



Module B: Linear Programming

Learning Objectives:

- Formulate linear programming models, including an objective function and constraints
- Recognize decision variables, the objective function and constraints in formulating linear optimization models
- Formulate a linear programming model from a description of a problem
- Solve linear programming problems using algebraic methods
- Use Excel Solver to solve linear optimization models on spreadsheets
- Interpret computer solutions of linear programming problems
- Perform sensitivity analysis on the solution of a linear programming problem

- A model represents the essential features of an object, system or problem without all of the unimportant details
 - A simplified version of reality
 - Mathematical models are cheaper, faster and safer than constructing and manipulating real systems
- Optimization Models: models that seek to maximize or minimize some objective function while satisfying a set of constraints
 - An important category of optimization models is linear programming
- Linear Programming (LP): A mathematical technique designed to help operations managers plan and make decisions necessary to allocate resources

- Many operations management decisions involve trying to make the most effective use of resources – LP problems seek to maximize or minimize some quantity
 - Scheduling school buses to *minimize* total distance traveled when carrying students
 - Allocating police patrol units to high crime areas to *minimize* response time to 911 calls
 - Selecting the product mix in a factory to make best use of machine- and labor-hours available while *maximizing* the firm's profit
 - Picking blends of raw materials in feed mills to produce finished feed combinations at *minimum* costs
 - Allocating space for a tenant mix in a new shopping mall so as to *maximize* revenues for the leasing company

Requirements for Linear Programming

- There are **four essential** conditions for Linear Programming:
 1. LP problems seek to maximize or minimize some quantity (usually profit or cost) expressed as an objective function
 2. The presence of restrictions, or constraints, limits the degree to which we can pursue our objective
 3. There must be *alternative* courses of action to choose from
 4. The objective and constraints in linear programming problems must be expressed in terms of *linear* equations or inequalities
- There are other requirements for LP... There must be
 - ✓ Limited resources
 - ✓ An explicit objective
 - ✓ Linearity / Divisibility
 - ✓ Homogeneity

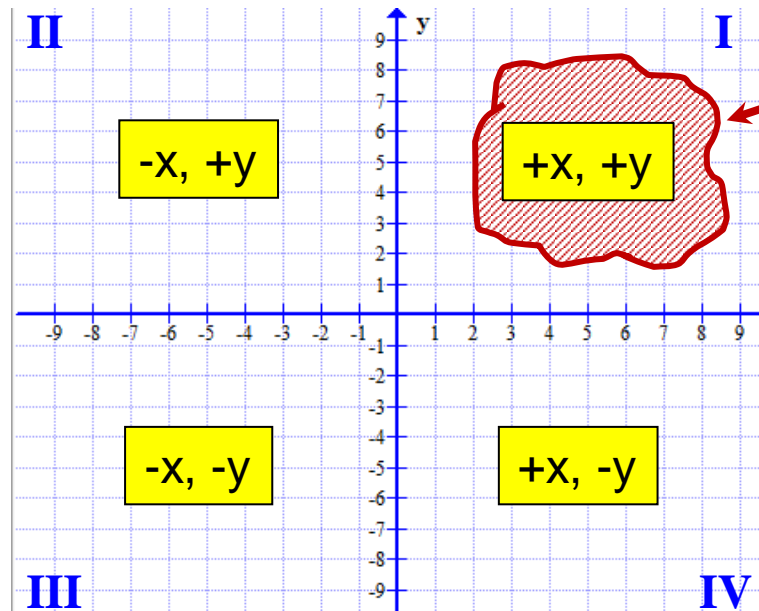
- There are **three key components** of a Linear Programming model: decision variables, an objective function and constraints
1. Decision variables: controllable input variable that represents the key decisions a manager must make to achieve an objective
 - Generally use x_1 , x_2 , x_3 , etc. to represent decision variables
 2. Objective Function: the evaluation criteria (often maximizing profit or minimizing cost)
 - Objective Function Coefficients: The constant terms in the objective function

3. Constraint: some *limitation* or requirement that must be satisfied by the solution. There are three types of constraints
 - Upper limits where the amount used is \leq the amount of a resource (less than or equal to).
 - Lower limits where the amount used is \geq the amount of the resource (greater than or equal to).
 - Equalities where the amount used is $=$ the amount of the resource

- Solution: Any particular combination of decision variables
 - Feasible Solutions: solutions that satisfy *all* constraints
 - Optimal Solution: any feasible solution that optimizes the objective function

LP Model Components

- Additional LP requirements:
 - The Objective Function and Constraints must be expressed in linear terms of equations or inequalities
 - Values of parameters are known and constant
 - Decision variables must be divisible and non-negative (aka: positive)



The non-negativity requirement ensures all solutions will be in quadrant I and will be positive values

Cartesian Coordinate System

LP Mathematical Programming Convention

- Objective Function
 - Max $Z =$
 - Min $Z =$
- Decision variables
 - Must be ≥ 0 (non-negativity constraint)
- Standard notation
 - Z on left-hand side (LHS)
 - Decision variables on right-hand side (RHS)
- Constraints format
 - \geq or \geq (greater than or equal to)
 - \leq or \leq (less than or equal to)
 - $=$

Formulating and Solving the Model

- How to formulate the model:
 1. Define in words the objective you are trying to achieve
 2. List the decisions that are to be made
 3. Write the objective function
 4. List the constraining factors that affect these decisions
- Many methods to solve the model:
 - Guessing
 - Graph
 - Algebraic methods
 - Simplex Method
 - Software (Excel/Solver, POM, etc.)

LP Example: Glickman Electronics

- The Glickman Electronics Company in Washington DC produces two products:
 - The Glickman x-pod, a portable music player
 - The Glickman BlueBerry, an internet connected color telephone
- The production process for each product is similar, there are 240 hours of electronic and 100 hours of assembly time available
 - Each x-pod takes 4 hours of electronic work and 2 hours in the assembly shop
 - Each BlueBerry requires 3 hours in electronics and 1 hour in assembly
- Each x-pod sold yields a profit of \$7 and each BlueBerry yields a profit of \$5
- Q: What is the best combination of x-pods and BlueBerrys to reach the maximum profit?

Glickman Electronics: Problem Summary

	Hours Required to Produce One Unit		
Department	X-Pods (x1)	Blueberrys (x2)	Available Hours per Week
Electronic	4	3	240
Assembly	2	1	100
Profit per Unit	\$7	\$5	

► Q: What is the best combination of x-pods and BlueBerrys to reach the maximum profit?

Glickman Electronics: Decision Variables

- Decision variables: controllable input variable that represents the key decisions a manager must make to achieve an objective
 - Generally use x_1 , x_2 , x_3 , etc. to represent decision variables
- For Glickman Electronics:

Glickman Decision Variables:

x_1 = number of x-pods to produce

x_2 = number of BlueBerrys to produce

Glickman Electronics: Objective Function

- Objective Function: the evaluation criteria (often maximizing profit or minimizing cost)
- For Glickman Electronics:

Glickman Objective Function:

Maximize profit = \$7(number of x-pods) + \$5(number of BlueBerrys)

Maximize $z = \$7x_1 + \$5x_2$



Objective function coefficients (constant terms)

Glickman Electronics: Constraints

- Constraint: some limitation or requirement that must be satisfied by the solution
- For Glickman Electronics:

Glickman Constraints:

Electronic time used is \leq electronic time available:

$$\text{Electronic constraint: } 4(x\text{-pods}) + 3(\text{BlueBerrys}) \leq 240$$

$$\text{Electronic constraint: } 4x_1 + 3x_2 \leq 240$$

Assembly time used is \leq assembly time available:

$$\text{Assembly constraint: } 2(x\text{-pods}) + 1(\text{BlueBerrys}) \leq 100$$

$$\text{Assembly constraint: } 2x_1 + 1x_2 \leq 100$$

Non-negativity constraints:

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$

Glickman Electronics: Mathematical Model

- Decision variables
 - x_1 = number of x-pods to produce**
 - x_2 = number of BlueBerrys to produce**
- Objective Function: maximize profit
 - $\text{Max } z = \$7x_1 + \$5x_2$**
- Subject to (constraints):
 - Electronic constraint: $4x_1 + 3x_2 \leq 240$**
 - Assembly time constraint: $2x_1 + 1x_2 \leq 100$**
 - Non-negativity constraints: $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$**
- ▶ Our task is now to find the product mix (the combination of x_1 and x_2) that satisfies all the constraints and, at the same time, yields a value for the objective function that is greater than or equal to the value given by any other feasible solution

Summary of key steps and definitions

- How to formulate the model:
 1. Define in words the objective you are trying to achieve
 2. List the decisions that are to be made
 3. Write the objective function
 4. List the constraining factors that affect these decisions
- Key definitions:
 1. Decision variables: controllable input variables that represent the decision to be made (ex: how many to produce?)
 2. Objective function: The evaluation criteria (ex: what will max profit?)
 3. Constraints: some limitation or requirements that must be satisfied by the solution (ex: how many labor hours are available?)

Linear Programming Using Microsoft Excel

- Spreadsheets can be used to solve linear programming problems
- Microsoft Excel has an optimization tool called Solver for this purpose
- You will need to download the Solver Add-In
 - See “Mod B-Downloading Solver.ppt” (posted on BB)

Glickman Electronics: Problem Summary

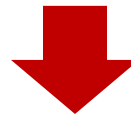
	Hours Required to Produce One Unit		
Department	X-Pods (x1)	Blueberrys (x2)	Available Hours per Week
Electronic	4	3	240
Assembly	2	1	100
Profit per Unit	\$7	\$5	

► Now, let's put this in Excel...

Glickman Excel Spreadsheet Programming

Glickman Electronics: Mathematical Model

- Decision variables
 - x_1 = number of x-pods to produce
 - x_2 = number of BlueBerrys to produce
- Objective Function: maximize profit
 - $\text{Max } z = \$7x_1 + \$5x_2$
- Subject to (constraints):
 - Electronic constraint: $4x_1 + 3x_2 \leq 240$
 - Assembly time constraint: $2x_1 + 1x_2 \leq 100$
 - Non-negativity constraints: $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Glickman Electronics	Objective Function:	Max z = 7x1 + 5x2			
2						
3		x1 = x-pods	x2 = BlueBerrys	Left-hand side		Right-hand side
4	Objective Function	7	5	=B4*B8+C4*C8		
5	Electronics	4	3	=B5*B8+C5*C8	<=	240
6	Assembly	2	1	=B6*B8+C6*C8	<=	100
7						
8	Solution Values	0	0			

Glickman Spreadsheet Linkage to Excel Solver

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Excel interface with the Solver Parameters dialog box open. The spreadsheet contains data for a linear programming problem. The Solver Parameters dialog box is configured with the following settings:

- Set Objective:** \$D\$4
- To:** Max
- By Changing Variable Cells:** \$B\$8:\$C\$8
- Subject to the Constraints:** \$D\$5 <= \$F\$5, \$D\$6 <= \$F\$6
- Make Unconstrained Variables Non-Negative
- Select a Solving Method:** Simplex LP
- Solve:** (button highlighted)

Red callout boxes with arrows point to the following elements:

- 1. Objective Function:** Points to cell \$D\$4 in the spreadsheet.
- 2. Select min or max:** Points to the radio button for 'Max' in the Solver Parameters dialog.
- 3. Decision Variables:** Points to the cell range \$B\$8:\$C\$8 in the spreadsheet.
- 4. Constraints:** Points to the constraint list in the Solver Parameters dialog.
- 5. Non-negativity constraint:** Points to the 'Make Unconstrained Variables Non-Negative' checkbox.
- 6. Be sure solving method is "Simplex LP":** Points to the 'Simplex LP' dropdown menu.
- 7. Final step: Hit "Solve":** Points to the 'Solve' button.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Glickman Electronics	Objective Function:	Max $z = 7x_1 + 5x_2$			
2		$x_1 = x\text{-pods}$	$x_2 = \text{Blueberrys}$	Left Hand Side		Right Hand Side
3				=B4*B8+C4*C8		
4	Objective Function	7	5	=B5*B8+C5*C8	<=	240
5	Electronics	4	3	=B6*B8+C6*C8	<=	100
6	Assembly	2	1			
7						
8	Solution Values	0	0			
9						
10						
11						
12						
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35						
36						

Solver Finds Solution!

Note: for all HW and Practice Problems, a solution is always possible! If Solver can't find the Solution, YOU made a mistake!

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Glickman Electronics	Objective Function:	Max $z = 7x_1 + 5x_2$					
2								
3		$x_1 =$ x-pods	$x_2 =$ Blueberrys					
4	Objective Function	7	5	=B4				
5	Electronics	4	3	=B5				
6	Assembly	2	1	=B6				
7								
8	Solution Values	30	40					
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
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24								
25								
26								

Select "Answer" and "Sensitivity" Reports (we don't use the Limits" Report)

Solver Results

Solver found a solution. All Constraints and optimality conditions are satisfied.

Keep Solver Solution

Restore Original Values

Return to Solver Parameters Dialog

Outline Reports

Reports

Answer

Sensitivity

Limits

OK Cancel Save Scenario...

Solver found a solution. All Constraints and optimality conditions are satisfied.

When the GRG engine is used, Solver has found at least a local optimal solution. When Simplex LP is used, this means Solver has found a global optimal solution.

Answer and Sensitivity Reports appear

Answer and Sensitivity Reports appear as new worksheets prior to data sheet

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Excel interface with the Solver tool applied to a linear programming problem. The Solver Parameters dialog box is open, showing the objective function and constraints. The Solver Reports dialog box is also open, showing the 'Answer Report' and 'Sensitivity Report' tabs. A red arrow points from the text above to the Solver Reports tab at the bottom of the window.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Glickman Electronics	Objective Function:	Max $z = 7x_1 + 5x_2$			
2						
3		$x_1 = x\text{-pods}$	$x_2 = \text{BlueBerrys}$	Left-hand side		Right-hand side
4	Objective Function	7	5	$=B4*B8+C4*C8$		
5	Electronics	4	3	$=B5*B8+C5*C8$	\leq	240
6	Assembly	2	1	$=B6*B8+C6*C8$	\leq	100
7						
8	Solution Values	30	40			
9						
10						
11						
12						
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16						
17						
18						

The Solver Reports dialog box is open, showing the 'Answer Report' and 'Sensitivity Report' tabs. The 'Answer Report' tab is selected, showing the solution values for the objective function and constraints. The 'Sensitivity Report' tab is also visible, showing the sensitivity analysis for the objective function coefficients and constraint right-hand side values.

Excel Solver: Answer Report

Microsoft Excel 14.0 Answer Report

This tells us we will make \$410 profit

Objective Cell (Max)

Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value
\$D\$4	Objective Function Left Hand Side	0	410

By manufacturing 30 x1's (x-pods) and 40 x2's (BlueBerrys)

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value	Integer
\$B\$8	Solution Values x1 = x-pods	0	30	Contin
\$C\$8	Solution Values x2 = Blueberrys	0	40	Contin

Constraints

Cell	Name	Cell Value	Formula	Status	Slack
\$D\$5	Electronics Left Hand Side	240	\$D\$5<=\$F\$5	Binding	0
\$D\$6	Assembly Left Hand Side	100	\$D\$6<=\$F\$6	Binding	0

Excel Solver: Sensitivity Report

Excel Solver: Sensitivity Report
(We will discuss how to use this report soon!)

Microsoft Excel 14.0 Sensitivity Report

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Final Value	Reduced Cost	Objective Coefficient	Allowable Increase	Allowable Decrease
\$B\$8	Solution Values x1 = x-pods	30	0	7	3	0.333333333
\$C\$8	Solution Values x2 = Blueberrys	40	0	5	0.25	1.5

Constraints

Cell	Name	Final Value	Shadow Price	Constraint R.H. Side	Allowable Increase	Allowable Decrease
\$D\$5	Electronics Left Hand Side	240	1.5	240	60	40
\$D\$6	Assembly Left Hand Side	100	0.5	100	20	20

Graphical Method (to find the optimal solution to two-variable problems)

1. Set up objective function and constraints in mathematical format
2. Plot the constraints
 - For first constraint, replace the inequality (\geq or \leq) with an equal sign ($=$)
 - Determine where the constraint intersects each axis
 - Assume $x_1 = 0$, solve for x_2
 - Assume $x_2 = 0$, solve for x_1
 - Plot the line represented by the points above
 - Repeat for each constraint
3. Identify the area of feasibility: the set of all points that satisfies ALL constraints
4. Plot the objective function
 - Set the object function equal to some quantity. Any quantity will do, although one that is evenly divisible by both coefficients is desirable
 - Determine where the line intersects each axis
 - Assume $x_1 = 0$, solve for x_2 , assume $x_2 = 0$, solve for x_1
 - Plot the line and place a straight edge on the line and move it parallel to find the optimal point
5. Determine which two constraints intersect the optimal point. Solve their equations simultaneously to obtain the values of the decision variables at the optimum
6. Substitute the values obtained in the previous step into the objective function to determine the value of the objective function at the optimum

Graphical Method

1. Set up objective function and constraints in mathematical format
2. Plot the constraints
 - For first constraint, replace the inequality (\geq or \leq) with an equal sign ($=$)
 - Determine where the constraint intersects each axis
 - Assume $x_1 = 0$, solve for x_2
 - Assume $x_2 = 0$, solve for x_1
 - Plot the line represented by the points above
 - Repeat for each constraint

Glickman Electronics: Mathematical Model

- Decision variables
 - x_1 = number of x-pods to produce
 - x_2 = number of BlueBerrys to produce
- Objective Function: maximize profit
 $\text{Max } z = \$7x_1 + \$5x_2$
- Subject to (constraints):
 - Electronic constraint:** $4x_1 + 3x_2 \leq 240$
 - Assembly time constraint:** $2x_1 + 1x_2 \leq 100$
 - Non-negativity constraints:** $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

Electronic constraint:

Replace w/ equal sign: $4x_1 + 3x_2 = 240$

$x_1 = 0$: $4(0) + 3x_2 = 240$; $x_2 = 80$

$x_2 = 0$: $4x_1 + 3(0) = 240$; $x_1 = 60$

Assembly constraint:

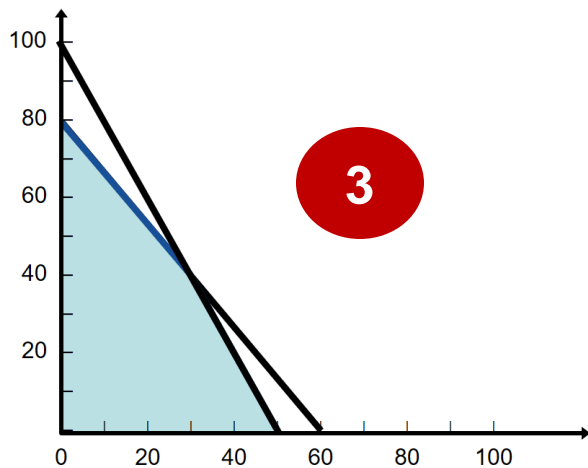
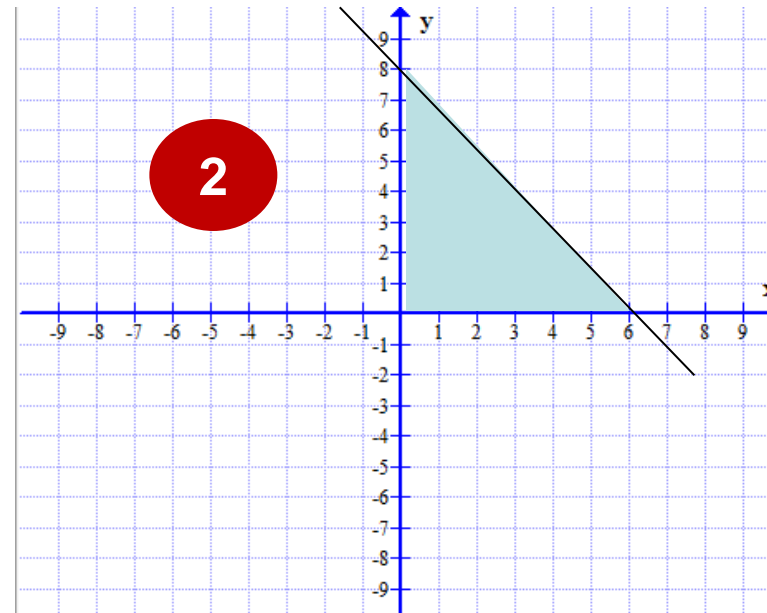
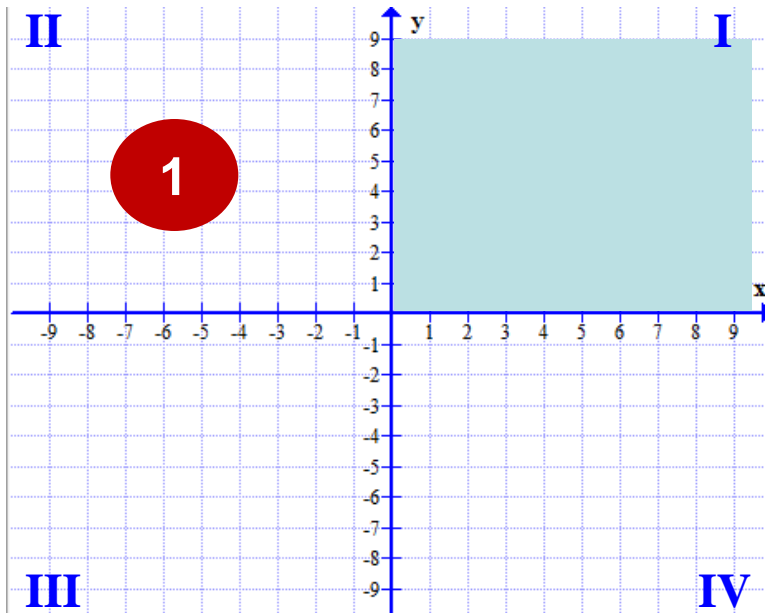
Replace w/ equal sign: $2x_1 + 1x_2 = 100$

$x_1 = 0$: $2(0) + 1x_2 = 100$; $x_2 = 100$

$x_2 = 0$: $2x_1 + 1(0) = 100$; $x_1 = 50$

Plot the constraints

Feasible Solution Area



1

Non-negativity constraints

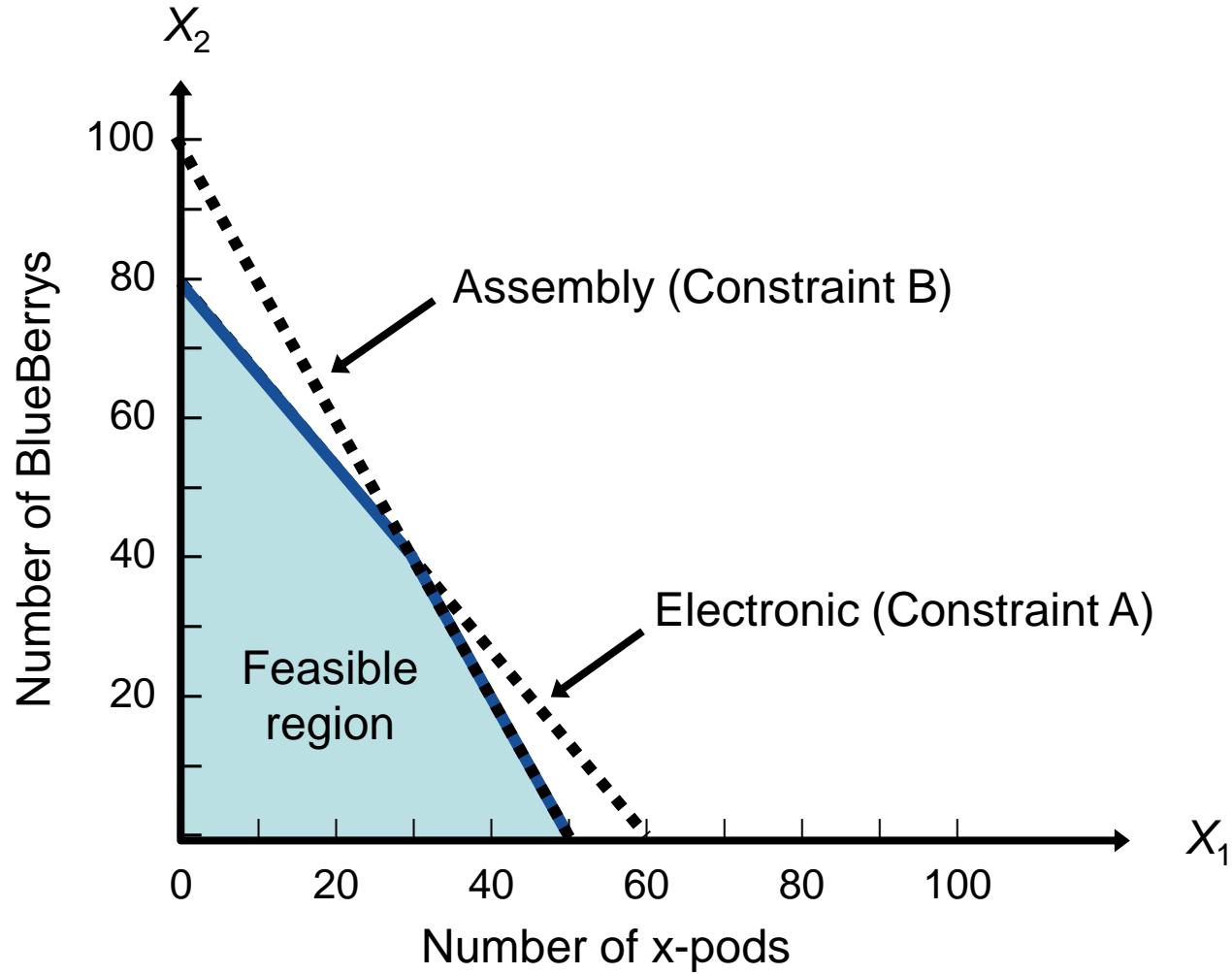
2

Plot the first constraint (electronic)

3

Plot the second constraint (assembly)

Graphical Solution



4. Plot the objective function
 - Set the object function equal to some quantity. Any quantity will do, although one that is evenly divisible by both coefficients is desirable
 - Determine where the line intersects each axis
 - Assume $x_1 = 0$, solve for x_2 , assume $x_2 = 0$, solve for x_1
 - Plot the line and place a straight edge on the line and move it parallel to find the optimal point



$$\text{Max } z = 7x_1 + 5x_2$$

$$\text{Guess } z = 210: 210 = 7x_1 + 5x_2$$

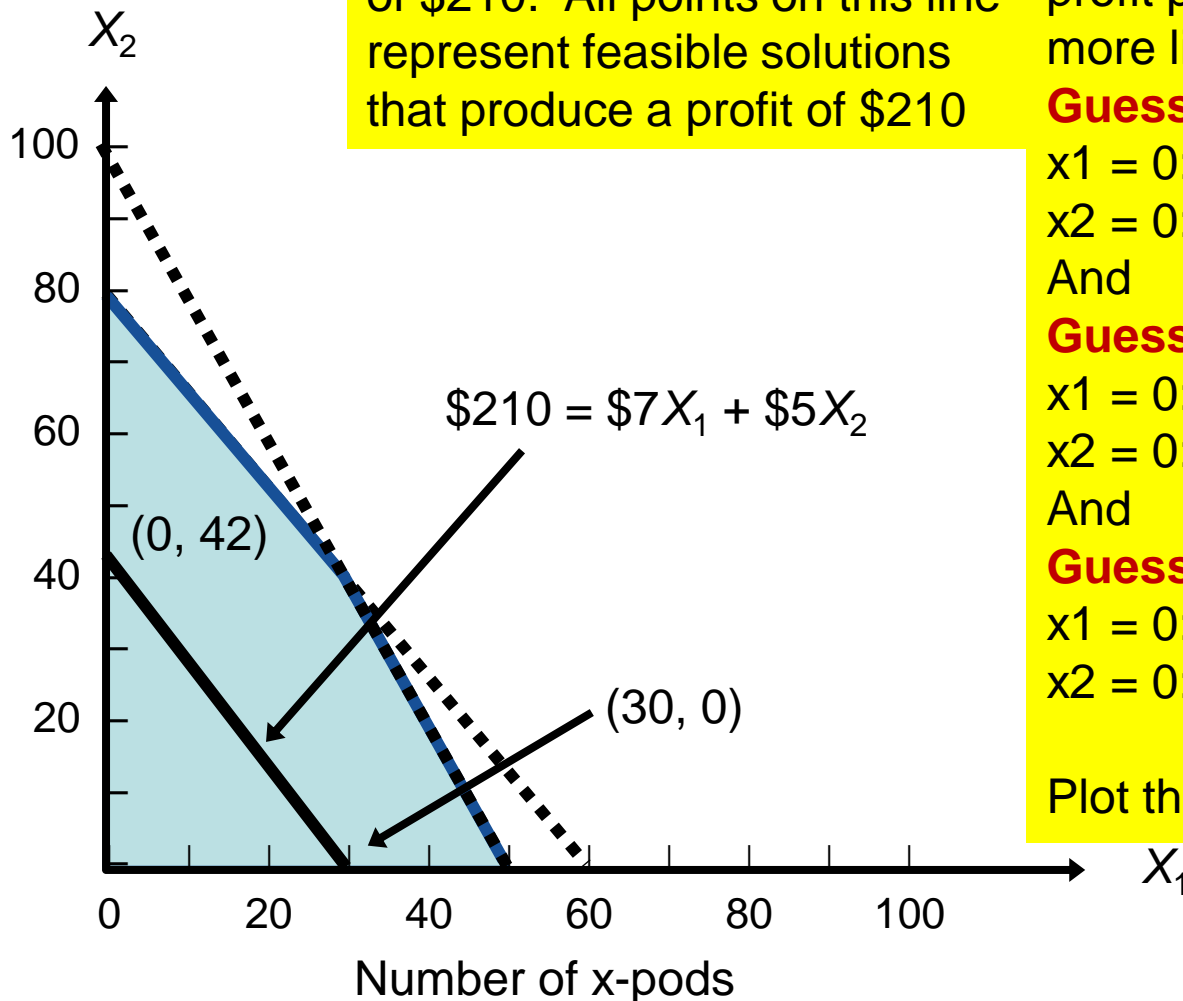
$$x_1 = 0: 210 = 7(0) + 5x_2; \quad x_2 = 42$$

$$x_2 = 0: 210 = 7x_1 + 5(0); \quad x_1 = 30$$

Plot this line

Graphical Solution

We call this line an “**iso-profit line**” that will yield a total profit of \$210. All points on this line represent feasible solutions that produce a profit of \$210



However, the iso-profit line of \$210 does not yield the highest profit possible. So we will try 3 more lines:

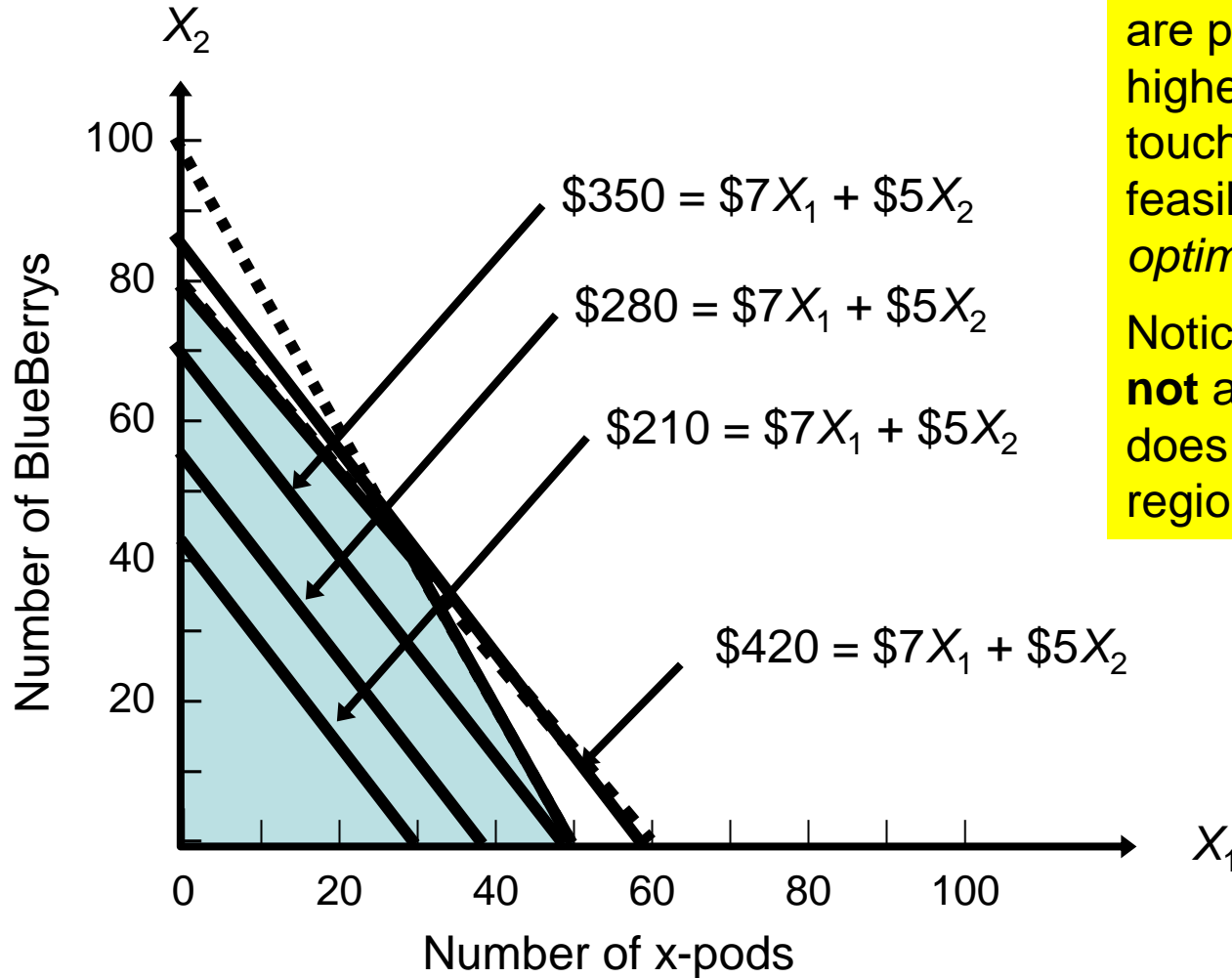
Guess $z = 280$: $280 = 7x_1 + 5x_2$
 $x_1 = 0$: $280 = 7(0) + 5x_2$; $x_2 = 56$
 $x_2 = 0$: $280 = 7x_1 + 5(0)$; $x_1 = 40$
And

Guess $z = 350$: $350 = 7x_1 + 5x_2$
 $x_1 = 0$: $350 = 7(0) + 5x_2$; $x_2 = 70$
 $x_2 = 0$: $350 = 7x_1 + 5(0)$; $x_1 = 50$
And

Guess $z = 420$: $420 = 7x_1 + 5x_2$
 $x_1 = 0$: $420 = 7(0) + 5x_2$; $x_2 = 84$
 $x_2 = 0$: $420 = 7x_1 + 5(0)$; $x_1 = 60$

Plot these lines

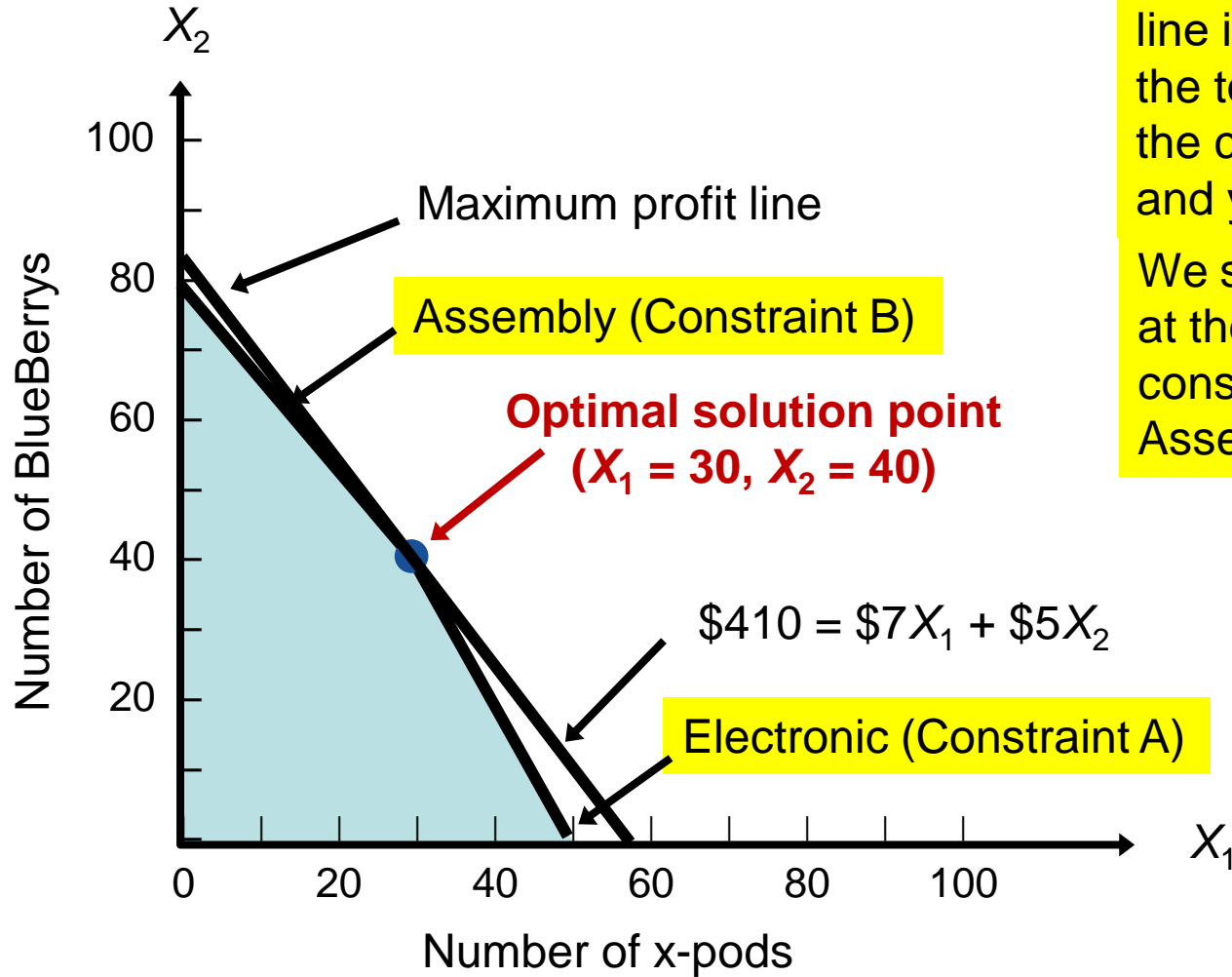
Graphical Solution



Notice that the iso-profit lines are parallel to each other....the highest iso-profit line that still touches *some point* of the feasible region will pinpoint the *optimal solution*.

Notice that the 4th line ($\$420$) is **not** a viable solution because it does not touch the feasible region

Graphical Solution



The highest possible iso-profit line is shown here...it touches the top of the feasible region at the corner point ($x_1=30, x_2=40$) and yields a profit of \$410

We see that this corner point is at the intersection of the two constraints (Electronic and Assembly)!

Graphical Solution

- Plot the objective function
 - Set the object function equal to some quantity. Any quantity will do, although one that is evenly divisible by both coefficients is desirable
 - Determine where the line intersects each axis
 - Assume $x_1 = 0$, solve for x_2 , assume $x_2 = 0$, solve for x_1
 - Plot the line and place a straight edge on the line and move it parallel to find the optimal point
- Determine which two constraints intersect the optimal point. Solve their equations simultaneously to obtain the values of the decision variables at the optimum
- Substitute the values obtained in the previous step into the objective function to determine the value of the objective function at the optimum

Electronic constraint: $4x_1 + 3x_2 = 240$
Assembly constraint: $2x_1 + 1x_2 = 100$

Simultaneous Equations

Equation 1: $4x_1 + 3x_2 = 240$

Equation 2: $2x_1 + 1x_2 = 100$

Multiply Equation 2 by (-2) and add to Equation 1:

$$\begin{array}{r} [4x_1 + 3x_2 = 240] \\ + [-4x_1 - 2x_2 = -200] \\ \hline 1x_2 = 40 \rightarrow \mathbf{x_2 = 40} \end{array}$$

Substitute $x_2 = 40$ into either equation to solve for x_1 (I've chosen Eq. 1):

$$4x_1 + 3(x_2=40) = 240$$

$$4x_1 + 120 = 240$$

$$4x_1 = 240 - 120$$

$$4x_1 = 120 \rightarrow \mathbf{x_1 = 30}$$

Substitute x_1 and x_2 into objective function to determine the optimum value: $7(30) + 5(40) = \$410$

- Use simultaneous equations to determine the optimal values of the decision variables and the objective function
 - ONLY use for *two* decision variables AND *two* constraints
 - **(if more than two decision variables and constraints, use EXCEL SOLVER to solve problem!)**
- Steps:
 1. Change constraint inequalities to equalities
 2. Eliminate one unknown variable, solve for second unknown
 3. Plug solution into either equation to solve for first unknown
 4. Plug solutions into objective function and solve objective function

Algebraic Method Example

- Use simultaneous equations to determine the optimal values of the decision variables and the objective function:
 - Maximize $z = 4x_1 + 3x_2$
 - Subject to:
 - Material: $6x_1 + 4x_2 \leq 48$ lb
 - Labor: $4x_1 + 8x_2 \leq 80$ hours

Change from inequalities: Material: $6x_1 + 4x_2 = 48$, Labor $4x_1 + 8x_2 = 80$

Eliminate one variable and solve for the other:

Multiply Eqtn 1 (Material) by (-2) and add to Eqtn 2 (Labor):

$$\begin{array}{r} [-12x_1 - 8x_2 = -96] \\ + [\quad 4x_1 + 8x_2 = 80] \\ \hline -8x_1 \qquad \qquad = -16 \rightarrow \mathbf{x_1 = 2} \end{array}$$

Plug $x_1=2$ into either equation and solve for x_2 (I chose Eqtn 1):

$$\begin{aligned} 6(x_1=2) + 4x_2 &= 48 \\ 12 + 4x_2 &= 48 \\ 4x_2 &= 36 \rightarrow \mathbf{x_2 = 9} \end{aligned}$$

Plug $x_1=2$ and $x_2=9$ into Objective Function: $4(x_1=2) + 3(x_2=9) = 8 + 27 = \mathbf{35}$

- Binding constraint: a constraint that forms the optimal corner point of the feasible solution space
- Surplus: when the optimal values of decision variables are substituted into a \geq (**greater than or equal to**) constraint and the resulting value **exceeds** the right side value
 - Excess above resource requirements
- Slack: when the optimal values of decision variables are substituted into a \leq (**less than or equal to**) constraint and the resulting value is **less than** the right side value
 - Unused resources

Slack and Surplus Examples

A. One constraint: $3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 100$, optimal values of decision variables: $x_1=10$, $x_2=20$

Substitute decision variables into constraint eqn: $3(x_1=10) + 2(x_2=20)$

Do the math: $3(10) + 2(20) = 70$ since constraint is " \leq ", 30 units "SLACK"

B. One constraint: $3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 100$, optimal values of decision variables : $x_1=20$, $x_2=20$

$3(20) + 2(20) = 100$ since difference is 0, it's a "Binding Constraint"

C. One constraint: $4x_1 + 1x_2 \geq 50$, optimal values of decision variables : $x_1=10$, $x_2=15$

$4(10) + 1(15) = 55$ since constraint is " \geq ", 5 units "SURPLUS"

D. One constraint: $3x_1 + 2x_2 \geq 50$, optimal values of decision variables : $x_1=10$, $x_2=10$

$3(10) + 2(10) = 50$ since difference is 0, it's a "Binding Constraint"

Excel Solver: Answer Report

Microsoft Excel 14.0 Answer Report

Objective Cell (Max)

Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value
\$D\$4	Objective Function Left Hand Side	0	410

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value	Integer
\$B\$8	Solution Values x1 = x-pods	0	30	Contin
\$C\$8	Solution Values x2 = Blueberrys	0	40	Contin

Constraints

Cell	Name	Cell Value	Formula	Status	Slack
\$D\$5	Electronics Left Hand Side	240	\$D\$5<=\$F\$5	Binding	0
\$D\$6	Assembly Left Hand Side	100	\$D\$6<=\$F\$6	Binding	0

**Note: Excel table labels
“slack” (regardless
if it is “slack” or “surplus”)**



- Since business environment is dynamic, companies need to develop contingency plans for the optimal solutions
- Sensitivity analysis: used to assess the impact of potential changes to parameters of an LP model
- There are three types of potential changes:
 - Objective function changes
 - Right-hand-side (RHS) values of constraints
 - Constraint coefficients

- Range of optimality: the range of values for the coefficients in the **objective function** over which the solution of the **decision variables** remain the same (LHS)
- Range of feasibility: the range of values for the right-hand side (RHS) of a **constraint** over which the **shadow price** remains the same
- Shadow price: the amount by which the value of the objective function would change with a one-unit change in the RHS value of the constraint
 - Positive (negative) values indicating how much a one-unit increase (decrease) in the original amount of a constraint would improve (worsen) the optimum value Z of the objective function
 - Alternatively, if a premium price must be paid for the increase of RHS, then the shadow price represents the maximum premium (excess over the regular price) that would be worth paying
 - Shadow price is only valid when the RHS changes are within the Range of Feasibility

Excel Solver: Sensitivity Report

Objective function coefficients:
 Orig = 7, Range of Opt: 6.67 – 10
 Orig = 5, Range of Opt: 3.5 – 5.25

Microsoft Excel 14.0 Sensitivity Report

**Range of
Optimality**

Variable Cells

Cell	Name	Final Value	Reduced Cost	Objective Coefficient	Allowable Increase	Allowable Decrease
\$B\$8	Solution Values x1 = x-pods	30	0	7	3	0.333333333
\$C\$8	Solution Values x2 = Blueberrys	40	0	5	0.25	1.5

Constraints

Cell	Name	Final Value	Shadow Price	Constraint R.H. Side	Allowable Increase	Allowable Decrease
\$D\$5	Electronics Left Hand Side	240	1.5	240	60	40
\$D\$6	Assembly Left Hand Side	100	0.5	100	20	20

**Glickman Electronics:
Mathematical Model**

- Decision variables
 - x1 = number of x-pods to produce
 - x2 = number of BlueBerrys to produce
- Objective Function: maximize profit
 $Max z = \$7x1 + \$5x2$
- Subject to (constraints):
 - Electronic constraint: $4x1 + 3x2 \leq 240$
 - Assembly time constraint: $2x1 + 1x2 \leq 100$
 - Non-negativity constraints: $x1, x2 \geq 0$

**Shadow
Price**

**Range of
Feasibility**

Constraint RHS:
 Orig = 240, Range of Feas: 200 – 300
 Orig = 100, Range of Feas: 80 - 120

Computer Profit Example

A firm that assembles computers and computer equipment is about to start production of two new types of microcomputers. Each type will require assembly time, inspection time and storage space. The amounts of each of these resources that can be dedicated to the production of the microcomputers is limited. The manager of the firm would like to determine the quantity of each microcomputer to produce in order to maximize the profit generated by sales of these microcomputers.

	<u>Type 1</u>	<u>Type 2</u>
Profit per unit	\$60	\$50
Assembly time per unit	4 hours	10 hours
Inspection time per unit	2 hours	1 hour
Storage space per unit	3 cubic feet	3 cubic feet

<u>Resource</u>	<u>Amount Available</u>
Assembly time	100 hours
Inspection time	22 hours
Storage space	39 cubic feet

Notice units:
Constraints can be mixed units
but Objective Function Coefficients
MUST be same units!!!

Computer Profit Example

- Decision Variables:

x_1 = number of Type 1 computers to manufacture
 x_2 = number of Type 2 computers to manufacture

- Objective Function: maximize profit

Maximize $Z = 60x_1 + 50x_2$

- Subject to (constraints):

Assembly $4x_1 + 10x_2 \leq 100$ hours
Inspection $2x_1 + 1x_2 \leq 22$ hours
Storage $3x_1 + 3x_2 \leq 39$ cubic feet
Non-negativity $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

- Now, input data into spreadsheet and use Excel solver to find the solution, then select Answer Report and Sensitivity Report →

Computer Profit Example: Answer Report

Microsoft Excel 11.0 Answer Report
Worksheet: Computer Profit Input
Report Created:

Target Cell (Max)

Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value
\$B\$19	Profit x1 = # type 1	\$0.00	\$740.00

Adjustable Cells

Cell	Name	Original Value	Final Value
\$B\$12	Amount produced x1 = # type 1	0	9
\$C\$12	Amount produced x2 = # type 2	0	4

Constraints

Cell	Name	Cell Value	Formula	Status	Slack
\$B\$15	Assembly x1 = # type 1	76	\$B\$15<=\$E\$6	Not Binding	24
\$B\$16	Inspection x1 = # type 1	22	\$B\$16<=\$E\$7	Binding	0
\$B\$17	Storage x1 = # type 1	39	\$B\$17<=\$E\$8	Binding	0

Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Report

Microsoft Excel 11.0 Sensitivity Report
Worksheet: Computer Profit Input
Report Created:

**Range of
Optimality**

Adjustable Cells

Cell	Name	Final Value	Reduced Cost	Objective Coefficient	Allowable Increase	Allowable Decrease
\$B\$12	Amount produced x1 = # type 1	9	0	60	40	10
\$C\$12	Amount produced x2 = # type 2	4	0	50	10	20

Constraints

Cell	Name	Final Value	Shadow Price	Constraint R.H. Side	Allowable Increase	Allowable Decrease
\$B\$15	Assembly x1 = # type 1	76	0	100	1E+30	24
\$B\$16	Inspection x1 = # type 1	22	10	22	4	4
\$B\$17	Storage x1 = # type 1	39	13.33333333	39	4.5	6

**Shadow
Price**

**Range of
Feasibility**

1E+30 = infinity → meaning, even an infinite increase could not improve the solution!

Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Analysis - Solution

- Conduct a “what-if” (sensitivity) analysis on the computer example:
 1. What is the optimal profit and optimal product mix?
 2. Suppose 1 additional unit of capacity becomes available. How will this affect the optimal profit
 - An extra hour of inspection time?
 - An extra hour of assembly time?
 - An extra cubic foot of storage space?

Computer Profit Example: Answer Report

Microsoft Excel 11.0 Answer Report
Worksheet: Computer Profit Input
Report Created:

Target Cell (Max)

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Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Analysis - Solution

- Conduct a “what-if” (sensitivity) analysis on the computer example:

1. What is the optimal profit and optimal product mix?

Product mix: 9 units of Type 1 computer should be produced
4 units of Type 2 computer should be produced
Optimal profit is \$740

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Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Report

Microsoft Excel 11.0 Sensitivity Report
Worksheet: Computer Profit Input
Report Created:

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Optimum profit is \$740

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- An extra hour of inspection time?

• Profit would increase by \$10 $\rightarrow 740 + 10 = \$750$

- An extra hour of assembly time?

- An extra cubic foot of storage space?

Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Report

Microsoft Excel 11.0 Sensitivity Report
Worksheet: Computer Profit Input
Report Created:

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Optimum profit is \$740

2. Suppose 1 additional unit of capacity becomes available. How will this affect the optimal profit

- An extra hour of inspection time?

• Profit would increase by \$10 → $740 + 10 = \$750$

- An extra hour of assembly time?

• No impact to profit

- An extra cubic foot of storage space?

Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Report

Microsoft Excel 11.0 Sensitivity Report
Worksheet: Computer Profit Input
Report Created:

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- An extra hour of inspection time?

• Profit would increase by \$10 $\rightarrow 740 + 10 = \$750$

- An extra hour of assembly time?

• No impact to profit

- An extra cubic foot of storage space?

• Profit would increase by \$13.33 $\rightarrow 740 + 13.33 = \753.33

Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Analysis - Solution

- Conduct a “what-if” (sensitivity) analysis on the computer example:
 3. Suppose the profitability of the Type 1 Computer increases by \$10?
 4. Suppose the profitability of the Type 2 Computer decreases by \$15?
 5. If an additional 3 inspection hours can be obtained by paying a \$2/hour premium, what will happen to company profit?

Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Report

Microsoft Excel 11.0 Sensitivity Report
Worksheet: Computer Profit Input
Report Created:

**Range of
Optimality**

Adjustable Cells

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**Shadow
Price**

**Range of
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Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Analysis - Solution

- Conduct a “what-if” (sensitivity) analysis on the computer example:
 3. Suppose the profitability of the Type 1 Computer increases by \$10?
 $9 \times 10 = 90$. Profit would increase by \$90 $\rightarrow 740 + 90 = \$830$
 4. Suppose the profitability of the Type 2 Computer decreases by \$15?
 5. If an additional 3 inspection hours can be obtained by paying a \$2/hour premium, what will happen to company profit?

Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Report

Microsoft Excel 11.0 Sensitivity Report
Worksheet: Computer Profit Input
Report Created:

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 3. Suppose the profitability of the Type 1 Computer increases by \$10?
 $9 \times 10 = 90$. Profit would increase by \$90 $\rightarrow 740 + 90 = \$830$
 4. Suppose the profitability of the Type 2 Computer decreases by \$15?
 $4 \times 15 = 60$. Profit will decrease by \$60 $\rightarrow 740 - 60 = \$680$
 5. If an additional 3 inspection hours can be obtained by paying a \$2/hour premium, what will happen to company profit?

Computer Profit Example: Sensitivity Report

Microsoft Excel 11.0 Sensitivity Report
Worksheet: Computer Profit Input
Report Created:

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Optimality**

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$4 \times 15 = 60$. Profit will decrease by \$60 $\rightarrow 740 - 60 = \$680$

5. If an additional 3 inspection hours can be obtained by paying a \$2/hour premium, what will happen to company profit?

Inspection shadow price is \$10/hour. But must pay premium
($3 \times \$10$ Shadow Price) – ($3 \times \$2$ Premium) $\rightarrow 30 - 6 = 24$.

Profit would increase by $\rightarrow 740 + 24 = \$764$