# A dynamic programming method with lists for the knapsack sharing problem 

V. Boyer, D. El Baz, M. Elkihel<br>CNRS; LAAS; 7 avenue du Colonel Roche, F-31077 Toulouse, France Université de Toulouse; UPS; INSA; INP; ISAE; LAAS; F-31077 Toulouse, France<br>\{vboyer, elbaz, elkihel\}@laas.fr


#### Abstract

In this paper, we propose a method to solve exactly the knapsack sharing problem (KSP) by using dynamic programming. The original problem $(K S P)$ is decomposed into a set of knapsack problems. Our method is tested on correlated and uncorrelated instances from the literature. Computational results show that our method is able to find an optimal solution of large instances within reasonable computing time and low memory occupancy.


Keywords: knapsack sharing problem, combinatorial optimization, Max-min programming, dynamic programming.

## 1. Introduction

The knapsack sharing problem (KSP) is a max-min mathematical programming problem with a knapsack constraint (see [4] to [6]). The KSP is NP-complete. The KSP occurs when ressources have to be shared or distributed fairly to several entities, e.g. distribution of scarce resources like ammunition or gazoline among different military units (see [6]) or budget shared between districts of a city (see [17]).
The KSP is composed of $n$ items divided into $m$ different classes. Each class $\mathcal{N}_{i}$ has a cardinality $n_{i}$ with $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} n_{i}=n$ and $\mathcal{M}=\{1,2, \ldots, m\}$. Each item $j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}$ is associated with:

- a profit $p_{i j}$,
- a weight $w_{i j}$,
- a decision variable $x_{i j} \in\{0,1\}$.

We wish to determine a subset of items to be included in the knapsack of capacity $C$, so that the minimum
profit associated with the different class is maximised. The KSP can be formulated as follows:

$$
(K S P)\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\max \min _{i \in \mathcal{M}}\left\{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} p_{i j} \cdot x_{i j}\right\}=z(K S P),  \tag{1.1}\\
\text { subject to } \sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} w_{i j} \cdot x_{i j} \leq C, \\
x_{i j} \in\{0,1\} \text { for } i \in \mathcal{M} \text { and } j \in \mathcal{N}_{i},
\end{array}\right.
$$

where $z(K S P)$ denotes the optimal value of the prob$\operatorname{lem}(K S P)$ and for $i \in \mathcal{M}$ and $j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}, w_{i j}, p_{i j}$ and $C$ are positive integers. Furthermore, we assume that $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} w_{i j}>C$ and $\max _{i \in \mathcal{M}, j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}}\left\{w_{i j}\right\} \leq C$.

A common way to solve the KSP consists of its decomposition into knapsack problems (see for examples [10] and [17]). Indeed, for a class $i \in \mathcal{M}$, we define the following problem:

$$
\left(K P_{i}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\max \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} p_{i j} \cdot x_{i j}=z\left(K P_{i}\left(C_{i}\right)\right),  \tag{1.2}\\
\text { s.t. } \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} w_{i j} \cdot x_{i j} \leq C_{i}, \\
x_{i j} \in\{0,1\} \quad j \in \mathcal{N}_{i} .
\end{array}\right.
$$

The objective is then to find $\left(C_{1}^{*}, C_{2}^{*}, \ldots, C_{m}^{*}\right)$ such that

$$
\sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} C_{i}^{*} \leq C
$$

and

$$
\min _{i \in \mathcal{M}}\left\{z\left(K P_{i}\left(C_{i}^{*}\right)\right)\right\}=z(K S P)
$$

where, for a problem $\mathcal{P}, z(\mathcal{P})$ represents its optimal value. An upper bound and a lower bound of $z(\mathcal{P})$ will be denoted, respectively, by $\bar{z}(\mathcal{P})$ and $\underline{z}(\mathcal{P})$, respectively.
Hifi et al. have proposed to solve the knapsack problems $\left(K P_{i}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$ via a dense dynamic programming algorithm in [10] and [11]. Their method starts with $C_{i}=0, i \in \mathcal{M}$, and increases regulary the capacities until $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} C_{i}>C$.
In this article, we propose an algorithm for solving the KSP. Our algorithm is based on a dynamic programming procedure with dominance technique to solve the knapsack problems $\left(K P_{i}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$. Our algorithm starts by solving the problems $\left(K P_{i}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$ with $C_{i} \geq C_{i}^{*}, i \in \mathcal{M}$ and $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} C_{i} \geq$ $C$. At each step, we try to decrease the values of $\left(C_{i}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$, towards $\left(C_{i}^{*}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$. The use of lists permits one to reduce the memory occupancy; the expected benefit being the solution of large instances.
Without loss of generality, we consider in the sequel that the items in a class $i \in \mathcal{M}$ are sorted according to decreasing ratios $\frac{p_{i j}}{w_{i j}}, j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}$.
In the second section, we present the dynamic programming algorithm used to solve the problems $\left(K P_{i}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$. Section 3 deals with the algoritm we propose for the KSP. Computational results are displayed and analyzed in section 4 . Some conclusions and perspectives are presented in section 5 .

## 2. Basic dynamic programming procedure

In order to solve the problems $\left(K P_{i}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$, we use a dynamic programming algorithm with dominance (see [1] - [3] and [7]).

## Lists construction

We recall that $i \in \mathcal{M}$ denotes the index of the $i^{t h}$ class of (KSP).
A list $\mathcal{L}_{i k}$ is associated with each step $k \in \mathcal{N}_{i}$ :

$$
\begin{align*}
& \mathcal{L}_{i k}=\left\{(w, p) \mid w=\sum_{j=1}^{k} w_{i j} \cdot x_{i j} \leq C_{i}\right. \text { and } \\
& \left.p=\sum_{j=1}^{k} p_{i j} \cdot x_{i j}, x_{i j} \in\{0,1\}, j \in\{1,2, \ldots, k\}\right\} \tag{2.1}
\end{align*}
$$

The algorithm begins with the lists $\mathcal{L}_{i 0}=\{(0,0)\}$.
At each step $k \in \mathcal{N}_{i}$, the new list $\mathcal{L}_{i k}$ is obtained as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{L}_{i k}=\mathcal{L}_{i(k-1)} \cup\left\{\left(w+w_{i k}, p+p_{i k}\right) \mid(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i(k-1)}\right. \\
& \left.w+w_{i k} \leq C_{i}\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Notation:

For simplicty of presentation the above equation will also be written as follows in the sequel.

$$
\mathcal{L}_{i k}=\mathcal{L}_{i(k-1)} \oplus\left\{\left(w_{i k}, p_{i k}\right)\right\}
$$

The states $(w, p)$ in a list are sorted according to the decreasing value of $p$.
From the dynamic programming principle, dominated states, i.e. states $(w, p)$ such that there exists a state $\left(w^{\prime}, p^{\prime}\right)$ with $w^{\prime} \leq w$ and $p^{\prime} \geq p$, are removed from the list.

## State elimination via upper bounds

In order to shrink lists $\mathcal{L}_{i k}, k \in \mathcal{N}_{i}$, an upper bound $\bar{z}(w, p)$, associated with state $(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k}$, is computed. For this purpose, we solve exactly the following linear continuous knapsack problem via the Martello \& Toth's algorithm (see [8]):

$$
\left(L P_{i}^{(w, p)}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\max p+\sum_{j=k+1}^{n_{i}} p_{i j} \cdot x_{i j},  \tag{2.2}\\
\text { s.t. } \sum_{j=k+1}^{n_{i}} w_{i j} \cdot x_{i j} \leq C_{i}-w, \\
x_{i j} \in[0,1], j \in\left\{k+1, \ldots, n_{i}\right\} .
\end{array}\right.
$$

Let $\bar{z}(w, p)=\left\lfloor z\left(L P_{i}^{(w, p)}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)\right\rfloor$.
If $\bar{z}(w, p) \leq \underline{z}(K S P)$, then the states $(w, p)$ can be discarded.
We shall have:

$$
\mathcal{L}_{i k}:=\mathcal{L}_{i(k-1)} \oplus\left\{\left(w_{i k}, p_{i k}\right)\right\}-\mathcal{D}_{i k}-\mathcal{B}_{i k},
$$

where:

- $\mathcal{D}_{i k}$ represents the list of dominated states in $\mathcal{L}_{i(k-1)} \oplus\left\{\left(w_{i k}, p_{i k}\right)\right\}$,
- $\mathcal{B}_{i k}$ represents the list of states in $\mathcal{L}_{i(k-1)} \oplus$ $\left\{\left(w_{i k}, p_{i k}\right)\right\}$ to be eliminated via upper bounds.

In the sequel, this phase is the so-called NextList phase.

## Fixing variables

The following two methods are used to fix variables of the problem $\left(K P_{i}\right)$.

## Variable reduction technique 1

Let $i \in \mathcal{M}, k \in N_{i}$ and $(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k}$.
If $p>\bar{z}(K S P)$, where $\bar{z}(K S P)$ is an upper bound of (KSP) obtained by the solution of the linear continuous relaxation of $(K S P)$, then all free variables $x_{i j}, j \in\left\{k+1, \ldots, n_{i}\right\}$, can be fixed at 0 for the state $(w, p)$.

Indeed, as $z(K S P) \leq \bar{z}(K S P)$, when $p>\bar{z}(K S P)$ we can stop the exploration of this state because it will not give a better optimal value for $(K S P)$.
The second method to fix variables uses information provided by the solution of $\left(L P_{i}^{(w, p)}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)$ associated to a state $(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k}, k \in N_{i}$. We use the following rule to fix the free variables of a state $(w, p)$.

Variable reduction technique 2 (see [16]) Let $i \in \mathcal{M}, k \in N_{i}$ and $(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k}$.

Let $d$ be the index of the critical variable of $\left(L P_{i}^{(w, p)}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)$, i.e.:
$\sum_{j=k+1}^{d-1} w_{i j} \leq C_{i}-w$ and $\sum_{j=k+1}^{d} w_{i j}>C_{i}-w$.
If for $j \in\left\{k+1, \ldots d-1, d+1, \ldots, n_{i}\right\}$, we have

$$
\left\lfloor\left. z\left(L P_{i}^{(w, p)}\left(C_{i}\right)\right)-\left|p_{i j}-w_{i j} \cdot \frac{p_{i d}}{w_{i d}}\right| \right\rvert\, \leq \underline{z}(K S P),\right.
$$

where $\underline{z}(K S P)$ is a lower bound of (KSP), then $x_{i j}$ can be fixed to 1 if $j<d$ and to 0 otherwise. The computation of $\underline{z}(K S P)$ is detailed in the next Section.

## 3. An algorithm for the KSP

In this section, we show how the dynamic programming method presented in the above Section can be used to find an optimal solution of ( $K S P$ ).
For simplicity of notation, $\underline{z}(K S P)$ is denoted by $\underline{z}$ in the sequel.

### 3.1. The main procedure DPKSP

The principle of our algorithm can be presented brievly as follows.

- A first lower bound of $(K S P), \underline{z}$, is computed with the greedy heuristic the so-called GreedyKSP (see Alg. 1).
- At each step $k$ of the dynamic programming method:
- the lists $\left(\mathcal{L}_{i k}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}, k \leq n_{i}}$ are computed via the procedure NextList presented in the above Section,
- then, we try to reduce the free variables associated with each state in $\left(\mathcal{L}_{i k}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M},}, k \leq n_{i}$,
- finally, the lower bound $\underline{z}$ and the capacities $\left(C_{i}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$, respectively, are updated via the procedures Update $Z$ and Update $C$, respectively described below.
- The dynamic programming phase is stopped when all the lists $\left(\mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$ have been computed. These lists are used by the procedure FindOptimalValue to find an optimal solution for the ( $K S P$ ).


## Alg. 1 : GreedyKSP

For $i$ from 1 to $m$ do

$$
p_{i}:=0, w_{i}:=0 \text { and } k_{i}:=1
$$

end do
STOP:=0
while $\mathrm{STOP}=0$ do
$d:=\operatorname{argmin}\left\{p_{1}, p_{2}, \ldots, p_{m}\right\}$
if $k_{d} \leq n_{d}$ then if $w_{d}+w_{d k_{d}} \leq C$, then
$x_{d k_{d}}$ is fixed to 1
$p_{d}:=p_{d}+p_{d k_{d}}$ $w_{d}:=w_{d}+w_{d k_{d}}$ end if $k_{d}:=k_{d}+1$
else
STOP:=1
end if
end while
$\underline{z}=\min \left\{p_{1}, p_{2}, \ldots, p_{m}\right\}$.
The main procedure, $D P K S P$, to solve the KSP is given in Alg. 2. The procedures UpdateZ, UpdateC and FindOptimalValue are detailed in the next subsections.

## Alg. 2 : DPKSP

Initialisation:
$\underline{z}:=\underline{z}(K S P):=$ GreedyKSP
$\bar{z}(K S P):=\lfloor z(C K S P)\rfloor$
For $i$ from 1 to $m$ do
$\mathcal{L}_{i 0}:=\{(0,0)\}$
end for
$k:=1$
$\left(C_{i}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}:=\operatorname{Update} C\left(\underline{z},\left(\mathcal{L}_{i 0}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}\right)$
Dynamic programming:
STOP:=0
while $\mathrm{STOP}=0$ do
STOP:=1
For i from 1 to m do

$$
\operatorname{If}\left(k \leq n_{i}\right)
$$

$$
\mathrm{STOP}:=0
$$

$$
\mathcal{L}_{i k}:=\operatorname{NextList}\left(K P_{i}, \mathcal{L}_{i(k-1)}\right)
$$

$$
\text { For each state }(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k} \text { do }
$$

Try to fix the free variables end for
end if
end for
$\underline{z}:=\operatorname{Update} Z\left(\underline{z},\left(C_{i}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}},\left(\mathcal{L}_{i k}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}\right)$
$\left(C_{i}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}:=\operatorname{Update} C\left(\underline{z},\left(\mathcal{L}_{i k}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}\right)$
$k:=k+1$
end while

Finding $z^{*}$ :
$z($ KSP $):=$ FindOptimalValue $\left(\underline{z},\left(\mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}\right)$

### 3.2. The procedure UpdateC

In this subsection, we present how the values of $\left(C_{i}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$ are updated. For this purpose, we compute the minimum values of the capacities $\left(C_{i}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$ resulting from an improvement of the current lower bound $\underline{z}$, of the KSP.
For $i \in \mathcal{M}$, and $k \in \mathcal{N}_{i} \cup\{0\}$, the following linear problem is associated with a state $(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k}$ :

$$
\left(\min W_{i}((w, p), \underline{z})\right)\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\min w+\sum_{j=k+1}^{n_{i}} w_{i j} . x_{i j}  \tag{3.1}\\
\text { s.t. } p+\sum_{j=k+1}^{n_{i}} p_{i j} \cdot x_{i j} \geq \underline{z}+1 \\
x_{i j} \in[0,1], j \in\left\{k+1, \ldots, n_{i}\right\}
\end{array}\right.
$$

Let us define:

$$
\min C_{i}\left(\mathcal{L}_{i k}, \underline{z}\right)=\left\lfloor\min _{(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k}}\left\{z\left(\min W_{i}((w, p), \underline{z})\right)\right\}\right\rfloor
$$

If we want to improve the best lower bound, $\underline{z}$, then we must have, for $i \in \mathcal{M}$ :

$$
\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}} w_{i j} \cdot x_{i j} \leq C-\sum_{i^{\prime} \in \mathcal{M}-\{i\}} \min C_{i^{\prime}}\left(\mathcal{L}_{i^{\prime} k}, \underline{z}\right)
$$

with

$$
x_{i j} \in\{0,1\}, \text { for } j \in \mathcal{N}_{i}
$$

For $i \in \mathcal{M}$, the initial value of $C_{i}$ is given by

$$
C_{i}=C-\sum_{i^{\prime} \in \mathcal{M}-\{i\}} \min C_{i^{\prime}}\left(\mathcal{L}_{i^{\prime} 0}, \underline{z}\right) .
$$

At each step $k$ of $D P K S P$, we try to improve the value of $C_{i}$ with Alg. 3.

## Alg. 3 : UpdateC

For $i$ from 1 to $m$ do

$$
C_{i}:=C-\sum_{i^{\prime} \in \mathcal{M}-\{i\}} \min C_{i^{\prime}}\left(\mathcal{L}_{i^{\prime} k}, \underline{z}\right)
$$

end for

### 3.3. The procedure UpdateZ

Rather than updating the lower bound $\underline{z}$, with the GreedyKSP heuristic, which is time consuming, we make use of all the lists $\left(\mathcal{L}_{i k}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$ at step $k$ in order to try to improve more efficiently this bound.
Indeed, for each state in the list, a local greedy heuristic can be used in order to select a particular state. The selected state of each list is then combined with other states so as to try to improve $\underline{z}$. The details of the heuristic are given in procedure UpdateZ (see Alg. 4).

## Alg. 4 : UpdateZ

For $i \in \mathcal{M}$ do $\mathcal{L}_{i k}^{\prime}=\emptyset$
Greedy like step:
For $i$ from 1 to $m$ do
For $(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k}$ do
$W:=w$ and $P:=p$
For $j$ from $k+1$ to $n_{i}$ do If $P \geq \underline{z}(K S P)+1$ then
exit the loop for
end if
If $W+w_{i j} \leq C_{i}$ then
$W:=W+w_{i j}$ and $P:=P+p_{i j}$ end if
end for
If $P \geq \underline{z}(K S P)+1$ then $\mathcal{L}_{i k}^{\prime}:=\mathcal{L}_{i k}^{\prime} \cup\{(W, P)\}$
end if
end for
end for
Selected states:
For $i$ from 1 to $m$ do

> Choose $\left(W_{i}, P_{i}\right) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k}^{\prime}$ such that $W_{i}:=\min _{(W, P) \in \mathcal{L}_{i k}^{\prime}}\{W\}$
end for
Updating $\underline{z}(K S P)$ :
If $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} W_{i} \leq C$ then
$\underline{z}(K S P):=\min _{i \in \mathcal{M}}\left\{P_{i}\right\}$
end if

### 3.4. The procedure FindOptimalValue

In the end of the dynamic programming phase, all the lists $\left(\mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}\right)_{i \in \mathcal{M}}$, are available. In this section, we show how these lists are combined in $\mathcal{O}\left(\sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} C_{i}\right)$ in order to find the optimal value of $(K S P)$.
The states $(w, p)$ in a list are sorted according to the decreasing value of $p$. Due to the dominance principle, they are also sorted according to the decreasing value of $w$. Thus, if we want to check if a given bound $\bar{z} \geq \underline{z}$ is feasible, then we have to take in each list $\mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}, i \in \mathcal{M}$, the state $\left(w^{i}, p^{i}\right)$ which satisfies:

$$
\begin{equation*}
w^{i}=\min \left\{w \mid p \geq \bar{z},(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}\right\} \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

If $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} w^{i} \leq C$, then we have found a better feasi-
ble bound for $(K S P)$, i.e. $\bar{z}^{\prime}=\min _{i \in \mathcal{M}}\left\{p^{i}\right\} \geq \bar{z} \geq \underline{z}$. Furthermore, all the states $(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}$ such that $p<p^{i}$ can be discarded. Otherwise, all the states $(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}$ such that $p>p^{i}\left(\right.$ and $\left.w>w^{i}\right)$ can be removed as they will not provide a better solution. Indeed, in this case, we have the following inequalities:

$$
z(K S P)<\bar{z} \leq p^{i}, \quad i \in \mathcal{M}
$$

Therefore, we have to decrease the value of the bound $\bar{z}$ and check if this new bound is feasible.
Alg. 5 presents the procedure FindOptimalValue.

## Alg. 5 : FindOptimalValue <br> Initialization:

For $i$ from 1 to $m$ do
Let $\left(w^{i}, p^{i}\right)$ be the first states in $\mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}$ end do

```
\(\bar{z}:=\min _{i \in \mathcal{M}}\left\{p^{i}\right\}\)
\(z(K S P):=\underline{z}(K S P)\)
Checking feasibility:
While \(\bar{z}>\underline{z}(K S P)\) do
    For \(i\) from 1 to \(m\) do
        Find \(\left(w^{i}, p^{i}\right) \in \mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}\) such that
        \(w^{i}:=\min \left\{w \mid p \geq \bar{z},(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}\right\}\)
    end for
    If \(\sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} w^{i} \leq C\) then
        \(z(K S P):=\bar{z}\)
        Exit the procedure
    Else
        For \(i\) from 1 to \(m\) do
            \(\mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}:=\mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}-\left\{(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}} \mid p>p^{i}\right\}\)
        end for
        \(\bar{z}:=\min _{i \in \mathcal{M}} \max _{(w, p) \in \mathcal{L}_{i n_{i}}}\{p \mid p<\bar{z}\}\)
    end if
end while
```

We note that all the lists are considered only once in this procedure.

## 4. Computational experiments

The procedure $D P K S P$ has been written in C and computational experiments have been carried out on an Intel Core 2 Duo T7500 ( 2.2 GHz ).
We have used the set of problems of Hifi (see [12], see also [13]) with 168 uncorrelated instances and 72 strongly correlated instances; each group of problems contains four instances. The problems are detailed in Tables 1 and 2. All the optimal values are known for these instances.
The average processing time for the four instances of each group of problems is given in Tables 3 and 4. The tables show that $D P K S P$ is able to solve large instances (up to 20000 variables and 50 classes) within reasonable computing time. In the correlated case, an optimal solution is obtained in less than 13 minutes. The processing time is less than 1.5 minutes in the uncorrelated case.
We note that our method is efficient when the number $m$ of classes is relatively small (between 2 and 5 classes). This result can be explained by the fact
that in this case we have to fill a limited number of knapsacks. The comparison with the results provided by Hifi et al. in [10] and [11] shows the interest of our approach particulary in this context for both correlated and uncorrelated problems; indeed, the processing times of Hifi's algorithm tends to be important for these instances.
The memory occupancy is presented in Tables 5 and 6. Note that the vector $x$ associated to each state is encoded as a bit string of 32 bits. These tables compare DPKSP with the algorithm of Hifi whose space complexity is $\mathcal{O}(n . C)$. We see that the approach of Hifi needs for some instances a large amount of memory (up to 638.42 Mo ) contrarily to our method ( $<7 \mathrm{Mo}$ ). Indeed, the space complexity of the dynamic programming algorithm with lists for a knasack problem of $n$ variables with the capacity $C$ is $\mathcal{O}\left(\min \left\{2^{n+1}, n C\right\}\right)$ (see [15]). The space complexity of DPKSP is $\mathcal{O}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \min \left\{2^{n_{i}+1}, n_{i} . C_{i}\right\}\right)$. Thus it is bounded by $\mathcal{O}(n . C)$. DPKSP is able to solve large problems with limited memory occupancy.

## 5. Conclusions and perspectives

In this paper, we have proposed a method to solve the KSP with a dynamic programming list algorithm.
The original problem $(K S P)$ is decomposed into a set of knapsack problems. The initial value of the knapsack capacity is obtained via an overestimation. This value is updated and decreased throughout the solution process.
Computational results show that best results were obtained when the number of classes is relatively small. They show also that $D P K S P$ is able to solve large instances within reasonable computing time and small memory occupancy. Moreover, our method use less memory than previous methods in the literature. We think that very good results can be obtained with our method for instances with bigger capacities and a great number of classes (in the problems considered, capacities are generated so that they are equal to the half sum of all item weights, as a consequence, the bigger the weights, the bigger the capacity is).

In future work, it would also be interesting to consider a multi method that combines the advantages of our approach with the one of Hifi et al.
In order to decrease the processing time, parallel implementation of $D P K S P$ could be considered. Indeed, the computations on knapsack sub-problems are independant and could be done in parallel.

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Table 1: Uncorrelated instances

| Group | n | m | Instances $1 \leq x \leq 4$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Am.x | 1000 | 2 to 50 | A02.x A20.x, A50.x | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A05.x } \\ & \text { A30.x } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A10.x, } \\ & \text { A40.x, } \end{aligned}$ |
| Bm.x | 2500 | 2 to 50 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { B05.x } \\ & \text { B30.x } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { B10.x, } \\ & \text { B40.x, } \end{aligned}$ |
| Cm.x | 5000 | 2 to 50 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { C05.x } \\ & \text { C30.x } \end{aligned}$ | $\mathrm{C} 10 . \mathrm{x}$ C40.x |
| Dm.x | 7500 | 2 to 50 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { D05.x } \\ & \text { D30.x } \end{aligned}$ | D10.x, <br> D40.x, |
| Em.x | 10000 | 2 to 50 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { E05.x } \\ & \text { E30.x } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| Fm.x | 20000 | 2 to 50 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { F05.x } \\ & \text { F30.x } \end{aligned}$ | F10.x, <br> F40.x, |

Table 2: Correlated instances

| Group | n | m | Instances | $\leq x \leq 4$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AmC.x | 1000 | 2 to 10 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A02C.x, } \\ & \text { A10C.x } \end{aligned}$ | A05C.x, |
| BmC.x | 2500 | 2 to 10 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { B02C.x, } \\ & \text { B10C.x } \end{aligned}$ | B05C.x, |
| CmC.x | 5000 | 2 to 10 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { C02C.x, } \\ & \text { C10C.x } \end{aligned}$ | C05C.x, |
| DmC.x | 7500 | 2 to 10 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { D02C.x, } \\ & \text { D10C.x } \end{aligned}$ | D05C.x, |
| EmC.x | 10000 | 2 to 10 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { E02C.x, } \\ & \text { E10C.x } \end{aligned}$ | E05C.x, |
| FmC.x | 20000 | 2 to 10 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { F02C.x, } \\ & \text { F10C. } \end{aligned}$ | F05C.x, |

Table 3: Uncorrelated instances: time processing (s.)

| Inst. | t. | Inst. | t. | Inst. | t. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| A02.x | 0.02 | C02.x | 0.21 | E02.x | 3.02 |
| A05.x | 0.15 | C05.x | 1.96 | E05.x | 5.55 |
| A10.x | 0.14 | C10.x | 4.02 | E10.x | 15.24 |
| A20.x | 0.06 | C20.x | 4.55 | E20.x | 18.38 |
| A30.x | 0.01 | C30.x | 2.53 | E30.x | 13.27 |
| A40.x | 0.00 | C40.x | 0.85 | E40.x | 13.24 |
| A50.x | 0.01 | C50.x | 0.66 | E50.x | 15.26 |
| B02.x | 0.16 | D02.x | 0.66 | F02.x | 3.00 |
| B05.x | 0.69 | D05.x | 4.39 | F05.x | 35.16 |
| B10.x | 1.20 | D10.x | 6.94 | F10.x | 46.31 |
| B20.x | 0.69 | D20.x | 10.83 | F20.x | 68.89 |
| B30.x | 0.01 | D30.x | 8.22 | F30.x | 67.21 |
| B40.x | 0.01 | D40.x | 7.02 | F40.x | 78.46 |
| B50.x | 0.01 | D50.x | 4.02 | F50.x | 78.86 |

Table 4: Correlated instances: time processing (s.)

| Inst. | t. | Inst. | t. | Inst. | t. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| A02C.x | 1.18 | C02C.x | 18.48 | E02C.x | 59.44 |
| A05C.x | 1.32 | C05C.x | 26.25 | E05C.x | 149.29 |
| A10C.x | 1.72 | C10C.x | 33.28 | E10C.x | 164.33 |
| B02C.x | 9.61 | D02C.x | 53.40 | F02C.x | 642.84 |
| B05C.x | 10.08 | D05C.x | 53.61 | F05C.x | 724.81 |
| B10C.x | 9.63 | D10C.x | 98.14 | F10C.x | 598.05 |

Table 5: Uncorrelated instances: memory occupancy (Mo)

| Instance | DPKSP | ALGO (HIFI) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Am.x | $<0.01$ | 1.59 |
| Bm.x | 0.05 | 9.95 |
| Cm.x | 0.11 | 38.15 |
| Dm.x | 0.33 | 89.4 |
| Em.x | 0.41 | 158.79 |
| Fm.x | 1.01 | 636.95 |

Table 6: Correlated instances: memory occupancy (Mo)

| Instance | DPKSP | ALGO (Hifi) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| AmC.x | 0.10 | 1.60 |
| BmC.x | 0.30 | 9.97 |
| CmC.x | 0.68 | 39.76 |
| DmC.x | 1.26 | 89.60 |
| EmC.x | 1.96 | 159.23 |
| FmC.x | 6.21 | 638.42 |

