

Jan C. Fransoo
Toni Wäfler
John Wilson (Eds.)

Behavioral Operations in Planning and Scheduling

 Springer

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Jan C. Fransoo • Toni Wäfler • John R. Wilson
Editors

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Preface

The work presented in this book is the result of the work conducted by the research network Human and Organizational Factors in Planning and Scheduling (HOPS). The HOPS network was established in 2004 and was funded as a so-called “Action” by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology; cf. <http://www.cost.eu>) for a period of four years. COST supports new Actions when they address a relatively new and relevant field of research, in many cases interdisciplinary. COST Actions have an open nature and any researcher interested in the topic can join them.

The HOPS network has been important in the sense that researchers with a wide variety of disciplines have been working together on joint projects over the course of the Action. The joint research has been very productive, with dozens of joint papers having been published in academic journals over the past few years.

In this book, we have brought together the main results from the Action, but have furthermore complemented these by providing more extensive, expository background writing in each of the Chapters that will enable the novel and experienced researcher in this field to get quickly at grip with the various disciplinary insights and knowledge that underlie our studies. We therefore expect this book to be useful for a variety of audiences. First of all, it serves as a reference of the current state of research in the field for those interested in conducting research in this area and intending to broaden their disciplinary and methodological scope. Second, it can serve as teaching material in a graduate course on the role that humans play in planning and scheduling environments. Finally, it also serves to help practitioner to better understand the background of their experiences with planning and scheduling systems, and provides guidelines and insights in how to better manage the design and implementation of such systems.

We would like to thank COST, especially Alfredas Chmieliauskas (COST Rapporteur), David Gronbaek, Julia Stamm, Francesca Boscolo (Scientific Officers), and Jie Zhu (Administrative Officer) for their support to the Action, without which this network never would have been established. Especially the low bureaucratic burden by which financial support is provided by COST strongly stimulates new networks like ours.

Second, we would like to thank all contributors to this volume in spending their time to consolidate their multitude of findings and insights into a set of extensive and comprehensive book chapters.

Finally, we would like to thank Eindhoven University of Technology, and especially Walter Stein, for supporting us in the final editing stages of the process. Many book projects tend to fail at this important stage and without the support of Walter this book would not have been realized.

Eindhoven, The Netherlands
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Jan C. Fransoo
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Contents

Part I Introduction

1 Introduction	3
Jan Fransoo, Toni Wäfler, and John R. Wilson	
2 Decision Making in Planning and Scheduling: A Field Study of Planning Behaviour in Manufacturing	11
Roland Gasser, Katrin Fischer, and Toni Wäfler	
3 The Interconnectivity of Planning and Shop Floor: Case Description and Relocation Analysis	31
Cees De Snoo and Wout van Wezel	

Part II Organization of the Planning Process

4 The Unsung Contribution of Production Planners and Schedulers at Production and Sales Interfaces	47
Martina Berglund, Jane Guinery, and Johan Karlton	
5 Collaborative Planning in Supply Chains: The Importance of Creating High Quality Relationships	83
Hannes Günter, Cees De Snoo, Craig Shepherd, Philip Moscoso, and Johann Riedel	
6 Measuring Supply Chain Performance: Current Research and Future Directions	105
Craig Shepherd and Hannes Günter	

7	Planning Information Processing along the Supply-Chain: A Socio-Technical View	123
	Bernard Grabot, Stefan Marsina, Anne Mayère, Ralph Riedel, and Peter Williams	
8	The Planning Bullwhip: A Complex Dynamic Phenomenon in Hierarchical Systems	159
	Philip Moscoso, Jan Fransoo, Dieter Fischer, and Toni Wäfler	
9	Product Centric Organization of After-Sales Supply Chain Planning and Control	187
	Jan Holmström, Naoufel Cheikhrouhou, Gael Farine, and Kary Främling	
10	Human Control Capabilities	199
	Toni Wäfler, Rüdiger von der Weth, Johan Karlton, Ulrike Starker, Kathrin Gärtner, Roland Gasser, and Jessica Bruch	
11	Building Decision Support Systems for Acceptance	231
	Ralph Riedel, Jan Fransoo, Vincent Wiers, Katrin Fischer, Julien Cegarra, and David Jentsch	
Part III Design and Support of the Planning and Scheduling Task		
12	Design of Scheduling Algorithms	299
	Jan Riezebos, Jean-Michel Hoc, Nasser Mebarki, Christos Dimopoulos, Wout van Wezel, and Guillaume Pinot	
13	A Comparison of Task Analysis Methods for Planning and Scheduling	323
	Julien Cegarra and Wout van Wezel	
14	Allocating Functions to Human and Algorithm in Scheduling	339
	Wout van Wezel, Julien Cegarra, and Jean-Michel Hoc	
15	Design of Scheduling Algorithms: Applications	371
	Jan Riezebos, Jean-Michel Hoc, Nasser Mebarki, Christos Dimopoulos, Wout van Wezel, and Guillaume Pinot	
16	Case Study: Advanced Decision Support for Train Shunting Scheduling	413
	Wout van Wezel and Jan Riezebos	

Part IV HOPSopedia

**17 An Open Source Encyclopedia and Debating Instrument
for Planning Terms: The Hopsopedia** 433
Cees De Snoo, Wout van Wezel, and Jan Riezebos

18 A Sample of Hopsopedia Term Descriptions 443
Cees De Snoo, Wout van Wezel, and Jan Riezebos

About the Editors 461

Index 473

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