Transportation Problems

 Transportation is considered as a "special case" of LP

- Reasons?
 - it can be formulated using LP technique so is its solution



 Here, we attempt to firstly define what are them and then studying their solution methods: (to p3)

Transportation Problem

• We have seen a sample of transportation problem on slide 29 in lecture 2

 Here, we study its alternative solution method

Consider the following transportation tableau
_(to p6)

Review of Transportation Problem

Warehouse supply of televisions sets:	Retail store demand for tele	evision sets
1- Cincinnati 300	A - New York	150
2- Atlanta 200	B - Dallas	250
3- Pittsburgh 200	C - Detroit	200
total 700	total	600

From		To Store	
warehouse —	А	В	С
1	\$16	\$18	\$11
2	14	12	13
3	13	15	17





A Transportation Example (2 of 3) Model Summary and Computer Solution with Excel

Minimize $Z = \$16x_{1A} + 18x_{1B} + 11x_{1C} + 14x_{2A} + 12x_{2B} + 13x_{2C} + 13x_{3A} + 15x_{3B} + 17x_{3C}$



(to p3)

Transportation Tableau



- We know how to formulate it using LP technique – Refer to lecture 2 note
- Here, we study its solution by firstly attempting to determine its initial tableau
 _(to p7)
 - Just like the first simplex tableau!

Solution to a transportation problem

- Initial tableau (to p8)
- Optimal solution (to p23)
- Important Notes (to p43)
- Tutorials (to p53)

initial tableau

- Three different ways:
 - Northwest corner method
 - The Minimum cell cost method
 - Vogel's approximation method (VAM)
- Now, are these initial tableaus given us an Optimal solution?

(to p16)

Northwest corner method

Steps:

- 1. assign largest possible allocation to the cell in the upper left-hand corner of the tableau
- 2. Repeat step 1 until all allocations have been assigned
- 3. Stop. Initial tableau is obtained



Northeast corner



Initial tableau of NW corner method

- Repeat the above steps, we have the following tableau.
- Stop. Since all allocated have been assigned



Ensure that all columns and rows added up to its respective totals.

(to p8)

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The Minimum cell cost method

Here, we use the following steps:

Steps:

Step 1 Find the cell that has the least cost Step 2: Assign as much as allocation to this cell

Step 3: Block those cells that cannot be allocated

Step 4: Repeat above steps until all allocation have been assigned.



Step 1 Find the cell that has the least cost Step 2: Assign as much as allocation to this cell



The min cost, so allocate as much resource as possible here



Step 3: Block those cells that cannot be allocated Step 4: Repeat above steps until all allocation have been assigned.



Second iteration, step 4

The initial solution



• Stop. The above tableau is an initial tableau because all allocations have been assigned

(to p8) 15

Vogel's approximation method

Operational steps:

Step 1: for each column and row, determine its penalty cost by subtracting their two of their least cost

- Step 2: select row/column that has the highest penalty cost in step 1
- Step 3: assign as much as allocation to the selected row/column that has the least cost
- Step 4: Block those cells that cannot be further allocated
- Step 5: Repeat above steps until all allocations have been assigned



subtracting their two of their least cost

Step 1



Steps 2 & 3



Step 3: this has the least cost

Step 4



Step 5 **Second Iteration**



The Second VAM Allocation

3rd Iteration of VAM



Initial tableau for VAM



(to p8)

Optimal solution?

Initial solution from:

Northeast cost, total cost =\$5,925 The min cost, total cost =\$4,550 VAM, total cost = \$5,125

(note: here, we are not saying the second one always better!) It shows that the second one has the min cost, but is it the optimal solution?

Solution methods

- We need a method, like the simplex method, to check and obtain the optimal solution
- Two methods:
- 1. Stepping-stone method
- 2. Modified distributed method (MODI)



(to p30)

Stepping-stone method

Let consider the following initial tableau from the Min Cost algorithm



Question: How can we introduce a non-basic variable into basic variable? (to p26)

Introduce

a non-basic variable into basic variables

 Here, we can select any non-basic variable as an entry and then using the "+ and –" steps to form a closed loop as follows:



Stepping stone



(to p28)

The above saying that, we add min value of all –ve cells into cell that has "+" sign, and subtracts the same value to the "-ve" cells Thus many us is min (202.25). 25 and us of all 25 to each 42 and 42 and

Thus, max -ve is min (200,25) = 25, and we add 25 to cell A1 and A3, and subtract it from B1 and A3

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Stepping stone



The above tableaus give min cost = 25*6 + 120*10 + 175*11175*4 + 100*5 = \$4525

We can repeat this process to all possible non-basic cells in that above tableau until one has the min cost! —> NOT a Good solution method

(to p29)

Getting optimal solution

 In such, we introducing the next algorithm called Modified Distribution (MODI)

Modified distributed method (MODI)

- It is a modified version of stepping stone method
- MODI has two important elements:
 - 1. It determines if a tableau is the optimal one
 - 2. It tells you which non-basic variable should be firstly considered as an entry variable
 - 3. It makes use of stepping-stone to get its answer of next iteration
 - How it works? (to p31)

Procedure (MODI)

Step 0: let u_i, v, c_{ii} variables represent rows, columns, and cost in the transportation tableau, respectively Step 1: (a) form a set of equations that uses to represent all basic variables $u_i + v_j = c_{ii}$ (b) solve variables by assign one variable = 0Step2: (a) form a set of equations use to represent non-basic variable (or empty cell) as such $C_{ii} - U_i - V_j = k_{ii}$ (b) solve variables by using step 1b information Step 3: Select the cell that has the most –ve value in 2b Step 4: Use stepping-stone method to allocate resource to cell in step 3 Step 5: Repeat the above steps until all cells in 2a has no negative value





MODI

Consider to this initial tableau:



Step 0: let ui, v, cij variables represent rows, columns, and cost in the transportation tableau, respectively (to p33)

Step 0



ui + vj = Cij



(to p35)

Set one variable = 0

Now there are five equations with six unknowns. To solve these equations, it is necessary to assign only one of the unknowns a value of zero. Thus, if we let $u_1 = 0$, we can solve for all remaining u_i and v_i values.

Because we added an non-basic variable

$$\begin{array}{rl} x_{1B}: & u_1 + v_B = 8 \\ & 0 + v_B = 8 \\ & v_B = 8 \\ x_{1C}: & u_1 + v_C = 10 \\ & 0 + v_C = 10 \\ & v_L = 11 \\ & u_2 + 10 = 11 \\ & u_2 = 1 \\ & u_2 = 1 \\ & u_3 + v_B = 5 \\ & u_3 + v_B = 5 \\ & u_3 + 8 = 5 \\ & u_3 = -3 \\ & x_{3A}: & u_3 + v_A = 4 \\ & -3 + v_A = 4 \\ & v_A = 7 \end{array}$$

(to p36)



Step2: (a & b)

	vj	$v_A =$	7	$v_B = 8$	3	$v_C = $	10	
u _i	To From	А		В		С		Supply
			6		8		10	
$u_1 = 0$	1			25		125		150
		1	7		11		11	
$u_2 = 1$	2	į				175		175
		1	4		5		12	
$u_3 = -3$	3	200		75				275
	Demand	200		100		300		600
		1						

Next, we use the following formula to evaluate all empty cells:

 $c_{ij} - u_i - v_j = k_{ij}$

where k_{ij} equals the cost increase or decrease that would occur by allocating to a cell. For the *empty cells* in Table B-26, the formula yields the following values:

 $\begin{array}{ll} x_{1\mathrm{A}}: & k_{1\mathrm{A}} = c_{1\mathrm{A}} - u_1 - v_{\mathrm{A}} = 6 - 0 - 7 = -1 \\ x_{2\mathrm{A}}: & k_{2\mathrm{A}} = c_{2\mathrm{A}} - u_2 - v_{\mathrm{A}} = 7 - 1 - 7 = -1 \\ x_{2\mathrm{B}}: & k_{2\mathrm{B}} = c_{2\mathrm{B}} - u_2 - v_{\mathrm{B}} = 11 - 1 - 8 = +2 \\ x_{3\mathrm{C}}: & k_{3\mathrm{C}} = c_{3\mathrm{C}} - u_3 - v_{\mathrm{C}} = 12 - (-3) - 10 = +5 \end{array}$

Note this may look difficult and complicated, however, we can add these 36 V=values into the above tableau as well (to p37)

Step2: (a & b), alternative



(to p38)



Step 3: Select the cell that has the most -ve value in 2b

Step3



Next, we use the following formula to evaluate all *empty cells*:

$$c_{ij} - u_i - v_j = k_{ij}$$

Select either one, (Why?) These cells mean, introduce it will reduce the min z to -1 cost unit (to p39)

Step 4: Use stepping-stone method



From here we have



Step 4: Use stepping-stone method



(to p41)



Step 5: we repeat steps 1-4 again for the above tableau, we have

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Step 5



$$\begin{array}{rl} x_{3A}: & u_3 + v_A = 4 \\ & u_3 + 6 = 4 \\ & u_3 = -2 \\ x_{3B}: & u_3 + v_B = 5 \\ & -2 + v_B = 5 \\ & v_B = 7 \end{array}$$



Step 5 cont



The cost changes for the empty cells are now computed using the formula $c_{ij} - u_i - v_j = k_{ij}$ All positives **STOP** x_{3C}^{2D} : $k_{3C}^{2D} = c_{3C}^{2D} - u_{3}^{2} - v_{C}^{2} = 12 - (-2) - 10 = +4$

Because none of these values is negative, the solution shown in Table B-28 is optimal. However, as in the stepping-stone method, cell 2A with a zero cost change indicates a multiple optimal solution.

(to p31) 42

Important Notes

- When start solving a transportation problem using algorithm, we need to ensure the following:
- 1. Alternative solution

(to p45)

- 2. Total demand ≠ total supply ►
- 3. Degeneracy (to p48)
- 4. others (to p52)



Alternative solution

• When on the following k = 0

$$c_{ij} - u_i - vj = k_{ij}$$

Why?

⁴⁴ U

(to p43)

Total demand ≠ total supply



Note that, total demand=650, and total supply = 600

How to solve it?

We need to add a dummy row and assign o cost to each cell as such ...

(to p46)

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Dd≠ss



Extra row, since Demand > supply

Other example

(to p47)

Dd≠ss

Table B-30 An Unbalanced Model (Supply > Demand)





In all the tableaus showing a solution to the wheat transportation problem, the following condition was met.

m rows + n columns -1 = the number of cells with allocations





m rows + n column - 1 = the number of cells with allocations

3 + 3 - 1 = 5 (five basic variables, and above has 5 as well!)

It satisfied.

If failed? considering (to p50)



The tableau shown in Table B-31 does not meet the condition

$$m + n - 1$$
 = the number of cells with allocations
3 + 3 - 1 = 5 cells (note above has only 4 basic variable only!)

If not matched, then we select an non-basic variable with least cheapest cost and considered it as a new basic variable with assigned 0 allocation to it





Added this

Note: we pick this over others because it has the least cost for the Min Z problem!

(to p43) 51

others

- 1. When one route cannot be used
 - Assign a big M cost to its cell

If 10 changed to Cannot delivered Then we assigned M value here



(to p43)

Tutorials

- Module B
 - -1, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34
 - these questions are attached in the following slides

 Green Valley Mills produces carpet at plants in St. Louis and Richmond. The carpet is then shij to two outlets located in Chicago and Atlanta. The cost per ton of shipping carpet from each o two plants to the two warehouses is as follows.

	1	δ
From	Chicago	Atlanta
St. Louis	\$40	\$65
Richmond	70	30

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ANSPORTATION AND ASSIGNMENT SOLUTION METHODS

The plant at St. Louis can supply 250 tons of carpet per week; the plant at Richmond can supply 400 tons per week. The Chicago outlet has a demand of 300 tons per week, and the outlet at Atlanta demands 350 tons per week. The company wants to know the number of tons of carpet to ship from each plant to each outlet in order to minimize the total shipping cost. Solve this transportation problem.

5. Given a transportation problem with the following costs, supply, and demand, find the initial solution using the minimum cell cost method and Vogel's approximation model. Is the VAM solution optimal?

		То		
From	1	2	3	Supply
A	\$ 6	\$ 7	\$4	100
В	5	3	6	180
С	8	5	7	200
Demand	135	175	170	

	То			
From	1	2	3	Supply
А	\$ 6	\$ 9	\$ 7	130
В	12	3	5	70
С	4	11	11	100
Demand	80	110	60	

8. Consider the following transportation problem.

a. Find the initial solution using the minimum cell cost method.

b. Solve using the stepping-stone method.

13. A manufacturing firm produces diesel engines in four cities—Phoenix, Seattle, St. Louis, and Detroit. The company is able to produce the following numbers of engines per month.

Plant	Production
1. Phoenix	5
2. Seattle	25
3. St. Louis	20
4. Detroit	25

Three trucking firms purchase the following numbers of engines for their plants in three cities.

Firm	Demand
A. Greensboro	10
B. Charlotte	20
C. Louisville	15

The transportation costs per engine (\$100s) from sources to destinations are shown in the following table. However, the Charlotte firm will not accept engines made in Seattle, and the Louisville firm will not accept engines from Detroit; therefore, these routes are prohibited.

		То	
From	A	В	С
1	\$ 7	\$ 8	\$5
2	6	10	6
3	10	4	5
4	3	9	11

- a. Set up the transportation tableau for this problem. Find the initial solution using VAM.
- b. Solve for the optimal solution using the stepping-stone method. Compute the total minimum cost.
- c. Formulate this problem as a linear programming model.

21. A large manufacturing company is closing three of its existing plants and intends to transfer some of its more skilled employees to three plants that will remain open. The number of employees available for transfer from each closing plant is as follows.

Closing Plant	Transferable Employees
1	60
2	105
3	70
Total	235

The following number of employees can be accommodated at the three plants remaining open.

Open Plants	Employees Demanded
A	45
В	90
С	35
Total	170

Each transferred employee will increase product output per day at each plant as shown in the following table. The company wants to transfer employees so as to ensure the maximum increase in product output.

		То	
From	Α	В	С
1	5	8	6
2	10	9	12
3	7	6	8

a. Find the initial solution using VAM.

b. Solve using MODI.

34. Orient Express is a global distribution company that transports its clients' products to customers in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Taipei. All of the products Orient Express ships are stored at three distribution centers, one in Los Angeles, one in Savannah, and one in Galveston. For the coming month the company has 450 containers of computer components available at the Los Angeles center, 600 containers available at Savannah, and 350 containers available in Galveston. The company has orders for 600 containers from Hong Kong, 500 containers from Singapore, and 500 containers from Taipei. The shipping costs per container from each U.S. port to each of the overseas ports are shown in the following table.

U.S. Center Distribution	Overseas Port		
	Hong Kong	Singapore	Taipei
Los Angeles	\$300	\$210	\$340
Savannah	490	520	610
Galveston	360	320	500

The Orient Express as the overseas broker for its U.S. customers is responsible for unfulfilled orders, and it incurs stiff penalty costs from overseas customers if it does not meet an order. The Hong Kong customers charge a penalty cost of \$800 per container for unfulfilled demand, Singapore customers charge a penalty cost of \$920 per container, and Taipei customers charge \$1,100 per container. Formulate and solve a transportation model to determine the shipments from each U.S. distribution center to each overseas port that will minimize shipping costs. Indicate what portion of the total cost is a result of penalties.