

week03-02-02-network-flows-grocery

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

2 Week 3

3 § Network flows and linear programming 02

4 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 sale	0.80	0.55	0.55	0.65	0.75	0.85	0.95	-	-	-	-	-
price/kg 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).

```

[5]: 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]')

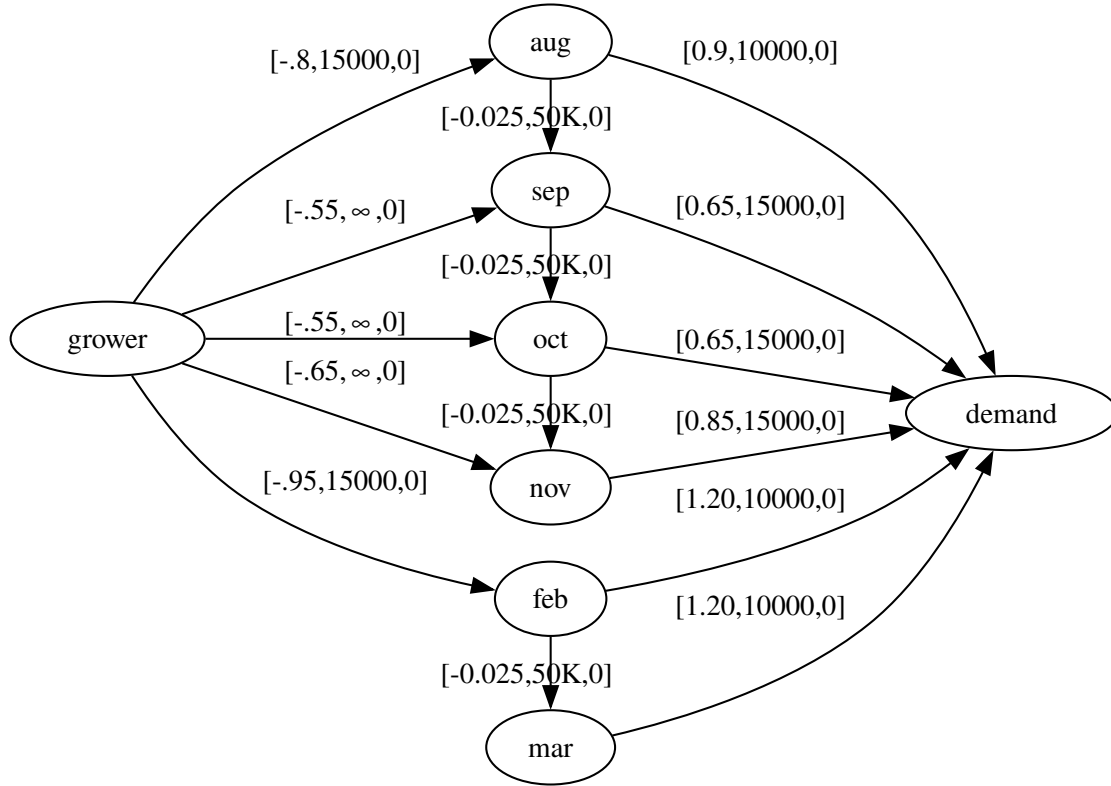
    dot.edge('aug', 'd', label='[0.9,10000,0]')
    dot.edge('sep', 'd', label='[0.65,15000,0]')
    dot.edge('oct', 'd', label='[0.65,15000,0]')
    dot.edge('nov', 'd', label='[0.85,15000,0]')
    dot.edge('feb', 'd', label='[1.20,10000,0]')
    dot.edge('mar', 'd', label='[1.20,10000,0]')

    dot

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

```

[5]:



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))

```