



# University of Twente

Operating room planning &  
scheduling

Erwin Hans

*Center for Healthcare Operations*

*Improvement & Research (CHOIR)*



University of Twente  
The Netherlands



# Overzicht presentatie

- Achtergrond
- Introductie OK planning & scheduling
- Robuuste planning van electieve operaties
- Master Surgical Scheduling (MSS)
- Spoed-OKs of niet?
- OK management game & software demo



# Achtergrond

- (1997) MSc Toegepaste Wiskunde (OR & Math. Progr.), UT
- (2001) PhD Tactical capacity planning in discrete manufacturing (promotoren Henk Zijm, Steef van de Velde)
- (2001-) UD “Operational Methods for Production & Logistics
- (2003-) Onderzoek “Process optimization in healthcare”
- (2007-) Voorzitter UT center of expertise:

Center for Healthcare Operations Improvement & Research

(<http://www.choir.utwente.nl>)



# UT-kenniscentrum CHOIR

*Center for Healthcare Operations Improvement & Research*

- 17 stafleden, 9 promovendi
- > 70 publicaties sinds 2000

Disciplines:

- Operations Management, Logistiek, Inkoopmgmt.
- Stochastische OR, Discrete Wiskunde & Math. Prog.
- Quality & Safety Mgmt., Informatie & Techn. Mgmt.



# UT-kenniscentrum CHOIR

*Center for Healthcare Operations Improvement & Research*

Samenwerking met (zorg)instellingen:

- NKI/AVL, AMC, Erasmus MC, LUMC, UvM, UMCG, NFU
- Regionale zh: MST, ZGT, DZ, Isala klinieken, SKB, RdGG, Groene Hart ZH, etc.
- Overig: ORTEC, Bouwcollege (CBZ)



# UT-kenniscentrum CHOIR

*Center for Healthcare Operations Improvement & Research*

Onderwijs:

- Industrial Engineering & Management master tracks:
  - Healthcare Technology & Management
  - Production & Logistics Management
- Health Sciences (Gezondheidswetenschappen)
  - Healthcare management master



# OK planning & scheduling (inleiding)



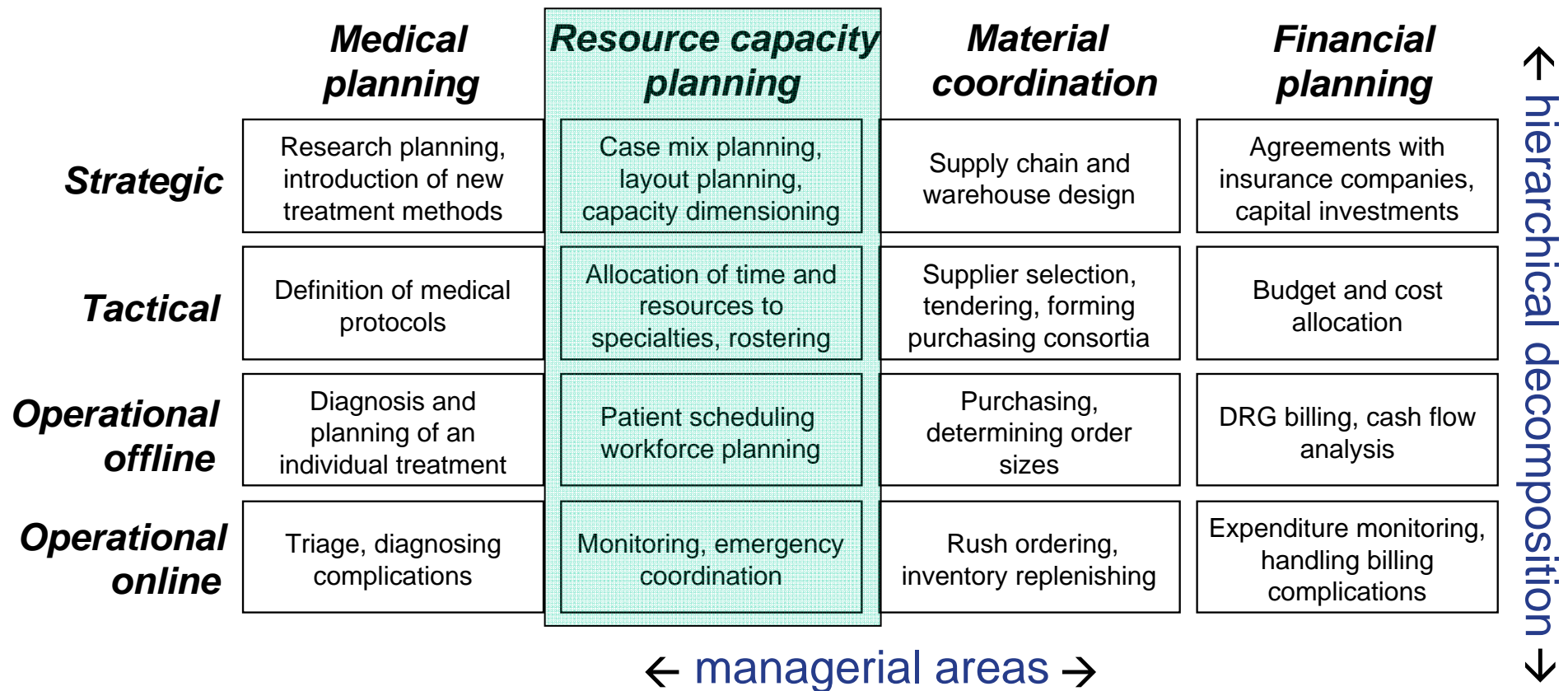


# Erasmus MC, Rotterdam



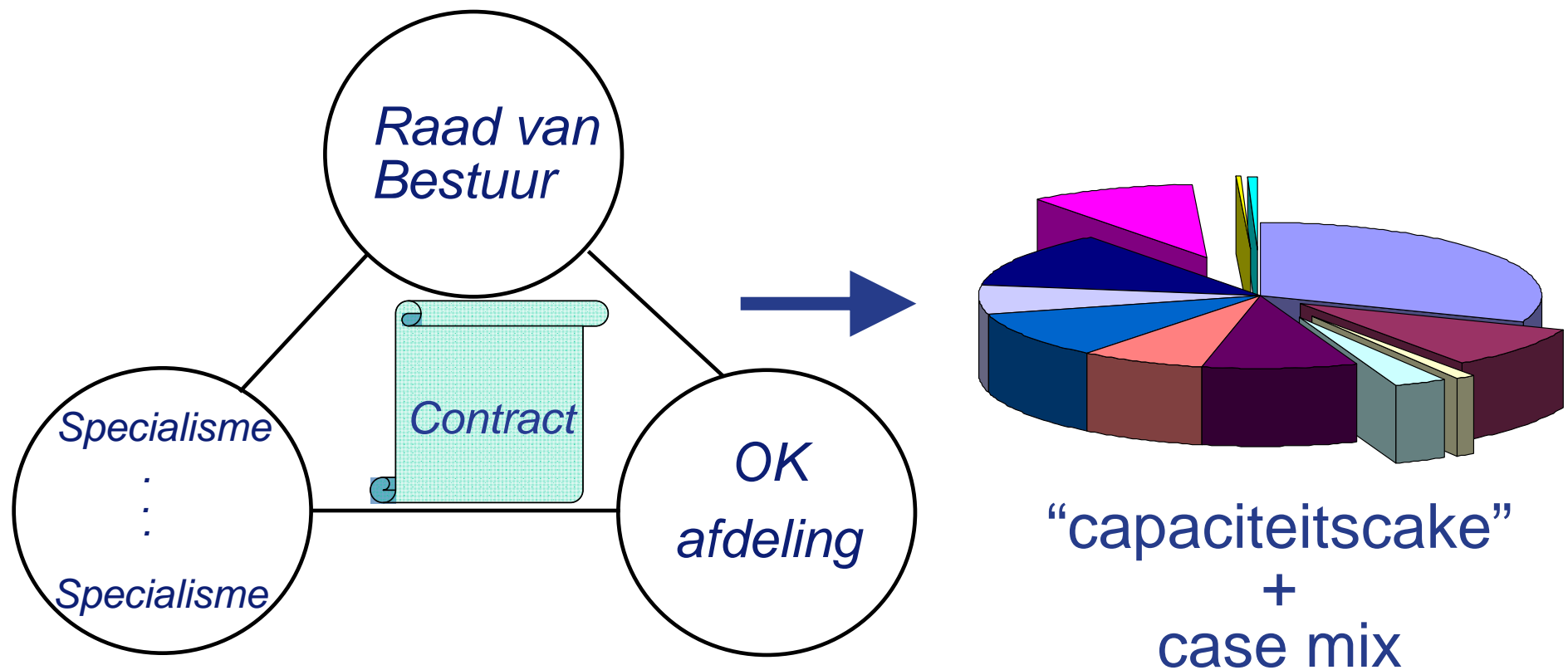
- Grootste UMC in Nederland
- Onderzoekssamenwerking met Universiteit Twente, m.b.t. **toepassing OR-technieken voor procesoptimalisatie**
- Onderzoeksaanpak middels samenwerking **medici, managers & wiskundigen**
- > 15 papers & book chapters

# Positioneringsraamwerk voor ziekenhuis planning & besturing





# Introductie OK planning: strategisch niveau





# Introductie OK planning: strategisch niveau

## Capaciteitsdimensionering betreft:

- #OKs (klinisch, poliklinisch, spoed-OK)
- Anesthesisten
- Anesthesieassistenten, OK-assistenten
  - # teams beschikbaar gedurende de nacht
- (verplaatsbare) Instrumenten (bijv. X-rays)
- Instrumenten (netten)
- Materialen



## Introductie OK planning: tactisch niveau

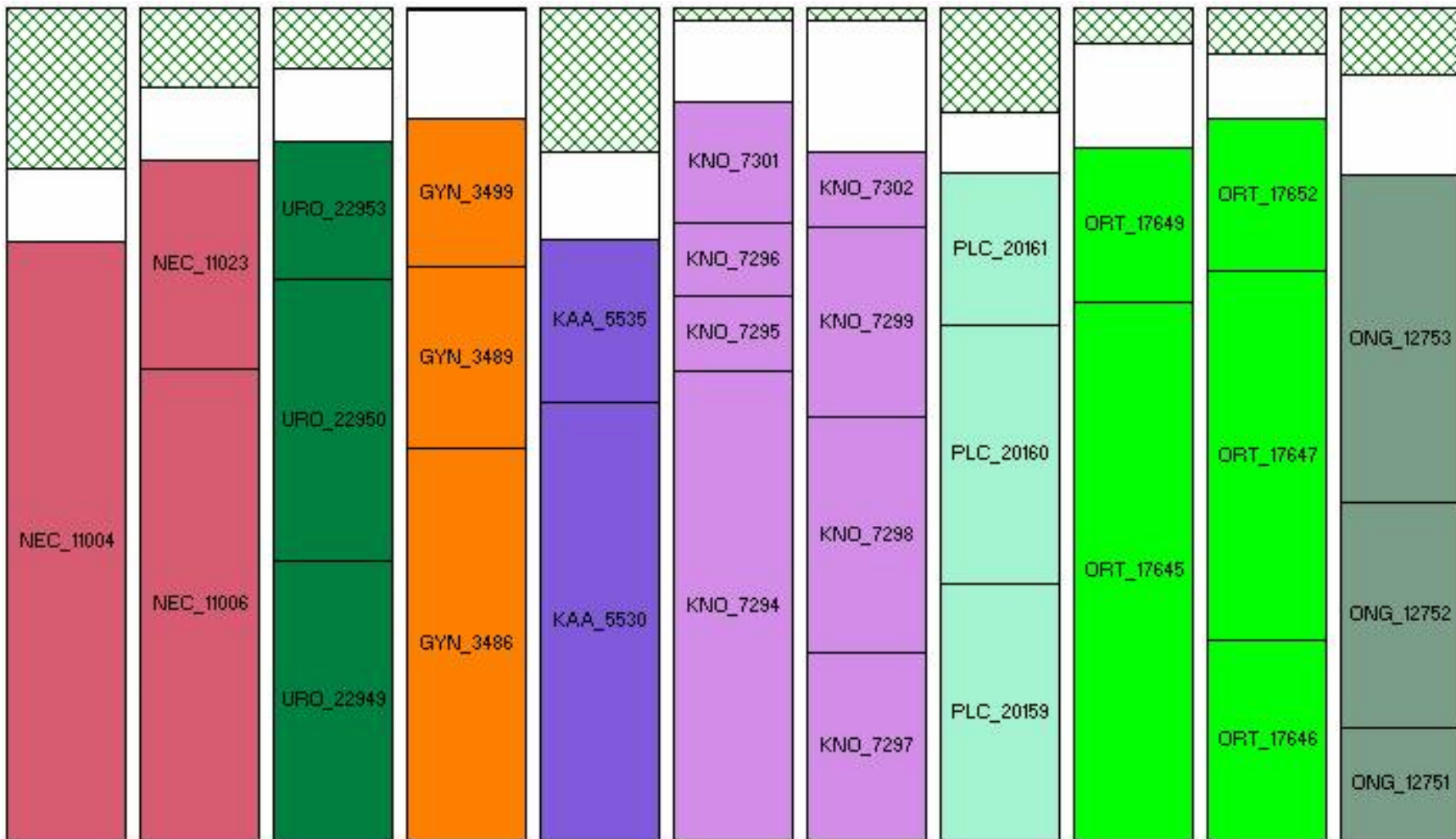
- Blok planning (specialismen  $\leftrightarrow$  blokken)
  - OK personeel, chirurgen
  - Beddenplanning (vpl, ICU)
- Toewijzing *electieve* operaties aan blokken
  - Per specialisme, bijv. 1 of 2 weken van tevoren
  - Operatieduur gebaseerd op historische data
  - Naast “verwachte duur” voldoende **slack** plannen, gebaseerd op historische variabiliteit in operatieduur



## Introductie OK planning: offline operationele niveau

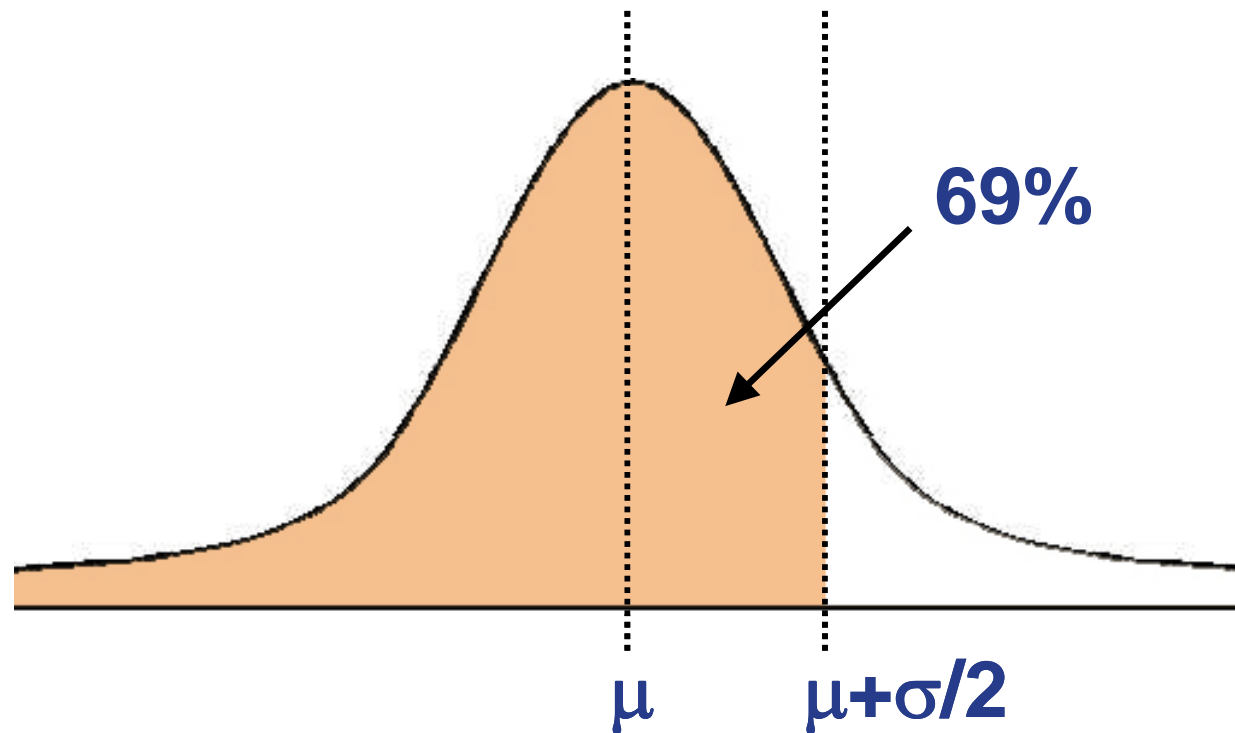
- “Add-on scheduling” van semi-urgente operaties
- Sequencen van de electieve operaties
  - Bijv. om problemen te voorkomen met een beperkt aantal X-rays
- Personeelsroostering

# Voorbeeld (11 OKs)





# Introductie OK planning: offline operationele niveau



# Historische data



University of Twente  
The Netherlands

BusinessObjects - OK - planningsondersteuning verrichtingen.rep - [975760]

Bestand Bewerken Beeld Invoegen Opmaak Extra Gegevens Analyse Venster Help

100%

Planningsondersteuning verrichtingen *Laatste DWH datum: 03 september 2005* **Erasmus MC**  
*Laatste verversdatum: 09 september 2005* *Erasmus*

Specialisme	Chirurgie
<b>Gem. zittingstijd</b>	<b>644,2 min</b>
Gem. inleidingstijd	43,2 min
Gem. chirurgische tijd	573,0 min
Aantal meetpunten	6

**Drillen**

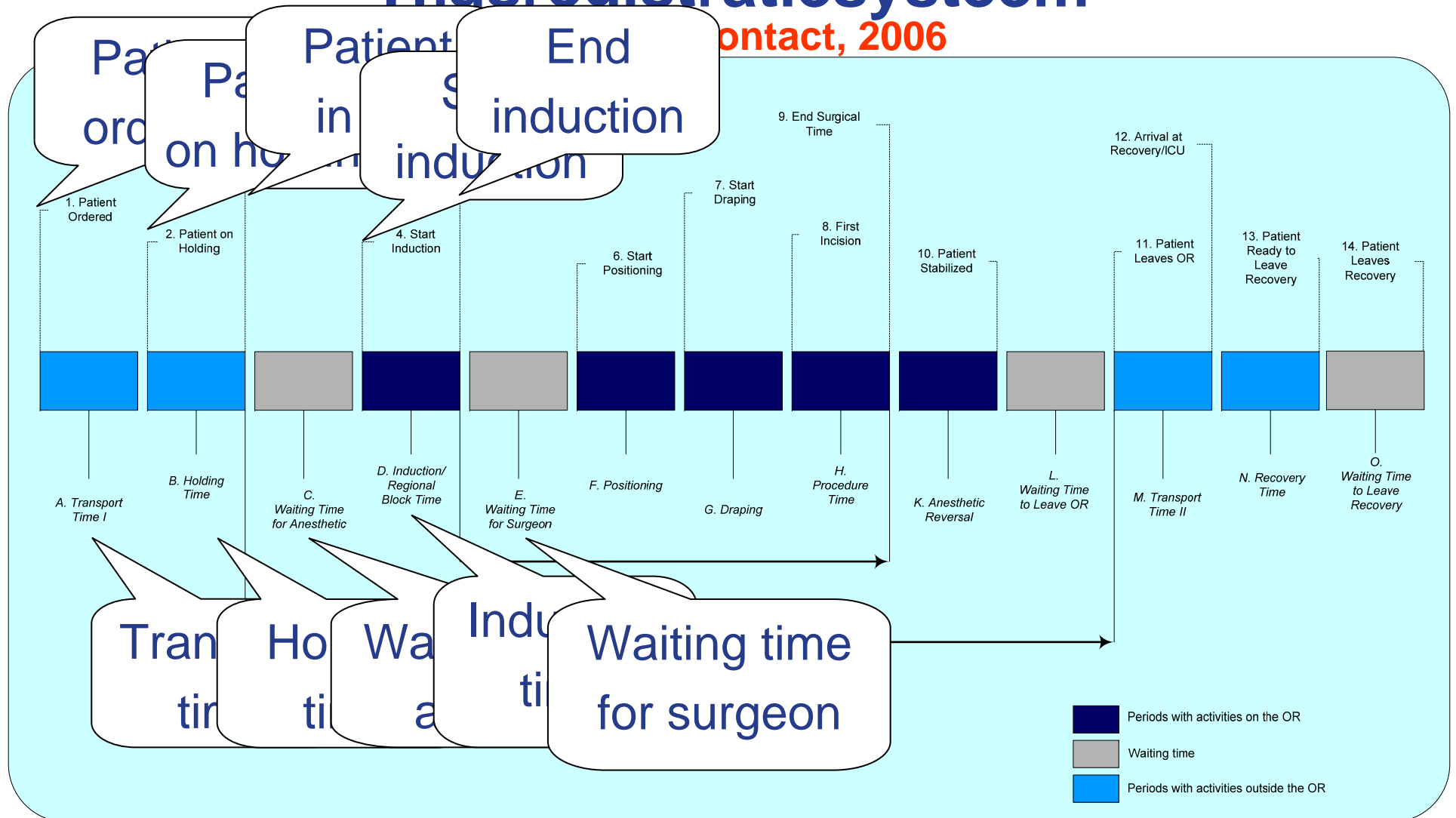
- OKD1
- C. Chirurg
- Alle 1ste assistent operateur
- Alle Anesthesist 1
- electief
- Alle Anesthesiotype
- Alle Verichtingstype
- PANCREAS - PANCREATICO-DUODENECTOMIE VOLGENS WHIPPLE

Planning | afwijking | gebruikte verrichtingen



# Tiidsregistratiesysteem

contact, 2006

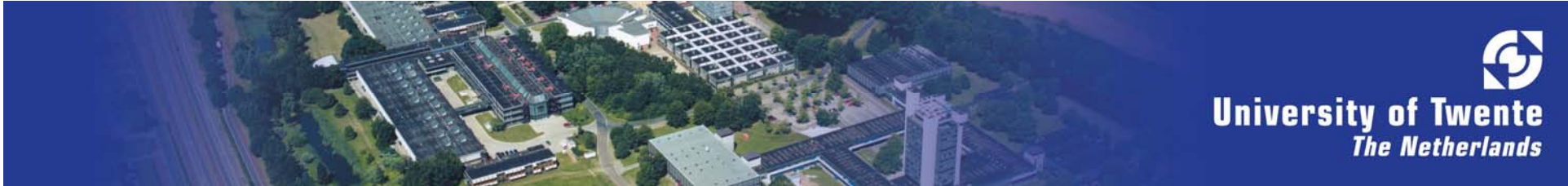




# Introductie OK planning: online operationele niveau

Spoed-operatiescheduling (gedurende de dag):

- Spoed-OKs
  - Spoedoperaties in (daarvoor gereserveerde) OKs
- Geen spoed-OKs
  - Spoedoperaties in electieve programma



# Master surgical scheduling

a cyclic, integral planning of ORs and ICU  
department

(tactical planning level)

OR Spectrum, 2007 (co-work Van Oostrum *et al.*)



## Preliminary study

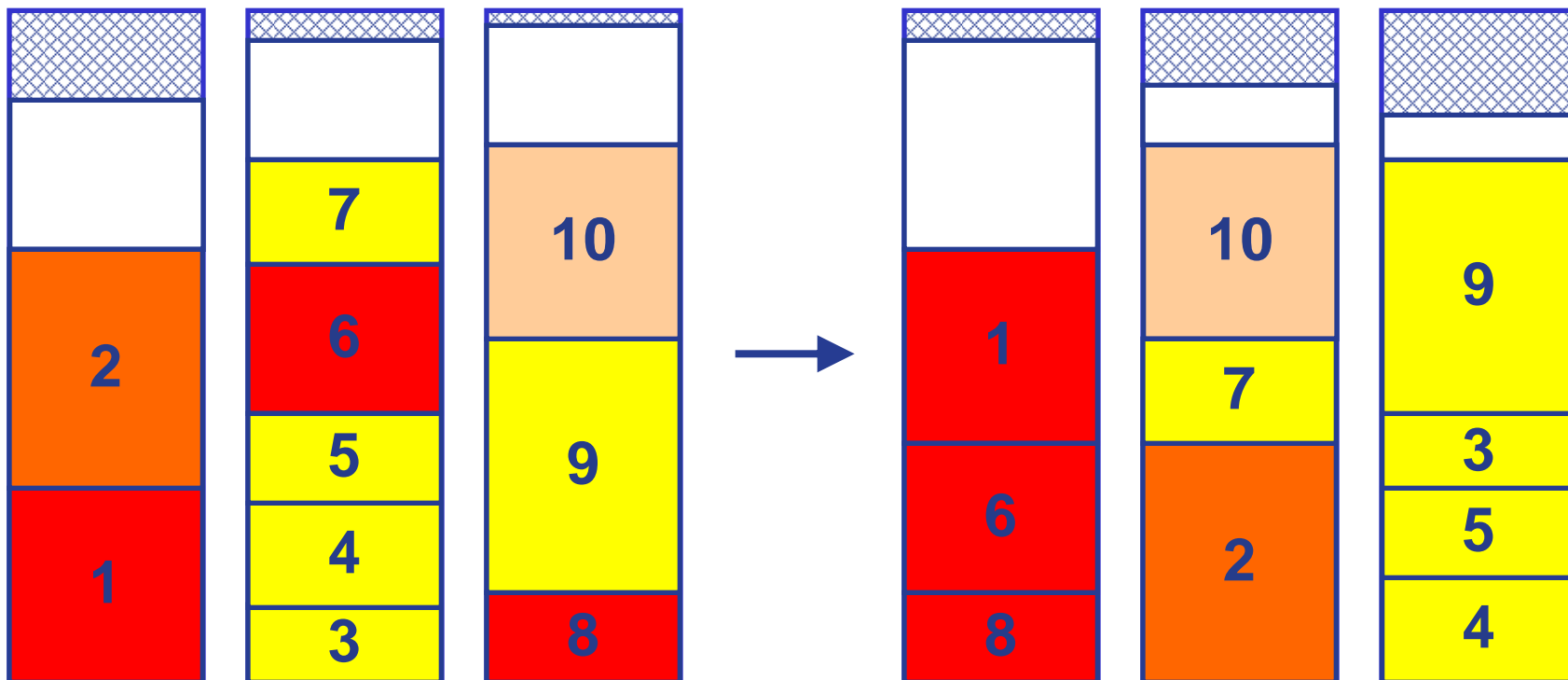
### Question:

- how much can OR-utilisation be increased by optimising the elective surgery schedule?

### Approach (see our paper in EJOR 185):

- Optimisation of elective scheduling by exploiting the portfolio effect

# Preliminary study Portfolio-effect



Capacity gain **2.3%**, increase in unused capacity: **40%**



## Motivation of research

- Low OR utilisation, many cancellations
  - OR-scheduling is time-consuming, and repetitive
- However: **many elective surgery types are recurring!**
- Weekly optimisation using mathematical techniques
    - Leads to “nervous schedules”
    - May interfere with autonomy of medical specialists
    - Hard to implement



# Elective surgery scheduling

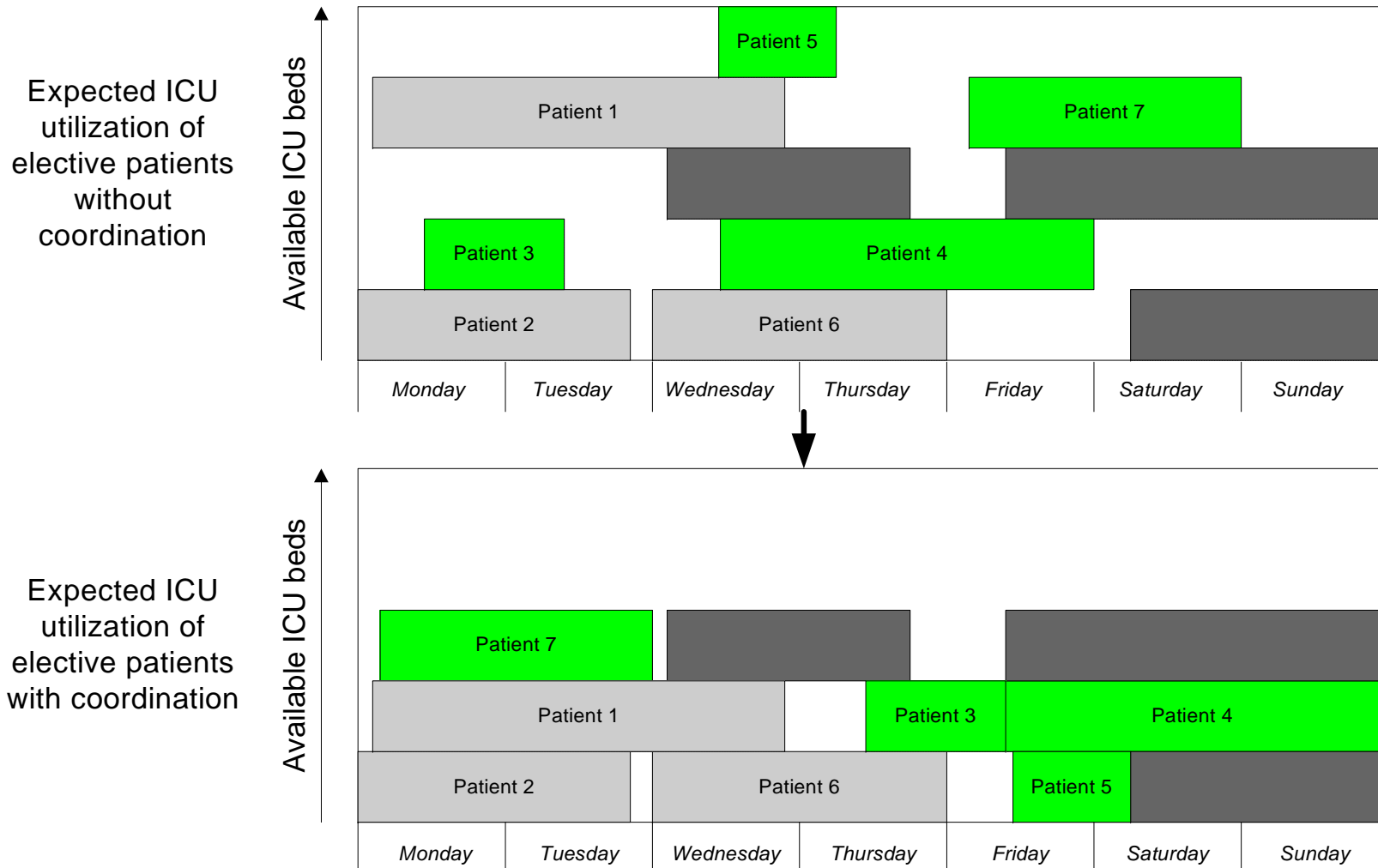
## Challenges:

- Optimise utilisation surgeons and ORs
- Optimise robustness (e.g. minimise overtime)
- Optimise other resources (ward/ICU bed, X-ray)
- Care chain optimisation, early personnel coord. etc.
- Easy implementation

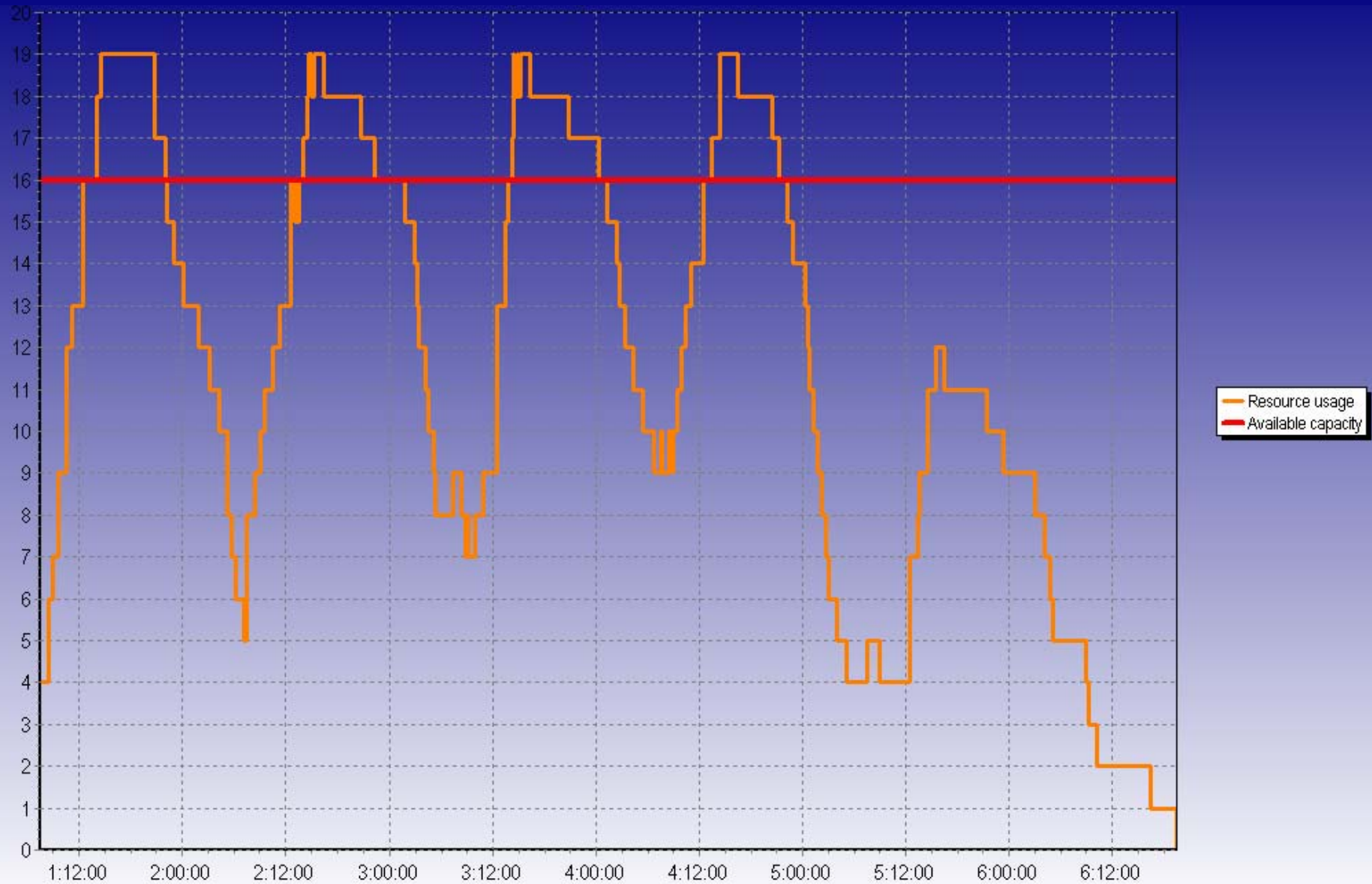
...while maintaining the autonomy of the surgeons as much as possible

→ Promising approach: **Master Surgical Scheduling**

# ICU bed requirements after surgery



# Capacity usage for shortstay ward





# Master surgical scheduling: idea

Idea: design a cyclic schedule of surgery types that:

- covers all frequent elective surgery types
- levels the workload of the specialties
- levels the workload of subsequent departments (ICU, wards)
- is robust against uncertainty
- improves OR-utilisation
- maintains autonomy of clinicians

Assign patients to the “slots” in the schedule



# MSS: problem description

## Goal:

- Maximise the OR-utilisation
- Level capacity usage of subsequent resources (ICU)

## Constraints:

- OR-capacity constraints (probabilistic)
- All surgery types must be planned i.c.w. their frequency

## To determine:

- Length of the planning cycle
- A list of surgery types for every OR-day (“OR-day schedule”)



# Mathematical program (base model)

maximises the OR utilisation levels the hospital bed usage

$$\min \theta_1 \cdot \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_{jt} \cdot W_{jt} + \theta_2 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^B \left[ \frac{c_b}{\left[ \sum_{j=1}^J l_{it} \cdot s_t \right] / T} \cdot \max_{\tau \in T} \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{t=1}^T \phi_{\tau itb} \cdot V_{ijt} \right]$$

Subject to

$$\begin{aligned} V_{ijt} &\leq s_t \cdot W_{jt}, & i = 1, \dots, I, j = 1, \dots, J, t = 1, \dots, T \\ \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{j=1}^J V_{ijt} &= s_t, & i = 1, \dots, I \quad \leftarrow \text{All surgeries assigned} \\ \Pr[f_{jt}(V) \leq \alpha_{jt}] &\geq \alpha, & j = 1, \dots, J, t = 1, \dots, T \\ V_{ijt} &\in \mathbb{N}, & i = 1, \dots, I, j = 1, \dots, J, t = 1, \dots, T \\ W_{jt} &\in \{0, 1\}, & i = 1, \dots, I, t = 1, \dots, T \end{aligned}$$

Probabilistic constraints



# Master surgical scheduling: approach

## PHASE 1:

Generation of  
“OR-day schedules”

**Goal:** capacity utilisation

→ **ILP**, solved by **column generation**  
and then **rounding**

Constraints:

- All surgeries must be planned
- OR-capacity (probabilistic)

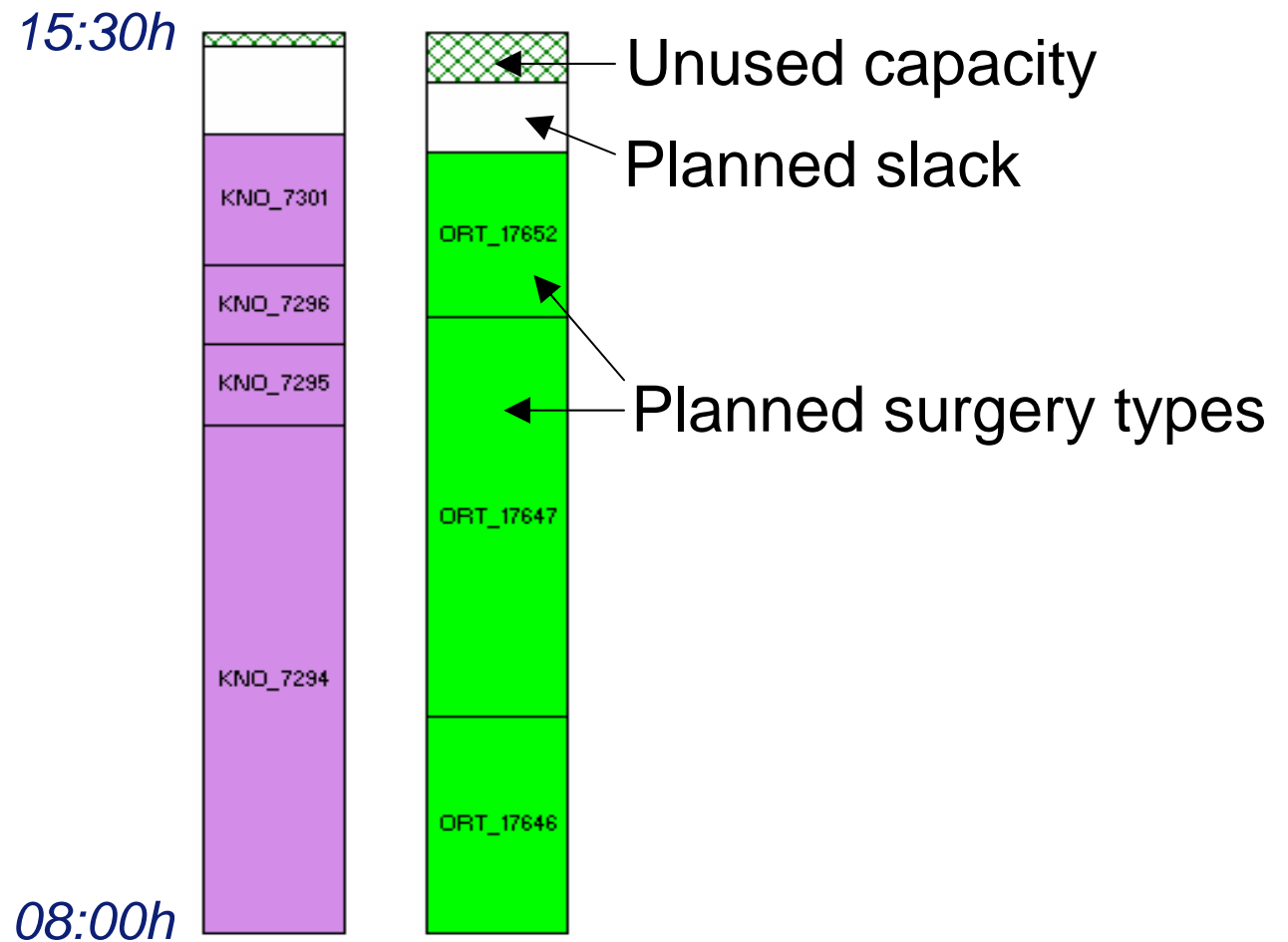
## PHASE 2:

Assignment of  
“OR-day schedules”

**Goal:** bed usage leveling

→ **ILP**, solved using **CPLEX** in  
**AIMMS** modeling language

# OR-day schedule example



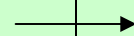


# Master surgical scheduling: approach

## PHASE 1:

Generation of  
“OR-day schedules”

**Goal:** capacity utilisation



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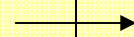
Constraints:

- All surgeries must be planned
- OR-capacity (probabilistic)

## PHASE 2:

Assignment of  
“OR-day schedules”

**Goal:** bed usage leveling



ILP, solved using CPLEX in  
AIMMS modeling language



# MSS test approach

1. Statistical analysis of surgery frequencies
2. Select a cycle length (1, 2, or 4 weeks)
3. Construct an MSS (2-phase approach)

Tools: AIMMS modeling language with integrated CPLEX solver

4. Discrete event simulation

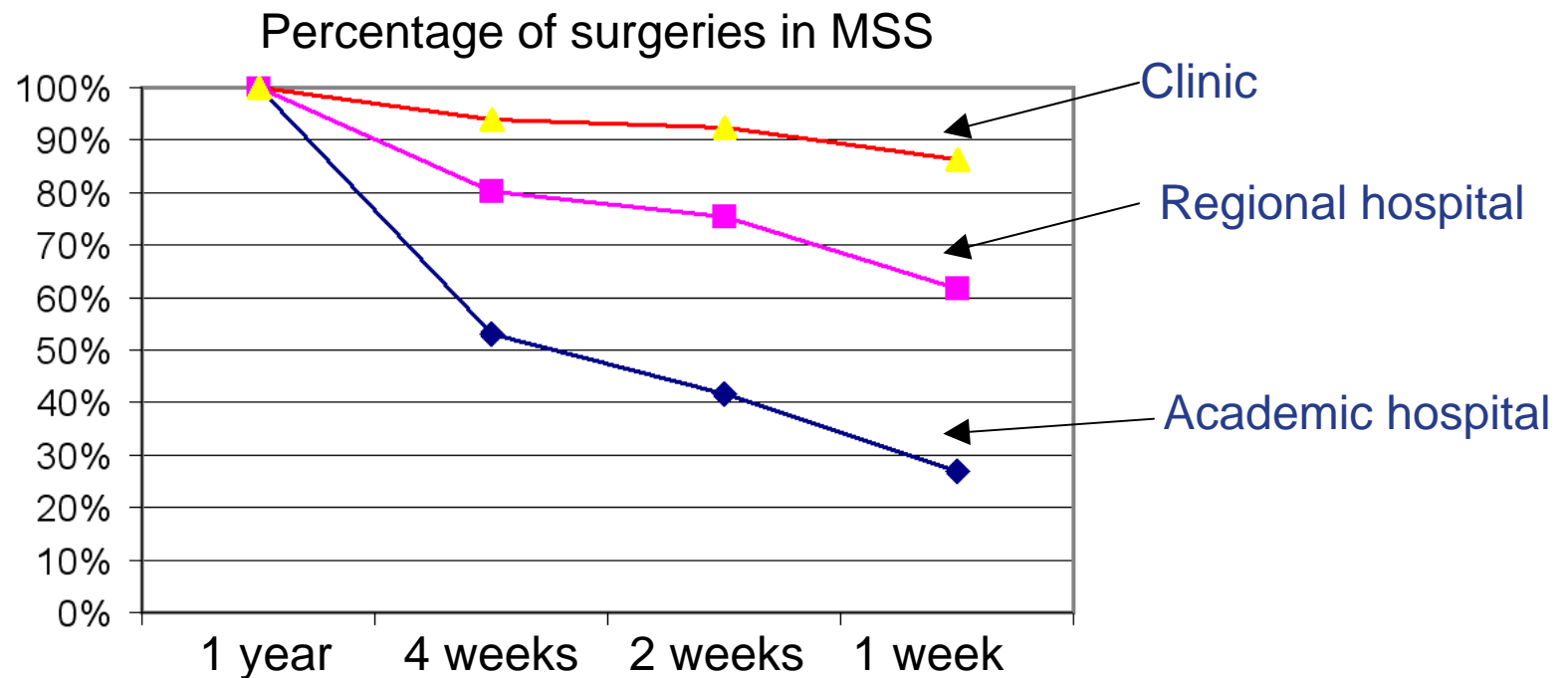
Schedule rare elective procedures in reserved capacity

Admission of emergency surgeries (add-on and online planning)



# Master surgical scheduling: results

Results differ for different types of hospitals:



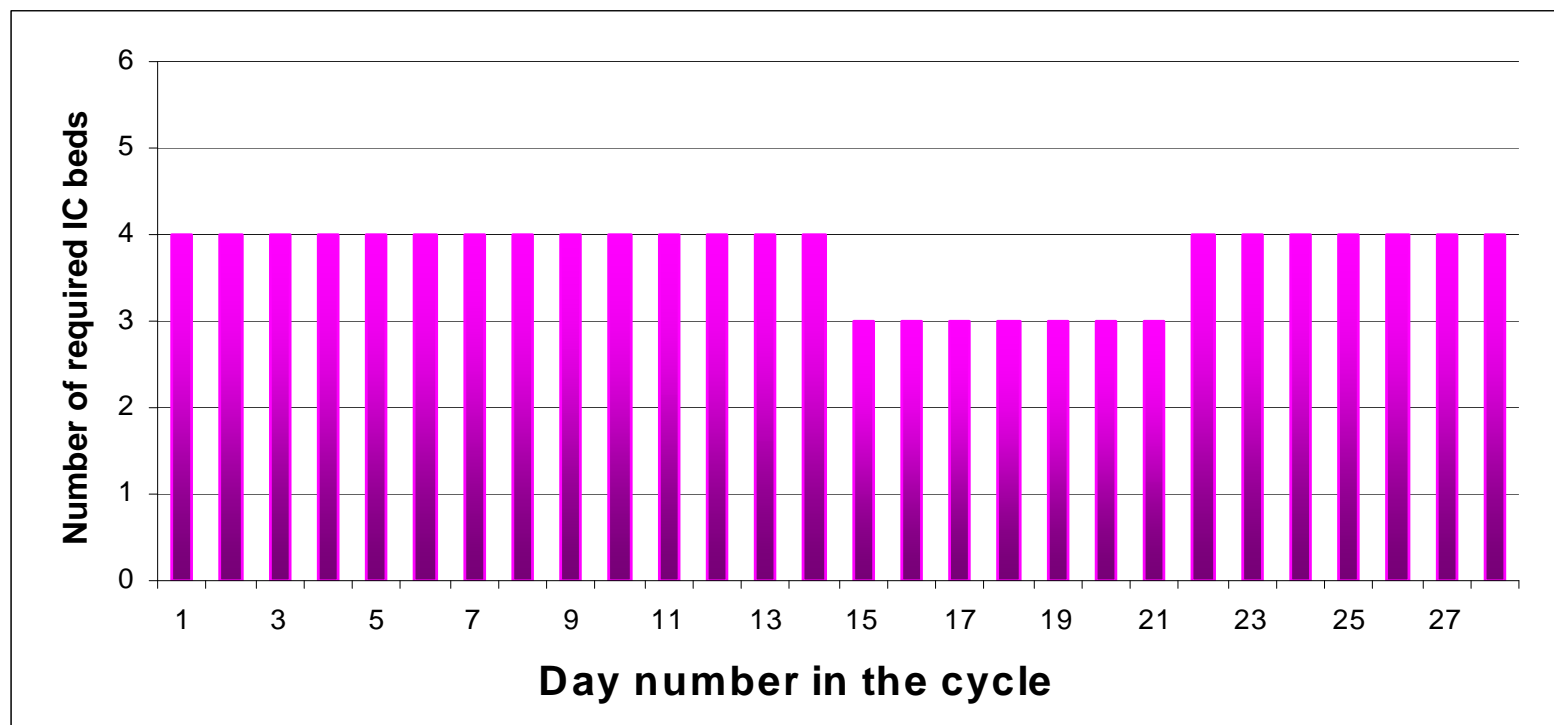
Reason: different volume and case mix range



# Master surgical scheduling: results

Req. number of ICU-beds without MSS: between 0 and 12 p.day

Req. number of ICU-beds with MSS (4 week cycle):



*74.3% of the total ICU bed requirement is planned in an MSS of four weeks.*



# Master surgical scheduling: results

Reduction OR-capacity:

<b>Cycle length</b>	<b>1 week</b>	<b>2 weeks</b>	<b>4 weeks</b>
Academic hospital	1.1 %	2.7 %	4.2 %
Regional hospital	2.8 %	5.7 %	6.3 %
Clinic	4.9 %	7.3 %	8.6 %



# Master surgical scheduling

## conclusions

### Advantages:

- Easy to implement
- Allows personnel coordination in early stage
- Less overtime, higher utilisation (up to 8.6%)
- Less surgery cancellations → shorter lead-times
- Improved coordination between departments

### Disadvantage:

- Does not cover all surgeries



# Emergency OR or NOT?

**Robust optimisation of the OR schedule to  
deal with emergency surgery**

**(offline operational level)**



## Research motivation

The arrival of **emergency surgeries** is the most important source of **disturbances** in the OR

→ leads to: overtime, surgery cancellations, waiting time, reduced OR utilisation

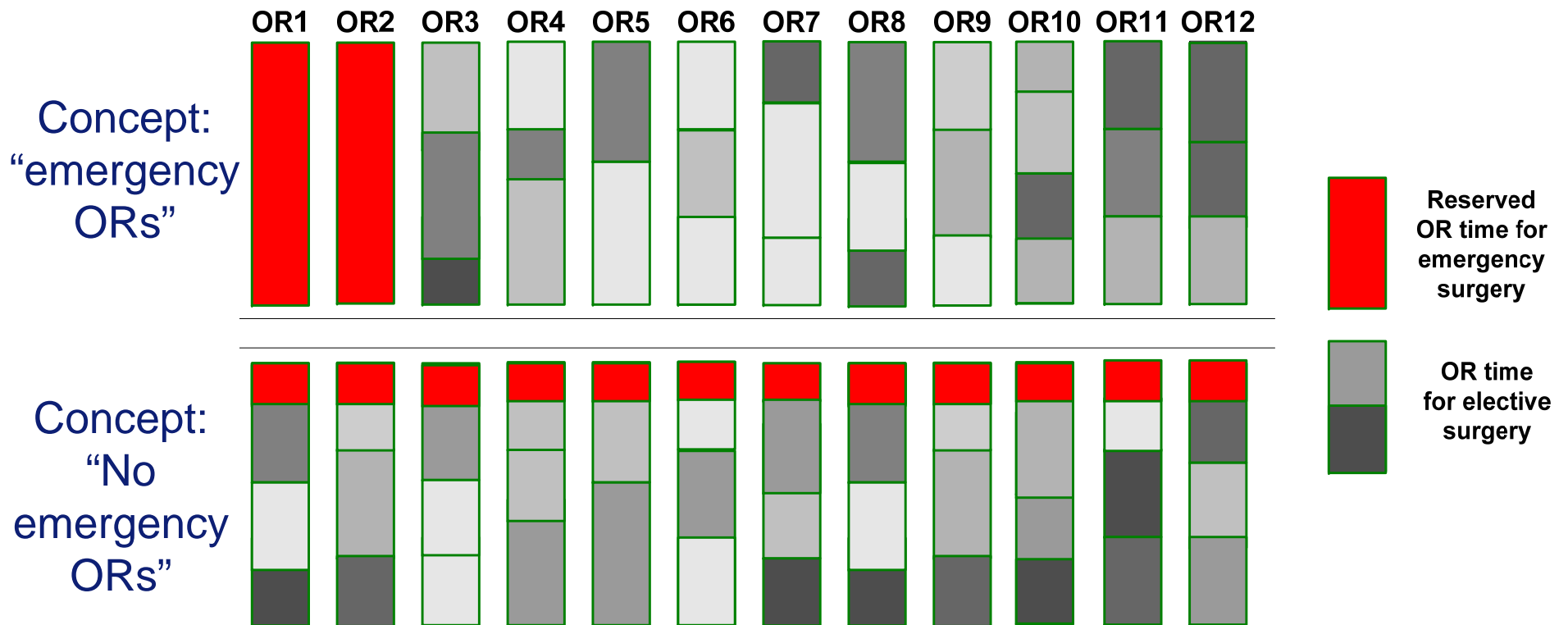
Options to deal with emergency surgery:

**Dedicated emergency ORs**

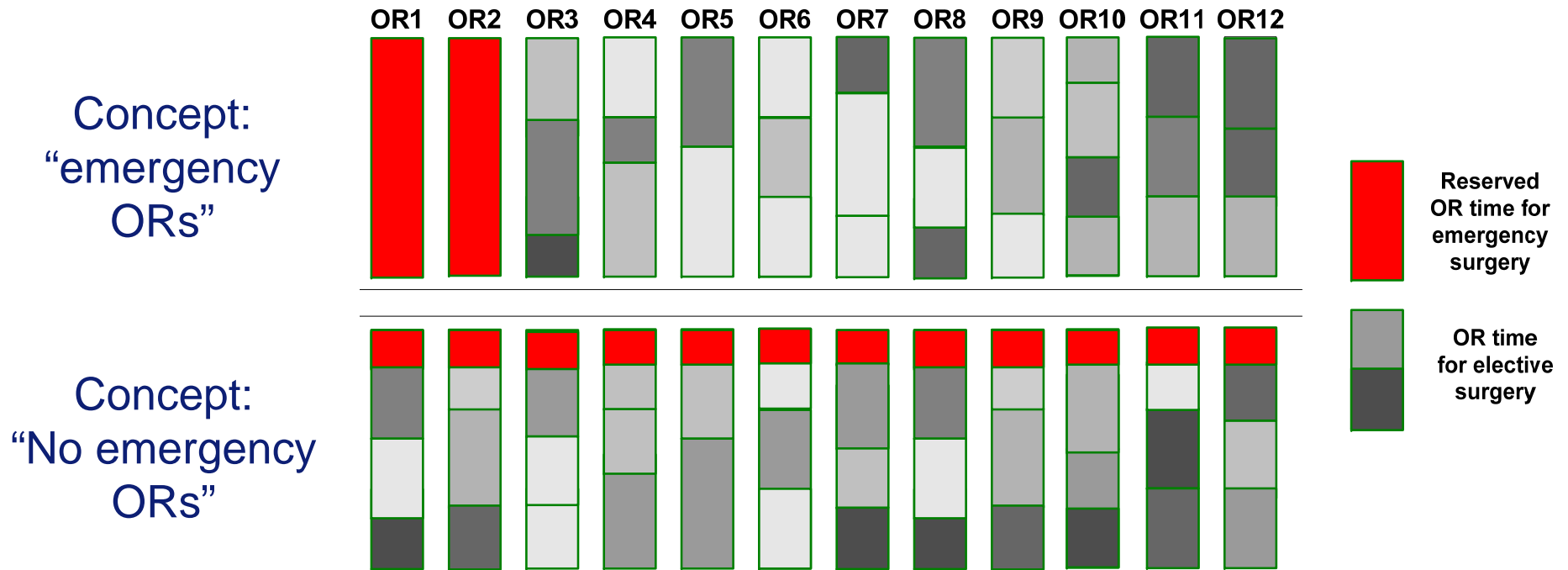
vs.

**Schedule emergency surgery in elective ORs**

# Emergency OR, or not?

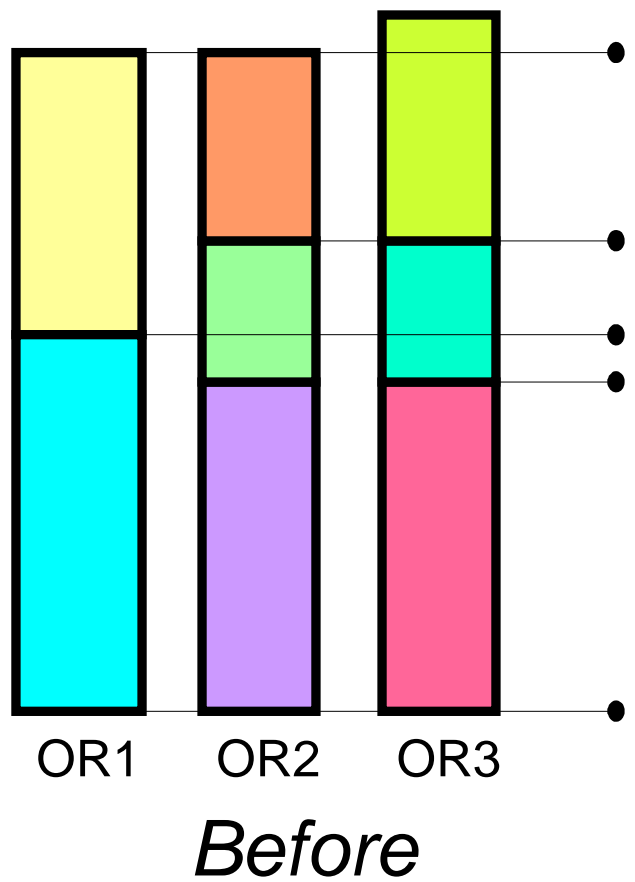


# Emergency OR, or not?

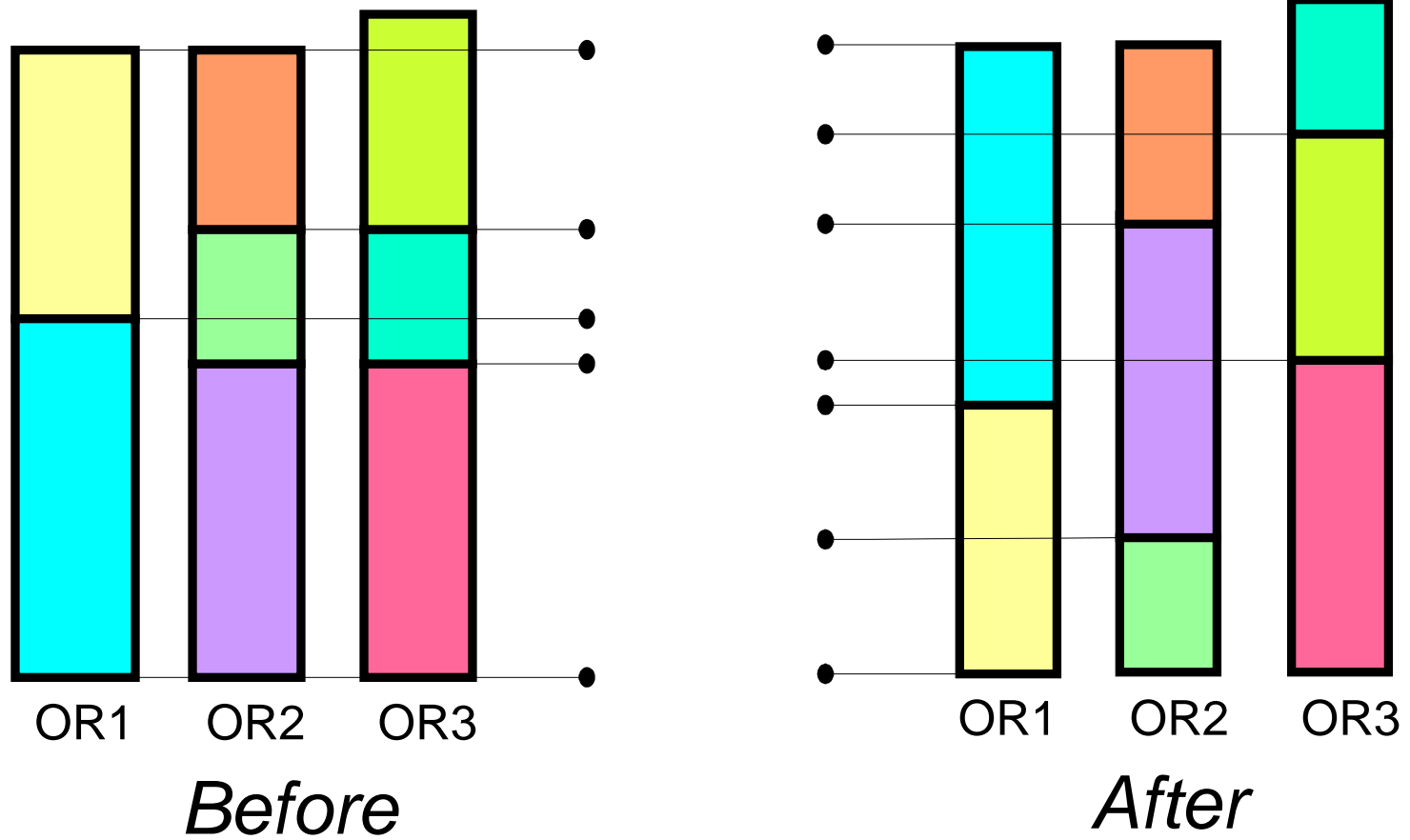


*Result of simulation:* emergency OR has **worse** performance w.r.t.: emergency surgery waiting time, overtime, OR utilisation

# Problem description



# Problem description





## Solution approach

Goal: spread “Break-In-Moments” between elective surgeries as evenly as possible

Problem is NP-hard in the strong sense  
(proof by reduction from 3-partition)

Input: an elective surgery schedule for a given week

Optimisation: constructive + local search heuristics



# Constructive heuristic

First calculate  $\lambda$ : a lower bound to “min max BII”

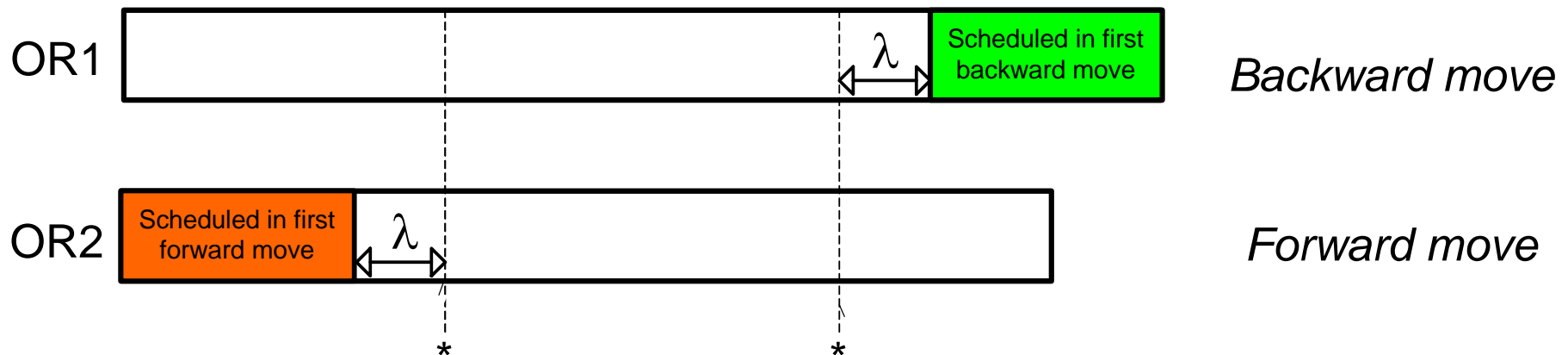
$$\lambda = \frac{E - S}{1 + \sum_{j \in J} (M_j - 1)}$$

$E$ : earliest OR end time

$S$ : latest OR start time

$M_j$ : number of surgeries in OR  $j$

Then iteratively schedule a surgery forward or backward closest to \*





## Simulation results operational problem

Waiting time less than:	First emergency procedure		Second emergency procedure		Third emergency procedure	
	No BII opt.	BII opt.	No BII opt.	BII opt.	No BII opt.	BII opt.
<b>10 minutes</b>	28.8%	48.6%	34.9%	44.9%	40.4%	46.2%
<b>20 minutes</b>	53.0%	75.8%	56.9%	73.6%	63.0%	69.8%
<b>30 minutes</b>	70.5%	90.9%	71.8%	87.2%	76.3%	86.7%

*Case mix Academic Hospital*



## Results after simulation

“Emergency surgery in elective program” instead of “emergency ORs” yields:

- Improved OR utilisation (3.1%)
- Less overtime (21%)

Break-in-moment optimisation yields:

- Reduced waiting time for emergency surgery, especially for the first arrival  
(patients helped within 10 minutes: from 28.8% → 48.6%)



# OK Management Game

- T.b.v. Master Industrial Engineering & Management
- Studenten zijn “virtuele OK managers”
- Management game in 4 rondes:
  - Strategisch management
  - Tactisch management
  - Operationeel management
  - Benchmarking
- Paper in special issue van **INFORMS Transactions On Education**



## Voorbeelden van recente/nieuwe projecten

- Capaciteitsmanagement van radiologiemodaliteiten (AMC, NKI/AVL)
- Capaciteitsplanning van polikliniek van nieuwe Deventer Ziekenhuis
- Follow-up afspraken na mamma care (MST Enschede)
- OK Benchmarking Project (NFU)
- Procesoptimalisatie SEH (AMC, Isala klinieken)
- Optimalisatie instrumentennetten OK (Isala kl., AMC)
- STW LogiDOC: Optimalisatie van zorgpaden, patiëntstromen



# Vragen...?



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