

2013 Exam Paper

- Explain briefly why the following strategy for the solution of I.P.s is not useful:

“Solve the L.P. relaxation then round off the components of the solution to the nearest integers”.

Integer Programming by Branch and Bound

Consider the Integer Linear Program (IP):

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & 5x_1 + 2x_2 \\ & 5x_1 + x_2 \leq 5/2 \\ & 10x_1 + 6x_2 \leq 45 \\ & x_1, x_2 \leq 0 \text{ and integer.} \end{aligned}$$

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The corresponding Simplex Tableau (transforming the max problem into a min problem) is:

0	-5	-2	0	0
5/2	5	1	1	0
45	10	6	0	1

N.B. The Simplex Method and the Dual Simplex Method are stated on the last page of this paper.

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- (i) Apply one iteration of the Simplex Method and show that the Simplex Tableau now takes the form:

2.5	0	-1	1	0
0.5	1	0.2	0.2	0
40	0	4	-2	1

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Initial Tableau

0	-5	-2	0	0
5/2	5	1	1	0
45	10	6	0	1

- ▶ Indicator Row at top of tableau. Pick the lowest (i.e most negative) value. (i.e.-5)
- ▶ This is our Pivot Column.
- ▶ To pick the Pivot Row, compute the ratio of value in the pivot column to the "*barrier column*" (i.e. the first column)
(barrier column value is numerator)

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- ▶ Pick the row with the lowest ratio.
 - ▶ $\frac{5/2}{5} = 0.5$ Lowest - Pick this Row
 - ▶ $\frac{45}{10} = 4.5$
- ▶ Pivot Point is intersection of pivot column and pivot row.

Elementary Row Operations

- ▶ Divide Pivot Row by value of Pivot Point (Pivot Point should become 1)
- ▶ Perform EROs such that other values on pivot column become 0.

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- ▶ You should end up with this tableau

2.5	0	-1	1	0
0.5	1	0.2	0.2	0
40	0	4	-2	1

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Next Question

- (ii) After a second iteration of the Simplex Method the Simplex Tableau now takes the form: (N.B.do not perform the arithmetic!)
- Explain why this Tableau is optimal.

5	5	0	2	0
2.5	5	1	1	0
30	-20	0	-6	1

Look at the top row (i.e. the indicator row.) All values on indicator row are positive. This is our main stopping condition.

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Important: When the two-phase Simplex method stops and all the artificial variables have value $= 0$, we can remove the artificial variables and remaining variables will form a feasible solution for the original LP problem

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Which Columns have 0 or 1 only in their column?

- ▶ x_1 : 5 and -20 NO
- ▶ x_2 : Yes
- ▶ s_1 : 1 and -6 NO
- ▶ s_2 : Yes

Set values to zero, if this condition is not met. $x_1 = 0, s_1 = 0$.

Solve for the other values.

Pivot Row: $2.5 = 5x_1 + x_2 + s_1 + 0s_2$

Necessarily x_1 and $s_1 = 0$: $2.5 = x_2 + 0s_2$

By Inspection $x_2 = 2.5$

Solution : (0,2.5)

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- (iii) Explain why the solution to the LP Relaxation of the IP is $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 2.5$ and why we must now branch on x_2 and what are the two branches?

Remarks Solution already provided.

x_1 has integer solution.

x_2 has none-integer solution.

Apply constraints using floor and ceiling function of x_2 .

Branches: $x_2 \leq 2$ and $x_2 \geq 3$.

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- A. First show that the basic variable x_2 may be expressed in terms of the non-basic variables x_1 and x_3 (also known as s_1) as:

$$x_2 = 2.5 - 5x_1 - x_3.$$

- B. Substitute this expression for x_2 into the S_0 branch constraint and show that it takes the form

$$-5x_1 - x_3 + s = -0.5.$$

(Discussed Previously, but slack variable denoted with s_1 rather than x_3)

(The variable s is the slack variable for the constraint $x_2 \leq 2$.)

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- C. Show that the Simplex Tableau with the addition of this constraint takes the form:

5	5	0	2	0	0
2.5	5	1	1	0	0
30	-20	0	-6	1	0
-0.5	-5	0	-1	0	1

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(v) Explain why this tableau is optimal but infeasible.

5	5	0	2	0	0
2.5	5	1	1	0	0
30	-20	0	-6	1	0
-0.5	-5	0	-1	0	1

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Important If an LP is infeasible, then the two-phase Simplex method will stop with a solution where some slack variable has a negative value

Key Indicator: Infeasibility is evident when there is a negative value in the barrier column when the tableau meets the stopping condition (i.e. the indicator row shows all positive)

Solve for all values on tableau of previous slide.

Dual Simplex Method

- (vi) Apply one iteration of the Dual Simplex Method (DSM) to this tableau and show that the Simplex Tableau now takes the form:

4.5	0	0	1	0	1
2	0	1	0	0	1
32	0	0	-2	1	-4
0.1	1	0	0.20	0	-0.2

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- (vii) Is this tableau LP optimal? Is it integer feasible? Explain.
What is the solution to this LP relaxation? 1
- (viii) What branching should you now make?

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- (ix) Having chosen a suitable branching, explain why the new tableau for the left-hand branch ($x_1 = 0$) is:

5	5	0	2	0	0
2.5	5	1	1	0	0
30	-20	0	-6	1	0
-0.5	-5	0	-1	0	1

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- A. What row and column is selected for pivoting with DSM?
- B. Check that, after pivoting with DSM, x_1 and x_2 remain basic with $x_1 = 0$ and $x_2 = 2$. (*No need to update the full tableau, just the top left-hand element and the second-last element in the left-hand column.*) and hence find the integer optimal value of z ?