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Modeling of Gauss Elimination Technique and AHA Simplex Algorithm for Multi-objective Linear Programming Problems

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration between both authors. Author SJ designed the study, performed the modeling of Gauss elimination technique for LPP, wrote the elimination procedure and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. Author AM managed the analyses of the study to reduce MOLPP into LPP by AHA algorithm ant then solved by Gauss elimination technique. Both the authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Abstract

In this research paper, an effort has been made to solve each linear objective function involved in the Multi-objective Linear Programming Problem (MOLPP) under consideration by AHA simplex algorithm and then the MOLPP is converted into a single LPP by using various techniques and then the solution of LPP thus formed is recovered by Gauss elimination technique. MOLPP is concerned with the linear programming problems of maximizing or minimizing, the linear objective function having more than one objective along with subject to a set of constraints having linear inequalities in nature. Modeling of Gauss elimination technique of inequalities is derived for numerical solution of linear programming problem by using concept of bounds. The method is quite useful because the calculations involved are simple as compared to other existing methods and takes least time. The same has been illustrated by a numerical example for each technique discussed here.

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Keywords: Multi-objective linear programming problem; Gauss elimination technique; objective function; Chandra Sen's technique; averaging techniques; new averaging techniques; AHA simplex algorithm.

1 Introduction

Mathematical modeling is an important tool to describe the different characteristics of an observed phenomenon (a problem) and their interactivity as well as their dynamics through Mathematics in optimization. It provides us a way to simplify observed phenomenon and to reach at its computationally description. Mathematical modeling is a simplification of real world problems. This is an art of constructing problems from an application area into manageable mathematical formulations whose numerical and theoretical analysis provides guidance, perception and answers which are useful for generating other applications.

This is an interesting, innovative, interdisciplinary, growing and important subject for researchers since many interesting algorithm have been introduced by researchers and still have lots of possibilities to find more new algorithms which must be easy, appropriate and less time taking. Some algorithms have been computationally tested. Each algorithm or method has some merits and demerits. In the framework of each application, some algorithm or method seems more suitable than others.

Sen, C. [1] developed a new approach for MOLPP. According to his suggestion, a multi-objective function should be constructed under the limitation in such a way that the optimum value of individual problem is greater than zero. The solution of linear multi-objective programming problems had been carried out by Sulaiman, N. A. and Sadiq, G. W. [2] by using mean and median value. An optimal transformation technique to find the solution of MOLPP had been developed by Sulaiman, N. A. and O. Hamadameen, A. Q. [3]. Hamad-Amin A. O. [4] discussed an adaptive arithmetic average technique to solve MOLPP. Sulaiman, N. A. and Mustafa, R. B. [5] proposed harmonic mean technique to solve multi-objective linear programming problems. Nahar, S. and Alim, M. A. [6] proposed a new statistical averaging method to solve MOLPP. Different elimination techniques for linear programming problems have been studied earlier by Kohler [7], Williams [8], Kanniappan et al. [9], Sharma et al. [10]. Jain et al. [11,12] proposed Gauss as well as Modified Fourier elimination techniques for linear fractional programming problems. Further, Jain et al. [13,14] presented extended Gauss as well as extended Modified Fourier elimination technique for integer solution of linear fractional programming problem. Jain, S. [15] proposed the technique to find the solution of multi-objective linear programming problem by modeling of Gauss elimination technique. Jain, S. [16] proposed modeling of Fourier elimination technique for multi-objective fractional programming problem. Jain, S. [17] presented the modeling of Gauss elimination technique for multi-objective fractional programming problems; in which, he considered all the linear objective functions as constraints to solve MOLPP. Here, we have taken a multi-objective linear programming problem and applied the AHA simplex algorithm to solve linear programming problem for multi-objective functions. After that, the single LPP has been constructed by using various techniques (Chandra Sen, averaging techniques and new averaging techniques) from the MOLPP under consideration and then solved it by Gauss elimination technique. We solved the LPP thus formed by all these techniques one by one by Gauss elimination technique and the result thus obtained are compared with other existing techniques available in the literature and found the same answer. The optimal answer found by this technique is the same as the result obtained from either simplex method or by graphical method (in case of only two decision variables) or by AHA simplex algorithm. The AHA simplex algorithm had been introduced to solve Linear Programming Problem (LPP) by Ansari, A. H. [18]. Jain et al. [19] commented on the result obtained by Nahar, S. and Alim, M. A. [6] in the case of new harmonic average technique.

In the later section, description about methodology is presented followed by AHA simplex algorithm and Gauss elimination technique for inequalities. Further, problem formulation is described and after that various techniques to convert MOLPP into a single LPP has been discussed.

2 Methodology

The mathematical programming problem can be solved by various techniques available in the literature so far but two new techniques namely Gauss elimination method and AHA simplex algorithm are discussed here in details:

2.1 AHA simplex algorithm

Step 1: We have to construct as many separate linear programming problems as the number of objectives involved in the multi-objective linear programming problem under consideration.

Step 2: To apply AHA simplex algorithm, firstly we have to write each linear programming problem in the form given below:

Maximize $Z_i \leq c_i^T x + \alpha_i$

or

$$
\text{Maximize} \quad [1 \quad -c^T \quad] \quad [\frac{Z_i}{x}] \quad \leq 0
$$

Subject to, $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & A \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} Z_i \\ X \end{bmatrix} \leq b$

and $x \geq 0$

Step 3: The objective function of every linear program must be in maximization form. If it is not so, then we have to convert it into maximize form by using the standard result i.e., Maximize $Z_i = -$ Minimize (Z_i)

Step 4: The requirement vector components i.e.,b_i must be positive always. If any one of b_i is not positive, then we have to make it positive by multiplying the corresponding inequality by -1.

Step 5: Now, we have to check the sign convention of all the decision variables involved in the objective inequality.

- (i) The solution will be an optimal one if all $-c_i \ge 0$; where $Z = 0$ and $x_i = 0$, $\forall j$
- (ii) There is a requirement to improve the solution if at least one $-c_i < 0$, then go to the next step.

Step 6: Select the most negative value involved among all-c_i. Let it be for $j = k$.

- (i) If all a_{ik} are negative for all i then there exists an unbounded solution of the given linear programming problem.
- (ii) If there exists at least one a_{ik} is positive then the vector x_k corresponding to it enters the basis. The column in which x_k lies is known as pivotal column.

(iii) Select the minimum ratio amongst the ratio { $\frac{b_i}{a_{ik}}$; $\forall a_{ik} > 0, \forall i$ }. Let minimum ratio occurs for ${\frac{b_s}{a_{sk}}}$; $\forall a_{sk} > 0$, then the row in which a_{sk} lies is said to be pivotal row; which is left blank in initial iteration. The intersection of pivotal row and pivotal column is known as pivotal element i.e. a_{sk} .

Step 7: To construct the next table for iteration, proceed similarly as the process adopted for ordinary simplex algorithm.

Step 8: Go to step 5. Repeat the procedure until either an optimal solution is achieved.

2.2 Gauss elimination technique for inequalities

In Gauss elimination technique, we solve the system of simultaneous equation with the help of elimination of variables one by one and finally the above system reduces to upper triangular system of equations, which can be solved by back substitution. Here, we are applying Gauss elimination technique for a system of inequalities of the same nature i.e., either less than or equal to (\le) or greater than or equal to (\ge) . In this technique, the variables are eliminated by combining the inequalities in such a way that the inequalities and variables reduce in one iteration so at last there remains only one variable with one inequality remains. This last inequality gives value of last variable in bounded form and finally taking the value of last variable either maximum or minimum according to the objective function of LPP reduced from MOLPP. Finally, we get value of other variables by back substitution of value of the remaining variables [12].

For the sake of clarity and simplicity, we consider the system of n variables and m inequalities:

 $a_{11}x_1 + \ldots + a_{1n}x_n \le b_1$ $a_{21}x_1 + \ldots + a_{2n}x_n \leq b_2$ ……………………………………… …………………………………… $a_{m1}x_1 + \ldots + a_{mn}x_n \leq b_m$

To eliminate the first variable say x_1 , multiply the first row by $\frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}$, $\frac{a_{31}}{a_{11}}$ $rac{a_{31}}{a_{11}}$,, $rac{a_{m1}}{a_{11}}$ respectively and then subtract them from second, third and so on upto the last row. Then we get first iteration, which is

Where, $a_{mn}^{(2)} = a_{mn} - \frac{a_{m1}a_{1n}}{a_{n1}}$ $\frac{a_{n1}a_{1n}}{a_{11}}$ and b_m ⁽²⁾= $b_m - b_1 \frac{a_{m1}}{a_{11}}$ a_{11}

Now after first iteration, we get (n-1) variables and (m-1) inequalities. Repeating this process or after (n-1) iterations we have only one variable remains. Finally, one can get the value of other variables by back substitution of the value of last variable. It is possible that some redundant constraints may present in the system.

3 Problem Formulation

Here we consider the Multi-objective linear programming problem as:

 $Z = \{Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_s\}$ where the objectives is to find the

Maximum value of $Z_1, Z_2, \ldots, Z_r \&$

Minimum value of Z_{r+1}, \ldots, Z_s .

subject to, $Ax \leq b$

and $x \geq 0$

where, A is a matrix of order m × n and $S = \{x \in R^n | Ax \leq b, x \geq 0 \text{ and } b \in R^m (x \geq 0)\}\$ is a feasible set and s ≥ 2.

Also, $Z_i = c_i^T x + \alpha_i ; c_i^T \in \mathbb{R}^n , \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R} \forall i = 1, 2, 3, ..., s$

4 Techniques to Convert MOLPP into a Single LPP

Firstly we have to solve each LPP by simplex method or by graphical method (if no. of decision variables is two only) or by any other method and find the value of objective functions.

4.1 Chandra Sen's technique

Now, as per Chandra Sen's technique, we can convert MOLPP into a single LPP as follows:

Max.
$$
Z = \sum_{i=1}^{r} \frac{z_i}{|\tau_i|} - \sum_{r+1}^{s} \frac{z_i}{|\tau_i|} \alpha x_1 + \beta x_2(left)
$$
 (4.1)

where τ_i is non-zero for $i = 1, 2, \ldots$, s

subject to the constraints given in the problem under consideration. Here τ_i may be positive or negative and τ_i denotes the value of objective function of ith objective.

4.2 Arithmetic averaging technique

$$
\text{Max } Z = \sum_{i}^{r} \frac{z_{i}}{\text{AM}(AA_{i})} - \sum_{r+1}^{s} \frac{z_{i}}{\text{AM}(AL_{i})} = \alpha x_{1} + \beta x_{2}(\text{let})
$$
\n(4.2)

Where $AA_i = |\tau_i|$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$; $AL_i = |\tau_i|$ for $i = r + 1, \dots, s$

A.M. here refers for Arithmetic Mean.

4.3 Geometric averaging technique

$$
\text{Max } Z = \sum_{i=1}^{r} \frac{z_i}{G.M.(AA_i)} - \sum_{r+1}^{S} \frac{z_i}{G.M.(AL_i)} = \alpha x_1 + \beta x_2(\text{let})
$$
\n(4.3)

Where $AA_i = |\tau_i|$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$; $AL_i = |\tau_i|$ for $i = r + 1, \dots, s$

G.M. here refers for Geometric Mean.

4.4 Harmonic averaging technique

$$
\text{Max } Z = \sum_{i=1}^{r} \frac{z_i}{H.M.(AA_i)} - \sum_{i=1}^{s} \frac{z_i}{H.M.(AL_i)} = \alpha x_1 + \beta x_2(\text{let})
$$
\n(4.4)

Where $AA_i = |\tau_i|$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$; $AL_i = |\tau_i|$ for $i = r + 1, \dots, s$

H.M. here refers for Harmonic Mean.

4.5 New averaging techniques

Let m_1 = Minimum {AA_i} where AA_i = $|\tau_i|$ and τ_i is the maximum value of Z_i for i = 1, 2, …, r. Also let m_2 = Minimum {AL_i} where AL_i = $|\tau_i|$ and τ_i is the minimum value of Z_i for i = r + 1, . …., s.

4.5.1 New arithmetic averaging technique

Arithmetic average will be m = $\frac{m_1 + m_2}{2}$

Hence, objective function becomes Max.
$$
Z = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{r} \sum_{i=1}^{s} \sum_{i+1}^{s} z_i}{m} = \alpha x_1 + \beta x_2
$$
 (let) (4.5)

4.5.2 New geometric averaging technique

Geometric average will be m = $\sqrt{m_1 m_2}$

Hence, objective function becomes Max.
$$
Z = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{r} Z_i - \sum_{i=1}^{s} Z_i}{m} = \alpha x_1 + \beta x_2(\text{let})
$$
(4.6)

4.5.3 New harmonic averaging technique

Harmonic average will be m = $\frac{2}{\frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2}}$

Hence, objective function becomes Max.
$$
Z = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{r} z_i - \sum_{i=1}^{s} z_i}{m} = \alpha x_1 + \beta x_2
$$
 (let) (4.7)

After that, by taking objective function as constraint and all constraints of the same sign of inequality, reduced form of MOLPP for Gauss elimination technique is as follows:

Max Z $Z - \alpha x_1 - \beta x_2 \leq 0$ $A x \leq b$ - $x \leq 0$

Now, we have to combine the inequalities in such a way that the inequalities and the variables are reduced one by one in each iteration. If an absurd inequality $0 \le d$ is found at any stage, where d is a negative number then the given MOLPP has infeasible solution. Otherwise one can get the feasible solution.

5 Numerical Example

Solve the given multi-objective linear programming problem: (Samsun, N. et al (2017))

First of all, we have to solve each and every linear programming problem along with the given constraints to find the optimal value of each objective of MOLPP by any of the methods available in the literature. Here, we have applied AHA Simplex Algorithm to find the optimal value of each objective function. For the first linear program, the procedure is as under:

Now, we apply AHA simplex algorithm to find the optimal solution.

Table 1. Initial AHA simplex table

The most negative coefficient in the first row is -2 which corresponds to the variable x_2 . Hence the entering variable is x_2 . Here minimum positive ratio is 3 which is coming at two positions. Select arbitrarily the fourth row. Therefore variable x_2 enters into the fourth row. Pivot element is 1.

The most negative coefficient in the first row is -1 which corresponds to the variable x_1 . Hence the entering variable is x_1 . Here minimum positive ratio is 0, therefore variable x_1 enters into the second row. Pivot element is 1.

Table 3. Intermediate AHA simplex table

The most negative coefficient in the first row is -1 which corresponds to the variable x_3 . Hence the entering variable is x_3 . Here minimum positive ratio is 4, which is occurring from the two positions. Hence we have to select it arbitrarily. Let variable x_3 enters into the first row. Pivot element is 6.

Table 4. Final AHA simplex table

Now, it can be observed that all the coefficients of x_i in the objective inequality is either zero or positive. Therefore, this is an optimal solution. The optimal solution occurs at

 $x_1 = 4$, $x_2 = 3$ and $x_3 = 4$ with

Maximum $Z_1 = (4) + 2(3) = 10$.

Similarly, we can find the values of other objective functions.

For the second objective $x_1 = 4$, $x_2 = 3$ with Maximum $Z_2 = 4$

For the second objective $x_1 = 4$, $x_2 = 3$ with Minimum $Z_3 = (-2)(4) - (3)(3) = -17$

For the second objective $x_1 = 4$, $x_2 = 3$ with Minimum $Z_4 = -3$

The knowledge of these values are mandatory before applying the conversion techniques. That's why we have calculated.

Now reduced linear programming problem thus obtained by the techniques of Chandra Sen, Averaging techniques and New averaging techniques are being solved by our proposed Gauss elimination technique.

We get different bounded values for Z. Out of these $Z = 3.9998$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $Z = 3.9998$. Now, putting $Z = 3.9998$ into the inequalities involved in second stage, we get different bounded values for variable x_2 . Out of these, $x_2 = 3$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_2 = 3.$ Now putting $Z = 3.9998$ and $x_2 = 3$ into the inequalities involved in first stage, we get different bounded values for the variable x_1 . Out of these, $x_1 = 4$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_1 = 4$.

Table 5. Solution by Gauss elimination technique of reduced LPP thus formed by MOLPP using Chandra Sen's technique

Table 6. Solution by Gauss elimination technique of reduced LPP thus formed by MOLPP using arithmetic averaging technique

We get different bounded values for Z. Out of these $Z = 3.9999$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $Z = 3.9999$. Now, putting $Z = 3.9999$ into the inequalities involved in second stage, we get different bounded values for variable x_2 . Out of these, $x_2 = 3$ is the only value that satisfies all

the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_2 = 3.$ Now putting $Z = 3.9999$ and $x_2 = 3$ into the inequalities involved in first stage, we get different bounded values for the variable x_1 . Out of these, $x_1 = 4$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_1 = 4$.

Objective Function	Max $Z = \frac{(2x_1+2x_2)}{(2x_1-4x_2)}$					
	7.1414 6.324					
	$= 0.5963 x_1 + 0.8763 x_2$					
Constraints	$6x_1 + 8x_2 \le 48$					
	$x_1 + x_2 \geq 3$					
	$x_1 + 0 x_2 \leq 4$					
	$0x_1 + x_2 \leq 3$					
	$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$ and					
After first stage of	Max Z					
elimination	$-0.817373805 x_2 + 10.0620493 Z \le 48$					
	$0.469562301 x_2 - 1.677008217 Z \le -3$					
	$-1.469562301 x_2 + 1.677008217 Z \leq 4$					
	1.469562301 x_2 – 1.677008217 Z \leq 0					
	$x_2 \leq 3$					
	$-x_2 \leq 0$					
After second stage of	Z < 5.9889					
elimination	Z > 5.0141					
	$Z \le 5.2578$					
	$Z \le 5.0141$					
	Z > 4.7704					

Table 7. Solution by Gauss elimination technique of reduced LPP thus formed by MOLPP using geometric averaging technique

Table 8. Solution by Gauss elimination technique of reduced LPP thus formed by MOLPP using harmonic averaging technique

We get different bounded values for Z. Out of these $Z = 5.0141$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $Z = 5.0141$. Now, putting $Z = 5.0141$ into the inequalities involved in second stage, we get different bounded values for variable x_2 . Out of these, $x_2 = 3$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_2 = 3$. Now putting $Z = 5.0141$ and $x_2 = 3$ into the inequalities involved in first stage, we get different bounded values for the variable x_1 . Out of these, $x_1 = 4$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_1 = 4$.

We get different bounded values for Z. Out of these $Z = 6.37103$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $Z = 6.37103$. Now, putting $Z = 6.37103$ into the inequalities involved in second stage, we get different bounded values for variable x_2 . Out of these, $x_2 = 3$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_2 = 3$. Now putting $Z = 6.37103$ and $x_2 = 3$ into the inequalities involved in first stage, we get different bounded values for the variable x_1 . Out of these, $x_1 = 4$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_1 = 4$.

We get different bounded values for Z. Out of these $Z = 9.7141$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $Z = 9.7141$. Now, putting $Z = 9.7141$ into the inequalities involved in second stage, we get different bounded values for variable x_2 . Out of these, $x_2 = 3$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_2 = 3$. Now putting Z = 9.7141 and $x_2 = 3$ into the inequalities involved in first stage, we get different bounded values for the variable x_1 . Out of these, $x_1 = 4$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_1 = 4$.

We get different bounded values for Z. Out of these $Z = 9.81495$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $Z = 9.81495$. Now, putting $Z = 9.81495$ into the inequalities involved in second stage, we get different bounded values for variable x_2 . Out of these, $x_2 = 3$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_2 = 3$. Now putting Z = 9.81495 and $x_2 = 3$ into the inequalities involved in first stage, we get different bounded values for the variable x_1 . Out of these, $x_1 = 4$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_1 = 4$.

Table 10. Solution by Gauss elimination technique of reduced LPP thus formed by MOLPP using new geometric averaging technique

Table 11. Solution by Gauss elimination technique of reduced LPP thus formed by MOLPP using new harmonic averaging technique

We get different bounded values for Z. Out of these $Z = 9.9164$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $Z = 9.9164$. Now, putting $Z = 9.9164$ into the inequalities involved in second stage, we get different bounded values for variable x_2 . Out of these, $x_2 = 3$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_2 = 3$. Now putting Z = 9.9164 and $x_2 = 3$ into the inequalities involved in first stage, we get different bounded values for the variable x_1 . Out of these, $x_1 = 4$ is the only value that satisfies all the inequalities altogether. Hence $x_1 = 4$.

The optimal solution of each reduced LPP thus formed by MOLPP discussed in numerical example by using AHA simplex algorithm and Gauss elimination technique is tabulated below:

Chandra Sen's technique	Arithmetic average technique	Geometric average technique	Harmonic average technique	New arithmetic average technique	New geometric average technique	New harmonic average technique
$x_1 = 4$,	$x_1 = 4$,	$x_1 = 4$,	$x_1 = 4$,	$x_1 = 4$,	$x_1 = 4$,	$x_1 = 4$,
$x_2 = 3$	$x_2 = 3$	$x_2 = 3$	$x_2 = 3$	$x_2 = 3$	$x_2 = 3$	$x_2 = 3$
and	and	and	and	and	and	and
$Z = 3.9998$	$Z = 3.9999$	$Z = 5.0141$	$Z = 6.37103$	$Z = 9.7141$	$Z = 9.81495$	$Z = 99164$

Table 12. Solution of MOLPP after applying AHA simplex algorithm and Gauss elimination technique

It is obvious to verify that results are similar to the tabular values obtained from traditional simplex method or by Graphical method (in case of having only two variables) or by any other method available in the literature. Also it is very much clear from Table 12 that if we use new harmonic average technique to solve reduced LPP, then one can get the best optimal solution out of these techniques discussed above.

6 Conclusion

In this research paper, we used the AHA simplex algorithm and technique of Gauss elimination technique to solve MOLPP for the very first time. Different researchers used to solve traditional simplex method to solve MOLPP while we tried to apply different algorithms and techniques. It is observed that harmonic average technique possess dominance property than the techniques of Chandra Sen, Arithmetic averaging and Geometric averaging techniques. When we apply new statistical averaging techniques, the value of the objective function gets optimize as compared to statistical averaging techniques. New harmonic averaging techniques provide best optimize value of the objective function as compared to new arithmetic and new geometric averaging techniques.

Competing Interests

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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