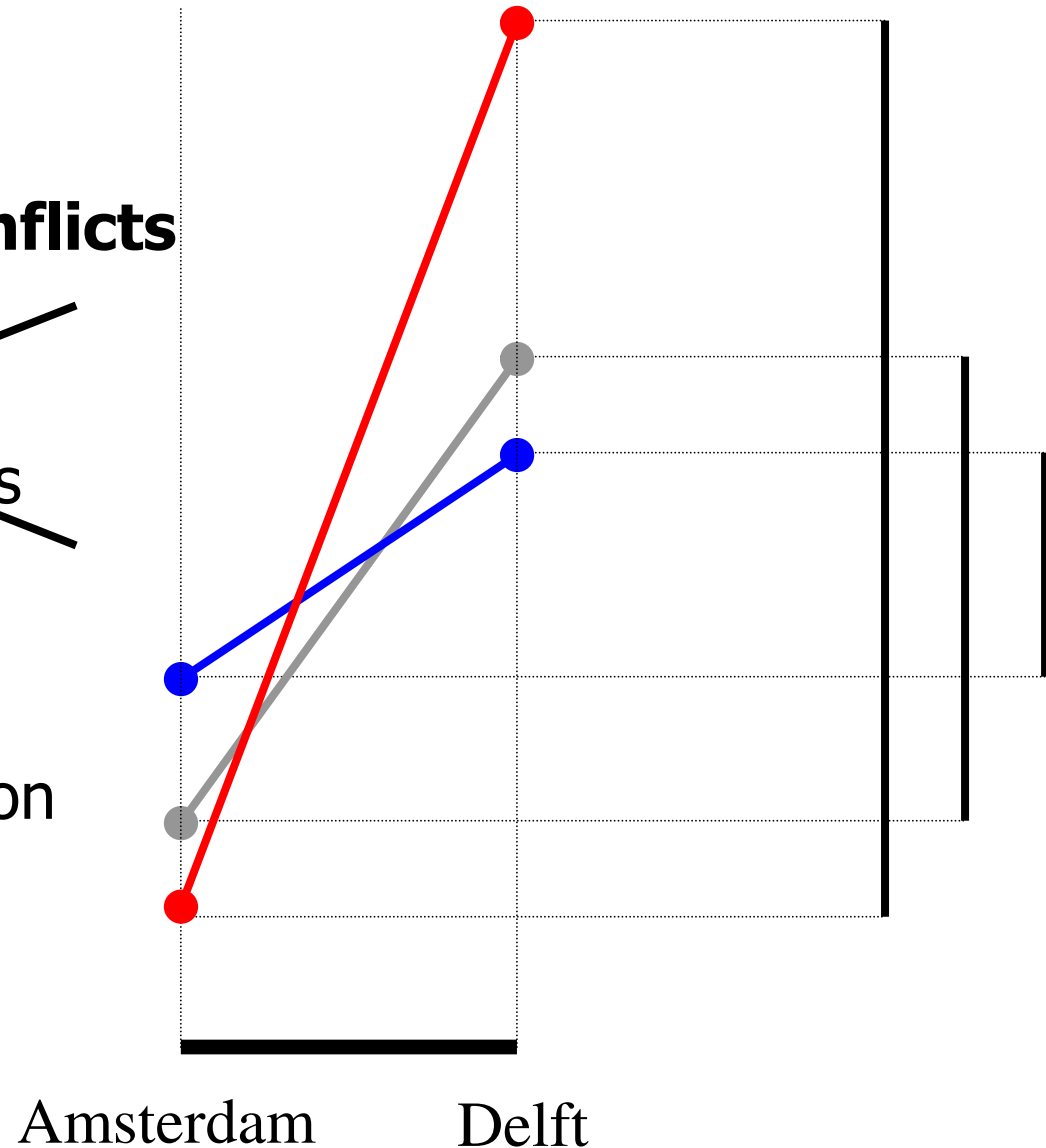
- **macroscopic conflicts**

- headways

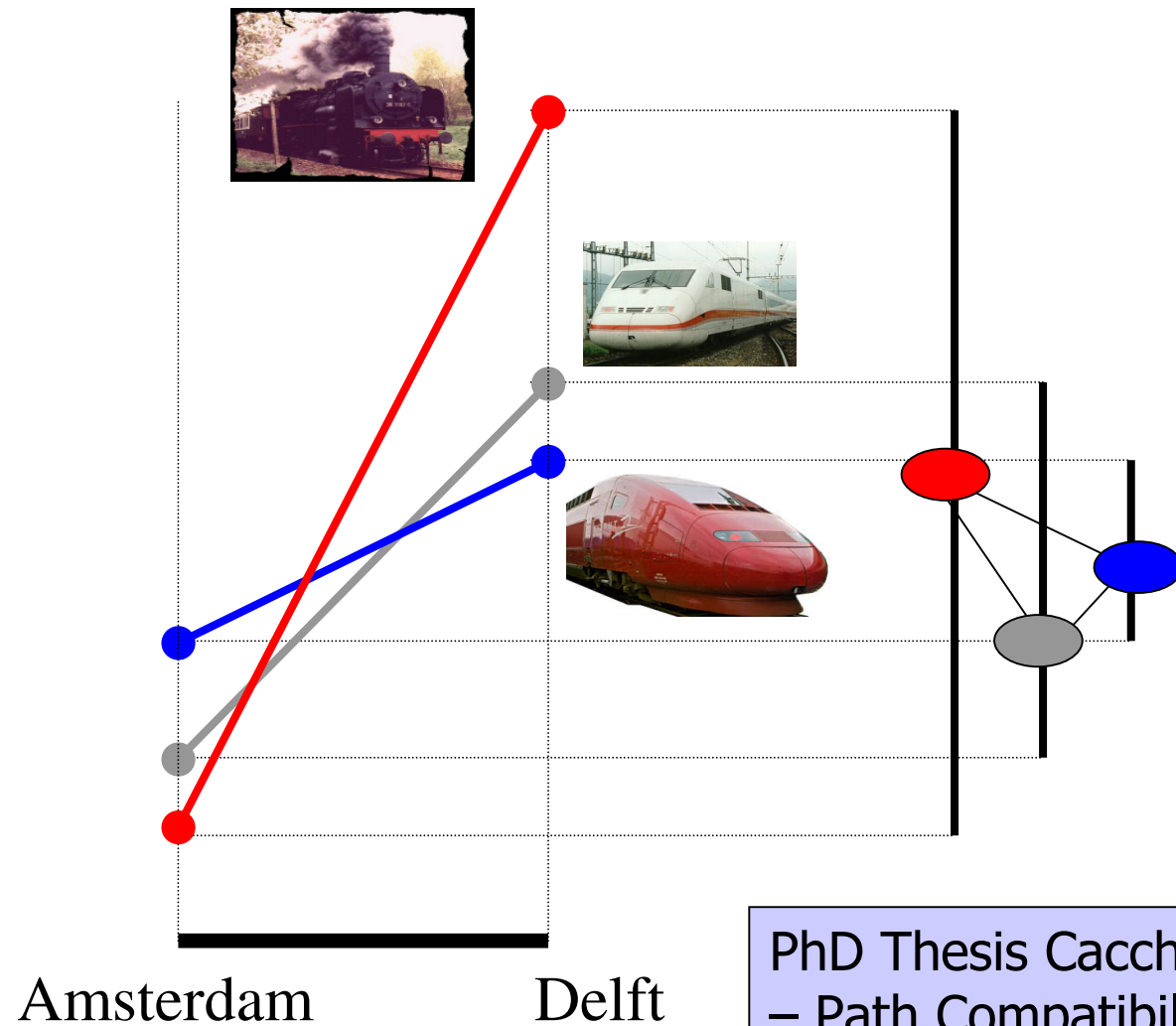
- station capacities

- **simplified**

- block occupation



Packing Constraints



PhD Thesis Cacchiani (2007)
– Path Compatibility Graphs

Strengthen Constraints

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Steam Train} + \text{White High-Speed Train} + \text{Red High-Speed Train} \leq 1
 \end{array}$$

Instead of :

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Steam Train} + \text{White High-Speed Train} \leq 1
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Steam Train} + \text{Red High-Speed Train} \leq 1
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{White High-Speed Train} + \text{Red High-Speed Train} \leq 1
 \end{array}$$

Headway conflicts

Is it possible to get all maximal
(exp. ?) packing constraints in
polynomial time ?



Block occupation

Intervall Graph !

[Helly 1912, Borndörfer,
Schlechte 2007]



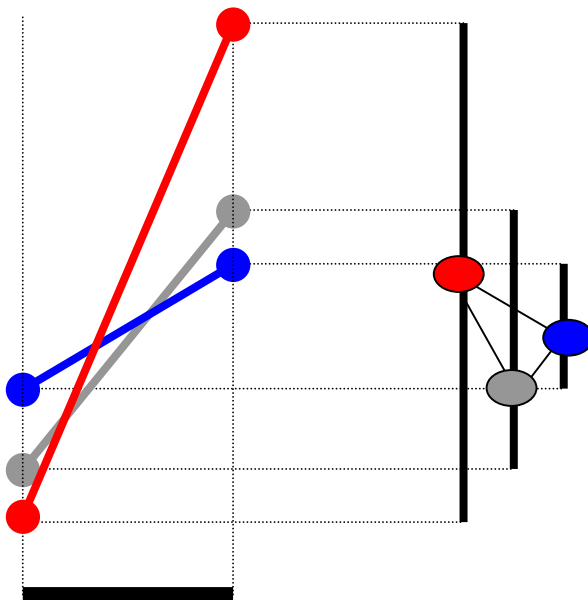
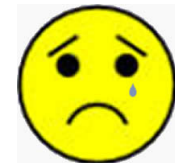
Quadrangle-linear-
headway matrices

Perfect Graph !

[Lukac 2004]



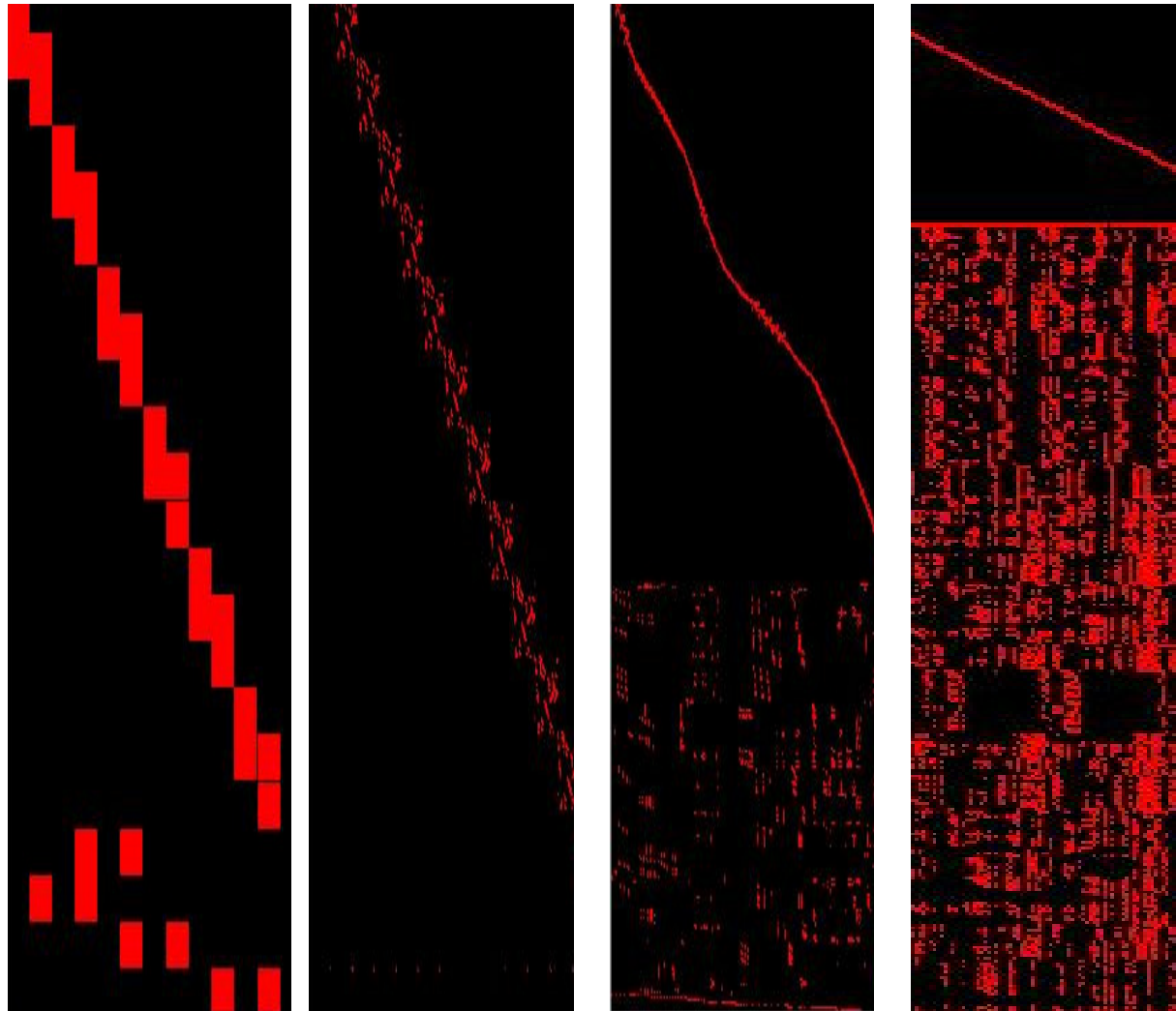
Arbitray Headway
Matrices ?



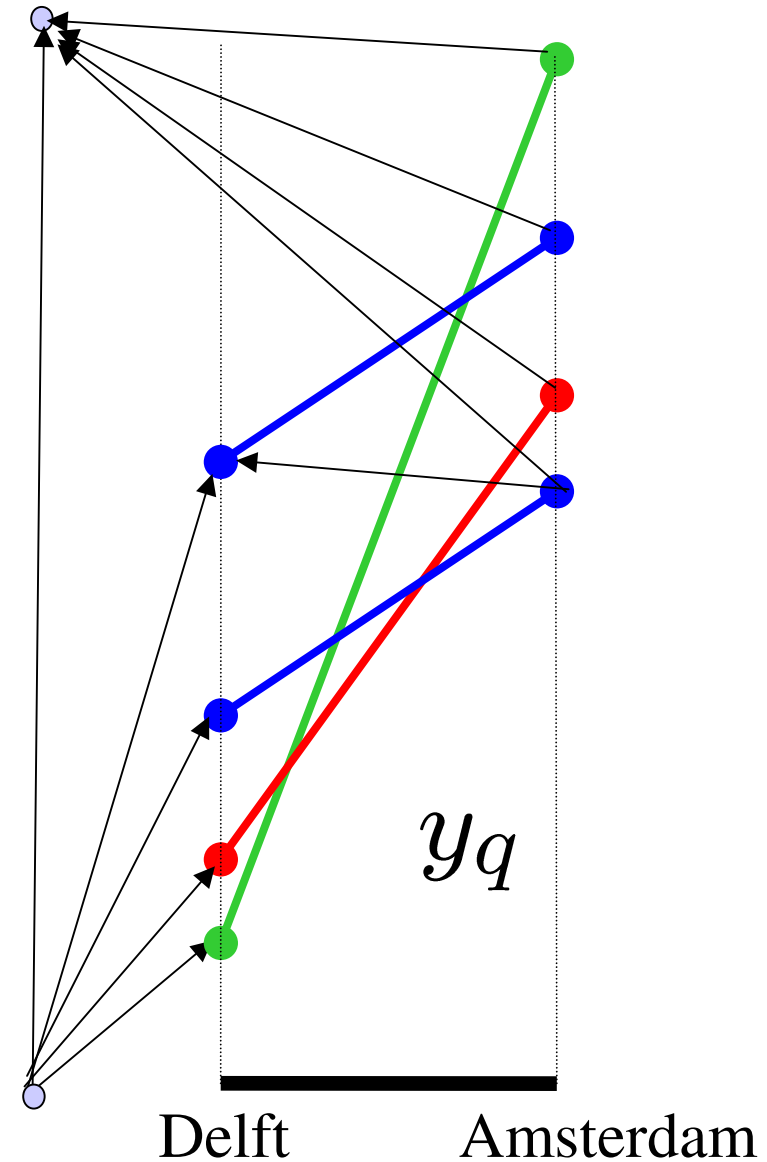
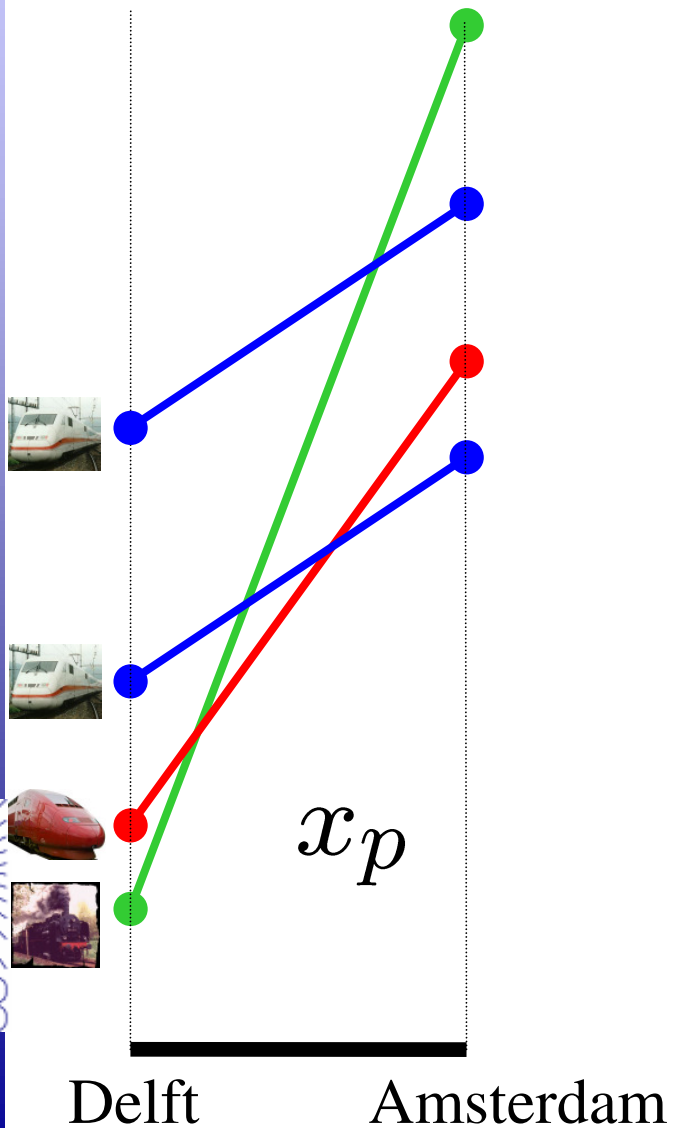
Amsterdam Delft

Packing Models

- **Proposition:**
The LP-relaxation of APP can be solved in polynomial time.
- ... and in practice.



A(rc) C(oupling) P(roblem)



Path Coupling Problem

$$\begin{aligned}
 (PCP) \quad & \text{(i)} \quad \max \sum_{p \in P} w_p x_p \\
 & \text{(ii)} \quad \sum_{p \in P_i} x_p \leq 1, \quad \forall i \in I \\
 & \text{(iii)} \quad \sum_{q \in Q_j} y_q \leq 1, \quad \forall j \in J \\
 & \text{(iv)} \quad \sum_{a \in p \in P} x_p - \sum_{a \in q \in Q} y_q \leq 0, \quad \forall a \in A_{LR} \\
 & \text{(v)} \quad x_p, y_q \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall p \in P, q \in Q
 \end{aligned}$$

Variables

- Path und config usage (request i uses path p , track j uses config q)

Constraints

- Path and config choice
- Path-config-coupling (track capacity)

Objective Function

- Maximize proceedings



Overview

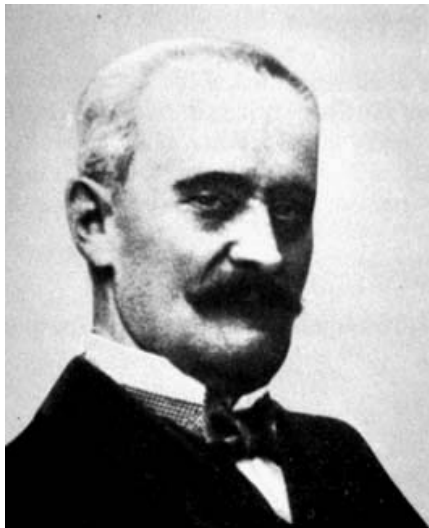
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Duality of Linear Programs

*Julius Farkas [1847-1930]:
Duality theorem based
Farkas Lemma „a theorem of alternatives“*



(P)

minimize $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$
subject to $\mathbf{Ax} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq 0$

(D)

maximize $\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}$
subject to $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{y} \geq 0$

PRICE(x) is equivalent to SEPERATION(y) !

LP with too many variables

nr	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37		
c	5	5	3	3	3	3	8	9	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	4	5	4	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	5	6	5	11	12	12	8	9	9	6	12	9	y	
1	1						1	1											1	1	1	1						1	1	1						1		y1	
2		1					1		1	1	1	1							1	1	1	1	1	1	1							1	1	1			1	y1	
3			1					1	1				1	1	1				1				1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	y1	
4				1						1			1			1	1			1			1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	y1
5					1						1			1		1		1			1			1		1		1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	y1
6						1						1			1		1	1				1			1		1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	y1
x	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	x8	x9	x10	x11	x12	x13	x14	x15	x16	x17	x18	x19	x20	x21	x22	x23	x24	x25	x26	x27	x28	x29	x30	x31	x32	x33	x34	x35	x36	x37		

■ Set Partitioning Problem

- minimize $c^T x$
- row sum equal to 1



LP Duality

nr	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
c	5	5	3	3	3	3	8	9	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	4	5	4	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	5	6	5	11	12	12	8	9	9	6	12	9	y
1	1						1	1											1	1	1	1							1	1	1					1		5
2		1					1		1	1	1	1							1	1	1	1	1	1	1							1	1	1			1	3
3			1					1	1				1	1	1				1				1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1
4				1						1			1			1	1			1			1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
5					1						1			1		1		1			1			1		1		1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	2
6						1						1			1		1	1				1			1		1	1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1
x																			1									1										

- Strong Duality:** If there exists an optimal solution x^* for (P), then there exists an optimal solution y^* for (D) and their objective values are equal.

Column Generation Example

nr	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
c	5	5	3	3	3	3	8	9	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	4	5	4	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	5	6	5	11	12	12	8	9	9	6	12	9	y
1	1						1	1											1	1	1	1							1	1	1					1		5
2		1					1		1	1	1	1								1	1	1	1	1	1	1						1	1	1			1	5
3			1					1	1				1	1	1								1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	3
4				1						1			1			1	1			1			1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
5					1						1			1		1		1			1			1		1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	3
6						1						1			1		1	1				1			1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	3
x	1	1	1	1	1	1																																

- $x_1=x_2=x_3=x_4=x_5=x_6=1$, primal objective $2*5+4*3=22$
- $y_1=5$
- $y_2=5$
- $y_3=3$
- $y_4=3$
- $y_5=3$
- $y_6=3$
- $c_{19}=9$, $y_1+y_2+y_3=5+5+3=13>9 \Rightarrow x_{19}=1$, $x_1=x_2=x_3=0$

Column Generation Example

nr	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37		
c	5	5	3	3	3	3	8	9	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	4	5	4	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	5	6	5	11	12	12	8	9	9	6	12	9	y	
1	1						1	1											1	1	1	1							1	1	1					1		1	
2		1					1		1	1	1	1							1	1	1	1	1	1	1						1	1	1			1	5		
3			1					1	1				1	1	1				1				1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	3	
4				1						1			1			1	1			1			1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
5					1						1			1		1		1			1			1		1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	3
6						1						1			1		1	1				1			1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	3
x				1	1	1													1																				

- $x_1=x_2=x_3=0, x_4=x_5=x_6=x_{19}=1$, primal objective $9+3*3=18$ [22]
- $y_1+y_2+y_3=11 \Rightarrow y_1=1, y_2=5, y_3=3$
- $y_4=3$
 $y_5=3$
 $y_6=3$
- $c_{34}=9, y_2+y_4+y_5+y_6=5+9=14>9$
 $c_{36}=12, y_1+y_3+y_4+y_5+y_6=1+12=13>12$



Column Generation Example

nr	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
c	5	5	3	3	3	3	8	9	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	4	5	4	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	5	6	5	11	12	12	8	9	9	6	12	9	y
1	1						1	1											1	1	1	1							1	1	1					1		1
2		1					1		1	1	1	1							1	1	1	1	1	1	1							1	1	1			1	5
3			1					1	1				1	1	1				1				1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	3
4				1						1			1			1	1			1			1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
5					1						1			1		1		1			1			1		1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	3
6						1						1			1		1	1				1			1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	3
x				1	1	1													1																			

- $x_1=x_2=x_3=0, x_4=x_5=x_6=x_{19}=1$, primal objective $9+3*3=18$ [22]
- $y_1+y_2+y_3=11 \Rightarrow y_1=1, y_2=5, y_3=3$ (solution not unique)
 $y_4=3$
 $y_5=3$
 $y_6=3$
- $c_{34}=9, y_2+y_4+y_5+y_6=5+9=14>9$
 $c_{36}=12, y_1+y_3+y_4+y_5+y_6=1+12=13>12$
 $\Rightarrow x_{34}=x_{36}=x_{19}=1/2, x_4=x_5=x_6=0$

Column Generation Example

nr	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37		
c	5	5	3	3	3	3	8	9	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	4	5	4	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	5	6	5	11	12	12	8	9	9	6	12	9	y	
1	1						1	1											1	1	1	1							1	1	1					1		5	
2		1					1		1	1	1	1							1	1	1	1	1	1	1							1	1	1			1	3	
3			1					1	1				1	1	1				1				1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	
4				1						1			1			1	1			1			1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	
5					1						1			1		1		1			1			1		1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	3	
6						1						1			1		1	1				1			1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	0	
x																			1/2																1/2		1/2		

- $x_{34} = x_{34} = x_{19} = 1/2$, primal objective $(9+9+12)/2=15$ [18]
- $y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 9$
 $y_2 + y_4 + y_5 + y_6 = 9$
 $y_1 + y_3 + y_4 + y_5 + y_5 = 12 \Rightarrow y_1 = 5, y_2 = y_4 = y_5 = 3, y_3 = 1$
- $c_{28} = 5, y_4 + y_5 + y_6 = 6 > 5$
 $\Rightarrow x_{28} = x_{19} = 1, x_{34} = x_{36} = 0$

Column Generation Finished

nr	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
c	5	5	3	3	3	3	8	9	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	4	5	4	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	5	6	5	11	12	12	8	9	9	6	12	9	y
1	1						1	1											1	1	1	1							1	1	1					1		5
2		1					1		1	1	1	1							1	1	1	1	1	1	1							1	1	1			1	3
3			1					1	1				1	1	1				1				1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1
4				1						1			1			1	1			1			1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
5					1						1			1		1		1			1			1		1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	2
6						1						1			1		1	1				1			1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1
x																			1									1										

- $x_{19} = x_{28} = 1$, primal objective $9+5=14$ [15]
- $y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 9$
 $y_4 + y_5 + y_6 = 5 \Rightarrow y_1 = 5, y_2 = 3, y_3 = y_6 = 1, y_4 = y_5 = 2$
- No column exists with negative reduced cost
- $\Rightarrow x^*$ and y^* are optimal solutions



History of Column Generation

<i>Article</i>	<i>Constraints</i>	<i>Variables</i>	<i>Time</i>
Charnes & Miller 1956	6	17	manual
Hoffman & Padberg 1993	145	1.053.137	5 min
Bixby, Gregory, Lustig, Marsten, Shanno 1992	837	12.753.313	249 sec
Barnhart, Johnson, Nemhauser, Savelsbergh, Vance 1998	>10.000	unknown	several days



Linear Relaxation of PCP

(MLP)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\max \quad \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} w_p x_p + \sum_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} r_q y_q \\
 &\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_i} x_p \leq 1 \quad \forall i \in I \quad (\text{i}) \\
 &\quad \sum_{q \in \mathcal{Q}_j} y_q \leq 1 \quad \forall j \in J \quad (\text{ii}) \\
 &\quad \sum_{a \in p \in \mathcal{P}} x_p - \sum_{a \in q \in \mathcal{Q}} y_q \leq 0 \quad \forall a \in A_{LR} \quad (\text{iii}) \\
 &\quad 0 \leq y_q \leq 1 \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{Q} \quad (\text{iii}) \\
 &\quad 0 \leq x_p \leq 1 \quad \forall p \in \mathcal{P} \quad (\text{iv})
 \end{aligned}$$

γ_i
 π_j
 λ_a

dual variable	information about	useful to
γ_i	bundle price	analyse request
π_j	track price	analyse network
λ_a	arc price	-

Dualization

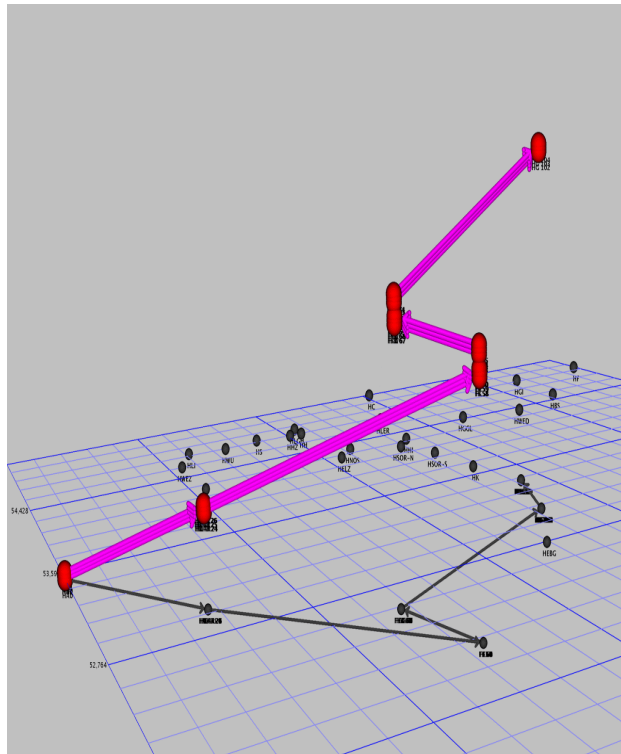
(DLP)

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \min & \sum_{j \in J} \pi_j + \sum_{i \in I} \gamma_i \\
 \text{s.t.} & \gamma_i + \sum_{a \in p} \lambda_a \geq w_p \quad \forall p \in \mathcal{P}_i, \forall i \in I \quad (\text{i}) \\
 & \pi_j - \sum_{a \in q} \lambda_a \geq r_q \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{Q}_j, \forall j \in J \quad (\text{ii}) \\
 & \gamma_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i \in I \quad (\text{iii}) \\
 & \lambda_a \geq 0 \quad \forall a \in A_{LR} \quad (\text{iv}) \\
 & \pi_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in J \quad (\text{v})
 \end{array}$$



Pricing of x-variables

$$(\text{PRICE } (x)) \quad \exists \bar{p} \in \mathcal{P}_i : \quad \gamma_i < \sum_{a \in \bar{p}} (p_a - \lambda_a)$$

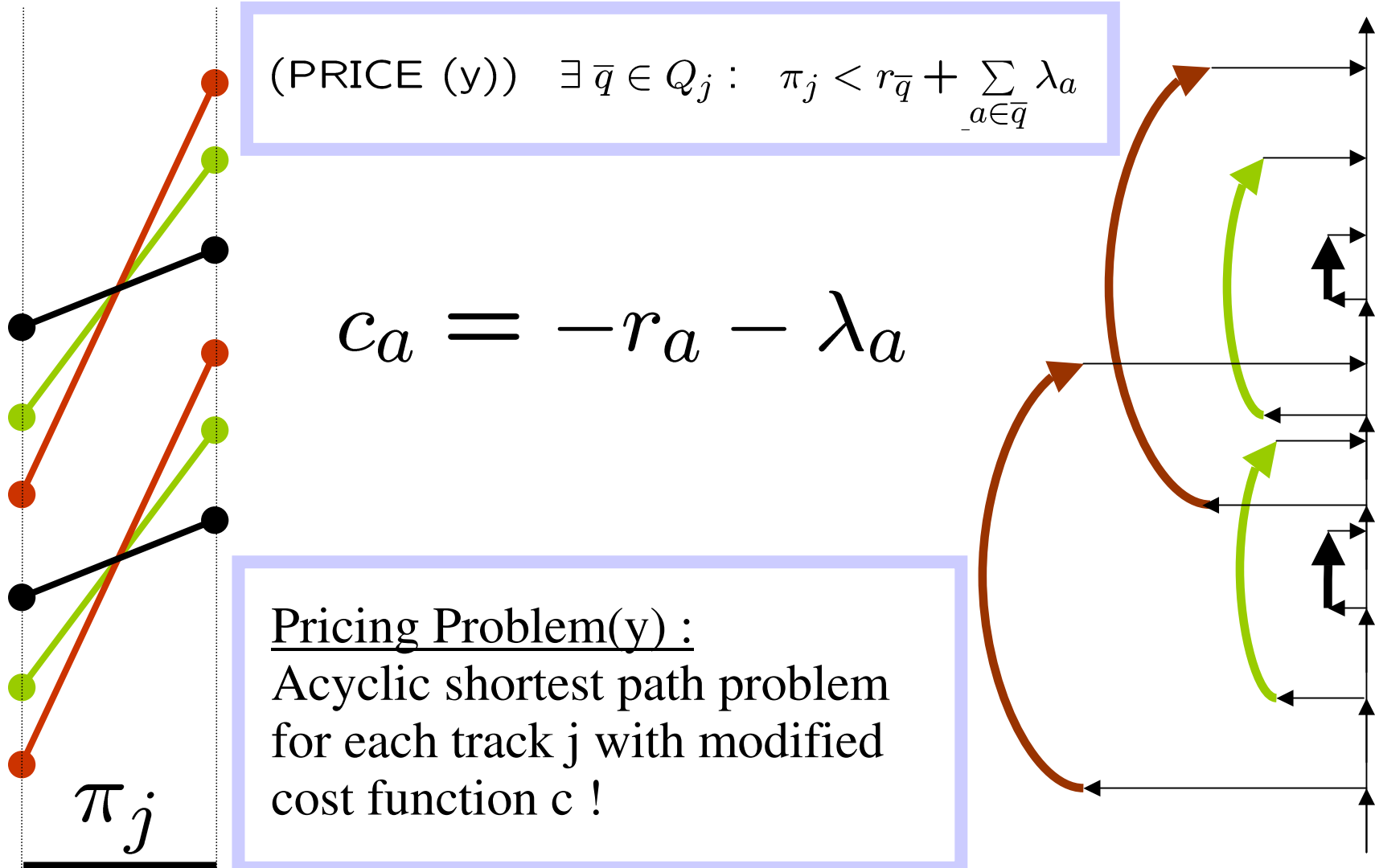


$$c_a = -p_a + \lambda_a$$

Pricing Problem(x) :

Acyclic shortest path problems
for each slot request i with
modified cost function c !

Pricing of y -variables



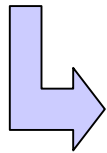
Observation

- **Lemma** [ZR-07-02]: The linear relaxation of PCP can be solved in polynomial time, due to the equivalence of optimization and separation (see Groetschel, Lovasz & Schrijver [88]).

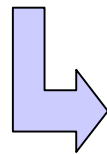


Observation

$$(\text{PRICE } (x)) \quad \exists \bar{p} \in \mathcal{P}_i : \quad \gamma_i < \sum_{a \in \bar{p}} (p_a - \lambda_a)$$



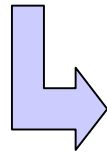
$$\eta_i := \max_{p \in \mathcal{P}_i} \sum_{a \in p} (p_a - \lambda_a) - \gamma_i, \quad \forall i \in I$$



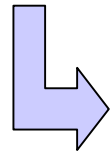
$$\eta_i + \gamma_i \geq \sum_{a \in p} (p_a - \lambda_a) \quad \forall i \in I, p \in \mathcal{P}_i$$

And analogously ...

$$(\text{PRICE } (y)) \quad \exists \bar{q} \in Q_j : \pi_j < \sum_{a \in \bar{q}} \lambda_a$$



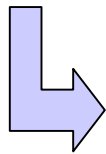
$$\theta_j := \max_{\bar{q} \in Q_j} \sum_{a \in \bar{q}} \lambda_a - \pi_j, \quad \forall j \in J$$



$$\theta_j + \pi_j \geq \sum_{a \in q} \lambda_a \quad \forall j \in J, q \in Q_j$$

Pricing Upper Bound

$(\max\{\eta+\gamma, 0\}, \max\{\theta+\pi, 0\}, \lambda)$ is feasible for (DLP)



$$\beta(\gamma, \pi, \lambda) := \sum_{i \in I} \max\{\gamma_i + \eta_i, 0\} + \sum_{j \in J} \max\{\pi_j + \theta_j, 0\}$$

- **Lemma** [ZR-07-02]: Given (infeasible) dual variables of PCP and let $v_{LP}(PCP)$ be the optimum objective value of the LP-Relaxation of PCP, then:

$$v_{LP}(PCP) \leq \beta(\gamma, \pi, \lambda)$$

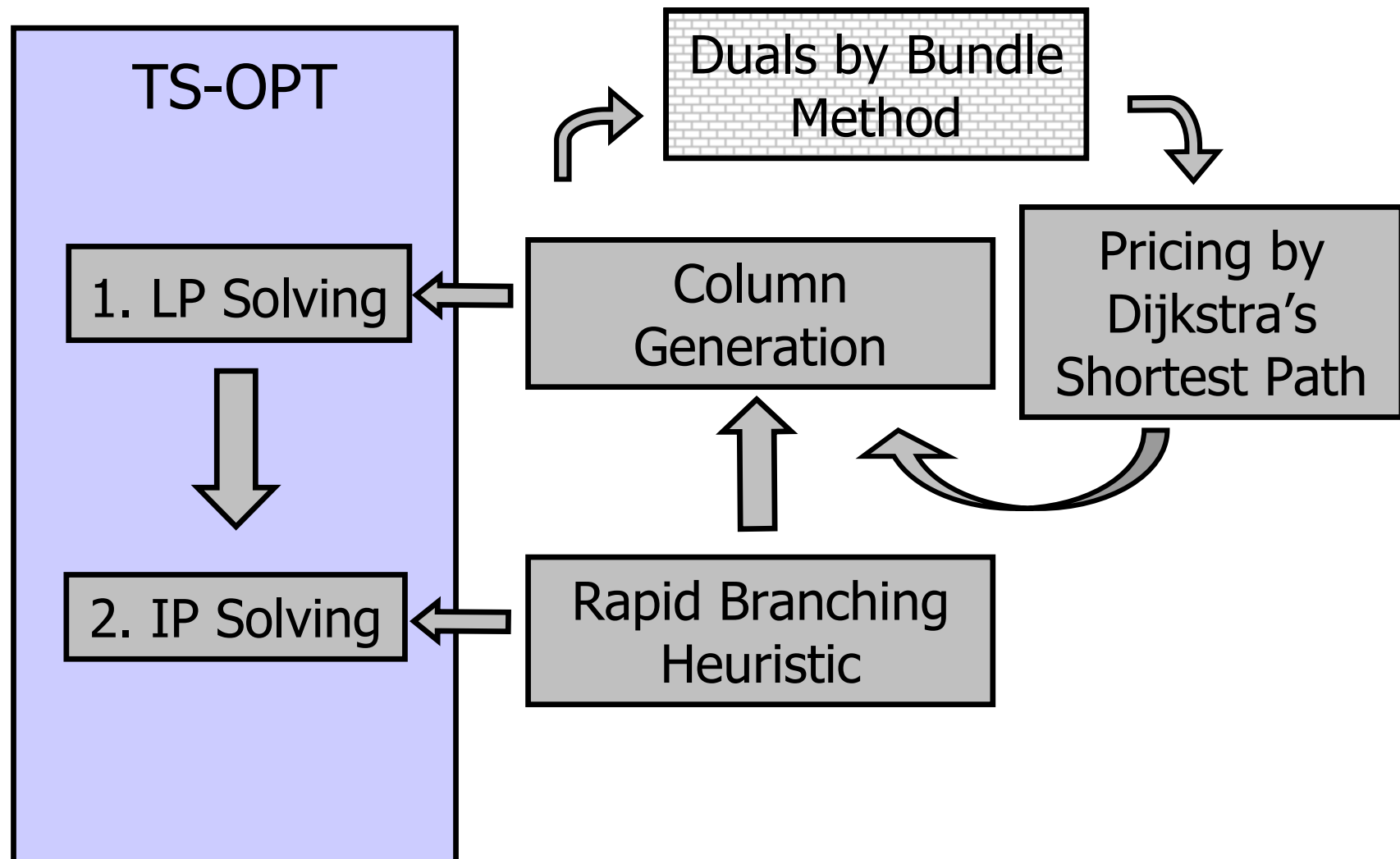


Overview

1. Idea & Motivation
2. Train Timetabling Problem
3. Models and Algorithms
 1. Historical Example
 2. IP Solving
 3. IP Models for TTP
 4. Column Generation
 5. Branch & Bound & Price
4. Computational Studies



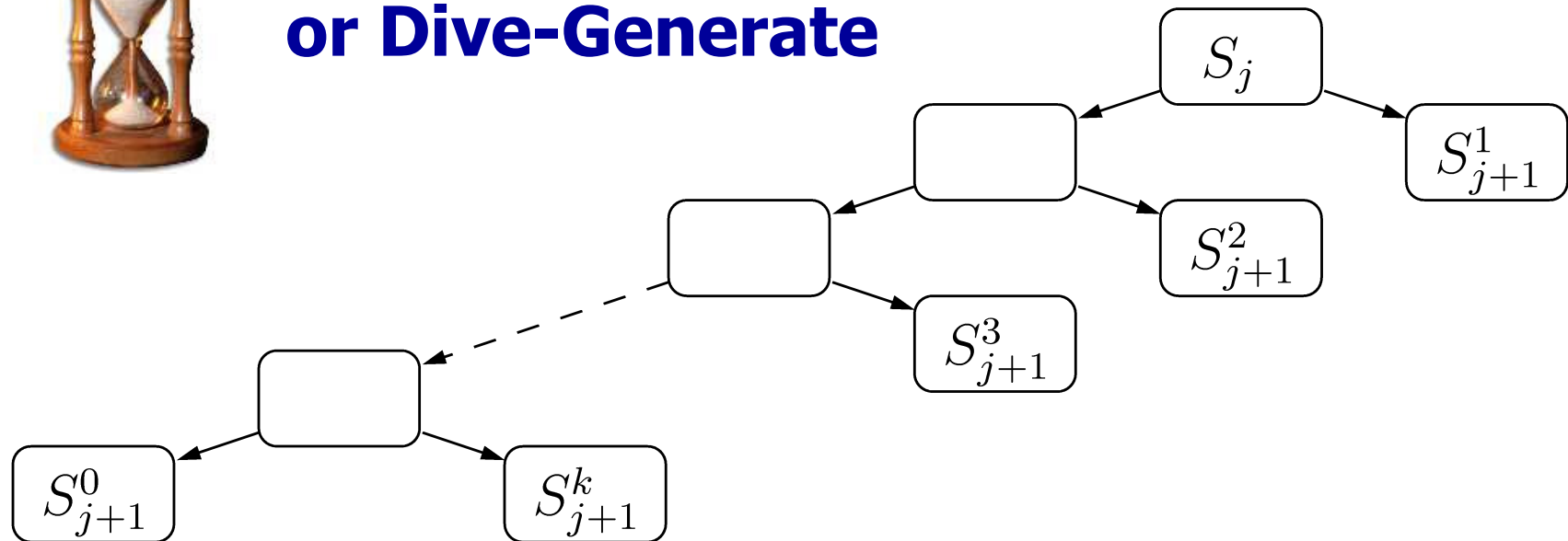
Two Step Approach



Branch-Bound-Price



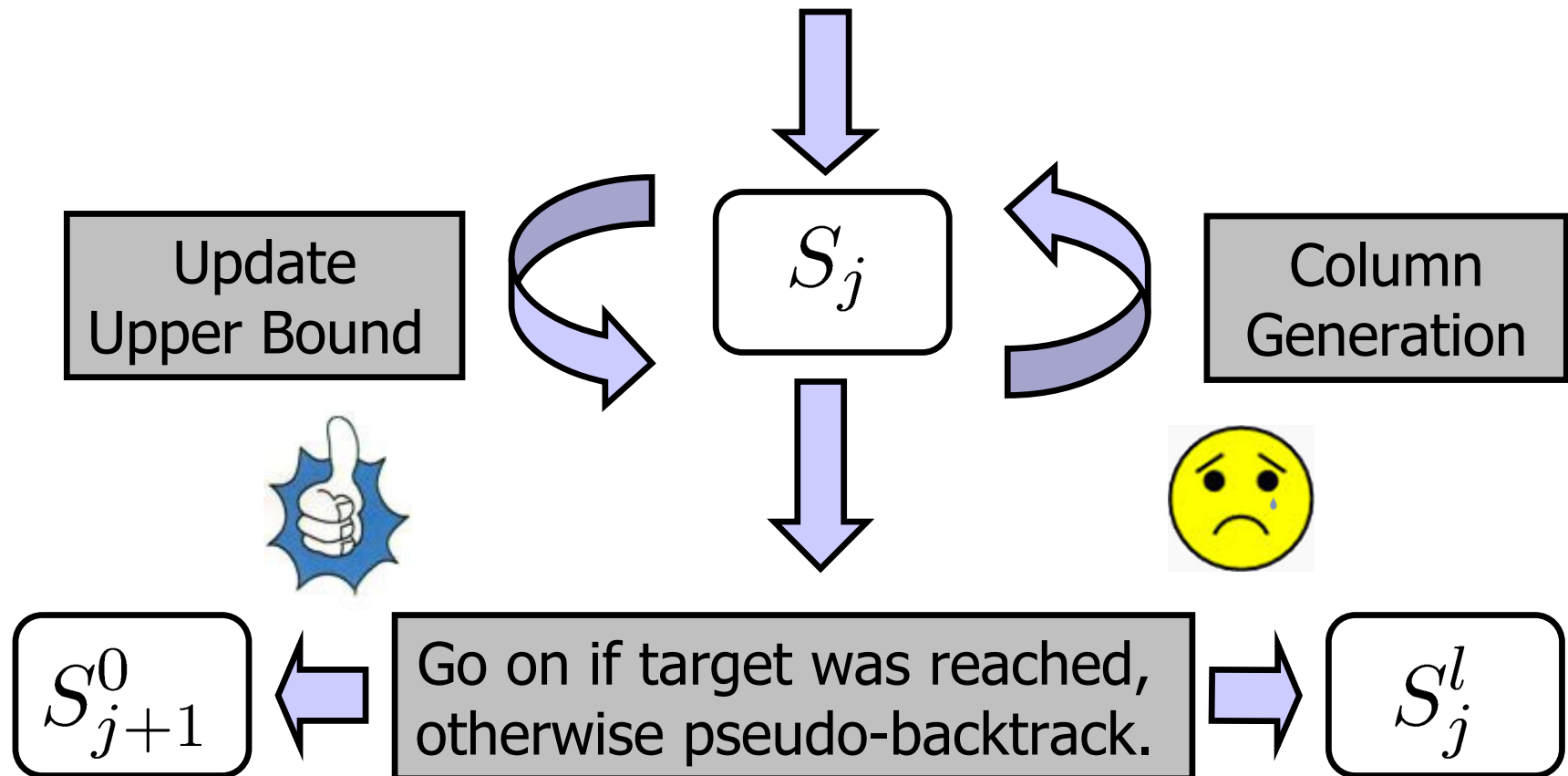
or Dive-Generate



Evaluation of only few highly different sub-problems at iteration j to reach IP-Solutions fast.

Rapid Branching

Node selection of set of fixed to 1 variables by using perturbed cost function (bonus close to 1.0).



Overview

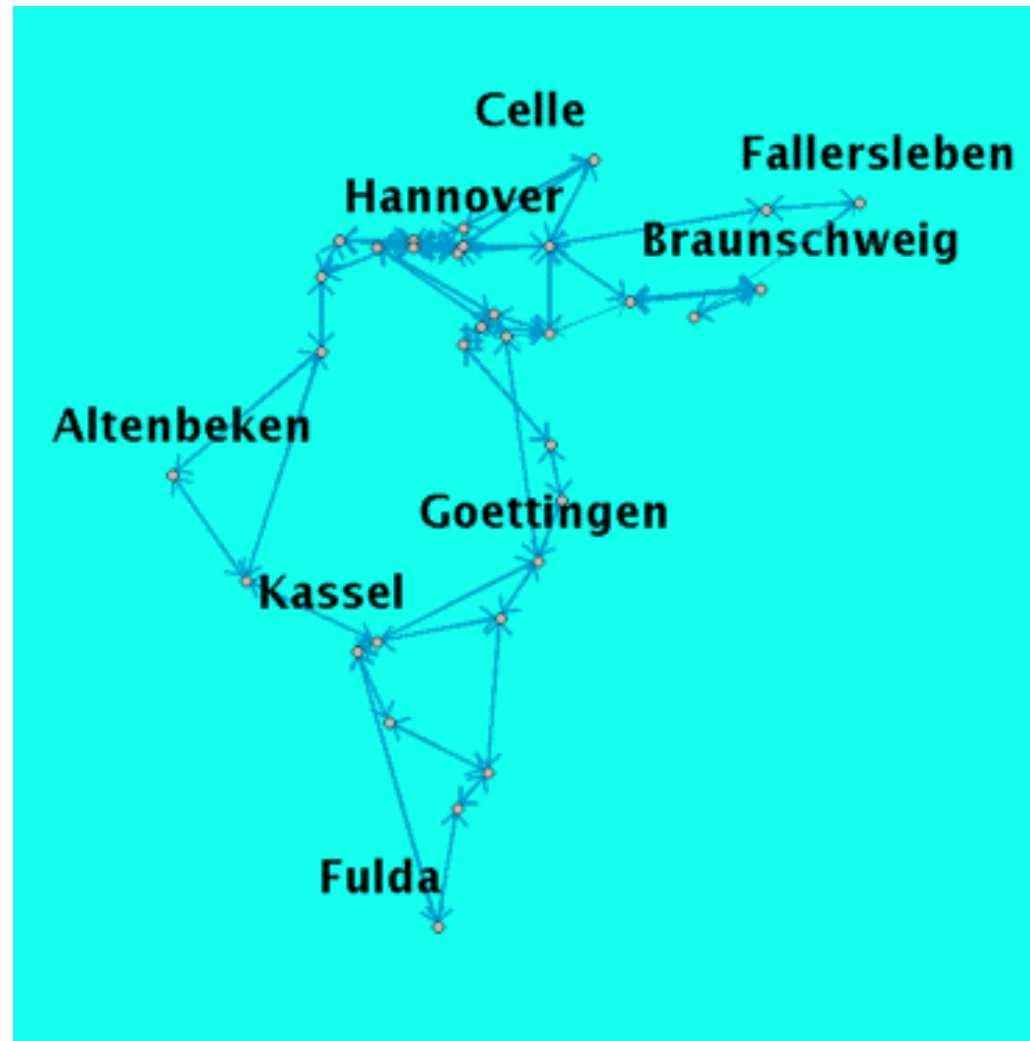
1. Idea & Motivation
2. Train Timetabling Problem
3. Models and Algorithms
4. Computational Studies



Results

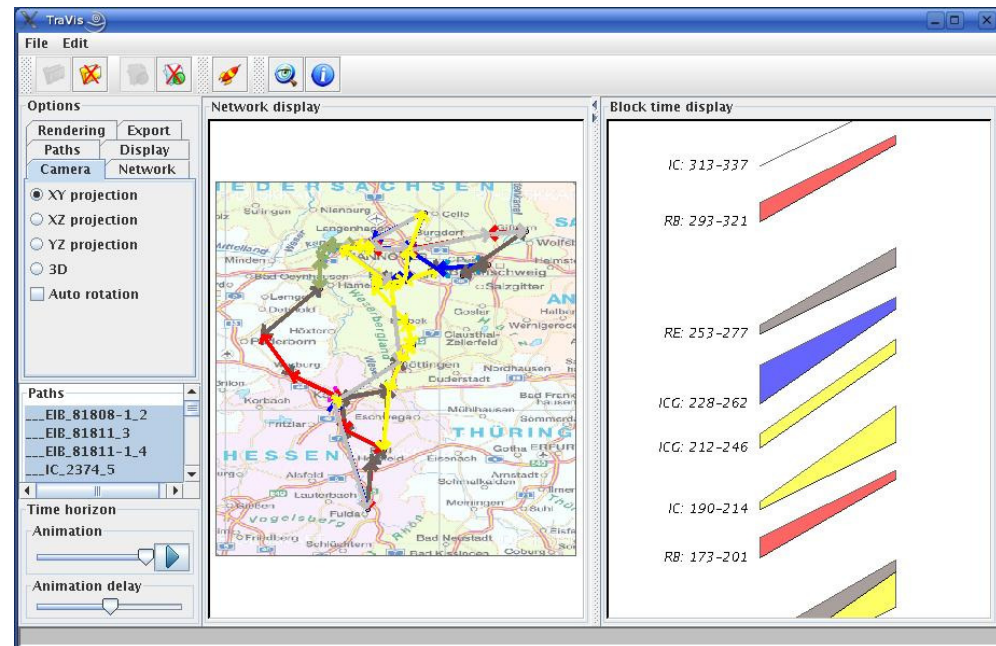
• Test Network

- 45 Tracks
- 37 Stations
- 6 Traintypes
- 10 Trainsets
- 146 Nodes
- 1480 Arcs
- 96 Station Capacities
- 4320 Headway Times

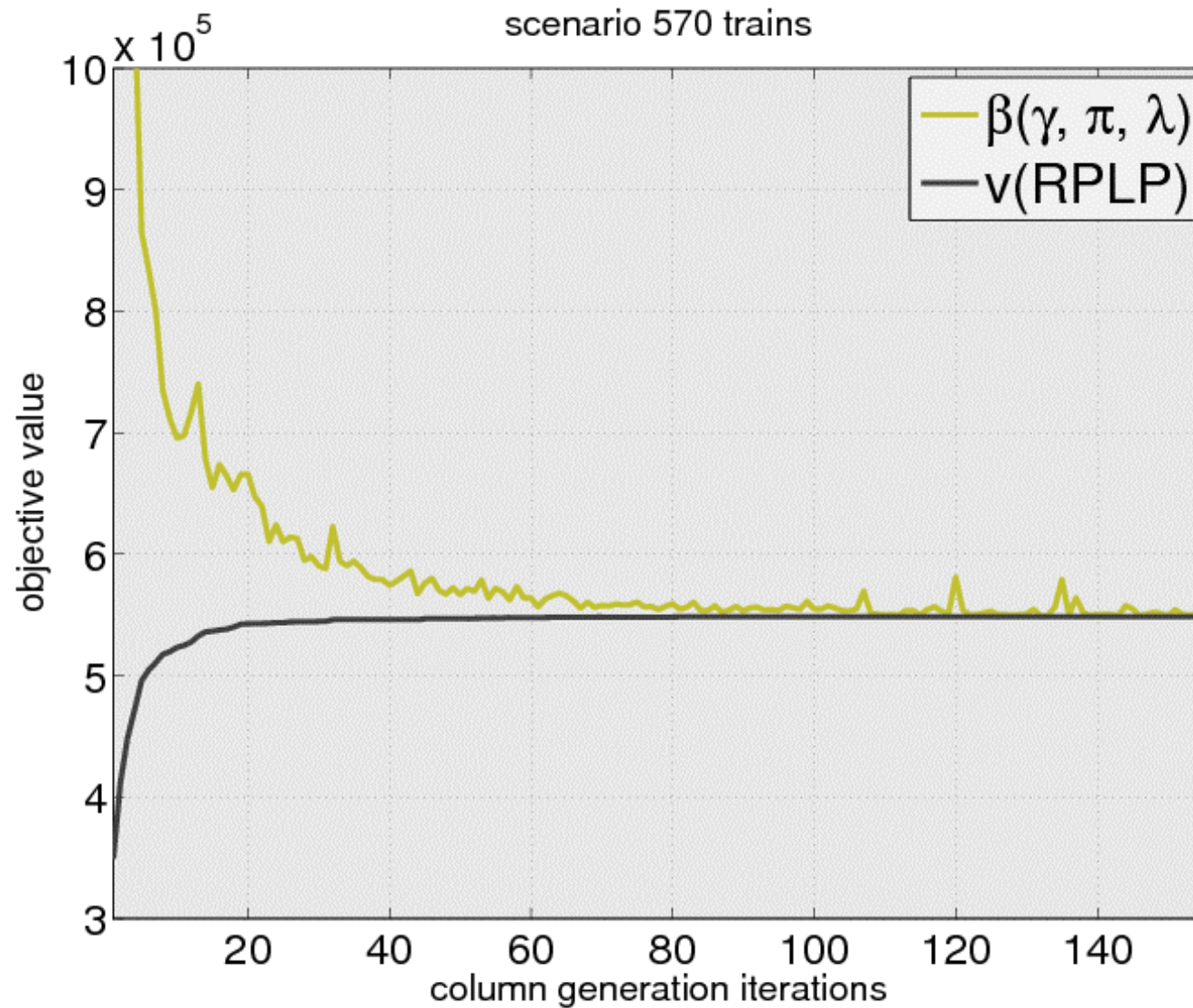


Computational Results

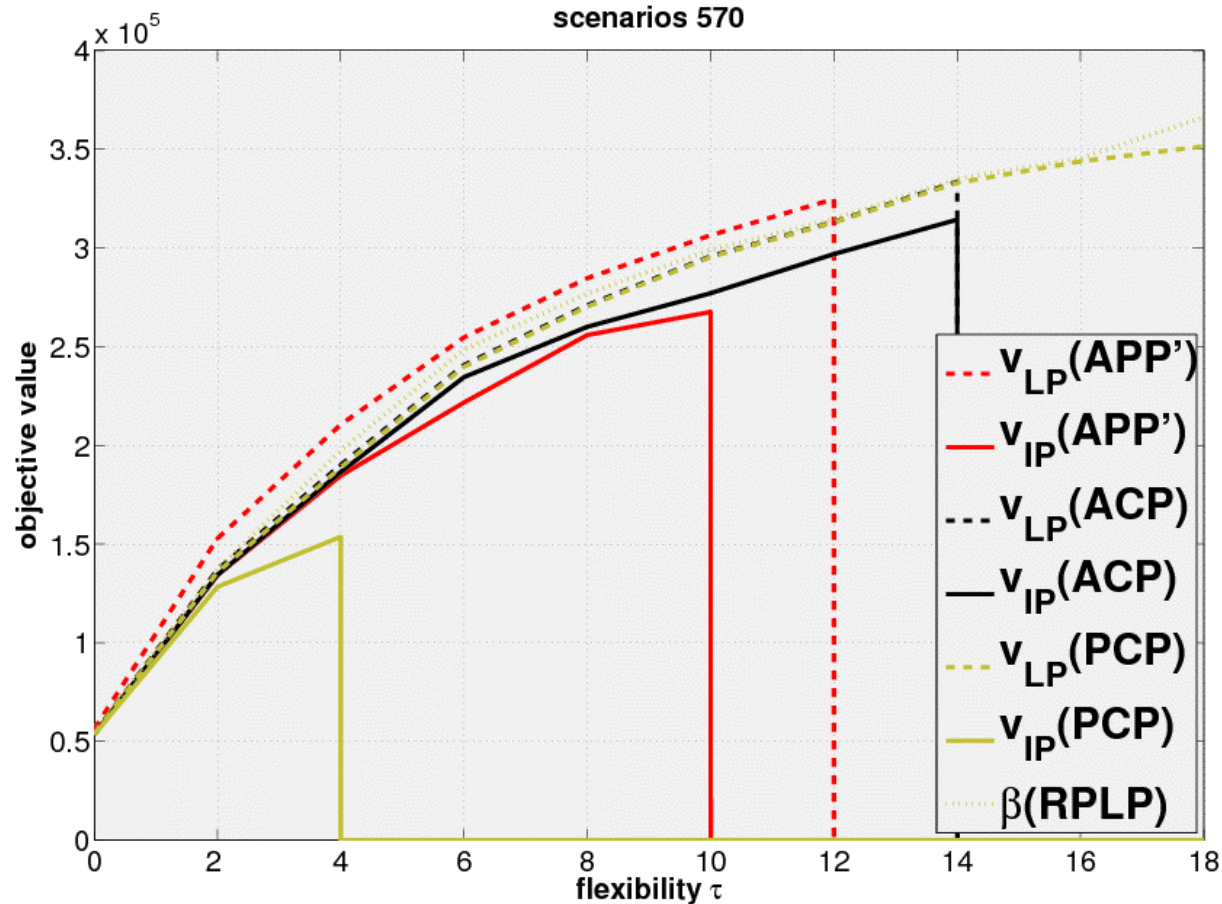
- **Test Scenarios**
 - 146 Train Requests
 - 285 Train Requests
 - 570 Train Requests
- **Flexibility**
 - 0-30 Minutes
 - earlier departure penalties
 - late arrival penalties
 - train type depending profits



Run of TS-OPT/LP Stage



Model Comparison

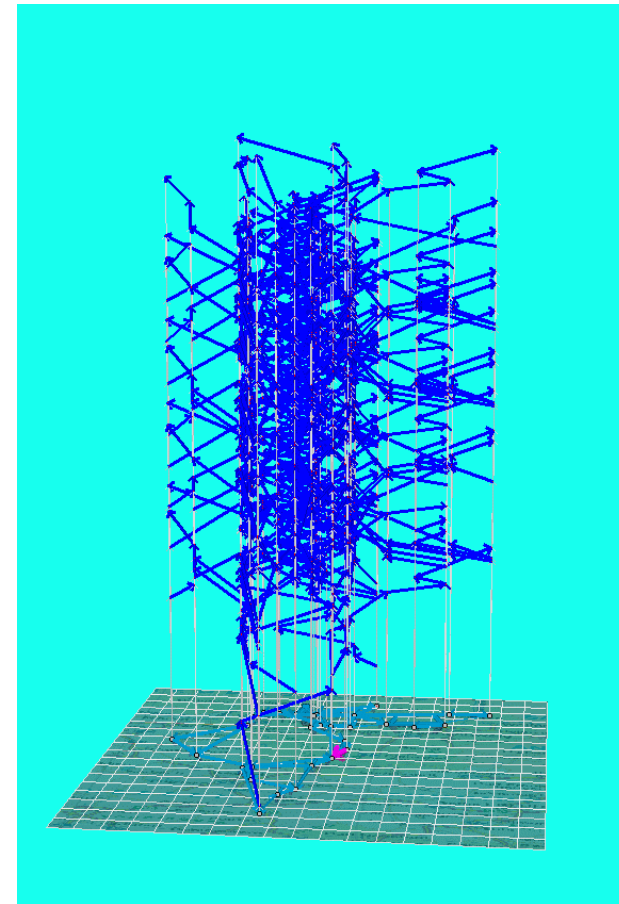
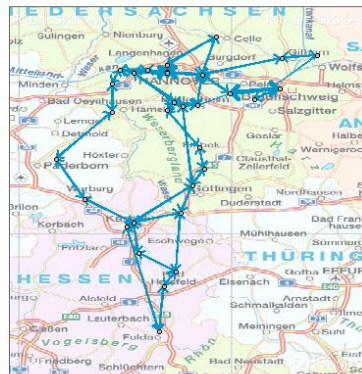


For details see [ZR-07-02, ZR-07-20].

Scenario: Hannover-Kassel-Fulda

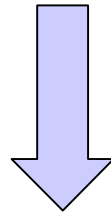
- **Situation**

- ~ 8h time window
- 250 trains (ICE,IC,RE,RB,S)
- ~ original public timetable 2002
- utility function 156468.0
(~track prices)



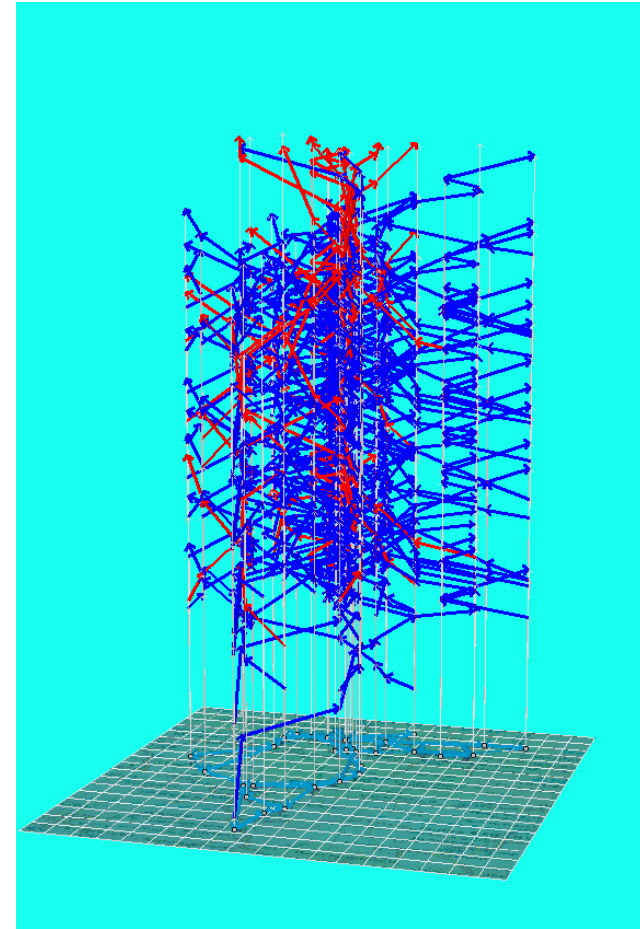
Optimization problem with thousands of possible paths

- additional demand of 35 cargo trains



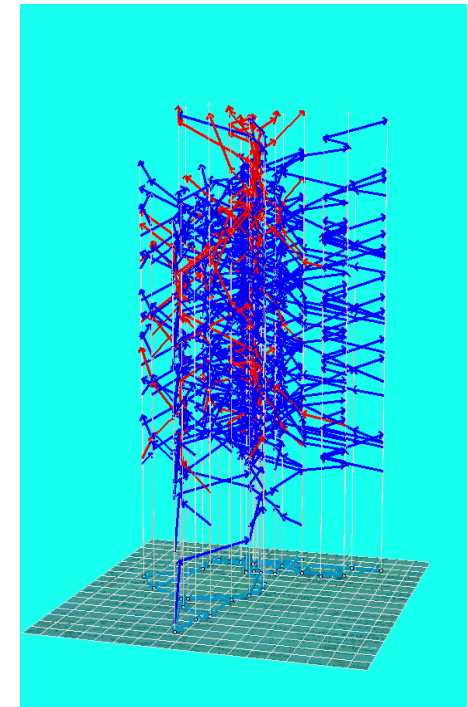
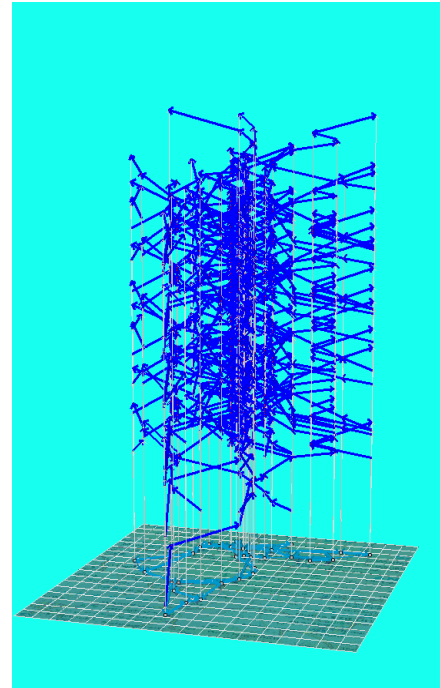
- **265 trains scheduled**

- 237 „old“ passenger trains
- 28 „new“ cargo trains
- utility function 174628.0
(ca. + 12%)



Don't try this by hand !

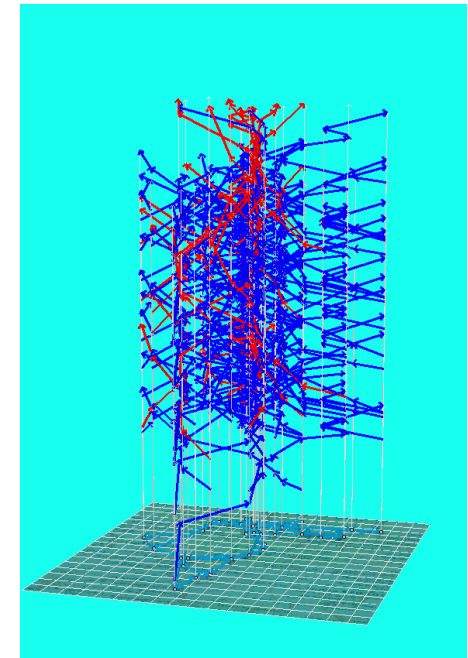
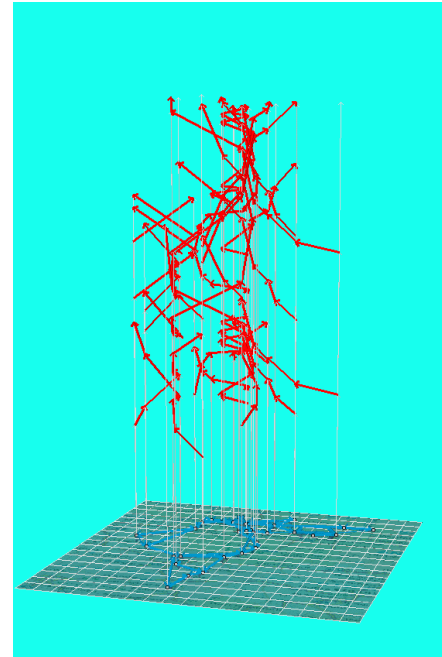
- **237 "old" passenger trains**
 - 13 deleted
 - more than 100 trains were shifted (at least one difference in departure or arrival at some station)
 - computation time: several minutes



Scheduling with guarantee !

- **28 “new” cargo trains**

- scheduling per hand is too complex, time-consuming and not resistant against mistakes of planners
- there is a need to have decision support for macroscopic timetabling to support crucial strategic decisions
- there is a need to evaluate macroscopic timetables on “real-world” microscopic stage



Outlook

Future Plans

- Model refinement (robustness)
- Model refinement (connections)
- Solver speedup by bundle method
- Adaptive IP heuristics
- Transformation Micro->Macro->Micro



Simulation of results by

OPEN  TRACK





**Thank you
for your attention !**

**Thomas Schlechte
Zuse-Institut Berlin (ZIB)
Takustr. 7, 14195 Berlin
Germany**

**Fon (+49 30) 84185-317
Fax (+49 30) 84185-269
schlechte@zib.de
www.zib.de/schlechte**