



Lecture 20¹

Produced by Dr. Worldwide

Welcome to the 305

Solving in Excel



- Algorithms for solving nonlinear programming models can be very complex
- Most algorithms can only guarantee that they find a **local** optimizer rather than a **global** one
- Excel Solver uses an algorithm called **Generalized Reduced Gradient (GRG)** to solve nonlinear problems
- This algorithm is designed to find a local optimizer within a certain “tolerance” level, and it can sometimes get “stuck”
- In problems not guaranteed to have a unique interior optimal solution, it is a good idea to run the GRG algorithm starting at **several** initial points



Solving in Excel



- Download [NonlinearProfit.xlsx](#) from link [Sheet 1](#) on course website
- Inspect the spreadsheet and Solver

	A	B	C	D
1	Maximizing nonlinear profit			
2				
3	Profit:	7259.45366		
4	Variable (p):	34.4878049		
5	Constraint	34.4878049 <=		40

$=1696.8*B4-24.6*B4^2-22000$

- Solution is for price ceiling of \$40

Solver Parameters

Set Objective:

To: ☒ Max ☐ Min ☐ Value Of:

By Changing Variable Cells:

Subject to the Constraints:

☒ Make Unconstrained Variables Non-Negative

Select a Solving Method:

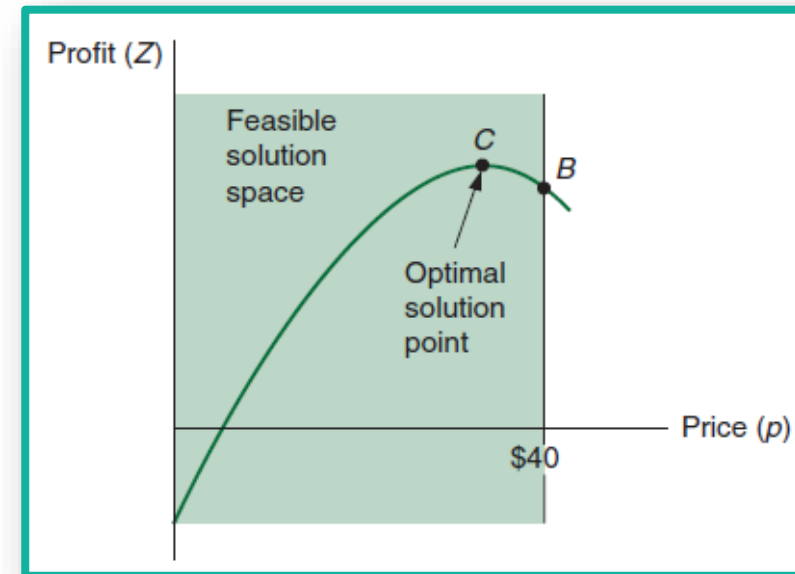
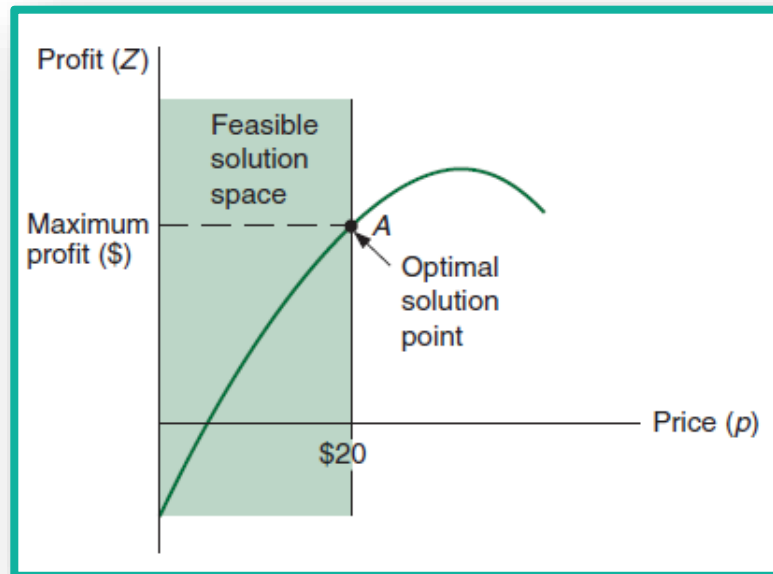
Solving Method
Select the GRG Nonlinear engine for Solver Problems that are smooth nonlinear. Select the LP Simplex engine for linear Solver Problems, and select the Evolutionary engine for Solver problems that are non-smooth.

Buttons: Add, Change, Delete, Reset All, Load/Save, Options, Help, Solve, Close

Solving in Excel



- Q: What happens if you adjust the price ceiling to \$20?
- Q: Is your answer consistent with what we have previously seen?



- Q: What happens if you completely drop the constraint?

Ex: Beaver Creek Pottery



- This company makes and sells clay bowls and clay mugs
- Model profit as a nonlinear function for maximization
- Examine the following relationships for the profit for bowls (x) and mugs (y)

$$\text{Profit per Bowl} = 4 - 0.1x$$

$$\text{Profit per Mug} = 5 - 0.2y$$

- Assume that there is only one constraint pertaining to labor
 $x + 2y = 40$
- New optimization problem

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & (4 - 0.1x)x + (5 - 0.2y)y \\ \text{Subject to} & x + 2y = 40 \\ & x, y \geq 0\end{array}$$

Ex: Beaver Creek Pottery



- Download [BeaverCreekNonlinear.xlsx](#) from link [Sheet 2](#) on course website
- Inspect the spreadsheet and the nonlinear objective function

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Beaver Creek Pottery Company (nonlinear)					
2						
3	<i>Variables:</i>					
4	Bowls (x)	0				
5	Mugs (y)	0				
6						
7	Profit:	0	$= (4 - 0.1 * B4) * B4 + (5 - 0.2 * B5) * B5$			
8						
9	<i>Constraint</i>	x	y	Used	Constraint	Allowed
10	Labor	1	2	0	=	40

Ex: Beaver Creek Pottery



- Run Excel Solver using algorithm **Simplex LP** and observe what happens
- Run Excel Solver using GRG Nonlinear and select the sensitivity report

Select a Solving
Method:

GRG Nonlinear

Solver Results

Solver found a solution. All Constraints and optimality conditions are satisfied.

☒ Keep Solver Solution

☐ Restore Original Values

☐ Return to Solver Parameters Dialog

Reports

Answer

Sensitivity

Limits

☐ Outline Reports

OK

Cancel

Save Scenario...

Solver found a solution. All Constraints and optimality conditions are satisfied.

When the GRG engine is used, Solver has found at least a local optimal solution. When Simplex LP is used, this means Solver has found a global optimal solution.



Ex: Beaver Creek Pottery



- Solution is to produce 18.3 bowls and 10.8 mugs for a profit of \$70.42
- Inspect the sensitivity report

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Final Value	Reduced Gradient
\$B\$4	Bowls (x)	18.33333327	0
\$B\$5	Mugs (y)	10.83333337	0

Constraints

Cell	Name	Final Value	Lagrange Multiplier
\$D\$10	Labor Used	40	0.333332151

- The **Lagrange multiplier** is analogous to the **shadow price** from before

Ex: Western Clothing



- Company produces two types of jeans
 - Designer
 - Straight-leg
- Demand for designer jeans (x_1) and demand for straight-leg jeans (x_2) are functions of the corresponding prices, and follow the relations:

$$x_1 = 1500 - 24.6p_1$$

$$x_2 = 2700 - 63.8p_2$$

- Designer jeans cost \$12 per pair and straight-leg jeans cost \$9 per pair
- Each pair of jeans requires the following:

	Cloth (yd)	Cutting time (min)	Sewing time (min)
Designer	2	3.6	7.2
Straight-leg	2.7	2.9	8.5

Ex: Western Clothing



- Company has the following capacities
 - 6,000 yards of cloth
 - 8,500 minutes of cutting time
 - 15,000 minutes of sewing time
- Decision variables
 - x_1 = Number of designer jeans to produce
 - x_2 = Number of straight – leg jeans to produce
- Objective function for profit (revenue-cost)
$$Z = (p_1x_1 + p_2x_2) - (12x_1 + 9x_2) = (p_1 - 12)x_1 + (p_2 - 9)x_2$$
- Goal is to find out how many jeans to produce so we need to use the relationships between the price and the number of each type to produce

Ex: Western Clothing



- Updated objective function for profit

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= (p_1 - 12)x_1 + (p_2 - 9)x_2 \\ &= \left(\frac{1500 - x_1}{24.6} - 12 \right) x_1 + \left(\frac{2700 - x_2}{63.8} - 9 \right) x_2 \end{aligned}$$

- Constraints based on limited resources

$$\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + 2.7x_2 &\leq 6,000 && \text{(Cloth)} \\ 3.6x_1 + 2.9x_2 &\leq 8,500 && \text{(Cutting Time)} \\ 7.2x_1 + 8.5x_2 &\leq 15,000 && \text{(Sewing Time)} \end{aligned}$$

- Nonnegativity constraints

$$x_1 \geq 0 \text{ and integer (if possible)}$$

$$x_2 \geq 0 \text{ and integer (if possible)}$$

- Download [WesternClothing.xlsx](#) from link [Sheet 3](#) on course website

Ex: Western Clothing



- Run Excel Solver

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Final Value	Reduced Gradient
\$B\$4	Designer jeans (x1)	602.3995467	0
\$B\$5	Straight-leg jeans (x2)	1062.900112	0

Constraints

Cell	Name	Final Value	Lagrange Multiplier
\$D\$10	Cloth Used	4074.629395	0
\$D\$11	Cutting time Used	5251.048693	0
\$D\$12	Sewing time Used	13371.92769	0

- Add integer constraints and run Excel Solver (Sensitivity not available)

Ex: Facility Location



- Clayton County Rescue Squad and Ambulance Service wants to build a centralized facility to service five rural towns
 - Abbeville
 - Benton
 - Clayton
 - Dunning
 - Eden
- Let (x, y) denote the location of the proposed facility
- Let (x_i, y_i) denote the location of town i
- Distance between the proposed facility and a town i

$$d_i = \sqrt{(x_i - x)^2 + (y_i - y)^2}$$

Ex: Facility Location



- Town locations and number of annual trips are given below

Town	Coordinates		Annual trips (t_i)
	x_i	y_i	
Abbeville	20	20	75
Benton	10	35	105
Clayton	25	9	135
Dunning	32	15	60
Eden	10	8	90

- Two ideas to consider
 - The facility should be placed closed to the center of all these towns
 - The facility should be placed closed to towns that are visited more often

Ex: Facility Location



- Q: In which location should we place the facility that minimizes the distance to each of the towns, prioritizing those that are visited more often?

- Nonlinear program (Unconstrained or constrained)

Minimize
$$\sum d_i t_i = \sum t_i \sqrt{(x_i - x)^2 + (y_i - y)^2}$$

Subject to

$x, y \geq 0$ → Is this necessary?

- Download [FacilityLocation.xlsx](#) from link [Sheet 4](#) on course website
- Run Excel Solver both with and without positive constraint
- Q: Did going from constrained to unconstrained get you an error?



The End



Dale

