

RESEARCH OF DECISION AND PLANNING ON THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF TIANJIN CAN INDUSTRY

—Application of System Dynamics

(Tianjin University)  
Jin Hui, Liu Bao, Kou Jisong

ABSTRACT:

The paper analyses the system of Tianjin Can Industry using System Dynamics method. It puts forward suggestions to the development decision and planning of the seventh five year and the year 2000 of the Can Industry. The model simulates and analyses emphatically the returns on various investment and the efficiency of various developing products, which should be a reference for the decision-maker.

A new idea of using Optimal Technology to optimize the System when the model simulation is carrying on is brought forth in the paper, and good results are obtained.

1. S.D. MODEL OF TIANJIN CAN INDUSTRY

Tianjin Can Industry lags behind other areas in China. That's quite improper according to the condition that Tianjin is in. So it's imperative to develop Tianjin Can Industry.

1.1 The Mechanism and Inner Structure of the Development of Tianjin Can Industry

Raising the economic efficiency is the guiding ideology of Tianjin Can Industry. More output, more taxes and profits for the state, more foreign incomes along with the demand of domestic market are the main goals of the development.

Investment is the main factor affecting the development.

Fig.1 shows the basic causal structure of the system.

1.2 S.D. Model of Tianjin Can Industry

The flow diagram of the system is established according to the causal relations. And, main equations between the factors are established from the statistical data and the experts' suggestions. Therefore, S.D. Model of Tianjin Can Industry is established. There are more than 300 factors in the model, in which, 20 level variables, 21 rate variables, others are auxiliary variables.

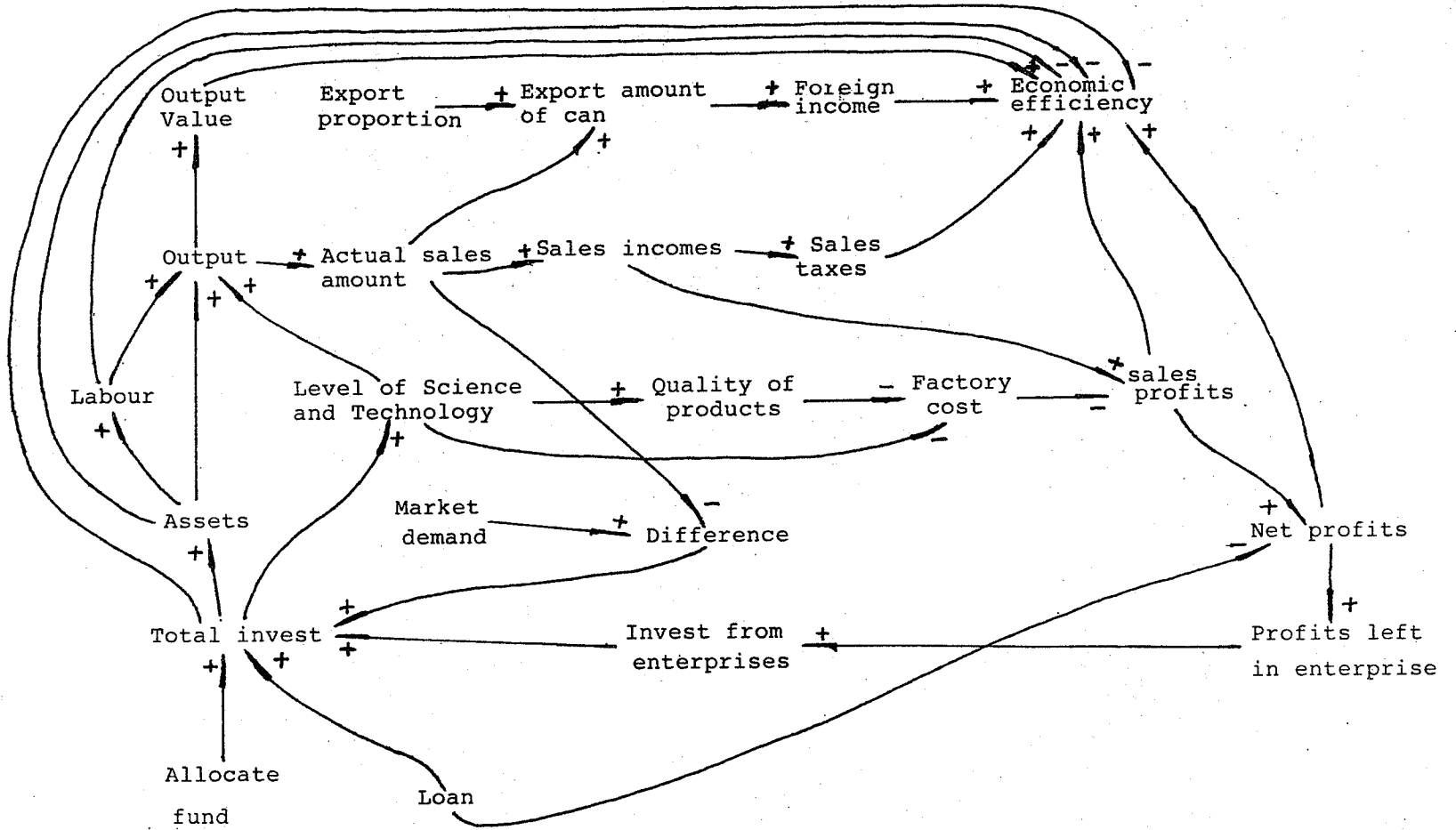


Fig.1 Basic Causal Structure of Tianjin Can Industry

### 1.3 Validity Verification of the S.D. Model

TABLE.1 gives relative error of some main factors, so as to verify the validity of S.D. Model.

Whether the set of the variables, causal relations and the equations between the variables are correct or not should mainly depend on whether the simulation results are proper and near to the real system or not. From TABLE 1, the relative error of every main variables is small, so the S.D. Model basically describes the structure and function of the actual system. It lays a good foundation for the decision and planning of the seventh five year and till the year 2000 of Tianjin Can Industry below using the main structure of the S.D. Model.

## 2. COMBINING OF OPTIMAL TECHNOLOGY WITH S.D. SIMULATION METHOD

### 2.1 Combining of Optimal Technology with S.D. Simulation Method (first aspect)

S.D. Model is an approximate description of actual system. So, the S.D. Model itself can be considered to be the constraint condition. Combined with a specific optimal goal, the optimization is able to carry on.

From mathematical point of view, a S.D. Model is described as:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{q}_i = f_i(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n) \\ q_i = g_i(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n) \\ Q = [q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n] \\ q_i(t_0) = q_{i0} \quad i=1, 2, \dots, n \end{cases} \quad \text{-----(1)}$$

where:  $Q$ — the whole set of variables;  
 $f_i$ — the constraint relation of  $i$ -th level variable ;  
 $g_i$ — the constraint relation of  $i$ -th other variable ;  
 $q_{i0}$ — initial value of  $q_i$ ;  
 $n$ — the number of all variables.

Assuming the objective function as follows:

$$\max J(Q) \quad \text{-----(2)}$$

So, the optimal model of optimal technology combining with S.D. simulation method is obtained:

$$\begin{aligned} & \max J(Q) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \begin{cases} \dot{q}_i = f_i(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n) \\ q_i = g_i(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n) \\ Q = [q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n] \\ q_i(t_0) = q_{i0}, \quad i=1, 2, \dots, n \end{cases} \quad \text{-----(3)} \end{aligned}$$

The way to optimize (3) is: a) take the S.D. model established to be the constraint condition—(1); b) Change certain changeable variables (i.e. decision variables) forming multi-plan decision-making; c) run the simulation model; d) obtain enough different variable sets of  $[Q]$ ; e) at the same time, the objective variable set is assumed as  $Q_M$ , i.e.  $\max J(Q) = J(Q_M)$ ,

TABLE 1. Relative error of certain factors

| YEAR    | FAOV   | TSW    | ATSW   | AFAOV  | TAOC   | FADA  | FANV   | AFANV  | ACF    | ACFP   | AACFP  | TAOMC  | MCE    | MCD    | OCD    |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1976    | 0      | 0      | 3.612  | 0.008  | 1.126  | 8.500 | 4.778  | 5.658  | 0.118  | 0.200  | 0.350  | 1.133  | 1.142  | 1.126  | 1.123  |
| 1977    | 1.35   | 7.093  | 11.089 | 1.386  | 0.141  | 1.762 | 1.091  | 1.300  | 4.894  | 11.336 | 0.444  | 0.144  | 0.145  | 0.146  | 0.155  |
| 1978    | 0.858  | 31.980 | 25.757 | 0.8851 | 9.405  | 5.499 | 2.176  | 2.574  | 13.675 | 19.272 | 8.600  | 9.434  | 9.431  | 9.488  | 9.352  |
| 1979    | 5.508  | 7.103  | 6.940  | 3.288  | 12.146 | 2.035 | 10.352 | 12.232 | 7.130  | 4.777  | 10.816 | 12.422 | 12.419 | 12.412 | 12.431 |
| 1980    | 13.965 | 8.878  | 9.861  | 6.277  | 23.621 | 1.294 | 6.970  | 5.397  | 4.275  | 5.983  | 9.833  | 23.617 | 23.613 | 26.549 | 23.821 |
| 1981    | 13.200 | 1.468  | 6.760  | 4.869  | 11.146 | 0.876 | 20.289 | 4.647  | 3.609  | 4.095  | 22.004 | 11.149 | 11.145 | 11.205 | 11.185 |
| 1982    | 5.018  | 5.248  | 3.823  | 17.284 | 2.059  | 6.852 | 9.466  | 19.288 | 0.760  | 7.987  | 10.776 | 2.062  | 2.060  | 2.086  | 2.082  |
| 1983    | 9.365  | 7.614  | 6.299  | 4.545  | 6.960  | 3.114 | 13.631 | 8.281  | 6.789  | 13.051 | 3.395  | 6.963  | 6.958  | 6.983  | 6.774  |
| 1984    | 1.713  | 4.267  | 1.882  | 9.852  | 3.841  | 1.808 | 1.677  | 12.809 | 17.885 | 11.527 | 11.607 | 3.840  | 3.835  | 3.843  | 3.865  |
| 1985    | 1.680  | 2.060  | 4.400  | 0.5561 | 3.986  | 6.158 | 4.794  | 1.427  | 4.320  | 0.025  | 14.520 | 3.981  | 3.977  | 3.985  | 4.017  |
| AVERAGE | 4.266  | 7.51   | 8.032  | 4.895  | 7.47   | 3.79  | 5.522  | 7.367  | 6.346  | 7.825  | 9.236  | 7.475  | 7.473  | 7.782  | 7.481  |

f) Compute  $J(Q)$ ; g) if a certain set  $Q_S \rightarrow Q_M$ , then, the satisfactory variable set is  $Q_S$ . So, the satisfactory decision is to choose the plan corresponding to  $Q_S$ .

Because of the continuity of the actual system, and the finiteness of the actual changeable set  $Q$ , the satisfactory solution which is quite near to the optimal solution of (3) can be obtained after enough times of simulation tests.

It shows apparent advantages using model (3) established by combining Optimal Technology with S.D. simulation method. The satisfactory solution  $Q_S$  may be much more optimal than the pure optimal solution that gives by a optimal model (O.M.) that can be expressed in an explicit mathematical function and be able to obtain a pure optimal solution within the limit of the present mathematical optimization method. Because in the process of establishing O.M., it is probable that the abstract model itself has not been the actual system that to be optimized, the "optimal solution" is not the optimal solution of the actual system, thus "optimal" is in no position. Therefore, the above method of finding a satisfactory solution according to (3) is more valid in actual use for a complex actual system.

Applying the above method to the investment decision-making of the seventh five year and till the year 2000 of Tianjin Can Industry.

The objective function that judges between good or bad the investment decision should be is:

$$J = C_1 * (\text{the rate of payment for investment}) + C_2 * (\text{payment for investment}) - C_3 * \text{investment} \quad \text{-----(4)}$$

where:

$C_1, C_2, C_3$  are weighting variables.

i.e.

$$J = C_1 * \frac{\Delta \text{ATOV}}{\text{AIFA}} + C_2 * \text{ATOV} - C_3 * \text{AIFA} \quad \text{-----(5)}$$

where:

- $\Delta \text{ATOV}$  — increase of output value of can products during the investment period
- $\text{ATOV}$  — output value of can products that has reached
- $\text{AIFA}$  — total invest during the period

Thus, the optimal model of the investment decision-making of Tianjin Can Industry is established as follows:

$$J = \max[C_1 * \Delta \text{ATOV} / \text{AIFA} + C_2 * \text{ATOV} - C_3 * \text{AIFA}]$$

$$\text{s.t.} \begin{cases} q_i = f_i(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n) \\ q_i = g_i(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n) \\ Q = [q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n] \\ q_{i0} = q_i(t_0) \quad i=1, 2, \dots, n \end{cases} \quad \text{-----(6)}$$

The constraint condition in model (6) is the S.D. model of Tianjin Can Industry already established. AIFA is considered as decision variable.

It is known by many times of simulation tests with various

values of AIFA that with the increase of AIFA, the objective value  $J$  in model (6) appears peaks as shown in Fig.2. The task of the simulation tests

is to try enough times of experiments within the feasible boundaries ( $AIFA_1, AIFA_2$ ), so that the investment decision variable AIFA approaches the optimal investment decision variable  $AIFA_m$ , then the satisfactory solution— $AIFA_S$  is obtained, i.e.  $AIFA_S \rightarrow AIFA_m$ .

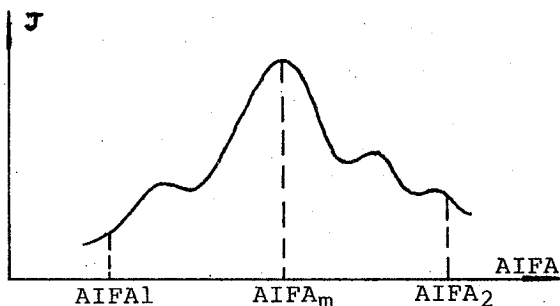


Fig.2.  $J \rightarrow AIFA$  relation

The results of the optimal computation of 16 investment decision plans during the seventh five year and 19 investment decision plans till the year 2000 are shown in TABLE2, Fig.3 and TABLE 3, Fig.4.

TABLE2. 16 investment decision plans (seventh five year)

|      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| AIFA | 1.25   | 5.00   | 11.82  | 10.00  | 20.00  | 30.00  | 42.69  | 42.89  |
| J    | 1715.9 | 1590.1 | 1857.8 | 1624.0 | 1726.1 | 1828.6 | 1953.7 | 1953.8 |
| AIFA | 45.89  | 48.88  | 51.88  | 54.88  | 66.89  | 90.89  | 117.68 | 138.88 |
| J    | 1954.5 | 1955.1 | 1955.5 | 1955.6 | 1954.4 | 1943.7 | 1921.0 | 1716.8 |

TABLE3. 19 investment decision plans (till the year 2000)

|      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| AIFA | 148.14 | 154.14 | 161.64 | 172.14 | 175.14 | 193.14 | 196.14 | 202.14 | 202.14 | 215.64 |
| J    | 3415.0 | 3397.9 | 3297.5 | 3315.4 | 3437.4 | 3344.2 | 3332.8 | 3309.7 | 3444.8 | 3443.9 |
| AIFA | 226.14 | 229.15 | 238.15 | 244.10 | 256.14 | 298.14 | 310.15 | 394.14 | 418.15 |        |
| J    | 3452.8 | 3440.1 | 3366.2 | 3340.1 | 3426.0 | 3435.1 | 3375.2 | 3349.3 | 3414.0 |        |

From above TABLE 2 and TABLE 3, the satisfactory investment decisions are  $AIFA_S=54.88$  (the seventh five year) and  $AIFA_S=226.14$  (till the year 2000).

## 2.2 Combining of Optimal Technology with S.D. Simulation Method (second aspect)

After the optimal simulation in 2.1, the satisfactory investment decision  $AIFA_S$  is obtained. Then, further step is to plan the optimal proportional of the various products.

Suppose there are  $N$  various products, their quantity is  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$ , the optimal model is:

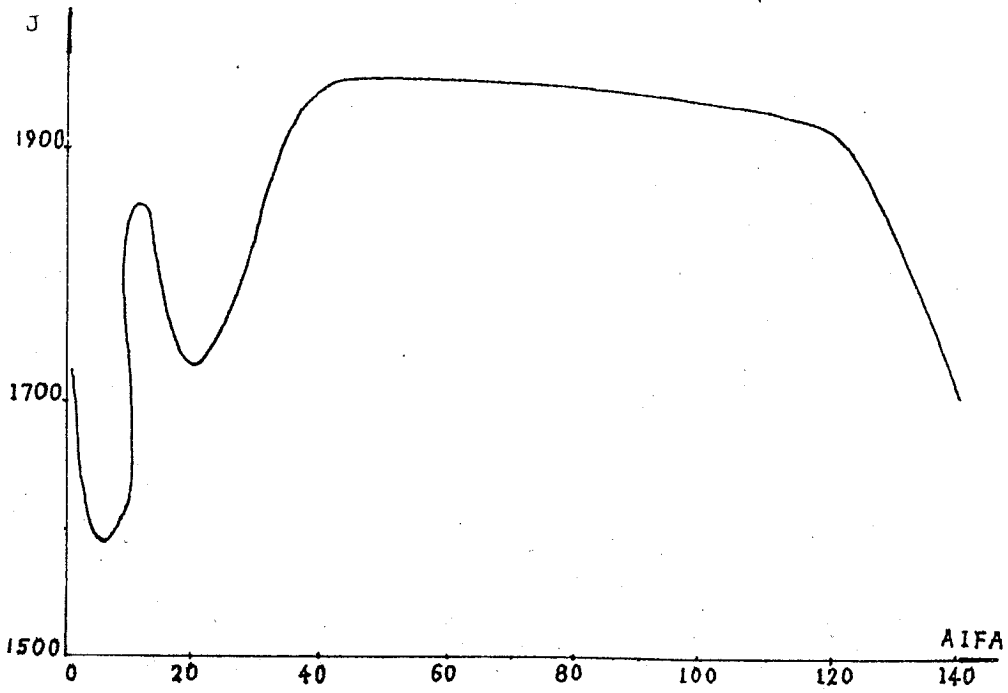
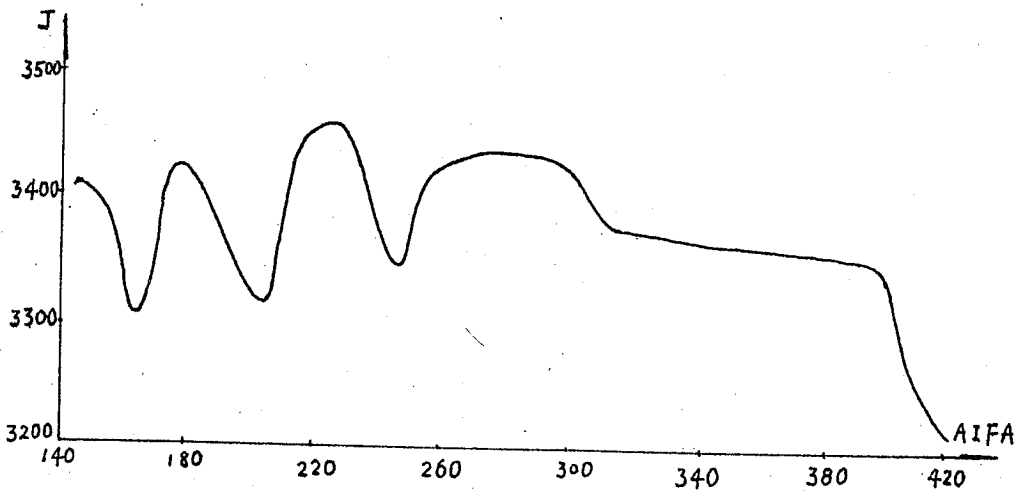


Fig.3 J—AIFA(the seventh five year)



$$\begin{aligned} & \max J(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) \\ \text{s.t.} & \begin{cases} f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) \leq 0 \\ g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) \geq 0 \end{cases} \dots\dots\dots (7) \end{aligned}$$

Comparatively to the development plan of various products of Tianjin Can Industry, the following Linear Programming model is established.

$$\begin{aligned} J &= \max [D_1 * (\text{taxes and profits}) + D_2 * (\text{foreign incomes})] \\ &= \max [C_A x_1 + C_B x_2 + C_C x_3 + C_D x_4] \\ \text{s.t.} & \begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \leq b_1 \\ x_1 + x_3 \geq b_2 \\ x_2 + x_4 \geq b_3 \\ x_1 + x_2 \geq b_4 \\ x_3 + x_4 \geq b_5 \\ x_1 \geq b_6 \\ x_2 \geq b_7 \\ x_3 \geq b_8 \\ x_4 \geq b_9 \end{cases} \dots\dots\dots (8) \end{aligned}$$

where:

- $D_1, D_2$  are weighting variables;
- $x_1$  is quantity of meat can for export;
- $x_2$  is quantity of meat can for domestic market;
- $x_3$  is quantity of other can for export;
- $x_4$  is quantity of other can for domestic market;
- $C_A = D_1 * (\text{profits and taxes per unit meat can for export}) + D_2 * (\text{sales incomes per unit meat can for export});$
- $C_B = D_1 * (\text{profits and taxes per unit meat can for domestic market}) + D_2 * (\text{sales incomes per unit meat can for domestic market});$
- $C_C = D_1 * (\text{profits and taxes per unit other can for export}) + D_2 * (\text{sales incomes per unit other can for export});$
- $C_D = D_1 * (\text{profits and taxes per unit other can for domestic market}) + D_2 * (\text{sales incomes per unit other can for domestic market});$

By anual optimal computation and S.D. simulation, the optimal development plan of various products can be obtained.

### 3. RESULT ANALYSIS AND COMBINED ASSESSMENT OF THE INVESTMENT DECISION AND THE PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF TIANJIN CAN INDUSTRY

#### 3.1 Result Analysis and Assessment of the Investment Decision

In order for the decision-maker to analyze and compare the various investment plans and results of six various feasible investment plans (till the year 2000) that either reaches certain goals or invests complying with certain forms of investment are given by using the S.D. Model.

TABLE 4 shows the value of J in model (6) of the six plans, in which AIFA=226.14 is still corresponding to the maximumvalue of J. This further verifies the validity of the



combining of the Optimal Technology with the S.D. simulation method (first aspect)

TABLE 4. Six feasible investment plans

|      |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| AIFA | 21.85  | 130.14 | 193.14 | 226.14 | 229.15 | 256.14 |
| J    | 2152.7 | 3023.0 | 3239.2 | 3452.8 | 3440.1 | 3426.0 |

3.2 Result Analysis and Assessment of the Products Development Plan

TABLE 5 shows the gains of two development plans under the same investment. Proportional of various products of one plan (A) is decided by experience, the other (B) is decided by optimization procedure using model (8).

TABLE 5. two various development plan of various products

| YEAR                              | 1986  | 1987  | 1988  | 1989  | 1990  | 1991  | 1992  | 1993  |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Taxes & Profits (Plan(B)-plan(A)) | 0.345 | 0.817 | 1.421 | 1.522 | 2.06  | 4.046 | 3.68  | 4.45  |
| Foreign Incomes (Plan(B)-Plan(A)) | 1.92  | 4.33  | 10.04 | 8.01  | 10.69 | 27.41 | 19.57 | 28.31 |
| YEAR                              | 1994  | 1995  | 1996  | 1997  | 1998  | 1999  | 2000  | TOTAL |
| Taxes & Profits (Plan(B)-Plan(A)) | 5.207 | 5.608 | 5.588 | 6.146 | 7.143 | 9.218 | 10.78 | 68.22 |
| Foreign Incomes (Plan(B)-Plan(A)) | 33.55 | 33.21 | 36.40 | 44.01 | 56.26 | 62.26 | 69.44 | 445.7 |

It is known from TABLE 5 that the economic benefits of plan (B) is much higher than that of plan (A). Thus, it verifies that the Combining of Optimal Technology with S.D. simulation method (second aspect) is extremely valid.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 The S.D. Model of Tianjin Can Industry provides the decision maker a decision-making laboratory that near to the actual system. And it can give tendency and forecasting results of many main variables under various different investment decisions.

4.2 The combining of Optimal Technology with the S.D. simulation method scientifically provides the decision maker a valid method to reach a certain system goal.

4.3 The connecting of DYNAMO with other computer language will be the further research.

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