
Half Title Page



Title Page

LOC Page

Vince: to Riggins
Geraint: also, to Riggins



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Foreword

This is the foreword



Preface

This is the preface.



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I

Getting Started



Introduction

THANK you for starting to read this book. This book aims to bring together two fascinating topics:

- Problems that can be solved using mathematics;
- Software that is free to use and change.

What we mean by both of those things will become clear through reading this chapter and the rest of the book.

1.1 WHO IS THIS BOOK FOR?

Anyone who is interested in using mathematics and computers to solve problems will hopefully find this book helpful.

If you are a student of a mathematical discipline, a graduate student of a subject like operational research, a hobbyist who enjoys solving the travelling salesman problem or even if you get paid to do this stuff: this book is for you. We will introduce you to the world of open source software that allows you to do all these things freely.

If you are a student learning to write code, a graduate student using databases for their research, an enthusiast who programmes applications to help coordinate the neighbourhood watch, or even if you get paid to write software: this book is for you. We will introduce you to a world of problems that can be solved using your skill sets.

It would be helpful for the reader of this book to:

- Have access to a computer and be able to connect to the internet (at least once) to be able to download the relevant software.
- Be prepared to read some mathematics. Technically you do not need to understand the specific mathematics to be able to use the tools in this book. The topics covered use some algebra, calculus and probability.

1.2 WHAT DO WE MEAN BY APPLIED MATHEMATICS?

We consider this book to be a book on applied mathematics. This is not however a universal term, for some applied mathematics is the study of mechanics and involves

modelling projectiles being fired out of canons. We will use the term a bit more freely here and mean any type of real world problem that can be tackled using mathematical tools. This is sometimes referred to as operational research, operations research, mathematical modelling or indeed just mathematics.

One of the authors, Vince, used mathematics to plan the sitting plan at his wedding. Using a particular area of mathematics call graph theory he was able to ensure that everyone sat next to someone they liked and/or knew.

The other author, Geraint, used mathematics to find the best team of Pokemon. Using an area of mathematics call linear programming which is based on linear algebra he was able to find the best makeup of pokemon.

Here, applied mathematics is the type of mathematics that helps us answer questions that the real world asks.

1.3 WHAT IS OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

Strictly speaking open source software is software with source code that anyone can read, modify and improve. In practice this means that you do not need to pay to use it which is often one of the first attractions. This financial aspect can also be one of the reasons that someone will not use a particular piece of software due to a confusion between cost and value: if something is free is it really going to be any good?

In practice open source software is used all of the world and powers some of the most important infrastructure around. For example, one should never use any cryptographic software that is not open source: if you cannot open up and read things than you should not trust it (this is indeed why most cryptographic systems used are open source).

Today, open source software is a lot more than a licensing agreement: it is a community of practice. Bugs are fixed faster, research is implemented immediately and knowledge is spread more widely thanks to open source software. Bugs are fixed faster because anyone can read and inspect the source code. Most open source software projects also have a clear mechanisms for communicating with the developers and even reviewing and accepting code contributions from the general public. Research is implemented immediately because when new algorithms are discovered they are often added directly to the software by the researchers who found them. This all contributes to the spread of knowledge: open source software is the modern should of giants that we all stand on.

Open source software is software that, like scientific knowledge is not restricted in its use.

1.4 HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THIS BOOK

The book itself is open source. You can find the source files for this book online at github.com/drvinceknight/ampwoss. There will will also find a number of *Jupyter notebooks* and *R markdown files* that include code snippets that let you follow along.

We feel that you can choose to read the book from cover to cover, writing out

the code examples as you go; or it could also be used as a reference text when faced with particular problem and wanting to know where to start.

The book is made up of 10 chapters that are paired in two 4 parts. Each part corresponds to a particular area of mathematics, for example “Emergent Behaviour”. Two chapters are paired together for each chapter, usually these two chapters correspond to the same area of mathematics but from a slightly different scale that correspond to different ways of tackling the problem.

Every chapter has the following structure:

1. Introduction - a brief overview of a given problem type. Here we will describe the problem at hand in general terms.
2. An Example problem. This will provide a tangible example problem that offers the reader some intuition for the rest of the discussion.
3. Solving with Python. We will describe the mathematical tools available to us in a programming language called Python to solve the problem.
4. Solving with R. Here we will do the same with the R programming language.
5. Brief theoretic background with pointers to reference texts. Some readers might like to delve in to the mathematics of the problem a bit further, we will include those details here.
6. Examples of research using these methods. Finally, some readers might even be interested in finding out a bit more of what mathematicians are doing on these problems. Often this will include some descriptions of the problem considered but perhaps at a much larger scale than the one presented in the example.

For a given reader, not all sections of a chapter will be of interest. Perhaps a reader is only interested in R and finding out more about the research. Please do take from the book what you find useful.



II

Probabilistic Modelling



Markov Chains

MANY real world situations have some level of unpredictability through randomness: the flip of a coin, the number of orders of coffee in a shop, the winning numbers of the lottery. However, mathematics can in fact let us make predictions about what can be expected to happen. One tool used to understand randomness is Markov chains, an area of mathematics sitting at the intersection of probability and linear algebra.

2.1 PROBLEM

Consider a barber shop. The shop owners have noticed that customers will not wait if there is no room in their waiting room and will choose to take their business elsewhere. The Barber shop would like to make an investment so as to avoid this situation. They know the following information:

- They currently have 2 barber chairs (and 2 barbers).
- They have waiting room for 4 people.
- They usually have 10 customers arrive per hour.
- Each Barber takes about 15 minutes to serve a customer so they can serve 4 customers an hour.

This is represented diagrammatically in Figure 2.1.

They are planning on reconfiguring space to either have 2 extra waiting chairs or another barber's chair and barber.

The mathematical tool used here to model this situation is a Markov chain.

2.2 THEORY

A Markov chain is a model of a sequence of random events that is defined by a collection of **states** and rules that define how to move between these states.

For example, in the barber shop a single number is sufficient to describe the status of the shop: the number of customers present. If that number is 1 this implies that

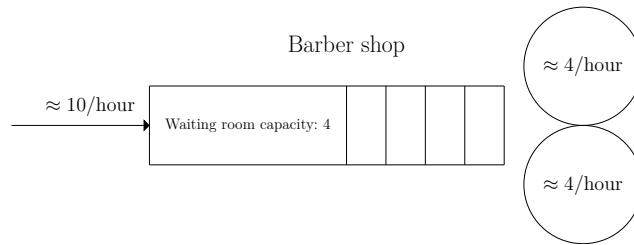


Figure 2.1 Diagrammatic representation of the barber shop as a queuing system.

1 customer is currently having their hair cut. If that number is 5 this implies that 2 customers are being served and 3 are waiting. The entire set of values that this value can take is a finite set of integers from 0 to 6, this set, in general, is called the *state space*. If the system is full (all barbers and waiting room occupied) then the Markov chain is in state 6 and if there is no one at the shop then it is in state 0. This is denoted mathematically as:

$$S = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \quad (2.1)$$

The state increases when people arrive and this happens at a rate of change of 10. The state decreases when people are served and this happens at a rate of 4 per active server. In both cases it is assumed that no 2 events can occur at the same time.

The rules that govern how to move between these states can be defined in 2 ways:

- Using probabilities of changing state (or not) in a well defined time interval. This is called a discrete Markov chain.
- Using rates of change from one state to another. This is called a continuous time Markov chain.

The barber shop will be considered as a continuous Markov chain as shown in Figure 2.2

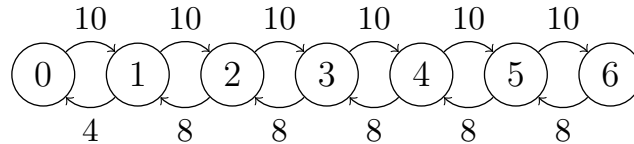


Figure 2.2 Diagrammatic representation of the state space and the transition rates

Note that a Markov chain assumes the rates follow an exponential distribution. One interesting property of this distribution is that it is considered memoryless which means the probability of a customer finishing service within the next 5 minutes does not change if they have been having their hair cut for 3 minutes already.

These states and rates can be represented mathematically using a transition matrix Q where Q_{ij} represents the rate of going from state i to state j . In this case:

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} -10 & 10 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & -14 & 10 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 & -18 & 10 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 & -18 & 10 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 8 & -18 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 8 & -18 & 10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 8 & -8 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.2)$$

You will see that Q_{ii} are negative and ensure the rows of Q sum to 0. This gives the total rate of change leaving state i .

The matrix Q can be used to understand the probability of being in a given state after t time units. This can be represented mathematically using a matrix P_t where $(P_t)_{ij}$ is the probability of being in state j after t time units having started in state i . Using a mathematical tool called the matrix exponential the value of P_t can be calculated numerically.

$$P_t = e^{Qt} \quad (2.3)$$

What is also useful is understanding the long run behaviour of the system. This allows us to answer questions such as “what state is the system most likely to be in on average?” or “what is the probability of being in the last state on average?”.

This long run probability distribution over the state can be represented using a vector π where π_i represents the probability of being in state i . This vector is in fact the solution to the following matrix equation:

$$\pi Q = 0 \quad (2.4)$$

with the following constraint:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \pi_i = 1 \quad (2.5)$$

In the upcoming sections all of the above concepts will be demonstrate.

2.3 SOLVING WITH PYTHON

The first step is to write a function to obtain the transition rates between 2 given states:

Python input

```

1  def get_transition_rate(
2      in_state,
3      out_state,
4      waiting_room=4,
5      num_barbers=2,
6  ):
7      """Return the transition rate for 2 given states.
8
9      Args:
10         in_state: an integer
11         out_state: an integer
12         waiting_room: an integer (default: 4)
13         num_barbers: an integer (default: 2)
14
15     Returns:
16         A real.
17     """
18     arrival_rate = 10
19     service_rate = 4
20
21     capacity = waiting_room + num_barbers
22     delta = out_state - in_state
23
24     if delta == 1 and in_state < capacity:
25         return arrival_rate
26
27     if delta == -1:
28         return min(in_state, num_barbers) * service_rate
29
30     return 0

```

Next, a function that creates an entire transition rate matrix Q for a given problem is written. The `numpy` library will be used to handle all the linear algebra and the `itertools` library for some iterations:

Python input

```

31 import itertools
32 import numpy as np
33
34
35 def get_transition_rate_matrix(waiting_room=4, num_barbers=2):
36     """Return the transition matrix Q.
37
38     Args:
39         waiting_room: an integer (default: 4)
40         num_barbers: an integer (default: 2)
41
42     Returns:
43         A matrix.
44     """
45     capacity = waiting_room + num_barbers
46     state_pairs = itertools.product(
47         range(capacity + 1), repeat=2
48     )
49
50     flat_transition_rates = [
51         get_transition_rate(
52             in_state=in_state,
53             out_state=out_state,
54             waiting_room=waiting_room,
55             num_barbers=num_barbers,
56         )
57         for in_state, out_state in state_pairs
58     ]
59     transition_rates = np.reshape(
60         flat_transition_rates, (capacity + 1, capacity + 1)
61     )
62     np.fill_diagonal(
63         transition_rates, -transition_rates.sum(axis=1)
64     )
65
66     return transition_rates

```

Using this the matrix Q for the default system can be obtained:

Python input

```

67 Q = get_transition_rate_matrix()
68 print(Q)

```

which gives:

Python output

```

69 [[-10  10  0  0  0  0  0]
70  [  4 -14  10  0  0  0  0]
71  [  0  8 -18  10  0  0  0]
72  [  0  0  8 -18  10  0  0]
73  [  0  0  0  8 -18  10  0]
74  [  0  0  0  0  8 -18  10]
75  [  0  0  0  0  0  8 -8]]

```

Here, the matrix exponential will be used as discussed above, using the `scipy` library. To see what would happen after .5 time units:

Python input

```

76 import scipy.linalg
77
78 print(scipy.linalg.expm(Q * 0.5).round(5))

```

which gives:

Python output

```

79 [[0.10492 0.21254 0.20377 0.17142 0.13021 0.09564 0.0815 ]
80  [0.08501 0.18292 0.18666 0.1708  0.14377 0.1189  0.11194]
81  [0.06521 0.14933 0.16338 0.16478 0.15633 0.14751 0.15346]
82  [0.04388 0.10931 0.13183 0.15181 0.16777 0.18398 0.21142]
83  [0.02667 0.07361 0.10005 0.13422 0.17393 0.2189  0.27262]
84  [0.01567 0.0487  0.07552 0.11775 0.17512 0.24484 0.32239]
85  [0.01068 0.03668 0.06286 0.10824 0.17448 0.25791 0.34914]]

```

To see what would happen after 500 time units:

Python input

```
86 print(scipy.linalg.expm(Q * 500).round(5))
```

which gives:

Python output

```
87 [[0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176]
88  [0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176]
89  [0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176]
90  [0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176]
91  [0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176]
92  [0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176]
93  [0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176]]
```

No matter what state (row) the system is in, after 500 time units, the probability of ending up in each state (columns) is the same regardless of the state the system began in (row).

The analysis can in fact be stopped here however the choice of 500 time units was arbitrary and might not be the correct amount for all possible scenarios, as such the underlying equation 2.4 directly.

The underlying linear system will be solved using a numerically efficient algorithm called least squares optimisation (available from the `numpy` library):

Python input

```

94 def get_steady_state_vector(Q):
95     """Return the steady state vector of any given continuous
96     time transition rate matrix.
97
98     Args:
99         Q: a transition rate matrix
100
101     Returns:
102         A vector
103     """
104     state_space_size, _ = Q.shape
105     A = np.vstack((Q.T, np.ones(state_space_size)))
106     b = np.append(np.zeros(state_space_size), 1)
107     x, _, _, _ = np.linalg.lstsq(A, b, rcond=None)
108     return x

```

The steady state vector for the default system is given by:

Python input

```

109 print(get_steady_state_vector(Q).round(5))

```

giving:

Python output

```

110 [0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176]

```

This shows that the shop is expected to be empty approximately 3.4% of the time and full 26.2% of the time.

The final function written is one that uses all of the above to return the probability of the shop being full.

Python input

```

111 def get_probability_of_full_shop(
112     waiting_room=4, num_barbers=2
113 ):
114     """Return the probability of the barber shop being full.
115
116     Args:
117         waiting_room: an integer (default: 4)
118         num_barbers: an integer (default: 2)
119
120     Returns:
121         A real.
122     """
123     Q = get_transition_rate_matrix(
124         waiting_room=waiting_room,
125         num_barbers=num_barbers,
126     )
127     pi = get_steady_state_vector(Q)
128     return pi[-1]

```

This can now confirm the previous probability calculated probability of the shop being full:

Python input

```

129 print(round(get_probability_of_full_shop(), 6))

```

which gives:

Python output

```

130 0.261756

```

Now that the models have been defined, they will be used to compare the 2 possible scenarios.

Having 2 extra space in the waiting room corresponds to:

Python input

```
131 print(round(get_probability_of_full_shop(waiting_room=6), 6))
```

which gives:

Python output

```
132 0.23557
```

This is a slight improvement however, increasing the number of barbers has a substantial effect:

Python input

```
133 print(round(get_probability_of_full_shop(num_barbers=3), 6))
```

Python output

```
134 0.078636
```

Therefore, it would be better to increase the number of barbers by 1 than to increase the waiting room capacity by 2.

2.4 SOLVING WITH R

The first step taken is to write a function to obtain the transition rates between 2 given states:

R input

```

135 #' Return the transition rate for 2 given states.
136 #'
137 #' @param in_state an integer
138 #' @param out_state an integer
139 #' @param waiting_room an integer (default: 4)
140 #' @param num_barbers an integer (default: 2)
141 #'
142 #' @return A real
143 get_transition_rate <- function(in_state,
144                                out_state,
145                                waiting_room = 4,
146                                num_barbers = 2){
147
148   arrival_rate <- 10
149   service_rate <- 4
150
151   capacity <- waiting_room + num_barbers
152   delta <- out_state - in_state
153
154   if (delta == 1) {
155     if (in_state < capacity) {
156       return(arrival_rate)
157     }
158   }
159
160   if (delta == -1) {
161     return(min(in_state, num_barbers) * service_rate)
162   }
163   return(0)
164 }

```

This actual function will not be used but instead a vectorized version of this makes calculations more efficient:

R input

```

164 vectorized_get_transition_rate <- Vectorize(
165   get_transition_rate,
166   vectorize.args = c("in_state", "out_state")
167 )

```

This function can now take a vector of inputs for the `in_state` and `out_state` variables which will allow us to simplify the following code that creates the matrices:

R input

```

168  #' Return the transition rate matrix Q
169  #'
170  #' @param waiting_room an integer (default: 4)
171  #' @param num_barbers an integer (default: 2)
172  #'
173  #' @return A matrix
174  get_transition_rate_matrix <- function(waiting_room = 4,
175                                       num_barbers = 2){
176    max_state <- waiting_room + num_barbers
177
178    Q <- outer(0:max_state,
179              0:max_state,
180              vectorized_get_transition_rate,
181              waiting_room = waiting_room,
182              num_barbers = num_barbers
183            )
184    row_sums <- rowSums(Q)
185
186    diag(Q) <- -row_sums
187    Q
188  }

```

Using this the matrix Q for the default system can be used:

R input

```

189  Q <- get_transition_rate_matrix()
190  print(Q)

```

which gives:

R output

```

191      [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7]
192 [1,]  -10  10   0   0   0   0   0
193 [2,]   4 -14  10   0   0   0   0
194 [3,]   0   8 -18  10   0   0   0
195 [4,]   0   0   8 -18  10   0   0
196 [5,]   0   0   0   8 -18  10   0
197 [6,]   0   0   0   0   8 -18  10
198 [7,]   0   0   0   0   0   8 -8

```

One immediate thing that can be done with this matrix is to take the matrix exponential discussed above. To do this, an R library called `expm` will be used.

To be able to make use of the nice `%>%` “pipe” operator the `magrittr` library will be loaded. Now if to see what would happen after .5 time units:

R input

```

199 library(expm, warn.conflicts = FALSE, quietly = TRUE)
200 library(magrittr, warn.conflicts = FALSE, quietly = TRUE)
201
202 print( (Q * .5) %>% expm %>% round(5))

```

which gives:

R output

```

203      [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7]
204 [1,] 0.10492 0.21254 0.20377 0.17142 0.13021 0.09564 0.08150
205 [2,] 0.08501 0.18292 0.18666 0.17080 0.14377 0.11890 0.11194
206 [3,] 0.06521 0.14933 0.16338 0.16478 0.15633 0.14751 0.15346
207 [4,] 0.04388 0.10931 0.13183 0.15181 0.16777 0.18398 0.21142
208 [5,] 0.02667 0.07361 0.10005 0.13422 0.17393 0.21890 0.27262
209 [6,] 0.01567 0.04870 0.07552 0.11775 0.17512 0.24484 0.32239
210 [7,] 0.01068 0.03668 0.06286 0.10824 0.17448 0.25791 0.34914

```

After 500 time units:

R input

```
211 print( (Q * 500) %>% expm %>% round(5))
```

which gives:

R output

```
212      [,1]      [,2]      [,3]      [,4]      [,5]      [,6]      [,7]
213 [1,] 0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176
214 [2,] 0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176
215 [3,] 0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176
216 [4,] 0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176
217 [5,] 0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176
218 [6,] 0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176
219 [7,] 0.03431 0.08577 0.10722 0.13402 0.16752 0.2094 0.26176
```

No matter what state (row) the system is in, after 500 time units, the probability of ending up in each state (columns) is the same regardless of the state the system began in (row).

The analysis can in fact be stopped here however the choice of 500 time units was arbitrary and might not be the correct amount for all possible scenarios, as such the underlying equation 2.4 directly.

To be able to do this, the versatile **pracma** package will be used which includes a number of numerical analysis functions for efficient computations.

R input

```

220 library(pracma, warn.conflicts = FALSE, quietly = TRUE)
221
222 #' Return the steady state vector of any given continuous time
223 #' transition rate matrix
224 #'
225 #' @param Q a transition rate matrix
226 #'
227 #' @return A vector
228 get_steady_state_vector <- function(Q){
229   state_space_size <- dim(Q)[1]
230   A <- rbind(t(Q), 1)
231   b <- c(integer(state_space_size), 1)
232   mldivide(A, b)
233 }

```

This is making use of `pracma`'s `mldivide` function which chooses the best numerical algorithm to find the solution to a given matrix equation $Ax = b$.

The steady state vector for the default system is now given by:

R input

```

234 print(get_steady_state_vector(Q))

```

giving:

R output

```

235      [,1]
236 [1,] 0.03430888
237 [2,] 0.08577220
238 [3,] 0.10721525
239 [4,] 0.13401906
240 [5,] 0.16752383
241 [6,] 0.20940479
242 [7,] 0.26175598

```

The shop is expected to be empty approximately 3.4% of the time and full 26.2% of the time.

The final piece of this puzzle is to create a single function that uses all of the above to return the probability of the shop being full.

R input

```

243 #' Return the probability of the barber shop being full
244 #'
245 #' @param waiting_room (default: 4)
246 #' @param num_barbers (default: 2)
247 #'
248 #' @return A real
249 get_probability_of_full_shop <- function(waiting_room = 4,
250                                         num_barbers = 2){
251     arrival_rate <- 10
252     service_rate <- 4
253     pi <- get_transition_rate_matrix(
254         waiting_room = waiting_room,
255         num_barbers = num_barbers
256     ) %>%
257         get_steady_state_vector()
258
259     capacity <- waiting_room + num_barbers
260     pi[capacity + 1]
261 }

```

This confirms the previous probability calculated probability of the shop being full:

R input

```

262 print(get_probability_of_full_shop())

```

which gives:

R output

```

263 [1] 0.261756

```

Now that the models have been defined, they will be used to compare the 2 possible scenarios.

Adding 2 extra spaces in the waiting rooms corresponds to:

R input

```
264 print(get_probability_of_full_shop(waiting_room = 6))
```

which decreases the probability of a full shop to:

R output

```
265 [1] 0.2355699
```

but adding another barber and chair:

R input

```
266 print(get_probability_of_full_shop(num_barbers = 3))
```

gives:

R output

```
267 [1] 0.0786359
```

Therefore, it would be better to increase the number of barbers by 1 than to increase the waiting room capacity by 2.

2.5 RESEARCH

TBA



Discrete Event Simulation

COMPLEX situations further compounded by randomness appear throughout daily lives. Examples include data flowing through a computer network, patients being treated at an emergency services, and daily commutes to work. Mathematics can be used to understand these complex situations so as to make predictions which in turn can be used to make improvements. One tool used to do this, is to let a computer create a dynamic virtual representation of the scenario in question, a particular approach we are going to cover here is called Discrete Event Simulation.

3.1 TYPICAL PROBLEM

A bicycle repair shop would like reconfigure in order to guarantee that all bicycles processed take a maximum of 30 minutes. Their current set-up is as follows:

- Bicycles arrive randomly at the shop at a rate of 15 per hour.
- They wait in line to be seen at an inspection counter, staffed by one member of staff who can inspect one bicycle at a time. On average an inspection takes around 3 minutes.
- Around 20% of bicycles do not need repair after inspection, and they are then ready for collection.
- Around 80% of bicycles go on to be repaired after inspection. These then wait in line outside the repair workshop, which is staffed by two members of staff who can each repair one bicycle at a time. On average a repair takes around 6 minutes.
- After repair the bicycles are ready for collection.

A diagram of the system is shown in Figure 3.1.

An assumption of infinite capacity at the bicycle repair shop for waiting bicycles is made. The shop will hire an extra member of staff in order to meet their target of a maximum time in the system of 30 minutes. They would like to know if they should work on the inspection counter or in the repair workshop?



Figure 3.1 Diagrammatic representation of the bicycle repair shop as a queuing system.

3.2 THEORY

A number of aspects of the bicycle shop above are probabilistic. For example the times that bicycles arrive at the shop, the duration of the inspection and repairs, and whether the bicycle would need to go on to be repaired or not. When a number of these probabilistic events are linked together such as the bicycle shop a method to model this situation is *Discrete Event Simulation*.

Consider one probabilistic event, rolling a six sided die where each side is equally likely to land. Therefore the probability of rolling a 1 is $\frac{1}{6}$, the probability of rolling a 2 is $\frac{1}{6}$, and so on. This means that that if the die is rolled a large number of times, $\frac{1}{6}$ of those rolls would be expected to be a 1.

Consider a random process in which the actual values of the probability of events occurring are not known. Consider rolling a weighted die, in this case a die in which the probability of obtaining one number is much greater than the others. How can probability of obtaining a 1 on this die be estimated?

Rolling the weighted die once does not give much information. However due to a theorem called the law of large numbers, this die can be rolled a number of times and find the proportion of those rolls which gave a 1. The more times we roll the die, the closer this proportion approaches the actual value of the probability of obtaining a 1.

For a complex system such as the bicycle shop the goal is to estimate the proportion of bicycles that take longer than 30 minutes to be processed. As it is a complex system it is difficult to obtain an exact value. So, like the weighted die, the system will be observed a number of times and the overall proportions of bicycles spending longer than 30 minutes in the shop will converge to the exact value. Unlike rolling a weighted die, it is costly to observe this shop over a number of days with identical conditions. In this case it is costly in terms of time, as the repair shop already exists. However some scenarios, for example the scenario where the repair shop hires an additional member of staff, do not yet exist, so observing this would be costly in terms of money also. It is possible to build a virtual representation of this complex system on a computer, and observe a virtual day of work much more quickly and with much less cost, similar to a video game.

In order to do this, the computer needs to be able to generate random outcomes of each of the smaller events that make up the large complex system. Generating

random events are essentially doing things with random numbers, these need to be generated.

Computers are deterministic, therefore true randomness is in itself a challenging mathematical problem. They can however generate pseudorandom numbers: sequences of numbers that look like random numbers, but are entirely determined from the previous numbers in the sequence. Most programming languages have methods of doing this.

In order to simulate an event the law of large numbers can be used. Let $X \sim U(0, 1)$, a uniformly pseudorandom variable between 0 and 1. Let D be the outcome of a roll of an unbiased die. Then D can be defined as:

$$D = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq X < \frac{1}{6} \\ 2 & \text{if } \frac{1}{6} \leq X < \frac{2}{6} \\ 3 & \text{if } \frac{2}{6} \leq X < \frac{3}{6} \\ 4 & \text{if } \frac{3}{6} \leq X < \frac{4}{6} \\ 5 & \text{if } \frac{4}{6} \leq X < \frac{5}{6} \\ 6 & \text{if } \frac{5}{6} \leq X < 1 \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

The bicycle repair shop is a system of interactions of random events. This can be thought of as many interactions of random variables, each generated using pseudorandom numbers.

In this case the fundamental random events that need to be generated are:

- the time each bicycle arrives to the repair shop,
- the time each bicycle spends at the inspection counter,
- whether each bicycle needs to go on to the repair workshop,
- the time those bicycles spend being repaired.

As the simulation progresses these events will be generated, and will interact together as described in Section 9.1. The proportion of customers spending longer than 30 minutes in the shop can then be counted. This proportion itself is a random variable, and so like the weighted die, running this simulation once does not give much information. The simulation can be run many times and to give an average proportion.

The process outlined above is a particular implementation of Monte Carlo simulation called *Discrete Event Simulation*, which is a generic term for generating pseudorandom numbers and observes the emergent interactions. In practice there are two main approaches to simulating complex probabilistic systems such as this one: *event scheduling* and *process based* simulation. It so happens that the main implementations in Python and R use each of these approaches respectively.

3.2.1 Event Scheduling Approach

When using the event scheduling approach, the ‘virtual representation’ of the system is the collection of facilities that the bicycles use, shown in Figure 3.1. Then the entities (the bicycles) interact with these facilities. It is these facilities that determine how the entities behave.

In a simulation that uses an event scheduling approach, a key concept is that when events occur this causes further events to occur in the future, either immediately or after a delay. In the bicycle shop examples of such events include a bicycle joining a queue, a bicycle beginning service, and a bicycle finishing service. At each event the event list is updated, and the clock then jumps forward to the next event in this updated list.

3.2.2 Process Based Simulation

When using process based simulation, the ‘virtual representation’ of the system is the sequence of actions that each entity (the bicycles) must take, and these sequences of actions might contain delays as a number of entities seize and release a finite amount of resources. It is the sequence of these actions that determine how the entities behave.

For the bicycle repair shop an example of one possible sequence of actions would be:

arrive → seize inspection counter → delay → release inspection counter → seize repair shop → delay → release repair shop → leave

The scheduled delays in this sequence of events correspond to the time spend being inspected and the time spend being repaired. Waiting in line for service at these facilities are not included in the sequence of events; that is implicit by the ‘seize’ and ‘release’ actions, as an entity will wait for a free resource before seizing one. Therefore in process based simulations, in addition to defining a sequence of events, resource types and their numbers also need to be defined.

3.3 SOLVING WITH PYTHON

In this book the Ciw library will be used in order to conduct Discrete Event Simulation in Python. Ciw uses the event scheduling approach, which means the system’s facilities are defined, and customers then interact with them.

In this case there are two facilities to define: the inspection desk and the repair workshop. For each of these the following need to be defined:

- the distribution of times between consecutive bicycles arriving,
- the distribution of times the bicycles spend in service,
- the number of servers available,
- the probability of routing to each of the other facilities after service.

In this case the time between consecutive arrivals will be assumed to follow an

exponential distribution, as will the service time. These are common assumptions for this sort of queueing system.

In Ciw, these are defined as part of a Network object, created using the `ciw.create_network` function. The function below creates a Network object that defines the system for a given set of parameters bicycle repair shop:

Python input

```

268 import ciw
269
270
271 def build_network_object(
272     num_inspectors=1,
273     num_repairers=2,
274 ):
275     """Returns a Network object that defines the repair shop.
276
277     Args:
278         num_inspectors: a positive integer (default: 1)
279         num_repairers: a positive integer (default: 2)
280
281     Returns:
282         a Ciw network object
283     """
284     arrival_rate = 15
285     inspection_rate = 20
286     repair_rate = 10
287     prob_need_repair = 0.8
288     N = ciw.create_network(
289         arrival_distributions=[
290             ciw.dists.Exponential(arrival_rate),
291             ciw.dists.NoArrivals(),
292         ],
293         service_distributions=[
294             ciw.dists.Exponential(inspection_rate),
295             ciw.dists.Exponential(repair_rate),
296         ],
297         number_of_servers=[num_inspectors, num_repairers],
298         routing=[[0.0, prob_need_repair], [0.0, 0.0]],
299     )
300     return N

```

A Network object is used by Ciw to access system parameters. For example one piece of information it holds is the number of nodes of the system:

Python input

```

301 N = build_network_object()
302 print(N.number_of_nodes)

```

which gives:

Python output

```

303 2

```

Now that the system is defined a Simulation object can be created. Once this is built the simulation can be run, that is observe it for one virtual day. The following function does this:

Python input

```

304 def run_simulation(network, seed=0):
305     """Builds a simulation object and runs it for 8 time units.
306
307     Args:
308         network: a Ciw network object
309         seed: a float (default: 0)
310
311     Returns:
312         a Ciw simulation object after a run of the simulation
313     """
314     max_time = 8
315     ciw.seed(seed)
316     Q = ciw.Simulation(network)
317     Q.simulate_until_max_time(max_time)
318     return Q

```

Notice here a random seed is set. This is because there is randomness in running the simulation, setting a seed ensures reproducible results. Notice also that the simulation always begins with an empty system, so the first bicycle to arrive will never wait for service. Depending on the situation this may be an unwanted feature, though not in this case as it is reasonable to assume that the bicycle shop will begin the day with no customers.

To count the number of bicycles that have finished service, and to count the number of those whose entire journey through the system lasted longer than 0.5 hours the `pandas` library will be used:

Python input

```

319 import pandas as pd
320
321
322 def get_proportion(Q):
323     """Returns the proportion of bicycles spending over a given
324     limit at the repair shop.
325
326     Args:
327     Q: a Ciw simulation object after a run of the
328     simulation
329
330     Returns:
331     a real
332     """
333     limit = 0.5
334     inds = Q.nodes[-1].all_individuals
335     recs = pd.DataFrame(
336         dr for ind in inds for dr in ind.data_records
337     )
338     recs["total_time"] = (
339         recs["exit_date"] - recs["arrival_date"]
340     )
341     total_times = recs.groupby("id_number")["total_time"].sum()
342     return (total_times > limit).mean()

```

Altogether these functions can define the system, run one day of the system, and then find the proportion of bicycles spending over half an hour in the shop:

Python input

```

343 N = build_network_object()
344 Q = run_simulation(N)
345 p = get_proportion(Q)
346 print(round(p, 6))

```

This gives:

Python output

347

0.261261

meaning 26.13% of all bicycles spent longer than half an hour at the repair shop.

However this particular day may have contained a number of extreme events. For a more accurate proportion this experiment should be repeated a number of times, and an average proportion taken. The following function returns an average proportion:

Python input

```

348 def get_average_proportion(num_inspectors=1, num_repairers=2):
349     """Returns the average proportion of bicycles spending over
350 a given limit at the repair shop.
351
352     Args:
353         num_inspectors: a positive integer (default: 1)
354         num_repairers: a positive integer (default: 2)
355
356     Returns:
357         a real
358     """
359     num_trials = 100
360     N = build_network_object(
361         num_inspectors=num_inspectors,
362         num_repairers=num_repairers,
363     )
364     proportions = []
365     for trial in range(num_trials):
366         Q = run_simulation(N, seed=trial)
367         proportion = get_proportion(Q=Q)
368         proportions.append(proportion)
369     return sum(proportions) / num_trials

```

This can be used to find the average proportion over 100 trials for the current system of one inspector and two repair people:

Python input

```
370 p = get_average_proportion(num_inspectors=1, num_repairers=2)
371 print(round(p, 6))
```

which gives:

Python output

```
372 0.159354
```

that is, on average 15.94% of bicycles will spend longer than 30 minutes at the repair shop.

Now consider the two possible future scenarios: hiring an extra member of staff to serve at the inspection desk, or hiring an extra member of staff at the repair workshop. Which scenario yields a smaller proportion of bicycles spending over 30 minutes at the shop? First look the situation where the additional member of staff works at the inspection desk is considered:

Python input

```
373 p = get_average_proportion(num_inspectors=2, num_repairers=2)
374 print(round(p, 6))
```

which gives:

Python output

```
375 0.038477
```

that is 3.85% of bicycles.

Now look at the situation where the additional member of staff works at the repair workshop:

Python input

```
376 p = get_average_proportion(num_inspectors=1, num_repairers=3)
377 print(round(p, 6))
```

which gives:

Python output

```
378 0.103591
```

that is 10.36% of bicycles.

Therefore an additional member of staff at the inspection desk would be more beneficial than an additional member of staff at the repair workshop.

3.4 SOLVING WITH R

In this book we will use the Simmer package in order to conduct discrete event simulation in R. Simmer uses the process based approach, which means that each bicycle's sequence of actions must be defined, and then generate a number of bicycles with these sequences.

In Simmer these sequences of actions are made up of trajectories. The diagram in Figure 3.2 shows the branched trajectories that a bicycle would take at the repair shop:

The function below defines a simmer object that describes these trajectories:



Figure 3.2 Diagrammatic representation of the forked trajectories a bicycle can take

R input

```

379 library(simmer)
380
381 #' Returns a simmer trajectory object outlining the bicycles
382 #' path through the repair shop
383 #'
384 #' @return A simmer trajectory object
385 define_bicycle_trajectories <- function() {
386   inspection_rate <- 20
387   repair_rate <- 10
388   prob_need_repair <- 0.8
389   bicycle <-
390     trajectory("Inspection") %>%
391     seize("Inspector") %>%
392     timeout(function() {
393       rexp(1, inspection_rate)
394     }) %>%
395     release("Inspector") %>%
396     branch(
397       function() (runif(1) < prob_need_repair),
398       continue = c(F),
399       trajectory("Repair") %>%
400         seize("Repairer") %>%
401         timeout(function() {
402           rexp(1, repair_rate)
403         }) %>%
404         release("Repairer"),
405       trajectory("Out")
406     )
407   return(bicycle)
408 }
```

These trajectories are not very useful alone, we are yet to define the resources used, or a way to generate bicycles with these trajectories. This is done in the function below, which begins by defining a `repair_shop` with one resource labelled “Inspector”, and two resources labelled “Repairer”. Once this is built the simulation can be run, that is observe it for one virtual day. The following function does all this:

R input

```

409  #' Runs one trial of the simulation.
410  #'
411  #' @param bicycle a simmer trajectory object
412  #' @param num_inspectors positive integer (default: 1)
413  #' @param num_repairers positive integer (default: 2)
414  #' @param seed a float (default: 0)
415  #'
416  #' @return A simmer simulation object after one run of
417  #'         the simulation
418  run_simulation <- function(bicycle,
419                             num_inspectors = 1,
420                             num_repairers = 2,
421                             seed = 0) {
422
423     arrival_rate <- 15
424     max_time <- 8
425     repair_shop <-
426       simmer("Repair Shop") %>%
427       add_resource("Inspector", num_inspectors) %>%
428       add_resource("Repairer", num_repairers) %>%
429       add_generator("Bicycle", bicycle, function() {
430         rexp(1, arrival_rate)
431       })
432
433     set.seed(seed)
434     repair_shop %>% run(until = 8)
435     return(repair_shop)
  }

```

Notice here a random seed is set. This is because there are elements of randomness when running the simulation, setting a seed ensures reproducible results. Notice also that the simulation always begins with an empty system, so the first bicycle to arrive will never wait for service. Depending on the situation this may be an unwanted feature, though not in this case as it is reasonable to assume that the bicycle shop will begin the day with no customers.

To count the number of bicycles that have finished service, and to count the

number of those whose entire journey through the system lasted longer than 0.5 hours, Simmer's `get_mon_arrivals()` function gives a data frame that can be manipulated:

R input

```

436 #' Returns the proportion of bicycles spending over 30
437 #' minutes in the repair shop
438 #'
439 #' @param repair_shop a simmer simulation object
440 #'
441 #' @return a float between 0 and 1
442 get_proportion <- function(repair_shop) {
443   limit <- 0.5
444   recs <- repair_shop %>% get_mon_arrivals()
445   total_times <- recs$end_time - recs$start_time
446   return(mean(total_times > 0.5))
447 }

```

Altogether these functions can define the system, run one day of the system, and then find the proportion of bicycles spending over half an hour in the shop:

R input

```

448 bicycle <- define_bicycle_trajectories()
449 repair_shop <- run_simulation(bicycle = bicycle)
450 print(get_proportion(repair_shop = repair_shop))

```

This piece of code gives

R output

```

451 [1] 0.1343284

```

meaning 13.43% of all bicycles spent longer than half an hour at the repair shop.

However this particular day may have contained a number of extreme events. For a more accurate proportion this experiment should be repeated a number of times, and an average proportion taken. In order to do so, the following is a function that performs the above experiment over a number of trials, then finds an average proportion:

R input

```

452 #' Returns the average proportion of bicycles spending over
453 #' a given limit at the repair shop.
454 #'
455 #' @param num_inspectors positive integer (default: 1)
456 #' @param num_repairers positive integer (default: 2)
457
458 #' @return a float between 0 and 1
459 get_average_proportion <- function(num_inspectors = 1,
460                                   num_repairers = 2) {
461   num_trials <- 100
462   bicycle <- define_bicycle_trajectories()
463   proportions <- c()
464   for (trial in 1:num_trials) {
465     repair_shop <- run_simulation(
466       bicycle = bicycle,
467       num_inspectors = num_inspectors,
468       num_repairers = num_repairers,
469       seed = trial
470     )
471     proportion <- get_proportion(
472       repair_shop = repair_shop
473     )
474     proportions[trial] <- proportion
475   }
476   return(mean(proportions))
477 }

```

This can be used to find the average proportion over 100 trials:

R input

```

478 print(
479   get_average_proportion(
480     num_inspectors = 1,
481     num_repairers = 2)
482 )

```

which gives:

R output

```
483 [1] 0.1635779
```

that is, on average 16.36% of bicycles will spend longer than 30 minutes at the repair shop.

Now consider the two possible future scenarios: hiring an extra member of staff to serve at the inspection desk, or hiring an extra member of staff at the repair workshop. Which scenario yields a smaller proportion of bicycles spending over 30 minutes at the shop? First consider the the situation where the additional member of staff works at the inspection desk:

R input

```
484 print(  
485   get_average_proportion(  
486     num_inspectors = 2,  
487     num_repairers = 2)  
488 )
```

which gives:

R output

```
489 [1] 0.04221602
```

that is 4.22% of bicycles.

Now look at the situation where the additional member of staff works at the repair workshop:

R input

```
490 print(  
491   get_average_proportion(  
492     num_inspectors = 1,  
493     num_repairers = 3)  
494 )
```

which gives:

R output

```
495 [1] 0.1224761
```

that is 12.25% of bicycles.

Therefore an additional member of staff at the inspection desk would be more beneficial than an additional member of staff at the repair workshop.

3.5 RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

III

Dynamical Systems



Modelling with Differential Equations

SYSTEMS often change in a way that depends on their current state. For example, the speed at which a cup of coffee cools down depends on its current temperature. These types of systems are called dynamical systems and are modelled mathematically using differential equations. In this chapter we will consider a direct solution approach using symbolic mathematics.

4.1 PROBLEM

Consider the following situation: the entire population of a small rural town has caught a cold. All 100 individuals will recover at an average rate of 2 per day. The town leadership have noticed that being ill costs approximately £10 per day, this is due to general lack of productivity, poorer mood and other intangible aspects. They need to decide whether or not to order cold medicine which would **double** the recover rate. The cost of the cold medicine is a one off cost of £5 per person.

4.2 THEORY

In the case of this town, the overall rate at which people get better is dependent on the number of people in how are ill. This can be represented mathematically using a differential equation which is a way of relating the rate of change of a system to the state of the system itself.

In general if we are interested in some variable x over time t the differential function equation will be of the form:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x) \quad (4.1)$$

For some function f . In our case, if we denote the number of infected individuals as I where we implicitly mean that I is a function of time: $I = I(t)$ and the rate at which individuals recover by α then the differential equation that describes the above situation is:

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = -\alpha I \quad (4.2)$$

Finding a solution to this differential equation means finding an expression for I that when differentiated gives $-\alpha I$.

In this particular case, one such function is:

$$I(t) = e^{-\alpha t} \quad (4.3)$$

However, $I(0) = 1$ whereas for our problem we know that at time $t = 0$ there are 100 infected individuals. Indeed a differential equation defines a family of solutions and we need to know some sort of initial (also referred to as boundary) condition to have the exact solution. Which in this case would be:

$$I(t) = 100e^{-\alpha t} \quad (4.4)$$

To evaluate the cost we then need to know the sum of the values of that function over time. Integration gives us exactly this, so the cost would be:

$$K \int_0^{\infty} I(t) dt \quad (4.5)$$

where K is the cost per person per unit time.

In the upcoming sections we will confirm and use code to carry out the above efficiently so as to answer the original question.

4.3 SOLVING WITH PYTHON

The first step we will take is to write a function to obtain the differential equation. Note that here we will be using the Python library `sympy` which allows us to carry out symbolic calculations.

Python input

```

496 import sympy as sym
497
498 t = sym.Symbol("t")
499 alpha = sym.Symbol("alpha")
500 I_0 = sym.Symbol("I_0")
501 I = sym.Function("I")
502
503
504 def get_equation(alpha=alpha):
505     """Return the differential equation.
506
507     Args:
508         alpha: a float (default: symbolic alpha)
509
510     Returns:
511         A symbolic equation
512     """
513     return sym.Eq(sym.Derivative(I(t), t), -alpha * I(t))

```

Using this we can get the equation that defines the population change over time:

Python input

```

514 eq = get_equation()
515 print(eq)

```

which gives:

Python output

```

516 Eq(Derivative(I(t), t), -alpha*I(t))

```

Note that if you are using Jupyter then your output will actually be a well rendered mathematical equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}I(t) = -\alpha I(t)$$

Note that we can pass a value to α if we want to:

Python input

```

517 eq = get_equation(alpha=1)
518 print(eq)

```

Python output

```

519 Eq(Derivative(I(t), t), -I(t))

```

We will now write a function to obtain the solution to this differential

Python input

```

520 def get_solution(I_0=I_0, alpha=alpha):
521     """Return the solution to the differential equation.
522
523     Args:
524         I_0: a float (default: symbolic I_0)
525         alpha: a float (default: symbolic alpha)
526
527     Returns:
528         A symbolic equation
529     """
530     eq = get_equation(alpha=alpha)
531     return sym.dsolve(eq, I(t), ics={I(0): I_0})

```

We can verify the solution discussed previously:

Python input

```

532 sol = get_solution()
533 print(sol)

```

which gives:

Python output

534 `Eq(I(t), I_0*exp(-alpha*t))`

$$I(t) = I_0 e^{-\alpha t}$$

We can use sympy itself to verify the result, by taking the derivative of the right hand side of our solution.

Python input

535 `print(sym.diff(sol.rhs, t) == -alpha * sol.rhs)`

which gives:

Python output

536 `True`

All of the above has given us the general solution in terms of $I(0) = I_0$ and α however we have written the code in such a way as we can pass the actual parameters:

Python input

537 `sol = get_solution(alpha=2, I_0=100)`
 538 `print(sol)`

which gives:

Python output

539 `Eq(I(t), 100*exp(-2*t))`

Now, to calculate the cost we will write a function to integrate our result:

Python input

```

540 def get_cost(
541     I_0=I_0,
542     alpha=alpha,
543     cost_per_person=10,
544     cost_of_cure=0,
545 ):
546     """Return the cost.
547
548     Args:
549         I_0: a float (default: symbolic I_0)
550         alpha: a float (default: symbolic alpha)
551         cost_per_person: a float (default: 10)
552         cost_of_cure: a float (default: 0)
553
554     Returns:
555         A symbolic expression
556     """
557     I_sol = get_solution(I_0=I_0, alpha=alpha)
558     return (
559         sym.integrate(I_sol.rhs, (t, 0, sym.oo))
560         * cost_per_person
561         + cost_of_cure * I_0
562     )

```

We can now obtain the cost without purchasing the cure:

Python input

```

563 I_0 = 100
564 alpha = 2
565 cost_without_cure = get_cost(I_0=I_0, alpha=alpha)
566 print(cost_without_cure)

```

which gives:

Python output

```

567 500

```

The cost with cure can use the above with a modified α and a non zero cost of the cure itself:

Python input

```

568 cost_of_cure = 5
569 cost_with_cure = get_cost(
570     I_0=I_0, alpha=2 * alpha, cost_of_cure=cost_of_cure
571 )
572 print(cost_with_cure)

```

which gives:

Python output

```

573 750

```

So given the current parameters it is not worth purchasing the cure.

4.4 SOLVING WITH R

R has some capability for symbolic mathematics, however at the time of writing the options available are somewhat limited and/or not reliable. As such, we will actually solve the problem with R using a numerical integration approach. For an outline of the theory behind this approach see Chapter

First we write a function to give us the derivative for a given value of I .

R input

```

574 derivative <- function(t, y, parameters) {
575     with(as.list(c(y, parameters)), {
576         dIdt <- -alpha * I # nolint
577         list(dIdt) # nolint
578     })
579 }

```

For example, to see the value of the derivative when $I = 0$ we have:

R input

```
580 derivative(t = 0, y = c(I = 100), parameters = c(alpha = 2))
```

This gives:

R output

```
581 [[1]]
582 [1] -200
```

We will now make use of the `deSolve` library for solving differential equations numerically:

R input

```
583 library(deSolve) # nolint
584 integrate_ode <- function(times,
585                             y0 = c(I = 100),
586                             alpha = 2) {
587   params <- c(alpha = alpha)
588   ode(y = y0, times = times, func = derivative, parms = params)
589 }
```

This will return a sequence of time point and values of I at those time points. Using this we can compute the cost. Note that this function uses `stopifnot` to make sure our differential equation has been solved for a long enough time period.

R input

```

590 get_cost <- function(
591     I_0 = 100,
592     alpha = 2,
593     cost_per_person = 10,
594     cost_of_cure = 0,
595     step_size = 0.0001,
596     max_time = 10) {
597   times <- seq(0, max_time, by = step_size)
598   out <- integrate_ode(times,
599     y0 = c(I = I_0),
600     alpha = alpha
601   )
602   number_of_observations <- length(out[, "I"])
603
604   stopifnot(out[number_of_observations, "I"] < step_size)
605
606   time_between_steps <- diff(out[, "time"])
607   area_under_curve <- sum(
608     time_between_steps *
609     out[-number_of_observations, "I"]
610   )
611   area_under_curve *
612     cost_per_person + cost_of_cure *
613     I_0
614 }

```

Using this we can compute the costs:

R input

```

615 alpha <- 2
616 cost_without_cure <- get_cost(alpha = alpha)
617 print(round(cost_without_cure))

```

which gives:

R output

```
618 [1] 500
```

The cost with cure can use the above with a modified α and a non zero cost of the cure itself:

R input

```
619 cost_of_cure <- 5
620 cost_with_cure <- get_cost(
621     alpha = 2 * alpha, cost_of_cure = cost_of_cure
622 )
623 print(round(cost_with_cure))
```

which gives:

R output

```
624 [1] 750
```

So given the current parameters it is not worth purchasing the cure.

4.5 RESEARCH

TBA

Systems Dynamics

IN many situations systems are dynamical, in that the state or population of a number of entities or classes change according to the current state or population of the system. For example population dynamics, chemical reactions, and systems of macroeconomics. It is often useful to be able to predict how these systems will behave over time, though the rules that govern these changes may be complex, and are not necessarily solvable analytically. In these cases numerical methods and visualisation may be used, which is the focus of this chapter.

5.1 PROBLEM

Consider the following scenario, where a population of 3000 people are susceptible to infection by some disease. This population can be described by the following parameters:

- They have a birth rate b of 0.01 per day;
- They have a death rate d of 0.01 per day;
- For every infectious individual, the infection rate α is 0.3 per day;
- Infectious people recover naturally (and thus gain an immunity from the disease), at a recovery rate r of 0.02 per day;
- For each day an individual is infected, they must take medication which costs a public healthcare system £10 per day.

A vaccine is produced, that allows new born individuals to gain an immunity. This vaccine costs the public health care system a one-off cost of £220 per vaccine. The healthcare providers would like to know if achieving a vaccination rate v of 85% would be beneficial financially.

5.2 THEORY

The above scenario is called a compartmental model of disease, and can be shown in the stock and flow diagram in Figure 5.1.

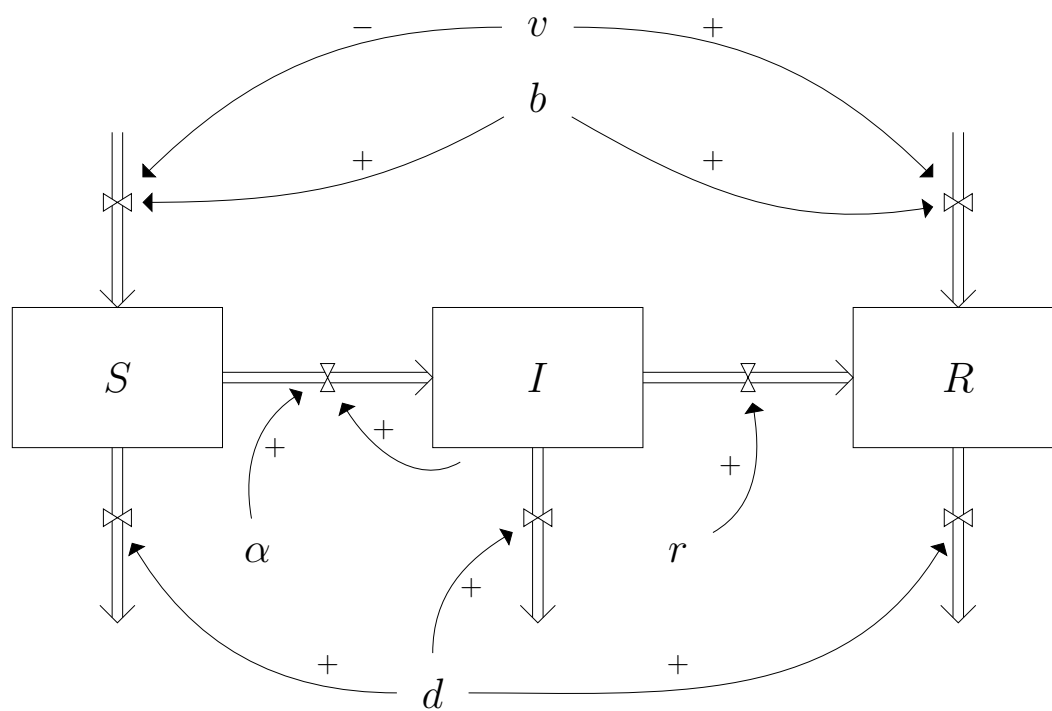


Figure 5.1 Diagrammatic representation of the epidemiology model

The system has three ‘stocks’ of different types of individuals, those susceptible to disease (S), those infected with the disease (I), and those who have recovered from the disease and so have gained immunity (R). The levels on these stocks change according to the flows in, out, and between them, controlled by ‘taps’. The amount of flow the taps let through are influenced in a multiplicative way (either negatively or positively), by other factors, such as external parameters (e.g. birth rate, infection rate) and the stock levels.

In this system the following taps exist, influenced by the following parameters:

- $external \rightarrow S$: Influenced positively by the birth rate, and negatively by the vaccine rate.
- $S \rightarrow I$: Influenced positively by the infection rate, and the number of infected individuals.
- $S \rightarrow external$: Influenced positively by the death rate.
- $I \rightarrow R$: Influenced positively by the recovery rate.
- $I \rightarrow external$: Influenced positively by the death rate.
- $R \rightarrow external$: Influenced positively by the birth rate and the vaccine rate.
- $external \rightarrow R$: Influenced positively by the death rate.

Mathematically the change in stock levels are written as the derivatives, for example the change in the number of susceptible individuals over time is denoted by $\frac{dS}{dt}$. This is equal to the sum of the taps in or out of that stock. Thus the system is described by the following system of differential equations:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\alpha SI}{N} + (1-v)bN - dS \quad (5.1)$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\alpha SI}{N} - (r+d)I \quad (5.2)$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = rI - dR + vbN \quad (5.3)$$

Where $N = S + I + R$ is the total number of individuals in the system.

We would like to understand the behaviour of the functions S , I and R under these rules, that is we would like to solve this system of differential equations. This system contains some non-linear terms, implying that this may be difficult to solve analytically, so we will use a numerical method instead.

There are a number of numerical methods, and the solvers we will use in Python and R cleverly choose the most appropriate for the problem at hand. In general methods for this kind of problems use the principle that the derivative denotes the rate of instantaneous change. Thus for a differential equation $\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y)$, consider the function y as a discrete sequence of points $\{y_0, y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots\}$ on $\{t_0, t_0 + h, t_0 + 2h, t_0 + 3h, \dots\}$ then

$$y_{n+1} = h \times f(t_0 + nh, y_n). \quad (5.4)$$

This sequence approaches the true solution y as $h \rightarrow 0$. Thus numerical methods, including the Runge-Kutta methods and the Euler method, step through this sequence $\{y_n\}$, choosing appropriate values of h and employing other methods of error reduction.

5.3 SOLVING WITH PYTHON

In this book we will use the `odeint` method of the SciPy library to numerically solve the above epidemiology models.

We first define the system of differential equations described in Equations 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3. This is a regular Python function, where the first two arguments are the system state and the current time respectively.

Python input

```

625 def derivatives(y, t, vaccine_rate, birth_rate=0.01):
626     """Defines the system of differential equations that
627     describe the epidemiology model.
628
629     Args:
630         y: a tuple of three integers
631         t: a positive float
632         vaccine_rate: a positive float <= 1
633         birth_rate: a positive float <= 1
634
635     Returns:
636         A tuple containing dS, dI, and dR
637     """
638     infection_rate = 0.3
639     recovery_rate = 0.02
640     death_rate = 0.01
641     S, I, R = y
642     N = S + I + R
643     dSdt = (
644         -((infection_rate * S * I) / N)
645         + ((1 - vaccine_rate) * birth_rate * N)
646         - (death_rate * S)
647     )
648     dIdt = (
649         ((infection_rate * S * I) / N)
650         - (recovery_rate * I)
651         - (death_rate * I)
652     )
653     dRdt = (
654         (recovery_rate * I)
655         - (death_rate * R)
656         + (vaccine_rate * birth_rate * N)
657     )
658     return dSdt, dIdt, dRdt

```

Using this function returns the instantaneous rate of change for each of the three stocks, S , I and R . If we begin at time 0.0, with 4 susceptible individuals, 1 infected individual, 0 recovered individuals, and a vaccine rate of 50%, then:

Python input

```
659 print(derivatives(y=(4, 1, 0), t=0.0, vaccine_rate=0.5))
```

Python output

```
660 (-0.255, 0.21, 0.045)
```

we would expect the number of susceptible individuals to reduce by around 0.255 per time unit, the number of infected individuals to increase by 0.21 per time unit, and the number of recovered individuals to increase by 0.045 per time unit. Now of course, after a tiny fraction of a time unit the stock levels will change, and thus the rates of change will change. So we will require something more sophisticated in order to determine the true behaviour of the system.

The following function observes the system's behaviour over some time period, using SciPy's `odeint` to numerically solve the system of differential equations:

Python input

```

661 from scipy.integrate import odeint
662
663
664 def integrate_ode(
665     derivative_function,
666     t,
667     y0=(2999, 1, 0),
668     vaccine_rate=0.85,
669     birth_rate=0.01,
670 ):
671     """Numerically solve the system of differential equations.
672
673     Args:
674         derivative_function: a function returning a tuple
675             of three floats
676         t: an array of increasing positive floats
677         y0: a tuple of three integers (default: (2999, 1, 0))
678         vaccine_rate: a positive float <= 1 (default: 0.85)
679         birth_rate: a positive float <= 1 (default: 0.01)
680
681     Returns:
682         A tuple of three arrays
683     """
684     results = odeint(
685         derivative_function,
686         y0,
687         t,
688         args=(vaccine_rate, birth_rate),
689     )
690     S, I, R = results.T
691     return S, I, R

```

Now we can use this function to investigate the difference in behaviour between a vaccination rate of 0% and a vaccination rate of 85%. Let's observe the system for two years, that is 730 days, in time steps of 0.01 days.

Begin with a vaccine rate of 0%:

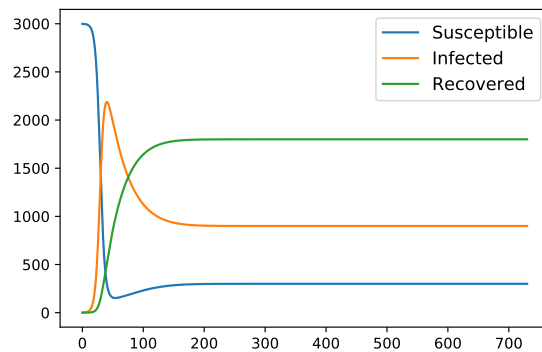


Figure 5.2 Output of code line 737-742

Python input

```

692 import numpy as np
693 from scipy.integrate import odeint
694
695 t = np.arange(0, 730.01, 0.01)
696 S, I, R = integrate_ode(derivatives, t, vaccine_rate=0.0)

```

Now S , I and R are arrays of values of the stock levels of S , I and R over the time steps t . Using `matplotlib` we can plot these to visualise their behaviour. The following code gives the plot shown in Figure 5.2.

Python input

```

697 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
698
699 fig, ax = plt.subplots(1)
700 ax.plot(t, S, label='Susceptible')
701 ax.plot(t, I, label='Infected')
702 ax.plot(t, R, label='Recovered')
703 ax.legend(fontsize=12)
704 fig.savefig("plot_no_vaccine_python.pdf")

```

We observe that the number of infected individuals increases quickly, and in fact the rate of change increases as more individuals are infected. However this growth

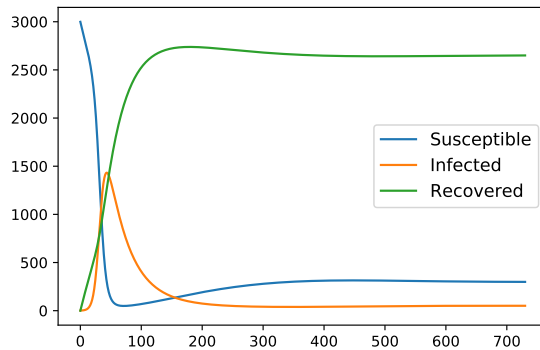


Figure 5.3 Output of code line 745-750

slows down as there are fewer susceptible individuals to infect. Due to the equal birth and death rates the overall population size remains constant; but we also see after some time period (around 300 time units) the levels of susceptible, infected, and recovered individuals becomes seemingly steady, and the disease becomes endemic. We can estimate once this steadiness occurs, around 10% of the population remain susceptible to the disease, 30% are infected, and 60% are recovered and immune.

Now with a vaccine rate of 85%:

Python input

```
705 t = np.arange(0, 730.01, 0.01)
706 S, I, R = integrate_ode(derivatives, t, vaccine_rate=0.85)
```

And again we can plot these to visualise their behaviour. The following code gives the plot shown in Figure 5.3.

Python input

```
707 fig, ax = plt.subplots(1)
708 ax.plot(t, S, label='Susceptible')
709 ax.plot(t, I, label='Infected')
710 ax.plot(t, R, label='Recovered')
711 ax.legend(fontsize=12)
712 fig.savefig("plot_with_vaccine_python.pdf")
```

With vaccination the disease remains endemic, however now we estimate that

once, steadiness occurs, around 10% of the population remain susceptible to the disease, 1.7% are infected, and 88.3% are immune or recovered and immune.

We've seen that vaccination lowers the percentage of the population living with the infection, which will lower the public healthcare system's medication costs. Let's now investigate if this saving is comparable to the cost of providing the vaccination to the newborns.

The following function calculates the total cost to the public healthcare system, that is the sum of the medication costs for those living with the infection and the vaccination costs:

Python input

```

713 def daily_cost(
714     derivative_function=derivatives, vaccine_rate=0.85
715 ):
716     """Calculates the daily cost to the public health system
717     after 2 years.
718
719     Args:
720         derivative_function: a function returning a tuple
721             of three floats
722         vaccine_rate: a positive float <= 1 (default: 0.85)
723
724     Returns:
725         the daily cost
726     """
727     max_time = 730
728     time_step = 0.01
729     birth_rate = 0.01
730     vaccine_cost = 220
731     medication_cost = 10
732     t = np.arange(0, max_time + time_step, time_step)
733     S, I, R = integrate_ode(
734         derivatives,
735         t,
736         vaccine_rate=vaccine_rate,
737         birth_rate=birth_rate,
738     )
739     N = S[-1] + I[-1] + R[-1]
740     daily_vaccine_cost = (
741         N * birth_rate * vaccine_rate * vaccine_cost
742     ) / time_step
743     daily_meds_cost = (I[-1] * medication_cost) / time_step
744     return daily_vaccine_cost + daily_meds_cost

```

Now let's compare the total daily cost with and without vaccination. Without vaccinations:

Python input

```

745 cost = daily_cost(vaccine_rate=0.0)
746 print(round(cost, 2))

```

which gives

Python output

```

747 900000.0

```

Therefore without vaccinations, once the infection is endemic, the public health care system would expect to spend £900,000 a day.

With a vaccine rate of 85%:

Python input

```

748 cost = daily_cost(vaccine_rate=0.85)
749 print(round(cost, 2))

```

which gives

Python output

```

750 611903.36

```

So vaccinating 85% of newborns would cost the public health care system, once the infection is endemic £611,903.36 a day. That is a saving of around 32%.

5.4 SOLVING WITH R

In this book we will use the `deSolve` library to numerically solve the above epidemiology models.

We first define the system of differential equations described in Equations 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3. This is an R function where the arguments are the current time, the system state, and a list of other parameters, respectively.

R input

```

751 #' Defines the system of differential equations that describe
752 #' the epidemiology model.
753 #'
754 #' @param t a positive float
755 #' @param y a tuple of three integers
756 #' @param vaccine_rate a positive float <= 1
757 #' @param birth_rate a positive float <= 1
758 #'
759 #' @return a list containing dS, dI, and dR
760 derivatives <- function(t, y, parameters){
761   infection_rate <- 0.3
762   recovery_rate <- 0.02
763   death_rate <- 0.01
764   with(as.list(c(y, parameters)), {
765     N <- S + I + R
766     dSdt <- ( - ( (infection_rate * S * I) / N) # nolint
767               + ( (1 - vaccine_rate) * birth_rate * N)
768               - (death_rate * S))
769     dIdt <- ( ( (infection_rate * S * I) / N) # nolint
770               - (recovery_rate * I)
771               - (death_rate * I))
772     dRdt <- ( (recovery_rate * I) # nolint
773               - (death_rate * R)
774               + (vaccine_rate * birth_rate * N))
775     list(c(dSdt, dIdt, dRdt)) # nolint
776   })
777 }

```

Using this function returns the instantaneous rate of change for each of the three stocks, S , I and R . If we begin at time 0.0, with 4 susceptible individuals, 1 infected individual, 0 recovered individuals, a vaccine rate of 50% and a birth rate of 0.01, then:

R input

```
778 derivatives(t = 0,  
779             y = c(S = 4, I = 1, R = 0),  
780             parameters = c(vaccine_rate = 0.5,  
781                           birth_rate = 0.01)  
782 )
```

R output

```
783 [[1]]  
784 [1] -0.255  0.210  0.045
```

we would expect the number of susceptible individuals to reduce by around 0.255 per time unit, the number of infected individuals to increase by 0.21 per time unit, and the number of recovered individuals to increase by 0.045 per time unit. Now of course, after a tiny fraction of a time unit the stock levels will change, and thus the rates of change will change. So we will require something more sophisticated in order to determine the true behaviour of the system.

The following function observes the system's behaviour over some time period, using the `deSolve` library to numerically solve the system of differential equations:

R input

```

785 library(deSolve) # nolint
786
787 #' Numerically solve the system of differential equations
788 #'
789 #' @param t an array of increasing positive floats
790 #' @param y0 list of integers (default: c(S=2999, I=1, R=0))
791 #' @param birth_rate a positive float <= 1 (default: 0.01)
792 #' @param vaccine_rate a positive float <= 1 (default: 0.85)
793 #'
794 #' @return a matrix of times, S, I and R values
795 integrate_ode <- function(times,
796                             y0 = c(S = 2999, I = 1, R = 0),
797                             birth_rate = 0.01,
798                             vaccine_rate = 0.84){
799   params <- c(birth_rate = birth_rate,
800               vaccine_rate = vaccine_rate)
801   ode(y = y0,
802       times = times,
803       func = derivatives,
804       parms = params)
805 }

```

Now we can use this function to investigate the difference in behaviour between a vaccination rate of 0% and a vaccination rate of 85%. Let's observe the system for two years, that is 730 days, in time steps of 0.01 days.

Begin with a vaccine rate of 0%:

R input

```

806 times <- seq(0, 730, by = 0.01)
807 out <- integrate_ode(times, vaccine_rate = 0.0)

```

Now `out`, is a matrix with four columns, `time`, `S`, `I` and `R`, which are arrays of values of the time points, and the stock levels of `S`, `I` and `R` over the time respectively. We can plot these to visualise their behaviour. The following code gives the plot shown in Figure 5.4.

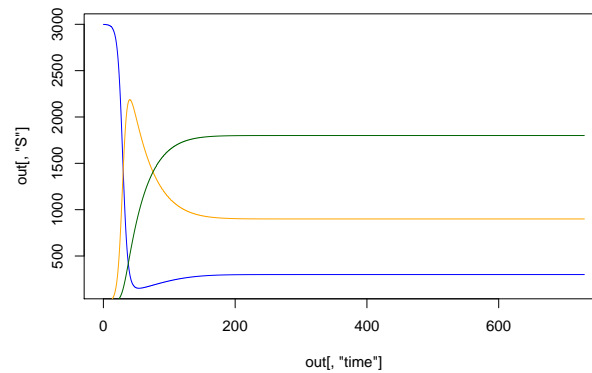


Figure 5.4 Output of code line 846-850

R input

```

808 pdf("plot_no_vaccine_R.pdf", width = 7, height = 5)
809 plot(out[, "time"], out[, "S"], type = "l", col = "blue")
810 lines(out[, "time"], out[, "I"], type = "l", col = "orange")
811 lines(out[, "time"], out[, "R"], type = "l", col = "darkgreen")
812 dev.off()

```

We observe that the number of infected individuals increases quickly, and in fact the rate of change increases as more individuals are infected. However this growth slows down as there are fewer susceptible individuals to infect. Due to the equal birth and death rates the overall population size remains constant; but we also see after some time period (around 300 time units) the levels of susceptible, infected, and recovered individuals becomes seemingly steady, and the disease becomes endemic. We can estimate once this steadiness occurs, around 10% of the population remain susceptible to the disease, 30% are infected, and 60% are recovered and immune.

Now with a vaccine rate of 85%:

R input

```

813 times <- seq(0, 730, by = 0.01)
814 out <- integrate_ode(times, vaccine_rate = 0.85)

```

And again we can plot these to visualise their behaviour. The following code gives the plot shown in Figure 5.5.

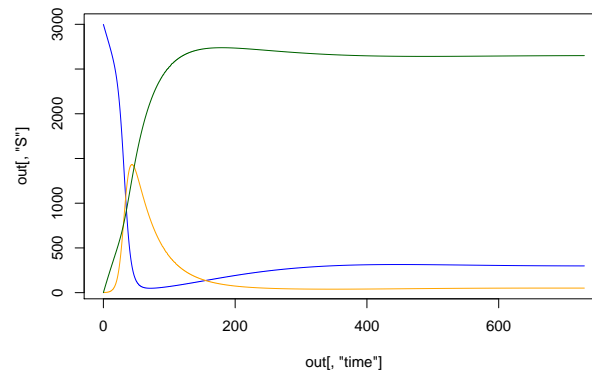


Figure 5.5 Output of code line 853-857

R input

```

815 pdf("plot_with_vaccine_R.pdf", width = 7, height = 5)
816 plot(out[, "time"], out[, "S"], type = "l", col = "blue")
817 lines(out[, "time"], out[, "I"], type = "l", col = "orange")
818 lines(out[, "time"], out[, "R"], type = "l", col = "darkgreen")
819 dev.off()

```

With vaccination the disease remains endemic, however now we estimate that once, steadiness occurs, around 10% of the population remain susceptible to the disease, 1.7% are infected, and 88.3% are immune or recovered and immune.

We've seen that vaccination lowers the percentage of the population living with the infection, which will lower the public healthcare system's medication costs. Let's now investigate if this saving is comparable to the cost of providing the vaccination to the newborns.

The following function calculates the total cost to the public healthcare system, that is the sum of the medication costs for those living with the infection and the vaccination costs:

R input

```

820 #' Calculates the daily cost to the public health
821 #' system after 2 years
822 #'
823 #' @param derivative_function: a function returning a
824 #'                               list of three floats
825 #' @param vaccine_rate: a positive float <= 1 (default: 0.85)
826 #'
827 #' @return the daily cost
828 daily_cost <- function(derivative_function = derivatives,
829                        vaccine_rate = 0.85){
830   max_time <- 730
831   time_step <- 0.01
832   birth_rate <- 0.01
833   vaccine_cost <- 220
834   medication_cost <- 10
835   times <- seq(0, max_time, by = time_step)
836   out <- integrate_ode(times, vaccine_rate = vaccine_rate)
837   N <- sum(tail(out[, c("S", "I", "R")], n = 1))
838   daily_vaccine_cost <- (N
839                        * birth_rate
840                        * vaccine_rate
841                        * vaccine_cost) / time_step
842   daily_medication_cost <- ( (tail(out[, "I"], n = 1)
843                          * medication_cost)) / time_step
844   daily_vaccine_cost + daily_medication_cost
845 }

```

Now let's compare the total daily cost with and without vaccination. Without vaccinations:

R input

```

846 cost <- daily_cost(vaccine_rate = 0.0)
847 print(cost)

```

which gives

R output

848

```
[1] 9e+05
```

Therefore without vaccinations, once the infection is endemic, the public health care system would expect to spend £900,000 a day.

With a vaccine rate of 85%:

R input

849

```
cost <- daily_cost(vaccine_rate = 0.85)  
print(cost)
```

850

which gives

R output

851

```
[1] 611903.4
```

So vaccinating 85% of newborns would cost the public health care system, once the infection is endemic £611,903.40 a day. That is a saving of around 32%.

5.5 RESEARCH



IV

Emergent Behaviour



Game Theory

MOST when modelling certain situations two approaches are valid: to make assumptions about the overall behaviour or to make assumptions about the detailed behaviour. The later falls is akin to measuring emergent behaviour. One tool used to do this is the study of interactive decision making: Game Theory.

6.1 PROBLEM

Consider a city council. Two electric taxi companies are going to move in to the city and the city wants to ensure that the customers are best served by this new duopoly. The two taxi firms will be deciding how many vehicles to deploy: one, two or three. The city wants to encourage them to both use three as this ensures the highest level of availability to the population.

Some exploratory data analysis gives the following insights:

- If both companies use the same number of taxis then they make the same profit which will go down slightly as the number of taxis goes up.
- If one company uses more taxis than the other then they make more profit.

The expected profits are given in Table 6.1.

| Taxi numbers | Other company taxi numbers | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | $\frac{1}{3}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{3}$ |
| 2 | $\frac{3}{2}$ | $\frac{19}{20}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 3 | $\frac{5}{3}$ | $\frac{4}{5}$ | $\frac{17}{20}$ |

Table 6.1 Profits (in GBP per hour) of a given company based on their vehicle numbers and the other companies vehicle numbers.

Given these expected profits, the council wants to understand what is likely to happen and potentially give a financial incentive to each company to ensure their behaviour is in the population's interest.

The mathematical tool used to find the expected behaviour is Game Theory.

6.2 THEORY

In the case of this City, the interaction can be modelled using a mathematical object called a game which in the field of game theory is defined as follows. There are a number of games, the ones we will consider here require:

1. A given collection of actors that make decisions (players).
2. Options available to each player (actions).
3. A numerical value associated to each player for every possible choice of action made by all the players. This is the utility or reward.

There are called normal form games and are formally defined by:

1. A finite set of N players;
2. Action spaces for each player: $\{A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_N\}$;
3. Utility functions that for each player $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_N$ where $u_i : A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3 \dots A_N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

When $N = 2$ the utility function is often represented by a pair of matrices (1 for each player) of with the same number of rows and columns. The rows correspond to the actions available to the first player and the columns to the actions available to the second player.

Given a pair of actions (a row and column) we can read the utilities to both player by looking at the corresponding entry of the corresponding matrix.

A strategy corresponds to an way of choosing actions, this is represented by a probability vector. For the i th player, this vector v would be of size $|A_i|$ (the size of the action space) and v_i corresponds to the probability of choosing the i th action.

For the example of our City, the two matrices would be:

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1/2 & 1/3 \\ 3/2 & 19/20 & 1/2 \\ 5/3 & 4/5 & 17/20 \end{pmatrix} \quad N = M^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3/2 & 5/3 \\ 1/2 & 19/20 & 1/2 \\ 1/3 & 4/5 & 17/20 \end{pmatrix}$$

A diagram of the system is shown in Figure 6.1

Both taxis always choosing to use 2 taxis (the second row/column) would correspond to the strategy: $(0, 1, 0)$. If the both companies use this strategy and the row player (who controls the rows) wants to improve their outcome it's evident by inspecting the second column that the highest number is $19/20$: thus the row player has no reason to change what they are doing.

This is in fact called a Nash equilibrium: when both players are playing a strategy that is the best response against the other.

Whilst a Nash equilibria is not necessarily a set of strategies that players will converge towards, once they are there they have no reason to move away from it. It is the particular concept we will use to understand the emergent behaviour in our city.

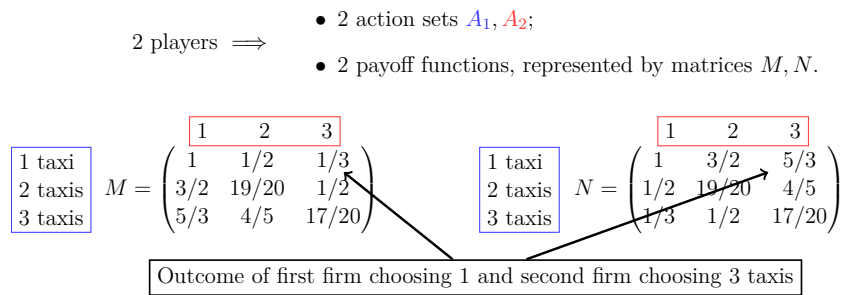


Figure 6.1 Diagrammatic representation of the action sets and payoff matrices for the game.

6.3 SOLVING WITH PYTHON

The first step we will take is to write a function to create a game using the matrix expected profits. We will use the `nashpy` library for this.

Python input

```

852 import nashpy as nash
853
854
855 def get_game(profits):
856     """Return the game object.
857
858     Args:
859         profits: a matrix with expected profits
860
861     Returns:
862         A nashpy game object
863     """
864     return nash.Game(profits, profits.T)

```

Using this we can obtain the game for the our problem:

Python input

```

865 import numpy as np
866
867 profits = np.array(
868     (
869         (1, 1 / 2, 1 / 3),
870         (3 / 2, 19 / 20, 1 / 2),
871         (5 / 3, 4 / 5, 17 / 20),
872     )
873 )
874 game = get_game(profits=profits)
875 print(game)

```

which gives:

Python output

```

876 Bi matrix game with payoff matrices:
877
878 Row player:
879 [[1.          0.5          0.33333333]
880  [1.5         0.95         0.5        ]
881  [1.66666667 0.8          0.85        ]]
882
883 Column player:
884 [[1.          1.5          1.66666667]
885  [0.5         0.95         0.8        ]
886  [0.33333333 0.5          0.85        ]]

```

We can now use this to investigate what stable behaviours might emerge:

Python input

```

887 for eq in game.support_enumeration():
888     print(eq)

```

which gives:

Python output

```

889 (array([0., 1., 0.]), array([0., 1., 0.]))
890 (array([0., 0., 1.]), array([0., 0., 1.]))
891 (array([0. , 0.7, 0.3]), array([0. , 0.7, 0.3]))

```

We see that there are 3 Nash equilibria: 3 possible pairs of behaviour that the two companies might converge to.

- The first equilibria $((0, 1, 0), (0, 1, 0))$ corresponds to both firms always using 2 taxis.
- The second equilibria $((0, 0, 1), (0, 0, 1))$ corresponds to both firms always using 3 taxis.
- The third equilibria $((0, 0.7, 0.3), (0, 0.7, 0.3))$ corresponds to both firms using 2 taxis 70% of the time and 3 taxis otherwise.

A good thing to note is that the two taxi companies will never only provide a single taxi (which would be harmful to the customers).

However, the Council would like to offset the cost of 3 taxis so as to encourage the taxi company to provide a better service. This involves modifying the `get_game` function as follows:

Python input

```

892 def get_game(profits, offset):
893     """Return the game object with a given offset when 3 taxis
894     are provided.
895
896     Args:
897         profits: a matrix with expected profits
898         offset: a float
899
900     Returns:
901         A nashpy game object
902     """
903     new_profits = np.array(profits)
904     new_profits[2] += offset
905     return nash.Game(new_profits, new_profits.T)

```

we will write a function `get_equilibria` which will directly compute the equilibria:

Python input

```

906 def get_equilibria(profits, offset):
907     """Return the equilibria for a given offset when 3 taxis
908     are provided.
909
910     Args:
911         profits: a matrix with expected profits
912         offset: a float
913
914     Returns:
915         A nashpy game object
916     """
917     game = get_game(profits=profits, offset=offset)
918     return tuple(game.support_enumeration())

```

Using this we can obtain the number of equilibria for a given offset and stop when there is a single equilibria:

Python input

```

919 offset = 0
920 while len(get_equilibria(profits=profits, offset=offset)) > 1:
921     offset += 0.01

```

This gives a final offset value of:

Python input

```

922 print(round(offset, 2))

```

Python output

```

923 0.15

```

and we can confirm that the Nash equilibria is where both taxi firms provide three vehicles:

Python input

```
924 print(tuple(get_equilibria(profits=profits, offset=offset)))
```

giving:

Python output

```
925 ((array([0., 0., 1.]), array([0., 0., 1.])),)
```

6.4 SOLVING WITH R

R does not have a single appropriate library for the game considered here, we will choose to use **Recon** which has functionality for finding the Nash equilibria for two player games when only considering pure strategies (where the players only choose to use a single action at a time).

R input

```
926 library(Recon)
927
928 #' Returns the equilibria in pure strategies
929 #'
930 #' @param profits: a matrix with expected profits
931 #'
932 #' @return a list of equilibria
933 get_equilibria <- function(profits){
934   sim_nasheq(profits, t(profits))
935 }
```

Using this we can obtain the pure Nash equilibria:

R input

```

936 profits <- rbind(
937     c(1, 1 / 2, 1 / 3),
938     c(3 / 2, 19 / 20, 1 / 2),
939     c(5 / 3, 4 / 5, 17 / 20)
940 )
941 eqs <- get_equilibria(profits = profits)
942 print(eqs)

```

which gives:

R output

```

943 $`Equilibrium 1`
944 [1] "2" "2"
945
946 $`Equilibrium 2`
947 [1] "3" "3"

```

We see that there are 2 pure Nash equilibria: 2 possible pairs of behaviour that the two companies might converge to.

- The first equilibria $((0, 1, 0), (0, 1, 0))$ corresponds to both firms always using 2 taxis.
- The second equilibria $((0, 0, 1), (0, 0, 1))$ corresponds to both firms always using 3 taxis.

There is in fact a third Nash equilibria where both taxi firms use 2 taxis 70% of the time and 3 taxis the rest of the time but **Recon** is unable to find Nash equilibria with mixed behaviour for games with more than two strategies.

As an aside, if we remove the option of using a single taxi then **Recon** can give us all three equilibria by passing the `type = "mixed"` argument to `sim_nasheq`.

A good thing to note is that the two taxi companies will not only provide a single taxi (which would be harmful to the customers).

As discussed, the Council would like to offset the cost of 3 taxis so as to encourage the taxi company to provide a better service. This involves modifying the `get_equilibria` function as follows:

R input

```

948 #' Returns the equilibria in pure strategies
949 #' for a given offset
950 #'
951 #' @param profits: a matrix with expected profits
952 #' @param offset: a float
953 #'
954 #' @return a list of equilibria
955 get_equilibria <- function(profits, offset){
956   new_profits <- rbind(
957     profits[c(1, 2), ],
958     profits[3, ] + offset)
959   sim_nasheq(new_profits, t(new_profits))
960 }

```

Using this we can obtain the number of equilibria for a given offset and stop when there is a single equilibria:

R input

```

961 offset <- 0
962 while (length(
963   get_equilibria(profits = profits, offset = offset)
964   ) > 1){
965   offset <- offset + 0.01
966 }

```

This gives a final offset value of:

R input

```

967 print(round(offset, 2))

```

R output

```

968 [1] 0.15

```

and we can confirm that the Nash equilibria is where both taxi firms provide three vehicles:

R input

```
969 print(get_equilibria(profits = profits, offset = offset))
```

giving:

R output

```
970 $`Equilibrium 1`  
971 [1] "3" "3"
```

6.5 RESEARCH

TBA

Agent Based Simulation

SOMETIMES individual behaviours and interactions are well understood, and an understanding of how a whole population of such individuals might behave needed. For example psychologists and economists may know a lot about how individual spenders and vendors behave in response to given stimuli, but an understanding of how these stimuli might effect the macro-economy is necessary. Agent based simulation is a paradigm of thinking that allows such emergent population level behaviour to be investigated from individual rules and interactions.

7.1 PROBLEM

Consider a city populated by two categories of household, for example a household might be fans of Cardiff City FC or Swansea City AFC. Each household has a preference for living close to households of the same kind, and will move around the city while their preferences are not satisfied. How will these individual preferences affect the overall distribution of fans in the city?

7.2 THEORY

The problem considered here is considered a ‘classic’ one for the paradigm of agent based simulation, and is usually called Schelling’s segregation model. It features in Thomas Schelling’s book ‘Micromotives and Macrobehaviours’, whose title neatly summarises the world view of agent based modelling: we know, understand, determine, or can control individual micromotives; and from this we’d like to observe and understand macrobehaviours.

In general an agent based model consists of two components, agents, and an environment:

- Agents are autonomous entities that will periodically choose to take one of a number of actions (including the option not to take an action). These are chosen in order to maximise that agent’s own given utility function;
- An environment contains a number of agents and defines how their interactions affect each other. The agents may be homogeneous or heterogeneous, and the

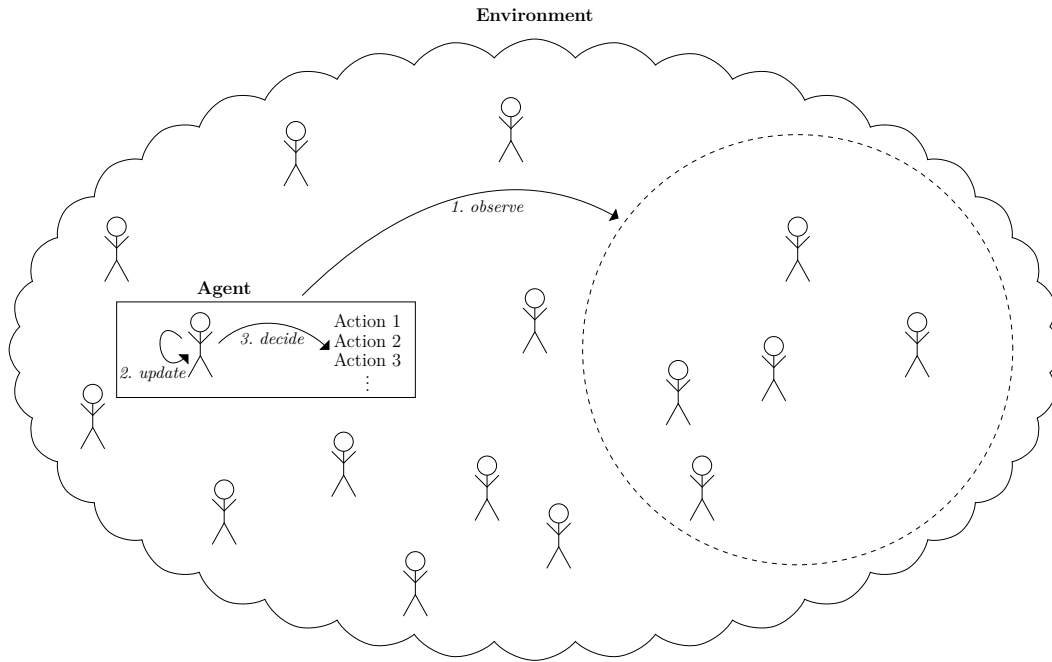


Figure 7.1 Representation of an agent interacting with its environment.

relationships may change over time, possibly due to the actions taken by the agents.

In general, an agent will first observe a subset of its environment, for example it will consider some information about the agents it is currently close to. Then it will update some information about itself based on these observations. This could be recording relevant information from the observations, but could also include some learning, maybe considering its own previous actions. It will then decide on an action to take, and carry out this action. This decision may be deterministic or random and/or based on its own attributes from some learning process; with the ultimate aim of maximising its own utility. In practice, a utility can be represented by a function that maps the environment to some numeric value. This process happens to all agents in the environment, possibly simultaneously. This is summarised in Figure 7.1

For the football team supporters problem, each household is an agent. The environment is the city. Each household's utility function is to satisfy their preference of living next to at least a given number of households supporting the same team as them. Their choices of action are to move house or not to move house.

As a simplification the city will be modelled as a 50×50 grid. Each cell of the grid is a house that can either contain a household of Cardiff City FC supporters, or contain a household of Swansea City AFC supporters. A house's neighbours are assumed to be the houses adjacent to it, horizontally, vertically, and diagonally. For mathematical simplicity, it is also assumed that the grid is a torus, where houses in

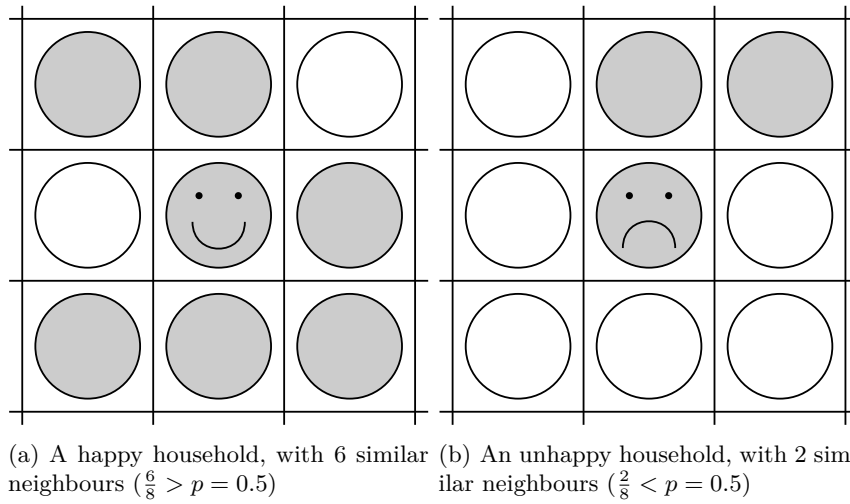


Figure 7.2 Example of a household happy and unhappy with its neighbours, when $p = 0.5$. Households supporting Cardiff City FC are shaded grey, households supporting Swansea City AFC are white.

the top row are vertically adjacent to the bottom row, and houses in the rightmost column are horizontally adjacent to the leftmost column.

Every household has a preference p . This corresponds to the minimum proportion of neighbours they are happy to live with. Figure 7.2 shows a household of Cardiff City FC supporters that are happy with their neighbours, and not happy with their neighbours, when $p = 0.5$. Households supporting Cardiff City FC are shaded grey.

The original problem stated that households move around the city whenever they are unhappy with their neighbours. This long process of selling, searching for, and buying houses can be simplified to randomly pairing two unhappy households and swapping their houses. In fact, this can be simplified to consider the houses themselves as agents, who swap households with each other.

Therefore the model logic is:

1. Initialise the model: fill each house in the grid with either a household of Cardiff City FC or Swansea City AFC supporters with probability 0.5 each.
2. At each discrete time step, for every house:
 - (a) Consider their household's neighbours (*observe*).
 - (b) Determine if the household is happy (*update*).
 - (c) If unhappy (*decide*), swap household with another randomly chosen house with an unhappy household (*action*).

After a number of time steps the overall structure of the city can be observed from this agent based model, as it only explicitly defines individual behaviours and interactions. Any population level behaviour that may have emerged without explicit definition.

7.3 SOLVING WITH PYTHON

Agent based modelling lends itself well to a programming paradigm called object-orientated programming. This paradigm lets a number of *objects* from a set of instructions called a *class* to be built. These objects can both store information (in Python these are called *attributes*), and do things (in Python these are called *methods*). Object-orientated programming allow for the creation of new classes which can be used to implement the individual behaviours of an agent based model.

For this problem two classes will be built: a **House** and a **City** for them to live in. The following libraries will be used:

Python input

```
972 import random
973 import itertools
974 import numpy as np
```

Now to define the **City**:

Python input

```

975 class City:
976     def __init__(self, size, threshold):
977         """Initialises the City object.
978
979         Args:
980             size: an integer number of rows and columns
981             threshold: a number between 0 and 1 representing
982             the minimum acceptable proportion of similar
983             neighbours
984         """
985         self.size = size
986         sides = range(size)
987         self.coords = itertools.product(sides, sides)
988         self.houses = {
989             (x, y): House(x, y, threshold, self)
990             for x, y in self.coords
991         }
992
993     def run(self, n_steps):
994         """Runs the simulation of a number of time steps.
995
996         Args:
997             n_steps: an integer number of steps
998         """
999         for turn in range(n_steps):
1000             self.take_turn()
1001
1002     def take_turn(self):
1003         """Swaps all sad households."""
1004         sad = [h for h in self.houses.values() if h.sad()]
1005         random.shuffle(sad)
1006         i = 0
1007         while i <= len(sad) / 2:
1008             sad[i].swap(sad[-i])
1009             i += 1
1010
1011     def mean_satisfaction(self):
1012         """Finds the average household satisfaction.
1013
1014         Returns:
1015             The average city's household satisfaction
1016         """
1017         return np.mean(
1018             [h.satisfaction() for h in self.houses.values()]
1019         )

```

This defines a class, a template or a set of instructions that can be used to create instances of it, called objects. For the considered problem only one instance of the `City` class will be needed. However, it is useful to be able to produce more in order to run multiple trials with different random seeds. This class contains four methods: `__init__`, `run`, `take_turn` and `mean_satisfaction`.

The `__init__` method is run whenever the object is first created, and initialises the object. In this case it sets a number of attributes.

- First the square grid's `size` is defined, which is the number of rows and columns of houses it contains.
- Next the `coords` are defined, a list of tuples representing all the possible coordinates of the grid, this uses the `itertools` library for efficient iteration.
- Finally `houses` is defined, a dictionary with grid coordinates as keys, and instances of the `House` class.

The `run` method runs the simulation. For each `n_steps` number of discrete time steps, the city runs the method `take_turn`. In this method, we first create a list of all the houses with households that are unhappy with their neighbours; these are put in a random order using the `random` library; and then working inwards from the boundary houses with sad households are paired up and swap households.

The last method defined here is the `mean_satisfaction` method, which is only used to observe any emergent behaviour. This calculates the average satisfaction of all the houses in the grid, using the `numpy` library for convenience.

In order to be able to create an instance of the above class, we need to define a `House` class:

Python input

```

1020 class House:
1021     def __init__(self, x, y, threshold, city):
1022         """Initialises the House object.
1023
1024         Args:
1025             x: the integer x-coordinate
1026             y: the integer y-coordinate
1027             threshold: a number between 0 and 1 representing
1028                 the minimum acceptable proportion of similar
1029                 neighbours
1030             city: an instance of the City class
1031         """
1032         self.x = x
1033         self.y = y
1034         self.threshold = threshold
1035         self.kind = random.choice(["Cardiff", "Swansea"])
1036         self.city = city
1037
1038     def satisfaction(self):
1039         """Determines the household's satisfaction level.
1040
1041         Returns:
1042             A proportion
1043         """
1044         same = 0
1045         for x, y in itertools.product([-1, 0, 1], [-1, 0, 1]):
1046             ax = (self.x + x) % self.city.size
1047             ay = (self.y + y) % self.city.size
1048             same += self.city.houses[ax, ay].kind == self.kind
1049         return (same - 1) / 8
1050
1051     def sad(self):
1052         """Determines if the household is sad.
1053
1054         Returns:
1055             a Boolean
1056         """
1057         return self.satisfaction() < self.threshold
1058
1059     def swap(self, house):
1060         """Swaps two households.
1061
1062         Args:
1063             house: the house object to swap household with
1064         """
1065         self.kind, house.kind = house.kind, self.kind

```

It contains four methods: `__init__`, `satisfaction`, `sad` and `swap`.

The `__init__` methods sets a number of attributes at the time the object is created: the house's `x` and `y` coordinates (its column and row numbers on the grid); its `threshold` which corresponds to p ; its `kind` which is randomly chosen between having a Cardiff City FC supporting household or a Swansea City AFC supporting household; and finally its `city`, an instance of the `City` class, shared by all the houses.

The `satisfaction` method loops through each of the house's neighbouring cells in the city grid, counts the number of neighbours that are of the same kind as itself, and returns this as a proportion. Then the `sad` method returns a boolean indicating if the household's satisfaction is below the minimum threshold.

Finally the `swap` method takes another house object, and swaps their household kinds.

A function to create and run one of these simulations will now be written with a given random seed, threshold, and number of steps. This function returns the resulting mean happiness:

Python input

```

1066 def find_mean_happiness(seed, size, threshold, n_steps):
1067     """Create and run an instance of the simulation.
1068
1069     Args:
1070         seed: the random seed to use
1071         size: an integer number of rows and columns
1072         threshold: a number between 0 and 1 representing
1073             the minimum acceptable proportion of similar
1074             neighbours
1075         n_steps: an integer number of steps
1076
1077     Returns:
1078         The average city's household satisfaction after
1079         n_steps
1080     """
1081     random.seed(seed)
1082     C = City(size, threshold)
1083     C.run(n_steps)
1084     return C.mean_satisfaction()

```

Now consider each household with a threshold of 0.65, and compare the mean happiness after 0 steps and 100 steps. First 0 steps:

Python input

```
1085 print(find_mean_happiness(0, 50, 0.65, 0))
```

Python output

```
1086 0.4998
```

This is well below the minimum threshold of 0.65, and so on average most households are unhappy. After 100 steps:

Python input

```
1087 print(find_mean_happiness(0, 50, 0.65, 100))
```

Python output

```
1088 0.9078
```

After 100 time steps the average satisfaction level is much higher. In fact, it is much higher than each individual household's threshold. Now consider that this satisfaction level is really a level of how similar each households' neighbours are, it is actually a level of segregation. This was the central premise of Schelling's original model, that overall emergent segregation levels are much higher than any individuals' personal preference for segregation.

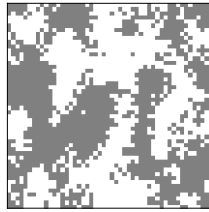
More analysis methods can be added, including plotting functions. Figure 7.3 shows the grid at the beginning, after 20 time steps, and after 100 time steps, with households supporting Cardiff City FC in grey, and those supporting Swansea City AFC in white. It visually shows the households segregating over time.

7.4 SOLVING WITH R

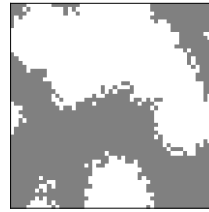
Agent based modelling lends itself well to a programming paradigm called object-orientated programming. This paradigm lets a number of *objects* from a set of instructions called a *class* to be built. These objects can both store information (in the R library used here these are called *fields*), and do things (in the R library used here



(a) At the beginning.



(b) After 20 time steps.



(c) After 100 time steps.

Figure 7.3 Plotted results from the Python code.

these are called *methods*). Object-orientated programming allow for the creation of new classes which can be used to implement the individual behaviours of an agent based model.

There are a number of ways of doing object-orientated programming in R. In this chapter, a package called **R6** will be used here.

For this problem two classes will be built: a **House** and a **City** for them to live in. Now to define the **City**:

R input

```

1089 library(R6)
1090 city <- R6Class("City", list(
1091   size = NA,
1092   houses = NA,
1093   initialize = function(size, threshold) {
1094     self$size <- size
1095     self$houses <- c()
1096     for (x in 1:size) {
1097       row <- c()
1098       for (y in 1:size) {
1099         row <- c(row, house$new(x, y, threshold, self))
1100       }
1101       self$houses <- rbind(self$houses, row)
1102     } },
1103   run = function(n_steps) {
1104     if (n_steps > 0) {
1105       for (turn in 1:n_steps) {
1106         self$take_turn()
1107       } },
1108   take_turn = function() {
1109     sad <- c()
1110     for (house in self$houses) {
1111       if (house$sad()) {
1112         sad <- c(sad, house)
1113       } }
1114     sad <- sample(sad)
1115     num_sad <- length(sad)
1116     i <- 1
1117     while (i <= num_sad / 2) {
1118       sad[[i]]$swap(sad[[num_sad - i]])
1119       i <- i + 1
1120     } },
1121   mean_satisfaction = function() {
1122     mean(sapply(self$houses, function(x) x$satisfaction()))
1123   })
1124 )

```

This defines an R6 class, a template or a set of instructions that can be used to create instances of it, called objects. For our model we only need one instance of the `City` class, although it may be useful to be able to produce more in order to

run multiple trials with different random seeds. This class contains four methods: `initialize`, `run`, `take_turn` and `mean_satisfaction`.

The `initialize` method is run at the time the object is first created. It initialises the object by setting a number of its fields:

- First the square grid's `size` is defined, which is the number of rows and columns of houses it contains.
- Then the `houses` are defined by iteratively repeating the `rbind` function to create a two-dimensional vector of instances of the, yet to be defined, `House` class, representing the houses themselves.

The `run` method runs the simulation. For each discrete time step from 1 to `n_steps`, the world runs the method `take_turn`. In this method, a list of all the houses with households that are unhappy with their neighbours is created; these are put in a random order and then working inwards from the boundary, houses with sad households are paired up and swap households.

The last method defined here is the `mean_satisfaction` method, which is used to observe the emergent behaviour. This calculates the average satisfaction of all the houses in the grid.

In order to be able to create an instance of the above class, a `House` class is needed:

R input

```

1125 house <- R6Class("House", list(
1126   x = NA,
1127   y = NA,
1128   threshold = NA,
1129   city = NA,
1130   kind = NA,
1131   initialize = function(x = NA,
1132                         y = NA,
1133                         threshold = NA,
1134                         city = NA) {
1135     self$x <- x
1136     self$y <- y
1137     self$threshold <- threshold
1138     self$city <- city
1139     self$kind <- sample(c("Cardiff", "Swansea"), 1)
1140   },
1141   satisfaction = function() {
1142     same <- 0
1143     for (x in -1:1) {
1144       for (y in -1:1) {
1145         ax <- ( (self$x + x - 1) %% self$city$size) + 1
1146         ay <- ( (self$y + y - 1) %% self$city$size) + 1
1147         if (self$city$houses[[ax, ay]]$kind == self$kind) {
1148           same <- same + 1
1149         } } }
1150     (same - 1) / 8
1151   },
1152   sad = function() {
1153     self$satisfaction() < self$threshold
1154   },
1155   swap = function(house) {
1156     old <- self$kind
1157     self$kind <- house$kind
1158     house$kind <- old
1159   })
1160 )

```

It contains four methods: `initialize`, `satisfaction`, `sad` and `swap`.

The `initialize` method sets a number of the class' fields when the object is created: the house's `x` and `y` coordinates (its column and row numbers on the grid); its `threshold` which corresponds to p ; its `kind` which is randomly chosen between

having a Cardiff City FC supporting household or a Swansea City AFC supporting household; and finally its `city`, an instance of the `City` class, shared by all the houses.

The `satisfaction` method loops through each of the house's neighbouring cells in the city grid, counts the number of neighbours that are of the same kind as itself, and returns this as a proportion. The `sad` method returns a boolean indicating of the household's satisfaction is below its minimum threshold.

Finally the `swap` method takes another house object, and swaps their household kinds.

A function to create and run one of these simulations will now be written with a given random seed, threshold, and number of steps. This function return the resulting mean happiness:

R input

```

1161  #' Create and run an instance of the simulation.
1162  #'
1163  #' @param seed: the random seed to use
1164  #' @param size: an integer number of rows and columns
1165  #' @param threshold: a number between 0 and 1 representing
1166  #'   the minimum acceptable proportion of similar neighbours
1167  #' @param n_steps: an integer number of steps
1168  #'
1169  #' @return The average city's household satisfaction
1170  #'   after n_steps
1171  find_mean_happiness <- function(seed, size,
1172                                threshold, n_steps){
1173    set.seed(seed)
1174    our_city <- city$new(size, threshold)
1175    our_city$run(n_steps)
1176    our_city$mean_satisfaction()
1177  }

```

Now consider each household with a threshold of 0.65, and compare the mean happiness after 0 steps and 100 steps. First 0 steps:

R input

```

1178  print(find_mean_happiness(0, 50, 0.65, 0))

```

R output

```
1179 [1] 0.4956
```

This is well below the minimum threshold of 0.65, and so on average most households are unhappy here. Let's run the simulation for 100 generations and see how this changes:

R input

```
1180 print(find_mean_happiness(0, 50, 0.65, 100))
```

R output

```
1181 [1] 0.9338
```

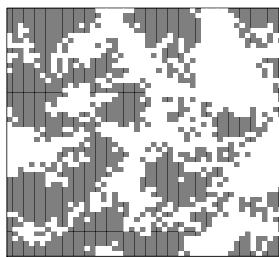
After 100 time steps the average satisfaction has increased. It is now actually much higher than each individual household's threshold. We can consider this satisfaction level as a level of how similar each household's neighbours are, and so it is actually a level of segregation. This was the central premise of Schelling's original model, that overall emergent segregation levels are much higher than any individuals' personal preference for segregation.

More analysis methods can be added, including plotting functions. Figure 7.4 shows the grid at the beginning, after 20 time steps, and after 100 time steps, with households supporting Cardiff City FC in grey, and those supporting Swansea City AFC in white. It shows the households segregating over time.

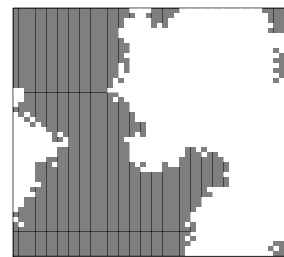
7.5 RESEARCH



(a) At the beginning.



(b) After 20 time steps.



(c) After 100 time steps.

Figure 7.4 Plotted results from the R code.

V

Optimisation



Linear Programming

FINDING the best configuration of some system can be challenging, especially when there is a seemingly endless amount of possible solutions. Optimisation techniques are a way to mathematically derive solutions that maximise or minimise some objective function, subject to a number of feasibility constraints. When all components of the problem can be written in a linear way, then linear programming is one technique that can be used to find the solution.

8.1 PROBLEM

A university runs 14 modules over three subjects: Art, Biology, and Chemistry. Each subject runs core modules and optional modules. Table 8.1 gives the module numbers for each of these.

The university is required to schedule examinations for each of these modules. The university would like the exams to be scheduled using the least amount of time slots possible. However not all modules can be scheduled at the same time as they share some students:

- All art modules share students,
- All biology modules share students,

| Art Core | Biology Core | Chemistry Core |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
| M00 | M05 | M09 |
| M01 | M06 | M10 |
| Art Optional | Biology Optional | Chemistry Optional |
| M02 | M07 | M11 |
| M03 | M08 | M12 |
| M04 | | M13 |

Table 8.1 List of modules on offer at the university.

- All chemistry modules share students,
- Biology students have the option of taking optional modules from chemistry, so all biology modules may share students with optional chemistry modules,
- Chemistry students have the option of taking optional modules from biology, so all chemistry modules may share students with optional biology modules,
- Biology students have the option of taking core art modules, and so all biology modules may share students with core art modules.

How can every exam be scheduled with no clashes, that using the least amount of time slots?

8.2 THEORY

Linear programming is a method that solves an optimisation problem of n variables by defining all constraints as planes in n -dimensional space. These planes combine to create a convex region where all feasible solutions (those that satisfy the constraints) lie within that region, and all infeasible solutions (those that break at least one constraint) lie outside that region.

We are interested in optimising, that is either minimising or maximising, some linear function, called the objective function. Therefore the solution must lie at the very edge of the feasible convex region, that is we have improved so much that if we were to improve any further we would lie outside the feasible region - hence the optimum lies on the edge.

Linear programming employs algorithms such as the Simplex method to mathematically traverse the edges of the feasible convex region, stopping at the optimum. Therefore to solve such a problem, we need to define out objective function and constraints in a linear fashion, and then apply appropriate algorithms.

Consider a 2-dimensional example: I am able to make £50 profit on each tonne of paint A I produce, and £60 profit on each tonne of paint B I produce. A tonne of paint A needs 4 tonnes of ingredient X and 5 tonnes of ingredient Y. A tonne of paint B needs 6 tonnes of ingredient X and 4 tonnes of ingredient Y. Only 24 tonnes of X and 20 tonnes of Y are available per day. How much of paint A and paint B should I produce daily to maximise profit?

This is formulated as a linear objective function, representing total profit, that is to be maximised; and two linear constraints, representing the availability of ingredients X and Y. They are written as:

$$\text{Maximise: } 50A + 60B \quad (8.1)$$

Subject to:

$$4A + 6B \leq 24 \quad (8.2)$$

$$5A + 4B \leq 20 \quad (8.3)$$

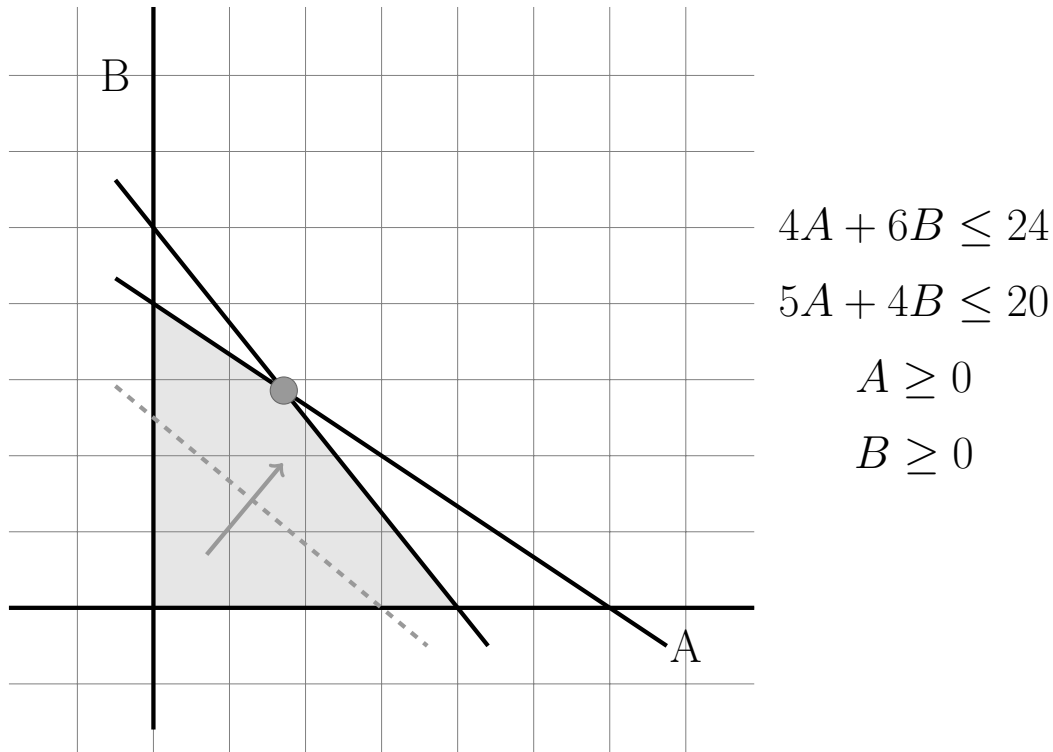


Figure 8.1 Visual representation of the paint linear program. The feasible convex region is shaded in grey; the objective function with arbitrary value is shown in a dashed line.

Now we have a linear system in 2-dimensional space with coordinates A and B . These are called the decision variables, whose values we wish to find that optimises the objective function given by expression 8.1. Inequalities 8.2 and 8.3 correspond to the amount of ingredient X and Y available per day. These, along with the additional constraints that we cannot produce a negative amount of paint ($A \geq 0$ and $B \geq 0$), form the convex feasible region shown in Figure 8.1.

Expression 8.1 corresponds to the total profit, which is the expression we are trying to maximise. As a line in the 2-dimensional space, this expression fixes its gradient, but its value determines the size of the y -intercept. Therefore optimising this function corresponds to pushing a line with that gradient to its furthest extreme within the feasible region, demonstrated in Figure 8.1. Therefore for this problem the optimum occurs in a particular vertex of the feasible region, at $A = \frac{12}{7}$ and $B = \frac{20}{7}$.

This works well as A and B can take any real value in the feasible region. It is common however to formulate Integer Linear Programmes where the decision variables are restricted to integers. There are a number of methods that can help us adapt a real solution to an integer solution. These include cutting planes, which introduce new constraints around the real solution to force an integer value; and branch and

bound methods, where we iteratively convert decision variables to their closest two integers and remove any infeasible solutions.

Both Python and R have libraries that carry out the linear and integer programming algorithms for us. When solving these kinds of problems, formulating them as linear systems is the most important challenge.

Consider again the exam scheduling problem from Section 9.1, and let's formulate this as a linear program. Define M as the set of all modules to be scheduled, and define T as the set of possible time slots. At worst each exam is scheduled for a different day, thus $|T| = |M| = 14$ in this case. Let $\{X_{mt}$ for $m \in M$ and $t \in T\}$ be a set of binary decision variables, that is $X_{mt} = 1$ if module m is scheduled for time t , and 0 otherwise.

There are six distinct sets of modules in which exams cannot be scheduled simultaneously: A_c, A_o representing core and optional art modules respectively; B_c, B_o representing core and optional biology modules respectively; and C_c, C_o representing core and optional chemistry modules respectively. Therefore $M = A_c \cup A_o \cup B_c \cup B_o \cup C_c \cup C_o$.

Additionally there are further clashes between these sets:

- No modules in $A_c \cup A_o$ can be scheduled together as they may share students, this is given by the constraint in inequality 8.7.
- No modules in $B_c \cup B_o \cup A_c$, can be scheduled together as they may share students, given by inequality 8.8.
- No modules in $B_c \cup B_o \cup C_o$, can be scheduled together as they may share students, given by inequality 8.9.
- No modules in $B_o \cup C_c \cup C_o$, can be scheduled together as they may share students, given by inequality 8.10.

Let's also define $\{Y_t$ for $t \in T\}$ as a set of auxiliary binary decision variables, where Y_t is 1 if time slot t is being used. This is enforced by Inequality 8.5.

Finally we have one final constraint, Equation 8.6, which ensures all modules are scheduled once and once only. Thus altogether our integer program becomes:

$$\text{Minimise: } \sum_{t \in T} Y_j \quad (8.4)$$

Subject to:

$$\frac{1}{|M|} \sum_{m \in M} X_{mt} \leq Y_j \text{ for all } j \in T \quad (8.5)$$

$$\sum_{t \in T} X_{mt} = 1 \text{ for all } m \in M \quad (8.6)$$

$$\sum_{m \in A_c \cup A_o} X_{mt} \leq 1 \text{ for all } t \in T \quad (8.7)$$

$$\sum_{m \in B_c \cup B_o \cup A_c} X_{mt} \leq 1 \text{ for all } t \in T \quad (8.8)$$

$$\sum_{m \in B_c \cup B_o \cup C_o} X_{mt} \leq 1 \text{ for all } t \in T \quad (8.9)$$

$$\sum_{m \in B_o \cup C_c \cup C_o} X_{mt} \leq 1 \text{ for all } t \in T \quad (8.10)$$

Another common way to define this linear program is by representing the coefficients of the constraints as a matrix. That is:

$$\text{Minimise: } c^T Z \quad (8.11)$$

Subject to:

$$AZ \star b \quad (8.12)$$

where Z is a vector representing the decision variables, c is the coefficients of the Z in the objective function, A is the matrix of the coefficients of Z in the constraints, b is the vector of the right hand side of the constraints, and \star represents either \leq , $=$ or \geq as required.

As Z is a one-dimensional vector of decisions variables, we ‘flatten’ the matrix X and the vector Y together to form this new variable. We can do this by first ordering by X then Y , within that ordering by time slot, then within that ordering by module number. Therefore:

$$Z_{|M|t+m} = X_{mt} \quad (8.13)$$

$$Z_{|M|^2+m} = Y_m \quad (8.14)$$

where t and m are indices starting at 0. For example Z_{17} would correspond to $X_{3,2}$, the decision variable representing whether module number 4 is scheduled on day 3; Z_{208} would correspond to Y_{12} , the decision variable representing whether there’s an exam scheduled for day 12.

Parameters c , A , and b can be determined by using this same conversion from the model in Equations 8.4 to 8.10. The vector c would be $|M|^2$ zeroes followed by $|M|$ ones. The vector b would be zeroes for all the rows representing Equation 8.5, and ones for all other constraints.

8.3 SOLVING WITH PYTHON

In this book we will use the Python library PuLP to formulate and solve the integer program. First let's define all the sets we will use to formulate the problem.

Python input

```

1182 Ac = [0, 1]
1183 Ao = [2, 3, 4]
1184 Bc = [5, 6]
1185 Bo = [7, 8]
1186 Cc = [9, 10]
1187 Co = [11, 12, 13]
1188 modules = Ac + Ao + Bc + Bo + Cc + Co
1189 times = range(14)

```

Now let's begin by defining an empty problem:

Python input

```

1190 import pulp
1191
1192 prob = pulp.LpProblem("ExamScheduling", pulp.LpMinimize)

```

We also need to define our sets of binary decision variables:

Python input

```

1193 xshape = (modules, times)
1194 x = pulp.LpVariable.dicts("X", xshape, cat=pulp.LpBinary)
1195 y = pulp.LpVariable.dicts("Y", times, cat=pulp.LpBinary)

```

Now y is a dictionary of binary decision variables, with keys as elements of the list `times`. Let's look at Y_3 corresponding to the third day:

Python input

```

1196 print(y[3])

```

Python output

1197 Y_3

While `x` is a dictionary of dictionaries of binary decision variables, with keys as elements of the lists `modules` and `times`. Let's look at $X_{2,5}$, the variable corresponding to module 2 being scheduled on day 5:

Python input

1198 `print(x[2][5])`

Python output

1199 X_2_5

Now we have an empty problem, all relevant sets, and all decision variables defined, we can go ahead and add the objective function and constraints to the problem.

For the objective function, Equation 8.4:

Python input

1200 `objective_function = sum([y[day] for day in times])`
 1201 `prob += objective_function`

Now the constraints, Inequalities 8.5-8.10:

Python input

```

1202 M = 1 / len(modules)
1203 for day in times:
1204     prob += M * sum(x[m][day] for m in modules) <= y[day]
1205     prob += sum([x[mod][day] for mod in Ac + Ao]) <= 1
1206     prob += sum([x[mod][day] for mod in Bc + Bo + Co]) <= 1
1207     prob += sum([x[mod][day] for mod in Bc + Bo + Ac]) <= 1
1208     prob += sum([x[mod][day] for mod in Cc + Co + Bo]) <= 1
1209
1210 for mod in modules:
1211     prob += sum(x[mod][day] for day in times) == 1

```

At this stage we could print the `prob` object, which would explicitly give all constraints written out fully. This can be used to error check if the need arises.

Now we can go ahead and solve the problem:

Python input

```

1212 prob.solve(pulp.apis.PULP_CBC_CMD(msg=False))

```

This method has also assigned values to our decision variables. These can be inspected, let's check if module 2 was scheduled for day 5:

Python input

```

1213 print(x[2][5].value())

```

Python output

```

1214 0.0

```

This was assigned the value 0, and so module 2 was not scheduled for that day. Let's check if module 2 was scheduled for day 9:

Python input

```
1215 print(x[2][9].value())
```

Python output

```
1216 1.0
```

This was assigned a value of 1, and so module 2 was scheduled for that day.

We can iterate through all decision variables and make a print solutions in order to read off the schedule easier:

Python input

```
1217 for day in times:
1218     if y[day].value() == 1:
1219         schedule = f"Day {day}: "
1220         for mod in modules:
1221             if x[mod][day].value() == 1:
1222                 schedule += f"{mod}, "
1223         print(schedule)
```

giving:

Python output

```
1224 Day 0: 1, 12,
1225 Day 5: 0, 13,
1226 Day 6: 11,
1227 Day 7: 4, 6, 10,
1228 Day 8: 3, 5, 9,
1229 Day 9: 2, 7,
1230 Day 13: 8,
```

Now the order of the days do not matter here, but we can see that 7 days are required in order to schedule all exams with no clashes, with two exams scheduled each day.

8.4 SOLVING WITH R

In R we will use the R package `ROI`, the R Optimization Infrastructure. This is a library of code that acts as a front end to a number of other solvers that need to be installed externally, allowing a range of optimisation problems to be solved with a number of different solvers, using similar problem structures and syntax. The solver that we will use here is called the CBC MILP Solver, which needs to be installed as well as the `rcbc` package.

The `ROI` package requires that the linear programme is represented in its matrix form, with a one-dimensional array of decision variables. Therefore we will use the form of the model described at the end of Section 9.2. We will write functions that define the objective function c , the coefficient matrix A , the vector of the right hand side of the constraints b , and the vector of equality or inequalities directions \star .

First we consider the objective function:

R input

```
1231 #' Writes the row of coefficients for the objective function
1232 #' 
1233 #' @param n_modules: the number of modules to schedule
1234 #' @param n_days: the maximum number of days to schedule
1235 #' 
1236 #' @return the objective function row to minimise
1237 write_objective <- function(n_modules, n_days){
1238   all_days <- rep(0, n_modules * n_days)
1239   Ys <- rep(1, n_days)
1240   append(all_days, Ys)
1241 }
```

For 3 modules and 3 days:

R input

```
1242 write_objective(3, 3)
```

Which gives the following array, corresponding the the coefficients of the array Z for Equation 8.4.

R output

```
1243 [1] 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1
```

The following function is used to write one row of that coefficients matrix, for a given day, for a given set of clashes, corresponding to Inequalities 8.7 to 8.10:

R input

```

1244 #' Writes the constraint row dealing with clashes
1245 #'
1246 #' @param clashes: a vector of module indices that all cannot
1247 #'                  be scheduled at the same time
1248 #' @param day: an integer representing the day
1249 #'
1250 #' @return the constraint row corresponding to that set of
1251 #'         clashes on that day
1252 write_X_clashes <- function(clashes, day, n_days, n_modules){
1253   today <- rep(0, n_modules)
1254   today[clashes] = 1
1255   before_today <- rep(0, n_modules * (day - 1))
1256   after_today <- rep(0, n_modules * (n_days - day))
1257   all_days <- c(before_today, today, after_today)
1258   full_coeffs <- c(all_days, rep(0, n_days))
1259   full_coeffs
1260 }

```

where `clashes` is an array containing the module numbers of a set of modules that may all share students.

The following function is used to write one row of the coefficients matrix, for each module, ensuring that each module is scheduled on one day and one day only, corresponding to Equation 8.6:

R input

```

1261 #' Writes the constraint row to ensure that every module is
1262 #' scheduled once and only one
1263 #'
1264 #' @param module: an integer representing the module
1265 #'
1266 #' @return the constraint row corresponding to scheduling a
1267 #' module on only one day
1268 write_X_requirements <- function(module, n_days, n_modules){
1269   today <- rep(0, n_modules)
1270   today[module] = 1
1271   all_days <- rep(today, n_days)
1272   full_coeffs <- c(all_days, rep(0, n_days))
1273   full_coeffs
1274 }

```

The following function is used to write one row of the coefficients matrix corresponding to the auxiliary constraints of Inequality 8.5:

R input

```

1275 #' Writes the constraint row representing the Y variable,
1276 #' whether at least one exam is scheduled on that day
1277 #'
1278 #' @param day: an integer representing the day
1279 #'
1280 #' @return the constraint row corresponding to creating Y
1281 write_Y_constraints <- function(day, n_days, n_modules){
1282   today <- rep(1, n_modules)
1283   before_today <- rep(0, n_modules * (day - 1))
1284   after_today <- rep(0, n_modules * (n_days - day))
1285   all_days <- c(before_today, today, after_today)
1286   all_Ys <- rep(0, n_days)
1287   all_Ys[day] = -n_modules
1288   full_coeffs <- append(all_days, all_Ys)
1289   full_coeffs
1290 }

```

Finally the following function uses them all to assemble a coefficients matrix. It loops through the parameters for each constraint row required, uses the appropriate

function to create the row of the coefficients matrix, sets the appropriate inequality direction (\leq , $=$, \geq), and the value of the right hand side. It returns all three components:

R input

```

1291 #' Writes all the constraints as a matrix, column of
1292 #' inequalities, and right hand side column.
1293 #'
1294 #' @param list_clashes: a list of vectors with sets of modules
1295 #' that cannot be scheduled at the same time
1296 #'
1297 #' @return f.con the LHS of the constraints as a matrix
1298 #' @return f.dir the directions of the inequalities
1299 #' @return f.rhs the values of the RHS of the inequalities
1300 write_constraints <- function(list_clashes, n_days, n_modules){
1301   all_rows <- c()
1302   all_dirs <- c()
1303   all_rhss <- c()
1304   n_rows <- 0
1305
1306   for (clash in list_clashes){
1307     for (day in 1:n_days){
1308       clashes <- write_X_clashes(clash, day, n_days, n_modules)
1309       all_rows <- append(all_rows, clashes)
1310       all_dirs <- append(all_dirs, "<=")
1311       all_rhss <- append(all_rhss, 1)
1312       n_rows <- n_rows + 1
1313     }
1314   }
1315
1316   for (module in 1:n_modules){
1317     reqs <- write_X_requirements(module, n_days, n_modules)
1318     all_rows <- append(all_rows, reqs)
1319     all_dirs <- append(all_dirs, "==")
1320     all_rhss <- append(all_rhss, 1)
1321     n_rows <- n_rows + 1
1322   }
1323
1324   for (day in 1:n_days){
1325     Yconstraints <- write_Y_constraints(day, n_days, n_modules)
1326     all_rows <- append(all_rows, Yconstraints)
1327     all_dirs <- append(all_dirs, "<=")
1328     all_rhss <- append(all_rhss, 0)
1329     n_rows <- n_rows + 1
1330   }
1331
1332   f.con <- matrix(all_rows, nrow = n_rows, byrow = TRUE)
1333   f.dir <- all_dirs
1334   f.rhs <- all_rhss
1335   list(f.con, f.dir, f.rhs)
1336 }

```

For demonstration, if we had two modules and two possible days, with the single constraint that both modules cannot be scheduled at the same time, then:

R input

```
1337 write_constraints(list_clashes = list(c(1, 2)),
1338                   n_days = 2,
1339                   n_modules = 2)
```

This would give three components:

- a coefficient matrix of the left hand side of the constraints, A , (rows 1 and 2 corresponding to the clash on days 1 and 2, row 3 ensuring module 1 is scheduled on one day only, row 4 ensuring module 2 is scheduled on one day only, and rows 5 and 6 defining the decision variables Y),
- an array of direction of the constraint inequalities, \star ,
- and an array of the right hand side values of the constraints, b .

R output

```
1340 [[1]]
1341      [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6]
1342 [1,]    1    1    0    0    0    0
1343 [2,]    0    0    1    1    0    0
1344 [3,]    1    0    1    0    0    0
1345 [4,]    0    1    0    1    0    0
1346 [5,]    1    1    0    0   -2    0
1347 [6,]    0    0    1    1    0   -2
1348
1349 [[2]]
1350 [1] "<=" "<=" "==" "==" "<=" "<="
1351
1352 [[3]]
1353 [1] 1 1 1 1 0 0
```

Now we are ready to use these to solve the exam scheduling problem. First we define some parameters, including the sets of modules that all share students, that is the list of clashes:

R input

```

1354 n_modules = 14
1355 n_days = 14
1356
1357 Ac <- c(0, 1)
1358 Ao <- c(2, 3, 4)
1359 Bc <- c(5, 6)
1360 Bo <- c(7, 8)
1361 Cc <- c(9, 10)
1362 Co <- c(11, 12, 13)
1363
1364 list_clashes <- list(
1365   c(Ac, Ao),
1366   c(Bc, Bo, Co),
1367   c(Bc, Bo, Ac),
1368   c(Bo, Cc, Co)
1369 )

```

Then we can use the functions defined above to create the objective function and the three elements of the constraints:

R input

```

1370 constraints <- write_constraints(list_clashes = list_clashes,
1371                                n_days = n_days,
1372                                n_modules = n_modules)
1373 f.con <- constraints[[1]]
1374 f.dir <- constraints[[2]]
1375 f.rhs <- constraints[[3]]
1376 f.obj <- write_objective(n_modules = n_modules, n_days = n_days)

```

Finally, once these objects are in place, we can use the ROI library to construct an optimisation problem object:

R input

```

1377 library(ROI)
1378
1379 milp <- OP(objective = L_objective(f.obj),
1380           constraints = L_constraint(L = f.con,
1381                                     dir = f.dir,
1382                                     rhs = f.rhs),
1383           types = rep("B", length(f.obj)),
1384           maximum = FALSE)

```

This creates an `OP` object from our objective row `f.obj`, and our constraints which are made up from the three components `f.con`, `f.dir` and `f.rhs`. When creating this object we also denote the `types` as binary variables (an array of `"B"` for each decision variable), and we want to minimise the objective function so we set `maximum = FALSE`.

Now to solve:

R input

```
1385 sol <- ROI_solve(milp)
```

The solver will output information about the solve process and runtime. We can now print the solution:

R input

```
1386 print(sol$solution)
```

R output

[illegible]

This gives the values of each of the Z decision variables. We know the structure of this, that is the first 14 variables are the modules scheduled for day 1, and so on. The following code prints a readable schedule:

R input

```

1395 for (day in 1:n_days){
1396   if (sol$solution[(n_days * n_modules) + day] == 1){
1397     schedule <- paste("Day", day, ":")
1398     for (module in 1:n_modules){
1399       var <- ((day - 1) * n_modules) + module
1400       if (sol$solution[var] == 1){
1401         schedule <- paste(schedule, module)
1402       }
1403     }
1404     print(schedule)
1405   }
1406 }

```

R output

```

1407 [1] "Day 2 : 4 11"
1408 [1] "Day 6 : 1 12"
1409 [1] "Day 8 : 7"
1410 [1] "Day 10 : 8"
1411 [1] "Day 11 : 3 13"
1412 [1] "Day 12 : 2 6 9 14"
1413 [1] "Day 14 : 5 10"

```

This gives that 7 days are the minimum required to schedule the 14 exams without clashes, with either 1, 2 or 4 exams scheduled on each day.

8.5 RESEARCH

Heuristics

IT is often necessary to find the most desirable choice from a large, or indeed, infinite set of options. Sometimes this can be done using exact techniques but often this is not possible and finding an almost perfect choice quickly is just as good. This is where the field of heuristics comes in to play.

9.1 PROBLEM

Consider a delivery company that needs to find itineraries for a driver. In the past, the management team has noticed that drivers will often drive to whichever next stop is closest but this often makes for longer deliveries.

The stops are represented in Figure 9.2.

The distance matrix is given in equation (9.1).

$$d = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 35 & 35 & 29 & 70 & 35 & 42 & 27 & 24 & 44 & 58 & 71 & 69 \\ 35 & 0 & 67 & 32 & 72 & 40 & 71 & 56 & 36 & 11 & 66 & 70 & 37 \\ 35 & 67 & 0 & 63 & 64 & 68 & 11 & 12 & 56 & 77 & 48 & 67 & 94 \\ 29 & 32 & 63 & 0 & 93 & 8 & 71 & 56 & 8 & 33 & 84 & 93 & 69 \\ 70 & 72 & 64 & 93 & 0 & 101 & 56 & 56 & 92 & 81 & 16 & 5 & 69 \\ 35 & 40 & 68 & 8 & 101 & 0 & 76 & 62 & 11 & 39 & 91 & 101 & 76 \\ 42 & 71 & 11 & 71 & 56 & 76 & 0 & 15 & 65 & 81 & 40 & 60 & 94 \\ 27 & 56 & 12 & 56 & 56 & 62 & 15 & 0 & 50 & 66 & 41 & 58 & 82 \\ 24 & 36 & 56 & 8 & 92 & 11 & 65 & 50 & 0 & 39 & 81 & 91 & 74 \\ 44 & 11 & 77 & 33 & 81 & 39 & 81 & 66 & 39 & 0 & 77 & 79 & 37 \\ 58 & 66 & 48 & 84 & 16 & 91 & 40 & 41 & 81 & 77 & 0 & 20 & 73 \\ 71 & 70 & 67 & 93 & 5 & 101 & 60 & 58 & 91 & 79 & 20 & 0 & 65 \\ 69 & 37 & 94 & 69 & 69 & 76 & 94 & 82 & 74 & 37 & 73 & 65 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (9.1)$$

The value d gives the travel distance between stops i and j . For example, $d_{23} = 89$ indicates that the distance between the 2nd and 3rd stop in the third itinerary is given 89.

Given these parameters, we aim to find a *sufficiently good* set of itineraries that gives a low total amount of travel.

The emphasis on needing a good solution, but not necessarily the best one, prioritising computational efficiency is where the field of heuristics comes in to its own.

9.2 THEORY

The heuristic approach take here will be to use a neighborhood search algorithm. This algorithm works by considering a given potential solution, evaluating it and then trying another potential solution *close* to it. What *close* means depends on

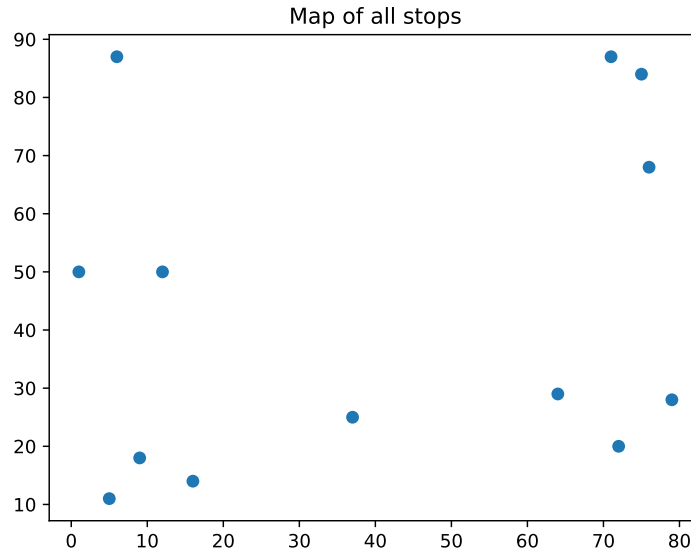


Figure 9.1 Diagrammatic representation of the action sets and payoff matrices for the game.

different approaches and problems: it is referred to as the neighbourhood. As a new solution is evaluated if it is *good* (this is again a term that depends on the approach and problem) then the search continues from the neighbourhood of this new solution.

For our problem, the first aspect of this is to represent a given trajectory between all the potential stops as a *tour*. If we have 3 total stops and require that the tour starts and stops at the first one then there are two possible tours:

$$t \in \{(1, 2, 3, 1), (1, 3, 2, 1)\}$$

Given a distance matrix d such that d_{ij} is the distance between stop i and j the total cost of a tour is given by:

$$C(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n d_{t_i, t_{i+1}}$$

Thus, with:

$$d = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 15 \\ 3 & 3 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

We have:

$$c((1, 2, 3, 1)) = d_{12} + d_{23} + d_{31} = 1 + 15 + 3 = 19$$

$$c((1, 3, 2, 1)) = d_{13} + d_{32} + d_{21} = 3 + 3 + 1 = 7$$

Using this framework, the neighbourhood search can be written down as:

1. Start with a given tour: t .
2. Evaluate $C(t)$.
3. Identify a new \tilde{t} from t and accept it as a replacement for t if $C(\tilde{t}) < C(t)$.
4. Repeat the 3rd step until some stopping condition is met.

This is shown diagrammatically in Figure 9.2.

A number of stopping conditions can be used including some specific overall cost or a number of total iterations of the algorithm.

The neighbourhood of a tour t is taken as some set of tours that can be obtained from t using a specific and computationally efficient **neighbourhood operator**.

To illustrate two such neighbourhoods operators, consider the following tour on 7 stops:

$$t = (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 0)$$

One possible neighbourhood is to choose 2 stops at random and swap. For example, the tour $t^{(1)} \in N(t)$ is obtained by swapping the 3rd and 5th stops.

$$t^{(1)} = (0, 1, 5, 3, 4, 2, 6, 0)$$

Another possible neighbourhood is to choose 2 stops at random and reversing the order of all stops between (including) those two stops. For example, the tour $t^{(2)} \in N(t)$ is obtained by reversing the order of all stops between the 3rd and the 5th stop.

$$t^{(2)} = (0, 1, 5, 4, 3, 2, 6, 0)$$

Examples of these tours are shown in Figure 9.3.

9.3 SOLVING WITH PYTHON

To solve this problem using Python we will write functionality that matches the first three steps in the Section 9.2.

The first step is to write the `get_initial_candidate` function that creates an initial tour:

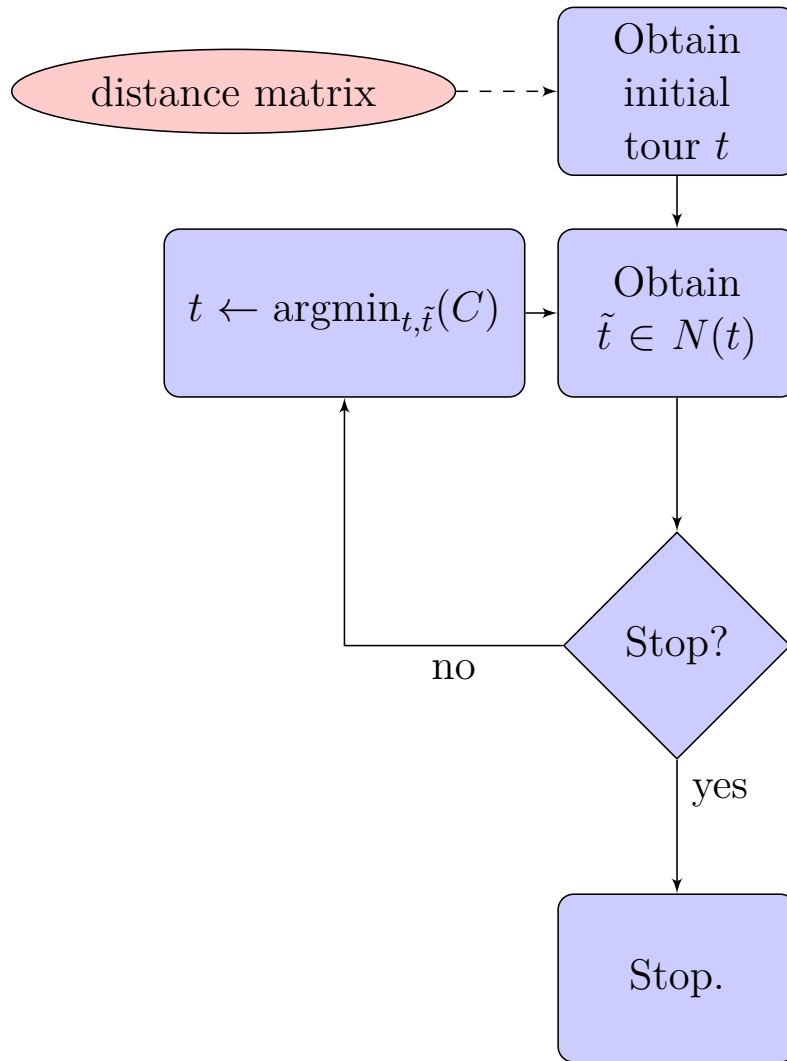


Figure 9.2 The general neighbourhood search algorithm. $N(t)$ refers to some neighbourhood of t .

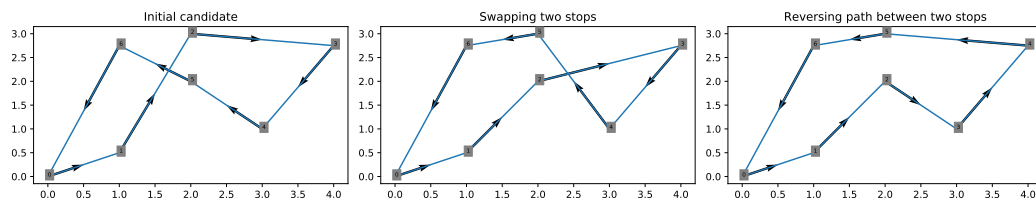


Figure 9.3 The effect of two neighborhood operators on t . $t^{(1)}$ is obtained by swapping stops 3 and 5. $t^{(2)}$ is obtained by reversing the path between stops 3 and 5.

Python input

```

1414 import numpy as np
1415
1416 def get_initial_candidate(number_of_stops, seed=None):
1417     """Return an initial tour.
1418
1419     Args:
1420         number_of_stops: The number of stops
1421         seed: An integer seed. If an integer value is
1422             passed it will create a random tour.
1423
1424     Returns:
1425         A tour starting and ending at stop with index 0.
1426     """
1427     internal_stops = list(range(1, number_of_stops))
1428     if seed is not None:
1429         np.random.seed(seed)
1430         np.random.shuffle(internal_stops)
1431     return [0] + internal_stops + [0]
1432

```

Using this we can get a random tour on 13 stops:

Python input

```

1433 number_of_stops = 13
1434 seed = 0
1435 initial_candidate = get_initial_candidate(
1436     number_of_stops=number_of_stops,
1437     seed=seed,
1438 )
1439 print(initial_candidate)

```

Python output

```

1440 [0, 7, 12, 5, 11, 3, 9, 2, 8, 10, 4, 1, 6, 0]

```

To be able to evaluate any given tour we see that we must also be able to evaluate its cost. Here we define `get_cost` to do this:

Python input

```
1441 def get_cost(tour, distance_matrix):
1442     """Return the cost of a tour.
1443
1444     Args:
1445         tour: A given tuple of successive stops.
1446         distance_matrix: The distance matrix of the problem.
1447
1448     Returns:
1449         The cost
1450     """
1451     return sum(
1452         distance_matrix[current_stop, next_stop]
1453         for current_stop, next_stop in zip(tour[:-1], tour[1:])
1454     )
```


Python input

```

1455 distance_matrix = np.array(
1456     (
1457         (0, 35, 35, 29, 70, 35, 42, 27, 24, 44, 58, 71, 69),
1458         (35, 0, 67, 32, 72, 40, 71, 56, 36, 11, 66, 70, 37),
1459         (35, 67, 0, 63, 64, 68, 11, 12, 56, 77, 48, 67, 94),
1460         (29, 32, 63, 0, 93, 8, 71, 56, 8, 33, 84, 93, 69),
1461         (70, 72, 64, 93, 0, 101, 56, 56, 92, 81, 16, 5, 69),
1462         (35, 40, 68, 8, 101, 0, 76, 62, 11, 39, 91, 101, 76),
1463         (42, 71, 11, 71, 56, 76, 0, 15, 65, 81, 40, 60, 94),
1464         (27, 56, 12, 56, 56, 62, 15, 0, 50, 66, 41, 58, 82),
1465         (24, 36, 56, 8, 92, 11, 65, 50, 0, 39, 81, 91, 74),
1466         (44, 11, 77, 33, 81, 39, 81, 66, 39, 0, 77, 79, 37),
1467         (58, 66, 48, 84, 16, 91, 40, 41, 81, 77, 0, 20, 73),
1468         (71, 70, 67, 93, 5, 101, 60, 58, 91, 79, 20, 0, 65),
1469         (69, 37, 94, 69, 69, 76, 94, 82, 74, 37, 73, 65, 0),
1470     )
1471 )
1472 cost = get_cost(
1473     tour=initial_candidate,
1474     distance_matrix=distance_matrix,
1475 )
1476 print(cost)

```

Python output

```

1477 827

```

We will now define two different neighbourhood operators:

- `swap_stops`: this swaps two stops in a given tour.
- `reverse_path`: this swaps two stops and reverts the stops in between them.

Python input

```

1478 def swap_stops(tour):
1479     """Return a new tour by swapping two stops.
1480
1481     Args:
1482         tour: A given tuple of successive stops.
1483
1484     Returns:
1485         A tour
1486     """
1487     number_of_stops = len(tour) - 1
1488     i, j = sorted(
1489         np.random.choice(range(1, number_of_stops), 2)
1490     )
1491     new_tour = list(tour)
1492     new_tour[i], new_tour[j] = tour[j], tour[i]
1493     return new_tour
1494
1495
1496 def reverse_path(tour):
1497     """Return a new tour by reversing the path between two
1498     stops.
1499
1500     Args:
1501         tour: A given tuple of successive stops.
1502
1503     Returns:
1504         A tour
1505     """
1506     number_of_stops = len(tour) - 1
1507     i, j = sorted(
1508         np.random.choice(range(1, number_of_stops), 2)
1509     )
1510     new_tour = tour[:i] + tour[i : j + 1][::-1] + tour[j + 1 :]
1511     return new_tour

```

If we apply these two neighbourhood operators to our initial candidate we can see the effects:

Python input

```
1512 print(swap_stops(initial_candidate))
```

which swaps the 3rd and 8th stops:

Python output

```
1513 [0, 7, 12, 5, 11, 3, 9, 2, 8, 1, 4, 10, 6, 0]
```

Python input

```
1514 print(reverse_path(initial_candidate))
```

which reverses the order between the 3rd and the 8th stop:

Python output

```
1515 [0, 7, 2, 9, 3, 11, 5, 12, 8, 10, 4, 1, 6, 0]
```

Now we have all the tools in place to build a tool to carry out the neighbourhood search `run_neighbourhood_search`.

Python input

```

1516 def run_neighbourhood_search(
1517     distance_matrix,
1518     number_of_stops,
1519     iterations,
1520     seed=None,
1521     neighbourhood_operator=reverse_path,
1522 ):
1523     """Returns a tour by carrying out a neighbourhood search.
1524
1525     Args:
1526         distance_matrix: the distance matrix
1527         number_of_stops: the number of stops
1528         iterations: the number of iterations for which to
1529             run the algorithm
1530         seed: a random seed (default: None)
1531         neighbourhood_operator: the neighbourhood operator
1532             (default: reverse_path)
1533
1534     Returns:
1535         A tour
1536     """
1537     candidate = get_initial_candidate(
1538         number_of_stops=number_of_stops,
1539         seed=seed,
1540     )
1541
1542     best_cost = get_cost(
1543         tour=candidate,
1544         distance_matrix=distance_matrix,
1545     )
1546
1547     for _ in range(iterations):
1548         new_candidate = neighbourhood_operator(candidate)
1549         if (
1550             cost := get_cost(
1551                 tour=new_candidate,
1552                 distance_matrix=distance_matrix,
1553             )
1554             <= best_cost:
1555             best_cost = cost
1556             candidate = new_candidate
1557
1558     return candidate

```

Using this we can see the effect of running 1000 iterations using different neighbourhood functions:

Python input

```
1559 number_of_iterations = 1000
1560
1561 solution_with_swap_stops = run_neighbourhood_search(
1562     distance_matrix=distance_matrix,
1563     number_of_stops=number_of_stops,
1564     iterations=number_of_iterations,
1565     seed=seed,
1566     neighbourhood_operator=swap_stops,
1567 )
1568 print(solution_with_swap_stops)
```

giving:

Python output

```
1569 [0, 7, 2, 8, 5, 3, 1, 9, 12, 11, 4, 10, 6, 0]
```

Python input

```
1570 solution_with_reverse_path = run_neighbourhood_search(
1571     distance_matrix=distance_matrix,
1572     number_of_stops=number_of_stops,
1573     iterations=number_of_iterations,
1574     seed=seed,
1575     neighbourhood_operator=reverse_path,
1576 )
1577 print(solution_with_reverse_path)
```

giving:

Python output

```
1578 [0, 8, 5, 3, 1, 9, 12, 11, 4, 10, 6, 2, 7, 0]
```

Importantly, the costs differ substantially:

Python input

```

1579 cost = get_cost(
1580     tour=solution_with_swap_stops,
1581     distance_matrix=distance_matrix,
1582 )
1583 print(cost)

```

which gives:

Python output

```

1584 362

```

Whereas using the the reverse path operator, which corresponds to an algorithm called the “2 opt” algorithm, gives a lower cost:

Python input

```

1585 cost = get_cost(
1586     tour=solution_with_reverse_path,
1587     distance_matrix=distance_matrix,
1588 )
1589 print(cost)

```

which gives:

Python output

```

1590 299

```

9.4 SOLVING WITH R

To solve this problem using R we will write functionality that matches the first three steps in the Section 9.2.

The first step is to write the `get_initial_candidate` function that creates an initial tour:

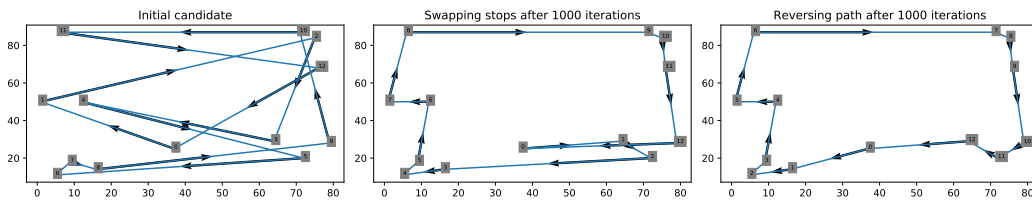


Figure 9.4 The final tours obtained by using the neighbourhood search in Python.

R input

```

1591 #' Return an initial tour.
1592 #'
1593 #' @param number_of_stops The number of stops.
1594 #' @param seed An integer seed. If an integer value is
1595 #'           passed it will create a random tour.
1596 #'
1597 #' @return A tour starting and ending at stop with index 0.
1598 get_initial_candidate <- function(number_of_stops, seed = NA){
1599   internal_stops <- 1:(number_of_stops - 1)
1600   if (!is.na(seed)) {
1601     set.seed(seed)
1602     internal_stops <- sample(internal_stops)
1603   }
1604   c(0, internal_stops, 0)
1605 }

```

Using this we can get a random tour on 13 stops:

R input

```

1606 number_of_stops <- 13
1607 seed <- 0
1608 initial_candidate <- get_initial_candidate(
1609   number_of_stops = number_of_stops,
1610   seed = seed)
1611 print(initial_candidate)

```

R output

1612

```
[1] 0 9 4 7 1 2 5 3 8 6 11 12 10 0
```

To be able to evaluate any given tour we see that we must also be able to evaluate its cost. Here we define `get_cost` to do this:

R input

1613

```
## Return the cost of a tour
```

1614

```
##
```

1615

```
## @param tour A given vector of successive stops.
```

1616

```
## @param seed The distance matrix of the problem.
```

1617

```
##
```

1618

```
## @return The cost
```

1619

```
get_cost <- function(tour, distance_matrix){
```

1620

```
  pairs <- cbind(tour[-length(tour)], tour[-1]) + 1
```

1621

```
  sum(distance_matrix[pairs])
```

1622

```
}
```


R input

```

1623 distance_matrix <- rbind(
1624     c(0, 35, 35, 29, 70, 35, 42, 27, 24, 44, 58, 71, 69),
1625     c(35, 0, 67, 32, 72, 40, 71, 56, 36, 11, 66, 70, 37),
1626     c(35, 67, 0, 63, 64, 68, 11, 12, 56, 77, 48, 67, 94),
1627     c(29, 32, 63, 0, 93, 8, 71, 56, 8, 33, 84, 93, 69),
1628     c(70, 72, 64, 93, 0, 101, 56, 56, 92, 81, 16, 5, 69),
1629     c(35, 40, 68, 8, 101, 0, 76, 62, 11, 39, 91, 101, 76),
1630     c(42, 71, 11, 71, 56, 76, 0, 15, 65, 81, 40, 60, 94),
1631     c(27, 56, 12, 56, 56, 62, 15, 0, 50, 66, 41, 58, 82),
1632     c(24, 36, 56, 8, 92, 11, 65, 50, 0, 39, 81, 91, 74),
1633     c(44, 11, 77, 33, 81, 39, 81, 66, 39, 0, 77, 79, 37),
1634     c(58, 66, 48, 84, 16, 91, 40, 41, 81, 77, 0, 20, 73),
1635     c(71, 70, 67, 93, 5, 101, 60, 58, 91, 79, 20, 0, 65),
1636     c(69, 37, 94, 69, 69, 76, 94, 82, 74, 37, 73, 65, 0)
1637 )
1638 cost <- get_cost(
1639     tour = initial_candidate,
1640     distance_matrix = distance_matrix)
1641 print(cost)

```

R output

```

1642 [1] 709

```

We will now define two different neighbourhood operators:

- `swap_stops`: this swaps two stops in a given tour.
- `reverse_path`: this swaps two stops and reverts the stops in between them.

R input

```

1643 #' Return a new tour by swapping two stops.
1644 #'
1645 #' @param tour A given vector of successive stops.
1646 #'
1647 #' @return A tour
1648 swap_stops <- function(tour){
1649   number_of_stops <- length(tour) - 1
1650   stops_to_swap <- sort(sample(2:number_of_stops, 2))
1651   new_tour <- replace(x = tour,
1652                      list = stops_to_swap,
1653                      values = rev(tour[stops_to_swap]))
1654 }
1655
1656 #' Return a new tour by reversing the path between two stops.
1657 #'
1658 #' @param tour A given vector of successive stops.
1659 #'
1660 #' @return A tour
1661 reverse_path <- function(tour){
1662   number_of_stops <- length(tour) - 1
1663   stops_to_swap <- sort(sample(2:number_of_stops, 2))
1664   i <- stops_to_swap[1]
1665   j <- stops_to_swap[2]
1666   new_order <- c(
1667     c(1: (i - 1)),
1668     c(j:i),
1669     c( (j + 1): length(tour))
1670   )
1671   tour[new_order]
1672 }

```

If we apply these two neighbour operators to our initial candidate we can see the effects:

R input

```

1673 print(swap_stops(initial_candidate))

```

which swaps the 6th and 11th stops:

R output

```
1674 [1] 0 9 4 7 1 11 5 3 8 6 2 12 10 0
```

R input

```
1675 print(reverse_path(initial_candidate))
```

which reverses the order between the 7th and the 11th stop:

R output

```
1676 [1] 0 9 4 7 1 2 11 6 8 3 5 12 10 0
```

Now we have all the tools in place to build a tool to carry out the neighbourhood search `run_neighbourhood_search`.

R input

```

1677 #' Returns a tour by carrying out a neighbourhood search
1678 #'
1679 #' @param distance_matrix: the distance matrix
1680 #' @param number_of_stops: the number of stops
1681 #' @param iterations: the number of iterations for
1682 #'                      which to run the algorithm
1683 #' @param seed: a random seed (default: None)
1684 #' @param neighbourhood_operator: the neighbourhood operation
1685 #'                                (default: reverse_path)
1686 #'
1687 #' @return A tour
1688 run_neighbourhood_search <- function(
1689   distance_matrix,
1690   number_of_stops,
1691   iterations,
1692   seed = NA,
1693   neighbourhood_operator = reverse_path
1694 ){
1695   candidate <- get_initial_candidate(
1696     number_of_stops = number_of_stops,
1697     seed = seed
1698   )
1699
1700   best_cost <- get_cost(
1701     tour = candidate,
1702     distance_matrix = distance_matrix
1703   )
1704
1705   for (repetition in 1:iterations) {
1706     new_candidate <- neighbourhood_operator(candidate)
1707     cost <- get_cost(
1708       tour = new_candidate,
1709       distance_matrix = distance_matrix)
1710
1711     if (cost <= best_cost) {
1712       best_cost <- cost
1713       candidate <- new_candidate
1714     }
1715
1716   }
1717   candidate
1718 }

```

Using this we can see the effect of running 1000 iterations using different neighbourhood functions:

R input

```

1719 number_of_iterations <- 1000
1720 solution_with_swap_stops <- run_neighbourhood_search(
1721     distance_matrix = distance_matrix,
1722     number_of_stops = number_of_stops,
1723     iterations = number_of_iterations,
1724     seed = seed,
1725     neighbourhood_operator = swap_stops
1726 )
1727 print(solution_with_swap_stops)

```

giving:

R output

```

1728 [1] 0 11 4 10 6 2 7 8 5 3 1 9 12 0

```

R input

```

1729 number_of_iterations <- 1000
1730 solution_with_reverse_path <- run_neighbourhood_search(
1731     distance_matrix = distance_matrix,
1732     number_of_stops = number_of_stops,
1733     iterations = number_of_iterations,
1734     seed = seed,
1735     neighbourhood_operator = reverse_path
1736 )
1737 print(solution_with_reverse_path)

```

giving:

R output

```

1738 [1] 0 8 5 3 1 9 12 11 4 10 6 2 7 0

```

Importantly, the costs differ substantially:

R input

```
1739 cost <- get_cost(  
1740     tour = solution_with_swap_stops,  
1741     distance_matrix = distance_matrix  
1742 )  
1743 print(cost)
```

which gives:

R output

```
1744 [1] 373
```

Whereas using the reverse path operator, which corresponds to an algorithm called the “2 opt” algorithm, gives a lower cost:

R input

```
1745 cost <- get_cost(  
1746     tour = solution_with_reverse_path,  
1747     distance_matrix = distance_matrix  
1748 )  
1749 print(cost)
```

which gives:

R output

```
1750 [1] 299
```

9.5 RESEARCH

TBA

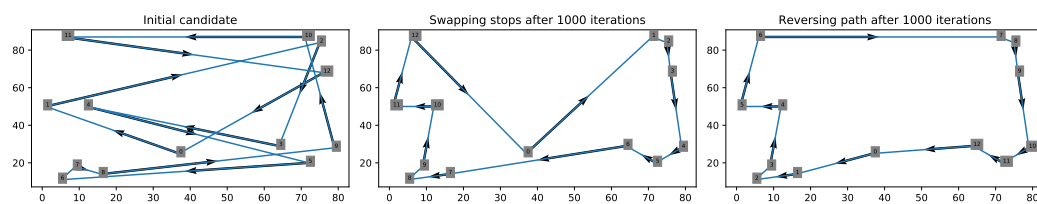


Figure 9.5 The final tours obtained by using the neighbourhood search in R



Bibliography

