



# LECTURE NOTES ON OPERATIONS RESEARCH CSC 408

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# 1. Introduction

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**Definition 1.1** Operations research (often referred to as management science) is simply a scientific approach to decision-making that seeks to best design and operate a system, usually under conditions requiring the allocation of scarce resources.

By a **system**, we mean an organization of interdependent components that work together to accomplish the goal of the system. For example, Ford Motor Company is a system whose goal consists of maximizing the profit that can be earned by producing quality vehicles.

The term operations research was coined during World War II. It was initiated in England, when a team of British scientists set out to assess the best utilization of war materials based on scientific principles rather than on ad hoc rules. They used it to analyze several military problems such as the deployment of radar and the management of convoy. After the war, the ideas advanced in military operations were adapted to improve efficiency and productivity in the civilian sector.

The scientific approach to decision making usually involves the use of one or more mathematical models. A **mathematical model** is a mathematical representation of an actual situation that may be used to make better decisions or simply to understand the actual situation better.

The following sections describe some model categorizations.

## 1.1 Prescriptive or Optimization Models

Optimization models seek to select the best element, with regard to some criterion, from some set of available alternatives. These models prescribe for an organization ways that will enable them best meet its goal(s). The components of a prescriptive model include:

1. Objective function(s): In most models, there will be a function we wish to maximize or minimize. This function is called the model's objective function.
2. Decision variables: The variables whose values are under our control and influence the

performance of the system are called decision variables. We always seek to determine the value of decision variables that maximize (or minimize) an objective function.

3. Constraints: In most situations, only certain values of decision variables are possible. Restrictions on the values of decision variables are called constraints.

In short, an optimization model seeks to find values of the decision variables that optimize (maximize or minimize) an objective function among the set of all values for the decision variables that satisfy the given constraints.

**Example 1.1.1**

Maximize

$$P = 30 + 2VC - 10TFC^2 - \frac{AVC}{24} \quad (1.1)$$

Subject to

$$0 \leq VC \leq 120 \quad (1.2)$$

$$50 \leq TFC \leq 97 \quad (1.3)$$

$$AVC = 200 \quad (1.4)$$

Equation (1.1) is the objective function

$VC$ ,  $TFC$ ,  $AVC$  are the decision variables

Equations (1.2) to (1.4) are the constraints.

**Definition 1.2 (Feasible Region)**

Any specification of the decision variables that satisfies all of the model's constraints is said to be in the feasible region.

A solution is feasible if it satisfies all the constraints.

**Definition 1.3 (Optimal Solution)**

An optimal solution to an optimization model is any point in the feasible region that optimizes (in this case, maximizes) the objective function.

It is optimal if, in addition to being feasible, it yields the best (maximum or minimum) value of the objective function.

## 1.2 Static and Dynamic Models

A static model is one in which the decision variables do not involve sequences of decisions over multiple periods. A dynamic model is a model in which the decision variables do involve sequences of decisions over multiple periods.

Basically, in a static model we solve a “one-shot” problem whose solutions prescribe optimal values of decision variables at all points in time.

**Example 1.2.1**

Static model

$$P = 30 + 2VC - 10TFC^2 - \frac{AVC}{24}$$

Dynamic model

$$P_{t+1} = 30 + 2VC_t - 10TFC_t^2 - \frac{AVC_{t-1}}{24}$$

### 1.3 Linear and Nonlinear Models

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Suppose that whenever decision variables appear in the objective function and in the constraints of an optimization model, the decision variables are always multiplied by constants and added together then we have a **linear model**. However, if an optimization model is not linear, then it is a nonlinear model.

#### Example 1.3.1

##### Linear model:

Maximize

$$P = 30 + 2VC - 10TFC - \frac{AVC}{24}$$

Subject to

$$0 \leq VC \leq 120$$

$$50 \leq TFC \leq 97$$

$$AVC + TFC = 200$$

##### Nonlinear model:

Maximize

$$P = 30 + 2VC - 10TFC^2 - \frac{AVC}{24}$$

Subject to

$$0 \leq VC \leq 120$$

$$50 \leq TFC \leq 97$$

$$AVC * VC = 200$$

Both  $TFC^2$  and  $AVC * VC$  make it nonlinear.

### 1.4 Integer and Noninteger Models

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If one or more decision variables must be integer, then we say that an optimization model is an integer model. If all the decision variables are free to assume **fractional values**, then the optimization model is a **noninteger model**.

When quantities such as volume, temperature and pressure are input variables are do assume fractional values, then the resultant is a noninteger model. However, if the decision variables in a model represent the number of workers starting work during each shift at a fast-food restaurant, then clearly we have an integer model.

## 1.5 Deterministic and Stochastic Models

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Suppose that for any value of the decision variables, the value of the objective function and whether or not the constraints are satisfied is known with certainty. We then have a deterministic model. If this is not the case, then we have a stochastic model.

### Example 1.5.1

Deterministic

$$P = 30 + 2VC - 10TFC - \frac{AVC}{24}$$

Stochastic

$$P = 30 + 2VC - 10TFC - \frac{AVC}{24} + \epsilon$$

where  $\epsilon$  is random term.

## 1.6 The Seven-Step Model-Building Process

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When operations research is used to solve an organization's problem, the following seven step model-building procedure should be followed:

1. **Formulate the Problem:** The operations researcher first defines the organization's problem. Defining the problem includes specifying the organization's objectives and the parts of the organization that must be studied before the problem can be solved.
2. **Observe the System:** The operations researcher collects data to estimate the value of parameters that affect the organization's problem.
3. **Formulate a Mathematical Model of the Problem:** The operations researcher develops a mathematical model of the problem.
4. **Verify the Model and Use the Model for Prediction:** The operations researcher now tries to determine if the mathematical model developed in step 3 is an accurate representation of reality.
5. **Select a Suitable Alternative:** Given a model and a set of alternatives, the operations researcher now chooses the alternative that best meets the organization's objectives. There are often more than one alternatives.
6. **Present the Results and Conclusion of the Study to the Organization:** In this step, the operations researcher presents the model and recommendation from step 5 to the decision making individual or group. In some situations, one might present several alternatives and let the organization choose the one that best meets its needs.

After presenting the results of the study, the analyst may find that the organization does not approve of the recommendation. This may result from incorrect definition of the organization's problems or from failure to involve the decision maker from the start of the project. In this case, the operations researcher should return to step 1, 2, or 3.

7. **Implement and Evaluate Recommendations:** If the organization has accepted the study, then the analyst aids in implementing the recommendations. The system must be constantly monitored (and updated dynamically as the environment changes) to ensure that the recommendations enable the organization to meet its objectives.



In practice, operations research does not offer a single general technique for solving all mathematical models. Instead, the type and complexity of the mathematical model dictate the nature of the solution method.

The most prominent operations research technique is linear programming. It is designed for models with linear objective and constraint functions. Other techniques include integer programming (in which the variables assume integer values), dynamic programming (in which the original model can be decomposed into smaller more manageable subproblems), network programming (in which the problem can be modeled as a network), and nonlinear programming (in which functions of the model are nonlinear).

A peculiarity of most operations research techniques is that solutions are not generally obtained in (formula-like) closed forms. Instead, they are determined by **algorithms**. An algorithm provides fixed computational rules that are applied repetitively to the problem, with each repetition (called iteration) attempting to move the solution closer to the optimum.

Because the computations in each iteration are typically tedious and voluminous, it is imperative in practice to use the computer to carry out these algorithms.

Some mathematical models may be so complex that it becomes impossible to solve them by any of the available optimization algorithms. In such cases, it may be necessary to abandon the search for the optimal solution and simply seek a good solution using **heuristics or metaheuristics**, a collection of intelligent search rules of thumb that move the solution point advantageously toward the optimum.

# 2. Introduction to Linear Programming

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## 2.1 Introduction

Linear programming (LP) is a tool for solving optimization problems. The chapter focuses on how to solve graphically two variable linear programming problems. We introduces linear programming and define important terms that are used to describe linear programming problems.

**Definition 2.1 (LP)**

A linear programming problem (LP) is an optimization problem for which we do the following:

- 1. We attempt to maximize (or minimize) a linear function of the decision variables. The function that is to be maximized or minimized is called the objective function.
- 2. The values of the decision variables must satisfy a set of constraints. Each constraint must be a linear equation or linear inequality.
- 3. A sign restriction is associated with each variable. To complete the formulation of a linear programming problem, the following question must be answered for each decision variable: Can the decision variable only assume nonnegative values, or is the decision variable allowed to assume both positive and negative values?

If a decision variable  $x_i$  can only assume nonnegative values, then we add the sign restriction  $x_i \geq 0$ .

If a variable  $x_i$  can assume both positive and negative (or zero) values, then we say that  $x_i$  is unrestricted in sign (often abbreviated **urs**).

**Example 2.1.1 (Maximization's Problem)**

Lamiz's Woodcarving, Inc., manufactures two types of wooden toys: soldiers and trains. A soldier sells for ¢27 and uses ¢10 worth of raw materials. Each soldier that is manufactured increases Lamiz's variable labor and overhead costs by ¢14.

A train sells for ¢21 and uses ¢9 worth of raw materials. Each train built increases Lamiz's variable labor and overhead costs by ¢10.

The manufacture of wooden soldiers and trains requires two types of skilled labor: carpentry and finishing. A soldier requires 2 hours of finishing labor and 1 hour of carpentry labor. A train requires 1 hour of finishing and 1 hour of carpentry labor.

Each week, Lamiz can obtain all the needed raw material but only 100 finishing hours and 80 carpentry hours. Demand for trains is unlimited, but at most 40 soldiers are bought each week. Lamiz wants to maximize weekly profit (revenues - costs).

Formulate a mathematical model of Lamiz's situation that can be used to maximize Lamiz's weekly profit.

**Solution****Decision variables**

We begin by defining the relevant decision variables. In any linear programming model, the decision variables should completely describe the decisions to be made (in this case, by Lamiz). Clearly, Lamiz must decide how many soldiers and trains should be manufactured each week. With this in mind, we define:

- $x_1$  = number of soldiers produced each week
- $x_2$  = number of trains produced each week

**Objective function**

In any linear programming problem, the decision maker wants to maximize (usually revenue or profit) or minimize (usually costs) some function of the decision variables. The function to be maximized or minimized is called the objective function.

Lamiz's weekly revenues and costs can be expressed in terms of the decision variables  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ .

$$\text{Weekly revenues} = \text{weekly revenues from soldiers} + \text{weekly revenues from trains} \quad (2.1)$$

$$= 27x_1 + 21x_2 \quad (2.2)$$

Also

$$\text{Weekly raw material costs} = 10x_1 + 9x_2 \quad (2.3)$$

$$\text{Other weekly variable costs} = 14x_1 + 10x_2 \quad (2.4)$$

$$\text{Profit} = \text{Weekly revenue} - \text{Weekly costs} \quad (2.5)$$

$$= 27x_1 + 21x_2 - [10x_1 + 9x_2] - [14x_1 + 10x_2] \quad (2.6)$$

$$= 3x_1 + 2x_2 \quad (2.7)$$

Lamiz's objective is to choose  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  to maximize  $3x_1 + 2x_2$ . We use the variable  $z$  to denote the objective function value of any LP. Thus, Lamiz's objective function is

$$\text{Maximize } z = 3x_1 + 2x_2$$

### Constraints

As  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  increase, Lamiz's objective function grows larger. This means that if Lamiz were free to choose any values for  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , the company could make an arbitrarily large profit by choosing  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  to be very large. Unfortunately, the values of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are limited by the following three restrictions (often called constraints):

1. Constraint 1: Each week, no more than 100 hours of finishing time may be used.

$$\text{Total finishing hours (FH)} = \text{Soldier FH} + \text{Trains FH} \quad (2.8)$$

$$= 2x_1 + x_2 \quad (2.9)$$

Now Constraint 1 may be expressed by

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 100 \quad (2.10)$$

2. Constraint 2: Each week, no more than 80 hours of carpentry time may be used.

$$\text{Total Carpentry hours (CH)} = \text{Soldier CH} + \text{Trains CH} \quad (2.11)$$

$$= x_1 + x_2 \quad (2.12)$$

Now Constraint 1 may be expressed by

$$x_1 + x_2 \leq 80 \quad (2.13)$$

3. Constraint 3: Because of limited demand, at most 40 soldiers should be produced each week.

$$x_1 \leq 40 \quad (2.14)$$

4. For the Lamiz problem, it is clear that  $x_1 \geq 0$  and  $x_2 \geq 0$ .

Therefore, combining the sign restrictions with the objective function and constraints yields the following optimization model:

$$\text{Maximize } z = 3x_1 + 2x_2 \quad (2.15)$$

Subject to

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 100 \quad (2.16)$$

$$x_1 + x_2 \leq 80 \quad (2.17)$$

$$x_1 \leq 40 \quad (2.18)$$

$$x_1 \geq 0 \quad (2.19)$$

$$x_2 \geq 0 \quad (2.20)$$

## 2.2 Feasible Region and Optimal Solution

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Two of the most basic concepts associated with a linear programming problem are feasible region and optimal solution.

**Definition 2.2 (Feasible Region)**

The feasible region for an LP is the set of all points that satisfies all the LP's constraints and sign restrictions.

For example, in the Lamiz problem, the point  $(x_1 = 40, x_2 = 20)$  is in the feasible region.

On the other hand, the point  $(x_1 = 15, x_2 = 70)$  is not in the feasible region, because it fails to satisfy equation (2.17):  $15 + 70$  is not less than or equal to 80. Any point that is not in an LP's feasible region is said to be an **infeasible point**.

**Definition 2.3 (Optimal Solution)**

For a maximization problem, an optimal solution to an LP is a point in the feasible region with the largest objective function value. Similarly, for a minimization problem, an optimal solution is a point in the feasible region with the smallest objective function value.

Most LPs have only one optimal solution. However, some LPs have no optimal solution, and some LPs have an infinite number of solutions .

## 2.3 The Graphical Solution of Two-Variable Linear Programming Problems

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The graphical solution includes two steps:

1. Determination of the feasible solution space.
2. Determination of the optimum solution from among all the points in the solution space.

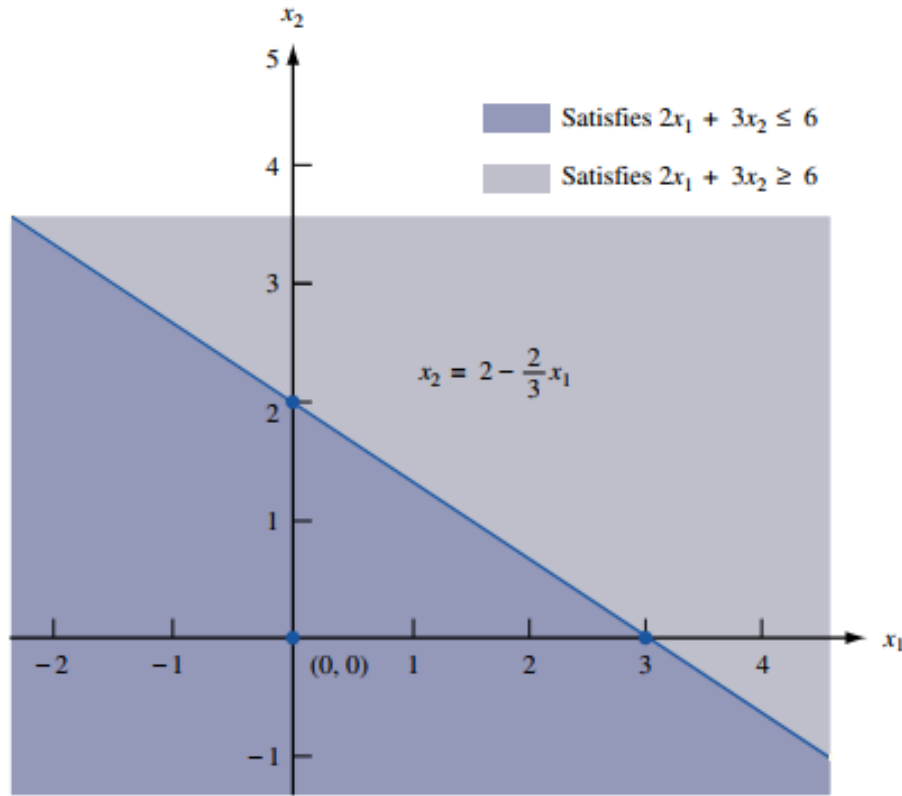
Consider a linear inequality constraint of the form  $f(x_1, x_2) \geq b$  or  $f(x_1, x_2) \leq b$ . In general, it can be shown that in two dimensions, the set of points that satisfies a linear inequality includes the points on the line  $f(x_1, x_2) = b$ , defining the inequality plus all points on one side of the line.

There is an easy way to determine the side of the line for which an inequality such as  $f(x_1, x_2) \leq b$  or  $f(x_1, x_2) \geq b$  is satisfied. Just choose any point P that does not satisfy the line  $f(x_1, x_2) \leq b$ . Determine whether P satisfies the inequality. If it does, then all points on the same side as P of  $f(x_1, x_2) = b$  will satisfy the inequality. If P does not satisfy the inequality, then all points on the other side of  $f(x_1, x_2) = b$ , which does not contain P, will satisfy the inequality.

For example, to determine whether

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 \geq 6$$

is satisfied by points above or below the line  $2x_1 + 3x_2 = 6$ , we note that  $(0, 0)$  does not satisfy  $2x_1 + 3x_2 \geq 6$ . Because  $(0, 0)$  is below the line  $2x_1 + 3x_2 = 6$ . This is illustrated with the figure below:



### 2.3.1 Finding the Feasible Solution

We illustrate how to solve two-variable LPs graphically by solving the Lamiz problem. To begin, we graphically determine the feasible region for Lamiz's problem. The feasible region for the Lamiz problem is the set of all points  $(x_1, x_2)$  satisfying

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 100 \quad (2.21)$$

$$x_1 + x_2 \leq 80 \quad (2.22)$$

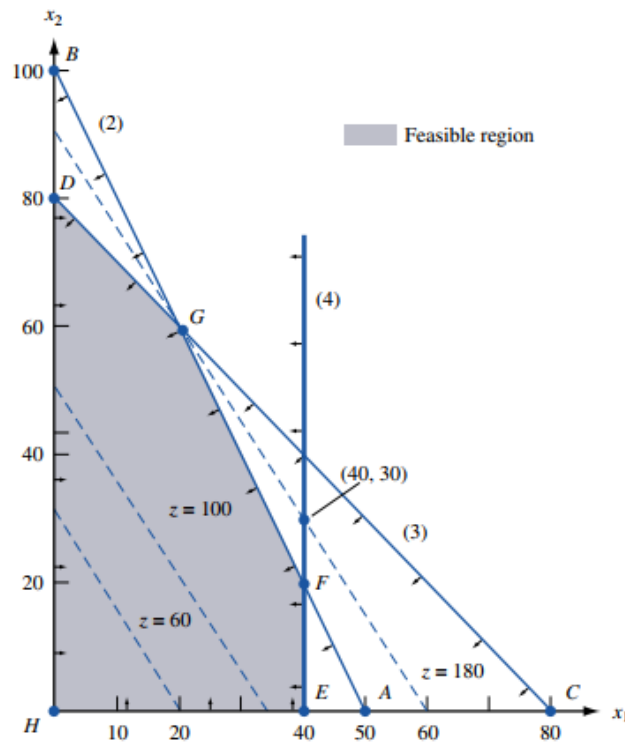
$$x_1 \leq 40 \quad (2.23)$$

$$x_1 \geq 0 \quad (2.24)$$

$$x_2 \geq 0 \quad (2.25)$$

For a point  $(x_1, x_2)$  to be in the feasible region,  $(x_1, x_2)$  must satisfy all the inequalities equations (2.21) to (2.25).

Note that the only points satisfying equations (2.24) and (2.25) lie in the first quadrant of the  $x_1 - x_2$  plane. Thus, any point that is outside the first quadrant cannot be in the feasible region. See figure below



We see that constraint equation (2.21) is satisfied by all points below or on the line AB. Inequality equation (2.22) is satisfied by all points on or below the line CD. Finally, equation (2.23) is satisfied by all points on or to the left of line EF.

We see that the set of points in the first quadrant that satisfies these inequalities is bounded by the five-sided polygon DGFEH. Any point on this polygon or in its interior is in the feasible region and infeasible otherwise. Thus, the point  $(40, 30)$  is infeasible.

### 2.3.2 Finding the Optimal Solution

Having identified the feasible region for the Lamiz problem, we now search for the optimal solution, which will be the point in the feasible region with the largest value of  $z = 3x_1 + 2x_2$ .

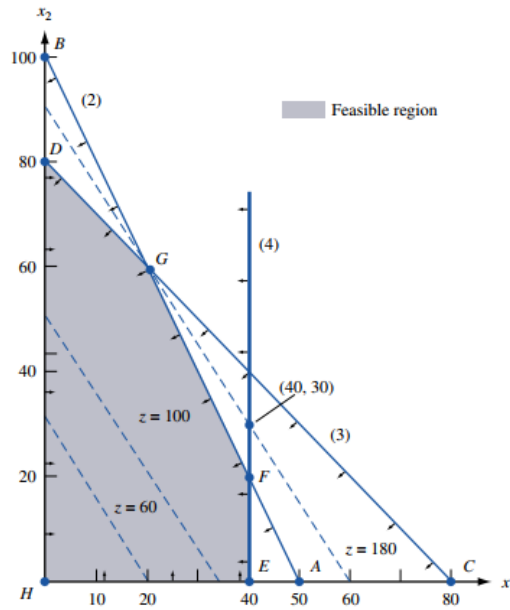
To find the optimal solution, we need to graph a line on which all points have the same  $z$ -value. In a max problem, such a line is called an **isoprofit line** (in a min problem, an **isocost line**).

To draw an isoprofit line, we rewrite  $3x_1 + 2x_2 = m$  as  $x_2 = m/2 - 3/2x_1$ . Hence the isoprofit line  $3x_1 + 2x_2 = m$  has a slope of  $-3/2$ . Because all isoprofit lines are of the form  $3x_1 + 2x_2 = \text{constant}$ , all isoprofit lines have the same slope. This means that once we have drawn one isoprofit line, we can find all other isoprofit lines by moving parallel to the isoprofit line we have drawn. We choose any arbitrarily  $m$  value to draw the first isoprofit line. We let  $m = 60$ .

It is now clear how to find the optimal solution to a two-variable LP. After you have drawn a single isoprofit line, generate other isoprofit lines by moving parallel to the drawn isoprofit line in a direction that increases  $z$  (for a max problem). After a point, the isoprofit lines will no longer intersect the feasible region. The last isoprofit line intersecting (touching) the feasible region defines the largest  $z$ -value of any point in the feasible region and indicates the optimal solution to the LP.

In our problem, the objective function  $z = 3x_1 + 2x_2$  will increase if we move in a direction for which both  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  increase. Thus, we construct additional isoprofit lines by moving parallel

to  $3x_1 + 2x_2 = 60$  in a northeast direction (upward and to the right). From,



we see that the isoprofit line passing through point G is the last isoprofit line to intersect the feasible region. Thus, G is the point in the feasible region with the largest  $z$ -value and is therefore the optimal solution to the Lamiz problem.

Note that point G is where the lines  $2x_1 + x_2 = 100$  and  $x_1 + x_2 = 80$  intersect. Solving these two equations simultaneously, we find that

$$(x_1 = 20, x_2 = 60)$$

is the optimal solution to the Lamiz problem. The optimal value of  $z$  may be found by substituting these values of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  into the objective function. Thus, the optimal value of  $z$  is

$$z = 3(20) + 2(60) = 180$$

## 2.4 Binding and Nonbinding Constraints

Once the optimal solution to an LP has been found, it is useful to classify each constraint as being a binding constraint or a nonbinding constraint.

### Definition 2.4 (Binding Constraint)

A constraint is binding if the left-hand side and the right-hand side of the constraint are equal when the optimal values of the decision variables are substituted into the constraint.

Thus, equations (2.21) and (2.22) are binding constraints. That is

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 100 \quad \implies \quad 2(20) + 60 \leq 100 \quad \implies \quad 100 = 100 \quad (2.26)$$

$$x_1 + x_2 \leq 80 \quad \implies \quad 20 + 60 \leq 80 \quad \implies \quad 80 = 80 \quad (2.27)$$



**Definition 2.5 (Nonbinding Constraint)**

A constraint is nonbinding if the left-hand side and the right-hand side of the constraint are unequal when the optimal values of the decision variables are substituted into the constraint.

Because  $x_1 = 20$  is less than 40, equation (2.23) is a nonbinding constraint.

## 2.5 Convex Sets, and Extreme Points

**Definition 2.6 (Convex Set)**

A set of points  $S$  is a convex set if the line segment joining any pair of points in  $S$  is wholly contained in  $S$ .

Figure 2.1 gives four illustrations of this definition. In Figures a and b, each line segment joining two points in  $S$  contains only points in  $S$ . Thus, in both of these figures,  $S$  is convex.

In Figures c and d,  $S$  is not convex. In each figure, points  $A$  and  $B$  are in  $S$ , but there are points on the line segment  $AB$  that are not contained in  $S$ .

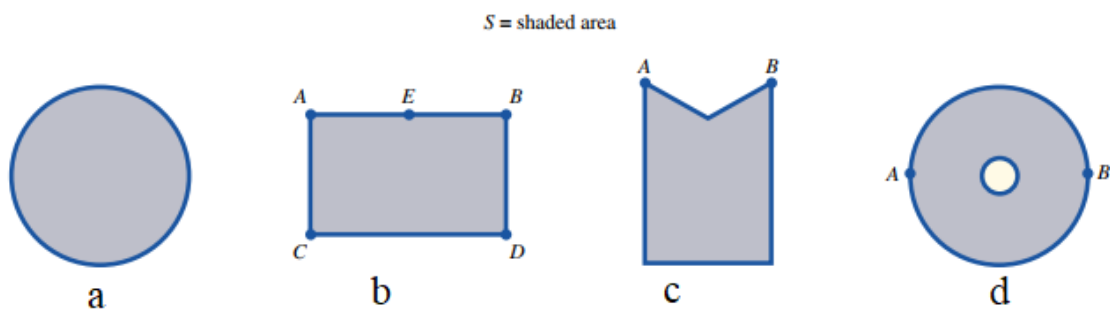


Figure 2.1:

**Definition 2.7 (Extreme Point)**

For any convex set  $S$ , a point  $P$  in  $S$  is an extreme point if each line segment that lies completely in  $S$  and contains the point  $P$  has  $P$  as an endpoint of the line segment.

In figure 2.1 a, each point on the circumference of the circle is an extreme point of the circle.

In b, points  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , and  $D$  are extreme points of  $S$ . Although point  $E$  is on the boundary of  $S$  in b,  $E$  is not an extreme point of  $S$ . This is because  $E$  lies on the line segment  $AB$  ( $AB$  lies completely in  $S$ ), and  $E$  is not an endpoint of the line segment  $AB$ . Extreme points are sometimes called **corner points**.

**It can be shown that any LP that has an optimal solution has an extreme point that is optimal.** This result is very important, because it reduces the set of points that yield an optimal solution from the entire feasible region (which generally contains an infinite number of points) to the set of extreme points (a finite set).

Therefore, for any LP, the largest  $z$ -value in the feasible region must be attained at an endpoint of one of the line segments forming the boundary of the feasible region.

**Note 2.1.**

*An LP will always have an optimal extreme point when both the objective function and the constraints are linear functions. For a nonlinear objective function and constraints, the optimal solution to the optimization problem may not occur at an extreme point.*

**Example 2.5.1 (Minimization Problem)**

Dorian Auto manufactures luxury cars and trucks. The company believes that its most likely customers are high-income women and men. To reach these groups, Dorian Auto has embarked on an ambitious TV advertising campaign and has decided to purchase 1-minute commercial spots on two types of programs: comedy shows and football games. Each comedy commercial is seen by 7 million high-income women and 2 million high income men. Each football commercial is seen by 2 million high-income women and 12 million high-income men. A 1-minute comedy ad costs €50,000, and a 1-minute football ad costs €100,000.

Dorian would like the commercials to be seen by at least 28 million high-income women and 24 million high-income men. Use linear programming to determine how Dorian Auto can meet its advertising requirements at minimum cost.

**Solution**

Dorian must decide how many comedy and football ads should be purchased, so the decision variables are

- $x_1$  = number of 1-minute comedy ads purchased
- $x_2$  = number of 1-minute football ads purchased

Then Dorian wants to minimize total advertising cost

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Total advertising cost} &= \text{cost of comedy ads} + \text{cost of football ads} \\ &= 50x_1 + 100x_2, \quad (\text{'000' dropped to be added later})\end{aligned}$$

Dorian faces the following constraints:

**Constraint 1:** Commercials must reach at least 28 million high-income women (HIW).

$$\begin{aligned}\text{HIW ads} &= \text{HIW comedy ads} + \text{HIW football ads} \\ &= 7x_1 + 2x_2\end{aligned}$$

Constraint 1 may now be expressed as

$$7x_1 + 2x_2 \geq 28$$

**Constraint 2:** Commercials must reach at least 24 million high-income men.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{HIM ads} &= \text{HIM comedy ads} + \text{HIM football ads} \\ &= 2x_1 + 12x_2\end{aligned}$$

and Constraint 2 may be expressed as

$$2x_1 + 12x_2 \geq 24$$

Therefore Dorian LP is given by:

$$\min z = 50x_1 + 100x_2 \quad (2.28)$$

$$\text{s.t. } 7x_1 + 2x_2 \geq 28 \quad (\text{HIW}) \quad (2.29)$$

$$2x_1 + 12x_2 \geq 24 \quad (\text{HIM}) \quad (2.30)$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \quad (\text{sign restrictions}) \quad (2.31)$$

To solve this LP graphically, we begin by graphing the feasible region

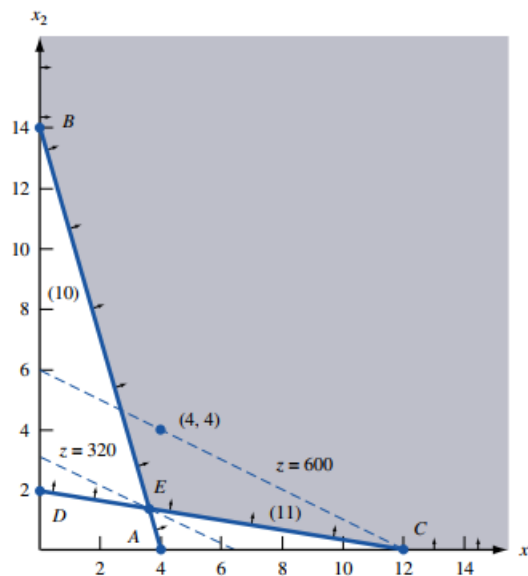


Figure 2.2:

From figure 2.2, we see that the only first-quadrant points satisfying both equations (2.29) and (2.30) are the points in the shaded region bounded by the  $x_1$  axis, CEB, and the  $x_2$  axis.

Like the Lamiz problem, the Dorian problem has a convex feasible region, but the feasible region for Dorian, unlike Lamiz's, contains points for which the value of at least one variable can assume arbitrarily large values. Such a feasible region is called an **unbounded feasible region**.

Because Dorian wants to minimize total advertising cost, the optimal solution to the problem is the point in the feasible region with the smallest  $z$ -value. To find the optimal solution, we need to draw an isocost line that intersects the feasible region.

We arbitrarily choose the isocost line passing through the point  $(x_1 = 4, x_2 = 4)$ . For this point,  $z = 50(4) + 100(4) = 600$ , and we graph the isocost line  $z = 50x_1 + 100x_2 = 600$ .

We consider lines parallel to the isocost line  $50x_1 + 100x_2 = 600$  in the direction of decreasing  $z$  (southwest). The last point in the feasible region that intersects an isocost line will be the point in the feasible region having the smallest  $z$ -value. From figure 2.2, we see that point E

has the smallest  $z$ -value of any point in the feasible region; this is the optimal solution to the Dorian problem.

Note that point E is where the lines  $7x_1 + 2x_2 = 28$  and  $2x_1 + 12x_2 = 24$  intersect. Simultaneously solving these equations yields the optimal solution

$$(x_1 = 3.6, x_2 = 1.4)$$

The optimal  $z$ -value can then be found by substituting these values of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  into the objective function. Thus, the optimal  $z$ -value is

$$z = 50(3.6) + 100(1.4) = 320 = 320,000$$

Because at point E both the HIW and HIM constraints are satisfied with equality, both constraints are binding.

### Example 2.5.2 (Alternative or Multiple Optimal Solutions)

An auto company manufactures cars and trucks. Each vehicle must be processed in the paint shop and body assembly shop. If the paint shop were only painting trucks, then 40 per day could be painted. If the paint shop were only painting cars, then 60 per day could be painted. If the body shop were only producing cars, then it could process 50 per day. If the body shop were only producing trucks, then it could process 50 per day. Each truck contributes €300 to profit, and each car contributes €200 to profit. Use linear programming to determine a daily production schedule that will maximize the company's profits.

### Solution

The company must decide how many cars and trucks should be produced daily. This leads us to define the following decision variables:

- $x_1$  = number of trucks produced daily
- $x_2$  = number of cars produced daily

The company's daily profit (in hundreds of cedis) is  $3x_1 + 2x_2$ , so the company's objective function may be written as

$$\max z = 3x_1 + 2x_2$$

**Constraint 1:** The fraction of the day during which the paint shop is busy is less than or equal to 1. That is

$$\frac{1}{40}x_1 + \frac{1}{60}x_2 \leq 1$$

**Constraint 2:** The fraction of the day during which the body shop is busy is less than or equal to 1. That is

$$\frac{1}{50}x_1 + \frac{1}{50}x_2 \leq 1$$

Because  $x_1 \geq 0$  and  $x_2 \geq 0$  must hold, the relevant LP is

$$\max z = 3x_1 + 2x_2 \tag{2.32}$$

$$\text{st. } \frac{1}{40}x_1 + \frac{1}{60}x_2 \leq 1 \tag{2.33}$$

$$\frac{1}{50}x_1 + \frac{1}{50}x_2 \leq 1 \tag{2.34}$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \tag{2.35}$$

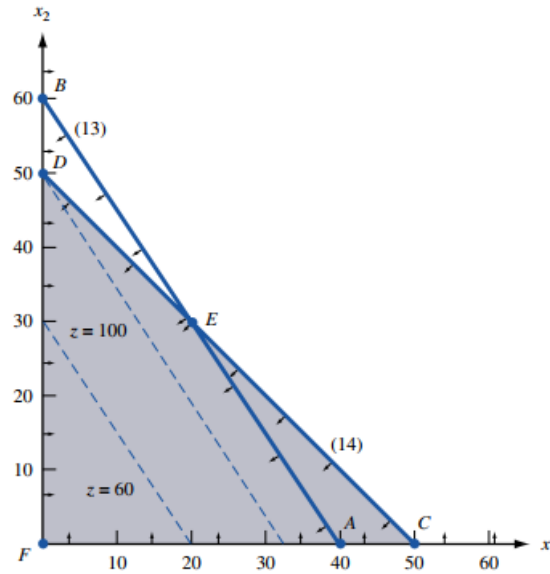


Figure 2.3:

The feasible region for this LP is the shaded region bounded by AEDF.

For our isoprofit line, we choose the line passing through the point  $(20, 0)$ . Because  $(20, 0)$  has a  $z$ -value of  $3(20) + 2(0) = 60$ , this yields the isoprofit line  $z = 3x_1 + 2x_2 = 60$ .

Examining lines parallel to this isoprofit line in the direction of increasing  $z$  (northeast), we find that the last “point” in the feasible region to intersect an isoprofit line is the entire line segment AE. This means that any point on the line segment AE is optimal. We can use any point on AE to determine the optimal  $z$ -value. For example, point A,  $(40, 0)$ , gives  $z = 3(40) = 120$ .

In summary, the auto company’s LP has an infinite number of optimal solutions, or multiple or alternative optimal solutions. The technique of **goal programming** is often used to choose among alternative optimal solutions.

### Example 2.5.3 (Infeasible LP)

Suppose that auto dealers require that the auto company in example (2.5.2) produce at least 30 trucks and 20 cars. Find the optimal solution to the new LP.

### Solution

After adding the constraints  $x_1 \geq 30$  and  $x_2 \geq 20$  to the LP of example (2.5.2), we obtain the following LP:

$$\max z = 3x_1 + 2x_2 \quad (2.36)$$

$$\text{st. } \frac{1}{40}x_1 + \frac{1}{60}x_2 \leq 1 \quad (2.37)$$

$$\frac{1}{50}x_1 + \frac{1}{50}x_2 \leq 1 \quad (2.38)$$

$$x_1 \geq 30 \quad (2.39)$$

$$x_2 \geq 20 \quad (2.40)$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \quad (2.41)$$

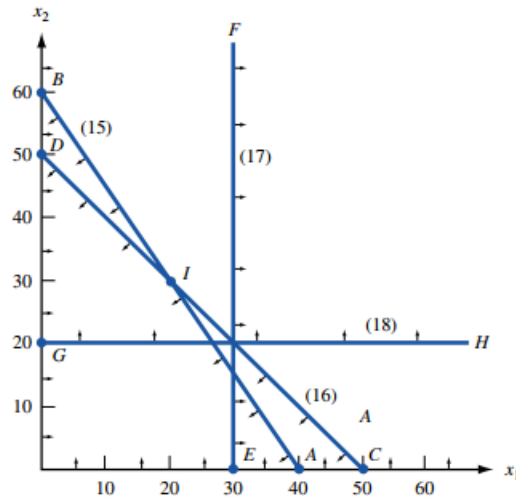


Figure 2.4:

Constraint (2.37) is satisfied by all points on or below AB

Constraint (2.38) is satisfied by all points on or below CD

Constraint (2.39) is satisfied by all points on or to the right of EF

Constraint (2.40) is satisfied by all points on or above GH.

From figure 2.4 it is clear that no point satisfies all of equations (2.37) to (2.40). Hence, we have an empty feasible region and is an infeasible LP. The LP is infeasible because producing 30 trucks and 20 cars requires more paint shop time than is available.

### Exercise 2.1

- Graphically find all optimal solutions to the following LP:

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} \min z &= x_1 - x_2 \\ \text{s.t. } x_1 + x_2 &\leq 6 \\ x_1 - x_2 &\geq 0 \\ x_2 - x_1 &\geq 3 \\ x_1, x_2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} \min z &= 3x_1 + 5x_2 \\ \text{s.t. } 3x_1 + 2x_2 &\geq 36 \\ 3x_1 + 5x_2 &\geq 45 \\ x_1, x_2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Leary Chemical manufactures three chemicals: A, B, and C. These chemicals are produced via two production processes: 1 and 2. Running process 1 for an hour costs €4 and yields 3 units of A, 1 of B, and 1 of C. Running process 2 for an hour costs €1 and produces 1 unit of A and 1 of B. To meet customer demands, at least 10 units of A, 5 of B, and 3 of C must be produced daily. Graphically determine a daily production plan that minimizes the cost of meeting Leary Chemical's daily demands.

3. If an LP's feasible region is not unbounded, we say the LP's feasible region is bounded. Suppose an LP has a bounded feasible region. Explain why you can find the optimal solution to the LP (without an isoprofit or isocost line) by simply checking the  $z$ -values at each of the feasible region's extreme points. Why might this method fail if the LP's feasible region is unbounded?
4. Money manager Boris Milkem deals with French currency (the franc) and American currency (the dollar). At 12 midnight, he can buy francs by paying .25 dollars per franc and dollars by paying 3 francs per dollar. Let  $x_1$  = number of dollars bought (by paying francs) and  $x_2$  = number of francs bought (by paying dollars). Assume that both types of transactions take place simultaneously, and the only constraint is that at 12:01 A.M. Boris must have a nonnegative number of francs and dollars.
  - (a) Formulate an LP that enables Boris to maximize the number of dollars he has after all transactions are completed.
  - (b) Graphically solve the LP and comment on the answer.

# 3. Simplex Algorithm

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In Chapter 2, we saw how to solve two-variable linear programming problems graphically. Unfortunately, most real-life LPs have many variables, so a method is needed to solve LPs with more than two variables. We devote most of this chapter to a discussion of the simplex algorithm, which is used to solve even very large LPs. In many industrial applications, the simplex algorithm is used to solve LPs with thousands of constraints and variables.

In 1947, George Dantzig developed the simplex algorithm for solving linear programming problems. Since the development of the simplex algorithm, LP has been used to solve optimization problems in industries as diverse as banking, education, forestry, petroleum, and trucking.

## 3.1 How to Convert an LP to Standard Form

We have seen that an LP can have both equality and inequality constraints. It also can have variables that are required to be nonnegative as well as those allowed to be unrestricted in sign (urs). Before the simplex algorithm can be used to solve an LP, the LP must be converted into an equivalent problem in which all constraints are equations and all variables are nonnegative. An LP in this form is said to be in **standard form**.

To convert an LP into standard form, each inequality constraint must be replaced by an equality constraint. We illustrate this procedure using the following problem.

**Definition 3.1 (Slack vrs Excess Variable)**

If constraint  $i$  of an LP is a  $\leq$  constraint, then we convert it to an equality constraint by adding a slack variable  $s_i$  to the  $i$ th constraint and adding the sign restriction  $s_i \geq 0$ . On the other hand, if the  $i$ th constraint of an LP is a  $\geq$  constraint, then it can be converted to an equality constraint by subtracting an excess variable  $e_i$  from the  $i$ th constraint and adding the sign restriction  $e_i \geq 0$ .



**Example 3.1.1 (Slack Variable)**

Leather Limited manufactures two types of belts: the deluxe model and the regular model. Each type requires 1 sq yd of leather. A regular belt requires 1 hour of skilled labor, and a deluxe belt requires 2 hours. Each week, 40 sq yd of leather and 60 hours of skilled labor are available. Each regular belt contributes €3 to profit and each deluxe belt, €4. If we define

- $x_1$  = number of deluxe belts produced weekly
- $x_2$  = number of regular belts produced weekly

The appropriate LP is

$$\max z = 4x_1 + 3x_2 \quad (3.1)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_1 + x_2 \leq 40 \quad (\text{Leather constraint}) \quad (3.2)$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 60 \quad (\text{Labor constraint}) \quad (3.3)$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \quad (3.4)$$

How can we convert equations (3.2) and (3.3) to equality constraints?

We define for each  $\leq$  constraint a slack variable  $s_i$ , which is the amount of the resource unused in the  $i$ th constraint. Then the standard form is given as

$$\max z = 4x_1 + 3x_2 \quad (3.5)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_1 + x_2 + s_1 = 40 \quad (3.6)$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 + s_2 = 60 \quad (3.7)$$

$$x_1, x_2, s_1, s_2 \geq 0 \quad (3.8)$$

**Example 3.1.2 (Excess variable)**

Convert the following LP problem to its standard form

$$\min z = 50x_1 + 20x_2 + 30x_3 + 80x_4$$

$$\text{s.t. } 400x_1 + 200x_2 + 150x_3 + 500x_4 \geq 500 \quad (3.9)$$

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 \geq 6 \quad (3.10)$$

$$2x_1 + 2x_2 + 4x_3 + 4x_4 \geq 10 \quad (3.11)$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 + x_3 + 5x_4 \geq 8 \quad (3.12)$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \geq 0 \quad (3.13)$$

**Solution**

To convert the  $i$ th  $\geq$  constraint to an equality constraint, we define an excess variable (sometimes called a surplus variable)  $e_i$ .  $e_i$  is the amount by which the  $i$ th constraint is oversatisfied. Thus, the standard form is given as

$$\min z = 50x_1 + 20x_2 + 30x_3 + 80x_4$$

$$s.t. \ 400x_1 + 200x_2 + 150x_3 + 500x_4 - e_1 = 500 \quad (3.14)$$

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 - e_2 = 6 \quad (3.15)$$

$$2x_1 + 2x_2 + 4x_3 + 4x_4 - e_3 = 10 \quad (3.16)$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 + x_3 + 5x_4 - e_4 = 8 \quad (3.17)$$

$$x_i, e_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4. \quad (3.18)$$

**Note 3.1.**

If an LP has both  $\leq$  and  $\geq$  constraints, then simply apply the procedures we have described to the individual constraints.

## 3.2 Basic and Nonbasic Variables

Consider a system of linear equations

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + \cdots a_{1n}x_n &= b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + a_{23}x_3 + \cdots a_{2n}x_n &= b_2 \\ a_{31}x_1 + a_{32}x_2 + a_{33}x_3 + \cdots a_{3n}x_n &= b_3 \\ \vdots & \quad \quad \quad \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + a_{m3}x_3 + \cdots a_{mn}x_n &= b_m \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

Equation (3.19) can be recast as

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & a_{m3} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.20)$$

The  $x_i$ 's are the unknown to be determined. Thus, equation (3.20) is of the form

$$Ax = b \quad (3.21)$$

where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & a_{m3} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}, \quad x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{and } b = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

**Definition 3.2**

A basic solution to  $Ax = b$  is obtained by setting  $n - m$  variables equal to 0 and solving for the values of the remaining  $m$  variables.

Given  $m$  linear equations in  $n$  variables and assume  $n \geq m$

To find a basic solution to  $Ax = b$ , we choose a set of  $n - m$  variables (the **nonbasic variables, or NBV**) and set each of these variables equal to 0. Then we solve for the values of the remaining  $n - (n - m) = m$  variables (the **basic variables, or BV**) that satisfy  $Ax = b$ .

Of course, the different choices of nonbasic variables will lead to different basic solutions. To illustrate, we find all the basic solutions to the following system of two equations in three variables (3 variables, 2 equations):

$$x_1 + x_2 = 3 \quad (3.22)$$

$$-x_2 + x_3 = -1 \quad (3.23)$$

We begin by choosing a set of  $3 - 2 = 1$  nonbasic variables. For example, if NBV is  $x_3$ , then BV are  $x_1, x_2$ . We obtain the values of the basic variables by setting  $x_3 = 0$  and solving we find that  $x_1 = 2, x_2 = 1$ . Thus,

$$x_1 = 2, x_2 = 1, x_3 = 0$$

is a basic solution to equations (3.22) and (3.23).

However, if we choose NBV  $x_1$  and BV  $x_2, x_3$ , we obtain the basic solution

$$x_1 = 0, x_2 = 3, x_3 = 2$$

If we choose NBV  $x_2$ , we obtain the basic solution

$$x_1 = 3, x_2 = 0, x_3 = -1$$

### 3.3 Feasible Solutions

---

#### Definition 3.3 (BFS)

Any basic solution to  $Ax = b$  in which all variables are nonnegative is a basic feasible solution (or bfs).

Thus, the basic solution  $x_1 = 2, x_2 = 1, x_3 = 0$  and  $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 3, x_3 = 2$  are basic feasible solutions, while  $x_1 = 3, x_2 = 0, x_3 = -1$  fails to be a basic solution (because  $x_3 \leq 0$ ).

#### Theorem 3.1

A point in the feasible region of an LP is an extreme point if and only if it is a basic feasible solution to the LP.

#### Definition 3.4

For any LP with  $m$  constraints, two basic feasible solutions are said to be adjacent if their sets of basic variables have  $m - 1$  basic variables in common.

### 3.4 The Simplex Algorithm

---

Here we describe how the simplex algorithm can be used to solve LPs in which the goal is to maximize the objective function. The simplex algorithm proceeds as follows:

1. Convert the LP to standard form.
2. Obtain a basic feasible solution **bfs** (if possible) from the standard form.
3. Determine whether the current bfs is optimal.  
 For maximization problem, if all nonbasic variables have nonnegative coefficients in row 0, then the current bfs is optimal.  
 For minimization problem, if all nonbasic variables have nonpositive coefficients in row 0, then the current bfs is optimal.
4. If the current bfs is not optimal, then determine which nonbasic variable should become a basic variable.  
 For maximization problem, choose the variable with the most negative coefficient in row 0 to enter the basis.  
 For minimization problem, choose the variable with the most positive coefficient in row 0 to enter the basis.
5. Determine which basic variable should become a nonbasic variable using elementary row operations (ERO) and the ratio test.
6. Find a new bfs with a better objective function value. Go back to step 3

In performing the simplex algorithm, write the objective function

$$z = c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \cdots + c_nx_n$$

in the form

$$z - c_1x_1 - c_2x_2 - \cdots - c_nx_n = 0$$

We call this format the row 0 version of the objective function (row 0 for short)

#### Example 3.4.1

The Dakota Furniture Company manufactures desks, tables, and chairs. The manufacture of each type of furniture requires lumber and two types of skilled labor: finishing and carpentry. The amount of each resource needed to make each type of furniture is given the Table below:

Resource	Desk	Table	Chair
Lumber (board ft)	8	6	1
Finishing hours	4	2	1.5
Carpentry hours	2	1.5	0.5

Currently, 48 board feet of lumber, 20 finishing hours, and 8 carpentry hours are available. A desk sells for €60, a table for €30, and a chair for €20. Dakota believes that demand for desks and chairs is unlimited, but at most five tables can be sold. Because the available resources have already been purchased, Dakota wants to maximize total revenue.

#### Solution

Decision variables

$x_1$  = number of desks produced

$x_2$  = number of tables produced

$x_3$  = number of chairs produced

Then the LP problem is

$$\max z = 60x_1 + 30x_2 + 20x_3$$

$$s.t. \quad 8x_1 + 6x_2 + x_3 \leq 48 \quad (\text{Lumber constraint}) \quad (3.24)$$

$$4x_1 + 2x_2 + 1.5x_3 \leq 20 \quad (\text{Finishing constraint}) \quad (3.25)$$

$$2x_1 + 1.5x_2 + 0.5x_3 \leq 8 \quad (\text{Carpentry constraint}) \quad (3.26)$$

$$x_2 \leq 5 \quad (\text{Limitation on table demand}) \quad (3.27)$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0 \quad (3.28)$$

## Iteration 0

### Step 1

Now we convert the constraints of the LP to the standard form and convert the LP's objective function to the row 0 format.

$$z - 60x_1 - 30x_2 - 20x_3 = 0 \quad (3.29)$$

Putting equations (3.24) to (3.27) and (3.29) and the sign restrictions yields the equations and basic variables shown below

### Canonical Form 0

Row		Basic Variable
0	$z - 60x_1 - 30x_2 - 20x_3 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3 + s_4 = 0$	$z = 0$
1	$z - 68x_1 + 1.6x_2 + 1.6x_3 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3 + s_4 = 48$	$s_1 = 48$
2	$z - 64x_1 + 1.2x_2 + 1.5x_3 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3 + s_4 = 20$	$s_2 = 20$
3	$z - 62x_1 + 1.5x_2 + 0.5x_3 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3 + s_4 = 8$	$s_3 = 8$
4	$z - 60x_1 + 1.5x_2 - 1.5x_3 + s_1 + s_2 + s_3 + s_4 = 5$	$s_4 = 5$

### Step 2

After obtaining a canonical form, we therefore search for the initial bfs. By inspection, we see that if we set  $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$ , we can solve for the values of  $s_1, s_2, s_3$ , and  $s_4$  by setting  $s_i$  equal to the right-hand side of row  $i$ .

Observe that each basic variable may be associated with the row of the canonical form in which the basic variable has a coefficient of 1.

With this convention, the basic feasible solution for our initial canonical form has

$$BV = \{z, s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4\} \quad \text{and} \quad NBV = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$$

For this basic feasible solution

$$z = 0, \quad s_1 = 48, \quad s_2 = 20, \quad s_3 = 8, \quad s_4 = 5, \quad x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$$

### Step 3: Is the Current Basic Feasible Solution Optimal?

Once we have obtained a basic feasible solution, we need to determine whether it is optimal; if

the bfs is not optimal, then we try to find a bfs adjacent to the initial bfs with a larger  $z$ -value. To do this, we try to determine whether there is any way that  $z$  can be increased by increasing some nonbasic variable from its current value of zero while holding all other nonbasic variables at their current values of zero. From equation (3.30)  $z = 0$  can be increased by increasing either  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  or  $x_3$ . Hence the current solution is not optimal.

$$z = 60x_1 + 30x_2 + 20x_3 \quad (3.30)$$

Similarly, the current bfs is not optimal because the variables in row 0 (3.31) have negative coefficients.

$$\text{row 0} \implies z - 60x_1 - 30x_2 - 20x_3 = 0 \quad (3.31)$$

#### Step 4: Determine the Entering Variable

We choose the entering variable (in a max problem) to be the nonbasic variable with the **most negative coefficient in row 0**.

$$z - 60x_1 - 30x_2 - 20x_3 = 0 \quad (3.32)$$

We could observe that  $x_1$  has the most negative coefficient in row 0. Thus,  $x_1$  is the entering variable.

#### Step 5: In Which Row Does the Entering Variable Become Basic?

When entering a variable into the basis, compute the ratio for every constraint in which the entering variable has a positive coefficient. The constraint with the smallest ratio is called **the winner of the ratio test**. The smallest ratio is the largest value of the entering variable that will keep all the current basic variables nonnegative. That is

Row 1 limit on $x_1 = \frac{48}{8} = 6$ ,	so $s_1 \geq 0$ when $x_1 \leq 6$
Row 2 limit on $x_1 = \frac{20}{4} = 5$	so $s_2 \geq 0$ when $x_1 \leq 5$
Row 3 limit on $x_1 = \frac{8}{2} = 4$	so $s_3 \geq 0$ when $x_1 \leq 4$
Row 4 limit on $x_1 = \text{no limit}$	so $s_4 \geq 0$ for all values of $x_1$

Now, row 3 is the winner of the ratio test for entering  $x_1$  into the basis.

Always make the entering variable a basic variable in a row that wins the ratio test (ties may be broken arbitrarily).

To make  $x_1$  a basic variable in row 3, we use elementary row operations to make  $x_1$  have a coefficient of 1 in row 3 and a coefficient of 0 in all other rows. This procedure is called pivoting on row 3; and row 3 is the pivot row. The final result is that  $x_1$  replaces  $s_3$  as the basic variable for row 3.

#### Step 6

This yields the new canonical form 1 as below

**Canonical Form 1**

Row		Basic Variable
Row 0'	$z + 0.15x_2 - 0.25x_3 + s_1 + s_2 + 30s_3 + s_4 = 240$	$z = 240$
Row 1'	$x_1 - 0.15x_2 - 0.25x_3 + s_1 + s_2 - 34s_3 + s_4 = 16$	$s_1 = 16$
Row 2'	$x_1 - 0.15x_2 + 0.5x_3 + s_1 + s_2 - 32s_3 + s_4 = 4$	$s_2 = 4$
Row 3'	$x_1 + 0.75x_2 + 0.25x_3 + s_1 + s_2 + 0.5s_3 + s_4 = 4$	$x_1 = 4$
Row 4'	$x_1 - 0.15x_2 + 0.25x_3 + s_1 + s_2 - 30s_3 + s_4 = 5$	$s_4 = 5$

Looking for a basic variable in each row of the current canonical form, we find that

$$BV = \{z, s_1, s_2, x_1, s_4\} \quad \text{and} \quad NBV = \{s_3, x_2, x_3\}$$

For this basic feasible solution

$$z = 240, \quad s_1 = 16, \quad s_2 = 4, \quad x_1 = 4, \quad s_4 = 5, \quad s_3 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$$

**Step 3: Is new bfs optimal?**

We now try to find a bfs that has a still larger  $z$ -value. We begin by examining canonical form 1 to see if we can increase  $z$  by increasing the value of some nonbasic variable (while holding all other nonbasic variables equal to zero). Rearranging row 0' to solve for  $z$  yields

$$z = 240 - 15x_2 + 5x_3 - 30s_3 \quad (3.33)$$

Clearly  $z$  can be increased by increasing  $x_3$ . Hence the current solution is not optimal.

Similarly, the current bfs is not optimal because a variable  $x_3$  in row 0' (3.34) have negative coefficients.

$$\text{row } 0' \implies z + 15x_2 - 5x_3 + 30s_3 = 240 \quad (3.34)$$

**Iteration 1****Step 4: Determine the Entering Variable**

From equation (3.33), we see that increasing the nonbasic variable  $x_2$  by 1 with other variables as zeros will decrease  $z$  by 15. We don't want to do that.

Increasing the nonbasic variable  $s_3$  by 1 with other variables as zeros will decrease  $z$  by 30. Again, we don't want to do that.

On the other hand, increasing  $x_3$  by 1 with other variables as zeros will increase  $z$  by 5. Thus, we choose to enter  $x_3$  into the basis.

Again  $x_3$  is the only variable with negative coefficient from the equation

$$z + 15x_2 - 5x_3 + 30s_3 = 240$$

**Step 5**

$$\begin{array}{llll}
 s_1 = 16 + x_3 \implies \text{Row 1' limit on } x_3 & = \text{no limit} & \text{so } s_1 \geq 0 \text{ for all values of } x_3 \\
 s_2 = 4 - 0.5x_3 \implies \text{Row 2' limit on } x_3 & = \frac{4}{0.5} = 8 & \text{so } s_2 \geq 0 \text{ when } x_3 \leq 8 \\
 x_1 = 4 - 0.25x_3 \implies \text{Row 3' limit on } x_3 & = \frac{4}{0.25} = 16 & \text{so } x_1 \geq 0 \text{ when } x_3 \leq 16 \\
 s_4 = 5 \implies \text{Row 4' limit on } x_3 & = \text{no limit} & \text{so } s_4 \geq 0 \text{ for all values of } x_1
 \end{array}$$

Now, row 2' is the winner of the ratio test for entering  $x_3$  into the basis.

This means that we should use EROs to make  $x_3$  a basic variable in row 2'. This implies that  $s_2$  will leave the basis.

### Step 6

This yields the new canonical form 2 as below

**Canonical Form 2**

Row		Basic Variable
0''	$z + 0.15x_2 - x_3 + s_1 + .10s_2 + .10s_3 + s_4 = 280$	$z = 280$
1''	$x_1 - 0.12x_2 - x_3 + s_1 + 0.2s_2 - .38s_3 + s_4 = 24$	$s_1 = 24$
2''	$x_1 - 0.12x_2 + x_3 + s_1 + 0.2s_2 - .34s_3 + s_4 = 8$	$x_3 = 8$
3''	$x_1 + 1.25x_2 + x_3 + s_1 - 0.5s_2 + 1.5s_3 + s_4 = 2$	$x_1 = 2$
4''	$x_1 - 0.15x_2 + x_3 + s_1 + 0.5s_2 - .30s_3 + s_4 = 5$	$s_4 = 5$

Looking for a basic variable in each row of the current canonical form, we find that

$$BV = \{z, s_1, x_3, x_1, s_4\} \quad \text{and} \quad NBV = \{s_2, s_3, x_2\}$$

For this basic feasible solution

$$z = 280, \quad s_1 = 24, \quad x_3 = 8, \quad x_1 = 2, \quad s_4 = 5, \quad s_2 = s_3 = x_2 = 0$$

### Step 3

We now try to find a bfs that has a still larger  $z$ -value. Rearranging row 0'' to solve for  $z$  yields

$$z = 280 - 5x_2 - 10s_2 - 10s_3 \quad (3.35)$$

From equation (3.35), we see that increasing  $x_2$  by 1 will decrease  $z$  by 5; increasing  $s_2$  by 1 will decrease  $z$  by 10; increasing  $s_3$  by 1 will decrease  $z$  by 10. Thus, increasing any nonbasic variable will cause  $z$  to decrease. This might lead us to believe that our current bfs from canonical form 2 is an optimal solution.

Our current bfs from canonical form 2 is

$$z = 60x_1 + 30x_2 + 20x_3 \quad (3.36)$$

$$= 60(2) + 30(0) + 20(8) \quad (3.37)$$

$$= 120 + 160 \quad (3.38)$$

$$= 280 \quad (3.39)$$



### 3.5 Using the Simplex Algorithm to Solve Minimization Problems

There are two different ways that the simplex algorithm can be used to solve minimization problems. We illustrate these methods by solving the following LP:

$$\min z = 2x_1 - 3x_2 \quad (3.40)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_1 + x_2 \leq 4 \quad (3.41)$$

$$x_1 - x_2 \leq 6 \quad (3.42)$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \quad (3.43)$$

#### Solution Method 1: Converting to a maximum problem

This method multiplies the objective function for the min problem by  $-1$  and solves the problem as a maximization problem with objective function  $-z$ . The optimal solution to the max problem will give you the optimal solution to the min problem.

The optimal solution to this LP problem is the point  $(x_1, x_2)$  in the feasible region for the LP that makes  $z = 2x_1 - 3x_2$  the smallest.

Equivalently, we may say that the optimal solution to this LP is the point in the feasible region that makes  $-z = -2x_1 + 3x_2$  the largest. This means that we can find the optimal solution to the new LP as

$$\max -z = -2x_1 + 3x_2 \quad (3.44)$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_1 + x_2 \leq 4 \quad (3.45)$$

$$x_1 - x_2 \leq 6 \quad (3.46)$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \quad (3.47)$$

After adding slack variables  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  to the two constraints, we obtain the initial tableau as

$-z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$s_1$	$s_2$	rhs	Basic Variable	Ratio
1	2	-3	0	0	0	$-z = 0$	
0	1	①	1	0	4	$s_1 = 4$	$\frac{4}{1} = 4^*$
0	1	-1	0	1	6	$s_2 = 6$	None

Because  $x_2$  is the only variable with a negative coefficient in row 0, we enter  $x_2$  into the basis.

The ratio test indicates that  $x_2$  should enter the basis in row 1. The resulting tableau is shown below

$-z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$s_1$	$s_2$	rhs	Basic Variable
1	5	0	3	0	12	$-z = 12$
0	1	1	1	0	4	$x_2 = 4$
0	2	0	1	1	10	$s_2 = 10$

Because each variable in row 0 has a nonnegative coefficient, this is an optimal tableau. Thus, the optimal solution is

$$-z = 12, \quad x_2 = 4, \quad s_2 = 10, \quad x_1 = s_1 = 0$$

That is

$$-z = -2x_1 + 3x_2 \quad (3.48)$$

$$= -2(0) + 3(4) \quad (3.49)$$

$$= 12 \quad (3.50)$$

### Method 2

A simple modification of the maximum simplex algorithm can be used to solve minimum problems.

In a minimum case the current bfs is optimal if all nonbasic variables in row 0 have nonpositive coefficients.

Here if any nonbasic variable in row 0 has a positive coefficient, choose the variable with the ‘most positive’ coefficient in row 0 to enter the basis.

If we use this method to solve this LP, then our initial tableau is given as

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$s_1$	$s_2$	rhs	Basic Variable	Ratio
1	-2	-3	0	0	0	$z = 0$	
0	-1	①	1	0	4	$s_1 = 4$	$\frac{4}{1} = 4^*$
0	-1	-1	0	1	6	$s_2 = 6$	None

The pivot term is encircled and the winner of the ratio test is denoted by \*.

Because  $x_2$  has the most positive coefficient in row 0, we enter  $x_2$  into the basis.

The ratio test indicates that  $x_2$  should enter the basis in the first constraint, row 1. The resulting tableau is shown below

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$s_1$	$s_2$	rhs	Basic Variable
1	-5	0	-3	0	-12	$z = -12$
0	-1	1	-1	0	-4	$x_2 = 4$
0	-2	0	-1	1	-10	$s_2 = 10$

Because each variable in row 0 has a nonpositive coefficient, this is an optimal tableau. Thus, the optimal solution is

$$z = -12, \quad x_2 = 4, \quad s_2 = 10, \quad x_1 = s_1 = 0$$

That is

$$z = 2x_1 - 3x_2 \quad (3.51)$$

$$= 2(0) - 3(4) \quad (3.52)$$

$$= -12 \quad (3.53)$$

### 3.6 LP with Alternative Optimal Solutions

We indicated earlier that some LPs have more than one optimal extreme point. If an LP has more than one optimal solution, then we say that it has multiple or alternative optimal solutions. We show now how the simplex algorithm can be used to determine whether an LP has alternative optimal solutions.

#### Example 3.6.1

The Dakota Furniture Company manufactures desks, tables, and chairs. The manufacture of each type of furniture requires lumber and two types of skilled labor: finishing and carpentry. The amount of each resource needed to make each type of furniture is given the Table below:

Resource	Desk	Table	Chair
Lumber (board ft)	8	6	1
Finishing hours	4	2	1.5
Carpentry hours	2	1.5	0.5

Currently, 48 board feet of lumber, 20 finishing hours, and 8 carpentry hours are available. A desk sells for €60, a table for €35, and a chair for €20. Dakota believes that demand for desks and chairs is unlimited, but at most five tables can be sold. Because the available resources have already been purchased, Dakota wants to maximize total revenue.

#### Solution

The only modification is that tables sell for €35 instead of €30

The new tableau is as below

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$s_1$	$s_2$	$s_3$	$s_4$	rhs	Basic Variable	Ratio
1	-60	-35.5	-20.5	0	0	0	0	20	$z = 0$	
0	-68	-16.5	-21.5	1	0	0	0	48	$s_1 = 48$	$\frac{48}{8} = 6$
0	-64	-12.5	-21.5	0	1	0	0	20	$s_2 = 20$	$\frac{20}{4} = 5$
0	-②	-31.5	-10.5	0	0	1	0	28	$s_3 = 8$	$\frac{8}{2} = 4^*$
0	-60	-31.5	-10.5	0	0	0	1	25	$s_4 = 5$	None

Because  $x_1$  has the most negative coefficient in row 0, we enter  $x_1$  into the basis. The ratio test indicates that  $x_1$  should be entered in row 3.

The new<sup>2</sup> tableau is as below

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$s_1$	$s_2$	$s_3$	$s_4$	rhs	Basic Variable	Ratio
1	0	10.75	-5.25	0	0	30.5	0	240	$z = 240$	
0	0	0.75	-1.25	1	0	-4.5	0	16	$s_1 = 16$	None
0	0	-1.75	①0.5	0	1	-2.5	0	4	$s_2 = 4$	$\frac{4}{0.5} = 8^*$
0	1	0.75	0.25	0	0	-0.5	0	24	$x_1 = 4$	$\frac{4}{0.25} = 16$
0	0	1.75	0.25	0	0	-0.5	1	25	$s_4 = 5$	None

Now only  $x_3$  has a negative coefficient in row 0, so we enter  $x_3$  into the basis. The ratio test indicates that  $x_3$  should enter the basis in row 2

The new<sup>3</sup> tableau is as below

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$s_1$	$s_2$	$s_3$	$s_4$	rhs	Basic Variable
1	0	0 <span style="color: orange;">75</span>	0	0	10 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	10 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	0	280	$z = 280$
0	0	-2 <span style="color: orange;">75</span>	0	1	2 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	-8 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	0	24	$s_1 = 24$
0	0	-2 <span style="color: orange;">75</span>	1	0	2 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	-4 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	0	8	$x_3 = 8$
0	1	(1.25)	0	0	-0.5	-1.5	0	22	$x_1 = 2^*$
0	0	1 <span style="color: orange;">75</span>	0	0	0 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	-0 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	1	25	$s_4 = 5$

The resulting is optimal.

$$z = 280, s_1 = 24, x_3 = 8, x_1 = 2, s_4 = 5, \text{ and } x_2 = s_2 = s_3 = 0$$

Recall that all basic variables must have a zero coefficient in row 0 (or else they wouldn't be basic variables). However, in our optimal tableau, there is a nonbasic variable,  $x_2$ , which also has a zero coefficient in row 0. Let us see what happens if we enter  $x_2$  into the basis.

The ratio test indicates that  $x_2$  should enter the basis in row 3.

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$s_1$	$s_2$	$s_3$	$s_4$	rhs	Basic Variable
1	-0 <span style="color: orange;">6</span>	0	0	0	10 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	10 <span style="color: orange;">5</span>	0	280	$z = 280$
0	-1.6	0	0	1	1.2	-5.6	0	227.2	$s_1 = 27.2$
0	-1.6	0	1	0	1.2	-1.6	0	211.2	$x_3 = 11.2$
0	-0.8	1	0	0	-0.4	-1.2	0	221.6	$x_2 = 1.6$
0	-0.8	0	0	0	0.4	-1.2	1	223.4	$s_4 = 3.4$

The important thing to notice is that because  $x_2$  has a zero coefficient in the optimal tableau's row 0, the pivot that enters  $x_2$  into the basis does not change row 0. This means that all variables in our new row 0 will still have nonnegative coefficients. Thus, our new tableau is also optimal. Because the pivot has not changed the value of  $z$ , an alternative optimal solution for the Dakota example is

$$z = 280, s_1 = 27.2, x_3 = 11.2, x_2 = 1.6, s_4 = 3.4, \text{ and } x_1 = s_3 = s_2 = 0$$

Thus, Dakota has multiple (or alternative) optimal extreme points.

#### Definition 3.5 (Degeneracy)

An LP is degenerate if it has at least one bfs in which a basic variable is equal to zero.

A Degenerate LP

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$s_1$	$s_2$	rhs	Basic Variable	Ratio
1	-5	-2	0	0	0	$z = 0$	
0	-1	1	1	0	6	$s_1 = 6$	6
0	①	-1	0	1	0	$s_2 = 0$	0*

In this bfs, the basic variable  $s_2 = 0$ . Thus, the LP that generated this tableau is a degenerate LP.

Degeneracy can cause the simplex iterations to cycle indefinitely, thus never terminating the algorithm. The condition also reveals the possibility of at least one redundant constraint.

### Exercise 3.1

Use the simplex algorithm to find the optimal solution to the following LP:

1.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & z = 2x_1 + 3x_2 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 6 \\
 & 2x_1 + x_2 \leq 8 \\
 & x_1, x_2 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & z = x_1 + x_2 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & 4x_1 + x_2 \leq 100 \\
 & x_1 + x_2 \leq 80 \\
 & x_1 \leq 40 \\
 & x_1, x_2 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

3.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min \quad & z = 4x_1 - x_2 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & 2x_1 + x_2 \leq 8 \\
 & x_2 \leq 5 \\
 & x_1 - x_2 \leq 4 \\
 & x_1, x_2 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

4.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min \quad & z = -x_1 - x_2 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 - x_2 \leq 1 \\
 & x_1 + x_2 \leq 2 \\
 & x_1, x_2 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

5. Find alternative optimal solutions to the following LP:

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & z = x_1 + x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \leq 1 \\ & x_1 + 2x_3 \leq 1 \\ & x_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

6. How many optimal basic feasible solutions does the following LP have?

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & z = 2x_1 + 2x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 \leq 6 \\ & 2x_1 + x_2 \leq 13 \\ & x_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

## 3.7 Big M Method

Recall that the simplex algorithm requires a starting bfs. In all the problems we have solved so far, we found a starting bfs by using the slack variables as our basic variables. If an LP has any  $\geq$  or equality constraints, however, a starting bfs may not be readily apparent. When a bfs is not readily apparent, the Big M method (or the two-phase simplex method) may be used to solve the problem.

### 3.7.1 Description of Big M Method

1. Modify the constraints so that the right-hand side of each constraint is nonnegative. This requires that each constraint with a negative right-hand side be multiplied through by -1. Remember that if you multiply an inequality by any negative number, the direction of the inequality is reversed.
2. Convert each inequality constraint to standard form. This means that if constraint  $i$  is a  $\leq$  constraint, we add a slack variable  $s_i$ , and if constraint  $i$  is a  $\geq$  constraint, we subtract an excess variable  $e_i$ .
3. After step 1 has been completed, if constraint  $i$  is a  $\geq$  or  $=$  constraint, add an **artificial variable**  $a_i$ . Also add the sign restriction  $a_i \geq 0$ .
4. Let  $M$  denote a very large positive number. If the LP is a min problem, add (for each artificial variable)  $Ma_i$  to the objective function.

If the LP is a max problem, add (for each artificial variable)  $-Ma_i$  to the objective function.

When an artificial variable leaves the basis, its column may be dropped from future tableaus because the purpose of an artificial variable is only to get a starting basic feasible solution.

5. Because each artificial variable will be in the starting basis, all artificial variables must be eliminated from row 0 before beginning the simplex. This ensures that we begin with a canonical form. In choosing the entering variable, remember that  $M$  is a very large

positive number. For example,  $4M - 2$  is more positive than  $3M - 900$ , and  $-6M - 5$  is more negative than  $-5M - 40$ .

Now solve the transformed problem by the simplex method. If all artificial variables are equal to zero in the optimal solution, then we have found the optimal solution to the original problem. If any artificial variables are positive in the optimal solution, then the original problem is infeasible.

### Example 3.7.1

Bevco manufactures an orange-flavored soft drink called Oranj by combining orange soda and orange juice. Each ounce of orange soda contains 0.5 ounce(oz) of sugar and 1 milligram(mg) of vitamin C. Each ounce of orange juice contains 0.25 oz of sugar and 3 mg of vitamin C. It costs Bevco ¢2 to produce an ounce of orange soda and ¢3 to produce an ounce of orange juice. Bevco's marketing department has decided that each 10-oz bottle of Oranj must contain at least 20 mg of vitamin C and at most 4 oz of sugar. Use linear programming to determine how Bevco can meet the marketing department's requirements at minimum cost.

### Solution

Let

$x_1$  = number of ounces of orange soda in a bottle of Oranj

$x_2$  = number of ounces of orange juice in a bottle of Oranj

Then the appropriate LP is

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min z = 2x_1 + 3x_2 & \\ \text{such that } \frac{1}{2}x_1 + \frac{1}{4}x_2 \leq 4 & \text{Sugar constraint} \\ x_1 + 3x_2 \geq 20 & \text{Vitamin C constraint} \\ x_1 + x_2 = 10 & \text{10 oz in bottle of Oranj} \\ x_1, x_2 \geq 0 & \end{array}$$

### Step 1

Because none of the constraints has a negative right-hand side, we don't have to multiply any constraint through by -1.

### Step 2

Add a slack variable  $s_1$  to row 1 and subtract an excess variable  $e_2$  from row 2. The result is

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min z = 2x_1 + 3x_2 & \\ \text{Row 1: } \frac{1}{2}x_1 + \frac{1}{4}x_2 + s_1 = 4 & \\ \text{Row 2: } x_1 + 3x_2 - e_2 = 20 & \\ \text{Row 3: } x_1 + x_2 = 10 & \end{array}$$

### Step 3

In searching for a bfs, we see that  $s_1 = 4$  could be used as a basic (and feasible) variable for row 1, and  $e_1 = -20$  could be used as a basic variable for row 2. Unfortunately,  $e_2 = -20$  violates the sign restriction  $e_2 = 0$ . Finally, in row 3 there is no readily apparent basic variable.

To remedy this problem, we simply ‘invent’ a basic feasible variable for each constraint that needs one. Because these variables are created by us and are not real variables, we call them artificial variables.

So we add an artificial variable  $a_2$  to row 2 and an artificial variable  $a_3$  to row 3. The result is

$$\min z = 2x_1 + 3x_2 \quad (3.54)$$

$$\text{Row 1: } \frac{1}{2}x_1 + \frac{1}{4}x_2 + s_1 = 4 \quad (3.55)$$

$$\text{Row 2: } x_1 + 3x_2 - e_2 + a_2 = 20 \quad (3.56)$$

$$\text{Row 3: } x_1 + x_2 + a_3 = 10 \quad (3.57)$$

From this tableau, we see that our initial bfs will be  $s_1 = 4$ ,  $a_2 = 20$ , and  $a_3 = 10$ .

#### Step 4

Because we are solving a min problem, we add  $Ma_2 + Ma_3$  to the objective function (if we were solving a max problem, we would add  $-Ma_2 - Ma_3$ ). This makes  $a_2$  and  $a_3$  very unattractive, and the act of minimizing  $z$  will cause  $a_2$  and  $a_3$  to be zero.

The objective function is now

$$\min z = 2x_1 + 3x_2 + Ma_2 + Ma_3$$

#### Step 5

Because  $a_2$  and  $a_3$  are in our starting bfs (that’s why we introduced them), they must be eliminated from row 0.

To eliminate  $a_2$  and  $a_3$  from row 0, simply replace row 0 by  $\text{row0} + M * (\text{row2}) + M * (\text{row3})$ . This yields

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Row 0:} & z - 2x_1 - 3x_2 - Ma_2 - Ma_3 = 0 \\ \text{Row 2:} & Mx_1 + 3Mx_2 - Me_2 + Ma_2 = 20M \\ \text{Row 3:} & Mx_1 + Mx_2 + Ma_3 = 10M \\ \text{New Row 0:} & z + (2M - 2)x_1 + (4M - 3)x_2 - Me_2 = 30M \end{array}$$

Combining the new row 0 with rows equations (3.55) to (3.57) yields the initial tableau below:

Initial Tableau for Bevc0

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$s_1$	$e_2$	$a_2$	$a_3$	rhs	Basic Variable	Ratio
1	$2M - 2$	$4M - 3$	0	$-M$	0	0	$30M$	$z = 30M$	
0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	1	0	0	0	4	$s_1 = 4$	16
0	1	③	0	-1	1	0	20	$a_2 = 20$	$\frac{20}{3}^*$
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	10	$a_3 = 10$	10

We are solving a min problem, so the variable with the most positive coefficient in row 0 should enter the basis. Because  $4M - 3 > 2M - 2$ , variable  $x_2$  should enter the basis. The ratio test



indicates that  $x_2$  should enter the basis in row 2, which means the artificial variable  $a_2$  will leave the basis.

Let new row 2 be  $1/3 * (\text{row2})$ . Then we can eliminate  $x_2$  from row 0 by adding  $-(4M - 3) * (\text{newrow2})$  to row 0.

After using EROs to eliminate  $x_2$  from row 1 and row 3, we obtain the tableau below

**First Tableau for Bevco**

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$s_1$	$e_2$	$a_2$	$a_3$	rhs	Basic Variable	Ratio
1	$\frac{2M-3}{3}$	0	0	$\frac{M-3}{3}$	$\frac{3-4M}{3}$	0	$\frac{60+10M}{3}$	$z = \frac{60+10M}{3}$	
0	$\frac{5}{12}$	0	1	$\frac{1}{12}$	$-\frac{1}{12}$	0	$\frac{7}{3}$	$s_1 = \frac{7}{3}$	$\frac{28}{5}$
0	$\frac{1}{3}$	1	0	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	0	$\frac{20}{3}$	$x_2 = \frac{20}{3}$	20
0	$\frac{2}{3}$	0	0	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	1	$\frac{10}{3}$	$a_3 = \frac{10}{3}$	5*

The ratio test indicates that  $x_1$  should enter the basis in the third row of the current tableau. Then  $a_3$  will leave the basis.

New row 1 and new row 2 are computed as usual using ERO yielding the tableau below:

**Optimal Tableau for Bevco**

$z$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$s_1$	$e_2$	$a_2$	$a_3$	rhs	Basic Variable
1	0	0	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1-2M}{2}$	$\frac{3-2M}{2}$	25	$z = 25$
0	0	0	1	$-\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$-\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$s_1 = \frac{1}{4}$
0	0	1	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	5	$x_2 = 5$
0	1	0	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{2}$	5	$x_1 = 5$

Because all variables in row 0 have nonpositive coefficients, this is an optimal tableau; all artificial variables are equal to zero in this tableau, so we have found the optimal solution to the Bevco problem:

$$z = 25, x_1 = x_2 = 5, s_1 = 1/4, e_2 = 0$$

This means that Bevco can hold the cost of producing a 10-oz bottle of Oranj to €25 by mixing 5 oz of orange soda and 5 oz of orange juice.

**Note 3.2.**

*If any artificial variable is positive in the optimal Big M tableau, then the original LP has no feasible solution.*

*Considering the tableau*

$z$	$x_1$	$s_2$	$s_1$	$e_2$	$a_2$	$a_3$	rhs	Basic Variable
1	$1 - 2M$	0	0	$-M$	0	$3 - 4M$	$30 + 6M$	$z = 6M + 30$
0	$-\frac{1}{4}$	0	1	0	0	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{2}$	$s_1 = \frac{3}{2}$
0	-2	0	0	-1	1	-3	6	$a_2 = 6$
0	-1	1	0	0	0	1	10	$x_2 = 10$

An artificial variable  $a_2$  is positive in the optimal tableau, this shows that the original LP has no feasible solution.

**Exercise 3.2** Use the Big M method to solve the following LPs:

1.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min \quad & z = 4x_1 + 4x_2 + x_3 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \leq 2 \\
 & 2x_1 + x_2 \leq 3 \\
 & 2x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 \geq 3 \\
 & x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & z = 3x_1 + x_2 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 \geq 3 \\
 & 2x_1 + x_2 \leq 4 \\
 & x_1 + x_2 = 3 \\
 & x_1, x_2 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

3.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min \quad & z = x_1 + x_2 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & 2x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 4 \\
 & x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 2 \\
 & x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

## 3.8 Finding the Dual of an LP

Associated with any LP is another LP, called the dual. Knowing the relation between an LP and its dual is vital to understanding advanced topics in linear and nonlinear programming.

When taking the dual of a given LP, we refer to the given LP as the **primal**. If the primal is a max problem, then the dual will be a min problem, and vice versa.

For convenience, we define the variables for the max problem to be  $z, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and the variables for the min problem to be  $w, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m$ .

We begin by explaining how to find the dual of a max problem in which all variables are required to be nonnegative and all constraints are  $\leq$  constraints (called a normal max problem). A normal max problem may be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & z = c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \cdots + c_nx_n \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n \leq b_1 \\
 & a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n \leq b_2 \\
 & \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \\
 & a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n \leq b_m
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.58}$$

$$x_j \geq 0 \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots, n)$$

The dual of a normal max problem such as (3.58) is defined to be

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min \quad & w = b_1y_1 + b_2y_2 + \cdots + b_my_m \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & a_{11}y_1 + a_{21}y_2 + \cdots + a_{m1}y_m \geq c_1 \\
 & a_{12}y_1 + a_{22}y_2 + \cdots + a_{m2}y_m \geq c_2 \\
 & \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \\
 & a_{1n}y_1 + a_{2n}y_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}y_m \geq c_n
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.59}$$

$$y_i \geq 0 \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, m)$$

A min problem such as (3.59) that has all  $\geq$  constraints and all variables nonnegative is called a **normal min problem**.

Similarly, if the primal is a normal min problem, then we define the dual of (3.59) to be (3.58).

A tabular approach makes it easy to find the dual of an LP. If the primal is a normal max problem, then it can be read across the simplex tableau; then the dual is found by reading downwards.

Similarly, if the primal is a normal min problem, we find it by reading down; the dual is found by reading across in the table.

**Finding the Dual of a Normal Max or Min Problem**

		max $z$				
		$(x_1 \geq 0)$	$(x_2 \geq 0)$	$\cdots$	$(x_n \geq 0)$	
		$x_1$	$x_2$		$x_n$	
$(y_1 \geq 0)$	$y_1$	$a_{11}$	$a_{12}$	$\cdots$	$a_{1n}$	$\leq b_1$
$(y_2 \geq 0)$	$y_2$	$a_{21}$	$a_{22}$	$\cdots$	$a_{2n}$	$\leq b_2$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$(y_m \geq 0)$	$y_m$	$a_{m1}$	$a_{m2}$	$\cdots$	$a_{mn}$	$\leq b_m$
		$\geq c_1$	$\geq c_2$		$\geq c_n$	

**Example 3.8.1** We illustrate the use of the table by finding the dual of the Dakota problem. The Dakota problem is

The LP problem is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & z = 60x_1 + 30x_2 + 20x_3 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & 8x_1 + 6x_2 + x_3 \leq 48 && \text{(Lumber constraint)} \\
 & 4x_1 + 2x_2 + 1.5x_3 \leq 20 && \text{(Finishing constraint)} \\
 & 2x_1 + 1.5x_2 + 0.5x_3 \leq 8 && \text{(Carpentry constraint)} \\
 & x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$x_1$  = number of desks manufactured

$x_2$  = number of tables manufactured

$x_3$  = number of chairs manufactured

Using the tabular approach, and reading downwards, we find the Dakota dual to be

**Finding the Dual of the Dakota Problem**

min $w$		max $z$			
		$(x_1 \geq 0)$	$(x_2 \geq 0)$	$(x_3 \geq 0)$	
		$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	
$(y_1 \geq 0)$	$y_1$	8	6	1	$\leq 48$
$(y_2 \geq 0)$	$y_2$	4	2	1.5	$\leq 20$
$(y_3 \geq 0)$	$y_3$	2	1.5	0.5	$\leq 8$
		$\geq 60$	$\geq 30$	$\geq 20$	

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min \quad & w = 48y_1 + 20y_2 + 8y_3 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & 8y_1 + 4y_2 + 2y_3 \geq 60 \\
 & 6y_1 + 2y_2 + 1.5y_3 \geq 30 \\
 & y_1 + 1.5y_2 + 0.5y_3 \geq 20 \\
 & y_1, y_2, y_3 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

### 3.8.1 Finding the Dual of a Nonnormal LP

Unfortunately, many LPs are not normal max or min problems. For example

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & z = 2x_1 + x_2 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 = 2 \\
 & 2x_1 - x_2 \geq 3 \\
 & x_1 - x_2 \leq 1 \\
 & x_1 \geq 0, \quad x_2 \text{ urs}
 \end{aligned}$$

is not a normal max problem because it has a  $\geq$  constraint, an equality constraint, and an unrestricted(urs) variable.

Fortunately, the LP can be transformed into normal form. To place a max problem into normal form, we proceed as follows:

1. Multiply each  $\geq$  constraint by -1, converting it into a  $\leq$  constraint.

For example,  $2x_1 - x_2 \geq 3$  would be transformed into  $-2x_1 + x_2 \leq -3$ .

2. Replace each equality constraint by two inequality constraints (a  $\leq$  constraint and a  $\geq$  constraint). Then convert the  $\geq$  constraint to a  $\leq$  constraint.

For example, we would replace  $x_1 + x_2 = 2$  by the two inequalities  $x_1 + x_2 \leq 2$  and  $x_1 + x_2 \geq 2$ . Then we would convert  $x_1 + x_2 \geq 2$  to  $-x_1 - x_2 \leq -2$ .

3. For unrestricted-in-sign variable, we replace each

$$x_i = x'_i - x''_i ; \quad x'_i \geq 0 \text{ and } x''_i \geq 0$$

Thus  $x_2$  should be replaced by  $x_2 = x'_2 - x''_2$

After these transformations we have

$$\begin{aligned} \max z &= 2x_1 + x'_2 - x''_2 \\ \text{s.t. } x_1 + x'_2 - x''_2 &\leq 2 \\ -x_1 - x'_2 + x''_2 &\leq -2 \\ -2x_1 + x'_2 - x''_2 &\leq -3 \\ x_1 - x'_2 + x''_2 &\leq 1 \\ x_1, x'_2, x''_2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

The above is a normal max problem, so we could find the dual as:

$$\min z = 2y_1 - 2y_2 - 3y_3 + y_4 \quad (3.60)$$

$$\text{s.t } y_1 - y_2 - 2y_3 + y_4 \geq 2 \quad (3.61)$$

$$y_1 - y_2 + y_3 - y_4 \geq 1 \quad (3.62)$$

$$-y_1 + y_2 - y_3 + y_4 \geq -1 \quad (3.63)$$

$$y_i \geq 0 \quad (3.64)$$

Equations (3.61) and (3.62) could be combined. Which further simplify the LP as

$$\min z = 2y_1 - 2y_2 - 3y_3 + y_4 \quad (3.65)$$

$$\text{s.t } y_1 - y_2 - 2y_3 + y_4 \geq 2 \quad (3.66)$$

$$y_1 - y_2 + y_3 - y_4 = 1 \quad (3.67)$$

$$y_i \geq 0 \quad (3.68)$$

### Exercise 3.3

Find the duals of the following LPs:

1.

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & z = 2x_1 + x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & -x_1 + x_2 \leq 1 \\ & x_1 + x_2 \leq 3 \\ & x_1 - 2x_2 \leq 4 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & z = 4x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 \leq 5 \\ & 2x_1 + x_2 \leq 7 \\ & 2x_2 + x_3 \geq 6 \\ & x_1 + x_3 = 4 \\ & x_1 \geq 0, \ x_2, x_3 \text{ urs} \end{aligned}$$

# 4. Transportation, and Assignment Problems

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In this chapter, we discuss two special types of linear programming problems: transportation, and assignment. Each of these can be solved by the simplex algorithm, but specialized algorithms for each type of problem are much more efficient.

## 4.1 General Description of a Transportation Problem

1. A set of  $m$  supply points from which a good is shipped. Supply point  $i$  can supply at most  $s_i$  units.
2. A set of  $n$  demand points to which the good is shipped. Demand point  $j$  must receive at least  $d_j$  units of the shipped good.
3. Each unit produced at supply point  $i$  and shipped to demand point  $j$  incurs a variable cost of  $c_{ij}$ .

Let  $x_{ij}$  = number of units shipped from supply point  $i$  to demand point  $j$ , then the general formulation of a transportation problem is

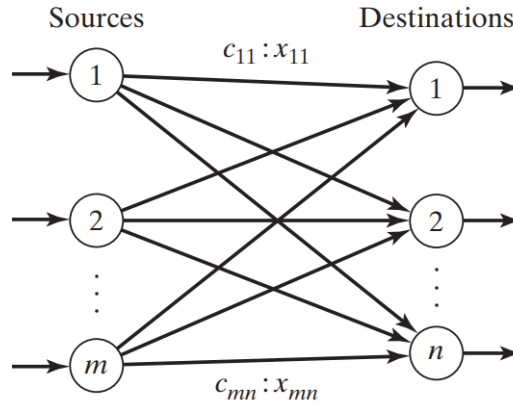
$$\min \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} x_{ij} \tag{4.1}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} \leq s_i ; \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m \tag{Supply constraint} \tag{4.2}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m x_{ij} \geq d_j ; \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \tag{Demand constraint} \tag{4.3}$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0$$

If a problem has the constraints given in above and is a maximization problem, then it is still a transportation problem.



If the total supply equals total demand, then the problem is said to be a **balanced transportation problem**. That is

$$\sum_{i=1}^m s_i = \sum_{j=1}^n d_j$$

In a balanced transportation problem, all the constraints must be binding. For a balanced transportation problem, equations (4.1) to (4.3) may be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} x_{ij} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} = s_i ; \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m & \text{(Supply constraint)} \\ & \sum_{i=1}^m x_{ij} = d_j ; \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n & \text{(Demand constraint)} \\ & x_{ij} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

#### 4.1.1 Balancing the transportation model

The transportation tableau representation assumes that model is balanced, meaning that the total demand equals to the total supply. If the model is unbalanced, a dummy source or a dummy destination must be added to restore balance.

If total supply exceeds total demand, we can balance a transportation problem by creating a dummy demand point that has a demand equal to the amount of excess supply. Because shipments to the dummy demand point are not real shipments, they are assigned a cost of zero. Shipments to the dummy demand point indicate unused supply capacity.

If a transportation problem has a total supply that is strictly less than total demand, then the problem has no feasible solution. When total supply is less than total demand, it is sometimes desirable to allow the possibility of leaving some demand unmet. In such a situation, a penalty is often associated with unmet demand.



### 4.1.2 Transportation Tableau

A transportation problem is specified by the supply  $s$ , the demand  $d$ , and the shipping costs  $c_{ij}$ , so the relevant data can be summarized in a transportation tableau below as:

	$c_{11}$	$c_{12}$	$\dots$	$c_{1n}$	$s_1$
	$c_{21}$	$c_{22}$	$\dots$	$c_{2n}$	$s_2$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\vdots$
	$c_{m1}$	$c_{m2}$	$\dots$	$c_{mn}$	$s_m$
	$d_1$	$d_2$	$\dots$	$d_n$	

**Demand**

**Supply**

The square, or cell, in row  $i$  and column  $j$  of a transportation tableau corresponds to the variable  $x_{ij}$ . If  $x_{ij}$  is a basic variable, its value is placed in the lower left-hand corner of the  $ij$ th cell of the tableau.

Below is an illustrative example

**Example 4.1.1** Powerco has **three** electric power plants that supply the needs of **four** cities.

Each power plant can supply the following numbers of kilowatt-hours (kwh) of electricity: plant 1–35 million; plant 2–50 million; plant 3–40 million.

The peak power demands in these cities, which occur at the same time (2P.M.), are as follows (in kwh): city 1–45 million; city 2–20 million; city 3–30 million; city 4–30 million.

The costs of sending 1 million kwh of electricity from plant to city depend on the distance the electricity must travel. Formulate an LP to minimize the cost of meeting each city's peak power demand.

**Shipping Costs, Supply, and Demand for Powerco**

From	To				Supply (million kwh)
	City 1	City 2	City 3	City 4	
Plant 1	8	6	10	9	35
Plant 2	9	12	13	7	50
Plant 3	14	9	16	5	40
Demand (million kwh)	45	20	30	30	

**Solution**

The objective function, supply constraints, demand constraints, and sign restrictions for the Powerco's problem is as follows:

$$\min z = 8x_{11} + 6x_{12} + 10x_{13} + 9x_{14} + 9x_{21} + 12x_{22} + 13x_{23} + 7x_{24} + 14x_{31} + 9x_{32} + 16x_{33} + 5x_{34} \quad (4.4)$$

Supply constraints

$$\text{s.t. } x_{11} + x_{12} + x_{13} + x_{14} \leq 35 \quad (4.5)$$

$$x_{21} + x_{22} + x_{23} + x_{24} \leq 50 \quad (4.6)$$

$$x_{31} + x_{32} + x_{33} + x_{34} \leq 40 \quad (4.7)$$

Demand constraints

$$x_{11} + x_{21} + x_{31} \geq 45 \quad (4.8)$$

$$x_{12} + x_{22} + x_{32} \geq 20 \quad (4.9)$$

$$x_{13} + x_{23} + x_{33} \geq 30 \quad (4.10)$$

$$x_{14} + x_{24} + x_{34} \geq 30 \quad (4.11)$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0; \quad (i = 1, 2, 3; \quad j = 1, 2, 3, 4)$$

The transportation tableau is

	City 1	City 2	City 3	City 4	Supply
Plant 1	8	6	10	9	35
Plant 2	9	12	13	7	50
Plant 3	14	9	16	5	40
Demand	45	20	30	30	

## 4.2 Finding Basic Feasible Solutions for Transportation Problems

We discuss three methods that can be used to find a basic feasible (bfs) solution for a balanced transportation problem:

1. Northwest corner method
2. Minimum-cost or Least-cost method
3. Vogel's Approximation method (VAM)

### 4.2.1 Northwest corner method

To find a bfs by the northwest corner method, we begin in the upper left (or northwest) corner of the transportation tableau and set  $x_{11}$  as large as possible. Clearly,  $x_{11}$  can be no larger than the smaller of  $s_1$  and  $d_1$ .

If  $x_{11} = s_1$ , cross out the first row of the transportation tableau; this indicates that no more basic variables will come from row 1. Also change  $d_1$  to  $d_1 - s_1$ .

If  $x_{11} = d_1$ , cross out the first column of the transportation tableau; this indicates that no more basic variables will come from column 1. Also change  $s_1$  to  $s_1 - d_1$ .

If  $x_{11} = s_1 = d_1$ , cross out either row 1 or column 1 (but not both). If you cross out row 1, change  $d_1$  to 0; if you cross out column 1, change  $s_1$  to 0.

Continue applying this procedure to the most northwest cell in the tableau that does not lie in a crossed-out row or column. Eventually, you will come to a point where there is only one cell that can be assigned a value. Assign this cell a value equal to its row or column demand, and cross out both the cell's row and column. A basic feasible solution has now been obtained.

We illustrate the use of the northwest corner method by finding a bfs for the balanced transportation problem below

				5
				1
				3
2	4	2	1	

To begin, we set  $x_{11} = \min\{5, 2\} = 2$ . Then we cross out column 1 and change  $s_1$  to  $5 - 2 = 3$ . This yields the tableau below

2				3
				1
				3
×	4	2	1	

The most northwest remaining variable is  $x_{12}$ . We set  $x_{12} = \min\{3, 4\} = 3$ . Then we cross out row 1 and change  $d_2$  to  $4 - 3 = 1$ . This yields the tableau

2	3			×
				1
				3
×	1	2	1	

The most northwest available variable is now  $x_{22}$ . We set  $x_{22} = \min\{1, 1\} = 1$ . Because both the supply and demand corresponding to the cell are equal, we may cross out either row 2 or column 2 (but not both). For no particular reason, we choose to cross out row 2. Then  $d_2$  must be changed to  $1 - 1 = 0$ . The resulting tableau is

2	3			×
	1			×
				3
×	0	2	1	

The most northwest available cell is now  $x_{32}$ , so we set  $x_{32} = \min\{3, 0\} = 0$ . Then we cross out column 2 and change  $s_3$  to  $3 - 0 = 3$ . The resulting tableau is

2	3			×
	1			×
	0			3
×	×	2	1	

We now set  $x_{33} = \min\{3, 2\} = 2$ . Then we cross out column 3 and reduce  $s_3$  to  $3 - 2 = 1$ . The resulting tableau is

2	3			×
	1			×
	0	2		1
×	×	×	1	

The only available cell is  $x_{34}$ . We set  $x_{34} = \min\{1, 1\} = 1$ . Then we cross out row 3 and column 4. No cells are available, so we are finished. We have obtained the bfs

$$x_{11} = 2, x_{12} = 3, x_{22} = 1, x_{32} = 0, x_{33} = 2, x_{34} = 1$$

The method ensures that no basic variable will be assigned a negative value and also that each supply and demand constraint is satisfied.

### 4.2.2 Minimum-Cost Method for Finding a Basic Feasible Solution

The northwest corner method does not utilize shipping costs, so it can yield an initial bfs that has a very high shipping cost. The minimum-cost method uses the shipping costs in an effort to produce a bfs that has a lower total cost.

To begin the minimum-cost method, find the variable with the smallest shipping cost (call it  $x_{ij}$ ). Then assign  $x_{ij}$  its largest possible value,  $\min\{s_i, d_j\}$ . As in the northwest corner method, cross out row  $i$  or column  $j$  and reduce the supply or demand of the noncrossed-out row or column by the value of  $x_{ij}$ . Then choose from the cells that do not lie in a crossed-out row or column the cell with the minimum shipping cost and repeat the procedure. Continue until there is only one cell that can be chosen. In this case, cross out both the cell's row and column. Remember that (with the exception of the last variable) if a variable satisfies both a supply and demand constraint, only cross out a row or column, not both.

To illustrate the minimum cost method, we find a bfs for the balanced transportation problem in the table below:

	2		3		5		6		5
	2		1		3		5		10
	3		8		4		6		15
12		8		4		6			

The variable with the minimum shipping cost is  $x_{22}$ . We set  $x_{22} = \min\{10, 8\} = 8$ . Then we cross out column 2 and reduce  $s_2$  to  $10 - 8 = 2$ . The resulting tableau is

	2		3		5		6		5
	2		1		3		5		2
	3		8		4		6		15
12		×		4			6		

We could now choose either  $x_{11}$  or  $x_{21}$  (both having shipping costs of 2). We arbitrarily choose  $x_{21}$ . We set  $x_{21} = \min\{2, 12\} = 2$ . Then we cross out row 2 and change  $d_1$  to  $12 - 2 = 10$ . The resulting tableau is

	2		3		5		6		5
2	2		1		3		5		×
	3		8		4		6		15
10		×		4			6		

We set  $x_{11} = \min\{5, 10\} = 5$ . Then we cross out row 1 and change  $d_1$  to  $10 - 5 = 5$ . The resulting tableau is

5	2		3		5		6		×
2	2		1		3		5		×
	3		8		4		6		15
5		×		4			6		

We set  $x_{31} = \min\{15, 5\} = 5$ . Then we cross out column 1 and reduce  $s_3$  to  $15 - 5 = 10$ . The resulting tableau is

5	2	3	5	6	×
2	2	1	3	5	×
5	3	8	4	6	10
×	×	4	6		

We set  $x_{33} = \min\{10, 4\} = 4$ . Then we cross out column 3 and reduce  $s_3$  to  $10 - 4 = 6$ . The resulting tableau is

5	2	3	5	6	×
2	2	1	3	5	×
5	3	8	4	6	6
×	×	×	6		

The only cell that we can choose is  $x_{34}$ . We set  $x_{34} = \min\{6, 6\}$  and cross out both row 3 and column 4. We have now obtained the bfs:

$$x_{11} = 5, x_{21} = 2, x_{22} = 8, x_{31} = 5, x_{33} = 4, x_{34} = 6$$

Again the minimum-cost method may sometimes yield a relatively high-cost bfs. When this arises, we resort to the Vogel's method.

### 4.2.3 Vogel's Method for Finding a Basic Feasible Solution

Begin by computing for each row and column the **penalty**. The penalty equals the difference between the two smallest costs in the row or column.

Next find the row or column with the largest penalty. Choose as the first basic variable the variable in this row or column that has the smallest shipping cost.

As described in the northwest corner and minimum-cost methods, make this variable as large as possible, cross out a row or column, and change the supply or demand associated with the basic variable. Now recompute new penalties (using only cells that do not lie in a crossed-out row or column), and repeat the procedure until only one uncrossed cell remains. Set this variable equal to the supply or demand associated with the variable, and cross out the variable's row and column. A bfs has now been obtained.

We illustrate Vogel's method by finding a bfs to the table below:

				Supply	Row Penalty
		6	7	8	
				10	$7 - 6 = 1$
	15	80	78	15	$78 - 15 = 63$
Demand	15	5	5		
Column Penalty	$15 - 6 = 9$	$80 - 7 = 73$	$78 - 8 = 70$		

Column 2 has the largest penalty, so we set  $x_{12} = \min\{10, 5\} = 5$ . Then we cross out column 2 and reduce  $s_1$  to  $10 - 5 = 5$ . After recomputing the new penalties (observe that after a column is crossed out, the column penalties will remain unchanged). The resulting tableau is

				Supply	Row Penalty
		6	7	8	
		5		5	$8 - 6 = 2$
	15	80	78	15	$78 - 15 = 63$
Demand	15	×	5		
Column Penalty	9	—	70		

The largest penalty now occurs in column 3, so we set  $x_{13} = \min\{5, 5\}$ . We may cross out either row 1 or column 3. We arbitrarily choose to cross out column 3, and we reduce  $s_1$  to  $5 - 5 = 0$ . Because each row has only one cell that is not crossed out, there are no row penalties. The resulting tableau is

				Supply	Row Penalty
		6	7	8	
		5		5	0
	15	80	78	15	—
Demand	15	×	×		
Column Penalty	9	—	—		

Column 1 has the only (and, of course, the largest) penalty. We set  $x_{11} = \min\{0, 15\} = 0$ , cross out row 1, and change  $d_1$  to  $15 - 0 = 15$ . The result is



				Supply	Row Penalty
	0	5	5	×	—
	15	80	78	15	—
Demand	15	×	×		
Column Penalty	—	—	—		

No penalties can be computed, and the only cell that is not in a crossed-out row or column is  $x_{21}$ . Therefore, we set  $x_{21} = 15$  and cross out both column 1 and row 2

0	6	5	7	5	8	10
15	15		80		78	15
15		5		5		

The obtained bfs is :

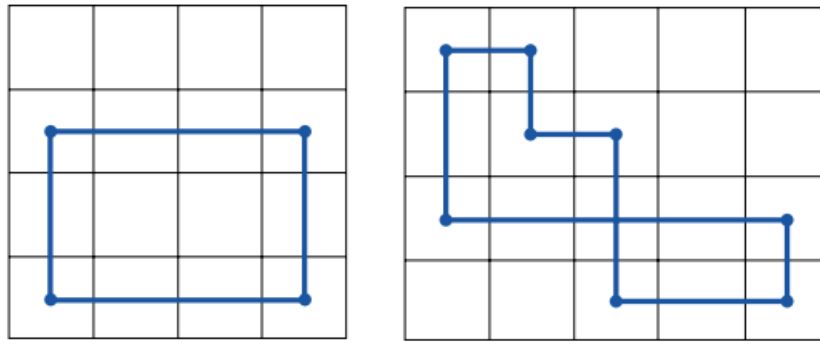
$$x_{11} = 0, x_{12} = 5, x_{13} = 5, x_{21} = 15$$

### 4.3 How to Pivot in a Transportation Problem

#### Definition 4.1 (Loop)

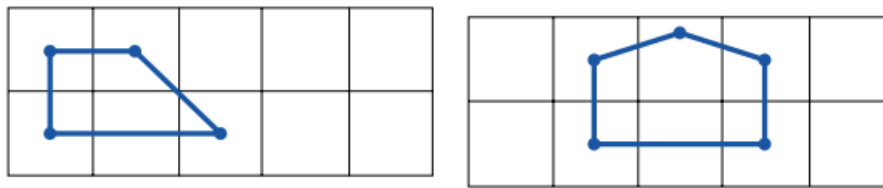
An ordered sequence of at least four different cells is called a loop if

1. Any two consecutive cells lie in either the same row or same column
2. No three consecutive cells lie in the same row or column
3. The last cell in the sequence has a row or column in common with the first cell in the sequence



Left loop  $(2, 1)-(2, 4)-(4, 4)-(4, 1)$

Right loop  $(1, 1)-(1, 2)-(2, 2)-(2, 3)-(4, 3)-(4, 5)-(3, 5)-(3, 1)$



Left is not a loop because  $(1, 2)$  and  $(2, 3)$  do not lie in the same row or column.

Right is not a loop because  $(1, 2)$ ,  $(1, 3)$ , and  $(1, 4)$  all lie in the same row.

#### Theorem 4.1

In a balanced transportation problem with  $m$  supply points and  $n$  demand points, the cells corresponding to a set of  $m + n - 1$  variables contain no loop if and only if the  $m + n - 1$  variables yield a basic solution.

Now the steps to find a pivot for a transportation problem is as follows:

1. Determine the variable that should enter the basis.
2. Find the loop (it can be shown that there is only one loop) involving the entering variable and some of the basic variables.
3. Counting only cells in the loop, label those found in step 2 that are an even number (0, 2, 4, and so on) of cells away from the entering variable as even cells. Also label those that are an odd number of cells away from the entering variable as odd cells.
4. Find the odd cell whose variable assumes the smallest value. Call this value  $\theta$ . The variable corresponding to this odd cell will leave the basis. To perform the pivot, decrease the value of each odd cell by  $\theta$  and increase the value of each even cell by  $\theta$ . The values of variables not in the loop remain unchanged. The pivot is now complete.

If  $\theta = 0$ , then the entering variable will equal 0, and an odd variable that has a current value of 0 will leave the basis. In this case, a degenerate bfs existed before and will result after the pivot. If more than one odd cell in the loop equals  $\theta$ , you may arbitrarily choose one of these odd cells to leave the basis; again, a degenerate bfs will result.

We illustrate the pivoting procedure on the Powerco example. When the northwest corner method is applied to the Powerco example, the bfs in the table below is found.

35				35
10	20	20		50
		10	30	40
45	20	30	30	

For this bfs, the basic variables are

$$x_{11} = 35, x_{21} = 10, x_{22} = 20, x_{23} = 20, x_{33} = 10, x_{34} = 30$$

Suppose we want to find the bfs that would result if  $x_{14}$  was to enter the basis. The loop involving  $x_{14}$  and some of the basic variables is

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \text{E} & \text{O} & \text{E} & \text{O} & \text{E} & \text{O} \\ (1, 4) & - & (3, 4) & - & (3, 3) & - & (2, 3) & - & (2, 1) & - & (1, 1) \end{array}$$

In this loop,  $(1, 4)$ ,  $(3, 3)$ , and  $(2, 1)$  are the even cells, and  $(1, 1)$ ,  $(3, 4)$ , and  $(2, 3)$  are the odd cells. The odd cell with the smallest value is  $x_{23} = 20$ . Thus, after the pivot,  $x_{23}$  will have left the basis. We now add 20 to each of the even cells and subtract 20 from each of the odd cells. The results is the bfs:

35 - 20			0 + 20	35
10 + 20	20	20 - 20 (nonbasic)		50
		10 + 20	30 - 20	40
45	20	30	30	

There is no loop involving the cells  $(1, 1)$ ,  $(1, 4)$ ,  $(2, 1)$ ,  $(2, 2)$ ,  $(3, 3)$ , and  $(3, 4)$ , so the new solution is a bfs. After the pivot, the new bfs is

$$x_{11} = 15, x_{14} = 20, x_{21} = 30, x_{22} = 20, x_{33} = 30, x_{34} = 10,$$

and all other variables equal 0.

The preceding illustration of the pivoting procedure makes it clear that each pivot in a transportation problem involves only additions and subtractions.

## 4.4 How to Determine the Entering Nonbasic Variable

Let  $u_i$  be the shadow price of the  $i$ th supply constraint, and  $v_j$  be the shadow price of the  $j$ th demand constraint. The shadow price of the  $i$ th constraint of a linear programming problem is the amount by which the optimal  $z$ -value is improved if the right-hand side is increased by 1.



## 4.5 Transportation Simplex Method

The transportation simplex method is used to find an optimal solution for a transportation problem. The two were known methods are

1. Stepping Stone Method
2. Modified distribution method (MoDi)

MoDi is an improvement over the stepping stone method. We will therefore focus on the MoDi. The steps involved in using the MoDi to find an optimal solution are as follows:

1. If the problem is unbalanced, balance it
2. Use one of the methods described above (northwest corner, minimum-cost, Vogel's) to find a bfs.
3. Use the fact that  $u_1 = 0$  and  $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$  for all basic variables to find the  $[u_1 \ u_2 \ \cdots \ u_m \ v_1 \ v_2 \ \cdots \ v_n]$  for the current bfs.
4. In the case of a minimum problem, if  $u_i + v_j - c_{ij} \leq 0$  for all nonbasic variables, then the current bfs is optimal.

If this is not the case, then we enter the variable with the most positive  $u_i + v_j - c_{ij}$  into the basis using the pivoting procedure. This yields a new bfs.

For a maximization problem if  $u_i + v_j - c_{ij} \geq 0$  for all nonbasic variables, then the current bfs is optimal. Otherwise, enter the variable with the most negative  $u_i + v_j - c_{ij}$  into the basis using the pivoting procedure.

5. Using the new bfs, return to steps 3 and 4.

We illustrate the procedure for solving a transportation problem by solving the Powerco problem.

We begin with the bfs below.

35	8	6	10	9	35
10	9	12	13	7	50
	14	9	16	5	40
45	20	30	30		

We have already determined that  $x_{32}$  should enter the basis. As shown below:

	8	6	10	9	
35					35
10	9	12	13	7	50
	14	9	16	5	40
45	20	30	30		

The loop involving  $x_{32}$  and some of the basic variables is  $(3, 2)-(3, 3)-(2, 3)-(2, 2)$ . The odd cells in this loop are  $(3, 3)$  and  $(2, 2)$ . Because  $x_{33} = 10$  and  $x_{22} = 20$ , the pivot will decrease the value of  $x_{33}$  and  $x_{22}$  by 10 and increase the value of  $x_{32}$  and  $x_{23}$  by 10. The resulting bfs is

$v_j =$	8	11	12	7	
$u_i = 0$	35				35
1	10	10	30		50
-2		10		30	40
	45	20	30	30	

The  $u_i$ 's and  $v_j$ 's for the new bfs are

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_1 &= 0 \\
 u_1 + v_1 &= 8 \\
 u_2 + v_1 &= 9 \\
 u_2 + v_2 &= 12 \\
 u_2 + v_3 &= 13 \\
 u_3 + v_2 &= 9 \\
 u_3 + v_4 &= 5
 \end{aligned}$$

We find that  $\bar{c}_{12} = 5$ ,  $\bar{c}_{24} = 1$ ,  $\bar{c}_{13} = 2$  are the only positive  $\bar{c}_{ij}$ . Thus, we next enter  $x_{12}$  into the basis.

The loop involving  $x_{12}$  and some of the basic variables is  $(1, 2)-(2, 2)-(2, 1)-(1, 1)$ . The odd cells are  $(2, 2)$  and  $(1, 1)$ . Because  $x_{22} = 10$  is the smallest entry in an odd cell, we decrease  $x_{22}$  and  $x_{11}$  by 10 and increase  $x_{12}$  and  $x_{21}$  by 10. The resulting bfs is

$v_j =$	8		6		12		2	
$u_i = 0$	25	8	10	6	10	9	35	
1	20	9	12	13	7	50		
3	14	10	9	16	5	40		
	45	20	30	30				

The  $u'_i$ 's and  $v'_j$ 's for the new bfs are

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_1 &= 0 \\
 u_1 + v_1 &= 8 \\
 u_2 + v_1 &= 9 \\
 u_1 + v_2 &= 6 \\
 u_2 + v_3 &= 13 \\
 u_3 + v_2 &= 9 \\
 u_3 + v_4 &= 5
 \end{aligned}$$

In computing  $\bar{c}_{ij}$  for each nonbasic variable, we find that the only positive is  $\bar{c}_{13} = 2$ . Thus,  $x_{13}$  enters the basis. The loop involving  $x_{13}$  and some of the basic variables is  $(1, 3)-(2, 3)-(2, 1)-(1, 1)$ . The odd cells are  $x_{23}$  and  $x_{11}$ . Because  $x_{11} = 25$  is the smallest entry in an odd cell, we decrease  $x_{23}$  and  $x_{11}$  by 25 and increase  $x_{13}$  and  $x_{21}$  by 25. The resulting bfs is

$v_j =$	6		6		10		2		
$u_i = 0$		8		6		10		9	35
			10		25				
3	45	9		12		13		7	50
3		14		9		16		5	40
	45		20		30		30		

The  $u'_i$ 's and  $v'_j$ 's for the new bfs are

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_1 &= 0 \\
 u_1 + v_3 &= 10 \\
 u_2 + v_1 &= 9 \\
 u_1 + v_2 &= 6 \\
 u_2 + v_3 &= 13 \\
 u_3 + v_2 &= 9 \\
 u_3 + v_4 &= 5
 \end{aligned}$$

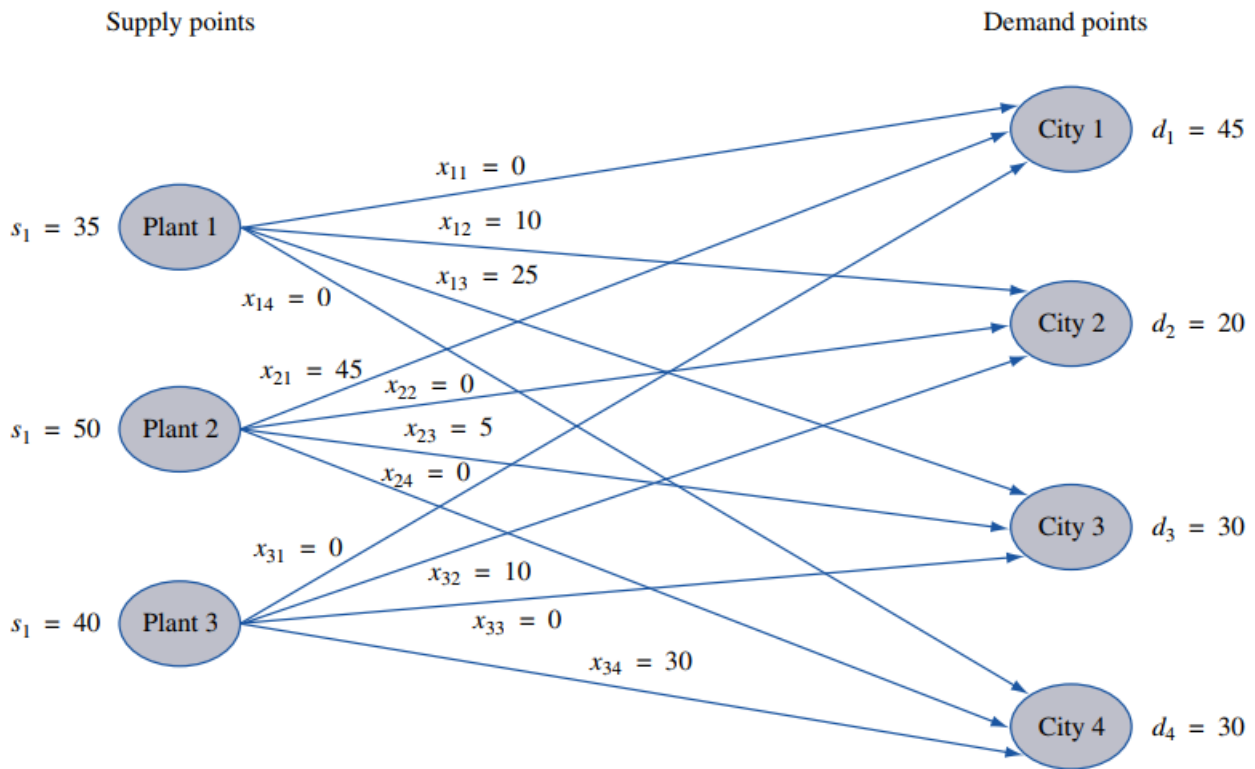
At this point all  $\bar{c}_{ij} \leq 0$ , so an optimal solution has been obtained. Thus, the optimal solution to the Powerco problem is

$$x_{12} = 10, x_{13} = 25, x_{21} = 45, x_{23} = 5, x_{32} = 10, x_{34} = 30$$

and

$$z = 6(10) + 10(25) + 9(45) + 13(5) + 9(10) + 5(30) = \text{€}1,020$$

The graphical representation of Powerco problem and its optimal solution is



#### Exercise 4.1

1. (a) A company supplies goods to three customers, who each require 30 units. The company has two warehouses. Warehouse 1 has 40 units available, and warehouse 2 has 30 units available. The costs of shipping 1 unit from warehouse to customer are shown below.

From	To		
	Customer 1	Customer 2	Customer 3
Warehouse 1	\$15	\$35	\$25
Warehouse 2	\$10	\$50	\$40

There is a penalty for each unmet customer unit of demand: With customer 1, a penalty cost of €90 is incurred; with customer 2, €80; and with customer 3, €110. Formulate a balanced transportation problem to minimize the sum of shortage and shipping costs.

- (b) A shoe company forecasts the following demands during the next six months: month 1—200; month 2—260; month 3—240; month 4—340; month 5—190;



month 6—150. It costs ₡7 to produce a pair of shoes with regular-time labor (RT) and ₡11 with overtime labor (OT). During each month, regular production is limited to 200 pairs of shoes, and overtime production is limited to 100 pairs. It costs ₡1 per month to hold a pair of shoes in inventory. Formulate a balanced transportation problem to minimize the total cost of meeting the next six months of demand on time.

- (c) A hospital needs to purchase 3 gallons of a perishable medicine for use during the current month and 4 gallons for use during the next month. Because the medicine is perishable, it can only be used during the month of purchase. Two companies (Daisy and Laroach) sell the medicine. The medicine is in short supply. Thus, during the next two months, the hospital is limited to buying at most 5 gallons from each company. The companies charge the prices shown below.

Company	Current Month's Price per Gallon (\$)	Next Month's Price per Gallon (\$)
Daisy	800	720
Laroach	710	750

Formulate a balanced transportation model to minimize the cost of purchasing the needed medicine.

2. Use the following methods to find the bfs of problems in (1) :
  - (a) Northwest corner method
  - (b) Minimum-cost method
  - (c) Vogel's method
3. Use the transportation simplex to solve these problems ((1)). Begin with the bfs found in question (2).

## 4.6 Assignment Problems

Although the transportation simplex appears to be very efficient, there is a certain class of transportation problems, called assignment problems, for which the transportation simplex is often very inefficient. In this section, we define assignment problems and discuss an efficient method that can be used to solve them.

In general, an assignment problem is a balanced transportation problem in which all supplies and demands are equal to 1.

The assignment problem's matrix of costs is its **cost matrix**.

### Example 4.6.1

Machineco has four machines and four jobs to be completed. Each machine must be assigned to complete one job. The time required to set up each machine for completing each job is shown below.

Setup Times for Machineco

Machine	Time (Hours)			
	Job 1	Job 2	Job 3	Job 4
1	14	5	8	7
2	2	12	6	5
3	7	8	3	9
4	2	4	6	10

Machineco wants to minimize the total setup time needed to complete the four jobs. Use linear programming to solve this problem.

### Solution

Machineco must determine which machine should be assigned to each job. We define (for  $i, j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ )

$x_{ij} = 1$  if machine  $i$  is assigned to meet the demands of job  $j$

$x_{ij} = 0$  if machine  $i$  is not assigned to meet the demands of job  $j$

Then Machineco's problem may be formulated as

$$\begin{aligned} \min = z = & 14x_{11} + 5x_{12} + 8x_{13} + 7x_{14} + 2x_{21} + 12x_{22} + 6x_{23} + 5x_{24} \\ & + 7x_{31} + 8x_{32} + 3x_{33} + 9x_{34} + 2x_{41} + 4x_{42} + 6x_{43} + 10x_{44} \end{aligned}$$

Machine constraints

$$x_{11} + x_{12} + x_{13} + x_{14} = 1 \quad (4.19)$$

$$x_{21} + x_{22} + x_{23} + x_{24} = 1 \quad (4.20)$$

$$x_{31} + x_{32} + x_{33} + x_{34} = 1 \quad (4.21)$$

$$x_{41} + x_{42} + x_{43} + x_{44} = 1 \quad (4.22)$$

Job constraints

$$x_{11} + x_{21} + x_{31} + x_{41} = 1 \quad (4.23)$$

$$x_{12} + x_{22} + x_{32} + x_{42} = 1 \quad (4.24)$$

$$x_{13} + x_{23} + x_{33} + x_{43} = 1 \quad (4.25)$$

$$x_{14} + x_{24} + x_{34} + x_{44} = 1 \quad (4.26)$$

The objective function will not pick up the time required when  $x_{ij} = 0$  and will pick up the time required to set up machine  $i$  for job  $j$  when  $x_{ij} = 1$ .

By the minimum cost method, we obtain the bfs below

		Job 1	Job 2	Job 3	Job 4		
		$v_j =$					
		3	4	8	7		
Machine 1	$u_i = 0$	14	5	8	7	1	
Machine 2	-2	2	12	6	5	1	
Machine 3	-5	7	8	3	9	1	
Machine 4	-1	2	4	6	10	1	
		1	1	1	1		

We find that  $\bar{c}_{43} = 1$  is the only positive  $\bar{c}_{ij}$ . We therefore enter  $x_{43}$  into the basis. The loop involving  $x_{43}$  and some of the basic variables is  $(4, 3)-(1, 3)-(1, 2)-(4, 2)$ . The odd variables in the loop are  $x_{13}$  and  $x_{42}$ . Because  $x_{13} = x_{42} = 0$ , either  $x_{13}$  or  $x_{42}$  will leave the basis. We arbitrarily choose  $x_{13}$  to leave the basis. After performing the pivot, we obtain the bfs below

		Job 1	Job 2	Job 3	Job 4		
		$v_j =$					
		3	5	7	7		
Machine 1	$u_i = 0$	14	5	8	7	1	
Machine 2	-2	2	12	6	5	1	
Machine 3	-4	7	8	3	9	1	
Machine 4	-1	2	4	6	10	1	
		1	1	1	1		

All  $\bar{c}_{ij}$  are now nonpositive, so we have obtained an optimal assignment:

$$x_{12} = 1, x_{24} = 1, x_{33} = 1, x_{41} = 1$$

Thus, machine 1 is assigned to job 2, machine 2 is assigned to job 4, machine 3 is assigned to job 3, and machine 4 is assigned to job 1. A total setup time of

$$5 + 5 + 3 + 2 = 15$$

hours is required.

### 4.6.1 The Hungarian Method

The Hungarian method is an algorithm that is usually used to solve assignment (min) problems.

The steps involved are as follows:

1. Find the minimum element in each **row** of the  $m \times m$  cost matrix. Construct a new matrix by subtracting from each cost the minimum cost in its row.  
For this new matrix, find the minimum cost in each **column**. Construct a new matrix (called the reduced cost matrix) by subtracting from each cost the minimum cost in its column.
2. Draw the minimum number of lines (horizontal, vertical, or both) that are needed to cover all the zeros in the reduced cost matrix. If  $m$  lines are required, then an optimal solution is available among the covered zeros in the matrix. If fewer than  $m$  lines are needed, then proceed to step 3.
3. Find the smallest nonzero element (call its value  $k$ ) in the reduced cost matrix that is uncovered by the lines drawn in step 2. Now subtract  $k$  from each uncovered element of the reduced cost matrix and add  $k$  to each element that is covered by two lines. Return to step 2.

**Example 4.6.2** We illustrate the Hungarian method by solving the Machineco problem

### Solution

The row minimum is given as

14	5	8	7	Row Minimum 5
2	12	6	5	2
7	8	3	9	3
2	4	6	10	2

### Step 1

For each row, we subtract the row minimum from each element in the row, obtaining

9	0	3	2
0	10	4	3
4	5	0	6
0	2	4	8
0	0	0	2
Column Minimum			

We now subtract 2 from each cost in column 4, obtaining

<del>9</del>	0	3	<del>0</del>
0	10	4	1
<del>4</del>	5	0	<del>4</del>
0	2	4	6

**Step 2**

As shown, lines through row 1, row 3, and column 1 cover all the zeros in the reduced cost matrix. Since fewer than four lines are required to cover all the zeros, so we proceed to step 3.

**Step 3**

The smallest uncovered element equals 1, so we now subtract 1 from each uncovered element in the reduced cost matrix and add 1 to each twice-covered element. The resulting matrix is

<del>10</del>	0	3	<del>0</del>
0	9	3	0
<del>5</del>	5	0	<del>4</del>
0	1	3	5

Four lines are now required to cover all the zeros. Thus, an optimal solution is available.

To find an optimal assignment, observe that the only covered 0 in column 3 is  $x_{33}$ , so we must have  $x_{33} = 1$ .

Also, the only available covered zero in column 2 is  $x_{12}$ , so we set  $x_{12} = 1$  and observe that neither row 1 nor column 2 can be used again.

Now the only available covered zero in column 4 is  $x_{24}$ . Thus, we choose  $x_{24} = 1$  (which now excludes both row 2 and column 4 from further use).

Finally, we choose  $x_{41} = 1$ .

Thus, we have found the optimal assignment

$$x_{12} = 1, x_{24} = 1, x_{33} = 1, x_{41} = 1$$

This agrees with the result obtained by the transportation simplex.

**Note 4.1.**

- To solve an assignment problem in which the goal is to maximize the objective function, multiply the profits matrix through by -1 and solve the problem as a

*minimization problem.*

- If the number of rows and columns in the cost matrix are unequal, then the assignment problem is unbalanced. The Hungarian method may yield an incorrect solution if the problem is unbalanced. Thus, any assignment problem should be balanced (by the addition of one or more dummy points) before it is solved by the Hungarian method.

### Exercise 4.2

1. Five employees are available to perform four jobs. The time it takes each person to perform each job is given in the table below.

Person	Time (hours)			
	Job 1	Job 2	Job 3	Job 4
1	22	18	30	18
2	18	—	27	22
3	26	20	28	28
4	16	22	—	14
5	21	—	25	28

*Note:* Dashes indicate person cannot do that particular job.

Determine the assignment of employees to jobs that minimizes the total time required to perform the four jobs

2. Greydog Bus Company operates buses between Boston and Washington, D.C. A bus trip between these two cities takes 6 hours. Federal law requires that a driver rest for four or more hours between trips. A driver's workday consists of two trips: one from Boston to Washington and one from Washington to Boston. The Table below gives the departure times for the buses.

Trip	Departure Time	Trip	Departure Time
Boston 1	6 A.M.	Washington 1	5:30 A.M.
Boston 2	7:30 A.M.	Washington 2	9 A.M.
Boston 3	11:30 A.M.	Washington 3	3 P.M.
Boston 4	7 P.M.	Washington 4	6:30 P.M.
Boston 5	12:30 A.M.	Washington 5	12 midnight

Greydog's goal is to minimize the total downtime for all drivers. How should Greydog assign crews to trips? Note: It is permissible for a driver's "day" to overlap midnight. For example, a Washington-based driver can be assigned to the Washington–Boston 3 P.M. trip and the Boston–Washington 6 A.M. trip.

# 5. Network Models

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Many important optimization problems can best be analyzed by means of a graphical or network representation. In this chapter we consider the shortest-path problem for networks.

## 5.1 Shortest-Path Problems

In this section, we assume that each arc in the network has a length associated with it. Suppose we start at a particular node (say, node 1). The problem of finding the shortest path (path of minimum length) from node 1 to any other node in the network is called a shortest-path problem.

**Definition 5.1**

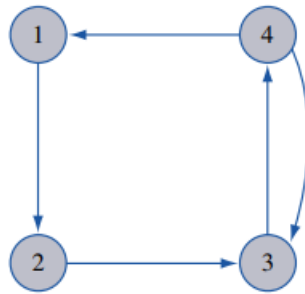
**A graph, or network**, is defined by two sets of symbols: nodes and arcs. First, we define a set (call it  $V$ ) of points, or vertices. The vertices of a graph or network are also called nodes.

**An arc** consists of an ordered pair of vertices and represents a possible direction of motion that may occur between vertices.

A sequence of arcs such that every arc has exactly one vertex in common with the previous arc is called **a chain**.

**A path** is a chain in which the terminal node of each arc is identical to the initial node of the next arc.

For example, the Figure below is a graph or network:



1, 2, 3, 4 are the nodes

(1–2), (2–3), (3–4), (4–3), (4–1) are directional arcs.

(1, 2)–(2, 3)–(4, 3) is a chain but not a path, because the terminal node of the arc (2, 3) differs from the initial node of the arc (4, 3).

(1, 2)–(2, 3)–(3, 4) is a chain and a path.

The path (1, 2)–(2, 3)–(3, 4) represents a way to travel from node 1 to node 4.

#### Example 5.1.1

Apiile have just purchased (at time 0) a new car for €12,000. The cost of maintaining the car during a year depends on its age at the beginning of the year, as given in the Table below.

**Car Maintenance Costs**

Age of Car (Years)	Annual Maintenance Cost C
0	2,000
1	4,000
2	5,000
3	9,000
4	12,000

To avoid the high maintenance costs associated with an older car, He may trade in his car and purchase a new car. The price he receives on a trade-in depends on the age of the car at the time of trade-in (see Table below).



Car Trade-in Prices

Age of Car (Years)	Trade-in Price
1	7,000
2	6,000
3	2,000
4	1,000
5	0

To simplify the computations, it is assumed that at any time, it costs €12,000 to purchase a new car. His goal is to minimize the net cost (purchasing costs + maintenance costs - money received in trade-ins) incurred during the next five years. Formulate this problem as a shortest-path problem.

### Solution

Our network will have six nodes (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6). Node  $i$  is the beginning of year  $i$ .

For  $i < j$ , an arc  $(i, j)$  corresponds to purchasing a new car at the beginning of year  $i$  and keeping it until the beginning of year  $j$ .

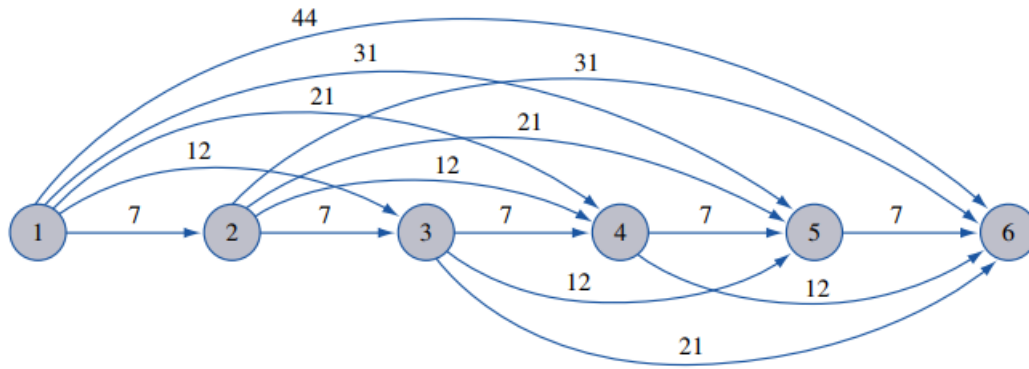
The length of arc  $(i, j)$   $c_{ij}$  is the total net cost incurred in owning and operating a car from the beginning of year  $i$  to the beginning of year  $j$  if a new car is purchased at the beginning of year  $i$  and this car is traded in for a new car at the beginning of year  $j$ . Thus,

$$c_{ij} = \text{maintenance cost}(i, i+1, \dots, j-1) + \text{cost of purchasing car} - \text{trade-in value received} \quad (5.1)$$

Applying this formula to the information in the problem yields (all costs are in thousands)

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_{12} &= 2 + 12 - 7 = 7 & c_{34} &= 2 + 12 - 7 = 7 \\
 c_{13} &= 2 + 4 + 12 - 6 = 12 & c_{35} &= 2 + 4 + 12 - 6 = 12 \\
 c_{14} &= 2 + 4 + 5 + 12 - 2 = 21 & c_{36} &= 2 + 4 + 5 + 12 - 2 = 21 \\
 c_{15} &= 2 + 4 + 5 + 9 + 12 - 1 = 31 & c_{45} &= 2 + 12 - 7 = 7 \\
 c_{16} &= 2 + 4 + 5 + 9 + 12 + 12 - 0 = 44 & c_{46} &= 2 + 4 + 12 - 6 = 12 \\
 c_{23} &= 2 + 12 - 7 = 7 & c_{56} &= 2 + 12 - 7 = 7 \\
 c_{24} &= 2 + 4 + 12 - 6 = 12 \\
 c_{25} &= 2 + 4 + 5 + 12 - 2 = 21 \\
 c_{26} &= 2 + 4 + 5 + 9 + 12 - 1 = 31
 \end{aligned}$$

We now see that the length of any path from node 1 to node 6 is the net cost incurred during the next five years corresponding to a particular trade-in strategy. For example, suppose he trade in the car at the beginning of year 3 and next trade in the car at the end of year 5 (the beginning of year 6). This strategy corresponds to the path 1–3–6 in the Figure below.



The length of this path ( $c_{13} + c_{36}$ ) is the total net cost incurred during the next five years if he trade in the car at the beginning of year 3 and at the beginning of year 6.

Thus, the length of the shortest path from node 1 to node 6 in this Figure is the minimum net cost that can be incurred in operating a car during the next five years.

This problem could solved using algorithms for shortest path problems.

Algorithms for solving shortest path problem include the following:

1. Dijkstra's algorithm: This is used for determining the shortest routes between the source node and every other node in the network.
2. Floyd's algorithm (Floyd-Warshall algorithm): This is used for determining the shortest route between any two nodes in the network.

## 5.2 Dijkstra's Algorithm

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Assuming that all arc lengths are nonnegative, then the Dijkstra's algorithm, can be used to find the shortest path from a node (say, node 1) to all other nodes.

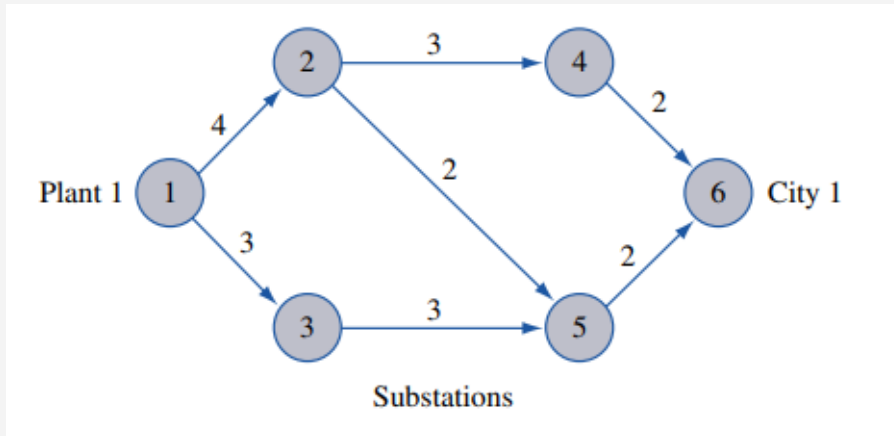
The steps involved are as follows

1. We label node 1 with a permanent label of 0. Then we label each node  $i$  that is connected to node 1 by a single arc with a "temporary" label equal to its length. Otherwise, label as  $\infty$ .
2. Choose the node with the smallest temporary label and make this label permanent.
3. For each node  $j$  that now has a temporary label and is connected to permanent node by an arc, the new temporary label for node  $j$  is the length of the shortest path from node 1 to node  $j$  that passes only through nodes contained in the closest nodes to node 1.
4. Continue this process until all nodes have a permanent label.

To find the shortest path from node 1 to node  $j$ , work backward from node  $j$  by finding nodes having labels differing by exactly the length of the connecting arc. Of course, if we want the shortest path from node 1 to node  $j$ , we can stop the labeling process as soon as node  $j$  receives a permanent label.

**Example 5.2.1**

Given the power relay network below



Find the minimum possible distance from plant 1 to city 1.

For any pair of nodes between which power can be transported, the Figure gives the distance (in miles) between the nodes. Thus, substations 2 and 4 are 3 miles apart, and power cannot be sent between substations 4 and 5.

**Solution**

To illustrate Dijkstra's algorithm, we find the shortest path from node 1 to node 6 above.

We begin with the following labels ( $a^*$  represents a permanent label, and the  $i$ th number is the label of the node  $i$ ):

1	2	3	4	5	6
$0^*$	4	3	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$

**Iteration 1**

Node 3 now has the smallest temporary label. We therefore make node 3's label permanent and obtain the following labels:

1	2	3	4	5	6
$0^*$	4	$3^*$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$

We now know that node 3 is the closest node to node 1. We compute new temporary labels for all nodes that are connected to node 3 by a single arc. From the figure, that is node 5.

$$\text{New node 5 temporary label} = \min\{\infty, 3 + 3\} = 6$$

**Iteration 2**

Now node 2 has the smallest temporary label; we now make node 2's label permanent. We now know that node 2 is the second closest node to node 1. Our new set of labels is

1	2	3	4	5	6
$0^*$	$4^*$	$3^*$	$\infty$	6	$\infty$

Because nodes 4 and 5 are connected to the newly permanently labeled node 2, we must change the temporary labels of nodes 4 and 5. Node 4's new temporary label is  $\min\{\infty, 4 + 3\} = 7$  and node 5's new temporary label is  $\min\{6, 4 + 2\} = 6$ .

### Iteration 3

Node 5 now has the smallest temporary label, so we make node 5's label permanent. We now know that node 5 is the third closest node to node 1. Our new labels are

1	2	3	4	5	6
0*	4*	3*	7	6*	$\infty$

Only node 6 is connected to node 5, so node 6's temporary label will change to  $\min\{\infty, 6 + 2\} = 8$ .

### Iteration 4

Node 4 now has the smallest temporary label, so we make node 4's label permanent. We now know that node 4 is the fourth closest node to node 1. Our new labels are

1	2	3	4	5	6
0*	4*	3*	7*	6*	8

Because node 6 is connected to the newly permanently labeled node 4, we must change node 6's temporary label to  $\min\{8, 7 + 2\} = 8$ .

### Iteration 5

We can now make node 6's label permanent. Our final set of labels is

1	2	3	4	5	6
0*	4*	3*	7*	6*	8*

We can now work backward and find the shortest path from node 1 to node 6. The difference between node 6 and node 5 permanent labels is 2 length of arc (5, 6), so we go back to node 5. The difference between node 5 and node 2 permanent labels is 2 length of arc (2, 5), so we may go back to node 2. Then, of course, we must go back to node 1. Thus, 1–2–5–6 is a shortest path (of length 8) from node 1 to node 6.

Observe that when we were at node 5, we could also have worked backward to node 3 and obtained the shortest path 1–3–5–6.

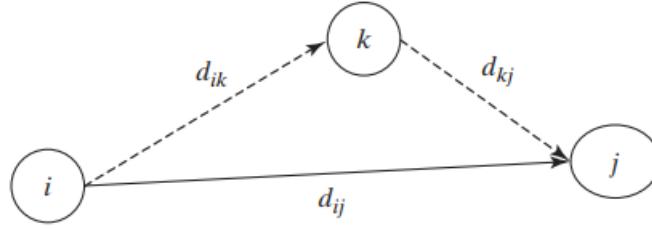
## 5.3 Floyd-Warshall Algorithm

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Floyd's algorithm is more general than Dijkstra's because it determines the shortest route between any two nodes in the network.

The algorithm represents an  $n$ -node network as a square matrix with  $n$  rows and  $n$  columns. Entry  $(i, j)$  of the matrix gives the distance  $d_{ij}$  from node  $i$  to node  $j$ , which is finite if  $i$  is linked directly to  $j$ , and infinite otherwise.

The idea of Floyd's algorithm is straightforward. Given three nodes  $i, j$ , and  $k$  in the Figure below



with the connecting distances shown on the three arcs, it is shorter to reach  $j$  from  $i$  passing through  $k$  if

$$d_{ik} + d_{kj} < d_{ij}$$

In this case, it is optimal to replace the direct route from  $i \rightarrow j$  with the indirect route  $i \rightarrow k \rightarrow j$ . This triple operation exchange is applied to the distance matrix using the following steps:

1. Define the starting distance matrix  $D_0$  and node sequence matrix  $S_0$  (all diagonal elements are blocked). Set  $k = 1$ .

$$D_0 = I \quad \begin{array}{c|cccccc} & 1 & 2 & \dots & j & \dots & n \\ \hline 1 & - & d_{12} & \dots & d_{1j} & \dots & d_{1n} \\ 2 & d_{21} & - & \dots & d_{2j} & \dots & d_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ i & d_{i1} & d_{i2} & \dots & d_{ij} & \dots & d_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ N & d_{N1} & d_{N2} & \dots & d_{Nj} & \dots & - \end{array}$$

$$S_0 = \quad \begin{array}{c|cccccc} & 1 & 2 & \dots & j & \dots & n \\ \hline 1 & - & 2 & \dots & j & \dots & n \\ 2 & 1 & - & \dots & j & \dots & n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ i & 1 & 2 & \dots & j & \dots & n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ n & 1 & 2 & \dots & j & \dots & - \end{array}$$

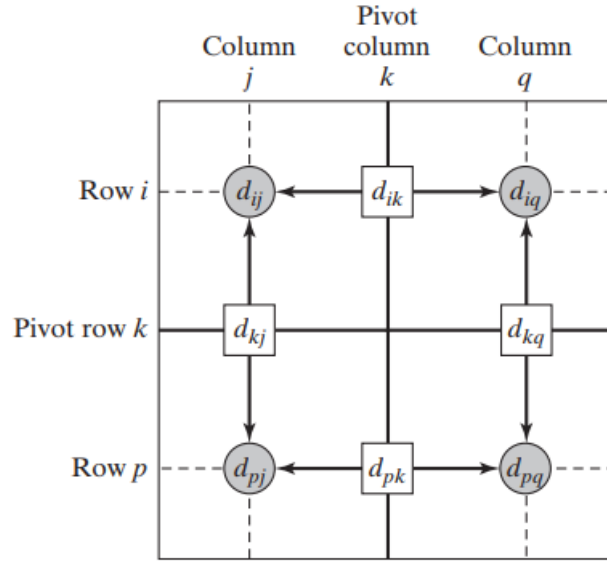
2. Define row  $k$  and column  $k$  as pivot row and pivot column. Apply the triple operation to each element  $d_{ij}$  in  $D_{k-1}$ , for all  $i$  and  $j$ . If the condition

$$d_{ik} + d_{kj} < d_{ij}; \quad i \neq k, \quad j \neq k, \quad i \neq j$$

is satisfied, make the following changes:

- (a) Create  $D_k$  by replacing  $d_{ij}$  in  $D_{k-1}$  with  $d_{ik} + d_{kj}$ .
- (b) Create  $S_k$  by replacing  $s_{ij}$  in  $S_{k-1}$  with  $k$ . Set  $k = k + 1$ . If  $k = n + 1$ , stop; else repeat step 2.

Step 2 of the algorithm can be explained by representing  $D_{k-1}$  as shown in the Figure below



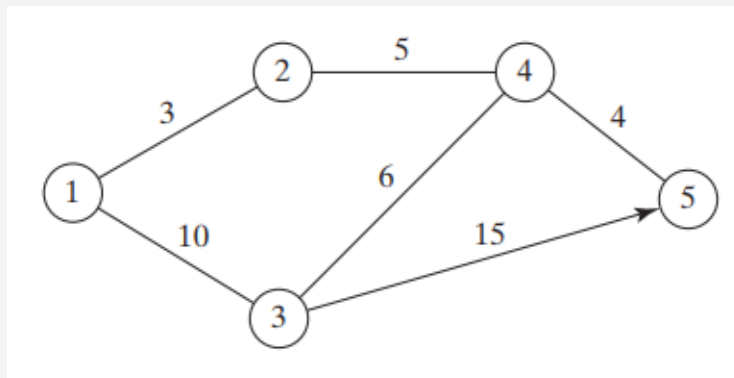
Here, row  $k$  and column  $k$  define the current pivot row and column. Row  $i$  represents any of the rows  $1, 2, \dots$ , and  $k-1$ , and row  $p$  represents any of the rows  $k+1, k+2, \dots$ , and  $n$ . Similarly, column  $j$  represents any of the columns  $1, 2, \dots$ , and  $k-1$ , and column  $q$  represents any of the columns  $k+1, k+2, \dots$ , and  $n$ .

The triple operation can be applied as follows: If the sum of the elements on the pivot row and the pivot column (shown by squares) is smaller than the associated intersection element (shown by a circle), then it is optimal to replace the intersection distance by the sum of the pivot distances. After  $n$  steps, we can determine the shortest route between nodes  $i$  and  $j$  from the matrices  $D_n$  and  $S_n$  using the following rules:

- From  $D_n$ ,  $d_{ij}$  gives the shortest distance between nodes  $i$  and  $j$ .
- From  $S_n$ , determine the intermediate node  $k = s_{ij}$  that yields the route  $i \rightarrow k \rightarrow j$ . If  $s_{ik} = k$  and  $s_{kj} = j$ , stop; all the intermediate nodes of the route have been found. Otherwise, repeat the procedure between nodes  $i$  and  $k$  and between nodes  $k$  and  $j$ .

#### Example 5.3.1

For the network below, find the shortest routes between every two nodes.



The distances (in miles) are given on the arcs. Arc (3, 5) is directional—no traffic is

allowed from node 5 to node 3. All the other arcs allow two-way traffic.

### Solution

**Iteration 0:** The matrices  $D_0$  and  $S_0$  give the initial representation of the network.  $D_0$  is symmetrical, except that  $d_{53} = \infty$  because no traffic is allowed from node 5 to node 3.

	$D_0$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	3	10	$\infty$	$\infty$
2	3	—	$\infty$	5	$\infty$
3	10	$\infty$	—	6	15
4	$\infty$	5	6	—	4
5	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	4	—

	$S_0$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	2	3	4	5
2	1	—	3	4	5
3	1	2	—	4	5
4	1	2	3	—	5
5	1	2	3	4	—

**Iteration 1:** Set  $k = 1$ . The pivot row and column are shown by the lightly shaded first row and first column in the  $D_0$ -matrix. The darker cells,  $d_{23}$  and  $d_{32}$ , are the only ones that can be improved by the triple operation. Thus,  $D_1$  and  $S_1$  are obtained from  $D_0$  and  $S_0$  in the following manner:

1. Replace  $d_{23}$  with  $d_{21} + d_{13} = 3 + 10 = 13$  and set  $s_{23} = 1$ .
2. Replace  $d_{32}$  with  $d_{31} + d_{12} = 10 + 3 = 13$  and set  $s_{32} = 1$ . These changes are shown in bold in matrices  $D_1$  and  $S_1$ .

	$D_1$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	3	10	$\infty$	$\infty$
2	3	—	<b>13</b>	5	$\infty$
3	10	<b>13</b>	—	6	15
4	$\infty$	5	6	—	4
5	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	4	—

	$S_1$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	2	3	4	5
2	1	—	<b>1</b>	4	5
3	1	<b>1</b>	—	4	5
4	<b>1</b>	2	3	—	5
5	1	2	3	4	—

**Iteration 2:** Set  $k = 2$ , as shown by the lightly shaded row and column in  $D_1$ . The triple operation is applied to the darker cells in  $D_1$  and  $S_1$ . The resulting changes are shown in bold in  $D_2$  and  $S_2$ .

	$D_2$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	3	10	<b>8</b>	$\infty$
2	3	—	13	5	$\infty$
3	10	13	—	6	15
4	<b>8</b>	5	6	—	4
5	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	4	—

	$S_2$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	2	3	<b>2</b>	5
2	1	—	1	4	5
3	1	1	—	4	5
4	<b>2</b>	2	3	—	5
5	1	2	3	4	—

**Iteration 3:** Set  $k = 3$ , as shown by the shaded row and column in  $D_2$ . The resulting changes are shown in bold in  $D_3$  and  $S_3$ .

	$D_3$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	3	10	8	<b>25</b>
2	3	—	13	5	<b>28</b>
3	10	13	—	6	15
4	8	5	6	—	4
5	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	4	—

	$S_3$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	2	3	2	<b>3</b>
2	1	—	1	4	<b>3</b>
3	1	1	—	4	5
4	2	2	3	—	5
5	1	2	3	4	—

**Iteration 4:** Set  $k = 4$ , as shown by the shaded row and column in  $D_3$ . The resulting changes are shown in bold in  $D_4$  and  $S_4$ .

	$D_4$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	3	10	8	<b>12</b>
2	3	—	<b>11</b>	5	<b>9</b>
3	10	<b>11</b>	—	6	<b>10</b>
4	8	5	6	—	<b>4</b>
5	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	4	—

	$S_4$				
	1	2	3	4	5
1	—	2	3	2	<b>4</b>
2	1	—	<b>4</b>	4	<b>4</b>
3	1	<b>4</b>	—	4	<b>4</b>
4	2	2	3	—	5
5	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	4	—

**Iteration 5:** Set  $k = 5$ , as shown by the shaded row and column in  $D_4$ . No further improvements are possible in this iteration.

The final matrices  $D_4$  and  $S_4$  contain all the information needed to determine the shortest route between any two nodes in the network. For example, from  $D_4$ , the shortest distance from node 1 to node 5 is  $d_{15} = 12$  miles. To determine the associated route, recall that a segment  $(i, j)$  represents a direct link only if  $s_{ij} = j$ . Otherwise,  $i$  and  $j$  are linked through at least one other intermediate node.

Because  $s_{15} = 4 \neq 5$ , the route is initially given as  $1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$ .

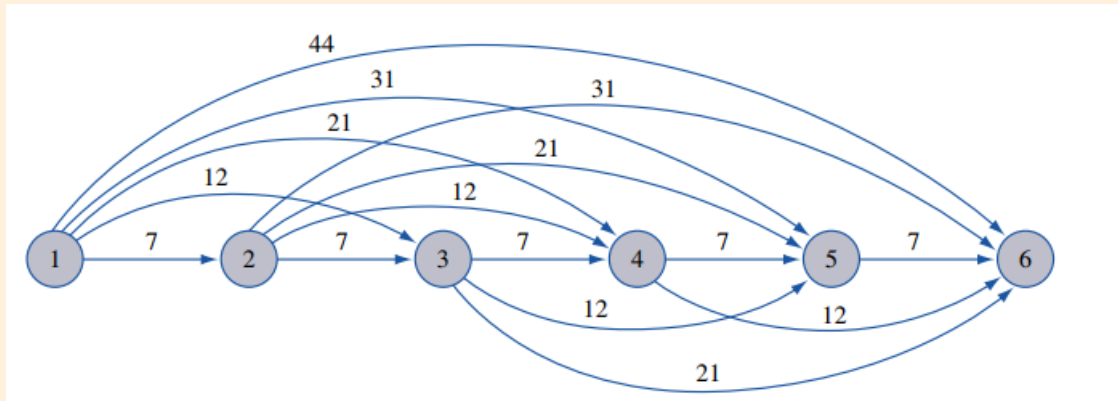
Now, because  $s_{14} = 2 \neq 4$ , the segment  $(1, 4)$  is not a direct link, and  $1 \rightarrow 4$  is replaced with  $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4$ , and the route  $1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$  now becomes  $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$ .

Next, because  $s_{12} = 2$ ,  $s_{24} = 4$ , and  $s_{45} = 5$ , no further “dissecting” is needed, and  $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$  defines the shortest route.



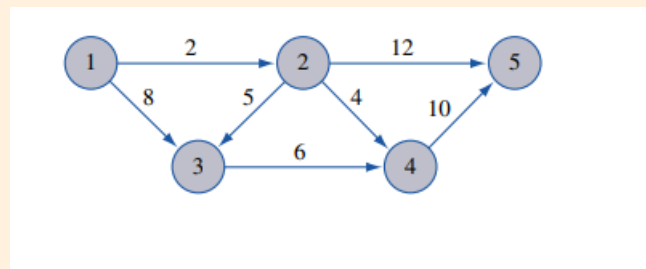
**Exercise 5.1**

1. Find the shortest path from node 1 to node 6 in the figure below



Compare the result of Dijkstra with Floyd algorithm

2. Find the shortest path from node 1 to node 5 in the Figure below



Compare the result of Dijkstra with Floyd algorithm

3. A company sells seven types of boxes, ranging in volume from 17 to 33 cubic feet. The demand and size of each box is given in the Table below.

	Box						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Size</b>	33	30	26	24	19	18	17
<b>Demand</b>	400	300	500	700	200	400	200

The variable cost (in cedis) of producing each box is equal to the box's volume. A fixed cost of ₦1,000 is incurred to produce any of a particular box. If the company desires, demand for a box may be satisfied by a box of larger size. Formulate and solve a shortest-path problem whose solution will minimize the cost of meeting the demand for boxes.

# 6. Queuing Theory

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Waiting for service is part of daily life. We wait for service in restaurants, we queue up to board a plane, and we line up for service in some offices. And the waiting phenomenon is not an experience limited to human beings: Jobs wait to be processed on a machine, cars stop at traffic lights. Eliminating waiting altogether is not a feasible option because the cost of installing and operating the service facility can be prohibitive. Our only recourse is to strike a balance between cost of offering a service and the cost of waiting experienced by customers. Queuing analysis is the vehicle for achieving this goal.

The study of queues deals with quantifying the phenomenon of waiting using representative measures of performance, such as average queue length, average waiting time in queue, and average facility utilization.

## 6.1 Some Queuing Terminology

---

To describe a queuing system, an input process and an output process must be specified.

**Banks**

Input: Customers arrive at the bank

Output: Tellers serve the customers

**Hospitals**

Input: Patients queue at pharmacy

Output: Pharmacist serve patients

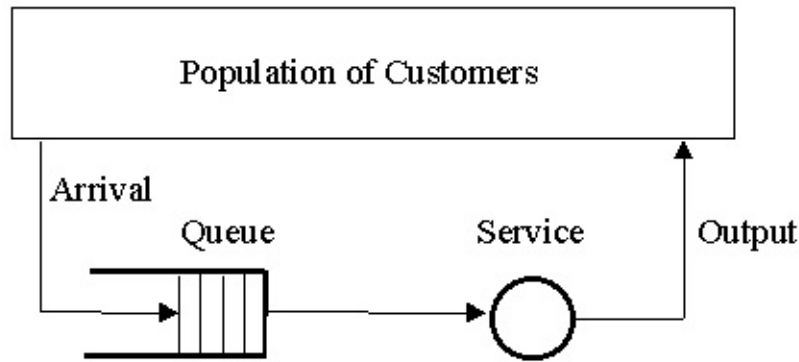


Figure 1

### 6.1.1 The Input or Arrival Process

The input process is usually called the **arrival process**. Arrivals are called customers. In all models that we will discuss, we assume that no more than one arrival can occur at a given instant. For a case like a restaurant, this is a very unrealistic assumption. If more than one arrival can occur at a given instant, we say that **bulk arrivals** are allowed.

Usually, we assume that the arrival process is unaffected by the number of customers present in the system. In the context of a bank, this would imply that whether there are 500 or 5 people at the bank, the process governing arrivals remains unchanged.

Models in which arrivals are drawn from a small population are called **finite source models**.

If the arrival process is unaffected by the number of customers present, we usually describe it by specifying a probability distribution that governs the time between successive arrivals.

### 6.1.2 The Output or Service Process

To describe the output process (often called the service process) of a queuing system, we usually specify a probability distribution—the service time distribution—which governs a customer's service time. In most cases, we assume that the service time distribution is independent of the number of customers present. This implies, for example, that the server does not work faster when more customers are present.

We discuss two arrangements of servers: **servers in parallel and servers in series**.

Servers are in parallel if all servers provide the same type of service and a customer need only pass through one server to complete service. For example, the tellers in a bank are usually arranged in parallel; any customer need only be serviced by one teller, and any teller can perform the desired service.

Servers are in series if a customer must pass through several servers before completing service. An assembly line is an example of a series queuing system.

### 6.1.3 Queue Discipline

The queue discipline describes the method used to determine the order in which customers are served. The most common queue discipline are first come first served (FCFS), last come, first

served (LCFS). service in random order (SIRO) and priority queuing disciplines.

Let explain these in details.

1. The first come, first served (FCFS) discipline, is where customers are served in the order of their arrival.
2. Under the last come, first served (LCFS) discipline, the most recent arrivals are the first to enter service.

If we consider exiting from an elevator to be service, then a crowded elevator illustrates an LCFS discipline.

3. Sometimes the order in which customers arrive has no effect on the order in which they are served. This would be the case if the next customer to enter service is randomly chosen from those customers waiting for service. Such a situation is referred to as the **SIRO discipline (service in random order)**.

Example: when callers to an airline are put on hold, the luck of the draw often determines the next caller serviced by an operator.

4. A priority discipline classifies each arrival into one of several categories. Each category is then given a priority level, and within each priority level, customers enter service on an FCFS basis.

Priority disciplines are often used in emergency rooms to determine the order in which customers receive treatment, and in copying and computer time-sharing facilities, where priority is usually given to jobs with shorter processing times.

#### 6.1.4 Method Used by Arrivals to Join Queue

Another factor that has an important effect on the behavior of a queuing system is the method that customers use to determine which line to join. For example, in some banks, customers must join a single line, but in other banks, customers may choose the line they want to join. When there are several lines, customers often join the shortest line. Unfortunately, in many situations (such as a supermarket), it is difficult to define the shortest line. If there are several lines at a queuing facility, it is important to know whether or not customers are allowed to switch, or jockey, between lines. In most queuing systems with multiple lines, jockeying is permitted, but jockeying at a toll booth plaza is not recommended.

## 6.2 M/M/1 Queuing System

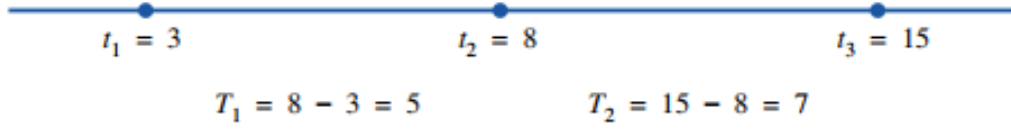
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M/M/1 queue represents the queue length in a system having a single server (1), where arrivals are determined by a Poisson process (M) and job service times have an exponential distribution (M). The model name is written in Kendall's notation. Kendall's notation is the standard system used to describe and classify a queuing node.

the M/M/c queue is a multi-server queueing model. In Kendall's notation it describes a system where arrivals form a single queue and are governed by a Poisson process, there are c servers, and job service times are exponentially distributed.

The model with infinitely many servers is the M/M/ $\infty$  queue.

As previously mentioned, we assume that at most one arrival can occur at a given instant of time. We define  $t_i$  to be the time at which the  $i$ th customer arrives. To illustrate this, consider the Figure below.



For  $i \geq 1$ , we define  $T_i = t_{i+1} - t_i$  to be the  $i$ th interarrival time. Thus,  $T_1 = 8 - 3 = 5$ , and  $T_2 = 15 - 8 = 7$ .

In modeling the arrival process, we assume that the  $T_i$ 's are independent, continuous random variables described by the random variable **A**. The independence assumption means, for example, that the value of  $T_2$  has no effect on the value of  $T_3$ ,  $T_4$ , or any later  $T_i$ .

The assumption that each  $T_i$  is continuous is usually a good approximation of reality. After all, an interarrival time need not be exactly 1 minute or 2 minutes; it could just as easily be, say, 1.55892 minutes.

The assumption that each interarrival time is governed by the same random variable implies that the distribution of arrivals is independent of the time of day or the day of the week. This is the assumption of stationary interarrival times. Because of phenomena such as rush hours, the assumption of stationary interarrival times is often unrealistic, but we may often approximate reality by breaking the time of day into segments. For example, if we were modeling traffic flow, we might break the day up into three segments: a morning rush hour segment, a midday segment, and an afternoon rush hour segment. During each of these segments, interarrival times may be stationary.

#### Definition 6.1

The random variable  $N$  that equals the number of events in a Poisson process is a Poisson random variable with parameter  $\lambda > 0$ , and the probability mass function  $f$  of  $N$  is

$$f(N = n) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^n}{n!}; \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

The mean  $E(N)$  and the variance  $var(N)$  are also given as

$$E(N) = var(N) = \lambda$$

A Poisson process is a model for a series of discrete event where the average time between events is known, but the exact timing of events is random.

If we define  $N_t$  to be the number of arrivals to occur during any time interval of length  $t$ , then

$$f(N_t = n) = \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^n}{n!}; \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (6.1)$$

Now  $N_t$  is a Poisson process with parameter  $\lambda t$ .

Again

$$E(N_t) = var(N_t) = \lambda t \quad (6.2)$$

**Definition 6.2**

The random variable  $T$  that equals the distance between successive events of a Poisson process with mean number of events  $\lambda > 0$  per unit interval is an exponential random variable with parameter  $\lambda$ .

Random interarrival and service times are described quantitatively in queuing models by the **exponential distribution**. The probability density function of  $T = t$  is

$$f(T = t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t}; \quad n > 0 \quad (6.3)$$

The mean or average interarrival time is given as

$$\mu = E(T) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \quad (6.4)$$

with variance

$$var(T) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \quad (6.5)$$

where  $\lambda$  is the arrival or departure rate.

Note also that

$$F(t \leq T) = \int_0^T \lambda e^{-\lambda t} dt = 1 - e^{-\lambda T}$$

$$F(T_1 \leq t \leq T_2) = \int_{T_1}^{T_2} \lambda e^{-\lambda t} dt = e^{-\lambda T_1} - e^{-\lambda T_2}$$

**Example 6.2.1**

The number of pizza ordered per hour from Modak hotel follows a Poisson distribution, with an average of 30 pizzas per hour being ordered.

1. Find the probability that exactly 60 pizzas are ordered between 10 A.M. and 12 midday.
2. Find the mean and standard deviation of the number of pizza ordered between 9 A.M. and 1 P.M.
3. Find the probability that the time between two consecutive orders is between 1 and 3 minutes.

**Solution**

1. The number of pizzas ordered between 10 A.M. and 12 midday will follow a Poisson distribution with parameter

$$\lambda t = 30(2) = 60, \quad \lambda t = n$$

Then the probability that exactly 60 pizza are ordered

$$f(N_t = n) = \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^n}{n!}; \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$f(N_t = 60) = \frac{e^{-60} (60)^{60}}{60!}$$

$$= 0.051$$

2. We have  $\lambda = 30$  and  $t = 4$ . The mean number of order between 9am and 1pm is

$$4(30) = 120$$

$$SD = \sqrt{\text{var}(N_t)} = \sqrt{120} = 10.95$$

3. Let  $t$  be the time (in minutes) between successive pizza orders. The mean number of orders per minute is exponential with parameter or rate  $\lambda = \frac{n}{t} = \frac{30 \text{ pizza}}{60 \text{ minutes}} = 0.5$  pizza per minute. Then we have

$$F(1 \leq t \leq 3) = \int_1^3 0.5e^{-0.5t} dt = e^{-0.5} - e^{-1.5} = 0.38$$

### Example 6.2.2

Babies are born in a large city at the rate of one birth every 12 minutes. The time between births follows an exponential distribution. Find the following:

1. The average number of births per year.
2. The probability that no births will occur during 1 day.
3. The probability of issuing 50 birth certificates in 3 hours, given that 40 certificates were issued during the first 2 hours of the 3-hr period.

### Solution

1. One baby per 12 minutes, then 5 babies per 1 hour. So the birth rate per day is computed as follows.

$$\lambda = 5 \times 24 \text{ hours in a day} = 120 \text{ births/day}$$

Thus, the number of births per year is

$$\lambda t = 120 \times 365 = 43,800 \text{ births/year}$$

2. The probability of no births during 1 day

$$\begin{aligned} f(N_t = n) &= \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^n}{n!}; \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ f(N_1 = 0) &= \frac{e^{-120(1)} (120(1))^0}{0!} \\ &= e^{-120} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

3. Because the distribution of the number of births is Poisson, the probability of issuing 50 certificates in 3 hours, given that 40 certificates were issued during the first 2 hours, is equivalent to having  $50 - 40 = 10$  births in  $3 - 2 = 1 \text{ hr} = 60 \text{ minutes}$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} f(N_t = n) &= \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^n}{n!}; \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ f(N_1 = 10) &= \frac{e^{-5(1)} (5(1))^{10}}{10!}; \quad \lambda = 5 \text{ babies in 1 hr} \\ &= 0.01813 \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 6.1**

1. The time between buses follows the mass function shown in the Table below.

Time Between Buses	Probability
30 minutes	$\frac{1}{4}$
1 hour	$\frac{1}{4}$
2 hours	$\frac{1}{2}$

What is the average length of time one must wait for a bus?

2. There are four sections of the third grade at Jefferson Elementary School. The number in each section is as follows: section 1, 20 students; section 2, 25 students; section 3, 35 students; section 4, 40 students. What is the average size of a third-grade section? Suppose the board of education randomly selects a Jefferson third-grader. On the average, how many students will be in her class?
3. In a bank operation, the arrival rate is 3 customers per minute. Determine the following:
  - (a) The average number of arrivals during 10 minutes.
  - (b) The probability that no arrivals will occur during the next minute.
  - (c) The probability that at least one arrival will occur during the next minute.
  - (d) The probability that the time between two successive arrivals is at least 2 minutes.
4. The time between arrivals of buses follows an exponential distribution, with a mean of 60 minutes.
  - (a) What is the probability that exactly four buses will arrive during the next 2 hours?
  - (b) That at least two buses will arrive during the next 2 hours?
  - (c) That no buses will arrive during the next 2 hours?
  - (d) A bus has just arrived. What is the probability that it will be between 30 and 90 minutes before the next bus arrives?
5. An average of 12 jobs per hour arrive at our departmental printer.
  - (a) Use two different computations (one involving the Poisson and another the exponential random variable) to determine the probability that no job will arrive during the next 15 minutes.
  - (b) What is the probability that 5 or fewer jobs will arrive during the next 30 minutes?



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