

# FIT3158 Note - W4 Scheduling problem

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## An Employee Scheduling Problem: Air-Express

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- An express shipping company – guarantees o/night delivery
- Various hubs across the country – shipments go to hubs, then on to their destination
- Manager of Baltimore hub is concerned about labour costs and wants to investigate the most effective way of scheduling of workers
- Hub open 7 days per week
- # packages varies from 1 day to the next
- An estimate of the number of workers needed on each day of the week has been calculated using historical data

Day of Week	Workers Needed	Shift	Days Off	Wage
Sunday	18	1	Sun & Mon	\$680
Monday	27	2	Mon & Tue	\$705
Tuesday	22	3	Tue & Wed	\$705
Wednesday	26	4	Wed & Thr	\$705
Thursday	25	5	Thr & Fri	\$705
Friday	21	6	Fri & Sat	\$680
Saturday	19	7	Sat & Sun	\$655

## Step 1: Defining the Decision Variables

- $X_1$  = the number of workers assigned to shift 1  
 $X_2$  = the number of workers assigned to shift 2  
 $X_3$  = the number of workers assigned to shift 3  
 $X_4$  = the number of workers assigned to shift 4  
 $X_5$  = the number of workers assigned to shift 5  
 $X_6$  = the number of workers assigned to shift 6  
 $X_7$  = the number of workers assigned to shift 7

## Step 2: Defining the Objective Function

Minimize the total wage expense.  
 MIN:  $680X_1 + 705X_2 + 705X_3 + 705X_4 + 705X_5 + 680X_6 + 655X_7$

Wage per shift

Shift	Days Off	Wage
1	Sun & Mon	\$680
2	Mon & Tue	\$705
3	Tue & Wed	\$705
4	Wed & Thr	\$705
5	Thr & Fri	\$705
6	Fri & Sat	\$680
7	Sat & Sun	\$655

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## Step 3: Defining the Constraints

## Step 4: Implementing the Model

- Workers required each day

$$0X_1 + 1X_2 + 1X_3 + 1X_4 + 1X_5 + 1X_6 + 0X_7 \geq 18 \text{ } \} \text{ Sunday}$$

$$0X_1 + 0X_2 + 1X_3 + 1X_4 + 1X_5 + 1X_6 + 1X_7 \geq 27 \text{ } \} \text{ Monday}$$

$$1X_1 + 0X_2 + 0X_3 + 1X_4 + 1X_5 + 1X_6 + 1X_7 \geq 22 \text{ } \} \text{ Tuesday}$$

$$1X_1 + 1X_2 + 0X_3 + 0X_4 + 1X_5 + 1X_6 + 1X_7 \geq 26 \text{ } \} \text{ Wednesday}$$

$$1X_1 + 1X_2 + 1X_3 + 0X_4 + 0X_5 + 1X_6 + 1X_7 \geq 25 \text{ } \} \text{ Thursday}$$

$$1X_1 + 1X_2 + 1X_3 + 1X_4 + 0X_5 + 0X_6 + 1X_7 \geq 21 \text{ } \} \text{ Friday}$$

$$1X_1 + 1X_2 + 1X_3 + 1X_4 + 1X_5 + 0X_6 + 0X_7 \geq 19 \text{ } \} \text{ Saturday}$$

- Non-negativity & integrality conditions

$$X_i \geq 0 \text{ and integer for all } i$$

## Implementing the Model

See file [Lecture 4.xlsm](#) (*AirExpress*)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
14										

  

	Shift	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Workers Scheduled	Wages per Worker
5	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	6	\$680
6	2	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	\$705
7	3	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	5	\$705
8	4	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	\$705
9	5	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	7	\$705
10	6	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	5	\$680
11	7	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	9	\$655
12	Available	18	27	28	27	25	21	19	Total	\$22,540
13	Required	18	27	22	26	25	21	19		

At least as many as required