

week03-02-00-network-flows

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1 [George McNinch Math 87 - Spring 2024](#)

2 Week 3

3 § Network flows and linear programming

4 Overview

So far we have looked at a few examples of linear programs. The key step in modeling these problems is to write down the linear program itself.

As we saw, for simple linear programs – such as the carpenter example – we can figure it out geometrically. In that case, there were only a few variables and a few obvious constraints, and it was easy to find and check all the “vertices”.

5 Network flows

We are going to consider some more complex situations for which we will use a *network flow* to help produce the corresponding *linear program.

Let’s recall that a *directed graph* is a pair $G = (V, E)$ where the elements of the set V are the *vertices* of the graph, and where $E \subset V \times V$ are the *edges* of G . Thus, an element $e = (a, b) \in E$ represents a directed edge from vertex a to vertex b .

We can produce diagrams for directed graphs using the program [graphviz](#) (and a corresponding python library [python-graphviz](#)).

Let’s look at a simple graph:

```
[ ]: from graphviz import Digraph as GVDigraph

dot = GVDigraph("example")
dot.attr(rankdir='LR')

vertices = ['S', '1', '2', '3', 'T']
edges = [('S', '1'), ('S', '2'), ('1', '3'), ('S', '3'), ('2', 'T'), ('3', 'T')]

for v in vertices:
    dot.node(v)
```

```

for (a,b) in edges:
    dot.edge(a,b)

dot

```

A vertex is a *source* if it only appears in outgoing edges, and a vertex is a *sink* if it only appears in incoming edges.

In the preceding example, S is a source and T is a sink.

```

[ ]: from graphviz import Digraph as GVDigraph
import numpy as np
from scipy.optimize import linprog
import math
from dataclasses import dataclass, field

#-----
## "standard basis vector"
##
def sbv(index,size):
    return np.array([1.0 if i == index else 0.0 for i in range(size)])

def from_indices(dat,length):
    ## dat is a list [(c,i),,,] of pairs; the pair (c,i) determines
    ## the vector c*e_i where e_i is the ith standard basis vector
    ## from_indices(dat,length) function returns the sum of the vectors
    ## specified by the list dat
    return sum([c*sbv(i,length) for (c,i) in dat],np.zeros(length))

## >>> from_indices([(2,3),(3.5,6)],7)
## array([ 0.,  0.,  2.,  0.,  0.,  3.5,  0.])

#-----

def flatten(ll : list[list[any]]) -> list[any]:
    return [ i for l in ll for i in l ]

@dataclass
class UpperBound:
    bound: int = math.inf

@dataclass
class LowerBound:
    bound: int = -math.inf

```

```

@dataclass
class Edge:
    vp: (str,str)
    label: str
    val: float = 0.0
    bd: UpperBound | LowerBound = field(default=UpperBound)

@dataclass
class Digraph:
    vertices: list[list[str]]
    edges: list[Edge]
    title: str

    def drawGraph(self):
        dot = GVDigraph(self.title)
        dot.attr(rankdir='LR')

        for vg in self.vertices:
            with dot.subgraph() as c:
                c.attr(rank='same')
                for x in vg:
                    c.node(x)

        vv = flatten(self.vertices)

        for e in self.edges:
            a,b = e.vp
            if (a in vv) and (b in vv):
                dot.edge(a,b,label=format(e.label))

        return dot

    def drawSubgraph(self,vertices:list[str] = None):
        dot = GVDigraph(self.title)
        dot.attr(rankdir='LR')

        vs = vertices if vertices else flatten(self.vertices)

        for x in vs:
            dot.node(x)

        for e in self.edges:
            a,b = e.vp
            if (a in vs) and (b in vs):

```

```

        dot.edge(a,b,label=format(e.label))

    return dot

def getIncoming(self,vertex: str):
    return filter(lambda e: e.vp[1] == vertex, self.edges)

def getOutgoing(self,vertex: str):
    return filter(lambda e: e.vp[0] == vertex, self.edges)

def edgeVector(self,edge: Edge):
    i = self.edges.index(edge)
    N = len(self.edges)
    return sbv(i,N)

def conservationVector(self,vertex: str):
    ivect = np.sum([self.edgeVector(e) for e in self.
↪getIncoming(vertex)],axis=0)
    ovect = np.sum([self.edgeVector(e) for e in self.
↪getOutgoing(vertex)],axis=0)
    return ivect - ovect

def conservationLaw(self,vertex: str):
    ii = list(map(lambda x: x.label,self.getIncoming(vertex)))
    oo = list(map(lambda x: x.label,self.getOutgoing(vertex)))
    return "".join([ii.__repr__(),
                    " - ",
                    oo.__repr__(),
                    " = 0"])

def edgeBounds(self,edge: Edge):
    match edge.bd:
        case LowerBound(bound):
            if bound > -math.inf:
                return ((-1)*self.edgeVector(edge),(-1)*bound)
        case UpperBound(bound):
            if bound < math.inf:
                return (self.edgeVector(edge),bound)

def describeEdgeBound(self,edge):
    match edge.bd:
        case LowerBound(bound):
            if bound > -math.inf:
                return edge.label + ">=" + f"{bound}"
        case UpperBound(bound):
            if bound < math.inf:

```

```

        return edge.label + "<=" + f"{bound}"

def allbounds(self):
    info = [self.edgeBounds(e) for e in self.edges ]
    A_ub = np.array([c[0] for c in info if c is not None])
    b_ub = np.array([c[1] for c in info if c is not None])
    return (A_ub,b_ub)

def describeBounds(self):
    dd = map(lambda e: self.describeEdgeBound(e),self.edges)
    return [d for d in dd if not d is None]

def objectiveVector(self):
    return np.sum([ e.val * self.edgeVector(e)
                    for e in self.edges if e.val is not None],
                    axis=0)

@dataclass(kw_only=True)
class networkFlow(Digraph):
    source: str
    sink: str

    def __post_init__(self):
        Digraph.__init__(self,vertices=self.vertices,edges=self.
↪edges,title=self.title)

    def internalVertices(self):
        return [ v for v in flatten(self.vertices) if not v in [ self.source,
↪self.sink]]

    def conservationMatrix(self):
        return [self.conservationVector(v) for v in self.internalVertices()]

    def conLaws(self):
        return [self.conservationLaw(v) for v in self.internalVertices()]

    def runLinProgr(self,maximize=False):
        A_ub,b_ub = self.allbounds()
        A_eq = self.conservationMatrix()
        if maximize:
            c = (-1)*self.objectiveVector()
        else:
            c = self.objectiveVector()

```

```

return linprog(c,
               A_eq=A_eq,
               b_eq=np.zeros(len(self.internalVertices())),
               A_ub=A_ub,
               b_ub = b_ub)

```

We can describe our previous example using this code:

```

[ ]: #vertices = ['S', '1', '2', '3', 'T']
#edges = [('S', '1'), ('S', '2'), ('1', '3'), ('S', '3'), ('2', 'T'), ('3', 'T')]

vv = [ ['S'], ['1', '2'], ['3'], ['T']]
ee = [ Edge(('S', '1'), 'g1'),
       Edge(('S', '2'), 'g2'),
       Edge(('S', '3'), 'g3'),
       Edge(('1', '3'), 'g4'),
       Edge(('2', 'T'), 'g6'),
       Edge(('3', 'T'), 'g7')
     ]

#nf = Digraph(vertices=vv, edges=ee)
nf = networkFlow(vertices=vv, edges=ee, title='Example', source='S', sink='T')

nf.format='png'
nf.drawGraph()

[ ]: nf.runLinProgr()

```

6 Restaurant Example

Suppose that you are opening a new restaurant and need to make sure you have enough clean tablecloths to meet expected demand in the first week. On each day, you can buy new tablecloths for \\$ 5. Used tablecloths can be laundered and returned the next day for \\$2 or the following day for \$1.

Your expected tablecloth demands are:

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
tablecloths needed	10	10	15	20	40	40	30

Let's try to formulate a linear program to minimize the costs.

Let's name the quantities from the table.

- t_i = expected # of tablecloths required on day i .

Now introduce variables:

- b_i = # tablecloths bought on day i , $1 \leq i \leq 7$.
- f_i = # dirty tablecloths sent to fast laundry on day i
- s_i = # dirty tablecloths sent to slow laundry on day i

First, let's write down the objective (assuming we only care about week 1):

The goal is to minimize the quantity

$$5 \sum_{i=1}^7 b_i + 2 \sum_{i=1}^6 f_i + \sum_{i=1}^5 s_i.$$

What are the constraints? On day i , we must have at least t_i tablecloths available.

- day 1

we need enough tablecloths for day 1, so

$$t_1 \leq b_1$$

- day 2

demand must be met from purchases on day 2, plus surplus from day 1, plus fast laundry from day 1. note that the *use* on day 1 is equal to $f_1 + s_1$ and thus $b_1 - f_1 - s_1$ counts the surplus from day 1. So we need

$$t_2 \leq b_2 + (b_1 - f_1 - s_1) + f_1$$

- day 3

demand must again be met from purchases on day 3, plus leftover from the previous days, plus those laundered from the fast service on day 2, and those laundered via the slow service on day 1. The total used in the first two days is equal to $f_1 + s_1 + f_2 + s_2$, so the surplus from the first two days is $b_1 + b_2 - f_1 - s_1 - f_2 - s_2$. So we need

$$t_3 \leq b_3 + (b_1 + b_2 - f_1 - s_1 - f_2 - s_2) + f_2 + s_1$$

etc.

This becomes increasingly hard to keep track of and formulate.

So, instead, we build what's called a network model and we track the flow of tablecloths!

Let's use a tool called **graphviz** to draw part of a diagram:

```
[ ]: tt = np.array([10,10,15,20,40,40,30])

clean = [ f"{d} clean" for d in range(7) ]
used   = [ f"{d} used"   for d in range(7) ]

vv = [['source'], clean, used]
```

```

ee = [*[ Edge(('source',clean[d]),    label=f"b{d}", val=5) # bought
        for d in range(7)
      ],
      *[ Edge((clean[d],used[d]),    label=f"u{d}", bd=LowerBound(tt[d])) #_
        ↪usage
        for d in range(7)
      ],
      *[ Edge((clean[d],clean[d+1]), label=f"c{d}" )      # carry-over
        for d in range(6)
      ],
      *[ Edge((used[d],clean[d+1]),  label=f"f{d}", val=2) # fast laundry
        for d in range(6)
      ],
      *[ Edge((used[d],clean[d+2]),  label=f"s{d}", val=1) # slow laundry
        for d in range(5)
      ]
    ]

def report(nf: networkFlow) -> str:
    lp=nf.runLinProgr()
    x = lp.x
    costs = lp.fun
    return "\n".join(
        [f"linprog succeeded? {lp.success}",
         f"Optimal tablecloth expenses for the week are ${costs:.2f}",
         "This is achieved by the following strategy:",
         *[f"purchase on day {i}: {x[i]:.2f}" for i in range(7)],
         "",
         *[f"use on day {i+1}: {x[6+i]:.2f}" for i in range(7)],
         "",
         ↪*[f"carry-over from day {i} to day {i+1}: {x[13+i]:.2f}" for i in_
         range(6)],
         "",
         *[f"fast laundry on day {i}: {x[19+i]:.2f}" for i in range(6)],
         "",
         *[f"slow laundry on day {i}: {x[25+i]:.2f}" for i in range(5)],
         ])

nf = networkFlow(vv,ee,title="Restaurant",source='source',sink='d6 used')

nf.makeGraph().render()

print(report(nf))

```



```

[ ]: from graphviz import Digraph

## https://www.graphviz.org/
## https://graphviz.readthedocs.io/en/stable/index.html

def clean_node(day):
    return f"d{day}c"

def used_node(day):
    return f"d{day}u"

def make_network_model(last):

    dot = Digraph('tablecloth network model')

    dot.attr(rankdir='LR')
    dot.node('s','source of new tablecloths')
    days = range(1,last + 1)

    with dot.subgraph(name='clean') as c:
        c.attr(rank='same')
        for day in days:
            if day == last:
                c.node(clean_node(day),"etc...")
            else:
                c.node(clean_node(day), f"day {day} clean")

    with dot.subgraph(name='used') as u:
        u.attr(rank='same')
        for day in days:
            if day == last:
                u.node(used_node(day),'etc...')
            else:
                u.node(used_node(day), f"day {day} used")

    for day in days:
        dot.edge('s',clean_node(day),label='cost=5')
        if day < last:
            dot.edge(clean_node(day),clean_node(day+1), label = "cost=0")

        dot.edge(clean_node(day),used_node(day),label=f"cost=0, =t_{day}")

        if day < last:
            dot.edge(used_node(day),clean_node(day+1),label="cost=2") ## fast_
↳laundry

        if day < last -1:

```

```

dot.edge(used_node(day),clean_node(day+2),label="cost=1") ## slow
↳ laundry

return dot

make_network_model(last=5)

```

(extrapolate the diagram for the remaining days...)

How do we make a linear program of this??

The above diagram represents a *directed graph*. The edges in this graph – i.e. the arrows between nodes – track the “flow” of tablecloths.

- We introduce a variable for each arrow. The value of the variable represents the number of tablecloths that move from the start to finish of the arrow.
- Some arcs have lower bounds (e.g. $\ell = t_1$). If no lower bound is mentioned, there is an implied lower bound of 0.
- Some arcs have upper bounds. These model maximum supply or throughput. Nothing implies a bound of ∞ .
- Each “internal” node has conservation – i.e. **outputs** - **inputs** = 0.
- Each arc has a cost. The Objective function is the sum of the quantities (arc costs \times flow variable).

Remember that we write

- $t_i = \#$ tablecloths needed on day i .
- (these aren’t *variables* for our linear program – they are values given to us by the problem).

Since we are to have one variable for each arrow in the above diagram, we write:

- $b_i = \#$ tablecloths bought on day $i, 1 \leq i \leq 7$.
- $u_i = \#$ tablecloths used on day $i, 1 \leq i \leq 7$.
- $c_i = \#$ tablecloths carried over from day i to $i + 1$ for $0 \leq i \leq 6$
- $f_i = \#$ dirty tablecloths sent to fast laundry on day i for $0 \leq i \leq 6$
- $s_i = \#$ dirty tablecloths sent to slow laundry on day i for $0 \leq i \leq 5$

Now the objective equation has the form:

$$5 \sum_{i=1}^7 b_i + 0 \sum_{i=1}^7 u_i + 0 \sum_{i=1}^6 c_i + 2 \sum_{i=1}^6 f_i + \sum_{i=1}^5 s_i$$

We require $t_i \leq u_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq 7$ (lower bounds). These lower bounds arise from the arrows from “Day i clean” to “Day i used” with the label $\ell = t_i$.

We impose no upper bounds on the variables.

For each node, we get a conservation equation:

- node “day 1 clean”: $u_1 + c_1 - b_1 = 0$
- node “day 1 used”: $s_1 + f_1 - u_1 = 0$
- node “day 2 clean”: $u_2 + c_2 - b_2 - c_1 - f_1 = 0$
- node “day 2 used”: $s_2 + f_2 - u_2 = 0$
- node “day 3 clean”: $u_3 + c_3 - b_3 - c_2 - f_2 - s_1 = 0$
- node “day 3 used”: $s_3 + f_3 - u_3 = 0$
- and so on...

Note for example that 2 arrows leave and 3 arrows arrive at the node “Day 2 clean”, while 2 arrows leave and 4 arrows arrive at the node “Day 3 clean”. The above equations reflect these counts.

6.1 Remarks:

- There are $2 \times 7 + 2 \times 6 + 5 = 31$ variables. So the objective function is given by a vector $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 31}$.
- there are 13 “equality constraints” arising from the conservation equation at each node (note that there is no conservation at the node “day 7 used”, since it is a terminal node). Thus the equality constraints are given by a 13×31 matrix A (they amount to the condition $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ for $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{31} = \mathbb{R}^{31 \times 1}$).
- there are 7 inequality constraints, given by the condition $B\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}$ for a 7×31 matrix B and a vector $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^7 = \mathbb{R}^{7 \times 1}$.

6.2 Implementation (sketch)

The main task in solving this model via `python` is producing the matrices A and B .

For example, the conservation at the node

- node “day 3 clean”: $u_3 + c_3 - b_3 - c_2 - f_2 - s_1 = 0$

results in a *row* of the matrix A .

Let’s order the variables as follows:

$$b_1, b_2, \dots, b_7, u_1, \dots, u_7, c_1, \dots, c_6, f_1, \dots, f_6, s_1, \dots, s_5$$

We want to write rows of A in the form

$$(\heartsuit) \quad [\tilde{\mathbf{b}} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{u}} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{c}} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{f}} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{s}}] \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 31}$$

where

$$\tilde{\mathbf{b}}, \tilde{\mathbf{u}} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 7}, \quad \tilde{\mathbf{c}}, \tilde{\mathbf{f}} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 6}, \quad \tilde{\mathbf{s}} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 5},$$

the row vector (\heartsuit) is to be understood as obtained by “concatenation” of these vectors, and we have:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{b}} = [0 \quad 0 \quad -1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0] = -\mathbf{e}_3, \quad \tilde{\mathbf{u}} = \mathbf{e}_3,$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{c}} = [0 \quad -1 \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0] = \mathbf{e}_3 - \mathbf{e}_2, \quad \tilde{\mathbf{f}} = [0 \quad -1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0] = -\mathbf{e}_2, \quad \tilde{\mathbf{s}} = -\mathbf{e}_1$$

(here \mathbf{e}_i represents the appropriate standard basis vector in \mathbb{R}^7 , \mathbb{R}^6 or \mathbb{R}^5).

```
[ ]: ## This code represents a preliminary implementation
## it just gives the row in the equality constraint corresponding
## to a single row. See the next cell for a "full implementation"

import numpy as np

def sbv(index,length):
    return np.array([1.0 if i == index-1 else 0.0 for i in range(length)])

## produce the row corresponding to the "day 3 clean" node.
##
row = np.block([(-1)*sbv(3,7), ## bb
                sbv(3,7), ## uu
                (-1)*sbv(2,6) + sbv(3,6), ## cc
                (-1)*sbv(2,6), ## ff
                (-1)*sbv(1,5) ## ss
                ])

## Note that if you had constructed the following rows -- row1, row2, row3, ...
↪, row7 -- you'd produce the matrix A via
## A = np.array([row1,row2,row3,...,row7])

print(row.shape)
print(row)

[ ]: ## This cell represents one possible way of creating the equality and inequality
↪constraints
## for the "tablecloth" problem

import numpy as np
from scipy.optimize import linprog

float_formatter = "{:.2f}".format
np.set_printoptions(formatter={'float_kind':float_formatter})

## "standard basis vector"
##
def sbv(index,size):
    return np.array([1.0 if i == index-1 else 0.0 for i in range(size)])

def from_indices(dat,length):
    ## dat is a list [(c,i),,,] of pairs; the pair (c,i) determines
    ## the vector c*e_i where e_i is the ith standard basis vector
```

```

    ## from_indices(dat,length) function returns the sum of the vectors
    ## specified by the list dat
    return sum([c*sbv(i,length) for (c,i) in dat],np.zeros(length))

## >>> from_indices([(2,3),(3.5,6)],7)
## array([ 0.,  0.,  2.,  0.,  0.,  3.5,  0.])

def row(b=[],
        u=[],
        c=[],
        f=[],
        s=[]):
    bb = from_indices(b,7)
    uu = from_indices(u,7)
    cc = from_indices(c,6)
    ff = from_indices(f,6)
    ss = from_indices(s,5)
    return np.block([bb,uu,cc,ff,ss])

## >>> row(bp=[1],un=[2])
## array([ 1.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0., -1.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,
##         0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,
##         0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.])
##
## this result has a 1 in the "1st entry of the b-group" and a -1 in
## the "2nd entry of the u-group"

## here is a textual description of the "equality constraint" matrix.
## We then proceed to implement this description using the function `row`
## defined above.
##
## day1 clean:  $b_1 - u_1 - c_1 = 0$ 
## day2 clean:  $b_2 + c_1 + f_1 - u_2 - c_2 = 0$ 
## day3 clean:  $b_3 + c_2 + s_1 + f_2 - u_3 - c_3 = 0$ 
## day4 clean:  $b_4 + c_3 + s_2 + f_3 - u_4 - c_4 = 0$ 
## day5 clean:  $b_5 + c_4 + s_3 + f_4 - u_5 - c_5 = 0$ 
## day6 clean:  $b_6 + c_5 + s_4 + f_5 - u_6 - c_6 = 0$ 
## day7 clean:  $b_7 + c_6 + s_5 + f_6 - u_7 = 0$ 

## day1 used:  $u_1 - s_1 - f_1 = 0$ 
## day2 used:  $u_2 - s_2 - f_2 = 0$ 
## day3 used:  $u_3 - s_3 - f_3 = 0$ 
## day4 used:  $u_4 - s_4 - f_4 = 0$ 
## day5 used:  $u_5 - s_5 - f_5 = 0$ 
## day6 used:  $u_6 - f_6 = 0$ 

```

```

## Note that day7 used is a "terminal node" so doesn't have a conservation
↪equation.

## the rc are rows corresponding to conservation laws for "clean" nodes

rc1 = row(b=[(1,1)],c=[(-1,1)],          u=[(-1,1)])
rc2 = row(b=[(1,2)],c=[(1,1),(-1,2)],    f=[(1,1)],u=[(-1,2)])
rc3 = row(b=[(1,3)],c=[(1,2),(-1,3)],s=[(1,1)],f=[(1,2)],u=[(-1,3)])
rc4 = row(b=[(1,4)],c=[(1,3),(-1,4)],s=[(1,2)],f=[(1,3)],u=[(-1,4)])
rc5 = row(b=[(1,5)],c=[(1,4),(-1,5)],s=[(1,3)],f=[(1,4)],u=[(-1,5)])
rc6 = row(b=[(1,6)],c=[(1,5),(-1,6)],s=[(1,4)],f=[(1,5)],u=[(-1,6)])
rc7 = row(b=[(1,7)],c=[(1,6),(-1,7)],s=[(1,5)],f=[(1,6)],u=[(-1,7)])

## the ru are rows corresponding to conservation laws for "used" nodes

ru1 = row(u=[(1,1)],s=[(-1,1)],f=[(-1,1)])
ru2 = row(u=[(1,2)],s=[(-1,2)],f=[(-1,2)])
ru3 = row(u=[(1,3)],s=[(-1,3)],f=[(-1,3)])
ru4 = row(u=[(1,4)],s=[(-1,4)],f=[(-1,4)])
ru5 = row(u=[(1,5)],s=[(-1,5)],f=[(-1,5)])
ru6 = row(u=[(1,6)],          f=[(-1,6)])

## the rc and ru determined the rows of the matrix defining

Aeq = np.array([rc1,rc2,rc3,rc4,rc5,rc6,rc7,
                ru1,ru2,ru3,ru4,ru5,ru6])

Alb = np.array([row(u=[(1,i)]) for i in range(1,8)])

## objective function
c = row(b=[(5,1),(5,2),(5,3),(5,4),(5,5),(5,6),(5,7)],
        f=[(2,1),(2,2),(2,3),(2,4),(2,5),(2,6)],
        s=[(1,1),(1,2),(1,3),(1,4),(1,5)])

tt = np.array([10,10,15,20,40,40,30]) ## these are the ti entries taken from
↪the "tablecloths needed" table

## use linprog to find the point which minimizes the objective function
## we impose equality constraints Aeq*x=0.
## we also want the inequality constraint Ax >= tt, so we use -Ax <= -tt.
result = linprog(c,A_eq=Aeq,b_eq=np.zeros(13),A_ub=(-1)*Alb,b_ub=(-1)*tt)

def report(result):

```

```

    ## the argument ``result`` should be an instance of the class ``scipy.
    ↪optimize.OptimizeResult`` --
    ## i.e. a value of the form returned by ``linprog``
    ##
    x = result.x
    costs = result.fun
    return "\n".join(
        [f"linprog succeeded? {result.success}"]
        +
        [f"Optimal costs on tablecloths for the week are ${costs:.2f}"]
        +
        [f"This is achieved by the following strategy:\n"]
        +
        [f"purchase on day {i+1}: {x[i]:.2f}" for i in range(7)]
        +
        [f""]
        +
        [f"use on day {i+1}: {x[7+i]:.2f}" for i in range(7)]
        +
        [f""]
        +
        [f"carry over from day {i+1} to day {i+2}: {x[14+i]:.2f}" for i in ↪
    ↪range(6)]
        +
        [f""]
        +
        [f"to fast laundry on day {i+1}: {x[20+i]:.2f}" for i in range(6)]
        +
        [f""]
        +
        [f"to slow laundry on day {i+1}: {x[26+i]:.2f}" for i in range(5)])

print(report(result))

```

The idea is that “network flow” graphs are a tool to help formulate the linear program. Here is another example.

7 Grocery example

A fruit wholesaler buys and sells apples according to the following prices and demand:

Month	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
price/kg from grower	0.80	0.55	0.55	0.65	0.75	0.85	0.95	-	-	-	-	-
sale price/kg	0.90	0.65	0.65	0.85	1.00	1.00	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.00	0.80	0.80

Month	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
demand in 1000kg	10	15	15	15	13	10	10	10	9	7	5	5

The wholesaler can store 50,000kg at a cost of \$0.025 per kg per month. Unlimited supplies are available from September to January but only 15,000kg are available in August and February and none during the rest of the year.

We consider the profit for a year (12 months), from August to the next July. We suppose that there are *no* apples to carry over from the previous month – we begin with no apples.

Our goal: Maximize the profit!

We'll begin by formulating the flow model.

Remember that each edge in the graph corresponds to a variable in our linear program. We are going to label each edge with a symbol $[c, u, \ell]$ representing the “cost” (i.e. the contribution of that variable to the objective function), an upper bound u for that variable, and a lower bound ℓ for that variable.

We are going to construct the diagram using **graphviz**, though the main point here is the diagram itself rather than the code used to produce it. (I'm including the code so you can copy it if you wish).

```
[ ]: from graphviz import Digraph

## https://www.graphviz.org/
## https://graphviz.readthedocs.io/en/stable/index.html

dot = Digraph('fruit wholesaler model')

dot.attr(rankdir='LR')
dot.node('g', 'grower')

with dot.subgraph(name='months') as c:
    c.attr(rank='same')
    c.node('aug')
    c.node('sep')
    c.node('oct')
    c.node('nov')
    c.node('feb')
    c.node('mar')

dot.node('d', 'demand')

dot.edge('g', 'aug', label='[-.8,15000,0]')
dot.edge('g', 'sep', label='[-.55,∞,0]')
```



```

dot.edge('g','oct',label='[-.55,∞,0]')
dot.edge('g','nov',label='[-.65,∞,0]')
dot.edge('g','feb',label='[-.95,15000,0]')

dot.edge('aug','sep',label='[-0.025,50K,0]')
dot.edge('sep','oct',label='[-0.025,50K,0]')
dot.edge('oct','nov',label='[-0.025,50K,0]')
dot.edge('feb','mar',label='[-0.025,50K,0]')

dot.edge('aug','d',label='[0.9,10000,0]')
dot.edge('sep','d',label='[0.65,15000,0]')
dot.edge('oct','d',label='[0.65,15000,0]')
dot.edge('nov','d',label='[0.85,15000,0]')
dot.edge('feb','d',label='[1.20,10000,0]')
dot.edge('mar','d',label='[1.20,10000,0]')

dot

#dot.format='png'
#dot.render()

```

Now let's formulate the linear program.

Let's number our months in a slightly odd way. Our year starts in **august**, so we number as follows:

aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

We need to name our variables; we'll use the above numbering:

- g_i = # kg bought in month i , for $1 \leq i \leq 12$.
- s_i = # kg stored from month i to month $i + 1$
- d_i = # kg sold in month i

All of our variables are assumed to be non-negative: $g_i \geq 0, s_i \geq 0, d_i \geq 0$ for all i .

We've been told the following:

Unlimited supplies are available (from the grower) from September to January but only 15,000kg are available in August and February and none during the rest of the year.

This gives us some “upper bound” inequalities:

$$\begin{bmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \\ g_3 \\ g_4 \\ g_5 \\ g_6 \end{bmatrix} \leq \begin{bmatrix} 1500 \\ \infty \\ \infty \\ \infty \\ \infty \\ \infty \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} g_7 \\ g_8 \\ g_9 \\ g_{10} \\ g_{11} \\ g_{12} \end{bmatrix} \leq \begin{bmatrix} 15000 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(since $g_i \geq 0$ is non-negative, the above conditions for $8 \leq i \leq 12$ *amount to* an equality condition of $g_i = 0$ for these i , but we'll enter it as an inequality condition for uniformity).

We've also been told:

The wholesaler can store 50,000kg at a cost of \$0.025 per kg per month.

This yields the upper bound - $s_i \leq 50000$ for $1 \leq i \leq 12$

Now, we know from table the demand for each month. Remember what we are doing: with the linear program, we are trying to decide the optimal values of our decision variables – i.e. how many apples do we buy each month? and how many apples do we store each month? According to the model, the number of apples we expect to *sell* depends on these choices (via the conservation laws). So to be sensible, our model must view the anticipated demand (listed in the table) as an **upper bound** for the amount we can sell. More precisely, we should impose the constraint that the number d_i of **kg** of apples delivered to customers is \leq the anticipated demand for each month. (Of course, this is what the label on the diagram indicates! Here I'm trying to explain why we have chosen that labeling).

This amount to the condition:

$$\begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \\ d_3 \\ d_4 \\ d_5 \\ d_6 \end{bmatrix} \leq \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 15 \\ 15 \\ 15 \\ 13 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} d_7 \\ d_8 \\ d_9 \\ d_{10} \\ d_{11} \\ d_{12} \end{bmatrix} \leq \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 10 \\ 9 \\ 7 \\ 5 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Conservation:

The internal nodes of our network flow diagram correspond to months. The arrow “going in” to the node amount to available apples, and they correspond to purchases (g_i) and storage (s_{i-1} unless $i = 1$). The arrows going out correspond to storage (s_i) and to apples delivered to customers (d_i). Thus, we must have

- $s_1 + d_1 - g_1 = 0$
- $s_2 + d_2 - g_2 - s_1 = 0.$
- $s_3 + d_3 - g_3 - s_2 = 0.$
- \vdots

Objective:

The objective function represents profit, and each variable has some contribution to objective/profit function (we call this contribution “cost”). We spend money through apple purchases and through

storage costs, and these costs have negative values. We get money through apple sales, and these costs have positive value.

- August contribution to the objective function:

$$-0.80g_1 - 0.025s_1 + 0.9d_1$$

- September contribution to the objective function:

$$-0.55g_1 - 0.025s_1 + 0.65d_1$$

- ...

Of course, the objective function is the *sum* of all 12 of these monthly contributions.

Implementation follows:

```
[ ]: from scipy.optimize import linprog
import numpy as np

float_formatter = "{:.2f}".format
np.set_printoptions(formatter={'float_kind':float_formatter})

## "standard basis vector"
##
def sbv(index,size):
    return np.array([1.0 if i == index-1 else 0.0 for i in range(size)])

def from_indices(dat,length):
    ## dat is a list [(c,i),,,] of pairs; the pair (c,i) determines
    ## the vector c*e_i where e_i is the ith standard basis vector
    return sum([c*sbv(i,length) for (c,i) in dat],np.zeros(length))

def row(g=[],
        s=[],
        d=[]):
    gg = from_indices(g,12)
    ss = from_indices(s,12)
    dd = from_indices(d,12)
    return np.block([gg,ss,dd])

## for uniformity, we actually consider 12 storage variables event though
## we shouldn't really put anything in storage in july (month 12)

## let's form the equality constraint matrix from the conservation laws.
```

```

A=np.array([row(s=[(1,1)],d=[(1,1)],g=[(-1,1)])]      # first row
            +
            [row(s=[(1,i),(-1,i-1)],
                  d=[(1,i)],
                  g=[(-1,i)]) for i in range(2,13)])    # remaining rows

## now let's make the inequality constraint matrix
## our inequality constraint will have the form  $Ax \leq b$ ,
## so any "lower bound" constraints would need to be reversed using a sign
↪ change.
## But anyhow we haven't specified any lower bounds...

Bs = [row(s=[(1,i)]) for i in range(1,13)]
bs = np.array([50000 for i in range(1,13)])

## gi bounds

Bg_start = [row(g=[(1,1)]), row(g=[(1,7)])]
Bg_end   = [row(g=[(1,i)]) for i in range(8,13)]

Bg = Bg_start + Bg_end

bg = np.array([15000,15000] + 5*[0]) # note that  $n*[0]$  is the list  $[0,0,\dots,0]$ 
↪ with n zeros

## di bounds

Bd = [row(d=[(1,i)]) for i in range(1,13)]
bd = (1000)*np.array([10,15,15,15,13,10,10,10,9,7,5,5])

B = np.array(Bg + Bs + Bd) ## concat the lists of rows; create a matrix from
↪ the resulting list
b = np.block([bg,bs,bd])    ## concat the constraints

## objective function

grower_costs = (-1)*np.array([0.8,0.55,0.55,0.65,0.75,0.85,0.95,0,0,0,0,0])
storage_costs = (-1)*np.array(12*[.025])
sale_price = np.array([0.9,0.65,0.65,0.85,1,1,1.2,1.2,1.2,1,.8,.8])

c = np.block([grower_costs,storage_costs,sale_price])

result = linprog((-1)*c,A_eq=A,b_eq=np.zeros(12),A_ub=B,b_ub=b)

def month(i):
    dict={1:"aug",

```

```

        2:"sep",
        3:"oct",
        4:"nov",
        5:"dec",
        6:"jan",
        7:"feb",
        8:"mar",
        9:"apr",
        10:"may",
        11:"jun",
        12:"jul"}
    return dict[i]

def report(res):
    ## the argument ``res`` should be an instance of the class ``scipy.optimize.
OptimizeResult`` --
    ## i.e. a value of the form returned by ``linprog``
    ##
    x=res.x
    profit = (-1)*result.fun
    return "\n".join([f"linprog succeeded? {result.success}"]
        +
        [f"Optimal profit ${profit:,.2f}"]
        +
        ["This is achieved by the following strategy:\n"]
        +
        [f"purchase in kg for {month(i+1)}: {x[i]:.2f}" for i in
↪range(12)]
        +
        [""]
        +
        [f"storage in kg for {month(i+1)}: {x[i+12]:.2f}" for i in
↪range(12)]
        +
        [""]
        +
        [f"sales in kg for {month(i+1)}: {x[i+24]:.2f}" for i in
↪range(12)])
print(report(result))

```