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Exact and Near Pareto Optimal Solutions for Total Completion Time and Total Late Work Problem

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Abstract

In this paper, the bi-criteria machine scheduling problems (BMSP) are solved, where the discussed problem is represented by the sum of completion and the sum of late work times $(1/(\sum C_j, \sum V_j))$ simultaneously. In order to solve the suggested BMSP, some metaheurisitc methods are suggested which produce good results. The suggested local search methods are simulated annulling and bees algorithm. The results of the new metaheurisitc methods are compared with the complete enumeration method, which is considered an exact method, then compared results of the heuristics with each other to obtain the most efficient method.

Keywords: Bi-criteria machine scheduling problems, Complete enumeration method, completion time, Late work times.

حلول باريتو الدقيقة والتقريبية لمسألة مجموع اوقات الاتمام ومجموع اوقات الاعمال المتاخرة

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الخلاصه

في هذا البحث تم ايجاد بعض الطرق لحل واحدة من مسائل جدولة الماكنة ثنائية المعايير (BMSP). ان المسألة المراد مناقشتها تتمثل بمسألة مجموع اوقات الاتمام ومجموع الاعمال المتاخرة $((\sum C_j, \sum V_j))$ انيا. لحل هذه المسألة, تم اقتراح فوق الحدسية والتي اعطت نتائج جيدة. ان الطرق المقترحة لحل المسالة المذكورة هي طريقة محاكاة التلدين وخوارزمية النحل. ان نتائج الطرق الحدسية المقترحة تم مقارنتها مع طريقة العد التام ومن ثم تم مقارنة نتائج تلك الطرق المقترحة مع بعضها لتحديد اي الطريقتين هي الاكفاً.

1. Introduction

Machine scheduling optimization problems with two criteria are based on competing for objective functions, a set is formed and called the Efficient Pareto optimal solutions set, which is regarded as a vicarious of one optimal solution. This set contains one (or more) solution(s)

that, according to the objective functions, are superior to any other solution(s). In the literature, there are two approaches for multicriteria scheduling problems [1]; the simultaneous approach and the hierarchical approach.

The most important in the last five years' literature surveys are: some efficient algorithms are suggested for solving the BMSP. Ali and Abdul-Kareem (2017) [2], in their paper, some kinds of local search methods (LSM): Bees algorithm (BA) and particle swarm optimization (PSO) are used to minimize $(T_{max}, V_{max}, \sum V_j)$ simultaneously.

Gallo and Capozzi (2019) [3] used Simulated Annealing (SA) to solve MSP on *m* machines to minimize the total completion time $(\sum \sum C_j^k)$. SA and its key parameters (tempering, freezing, cooling, and the number of contours to be explored) are investigated, and the choices made in identifying these parameters are illustrated in order to generate a good algorithm that efficiently solves the MSP.

Ali and Ahmed (2020) [4] introduced a multicriteria objectives function $1/(\sum C_j, R_L, T_{max})$ *P*-problem in a single MSP which is solved by BAB and some heuristic methods. Some special cases are introduced and proved to find efficient solutions to problems. Then they solved $1/(\sum C_j + R_L + T_{max})$ *P*₁-problem to find optimal or good solutions by using exact and heuristic methods [5]. Lastly, the BA and PSO are used for solving the two suggested problems [6].

Ali et. al. (2021) [7] implemented the Neural Networks (NN) to manipulate the MSP $1/(T_{max}, V_{max}, \sum V_j)$ simultaneously. The results prove the efficiency of NN which is learned by back propagation algorithm for $n \leq 500$ jobs.

Ibrahim et. al. (2022) [8] proposed a BAB method to solve the multi-objective function (MOF) problem $1/(\sum E_j + T_j + C_j + U_j + V_j)$. Also, they use fast LSMs (SA and Genetic Algorithms (GA)) yielding near optimal solution. they report on computation experience; the performances of the exact and LSMs are tested on a large class of test problems.

The mathematical formulation of $1/(\sum C_j, \sum V_j)$ is discussed in section two we will discuss problem (*CV*-problem) and its subproblem $(1/(\sum (C_j + V_j)))$ problem (*CV*₁-problem). The simulated annealing and Bees Algorithm are introduced as a metaheuristic method to solve the two problems which are introduced in section three. Section four introduces the comparative and the practical and results. In section five, we will present the discussion of the practical results. Finally, in section six, some conclusions and recommendations are presented. In this manner we introduce some important notations:

n	:	The number of jobs.
<i>p</i> _j	:	The processing time of jobs <i>j</i> .
<i>d</i> _j	:	The due date of jobs <i>j</i> .
Cj	:	The completion time of job <i>j</i> , where $C_j = \sum_{k=1}^{j} p_k$.
Tj	:	The tardiness of job j, $T_j = \max \{C_j - d_j, 0\}$.
V_j	:	The late work of job <i>j</i> , where $V_j = min\{p_j, T_j\}$.
$\sum C_j$:	Total completion time.
$\sum V_j$:	Total late work.
OP	:	Optimal Value of CV_1 -problem.

First, we have to introduce the following notations:

Definition (1) [9]: A schedule *S* is said to be efficient if another schedule *S'* cannot satisfy $f_j(S') \le f_j(S)$, j = 1, ..., k, with at least one of the above holding as a strict inequality. Another way to say this is that *S'* dominates *S*.

Definition (2) [10]: In a multicriteria resolution, the term "optimize" refers to a solution in which there is no way to develop or improve one objective without worsening the other.

Definition (3): Let (f_0, g_0) be a solution for multi-criteria problem 1//(f, g), then the Euclidean distance (d) for this solution is:

 $d = \sqrt{f_0^2 + g_0^2}$...(1) **Remark (1)**: The *d* distance can be a good measure to find the best efficient solution from the set of Pareto optimal set.

Proposition (1): Let (f_0, g_0) be a solution for multi-criteria problem 1//(f, g), and $f_0 \neq 0$ and $g_0 \neq 0$ then always: $f_0 \leq d$. **Proof**: Let's assume that $f_0 > d$, from (1):

$$f_0 > \sqrt{f_0^2 + g_0^2}$$

$$f_0^2 > f_0^2 + g_0^2$$

This is a contradiction since the above inequality is not true even $f_0 = 0$ and $g_0 = 0$.

2. The $1/(\sum C_i, \sum V_i)$ Problem with Mathematical Formulation

Consider we have a single machine, with set $N = \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ with n jobs, let $\sigma \in S$ which is the set of all feasible schedules. We want to minimize the problem $(\sum C_j, \sum V_j)$, which is formulated as follows:

$$\begin{array}{l} Min\{\sum C_{j}, \sum V_{j}\} \\ \text{Subject to,} \\ C_{j} \geq p_{\sigma(j)}, & j = 1, 2, ..., n. \\ C_{j} = C_{(j-1)} + p_{\sigma(j)}, & j = 2, 3, ..., n. \\ T_{j} \geq C_{j} - d_{\sigma(j)}, & j = 1, 2, ..., n. \\ V_{j} = min\{p_{j}, T_{j}\}, & j = 1, 2, ..., n. \\ T_{j}, V_{j} \geq 0, & j = 1, 2, ..., n. \end{array}$$
 ...(CV)

For *CV*-problem, we can deduce subproblem: The $1/(\sum C_j + \sum V_j$ Problem:

$$\begin{array}{l} Min\{\sum C_{j} + \sum V_{j}\} \\ \text{Subject to,} \\ C_{j} \geq p_{\sigma(j)}, & j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \\ C_{j} = C_{(j-1)} + p_{\sigma(j)}, & j = 2, 3, \dots, n. \\ T_{j} \geq C_{j} - d_{\sigma(j)}, & j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \\ V_{j} = min\{p_{j}, T_{j}\}, & j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \\ T_{j}, V_{j} \geq 0, & j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{array} \right\}$$
...(CV1)

The problems *CV* and *CV*₁ are NP-hard because of $\sum V_j$ is NP-hard.

Example 1:

From Remark (1), we check the usefulness of the d distance by using the following scheduling data:

	1	2	3	4
p_i	10	5	9	2
d_i	13	28	24	29

After applying the Complete Enumeration Method (CEM) for this data, we obtain (4) efficient solutions as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Efficient solutions for example (1) with distance *d*.

i	Efficient Sequence	Efficient Solution	d
1	4,2,3,1	(51,10)*	51.97
2	4,2,1,3	(52,6)#	52.35
3	4,1,2,3	(57,2)	57.04
4	4,1,3,2	(61,0)	61.00

Notice that, for CV-problem, the first efficient solution has the best d among all efficient solutions (signed with *), while for CV_1 -problem, the optimal solution is the second one (signed with #).

3. Metaheuristic Methods

In this section, we will discuss two metaheuristic methods to solve CV and CV_1 ; these two methods are simulated annealing and the Bees Algorithm.

3.1 Simulated Annealing

The physical annealing process is represented by simulated annealing (SA) [3]. This name refers to the simulation of the annealing process, which is associated with a temperature-decreasing annealing schedule. SA is a local optimization technique in which the initial solution is always improved by small local effects until none of these effects can improve the solution any further.

The initial state or solution of a thermodynamic system was chosen at energy (*Cost*) and temperature as the original Metropolis acceptance criterion (*Temp* or *t*). Keeping constant t, the initial setting of the system is perturbed to produce a new setting and the energy ΔC is calculated. If ΔC is negative, the new setting is accepted without conditions; otherwise, it is accepted with a probability determined by the Boltzmann factor $e^{-\Delta C/Temp}$ to stay away from trapping in the local optima. A simple scheme of SA [11] is as follows:

Simulated Annealing Algorithm

 $\label{eq:ch} \hline [ch'] = \mathrm{SA}(ch) \\ ch' = ch; \\ Cost = \mathrm{Evaluate}(ch'); \\ Temp = InitialTemperature; \\ \mathrm{WHILE} \ (Temp > FinalTemperature) \\ ch_1 = \mathrm{Mutate}(ch'); \\ NewCost = \mathrm{Evaluate}(ch_1); \\ \Delta C = NewCost - Cost; \\ \mathrm{IF} \ (\Delta C \leq 0) \ \mathrm{OR} \ (e^{-\Delta C/Temp} > Rand) \ \mathrm{THEN} \end{aligned}$

```
Cost = NewCost;

ch' = ch_1;

ENDIF

Temp = cooling \ rate \times Temp;

END{WHILE}

Return the best solution;
```

END

It's important to mention that:

- cooling rate is 0.95.
- Temperature is 10000.

• Temperature is 0.

• *Rand* as a uniform real random.

• *ch* is the chromosome, in MSP its represent the sequence of scheduling, for instance, for n = 5, ch = [3 4 5 2 1].

3.2 Bees Algorithm (BA)

The main processes in Bees Algorithm (BA) are the queen bee's mating flight with drones, the queen bee's creation of new broods, worker fitness improvement, worker adaptation, and the replacement of the least fit queen with the fittest brood [12].

The challenge is to adapt the colony's self-organization behavior to problem solving. The BA is an optimization algorithm inspired by honey bee foraging behavior to find the best solution. [13].

The most important parameters of BA are:

k	:	Number of scout bees which are be selected randomly.
m	:	Number of sites of flowers which are selected out of n visited sites.
е	:	Number of best sites which are selected out of m site randomly.
nep	:	Number of bees recruited for best <i>e</i> sites.
nsp	:	Number of bees recruited for the remaining $(m - e)$ selected sites.
ngh	:	Initial size of patches which includes site and its neighborhood and stopping conditions.

The main steps of BA are as follows:

Bees Algorithm

INPUT: *k*, *m*, *e*, *nep*, *nsp*, Maximum of iterations.

Step1. Initialization of random solutions population.

Step2. Evaluate fitness of each solution (individual) in the population.

Step3. WHILE stopping criterion is not met

Step4. Select sites for neighborhood search.

Step5. Choosing recruit bees for the selected sites and evaluate fitness's.

Step6. Select the fittest or best bee from each patch.

Step7. Assign remaining bees to search randomly and evaluate their fitness's.

Step8. END{WHILE}.

OUTPUT: Best solutions.

END.

Note: The random solutions (*RS*) in population of MSP is the random sequence of scheduling, for instance, for n = 4, $RS = [4 \ 1 \ 3 \ 2]$.

The advantages of Bees algorithm [19]:

• BA is more scalable; it takes less time to complete the objective.

• BA is more efficient at finding and collecting food because it requires fewer steps.

4. Practical Results of CV and CV₁-Problems

Since we deal with the MSP, so the p_j and d_j values are generated randomly for five examples s.t. $p_j \in [1,10]$ and:

 $d_j \in \begin{cases} [1,30], & 1 \le n \le 29, \\ [1,40], & 30 \le n \le 99, \\ [1,50], & 100 \le n \le 999, \\ [1,70], & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

with condition $d_j \ge p_j$, for j = 1, 2, ..., n.

Now, we introduce the following abbreviations:

Ex	:	Example Number.
Aν	:	Average.
ANS	:	Average number of efficient solutions.
AAE	:	Average Absolute Error.
AT	:	Average of Time per second.
Ad	:	Average of Euclidean distance.
ASOF	:	Average Single Objective Function.
F ₁	:	Objective Function value for CV_1 -problem.
AMOF	:	Average Multi Objective Function.
F	:	Objective Function value for CV-problem.
R	:	0 < Real < 1.

4.1 Comparison Results of CV-problem.

The CEM, BA and SA methods all were tested by programming them using MATLAB ver2017R.

Comparison efficient results between CEM(F) with LSM: BA(F) and SA(F) for *CV*-problem are shown in table (2), for n = 4: 11.

Table 2: Comparison between CEM(F), BA(F) and SA(F) for *CV*-problem, n = 4: 11.

n	CEM(F)				BA(F)				-	SA(F)		
	AMOF	AT	ANS	Ad	AT	ANS	Ad	AAE	AT	ANS	Ad	AAE
4	(54.9,7.0)	R	2.6	55.5	R	2.6	59.7	(1.7,0.1)	R	2.6	55.5	(0,0)
5	(64.6,8.3)	R	2.2	65.3	R	3.4	72.5	(5,0.8)	R	2.0	65.0	(0.4,0.1)
6	(99.9,11.3)	R	5.0	100.7	1	2.8	114.8	(3.2,1.6)	R	4.0	101.0	(1.4,1.3)
7	(131.0,16.5)	R	5.4	132.2	1.0	2.8	155.0	(10,1.4)	R	4.0	131.6	(4.4,0.2)
8	(206.1,29.7)	R	3.2	208.2	1.1	2.8	243.6	(23.5,1.9)	R	3.0	211.6	(6.9,0.3)
9	(230.9,31.8)	3.7	3.6	233.1	1.1	3.4	258.5	(34.2,3.8)	R	2.4	241.0	(1,0.5)
10	(202.4,27.7)	41.2	5.6	204.3	1.1	3.4	261.6	(47.8,1.7)	R	3.0	230.3	(0.7,0.9)
11	(298.7,42.4)	470.6	3.8	301.8	1.2	2.8	362.9	(74.8,0.7)	R	3.4	307.7	(21.5,0.1)
Aν	(161.0,21.8)	64.4	3.9	162.6	0.8	3	191.1	(25.0,1.5)	0	3.1	168.0	(4.5,0.4)

By using Table 2, Figure 1 shows the *Ad* values for results of CEM(F), BA(F) and SA(F), for *CV*-problem, for n = 4: 11.



Figure 1: Comparison results of *Ad* for CEM(F), BA(F) and SA(F) for n = 4: 11.

The comparison results between BA(F) and SA(F) for *CV*-problem for n = 30,70,100,300,700,1000,3000 are shown in Table 3.

n]	BA(F)			S	SA(F)		
	AMOF	AT	ANS	Ad	AMOF	AT	ANS	Ad
30	(2456.8,139.5)	2.0	3.4	2543.7	(1964.4,134.8)	R	5.4	1979.7
70	(12933.5,355.1)	5.1	3.4	13442.4	(9922.6,347.9)	1.5	3.4	10019.9
100	(27478.0,526.4)	6.8	2.6	27587.1	(21535.2,520.6)	1.9	7.2	20604.1
300	(244350.1,1615.5)	19.2	3.4	249521.8	(235625.2,1609.6)	5.2	4.6	234054.9
700	(1336548.6,3806.6)	35.9	4.2	1348243.8	(1333398.8,3800.0)	10.4	2.2	1324956.1
1000	(2721058.4,5445.0)	39.9	3.0	2759528.0	(2754414.6,5447.8)	14.4	2.4	2729210.4
3000	(24566261.5,16433.5)	103.8	3.0	24675496.5	(24720184.2,16433.5)	43.2	1.2	24678990.9

Table 3: a comparison results between BA(F) and SA(F) for *CV*-problem for different *n*.

4.2 Comparison Results of CV₁-problem.

The optimal results of $CEM(F_1)$ are compared with results of $BA(F_1)$ and $SA(F_1)$, n = 4:11, for CV_1 -problem, these results are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: (Comparison between	$CEM(F_1)$ and $BA(F_1)$ and $SA(F_2)$), $n = 4: 11$, for CV_1 -problem.
n	$\operatorname{CEM}(\boldsymbol{F_1})$	BA(F ₁)	$SA(F_1)$

	ОР	AT	ASOF	AT	AAE	ASOF	AT	AAE
4	60.0	R	60.0	R	0	60.0	R	0
5	71.6	R	71.6	R	0	71.6	R	0
6	106.0	R	106.0	R	0	108.4	R	2.4
7	142.2	R	142.8	R	0.6	143.2	R	1
8	233.0	R	233.8	R	0.8	235.0	R	2
9	259.8	5.7	265.0	R	5.2	261.8	R	2
10	225.0	66.9	244.4	R	19.4	225.2	R	0.2
11	339.4	667.4	357.0	R	17.6	341.0	R	1.6
Aν	179.6	92.5	185.1	R	5.5	180.8	R	1.2

Notice that the heuristics $BA(F_1)$, and $SA(F_1)$ give good objective values compared with $CEM(F_1)$, and that can be noticed from *AAE*, for CV_1 -problem.

For CV_1 -problem, Figure 2 shows the comparison results of $CEM(F_1)$, $BA(F_1)$ and $SA(F_1)$. All these results are obtained from Table 4, for number of jobs n = 4: 11.



Figure 2: Comparison results of $CEM(F_1)$, $BA(F_1)$ and $SA(F_1)$ for n = 4:11.

Table 5 describes the average of best solutions for CV_1 -problem for n = 30,70,100,300,700,1000 and 3000, using BA(F_1) and SA(F_1).

~	BA(F ₁)	SA(F ₁)	
n	ASOF	AT	ASOF	AT
30	2428.2	R	2019.8	R
70	12869.0	1.4	9935.4	R
100	27305.4	1.9	20476.4	R
300	241951.2	7.1	235602.4	2.0
700	1322347.0	5.0	1338330.4	2.8
1000	2697302.8	8.7	2714383.6	3.1
3000	24488108.6	14.6	24788317.6	7.5
Αυ	4113187.0	5.5	4158438.3	2.2

Table 5: Results of comparison of $BA(F_1)$ and $SA(F_1)$ for (CV_1) , for different *n*.

5. Evaluation of Practical Results of The Suggested Problems

1. For CV-problem:

a. The SA(*F*) is better than BA(*F*) in accuracy compared with CEM(*F*) and in CPU-time they approximate each other (see tables (2)) for all $n \le 11$.

b. We notice that SA(F) has good accuracy compared with BA(F), for $30 \le n \le 700$, while BA(F) is better for $1000 \le n \le 3000$. In CPU-time SA(F) is better for all different n, see Table 3.

2. For CV₁-problem:

a. In accuracy, we see that $SA(F_1)$ is relatively better than $BA((F_1)$ in accuracy for $n \le 11$ compared with $CEM((F_1))$, and so on in CPU-time, see Table 4.

b. We see that SA(F) has better accuracy compared with BA(F), for $30 \le n \le 300$, while BA(F) is better for $700 \le n \le 3000$. In CPU-time SA(F) is better for all *n* (see tables (5)).

6. Conclusions and Future Work

1. The practical results of this paper show the efficiency of the two suggested methods: BA and SA for the two problems.

2. For CV-problem, $n \le 700$, the performance of SA is better than BA in accuracy, while BA is better than SA for n > 700, and SA is better CPU-time for all n.

3. For CV₁-problem, $n \le 300$, the performance of SA is better than BA in accuracy, while BA is better than SA for n > 300, and SA is better CPU-time for all n.

4. To increase the efficiency of the two LSMs, we suggest a hybrid between SA and BA to solve the two problems CV and CV_1 .

5. For future work, we suggest using other local search methods (like Ant colony algorithm, genetic algorithm, particle swarm optimization..., etc) to find efficient and approximation solutions for CV and CV₁-problem for n > 100.

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