



18 Lecture 18

A ~~$m \times n$~~ $m+n, mn$ \rightarrow const matrix
rank $m+n-1$
Transary m rows
 n cols

A graph theoretic look at basis

[18.1] **Remember** When striking off the rows and columns in B , it is better you write them as a sequence using $R1$ for row one and $C1$ for column one. For example, for the B in the previous example, the strike of sequence is

$$R_6 C_4, R_2 C_3, R_3 C_5, R_4 C_1, R_1 C_2.$$

Similarly, for the strike off in T you can write

$$\begin{matrix} 1R_1 \\ \rightarrow 1R_2 \\ \rightarrow 1R_3 \end{matrix} = 0 \quad \left[\quad \right] C_3, R_2, R_3, C_1, R_1.$$



[18.2] **Discussion** (A bipartite graph for a given set of variables) a) Consider an $m \times n$ BTP. Put vertices a_1, \dots, a_m on the left and vertices b_1, \dots, b_n on the right, in a top down manner. The variable x_{ij} can be viewed to stand for the edge from a_i to b_j . In this way, we see a complete bipartite graph $K_{m,n}$.

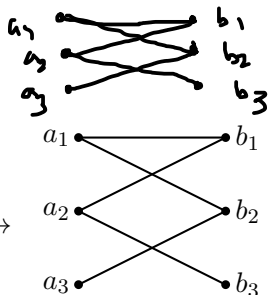
b) Let S be a set of some highlighted variables. The graph Γ_S of S is the spanning subgraph of the previous graph, where we only show the edges for the variables in S .

c) For example



x_{11}	x_{12}	
x_{21}		x_{23}
	x_{32}	

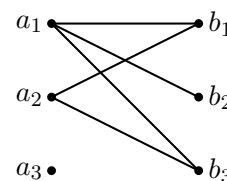
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and

x_{11}	x_{12}	x_{13}
x_{21}		x_{23}

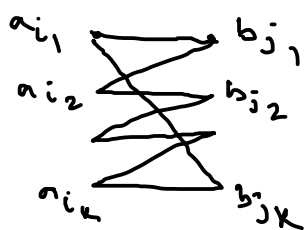
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$S \rightarrow$ some set of variables
 Γ_S

Recall that the column corresponding to x_{ij} of the transportation matrix A is $C_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} e_i \\ e_j \end{bmatrix}$, where e_i has size m and e_j has size n .

[18.3] **Lemma** Let S be a set of variables. Suppose that Γ_S contains a cycle. Then S is linearly dependent.



$$C = [a_{i_1}, b_{j_1}, a_{i_2}, b_{j_2}, \dots, a_{i_k}, b_{j_k}, a_{i_1}]$$

$$+ \begin{bmatrix} e_{i_1} \\ e_{j_1} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} e_{i_2} \\ e_{j_1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e_{i_2} \\ e_{j_2} \end{bmatrix} - \dots - \begin{bmatrix} e_{i_1} \\ e_{j_k} \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Proof. Suppose that Γ_S contains a cycle $[a_{i_1}, b_{j_1}, a_{i_2}, b_{j_2}, \dots, a_{i_k}, b_{j_k}, a_{i_1}]$. The corresponding edges are

$$x_{i_1, j_1}, x_{i_2, j_1}, x_{i_2, j_2}, x_{i_3, j_2}, \dots, x_{i_k, j_k}, x_{i_1, j_k},$$

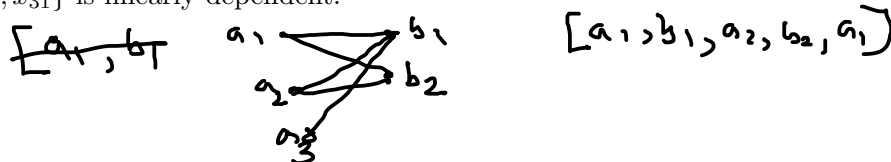
in that order. Then we have

$$C_{i_1 j_1} - C_{i_2 j_1} + C_{i_2 j_2} - C_{i_3 j_2} + \dots + C_{i_k j_k} - C_{i_1 j_k} = \begin{bmatrix} e_{i_1} \\ e_{j_1} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} e_{i_2} \\ e_{j_1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e_{i_2} \\ e_{j_2} \end{bmatrix} - \dots - \begin{bmatrix} e_{i_1} \\ e_{j_k} \end{bmatrix} = 0.$$

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}_{3 \times 3}$
 $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 5 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

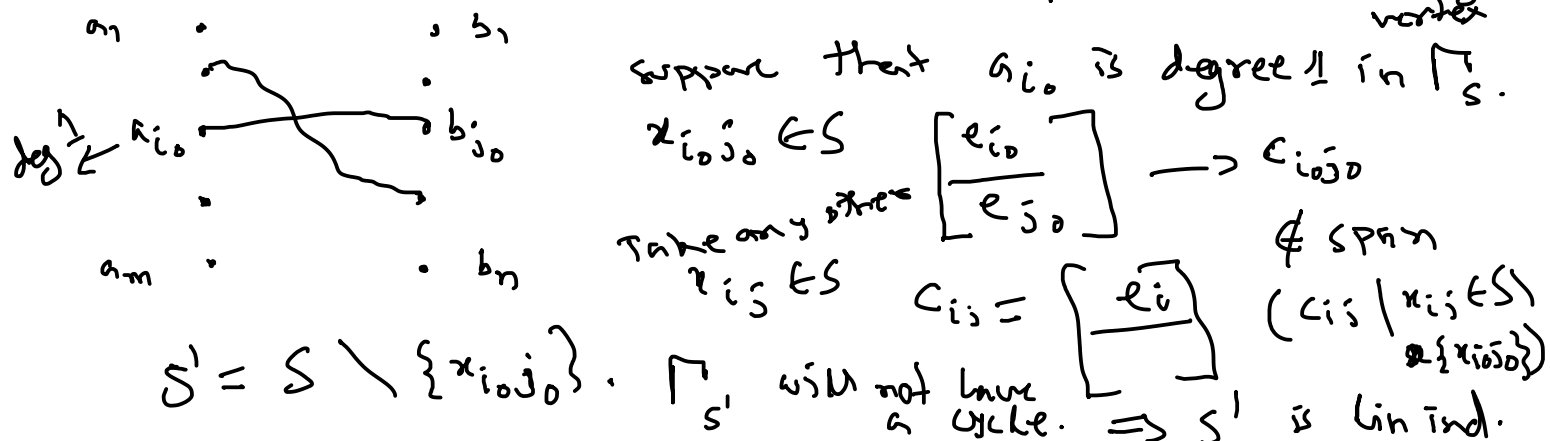
The alternating signs match perfectly as a cycle must have an even length in a bipartite graph. Thus, S is linearly dependent. ■

[18.4] **Workout** Show that the columns of A corresponding to the set of variables $S = \{x_{11}, x_{12}, x_{21}, x_{22}, x_{31}\}$ is linearly dependent.



Answer. In Γ_S we have a cycle $[a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2, a_1]$. Hence we have $C_{11} - C_{21} + C_{2,2} - C_{1,2} = 0$. So it is linearly dependent.

[18.5] **Lemma** Let S be a set of variables and suppose that Γ_S does not have a cycle. Then the columns of A corresponding to the variables in S are linearly independent.



Proof. If $S = \emptyset$, the statement is vacuously true. So, let $S \neq \emptyset$. Then Γ_S must contain a pendant vertex (degree one vertex).¹³ Let that vertex be a_{i_0} . (The other case is also similar.) Suppose that b_{j_0} is adjacent to this vertex. Then $x_{i_0 j_0}$ is the edge. Notice that the corresponding column is $C_{i_0 j_0} = \begin{bmatrix} e_{i_0} \\ e_{j_0} \end{bmatrix}$. None of the remaining edges is incident on e_{i_0} and hence their columns will not have e_{i_0} in the upper half. Hence, $C_{i_0 j_0}$ is independent of the columns of the remaining edges. (Means $C_{i_0 j_0}$ is not in the span of those columns.)

Now consider the set $S' = S \setminus \{x_{i_0 j_0}\}$. Then $\Gamma_{S'}$ does not have a cycle as it is a subgraph of Γ_S . Hence the columns of A corresponding to the elements in S' are linearly independent. As $C_{i_0 j_0}$ is not in the span of these columns, we are done by induction.

[18.6] **Theorem** A set S of variables forms a basis iff Γ_S is a tree.

Proof. Follows from the previous two results.

$A = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{bmatrix}_{m \times n}$
 for the $m \times n$ transposition $\rightarrow m \times n-1$ rows
 $m \times n$ vertices

Another way to check if a set S of variables is a basis
 Draw the bipartite graph Γ_S . If it is tree then S is a basis. Otherwise not.

[18.7] **Exercise** In a 5×6 BTP, is $\{x_{1,2}, x_{1,3}, x_{2,1}, x_{2,3}, x_{3,3}, x_{3,4}, x_{4,5}, x_{5,5}, x_{5,6}, x_{5,1}\}$ a basis?

¹³There is a positive degree vertex. Let it be u_1 . As $d(u_1) > 0$, let it be adjacent to u_2 . As $d(u_2) > 1$, there is a vertex u_3 adjacent to u_2 . Continue. Repetition is bound to happen, as the graph is finite. Stop at the first repetition. You have got a cycle.

Computing a basic solution for a given basis

Suppose that we have a basis S . How do I get the bs (basic solution) corresponding to S ?

Answer. Suppose that $x_{i,j}$ is the first we strike off in the transportation array T with a line, say a column. Then, put $x_{i,j} = b_j$. (Since $x_{i,j}$ was the only highlighted variable in that column, we see that the value $x_{i,j} = b_j$ is correct.) Modify $a_i = a_i - b_j$. (Notice that for the struck off array T' , the set $S' = S \setminus \{x_{i,j}\}$ is a basis. So its value can be determined correctly by induction.) In other words, we go for the next strike off and decide the value of another variable and so on.

[18.8] **Example** Compute the basic solution of the following BTP for the highlighted basis. Do we have a basic solution which is not feasible?

c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4

$x_{11} = 150, x_{12} = 200$
 $x_{34} = 300, x_{13} = 250$
 $x_{14} = -400, x_{24} = 250$

x_{11}	x_{12}	x_{13}	x_{14}	
150	200	250	-400	200
			x_{24}	250
			250	
			x_{34}	300
			300	
150	200	250	150	

Answer.

x_{11}	x_{12}	x_{13}	x_{14}	
				200
			x_{24}	250
			300	300
150	200	250	150	

→

x_{11}	x_{12}	x_{13}	x_{14}	
			250	250
			300	300
150	200	250	150	

→

150	x_{12}	x_{13}	x_{14}	200
			200	250
			300	300
150	200	250	150	

→ →

150	200	250	-400	200
			250	250
			300	300
150	200	250	150	

Yes, it is a basic solution which is not feasible.

[18.9] **Exercise** (Alternate way to compute a basic solution from a basis) How would we compute the bs for a given basis using the tree structure Γ_S of the basis S ?

[18.10] **Discussion** We already know that any arbitrary basis will not give us a bfs. So, we have the following algorithm to find an initial bfs.

General method to find an initial bfs.

- 1) Select any unstruck variable x_{ij} in the transportation table. Put $x_{ij} = \min\{a_i, b_j\}$.
- 2) If $a_i = \min\{a_i, b_j\}$, then strike off row i from the table and modify $b_j = b_j - a_i$ else strike off column j from the table and modify $a_i = a_i - b_j$.
- 3) If at any stage there is just a column (or row) left, then start striking off the rows (columns).
- 4) If there is any unstruck variable available, then go to 1).

[18.11] **Example** Consider the following transportation array. Find an initial bfs.

40 50 17
60 60
30 90

x_{11}	x_{12}	x_{13}	x_{14}	x_{15}	100
x_{21}	x_{22}	x_{23}	x_{24}	x_{25}	120
x_{31}	x_{32}	x_{33}	x_{34}	x_{35}	120
40	50	70	90	90	

Handwritten annotations on the table: $x_{12}=10$, $x_{23}=70$, $x_{31}=30$, $x_{34}=90$. Row 1 and column 5 are struck off. To the right is a small grid with asterisks indicating the struck-off rows and columns.

	x_{12}	x_{13}	x_{14}	x_{15}	100
40	x_{22}	x_{23}	x_{24}	x_{25}	80
	x_{32}	x_{33}	x_{34}	x_{35}	120
0	50	70	90	90	

→

	x_{12}	70	x_{14}	x_{15}	30
40	x_{22}		x_{24}	x_{25}	80
	x_{32}		x_{34}	x_{35}	120
0	50	0	90	90	

→

	30	70			0
40	x_{22}		x_{24}	x_{25}	80
	x_{32}		x_{34}	x_{35}	120
0	20	0	90	90	

→

	30	70			0
40	20		x_{24}	x_{25}	60
			x_{34}	x_{35}	120
0	0	0	90	90	

→

	30	70			0
40	20		60		0
			x_{34}	x_{35}	120
0	0	0	30	90	

→

	30	70			0
40	20		60		0
			30	90	0
0	0	0	0	0	

The initial bfs is given by $x_{12} = 30$, $x_{13} = 70$, $x_{21} = 40$, $x_{22} = 20$, $x_{24} = 60$, $x_{34} = 30$, and $x_{35} = 90$.

[18.12] **Theorem** The previous algorithm gives us a bfs correctly.

Proof. The fact that we are striking off a line before selecting the next variable ensures that we are going to get a basis. The fact that the value of a new variable $x_{l,k}$ is decided by the minimum of the modified availabilities a_l and b_k , ensures that the value of the variable is nonnegative. The nonbasic variables are zero, anyway. So it is a bfs. ■

Some traditional common rules to find an initial bfs To find an initial bfs the following two methods are commonly used, though none of them are beneficial, in general.

- a) NORTH-WEST RULE Always Select the variable in the north-west (top-left) corner of the unstruck part of the table.
- b) MINIMUM COST RULE Always select the variable with the minimum cost from the unstruck part of the table.

[18.13] **Proposition** (Values of the variables in a bfs) Values of the basic variables in a bfs can be written as a sum of some $\pm a_i$'s and $\pm b_j$'s, allowing repetition.

Assume the line is a row.
Assume some of the already struck off variables were there in that row.

✓	✓		
	✓		
	✓	✓	
		✓	✓

a_1
 a_2
 a_3
 a_4

b_1 b_2 b_3 b_4

$c_4, R_4, c_3, R_3, R_2, c_2, c_1$
 $x_{44} \rightarrow b_4$
 $x_{i_1 j_1}, x_{i_2 j_2}, \dots, x_{i_k j_k}$
 $x_{i_{k+1} j_{k+1}}$ a line was struck off

$x_{i_{k+1} j_{k+1}} = a_{i_{k+1}} - \sum \pm a_i - \sum \pm b_j$

Proof. Suppose, $x_{i_1 j_1}, \dots, x_{i_s j_s}$ are the basic variables in a bfs, written in the strike off order. We employ induction on the stage number k .

In the first stage of the strike off, if a row was struck off, then $x_{i_1 j_1} = a_{i_1}$, otherwise $x_{i_1 j_1} = b_{j_1}$. So the statement holds for $k = 1$.

Assume that the statements hold up to stage $k - 1$. At a stage k , if a row is struck off, then

$$x_{i_k j_k} = a_{i_k} - \sum \text{already found basic variables in that row.}$$

By induction hypothesis, the values of the already found variables in that row are in the required form. So the value of $x_{i_k j_k}$ has the required form. Argument is similar, if a column is struck off at stage k . ■

[18.14] **Corollary** (Nonnegative integer bfs) Suppose that in a BTP, all a_i 's and b_j 's are nonnegative integers. Then in any bfs, the values of the variables are nonnegative integers. In particular, if all a_i and b_j are 1, then the value any variable in that bfs is 0 or 1.

70 min row
at 5.05
{ 1
5.10

Proof. As the values of the variables are sums of the $\pm a_i$'s and $\pm b_j$'s, they must be integers. As it is a bfs, they must be nonnegative. For the next question, the value any variable in that bfs is 0 or 1, as the value of a variable (in a bfs) cannot be more than the a_i 's and b_j 's. ■

The minimality test

[18.15] **Discussion** Consider a BTP with a bfs w . Let \tilde{A} be the matrix obtained from A by dropping the last row and \tilde{B} be a basis matrix for w (this is a submatrix of \tilde{A}). For minimality, we need to check the nonnegativity of the vector $\bar{c}^t = c^t - c_B^t \tilde{B}^{-1} \tilde{A}$.

a) Suppose that we have a vector $\alpha^t = [p_1 \ \cdots \ p_m \ q_1 \ \cdots \ q_{n-1}]$ such that $c^t - \alpha^t \tilde{A} \geq 0$ with basic entries 0. In view of our discussions on lpp, we know that $\alpha^t = c_B^t \tilde{B}^{-1}$ and $\bar{c}^t = c^t - \alpha^t \tilde{A}$.

b) Suppose that we have a vector $\beta^t = [u_1 \ \cdots \ u_m \ v_1 \ \cdots \ v_{n-1} \ 0]$ such that $c^t - \beta^t A \geq 0$ with basic entries 0. As the last entry of β is 0, we see that

$$\beta^t = [\alpha^t \ 0] \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{c}^t = c^t - \alpha^t \tilde{A} = c^t - \beta^t A.$$