

A HEURISTIC ALGORITHM FOR GENERAL WEIGHTAGE JOB SCHEDULING UNDER UNCERTAIN ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING TRANSPORTATION TIME

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ABSTRACT

Scheduling is an important tool in production and project management and is very useful in increasing the productivity, improving quality of products, fulfilling the demands of market in time and to minimize the flow time, idle time of machines ,cost etc. This paper describes a simple algorithm for the solution of very large sequencing problem under uncertain environment without the use of a computer. It has been observed practically, the values of all the jobs are not equi-important in a workshop or manufacturing concern may be because of market demand or different inventory cost associated with job other technological & economical constraints.

Weightage job concept along with transportation time is being included in the paper.The algorithm produces optimal or approximate solutions to the general machine sequencing problem where no passing is considered and the criteria is minimum total elapsed time(or make span)in uncertain environment.

Key words: weightage in jobs, transportation time, make span.

INTRODUCTION:

The search for a solution to the problem of finding optimal or near optimal sequence of jobs being scheduled in a flow shop type situation has given considerable attention to both exact and approximate techniques of solution .Exact techniques, which usually require an electronic computer have been developed to minimize some well defined criterion on problem involving a limited no. of jobs.

Motivated by the work of Johnson (1954) and developing further study by Ignall (1965), Campbell ,Dudek &Smith (1970), Maggu and T.P. Singh (1984), Singh T.P.(1985) and further Singh T. P. and Gupta Deepak(2005,2008) upto the present decade, a lot of work has been done in flow shop scheduling mainly in deterministic situations.

Sisson (1961) has pointed out that the researcher must be concerned not only with obtaining an optimal solution but also with the practical and economical application of the solution technique which has led to the consideration of approximate methods (Giglio etal. 1964),Through approximate methods ,the procedural steps can be kept simple enough so that problem solver does not lose the sight of overall view of the problem, thus enabling scheduler to make the optimal use of his intuition and judgement.

Mc. Canon and Lee(1982) established an algorithm to fuzzify job scheduling problems and obtained the near optimal solution for the real world problems. After that many authors started working in this direction. Singh T.P. and Gupta Deepak (2005) associated the probability with the processing time but the work was not so encouraging as the problem converts into deterministic form. Further Sunita and Singh T.P. (2009,2010) extended the work of earlier researchers tracing different performance measures as satisfaction of demand maker, due date on flow shop and parallel machines under fuzzy environment and obtained encouraging results .In this chain, the present paper deals with the priority of jobs in scheduling including a fixed transportation time and processing time under fuzzy sense . We find two stages of the schedule before us, the first one to complete all jobs in minimum time and second

to take care of the job provider and the weightage is necessary which gives an idea of relative importance of jobs i.e. higher the weights, greater the importance of the job in comparison to other jobs.

In this paper we have extended the study made by Singh T. P., Sunita (2008) and Parveen Kumar et al (2011) by including the concept of transportation time and making the problem more general for n jobs and m machines using generalized mean value(GMV) of fuzzy number proposed by Lee and Li (1998)and CDS Heuristic algorithm.The objective of the paper is to find the weightage mean flow time and optimal schedule which has the smallest generalized mean value (GMV) under uncertain environment.

PRELIMINARIES:

1. FUZZY SET:

A fuzzy set is defined by $\tilde{A} = \{(x, \mu_{\tilde{A}(x)}) : x \in [0,1]\}$. In the pair $\{(x, \mu_{\tilde{A}(x)})\}$, the first element x belongs to the classical set A, the second element $\mu_{\tilde{A}(x)}$ belongs to the interval[0,1],called membership function or grade of membership.The membership function is also a degree of truth of x in \tilde{A} . Fuzzy sets have been introduced by Zadeh(1965) as an extension of the classical notation of set. Classical set theory allows the membership of the element in the set in binary terms, a bivalent condition an element either belongs to or does not belongs to the set.

2.1 TRAPEZOIDAL FUZZY NUMBER: A fuzzy number $\tilde{A}=(a, b; \beta, \gamma)$ is said to be Trapezoidal fuzzy number if its membership function has two linear functions f(x) & g(x) and defined as follows

$$\mu_{\tilde{A}} = \begin{cases} f(x) \cong 1 - \left(\frac{a-x}{\beta}\right) & \text{for } x \in [a-\beta, a] \\ 1 & \text{for } x \in [a, b] \\ g(x) \cong 1 - \left(\frac{x-b}{\gamma}\right) & \text{for } x \in [b, b+\gamma] \end{cases}$$

Where $\beta \geq 0, \gamma \geq 0$, as shown as in Fig-1.

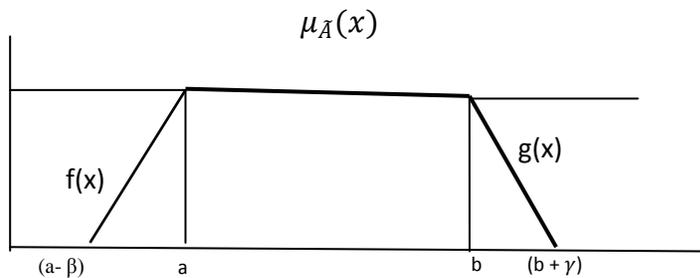


Fig.1 Trapezoidal fuzzy number $\tilde{A}=(a, b; \beta, \gamma)$

1.3 GENERALIZED MEAN VALUE (GMV) OF TRAPEZOIDAL FUZZY NUMBER

The generalized mean value (GMV) proposed by Li & Lee, is centroid point of a fuzzy number by \tilde{x} , defined as-

$$\tilde{x}(\tilde{A}) = \frac{\int_{a-\beta}^a xf(x)dx + \int_a^b xdx + \int_b^{b+\gamma} xg(x)dx}{\int_{a-\beta}^a f(x)dx + \int_a^b dx + \int_b^{b+\gamma} g(x)dx}$$

Hence ,the generalized mean value will be a crisp value \tilde{x} and it is used to compare fuzzy numbers i.e. $GMV(\tilde{A}) = \tilde{x}$.

Suppose \tilde{A} & \tilde{B} are two Trapezoidal fuzzy numbers then, $\tilde{A} \geq \tilde{B}$ iff $GMV(\tilde{A}) \geq GMV(\tilde{B})$.

2.ASSUMPTIONS AND NOTATIONS:

2.1 Assumption:

- ❖ Each job consists of n tasks to be executed in sequence on m machine.
- ❖ Each process on one machine started must perform till completion.
- ❖ Every machine can process one job at a time.
- ❖ Each jobs completed in the order $M_1, M_2, M_3, M_4, \dots, M_m$ with no passing allowed.
- ❖ Each jobs is assigned weights w_i according to its importance.
- ❖ The transportation time includes, loading, unloading and moving time.
- ❖ The performance measure is weights mean flow time defined by

$$\tilde{E}_w = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i \tilde{C}_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i}$$

Where C_i completion time of jobs i on machine j counted from start of job 1st .

\tilde{E}_w express the total weighted mean flow time.

$n\tilde{E}_w$ express the total weighted flow time.

\tilde{C}_i expresses fuzzy completion time of ith job on mth machine.

2.2 Notations:

J = Set of jobs to be processed $(j_1, j_2, j_3 \dots j_n)$.

Mj = Jth machine on which jobs have to processed.

\tilde{p}_{ij} = Fuzzy processing time for ith job on mth machine and $\tilde{p}_{ij} = GMV(\tilde{p}_{ij})$

r_{M_j} = jth pseudo machine for the ith auxillary problem, $r=1,2,3,4, \dots, (m-1)$.

t_i = transportation time from 1st machine to 2nd .

g_i = transportation time from 2nd machine to 3rd .

h_i = transportation time from 3rd machine to 4th .

$r_{P_{ij}}$ = Processing time for the ith job on machine j (1,2) for rth auxiliary problem.

C_{ij} = Completion time for the ith job on machine j .

${}^rG_{ij}$ = GMV of fuzzy processing time ${}^rP_{ij}$

U^r =Optimal sequence obtained by Johnson Algorithm for rth auxillary problem is $(T_1, T_2, T_3, \dots, T_n)$ such that $T_i = T_j$ for all $i, j \in (1, 2, 3, \dots, n)$ i.e.

$(T_1, T_2, T_3, \dots, T_n) \cong (j_1, j_2, j_3 \dots j_n)$.

\tilde{C}_i = the completion time for ith job in the system.

\tilde{C} = the completion time for all the jobs in the system.

3.PROPOSED ALGORITHM:

3.1 Problem Statement : We have n jobs m machines flow shop problem consideration of priority level or weightage in jobs . The processing times on each machine are given in trapezoidal fuzzy number. Our objective is to find out the optimum mean flow time for the weighted job shop scheduling problem in which transportation time from one machine to other machine is given.

3.2 Algorithm:

Step 1: Create (m-1) auxiliary n-jobs 2-pseudo machine problems on the line of CDS algorithm[5].

Step 2: For each of (m-1) auxiliary nx2 problem finds GMV for each task with fuzzy execution time \widetilde{p}_{ij} , i. e. $G_{ij} = \text{GMV}(\widetilde{p}_{ij})$.

Step 3: Adding transportation time as

$$G'_{ij} = G_{ij} + t_i + g_i + h_i.$$

Step 4: Find the minimum G'_{ij} from n x m matrices.

i.e $g = \min(G'_{ij})$.

Step 5: Then the revised processing time for n x2 problem with processing time (G''_{ij}) in the form of crisp number will be

(1) If $\min(G'_{ij}) = G'_{i1}$

Then $G''_{i1} = G'_{i1} - w_i$ & $G''_{i2} = G'_{i2}$

(2) If $\min(G'_{ij}) = G'_{i2}$

Then $G''_{i1} = G'_{i1}$ & $G''_{i2} = G'_{i2} + w_i$

Step 6: Formulate each of (m-1) auxiliary problem with modified processing time in the form revised crisp value

$$\overline{G}_{ij} = \frac{G''_{ij}}{w_i}$$

Step 7: Apply Johnson procedure for each of (m-1) auxiliary nx 2 problem, to find optimal sequence and then find out optimal make span time for each sequence of (m-1) optimal sequences and evaluate completion time of the original n x m problem for this sequence by using Johnson algorithm as follows

$$\widetilde{C}_{11} = \widetilde{p}_{11}, \widetilde{C}_{12} = \widetilde{P}_{11} + \widetilde{P}_{12}, \widetilde{C}_{1j} = \widetilde{C}_{1,j-1} + \widetilde{P}_{1j}, \widetilde{C}_{i1} = \widetilde{C}_{i-1,1} + \widetilde{P}_{i1}, \widetilde{C}_{ij} = \max\{\widetilde{C}_{i-1,j}, \widetilde{C}_{i,j-1}\} + \widetilde{P}_{ij}$$

Where \widetilde{C}_{11} is the fuzzy completion time of ih job on jth machine.

For $i=1,2,3,\dots,n; j=1,2,3,\dots,m$.

Step 8: Find the sequence which has least completion time i.e. the optimal sequence and find its Make span time from Step7.

Step 9: Find out the weighted mean flow time \overline{E}_w for the optimal schedule.

Numerical Example: Suppose we have 4x5 flow-shop scheduling with consideration of priority level (weight of jobs) for jobs ,i.e. 5,3,4,2,1 for the jobs 1,2,3,4,5 respectively. The transportation time from one machine to other is given, then we have to find out optimum completion time for the fuzzy shop programming problem with the above given priority level to the jobs.

The problem is as follows:

Table -1

Job	M ₁	t _i	M ₂	g _i	M ₃	h _i	M ₄	Weights(w _i)
1	(7,8;2,4)	3	(4,6;2,1)	4	(4,5;1,2)	2	(3,5;1,2)	5
2	(3,5;1,2)	5	(8,10;1,3)	3	(6,7;4,2)	5	(6,9;3,2)	3
3	(8,10;2,1)	6	(5,7;2,3)	7	(5,7;2,1)	7	(4,5;2,1)	4
4	(6,7;2,3)	4	(4,8;3,4)	3	(3,4;2,2)	3	(4,6;1,3)	2
5	(4,6;1,2)	2	(8,10;1,2)	5	(5,6;2,1)	4	(9,11;1,1)	1

First using fuzzified CDS algorithm we will find 3 auxiliary problem for r=1,2,3.

Table-2(for r=1)

Job	1M_1	GMV(1M_1)	1M_2	GMV(1M_2)
1	(7,8;2,4)	8.125	(3,5;1,2)	18
2	(3,5;1,2)	18	(6,9;3,2)	7.21
3	(8,10;2,1)	8.71	(4,5;2,1)	4.20
4	(6,7;2,3)	5.09	(4,6;1,3)	5.11
5	(4,6;1,2)	5.28	(9,11;1,1)	10.00

Table-3(for r=2)

Job	2M_1	GMV(2M_1)	2M_2	GMV(2M_2)
1	(11,14;4,5)	27.6	(7,10;2,4)	9.08
2	(11,15;2,5)	13.91	(12,16;7,4)	13.11
3	(13,17;4,4)	73.78	(9,12;4,2)	9.92
4	(10,15;5,7)	13.09	(7,10;3,5)	9.10
5	(12,16;2,4)	12.66	(14,17;3,2)	15.21

Table-4 (for r=3)

Job	3M_1	GMV(3M_1)	3M_2	GMV(3M_2)
1	(15,19;5,7)	17.6	(11,16;4,5)	13.79
2	(17,22;6,7)	19.80	(20,26;8,7)	22.70
3	(18,24;6,5)	20.71	(14,19;6,5)	16.21
4	(13,19;7,9)	16.59	(11,18;6,9)	15.37
5	(17,22;4,5)	11.23	(22,27;4,4)	24.5

Consider the transportation times as in table 5:

$${}^rG_{ij} = {}^rG_{ij} + t_i + g_i + h_i$$

Table-5

Job	For r =1		For r = 2		For r = 3	
	${}^1G_{i1}$	${}^1G_{i2}$	${}^2G_{i1}$	${}^2G_{i2}$	${}^3G_{i1}$	${}^3G_{i2}$
1	17.125	27	36.6	18.08	26.6	22.79
2	31	20.21	26.91	26.11	32.80	35.70
3	28.71	24.20	93.78	29.92	40.71	36.21

4	15.09	15.11	23.09	19.10	26.59	25.37
5	16.28	21.23	23.6	26.21	22.23	35.5

Now introduce the effect of priority level as step 4 in Table -6 & 7.

Table-6

Job	For r =1		For r = 2		For r = 3	
	¹ G _{i1} '= ¹ P _{i1}	¹ G _{i2} '= ¹ P _{i2}	² G _{i1} '= ² P _{i1}	² G _{i2} '= ² P _{i2}	³ G _{i1} '= ³ P _{i1}	³ G _{i2} '= ³ P _{i2}
1	17.125	32	36.6	23.08	21.6	22.79
2	31	23.21	26.91	29.11	29.80	35.70
3	28.71	28.20	93.78	33.92	36.71	36.21
4	15.09	17.11	23.09	21.10	24.59	25.37
5	16.28	22.23	23.6	27.21	21.23	35.5

Table-7

Job	For r =1		For r = 2		For r = 3	
	¹ P _{i1} /w _i	¹ P _{i2} /w _i	² P _{i1} /w _i	² P _{i2} /w _i	³ P _{i1} /w _i	³ P _{i2} /w _i
1	3.425	6.4	7.32	4.616	4.32	4.558
2	10.33	7.736	8.97	9.70	9.93	11.9
3	7.177	7.05	23.445	8.48	9.177	9.05
4	7.545	8.55	11.545	10.55	12.29	12.685
5	16.28	22.23	23.66	27.21	21.23	35.5

Applying Johnson algorithm, the optimal sequences are U¹=14523,U²=25431 and U³=14523 Hence,the completion time for U¹=14523=U³ and U²=25431 in the table 8 & table 9

Table -8

Job	M ₁	t _i	R _{i1}	M ₂	g _i	R _{i2}	M ₃	h _i	R _{i3}	M ₄
1	(7,8;2,4)	3	(10,11;5,7)	(14,17;7,8)	4	(18,21;11,12)	(22,26;12,14)	2	(24,28;14,16)	(27,33;15,18)
4	(13,15;4,7)	4	(17,19;8,11)	(21,27;11,15)	3	(23,30;14,18)	(26,34;16,20)	3	(29,37;19,23)	(33,43;20,26)
5	(17,21;5,9)	2	(19,23;7,11)	(29,37;12,17)	5	(34,42;17,22)	(39,48;19,23)	4	(43,52;23,27)	(52,63;24,28)
2	(20,26;6,11)	5	(23,31;11,16)	(37,47;13,20)	3	(40,50;16,23)	(46,57;23,25)	5	(51,62;28,30)	(58,72;31,32)
3	(28,36;8,12)	6	(34,42;14,18)	(42,54;15,23)	7	(49,61;22,30)	(54,68;25,31)	7	(61,75;32,38)	(65,80;34,39)

Table-9

Job	M ₁	t _i	R _{i1}	M ₂	g _i	R _{i2}	M ₃	h _i	R _{i3}	M ₄
2	(3,5;1,2)	5	(8,10;6,7)	(16,20;7,10)	3	(19,23;10,13)	(25,30;14,15)	2	(27,32;16,17)	(33,41;19,19)
5	(7,11;2,4)	2	(9,13;4,6)	(24,30;8,12)	5	(29,35;13,17)	(34,39;16,18)	4	(38,43;20,22)	(47,54;21,23)
4	(13,18;4,7)	4	(17,22;8,11)	(28,38;11,16)	3	(31,41;14,19)	(37,45;18,21)	3	(40,48;21,24)	(51,60;22,27)
3	(21,28;6,8)	6	(27,34;12,14)	(33,45;14,19)	7	(40,52;21,26)	(45,59;23,27)	7	(52,66;30,34)	(56,71;32,35)

1	(28,36;8,12)	3	(31,39;11,15)	(37,50;15,21)	4	(41,54;19,25)	(49,64;24,29)	2	(51,66;26,31)	(59,76;33,37)
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Comparing the above sequences as follows:

S. No.	Value of r	Sequence U ^r	Make span time \tilde{C}	GMV
1	r = 1,3	1-4-5-2-3	(65,80;34,39)	74.04
2	r = 2	2-5-4-3-1	(59,76;33,37)	67.11

Optimal sequence is therefore (2-5-4-3-1) since it has the smallest fuzzy make span time(59,76;33,37) with defuzzified value 67.11 unit in crisp set.

The minimum waiting time \tilde{E}_w as defined in Step 9 can be obtained by the formula

$$\tilde{E}_w = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i \tilde{C}_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i}$$

The completion times of jobs are

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{C}_1 &=(59,76;33,37) & \tilde{C}_2 &=(33,41;19,19) & \tilde{C}_3 &=(56,71;32,35) \\ \tilde{C}_4 &=(51,60;22,27) & \tilde{C}_5 &=(47,54;21,23) \end{aligned}$$

and therefore

$$\tilde{E}_w = \frac{5(59,76;33,37)+3.(33,41;19,19)+4.(56,71;32,35)+2.(51,60;22,27)+1(47,54;21,23)}{5+4+3+2+1}$$

$$\tilde{E}_w=(51.13,64.06;27.66,30.6)$$

and the defuzzified value or GMV(\tilde{E}_w) is **92.87** unit.

Hence the optimal schedule is (2-5-4-3-1) since it has the smallest **GMV(67.11)** of fuzzy make span time (59,76;33,37) and minimum total waiting time with minimum total waiting time of jobs i.e. $\tilde{E}_w=(51.13,64.06;27.66,30.6)$ with defuzzified value 92.87 unit.

Using Campbell algorithm(CDS) we find that there is an optimal sequence to this problem with total processing time 67.11 units with the sequence(2-5-4-3-1)and if the same problem is solved by Johnson algorithm directly ,we get the total processing time (74.04) with the sequence (1-4-5-2-3).

The error calculation adopted is based on the % deviation of algorithm best sequence time from the optimal solution time.

In this numerical,the % error is

$$\frac{(74.04-67.11)}{67.11} * 100 = 10.32\%$$

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATION:

The approximate sequencing method provides a practical solution to large sequencing problem that can not be solved by exact procedures. Solution procedure by this algorithm are optimal(or near optimal) and easily and quickly produced.Computational experience with this algorithm has indicated that problems with greater than 10 jobs requires extended computational time precluding to finding optimal solution. Therefore untill,improved exact

processor are developed , approximate methods must be used. The two factors ,computational cost and cost of non optimal solution appear to give primary importance when choosing between approximate and exact sequence method . Since each situation will be unique and economical analysis of the cost involved should be made before procedure is selected . On availability of computer,the expected error could be reduced by finding all of the sequences.

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