



# Collaborative Production Planning In Networks Using Variable Optimization Centers

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## 1. Motivation

## 2. Basic idea of the method

2.1. Production planning

2.2. Generation of additional plans

## 3. Design of the method

3.1. Planning step

3.2. Selection step

## 4. Simulation

4.1. Data base

4.2. Results of the planning and selection steps

## 5. Summary

5.1. Critical acclaim

5.2. Advantages / Disadvantages



## Requirements on collaborative production planning

- Reduction of transmitted information to non critical information on demand
- Achievement of a financial benefit for all partners in the supply chain
- Integration of compensation mechanisms in order to control the profit allocation among the partners
- Avoidance of opportunistic behaviour
- Preservation of the corporation's autonomy
- Application to supply networks of any size

## Questions:

- How to design a method taking into account all this requirements?
- Which advantages with respect to the costs can be realized?



## Selected approaches for collaborative production planning with time varying demand

Model	Planning concept	Needed information	Profit allocation	Liability to opportunism	Network size
Ertogral/Wu (2000)	successive (with center)	little	fix formula	high	unlimited
Zimmer (2001)	successive	mean	flexible contracts	mean	1:1
Dudek (2004)	successive	little	different forms	depending on formula mean until high	m:m
Pibernik/Sucky (2008)	successive	1) minimum 2) mean	1) negotiation 2) automatical	1) minimum 2) mean	1:1

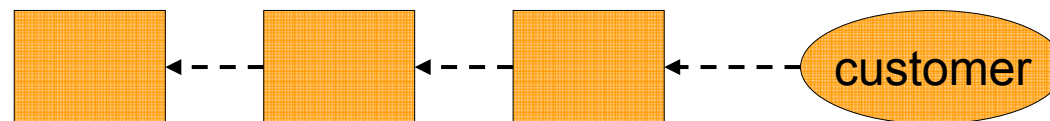
1) equal distributed power 2) unequal distributed power

Focus on production planning, in particular short term quantity planning within the network

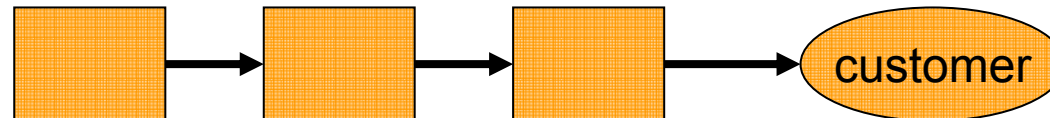
product	week 1	week 2	week 3	week 4
"P1"	0	200	0	400
"P2"	100	100	200	200
"P3"	600	0	600	0

**Traditional planning sequence:**

A) planning



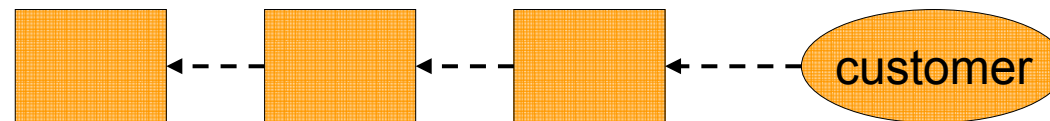
B) realization



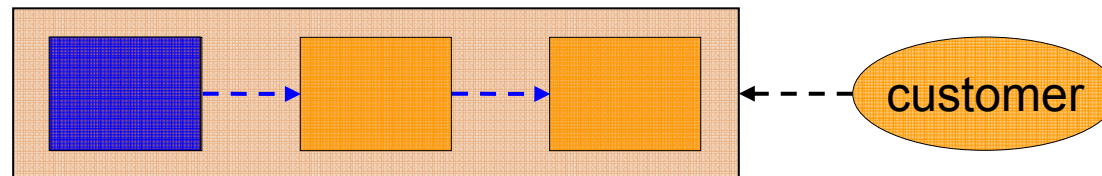

 ← - - - flow of information      → flow of material

### Basic idea for a new method

- following the successive planning approach



- generation of better plans by additional alternatives



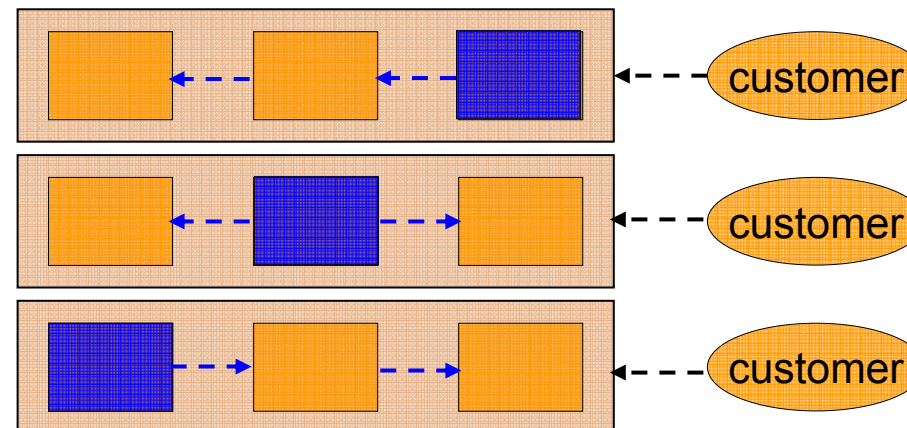
- selection of the best plan

➡ two steps: planning step and selection step

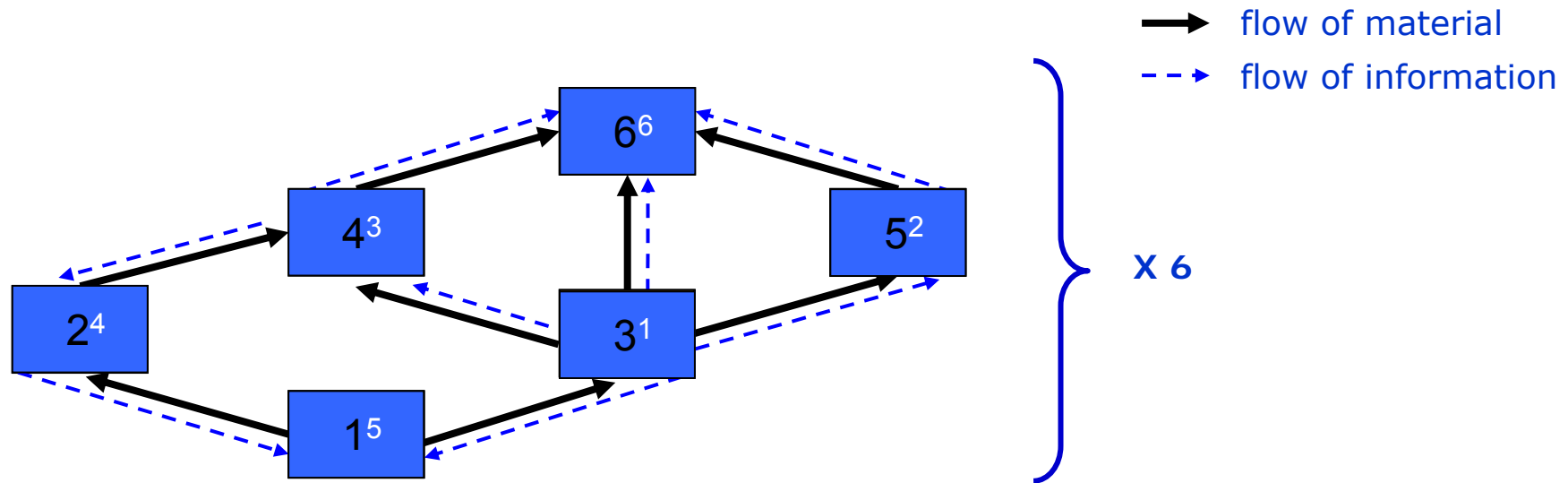
➡ „Method using Variable Optimization Centers (MVOC)“

### Main content: generation of alternative plans

- Every partner calculates his individual optimal plan based on the demand of the final customer (is „optimization center OC“).
- Every partner calculates one plan as reaction to the optimal plans of all other (n-1) partners.
- Result: n alternative total plans for the network.



analogous approach for more complex networks



sequence for OC=3:- company 3 (C3) plans first

- transmission of delivery quantity to C1, C4, C5 and C6
- C5 plans next (or C1 or C4)
- C4 plans as third company (or C1, but not C6)
- C2 plans as fourth company (or C6, but not C1)
- finally plan C1 and C6

### Features of the planning step:

- exchange of plans only containing lot size information (+)
- multiple planning is necessary (-)
- internal planning procedure is not predetermined for all partners (+)
- because of missing information no convergence to the optimal solution is guaranteed; only comparison of local optimal solutions (-)
- contains the traditional planning approach as one of the alternatives  
→ worse solutions are impossible (+)

- unclear:

- which plan should be implemented?

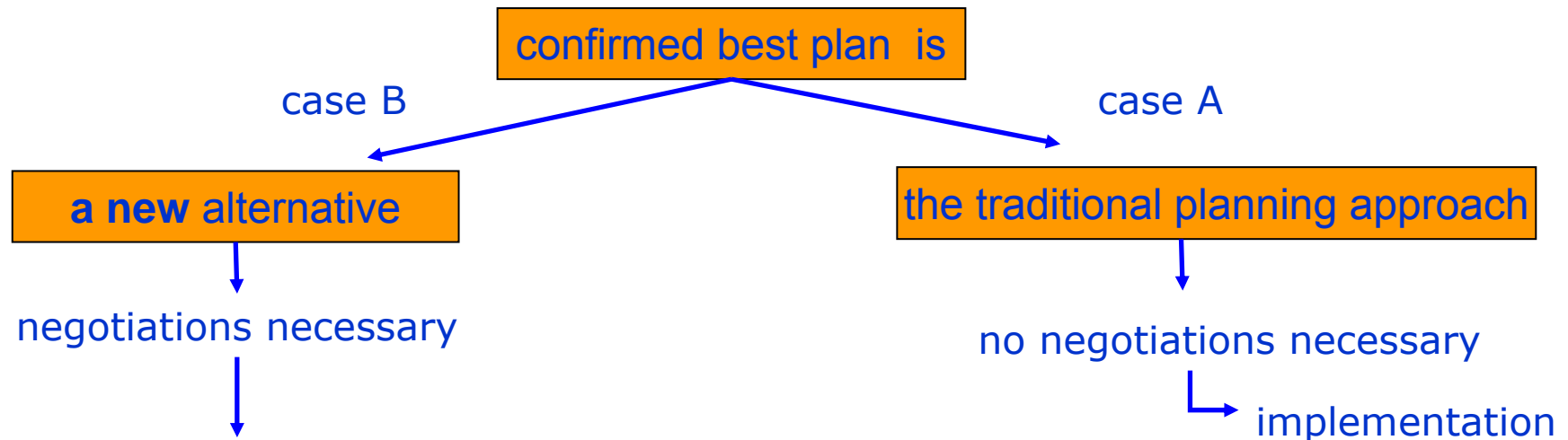
- how should the profit be allocated?





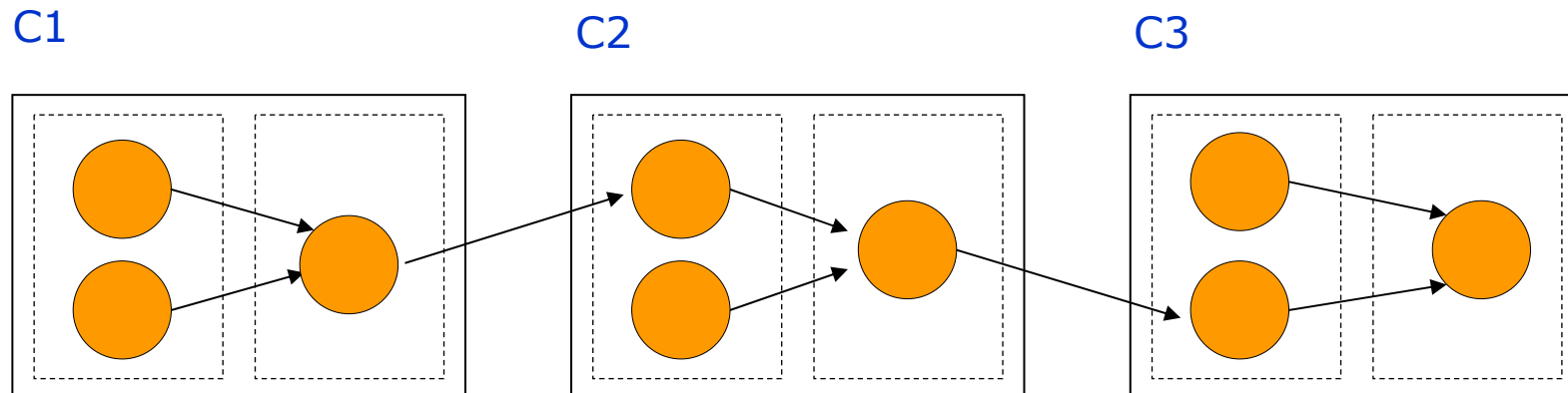
**main content: selection one of the n alternative plans**

- no cost information is transferred to other companies (necessary for the acceptance of the method)
- selection of a plan without any cost information is not possible (necessary for the realization of the method)
- suggested solution
  - plan comparing institution is a computer program (non human operator)
  - only transfer of cost differences
  - feedback of the overall best plan
- result: the best plan is known but not realized



- subject of negotiation: overall best plan + fallback solution
- negotiation scheme: roundwise bids and demands from every partner with respect to the level of their own payments or paybacks
  - „losers “ have an incentive to demand a compensation payment
  - „winners“ have an incentive to offer payments
- termination as soon as the offers balance the demands

Example for negotiations: linear supply chain with 3 companies



Results of the calculations (cost differences are private information and refer to the traditional planning approach):

	OC=C1	OC=C2	OC=C3	
$\Delta C_0(C1)$	-244	-186	0	← known to C1
$\Delta C_0(C2)$	+331	-358	0	← known to C2
$\Delta C_0(C3)$	+281	+281	0	← known to C3
sum	+187	-263	0	



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- Feedback of OC=C2 as best alternative (public information)
- Negotiations with respect to OC=C2 (with OC=C3 as fallback solution):
  - round 1: assumption that every partner offers 50% respectively demands 150% payment proposal : 93 (C1), 179 (C2), -422 (C3); sum: **-150**
  - round 2: assumption that every partner offers 65% respectively demands 135% payment proposal: 121 (C1), 233 (C2), -379 (C3); sum: **-25**
  - round 3: assumption that every partner offers 70% respectively demands 130% payment proposal: 130 (C1), 251 (C2), -365 (C3); sum: **+16**



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payment proposal: 130 (C1), 251 (C2), -365 (C3); sum: **+16**

⇒ payments e.g.: 125 (C1), 245 (C2), -370 (C3); sum: **0**

⇒ resulting profit: 61(C1), 113 (C2), 89 (C3); sum: **263**

Useful negotiation rules:

- offers and demands should be transferred simultaneously
- previously determined maximum number of rounds
- duty to improve the payment proposals in each round



### Features of the selection step:

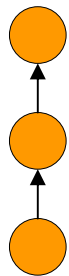
- only transfer of cost differences to a computer program (+/-)
- simple structure of the round of negotiations (+)
- existence of a solution is known → agreement more probable (+)
- no knowledge of the profit of other partners avoids enviousness (+)
- integration of plan agreement and profit allocation (+)
- agreement is not guaranteed (-)
- unknown so far: cost-benefit relation of negotiations

→ simulation to estimate the overall profit

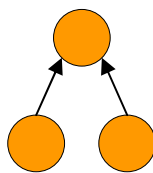
Used data:

- MLCLSP as internal planning procedure
  - assumptions of the multi-level dynamic capacitated lot size planning
  - calculation of lot size and inventory level per period
  - inventory cost, fix cost, capacity and cost of overtime
  - integer linear optimization (objective function and constraints)
- Six different network structures:

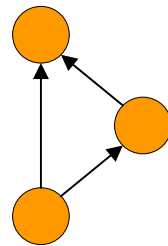
UN3LIN  
(10)



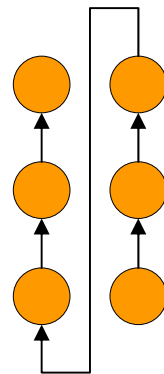
UN3CON  
(11)



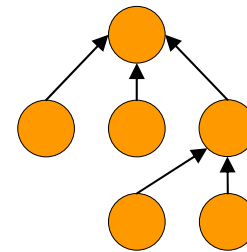
UN3GEN  
(12)



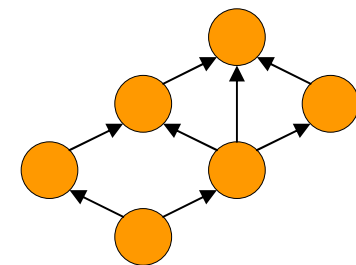
UN6LIN  
(18)



UN6CON  
(22)



UN6GEN  
(23)



OF:     min     
$$\sum_{j \in J} \sum_{t=1}^T (KL_j \cdot l_{jt} + KF_j \cdot y_{jt}) + \sum_{r \in R} \sum_{t=1}^T (KZ_r \cdot z_{rt} + M \cdot n_{rt})$$

minimizes the sum of inventory costs, fix costs and additional capacity costs

s.t.:     
$$x_{jt} + l_{j,t-1} = E_{jt} + l_{jt} + \sum_{k \in N_j} b_{jk} \cdot x_{kt} \quad \forall j \in J, t = 1, \dots, T$$

produced quantity  $x$  and inventory level  $l$  is equal to the required quantities of the customers ( $E$ ) and secondary products ( $b$ )

$$\sum_{j \in J} a_{rt} \cdot x_{jt} \leq K_{rt} + z_{rt} + n_{rt} \quad \forall r \in R, t = 1, \dots, T$$

forces if possible the capacity limitation

$$x_{jt} \leq y_{jt} \cdot M \quad \forall j \in J, t = 1, \dots, T$$

generates the binary variable  $y$  from the lot size

$$l_{j0} = 0 \quad l_{jT} = 0 \quad \forall j \in J$$

zero inventory at the beginning and end of the planning horizon

$$z_{rt} \leq ZM_{rt} \quad \forall r \in R, t = 1, \dots, T$$

limitation of additional capacity

$$x_{jt} \geq xug_{jt} \quad x_{jt} \leq xog_{jt} \quad \forall j \in J, t = 1, \dots, T$$

upper / lower bounds for the lot size



➤ Used data

- 108 systems {
- internal structures (machines and resources) of 6 networks
  - marginal echelon storage costs: [ -0,2 ; 2,0 ]
  - 2 fix cost variations: low / high fix costs [ 50 ; 700 ] (3fold)
  - 3 load factors: 50%, 60% and 80%

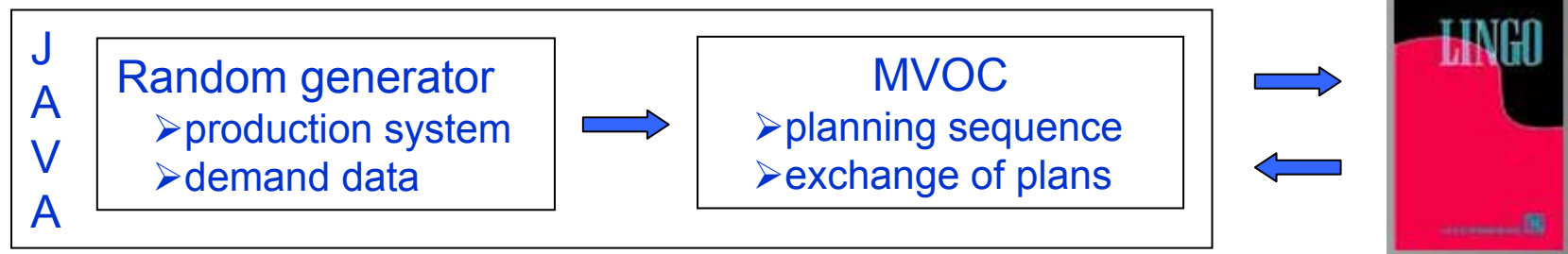
- 18 demands {
- 3 average demands: 50, 100 and 200
  - 2 demand fluctuations:  $\pm 25\%$  and  $\pm 50\%$  (3fold)

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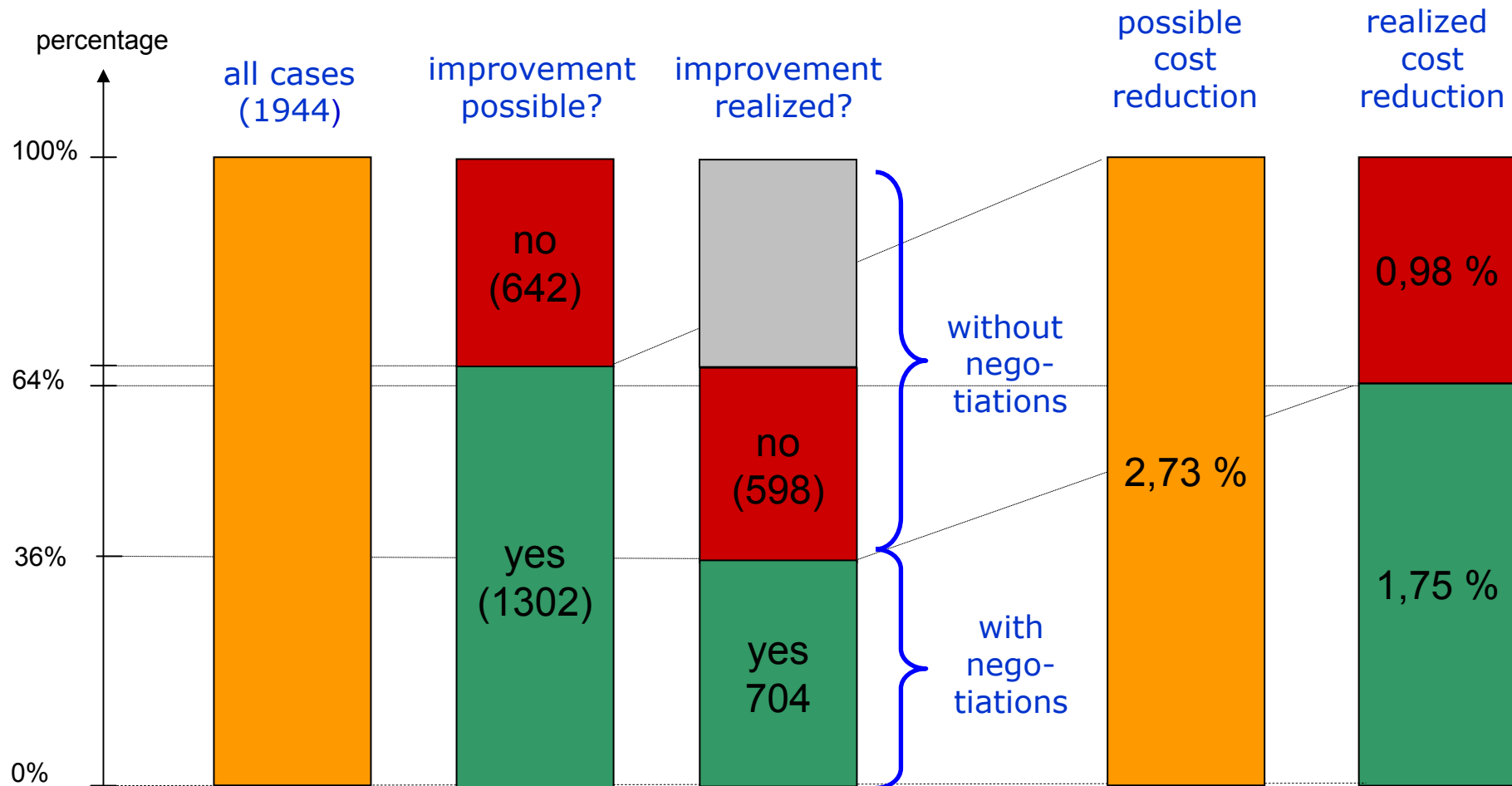
- 18 demands {
- **3** average demands: 50, 100 and 200
  - **2** demand fluctuations: ± 25% and ± 50% (**3**fold)

extent of simulation: 1.944 runs ( $6 \cdot (2 \cdot 3) \cdot 3 \cdot (3 \cdot 2 \cdot 3)$ )





network	UN3LIN	UN3CON	UN3GEN	UN6LIN	UN6CON	UN6GEN	total
potential available?	202 of 324 (62%)	215 of 324 (66%)	226 of 324 (70%)	262 of 324 (81%)	248 of 324 (77%)	149 of 324 (46%)	<b>1302 of 1944 (67%)</b>
total cost potential	2,40%	2,43%	2,38%	5,69%	2,90%	0,56%	<b>2,73%</b>
improvement realized?	134 of 202 (66%)	85 of 215 (40%)	53 of 226 (23%)	210 of 262 (80%)	170 of 248 (69%)	52 of 149 (35%)	<b>704 of 1302 (54%)</b>
total cost advantage	1,71%	1,00%	0,69%	4,57%	2,27%	0,25%	<b>1,75%</b>
potential fulfillment	71,3%	41,0%	29,1%	80,4%	78,2%	44,1%	<b>64,1%</b>





MVOC contains:

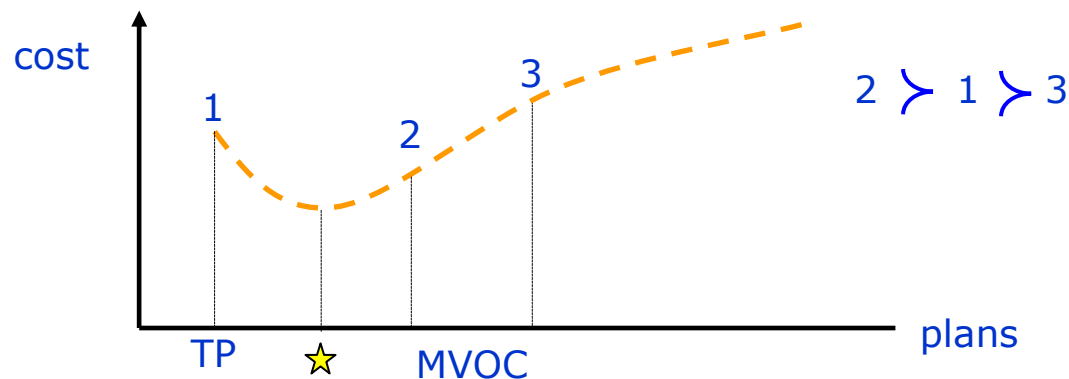
- planning step: generation of additional alternative plans
- selection step
  - cost comparison done by computer program and preselection of one best total plan
  - roundwise negotiations to accept a plan

simulation results

- improvement is possible for 36,2% of all cases (only in this cases negotiations are necessary)
- 64,1% of the total cost reduction potential can be realized

Disadvantages of MVOC:

- complex planning → high planning efficiency necessary (-)
- „only“ comparism of several suboptimal solutions (-)



- cost reduction dependent on network structure
- no guarantee for success of negotiations (-)

Advantages of MVOC:

in terms of  
hindrance

- cost reduction possible +
- autonomy of companies is preserved +
- no exchange of confidential information +
  - non critical: customer demands, lot sizes
  - no capacity, inventory information, no absolute costs
  - only cost differences transferred to a computer program (?)
- profit allocation on the basis on plan agreement and negotiation +
- no incentives for opportunism +
- simple structure of the procedure
- unlimited network sizes and network structures

### Conclusion:

MVOC does not achieve the (theoretical) optimum for every criteria but gets the best results with respect to the discussed hindrances.

Model	Planning concept	Needed information	Profit allocation	Liability to opportunism	Network size
Ertogral/Wu (2000)	successive (with center)	little	fix formula	high	unlimited
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Dudek (2004)	successive	little	different forms	depending on formula mean until high	m:m
Pibernik/Sucky (2008)	successive	1) minimum 2) mean	1) negotiation 2) automatical	1) minimum 2) mean	1:1
MVOC	successive	little or minimum	negotiation	little or minimum	unlimited

1) equal distributed power 2) unequal distributed power



**Thank you for your attention!**