

# Intelligent Constraint Programming: Algorithm Selection for Fun and Profit

Lars Kotthoff

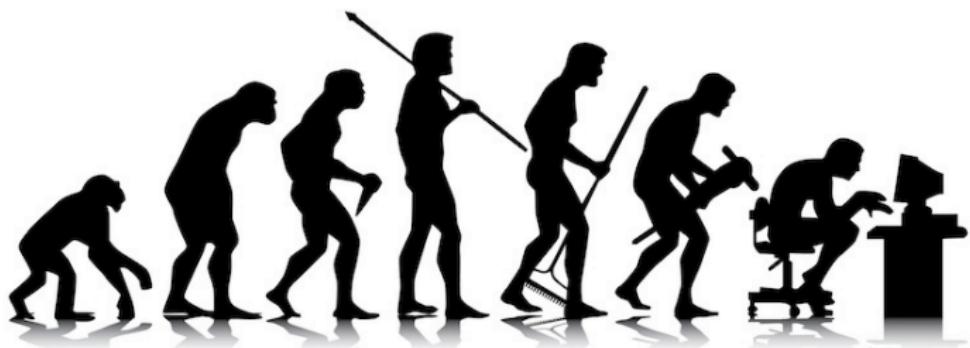
University of Wyoming

[larsko@uwyo.edu](mailto:larsko@uwyo.edu)

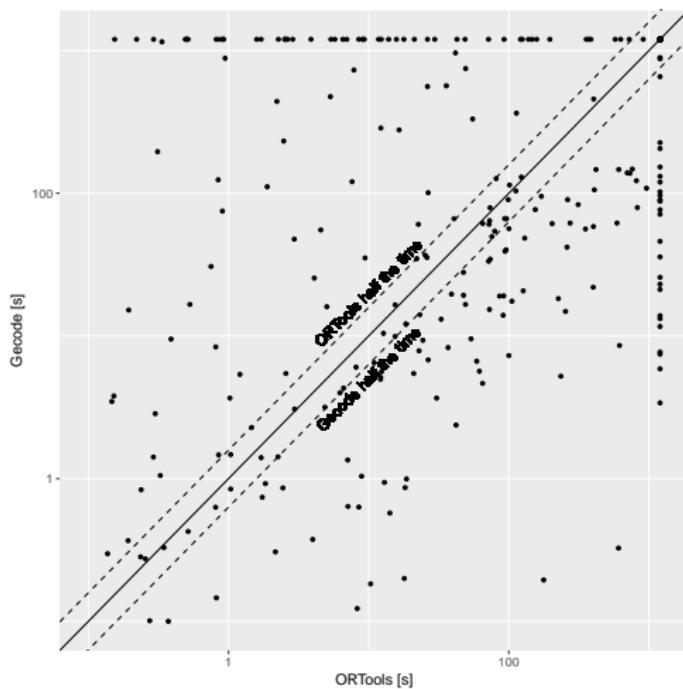
## FlatZinc implementations

The MiniZinc library contains direct interfaces to [COIN-OR CBC](#), [Gurobi](#) and [IBM ILOG CPLEX](#). Furthermore, the following projects have developed FlatZinc interfaces:

- [Gecode/FlatZinc](#). The generic constraint development environment provides a FlatZinc interface. The source code for the interface stripped of all Gecode-specific code is also available.
- [Chuffed](#). A C++ FD solver using lazy clause generation.
- [Choco 3](#). A Java FD solver.
- [ECLiPSe](#). The ECLiPSe Constraint Programming System provides support for evaluating FlatZinc using ECLiPSe's constraint solvers. MiniZinc models can be embedded into ECLiPSe code in order to add user-defined search and I/O facilities to the models.
- [HaifaCSP](#). A C++ FD solver using SAT solving algorithms.
- [JaCoP](#). A Java-based constraint solver with an interface to FlatZinc (from version 4.2).
- [MinisatID](#). An implementation of a search algorithm combining techniques from the fields of SAT, SAT Module Theories, Constraint Programming and Answer Set Programming, has an interface to FlatZinc.
- [Mistral 2.0](#). A C++ FD solver.
- [Opturion CPX](#). A Constraint Programming solver with eXplanation system, has an interface to FlatZinc.
- [OR-Tools](#). A set of Operations Research tools developed at Google.
- [OscaR/CBLS](#). A FlatZinc interface to the Constraint Based Local Search component of the [OscaR](#) toolkit.
- [Picat CP/SAT](#).
- [SICStus Prolog](#). Includes a library for evaluating FlatZinc (from version 4.0.5).
- [SCIP](#). A framework for Constraint Integer Programming, has an interface to FlatZinc.
- [Yuck](#). A local search solver with an interface to FlatZinc.



# MiniZinc challenge



---

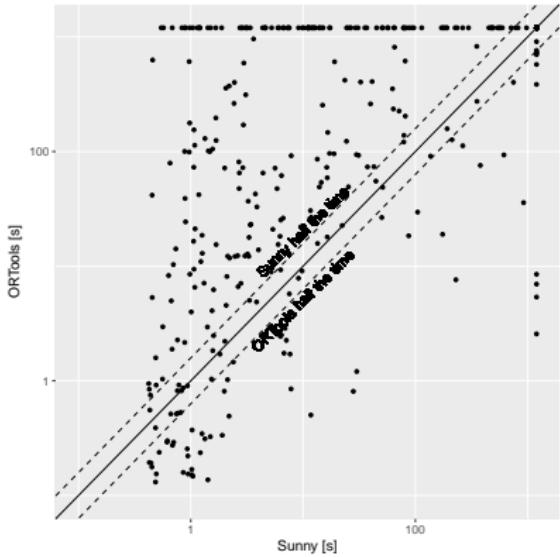
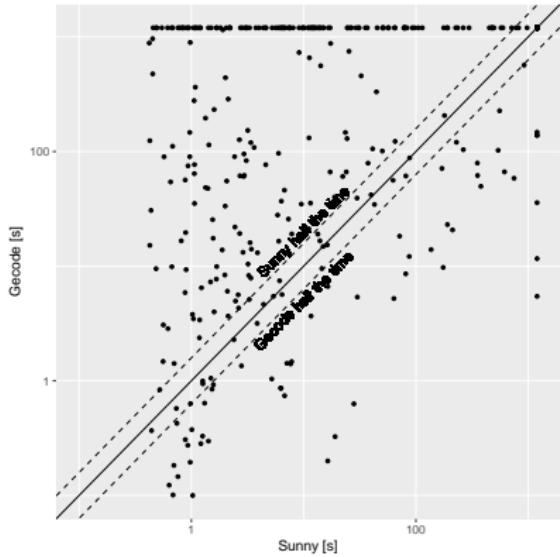
Stuckey, Peter J., Thibaut Feydy, Andreas Schutt, Guido Tack, and Julien Fischer. "The MiniZinc Challenge 2008-2013." *AI Magazine* 35, no. 2 (2014): 55–60.

# Algorithm Selection to the Rescue!

# Algorithm Selection to the Rescue!

▷ Sunny

# MiniZinc challenge



## Algorithm Selection to the Rescue!

- ▷ Sunny

## Algorithm Selection to the Rescue!

- ▷ Sunny
- ▷ (SAT)zilla

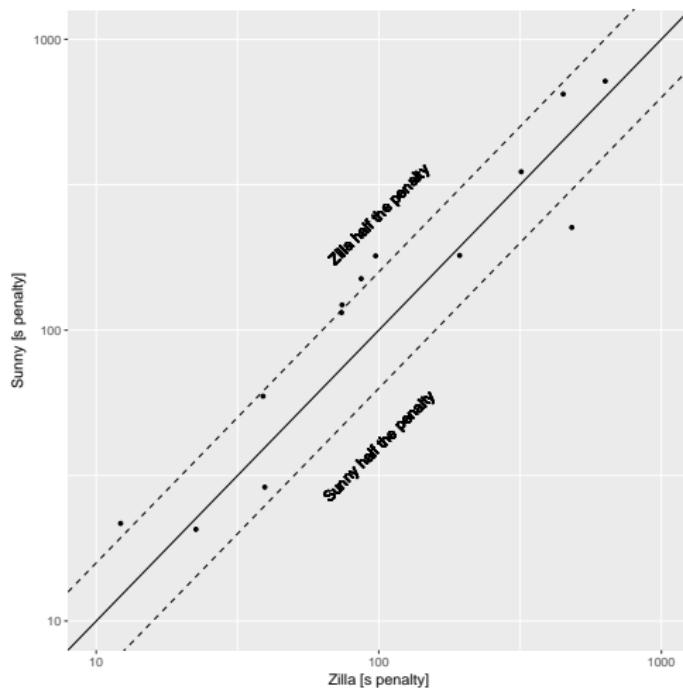
## Algorithm Selection to the Rescue!

- ▷ Sunny
- ▷ (SAT)zilla
- ▷ LLAMA

## Algorithm Selection to the Rescue!

- ▷ Sunny
- ▷ (SAT)zilla
- ▷ LLAMA
- ▷ ...

# Algorithm Selection challenge



---

Kotthoff, Lars, Barry Hurley, and Barry O'Sullivan. "The ICON Challenge on Algorithm Selection." *AI Magazine* 38, no. 2 (2017).



## Challenges

- ▷ Algorithm Selection in every solver!

## Challenges

- ▷ Algorithm Selection in every solver!
- ▷ Model portfolios

## Challenges

- ▷ Algorithm Selection in every solver!
- ▷ Model portfolios
- ▷ Super-franken-model-representation-solver portfolios

## Challenges

- ▷ Algorithm Selection in every solver!
- ▷ Model portfolios
- ▷ Super-franken-model-representation-solver portfolios

Go Forth and Constrain!

I'm hiring!

several funded PhD positions available, focus on algorithm selection and configuration, meta-learning, combinatorial problems



(not the view from my office)