

行政院國家科學委員會專題研究計畫成果報告

個人化網路教學系統中服務控管與排程研究 (2)

Service Control and Scheduling of a Personalized Networked
Education System (2)

計畫編號：NSC 89-2213-E-002-033

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主持人：顏嗣鈞 教授 台大電機系

(E-Mail：yen@cc.ee.ntu.edu.tw)

計畫參與人員：林義凱、廖建智 (博士班)

陳建良、林君品、莊明哲 (碩士班)

一、中文摘要：

個人化網路教學控管排程的即時性與網路課程管理的處理，從使用者的觀點與網路快取路徑與資料複製的運用上關係著教學系統整體運作的效率與品質，所以我們由線上需求排程與網路服務系統製作一個高效率的網路教學課程管理系統。從使用著的觀點與網路路徑快取與複製運用上，選擇適當的路徑與網路快取，使得整體系統成本最低，並且符合個人在不同的使用時間上的要求。在此採用一個有效率的線上排程與網路服務控管的機制，設計一個有效率的網路快取傳輸與複製的演算法，讓網路快取伺服器決定何時、何地、在多久時間內必須被儲存或是複製，在何時、何地因為使用者的要求而傳送。網路教學系統成功的要素就是可以根據當時的課程要求之反應時間與可同時容納上線的課程數目，來設計發展課程管理系統增加網路教學系統處理需求的效率。因此針對網路教學課程管理系統相關的三個問題（線上網路服務控管、線上網路預取、與線上網路需求排程問題）進行深入分析與實作。

關鍵詞：個人化網路教學、需求排程、線上處理、競爭分析、多址傳播樹。

Abstract :

For customizing services to suit the individual preferences of users, we propose

an intelligent system control mechanism strategy that interpret and learn about users' preferences, and schedule programs. Many multimedia applications such teleconferencing, medical imaging, and distance education will demand networks to store and forward a large amount of data by an intelligent management system. The data must be processed in real time, and distributed to the end users or clients who are separated geographically. The intelligent system control mechanism needs to control how to transmit the data from a source server to different requests of viewing times of individual users in different local servers. The most popular solution to support the multimedia application transmission uses the multicast routing algorithm for constructing multicast trees, since the data can be transmitted in parallel to different destinations along the paths of the tree, and a minimal number of copies of the data needed to be cached or transmitted.

Keyword : distance education, on-line algorithm, competitive analysis, Multicast

二、緣起與目的

網路教學系統中，一個課程可能包含數個分散在各區域伺服器上。一個合理的假設是使用者在未來的課程會隨時取用任何一個檔案，所以課程開始之前將所需要的檔案集中傳送到離使用者最近的伺服器上。線上網路預取問題就是依據課程排程系統所提出

的需求序列來決定何時、如何將所需檔案預先存到指定的伺服器中。在此我們對系統進行排程分析做一個圖形解釋其流程:

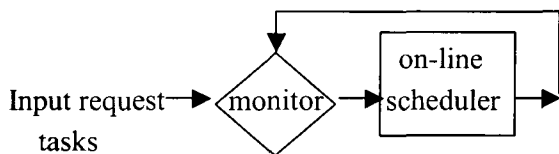
(一) 線上網路分析排程:



(fig-1)

以上是屬於線上分析排程過程所產生的 On-Line Schedule。

(二) 修正網路分析排程:



(fig-2)

以上是屬於線上分析排程過程所產生 On-Line Schedule。至於線上網路預取問題我們將其流程圖形再加上一個 feedback 修正預取的 Schedule:

由 fig-1 與 fig-2 的圖形流程說明, 在預取的過程當中, 不同的要求在不同的時間預定在未來的排程也不一樣, 因此網路系統的線上預取回應上也必須不斷的監視是否有新的要求產生, 並計算出最好的網路傳輸花費最小的方式。根據以上的不同要求可能回應的方式, 我們將線上的要求與系統的回應(完成課程傳輸在區域伺服器) 細分成幾個特別的線上模式來加以探討:

(A) Equal Request Times (ERT):

所有每個要求(request)在相同的時間向系統發出課程的要求, 使得系統在同時處理這些要求時必須有個優先順序, 處理這些要求時就必須根據這些要求的優先權來進行預先排程的工作

(B) Equal Execution Times(EET):

不同的所有的要求, 要求系統在未來的同一個時間要求得到課程內容, 假設系統正常的情形且每個要求在未來的要求都是不變的。

(C) Monotonic Absolute Deadlines(MAD):

在不同的要求來臨時, 下一個要求必定在上一個要求被系統完成傳輸後才要求系統進行此要求的傳輸, 類似 FIFO 系統。

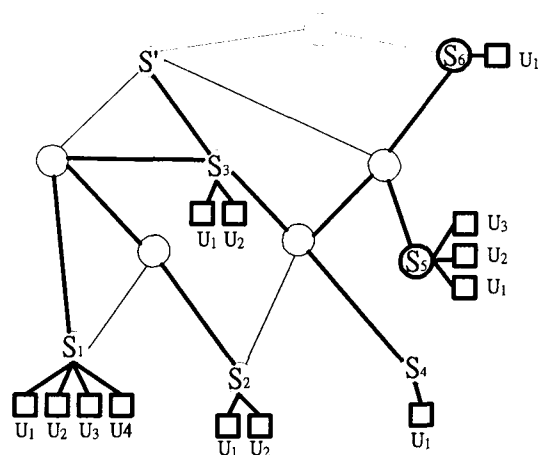
(D) Equal Relative Deadlines(ERD):

所有的 requests 在不同的時間發出要求, 只要系統在每一個 request 所要求的期限之前將所要求的課程提前傳送完畢即。

(E) Equal Absolute Deadlines(EAD):

所有使用者的要求與系統完成課程檔案傳輸的時間間格, 對於整體的要求都是一樣。

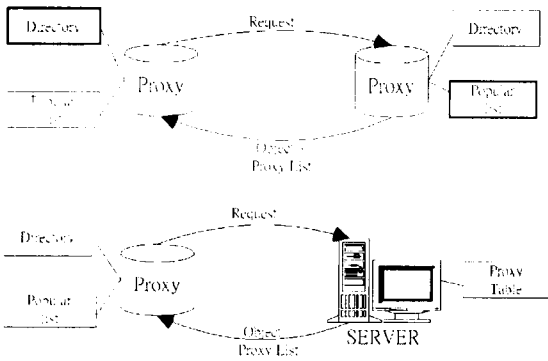
三、網路系統的架構上:



我們將網路的模擬環境做一個介紹, 在網路模型路徑的選擇中, 我們將簡單的線性網路模式複雜到真正的網路多址傳播的模型架構, 而資料的傳播上首先由直接傳送 (Directly Transmit from Server to All Users)、快取暫存於各個區域伺服器上 (Transmit and Cache at All Local Servers)、直接使用快取動態的演算法(Web Cache Dynamic Programming to All Paths), 刪除重複傳輸路徑演算法 (Prune the Redundancy Paths of Greedy Strategy)、和使用 Steiner 演算法 (Distance Network Heuristics of Steiner Tree) 所建立多址傳播的樹狀結構路徑, 來模擬並比較不同的路徑演算法之下快取傳輸與資料複製的結果。

四、線上資料傳輸與複製過程：

首先觀察網路的基本架構，分析檔案系統可能的傳輸方式與檔案分佈的情形，尋找檔案的查詢方式後，我們可以網路先從使用者的角度來看他們對於檔案的要求情形：

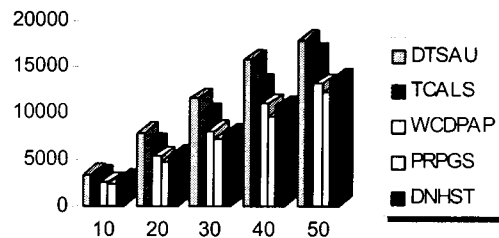


此複製模型來說明使用者在要求課程內容檔案的一個過程，使用者先向他的區域 proxy 伺服器要求所需的課程：

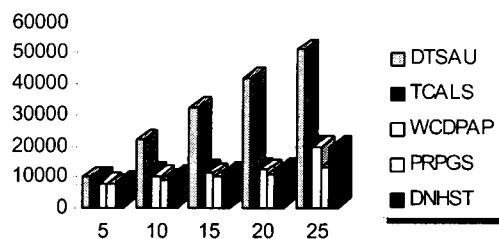
- (a) 區域伺服器找尋他的 directory 察看是否有使用者要求的課程存在於區域伺服器中，假如有則將存在的檔案傳送給使用者。
- (b) 假如沒有則將此要求向網路上另一個 proxy 伺服器詢問是否有此課程檔案，假如有則傳回課程檔案並將此伺服器中目前最新的 proxy list 傳回更新自己的區域伺服器上的 proxy list 以增加查詢檔案的效能。
- (c) 假如該區域伺服器沒有此課程檔案，並且在網路上的其他區域伺服器也找不到時，只好向 primary server 要求檔案，而 primary server 就將所要求的課程檔案與最新的 proxy list 傳回給要求的區域伺服器中。
- (d) 為了減少網路的傳輸負擔，在此我們只有先傳送 proxy list 以及所需的課程，而 proxy list 內含 directory 存在 proxy 中的資訊。

為了要模擬出不同演算法的優劣程度，我們設計出三種不同的網路架構模式，分別是網路群組的個數、不同的使用者個數在不同時間之下的要求、網路大小的疏密程度。根據模擬的結果，在上述三種網路模式限制之下，五種不同快取傳輸與複製情形所得到的結果做一個比較。找出在三種不同的網路架構的限制之下，這五種不同的快取傳輸與複製演算法中的成本花費上何者最小，最適合用在哪一個網路模式的限制。

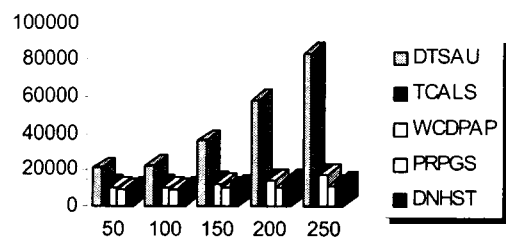
五、模擬結果：



Total Cost vs. Member Group Size 10, 20, 30, 40, 50



Total Cost vs. User Number 5, 10, 15, 20, 25



Total Cost vs. Network Size 50, 100, 150, 200, 250

六、結論與未來相關研究：

我們模擬了資料在不同模式下網路傳輸與資料複製情形。從使用者的觀點與網路快取與資料的傳輸與複製上，選擇適當的傳輸模式並採用一個有效率的線上排程網路服務控管的演算法，讓網路的快取伺服器決定何時、何地、在多久時間內必須被儲存或是複製，在不同使用者於不同時間的要求下被傳送。

在整個網路系統中，不同的使用者在不同時間的要求都必須線上即時處理，而線上演算法必須根據現在及過去的需求做出即時的處理，而競爭式分析 (Competitive Analysis) 是驗證線上問題最有效的理論分析之一，從競爭式分析的過程中很容易找出被分析的演算法的優缺原因，並提供改進的參考依據。所以在未來的相關研究裡，我們將不同使用者在不同時間的要求下對系統所要求而產生輸入序列，根據這些輸入序列做好需求的排程控管與資料預取的工作以利於線上理論分析的進行。

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出席會議報告

一、參加會議經過

本計畫年度出席以下兩項 Graph Drawing 相關國際會議，發表研究成果：

1. 1999 年 9 月：前往捷克 布拉格 參加 The 7th International Symposium on Graph Drawing (GD 1999) ，發表論文「Orthogonal and Straight-Line Drawings of Graphs with Succinct Representations」(論文參見附件)。該年會為 Graph Drawing 此研究領域最主要的國際會議。
2. 2000 年 7 月：應邀前往澳洲 雪梨參加 The 11th Australasian Workshop on Combinatorial Algorithms (AWOCA 2000) ， Hunter Valley, Australia, 國際會議中之 Symmetry Workshop 應邀專題演講(invited talk)。演講題目為：「Near Symmetry in Graph Drawings」。該 workshop 的主題在探討「對稱性」在 Graph Drawing 所扮演的角色。

二、與會心得：

GD 1999 會議特色在其專精，及對論文審查之嚴謹。隨著圖形(Graph)在 Computer Science 及 Engineering 的被廣泛使用，Graph Drawing 的研究不論在理論以及實用上，日趨重要。因此從 1993 年起，每年都會舉辦 International Symposium on Graph Drawing，提供從事 Graph Drawing 的研究學者共同討論的園地。如同大部份電腦理論(Theoretical Computer Science) 的會議，本會議同一時段只有一 Session，因此與會學者均能熱烈參與討論，交換研究心得。與會中有多位筆者認識多年的國際知名學

者，筆者有機會與他們交換研究心得、成果，獲益良多。值得一提的是，筆者最近所積極從事的有關 Graph Symmetry（對稱性）演算法的研究，也獲得相關學的肯定，筆者因此受邀請 2000 年七月前往澳洲雪梨參加 The 11th Australasian Workshop on Combinatorial Algorithms (AWOCA 2000) 國際會議中之 Symmetry Workshop 做專題演講(invited talk)。演講題目為：「Near Symmetry in Graph Drawings」。這也是筆者參加的第二項國際會議。

三、建議

近幾年筆者深深感覺到，電腦理論(Theoretical Computer Science) 相關的國際會議中極少有國內學者參加。這是一項值得我們重視的問題。相關單位應鼓勵國內年輕優秀的研究人員，積極從事電腦理論方面的研究，參與國際活動，與國際上頂尖研究機構從事學術交流，才能迎頭趕上國際水準。

四、攜回資料名稱及內容

- Graph Drawing 1999 會議論文集。「Lecture Notes in Computer Science」 Vol. 1731.
- AWOCA 2000 會議論文集。

五、其他

十分感謝國科會補助旅費、生活費、以及註冊費。

Orthogonal and Straight-Line Drawings of Graphs with Succinct Representations*

Ho-Lin Chen and Hsu-Chun Yen

Dept. of Electrical Engineering, National Taiwan University
Taipei, Taiwan, R. O. C.
yen@cc.ee.ntu.edu.tw

The concept of a *hierarchical design* has played an important role in various areas of computer science and engineering, including software engineering, CAD, among others. Graphs with hierarchical structures, which are capable of describing large-scale regular structures in a succinct manner, have naturally become an interesting and important modeling tool for facilitating such a hierarchical design. In the literature, a number of succinct models for representing graphs with hierarchical structures have been proposed. See, e.g., [4,5]. In each of such hierarchical graph models, a succinct description is capable of representing a graph (which can be thought of as the *expansion* of the description) whose size is exponential in the length of the description.

A *hierarchical graph* [4,5] $\Gamma = (G_1, \dots, G_k)$ of *depth* k contains k *cells* G_1, \dots, G_k , each of which is a graph consisting of two types of vertices, namely, *terminals* and *nonterminals*. Intuitively speaking, nonterminals are those that are going to be replaced by cells of smaller indices during the expansion process. Suppose $G_i = (V_i, E_i)$, $1 \leq i < k$, where V_i and E_i are the sets of vertices and edges of G_i , respectively. For each G_i , there is a *pin assignment function* $\rho_i : \{1, \dots, d_i\} \rightarrow V_i$ (where d_i is a positive integer), which specifies the way vertices are connected to the upper layer. The d_i is called the *degree* of G_i , and each of the vertices in $\rho_i(\{1, \dots, d_i\})$ is called a *frontier vertex* (*f-vertex*, for short). Each nonterminal inside G_i is specified as (m, G_j) where m (an integer) represents the unique *name* of the nonterminal, and G_j , $1 \leq j < i$, denotes the *type* of the nonterminal. A nonterminal of type G_j has degree d_j , and each incident edge is labeled by a unique integer in $\{1, \dots, d_j\}$. The *expansion* of G_i , denoted by $E(G_i)$, is obtained by expanding all of its subcells G_1, \dots, G_{i-1} recursively, and then replacing each nonterminal of type G_j ($1 \leq j < i$) inside G_i by a copy of $E(G_j)$ in such a way that each incident edge labeled l ($1 \leq l \leq d_j$) is connected to the f-vertex $\rho_j(l)$. The *expansion* of a hierarchical graph $\Gamma = (G_1, \dots, G_k)$, denoted by $E(\Gamma)$, is defined to be $E(G_k)$.

In this research, our goal is to ‘draw’ hierarchical planar graphs on *grids* in the styles of *straight-line drawing* (i.e., each edge is a straight-line segment) and *orthogonal drawing* (i.e., each edge is a chain of horizontal and vertical segments) [2]. Since the size of the expansion of a hierarchical graph can be exponential in the length of its succinct representation, care must be taken when defining

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the output of a graph drawing algorithm. In our setting, the outputs of our drawing algorithms are succinct representations of drawings and not of drawings themselves. (That is, we require that the drawing of a hierarchical graph be expressible succinctly as well.) To this end, the drawings of two copies of the same cell must be ‘identical’ in the sense that one drawing can be obtained by the operations of *flipping* with respect to the y-axis and/or *rotations* of 90° , 180° or 270° from the other. A hierarchical graph is said to have a *planar* straight-line (resp., orthogonal) grid drawing if its expansion can be drawn on grids in a straight-line (resp., orthogonal) fashion without edge crossings subject to the above constraints regarding copies of each cell. It should be noted that our *hierarchical graph model* differs from that of ‘hierarchical graphs’ used in, e.g., [3]. The latter refers to graphs whose vertices are assigned to layers, and the so-called ‘hierarchical drawing’ is to place all the vertices of a hierarchical graph on a set of equally-spaced horizontal lines.

The main contributions of this paper include the design and analysis of orthogonal and straight-line drawing algorithms which operate on the succinct descriptions of hierarchical graphs directly, and output succinct representations of drawings. (For related results, the reader is referred to [1].) We do not require that the hierarchical graphs be expanded in order for our algorithms to work. To the best of our knowledge, conventional graph drawing algorithms operate only on completely specified graphs. For hierarchical graphs (G_1, \dots, G_k) with the number of outgoing connections in each G_i bounded by 2, we derive a planar straight-line grid drawing algorithm which runs in time $\sum_{i=1}^k |G_i|$, where $|G_i|$ denotes the number of vertices in G_i . (Notice that $\sum_{i=1}^k |G_i|$ is linear in the size of the succinct representation.) The drawing area of the expanded graph is bounded by $O(2^{3k} \prod_{i=1}^k (|G_i| - 2)^6)$. For orthogonal grid drawings of hierarchical planar graphs, we present an algorithm which runs in $O(\sum_{i=1}^k |G_i|^2)$ time, provided that the input graph is 2-connected (i.e., a graph which remains connected even if a single vertex is removed). The drawing area and the total number of bends of the expanded graph are bounded by $O(n^2)$ and $(\max_{i=1, \dots, k} \{|G_i|\})^k$, respectively, where n is the number of vertices in the expanded graph. Our algorithm can also be used to report whether the input graph exhibits a planar straight-line (or orthogonal) grid drawing.

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