

In this problem, we will solve a large diet problem. There are 7035 kinds of food listed, and 30 nutrients. We want to find a diet that has the minimum level of cholesterol intake and at the same time satisfies all the nutritional requirement.

For each nutrient  $i$ , let  $m_i$  be the minimum daily intake of  $i$  and let  $M_i$  be the maximum daily intake of  $i$ . For each food  $j$ , let  $a_{ij}$  be the amount of nutrient  $i$  in food  $j$ . Let  $chol_j$  be the amount of cholesterol in food  $j$ , and define variables  $x_j$  to be the amount of food  $j$  in the daily diet. Then, the formulation of the diet problem is:

$$\min \sum_{j=1}^{7035} chol_j \cdot x_j \quad (1)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{j=1}^{7035} a_{ij} x_j \leq M_i, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, 30 \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{7035} a_{ij} x_j \geq m_i, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, 30 \quad (3)$$

$$x_j \geq 0, \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, 7035 \quad (4)$$

Suppose you wanted to solve it using the student (free) version of Xpress, which cannot handle 7035 variables. Apparently, you need to solve the problem in a more clever way. Column generation is an ideal choice. The