

Setting up and Solving in Excel

Here is a good way to organize the power distribution problem. I've used one array of constants for the costs, and reserved space for the array of variables (x_{ij}). Then we keep track of the supplies down the last column (sums), and the demands across the bottom row. The total cost is then a "dot product" between the cost array and variable array (as shown in the formula boxes). (NOTE: To type an equal sign and not have a formula, type a blank space first). You can download this from our class website as a template.

1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
2	Power Distribution Problem (Example from Text, 7.1)									
3	Unit Cost									
4			City A	City B	City C	City D				
5		Plant 1	8	6	10	9				
6		Plant 2	9	12	13	7				
7		Plant 3	14	9	16	5				
8										
9										
10	Distribution (Kwh)									
11			City A	City B	City C	City D	Total Sent		Supply	
12		Plant 1					=SUM(D12:G12) =			35
13		Plant 2					=SUM(D13:G13) =			50
14		Plant 3					=SUM(D14:G14) =			40
15		Total Received	=SUM(D12:D14)	=SUM(E12:E14)	=SUM(F12:F14)	=SUM(G12:G14)				
16			=	=	=	=				Total Cost:
17		Demand	45	20	30	30				=SUMPRODUCT(D5:G7,D12:G14)

To set up the solver:

- We want to **minimize** cell J17
- The conditions are that the column sums (in cells D15 to G15) are equal to the demand (in cells D17 to G17), and the row sums (in cells H12-H14) are equal to the supply (in cells J12-14). All told, there are then 4+3=7 equality constraints.

The solver should give you the following result:

1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
2	Power Distribution Problem (Example from Text, 7.1)									
3	Unit Cost									
4			City A	City B	City C	City D				
5		Plant 1	8	6	10	9				
6		Plant 2	9	12	13	7				
7		Plant 3	14	9	16	5				
8										
9										
10	Distribution (Kwh)									
11			City A	City B	City C	City D	Total Sent		Supply	
12		Plant 1	0	10	25	0	35	=		35
13		Plant 2	45	0	5	0	50	=		50
14		Plant 3	0	10	0	30	40	=		40
15		Total Received	45	20	30	30				
16			=	=	=	=				Total Cost:
17		Demand	45	20	30	30				1020