

APPLICATIONS OF THE TRAVELING SALESMAN PROBLEM



This Hypercard stack was prepared by:
Dennis L. Bricker,
Dept. of Industrial Engineering,
University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Iowa 52242
e-mail: dennis-bricker@uiowa.edu

Each day, SUNCO manufactures four types of gasoline:

- lead-free premium (LFP)
- lead-free regular (LFR)
- leaded premium (LP)
- leaded regular (LR)

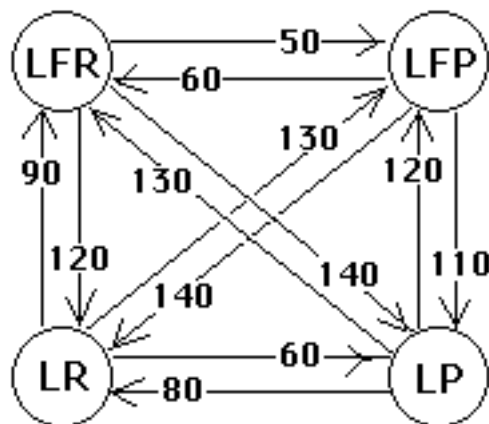
Because of cleaning and resetting of the processing equipment, the time required to produce a batch of gasoline depends on the type last produced:

LAST- PRODUCED GASOLINE	GAS TO BE NEXT PRODUCED			
	LFR	LFP	LR	LP
LFR	--	50	120	140
LFP	60	--	140	110
LR	90	130	--	60
LP	130	120	80	--

In which order should the gasolines be produced each day?

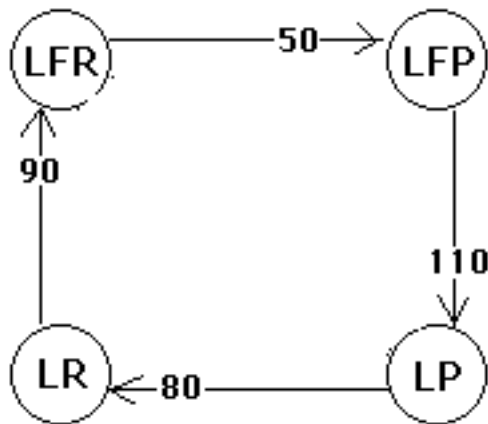
©Dennis Bricker, U. of Iowa, 1997

Consider a tour of the nodes in the network:



©Dennis Bricker, U. of Iowa, 1997

For example, if the order of the production is as shown:

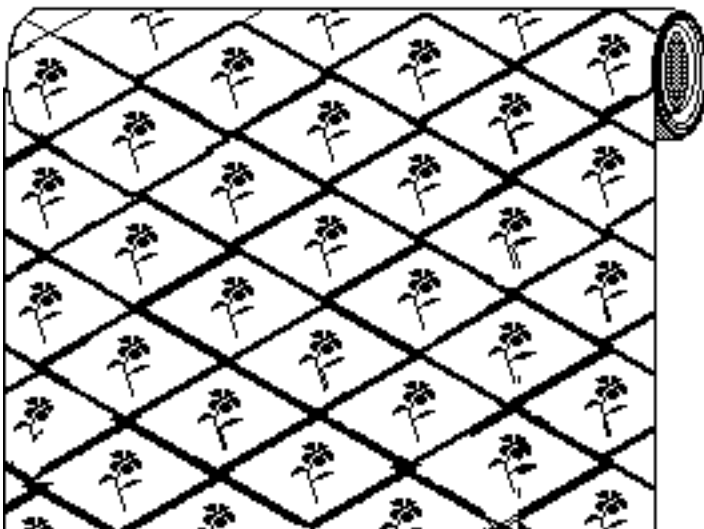


then the total
production time
will be
 $50+110+80+90$
 $= 330$ minutes

The best order will be that of the shortest
"salesman's" tour!

©Dennis Bricker, U. of Iowa, 1997

WALLPAPER CUTTING



©Dennis Bricker, U. of Iowa, 1997