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Hama et al.

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(54) **PROCESS SCHEDULING SYSTEM, METHOD, AND PROGRAM**

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See application file for complete search history.

(75) Inventors: **Toshiyuki Hama**, Kanagawa (JP);
Takayuki Yoshizumi, Kanagawa (JP)

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(73) Assignee: **INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION**, Armonk, NY (US)

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Primary Examiner — Robert Fennema

Assistant Examiner — Steven R. Garland

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(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser, P.C.; Jennifer Davis, Esq.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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System, method and computer program product for combined scheduling of two different slab sequences by a rational technique. A two-dimensional grid graph having a direct slab sequence as a first dimension and an inventory slab sequence as a second dimension is prepared by processing of a computer as a data structure represented on a memory or a hard disk drive of the computer. A processing program of the computer generates two child nodes corresponding to a direct slab and an inventory slab, in each node of the two-dimensional graph according to a predetermined algorithm. By defining an appropriate weighting function, the processing program of the computer weights edges between nodes in the two-dimensional grid graph. After forming the weighted graph on a storage device of the computer such as the memory or the hard disk drive, the processing program of the computer calculates a path from a start point to an end point as a shortest path search problem.

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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