



Little League Competition Schedule Report

IND ENG 162: Linear Programming & Network Flows By: Angelina Bai, Sera Göksal, Yang Lu, James Shi

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In this report, we present the modeling and optimization of a Little League baseball match schedule through an Optimization Integer Program, tailored to meet specific criteria and constraints, stated by the League's manager. We have constructed integer programs & generated schedule solutions that adhere to the requirements set forth, ensuring all scheduled games fit within the constraints highlighted in the initial request. For the manager's first ask we obtained a feasible optimal schedule. When we relaxed the condition of having precisely four games every Saturday to allow for up to four, it resulted in a different, yet still feasible, schedule. However, the manager's additional request for a game on every possible weekday introduces a complexity that the model cannot accommodate, leading to the conclusion that under such restrictive conditions, no perfect scheduling solution is possible. The detailed process and the resulting schedule variations, compliant with the varying constraints, are meticulously outlined in the subsequent sections of this report.

2. BACKGROUND

There are 9 teams in total, each uniquely identified by a number ranging from 1 to 9. The objective is for each team to play against every other team twice over the baseball season. The competition schedule lasts three months from March to May, considering holidays and vacations. It begins on March 13 and ends on May 31. Dates are organized in blocks of four, with the exception of the last block, including May 30 and 31. A total of 72 competitions (36 pairs) need to be held.

And following constraints need to be satisfied (for part 1).

- To ensure a balanced schedule, there is a limit of one game per weekday.
- There is at most one game per weekday
- Competitions are scheduled from Monday through Thursday every week.
- No team should participate more than once within any four-day period in a given week.
- A weekly Saturday competition involves four simultaneous matches.

• Teams that participated in a Monday-to-Thursday competition can also partake in the subsequent Saturday's competition.

For part 2, we would like to replaces the strict requirement of having exactly 4 games every Saturday to have at most 4 games. Lastly, we would like to arrange the schedule so that games will be played on every possible weekday in the schedule. To solve the problem, we will set up three integer programs according to different constraints and excels provided.

3. MODELING

In this section, we will dive into how we developed our integer programming model in AMPL to create an optimal and feasible schedule for the Little League competitions. We will begin with defining all the requirements for formulation and modeling for part 1 and then additionally discuss the changes made to the AMPL model for parts 2 and 3.

Sorted Excel

Given the original Excel data, we first deleted all dates where there would be no games at all (holidays), and we ended up with 50 days where 8 were Saturdays. We sorted the data in order to assign each game day an integer order so all days would be visualized consecutively. By doing this, we can formulate and solve the integer program for this scheduling feasibility problem without having to directly import the actual Excel file into AMPL.

Season Duration & Holiday Constraints

The letter from the Little League's manager mentions that the Excel file attached to the letter provides the calendar schedule, spanning three months from March to May. The schedule considers holidays and vacations, commencing on March 13 and concluding on May 31. The competition dates are organized in blocks of four, except for the last one, which includes May 30 and 31, as all competitions must conclude by May 31. Below is how we have incorporated these considerations into our model.

In our initial IP formulation (before conversions into AMPL and sorting our Excel), we had also determined the following constraints to factor into our model. As explained below, we sorted and edited the original Excel file to exclude holidays and Sundays as well as abide by the season start and end dates, to be constrained by requirements such as the constraints

- 6. **Season Duration Constraint:** The schedule must start on March 13 and end on May 31.
- 7. **Specific Dates Constraint:** Account for the specific calendar schedule, holidays, and vacations as per the attached Excel file.

<u>Dates and Days W/O</u> <u>Holidays</u>

Α	В	С	D	
DAY	DATE		WEEKDAY	DA
Monday	13-Mar		Monday	1:
Tuesday	14-Mar		Tuesday	14
Wednesday	15-Mar		Wednesday	15
Thursday	16-Mar		Thursday	10
Saturday	18-Mar		Monday	20
Monday	20-Mar		Tuesday	2
Tuesday	21-Mar		Wednesday	2
Wednesday	22-Mar		Thursday	2
Thursday	23-Mar		Monday	2
Saturday	25-Mar		Tuesday	2
Monday	27-Mar		Wednesday	2
Tuesday	28-Mar		Thursday	30
Wednesday	29-Mar		Monday	
Thursday	30-Mar		Tuesday	
Saturday	1-Apr		Wednesday	
Monday	3-Apr		Thursday	
Tuesday	4-Apr		Monday	1
Wednesday	5-Apr		Tuesday	1
Thursday	6-Apr		Wednesday	1
Monday	17-Apr		Thursday	2
Tuesday	18-Apr		Monday	2
Wednesday	19-Apr		Tuesday	2
Thursday	20-Apr		Wednesday	2
Saturday	22-Apr		Thursday	2
Monday	24-Apr		Monday	7
Tuesday	25-Apr		Tuesday	1
Wednesday	26-Apr		Wednesday	3
Thursday	27-Apr		Thursday	
Saturday	29-Apr		Monday	8
Monday	1-May		Tuesday	9
Tuesday	2-May		Wednesday	10
Wednesday	3-May		Thursday	11
	4-May		Monday	15
Thursday				-
Saturday	6-May		Tuesday	16
Monday	8-May		Wednesday	_
Tuesday	9-May		Thursday	18
Wednesday	10-May		Monday	22
Thursday	11-May		Tuesday	23
Saturday	13-May		Wednesday	24
Monday	15-May		Thursday	25
Tuesday	16-May		Tuesday	30
Wednesday	17-May		Wednesday	31
Thursday	18-May			
Saturday	20-May			
Monday	22-May			

Explanation: In order to overcome the issue/errors with exporting the whole original excel spreadsheet into AMPL, we restructured/sorted our data in Excel to model in AMPL. This sorted table has all the holidays and days that no game is

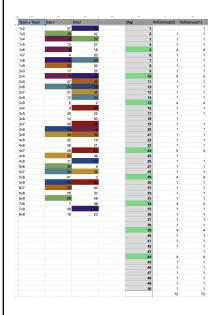
Part 1 Verified Based on Dates

1			Table 1		
2	Day		Pt2	DAY	DATE
	1	6v8		Monday	13-Mar
	2	7v9	2v9	Tuesday	14-Mar
	3	2v3	5v8	Wednesday	15-Mar
	4	1v5	1v7	Thursday	16-Mar
	5	3v5, 4v9, 2v7, 3v9	1v4, 2v4, 1v6, 3v8	Saturday	18-Mar
	6	5v9	2v9	Monday	20-Mar
	7	3v4	7v8	Tuesday	21-Mar
0	8	1v2	5v6	Wednesday	22-Mar
	9	6v7	3v4	Thursday	23-Mar
S	10	2v7, 1v6, 4v7, 5v9	1v8, 1v2, 2v4, 7v9	Saturday	25-Mar
3	11	6v9	4v9	Monday	27-Mar
4	12	4v5	2v8	Tuesday	28-Mar
5	13	7v8	1v5	Wednesday	29-Mar
6	14	1v2	3v6	Thursday	30-Mar
7	15	3v9, 1v4, 3v6, 2v8	3v8, 4v9, 2v6, 5v9	Saturday	1-Apr
8	16	2v4	8v9	Monday	3-Apr
9	17	1v3	2v3	Tuesday	4-Apr
0	18		1v6	Wednesday	5-Apr
1	19	5v6	4v5	Thursday	6-Apr
2	20	1v4	1v7	Monday	17-Apr
3	21	7v8	4v6	Tuesday	18-Apr
4	22	2v6	3v5	Wednesday	19-Apr
5	23	3v5	8v9	Thursday	20-Apr
5	24	4v9, 2v6, 3v8, 6v9	1v8, 2v6, 5v7, 2v8	Saturday	22-Apr
7	25	,,,	2v3	Monday	24-Apr
В	26	5v7	6v6	Tuesday	25-Apr
9	27	3v6	1v5	Wednesday	26-Apr
0	28	1v8	4v7	Thursday	27-Apr
1	29	2v3, 4v7, 1v8, 8v9	1v4, 1v3, 5v6, 6v9	Saturday	29-Apr
2	30	2v8	1v9	Monday	1-May
3	31		2v7	Tuesday	2-May
4	32	4v6	4v5	Wednesday	3-May
5	33	149	6v8	Thursday	4-May
6	34	2v5, 7v9, 4v8, 1v9	2v7, 3v9, 4v8, 5v7	Saturday	6-May
7	35	6v7	3v5	Monday	8-May
8	36	2v9	4v6	Tuesday	9-May
9	37	1v3	1v2	Wednesday	10-May
0	38	4v8	7/8	Thursday	11-May
1	39	1v5, 3v7, 6v8, 8v9	1v9, 2v5, 6v7, 3v9	Saturday	13-May
2	40	5v8	6v7	Monday	15-May
3	41	1v6	5v8	Tuesday	16-May
4	42	2v4	1v3	Wednesday	17-May
5	43	3v7		Thursday	18-May
6	44		4v7, 3v4, 3v7, 5v9	Saturday	20-May
7	45		3v7	Monday	22-May
8		1v7	4v8	Tuesday	23-May
9	47	4v6	2/5	Wednesday	24-May
0	48	3v8	6v9	Thursday	25-May
	49	5v6	7v9	Tuesday	30-May
2		1v7	3v6	Wednesday	31-May
3	50				31-may

us to verify if the generation of games is following the constraints. We also used this table to check if we missed any necessary constraints. One constraint we added after visualizing the outputs on this table is the Non_Overlap_Constraint3, because we observed that there were indeed 2 "Team 1 vs Team 5" games on Day 5, for example.

Explanation: This table helped

Part 1 Verified Based on Teams



Explanation: Similar to the table on the left, this table also serves for us to verify the constraints. We used this table to check if each pair of games is abiding by the constraints. We also used this table to check if the total number of games is 72.

played (Fridays and Sundays) excluded so we don't have to write a constraint to avoid games on those dates. It also assigns each date a number from 1 to 50 so we can make sure the game starts on day 1 and ends on day 50. In the Excel we use, we have 2 columns with Saturdays and 2 columns without Saturdays to visualize the number of	
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Formulating the Integer Program & Converting into AMPL Code

Our objective is to satisfy all constraints, which makes this a feasibility problem, meaning that we don't necessarily need an explicit objective function. In order to formulate the integer program, we defined 2 essential components: the decision variables and the constraints.

Part 1

```
set TEAMS := 1..9;
set DAYS := 1..50;
set SATURDAYS := {5, 10, 15, 24, 29, 34, 39, 44};
var x{TEAMS, TEAMS, DAYS} binary;
subject to
Schedule_Constraint {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j}:
  sum {t in DAYS} (x[i, j,t] + x[j, i, t]) = 2;
Total_Output_Constraint:
  sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS} x[i, j, t] = 72;
One_Game_Per_Weekday_Constraint {t in DAYS diff SATURDAYS}:
    sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[i,j,t] <= 1;</pre>
Four_Day_Period_Constraint {i in TEAMS, d in {1, 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 49}}:
    sum {j in TEAMS, t in d..min(d+3, 50): j != i} (x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t]) <= 1;</pre>
Saturday_Competition_Constraint1 {t in SATURDAYS}:
  sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[j,i,t] = 4;
Non_Overlap_Constraint1 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j != k && i != k}:
  x[i,k,t] + x[j,k,t] \ll 1;
Non_Overlap_Constraint2 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j != k && i != k}:
  x[k,i,t] + x[k,j,t] \ll 1;
Non_Overlap_Constraint3 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j}:
  x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t] <= 1;
```

Decision Variables

Ask: We are asked by the Little League coach to abide by the constraint "Each team must play against every other team exactly twice."

Formulation

X_{ijt}

We define X_{ijt} as our binary decision variable which will equal 1 if **team i** plays against **team j** on **day t**, and 0 otherwise.

Teams i: {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9} Teams j: {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9} Days t: {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6} where 1=Monday, 2=Tuesday, 3=Wednesday, 4=Thursday, 5=Friday, 6=Saturday

(Since we have excluded Sundays

Implementation Into AMPL

```
set TEAMS := 1..9;
set DAYS := 1..50;
set SATURDAYS := {5, 10, 15, 24, 29, 34, 39, 44};

var x{TEAMS, TEAMS, DAYS} binary;
set TEAMS := 1..9;
set DAYS := 1..50;
set SATURDAYS := {5, 10, 15, 24, 29, 34, 39, 44};
var x{TEAMS, TEAMS, DAYS} binary;

Explanation: From the letter we knew there are 9
```

Explanation: From the letter, we knew there are 9 teams in total, and after we sorted the Excel sheet we assigned 50 game days with consecutive integer order. The set SATURDAYS is a subset of DAYS

from our Excel as no teams can play on Sundays, we will not be having 7 as a value in the set of t days)	including specific days {5, 10, 15, 24, 29, 34, 39, 44}, which are designated as the days when Saturday matches occur. We created this to utilize when we're formulating our constraints in AMPL.
	We set binary variable X_{ijt} as the match between team i against team j on day t. If team i is playing against team j on day t, then X_{ijt} =1. Otherwise, X_{ijt} =0.

Subject To:

Teams Schedule Constraint

Ask: We are asked by the Little League coach to abide by the constraint "Each team must play against every other team exactly twice."

Formulation	Implementation Into AMPL
$\sum_{t} x_{ijt} + x_{jit} = 2 \forall i, j \text{ where } i \neq j$ Explanation: For team i and another team j in TEAMS, team i play against team j for exactly 2 times in DAYS.	<pre>subject to Schedule_Constraint {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j}: sum {t in DAYS} (x[i, j,t] + x[j, i, t]) = 2;</pre>

Explanation: This constraint ensures that each team competes with every other team exactly twice during the season, as required by the Little League coach. The mathematical formulation given on the left represents the sum of games played between teams i and j over all possible days t. Here, x_{ijt} is our binary decision variable that equals 1 if team i plays against team j on day t, and 0 otherwise. The constraint sums these variables for each unique pair of teams across all days. The sum must equal 2, indicating that exactly two matches are played between each pair of teams throughout the season.

In the AMPL implementation, Schedule_Constraint enforces this rule by iterating over all pairs of different teams (i, j) and all days t in the DAYS set. The expression sum $\{t \text{ in DAYS}\}\$ (x[i, j, t] + x[j, i, t]) = 2; calculates the total number of games between team i and team j, ensuring it equals exactly two. This satisfies the requirement for a double round-robin tournament where each team plays every other team twice but also guarantees that the schedule is balanced and fair, with no team having an advantage or disadvantage in terms of the number of matches played against any other team.

One Game Per Weekday Constraint

Ask: We are asked by the Little League coach to abide by the constraint "There is at most one game per weekday."

Formulation	Implementation Into AMPL
$\sum_{i,j} x_{ijt} \le 1 \forall t \text{ on weekdays}$	One_Game_Per_Weekday_Constraint {t in DAYS diff SATURDAYS}: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[i,j,t] <= 1;
Explanation: For all t in DAYS that are not SATURDAYS, for team i and team j in TEAMS that i != j, team i can play against team j for at most once.	

Explanation: This constraint specifies that on any given weekday, not including Saturdays, there should be no more than one game involving each pair of teams. This is implemented by summing all pairs of different teams i, j for each day within the DAYS set, excluding the set of SATURDAYS, ensuring that the sum of games for any match pairing/day does not exceed 1. Thus, it allows for only one game per day between any two teams to ensure there are no scheduling overlaps during the regular weekdays.

Four-Day Period Constraint

Ask: "No team should participate more than once within any four-day period of one week."		
Formulation	Implementation Into AMPL	
i \in <i>TEAMS</i> , $d \in \{1, 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 49\}\}$: $\sum_{j \in TEAMS, t \in dmin(d+3,50)j \neq i} (x_{ijt} + x_{jit}) \leq 1;$ Explanation: For all team i in TEAMS and d in the set of start days, for team j such that j !=1, team i can play against team j for at most one time from day d to min(d+3, 50).	Four_Day_Period_Constraint {i in TEAMS, d in {1, 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 49}}: sum {j in TEAMS, t in dmin(d+3, 50): j != i} $(x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t]) \le 1$;	

The sum (x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t]) in our code adds up the matches where team i plays against team j and other way around on the specified days. We set this sum less than or equal to 1 in order to mandate that team i plays at most one game within the four-day window. This will uphold the league's requirement that teams have at least a three-day rest period within a week.

Saturday Competition Constraint

Asked: "There's a weekly Saturday competition where four matches happen simultaneously"

Formulation	Implementation Into AMPL
$\sum_{i \in TEAMS, j \in TEAMS, t \in SATURDAYS: i \neq j} x_{ijt} = 4;$	Saturday_Competition_Constraint1 {t in SATURDAYS}: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[j,i,t]
Explanation: For all t in SATURDAYS, for team i, j in TEAMS such that i!=j, there are 4 games happening on each day t.	= 4;

Explanation: In the AMPL implementation, our constraint is applied to each t in the SATURDAYS set. Our sum function adds up the occurrences of games between each unique pair of teams (excluding games where a team would play against itself), ensuring that the total number of games on any given Saturday is exactly 4.

Non-Overlap Constraints

Non-Overlap Constraints are additions to the Four-Day Period Constraint. We are using the constraints below to make sure no team plays more than one game on one day.

Formulation

$\{\mathbf{i} \in TEAMS, j \in TEAMS, k \in TEAMS, t \in DAYS: i \neq j \land j \neq k \land i \neq k\}: x_{ikt} + x_{jkt} \leq 1$

 $\left\{ \text{i} \in TEAMS, j \in TEAMS, k \in TEAMS, t \in DAYS: } i \neq j \land j \neq k \land i \neq k \right\} : \\ x_{kij} + x_{kjt} \leq 1$

 $\{\mathbf{i} \in TEAMS, j \in TEAMS, k \in TEAMS, t \in DAYS : i \neq j \land j \neq k \land i \neq k\}$ $T_{i:i} + T_{i:i} \le 1$

For all t in DAYS, team i, j, k in TEAMS where i != j, i!=k;

- Team k can play at most one game on day t as the second team that is playing in one game (sum will be ≤ 1).
- 2. Team k can play at most one game on day t as the first team that is playing one game (sum will be ≤ 1).
- 3. Team i can play against team j for at most 1 time on day t (sum will be ≤ 1).

Implementation Into AMPL

Non-Overlap Constraint #1

Non_Overlap_Constraint1 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j != k && i != k}:

$$x[i,k,t] + x[j,k,t] \le 1;$$

Non-Overlap Constraint #2

Non_Overlap_Constraint2 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j != k && i != k}:

$$x[k,i,t] + x[k,j,t] \le 1$$
;

Non-Overlap Constraint #3

Non_Overlap_Constraint3 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j}:

$$x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t] <= 1;$$

Explanation: The Non-Overlap Constraints above help us to make sure each team plays only at most once in one day, and there is at most one game played by a combination of two teams in one day. By doing so, we avoid cases where a pair of teams play twice in one day and one team plays against two teams in one day.

Non-Overlap Constraint #1 is for potential overlaps where a team could be scheduled as the second team in two different games on the same day. Our code is to show that for any team k and any other team i (where i and j are the same), there can only be one game involving team k on day t, either against team i or any other team.

Non-Overlap Constraint #2 is a counterpart to the previous one, ensuring that no team is scheduled as the first team in more than one game on any given day. It is for situations where team k could be listed first against two different teams on the same day, which is not allowed.

Finally, Non-Overlap Constraint #3 deals with the direct matching between 2 teams, ensuring that team i does not play against team j more than once on day t. This is to prevent a scenario where the same 2 teams would play against each other twice in a day, which would violate the given rules.

Total Output Constraint

Ask: We are asked to create a schedule that aligns with "the requirement for a total of 72 competitions (36 pairs) to be held."

Formulation	Implementation Into AMPL
$\sum_{i \in TEAMS, j \in TEAMS, t \in DAYS} x_{i,j,t} = 72;$ Explanation: The sum of all games x for team i, team j in TEAMS, t in DAYS is exactly 72.	Total_Output_Constraint: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS} x[i, j, t] = 72;

Explanation: We wrote this to guarantee that the schedule is able to contain all games, so the schedule can only generate 72 games total. For this, we just set the sum of all decision variables (game played by team i vs team j on day t) equal to 72, since all decision variables will be binary.

Part 2

```
set TEAMS := 1..9;
set DAYS := 1..50;
set SATURDAYS := {5, 10, 15, 24, 29, 34, 39, 44};
var x{TEAMS, TEAMS, DAYS} binary;
subject to
Schedule_Constraint {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j}:
  sum {t in DAYS} (x[i, j,t] + x[j, i, t]) = 2;
Total_Output_Constraint:
  sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS} x[i, j, t] = 72;
One_Game_Per_Weekday_Constraint {t in DAYS diff SATURDAYS}:
  sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[i,j,t] <= 1;</pre>
Four_Day_Period_Constraint {i in TEAMS, d in {1, 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 49}}: sum {j in TEAMS, t in d..min(d+3, 50): j != i} (\times[i,j,t] + \times[j,i,t]) <= 1;
Saturday_Competition_Constraint1 {t in SATURDAYS}:
  sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} \times [j,i,t] <= 4;
Non_Overlap_Constraint1 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j != k && i != k}:
  x[i,k,t] + x[j,k,t] <= 1;
Non_Overlap_Constraint2 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j != k && i != k}:
  x[k,i,t] + x[k,j,t] <= 1;
Non_Overlap_Constraint3 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j}:
  x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t] \ll 1;
  solve;
```

Changed Constraints (Adjusted From Part 1)

Saturday Competition Constraint

Asked: Reduce the number of games on Saturday by changing the strict Saturday Competition Constraint.

Formulation	Implementation Into AMPL
$\sum_{i \in TEAMS, j \in TEAMS i \neq j} x_{j,i,t} \le 4 \forall t \in SATURDAYS;$	Saturday_Competition_Constraint1 {t in SATURDAYS}:
Explanation: For all t in SATURDAYS, the total number of games, for team i and a different team j in set TEAMS, is equal or	sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[j,i,t] <= 4;
less than 4 games.	

Explanation: As required, we changed the Saturday Competition Constraint's equation so the constraint changed from having exactly 4 games on each Saturday to having at most 4 games on each Saturday. Previously, the model required exactly four games to be played each Saturday. The revised formulation now allows for up to four games, introducing flexibility into the schedule.

Part 3

```
set TEAMS := 1..9;
set DAYS := 1..50;
set SATURDAYS := {5, 10, 15, 24, 29, 34, 39, 44};
var x{TEAMS, TEAMS, DAYS} binary;
subject to
Schedule_Constraint {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j}:
  sum {t in DAYS} (x[i, j,t] + x[j, i, t]) = 2;
Total_Output_Constraint:
  sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS} x[i, j, t] = 72;
Exactly_One_Game_Per_Weekday_Constraint {t in DAYS diff SATURDAYS}:
  sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} \times[i,j,t] = 1;
Four_Day_Period_Constraint {i in TEAMS, d in {1, 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 49}}: sum {j in TEAMS, t in d..min(d+3, 50): j != i} (\times[i,j,t] + \times[j,i,t]) <= 1;
Saturday_Competition_Constraint1 {t in SATURDAYS}:
  sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[j,i,t] = 4;
Non_Overlap_Constraint1 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j != k && i != k}:
  x[i,k,t] + x[j,k,t] \ll 1;
Non_Overlap_Constraint2 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j != k && i != k}:
  x[k,i,t] + x[k,j,t] <= 1;
Non_Overlap_Constraint3 {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j}:
  x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t] \ll 1;
solve;
```

Changed Constraints (Adjusted From Part 1)

Exactly One Game Per Weekday Constraint

Asked: Generate a schedule that there is exactly one game played on every possible weekday, and all the other constraints are same as the ones in part 1.

Formulation	Implementation Into AMPL
$\sum_{i \in TEAMS, j \in TEAMS, i \neq j} x_{i,j,t} = 1 \forall t \in DAYS \setminus SATURDAYS;$	Exactly_One_Game_Per_Weekday_Constraint {t in DAYS}:
Explanation: For all t in DAYS that are not in SATURDAYS, there is only one game happening on day t, where team i plays against a distinct team j.	sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} $x[i,j,t] = 1$;

Explanation: For part 3, we were asked to generate a schedule with *exactly one game every weekday*, instead of at most 1 game every weekday. This means that we now have to ensure

that there is one game happening every weekday. So, we modify the inequality part of our "One Game Per Weekday Constraint" and change it to "Exactly One Game Per Day Constraint" by changing the (≤ 1) portion of the original constraint to (=1).

GENERAL RATIONALE FOR MODELING STRATEGY

To summarize, the modeling strategy we approached the scheduling request with is aimed at combining all decision variables and constraints into a simple but rational pattern that reflects scheduling specifications from the Little League's manager. Besides complying with the rules of the given letter & competition, our strategy reduces the complexity of the problem by simplifying it through integer programming techniques.

4. RESULTS & ANALYSIS

Part 1: AMPL Output	Scheduling Interpretation of Output
Objective = find a feasible point. ampl: display {j in 1nvars: _var[j] > 0} (_varname[j], _var[j]); : _varname[j] _var[j] := 170 'x[1,4,20]' 1 458 'x[2,1,8]' 1 464 'x[2,1,14]' 1 760 'x[2,7,10]' 1 830 'x[2,8,30]' 1 917 'x[3,1,17]' 1 937 'x[3,1,37]' 1 953 'x[3,2,3]' 1 979 'x[3,2,29]' 1 1105 'x[3,5,5]' 1 1315 'x[3,9,15]' 1 1365 'x[4,1,15]' 1 1416 'x[4,2,16]' 1 1442 'x[4,2,42]' 1 1457 'x[4,3,7]' 1 1494 'x[4,3,44]' 1 1755 'x[4,9,5]' 1 1774 'x[4,9,24]' 1 1804 'x[5,1,4]' 1 1839 'x[5,1,39]' 1 1884 'x[5,2,34]' 1	All variables on the left that = 1 would be matches that are scheduled within the season. As a refresher, We set binary variable X _{ijt} as the match between team i against team j on day t. If team i is playing against team j on day t, then X _{ijt} =1. With all conditions met from part 1, some of the following matches scheduled for the season would be: - Day 20: Team 1 vs Team 4 - Day 8: Team 2 vs Team 1 - Day 14: Team 2 vs Team 1 - Day 10: Team 2 vs Team 7 - Day 30: Team 2 vs Team 8 - Day 17: Team 3 vs Team 1 - Day 37: Team 3 vs Team 1 - Day 37: Team 3 vs Team 2 - Day 29: Team 3 vs Team 2 - Day 5: Team 3 vs Team 5 - Day 15: Team 3 vs Team 9
1895 'x[5,2,45]' 1 1923 'x[5,3,23]' 1	- Day 15: Team 4 vs Team 1 - Day 16: Team 4 vs Team 2 - Day 42: Team 4 vs Team 2
1962 'x[5,4,12]' 1	- Day 42. Team 4 vs Team 2

1994 'x[5,4,44]' 1	- Day 7: Team 4 vs Team 3
2206 'x[5,9,6]' 1	- Day 44: Team 4 vs Team 3
2260 'x[6,1,10]' 1	- Day 5: Team 4 vs Team 9
	I
	- Day 24: Team 4 vs Team 9
2322 'x[6,2,22]' 1	- Day 4: Team 5 vs Team 1
2324 'x[6,2,24]' 1	- Day 39: Team 5 vs Team 1
	I
	- Day 34: Team 5 vs Team 2
2377 'x[6,3,27]' 1	- Day 45: Team 5 vs Team 2
2432 'x[6,4,32]' 1	- Day 23: Team 5 vs Team 3
2447 'x[6,4,47]' 1	- Day 12: Team 5 vs Team 4
2469 'x[6,5,19]' 1	- Day 44: Team 5 vs Team 4
2499 'x[6,5,49]' 1	- Day 6: Team 5 vs Team 9
2601 'x[6,8,1]' 1	- Day 10: Team 6 vs Team 1
	I
2661 'x[6,9,11]' 1	- Day 41: Team 6 vs Team 1
2746 'x[7,1,46]' 1	- Day 22: Team 6 vs Team 2
2750 'x[7,1,50]' 1	- Day 24: Team 6 vs Team 2
	I
2755 'x[7,2,5]' 1	- Day 15: Team 6 vs Team 3
2839 'x[7,3,39]' 1	- Day 27: Team 6 vs Team 3
2843 'x[7,3,43]' 1	- Day 32: Team 6 vs Team 4
	I
2860 'x[7,4,10]' 1	- Day 47: Team 6 vs Team 4
2879 'x[7,4,29]' 1	- Day 19: Team 6 vs Team 5
2926 'x[7,5,26]' 1	- Day 49: Team 6 vs Team 5
2931 'x[7,5,31]' 1	- Day 1: Team 6 vs Team 8
	I
2959 'x[7,6,9]' 1	- Day 11: Team 6 vs Team 9
2985 'x[7,6,35]' 1	- Day 46: Team 7 vs Team 1
3102 'x[7,9,2]' 1	- Day 50: Team 7 vs Team 1
3134 'x[7,9,34]' 1	- Day 5: Team 7 vs Team 2
3178 'x[8,1,28]' 1	- Day 39: Team 7 vs Team 3
3179 'x[8,1,29]' 1	- Day 43: Team 7 vs Team 3
	- Day 10: Team 7 vs Team 4
	I
3274 'x[8,3,24]' 1	- Day 29: Team 7 vs Team 4
3298 'x[8,3,48]' 1	- Day 26: Team 7 vs Team 5
3334 'x[8,4,34]' 1	- Day 31: Team 7 vs Team 5
	I
3338 'x[8,4,38]' 1	- Day 9: Team 7 vs Team 6
3390 'x[8,5,40]' 1	- Day 35: Team 7 vs Team 6
3394 'x[8,5,44]' 1	- Day 2: Team 7 vs Team 9
	- Day 34: Team 7 vs Team 9
	1 7
3463 'x[8,7,13]' 1	- Day 28: Team 8 vs Team 1
3471 'x[8,7,21]' 1	- Day 29: Team 8 vs Team 1
3633 'x[9,1,33]' 1	- Day 15: Team 8 vs Team 2
3634 'x[9,1,34]' 1	- Day 24: Team 8 vs Team 3
3686 'x[9,2,36]' 1	- Day 48: Team 8 vs Team 3
3694 'x[9,2,44]' 1	- Day 34: Team 8 vs Team 4
	- Day 38: Team 8 vs Team 4
3810 'x[9,5,10]' 1	- Day 40: Team 8 vs Team 5
3874 'x[9,6,24]' 1	- Day 44: Team 8 vs Team 5
3979 'x[9,8,29]' 1	- Day 39: Team 8 vs Team 6
	I
3989 'x[9,8,39]' 1;	- Day 13: Team 8 vs Team 7
	- Day 21: Team 8 vs Team 7
	- Day 33: Team 9 vs Team 1
	- Day 34: Team 9 vs Team 1
	I
	- Day 36: Team 9 vs Team 2
	- Day 44: Team 9 vs Team 2
	- Day 5: Team 9 vs Team 3
	- Day 10: Team 9 vs Team 5

Part 2: AMPL Output **Scheduling Interpretation of Output** Objective = find a feasible point. All variables on the left that = 1 would be ampl: display $\{j \text{ in } 1.. \text{ nvars: } var[j] > 0\}$ matches that are scheduled within the season. (varname[j], var[j]); As a refresher, We set binary variable X_{iit} as _varname[j] _var[j] := the match between team i against team j on 87 'x[1,2,37]' day t. If team i is playing against team j on 155 'x[1,4,5]'1 179 'x[1,4,29]' 1 day t, then $X_{iit}=1$. $304 \ 'x[1,7,4]'$ 360 'x[1,8,10]'With all conditions met from part 2, some of 374 'x[1,8,24]' the following matches scheduled for the 439 'x[1,9,39]' 460 'x[2,1,10]' season would be: 1 567 'x[2,3,17]' - Day 37: Team 1 vs Team 2 1 - Day 5: Team 1 vs Team 4 575 'x[2,3,25]' - Day 29: Team 1 vs Team 4 697 'x[2,5,47]' 1 - Day 4: Team 1 vs Team 7 724 'x[2,6,24]' 1 - Day 10: Team 1 vs Team 8 781 'x[2,7,31]'- Day 24: Team 1 vs Team 8 784 'x[2,7,34]' 1 - Day 39: Team 1 vs Team 9 812 'x[2,8,12]' 1 - Day 10: Team 2 vs Team 1 $856 \ 'x[2,9,6]'$ - Day 17: Team 2 vs Team 3 929 'x[3,1,29]' - Day 25: Team 2 vs Team 3 942 'x[3,1,42]' - Day 47: Team 2 vs Team 5 - Day 24: Team 2 vs Team 6 1059 'x[3,4,9]' - Day 31: Team 2 vs Team 7 1094 'x[3,4,44]' 1 - Day 34: Team 2 vs Team 7 1135 'x[3,5,35]' - Day 12: Team 2 vs Team 8 1164 'x[3,6,14]' 1 - Day 6: Team 2 vs Team 9 1200 'x[3,6,50]' 1 - Day 29: Team 3 vs Team 1 1245 'x[3,7,45]' 1 - Day 42: Team 3 vs Team 1 1265 'x[3,8,15]' 1 - Day 9: Team 3 vs Team 4 1334 'x[3,9,34]' 1 - Day 44: Team 3 vs Team 4 - Day 35: Team 3 vs Team 5 $1405 \ 'x[4,2,5]'$ - Day 14: Team 3 vs Team 6 1410 'x[4,2,10]' 1 - Day 50: Team 3 vs Team 6 1582 'x[4,5,32]' - Day 45: Team 3 vs Team 7 1636 'x[4,6,36]' 1 - Day 15: Team 3 vs Team 8 1678 'x[4,7,28]' 1 - Day 34: Team 3 vs Team 9 1694 'x[4,7,44]' 1 - Day 5: Team 4 vs Team 2 1734 'x[4,8,34]' - Day 10: Team 4 vs Team 2 1746 'x[4,8,46]' 1 - Day 32: Team 4 vs Team 5 1761 'x[4,9,11]' 1 - Day 36: Team 4 vs Team 6 1765 'x[4,9,15]' 1 - Day 28: Team 4 vs Team 7 - Day 44: Team 4 vs Team 7 1813 'x[5,1,13]' 1 - Day 34: Team 4 vs Team 8 1827 'x[5,1,27]' - Day 46: Team 4 vs Team 8 1889 'x[5,2,39]' 1 - Day 11: Team 4 vs Team 9 1922 'x[5,3,22]' 1 - Day 15: Team 4 vs Team 9 1969 'x[5,4,19]'

```
2079 'x[5,6,29]'
                                                       - Day 13: Team 5 vs Team 1
                                                       - Day 27: Team 5 vs Team 1
2191 'x[5,8,41]'
                  1
                                                       - Day 39: Team 5 vs Team 2
2255 'x[6,1,5]'
                  1
                                                       - Day 22: Team 5 vs Team 3
2268 'x[6,1,18]'
                  1
                                                       - Day 19: Team 5 vs Team 4
2315 'x[6,2,15]'
                   1
                                                       - Day 29: Team 5 vs Team 6
2421 'x[6,4,21]'
                   1
                                                       - Day 41: Team 5 vs Team 8
2458 'x[6,5,8]'
                                                       - Day 5: Team 6 vs Team 1
2626 'x[6,8,26]'
                   1
                                                       - Day 18: Team 6 vs Team 1
2679 'x[6,9,29]'
                   1
                                                       - Day 15: Team 6 vs Team 2
2698 'x[6,9,48]'
                                                       - Day 21: Team 6 vs Team 4
                                                       - Day 8: Team 6 vs Team 5
2720 'x[7,1,20]'
                                                       - Day 26: Team 6 vs Team 8
2844 'x[7,3,44]'
                                                       - Day 29: Team 6 vs Team 9
2924 'x[7,5,24]'
                                                       - Day 48: Team 6 vs Team 9
2934 'x[7,5,34]'
                   1
                                                       - Day 20: Team 7 vs Team 1
2989 'x[7,6,39]'
                                                       - Day 44: Team 7 vs Team 3
2990 'x[7,6,40]'
                                                       - Day 24: Team 7 vs Team 5
3057 'x[7,8,7]'
                  1
                                                       - Day 34: Team 7 vs Team 5
3088 'x[7,8,38]'
                  1
                                                       - Day 39: Team 7 vs Team 6
                                                       - Day 40: Team 7 vs Team 6
3149 'x[7,9,49]'
                   1
                                                       - Day 7: Team 7 vs Team 8
3224 'x[8,2,24]'
                  1
                                                       - Day 38: Team 7 vs Team 8
3255 'x[8,3,5]'
                                                       - Day 49: Team 7 vs Team 9
3353 'x[8,5,3]'
                  1
                                                       - Day 24: Team 8 vs Team 2
3433 'x[8,6,33]'
                                                       - Day 5: Team 8 vs Team 3
3630 'x[9,1,30]'
                                                       - Day 3: Team 8 vs Team 5
3652 'x[9,2,2]'
                  1
                                                       - Day 33: Team 8 vs Team 6
3739 'x[9,3,39]'
                  1
                                                       - Day 30: Team 9 vs Team 1
3815 'x[9,5,15]'
                   1
                                                       - Day 2: Team 9 vs Team 2
                                                       - Day 39: Team 9 vs Team 3
3844 'x[9,5,44]'
                   1
3910 'x[9,7,10]'
                                                       - Day 15: Team 9 vs Team 5
                   1
                                                       - Day 44: Team 9 vs Team 5
3966 'x[9,8,16]'
                   1
                                                       - Day 10: Team 9 vs Team 7
3973 'x[9,8,23]'
                  1;
                                                       - Day 16: Team 9 vs Team 8
                                                       - Day 23: Team 9 vs Team 8
                                                                "Elaborate whether this would make a
                                                                difference in the schedule you found in
                                                               part 1."
                                                       Looking through the schedules outputted from
                                                       parts 1 and 2 of our AMPL code, there is no
                                                       doubt that the adjustment of the Saturday
                                                       games restriction from exactly 4 to at most 4
                                                       has affected the game scheduling. The change
                                                       in the constraint is the reason behind varying
                                                       play days for some matches and the different
                                                       distribution of games in the season. To
                                                       illustrate this point, in Part 1, Team 1 plays
                                                       against Team 4 on Day 20 and in Part 2, this
                                                       pairing is listed on day 5. The differences
                                                       point to a more flexible scheduling process
                                                       that allows for variations in the number of
```

Saturday games and consequently impact the

arrangement of games on other days.

logistical challenges the league faces and increase the number of teams available due to their schedule.

Part 3: AMPL Output **Scheduling Interpretation of Output** CPLEX 22.1.1.0: integer infeasible. In Part 3 of our analysis using AMPL, we discovered that it's impossible to create a 244 MIP simplex iterations schedule where each weekday hosts exactly one game, while also meeting the constraints 0 branch-and-bound nodes set in the earlier parts. Specifically, in Part 1, we scheduled four games for every Saturday, No basis. with games on all weekdays except for April 5th (day 18) and April 24th (day 37). Objective = find a feasible point. However, to comply with Part 3's requirements, we need to add an additional ampl: display $\{j \text{ in } 1.. \text{ nvars: } var[j] > 0\}$ game on both day 18 and day 37. This (varname[j], var[j]); adjustment leads to a total of 74 games, :_varname[j] _var[j] := exceeding our maximum limit of 72 games. This indicates an over-constrained problem, where our combination of constraints - like the total number of games, number of mandatory games on each day, and fixed holidays - makes it impossible to devise a feasible schedule that satisfies all these conditions simultaneously.

Ultimate Question: Is there a perfect solution to this problem, or will there always be an exception given the specified criteria and constraints?

Conclusion: Evaluating all our results from our AMPL model in hand given the scheduling specifications from the manager's letter, we can assert that while a feasible solution to the scheduling problem can be found, it may not *always* perfectly align with all the desired constraints; this means that the feasibility of the schedule is dependent on how restrictive the given constraints are, as illustrated by Parts 1,2, and 3. Parts 1 and 2 of our AMPL model output demonstrate that there exist feasible schedules, when working within the constraints of having exactly four games on Saturdays or at most four games, for example. However, Part 3's requirement to have a game on every possible weekday proved to be infeasible, showing us that the additional constraint in part 3 is way too restrictive. Therefore, the manager George Herman Ruth's initial question in his letter can be answered as follows: a perfect solution, defined as a solution that remains the same regardless of how the constraints are changed, is not possible for the Little League scheduling problem. If we simply focus on parts 1 and 2, we can see that we are able to generate feasible optimal schedules under certain constraints.

However, part 3, including the additional requirement of a game on every possible weekday, shows to us that a feasible schedule is not possible without relaxing or altering at least one of the constraints. This nuance suggests that when constraints are added or changed, the solution space is also affected, which means that there is no perfect, one-size-fits-all solution. For our given problem, the constraints dictate the feasibility of the solutions, and any change in these constraints requires us to reevaluate the solution, meaning that the perfect solution is conditional on the constraints imposed.

5. APPENDIX

Below is our AMPL code for parts 1-3.

Part 1	Part 2	Part 3
set TEAMS := 19; set DAYS := 150; set SATURDAYS := {5, 10, 15, 24, 29, 34, 39, 44};	set TEAMS := 19; set DAYS := 150; set SATURDAYS := {5, 10, 15, 24, 29, 34, 39, 44};	set TEAMS := 19; set DAYS := 150; set SATURDAYS := {5, 10, 15, 24, 29, 34, 39, 44};
var x{TEAMS, TEAMS, DAYS} binary;	var x{TEAMS, TEAMS, DAYS} binary;	var x{TEAMS, TEAMS, DAYS} binary;
subject to	subject to	subject to
Schedule_Constraint {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: $i != j$ }: sum {t in DAYS} ($x[i, j,t] + x[j, i, t]$) = 2;	Schedule_Constraint {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j}: sum {t in DAYS} (x[i, j,t] + x[j, i, t]) = 2;	Schedule_Constraint {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j}: sum {t in DAYS} (x[i, j,t] + x[j, i, t]) = 2;
Total_Output_Constraint: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS} x[i, j, t] = 72;	Total_Output_Constraint: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS} x[i, j, t] = 72;	Total_Output_Constraint: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS} x[i, j, t] = 72;
One_Game_Per_Weekday_Constraint {t in DAYS diff SATURDAYS}: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[i,j,t] <= 1;	One_Game_Per_Weekday_Constraint {t in DAYS diff SATURDAYS}: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[i,j,t] <= 1;	Exactly_One_Game_Per_Weekday _Constraint {t in DAYS diff SATURDAYS}: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[i,j,t] = 1;
Four_Day_Period_Constraint {i in TEAMS, d in {1, 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 49}}: sum {j in TEAMS, t in dmin(d+3, 50): j != i} (x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t]) <= 1;	Four_Day_Period_Constraint {i in TEAMS, d in {1, 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 49}}: sum {j in TEAMS, t in dmin(d+3, 50): j != i} (x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t]) <= 1;	Four_Day_Period_Constraint {i in TEAMS, d in {1, 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 49}}: sum {j in TEAMS, t in dmin(d+3, 50): j != i} (x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t]) <= 1;
Saturday_Competition_Constraint1 {t in SATURDAYS}: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[j,i,t] = 4;	Saturday_Competition_Constraint1 {t in SATURDAYS}: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i != j} x[j,i,t] <= 4;	Saturday_Competition_Constraint1 {t in SATURDAYS}: sum {i in TEAMS, j in TEAMS: i

```
!= j} x[j,i,t] = 4;
                                     Non Overlap Constraint1 {i in
Non Overlap Constraint1 {i in
TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in
                                     TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in
                                                                           Non Overlap Constraint1 {i in
                                                                           TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in
TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j !=
                                     TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j !=
k && i != k}:
                                     k && i != k}:
                                                                           TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j !=
x[i,k,t] + x[j,k,t] \le 1;
                                      x[i,k,t] + x[j,k,t] \le 1;
                                                                           k && i != k}:
                                                                            x[i,k,t] + x[j,k,t] \le 1;
Non_Overlap_Constraint2 {i in
                                     Non Overlap Constraint2 {i in
TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in
                                     TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in
                                                                           Non Overlap Constraint2 {i in
TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j !=
                                     TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j !=
                                                                           TEAMS, j in TEAMS, k in
k && i != k}:
                                     k && i != k}:
                                                                           TEAMS, t in DAYS: i != j && j !=
x[k,i,t] + x[k,j,t] \le 1;
                                      x[k,i,t] + x[k,j,t] \le 1;
                                                                           k && i != k}:
                                                                            x[k,i,t] + x[k,j,t] \le 1;
Non Overlap Constraint3 {i in
                                     Non Overlap Constraint3 {i in
TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i
                                     TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i
                                                                           Non Overlap Constraint3 {i in
                                                                           TEAMS, j in TEAMS, t in DAYS: i
!=j:
                                     != i:
x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t] \le 1;
                                      x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t] \le 1;
                                                                           != i:
                                                                            x[i,j,t] + x[j,i,t] \le 1;
solve;
                                      solve;
                                                                           solve;
```

Our direct raw output for our AMPL code for Parts 1-3 was given in the Results section.