TimberWolf 7.0 Placement

- Perform TimberWolf placement
 - Based on the given standard cell placement
 - Initial HPBB wirelength = 23





Practical Problems in VLSI Physical Design

TimberWolf Placement (1/16)

First Swap

- Swap node *b* and *e*
 - We shift node *h*: on the shorter side of the receiving row
 - Node *b* included in nets $\{n_3, n_9\}$, and *e* in $\{n_1, n_7\}$



Practical Problems in VLSI Physical Design

TimberWolf Placement (2/16)

Computing ΔW

• ΔW = wirelength change from swap

Let $w(\boldsymbol{x})$ and $w'(\boldsymbol{x})$ respectively denote the wirelength before and after the swap. Then,

$$\Delta(n_3) = w'(n_3) - w(n_3) = 24 - 19 = 5$$

$$\Delta(n_9) = w'(n_9) - w(n_9) = 26 - 19 = 7$$

$$\Delta(n_1) = w'(n_1) - w(n_1) = 26 - 19 = 7$$

$$\Delta(n_7) = w'(n_7) - w(n_7) = 28 - 28 = 0$$

Thus,

$$\Delta W = \Delta(n_3) + \Delta(n_9) + \Delta(n_1) + \Delta(n_7) = 19$$



TimberWolf Placement (3/16)

Estimating ΔWs

- $\Delta Ws =$ wirelength change from shifting
 - *h* is shifted and included in $n_4 = \{d, h, i\}$ and $n_7 = \{c, e, f, h, n\}$
 - h is on the right boundary of n₄: gradient(h)++
 - *h* is not on any boundary of n_7 : no further change on gradient(*h*)





Practical Problems in VLSI Physical Design

TimberWolf Placement (4/16)

Thus, gradient(h) = 1. Since h is shifted to the right by 1

 $shift_amount(h) = 1$

Thus,

$$\Delta W_S = gradient(h) \cdot shift_amount(h) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$$

Based on the calculation of ΔW and ΔW_S , we get

$$\Delta C = \Delta W + \Delta W_S = 19 + 1 = 20$$



Accuracy of ΔWs Estimation

- How accurate is ΔWs estimation?
 - Node h is included in $n_4 = \{d, h, i\}$ and $n_7 = \{c, e, f, h, n\}$
 - Real change is also 1: accurate estimation

$$w'(n_4) - w(n_4) + w'(n_7) - w(n_7) = 20 - 19 + 28 - 28 = 1$$





TimberWolf Placement (6/16)

Estimation Model B

- Based on piecewise linear graph
 - Shifting *h* causes the wirelength of n_4 to increase by 1 (19 to 20) and no change on n_7 (stay at 28)





Second Swap

- Swap node *m* and *o*
 - We shift node *d* and *g*: on the shorter side of the receiving row
 - Node *m* included in nets $\{n_5, n_9\}$, and *o* in $\{n_2, n_{10}\}$





TimberWolf Placement (8/16)

Computing ΔW

• ΔW = wirelength change from swap

$$\Delta(n_5) = w'(n_5) - w(n_5) = 12 - 11 = 1$$

$$\Delta(n_9) = w'(n_9) - w(n_9) = 22 - 26 = -4$$

$$\Delta(n_2) = w'(n_2) - w(n_2) = 7 - 14 = -7$$

$$\Delta(n_{10}) = w'(n_{10}) - w(n_{10}) = 23 - 23 = 0$$

Thus,

$$\Delta W = \Delta(n_5) + \Delta(n_9) + \Delta(n_2) + \Delta(n_{10}) = -10$$



Estimating ΔWs

- Cell *d* and *g* are shifted
 - *d* is included in $n_4 = \{d, h, i\}, n_6 = \{d, k, j\}, \text{ and } n_8 = \{d, l\}$
 - *d* is on the right boundary of n_6 and n_8
 - So, gradient(d) = 2



Practical Problems in VLSI Physical Design

TimberWolf Placement (10/16)

- Cell *d* and *g* are shifted
 - *g* is included in $n_1 = \{a, e, g\}$, and $n_9 = \{b, g, i, m\}$
 - g is on the right boundary of n_1 and n_9
 - So, gradient(g) = 2





Practical Problems in VLSI Physical Design

TimberWolf Placement (11/16)

Both cell d and g are shifted to the right by 2. Thus,

$$\Delta W_S = gradient(d) \cdot shift_amount(d) + gradient(g) \cdot shift_amount(g) = 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 2 = 8$$

Based on the calculation of ΔW and ΔW_S , we get

$$\Delta C = \Delta W + \Delta W_S = -10 + 8 = -2$$



Third Swap

- Swap node *k* and *m*
 - We shift node c: on the shorter side of the receiving row
 - Node k included in nets $\{n_3, n_6, n_{10}\}$, and m in $\{n_5, n_9\}$



Practical Problems in VLSI Physical Design

TimberWolf Placement (13/16)

Computing ΔW

• ΔW = wirelength change from swap

$$\Delta(n_3) = w'(n_3) - w(n_3) = 25 - 24 = 1$$

$$\Delta(n_6) = w'(n_6) - w(n_6) = 16 - 23 = -7$$

$$\Delta(n_{10}) = w'(n_{10}) - w(n_{10}) = 13 - 23 = -10$$

$$\Delta(n_5) = w'(n_5) - w(n_5) = 21 - 12 = 9$$

$$\Delta(n_9) = w'(n_9) - w(n_9) = 22 - 22 = 0$$

Thus,

$$\Delta W = \Delta(n_3) + \Delta(n_6) + \Delta(n_{10}) + \Delta(n_5) + \Delta(n_9) = -7$$



Estimating ΔWs

- Cell *c* is shifted
 - *c* is included in $n_3 = \{b, c, k, n\}$ and $n_7 = \{c, e, f, h, n\}$
 - *c* is on the left boundary of n_3
 - So, gradient(c) = -1





Practical Problems in VLSI Physical Design

TimberWolf Placement (15/16)

Since c is shifted to the left by 1,

 $shift_amount(c) = -1$

Lastly,

 $\Delta W_S = gradient(c) \cdot shift_amount(c) = -1 \cdot -1 = 1$

Based on the calculation of ΔW and ΔW_S , we get

$$\Delta C = \Delta W + \Delta W_S = -7 + 1 = -6$$

