Linear and Integer Programming

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References

- Princeton's class notes on linear programming
- MIT's class notes on linear programming
- Xian Jiaotong University's class notes on linear programming
- Ohio University's class notes
- Rutgers University's class notes

Linear Programming

- Essential tool for optimal allocation of scarce resource among a number of competing activities
- Powerful and general problem-solving method
 - shortest path, max flow, min cost flow

minimum spanning tree

Why Significant?

- Fast commercial solvers: CPLEX, OSL
- Ranked among most important scientific advances of 20th century
- Also a general tool for attacking NP-hard optimization problems
- Dominates world of industry
 - ex: Delta claims saving \$100 million per year using LP

Applications

- Agriculture: diet problem
- Computer science: data mining
- Electrical engineering: VLSI design
- Energy: blending petroleum products
- Environment: water quality management
- Finance: portfolio optimization
- Logistics: supply-chain management
- Management: hotel yield management
- Marketing: direct mail advertising
- manufacturing: production line balancing
- Medicine: radioactive seed placement in cancer treatment
- Operation research: airline crew assignment
- Telecommunication: network design, internet routing
- Sports: scheduling ACC basketball

An Example, Intuitive Understanding of Linear Programming

Brewery Problem: A Toy LP Example

Small brewery produces ale and beer.

- Production limited by scarce resources: corn, hops, barley malt.
- . Recipes for ale and beer require different proportions of resources.

Beverage	Corn (pounds)	Hops (ounces)	Malt (pounds)	Profit (\$)
Ale	5	4	35	13
Beer	15	4	20	23
Quantity	480	160	1190	

How can brewer maximize profits?

- . Devote all resources to ale: 34 barrels of ale \Rightarrow \$442.
- . Devote all resources to beer: 32 barrels of beer \Rightarrow \$736.
- 7.5 barrels of ale, 29.5 barrels of beer ⇒ \$776.
- 12 barrels of ale, 28 barrels of beer \Rightarrow \$800.

	Ale		Beer			
max	13 <i>A</i>	+	23 <i>B</i>			Profit
s.†.	5 <i>A</i>	+	15 <i>B</i>	\leq	480	Corn
	4 <i>A</i>	+	4 <i>B</i>	\leq	160	Hops
	35 <i>A</i>	+	20 <i>B</i>	\leq	1190	Malt
	A	,	В	\geq	0	



Brewery Problem

Brewery Problem: Feasible Region



Brewery Problem: Objective Function



Brewery Problem: Geometry

Brewery problem observation. Regardless of objective function coefficients, an optimal solution occurs at an extreme point.



Standard Form LP

"Standard form" LP.

- Input: real numbers c_j, b_i, a_{ij}.
- Output: real numbers x_j.
- n = # nonnegative variables, m = # constraints.
- Maximize linear objective function subject to linear inequalities.

(P) max
$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} c_j x_j$$

s.t.
$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} x_j = b_i \quad 1 \le i \le m$$
$$x_j \ge 0 \quad 1 \le j \le n$$

(P) max
$$c^T x$$

s.t. $Ax = b$
 $x \ge 0$

Linear. No x², xy, arccos(x), etc. Programming. Planning (term predates computer programming).

Brewery Problem: Converting to Standard Form

Original input.

Standard form.

- Add slack variable for each inequality.
- Now a 5-dimensional problem.

Geometry

Geometry.

- . Inequalities : halfplanes (2D), hyperplanes.
- Bounded feasible region: convex polygon (2D), (convex) polytope.



Convex: if a and b are feasible solutions, then so is (a +b) / 2.

Extreme point: feasible solution x that can't be written as (a + b) / 2 for any two distinct feasible solutions a and b.



Geometry

Extreme point property. If there exists an optimal solution to (P), then there exists one that is an extreme point.

• Only need to consider finitely many possible solutions.

Challenge. Number of extreme points can be exponential!

. Consider n-dimensional hypercube.

Greed. Local optima are global optima.

 Extreme point is optimal if no neighboring extreme point is better.



Simplex Algorithm

Simplex algorithm. (George Dantzig, 1947)

- . Developed shortly after WWII in response to logistical problems.
- . Used for 1948 Berlin airlift.

Generic algorithm.

never decrease objective function

- . Start at some extreme point.
- Pivot from one extreme point to a neighboring one.
- . Repeat until optimal.

How to implement? Linear algebra.



Another Example, Formulation, and Proof

Linear Programming

- minimize or maximize a linear objective
- subject to linear equalities and inequalities
- Example. Max is in a pie eating contest that lasts 1 hour. Each torte that he eats takes 2 minutes. Each apple pie that he eats takes 3 minutes. He receives 4 points for each torte and 5 points for each pie. What should Max eat so as to get the most points?

Step 1. Determine the decision variables

- Let x be the number of tortes eaten by Max.
- Let y be the number of pies eaten by Max.

Max's linear program

Step 2. Determine the objective function Step 3. Determine the constraints

Maximize z = 4x + 5y (objective function)

subject to $2x + 3y \le 60$ (constraint)

 $x \ge 0$; $y \ge 0$ (non-negativity constraints)

A <u>feasible solution</u> satisfies all of the constraints. x = 10, y = 10 is feasible; x = 10, y = 15 is <u>infeasible</u>. An <u>optimal solution</u> is the best feasible solution. The optimal solution is x = 30, y = 0.

Terminology

- Decision variables: e.g., x and y.
 - In general, these are quantities you can control to improve your objective which should completely describe the set of decisions to be made.
- <u>Constraints</u>: e.g., $2x + 3y \le 24$, $x \ge 0$, $y \ge 0$
 - Limitations on the values of the decision variables.
- Objective Function. e.g., 4x + 5y
 - Value measure used to rank alternatives
 - Seek to maximize or minimize this objective
 - examples: maximize NPV, minimize cost

Linear Programs

• A linear function is a function of the form: $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2 + \dots + c_n x_n$ $= \sum_{i=1 \text{ to } n} c_i x_i$ e.g., $3x_1 + 4x_2 - 3x_4$.

 A mathematical program is a *linear program (LP)* if the objective is a linear function and the constraints are linear equalities or inequalities.

e.g.,
$$3x_1 + 4x_2 - 3x_4 \ge 7$$

 $x_1 - 2x_5 = 7$

Typically, an LP has non-negativity constraints.

Max's linear program

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Slack Form

min ax
$$z = -4x - 5y$$

s.t. $2x + 3y + w = 60$
 $x \ge 0, y \ge 9, w \ge 0.$

 $\min x \ z = cx$ s.t. Ax = b $x \ge 0$. rank(A) = m.



What's a vertex?

A point x in a polyhadren Ω is called a vertex

 $x = \frac{1}{2}(y+z), y, z \in \Omega \implies x = y = z.$

if

Fundamental Theorem

Let $\Omega = \{x \mid Ax = b, x \ge 0\}.$

If min *cx* over $x \in \Omega$ has an optimal solution,

then it can be found in vertices of Ω .

Proof.

Consider an optimal solution x^* with maximum number of zero components among all optimal solutions. We will show that x^* is a vertex of Ω . By contradition, suppose x^* is not, that is, there exist $y, z \in \Omega$ such that $x^* = (y+z)/2$ and x^*, y, z are distinct. Since $cx^* \le cy$, $cx^* \le cz$, and $cx^* = (cy+cz)/2$, we must have $cx^* = cy = cz$. This means that y and z are also optimal solutions. It follows that all feasible points on line $x^* + \alpha(y - x^*)$ are optimal solutions. However, Ω does not contain any line. Thus, the line must have a point x'not in Ω , that is, x' violates at least one constraint.



Proof (cont's).

Note that for any α , $A(x^*+\alpha(y-x^*)) = b$. Thus, x' cannot violate constraint Ax = b. Moreover, for $x_i^* = 0$, since $x_i^* = (y_i + z_i) / 2$ and $y_i, z_i \ge 0$, we must have $z_i = y_i = x_i^* = 0$. Therefore, the *i*th component of $x^{*+\alpha}(y-x^{*})$ is equal to 0 for any α . This means that x' cannot violate constraint $x_i \ge 0$. Hence, x' must violate a constraint $x_i \ge 0$ for some *j* with $x_i \ge 0$. Now, we can easily find an optimal solution between x'and x^* , which has one more zero - component than x^* ,

a contradiction.



X' has fewer or equal number of 0 terms as X*. X' has one negative component, whose value in X* is positive. As we move from X' to X* into the feasible region, the component will become 0

Solution Approach

- •Find a corner point
 - -An "initial feasible solution"
- Proceed to improved corner points
- Stop when no further improvements are possible

Solution Calculations

- To find a corner point
 - -it is necessary to solve system of constraint equations
 - –from linear algebra, this requires working with matrix of constraint equations, specifically, manipulating the "determinants"
 - –Amount of effort set by number of constraints
- Thus, number of constraints defines amount of effort
- This is why LP can handle many more decision variables than constraints

Solution Methods

Simplex

-The textbook method

-For step 2, select improved corners

- -Always goes to best corner
- -Searches until no further improvement possible
- -Inefficient for real problems
- -Not used in practice

Polyhedron of simplex algorithm in 3D

Practical methods - many exist - often proprietary

- -Step 2 takes many forms
- –Each best for different cases
- -Very great efficiency possible
- -A real art!



Demo of MIT Linear Programming Solver:

http://sourceforge.net/projects/lipside/



LP Duality: Economic Interpretation

Brewer's problem: find optimal mix of beer and ale to maximize profits.

(P) max 13A + 23Bs.t. $5A + 15B \le 480$ $4A + 4B \le 160$ $35A + 20B \le 1190$ A, $B \ge 0$



Entrepreneur's problem: Buy individual resources from brewer at minimum cost.

- C, H, M = unit price for corn, hops, malt.
- Brewer won't agree to sell resources if 5C + 4H + 35M < 13.

(b) min 480C + 160H + 1190Ms.t. $5C + 4H + 35M \ge 13$ $15C + 4H + 20M \ge 23$ C, H, $M \ge 0$

C* = 1 H* = 2 M* = 0 OPT = 800

LP Duality

Primal and dual LPs. Given real numbers a_{ij} , b_i , c_j , find real numbers x_i , y_j that optimize (P) and (D).

(P) max
$$\sum_{\substack{j=1\\j=1}}^{n} c_j x_j$$

s.t.
$$\sum_{\substack{j=1\\j=1}}^{n} a_{ij} x_j \le b_i \quad 1 \le i \le m$$

$$x_j \ge 0 \quad 1 \le j \le n$$

(D) min
$$\sum_{\substack{i=1\\j=1}}^{m} b_i y_i$$

s.t.
$$\sum_{\substack{i=1\\j=1}}^{m} a_{ij} y_i \ge c_j \quad 1 \le j \le n$$

$$y_i \ge 0 \quad 1 \le i \le m$$

Duality Theorem (Gale-Kuhn-Tucker 1951, Dantzig-von Neumann 1947). If (P) and (D) have feasible solutions, then max = min.

- Special case: max-flow min-cut theorem.
- Sensitivity analysis.

LP Duality: Economic Interpretation

Sensitivity analysis.

- Q. How much should brewer be willing to pay (marginal price) for additional supplies of scarce resources?
- A. corn \$1, hops \$2, malt \$0.
- Q. New product "light beer" is proposed. It requires 2 corn, 5 hops, 24 malt. How much profit must be obtained from light beer to justify diverting resources from production of beer and ale?
- A. Breakeven: 2 (\$1) + 5 (\$2) + 24 (0\$) = \$12 / barrel.

How do I compute marginal prices (dual variables)?

- . Simplex solves primal and dual simultaneously.
- . Top row of final simplex tableaux provides optimal dual solution!

History

1939. Production, planning. (Kantorovich, USSR)

Propaganda to make paper more palatable to communist censors.

"I want to emphasize again that the greater part of the problems of which I shall speak, relating to the organization and planning of production, are connected specifically with the Soviet system of economy and in the majority of cases do not arise in the economy of a capitalist society."

"the majority of enterprises work at half capacity. There the choice of output is determined not by the plan but by the interests and profits of individual capitalists." USSR

USA

- Kantorovich awarded 1975 Nobel prize in Economics for contributions to the theory of optimum allocation of resources.
- Staple in MBA curriculum.
- . Used by most large companies and other profit maximizers.

History

- 1939. Production, planning. (Kantorovich)
- 1947. Simplex algorithm. (Dantzig)
- 1950. Applications in many fields.
- 1979. Ellipsoid algorithm. (Khachian)
- 1984. Projective scaling algorithm. (Karmarkar)
- 1990. Interior point methods.

Current research.

- Approximation algorithms.
- Software for large scale optimization.
- . Interior point variants.

Integer Programming

- Integer programming is a solution method for many discrete optimization problems
- Programming = Planning in this context
- Origins go back to military logistics in WWII (1940s).
- In a survey of Fortune 500 firms, 85% of those responding said that they had used linear or integer programming.
- Why is it so popular?
 - Many different real-life situations can be modeled as integer programs (IPs).
 - There are efficient algorithms to solve IPs.

Standard form of integer program (IP)

- *maximize* $c_1x_1+c_2x_2+...+c_nx_n$ (objective function) *subject to*
 - $a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \le b_1$ $a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n \le b_2$

. . . .

(functional constraints)

 $a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + ... + a_{mn}x_n \le b_m$ $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ (set constraints)

Standard form of integer program (IP)

• In vector form:

maximize **cx** (objective function)

subject to $Ax \le b$ (functional constraints) $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ (set constraints)

Input for IP: 1×n vector **c**, m×n matrice **A**, m×1 vector **b**. *Output* of IP: n×1 integer vector **x**.

 Note: More often, we will consider mixed integer programs (MIP), that is, some variables are integer, the others are continuous. Example of Integer Program (Production Planning-Furniture Manufacturer)

- Technological data: Production of **1 table** requires 5 ft pine, 2 ft oak, 3 hrs labor
 - 1 chair requires 1 ft pine, 3 ft oak, 2 hrs labor
 - 1 desk requires 9 ft pine, 4 ft oak, 5 hrs labor
- Capacities for 1 week: 1500 ft pine, 1000 ft oak,

20 employees (each works 40 hrs).

• Market data:

	profit	demand
table	\$12/unit	40
chair	\$5/unit	130
desk	\$15/unit	30

• Goal: Find a production schedule for 1 week that will maximize the profit.

Production Planning-Furniture Manufacturer: modeling the problem as integer program

The goal can be achieved

by making appropriate decisions. First define decision variables:

- Let \mathbf{x}_{t} be the number of tables to be produced;
 - x_{c} be the number of chairs to be produced;
 - x_d be the number of desks to be produced.
 - (Always define decision variables properly!)

Production Planning-Furniture Manufacturer: modeling the problem as integer program

Objective is to maximize profit:

 $max 12x_{t} + 5x_{c} + 15x_{d}$

Functional Constraints

capacity constraints:

pine: $5x_t + 1x_c + 9x_d \le 1500$ oak: $2x_t + 3x_c + 4x_d \le 1000$ labor: $3x_t + 2x_c + 5x_d \le 800$

market demand constraints:

tables: $x_t \ge 40$ chairs: $x_c \ge 130$ desks: $x_d \ge 30$

Set Constraints

$$\mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{t}}$$
 , \mathbf{x}_{c} , $\mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{d}}\!\in\!\mathbf{Z}_{\mathrm{r}}$

Solutions to integer programs

- A *solution* is an assignment of values to variables.
- A *feasible solution* is an assignment of values to variables such that all the constraints are satisfied.
- The *objective function value* of a solution is obtained by evaluating the objective function at the given point.
- An optimal solution (assuming maximization) is one whose objective function value is greater than or equal to that of all other feasible solutions.
- Integer program is NP complete
- There are efficient algorithms for finding the optimal solutions of an integer program based on LP relaxation.

Next: IP modeling techniques

Modeling techniques:

➤Using binary variables

- ➢ Restrictions on number of options
- Contingent decisions
- ➤Variables with k possible values

Applications:

- ➢ Facility Location Problem
- ➤Knapsack Problem

Example of IP: Facility Location

- A company is thinking about building new facilities in LA and SF.
- Relevant data:

	capital needed	expected profit
1. factory in LA	\$6M	\$9M
2. factory in SF	\$3M	\$5M
3. warehouse in LA	\$5M	\$6M
4. warehouse in SF	\$2M	\$4M

Total capital available for investment: \$10M

 Question: Which facilities should be built to maximize the total profit?

Example of IP: Facility Location

• Define decision variables (i = 1, 2, 3, 4):

$$\mathbf{x}_{i} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if facility } i \text{ is built} \\ 0 & \text{if not} \end{cases}$$

 Then the total expected benefit: 9x₁+5x₂+6x₃+4x₄ the total capital needed: 6x₁+3x₂+5x₃+2x₄
 ➤ Summarizing, the IP model is: max 9x₁+5x₂+6x₃+4x₄

s.t.
$$6x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 + 2x_4 \le 10$$

 x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 binary (*i.e.*, $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$)

Knapsack problem

Any IP, which has only one constraint, is referred to as a knapsack problem.

- n items to be packed in a knapsack.
- The knapsack can hold up to W lb of items.
- Each item has weight w_i lb and benefit b_i .
- Goal: Pack the knapsack such that the total benefit is maximized.

IP model for Knapsack problem

- Define decision variables (i = 1, ..., n):
- Then the total benefit: $\sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i x_i^{-1}$
 - \succ Summarizing, the IP model is: n

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i x_i$$

s.t.

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} D_i x_i$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} W_i x_i \le W$$

 x_i binary (*i* = 1, ..., n)

Connection between the problems

- Note: The version of the facility location problem is a special case of the knapsack problem.
- Important modeling skill:
 - Suppose you know how to model Problem A_1, \ldots, A_p ;
 - You need to solve Problem B;
 - Notice the similarities between Problems A_i and B;
 - Build a model for Problem B, using the model for Problem A_i as a prototype.

The Facility Location Problem: adding new requirements

• Extra requirement:

build *at most one* of the two warehouses. The corresponding constraint is:

 $x_3 + x_4 \le 1$

• Extra requirement:

build at least one of the two factories.

The corresponding constraint is:

 $x_1 + x_2 \ge 1$

Modeling Technique: Restrictions on the number of options

- Restrictions: At least p and at most q of the options can be chosen.
- The corresponding constraints are:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \ge p \qquad \qquad \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \le q$$

Modeling Technique: Contingent Decisions

- Back to the facility location problem.
- *Requirement:* Can't build a warehouse *unless* there is a factory in the city.

The corresponding constraints are:

 $X_3 \le X_1 (LA) \qquad X_4 \le X_2 (SF)$

- Requirement: Can't select option 3 unless at least one of options 1 and 2 is selected. The constraint: X₃ ≤ X₁ + X₂
- *Requirement:* Can't select option 4 *unless* at least two of options 1, 2 and 3 are selected. The constraint: $2x_4 \le x_1 + x_2 + x_3$

Modeling Technique: Variables with k possible values

- Suppose variable y should take one of the values d₁, d₂, ..., d_k.
- How to achieve that in the model?
- Introduce new decision variables. For i=1,...,k, $x_{i} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y \text{ takes value } d_{i} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- Then we need the following constraints. $\sum_{i=1}^{k} x_i = 1 \quad (y \text{ can take only one value})$
 - $y = \sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i x_i$ (y should take value d_i if $x_i = 1$)

Intersection of all the linear (in)equalities form a convex polytope

· For simplicity, we'll always assume polytope is bounded



Feasible integer points form a lattice inside the LP polytope





A "good" formulation keeps this region small





One measure of this is the Integrality Gap: Integrality gap = $\max_{instances I}(IP(I))/(LP(I))$ *Rounding non-integer solution values up* to the nearest integer value can result in an *infeasible solution*.

A *feasible solution is ensured by rounding down* non-integer solution values but may result in a less than optimal *(sub-optimal) solution*.

Integer Programming Example Graphical Solution of Machine Shop Model

Maximize
$$Z = \$100x_1 + \$150x_2$$

subject to:
 $\$,000x_1 + 4,000x_2 \le \$40,000$
 $15x_1 + 30x_2 \le 200 \text{ ft}^2$
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ and integer
Optimal Solution:
 $Z = \$1,055.56$
 $x_1 = 2.22 \text{ presses}$
 $x_2 = 5.55 \text{ lathes}$
 $x_1 = 2.22 \text{ presses}$
 $x_2 = 5.55 \text{ lathes}$
 $x_1 = 2.22 \text{ presses}$
 $x_2 = 5.55 \text{ lathes}$
 $x_2 = 5.55 \text{ lathes}$

Figure 5.1 Feasible Solution Space with Integer Solution Points Copyright © 2010 Pearson Education, Inc. Publishing as Prentice Hall





· Find a maximum-size set of vertices that have no edges between any pair



Project 4 – Network Flow Problem

Network Flow



- Source(s) s, sink (consumers) t
- Capacity (bottom number)
- Flow (top number)
- Maximize flow from s to t obeying
 - Capacity constraints on edges
 - Conservation constraints on all nodes other than s,t

Min Cut Problem



 $e \in S$

- Special nodes s and t
- Each edge *e* has capacity u_e . Set of edges S has capacity $\sum u_e$
- Partition vertex set V into S,T where $s \in S$ and $t \in T$
- A cut is the edges (u,v) such that $u \in S$ and $v \in T$ Find a cut with minimum capacity

Algorithms

- Use IP to solve the network flow problem
- Use IP to solve the min-cut problem