

Optimization of an Integrated Lot Sizing and Cutting Stock Problem in the Paper Industry

S.C. POLTRONIERE^{1*}, S.A. ARAUJO² and K.C. POLDI³

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ABSTRACT. Two important optimization problems occur in the planning and production scheduling in paper industries: the lot sizing problem and the cutting stock problem. The lot sizing problem must determine the quantity of jumbos of different types of paper to be produced in each machine over a finite planning horizon. These jumbos are then cut in order to meet the demand of items for each period. In this paper, we deal with the integration of these two problems, aiming to minimize costs of production and inventory of jumbos, as well as the trim loss of paper generated during the cutting process. Two mathematical models for the integrated problem are considered, and these models are solved both heuristically and using an optimization package. Attempting to get lower bounds for the problem, relaxed versions of the models also have been solved. Finally, computational experiments are presented and discussed.

Keywords: integrated problem, cutting stock problem, lot sizing problem, paper industry.

1 INTRODUCTION

The relevance of studying problems, that arises in the planning and production scheduling of manufacturing industries, comes from the need of these industries to optimize their processes and resources. In the paper industry, for example, the production planning involves decisions of jumbos production (big reels of paper) to subsequently be cut, producing final items, which can be smaller reels or rectangles (A4, letter, cutsizes, etc).

The Cutting Stock Problem (CSP) consists in the optimization of the cutting process of major units (objects), available for the production of a set of smaller units (items). The demand for the items are known and must be fulfilled. The objective is to optimize some criteria, such as minimize the material trim-loss. Such problems are being intensively investigated in the last decades,

*Corresponding author: Sônia Cristina Poltroniere.

¹Departamento de Matemática, Faculdade de Ciências, UNESP – Universidade Estadual Paulista “Júlio de Mesquita Filho”, 17033-360 Bauru, SP, Brazil. E-mail: soniacps@fc.unesp.br

²Departamento de Matemática Aplicada, IBILCE, UNESP – Universidade Estadual Paulista “Júlio de Mesquita Filho”, 15054-000 S.J. Rio Preto, SP, Brazil. E-mail: saraujo@ibilce.unesp.br

³IMECC – Instituto de Matemática, Estatística e Computação Científica, UNICAMP – Universidade Estadual de Campinas, 13083-859 Campinas, SP, Brazil. E-mail: kellypoldi@ime.unicamp.br

since Gilmore & Gomory's [7, 8, 9] pioneer works which proposed the column generation procedure, allowing the solution of real problems.

The Lot Sizing Problem (LSP) consists in determining the amount of products to be produced in each period along a finite time planning horizon, in order to attend a known demand and optimize an objective function, such as minimizing the production and inventory costs [25]. Reviews on the LSP can be found in Buschkühl et al. [2], Drexl & Kimms [4], Jans & Degraeve [13] and Karimi et al. [15].

In general, the LSP and the CSP are treated separately and sequentially. Firstly, the LSP is solved and subsequently, the CSP is solved. However, this approach may increase the total cost, especially if the cutting process is economically relevant. Therefore, researches started to consider the integration of these two problems.

Farley [5] published a study on the CSP integrated to the planning and scheduling problem applied to the clothing industry. In the paper industry, we can cite the works of Respício & Captivo [22] which present a mathematical model and a branch-and-price method. Also regarding the paper industry, Correia et al. [3] presented a heuristic procedure to generate cutting patterns which are added in a linear programming model. Still considering applications in the paper industry, Poltroniere et al. [19] proposed a mathematical model which considers the integration of the LSP and the one-dimensional CSP in a planning horizon divided into periods. Planning decisions of jumbos manufacturing and the cutting stage are interdependent problems. Both are not trivial combinatorial optimization problems. The authors proposed two heuristic methods for the solution based on the Lagrangian relaxation of the integration constraints, which proved to be appropriated to address the integrated problem.

In 2006, Gramani & França [10] studied the integration of the LSP and the two-dimensional CSP applied to the furniture industry. Extensions of the model proposed in 2006 and new solution approaches were proposed in Gramani et al. [11, 12]. In 2008, Ghidini [6] proposed a model for the integrated problem which enables the anticipation of some products and inventory, and two heuristic methods to solve a simplified version of the mathematical model. Santos et al. [23] presented a mixed integer optimization model for the integrated problem in the furniture industry, where two sets of previously generated cutting patterns were considered. Alem & Morabito [1] proposed three robust modeling to deal with uncertainties on demand and costs, also for a furniture industry.

Leão [16] studied mathematical formulations for the LSP coupled with the one-dimensional CSP. Three variations were considered, regarding the number of available machines and the number of types of objects in stock. They also presented a column generation procedure to solve the mathematical model proposed by Poltroniere et al. [19]. In the present paper we have implemented a similar column generation procedure.

Recently, Silva et al. [24] proposed two integer programming models for the integrated two-dimensional cutting stock and lot sizing problem. In both of the models, the anticipation of the production of items and the storage of unused objects are allowed. Motivated by challenges that

arise in the paper industry, Kallrath et al. [14] presented several approaches to model and solve one-dimensional and two-dimensional CSP.

Considering the related literature, the main contributions of this paper are: the proposition of a new mathematical model based on an arc flow model by Valério de Carvalho [26, 27] for which we have tried to solve considering all the possible arcs (columns) and using an optimization package; the extension of the Lagrangian heuristic proposed by Poltroniere et al. [19], allowing anticipation on the cut of some items between periods; the computational experiments that show the quality of the proposed approaches both for solving the problem and for obtaining lower bounds. We remark that the present paper is an extension of two previous conference papers: Poltroniere et al. [20] and Poltroniere et al. [21].

This paper is organized as follows: Section 2 presents the mathematical models considered for the integrated problem. Section 3 provides a description of three methods to solve the proposed models. Computational experiments are presented and discussed in Section 4 and in Section 5, the main conclusions of this research are presented.

2 MATHEMATICAL MODELS FOR THE INTEGRATED PROBLEM

In Poltroniere et al. [19], the integrated problem has been modeled based on Gilmore & Gomory's [8] approach, assuming a stock of different width jumbos in limited quantities. Their model is presented in Section 2.1 In Section 2.2, a new integrated model is presented based on Valério de Carvalho's [26, 27] approach.

2.1 Integrated model using the approach of Gilmore & Gomory (LCGG)

In the industrial process of production and cutting of paper, the LSP is considered to decide the weight of jumbos (big reels of paper) to be produced in each period of a horizon planning. The jumbos are produced in parallel machines, which are capacited and have particular performances. Later, the jumbos are cut into smaller reels of known widths to fulfill the demand. Paper of different types (thickness) must be produced and changing from one type to another causes significant loss of either paper (setup cost) or machine time (setup time), which are sequence dependents.

Consider the following notation and data.

- Indices:

$t = 1, \dots, T$ number of periods in the planning horizon;

$k = 1, \dots, K$ number of types (thickness) of paper;

$m = 1, \dots, M$ number of paper machines (machine m produces jumbos of width L_m);

$j = 1, \dots, N_m$ number of cutting pattern for jumbos of width L_m ;

$i = 1, \dots, Nf$ number of ordered items;

$\{1, \dots, Nf\} = S(1) \cup S(2) \cup \dots \cup S(K)$, where $S(k) = \{i, \text{ if the item } i \text{ is type } k \text{ paper}\}$.

• Parameters:

- c_{kmt} production cost (ton) for a jumbo of type k paper being made in machine m in period t ;
- h_{kt} inventory cost (ton) for a jumbo of type k paper at the end of period t ;
- s_{kmt} setup cost for machine m producing a jumbo of type k paper in period t ;
- cp_{kt} cost for each centimeter of type k paper lost during the cutting process in period t ;
- σ_{it} cost for stock (ton) of final items i in period t ;
- C_{mt} capacity (ton) of machine m in period t ;
- \mathbf{d}_{kt} vector of ordered quantities of final items of type k paper in period t . Its size is $|S(k)|$ and each component d_{ikt} means the number of final items i , $i \in S(k)$, ordered in period t .
- η_k vector of weight of final items of type k paper (the weight of final item i of type k paper and width l_i is given by $\eta_{ik} = \rho_k l_i$);
- ρ_k specific weight for jumbo of type k paper;
- D_{kt} demand (ton) of type k paper in period t ;
- b_{km} weight of jumbo of type k paper produced in machine m ($b_{km} = L_m \rho_k$);
- f_{km} paper lost (ton) in setting up machine m to produce a jumbo of type k paper;
- \mathbf{a}_{jm} vector associated to cutting pattern j for jumbo of width L_m . Its size is $|S(k)|$ and each component a_{ijm} means the number of items i , $i \in S(k)$, cut according to cutting pattern j for the jumbo of width L_m ;
- p_{jm} paper waste (cm) in cutting pattern j used to cut a jumbo of width L_m ;
- Q big number.

• Decision variables:

- x_{kmt} number of jumbos of type k paper produced in machine m in period t ;
- w_{kmt} number of jumbos of type k paper produced in machine m stored at the end of period t ;
- z_{kmt} binary variables that means if there was production or not of jumbos of type k paper in machine m in period t ;
- y_{kmt}^j number of jumbos of type k paper produced in machine m in period t which are cut according to the cutting pattern j ;
- \mathbf{e}_{kt} vector of final items of type k paper stored at the end of period t . Its size is $|S(k)|$ and each component e_{ikt} means the number of final items i , $i \in S(k)$, stored at the end of period t .

So, the mathematical model for the integrated (CSP and LSP) problem is given by (Poltroniere et al. [19]):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Minimize} \quad & \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{k=1}^K (c_{kmt} x_{kmt} + h_{kt} b_{km} w_{kmt} + s_{kmt} z_{kmt}) \\ & + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i \in S(k)} \sigma_{it} \eta_{ik} e_{ikt} + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K cp_{kt} F(k, t) \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

subject to

$$\sum_{m=1}^M (b_{km} x_{kmt} + b_{km} w_{k,m,t-1} - b_{km} w_{kmt}) = D_{kt}, \quad \forall k, \forall t, \tag{2.2}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^K (b_{km} x_{kmt} + f_{km} z_{kmt}) \leq C_{mt}, \quad \forall m, \forall t, \tag{2.3}$$

$$x_{kmt} \leq Q z_{kmt}, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \forall t, \tag{2.4}$$

$$\sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^{N_m} \mathbf{a}_{jm} y_{kmt}^j + \mathbf{e}_{k,t-1} - \mathbf{e}_{kt} = \mathbf{d}_{kt}, \quad \forall k, \forall t, \tag{2.5}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N_m} y_{kmt}^j = x_{kmt} + w_{k,m,t-1} - w_{kmt}, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \forall t, \tag{2.6}$$

$$w_{km0} = 0, \quad \mathbf{e}_{k0} = 0, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \tag{2.7}$$

$$x_{kmt} \geq 0, \quad w_{kmt} \geq 0 \text{ and integers}, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \forall t, \tag{2.8}$$

$$z_{kmt} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \forall t, \tag{2.9}$$

$$y_{kmt}^j \geq 0, \quad e_{kt} \geq 0, \text{ and integers}, \quad \forall j, \forall k, \forall m, \forall t. \tag{2.10}$$

The objective function (2.1) is a composition of various costs: jumbo production and inventory costs, setup costs, final item inventory costs and waste cost in a cutting process, where the waste is given by $F(k, t) = \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^{N_m} p_{jm} y_{kmt}^j$. The inventory balancing constraints are given in (2.2), i.e., the total quantity produced (ton) plus the stock from the previous period which have to meet the demand plus the stock for the next time period. Parameter D_{kt} depends on the unknown waste in the cutting process. As defined, it should be $D_{kt} = \sum_{i \in S(K)} \eta_{ik} d_{ikt} + \text{waste}$. On the other hand, parameter D_{kt} can be determined by $D_{kt} = \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^{N_m} b_{km} y_{kmt}^j$.

Constraints (2.3) assure that the capacity of paper machines must be respected in each period, considering the total quantity of produced paper and the waste of paper due to changing types. Constraints (2.4) are set $z_{kmt} = 1$ in case of $x_{kmt} > 0$. If $x_{kmt} = 0$, then optimality criterium forces $z_{kmt} = 0$. Constraints in (2.5) are the item inventory balancing equations. Constraints (2.6) limit the number of jumbos cut, which were previously produced. These are the coupling constraints that involve decisions concerning the production of jumbos and the cutting of them. Constraints (2.7)-(2.10) define the domain of the decision variables.

2.2 Integrated model using the approach of Valério de Carvalho (LCVC)

Valério de Carvalho [26] proposes an alternative formulation for the CSP, considering stock of identical objects. It is a problem of minimal flow with additional constraints imposing the fulfill of demand. The extension of this model, in order to consider several types of stock objects is presented in Valério de Carvalho [27], and this is the approach used in the integrated model proposed in this paper.

In addition to the parameters and decision variables defined in Section 2.1, consider L_{max} the width of the larger jumbo in stock; the set of vertices $V = \{0, 1, \dots, L_{max}\}$; the set of arcs $A = \{(d, e) : 0 \leq d < e \leq L_{max} \text{ and } e - d = l_i \text{ for every } 1 \leq i \leq Nf\}$, which means that there is an oriented arc between two vertices if there is an item of the corresponding size. Also consider extra arcs between $(d, d + 1, d = 0, 1, \dots, L_{max} - 1)$ related to wastes in the cutting process. The number of variables is polynomial, as a function of the width of the jumbos and the number of items, and is on the order $O(Nf \cdot L_{max})$. Some reduction criteria proposed in Valério de Carvalho [26, 27] were implemented.

Then, determining a valid cutting pattern for jumbo of width L_m is modeled as the problem of determining a path between the vertices 0 and L_m in the graph $G = (V, A)$. The arcs which form a path define a cutting pattern and the length of these arcs define the size of the items to be cut. The decision variable y_{kijt} represents the number of items of type k paper and width $j - i$ cut in the cutting pattern in period t . Furthermore, Fl_{kmt} is the number of jumbos of type k paper produced in machine m cut in period t (can be seen as a feedback arc, from vertex L_m to vertex 0).

The proposed model, called LCVC (Lot Cutting Valério de Carvalho), is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Minimize } & \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{k=1}^K (c_{kmt} x_{kmt} + h_{kt} b_{km} w_{kmt} + s_{kmt} z_{kmt}) \\
 & + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{i \in S(k)} \sigma_{it} \eta_{ik} e_{ikt} + \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K c p_{kt} \\
 & \times \left(\sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{j=1}^{L_{max}} \left(L_m Fl_{kmt} - \sum_{i=1}^{Nf} \sum_{j=1}^{L_{max}} \sum_{(j, j+l_i) \in A} l_i y_{k, j, j+l_i, t} \right) \right) \tag{2.11}
 \end{aligned}$$

subject to

$$\sum_{m=1}^M (b_{km}x_{kmt} + b_{km}w_{k,m,t-1} - b_{km}w_{kmt}) = D_{kt}, \quad \forall k, \forall t, \quad (2.12)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^K (b_{km}x_{kmt} + f_{km}z_{kmt}) \leq C_{mt}, \quad \forall m, \forall t, \quad (2.13)$$

$$x_{kmt} \leq Qz_{kmt}, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \forall t, \quad (2.14)$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{L_m} \sum_{(j,j+l_i) \in A} y_{k,j,j+l_i,t} + e_{i,k,t-1} - e_{ikt} = \mathbf{d}_{ikt}, \quad \forall i, \forall k, \forall t, \quad (2.15)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & - \sum_{(i,j) \in A} y_{k,i,j,t} + \sum_{(j,o) \in A} y_{k,j,o,t} = \\ & = \begin{cases} \sum_{m=1}^M Fl_{kmt}, & \text{if } j = 0, \\ -Fl_{kmt}, & \text{if } j = L_m, \forall m, (\forall k, \forall t), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

$$Fl_{kmt} = x_{kmt} + w_{k,m,t-1} - w_{kmt}, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \forall t, \quad (2.17)$$

$$w_{km0} = 0, \mathbf{e}_{k0} = 0, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \quad (2.18)$$

$$x_{kmt} \geq 0, w_{kmt} \geq 0 \text{ and integers}, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \forall t, \quad (2.19)$$

$$z_{kmt} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \forall k, \forall m, \forall t, \quad (2.20)$$

$$y_{kijt} \geq 0, e_{ikt} \geq 0 \text{ and integers}, (i, j) \in A; \quad \forall k, \forall m, \forall t. \quad (2.21)$$

The objective function (2.11) is equivalent to (2.1). Observe that in the last parcel, the evaluation of the waste of material is done in a smoothing different, but equivalent, way. Constraints (2.12), (2.13), (2.14), (2.15) and (2.17) are, respectively, equivalent to (2.2), (2.3), (2.4), (2.5) and (2.6). Constraints (2.18)-(2.21) define the domain of the decision variables. The main difference of this model is in constraints (2.16) which are the flow conservation constraints. They ensure that a flow corresponds to a valid cutting pattern, because an item is either placed at the border of the object or immediately after another item.

3 SOLUTION METHODS FOR THE INTEGRATED PROBLEM

3.1 Solving the LCGG model with Column Generation and Rounding Heuristic

Solving the (2.1)-(2.10) model is, in general, a difficult task for several reasons, including the great number of variables (one variable for each cutting pattern) and the integrality constraints on these variables. In order to overcome these difficulties, a column generation procedure based on Gilmore & Gomory [7, 8] is applied to the linear relaxation of the problem. The Restricted Master Problem (RMP) is defined regarding a subset of feasible cutting patterns. In this paper, we considered the homogeneous cutting patterns (cutting patterns with only one type of items and this type of item is placed as many times as it fits) to build the initial constraints matrix

for the RMP. Other cutting patterns are not, initially, considered, and they are generated during the method's iterations. After solving the RMP, which is a linear programming problem, its associated dual variables are considered and a subproblem, which is a knapsack problem, is solved in order to determine whether there are cutting patterns which improve the current solution or not, i.e., a cutting pattern with negative reduced cost. Attractive columns are added and a new RMP is solved. This procedure is repeated until there are no more columns that improve the RMP solution. By the end of this process, regarding only the columns (cutting patterns) in the optimal solution for the linear relaxed problem, the decision variables are turned to integers and the integer problem is solved by Cplex.

3.2 Solving the LCGG model with LotCutting Heuristic and Items Anticipation

Two heuristic methods have been proposed by Poltroniere et al. [19] to solve the (2.1)-(2.10) model. These are named as LotCutting and CuttingLot heuristics and are based on the Lagrangian relaxation of the integration constraints (2.6). Such constraints are added to the objective function (2.1), weighted by Lagrangian multipliers. Thus, the problem is decomposed into two subproblems: lot sizing (LSP) and cutting stock (CSP), which are treated separately and iteratively.

In the model proposed by Poltroniere et al. [19], a CSP for each type of paper k must be solved over a planning horizon divided into periods. The items inventory at the end of each period t , given by the variables vector \mathbf{e}_{kt} , should be considered. There is an interdependence between the cut decisions in different periods due to these variables. This problem is called a multiperiod CSP. However, the methods proposed by the authors solve the multiperiod CSP ignoring the items stock variables. Then, KT cutting stock problems (one for each type of paper k and each period t) were solved considering these variables to be zero.

In this paper, we propose an extension of the LotCutting Heuristic that allows the anticipation on the cut of some items between periods. Firstly, the heuristic solves the LSP in which the objective function is to minimize inventory, setup and production costs, subject to constraints (2.2)-(2.4), (2.8) and (2.9), in the same way as in Poltroniere et al. [19]. The solution obtained from the LSP provides the jumbos inventory for the multiperiod CSP. Then, the multiperiod CSP is solved by minimizing the waste and item inventory costs, subject to (2.5), (2.6) and (2.10). Initially, the inventory variables are ignored. Then, the problems (one for each tickness) are decomposed by periods. Thus, a CSP for each period is solved, considering as jumbos inventory the sum of the availability of this period with the stock of the previous period, after the cutting of the demanded items. From the solution obtained for each period and based on the dual variables associated with constraints (2.5), anticipations on the cut of some items from a period t to period $t - 1$ are performed, regarding the inventory constraints. In this way, we seek to improve the use of the jumbos inventory in order to generate better combinations of items which would decrease the paper waste during the cutting process. Each CSP was solved by the simplex method with column generation procedure proposed by Gilmore & Gomory [7, 8] and considering the integrality relaxation.

3.3 Solving the LCVC model with an optimization package

The (2.11)-(2.21) arc flow model presents many symmetric solutions, i.e., several alternative solutions that correspond to the same set of cutting patterns. So, Valério de Carvalho [26, 27] presented some reduction criteria that allow the elimination of some arcs and therefore reducing the number of symmetric solutions, without eliminating any valid cutting patterns. This procedure reduces the number of variables (columns) in the problem. We adapted two of these criteria to our model. The first one consists in ordering the items according to their size and including them in a cutting pattern in decreasing order. The second reduction criterion applied to our model is that the first loss arc is inserted in our graph at a distance from the beginning of the object that is equal to the size of the smallest item. The idea is to put the losses arcs at the end of the object. After applying the reduction criteria, the arc flow model is solved by the branch-and-cut method of the Cplex package with a limited amount of time.

4 COMPUTATIONAL EXPERIMENTS

In this section, lower bounds and upper bounds are presented based on the mathematical models and solution methods presented in Section 2 and 3. We used the set of instances generated by Poltroniere et al. [19]: 27 classes, containing 10 instances each, ranked according to the number of demanded items ($Nf = 5, 10, 20$), the number of types (thickness) of paper ($K = 2, 4, 6$) and the number of periods ($T = 8, 10, 12$). $M = 2$ machines, and machine one produces jumbos of width $L_1 = 540$ cm and the machine two produces jumbo of width $L_2 = 460$ cm; specific weight $\rho_k = 2\text{kg/cm}$. The model parameters were generated by simulating situations found in the paper industry, as follows:

- $c_{kmt} \in [0.015 \ 0.025] \cdot b_{km}$, with $b_{km} = L_m \rho$;
- $s_{kmt} \in [0.03 \ 0.05] \cdot c_{kmt}$; $h_{kt} \in [0.0000075 \ 0.0000125]$; $f_{km} \in [0.01 \ 0.05] \cdot b_{km}$;
- $cp_{kt} = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^M c_{kmt}}{M} \cdot 10$; $\sigma_{ikt} = 0.5 \cdot h_{kt}$, $i \in S(k)$;
- $l_i \in [0.1 \ 0.3] \cdot \frac{\sum_{m=1}^M L_m}{M}$;
- $d_{ikt} \in [0 \ 300]$. If $d_{ikt} \leq 50$, then $d_{ikt} = 0$ (in order to avoid low demand);
- $C_{mt} = \frac{b_{km}}{\sum_{m=1}^M b_{km}} \cdot Cap$, with $Cap = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{k=1}^K (\frac{D_{kt}}{M} + f_{km})}{MT}$.

The LotCutting Heuristic with Items Anticipation, described in Section 3.2, allows the anticipation on the cut of some items based on dual variables associated to constraints of stock balancing. We considered $D_{kt} = (1 + \theta) \sum_{i \in S(K)} \eta_{ik} d_{ikt}$. Then, a tolerance on the total produced paper is added in order to cover the waste during the cutting process, preventing the problem to be infeasible. We started with $\theta = 0$ and increased the demand by 1% in each step of the algorithm, until the problem is feasible or to upper bound of $\theta = 10\%$. These values obtained for θ are used in the other methods in order to obtain the values of D_{kt} .

The methods described in Section 3.1. and 3.3. were solved by optimization package AMPL/Cplex 12.6 and the LotCutting heuristic (Section 3.2.) was coded in Delphi. Computational tests were run in a Intel (R) Core (TM) Core i7-4770K, with 3.5 GHz and 32 GB of RAM.

4.1 Lower bounds for the integrated problem

Relaxed versions of the models presented in Section 2 were solved with the attempt to provide lower bounds for the instances and consequently to have a test parameter for the quality of the heuristic solutions. Table 1 presents the lower bounds obtained by two types of relaxations, Relaxation A and Relaxation B, described as follows.

Relaxation A: The problem variables were relaxed, i.e., the production and inventory variables, the setup binary variables, which are considered continuous between 0 and 1, and those related to the cutting patterns frequencies. However, the variables related to the knapsack problem are kept integer. For the LCGG model this is exactly the procedure described in Section 3.1 without the rounding procedure. For the LCVC model we consider the procedure described in Section 3.3 relaxing all the variables except the y_{kijt} variables.

Relaxation B: In order to try to improve the quality of the lower bounds, the LCVC model was solved with the setup variables as binary variables and all the other variables relaxed, i.e., all the decision variables were considered to be continuous (including the variables related to the knapsack problem). It is worth noticing that it is only possible to ensure that we have lower bounds when the model is optimally solved, and the LCVC model was solved to optimality, for all instances. This relaxation cannot be applied to the LCGG model considering the column generation approach, because first we would solve the linear relaxation of the problem and, after that, we would consider the setup variables as integer and try to solve the integer problem considering the set of column from the optimal solution of the linear relaxation. However, this procedure would be an heuristic procedure and there is no guarantee that it provides a lower bound.

The column "O.F.", in Table 1, shows the average value of the total costs obtained by the instances of each class. This average was evaluated considering only the instances for which all heuristic methods found a feasible solution. The column "Time" shows the average computational time, in seconds, necessary to solve the 10 instances of each class. Considering the Relaxation A, the quality of the lower bounds obtained by LCGG model is better than LCVC model, but LCVC is faster than LCGG. Relaxation B provided better lower bounds than Relaxation A only in classes 12 and 18.

4.2 Heuristic solutions

Table 2 provides the heuristic results obtained by: the solution of the LCGG model, using column generation and a rounding heuristic (described in Section 3.1). Firstly, the optimal solution of the linear relaxation is obtained. Subsequently, considering only the columns of this optimal solution, a limit of 600 seconds is given for the package to find an integer solution; the

Table 1: Relaxations: lower bounds for the integrated problem.

Classes	Relaxation A				Relaxation B	
	LCGG		LCVC		LCVC	
	O.F.	Time(s)	O.F.	Time(s)	O.F.	Time(s)
1	54875	5.9	51131	0.1	51147	0.4
2	85573	40.7	85128	0.5	85149	2.1
3	175061	103.8	174979	1.1	174994	4.1
4	60435	8.9	58120	0.2	58146	0.5
5	110588	46.3	109226	0.6	109245	2.2
6	222614	121.4	222390	1.5	222424	7.1
7	73870	7.6	70768	0.1	70791	0.5
8	129059	56.1	128363	0.8	128384	3.6
9	267440	169.6	267313	1.8	267356	8.2
10	94389	15.2	90460	0.2	90487	0.8
11	187420	92.2	186510	1.0	186537	3.7
12	328000	307.7	327981	2.8	328006	12.1
13	118179	17.8	112891	0.3	112928	1.5
14	236319	113.7	234343	1.3	234376	5.4
15	417899	395.3	417382	3.6	417417	14.4
16	153934	23.4	147933	0.4	147995	1.4
17	276800	161.9	274466	1.9	274502	6.1
18	500587	550.8	500572	4.9	500616	22.9
19	155485	32.0	146860	0.4	146900	1.4
20	270756	195.4	268870	2.0	268905	6.9
21	512200	480.9	512120	5.3	512161	20.9
22	177852	32.1	167972	0.5	168019	1.6
23	324200	304.6	322189	3.4	322260	11.2
24	636734	781.5	636642	6.4	636687	23.2
25	230097	41.6	219484	4.1	219540	1.7
26	382456	377.0	380364	9.4	380429	12.8
27	761812	965.6	761741	0.5	761796	52.6
Average value	257209	201.8	254674	2.0	254711	8.5

solution obtained by LotCutting Heuristic with Items Anticipation, described in Section 3.2. For the solution of LCVC model (described in Section 3.3), the variables of the original model were considered integers, and the computational time was limited to 600 seconds attempting to obtain an exact solution. However, the LCVC model was unable to find feasible solutions in 600 seconds.

In the solution of the two models, presented in Tables 1 and 2, the parameter θ was taken as the tolerance used in the LotCutting Heuristic. The average of these tolerances for the 10 examples of each class is given in the third column of the Table 2. In column "O.F." the average value of the total costs obtained by the instances of each class is shown. This average was calculated between the instances for which all methods found a feasible solution. The column "Sol" provides the number of solved instances in each class and the column "Time" shows the computational time, in seconds, necessary to solve the 10 instances of each class. Finally, the column "GAP" indicates the average gap between the solution obtained by the heuristic (HS) and the lower bound obtained by relaxation A of the LCGG model (AGG). The GAP is given by $100 * (\frac{HS-AGG}{AGG})$.

Comparing the number of feasible solutions obtained by each method, we have 233 solutions for the LotCutting/ItemsAnticipation and 242 for the Column Generation Rounding Heuristic. When the number of items increases to 20, both heuristics have difficulties in solving the problem. We observe that the computational time of the LotCutting heuristic with Items Anticipation is relatively low since the biggest of them was of 175.8 seconds when the heuristic was applied in the instances of class 18. The quality of the results obtained by the solution of the LCGG model, using column generation and a rounding heuristic, is better than the LotCutting heuristic. Furthermore, the average gap obtained for each class shows the quality of the solution when compared to the lower bound.

The results obtained during the experiments confirm the good performance of the Items Anticipation Heuristic used to solve the multiperiod CSP. The total cost (i.e., the sum of the waste costs with the stock costs of jumbos and items) was lower when compared to the total cost obtained by solving the CSP without allowing the anticipation of items. According to Poltroniere [18], the average decrease in the material waste is 9.1% for the instances with 5 types of items and 16.7% for the instances with 10 types of items.

5 CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

This research considers the mathematical formulation for an integrated (cutting stock and lot sizing) problem in a paper industry. A model from the literature (Poltroniere et al. [19]) is revisited and, in addition, a new mathematical model (LCVC) based on an arc flow model [26, 27] is proposed. These two mathematical models were implemented and solved using Ampl/Cplex 12.6. Relaxed versions of the models were, also, solved aiming to obtain lower bounds for the solution of the integrated problem.

Furthermore, we proposed an extension of the LotCutting Heuristic to solve the Poltroniere et al.'s [19] model, that allows the anticipation on the cut of some items between periods. The

Table 2: Heuristic results for the integrated model.

Class	Nf, T, K	$\theta(\%)$	LotCutting/ ItemsAnticipation				Col. Gen. Rounding Heuristic			
			O.F.	Sol	Time	GAP	O.F.	Sol	Time	GAP
1	5, 8,2	5.8	62368	8	0.4	13.655	54896	10	9.9	0.037
2	10, 8,2	1.5	87045	10	6.6	1.720	85591	10	50.8	0.020
3	20, 8,2	0.6	176581	10	83.5	0.868	175076	10	126.7	0.008
4	5,10,2	3.9	66455	9	1.4	9.962	60460	6	8.2	0.043
5	10,10,2	1.7	112781	10	7.7	1.983	110612	9	53.9	0.022
6	20,10,2	0.9	224081	10	61.6	0.659	222637	10	151.2	0.011
7	5,12,2	5.2	80860	6	1.0	9.463	73899	6	7.7	0.040
8	10,12,2	2.4	131828	9	12.0	2.145	129081	9	69.9	0.017
9	20,12,2	0.4	270435	10	100.5	1.120	267473	8	206.3	0.012
10	5, 8,4	4.8	102146	9	0.4	8.218	94423	9	21.5	0.036
11	10, 8,4	2.4	191513	9	3.2	2.184	187451	9	115.2	0.016
12	20, 8,4	0.5	328771	10	59.8	0.235	328026	10	391.4	0.008
13	5,10,4	5.8	129286	5	1.3	9.398	118223	9	27.3	0.037
14	10,10,4	2.2	241834	9	4.6	2.334	236363	8	139.1	0.018
15	20,10,4	0.4	419113	10	127.9	0.290	417940	9	522.6	0.010
16	5,12,4	6.7	171858	6	1.7	11.644	153992	9	31.0	0.037
17	10,12,4	1.6	282606	8	9.2	2.098	276846	10	198.3	0.017
18	20,12,4	0.3	506796	10	175.8	1.240	500632	7	610.5	0.009
19	5, 8,6	6.7	174756	6	0.4	12.394	155542	9	28.0	0.037
20	10, 8,6	2.1	274153	9	3.3	1.255	270799	10	204.2	0.016
21	20, 8,6	0.8	514704	10	52.3	0.489	512240	9	500.5	0.008
22	5,10,6	6.5	199707	4	2.6	12.288	177909	10	36.7	0.032
23	10,10,6	1.7	327495	10	5.0	1.016	324253	10	304.7	0.016
24	20,10,6	0.4	638223	10	64.5	0.234	636780	10	828.9	0.007
25	5,12,6	5.7	264027	6	2.2	14.746	230177	7	32.7	0.035
26	10,12,6	1.4	385933	10	15.8	0.909	382512	9	398.7	0.015
27	10,12,6	0.4	763223	10	72.4	0.185	761876	10	997.1	0.008
Average value		2.7	264021	8.6	32.5	4.546	257248	9.0	224.9	0.021

solutions obtained by the LotCutting Heuristic with Items Anticipation and the heuristic solutions obtained by Cplex, presented in Table 2, were satisfactory. For some examples, the upper bounds were better than those from the literature, for example, in Poltroniere et al. [19].

The presented results show that the considered relaxations provided good lower bounds for the integrated problem, especially those obtained by the LCGG model, in the relaxations whose results are presented in Table 1. Furthermore, it is important to emphasize that these bounds are not too far from the heuristic solutions presented in Table 2, what allows observing the quality of the heuristics.

The proposition of the LCVC model was motivated by the good results obtained by Poldi & Araujo [17] in a multiperiod cutting stock problem. However, this good performance does not happen for the model proposed in this paper, which is much harder than the one proposed by Poldi & Araujo [17]. So, new researches are needed to try to overcome this difficulty, for instance, the implementation of a columns generation procedure for solving the LCVC model.

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RESUMO. Dois importantes problemas de otimização combinatória ocorrem no planejamento da produção em indústrias papeleiras: o problema de dimensionamento de lotes e o problema de corte de estoque multiperíodo. O problema de dimensionamento de lotes deve determinar a quantidade de bobinas jumbos de diferentes tipos de papel (gramaturas) a serem produzidos em cada máquina, ao longo de um horizonte de planejamento finito. Estes jumbos são então cortados para atender a demanda de itens para cada período. Neste trabalho, tratamos da integração desses dois problemas, procurando minimizar custos com produção e estoque dos jumbos, como também a perda de papel durante o processo de corte. Duas modelagens matemáticas para o problema integrado foram consideradas, e os modelos foram resolvidos heurísticamente usando um pacote de otimização. Procurando obter limitantes inferiores para o problema, foram resolvidas versões relaxadas dos modelos. Finalmente, experimentos computacionais são apresentados e discutidos.

Palavras-chave: Problema integrado, problema de corte de estoque, problema de dimensionamento de lotes, indústria de papel.

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