

DEVELOPMENT OF A NETWORK ALGORITHM AND ITS
APPLICATION TO COMBINATORIAL PROBLEMS

by *RG*

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CHAPTER I

Introduction

As problems in business and industry become more and more complex, fields such as operations research and management science have been called upon for their ability to solve or at least lessen these problems. The diversity accompanying such problems might be expected; however, their magnitude is sometimes overwhelming. For example, consider the seemingly simple task of sequencing five jobs on say three machines, so as to optimize some measure of performance such as schedule time. If one would attempt to evaluate every possible sequence in this problem, a total of $(5!)^3$ sequences would have to be evaluated. Obviously, when the number of jobs and machines increases, the magnitude of this type of problem increases tremendously, for the number of possible sequences can be expressed in general as $(J!)^M$, where J is the number of jobs and M represents the number of machines.

While the above illustration represents only a specific type of problem, namely that of scheduling theory, it more importantly, gives rise to a much wider range of emphasis and that is the combinatorial problem in general. Many techniques have been suggested for use in combinatorial problems and naturally, some are more powerful than others. Of course, any technique that reduces the computation involved in obtaining solutions, is much more desirable than simple enumeration.

Nevertheless, this work presents a discussion of a particular technique which can be used to solve various combinatorial problems. The first chapter is organized into three sections. The first involves a general discussion of the combinatorial problem and some of its characteristics. The second section considers a brief historical background pertaining specifically to the work done in this thesis, and the last section deals with proposed research.

1.1 The Combinatorial Problem

Rigorous definitions of the combinatorial problem, as has been suggested in literature of the field, are very difficult to formulate. In general, however, such problems concern themselves with the study of arrangements or groupings of finite numbers of elements into sets. Such arrangements are generally constrained by boundary restrictions imposed upon the problem. To illustrate this situation, let us return to the $J \times M$ scheduling problem again. If we consider the total number of sequences possible, to be one large set, we can further decompose such a set into smaller subsets with respect to two considerations.

The first consideration involves constraints on the problem, in the form of machine orderings. Such orderings are the result of existing technological requirements. Consequently, any sequence from the total of all sequences that violates such requirements would be non-feasible and can be removed from consideration as a possible solution.

The second major consideration is that of optimality. Obviously, there are solutions to the problem that are superior to other solutions, considering, of course, a particular measure of performance. Therefore, the set of solutions remaining from the entire set after removal of those that are non-feasible can be further decomposed into two subsets; those that are optimal and those that are non-optimal. This entire decomposition of solutions can be illustrated in general by Fig. 1.1.

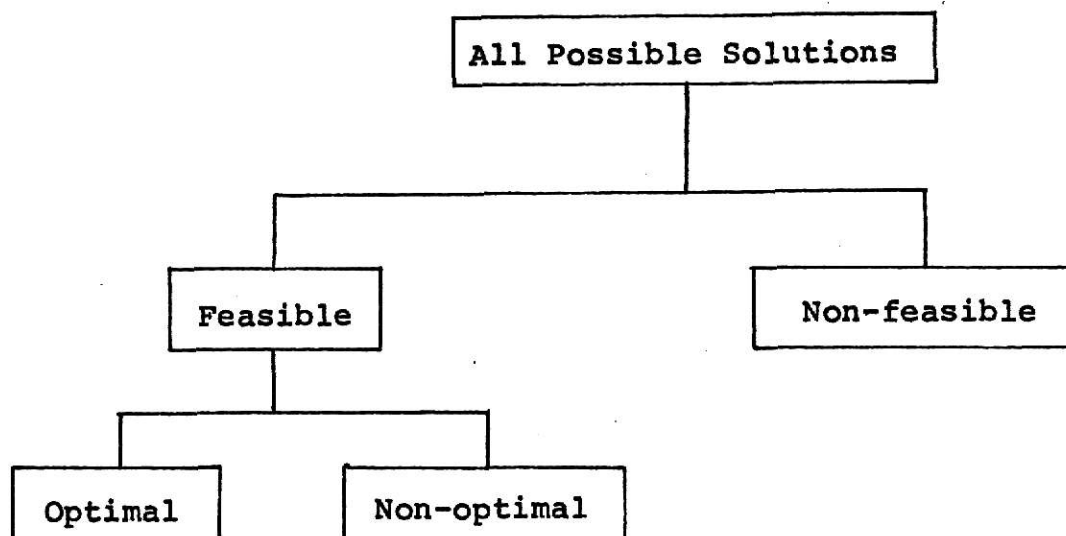


Fig. 1.1. Decomposition of possible solutions to the combinatorial problem.

Naturally, there are many problems that can be classified as combinatorial. Use has been made thus far of only one type of combinatorial problem, that of scheduling; however, other types of problems such as the traveling salesman, delivery, line balancing, and critical path, to mention a few, can be so classified.

1.2. Historical Background

In 1959, Giffler [8], introduced the concept of schedule algebra and with it, described techniques for solving production scheduling problems. His work was updated in 1962 when he presented a computational technique known informally as the schedule algebra algorithm, [5], which, of course, was based upon the use of the schedule algebra operators.

Since 1963, however, there seems to have been very little amplification of Giffler's work. Appearances in the literature occurred [6, 7, 9, 10], but such publications have basically been representations by Giffler of the original work. Consequently, since the schedule algebra algorithm was first introduced, there has been little continuation of its concept. The entire literature survey can be presented as shown below:

Year	Reference	Description
1959	[8]	A demonstration of the use of conventional matrix algebra in the solution of explosion problems, as well as the development and demonstration of a schedule algebra used to solve scheduling problems.
1959	[9]	A presentation of algorithms which can be used in solution of the general scheduling problem.
1959	[10]	An introduction to the concept of active schedules; however, basically, this presentation is equivalent to that in [9].

- 1961 [7] A summary of various scheduling theories and discussion of the schedule algebra and its application to explosion and scheduling problems. This work in general is very similar to that of [5].
- 1962 [5] A formulation of the schedule algebra operators and a formal presentation of the schedule algebra algorithm.
- 1968 [6] A summary of the current status of schedule algebra, its origin, application, and its motivation. In general, this work embodies most of the concepts presented in Giffler's earlier work.

In trying to trace the work which may have led to the schedule algebra algorithm, it was found, in another work by Giffler in 1959, that a linear algorithm was presented [9]. It was believed that this algorithm was linked to the schedule algebra algorithm. While investigating such a relationship, another technique, which was unnamed at the time, was mentioned in the same literature. This technique did, indeed, bear a great deal of resemblance to the current schedule algebra algorithm. Furthermore, it was found that through implementation of some of the characteristics of the schedule algebra algorithm and simple experimentation, the network algorithm could be constructed. Referral to the technique as a network algorithm arose from its direct applicability to problems which can be formulated into networks.

At first, the use of this network algorithm was confined to the scheduling problem. However, its application to other

network problems became evident and as such, the entire concern of this work became shifted from what was originally an analysis of Giffler's schedule algebra algorithm, to a formalization and application of the network algorithm.

1.3. Proposed Research

The motivation for beginning this research was the result of two primary factors. The first involved the fact that the original schedule algebra was developed in 1959 and, until the present time, has not been investigated further. This situation can be verified by examining the literature summary presented earlier. All work since 1959 seems to have been confined only to the originator of the technique.

The second consideration, which is an outgrowth of the first, pertains to the fact that there has been no new presentation made in the literature, with respect to the schedule algebra. While there have been several publications by a single individual, there was little diversity among such presentations; hence, it became evident that there was little or no new development of the schedule algebra concept.

The apparent scarcity of work dealing with the schedule algebra concept, instigated research into three basic areas. They are, (1) the development of a network algorithm which is based upon the schedule algebra operators and which embodies a criteria referred to as a lower bound to improve the solution,

(2) the extension of the application of this network algorithm to other combinatorial problems, and (3) the investigation into the computational experience which results when the network algorithm is applied to problems of varying dimensions.

CHAPTER II

Development of a Network Approach

At the outset, the main emphasis for this research was placed upon the use of the schedule algebra algorithm as presented in Appendix B. However, as the study progressed, this consideration was slowly modified until the resultant network approach emerged. Consequently, the scope of this work became centered around this modification and its applicability to the combinatorial problem in general. Nevertheless, this chapter will deal with the development and basic concepts of the network approach. Its application will be demonstrated with a sample problem, and, finally, a computational algorithm will be presented in a formal fashion. A general nature, with respect to the concepts of the approach, is maintained in order to allow applicability to other problem formulations. Such further application will be discussed in Chapter III.

2.1 Basic Concepts

The network technique is a systematic approach which searches for a solution among a subset of feasible sequences. The basic concepts of this network approach involve: (1) the representation of the problem in a network which, in turn, is depicted in a precedence matrix, (2) the manipulation of the precedence matrix based on the star algebra operators, and (3) the evaluation of the resulting sequence to obtain the corresponding schedule time.

A network can be described as consisting of a set of nodes and branches which connect various pairs of nodes. If these branches are specifically oriented, they are then said to be directed. For example, the network depicted in Fig. 2.1 is directed because every connecting branch is oriented in a specific direction.

The scheduling problem can be formulated into a network or directed linear graph by making use of the precedence relationships that are inherent in the machine orderings. As defined earlier, the scheduling problem can be represented by machine ordering and processing time matrices. This representation can be shown with the aid of the following sample problem:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 13 & 11 \\ 21 & 23 & 22 \\ 33 & 31 & 32 \\ 41 & 42 & 43 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 8 & 4 & 5 \\ 6 & 3 & 9 \\ 7 & 6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By considering the second row of the machine ordering matrix, we can interpret the following: job 2 is processed on machine 1 first, machine 3 second, and machine 2 last.

Using the directed linear graph, the machine orderings of jobs 1, 2, 3, and 4, can be represented as shown in Fig. 2.2. These relationships are nothing more than those of direct precedence. Further, they can be considered as partial orderings.

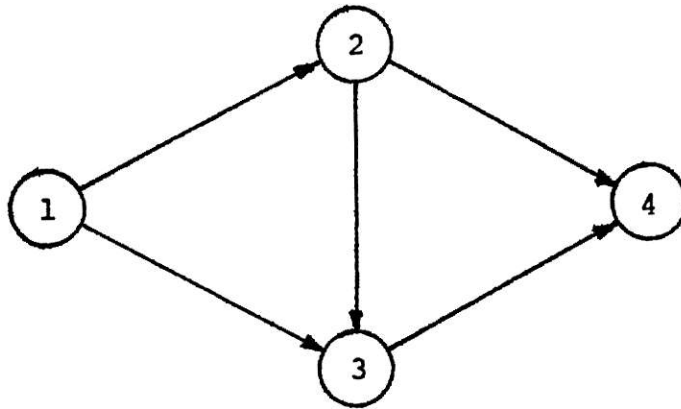


Fig. 2.1. A directed network

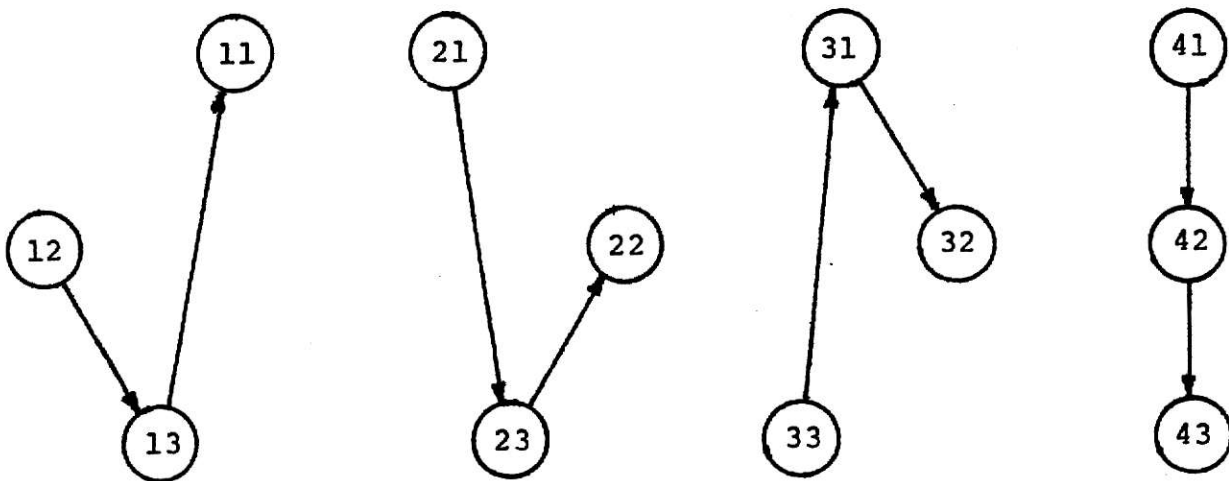


Fig. 2.2. Directed linear graph depicting machine orderings.

In fact, this re-definition will be used synonymously with machine orderings throughout this discussion. Nevertheless, any scheduling problem, as previously stated in mathematical form, can be depicted with the linear graph representation as illustrated in Fig. 2.2.

Once the linear graphs have been constructed, the search for a solution to the problem can commence. Such a solution involves determining the sequence of the jobs on each machine. That is, the task becomes one of finding a job sequencing matrix, S such that

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 41 & 31 & 21 & 11 \\ 12 & 42 & 32 & 22 \\ 33 & 13 & 43 & 23 \end{bmatrix},$$

where machines 1, 2, and 3 perform the four jobs in the sequences { 4 3 2 1 }, { 1 4 3 2 }, and { 3 1 4 2 }, respectively.

Figure 2.3 shows a directed network which represents the above sequence. Note that this sequence is consistent with the machine ordering graphs.

In the scheduling problem, the network analysis is made with respect to two factors. The first is the partial ordering that is inherent in the statement of the problem. For example, the operation of reaming a hole could not precede the operation of drilling the hole. Technologically, it is not possible.

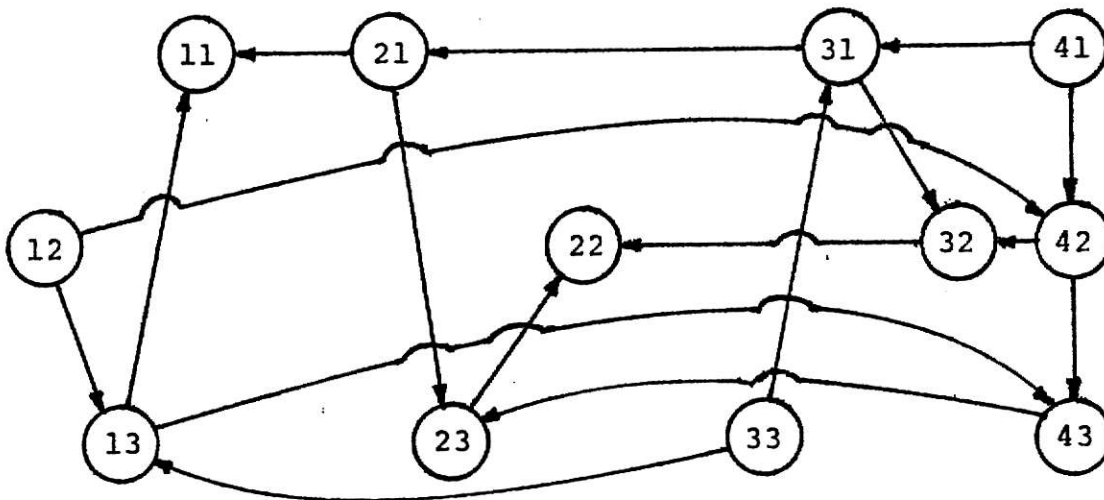


Fig. 2.3. Network depicting feasible sequence, S.

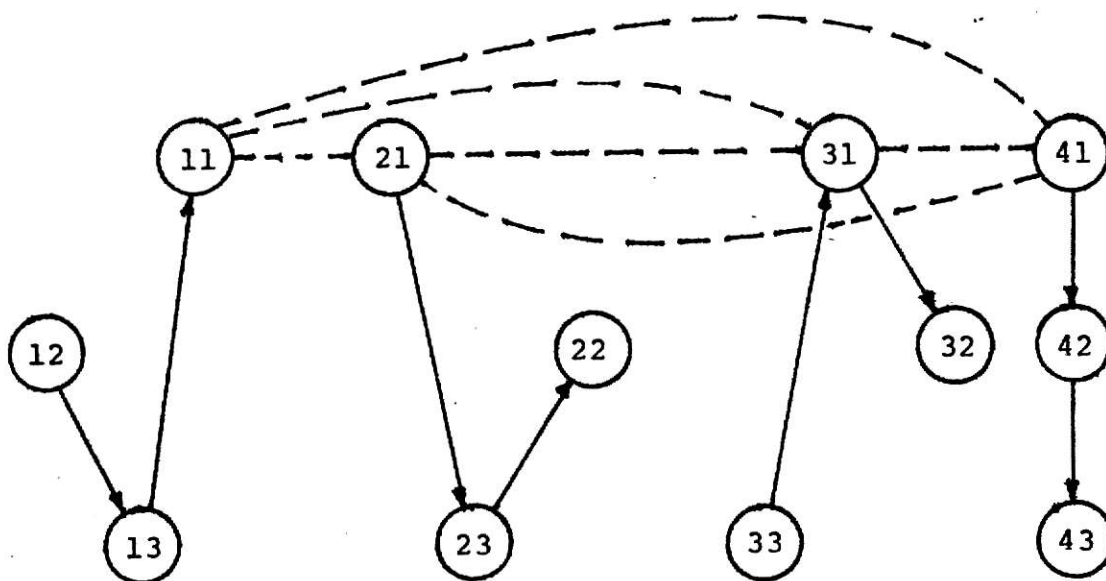


Fig. 2.4. Possible direct precedence relationships.

Such an ordering of precedence relationships are shown in the machine ordering matrix which was illustrated earlier. These partial orderings must be maintained in order to obtain a feasible solution. That is, any feasible sequence must be consistent with the partial orderings. Naturally, any sequence that does not maintain these partial orderings will be non-feasible.

The second factor pertains to the sequences in which jobs are processed on each of the machines. It is this determination of job sequencings that is the primary consideration in the scheduling problem. Any evaluation of various solutions is only an evaluation of the sequence in which jobs can be processed on each machine.

By considering Fig. 2.2 again, let us reconstruct the four linear graphs, or partial orderings, with the following addition. The nodes representing operations on machine 1 are connected by broken lines which, as can be seen, are not oriented in any direction. These branches are normally repeated for the nodes representing operations on the other two machines, but in order to avoid congestion, they have been omitted in Fig. 2.4. Nonetheless, the logic of the broken line branches is very critical to the discussion of the network formulation as well as to the construction of the precedence matrix which will be discussed shortly.

Each branch implies the existence of a possible direct precedence relationship. For example, operation or node (11),

in Fig. 2.4, may directly precede operation or node (21). Conversely, node (21) may directly precede node (11). The exact precedence at this point is, of course, unknown. The significance of the broken line is simply to illustrate the unknown direction of precedence. However, it should be understood that certain broken lines will eventually become solid directed line segments which will depict a final direct precedence relationship. That is, when all broken lines are either made solid and directed or are deleted, a feasible sequence has been attained. Consequently, the construction in Fig. 2.4 cannot be classified as a network in its present state. This is only logical, because by virtue of the broken lines, not one, but many possible networks are represented. It is the task of the technique employed to determine one network from this population of many.

Once the problem has been formulated as shown in Fig. 2.4, it can be reformulated into a precedence matrix. It is this precedence matrix which is the basis for the network algorithm. The matrix is always square and its size is determined from the number of jobs and machines, such that the number of rows and columns is JM . The matrix is partitioned into M machine blocks, each of which has J rows and J columns. For example, a (4×3) scheduling problem can be represented by a precedence matrix of size 12×12 . This matrix consists of 3 machine blocks. Machine block 1 includes all 4 jobs on machine 1, block 2; the 4 jobs on machine 2, and block 3 contains 4 jobs on machine 3.

Entries are made in the precedence matrix, Q in a conventional manner. That is, an entry $q(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)$ is made with respect to its row first and then its column. The value of each entry is determined such that

$$q(j m_\ell, j m_\delta) = \begin{cases} t_{(j m_\ell)}, & \text{if } (j m_\ell) \ll (j m_\delta) \\ xt_{(j m_\ell)}, & \text{if } (j m_\ell) \ll (j m_\delta) \text{ is possible,} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where $(j m_\ell)$ indicates operation of job j on machine m_ℓ .

Once the precedence matrix has been constructed, the task of manipulation can begin. The very basic concept behind the manipulation of the precedence matrix is one of a step by step entry of nodes into solution. That is, by entering operations in a systematic manner, to be explained shortly, the investigator is, in essence, moving through the network. When this step by step process is completed, every node in the network will have been entered and, of course, some sequence will result.

Entries are made on a machine block basis. At each iteration, each machine block is checked for operations to enter next. This checking procedure involves scanning each column of the matrix in search of those nodes that are, in fact, ready for next entry into the solution. A node or operation can enter the solution or more generally, is a candidate for entry, if all nodes that directly precede it in the partial ordering, have already been entered. When such a condition for entry exists, the column represented by the node in question

is said to be null or potentially null. Nonetheless, this concept of entry is valid, of course, because any entry of some node $(j m_\ell)$ before a preceding node $(j m_\delta)$ has been entered, would be inconsistent with the partial ordering and would result in a non-feasible sequence.

If there is more than one candidate for entry in a machine block, a lower bound is applied and the conflict is resolved in favor of the operation which has the least lower bound. Nevertheless, when a node for next entry has been determined for each block (if no node can next enter from a particular block, the block is unchanged at that iteration) the matrix is updated. This involves updating the entries in the column of the corresponding node such that

$$xq_{(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } (j m_\ell) \text{ has not been previously} \\ & \text{entered,} \\ q_{(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)}, & \text{if } (j m_\ell) \text{ has been entered.} \end{cases}$$

If the entry $q_{(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)}$ is made, then all the remaining entries in the same row as the updated element, become zero. This procedure for entry and the corresponding update of each column follows from the nature of the problem, in general.

By noting that the only elements in a diagonal machine block that are not zero are those of the form $xq_{(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)}$, and further, recalling that the real problem at hand is to determine a sequence of jobs on each machine, it is completely logical that the procedure described above be carried out.

Naturally, if a node has been selected to next enter or, with reference to the sequencing problem, if a job has been selected to be processed next, any node entered previously would precede it. Furthermore, all nodes not yet entered would not precede it, but would, in fact, be preceded by the node now being entered. Consequently, in the former case, the update to relevant entries in the column represented by the entered node would involve changing an entry of the form $xq_{(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)}$ to $q_{(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)}$, while in the latter case, the change would be to zero. This concept will be illustrated by a sample problem.

When all nodes have been entered, the precedence matrix will contain only positive scalar entries or zeros. All conflicts on all machines will have been resolved, and some feasible sequence been obtained. However, to determine the earliest starting times, and, hence, the schedule time for the sequence, the concept of a starting time vector is employed.

This vector consists of JM elements. As an illustration, a starting vector for the (4 x 3) problem would be a vector of 12 elements. Initially, entries in the vector are either ι , 1, or zero. If the earliest possible starting time of a node is known, the entry is 1; otherwise, the entry is zero. Specifically, all initial nodes in the partial orderings will command entries, in the initial starting vector, of 1, while all other entries will be zero.

Once the initial starting vector has been constructed, a series of multiplications follow. The starting vector is multiplied by the final precedence matrix over and over until there is no change in succeeding vectors. Prior to each new multiplication, the vector is updated by being added to the vector of the preceding multiplication. Of course, the operations of multiplication and addition are those of star algebra discussed in Appendix A. Finally, the resultant starting vector represents the earliest starting times of all nodes, consistent, of course, with the sequence determined by the final precedence matrix. The schedule time can be easily computed from this final-starting time vector.

2.2 Sample Problem

Let us consider the following machine ordering and processing time matrices:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 13 & 11 \\ 21 & 23 & 22 \\ 33 & 31 & 32 \\ 41 & 42 & 43 \end{bmatrix} \quad T = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 8 & 4 & 5 \\ 6 & 3 & 9 \\ 7 & 6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 1. Construct the initial starting vector, T^0 , such that

$$T^0 = [0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0],$$

Table 2.1. Initial Precedence Matrix, Q^0 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x3	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	x8	x8	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	x3	x3	0	x3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
(41)	x7	x7	x7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	x4	x4	x4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	x5	0	x5	x5	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	x9	x9	0	x9	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	x6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	x2	x2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	x4	0	x4	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	0	x6
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	x2	x2	0

where only the earliest starting times of nodes (21), (41), (12), and (33) are known and so signified by the entries of x .

Step 2. Construct the precedence matrix, Q^0 from the partial orderings and possible direct precedence relationships as illustrated in Fig. 2.4.

Table 2.2. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, Q^1 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	x8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
(41)	x7	x7	x7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	x4	x4	x4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	x5	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	x9	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	x2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	x4	0	0	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	0	x6
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	x2	0	0

Step 3. Check for nodes to enter. Columns (33), (12), (21), and (41) are potentially null, and thus, they can be marked. The conflict between jobs 2 and 4 on machine 1, is resolved in favor of job 4, based on a composite lower bound which is described in Appendix C. Upon application of the lower bound, it is found

Table 2.3. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, Q^2

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	x2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	0

that the bound for job 4 is lower than that of job 3; consequently, job 4 is selected to next start.

Step 4. Update the precedence matrix by entering the latest marked nodes. The three columns (33), (12), and (41) are made null, and the matrix Q^0 is updated to matrix Q^1 .

Table 2.4. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, Q^3 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	0

Step 5. Repeat step 3 by checking for three new nodes to enter. From the updated matrix Q^1 , we can mark columns (13), (42), (31), and (21). Once again, we see the existence of a tie in machine block 1. Both nodes (31) and (21) are potentially null; and consequently, we shall apply the composite bound and

Table 2.5. Final Precedence Matrix, Q^4 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0

resolve the tie in favor of job 3. This resolution is, made in favor of job 3 since its bound is lower than that of job 2. Nonetheless, columns (13), (42), and (31) are marked. The matrix Q^1 is now updated and becomes Q^2 .

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The next ~~three~~ columns selected to enter are (43), (32), and (21). It should be pointed out that there is again a tie in machine block 1. The tie, involving nodes (21) and (11), is broken in favor of (21) after application of the lower bound. After updating the above matrix with respect to these three nodes, the resulting matrix, Q^3 , can be constructed.

The remaining three columns, (23), (22), and (11), are marked and matrix Q^3 can be updated to become Q^4 . This resultant matrix Q^4 is the final matrix, for all nodes have been entered.

Step 6. Compute the earliest starting times of all nodes. Upon multiplying the initial starting vector T^0 by the final precedence matrix Q^4 , the resultant vector is as follows:

$$[8 \ 0 \ 7 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 7 \ 6 \ 8 \ 0 \ 0] .$$

When this vector is added to T^0 , the resultant is T^1 , where

$$T^1 = [8 \ 1 \ 7 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 7 \ 6 \ 8 \ 1 \ 0] .$$

By repeating this procedure until there is no change in succeeding T vectors, we find that we must compute a total of four T vectors. These vectors are:

$$T^2 = [8 \ 10 \ 7 \ 1 \ 1 \ 12 \ 13 \ 7 \ 6 \ 8 \ 1 \ 13] ,$$

$$T^3 = [18 \ 10 \ 7 \ 1 \ 1 \ 22 \ 13 \ 7 \ 6 \ 18 \ 1 \ 13] ,$$

and

$$T^4 = [18 \ 10 \ 7 \ 1 \ 1 \ 22 \ 13 \ 7 \ 6 \ 18 \ 1 \ 13] .$$

Note that vector T^4 is identical to T^3 .

Step 7. Calculate the final sequence and the schedule time. From the final T vector, we can compute the sequence and its corresponding schedule time. By ordering the jobs with respect to their starting times in each machine block of the final T vector, we have the following sequences on each machine:

machine 1: { 4 3 2 1 } ,

machine 2: { 1 4 3 2 } ,

machine 3: { 3 1 4 2 } .

The job sequencing matrix can be taken from the above ordering such that

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 41 & 31 & 21 & 11 \\ 12 & 42 & 32 & 22 \\ 33 & 13 & 43 & 23 \end{bmatrix} .$$

If we locate the entries in each machine block with the highest starting times, we get (11), (22), and (23). Upon adding the processing times of each of these nodes to their respective start times, we get 21, 27, and 22 time units respectively. Consequently, the schedule time for the sequence just computed is 27. It should be noted that this is the optimal solution, since this problem was also solved by a branch-and-bound algorithm with backtracking [11]. Note that in breaking the ties differently, we could expect to obtain other solutions.

2.3 A Network Algorithm

Now that the basic concepts and a sample problem have been discussed with reference to the network approach, a formal step by step computational algorithm is presented below.

Step 1: Construct the initial starting vector, T^0 .

Form a vector with JM entries such that

$$t(j m_\ell) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for all } (j m_1), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Step 2: Construct the initial precedence matrix, Q^0 .

2.1 Partition a (JM x JM) matrix into M machine blocks.

2.2 Label the rows and columns of the matrix by the appropriate nodes.

2.3 Place the entries in the matrix such that

$$q_{(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)} = \begin{cases} t_{(j m_\ell)}, & \text{if } (j m_\ell) \ll (j m_\delta), \\ xt_{(j m_\ell)}, & \text{if } (j m_\ell) \ll (j m_\delta) \\ & \text{is possible,} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Step 3: Check for null or potentially null columns.

3.1 Within each machine block, mark the columns that are null or can be made null.

3.2 If there is more than one marked column in a machine block, break the tie by a particular bounding procedure.

Step 4: Update the precedence matrix.

At the intersection of a marked column and a marked row make the following change if possible:

$$x_{q(j m_{\ell}, j m_{\delta})} = q_{(j m_{\ell}, j m_{\delta})} ,$$

Update all other entries in that column and row such that

$$x_{q(j m_{\ell}, j m_{\delta})} = 0 ,$$

then mark the corresponding row of the just updated column.

Step 5: Repeat steps 3 and 4 until there are no more entries in the precedence matrix which have x terms.

Step 6: Update the starting vector.

6.1 Multiply the final precedence matrix by the starting vector such that

$$T^k = T^{k-1} \# Q, k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

and add the starting vector to the resultant vector such that

$$T^k = T^{k-1} * T^k .$$

6.2 Repeat step 6.1 until there is no change in succeeding starting vectors, or simply, until

$$T^k = T^{k-1} \quad .$$

Step 7: Find the sequence and the corresponding schedule time.

- 7.1 In each machine block of the final starting vector, order the jobs with respect to their start times.
- 7.2 Locate the element in each machine block of the final starting vector that has the latest start time.
- 7.3 Add the processing time to the starting time of each chosen element.
- 7.4 Select the operation which results in the greatest amount of time such that

$$T(S) = \max \left[\tau(j \ m_M) + t(j \ m_M) \right], \quad j=1, 2, \dots, J,$$

where $T(S)$ is the schedule time for the sequence.

CHAPTER III

Applications to Combinatorial Problems.

In the preceding chapter the network algorithm was developed and demonstrated with a sample problem. The problem chosen in Chapter II was a typical job shop scheduling problem. In this chapter, however, three other types of problems have been used to illustrate that the network algorithm is not completely isolated in its use. These three problems are the traveling salesman, critical path, and explosion problems.

The format used in this chapter involves two specific divisions within each area of application. The first is the formulation of the problem for application of the network algorithm and the second involves a sample problem. It should be stressed that the main intent in this chapter is to point out the applicability of the network algorithm to at least some phase of other network problem solutions. In certain cases, complete solutions may be attainable; however, in other cases it may be necessary to use the network algorithm in combination with other techniques in order to obtain a specific solution.

3.1. The Traveling Salesman Problem

The traveling salesman problem can be stated as follows: A salesman has a given number of cities he must visit. Knowing the distances, costs, or say times between each pair of cities, the salesman's task is to select a route whereby he does, in fact,

visit each city only once and in so doing, optimizes some measure of performance. It is, of course, understood that the salesman begins at some known point and ends his route at this same point. Nevertheless, this section deals with the application of the network algorithm to the traveling salesman problem and is organized as stated above.

Problem formulation. The traveling salesman problem can be considered as nothing more than a scheduling problem involving one machine. If such a scheduling problem makes use of say, setup time as a measure of performance, it becomes synonymous, in nature to the traveling salesman problem. That is, a number of jobs are to be sequenced on a single machine so as to minimize total setup time between jobs, including the setup time between the final job in the sequence and the first job in the sequence. Nevertheless, in the construction of the precedence matrix for the traveling salesman problem, only one machine block is considered. In fact, the entire matrix is one machine block. Furthermore, remembering that in the scheduling problem, all conflicts within blocks were resolved by a bounding procedure, one can anticipate using some such criteria for resolving conflicts in this application. That is, since the precedence matrix for the traveling salesman problem is one large machine block, there will be a conflict at every iteration.

Necessary to the construction of the precedence matrix is the cost chart. Costs are used here, but it is understood

that one could consider other criteria such as distance or time. Nevertheless, consider the asymmetrical cost chart proposed by Little, et al [12], and shown in Table 3.1. This cost chart as well as the network of Figure 3.1, plays a dual role. They are presented at this point for illustrative purposes only, with respect to the problem formulation; however, they also provide the sample problem that is solved in the second part of this section. Nevertheless, asymmetry implies the possibility of traveling from one node to another node, or conversely, from the latter node to the former. In conventional notation this can be represented such that

$$(i) \ll (j),$$

and

$$(j) \ll (i),$$

where (i) and (j) represent nodes in the network. This asymmetrical concept was evident in the relationships referred to previously as possible direct precedence. Just as before, these possible direct precedence relationships can be represented in the network by broken non-oriented branches. Such relationships can be seen from the network drawn in Figure 3.1.

Once the cost chart is known, the precedence matrix can be constructed. The manipulation of the precedence matrix is carried out in a manner consistent with the algorithm. The starting vector is, of course, employed in the same manner as before. The only entry in the initial starting vector not zero, will be that corresponding to the starting node in the network.

Table 3.1. A Cost Chart

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(1)	0	27	43	16	30	26
(2)	7	0	16	1	30	25
(3)	20	13	0	35	5	0
(4)	21	16	25	0	18	18
(5)	12	46	27	48	0	5
(6)	23	5	5	9	5	0

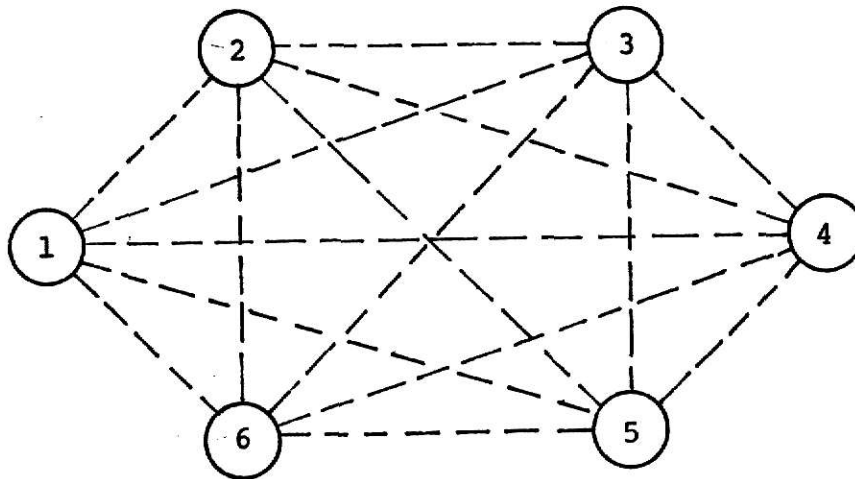


Figure 3.1. Network depicting possible direct precedence relationships.

Such a starting node can be considered as the salesman's home or, at least, someplace where he starts and to where he must return. Nevertheless, when the final starting vector is completed, the route and the route cost can be computed.

When such a route is evaluated, the resultant network would appear as shown in Figure 3.2.

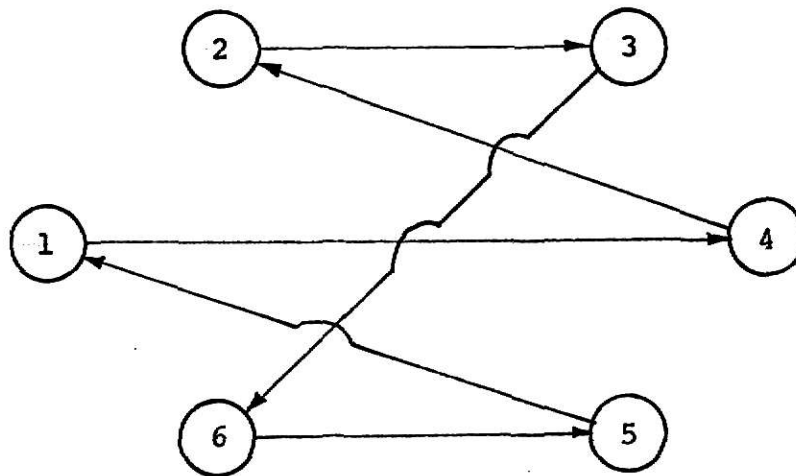


Figure 3.2. A typical solution to the traveling salesman problem.

Sample problem. Consider again the cost chart of Table 3.1 and the network of Figure 3.1. Further, let us consider the starting point of the salesman's journey to be node (1). That is, his route must begin at node (1) and terminate at node (1) after he has visited every other node in the network.

Step 1. Construct the initial starting vector, T^0 . Knowing the starting point in the network, the initial starting vector, T^0 can be constructed such that

$$T^0 = [1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0].$$

Step 2. Construct the initial precedence matrix, Q^0 . From the cost chart and the network diagram, the precedence matrix Q^0 can be constructed as shown in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2. Initial Precedence Matrix, Q^0 .

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(1)	0	x27	x43	x16	x30	x26
(2)	x7	0	x16	x1	x30	x25
(3)	x20	x13	0	x35	x5	x1
(4)	x21	x16	x25	0	x18	x18
(5)	x12	x46	x27	x48	0	x5
(6)	x23	x5	x5	x9	x5	0

Note that the entry (3, 6) in the cost chart which is 0, appears as 1 in Q^0 .

Step 3. Check for nodes to enter. In general, any node can be entered at this point, because all of the columns in the matrix Q^0 are potentially null. However, since node (1) was specified as the starting point, it will be entered first. It should be noted that a simple procedure for resolving conflicts among entering nodes is used for all iterations after the initial one. This procedure simply involves scanning the row of the node currently being visited by the salesman, for the minimum element of the form $xq(i, j)$. The column in which this minimum element occurs is entered next.

Step 4. Update the precedence matrix by entering the latest marked node. By making column (1) in matrix Q^0 null, the resultant matrix, Q^1 is formed as shown in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, Q^1 .

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
✓(1)	0	x27	x43	x16	x30	x26
(2)	0	0	x16	x1	x30	x25
(3)	0	x13	0	x35	x5	x1
(4)	0	x16	x25	0	x18	x18
(5)	0	x46	x27	x48	0	x5
(6)	0	x5	x5	x9	x5	0

Step 5. Repeat step 3 by checking for a new node to enter. Obviously, all five remaining nodes in Q^1 can be entered; however, using the procedure discussed above, node (4) is marked to enter. Upon entering node (4), the resultant matrix, Q^2 is formed and is given in Table 3.4.

We have now moved to node (4) and in so doing, scan row (4) for the next node to enter. When this is done, we see that we can enter node (2). After making column (2) null, the updated matrix becomes Q^3 .

The next node to enter is found to be node (3). When entry is made, the precedence matrix, Q^4 is formed. The next two nodes to enter are (6) and (5), where the corresponding updates to the precedence matrix yields Q^5 and Q^6 , respectively.

Table 3.4. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, Q^2 .

	✓ (1)	✓ (2)	(3)	✓ (4)	(5)	(6)
✓(1)	0	0	0	16	0	0
(2)	0	0	x16	0	x30	x25
(3)	0	x13	0	0	x5	x1
✓(4)	0	x16	x25	0	x18	x18
(5)	0	x46	x27	0	0	x5
(6)	0	x5	x5	0	x5	0

Table 3.5. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, Q^3 .

	✓ (1)	✓ (2)	✓ (3)	✓ (4)	(5)	(6)
✓(1)	0	0	0	16	0	0
✓(2)	0	0	x16	0	x30	x25
(3)	0	0	0	0	x18	x1
✓(4)	0	16	0	0	0	0
(5)	0	0	x27	0	0	x5
(6)	0	0	x5	0	x5	0

Table 3.6. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, Q^4 .

	✓ (1)	✓ (2)	✓ (3)	✓ (4)	(5)	✓ (6)
✓(1)	0	0	0	16	0	0
✓(2)	0	0	16	0	0	0
✓(3)	0	0	0	0	x18	x1
✓(4)	0	16	0	0	0	0
(5)	0	0	0	0	0	x5
(6)	0	0	0	0	x5	0

Table 3.7. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, Q^5 .

	✓ (1)	✓ (2)	✓ (3)	✓ (4)	✓ (5)	✓ (6)
✓(1)	0	0	0	16	0	0
✓(2)	0	0	16	0	0	0
✓(3)	0	0	0	0	0	1
✓(4)	0	16	0	0	0	0
(5)	0	0	0	0	0	0
✓(6)	0	0	0	0	x5	0

Table 3.8. Final Precedence Matrix, Q^6 .

	✓ (1)	✓ (2)	✓ (3)	✓ (4)	✓ (5)	✓ (6)
✓(1)	0	0	0	16	0	0
✓(2)	0	0	16	0	0	0
✓(3)	0	0	0	0	0	1
✓(4)	0	16	0	0	0	0
✓(5)	0	0	0	0	0	0
✓(6)	0	0	0	0	5	0

Step 6. Update the starting time vector. Now that all six nodes have been entered, a resultant route has been determined. When the final precedence matrix, Q^6 is multiplied by the initial starting vector, the resultant vector becomes:

$$T^{0'} = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 16 \ 0 \ 0].$$

When this vector is added to T^0 , the resultant is T^1 , such that

$$T^1 = [1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 16 \ 0 \ 0].$$

Continuing in this manner, a total of six T vectors are computed.

The other five can be presented as follows:

$$T^2 = [1 \ 32 \ 0 \ 16 \ 0 \ 0],$$

$$T^3 = [1 \ 32 \ 48 \ 16 \ 0 \ 0],$$

$$T^4 = [1 \ 32 \ 48 \ 16 \ 0 \ 48],$$

$$T^5 = [1 \ 32 \ 48 \ 16 \ 53 \ 48],$$

and

$$T^6 = [1 \ 32 \ 48 \ 16 \ 53 \ 48].$$

Note that T^6 is identical to T^5 .

Step 7. Calculate the final route and route cost. By ordering the entries in the final starting vector with respect to start costs, the following sequence can be given:

$$(1) \quad (4) \quad (2) \quad (3) \quad (6) \quad (5).$$

Therefore, the route to be taken becomes

$$1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 1.$$

The total cost of this route can be computed such that

$$T(S) = \tau(5) + c(5, 1),$$

where $\tau(5)$ is the final starting cost of node (5) and $c(5, 1)$ is the cost from node (5) to node (1). Therefore, the final value of the route cost can be given as follows:

$$T(S) = 53 + 12 = 65.$$

The final network can be shown in Figure 3.3.

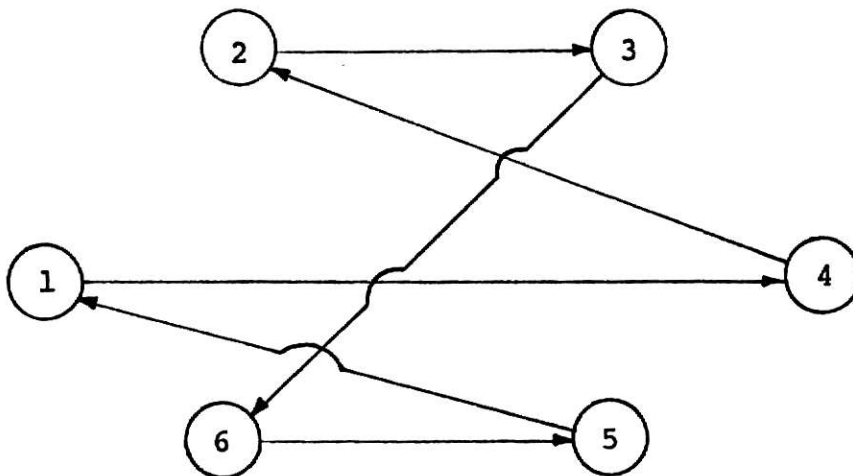


Figure 3.3. A solution to the sample problem.

It should be pointed out that the criterion used in selecting nodes to enter was chosen for simplicity only. No doubt, there are other criteria that may be more powerful; however, this discussion is concerned primarily with application of the network algorithm to the general traveling salesman problem. The resolution of conflicts is, of course, essential to the solution of the problem, but any discussion in depth of specific criteria such as bounding procedures, is not warranted at this time.

It should also be pointed out that the optimal solution to the above problem as presented in Little, et al [12], can be given as follows:

$$1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 ,$$

where the cost of the route is 63. Using the simple criterion described earlier for entering nodes, the solution of Little, et al., cannot be obtained; however, by simply entering the nodes consistent with the optimal route above, the route cost of 63 is easily computed.

3.2. The Project Scheduling Problem

Sometimes it is desirable when considering a project network like that shown in Figure 3.4, to determine the critical path through the network. It is critical for, indeed, any shortening of its length, whether it be in terms of distance, time, cost, or any other measure of performance, would result in a savings with respect to the same measure of performance

for the entire network. Nevertheless, such problems are referred to as critical path scheduling problems and their solution can be computed with the aid of the network algorithm. This section deals with the formulation of the critical path problem and applicability of the algorithm is demonstrated with a simple example.

Problem formulation. The critical path problem is constructed as a typical network as shown in Figure 3.4. The nodes represent events and the directed branches represent activities. The broken branch represents a dummy activity. It signifies that the event to which it is directed cannot begin until the event from which it is directed is finished. It is, of course, broken to imply that no real or physical precedence occurs. Nevertheless, once such a network is constructed, the process of obtaining a critical path can commence. This procedure entails determining the slack times for each event. Slack time is that amount of time that a node or event can be delayed without increasing the total time to complete the network. An event without slack time is a critical event and any continuous path or transitive chain of precedence relationships between events without slack is a critical path.

To determine the slack times of each event, we must determine the earliest and latest start times of the events. Such a determination of start times can be made using the network algorithm. However, once these start times have been computed,

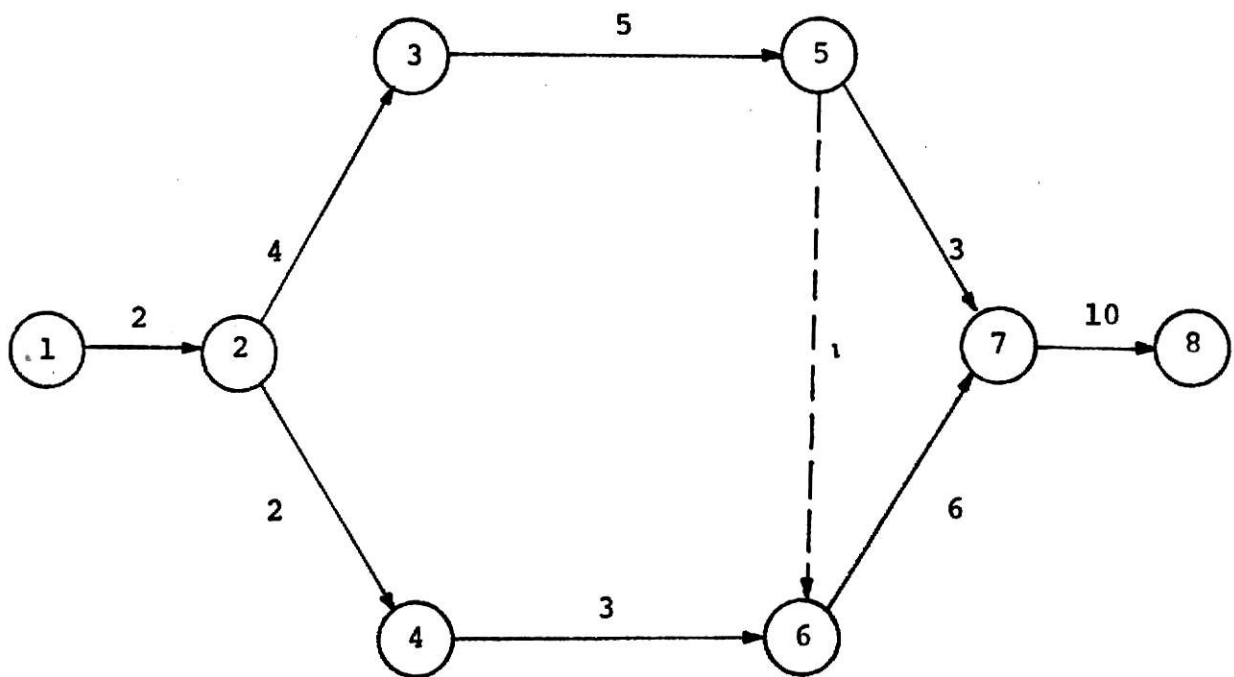


Figure 3.4. A typical network for critical path analysis

the remainder of the solution is computed consistently with such techniques as that described in [1].

Obviously, determination of earliest start times poses no problem. Such start times are simply the result of the final starting time vector, consistent with the method described in the algorithm. That is, once the precedence matrix is constructed, the initial starting vector is multiplied over and over until there is no change in succeeding vectors. The resultant final starting vector represents the earliest start times of all events in the network. It should be pointed out that the section of the algorithm pertaining to computation of the final precedence matrix can be omitted. The nature of the problem itself allows for one and only one precedence matrix because, naturally, all precedence relationships are finalized by virtue of the initial network itself.

While computation of the earliest start times of all events follows directly from the algorithm, the computation of the latest start times requires a slight addition to the operations of star algebra multiplication and addition. Such a change can be formulated such that

$$a \odot -b = |a| - |b| = c$$

and

$$c \oplus d = \min (c, d).$$

It should be pointed out that the above addition to the star algebra operators is made only to facilitate application of the network algorithm to the critical path problem. Any further

application, although perhaps desirable, is not reported at this time.

Besides imposing the above convention for star algebra addition and multiplication, we must change the precedence matrix such that the new matrix becomes

$$Q' = [-1 Q]^T.$$

That is, the original precedence matrix used to determine earliest start times is multiplied by -1 , and made negative, after which time it is transposed.

When the new precedence matrix has been formed, the starting vector can be constructed such that the only non-zero entry in the vector is that corresponding to the earliest starting time of the final event in the network. That is, determination of the latest start times of all events can be accomplished by beginning at the final event in the network and proceeding backwards through the network until the first node or event is reached. Obviously, the only event whose start time is known is the final event.

In summary, the critical path analysis of a project network can be facilitated using the network algorithm in two capacities. The first is determination of the earliest start times of all events in the network and follows directly from the algorithm. The second involves determination of the latest starting times of all events and requires the following changes:

(1) the transpose of the original precedence matrix after it has been made negative, (2) alteration of the starting time vector by beginning at the last event in the network and moving from back to front, and (3) the additional convention for star algebra multiplication and addition. These changes as well as the entire application of the network algorithm to the critical path problem are illustrated in a sample problem.

Sample problem. Consider the project network of Figure 3.4, which was taken from Ashour [1]. Each node represents an event, while activities are represented by the directed branches. The duration of activities is represented by the numbers attached to each branch. The first analysis will be made to determine the earliest start time of each event.

Step 1. Construct the initial starting vector, T^0 . Only the starting time of event (1) is known and is so signified by the entry of 1 in the initial starting vector such that

$$T^0 = [1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0].$$

Step 2. Construct the precedence matrix, Q . As mentioned in the problem formulation, there is only one precedence matrix; consequently, the exponents can be omitted from the notation. Nevertheless, the precedence matrix can be constructed as shown in Table 3.9. Since no updates are required to the precedence matrix, we can proceed directly to step 6.

Table 3.9. Precedence Matrix, Q.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
(1)	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
(2)	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0
(3)	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
(4)	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
(5)	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
(6)	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0
(7)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
(8)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Step 6. Update the starting time vector. When the precedence matrix, Q is multiplied by T^0 , the resultant becomes

$$[0 \ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0].$$

When the above vector is added to T^0 , the resultant is T^1 such that

$$T^1 = [1 \ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0].$$

Following in the above manner, a total of seven starting vectors are computed. They are as follows:

$$T^2 = [1 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad 4 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0],$$

$$T^3 = [1 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad 4 \quad 11 \quad 7 \quad 0 \quad 0],$$

$$T^4 = [1 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad 4 \quad 11 \quad 11 \quad 14 \quad 0],$$

$$T^5 = [1 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad 4 \quad 11 \quad 11 \quad 17 \quad 24],$$

$$T^6 = [1 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad 4 \quad 11 \quad 11 \quad 17 \quad 27],$$

and

$$T^7 = [1 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad 4 \quad 11 \quad 11 \quad 17 \quad 27].$$

Note that T^6 and T^7 are identical.

Now that the earliest start times of all events have been computed, the latest start times can be determined.

Step 1. Construct the initial starting vector. Recalling that the latest start times are determined by moving from the back to the front of the network, the initial starting vector now can be constructed such that

$$T^0 = [0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 27],$$

where the only event whose start time is known is the final event in the network or event (8).

Step 2. Construct the new precedence matrix, Q' . By making every non-zero entry in Q negative and transposing the resultant matrix, the matrix Q' can be given as shown in Table 3.10.

Step 6. Update the starting time vector. Utilizing the new convention for star algebra multiplication and addition, the product of the initial starting vector, T^0 and the precedence matrix, Q' can be given as

$$[0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 17 \quad 0].$$

When the above vector is added to T^0 , the resultant, T^1 can be given such that

$$T^1 = [0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 17 \quad 27].$$

Note that in the above addition, normal star algebra holds.

Proceeding in the above manner, we find that there are seven starting vectors. They can be given as follows:

$$T^2 = [0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 14 \quad 11 \quad 17 \quad 27],$$

$$T^3 = [0 \quad 0 \quad 9 \quad 8 \quad 11 \quad 11 \quad 17 \quad 27],$$

$$T^4 = [0 \quad 5 \quad 6 \quad 8 \quad 11 \quad 11 \quad 17 \quad 27],$$

$$T^5 = [3 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad 8 \quad 11 \quad 11 \quad 17 \quad 27],$$

$$T^6 = [0 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad 8 \quad 11 \quad 11 \quad 17 \quad 27],$$

and

$$T^7 = [0 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad 8 \quad 11 \quad 11 \quad 17 \quad 27],$$

where, of course, T^6 and T^7 are identical.

Now that the latest start times of all events have been computed, the original network is reconstructed and each event in the network is accompanied by its earliest and latest start times as shown in Figure 3.5.

The application of the network algorithm is concluded at this point; however, further solution of the critical path problem can be found in [1]. Such analysis, in this work, is not pertinent at this time and is omitted.

Table 3.10. Precedence Matrix Q' used to Determine Latest Start Times of All Events.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(2)	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(3)	0	-4	0	0	0	0	0	0
(4)	0	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0
(5)	0	0	-5	0	0	0	0	0
(6)	0	0	0	-3	-1	0	0	0
(7)	0	0	0	0	-3	-6	0	0
(8)	0	0	0	0	0	0	-10	0

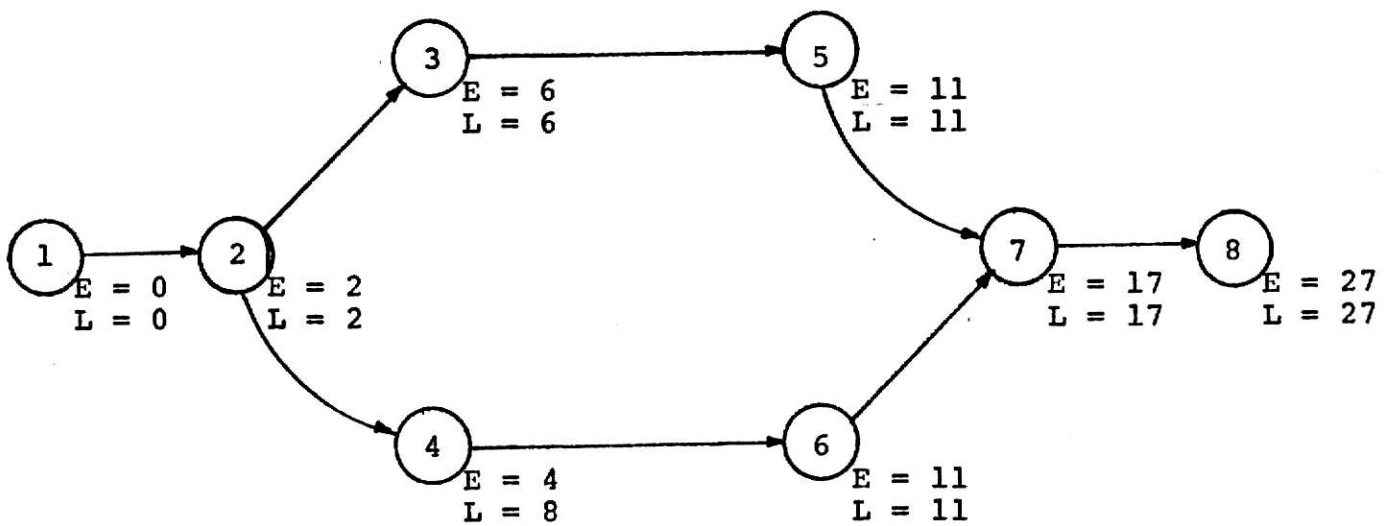


Figure 3.5. Sample problem, depicting earliest and latest start times of all events.

3.3 The Explosion Problem

The explosion problem, sometimes referred to as the parts requirement problem, presents a third area of application for the network algorithm. Moreover, just as in the project scheduling problem, all precedence relationships are initially specified by the nature of the explosion problem itself. Consequently, the explosion problem involves determination of operation (node) starting times only. Therefore, the use of the algorithm can be abbreviated to include only the construction of the precedence matrix and the manipulation of the starting time vector.

Problem Formulation. The general form of the explosion problem usually appears in a bill of material. Such a bill of material might appear as in Table 3.11, where the product or node (1) is constructed from nine components, as can be seen from Figure 3.6. Six of the components are made (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7) and three are purchased (8, 9, and 10). Furthermore, there may be more than one component essential to the construction of another. That is, component 4 requires two parts of component 6. In general, the numbers on the directed branches between nodes in Figure 3.6 represent the requirement from one node to another.

The construction of the precedence matrix can be made directly from the bill of material and the network. Each branch in the network represents one or more components where the time per component is given in the bill of material. When

this time per component is multiplied by the number of components necessary, the time to move from node (i) to node (j) is obtained. These times between nodes become the entries in the precedence matrix. Obviously, all entries in the precedence matrix will be either zero or some positive scalar. As mentioned earlier, this concept is logical since all precedence relationships are already determined from the nature of the problem. Consequently, the initial precedence matrix is also the final precedence matrix. Once this matrix is constructed, the network can be evaluated with respect to starting times of all nodes.

The starting vector is constructed in the usual manner, where the only entries not zero are those representing the initial components or nodes in the network. When the initial vector has been constructed, it can be multiplied over and over as described in the algorithm until the final starting vector has been obtained. The entries of the final vector represent the earliest start times of all nodes. Of course, the total time to make the product considered in the bill of material can be computed just as schedule time was computed earlier.

Sample problem. Consider the bill of material given in Table 3.11. Further, consider the corresponding network of Figure 3.6. The precedence matrix can be constructed from the bill of material and the network as shown in Table 3.12.

Table 3.11 Bill of Material for Sample Problem.

Node	Quantity	Time/Component	Total Time
1	1	5	5
2	3	4	12
3	2	3	6
4	1	6	6
5	5	2	10
6	4	3	12
7	3,2	4	12, 8
8	2	5	10
9	4,3	3	12, 9
10	5	1	5

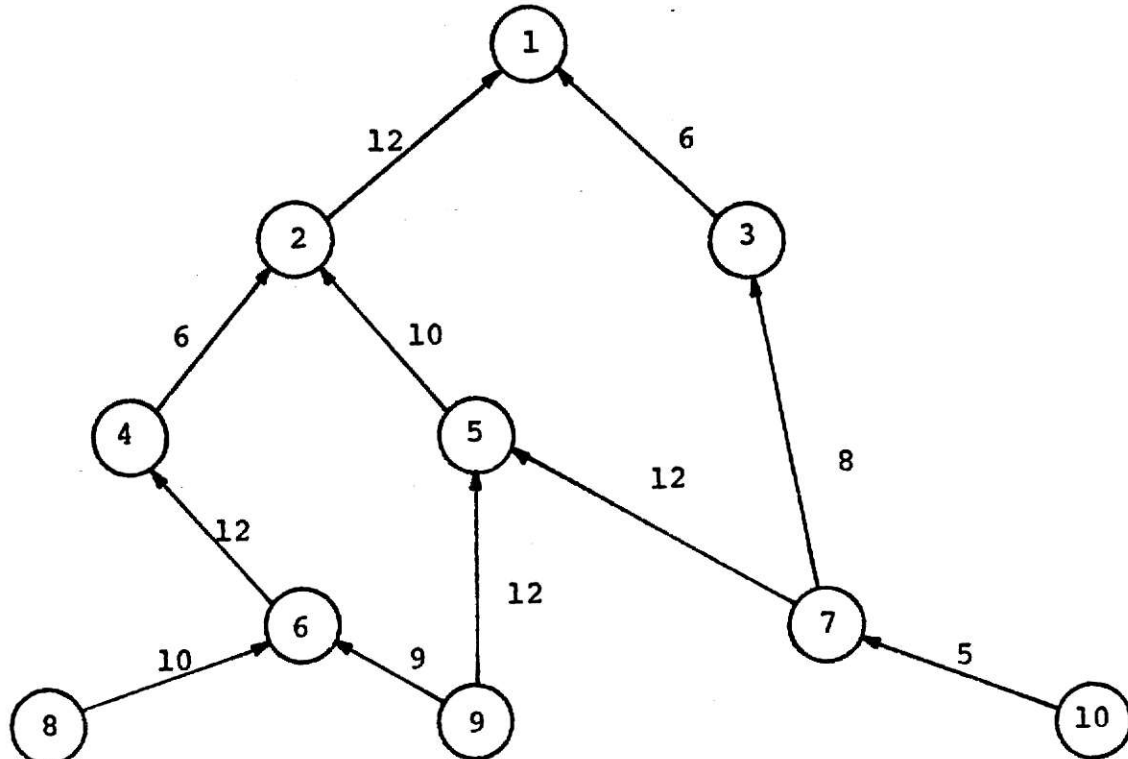


Figure 3.6. Network depicting bill of material for sample problem.

Table 3.12. Precedence Matrix, Q for Sample Problem.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(2)	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(3)	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(4)	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(5)	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(6)	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
(7)	0	0	8	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
(8)	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0
(9)	0	0	0	0	12	9	0	0	0	0
(10)	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0

The initial starting vector, T^0 becomes

$$[0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1],$$

where, obviously, only the earliest starting times of nodes (8), (9), and (10) are known and so signified by 1 in T^0 . When T^0 is multiplied by the precedence matrix, the resultant vector becomes

$$[0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 12 \ 10 \ 5 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0].$$

When added to T^0 , the new vector, T^1 , is constructed such that

$$T^1 = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 12 \ 10 \ 5 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1].$$

Proceeding as usual, we find that a total of five starting vectors must be computed. They can be presented as follows:

$$T^2 = [0 \ 22 \ 13 \ 22 \ 17 \ 10 \ 5 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1],$$

$$T^3 = [34 \ 28 \ 13 \ 22 \ 17 \ 10 \ 5 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1],$$

$$T^4 = [40 \ 28 \ 13 \ 22 \ 17 \ 10 \ 5 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1],$$

and

$$T^5 = [40 \ 28 \ 13 \ 22 \ 17 \ 10 \ 5 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1].$$

Note that T^5 is identical to T^4 .

The total time $T(S)$ can be computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} T(S) &= \max (\tau_{(i)}) + t_{(i)}, \\ &= 40 + 5 = 45 \text{ time units.} \end{aligned}$$

That is, the total time for one operator to assemble the product specified by the bill of material is 45 time units. Of course, this interpretation can be extended to include the case of multiple operators, in which case the time of 45 is simply the total of all individual times involved in the product's assembly.

CHAPTER IV

Computational Experiments

The network algorithm discussed in section 2.3 was programmed in FORTRAN IV for use on the IBM 360/50 computer. The program consists of a main program and two subroutines. The first subroutine represents the composite lower bound which is used to improve the solution while the second subroutine is used in conjunction with the bounding subroutine to compute completion times. Evaluation of the network algorithm was made possible by solving a wide range of problems. The bulk of the computational experiments were made with respect to the typical job shop scheduling problem. The number and type of such problems is shown in Table 4.1. The remaining experiments consist of four traveling salesman problems, which unlike the job shop problems, were simply solved by hand to illustrate the applicability of the network algorithm.

4.1. Job Shop Problems

The size of the job shop problems vary with respect to both the number of jobs and machines. The smallest number of jobs considered was 3, while the largest was 12. The number of machines ranges between 3 and 5. A total of 17 experiments were conducted. A total of 25 problems were solved for each experiment with the exception of experiments VIII and X, in which case only 10 problems were solved. The entries in the

machine ordering and processing time matrices were generated in a random fashion. More specifically, the values of the processing times were generated from a uniform distribution between one and 30, inclusively.

The performance of the network algorithm was made with respect to three factors pertaining to the job shop problem: (1) the computational time involved to obtain a solution, (2) the quality of the solution, and (3) the number of iterations and conflicts for each problem size. The statistics maximum, minimum, mean, and standard deviation for the factors efficiency, number of conflicts, and number of iterations have also been computed.

Computational time. The computational time was, of course, one of the main considerations in the evaluation of the performance of the network algorithm. In Table 4.1, the computational time per problem size is shown on a job group basis. The relationship between computational time and an increase in the number of machines per job group can be seen in Figure 4.4. It is interesting to note that the experiments with the least number of jobs exhibited nearly linear relationships when the number of machines was increased from 3 through 5. Of course, such analysis cannot be made for problems with 8 or more jobs because only 2 machine sizes, namely 3 and 4, were considered.

When the number of machines is held constant and the job size is increased, the effect upon computational time can be shown graphically in Figures 4.2 through 4.4. Again, linearity

is, at least, graphically evident when the level of jobs is in the range of 3 to 8. However, when the job level reaches 10 and 12, the computational time increases rapidly.

The next analysis that was made with respect to computational time was that in which the time per node was investigated. These relationships are tabulated in Table 4.4 and shown graphically in Figure 4.5. The instigation for making this type of analysis arose when it was noticed that for problems with the same number of nodes, the computational time per problem was very close. For example, from Table 4.4, it can be seen that the 4x5 and 5x4 problems, both consisting of 20 nodes, exhibited the same computational time. Such was the case for the 15 node or 3x5 and 5x3 problems. Consequently, all of the problems were reorganized with respect to their corresponding number of nodes. When a plot was made of the average time per node for each total number of nodes, it was observed from Figure 4.5, that, just as before, the lower portion of the curve approximated a linear relationship, while the upper portion did not. More specifically, the portion of the curve that is non-linear seems to occur when the node level reaches approximately 30.

At this stage in the research, only a speculative explanation can be made concerning the rapid increase in computational time when the number of nodes increases. Nevertheless, consider the case of all problems consisting of 30 or more nodes. These problems were 6x5, 8x4, 10x3, 10x4, 12x3, and 12x4. By recalling

that entries are made in the precedence matrix on a machine block basis, where each block consists of J jobs, it is natural that as J increases, the number of conflicts that occur per machine block increases. The immediate result of this phenomena is that the lower bounds of all nodes in the resulting conflict sets must be computed in order that a resolution can be made. Naturally, as the number of such lower bound computations increases, the execution or computational time per problem would increase. Of course, inherent in this situation is the expectation that as conflicts themselves increase, the number of nodes in the conflict set would also increase, thereby increasing computation involved in resolving the conflict. It is believed that if such lower bound computation were excluded from the total computational time, the relationship between time per node and the number of nodes would be, at least, more nearly linear. However, such an exclusion would mean that conflicts would be broken at random or, at best, by some procedure requiring much less computation than that of a lower bound on schedule time. If this were the case, the expected efficiency of solution using such a selection criteria, would be much less than that now experienced using the composite lower bound.

Quality of Solution. The efficiency of the solution found by the network algorithm was computed from the ratio of that solution to the known optimal solution obtained by B-and-B technique [11]. These results have been tabulated in Table 4.1

and 4.2. The number of optimal solutions per problem size as well as the percent of optimal solutions and the corresponding range of efficiency are shown in Table 4.5. The scarcity in the number of available optimal solutions does not allow a good analysis with respect to possible trends in efficiency as problem size increases; however, one could expect efficiency to decrease as problems become larger. The reason for this can be attributed, most likely, to the increase in the number of conflicts that occur when the problem size, especially job size, increases. That is, when a conflict is encountered and is ultimately resolved, the result is that idle time is generated by virtue of the resolution.

The logic used above is supported, in part, at least by the fact that in every instance where there were no conflicts in a problem solution, the optimal solution was obtained. Of course, the frequency of such occurrences is low due to the fact that whenever the number of jobs is greater than the number of machines, there will be at least one conflict and most probably, more than one. As can be seen from the table of experiments, 12 of 17 problem sets involved situations in which J was greater than M .

Number of Iterations. As mentioned earlier in this thesis, only one node can be entered per machine block per iteration. Obviously then, if M nodes are entered at every

Table 4.1. Computational time, iterations, conflicts, and efficiency with job grouping.

Exp. No.	Prob. Size	No. of Prob.	No. of Solu. Found	Efficiency		Number of Iterations		Number of Conflicts		Ave. Comp. Time				
				μ	eff	max	min	max	min		μ	σ		
I	3x4	25	25	96.23	4.56	7	4	5.76	.86	5	0	2.36	1.41	1.44
II	3x5	25	25	97.55	4.33	8	5	6.40	.98	6	0	2.32	1.62	2.16
III	4x3	25	25	96.67	5.23	6	5	5.56	.50	6	3	4.76	0.81	1.58
IV	4x4	25	25	95.21	6.37	8	5	6.40	.69	7	2	4.56	1.39	2.45
V	4x5	25	25	95.78	6.03	9	6	7.16	.73	8	2	4.28	1.73	3.74
VI	5x3	25	25	96.99	3.87	7	5	6.24	.59	9	5	7.08	1.35	2.16
VII	5x4	25	25	93.17	5.97	9	7	7.48	.64	14	4	8.28	2.11	3.74
VIII	5x5	10	10	93.82	6.30	10	7	8.00	.77	8	4	7.00	1.18	5.76
IX	6x3	25	25	93.77	6.87	8	6	7.20	.57	13	6	9.76	1.50	3.60
X	6x4**	25	24	89.44	9.32	10	7	8.13	.67	13	7	10.71	1.46	5.90
XI	6x5	10	2	86.71	3.62	11	8	9.60	.92	16	10	12.90	1.81	10.08
XII	8x3	25	11	93.65	5.18	10	8	9.16	.61	19	9	15.40	2.38	7.49
XIII	8x4	25	4	89.80	6.74	11	9	9.88	.59	23	15	18.36	2.10	12.53
XIV	10x3	25	4	93.73	6.37	12	10	10.96	.82	25	15	21.04	2.81	9.65
XV	10x4	25	1	92.48		14	10	11.76	.91	31	19	25.88	2.92	23.42
XVI	12x3	25	7	96.71	1.87	15	12	13.20	.69	32	22	27.28	2.79	23.76
XVII	12x4	25	*	*	*	16	12	13.84	.97	40	29	34.76	3.06	40.03

*No optimal solution is available.

**Computational time based on 25 problems; all other statistics based on 24 problems.

***Computational time in seconds

Table 4.2. Computational time*, iterations, conflicts, and efficiency with machine grouping.

Exp. No.	Prob. Size	No. of Prob.	No. of Opt. Solu. Found	Efficiency μ_{eff}	Number of Iterations		Number of Conflicts		Ave. Comp. Time					
					μ	σ	max	min		μ	σ			
III	4x3	25	25	96.97	5.23	6	5	5.56	0.50	6	3	4.76	0.81	1.58
VI	5x3	25	25	96.99	3.87	7	5	6.24	0.59	9	5	7.08	1.35	2.16
IX	6x3	25	25	93.77	6.87	8	6	7.20	0.57	13	6	9.76	1.50	3.60
XII	8x3	25	11	93.65	5.18	10	8	9.16	0.61	19	9	15.40	2.38	7.49
XIV	10x3	25	4	93.73	6.37	12	10	10.96	0.82	25	15	21.04	2.81	9.65
XVI	12x3	25	7	96.71	1.87	15	12	13.20	0.69	32	22	27.28	2.79	23.76
I	3x4	25	25	96.23	4.56	7	4	5.76	0.86	5	0	2.36	1.41	1.44
IV	4x4	25	25	95.21	6.37	8	5	6.40	0.69	7	2	4.56	1.39	2.45
VII	5x4	25	25	93.17	5.97	9	7	7.48	0.64	14	4	8.28	2.11	3.74
X	6x4	25	24	89.44	9.32	10	7	8.13	0.67	13	7	10.71	1.46	5.90
XIII	8x4	25	4	89.80	6.74	11	9	9.88	0.59	23	15	18.36	2.10	12.53
XV	10x4	25	1	92.48		14	10	11.76	0.91	31	19	25.88	2.92	23.42
XVIII	12x4	25	*	*	*	16	12	13.84	0.97	40	29	34.76	3.06	40.03
II	3x5	25	25	97.55	4.33	8	5	6.40	0.98	6	0	2.32	1.62	2.16
V	4x5	25	25	95.78	6.03	9	6	7.16	0.73	8	2	4.28	1.73	3.74
VIII	5x5	10	10	93.82	6.30	10	7	8.00	0.77	8	4	7.00	1.18	5.76
XI	6x5	10	2	86.71	3.62	11	8	9.60	0.92	16	10	12.90	1.81	10.08

*No optimal solution is available

**Computational time in seconds

Table 4.3. Number of Iterations Per Problem Size.

Number of jobs	Problem Size	Number of Iterations	Ave. Iterations
3	3 x 4	5.76	6.08
	3 x 5	6.40	
4	4 x 3	5.56	6.37
	4 x 4	6.40	
	4 x 5	7.16	
5	5 x 3	6.24	7.22
	5 x 4	7.48	
	5 x 5	8.00	
6	6 x 3	7.20	8.31
	6 x 4	8.13	
	6 x 5	9.60	
8	8 x 3	9.16	9.52
	8 x 4	9.88	
10	10 x 3	10.96	11.36
	10 x 4	11.76	
12	12 x 3	13.20	13.52
	12 x 4	13.84	

Table 4.4. Computational Time per Node*.

Number of nodes Per Problem	Problem Size	Ave. Comp. Time	Ave. Comp. Time/ Number Nodes	Time/Node
12	3x4	1.44	1.51	0.126
	4x3	1.58		
15	3x5	2.16	2.16	0.144
	5x3	2.16		
16	4x4	2.45	2.45	0.153
18	6x3	3.60	3.60	0.200
20	4x5	3.74	3.74	0.187
	5x4	3.74		
24	6x4	5.90	6.70	0.279
	8x3	7.49		
25	5x5	5.76	5.76	0.230
30	6x5	10.08	9.87	0.329
	10x3	9.65		
32	8x4	12.53	12.53	0.391
36	12x3	23.76	23.76	0.660
40	10x4	23.42	23.42	0.586
48	12x4	40.03	40.03	0.834

*Computational time in seconds

Table 4.5. Number of Optimal Solutions Found per Problem Size.

Prob. Size	No. of Opt. Sol. Found Using B&B	No. of Opt. Sol. Found Using Network Algorithm	%Optimal	Range
3x4	25	12	48.0	.84 - 1.00
3x5	25	16	64.0	.82 - 1.00
4x3	25	11	44.0	.80 - 1.00
4x4	25	11	44.0	.76 - 1.00
4x5	25	13	52.0	.78 - 1.00
5x3	25	12	48.0	.90 - 1.00
5x4	25	5	20.0	.79 - 1.00
5x5	10	2	20.0	.81 - 1.00
6x3	25	9	36.0	.80 - 1.00
6x4	24	4	17.0	.71 - 1.00
6x5	2	0	0.0	.83 - 1.00
8x3	11	3	27.0	.85 - 1.00
8x4	4	0	0.0	.80 - .98
10x3	4	2	50.0	.86 - 1.00
10x4	1	0	0.0	
12x3	7	1	14.0	.94 - 1.00
12x4	*	*		

*No optimal solution available

iteration, a minimum of J iterations results. The number of iterations per size of problem has been tabulated in Table 4.1 and 4.2. From the tables as well as Figure 4.6, it can be seen that as the problem size, and more specifically the job size, increases, the number of iterations is more nearly J.

4.2. The Traveling Salesman Problem.

Four traveling salesman problems have been solved by hand and are presented in this section only as a demonstration of the applicability of the network algorithm. The problems are presented in the form of a distance chart. Included, of course, is the solution as well as the corresponding efficiency. As in Chapter III, the criteria for entry in the precedence matrix, is a simple look ahead technique which is used for simplicity. However, some criteria could be developed to improve the solution.

Problem 1. The problem formulated in Table 4.6 is taken from Cochran [14]. The solution obtained using the network algorithm is 37. A measure of efficiency is not possible because an optimal solution to the problem is not available. Nevertheless, the route to be taken can be given as follows:

$$1 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 ,$$

where node 1 is considered to be home.

Table 4.6 Distance Chart for Problem 1

0	11	9	12	13	10
11	0	10	11	4	8
9	10	0	8	9	4
12	11	8	0	7	2
13	4	9	7	0	5
10	8	4	2	5	0

Problem 2. The second problem shown in Table 4.7* involves five cities. Again, no optimal solution is available; however, the solution obtained with the network algorithm is 38. The corresponding route can be given as follows:

$$1 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 1 \quad ,$$

where node 1 is home.

Table 4.7 Distance Chart for Problem 2

0	10	8	4	2
10	0	11	9	12
8	11	0	10	11
4	9	10	0	8
2	12	11	8	0

Problem 3. The problem shown in Table 4.8 is a five-city problem taken from [15]. The solution obtained from

* We are somewhat at a loss to identify the original author of this problem.

the network algorithm is 148 which is the same as the optimal solution, yielding an efficiency of 100%. The route to be taken can be given such that

$$2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \quad ,$$

where home is node 2.

Table 4.8 Distance Chart for Problem 3

0	30	26	50	40
30	0	24	40	50
26	24	0	24	26
50	40	24	0	30
40	50	26	30	0

Problem 4. The final problem, shown in Table 4.9, is a ten-city problem from [15]. The solution by the network algorithm is 387 while the optimal solution is 378; hence, an efficiency of 98%. If home is considered to be node 9, the route can be given as follows:

$$9 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 10 \rightarrow 9 \quad .$$

Table 4.9 Distance Chart for Problem 4.

0	28	57	72	81	85	80	113	89	80
28	0	28	45	54	57	63	85	63	63
57	28	0	20	30	28	57	57	40	57
72	45	20	0	10	20	72	45	20	45
81	54	30	10	0	22	81	41	10	41
85	57	28	20	22	0	63	28	28	63
80	63	57	72	81	63	0	80	89	113
113	85	57	45	41	28	80	0	40	80
89	63	40	20	10	28	89	40	0	40
80	63	57	45	41	63	113	80	40	0

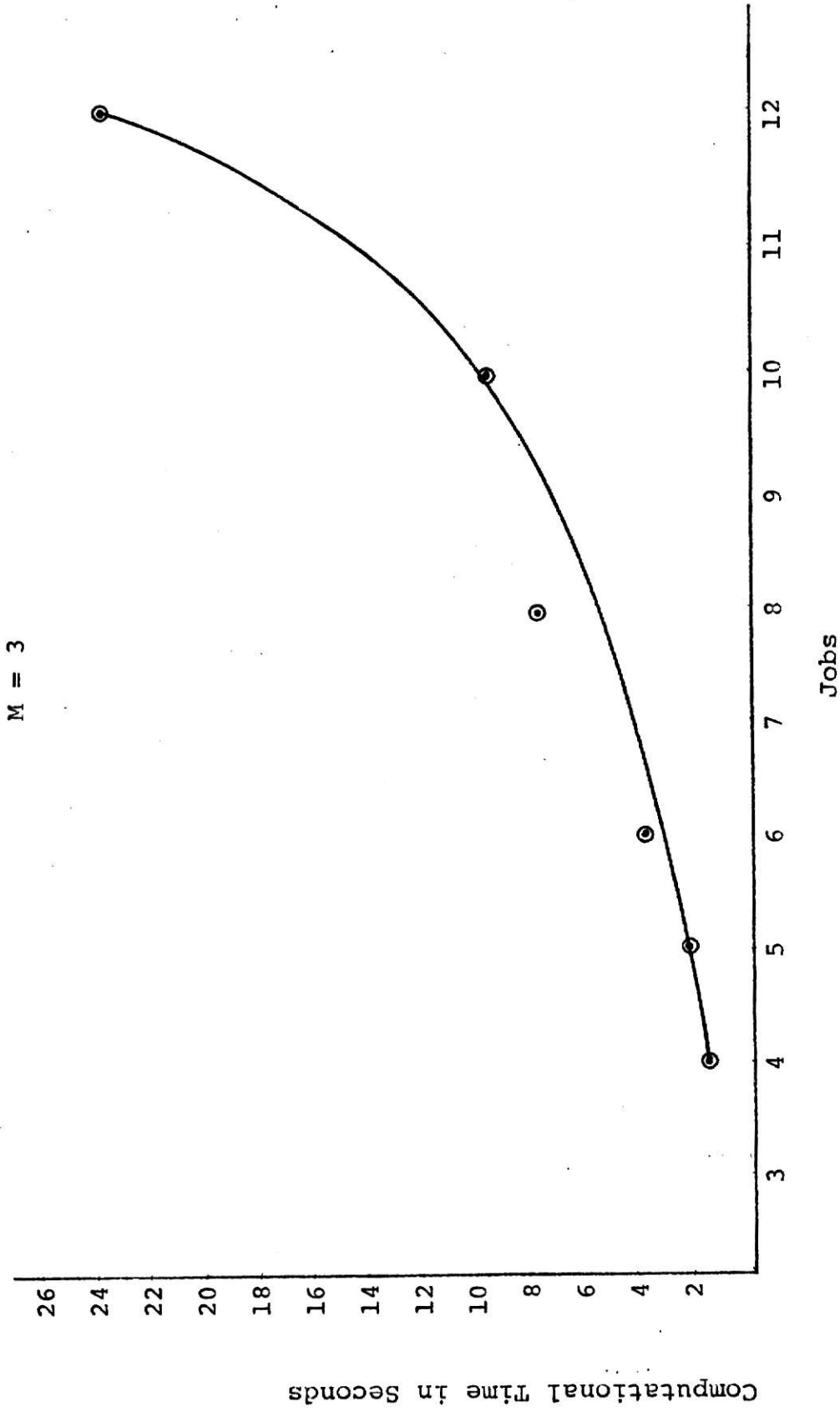


Figure 4.1. Relationship between computational time and the number of jobs, with constant number of machines.

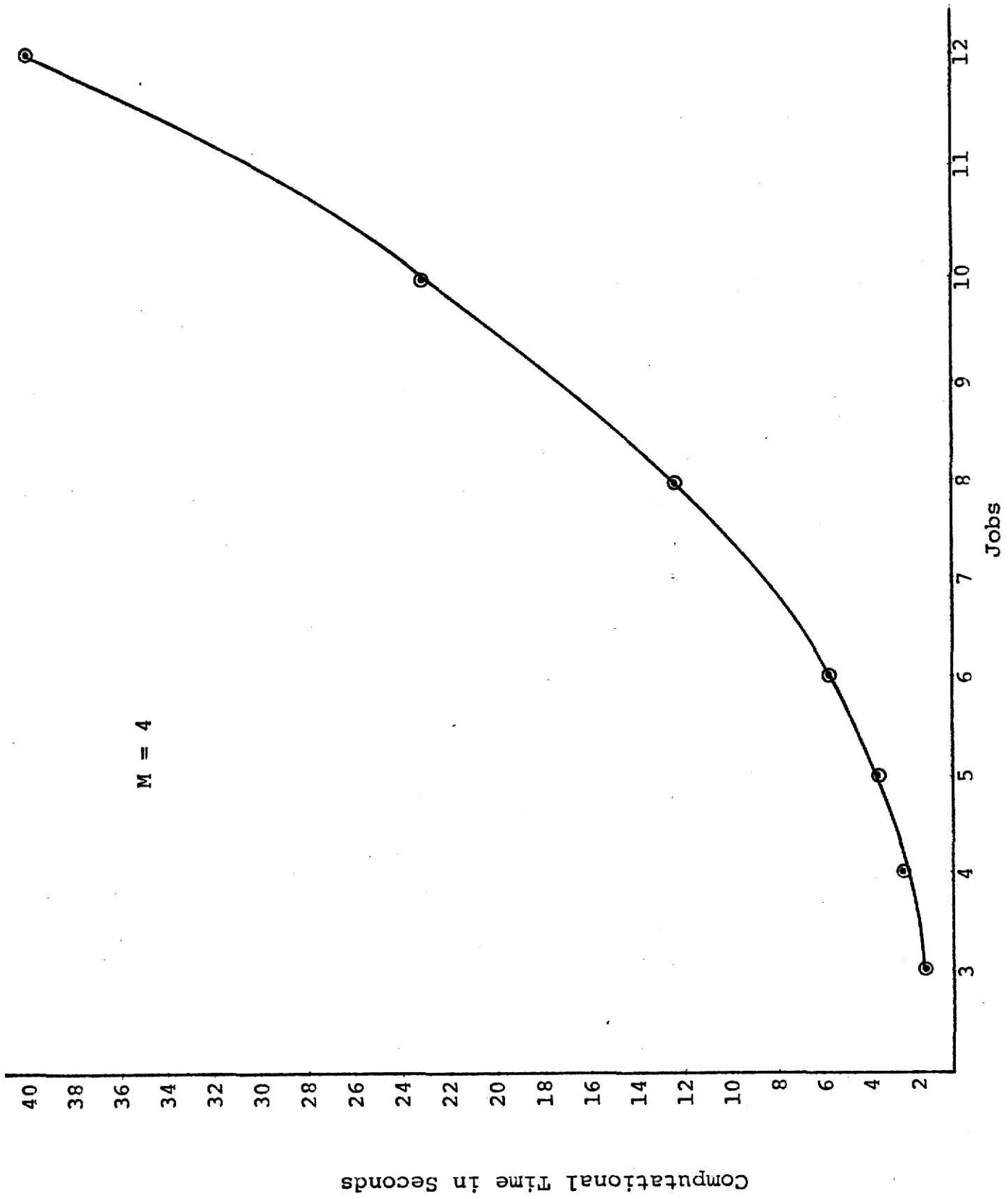


Figure 4.2. Relationship between computational time and the number of jobs with constant number of machines.

M = 5

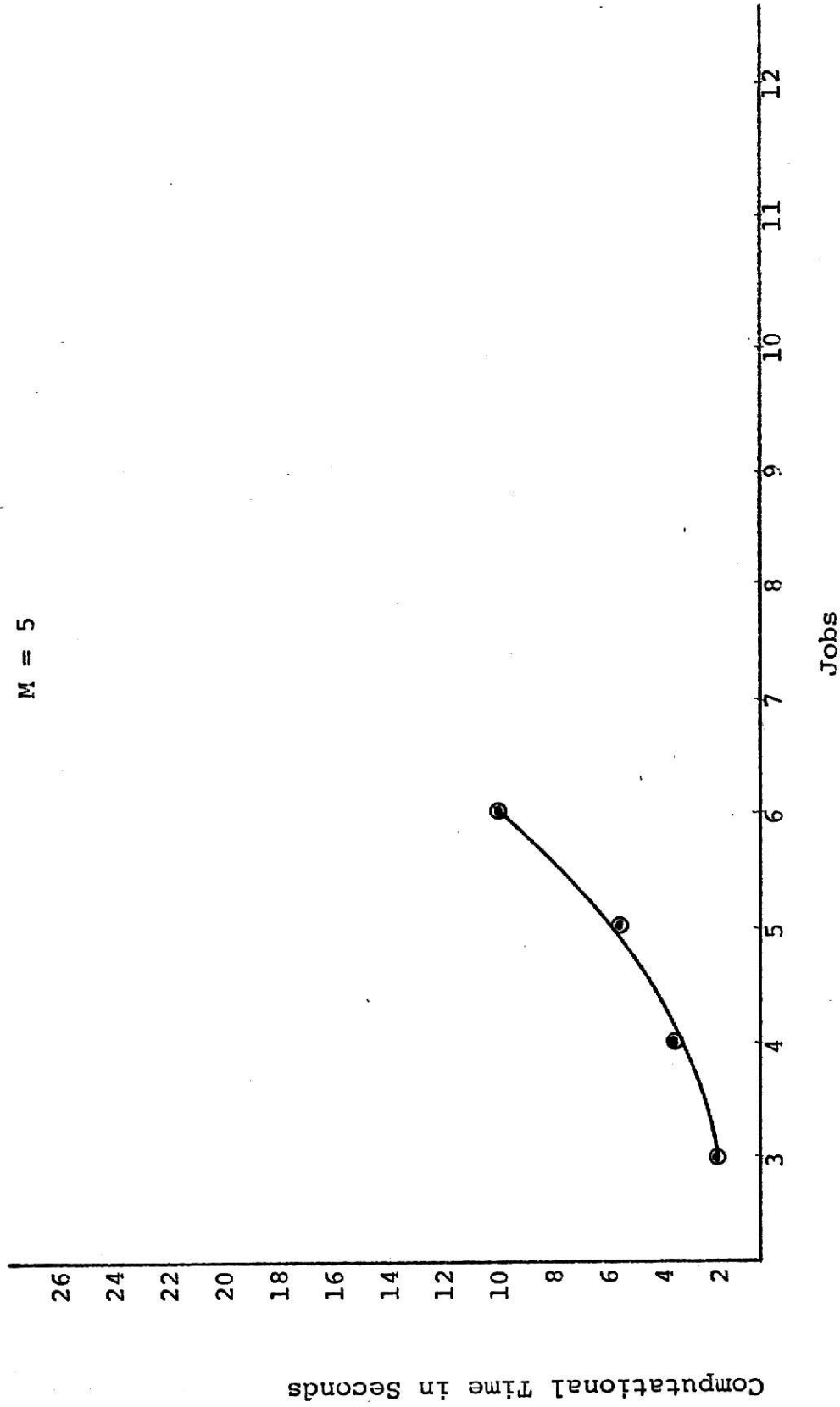


Figure 4.3. Relationship between computational times and the number of jobs with constant number of machines.

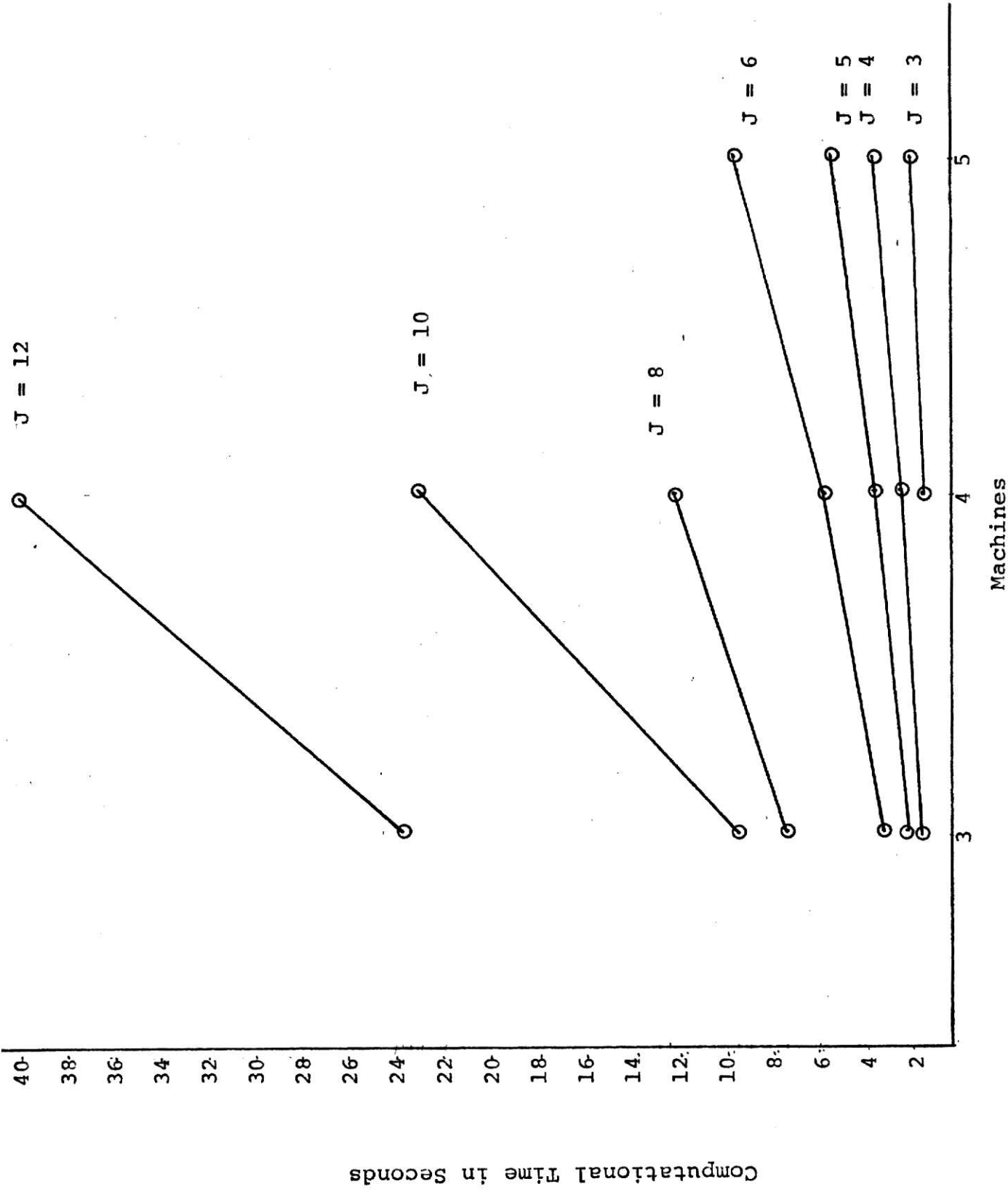


Figure 4.4. Relationship between computational times and number of machines.

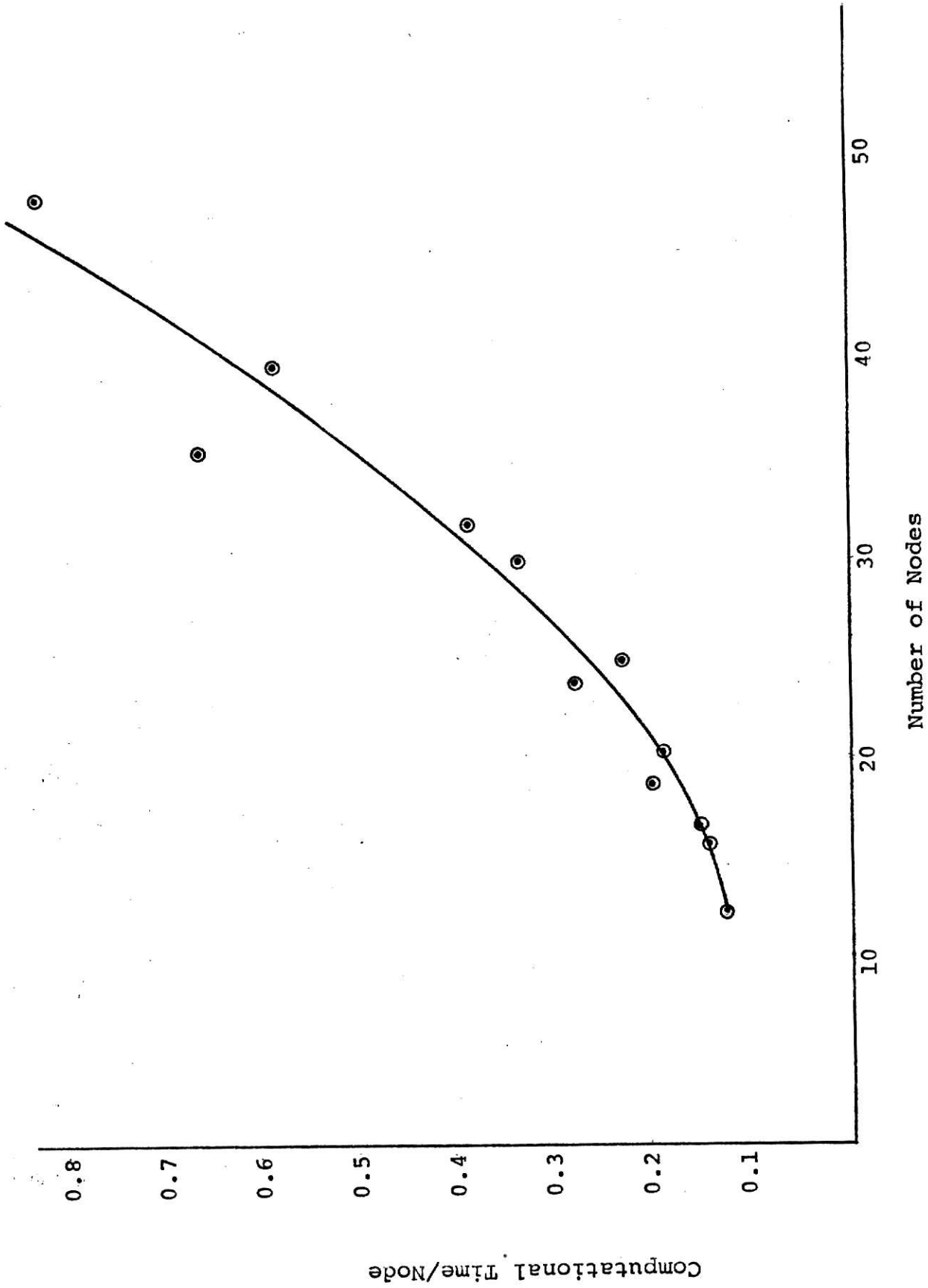


Figure 4.5. Relationship between the number of nodes and computational time per node.

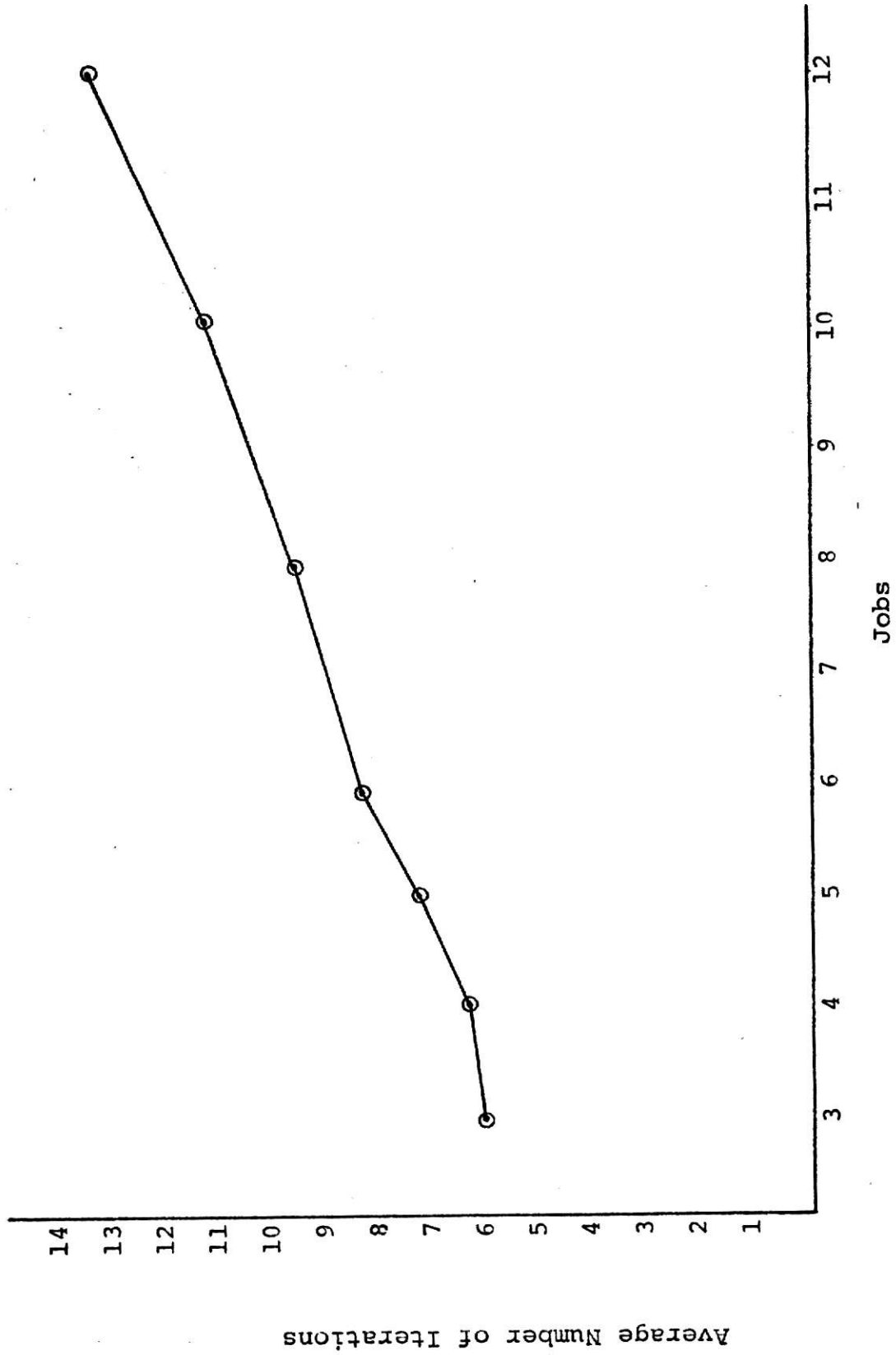


Figure 4.6. Relationship between job size and the number of iterations.

CHAPTER V

Summary and Conclusions

The objective of this thesis is to present an algorithm which is based upon the schedule algebra operators and which is used to solve combinatorial problems. The immediate application of the algorithm is shown in the job shop scheduling problem; however, its use is extended to three other types of problems, namely, the traveling salesman, project scheduling, and the explosion problems. In the case of the latter three applications, the use of the algorithm is for demonstration purposes only; however, for the job shop scheduling problems, a fairly rigorous computational experience was obtained. Furthermore, in the case of the job shop problem, a composite-based bound was embodied in the algorithm which is used to improve the solution.

The algorithm employs a network approach, the basic concepts of which are presented in Chapter II. The demonstration of such an approach is made in the case of a simple job shop problem where J jobs are to be sequenced on M machines. Finally, the computational algorithm is presented in formal fashion, using fairly rigorous notation.

The extension of the applicability of the algorithm is presented in Chapter III. The three classes of problems mentioned above are used for demonstration. In the case of the traveling salesman problem, a complete application can be made

because of the nature of the problem itself. By considering the traveling salesman problem as nothing more than a job shop problem consisting of only one machine, the solution by the network algorithm is fairly routine. However, in the case of the project scheduling and explosion problems, the network algorithm is employed in a partial capacity. Nonetheless, in such a partial application, the main point that should be evident, is the flexibility of the algorithm.

The performance of the algorithm is evaluated in Chapter IV. A total of 17 job shop experiments, exercising a wide range of sizes, were run on the IBM 360/50. In addition, four traveling salesman problems were solved. Three factors were considered in the evaluation of the algorithm with respect to the job shop problem: (1) computational time, (2) quality of the solution, and (3) the number of iterations and conflicts experienced in the solution. The results are formalized in numerous tables and figures in Chapter IV. The computational time was found to exhibit a fair linear relationship at the small problem level. However, as problem size, especially the number of jobs, increased, the computational time increased rather rapidly. The effect of computational time per node was investigated and, again, computational time seemed to increase in a non-linear fashion at the large problem level. It is believed that this is due, in part, to the increased computational time involved in resolving conflicts with the composite-based lower bound. Such conflicts increased, obviously, as the job size increased.

The quality of the solutions obtained was computed from the ratio of the network algorithm solution to the optimal solution. Although not graphically evident because of the inconsistency of available optimal solutions, the efficiency of solution should decrease as the number of conflicts increase.

In the case of the number of iterations experienced in obtaining solutions for the various problem sizes, it was found that as the number of jobs, J , increase, the number of iterations seems to be more nearly the minimum which, of course, is J .

While a large number of at least one class of combinatorial problems were solved, the main intent in this work was not one of computational experience. Rather, it was the objective of this thesis to develop a network approach to such problems as those included and to present a formal algorithm which can be used in their solution. Of course, as is exhibited by the algorithm's application to some problems, only partial solutions have been obtained. Consequently, it is in this area that further research has been proposed. Specifically, further work should be done in two immediate areas. The first involves the further applicability of the algorithm to such problems as the delivery and the line-balancing problems, as well as increased applicability in the project scheduling problem. Secondly, further improvement of the network algorithm solution should be considered. At this point

in the research, the composite-based lower bound has proved to be the most desirable criteria; however, its applicability has been made in only one type of problem. Finally, it should be pointed out that the possibility of further improvement in the algorithm itself should be investigated.

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APPENDIX A

Schedule Algebra Theory

The theory upon which the schedule algebra is built is based on certain fundamental concepts found specifically in the scheduling problem and more generally in the combinatorial problem. Beginning with the basic concept of the precedence relationship, the theory for the algebra is developed to a point where the operators can be presented in a formal fashion. After the schedule algebra is presented, an adaptation of the algebra known as star algebra is presented in a similar manner.

A.1. Precedence relationships:

One of the very basic concepts pertaining to the theory of the schedule algebra and the consequent formulation of the operators, is that of the precedence relationship. This concept can best be explained by considering the following network.

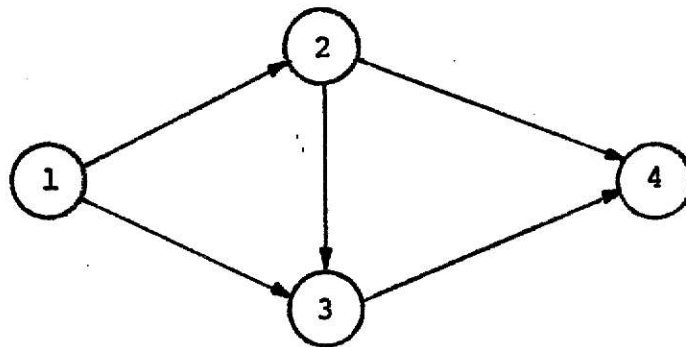


Figure A.1. A Typical Network

It can be seen from Figure A.1. that there are four nodes, each being connected to at least one other node in the network. It is precisely these relationships between connecting nodes that define the nature of the precedence relationships.

When a node must begin at the same time as or before another node, it is said to precede that node. From Figure A.1., it can be seen that node (1) precedes all other nodes in the network. Node (4), on the other hand, does not precede any nodes. If a node must begin before another node with no other nodes between them, the first node is said to directly precede the second. This relationship is seen to exist between nodes (1) and (2), (1) and (3), (2) and (3), (2) and (4), and between (3) and (4).

The relationships of precedence and direct precedence can be symbolized by adopting the following convention. If a node (i) precedes a node (j), it shall be denoted as follows:

$$(i) < (j).$$

While not pointed out earlier, a node can be taken to precede itself, or

$$(i) < (i)$$

If a node (i) is to begin before node (j), with no other nodes in between, then node (i) is said to directly precede node (j), or

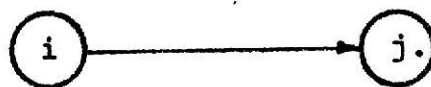
(i) << (j).

Unlike the precedence relationship, a node does not directly precede itself. That is,

(i) </< (i).

Nevertheless, it can be seen that with the exception of a node directly preceding itself, the set of all direct precedence relationships is included in the set of precedence relationships.

Precedence chains. The concept of the chain relationship is basically a simple one. Such a relationship is evident when two nodes are connected by one or more branches in a network. The length of the chain is dependent upon the number of connecting branches. Furthermore, the lengths are referred to by levels, such that the chains can be 0, 1, 2, or, in general, of level L. For example, a one-level chain can be illustrated as follows:



This relationship illustrates the direct precedence of node (i) to node (j) and, in general, points out that all direct precedence relationships are constructed of one-level chains.

Consider the case below:



Obviously, node $(i) \ll (j)$, $(j) \ll (k)$, and $(i) \ll (k)$. This is a two-level chain, but more importantly, is the result of two one-level chains or two direct precedence relationships. Consequently, any L-level chain is the result of L one-level chains, which in turn, can be interpreted as L direct precedence relationships.

Finally, a chain of level zero occurs when a node precedes itself. That is, when the following relationship is evident:

$$(i) < (i)$$

Consultation of the network in Figure A.1., shows that there are four 0-level chains, five 1-level chains, four 2-level chains, and one 3-level chain. These chains and their precedence interpretations can be seen in the following summary.

<u>0-level</u>	<u>1-level</u>	<u>2-level</u>	<u>3-level</u>
1	1<<2	1<<2<<4	1<<2<<3<<4
2	1<<3	1<<2<<3	
3	2<<3	2<<3<<4	
4	2<<4	1<<3<<4	
	3<<4		

The precedence matrix. A precedence matrix is nothing more than an arrangement, in matrix form, of the direct precedence relationships that exist for a particular network. The matrix is of size $(n \times n)$ where n is the number of nodes

in the network. Entries $n(i,j)$ are made in the matrix N , where node (i) directly precedes node (j) . The value of the entry is made with respect to two cases, such that

$$n(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } (i) < / < (j) \\ 1, & \text{if } (i) < < (j). \end{cases}$$

By considering the network of Figure A.1., the following precedence matrix can be constructed.

$$N = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} (1) & (2) & (3) & (4) \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} (1) \\ (2) \\ (3) \\ (4) \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Reading from the matrix, node (1) directly precedes node (2) and (3). In like manner, node (2) directly precedes nodes (3) and (4), while node (3) directly precedes node (4) and node (4) directly precedes no node. Nonetheless, the matrix N , represents all of the 1-level chain relationships associated with the network.

In multiplying the matrix N by itself, we get:

$$N^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The entries $n^2_{(i,j)}$ in N^2 , represent all existing chains of level 2. That is, there exists one 2-level chain from node (1) to node (3). Two 2-level chains from (1) to (4) and one 2-level chain from (2) to (4). These relationships do, indeed, exist as can be seen from the network.

If N^2 shows all 2-level relationships, it follows that N^3 shows all 3-level chain relationships.

$$N^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} .$$

As the resultant matrix, N^3 , shows and as the network verifies, there is only one 3-level chain and that is from node (1) to node (4).

In general, the number of L-level chains between two nodes (i) and (j), can be found by taking the L-th power of the precedence matrix, N. Moreover, the total paths, P; that is, the total of all paths of any level, from (i) to (j) is simply the sum of all powers of N, such that

$$\begin{aligned} P &= N^0 + N^1 + N^2 + \dots + N^L \\ &= I + N + N^2 + \dots + N^L, \end{aligned}$$

where I is the identity matrix which is formed by the precedence of each node to itself. After the matrix has been raised to the (L + 1)-th power, it will become a null matrix. Such a matrix signifies the non-existence of any paths of level L + 1 or higher. If N^4 is computed in the above example, it will be found to be a null matrix. Obviously, there are no paths of length four in the network.

The concept regarding the number of paths between pairs of nodes is an important one and should be discussed in some

depth. Let us once again consider the matrix N^2 , such that

$$N^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} .$$

The elements in the matrix are simply the result of conventional matrix multiplication, while the values of the elements were obtained with conventional arithmetic. For example, the element $n^2(1,4)$ whose value is seen to be 2, was obtained when the N matrix was squared. That is,

$$n^2(1,4) = [(n(1,1) \cdot n(1,4))] + [(n(1,2) \cdot n(2,4))] + \\ [(n(1,3) \cdot n(3,4))] + [(n(1,4) \cdot n(4,4))] .$$

This indicates that the first sum is really concerned with the transitive relationship between the precedence of node (1) to node (4). The second, the transitive path from nodes (1) to (2) and (2) to (4). The others involve this same type of consideration. Nevertheless, in all four cases, the existence of a path from node (1) to node (4) is checked. Further, such a path exists only when the two direct precedence relationships that might compose the path exist. In the Zero-One notation, such a path exists when both components of the multiplication

are 1. If either are 0, the path does not exist. By checking the four multiplications involved in arriving at the entry $n^2_{(1,4)}$, one can compute

$$\begin{aligned} n^2_{(1,4)} &= (0) \cdot (0) + (1) \cdot (1) + (1) \cdot (1) + (0) \cdot (0) \\ &= 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 \\ &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

Obviously, the only paths that exist between (1) and (4) that are composed of two direct precedence relationships are (1) << (2) << (4), and (1) << (3) << (4). Consequently, the number of paths existing between various pairs of nodes can be computed easily and in a logical fashion using conventional matrix multiplication and, of course, conventional addition and multiplication.

Quantitative aspect. Thus far, the main consideration has been given to simply counting the number of paths between nodes in a network. However, this analysis can be extended to include the measurement of the lengths of various paths in the network.

Let us reconstruct the original network and include the times to transverse each direct precedence path.

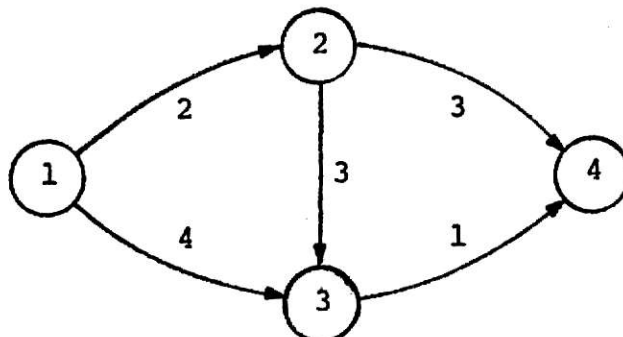


Figure A.2. Typical Network with Branch Lengths Affixed.

By constructing the precedence matrix for the above network using path lengths rather than the Zero-One notation, the following formulation can be made:

$$N = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} (1) & (2) & (3) & (4) \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} (1) \\ (2) \\ (3) \\ (4) \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Interpretation of the matrix N , is similar to that made earlier, except each entry, $n^2_{(i,j)}$ is extended to represent an element set. This element set contains the lengths of all paths between the nodes (i) and (j). This can be illustrated by computing the matrix N^2 , and examining the entries of the resultant:

$$N^2 = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} (1) & (2) & (3) & (4) \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} (1) \\ (2) \\ (3) \\ (4) \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 5 & 5,5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Consider the element $n^2_{(1,4)}$ which is the element set (5,5). This entry signifies that there are two 2-level chain relationships from node (1) to node (4) each having a length of 5. A quick check of the network shows that such relationships and corresponding lengths do exist.

Noting that the discussion earlier, concerning the number of paths between nodes called for conventional matrix operations and more specifically, conventional arithmetic operations, it should be readily noticeable that the element sets above were not the result of such computation. Had the normal operations of multiplication and addition been performed, the element $n^2_{(1,4)}$ would have yielded,

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_{(1,4)} &= (n_{(1,1)} \cdot n_{(1,4)}) + (n_{(1,2)} \cdot n_{(2,4)}) + \\
 &\quad (n_{(1,3)} \cdot n_{(3,4)}) + (n_{(1,4)} \cdot n_{(4,4)}) \\
 &= (0) \cdot (0) + (2) \cdot (3) + (4) \cdot (1) + (0) \cdot (0) \\
 &= 6 + 4 \\
 &= 10
 \end{aligned}$$

The element 10 would have been meaningless, since the main concern is the length of the paths from node (1) to node (4). However, by looking at the network, it is evident that to obtain the length of the paths between node (1) and (4), one should add the length of the 1-level chains that compose the desired paths, which for N^2 are, of course, chains of level two. Consequently, by reformulating the computational procedure used in obtaining $n^2_{(1,4)}$, one can write

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(n_{(1,1)} \odot n_{(1,4)}) \oplus (n_{(1,2)} \odot n_{(2,4)}) \oplus (n_{(1,3)} \odot n_{(3,4)}) \oplus \\
 &(n_{(1,4)} \odot n_{(4,4)})
 \end{aligned}$$

where the symbol \odot is taken to signify conventional addition. Therefore, the resulting values from the operations defined in

the parentheses are (0+0), (2+3), (4+1), and (0+0). Once the corresponding elements in the matrices have been multiplied (added conventionally), they are then combined into an element set as mentioned previously. Such a combination which is signified by the symbol \oplus , can be illustrated by completing the computation of $n^2(1,4)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} n^2(1,4) &= (0+0) \oplus (2+3) \oplus (4+1) \oplus (0+0) \\ &= (0, 5, 5, 0) \\ &= (5, 5). \end{aligned}$$

The zero elements are omitted; however, the two elements (5,5) are the lengths of the two different 2-level chains from node (1) to node (4).

This example points out the computational derivation for the special forms of addition and multiplication. These special forms have been given the names of schedule algebra addition and schedule algebra multiplication. They can be presented formally by the following formulation:

$$n^2(i,j) = \sum_k (n(i,k) \odot n(k,j))$$

where \odot implies schedule algebra multiplication and the summation over k refers to schedule algebra addition, \oplus , or to the combination of the schedule algebra products into element sets. Finally, it should be pointed out that the above formulation is not general, for it refers only to those relationships of level 2. This is indicated by the power of 2

to which $n_{(i,j)}$ is raised; however, the formulation with respect to the operators of addition and multiplication is valid in all cases.

A.2. Schedule Algebra Operators:

As implied in the earlier discussion, schedule algebra is identical to conventional matrix algebra with respect to matrix operations such as addition and multiplication. However, it differs from matrix algebra in its characterization of a matrix and in the arithmetic operations involving elements of the matrices.

Characteristics of matrices. Matrices in schedule algebra can be considered to be arrays of element sets. The entries within these sets are called elements. Such elements take the form of the usual numbers or ratios of such numbers. The only exception is the addition of the element \dagger . This term represents numerical zero or zero magnitude. With reference to earlier discussion, this term would be the quantifying element for chains of level 0.

Schedule algebra matrices are signified by capital letters and are, as usual, enclosed by brackets. The entries in the matrices; that is, the element sets are identified by lower case double subscripted letters. Consequently, the identity, with few exceptions, of the schedule algebra matrices is very similar to that of conventional matrices. Nevertheless, an example of a schedule algebra matrix can be constructed as follows:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} (6, 4) & (8, 4) \\ (0) & (-2, 2) \\ (, 1) & (1, 1) \end{bmatrix} .$$

Before the operators are presented, it should be pointed out that there are identity matrices in schedule algebra just as in conventional matrix algebra. These identities are given below, for addition and multiplication respectively:

$$\begin{bmatrix} (0) & (0) \\ (0) & (0) \end{bmatrix} , \quad \begin{bmatrix} (1) & (0) \\ (0) & (1) \end{bmatrix}$$

Schedule algebra addition. The symbol for schedule algebra addition, as pointed out earlier, is \oplus . The procedure for addition can be presented in three steps:

- 1 - Combine all entries of the element sets to be added into one set.
- 2 - Delete all pairs of elements which are identical in magnitude but opposite in sign and replace with a zero and
- 3 - Delete all zeros if the set contains at least one element which is not zero; however, if nothing but zeros remain, reduce the set to only one element of zero.

Consider the following examples:

$$(1, 1, 4) \oplus (6, -1) = (1, 6, 0, 4)$$

$$= (1, 6, 4)$$

and

$$(1, -3) \oplus (-1, 3) = (0, 0)$$

$$= (0).$$

Schedule algebra multiplication. The symbol for schedule algebra multiplication is \odot . The rules for schedule algebra multiplication can best be summarized in the following manner:

$$x \odot y = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x = 0 \text{ or } y = 0, \\ |x| + |y|, & \text{if } x, y \neq 0 \text{ and have the same sign,} \\ -[|x| + |y|], & \text{if } x, y \neq 0 \text{ and have opposite signs,} \\ + y, & \text{if } x = \pm 1, \text{ and } y \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

The symbol, + that appears in the second and third cases above, implies conventional addition and not schedule algebra addition. Consider the following:

$$6 \odot 7 = 13$$

$$4 \odot -7 = -11$$

$$2 \odot 0 = 0$$

$$8 \odot 1 = 8$$

$$1 \odot -1 = -1$$

The above formulation and examples describe multiplication of elements. To multiply two element sets; however, is to form

the cross products of the elements of the sets. Of course, the resultant set is that obtained from the schedule algebra addition of cross products. Consider the following examples:

$$(1, 1) \odot (2, 3) = (3, 2, 4, 3)$$

$$(1, 1) \odot (-2, -1) = (-3, -2, -1, -1).$$

Schedule algebra subtraction. Once the multiplication operation has been discussed, the operation of subtraction can follow such that,

$$(x) \ominus (y) = (x) \oplus (-1) \odot [(y), I,$$

where for example

$$\begin{aligned} (6, 1) \ominus (4, -6, 1) &= (6, 1) \oplus (-4, 6, -1) \\ &= (-4, 6, 6). \end{aligned}$$

Schedule algebra division. By considering the schedule algebra operation of division as an operation involving ratios of integers, the following rules can be presented. Consider two non-zero integers x and y such that

$$x / y = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} |x| - |y| = z, \text{ if } x > y, \text{ and both } x \text{ and } y \text{ have} \\ \text{the same signs,} \\ -z, \text{ if } x > y, \text{ and } x \text{ and } y \text{ have} \\ \text{different signs,} \\ 1 / y - x, \text{ if } y > x, \text{ and } x \text{ and } y \text{ have the} \\ \text{same signs,} \\ -1 / y - x, \text{ if } y > x, \text{ and } x \text{ and } y \text{ have} \\ \text{different signs,} \\ 1, \text{ if } x = y \text{ and both } x \text{ and } y \text{ have} \\ \text{the same sign} \\ -1, \text{ if } x = y, \text{ and } x \text{ and } y \text{ have} \\ \text{different signs.} \end{array} \right.$$

In general, schedule algebra division is defined for all ratios x/y in which $y \neq 0$. However, if $x = 0$, then $0/y$ is equal to 0 for all $y \neq 0$. It should be noted that the subtraction operation used above is one of a conventional nature. Consider the following examples for the ratio of two integers:

$$6/4 = 6 - 4 = 2,$$

$$6/44 = -(6 - 4) = -2,$$

$$4/6 = 1/6 - 4 = 1/2,$$

$$4/-6 = -1/6 - 4 = -1/2,$$

$$5/5 = 1$$

$$-5/5 = -1$$

By defining the operation of division, it follows that every set must have an inverse of multiplication (every non-empty set). Consider the following:

$$(4)^{-1} = 1/4,$$

$$(1/1, -1)^{-1} = (1, -1).$$

Matrix operations. The operations and rules of matrix algebra hold true for schedule algebra matrices in the same manner as for conventional matrices. Of course, the arithmetic involved in manipulation is unique, based on the operators presented above. For example, consider the sum of the following two matrices:

$$\begin{bmatrix} (1) & (5, 1) \\ (6, 1) & (-3, 1) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} (4) & (0) \\ (1, 2) & (1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (1, 4) & (5, 1) \\ (6, 1, 1, 2) & (-3, 1, 1) \end{bmatrix} .$$

The product of the same two matrices is

$$\begin{bmatrix} (4) \oplus (5, 7, 1, 3) & (0) \oplus (5, 1) \\ (10, 4) \oplus (-3, -5, 1, 3) & (-3, 1) \end{bmatrix}$$

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} (4, 5, 7, 1, 3) & (5, 1) \\ (10, 4, -5, 1) & (-3, 1) \end{bmatrix}$$

A.3. Star Algebra Operators:

As Giffler has pointed out, it is not always computationally feasible to keep all elements in an element set. Rather, only those elements that are the maximum in each set are maintained. Such a maximizing rule for addition has led to the formulation of the star algebra. Star algebra is equivalent to conventional matrix algebra with respect to its matrix operations. The primary difference is that all matrices under star algebra are non-negative or zero.

Star algebra addition. The operation for addition of elements under star algebra can be formulated as follows:

$$x * y = \max(x, y),$$

where the symbol $*$ has replaced the schedule algebra symbol for addition of \oplus .

Star algebra multiplication. Star algebra multiplication can be given as follows:

$$(x, y) \# (v, z) = \max(x \odot v, x \odot z, y \odot v, y \odot z),$$

where the symbol, $\#$, has replaced the schedule algebraic symbol of \odot , for multiplication.

The following sample problem illustrates the use of the star algebra.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \# \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \max(5 \odot 6, 4 \odot 0) & \max(2 \odot 6, 4 \odot 1) \\ \max(1 \odot 5, 3 \odot 0) & \max(2 \odot 1, 3 \odot 1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \max(11, 0) & \max(8, 5) \\ \max(5, 0) & \max(2, 4) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 11 & 8 \\ 5 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

APPENDIX B

A Schedule Algebra Algorithm

As was mentioned in Chapter II, the research for this thesis was instigated by the schedule algebra algorithm as formulated by Giffler. Of course, the emphasis eventually became centered around the network approach and its development. However, the network approach was an outgrowth of the schedule algebra algorithm, and, as such, it is logical that the basic concept of the schedule algebra algorithm be presented in a formal fashion. This appendix is made up of three sections which are identical to those maintained for the discussion of the network approach. They are the basic concepts of the algorithm, a sample problem, and a formal presentation of the computational algorithm.

B.1. Basic Concepts:

The schedule algebra technique, much like the network approach, is a systematic approach which searches a subset of feasible sequences for a solution. The basic concept of this approach can be broken down into the same three areas as were used in the discussion of the network algorithm. They are (1) the representation of the problem in a precedence matrix, (2) the manipulation of the matrix based on the star algebra operators, and (3) the evaluation of the resulting sequence to obtain the corresponding schedule time.

Representation of the problem by a precedence matrix and the corresponding construction of such, is identical to that presented in Chapter II. The matrix is partitioned into M machine blocks, each having J rows and J columns. Entries are made in the matrix in the same manner as in the network approach. The concepts of partial ordering and the possible direct precedence relationship remain unchanged. Consequently, both techniques employ the same initial precedence matrix. With respect to the schedule algebra algorithm, this matrix is referred to as S .

Once the precedence matrix is constructed, the process of entry can begin. The technique for entry is the same in concept as that used in the network approach. However, the method of entry is somewhat different. Nodes are selected to enter one at a time. That is, only one node can enter per iteration with the schedule algebra. Nonetheless, a node is a candidate for entry if its column is null or potentially null. If there are more than one such candidates for entry, the conflicts are resolved with a particular bounding procedure. This procedure makes use of a bound which is really an evaluation of the earliest machine available time and is referred to as the FACAT (facility available time). The value of the FACAT represents the earliest time that a particular machine will be available after processing the job associated with the node in question. Obviously, the node with the earliest FACAT is chosen to next start.

When a node is chosen to be entered into solution, its column is updated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} x^s(j m_\ell, j m_\delta) &= 0, \\ y^s(j m_\ell, j m_\delta) &= s(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)' \end{aligned}$$

where all other terms with y's in the same row as the y-term above, are made 0, and all elements in the corresponding row of the updated column are updated such that

$$x^s(j m_\ell, j m_\delta) = y(j m_\ell, j m_\delta)'$$

As can be seen, a new term has been introduced. The concept of the y-term is one of a transitory nature. That is, a y-term is taken to imply an x-term that will eventually become 0 or 1. When the y's appear in the matrix, they act as 1's and behave as such in all computations.

Once a node has entered the solution and the matrix has been updated accordingly, the starting time vector is updated. This procedure represents another phase of the schedule algebra algorithm that is in contrast to the network approach. Before, the starting vector was used only when the final precedence matrix was obtained; however, here the vector is used after each update to the precedence matrix. The concept and construction of the starting vector is identical to that discussed earlier.

In general, the procedure involved in the algorithm would entail choosing a node for entry, updating the precedence matrix, and finally, updating the starting vector. At this point, the

process would begin again, being completed, of course, when all nodes had been entered. Finally, the schedule time for a sequence must be obtained. The computation of this schedule time follows identically the procedure outlined in Chapter II.

B.2. Sample Problem:

Consider again the sample problem solved in Chapter II. The corresponding machine ordering and processing time matrices are reproduced below for convenience:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 13 & 11 \\ 21 & 23 & 22 \\ 33 & 31 & 32 \\ 41 & 42 & 43 \end{bmatrix} \quad T = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 8 & 4 & 5 \\ 6 & 3 & 9 \\ 7 & 6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 1. Construct the initial starting vector, T^0 , such that

$$T^0 = [0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0] ,$$

where the 1's signify the earliest starting times of nodes (21), (41), (12), and (33).

Step 2. Construct the precedence matrix, S^0 , from the partial orderings and possible direct precedence relationships.

Step 3. Check for nodes to enter. It can be seen from S^0 that columns (21), (41), (12), and (33) are potentially null. Since there are four nodes competing for entry, the FACATS, $A_{(j \ m_\ell)}$, must be computed for each entry such that

$$A_{(j m_\ell)} = r_{(j m_\ell)} + t_{(j m_\ell)} .$$

The FACATS for the nodes can be computed as follows:

$$A_{(21)} = 1 + 8 = 8,$$

$$A_{(41)} = 1 + 7 = 7,$$

$$A_{(12)} = 1 + 4 = 4,$$

$$A_{(33)} = 1 + 6 = 6.$$

Since column (12) has the minimum FACAT, it is selected to enter.

Step 4. Update the precedence matrix by entering the node just selected in step 3. By making column (12) null and, further, updating the matrix as described in the basic concept, the matrix S^1 , can be computed.

Step 5. Update the starting vector. When the T^0 vector is multiplied by the matrix S^1 , the resultant can be given as

$$[0 \ 0 \ 6 \ 0 \ 0 \ 4 \ 4 \ 7 \ 4 \ 8 \ 0 \ 0] .$$

Upon adding this vector to T^0 , the resultant vector, T^1 , becomes

$$T^1 = [0 \ 1 \ 6 \ 1 \ 1 \ 4 \ 4 \ 7 \ 4 \ 8 \ 1 \ 0] .$$

Step 6. Repeat step 3 by checking for the next node to enter. After checking S^1 , picking the candidates for entry, and evaluating the FACATS of each node, (33) was chosen to enter next. The updated matrix becomes S^2 and the updated starting vector becomes T^2 . This procedure is repeated until all nodes have been entered. The entry of the nodes can be given in the following order, beginning with the third node to enter, (41).

The order of entry is (13), (31), (42), (11), (21), (43), (23), (32), and (22). It should be pointed out that there were some ties in FACATS; consequently, these ties have been broken by random. The precedence matrices and the corresponding starting vectors are presented after each iteration.

Step 7. Calculate the final sequence and the schedule time. By arranging the jobs in each machine block of the final starting vector, T^{12} , with respect to starting times, we can formulate the following sequences on each machine:

machine 1: { 4 3 1 2 }

machine 2: { 1 4 3 2 }

machine 3: { 3 1 4 2 }

The job sequencing matrix, S can be constructed such that,

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 41 & 31 & 11 & 21 \\ 12 & 42 & 32 & 22 \\ 33 & 13 & 43 & 23 \end{bmatrix}$$

Upon locating the operations in each machine block which have the highest starting times, we can obtain nodes (21), (22), and (23). When the processing times of each node are added to the starting times, the results are 21, 30, and 25 time units, respectively. Consequently, the schedule time for the sequence is 30. Note that the optimal schedule time is 27.

Table B.1. Initial Precedence Matrix, S^0 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x3	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	x8	x8	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	x3	x3	0	x3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
(41)	x7	x7	x7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	x4	x4	x4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	x5	0	x5	x5	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	x9	x9	0	x9	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	x6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	x2	x2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	x4	0	x4	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	0	x6
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	x2	x2	0

Table B.2. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^1 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x ³	x ³	x ³	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x ⁸	0	x ⁸	x ⁸	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	x ³	x ³	0	x ³	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
(41)	x ⁷	x ⁷	x ⁷	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	y ⁴	y ⁴	y ⁴	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x ⁵	x ⁵	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x ⁹	0	x ⁹	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	x ⁶	6	x ⁰	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x ²	x ²	x ²
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	x ⁴	0	x ⁴	x ⁴
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	x ⁶	x ⁶	0	x ⁶
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x ²	x ²	x ²	0

Table B.3. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^2
and Starting Time Vector, T^2 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x3	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	x8	x8	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	x3	x3	0	x3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
(41)	x7	x7	x7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	y4	y4	y4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	x5	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	x9	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	x2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	x4	0	0	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	y6	y6	0	y6
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	x2	0	0

and

6	1	6	1	1	12	9	7	6	8	1	13
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Table B.4. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^3
and Starting Time Vector, T^3 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	x8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
(41)	y7	y7	y7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	y4	y4	y4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	x5	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	x9	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	x2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	x4	0	0	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	y6	y6	0	y6
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	x2	0	0

and

8	7	7	1	1	12	9	7	6	8	1	13
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Table B.5. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^4
and Starting Time Vector, T^4 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	x8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	x3	x3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
(41)	y7	y7	y7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	y4	y4	y4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	x5	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	x9	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	y2	0	y2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	0

and

8	7	7	1	1	12	10	7	6	15	1	13
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Table B.6. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^5
and Starting Time Vector, T^5 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	y3	y3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	y4	y4	y4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	x5	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	x9	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	x6	x6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	y2	0	y2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	0

and

10	10	7	1	1	19	10	7	6	15	1	13
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Table B.7. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^6
and Starting Time Vector, T^6 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	x3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	x8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	y3	y3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	y6	y6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	y2	0	y2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	0

and

10	10	7	1	1	19	10	7	6	18	1	13
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Table B.8. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^7
and Starting Time Vector, T^7 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	y3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x ⁵	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x ⁹	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	y ⁶	y ⁶	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	y ²	0	y ²
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	x ⁴
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x ²	0	0

and

10	13	7	1	1	22	13	7	6	18	1	13
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Table B.9. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^8
and Starting Time Vector, T^8 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	y6	y6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	y2	0	y2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	x4
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x2	0	0

and

10	13	7	1	1	22	13	7	6	21	1	13
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Table B.10. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^9
and Starting Time Vector, T^9 .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	y6	y6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	y2	0	0

and

10	13	7	1	1	25	13	7	6	21	1	13
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Table B.11. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^{10}
and Starting Time Vector, T^{10} .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	x5	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	x9	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	y6	y6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0

and

10	13	7	1	1	25	13	7	6	21	1	13
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Table B.12. Intermediate Precedence Matrix, S^{11}
and Starting Time Vector, T^{11} .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0

and

10	13	7	1	1	25	13	7	6	21	1	13
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Table B.13. Final Precedence Matrix, S^{12} and Starting Time Vector, T^{12} .

	(11)	(21)	(31)	(41)	(12)	(22)	(32)	(42)	(13)	(23)	(33)	(43)
(11)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(21)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
(31)	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
(41)	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0
(22)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(32)	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
(42)	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	6
(13)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
(23)	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
(33)	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
(43)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0

and

10	13	7	1	1	25	13	7	6	21	1	13
----	----	---	---	---	----	----	---	---	----	---	----

B.3. Computational Algorithm:

The final phase of this discussion of the schedule algebra algorithm, will be a formal presentation of the algorithm.

The following represents a step by step computational procedure which embodies the concepts presented earlier and formalizes the procedure illustrated in the sample problem.

Step 1: Construct the initial starting vector, T^0 .

Form a vector with JM entries, such that

$$t(j m_\ell) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for all } (j m_\ell), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Step 2: Construct the initial precedence matrix, S^0 .

2.1 Partition a (JM x JM) matrix into M machine blocks.

2.2 Label the rows and columns of the matrix by the appropriate nodes.

2.3 Place the entries in the matrix such that

$$s(j m_\ell, j m_\delta) = \begin{cases} t(j m_\ell), & \text{if } (j m_\ell) \ll (j m_\delta), \\ xt(j m_\ell), & \text{if } (j m_\ell) \ll (j m_\delta) \text{ is possible} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Step 3: Check for null or potentially null columns.

3.1 For each null or potentially null column in the S matrix, mark the column.

3.2 If there is more than one marked column, go to step 4.

3.3 If there is only one marked column, go to step 5.

Step 4: Determine the machine available time.

4.1 For each marked column, scan the corresponding row and determine the minimum entry of the form $x^s(j, m_\ell)$.

4.2 Compute the machine available time, $A(j, m_\ell)$ such that

$$A(j, m_\ell) = r(j, m_\ell) + t(j, m_\ell)$$

4.3 Select the column having minimum A.

4.3.1. If there is a tie, select a column to next start by a particular rule. Remove the marks from the other columns that were considered, and proceed to step 5.

4.3.2. If there is no tie, remove the marks from the other columns being considered and proceed to step 5.

Step 5: Update the precedence matrix.

5.1 Make all entries in the marked column, of the form $x^s(j, m_\ell)$, equal to zero.

5.2 Make all entries in the marked column, of the form $y^s(j, m_\ell)$, equal to $s(j, m_\ell)$. Make all other y terms in this row equal to zero.

5.3 Make all entries in the corresponding row of the marked column, which are of the form $x^s(j, m_\ell)$, equal to $y^s(j, m_\ell)$.

Step 6: Update the starting vector.

6.1 Multiply the updated S matrix by the starting vector such that

$$T^L = T^{L-1} \# S^L, L = 1, 2, \dots,$$

and add the starting vector to the resultant vector such that

$$T^L = T^{L-1} * T^L$$

Step 7: Repeat steps 3-6 until all columns have been entered.

Step 8: Find the sequence and the corresponding schedule time.

8.1 Order the jobs with respect to their starting times within each machine block of the final starting vector.

8.2 Locate the element in each machine block of the final starting vector that has the latest starting time.

8.3 Add the processing time to the starting time of each chosen element.

8.4 Select the operation which results in the greatest amount of time such that

$$T(S) = \max [T_{M}(j) + t_{M}(j)], j = 1, 2, \dots, J,$$

where $T(S)$ is the schedule time for the sequence.

APPENDIX C

A Bounding Procedure

It was pointed out in Chapter II that a particular bounding procedure was used to resolve the conflict that resulted in the machine blocks with respect to the order of entry of nodes. Furthermore, it was pointed out that the bounding procedure used was a composite one; however, no formulation was made at that time. Therefore, this appendix has been included to discuss the composite bound used to resolve the conflicts arising in the network algorithm. Moreover, the organization of this discussion will include two sections. They are (1) formulation of the bound and (2) a sample problem illustrating the use of the bound.

C.1. Composite-Based Bound

The lower bound on schedule time for a node can be defined as the sum of the completion times of the scheduled jobs and the total processing times of the unscheduled jobs in addition to an estimation of the idle time which may be experienced between the unscheduled jobs when they are scheduled. Furthermore, the power of a particular bounding procedure is measured in terms of its ability to produce a lower bound that is close to the actual schedule time.

Lower bounds can be used individually or they can be combined, in which case a composite bound is formed. Such a combination of lower bounds was used in this research. That is, a job-based bound and a machine-based bound have been

combined to form a composite-based bound. This composite-based bound is presented more rigorously in Hiremath [11].

Before any formulation of the bound can be made, certain notation should be considered. This notation is consistent with that used in [11] and can be presented as follows:

- L level at which the conflict occurs. In reference to the network algorithm, L refers to the iteration.
- n set of nodes already selected or scheduled to start
- \bar{n} set of nodes not scheduled to start
- $c^L(j m_\ell)$ completion time of node $(j m_\ell)$ at level L .
- s^L set of nodes that are under conflict at a particular level.
- $B^L(j m_\ell)$ lower bound for node $(j m_\ell)$ at iteration L .
- B^L minimum lower bound on the schedule time at iteration L .

A job-based bound. The job-based bound procedure is a technique which is used to compute the total processing time on each job in the conflict set. The lower bound, $B^L(j m_\ell)$ for node $(j m_\ell)$ at level or iteration L , can be formulated as follows:

$$B^L(j m_\ell) = \max \left[\left[c^L(j m_\ell) + \sum_{\delta=\ell+1}^M t_{j m_\delta} \right], \max_{\substack{i \\ i \in s^L \\ i \neq j}} \left[c^L(j m_\ell) + \sum_{\delta=\ell}^M t_{i m_\delta} \right] \right]$$

The first of the two expressions in the formulation consists of two terms:

$c^L(j, m_\ell)$ the completion time of node (j, m_ℓ) .

$\sum_{s=\ell+1}^M t_{j, m_s}$ the sum of the processing times of job j on the remaining machines. That is, the minimum time for the unscheduled nodes.

The second expression the formulation has two components:

$c^L(j, m_\ell)$ the completion time of node (j, m_ℓ) .

$\sum_{s=h}^M t_{j, m_s}$ the sum of the processing times of the other unscheduled nodes in the conflict set.

A machine-based bound. The second bounding procedure used in the composite bound is a machine-based bound, since a lower bound is computed with respect to the total processing time on each machine. The lower bound, $B^L(j, m_\ell)$ for node (j, m_ℓ) can be formulated as follows:

$$B^L(j, m_\ell) = \max \left[\left[c^L(j, m_\ell) + \sum_{\substack{i \in \bar{n} \\ m = m_\ell}} t_{i, m} \right], \max_{\substack{m \\ m \neq m_\ell}} \left[\min_i \left[c_{i, m}^L - t_{i, m} \right] + \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \in \bar{n}}}^J t_{i, m} \right] \right]$$

The first expression contains two terms:

$c^L(j, m_\ell)$ the completion time of node (j, m_ℓ) .

$\sum_{\substack{i \in \bar{n} \\ m=m_\ell}} t_{i, m}$ the sum of the processing times of the unscheduled nodes which include machine m .

The second expression also consists of two components:

$\min_{i \in \bar{n}} [c_{im}^L - t_{im}]$ the earliest time at which an unscheduled node can be started on machine m .

$\sum_{i=1}^J t_{i, m}$ the sum of the processing times of the unscheduled nodes which involve machine m .

Now that the two lower bounds have been formulated, the composite bound can be presented formally. If the job-based bound is referred to as lower bound I (LB I) and the machine-based bound as lower bound II (LB II), the composite bound can be presented as follows:

$$LB\ III = \max [LB\ I, LB\ II] ,$$

where the composite bound will be referred to as LB III. Obviously, the conflicts are resolved in favor of the node which has the least composite lower bound.

C.2. Sample Problem

By considering the sample problem that has been used consistently in this thesis, the concept of the composite

bound will be demonstrated. The conflicts at the first iteration have been resolved by hand and are presented in this section, while the remainder of the resolutions are summarized in Table C.1.

Conflict level one. When the initial precedence matrix, Q^0 was examined for entry candidates in each machine block, it was found that there was a conflict in block one. The two nodes competing for entry were (21) and (41). Consequently, these two nodes constitute the conflict set at iteration one.

Consider first, LB I. The first term in the formulation can be evaluated for node (21) as follows:

$$C_{(21)}^1 = 8,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\delta=\ell+1}^M t_{jm_{\delta}} &= t_{23} + t_{22} \\ &= 9. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, the first term in the bound has a value of 17.

The second term in the bound can be evaluated such that

$$C_{(21)}^1 = 8,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\delta=\ell}^M t_{im_{\delta}} &= t_{41} + t_{42} + t_{43} \\ &= 7 + 6 + 2 \\ &= 15. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the evaluation of the second expression in the formulation can be given such that

$$\begin{aligned} \max [8 + 15] &= \max [23] \\ &= 23. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, the lower bound can be computed:

$$\begin{aligned} B^1(21) &= \max [17, 23], \\ &= 23 \end{aligned}$$

Consider now the evaluation of LB I for node (41). The computation can be presented in the same manner as that used above. The first term in the formulation can be evaluated such that

$$C^1_{(41)} = 7,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\delta=\ell+1}^M t_{jm_\delta} &= t_{42} + t_{43}, \\ &= 8, \end{aligned}$$

where, of course, the value of the term becomes 15.

The second term can be computed as follows:

$$C^1_{(41)} = 7,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\delta=\ell}^M t_{im_\delta} &= t_{21} + t_{23} + t_{22}, \\ &= 8 + 4 + 5, \\ &= 17, \end{aligned}$$

and finally,

$$\begin{aligned} \max [7 + 17] &= \max [24], \\ &= 24. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, the value of LB I for node 41 becomes

$$\max [15, 24] = 24.$$

Consider the second lower bound in the composite bound, namely LB II. Further, let us consider, first the evaluation of this bound for node (21).

The first term in the formulation of the bound can be computed such that

$$C_{(21)}^1 = 8,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{i \in \bar{n} \\ m=\bar{m}_\ell}} t_{im} &= t_{11} + t_{31} + t_{41}, \\ &= 3 + 3 + 7, \\ &= 13. \end{aligned}$$

The first term in the bound becomes 21.

The evaluation of the second term is made with respect to machines 2 and 3. Considering $m = 2$, first we can compute

$$\begin{aligned} \min_i [C_{im}^L - t_{im}] &= \min [C_{22}^1 - t_{22}, C_{32} - t_{32}, C_{42} - t_{42}], \\ &= \min [17 - 5, 20 - 9, 21 - 6], \\ &= 11. \end{aligned}$$

Note that node (21) is not considered in the above computation because it has already been scheduled.

Continuing with the evaluation of the second term of the bound,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{i = 1 \\ i \in \bar{n}}}^J t_{im} &= t_{22} + t_{32} + t_{42} \\ &= 5 + 9 + 6, \\ &= 20. \end{aligned}$$

Now consider the case where $m = 3$.

$$\begin{aligned} \min_i [C_{im}^L - t_{im}] &= \min [C_{13}^1 - t_{13}, C_{23}^1 - t_{23}, C_{43}^1 - t_{43}] \\ &= \min [8 - 2, 12 - 4, 23 - 2] \\ &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \in \bar{n}}}^J t_{im} &= t_{13} + t_{23} + t_{43} \\ &= 2 + 4 + 2, \\ &= 8. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the second term in LB II becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \max [11+20, 6+8] &= \max [31, 14], \\ &= 31. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, the evaluation of the lower bound for node (21), $B^1(21)$ can be made such that

$$\max [21, 31] = 31.$$

Following the same procedure, the lower bound for node (41) is computed. Consider the following evaluation of the first term of the formulation.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } C_{(41)}^1 &= 7 \\ \sum_{\substack{i \in \bar{n} \\ m=m_\ell}} t_{im} &= t_{11} + t_{21} + t_{31}, \\ &= 3 + 8 + 3, \\ &= 14. \end{aligned}$$

The value of the first term is, obviously, 21.

In evaluating the second term, we shall consider the case when $m = 2$, first, such that

$$\begin{aligned} \min_i [C_{im}^L - t_{im}] &= \min_i [C_{22}^1 - t_{22}, C_{32}^1 - t_{32}, C_{42}^1 - t_{42}] \\ &= \min [24 - 5, 19 - 9, 13 - 6] \\ &= 7, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \in \bar{N}}}^J t_{im} &= t_{22} + t_{32} + t_{42}, \\ &= 5 + 9 + 6, \\ &= 20. \end{aligned}$$

The final value of the second term for the case, $m = 2$, becomes 27.

When $m = 3$, we can compute,

$$\begin{aligned} \min_i [C_{im}^L - t_{im}] &= \min [C_{13}^1 - t_{13}, C_{23}^1 - t_{23}, C_{43}^1 - t_{43}], \\ &= \min [8 - 2, 19 - 4, 15 - 2] \\ &= 6, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \in \bar{N}}}^J t_{im} &= t_{13} + t_{23} + t_{43}, \\ &= 2 + 4 + 2, \\ &= 8. \end{aligned}$$

For $m = 3$, the second term of the formulation becomes 14.

Consequently, the final value of the second term can be computed such that

$$\max [27, 14] = 27.$$

Finally, the value of the bound for node (41), $B^1(41)$ can be given as follows:

$$\max [21, 27] = 27.$$

At this point, we have computed the values of the lower bounds for nodes (21) and (41) using LB I and LB II. The next step, obviously, is to resolve the conflict using the values for the lower bounds obtained. Summarizing, the following can be given:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LB I} & : B^1(21) = 23, \\ & B^1(41) = 24, \\ \text{LB II} & : B^1(21) = 31, \\ & B^1(41) = 27. \end{aligned}$$

Application of the composite bound, LB III, yields the following formulation:

$$\text{LB III} = \max [\text{LB I}, \text{LB II}] ,$$

where for node (21),

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LB III} & = \max [23, 31] , \\ & = 31, \end{aligned}$$

and for node (41),

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LB III} & = \max [24, 27] , \\ & = 27. \end{aligned}$$

In the above case, node (41) is selected to next start because it exhibits a lower bound that is less than that of node (21). Nonethe less, the remainder of the conflicts in the sample problem and their resolutions are summarized in Table C.1.

It should be noted that the minimum values for the composite bound, 27, are the same as the actual value of the schedule time. This is verified in the sample problem solution in Chapter II.

Table C.1. Summary of Computation of Lower Bounds for Sample Problem.

Conflict Level	Node	Lower Bounds			Minimum	Resolution
		LB I	LB II	LB III	LB III	
1	(21)	23	31	31		
	(41)	24	27	27	27	(41)
2	(21)	27	32	32		
	(31)	27	27	27	27	(31)
3	(21)	27	27	27	27	(21)
	(11)	30	30	30		

APPENDIX D
Computer Program

**THE
FOLLOWING
DOCUMENT HAS
PRINTING THAT
EXTENDS INTO
THE BINDING.**

**THIS IS AS
RECEIVED FROM
CUSTOMER.**

THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED TO SOLVE A CLASS OF COMBINATORIAL PROBLEMS USING THE NETWORK ALGORITHM. THE ALGORITHM IS BASED UPON THE SCHEDULE ALGEBRA OPERATORS AS FORMULATED BY B. GIFFLER. INCLUDED IN THIS ROUTINE BESIDES THE MAIN PROGRAM, ARE TWO SUBROUTINES, COMP AND ICPLT.

MAIN VARIABLES

- I_{PROB}.....NUMBER OF PROBLEMS TO BE RUN.
- M.....NUMBER OF MACHINES.
- J_{OB}.....NUMBER OF JOBS.
- J_M.....NUMBER OF NODES IN THE NETWORK, WHERE $JM=M * JOB$.
- I_O.....MACHINE ORDERING MATRIX.
- N_P.....PROCESSING TIME MATRIX.
- S.....PRECEDENCE MATRIX.
- T.....STARTING VECTOR.
- I_{COMP}.....COMPLETION TIME MATRIX.
- I_{TER}.....NUMBER OF ITERATIONS.
- I_{CONU}.....NUMBER OF CONFLICTS.
- S_{PROD}.....ELEMENTAL VALUES IN THE UPDATED STARTING VECTOR. CORRESPONDS TO $TK'(I,1)$ IN THE ALGORITHM.
- T_{ITER}.....RESULTANT UPDATE TO THE STARTING VECTOR WHEN MULTIPLIED BY THE PRECEDENCE MATRIX. CORRESPONDS TO TK' IN THE ALGORITHM.
- S_{EQ}.....SEQUENCING MATRIX.

VARIABLES PERTAINING TO INPUT AND OUTPUT CONTROL

JCHNG = 1.....READ INPUT FROM IO AND NP

C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C

AND GENERATE THE PRECEDENCE MATRIX, STARTING TIME VECTOR, PROCESSING TIME VECTOR, AND IDLE TIME VECTOR.

= 0.....READ INPUT IN FORM OTHER THAN IO.

IPRER = 1.....PRINT ONLY THE PROBLEM NUMBER, THE SEQUENCING MATRIX, AND THE SCHEDULE TIME.

= 0.....PRINT ALL INFORMATION AT EVERY ITERATION, INCLUDING VALUES OF THE BOUNDING PROCEDURE.

```

DIMENSION S(40,40),T(40,1),WORK(40),PROC(40),IDLE(20),DELET(40),ENRGP00
1ITER(40),TITER(40,1),SPROD(40,1),SCHD(40),IO(15,10),NP(15,10),R(15, RGP00
210),SEQ(9,15),LONE(15),IDON(15),LBSE(15),LBNE(15),ICOMX(15),ICMP(1 RGP00
35,5),ICTM(15,5) RGP00
IPRER=1 RGP00
IPROB=25 RGP00
JPROB=0 RGP00
682 CONTINUE RGP00
ICONU=0 RGP00
JPROB=JPROB+1 RGP00

```

C
C
C

READ IN THE MACHINE ORDERING AND TIME PROCESSING MATRICES.

```

1332 FORMAT(3I4) RGP00
READ(1,1332)M,JM,JOB RGP00
DO 2139 IQX=1,M RGP00
DO 2140 IQXX=1,JOB RGP00
SEQ(IQX,IQXX)=0 RGP00
2140 CONTINUE RGP00
2139 CONTINUE RGP00
JMM=JM-1 RGP00

```

C
C
C
C
C
C
C

THIS ROUTINE IS USED TO READ THE INPUT DATA AND GENERATE THE NEXT PRECEEDS MATRIX, THE START TIME VECTOR, THE WORK AND PROCESS TIME VECTORS.

RGPO0

```

MM=M-1 RGP00
JCHNG=1 RGP00
IF(JCHNG.NE.1) GO TO 1516 RGP00
CONTINUE RGP00
DO 1784 I=1,JOB RGP00
READ(1,1156)(IO(I,J),J=1,M) RGP00
1156 FORMAT(14I5) RGP00
1784 CONTINUE RGP00

```

	DO 1793 I=1, JOB	RGPOO
	DO 1596 J=1, M	RGPOO
	JQ=ID(I, J)/100	RGPOO
	MQ=ID(I, J)-JQ*100	RGPOO
	IBLCK=MQ-1	RGPOO
	NEWR=IBLCK*JOB	RGPOO
	R(I, J)=NEWR+JQ	RGPOO
1596	CONTINUE	RGPOO
1793	CONTINUE	RGPOO
	DO 1619 I=1, JM	RGPOO
	T(I, 1)=0	RGPOO
1619	CONTINUE	RGPOO
	DO 1582 I=1, JOB	RGPOO
	IL=R(I, 1)	RGPOO
	T(IL, 1)=999	RGPOO
1582	CONTINUE	RGPOO
	GO TO 1555	RGPOO
1516	CONTINUE	RGPOO
	DO 1112 I=1, JOB	RGPOO
1111	FORMAT(24F3.0)	RGPOO
	READ(1, 1111)(R(I, J), J=1, M)	RGPOO
1112	CONTINUE	RGPOO
1555	CONTINUE	RGPOO
	DO 1113 I=1, JOB	RGPOO
1114	FORMAT(14I5)	RGPOO
	READ(1, 1114)(NP(I, J), J=1, M)	RGPOO
1113	CONTINUE	RGPOO
C		RGPOO
C	INITIALIZE ICMP.	RGPOO
C		RGPOO
	DO 8668 ILI=1, JOB	RGPOO
	DO 8667 JLI=1, M	RGPOO
	ICMP(ILI, JLI)=NP(ILI, JLI)	RGPOO
	ICTM(ILI, JLI)=0	RGPOO
8667	CONTINUE	RGPOO
8668	CONTINUE	RGPOO
	DO 8669 ILI=1, JOB	RGPOO
	IIDAX=0	RGPOO
	DO 8666 JLI=1, M	RGPOO
	IIDA=NP(ILI, JLI)	RGPOO
	ICMP(ILI, JLI)=IIDAX+IIDA	RGPOO
	IIDAX=ICMP(ILI, JLI)	RGPOO
8666	CONTINUE	RGPOO
8669	CONTINUE	RGPOO
	IF(IPRER.EQ.1) GO TO 5092	RGPOO
	DO 5036 IIBO=1, JOB	RGPOO
	WRITE(3, 5034)(ICMP(IIBO, IIJO), IIJO=1, M)	RGPOO
5034	FORMAT(3I5)	RGPOO
5036	CONTINUE	RGPOO
5092	CONTINUE	RGPOO
	DO 1120 I=1, JM	RGPOO
	DO 1121 J=1, JM	RGPOO
	S(I, J)=0	RGPOO
1121	CONTINUE	RGPOO
1120	CONTINUE	RGPOO
	DO 1115 I=1, JOB	RGPOO
	DO 1161 J=1, MM	RGPOO
	IROW=R(I, J)	RGPOO

	ICOL=R(I,J+1)	RGP00
	S(IROW,ICOL)=NP(I,J)	RGP00
1161	CONTINUE	RGP00
1115	CONTINUE	RGP00
	JX=1	RGP00
	JOBX=JOB	RGP01
	DO 1250 I=1,JM	RGP01
	HOLD=0	RGP01
	DO 1219 J=1,JM	RGP01
	IF(S(I,J).GT.0) GO TO 1212	RGP01
	GO TO 1219	RGP01
1212	HOLD=S(I,J)	RGP01
1219	CONTINUE	RGP01
	IF(HOLD.EQ.0) GO TO 1216	RGP01
	GO TO 1209	RGP01
1216	DO 6222 IP=1,JOB	RGP01
	DO 1181 JP=1,M	RGP01
	IF(R(IP,JP).EQ.I) GO TO 1127	RGP01
	GO TO 1181	RGP01
1127	HOLD=NP(IP,JP)	RGP01
	GO TO 6222	RGP01
1181	CONTINUE	RGP01
6222	CONTINUE	RGP01
1209	IF(I.GT.JOBX) GO TO 6223	RGP01
	GO TO 1117	RGP01
6223	JX=JX+JOB	RGP01
	JOBX=JOBX+JOB	RGP01
1117	DO 1215 JP=JX,JOBX	RGP01
	IF(I.EQ.JP) GO TO 1215	RGP01
	S(I,JP)=HOLD*1000	RGP01
1215	CONTINUE	RGP01
1250	CONTINUE	RGP01
	IF(JCHNG.EQ.1) GO TO 1892	RGP01
	READ(1,1118)(T(I,1),I=1,JM)	RGP01
1118	FORMAT(18F4.0)	RGP01
	GO TO 1002	RGP01
7008	CONTINUE	RGP01
1892	CONTINUE	RGP01
	IBX=1	RGP01
	IB=JM/M	RGP01
1863	IWORK=0	RGP01
	ICOUN=0	RGP01
	DO 1861 I=1,JOB	RGP01
	DO 1868 J=1,M	RGP01
	IF(R(I,J).GE.IBX.AND.R(I,J).LE.IB) GO TO 1152	RGP01
	GO TO 6165	RGP01
1152	IWORK=NP(I,J)+IWORK	RGP01
	ICOUN=ICOUN+1	RGP01
	IF(ICOUN.EQ.JOB) GO TO 1157	RGP01
6165	GO TO 1868	RGP01
1157	ID=IB/JOB	RGP01
	PROC(ID)=IWORK	RGP01
	IBX=IBX+JOB	RGP01
	IB=IB+JOB	RGP01
	IF(IB.GT.JM) GO TO 1862	RGP01
	GO TO 1863	RGP01
1868	CONTINUE	RGP01
1861	CONTINUE	RGP01


```
926 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
  IJACK=0                                        RGP02
  NULL=0                                        RGP02
  DO 825 J=L,MM                                RGP02
  IF(J.EQ.ENTER(J)) GO TO 825                  RGP02
  DO 826 I=1,JM                                RGP02
  IF(S(I,J).GT.0.AND.S(I,J).LT.99) GO TO 859 RGP02
  IF(I.LT.JM) GO TO 826                        RGP02
29 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
  IF(IPRER.EQ.1) GO TO 5061                    RGP02
  WRITE(3,47)ITER,J                            RGP02
47 FORMAT(10X,'POTENTIALLY NULL AT ITERATION ',I3,'IS ',I3) RGP02
5061 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
  NULL=NULL+1                                  RGP02
  IJACK=J                                       RGP02
  GO TO 825                                     RGP02
859 IF(I.EQ.DELET(I)) GO TO 30                 RGP02
  GO TO 825                                     RGP02
30 IF(I.EQ.JM) GO TO 29                        RGP02
826 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
825 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
  IF(NULL.EQ.1) GO TO 1751                     RGP02
  GO TO 1752                                    RGP02
1751 ENTER(IJACK)=IJACK                         RGP02
  IWWD=MM/JOB                                  RGP02
  IDON(IWWD)=IWWD                              RGP02

C
C ENTER IJACK INTO THE JOB SEQUENCING MATRIX, WHERE IJACK
C REFERS TO COLUMNS WHICH CAN ENTER THE SOLUTION WITHOUT RESOLUTION
C OF A CONFLICT.
C

  IPREY=IJACK                                     RGP02
  CALL ICPLT(ICMP,IPREY,JOB,M,IO,ENTER,NP,ICTM) RGP02
  DO 5043 IBIDO=1,JOB                           RGP02
  DO 5042 IIBDO=1,M                             RGP02
  ICMP(IBIDO,IIBDO)=ICTM(IBIDO,IIBDO)          RGP02
5042 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
5043 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
  JNOW=ENTER(IJACK)                             RGP02
  IPICK=JNOW/JOB                                RGP02
  INUM=IPICK*JOB                                RGP02
  JPICK=JNOW-INUM                              RGP02
  IF(JPICK.EQ.0) GO TO 1829                     RGP02
  MXX=IPICK+1                                   RGP02
  GO TO 1830                                     RGP02
1829 JPICK=JOB                                  RGP02
  MXX=IPICK                                     RGP02
1830 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
  DO 4362 IKL=1,JOB                             RGP02
  IF(SEQ(MXX,IKL).NE.0) GO TO 4362             RGP02
  SEQ(MXX,IKL)=JPICK                           RGP02
  GO TO 6527                                    RGP02
4362 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
6527 CONTINUE                                     RGP02
1752 IF(MM.EQ.JM) GO TO 1637                    RGP02
  MM=MM+JM/M                                   RGP02
  L=L+JM/M                                     RGP02
  GO TO 926                                     RGP02
```

```

1637 L=1
      MM=JM/M
9926 CONTINUE
      IEXTD=JOB+1
      DO 9214 ICRP=1,IEXTD
      LONE(ICRP)=0
      LBNE(ICRP)=0
      LBSE(ICRP)=0
      ICOMX(ICRP)=0
9214 CONTINUE
      NULL=0
      IG00=MM/JOB
      IF(IDON(IG00).NE.0) GO TO 9489
      DO 9825 J=L,MM
      IF(J.EQ.ENTER(J)) GO TO 9825
      DO 9826 I=1,JM
      IF(S(I,J).GT.0.AND.S(I,J).LT.99) GO TO 9859
      IF(I.LT.JM) GO TO 9826
9829 CONTINUE
      IF(IPRER.EQ.1) GO TO 5062
      WRITE(3,9847) ITER,J
9847 FORMAT(10X,'POTENTIALLY NULL AT ITERATION ',I3,' IS ',I3)
5062 CONTINUE
      NULL=NULL+1
      IBBZ=NULL
      LONE(IBBZ)=J
      GO TO 9825
9859 IF(I.EQ.DELET(I)) GO TO 9830
      GO TO 9825
9830 IF(I.EQ.JM) GO TO 9829
9826 CONTINUE
9825 CONTINUE
      IF(LONE(1).EQ.0) GO TO 9874
      GO TO 9875
9874 GO TO 9489
6692 JENT=0
C
C RESOLVE CONFLICTS IN THE MACHINE BLOCKS WITH LOWER BOUND I (COMP).
C
9875 CALL COMP(LONE,JOB,M,NP,IO,ENTER,LBSE,LBNE,ICOMX,JENT,ICMP,ICTM,IPRGRP02
1RER)
      ICONU=ICONU+1
      IF(IPRER.EQ.1) GO TO 5063
      WRITE(3,9807)(ICOMX(ICB),ICB=1,JOB)
9807 FORMAT(10X,'THE LOWER BOUND IS ',I4)
      WRITE(3,9808) JENT
9808 FORMAT(10X,'SELECT NODE ',I4)
5063 CONTINUE
      ENTER(JENT)=JENT
C
C UPDATE ICMP, BASED UPON THE SELECTED NODE, JENT.
C
      NMMN=JENT/JOB
      NMMC=NMMN*JOB
      IF(NMMC.EQ.JENT) GO TO 2500
      NMMX=NMMN+1
      JMMX=NMMN*JOB
      IF(JMMX.GT.JENT) GO TO 2531

```


C
 C NOTE THAT THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NODES SIGNIFIED AS
 C IJACK AND THOSE AS JENT IS THAT THE FORMER ARE DETERMINED
 C WITHOUT RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS WHILE THE LATTER ARE DE-
 C TERMINED BY SAID RESOLUTION.
 C

JNOW=ENTER(JENT) RGP03
 IPICK=JNOW/JOB RGP03
 INUM=IPICK*JOB RGP03
 JPICK=JNOW-INUM RGP03
 IF(JPICK.EQ.0) GO TO 9429 RGP03
 MXX=IPICK+1 RGP03
 GO TO 9430 RGP03

9429 JPICK=JOB RGP03
 MXX=IPICK RGP03

9430 CONTINUE RGP03
 DO 9462 IKL=1,JOB RGP03
 IF(SEQ(MXX,IKL).NE.0) GO TO 9462 RGP03
 SEQ(MXX,IKL)=JPICK RGP03
 GO TO 9427 RGP03

9462 CONTINUE RGP03
 9427 CONTINUE RGP03

9489 IF(MM.EQ.JM) GO TO 800 RGP03
 MM=MM+JM/M RGP03
 L=L+JM/M RGP03
 GO TO 9926 RGP03

C
 C ENTER THE SELECTED NODES IN THE PRECEDENCE MATRIX.
 C

800 DO 801 J=1,JM RGP03
 NO=0 RGP03
 IF(J.EQ.ENTER(J)) GO TO 802 RGP03
 GO TO 801 RGP03

802 DO 803 IX=1,JM RGP03
 IF(NO.GT.0) GO TO 803 RGP03
 IF(S(IX,J).GT.999) GO TO 804 RGP04
 GO TO 803 RGP04

804 NO=NO+1 RGP04
 803 CONTINUE RGP04
 IF(NO.EQ.0) GO TO 801 RGP04
 DO 810 I=1,JM RGP04
 IF(S(I,J).GT.999) GO TO 811 RGP04
 GO TO 810 RGP04

811 IF(I.EQ.DELET(I)) GO TO 821 RGP04
 S(I,J)=0 RGP04
 GO TO 810 RGP04

821 S(I,J)=S(I,J)/1000 RGP04
 820 DO 815 IP=1,JM RGP04
 IF(S(I,IP).GT.999) GO TO 816 RGP04
 GO TO 815 RGP04

816 S(I,IP)=0 RGP04
 815 CONTINUE RGP04
 810 CONTINUE RGP04

C
 C NOW WE MJST DELETE THE CORRESPONDING ROW.
 C

I=J RGP04
 DELET(I)=I RGP04

801 CONTINUE

RGP04

C
C
C

CHECK TO SEE IF ALL NODES HAVE BEEN ENTERED.

PLUS=0

RGP04

DO 640 I=1,JM

RGP04

DO 641 J=1,JM

RGP04

IF(S(I,J).GT.99) GO TO 642

RGP04

GO TO 641

RGP04

642 PLUS=PLUS+1

RGP04

641 CONTINUE

RGP04

640 CONTINUE

RGP04

IF(PLUS.GT.0) GO TO 416

RGP04

C
C
C

UPDATE THE STARTING VECTOR.

977 CONTINUE

RGP04

TCOL=1

RGP04

DO 905 J=1,JM

RGP04

DO 904 I=1,JM

RGP04

IF(T(I,TCOL).EQ.999) GO TO 963

RGP04

IF(T(I,TCOL).EQ.0) GO TO 902

RGP04

IF(T(I,TCOL).GT.0.AND.T(I,TCOL).LT.999) GO TO 969

RGP04

963 IF(S(I,J).GT.0.AND.S(I,J).LT.99) GO TO 901

RGP04

IF(S(I,J).EQ.0.OR.S(I,J).GT.999) GO TO 900

RGP04

IF(S(I,J).GT.99) GO TO 49

RGP04

901 SPROD(I,TCOL)=S(I,J)

RGP04

GO TO 904

RGP04

49 SPROD(I,TCOL)=S(I,J)/100

RGP04

GO TO 904

RGP04

900 SPROD(I,TCOL)=0

RGP04

GO TO 904

RGP04

902 SPROD(I,TCOL)=0

RGP04

GO TO 904

RGP04

969 IF(S(I,J).EQ.0.OR.S(I,J).GT.999) GO TO 770

RGP04

IF(S(I,J).GT.99.AND.S(I,J).LT.999) GO TO 778

RGP04

SPROD(I,TCOL)=T(I,TCOL)+S(I,J)

RGP04

GO TO 904

RGP04

778 SPROD(I,TCOL)=T(I,TCOL)+S(I,J)/100

RGP04

GO TO 904

RGP04

770 SPROD(I,TCOL)=0

RGP04

904 CONTINUE

RGP04

MAL=M

RGP04

M=1

RGP04

MAXT=SPROD(M,TCOL)

RGP04

DO 709 M=1,JMM

RGP04

IF(MAXT.GE.SPROD(M+1,TCOL)) GO TO 709

RGP04

MAXT=SPROD(M+1,TCOL)

RGP04

709 CONTINUE

RGP04

M=MAL

RGP04

I=J

RGP04

TITER(I,TCOL)=MAXT

RGP04

905 CONTINUE

RGP04

AGAIN=0

RGP04

DO 797 I=1,JM

RGP04

IF(T(I,TCOL).EQ.999) GO TO 796

RGP04

IF(T(I,TCOL).LT.TITER(I,TCOL)) GO TO 795

RGP04

GO TO 797

RGP04

```

795 T(I,TCOL)=TITER(I,TCOL)          RGP04
    AGAIN=AGAIN+1                    RGP04
    GO TO 797                         RGP04
796 IF(TITER(I,TCOL).GT.0) GO TO 339  RGP04
    GO TO 797                         RGP04
339 T(I,TCOL)=TITER(I,TCOL)          RGP04
    AGAIN=AGAIN+1                    RGP04
797 CONTINUE                          RGP04

C
C   THE ABOVE SECTION OF THE PROGRAM WILL UPDATE BOTH
C   THE T-VECTOR AND THE S-MATRIX.
C
    IF(AGAIN.NE.0) GO TO 977          RGP04
782 CONTINUE                          RGP04
    IF(IPRER.EQ.1) GO TO 5173        RGP04
781 WRITE(3,913)                     RGP04
913 FORMAT(10X,'THE FINAL START TIME VECTOR IS') RGP04
    WRITE(3,912)(T(I,TCOL),I=1,JM)  RGP04
912 FORMAT(F6.0)                     RGP04
    WRITE(3,827)                     RGP04
827 FORMAT(10X,'THE FINAL S-MATRIX IS') RGP04
    DO 828 I=1,JM                   RGP04
    WRITE(3,829)(S(I,J),J=1,JM)    RGP04
829 FORMAT(12F6.0)                 RGP04
828 CONTINUE                       RGP04
5173 CONTINUE                       RGP05
    N=1                              RGP05
    K=1                              RGP05

C
C   THE REMAINDER OF THE ROUTINE COMPUTES SCHEDULE TIME AND FACILITY
C   IDLE TIME.
C
    DO 929 N=1,JM                   RGP05
    SCHD(N)=WORK(N)+T(N,TCOL)       RGP05
    IF(SCHD(N).GT.999) SCHD(N)=SCHD(N)-999 RGP05
929 CONTINUE                       RGP05
    CHEK1=SCHD(1)                   RGP05
    DO 939 I=1,JMM                  RGP05
    IF(CHEK1.GE.SCHD(I+1)) GO TO 939 RGP05
    CHEK1=SCHD(I+1)                 RGP05
939 CONTINUE                       RGP05
    WRITE(3,919) CHEK1               RGP05
919 FORMAT(10X,'THE SCHEDULE TIME IS',F4.0) RGP05
C   NOW, USING CHEK1, WE CAN CALCULATE MACHINE IDLE TIME.
    DO 808 I=1,M                    RGP05
    IDLE(I)=CHEK1-PROC(I)           RGP05
808 CONTINUE                       RGP05
    WRITE(3,812)                    RGP05
    WRITE(3,809)(IDLE(I),I=1,M)     RGP05
812 FORMAT(10X,'THE FACILITY IDLE TIMES ARE') RGP05
809 FORMAT(I4)                     RGP05
    DO 9032 IPQ=1,M                 RGP05
    WRITE(3,9041)(SEQ(IPQ,IPQX),IPQX=1,JOB) RGP05
9041 FORMAT(10F5.0)                 RGP05
9032 CONTINUE                       RGP05
    WRITE(2,5067) ITER,ICONU,CHEK1  RGP05
5067 FORMAT(2I5,F4.0)               RGP05
    WRITE(3,5068) ITER,ICONU        RGP05

```

N IV G LEVEL 1, MOD 4

MAIN

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```
5068 FORMAT(10X,'THE NO. OF ITER. AND CONFLICTS ARE',2I5)
      IF(JPROB.NE.IPROB) GO TO 682
      STOP
      END
```

```
RGPO5
RGPO5
RGPO5
RGPO5
```

```

SUBROUTINE COMP(LONE, JOB, M, NP, IO, ENTER, LBSE, LBNE, ICOMX, JENT, ICMP, IRGP05
1CTM, IPRER) RGP05
  DIMENSION LONE(15), NP(15,5), IO(15,5), ENTER(50), LBSE(15), LBNE(15), IRGP05
1COMX(15), IUNSC(40), MIN(15), MINK(15), ISECT(15), ISEC(15), ICMP(15,5), RGP05
2ICTM(15,5) RGP05

```

```

C RGP05
C THIS ROUTINE COMPUTES THE LOWER BOUND FOR EACH RGP05
C NODE IN THE CONFLICT SET IN EACH MACHINE BLOCK RGP05
C AT ALL ITERATIONS-USING LOWER BOUND ONE. RGP05
C LOWER BOUND 1 IS A COMPOSITE BOUND CONSISTING OF TWO RGP05
C INDIVIDUAL BOUNDS.

```

```

C RGP05
C COMPUTE FIRST, THE VALUE OF THE FIRST BOUND IN THE RGP05
C COMPOSITE LOWER BOUND. RGP05

```

```

C RGP05
C JM=JOB*M RGP05
C DO 8888 IPA=1, JOB RGP05
C ISEC(IPA)=0 RGP05
C ISECT(IPA)=0 RGP05
8888 CONTINUE RGP05
C IQB=0 RGP05
5001 IQB=IQB+1 RGP05
C IQD=IQB RGP05
C IF(LONE(IQD).EQ.0) GO TO 5002 RGP05

```

```

C RGP05
C COMPUTE THE COMPLETION TIME RGP05
C

```

```

C RGP05
C IPREY=LONE(IQD) RGP05
C IMCH=IPREY/JOB RGP05
C IMC=IMCH*JOB RGP05
C IF(IMC.EQ.IPREY) GO TO 7500 RGP05
C IMCX=IMCH+1 RGP05
C JOBM=IMCH*JOB RGP05
C IF(JOBM.GT.IPREY) GO TO 6031 RGP05
C GO TO 6032 RGP05

```

```

6031 JOBP=IPREY RGP05
C GO TO 6033 RGP05

```

```

6032 JOBP=IPREY-JOBM RGP05
6033 ISEL=JOBP*100 RGP05
C ISEX=ISEL+IMCX RGP05
C GO TO 7501 RGP05

```

```

7500 ISEL=JOB*100 RGP05
C ISEX=ISEL+IMCH RGP05

```

```

7501 I=ISEX/100 RGP05
C DO 5011 J=1, M RGP05
C IF(IO(I, J).EQ.ISEX) GO TO 5012 RGP05
C GO TO 5011 RGP05

```

```

5012 IHOL=J RGP05
5011 CONTINUE RGP05
C ISUMX=ICMP(I, IHOL) RGP05

```

```

C RGP05
C COMPUTE THE SECOND COMPONENT IN THE FIRST TERM OF THE BOUND. RGP05
C

```

```

C RGP05
C JHOL=IHOL+1 RGP05
C IJSUM=0 RGP05
C IF(JHOL.GT.M) GO TO 6608 RGP05
C DO 5014 JZX=JHOL, M RGP05
C JISUM=NP(I, JZX) RGP05

```

	IJSUM=IJSUM+JISUM	RGP05
5014	CONTINUE	RGP05
6608	CONTINUE	RGP05
	IFIRS=ISUMX+IJSUM	RGP05
	IF(IPRER.EQ.1) GO TO 4370	RGP05
	WRITE(3,3901) ISUMX	RGP05
3901	FORMAT(10X,'COMPLETION TIME IS ',I4)	RGP05
	WRITE(3,3900) IFIRS	RGP05
3900	FORMAT(10X,'FIRST TERM IS ',I4)	RGP05
4370	CONTINUE	RGP05
C		RGP05
C	COMPUTE THE SECOND TERM	RGP05
C		RGP05
	DO 8846 IBT=1,JOB	RGP05
	ISEC(IBT)=0	RGP06
8846	CONTINUE	RGP06
	DO 5020 IXD=1,JOB	RGP06
	IF(IXD.EQ.IQD) GO TO 5020	RGP06
	IF(LONE(IXD).EQ.0) GO TO 5020	RGP06
	IPREY=LONE(IXD)	RGP06
	IMCH=IPREY/JOB	RGP06
	IMC=IMCH*JOB	RGP06
	IF(IMC.EQ.IPREY) GO TO 8500	RGP06
	IMCX=IMCH+1	RGP06
	JOBM=IMCH*JOB	RGP06
	IF(JOBM.GT.IPREY) GO TO 6041	RGP06
	GO TO 6042	RGP06
6041	JOBP=IPREY	RGP06
	GO TO 6043	RGP06
6042	JOBP=IPREY-JOBM	RGP06
6043	ISEL=JOBP*100	RGP06
	ISEX=ISEL+IMCX	RGP06
	GO TO 8501	RGP06
8500	ISEL=JOB*100	RGP06
	ISEX=ISEL+IMCH	RGP06
8501	I=ISEX/100	RGP06
	DO 6090 J=1,M	RGP06
	IF(IO(I,J).EQ.ISEX) GO TO 6091	RGP06
	GO TO 6090	RGP06
6091	JHOL=J	RGP06
6090	CONTINUE	RGP06
	JISUM=0	RGP06
	DO 6080 JZZ=JHOL,M	RGP06
	JXSUM=NP(I,JZZ)	RGP06
	JISUM=JXSUM+JISUM	RGP06
6080	CONTINUE	RGP06
	IF(IPRER.EQ.1) GO TO 4371	RGP06
	WRITE(3,3902) JISUM	RGP06
3902	FORMAT(10X,'FOURTH TERM IS ',I4)	RGP06
4371	CONTINUE	RGP06
	ISEC(IXD)=ISUMX+JISUM	RGP06
5020	CONTINUE	RGP06
	JOZQ=JOB-1	RGP06
	DO 6070 IXD=1,JOZQ	RGP06
	IF(IXD.GT.1) GO TO 6072	RGP06
	KEPE=ISEC(1)	RGP06
6072	IF(KEPE.GT.ISEC(IXD+1)) GO TO 6070	RGP06
	KEPE=ISEC(IXD+1)	RGP06

6070	CONTINUE	RGP06
	IFISC=KEPE	RGP06
	IDIFF=IFIRS-IFISC	RGP06
	IF(IDIFF.GT.0) GO TO 9539	RGP06
	GO TO 9538	RGP06
9539	LBNE(IQD)=IFIRS	RGP06
	GO TO 9537	RGP06
9538	LBNE(IQD)=IFISC	RGP06
9537	CONTINUE	RGP06
	GO TO 5001	RGP06
5002	CONTINUE	RGP06
	IF(IPRER.EQ.1) GO TO 4372	RGP06
	WRITE(3,8823)(LBNE(IQD),IQD=1,JOB)	RGP06
8823	FORMAT(10X,'THE VALUE OF THE LB I IS ',I5)	RGP06
4372	CONTINUE	RGP06
C		
C		
C		RGP06
C	COMPUTE THE VALUE OF LOWER BOUND USING LOWER	RGP06
C	BOUND TWO.	RGP06
C		RGP06
C		RGP06
C		RGP06
C		RGP06
C	COMPUTE THE FIRST TERM IN THE FORMULATION	RGP06
	IQR=0	RGP06
8001	IQR=IQR+1	RGP06
	IQW=IQR	RGP06
	IF(LONE(IQW).EQ.0) GO TO 8002	RGP06
C		RGP06
C	COMPUTE THE COMPLETION TIME	RGP06
C		RGP06
	IPREY=LONE(IQW)	RGP06
	IMCH=IPREY/JOB	RGP06
	IMC=IMCH*JOB	RGP06
	IF(IMC.EQ.IPREY) GO TO 9500	RGP06
	IMCX=IMCH+1	RGP06
	JOBM=IMCH*JOB	RGP06
	IF(JOBM.GT.IPREY) GO TO 9031	RGP06
	GO TO 9032	RGP06
9031	JOBP=IPREY	RGP06
	GO TO 9033	RGP06
9032	JOBP=IPREY-JOBM	RGP06
9033	ISEL=JOBP*100	RGP06
	ISEX=ISEL+IMCX	RGP06
	GO TO 9501	RGP06
9500	ISEL=JOB*100	RGP06
	ISEX=ISEL+IMCH	RGP06
9501	I=ISEX/100	RGP06
	DO 9511 J=1,M	RGP06
	IF(IO(I,J).EQ.ISEX) GO TO 9512	RGP06
	GO TO 9511	RGP06
9512	IHOL=J	RGP06
9511	CONTINUE	RGP06
	ISUMX=ICMP(I,IHOL)	RGP06
	IF(IPRER.EQ.1) GO TO 4373	RGP06
	WRITE(3,3903) ISUMX	RGP06

	IUNSM=IUNSM+IPRSS	RGP07
9570	CONTINUE	RGP07
	IUNXM=IUNSM+ISUMX	RGP07
	IF(IPRR.EQ.1) GO TO 4374	RGP07
	WRITE(3,3904) IUNXM	RGP07
3904	FORMAT(10X,'FIRST TERM IS ',I4)	RGP07
4374	CONTINUE	RGP07
C		RGP07
C	COMPUTE THE SECOND TERM OF THE LOWER BOUND.	RGP07
C		RGP07
C		RGP07
C	IDENTIFY THE OTHER MACHINES	RGP07
C		RGP07
	IPREY=LONE(IQR)	RGP07
	CALL ICPLT(ICMP,IPREY,JOB,M,IO,ENTER,NP,ICTM)	RGP07
	IMCH=IPREY/JOB	RGP07
	IMC=IMCH*JOB	RGP07
	IF(IMC.EQ.IPREY) GO TO 9430	RGP07
	IMCH=IMCH+1	RGP07
	GO TO 9431	RGP07
9430	IMCH=IPREY/JOB	RGP07
9431	CONTINUE	RGP07
	DO 4900 JZZZ=1,M	RGP07
	IF(JZZZ.EQ.IMCH) GO TO 4900	RGP07
C		RGP07
C	COMPUTE THE FIRST COMPONENT OF THE SECOND TERM OF THE BOUND.	RGP07
C		RGP07
	DO 7662 IKK=1,JOB	RGP07
	MIN(IKK)=0	RGP07
	MINK(IKK)=0	RGP07
7662	CONTINUE	RGP07
	DO 4901 JZZX=1,JOB	RGP07
	JZZK=JZZX*100	RGP07
	JZZP=JZZK+JZZZ	RGP07
	JXOX=JZZP/100	RGP07
	JZZXX=JZZP-JXOX*100	RGP07
	JZXXX=JZZXX-1	RGP07
	JZXN=JZXXX*JOB	RGP07
	JTRY=JZXN+JXOX	RGP07
C		RGP07
C	CHECK IF THIS NODE HAS ALREADY BEEN ENTERED.	RGP07
C		RGP07
	IF(ENTER(JTRY).EQ.0) GO TO 4902	RGP07
	GO TO 4901	RGP08
4902	MLK=JZZX	RGP08
	DO 4903 JOW=1,M	RGP08
	IF(IO(MLK,JOW).EQ.JZZP) GO TO 4904	RGP08
	GO TO 4903	RGP08
4904	JQD=JOW	RGP08
4903	CONTINUE	RGP08
	KOOL=ICTM(MLK,JQD)	RGP08
	NKOOL=NP(MLK,JQD)	RGP08
	MIN(MLK)=KOOL-NKOOL	RGP08
	MINK(MLK)=NKOOL	RGP08
4901	CONTINUE	RGP08
	IOKP=100	RGP08
	DO 4910 MLK=1,JOB	RGP08


```
GO TO 9635
9636 ICOMX(ICB)=LBNE(ICB)
9635 CONTINUE
```

```
RGPO8
RGPO8
RGPO8
RGPO8
```

```
C
C
C
```

```
SELECT WHICH NODE WILL ENTER (RESOLVE THE CONFLICT).
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RGPO8
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RGPO8
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RGPO8
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RGPO8
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```
IHOH=1000
DO 8945 ICB=1,JOB
IF(ICOMX(ICB).EQ.0) GO TO 8945
IF(IHOH.LE.ICOMX(ICB)) GO TO 8945
IHOH=ICOMX(ICB)
JENTX=ICB
8945 CONTINUE
JENT=LONE(JENTX)
RETURN
END
```

SUBROUTINE ICPLT(ICMP,IPREY,JOB,M,IO,ENTER,NP,ICTM)

RGPO8

C THIS ROUTINE COMPUTES THE COMPLETION TIME MATRIX. RGPO8

C DIMENSION ICTM(15,5),ICMP(15,5),IO(15,5),ENTER(40),NP(15,5) RGPO8

6551 DO 5800 IWI=1,JOB RGPO8

DO 5801 IWJ=1,M RGPO8

ICTM(IWI,IWJ)=ICMP(IWI,IWJ) RGPO8

5801 CONTINUE RGPO8

5800 CONTINUE RGPO8

C UPDATE ICTM W.R.T. THE NODE UNDER RESOLUTION, WHERE ICTM IS RGPO8

C THE TRANSITORY FORM OF THE COMPLETION TIME MATRIX RGPO8

C UNTIL A CONFLICT HAS BEEN RESOLVED AFTER WHICH TIME THE RGPO8

C MATRIX IS IDENTIFIED AS ICMP. RGPO8

C

MMCH=IPREY/JOB RGPO8

MMC=MMCH*JOB RGPO9

IF(MMC.EQ.IPREY) GO TO 5802 RGPO9

MMCX=MMCH+1 RGPO9

MOBM=MMCH*JOB RGPO9

IF(MOBM.GT.IPREY) GO TO 5803 RGPO9

GO TO 5804 RGPO9

5803 MOBP=IPREY RGPO9

GO TO 5805 RGPO9

5804 MOBP=IPREY-MOBM RGPO9

5805 MSEL=MOBP*100 RGPO9

MSEX=MSEL+MMCX RGPO9

GO TO 5806 RGPO9

5802 MSEL=JOB*100 RGPO9

MSEX=MSEL+MMCH RGPO9

5806 CONTINUE RGPO9

DO 3429 IOOB=1,JOB RGPO9

DO 3428 JOOB=1,M RGPO9

IF(IO(IOOB,JOOB).EQ.MSEX) GO TO 3427 RGPO9

GO TO 3428 RGPO9

3427 KNOX=ICMP(IOOB,JOOB) RGPO9

3428 CONTINUE RGPO9

3429 CONTINUE RGPO9

C WE'VE NOW IDENTIFIED THE NODE WE ARE INVESTIGATING. RGPO9

C

C NOW, WE UPDATE ICTM W.R.T. THE OTHER NODES IN RGPO9

C THE CONFLICT SET. RGPO9

C

DO 7050 IKEY=1,JOB RGPO9

DO 7051 JKEY=1,M RGPO9

MSEF=MSEX/100 RGPO9

IF(IKEY.EQ.MSEF) GO TO 7050 RGPO9

MSSX=MSEX/100 RGPO9

MSSL=MSSX*100 RGPO9

MSMS=MSEX-MSSL RGPO9

MXSX=IO(IKEY,JKEY)/100 RGPO9

MSLS=MXSX*100 RGPO9

MSSM=IO(IKEY,JKEY)-MSLS RGPO9

IF(MSSM.EQ.MSMS) GO TO 7049 RGPO9

GO TO 7051 RGPO9

7049 MXOL=IO(IKEY,JKEY)/100 RGPO9

MXZZP=IO(IKEY,JKEY)-MXDL*100
 MZZP=MXZZP-1
 MZNX=MZZP*JOB
 JTRY=MZNX+MXDL
 IF(ENTER(JTRY).EQ.0) GO TO 7048
 GO TO 7050

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7048 IUPTE=0
 DO 7047 JCCCD=JKEY,M
 IF(JCCCD.EQ.JKEY) GO TO 7017
 GO TO 7027
 7017 KIJCK=NP(IKEY,JCCCD)+KNOX
 IF(KIJCK.LT.ICMP(IKEY,JCCCD)) GO TO 7015
 ICTM(IKEY,JCCCD)=NP(IKEY,JCCCD)+KNOX
 GO TO 7016
 7015 IUPTE=ICMP(IKEY,JCCCD)
 GO TO 7047
 7016 IUPTE=ICTM(IKEY,JCCCD)
 GO TO 7047
 7027 ICTM(IKEY,JCCCD)=IUPTE+NP(IKEY,JCCCD)
 IUPTE=ICTM(IKEY,JCCCD)
 7047 CONTINUE
 7051 CONTINUE
 7050 CONTINUE
 RETURN
 END

DEVELOPMENT OF A NETWORK ALGORITHM AND ITS
APPLICATION TO COMBINATORIAL PROBLEMS

by

ROBERT GARY PARKER

B. S., Kansas State University, 1968

AN ABSTRACT OF A MASTER'S THESIS

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1970

This thesis is concerned with the development of an algorithm which can be used to solve combinatorial problems. The algorithm employs a network approach and is based upon the use of the schedule algebra operators. The basic concepts of the approach as well as a sample problem and formal presentation of the computational algorithm are presented.

The main application of the algorithm is made with respect to the general job shop scheduling problem. However, the extension of its applicability is demonstrated by considering three other classes of problems. These are the traveling salesman, project scheduling, and explosion problems.

A wide range of computational experiments were conducted with respect to the job shop problem. In addition, four traveling salesman problems are solved. Three main factors were considered in the evaluation of the performance of the network algorithm as it pertains to the job shop problem. They are (1) computation time, (2) quality of the solution, and (3) the number of iterations and conflicts encountered in obtaining a solution.

From the computational results, it is evident that computational time increases rapidly as problem size increases. The quality of the solution which is a measure of efficiency, appears to decrease as the number of conflicts increase. In addition, as the problem size increases, the number of iterations seems to approach the minimum of J .

Finally, further research is suggested in certain directions, the most important of which, lies in the area of increased applicability of the algorithm.