

# Learning Scheduling Models from Event Data

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# Motivation: Schedule-Driven Systems



Timetables



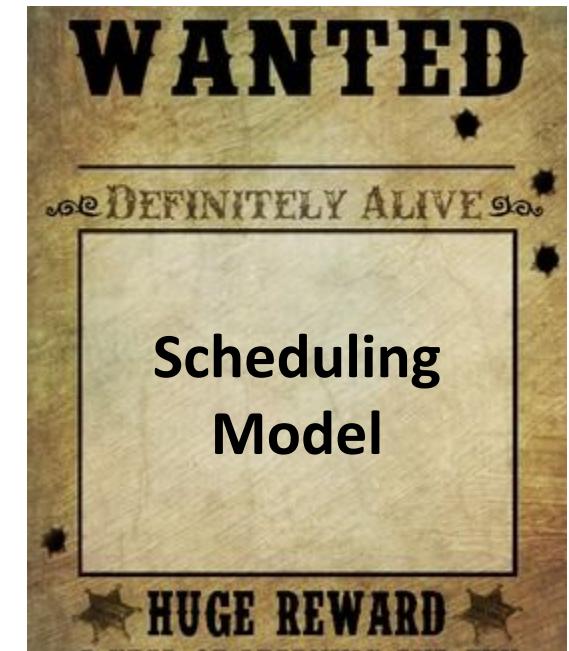
Production plans



Appointment books

# Modeling Schedule-Driven Systems

- OR analyst models the system manually
  - Interviews & time studies
  - Ad-hoc modeling decisions
- Issues with manual modeling
  - Time consuming
  - Inaccurate measurements
  - Modeling expertise matters

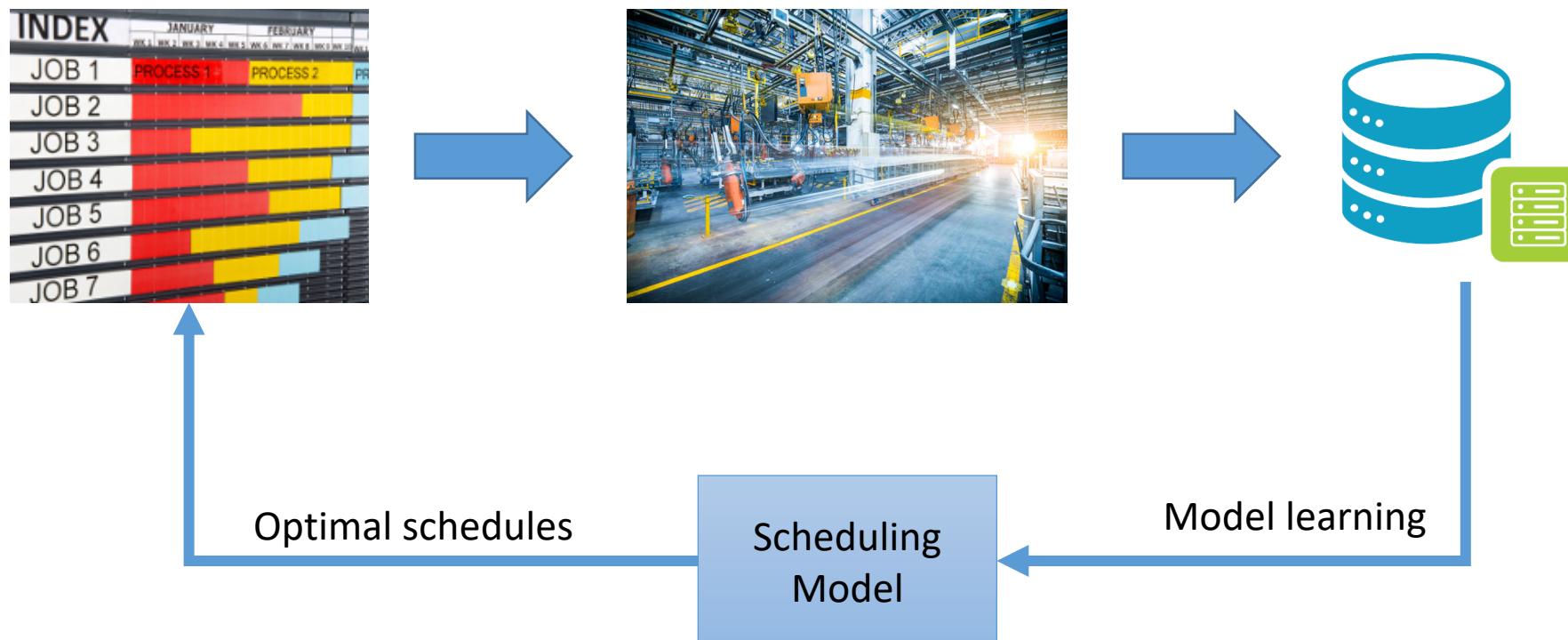


Can we automatically create a scheduling model?

# Model Learning from Event Data

## Assumptions

1. System is already running
2. Event data contains only feasible solutions



# What is event data?

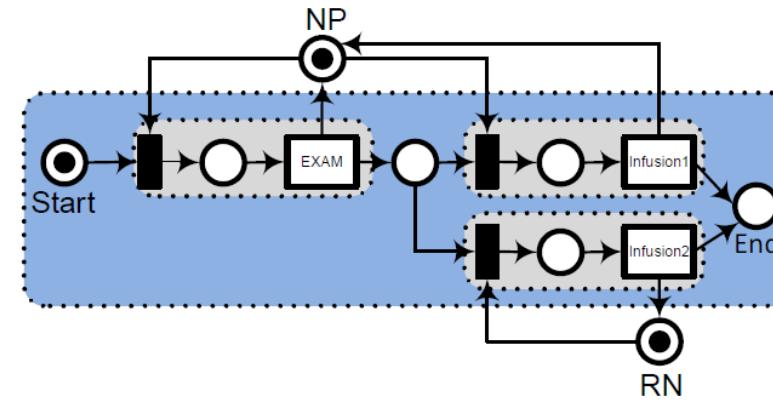


- Recordings of schedule executions:

Case	Activity Type	Resources	Start	Complete
pat1	Blood-Draw	RN	9:05AM	9:10AM
pat1	Exam	MD	9:55AM	10:20AM
pat2	Exam	NP	9:30AM	9:45AM
pat2	Infusion	RN	9:35AM	10:52AM
pat3	Exam	NP	12:45PM	1:10PM
pat3	Infusion	NP	9:35AM	10:32AM

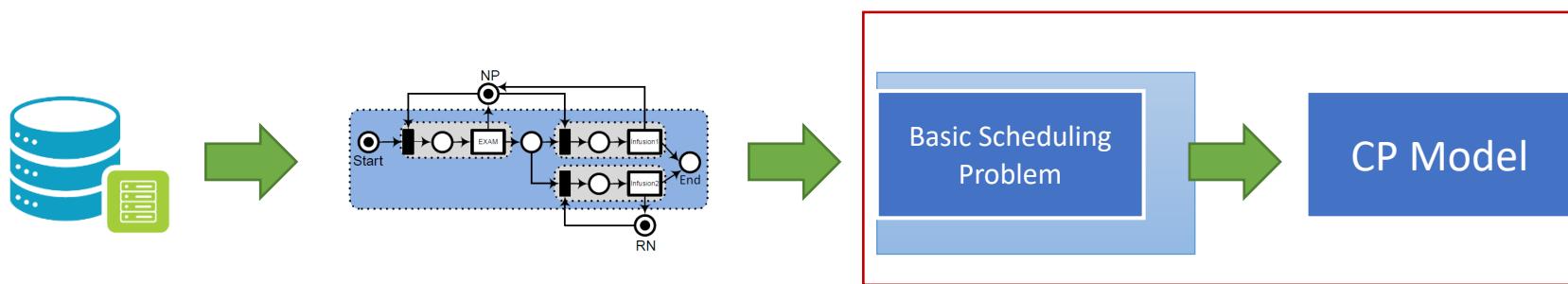
# Process Mining

Case	Activity Type	Resources	Start	Complete
pat1	Blood-Draw	RN	9:05AM	9:10AM
pat1	Exam	MD	9:55AM	10:20AM
pat2	Exam	NP	9:30AM	9:45AM
pat2	Infusion	RN	9:35AM	10:52AM
pat3	Exam	NP	12:45PM	1:10PM
pat3	Infusion	NP	9:35AM	10:32AM



- Mining process models from event data (typically to Petri nets)
- Models are used for descriptive and predictive analysis
- In this work: process mining meets scheduling

# Our Approach: Model Learning using Process Mining

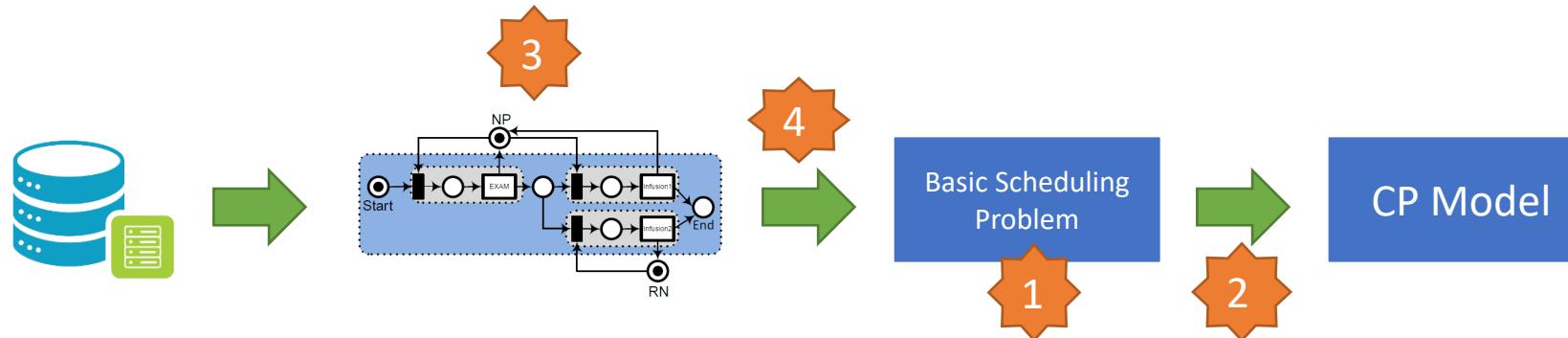


Separating problem description (BSP)  
from the constraint programming  
(CP) model that solves it

# Outline

- Introduction
- Details of the Contribution
- Proof of Concept Experiments
- Future Work

# Contributions



1. BSP = declarative problem representation
2. Mapping BSP into CP model
3. Defining a new type of Petri net - ARPNs
4. Mapping ARPNs to BSPs
5. End-to-end data to model solution

# Basic Scheduling Problems (BSPs)

Basic Scheduling  
Problem

1

- Defines a family of scheduling problems

## Definition (Basic Scheduling Problem (BSP))

Given a set of activities to be scheduled, a function  $\theta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$  that maps these activities to activity types and a function  $v : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  that maps activities to jobs, and a set of resources  $\mathcal{R}$ , the BSP is a tuple  $\langle \mathcal{A}, \theta, v, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{V}, \Pi, c, d \rangle$  with:

- $\mathcal{T}$  being the set of activity types,
- $\mathcal{R}$  being the set of resources,
- $\mathcal{V}$  being the set of jobs,
- $\Pi = \{\Pi_v \subseteq \mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{T} \mid v \in \mathcal{V}\}$  being a set of finite sequences over  $\mathcal{T}$ ,
- $\Pi_v$  being the set of precedence relations between pairs of activity types, such that for all  $(t, t') \in \Pi_v$ , a job  $v$  can only start after  $t$  has been completed and before  $t'$  can start in job  $v$ ,
- $c : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^+$  being the capacity of each resource to their capacities, and,
- $d : \mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  being a resource availability function that maps pairs of activity types and resources (that can execute these activities) to their availability values in the time domain.

TL;DR

- Generalizes well-studied scheduling problems: single-machine, parallel machine and job-shop

# Basic Scheduling Problem (BSP)

- A BSP comprises two parts
  1. Instance-based (given for an instance)
    - Set of jobs containing activities
    - Mapping of jobs and activities to respective types

pat1: A1 (Blood-Draw) A2 (Exam)

pat2: A3 (Exam) A4 (Infusion)

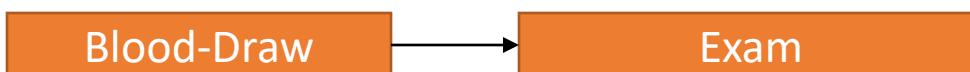
Job types:  
Consulting patient  
On-treatment patient

# Basic Scheduling Problems (BSPs)

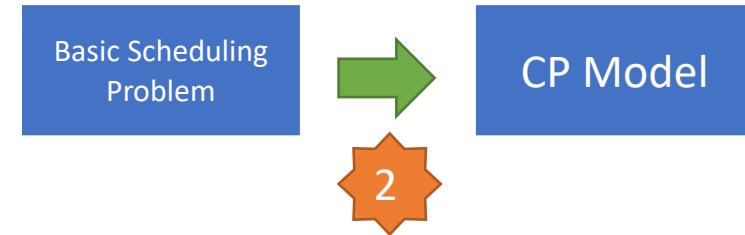
Basic Scheduling  
Problem

1

- A BSP comprises two parts
- 2. Parameterized (learned)
  - Precedence constraints between activity types per job type
  - Resources and their capacities: medical doctor (4), nurse (3)
  - Durations for resource & activity type combinations: exam by NP (15 min), exam by MD (25 min)

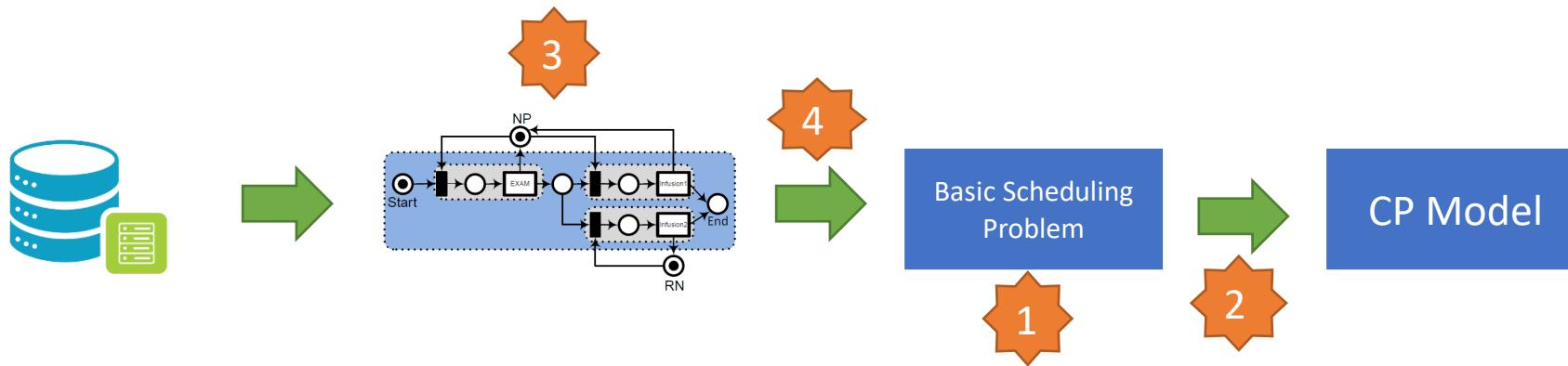


# Mapping BSP to CP Model



- BSP components are mapped to CP variables and constraints
  - Activities – mandatory interval variables
  - Precedence – *EndBeforeStart* constraints per job type
  - Resource assignment – optional interval variables with resource dependent durations
  - Resource capacity – *Cumulative* global constraint per resource
- Standardized CP model (no guarantees on quality of model)
- Objective function – not part of the BSP (future work)

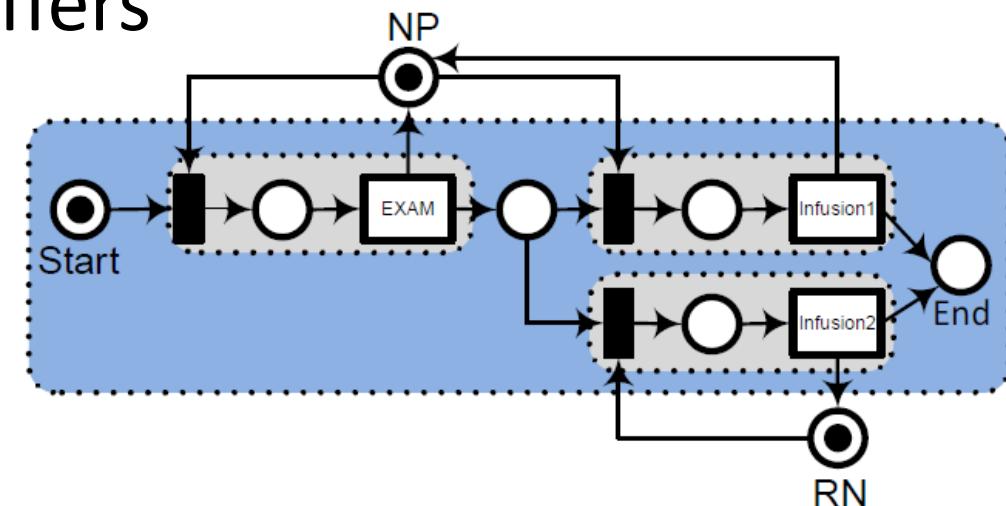
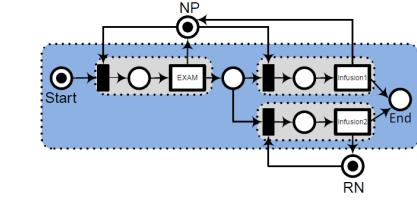
# So far...



# Timed Petri net (TPN)

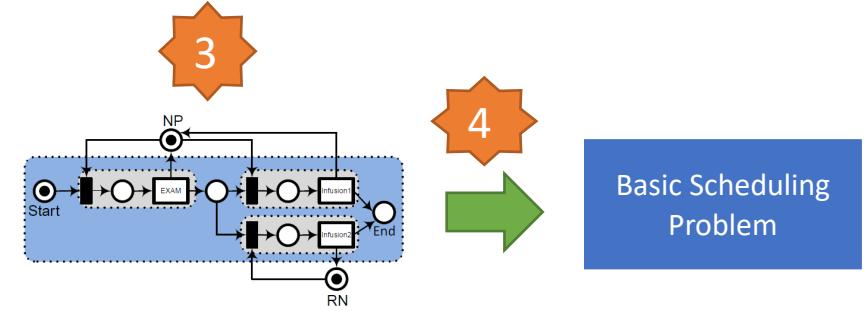
3

- Well-established formalism to model discrete-event dynamic systems
- Rectangles = transitions
  - Labeled transitions – activity types with specified durations
  - Silent transitions – routing (resource assignment)
- Circles = places; activity/resource buffers
- Edges = preconditions/effects
- Tokens = system state



Silva (2013). *Half a century after Carl Adam Petri's Ph.D. thesis: A perspective on the field.*

# Gap: Expressivity of TPNs

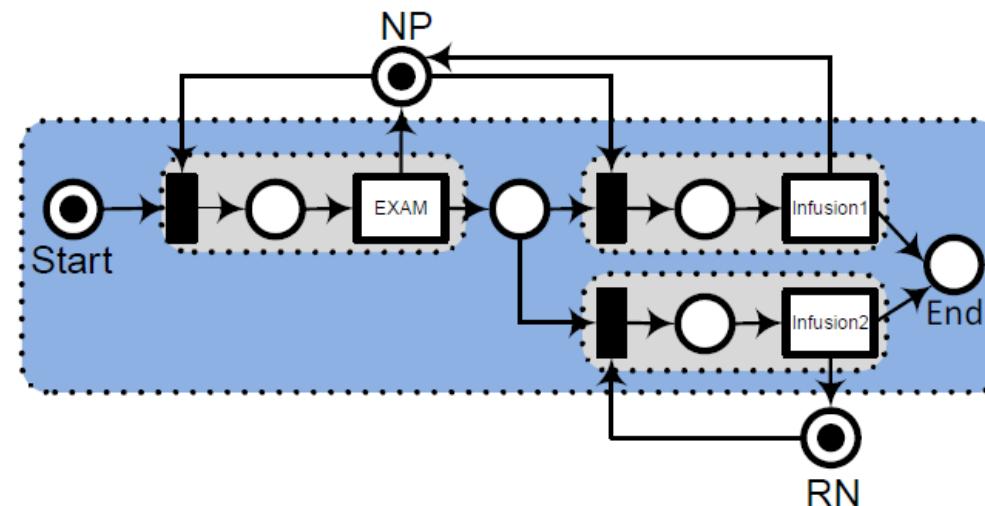


- TPNs are more expressive than BSPs
  - Shared resources per activity
  - Non-unary demand for resources
  - ....
- Mapping to BSP requires restricting the TPN

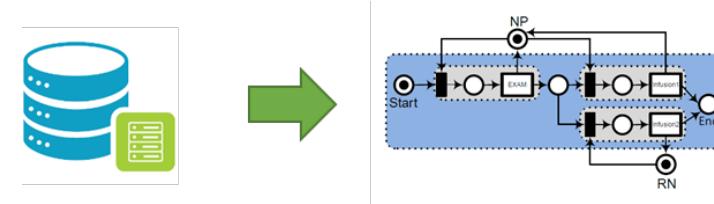
# Activity-Resource Petri net (ARPN)

## ➤ Restricted TPNs

- ❑ Activity type constructs (**grey area**)
- ❑ Job type constructs (**blue area**) – contain only activity constructs
- ❑ Activity-Resource PN – resource buffers connected to activity types

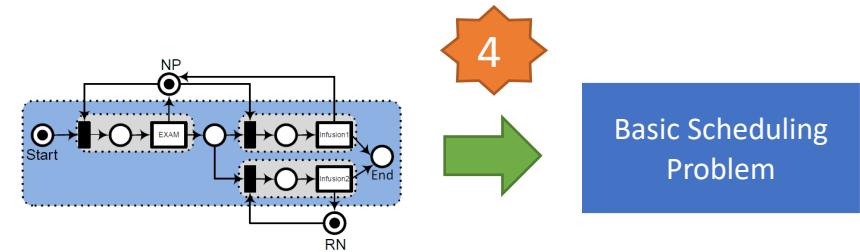


# Mining TPNs from Event Data

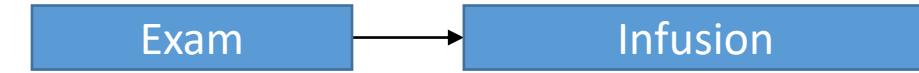
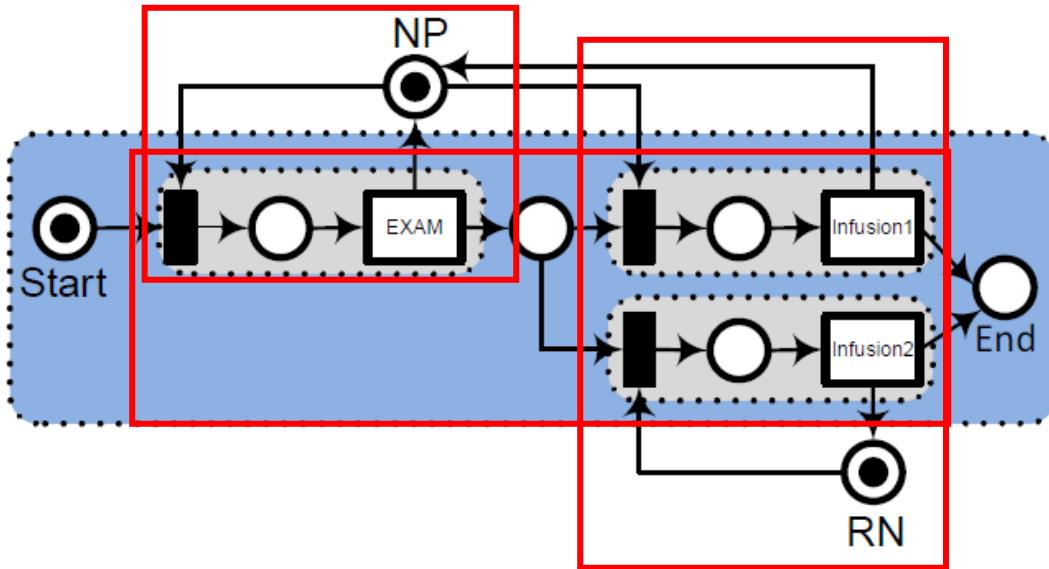


- Produce TPNs from event data by mining
  - Temporal dependencies (precedence, overlaps,...)
  - Duration distributions (we take mean values)
  - Resource capacities and activity assignments
- Must verify that TPN is ARPN (polynomial time in size of TPN)

# Mapping ARPN to BSP



Example: On-treatment patient



- Exam by NP (fixed duration)
- Infusion by NP or RN
- Duration of Infusion is resource dependent

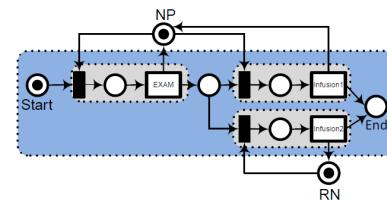
Technical details of the algorithm are in the paper

# Outline

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- Details of the Contribution
- Proof of Concept Experiments
- Future Work

# Proof of Concept 1: Job-Shop Scheduling

Job-shop scheduling (JSP)  
standard benchmarks



Comparison 1: BSP = JSP?



Basic Scheduling  
Problem

Comparison 2: CP model good enough?

CP Model

CP Optimizer  
10 min time limit



# Proof of Concept 1: Results

## ➤ BSP learning

- ❑ Learned BSP is equivalent to the originating JSP
- ❑ Learning BSP takes less than 1 second (on average)

Comparison 1: BSP = JSP?



Basic Scheduling Problem

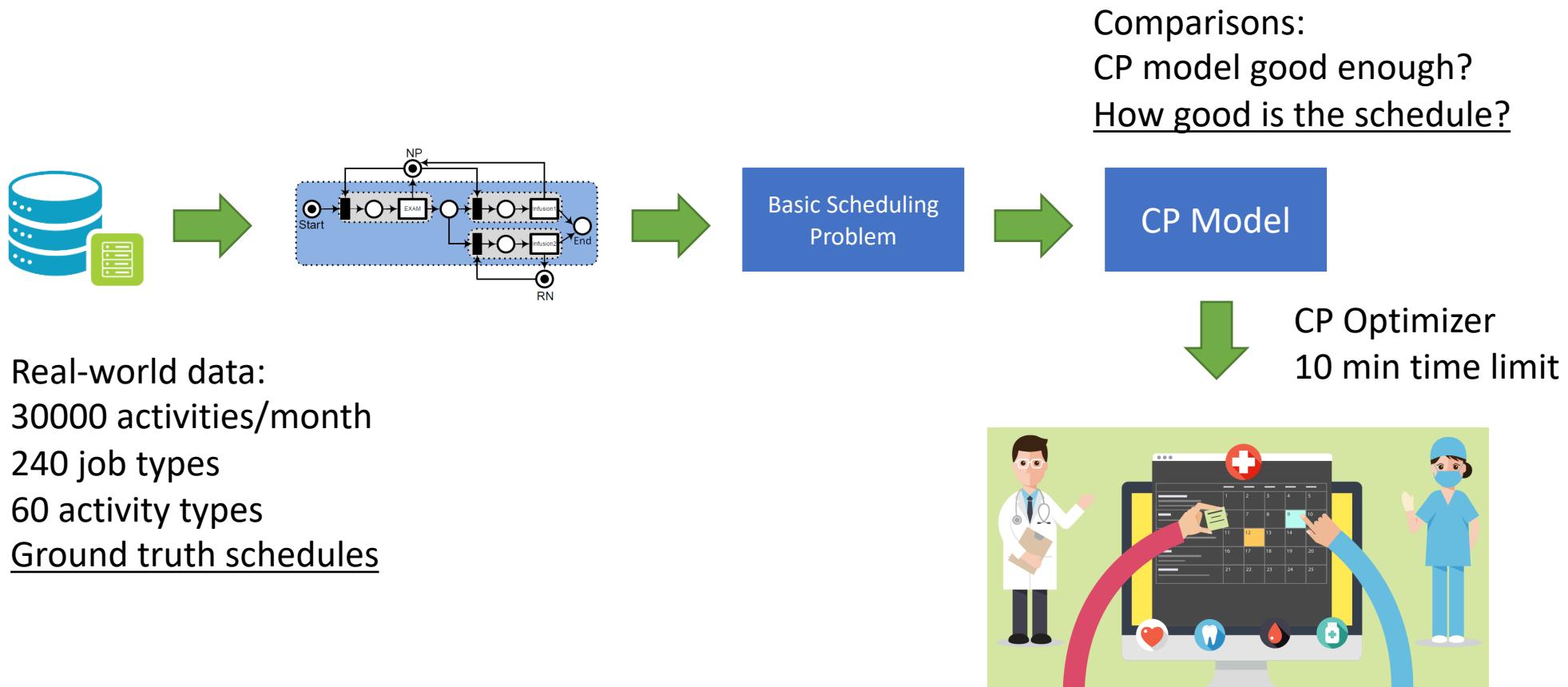
## ➤ CP Model

- ❑ CP solved 49/53 learned models to optimality in 15.4 seconds on average
- ❑ Found feasible solutions for the other 4 with an average optimality gap of 6.3% (10 min time limit)

Comparison 2: CP model good enough?

CP Model

# Proof of Concept 2: Appointment Scheduling



# Proof of Concept 2: Results

- BSP learning
  - 3 months training data (January – March 2016)
  - 1 month test data (April 2016, 21 days)
  - Learning BSP takes approx. 450 seconds

# Proof of Concept 2: Results

## ➤ CP Model:

Min Makespan:

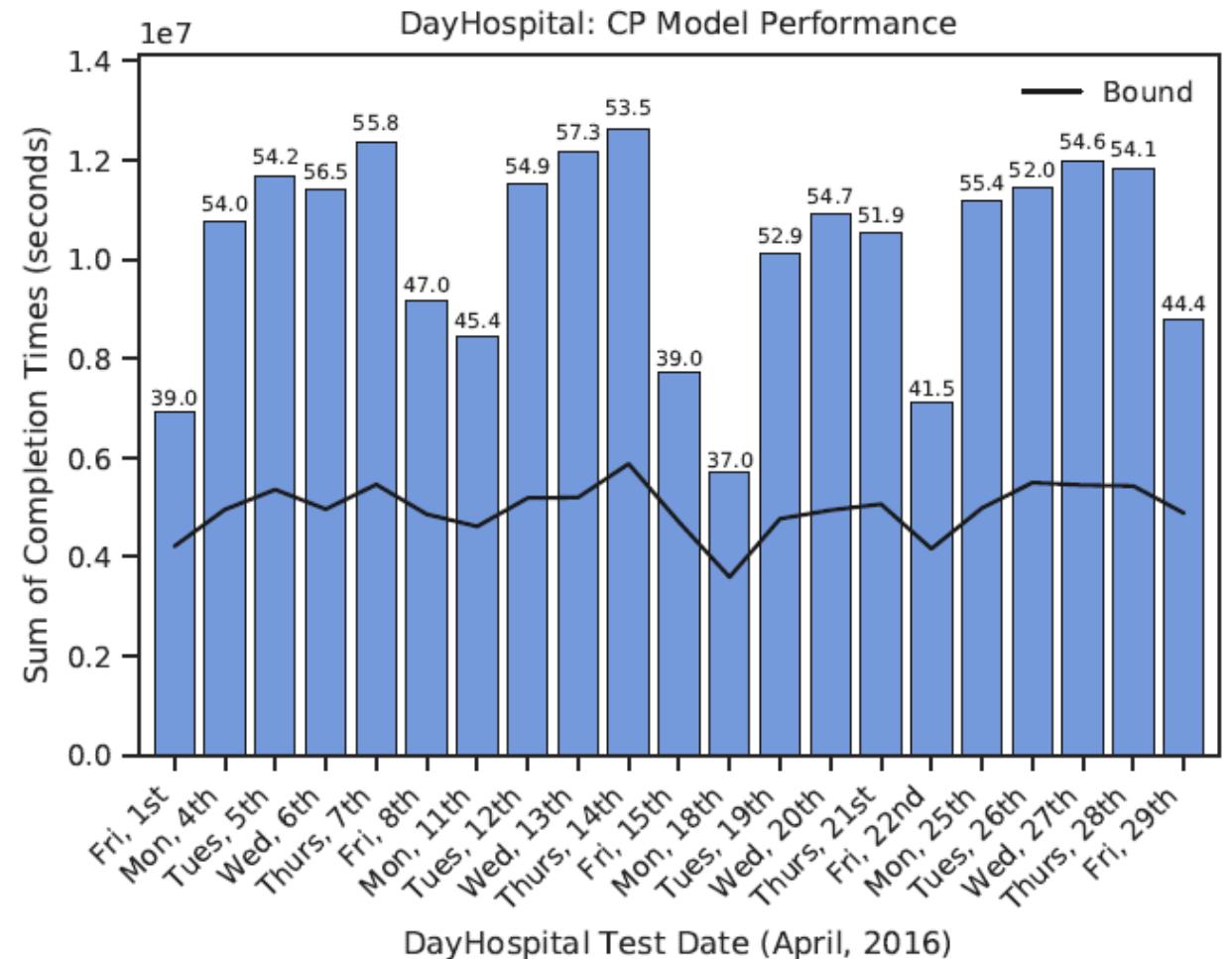
Solved to optimality

in less than 1 seconds for all test days.

Min sum of completion times:

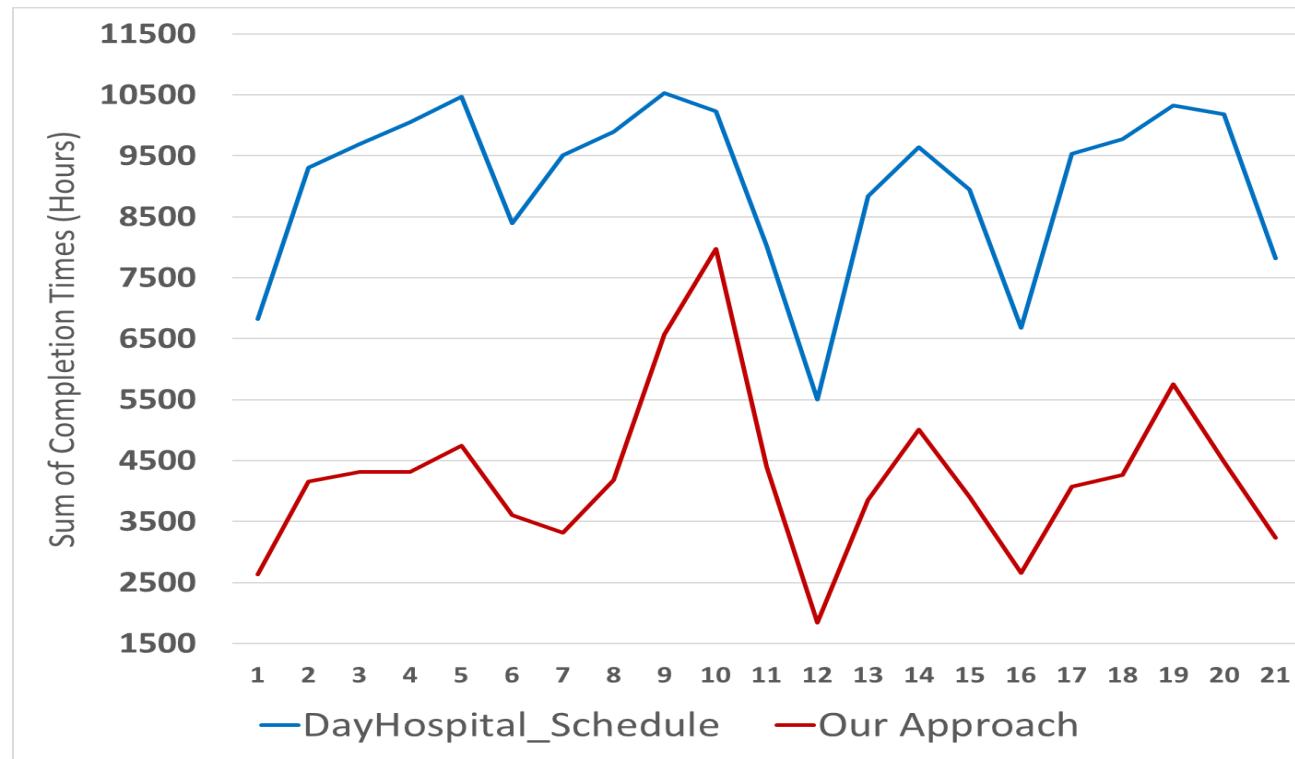
Optimality gap – 50.3% (avg)

Feasible solutions for all days



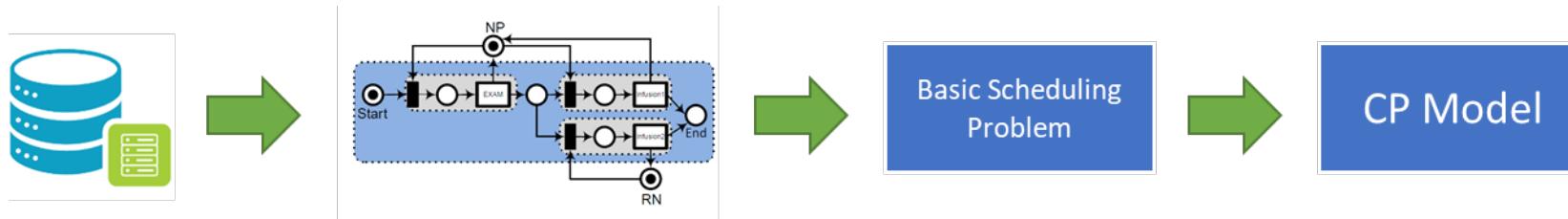
# Schedule Comparison Experiment (Not in the paper)

- Comparing our schedules to real hospital schedules
- Execution comparison: real durations and punctuality (patients are early/late)



# Future Work

- Learning scheduling models with objective functions
- Extending BSP to capture more complex scheduling problems (TPN expressivity)
- Mapping learned Petri nets to stochastic scheduling problems (via stochastic Petri nets)



## Learning Scheduling Models from Event Data

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