

A new Constraint Programming model for the Multiple Constant Multiplication

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Théo Cantaloube¹ Xiao Peng² Christine Solnon¹ Anastasia Volkova¹

¹CITI, INSA Lyon / Inria, France

²LAAS-CNRS, Toulouse, France

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Introduction



Introduction

- Embedded computations everywhere
- Arithmetic operators tailored to applications' requirements

Multiple Constant Multiplication problem (MCM)

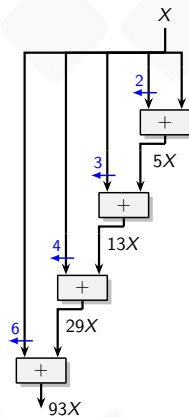
- Multiplying an integer by several fixed integer target constants
- Exploiting *a priori* knowledge of constants to design optimized implementations
- Avoiding costly generic multiplier

MCM is used in:

- Digital Signal Processing for linear digital filter evaluation [Aksoy, 2011; Garcia, 2022; Howard, 2014; Kumm, 2023; Meher, 2011]
- Discrete Transforms (Discrete Cosine, Fast Fourier) [Ghissoni, 2010; Wendt, 2015]
- Inference of Deep Neural Networks [Garcia, 2025; Habermann, 2022]

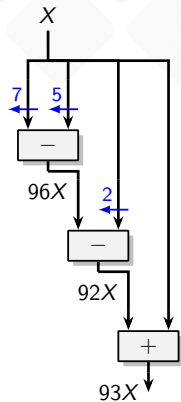
Motivation - Single Constant Multiplication

$$\begin{array}{r}
 X = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline X_6 & X_5 & X_4 & X_3 & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 \times 93 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 \hline
 1 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline X_6 & X_5 & X_4 & X_3 & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 + 0 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline X_6 & X_5 & X_4 & X_3 & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 + 1 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline X_6 & X_5 & X_4 & X_3 & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \leftarrow 2 \\
 + 1 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline X_6 & X_5 & X_4 & X_3 & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \leftarrow 3 \\
 + 1 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline X_6 & X_5 & X_4 & X_3 & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \leftarrow 4 \\
 + 0 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline X_6 & X_5 & X_4 & X_3 & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 + 1 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline X_6 & X_5 & X_4 & X_3 & X_2 & X_1 & X_0 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \leftarrow 6
 \end{array}$$



Binary approach for $T = \{93\}$:
 $93_{dec} = 1011101_{bin}$

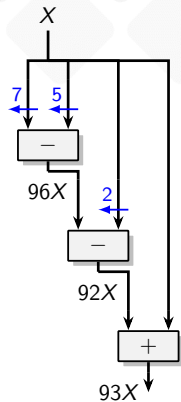
Motivation - Single Constant Multiplication



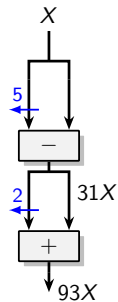
Canonical Sign Digit (CSD) approach for $T = \{93\}$:

$$93_{dec} = 10\bar{1}00\bar{1}01_{CSD}$$

Motivation - Single Constant Multiplication

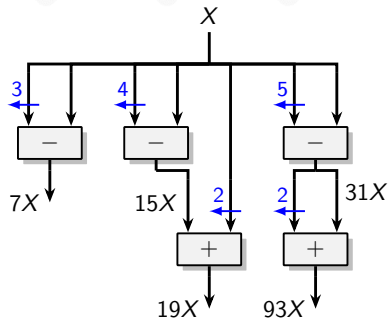


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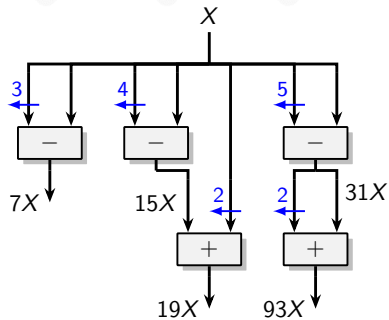
Optimal graph for $T = \{93\}$

Motivation - Multiple Constant Multiplication

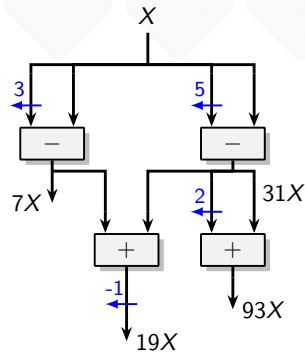


(a) Single constant approach for $T = \{7, 19, 93\}$

Motivation - Multiple Constant Multiplication

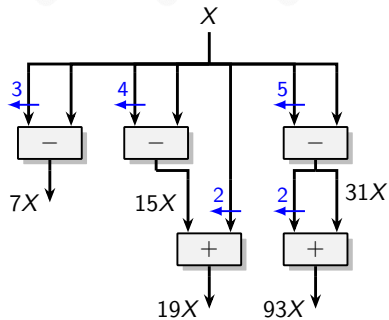


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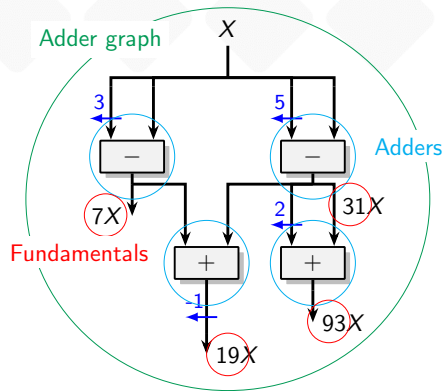


(b) Optimal graph for $T = \{7, 19, 93\}$

Motivation - Multiple Constant Multiplication



(a) Single constant approach for $T = \{7, 19, 93\}$



(b) Optimal graph for $T = \{7, 19, 93\}$

Formal definition - MCM problem

- Optimization metric: number of adders
- ⚠ Doesn't perfectly reflect hardware cost but good proxy variable

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Definition (MCM-Adders)

Problem: MCM-Adders(T, w)

Input: Target constant set T ,
word-length w

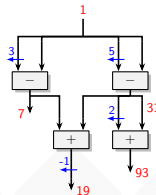
Output: MCM implementation
producing T with fundamentals
written on w bits minimizing
adders number

Input:

$$T = \{7, 19, 93\},$$

$$w = 5$$

Output:



Formal definition - MCM problem

- Optimization metric: number of adders
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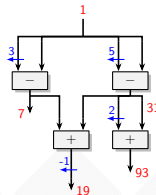
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$w = 5$

Output:



Exact and declarative approaches:

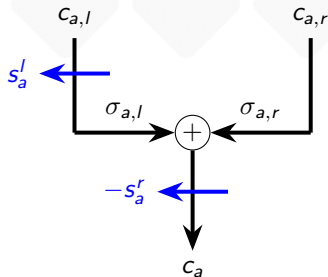
- Already modeled with ILP
[Kumm, 2018; Garcia, 2023]
- Already modeled with SAT
[Fiege, 2024]
- Waiting to be modeled with CP!



CP Model



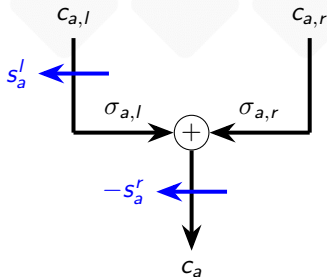
Constraints - Adder modeling



$$c_a = 2^{-s_a^r}((-1)^{\sigma_{a,l}} 2^{s_a^l} c_{a,l} + (-1)^{\sigma_{a,r}} c_{a,r})$$

Left shift only on the left input or
(exclusive) right shift on both inputs
[Dempster, 1994]

Constraints - Adder modeling



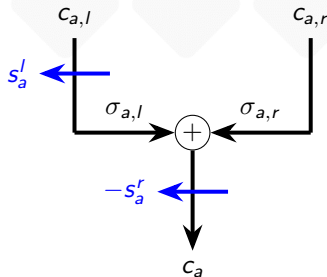
$$\text{ILP: } \underbrace{2^{s_a^r} c_a}_{c_a^{nsh}} = \underbrace{(-1)^{\sigma_{a,l}} 2^{s_a^l} c_{a,l}}_{c_{a,l}^{sh,sg}} + \underbrace{(-1)^{\sigma_{a,r}} c_{a,r}}_{c_{a,r}^{sh,sg}}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{lll} c_a^{nsh} = 2^s c_a & \text{if } \Psi_{a,s} = 1 & w+1 \text{ var} \quad 2w+1 \text{ cstr} \\ c_{a,l}^{sh} = 2^s c_{a,l} & \text{if } \Phi_{a,s} = 1 & w+1 \text{ var} \quad 2w+1 \text{ cstr} \\ c_{a,i}^{sh,sg} = -c_{a,i}^{sh} & \text{iff } \sigma_{a,i} = 1 & 4 \text{ var} \quad 4 \text{ cstr} \end{array} \right.$$

$$c_a = 2^{-s_a^r} ((-1)^{\sigma_{a,l}} 2^{s_a^l} c_{a,l} + (-1)^{\sigma_{a,r}} c_{a,r})$$

Left shift only on the left input or
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$$\text{CP: } \underbrace{2^{s_a^r} c_a}_{k_a} = \underbrace{(-1)^{\sigma_{a,l}} 2^{s_a^l} c_{a,l}}_{k_{a,l}} + \underbrace{(-1)^{\sigma_{a,r}} c_{a,r}}_{k_{a,r}}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{lll} c_a^{nsh} = k_a \times c_a & 2 \text{ var } \quad 1 \text{ cstr} \\ c_{a,i}^{sh,sg} = k_{a,i} \times c_{a,i} & 4 \text{ var } \quad 2 \text{ cstr} \end{array} \right.$$

Constraints - Adder modeling

$$\underbrace{2^{s_a^r}}_{k_a} c_a = \underbrace{(-1)^{\sigma_{a,l}} 2^{s_a^l}}_{k_{a,l}} c_{a,l} + \underbrace{(-1)^{\sigma_{a,r}}}_{k_{a,r}} c_{a,r}$$

$$\underbrace{c_a^{nsh}}_{c_a^{nsh}} \quad \underbrace{c_{a,l}^{sh,sg}}_{c_{a,l}^{sh,sg}} \quad \underbrace{c_{a,r}^{sh,sg}}_{c_{a,r}^{sh,sg}}$$

Variables:

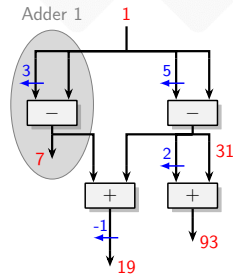
- $c_a \in \llbracket 1, 2^w \rrbracket$: fundamental produced by a
- $c_{a,l}, c_{a,r} \in \llbracket 1, 2^w \rrbracket$: left and right inputs
- $k_a \in \{2^s \mid s \in \llbracket 0, w \rrbracket\}$
- $k_{a,l} \in \{-2^s, 2^s \mid s \in \llbracket 0, w \rrbracket\}, k_{a,r} \in \{-1, 1\}$
- $c_a^{nsh} \in \llbracket 0, 2^{w+1} \rrbracket$
- $c_{a,l}^{sh,sg} \in \llbracket -2^{w+1}, 2^{w+1} \rrbracket, c_{a,r}^{sh,sg} \in \llbracket -2^w, 2^w \rrbracket$

Constraints:

C1: $k_a \times c_a = c_a^{nsh}$

C2: $k_{a,l} \times c_{a,l} = c_{a,l}^{sh,sg}$ and $k_{a,r} \times c_{a,r} = c_{a,r}^{sh,sg}$

C3: $c_{a,l}^{sh,sg} + c_{a,r}^{sh,sg} = c_a^{nsh}$



Adder 1:

- $k_1 \times \mathbf{c}_1 = k_{1,l} \times \mathbf{c}_{1,l} + k_{1,r} \times \mathbf{c}_{1,r}$
 $2^0 \times \mathbf{7} = (-1)^{02^3} \times \mathbf{1} + (-1)^1 \times \mathbf{1}$

Constraints - MCM consistency

Variables:

- $ind_{a,l}, ind_{a,r} \in \llbracket 0, a-1 \rrbracket$: index of left or right input of adder a

$ind_{a,i} < a \Rightarrow$ avoiding cycles

Constraints:

C4: $c_{a,l} = c_{ind_{a,l}} \wedge c_{a,r} = c_{ind_{a,r}}$

C5: $T \subseteq \{c_a \mid a \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket\}$

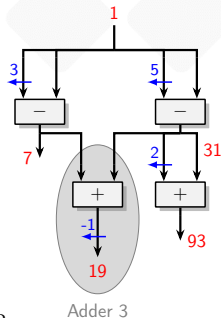
C6: $c_0 = 1$

C7: $\text{allDifferent}((c_a)_{a \in \llbracket 0, N \rrbracket})$

- $T \subseteq \{c_1, c_2, c_3\}$
 $\{7, 19, 93\} \subseteq \{7, 31, 19, 93\}$

Adder 3:

- $7 = c_{3,l} = c_{ind_{3,l}} = c_1$
 $31 = c_{3,r} = c_{ind_{3,r}} = c_2$



a	$ind_{a,l}$	$ind_{a,r}$
1	0	0
2	0	0
3	1	2
4	2	2

Constraints - Reducing space search

Dempster theorems (1994)

[Dempster, 1994]:

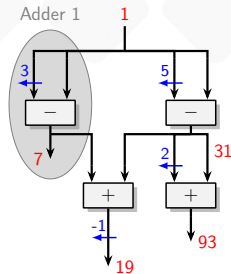
- Positiveness of fundamentals
- Left shift only on the left input or (exclusive) right shift on both inputs
- Oddness of fundamentals

Constraints:

C8: $k_{a,l} > 0 \vee k_{a,r} > 0$

C9: $k_a + k_{a,l} \neq 2$ and 0

C10: $c_a \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$



Adder 1:

- $k_{1,l} = (-1)^0 2^3 = 8 > 0$, $k_{1,r} = (-1)^1 2^0 = -1 < 0$
- $k_1 + k_{1,l} = 2^0 + (-1)^0 2^3 = 1 + 8 = 9 \neq 0$ and 2
- $c_1 = 7 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$

Constraints - Free adders

Constraint:

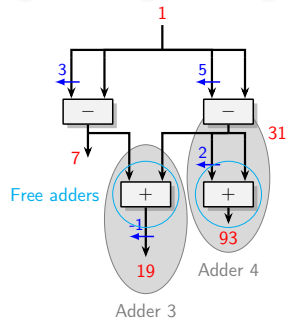
$$\mathbf{C11:} \quad (\nexists a' \in \llbracket a + 1, N \rrbracket \mid \text{ind}_{a',l} = a \vee \text{ind}_{a',r} = a) \implies c_a \in T$$

Definition (Free adders)

Free adders are not connected to any other adder.

Theorem (Free target constant)

*In optimal adder graphs,
 $\forall a \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket$,
 a is a free adder $\implies$
 c_a is a target constant*



- 3 is a free adder $\implies c_3 = 19 \in \{7, 19, 93\} = T$
- 4 is a free adder $\implies c_4 = 93 \in \{7, 19, 93\} = T$

CP model - MCM problem

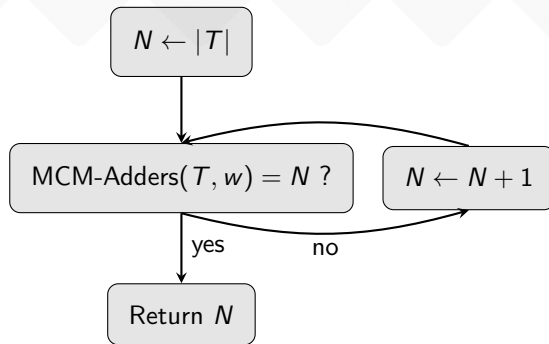
Data and variables
$N \in \mathbb{N}$: adders number; $w \in \mathbb{N}$: fundamentals word length; $T \subset \mathbb{N}$: target constants set;
$\forall a \in [0, N]$, $c_a \in [1, 2^w - 1]$: fundamental of adder a with $c_0 = 1$; $\forall a \in [1, N]$, $c_a^{nsh} \in [0, 2^{w+1}]$: value of adder a before negative shift; $\forall a \in [1, N]$, $c_{a,l}, c_{a,r} \in [1, 2^w - 1]$: value of input i of adder a ; $\forall a \in [1, N]$, $c_{a,l}^{sh,sg}, c_{a,r}^{sh,sg} \in [-2^{w+1}, 2^{w+1}]$: signed / shifted value from left or right input of adder a ; $\forall a \in [1, N]$, $k_{a,l} \in \{-2^s, 2^s \mid s \in [0, w]\}$: value of sign and left shift applied to $c_{a,l}$; $\forall a \in [1, N]$, $k_{a,r} \in \{-1, 1\}$: value of sign applied to $c_{a,r}$; $\forall a \in [1, N]$, $k_a \in \{-2^s, 2^s \mid s \in [0, w]\}$: value of right shift applied to c_a^{nsh} ; $\forall a \in [1, N]$, $ind_{a,l}, ind_{a,r} \in [0, a - 1]$: index of left or right input of adder a ; $\forall a \in [1, N]$, $l_a \in [0, N - a]$: number of adder using c_a as an input;

(a) Data / Variables of the CP model and their meaning

- C1:** $\forall a \in [1, N], k_a \times c_a = c_a^{nsh}$
C2: $\forall a \in [1, N], \begin{cases} k_{a,l} \times c_{a,l} = c_{a,l}^{sh,sg} \\ k_{a,r} \times c_{a,r} = c_{a,r}^{sh,sg} \end{cases}$
C3: $\forall a \in [1, N], c_{a,l}^{sh,sg} + c_{a,r}^{sh,sg} = c_a^{nsh}$
C4: $\forall a \in [1, N], c_{a,l} = c_{ind_{a,l}} \wedge c_{a,r} = c_{ind_{a,r}}$
C5: $T \subseteq \{c_a \mid a \in [1, N]\}$
C6: $c_0 = 1$
C7: $\text{allDifferent}((c_a)_{a \in [0, N]})$
C8: $\forall a \in [1, N], k_{a,l} > 0 \vee k_{a,r} > 0$
C9: $\forall a \in [1, N], \begin{cases} k_a + k_{a,l} \neq 2 \\ k_a + k_{a,r} \neq 0 \end{cases}$
C10: $\forall a \in [1, N], c_a \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$
C11: $\forall a \in [1, N], (\nexists a' \in [a + 1, N] \mid ind_{a',l} = a \vee ind_{a',r} = a) \implies c_a \in T$

(b) CP model for the Decision problem, when the number of adders is fixed

From decision to optimization



Outer loop process

2 types of minimization:

- Outer loop: Transforming minimization into a succession of decision problems
- Minimization: Integrating the minimization into an objective function

Implementations and experiments

Our implementations:

- CP – Choco: outer-loop CP model implemented in Java with Choco-solver
- CP – PicatSAT: outer-loop model implemented in MiniZinc (CP) + PicatSAT + KisSAT

Comparisons with:

- ILP – [Garcia, 2023]: minimization ILP model implemented in Julia with Gurobi
- SAT – [Fiege, 2024]: outer-loop SAT model implemented in C++ with Cadical

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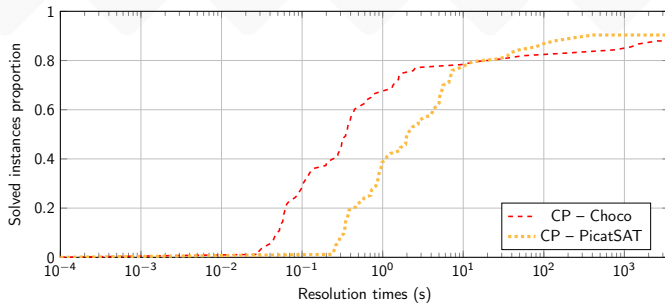
- Experiments on Intel® Xeon® Gold 6444Y (16 cores, 32 threads, 45 MB L3 cache) with 256 GB RAM
- Widely-used benchmark extracted from a collection of linear digital filters that can be implemented with MCM [Nanyang Technological University, 2023]:
 - 83 instances
 - $1 \leq |T| \leq 51$
 - $4 \leq w \leq 19$



Results



Performance results - MCM problem

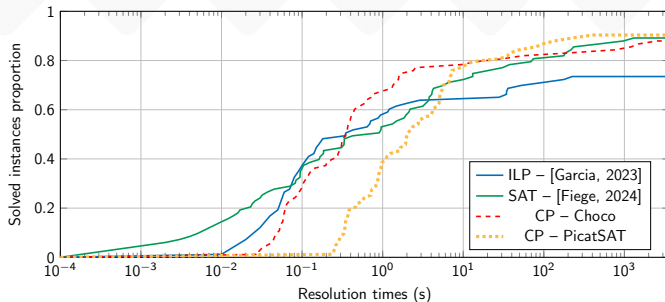


Distribution of the solved instances proportion through time

■ Time-out set to 1h

Type	Solved
CP – Choco	88%
CP – PicatSAT	90%

Performance results - MCM problem



■ Time-out set to 1h

Type	Solved
CP – Choco	88%
CP – PicatSAT	90%
ILP – [Garcia, 2023]	68%
SAT – [Fiege, 2024]	89%

Distribution of the solved instances proportion through time

Pseudo-polynomial-time preprocessing step

Problem: T-OPT

Input: Target constant set T and word-length w

Question: Do we have $\text{MCM-Adders}(T, w) = |T|$?

Theorem (T-OPT)

T-OPT can be solved with a pseudo-polynomial algorithm in $O(|T|^3 \log(w))$ (proof in paper).

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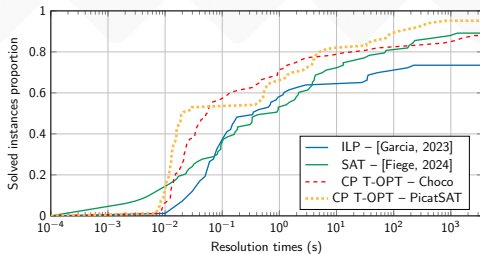
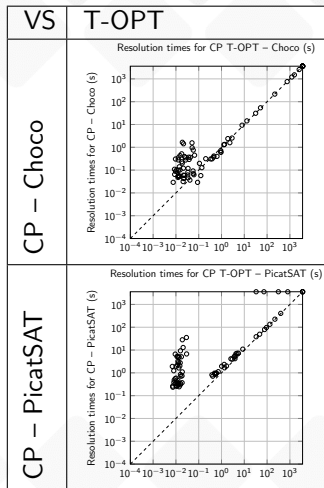
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Consequence $\Rightarrow$ preprocessing step:

- If $\text{T-OPT}(T, w) = \text{true}$, then stop.
- If $\text{T-OPT}(T, w) = \text{false}$, then launch CP model with constraint $\text{MCM-Adders}(T, w) > |T|$.

T-OPT is true for 44 out of the 83 MCM instances of the benchmark!

Performance results with preprocessing step - MCM problem



Distribution of the solved instances proportion through time

Our models are very competitive with state-of-the-art!



Conclusion



Conclusion

Takeaway

- On many combinatorial problems, modeling with ILP is very fastidious in comparison with CP
- Very constrained specific cases lead to easy resolution

Further work and perspectives

- Fixed adder graph topology MCM problem is easier. Could we test every adder graph topology ?
- Need to improve scalability with respect to the word-length (with $w > 20$ bits)

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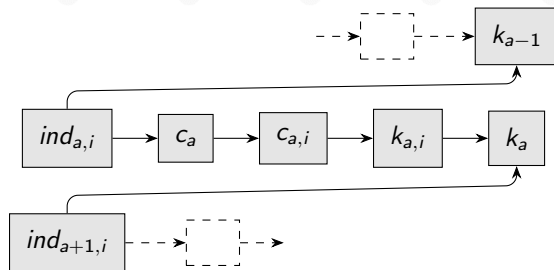
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Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?

Appendix 1 - CP model - Search strategy

- Random exploration of the search space rarely produces valid solutions. Fixing adder 2 before adder 1 $\rightarrow$ failure
- Solution: constructing the adder graph incrementally
- Lower Bound First strategy



Appendix 2 - ILP model - MCM problem

Constants/Variables and their meaning

$N \in \mathbb{N}$: number of adders;

$C \in \mathbb{N}^{N_o}$: set of odd target constants;

$w \in \mathbb{N}$: fundamentals' word length;

$c_a \in [0; 2^w]$, $\forall a \in [0; N]$: fundamental, or constant, obtained in adder a with c_0 fixed to the value 1, corresponding to the input;

$c_a^{\text{ns}} \in [0; 2^{w+1}]$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$: constant obtained in adder a before the negative shift;

$c_a^{\text{odd}} \in \mathbb{N}$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$: variable used to ensure that c_a is odd;

$c_{a,i} \in [0; 2^w]$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$, $i \in \{l, r\}$: constant of adder from input i before adder a ;

$c_{a,l}^{\text{sh}} \in [0; 2^{w+1}]$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$: constant of adder from left input before adder a and after the left shift; for simplification $c_{a,r}^{\text{sh}}$ is an alias of $c_{a,l}$;

$c_{a,i}^{\text{sh},\text{sg}} \in [-2^{w+1}; 2^{w+1}]$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$, $i \in \{l, r\}$: signed constant of adder from input i before adder a and after the shift;

$\sigma_{a,i} \in \{0, 1\}$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$, $i \in \{l, r\}$: sign of i input of adder a . 0 for + and 1 for -;

$c_{a,i,k} \in \{0, 1\}$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$, $i \in \{l, r\}$, $\forall k \in [0; a-1]$: 1 if input i of adder a is adder k ;

$\Phi_{a,s} \in \{0, 1\}$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$, $s \in [0; w]$: 1 if left shift before adder a is equal to s ;

$\Psi_{a,s} \in \{0, 1\}$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$, $s \in [0; w]$: 1 if negative shift of adder a is equal to s ;

$o_{a,j} \in \{0, 1\}$, $\forall a \in [1; N]$, $j \in [1; N_o]$: 1 if adder a is equal to the j -th target constant.

(a) Data / Variables of the ILP model and their meaning

$$c_0 = 1 \quad (C1.1)$$

$$c_a^{\text{ns}} = c_{a,l}^{\text{sh},\text{sg}} + c_{a,r}^{\text{sh},\text{sg}} \quad \forall a \in [1; N] \quad (C1.2)$$

$$c_a^{\text{ns}} = 2^{s_a} c_a \quad \text{if } \Psi_{a,s} = 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N], s \in [0; w] \quad (C1.3)$$

$$\sum_{s=0}^w \Psi_{a,s} = 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N] \quad (C1.4)$$

$$\Phi_{a,0} + \Psi_{a,s} = 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N] \quad (C1.5)$$

$$c_a = 2c_a^{\text{odd}} + 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N] \quad (C1.6)$$

$$c_{a,i} = c_k \quad \text{if } c_{a,i,k} = 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N], i \in \{l, r\}, k \in [0; a-1] \quad (C1.7)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{a-1} c_{a,i,k} = 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N], i \in \{l, r\} \quad (C1.8)$$

$$c_{a,l}^{\text{sh}} = 2^s c_{a,l} \quad \text{if } \Phi_{a,s} = 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N], s \in [0; w] \quad (C1.9)$$

$$\sum_{s=0}^w \Phi_{a,s} = 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N] \quad (C1.10)$$

$$c_{a,i}^{\text{sh},\text{sg}} = -c_{a,i}^{\text{sh}} \quad \text{if } \sigma_{a,i} = 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N], i \in \{l, r\} \quad (C1.11)$$

$$c_{a,i}^{\text{sh},\text{sg}} = c_{a,i}^{\text{sh}} \quad \text{if } \sigma_{a,i} = 0 \quad \forall a \in [1; N], i \in \{l, r\} \quad (C1.12)$$

$$\sigma_{a,l} + \sigma_{a,r} \leq 1 \quad \forall a \in [1; N] \quad (C1.13)$$

$$c_a = C_j \quad \text{if } o_{a,j} = 1 \quad \forall a \in [0; N], j \in [1; |C|] \quad (C1.14)$$

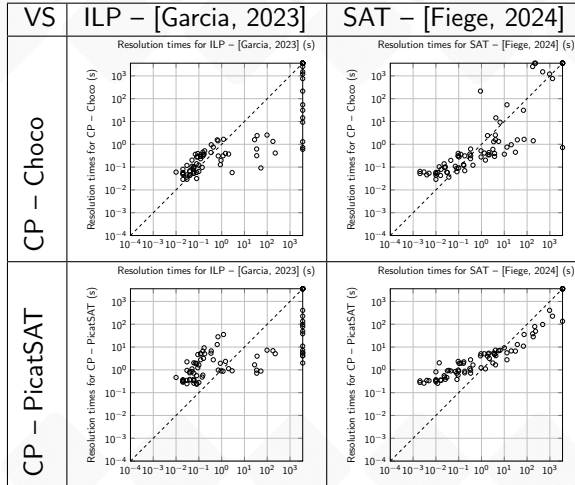
$$\sum_{a=0}^N o_{a,j} = 1 \quad \forall j \in [1; |C|] \quad (C1.15)$$

(b) ILP model for the Decision problem, when the number of adders is fixed to N

Appendix 3 - Comparison with state-of-the-art solvers

	ILP – [Garcia, 2023]	CP – Choco
Minimization	Integrated into the objective function	Outer loop
Intermediate results	Yes	No
Number of variables	$\sim (10 + N + w + T)N$	$\sim 12N$
Number of constraints	$\sim (10 + 2N + 4w + 2 T)N + T $	$\sim 13N$

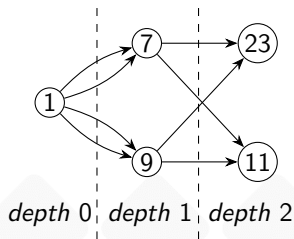
Appendix 4 - Performance results



Appendix 5 - Polynomial-time preprocessing step

$$\text{can}(x, y, z) =$$

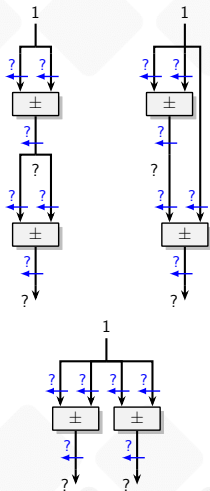
$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \exists (\sigma_1, \sigma_2) \in \\ \{0, 1\}^2 \setminus (1, 1) \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{l} z = \text{odd}((-1)^{\sigma_1}x + (-1)^{\sigma_2}y) \\ \text{or } (-1)^{\sigma_1}x = \text{odd}(z - (-1)^{\sigma_2}y) \\ \text{or } (-1)^{\sigma_2}y = \text{odd}(z - (-1)^{\sigma_1}x) \end{array} \right. \right)$$



```

1 function MCM-Adderspseudo-poly( $T$ )
2   Let  $R = \{1\}$  and  $W = \{1\}$ 
3   while  $W \neq \emptyset$  do
4     Pop  $x$  from  $W$ 
5     forall  $z \in T \setminus R$  do
6       forall  $y \in R \setminus W$  do
7         if can( $x, y, z$ ) then
8            $\text{prec}(z) \leftarrow (x, y)$ 
9            $R \leftarrow R \cup \{z\}$ 
10           $W \leftarrow W \cup \{z\}$ 
11          Break
12   if  $R = T$  then
13     return ( $\text{True}, \text{prec}$ )
14   return ( $\text{False}, \emptyset$ )
  
```

Appendix 6 - Motivation - Fixing the topology



Interesting results but can we speed up even further computations?

- Fixing the topology make MCM "easier" (still NP-complete)
- **Idea:** testing the MCM problem with fixed topology with every adder graph topology

```
1 function MCM-Adders( $T$ )
2   Let  $n = |T|$ 
3   while true do
4     forall adder graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices do
5       if MCM-Adders-FixedTopology( $T, w, G$ ) = true then
6         return  $G$ 
7      $n \leftarrow n + 1$ 
```

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