

Math 364 – A First Example – Continued

In the farmer example problem we found that the highest-profit planting strategy would be a solution to this problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} \quad & z = 30x_1 + 80x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 \leq 100 \\ & 5x_1 + 7x_2 \leq 560 \\ & x_1 \geq 27 \\ & x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Is this problem an example of the general optimization problem given in class (and shown below)? Be prepared to justify and defend your reasoning.

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \quad & z = f(x) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & g(x) \leq 0 \\ & h(x) = 0 \\ & x_k \in \mathbb{R} \text{ (or } \mathbb{Z}), k = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

Yes it is. To show this we can define the various components of the general form to produce the specific form:

$$\begin{aligned} n=2 \quad x &= \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} & f(x) &= 30x_1 + 80x_2 & h(x) &= 0 \\ & & g(x) &= \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 - 100 \\ 5x_1 + 7x_2 - 560 \\ 27 - x_1 \\ -x_1 \\ -x_2 \end{bmatrix} & x &\in \mathbb{R}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Convert the example optimization problem into the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} \quad & z = c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax \leq b \\ & \bar{A}x = \bar{b} \\ & \ell \leq x \leq u \end{aligned}$$

where c, b, \bar{b}, ℓ, u are vectors and A, \bar{A} are matrices.

We need to define the various vector/matrix objects to produce the farmer problem. One solution is:

$$c = \begin{bmatrix} -30 \\ -80 \end{bmatrix} \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{note: we are minimizing } -z \\ \text{instead of maximizing } z. \end{array} \right)$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 5 & 7 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 100 \\ 560 \\ -27 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\ell = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

and \bar{A}, \bar{b}, u are unused variables: There are no equality constraints and neither variable x_1 or x_2 is bounded above.