## THE APPLICATION OF COMBINED SIMULATED ANNEALING AND TABU SEARCH FOR THE FLOWSHOP SCHEDULING PROBLEM

# 柯惠雯、駱景堯,蕭育如

E-mail: 9018436@mail.dyu.edu.tw

## ABSTRACT

COMBINATORIAL OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS ARE ENCOUNTERED IN MANY AREAS OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING. MOST OF THE PROBLEMS ARE TOO DIFFICULT TO BE SOLVE OPTIMALLY, AND HENCE HEURISTICS ARE USED TO OBTAIN "GOOD" SOLUTIONS IN REASONABLE TIME. IN THIS RESEARCH, A HEURISTIC WHICH COMBINES TWO WELL KNOWN LOCAL SEARCH METHODS, SIMULATED ANNEALING AND TABU SEARCH, IS PRESENTED AND APPLIED TO SOLVE THE N-JOB AND M-MACHINE FLOW SHOP SEQUENCING PROBLEM WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF MINIMIZING MAKESPAN. THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROPOSED HEURISTIC IS COMPARED WITH SOME OTHER HEURISTICS PROPOSED SUCH AS TAILLARD'S ALGORITHM AND BF-TS, THE COMPUTATIONAL EXPERIENCE SHOWN THAT THE EFFICIENCY OF THE PROSENTED HEURISTIC IS BETTER THAN THAT OF THE OTHERS.

Keywords : HEURISTIC, SIMULATED ANNEALING, TABU SEARCH, FLOW SHOP, MAKESPAN

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