

customer populations, even where there are only three possible locations for the outlets. To illustrate one approach to searching for feasible solutions to such problems, we apply to a sample problem a heuristic method based on one described by Ardalan.<sup>6</sup>

### Example

Suppose that a medical consortium wishes to establish two clinics to provide medical care for people living in four communities in central Ohio. Assume that the sites under study are in each community and that the population of each community is evenly distributed within the community's boundaries. Further, assume that the potential use of the clinics by members of the various communities has been determined and weighting factors reflecting the relative importance of serving members of the population of each community have been developed. (This information is given in Exhibit 7.10.) The objective of the problem: find the two clinics that can serve all communities at the lowest weighted travel-distance cost.

### Procedure

*Step 1.* Construct a weighted population-distance table from initial data table, multiplying distance times weighting factor (Exhibit 7.11). For example, Community A to Clinic B is  $11 \times 1.1 \times 10,000(.001) = 121$ .

*Step 2.* Add the amounts in each column. Choose the community with the lowest cost and locate a facility there (Community C, in our example). (Recall that costs are expressed in weighted population-distance units.)

From Community	TO CLINIC LOCATED IN COMMUNITY			
	A	B	C	D
A	0	121	88	132
B	123.2	0	112	78.4
C	112	140	0	126
D	114	84	108	0
	<u>349.2</u>	<u>345</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>336.4</u>

*Step 3.* For each row, compare the cost of each column entry to the communities already located. If the cost is less, do not change them. If the cost is greater, reduce the cost to the lowest of the communities already selected.

<sup>6</sup> Alireza Ardalan, "An Efficient Heuristic for Service Facility Location," *Proceedings, Northeast AIDS*, 1984, pp. 181-82.

**EXHIBIT 7.10**

Distances, Population, and Relative Weights

From Community	MILES TO CLINIC				Population of Community	Relative Weighting of Population
	A	B	C	D		
A	0	11	8	12	10,000	1.1
B	11	0	10	7	8,000	1.4
C	8	10	0	9	20,000	0.7
D	9.5	7	9	0	12,000	1.0

**EXHIBIT 7.11**

Weighted Population Distances

From Community	TO CLINIC			
	A	B	C	D
A	0	121	88	132
B	123.2	0	112	78.4
C	112	140	0	126
D	114	84	108	0

Step 4. If additional locations are desired, choose the community with the lowest cost from those not already selected (Community D in our example).

From Community	TO CLINIC LOCATED IN COMMUNITY			
	A	B	C	D
A	0	88	88	88
B	112	0	112	78.4
C	0	0	0	0
D	108	84	108	0
	220	172	308	166.4

Step 5. Repeat step 3, reducing each row entry that exceeds the entry in the column just selected.

From Community	TO CLINIC LOCATED IN COMMUNITY		
	A	B	D
A	0	88	88
B	78.4	0	78.4
C	0	0	0
D	0	0	0
	78.4	88	166.4

Continue repeating Steps 4 and 5 until the desired number of locations is selected. If we wished to compute the complete list, it would be as follows:

From Community	TO CLINIC LOCATED IN COMMUNITY	
	A	B
A	0	88
B	78.4	0
C	0	0
D	0	0
	78.4	88

The problem has now been solved for all four possible locations. Choose C first, then D, then A, then B.

The logic in this procedure is as follows:

1. Selecting the least total cost column is obvious, since this column location represents the lowest travel cost of all communities traveling to that location.
2. Once a location is chosen, then no rational member of a community would travel to any other community that was more costly. In Step 2, for example, residents in Community A would certainly prefer going to a clinic located in Community C (88), which has already been decided on, than to B (121) or D (132). Therefore, the maximum number of weighted population-distance units that residents of A would be willing to pay is 88, and we can use this amount as our top limit. If a clinic is located in A, however, residents of A would patronize their own community clinic (at a cost of 0). Residents in Community B would prefer C (112) to A (123.2) but not to B (0) or D (78.4). Therefore, the cost 123.2 is reduced to 112, but 0 and 78.4 remain unchanged.
3. Once a community location is selected and the matrix costs adjusted, that community can be dropped from the matrix, since the column costs are no longer relevant.

## 7.6 CONCLUSION

Like so many topics in operations management, capacity planning and location decisions are becoming heavily affected by the information revolution and globalization of production. The emergence of the network firm has changed the way management views its available capacity, and the growth of international markets has altered its location strategies.

## ■ 選定服務設施的所在地

相對於製造業，服務業的設置成本是比較低。因此，服務設施的設置是比新工廠與倉庫更為普通。事實上，一些社區人口的快速成長，必同時吸引倉儲、餐廳、社區服務與娛樂事業的設立。

服務業基本上是要設立多點以接近顧客，廠址的決策也就儘量配合目標市場的選擇。假如目標市場是大學年齡的群體，廠址卻選在退休社區，儘管在成本上與資源的利用上佔盡優勢，卻不能成為可行方案。市場的需求也會影響廠址的數目，面積與廠址的特性。製造業的廠址是要考慮到最低的成本，然而多數服務業廠址決策技術是要考慮潛在市場的最大利潤化。下列二個案例的分析方法是可以提供參考，第一個案例使用迴歸模式，而第二個案例是使用簡單的啟發程序。

### 例 9.2 La Quinta 汽車旅館的設點篩選作業

選擇好地點對於旅館連鎖經營是一重要的關鍵因子，行銷學所考慮的因素（價格、產品、促銷與地點），廠址與產品為最重要的因素。因此，旅館連鎖經營者為了競爭的優勢，對於好地點必須動作迅速。

圖表 9.4 是 La Quinta 汽車旅館在選擇新旅館時最初所考慮一系列變數，資料是由現有 57 家 La Quinta 旅館搜集而成，同時並分析 1983 年與 1986 年的資料以確認與利潤有關的（參考圖表 9.5）

《解》建立現有迴歸模式、公式如下

$$\begin{aligned} \text{獲利率} = & 39.05 - 5.41 \times \text{每家旅館平均州人口數 (以千為單位)} \\ & + 5.86 \times \text{旅館的價格} \\ & - 3.91 \times \text{當地的平均所得之平方根 (以千為單位)} \\ & + 1.75 \times \text{四哩之內的大專學生數} \end{aligned}$$

此模式中表示獲利率受市場滲透、價格為正相關、高收入為負面影響（此家旅館在中低收入區域做得較好）以及附近的大專生人數成正相關。La Quinta 創始者與總裁已接受此模式的有效性，同時不再親自去選擇新地點。

此案例表示服務性企業組織，可利用特定的模式來選擇，並確認新地點最重要的特性。

對於以服務為導向的企業，在特定區域內要建立多少服務據點是很常見的問題，同時也要考慮建在何處，由於有很多可能的位置與選擇，使得問題變得相當複雜。因此，即使是蠻小的問題，只要求得一個可以接受的解，即使不是較佳解，也是很耗時間的。例如，即使只有 3 個可能經銷商，在選擇 1、2 或 3 個經銷點以服務 4 個區域人口

圖表 9.4 最初模型建立階段的獨立變數

類別	變數名稱	描述
競爭力	INNRATE	旅館價格
	PRICE	旅館客房出租的價格
	RATE	具有競爭力客房價格
	RMS1	1 哩內旅館房間數
	RMSTOTAL	3 哩內旅館房間數
	ROOMSINN	旅館房間數
	需求因素	CIVILIAN
COLLEGE		大專就學人數
HOSP1		1 哩內醫院病床數量
HOSPOTL		4 哩內醫院病床數量
HVYIND		工業的就業人數
LGTIND		工業坪數用地
MALLS		購物中心之面積
MILBLKD		軍方基地阻隔
MILITARY		軍事人員
MILTOT		軍事+平民
OFC1		1 哩內辦公空間
OFCTOTAL		4 哩內辦公空間
OFCCBD		商業中心區辦公空間
PASSENGR		機場旅客的登機數
RETAIL		零售規模的排名
TOURISTS		每年觀光客
TRAFFIC		交通流量
VAN		機場的小巴士
區域人口		EMPLYPCT
	INCOME	平均家庭收入
	POPULACE	住宅人口數
市場知名度	AGE	汽車旅館的營業年資
	NEAREST	最近旅館的距離
	STATE	每家旅館的平均州人口數
	URBAN	每家旅館的平均都市人口
實體	ACCESS	接近性
	ARTERY	主要交通幹道
	DISTCBD	至市中心的距離
	SIGNVIS	標示的能見度

圖表 9.5 1983 與 1986 年與利潤相關變數的總合

Vaiable	1983	1986
ACCESS	.20	
AGE	.29	.49
COLLEGE		.25
DISTCBD		-.22
EMPLYPCT	-.22	-.22
INCOME		-.23
MILTOT		.22
NEAREST	-.51	
OFCCBD	.30	
POPULACE	.30	.35
PRICE	.38	.58
RATE		.27
STATE	-.32	-.33
SIGNVIS	.25	
TRAFFIC	.32	
URBAN	-.22	-.26

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