

SPECIFIED FLOW IN A NON LINEAR CAPACITATED TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM

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ABSTRACT

In the present paper, a non linear transportation problem with specified flow is studied. In addition to the flow constraint, the minimum requirement of each destination is also specified then the situation arises of distributing at minimum cost a certain commodity produced in a country, after keeping reserve stocks, to various states with minimum requirement of each state specified. A related transportation problem is formed in which the flow constraint is replaced by two extra destinations, one for supplementing the total flow up to the specified level, and the other for identifying the supply points preferred to keep reserves. Optimal basic feasible solution of the related transportation problem so formulated is shown to give an optimal solution of the given problem. A numerical example is included in support of theory.

Keywords: optimum time cost trade off, capacityated transportation problem, non linear transportation problem, specified flow.

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INTRODUCTION:

An important class of transportation problem consists of capacitated transportation problem. If the total flow in a transportation problem with bounds on rim conditions is also specified, the resulting problem makes the transportation problem more realistic. Moreover, if the total capacity of each route is also specified then optimal solution of such problems is of greater importance which gives rise to a capacitated transportation problem. Many researchers like A.K Bit et.al. [6], K.Dahiya et.al. [7] Have contributed in this field.

In 1976, Bhatia et.al. [5] Provided the time cost trade off pairs in a linear transportation problem. Then in 1994, Basu et.al. [4] Developed an algorithm for the optimum time cost trade off pairs in a fixed charge linear transportation problem giving same priority to cost as well as time. Arora et.al. [3] Studied time cost trade off pairs in an indefinite quadratic transportation problem with restricted flow.

In this paper, a capacitated non linear transportation problem with bounds on rim conditions giving same priority to cost and time is studied along with specification on the total flow. An algorithm to identify the efficient cost time trade off pairs for the problem is developed.

PROBLEM FORMULATION:

Consider a non linear capacitated transportation problem given by

(P1):

$$\min z = \left[\frac{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} c_{ij} x_{ij}}{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} d_{ij} x_{ij}} + \frac{\sum_{i \in I} F_i}{\sum_{i \in I} G_i} \right]$$

$$\text{Subject to } a_i \leq \sum_{i \in I} X_{ij} \leq A_i \quad \forall i \in I \quad 1.1$$

$$b_j \leq \sum_{j \in J} X_{ij} \leq B_j \quad \forall j \in J \quad 1.2$$

$$\text{And integers } \quad \forall i \in I, j \in J \quad 1.3$$

$I = \{1, 2, m\}$ is the index set of m origins.

$J = \{1, 2, n\}$ is the index set of n destinations

$I =$ number of units transported from i^{th} origin to j^{th} destination.

C_{ij} = cost of transporting one unit of commodity from i^{th} origin to j^{th} destination.

l_{ij} and u_{ij} are the bounds on number of units to be transported from i^{th} origin to j^{th} destination.

a_i is the availability at the i^{th} origin, $i \in I$

b_j is the bounds on the demand at the j^{th} destination, $j \in J$

t_{ij} is the time of transporting goods from i^{th} origin to j^{th} destination.

F_i is the fixed cost associated with i^{th} origin.

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} = P, \quad x_{ij} \geq 0; \forall (i, j) \in I \times J$$

Where $\sum_{j \in J} r_j < P < \sum_{i \in I} a_i$, r_j being the minimum requirement specified for the j^{th} destination.

.The resulting on linear capacitated transportation problem with specified flow is

$$(P_1): \min z = \left[\frac{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} c_{ij} x_{ij}}{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} d_{ij} x_{ij}} + \frac{\sum_{i \in I} F_i}{\sum_{i \in I} G_i} \right]$$

Subject to

$$\sum_{i \in I} X_{ij} \geq a_i \quad \forall i \in I$$

$$\sum_{j \in J} X_{ij} \geq b_j \quad \forall j \in J$$

$$l_{ij} \leq x_{ij} \leq u_{ij} \quad \text{and integers} \quad \forall i \in I, j \in J$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} X_{ij} = \sum_{j \in J} r_j < P < \sum_{i \in I} a_i \quad x_{ij} \geq 0 \quad i \in I, j \in J$$

.....(1)

$$(P_2): \min z = \left[\frac{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} c'_{ij} x_{ij}}{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} d'_{ij} x_{ij}} + \frac{\sum_{i \in I} F'_i}{\sum_{i \in I} G'_i} \right]$$

Subject to (1.1), (1.2), (1.3) and

To solve the problem (P_2) , we first convert it into related problem (P'_2) given below.

$$(P'_2): \min z = \left[\frac{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} c_{ij} x_{ij}}{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} d_{ij} x_{ij}} + \frac{\sum_{i \in I} F_i}{\sum_{i \in I} G_i} \right]$$

Subject to

$$\sum_{j \in J'} y_{ij} = a_i' \quad \forall i \in I'$$

$$\sum_{i \in I'} y_{ij} = b_j' \quad \forall j \in J'$$

$$l_{ij} \leq y_{ij} \leq u_{ij} \quad \forall i \in I, j \in J$$

$$0 \leq y_{m+1,j} \leq \sum_{i \in I} u_{ij} - b_j'; \quad \forall j \in J$$

$$0 \leq y_{i,n+1} \leq \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - a_i' \quad \forall i \in I$$

$$y_{m+1,n+1} \geq 0 \text{ and integers}$$

$$\text{where } a_i' = \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} \quad \forall i \in I, a'_{m+1} = \sum_{j \in J} \sum_{i \in I} u_{ij} - P = b'_{n+1}; b_j' = \sum_{i \in I} u_{ij} \quad \forall j \in J$$

$$c'_{ij} = c_{ij}, \quad \forall i \in I, j \in J, c'_{m+1,j} = c'_{i,n+1} = 0, \quad \forall i \in I, j \in J, c_{m+1,n+1} = M$$

$$F'_i = F_i \quad \forall i = (1, 2, \dots, m), F'_{m+1} = 0$$

$$I' = \{1, 2, \dots, m, m+1\}, J' = \{1, 2, \dots, n, n+1\}$$

3 Theoretical development:

Definition: Corner feasible solution: A basic feasible solution $\{y_{ij}\}_{i \in I', j \in J'}$ to problem (P₂) is called a corner feasible solution (cfs) if $y_{m+1,n+1} = 0$

Theorem 1: A non corner feasible solution of problem (P₂) cannot provide a basic feasible solution to problem (P₁).

Proof: Let $\{y_{ij}\}_{I' \times J'}$ be a non corner feasible solution to problem (P₂). Then, $y_{m+1,n+1} = \lambda (> 0)$ thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in I'} y_{i,n+1} &= \sum_{i \in I} y_{i,n+1} + y_{m+1,n+1} \\ &= \sum_{i \in I} y_{i,n+1} + \lambda \end{aligned}$$

$$= \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - P$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \sum_{i \in I} y_{i,n+1} = \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - (P + \lambda)$$

Now, for $i \in I$,

$$\sum_{j \in J'} y_{ij} = a_i = \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij}$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J'} y_{ij} = \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij}$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} + \sum_{i \in I} y_{i,n+1} = \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij}$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} + \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - (P + \lambda) = \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij}$$

Therefore, $\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} = P + \lambda$

This implies that total quantity transported from the sources in I to the destinations in J is $P + \lambda > P$, a contradiction to assumption that total flow is P and hence $\{y_{ij}\}_{I \times J}$ cannot provide a feasible solution to problem (P₁)

Lemma 1: There is one to one correspondence between a feasible solution of problem (P₂) and a corner feasible solution of problem (P₂').

Proof: Let $\{x_{ij}\}_{I \times J}$ be a feasible solution of problem (P₂).

So by relation (1), we have $x_{ij} \leq u_{ij}$ which implies $\sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} \leq \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij}$ (1.4)

By relation (1) and (1.4), we get

$$a_i \leq \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} \leq \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} = a_i'$$

Similarly, $b_j \leq \sum_{i \in I} x_{ij} \leq \sum_{i \in I} u_{ij} = b_j'$

Define $\{y_{ij}\}_{I \times J}$ by the following transformation

$$y_{ij} = x_{ij}, i \in I, j \in J \quad (1.5)$$

$$y_{i,n+1} = \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij}; \forall i \in I \quad (1.6)$$

$$y_{m+1,j} = \sum_{i \in I} u_{ij} - \sum_{i \in I} x_{ij}; \forall j \in J \quad (1.7)$$

$$y_{m+1,n+1} = 0 \quad (1.8)$$

It can be shown that $\{y_{ij}\}$ so defined is a cfs to problem (P₂')

Relation (1) and (1.5) imply that $l_{ij} \leq y_{ij} \leq u_{ij}; \forall i \in I, j \in J$

Relation (1) and (1.6) imply that $0 \leq y_{i,n+1} \leq \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - a_i; \forall i \in I$

Relation (1) and (1.7) imply that $0 \leq y_{m+1,j} \leq \sum_{i \in I} u_{ij} - b_j; \forall j \in J$

Relation (1.8) implies that $y_{m+1,n+1} \geq 0$

Also for $i \in I$, relation (1.5) and (1.6) imply that

$$\sum_{j \in J'} y_{ij} = \sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} + y_{i,n+1} = \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} + \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} = \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} = a_i$$

For $i = m+1$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \in J'} y_{m+1,j} &= \sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} + y_{m+1,n+1} = \sum_{j \in J} \left(\sum_{i \in I} u_{ij} - \sum_{i \in I} x_{ij} \right) \\ &= \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} \\ &= \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - P = a'_{m+1} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\sum_{j \in J'} y_{ij} = a'_i; \forall i \in I'$

Similarly, it can be shown that $\sum_{i \in I} y_{ij} = b'_j; \forall j \in J'$

Therefore, $\{y_{ij}\}_{I' \times J'}$ is a cfs to problem (P_2') .

Conversely, let $\{y_{ij}\}_{I' \times J'}$ be a cfs to problem (P_2') . Define x_{ij} , $i \in I, j \in J$ by the following transformation.

$$x_{ij} = y_{ij}, i \in I, j \in J \quad (1.9)$$

It implies that $l_{ij} \leq x_{ij} \leq u_{ij}, i \in I, j \in J$

Now for $i \in I$, the source constraints in problem (P_2') imply

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \in J'} y_{ij} &= a'_i = \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} \\ \sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} + y_{i,n+1} &= \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} \\ \Rightarrow a_i &\leq \sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} \leq \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} \quad \left(\text{since } 0 \leq y_{i,n+1} \leq \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - a_i; \forall i \in I \right) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} \geq a_i, i \in I$ and subsequently, $\sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} \geq a_i, i \in I$

Similarly, for $j \in J$, $\sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} \geq b_j; \forall j \in J$ and subsequently, $\sum_{i \in I} x_{ij} \geq b_j; \forall j \in J$

For $i = m+1$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \in J'} y_{m+1,j} &= a'_{m+1} = \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - P \\ \Rightarrow \sum_{j \in J} y_{m+1,j} &= \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - P \text{ because } y_{m+1,n+1} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1.10)$$

Now for $j \in J$ the destination constraints in problem (P_2') give

$$\sum_{i \in I} y_{ij} + y_{m+1,j} = \sum_{i \in I} u_{ij}$$

Therefore, $\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} + \sum_{j \in J} y_{m+1,j} = \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij}$

By relation (1.10), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} y_{ij} &= \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - \sum_{j \in J} y_{m+1,j} = P \\ \Rightarrow \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} x_{ij} &= P \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\{x_{ij}\}_{I \times J}$ is a feasible solution to problem (P_2) .

Remark 1 : If problem (P_2') has cfs, then since $c'_{m+1,n+1} = M$ and $d'_{m+1,n+1} = M$, it follows that non corner feasible solution can not be an optimal solution to problem (P_2) .

Lemma 2 : The value of the objective function of problem (P_2) at a feasible solution $\{x_{ij}\}_{I \times J}$ is equal to the value of the objective function of problem (P_2') at its corresponding cfs $\{y_{ij}\}_{I \times J'}$, and conversely.

Proof: The value of the objective function of problem (P_2) at a feasible solution $\{x_{ij}\}_{I \times J}$ is

$$\min z = \left[\frac{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} c'_{ij} x_{ij}}{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} d'_{ij} x_{ij}} + \frac{\sum_{i \in I} F'_i}{\sum_{i \in I} G'_i} \right]$$

$$\text{because } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} c'_{ij} = c_{ij}, \forall i \in I, j \in J \\ x_{ij} = y_{ij}, \forall i \in I, j \in J \\ c'_{i,n+1} = c'_{m+1,j} = c_{m+1,n+1} = 0 \\ F'_{m+1} = 0, F'_i = F_i, \forall i \in I \end{array} \right\}$$

= objective function value of problem (P₂) at {x_{ij}}. Converse can be proved in a similar way.

Lemma 3: : There is a one to one correspondence between the optimal solution among the corner feasible solution to problem (P₂') and the optimal solution to problem(P₂).

Proof :Let $\{\hat{x}_{ij}\}_{I \times J}$ be an optimal solution to problem (P₂) with the value of objective function as Z⁰ .Since $\{\hat{x}_{ij}\}_{I \times J}$ is an optimal solution, ∴ {x_{ij}} is a feasible solution to problem (P₂) . Then by lemma 1, there exist a corresponding feasible solution $\{\hat{y}_{ij}\}_{I \times J'}$ is Z⁰ [refer to lemma 2]

we will show that $\{\hat{y}_{ij}\}_{I \times J'}$ is the optimal solution to problem (P₂').

Now,Let if possible, $\{\hat{y}_{ij}\}$ be not an optimal solution to problem (P₂').Therefore there exist a feasible solution {y'_{ij}} say to problem (P₂') having the value of objective function Z' < Z⁰ .Let {x'_{ij}} be the corresponding feasible solution to problem (P₂). Then by theorem 2,

$$Z' = \left[\frac{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} c'_{ij} x_{ij}}{\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} d'_{ij} x_{ij}} + \frac{\sum_{i \in I} F'_i}{\sum_{i \in I} G'_i} \right]$$

Which contradicts that $\{\hat{x}_{ij}\}$ is an optimal solution to problem (P₂).

Similarly, starting from an optimal feasible solution to problem (P₂'), one can derive an optimal corner feasible solution to problem (P₂) having the same objective function value.

Theorem 2: Optimizing problem (P₂') is equivalent to optimizing problem (P₂) provided problem (P₂) has a feasible solution.

Proof: As problem (P₂) has a feasible solution, by lemma 1, there exists a cfs to problem (P₂). Thus by remark 1, an optimal solution to problem (P₂) will be a cfs. Hence, by lemma 3, an optimal solution to problem (P₂) can be obtained.

4 Algorithm

Step 1. starting from the given non linear capacitated transportation problem (P₁) with enhanced flow, form a related transportation problem (P₂) by introducing a dummy source and a dummy destination with

$$a_i' = \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij}; \forall i \in I, \quad a_{m+1}' = \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} u_{ij} - P = b_{n+1}', \quad b_j' = \sum_{i \in I} u_{ij}; \forall j \in J,$$

$$c_{ij}' = c_{ij} \forall i \in I, j \in J, \quad c_{m+1,j}' = c_{i,n+1}' = 0; \forall i \in I, j \in J, \quad c_{m+1,n+1}' = M$$

Step 2 : Find an initial basic feasible solution to (P₂) with respect to variable cost only. Let B be its corresponding basis.

Step 3 : Calculate the fixed cost of the current basic feasible solution and denote it by F(current),

$$\text{where } F(\text{current}) = \sum_{i=1}^m F_i$$

Step 4(a) : Find $\Delta F_{ij} = F(\text{NB}) - F(\text{current})$ where F(NB) is the total fixed cost obtained when some non basic cell (i, j) undergoes change.

Step 4(b) : Calculate $\theta_{ij}, (c_{ij} - z_{ij})$ for all non basic cells such that

$$u_i + v_j = c_{ij}; \forall (i, j) \in B$$

$$u_i + v_j = z_{ij}; \forall (i, j) \in N_1 \& N_2$$

Θ_{ij} = level at which a non basic cell (I, j) enters the basis replacing some basic cell of B.

N₁ and N₂ denotes the set of non basic cells (I, j) which are at their lower and upper bounds respectively.

Note : u_i, v_j are the dual variables which are determined by using above equations and taking one of the u_i 's or v_j 's as zero.

Step 4(c) : Find $R_{ij}^1; \forall (i, j) \in N_1$ and $R_{ij}^2; \forall (i, j) \in N_2$ where

$$R_{ij}^1 = \theta_{ij}(c_{ij} - z_{ij}) + \Delta F_{ij} \geq 0; \forall (i, j) \in N_1 \text{ and } R_{ij}^2 = -\theta_{ij}(c_{ij} - z_{ij}) + \Delta F_{ij} \geq 0; \forall (i, j) \in N_2$$

Step 5 : If $R_{ij}^1 \geq 0; \forall (i, j) \in N_1$ and $R_{ij}^2 \geq 0; \forall (i, j) \in N_2$ then the current solution so obtained is the optimal solution to (P_2') , Go to step 5. Otherwise some $(I, j) \in N_1$ for which $R_{ij}^1 < 0$ or some $(I, j) \in N_2$ for which $R_{ij}^2 < 0$ will undergo change. Go to step 3.

Step 6 : Let Z^1 be the optimal cost of (P_2') yielded by the basic feasible solution $\{y'_{ij}\}$. Find all alternate solutions to the problem (P_2') with the same value of objective function. Let these solutions be X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n and $T^1 = \min_{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n} \{ \max_{i \in I', j \in J'} (t_{ij} / x_{ij} > 0) \}$. Then the corresponding pair (Z^1, T^1) will be the first time cost trade off pair for the problem (P_1) . To find the second cost-time trade off pair, go to step 7.

Step 7 : Define $c^1_{ij} = \begin{cases} M & \text{if } t_{ij} \geq T^1 \\ c_{ij} & \text{if } t_{ij} < T^1 \end{cases}$ where M is a sufficiently large positive number. From the

corresponding capacitated fixed charge transportation problem with variable cost c^1_{ij} . Repeat the above process till the problem becomes infeasible. The complete set of time cost trade off pairs of (P_1) at the end of q^{th} iteration are given by $(Z^1, T^1), (Z^2, T^2), \dots, (Z^q, T^q)$ where $Z^1 \leq Z^2 \leq \dots \leq Z^q$ and $T^1 > T^2 > \dots > T^q$.

Remark : The pair (Z^1, T^q) with minimum cost and minimum time is the ideal pair which cannot be achieved in practice except in some trivial case.

Convergence of the algorithm: The algorithm will converge after a finite number of steps because we are moving from one extreme point to another extreme point and the problem becomes infeasible after a finite number of steps.

5. Numerical Illustration:

Consider a 3*4 non linear capacitated transportation problem with specified flow

Table 1

	D1	D2	D3	D4	a _i
O1	5	9	9	8	10
	1	2	4	7	
O2	4	6	2	5	6
O3	4	1	2	3	8
r _j	2	3	4	6	

Table2: Anoptimalsolutionofproblem(P2)

	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	a _i	1 u _i	2 u _i
O1	5 2 1	9 3 2	9 4	8 7	5 5 1	0 0 0	10	0	0
O2	4 3	6 7	2 4 4	5 6	2 4	0 2 0	6	0	0
O3	4 2	1 9	2 5	3 6 2	3 2	0 2 0	8	0	0
b _i	2	3	4	6	5	4			
1	5	9	2	3	5	0			
2	1	2	4	2	1	0			

Note: Entries in bold are basic cells.

Here $z_1 = 88$, $z_2 = 41$.

Table3:Calculationofoptimalitycondition

NB	O1D3	O1D4	O2D1	O2D2	O2D4	O2D5	O3D1	O3D2	O3D3	O3D5
C_{ij}	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1	7	5	-1	-3	2	-3	-1	-8	0	-2
2	0	5	2	5	4	3	1	7	1	1
R_{ij}	0	0	262	574	900	246	90	352	176	4

Table4:Optimalsolutionofproblem(P1)

	D1	D2	D3	D4	a _i
O1	5 7	9 3	9	8	10
O2	4	6	2 4	5	6
O3	4	1	2	3 6	8
r _i	2	3	4	6	

$z_1 = 88$, $z_2 = 41$. Therefore minimum cost = $Z = (88 \times 41) = 3608$ for problem (P1)

Conclusion:

In order to solve a transportation problem with specified flow, a related transportation problem is formed. It is shown that optimal solution to the specified problem may be obtained from the optimal solution of the related transportation problem. Since optimal solution of the related transportation problem is attain a bleat an extreme point, therefore optimal basic feasible solution of the related problem will give an optimal solution of the given problem

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