

# CLASS SCHEDULING THROUGH LINEAR PROGRAMMING

**By Amber Rosacker**

# CLASS SCHEDULING + TIMETABLING

Determine which teacher teaches what class when

- Only one class, and time per teacher
- Classrooms
- Taking preferences of classes into account



# WHAT THIS LOOKS LIKE AT THE MOMENT:



Teachers fill out a sheet that asks:

- Top 5 classes we would like to teach (ranked 1 - 5)
  - What off periods we prefer
  - Any other special requests we have
- 
- 10 departments
  - About 100 total staff
  - One admin sorts/builds

Takes a whole semester

If something needs to change, it causes a lot of problems

[illegible]

# WHAT A TEACHER'S SCHEDULE LOOKS LIKE

| Period 1        | Period 2       | Period 3       | Period 4 | Period 5              | Period 6              | Period 7 |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Honors Geometry | Algebra 2/Trig | Algebra 2/Trig | Plan     | Honors Algebra 2/Trig | Honors Algebra 2/Trig | Plan     |

# THE MODEL:

I created a model that assigns 5 teachers to 5 classes that have to occur at different times during the day.

# THE AMPL MODEL

```
set TEACHERS;
set CLASSROOMS;
set CLASSES;
set TIMES;

param classpref {CLASSES, TEACHERS} > 0;

var Assign {TEACHERS, CLASSES, TIMES} binary;

minimize Total:
sum {t in TEACHERS} sum{l in CLASSES} sum{i in TIMES} classpref[l,t]*Assign[t,l,i] ;

#optimized the best scheduled based on minimizing each teacher's class preference

subject to EveryClassTaught {l in CLASSES} :
sum {t in TEACHERS} sum {i in TIMES} Assign[t,l,i] =1;
    #Every class has to be taught

subject to OneTeacherPerClass {t in TEACHERS, i in TIMES}:
sum{l in CLASSES} Assign[t,l,i] <= 1 ;
    #Each teacher can only teach at most one class at any given time

subject to 5MaxClasses {t in TEACHERS} :
sum {l in CLASSES} sum{i in TIMES} Assign[t,l,i] <= 5;
    #Each teacher can only teach up to 5 classes
```

# THE AMPL MODEL : DATA

```
set TEACHERS := Rosacker Smith Johnson McIlroy Davis ;
```

```
set CLASSROOMS := 2610 2620 2630 2640 2650 ;
```

```
set CLASSES := Algebra1 Algebra1a Algebra1b Algebra1c Algebra1d Algebra1e  
Geometry Geometrya Geometryb Geometryc Geometryd Geometrye  
Algebra2 Algebra2a Algebra2b Algebra2c Algebra2d CollegeAlg CollegeAlga  
CollegeAlgb CollegeAlgc Trig Triga Trigb Trigc ;
```

```
set TIMES := 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th ;
```

```
param classpref: Rosacker Smith Johnson McIlroy Davis :=  
Algebra1      3      4      3      1      2  
Algebra1a     3      4      3      1      2  
Algebra1b     3      4      3      2      1  
Algebra1c     3      4      3      2      1  
Algebra1d     3      4      3      2      1  
Algebra1e     3      4      3      2      2  
Geometry      1      2      5      5      5  
Geometrya     1      2      5      5      5  
Geometryb     1      2      5      5      5  
Geometryc     2      1      5      5      5  
Geometryd     2      1      5      5      5  
Geometrye     2      2      5      5      1  
Algebra2      1      5      2      3      2  
Algebra2a     1      5      2      3      2  
Algebra2b     2      5      1      3      2  
Algebra2c     2      5      1      3      2  
Algebra2d     2      5      1      3      2  
CollegeAlg    5      2      1      4      3  
CollegeAlga   5      1      2      4      3  
CollegeAlgb   5      1      1      4      3  
CollegeAlgc   5      1      2      4      3  
Trig          4      3      4      2      1  
Triga         4      3      4      1      5  
Trigb         4      3      4      1      5  
Trigc         4      3      4      1      5 ;
```



# RESULTS

CPLEX 12.9.0.0: optimal integer solution; objective 27  
38 MIP simplex iterations  
0 branch-and-bound nodes

The 1's represent a class  
and time the teacher will  
teach!

Assign [Davis,\*,\*]

| :           | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th | := |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Algebra1    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1a   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1b   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1c   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1d   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1e   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2a   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2b   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2c   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2d   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlg  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlga | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlgb | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlgc | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometry    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometrya   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometryb   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometryc   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometryd   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometrye   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Trig        | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Triga       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Trigb       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Trigc       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |

[Johnson,\*,\*]

| :           | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th | := |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Algebra1    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1a   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1b   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1c   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1d   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1e   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2a   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2b   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2c   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2d   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlg  | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlga | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlgb | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlgc | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometry    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometrya   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometryb   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometryc   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometryd   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometrye   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Trig        | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Triga       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Trigb       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Trigc       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |

| [McIlroy,*,*] |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    | [Smith,*,*] |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| :             | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th | := | :           | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th | := |
| Algebra1      | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra1    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1a     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   |    | Algebra1a   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1b     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra1b   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1c     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra1c   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1d     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra1d   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra1e     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra1e   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra2    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2a     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra2a   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2b     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra2b   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2c     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra2c   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Algebra2d     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Algebra2d   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlg    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | CollegeAlg  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlga   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | CollegeAlga | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| CollegeAlgb   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | CollegeAlgb | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   |    |
| CollegeAlgc   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | CollegeAlgc | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometry      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Geometry    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometrya     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Geometrya   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometryb     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Geometryb   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometryc     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Geometryc   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometryd     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Geometryd   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Geometrye     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Geometrye   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Trig          | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Trig        | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Triga         | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   |    | Triga       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Trigb         | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    | Trigb       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |
| Trigc         | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   |    | Trigc       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |    |

  

| [Rosacker,*,*] |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| :              | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th |
| Algebra1       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1a      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1b      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1c      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1d      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1e      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2       | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2a      | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2b      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2c      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2d      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| CollegeAlg     | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| CollegeAlga    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| CollegeAlgb    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| CollegeAlgc    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometry       | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometrya      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   |
| Geometryb      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometryc      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometryd      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometrye      | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Trig           | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Triga          | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Trigb          | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Trigc          | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |

  

| :           | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Algebra1    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1a   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1b   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1c   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1d   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra1e   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2a   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2b   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2c   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Algebra2d   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| CollegeAlg  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| CollegeAlga | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| CollegeAlgb | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   |
| CollegeAlgc | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometry    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometrya   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometryb   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometryc   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometryd   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   |
| Geometrye   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Trig        | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Triga       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Trigb       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Trigc       | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |

# EXTENSIONS

- Better way to do class sections
- Extend this to 15 teachers and corresponding classes/times
- Max of 4 teacher per each class
- Only 3 different class types max per teacher
- There needs to be one of each section for each course during different time periods (All Alg 1's can't be 1st period)
- Need to have one plan period on an even period & one plan period on an odd period
- And so many more...

# I THEN TRIED TO RUN IT AS A LINEAR PROGRAM - NOT BINARY

```
set TEACHERS;
set CLASSROOMS;
set CLASSES;
set TIMES;

param classpref {CLASSES, TEACHERS} > 0;

var Assign {TEACHERS, CLASSES, TIMES} >=0, <=1;

minimize Total:
sum {t in TEACHERS} sum{l in CLASSES} sum{i in TIMES} classpref[l,t]*Assign[t,l,i] ;

#optimized the best scheduled based on minimizing each teacher's class preference

subject to OneTeacherPerClass {t in TEACHERS, i in TIMES}:
sum{l in CLASSES} Assign[t,l,i] <= 1 ;
    #Each teacher can only teach at most one class at any given time

subject to EveryClassTaught {l in CLASSES} :
sum {t in TEACHERS} sum {i in TIMES} Assign[t,l,i] =1;
    #Every class has to be taught

subject to 5MaxClasses {t in TEACHERS} :
sum {l in CLASSES} sum{i in TIMES} Assign[t,l,i] <= 5;
    #Each teacher can only teach up to 5 classes
```

This still assigned the same teacher to the same classes to teach, but assigned them to different times throughout the day





THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?

