

Linear Programming

Discrete Mathematics and Optimization
Bioinformatics

The diet problem

- Three foods available: broccoli, milk, and oranges
- Institute for Health recommends per day at least
3.7 liters water, 1.000mg calcium, 90mg vitamin C
- Table listing for each food the nutrient content and cost

Food 100g	Vitamin C	Calcium (mg)	Water (g)	Cost
Broccoli	107	47	91	0.381
Whole Milk	0	276	87	0.100
Oranges	53.2	40	87	0.272

Problem: compute a **minimum cost diet** satisfying the requirements

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Problem: compute a **minimum cost diet** satisfying the requirements

- x_1, x_2, x_3 amount of units of each food.
- Minimize $0.381x_1 + 0.100x_2 + 0.272x_3$ subject to:

$$107x_1 + 53.2x_2 \geq 90$$

$$47x_1 + 276x_2 + 40x_3 \geq 1000$$

$$91x_1 + 87x_2 + 87x_3 \geq 3700$$

The Diet Problem

- n type of food items F_1, \dots, F_n
- Each unit of F_j has a cost of c_j
- m nutrients (vitamin A, proteins, etc.) N_1, \dots, N_m
 a_{ij} = amount of nutrient N_i in a unit of food F_j .

A healthy diet should contain at least b_i quantity of nutrient N_i

Goal:

Design a diet of minimum cost satisfying health requirements

Formalisation of a linear programming problem

In order to model it as a linear program one has to identify

① **Decision variables:** x_i = number of units of F_i in the diet

② **Explicit constraints:**

$$a_{i1}x_1 + \cdots + a_{in}x_n \geq b_i$$

where the left-hand side is the amount of N_i in the diet

③ **Implicit constraints:** $x_i \geq 0$

LP problem

Minimize	$c^T x$	(cost of the diet)
Subject to	$Ax \geq b$	(health requirements)
	$x \geq 0$	(non-negative amount of amount of food)

What is Linear Programming?

Optimizing a **linear** function subject to **linear** constraints.

n = number of variables

m = number of constraints

$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is the **vector** of variables

A linear program in **standard form** is of the form

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & c_1x_1 + \dots + c_nx_n \\ \text{Subject to} & a_{11}x_1 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \leq b_1 \\ & \vdots \\ & a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n \leq b_m \\ & x_1, \dots, x_n \geq 0\end{array}$$

Alternatively, it can be of the form

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Minimize} & c_1x_1 + \dots + c_nx_n \\ \text{Subject to} & a_{11}x_1 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \geq b_1 \\ & \vdots \\ & a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n \geq b_m \\ & x_1, \dots, x_n \geq 0\end{array}$$

Examples. A simple example

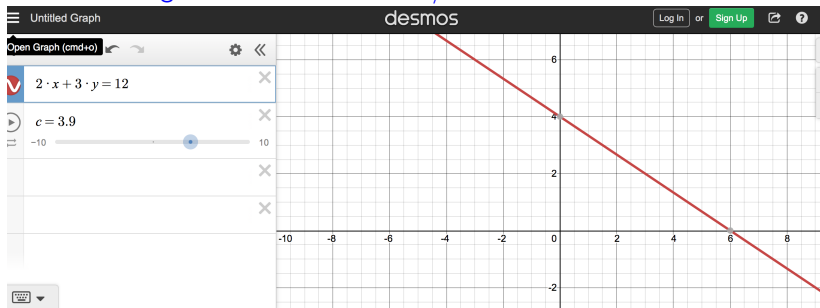
$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & 2x + 2y \\ \text{Subject to} & 2x + 3y \leq 12 \\ & 3x + y \leq 10 \\ & x + y \leq 4.5 \\ & x, y \geq 0\end{array}$$

To visualize the regions: www.desmos.com/calculator

Examples. A simple example

Maximize $2x + 2y$
Subject to $2x + 3y \leq 12$
 $3x + y \leq 10$
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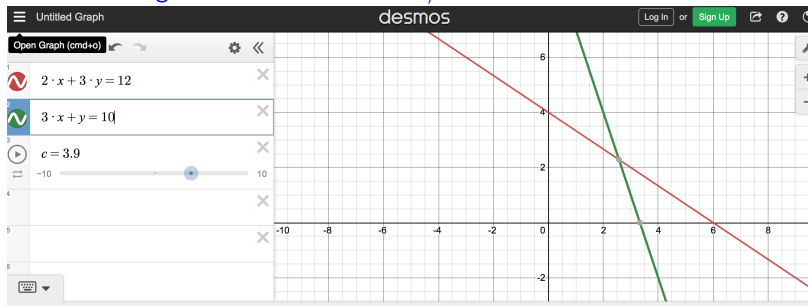
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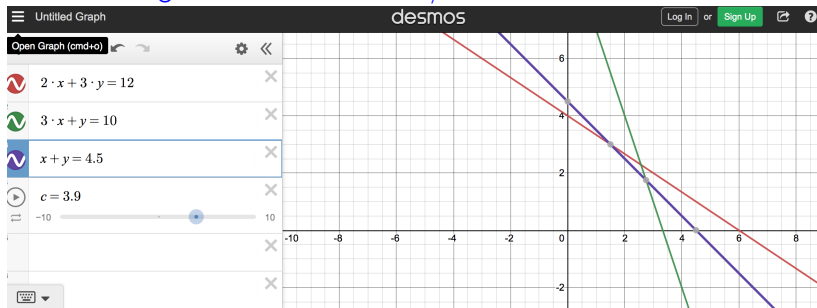
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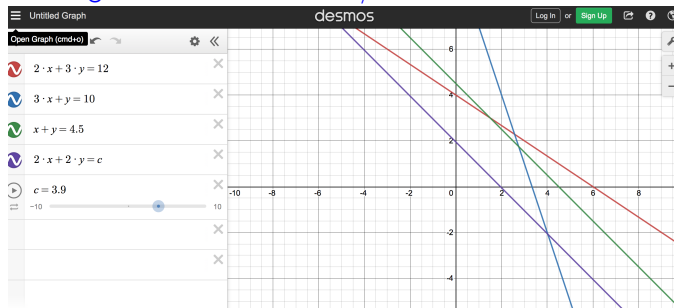
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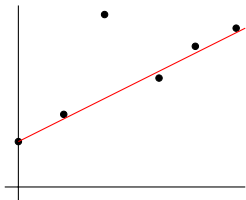
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Examples. Data fitting: least absolute deviations

n experimental data $(s_1, t_1), \dots, (s_n, t_n)$

want to find the line $ax + b$ that fits best the data.



In this case the criterion is

$$\text{Minimize } D(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n |as_i + b - t_i|.$$

This alternative to least squares is more resistant to outliers, but the function to be minimized is not differentiable.

Examples. Data fitting: least absolute deviations

In this case the criterion is

$$\text{Minimize } D(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n |as_i + b - t_i|.$$

D is not linear (nor differentiable,) but...

$e_i = |as_i + b - t_i|$ = error for estimating the i -th point:

$$-e_i \leq as_i + b - t_i \leq e_i$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Minimize} & e_1 + \cdots + e_n \quad (\text{sum of absolute errors}) \\ \text{Subject to} & e_i \geq as_i + b - t_i \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\ & e_i \geq -(as_i + b - t_i) \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{array}$$

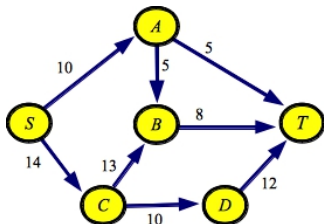
Not in standard form

Variables e_i are auxiliary, we only need a and b

Remark. Objective functions or constraints involving absolute values can often be handled by LP methods by introducing extra variables and/or extra constraints.

Examples. Flow in a network

Send flow through a network from a source to a target with constraints on the edges.



Maximize

Subject to

$$x_{SA} + x_{SC}$$

$$0 \leq x_{SA} \leq 10, 0 \leq x_{SC} \leq 14, 0 \leq x_{AB} \leq 5, 0 \leq x_{AT} \leq 5$$

$$0 \leq x_{CB} \leq 13, 0 \leq x_{CD} \leq 10, x_{BT} \leq 8, 0 \leq x_{DT} \leq 12$$

$$x_{SA} = x_{AB} + x_{AT}, x_{BT} = x_{AB} + x_{CB},$$

$$x_{SC} = x_{CB} + x_{CD}, x_{CD} = x_{DT}$$

(flow from S

Equational form and basic feasible solutions

Linear programs in **equational form**

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & c^T x \\ \text{Subject to} & Ax = b \\ & x \geq 0\end{array}$$

- A is $m \times n$ of rank $m \leq n$,
- x is an n -column vector, and
- b is an m -column vector.

From a standard LP to an LP in equational form

Introduce **slack variables**. For each inequality

$$a_{i1}x_1 + \cdots + a_{in}x_n \leq b_i$$

introduce a new variable $y_i \geq 0$ such that

$$a_{i1}x_1 + \cdots + a_{in}x_n + y_i = b_i.$$

Basic feasible solutions

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & c^T x \\ \text{Subject to} & Ax = b \\ & x \geq 0\end{array}$$

Notation: A_B = matrix of columns of A indexed by the subset $B \subset [n]$

A **basic feasible solution** of the linear program is x such that, for some m -element subset $B \subset [n]$,

- x is a **feasible** solution,
- $x_i = 0$ for $i \notin B$, and
- A_B is **nonsingular**

Variables x_j with $j \in B$ are **basic**. The remaining variables are **nonbasic**.

A basic feasible solution is uniquely determined by B .

A geometric view

The feasible set of a linear program is a polyhedron P in \mathbb{R}^n , bounded or not.

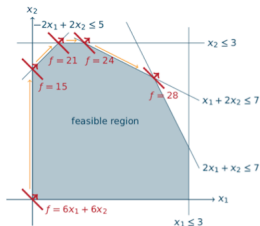
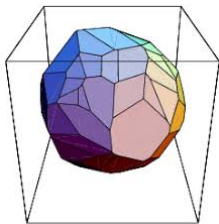


Figure 2 Linear programming problem - Simplex Solution

A **vertex** (a tip, a corner) of P is a point $v \in P$, such that there is a hyperplane H such that v is precisely the intersection of P and H .

Theorem

Let P be the set of feasible solutions of a linear program in equational form. Then v is a **vertex** of the polyhedron P **if and only if** v is a **basic feasible solution** of the linear program.

A geometric view

The feasible set of a linear program is a polyhedron P in \mathbb{R}^n , bounded or not.

Theorem

Let P be the set of feasible solutions of a linear program in equational form. Then v is a **vertex** of the polyhedron P **if and only if** v is a **basic feasible solution** of the linear program.

Theorem

An **optimal** solution of a linear program in equational form is achieved by a **basic feasible solution**, that is, in a vertex of the polyhedron P of feasible solutions.

This provides a (nonefficient) algorithm to find a solution to an LP problem: check the values of the objective function on vertices of the polyhedron of feasible solutions

The simplex method

Input: a linear program in equational form

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & c^T x \\ \text{Subject to} & Ax = b \\ & x \geq 0\end{array}$$

Output: a solution x where the objective function is maximum or a certificate of nonexistence (unboundedness).

Description of the algorithm:

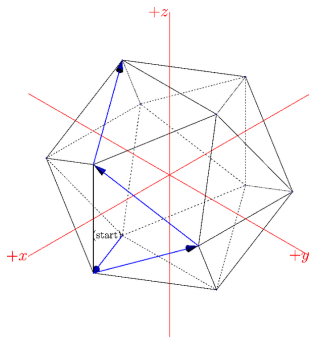
1. Find a basic feasible solution
2. Move to a neighboring basic feasible solution while increasing the value of the objective function
3. When no further increase is possible, the optimum is reached.

The simplex method

Input: a linear program in equational form

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & c^T x \\ \text{Subject to} & Ax = b \\ & x \geq 0\end{array}$$

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An example

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & x_1 + x_2 \\ \text{Subject to} & -x_1 + x_2 \leq 1 \\ & x_1 \leq 3 \\ & x_2 \leq 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0\end{array}$$

- **Step 0:** Put the problem in equational form.

Introduce **Slack** variables x_3, x_4, x_5

$$\begin{array}{llllllll} \text{Maximize} & x_1 & +x_2 & & & & & \\ \text{Subject to} & -x_1 & +x_2 & +x_3 & & & & = 1 \\ & x_1 & & & +x_4 & & & = 3 \\ & & x_2 & & & +x_5 & & = 2 \\ & x_1, & x_2, & x_3, & x_4, & x_5 & & \geq 0 \end{array}$$

An example (II)

$$\begin{array}{llllll}
 \text{Maximize} & x_1 & +x_2 & & & \\
 \text{Subject to} & -x_1 & +x_2 & +x_3 & & = 1 \\
 & x_1 & & & +x_4 & = 3 \\
 & & x_2 & & & +x_5 = 2 \\
 & x_1, & x_2, & x_3, & x_4, & x_5 \geq 0
 \end{array}$$

- **Step 1a:** Identify a basic feasible condition:
 - ▶ $(0, 0, 1, 3, 2)$ is a basic feasible solution.
 - ▶ x_3, x_4, x_5 basic variables, x_1, x_2 nonbasic
- **Step 1b:** Organize the input in a tableau (or dictionary) with these data:

x_3	$= 1$	$+x_1$	$-x_2$	eq.1
x_4	$= 3$	$-x_1$		eq.2
x_5	$= 2$		$-x_2$	eq.3
z	$= x_1$	$+x_2$		$z = 0$

$(0, 0, 1, 3, 2)$ basic feasible solution.

An example (III)

x_3	$= 1$	$+x_1$	$-x_2$	eq.1
x_4	$= 3$	$-x_1$		eq.2
x_5	$= 2$		$-x_2$	eq.3
z	$= x_1$	$+x_2$		$z = 0$

$(0, 0, 1, 3, 2)$ basic feasible solution.

- Step 2: Identify entering and leaving variables: pivot step
 - entering: one with positive coefficient in z (increasing its value increases the objective function).
Two choices, x_1, x_2 . Choose x_2 entering, for instance.
 - leaving: the one which restricts most the increasing of the entering variable.

$$x_3 \geq 0 \rightarrow x_2 \leq 1$$

$$x_4 \geq 0 \rightarrow x_2 < \infty$$

$$x_5 \geq 0 \rightarrow x_2 \leq 2$$

x_3 leaving

An example (IV)

- **Step 3:** Increase the entering variable as much as possible ($x_2 = 1$), update the tableau

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_3 & = & 1 & +x_1 - x_2 \\ x_4 & = & 3 & -x_1 \\ x_5 & = & 2 & -x_2 \\ \hline z & = & 0 & +x_1 + x_2 \end{array} \quad | \quad z = 0$$

→

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_2 & = & 1 & +x_1 - x_3 \\ x_4 & = & 3 & -x_1 \\ x_5 & = & 1 & -x_1 + x_3 \\ \hline z & = & 1 & +2x_1 - x_3 \end{array} \quad | \quad z = 1$$

(0, 1, 0, 3, 1) basic feasible solution.

An example (V)

- **Step 4:** Repeat Step 2 and Step 3 while possible.

- ▶ x_1 **entering**, x_5 **leaving**. Maximum increase $x_1 = 1$

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_2 & = & 1 & +x_1 & -x_3 \\ x_4 & = & 3 & -x_1 & \\ x_5 & = & 1 & -x_1 & +x_3 \\ \hline z & = & 1 & +2x_1 & -x_3 \end{array} \quad z = 1$$

→

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_1 & = & 1 & +x_3 & -x_5 \\ x_2 & = & 2 & & -x_5 \\ x_4 & = & 2 & -x_3 & +x_5 \\ \hline z & = & 3 & +x_3 & -2x_5 \end{array} \quad z = 3$$

(1, 2, 0, 2, 0) basic feasible solution.

- ▶ x_3 **entering**, x_4 **leaving**. Maximum increase $x_1 = 1$

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_1 & = & 1 & +x_3 & -x_5 \\ x_2 & = & 2 & & -x_5 \\ x_4 & = & 2 & -x_3 & +x_5 \\ \hline z & = & 3 & +x_3 & -2x_5 \end{array} \quad z = 3$$

→

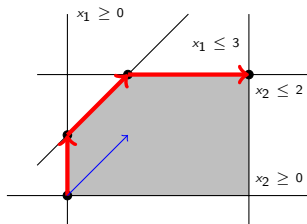
$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_1 & = & 3 & & -x_4 \\ x_2 & = & 2 & & -x_5 \\ x_3 & = & 2 & -x_4 & +x_5 \\ \hline z & = & 5 & -x_4 & -x_5 \end{array} \quad z = 5$$

(3, 2, 2, 0, 0) basic feasible solution.

- Return $x_1 = 3, x_2 = 2$ and $z = 5$.

An example (VI): a geometric illustration

$$\begin{array}{llllll} \text{Maximize} & x_1 & +x_2 & & & \\ \text{Subject to} & -x_1 & +x_2 & +x_3 & & = 1 \\ & x_1 & & & +x_4 & = 3 \\ & & x_2 & & & +x_5 = 2 \\ & x_1, & x_2, & x_3, & x_4, & x_5 \geq 0 \end{array}$$



Outline of the simplex algorithm

- 0 Put the problem in equational form.
- 1 Find a basic feasible solution. Initialize the Tableau.
- 2 Pivot step: Select leaving and entering variables.
- 3 Increase entering variable. Update Tableau and current basic feasible solution.
- 4 Repeat steps 2 and 3 while possible.
- 5 Output solution.

The example again

Initialize

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_3 & = & 1 & +x_1 -x_2 \\ x_4 & = & 3 & -x_1 \\ x_5 & = & 2 & -x_2 \\ \hline z & = & 0 & +x_1 +x_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ z = 0 \end{array}$$

(0, 0, 1, 3, 2)

x_2 in; x_3 out

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_2 & = & 1 & +x_1 -x_3 \\ x_4 & = & 3 & -x_1 \\ x_5 & = & 1 & -x_1 +x_3 \\ \hline z & = & 1 & +2x_1 -x_3 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ z = 1 \end{array}$$

(0, 1, 0, 3, 1)

x_1 in; x_5 out

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_1 & = & 1 & +x_3 -x_5 \\ x_2 & = & 2 & -x_5 \\ x_4 & = & 2 & -x_3 +x_5 \\ \hline z & = & 3 & +x_3 -2x_5 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ z = 3 \end{array}$$

(1, 2, 0, 2, 0)

x_3 in ; x_4 out

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_1 & = & 3 & -x_4 \\ x_2 & = & 2 & -x_5 \\ x_3 & = & 2 & -x_4 +x_5 \\ \hline z & = & 5 & -x_4 -x_5 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ z = 5 \end{array}$$

(3, 2, 2, 0, 0)

Outline of the simplex algorithm

- 0 Put the problem in equational form.
- 1 Find a basic feasible solution. Initialize the Tableau.
- 2 Pivot step: Select leaving and entering variables.
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- 4 Repeat steps 2 and 3 while possible.
- 5 Output solution.

Outline of the simplex algorithm

Handling troubles

- 0 Put the problem in equational form.
- 1 Find a basic feasible solution. Initialize the Tableau.
Infeasibility: no solutions?
- 2 Pivot step: Select leaving and entering variables.
Rules of choice
- 3 Increase entering variable. Update Tableau and current basic feasible solution.
Degeneracy: what if no choice increases objective function?
- 4 Repeat steps 2 and 3 while possible.
Unboundedness: what if no maximum exists?
- 5 Output solution.

Exception handling (I)

Unboundedness

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} x_1 & = & 1 & +x_2 & -x_3 \\ x_4 & = & 3 & & -x_3 \\ \hline z & = & 1 & +x_2 & -x_3 \end{array}$$

- Entering variable x_2 : no variable restricts its increase.
- For any $t \geq 0$, $(1 + t, t, 0, 3)$ is feasible solution with value $z = 1 + t$.

Output: No maximum for the objective function (or maximum is infinity).

Exception handling (I)

Unfeasibility

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & c^T x \\ \text{Subject to} & Ax \leq b, x \geq 0\end{array}$$

If $b \geq 0$, introduction of m slack variables always allows for an initial basic feasible solution.

But:

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & c^T x \\ \text{Subject to} & Ax = b, x \geq 0\end{array}$$

Exception handling (II)

Infeasibility

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & c^T x \\ \text{Subject to} & Ax = b, x \geq 0\end{array}$$

- Assume all $b_i \geq 0$
- Introduce an **auxiliary variable** y_i for each equation.
(if we set all variables to 0, by how much they fail to satisfy the equation.)
- Write a Linear Programming problem for maximization of

$$-y_1 - y_2 \cdots - y_m$$

- ▶ If maximum value is **zero**, then the values of the variables x_1, \dots, x_n provide a **basic feasible solution** to start the original problem.
- ▶ Otherwise the program is **infeasible**.

Exception handling (II)

Unfeasibility: Example

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & x_1 + 2x_2 \\ \text{Subject to} & x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 4 \\ & 2x_2 + x_3 = 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0\end{array}$$

- Introduce auxiliary variables x_4 and x_5 and write new Linear Program problem:

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & -x_4 - x_5 \\ \text{Subject to} & x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 4 \\ & 2x_2 + x_3 + x_5 = 2 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \geq 0\end{array}$$

Exception handling (II)

Unfeasibility: Example

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & x_1 + 2x_2 \\ \text{Subject to} & x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 4 \\ & 2x_2 + x_3 = 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0\end{array}$$

- Basic feasible solution $(0, 0, 0, 4, 2)$. Write Tableau

$$x_4 = 4 - x_1 - 3x_2 - x_3$$

$$x_5 = 2 - 2x_2 - x_3$$

$$z = -6 + x_1 + 5x_2 + 2x_3$$

Exception handling (II)

Unfeasibility: Example

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & x_1 + 2x_2 \\ \text{Subject to} & x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 4 \\ & 2x_2 + x_3 = 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0\end{array}$$

- Start pivot steps

- ▶ x_1 in x_4 out

$$\begin{array}{rcl}x_1 & = & 4 - 3x_2 - x_3 - x_4 \\x_5 & = & 2 - 2x_2 - x_3 \\ \hline z & = & -2 + 2x_2 + x_3 - x_4\end{array}$$

- ▶ x_3 in x_5 out

$$\begin{array}{rcl}x_1 & = & 2 - x_2 - x_4 + x_5 \\x_3 & = & 2 - 2x_2 - x_5 \\ \hline z & = & 0 - x_4 - x_5\end{array}$$

Exception handling (II)

Unfeasibility: Example

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & x_1 + 2x_2 \\ \text{Subject to} & x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 4 \\ & 2x_2 + x_3 = 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0\end{array}$$

- Basic feasible solution $(2, 0, 2, 0, 0)$, $z = 0$

$$\begin{array}{rcll}x_1 & = & 2 & -x_2 - x_4 + x_5 \\x_3 & = & 2 & -2x_2 - x_5 \\ \hline z & = & 0 & -x_4 - x_5\end{array}$$

- Basic feasible solution for initial problem $(2, 0, 2)$

Exception handling (III)

Degeneracy

In pivot step no increase of entering variable is possible

Allow for some zero increase of the objective function

Example

Maximize x_2
Subject to $-x_1 + x_2 \leq 0$
 $x_1 \leq 2$
 $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

Tableau:

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} x_3 & = & +x_1 & -x_2 & \\ x_4 & = & 2 & -x_1 & \\ \hline z & = & & +x_2 & \end{array}$$

x_2 enters and x_3 leaves, but the value of x_2 can not be increased

Exception handling (III)

Degeneracy

In pivot step no increase of entering variable is possible

Allow for some zero increase of the objective function

Example

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & x_2 \\ \text{Subject to} & -x_1 + x_2 \leq 0 \\ & x_1 \leq 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0\end{array}$$

- **Degenerate** pivot step x_2 in x_3 out. Basic feasible solution $(0, 0, 0, 2)$

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} x_2 & = & +x_1 & -x_3 & \\ x_4 & = & 2 & -x_1 & \\ \hline z & = & x_1 & -x_3 & \end{array}$$

Exception handling (III)

Degeneracy

In pivot step no increase of entering variable is possible

Allow for some zero increase of the objective function

Example

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & x_2 \\ \text{Subject to} & -x_1 + x_2 \leq 0 \\ & x_1 \leq 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0\end{array}$$

- x_1 in and x_4 out. Basic feasible solution $(2, 2, 0, 0)$

$$\begin{array}{rclcl}x_1 & = & 2 & & -x_4 \\x_2 & = & 2 & -x_3 & -x_4 \\ \hline z & = & 2 & -x_3 & -x_4\end{array}$$

- Output: $(2, 2), z = 2$.

Exception handling (III)

Degeneracy

In pivot step no increase of entering variable is possible

Allow for some zero increase of the objective function

Example

$$\begin{array}{ll}\text{Maximize} & x_2 \\ \text{Subject to} & -x_1 + x_2 \leq 0 \\ & x_1 \leq 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0\end{array}$$

- It may happen that there are more than one degenerate pivot steps.
- It may happen that the degenerate pivot steps **cycle** to some previous point.

Pivot rules

More than one possibility for the entering variable

- LARGEST COEFFICIENT. Choose variable with largest coefficient in z
- LARGEST INCREASE. Largest **absolute** improvement of z
- STEEPEST EDGE. Moves current feasible solution in a direction closest to c .
- BLAND'S RULE. Entering variable with smallest index. Same rule for leaving variable

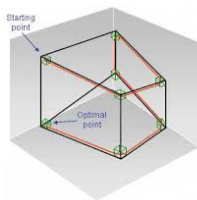
Theorem The simplex method with Bland's rule is always finite (cycling is impossible).

Efficiency of the simplex method

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- In practice it performs very satisfactorily: typically between $2m$ and $3m$ steps to reach the optimum.
- It has been proved that small alterations always brings polynomial time problems (Spielman-Teng, 2001).
- Most mathematical software systems (Maple, Matlab, Mathematica,...) have packages implementing the simplex algorithm.
In Python the library [scipy.optimize.linprog](https://docs.scipy.org/doc/scipy/reference/generated/scipy.optimize.linprog.html) has several implemented algorithms for LP problems
<https://docs.scipy.org/doc/scipy/reference/generated/scipy.optimize.linprog.html>

Summary of the simplex method

1. Convert the input linear program to equational form

$$\text{maximize } c^T x \text{ subject to } Ax = b \text{ and } x \geq 0$$

2. If no feasible basis is available, arrange for $b \geq 0$, and solve

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Maximize} & -(x_{n+1} + \cdots + x_{n+m}) \\ \text{Subject to} & \overline{A}\overline{x} = b \\ & \overline{x} \geq 0 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \overline{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_{n+m}) \\ \overline{A} = (A \mid I_m) \end{array}$$

If optimal value negative, the program is **infeasible**; **stop**.

Otherwise, the first n components of the optimal solution form a **basic feasible solution** of the original linear program.

3. For a feasible basis $B \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ compute

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} X_B \\ z \end{array} = \begin{array}{l} p \\ z_0 \end{array} + \begin{array}{l} QX_N \\ r^T X_N \end{array}}$$

4. If $r \leq 0$, then return $(p, 0)$ as **optimal solution**; **stop**.

$$\frac{X_B = p + Qx}{z = z_0 + r^T X_n}$$

4. If $r \leq 0$, then return $(p, 0)$ as **optimal solution**; **stop**.
5. Else select **entering variable** x_v with positive coefficient in r
6. If the column of the entering variable x_v is nonnegative, the program is **unbounded**; **stop**.
7. Else select a **leaving variable** x_u .

In all rows where the coefficient of x_v is negative, divide the component of the vector p by that coefficient and change sign.

Choose the row with **minimal ratio**.

8. Replace the current basis B by $B - u + v$.

Update the tableau. Go to Step 4.

Simplex in Python

- Optimization library in **scipy**:

docs.scipy.org/doc/scipy/reference/optimize.linprog-simplex.html



Getting started User Guide **API reference** Development Release notes

Search the docs ...

(`scipy.ndimage`)

Orthogonal distance regression

(`scipy.odr`)

Optimization and root finding

(`scipy.optimize`)

Nonlinear solvers

Cython optimize zeros API

Signal processing (`scipy.signal`)

Sparse matrices (`scipy.sparse`)

Sparse linear algebra

(`scipy.sparse.linalg`)

Compressed sparse graph routines

(`scipy.sparse.csgraph`)

Spatial algorithms and data structures

linprog(method='simplex')

```
scipy.optimize.linprog(c, A_ub=None, b_ub=None, A_eq=None, b_eq=None,
                        bounds=None, method='simplex', callback=None, options={'maxiter': 5000,
                        'disp': False, 'presolve': True, 'tol': 1e-12, 'autoscale': False, 'rr':
                        True, 'bland': False}, x0=None)
```

Linear programming: minimize a linear objective function subject to linear equality and inequality constraints using the tableau-based simplex method.

Linear programming solves problems of the following form:

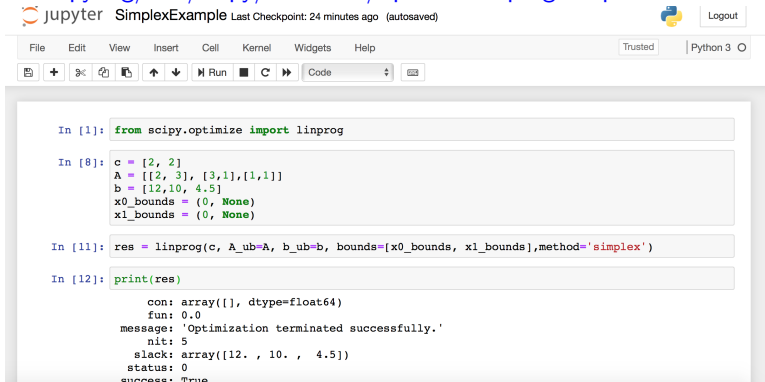
$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & c^T x \\ \text{such that} \quad & A_{ub} x \leq b_{ub}, \\ & A_{eq} x = b_{eq}, \\ & l \leq x \leq u, \end{aligned}$$

where x is a vector of decision variables; c , b_{ub} , b_{eq} , l , and u are vectors; and A_{ub} and A_{eq}

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```
In [1]: from scipy.optimize import linprog

In [8]: c = [2, 2]
A = [[2, 3], [3, 1], [1, 1]]
b = [12, 10, 4.5]
x0_bounds = (0, None)
x1_bounds = (0, None)

In [11]: res = linprog(c, A_ub=A, b_ub=b, bounds=[x0_bounds, x1_bounds], method='simplex')

In [12]: print(res)

con: array([], dtype=float64)
fun: 0.0
message: 'Optimization terminated successfully.'
nit: 5
slack: array([12. , 10. , 4.5])
status: 0
success: True
```

Concluding remarks

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Pivot operations require computing the **inverse** of A_B . This is a costly and unstable computation and requires advanced techniques from matrix theory, such as LU decompositions.

Concluding remarks

- The Simplex method was introduced by George Dantzig around 1947.
- Implementing the simplex method is far from being trivial.
Pivot operations require computing the **inverse** of A_B . This is a costly and unstable computation and requires advanced techniques from matrix theory, such as LU decompositions.
- There is a wide range of applications in bioinformatics of Linear Programming (and Integer Linear Programming), including [sequence analysis](#), [protein structure](#), [haplotyping](#), [microarrays](#), [evolutionary distances](#)...
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/26552925_Mathematical_Programming_in_Computational_Biology_an_Annotated_Bibliography