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# The Resource Allocation Strategy Evaluator (RASE)

#### Mr. Todd Lindquist

Team Lead/OR Analyst, SAIC Operations Research and Systems Analysis Division

Mr. Chad Quill Team Lead/OR Analyst, SAIC Operations Research and Systems Analysis Division





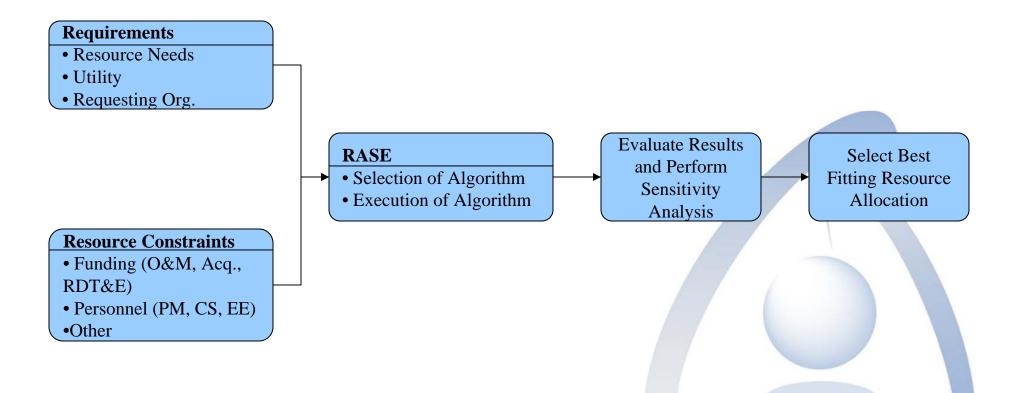
# RASE – What is it?

- A decision support tool developed in 2006 to:
  - Highlight the implications of different strategies available for resourcing requirements
  - Automate resource allocation





# RASE – Methodology







# RASE – Algorithms

- Heuristics
  - -Minimum Loading
    - Binding Resource
    - Proportional Impact
  - -Maximum Loading
    - Binding Resource
    - Proportional Impact
  - -Balanced Loading





# RASE – Algorithms (cont.)

- Heuristics (cont.)
  - -Utility Loading
  - Equity Based Loading
- Optimal Search
  - -Maximize Number Resourced
  - -Maximize Aggregate Utility





# RASE – Features

- Manual override allocation
- Run and compare performance of all algorithms
- Select the number of constraints to consider
- Choice of optimization engine (LINGO, Excel Solver)
- Basic sorting





# RASE – Future Additions

- Optimal Equity Algorithm (Nonlinear)
- Consider Ancillary Constraints
  - "If requirement X is resourced, requirement Y must be resourced"
- Formal sensitivity analysis capability
- Display multiple optimal solutions when present
- Allow user to stop optimal search at "close enough" solution
- Highlight binding constraint
- Advanced Sorting





# **RASE – Screenshots**

DSC

Add Require	ement Edit R	equirement	Delete Requi	rement Clea	r All Requir	rements					Hueristic Base
	Resources										Min Load-Bind.Coi Balanced
-		Acq. Funds	RDT&E	Comp. Sci.	Elec.	Comms.	1				Min Load-% Impact Equitable
	(\$M)	(\$M)	Funds (\$M)	FTE		Eng. FTE					· · · ·
Total	500.0	500.0		100.0	-	-	E ditt Dr	esources			Max Load-Bind.Con Utility Lo
Allocated	456.3	496.3	493.7	72.0	72.0			esources			Max Load-%Impact
Available	43.7	3.7	6.3		28.0			Constraints	в	1	
											Run All St
	Requirement			RDT&E	Comp.	Elec.	Comms.	Utility		Allocation	Manually Assign Re
Number	Name	(\$M)	(\$M)	Funds (\$M)		-	Eng. FTE	Score	Organization	Order	
	R1	102.7	114.3		26			87	Com1		
2	R2	26.3	25.4		2		6	9	Com1		
	R3	42.6	54.0	52.4	12			49	Com1	1	
	R4	32.9 41.8	23.5 49.1	18.7 56.9	2		4	25	Com1	5	
	R5 R6	41.8	49.1		2		_	75	Com1 Com2		Measures of Effect
	R7	94.1	108.2	26.0 99.9	22		_	74	Com2		Number of Regs Re
	R8	94.1	106.2	99.9 88.8	16	30	9				Total Aggregate Util
	R9	101.6	86.4	97.9	26			76 98	Com2 Com2		Std. Dev. of Org. Eq
	R10	92.8	105.4	97.9	23		9	75	Com2 Com3	-	Sta. Dev. of Org. Eq
	R10	92.0	27.8	30.4	23			32	Com3	7	
	R12	97.0	104.8	106.4	6		1	91	Com3		Key
	R13	97.5	97.6	99.1	7		30	88	Com3		, noy
	R14	29.8	31.2	23.4	6			17	Com3	1	
	R15	55.5	49.8	55.5	18			56	Com3	2	
	R16	45.7	52.9		0		8	48	Com4		J
	R17	45.9	46.9		14			40	Com4	1	Sort Requirements
	R18	120.7	91.7	98.4	1	12		99	Com4	1	3 of Requirements
19	R19	40.4	56.0	62.5	8	2	12	36	Com4	1	
20	R20	27.2	16.9	20.3	2	4	9	44	Com4	1	
21	R21	51.3	46.0	54.0	16	10	8	74	Com5	1	
	R22	76.6	102.7	96.4	4			73	Com5		
	R23	14.6	20.1	20.2	2			9	Com5	3	
	R24	26.1	20.6	26.0	3		3	20	Com6	4	
	R25	107.6	93.7	121.3	23			100	Com6	-	
	R26	40.5	60.2	54.3	13		8	69	Com6	-	
	R27	105.1	85.5	93.5	23			73	Com6	-	
	R28	46.2	59.3	47.8	4			70	Com6	-	
	R29	91.3	120.2	77.7	20		24	76	Com6	-	
	R30 R31	21.0 96.8	16.6 106.5	19.3 101.5	1 26		6	9 75	Com7 Com7	-	
	R31 R32	96.8	106.5		26			75	Com7 Com7	-	
	R32 R33	84.0 66.8	94.3	99.7	20			85 100	Com7	-	
	R33 R34	19.1	94.3	27.6	1			29	Com7	-	
	R35	88.9	109.0		26			23 94	Com8	1	
	R36	24.0	26.2	29.2	20			20	Com8	1	
	R37	48.3	43.5		11	4		52	Com8	1	
	R38	22.0	31.3	36.6	6		4	30	Com8	6	



Optimal Search Maximize Requirements

Maximize Utility

Lingo Max Reqs Lingo Max Utility

Manually Assigned RASE Selection

# RASE – Screenshots

Return to RASE	Hueristics Equ						Equitable Hue	istics	Optimal Searches		
Measures of	Min Load -	Min Load -	Max Load -	Max Load -	Balanced	Utility Based	Equitable -	Equitable -	Equitable -	Max Num	Maximize
Performance	Binding Constraint	Proportional Impact	<b>Binding Constraint</b>	Proportional Impact	Loading	Loading	Min Loading	Balanced Loading	Utility Loading	Resourced	Utility
_eftover O&M Funds	43.7	50.5	75.2	83.2	76.7	62.3	14.0	14.0	33.1	42.7	51.8
_eftover Acq. Funds	3.7	22.0	13.2	7.7	0.4	26.0	18.9	18.9	2.4	22.2	6.0
_eftover RDT&E Funds	6.3	17.7	69.2	27.2	14.6	4.7	13.2	13.2	21.9	30.9	9.0
_eftover Comp. Sci.	28				36						
_eftover Elec. Eng.	28			17	32	48	37	37	46	41	29
_eftover Comm. Eng.	54	25	20	40	24	41	32	32	51	19	23
Number of Regs	1	1					1				
Resourced	11	13	6	6	9	7	11	1 11	7	13	10
Total Aggregate Utility											
Score	398.0	395.0	341.0	337.0	393.0	421.0	414.0	414.0	394.0	382.0	501.0
Std. Deviation of Org.											
Equity	140.0	93.6	157.0	168.5	108.5	108.3	155.3	155.3	178.9	110.6	99.8
Manually Assigned											
	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2
	R6	R6	R6	R6		R6	R6	R6	R6	R6	R6
	R8	R8	R8	R8		R8	R8	R8	R8	R8	R8
	R12	R12	R12	R12		R12	R12	R12	R12	R12	R12
RASE Assigned											
Requirements	R3	R4	R13	R31		R20	R4	R4	R1	R4	R5
	R4	R11	R29	R32		R25	R9	R9	R9	R11	R11
	R11	R20			R26	R33	R11	R11	R11	R14	R20
	R15	R23			R30		R20	R20		R20	R21
	R23	R24			R32		R23	R23		R23	R28
	R24	R30					R24	R24		R24	R34
	R38	R34					R30	R30		R30	
		R36								R34	
		R38								R36	





# 1. MINIMUM LOADING STRATEGY

#### *A. <u>Binding Resource heuristic</u>* - With this approach, the following steps are used to assign resources to CNO requirements:

- a) Mark all CNO requirements as "not resourced" by setting Xi = 0
- b) The resources required for each requirement "i" for each resource type "k" is summed across all requirements to estimate  $\mathbf{S}k = \Sigma \mathbf{r}ik$
- c) The degree of loading (e.g. binding) for each resource type will be the fraction of available resources that is needed (normalized by available resources), computed as:  $\Delta k = Sk / Rk$  for each k
- d) The probable (but not assured) binding resource will be the index defined by RB=MAX[ $\Delta k$ ]
- e) Sort requirements from smallest to largest resources needed for resource type RB.
- f) Set **R**Lk = **R**k
- g) Go to the next CNO requirement on the sorted list (if this is the first time, go to the first requirement on the sorted list).
- h) For this requirement, compute **R**Lk = **R**Lk **r**ik for all "k"
- i) If  $\mathbf{R}Lk \ge 0$  for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting  $\mathbf{X}i = 1$ , then go to step 1.g, otherwise continue to step 1.j
- j) For the resource type "k" that went below zero in step 1.i, all available resources have been allocated and the resource allocation process is complete.





# 1. MINIMUM LOADING STRATEGY

## **B.** <u>**Proportional Impact heuristic</u></u> - With this approach, the following steps are used to assign resources to CNO requirements:</u>**

- a) Mark all CNO requirements as "not resourced" by setting Xi = 0
- b) Set **R**Lk = **R**k for all "k"
- c) The fraction of the totally available resources that are needed by each requirement is computed as:  $Pi = \Sigma rik / RLk$  (summed across index "k")
- d) Sort requirements from smallest to largest values of Pi
- e) Select the top CNO requirement on the sorted list that was not previously selected.
- f) For this requirement, compute **R**Lk = **R**Lk **r**ik for all "k"
- g) If RLk >= 0 for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting Xi = 1, then go to step c, otherwise continue to step h
- h) For the resource type "k" that went below zero in step 1.g, all available resources have been allocated and the resource allocation process is complete.





## 2. MAXIMUM LOADING STRATEGY

#### *A. <u>Binding Resource heuristic</u>* - With this approach, the following steps are used to assign resources to CNO requirements:

- a) Mark all CNO requirements as "not resourced" by setting Xi = 0
- b) The resources required for each requirement "i" for each resource type "k" is summed across all requirements to estimate  $\mathbf{S}\mathbf{k} = \Sigma \mathbf{r}\mathbf{i}\mathbf{k}$
- c) The degree of loading (e.g. binding) for each resource type will be the fraction of available resources that is needed (normalized by available resources), computed as: Dk = Sk / Rk for each k
- d) The probable (but not assured) binding resource will be the index defined by  $RB=MAX[\Delta k]$
- e) Sort requirements from largest to smallest resources needed for resource type RB.
- f) Set  $\mathbf{R}Lk = \mathbf{R}k$
- g) Go to the next CNO requirement on the sorted list (if this is the first time, go to the first requirement on the sorted list).
- h) For this requirement, compute **R**Lk = **R**Lk **r**ik for all "k"
- i) If  $\mathbf{R}Lk \ge 0$  for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting  $\mathbf{X}i = 1$ , then go to step 2.g, otherwise continue to step 2.j
- j) For the resource type "k" that went below zero in step 2.i, all available resources have been allocated to large requirements. If there are still requirements on the list, it is possible that one may require resources less then what is currently left over (since we sorted from highest to lowest). For this reason, we allow the algorithm to continue checking the sorted list all the way to the end. If this is the end of the list, then stop. If not, then for all "k" set  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk =  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk +  $\mathbf{r}$ ik (e.g return the resources that we removed from the last requirement that would not fit) and go to step g.





# 2. MAXIMUM LOADING STRATEGY

- **B.** <u>**Proportional Impact heuristic**</u> With this approach, the following steps are used to assign resources to CNO requirements:
- a) Mark all CNO requirements as "not resourced" by setting Xi = 0
- b) Set **R**Lk = **R**k for all "k"
- c) The fraction of the totally available resources that are needed by each requirement is computed as: Pi = S rik / RLk (summed across index "k")
- d) Sort requirements from largest to smallest values of Pi
- e) Select the top CNO requirement on the sorted list that was not previously selected.
- f) For this requirement, compute **R**Lk = **R**Lk **r**ik for all "k"
- g) If  $\mathbf{R}Lk \ge 0$  for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting  $\mathbf{X}i = 1$ , then go to step c, otherwise continue to step h
- h) For the resource type "k" that went below zero in step 2.g, all available resources have been allocated to large requirements. If there are still requirements on the list, it is possible that one may require resources less then what is currently left over (since we sorted from highest to lowest). For this reason, we allow the algorithm to continue checking the sorted list all the way to the end. If this is the end of the list, then stop. If not, then for all "k" set  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk =  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk +  $\mathbf{r}$ ik (e.g return the resources that we removed from the last requirement that would not fit) and go to step e.





# 3. BALANCED LOADING STRATEGY

With this approach, the following steps are used to assign resources to CNO requirements:

- a) Mark all CNO requirements as "not resourced" by setting Xi = 0
- b) The resources required for each requirement "i" for each resource type "k" is summed across all requirements to estimate  $\mathbf{S}k = \Sigma \mathbf{r}ik$
- c) The degree of loading (e.g. binding) for each resource type will be the fraction of available resources that is needed (normalized by available resources), computed as:  $\Delta k = \mathbf{S}k / \mathbf{R}k$  for each k
- d) The probable (but not assured) binding resource will be the index defined by  $RB=MAX[\Delta k]$
- e) Using resource type RB as your criteria, sort the CNO requirements from smallest to largest. Set the small counter S=1 and the large counter N=number of requirements.
- f) Set  $\mathbf{R}Lk = \mathbf{R}k$
- g) Go to the CNO requirement on the sorted list corresponding to S
- h) For this requirement, compute  $\mathbf{R}Lk = \mathbf{R}Lk \mathbf{r}Sk$  for all "k"
- i) If  $\mathbf{R}Lk \ge 0$  for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting  $\mathbf{X}S = 1$ , then go to step 2.j, otherwise STOP.
- j) If S>=N, STOP (all requirements have been resourced). Otherwise, go to the CNO requirement on the list corresponding to N
- k) . For this requirement, compute **R**Lk = **R**Lk **r**Nk for all "k"
- I) If  $\mathbf{R}Lk \ge 0$  for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting  $\mathbf{X}N = 1$ , also set S=S+1 and N=N-1, then go to step 2.g. Otherwise continue
- m) If S > N, then STOP. Otherwise continue.
- n) For the resource type "k" that went below zero in step 2.1, all available resources have been allocated to large requirements. If there are still requirements on the list, it is possible that one may require resources less then what is currently left over (since we sorted from highest to lowest). For this reason, we allow the algorithm to continue checking the sorted list all the way to the end. If this is the end of the list, then stop. If not, then for all "k" set  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk =  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk +  $\mathbf{r}$ ik (e.g return the resources that we removed from the last requirement that would not fit) and go to step g.





## 4. EQUITY BASED STRATEGY

With this approach, the following steps are used to assign resources to CNO requirements:

- a) Separate all requirements into J lists (represented by **A**) where each list represents requirements associated with each organization.
- b) Mark all CNO requirements as "not resourced" by setting Xij = 0
- c) The resources required for each requirement "ij" for each resource type "k" is summed across all requirements to estimate  $\mathbf{S}\mathbf{k} = \Sigma \mathbf{r}\mathbf{k}$
- d) The degree of loading (e.g. binding) for each resource type will be the fraction of available resources is needed (normalized by available resources), computed as:  $\Delta k = \mathbf{S}k / \mathbf{R}k$  for each k
- e) The probable binding resource will be the index defined by  $RB=MAX[\Delta k]$
- f) Set the list counter j = 1 and  $\mathbf{R}Lk = \mathbf{R}k$ .
- g) If sub objective = "utility based", sort CNO requirements in each  $\Lambda j$  list from highest to lowest utility score.
- h) If sub objective is not = "utility based", then sort each Λj list of CNO requirements from smallest to largest resources needed for resource type RB.
- i) If sub objective is not = "balanced", then go to step k.
  - i. Set low counter Lj = 1 and the high counter Hj = number of requirements for organization j for all J.
  - ii. Go to the CNO requirement on the sorted list Lj corresponding to Lj
  - iii. If  $\mathbf{X}$ Ljj = 1 then go to step j.5. Otherwise, for this requirement, compute  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk =  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk  $\mathbf{r}$ Ljk for all "k"
  - iv. If  $\mathbf{R}Lk \ge 0$  for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting  $\mathbf{X}Ljj = 1$ , and go to step j.5. Otherwise STOP
  - v. If Lj>=Hj, go to step j.9 (all requirements for this organization are resourced). Otherwise, go to next requirement on the list corresponding to Hj
  - vi. If  $\mathbf{X}$ Hjj = 1 then go to step j.8. Otherwise, for this requirement, compute  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk =  $\mathbf{R}$ Lk  $\mathbf{r}$ Hjk for all "k"
  - vii. If  $\mathbf{R}Lk \ge 0$  for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting  $\mathbf{X}Hjj = 1$ , then go to step j.8. Otherwise: set  $\mathbf{R}Lk = \mathbf{R}Lk + \mathbf{r}Hjk$  for all k, set Lj = Lj + 1, Hj = Hj 1. If  $Lj \ge Hj$  then go to step j.9. Otherwise go to step j.2.
  - viii. Set Lj = Lj + 1, and Hj = Hj 1. If Lj <=Hj, Go to step j.2. Otherwise continue.
  - ix. Set j = j + 1. If j > J set j = 1. Go to step j.2
  - The sub objective is = "utility based", so perform the following steps:
    - i. Set counter Lj = 1 for organization j for all J.
    - ii. Go to the CNO requirement on the sorted list Lj corresponding to Lj
    - iii. For this requirement, compute  $\mathbf{R}Lk = \mathbf{R}Lk \mathbf{r}Ljk$  for all "k"
    - iv. If  $\mathbf{R}Lk \ge 0$  for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting  $\mathbf{X}Ljj = 1$ , and go to step k.9. Otherwise continue.

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- v. Set  $\mathbf{R}Lk = \mathbf{R}Lk + \mathbf{r}Hjk$  for all k.
- vi. Set Lj = Lj + 1. If Lj <= Number of requirements for this organization, then go to step k.2. Otherwise continue.
- vii. Set j = j + 1. If j > J set j = 1. If all Xij = 1 then STOP, otherwise go to step k.2



j)



# 5. UTILITY BASED STRATEGY

- With this approach, the following steps are used to assign resources to CNO requirements:
- a) Mark all CNO requirements as "not resourced by setting  $X_i = 0$
- b) Sort CNO requirements from highest utility score to lowest score, and set S=1.
- c) Set  $\mathbf{R}Lk = \mathbf{R}k$
- d) Go to the CNO requirement on the sorted list corresponding to S
- e) For this requirement, compute **R**Lk = **R**Lk **r**Sk for all "k"
- f) If RLk >= 0 for all "k", then mark this requirement as resourced by setting XS = 1, then go to step 2.g, otherwise continue to step 2.h
- g) Set S=S+1, and go to step d
- For the resource type "k" that went below zero in step 2.f, all available resources have been allocated and the resource allocation process is complete.





# 6. OPTIMAL SEARCH STRATEGY

- With this approach, the following steps are used to assign resources to CNO requirements:
- An objective function is created to guide the search process. The objective function takes the following form based on which sub objective was selected:
  - 1. If sub objective = "Maximum requirements", then the Objective function is defined as: Max  $\Sigma$  Xi
  - 2. If sub objective = "Utility based", then the Objective function is defined as: Max  $\Sigma$  uiXi
- b) A constraint is formulated for each resource type, using the general form:  $\Sigma\Sigma$  rijkXij < Rk for each k (summation is across i and j)





# RASE – Algorithm Terminology

- i = An index used to designate a specific CNO requirement
- **j** = An index used to designate a specific organization
- k = An index used to indicate a type of resource (funds, people, etc) needed to support requirement i
- k = The index of the resource selected by the user to achieve an equitable distribution of resources across organizations (e.g. "funds)
- Pi = The proportion of the available resources (across all "k" types of resources) that is needed by CNO requirement "i" for organization "j"
- rijk = The resources of type k needed to execute requirement "i" for organization
  "j"
- **R**k = The amount of resource type k that is available and can be allocated across the CNO requirements.
- **R**Lk = The amount of available resources left over as each requirement is allocated its necessary resources
- Xij = A decision variable indicating whether requirement ij has been chosen to be resourced
- uij = The benefit (utility) of assigning resources to requirement "ij"
- Lj = List of requirements associated with organization j



