



Computer Science
Operations Research

Simplex Algorithm

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1 The Simplex Algorithm

The simplex algorithm, developed by George Dantzig in 1947, arises from the need to solve linear programming problems. This problem was fundamentally proposed by Kantorovich and Koopman, who developed the optimal location problem and the problem of resources. The Simplex method optimizes an objective function subject to linear constraints, using an iterative process to improve the value of the objective function until the optimal solution is reached. Its ability to solve complex problems and its use in various applications make it an essential tool in the optimization of resources and strategic decisions in industry, economics, and operations research.

Given the time of its development, it was essentially thought to be solved by hand; however, now there are digital tools that allow the process to be automated.

1.1 George Dantzig

The American mathematician was born in 1914 and died in 2005. In addition to being the creator of the Simplex algorithm, he was head of the Scientific Computing of Operations Research (SCOOP), where he promoted linear programming for strategic purposes during World War II.



2 Problem: Fábrica de Puertas y Ventanas

The problem inputted by the user is called “Fábrica de Puertas y Ventanas” and consists of maximizing the following function:

$$Z = x_1 \cdot -3,000000 + x_2 \cdot -5,000000$$

Subject to:

$$x_1 \cdot 1,000000 + x_2 \cdot 0,000000 \leq 4,000000$$

$$x_1 \cdot 0,000000 + x_2 \cdot 2,000000 \leq 12,000000$$

$$x_1 \cdot 3,000000 + x_2 \cdot 2,000000 \leq 18,000000$$

3 Initial Matrix

Z	x_1	x_2	b			
1,000	-3,000	-5,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
0,000	1,000	0,000	1,000	0,000	0,000	4,000
0,000	0,000	2,000	0,000	1,000	0,000	12,000
0,000	3,000	2,000	0,000	0,000	1,000	18,000

4 Result Analysis

5 Unique Solution

5.1 Multiple solutions

It happens when an infinite number of solutions can be found to the same problem, through a particular formula.

This phenomenon is not typical of all the problems that the simplex algorithm encounters, it is only when a non-basic variable has a value of 0. This means that it can be manipulated to find more solutions, without affecting the gain. Here is where it happens in this problem:

6 Graph