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# **A mathematical model in cellular manufacturing system considering subcontracting approach under constraints**

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## **1. Introduction**

The cellular manufacturing system (CMS) is a manufacturing application of the group technology (GT) philosophy (Schaller, 2007). In the CMS, parts with the similar production process are identified as parts families and each one is manufactured in a separate cell. The main purpose of CMS is to determine the parts families and machine cells under pre-defined objectives and constraints. The CMS has more advantages such as: decreased setup times, reduced work-in-process inventories, improved product quality, shorter lead times, reduced tool requirements, improved productivity, better quality and production control, increment in flexibility and decreased material handling cost (Solimanpur et al., 2009; Jeon & Leep, 2006).

The issue of CMS has been widely investigated in the literature and it has received more attention by authors in the recent decades (see Singh (1993) for a literature review on CMS). There are literally

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various formulation and extensions on CMS in different environments to consider real-world situations.

In the uncertain demand conditions, Tavakkoli-Moghaddam et al. (2006) presented a new model for flexible inter and intra-cell layouts in CMSs with stochastic demands. Jeon and Leep (2006) developed a two-phase procedure to form manufacturing cells. The first phase is to identify part families based on a new similarity coefficient for two parts, which considers the number of alternative routes during machine failure. The second phase, considers the scheduling and operational aspects under demand changes for a given period to assign machines to part families. Schaller (2007) presented a model for cell formation with period-to-period demand variability and considers the size of the cell when determines the cost to process each part. This model also considers part reallocation or equipment reallocation among cells as the alternatives for the redesign of a CMS to handle longterm demand changes. Kia et al. (2011) presented a novel model for the layout design of dynamic cellular manufacturing systems (DCMS) under an uncertain environment, which incorporates several design features including intra-cell layout, operation sequence, operation time, alternative process routing, duplicate machines, machine capacity, route selection, production volume of parts and cell reconfiguration.

The cell formation (CF), one of the first and most important steps in designing CMSs, is to create completely independent machine cells and identify part families and allocate part families to the machine cells (Arıkan & Güngör, 2009). In the literature of CF problem, some authors have taken into account exceptional elements (EEs) which are defined as machines required by two or more part families or conversely as parts that require processing on machines in two or more cells. By taking into account EEs, the material handling cost among cells take place and opens another research scope related to layout deign. For instance, Jolai et al. (2012) considered bi-objective cell formation and layout problems with different parameters such as: forward and backward transportation, number of EEs, different batch size for parts, different cell size and the sequence of operations. The layout of the system is obtained by locating the machines to the predefined linear positions. Chan et al. (2006) proposed a two-stage approach for solving machine-part grouping problem (MPGP) as well as cell layout problem (CLP). The first stage is to identify machine cells and part families and the second stage is to carry out a macro-approach to study the cell formation problem with consideration of machining sequence and minimizing intercellular movement as quadratic assignment problem (QAP). Also, Filho and Tiberti (2006) considered cell layout design with QAP to minimize volume of intercell moves and total within cell load variation. Chiang and Lee (2004) addressed the joint problem of manufacturing cell formation and its layout assignment to minimize the inter-cell flow cost under the cell size constraint, where machine cells are to be located along the popular bi-directional linear layout. They developed a simulated annealing approach augmented with dynamic programming algorithm, where the machine cells and their respective locations in the layout are simultaneously determined by dynamic programming.

Ghezavati and Saidi-Mehrabad (2011) attempted to assign a set of parts and machines to the cells by using queuing theory, to maximize average of the utilization factors for all machines (the probability of the busy machine). Solimanpur et al. (2004) addressed the scheduling of manufacturing cells in which parts may need to visit different cells. Panchalavarapu and Chankong (2005) incorporated assembly aspects associated with a product into the design of cellular manufacturing system. They proposed a mathematical model using similarity between part, machine and subassembly to determine assignment of parts, machines and subassemblies to manufacturing cells. Fallah-Alipour and Shamsi (2008) presented a new mathematical model to solve a cell formation problem based on sequence data in CMS, considering cell utilization levels. Kioon et al. (2009) proposed a comprehensive model in CMS, which integrates production planning, dynamic system reconfiguration, multiple routings and several other attributes. Heragu and Chen (1998) presented a model for CMS design, which incorporates three critical aspects including: resource utilization, alternate routings and practical constraints. Das et al. (2007) proposed a preventive maintenance (PM) planning model for the performance improvement of CMS in terms of machine reliability, and resource utilization. Sobhanallahi et al. (2002) discussed how a function is defined on similarity coefficients and generates a threshold value, which determines an upper band on the number of cells. They also presented a mathematical model for optimal production time in each cell. Table 1 shows a brief summary of the literature studies considering applied objectives and solution methods.

### **Table 1**

A Summary of the literature studies



As mentioned earlier, EEs cause intercellular material flows, that is a major obstacle to reach the advantages of CMS such as reduction in set-up time, work-in-process inventory, material handling cost, improvement in material flow, space utilization, and etc. (Arıkan & Güngör, 2009). However, without considering EEs, the utilization factor of machines and the total production volume would be decreased, because, the parts, which need to be processed in more than one cell cannot be produced. Therefore, to overcome this problem, this paper supposes that the production volume of each part is a continual decision variable and to satisfy demand of parts, each part can be produced and outsourced, simultaneously. Also, the EEs are totally outsourced; this assumption would increase the utilization factor of machines and also remove the intercellular material handling cost.

Jeon and Leep (2006) divided cell formation problem into three main categories:

- a) Grouping part families or machine cells only
- b) Forming part families and then machine cells
- c) Forming part families and machine cells simultaneously

The part family grouping procedures are used for identifying groups of parts that are similar to each other. Some approaches focus only on the grouping machine cells and often assume that the part families already have been formed. The part-machine grouping procedures identify part families and machine groups sequentially or simultaneously. In this paper, decision about part families and machine cells have been made as a unique model and therefore, our problem fall into third category i.e. (c).

In this paper, a new model in cellular manufacturing systems (CMSs) has been addressed. In order to establish a high performance manufacturing system, it is assumed that subcontracting option is available, and unsatisfied demand of parts are outsourced under the extra costs i.e. the production volume of each part is a decision variable and each part can be produced and outsourced simultaneously (this extension causes that, unused capacity of machines can be minimized). In addition, in order to remove intercellular material handling cost, it is assumed that EEs are totally outsourced to the external supplier. The problem is formulated as a mixed-integer nonlinear programming considering machines capacity, budget and demand constraints to minimize variable cost during manufacturing. Since the proposed model is nonlinear, some methods have been applied to linearize it. Finally, CPLEX.10 is implemented to compare the proposed model against the classical CMS model in the literature through several numerical examples.

The reminder of this paper is organized as follows: In part (2), we give assumption and formulate proposed problem as a non-linear mixed integer programming. Part (3) is followed by some methods to linearize and simplify the model in order to solve it optimally. In part (4), the classical CMS has been defined and also several numerical examples have been involved in order to compare the developed model with the classical one. Finally part (5) includes our conclusions.

## **2. Model formulation**

In order to remove intercellular material handling cost, we have assumed that each part is processed only in one cell and EEs are totally outsourced. In addition, to increase the utilization factor of machines, the production volume of each part is considered as a continual decision variable. Moreover, to satisfy part demands, the subcontracting option is available. It means that unsatisfied demand of parts is outsourced under the extra costs. This approach is clearly illustrated in Fig. 1(2). Consider a main product consists of 5 parts where parts 1, 2 and 3 are simultaneously produced and outsourced, and parts 4 and 5 as the EEs are totally outsourced. Furthermore, considering the real world's situation, it is supposed that each machine can contain more than one type; each type can

change to the other types operation and has the specific production rate and purchase price. For example, in Fig. 1, L2 and L3 belong to the same machine family, but, differ together in type.

# *2.1.Model assumptions*

Generally, the assumptions of this paper are as follows:

- The production volume of each part is a decision variable.
- Each part can be produced and outsourced, simultaneously.
- In order to remove inter-cell handling cost, each part is processed only in one cell and EEs are totally outsourced.
- Both the maximum number of cells and the capacity of cells to place machines are predetermined.
- Parts demand are deterministic.
- Each machine can contain several types.
- Number of each machine in each cell is considered as a integer decision variable.
- The production capacity of machines is limited.
- The budget for purchasing machines and constructing cells is limited.



**Fig. 1.** The proposed production system considering subcontracting approach

# *2.2. Notations*

The following notations and decision variables are applied in this paper:

- ܿ maximum number of cells permitted
- $m$  number of machines
- $n$  number of parts
- $t_k$ Number of typek machines $k = 1, ..., m$
- $u_{kl}$ capacity of machine k type  $l, k = 1, ..., m, l = 1, ..., t_k$
- $c_{kl}^m$ purchase price of machine k type  $l, k = 1, ..., m, l = 1, ..., t_k$
- $c_i^c$ formation cost of cell  $j, j = 1, \ldots, c$
- $c_i^p$ unit production cost of part  $i, i = 1, ..., n$



# *2.3. Decision variables*



 $p_i$ Production quantity of part  $i$ 

# *2.4. The mathematical model*

The mixed-integer nonlinear mathematical model for the extended CMS  $(CMS<sup>E</sup>)$  problem is as follows:

$$
CMS^{E}: Min TC = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( (c_i^{p} - c_i^{b}) p_i \sum_{j=1}^{c} x_{ij} + c_i^{b} . d_i \right)
$$
\n(1)

*Subject to:* 

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{c} x_{ij} \le 1, \qquad i = 1, ..., n
$$
 (2)

$$
\sum_{k=1}^{m} \sum_{l=1}^{t_k} y_{jkl} \leq C a_j, \qquad j = 1, ..., c
$$
\n(3)

$$
z_j = \max_{i=1,\dots,n} \{x_{ij}\}, \qquad j = 1,\dots,c
$$
 (4)

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_{ik} \cdot p_i \cdot x_{ij} - \sum_{l=1}^{t_k} y_{jkl} \cdot u_{kl} \le 0, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c, \qquad k = 1, \dots, m
$$
\n(5)

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{c} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \sum_{l=1}^{t_j} c_{kl}^{m} y_{jkl} + \sum_{j=1}^{c} z_j c_j^c \le B
$$
\n(6)

$$
p_i \le d_i, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n \tag{7}
$$

$$
x_{ij} = 0,1, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c \tag{8}
$$

$$
z_j = 0,1, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c \tag{9}
$$

$$
y_{jkl} = integer, \t j = 1, ..., c, \t k = 1, ..., m, \t l = 1, ..., t_k
$$
\n(10)

$$
p_i \ge 0, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n \tag{11}
$$

Objective (1) minimizes the total variable cost of manufacturing, including production and outsourcing costs. Constraint (2) ensures that each part is assigned only to one cell. Constraint (3) imposes the maximum number of machines allowed in each cell. Constraint (4) represents that the cell must be formed, if at least one part be assigned to it. Constraint (5) restricts that the capacity of machines of the same type in each cell is not violated. Constraint (6) ensures the budget limitation of machines procurement and cell formation costs. Constraint (7) is the parts demands constraint and finally set of constraints (8)-(11) are the logical binary, integer and non-negativity requirements on the decision variables.

### **3. Model simplification and linearization**

Objective function (1) and constraint (6) are nonlinear due to presence of the product term. These terms can be linearized by adding a new positive variable, which is nominated as  $\varphi_{ii}$  (where  $\varphi_{ii}$  =  $p_i$ .  $x_{ij}$ ) and a set of constraints to the model. After replacing  $p_i$ .  $x_{ij}$  with  $\varphi_{ij}$  and removing constant terms i.e. $c_i^b$ .  $d_i$  from objective function (1), the model is expressed as follows:

$$
\min TC \approx Min \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( (c_i^p - c_i^b) \sum_{j=1}^{c} p_i x_{ij} \right) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( (c_i^p - c_i^b) \sum_{j=1}^{c} \varphi_{ij} \right)
$$
(12)

subject to*:* (1.2)-(1.4) and (1.6)-(1.11)

$$
\varphi_{ij} \le p_i, \qquad i = 1, ..., n, \qquad j = 1, ..., c \tag{13}
$$

$$
\varphi_{ij} \le M. x_{ij}, \qquad i = 1, ..., n, \qquad j = 1, ..., c \tag{14}
$$

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_{ik} \cdot \varphi_{ij} - \sum_{l=1}^{t_k} y_{jkl} \cdot u_{kl} \le 0, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c, \qquad k = 1, \dots, m
$$
\n(15)

$$
\varphi_{ij} \ge 0, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n \tag{16}
$$

In constraint (13), if  $x_{ij} = 1$ , then  $\varphi_{ij} \leq p_i$ , and since the objective function minimizes negative coefficient of  $\varphi_{ij}$ (Since $c_i^p \leq c_i^b$ ) therefore  $\varphi_{ij} = p_i$ ; also if  $x_{ij} = 0$ , then  $\varphi_{ij} = 0$ . On the other side, we know that  $p_i \leq d_i$  (see constraint (7)) and therefore, it is concluded that  $\varphi_{ij} \leq d_i$ . Finally, since each part is processed in one cell, i.e.,  $\sum_{j=1}^{c} x_{ij} \le 1$ , so  $p_i$  is removed from the model and constraints (13), (7) and (14) are merged to the following constraint:

$$
\varphi_{ij} \le d_i \, x_{ij}, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c \tag{17}
$$

In addition, the maximum operator in constraint (4) is linearized as follows:

$$
z_j \ge x_{ij} \text{ and } x_{ij} = 0 \& 1, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c \tag{18}
$$

and since  $0 \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{ij} \leq 1$ , therefore constraint (18) is reduced to the below constraint:

$$
z_j \ge \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_{ij} , \qquad j = 1, \dots, c
$$
 (19)

Finally, the model of  $CMS<sup>E</sup>$  is expressed as the following mixed-integer programming (MIP) model:

$$
CMS^{E}: Min TC = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \left( c_i^{p} - c_i^{b} \right) \sum_{j=1}^{c} \varphi_{ij} \right)
$$
\n
$$
(20)
$$

subject to:

 $\boldsymbol{n}$ 

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{c} x_{ij} \le 1, \qquad i = 1, ..., n
$$
\n(21)

$$
\sum_{k=1}^{m} \sum_{l=1}^{t_k} y_{jkl} \leq C a_j, \qquad j = 1, ..., c
$$
\n(22)

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_{ik} \cdot \varphi_{ij} - \sum_{l=1}^{t_k} y_{jkl} \cdot u_{kl} \le 0, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c, \qquad k = 1, \dots, m
$$
\n(23)

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{c} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \sum_{l=1}^{t_j} c_{kl}^{m} y_{jkl} + \sum_{j=1}^{c} z_j c_j^{c} \le B
$$
\n(24)

$$
z_j \ge \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{ij} , \qquad j = 1, ..., c
$$
 (25)

$$
\varphi_{ij} \le d_i \, x_{ij}, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c \tag{26}
$$

$$
x_{ij} = 0.1, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c \tag{27}
$$

$$
z_j = 0,1, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c \tag{28}
$$

 $y_{jkl} = integer, \t j = 1, ..., c, \t k = 1, ..., m, \t l = 1, ..., t_k$  (29)

$$
\varphi_{ij} \ge 0, \qquad i = 1, \dots, n \tag{30}
$$

## **4. Comparison of the models**

In this section, the model of the  $CMS^E$  is compared against the classical CMS model (CMS<sup>C</sup>) through several illustrative numerical examples. It is necessary to define the classical CMS problem before numerical example.

### *4.1 Classical CMS model*

As it was mentioned previously, we assumed that the EEs are totally outsourced to the external supplier and the remaining parts are simultaneously produced and outsourced in order to remove intercellular material handling cost. On the other hand, in the CMS<sup>C</sup> it is assumed that each part is processed in one cell or outsourced totally considering machine capacity (Schaller, 2007; Jeon & Leep, 2006; Ghezavati & Saidi-Mehrabad, 2011). This approach is clearly illustrated in Fig. 2. In this shape Parts 4, 3 and 1 are totally produced in Cells 1, 2 and 3 respectively, and parts 2, 5 and 6 are EEs, which are totally outsourced.



Fig. 2. The production system, representing CMS<sup>C</sup>

In order to compare the  $CMS^E$  and  $CMS^C$ , it is necessary to formulate  $CMS^C$  as the presented framework of this paper. The MIP model corresponds to  $CMS<sup>C</sup>$  is as follows:

$$
CMSc: Min TC = \sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i (c_i^p - c_i^b) \sum_{j=1}^{c} x_{ij}
$$
\n(31)

Subject to*:* (21), (23), (25), (26) and (28)-(30)

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_{ik} \cdot d_i \cdot x_{ij} - \sum_{l=1}^{t_k} y_{jkl} \cdot u_{kl} \le 0, \qquad j = 1, \dots, c, \qquad k = 1, \dots, m
$$
\n(32)

Objective function (31) minimizes the variable cost of manufacturing, including production or outsourcing costs and constraint (32) restricts that the capacity of each machine type in each cell is not violated. All remaining constraints are the same before explained.

### *4.2. Numerical example*

In this section in order to compare the  $CMS^E$  and  $CMS^C$ , three illustrative numerical examples (two from the literature) have been provided. These examples are studied with different parameters, including available budget, maximum number of cells and capacity of cells. All numerical instances are solved with CPLEX.10 on a PC with 2.4 GHz CPU and 2 GB RAM.

In example.1, 10 parts should be produced or outsourced using 11 machines through 4 candidate cells. It is assumed that  $Ca_j = 7$  and  $c_j^c = 800 \forall j$ , and also each machine has one type (i.e.  $t_k = 1$ )  $\forall k$ ). The other necessary information has been illustrated in Table 2.

# **Table 2**  The data set of example.1



Example.1 was solved with different available budgets and the results have been summarized in Table 3. The computational results revealed that the objective value of the  $CMS<sup>E</sup>$  is better than or equal to that of the CMS<sup>C</sup> (see Fig. 3 for differences among them) with an average gap of 7.99%. In addition, in some cases the  $CMS<sup>E</sup>$  is better than  $CMS<sup>C</sup>$  both in objective and remaining budget.

## **Table 3**

The computational results of example.1 considering different available budget





Fig. 3. Objective values of the CMS<sup>E</sup> and CMS<sup>C</sup>(example.1)

Fig. 4 illustrates the specified machine cells and part families in example.1 considering  $B = 7500$ . This shape shows that 4 machine cells have been formed. Parts 3 and 6 have been recognized as the EEs and are totally outsourced to external supplier. In addition, parts 1, 2 and 10 are totally produced by the manufacturing system and remaining parts are simultaneously produced and outsourced.



Fig. 4. Formed machine cells and part families in CMS<sup>E</sup> considering B=7500 (example.1)

The next problem (example 2) has been selected from Arıkan and Güngör (2009), this example contains 10 parts and 9 machines and each machine has two types, the data set has been given in Table 4, also it is assumed that  $c_j^c = 100000 \forall j$ , and  $B = 1000000$ .

### **Table 4**

The data set of example.2 (Arıkan & Güngör, 2009)

M/P		$\mathbf{2}$	3	4	5	6		8	9	10	$c_{k1}^m$	$c_{k2}^m$	$u_{k1}$	$u_{k2}$
	3.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	45000	50784	140000	160000
2	2.8	5.2	1.9	3.9	0.0	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	60000	67053	140000	160000
3	5.5	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	37000	43944	140000	160000
4	2.9	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.6	4.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	0.0	61000	67345	140000	160000
5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35000	42414	140000	160000
6	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	5.5	0.0	70000	75225	140000	160000
7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.0	1.2	4.7	0.0	2.5	50000	52741	140000	160000
8	0.0	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	3.9	0.0	59000	63523	140000	160000
9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	49000	50632	140000	160000
$d_i$	33000	30000	20000	11000	18000	17000	46000	46000	16000	23000				
$c_i^p$	3.8	4.0	3.0	4.0	4.5	3.0	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.0				
$c_i^b$	4.2	4.3	3.5	4.4	5	3.9	4.4	4.6	5	5				

Example 2 was solved for different capacity of cells i.e.  $Ca_j = 3, ..., 8 \forall j$ . The results have been reported in Table 5.

### **Table 5**





\* in this case the solver was interrupted after 10800 seconds (3 hours)

The model of CMS<sup>E</sup> was optimally solved for  $Ca_j = 3, 7, 8 \forall j$ , but for  $Ca_j = 4, 5, 6 \forall j$  the solver was interrupted after 3 hours. Fortunately, all cases in CMS<sup>E</sup> were solved with good optimality gap percent and the worst optimality gap percent was  $6.93\%$ , from the other side the model of CMS<sup>C</sup> was optimally solved for all cases. The results show that in all cases the  $CMS<sup>E</sup>$  is considerably better than the CMSC with an average improvement percent of 9.21%. Fig. 5 illustrates the differences between the  $CMS<sup>E</sup>$  and  $CMS<sup>C</sup>$  with respect to different cell capacity.



Fig. 5. Objective values of the CMS<sup>E</sup> and CMS<sup>C</sup> (example 2)

In addition, Table 6 shows the formed machine cells and parts families for example 2 considering  $Ca_j = 5 \forall j$ . In this case three cells have been formed, also parts 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 are totally produced by the manufacturing system and parts 4, 2 and 7 are simultaneously produced and outsourced, furthermore part 1 has been recognized as the EE and completely is outsourced.

### **Table 6**

Result of cell formation and parts families for example.2 considering  $Ca_i = 5$ 

Cell no.	Machines-type (number allocated)	Parts (production percent)
	M1-1(1), M2-2 (1), M4-1 (1), M5-1 (1), M7-1 (1)	P3 (100%), P4(82.28%), P5(100%), P6(100%)
	$M2-1(1), M3-1(1), M8-2(1)$	P <sub>2</sub> (89.74%)
	$M1-1(1)$ , M6-2(1), M7-1(1), M8-1(1), M9-2(1)	$P7(64.46\%)$ , $P8(100\%)$ , $P9(100\%)$ , $P10(100\%)$

The last problem (Example 3) has been selected from Venugopal and Narendran (1992). There are 15 machines and 30 parts, the data set representing the machine-part matrix as well as demand of parts has been included in Table 7, the remaining parameters are generated randomly and have been given in Table 8 and Table 9. In this example we have assumed that each machine has three types (i.e.  $t_k = 3, \forall k$ , also  $c_j^c = 1000, \forall j$ .

### **Table 7**

Machine-part matrix related to example.3 (Venugopal & Narendran, 1992)





# **Table 8**  Unit production and outsourcing costs (example 3)

## **Table 9**

Capacity and purchase price of machines (example 3)



Example 3 was solved for ten cases by considering different values of maximum number of cells  $(c)$ , capacity of cells  $(Ca_i)$  and available budget (B). The computational results were summarized in Table 10. In the first three cases, the model of  $CMS<sup>E</sup>$  was solved optimally but in the remaining cases the solver was interrupted due to insufficient physical memory, from the other side the model of CMS<sup>C</sup> was optimally solved for the first two cases and in the remaining cases the solver was interrupted either due to insufficient physical memory or due to time limit.

### **Table 10**





\* in this case the solver was interrupted after 10800 seconds (3 hours)

\*\* in this case the solver was interrupted due to insufficient physical memory

The results of CPU times and optimality gap percents revealed that unlike previous examples, the  $CMS<sup>C</sup>$  needs longer computational time to solve optimally. According to the last column of Table 10, the average improvement percent is up to14.35%, therefore it is deduced that the proposed production system is efficient. Fig. 6 shows the objective values of each case of example 3 for both models.



Fig. 6. Objective values of the CMS<sup>E</sup> and CMS<sup>C</sup> (example.3)

Also Table 11shows the formed cells and parts families in case 9 of example.3, (i.e.  $B = 18000$ ,  $c = 5$  and  $Ca<sub>j</sub> = 8$ ). In this case, 5 cells have been formed, where 9 parts are totally produced within the production system, 12 parts are simultaneously produced and outsourced and 9 parts are totally outsourced as the EEs.

## **Table 11**

A sample solution of the  $CMS^E$  (case 10, example.3)

	$\sim$	
Cell	Machines-type (number allocated)	Parts (production percent)
no.		
	M1-2 (2), M2-3 (1), M3-3 (1), M7-1 (1), M7-3 (1),	P8 (24.66%), P10 (100%), P19 (100%)
	$M10-1(1)$	
2	$M1-2$ (2), M2-1 (2), M3-3 (1), M7-3 (2), M10-1 (1),	P6 (100%), P7 (7.55%), P9 (89.23%), P11 (92.91%)
3	M4-3 (1), M11-3 (1), M12-1 (1), M12-3 (1), M13-3	P13 (100%), P15 (7.93%), P21 (10.18%), P23
	$(2)$ , M14-3 $(1)$ , M15-3 $(1)$	$(34.79\%)$ , P24 $(100\%)$ , P29 $(100\%)$
$\overline{4}$	M11-2 (1), M12-3 (1), M13-1 (2), M14-3 (1), M15-1	P25 (100%), P28 (96.12%), P30 (24.63%)
	(2)	
$\mathfrak{H}$	M4-3 (1), M5-3 (1), M6-2 (1), M6-3 (1), M8-1 (2),	P <sub>2</sub> (100%), P <sub>5</sub> (97.56%), P <sub>12</sub> (100%), P <sub>26</sub> (5.99%),
	$M9-2(2)$	P27 (85.45%)

# **5. Conclusions**

In this study, a new mathematical model in the CMS has been presented. It is assumed that the production quantity of each part is a decision variable and unsatisfied demand of parts would be outsourced to the external supplier. In addition, the EEs are totally outsourced.

The problem was formulated under budget, machines capacity and demand constraints to minimize variable cost. To compare the model with the traditional approach, three numerical examples with different parameters were solved. In the first example, we compared the  $CMS^E$  and  $CMS^C$ considering different available budgets and it was concluded that the extended model is better than or equal to the classical one in terms of the objective function, also in some cases the extended model performed better than the classical model both in the objective and remaining budget. The next example was solved with different cell capacity and it was concluded that the CMS<sup>E</sup> could obtain efficient solutions by using of unutilized machines. In the last example, we compared  $CMS^E$  and CMSC considering different parameters, including available budget, maximum number of cells and capacity of cells. In this example, it was concluded that, unlike previous examples, the CMS<sup>C</sup> requires more computational time and physical memory to solve the problem, furthermore it was deduced that

 $CMS<sup>E</sup>$  could obtain better solution up to 14.35% better than the CMS<sup>C</sup>. Finally, it was concluded that considering the production volume of parts as a decision variable would increase the performance of the manufacturing system, considerably.

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