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HARNESSING AI FOR MATHEMATICAL INSIGHTS IN DECISION MAKING

* Dr. Sharvari Kulkarni

* Vice Principal, K S D's Model College (Empowered Autonomous), Dombivli East, Maharashtra, India.

Abstract:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has evolved from a tool for automation to a powerful mechanism for rational decision support. AI is useful to generate mathematical insights for taking decisions that optimize strategic, operational and predictive outcomes. In this paper theoretical foundations and practical implementations of AI-driven decision systems is studied. It will also highlight connections between mathematical models and AI reasoning which will help in decision making across domains. Among the crucial mathematical fields that support AI for decision-making are linear programming, probability, game theory, graph theory and combinatorics. In this paper the study is concentrated on importance of linear programming problems in AI for decision making.

Key Words: *Artificial Intelligence, Linear Programming Problem, Decision Making*

Introduction:

Artificial Intelligence is revolutionising data-driven decision making by analyzing large datasets, predictive modelling, identifying trends, automating decisions and personalizing recommendations. Making decisions essentially entails selecting courses of action that, in the face of uncertainty and limitations, optimize a set of outcomes. Economics, operations research and management science all heavily rely on traditional frameworks like expected utility theory and mathematical optimization. By incorporating sophisticated mathematical reasoning, optimization strategies and data-driven inference to derive useful insights from complex data, contemporary AI systems expand these frameworks.

Decision making is very important to achieve goals, solve problems, optimize resources, prioritize tasks, manage risks etc in various domains. It is crucial in many areas like business, finance, education, healthcare, government, personal life etc. In the field of business, decision making helps to drive growth, profitability, resource allocation, risk management. Investment decisions, portfolio management, financial management, budgeting are important decisions in the area of finance. In the domain of education personalized learning, student outcomes, resource allocation, curriculum development and improvement are required to take decisions. Similarly accurate diagnosis, treatment, patient care, quality improvement are important to take decisions in healthcare. Therefore AI's capacity to convert data into optimal choices represents a significant change in how decisions develop strategies and resolve difficult mathematical issues. Among the crucial mathematical fields that support AI for decision-making are linear programming, probability, game theory, graph theory and combinatorics.

Literature Review:

- A core strand in the literature focuses on **AI's ability to perform and assist in mathematical reasoning and optimization tasks.** Mohammad J. Adbel –Rahman at. el. Gave outline both the **progress and the limitations** of AI in delivering mathematically sound decision outcomes, including issues of scalability and interpretability. [1]

- Review by by Najm Abed Khalaf Alhatimi Aleessawi emphasize the role of AI in enhancing decision-making accuracy across domains such as healthcare, supply chain management, and human resources, identifying key advantages such as enhanced foresight and operational optimization. [2]
- Research by Christopher Starke has explored **algorithmic decision-making from a behavioural and fairness perspective.** These findings support the argument that mathematical insights in AI must be complemented by **human-AI interpretability and ethical frameworks** to ensure responsible decision. [3]
- Emerging research by Gaurav Singh explained that beyond standalone AI systems to **integrated frameworks combining neural models with mathematical optimization**. These integrated approaches showcase the potential for AI systems not only to predict but to **articulate and optimize mathematical components of complex decision problems.** [4]

Mathematical Reasoning in AI:

Contemporary AI leverages mathematical constructs at every stage:

- Optimization and Linear Programming for resource allocation and scheduling;
- Probability and statistics for uncertainty quantification and predictive inference;
- Game theory and reinforcement learning for strategic interaction and adaptive planning;
- Graph theory and combinatorics for structural reasoning in networks;
- Symbolic reasoning systems that incorporate axiomatic logic alongside statistical models.

Decision Making and AI Integration:

AI system is very important for bridging prediction and optimization for decision making. Classical mathematical decision models focus on well-specified objective functions (e.g., maximize profit, minimize cost) with known constraints. AI extends this by:

1. **Predictive Analytics:** Using machine learning to estimate future parameters (e.g., demand forecasts) that feed into mathematical models.
2. **Optimization Engines:** Solvers based on mathematical programming (LP, MIQP, dynamic programming) embedded within AI pipelines.
3. **Explainable Decision Frameworks:** Techniques like SHapley Additive exPlanations (SHAP) and Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations (LIME) make AI predictions interpretable and mathematically grounded.
4. **Reinforcement Learning (RL):** RL embeds mathematical decision theory within feedback systems, optimizing value functions under uncertainty.

This integration yields AI systems capable of not only predicting outcomes but generating explicit mathematical strategies grounded in formal optimization. Decision making is required in many fields such as business, finance, education, healthcare, science, environment, agriculture etc. In this paper models of linear programming problems are highlighted for decision making in business, finance, education, healthcare.

Case Studies: AI-Driven Mathematical Decision Models

The following examples demonstrate the role of AI in linear programming problem for decision making in business, finance, education and healthcare.

1. Strategic Resource Allocation in Business:

AI systems are frequently used in contemporary businesses to assist managers in making decisions when resources are scarce and goals need to be

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maximized. AI systems can model real-world business constraints, quantify objectives (profit, cost, and efficiency), and automatically compute optimal decisions thanks to the mathematical foundation provided by linear programming.

For example "A machine is used for producing two products A and B. Product A is produced by using 3 units of chemical salt and 2 units of chemical mixture. Product B is produced by using 2 units of chemical salt and 4 units of chemical mixture. Only 1000 units of chemical salt and 1500 units if mixture are available. The profit on product A is Rs. 25 and on B it is Rs. 20 per unit. "

An AI system uses Linear Programming to analyse all feasible production plans, evaluate profit for each feasible plan and identify the optimal production strategy that yields maximum profit. The optimal solution suggests producing a balanced mix of Product A and Product B rather than allocating all resources to a single product. Although Product A yields higher profit per unit, Product B uses chemical resources differently. AI discovers the best trade-off between resource usage and profitability. This leads to maximum utilization of available resources, increased operational efficiency and higher overall profit.

This example demonstrates how **Linear Programming serves as a core mathematical tool in AI for business decision-making**, transforming abstract data into **optimal strategies**. It highlights the role of AI not only in prediction but also in **prescriptive analytics**, where systems recommend the best possible decisions under constraints.

2. Financial Portfolio Optimization:

In the financial domain, Artificial Intelligence systems are increasingly used to support **optimal decision-making under uncertainty and constraints**. Linear Programming (LP) plays a crucial role in this process by providing a **mathematically rigorous framework** through which AI systems can allocate financial resources efficiently, manage risk, and maximize returns. While machine learning models are often employed to predict market behaviour, Linear Programming enables AI to convert these predictions into **optimal financial decisions**. A financial institution uses an **AI decision-support system** to allocate a fixed amount of capital among different investment options. The goal of the AI system is to **maximize expected return**, while respecting **risk and budget constraints.**

For example: An investor has **Rs. 10 lakh** to invest in two financial assets. A**sset A (Government Bonds) and e**xpected return 8% at low risk and a**sset B (Equity Fund) :** Expected return 12% Higher risk. Due to risk regulations investment in equities (Asset B) **cannot exceed Rs. 6 lakh and a**t least **Rs. 3 lakh must be invested in bonds** for safety. The AI system has to choose the optimal amount to invest into each asset to ensure maximize return.

Linear Programming guarantees optimal, transparent and regulation-compliant solution after the above problem has been solved. This example demonstrates the synergy in AI of m**achine Learning predicting the return and risks of assets and using Linear Programming transforming these outputs into optimal financial decisions. The** AI system moves from **prediction to prescription**, which is very essence of **intelligent financial decision-making**.

3. Education :

Artificial Intelligence is gradually making its way into education practices to facilitate data- driven optimal decision- making. These decisions relate to academic planning, resource allocation, scheduling and personalized learning process. Linear Programming (LP) serves as a **core mathematical**

tool that enables AI systems to model educational constraints and optimize outcomes such as student performance, cost efficiency, and effective utilization of resources. Educational institutions operate under multiple constraints such as limited teaching staff, rigid classroom capacity, fixed time schedule and financial limits.AI systems use Linear Programming to reduce such human-driven constraints into **quantifiable mathematical models** to arrive at the **best possible decisions**.

For example : A college offers two subjects for two classes and each class provides learning benefit points:

- **Subject A (Mathematics) :40 learning points per class**
- **Subject B (Computer Science): 50 learning points per class**

Teaching resource requirements per class:

Subject	Teaching Hours	Lab Hours
A (Maths)	3 hours	1 hour
B (CS)	2 hours	1 hour
Available Resources	60 hours	40 hours

The AI system schedules **more classes of CS than maths** because they generate higher learning benefit per resource. All resource constraints are satisfied and the decisions maximize academic planning. *Linear Programming in education helps to transform limited academic resources into maximized learning outcomes through optimal decision-making.*

4. **Healthcare Scheduling**

In combination with predictive patient arrival models, AI predicts the flow of waiting patients for bed allocation, scheduling and operation room scheduling. It is the fact that mathematically grounded AI based decision-making is feasible without computer processing. Every AI-based decision in a hospital aims to maximize the benefit provided to patient-care within the available resources**.**

For example: A hospital treats two types of patients Type A Critical care patients having **50 care points per bed and Type B** General care patients having **30 care points per bed.**

Resource requirements per patient:

Patient Type	Bed Units	Nursing Hours
A (Critical)	1 Bed	4 Hours
B (General)	1 Bed	2 Hours
Total Availability	40	120

The AI system has to decide **how many patients of each category to admit** to **maximize total patient benefit**. From the given data, critical care patients receive a higher patient benefit. From the given data, critical care patients receive a higher patient benefit value, the AI system will admit maximum critical care cases (best decision) and the slots for general categories will also be filled, all resources are used optimally and the decision ia transparent and logical. This example shows that with AI enabled operational constraint- satisfaction module, healthcare resources can be allocated maximally while providing quality to the patient-care.

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Conclusion:

Harnessing AI for mathematical insights in decision making represents a paradigm shift in both theory and practice. Despite advances, challenges remain in harnessing AI for mathematical decision support such as difficulty in explanation of complex models, difference between human and AI interaction pattern and verification of AI reasoning. AI integrates predictive intelligence with formal mathematical reasoning to solve optimization problems, make high-stakes decisions, and generate insights previously unavailable due to computational or conceptual constraints. The symbiosis between AI and mathematics not only enhances decision support systems across sectors but also opens new research avenues where AI contributes to mathematical discovery itself.

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