



PEPSICO

An optimization analysis about
advertising campaign of PepsiCo



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Summary

“PepsiCo Trims Nonessential Advertising and Marketing Spend as COVID – 19 condition continue” – Ad Age April 28, 2020.

The article above inspired us to create an optimization model to maximize PepsiCo’s Brand Awareness with minimizing the overall advertising spending. This novel coronavirus has forced not only small-scale businesses but also large scale to rethink about their spending and also find new ways to stay afloat. Advertising and Marketing are the core of any Fast-Moving Consumer Goods Company and how much PepsiCo and Coco Cola spend on them is also quite ubiquitous. Due to the COVID -19 situation, the relevance of many advertisement channels has been lost, also sales are declining for many products. The marketing team at PepsiCo will not only think about increasing their presence on various Advertisement platforms but will also resort to lessen the spending so that the company doesn’t incur losses.

Our team researched about how much PepsiCo has been spending on advertisement all through the years and we also thoroughly researched about the cost of advertising on various old and modern advertising channels. Also, we took time to understand the preference of the target audience regarding the various advertisement platforms as age plays a major factor in the choice. Using this data, we created a Maximum exposure or brand awareness optimization model for various advertising channels and also minimum advertising cost optimization model for various social media platforms which helps PepsiCo’s marketing team to choose the right medium for advertising its products and also keep the cost in check.

We used Microsoft Excel Solver and Solver Table add in for creating these optimization models. Also used sensitivity analysis to understand the cause and effect of varying constraint values on the decision variables.

Introduction

Company

PepsiCo Inc is an American multinational food, snack and beverage cooperation. It is known for a highly diversified product portfolio for both the beverage industry and consumer packaged industry. More than half of the business revenue comes from the snack food category. The company's business model depends on aggressive marketing such as advertisement. In the year 2019, as per Marketing Dive(website), PepsiCo increased advertising and marketing spending by 12%, this aggressive strategy worked out for the company as the net sales rose to 4.3%. The company makes multi- medium advertising work with a combination of TV, digital, social media, out of home such as billboards, etc. Also, PepsiCo is developing an inhouse media and consumer data that works on data to generate insights for better business operation. PepsiCo spent around 2.9 billion dollars on advertisement and 4.1 billion dollars for overall marketing in 2019.

Problem

Although it is required for PepsiCo to spend aggressively on its advertisement as it helps to keep up with the competition, to stay viable in the market as a snack and beverage company they will have to spend and it also increases sales. But due to COVID-19, PepsiCo decided to use its

advertising money wisely as sales of beverages have seen a decline compared to the sales of snacks. As a team we planned to help PepsiCo to minimize their total advertisement expenses or at least keep at the same level which is \$2.9 billion dollars and get maximum exposure in the year 2020. We have chosen to study advertisement expenses on 6 different mediums – Newspaper, Magazines, Radio, TV, Internet, Outdoor as there is Comparative Media Costs provided by the Stanley Report in which the cost for each ad per thousand impressions (CPM) in newspaper is \$16, \$16 for magazine, \$10 for Radio, \$30 for television and \$5 for outdoors and \$3 on digital platforms. In the past, Television served as an important medium for advertisements but with the emergence of internet and streaming services, potential customers have moved away from the medium. So, PepsiCo also needs to ensure that it reaches all those viewers. According to Forbes, PepsiCo traditional target market is teenagers and adults from the age of 18-45, so they have to choose wisely their mediums of advertisement. We have also researched data which give us an idea about how many exposures PepsiCo can get on different mediums based on the age of the target audience. Exposures serve as an important criterion for optimizing of the advertising budget.

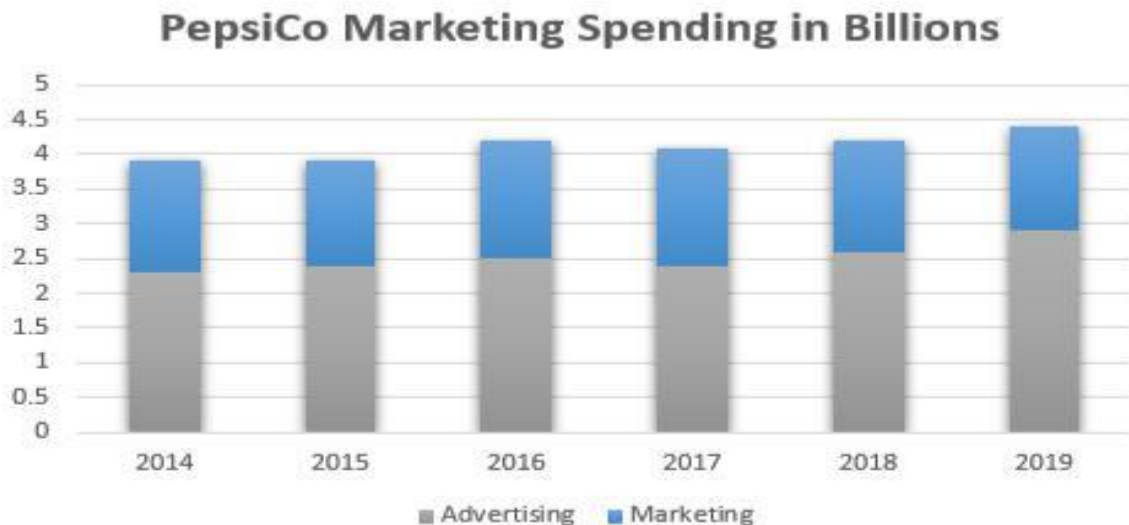
Also as a team we tried to focus on social media platforms PepsiCo can choose for effective marketing, keeping in mind the CPM cost per thousand expressions which is \$7.19 for Facebook, \$9.68 for YouTube, \$7.91 for Instagram, \$6.96 for LinkedIn and \$6.46 twitter. Although PepsiCo's budget is very high, but we still wanted to see how many ads we can purchase on each social media platform which can help in minimizing the overall spending on these platforms.

Main Chapter

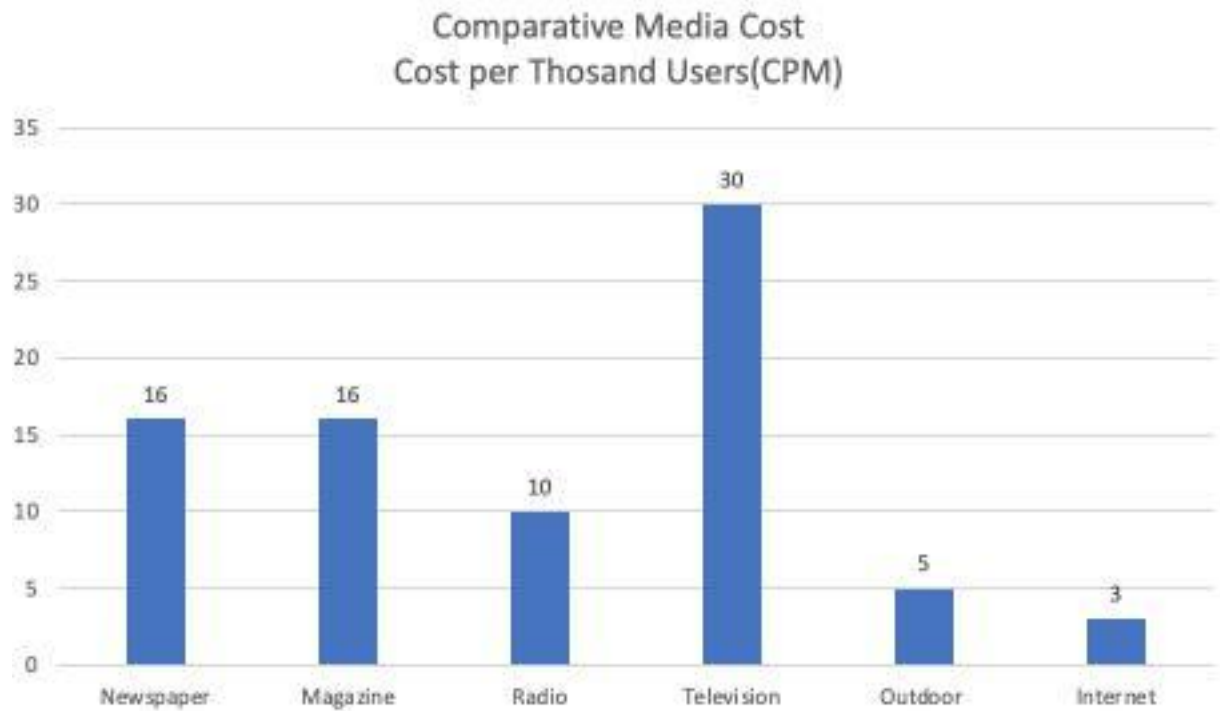
Data Collection

Companies like PepsiCo are well known not only for their products but also for their advertising spending and we were able to find the data on various business news outlets and also some websites related to business and advertising. We started our research from how much PepsiCo has spent on marketing and advertising over the years. We looked at the data from the year 2014 till 2019 and we were able to derive the budget for the advertising budget for the year 2020.

Year	Advertising Spending in Billions	Total Marketing Spending in Billions
2014	2.3	3.9
2015	2.4	3.9
2016	2.5	4.2
2017	2.4	4.1
2018	2.6	4.2
2019	2.9	4.3



While researching about cost involved in advertising on different media channels, we came across Stanley Comparative Media Cost, which provides the cost per thousand users.



Also, there is huge data available these days on internet regarding the cost of advertising on various digital and social media platforms. There are two types of cost involved when you advertise on these platforms one is Cost per Click (CPC) and other is Cost per thousand impressions(CPM), for the purpose of this optimization study, we took into account only CPM.



Data Analysis

One of the most important goals of any advertising campaign is aiming it right. Demographics play a major role in the understanding the advertising cost as the main purpose is to target the right audience. In this case, PepsiCo targets its audience on the basis of age. Different age groups have a preference for different mediums like people from the age of 40 and above read newspapers, but people from the age 18-35 also read newspapers but most of them read them digitally. Although PepsiCo's target market is 18-35-year-old but through its advertising it tries to attract people of all ages and choosing the right medium that gives the maximum outreach at a specific budget comes with its share of difficulties. Also finding the data which gives us an exact picture of which age group uses which media more was a difficult task, but various articles on the internet came to our rescue providing us with the percentage of the usage not the exact figures.

For the maximum exposure on different channels of advertisement optimization model, we did the following:

1. Divide the customers into different categories on the basis of their age. We didn't take into customer gender into account as we believe that the products of PepsiCo and the likings of these products have no relation to the gender.
2. Identify the customers preference of a advertising channel based on their age and usage to understand the total number of exposures (see the advertisement) we are getting currently for each channel(newspaper, television, internet etc.)
3. Finalize the minimum number of exposures PepsiCo can get from each different mediums or advertising channels.

We followed the same steps for the minimization of total cost to be spent on the digital marketing.

**Number of exposures are expressed in millions.*

**Due to COVID-19 advertising channels such as Radio and Outdoor have lost their exposures as less people are going out.*

Target Audience per Platform in millions	Newspaper	Magazine	Radio	TV	Outdoor	Internet
Customer aged 5-15 years	1	1	0	5	0	2
Customer aged 16-25years	2	1	0.2	6	0.1	7
Customer aged 26-35years	2	3	0.1	5	0.1	8
Customer aged 36-45 years	5	2	0.7	4	0.6	5
Customer aged 46-55 years	4	1	0.8	2	1.3	4
Customer aged above 55 years	2	1	0.1	1	0.4	2
Cost per thousand users(CPM)	16	16	10	30	5	3

**Number of exposures are expressed in millions. We have not taken exposures in 100 millions as we don't specify any budget in this case.*

**Not all advertisements are shown to all the users, every websites have a different strategy. So we have not taken all the users of the website into study.*

Target Audience per Social Media in millions	Facebook	YouTube	LinkedIn	Instagram	Twitter
Customer aged 5-15 years	2	8	0	3	0
Customer aged 16-25years	5	6	3	6	1
Customer aged 26-35years	6	6	5	5	2
Customer aged 36-45 years	5	5	3	4	2
Customer aged 46-55 years	3	3	2	2	2
Customer aged above 55 years	3	1	0	0	1
Cost per thousand users(CPM)	7.19	9.68	6.59	7.91	6.46

Requirement Gathering

Optimization is directly correlated to constraints and we also had to face some while solving these models. The first constraint was regarding the budget as we didn't want PepsiCo to increase its advertising budget, although in 2019 it was increased it by 12% but this year due to COVID-19, we advised them(hypothetically) not to do it this year.

Due to rise of online streaming platforms like Netflix, Prime Video etc. a lot of people have switched over to these platforms but still we believe that relevance of cable TV have not lost completely, a constraint was decided to make spend at least 30% of the budget on advertising on television and also as lot of people are staying at home there has been a sharp increase in the television viewership. Also, the customers who have a habit of reading newspapers will continue to do so we have decided at least invest a 5% of the budget in the newspaper. The following table represents the minimum exposure company expects to get from each age category of target audience.

Target Audience per Platform	Minimal Required Exposure in millions
Customer aged 5-15 years	300
Customer aged 16-25years	500
Customer aged 26-35years	500
Customer aged 36-45 years	450
Customer aged 46-55 years	200
Customer aged above 55 years	100

For the second model where we plan to keep digital advertising budget of PepsiCo at minimum, but YouTube is a popular website and the total exposures on it are quite high, so as a constraint we plan to buy at least 6 advertisements on it. Also below are the minimum exposures that the company expects to get from each social media website based on the age of target audience.

* We have not taken exposures in 100 millions as we don't specify any budget in this case.

Target Audience per Social media website	Minimal Required Exposure in millions
Customer aged 5-15 years	30
Customer aged 16-25years	60
Customer aged 26-35years	60
Customer aged 36-45 years	30
Customer aged 46-55 years	20
Customer aged above 55 years	10

Optimization Model

Having completed our data retrieval, we were ready to build our model. Below you will see our model's decision variables, objective function, and constraints.

First Model:

To complete Pepsi Advertising model, we had the following decision variables:

<u>Definition</u>	Decision Variables
Customers aged 5-15 years on each platform	V1
Customers aged 16- 25years on each platform	V2
Customers aged 26 - 35 years on each platform	V3
Customers aged 36 -45 years on each platform	V4
Customer aged 46-55 years on each platform	V5
Customer aged above 55 years on each platform	V6
Total Number of Newspaper exposures	E1
Total Number of Magazine exposures	E2
Total Number of Radio exposures	E3
Total Number of Television exposures	E4
Total Number of Outdoor exposures	E5
Total Number of Internet exposures	E6
Sum of all number of exposures	E _{sum}
Number of ads purchased on Newspaper	A1
Number of ads purchased on Magazine	A2
Number of ads purchased on Radio	A3
Number of ads purchased on Television	A4

Number of ads purchased on Outdoor	A5
Number of ads purchased on Internet	A6
Total number of ads	Asum
Cost of Advertisement on Newspaper	C1
Cost of Advertisement on Magazine	C2
Cost of Advertisement on Radio	C3
Cost of Advertisement on Television	C4
Cost of Advertisement on Outdoor	C5
Cost of Advertisement on Internet	C6
Total cost of all Advertisement	C _{sum}

Our objective in this study is to maximize the total number of exposures on advertisement platform. Here is the objective function:

<u>Objective Function</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Maximize total number of exposures in millions	
Max: $E1 \cdot A1 + E2 \cdot A2 + E3 \cdot A3 + E4 \cdot A4 + E5 \cdot A5 + E6 \cdot A6$	Calculating the maximum total number of exposures by multiplying total exposures per platform and number of ads purchased per platform

For this model, we will have the following constraints:

Constraints	Equation	Definition
Minimum Required Exposure Customers aged 5-15 years	$V1 \cdot A_{sum} \geq 300$	Exposure for costumers aged 5-15 years should be greater than and equal to 300 million

Minimum Required Exposure Customers aged 16- 25years	$V2 * A_{sum} \geq 500$	Exposure for costumers aged 16-25 years should be greater than and equal to 500 million
Minimum Required Exposure Customers aged 26 - 35 years	$V3 * A_{sum} \geq 500$	Exposure for costumers aged 26-35 years should be greater than and equal to 500 million
Minimum Required Exposure Customers aged 36 -45 years	$V4 * A_{sum} \geq 450$	Exposure for costumers aged 36-45 years should be greater than and equal to 450 million
Minimum Required Exposure Customer aged 46-55 years	$V5 * A_{sum} \geq 200$	Exposure for costumers aged 46-55 years should be greater than and equal to 200 million
Minimum Required Exposure Customer aged above 55 years	$V6 * A_{sum} \geq 100$	Exposure for costumers aged above 55 years should be greater than and equal to 100 million
Total advertisement cost ≤ 2.9 billion	$C_{sum} * A_{sum} \leq 29000000000$	Total advertisement cost is less than 2.9 billion
Investment in Television at least 30%	$C4 * A4 \geq 30/100 * 29000000000$	30% percent at least investment for television
Investment in Newspaper at least 5%	$C1 * A1 \geq 5/100 * 29000000000$	30% percent at least investment for Newspaper
	$A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, A6 \geq 0$ and Integer	

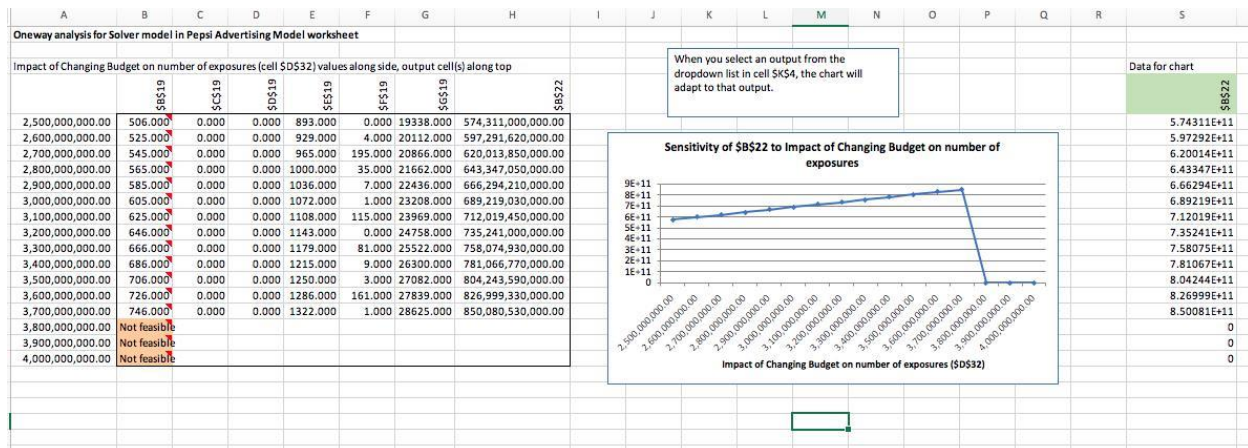
With our model constructed, we set out to solve the model with Excel's Solver. We used the Integer Linear Programming to get our optimized solution. See output below:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	PepsiCo Advertising Model			Note: All monetary values are in \$1000s, and all exposures to ads are in millions of exposures.				
2								
3								
4								
5		<i>Newspaper</i>	<i>Magazine</i>	<i>Radio</i>	<i>TV</i>	<i>Outdoor</i>	<i>Digital</i>	
6	Customers aged 5-15 years	500,000	1,000,000	-	10,000,000	100,000	2,000,000	
7	Customers aged 16-25 years	2,000,000	1,000,000	200,000	6,000,000	100,000	7,000,000	
8	Customers aged 26-35 years	2,000,000	3,000,000	100,000	5,000,000	200,000	8,000,000	
9	Customers aged 36-45 years	5,000,000	2,000,000	700,000	4,000,000	600,000	5,000,000	
10	Customers aged 46-55 years	4,000,000	1,000,000	800,000	2,000,000	130,000	4,000,000	
11	Customer aged above 55 years	2,000,000	1,000,000	100,000	1,000,000	400,000	2,000,000	
12	Total exposures per platform	15,500,000	9,000,000	1,900,000	28,000,000	1,530,000	28,000,000	
13								
14	Cost per thousand impression (CPM)	16.00	16.00	10.00	30.00	5.00	3.00	
15	Cost per ad per platform	248,000.00	144,000.00	19,000.00	840,000.00	7,650.00	84,000.00	
16								
17	Advertising Decisions							
18								
19	Number of ads purchased	585,000	0,000	0,000	1036,000	7,000	22436,000	
20	Cost	145080000	0	0	870240000	53550	1884624000	
21								
22	Objective to maximize number of exposures in millions	666,294,210,000.00						
23								
24	Constraints on numbers of exposures							
25	Constraints	LHS		RHS				
26	Customers aged 5-15 years	55,525,200,000.00	>=	300,000,000				
27	Customers aged 16-25 years	164,438,700,000.00	>=	500,000,000				
28	Customers aged 26-35 years	185,839,400,000.00	>=	500,000,000				
29	Customers aged 36-45 years	119,253,200,000.00	>=	450,000,000				
30	Customer aged 46-55 years	94,156,910,000.00	>=	200,000,000				
31	Customer aged above 55 years	47,080,800,000.00	>=	100,000,000				
32	Total ad cost <= \$2.9 billion	2899997550.00	<=	2,900,000,000.00				
33	Investment in Television atleast 30%	870240000.00	>=	870,000,000.00				
34	Investment in Newspaper atleast 5%	145080000.00	>=	145,000,000.00				
35								
36								
37								
38								

In this model, we observe that to maximize the number of exposures, we do not need not advertise in magazines and radio, which is expected in today's digital world. The maximum advertisement is required in this order: Digital Medium > TV > Newspaper > Outdoor. This is again expected since people are connected more to the digital medium in today's age. Also, we can observe that in case of digital medium, maximum exposures is to people in age group: 16-35. Similarly, for the age group: 36-45, newspaper is the favorite option. For kids age group: 5-15, TV emerges as the favored medium. With a budget of \$2.9 billion for the year of 2020, PepsiCo can approximately buy 666 billion exposures on various advertising channels. On newspaper, the company can buy 585 advertisements, 1036 on television and 22436 on digital. Total Advertisement Budget and Investment in Television and Newspaper are Binding Constraints.

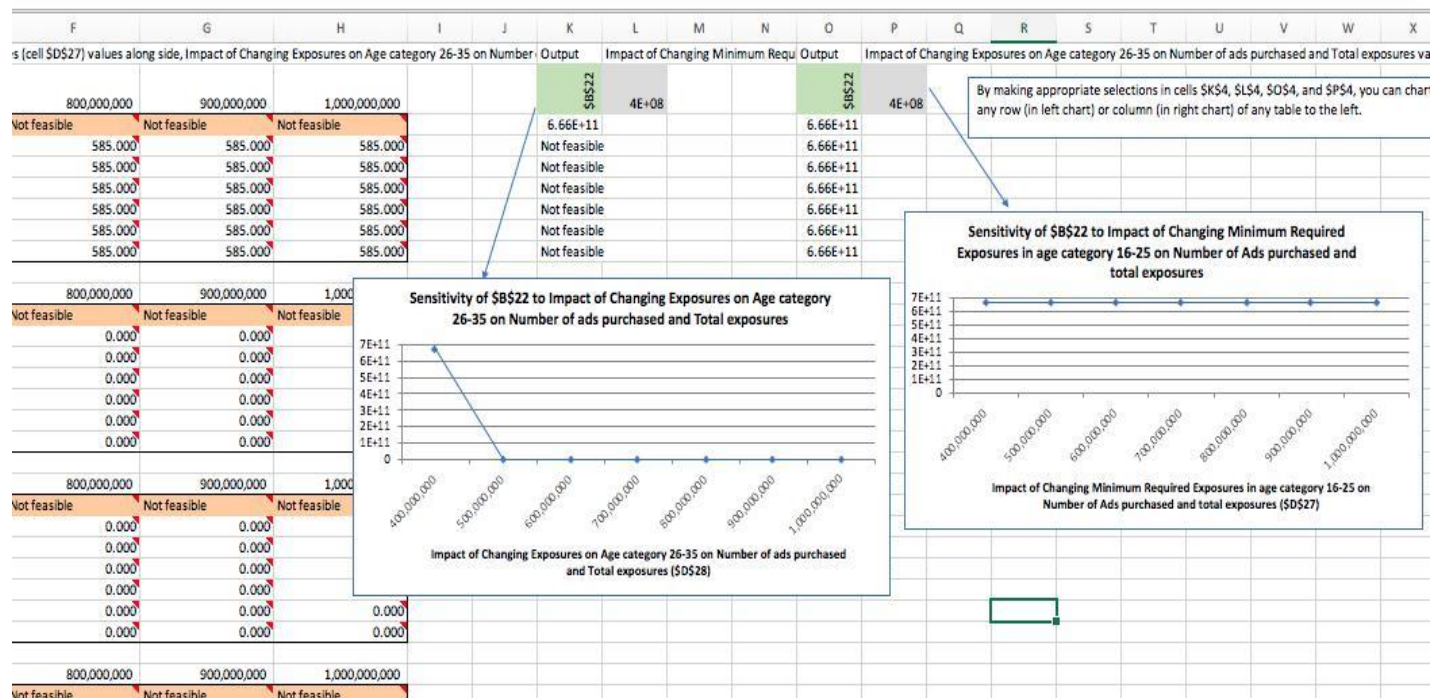
Sensitivity Analysis:

One Way Analysis:



We vary the number of exposures (for each medium) versus the total advertising budget. We found that the exposures increase linearly with the increase in budget until 3.7 million dollars. This behavior is true for Digital, TV and Newspaper medium. For Outdoor there is no fixed relation between the number of exposures versus the amount spent on advertising. For radio and magazine, the exposure is zero as per our suggested model.

Two-way Sensitivity Analysis:



We are performing two-way sensitivity analysis between the minimum exposure required versus number of ads purchased for our target age category: 16-25. We vary the number of minimum exposure required from 400 million to 1 billion and, we observe that there is no change in exposure. Hence, we can say that the minimum exposure allowable increase is 1 billion and the optimal solution remains the same.

Also, for age category 26-35 which is again target age category, when we vary the minimum number exposures required from 400 million to 1 billion, we observe that such a model the number of exposures 400 million will produce some exposure but from 500 million to 1 billion, there is no feasible solution. So the minimum exposure required in this category should be 400 million.

Second Model:

To complete Pepsi Digital Marketing model, we had the following decision variables:

Definition	Decision Variables
Customers aged 5-15 years on each platform	V1
Customers aged 16- 25years on each platform	V2
Customers aged 26 - 35 years on each platform	V3
Customers aged 36 -45 years on each platform	V4
Customer aged 46-55 years on each platform	V5
Customer aged 55 years and above on each platform	V6
Cost of Advertisement on Facebook	C1
Cost of Advertisement on YouTube	C2
Cost of Advertisement on LinkedIn	C3
Cost of Advertisement on Instagram	C4
Cost of Advertisement on Twitter	C5
Total cost of Advertisement	C _{sum}
Number of ads purchased on Facebook	A1
Number of ads purchased on YouTube	A2
Number of ads purchased on LinkedIn	A3
Number of ads purchased on Instagram	A4
Number of ads purchased on Twitter	A5

Total number of ads purchased	A_{sum}
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Our objective in this study is to minimize the total digital spending although PepsiCo has a big budget. Here is the objective function.

<u>Objective Function</u>	Definition
Minimize Total Digital Spending	
Min: $C1*A1 + C2*A2 + C3*A3 + C4*A4 + C5*A5 + C6*A6$	Calculating the minimum total digital spending by multiplying cost of advertisement per platform and number of ads purchased per platform

For this model, we will have the following constraints:

<u>Constraints</u>	Equation	Definition
Minimum Required Exposure Customers aged 5-15 years in millions	$V1*A_{sum} \geq 30$	Exposure for costumers aged 5-15 years should be greater than and equal to 30
Minimum Required Exposure Customers aged 16- 25years in millions	$V2*A_{sum} \geq 50$	Exposure for costumers aged 16-25 years should be greater than and equal to 50

Minimum Required Exposure Customers aged 26 - 35 years in millions	$V3 * A_{sum} \geq 50$	Exposure for costumers aged 26-35 years should be greater than and equal to 50
Minimum Required Exposure Customers aged 36 -45 years in millions	$V4 * A_{sum} \geq 45$	Exposure for costumers aged 36-45 years should be greater than and equal to 45
Minimum Required Exposure Customer aged 46-55 years in millions	$V5 * A_{sum} \geq 20$	Exposure for costumers aged 46-55 years should be greater than and equal to 20
Minimum Required Exposure Customer aged above 55 years in millions	$V6 * A_{sum} \geq 10$	Exposure for costumers aged above 55 years should be greater than and equal to 10
Number of advertisements purchased at least 6 in YouTube	$A2 \geq 6$	
	$A1, A2, A3, A4, A5 \geq 0$ and Integer	

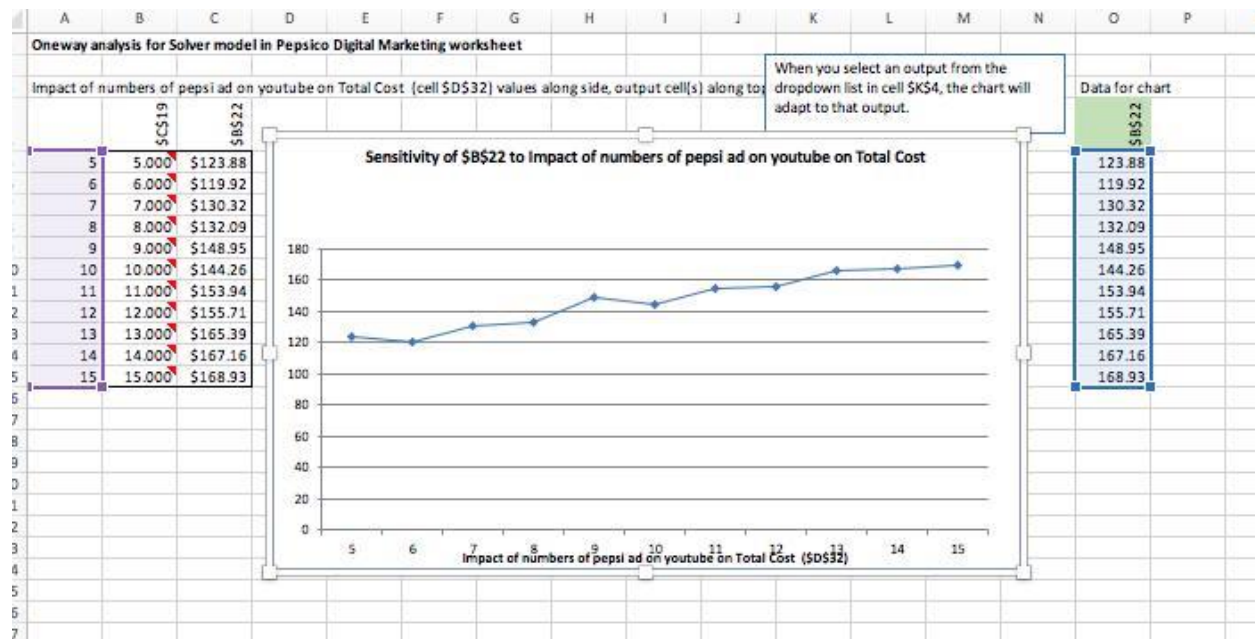
With our model constructed, we set out to solve the model with Excel's Solver. We used the Integer Programming on to get our optimized solution. See output below:

Advertising Model					
Note: All monetary values are in \$1000s, and all exposures to ads are in millions of exposures.					
Inputs					
	Facebook	Youtube	LinkedIn	Instagram	Twitter
Customers aged 5-15 years	2	8	0	3	0
Customers aged 16-25 years	5	6	3	6	1
Customers aged 26-35 years	6	6	5	5	2
Customers aged 36-45 years	5	5	3	4	2
Customer aged 46-55 years	3	3	2	2	2
Customer aged above 55 years	3	1	0	0	1
Total exposures	24	29	13	20	8
Cost per thousand impressions	7.19	9.68	6.59	7.91	6.46
Cost per million exposures per show	7190.000	9680.000	6590.000	7910.000	6460.000
Cost per ad per website	172560.000	280720.000	85670.000	158200.000	51680.000
Advertising Decisions					
Number of ads purchased	2.000	6.000	0.000	6.000	0.000
Objective to minimize total cost	\$119.92				
Constraints on numbers of exposures					
Constraints	LHS		RHS		
Customers aged 5-15 years	70.000	>=	30		
Customers aged 16-25 years	82.000	>=	60		
Customers aged 26-35 years	78.000	>=	60		
Customers aged 36-45 years	64.000	>=	30		
Customer aged 46-55 years	36.000	>=	20		
Customer aged above 55 years	12.000	>=	10		
Number of ad purchased From youtube atleast 6	6.000	>=	6		

Here we go deeper inside the digital medium of advertisement to find which social media platform will provide Pepsi the optimal cost per million. We observe that both Instagram and you tube emerge as the favorable mediums followed by Facebook. There is no advertising investment required in Twitter and LinkedIn as per our observations. YouTube, Instagram, Facebook are popular advertising platforms for ages: 5-15,16-25, 26-35 respectively, but to keep the total digital spending minimum, the company needs to buy 6 advertisements on Instagram, 6 advertisements on YouTube and 2 advertisements on Facebook. Number of advertisement purchased on YouTube is a binding constraint.

Sensitivity Analysis:

One Way Analysis:



As per the one-way sensitivity analysis between number of PepsiCo ads on YouTube versus cost per million, we observe that the optimal number of ads is 6. The cost comes out to be 119.92 dollars. If the numbers of ads is less than 6 or greater than 6, the optimal cost of advertisement will always be higher.

Conclusion:

Doing this project as a team was a great learning experience. We got an opportunity to understand how advertising decisions are made by some big companies. While watching these ads on television we never realized that so much goes into building brand awareness. We were able to achieve our goal of getting maximum exposures on a limited budget of \$2.9 billion (which is not at all small budget) on various advertising platforms and also understand that

during pandemic like we are facing today what mediums can be best suited for companies like PepsiCo to use for advertisements of their products and digital medium was the winner.

A budget of 2.9 billion dollars allows PepsiCo to purchase 666 billion exposures, that's why while watching our favorite shows on Television or watching a video on YouTube we see so many advertisements of various companies and their products popping up. This project also helped us in building our understanding regarding the conventional such as newspaper, television etc. and modern advertising channels such as Facebook, Instagram and how advertising works on these channels, as it took a lot of research to get the cost and exposure numbers right.

Although we believe that PepsiCo has a huge advertising budget, but it is still a good practice to keep the cost of spending on digital platforms to minimum, because if the cost is minimum, the risk of incurring a loss is also minimum and Total Cost came out to be \$119.32.

We were able to achieve both the goals we set with the help of Excel's amazing functionality Solver and Solver-Table. One-way and Two-way sensitivity analysis also broaden our understanding of how much we can stretch the advertising budget of PepsiCo and what will be its impact on the exposures. We also varied the minimum number of exposures but the optimal exposure remained the same. Also as YouTube is a popular medium, so we analyzed if we can increase the number of advertisements on it, how much the budget for digital advertising will increase and total budget increased with the increase in number of ads as the CPM of YouTube is very high so 6 ads was an optimal purchase.

Although we used the 2.9 billion dollars of PepsiCo advertising budget on purchasing advertisements on different mediums, but that doesn't happen originally as the company does a lot other things with this budget such as making a huge investment in events like Super Bowl where they advertise their products. But the company can still make use of our study in the field of digital advertising. This study also gave us an opportunity to learn a lot about budgeting and we hope that whatever knowledge we have gained we get to apply in the companies we work for in the future.

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