

MITx: 15.053x Optimization Methods in Business Analytics

Heli

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General Information

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Lecture

Lecture questions due Oct 04, 2016 at 19:30 IST

Recitation

Problem Set 4

Homework 4 due Oct 04, 2016 at 19:30 IST

Week 4 > Recitation > Practice Problem 3

PART A

Consider the problem:

$$egin{array}{ll} \max & x_1+x_2 \ ext{s.t.:} \ & x_1+x_2 \leq 8 \ & -x_1+x_2 \leq 2 \ & x_1-x_2 \leq 4 \ & x_2 \geq 0 \ & x_1 \in \{0,1,4,6\} \end{array}$$

When you formulate this problem as an IP, how many binary variables need to be added (Assume that no non-binary variables are added)?

3

✓ Answer: [3, 4]

3

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SOLUTION

There are three resource constraints, and two additional logical constraints.

PART B

Formulate the problem as an equivalent integer program

I am ready to have the answer shown

SOLUTION

Everything except the condition that x_1 can only be one of four values is already linear. We can use the standard way of doing this by introducing 4 binary variables w_1,\dots,w_4 and imposing $x_1=0$.

$$w_1 + w_2 + 4w_3 + 6w_4 \ w_1 + w_2 + w_3 + w_4 \le 1$$

However, it is easy to see that we need only three binary variables as follows

$$x_1 = w_1 + 4w_2 + 6w_3$$

 $w_1 + w_2 + w_3 \le 1$

PART C

How would your answer to the previous part change if the objective function were changed to:

$$\mathrm{MAX}\ x_1^2 + 2x_2$$

NOTE: It is possible to modify the problem in many different ways. See if you can find a way that adds a single decision variable y (which will be equal to $(x_1)^2$) and only one additional constraint.

I am ready to have the answer shown

SOLUTION

Let $y=x_1^2$, then note that y is either 0,1,16 or 36, depending on whether x_1 is 0,1,4 or 6 respectively. Hence we add the constraint $y=w_1+16w_2+36w_3$ where w_1,w_2,w_3 are as described above (in the solution with 3 binary variables). The objective and all constraints are now linear.

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