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Bi-level Model for Reliability based Maintenance and Job Scheduling

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A B S T R A C T

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Keywords: Scheduling Human Error Bi-level Optimization Many defects in manufacturing system are caused by human resources that show the significance of the human resources in manufacturing systems. Most manufacturers attempt to investigate the human resources in order to improve the work conditions and reduce the human error by providing a proper work-rest schedule. On the other hand, manufacturer deal with machine scheduling based on demand and work type. The mentioned scheduling would be effective if both are simultaneously implemented; then, we confront integrated human- machine systems which work with minimum cost, machine failure and human errors. Considering this fact, we propose a bi-level mixed integer nonlinear model to minimize the machine scheduling costs such as earliness-tardiness cost and interruption cost in the upper level and human error in lower level according to performance shaping factors (PSFs). Several numerical instances are implemented by the proposed model to show the model effectiveness to obtain the best work schedule for human resources and machines in manufacturing systems.

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1. INTRODUCTION

There are extensive literature investigated on models of machine scheduling, but most of them considered an unreal assumption that leads to non-applicable results. They often assume that machines are available all the time, during the planning period, while machines cannot operate nonstop because of maintenance actions, human resources rest [1-3].

Regarding this fact, two factors influence the machine scheduling, the first is machine maintenance and the second is human resources rest.

The first factor, machine maintenance has been investigated under unavailability assumption in machine scheduling models. Wang and Cheng [4] studied a two identical parallel-machine scheduling in which one machine is available in a predetermined interval and the other machine is available all the time in the planning horizon. The objective is to maximize the number of ontime jobs. Costa et al. [5] investigated a scheduling problem with periodic tool changes that cause machine availability restrictions. Gedik et al. [6] proposed a model to schedule non-identical jobs with availability intervals and sequence dependent setup times on

unrelated parallel machines in a fixed planning horizon. Sheen et al. [7] studied a scheduling *n* non-preemptive problem with machine availability and eligibility constraints. Lee and Kim [8] proposed a model to schedule identical parallel machines. Each machine requires a preventive maintenance and are unavailable for a specific period. Mishra and Jain [9] investigated a model that considers an accumulated deterioration based on increasing intensity for the random failures that make machines unavailable. Mokhtari et al.[10] studied a realistic variant of flow shop scheduling which integrates flow shop batch processing machines (FBPM) and preventive maintenance with unavailability constraints.

Other reported literature [11-14] also investigated the maintenance of the machine under availability constraints and proposed several models for machine scheduling. In all mentioned models the human effect was not considered. That is to say, human was considered as a common factor that does not have any effect on scheduling.

To overcome the mentioned issue about human resources, some researchers investigate the effect of human on scheduling in manufacturing systems. Jamshidi and Seyyed Esfahani [15] proposed a mixed-

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integer nonlinear model to find the best working schedule based on product quality cost and workers reliability. They assumed that the workers have a specific fatigue limit and the workers can rest to elevate their fatigue. Qiong et al. [16] presented a metaheuristic model to tackle the limitation on human resources in parallel machine scheduling problem with precedence constraints. Bouzidi-Hassini et al. [17] discussed a new approach to schedule the production and simultaneously maintenance operations. This approach takes into account human resources parameters such as availability and skills. Zhu et al. [18] studied a single machine scheduling problem that the process time of each job is dependent on resource allocation function, job position in the sequence and rate-modifying activity. Although, there are other research papers that investigate the human resource in scheduling, most of them considered human as a common resource like other resources such as equipment and raw material.

Another category of papers tries to schedule human resources according to error, fatigue and reliability and considered human as important as machines in scheduling. They tried to schedule human resources to implement the jobs in a proper interval of fatigue and error rate. Pacaux-Lemoine et al. [19] showed the less attention paid to the integration of human and machines in manufacturing systems and proposed a framework to overcome this defect. Böllhoff et al. [20] presented an empirical study of the human error probability (HEP) and its effects on cellular manufacturing. Li et al. [21] provided a framework to evaluate the muscle force and fatigue development caused by lifting tasks. The output of this type of frameworks utilized in mathematical models that optimize machine schedule and human rest schedule for example, Jamshidiand and Maadi [22] proposed a model to optimize the human resources rest time and machine schedule based on the fatiguerecovery model. Jaber et al.[23] presented the "learning-forgetting-fatigue-recovery model" (LFFRM) that addresses probable problems related to human resources in manufacturing environments.

2. BI-LEVEL PROGRAMMING

Bi-level programming (BLP) is categorized in hierarchical programming area. In this type of programming an agent as a "leader", integrates through its optimization process the response of a "follower" to his decisions. The followers is assumed to be rational and try to make optimal decisions. That is to say, in the BLP problems, each agent (decision maker) optimizes his objective function(s) separately. While, the agents' decisions in each level affect the decision space of another level [24].

BLP model is discussed in many papers and applications are presented in literature [25-28]. The general formulation of a BLP problem is as follows [24]:

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(U) \min_{x} F(x, y)

s.t.

G(x, y) \le 0,

where y = y(x) is define implicitly by lower level as follows:

(L) \min_{y} f(x, y)

s.t.

g(x, y) \le 0,
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As could be seen the BLP consists of two sub models the upper level (U) and the lower level (L). F(x, y) is the objective function of the upper level and the X is the vector of decision variable of upper level decision maker. G(x, y) is also the set of constraint for upper level. On the other hand, the f(x, y) is the objective function of lower level. Y is the decision vector of the lower level decision-maker and g(x, y) is the constraint set of the lower level. To solve a BLP the important factor is the response function. The value of Y calculated in the lower level and replaced in upper level through response function. In fact, the response function connects the upper and lower-level variables and creates a link between the two models. There are some advantages for BLP in comparison with traditional one level models. (1) BLP can be used to optimize different or contradictory objective function (2) BLP can obtain the optimal results for leaders and followers problems and (3) facilitate the modeling by splitting large models to small models [26].

Since the machine scheduling and human rest scheduling are two conflict decisions. BLP can be used to model this type of problems and provide the optimal solution for machine scheduling and human work-rest schedule.

3. HUMAN RELIABILITY ANALYSIS AND PSFS

Human reliability analysis (HRA) is a set of methods includes error classification, error detection, and human error probability (HEP) determination. HRA methods have been proposed to reduce or eliminate the HEP and related costs such as injuries, human resource idleness, and poor quality.

HRA has been categorized in three classes [29]:

 Subjective HRA based on probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) or probability safety assessment that includes a systematic risk assessment during the work period.

- Depend HRA methods are less subjective and recently proposed.
- HRA based on the cognitive control theory

Many efforts have been done to make the HRA closer to reality. One of these efforts is proposing PSF to consider the effect of some internal and external factors on human reliability. On the other hand PSFs represent some effective aspects such as individual characteristics, the environment, the environment and the task that decreases or improves human resources performance, thereby increasing or decreasing the human error probability [30].

PSF was proposed by Swain [31] for first time and usually treated as "the regulation item for the introduction of the error rate" or "the providing items for the prediction of human error". In fact, PSFs are the aspects of human behavior and the context that can impact on human resource performance, these factors were viewed in terms of the effects, they might exert on human performance such as work efficiency and system reliability. Many PSFs and categories have been proposed by researchers for different systems such as nuclear or power plant [32],[33],[34].

In practice, the number of PSFs that are included in HRA methods lies between these 1 to 60 PSFs. For example, the SPAR-H method [35], which is widely used in the US nuclear industry, includes eight PSFs. The internationally widely used cognitive reliability and error analysis method (CREAM) [36] use nine PSFs. Boring studied the important PSFs and proposed 8 PSFs that are considered in common HRA methods [37]. **PSFs** are "Available Time", "Stress", "Complexity", "Experience and Training", "Procedures", "Ergonomics", "Fitness for Duty", "Work Process".

In prior researches, some coefficients have been proposed for each PSF that show the effect of PSF on the HEP. For example, SPAR-H method proposed a table for PSF value in the different situation and the system [38]. Table 1 shows the weight for the different manner of available time as a PSF.

TABLE 1. The PSF weight for available time

PSF level (Available Time)	Multipliers Action	Multipliers Diagnosis
Inadequate Time	P (failure) =1	P (failure) =1
Time available = time required/Barely adequate time	10	10
Nominal time	1	1
Time available > 5 x time required Extra time	0.1	0.1
Time available > 50 x time required Expansive time	0.01	0.01
Insufficient information	Nominal time	Nominal time

PSFs can have a positive or negative effect on HEP. When the PSF has a positive effect, it corresponds to a value less than one; that is used to decrement the HEP. When the PSF influence in a negative way, it corresponds to a value greater than one and causes a reduction in HEP. The total effect of PSFs can be obtained using Equation (1)

$$TPI = IPSF_1 * IPSF_2 * \dots * IPSF_8$$
 (1)

The total impact of PSFs (TPI) is the multiplication of each PSF impact (IPSF). According to the amount TPI, the HEP value can be provided by Equation (2)

$$HEP_{composite} = \frac{_{HEP_{nominal}.TPI}}{_{HEP_{nominal}.(TPI-1)+1}}$$
 (2)

HEP_{nominal} is the nominal error rate for a specific human resource. As could be seen the HEP_{composite} value is the human error rate in presence of PSFs. We uses these Equations in the lower level to optimize the rest time of workers according to HEP.

4. PROBLEM STATEMENT

In This section, the BLP model has been proposed. First, the upper-level model is developed. After while, the lower-level model is proposed. Before introducing the mathematical model all indices, parameters and variables used to model the problem are presented as follows:

Nomeno	Nomenclature						
Indices							
I	Number of job						
J	Number of time position						
M	Number of machine and worker						
i	Index for job $(i=1,2,N)$						
j	Index for time position $(j=1, 2,J)$						
m	Index for machine and its related worker $(m=1, 2,M)$						

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Parameters	
P_i	Processing time of job i
$D_i^{\ c}$	The ideal completion time (or due-date) of job i
$D_i{}^s$	The ideal start time for job $I(D_i^s = D_i^s - P_i + I)$
$lpha_{_i}$	The unitary earliness penalty of job i
$\eta_{_i}$	The unitary interrupt penalty of job i
$oldsymbol{eta}_i$	The unitary tardiness penalty of job i
co_{im}	The complexity of job i for worker m
pr_{im}	The worker m procedure to implement job i
ex_{im}	The worker m experience to implement job i
f_{im}	The worker m fitness to implement job i
$HEP_{critical}$	The critical level of worker error probability

 $NOHEP_m$ The nominal error probability for worker m

Decision v	Decision variables							
C_i	The completion time of job <i>i</i>							
M_{mj}	1 if the work of machine m rests in position j ; = 0 otherwise							
Y_{mj}	1 if the worker of machine m is idle in position j ; =0 otherwise							
X_{imj}	1 if job i is done on machine m in position j ; = 0 otherwise							
E_i	The earliness of job i							
T_i	The tardiness of job i							
S_i	The start time of job i							
$CoPSF_{mj}$	The PSF value related to complexity for worker m in position j							
$PrPSF_{mj}$	The PSF value related to procedure for worker m in position j							
$ExPSF_{mj}$	The PSF value related to experience for worker m in position j							
$FiPSF_{mj}$	The PSF value related to fitness for worker m in position j							
TPI_{mj}	Total impact of PSFs in position j for worker m							
HEP_{mj}	The worker m error probability in position j							

In this paper we model a production system that includes parallel machines and their related human resources. The model aim to optimize the production schedule in upper level and work-rest schedule of human resources in lower level. Some assumptions have been made to model the proposed problem.

- Each machine has a worker (human resource)
- The processing time for all jobs is known and deterministic.
- No job can be processed on more than one machine simultaneously.
- Any machine can process any job.
- No machine can process more than one job at a time.
- Preemption is allowed.
- Number of jobs and machines are fixed.
- Transportation time between machines is negligible.
- Machine setup time is negligible.
- Four PSFs have been considered. (Complexity, procedure, experience and fitness for duty) since they are dependent on the jobs.
- The HEP of a worker cannot be more than critical HEP
- If worker HEP is more than critical HEP, he should rest to reduce the error rate.
- The process time of jobs is known and deterministic.

With respect to above notation and assumptions, the bilevel model can be proposed as below:

$$\min_{Z_{apper}} Z_{apper} = \sum_{i=1}^{I} (\alpha_{i} E_{i} + \beta_{i} T_{i}) \\
+ \sum_{2} \prod_{i=1}^{I} \prod_{i} \left[\sum_{m=1}^{W} \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{J-1} |X_{imj} - X_{im}(j+1)| \right) + X_{im1} + X_{imJ} \right] - 2 \right]$$
(1)

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{j=1}^{J} X_{imj} = P_i \qquad \forall i;$$
 (2)

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} X_{lmj} \le 1 \qquad \forall i, j; \tag{3}$$

$$T_i \ge C_i - D_i^c \qquad \forall i; \tag{4}$$

$$E_i \ge D_i^s - S_i \qquad \forall i; \tag{5}$$

$$C_i = \max_{m} [\max_{j} (j * X_{imj})] \qquad \forall i; \tag{6}$$

$$S_i = \min_{m} [\min_{j} [j + A(1 - X_{imj})]] \qquad \forall i;$$
 (7)

$$\sum_{i=1}^{I} X_{imj} \le 1 - M_{m,j} \qquad \forall m, j; \tag{8}$$

$$X_{imj} \in \{0,1\} \qquad \forall i, m, j; \qquad (9)$$

$$M_{mj} \in \{0,1\}$$
 $\forall i, m;$ (10)

$$T_i, E_i \ge 0$$
 $\forall i;$ (11)

$$Min Z_{box} = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{J=1}^{J} HEP_{mj}}{M * J} + \sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{J=1}^{J} Y_{mj}$$
(12)

$$Y_{mj} = (1 - \sum_{i=1}^{I} X_{imj}) * (1 - M_{mj}) \qquad \forall m, j;$$
(13)

$$HEP_{mj} - HEP_{critical} \le M_{mj}$$
 $\forall m, j;$ (14)

$$M_{mj} \le 1 + (HEP_{mj} - HEP_{critical})$$
 $\forall m, j;$ (15)

$$CoPSF_{mj} = \sum_{i=1}^{I} co_{im} . X_{imj} \qquad \forall m, j;$$
(16)

$$PrPSF_{mj} = \sum_{i=1}^{I} pr_{im} . X_{imj} \qquad \forall m, j;$$
 (17)

$$ExPSF_{mj} = \sum_{i=1}^{I} ex_{im} . X_{imj} \qquad \forall m, j;$$
(18)

$$FiPSF_{mj} = \sum_{i=1}^{I} f_{im} . X_{imj} \qquad \forall m, j;$$
(19)

$$TPI_{mj} = CoPSF_{mj} * PrPSF_{mj} * ExPSF_{mj} * FiPSF_{mj}$$
 $\forall m, j;$ (20)

$$HEP_{mj} = \frac{\sum_{j=j-1}^{j} \frac{NOHEP_m TPI_{mj}}{NOHEP_m \left(TPI_{mj}-1\right)+1}}{2} \quad \forall m, j \ge 2 \quad (21)$$

$$HEP_{mj} = NOHEP_m$$
 $\forall m, j = 0$ (22)

$$HEP_{m,j} \ge 0$$
 $\forall m, j;$ (23)

Relation (1) shows the objective function of upper level. The first component calculates the total weighted earliness and tardiness cost. The second component computes the interruption cost. Equality (2) guarantees that the number of time positions in which job i is processed on all machines, is equal to the processing time of job i. Inequality (3) makes sure that each job can be processed by one machine in each position time. Constraints (4) and (5) calculate the tardiness and earliness of each job respectively. Equations (6) and (7) calculate the completion time and start time for each job. Constraint (8) guarantees that if the worker of machine m rests in a time position no job can be implemented by the machine in the time position. Sets (9-10) define the binary variables and set (11) identifies non-negativity constraints. Relation (12) proposes the objective function of the lower level model. This function tries to minimize the average of HEP for all machine in all position times in first component and idle time of worker in the second component. Equation (13) shows that if the machine does not work and its worker does not rest, the worker is idle. Constraint (14) makes sure that if the HEP of the worker is less than the critical HEP the worker should rest to reduce the error probability. On the other hand constraint (15) guarantees that worker cannot rest if his error rate is less than critical HEP. Constraints (16-19) calculate the PSFs related to complexity, procedure, experience, and fitness for duty according to multiplayers like what mentioned in TABLE 1. These multipliers are given according to work type and worker skills to do job i.

Equation (20) compute the total PSF impact on HEP according to Equation (I) also it should be noted that if the worker does not work his error probability is equal to zero. Finally Equation (21) calculates the average of HEP for each time position, this equation proposes an implicit fact. If the worker does not work in the prior time position, its HEP in current positions reduces in comparison to working in prior position. Constraint (22) indicates that in error rate of the worker in the first position is equal to nominal HEP. Constraint (23) sets a non-negative limit on HEP for each machine and each time position.

If we assume that the critical HEP is equal to 1 then the mentioned problem turns into a common parallel machine scheduling. [39] proposed that common parallel machine scheduling problems are NP-hard and no exact polynomial algorithms have been found to solve these problems. To overcome this difficulty we use some linearization technique to convert the model into a linear one and solve the mathematical model in a reasonable amount time.

5. NUMERICAL EXAMPLE

In this section, we investigate some instances using the proposed bi-level mathematical model. We consider 5 instances in a lathing work shop with 2-5 parallel machines and several jobs as proposed in Table 2.

TABLE 2. Instance parameters

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Instance No.	Job No.	Machine No.	Critical HEP	Nominal HEP					
mstance No.	JOD NO.	Maciline No.	Critical HEP	Worker1	Worker 2	Worker 3	Worker 4	Worker 5	
1	3	2	0.1	0.15	0.15				
2	5	2	0.17	0.13	0.12				
3	10	3	0.16	0.15	0.13	0.15			
4	15	4	0.2	0.16	0.14	0.17	0.18		
5	20	5	0.24	0.15	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.21	

Other parameters such as earliness cost, tardiness cost and interrupt penalty have been extracted from uniform number with appropriate intervals shown in TABLE.

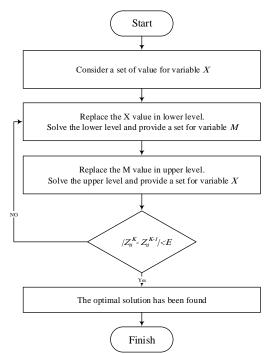
TABLE 3.Cost and time parameters for proposed instances

Input variables	Distribution
Unit interrupt penalty of job $i(\eta_i)$	~ <i>U</i> (1, 3)
Unit earliness penalty of job $i(\alpha_i)$	~ <i>U</i> (1, 3)
Unit tardiness penalty of job $i(\beta_i)$	~ <i>U</i> (1, 2)
Ideal completion time or due date of job i (D_i^c)	\sim U[$d_{min}, d_{min}+\rho$ P"]
Processing time of job i (Pi)	~ U(4, 8)

 $d_{min} = \max(0, P''(v - \frac{\rho}{2}))$ and $P'' = 1/M \sum_{i=1}^{N} P_i$. The expression of P'' tries to satisfy the scale invariance criteria and regularity described in literature [40] for generating experimental scheduling instances. The two parameters and ρ are the tardiness and range parameters, respectively. ν and ρ varies between (0.5, 0.8).

To provide the optimal results using the proposed bilevel model, a repetitive procedure is implemented. The schema of this procedure is shown in Figure . The value of E is considered to be equal to 1.

Table 4 shows the results of proposed model for instances 1-5. In this table, the objective value of upper and lower level have been presented.



 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Figure 1.} & \textbf{The schema of repetitive} \\ \end{tabular} & \textbf{procedure for bi-level} \\ \end{tabular}$

For further investigation, we proposed the detail results of instance No.1.

TABLE 2. The results of proposed method for instances

Instance No.	Z upper	Z lower
1	7.99	26.078
2	12.33	32.45
3	16.24	49.65
4	21.36	78.95
5	29.65	94.23

Tables 5 and 6 show the value of variables X_{imj} and M_{mj} that present the work time of machines and workers rest time, respectively.

As could be seen the worker of machine 1, rests in positions 1 and 7. He also implements job 1 in positions 10-15 and job 2 in positions 5-6 and 8-9. The model tries to maintain the HEP of workers in a proper interval. The HEP value for each worker in each position is shown in TABLE 3.

The proposed results showed that the human reliability was maintained in a proper and safe interval, but the total completion time was extended because of lower level constraints, compared to when human reliability was not considered in classic job scheduling models. Using the proposed human work- rest schedule, the human error decreases and many excess costs such as rework, human injuries and poor quality were reduced.

TABLE 5. The *X* value for instance 1

				TITEL	O. 1110 21 1	arac for mist	ince i				
X(i,m,j)	value	X(i,m,j)	value	X(i,m,j)	value	X(i,m,j)	value	X(i,m,j)	value	X(i,m,j)	value
1.1.1		1.2.1		2.1.1		2.2.1		3.1.1		3.2.1	1
1.1.2		1.2.2		2.1.2		2.2.2		3.1.2		3.2.2	1
1.1.3		1.2.3		2.1.3		2.2.3		3.1.3		3.2.3	1
1.1.4		1.2.4		2.1.4		2.2.4	1	3.1.4	1	3.2.4	
1.1.5		1.2.5		2.1.5	1	2.2.5		3.1.5		3.2.5	1
1.1.6		1.2.6		2.1.6	1	2.2.6		3.1.6		3.2.6	
1.1.7		1.2.7		2.1.7		2.2.7		3.1.7		3.2.7	
1.1.8		1.2.8		2.1.8	1	2.2.8		3.1.8		3.2.8	
1.1.9		1.2.9		2.1.9	1	2.2.9		3.1.9		3.2.9	
1.1.10	1	1.2.10		2.1.10		2.2.10		3.1.10		3.2.10	
1.1.11	1	1.2.11		2.1.11		2.2.11		3.1.11		3.2.11	
1.1.12	1	1.2.12		2.1.12		2.2.12		3.1.12		3.2.12	
1.1.13	1	1.2.13		2.1.13		2.2.13		3.1.13		3.2.13	
1.1.14	1	1.2.14		2.1.14		2.2.14		3.1.14		3.2.14	
1.1.15	1	1.2.15		2.1.15		2.2.15		3.1.15		3.2.15	

TABLE 6. The M value for instance 1

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	M(m,j)	value	M(m,j)	value	M(m,j)	value	M(m,j)	value	M(m,j)	value	M(m,j)	value
_	1.1		1.6		1.11		2.1		2.6	1	2.11	1
	1.2		1.7	1	1.12		2.2		2.7	1	2.12	1
	1.3	1	1.8		1.13		2.3		2.8	1	2.13	1
	1.4		1.9		1.14		2.4		2.9	1	2.14	1
_	1.5		1.10		1.15		2.5		2.10	1	2.15	1

TABLE 3. The HEP value for workers in Instance 1.

Time Position	HEP	Time Position	HEP
1.1	0.15	2.1	0.075
1.2	0.075	2.2	0.075
1.3	0.15	2.3	0
1.4	0.075	2.4	0
1.5	0	2.5	0.075
1.6	0.075	2.6	0.15
1.7	0.15	2.7	0.15
1.8	0.075	2.8	0.15
1.9	0	2.9	0.15
1.10	0	2.10	0.15
1.11	0	2.11	0.15
1.12	0	2.12	0.15
1.13	0	2.13	0.15
1.14	0	2.14	0.15
1.15	0	2.15	0.15

6. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we proposed a bi-level mathematical model for production systems that deal with machine and human resources. The proposed model aim is to provide an optimal machine work scheduling considering the human resources rest time. The machine scheduling is optimized in the upper level and the human resources rest time is optimized in lower level. We considered HEP as the main factor in lower level. Performance shaping factors (PSFs) were considered to make the HEP value closer to reality. Several instances proposed to examine the model efficiency and effectiveness. The obtained results verify that the proposed model can obtain optimal work- rest schedule for machines and human resources.

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Bi-level Model for Reliability based Maintenance and Job Scheduling

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Keywords: Scheduling Human Error Bi-level Optimization بسیاری از نقص ها در کارخانجات ناشی از عملکرد عامل انسانی است که این امر اهمیت نقش نیروی انسانی در این محیط ها را نشان می دهد. بیشتر تولیدکنندگان سعی دارند به منظور توجه بیشتر به عامل انسانی و کاهش خطاهای انسانی یک برنامه کار و استراحت بهینه را ارائه نمایند. از سوی مقابل تولیدکنندگان با ماشین ها نیز مواجه اند و باید برنامه کاری آن ها را بر اساس میزان تقاضا و نوع کار تنظیم نمایند. چنین برنامه هایی زمانی موثر است که انسان و ماشین در ارتباط یا یکدیگر بررسی شوند و یک سیستم انسان – ماشین مورد توجه قرار گیرد. در این مقاله یک مدل دو سطحی بدین منظور ارائه شده است. این مدل ریاضی غیر خطی سعی دارد تا هزینه های برنامه ریزی ماشین ها از قبیل زودکرد و دیرکرد، توقف را در سطح بالایی خود بهینه نماید و در سطح پایین خود خطای انسانی را بر اساس فاکتورهای شکل دهی عملکرد کمینه نماید. تعدادی مثال با استفاده از این مدل مورد بررسی قرار گرفته است که نتایج بدست آمده حاکی از موفقیت مدل در ارائه جواب های موثر و کارآمد می باشد.

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