

## Linear Programming

### Staff Scheduling Problem



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### Staff Scheduling Problem

- A company requires different numbers of employees on different days of the week
- Each employee must work five consecutive days and then receive two days off
- Formulate LP to minimize the number of employees who must be hired

Day	# Employees Required
Mon	10
Tue	12
Wed	20
Thu	17
Fri	15
Sat	12
Sun	5

### Wrong Problem Formulation

$x_i$  the number of employees working on day  $i$   
(Assume fraction numbers)

$$\begin{array}{llll} \min & z = & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 \\ \text{s.t.} & & x_1 & \geq 10 \\ & & x_2 & \geq 12 \\ & & x_3 & \geq 20 \\ & & x_4 & \geq 17 \\ & & x_5 & \geq 15 \\ & & x_6 & \geq 12 \\ & & x_7 & \geq 5 \\ & & x_i \geq 0 & (i = 1, \dots, 7) \end{array}$$

### Correct Problem Formulation

$x_i$  = number of employees **beginning to work on day  $i$**  (Assume fraction numbers)

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	Req
M	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	10
Tu	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	12
W	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	20
Th	✓	✓	✓	✓				17
F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			15
Sa		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	12
Su			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5

### Correct Problem Formulation

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & z = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 \geq 10 \\ & x_1 + x_2 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 \geq 12 \\ & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_6 + x_7 \geq 20 \\ & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_7 \geq 17 \\ & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 \geq 15 \\ & x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 \geq 12 \\ & x_3 + x_4 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 \geq 5 \\ & x_i \geq 0 \quad (i = 1, \dots, 7) \end{aligned}$$