

Modeling and problem solving with Mosel FICO Xpress Training

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Introduction, Xpress overview

Topics

- Introduction to Xpress
- Modeling with Mosel:
 - Linear and Mixed Integer Programming (LP and MIP)
 - Accessing data sources
 - Programming language features
- Embedding models in applications

Aims

- At the end of the course you will
 - be familiar with optimization methods and the terminology used to describe them
 - be confident about formulating optimization models and understanding the solution
 - know how use Xpress to model and solve problems
 - be able to embed a model in a application

Other materials

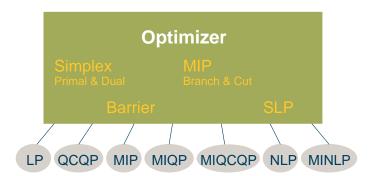
- Not a replacement for the reference manuals!
- Focuses on areas that are of practical importance
- Does not try to be exhaustive
- Pointers to reference material at the end of every chapter

1.1 Overview of Xpress

Notes

- Optimization algorithms
 - enables you to solve different classes of problems
 - built for speed, robustness and scalability
- Modeling interfaces
 - enables you to provide your problem in the most suitable way for your application
 - built for ease of use and interfacing

Optimization algorithms



Modeling interfaces

- Mosel
 - formulate model and develop optimization methods using Mosel language / environment
- BCL
 - build up model in your application code using object-oriented model builder library
- Optimizer
 - read in matrix files
 - input entire matrix from program arrays

Mosel

- A modeling and solving environment
 - integration of modeling and solving
 - programming facilities
 - open, modular architecture
- Interfaces to external data sources (*e.g.* ODBC, host application) provided
- Language is concise, user friendly, high level
- Best choice for rapid development and deployment

Mosel: Components and interfaces

- Mosel language: to implement problems and solution algorithms
 model or Mosel program
 - \Rightarrow model or Mosel program
- Mosel Model Compiler and Run-time Libraries: to compile, execute and access models from a programming language
 - \Rightarrow C/C++, C#, Java, or VB program

- Mosel Native Interface (NI): to provide new or extend existing functionality of the Mosel language
 ⇒ module
- *Xpress-IVE*: graphical user interface, representation of the problem matrix, solution status/progress graphs, and result display

Mosel model extract

Mosel Libraries

- Embed Mosel models directly in your application
- Access the solution within your application
- Compiled models are platform independent
- Enjoy benefits of structured modeling language and rapid deployment when building applications
- Available for C, Java, C#, and VB

Xpress-IVE

- Visual Studio style visual development environment for optimization & model building with Mosel
- Mosel model editor & compiler
- Real time graphs show optimization performance
- Browse solution values in entity tree

Xpress-BCL

- Model consists of BCL functions within application source code (C, C++, Java, C# or VB)
- Develop with standard C/C++/Java/C#/VB tools
- Provide your own data interfacing
- Lower level, object oriented approach
- Enjoy benefits of structured modeling within your application source code

BCL extract

```
for (f = 0; f < NF; f++)
for (t = 0; t < NT; t++) {
    open[f][t] = prob.newVar("open", XPRB_BV);
    make[f][t] = prob.newVar("make", XPRB_PL, 0, 100);
}
MaxProfit = prob.newCtr("MaxProfit");
for (f = 0; f < NF; f++)
    for (t = 0; t < NT; t++)
    MaxProfit += -MCOST[f]*make[f][t];
for (f = 0; f < NF; f++)
    for (t = 0; t < NT; t++)
    MxMake[f][t] =
        prob.newCtr("MxMake", make[f][t] <= MXMAKE[f]*open[f][t] );</pre>
```

Xpress-Optimizer

- Model is set of arrays within application source code (C, Java, C#, or VB)
- May also input problems from a matrix file
- Develop with standard C/C#/Java/VB tools
- Provide your own data interfacing
- Very low level, no problem structure
- Most efficient but lose easy model development and maintenance

Mosel and Optimizer Consoles

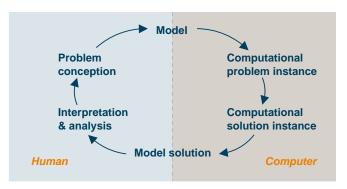
- Stand-alone command line executables with text interfaces
- Useful for simple deployment using batch/script files
- Available for all platforms supported by Xpress

Why choose Xpress?

- Active research and development
- Performance & reliability
- Problem classes & sizes
- Choice of modeling software
- Support

1.2 Why use modeling software?





- Developing a working model is the difficult bit
- Important to have software that helps
 - speed to market
 - verify correctness
 - maintenance & modification
 - algorithmic considerations
 - execution speed

Xpress modeling software

- The concepts we describe how to formulate and solve problems – apply to all modeling software
- In this course we will use the Xpress-IVE development environment with the Xpress-Mosel language because it is
 - easy to understand and learn
 - easy to use

Xpress optimization software

- Whether you use Mosel, BCL, or interface to the Optimizer directly, your models will all be solved using the Xpress-Optimizer
- The optimization performance will be the same no matter which modeling software you use

1.3 Xpress-IVE demonstration

 Conversion
 Conversion

 Conversion
 C

- Models: new, saving, opening, switching
 - start a new model
 - open an existing model
 - 🗎 save current model
 - show list of available modules
- Bars: editor, entity, info, output (run)
 - switch between window layouts

Notes

- Editor: colors, auto-complete, tool tips
 - copy selection
 - cut selection
 - paste selection
 - 💵 🛍 go to next / last line with same indentation
 - go to previous / next cursor position (line)
 - 🖻 🖻 undo / redo last editor command
- Compile, run
 - compile current model
 - execute current model
 - open run options dialog
 - pause execution
 - interrupt execution
 - search for the N best solutions
 - start infeasibility repair
- Output bar: log, stats, matrix, graphs, tree
- Viewing solution values
- Problem and matrix export and import
 - generate BIM file
 - export the problem matrix
 - optimize an imported matrix
- Search, bookmark
 - search
 - delete bookmarks
- Help
 - 🗕 help
 - model generation wizzard & example models
 - module generation wizzard
- Debugger
 - set/delete breakpoint at cursor
 - define conditional breakpoint
 - 🕷 start/stop debugger
 - step over an expression
 - step into an expression
 - run up to the cursor
 - show debugger options dialog
- Profiler
 - start the profiler

Reference material

- The manual *Getting Started with Xpress* introduces first time or occasional users to modeling with Mosel and BCL, or the direct Optimizer interface
- The Evaluators Guide and Advanced Evaluators Guide provide a quick walk-through of the Getting Started examples and some more advanced features

Modeling with Mosel

- Modeling basics
- Accessing data sources
- Advanced modeling topics
- Programming language features
- Mosel modules and packages

2.1 Modeling basics

Notes

Topics

- Definition of decision variables and constraints
- Solving with Xpress-Optimizer
- Solution output

2.1.1 A first model

Example: Chess problem

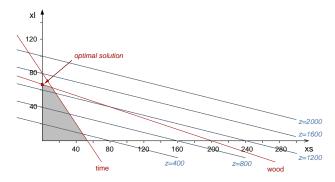
- A joinery makes two different sizes of boxwood chess sets.
- The small set requires 3 hours of machining on a lathe, and the large set requires 2 hours. There are 4 lathes with skilled operators who each work a 40 hour week.
- The small chess set requires 1 kg of boxwood, and the large set requires 3 kg. Only 200 kg of boxwood can be obtained per week.
- Each of the large chess sets yields a profit of \$20, and one of the small chess sets has a profit of \$5.
- How many sets of each kind should be made each week so as to maximize profit?

Chess problem: Mathematical formulation

• xl – quantity of large chess sets made xs – quantity of small chess sets made

 $\begin{array}{ll} \max & z=5\cdot xs+20\cdot xl\\ \text{s.t.} & 3\cdot xs+2\cdot xl\leq 160(=4\cdot 40) & (\text{lathe time})\\ & xs+3\cdot xl\leq 200 & (\text{wood})\\ & xs, xl\geq 0 \end{array}$

Chess problem: Graphical solution



Chess problem: Model Chess 1

model "Chess 1" uses "mmxprs"	! Use Xpress-Optimizer for solving
declarations xs: mpvar xl: mpvar end-declarations	! Number of small chess sets ! Number of large chess sets
3*xs + 2*xl <= 160 xs + 3*xl <= 200	! Constraint: limit on working hours ! Constraint: raw mat. availability
<pre>maximize(5*xs + 20*xl)</pre>	! Objective: maximize total profit

end-model

Starting and ending a Mosel model

model "Chess 1" ... end-model

Preamble

- uses statement: Say we will use the Xpress-Optimizer library, so that we can solve our problem
- Options:
 - noimplicit: force all objects to be declared
 - explterm: Use ';' to mark line ends

uses 'mmxprs' options noimplicit options explterm

Decision variables

```
declarations
    x: mpvar
    a, b, c: mpvar
    make: array(1..10, 1..20) of mpvar
    buy, sell: array(1..10) of mpvar
end-declarations
```

- mpvar means mathematical programming variable or decision variable
- Decision variables are unknowns: they have no value until the model is run, and the optimizer finds values for the decision variables

- In optimization problems, decision variables are often just called *variables*
- In computer programs, a variable can be used to refer to many different types of objects
- For instance, in Mosel models, a *program variable* can be used to refer to a *decision variable*, as well as integers, reals, *etc.*

Bounds on decision variables

- Variables can take values between 0 and infinity by default
- Other bounds may be specified

x <= 10 y(1) = 25.5 y(2) is_free z(2,3) >= -50 z(2,3) <= 50</pre>

Constraints

• Have type linctr - linear constraint

```
declarations
  Wood: linctr
  Inven: array(1..10) of linctr
end-declarations
```

- The 'value' of a constraint entity is a linear expression of decision variables, a constraint type, and a constant term
- Set using an assignment statement

Wood := $xs + 3 \times xl \leq 200$

Constraints

```
buy(2) - sell(2)
```

Objective function

 An objective function is just a constraint with no constraint type

```
declarations
MinCost: linctr
end-declarations
```

```
MinCost := 10 \times x(1) + 20 \times x(2) + 30 \times x(3) + 40 \times x(4)
```

Optimization & matrix generation

Generate the matrix and solve the problem:

```
minimize(MinCost)
maximize(5*xs + 20*xl)
```

• Load the matrix:

loadprob(MinCost)

• Matrix export:

```
exportprob(0, "explout", MinCost)
```

Viewing the solution

 Can access and manipulate the solution values within the model

```
writeln('Solution: ', getobjval)
writeln('xs = ', getsol(xs))
writeln('xl = ', getsol(xl))
write('Wood: ', getact(Wood), ' ')
writeln(getslack(Wood))
```

 Solution values of constraints activity value + slack value = RHS

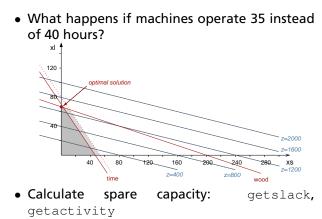
Project work [C-1]: Chess problem

- Execute the model chess1.mos.
- Add printing of the solution values.
- Is the solution realistic/desirable?
- Constrain the variables to take integer values only.
- Add output of constraint activity and slack values.
- Executing model chess1.mos with IVE:
 - double click on the model file to start IVE
 - or open the file from within IVE
 - click on the run button: 🗈
- Model execution from the command line:

mosel -c "exe chessl.mos"
- Or:

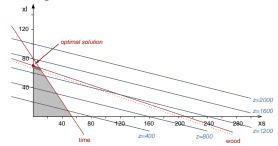
```
mosel
exe chessl.mos
quit
```

Solution analysis

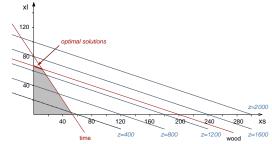


LP solution analysis

• What is the cost of an extra unit of wood/extra working hour?



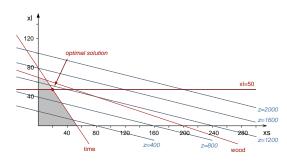
- Reduced cost: getrcost
- What is the cost of producing an additional unit of each product?



- Dual values ('shadow prices'): getdual
- Increase price of x1 to reach break even point

Solution analysis

• Limit the amount of x1.



2.1.2 Data structures and loops

Extending the example: Model Chess 2

```
uses "mmxprs"
options explterm ! Use ';' to mark line ends
declarations
Allvars: set of mpvar; ! Set of variables
DescrV: array(Allvars) of string; ! Descriptions of variables
xs,xl: mpvar;
end-declarations
DescrV(xs):= "Small"; DescrV(xl):= "Large";
Profit:= 5*xs + 20*xl; ! Objective function
Time:= 3*xs + 2*xl <= 160; ! Constraints
Wood:= xs + 3*xl <= 200;
xs is_integer; xl is_integer;
maximize(Profit);
writeln("Solution: ", getobjval);
forall(x in Allvars) writeln(DescrV(x), ": ", getsol(x));
```

Data structures

- Set: unordered collection of objects of the same type
 - used as *index sets*
 - special type range sets (= interval of integers)
- Array: multidimensional table of objects of the same type
 - used for data, decision variables, constraints
 - may be *dynamic* or *static*

Arrays and loops: Model Chess 3

uses "mmxprs"

```
declarations
R = 1..2
! Index range
DUR, WOOD, PROFIT: array(R) of real
X: array(R) of mpvar
end-declarations
DUR :: [3, 2]
WOOD :: [1, 3]
PROFIT :: [5, 20]
sum(i in R) DUR(i)*x(i) <= 160
sum(i in R) WOOD(i)*x(i) <= 200
forall(i in R) x(i) is_integer
maximize(sum(i in R) PROFIT(i)*x(i))
writeln("Solution: ", getobjval)
! Index range
! Index range
! Index range
! Initialize data arrays
! Constraint definition
! Constraint definition
</pre>
```

Data declaration

Data initialization

NPROD:= 50 SCOST:= 5.4 DIR:= 'c:/data' IF_DEBUG:= true S:= {10, 0, -5, 13} R:= 1..NPROD

COST:: [11, 12, 13, 14, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31, 32, 33, 34]

Summations

Sum up an array of variables in a constraint

```
Ctrl:= sum(p in 1..10) (RES(p)*buy(p) + sell(p)) <= 100
Ctr2:= sum(p in PRODUCTS) (buy(p) + sum(r in 1..5) make(p,r)) <= 100
Ctr3:= sum(p in 1..NP) (2*CAP(p)*buy(p)/10 +
SCAP(p)*sell(p)) <= MAXCAP</pre>
```

Loops

• Use a loop to assign an array of constraints

```
forall(t in 2..NT)
Inven(t):= bal(t) = bal(t-1) + buy(t) - sell(t)
```

• Use do/end-do to group several statements into one loop

```
forall(t in 1..NT) do
MaxRef(t):= sum(i in PRODUCTS)
use(i,t) <= MAXREF(t)
Inven(t):= store(t) = store(t-1) + buy(t) - use(t)
end-do</pre>
```

• Can nest forall statements

```
forall(t in 1..NT) do
MaxRef(t):= sum(i in 1..NI) use(i,t) <= MAXREF(t)
forall(i in 1..NI)
Inven(i,t):= store(i,t) = store(i,t-1) + buy(i,t) - use(i,t)
end-do</pre>
```

Conditions

May include conditions in sums or loops

```
forall(c in 1..10 | CAP(c)>=100.0)
MaxCap(c):=
    sum(i in 1..10, j in 1..10 | i<>j)
    TECH(i,j,c) *x(i,j,c) <= MAXTECH(c)</pre>
```

Mosel statements

- Can extend over several lines and use spaces
- However, a line break acts as an expression terminator
- To continue an expression, it must be cut after a symbol that implies continuation (e.g. + -,)

2.1.3 Model building style

- You should aim to build a model with sections in this order
 - constant data: declare, initialize
 - all non-constant objects: declare
 - variable data: initialize / input / calculate
 - decision variables: create, specify bounds
 - constraints: declare, specify
 - objective: declare, specify, optimize
- In both LP and MIP it is very important to distinguish between
 - known values
 - * data, parameters, etc.
 - and unknown values
 - * decision variables
- All constraints must be linear expressions of the variables
- Suggestion: name objects as follows
 - known values (data) using upper case
 - unknown values (variables) using lower
 - case – constraints using mixed case

so that it is easy to distinguish between them, and see that constraints are indeed linear

- Variables are actions that your model will prescribe
- Use verbs for the names of variables
 - this emphasizes that variables represent 'what to do' decisions
- Indices are the *objects* that the actions are performed on
- Use nouns for the names of indices
- Using named index sets/ranges
 - improves the readability of a model
 - makes it easier to apply the model to different sized data sets
 - makes the model easier to maintain
 - may speed up your model
- Try to include 'Min' or 'Max' in the name of your objective function
- An objective function called 'Obj' is not very helpful when taken out of context!

- Comments are essential for a well written model
- Always use a comment to explain what each parameter, data table, variable, and constraint is for when you declare it
- Add extra comments to explain any complex calculation *etc.*
- Comments in Mosel:

2.2 Accessing data sources

Notes

Topics

- Text files
- ODBC
- Sparse data

Separation of problem logic and data

- Typically, the model logic stays constant once developed, with the data changing each run
- Editing the model can create errors, expose intellectual property, and is impractical for industrial size data
- It makes good sense to fix the model and obtain data from their source

2.2.1 The initializations block

Data input from file: Chess 4

uses "mmxprs"

```
declarations
PRODS = 1..2 ! Index range
DUR, WOOD, PROFIT: array(PRODS) of real ! Coefficients
x: array(PRODS) of mpvar ! Array of variables
end-declarations
initializations from "chess.dat" ! Read data from file
DUR WOOD PROFIT ! chess.dat: PROFIT: [5 20]
end-initializations ! DUR: [3 2]
! WOOD: [1 3]
sum(i in PRODS) DUR(i)*x(i) <= 160 ! Constraint definition
sum(i in PRODS) WOOD(i)*x(i) <= 200
forall(i in PRODS) x(i) is_integer
maximize(sum(i in PRODS) PROFIT(i)*x(i))
writeln("Solution: ", getobjval)</pre>
```

Data file chess.dat

- Every data item/table has a label, its identifier
- Single line comments (marked with '!')

```
! Data file for 'chess4.mos'
```

DUR: [3 2] WOOD: [1 3] PROFIT: [5 20]

Sparse data format

- Every data entry specified with its index tuple
- Can read data from one labeled data source into several Mosel data tables at once
 - data tables must have identical indices

```
initializations from 'chess.dat'
[DUR, WOOD, PROFIT] as 'ChessData'
end-initializations
```

 Format of data file with several data values in one labeled data range (use a * for a missing data value)

```
! chess.dat
ChessData: [
   (1) [3 1 5]
   (2) [2 3 20]
]
```

Writing data out to text files

- You can write out values in an analogous way to reading them in using initializations to
- To write out the solution values of variables, or other solution values (slack, activity, dual, reduced cost) you must first put the values into a data table

```
declarations
  x_sol: array(PRODS) of real
end-declarations
forall(i in PRODS)
  x_sol(i) := getsol(x(i))
initializations to 'result.dat'
  x_sol
end-initializations
```

Free format text files

fopen("result.dat", F_OUTPUT+F_APPEND)

```
forall(i in PRODS)
writeln(i, ": ", getsol(x(i))
fclose(F_OUTPUT)
```

Modeling with Mosel

Project work [C-2]: Arrays and index sets

- Modify the model chess4.mos to use indices of type string.
- Execute this new model chess4s.mos with data set chess2.dat.
- Output the solution values to file sol.dat using initializations to.
- Modify the models further to read the contents of the index set from file (chess5.mos, chess5s.mos).

2.2.2 Dynamic arrays

- Mosel provides a user friendly and efficient means of modeling mathematical programming problems
- Objects such as dynamic arrays and variable index sets, together with efficient loops and sums, allow large scale models to be written easily, and execute quickly
- Dynamic array: indexing sets not known at declaration, or array explicitly marked dynamic
- Initialize dynamic data arrays from text files or using ODBC
 - data must use sparse format
 - this is so Mosel can work out the values of the indices
 - reading in the data array initializes both the index values and the data values at the same time

Dynamic arrays of decision variables

- An entry of a dynamic array is only created when a value is assigned to it
- Decision variables don't get created, because you don't assign values to them
- To create decision variables in a dynamic array, use the create procedure

```
declarations
  TIME: range ! = set of contiguous integers
  COST: array(TIME) of real
  use: array(TIME) of mpvar
end-declarations
(...) ! Read in COST data etc
forall(t in TIME | exists(COST(t)))
  create(use(t))
```

- Note: if you declare decision variables *after* reading in the data, then decision variables will be created for all combinations of the index set elements that exist at that time
- Do not use create in this case
- Define decision variables *before* reading in data if you want to use create to control exactly which elements get created

Dynamic arrays

- Use dynamic arrays
 - to size data tables automatically when the data is read in
 - to initialize the index values automatically when the data is read in
 - to conserve memory when storing sparse data
 - to eliminate index combinations without using conditions each time
- Don't use dynamic arrays
 - when you can use an ordinary (static) array instead
 - when storing dense data, and you can size the data table and initialize the indices in some other way

(dynamic arrays are slower and use more memory than a static array when storing dense data)

2.2.3 Run-time parameters

Data input from file: Chess 4 completed

uses "mmxprs" parameters FILENAME="chess.dat" end-parameters	! Name of the data file
<pre>declarations PRODS = 12 DUR, WOOD, PROFIT: array(PRODS) of x: array(PRODS) of mpvar end-declarations</pre>	! Index range real ! Coefficients ! Array of variables
initializations from FILENAME DUR WOOD PROFIT end-initializations	! Read data from file
<pre>sum(i in PRODS) DUR(i)*x(i) <= 160 sum(i in PRODS) WOOD(i)*x(i) <= 200 forall(i in PRODS) x(i) is_integer maximize(sum(i in PRODS) PROFIT(i)*x</pre>	

Run-time parameters

- Parameters
 - a special type of constant
 - default value may be overriden at runtime

```
parameters
DATA_DIR = 'c:/data'
DEBUG = true
NUM_RECORDS = 1000
end-parameters
```

- The value in the model is used by default
- A different value may be given at run-time
 - In IVE, an alternative value may be set in the *Build* >> Options dialogue
 - When running a Mosel model from an application, an alternative value can be set in the parameters string
- A parameters section must come at the top of the model
 - after any uses or options statements
 - before any other statements
- Parameters are especially useful for passing directories/paths into the model
 - all files referenced in the model should use a directory parameter
 - otherwise, Mosel may not be able to find the file when the model is deployed (the default path differs when run from an application)
 - use '+' to join strings
- Specifying directory paths
 - preferably use '/' as directory separator

```
parameters
DIR = '.'
end-parameters
fopen(DIR+'/cap.dat', F_INPUT)
...
fclose(F_INPUT)
...
initializations from DIR+'/cost.dat'
```

Project work [C-3]: Run-time parameters

- In models chess5.mos and chess5s.mos turn the data file name into a run-time parameter.
- Re-run your model chess5s.mos with the larger data set chess3.dat without changing the filename in the model.

- Setting runtime parameters within IVE:
 - select menu Build ≫ Options or click on the button II
 - check Use model parameters to activate the parameter input field and enter the new value(s)
- Runtime parameters from the command line:

```
mosel -c "exe chess5s.mos DATAFILE='chess3.dat'"
- Or:
    mosel
    exe chess5s.mos DATAFILE='chess3.dat'
    quit
```

2.2.4 Using other data sources

- The initializations block can work with many different data sources and formats thanks to the notion of *I/O drivers*
- I/O drivers for physical data files: mmodbc.excel, mmoci.oci, mmetc.diskdata
- Other drivers available, *e.g.* for data exchange in memory
- Change of the data source = change of the I/O driver, no other modifications to your model

Data transfer using ODBC

- First, must check ODBC driver for your chosen data source (external to Xpress)
 - Start >> Settings >> Control Panel >> Administrative Tools >> Data Sources (ODBC)
 - Check that data source is defined, and note its name (the data source name, DSN)
- Next, identify specific data source a database or spreadsheet
 - note its location (path)
 - the data must be in a table in a database, or a named range in a spreadsheet
- Now, in your model
 - use the *mmodbc* module (requires licence)
 - use the odbc driver in initializations blocks, or
 - write out the corresponding SQL commands:
 - set up an ODBC data connection to the specific data source
 - * input data using SQL statements
 - * disconnect

Reading data via ODBC

Excel spreadsheet ('ChessData' = range in the spreadsheet):

```
initializations from 'mmodbc.odbc:chess.xls'
[DUR, WOOD, PROFIT] as 'ChessData'
end-initializations
```

• Access database ('ChessData' = data table):

```
initializations from 'mmodbc.odbc:debug;chess.mdb'
[DUR, WOOD, PROFIT] as 'ChessData'
end-initializations
```

Data export to a database

```
initializations to 'mmodbc.odbc:debug;chess.mdb'
  x_sol as 'ChessSol'
end-initializations
```

- Before every new run, delete the data from the previous run in the destination range/table
- Otherwise the new results will either be appended to the existing ones or, if 'PRODS' has been defined as key field in a database, the insertion will fail

Special notes for data export to Excel

- Make sure the 'Read Only' option is disabled in the ODBC data source set-up options
- Define the destination range in the spreadsheet, with one line of column headings, one line of dummy data, and no other data
- Excel does not support the full range of ODBC functionality (commands like 'update' or 'delete' will fail)

 \Rightarrow preferably use direct connection (excel driver)

Data exchange with MS Excel

- Software-specific driver excel for MS Excel
 - use *mmodbc* module (requires licence)
 - use the excel driver (instead of odbc) in initializations blocks
 - no driver setup required (works with standard Excel installation)
 - simply replace "mmodbc.odbc:" by
 "mmodbc.excel:skiph;" in the preceding examples

Data exchange with Oracle

- Software-specific driver *oci* for Oracle databases
 - use *mmoci* module (requires licence)
 - setup: Oracle's Instant Client package must be installed on the machine running the Mosel model
 - in initializations blocks replace
 "mmodbc.odbc:" by "mmoci.oci:" in
 the preceding examples
 - supports SQL statements (replace the prefix SQL by OCI)

SQL

- The I/O driver *odbc* generates automatically the SQL commands required to connect to the database/spreadsheet
- For advanced uses module *mmodbc* also defines most standard SQL commands directly for the Mosel language

Project work [C-4]: ODBC

- Check that the ODBC DSN for Excel is set up on your computer
- Re-run your model chess5.mos with the Excel file chess.xls

Summary

- We have seen that it is possible to completely separate the data and the model
- The model specifies the logic of the problem, without any reference to its size
- The model can be applied to any data instance, simply by providing data files

Reference material

- Refer to the *Mosel User Guide* for a detailed introduction to working with Mosel.
- The book Applications of optimization with Xpress-MP provides a large collection of examples models from different application areas.
- See the whitepaper Using ODBC and other database interfaces with Mosel for further detail on data handling.

Topics

- MIP variable types
- Modeling with binary variables

2.3.1 MIP variable types

- Binary variables
 - can take either the value 0 or the value 1 (do/ don't do variables)
 - model logical conditions

x(4) is_binary

- Integer variables
 - can take only integer values
 - used where the underlying decision variable really has to take on a whole number value for the optimal solution to make sense

x(7) is_integer

- Partial integer variables
 - can take integer values up to a specified limit and any value above that limit
 - computational advantages in problems where it is acceptable to round the LP solution to an integer if the optimal value of a decision variable is quite large, but unacceptable if it is small

x(1) is_partint 5 ! Integer up to 5, then continuous

- Semi-continuous variables
 - can take either the value 0, or a value between some lower limit and upper limit
 - help model situations where if a variable is to be used at all, it has to be used at some minimum level

x(2) is_semcont 6 ! A 'hole' between 0 and 6, then continuous

- Semi-continuous integer variables
 - can take either the value 0, or an integer value between some lower limit and upper limit
 - help model situations where if a variable is to be used at all, it has to be used at some minimum level, and has to be integer

 $x\left(3\right)$ is_semint 7 $\ \ \, !$ A 'hole' between 0 and 7, then integer

- Special Ordered Sets of type one (SOS1)
 - an ordered set of variables at most one of which can take a non-zero value
 - single choice among several possibilities
- Special Ordered Sets of type two (SOS2)
 - an ordered set of variables, of which at most two can be non-zero, and if two are non-zero these must be consecutive in their ordering
 - e.g. approximation of non-linear functions with a piecewise linear function

SOS definition

• WEIGHT array determines the ordering of the variables:

MYSOS:= sum(i in IRng) WEIGHT(i)*x(i) is_sosX

where is_sosX is either is_sos1 or is_sos2

• Alternative: set S of set members, linear constraint L with ordering coefficients (= reference row entries):

makesos1(S,L); makesos2(S,L)

- must be used if the coefficient WEIGHT(i) of an intended set member is zero
- Note: the ordering coefficients must all be distinct (or else they are not doing their job of supplying an order!)

2.3.2 Modeling with binary variables

Logical conditions

- Projects A, B, C, D
- Binary variables a, b, c, d
 - do at most 3 projects: $a + b + c + d \le 3$
 - must do D if A done: $d \ge a$
 - can only do C if both A and B done:
 - $c \le (a + b) / 2$ $c \le a, c \le b$
 - $c \ge a, c \ge$

Disjunctions

Either

 $5 \le x \le 10$

or

 $80 \le x \le 100$

• Introduce a new variable: *ifupper*: 0 if $5 \le x \le 10$; 1 if $80 \le x \le 100$ $x \le 10 + (100 - 10) \cdot ifupper$ [1] $x \ge 5 + (80 - 5) \cdot ifupper$ [2] • Either $5 \le \sum_i A_i x_i \le 10$ or $80 \le \sum_i A_i x_i \le 100$

$$\sum_{i} A_{i} x_{i} \leq 10 + 90 \cdot i fupper$$
$$\sum_{i} A_{i} x_{i} \geq 5 + 75 \cdot i fupper$$

Absolute values

• Two variables

*x*₁, *x*₂

with

$$0 \leq x_i \leq U$$
 [1. *i*]

want

 $y = |x_1 - x_2|$

• Introduce binary variables

 d_1, d_2

to mean d_1 : 1 if $x_1 - x_2$ is the positive value d_2 : 1 if $x_2 - x_1$ is the positive value

• MIP formulation of $y = |x_1 - x_2|$ 0 < x < 11 [1.i]

	[]]
$0 \leq y - (x_1 - x_2) \leq 2 \cdot U \cdot d_2$	[2]
$0 \leq y - (x_2 - x_1) \leq 2 \cdot U \cdot d_1$	[3]
$d_1 + d_2 = 1$	[4]

Project work [C-5]: Logical constraints

- Take a look at the capital budgeting model in capbgt.mos: the objective is to determine the most profitable choice among 8 possible projects, subject to limited resources (personnel and capital)
- Formulate the following additional constraints:
 - P1 can only be done if P2 is done
 - P1 can only be done if P3 and P6 are done
 - It is not possible to do both P5 and P6
 - Either P1 and P2 must be done or P3 and P4 (but not both pairs).

Mosel: A programming environment

- Selections
- Loops
- Set operations
- Subroutines
- Data structures

2.4.1 Selections

• if

```
if A >= 20 then
    x <= 7
elif A <= 10 then
    x >= 35
else
    x = 0
end-if
```

• case

2.4.2 Loops

- forall [do]
- while [do]
- repeat until

Example: Prime numbers

• Implements the 'Sieve of Eratosthenes'.

```
SNumbers = \{2, ..., L\}
       n := 2
       repeat
            while (n \not\in SNumbers) n := n + 1
            SPrime := SPrime \cup {n}
            i := n
            while (i \leq L)
                SNumbers := SNumbers \{i\}
                i := i + n
       until SNumbers = {}
model Prime
 parameters
  LIMIT=100
                                  ! Search for prime numbers in 2..LIMIT
 end-parameters
 declarations
  SNumbers: set of integer ! Set of numbers to be checked
SPrime: set of integer ! Set of prime numbers
 end-declarations
 SNumbers:={2..LIMIT}
 writeln("Prime numbers between 2 and ", LIMIT, ":")
```

Notes

```
n:=2
repeat
while (not(n in SNumbers)) n+=1
SPrime += {n} ! n is a prime number
i:=n
while (i<=LIMIT) do ! Remove n and all its multiples
SNumbers-= {i}
it=n
end-do
until SNumbers={}
writeln(SPrime)
writeln(" (", getsize(SPrime), " prime numbers.)")
end-model</pre>
```

Operations on sets

- Set operators include
 - union: +
 - intersection: *
 - difference: -
- Logical expressions using sets include
 - subset: Set1 <= Set2
 - superset: Set1 >= Set2
 - equals: Set1 = Set2
 - not equals: Set1 <>Set2
 - element of: 'Oil5' in Set1
 - not element of: 'Oil5' not in Set1

2.4.3 Functions and procedures

- Similar structure as model, including the declarations blocks
- Terminated by end-function or end-procedure
- Function defines returned with its return value
- forward declaration
- Overloading possible (each version with a different number or types of arguments)

Example: Quick Sort algorithm

- Choose a middle value v for partitioning (here: v = (min + max) / 2)
- Divide the list into two parts 'left' (all elements x < v) and 'right' (all elements x > v)
- 3. Repeat from 1. for lists 'left' and 'right'

```
model "Quick Sort"
parameters
  T_TM=50
 end-parameters
                          ! Declare procedures that are defined later
forward procedure qsort(L:array(range) of integer)
forward procedure qsort(L:array(range) of integer, s,e:integer)
 declarations
 T:array(1..LIM) of integer
 end-declarations
                           ! Generate randomly an array of numbers
 forall(i in 1..LIM) T(i):=round(.5+random*LIM)
 writeln(T)
 time:=gettime
 asort (T)
                           ! Sort the array
                           ! Print the sorted array
 writeln(T)
```

```
! Swap the positions of two numbers in an array
 procedure swap(L:array(range) of integer, i,j:integer)
  k:=L(i)
  L(i):=L(j)
  L(j):=k
 end-procedure
 ! Start of the sorting process
 procedure qsort (L:array (r:range) of integer)
  qsort(L,getfirst(r),getlast(r))
 end-procedure
! Sorting routine
 procedure qsort(L:array(range) of integer, s,e:integer)
  v:=L((s+e) div 2)
  i:=s; j:=e
repeat
   while(L(i)<v) i+=1
   while(L(j)>v) j-=1
   if i<j then
  swap(L,i,j)</pre>
   i+=1; j-=1
end-if
  until i>=j
  if j<e and s<j then qsort(L,s,j); end-if
if i>s and i<e then qsort(L,i,e); end-if</pre>
 end-procedure
end-model
```

2.4.4 Data structures

- array
- set
- list
- record
- ... and any combinations thereof, e.g.,

```
S: set of list of integer
A: array(range) of set of real
```

List

- Collection of objects of the same type
- May contain the same element several times
- Order of list elements is specified by construction
- Handling: cuthead, splittail, reverse...

```
declarations
   L: list of integer
   M: array(range) of list of string
end-declarations
L:= [1,2,3,4,5]
M:: (2..4)[['A','B','C'], ['D','E'], ['F','G','H','I']]
```

Record

- Finite collection of objects of any type
- Each component of a record is called a 'field' and is characterized by its name and its type

```
declarations
ARC: array(ARCSET:range) of record
Source,Sink: string ! Source and sink of arc
Cost: real ! Cost coefficient
end-record
end-declarations
ARC(1).Source:= "B"
ARC(3).Cost:= 1.5
```

User types

- Treated in the same way as the predefined types of the Mosel language
- New types are defined in declarations blocks by specifying a type name, followed by =, and the definition of the type

```
declarations
  myreal = real
  myarray = array(1..10) of myreal
  COST: myarray
end-declarations
```

- Typical uses
 - shorthand for repetitions in declarations
 - naming records

```
declarations
  arc = record
    Source,Sink: string ! Source and sink of arc
    Cost: real ! Cost coefficient
    end-record
    A: arc
    ARC: array(ARCSET:range) of arc
end-declarations
```

Summary: Language features

- Data structures: array, set, list, record
- Selections: if-then-[elif-then]-[else], case
- Loops: forall-[do], while-[do], repeat-until
- Operators:
 - standard arithmetic operators
 - aggregate operators (sum, prod, and, or, min, max, union, intersection)
 - set operators
- Subroutines: functions, procedures (forward declaration, overloading)

2.4.5 Programming solution algorithms

Mosel: A solving environment

- No separation between 'modeling statements' and 'solving statements'
- Programming facilities for pre/postprocessing, algorithms
- Principle of incrementality
- Not solver-specific
- Possibility of interaction with solver(s)

Solving: Variable fixing heuristic

- Solution heuristic written with Mosel
- Program split into several source files

Solving: Variable fixing heuristic (main file)

```
model Coco
uses "mmxprs"
include "fixbv_pb.mos"
include "fixbv_solve.mos"
solution:=solve
writeln("The objective value is: ", solution)
end-model
```

Solving: Variable fixing heuristic (model)

```
declarations
    RF=1..2 ! Range of factories (f)
    RT=1..4 ! Range of time periods (t)
    (...)
    openm: array(RF,RT) of mpvar
end-declarations
    (...)
forall(f in RF,t in 1..NT-1) Closed(f,t):= openm(f,t+1) <= openm(f,t)
forall(f in RF,t in RT) openm(f,t) is_binary</pre>
```

Solving: Variable fixing heuristic (algorithm)

```
function solve:real
declarations
  osol: array(RF,1..2) of real
  bas: basis
 end-declarations
 setparam("XPRS_PRESOLVE",0)
setparam("zerotol", 5.0E-4) ! Set Mosel compari
maximize(XPRS_LPSTOP,MaxProfit) ! Solve the root LP
                                       ! Set Mosel comparison tolerance
 savebasis(bas)
                                       ! Save the basis
 forall(f in RF, t in 1..2) do ! Fix some binary variables
 osol(f,t):= getsol(openm(f,t))
if osol(f,t) = 0 then
 setub(openm(f,t), 0.0)
elif osol(f,t) = 1 then
   setlb(openm(f,t), 1.0)
 end-if
 end-do
 ! Save solution value
 solval:=getobjval
 forall(f in RF, t in 1..2) ! Reset variabl
if((osol(f,t) = 0) or (osol(f,t) = 1)) then
   setlb(openm(f,t), 0.0)
                                  ! Reset variable bounds
   setub(openm(f,t), 1.0)
  end-if
 loadbasis(bas)
                                    ! Load previously saved basis
setparam("XPRS_MIPABSCUTOFF", solval) ! Set cutoff value
maximize(MaxProfit) ! Solve original problem
 returned:= if (getprobstat=XPRS_OPT, getobjval, solval)
end-function
```

Mosel: A modular environment

- Open architecture:
 - possibility to define language extensions via packages or modules without any need to modify the core of the Mosel language
- Package = library written in the Mosel language
 - making parts of Mosel models re-usable
 - deployment of Mosel code whilst protecting your intellectual property
 - similar structure as models (keyword model is replaced by package), compiled in the same way
 - included with the uses statement
 - definition of new types, subroutines, symbols
 - see examples in the Mosel User Guide
- *Module* = dynamic library written in C
 - modules of the Mosel distribution:
 - * solver interfaces: Xpress-Optimizer (LP, MIP, QP), SLP, SP, CP
 - * database access: ODBC, OCI
 - system commands; model handling; graphics
 - write your own modules for
 - * connecting to external software
 - * time-critical tasks
 - defining new types, subroutines, operators, I/O drivers, control parameters, symbols

Some highlights of module features

- Interaction with external programs during their execution (callback functions)
- Access to other solvers and solving paradigms (NLP, CP)
- Implementation of graphical applications (*mmive*, XAD)

Notes

Module mmxprs: Using callback functions

```
uses "mmxprs"
declarations
    x: array(1..10) of mpvar
end-declarations
public procedure printsol
    writeln("Solution: ", getsol(Objective))
    forall(i in 1..10) write("x(", i, ")=", getsol(x(i)), "")
    writeln
end-procedure
```

setcallback(XPRS_CB_INTSOL, "printsol")

Module mmxslp: Solving an NLP by SLP

• What is the greatest area of a polygon of N sides and a diameter of 1?

```
model "Polygon"
  uses "mmxslp"
 declarations
 N=5
  area: gexp
  rho, theta: array(1..N) of mpvar
  objdef: mpvar
  D: array(1...N,1...N) of genctr
 end-declarations
 forall(i in 1..N-1) do
                                ! Initialization of SLP variables
  rho(i) >= 0.1; rho(i) <= 1
SLPDATA("IV", rho(i), 4*i*(N + 1 - i)/((N+1)^2))
SLPDATA("IV", theta(i), M_PI*i/N)</pre>
 end-do
 forall(i in 1..N-2, j in i+1..N-1) ! Third side of all triangles
  D(i,j):= rho(i)^2 + rho(j)^2
            rho(i) *rho(j) *2*cos(theta(j)-theta(i)) <= 1</pre>
                                         ! Vertices in increasing order
 forall(i in 2..N-1) theta(i) >= theta(i-1) +.01
 theta(N-1) <= M_PI
                                        ! Boundary conditions
                                        ! Objective: sum of areas
 area:=
  (sum(i in 2...N-1) (rho(i)*rho(i-1)*sin(theta(i)-theta(i-1)))*0.5
 objdef = area; objdef is_free
 SLPloadprob(objdef)
 SLPmaximize
 writeln("Area = ", getobjval)
end-model
```

Module kalis: Constraint Programming

- Example: jobshop scheduling
 - schedule the production of a set of jobs on a set of machines. Every job is produced by a sequence of tasks, each of these tasks is processed on a different machine. A machine processes at most one job at a time.
- Implementation with high-level modeling objects (tasks and resources)

```
model "Job Shop"
uses "kalis"
declarations
 JOBS = 1..NJ
MACH = 1..NM
                                             ! Set of jobs
                                             ! Set of resources
 RES: array(JOBS,MACH) of integer
                                             ! Resource use of tasks
 DUR: array(JOBS, MACH) of integer
                                             ! Durations of tasks
  res: array(MACH) of cpresource
                                             ! Resources
  task: array(JOBS, MACH) of cptask
                                             ! Tasks
end-declarations
                  ! Initialize the data
HORIZON:= sum(j in JOBS, m in MACH) DUR(j,m)
 forall(j in JOBS) getend(task(j,NM)) <= HORIZON</pre>
! Setting up the resources (capacity 1) forall(m in MACH)
 set_resource_attributes(res(m), KALIS_UNARY_RESOURCE, 1)
! Setting up the tasks (durations, resource used)
 forall(j in JOBS, m in MACH)
 set_task_attributes(task(j,m), DUR(j,m), res(RES(j,m)))
! Precedence constraints between the tasks of every job
 forall (j in JOBS, m in 1...NM-1)
 setsuccessors(task(j,m), {task(j,m+1)})
! Solve the problem & print solution if cp_schedule(getmakespan)<>0 then
 writeln("Total completion time: ", getsol(getmakespan))
end-if
end-model
```

Module mmive: Drawing user graphs

```
model "Schedule"
uses "mmive", "mmsystem"
declarations
 MACHINES=6; JOBS=6
  graphs, colors: array(1..MACHINES) of integer
 labels: array(1..JOBS) of integer
curmachine, curjobs, n1, n2, n3: integer
 end-declarations
 colors:: [IVE_WHITE, IVE_YELLOW, IVE_CYAN, IVE_RED, IVE_GREEN,
            IVE MAGENTA1
 fopen("schedule.dat", F_INPUT)
 forall (i in 1..MACHINES) do
 graphs(i):= IVEaddplot("Machine "+i, IVE_BLUE)
labels(i):= IVEaddplot("Jobs for machine "+i, Color(i))
 end-do
 forall (i in 1..MACHINES) do
                                 ! Read machine no. & no. of jobs
 readln(n1, n2)
  curmachine:= n; curjobs:= n2
  forall(j in 1..curjobs) do
  readln(n1, n2, n3) ! Read job no., start & finish times
writeln("On machine ", curmachine, " job ", n1,
        " starts at ", n2, " and finishes at ", n3)
  end-do
end-do
 IVEzoom(0, 0, 30, 7)
 fclose(F_INPUT)
```

```
end-model
```

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And also

- Working with several models in parallel, possibly in a heterogeneous distributed architecture (module *mmjobs*)
 - see whitepaper Multiple models and parallel solving with Mosel
- Combining different solvers
 - see whitepaper Hybrid MIP/CP solving with Xpress-Optimizer and Xpress-Kalis

Reference material

- The modules of the Mosel distribution are documented in the *Mosel Language Reference Manual* (with separate manuals for solver modules *mmxslp* and *kalis*)
- The *Mosel Native Interface User Guide* explains how to write your own modules.

Embedding Mosel models

3.1 Embedding models in applications

What is the Mosel API?

- The Mosel language allows you to formulate optimization problems, and develop optimization methods (*i.e.*, use the Optimizer to solve them), as a Mosel model
- The Mosel API (also *Mosel libraries*) allows you to embed Mosel models in an application

Programming environments

- The Mosel API is available for C/C++, Java, .NET and VB
- We use Java in the slides, but the functionality applies to all languages, and similar applications can be developed in other languages

Mosel libraries

- Model Compiler Library
 - compiles to a virtual machine
 - binary format architecture independent
- Runtime Library
 - load and run binary (models)
 - access to Mosel internal database (data, solution values, ...)

Generating a deployment template

- With Xpress-IVE: select *Deploy* > *Deploy* or click the deploy button
- Choose the application language:

:\Examples\chess5.mos		
łow would you like to use	this Mosel model in your app	lication?
Save .BIM file	Run Mosel model from	Optimize matrix file from
O With debug info	C C	C C
C All names stripped	Java	C Jaya
Save .BIM file	C Visual Basic	C Visual Basic
	C VB.NET	C VB.NET
To directly create a Windows executable that runs a .BIM file:	C C#	C C#
1. Copy C:WpressMP\bir	n/mrun.exe to the same folde	r as the .BIM file;

- Clicking on the *Next* button will open a new window with the resulting code
- Use the Save as button to set the name and location of the new file.

Mosel library functions

• General:

XPRM(), XPRM.getVersion, XPRM.license, ...

Model handling:

XPRM.compile, XPRM.loadModel, XPRMModel.run, XPRMmodel.getResult, XPRMModel.getExecStatus, XPRMModel.reset, ...

• Solution information:

XPRMModel.getObjectiveValue, XPRMModel.getProblemStatus, XPRMMPVar.getSolution, XPRMLinCtr.getActivity, ...

Accessing model objects:

XPRMModel.findIdentifier

• Arrays:

XPRMArray.getDimension, XPRMArray.getIndexSets, XPRMArray.getFirstIndex, XPRMArray.nextIndex, XPRMArray.get, ...

Sets:

XPRMSet.getSize, XPRMSet.getFirstIndex, XPRMSet.isFixed, ...

• Handling of modules:

XPRM.findModule, XPRM.setModulesPath, XPRMModule.parameters, ...

Project work [C-6]: Model deployment

- Use IVE to generate a Java program that compiles and runs model chess5.mos
- Modify the program so that the model execution uses the data file chess4.dat.
- Check the problem status and output the objective value.

Extending the example

 Retrieving detailed solution information and model data

```
XPRMModel model;
XPRMSet prods;
XPRMArray profit, ax;
XPRMMPVar x;
int[] idx = new int[1];
double val;
// Retrieve solution values and problem data
prods = (XPRMSet)model.findIdentifier("PRODS");
profit = (XPRMArray)model.findIdentifier("PROFIT");
ax = (XPRMArray)model.findIdentifier("x");
// Get the first entry of array 'ax'
// (we know that the array is dense and has a single dimension)
idx = ax.getFirstIndex();
do
  x = ax.get(idx).asMPVar(); // Get a variable from 'ax'
val = profit.getAsReal(idx); // Get the corresponding value
  // Get the next index
while(ax.nextIndex(idx));
```

• Data exchange in memory with host application

```
public class chessio
  static int NP = 4;
                                                         // Input data
  // Array for solution values
  static double[] solution = new double[NP];
  public static void main(String[] args) throws Exception
      int result;
     XPRMModel model;
     XPRM xprm;
     xprm = new XPRM(); // Initialize Mosel
xprm.compile("chess5ioj.mos"); // Compile + load model
model = xprm.loadModel("chess5ioj.bim");
xprm.bind("DUR", dur); // Associate Java objects with
xprm.bind("WOOD", wood); // names in Mosel
xprm.bind("PROFIT", profit);
xprm.bind("xsol", solution).
     xprm.bind("xsol", solution);
model.execParams = "NP="+NP;
                                                        // Set runtime parameters
     model.run();
                                                         // Run the model
      if (model.getProblemStatus()==model.PB_OPTIMAL)
        // Check problem status and display the solution
System.out.println("Objective: " + model.getObjectiveValue());
        for(int i=0;i<NP;i++)</pre>
           System.out.println("x(" + (i+1) + "): " + solution[i] +
"\t (profit: " + profit[i] + ")");
      1
     model.reset();
  }
}
```

Summary

- Mosel libraries allow you to embed model programs directly in your application
- Access the solution directly in your application, as alternative to using ODBC
- Enjoy benefits of structured modeling language and rapid deployment when building applications
- May choose to work with compiled models rather than model source files – provides protection against the user viewing / changing the model
- Compiled models are platform independent

Reference material

- You will find it helpful to refer to the Mosel Libraries Reference Manual
- The part 'Working with the Mosel libraries' of the *Mosel User Guide* documents examples for different programming language interfaces

Summary and further information

4.1 Summary

- Have seen:
 - FICO Xpress product suite
 - * solvers
 - * modeling interfaces
 - * development environment

• Have seen:

- Modeling with Mosel
 - * formulating Linear and Mixed Integer Programming (LP and MIP) problems
 - * accessing data sources
 - * programming language features
 - * language extensions (modules and packages)
- Embedding models in applications for deployment

Further information

- Xpress website: http://www.fico.com/xpress
- Examples database: http://examples.xpress.fico.com
 Whitepapers, documentation:
- http://optimization.fico.com

Notes