

Linear Programming: Introduction

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Advanced Algorithms and Complexity
Data Structures and Algorithms

Learning Objectives

- See an example of the type of problem solved by linear programming.

Factory

You are running a widget factory and trying to optimize your production procedures to save money.

Machines vs. Workers

Can use combination of machines and workers.

- Have only 100 machines.
- Unlimited workers.
- Each machine requires 2 workers to operate.

Production

- Each machine makes 600 widgets a day.
- Each worker makes 200 widgets a day.

Limited Demand

Total demand for only 100,000 widgets a day.

Algebra

Let W be the number of workers and M the number of machines.

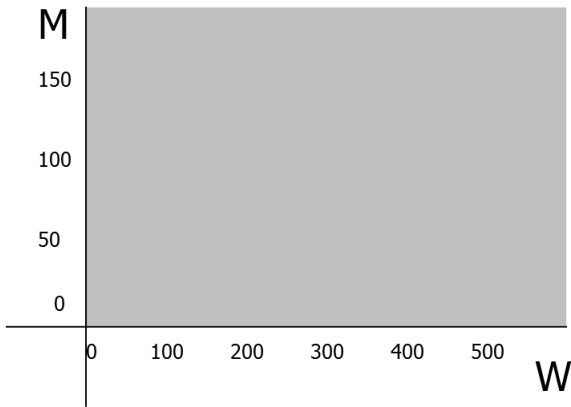
Constraints:

- $W \geq 0$.
- $100 \geq M \geq 0$.
- $W \geq 2M$. W-2M are unoccupied workers
- $100,000 \geq 200(W - 2M) + 600M$.

Graph

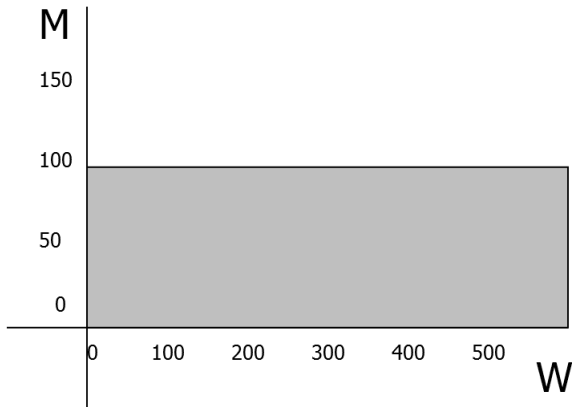
$$M, W \geq 0$$

Plane of possible values of M and W which satisfy these constraints



Graph

$$M \leq 100$$

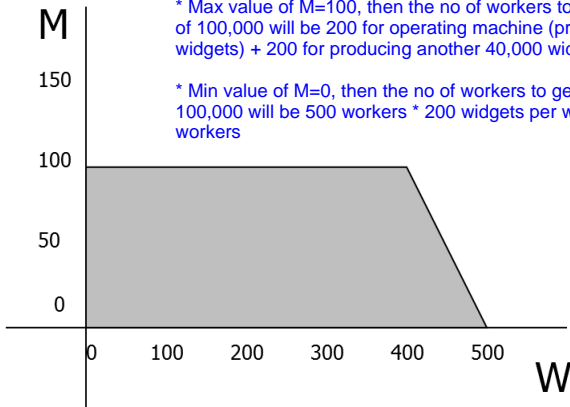


Graph

$$M + W \leq 500$$

When we look at our constraint based on the total demand.

Consider this plot consider

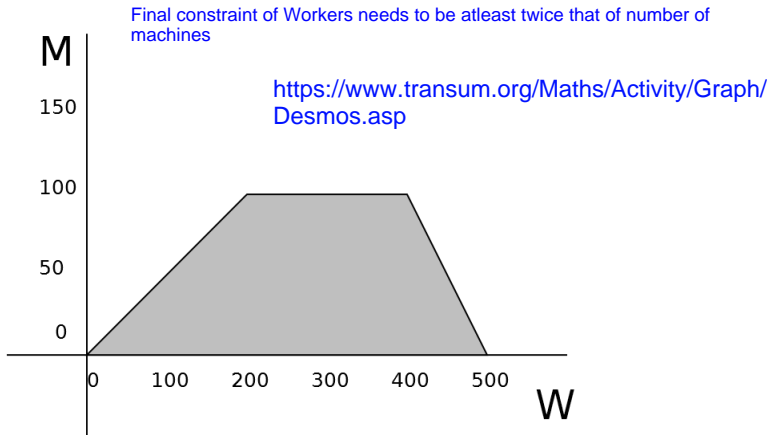


* Max value of $M=100$, then the no of workers to get to widget demand of 100,000 will be 200 for operating machine (produces 60,000 widgets) + 200 for producing another 40,000 widgets

* Min value of $M=0$, then the no of workers to get to widget demand of 100,000 will be 500 workers * 200 widgets per worker = 100, 000 workers

Graph

Diagram of possible configurations:



Profits

Profits are determined as follows:

- Each widget earns you \$1.
- Each worker costs you \$100/day.

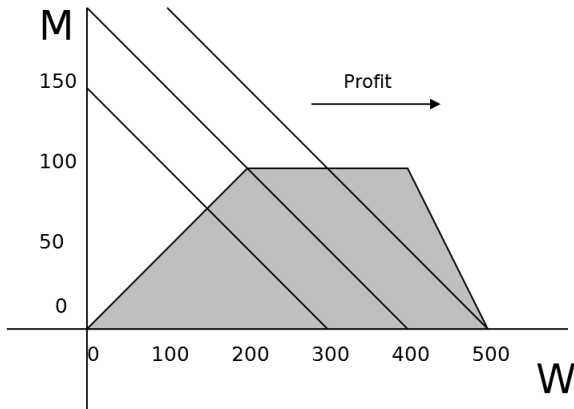
Total profits (in dollars per day):

$$200(W - 2M) + 600M - 100W = 100W + 200M.$$
$$= 100W + 200M$$

Graph

Profit mapped on graph:

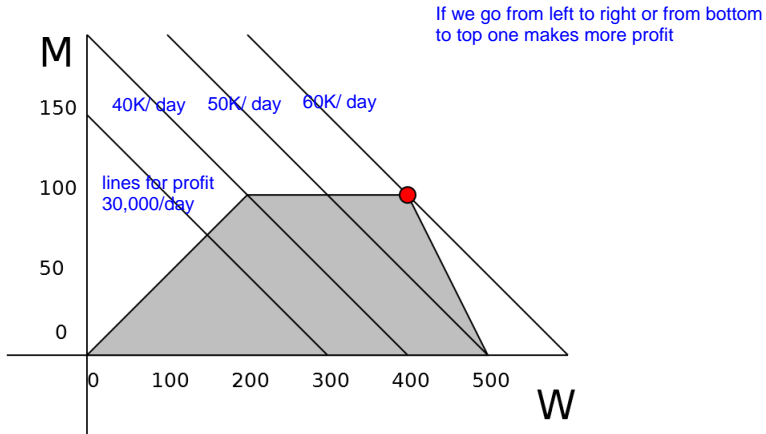
These lines are lines of equal profits



Optimum

Best: $M = 100$, $W = 400$ [NB: A corner]

Profit = \$60,000/day.



Proof of Optimality

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 100 \cdot [& 001 \cdot M + 000 \cdot W & \leq 100] \quad M < 100 \\ +0.5 \cdot [& 200 \cdot M + 200 \cdot W & \leq 100,000] \\ \hline & 200W + 200M < 100,000 \\ & 200 \cdot M + 100 \cdot W & \leq 60,000. \end{array}$$

Here they are adding 100 times first constraint + 0.5 times second constraint

60K thus is max profit

Summary

Maximized:

$$200M + 100W \quad \text{Linear function}$$

subject to constraints:

Linear Programming
is nothing but
minimizing/
maximizing a linear
function of variables
subject to a bunch of
linear inequality
constraints

$$0M + 1W \geq 0$$

$$1M + 0W \geq 0$$

$$-1M + 0W \geq -100$$

$$-2M + 1W \geq 0$$

$$-1M - 1W \geq -500$$

Linear
Inequalities