



BEST CITIES TO LIVE & RETIRE IN USA

BIA 650-B Optimization & Process Analytics

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INTRODUCTION



Problem scenario :

- Are you retiring, going to school or looking for a fresh start ?
- How do you decide which city to live in ?
- Is it your first home , and are you looking for a good return on investment ?
- Best city rankings on the internet often don't consider the return on investment
- What are the factors you should consider and why ?



OPTIMIZATION MODEL



Step 1: NPV Calculation and optimization

Inputs : Current house price, price after 10 years (computed using compound interest)

Decision Variables : If we should invest or not (1 or 0)

Constraints: Total money available to invest


Output: The return on investment, which is maximised. (using solver).

SPREADSHEET MODEL


Input data on potential investments									
Investment	Austin, Texas	San Francisco, California	Seattle, Washington	Nashville, Tennessee	New York, New York	Miami, Florida			
Investment cost	\$384,000	\$1,352,300	\$718,500	\$267,000	\$668,500	\$337,900			
Value after 10 years	\$596,228	\$1,765,133	\$740,348	\$328,676	\$681,990	\$355,180			
NPV per investment dollar	1.552677083	1.305282112	1.030407794	1.230996255	1.020179506	1.05113939			
Decisions: Whether to invest									
Investment levels	0	1	0	1	0	1	sum		3
Budget constraint									
		Amount invested							
		\$1,957,200		<=		\$2,000,000			
Objective to maximize									
Total NPV		\$2,448,989							

IMPLEMENTING SOLVER

Solver Parameters

Set Objective: 

To: ☒ Max ☐ Min ☐ Value Of:



By Changing Variable Cells: 

Subject to the Constraints:

\$B\$64:\$G\$64 = binary

\$C\$68 <= \$E\$68

\$C\$68 <= \$E\$68

Add


Change

Delete

Reset All

Load/Save

☒ Make Unconstrained Variables Non-Negative

Select a Solving Method: 

Options

Solving Method

Select the GRG Nonlinear engine for Solver Problems that are smooth nonlinear. Select the LP Simplex engine for linear Solver Problems, and select the Evolutionary engine for Solver problems that are non-smooth.

Help

Solve

Close

GOAL PROGRAMMING

- Big cities or metropolitan, are where most people decide in USA live in.
- Most prefer to live in cities because of many jobs, shopping malls, etc.
- But we will use Goal Programming to optimize this multi-criteria decision analysis.
- We have come up with the best cities to live in, considering many factors.



ANALYTICAL HIERARCHY PROCESS



The analytic hierarchy process (AHP) is a structured technique for organizing and analyzing complex decisions, based on mathematics and psychology. Using AHP method to help people select a city that is best in terms of various criteria supplied by the decision maker.

When deciding where to put down roots, many factors are in the eye of the beholder, such as

- Objective 1: Quality of life
- **Objective 2: Return on Investment**
- Objective 3: Cost of living
- Objective 4: Safety Index
- Objective 5: Health Care Index

We used the index available to us from the following source:

https://www.numbeo.com/quality-of-life/region_rankings.jsp?title=2019-mid®ion=019

A handful of cities was considered for our project including Austin, San Francisco, Seattle, Nashville, New York, and Miami.

OPTIMIZATION MODEL

STEP 1: Pairwise comparison among objectives and normalized matrix

Pairwise comparison among objectives					
	Quality of Life Index	Cost of Living	Safety Index	Health Care Index	Return on Investment
Quality of Life Index	1	4	3	5	2
Cost of Living Index	1/4	1	3/4	1 1/4	1/2
Safety Index	1/3	1 1/3	1	1 2/3	2/3
Health Care Index	1/5	4/5	3/5	1	2/5
Return on Investment	1/2	2	1 1/2	2 1/2	1

Normalized matrix					Weights
0.438	0.438	0.438	0.438	0.438	0.4379562
0.109	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.10948905
0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.1459854
0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.08759124
0.219	0.219	0.219	0.219	0.219	0.2189781

STEP 2: Pairwise comparison of each objective with the selected cities and their normalized matrices

Pairwise comparison among cities on Quality of Life								Normalized matrix								Scores	
	Austin, Texas	San Francisco, California	Seattle, Washington	Nashville, Tennessee	New York, New York	Miami, Florida											
Austin, Texas	1	1.12	1.05	2.56	0.141	1.27		0.19193858	0.22103809	0.1930147060	0.30843370	0.02695460	0.1918429	0.1888704			
San Francisco, California	0.89	1	0.93	1	1.26	1.13		0.170825336	0.1973554370	0.1709558820	0.12048190	0.24087170	0.17069480	0.1785308			
Seattle, Washington	0.95	1.06	1	1.06	0.46	1.2		0.182341651	0.2091967630	0.1838235290	0.12771080	0.08793730	0.18126880	0.1620464			
Nashville, Tennessee	0.89	1	0.93	1	1.26	1.13		0.170825336	0.1973554370	0.1709558820	0.12048190	0.24087170	0.17069480	0.1785308			
New York, New York	0.7	0.007	0.74	1.8	1	0.89		0.134357006	0.0013814880	0.1360294120	0.21686740	0.19116800	0.13444100	0.1357074			
Miami, Florida	0.78	0.88	0.79	0.88	1.11	1		0.149712092	0.1736727850	0.1452205880	0.10602410	0.21219650	0.1510574	0.1563139			
Pairwise comparison among cities on Cost of Living Index								Normalized matrix								Scores	
	Austin, Texas	San Francisco, California	Seattle, Washington	Nashville, Tennessee	New York, New York	Miami, Florida											
Austin, Texas	1	0.77	0.8	1.02	0.7	0.9		0.142857143	0.1415441180	0.1420959150	0.14166660	0.14227640	0.14173220	0.1420287			
San Francisco, California	1.28	1	1.03	1.32	0.9	1.16		0.182857143	0.183823529	0.18294849	0.18333330	0.18292680	0.18267710	0.1830944			
Seattle, Washington	1.24	0.96	1	1.27	0.87	1.12		0.177142857	0.1764705880	0.1776198930	0.17638880	0.17682920	0.17637790	0.1768049			
Nashville, Tennessee	0.97	0.75	0.78	1	0.68	0.88		0.138571429	0.1378676470	0.1385435170	0.13888880	0.13821130	0.13858260	0.1384442			
New York, New York	1.42	1.11	1.14	1.47	1	1.29		0.202857143	0.2040441180	0.2024866790	0.20416660	0.20325200	0.20314960	0.2033260			
Miami, Florida	1.09	0.85	0.88	1.12	0.77	1		0.155714286	0.15625	0.1563055060	0.15555550	0.15650400	0.15748030	0.1563016			
Pairwise comparison among cities on Safety Index								Normalized matrix								Scores	
	Austin, Texas	San Francisco, California	Seattle, Washington	Nashville, Tennessee	New York, New York	Miami, Florida											
Austin, Texas	1	1.3	1.21	1.22	1.15	1.32		0.198019802	0.1990811640	0.1993410210	0.19709200	0.19827580	0.19849620	0.1983843			
San Francisco, California	0.77	1	0.93	0.95	0.89	1.02		0.152475248	0.1531393570	0.1532125210	0.15347330	0.15344820	0.15338340	0.1531887			
Seattle, Washington	0.83	1.08	1	1.02	0.96	1.09		0.164356436	0.1653905050	0.1647446460	0.16478190	0.16551720	0.16390970	0.1647834			
Nashville, Tennessee	0.82	1.05	0.98	1	0.93	1.07		0.162376238	0.1607963250	0.1614497530	0.16155080	0.16034480	0.16090220	0.1612367			
New York, New York	0.87	1.12	1.04	1.07	1	1.15		0.172277228	0.17151608	0.1713344320	0.17285940	0.17241370	0.17293230	0.1722222			
Miami, Florida	0.76	0.98	0.91	0.93	0.87	1		0.15049505	0.15007657	0.1499176280	0.1502423	0.15	0.15037590	0.1501845			
Pairwise comparison among cities on Health Care Index								Normalized matrix								Scores	
	Austin, Texas	San Francisco, California	Seattle, Washington	Nashville, Tennessee	New York, New York	Miami, Florida											
Austin, Texas	1	0.97	0.97	1.14	1.07	1.11		0.17452007	0.1738351250	0.1738351250	0.25054940	0.07631950	0.10797660	0.1595059			
San Francisco, California	1.02	1	1	1.18	1.1	0.11		0.178010471	0.17921147	0.17921147	0.25934060	0.07845930	0.1070030	0.1474889			
Seattle, Washington	1.02	1	1	1.11	1.1	0.11		0.178010471	0.17921147	0.17921147	0.02417580	0.07845930	0.1070030	0.1082948			
Nashville, Tennessee	0.87	0.84	0.84	1	0.93	0.09		0.151832461	0.1505376340	0.1505376340	0.21978020	0.06633380	0.0875480	0.1246294			
New York, New York	0.92	0.9	0.9	0.09	1	1.03		0.160558464	0.1612903230	0.1612903230	0.01978020	0.07132660	0.10019450	0.1124067			
Miami, Florida	0.9	0.87	0.87	1.03	1.8	1		0.157068063	0.1559139780	0.1559139780	0.22637360	0.12838800	0.09727620	0.1534889			
Pairwise comparison among cities on Return on Investment								Normalized matrix								Scores	
	Austin, Texas	San Francisco, California	Seattle, Washington	Nashville, Tennessee	New York, New York	Miami, Florida											
Austin, Texas	1	1.19	1.5	1.261	1.52	1.47		0.215982721	0.2163636360	0.2155172410	0.21737630	0.21652420	0.21522690	0.2161651			
San Francisco, California	0.84	1	1.26	1.06	1.27	1.24		0.181425486	0.1818181820	0.1810344810	0.18277210	0.18091160	0.18155190	0.1815781			
Seattle, Washington	0.66	0.79	1	0.83	1	0.98		0.142548596	0.1436363640	0.1436781610	0.14307870	0.14245010	0.14348460	0.1431461			
Nashville, Tennessee	0.79	0.94	1.19	1	1.2	1.17		0.17062635	0.1709090910	0.1709770110	0.17238400	0.17094010	0.17130300	0.1711899			
New York, New York	0.66	0.78	0.99	0.8	1	0.97		0.142548596	0.1418181820	0.1422413790	0.13790720	0.14245010	0.14202050	0.1414976			
Miami, Florida	0.68	0.8	1.02	0.85	1.03	1		0.146868251	0.1454545450	0.1465517240	0.14652640	0.14672360	0.14641280	0.1464229			

STEP 3: Determining the ranking of the cities and best of them and comparing to the results



Determining best city								
Matrix of scores						Weighted scores	Ranking	Business Insider Score
City	Quality of Life Index	Cost of Living Index	Safety Index	Health Care Index	Return on Investment			
Austin, Texas	0.188870451	0.142028758	0.198384362	0.159505995	0.216165178	0.1885	1	1
San Francisco, California	0.178530862	0.183094415	0.153188701	0.147488967	0.181578154	0.1733	2	7
Seattle, Washington	0.162046494	0.176804908	0.164783418	0.108294828	0.143146112	0.1552	4	9
Nashville, Tennessee	0.178530862	0.138444257	0.161236714	0.124629437	0.171189962	0.1653	3	15
New York, New York	0.135707417	0.203326041	0.172222219	0.11240676	0.141497676	0.1477	6	
Miami, Florida	0.156313914	0.156301621	0.150184586	0.153488988	0.146422919	0.1530	5	

OUTPUT:

Considering all the factors of Quality of life, Cost of Living, Safety Index, Healthcare Index and Return on Investment, we can see that **Austin, Texas** is ranked No. 1 on the list, following with San Francisco, California.

CONCLUSION



- To make the top of the list, a place had to have good value, be a desirable place to live, have a strong safety index and a high quality of life.
- From the optimization models, Austin in Texas is considered by far to be the best city to live and retire in considering all the factors like quality of life, safety, healthcare, return on investment.
- Additionally, Austin also gives us the best value on investment. People should consider these factors as critical while deciding on a city to get what they expect and will eventually increase the overall quality of their life.

REFERENCES



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- https://www.numbeo.com/quality-of-life/region_rankings.jsp?title=2019-mid®ion=019

