

CS 580: Algorithm Design and Analysis


Jeremiah Blocki
Purdue University
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Linear Programming


- Even more general than Network Flow!
- Many Applications
 - Network Flow Variants
 - Taxation
 - Multi-Commodity Flow Problems
 - Supply-Chain Optimization
 - Operations Research
 - Entire Courses Devoted to Linear Programming!
- Our Focus
- Using Linear Programming as a tool to solve algorithms problems
- We won't cover algorithms to solve linear programs in any depth

Motivating Example: Time Allocation


168 Hours in Each Week to Allocate as Follows



Studying (S)



Partying (P)



Everything Else (E)

Constraints:

- [168 Hours] $S + P + E = 168$
- [Maintain Sanity] $P + E \geq 70$
- [Survive] $E \geq 56$
- [Pass Courses 1] $S \geq 60$
- [Pass Courses 2] $2S + E - 3P \geq 150$ (too little sleep, and/or too much partying makes it more difficult to study)

Question 1: Can we satisfy all of the constraints?
(Maintain Sanity + Pass Courses)

Answer: Yes. One feasible solution is $S=80, P=20, E=68$


Credit for Example: Avrim Blum

Recap


- Network Flow Problems
- Max-Flow Min Cut Theorem
- Ford Fulkerson
 - Augmenting Paths
 - Residual Flow Graph
 - Integral Solutions (given integral capacities)
- Capacity Scaling Algorithm
- Dinic's Algorithm
- Applications of Maximum Flow
- Maximum Bipartite Matching
- Marriage Theorem (Hall/Frobenius)
- Disjoint Paths [Menger's Theorem]
- Baseball Elimination
- Circulation with Demands
- Many Others...

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Objective Function: $2P + E$ (Maximize Happiness)

Question 2: Can we find a feasible solution which maximizes the objective function?

Linear Program Definition

- Variables: x_1, \dots, x_n
- m linear inequalities in these variables (equalities are OK)
- Examples
 - $0 \leq x_1 \leq 1$
 - $x_1 + x_2 + 3x_{12} - 7x_{21} \leq 4$
 - $2S + E - 3P \geq 150$
- [Optional] Linear Objective Function
- Examples
 - maximize $4x_1 + 3x_2$
 - minimize $3x_1 + 3x_2$
 - minimize $2P + E$
- Goal
 - Find values for x_1, \dots, x_n satisfying all constraints, and
 - Maximize the objective
- Possibility Problems
- No objective function

Linear Program Example

Goal: Maximize 2P+E

Subject to:

- [168 Hours] $S + P + E = 168$
- [Minimum Salary] $P + E \geq 70$
- [Savings] $E \geq 56$
- [Pass Course 1] $S \geq 60$
- [Pass Course 2] $2S + E - 3P \geq 150$
- [Non-Negativity] $P \geq 0$

Requirements:

- All the constraints are linear inequalities in variables (S,P,E)
- The objective function is also linear

Example Non-Linear Constraints:

$$PE \geq 70 \quad E \in \{1,1\}$$

• Credit for Example: Avrim Blum

Network Flow as a Linear Program

Example:

Variables: $x_{12}, x_{23}, x_{34}, x_{41}, x_{42}$

Goal: maximize $x_{12} + x_{23}$

Subject to:

- $0 \leq x_{12} \leq 110$
- $0 \leq x_{23} \leq 122$
- $0 \leq x_{34} \leq 1$
- $0 \leq x_{41} \leq 170$
- $0 \leq x_{42} \leq 102$

$x_{12} = x_{23} + x_{34}$ [Flow Conservation at node 1]

$x_{41} + x_{42} = x_{34}$ [Flow Conservation at node 2]

Linear Program Definition

- Variables: x_1, \dots, x_n
- Constraints: m linear inequalities in these variables (equalities are OK)
- [Optional] Linear Objective Function

Requirements:

- All the constraints are linear inequalities in variables (S,P,E)
- The objective function is also linear

Example Non-Linear Constraints:

$$PE \geq 70 \quad E \in \{1,1\}$$

$$E(1-E) = 1 \quad \text{Min}[P, E] \geq 20$$

Network Flow as a Linear Program

Given a directed graph G with capacities $c(e)$ on each edge e we can use linear programming to find a maximum flow from source s to sink t .

Variables: x_e for each directed edge e (represents flow on edge e)

Objective: Maximize $\sum_{e \text{ out of } s} x_e$

Constraints:

- (Capacity Constraints) For each edge e we have $0 \leq x_e \leq c(e)$
- (Flow Conservation) For each $v \in \{s, t\}$ we have:

$$\sum_{e \text{ out of } v} x_e = \sum_{e \text{ into } v} x_e$$

Solving a Linear Program

- Simplex Algorithm (1940s)
 - Not guaranteed to run in polynomial time
 - We can find bad examples, but...
 - The algorithm is efficient in practice!
- Ellipsoid Algorithm (1980)
 - Polynomial time (huge theoretical breakthrough), but ...
 - Slow in practice
 - Newer Algorithms
- Karmarkar's Algorithm
 - Competitive with Simplex
 - Polynomial Time

Algorithmic Idea: Direction of Goodness

Goal: Maximize $2x_1 + 3x_2$ $c=(2,3)$

Worse Solution: x
 $C^T \cdot (x - x^*) < 0$

Optimal Feasible Point: x^*

Improved Solution: y
 $C^T \cdot (y - x^*) < 0$

Linear Programming

Theorem: Maximum value achieved at vertex (extreme point)

Definition: Let F be the set of all feasible points in a linear program. We say that a point $p \in F$ is an extreme point (vertex) if every line segment $L \subset F$ that lies completely in F and contains p has p as an endpoint.

Not An Extreme Point

Linear Programming

Theorem: Maximum value achieved at vertex (extreme point)

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Is an Extreme Point

Linear Programming

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Linear Programming

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Not An Extreme Point

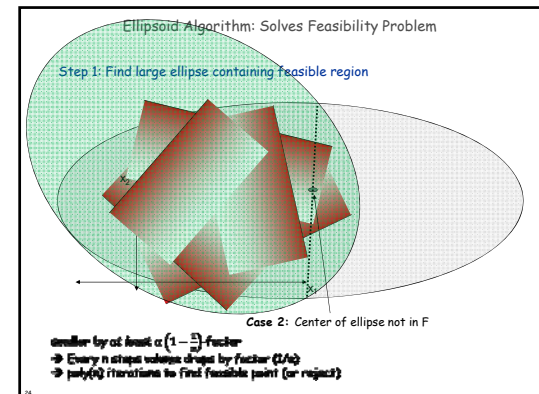
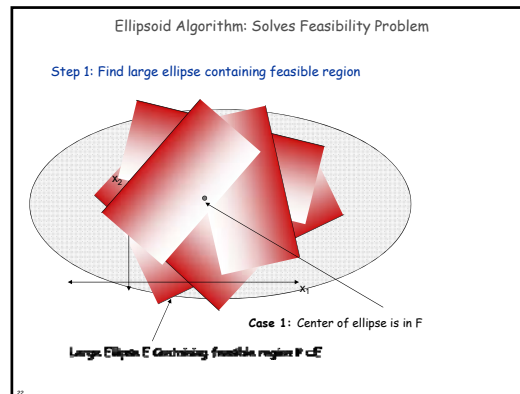
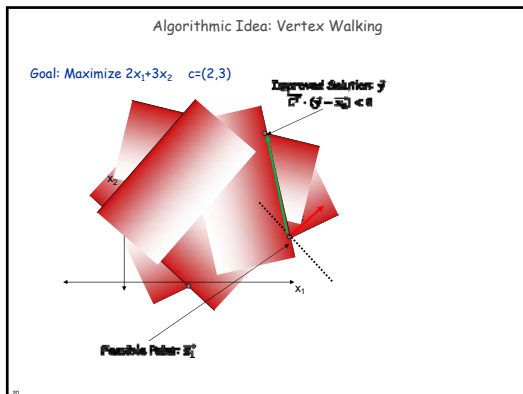
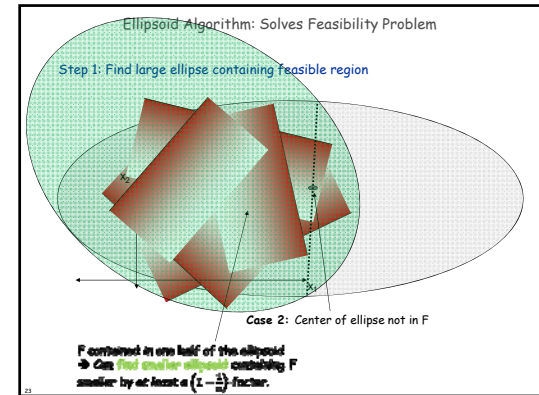
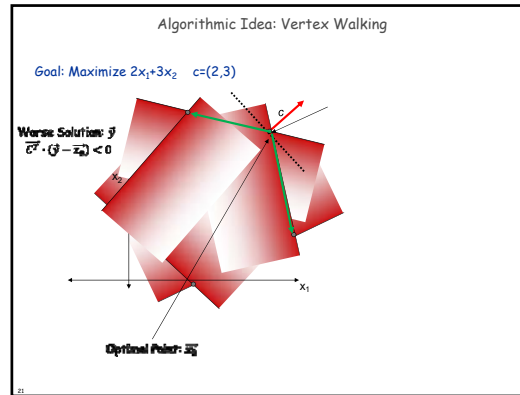
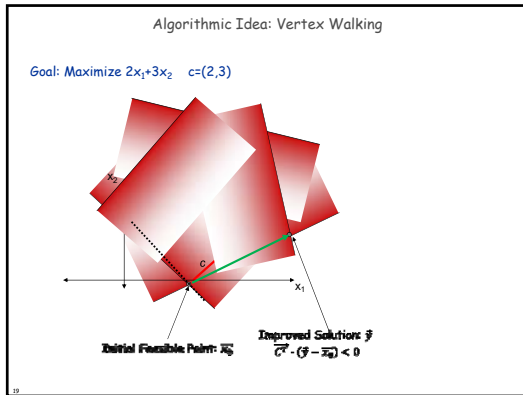
Linear Programming

Theorem: Maximum value achieved at vertex (extreme point)

Definition: Let F be the set of all feasible points in a linear program. We say that a point $p \in F$ is an extreme point (vertex) if every line segment $L \subset F$ that lies completely in F and contains p has p as an endpoint.

Observation: Each extreme point lies at the intersection of (at least) two constraints.

Theorem: a vertex is an optimal solution if there is no better neighboring vertex.



Finding the Optimal Point with Ellipsoid Algorithm

Goal: maximize $\sum_i w_i x_i$ (where each w_i is a constant)

Key Idea: Binary Search for value of Optimal Solution

- Add Constraint $\sum_i w_i x_i \geq B$
- Infeasible?
 - Value of optimal solution is less than B
- Feasible?
 - Value of optimal solution is at least B

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More Linear Programming Examples

Typical Operations Research Problem

Brewer's Problem: Maximize Profit

- (1 Barrel) of Ale sells for \$13, but recipe requires
 - 6 pounds corn,
 - 5 ounces of hops and
 - 33 pounds of malt.
- (1 Barrel) of Beer sells for \$23, but recipe requires
 - 16 pounds of corn
 - 4 ounces of hops and
 - 21 pounds of malt
- Suppose we start off with C= 480 pounds of corn, H=160 ounces of hops and M=1190 pounds of malt.
- Let A (resp. B) denote number of barrels of Ale (resp. Beer)

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More Linear Programming Examples

Brewer's Problem: Maximize Profit

- (1 Barrel) of Ale sells for \$13, but recipe requires
 - 6 pounds corn, 5 ounces of hops and 33 pounds of malt.
- (1 Barrel) of Beer sells for \$23, but recipe requires
 - 16 pounds of corn, 4 ounces of hops and 21 pounds of malt
- Suppose we start off with C= 480 pounds of corn, H=160 ounces of hops and M=1190 pounds of malt.
- Let A (resp. B) denote number of barrels of Ale (resp. Beer)
- Goal: maximize $13A + 23B$ (subject to)
 - $A \geq 0, B \geq 0$ (positive production)
 - $6A + 16B \leq C$ (Must have enough CORN)
 - $5A + 4B \leq H$ (Must have enough HOPS)
 - $33A + 21B \leq M$ (Must have enough MALT)

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Linear Programming in Practice

Many optimization packages available

- Solver (in Excel)
- LINDO
- CPLEX
- GUROBI (free academic license available)
- Matlab, Mathematica

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More Linear Programming Examples

Typical Operations Research Problem

Brewer's Problem: Maximize Profit

- (1 Barrel) of Ale sells for \$15, but recipe requires
 - 6 pounds corn,
 - 5 ounces of hops and
 - 33 pounds of malt.
- (1 Barrel) of Beer sells for \$27, but recipe requires
 - 16 pounds of corn
 - 4 ounces of hops and
 - 21 pounds of malt
- Suppose we start off with C= 480 pounds of corn, H=160 ounces of hops and M=1190 pounds of malt.
- Let A (resp. B) denote number of barrels of Ale (resp. Beer)
- Goal: maximize $15A + 27B$

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Solving in Mathematica

Maximize[$\{15 A + 27 B, A \geq 0, B \geq 0, 6 A + 16 B \leq 480, 5 A + 4 B \leq 160, 33 A + 21 B \leq 1190\}, \{A, B\}]$

$\{6060/7, \{A \rightarrow 80/7, B \rightarrow 180/7\}\}$

Profit: \$865.71

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2-Player Zero-Sum Games

Example: Rock-Paper-Scissors

Alice/Bob	Rock	Paper	Scissors
Rock	(0,0)	(-1,1)	(1,-1)
Paper	(1,-1)	(0,0)	(-1,1)
Scissors	(1,-1)	(1,-1)	(0,0)


Alice wins → Bob loses (and vice-versa)

Minimax Optimal Strategy (possibly randomized) best strategy you can find given that opponent is rational (and knows your strategy)

Minimax Optimal for Rock-Paper-Scissors: play each action with probability 1/3.

2-Player Zero-Sum Games

Example: Shooter-Goalie



	Block Left	Block Right
Kick Left	1/2	0.9
Kick Right	0.8	1/3

Shooter scores 80% of time when shooter aims right and goalie blocks left

Minimax Optimal Strategy (possibly randomized) best strategy you can find given that opponent is rational (and knows your strategy)

How can we find Minimax Optimal Strategy?

Extra Slides

2-Player Zero-Sum Games

Example: Rock-Paper-Scissors

Alice's View of Rewards (Bob's are reversed)

Alice/Bob	Rock	Paper	Scissors
Rock	0	-1	1
Paper	1	0	-1
Scissors	-1	1	0

Alice wins → Bob loses (and vice-versa)

Minimax Optimal Strategy (possibly randomized) best strategy you can find given that opponent is rational (and knows your strategy)

Minimax Optimal for Rock-Paper-Scissors: play each action with probability 1/3.

Finding Minimax Optimal Solution using Linear Programming

Variables: p_1, p_2 , and v (p_i is probability of action i)

Goal: Maximize v (our expected reward).

Constraints:

- $p_1 + p_2 = 1$
- $p_1, p_2 \geq 0$
- For all columns j we have:

$$\sum_i p_i a_{ij} \geq v$$

Expected reward when player 2 takes action j

v_i denotes reward when player 1 takes action i and player 2 takes action j .

Circulation with Demands

Circulation with demands.

- Directed graph $G = (V, E)$.
- Edge capacities $c(e), e \in E$.
- Node supply and demands $d(v), v \in V$.

demand if $d(v) > 0$; supply if $d(v) < 0$; transshipment if $d(v) = 0$

Def. A **circulation** is a function that satisfies:

- For each $e \in E$: $0 \leq f(e) \leq c(e)$ (capacity)
- For each $v \in V$: $\sum_{e \text{ into } v} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e) = d(v)$ (conservation)

Circulation problem: given (V, E, c, d) , does there exist a circulation?

Circulation with Demands

Necessary condition: sum of supplies = sum of demands.

$$\sum_{v: d(v) > 0} d(v) = \sum_{v: d(v) < 0} -d(v) =: D$$

Pf. Sum conservation constraints for every demand node v .

Circulation with Demands

Max flow formulation.

- Add new source s and sink t .
- For each v with $d(v) < 0$, add edge (s, v) with capacity $-d(v)$.
- For each v with $d(v) > 0$, add edge (v, t) with capacity $d(v)$.
- Claim: G has circulation iff G' has max flow of value D .

— saturates all edges leaving s and entering t

Circulation with Demands and Lower Bounds

Feasible circulation.

- Directed graph $G = (V, E)$.
- Edge capacities $c(e)$ and lower bounds $\ell(e)$, $e \in E$.
- Node supply and demands $d(v)$, $v \in V$.

Def. A **circulation** is a function that satisfies:

- For each $e \in E$: $\ell(e) \leq f(e) \leq c(e)$ (capacity)
- For each $v \in V$: $\sum_{e \text{ into } v} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e) = d(v)$ (conservation)

Circulation problem with lower bounds. Given (V, E, ℓ, c, d) , does there exist a circulation?

Circulation with Demands

Max flow formulation.

Circulation with Demands

Integrality theorem. If all capacities and demands are integers, and there exists a circulation, then there exists one that is integer-valued.

Pf. Follows from max flow formulation and integrality theorem for max flow.

Characterization. Given (V, E, c, d) , there does **not** exist a circulation iff there exists a node partition (A, B) such that $\sum_{v \in B} d_v > \text{cap}(A, B)$

Pf idea. Look at min cut in G' .

— demand by nodes in B exceeds supply of nodes in B plus max capacity of edges going from A to B

Circulation with Demands and Lower Bounds

Idea. Model lower bounds with demands.

- Send $\ell(e)$ units of flow along edge e .
- Update demands of both endpoints.

Theorem. There exists a circulation in G iff there exists a circulation in G' . If all demands, capacities, and lower bounds in G are integers, then there is a circulation in G that is integer-valued.

Pf sketch. $f(e)$ is a circulation in G iff $f'(e) = f(e) - \ell(e)$ is a circulation in G' .

7.8 Survey Design

Survey Design

Algorithm. Formulate as a circulation problem with lower bounds.

- Include an edge (i, j) if consumer j owns product i .
- Integer circulation \Leftrightarrow feasible survey design.

Image Segmentation

Image segmentation.

- Central problem in image processing.
- Divide image into coherent regions.

Ex: Three people standing in front of complex background scene. Identify each person as a coherent object.

Survey Design

one survey question per product

Survey design.

- Design survey asking n_1 consumers about n_2 products.
- Can only survey consumer i about product j if they own it.
- Ask consumer i between c_i and c_i' questions.
- Ask between p_j and p_j' consumers about product j .

Goal. Design a survey that meets these specs, if possible.

Bipartite perfect matching. Special case when $c_i = c_i' = p_j = p_j' = 1$.

7.10 Image Segmentation

Image Segmentation

Foreground / background segmentation.

- Label each pixel in picture as belonging to foreground or background.
- V = set of pixels, E = pairs of neighboring pixels.
- $a_i \geq 0$ is likelihood pixel i in foreground.
- $b_j \geq 0$ is likelihood pixel j in background.
- $p_{ij} \geq 0$ is separation penalty for labeling one of i and j as foreground, and the other as background.

Goals.

- Accuracy: if $a_i > b_j$ in isolation, prefer to label i in foreground.
- Smoothness: if many neighbors of i are labeled foreground, we should be inclined to label i as foreground.
- Find partition (A, B) that maximizes:
$$\sum_{i \in A} a_i + \sum_{j \in B} b_j - \sum_{\substack{(i,j) \in E \\ |A \cap \{i,j\}| = 1}} p_{ij}$$

Image Segmentation

Formulate as min cut problem.

- Maximization.
- No source or sink.
- Undirected graph.

Turn into minimization problem.

- Maximizing $\sum_{i \in A} a_i + \sum_{j \in B} b_j - \sum_{\substack{(i,j) \in E \\ |A \cap \{i,j\}|=1}} p_{ij}$

is equivalent to minimizing $\underbrace{(\sum_{i \in V} a_i + \sum_{j \in V} b_j)}_{\text{a constant}} - \sum_{i \in A} a_i - \sum_{j \in B} b_j + \sum_{\substack{(i,j) \in E \\ |A \cap \{i,j\}|=1}} p_{ij}$

- or alternatively $\sum_{j \in B} a_j + \sum_{i \in A} b_i + \sum_{\substack{(i,j) \in E \\ |A \cap \{i,j\}|=1}} p_{ij}$

Image Segmentation

Consider min cut (A, B) in G' .

- $A = \text{foreground}$.

$$\text{cap}(A, B) = \sum_{j \in B} a_j + \sum_{i \in A} b_i + \sum_{\substack{(i,j) \in E \\ i \in A, j \in B}} p_{ij} \quad \text{if } i \text{ and } j \text{ on different sides.}$$

p_{ij} counted exactly once.

- Precisely the quantity we want to minimize.

Project Selection

Projects with prerequisites. can be positive or negative

- Set P of possible projects. Project v has associated revenue p_v .
 - some projects generate money: create interactive e-commerce interface, redesign web page
 - others cost money: upgrade computers, get site license
- Set of prerequisites E . If $(v, w) \in E$, can't do project v and unless also do project w .
- A subset of projects $A \subseteq P$ is **feasible** if the prerequisite of every project in A also belongs to A .

Project selection. Choose a feasible subset of projects to maximize revenue.

Image Segmentation

Formulate as min cut problem.

- $G' = (V', E')$.
- Add source to correspond to foreground; add sink to correspond to background
- Use two anti-parallel edges instead of undirected edge.

7.11 Project Selection

Project Selection: Prerequisite Graph

Prerequisite graph.

- Include an edge from v to w if can't do v without also doing w .
- $\{v, w, x\}$ is feasible subset of projects.
- $\{v, x\}$ is infeasible subset of projects.

Project Selection: Min Cut Formulation

Min cut formulation.

- Assign capacity ∞ to all prerequisite edge.
- Add edge (s, v) with capacity p_v if $p_v > 0$.
- Add edge (v, t) with capacity $-p_v$ if $p_v < 0$.
- For notational convenience, define $p_s = p_t = 0$.

Open Pit Mining

Open-pit mining. (studied since early 1960s)

- Blocks of earth are extracted from surface to retrieve ore.
- Each block v has net value $p_v =$ value of ore - processing cost.
- Can't remove block v before w or x .

k-Regular Bipartite Graphs Have Perfect Matchings

Theorem. [König 1916, Frobenius 1917] Every k -regular bipartite graph has a perfect matching.

Pf. Size of max matching = value of max flow in G' . Consider flow:

$$f(u, v) = \begin{cases} 1/k & \text{if } (u, v) \in E \\ 1 & \text{if } u = s \text{ or } v = t \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- f is a flow and its value = $n \Rightarrow$ perfect matching. •

Project Selection: Min Cut Formulation

Claim. (A, B) is min cut iff $A - \{s\}$ is optimal set of projects.

- Infinite capacity edges ensure $A - \{s\}$ is feasible.
- Max revenue because:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cap}(A, B) &= \sum_{v \in B, p_v > 0} p_v + \sum_{v \in A, p_v < 0} (-p_v) \\ &= \underbrace{\sum_{v \in B, p_v > 0} p_v}_{\text{constant}} - \sum_{v \in A} p_v \end{aligned}$$

k-Regular Bipartite Graphs

Dancing problem.

- Exclusive Ivy league party attended by n men and n women.
- Each man knows exactly k women; each woman knows exactly k men.
- Acquaintances are mutual.
- Is it possible to arrange a dance so that each woman dances with a different man that she knows?

Mathematical reformulation. Does every k -regular bipartite graph have a perfect matching?

Ex. Boolean hypercube.

Census Tabulation (Exercise 7.39)

Feasible matrix rounding.

- Given a p -by- q matrix $D = \{d_{ij}\}$ of real numbers.
- Row i sum = a_i , column j sum b_j .
- Round each d_{ij} , a_i , b_j up or down to integer so that sum of rounded elements in each row (column) equals row (column) sum.
- Original application: publishing US Census data.

Goal. Find a feasible rounding, if one exists.

3.14	6.8	7.3	17.24
9.6	2.4	0.7	12.7
3.6	1.2	6.5	11.3
16.34	10.4	14.5	

original matrix

3	7	7	17
10	2	1	13
3	1	7	11
16	10	15	

feasible rounding

Census Tabulation

Feasible matrix rounding.

- Given a p -by- q matrix $D = \{d_{ij}\}$ of **real** numbers.
- Row i sum = a_i , column j sum b_j .
- Round each d_{ij} , a_i , b_j up or down to integer so that sum of rounded elements in each row (column) equals row (column) sum.
- Original application: publishing US Census data.

Goal. Find a feasible rounding, if one exists.

Remark. "Threshold rounding" can fail.

0.35	0.35	0.35	1.05
0.55	0.55	0.55	1.65
0.9	0.9	0.9	

original matrix

0	0	1	1
1	1	0	2
1	1	1	

feasible rounding

Census Tabulation

Theorem. Feasible matrix rounding always exists.

Pf. Formulate as a circulation problem with lower bounds.

- Original data provides circulation (all demands = 0).
- Integrality theorem \Rightarrow integral solution \Rightarrow feasible rounding. •

3.14	6.8	7.3	17.24
9.6	2.4	0.7	12.7
3.6	1.2	6.5	11.3
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