

Linear Programming

1. Linear Programming: is a mathematical technique designed to help operational managers plan & make decisions relative to the tradeoffs necessary to allocate resources.

For example: Selecting the product mix in a factory to make best use of machine- or (labor hours) while maximizing profits.

2. All LP problems have 4 properties in common:

① Objective function: a mathematical expression in linear programming that maximizes or minimizes some quantity [often Profit or Cost]

Maximize

For example:

Product ① makes profit of \$10/unit

Product ② makes profit of \$15/unit

Objective function: Max. : $10X_1 + 15X_2$

Where, X_1 = Number of units that should be produced of product 1

X_2 = Number of units that should be produced of product ②

Minimize

Example:

Product ① costs \$50/unit to be produced

Product ② costs \$100/unit to be produced

Objective function: Min $50X_1 + 100X_2$

where X_1 = # of units of product ① that should be produced

X_2 = # of units of product ② that should be produced

② Constraints: Restrictions that limit the degree to which a manager can pursue an objective.

- * less than or equal (\leq): implies an upper limit on the amount of some resources
- * greater than or equal (\geq): specifies a min. that must be achieved
- * Equal (=): specifies exactly what a mathematical expression of decision variables should equal.

③ There must be alternative courses of action to choose from

④ The objective & constraints in LP must be expressed in terms of linear equations & (or) inequalities.

3- Formulating Linear Programming Problems :

Step ①: Identify whether the objective function is to Max. or Min.

Step ②: Organize your given information in a table & introduce the decision variables.

Variables	X_1	X_2	Available hours (units) of variable
For example: Labour time	— hrs	— hrs	200
Assembly time			means that there are 200 labor hours available to be used in producing X_1, X_2
Painting			

Step ③: Develop the mathematical relationships to describe the constraints

LINEAR PROGRAMMING

Problem 1: LP Formulation and Graphical Solution:

A small construction firm specializes in building and selling single-family homes. The firm offers two basic types of houses, model A and model B. Model A houses require 4,000 labour hours, 2 tonnes of stone, and 2,000 board feet of lumber. Model B houses require 10,000 labour hours, 3 tonnes of stone, and 2,000 board feet of lumber. Due to long lead times for ordering supplies and the scarcity of skilled and semiskilled workers in the area, the firm will be forced to rely on its present resources for the upcoming building season. It has 400,000 hours of labour, 150 tonnes of stone, and 200,000 board feet of lumber. Model A yields a profit of \$1,000 per unit and model B yields \$2,000 per unit? Assume that the firm will be able to sell all the units it builds.

- a. Formulate the objective function and constraints
- b. Graph the constraints and objective function, and identify the optimum corner point
- c. Determine the optimal quantities of models A and B, and compute the resulting profit.

Problem 2: Sensitivity Analysis:

Maximize $60x_1 + 50x_2$ where x_1 = the number of type 1 computers
 x_2 = the number of type 2 computers

Subject to

Assembly	$4x_1 + 10x_2 \leq 100$ hours
Inspection	$2x_1 + 1x_2 \leq 22$ hours
Storage	$3x_1 + 3x_2 \leq 39$ cubic feet
	$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

Microsoft Excel 5.0 Sensitivity Report

LPMICRO.XLS

Changing Cells

Cell Name	Final Value	Reduced Cost	Objective Coefficient	Allowable Increase	Allowable Decrease
\$D\$4 Type 1	9	0	60	40	10
\$E\$4 Type 2	4	0	50	10	20

Constraints

Cell Name	Final Value	Shadow Price	Constraint R.H. Side	Allowable Increase	Allowable Decrease
\$C\$7 Assembly	76	0	100	1E+30	24
\$C\$8 Inspection	22	10	22	4	4
\$C\$9 Storage	39	13.33333333	39	4.5	6

Ready

Linear Programming Problems

1-a)

	Model A [x_1]	Model B [x_2]	Available resources
labour hrs	4000 hrs	10,000 hrs.	400,000 hrs
stones needed	2 tonnes	3 tonnes	150 tonnes
lumber needed	2000 feet	2000 feet	200,000 feet
Profit/unit	\$1000	\$2000	

* A = Number of units of Model A that should be build

B = " " " " Model B " " " "

* Max: $Z = 1000A + 2000B$

subject to,

$$\text{labour : } 4000A + 10,000B \leq 400,000$$

$$\text{stone : } 2A + 3B \leq 150$$

$$\text{lumber : } 2000A + 2000B \leq 200,000$$

$$A, B \geq 0$$

