

We use the simplex method for the following linear programming problem:

```

maximize 10 x1 - 57 x2 - 9 x3 - 24 x4
subject to
    1/2 x1 - 11/2 x2 - 5/2 x3 + 9 x4 <= 0
    1/2 x1 - 3/2 x2 - 1/2 x3 + x4 <= 0
    x1 <= 1
    x1, x2, x3, x4 >= 0

```

Here is the initial simplex tableau:

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x5	0.5	-5.5	-2.5	9	1	0	0	0
x6	0.5	-1.5	-0.5	1	0	1	0	0
x7	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
obj	-10	57	9	24	0	0	0	0

The only possible entering variable is x1. There are two choices for departing variable: x5 and x6. I choose x5. The next simplex tableau is:

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x1	1	-11	-5	18	2	0	0	0
x6	0	4	2	-8	-1	1	0	0
x7	0	11	5	-18	-2	0	1	1
obj	0	-53	-41	204	20	0	0	0

There are two possible entering variables: x2 and x3. I choose x2. The only possible choice for departing variable is x6. The next simplex tableau is:

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x1	1	0	0.5	-4	-0.75	2.75	0	0
x2	0	1	0.5	-2	-0.25	0.25	0	0
x7	0	0	-0.5	4	0.75	-2.75	1	1
obj	0	0	-14.5	98	6.75	13.25	0	0

The only possible entering variable is x3. There are two choices for departing variable: x1 and x2. I choose x1. The next simplex tableau is:

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x3	2	0	1	-8	-1.5	5.5	0	0
x2	-1	1	0	2	0.5	-2.5	0	0
x7	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
obj	29	0	0	-18	-15	93	0	0

There are two possible entering variables: x4 and x5. I choose x4. The only possible choice for departing variable is x2. The next simplex tableau is:

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x3	-2	4	1	0	0.5	-4.5	0	0
x4	-0.5	0.5	0	1	0.25	-1.25	0	0
x7	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
obj	20	9	0	0	-10.5	70.5	0	0

The only possible entering variable is x5. There are two choices for departing variable: x3 and x4. I choose x3. The next simplex tableau is:

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x5	-4	8	2	0	1	-9	0	0
x4	0.5	-1.5	-0.5	1	0	1	0	0
x7	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
obj	-22	93	21	0	0	-24	0	0

There are two possible entering variables:  $x_1$  and  $x_6$ . I choose  $x_6$ .  
 The only possible choice for departing variable is  $x_4$ . The next simplex tableau is:

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_5$	0.5	-5.5	-2.5	9	1	0	0	0
$x_6$	0.5	-1.5	-0.5	1	0	1	0	0
$x_7$	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
obj	-10	57	9	24	0	0	0	0

This is precisely where we started! This shows that an infinite loop is possible!

Now I'll start over from the beginning (which is where we are right now) but this time I'll apply Bland's rule whenever there is no choice of entering variable that will increase the objective function.  
 (Translation: if all possible choices of entering variables would lead to no increase of the objective function then I will use Bland's rule to choose the entering and departing variables...)

The only possible entering variable is  $x_1$  and it won't increase the objective function. So I'll apply Bland's rule. There are two choices for departing variable:  $x_5$  and  $x_6$ . By Bland's rule, I choose the departing variable with lower index. Since  $5 < 6$ , I choose  $x_5$ . The next simplex tableau is:

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_1$	1	-11	-5	18	2	0	0	0
$x_6$	0	4	2	-8	-1	1	0	0
$x_7$	0	11	5	-18	-2	0	1	1
obj	0	-53	-41	204	20	0	0	0

There are two possible entering variables:  $x_2$  and  $x_3$  and neither will lead to an increase of the objective function. So I apply Bland's rule and I choose  $x_2$ . The only possible choice for departing variable is  $x_6$ . The next simplex tableau is:

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_1$	1	0	0.5	-4	-0.75	2.75	0	0
$x_2$	0	1	0.5	-2	-0.25	0.25	0	0
$x_7$	0	0	-0.5	4	0.75	-2.75	1	1
obj	0	0	-14.5	98	6.75	13.25	0	0

The only possible entering variable is  $x_3$  and it won't lead to an increase of the objective function. So I apply Bland's rule. There are two choices for departing variable:  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ . By Bland's rule, I choose the departing variable with lower index. Since  $1 < 2$ , I choose  $x_1$ . The next simplex tableau is:

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_3$	2	0	1	-8	-1.5	5.5	0	0
$x_2$	-1	1	0	2	0.5	-2.5	0	0
$x_7$	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
obj	29	0	0	-18	-15	93	0	0

There are two possible entering variables:  $x_4$  and  $x_5$  and neither will lead to an increase of the objective function. So I apply Bland's rule and I choose  $x_4$ . The only possible choice for departing variable is  $x_2$ . The next simplex tableau is:

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_3$	-2	4	1	0	0.5	-4.5	0	0
$x_4$	-0.5	0.5	0	1	0.25	-1.25	0	0
$x_7$	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
obj	20	9	0	0	-10.5	70.5	0	0

The only possible entering variable is  $x_5$  and it won't lead to an increase of the objective function. So I apply Bland's rule. There are two choices for departing variable:  $x_3$  and  $x_4$ . By Bland's rule, I

choose the departing variable with lower index. Since  $3 < 4$ , I choose  $x_3$ . The next simplex tableau is:

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_5$	-4	8	2	0	1	-9	0	0
$x_4$	0.5	-1.5	-0.5	1	0	1	0	0
$x_7$	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
obj	-22	93	21	0	0	-24	0	0

There are two possible entering variables:  $x_1$  and  $x_6$  and neither will lead to an increase of the objective function. So I apply Bland's rule and I choose  $x_1$ . The only possible choice for departing variable is  $x_4$ . (NOTE: THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE DID SOMETHING DIFFERENTLY FROM THE INFINITE LOOP CASE.) The next simplex tableau is:

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_5$	0	-4	-2	8	1	-1	0	0
$x_1$	1	-3	-1	2	0	2	0	0
$x_7$	0	3	1	-2	0	-2	1	1
obj	0	27	-1	44	0	20	0	0

The only possible entering variable is  $x_3$  and it will lead to an increase of the objective function. The departing variable is  $x_7$ . The next simplex tableau is:

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_5$	0	2	0	4	1	-5	2	2
$x_1$	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
$x_3$	0	3	1	-2	0	-2	1	1
obj	0	30	0	42	0	18	1	1

And we've found an optimal solution! (Bland's rule!)  $x_1 = 1$ ,  $x_2 = 0$ ,  $x_3 = 1$ ,  $x_4 = 0$ ,  $x_5 = 2$ ,  $x_6 = 0$ ,  $x_7 = 0$ , objective function = 1

Here's another example where an infinite loop is possible.

```

maximize - x1 + 7 x2 + x3 + 2 x4
subject to
          x1 +      x2 +      x3 +      x4 <= 1
        1/2 x1 - 11/2 x2 - 5/2 x3 + 9 x4 <= 0
        1/2 x1 - 3/2 x2 - 1/2 x3 +      x4 <= 0
x1,x2,x3,x4 >= 0

```

Here is the initial simplex tableau:

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_5$	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
$x_6$	0.5	-5.5	-2.5	9	0	1	0	0
$x_7$	0.5	-1.5	-0.5	1	0	0	1	0
obj	1	-7	-1	-2	0	0	0	0

my choice of entering variable:  $x_4$   
my choice of departing variable:  $x_7$

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_5$	0.5	2.5	1.5	0	1	0	-1	1
$x_6$	-4	8	2	0	0	1	-9	0
$x_4$	0.5	-1.5	-0.5	1	0	0	1	0
obj	2	-10	-2	0	0	0	2	0

my choice of entering variable:  $x_3$   
my choice of departing variable:  $x_6$

	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	
$x_5$	3.5	-3.5	0	0	1	-0.75	5.75	1
$x_3$	-2	4	1	0	0	0.5	-4.5	0
$x_4$	-0.5	0.5	0	1	0	0.25	-1.25	0

obj	-2	-2	0	0	0	1	-7	0
-----	----	----	---	---	---	---	----	---

my choice of entering variable: x2

my choice of departing variable: x4

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x5	0	0	0	7	1	1	-3	1
x3	2	0	1	-8	0	-1.5	5.5	0
x2	-1	1	0	2	0	0.5	-2.5	0
obj	-4	0	0	4	0	2	-12	0

my choice of entering variable: x1

my choice of departing variable: x3

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x5	0	0	0	7	1	1	-3	1
x1	1	0	0.5	-4	0	-0.75	2.75	0
x2	0	1	0.5	-2	0	-0.25	0.25	0
obj	0	0	2	-12	0	-1	-1	0

my choice of entering variable: x7

my choice of departing variable: x2

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x5	0	12	6	-17	1	-2	0	1
x1	1	-11	-5	18	0	2	0	0
x7	0	4	2	-8	0	-1	1	0
obj	0	4	4	-20	0	-2	0	0

my choice of entering variable: x6

my choice of departing variable: x1

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x5	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
x6	0.5	-5.5	-2.5	9	0	1	0	0
x7	0.5	-1.5	-0.5	1	0	0	1	0
obj	1	-7	-1	-2	0	0	0	0

This is precisely where we started! This shows that an infinite loop is possible.

Now I'll start over from the beginning (which is where we are right now) but this time I'll apply Bland's rule whenever there is no choice of entering variable that will increase the objective function. (Translation: if all possible choices of entering variables would lead to no increase of the objective function then I will use Bland's rule to choose the entering and departing variables...)

There are three possible entering variables: x2, x3, and x4. If x2 enters then x5 will depart and the objective function will increase by 7. If x3 enters then x5 will depart and the objective function will increase by 1. If x4 enters then I have a choice of departing variables (x6 or x7) both of which would lead to no increase of the objective function.

Since x2 will lead to the largest increase, I choose x2 as entering and x5 as departing. (Note that I didn't actually use Bland's rule since Bland's rule only applies when there's no choice of entering variable that will lead to an increase in the objective function.) The next tableau is:

	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6	x7	
x2	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
x6	6	0	3	14.5	5.5	1	0	5.5
x7	2	0	1	2.5	1.5	0	1	1.5
obj	8	0	6	5	7	0	0	7

And we've found an optimal solution!  $x_1 = 0$ ,  $x_2 = 1$ ,  $x_3 = 0$ ,  $x_4 = 0$ ,  $x_5 = 0$ ,  $x_6 = 11/2$ ,  $x_7 = 3/2$ , objective function = 7.

