

MATH 210 FINITE MATHEMATICS

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3.2 Linear Programming Problems

Definition 1: Linear Programming Problem

1. Has a linear objective function to be maximized or minimized
2. Has constraints which the objective function is subjected to.
3. Constraints are linear inequalities or equalities

Example 1

Brian has a small carpentry business that employs two carpenters and a finisher. They sell two types of tables: standard and amazing. Each standard table will result in a profit of \$50, and each amazing table results in a profit of \$54. A standard table requires 3 hours of carpentry and 1 hour of finishing. An amazing table requires 2 hours of carpentry and 2 hours of finishing. Each day there are 16 hours available for carpentry and 8 hours for finishing. How many tables of each type should be made to maximize profit?

1. Variables? $x = \#$ OF STANDARD TABLES

$y = \#$ OF AMAZING TABLES

2. Constraints?

	STANDARD	AMAZING	RESTRICTION
CARPENTRY	3	2	16
FINISHING	1	2	8

$$3x + 2y \leq 16$$

$$x + 2y \leq 8$$

ADDITIONAL

$$x \geq 0, y \geq 0$$

3. Goal?

$$\text{MAXIMIZE } P = 50x + 54y$$

SUMMARY

~~MAXIMIZE~~

$$\text{MAXIMIZE } P = 50x + 54y$$

$$\text{SUBJECT TO } 3x + 2y \leq 16$$

$$x + 2y \leq 8$$

$$x \geq 0, y \geq 0$$

Example 2

A finance company has \$120 million to invest in stocks S and T . Since stock T is riskier, management stipulated that the total amount invested in stock S be at least five times more than the amount invested in stock T . Stock T is expected to return an average of 20% and stock S an average of 12%. Determine the total amount that should be invested in each stock to maximize returns.

(1) LET $X =$ AMOUNT IN STOCK T
 $y =$ AMOUNT IN STOCK S

$$y \geq 5 \cdot T$$

(2) RESTRICTIONS

$$\text{MONEY: } x + y \leq 120$$

$$\text{5 TIMES: } y \geq 5x, \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0$$

(3) GOAL: MAXIMIZE $R = .20x + .12y$

SUMMARY

$$\text{MAXIMIZE } R = .20x + .12y$$

$$\text{SUBJECT TO } x + y \leq 120$$

$$y \geq 5x$$

$$x \geq 0, y \geq 0$$

Example 3

Brian uses two types of fertilizers. A 50-lb bag of Fertilizer *A* contains 8 lbs of nitrogen, 2 lbs of phosphorus, and 4 lbs of potassium. A 50-lb bag of Fertilizer *B* contains 5 lbs of nitrogen, 5 lbs of phosphorus, and 5 lbs of potassium. The minimum requirements for a field are 440 lbs of nitrogen, 260 lbs of phosphorus, and 360 lbs of potassium. If a 50-lb bag of *A* costs \$30 and a 50-lb bag of *B* costs \$20, find the amount of each type Brian should use to minimize cost while still meeting his requirements.

LET $x = \#$ OF BAG *A* , $y = \#$ OF BAG *B*

RESTRICTIONS	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	MIN REQUIREMENT
NITROGEN	8	5	440
PHOSPHORUS	2	5	260
POTASSIUM	4	5	360

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 8x + 5y \geq 440 \\ 2x + 5y \geq 260 \\ 4x + 5y \geq 360 \\ x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

GOAL: MINIMIZE $C = 30x + 20y$
SUBJECT TO

Example 4

Brian's company builds specialty gaming computers in two separate locations, Plant I and Plant II. The output at Plant I is at most 50 computers per month, whereas the output at Plant II is at most 70 per month. The computers are shipping to three stores, A , B , and C . Stores A , B , and C require a minimum of 30, 35, and 60 computers, respectively. Shipping costs from Plant I to A , B , and C are \$20, \$8, and \$10 per computer. Shipping costs from Plant II to each store is \$12, \$22, and \$18, respectively. What should the shipping schedule be if Brian wishes to meet the requirements of the stores and keep shipping costs to a minimum?