



Pre-Conference Workshops

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Outline

Part I: An Introduction to GAMS

Part II: Stochastic programming in GAMS

Part III: The GAMS Object-Oriented API's

Part IV: Code embedding in GAMS

An Introduction to GAMS: Agenda

GAMS at a Glance

Foundation and Design Principles

GAMS – A simple Example

Wrap-Up

Company

- *Roots: World Bank, 1978 – 1987 Initial product*
- Went commercial in 1987
- GAMS Development Corp. (USA), GAMS Software GmbH (Germany)
- 2016: New management team
- Software Tool Provider

GAMS at a Glance

- Pioneered Algebraic Modeling Languages
- Robust, scalable state-of-the-art algebraic modeling technology for complex, large-scale optimization
- Open architecture and uniform interface to all major commercial and academic solvers (30+ integrated)
- Evolution through more than 25 years of R&D and user feedback, maturity through experience and rigorous testing

GAMS Users and Application Areas

13,500+ licenses

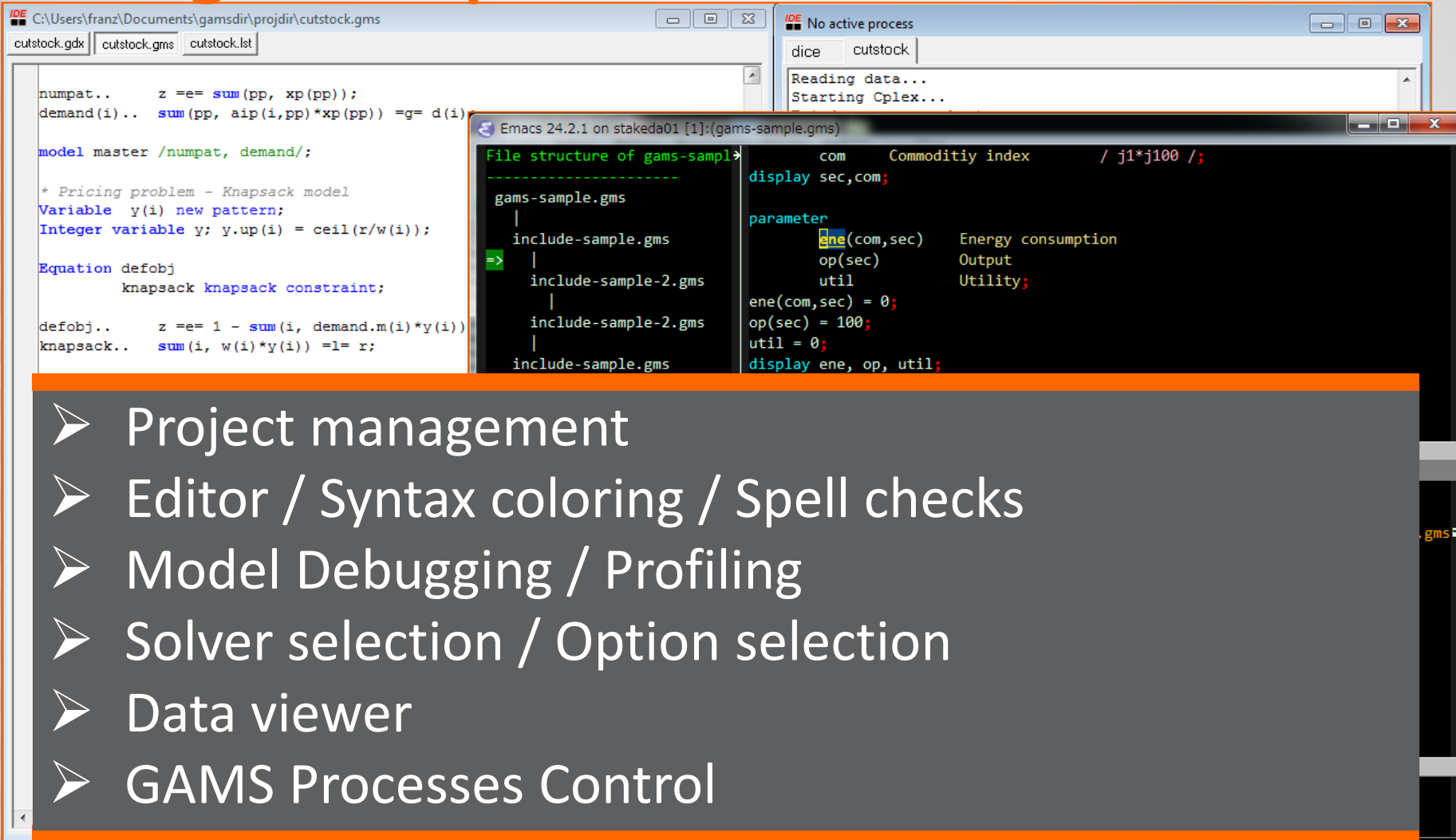
Users: 50% academic, 50% commercial or governmental

Used in more than 120 countries

Broad Range of Application Areas

Agricultural Economics	Applied General Equilibrium
Chemical Engineering	Economic Development
Econometrics	Energy
Environmental Economics	Engineering
Finance	Forestry
International Trade	Logistics
Macro Economics	Military
Management Science/OR	Mathematics
Micro Economics	Physics

Strong Development Environment



The screenshot displays the GAMS development environment with three main windows:

- GAMS Model Editor:** Shows a GAMS model for a knapsack problem. The code includes variable declarations, a model statement, and objective/constraint definitions.
- File Structure Browser:** Displays the directory structure of the project, showing the main model file and its included sub-files.
- Command Window:** Shows the execution progress, including reading data and starting the Cplex solver.

Below the screenshot, a list of features is provided:

- Project management
- Editor / Syntax coloring / Spell checks
- Model Debugging / Profiling
- Solver selection / Option selection
- Data viewer
- GAMS Processes Control

Uniform System Documentation

GAMS
Documentation
Model Libraries
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GAMS Documentation 24.9

- Release Notes
- Installation Notes
- Licensing
- Tutorials and Examples
- User's Guide
- Solvers
- APIs
- Tools
- Glossary

GAMS Documentation 24.9

GAMS Documentation Center

The GAMS Documentation Center provides you with the technical information on getting started, using and maintaining our GAMS (General Algebraic Modeling System) products.

- Release Notes - What's new in GAMS and all changes
- Installation Notes - GAMS Installation guides on different operating systems
- Licensing - GAMS Licensing
- Tutorials and Examples - Step-by-step guides including model examples
- User's Guide - Guides through GAMS Language and Solvers

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- Licensing
- Tutorials and Examples
- User's Guide
 - Introduction
 - GAMS Programs
 - Set Definition
 - Dynamic Sets
 - Sets as Sequences: Ordered Sets
 - Data Entry: Parameters, Scalars and Tables
 - Data Manipulations with Parameters
 - Variables
 - Equations
 - Model and Solve State
 - Conditional Expression
 - The Display Statement
 - Programming Flow Control
 - The Grid and Multi-Threaded
 - Special Language Features

This documentation guides GAMS User through several topics in GAMS system.

- GAMS Language** - This part introduces the components of the GAMS language in an ordered way, interspersed with detailed examples that are often drawn from the model library. All models from the model library are enclosed in square parenthesis (for example, [TRANSPORT]).
 - Introduction** - an introductory to GAMS User's Guide.
 - GAMS Programs** - The structure of the GAMS language and its components
 - Set Definition** - The declaration and initialization of sets, subsets, and domain checking.
 - Dynamic Sets** - The membership assignment, the usage of dollar controls, and set operations.
 - Sets as Sequences: Ordered Sets** - Special features used to deal with a set as if it were a sequence.
 - Data Manipulations with Parameters** - The declaration and assignment of GAMS parameters.
 - Data Entry: Parameters, Scalars and Tables** - Three basic forms of GAMS data types : Parameters, Scalars and Tables.

GAMS
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Model Libraries

The Model Libraries contains a large number of GAMS Models including:

- GAMS Model Library** - GAMS models representing interesting economic phenomena such as shipping by firms, investment planning, cropping patterns in agriculture, macroeconomics stabilization, applied general equilibrium, international trade networks, and many more.
- GAMS Test Library** - GAMS models developed for testing and validating solvers distributed with the GAMS system.
- GAMS Data Library** - GAMS models demonstrating various utilities such as spreadsheets and database interface.
- GAMS EMP Library** - GAMS Extended Mathematical Programming models for GAMS/EMP.
- GAMS API Library** - GAMS Models used as scripts to compile and execute models in languages interfacing to GAMS.
- FIN Library** - GAMS practical financial optimization models described in *Making for Financial Engineers* by Consiglio, Nielsen and Zenios.
- NOA Library** - GAMS nonlinear optimization applications model

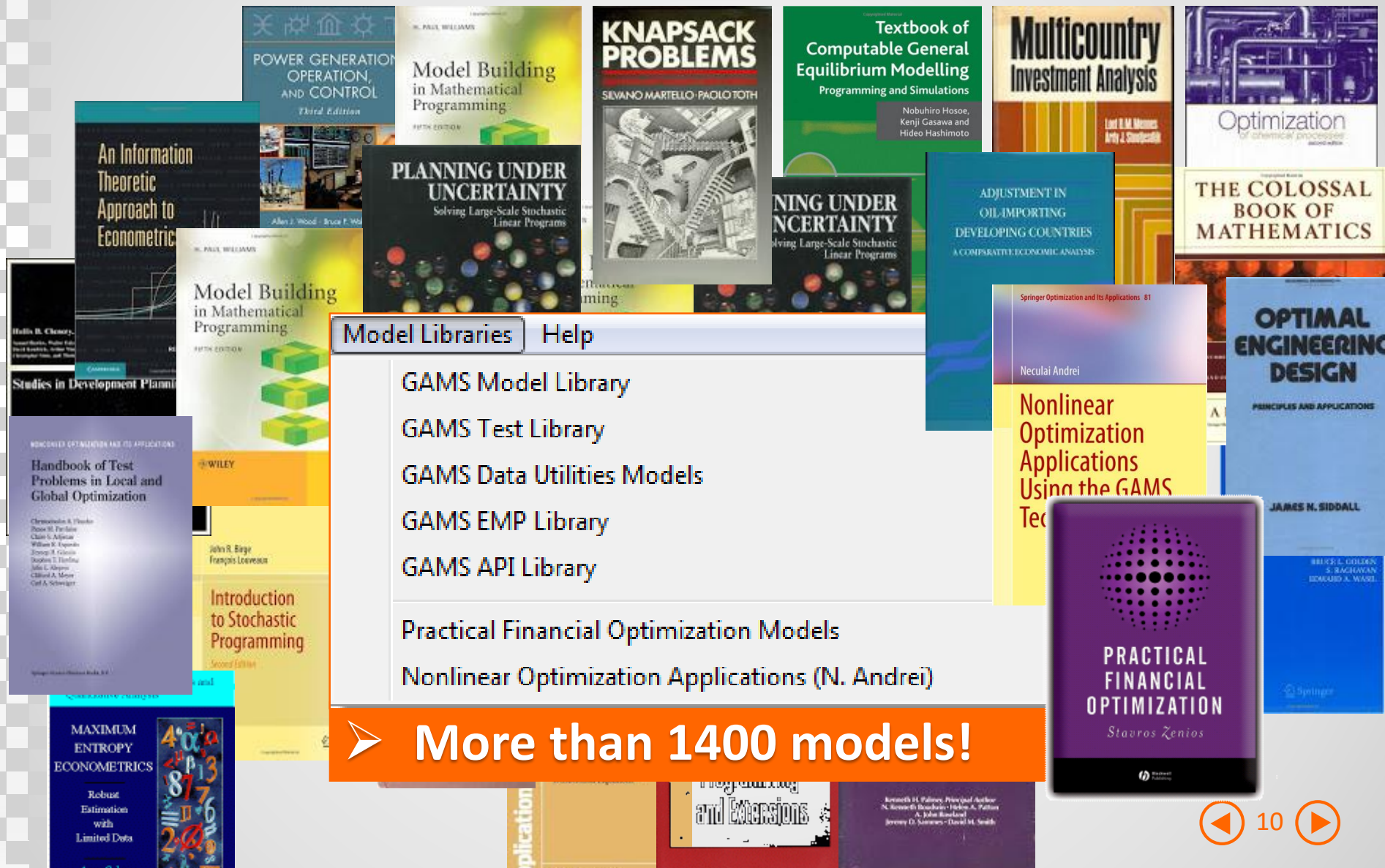
Simple Integration of GAMS Models

Object Oriented API's

- Use GAMS for modeling and optimization tasks
- Connects GAMS to other environments
 - Programming languages (.Net, C++,Java, Python)
 - Applications (through Smart Links)
 - (New) Embedded Code (Python)
- Communication through Memory or Files



Free Model Libraries



Model Libraries Help

- GAMS Model Library
- GAMS Test Library
- GAMS Data Utilities Models
- GAMS EMP Library
- GAMS API Library
- Practical Financial Optimization Models
- Nonlinear Optimization Applications (N. Andrei)

➤ **More than 1400 models!**

◀ 10 ▶

Where to Find **Help?**

- *Documentation Center:*
<https://www.gams.com/latest/docs/>
- *Free Model Libraries:*
<https://www.gams.com/latest/docs/modlibsindex.html>
- Mailing Lists, Newsletters, and Forum:
 - <https://www.gams.com/community/newsletters-mailing-list/>
 - [//forum.gamsworld.org/](https://forum.gamsworld.org/)
- YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/GAMSLessons>
- **GAMS Support: support@gams.com**

Foundation of GAMS



Powerful algebraic modeling language

Open architecture with interfaces to other systems

Independent layers

Powerful Declarative Language



Similar to mathematical notation

Easy to learn - few basic language elements: sets, parameters, variables, equations, models

Model is executable (algebraic) description of the problem

Lots of code optimization under the hood

Mix of Declarative and Imperative Elements



Control Flow Statements (e.g. loops, for, if,...), macros and functions

Advantages:

- Build complex problem algorithms within GAMS
- Simplified interaction with other systems:
 - Data exchange
 - GAMS process control

Foundation of GAMS



Powerful algebraic modeling language

Open architecture with interfaces to other systems

Independent layers

Open Architecture



Designed to interact with other Systems

- Solver Interfaces: Proprietary or Open Source (COIN)
- Data Exchange and GAMS Control
 - ASCII or Binary (GDX)
 - OO-API (.Net, C++, Java, Python, file or memory)
 - Smart Links to other applications (e.g. MS Excel, Databases, Matlab, R,...)
- Code Embedding

Foundation of GAMS



Powerful algebraic modeling language

Open architecture with interfaces to other systems

Independent layers

Model

Platform

Solver

Data

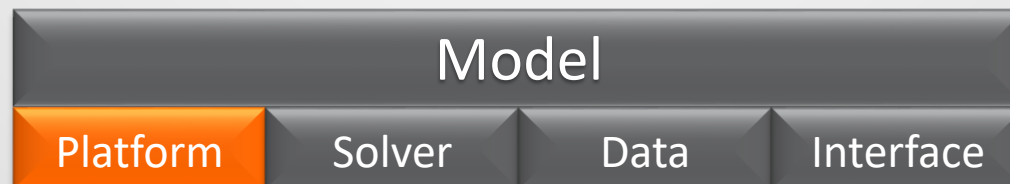
Interface

Separation of **Model** and **Platform**

Supported Platforms



➤ Move models between platforms with ease!



Separation of **Model and Solver**

One environment for a wide range of solvers

All major commercial
LP/MIP solver

Open Source Solver (COIN)

Also solver for NLP, MINLP,
global, and stochastic
optimization



➤ **More than 30 Solvers integrated!**

Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

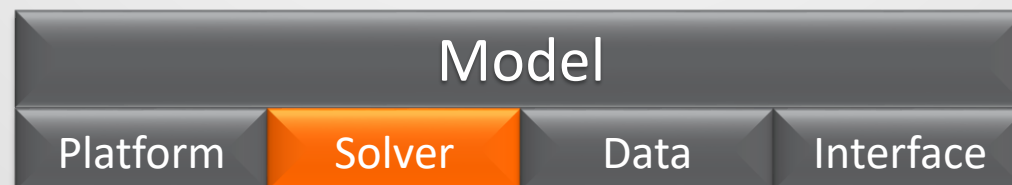
Separation of **Model** and **Solver**

Uniform interface to all major solvers

- Switching between solvers with one statement
- Unified Documentation
- Licensing (GAMS as a „license broker“)

Av. number of commercial solvers per license

- Academic clients: 2.9
- Commercial: 2.2



Separation of Model and Data

```
Sets
  i   canning plants
  j   markets      ;

Parameters
  a(i)  capacity of plant i in cases
  b(j)  demand at market j in cases
  d(i,j) distance in thousands of miles
  c(i,j) transport cost in thousands of dollars per case ;

Scalar f ;

Variables
  x(i,j)  shipment quantities in cases
  z       total transportation costs in thousands of dollars ;
Positive Variable x ;

Equations
  cost      define objective function
  supply(i) observe supply limit at plant i
  demand(j) satisfy demand at market j ;
cost ..    z =e= sum((i,j), c(i,j)*x(i,j)) ;
supply(i) .. sum(j, x(i,j)) =l= a(i) ;
demand(j) .. sum(i, x(i,j)) =g= b(j) ;

Model transport /all/ ;
```

- Declarative Modeling
- Sparse Data Structures
- Various ways to exchange data
 - ASCII
 - Binary

Model

Platform

Solver

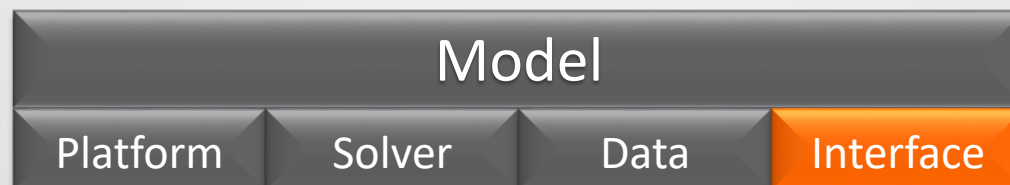
Data

Interface

Separation of **Model and User Interface**

No preference for a particular user interface

- Open architecture and interfaces to other systems
 - OO-API's for seamless integration
 - Smart Links
- Mode of Operation
 - Interactive or Embedded / Batch
 - Local or Remote



Application – Cloud Computing

xyz Energy Company

Scenario Analysis in the Cloud

- Solve 1,000+ scenarios (MIPs, one hour) every week overnight
- Issues:
 - Costs (Licensing)
 - Automation / Security



Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

Application – Cloud Computing

xyz – Energy Company

Implementation:

- Amazon Cloud: 1,000+ parallel machines (instances), Python, GAMS + OO Python API
- Automated setup, including
 - Starting instances
 - Prepare / Submit / Run GAMS jobs
 - Collect results
 - Stop instances

Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

Application – Cloud Computing

Commercial Aspects

“Hardware” Amazon Cloud (1,000 instances) :

Hardware Costs / run: **\$70!**

$(1,000 \text{ instances/run} * \$0.07 \text{ instance / hour})$

Software Licensing:

- Gurobi and IBM offer per-usage license
- Client with strong preference for annual license fee, not a per-usage license

Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

Application – Cloud Computing

45 Provided Model Instances

- Statistics:
 - 163,608 – 1,959,550 rows
 - 84,930 – 983,587 var. (32,240-258,796 dis.)
 - 447,537 – 6,068,729 NZ
- Tests with CPLEX, SCIP, and CBC
- 60 minutes, gap max. 1%
- Manual option tuning for SCIP
(thanks to Gerald Gamrath & Ambros Gleisner)

Model

Platform

Solver

Data

Interface

Application – Cloud Computing

Results

- CPLEX: All instances solved to optimality
- SCIP:
 - Could solve all 45 instances
 - But: After 60 min. 2 instances with gap $> 20\%$
- CBC:
 - Did also well
 - But: After 60 min. no solution for some instances ($< 10\%$)

Model

Platform

Solver

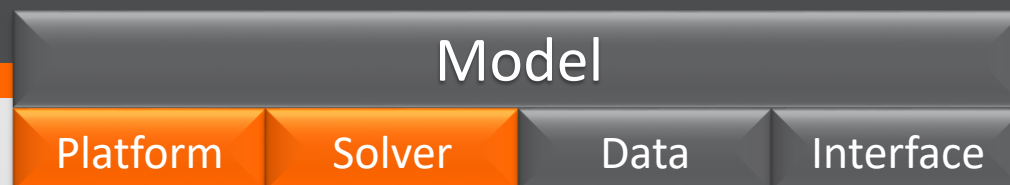
Data

Interface

Application – Cloud Computing

Proposed Strategy

- Run all instances simultaneously with SCIP and CBC
 - ➔ „hardware“ costs: \$0,07 per instance hour
- After 60 minutes take the best solution
- If necessary solve „difficult“ model instances with CPLEX (outside the cloud)



Agenda

GAMS at a Glance

Foundation and Design Principle

GAMS – A simple Example

Wrap-Up

A Simple **Transportation Problem**

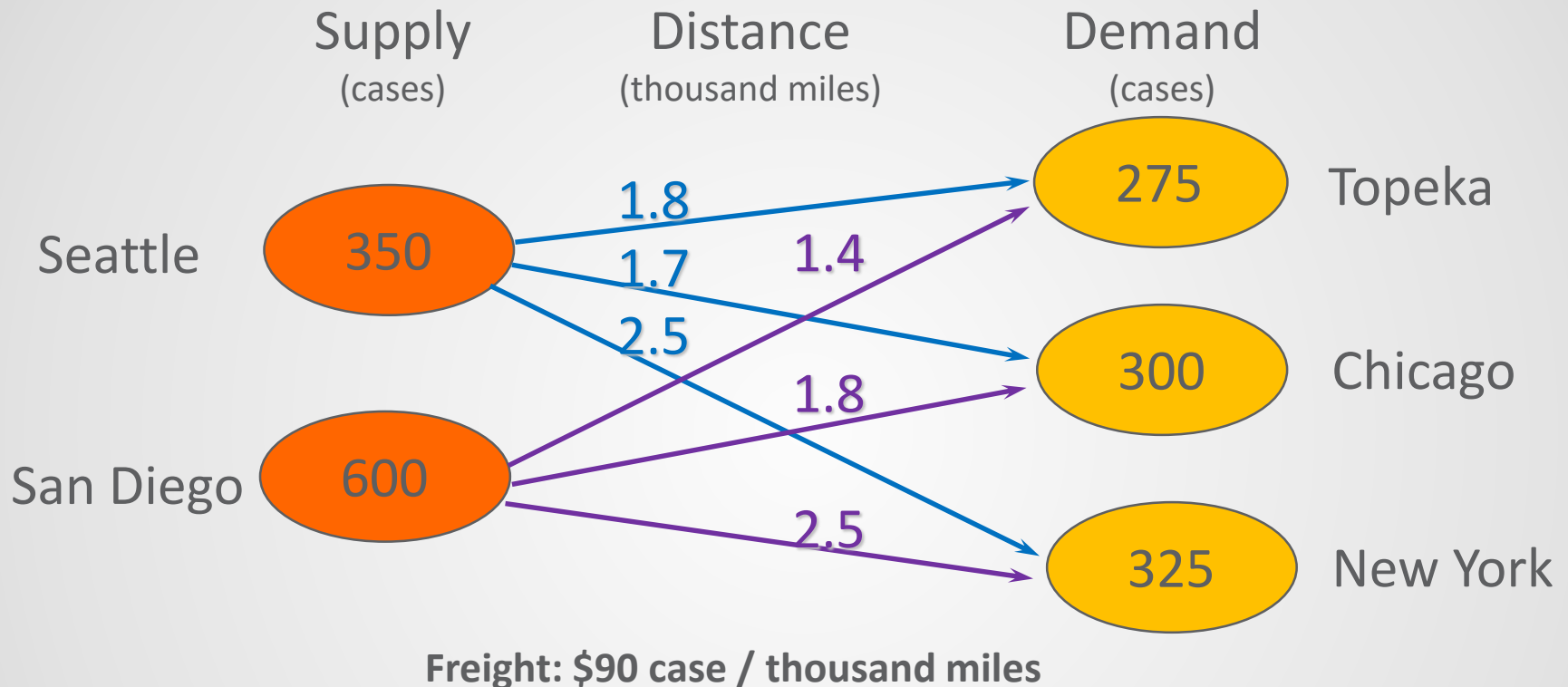
What does this example show?

It gives a first glimpse of how a problem can be formulated in GAMS

It shows some basics of data exchange with GAMS

It shows how easy it is to change model type and, consequently, solver technology

A Simple **Transportation Problem**



Minimize Transportation cost
subject to Demand satisfaction at markets
 Supply constraints

Model types **in this example**

LP

Determine minimum transportation cost.
Result: city to city shipment volumes.

MIP

Allows discrete decisions,
e.g. if we ship, then we ship at least 100 cases.

MINLP

Allows non-linearity,
e.g. a smooth decrease in unit cost when
shipping volumes grows

Mathematical Model Formulation

Indices: i (Canning plants)

j (Markets)

Decision variables: x_{ij} (Number of cases to ship)

Data: c_{ij} (Transport cost per case)

a_i (Capacity in cases)

b_j (Demand in cases)

min $\sum_i \sum_j c_{ij} \cdot x_{ij}$ (Minimize total transportation cost)

subject to

$\sum_j x_{ij} \leq a_i \quad \forall i$ (Shipments from each plant \leq supply capacity)

$\sum_i x_{ij} \geq b_j \quad \forall j$ (Shipments to each market \geq demand)

$x_{ij} \geq 0 \quad \forall i, j$ (Do not ship from market to plant)

$i, j \in \mathbb{N}$

GAMS **Algebra** (declarative Model)

Sets

```
i   canning plants
j   markets      ;
```

Parameters

```
a(i)   capacity of plant i in cases
b(j)   demand at market j in cases
d(i,j) distance in thousands of miles
c(i,j) transport cost in thousands of dollars per case ;
```

```
Scalar f  freight in dollars per case per thousand miles;
```

Variables

```
x(i,j)  shipment quantities in cases
z        total transportation costs in thousands of dollars ;
```

```
Positive Variable x ;
```

Equations

```
cost          define objective function
supply(i)     observe supply limit at plant i
demand(j)     satisfy demand at market j ;
```

```
cost ..      z  =e=  sum((i,j), c(i,j)*x(i,j)) ;
```

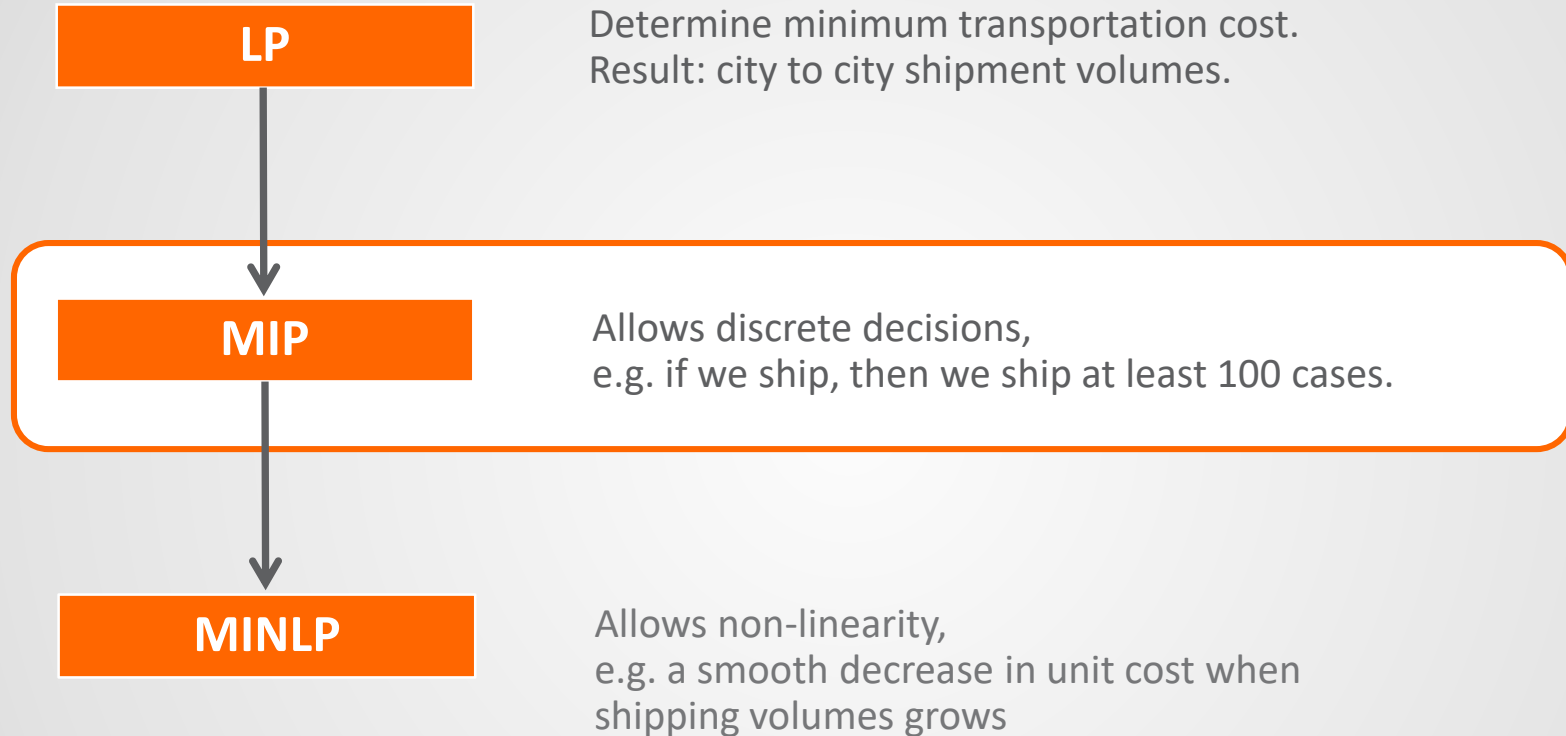
```
supply(i) ..  sum(j, x(i,j))  =l=  a(i) ;
```

```
demand(j) ..  sum(i, x(i,j))  =g=  b(j) ;
```

```
Model transport /all/ ;
```

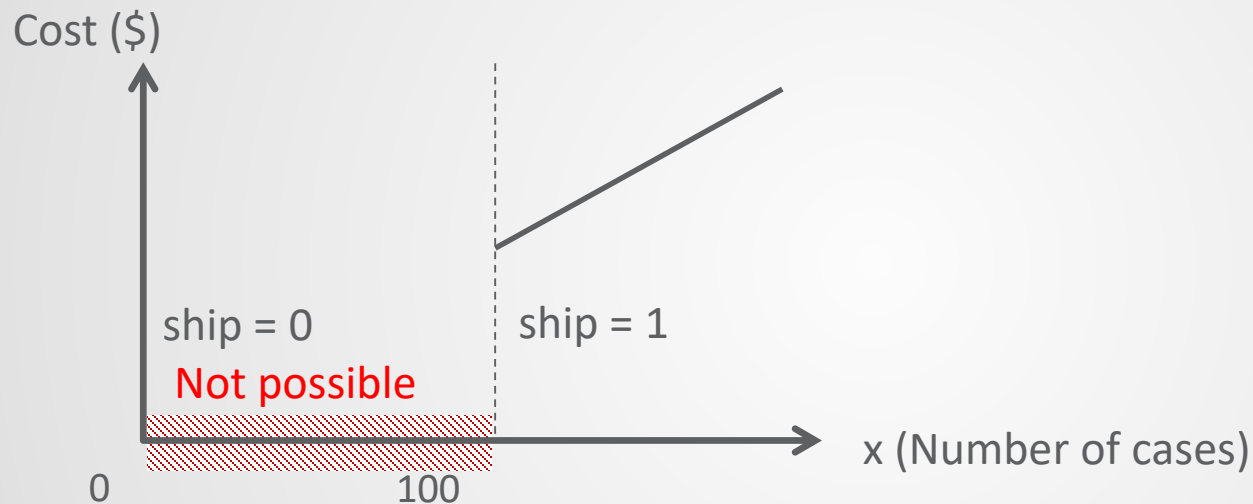
Model is executable description of the problem

Model types **in this example**



MIP Model: Minimum Shipment of 100 cases

- Shipment volume: x (continuous variable)
- Discrete decision: **ship** (binary variable)



add constraints:

$$x_{i,j} \geq 100 \cdot ship_{i,j} \quad \forall i,j \quad (\text{if } ship=1, \text{ then ship at least 100})$$

$$x_{i,j} \leq bigM \cdot ship_{i,j} \quad \forall i,j \quad (\text{if } ship=0, \text{ then do not ship at all})$$

$$ship_{i,j} \in \{0,1\}$$

MIP Model: GAMS Syntax

5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.gms

```
* MIP
scalar minS minimum shipment / 100 /
      bigM big M;
bigM = min(smax(i,a(i)), smax(j,b(j)));

binary variable ship(i,j) '1 if we ship from i to j, otherwise 0';

equation minship(i,j) minimum shipment
      maxship(i,j) maximum shipment;

minship(i,j).. x(i,j) =g= minS * ship(i,j);
maxship(i,j).. x(i,j) =l= bigM * ship(i,j);

Model transportMIP / transportLP, minship, maxship / ;
option optcr = 0;

Solve transportMIP using MIP minimizing z ;

rep(i,j,'MIP') = x.l(i,j);
display rep;
```

MIP Model: Results

5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.gms
5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.lst
results.gdx

- Compilation
- Include File Summa
- Equation Listing S
+ Equation
- Column Listing S
- Column
- Model Statistics SC
- Solution Report SC
+ SolEQU
+ SolVAR
- Equation Listing S
- Equation
- Column Listing S
+ Column
- Model Statistics SC
- Solution Report SC
+ SolEQU
+ SolVAR
- Execution
- Display
- rep

```

san-diego.topeka      .      1.000      1.000      EPS

**** REPORT SUMMARY :      0      NONOPT
                        0      INFEASIBLE
                        0      UNBOUNDED

GAMS 24.8.5  r61358 Released May 10, 2017 WEX-WEI x86 64bit/MS Windows 08/07
General Algebraic Modeling System
Execution

----- 66 PARAMETER rep  report parameter

                                LP      MIP

seattle .new-york      50.000
seattle .chicago      300.000      300.000
san-diego.new-york      275.000      325.000
san-diego.topeka      275.000      275.000

EXECUTION TIME      =      0.000 SECONDS

USER: Franz Nelissen
      GAMS Software GmbH

```

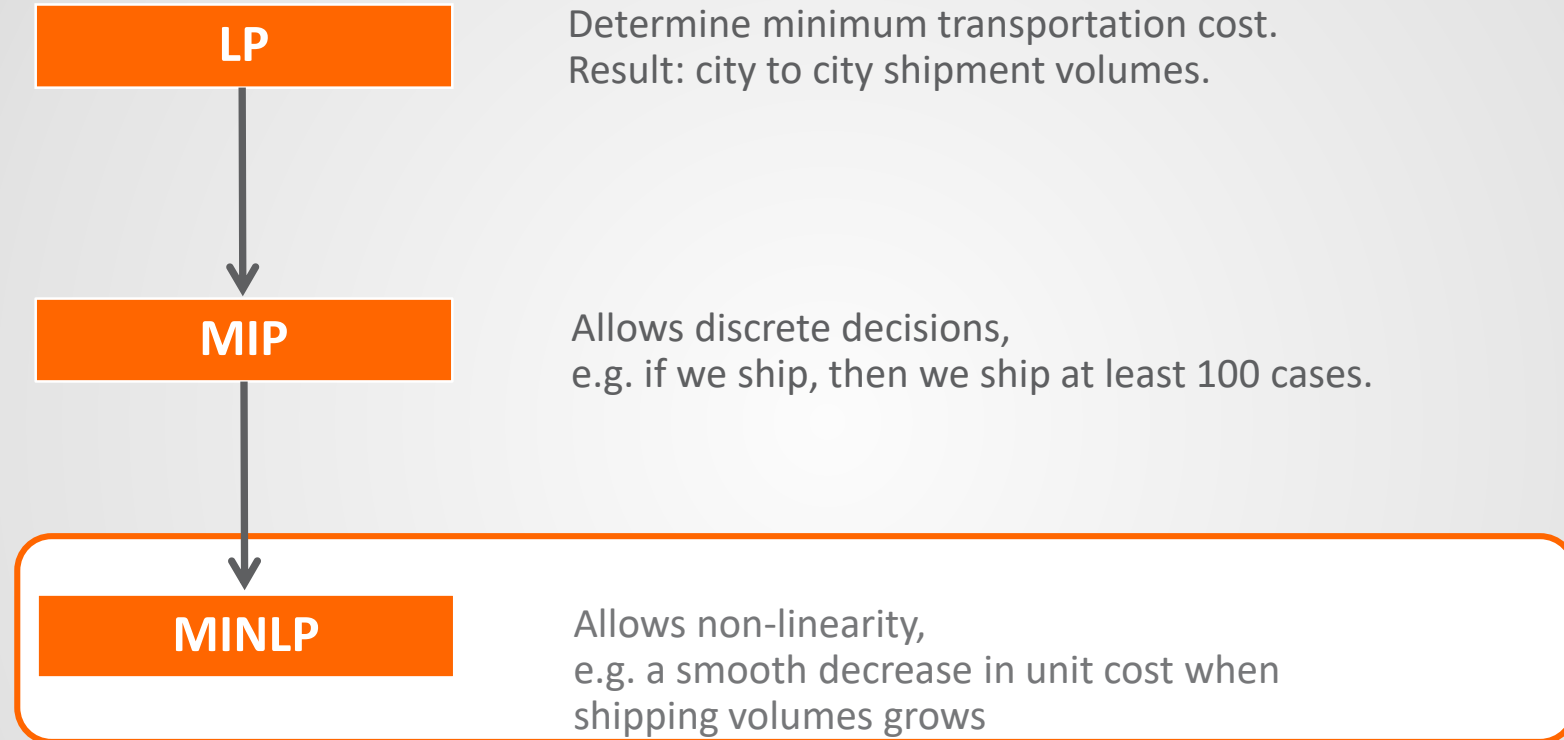
5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.gms
5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.lst
results.gdx

Entry	Symbol	Type	Dim	Nr Elem
3	a	Par	1	2
4	b	Par	1	3
14	bigM	Par	0	1
6	c	Par	2	6
9	cost	Equ	0	1
5	d	Par	2	6
11	demand	Equ	1	3
1	i	Set	1	2
2	j	Set	1	3
17	maxship	Equ	2	6
13	minS	Par	0	1
16	minship	Equ	2	6
12	rep	Par	3	7

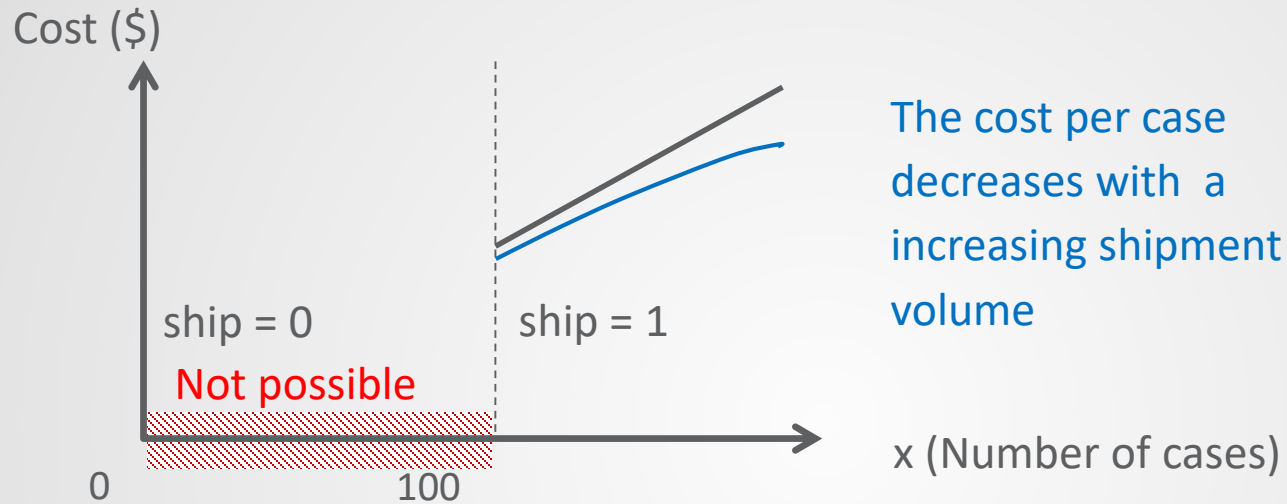
rep(i, j, *): report parameter

		LP	MIP
seattle	new-york	50	
	chicago	300	300
san-diego	new-york	275	325
	topeka	275	275

Model types **in this example**



MINLP: Cost Savings



Replace:

min $\sum_i \sum_j c_{ij} \cdot x_{ij}$ (Minimize total transportation cost)

With

min $\sum_i \sum_j c_{ij} \cdot x_{ij}^{beta}$ (Minimize total transportation cost)

MINLP Model: **GAMS Syntax**

5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.gms

5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.lst

results.gdx

```
* MINLP
Scalar    beta / 0.95 /
Equation  costnlp define non-linear objective function;
costnlp.. z  =e=  sum((i,j), c(i,j)*x(i,j)**beta) ;

Model transportMINLP / transportMIP - cost + costnlp /;

Solve transportMINLP using MINLP minimizing z ;

rep(i,j,'MINLP') = x.l(i,j);
display rep;
```

MINLP Model: Results

5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.gms | 5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.lst | results.gdx

Compilation	0	INFEASIBLE
Include File Summary	0	UNBOUNDED
Equation Listing	0	ERRORS
Equation		
Column Listing		
Column		
Model Statistics		
Solution Report		
SolEQU		
SolVAR		
Equation Listing		
Equation		
Column Listing		
Column		
Model Statistics		
Solution Report		
SolEQU		
SolVAR		
Execution		
Display		
Equation Listing		
Equation		
Column Listing		
Column		

```

GAMS 24.8.5 r61358 Released May 10, 2017 WEX-WEI x86 64bit/MS Windows 08/07
General Algebraic Modeling System
Execution

----- 85 PARAMETER rep report parameter

          LP          MIP          MINLP

seattle .new-york    50.000
seattle .chicago    300.000    300.000    300.000
san-diego.new-york   275.000    325.000    325.000
san-diego.topeka     275.000    275.000    275.000
  
```

	LOWER	LEVEL	UPPER
---- VAR z	-INF	153.675	+INF

	LOWER	LEVEL	UPPER
---- VAR z	-INF	115.438	+INF



5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.gms | 5_transport_LP_MIP_MINLP_SP.lst | results.gdx

Entry	Symbol	Type	Dim	Nr Elem
3	a	Par	1	2
4	b	Par	1	3
18	beta	Par	0	1
14	bigM	Par	0	1
6	c	Par	2	6
9	cost	Equ	0	1
19	costnlp	Equ	0	1
5	d	Par	2	6

rep(i, j, *): report parameter				
Plane Index				
		LP	MIP	MINLP
seattle	new-york	50		
	chicago	300	300	300
san-diego	new-york	275	325	325
	topeka	275	275	275

Agenda

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Wrap-Up



Thank You

Meet us at the GAMS booth!