

Linear programming examples

A company is involved in the production of two items (X and Y). The resources need to produce X and Y are twofold, namely machine time for automatic processing and craftsman time for hand finishing. The table below gives the number of minutes required for each item:

	Machine time	Craftsman time	Item	X	Y
	13	19	X	20	29

The company has 40 hours of machine time available in the next working week but only 35 hours of craftsman time. Machine time is costed at £10 per hour worked and craftsman time is costed at £2 per hour worked. Both machine and craftsman idle times incur no costs. The revenue received for each item produced (all production is sold) is £20 for X and £30 for Y. The company has a specific contract to produce 10 items of X per week for a particular customer.

Formulate the problem of deciding how much to produce per week as a linear program.

Solve this linear program graphically.

Solution Let

x be the number of items of X

y be the number of items of Y

then the LP is:

maximize

$20x + 30y - 10(\text{machine time worked}) - 2(\text{craftsman time worked})$ subject to:

$13x + 19y \leq 40(60)$ machine time

$20x + 29y \leq 35(60)$ craftsman time

$x \geq 10$ contract

$x, y \geq 0$

so that the objective function becomes maximize

$20x + 30y - 10(13x + 19y)/60 - 2(20x + 29y)/60$

i.e.

$$\text{Max}_{x,y} 17.1667x + 25.8667y$$

subject to:

$$13x + 19y \leq 2400$$

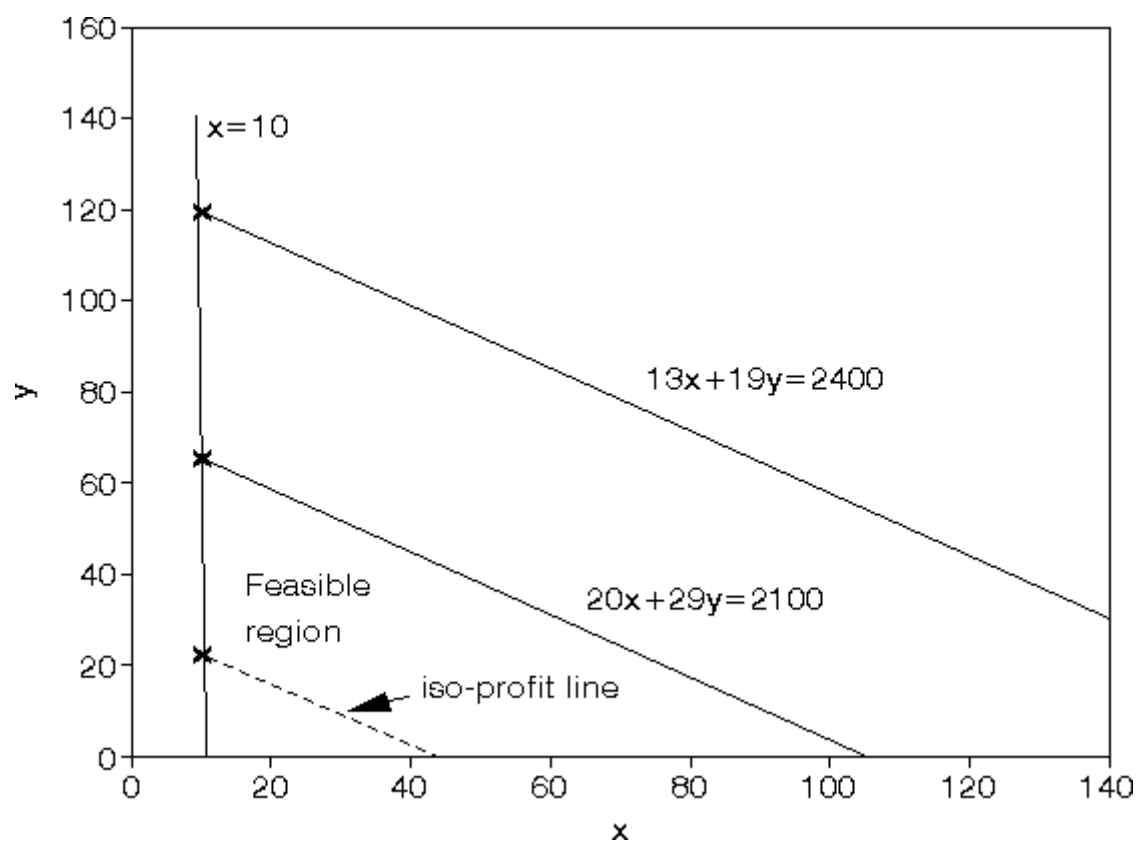
$$20x + 29y \leq 2100$$

$$x \geq 10$$

$$x, y \geq 0$$

It is plain from the diagram below that the maximum occurs at the intersection of $x=10$ and $20x + 29y \leq 2100$

Solving simultaneously, rather than by reading values off the graph, we have that $x=10$ and $y=65.52$ with the value of the objective function being £1866.5



A company makes two products (X and Y) using two machines (A and B). Each unit of X that is produced requires 50 minutes processing time on machine A and 30 minutes processing time on machine B. Each unit of Y that is produced requires 24 minutes processing time on machine A and 33 minutes processing time on machine B.

At the start of the current week there are 30 units of X and 90 units of Y in stock. Available processing time on machine A is forecast to be 40 hours and on machine B is forecast to be 35 hours.

The demand for X in the current week is forecast to be 75 units and for Y is forecast to be 95 units. Company policy is to maximize the combined sum of the units of X and the units of Y in stock at the end of the week.

- Formulate the problem of deciding how much of each product to make in the current week as a linear program.
- Solve this linear program graphically.

Solution

Let

- x be the number of units of X produced in the current week
- y be the number of units of Y produced in the current week

then the constraints are:

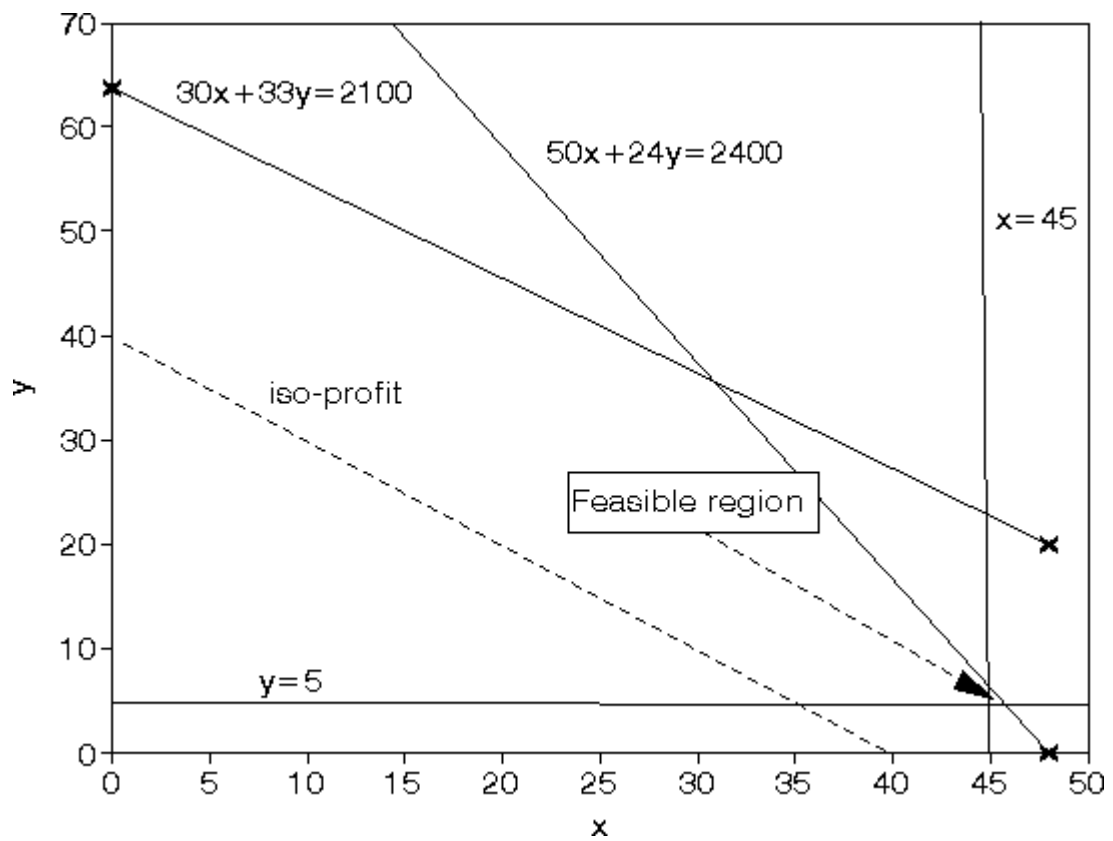
- $50x + 24y \leq 40(60)$ machine A time
- $30x + 33y \leq 35(60)$ machine B time
- $x \geq 75 - 30$
- i.e. $x \geq 45$ so production of X \geq demand (75) - initial stock (30), which ensures we meet demand
- $y \geq 95 - 90$
- i.e. $y \geq 5$ so production of Y \geq demand (95) - initial stock (90), which ensures we meet demand

The objective is: maximize $(x+30-75) + (y+90-95) = (x+y-50)$

i.e. to maximize the number of units left in stock at the end of the week

It is plain from the diagram below that the maximum occurs at the intersection of $x=45$ and $50x + 24y = 2400$

Solving simultaneously, rather than by reading values off the graph, we have that $x=45$ and $y=6.25$ with the value of the objective function being 1.25



$$\text{Max}_{x,y} \quad x + y - 50$$

st.

$$50x + 24y \leq 40 * 60 \quad (1)$$

$$30x + 33y \leq 35 * 60 \quad (2)$$

$$x \geq 75 - 30 \quad (3)$$

$$y \geq 95 - 90 \quad (4)$$