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FACULTY OF  
ENGINEERING

# MiniZinc

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# Outline

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Introduction

Language elements

  Include statement

  Variables and parameters

  Predicates

  Constraints

  Solve statement

  Output statement

Example

Conclusions

# Introduction

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# MiniZinc

---

- Language for modelling constraint satisfaction and optimisation problems  
<http://www.minizinc.org>
- Mathematical-like notation syntax (quantifiers, coercion, overloading, sets, arrays)
- Expressive constraints (finite domain, set, (non-)linear arithmetic, integer)
- Strongly typed language
- Solver independent- can be used as front-end for many solvers (exist compiler to Flatzinc)
- Extensible (user-defined functions and predicates)
- Separation of data from model

# MiniZinc example

---

```
include "globals.mzn";  
  
int: n;  
array [1..n] of var 1..n: q;
```

# MiniZinc example

---

```
include "globals.mzn";

int: n;
array [1..n] of var 1..n: q;

predicate noattack(int: i, int: j, var int: qi, var int: qj) =
    qi != qj /\ qi + i != qj + j /\ qi - i != qj - j;
```

# MiniZinc example

---

```
include "globals.mzn";

int: n;
array [1..n] of var 1..n: q;

predicate noattack(int: i, int: j, var int: qi, var int: qj) =
    qi != qj /\ qi + i != qj + j /\ qi - i != qj - j;

constraint
    forall (i in 1..n, j in i+1..n)
        ( noattack(i, j, q[i], q[j]) );
```

# MiniZinc example

---

```
include "globals.mzn";

int: n;
array [1..n] of var 1..n: q;

predicate noattack(int: i, int: j, var int: qi, var int: qj) =
    qi != qj /\ qi + i != qj + j /\ qi - i != qj - j;

constraint
    forall (i in 1..n, j in i+1..n)
        ( noattack(i, j, q[i], q[j]) );

solve satisfy;
```

# MiniZinc example

---

```
include "globals.mzn";

int: n;
array [1..n] of var 1..n: q;

predicate noattack(int: i, int: j, var int: qi, var int: qj) =
    qi != qj /\ qi + i != qj + j /\ qi - i != qj - j;

constraint
    forall (i in 1..n, j in i+1..n)
        ( noattack(i, j, q[i], q[j]) );

solve satisfy;

output["q = \n(q)"];
```

# MiniZinc example

---

```
include "globals.mzn";

int: n;
array [1..n] of var 1..n: q;

predicate noattack(int: i, int: j, var int: qi, var int: qj) =
    qi != qj /\ qi + i != qj + j /\ qi - i != qj - j;

constraint
    forall (i in 1..n, j in i+1..n)
        ( noattack(i, j, q[i], q[j]) );

solve satisfy;

output["q = \n(q)"];

n = 8;
```

# FlatZinc example

---

```
int: n = 8;

array[1 .. 8] of var 1 .. 8: q::output_array([ 1 .. 8 ]);

constraint int_lin_ne([ 1, -1 ], [ q[1], q[2] ], 1);

constraint int_ne(q[1], q[2]);

constraint int_lin_ne([ 1, -1 ], [ q[1], q[2] ], -1);

...
```

# MiniZinc compilation

---

```
minizinc -c -Gjacop model.mzn
```

# MiniZinc compilation

---

```
minizinc -c -Gjacop model.mzn
```

```
java -cp .:path_to_JaCoP org.jacop.fz.Fz2jacop [options] model.fzn
```

# MiniZinc compilation

---

```
minizinc -c -Gjacop model.mzn
```

```
java -cp .:path_to_JaCoP org.jacop.fz.Fz2jacop [options] model.fzn
```

Usage: java org.jacop.fz.Fz2jacop [<options>] <file>.fzn

Options:

- h, --help  
Print **this** message.
- a, --all, --all-solutions
- v, --verbose
- t <value>, --time-out <value>  
<value> - time in milisecond.
- s, --statistics
- n <value>, --num-solutions <value>  
<value> - limit on solution number.
- b, --bound - use bounds consistency whenever possible;  
overrides annotation "`:: domain`" and selects constraints  
implementing bounds consistency (**default false**).
- sat use SAT solver **for boolean** constraints.
- cs, --complementary-search - gathers all model, non-defined  
variables to create the **final** search
- i, --interval print intervals instead **of** values **for** floating variables
- p <value>, --precision <value> defines precision **for** floating operations  
overrides precision definition **in** search annotation.
- f <value>, --format <value> defines format (number digits after decimal point)  
**for** floating variables.
- o, --outputfile **defines file for solver output**
- d, --decay decay factor **for** accumulated failure count (afc)  
and activity-based variable selection heuristic
- step <value> distance step **for** cost function **for** floating-point optimization

# MiniZinc compilation- cont'd

---

- Data in separate file (model.dzn)

```
minizinc -c -Gjacop model.mzn -d model.dzn
```

- For more options see

```
minizinc -h
```

# MiniZinc compilation- cont'd

---

- Data in separate file (model.dzn)

```
minizinc -c -Gjacop model.mzn -d model.dzn
```

- For more options see

```
minizinc -h
```

- calling minizinc directly

```
minizinc --solver jacop -s model.mzn -d model.dzn
```

- For more options see

```
minizinc -h
```

```
minizinc -h jacop
```

# Language elements

---



# MiniZinc program

---

include statement

```
include "globals.mzn";
```

- includes other minizinc programs, data, libraries, etc.
- `globals.mzn` contains definition of global constraints;  
if compiled with `-G jacop` or `--solver jacop` includes JaCoP specific global constraints.

# MiniZinc program

---

## include statement

```
include "globals.mzn";
```

- includes other minizinc programs, data, libraries, etc.
- `globals.mzn` contains definition of global constraints;  
if compiled with `-G jacop` or `--solver jacop` includes JaCoP specific global constraints.

## non-standard MiniZinc constraints and annotations (JaCoP specific)

```
include "jacop.mzn";
```

# MiniZinc variables and parameter

---

## Definition of variables and parameters

```
int: n;  
var int: x;  
array [1..n] of var 1..n: q;
```

# MiniZinc variables and parameter

---

## Definition of variables and parameters

```
int: n;  
var int: x;  
array [1..n] of var 1..n: q;
```

- **int:** `n` is a parameter known during compile time.
- **var int:** `v` is a finite domain variable.

# MiniZinc variables and parameter

---

## Definition of variables and parameters

```
int: n;  
var int: x;  
array [1..n] of var 1..n: q;
```

- **int:** `n` is a parameter known during compile time.
- **var int:** `v` is a finite domain variable.
- other examples

```
set of int: s;  
var 1..n: q;  
var {1, 5, 10}: f;  
  
var bool: b;
```

# MiniZinc literals

---

```
array[1..N, 1..N] of int: G;  
...  
N = 3;  
G = [|1, -1, 0,  
      |0, 2, -1,  
      |2, 0, -1|];
```

# MiniZinc literals

---

```
array[1..N, 1..N] of int: G;  
...  
N = 3;  
G = [|1, -1, 0,  
      |0, 2, -1,  
      |2, 0, -1|];
```

or

```
N = 3;  
G = array2d(1..N, 1..N, [  
%   1   2   3  
    1, -1, 0, % 1  
    0, 2, -1, % 2  
    2, 0, -1, % 3  
]);
```

# MiniZinc literals (cont'd)

---

```
array[0..N-1, 0..N-1] of int: G;
```

# MiniZinc literals (cont'd)

---

```
array[0..N-1, 0..N-1] of int: G;  
  
N = 3;  
G = array2d(0..N-1, 0..N-1, [  
%   0   1   2  
  1, -1,  0,  % 0  
  0,  2, -1,  % 1  
  2,  0, -1,  % 2  
]);
```

# MiniZinc enums

---

```
enum articles = {beef, bun, cheeses, onions, pickles, lettuce, ketchup, tomato};

array[articles] of int: calories;

array[articles] of var 1..5: quantity;

constraint
    sum(i in articles) (calories[i]*quantity[i]) < 3000
```

# Array/set comprehension

---

```
int: z=10;  
array [0..z] of 0..z*z: sq = array1d(0..z, [x*x | x in 0..z]);
```

# Array/set comprehension

---

```
int: z=10;  
array [0..z] of 0..z*z: sq = array1d(0..z, [x*x | x in 0..z]);  
  
set of int: squares = {i * i | i in 1..(n * n) where i * i <= 5};  
  
array [1..2*n] of var int: x = [c[i,j] | i in 1..n, j in 1..2];
```

# Array/set comprehension

---

```
int: z=10;  
array [0..z] of 0..z*z: sq = array1d(0..z, [x*x | x in 0..z]);  
  
set of int: squares = {i * i | i in 1..(n * n) where i * i <= 5};  
  
array [1..2*n] of var int: x = [c[i,j] | i in 1..n, j in 1..2];  
  
bin_packing_load(cpu_loads, flow_processor,  
                  [load[i, j] | i in 1..2, j in 1..no_flows])
```

# Array/set comprehension

---

```
int: z=10;
array [0..z] of 0..z*z: sq = array1d(0..z, [x*x | x in 0..z]);

set of int: squares = {i * i | i in 1..(n * n) where i * i <= 5};

array [1..2*n] of var int: x = [c[i,j] | i in 1..n, j in 1..2];

bin_packing_load(cpu_loads, flow_processor,
                  [load[i, j] | i in 1..2, j in 1..no_flows])

forall (i in 1..graph_size)
  (next[i] in {to[j] | j in 1..n where from[j] = i} union
   {from[j] | j in 1..n where to[j] = i} union
   {i | j in 1..n where i != start} union % not self-loop for start
   {start | j in 1..n where dest = i}) % subcircuit closing
```

# Predicates and Tests

---

## Predicate

```
predicate noattack(int: i, int: j, var int: qi, var int: qj) =  
    qi != qj /\ qi + i != qj + j /\ qi - i != qj - j;
```

# Predicates and Tests

---

## Predicate

```
predicate noattack(int: i, int: j, var int: qi, var int: qj) =  
    qi != qj /\ qi + i != qj + j /\ qi - i != qj - j;
```

```
predicate decreasing(array[int] of var int: x) =  
    forall(i in 2..length(x)) ( x[i-1] >= x[i] );
```

# Predicates and Tests

---

## Predicate

```
predicate noattack(int: i, int: j, var int: qi, var int: qj) =  
    qi != qj /\ qi + i != qj + j /\ qi - i != qj - j;
```

```
predicate decreasing(array[int] of var int: x) =  
    forall(i in 2..length(x)) ( x[i-1] >= x[i] );
```

```
test even(int:x) = x mod 2 = 0;
```

- test only involve parameters,
- test can be used inside the test of a conditional expression.

# Predicates- advanced example

---

```
predicate diff2(array[int,int] of var int: r) =  
  
let { int: lr2 = min(index_set_2of2(r)),  
      int: ur2 = max(index_set_2of2(r)),  
      int : s2 = (ur2 - lr2 + 1),  
}  
in  
  assert( s2 = 4,  
         "diff2: size of a rectangle must be 4",  
         jacop_diff2(r)  
);  
  
predicate jacop_diff2(array[int,int] of var int: r);
```

# Functions

---

```
function var int: count(array[int] of var int: x, var int: y) =  
  let {  
    var 0..length(x): c;  
    constraint count(x,y,c);  
  } in c;
```

# Functions

---

```
function var int: count(array[int] of var int: x, var int: y) =  
  let {  
    var 0..length(x): c;  
    constraint count(x,y,c);  
  } in c;
```

Example:

```
constraint  
  c = count(x, v);
```

instead of

```
constraint  
  count(x, v, c);
```

# Constraints

---

## Constraints

```
constraint
  forall (i in 1..n, j in i+1..n) ( noattack(i, j, q[i], q[j]) );
```

# Constraints

---

## Constraints

```
constraint
  forall (i in 1..n, j in i+1..n) ( noattack(i, j, q[i], q[j]) );
```

```
constraint
  x + y > z;
```

```
constraint
  x > 0 /\ x + y = z;
```

```
constraint
  x + 3 = z \/ a - b = c;
```

# Constraints

## Constraints

```
constraint  
  forall (i in 1..n, j in i+1..n) ( noattack(i, j, q[i], q[j]) );
```

```
constraint  
  x + y > z;
```

```
constraint  
  x > 0 /\ x + y = z;
```

```
constraint  
  x + 3 = z \/ a - b = c;
```

```
constraint  
  (x > z) -> (y = 0);
```

```
constraint  
  x > 0 <-> y = z;
```

```
constraint  
  if c = 0 then d = a - b  
  else c = 55 endif;
```

# Constraints- cont'd

---

```
constraint
  forall (i in 1..N) (a[i] > 0);

constraint
  exists (i in 1..N) (a[i] = 0);

constraint
  x = sum(i in 1..n)(a[i]);
```

# Constraints- cont'd

---

```
constraint
  forall (i in 1..N) (a[i] > 0);

constraint
  exists (i in 1..N) (a[i] = 0);

constraint
  x = sum(i in 1..n)(a[i]);

constraint
  circuit(x) /\
  forall(i in 1..n) (distances[i, x[i]] = d[i])
  /\
  distance = sum(i in 1..n) (d[i]);
```

# Constraints- cont'd

---

```
constraint
  forall (i in 1..N) (a[i] > 0);
```

```
constraint
  exists (i in 1..N) (a[i] = 0);
```

```
constraint
  x = sum(i in 1..n)(a[i]);
```

```
constraint
  circuit(x) /\
  forall(i in 1..n) (distances[i, x[i]] = d[i])
  /\
  distance = sum(i in 1..n) (d[i]);
```

```
constraint sum (i in n) ((b[i]>0)*w[i])
```

# Solve statement

---

Solve

```
solve satisfy;
```

# Solve statement

---

## Solve

```
solve satisfy;
```

```
solve satisfy;
```

```
solve minimize x;
```

```
solve maximize x;
```

```
solve minimize sum(i in 1..N)(x[i]);
```

# Solve annotations

---

- define variables for search.
- define search parameters, such as variable selection, value selection.

```
solve :: int_search(x, input_order, indomain_min, complete)
        satisfy;
```

```
solve :: bool_search(b, input_order, indomain_min, complete)
        satisfy;
```

```
solve :: set_search([s], input_order, indomain_min, complete)
        maximize c;
```

# Solve annotations (cont'd)

---

```
solve :: int_search([crew[f,p] | f in 1..numFlights,  
                    p in 1..numPersons ],  
                    first_fail, indomain, credit(5, bbs(5))) minimize z;  
  
solve :: seq_search([  
    int_search(t, smallest, indomain_min, complete),  
    int_search(r, input_order, indomain_min, complete)  
]) minimize end;
```

# Solve annotations- JaCoP specific

---

```
solve :: priority_search(distance_to_deadline,
    [seq_search([int_search([start[i]], input_order, indomain_min),
        int_search([machine[i]], input_order, indomain_random)]) | i in 1..n],
    smallest) minimize cost;
```

# Solve annotations- JaCoP specific

---

```
solve :: priority_search(distance_to_deadline,
    [seq_search([int_search([start[i]], input_order, indomain_min),
        int_search([machine[i]], input_order, indomain_random)]) | i in 1..n],
    smallest) minimize cost;

solve :: restart_luby(n*50)
:: priority_search(distance_to_deadline,
    [seq_search([int_search([start[i]], input_order, indomain_min),
        int_search([machine[i]], input_order, indomain_random)]) | i in 1..n],
    smallest) minimize cost;
```

# Output statement

---

## Output

```
output[ show(q) ];
```

# Output statement

---

## Output

```
output[ show(q) ];
```

```
output [show(x), show(y)];
```

- **output** statement is more complicated and makes it possible to specify formatting;
- flatzinc compiles this to ozn file that can be used with command `solns2out`  
`fzn-jacop -s x.fzn | solns2out x.ozn`

# Output statement example

---

```
output["Voucher paid:\n"]++  
[if j mod n != 0 then show(voucher_paid[i,j]) ++ " "  
     else show(voucher_paid[i,j]) ++ "\n" endif  
 | i in 1..m, j in 1..n]
```

# Output statement example

---

```
output["Voucher paid:\n"]++
[if j mod n != 0 then show(voucher_paid[i,j]) ++ " "
    else show(voucher_paid[i,j]) ++ "\n" endif
| i in 1..m, j in 1..n]
```

or

```
output["Voucher paid:\n"]++
[if j mod n != 0 then "\voucher_paid[i,j]" "
    else "\voucher_paid[i,j]\n" endif
| i in 1..m, j in 1..n]
```

# Output statement example

---

```
output["Voucher paid:\n"]++
[if j mod n != 0 then show(voucher_paid[i,j]) ++ " "
     else show(voucher_paid[i,j]) ++ "\n" endif
| i in 1..m, j in 1..n]
```

or

```
output["Voucher paid:\n"]++
[if j mod n != 0 then "\(voucher_paid[i,j]) "
     else "\(voucher_paid[i,j])\n" endif
| i in 1..m, j in 1..n]
```

Voucher paid:

```
0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0
0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0
0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1
```

# Trace

---

- the function `trace(s, e)` prints the string `s` before evaluating the expression `e` and returning its value.
- it can be used in **any context**.
- example

```
constraint
  forall (i in 1..n, j in i+1..n)
    (trace("generate for i=\\"(i) and j=\\"(j)\n",
           noattack(i, j, q[i], q[j])))
;
```

# Example

---



# Larger example- perfect square

---

```
include "globals.mzn";

int: n; % number squares
int: size; % size of the square to fill with n squares
array[1..n] of int: squares; % dimension of the squares

array[1..n] of var 0..size: x; % x position of squares
array[1..n] of var 0..size: y; % y position of squares

constraint
  forall(i in 1..n) (
    x[i] <= size - squares[i] /\ 
    y[i] <= size - squares[i] ) /\ 
  diffn(x, y, squares, squares);

solve :: seq_search([
  int_search(x, smallest, indomain_min, complete),
  int_search(y, smallest, indomain_min, complete)
]) satisfy;

output[show(x)] ++ ["\n"] ++ [show(y)]

n=21;
size=112;
squares = [2,4,6,7,8,9,11,15,16,17,18,19,24,25,27,29,33,35,37,42,50];
```

# Result

---

```
> fzn-jacop -s perfect_square.fzn
x = array1d(1..21, [50, 75, 46, 52, 27, 50, 35, 35, 59, 35, 52, 27, 46, 50, 0, 50, 79, 0, 75, 70, 0]);
y = array1d(1..21, [63, 29, 82, 63, 85, 54, 82, 50, 54, 65, 70, 93, 88, 29, 85, 0, 0, 50, 33, 70, 0]);
-----
%% Model variables : 86
%% Model constraints : 1

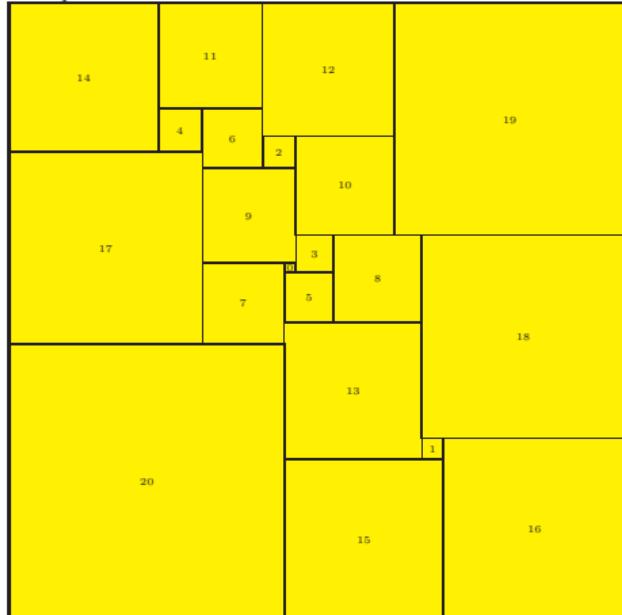
%% Search CPU time : 258ms
%% Search nodes : 430
%% Search decisions : 225
%% Wrong search decisions : 205
%% Search backtracks : 188
%% Max search depth : 39
%% Number solutions : 1

%% Total CPU time : 353ms
```

# Result

---

Example 0



Run time: 380 ms

# Conclusions

---



# Conclusions

---

- Convenient language for specification of constraint satisfaction and optimization problems.
- Mathematical-like notation syntax.
- Predicates make possible constraint decomposition.
- Solver independent.



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