

Notations: Note that for all the problems \mathbf{a}_k^T denotes the k -th row of A and $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_k$ denotes the k -th column of A . The u_{ik} 's have their usual meaning. \mathbf{e}_i denotes the i th column of the identity matrix I .

Convention: For the system, $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$, always we have assumed $\text{rank}(A) = m$.

Result 1: Every basic feasible solution of the system $A_{m \times n}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$ is an extreme point of $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A\mathbf{x}_{m \times n} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$.

Proof: We know that a basic solution of $A_{m \times n}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$ is of the form $\begin{bmatrix} B^{-1}\mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$.
Let $\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}_1 + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{x}_2$ for some $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in S$ and $0 < \lambda < 1$.

$$\text{Then, } \begin{bmatrix} B^{-1}\mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{11} \\ \mathbf{x}_{12} \end{bmatrix} + (1 - \lambda) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{21} \\ \mathbf{x}_{22} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (*)$$

Since $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \geq \mathbf{0}$ and $0 < \lambda < 1$ we get from $(*)$, $\mathbf{x}_{12} = \mathbf{x}_{22} = \mathbf{0}$.
Also $A\mathbf{x}_1 = A\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{b}$ implies $\mathbf{x}_{11} = \mathbf{x}_{21} = B^{-1}\mathbf{b}$, or $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{x}_2$.
Hence \mathbf{x} is an extreme point of S .

Result 2: Every extreme point of S is a basic feasible solution of the system, $A_{m \times n}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$.

Proof: Let $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]^T$ be an extreme point of S such that $x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0, \dots, x_k > 0$ and $x_{k+1} = \dots = x_n = 0$.

Case 1: If the columns $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_k$ of A are LI then since $\text{rank}(A) = m, k \leq m$.

Case 1a: If $k < m$, then since $\text{Rank}(A) = m$, we can add some $(m - k)$ linearly independent columns of A to these k columns of A , to get a basis of \mathbb{R}^m and then \mathbf{x} will be a basic feasible solution of $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$ corresponding to **each** such basis. The basic feasible solution \mathbf{x} is then degenerate.

Case 1b: If $k = m$, then $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_m$ forms a basis of \mathbb{R}^m and \mathbf{x} is the corresponding non degenerate basic feasible solution.

Case 2: If the columns $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_k$ are linearly dependent, then there exists λ_i not all zeros such that $\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_i = \mathbf{0}$.

Let $\lambda_{n \times 1} = [\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k, 0, \dots, 0]^T$.

We can choose $a > 0$ small enough ($a \leq \min\{|\frac{x_i}{\lambda_i}| : \lambda_i \neq 0\}$) such that

$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x} + a\lambda \geq \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{x}'' = \mathbf{x} - a\lambda \geq \mathbf{0}$.

Note that $A\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}'' = \mathbf{b}$, hence $\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}'' \in S$.

Since $\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}' + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}''$ and $\mathbf{x}' \neq \mathbf{x}''$ it contradicts our initial assumption that \mathbf{x} is an extreme point of S .

Hence $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_k$ are LI $\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ is a basic feasible solution.

Result 3: If $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A_{m \times n}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$ then \mathbf{x} is an extreme point of S if and only if \mathbf{x} is a basic feasible solution of the system, $A_{m \times n}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$.

Proof: Follows from **Result 1** and **Result 2**.

Result 4: Let $S' = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A_{m \times n} \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$

and let $S_0 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n+m} : A_{m \times n} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{s} \geq \mathbf{0} \right\}$.

Then $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s} \end{bmatrix}$ is an extreme point of S_0 if and only if \mathbf{x} is an extreme point of S' .

Proof: Let $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s} \end{bmatrix} \in S_0$.

If $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s} \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{s}_1 \end{bmatrix} + (1 - \lambda) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \mathbf{s}_2 \end{bmatrix}$,

for some $0 < \lambda < 1$, and $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{s}_1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \mathbf{s}_2 \end{bmatrix} \in S_0$,

then obviously $\mathbf{x} \in S'$, and $\mathbf{x} = \lambda \mathbf{x}_1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}_2$ where $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in S'$. (*)

Conversely if $\mathbf{x} \in S'$ is such that $\mathbf{x} = \lambda \mathbf{x}_1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}_2$,

for some $0 < \lambda < 1$, and $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in S'$,

then there exists nonnegative vectors $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2$ (uniquely determined by $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$) such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{s}_1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \mathbf{s}_2 \end{bmatrix} \in S_0.$$

Also since $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda A\mathbf{x}_1 + (1 - \lambda)A\mathbf{x}_2$ and $A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s} = A\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{s}_1 = A\mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{s}_2 = \mathbf{b}$, $\mathbf{s} = \lambda \mathbf{s}_1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{s}_2$, that is

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s} \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{s}_1 \end{bmatrix} + (1 - \lambda) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_2 \\ \mathbf{s}_2 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (**)$$

Hence from (*) it follows that if $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s} \end{bmatrix}$ is not an extreme point of S_0 , that is, it can be expressed as a strict convex combination of two distinct elements of S_0 then \mathbf{x} can also be expressed as a strict convex combination of two distinct elements of S' . Hence if $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s} \end{bmatrix}$ is not an extreme point of S_0 then \mathbf{x} is not an extreme point of S' .

Similarly from (**) we can conclude that if \mathbf{x} is not an extreme point of S' , then the corresponding element of S_0 cannot be an extreme point of S_0 .

Result 5: If $S_0 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{s} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n+m} : A_{m \times n} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{s} \geq \mathbf{0} \right\} \neq \emptyset$, then it has at least one basic feasible solution.

Proof: Follows from **Result 3**, **Result 4** and the fact that S' has (refer to previous notes) at least one extreme point.

Result 6: If $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A_{m \times n} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\} \neq \emptyset$ then it has atleast one basic feasible solution.

Proof: From **Result 3** it follows that the basic feasible solutions are the extreme points of S . Also since S can be re written as $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A_{m \times n} \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, -A_{m \times n} \mathbf{x} \leq -\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$, which is of the form S' . We have already seen that feasible regions of the form S' has atleast

one extreme point (refer to previous notes), hence the result follows.

Remark: Note that **Result 5** follows immediately as a corollary from **Result 6** but the reason why I have given it before **Result 6** is to emphasize the relationship between the extreme points of S' and the basic feasible solutions of S_0 .

Remark: In simplex method in any iteration either it moves from one extreme point (if the current basic feasible solution is nondegenerate) to an adjacent extreme point in the next iteration (along the straight line joining the two) or it may remain at the same extreme point (in that case the current basic feasible solution is degenerate).

To see the above, without loss of generality let $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, 0, \dots, 0]^T$ be the basic feasible solution obtained in some iteration of the simplex algorithm, with basic variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m .

If \mathbf{x} is not an optimal solution, then the simplex algorithm in the next iteration will give a new basic feasible solution by making exactly one of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m as nonbasic which is called the leaving variable and one nonbasic variable out of $x_{m+1}, x_{m+2}, \dots, x_n$ as basic, which is called the entering variable.

Let x_r ($r \leq m$) be the leaving variable and x_s ($m < s \leq n$) be the entering variable.

So that the new basic feasible solution is $\mathbf{x}' = [x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_{r-1}, 0, x'_{r+1}, \dots, x'_m, 0, \dots, x'_s, \dots, 0]^T$, where $x'_i = x_i - u_{is}x'_s$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r-1, r+1, \dots, m$ and $x'_s = \frac{x_r}{u_{rs}}$, the u_{ij} 's are as defined earlier.

Let \mathbf{x} be nondegenerate then $x_r > 0$.

Consider $0 < \theta < \min_i \left\{ \frac{x_i}{u_{is}} : u_{is} > 0 \right\} = \frac{x_r}{u_{rs}}$, and define \mathbf{x}_θ as

$$\mathbf{x}_\theta = [x_1 - u_{1s}\theta, x_2 - u_{2s}\theta, \dots, x_{r-1} - u_{r-1,s}\theta, x_r - u_{rs}\theta, x_{r+1} - u_{r+1,s}\theta, \dots, x_m - u_{ms}\theta, 0, \dots, \theta, \dots, 0]^T$$

$$= \mathbf{x} + \theta \mathbf{d}, \text{ where } \mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} -u_{1s} \\ \vdots \\ -u_{ms} \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_s \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note that this \mathbf{d} is orthogonal to the normals of the $(n-1)$ hyperplanes common to \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{x}' (but this \mathbf{d} is not a direction).

Let $\mathbf{d}' = \mathbf{x}' - \mathbf{x} = \frac{x_r}{u_{rs}}\mathbf{d}$ then note that \mathbf{x}_θ can also be written as,

$\mathbf{x}_\theta = \mathbf{x} + \lambda \mathbf{d}' = \lambda \mathbf{x}' + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{x}$, where $\lambda = \frac{u_{rs}}{x_r}\theta$, ($0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$).

Hence \mathbf{x}_θ gives points on the straight line segment joining \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{x}' .

If \mathbf{x} is degenerate and suppose if $\min_i \left\{ \frac{x_i}{u_{is}} : u_{is} > 0 \right\} = 0$, then $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}'$.

However if \mathbf{x} is degenerate but $\min_i \left\{ \frac{x_i}{u_{is}} : u_{is} > 0 \right\} > 0$ (which will happen if the entries in the s th column, that is the u_{is} 's, corresponding to the zero valued basic variables are ≤ 0) then again \mathbf{x}' will give an adjacent extreme point and \mathbf{x}_θ will again be points on the line segment joining \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{x}' .

Sensitivity Analysis:

Consider the problem (**LPI**),

Min $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$

subject to

$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$.

Let \mathbf{x}_0 be an optimal solution of this problem. WLOG let $B = [\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_m]$ be a basis matrix corresponding to \mathbf{x}_0 , hence a set of basic variables of \mathbf{x}_0 are x_1, \dots, x_m .

1. Changing the cost vector \mathbf{c} :

It is clear that if the cost vector \mathbf{c} is changed to say \mathbf{c}' then only the $c_j - z_j$ values in the final optimal table changes.

If the new $c'_j - z'_j$ values again satisfy the optimality condition ($c'_j - z'_j \geq 0$ for all j), then \mathbf{x}_0 will again be optimal for the new problem.

If not, then the simplex algorithm can be used to get an optimal solution for the new problem or to conclude that the new problem has no optimal solution (which will happen if $c'_j - z'_j$ becomes < 0 for some non positive column in the simplex table).

2. Changing the vector \mathbf{b} :

If the vector \mathbf{b} is changed to \mathbf{b}' , then the feasible region changes. If the basic solution $\mathbf{x}'_0 = [(B^{-1}\mathbf{b}')^T, \mathbf{0}_{1 \times (n-m)}]^T$ corresponding to $\mathbf{x}_0 = [(B^{-1}\mathbf{b})^T, \mathbf{0}_{1 \times (n-m)}]^T$, is feasible for the new problem (that is $B^{-1}\mathbf{b}' \geq \mathbf{0}$), then \mathbf{x}'_0 will be optimal for the new problem, since all the other entries in the table (other than the RHS entries) for the basic feasible solution \mathbf{x}'_0 remains same (as in the table for \mathbf{x}_0), hence the $c_j - z_j$ values will satisfy the optimality criterion (they will all be ≥ 0).

If however $B^{-1}\mathbf{b}' \not\geq \mathbf{0}$, then the basic solution \mathbf{x}'_0 is no longer feasible for the changed problem, but since the feasible region of the dual has not changed, we still have a feasible solution of the dual which is given by $\mathbf{y}^T = \mathbf{c}_B^T B^{-1}$ (since the $c_j - z_j \geq 0$, for all $j = 1, \dots, n$, $c_j \geq z_j = \mathbf{y}^T \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_j$ for all $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$).

Also we have seen that this \mathbf{y}^T , since it satisfies the conditions $\mathbf{y}^T \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_j = z_j = c_j$ for $j = 1, \dots, m$, (the dual constraints corresponding to the basic variables of \mathbf{x}_0), it lies on m LI hyperplanes defining $Fea(D)$, so this \mathbf{y} is an extreme point of $Fea(D)$.

So the **dual simplex algorithm** can be used to either get an optimal solution of the changed problem or to conclude that the new problem does not have a feasible solution. Note that the changed problem cannot have unbounded solution, since its dual has a feasible solution.

Example : Consider the LPP given by

Max $-x_1 + 2x_2$

subject to

$-x_1 + x_2 \leq 1$,

$x_1 + x_2 \leq 7$,

$x_1 + 3x_2 \leq 15$,

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0.$$

Check that the optimal solution for the above problem is given by $[3, 4]^T$.

If we convert the above problem to a problem with equality constraints by adding (slack) variables, then it becomes

$$\text{Max } -x_1 + 2x_2$$

subject to

$$-x_1 + x_2 + s_1 = 1,$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + s_2 = 7,$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 + s_3 = 15,$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0, s_1 \geq 0, s_2 \geq 0, s_3 \geq 0.$$

Note that the optimal basic feasible solution $[3, 4, 0, 0, 0]^T$ is degenerate and corresponds to three different basis matrix, $[\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \mathbf{e}_1]$, $[\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \mathbf{e}_2]$ and $[\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \mathbf{e}_3]$.

The tables corresponding to these three bases are given by

$c_j - z_j$	0	0	0	$\frac{5}{2}$	$-\frac{3}{2}$	
	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1$	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}_1$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}_2$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}_3$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{b}$
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1$						4
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2$						3
\mathbf{s}_1						0

Note that all the $c_j - z_j$ values in the above table are not nonpositive, but the basic feasible solution is still optimal.

So the optimality condition, $c_j - z_j \geq 0$ for all j , is a **sufficient condition** but **not a necessary condition** for the corresponding basic feasible solution to be optimal.

However if the basic feasible solution is **nondegenerate** then check that the optimality condition is necessary as well as sufficient for it to be an optimal solution.

$c_j - z_j$	0	0	$-\frac{5}{4}$	0	$-\frac{1}{4}$	
	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1$	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}_1$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}_2$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}_3$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{b}$
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1$						4
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2$						3
\mathbf{s}_2						0

$c_j - z_j$	0	0	$-\frac{3}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	
	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1$	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}_1$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}_2$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}_3$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{b}$
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1$						4
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2$						3
\mathbf{s}_3						0

The dual of the above problem is given by

$$\text{Min } y_1 + 7y_2 + 15y_3$$

subject to

$$-y_1 + y_2 + y_3 \geq -1,$$

$$y_1 + y_2 + 3y_3 \geq 2,$$

$$y_1 \geq 0, y_2 \geq 0, y_3 \geq 0.$$

We can read the optimal solutions of the dual from the optimal tables of the primal problem since

$$\mathbf{y}^T = \mathbf{c}_B^T B^{-1} = \mathbf{c}_B^T B^{-1} I = \mathbf{c}_B^T B^{-1} [\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3] = [z_{s_1}, z_{s_2}, z_{s_3}]$$

where z_{s_i} is the z_j value corresponding to the slack variable s_i .

We find two optimal solutions of the dual $[\frac{5}{4}, 0, \frac{1}{4}]^T$ and $[\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0]^T$, that is the dual has infinitely many optimal solutions. We also know that the above two optimal solutions are extreme points of the feasible region of the dual.

If we convert the dual problem into a problem with equality constraints by adding (surplus) variables then we get

$$\text{Min } y_1 + 7y_2 + 15y_3$$

subject to

$$-y_1 + y_2 + y_3 - s'_1 = 1,$$

$$y_1 + y_2 + 3y_3 - s'_2 = 2,$$

$$y_1 \geq 0, y_2 \geq 0, y_3 \geq 0, s'_1 \geq 0, s'_2 \geq 0.$$

The basic feasible solution of the above problem corresponding to the extreme point $[\frac{5}{4}, 0, \frac{1}{4}]^T$ of the dual problem (with greater than equal to, constraints) will obviously have basic variables as y_1, y_3 . This also follows from the fact that since the corresponding primal solution has x_1, x_2, s_2 as basic variables, so by complementary slackness property, the corresponding variables in the dual which is s'_1, s'_2, y_2 should necessarily take the value 0 hence are nonbasic variables in the corresponding basic solution of the dual.

The basic feasible solution of the above problem corresponding to the extreme point $[\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0]^T$ of the dual problem (with greater than equal to, constraints) will obviously have basic variables as y_1, y_2 . Similarly this also follows from the fact that since the corresponding primal solution has x_1, x_2, s_3 as basic variables, so by complementary slackness property, the corresponding variables in the dual which is s'_1, s'_2, y_3 should necessarily take the value 0 hence are nonbasic variables in the corresponding basic solution of the dual.

The table corresponding to these basic feasible solutions will be given by (check this)

$c_j - z_j$	0	0	0	3	4	
	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_1$	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_2$	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_3$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}'_1$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}'_2$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{b}$
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_1$						$\frac{3}{2}$
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_2$						$\frac{1}{2}$

$c_j - z_j$	0	0	0	3	4	
	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_1$	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_2$	$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_3$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}'_1$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{s}'_2$	$B^{-1}\mathbf{b}$
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_1$						$\frac{5}{4}$
$\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_3$						$\frac{1}{4}$

Note that here $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_i$ gives the columns corresponding to the variables $y_i, i = 1, 2, 3$ in

the dual constraints, when the constraints are written in the greater than equal to form.

Now suppose if the RHS of the primal problem corresponding to the third constraint is changed from 15 to 14, then which bases among the three mentioned above, will correspond to the new optimal solution?

So the new problem is given as following:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Max } -x_1 + 2x_2 \\ &\text{subject to} \\ &-x_1 + x_2 + s_1 = 1, \\ &x_1 + x_2 + s_2 = 7, \\ &x_1 + 3x_2 + s_3 = 14, \\ &x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0, s_1 \geq 0, s_2 \geq 0, s_3 \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the extreme point corresponding to the basis $[\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \mathbf{e}_1]$, should have $s_2 = s_3 = 0$ hence should lie at the intersection of the two lines

$$x_1 + x_2 = 7, \text{ and } x_1 + 3x_2 = 14$$

and is given by $x_1 = \frac{7}{2}, x_2 = \frac{7}{2}$. Hence $s_1 = 1$. The corresponding basic feasible solution is $[\frac{7}{2}, \frac{7}{2}, 1, 0, 0]^T$, which is a nondegenerate basic feasible solution.

But since all the $c_j - z_j$ values are not ≤ 0 , (refer to the corresponding table) so by entering s_2 into the basis one can get a basic feasible solution with better value of the objective function. Hence this basic feasible solution is not optimal.

Note that the extreme point corresponding to the basis $[\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \mathbf{e}_2]$, should have $s_1 = s_3 = 0$ hence should lie at the intersection of the two lines

$$-x_1 + x_2 = 1, \text{ and } x_1 + 3x_2 = 14$$

and is given by $x_1 = \frac{11}{4}, x_2 = \frac{15}{4}$. Hence $s_2 = \frac{1}{2}$. The corresponding basic feasible solution is $[\frac{11}{4}, \frac{15}{4}, 0, \frac{1}{2}, 0]^T$, which is again a nondegenerate basic feasible solution.

Also since $c_j - z_j \leq 0$ for all $j = 1, \dots, n$, so this basic feasible solution is the optimal solution for the new problem.

Note that the extreme point corresponding to the basis $[\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_2, \mathbf{e}_3]$, should have $s_1 = s_2 = 0$ hence should lie at the intersection of the two lines

$$-x_1 + x_2 = 1, \text{ and } x_1 + x_2 = 7$$

and is given by $x_1 = 3, x_2 = 4$. Hence $s_3 = -1$. The corresponding basic solution is $[3, 4, 0, 0, -1]^T$, which is not feasible for the new problem.

Will the new dual now have a unique optimal solution or will it again have infinitely many optimal solutions?

Dual Simplex Algorithm :

Consider the following LP problem :

$$\text{Min } \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$$

$$\text{subject to } A_{m \times n} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}.$$

Let \mathbf{x}_0 be a basic solution of the above problem corresponding to a basis matrix B , such that \mathbf{x}_0 is not a feasible solution. That is $B^{-1}\mathbf{b} \not\geq \mathbf{0}$.

If the c_j 's are such that (in this case, if $c_j \geq 0$ for all $j = 1, \dots, n$) all the $c_j - z_j$ values in the simplex table corresponding to \mathbf{x}_0 are nonnegative, then \mathbf{y} given by $\mathbf{y}^T = \mathbf{c}_B^T B^{-1}$ (since $z_j = \mathbf{c}_B^T B^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_j \leq c_j \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, n$) is feasible for the dual.

In this case we use the **Dual Simplex Method** to get an optimal solution of the primal or to conclude that the primal does not have an optimal solution, as the case may be.

Take x_r (make $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_r$ leave the basis) to be the leaving basic variable if $(B^{-1}\mathbf{b})_r = \min\{(B^{-1}\mathbf{b})_j : (B^{-1}\mathbf{b})_j < 0\}$.

Case 1: $u_{rj} \geq 0$ for all $j = 1, 2, \dots, n + m$.

Then it can be shown that the primal does not have a feasible solution.

Note that the r th row of the simplex table gives an equation, which is an equation in the system of equations given by,

$$B^{-1}A\mathbf{x} = B^{-1}[B : N]\mathbf{x} = B^{-1}\mathbf{b},$$

which is equivalent to the original system of equations $A\mathbf{x} = [B : N]\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$.

So if the system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ has a nonnegative solution \mathbf{x}^* , then $\mathbf{x}^*(\geq \mathbf{0})$ should also be a solution of the system $B^{-1}A\mathbf{x} = B^{-1}\mathbf{b}$.

But the equation given by the r th row of the simplex table in this case, is of the form $((B^{-1})_{.r}A)\mathbf{x} = (B^{-1}\mathbf{b})_r$, where $(B^{-1})_{.r}$ denotes the r th row of B^{-1} .

But the above equation cannot be satisfied by $\mathbf{x}^*(\geq \mathbf{0})$, since the RHS entry of the equation is < 0 , but all the coefficients in the LHS are nonnegative.

Alternatively note that the r th row of the simplex table (without the RHS entry) is given by $(B^{-1})_{.r}[B : N] = (B^{-1})_{.r}A$, where $(B^{-1})_{.r}$ is the r th row of B^{-1} .

If all the entries of this row is nonnegative then

$$\mathbf{c}^T - \mathbf{z}^T + \alpha(B^{-1})_{.r}A \geq \mathbf{0}, \text{ for all } \alpha \geq 0, \quad (*)$$

where $\mathbf{z}^T = [z_1, \dots, z_n] = \mathbf{y}^T A$, $\mathbf{y}^T = \mathbf{c}_B^T B^{-1}$.

Hence from (*) we get

$$\mathbf{c}^T \geq \mathbf{z}^T + \alpha(-B^{-1})_{.r}A = (\mathbf{y}^T + \alpha(-B^{-1})_{.r})A, \quad \text{for all } \alpha \geq 0,$$

that is, $(-B^{-1})_{.r}$ is a direction for $Fea(D)$.

Let us denote this direction $(-B^{-1})_{.r}$ of $Fea(D)$ as \mathbf{d}_0^T .

Since $(B^{-1}\mathbf{b})_r < 0$, and $(B^{-1}\mathbf{b})_r = -(-B^{-1})_{.r}\mathbf{b}$

so $(-B^{-1})_{.r}\mathbf{b} > 0$, that is $\mathbf{d}_0^T\mathbf{b} > 0$. (**)

Since the dual is a maximization problem it follows from (**) that the dual has unbounded solution. Hence the primal problem does not have a feasible solution.

Case 2 : $u_{rj} < 0$ for atleast one $j = 1, 2, \dots, n + m$,

then let $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_s$ enter the basis, that is x_s is the entering variable (new basic variable replacing x_r) if $\frac{|c_s - z_s|}{|u_{rs}|} = \min_j \left\{ \frac{|c_j - z_j|}{|u_{rj}|} : u_{rj} < 0 \right\}$. (*)

So the pivot element will be u_{rs} .

Next the table is updated by performing the necessary elementary row operations to get the new column corresponding to $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_s$ in the table as the r th column of the identity matrix.

Note that the new $c_j - z'_j = c_j - z_j - \frac{c_s - z_s}{u_{rs}} u_{rj}$.

(i) If $u_{rj} \geq 0$, then since $c_j - z_j \geq 0$ for all $j = 1, \dots, n$ and $u_{rs} < 0$

$$c_j - z'_j = c_j - z_j - \frac{c_s - z_s}{u_{rs}} u_{rj} \geq 0.$$

(ii) If $u_{rj} < 0$, then it follows from (*) that

$$c_j - z'_j = c_j - z_j - \frac{c_s - z_s}{u_{rs}} u_{rj} \geq 0.$$

Let \mathbf{x}' be the new basic solution of the primal and \mathbf{y}' be the corresponding feasible solution of the dual, then $\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}' = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + (c_s - z_s) \frac{x_r}{u_{rs}} \geq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}$.

Since the dual is a maximization problem so \mathbf{y}' is a better solution with respect to cost than \mathbf{y} .

If the new basic solution \mathbf{x}' is nonnegative, then \mathbf{x}' is optimal for the primal.

Otherwise repeat the procedure on this new table and continue till you get a feasible solution and hence an optimal solution of the primal.

So once we have obtained a feasible solution say \mathbf{x} of the primal, using duality theory we can conclude that \mathbf{x} is optimal for the primal.

In **simplex method** we start with a basic feasible solution of the primal (that is an extreme point of $\text{Fea}(P)$) and the process terminates either when a feasible solution of the dual is obtained (that is when the optimality conditions are satisfied), which is an optimal solution and an extreme point of $\text{Fea}(D)$ or with the observation that the dual has empty feasible region.

In **dual simplex method** we start with an extreme point of $\text{Fea}(D)$ (it should be provided) and the process terminates either when a basic feasible solution of the primal which is an optimal solution of the primal, is obtained, or with the observation that the primal has empty feasible region.

Example 1 : Consider the linear programming problem **LP(1)** given below:

Minimize $x_1 + x_2$

subject to

$$2x_1 + x_2 \geq 4$$

$$x_1 - x_2 \leq 1$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0.$$

The above problem is same as

Maximize $-x_1 - x_2$

subject to

$$-2x_1 - x_2 + s_1 = -4$$

$$x_1 - x_2 + s_2 = 1$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0.$$

The dual (D) of **LP(1)** is given by

Minimize $-4y_1 + y_2$

subject to

$$-2y_1 + y_2 \geq -1$$

$$-y_1 - y_2 \geq -1$$

$$y_1 \geq 0, y_2 \geq 0.$$

The initial table corresponding to the basic variables s_1 and s_2 of **LP(1)** is given below.

	$c_1 - z_1 = +1$	$c_2 - z_2 = +1$	$c_3 - z_3 = 0$	$c_4 - z_4 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	b
s_1	-2	-1	1	0	-4
s_2	1	-1	0	1	1

Since the $c_j - z_j$ values are nonnegative for all j we are given a feasible solution of the dual. The corresponding feasible solution of the dual is given by $y_1 = 0, y_2 = 0$, which are obtained from the $c_j - z_j$ values corresponding to s_1 and s_2 .

But the initial basic solution of the primal given by $s_1 = -4$ and $s_2 = 1$ and $x_1 = x_2 = 0$ is not feasible for the primal.

By following the dual simplex method, s_1 will be the leaving variable and x_1 will be the entering variable for the next table which is given by,

	$c_1 - z_1 = 0$	$c_2 - z_2 = \frac{1}{2}$	$c_3 - z_3 = \frac{1}{2}$	$c_4 - z_4 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	b
x_1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	2
s_2	0	$-\frac{3}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	-1

Now s_2 will be the leaving variable and x_2 will be the entering variable.

	$c_1 - z_1 = 0$	$c_2 - z_2 = 0$	$c_3 - z_3 = \frac{4}{6}$	$c_4 - z_4 = \frac{1}{3}$	
	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	b
x_1	1	0	$-\frac{1}{3}$	0	$\frac{5}{3}$
x_2	0	1	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$

The above table is the optimal table.

3. Introduction of a new variable:

Suppose a new variable x_{n+1} is added to the LPP given above. So addition of a new variable means that a column is added to the matrix A call it $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{n+1}$ and a component c_{n+1} is added to the cost vector \mathbf{c} , which gives the cost associated with the new variable x_{n+1} .

Note that since \mathbf{x}_0 is an optimal solution for **LPI**

$\mathbf{x}'_0 = [\mathbf{x}_0^T, 0]^T$ is a feasible solution for the problem,

Min $[\mathbf{c}, c_{n+1}]^T \mathbf{x}_{(n+1) \times 1}$

subject to

$[A : \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{n+1}] \mathbf{x}_{(n+1) \times 1} = \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{x}_{(n+1) \times 1} \geq \mathbf{0}.$

In order to check whether \mathbf{x}'_0 is optimal for the new problem, add a new column to the optimal table and calculate $c_{n+1} - z_{n+1}$.

If $c_{n+1} - z_{n+1} > 0$, then \mathbf{x}'_0 is optimal for the new problem.

If not, then enter $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{n+1}$ in the basis and use the simplex algorithm to get an optimal solution or conclude that the problem does not have an optimal solution.

Note that adding a variable to the problem **LPI** results in adding a constraint to the dual, which might result in the feasible region of the dual to become an empty set, in that case the problem **LPI** will not have an optimal solution.

4. Introduction of a new constraint:

Addition of a new constraint makes the feasible region of **LPI** smaller.

Let us assume WLOG that the new constraint added is of the form

$\mathbf{a}_{m+1}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b_{m+1}$, where \mathbf{a}_{m+1}^T is a row vector.

Case 1: \mathbf{x}_0 satisfies $\mathbf{a}_{m+1}^T \mathbf{x}_0 \leq b_{m+1}$.

Then it can be shown that \mathbf{x}_0 is optimal for the changed problem also.

Let $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$ and

$S' = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{a}_{m+1}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b_{m+1}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$, then $S' \subseteq S$ and $\mathbf{x}_0 \in S'$.

For any $\mathbf{x} \in S'$, since $\mathbf{x} \in S$

$\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \min_{\mathbf{x} \in S} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}_0$.

Case 2: \mathbf{x}_0 does not satisfy the new constraint, that is $\mathbf{a}_{m+1}^T \mathbf{x}_0 > b_{m+1}$,

or $\mathbf{a}_{B,m+1}^T B^{-1} \mathbf{b} > b_{m+1}$, (**)

where $\mathbf{a}_{B,m+1}^T$ and $\mathbf{a}_{N,m+1}^T$ are the components of \mathbf{a}_{m+1}^T corresponding to the basic variables and nonbasic variables of \mathbf{x}_0 , respectively. Note that the new constraint can be written as $\mathbf{a}_{m+1}^T \mathbf{x} + s_{m+1} = b_{m+1}$, where $s_{m+1} \geq 0$.

If B denotes the basis matrix corresponding to \mathbf{x}_0 , then

$$\begin{bmatrix} B & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{a}_{B,m+1}^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is the new basis matrix after the new constraint is added, the new basic variable added being s_{m+1} .

The inverse of this basis matrix is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} B^{-1} & \mathbf{0} \\ -\mathbf{a}_{B,m+1}^T B^{-1} & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence the new row added to the (main) simplex table will be of the form

$$[-\mathbf{a}_{B,m+1}^T B^{-1}, 1] \begin{bmatrix} B & N & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{a}_{B,m+1}^T & \mathbf{a}_{N,m+1}^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} = [\mathbf{0}, -\mathbf{a}_{B,m+1}^T B^{-1} N + \mathbf{a}_{N,m+1}^T, 1].$$

The new RHS becomes

$$\begin{bmatrix} B^{-1} & \mathbf{0} \\ -\mathbf{a}_{B,m+1}^T B^{-1} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b} \\ b_{m+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} B^{-1} \mathbf{b} \\ b_{m+1} - \mathbf{a}_{B,m+1}^T B^{-1} \mathbf{b} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence if \mathbf{x}_0 does not satisfy the newly added constraint then from (**),

the $(m+1)$ th entry of the RHS will be strictly less than zero. Note that since the cost associated with s_{m+1} is equal to zero, all the $c_j - z_j$ will remain same as in the optimal table corresponding to \mathbf{x}_0 , hence all these values will be nonnegative. Hence the dual simplex method can be used to get a basic feasible solution, hence an optimal solution of the primal or conclude that the primal is infeasible, if the addition of the new constraint makes the feasible region of **LPI** empty.

5. Changing entries in the coefficient matrix A :

(a) **Case 1:** If the column corresponding to a nonbasic variable say $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_j$ of the optimal

solution is changed to say $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_j$, then accordingly changes has to be made in the column corresponding to that variable in the optimal simplex table.

$B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_j$ is changed to $B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_j$.

If the new $c_j - z'_j$ value satisfies the optimality condition, then the previous optimal solution will be optimal for the new problem as well.

If not, then use the simplex method to obtain the new optimal solution or to conclude that the primal does not have an optimal solution (this will happen if the new column $B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_j \leq \mathbf{0}$ and $c_j - z'_j < 0$).

(b) **Case 2:** If the column corresponding to the j th basic variable say $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_j$ is changed to $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_j$. Then treat this case as the case when a variable (say a variable x_{n+1}) is added to the problem with column $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_j$ and cost c_j (that is the cost associated with the j th variable) and calculate $B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_j$ and the corresponding $c_{n+1} - z_{n+1}$ value.

i. If $u_{j,(n+1)} = 0$, then it implies that $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_j$ can be expressed as a linear combination of the other $(m-1)$ columns of the basis given by $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{j-1}, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{j+1}, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_m$, that is, the set $\{\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{j-1}, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}'_j, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_{j+1}, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_m\}$ is a linearly dependent set. Hence in this case we have to find an initial basic feasible solution for the changed problem.

ii. If $u_{j,(n+1)} \neq 0$, then pivot on this element and make the variable x_{n+1} enter the basis and x_j leave the basis. Perform the necessary elementary row operations to make this (the $(n+1)$ th) column as the j th column of the Identity matrix and the $c_{n+1} - z_{n+1}$ value equal to 0.

Then delete the column corresponding to $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_j$ from all subsequent calculations, and the variable x_{n+1} is now indexed as the variable x_j .

Note that necessary calculations mentioned above might disturb and optimality as well as the feasibility of the optimal table (that is some of the $c_j - z_j$ values might become negative and also some of the RHS entries might become negative), hence again an initial basic feasible solution of the new problem has to be found.

If however the new $c_j - z_j$ values are all nonnegative and all the RHS entries remain nonnegative, then the table is an optimal table and the corresponding basic feasible solution is optimal for the new problem.

If the new table has all RHS entries nonnegative, but atleast one of the $c_j - z_j$ values is negative then use the simplex method to obtain the new optimal solution, or conclude that the new problem does not have an optimal solution, as the case may be.

If all the $c_j - z_j$ values are nonnegative but atleast one of the RHS entries in the simplex table is negative then the dual simplex method to obtain the new optimal solution or to conclude that the new problem has no feasible solution, as the case may be.

Artificial Variable Method to find an initial basic feasible solution of linear programming problems: Big- M method:

Consider the problem **LP1**:

Min $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$

subject to

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}.$$

We can assume WLOG that, $\mathbf{b} \geq \mathbf{0}$.

(The equations can be multiplied throughout by a (-1) if required, to get a nonnegative RHS).

Add artificial variables w_1, \dots, w_m with costs M (M very large) to the above problem such that we get an initial basic feasible solution to the following problem **LP(M)** given by,

$$\text{Min } \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + [M, \dots, M] \mathbf{w}$$

subject to

$$A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w} = [A : I] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{w} \geq \mathbf{0},$$

where $\mathbf{w} = [w_1, \dots, w_m]^T$ and the initial basic feasible solution is $[\mathbf{0}_{1 \times n}, w_1, \dots, w_m]^T$.

Case 1: **LP(M)** has an optimal solution.

Case 1a: $[\mathbf{x}_*^T, \mathbf{0}_{1 \times m}]^T$ is an optimal basic feasible solution of **LP(M)** with all the artificial variables as nonbasic variables.

For any \mathbf{x} feasible for **LP1**, $[\mathbf{x}^T, \mathbf{0}_{1 \times m}]^T$ is feasible for **LP(M)**.

Since $[\mathbf{x}_*^T, \mathbf{0}]^T$ is optimal for **LP(M)**

$$\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}_* + [M, \dots, M] \mathbf{0}_{m \times 1} \leq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + [M, \dots, M] \mathbf{0}_{m \times 1} \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \in \text{Fea}(\text{LP1}),$$

or $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}_* \leq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \text{Fea}(\text{LP1})$.

Since $\mathbf{x}_* \in \text{Fea}(\text{LP1})$, hence the above condition implies that \mathbf{x}_* is optimal for **LP1**, so we got an optimal solution for the original problem.

Case 1b: $[\mathbf{x}_*^T, \mathbf{w}_*^T]^T$ is optimal for **LP(M)** and $\mathbf{w}_* \neq \mathbf{0}$.

Then, $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}_* + [M, \dots, M] \mathbf{w}_* \leq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + [M, \dots, M] \mathbf{0}_{m \times 1} = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$, for all $\mathbf{x} \in \text{Fea}(\text{LP1})$.

But this is a contradiction since M is very large.

Remark: Note that there exists an N such that for all $M > N$, the optimal solution for **LP(M)** does not change. In the optimal table since $c_j - z_j \geq 0$ for all $j = 1, \dots, n$, if $c_j - z_j$ is dependent on M (is a function of M), then $c_j - z_j$ is taken to be positive only if it is of the form $aM + c$, where $a > 0$ (since M is large). Hence even though the cost associated with the artificial variables M is taken to be variable which is large, the optimal solution will not change.

Case 2: **LP(M)** has unbounded solution.

Case 2a: In some iteration (or simplex table), there exists a k such that $c_k - z_k < 0$, the corresponding column $B^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{a}}_k \leq \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$ in the corresponding basic feasible solution for **LP(M)**.

So there exists a direction $\mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{d}_1 \\ \mathbf{d}_2 \end{bmatrix}$ of $\text{Fea}(\text{LP(M)})$ such that

$$\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d}_1 + [M, \dots, M] \mathbf{d}_2 < 0. \quad (*)$$

But since M is very large and $\mathbf{d}_2 \geq \mathbf{0}$, $(*)$ implies that $\mathbf{d}_2 = \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d}_1 < 0$.

Note that since $\mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{d}_1 \\ \mathbf{d}_2 \end{bmatrix}$ is a direction of $Fea(\mathbf{LP}(\mathbf{M}))$, and $\mathbf{d}_2 = \mathbf{0}$,

$$[A : I] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{d}_1 \\ \mathbf{d}_2 \end{bmatrix} = A\mathbf{d}_1 = \mathbf{0}.$$

Since $\mathbf{d}_1 \geq \mathbf{0}$, the above condition implies that \mathbf{d}_1 is a direction of $Fea(\mathbf{LP1})$ and since $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d}_1 < 0$, hence $\mathbf{LP1}$ has unbounded solution.

Case 2b: In some iteration (or simplex table), $c_k - z_k = \min\{c_j - z_j : c_j - z_j < 0\}$, $B^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_k \leq \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{w} \neq \mathbf{0}$ in the corresponding basic feasible solution for $\mathbf{LP}(\mathbf{M})$, where B is a basis matrix corresponding to this basic feasible solution.

Let x_1, \dots, x_p be the basic variables which are not artificial variables and let w_1, \dots, w_{m-p} be the artificial variables which are also basic variables in the current basic feasible solution for $\mathbf{LP}(\mathbf{M})$.

Note that $z_k = \sum_{i=1}^p c_i u_{ik} + \sum_{i=p+1}^m M u_{ik}$, where the u_{ik} 's have their usual meaning.

Since $c_k - z_k = c_k - \sum_{i=1}^p c_i u_{ik} - M(\sum_{i=p+1}^m u_{ik}) < 0$, and $\sum_{i=p+1}^m u_{ik} \leq 0$,

we must have $\sum_{i=p+1}^m u_{ik} = 0$, which implies that the coefficient of M in the above expression is nonnegative (should actually be equal to 0).

Let x_j be a nonbasic variable which is not an artificial variable then since

$$c_j - z_j = c_j - \sum_{i=1}^p c_i u_{ij} - M(\sum_{i=p+1}^m u_{ij}), \quad (*)$$

and the coefficient of M in the expression for $c_k - z_k$ is nonnegative,

so $\sum_{i=p+1}^m u_{ij} \leq 0$ (otherwise the coefficient of M in $(*)$ will be negative which will contradict that $c_k - z_k$ is the most negative among the $c_j - z_j$ values).

Note that for any $\mathbf{x} \in Fea(\mathbf{LP1})$, $[\mathbf{x}^T, \mathbf{0}_{1 \times m}]^T \in Fea(\mathbf{LP}(\mathbf{M}))$.

Hence $[\mathbf{x}^T, \mathbf{0}_{1 \times m}]^T$ should satisfy the system of equations :

$$B^{-1}[A : I] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} = B^{-1}\mathbf{b} \quad (1)$$

which is equivalent to the system

$$[A : I] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{b}. \quad (2)$$

Hence $[\mathbf{x}^T, \mathbf{0}_{1 \times m}]^T$ should satisfy the equation

$$[\mathbf{0}_{1 \times p}, \mathbf{1}_{1 \times (m-p)}, \sum_{i=p+1}^m u_{i,(m+1)}, \dots, \sum_{i=p+1}^m u_{i,(m+n)}] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \dots \\ x_p \\ w_1 \\ \dots \\ w_{m-p} \\ x_{p+1} \\ \dots \\ x_n \\ w_{m-p+1} \\ \dots \\ w_m \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=p+1}^m (B^{-1}\mathbf{b})_i = \sum_{i=p+1}^m w_i,$$

which is obtained by adding the last $(m-p)$ equations of the system (1).

(The vector $\mathbf{1}_{1 \times (m-p)}$ is a row vector with all components equal to 1.)

Hence $[\mathbf{x}^T, \mathbf{0}_{1 \times m}]^T$ should satisfy

$$\sum_{j=p+1}^n (\sum_{i=p+1}^m u_{i,(m-p+j)}) x_j = \sum_{i=p+1}^m w_i.$$

But this is a contradiction since $x_j \geq 0$ for all j ,
 $\sum_{i=p+1}^m u_{i,(m-p+j)} \leq 0$, for all $j = p+1, \dots, n$ and $\sum_{i=p+1}^m w_i > 0$.
Hence **LP1** does not have a feasible solution.

Note that the above conclusion that is **LP1** is infeasible will not be true if $c_k - z_k$ is not the most negative among the $c_j - z_j$ values.

Remark 1: If at some stage of solving the artificial variables leave the basis, then the corresponding basic solution is a feasible basic solution for the original problem (without artificial variables). Then delete all columns corresponding to the artificial variables and continue.

Remark 2: If $[\mathbf{x}^T, \mathbf{0}]$ is optimal for **LP(M)**, but one or more artificial variables remain in the basis for the optimal basic feasible solution at zero value.

Then we have already seen that \mathbf{x} will be optimal for **LP1**.

In order to get an optimal basic feasible solution for **LP1**, pivot appropriately on a nonzero entry in the rows corresponding to the basic artificial variables and make one of the variables x_j enter the basis in place of each of the artificial variables.

Since in each of the rows corresponding to the artificial basic variables, there will always be a nonzero entry in atleast one of the columns corresponding to the (nonbasic) original variables x_{p+1}, \dots, x_n . (*)

Hence it will always be possible to pivot appropriately and remove the artificial variable from the basis and bring in one of x_{p+1}, \dots, x_n in the basis.

If (*) is not true then it would contradict that $\text{rank}(A) = m$ (check this).

Note that the heading of the columns of the following tables do not match the convention we have been using lately, it just gives the variables associated with those columns. The RHS column head is always denoted by b (which should actually be $B^{-1}\mathbf{b}$), please do not confuse it with \mathbf{b} of $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$.

Example 1 : Consider the problem,

Minimize $x_1 - x_2$

subject to

$$2x_1 + x_2 \geq 4$$

$$x_1 - x_2 \leq 1$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0.$$

By adding variables we get the following problem,

Minimize $x_1 - x_2$

subject to

$$2x_1 + x_2 - s_1 = 4$$

$$x_1 - x_2 + s_2 = 1$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0, s_1 \geq 0, s_2 \geq 0.$$

If we consider the initial basic solution with basic variables s_1 and s_2 , then the $c_j - z_j$ values are not ≥ 0 for all j , here we do not have a feasible solution of the dual.

Also we are not provided with an initial basic feasible solution of the primal (since $s_1 = -4$) to start with simplex algorithm.

Hence we cannot start with the ordinary simplex method, nor can we start with the dual simplex method to find an optimal solution for this problem.

Hence the (**Big-M**) is used which provides an initial basic feasible solution and hence an optimal solution of the primal.

Consider the modified problem

Minimize $x_1 - x_2 + Mw$

subject to

$$2x_1 + x_2 - s_1 + w = 4$$

$$x_1 - x_2 + s_2 = 1$$

$$x_1, x_2, s_1, s_2, w \geq 0.$$

Here x is called the artificial variable and cost M associated with it is very large.

The initial table corresponding to the basic variables x and s_2 is given below.

	$c_1 - z_1 = 1 - 2M$	$c_2 - z_2 = -M - 1$	$c_3 - z_3 = M$	$c_4 - z_4 = 0$	$c_5 - z_5 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	w	b
w	2	1	-1	0	1	4
s_2	1	-1	0	1	0	1

s_2 will be the leaving variable and x_1 will be the entering variable for the next table.

	$c_1 - z_1 = 0$	$c_2 - z_2 = -3M$	$c_3 - z_3 = M$	$c_4 - z_4 = 2M - 1$	$c_5 - z_5 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	w	b
w	0	3	-1	-2	1	2
x_1	1	-1	0	1	0	1

Now the artificial variable x will be the leaving variable and x_2 will be the entering variable.

	$c_1 - z_1 = 0$	$c_2 - z_2 = 0$	$c_3 - z_3 = 0$	$c_4 - z_4 = -1$	$c_5 - z_5 = M$	
	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	w	b
x_2	0	1				$\frac{2}{3}$
x_1	1	0				$1 + \frac{2}{3}$

Now continue with the basic feasible solution (this is the initial basic feasible solution of the original problem, without the artificial variable) corresponding to the basic vectors x_1 and x_2 and drop the column corresponding to the artificial variable x from all future calculations. Use simplex method to get the optimal basic feasible solution.

Example 2: Consider the problem,

Minimize $x_1 + x_2$

subject to

$$x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 2$$

$$3x_1 + 5x_2 \geq 15$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0.$$

We consider the corresponding modified problem

Minimize $x_1 + x_2 + Mw$

subject to

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + s_1 = 2$$

$$3x_1 + 5x_2 - s_2 + w = 15$$

$x_1, x_2, s_1, s_2, w \geq 0$.

Note that this problem can also be solved by dual simplex method. But we will solve it by using the **Big-M** method.

The initial table is given by

	$c_1 - z_1 = 1 - 3M$	$c_2 - z_2 = 1 - 5M$	$c_3 - z_3 = 0$	$c_4 - z_4 = M$	$c_5 - z_5 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	w	b
s_1	1	2	1	0	0	2
w	3	5	0	-1	1	15

Here x_2 is the entering variable and s_1 the leaving variable, hence the next table is given by,

	$c_1 - z_1 = \frac{1}{2}(1 - M)$	$c_2 - z_2 = 0$	$c_3 - z_3 = 5M - 1$	$c_4 - z_4 = M$	$c_5 - z_5 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	w	b
x_2	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	1
w	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$-\frac{5}{2}$	-1	1	10

The next table is given by

	$c_1 - z_1 = 0$	$c_2 - z_2 = M - 1$	$c_3 - z_3 = \frac{1}{2}(11M - 3)$	$c_4 - z_4 = M$	$c_5 - z_5 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	s_1	s_2	w	b
x_1	1	2	1	0	0	2
w	0	-1	-3	-1	1	9

Since the optimal table has an artificial variable taking positive value hence the conclusion is that the original problem (without the artificial variable) has no feasible solution.

Example 3: Consider the problem,

Minimize $-x_1 + x_2$

subject to

$$x_1 - 2x_2 - x_3 = 1$$

$$-x_1 + 2x_2 - x_4 = 1$$

$$x_i \geq 0, \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, 3, 4.$$

Consider the corresponding modified problem,

$$\text{Minimize } -x_1 + x_2 + Mw_1 + Mw_2$$

subject to

$$x_1 - 2x_2 - x_3 + w_1 = 1$$

$$-x_1 + 2x_2 - x_4 + w_2 = 1$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \text{ and } w_j \geq 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \text{ and } j = 1, 2.$$

The first table is given by

	$c_1 - z_1 = -1$	$c_2 - z_2 = 1$	$c_3 - z_3 = M$	$c_4 - z_4 = M$	$c_5 - z_5 = 0$	$c_6 - z_6 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	w_1	w_2	b
w_1	1	-2	-1	0	1	0	1
w_2	-1	2	0	-1	0	1	1

	$c_1 - z_1 = 0$	$c_2 - z_2 = -1$	$c_3 - z_3 = M - 1$	$c_4 - z_4 = M$	$c_5 - z_5 = 1$	$c_6 - z_6 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	w_1	w_2	b
x_1	1	-2	-1	0	1	0	1
w_2	0	0	-1	-1	1	1	2

Note that here the modified problem (with artificial variables) has unbounded solution and the original problem has no feasible solution (since the column corresponding to the most negative $c_j - z_j$ value, (only one negative) is non positive).

Example 4: Consider the problem,

Minimize $-x_1 - x_2$

subject to

$$x_1 - x_2 - x_3 = 1$$

$$-x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 - x_4 = 0$$

$$x_i \geq 0, \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, 3, 4.$$

Note that this problem has a feasible solution and given by $x_1 = 2, x_2 = 0, x_3 = 1$ and $x_4 = 1$.

Consider the corresponding problem,

Minimize $-x_1 - x_2 + Mw_1 + Mw_2$

subject to

$$x_1 - x_2 - x_3 + w_1 = 1$$

$$-x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 - x_4 + w_2 = 0$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \text{ and } w_j \geq 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \text{ and } j = 1, 2.$$

The simplex tables are given by

	$c_1 - z_1 = -1$	$c_2 - z_2 = -1$	$c_3 - z_3 = -2M$	$c_4 - z_4 = M$	$c_5 - z_5 = 0$	$c_6 - z_6 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	w_1	w_2	b
w_1	1	-1	-1	0	1	0	1
w_2	-1	1	3	-1	0	1	0

	$c_1 - z_1 = 0$	$c_2 - z_2 = -2$	$c_3 - z_3 = -2M - 1$	$c_4 - z_4 = M$	$c_5 - z_5 = 1$	$c_6 - z_6 = 0$	
	x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	w_1	w_2	b
x_1	1	-1	-1	0	1	0	1
w_2	0	0	2	-1	1	1	1

Note that although here also corresponding to a negative $c_j - z_j$ value ($c_2 - z_2$), the column is nonpositive, but the original problem has a feasible solution ($c_2 - z_2$ is not the most negative among the $c_j - z_j$ values).