



## Optimizing Buffer Sizes for Pipeline Workflow Scheduling with Setup Times

Anne Benoit, Jean-Marc Nicod and Veronika Rehn-Sonigo

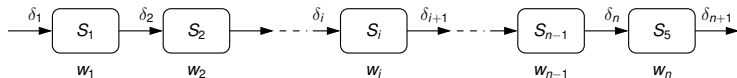
*ENS Lyon – FEMTO-ST institute Besançon*

Aussois - April 2nd, 2014

# Introduction and Motivation



**Overall objective:** Mapping linear workflow applications, such as image processing or assembly lines, onto parallel platforms



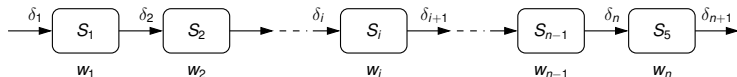
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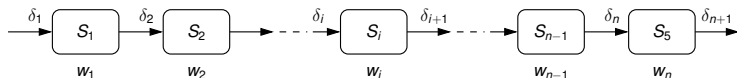
## Results for throughput maximization:

- Homogeneous platforms: dynamic program [Subhlok, Vondran 1995,1996]
- Heterogeneous communications: NP-hard [Benoit, Robert 2008]

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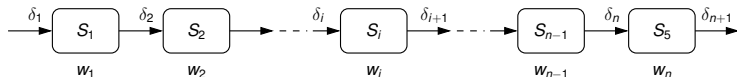
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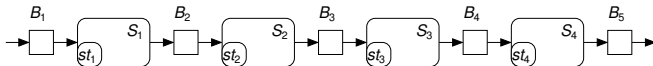
In this talk, we focus on the inner scheduling problem with setup costs

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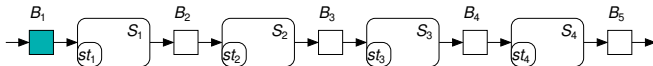


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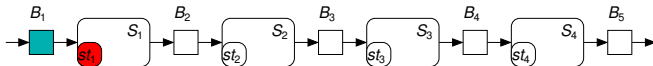


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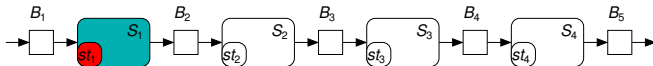


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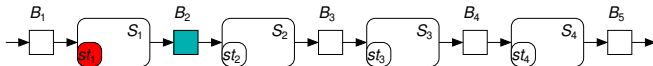


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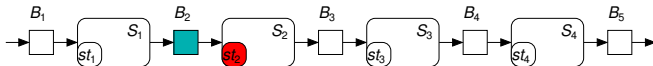


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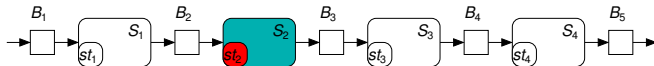


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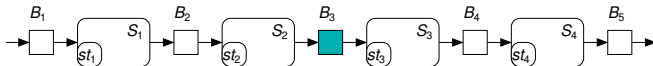


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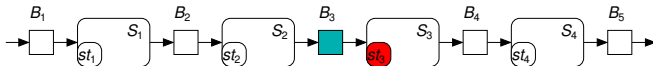


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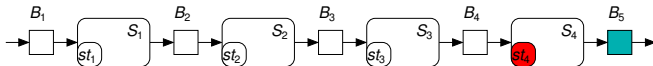


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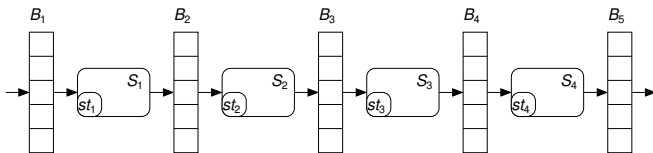
⇒ to output 1 data set, we need **4 setups**

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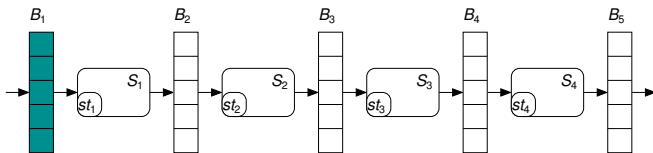


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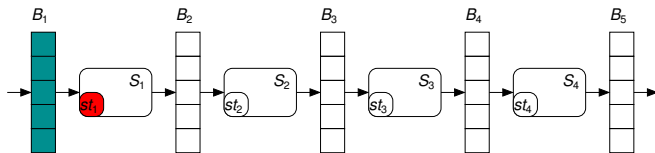


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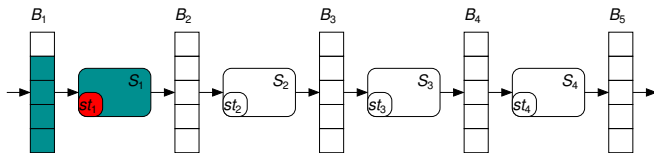


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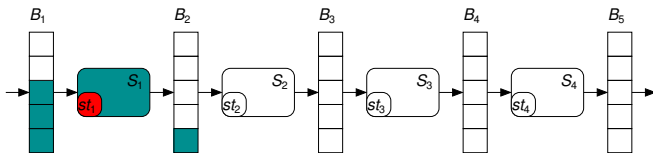


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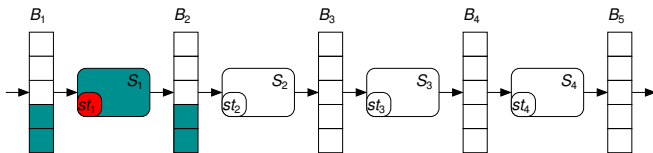


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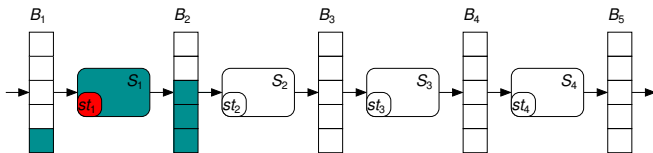


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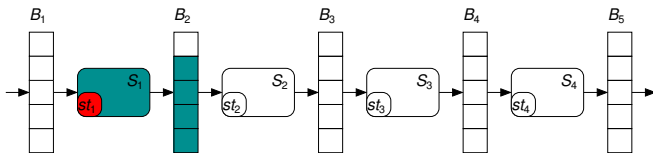


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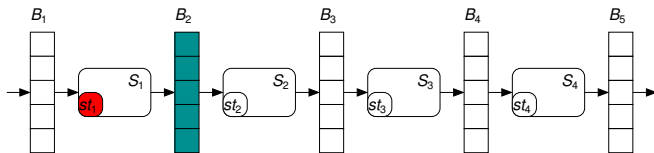


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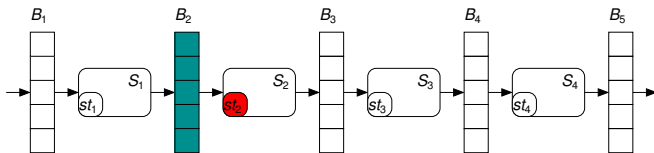


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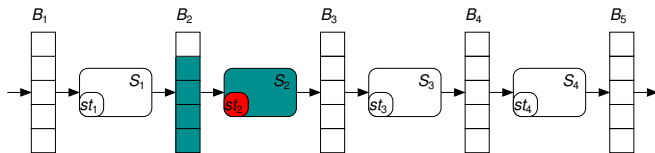


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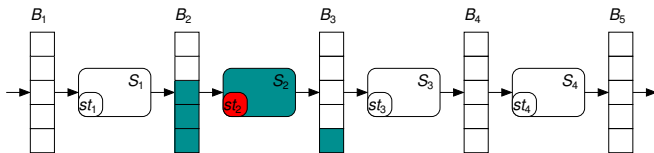


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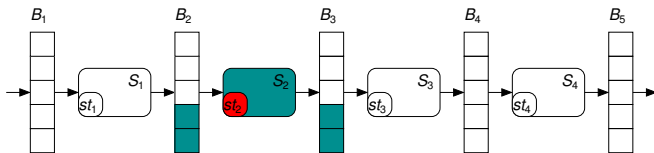


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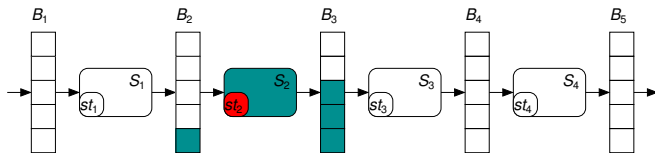


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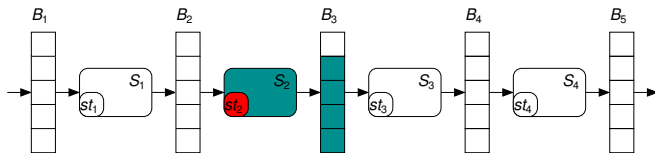


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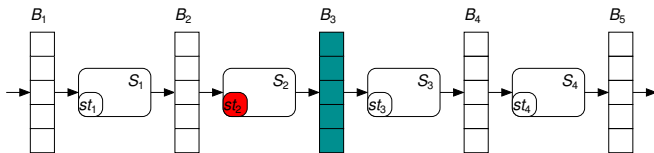


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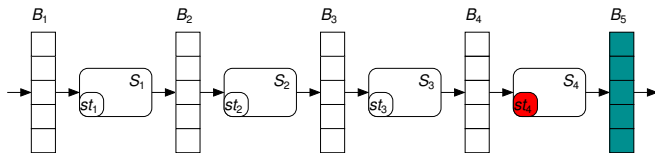


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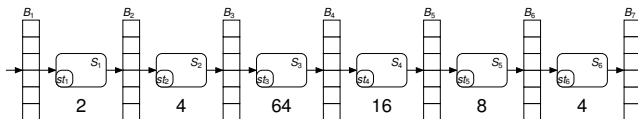
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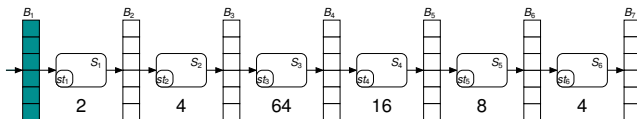
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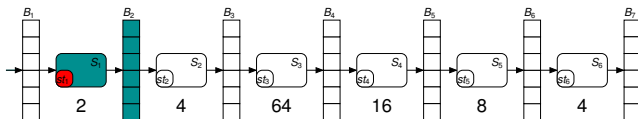
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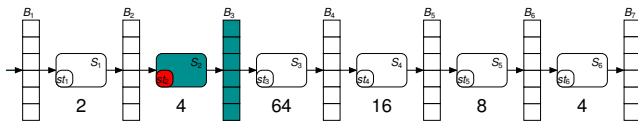
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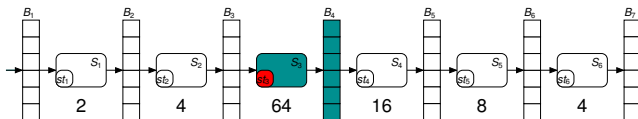
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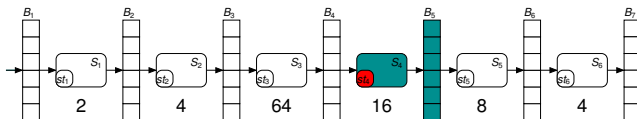
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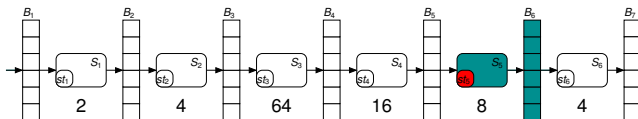
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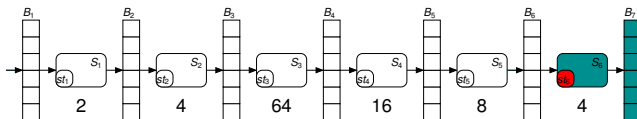
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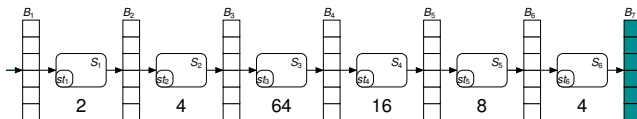




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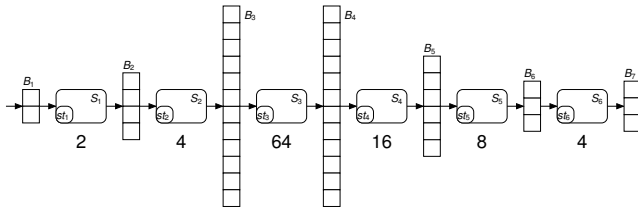


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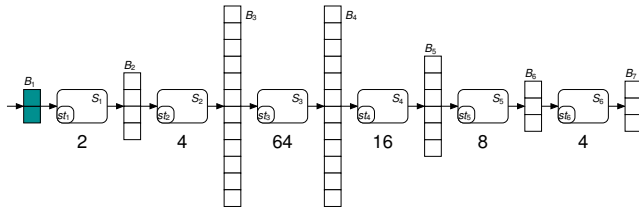


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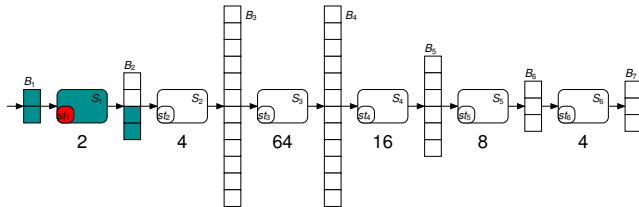


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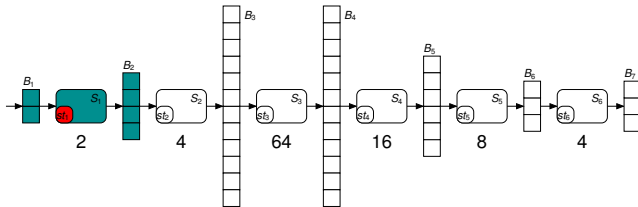


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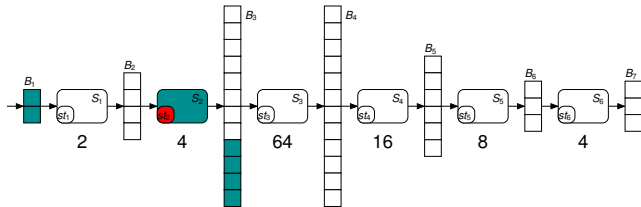


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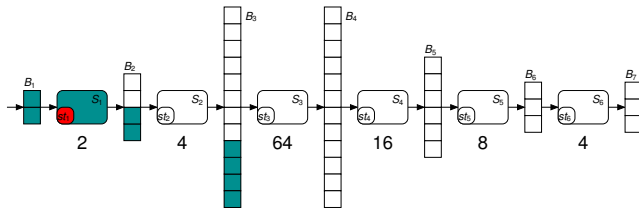


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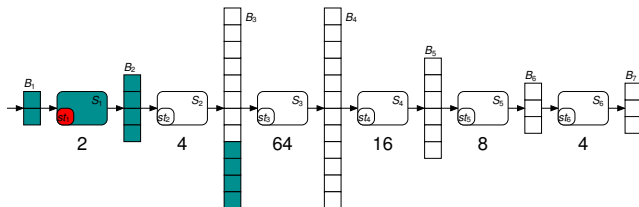


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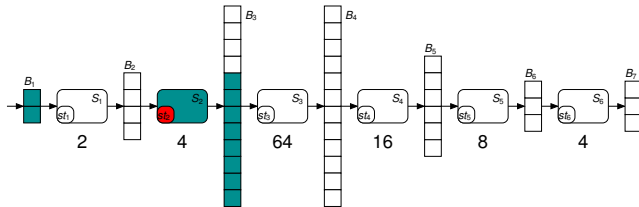
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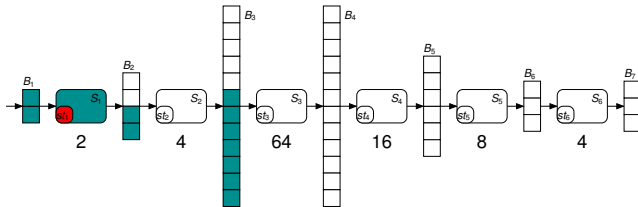


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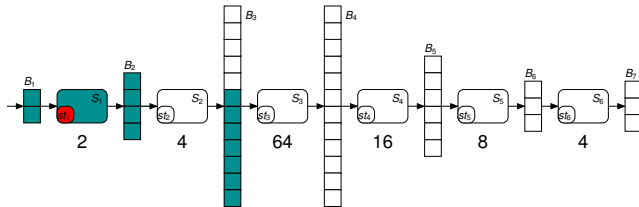


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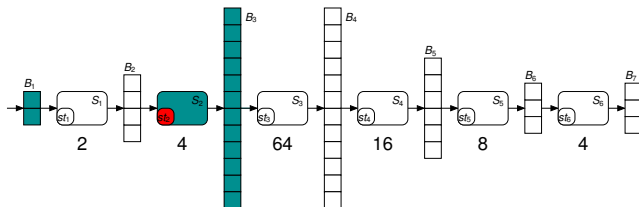


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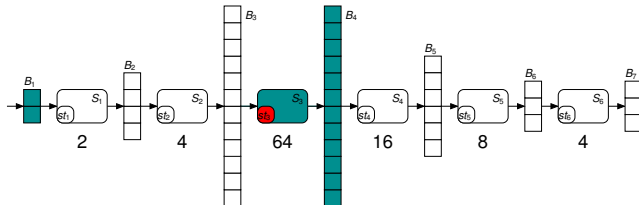


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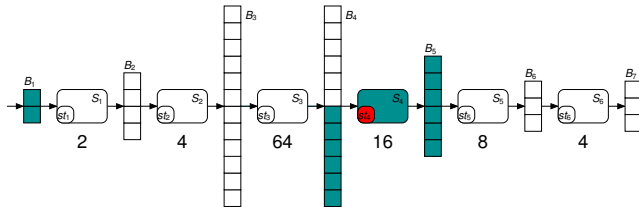


$$\Rightarrow \text{COST HOM} = 2/6 + 4/6 + 64/6 + 16/6 + 8/6 + 4/6 = 98/6 = 16.33$$

# Principle



- Homogeneous setup costs: polynomial algorithm [Benoit et al. 2012]
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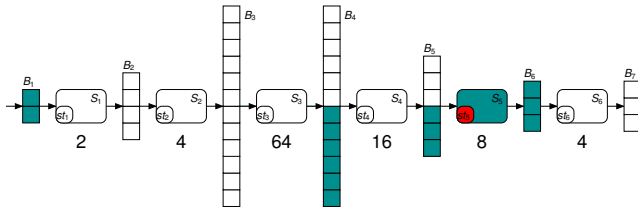


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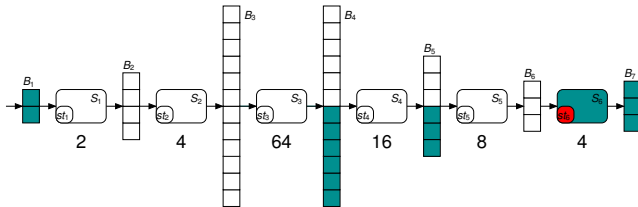


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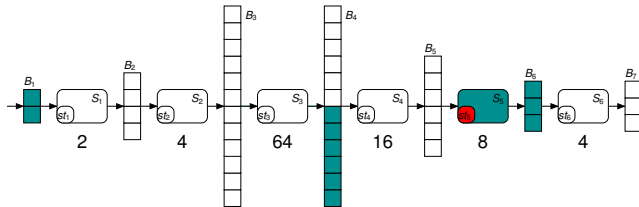
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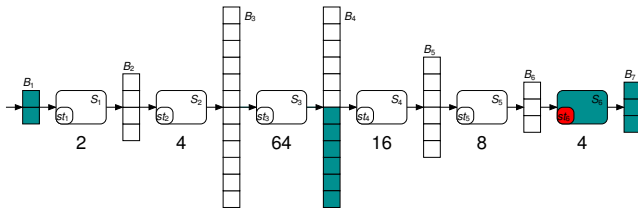


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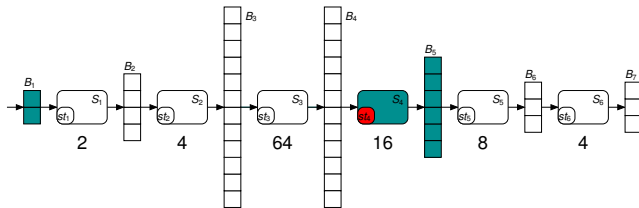


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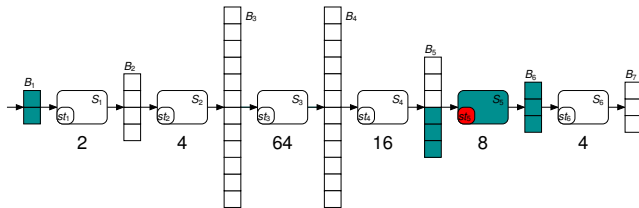


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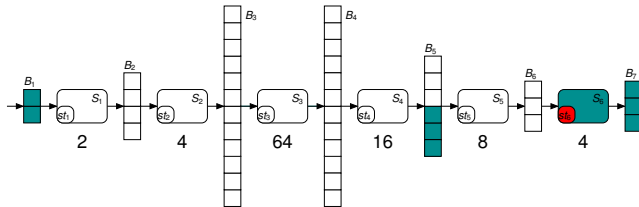


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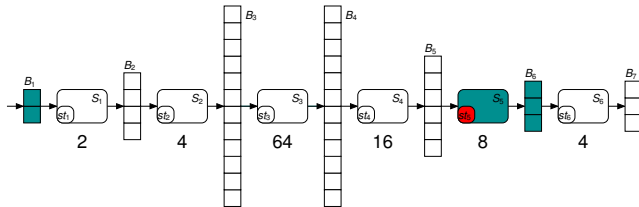


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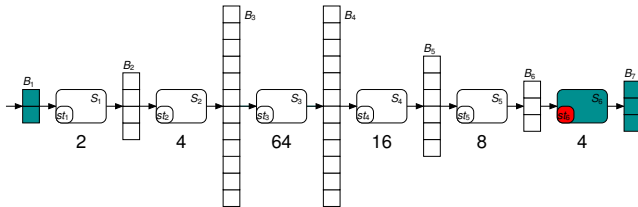


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# Principle



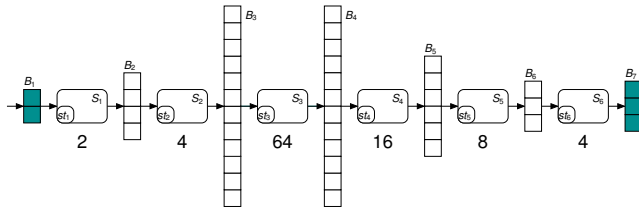
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- Homogeneous setup costs: polynomial algorithm [Benoit et al. 2012]
- When setup costs are heterogeneous ?



$$\Rightarrow \text{COST HOM} = 2/6 + 4/6 + 64/6 + 16/6 + 8/6 + 4/6 = 98/6 = 16.33$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{COST} = 2/2 + 4/4 + 64/12 + 16/6 + 8/3 + 4/3 = 168/12 = 14$$



# Principle

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- Homogeneous setup costs: polynomial algorithm [Benoit et al. 2012]
- When setup costs are heterogeneous ?

Memory constraint:

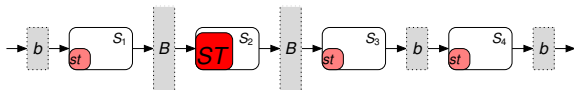
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \delta_i \times b_i \leq M$$

Cost function:

$$C = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{st_i}{\min(b_i, b_{i+1})}$$

**Goal:** Minimize the cost function, given the memory constraint  
⇒ Decide about buffer allocation

## Case study



- One task has a larger setup cost than the others, denoted **ST**
- $\delta_i = 1, 1 \leq i \leq n + 1$

Cost:

$$C = \frac{st}{b} \times (n - 1) + \frac{ST}{B}$$

Memory constraint:

$$M \geq (n - 1)b + 2B$$

- An efficient schedule can be found only if **two consecutive buffers are multiples** [Benoit at al. 2012]:  
 $B = \alpha \times b$ , where  $\alpha$  is an integer (and  $\alpha \geq 1$ )

Bound:  $\alpha \leq \left\lfloor \frac{M - (n-1)b}{2b} \right\rfloor$ , if  $b = 1$

- Replace  $B$  by  $\alpha \times b$ :  $b \leq \frac{M}{(n-1) + 2\alpha}$

## Case study

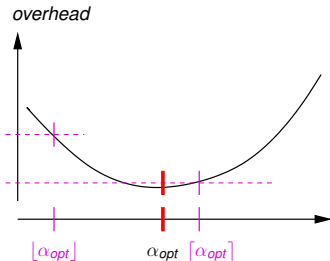


**Assumption:**  $b$  can be rational:  $b = \frac{M}{(n-1)+2\alpha}$

- The cost can then be expressed as a function of  $\alpha$ :

$$C(\alpha) = \frac{1}{M} \left( \frac{ST(n-1+2\alpha)}{\alpha} + st(n-1+2\alpha)(n-1) \right)$$

- $C'(\alpha) = \frac{n-1}{M} \left( 2st - \frac{ST}{\alpha^2} \right)$
- $C'(\alpha)$  is
  - decreasing for  $1 \leq \alpha \leq \sqrt{\frac{ST}{2st}} = \alpha_{opt}$
  - increasing for  $\alpha \geq \alpha_{opt}$
- If  $\alpha_{opt} > \lfloor \frac{M-(n-1)}{2} \rfloor$ , then we let  $\alpha_{opt} = \lfloor \frac{M-(n-1)}{2} \rfloor$



- Compute the optimal integer values of  $b$  and  $B$  for  $\alpha = \lfloor \alpha_{opt} \rfloor$  and  $\alpha = \lceil \alpha_{opt} \rceil$ , and we keep the choice of  $\alpha$  that minimizes the cost

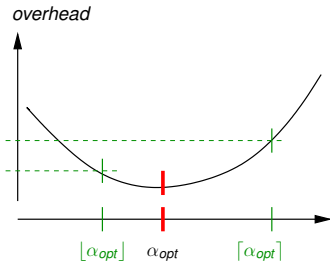
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## All setup costs are non-decreasing



- Setup costs are non-decreasing:  $st_i \leq st_{i+1} \rightsquigarrow b_i \leq b_{i+1}$
- Cost:

$$C = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{st_i}{\min(b_i, b_{i+1})} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{st_i}{b_i},$$

- Buffer sizes are multiples two by two:  $b_i = \prod_{k=1}^i \alpha_k$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq n+1$
- $b_0 = 1$ ,  $b_i = \alpha_i b_{i-1}$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq n+1$
- Let  $P_a^b = \prod_{\ell=a}^b \alpha_\ell$ , and  $P_a^a = 1$  for  $a > b$ .
- Due to memory constraint:  $\alpha_1 = \frac{M}{\delta_1 + \sum_{k=2}^{n+1} P_2^k \delta_k}$
- $\alpha_i = \sqrt{\frac{\delta_{i-1}}{st_{i-1}} \frac{\sum_{k=i}^n st_k P_{k+1}^n}{P_{i+1}^n \sum_{k=i}^{n+1} P_{i+1}^k \delta_k}}$
- $\alpha_n = \sqrt{\frac{\delta_{n-1}}{st_{n-1}} \frac{st_n}{\delta_n + \delta_{n+1}}}$
- $\alpha_{n+1} = 1$  (no gain can be achieved by having a larger last buffer)

The rounding problem remains as the optimal value is rational

## General case

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**Difficulty:** it is no longer possible to foresee the value of  $\min(b_i, b_{i+1})$

**Idea:** Reuse of the theoretical results to compute the  $\alpha_k$ s:

- Sort setup costs and compute the ratios
- Heuristically decide how to choose integer values of buffer size capacities, while not exceeding the total memory capacity

Design of 7 heuristics

### The basic one: SameB

$$b = \left\lfloor \frac{M}{\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \delta_i} \right\rfloor$$

# Heuristics - first series H1

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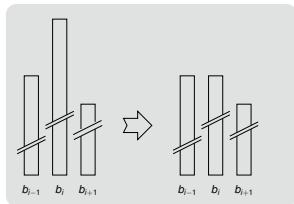
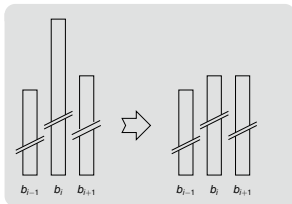
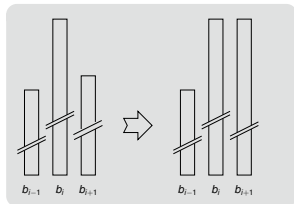


1. Sort the setup values into a non-decreasing order, using a permutation function  $\pi$  such that  $st_{\pi(i)} \leq st_{\pi(j)}$  if  $\pi(i) < \pi(j)$ , for  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$
2. Compute the  $\alpha_k$ -values backwards
3. Round the  $\alpha_k$ s: **Flavours: Up, Down, Closest**
4. Compute buffer sizes
5. Adapt buffer sizes

# Heuristics - first series H1



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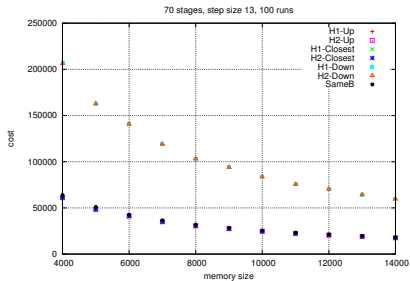
Idea: Include the buffer adaption in the ratio computation

1. Steps 1-4 of H1
2. For each stage  $S_i$  with  $st_i = \max(st_{i-1}, st_i, st_{i+1})$  ( $1 < i < n$ ): force  $b_{i+1}$  to take the value of  $b_i$
3. Re-evaluate the  $\alpha_k$ 's by recomputing  $\alpha_1$
4. Flavours: UP, Down, Closest

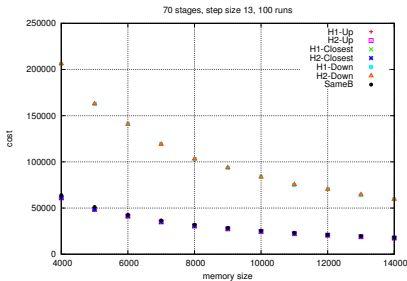
# Results for non-decreasing setup costs



## Mean cost over 100 applications



zigzag: random values



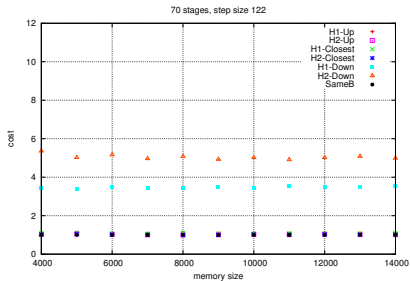
wave shape: setup cost types

70 stages

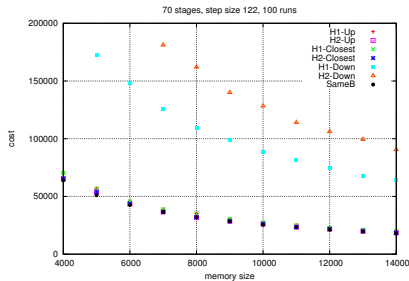
# Results for the general case (1)



Setup costs are often in the same order of magnitude, tend to zigzag



1 random application

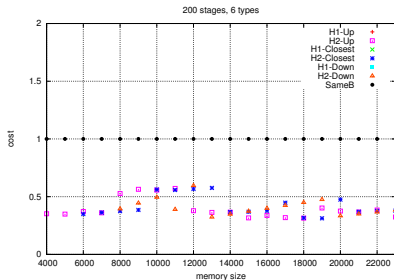


Mean cost over 100 applications

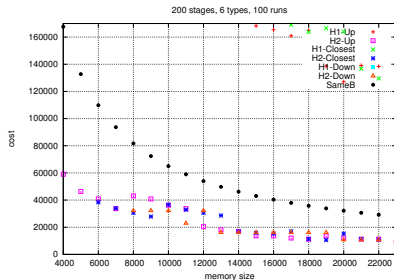
70 stages

## Results for the general case (2)

Successive setup costs differ at least one order of magnitude or are the same; peaks appear



1 random application, 6 setup types



Mean cost over 100 applications

200 stages. Zoom on H2 and SameB



Based on the optimal rational solution: proposition of an efficient integer solution

- Importance of the rounding policy
- Applications with little variance:  
SameB heuristic achieves comparable results to the Up and Closest (resp. H1 and H2) heuristics
- Applications with at least one peak:
  - SameB approach fails completely in performance
  - H2 up to 3.3 times better