Optimizing the Schedule of a Sports League

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Optimizing the game schedule of a sports league is a very complex problem, known as the traveling tournament problem. In a real situation, the problem includes many intangible constraints that are hard to quantify. Also, the objective function is quite fuzzy. In this presentation, we will compare the "theoretical" traveling tournament problem with a real instance. Further, we will sketch how the problem is solved today, discuss potentials for optimization, and outline how we have helped a major sports league to optimize their planning.