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Solution And Sensitivity Analysis Of Diet Problem Of Indian Teenage Girls Using Python Programming

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Abstract:

The Linear Programming Problem (LPP) is a problem of finding the optimal value of the given linear function. The optimal value can be either maximum value or minimum value. Python (Spider) is a widely used programming language and freely available software for statistical computing. This paper is the study of determining the optimum solution for the diet problem of the teenage girls in India. We solved this problem by using Python programming.

The various nutrients like carbohydrates, proteins, fats, vitamins and minerals in different food items of various food groups like cereals and millets, grain legumes, green leafy vegetables, other vegetables, fruits, roots and tubers, condiments and spices-fresh, nuts and oil seeds, sugars, milk and milk products, are helpful for maintenance, growth, reproduction and health of human beings.

In this paper the various food items are taken as decision variables and constraints are designed corresponding to different nutrients. In the construction of constraints we have assumed that any intake of more than the minimum requirement of nutrients is not harmful to the human body. Here the objective is to find the optimum solution that is to find the quantity of food items that should be consumed to minimize the cost of diet which will fulfill the minimum requirement of nutrients for teenage girls.

Keywords: Nutrients, Diet, pulp, Lp_prob.solve(), Lp_prob.objective, pandas, Dataframe.

1. INTRODUCTION

Indian teenage girls in the age group 10-18 years, need a wide range of nutrients to perform various functions in their body and to lead a healthy life. Since girls derive all the nutrients they need through the diet they eat, their diet must be well balanced to provide all the vital nutrients in proper proportion [2]. Since teenage girls are in the high need of protein, fats, carbohydrates, vitamin A and C, iron, calcium, folate and also magnesium to have a good nutritional status which will keep them free from diseases like anemia, underweight, PCOS, etc. Hence their diet must have good accessibility to these nutrients through their regular diet which must be easily available to them. To find optimum nutritional benefits in low cost here we formulate the LPP (Diet Problem) in which we have to specify first, the four things which are,

1.1. Decision Variables:

The variables used to decide the output as decision variables. We have taken 49 vegetarian food items as decision variables (as shown in table 2) which Indian girls commonly use in their daily diet as a sustaining food. In this diet problem using LPP we have to find out how many grams of these food items are necessary for the daily requirement of nutrients for girls at minimum cost.

1.2. Objective Function:

The linear function which is to be optimized is called the objective function. In this problem, our main objective is to minimize the total cost of the daily diet of girls which will fulfill the minimum requirement of nutrients. Here we want the cost of food items purchased (as shown in table 2) to be as little as possible and at the same time, we also emphasize on the fact that these food items provide all the necessary nutrients required for the healthy life of girls. Some food items can be common for different nutrients. It is beneficial for cost cutting of diet.

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www.ijcrt.org 1.3. Constraints:

These are the restrictions on the decision variables, i.e., food items should provide minimum nutritional requirements necessary for healthy life. There are many nutrients which are available in various food items, but for convenience, for teenage girls, we considered 10 nutrients which are commonly available in all types of food items and their minimum amounts which are required for sustaining a healthy life recommended by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) are as shown in table 1[1].

Nutrients (gm/day)	Protein	Fats	Carbo- hydrates	Vit. A	Folate	Vit. C	Vit. D	Iron	Calcium	Magnes ium
Girls										
(Body wt.										
36.4 kg to				0.0008			0.00001			
55.7 kg)	43.2	67.7	130	6	0.000245	0.066	5	0.03	0.00001	0.325

1.4 Non Negative Restrictions:

All the decision variables are restricted to be non negative. Mathematically, the diet problem can be stated as follows,

$$\Box \Box \Box = \sum_{I=I} \Box_{I} \Box_{I}$$

Subject to the constraints,



Where x_j 's are the quantities of food items, c_j 's are the costs of food items per 100 gm, a_{ij} 's are amounts of nutrients per 100 gm of food items and b_i 's are daily minimum nutritional requirements.

Our diet problem is to minimize the function (1) subject to the constraints (2) and non negative restrictions (3).

Here the diet problem is of minimization and constraints are of greater than or equal to type. We solved it using a computer-based method i.e., Python programming for planning an optimal menu with respect to the daily nutritional requirements of Indian teenage girls [6].

Following the formulation of LPP and attainment of an optimum solution of it, it is often desired to study the effect of changes in the different parameters of the problem on the current optimum solution. If slight changes are made in the parameters or the structure of a given LPP after its optimum solution has been attained then the analysis of such post-optimal problems can thus be termed as post-optimality analysis or sensitivity analysis [5].

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2. FORMULATION OF DIET PROBLEM

Table 2 provides us the input data for a LPP with 49 decision variables indicating the amount of various food items to be consumed and 10 constraints determining minimum nutritional requirement [3][4].

Table)	Amounto	fuarious	mutuianta	contained in	different	antarian	food and	una itama	with agata
I uvie 2.	Amouni o	various	numenus	comumea m	uijjereni ve	geiuriun	joou gro	ups-uems	wiin cosis

	Food Groups			Nutrients (gm / day)									
Sr. No	(Food Items in 100 gm)	Co Rs. g	st in /100 gm	Protei n	Fats	Carbo - hydrat es	Calciu m	Iron	Vit. A	Vit. B9 (Folate)	Vit. C	Vit. D2	Magne sium
1	Cereals, Gra Products	ins	And	43.2	67.7	130	0.0000 01	0.03	0.00086	0.000245	0.066	0.000015	0.325
	Wheat Flour	x1	5	12.1	1.7	69.4	0.048	0.004 9	0.000284	0.000029 22	0	0.000015	0.125
	Wheat Semolina	x2	6.5	10.4	0.8	74.8	0.016	0.001 6	0.000276	0.000025 68	0	0.000008	0.0378 9
	Rice Flacks	x3	4	6.6	1.2	77.3	0.02	0.02	0.000033 61	0.000008 46	0	0	0.0779 2
	Rice Puffed	x4	5	7.5	0.1	73.6	0.023	0.006 6	0.000050 46	0	0	0	0.0645 9
	Maize (Dry)	x5	2.5	11.1	3.6	1.5	0.01	0.002	0.000893	0.000025	0	0.000033	0.145
2	Pulses And Leg	gume	es					S					
	Red Gram Dal	x6	12	22.3	1.7	57.6	0.073	0.002 7	0.000484	0.00010 8	0	0.000002	0.119
	Green Gram Dal	x7	11	24.5	1.2	59.9	0.075	0.003	0.000619	0.000092	0	0.000002 05	0.155
	Bengal Gram Dal	x8	7.6	20.8	5.6	59.8	0.056	0.005 3	0.000999	0.000182	0	0.000001 75	0.118
	Black Gram Dal	x9	12	24.0	1.4	59.6	0.154	0.003	0.000463	0.000088 75	0	0.000008 42	0.173
	Moth Bean	x1 0	14.8	23.6	1.1	56.5	0.202	0.009	0.000622	0.000349	0	0.000009 77	0.205
	Peas Green	x1 1	6	7.2	0.1	15.9	0.02	0.001 5	0.001286	0.000054 77	0.0384	0.000015 21	0.0401
3	Leafy Vegetabl	les		-									
	Spinach	x1 2	6	2.0	0.7	2.9	0.073	0.001 14	0.009553	0.000142	0.0302 8	0.000000 26	0.0869 7
	Fenugreek Leaves	x1 3	16	4.4	0.9	34	0.08	0.000 6	0.012577	0.000075 26	0.0582 5	0.000002 36	0.0636 7
	Coriender leaves	x1 4	10	3.3	0.6	6.3	0.184	0.001 42	0.013808	0.000051 01	0.0238 7	0	0.0726 8
	Cabbage	x1 5	6	1.8	0.1	46	0.039	0.000 8	0.000339	0.000046 36	0.0332 5	0.000000 21	0.0179 9
4	Roots And Tub	ers											
	Redish (Pink)	x1 6	6	0.6	0.3	6.8	0.05	0.000 37	0.000017 61	0.000024 65	0.1763	0.000000 04	0.0222 5
	Onion	x1 7	3	1.8	0.1	12.6	0.04	0.001	0.000031	0.000029 68	0.0109 6	0.000000	0.0151 6
	Garlik	x1 8	4.7	36.3	0.1	29.8	0.03	0.001	0.000030 48	0.000078 82	0.1357	0.000001 97	0.0257 8
	Ginger	x1 9	8	2.3	0.9	12.3	0.02	0.003	0.00025	0.000010	0.00 5 4 3	0.000003	0.03 68 6

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	Potato	x2	4	1.6	0.1	22.6	0.01	0.000	0.000224	0.000013	0.0264	0.000000	0.0223
		0						48		85	1	19	4
5	Condiments Ai	nd Sp	oices					0.011		0.000007		0.000010	
	Cumin Seeds	x2 1	32	8.7	15.0	36.6	1.08	0.011	0.000553	0.000027 79	0	0.000012	0.442
	Black Papper	x2 2	120	11.5	6.8	49.2	0.46	0.012 4	0.002219	0.000021 89	0	0.000025 68	0.196
	Turmeric	x2 3	14	6.3	5.1	69.4	0.15	0.067 8	0.000427	0.000013 86	0	0.000018 67	0.26
6	Other Vegetabl	les											
	French Beans (Country)	x2 4	11.5	1.7	0.1	4.5	0.05	0.000 61	0.001501	0.000047 45	0.0158	0.000001 82	0.0430
	Pumpkin Fruit	x2 5	6	1.4	0.1	4.6	0.01	0.000	0.001449	0.000024	0.0080	0.000001	0.0104
	Brinjal	x2 6	8	1.4	0.3	4	0.018	0.000	0.000309	0.000033 93	0.0020	0.000001 04	0.021
	Cauliflower	x2 7	8	2.6	0.4	4	0.033	0.001 23	0.000050 48	0.000045 95	0.0471	0.000001 32	0.0230
	Tomato	x2 8	4	1.9	0.1	3.6	0.02	0.001	0.000546	0.000012	0.0164	0.000001	0.0135 7
	Capsicum	x2 9	8	1.3	0.3	4.3	0.01	0.000	0.002511	0.000051	0.0012	0.000000	0.0118
	Ladyfingers	x3 0	4	1.9	0.2	6.4	0.066	0.000	0.001223	0.00063 68	0.022 51	0.000007 46	0.0661
	Cucumber	x3 1	21	0.4	0.1	2.5	0.01	0.000 6	0.000171	0.000014 67	0.0062 1	0.000001 36	0.0184 8
7	Fruits												
	Banana	x3 2	5	1.2	0.3	27.2	0.017	0.000 36	0.00026	0.000017 93	0.0080 6	0.000000 2	0.0302 2
	Guava	x3 3	10	0.9	0.3	11.2	0.01	0.000	0.00 <mark>0996</mark>	0.000029 76	0.214	0.000001 68	0.0152 61
	Sweet Lemon	x3 4	10	0.7	0.3	7.3	0.03	0.000 7	0.000085 13	0.000015 38	0.0469 6	0.000000 3	0.0089
	Orange	x3 5	18	0.7	0.2	10.9	0.026	0.000 32	0.000675	0.000019 46	0.0427	0.000000 34	0.0110 5
	Grapes	x3 6	24	0.5	0.3	16.5	0.02	0.000 52	0.000208	0.000008 35	0.0171 0	0.000003 59	0.0068 7
8	Nuts And Oil S	Seeds	5										
	Sesame Seeds	x3 7	25	18.3	43.3	25	1.45	0.002 5	0.000057 06	0.00013 1	0	0.000062 74	0.372
	Groundnuts	x3 8	13	25.3	40.1	26.1	0.09	0.002 5	0.000082 8	0.00009 087	0	0.000007 1	0.197
	Mustard seeds	x3 9	20	20	39.7	23.8	0.49	0.007 9	0.00675	0.00009 488	0	0.000031 79	0.266
	Dry Coconut	x4 0	24	6.8	62.3	18.4	0.4	0.007 8	0.000176	0.00002 427	0	0	0.0972 1
9	Milk And Milk	Pro	ducts										
	Milk(Buffalo)	x4 1	6	4.3	6.5	5	0.21	0.000	0.000080	0.00000 857	0.002 37	0.000001 63	0.0100
	Paneer	x4 2	49	13.4	23	7.9	0.48	0	0.000194	0.000093 31	0	0.000000 13	0.0266
	curd	x4 3	15	3.1	4	3	0.149	0.000	0	0	0	0	0

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	Cheese	x4 4	57	24.1	25.1	6.3	0.79	0.002	0	0	0	0	0
10	Fats And Edibl	le Oi	ls										
	Cooking Oil	x4 5	21	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ghee	x4 6	53	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Butter	x4 7	54	0	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Sugars												
	Jaggery	x4 8	6	0.4	0.1	95	0.08	0.002 64	0.000018 49	0.000014 4	0	0.000000 47	0.115
	Honey	x4 9	38	0.3	0	79.5	0.005	0.000 696	0	0	0	0	0

*The prices of food items are found from the grocery shop of Pune (MS, India) in the month of September 2022 i.e. in the end of rainy season and starting of winter season. Here we have taken seasonal leafy vegetable-spinach and fruits - Orange, Lime Sweet and Guava, etc.

3. DEFINING DIET PROBLEM OF INDIAN GIRLS USING PYTHON PROGRAMMING

One of the easiest and one of the most used tools to code up a linear optimization problem in Python is using the PuLP library. PuLP is a free open source software written in Python. It is used to describe optimization problems as mathematical models. PuLP can then call any of numerous external LP solvers (CBC, GLPK, CPLEX, Gurobi etc) to solve this model and then use python commands to manipulate and display the solution. We install the library PuLP required for solver in our Python environment. [7][8] The Python program for diet problem of indian girls is as given below:

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import the library pulp as p import pulp as p
Create a LP Minimization problem Lp_prob = p.LpProblem('Problem', p.LpMinimize)
Lp_prob = p.LpProblem('Problem', p.LpMinimize) # Create problem Variables x1 = p.LpVariable("x1", lowBound = 0) x2 = p.LpVariable("x2", lowBound = 0) x3 = p.LpVariable("x3", lowBound = 0) x5 = p.LpVariable("x4", lowBound = 0) x6 = p.LpVariable("x5", lowBound = 0) x8 = p.LpVariable("x7", lowBound = 0) x10 = p.LpVariable("x10", lowBound = 0) x11 = p.LpVariable("x10", lowBound = 0) x12 = p.LpVariable("x11", lowBound = 0) x13 = p.LpVariable("x14", lowBound = 0) x14 = p.LpVariable("x15", lowBound = 0) x15 = p.LpVariable("x16", lowBound = 0) x16 = p.LpVariable("x16", lowBound = 0) x17 = p.LpVariable("x17", lowBound = 0) x18 = p.LpVariable("x16", lowBound = 0) x19 = p.LpVariable("x16", lowBound = 0) x10 = p.LpVariable("x16", lowBound = 0) x16 = p.LpVariable("x17", lowBound = 0) x17 = p.LpVariable("x18", lowBound = 0) x18 = p.LpVariable("x18", lowBound = 0) x19 = p.LpVariable("x18", lowBound = 0) x10 = p.LpVariable("x18", lowBound = 0) x10 = p.LpVariable("x18", lowBound = 0) x10 = p.LpVariable("x19", lowBound = 0) x10 = p.LpVariable("x19", lowBound = 0) x20 = p.LpVariable("x21", lowBound = 0) x21 = p.LpVariable("x21", lowBound = 0) x22 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x24 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x24 = p.LpVariable("x21", lowBound = 0) x24 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x24 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x24 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x25 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x26 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x27 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x28 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x29 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x20 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x20 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x21 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x22 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x24 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x25 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x26 = p.LpVariable("x22", lowBound = 0) x27 = p.LpVari
x23 = p.LpVariable("x23", lowBound = 0) x24 = p.LpVariable("x24", lowBound = 0) x25 = p.LpVariable("x25", lowBound = 0) x26 = p.LpVariable("x26", lowBound = 0)
x27 = p.LpVariable("x27", lowBound = 0) x28 = p.LpVariable("x28", lowBound = 0) x29 = p.LpVariable("x29", lowBound = 0)

x30 = p.LpVariable("x30", lowBound = 0)x31 = p.LpVariable("x31", lowBound = 0)x32 = p.LpVariable("x32", lowBound = 0)x33 = p.LpVariable("x33", lowBound = 0)x34 = p.LpVariable("x34", lowBound = 0)x35 = p.LpVariable("x35", lowBound = 0) x36 = p.LpVariable("x36", lowBound = 0)x37 = p.LpVariable("x37", lowBound = 0)x38 = p.LpVariable("x38", lowBound = 0)x39 = p.LpVariable("x39", lowBound = 0)x40 = p.LpVariable("x40", lowBound = 0)x41 = p.LpVariable("x41", lowBound = 0) x42 = p.LpVariable("x42", lowBound = 0)x43 = p.LpVariable("x43", lowBound = 0)x44 = p.LpVariable("x44", lowBound = 0)x45 = p.LpVariable("x45", lowBound = 0)x46 = p.LpVariable("x46", lowBound = 0)x47 = p.LpVariable("x47", lowBound = 0)x48 = p.LpVariable("x48", lowBound = 0)x49 = p.LpVariable("x49", lowBound = 0)

Objective Function

Constraints:

Constraint corresponding to Protein:

$$\label{eq:loss} \begin{split} Lp_prob+=& 12.1*x1+10.4*x2+6.6*x3+7.5*x4+11.1*x5+22.3*x6+24.0*x7+20.8*x8+20.4*x9+23.6*x10+7.2*x11+2.0*x12+4.4*x13+3.3*x14+1.8*x15+0.6*x16+1.8*x17+36.3*x18+2.3*x19+1.6*x20+8.7*x21+11.5*x22+6.3*x23+1.7*x24+1.4*x25+1.4*x26+2.6*x27+1.9*x28+1.3*x29+0.2*x30+1.9*x31+0.4*x32+0.9*x33+0.7*x34+0.7*x35+0.5*x36+18.3*x37+25.3*x38+20*x39+6.8*x40+4.3*x41+13.4*x42+3.1*x43+24.1*x44+0*x45+0*x46+0*x47+0.4*x48+0.3*x49>= 43.2 \end{split}$$

Constraint corresponding to Fats:

 $\label{eq:linear_line$

Constraint corresponding to Carbohydrates:

 $\label{eq:linear_line$

Constraint corresponding to Calcium:

$$\begin{split} Lp_prob+=&0.048*x1+0.016*x2+0.020*x3+0.023*x4+0.01*x5+0.073*x6+0.075*x7+0.056*x8+0.154*x9+0.202*x10+0.02*x11+0.073*x12+0.08*x13+0.184*x14+0.039*x15+0.05*x16+0.04*x17+0.03*x18+0.02*x19+0.01*x20+0.08*x21+0.46*x22+0.15*x23+0.05*x24+0.01*x25+0.018*x26+0.033*x27+0.02*x28+0.01*x29+0.066*x30+0.01*x31+0.017*x32+0.01*x33+0.03*x34+0.026*x35+0.02*x36+1.45*x37+0.09*x38+0.49*x39+0.4*x40+0.21*x41+0.48*x42+0.149*x43+0.79*x44+0*x45+0*x46+0*x47+0.08*x48+0.005*x49>=0.000001 \end{split}$$

Constraint corresponding to Iron:

 $Lp_prob+=0.0049*x1+0.0016*x2+0.02*x3+0.0066*x4+0.0023*x5+0.0027*x6+0.0039*x7+0.0053*x8+0.0038*x9+0.0095*x10+0.0015*x11+0.00114*x12+0.0006*x13+0.00142*x14+0.0008*x15+0.00037*x16+0.0012*x17+0.0012*x18+0.0035*x19+0.00048*x20+0.0117*x21+0.0124*x22+0.0678*x23+0.00061*x24+0.00044*x25+0.00038*x26+0.00123*x27+0.0018*x28+0.000567*x29+0.00035*x30+0.0006*x31+0.00036*x32+0.00027*x33+0.0007*x34+0.00032*x35+0.00052*x36+0.0025*x37+0.0025*x38+0.0079*x39+0.0078*x40+0.0002*x41+0*x42+0.0002*x43+0.0021*x44+0*x45+0*x46+0*x47+0.00264*x48+0.000696*x49>=0.03$

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Constraint corresponding to Vitamin A:

$$\label{eq:linear} \begin{split} Lp_prob+=&0.000284*x1+0.000276*x2+0.00003361*x3+0.00005046*x4+0.000893*x5+0.000484*x6+0.000619*x7+0.000999*x8+0.000463*x9+0.000622*x10+0.001286*x11+0.009553*x12+0.012577*x13+0.013808*x14+0.000339*x15+0.00001761*x16+0.00003104*x17+0.00003048*x18+0.00025*x19+0.000224*x20+0.000553*x21+0.002219*x22+0.000427*x23+0.001501*x24+0.001449*x25+0.000309*x26+0.00005048*x27+0.000546*x28+0.002511*x29+0.001223*x30+0.000171*x31+0.00026*x32+0.00096*x33+0.00008513*x34+0.000675*x35+0.000208*x36+0.00005706*x37+0.0000828*x38+0.00675*x39+0.000176*x40+0.00008087*x41+0.000194*x42+0*x43+0*x44+0*x45+0*x46+0*x47+0.00001849*x48+0*x49>=0.00086 \end{split}$$

Constraint corresponding to Vitamin D2:

Constraint corresponding to Vitamin B9:

 $\label{eq:linear_line$

Constraint corresponding to Vitamin C:

 $\label{eq:linear_line$

Constraint corresponding to Magnesium:

 $\label{eq:logical_lo$

status = Lp_prob.solve() # Solver

Sensitivity Analysis: import pandas as pd Lp_prob.solve()

print("Model Status:{}".format(p.LpStatus[Lp_prob.status]))
print("Objective = ", p.value(Lp_prob.objective))

```
for v in Lp_prob.variables():
    print(v.name,"=", v.varValue)
```

o = [{'Name':name,'Constraint':c,'shadow price':c.pi,'slack': c.slack} for name, c in Lp_prob.constraints.items()]

print(pd.DataFrame(o))

4. SOLUTION OF DIET PROBLEM OF INDIAN GIRLS

Table 3: Output of Python Program of diet problem of Indian girls.

Here we get resultant optimum solution which gives the minimum cost (z) Rs. 25.29067 of food items satisfying minimum nutritional requirement (constraints) with values of basic variables as $x_3 = 1.43$, $x_5 = 1.27$, $x_{18}=0.54$, $x_{30}=0.25$ and $x_{45}=0.61$ as shown in table 3.. Here x_3 , x_5 , x_{18} , x_{30} and x_{45} indicate quantities in 100 grams of rice flakes, dry maize, garlik, ladies fingers and Cooking oils like groundnuts oil, coconut oil, etc.

Finding the optimum solution to a linear programming model is only the first step. After that we perform the sensitivity analysis of the optimum solution and the output is as shown in table 4.

Table 4: Sensitivity Analysis of Optimum solution of diet problem of Indian girls.										
Name	Constraint	shadow price	slack							
0 _C1	{x1: 12.1, x2: 10.4, x3: 6.6, x4: 7.5, x5: 11	0.084295	-0.000000							
1 _C2	{x1: 1.7, x2: 0.8, x3: 1.2, x4: 0.1, x5: 3.6,	0.210000	-0.000000							
2 _C3	{x1: 69.4, x2: 74.8, x3: 77.3, x4: 73.6, x5: 1	0.036426	-0.000000							
3 _C4	{x1: 0.048, x2: 0.016, x3: 0.02, x4: 0.023, x5	0.000000	-0.073798							
4 _C5	{x1: 0.0049, x2: 0.0016, x3: 0.02, x4: 0.0066,	0.000000	-0.002200							
5 _C6	{x1: 0.000284, x2: 0.000276, x3: 3.361e-05, x4	0.000000	-0.000637							
6 _C7	{x1: 1.52e-05, x2: 8.19e-06, x5: 3.36e-05, x6:	0.000000	-0.000000							
7 _C8	{x1: 2.922e-05, x2: 2.568e-05, x3: 8.46e-06, x	5382.805400	-0.000000							
8 _C9	{x11: 0.0384, x12: 0.03028, x13: 0.05825, x14:	0.000000	-0.013162							
9 _C10	{x1: 0.125, x2: 0.03789, x3: 0.07792, x4: 0.06	4.239663	-0.000000							

5. SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

5.1. Interpreting Dual Values:

Dual values are the most basic form of sensitivity analysis information. The dual value for a variable i.e. Reduced cost is nonzero only when the variable's value is equal to its upper or lower bound at the optimal solution. This variable is called a *nonbasic* variable, and its value was driven to the bound during the optimization process. The reduced costs tell us how much the objective function coefficients (costs per 100 gm) can be increased or decreased before the optimal solution changes.

The dual value for a constraint i.e., shadow price is nonzero only when the constraint is equal to its bound as shown in the figure 3. This is called a *binding* constraint, and its value was driven to the bound during the optimization process. These shadow prices tell us how much the optimal solution can be increased or decreased if we change the right hand side values (Minimum Requirement) with one unit.[6]

5.2. Interpreting Range Information

In this diet problem, the dual values are *constant* over a range of possible changes in the objective function coefficients and the constraint right hand sides. For each decision variable, the report shows its coefficient in the objective function, and the amount by which this coefficient could be increased or decreased without changing the dual value (Allowable Increase and Allowable Decrease). For each constraint, the report shows the constraint on the right hand side, and the amount by which the RHS could be increased or decreased or decrease and Allowable Increase and Allowable Decrease][6].

The shadow/dual prices Lower limits (allowable decrease) of constraints and the slack variables are as shown in the table 4.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The optimum solution with food items rice flakes, dry maize, garlik, ladies fingers and Cooking oils like groundnuts oil, coconut oil, etc. from which the the teenage girls (in the age group 10 to 18 years) in India can have sufficient nutritional benefits necessary for sustaining the healthy life by spending **Rs. 25.29067** per day only. This diet may not be tasteful but there is no doubt about the optimality of the solution within the limitations we have formulated.

The costs of food items play a very important role in finding the optimum solution to the diet problem. It should be noted that as costs always vary according to locations and seasons, the optimum solution changes.

The Sensitivity Report details how changes in the coefficients of the objective function affect the solution and how changes in the constants on the right hand side of the constraints affect the solution. For each variable, we can calculate the range of values that the coefficient can take on by subtracting the allowable decrease from the coefficient or adding the allowable increase to the coefficient. The second part of the Sensitivity Report examines how changes to the right hand side of any constraint affects the optimal solution. A change to the constant on the right hand side of a constraint changes the size of the feasible region. Increasing the right hand side of any constraint with positive coefficients shifts the border matching the constraint up. Decreasing the right hand side of any constraint with positive coefficients shifts the border matching the constraints down. The shadow price indicates how the objective function will change when the constant on the right hand side is changed [9].

The sensitivity analysis for a nonbinding constraint, like Carbohydrates Vitamin A, Vitamin C and calcium, is different. After we get the optimal solution, changes to the right hand side do not affect the costs as long as the right hand side is not decreased too much. This means that the shadow price is Rs. 0.

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