

# Notes Optimization

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## 1 Linear Programming Model

It is a way to represent a problem as linear model, to create this model we need:

- variables: used to describe the problem
- objective function: find the maximum or minimum of given function
- constraints: limit the variable in a range

In order to create a linear model objective functions and constraints must be **linear**. If we can describe the problem as linear system, there is a method to find the optimal solution, which is called **simplex method**.

real life problem  $\longrightarrow_{\text{modeling}}$   
LP Problem  $\longrightarrow_{\text{simplex}}$   
linear solution  $\longrightarrow_{\text{decoding}}$   
real life solution

## 2 Modeling

The steps of modeling are:

- identify variables
- write objective function
- write constraints

The variables are a set of entities that describes the solution of the problem, given those:

- it is immediate to get the objective function
- it is immediate to check if the solution respects the constraints

### Example 2.1 – The Knapsack Problem

*A bunch of friends is organizing an excursion and decides to put everything in a single knapsack with capacity 10Kg.*

The knapsack may be filled with:

- chocolate (500g)
- fruit juice (1l)
- beer (0.33l)
- sandwiches (100g)
- mineral water (1l)
- cookies (500g)

Each product is given a score:

- chocolate (10)
- fruit juice (10)
- beer (6)
- sandwiches (3)
- mineral water (20)
- cookies (8)

It was decided to guarantee a minimum amount of each product:

- chocolate (2)
- fruit juice (2)
- beer (6)
- sandwiches (10)
- mineral water (1)
- cookies (2)

Given the full model, we insert it into the simplex and it returns back the best optimal solution

Example: The steel plant

Example: From chicken farm to fast food.

The variables are the quantity of chicken going from every farm to each single shop. We can represent this a matrix with columns the farms and as for rows the quantities of chicken

Minimize and absolute value, we want to minimize the difference between the target and the value

$$\begin{aligned}\min z &= |v - t| \\ \min z &= |a| \\ |a| &= \max \{a, -a\} \\ \min z &= \max \{a, -a\}\end{aligned}$$

we introduce an auxiliary variable  $Y$

$$\begin{aligned}\min z &= \min Y = \max \{X_1, X_2\} \\ Y &\geq X_1 \\ Y &\geq X_2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\min Y \\ Y &\geq a \\ Y &\geq -a\end{aligned}$$

Example: ... We can express binary variables, *if*  $X_1 > 0$  *then*  $X_2 = 0$  and *if*  $X_2 > 0$  *then*  $X_1 = 0$ . We can express them with binary variable  $Y_1 = 0, 1$   $Y_2 = 0, 1$

BIG M, where M is constant, big fixed number. We want to express

$$\begin{aligned} Y_1 &= 0, 1 \\ Y_2 &= 0, 1 \\ Y_1 + Y_2 &\leq 1 \\ X_1 &\leq M_1 Y_1 \\ X_2 &\leq M_2 Y_2 \end{aligned}$$

If  $Y_1$  is 0  $X_1$  is bound to 0, if  $Y_1 = 1$   $X_1$  is virtually unbounded, the same for  $X_2$  and  $Y_2$ .  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are large constants. During a software simulation it is reasonable to choose the variables in a range that won't be reachable.

## 2.1 Fixed Values

Problems where we have only a fixed amount of resources. We manage them by using several logical variables for every variable that is fixed.

$$\begin{aligned} Y_1 + \dots + Y_k &= 1 \\ X &= p_1 Y_1 + \dots + p_k Y_k \end{aligned}$$

The first equation imposes that only one of the  $Y$  can be one. The second equation imposes that  $X_j$  can only have one of the quantities  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k$ .

Example 6:

A1, ..., A5 B1, ..., B5 C1, ..., C5 D1, ..., D5 we remove the years we cannot invest in.

we derive the first constraints starting from the first year. Which is the sum of investments less than the total money.