Foundations of Operations Research

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How to use AMPL from the command line (in a Windows environment)

First, find the path which leads to the executable `AMPL.EXE`.
Usually, it is something like `C:\PROGRAMMI\AMPLWIN` or `C:\PROGRAM FILES\AMPL...`.
In the following, this path will be denoted as `[AMPL_PATH]`.

1. Open a terminal window, following a sequence of menu items such as: `Start -> Programmi -> Accessori -> Prompt dei comandi` or
`Start -> Programs -> Accessories -> Command prompt`

2. Choose a work path (disk and directory) and move to it.
For example, if the work path is `D:\FOR`, type
`D:`
`cd \FOR`

3. In order to create a new model file, type:
`NOTEPAD [MODEL_NAME]`
where `[MODEL_NAME]` stands for the meaningful name of your model file.
This will open the Notepad text editor and create the file.

4. Write your model file and save it.

5. Do the same for the data file, if you have one.

6. You can create a new file from Notepad's menu, instead of using the command line as above. However, Notepad modifies the name you provide by adding a `.TXT` suffix: `EXAMPLE.MOD` becomes `EXAMPLE.MOD.TXT`.
Either rename the file or accept the modified name and use it in the following.

7. In order to launch *AMPL*, type:
`[AMPL_PATH]\ampl`
where `[AMPL_PATH]` is the path of the executable `AMPL.EXE`. You can type just:
`ampl`
if the `[AMPL_PATH]` directory is in your system path.
You can add this path to the system path temporarily (as long as the terminal window is open) with the command:
`PATH=%PATH%;[AMPL_PATH]`