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Packing 2-bar charts into a strip

This is a new combinatorial optimization problem that generalizes the Bin Packing Problem and the 2D Vector Packing Problem. On the other hand, it is a special case of the Project Scheduling Problem with one limited renewable resource, when each project consists of two uninterrupted jobs of unit duration. The problem is to find a packing of bar charts consisting of two bars each into a unit-height strip of minimum length. We have proposed several polynomial approximation algorithms with non-trivial guaranteed accuracy estimates, both in general and in particular cases.