

Operation Research

MODULE-3

3.1 Introduction to Transportation Problem The Transportation problem is to transport various amounts of a single homogeneous commodity that are initially stored at various origins, to different destinations in such a way that the total transportation cost is a minimum.

It can also be defined as to ship goods from various origins to various destinations in such a manner that the transportation cost is a minimum.

The availability as well as the requirements is finite. It is assumed that the cost of shipping is linear.

Mathematical Formulation

Let there be m origins, i^{th} origin possessing a_i units of a certain product

Let there be n destinations, with destination j requiring b_j units of a certain product

Let c_{ij} be the cost of shipping one unit from i^{th} source to j^{th} destination

Let x_{ij} be the amount to be shipped from i^{th} source to j^{th} destination

It is assumed that the total availabilities $\sum a_i$ satisfy the total requirements $\sum b_j$ i.e.

$$\sum a_i = \sum b_j \quad (i = 1, 2, 3 \dots m \text{ and } j = 1, 2, 3 \dots n)$$

The problem now, is to determine non-negative of x_{ij} satisfying both the availability constraints

$$\sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} = a_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

as well as requirement constraints

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$$\sum_{i=1}^m x_{ij} = b_j \quad \text{for } j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

and the minimizing cost of transportation (shipping)

$$z = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} c_{ij} \quad (\text{objective function})$$

This special type of LPP is called as **Transportation Problem**.

Tabular Representation

Let ‘m’ denote number of factories (F₁, F₂ ... F_m)

Let ‘n’ denote number of warehouse (W₁, W₂ ...

W_n) W→

F ↓	W ₁	W ₂	...	W _n	Capacities (Availability)
F ₁	c ₁₁	c ₁₂	...	c _{1n}	a ₁
F ₂	c ₂₁	c ₂₂	...	c _{2n}	a ₂
.
F _m	c _{m1}	c _{m2}	...	c _{mn}	a _m
Required	b ₁	b ₂	...	b _n	Σa _i = Σb _j

	W→				
F ↓	W ₁	W ₂	...	W _n	Capacities (Availability)
F ₁	x ₁₁	x ₁₂	...	x _{1n}	a ₁
F ₂	x ₂₁	x ₂₂	...	x _{2n}	a ₂
.
F _m	x _{m1}	x _{m2}	...	x _{mn}	a _m
Required	b ₁	b ₂	...	b _n	Σa _i = Σb _j

In general these two tables are combined by inserting each unit cost c_{ij} with the corresponding amount x_{ij} in the cell (i, j). The product c_{ij} x_{ij} gives the net cost of shipping units from the factory F_i to warehouse W_j.

Some Basic Definitions

▮ **Feasible Solution**

A set of non-negative individual allocations (x_{ij} ≥ 0) which simultaneously removes deficiencies is called as feasible solution.

▮ **Basic Feasible Solution**

A feasible solution to ‘m’ origin, ‘n’ destination problem is said to be basic if the number of positive allocations are $m+n-1$. If the number of allocations is less than $m+n-1$ then it is called as **Degenerate Basic Feasible Solution**. Otherwise it is called as Non- Degenerate Basic Feasible Solution.

¶ **Optimum Solution**

A feasible solution is said to be optimal if it minimizes the total transportation cost.

Methods for Initial Basic Feasible Solution

Some simple methods to obtain the initial basic feasible solution are

1. North-West Corner Rule
2. Row Minima Method
3. Column Minima Method
4. Lowest Cost Entry Method (Matrix Minima Method)
5. Vogel’s Approximation Method (Unit Cost Penalty Method)

North-West Corner Rule

Step 1

- ¶ The first assignment is made in the cell occupying the upper left-hand (north-west) corner of the table.
- ¶ The maximum possible amount is allocated here i.e. $x_{11} = \min(a_1, b_1)$. This value of x_{11} is then entered in the cell (1,1) of the transportation table.

Step 2

- i. If $b_1 > a_1$, move vertically downwards to the second row and make the second allocation of amount $x_{21} = \min(a_2, b_1 - x_{11})$ in the cell (2, 1).
- ii. If $b_1 < a_1$, move horizontally right side to the second column and make the second allocation of amount $x_{12} = \min(a_1 - x_{11}, b_2)$ in the cell (1, 2).
- iii. If $b_1 = a_1$, there is tie for the second allocation. One can make a second allocation of magnitude $x_{12} = \min(a_1 - a_1, b_2)$ in the cell (1, 2) or $x_{21} = \min(a_2, b_1 - b_1)$ in the cell (2, 1)

Find the initial basic feasible solution by using North-West Corner Rule

1.

W→					
F ↓	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	Factory Capacity
F ₁	19	30	50	10	7
F ₂	70	30	40	60	9
F ₃	40	8	70	20	18
Warehouse Requirement	5	8	7	14	34

Solution

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₅	Availability
F ₁	5 (19)	2 (30)			7 2 0
F ₂		6 (30)	3 (40)		9 3 0
F ₃			4 (70)	14 (20)	18 14 0
Requirement	5 0	8 6 0	7 4 0	14 0	

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{11} = 5, x_{12} = 2, x_{22} = 6, x_{23} = 3, x_{33} = 4, x_{34} = 14$

The transportation cost is $5(19) + 2(30) + 6(30) + 3(40) + 4(70) + 14(20) = \text{Rs. } 1015$

2.

D ₁	D ₂	D ₃	D ₄	Supply	
O ₁	1	5	3	3	34
O ₂	3	3	1	2	15
O ₃	0	2	2	3	12
O ₄	2	7	2	4	19
Demand	21	25	17	17	80

Solution

D ₁	D ₂	D ₃	D ₄	Supply	
O ₁	21 (1)	13 (5)			34 13 0
O ₂		12 (3)	3 (1)		15 3 0
O ₃			12 (2)		12 0
O ₄			2	17	19 17
Demand	21 0	25 12 0	17 14 2 0	17 0	

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{11} = 21, x_{12} = 13, x_{22} = 12, x_{23} = 3, x_{33} = 12, x_{43} = 2, x_{44} = 17$

The transportation cost is $21(1) + 13(5) + 12(3) + 3(1) + 12(2) + 2(2) + 17(4) = \text{Rs. } 221$

3.

From	To					Supply
	2	11	10	3	7	
	1	4	7	2	1	8
	3	1	4	8	12	9
Demand	3	3	4	5	6	

Solution

From	To	1				Supply
	(2)	(11)				
	2					4 1 0
		(4)	(7)	(2)		
				3		8 6 2 0
				(8)	(12)	9 6 0
Demand	3	3	4	5	6	
	0	2	0	3	0	
		0		0		

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{11} = 3, x_{12} = 1, x_{22} = 2, x_{23} = 4, x_{24} = 2, x_{34} = 3, x_{35} = 6$

The transportation cost is $3(2) + 1(11) + 2(4) + 4(7) + 2(2) + 3(8) + 6(12) = \text{Rs. } 153$

Row Minima Method

Step 1

- ✦ The smallest cost in the first row of the transportation table is determined.
- ✦ Allocate as much as possible amount $x_{ij} = \min(a_i, b_j)$ in the cell (i, j) so that the capacity of the origin or the destination is satisfied.

Step 2

- ✦ If $x_{1j} = a_1$, so that the availability at origin O_1 is completely exhausted, cross out the first row of the table and move to second row.
- ✦ If $x_{1j} = b_j$, so that the requirement at destination D_j is satisfied, cross out the j^{th} column and reconsider the first row with the remaining availability of origin O_1 .
- ✦ If $x_{1j} = a_1 = b_j$, the origin capacity a_1 is completely exhausted as well as the requirement at destination D_j is satisfied. An arbitrary tie-breaking choice is made. Cross out the j^{th} column and make the second allocation $x_{1k} = 0$ in the cell $(1, k)$ with c_{1k} being the new minimum cost in the first row. Cross out the first row and move to second row.

Step 3

Repeat steps 1 and 2 for the reduced transportation table until all the requirements are satisfied

Determine the initial basic feasible solution using Row Minima Method

1.

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	Availab ility
F ₁	19	30	50	10	7
F ₂	70	30	40	60	9
F ₃	40	80	70	20	18
Requirement	5	8	7	14	

Solution

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	(19)	(30)	(50)	7 (10)	X
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9
	(40)	(80)	(70)	(20)	

F₃ 18

5 8 7 7

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	(19)	(30)	(50)	7 (10)	X
F ₂	(70)	8 (30)	(40)	(60)	1
F ₃	(40)	(80)	(70)	(20)	18
	5	X	7	7	

W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄		
F ₁	(19)	(30)	(50)	7 (10)	X
F ₂	(70)	8 (30)	1 (40)	(60)	X
F ₃	(40)	(80)	(70)	(20)	18
	5	X	6	7	

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	(19)	(30)	(50)	7 (10)	X
F ₂	(70)	8 (30)	1 (40)	(60)	X
F ₃	5 (40)	(80)	6 (70)	7 (20)	X
	X	X	X	X	

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{14} = 7, x_{22} = 8, x_{23} = 1, x_{31} = 5, x_{33} = 6, x_{34} = 7$

The transportation cost is $7(10) + 8(30) + 1(40) + 5(40) + 6(70) + 7(20) = \text{Rs. } 1110$

2.

	A	B	C	Availability
I	50	30	220	1
II	90	45	170	4
III	250	200	50	4
Requirement	4	2	3	

Solution

	A	B	C	Availability
I		1 (30)		1 0
II	3 (90)	1 (45)		4 3 0
III	1 (250)		3 (50)	4 1 0
Requirement	4	2	3	
	1	1	0	
	0	0		

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{12} = 1, x_{21} = 3, x_{22} = 1, x_{31} = 1, x_{33} = 3$

The transportation cost is $1(30) + 3(90) + 1(45) + 1(250) + 3(50) = \text{Rs. } 745$

Column Minima Method

Step 1

Determine the smallest cost in the first column of the transportation table. Allocate $x_{i1} = \min(a_i, b_1)$ in the cell $(i, 1)$.

Step 2

- ✦ If $x_{i1} = b_1$, cross out the first column of the table and move towards right to the second column
- ✦ If $x_{i1} = a_i$, cross out the i^{th} row of the table and reconsider the first column with the remaining demand.
- ✦ If $x_{i1} = b_1 = a_i$, cross out the i^{th} row and make the second allocation $x_{k1} = 0$ in the cell $(k, 1)$ with c_{k1} being the new minimum cost in the first column, cross out the column and move towards right to the second column.

Step 3

Repeat steps 1 and 2 for the reduced transportation table until all the requirements are satisfied.

Use Column Minima method to determine an initial basic feasible solution

1.

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	Availability
F ₁	19	30	50	10	7
F ₂	70	30	40	60	9
F ₃	40	80	70	20	18
Requirement	5	8	7	14	

Solution

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	5 (19)	(30)	(50)	(10)	2
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9
F ₃	(40)	(80)	(70)	(20)	
		18			
X	8	7	14		

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	5 (19)	2 (30)	(50)	(10)	X
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9
F ₃	(40)	(80)	(70)	(20)	
		18			
X	6	7	14		

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	5 (19)	2 (30)	(50)	(10)	X
F ₂	(70)	6 (30)	(40)	(60)	3
F ₃	(40)	(80)	(70)	(20)	18
X	X	X	7	14	

$$\frac{W_1 \quad W_2 \quad W_3 \quad W_4}{\quad}$$

F ₁	5 (19)	2 (30)	(50)	(10)	X
F ₂	(70)	6 (30)	3 (40)	(60)	X
	(40)	(80)	F ³ (70)	(20)	
		18			
	X	X	4	14	

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	5 (19)	2 (30)	(50)	(10)	X
F ₂	(70)	6 (30)	3 (40)	(60)	X
F ₃	(40)	(80)	4 (70)	(20)	14
	X	X	X	14	

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	5 (19)	2 (30)	(50)	(10)	X
F ₂	(70)	6 (30)	3 (40)	(60)	X
F ₃	(40)	(80)	4 (70)	14 (20)	X
	X	X	X	X	

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{11} = 5, x_{12} = 2, x_{22} = 6, x_{23} = 3, x_{33} = 4, x_{34} = 14$

The transportation cost is $5 (19) + 2 (30) + 6 (30) + 3 (40) + 4 (70) + 14 (20) = \text{Rs. } 1015$

2.

	D ₁	D ₂	D ₃	D ₄	Availability
S ₁	11	13	17	14	250
S ₂	16	18	14	10	300
S ₃	21	24	13	10	400
Requirement	200	225	275	250	

Solution

D ₁	D ₂	D ₃	D ₄	
S ₁	200 (11)	50 (13)		250 50 0
S ₂		175 (18)	125 (10)	300 125 0
S ₃			275 (13) 125 (10)	400 125 0
	200	225	275 250	
	0	175	0 0	
		0		

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{11} = 200, x_{12} = 50, x_{22} = 175, x_{24} = 125, x_{33} = 275, x_{34} = 125$

The transportation cost is

$200(11) + 50(13) + 175(18) + 125(10) + 275(13) + 125(10) = \text{Rs. } 12075$

Lowest Cost Entry Method (Matrix Minima Method)

Step 1

Determine the smallest cost in the cost matrix of the transportation table. Allocate $x_{ij} = \min(a_i, b_j)$ in the cell (i, j)

Step 2

- ✦ If $x_{ij} = a_i$, cross out the i^{th} row of the table and decrease b_j by a_i . Go to step 3.
- ✦ If $x_{ij} = b_j$, cross out the j^{th} column of the table and decrease a_i by b_j . Go to step 3.
- ✦ If $x_{ij} = a_i = b_j$, cross out the i^{th} row or j^{th} column but not both.

Step 3

Repeat steps 1 and 2 for the resulting reduced transportation table until all the requirements are satisfied. Whenever the minimum cost is not unique, make an arbitrary choice among the minima.

Find the initial basic feasible solution using Matrix Minima method

1.

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	Availability
F ₁	19	30	50	10	7
F ₂	70	30	40	60	9
F ₃	40	8	70	20	18
Requirement	5	8	7	14	

Solution

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	(19)	(30)	(50)	(10)	7
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9
F ₃	(40)	8 (8)	(70)	(20)	10
	5	X	7	14	

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	(19)	(30)	(50)	7 (10)	X
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9
F ₃	(40)	8 (8)	(70)	(20)	10
	5	X	7	7	

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	(19)	(30)	(50)	7 (10)	X
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9
F ₃	(40)	8 (8)	(70)	7 (20)	3
	5	X	7	X	

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	(19)	(30)	(50)	7 (10)	X
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9
F ₃	3 (40)	8 (8)	(70)	7 (20)	X
	2	X	7	X	

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	
F ₁	(19) 2	(30) 7	(50) 7	(10) 7	X
F ₂	(70) 3	(30) 8	(40) 7	(60) 7	X
F ₃	(40) X	(8) X	(70) X	(20) X	X

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{14} = 7, x_{21} = 2, x_{23} = 7, x_{31} = 3, x_{32} = 8, x_{34} = 7$

The transportation cost is $7(10) + 2(70) + 7(40) + 3(40) + 8(8) + 7(20) = \text{Rs. } 814$

2.

		To					Availability
		2	11	10	3	7	4
From		1	4	7	2	1	8
		3	9	4	8	12	9
Requirement		3	3	4	5	6	

Solution

To

				4 (3)		4 0
From	3 (1)				5 (1)	8 5 0
		3 (9)	4 (4)	1 (8)	1 (12)	9 5 4 1 0
	3	3	4	5	6	
	0	0	0	1	1	
				0	0	

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{14} = 4, x_{21} = 3, x_{25} = 5, x_{32} = 3, x_{33} = 4, x_{34} = 1, x_{35} = 1$

The transportation cost is $4(3) + 3(1) + 5(1) + 3(9) + 4(4) + 1(8) + 1(12) = \text{Rs. } 78$

Vogel's Approximation Method (Unit Cost Penalty Method)

Step1

For each row of the table, identify the **smallest** and the **next to smallest cost**. Determine the difference between them for each row. These are called **penalties**. Put them aside by enclosing them in the parenthesis against the respective rows. Similarly compute penalties for each column.

Step 2

Identify the row or column with the largest penalty. If a tie occurs then use an arbitrary choice. Let the largest penalty corresponding to the i^{th} row have the cost c_{ij} . Allocate the largest possible amount $x_{ij} = \min(a_i, b_j)$ in the cell (i, j) and cross out either i^{th} row or j^{th} column in the usual manner.

Step 3

Again compute the row and column penalties for the reduced table and then go to step 2. Repeat the procedure until all the requirements are satisfied.

Find the initial basic feasible solution using vogel’s approximation method

1.

W_1	W_2	W_3	W_4	Availability
F_1	19	30	50	10
F_2	70	30	40	60
F_3	40	8	70	20
Requirement	5	8	7	14

Solution

W_1	W_2	W_3	W_4	Availability	Penalty
F_1	19	30	50	10	7
F_2	70	30	40	60	9
F_3	40	8	70	20	18
Requirement	5	8	7	14	
Penalty	40-19=21	30-8=22	50-40=10	20-10=10	

19-10=9
40-30=10
20-8=12

	W_1	W_2	W_3	W_4	Availability	Penalty
F_1	(19)	(30)	(50)	(10)	7	9
F_2	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9	10
F_3	(40)	8(8)	(70)	(20)	18/10	12
Requirement	5	8/0	7	14		
Penalty	21	22	10	10		

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	Availability	Penalty
F ₁	5(19)	(30)	(50)	(10)	7/2	9
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9	20
F ₃	(40)	8(8)	(70)	(20)	18/10	20
Requirement	5/0	X	7	14		
Penalty	21	X	10	10		

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	Availability	Penalty
F ₁	5(19)	(30)	(50)	(10)	7/2	40
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9	20
F ₃	(40)	8(8)	(70)	10(20)	18/10/0	50
Requirement	X	X	7	14/4		
Penalty	X	X	10	10		

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	Availability	Penalty
F ₁	5(19)	(30)	(50)	2(10)	7/2/0	40
F ₂	(70)	(30)	(40)	(60)	9	20
F ₃	(40)	8(8)	(70)	10(20)	X	X
Requirement	X	X	7	14/4/2		
Penalty	X	X	10	50		

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	Availability	Penalty
F ₁	5(19)	(30)	(50)	2(10)	X	X
F ₂	(70)	(30)	7(40)	2(60)	X	X
F ₃	(40)	8(8)	(70)	10(20)	X	X
Requirement	X	X	X	X		
Penalty	X	X	X	X		

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{11} = 5, x_{14} = 2, x_{23} = 7, x_{24} = 2, x_{32} = 8, x_{34} = 10$

The transportation cost is $5(19) + 2(10) + 7(40) + 2(60) + 8(8) + 10(20) = \text{Rs. } 779$

2.

	Stores				Availability
	I	II	III	IV	
Warehouse	A	21	16	15	13
	B	17	18	14	23
	C	32	27	18	41
Requirement	6	10	12	15	

Solution

		Stores				Availability	Penalty
		I	II	III	IV		
Warehouse	A	(21)	(16)	(15)	(13)	11	2
	B	(17)	(18)	(14)	(23)	13	3
	C	(32)	(27)	(18)	(41)	19	9
Requirement		6	10	12	15		
Penalty		4	2	1	10		

		Stores				Availability	Penalty
		I	II	III	IV		
Warehouse	A	(21)	(16)	(15)	11(13)	11/0	2
	B	(17)	(18)	(14)	(23)	13	3
	C	(32)	(27)	(18)	(41)	19	9
Requirement		6	10	12	15/4		
Penalty		4	2	1	10		

		Stores				Availability	Penalty
		I	II	III	IV		
Warehouse	A	(21)	(16)	(15)	11(13)	X	X
	B	(17)	(18)	(14)	4(23)	13/9	3
	C	(32)	(27)	(18)	(41)	19	9
Requirement		6	10	12	15/4/0		
Penalty		15	9	4	18		

		Stores				Availability	Penalty
		I	II	III	IV		
Warehouse	A	(21)	(16)	(15)	11(13)	X	X
	B	6(17)	(18)	(14)	4(23)	13/9/3	3
	C	(32)	(27)	(18)	(41)	19	9
Requirement		6/0	10	12	X		
Penalty		15	9	4	X		

		Stores				Availability	Penalty
		I	II	III	IV		
Warehouse	A	(21)	(16)	(15)	11(13)	X	X
	B	6(17)	3(18)	(14)	4(23)	13/9/3/0	4
	C	(32)	(27)	(18)	(41)	19	9
Requirement		X	10/7	12	X		
Penalty		X	9	4	X		

		Stores				Availability	Penalty
		I	II	III	IV		
Warehouse	A	(21)	(16)	X(15)	11(13)		X
	B	6(17)	3(18)	(14)	4(23)		
	C	(32)	7(27)	12(18)	(41)		
Requirement		X	X	X	X		
Penalty		X	X	X	X		

Initial Basic Feasible Solution

$x_{14} = 11, x_{21} = 6, x_{22} = 3, x_{24} = 4, x_{32} = 7, x_{33} = 12$

The transportation cost is $11(13) + 6(17) + 3(18) + 4(23) + 7(27) + 12(18) = \text{Rs. } 796$

Examining the Initial Basic Feasible Solution for Non-Degeneracy

Examine the initial basic feasible solution for non-degeneracy. If it is said to be non-degenerate then it has the following two properties

- ✦ Initial basic feasible solution must contain exactly $m + n - 1$ number of individual allocations.
- ✦ These allocations must be in independent positions

Independent Positions

✦	✦	✦		
		✦	✦	✦
	✦			✦

✦				✦
			✦	✦
		✦		✦

Non-Independent Positions

•	•			
	•	•		
	•	•		

•			•	
•		•		
		•	•	
				•

		•	
		•	•
•	•		•
•		•	
	•		•

3.2 Transportation Algorithm for Minimization Problem (MODI Method)

Step 1

Construct the transportation table entering the origin capacities a_i , the destination requirement b_j and the cost c_{ij}

Step 2

Find an initial basic feasible solution by vogel’s method or by any of the given method.

Step 3

For all the basic variables x_{ij} , solve the system of equations $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$, for all i, j for which cell (i, j) is in the basis, starting initially with some $u_i = 0$, calculate the values of u_i and v_j on the transportation table

Step 4

Compute the cost differences $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$ for all the non-basic cells

Step 5

Apply optimality test by examining the sign of each d_{ij}

- ✦ If all $d_{ij} \geq 0$, the current basic feasible solution is optimal
- ✦ If at least one $d_{ij} < 0$, select the variable x_{rs} (most negative) to enter the basis.
- ✦ Solution under test is not optimal if any d_{ij} is negative and further improvement is required by repeating the above process.

Step 6

Let the variable x_{rs} enter the basis. Allocate an unknown quantity Θ to the cell (r, s) . Then construct a loop that starts and ends at the cell (r, s) and connects some of the basic cells. The amount Θ is added to and subtracted from the transition cells of the loop in such a manner that the availabilities and requirements remain satisfied.

Step 7

Assign the largest possible value to the Θ in such a way that the value of at least one basic variable becomes zero and the other basic variables remain non-negative. The basic cell whose allocation has been made zero will leave the basis.

Step 8

Now, return to step 3 and repeat the process until an optimal solution is obtained.

Worked Examples

Example 1

Find an optimal solution

W_1	W_2	W_3	W_4	Availability	
F_1	19	30	50	10	7
F_2	70	30	40	60	9
F_3	40	8	70	20	18
Requirement	5	8	7	14	

Solution

- 1. Applying vogel's approximation method for finding the initial basic feasible solution**

	W ₁	W ₂	W ₃	W ₄	Availability	Penalty
F ₁	5(19)	(30)	(50)	2(10)	X	X
F ₂	(70)	(30)	7(40)	2(60)	X	X
F ₃	(40)	8(8)	(70)	10(20)	X	X
Requirement	X	X	X	X		
Penalty	X	X	X	X		

Minimum transportation cost is $5(19) + 2(10) + 7(40) + 2(60) + 8(8) + 10(20) = \text{Rs. } 779$

2. Check for Non-degeneracy

The initial basic feasible solution has $m + n - 1$ i.e. $3 + 4 - 1 = 6$ allocations in independent positions. Hence optimality test is satisfied.

3. Calculation of u_i and v_j : - $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$

	u_1 (19)			u_4 (10)	$u_1 + u_4 = 10$
			u_3 (40)	u_2 (60)	$u_2 + u_3 = 60$
v_j		u_3 (8)		u_3 (20)	$u_3 + v_4 = 20$
	$v_1 = 29$	$v_2 = 8$	$v_3 = 0$	$v_4 = 20$	

Assign a 'u' value to zero. (Convenient rule is to select the u_i , which has the largest number of allocations in its row)

Let $u_3 = 0$, then

$u_3 + v_4 = 20$ which implies $0 + v_4 = 20$, so $v_4 = 20$

$u_2 + v_4 = 60$ which implies $u_2 + 20 = 60$, so $u_2 = 40$

$u_1 + v_4 = 10$ which implies $u_1 + 20 = 10$, so $u_1 = -10$

$u_2 + v_3 = 40$ which implies $40 + v_3 = 40$, so $v_3 = 0$

$u_3 + v_2 = 8$ which implies $0 + v_2 = 8$, so $v_2 = 8$

$u_1 + v_1 = 19$ which implies $-10 + v_1 = 19$, so $v_1 = 29$

4. Calculation of cost differences for non basic cells $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

c_{ij}

c_{11}	(30)	(50)	c_{14}
(70)	(30)	c_{23}	c_{24}
(40)	c_{32}	(70)	c_{34}

$u_i + v_j$

$u_1 + v_1$	-2	-10	$u_1 + v_4$
69	48	$u_2 + v_3$	$u_2 + v_4$
29	$u_3 + v_2$	0	$u_3 + v_4$

$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

d_{11}	32	60	d_{14}
1	-18	d_{23}	d_{24}
11	d_{32}	70	d_{34}

5. Optimality test

$d_{ij} < 0$ i.e. $d_{22} = -18$
 so x_{22} is entering the basis

6. Construction of loop and allocation of unknown quantity Θ

5			2
	$+\theta$	7	$2-\theta$
	$8-\theta$		$10+\theta$

We allocate Θ to the cell (2, 2). Reallocation is done by transferring the maximum possible amount Θ in the marked cell. The value of Θ is obtained by equating to zero to the corners of the closed loop. i.e. $\min(8-\Theta, 2-\Theta) = 0$ which gives $\Theta = 2$. Therefore x_{24} is outgoing as it becomes zero.

5 (19)			2 (10)
	2 (30)	7 (40)	
	6 (8)		12 (20)

Minimum transportation cost is $5 (19) + 2 (10) + 2 (30) + 7 (40) + 6 (8) + 12 (20) = \text{Rs. } 743$

7. Improved Solution

₹ (19)			₹ (10)
	₹ (30)	₹ (40)	
	₹ (8)		₹ (20)

$u_1 = -10$
 $u_2 = 22$
 $u_3 = 0$

$v_1 = 29$ $v_2 = 8$ $v_3 = 18$ $v_4 = 20$

c_{ij}

₹	(30)	(50)	₹
(70)	₹	₹	(60)
(40)	₹	(70)	₹

$u_i + v_j$

₹	-2	8	₹
51	₹	₹	42
29	₹	18	₹

$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

₹	32	42	₹
19	₹	₹	18
11	₹	52	₹

Since $d_{ij} > 0$, an optimal solution is obtained with minimal cost Rs.743

Example 2

Solve by lowest cost entry method and obtain an optimal solution for the following problem

				Available
	50	30	220	1
From	90	45	170	3
	250	200	50	4
Required	4	2	2	

Solution

By lowest cost entry method

				Available
		1(30)		1/0
From	2(90)	1(45)		3/2/0
	2(250)		2(50)	4/2/0
Required	4/2/2	2/1/0	2/0	

Minimum transportation cost is $1(30) + 2(90) + 1(45) + 2(250) + 2(50) = \text{Rs. } 855$

Check for Non-degeneracy

The initial basic feasible solution has $m + n - 1$ i.e. $3 + 3 - 1 = 5$ allocations in independent positions. Hence optimality test is satisfied.

Calculation of u_i and v_j :- $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$

		u_1 (30)		$u_1 = -15$
	v_1 (90)	v_2 (45)		$u_2 = 0$
v_3	(250)		v_3 (50)	$u_3 = 160$
	$v_1 = 90$	$v_2 = 45$	$v_3 = -110$	

Calculation of cost differences for non-basic cells $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

c_{ij}		
50		220
		170
	200	

$u_i + v_j$		
75		-125
		-110
	205	

$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$		
-25		345
		280
	-5	

Optimality test

$d_{ij} < 0$ i.e. $d_{11} = -25$ is most negative
 So x_{11} is entering the basis

Construction of loop and allocation of unknown quantity Θ

$+\theta$	$1-\theta$	
$2-\theta$	$1+\theta$	

$\min(2-\theta, 1-\theta) = 0$ which gives $\theta = 1$. Therefore x_{12} is outgoing as it becomes zero.

1(50)		
1(90)	2(45)	
2(250)		2(50)

Minimum transportation cost is $1(50) + 1(90) + 2(45) + 2(250) + 2(50) = \text{Rs. } 830$

II Iteration

Calculation of u_i and v_j :- $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$

	$u_1 = -40$		
	$u_2 = 0$		
	$u_3 = 160$		
v_j	$v_1 = 90$	$v_2 = 45$	$v_3 = -110$

Calculation of $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

	c_{ij}	
	30	220

	$u_i + v_j$	
	5	-150

₹	₹	170
₹	200	₹

₹	₹	-110
₹	205	₹

$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

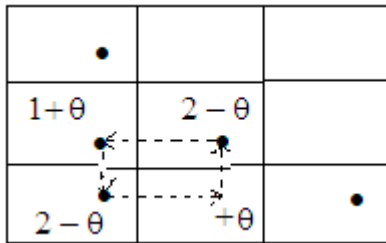
₹	25	370
₹	₹	280
₹	-5	₹

Optimality test

$d_{ij} < 0$ i.e. $d_{32} = -5$

So x_{32} is entering the basis

Construction of loop and allocation of unknown quantity Θ



$2 - \Theta = 0$ which gives $\Theta = 2$. Therefore x_{22} and x_{31} is outgoing as it becomes zero.

1(50)		
3(90)	0(45)	
	2(200)	2(50)

Minimum transportation cost is $1 (50) + 3 (90) + 2 (200) + 2 (50) = \text{Rs. } 820$

III Iteration

Calculation of u_i and v_j :- $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$

₹ (50)		
₹ (90)	₹ (45)	
	₹ (200)	₹ (50)

u_i

$u_1 = -40$

$u_2 = 0$

$u_3 = 155$

v_j $v_1 = 90$ $v_2 = 45$ $v_3 = -105$

Calculation of $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

c_{ij}

	30	220
		170
250		

$u_i + v_j$

	5	-145
		-105
245		

$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

	25	365
		275
5		

Since $d_{ij} > 0$, an optimal solution is obtained with minimal cost Rs.820

Example 3

Is $x_{13} = 50, x_{14} = 20, x_{21} = 55, x_{31} = 30, x_{32} = 35, x_{34} = 25$ an optimal solution to the transportation problem.

	6	1	9	3	Available
From	11	5	2	8	70
	10	12	4	7	55
Required	85	35	50	45	90

Solution

			50(9)	20(3)	Available
From	55(11)				X
	30(10)	35(12)		25(7)	X
Required	X	X	X	X	X

Minimum transportation cost is $50(9) + 20(3) + 55(11) + 30(10) + 35(12) + 25(7) = \text{Rs. } 2010$

Check for Non-degeneracy

The initial basic feasible solution has $m + n - 1$ i.e. $3 + 4 - 1 = 6$ allocations in independent positions. Hence optimality test is satisfied.

Calculation of u_i and v_j : - $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$

		█ (9)	█ (3)	u_i
█ (11)				$u_1 = -4$
█ (10)	█ (12)		█ (7)	$u_2 = 1$
v_j	$v_1 = 10$	$v_2 = 12$	$v_3 = 13$	$v_4 = 7$

Calculation of cost differences for non-basic cells $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

c_{ij}

6	1	█	█
█	5	2	8
█	█	4	█

$u_i + v_j$

6	8	█	█
█	13	14	8
█	█	13	█

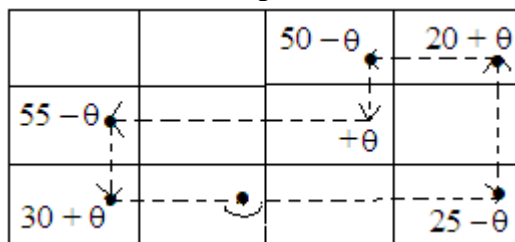
$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

0	-7	█	█
█	-8	-12	0
█	█	-9	█

Optimality test

$d_{ij} < 0$ i.e. $d_{23} = -12$ is most negative
 So x_{23} is entering the basis

Construction of loop and allocation of unknown quantity Θ



$\min(50-\Theta, 55-\Theta, 25-\Theta) = 25$ which gives $\Theta = 25$. Therefore x_{34} is outgoing as it becomes zero.

		25(9)	45(3)
30(11)		25(2)	
55(10)	35(12)		

Minimum transportation cost is $25 (9) + 45 (3) + 30 (11) + 25 (2) + 55 (10) + 35 (12) = \text{Rs. } 1710$

II iteration

Calculation of u_i and v_j : - $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$

		█ (9)	█ (3)	u_i
█ (11)		█ (2)		$u_1 = 8$
█ (10)	█ (12)			$u_2 = 1$
v_j	$v_1 = 10$	$v_2 = 12$	$v_3 = 1$	$v_4 = -5$

Calculation of cost differences for non-basic cells $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

c_{ij}

6	1	█	█
█	5	█	8
█	█	4	7

$u_i + v_j$

18	20	█	█
█	13	█	-4
█	█	1	-5

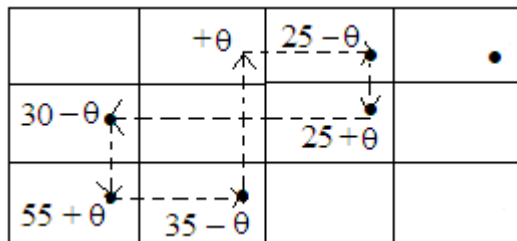
$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

-12	-19	█	█
█	-8	█	12
█	█	3	12

Optimality test

$d_{ij} < 0$ i.e. $d_{12} = -19$ is most negative
 So x_{12} is entering the basis

Construction of loop and allocation of unknown quantity Θ



$\min(25-\Theta, 30-\Theta, 35-\Theta) = 25$ which gives $\Theta = 25$. Therefore x_{13} is outgoing as it becomes zero.

	25(1)		45(3)
5(11)		50(2)	
80(10)	10(12)		

Minimum transportation cost is $25 (1) + 45 (3) + 5 (11) + 50 (2) + 80 (10) + 10 (12) = \text{Rs. } 1235$

III Iteration

Calculation of u_i and v_j : - $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$

	u_1 (1)		u_3 (3)
u_1 (11)		u_2 (2)	
u_2 (10)	u_3 (12)		

$u_1 = -11$
 $u_2 = 1$
 $u_3 = 0$

v_j	$v_1 = 10$	$v_2 = 12$	$v_3 = 1$	$v_4 = 14$
-------	------------	------------	-----------	------------

Calculation of cost differences for non-basic cells $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

c_{ij}	6	u_1	9	u_3
u_1	u_2	5	u_3	8
u_2	u_3	u_4	4	7

$u_i + v_j$	-1	u_1	-10	u_3
u_1	u_2	13	u_3	15
u_2	u_3	u_4	1	14

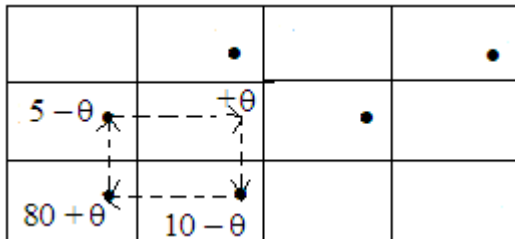
$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

7	u_1	19	u_3
u_1	-8	u_3	-7
u_2	u_3	3	-7

Optimality test

$d_{ij} < 0$ i.e. $d_{22} = -8$ is most negative
 So x_{22} is entering the basis

Construction of loop and allocation of unknown quantity Θ



$\min(5-\Theta, 10-\Theta) = 5$ which gives $\Theta = 5$. Therefore x_{21} is outgoing as it becomes zero.

	25(1)		45(3)
	5(5)	50(2)	
85(10)	5(12)		

Minimum transportation cost is $25 (1) + 45 (3) + 5 (5) + 50 (2) + 85 (10) + 5 (12) = \text{Rs. } 1195$

IV Iteration

Calculation of u_i and v_j : - $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$

	█ (1)		█ (3)
	█ (5)	█ (2)	
█ (10)	█ (12)		

u_i
 $u_1 = -11$
 $u_2 = -7$
 $u_3 = 0$

v_j $v_1 = 10$ $v_2 = 12$ $v_3 = 9$ $v_4 = 14$

Calculation of cost differences for non-basic cells $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

c_{ij}	6	█	9	█
	11	█	█	8
	█	█	4	7

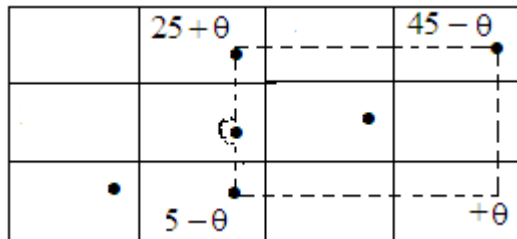
$u_i + v_j$	-1	█	-2	█
	3	█	█	7
	█	█	9	14

$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$	7	█	11	█
	8	█	█	1
	█	█	-5	-7

Optimality test

$d_{ij} < 0$ i.e. $d_{34} = -7$ is most negative
 So x_{34} is entering the basis

Construction of loop and allocation of unknown quantity Θ



$\min(5-\Theta, 45-\Theta) = 5$ which gives $\Theta = 5$. Therefore x_{32} is outgoing as it becomes zero.

	30(1)		40(3)
	5(5)	50(2)	
85(10)			5(7)

Minimum transportation cost is $30(1) + 40(3) + 5(5) + 50(2) + 85(10) + 5(7) = \text{Rs. } 1160$

V Iteration

Calculation of u_i and v_j : - $u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$

	₹ (1)		₹ (3)
	₹ (5)	₹ (2)	
₹ (10)			₹ (7)

u_i
 $u_1 = -4$
 $u_2 = 0$
 $u_3 = 0$

v_j	$v_1 = 10$	$v_2 = 5$	$v_3 = 2$	$v_4 = 7$
-------	------------	-----------	-----------	-----------

Calculation of cost differences for non-basic cells $d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

c_{ij}

6	₹	9	₹
11	₹	₹	8
₹	12	4	₹

$u_i + v_j$

6	₹	-2	₹
10	₹	₹	7
₹	5	2	₹

$d_{ij} = c_{ij} - (u_i + v_j)$

0	₹	11	₹
1	₹	₹	1
₹	7	2	₹

Since $d_{ij} > 0$, an optimal solution is obtained with minimal cost Rs.1160. Further more $d_{11} = 0$ which indicates that alternative optimal solution also exists.

Introduction to Assignment Problem

In assignment problems, the objective is to assign a number of jobs to the equal number of persons at a minimum cost of maximum profit.

Suppose there are 'n' jobs to be performed and 'n' persons are available for doing these jobs. Assume each person can do each job at a time with a varying degree of efficiency. Let c_{ij} be the cost of i^{th} person assigned to j^{th} job. Then the problem is to find an assignment so that the total cost for performing all jobs is minimum. Such problems are known as **assignment problems**.

These problems may consist of assigning men to offices, classes to the rooms or problems to the research team etc.

Mathematical formulation

Cost matrix: $c_{ij} =$

c_{11}	c_{12}	c_{13}	...	c_{1n}
c_{21}	c_{22}	c_{23}	...	c_{2n}
.
.
c_{n1}	c_{n2}	c_{n3}	...	c_{nn}

$$\text{Minimize cost : } z = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} x_{ij} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Subject to restrictions of the form

$$x_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i^{\text{th}} \text{ person is assigned } j^{\text{th}} \text{ job} \\ 0 & \text{if not} \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} = 1 \quad (\text{one job is done by the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ person, } i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_{ij} = 1 \quad (\text{only one person should be assigned the } j^{\text{th}} \text{ job, } j = 1, 2, \dots, n)$$

Where x_{ij} denotes that j^{th} job is to be assigned to the i^{th} person.

This special structure of assignment problem allows a more convenient method of solution in comparison to simplex method.

Algorithm for Assignment Problem (Hungarian Method)

Step 1

Subtract the minimum of each row of the effectiveness matrix, from all the elements of the respective rows (Row reduced matrix).

Step 2

Further modify the resulting matrix by subtracting the minimum element of each column from all the elements of the respective columns. Thus first modified matrix is obtained.

Step 3

Draw the minimum number of horizontal and vertical lines to cover all the zeroes in the resulting matrix. Let the minimum number of lines be N . Now there may be two possibilities

- ✦ If $N = n$, the number of rows (columns) of the given matrix then an optimal assignment can be made. So make the zero assignment to get the required solution.
- ✦ If $N < n$ then proceed to step 4

Step 4

Determine the smallest element in the matrix, not covered by N lines. Subtract this minimum element from all uncovered elements and add the same element at the intersection of horizontal and vertical lines. Thus the second modified matrix is obtained.

Step 5

Repeat step 3 and step 4 until minimum number of lines become equal to number of rows (columns) of the given matrix i.e. $N = n$.

Step 6

To make zero assignment - examine the rows successively until a row-wise exactly single zero is found; mark this zero by \square 'to make the assignment. Then, mark a 'X' over all zeroes if lying in the column of the marked zero, showing that they cannot be considered for further assignment. Continue in this manner until all the rows have been examined. Repeat the same procedure for the columns also.

Step 7

Repeat the step 6 successively until one of the following situations arise

- ✦ If no unmarked zero is left, then process ends
- ✦ If there lies more than one of the unmarked zeroes in any column or row, then mark \square 'one of the unmarked zeroes arbitrarily and mark a cross in the cells of remaining zeroes in its row and column. Repeat the process until no unmarked zero is left in the matrix.

Step 8

Exactly one marked zero in each row and each column of the matrix is obtained. The assignment corresponding to these marked zeroes will give the optimal assignment.

Worked Examples

Example 1

A department head has four subordinates and four tasks have to be performed. Subordinates differ in efficiency and tasks differ in their intrinsic difficulty. Time each man

would take to perform each task is given in the effectiveness matrix. How the tasks should be allocated to each person so as to minimize the total man-hours?

		Subordinates			
		I	II	III	IV
Tasks	A	8	26	17	11

B	13	28	4	26
C	38	19	18	15
D	19	26	24	10

Solution

Row Reduced Matrix

0	18	9	3
9	24	0	22
23	4	3	0
9	16	14	0

I Modified Matrix

0	14	9	3
9	20	0	22
23	0	3	0
9	12	14	0

$N = 4, n = 4$

Since $N = n$, we move on to zero assignment

Zero assignment

0	14	9	3
9	20	0	22
23	0	3	0
9	12	14	0

Optimal assignment A - I B - III C - II D - IV
 Man-hours 8 4 19 10

Total man-hours = $8 + 4 + 19 + 10 = 41$ hours

Example 2

A car hire company has one car at each of five depots a, b, c, d and e. a customer requires a car in each town namely A, B, C, D and E. Distance (kms) between depots (origins) and towns (destinations) are given in the following distance matrix

	a	b	c	d	e
A	160	130	175	190	200
B	135	120	130	160	175
C	140	110	155	170	185
D	50	50	80	80	110
E	55	35	70	80	105

Solution

Row Reduced Matrix

30	0	45	60	70
15	0	10	40	55
30	0	45	60	75
0	0	30	30	60
20	0	35	45	70

I Modified Matrix

30	0	35	30	15
15	0	0	10	0
30	0	35	30	20
0	0	20	0	5
20	0	25	15	15

$N < n$ i.e. $3 < 5$, so move to next modified matrix

II Modified Matrix

15	0	20	15	0
15	15	0	10	0
15	0	20	15	5
0	15	20	0	5
5	0	10	0	0

$N = 5, n = 5$

Since $N = n$, we move on to zero assignment

Zero assignment

15	0	20	15	<u>0</u>
15	15	<u>0</u>	10	0
15	<u>0</u>	20	15	5
<u>0</u>	15	20	0	5
5	0	10	<u>0</u>	0

Route	A - e	B - c	C - b	D - a	E - d
Distance	200	130	110	50	80

Minimum distance travelled = $200 + 130 + 110 + 50 + 80 = 570$ kms

Example 3

Solve the assignment problem whose effectiveness matrix is given in the table

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
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A	49	60	45	61
B	55	63	45	69
C	52	62	49	68
D	55	64	48	66

Solution

Row-Reduced Matrix

4	15	0	16
10	18	0	24
3	13	0	19
7	16	0	18

I Modified Matrix

1	2	0	0
7	5	0	8
0	0	0	3
4	3	0	2

$N < n$ i.e $3 < 4$, so II modified matrix

II Modified Matrix

1	2	2	0
5	3	0	6
0	0	2	3
2	1	0	0

$N < n$ i.e $3 < 4$

III Modified matrix

0	1	2	0
4	2	0	6
0	0	3	4
1	0	0	0

Since $N = n$, we move on to zero assignment

Zero assignment

Multiple optimal assignments exists

Solution - I

<input type="checkbox"/>	1	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	4
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Optimal assignment A - 1 B - 3 C - 2 D - 4
 Value 49 45 62 66

Total cost = 49 + 45 + 62 + 66 = 222 units

Solution - II

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	2	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3	4
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Optimal assignment A - 4 B - 3 C - 1 D - 2
 Value 61 45 52 64

Minimum cost = 61 + 45 + 52 + 64 = 222 units

Example 4

Certain equipment needs 5 repair jobs which have to be assigned to 5 machines. The estimated time (in hours) that a mechanic requires to complete the repair job is given in the table.

Assuming that each mechanic can be assigned only one job, determine the minimum time assignment.

	J1	J2	J3	J4	J5
M1	7	5	9	8	11
M2	9	12	7	11	10
M3	8	5	4	6	9
M4	7	3	6	9	5
M5	4	6	7	5	11

Solution

Row Reduced Matrix

2	0	4	3	6
2	5	0	4	3
4	1	0	2	5
4	0	3	6	2
0	2	3	1	7

I Modified Matrix

2	0	4	2	4
2	5	0	3	1
4	1	0	1	3
4	0	3	5	0
0	2	3	0	5

$N < n$

II Modified Matrix

1	0	4	1	3
1	5	0	2	0
3	1	0	0	2
4	1	4	5	0
0	3	4	0	5

$N = n$

Zero assignment

1	0	4	1	3
1	5	0	2	0
3	1	0	0	2
4	1	4	5	0
0	3	4	0	5

Optimal assignment M1 – J2 M2 – J3 M3 – J4 M4 – J5 M5 – J1
 Hours 5 7 6 5 4

Minimum time = 5 + 7 + 6 + 5 + 4 = 27 hours

Unbalanced Assignment Problems

If the number of rows and columns are not equal then such type of problems are called as unbalanced assignment problems.

Example 1

A company has 4 machines on which to do 3 jobs. Each job can be assigned to one and only one machine. The cost of each job on each machine is given in the following table

		Machines			
		W	X	Y	Z
Jobs	A	18	24	28	32
	B	8	13	17	19
	C	10	15	19	22

Solution

18	24	28	32
8	13	17	19
10	15	19	22
0	0	0	0

Row Reduced matrix

0	6	10	14
0	5	9	11
0	5	9	12
0	0	0	0

I Modified Matrix

0	6	10	14
0	5	9	11
0	5	9	12
0	0	0	0

$N < n$ i.e. $2 < 4$

II Modified Matrix

0	1	5	9
0	0	4	6
0	0	4	7
5	0	0	0

$N < n$ i.e. $3 < 4$

III Modified Matrix

0	1	1	5
0	0	0	2
0	0	0	3
9	4	0	0

$N = n$

Zero assignment

Multiple assignments exists

Solution -I

0	1	1	5
X	0	X	2
X	X	0	3
9	4	X	0

Optimal assignment W – A X – B Y – C
 Cost 18 13 19

Minimum cost = 18 + 13 + 19 = Rs 50

Solution -II

0	1	1	5
X	X	0	2
X	0	X	3
9	4	X	0

Optimal assignment W – A X – C Y – B
 Cost 18 17 15

Minimum cost = 18 + 17 + 15 = Rs 50

Example 2

Solve the assignment problem whose effectiveness matrix is given in the table

	R1	R2	R3	R4
C1	9	14	19	15
C2	7	17	20	19
C3	9	18	21	18
C4	10	12	18	19
C5	10	15	21	16

Solution

9	14	19	15	0
7	17	20	19	0
9	18	21	18	0
10	12	18	19	0
10	15	21	16	0

Row Reduced Matrix

9	14	19	15	0
7	17	20	19	0
9	18	21	18	0
10	12	18	19	0

10	15	21	16	0
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I Modified Matrix

2	2	1	0	0
0	5	2	4	0
2	6	3	3	0
3	0	0	4	0
3	3	3	1	0

$N < n$ i.e. $4 < 5$

II Modified Matrix

1	1	0	0	0
0	5	2	5	1
1	5	2	3	0
3	0	0	5	1
2	2	2	1	0

$N < n$ i.e. $4 < 5$

III Modified Matrix

2	1	0	0	1
0	4	1	4	1
1	4	1	2	0
4	0	0	5	2
2	1	1	0	0

$N = n$

Zero assignment

2	1	0	4	1
0	4	1	4	1
1	4	1	2	0
4	0	0	5	2
2	1	1	0	0

Optimal assignment C1 – R3 C2 – R1 C4 – R2 C5 – R4
 Units 19 7 12 16

Minimum cost = $19 + 7 + 12 + 16 = 54$ units

Maximal Assignment Problem

Example 1

A company has 5 jobs to be done. The following matrix shows the return in terms of rupees on assigning i^{th} ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$) machine to the j^{th} job ($j = A, B, C, D, E$). Assign the five jobs to the five machines so as to maximize the total expected profit.

		Jobs				
		A	B	C	D	E
Machines	1	5	11	10	12	4
	2	2	4	6	3	5
	3	3	12	5	14	6
	4	6	14	4	11	7
	5	7	9	8	12	5

Solution

Subtract all the elements from the highest element
 Highest element = 14

9	3	4	2	10
12	10	8	11	9
11	2	9	0	8
8	0	10	3	7
7	5	6	2	9

Row Reduced matrix

7	1	2	0	8
4	2	0	3	1
11	2	9	0	8
8	0	10	3	7
5	3	4	0	7

I Modified Matrix

3	1	2	0	7
0	2	0	3	0
7	2	9	0	7
4	0	10	3	6
1	3	4	0	6

$N < n$ i.e. $3 < 5$

II Modified Matrix

2	0	1	0	6
0	2	0	4	0
6	1	8	0	6
4	0	10	4	6
0	2	3	0	5

$N < n$ i.e. $4 < 5$

III Modified Matrix

1	0	0	0	5
0	3	0	5	0
5	1	7	0	5
3	0	9	4	5
0	3	3	1	5

$N = n$

Zero assignment

1	0	0	0	5
0	3	0	5	0
5	1	7	0	5
3	0	9	4	5
0	3	3	1	5

Optimal assignment 1 – C 2 – E 3 – D 4 – B 5 – A

Maximum profit = $10 + 5 + 14 + 14 + 7 = \text{Rs. } 50$