

**Heuristic
Optimization in
Production and
Logistics**

gefördert durch



FFG

Österreichische
Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft



LAND

OBERÖSTERREICH

HOPL

Heuristic Optimization in Production and Logistics



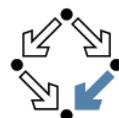
**universität
wien**

JKU

JOHANNES KEPLER
UNIVERSITÄT LINZ



v''' research



RISC
Software GmbH

Contact:

Dr. Michael Affenzeller
FH OOE - School of Informatics,
Communications and Media
Heuristic and Evolutionary
Algorithms Lab (HEAL)
Softwarepark 11, A-4232
Hagenberg

e-mail:

michael.affenzeller@fh-hagenberg.at

Web:

<http://heal.heuristiclab.com>

<http://dev.heuristiclab.com>

Research Group *HEAL*



Research Group

- 5 professors
- 7 PhD students
- Interns, Master and Bachelor students

Research Focus

- Problem modeling
- Process optimization
- Data-based structure identification
- Supply chain and logistics optimization
- Algorithm development and analysis



Industry Partners (excerpt)



Scientific Partners

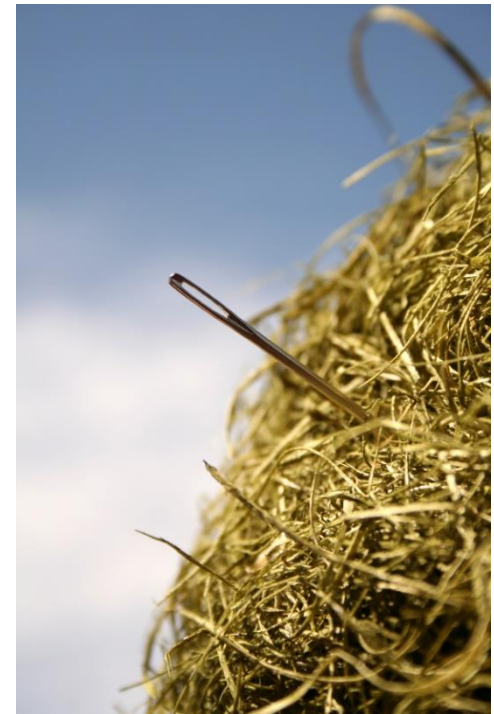
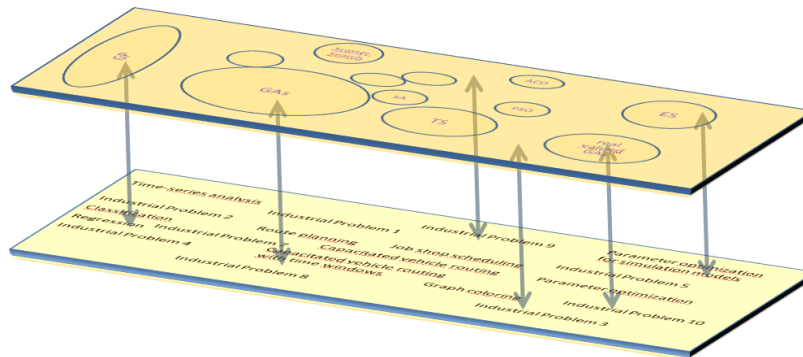


Metaheuristics

- Intelligent search strategies
- Can be applied to different problems
- Explore interesting regions of the search space (parameter)
- Tradeoff: computation vs. quality
 - Good solutions for very complex problems
- Must be tuned to applications

Challenges

- Choice of appropriate metaheuristics
- Hybridization

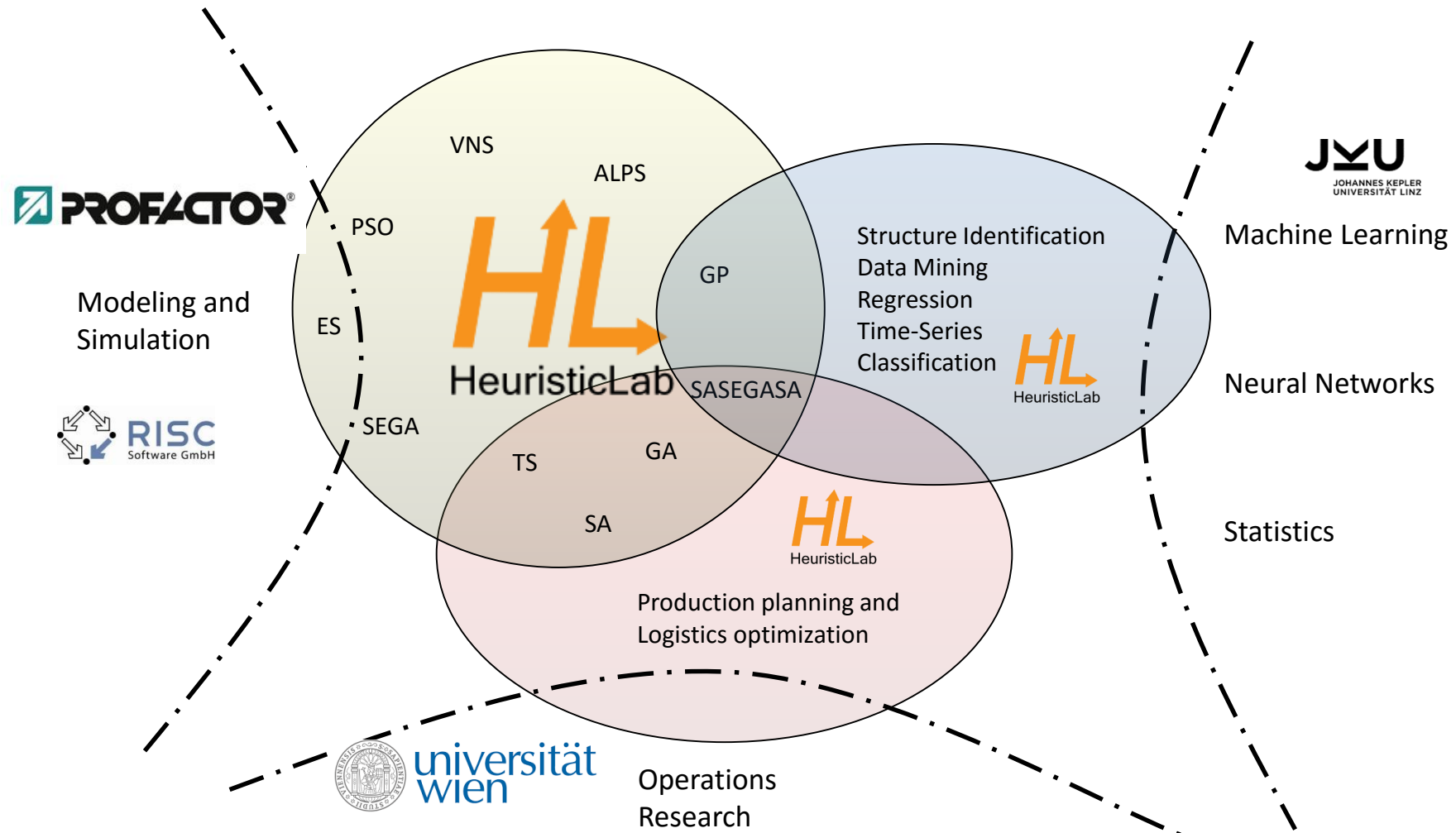


Finding Needles in Haystacks

Research Focus



Heuristic
Optimization in
Production and
Logistics



Open Source Optimization Framework HeuristicLab

- Developed since 2002
- Basis of many research projects and publications
- 2nd place at *Microsoft Innovation Award 2009*
- HeuristicLab 3.3 since May 2010 under GNU GPL



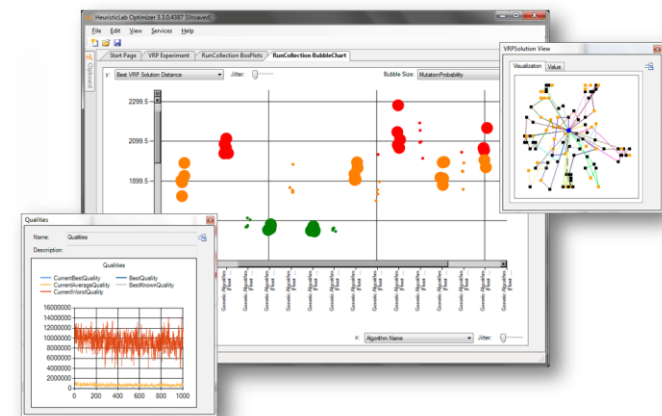
Motivation und Goals

- Graphical user interface for interactive development, analysis and application of optimizations methods
- Numerous optimization algorithms and optimization problems
- Support for extensive experiments and analysis
- Distribution through parallel execution of algorithms
- Extensibility and flexibility (plug-in architecture)



Cluster at campus Hagenberg

- Research cluster (since March 2006) with 14 cores
- Dell Blade system (since January 2009) with 112 cores
- 200-300 lab computers at campus Hagenberg (since 2011)
- High performance cluster (2016)



Where to get HeuristicLab?

Download binaries

- deployed as ZIP archives
- latest stable version 3.3.13
 - released on November 20th, 2015 (Windischgarsten)
- daily trunk builds
- <http://dev.heuristiclab.com/download>

Check out sources

- SVN repository
- HeuristicLab 3.3.13 tag
 - <http://dev.heuristiclab.com/svn/hl/core/tags/3.3.13>
- current stable branch
 - <http://dev.heuristiclab.com/svn/hl/core/stable>

License

- GNU General Public License (Version 3)

System requirements

- Microsoft .NET Framework 4.0 Full Version
- RAM and CPU power



Available Algorithms



Heuristic
Optimization in
Production and
Logistics

Population-based

- ☞ CMA-ES
- ☞ Evolution Strategy
- ☞ Genetic Algorithm
- ☞ Offspring Selection Genetic Algorithm
- ☞ Island Genetic Algorithm
- ☞ Island Offspring Selection Genetic Algorithm
- ☞ Parameter-less Population Pyramid (P3)
- ☞ SASEGASA
- ☞ Relevant Alleles Preserving GA (RAPGA)
- ☞ Genetic Programming
- ☞ NSGA-II
- ☞ Scatter Search
- ☞ Particle Swarm Optimization

Trajectory-based

- ☞ Local Search
- ☞ Tabu Search
- ☞ Robust Taboo Search
- ☞ Variable Neighborhood Search
- ☞ Simulated Annealing

Data Analysis

- ☞ Linear Discriminant Analysis
- ☞ Linear Regression
- ☞ Multinomial Logit Classification
- ☞ k-Nearest Neighbor
- ☞ k-Means
- ☞ Neighbourhood Component Analysis
- ☞ Artificial Neural Networks
- ☞ Random Forests
- ☞ Support Vector Machines
- ☞ Gaussian Processes

Additional Algorithms

- ☞ User-defined Algorithm
- ☞ Performance Benchmarks
- ☞ Hungarian Algorithm
- ☞ Cross Validation
- ☞ LM-BFGS

Available Problems



Heuristic
Optimization in
Production and
Logistics

Combinatorial Problems

- ☞ Traveling Salesman
- ☞ Vehicle Routing
- ☞ Knapsack
- ☞ NK[P,Q]
- ☞ Job Shop Scheduling
- ☞ Linear Assignment
- ☞ Quadratic Assignment
- ☞ OneMax
- ☞ Orienteering
- ☞ Deceptive trap
- ☞ Deceptive trap step
- ☞ HIFF

Genetic Programming Problems

- ☞ Symbolic Classification
- ☞ Symbolic Regression
- ☞ Symbolic Time-Series Prognosis
- ☞ Artificial Ant
- ☞ Lawn Mower

Additional Problems

- ☞ Single-Objective Test Function
- ☞ User-defined Problem
- ☞ Programmable Problem
- ☞ External Evaluation Problem
(Anylogic, Scilab, MATLAB)
- ☞ Regression, Classification, Clustering
- ☞ Trading
- ☞ Grammatical Evolution

Typical approach

- Modeling of single tasks
 - Warehouse
 - Production planning
 - Inhouse logistics
 - Transport logistics
- Adaptation of standard problem from the literature (JSSP, CVRP, e.g.)
- Optimization with metaheuristics, exact solvers or hybrid approaches

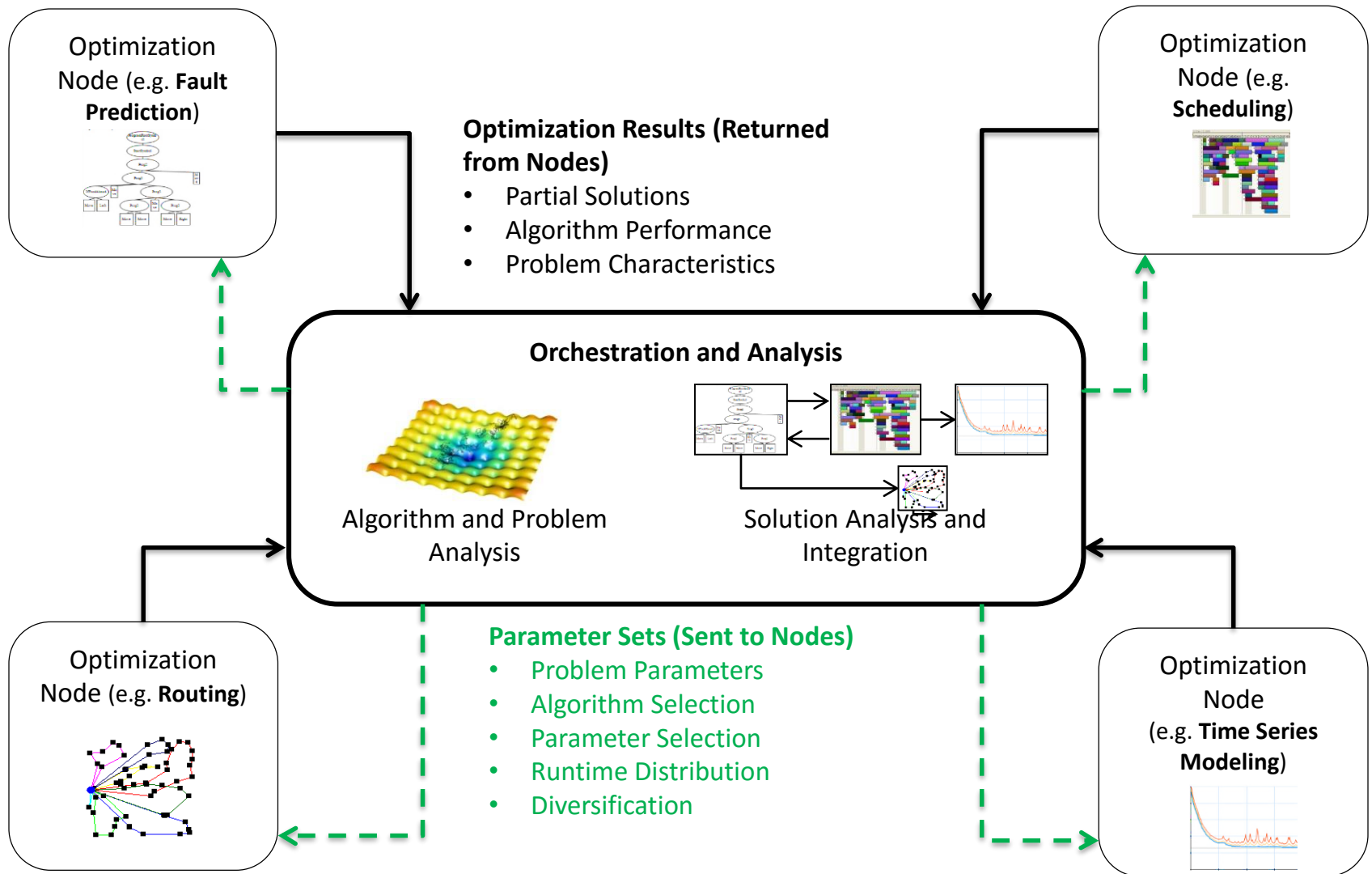
Recent trends

- Integrated modeling or interrelated tasks
 - Matheuristics which are able to combine two tasks (packing and routing e.g.)
 - Simulation-based optimization

Limitations

- Limitation to just a couple of tasks that can only be described by complex models
- Modeling of specific constraints is difficult
- Limitations in terms of modularity and reusability

Optimization Network



Fitness Landscape based Algorithm Prediction

Fitness Landscape Analysis

- Calculation of features in order to characterize problem instances [PA12, VFM03]
 - ruggedness
 - neutrality
 - misleading
- Visualization with problem instance map
 - projections like PCA, MDS, SOM



[PA12] Pitzer, E. and Affenzeller, M., 2012. A comprehensive survey on fitness landscape analysis.

In Recent Advances in Intelligent Engineering Systems (pp. 161-191). Springer Berlin Heidelberg.

[VFM03] Vassilev, V. K., Fogarty, T. C., and Miller, J. F. 2003. Smoothness, Ruggedness and Neutrality of Fitness Landscapes: From Theory to Application.

In: Ghosh, A., Tsutsui, S. (eds.) Advances in Evolutionary Computing: Theory and Applications, pp. 3-44. Springer-Verlag New York, Inc.

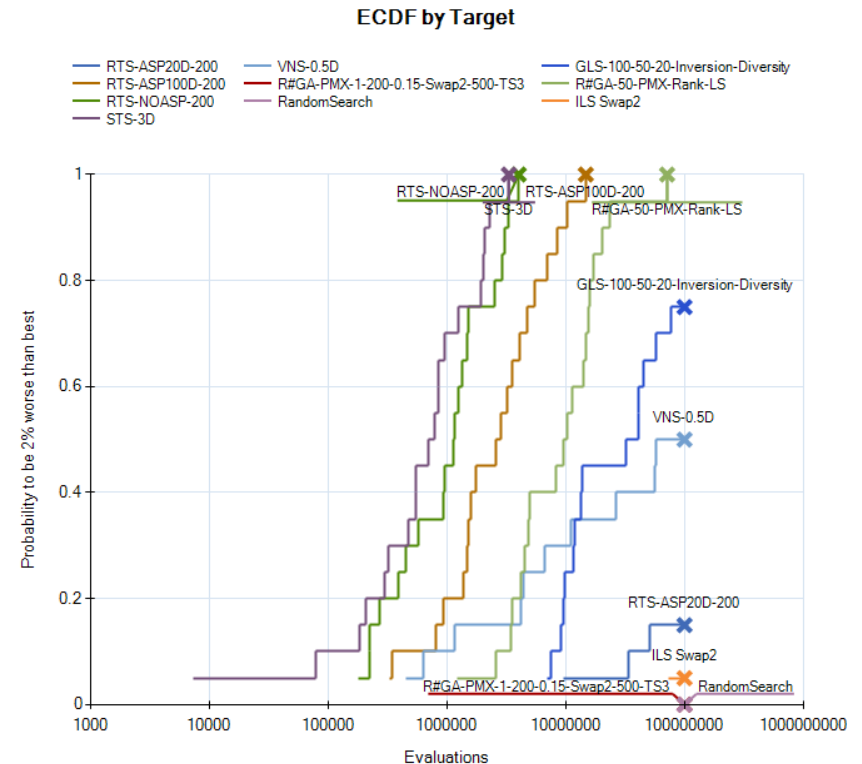
Fitness Landscape based Algorithm Prediction

Algorithm performance

- Is random variable [HS98]
- Probability of obtaining a certain goal w.r.t. effort
- Comparison by mean [AH05]
- Empirical distribution function (ECDF) for visualization

Cluster classification

- k-Means for clustering of mean value ($k = 5$)
 - Performance classes 1-5
- Additional class if algorithm never reaches the goal (class 6)

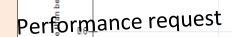
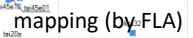
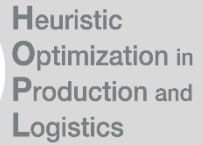


[HS98] Hoos, H. H. & Stützle, T. Evaluating Las Vegas Algorithms - Pitfalls and Remedies.

Proceedings of the Fourteenth Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI-98), Morgan Kaufmann, 1998, pp. 238-245.

[AH05] Auger, A. & Hansen, N. Performance evaluation of an advanced local search evolutionary algorithm.

Proceedings of the 2005 IEEE Congress on Evolutionary Computation (CEC), 2005, 2, pp. 1777-1784.



13

Results

- k-nearest neighbor approach
 - Uses performance data of k nearest problem instances
 - Calculates new ranking
- Leave-One-Out Crossvalidation in order to check approach
- Best proposed algorithm has been compared by ranking
 - 31x algorithm instance from class 1 (best suited)
 - 7x algorithm instance from class 2
 - 5x algorithm instance from class 3-5 (less suited)
 - 4x algorithm instance from class 6 (did not work)
- As a baseline that algorithm instance has been used which is most frequently in class 1
 - 20x class 1
 - 5x class 2
 - 8x class 3-5
 - 14x class 6

Further Details



Heuristic
Optimization in
Production and
Logistics

- ☞ **Talk by A. Beham**
Optimization Knowledge Center
A decision support system for heuristic optimization
- ☞ **Thursday, 8:30-10:20, EvoSoft Workshop, Wind River A**

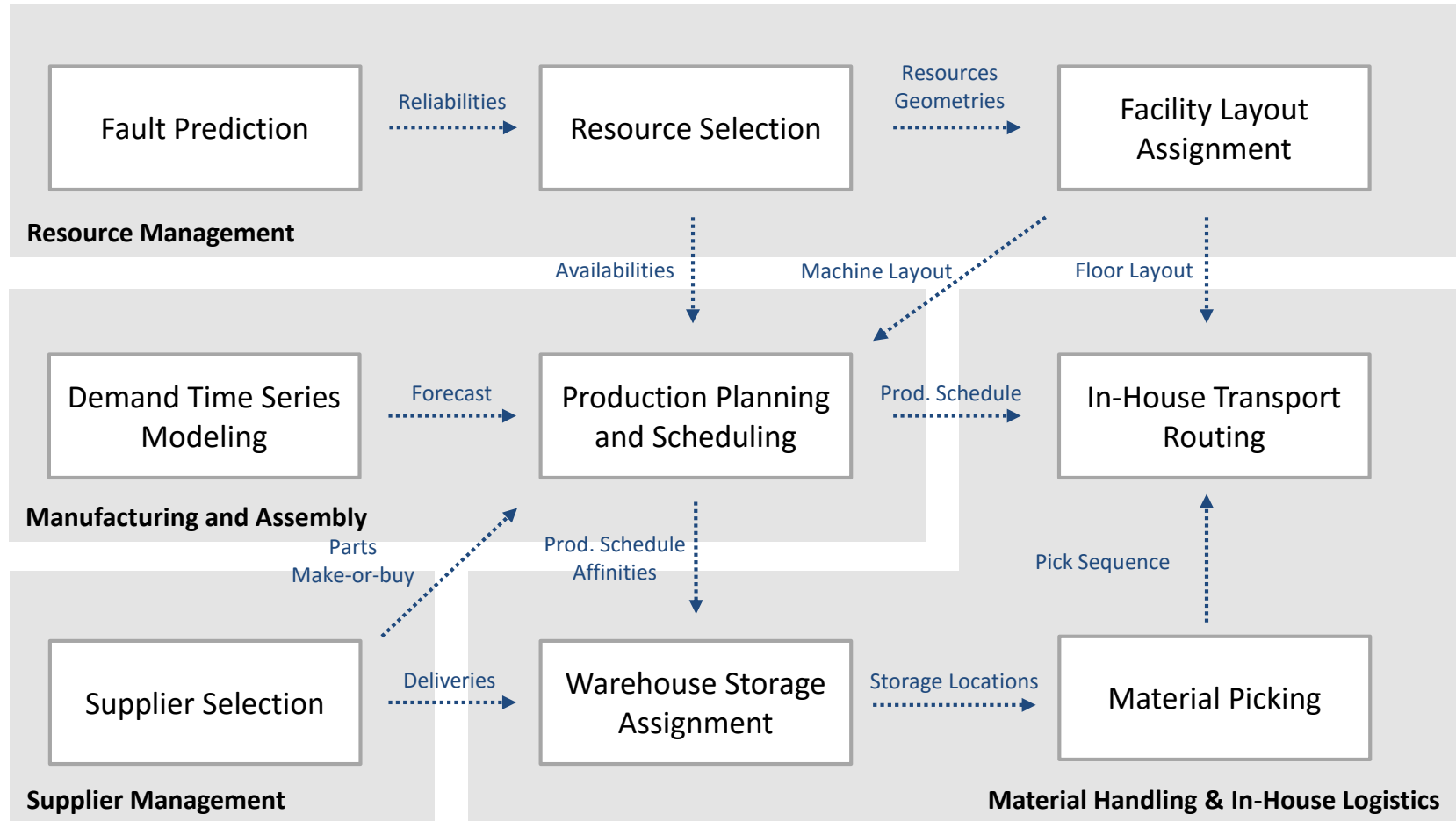


HeuristicLab

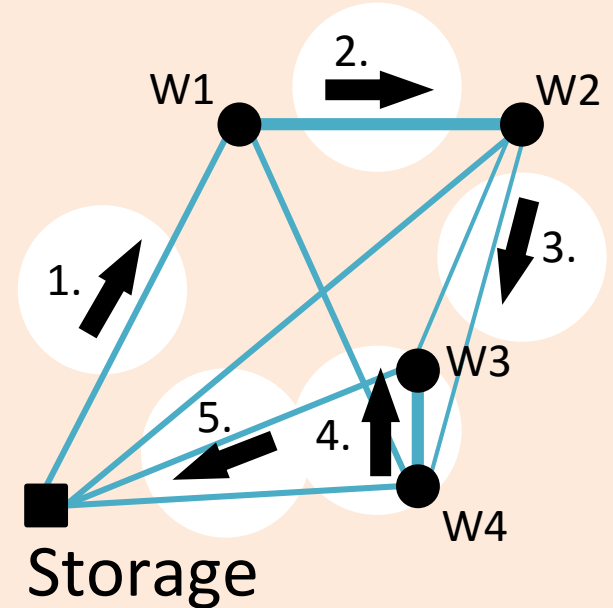
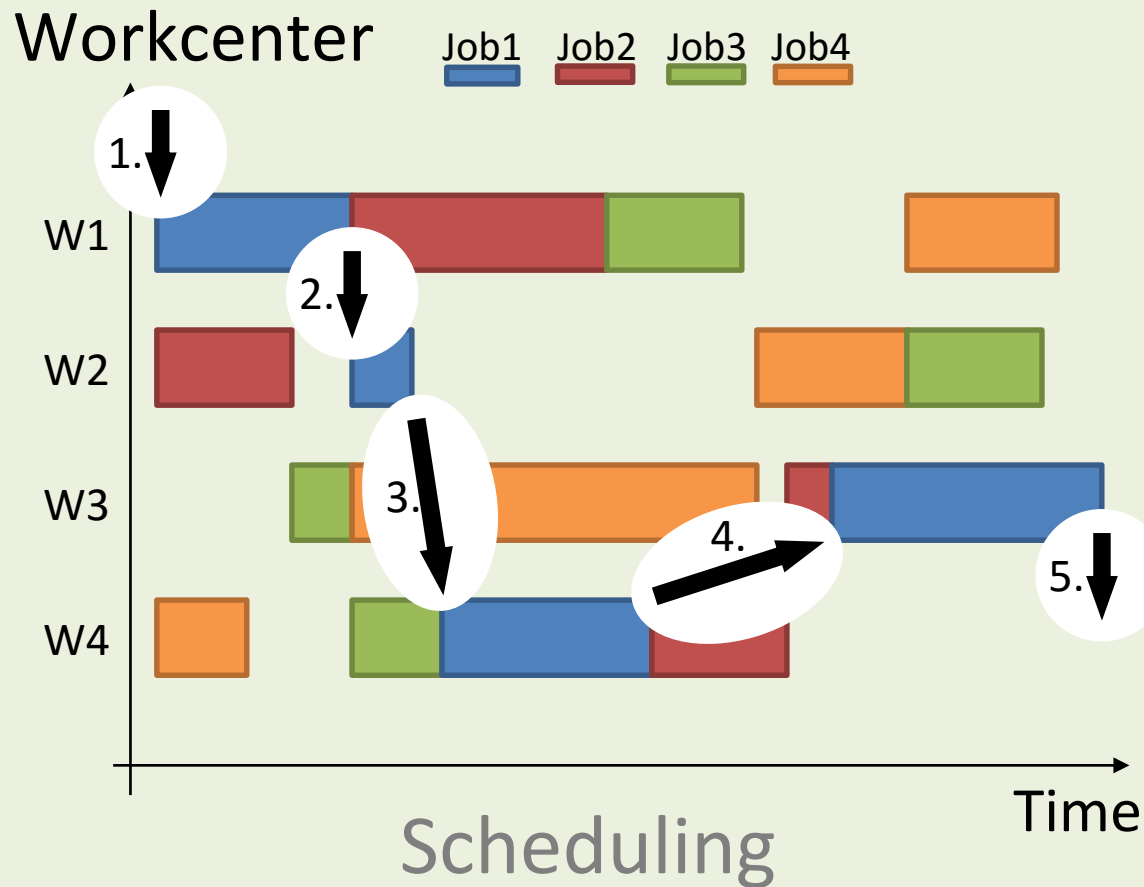
A Paradigm-Independent and Extensible
Environment for Heuristic Optimization

<http://dev.heuristiclab.com>

Interrelated Processes in Production and Logistics



Example



New modeling layer for optimization networks in HeuristicLab

- Optimization networks consist of **nodes**
 - Nodes can include problems and algorithms from HeuristicLab (reusability of standard problems and algorithms)
 - Nodes can be implemented individually (specific problems/algorithms, analysis or visualization components)
 - Nodes can be used as interfaces from/to external applications like simulators (Anylogic), other solvers (CPLEX), or distributed hardware resources (HeuristicLab Hive)
 - Optimization networks are nodes themselves (hierarchical structures)
- Nodes of optimization networks communicate via **ports**
 - Ports have a specific signature (input/output parameters)
 - Nodes send and receive messages via ports
 - Ports support different ways of communication
 - Client/Server
 - Publish/Subscribe
 - both synchronously and asynchronously

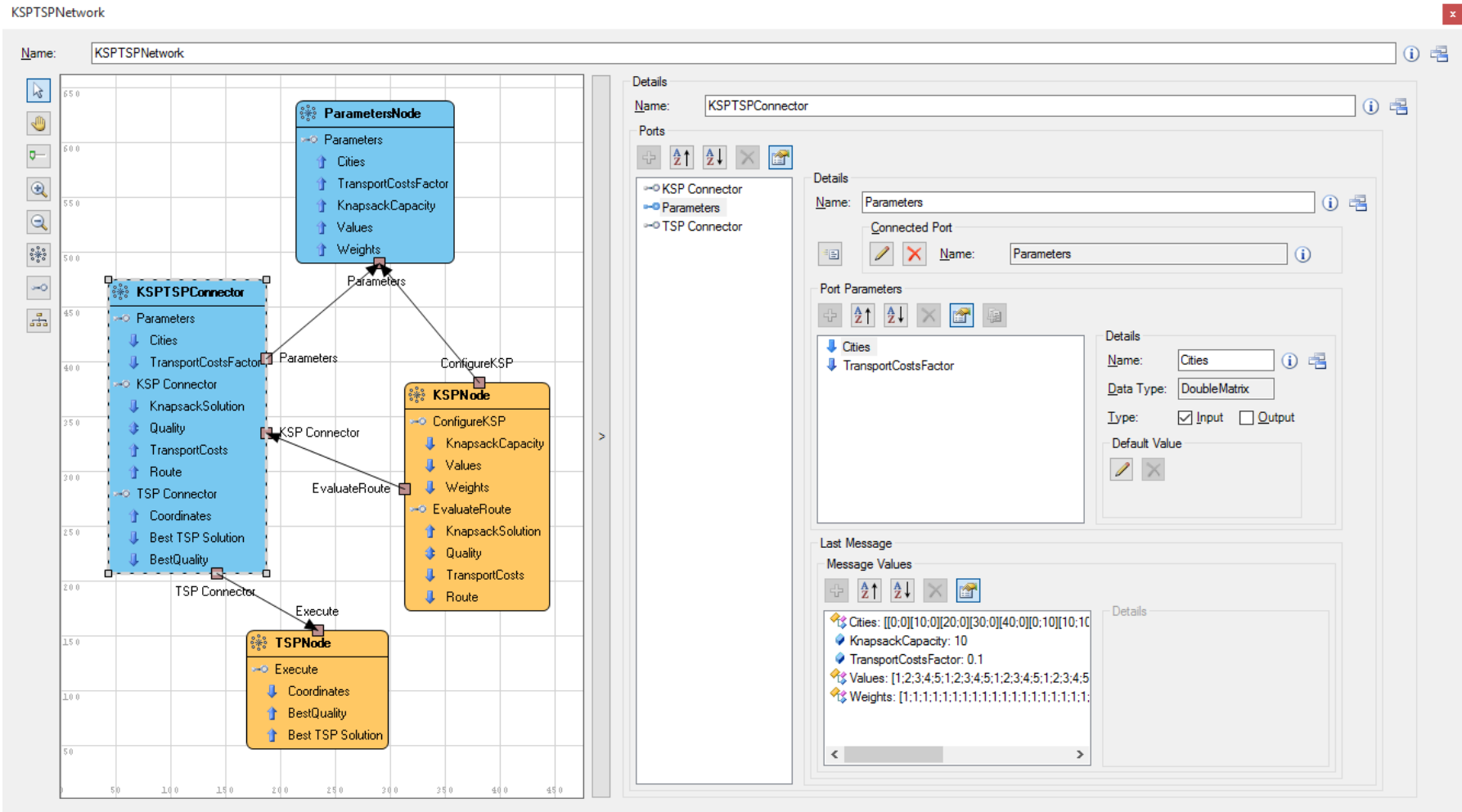
Optimization networks GUI

- GUI allows definition of nodes and ports at runtime
- Editor for interactive modeling of optimization networks
- Validation of ports at runtime
- Visual feedback during the run (activity of nodes, qualities)
- Code of ON and nodes can be edited at runtime (in order to be recompiled)
- Code von Optimierungsnetzwerken und Knoten kann in der GUI zur Laufzeit eingesehen, editiert und erneut kompiliert werden

Already implemented examples

- Two flavors of combinations of knapsack and travelling salesman problems
 - Knapsack Constrained Profitable Tour Problem
 - Traveling thief problem
- Combination of feature selection and linear regression
- Real world scenario in a steel production company

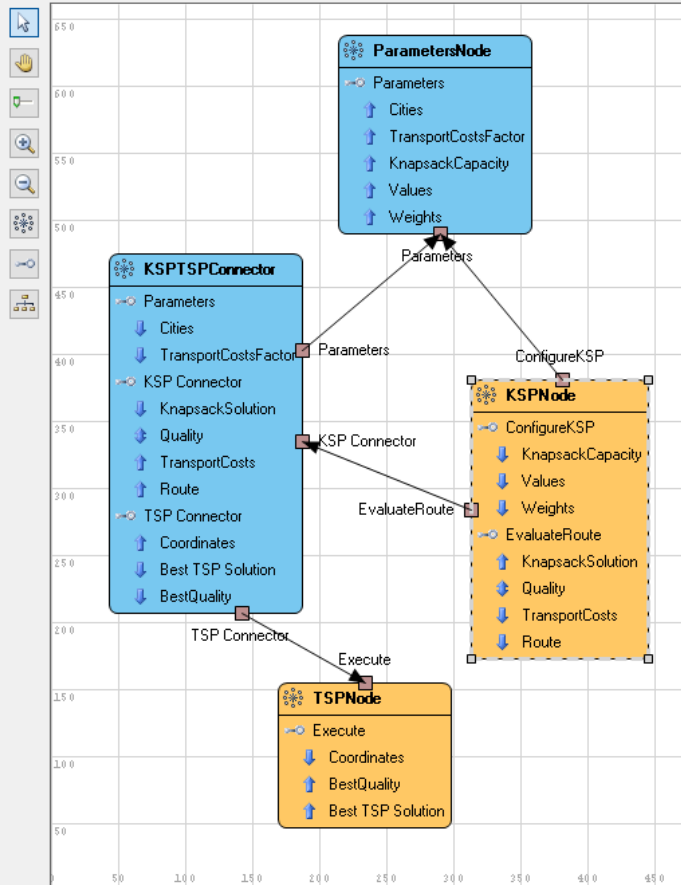
Optimization-Networks in HeuristicLab



Optimierungsnetzwerke in HeuristicLab

KSPTSPNetwork

Name: KSPTSPNetwork



Details

Name: KSPNode

Ports Algorithm Runs

Ports
ConfigureKSP
EvaluateRoute

Details

Name: EvaluateRoute

Connected Port

Name: KSP Connector

Port Parameters

KnapsackSolution
Quality
Route
TransportCosts

Details

Name: Quality

Data Type: DoubleValue

Type: ☒ Input ☒ Output

Default Value

Last Message

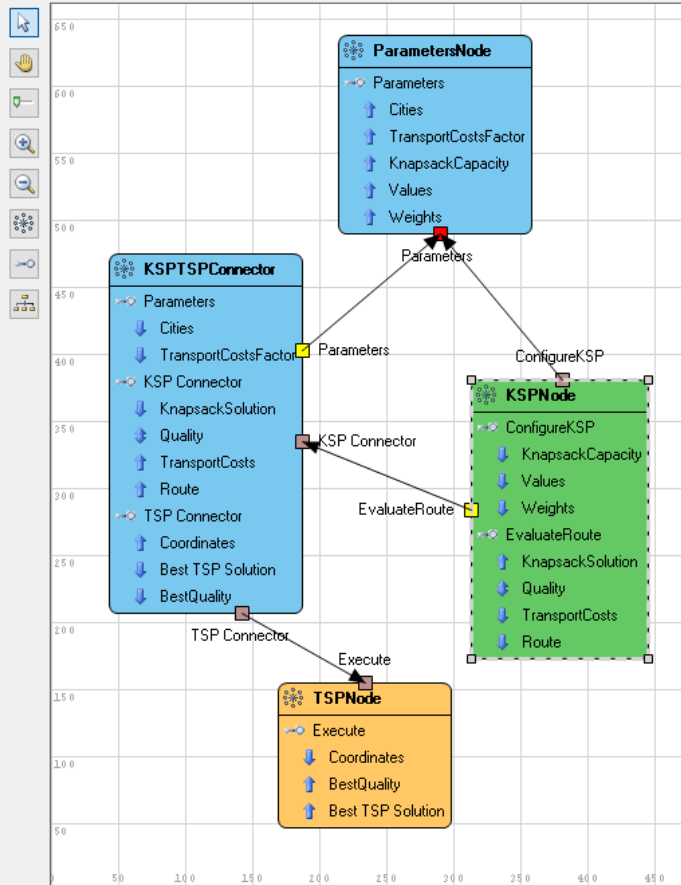
Message Values

Details

Optimierungsnetzwerke in HeuristicLab

KSPTSPNetwork

Name: KSPTSPNetwork



Details

Name: KSPNode

Ports Algorithm Runs



Name: Genetic Algorithm (GA)

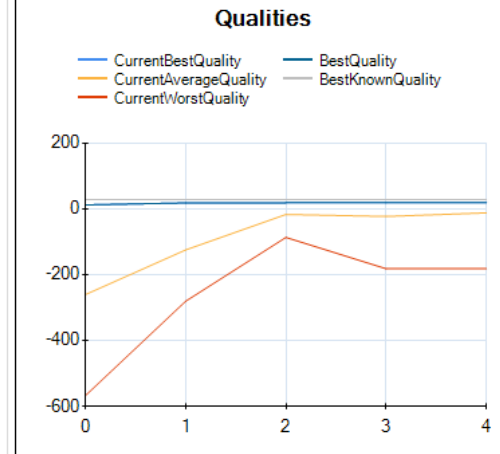
Problem Algorithm Results Runs Operator Graph Engine

Results

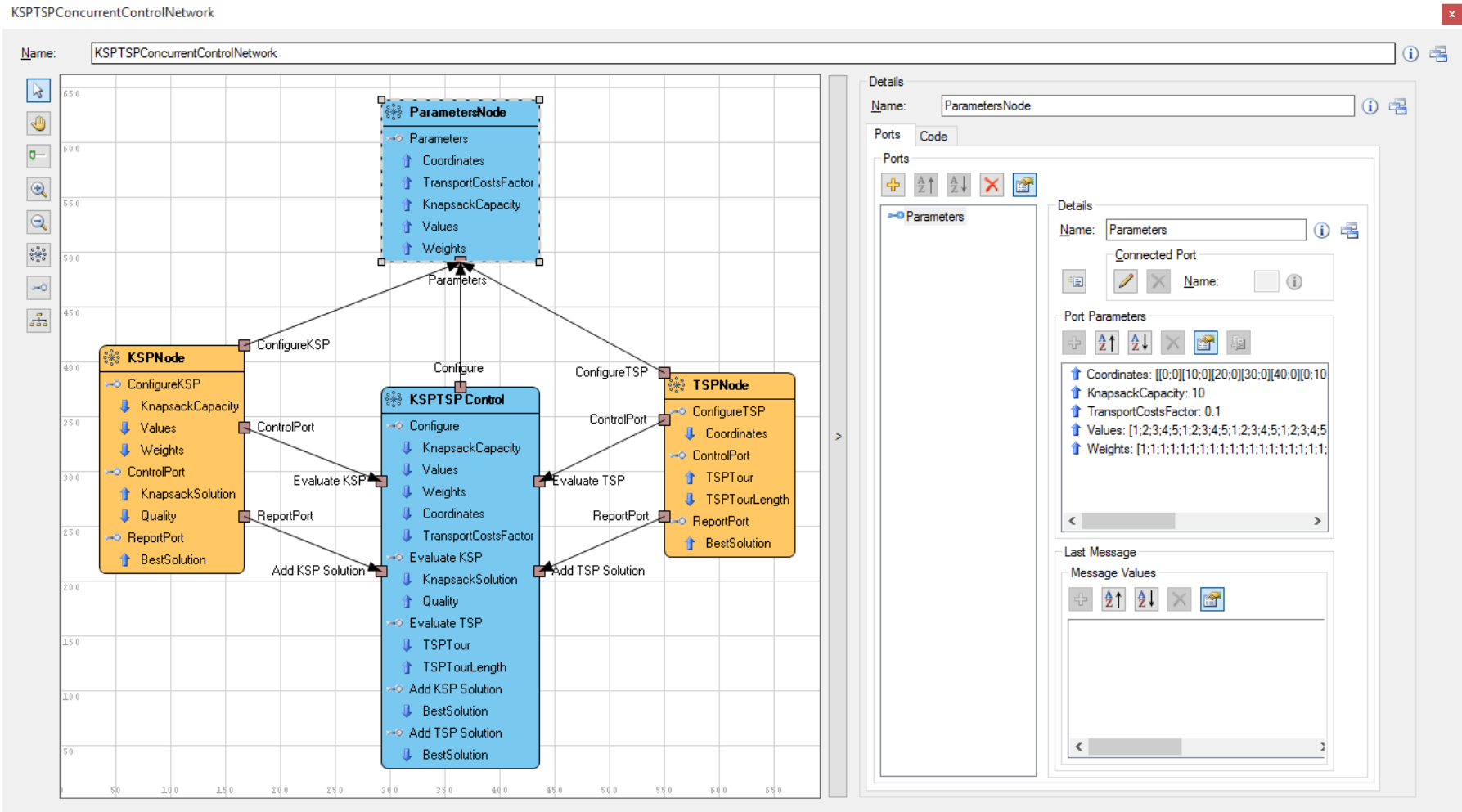
- Evaluated Solutions: 46
- Generations: 4
- Best Knapsack Solution: Knap
- CurrentBestQuality: 18.2
- CurrentAverageQuality: -12.78
- CurrentWorstQuality: -182.2
- BestQuality: 18.2
- BestKnownQuality: 27.6
- AbsoluteDifferenceBestKnown
- RelativeDifferenceBestKnown
- Qualities: Qualities

Details

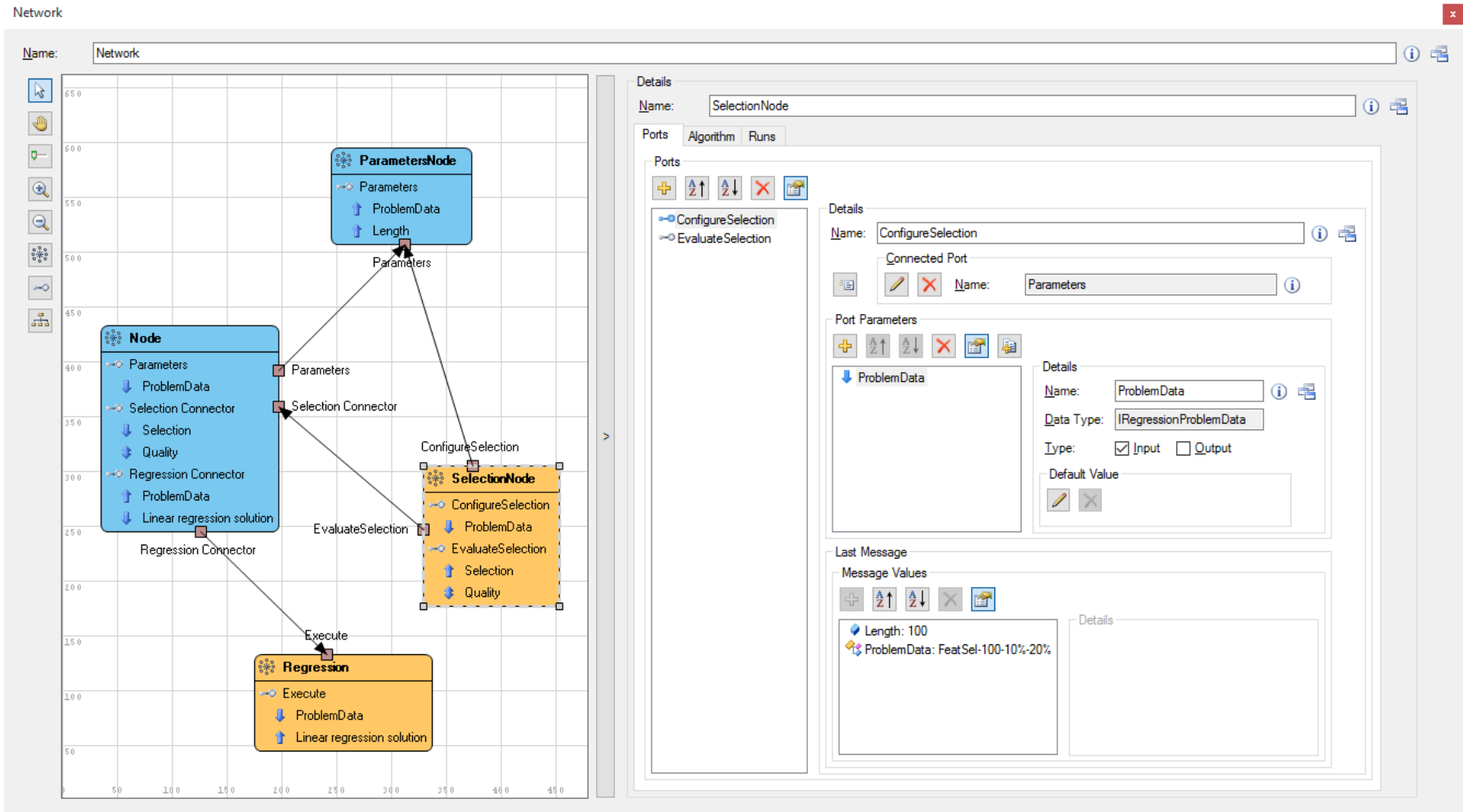
Name: Qualities



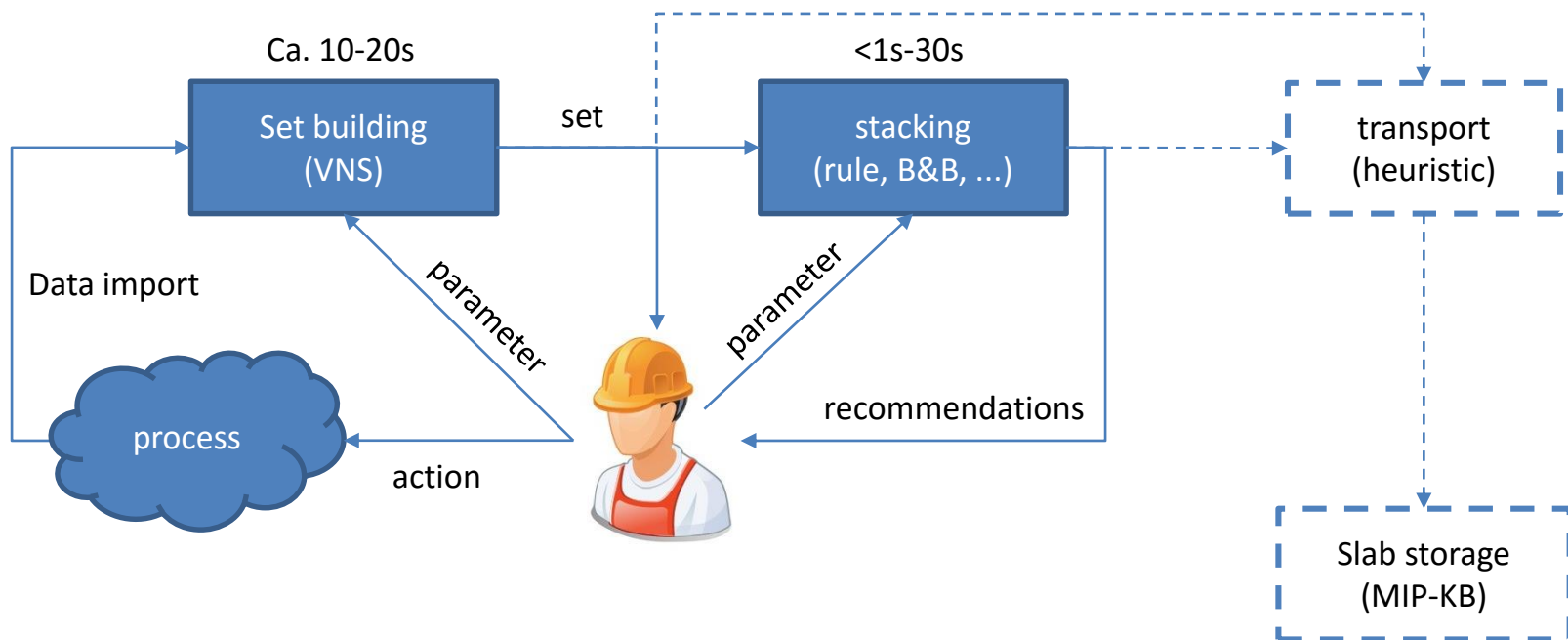
Execution Time: 00:00:47.4848903



Optimierungsnetzwerke in HeuristicLab



Real World Optimization Network



Results

- Recommendation system has been tested in practice a several time
- Results quite good in the meanwhile
- 21. April 2016
 - **~80% approval by human expert**
- 18. Mai 2016
 - **~78% approval by human expert**

Further obvious aspects

- Planning of warmholding box – highly interdependent with hot metal storage
- Planning of slab adjustment – interrelated with transport

Knowledge Networks

HL HeuristicLab Optimizer 3.3.13.13681 [Unsaved]

File Edit View Services Help

GBT Tower Target Variation Exper... Variable Interaction Network

Network Configuration

Quality result name: Solution.Pearson's R² (training)

☐ Maximization

Impact result name: Variable relevance

Impact threshold: 80

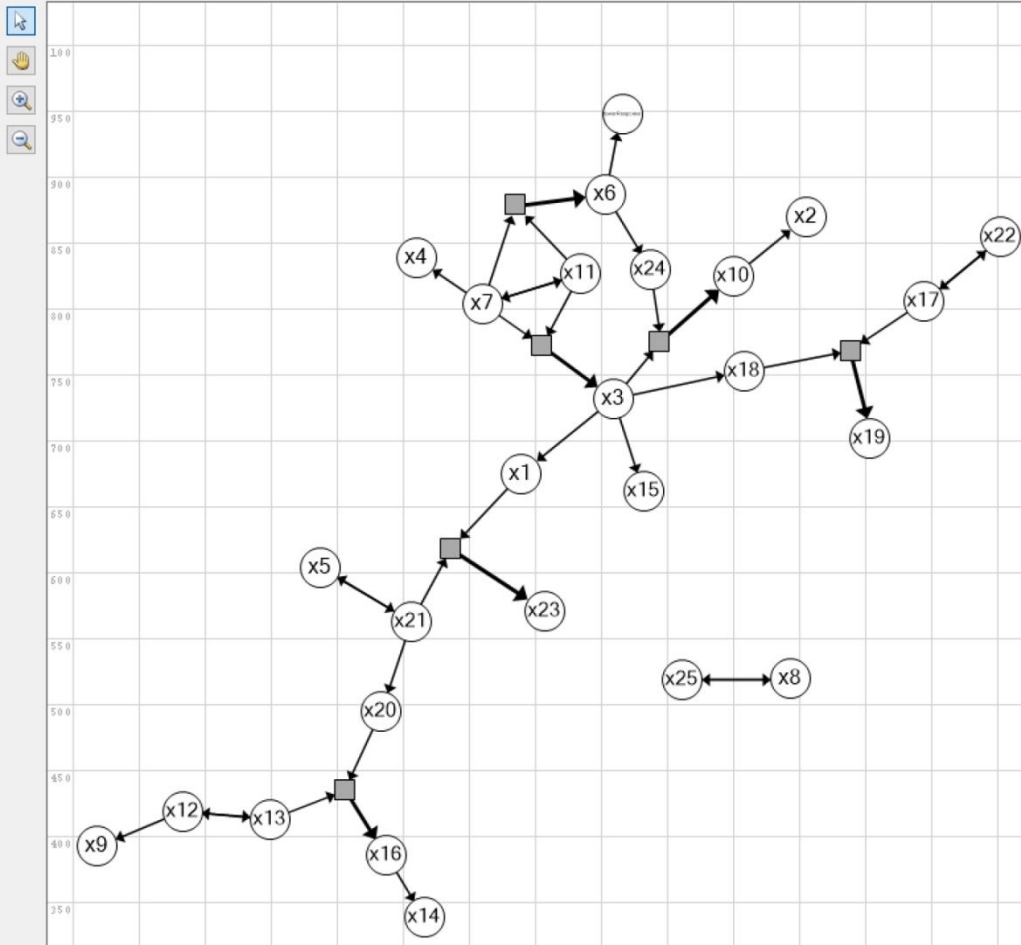
Impact aggregation: Best run

Online Impact Calculation

Layout Options

Edge routing: None

Ideal edge length: 50

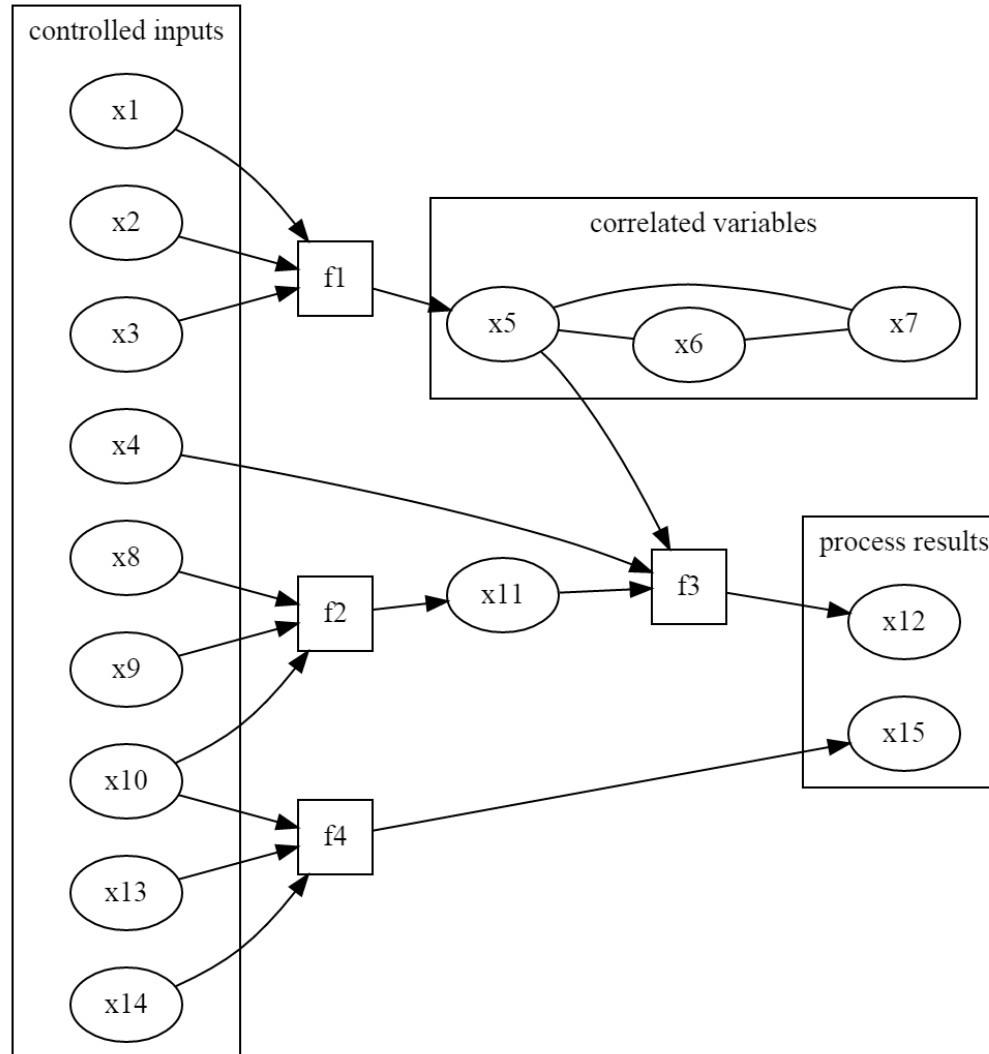




Knowledge Networks



Heuristic
Optimization in
Production and
Logistics



Further Ongoing Activities With Practical Impact

☞ Intra-plant transport logistics





Workshop on Theory and Applications of Metaheuristic Algorithms

Held within the thirteenth International Conference on Computer Aided Systems Theory

eurocast 2017

February 19-24, 2017

<http://eurocast2015.fulp.ulpgc.es/>

Important Dates:

- Submission Deadline (Extended Abstract): October 31, 2016
- Acceptance Notification: December 1, 2016
- Camera-Ready Paper Deadline: April 30, 2017