

# Máster Universitario en Administración y Dirección de Empresas Full Time MBA

Quantitative methods for decision making

Professor Andrea Saltelli

# Elements of quantification for decision making with emphasis on operation research

Where to find this talk

## August 25 2023: The politics of modelling is out!



### Praise for the volume

*"A long awaited examination of the role —and obligation —of modeling."*

**Nassim Nicholas Taleb**, Distinguished Professor of Risk Engineering, NYU Tandon School of Engineering. Author, of the 5-volume series *Incerto*.

\*\*\*

*"A breath of fresh air and a much needed cautionary view of the ever-widening dependence on mathematical modeling."*

**Orrin H. Pilkey**, Professor at Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment, co-author with Linda Pilkey-Jarvis of *Useless Arithmetic: Why Environmental Scientists Can't Predict the Future*, Columbia University Press 2009.

\*\*\*

### Mastodon Toots by

@AndreaSaltelli



Andrea Saltelli

2023/08/25 10:43

Thanks to Maria Kozlova of LUT University in Finland for taking and curating this recording. My trajectory from number crunching to thinking about numbers' role in human affairs

[youtube.com/watch?v=wv0CzHf1Uk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wv0CzHf1Uk)

View on mastodon.social

The talk is also at

<https://ecampus.bsm.upf.edu/>,

where you find additional reading material

# In this set of slides:

- 04 What is Operation Research?
- 05 A prototype example
- 06 Assumption of linear programming
- 07 More examples
- 08 Method of simplex

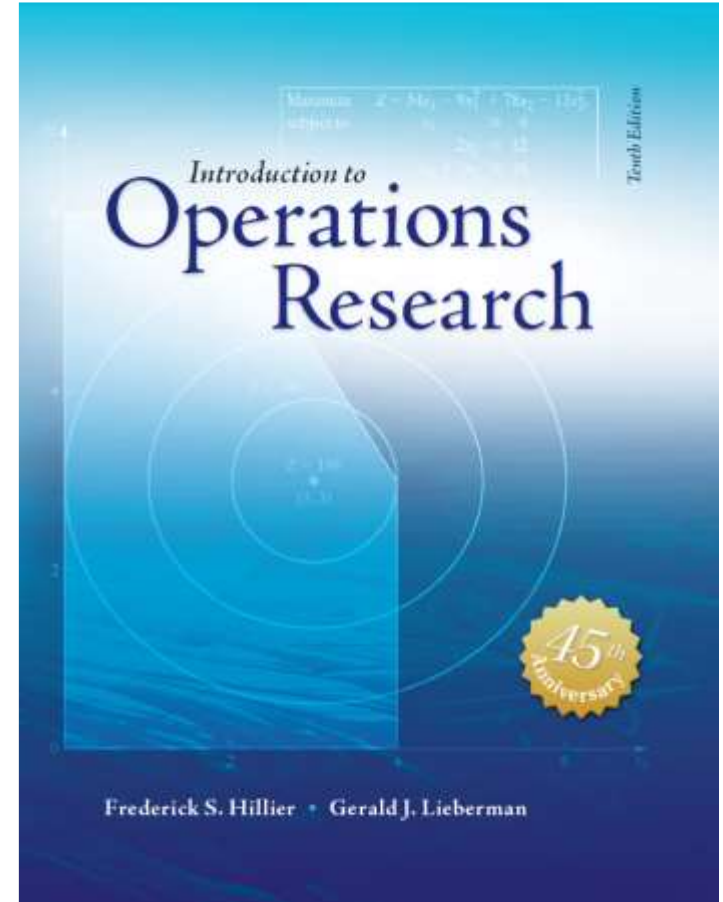
# 4.

## What is Operation Research?

OR versus business analytics; some definitions; steps of an analysis; objectives, context and purpose; linear programming with examples and some theory. Hillier (10<sup>th</sup> edition, 2014) chapters 1 and 2.

Where to find this book:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ddd48a8jguinbcf/AABF0s4eh1PLVxdx0pes-Ofa?dl=0&preview=Introduction+to+Operations+Research+-+Frederick+S.+Hillier.pdf>

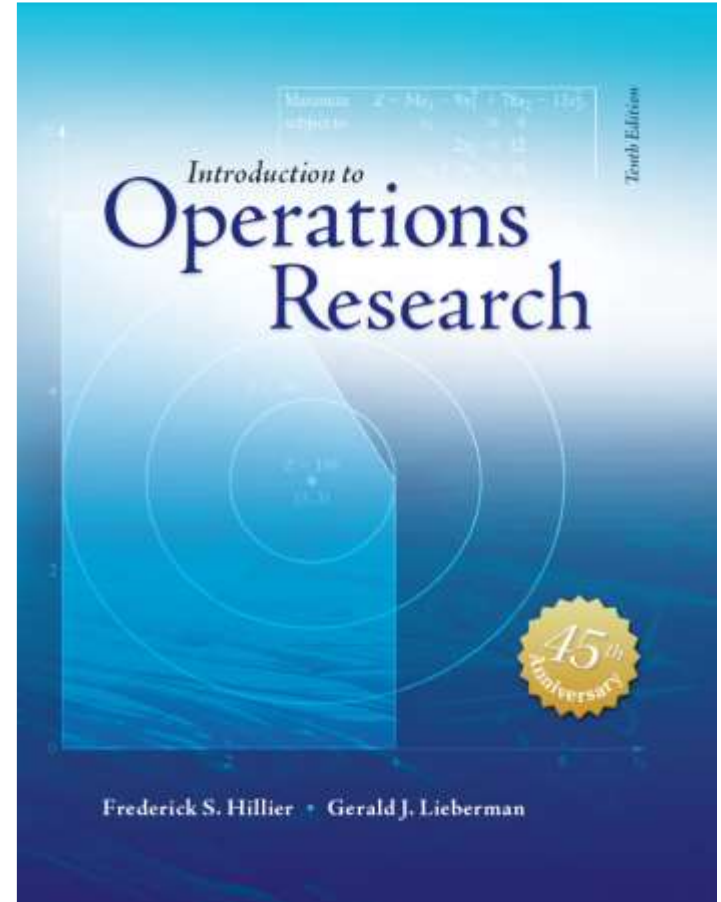


Operation Research (OR), Management Science, Analytics, business analytics:

What is the difference?

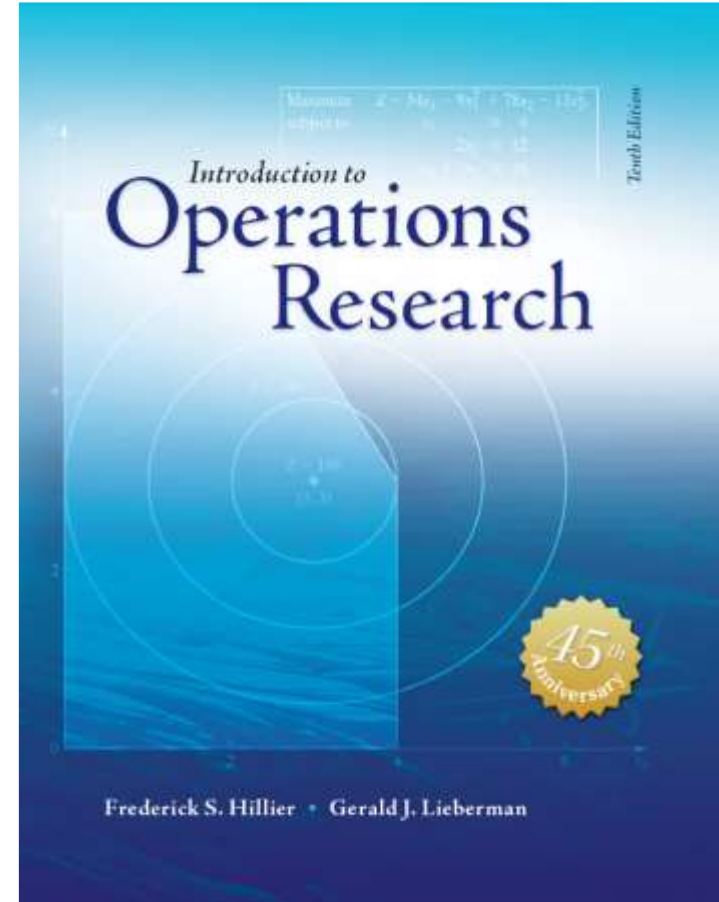
OR: “how to conduct and coordinate the operations (i.e. the activities) within an organization” (Hillier, p. 2)

OR is research on operations applying the scientific method – foremost modelling and optimization.



OR is research on operations applying the scientific method – foremost modelling and optimization

Modelling in OR is to be understood in very general terms, e.g. both mathematical and statistical





Operation Research, Management Science, Analytics,  
business analytics;

What is the difference?

“The term management science sometimes is used as a  
synonym for operations research”

How about “Analytics” (or Business Analytics)? Operation  
Research by another name as well?

## Competing on Analytics

Some companies have built their very businesses on their ability to collect, analyze, and act on data. Every company can learn from what these firms do. by Thomas H. Davenport

From the Magazine (January 2006)

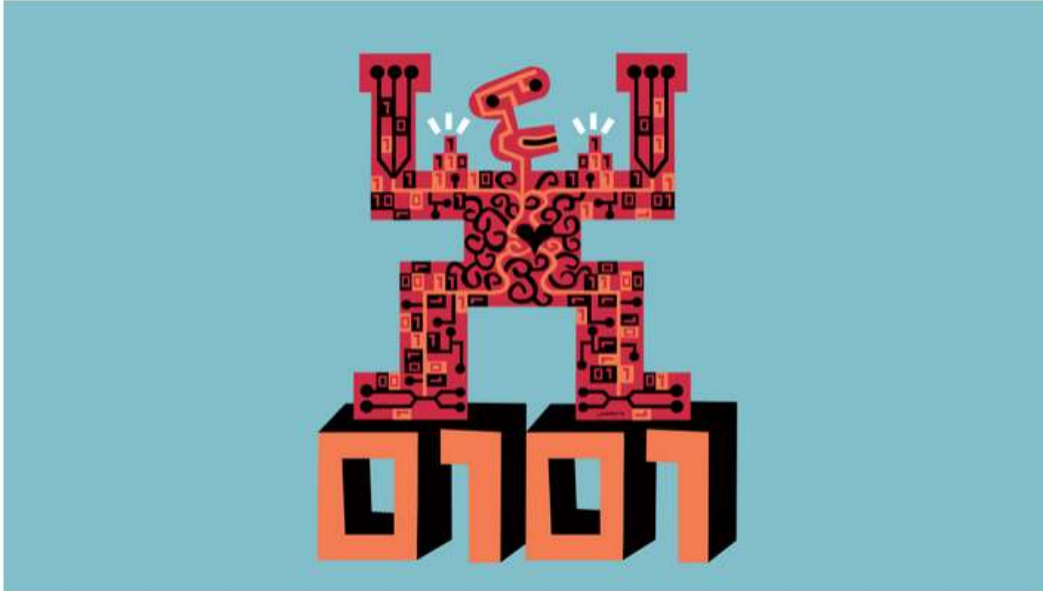
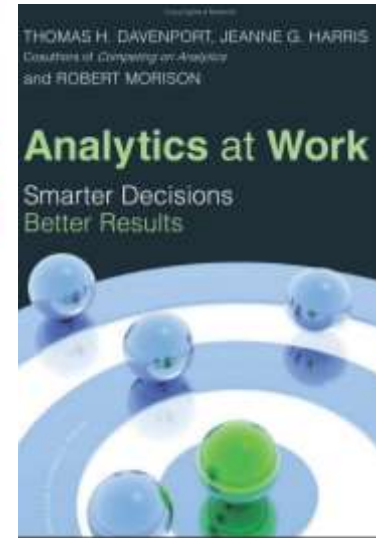
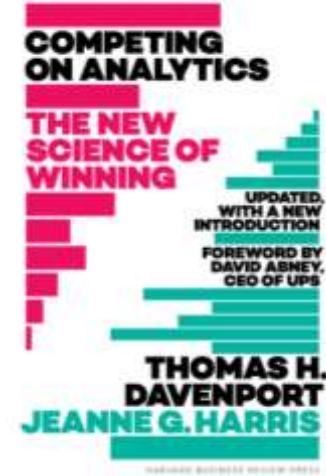


Image: Shutterstock

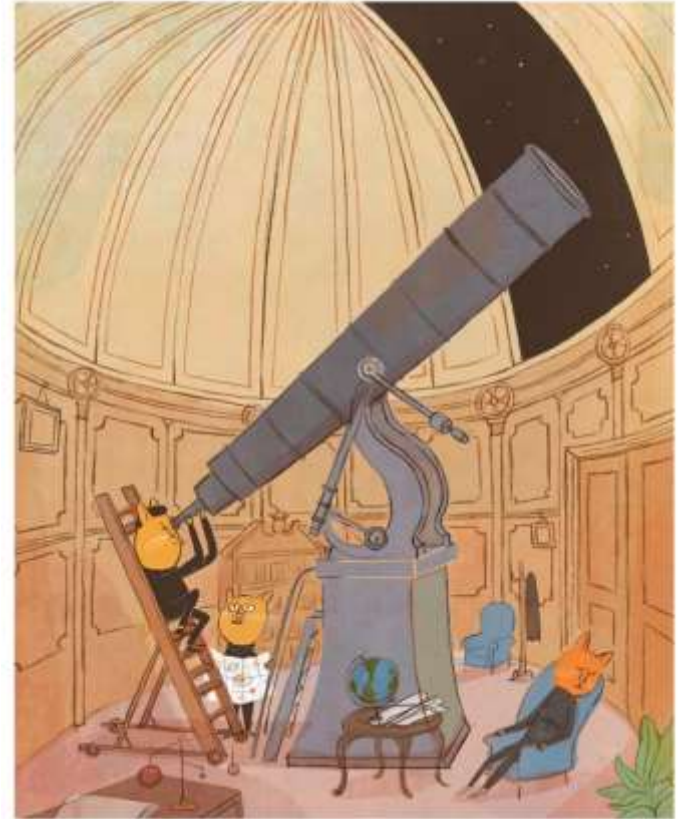
Source: <https://hbr.org/2006/01/competing-on-analytics>; article open access here: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/7327312\\_Competing\\_on\\_Analytics](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/7327312_Competing_on_Analytics)



Business Analytics = Operation Research + big data

Analytics = scientific process of transforming data into insight for making better decisions

- Descriptive analytics, discover patterns e.g. via data mining
- Predictive analytics, use data to predict the future
- Prescriptive analytics, use data to guide present and future actions



Source: Tor Freeman, <http://tormalore.blogspot.com/>

## Analytics 3.0: three analytics maturity levels

Analytics 1.0 organizations rely on internal data for decision making, rather than mere intuition

Analytics 2.0 companies combine internal data with externally sourced data, offering predictive capabilities

Analytics 3.0 firms actively generate data trails that can be collected and subsequently analysed

Harvard Business Review   
[www.hbrprints.org](http://www.hbrprints.org)

**Analytics And Data Science**

# **Analytics 3.0**

by Thomas H. Davenport

From the Magazine (December 2013)

Source: <https://hbr.org/2013/12/analytics-30>

## Analytics 3.0: three analytics maturity levels

“Today it’s not just information firms and online companies that can create products and services from analyses of data. It’s every firm in every industry.”

“The Bosch Group, based in Germany, is 127 years old, … has embarked on … intelligent fleet management, intelligent vehicle-charging infrastructures, intelligent energy management, intelligent security video analysis, and many more.”

Harvard Business Review   
[www.hbrprints.org](http://www.hbrprints.org)

**Analytics And Data Science**

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## Analytics 3.0: three analytics maturity levels

“Google, LinkedIn, Facebook, Amazon, and others have prospered not by giving customers information but by giving them shortcuts to decisions and actions.”

Harvard Business Review   
[www.hbrprints.org](http://www.hbrprints.org)

**Analytics And Data Science**

# **Analytics 3.0**

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## Davenport's word of caution

“The use of prescriptive analytics often requires changes in the way frontline workers are managed ...employees wearing or carrying sensors ... Just as analytics that are intensely revealing of customer behavior have a certain “creepiness” factor, overly detailed reports of employee activity can cause discomfort. In the world of Analytics 3.0, there are times we need to look away.”

Harvard Business Review   
www.hbrprints.org

Analytics And Data Science

### Analytics 3.0

by Thomas H. Davenport

From the Magazine (December 2013)

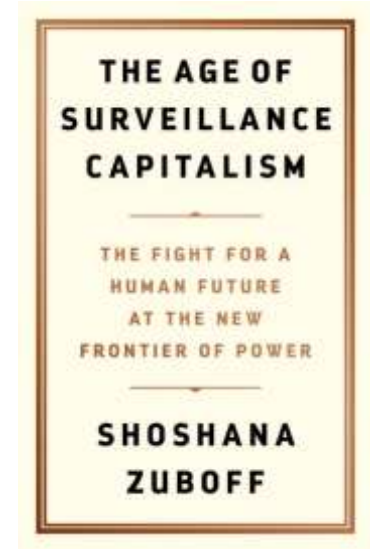
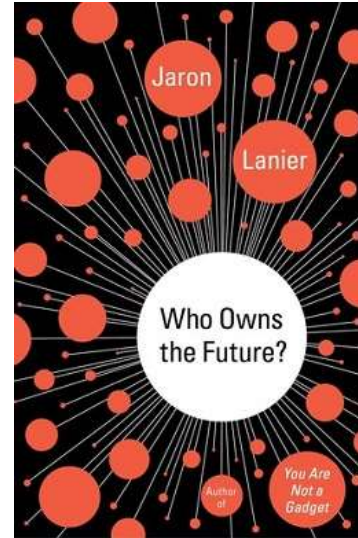
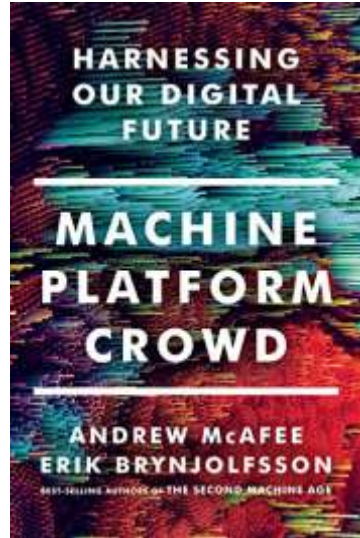
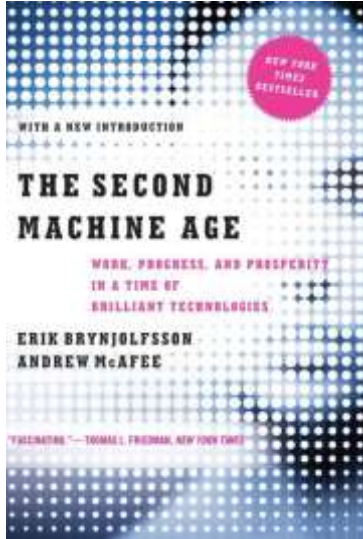
Source: <https://hbr.org/2013/12/analytics-30>

 <https://ecampus.bsm.upf.edu/>

A critical angle: Teachout, Z. (2022). The Boss Will See You Now | Zephyr Teachout. New York Review of Books. <https://www.nybooks.com/articles/2022/08/18/the-boss-will-see-you-now-zephyr-teachout/>

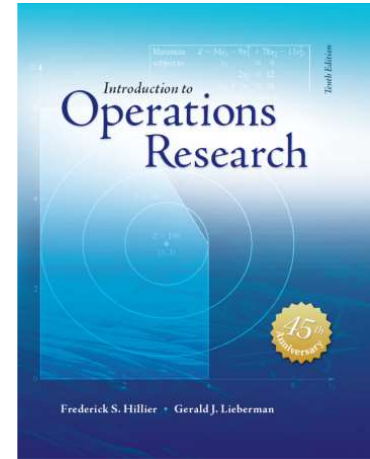
Analytics 3.0 firms actively generate data trails that can be collected and subsequently analysed

➔ Platform capitalism



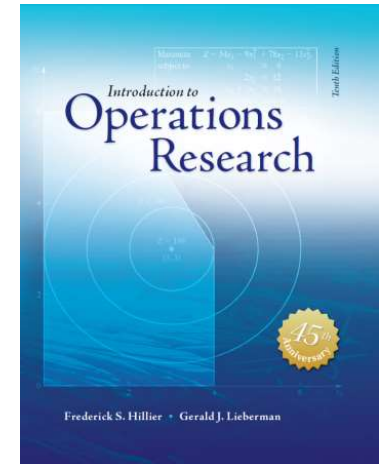


1. Define the problem of interest and gather relevant data
2. Formulate a mathematical model to represent the problem.
3. Develop a computer-based procedure for deriving solutions to the problem from the model.
4. Test the model and refine it as needed.
5. Prepare for the ongoing application of the model as prescribed by management.
6. Implement (Hillier, p. 10)



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- Asymmetry of knowledge between owners of the problem and analysts
- Purpose and context
- The definition of objectives



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6. Implement (Hillier, p. 10)

- Asymmetry of knowledge between owners of the problem and analysts
- “Better to be roughly right than precisely wrong”
- The definition of objectives



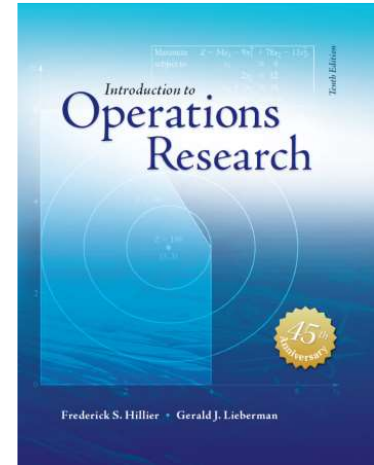
Responsibilities beyond maximization of objectives



Carroll AB. The Pyramid of Corporate Social Responsibility: Toward the moral management of organizational stakeholders. 1991; *Business Horizons*, **34**(4), July-August:39–48. Source: <https://www.financialeducatorsCouncil.org/corporate-social-responsibility-definition-and-history/>

## Obligations toward

1. the owners (stockholders, etc.), who desire profits (dividends, stock appreciation, and so on);
2. the employees, who desire steady employment at reasonable wages;
3. the customers, who desire a reliable product at a reasonable price;
4. the suppliers, who desire integrity and a reasonable selling price for their goods; and
5. the government and hence the nation (Hillier, p. 12)



←  
Responsibilities  
beyond  
maximization of  
objectives

# Pitfalls in Formulation and Modelling

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## Box 3.1 Pitfalls in formulation and modelling

### *Pitfalls in formulation*

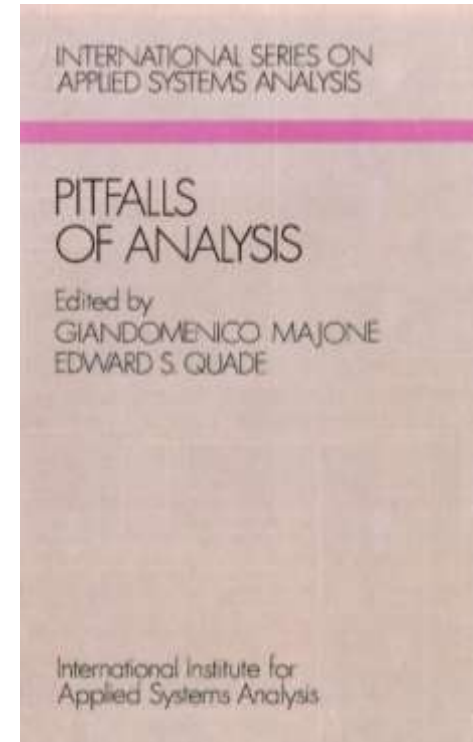
- Insufficient attention to formulation
- Unquestioning acceptance of stated goals and constraints
- Measuring achievement by proxy
- Misjudging the difficulties
- Bias

### *Pitfalls in modelling*

- Equating modelling with analysis
- Improper treatment of uncertainties
- Attempting to really simulate reality
- Belief that a model can be proved correct
- Neglecting the by-products of modelling
- Overambition
- Seeking academic rather than policy goals
- Internalizing the policy maker
- Not keeping the model relevant
- Not keeping the model simple
- Capture of the user by the modeller

Source: (Quade 1980)

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<https://ecampus.bsm.upf.edu/>

# Pitfalls in Formulation and Modelling

## Box 3.1 Pitfalls in formulation and modelling

### *Pitfalls in formulation*

Insufficient attention to formulation

Unquestioning acceptance of stated goals and constraints

Measuring achievement by proxy

Misjudging the difficulties

Bias



Comments here?

INTERNATIONAL SERIES ON  
APPLIED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

## PITFALLS OF ANALYSIS

Edited by  
GIANDOMENICO MAJONE  
EDWARD S. QUADE

International Institute for  
Applied Systems Analysis

# Pitfalls in Formulation and Modelling

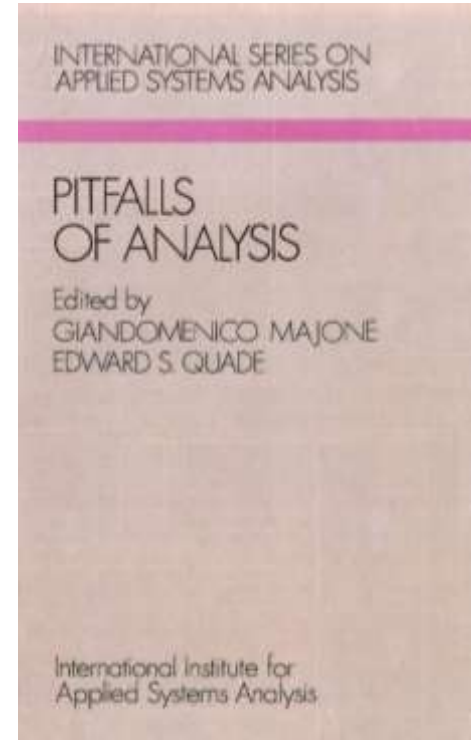
## *Pitfalls in modelling*

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Comments here?

Source: (Quade 1980)





COMMENT | 24 June 2020

## Five ways to ensure that models serve society: a manifesto

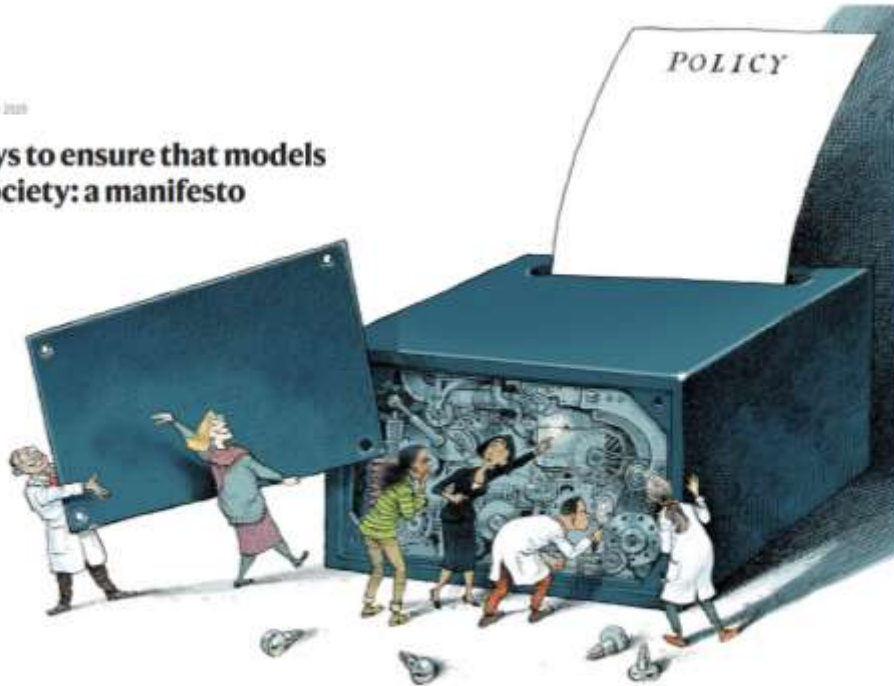


Illustration by David Parkins

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-01812-9>

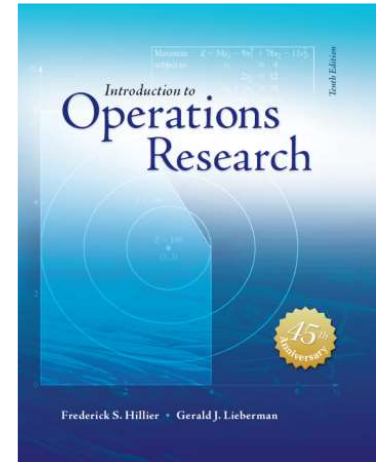
As modeller, beware  
your own bias

As a user, beware model  
seduction

...

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6. Implement (Hillier, p. 10)

- Need for ingenuity
- Trade off between precision and tractability (“Better be roughly right than precisely wrong”)
- Relevance to context and purpose





## Why Mr. Spock would NEVER make a good planner!

7 May 2021



\*\*\*\*\*



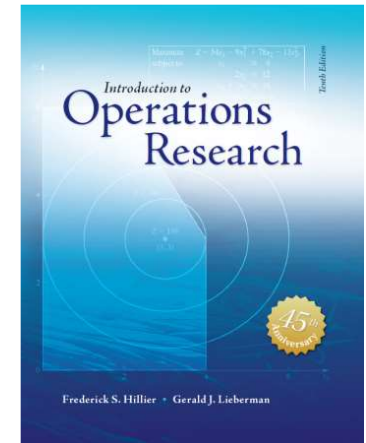
**Geert Vanhove**  
Co-Founder & EVP, Binocs

“Better be roughly right than precisely wrong”  
(John Maynard Keynes)

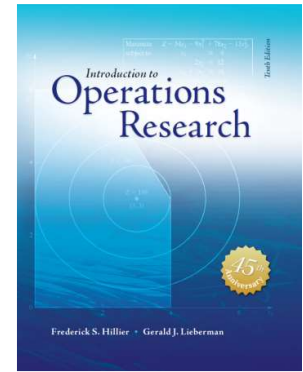
“Lack of mathematical culture is revealed nowhere so conspicuously, as in meaningless precision in numerical computations”  
(Carl Friedrich Gauss)

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- Seek ‘satisficing’ solutions (satisfy + suffice)
- Post-optimality analysis
- What-if analysis
- Uncertainty and sensitivity analysis



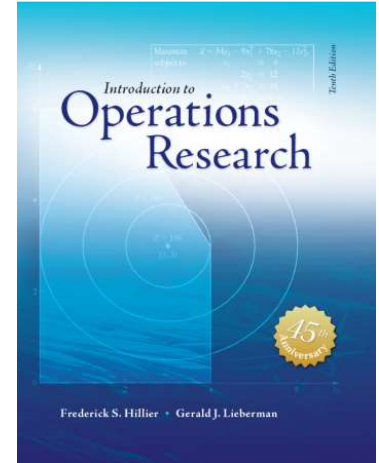
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- Interactive tools to make allowance for revisions;
- More sensitivity & uncertainty analysis

1. Define the problem of interest and gather relevant data.
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- Documentation
- Replicability, reproducibility



# 5.

## A prototype example

An example with most of the features of a linear programming setting. Hillier 2014, chapter 3.

A typical linear programming setting:  
allocating limited resources among  
competing activities in a best possible  
(i.e., optimal) way: the WYNDOR GLASS  
CO. producing doors and windows

**Tree plants.** Aluminium frames and  
hardware are made in Plant 1, wood  
frames are made in Plant 2, and Plant 3  
produces the glass and assembles the  
products.



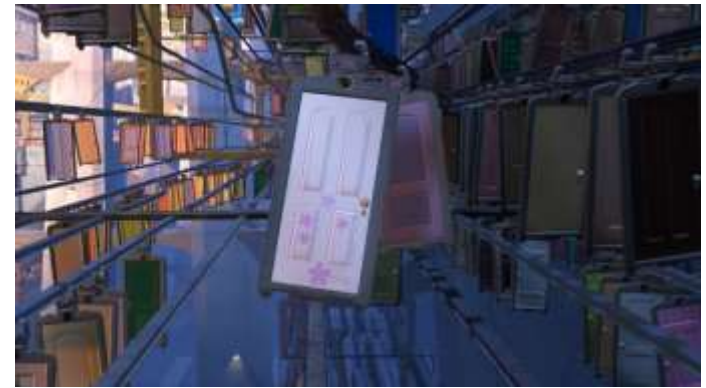
Source: PIXAIR's Monsters and Co.



Two new products to be put into production:

Product 1: An 8-foot glass door with aluminium framing

Product 2: A 4 6 foot double-hung wood-framed window



Source: PIXAIR's Monsters and Co.

- Product 1 requires some of the production capacity in Plants 1 and 3, but none in Plant 2.
- Product 2 needs only Plants 2 and 3.



Plant	Production Time per Batch, Hours	
	Product	
	1	2
1	1	0
2	0	2
3	3	2

But time in the three plants is limited because of competing productions

Plant	Production Time per Batch, Hours		Production Time Available per Week, Hours
	Product		
	1	2	
1	1	0	4
2	0	2	12
3	3	2	18



■ **TABLE 3.1** Data for the Wyndor Glass Co. problem

Plant	Production Time per Batch, Hours		Production Time Available per Week, Hours
	Product		
	1	2	
1	1	0	4
2	0	2	12
3	3	2	18
Profit per batch	\$3,000	\$5,000	



And the profits per batch of product are different

■ **TABLE 3.1** Data for the Wyndor Glass Co. problem

Plant	Production Time per Batch, Hours		Production Time Available per Week, Hours
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The key steps in formulating this as a linear programming problem are

- What are the decision variables
- What objective needs maximizing/minimizing

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Profit per batch	\$3,000	\$5,000	

$x_1$  = number of batches per week of product 1 to be produced

$x_2$  = number of batches per week of product 2 to be produced

$Z$  = total profit per week in thousands of dollars from producing these batches

The decision variables are thus  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  and the objective to be maximized is  $Z$

From the bottom row of the table  $Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$

$Z$  is in thousands of dollars

■ **TABLE 3.1** Data for the Wyndor Glass Co. problem

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Profit per batch	\$3,000	\$5,000	

But production time per plant is limited:

From the rightmost column of the table

$$x_1 \leq 4$$

$$2x_2 \leq 12$$

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 18$$

Done?

The model does not know yet that the numbers must be positive; thus:

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$

■ **TABLE 3.1** Data for the Wyndor Glass Co. problem

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Profit per batch	\$3,000	\$5,000	



$$\text{Maximize } Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$$

Subject to:

$$x_1 \leq 4$$

$$2x_2 \leq 12$$

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 18$$

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$

A ‘magic’ conversion from a table of data to a set of equation...

“Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic” (Arthur C. Clark)

$$\text{Maximize } Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$$

Subject to:

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It is not difficult to imagine how one could get this magic wrong; e.g. define the decision variables as:

$x_{1j}$  = number of batches per week of product 1 to be produced in plant  $j$

$x_{2j}$  = number of batches per week of product 2 to be produced in plant  $j$

Making the problem still soluble but clumsier



■ **TABLE 3.1** Data for the Wyndor Glass Co. problem

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Profit per batch	\$3,000	\$5,000	

# Try this out!



Source: The Simpson, 20th Television Animation  
(The Walt Disney Company)

$x_{1j}$  = number of batches per week of product 1 to be produced in plant  $j$

$x_{2j}$  = number of batches per week of product 2 to be produced in plant  $j$

$$Z = 3(x_{11} + x_{13}) + 5(x_{22} + x_{23})$$

$$x_{11} < 4$$

$$2x_{22} < 12$$

$$3x_{13} + 2x_{23} < 18$$

$$x_{11} \geq 0, \quad x_{22} \geq 0$$

$$x_{13} \geq 0, \quad x_{23} \geq 0$$

One way: Maximize  $Z =$

$$3x_1 + 5x_2$$

Subject to:

$$x_1 \leq 4$$

$$2x_2 \leq 12$$

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 18$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, \quad x_2 \geq 0$$

The other way: Maximize  $Z =$

$$3(x_{11} + x_{13}) + 5(x_{22} + x_{23})$$

Subject to:

$$x_{11} < 4$$

$$2x_{22} < 12$$

$$3x_{13} + 2x_{23} < 18$$

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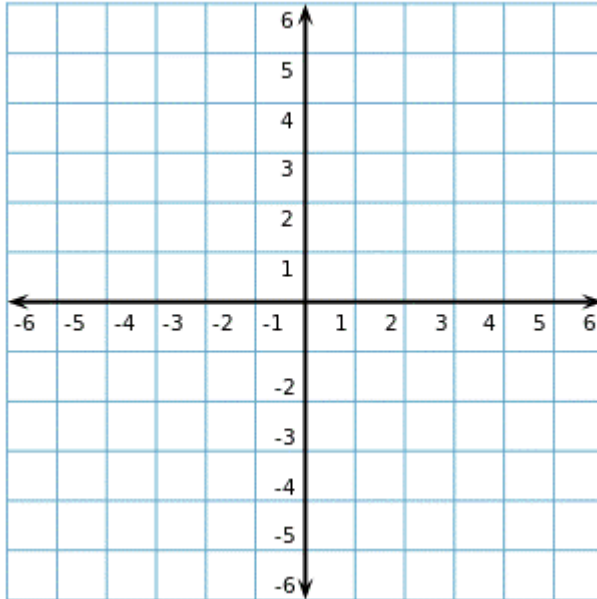


In what sense is this way clumsier?

Since this problem is in two dimensions we can solve it graphically; back to Descartes, with his diagram



René Descartes  
(1596-1650)



Source: <https://study.com/learn/lesson/cartesian-coordinate-system.html>

$$\text{Maximize } Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$$

Subject to:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &\leq 4 \\2x_2 &\leq 12 \\3x_1 + 2x_2 &\leq 18 \\x_1 &\geq 0 \\x_2 &\geq 0\end{aligned}$$

Maximize  $Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$

Subject to:

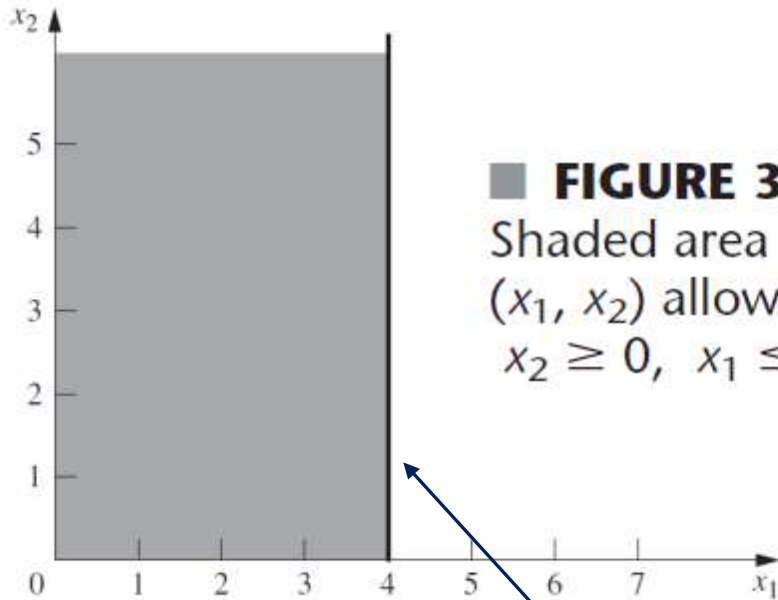
$$x_1 \leq 4$$

$$2x_2 \leq 12$$

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 18$$

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$



Straight line following the equation  $x_1 = 4$

Maximize  $Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$

Subject to:

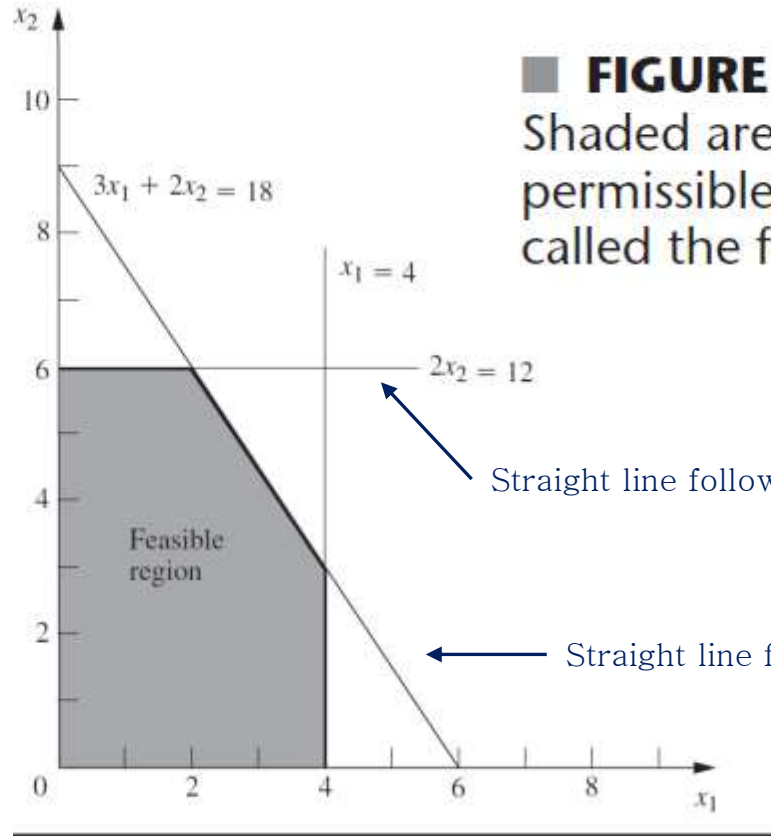
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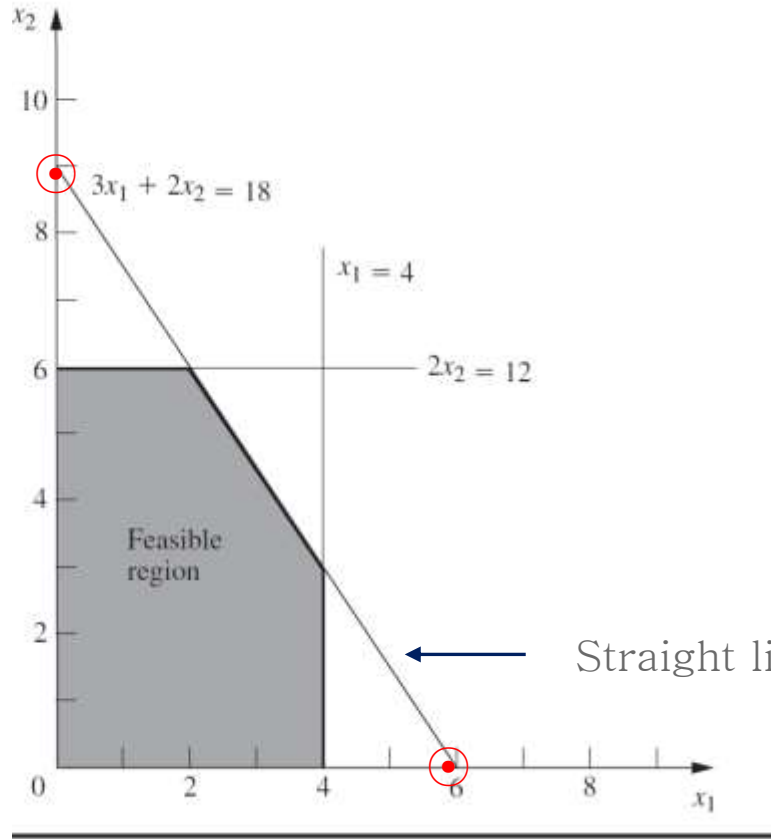


■ **FIGURE 3.2**

Shaded area shows the set of permissible values of  $(x_1, x_2)$ , called the feasible region.

→ Straight line following the equation  $2x_2 = 12$

→ Straight line following the equation  $3x_1 + 2x_2 = 18$



Tip to draw this line:

Fix  $x_1 = 0$

Plug it into  $3x_1 + 2x_2 = 18$  to get  $x_2 = 9$

Fix  $x_2 = 0$

Plug it into  $3x_1 + 2x_2 = 18$  to get  $x_1 = 6$

→ The line passes through points:

$(x_1, x_2) = (0, 9)$  and  $(x_1, x_2) = (6, 0)$  ●

← Straight line following the equation  $3x_1 + 2x_2 = 18$

Paper, pencil and ruler:  
please draw on a Cartesian  
diagram the straight lines

$$x_1 = 4$$

$$x_2 = 6$$

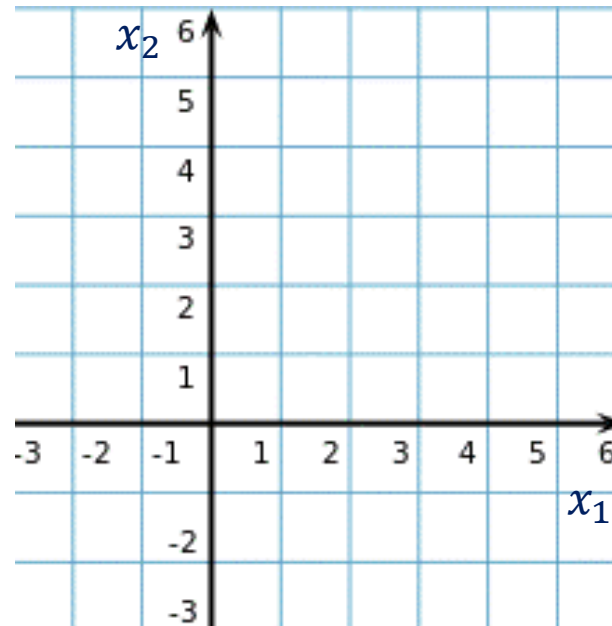
$$x_1 + x_2 = 1$$

$$x_1 - x_2 = 1$$

$$3x_1 - x_2 = -2$$

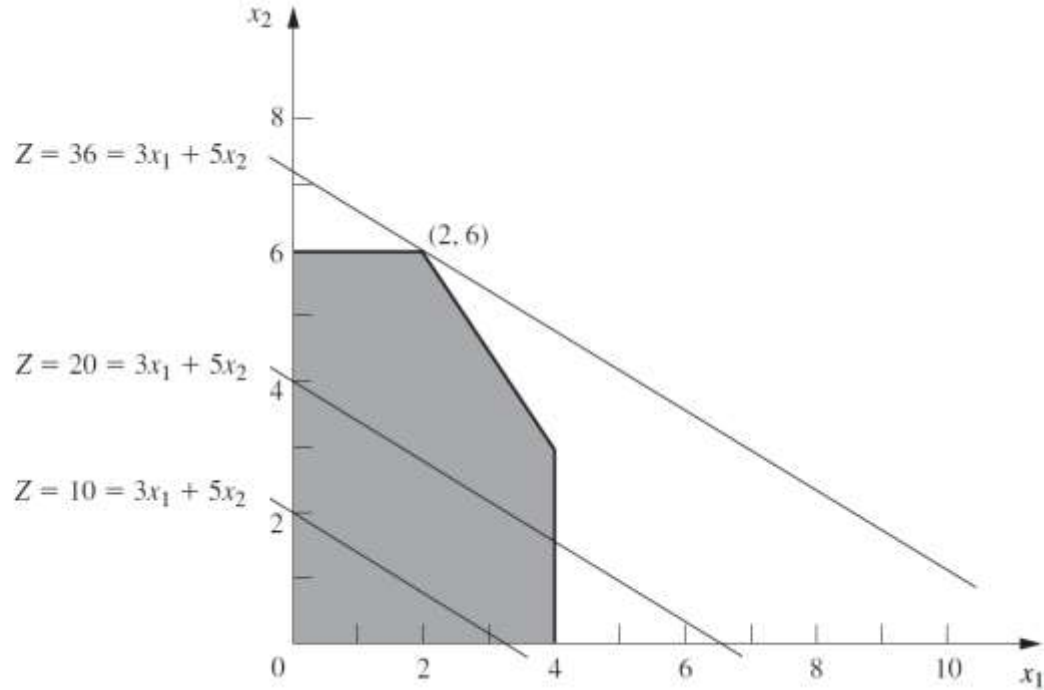


Source: The Simpson, 20th Television Animation  
(The Walt Disney Company)



How to handle the objective function to be maximized  $Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$  ?

Giving arbitrary values to  $Z$  results in several straight lines, all parallel to one another

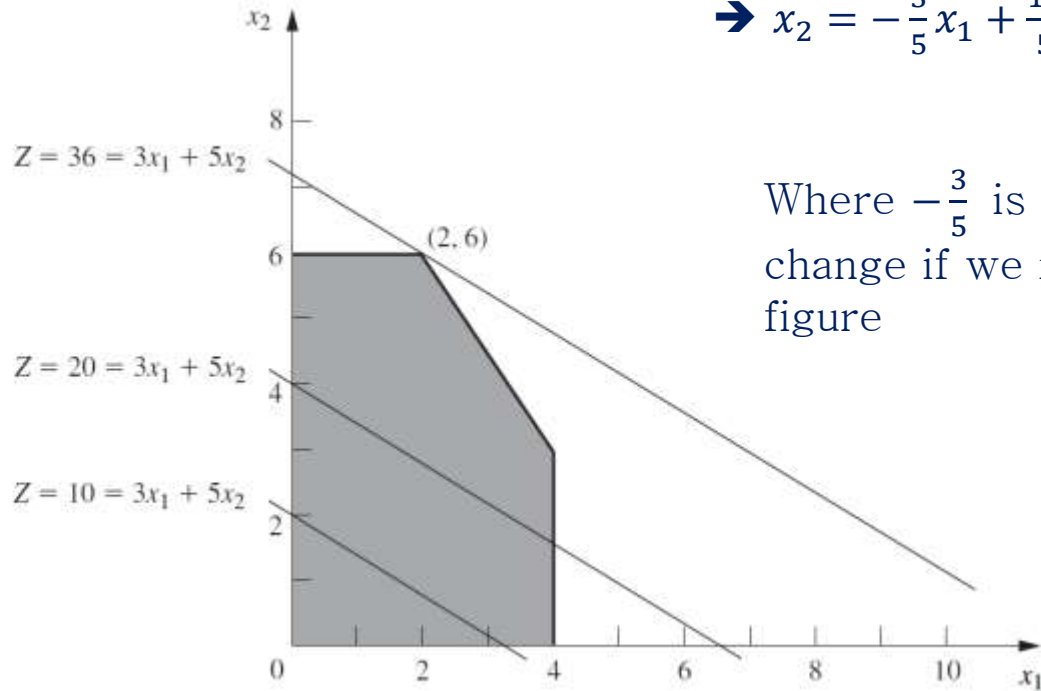




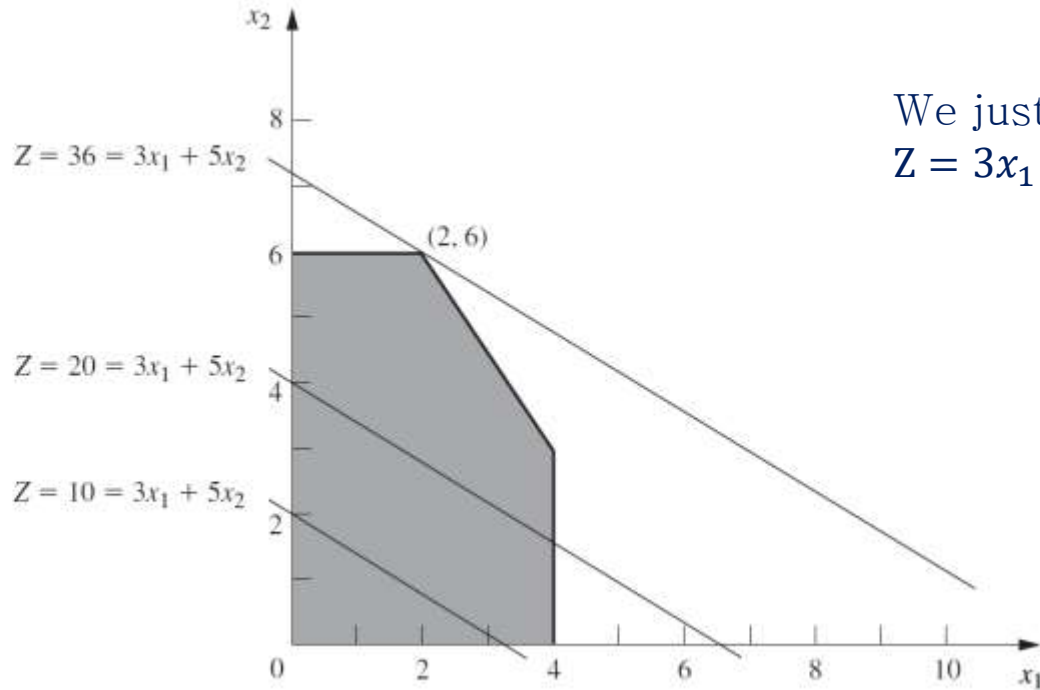
Giving arbitrary values to  $Z$  results in several straight lines, all parallel to one another  
This is because the slope of the line is constant, e.g. if

$$3x_1 + 5x_2 = 10$$
$$\rightarrow x_2 = -\frac{3}{5}x_1 + \frac{10}{5}$$

Where  $-\frac{3}{5}$  is the slope of line; it does not change if we replace 10 with 20 or 36 as in the figure

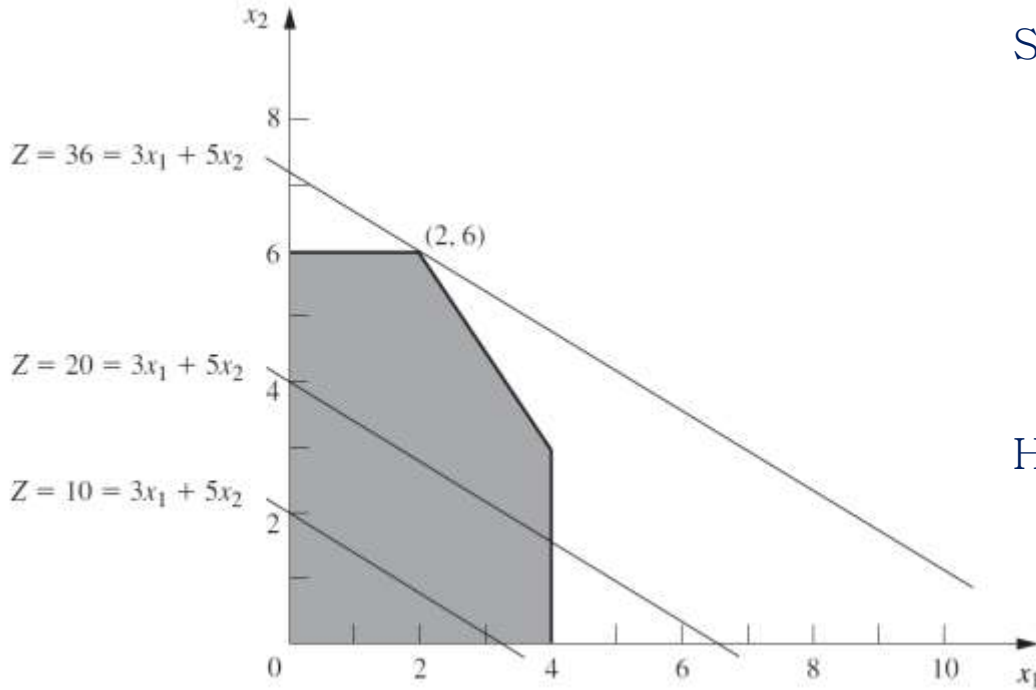


How did we guess that  $Z = 36$  knowing that one of the parallel lines must touch the point  $(x_1, x_2) = (2, 6)$ ?



We just plug  $(x_1, x_2) = (2, 6)$  into  
 $Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$  to get  $Z = 3 * 2 + 5 * 6 = 36$

The value of  $(x_1, x_2)$  that maximizes  $3x_1 + 5x_2$  is  $(2, 6)$ .



The problem

Maximize  $Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$

Subject to:

$$x_1 \leq 4$$

$$2x_2 \leq 12$$

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 18$$

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$

Has been solved

It is instructive to see what happens if

$$\text{Maximize } Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$$

is replaced by

$$\text{Maximize } Z = 3x_1 + 2x_2$$

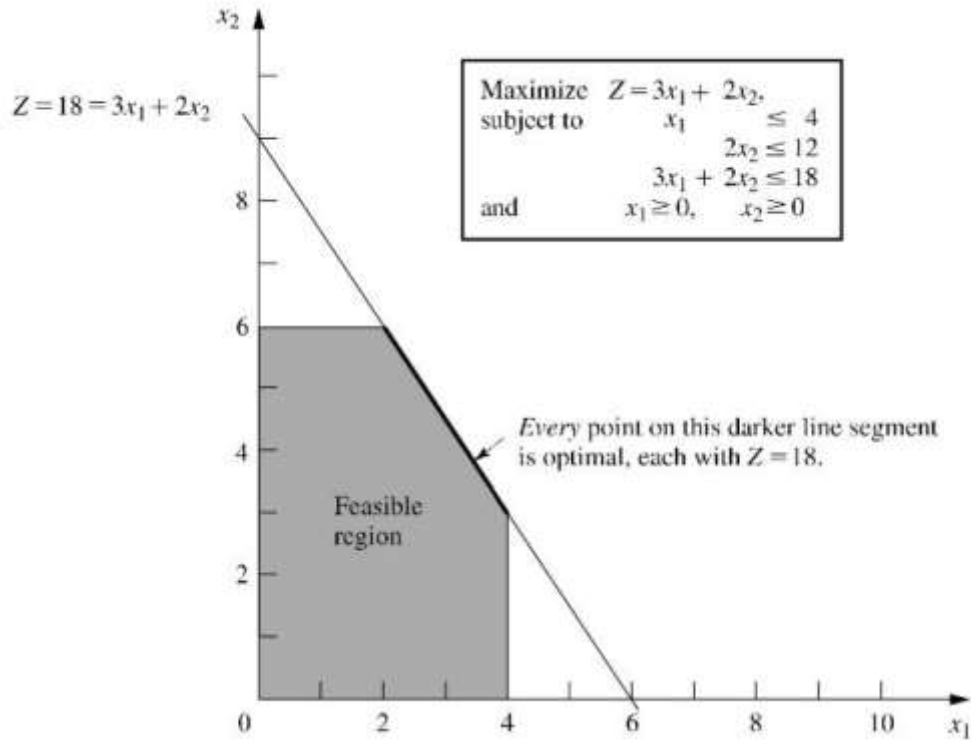
Still subject to:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &\leq 4 \\2x_2 &\leq 12 \\3x_1 + 2x_2 &\leq 18 \\x_1 &\geq 0 \\x_2 &\geq 0\end{aligned}$$

Paper, pencil and ruler: please try this out on a Cartesian diagram



Source: The Simpson, 20th Television Animation  
(The Walt Disney Company)



It is instructive to see what happens if

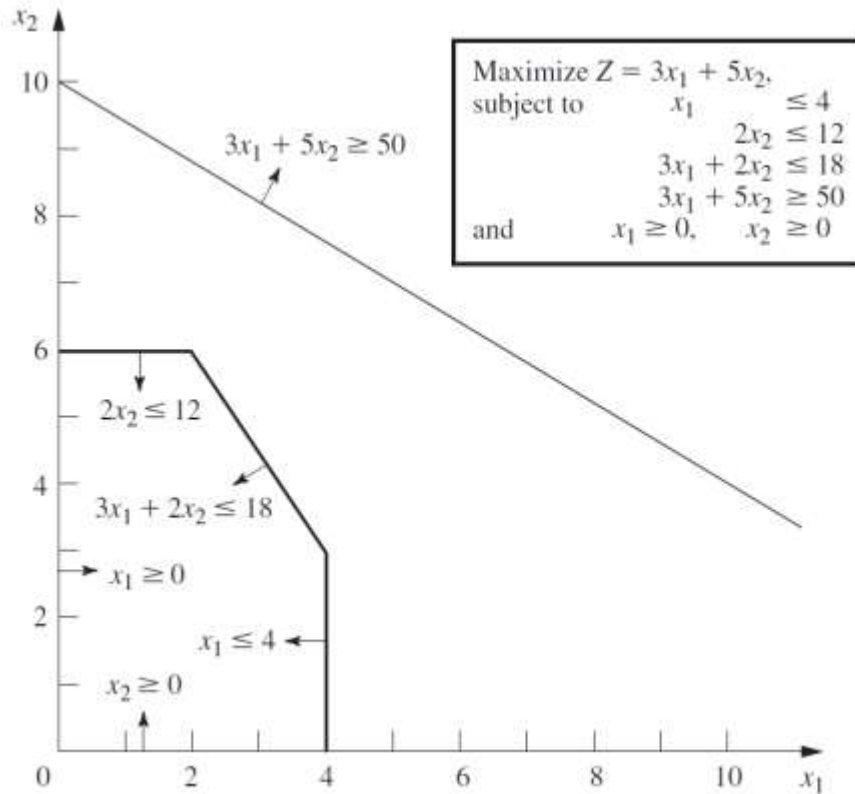
$$\text{Maximize } Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$$

is replaced by

$$\text{Maximize } Z = 3x_1 + 2x_2$$

Still subject to:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &\leq 4 \\ 2x_2 &\leq 12 \\ 3x_1 + 2x_2 &\leq 18 \\ x_1 &\geq 0 \\ x_2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



It is also instructive to see what happens if we add another constraint

$$\text{Maximize } Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2$$

Subject to:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &\leq 4 \\ 2x_2 &\leq 12 \\ 3x_1 + 2x_2 &\leq 18 \\ 3x_1 + 5x_2 &\geq 50 \\ x_1 &\geq 0 \\ x_2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

A Standard Form of the Model:

$$\text{Maximize } Z = c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \cdots + c_nx_n,$$

Subject to:

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n \leq b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n \leq b_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n \leq b_m,$$

And to:

$$x_1 \geq 0, \quad x_2 \geq 0, \quad \dots, \quad x_n \geq 0.$$

$Z$  = value of overall measure of performance

$x_j$  = decision variables, level of activity  $j$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$a_j^i$  = amount of resource  $i$  consumed by each unit of activity  $j$

$b_i$  amount of resource  $i$  that is available for allocation to activities  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$

$c_j$  increase in  $Z$  that would result from each unit increase in level of activity

A Standard Form of the Model:

Maximize  $Z = c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \cdots + c_nx_n$ ,      Objective function

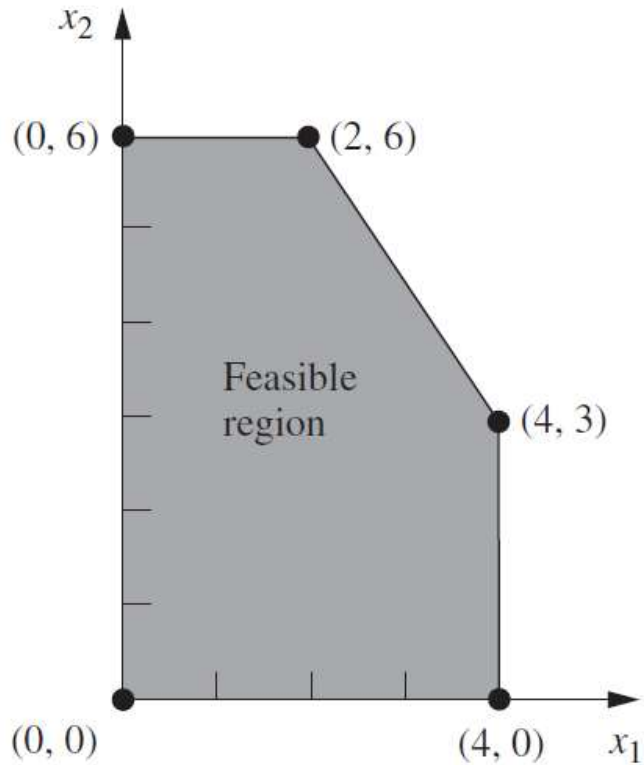
Subject to:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n &\leq b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n &\leq b_2 \\ &\vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n &\leq b_m, \end{aligned} \quad \text{Functional constraints}$$

And to:

$$x_1 \geq 0, \quad x_2 \geq 0, \quad \dots, \quad x_n \geq 0. \quad \text{Nonegativity constraints}$$

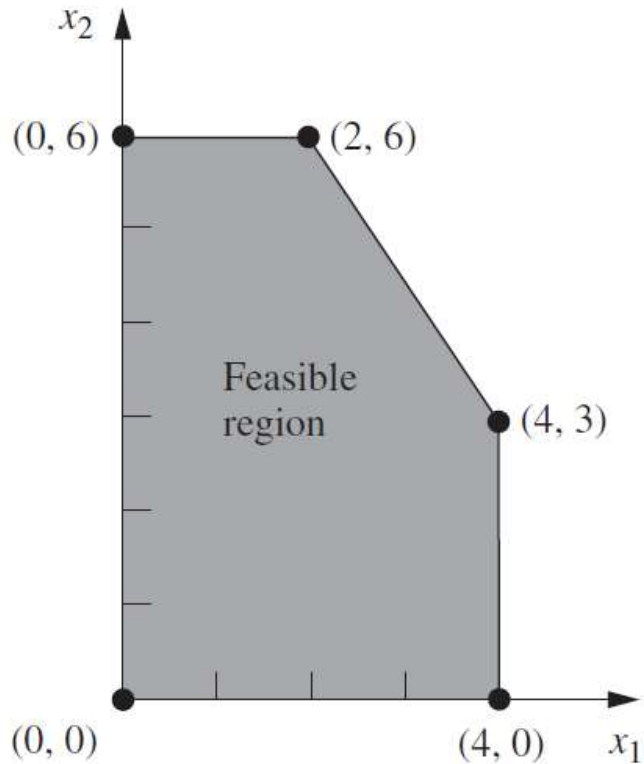




The fact that our solution is on a corner point of the feasible region is key to the theory of linear programming

Definition: A corner-point feasible (CPF) solution is a solution that lies at a corner of the feasible region

There are five CPF's in the figure



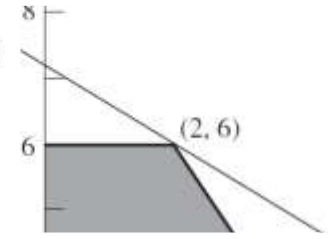
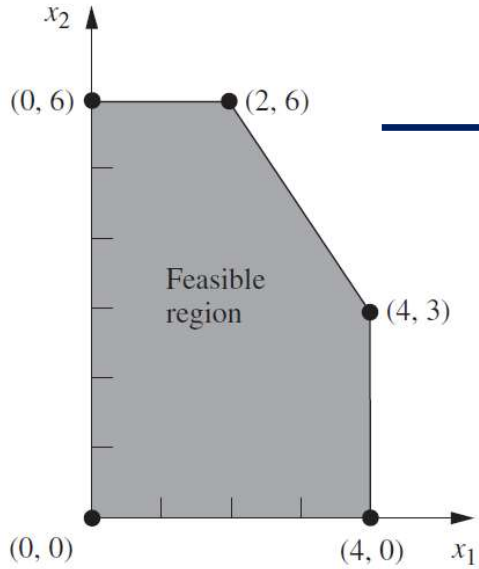
Definition: A corner-point feasible (CPF) solution is a solution that lies at a corner of the feasible region

There are five CPF's in the figure

Any linear programming problem with feasible solutions and a bounded feasible region must possess CPF solutions and at least one optimal solution

Furthermore, the best CPF solution must be an optimal solution

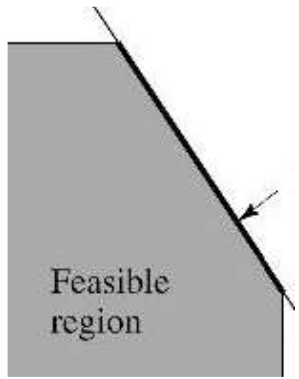
Thus, if a problem has exactly one optimal solution, it must be a CPF solution. If the problem has multiple optimal solutions, at least two must be CPF solutions



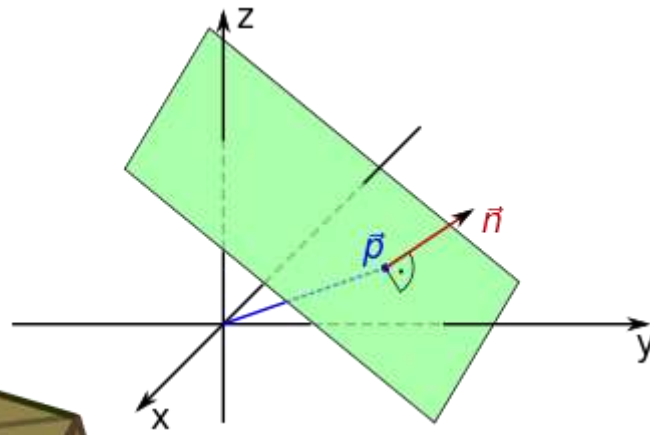
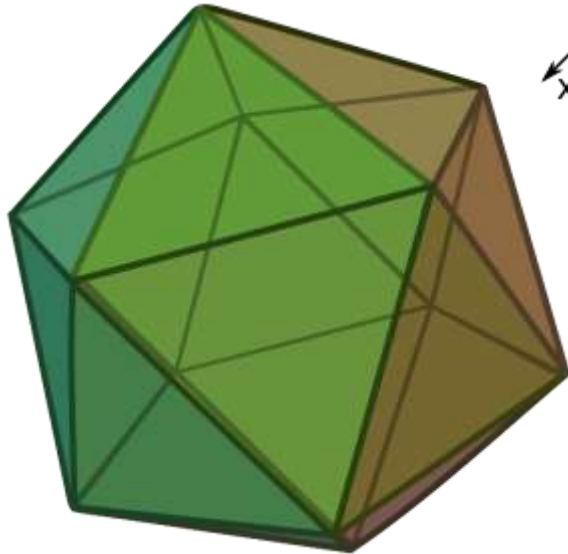
$Z$  touches **one** CPF

A “hand waiving” explanation:

In two dimensions the corner points generated by the constraints and the straight line representing the objective function touch one another



$Z$  touches **two** CPF's



A “hand waiving” explanation:

In  $n$  dimensions the feasible region is a hyper polyhedron while the objective function is a plane; when it touches the polyhedron it will be in on a CPF (a corner) – or if there are more solutions, it will touch at least two CPF’s (an edge or a plane)

Source (both images): Wikipedia Commons

# Using Excel Solver



How to instal and open EXCEL SOLVER?

In MAC

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ge4FMyZEUF0>

In Windows

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W6tIS4JZ5J0>

1) Open a white excel sheet

2) Create a table as

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1			Wyndor Glass Co. Product-Mix Problem					
2								
3			Doors	Windows				
4		Profit Per Batch	3000	5000				
5								
6			Hours Used Per Batch Produced		Hours Used	Hint	Hours Available	
7		Plant 1	1	0		<=		4
8		Plant 2	0	2		<=		12
9		Plant 3	3	2		<=		18
10								
11			Doors	Windows				Total Profit
12		Batches Produced						
13								

3) Insert the following excel formula

In the cell **E7** write:  $= C7 * C12 + D7 * D12$

In the cell **E8** write:  $= C8 * C12 + D8 * D12$

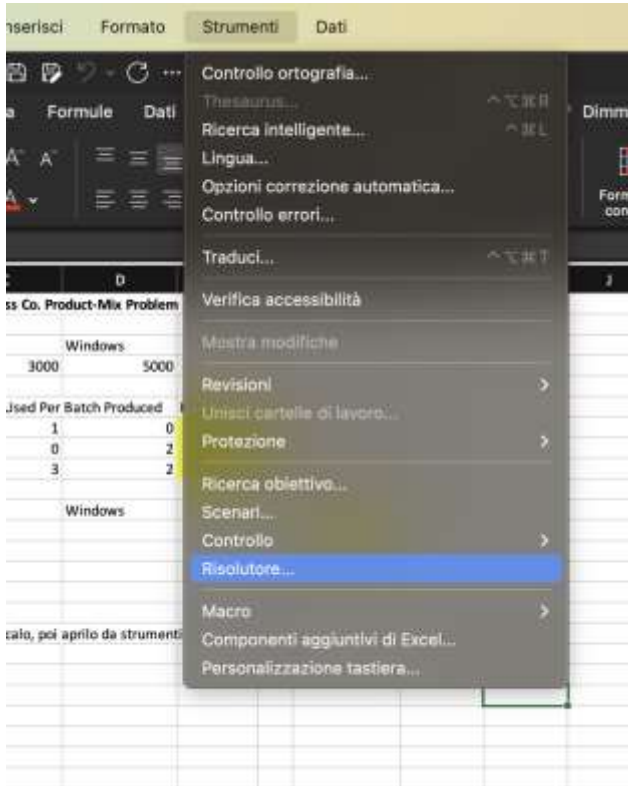
In the cell **E9** write:  $= C9 * C12 + D9 * D12$

In the cell **G12** write:  $= C4 * C12 + D4 * D12$

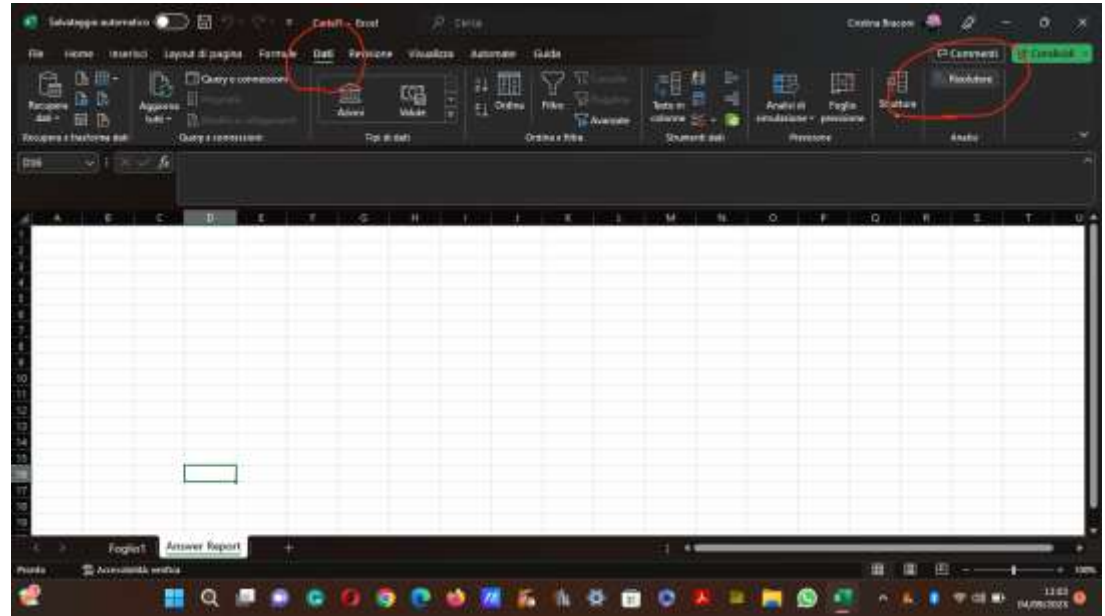
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1			Wyndor Glass Co. Product-Mix Problem					
2								
3			Doors	Windows				
4		Profit Per Batch	3000	5000				
5								
6			Hours Used Per Batch Produced		Hours Used	Hint	Hours Available	
7		Plant 1	1	0	0	<=		4
8		Plant 2	0	2	0	<=		12
9		Plant 3	3	2	0	<=		18
10								
11			Doors	Windows				Total Profit
12		Batches Produced						0
13								

## 4) Open the solver

In MAC

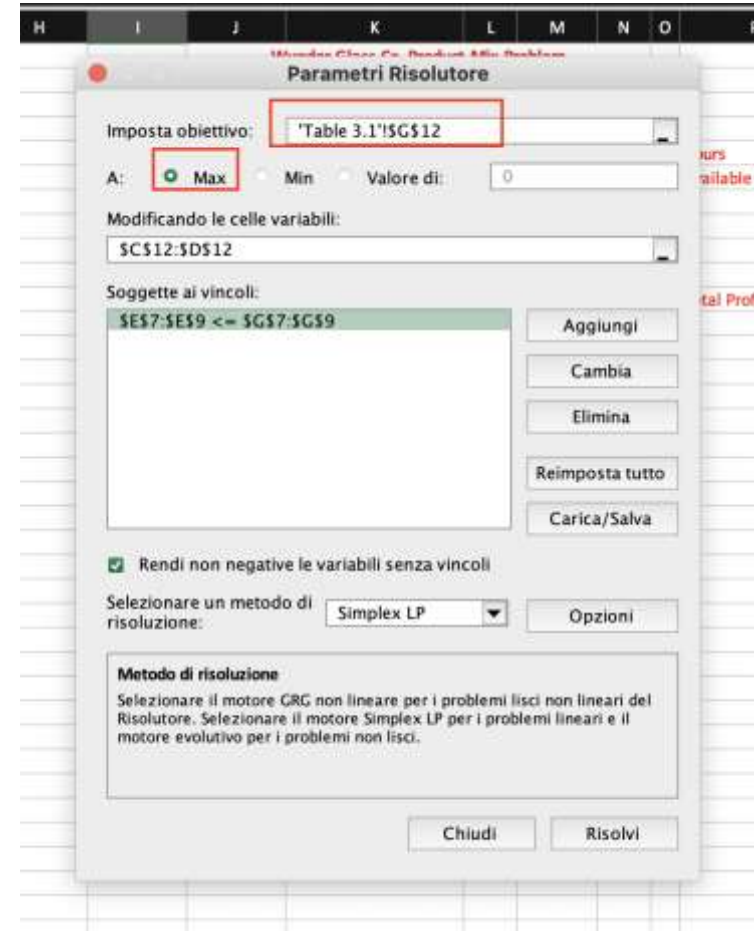


In Windows



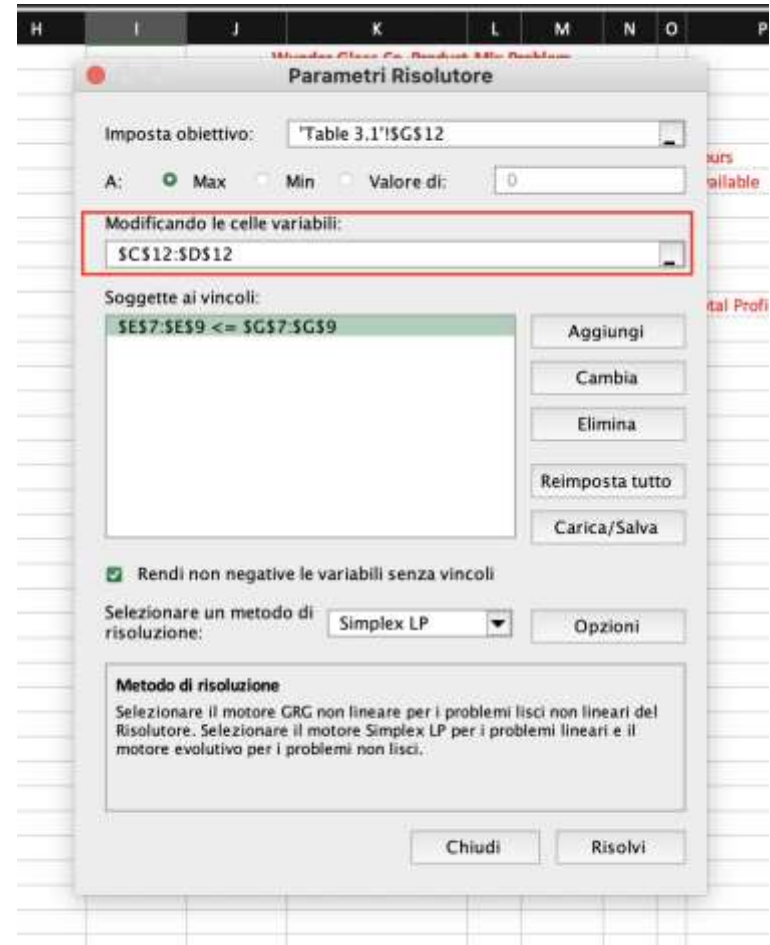
5) In Set objective insert the cell G12

Next, select the Option Max that maximize the Profit

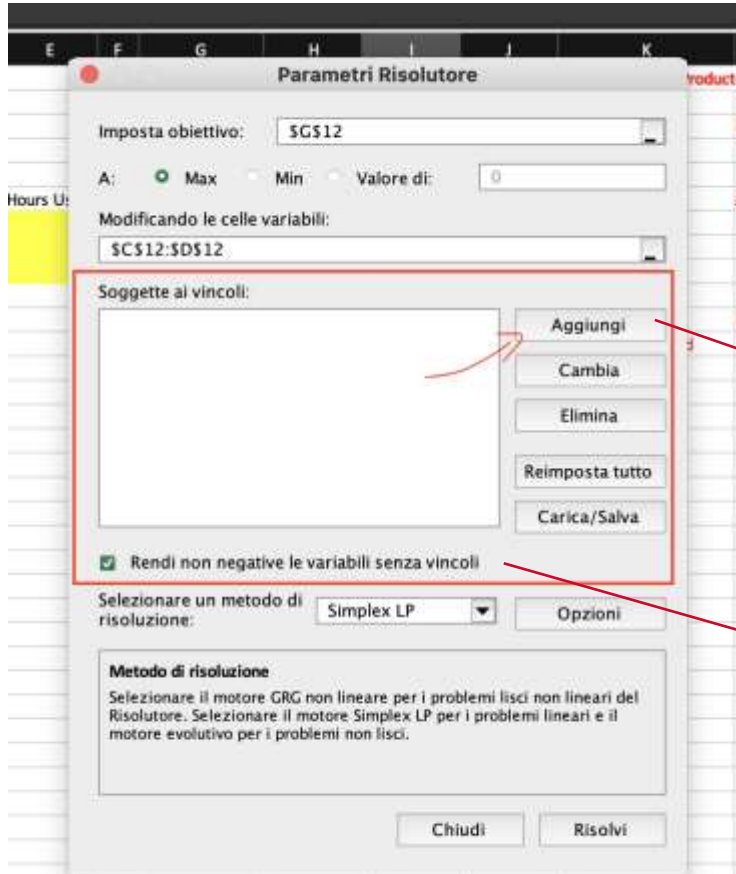




6) How? Changing Variable Cells  
insert the cells C12:D12



7) In Subject to the Constraints click Add and Insert that cells E7:E9 <= G7:G9

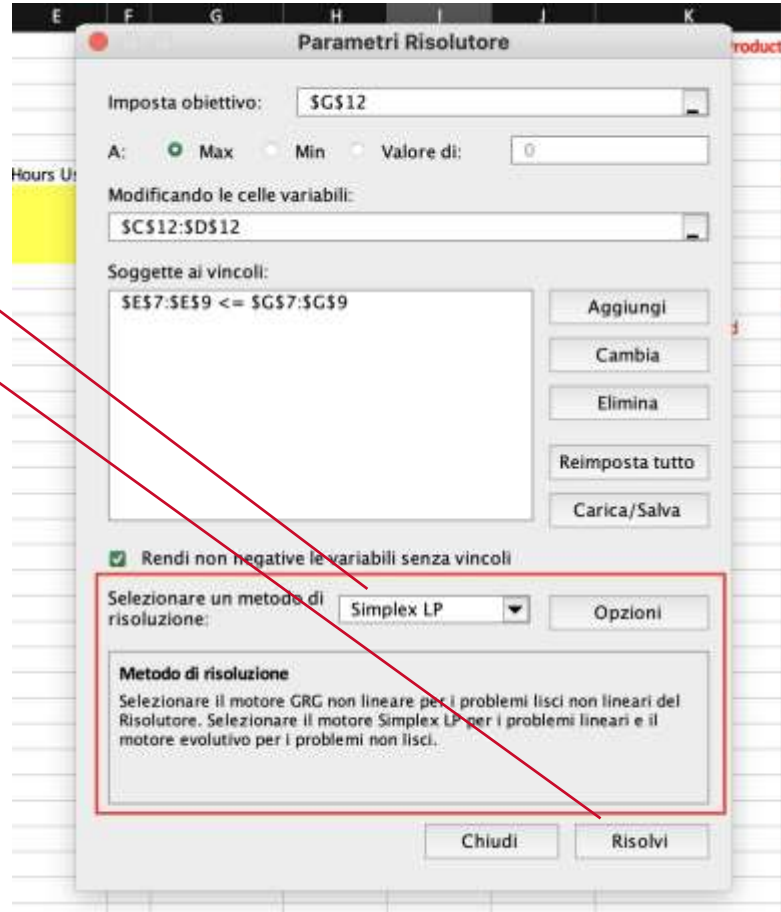


Click on  
OK

Select also this hint

8) Select  
Simplex LP

and then on  
Resolve



9) Click on Ok

...and see the results in the cells C12:D12 and G12



The vector  $X=(x_1, x_2)$  that maximize the profit are 2 for Doors and 6 for Windows and the Total Profit is 36000

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1			Wyndor Glass Co. Product-Mix Problem				
2			Doors	Windows			
3							
4		Profit Per Batch	3000	5000			
5							
6			Hours Used Per Batch Produced		Hours Used	Hint	Hours Available
7		Plant 1	1	0	2	<=	4
8		Plant 2	0	2	12	<=	12
9		Plant 3	3	2	18	<=	18
10							
11			Doors	Windows			Total Profit
12		Batches Produced	2	6			36000
13							
14							

# 6.

## Assumptions


Assumption made in linear programming. Hillier 2014, chapter 3.

## Assumptions of linear programming

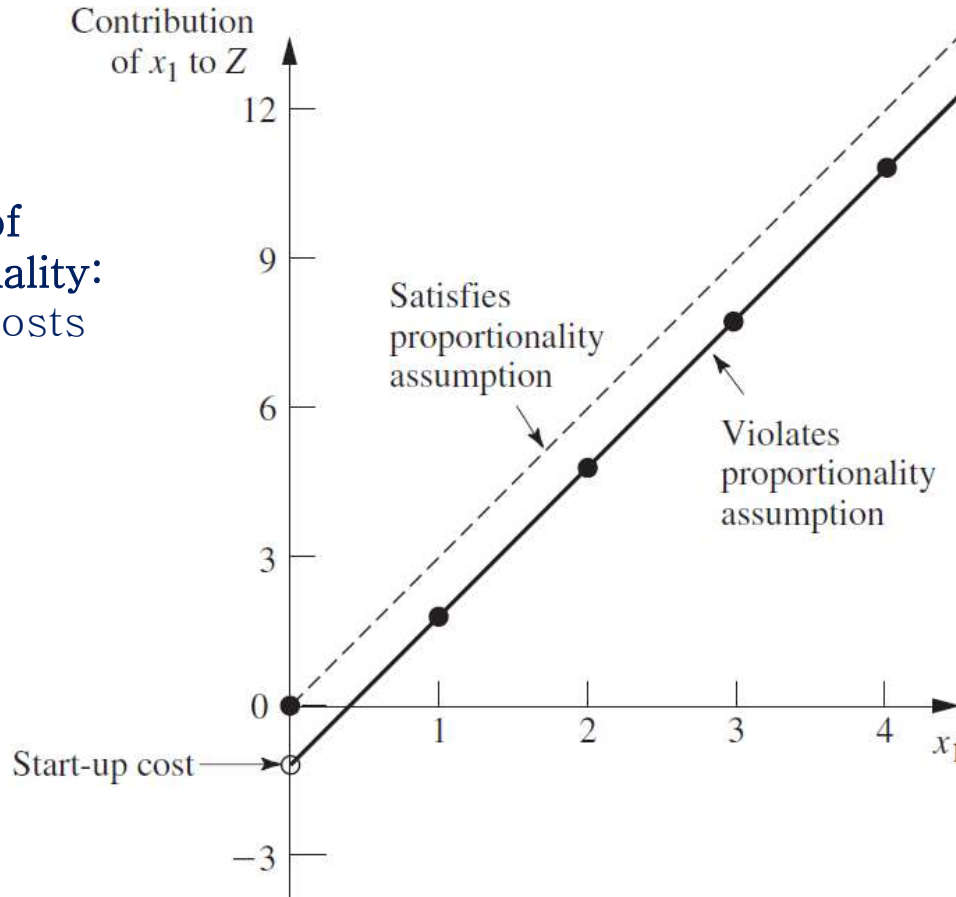
**Proportionality:** The contribution of each activity to the value of the objective function  $Z$  is proportional to the level of the activity  $x_j$  increase in  $Z$  that , as represented by the  $c_j x_j$  term in the objective function

## Assumptions of linear programming

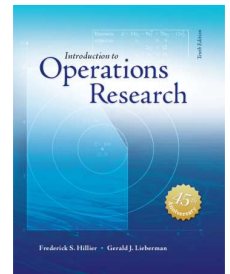
**Proportionality:** The contribution of each activity to the value of the objective function  $Z$  is proportional to the level of the activity  $x_j$  increase in the objective function  $Z$ , as represented by the  $c_j x_j$  terms

$$\text{Maximize } Z = c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2 + \cdots + c_n x_n,$$


## Violation of Proportionality: Start-up costs

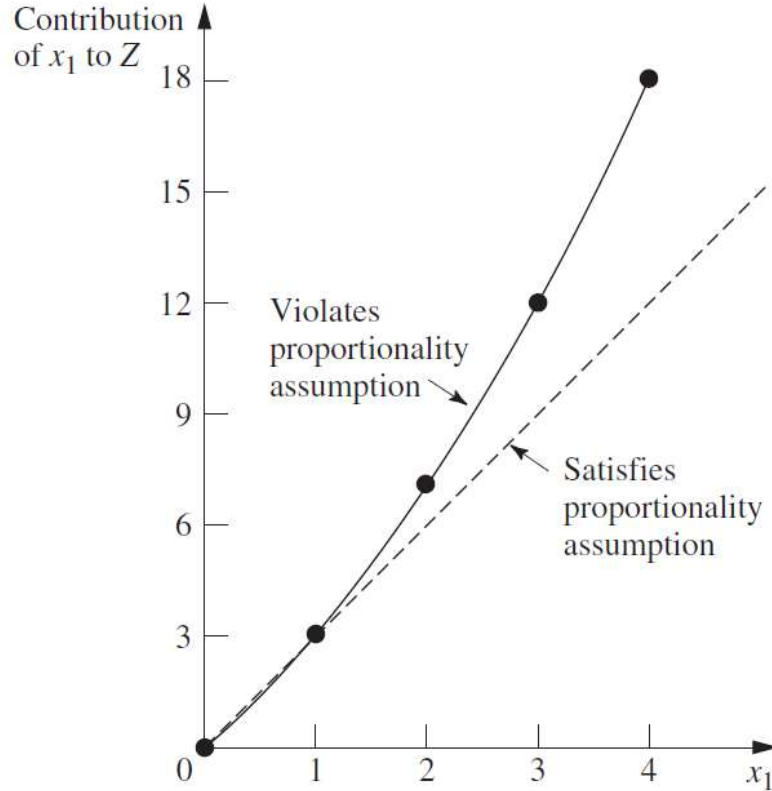


The solid curve violates the proportionality assumption because of the start-up cost



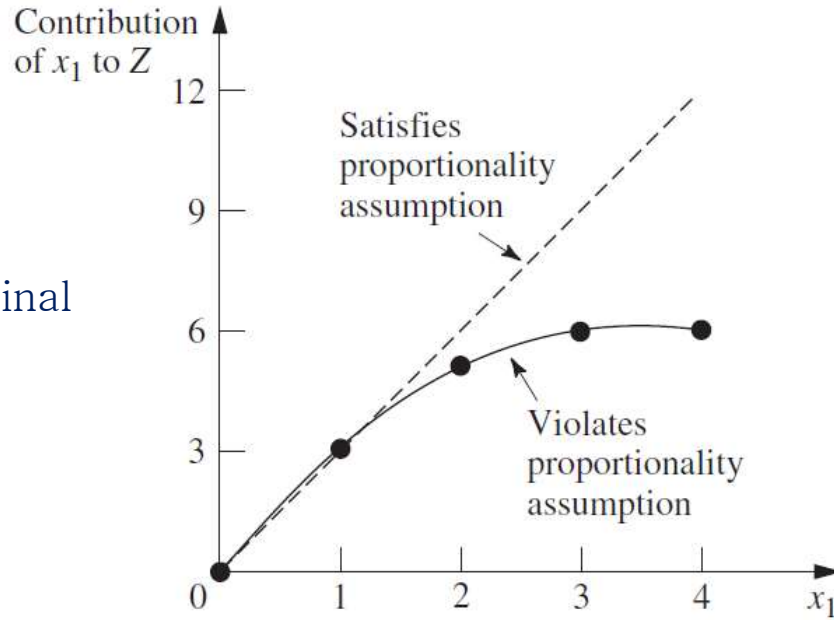


**Violation of Proportionality:**  
Increasing marginal returns  
(Mercedes, iPhones)



The solid curve violates the proportionality assumption because its slope (the marginal return from product 1) keeps increasing as  $x_1$  is increased

**Violation of Proportionality:**  
Diminishing marginal returns (bananas, copper)



The solid curve violates the proportionality assumption because its slope (the marginal return from product 1) keeps decreasing as  $x_1$  is increased

Diminishing (bananas, copper) versus increasing (Mercedes, iPhones) marginal returns can make the difference between rich and poor countries



Erik S. Reinert


## Assumptions of linear programming


**Additivity:** Every function in a linear programming model (whether the objective function or the function on the left-hand side of a functional constraint) is the sum of the individual contributions of the respective activities

Maximize  $Z = 3x_1 + 5x_2 + x_1x_2$

Subject to:

$x_1 \leq 4$   
 $2x_2 \leq 12$   
 $3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 18$   
 $x_1 \geq 0$   
 $x_2 \geq 0$

Additive? 



## Assumptions of linear programming

**Divisibility:** Decision variables in a linear programming model are allowed to have any values, including noninteger values, that satisfy the functional and nonnegativity constraints. Thus, these variables are not restricted to just integer values. Since each decision variable represents the level of some activity, it is being assumed that the activities can be run at fractional levels

When a decision variable **must** be an integer, it becomes a case of integer programming

# Knapsack problem algorithm



Source: <https://victoria.dev/blog/knapsack-problem-algorithms-for-my-real-life-carry-on-knapsack/>

Can this be formulated as a linear programming problem?

Yes, items with different utility to be packed without exceeding a given total weight

Does divisibility apply?

Not with these items

With other items?



## Assumptions of linear programming

**Certainty:** The value assigned to the parameters (the  $a_j^i$ 's,  $b_i$ 's, and  $c_j$ 's) of a linear programming model are assumed to be known constants

“it is usually important to conduct sensitivity analysis after a solution is found that is optimal under the assumed parameter values” (Hillier, p. 43)

“For a mathematical model with specified values for all its parameters, the model's sensitive parameters are the parameters whose value cannot be changed without changing the optimal solution” (Hillier, p. 17)



In practice what is checked in linear programming's sensitivity analysis is which parameter – when moved – can change the optimal solutions, and this is done moving each parameter at a time



This approach is consistent with the optimization logic but becomes fragile when some of the assumptions break down, either because the system has non linearities / non additivities or because the model is incomplete

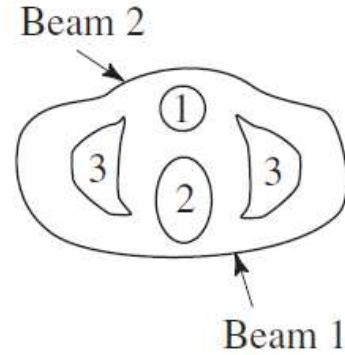


# 7.

## More examples

More examples of linear programming. Hillier 2014, chapter 3.

## More cases: (1) Design of Radiation Therapy for patient Mary



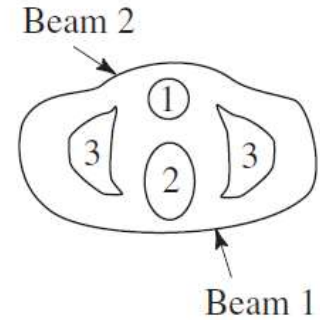
### ■ FIGURE 3.11

Cross section of Mary's tumor (viewed from above), nearby critical tissues, and the radiation beams being used.

1. Bladder and tumor
2. Rectum, coccyx, etc.
3. Femur, part of pelvis, etc.

■ **TABLE 3.7** Data for the design of Mary's radiation therapy

Area	Fraction of Entry Dose Absorbed by Area (Average)		Restriction on Total Average Dosage, Kilorads
	Beam 1	Beam 2	
Healthy anatomy	0.4	0.5	Minimize
Critical tissues	0.3	0.1	$\leq 2.7$
Tumor region	0.5	0.5	$= 6$
Center of tumor	0.6	0.4	$\geq 6$

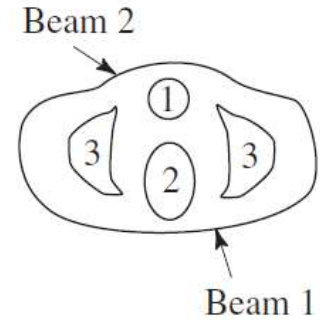


1. Bladder and tumor
2. Rectum, coccyx, etc.
3. Femur, part of pelvis, etc.

The data consist of how much radiation will be received by each of the four areas (tumour and non-tumour) from each of the two beams

■ **TABLE 3.7** Data for the design of Mary's radiation therapy

Area	Fraction of Entry Dose Absorbed by Area (Average)		Restriction on Total Average Dosage, Kilorads
	Beam 1	Beam 2	
Healthy anatomy	0.4	0.5	Minimize
Critical tissues	0.3	0.1	$\leq 2.7$
Tumor region	0.5	0.5	$= 6$
Center of tumor	0.6	0.4	$\geq 6$

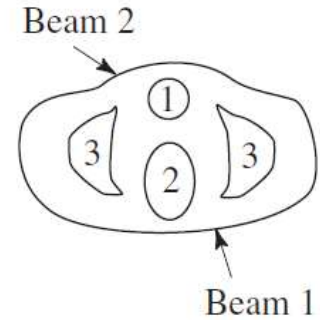


1. Bladder and tumor
2. Rectum, coccyx, etc.
3. Femur, part of pelvis, etc.

“For example, if the dose level at the entry point for beam 1 is 1 kilorad, then an average of 0.4 kilorad will be absorbed by the entire healthy anatomy in the two-dimensional plane, an average of 0.3 kilorad will be absorbed by nearby critical tissues, an average of 0.5 kilorad will be absorbed by the various parts of the tumour, and 0.6 kilorad will be absorbed by the centre of the tumour.”

■ **TABLE 3.7** Data for the design of Mary's radiation therapy

Area	Fraction of Entry Dose Absorbed by Area (Average)		Restriction on Total Average Dosage, Kilorads
	Beam 1	Beam 2	
Healthy anatomy	0.4	0.5	Minimize
Critical tissues	0.3	0.1	$\leq 2.7$
Tumor region	0.5	0.5	$= 6$
Center of tumor	0.6	0.4	$\geq 6$



1. Bladder and tumor
2. Rectum, coccyx, etc.
3. Femur, part of pelvis, etc.

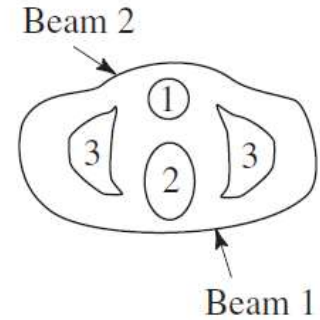
Decision variables?

- a) Dose (Kilorads) to organ  $j$  from beam  $i$ ?
- b) Time of exposure beams 1 and 2?
- c) Fraction of entry dose from beams 1 and 2



■ **TABLE 3.7** Data for the design of Mary's radiation therapy

Area	Fraction of Entry Dose Absorbed by Area (Average)		Restriction on Total Average Dosage, Kilorads
	Beam 1	Beam 2	
Healthy anatomy	0.4	0.5	Minimize
Critical tissues	0.3	0.1	$\leq 2.7$
Tumor region	0.5	0.5	$= 6$
Center of tumor	0.6	0.4	$\geq 6$

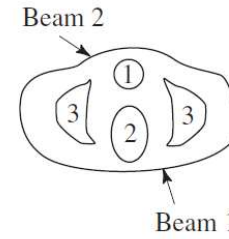


1. Bladder and tumor
2. Rectum, coccyx, etc.
3. Femur, part of pelvis, etc.

c) Fraction of entry dose from beams 1 and 2

■ **TABLE 3.7** Data for the design of Mary's radiation therapy

Area	Fraction of Entry Dose Absorbed by Area (Average)		Restriction on Total Average Dosage, Kilorads
	Beam 1	Beam 2	
Healthy anatomy	0.4	0.5	Minimize
Critical tissues	0.3	0.1	$\leq 2.7$
Tumor region	0.5	0.5	$= 6$
Center of tumor	0.6	0.4	$\geq 6$



1. Bladder and tumor
2. Rectum, coccyx, etc.
3. Femur, part of pelvis, etc.

Minimize  $Z = 0.4x_1 + 0.5x_2$

Subject to

$$0.3x_1 + 0.1x_2 \leq 2.7$$

$$0.5x_1 + 0.5x_2 = 6$$

$$0.6x_1 + 0.4x_2 \geq 6$$

← These are the ...  
Structural constraints

And

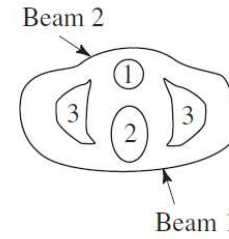
$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$

← These are the ...  
Nonegativity constraints

■ **TABLE 3.7** Data for the design of Mary's radiation therapy

Area	Fraction of Entry Dose Absorbed by Area (Average)		Restriction on Total Average Dosage, Kilorads
	Beam 1	Beam 2	
Healthy anatomy	0.4	0.5	Minimize
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Tumor region	0.5	0.5	$= 6$
Center of tumor	0.6	0.4	$\geq 6$



1. Bladder and tumor
2. Rectum, coccyx, etc.
3. Femur, part of pelvis, etc.

Minimize  $Z = 0.4x_1 + 0.5x_2$  Subject to

$$0.3x_1 + 0.1x_2 \leq 2.7$$

$$0.5x_1 + 0.5x_2 = 6$$

$$0.6x_1 + 0.4x_2 \geq 6$$

What is new in this case?

And

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$



$$\text{Minimize } Z = 0.4x_1 + 0.5x_2$$

Subject to

$$0.3x_1 + 0.1x_2 \leq 2.7$$

$$0.5x_1 + 0.5x_2 = 6$$

$$0.6x_1 + 0.4x_2 \geq 6$$

And

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$

Time for work on the  
Cartesian plane



shutterstock.com · 1455758819

Hint:

1) start by drawing the straight lines

$$0.3x_1 + 0.1x_2 = 2.7$$

$$0.5x_1 + 0.5x_2 = 6$$

$$0.6x_1 + 0.4x_2 = 6$$

2) identify the critical region

3) Compute  $Z$  at the extremes of the critical region – for this you must find the intersections of the various lines

Minimize  $Z = 0.4x_1 + 0.5x_2$

Subject to

$$0.3x_1 + 0.1x_2 \leq 2.7$$

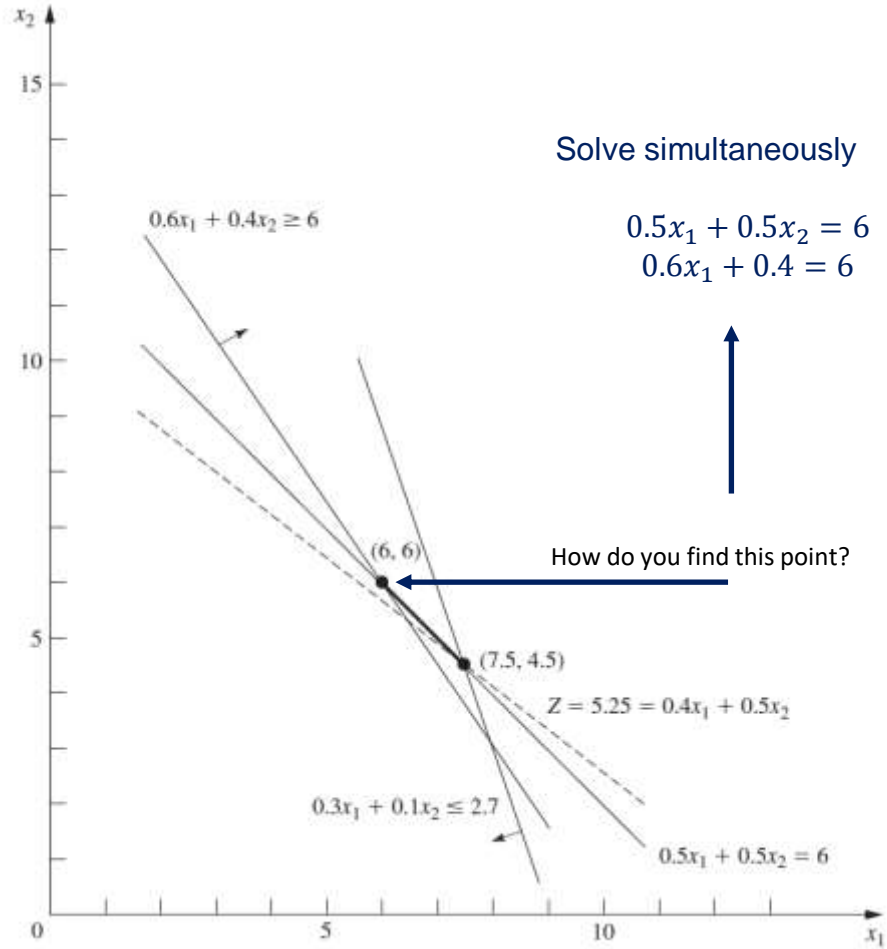
$$0.5x_1 + 0.5x_2 = 6$$

$$0.6x_1 + 0.4x_2 \geq 6$$

And

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$



To solve simultaneously

$$0.5x_1 + 0.5x_2 = 6$$

$$0.6x_1 + 0.4x_2 = 6$$

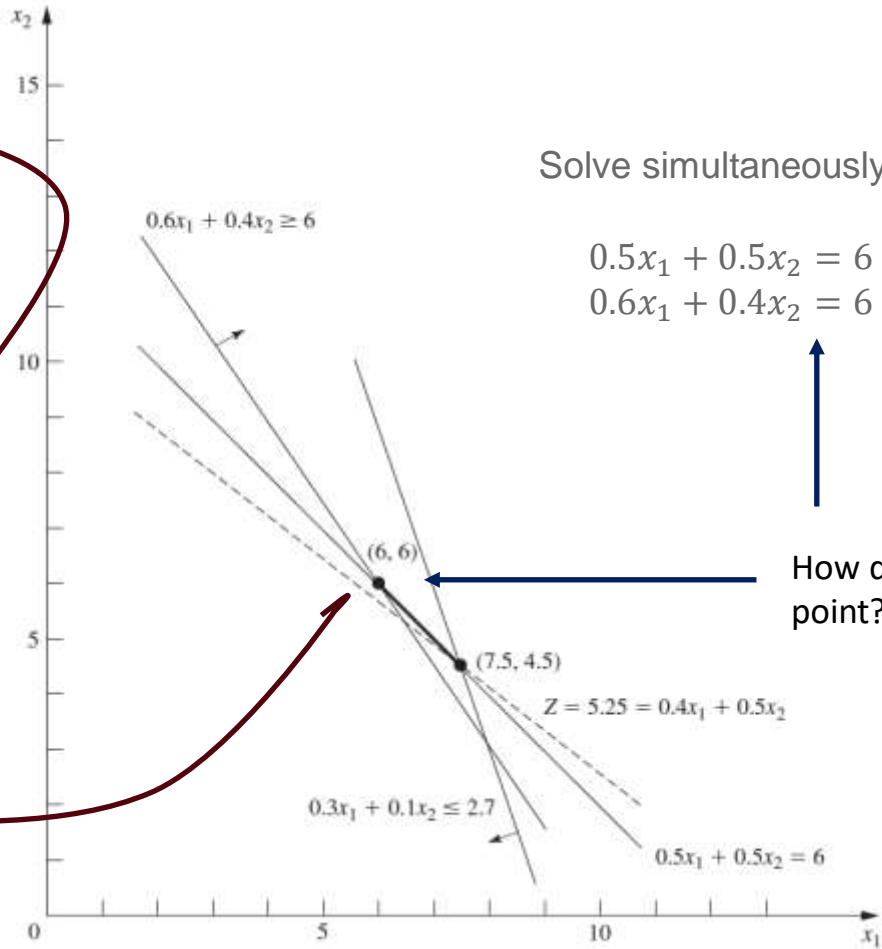
Derive  $x_1$  from the first equation

$$x_1 = \left( \frac{-0.5x_2 + 6}{0.5} \right) = -x_2 + 12$$

Plug this into the second equation

$$\begin{aligned} 0.6(12 - x_2) + 0.4x_2 &= 6 \\ 7.2 - 0.2x_2 &= 6 \\ x_2 &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

Plugging this back in either the first or the second equation gives  $x_1 = 6$



Minimize  $Z = 0.4x_1 + 0.5x_2$

Subject to

$$0.3x_1 + 0.1x_2 \leq 2.7$$

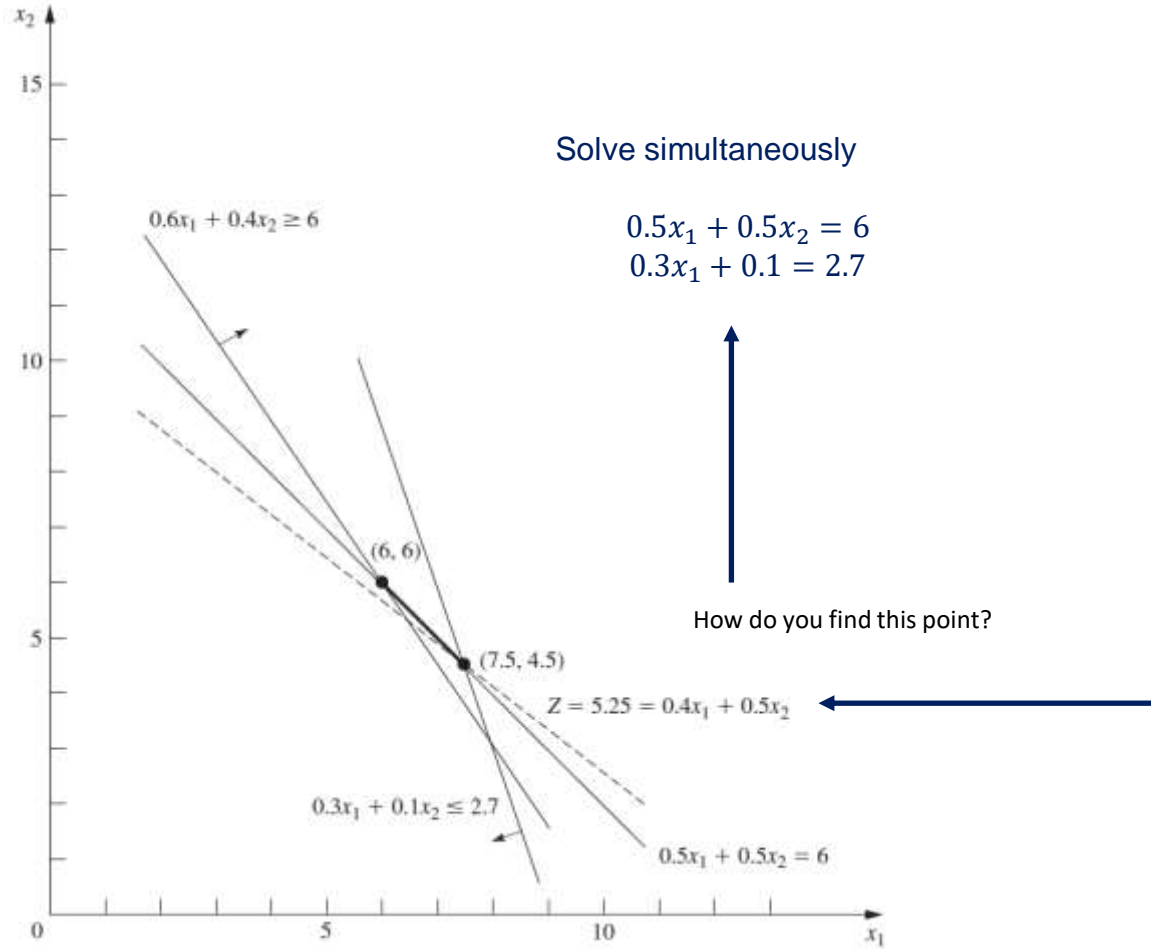
$$0.5x_1 + 0.5x_2 = 6$$

$$0.6x_1 + 0.4x_2 \geq 6$$

And

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$



To solve simultaneously

$$0.5x_1 + 0.5x_2 = 6$$

$$0.3x_1 + 0.1x_2 = 2.7$$

Derive  $x_1$  from the first equation

$$x_1 = \left( \frac{-0.5x_2 + 6}{0.5} \right) = -x_2 + 12$$

Plug this into the second equation

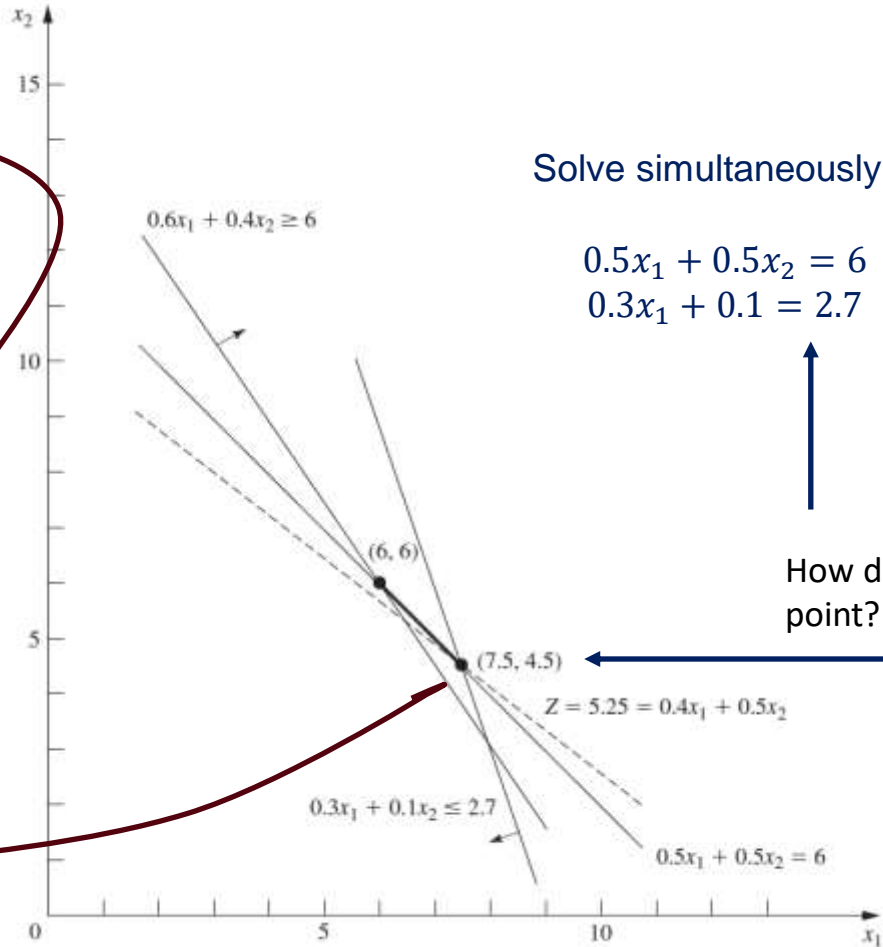
$$0.3(12 - x_2) + 0.1x_2 = 2.7$$

$$3.6 - 0.3x_2 + 0.1x_2 = 2.7$$

$$0.2x_2 = 0.9$$

$$x_2 = 4.5$$

Plugging this back in either the first or the second equation gives  $x_1 = 7.5$



## Assumptions of linear programming

**Divisibility:** Decision variables in a linear programming model are allowed to have any values, including noninteger values, that satisfy the functional and nonnegativity constraints. Thus, these variables are not restricted to just integer values. Since each decision variable represents the level of some activity, it is being assumed that the activities can be run at fractional levels

When a decision variable **must** be an integer, it becomes a case of integer programming

## More cases: (2) Controlling Air Pollution

A steel producing company needs to cut the emissions from one of its plants.  
The desired reduction is:

■ **TABLE 3.12** Clean air standards for the Nori & Leets Co.

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Required Reduction in Annual Emission Rate (Million Pounds)</b>
Particulates	60
Sulfur oxides	150
Hydrocarbons	125

■ **TABLE 3.12** Clean air standards for the Nori & Leets Co.

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Required Reduction in Annual Emission Rate (Million Pounds)</b>
Particulates	60
Sulfur oxides	150
Hydrocarbons	125

The pollution arises from two primary sources, namely, the blast furnaces for making pig iron and the open-hearth furnaces for changing iron into steel.

Used at full power, the three methods available to reduce emissions (taller smokestacks, filters and better fuel) will yield the following reduction

■ **TABLE 3.13** Reduction in emission rate (in millions of pounds per year) from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co.

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Taller Smokestacks</b>		<b>Filters</b>		<b>Better Fuels</b>	
	<b>Blast Furnaces</b>	<b>Open-Hearth Furnaces</b>	<b>Blast Furnaces</b>	<b>Open-Hearth Furnaces</b>	<b>Blast Furnaces</b>	<b>Open-Hearth Furnaces</b>
Particulates	12	9	25	20	17	13
Sulfur oxides	35	42	18	31	56	49
Hydrocarbons	37	53	28	24	29	20



■ **TABLE 3.12** Clean air standards for the Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Required Reduction in Annual Emission Rate (Million Pounds)
Particulates	60
Sulfur oxides	150
Hydrocarbons	125

The pollution arises from two primary sources: the blast furnaces and the open-hearth furnaces

■ **TABLE 3.13** Reduction in emission rate (in millions of pounds per year) from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Taller Smokestacks		Filters		Better Fuels	
	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Particulates	12	9	25	20	17	13
Sulfur oxides	35	42	18	31	56	49
Hydrocarbons	37	53	28	24	29	20

Used at full power, the three methods available to reduce emissions (taller smokestacks, filters and better fuel) will yield the following reduction

■ **TABLE 3.14** Total annual cost from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co. (\$ millions)

Abatement Method	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Taller smokestacks	8	10
Filters	7	6
Better fuels	11	9

## Decision variables?

And this is the associated cost, still using the methods at their fullest power

■ **TABLE 3.12** Clean air standards for the Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Required Reduction in Annual Emission Rate (Million Pounds)
Particulates	60
Sulfur oxides	150
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■ **TABLE 3.13** Reduction in emission rate (in millions of pounds per year) from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Taller Smokestacks		Filters		Better Fuels	
	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Particulates	12	9	25	20	17	13
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Hydrocarbons	37	53	28	24	29	20

■ **TABLE 3.14** Total annual cost from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co. (\$ millions)

Abatement Method	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Taller smokestacks	8	10
Filters	7	6
Better fuels	11	9

← Then look at the constraints, expressed as function of maximum feasible use ...

## Decision variables?

← Look at the structure of the cost; it depends on the three methods applied to the two furnaces ...

So we go from this

■ **TABLE 3.14** Total annual cost from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co. (\$ millions)

Abatement Method	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Taller smokestacks	8	10
Filters	7	6
Better fuels	11	9

To this



■ **TABLE 3.15** Decision variables (fraction of the maximum feasible use of an abatement method) for Nori & Leets Co.

Abatement Method	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Taller smokestacks	$x_1$	$x_2$
Filters	$x_3$	$x_4$
Better fuels	$x_5$	$x_6$

## Decision variables?

Perhaps the fraction of method  $i = 1,2,3$  applied to furnace  $j = 1,2$

This fraction can be expressed as a number in  $(0,1)$

## Putting the two tables together

■ **TABLE 3.14** Total annual cost from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co. (\$ millions)

Abatement Method	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Taller smokestacks	8	10
Filters	7	6
Better fuels	11	9

■ **TABLE 3.15** Decision variables (fraction of the maximum feasible use of an abatement method) for Nori & Leets Co.

Abatement Method	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Taller smokestacks	$x_1$	$x_2$
Filters	$x_3$	$x_4$
Better fuels	$x_5$	$x_6$

We can write

$$\text{Minimize } 8x_1 + 10x_2 + 7x_3 + 6x_4 + 11x_5 + 9x_6$$

■ **TABLE 3.15** Decision variables (fraction of the maximum feasible use of an abatement method) for Nori & Leets Co.

Abatement Method	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Taller smokestacks	$x_1$	$x_2$
Filters	$x_3$	$x_4$
Better fuels	$x_5$	$x_6$

Now we have to put together these tables

■ **TABLE 3.13** Reduction in emission rate (in millions of pounds per year) from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Taller Smokestacks		Filters		Better Fuels	
	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Particulates	12	9	25	20	17	13
Sulfur oxides	35	42	18	31	56	49
Hydrocarbons	37	53	28	24	29	20

We can write for particulate

$$12x_1 + 9x_2 + 25x_3 + 20x_4 + 17x_5 + 13x_6 \geq 60$$

■ **TABLE 3.12** Clean air standards for the Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Required Reduction in Annual Emission Rate (Million Pounds)
Particulates	60
Sulfur oxides	150
Hydrocarbons	125

■ **TABLE 3.12** Clean air standards for the Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Required Reduction in Annual Emission Rate (Million Pounds)
Particulates	60
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■ **TABLE 3.13** Reduction in emission rate (in millions of pounds per year) from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Taller Smokestacks		Filters		Better Fuels	
	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Particulates	12	9	25	20	17	13
Sulfur oxides	35	42	18	31	56	49
Hydrocarbons	37	53	28	24	29	20

The same for the other pollutants

To write:

$$\text{Particulate} \rightarrow 12x_1 + 9x_2 + 25x_3 + 20x_4 + 17x_5 + 13x_6 \geq 60$$

$$\text{Sulphur oxides} \rightarrow 35x_1 + 42x_2 + 18x_3 + 31x_4 + 56x_5 + 49x_6 \geq 150$$

$$\text{Hydrocarbons} \rightarrow 37x_1 + 53x_2 + 28x_3 + 24x_4 + 29x_5 + 20x_6 \geq 125$$

■ **TABLE 3.12** Clean air standards for the Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Required Reduction in Annual Emission Rate (Million Pounds)
Particulates	60
Sulfur oxides	150
Hydrocarbons	125

■ **TABLE 3.13** Reduction in emission rate (in millions of pounds per year) from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Taller Smokestacks		Filters		Better Fuels	
	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Particulates	12	9	25	20	17	13
Sulfur oxides	35	42	18	31	56	49
Hydrocarbons	37	53	28	24	29	20

To write:

Particulate →  $12x_1 + 9x_2 + 25x_3 + 20x_4 + 17x_5 + 13x_6 \geq 60$

Sulphur oxides →  $35x_1 + 42x_2 + 18x_3 + 31x_4 + 56x_5 + 49x_6 \geq 150$

Hydrocarbons →  $37x_1 + 53x_2 + 28x_3 + 24x_4 + 29x_5 + 20x_6 \geq 125$

Nonnegativity constraints

$x_j \geq 0$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, 6$

Are we done?

$x_j \leq 1$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, 6$

■ **TABLE 3.12** Clean air standards for the Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Required Reduction in Annual Emission Rate (Million Pounds)
Particulates	60
Sulfur oxides	150
Hydrocarbons	125

■ **TABLE 3.13** Reduction in emission rate (in millions of pounds per year) from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co.

Pollutant	Taller Smokestacks		Filters		Better Fuels	
	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Particulates	12	9	25	20	17	13
Sulfur oxides	35	42	18	31	56	49
Hydrocarbons	37	53	28	24	29	20

■ **TABLE 3.14** Total annual cost from the maximum feasible use of an abatement method for Nori & Leets Co. (\$ millions)

Abatement Method	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Taller smokestacks	8	10
Filters	7	6
Better fuels	11	9

■ **TABLE 3.15** Decision variables (fraction of the maximum feasible use of an abatement method) for Nori & Leets Co.

Abatement Method	Blast Furnaces	Open-Hearth Furnaces
Taller smokestacks	$x_1$	$x_2$
Filters	$x_3$	$x_4$
Better fuels	$x_5$	$x_6$

Solved with the method of simplex (not shown here) this gives the following solution:

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6) = (1, 0.623, 0.343, 1, 0.048, 1)$$

with  $Z=32.16$

We stopped here on Monday 10 October

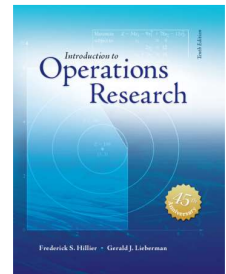


## More cases: (3) Scheduling

An air company needs to allocate staff to different shifts as to cover flights while minimizing costs

The shifts are

	From time	To time
Shift 1	6:00 am	2:00 pm
Shift 2	8:00 am	4:00 pm
Shift 3	noon	8:00 pm
Shift 4	4:00 pm	midnight
Shift 5	10:00 pm	6:00 am



The five shifts cover different time windows at a different cost

■ **TABLE 3.19** Data for the Union Airways personnel scheduling problem

Time Period	Time Periods Covered					Minimum Number of Agents Needed
	Shift					
	1	2	3	4	5	
6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.	✓					48
8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.	✓	✓				79
10:00 A.M. to noon	✓	✓				65
Noon to 2:00 P.M.	✓	✓	✓			87
2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.		✓	✓			64
4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.			✓	✓		73
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.			✓	✓		82
8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.				✓		43
10:00 P.M. to midnight				✓	✓	52
Midnight to 6:00 A.M.					✓	15
Daily cost per agent	\$170	\$160	\$175	\$180	\$195	

Are these numbers needed?



Are these numbers needed?



What do we want to minimize?

■ **TABLE 3.19** Data for the Union Airways personnel scheduling problem

Time Period	Time Periods Covered					Minimum Number of Agents Needed
	Shift					
	1	2	3	4	5	
6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.	✓					48
8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.	✓	✓				79
10:00 A.M. to noon	✓	✓				65
Noon to 2:00 P.M.	✓	✓	✓			87
2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.		✓	✓			64
4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.			✓	✓		73
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.			✓	✓		82
8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.				✓		43
10:00 P.M. to midnight				✓	✓	52
Midnight to 6:00 A.M.					✓	15
Daily cost per agent	\$170	\$160	\$175	\$180	\$195	

Cost, based on the number  $x_i$  of agents assigned to each shift  $i, i = 1, \dots, 5$ :

Minimize  $170x_1 + 160x_2 + 175x_3 + 180x_4 + 195x_5$

■ **TABLE 3.19** Data for the Union Airways personnel scheduling problem

Time Period	Time Periods Covered					Minimum Number of Agents Needed
	Shift					
	1	2	3	4	5	
6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.	✓					48
8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.	✓	✓				79
10:00 A.M. to noon	✓	✓				65
Noon to 2:00 P.M.	✓	✓	✓			87
2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.		✓	✓			64
4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.			✓	✓		73
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.			✓	✓		82
8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.				✓		43
10:00 P.M. to midnight				✓	✓	52
Midnight to 6:00 A.M.					✓	15
Daily cost per agent	\$170	\$160	\$175	\$180	\$195	

Minimize  $170x_1 + 160x_2 + 175x_3 + 180x_4 + 195x_5$

Which is the first structural constraint?

$$x_1 \geq 48$$

Which is the second structural constraint?

$$x_1 + x_2 \geq 79$$

■ **TABLE 3.19** Data for the Union Airways personnel scheduling problem

Time Period	Time Periods Covered					Minimum Number of Agents Needed
	Shift					
	1	2	3	4	5	
6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.	✓					48
8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.	✓	✓				79
10:00 A.M. to noon	✓	✓				65
Noon to 2:00 P.M.	✓	✓	✓			87
2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.		✓	✓			64
4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.			✓	✓		73
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.			✓	✓		82
8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.				✓		43
10:00 P.M. to midnight				✓	✓	52
Midnight to 6:00 A.M.					✓	15
Daily cost per agent	\$170	\$160	\$175	\$180	\$195	

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_1 &\geq 48 \\
 x_1 + x_2 &\geq 79 \\
 x_1 + x_2 &\geq 65 \\
 x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &\geq 87 \\
 x_2 + x_3 &\geq 64 \\
 x_3 + x_4 &\geq 73 \\
 x_3 + x_4 &\geq 82 \\
 x_5 &\geq 43 \\
 x_5 + x_6 &\geq 52 \\
 x_6 &\geq 15
 \end{aligned}$$

Anything weird about these structural constraints ?

Anything Missing?

$$x_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, 5$$

■ **TABLE 3.19** Data for the Union Airways personnel scheduling problem

Time Period	Time Periods Covered					Minimum Number of Agents Needed
	Shift					
	1	2	3	4	5	
6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.	✓					48
8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.	✓	✓				79
10:00 A.M. to noon	✓	✓				65
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2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.		✓	✓			64
4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.			✓	✓		73
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.			✓	✓		82
8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.				✓		43
10:00 P.M. to midnight				✓	✓	52
Midnight to 6:00 A.M.					✓	15
Daily cost per agent	\$170	\$160	\$175	\$180	\$195	

The optimal solution for this model is  $(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = (48, 31, 39, 43, 15)$ . This yields  $Z = 30,610$ , that is, a total daily personnel cost of \$30,610.

$$\text{Minimize } 170x_1 + 160x_2 + 175x_3 + 180x_4 + 195x_5$$

$$x_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, 5$$

TABLE 3.19 Data for the Union Airways personnel scheduling problem

Time Period	Time Periods Covered					Minimum Number of Agents Needed
	Shift					
	1	2	3	4	5	
4:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.	✓					48
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	✓	✓				79
10:00 a.m. to noon	✓	✓				65
Noon to 2:00 p.m.		✓	✓			87
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.		✓	✓			64
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.			✓	✓		73
8:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.			✓	✓		62
8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.				✓	✓	43
10:00 p.m. to midnight				✓	✓	52
Midnight to 4:00 a.m.					✓	15
Daily cost per agent	\$170	\$140	\$175	\$180	\$195	

$$\text{Minimize } 170x_1 + 160x_2 + 175x_3 + 180x_4 + 195x_5$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &\geq 48 \\ x_1 + x_2 &\geq 79 \\ x_1 + x_2 &\geq 65 \\ x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &\geq 87 \\ x_2 + x_3 &\geq 64 \\ x_3 + x_4 &\geq 73 \\ x_3 + x_4 &\geq 62 \\ x_5 &\geq 43 \\ x_5 + x_6 &\geq 52 \\ x_6 &\geq 15 \end{aligned}$$

- ⊠ Anything weird about these structural constraints ?
- ⊠ Anything Missing?
- ⊠  $x_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, 5$



What happened to divisibility?

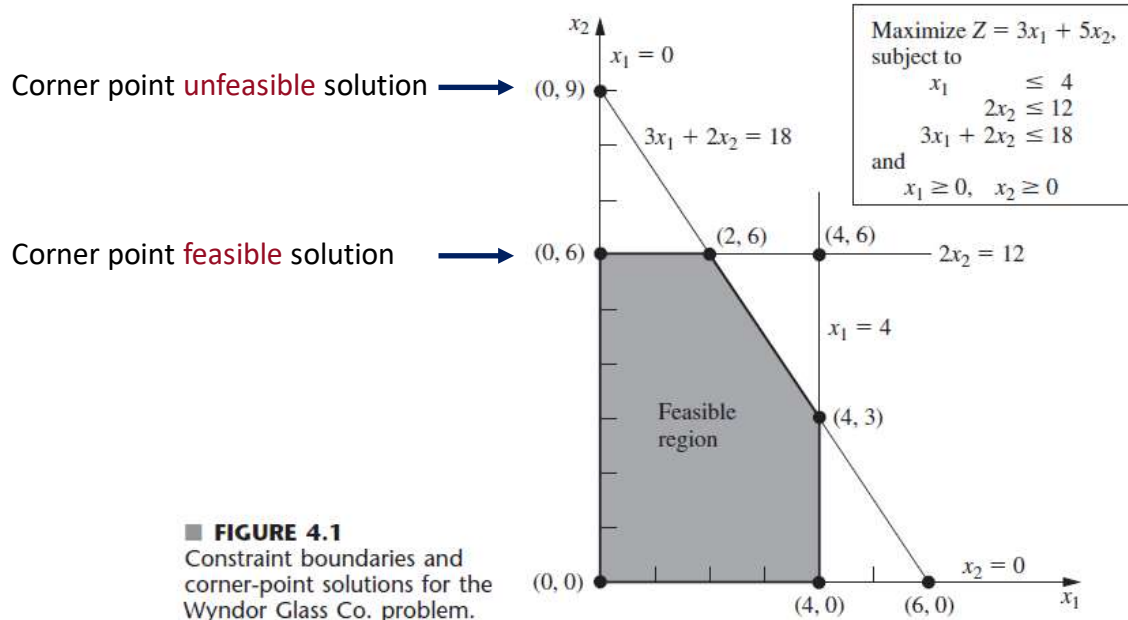
# 8.

## Method of simplex

A geometric illustration of the simplex method. Hillier 2014, chapter 4.



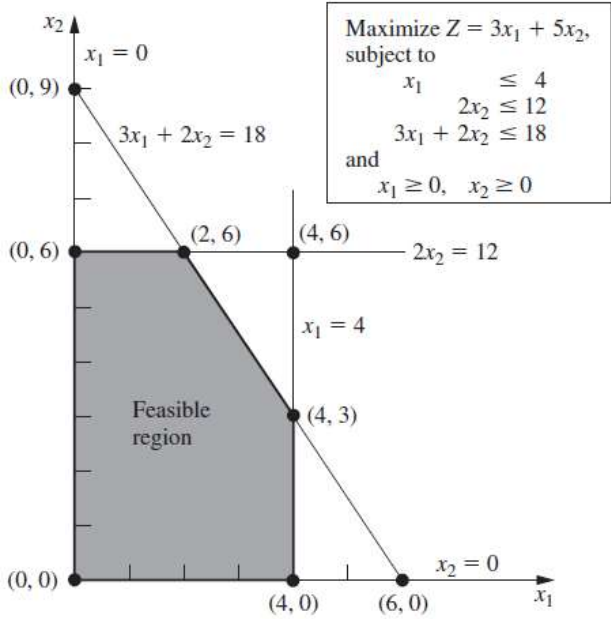
# Simplified illustration of the simplex method, recalling the previous example



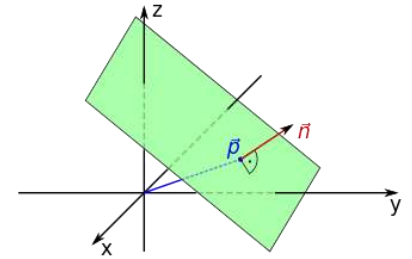
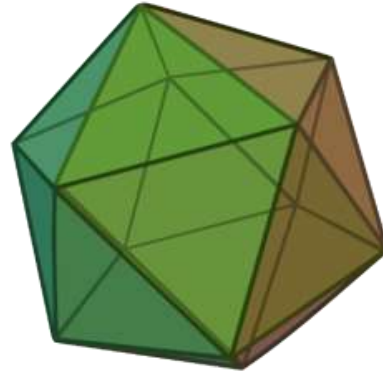
■ **FIGURE 4.1**  
 Constraint boundaries and  
 corner-point solutions for the  
 Wyndor Glass Co. problem.

Recall the all-  
 important concept of  
**Corner Point Feasible  
 (CPF)** solution.

The problem has  
 three unfeasible  
 (which are ...?) and  
 five feasible (CPF)  
 solutions (which are  
 ...?)

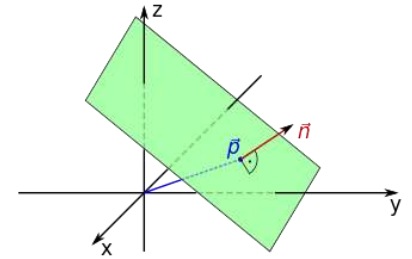
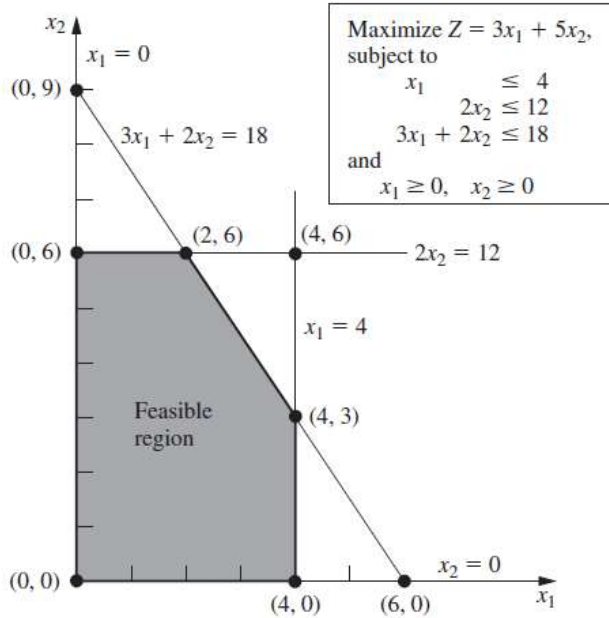


Recall that if there is only one optimal solution this must be a CPF



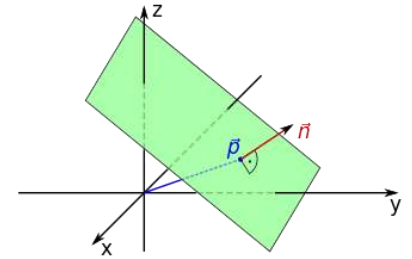
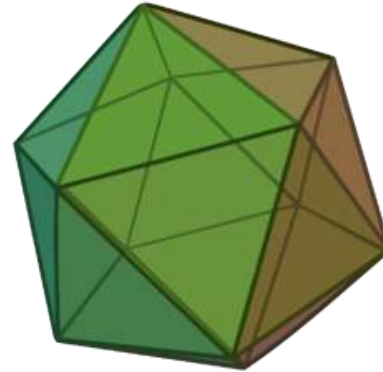
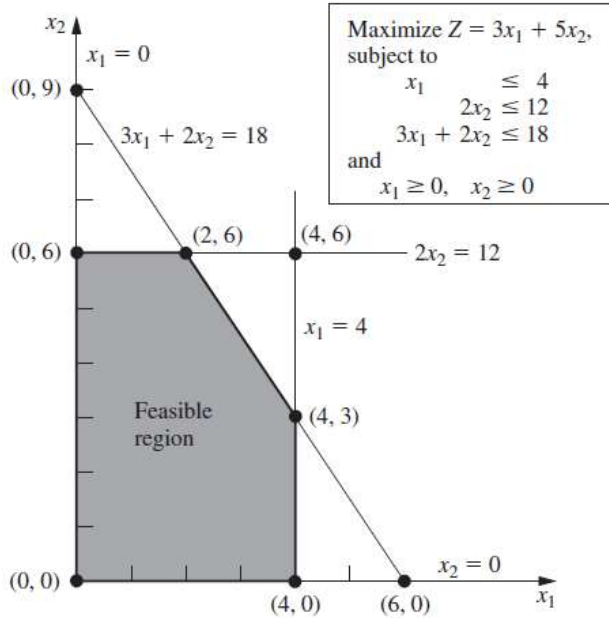
Source (both images): Wikipedia Commons

In  $n$  dimensions the feasible region is a hyper polyhedron while the objective function is a plane; when it touches the polyhedron it will be in on a CPF (a corner) – or if there are more solutions, it will touch at least two CPF's (an edge or a plane)

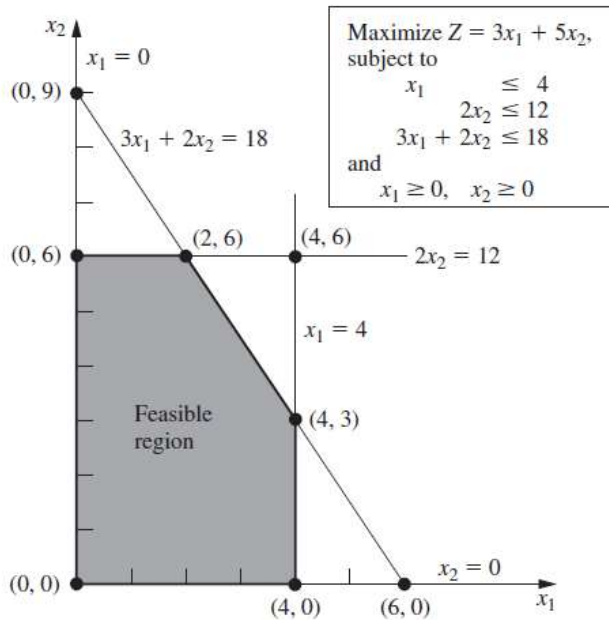


Source (both images): Wikipedia Commons

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Source (both images): Wikipedia Commons



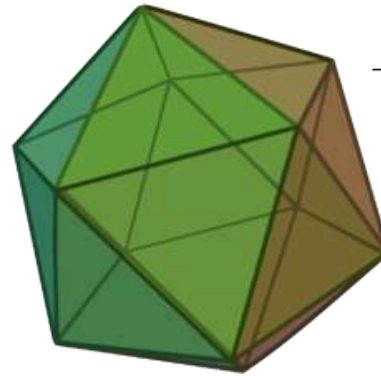
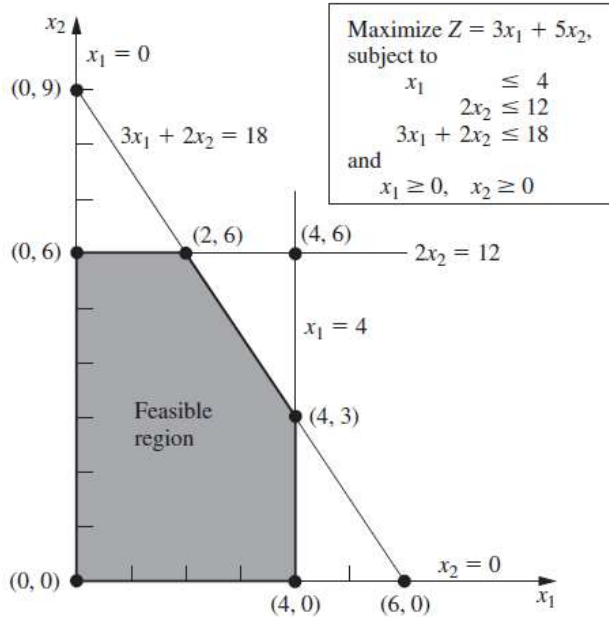
- If there is only one optimal solution this must be a CPF



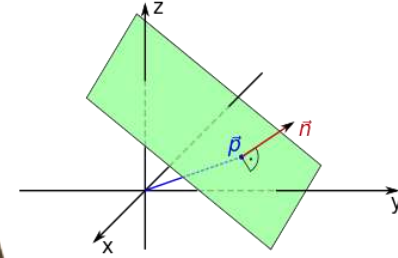
So a brute-force strategy to find the solution is to compute  $Z$  in all CPF points

This is not what simplex does. What is the algorithm employed by simplex?

Without proof we say that two CPF are adjacent in a problem with  $n$  decision variables ( $2$  in the example) when the point share  $(n-1)$  constraints boundaries ( $1$  in this case). So the five CPF points  $(0,0; 0,6; 2,6; 4,3; 4,0)$



Source (both images): Wikipedia Commons



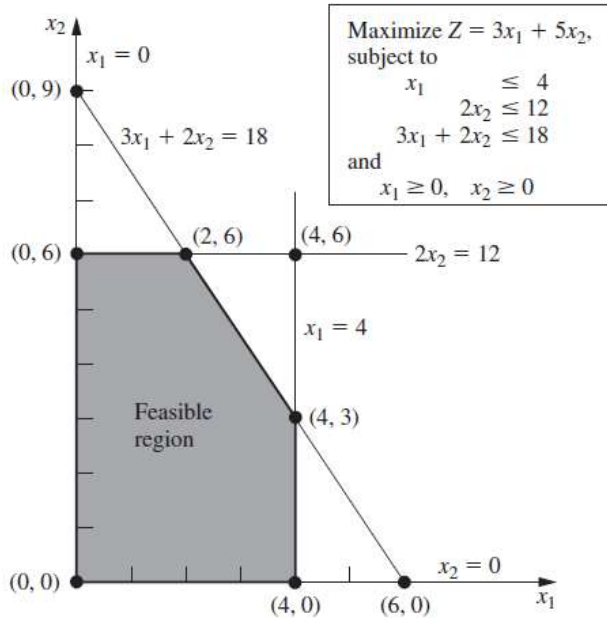
How many vertices could be adjacent to one another in the icosahedron?

Twenty (eikosi=) faces/planes  
 Thirty edges  
 twelve vertices

Faces+ vertices-2=edges (Euler's formula)

■ **TABLE 4.1** Adjacent CPF solutions for each CPF solution of the Wyndor Glass Co. problem

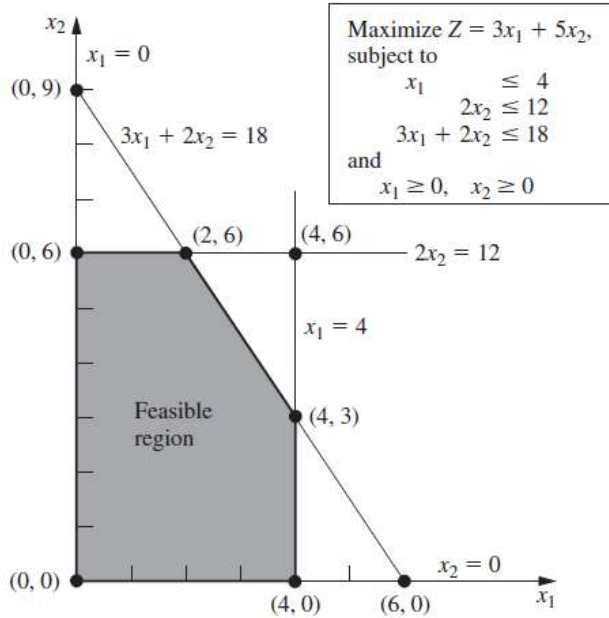
CPF Solution	Its Adjacent CPF Solutions
(0, 0)	(0, 6) and (4, 0)
(0, 6)	(2, 6) and (0, 0)
(2, 6)	(4, 3) and (0, 6)
(4, 3)	(4, 0) and (2, 6)
(4, 0)	(0, 0) and (4, 3)



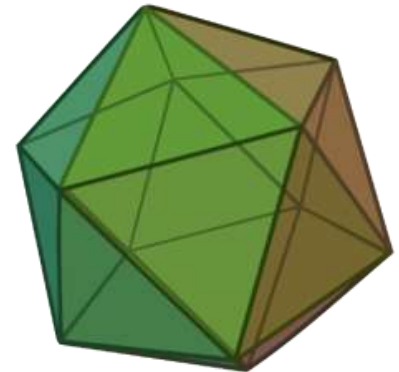
If the points adjacent to a given CPF all have lower  $Z$  than the given point, the given point is the optimal solution. This implies that I do not need to explore all CPF, but to follow a trajectory and systematically explore at each stage the adjacent point of my position. I stop the trajectory when all adjacent points have lower  $Z$ .

■ **TABLE 4.1** Adjacent CPF solutions for each CPF solution of the Wyndor Glass Co. problem

CPF Solution	Its Adjacent CPF Solutions
(0, 0)	(0, 6) and (4, 0)
(0, 6)	(2, 6) and (0, 0)
(2, 6)	(4, 3) and (0, 6)
(4, 3)	(4, 0) and (2, 6)
(4, 0)	(0, 0) and (4, 3)

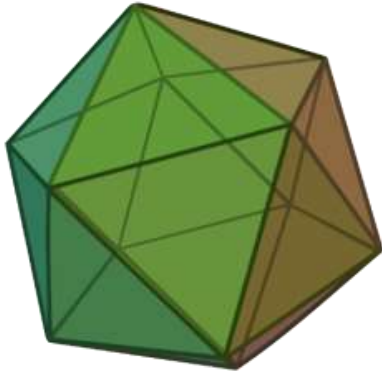


If the points adjacent to a given CPF all have lower  $Z$  than the given point, the given point is the optimal solution. Why?





If the points adjacent to a given CPF all have lower  $Z$  than the given point, the given point is the optimal solution. Why?

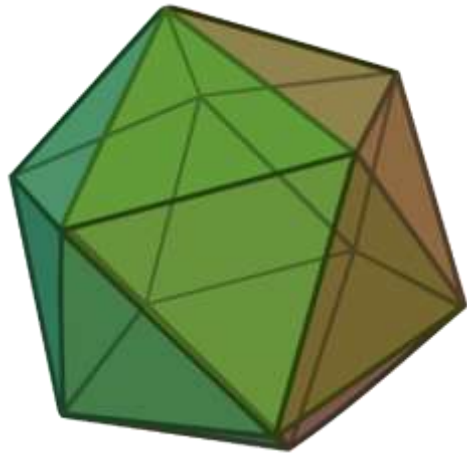


Because the solution space is convex: if you are on a peak, you are surrounded by a 'flat' landscape; there cannot be other mountains in sight



Source: <https://www.istockphoto.com>

Because the solution space is convex: if you are on a mountain surrounded by valleys, there cannot be other mountains beyond the valleys



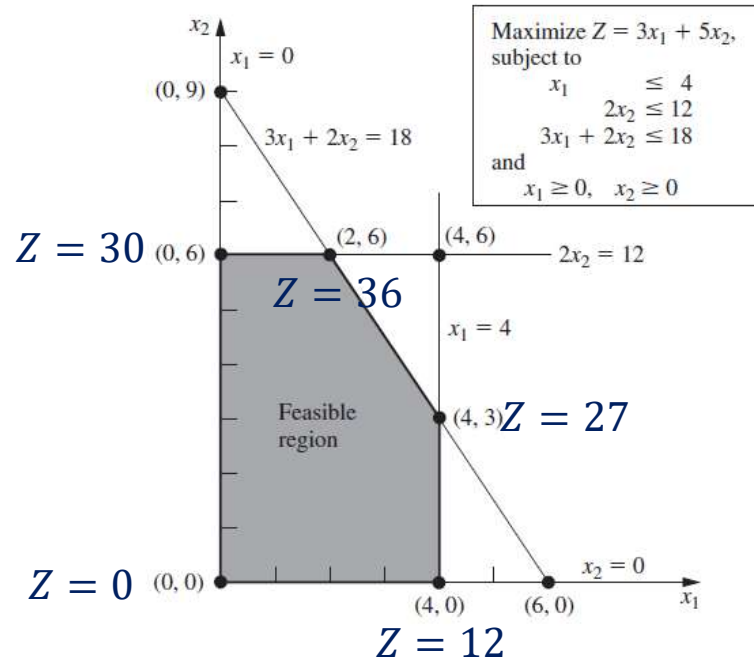
Possible  
solution space



Not a solution  
space



From the cover of Proof and Refutation, of Imre Lakatos, Cambridge University Press



If the points adjacent to a given CPF all have lower  $Z$  than the given point, the given point is the optimal solution.

Applying this to the  $n = 2$  example of the figure above, one can start from  $(0,0)$ , pass by  $(0,6)$ , and stop at  $(2,6)$  since the adjacent points of  $(0,6)$  have lower  $Z$

Starting from  $(4,0)$  leads to the same result

## The nut-mix problem

*The nut-mix problem of Charnes and Cooper (1953):*

A manufacturer wishes to determine an optimal program for mixing three grades [A, B, D] of nuts consisting of cashews [C], hazels [H], and peanuts [P] according to the specifications and prices given in table 1. Hazels may be introduced into the mixture in any quantity, provided the specifications are met. The amounts of each nut available each day and their costs are given in table 2. Determine the pounds of each mixture that should be manufactured each day to maximize the gross return (contribution margin).

Page 94 Gass, S. I., & Assad, A. A. (2006). *An Annotated Timeline Of Operations Research: An Informal History* (1st Corrected ed. 2005, Corr. 2nd printing 2006 edition). Springer-Verlag New York Inc.

Table 1

Mixture	Specifications	Selling price: ¢/pound
A	Not less than 50% cashews Not more than 25% peanuts	50
B	Not less than 25% cashews Not more than 50% peanuts	35
D	No specifications	25

## The nut-mix problem



Hazels

Source: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>



Peanuts

<https://www.nutsforlife.com.au>



Cashew

Source: <https://www.cashews.org>

Table 2

Inputs	Capacity: pounds/day	Price: ¢/pound
C	100	65
H	60	35
P	100	25
Total	260	

Table 1

Mixture	Specifications	Selling price: ¢/pound
A	Not less than 50% cashews Not more than 25% peanuts	50
B	Not less than 25% cashews Not more than 50% peanuts	35
D	No specifications	25

Hint 1

Reckon in terms of pounds per day of the three nuts type

Table 2

Inputs	Capacity: pounds/day	Price: ¢/pound
C	100	65
H	60	35
P	100	25
Total	260	

Table 1

Mixture	Specifications	Selling price: ¢/pound
A	Not less than 50% cashews Not more than 25% peanuts	50
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D	No specifications	25

## Hint 2

C pounds cashew/day

H pounds hazels/day

P pounds peanuts/day

---

$C_A$  pounds cashew/day in A

$C_B$  pounds cashew/day in B

...

$C_P$  pounds peanuts/day in C

(nine variables)

Table 2

Inputs	Capacity: pounds/day	Price: ¢/pound
C	100	65
H	60	35
P	100	25
Total	260	

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Mixture	Specifications	Selling price: ¢/pound
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Table 2

Inputs	Capacity: pounds/day	Price: ¢/pound
C	100	65
H	60	35
P	100	25
Total	260	

## My solution

Maximize

$$50(C_A + H_A + P_A) - (65C_A + 35H_A + 25P_A) + \\ 35(C_B + H_B + P_B) - (65C_B + 35H_B + 25P_B) + \\ 25(C_D + H_D + P_D) - (65C_D + 35H_D + 25P_D)$$

Subject to

$$C_A + C_B + C_D \leq 100$$

$$H_A + H_B + H_D \leq 60$$

$$P_A + P_B + P_D \leq 100$$

... how about the specifications in table 1?



Table 1

Mixture	Specifications	Selling price: ¢/pound
A	Not less than 50% cashews Not more than 25% peanuts	50
B	Not less than 25% cashews Not more than 50% peanuts	35
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Table 2

Inputs	Capacity: pounds/day	Price: ¢/pound
C	100	65
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P	100	25
Total	260	

## My solution

Maximize

$$50(C_A + H_A + P_A) - (65C_A + 35H_A + 25P_A) + 35(C_B + H_B + P_B) - (65C_B + 35H_B + 25P_B) + 25(C_D + H_D + P_D) - (65C_D + 35H_D + 25P_D)$$

Subject to

$$C_A + C_B + C_D \leq 100$$

$$H_A + H_B + H_D \leq 60$$

$$P_A + P_B + P_D \leq 100$$

$$\frac{C_A}{C_A + H_A + P_A} \geq 0.5 \quad \frac{C_B}{C_B + H_B + P_B} \geq 0.25$$

$$\frac{P_A}{C_A + H_A + P_A} \leq 0.25 \quad \frac{P_B}{C_B + H_B + P_B} \leq 0.50$$

+ non-negativity constraints for all C's, H's and P's

## Homework (to be handed over at the next lesson – handwritten)

- 1) Choose one Pitfall in Formulation **or** one Pitfall in Modelling from the list offered in this lecture, go to chapter 3 (from page 23) of the volume of Majone and Quade (on <https://ecampus.bsm.upf.edu/>) and read the relevant subsection. Write one page about what you read.
- 2) Consider the following model: Maximize

$$Z = 40x_1 + 50x_2$$

subject to

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 \geq 30$$

$$x_1 + x_2 \geq 12$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 \geq 20$$

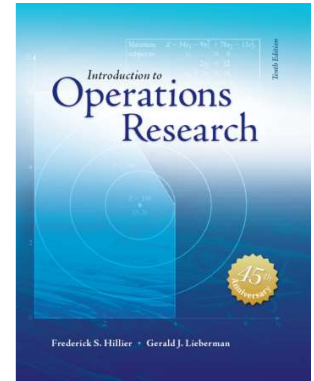
and

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$

Use the graphical method to solve this model.

- 3) Solve with Excel SOLVER the case “Controlling Air Pollution; Nori and Leets Co., Hillier:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ddd48a8jguinbcf/AABF0s4eh1IPLVxdx0pes-Ofa?dl=0&preview=Introduction+to+Operations+Research+-+Frederick+S.+Hillier.pdf> Chapter 3, pages 51–53.
- 4) Write down the equations for the Nut-mix example of the previous slides without solving it.



# Thank you