





# Prognostic-based Maintenance Optimization in Complex Systems with Resource Limitation Constraints

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**Keywords:** Predictive Maintenance, Optimization, Complex System, Prognostic Information, Remaining Useful Life, Resource Limitation.

**Abstract:** This paper is concerned with prognostic information for maintenance optimization in complex systems. At each stage of such a system, we consider redundant components used as backup to guarantee the system's availability. The Remaining Useful Life (RUL/prognostic information) of components is used to evaluate each component's redundancy. We address RUL-based maintenance optimization under resource limitation to ensure the availability of the system such that production demands can be satisfied in a given maintenance planning horizon. We propose a mixed-integer linear programming approach to minimize the overall cost. Our numerical results on test instances show the efficiency of the proposed approach to attain optimal solutions.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Industrial systems generally degrade due to different factors. This degradation may eventually cause serious economic problems for companies. Maintenance is a widely recognized essential element in asset management to reduce the speed of degradation (De Jonge and Scarf, 2020). However, traditional maintenance decisions for single-component systems are not suitable for contemporary complex systems. Complex systems are systems that are difficult to categorize as series, parallel, or  $k/n$  networks. They commonly consist of multiple components with various interactions (Zhu et al., 2021). Industrial and academic researchers have thus been focusing on proposing effective maintenance optimization strategies for such complex systems.


In industrial applications, maintenance is mainly classified as *Corrective Maintenance* (CM) and *Preventive Maintenance* (PM). CM is carried out when a component has broken down, while PM happens in advance to reduce the degradation speed and avoid a sudden failure. In addition, these two maintenance types are often considered under resource constraints


that represent the limited number of available technicians, repairmen, apparatus, etc. If and only if enough resource is provided, the maintenance can be conducted and accomplished.


To make decisions about maintenance policies, an interesting approach consists of soliciting the prognostic information of components, such as the *Remaining Useful Life* (RUL) (Camci et al., 2019). The definition of component's RUL is the currently remaining time of operation before it fails. The focus of our work is on using the obtained component-level RUL information to plan PM optimization in order to achieve system-level availability in complex systems.


We consider generic complex systems with a series of stages and each stage contains multiple redundant components (see Figure 1). The same type of structure has been considered in multi-process industries, such as gas production (Ye et al., 2019; Xenos et al., 2016). The overall aim consists in coordinating the operations in different stages and provides global maintenance decisions such that the system can operate continuously during the planning horizon to satisfy client demands. This approach can be seen as an integration of maintenance and production.

In summary, we address a *RUL-Based Maintenance Optimization* (RBMO) problem in complex systems with resource limitation constraints (RBMO-RL). The objective is to minimize the total cost over a planning optimization horizon, including mainte-

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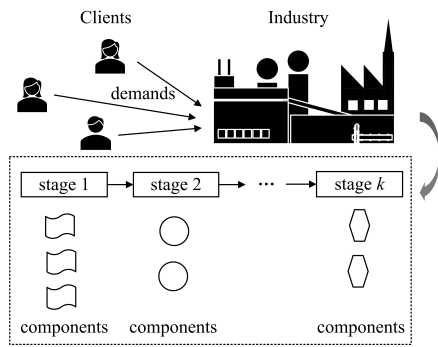


Figure 1: Architecture of the studied complex systems.

nance cost, system-failure cost, inventory expense, and a penalty for non-met production. The contributions in our work are as follows:

- A novel RBMO-RL problem to minimize the total cost in complex systems.
- A *Mixed-Integer Linear Programming* (MILP) formulation of this problem.

The remaining of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we review related literature to highlight and position our contributions. In Section 3, we mathematically formulate the RBMO and RBMO-RL problems and provide MILP models. Numerical tests are conducted and the results are reported and analyzed in Section 4. Section 5 is dedicated to the conclusion and future work.

## 2 LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 Maintenance in Complex Systems

We review the main contributions in the maintenance literature concerned with RUL usage, system availability, and integrated problems.

RUL is an essential index that reflects the status of a component. In general, it can be either obtained by defining the time length from the current time to the end-of-life. Or more frequently, it is defined as the time left before the health condition reaches a warning threshold (Si et al., 2011). More than 270 papers have studied RUL prediction (Lei et al., 2018). We focus on RUL usage in our work and distinguish three branches in the literature. (i) RUL-based inspection: Do et al. (2015) used RUL information for deciding the time point for the next coming inspection. (ii) RUL-based maintenance strategies: Chen et al. (2019) proposed different maintenance actions via combinations of degradation and RUL. (iii) RUL-based constraints: Camci et al. (2019) used prognostic information to formulate probability constraints

related to the failure rate of a component.

For describing system-level availability by component condition, Wu and Castro (2020) proposed a linear combination of the degradation processes of several components. If this value exceeded a given threshold, PM was performed. Lei and Sandborn (2018) proposed a prognostic health analysis to predict the RUL of wind turbines. The authors assumed that turbines were dependent and system availability relied on the minimum RUL among them. Dong et al. (2020) assumed that normal-distributed shocks occurred independently and described system reliability by conditioning on the numbers of arrived shocks.

Integrated problems combine maintenance in complex systems with other scopes to make global decisions. One of the mainstream approaches is to simultaneously take maintenance and resource into account, such as spare part ordering. Camci (2009) proposed CM and spare part inventory strategies using the given prognostic information to minimize the failure risk. A genetic algorithm was proposed to solve the problem and computational results were compared with the ones via PM strategy. Numerous papers have considered spare part ordering, see the invited review (De Jonge and Scarf, 2020). The integration of maintenance and production is also an important branch because maintenance activities eventually impact production. Bahria et al. (2019) developed an integrated approach to control production, maintenance, and quality for manufacturing. Appropriate thresholds for conducting maintenance were discussed to guarantee the robustness of the system.

From the literature, we observe a lack of RUL usage and mathematical modeling via RUL-based constraints. Moreover, the influence of individual RUL information on complex systems is seldom discussed. Hence, and to the best of our knowledge, the integrated optimization of maintenance and production in series-structured systems with backup components and resource limitation has not been studied. In our work, we address maintenance optimization for complex systems considering *standby components* and *resource limitation*. The optimization aims to guarantee the continuous operation of the system. This is achieved by integrating *component-level RUL information* in the formulation.

### 2.2 Maintenance Optimization Methods

Many solution methods based on optimization for maintenance problems in complex systems have been proposed. In the following, we discuss some of the related and recent references and clearly situate our contribution compared to these approaches.

In the mentioned Camci (2009) and Xiao et al. (2016), genetic algorithms were proposed to solve the problems. Rivera-Gómez et al. (2020) presented a continuous production system with quality deterioration. The objective was to reduce the occurred cost with a quality constraint. A non-linear programming model was formulated for the problem. Zhou et al. (2019) proposed an optimal PM policy with the purpose to get operational parameters for a production line. A non-linear model and a heuristic were designed to minimize the cost and guarantee the operating speed. Compared to the widely used non-linear formulation and (meta-) heuristics, linear formulation for maintenance optimization is very limited. In this research, we formulate *MILP models* for the considered RBMO and RBMO-RL problems, with the purpose to provide optimal maintenance decisions.

### 3 PROBLEM DESCRIPTION AND FORMULATION

#### 3.1 RBMO Problem Description

The architecture of the considered complex systems in Figure 2 contains  $|K|$  processing stages where  $K$  denotes the stage set. Stage  $k \in K$  is configured with  $|J_k|$  components where  $J_k$  represents the component set in stage  $k$ . Each component may have three states: working (in green), standby (in grey), and maintenance (in black), respectively. We assume that each component is repairable, and that maintaining it does not affect the operation of a stage if there exist any available standby component. The planning horizon contains  $|T|$  periods (weeks), where  $T$  is the period set. The purpose is to satisfy the demands of  $|I|$  clients during this horizon, where  $I$  is the client set.

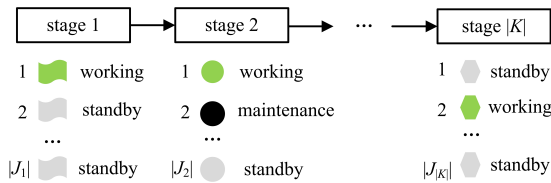


Figure 2: Schematic diagram of the complex system.

We now describe the three main sets of constraints in our model in the following.

*Evolution of RUL over time.* The model keeps track of the RUL of components over the optimization horizon. It is assumed that the prognostic RUL of component  $j$  in stage  $k$  follows a linear function  $b_{k,j} - a_{k,j} \cdot t$ , where  $a_{k,j}$  and  $b_{k,j}$  respectively denote the coefficient and constant. Note that RUL can be al-

ternatively described using values, quantiles, or probabilities. We choose the first option in this research, and leave the other ones for future work. As illustrated in Figure 3, for component  $j$  in stage  $k$ , if it is operating during a period, its RUL decreases in value by  $a_{k,j}$ . If it is standby, its RUL will not change. If it is under maintenance, its RUL will stay at the threshold  $\gamma_k$  until maintenance is carried out. Note that any component reaching the corresponding threshold can no longer operate and needs to be maintained. After maintenance, its RUL is restored to  $b_{k,j}$ . The initial RUL of each component is given as  $o_{k,j}$ . We assume that threshold  $\gamma_k$  is provided by experts. Hence, optimizing  $\gamma_k$  is outside the scope of this paper.

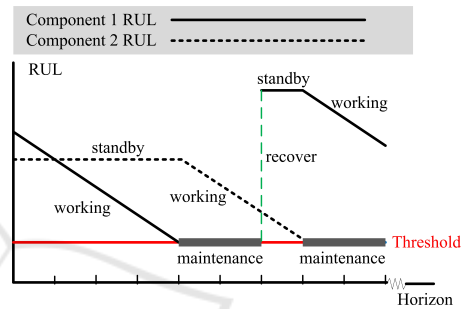


Figure 3: Evolution of RUL.

*System Availability.* The operation of a stage requires that at least one component (at the same stage) is working. If not, it eventually results in the unavailability of the system because it operates if and only if all stages are working.

*Production Integration.* The system has a production of  $qua^t$  in period  $t$  to satisfy demands  $d_i^t$ . However, its production capacity for each period is limited by  $Q$ . If the system cannot work during a period, there is no production and it may cause some production loss. To avoid demand unmet, we allow some possible stocks in preparation (if needed) to serve for subsequent client demands.

#### 3.2 RBMO Formulation

Before introducing our mathematical model for the RBMO problem, and for sake of clarity, we summarize the notations that will be used in our formulation.

##### Problem sets

- $I$ : set of clients;
- $K$ : set of stages in the system;
- $J_k$ : set of components in stage  $k$ ;
- $T$ : set of periods;

**Parameters:**

- $cap$ : production capacity of the system each period;
- $a_{k,j}$ : coefficient in the RUL function of component  $j$  in stage  $k$ ;
- $b_{k,j}$ : constant in the RUL function of component  $j$  in stage  $k$ ; then the RUL function can be established by  $b_{k,j} - a_{k,j} \cdot t$ ;
- $o_{k,j}$ : original RUL of component  $j$  in stage  $k$ ;
- $\gamma_k$ : RUL threshold of components in stage  $k$ ;
- $p_k$ : maintenance duration of components in stage  $k$ ;
- $d_i^t$ : demand of client  $i$  in period  $t$ ;
- $c^M$ : unit maintenance cost;
- $c^{FL}$ : unit failure cost;
- $c^{Inv}$ : unit inventory cost;
- $c^{Loss}$ : unit production-loss cost.

**Decision variables:**

- $x_{k,j}^t$ : binary variable, equals to 1 if component  $j$  in stage  $k$  needs to be maintained in period  $t$ , 0 otherwise;
- $y_{k,j}^t$ : binary variable, equals to 1 if component  $j$  in stage  $k$  is working in period  $t$ , 0 otherwise;
- $R_{k,j}^t$ : RUL of component  $j$  in stage  $k$  in period  $t$ ;
- $ST_k^t$ : binary variable, equals to 1 if stage  $k$  is working in period  $t$ , 0 otherwise;
- $SY^t$ : binary variable, equals to 1 if the system is working in period  $t$ , 0 otherwise;
- $quad^t$ : production quantity in period  $t$ ;
- $inv^t$ : inventory in period  $t$ . Note that there is no inventory at the beginning of the horizon;
- $z^t$ : binary variable, equals to 1 if the inventory is positive in period  $t$ , 0 otherwise.

The MILP model for the RBMO problem is formulated and noted by (M1). We consider the objective function (1) as the sum of four terms:

- $C^M$  denotes the total maintenance cost that is calculated by unit maintenance cost times the number of maintenance activities.
- $C^{FL}$  denotes the total failure cost that is computed by unit failure cost times the number of failures.
- $C^{Inv}$  denotes the total inventory cost that is computed by unit inventory cost times the amount of inventory (if any).
- $C^{Loss}$  denotes the total production-loss cost that is computed by unit production-loss cost times negative inventory. Here negative inventory represents the quantity of unsatisfied demands.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (M1) \quad &: \min C^M + C^{FL} + C^{Inv} + C^{Loss} \quad (1) \\
 C^M &= c^M \cdot \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{j \in J_k} \sum_{t \in T} x_{k,j}^t \\
 C^{FL} &= c^{FL} \cdot \sum_{t \in T} (1 - SY^t) \\
 C^{Inv} &= c^{Inv} \cdot \sum_{t \in T} z^t \cdot inv^t \\
 C^{Loss} &= c^{Loss} \cdot \sum_{t \in T} (1 - z^t) \cdot inv^t
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that the non-linear term  $z^t \cdot inv^t$  can be linearized by introducing an auxiliary variable  $\mu^t = z^t \cdot inv^t$  with two additional constraints  $inv^t \leq \mu^t + \bar{M} \cdot (1 - z^t)$  and  $0 \leq \mu^t + \bar{M} \cdot z^t$ . However, we chose to let CPLEX handle these terms automatically (IBM).

The optimization of formula (1) is under the following sets of constraints:

**Evolution of RUL Constraints.** This constraint group is formulated to track the RUL of components. To be more specific, a maintenance is required when the RUL of a component is no bigger than the corresponding threshold, which is guaranteed by constraints (2) and (3). If a component is under maintenance, its unavailable time respects the maintenance duration, which is calculated by constraints (4). Constraints (5) restricts that only one component can be working in each stage if there is a need. Evolution of RUL contains three cases: (i) if a component is maintained, its RUL will be restored to a given value, that is,  $R_{k,j}^{t+1} = b_{k,j}$  if  $x_{k,j}^t = 1$ . Please refer to constraints (6) to (7); (ii) If a component is being used in a period, its RUL will decrease respecting the given RUL function, that is,  $R_{k,j}^{t+1} = R_{k,j}^t - a_{k,j}$  if  $x_{k,j}^t = 0$  and  $y_{k,j}^t = 1$ , which is calculated by constraints (8) to (9); (iii) The RUL of standby components will not change, that is,  $R_{k,j}^{t+1} = R_{k,j}^t$  if  $x_{k,j}^t = 0$  and  $y_{k,j}^t = 0$ , which is established by (10) to (11).

$$R_{k,j}^t > \gamma_k - \bar{M} \cdot x_{k,j}^t, \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in T \quad (2)$$

$$R_{k,j}^t \leq \gamma_k + \bar{M} \cdot (1 - x_{k,j}^t), \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in T \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{t' \in [t, t+p_k-1]} y_{k,j}^{t'} &\leq 1 - x_{k,j}^t, \\
 \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in [1, |T| - p_k + 1] &\quad (4)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{j \in J_k} y_{k,j}^t \leq 1, \forall k \in K, t \in T \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{k,j}^{t+1} &\geq b_{k,j} - \bar{M} \cdot (1 - x_{k,j}^t), \\
 \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in [1, |T| - 1] &\quad (6)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{k,j}^{t+1} &\leq b_{k,j} + \bar{M} \cdot (1 - x_{k,j}^t), \\
 \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in [1, |T| - 1] &\quad (7)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{k,j}^{t+1} &\geq R_{k,j}^t - a_{k,j} - \bar{M} \cdot (1 - y_{k,j}^t), \\
 \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in [1, |T| - 1] &\quad (8)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{k,j}^{t+1} &\leq R_{k,j}^t - a_{k,j} + \bar{M} \cdot (1 - y_{k,j}^t), \\
 \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in [1, |T| - 1] &\quad (9)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{k,j}^{t+1} &\geq R_{k,j}^t - \bar{M} \cdot (x_{k,j}^t + y_{k,j}^t), \\
 \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in [1, |T| - 1] &\quad (10)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{k,j}^{t+1} &\leq R_{k,j}^t + \bar{M} \cdot (x_{k,j}^t + y_{k,j}^t), \\
 \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in [1, |T| - 1] &\quad (11)
 \end{aligned}$$



**System Availability Constraints.** This set of valid inequalities describes stage availability and further system availability for each period via the components' RUL information. The premise that a stage operates normally is that at least one component in the stage is working, i.e.,  $\exists y_{k,j}^t = 1$ . To this end, the availability of a stage can be described by constraints (12). For system availability, it strictly requires that all the stages are available, i.e.,  $\forall ST_k^t = 1$ , which is expressed by constraints (13) and (14).

$$ST_k^t \leq \sum_{j \in J_k} y_{k,j}^t, \quad \forall k \in K, t \in T \quad (12)$$

$$\frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} ST_k^t \leq SY^t + \sum_{k \in K} (1 - ST_k^t), \quad \forall t \in T \quad (13)$$

$$ST_k^t \geq SY^t, \quad \forall k \in K, t \in T \quad (14)$$

**Production Integration Constraints.** These constraints describe how system availability impacts production and inventory. Constraints (15) provide the upper bound of production quantity in each period respecting system production capacity, while constraints (16) give the lower bound because a system cannot produce if any one of the stages is not active. The inventory is calculated by the sum of production quantity and the inventory in the last period minus the currently total demands (constraints (17)). Note that the inventory can be negative if the maintenance leads to a non-working state for the system or production capacity is surpassed. Then, constraints (18) and (19) record that the on-hand inventory is non-negative and negative, respectively, meaning that the inventory is enough or not for satisfying client demands.

$$qua^t \leq cap \cdot ST_k^t, \quad \forall k \in K, t \in T \quad (15)$$

$$qua^t \geq \sum_{j \in J_k} y_{k,j}^t, \quad \forall k \in K, t \in T \quad (16)$$

$$inv^t = qua^t + inv^{t-1} - \sum_{i \in I} d_i^t, \quad \forall t \in T \quad (17)$$

$$inv^t \geq -\bar{M} \cdot (1 - z^t), \quad \forall t \in T \quad (18)$$

$$inv^t \leq \bar{M} \cdot z^t, \quad \forall t \in T \quad (19)$$

Note that the initial RUL of a component is equal to  $o_{k,j}$  and there is no inventory at the beginning of the planning horizon. The ranges of the decision variables are detailed as follows:

$$x_{k,j}^t, y_{k,j}^t, ST_k^t, SY^t, z^t \in \{0, 1\}, \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in T \quad (20)$$

$$R_{k,j}^t, inv^t, qua^t \in \mathbb{Z}, \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in T \quad (21)$$

### 3.3 RBMO-RL Formulation

In this part, we assess the impact of resource limitation constraints on maintenance optimization. As

shown in Figure 4, the main difference (grey icons) between RBMO and RBMO-RL problems is whether we have enough resources to do maintenance. If too many components reach a warning condition at the same time but resources are not enough, some of them must wait for the maintenance. This waiting time can be shortened or even be 0 by arranging component redundancy. On the other hand, the RBMO-RL problem can be infeasible if we cannot find available resources during the optimization horizon.

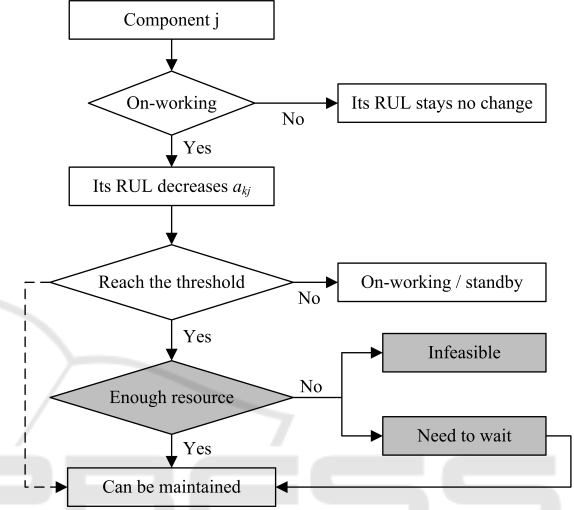


Figure 4: Impact of resource limitation.

We now proceed to formulate the resource limitation constraints mathematically.

#### New parameters:

- $n_k$ : the number of resources required to maintain a component in stage  $k$ ;
- $N^t$ : the number of resources available in period  $t$ ;
- $e_k^t$ : binary parameter, equals to 1 if the components in stage  $k$  can start to be maintained in period  $t$ , 0 otherwise. If  $N^t \geq n_k$  establishes for  $t' \in [t + p_k - 1]$ , a maintenance can be started in period  $t$ .

#### New decision variables:

- $s_{k,j}^t$ : binary variable, equals to 1 if component  $j$  in stage  $k$  is started to be maintained in period  $t$ ;
- $o_{k,j}^t$ : binary variable, equals to 1 if component  $j$  in stage  $k$  is being maintained in period  $t$ .

$$x_{k,j}^t \leq \sum_{t' \in [t, |T|]} s_{k,j}^{t'}, \quad \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in T \quad (22)$$

$$s_{k,j}^t \leq e_k^t, \quad \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in T \quad (23)$$

$$s_{k,j}^t \leq o_{k,j}^t,$$

$$\forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in [1, |T| - p_k + 1], t' \in [t, t + p_k - 1] \quad (24)$$

$$y_{k,j}^t \leq 2 - x_{k,j}^t - s_{k,j}^t,$$

$$\forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in T, t' \in [t, |T|], t1 \in [t, t'] \quad (25)$$

$$y_{k,j}^t \leq 1 - o_{k,j}^t, \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in T \quad (26)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{j \in J_k} n_k \cdot o_{k,j}^t \leq N^t, \forall t \in T \quad (27)$$

$$s_{k,j}^t, o_{k,j}^t \in \{0, 1\}, \forall k \in K, j \in J_k, t \in T \quad (28)$$

For resource limitation constraints, a maintenance should start no earlier than the time when the RUL of a component reaches the threshold, and it must respect resource limitation, which are guaranteed by constraints (22) and (23), respectively. Constraints (25) provide the length of resource occupation during maintenance. Once the RUL of a component reaches the threshold, it cannot be used until the maintenance is finished. To be specific, constraints (25) denote its unavailability during the wait while constraints (26) denote its unavailability during the maintenance. The resource limitation is verified by constraints (27), meaning that the total number of resources for maintenance occupation must not exceed the currently available resources. Finally, constraints (28) provide the ranges of new variables.

We add a new term in the objective function regarding the earlier start time for maintenance. The model for the RBMO-RL problem is established below and noted by (M2).

$$(M2) \quad : \quad \min C^M + C^{FL} + C^{Inv} + C^{Loss} + C^S$$

$$C^S = \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{j \in J_k} \sum_{t \in T} t \cdot s_{k,j}^t$$

subject to : (2) – (3), (5) – (20), (22) – (28)

## 4 COMPUTATIONAL RESULTS

In this section, computational tests are conducted to compare the performance of the two provided mathematical models. All the tests are conducted on a computer with Core I7 and 8GB RAM system. The MILP models are solved using CPLEX 12.8 in Python 3.7.8.

### 4.1 Test Instances

To illustrate the differences between the two models, we set up several instances with different sizes. We describe the size of each instance as  $(|I|, |K|, |T|)$ , where these quantities are the number of clients, stages, and periods, respectively. The tested sizes include S1(5,5,6), S2(5,5,12), S3(5,10,12). In each stage, the number of components  $|J_k|$  is randomly generated from the range  $[1, 8]$ . Note that Ye et al. (2019) looks at the design of systems with the same structure but considers instances with only up to  $|K| =$

4 and  $|J_k| = 3$ . (The number of clients and the number of periods are not considered in this design problem.)

For each size, we have solved 10 independently generated instances using both models (M1) and (M2). The computational results are collected in Tables 1, 2, and 3, respectively. In these tables, the first column denotes the instance index in different sizes, for example, ‘S1-1’ is the first instance within size S1. The columns labeled (M1) and (M2) report respectively the results obtained by models (M1) and (M2), including their optimal objective values (Obj), computing times in seconds (T(s)), and *Number of Maintenances* (NoM). Besides, ‘-’ denotes infeasibility of model M2 for solving corresponding instances.

Table 1: Experimental results for size S1(5, 5, 6).

ID	(M1)			(M2)		
	Obj	T(s)	NoM	Obj	T(s)	NoM
S1-1	102	0.3	0	102	0.3	0
S1-2	62	0.3	1	64	0.3	1
S1-3	46	0.4	0	46	0.4	0
S1-4	78	0.3	0	78	0.3	0
S1-5	143	0.3	0	143	0.3	0
S1-6	255	0.3	3	321	0.8	4
S1-7	103	0.3	1	108	0.3	1
S1-8	74	0.2	0	74	0.2	0
S1-9	493	0.3	1	497	0.4	1
S1-10	414	0.3	0	414	0.3	0

Table 2: Experimental results for size S2(5, 5, 12).

ID	(M1)			(M2)		
	Obj	T(s)	NoM	Obj	T(s)	NoM
S2-1	641	14.9	3	655	49.5	3
S2-2	158	0.9	0	158	1.8	0
S2-3	490	1.4	1	3694	186	1
S2-4	285	2.7	2	358	6.6	3
S2-5	625	0.7	1	630	6.2	1
S2-6	470	2.8	1	473	3.9	1
S2-7	238	0.9	2	248	1.7	2
S2-8	760	2.8	1	765	1.9	1
S2-9	1173	4.4	3	-	-	-
S2-10	493	27.8	3	507	422	3

### 4.2 Analysis of Results

From the tables, we have the following observations.

- (i) The optimal values obtained by model (M2) are no smaller than the ones by model (M1). This is due to two factors, namely the additional term in the objective function and the additional constraints (see also (iv) below).
- (ii) The computing time of model (M2) is generally greater than that of model (M1). This makes sense since the RBMO-RL problem is more complicated than the RBMO problem.

Table 3: Experimental results for size S3(5, 10, 12).

ID	(M1)			(M2)		
	Obj	T(s)	NoM	Obj	T(s)	NoM
S3-1	408	162	6	ifsb	-	-
S3-2	352	4.9	2	367	11.0	2
S3-3	621	6.0	2	629	45.7	2
S3-4	954	5.4	1	957	7.9	1
S3-5	1322	5.2	4	1340	254	4
S3-6	2355	34.9	6	-	-	-
S3-7	966	2.1	1	977	8.1	1
S3-8	5675	5.7	1	5685	6.4	1
S3-9	367	5.6	1	370	9.4	1
S3-10	1146	5.3	2	1454	18.4	2

- (iii) For the instances with 'NoM = 0', the objective values obtained by the two models are the same. The reason is that resource limitation is trivial if there is no maintenance in the planning horizon.
- (iv) The NoM obtained by model (M2) may be more than that of model (M1). The reason is that, in (M2), the waiting time for maintaining a component is a part of unavailable time. Hence, another component needs to operate to avoid system breakdown, which may bring new maintenance. However, model (M1) never has this trouble since maintenance can be done once it occurs.
- (v) Model (M1) always has feasible solutions because maintenance can be done as soon as it is necessary without needing to account for resource availability. However, model (M2) may generate infeasible solutions if available resources cannot satisfy maintenance needs in the planning horizon.

To sum up, considering resource limitations in RBMO-RL (model (M2)) makes it more detailed than RBMO (model (M1)) and changes the optimal maintenance plan. However, model (M2) is more realistic because maintenance is usually done subject to available staff, equipment, etc.

### 4.3 Maintenance Decisions Comparison

In this part, we use an instance to distinguish maintenance decisions for the considered RBMO and RBMO-RL problems. As shown in Figures 5 and 6, the planning horizon contains 12 periods (horizontal labels). The system consists of 5 stages and the dedicated number of components in each stage is given. For example, 's1c6' represents component 6 in stage 1. For component's states, the grey, green, blue, and black rectangles denote that a component is standby, working, waiting for maintenance, and under maintenance, respectively. Besides, a darker-green icon means that a stage is operating during a period.

Figure 5 shows that the stages in the system are



Figure 5: Maintenance decisions for RBMO problem.

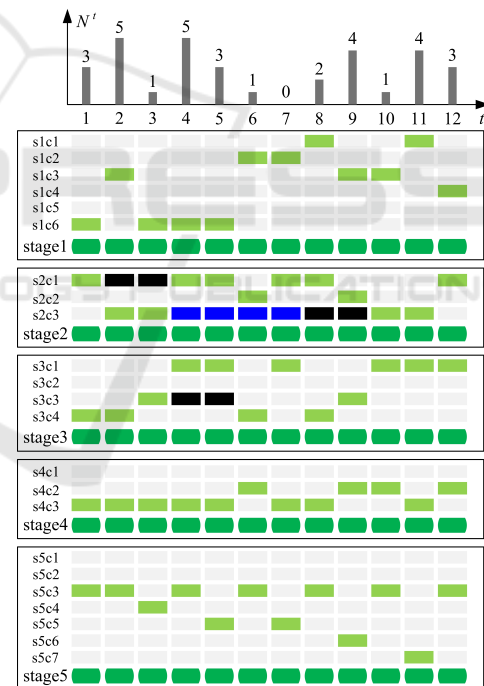


Figure 6: Maintenance decisions for RBMO-RL problem.

always working in the planning horizon. There are a total of 3 maintenance actions, for example, component 1 in stage 2 ('s2c1') is maintained during periods 6 and 7. Hence in the RBMO problem, the maintenance can always start whenever there is a need.

In the case considering limited resources  $N^t$  shown in Figure 6 and required resources for maintenance  $n_k = \{1, 1, 3, 4, 1\}$ , we observe that there are also 3 maintenance actions in the planning horizon.

However, we have a 4-period waiting for maintaining  $s_{2c3}$ . With the fact that its maintenance occupies 2 periods, we know that  $s_{2c3}$  cannot start the maintenance in period 4 since  $s_{3c3}$  is being maintained during periods 4 and 5, and there is no enough resource to maintain  $s_{2c3}$  and  $s_{3c3}$  together in period 5 ( $n_2 + n_3 > N^5$ ). Besides,  $s_{2c3}$  cannot start the maintenance in period 6 due to lack of available resources in period 7 ( $n_2 > N^7$ ). Finally, its maintenance is conducted in periods 8 and 9 since  $n_2 < N^8$  and  $n_2 < N^9$ .

## 5 CONCLUSIONS AND PERSPECTIVES

In this paper, we addressed RUL-based maintenance optimization in generic complex production systems. Component-level RUL information was used to arrange redundancy in each stage to guarantee the availability of the system. Besides, resource limitation constraints were integrated with respect to real-life applications and scenarios. The purpose is to satisfy client demands with minimum overall cost during the maintenance planning horizon. We provided a mixed-integer linear programming approach to cope with problem instances. Through different test instances, we showed the efficiency of our approach to reach the optimal solutions of the addressed problems in different complex systems.

Our future work will focus on (i) considering setup cost when activating standby components; (ii) Considering the probabilities or quantiles of the RUL of component; (iii) Developing more efficient algorithms and heuristics; (iv) Taking multi-site maintenance optimization into account.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work is supported by the project Maintenance Prévisionnelle et Optimisation of IRT SystemX.

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