



Aalto University School of Chemical Engineering





# Combining Data Analytics and Scheduling – First Results and Open Challenges

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## **SINGPRO Project (2018-2019)** Synergistic and intelligent process optimization

# Academy of Finland project: Adj. Prof. Harjunkoski (Aalto CHEM) & Prof. Heljanko (University of Helsinki)



### Sustainable & safe operations

- ✓ Energy efficient
- ✓ Optimal throughput
- ✓ Well maintained in time
- ✓ Safe operating conditions
- ✓ On-time production
- ✓ Knowledge-based models
- ✓ Agile and adaptive decisions





## **SINGPRO Targets** Create and prove novel concepts in real life

- Show that big data technologies can be deployed together with optimization strategies, to close the decision loop in automation
  - The results can help defining future research needs within systems-level integration of process control systems and data-driven decision making
- Collaborate with Finnish industry on piloting the methodology
  - Get access to real data, process information and the opportunity to discuss, test and demonstrate the solution approaches in practice
  - Create collaborative concepts that are re-usable across various industries





# **SINGPRO Project Team**

Adj. Prof. Harjunkoski (Aalto CHEM)

**Prof. Heljanko (University of Helsinki)** 

- Dr. Tewodros Deneke (University of Helsinki)
- Dr. Teemu Ikonen (Aalto CHEM)
- Dr. Hossein Mostafaei (Aalto CHEM)





# **Questions to be Answered (1/2)**



- Often a production plan is already "old" soon after being rolled out to the plant floor
  - 1. Could I do better planning by knowing more about the process, i.e. utilizing the real-time data?
- Schedules are usually based on average durations (tables)
  - 2. Is it better to dynamically generate accurate statistics on process behaviour every time I want to schedule?
- Disturbances and breakdowns often come as a surprise
  - 3. How many incidents can actually be predicted and avoided?





# **Questions to be Answered (2/2)**



- Often we focus on the most obvious data assuming simple causality
  - 4. What information actually is relevant for root-cause analysis? Are there hidden relationships?
- Many decisions in optimization add to the complexity
  - 5. Are there decisions that can be excluded from the optimization scope, based on what we know from the data?
- Data is mostly collected and stored only for troubleshooting
  - 6. What is the actual value of this data?





1. Could I do better planning by knowing more about the process, i.e. utilizing the real-time data?



## Data Driven Model for Grade Change in P&P Process

Combining data analytics and machine learning with a rigorous scheduling model in an integrated fashion Heuristic constraints derived from the data analytics methods allow faster performance











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5.12.2019





# **Case Study Results**

### Two weeks: due date 1= 168 h, due date 2= 336 h for 20 grades Objective: minimize grade change transition time and production runs

	Full-space		Data-driven	
#Production runs	16	17	16	17
CPU(s)*	18000	<mark>18000</mark>	4143.4	<mark>6974.6</mark>
#Constraints	8773	9340	5263	5596
Objective (\$)	58536.1	50613.8	53988.8	50338.8 ( <mark>0.5% ↓</mark> )
Relative gap	76.08	<mark>72.14</mark>	0	0

\*GAMS/CPLEX 12.7.1 (Intel i5-7300U, 2.60 GHz, 8 GB of RAM, Windows 10, 64-bit)





# **Reinforcement Learning (RL) of Online Rescheduling Decisions**

Questions:

- When to trigger a new rescheduling procedure?
- Mathematical programming or a heuristic algorithm?
- How far ahead to schedule (i.e. horizon length)?
- How much computing resource to allocate?





# **Reinforcement Learning (RL) of Online Rescheduling Decisions**





# **RL of rescheduling: First Results**

- RL algorithm: Neuroevolution of Augmenting Topologies (NEAT) (Stanley and Miikkulainen, 2002)
- Simplified decision space:
  - Rescheduling timing
  - Computing resource allocation
- On three test cases, better closed loop schedules than by periodic rescheduling by margins of 4.1 to 15.2%





2. Is it better to dynamically generate accurate statistics on process behavior every time I want to schedule?



# Scheduling problem based on the NYC taxi data

Openly available dataset at <u>https://www.kaggle.com/c/nyc-taxi-trip-duration</u>

Data of over 1.4 million taxi tips in NYC

The ground truth is the trip duration

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Examples of features: Passenger count, pickup and drop-off dates, time and coordinates





# Scheduling problem based on the NYC taxi data





# Scheduling problem based on the NYC taxi data





# 3. How many incidents can actually be predicted and avoided?







# PREPROCESSING

- Data preprocessing
  - Cleaning: removing ambiguous break signals
  - Resampling: to have a common rate among signals
  - Slicing: selecting near-break and normal operation regions
  - Scaling: balancing differences in amplitude





- Model 1: Can we distinguish break from non-break?
  - Samples that are before a break are used as class one
  - Samples that are during the break are used as class two
  - The task is to predict (distinguish) these two classes

- Result:
  - 96.7% accuracy
  - Highly influenced by correlated signals
  - Fails to identify root-causes
  - Not valuable in practice





- Model 2: Can we distinguish near-break from normal?
  - Samples that are further away from a break are used as class one
  - Samples that are just before a break are used as class two
  - The task is to predict (distinguish) these two classes
- Result:
  - 50-58% accuracy
  - Identifies some potential root-causes
  - More likely valuable in practice
  - Still requires further study and improvement



# 4. What information actually is relevant for root-cause analysis? Are there hidden relationships?





- Challenges
  - Identifying possible root-cause signals
  - Identifying delays between root-cause signals and break
  - Identifying and removing highly correlated signals (with no delay) to the break
- Result:
  - A few interesting possible root-causes discovered
    - Pressure x
    - Fluid level y
    - Quality z



### **DEPLOYED LEARNING ALGORITHMS**

### LSTM

- Neural nets which have memory and feedback
- Can capture trends more easily
- Can be used to learn sequence to sequence problems
- Random forest
  - Constructs multiple decision trees on training data
  - Generates a model in parallel
  - Combines the results of all decision trees
  - Can provide information on feature importance
- Cross correlation and Granger causality





5. Are there decisions that can be excluded from the optimization scope, based on what we know from the data?



# **Selective maintenance optimization**





# **Selective maintenance optimization**

- The objective is to maximize the reliability of the system
- Subject to maintenance time and budget constraints
- We include the following bound:

 $y_{k,j} = 0, \quad \forall k, j \in \{(k,j) | \Delta R_{k,j}^{\mathsf{y}} \le 0\}$ 



- $y_{k,j}$  Binary variable defining whether unit (k, j) is replaced
- $\Delta R_{k,j}^{\gamma}$  Improvement in realiabity of the unit (k, *j*), if component is replaced

### An order of magnitude reduction in solution time



# 6. What is the actual value of this data?



# Conclusions

- We can see clear benefits from using more advanced methods to process historical / on-line data
- Applying AI/ML methods can
  - Improve the accuracy of scheduling
  - Improve the predictability of processes
  - Help reducing the search domain of large-scale problems
- The data-related work is still very problem-specific
  - A generic "cookbook" still missing to reduce the efforts
- The value of data is difficult to estimate (industry looking into this) partially due to lack of access to business figures
- Collaboration across discplines is a prerequisite for success





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https://singpro.github.io/pages/about.html

