

Lecture 3 T

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Linear Programming

- Inequality constraints in a linear in a linear program with 2-variables usually lead to a feasible region in the shape of a polygon
- The feasible region can be bounded or unbounded
- The corners of the polygon are called extreme points
- In problems with $d \ge 3$ decision variables, the feasible region is a d -dimensional polytope, which can be bounded or unbounded
- The corners of the polytope are called extreme points
- Unusual Cases
 - Multiple optimal solutions
 - Infeasible problem
 - Unbounded problem



Simplex Algorithm

- Theorem: If a linear program has an optimal solution, then it always has an optimal solution which is an extreme point
- The simplex algorithm was designed by George Dantzig to solve linear programs
 - Intelligently explores the feasible region to find extreme points
 - Useful for linear programs in standard form

Maximize $c^T x$ Subject to $Ax \leq b$ $x \geq 0$

- First an extreme point must be identified
- If this point is not optimal, then an edge exists to Another extreme point where the objective function becomes closer to optimal





- Angela Fox and Zooey Caulfield studied food and nutrition at UNC
- They want to open a French restaurant in Chapel Hill called *The Possibility*
- Unaware of the local customer's tastes, they decide to serve only 2 full-course meals around beef and fish
- Chef Pierre plans to experiment with different appetizers, soups, salads, deserts, etc. to identify the best selection of menu items
- Q: What considerations exist for Angela and Zooey to optimize their business?



- Decision Variables:
 - x = Number of Fish Meals Each Night
 - *y* = *Number of Beef Meals Each Night*
- They plan to profit \$12 from each fish dinner and \$16 from each beef dinner
 - Goal: Maximize their nightly profit
 - Objective function: f(x, y) = Z = 12x + 16y





- Constraints
 - Number of dinners is nonnegative: $x \ge 0$ & $y \ge 0$
 - Angela and Zooey estimate that they will sell a maximum of 60 meals each night: $x + y \le 60$
 - Each fish dinner requires 15 minutes to prepare, each beef dinner takes twice as long, and there is a total of 20 hours of kitchen staff labor available each day: $15x + 30y \le 1200$ (or $x + 2y \le 80$)
 - Based on the health consciousness of their potential clientele, they will sell at least three fish dinners for every two beef dinners: $\frac{x}{v} \ge \frac{3}{2}$ (or $2x 3y \ge 0$)
 - They also believe a minimum of 10% of their customers will order beef dinners: $y \ge 0.1(x + y)$ (or $x 9y \le 0$)



• Complete linear program

Maximize 12x + 16ySubject to $x + y \le 60$ $x + 2y \le 80$ $2x - 3y \ge 0$ $x - 9y \le 0$ $x \ge 0$ $y \ge 0$

• Since there are 2 decision variables, we can solve it graphically



• Graph of feasible region (use origin to determine which side to shade)





- Find the corners of the feasible region
 - Origin: (0,0)
 - Intersection of Green and Red: (34.3,22.8)

$$2(80 - 2y) - 3y = 0$$

$$160 - 4y - 3y = 0$$

$$160 - 7y = 0$$

$$y = \frac{160}{7} = 22.8$$

$$x = 80 - 2y = 80 - 2(22.8) = 34.3$$

- Intersection of Blue and Red: (40,20)
- Intersection of Blue and Black: (54,6)



• Evaluate objective function at extreme points





- Alternative approach: use growth vector and level curves (contours)
 - Computing all extreme points can be time-consuming
 - For objective function in form Z = ax + by the growth vector is the vector starting at the origin and in the direction of (a, b)
 - The last perpendicular line along the growth curve that intersects the feasible region will intersect at the optimal solution











The End



Dale