CoEnzyme Analytics & Decision Optimization

Optimization in construction



Because tower cranes are very expensive resources, their **height**, **capacity**, and **location** need to be carefully chosen to minimize costs and time to move materials on the site.

Crane operator schedules and operation times also need to be optimized.







The location of the crane impacts the **time it takes to move materials** and the **maximum load** the crane can lift. Which indirectly impact the **operation hours** and the **number of operators** required for the crane.

Ultimately driving costs and delays.





Crane location needs to consider multiple factors like distance between material supply and delivery points, ground conditions, interference with other site equipments, existing site obstacles, places with good visibility and wind.



Optimization models can help managers make better choices for tower crane types, numbers and locations, as well as optimizer the schedule of their operators.



Concrete Delivery

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Concrete Delivery



Concrete delivery is complex and challenging due to the **perishable** nature of the product. It can be affected by weather conditions, has a 30 minutes window before it hardens and can even destroy the barrel.



Concrete - Production challenges



Concrete must be mixed on demand, lasting approximately two hours after water has been added to the mix of dry materials, leaving a reduced and strict time window for its delivery.

In a very dynamic market with **70% of change orders** and very **strict delays**, concrete production need to respond quickly to **changes in the delivery schedule**, while keeping the performance indicators of the plant aligned in terms of energy consumption, stock and maintenance activities.



Concrete - Delivery challenges



Many deliveries of concrete are necessary over long periods of time and multiple sites. The delivery plan needs to consider the number of vehicles needed, the frequency of deliveries, the distance between multiple customer sites and labor laws.

Truck scheduling and routing needs to avoid **non-full loads** of concrete, because this could result in a=an increased rate of hardening of the concrete.



Concrete - Integrated operations

Synchronized **concrete production** and **truck scheduling and routing** allow operators to better define the number and frequency of concrete-mixer vehicles to deliver concrete from manufacturing plants to multiple construction sites over a working day.

This results in more streamlined operations, less delays and less waste.

Site Layout



Site layout

Disorganized and congested sites can create time delays, cost overruns, and even accidents.

Effective site layout planning, is one

of the most important project management tasks. It has a significant impact on all aspects of construction, including safety, productivity, site operations, and ultimately time and cost [*Binhomaid 2019*].



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Site layout



Site layout planning determines the **best** location for site facilities like workshops, storage areas, or equipment, needed to execute the project, so that productivity and safety are optimized [Binhomaid 2019]



Site layout

Despite its importance, practitioners often ignore site layout planning, believing that it should be performed by site engineers while the project progresses, and the layout is often designed subjectively based on the planner's experience, codes of practice, trial and error, and previous similar projects. [*Binhomaid 2019*]





Site layout

Optimization models bring a quantitative approach to site layout design.

Managers have a global view of the site with its changes over time, with the ability to view the impact of changes to the layout and evaluate multiple scenarios..





Scheduling all required tasks in a construction project is challenging and time consuming. One has to consider resources such as machines and employees, equipment availability, capacity limitation of suppliers, and even spatial limitations of the construction site.

Moreover, the schedule is likely to change during the execution of the project, which is why a **robust schedule** that can accommodate some delays is needed.





C	Component / Activities	Type / Include	C	Component / Activities	Type / Include
	Foundation	Foundation slab	6	Bridge equipment	Bearing and Hinge
		Foundation plinth			Expansion joint
		Rock filled box timber caisson			Parapet
		Caisson			Railing
1		Timber grillage			Guardrail
1		Pile			Insulation, water proofing
		Backfill			Drainage system
		Erosion protection			Lightening, Electrical work
		Sheet pile wall			and Accessories
		Rock anchor bolt			
	Slope and Embankment	Embankment, embankment	7	Surface layers	Pavement (asphalt etc.)
		end, backfill			Insulation, water proofing
2		Soil reinforcement and			Epoxy sealing
		slope protection			Others
	Substructure	Lower front wall	8	Earthworks	Excavation soil
3		Bridge seat			Excavation rock
		Upper front wall			Soil filling
		Pier			Others
		Footing slab for pier			
		Counterfort			
		Wing wall			
		Supporting wall			
	Superstructure	Slab and deck	9	Construction	Scaffolding
		Beam			Temporary constructions
		Truss			Bridge construction
ı		Arch, Vault			Transportation of workers
		Arch spandrel wall			Other activities
		Cable system			
		Pipe, Culvert			
	Secondary load-bearing structure	Secondary load-bearing beam,	10	End of Life Management	D
		cross beam			Demolition
5					Landscaning
		Wind bracing			
		Edge beam			Waste management
					(incl. recycling and recovery)

Constructing a bridge, for instance, requires **hundreds of tasks**: foundations, slope and embankment, substructure, superstructure, load-bearing structure, bridge equipment, surface layers, earthworks, assembly, etc.

Each activity has many sub-activities that require coordination of equipment, contractors, machinery, materials, etc.





Because of its complexity, a **large number of people are involved** in the planning and daily operations of all these tasks. This makes adjusting the schedule to unexpected situations very difficult and soon teams start **desynchronizing**, creating more **delays** and **cost overruns**.



Scheduling optimization creates schedules that take into account the large variety of tasks and limitations found in construction sites, while being robust to changes and delays, and disrupting as little as possible existing operations.

And they can be modified as many times as needed.



Traffic Rerouting



Traffic Rerouting

Road blocks during construction cause traffic disruption.

Not managing it properly exposes the company to severe financial losses as well as inconvenience to the public road users.



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Traffic Rerouting

Traffic delays at work zones are caused by a reduced number of lanes and lower speed limits.

Traffic flow rates above the work zone capacity create queues and traffic delays. Below the work zone capacity, vehicles drive at reduced speed reducing the throughput.

In both cases, traffic is significantly disrupted...





Traffic Rerouting



Modeling deceleration, queues, speed and alternate routes in an optimization solution allows finding the **best rerouting plan** for day and night operations.

Plans can be adjusted for particular conditions (weekends, rain) and presented to authorities for discussion and scenario analysis.



Analytics & Decision Optimization