

A Library of Simplex Method Solvers: System
Verification and Validation Plan [put your
library name in the title —SS]

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1 Revision History

Date		Version	Notes
October 2018	22,	1.0	First Draft

2 Symbols, Abbreviations and Acronyms

symbol	description
T	Test
V&V	Verification and Validation
LoSMS	Library of Simplex Method Solvers
CA	Commonality Analysis
SRS	Software Requirements Specification
A	Assumption
IM	Instance Model
<i>s. t.</i>	Subject to
Z	Optimal solution of the objective function
x_1, x_2, x_3	Decision variables

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[if you don't have any figures, you can comment out this heading —SS]

This document describes the system verification and validation (V&V) plan for the Library of Simplex Method Solvers (LoSMS) tool. [I recently modified the blank project template to put the (equivalent of) the fam-name command in a common file, which can be shared between all your files. You might want to do the same. —SS] It is based on the tool’s commonality analysis (CA) that can be found, along with the full documentation of LoSMS, in the following link: <https://github.com/hananezlitni/HZ-CAS741-Project>. [nice to include this link —SS]

The V&V plan starts by providing general information about the tool and this document in Section 3. Then, Section 4 provides additional details about the plan, which includes information about the V&V team, the SRS, design and implementation verification plans and the software validation plan. This is followed by the system test description in Section 5, which consists of tests for the tool’s functional and nonfunctional requirements and traceability between test cases and requirements. The document is concluded by Section 6 which describes the techniques for static verification.

3 General Information

3.1 Summary

The software under test, LoSMS, is a general-purpose program family that facilitates obtaining the optimal solution of a linear program, using the simplex method, given the objective function, the objective function goal (maximization or minimization) and the linear constraints. Since the simplex algorithm is widely used in various fields, LoSMS is intended to be used by people from different backgrounds to help them optimize parameters of their choice.

3.2 Objectives

The objective of this verification and validation plan is to build confidence in the correctness of the LoSMS tool (i.e. it produces the correct output for the corresponding inputs), while providing satisfactory usability.

3.3 References

Different sections in this document refer to the tool’s CA (Zlitni (2018)).
[You should reference your SRS here. —SS]

4 Plan

4.1 Verification and Validation Team

The verification and validation team consists of one member: Hanane Zlitni.

4.2 SRS Verification Plan

The CA for the LoSMS tool will be verified by getting feedback from Dr. Spencer Smith [L^AT_EX has a rule that it inserts two spaces at the end of a sentence. It detects a sentence as a period followed by a capital letter. This comes up, for instance, with Dr. Smith. Since the period after Dr. isn’t actually the end of a sentence, you need to tell L^AT_EX to insert one space. You do this either by Dr. Smith (if you don’t mind a line-break between Dr. and Smith), or Dr. Spencer Smith (to force L^AT_EX to not insert a line break). —SS] and my CAS 741 classmates which comes from formal reviews of the document.

The feedback from Dr. Smith is expressed as comments written in the actual document. The feedback from the CAS 741 students, on the other hand, is expressed as issues posted in the project’s GitHub repository. After getting the comments, I apply them one by one and make changes in the document. [You could be more specific (using Repos.xlsx) on who exactly is going to review your documentation. —SS]

4.3 Design Verification Plan

LoSMS’s design documents will be verified by getting feedback from Dr. Spencer Smith and my CAS 741 classmates which comes from formal reviews of the documents.

The feedback from Dr. Smith is expressed as comments written in the documents, whereas the feedback from the CAS 741 students is expressed as issues posted in the project’s GitHub repository. After getting the comments, I apply them one by one and make changes in the documents.

4.4 Implementation Verification Plan

The implementation of the LoSMS tool will be verified statically by performing code review with Dr. Spencer Smith and my CAS 741 classmates (and getting the comments in the form GitHub issues) and dynamically by executing the test cases detailed in this plan and the unit V&V plan using testing frameworks (e.g. JUnit/PyUnit). Based on the comments/errors I get, the implementation will be modified.

4.5 Software Validation Plan

Not applicable for LoSMS.

5 System Test Description

System testing for the LoSMS tool ensures that the correct inputs produce the correct outputs. The test cases in this section are derived from the instance models and the requirements detailed in the tool's CA.

5.1 Tests for Functional Requirements

[It would be nice to have a blurb here to explain why the subsections below cover the requirements. References to the SRS would be good. —SS]

5.1.1 Tests for Solving Maximization Linear Programs

[It would be nice to have a blurb here to explain why the subsections below cover the requirements. References to the SRS would be good. —SS]

1. T1: Unique Optimal Solution

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: $\max Z = 2x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3$

$s. t.$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &\leq 10 \\ 4x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3 &\leq 3 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 &\leq 10 \\ x_1, x_2, x_3 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Output: $Z = 3$, occurring when $x_1 = 0$, $x_2 = 0$, $x_3 = 3$

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: IM1 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#) [good to have a field for test case derivation. I might have to add that to the blank template. :-)
—SS]

2. T2: Multiple Optimal Solutions

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: $\max Z = 3x_1 + 2x_2$

s. t. $3x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 180$

$x_1 \leq 40$

$x_2 \leq 60$

$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

Output: $Z = 180$, occurring when $x_1 = 40$, $x_2 = 30$ & $x_1 = 20$, $x_2 = 60$

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: IM1 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#)

3. T3: No Optimal Solution

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: $\max Z = 2x_1 + x_2$

s. t. $x_1 - x_2 \leq 10$

$2x_1 - x_2 \leq 40$

$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

Output: “This linear program does not have an optimal solution”, or a corresponding exception

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: IM1 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#) and [Niu](#)

5.1.2 Tests for Solving Minimization Linear Programs

1. T4: Unique Optimal Solution

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: $\min Z = -2x_1 + 3x_2$

$s. t.$ $3x_1 + 4x_2 \leq 24$
 $7x_1 + 4x_2 \leq 16$
 $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

Output: $Z = -4.57$, occurring when $x_1 = 2.29$, $x_2 = 0$

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: IM2 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#)

2. T5: No Optimal Solution

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: $\min Z = 3x_1 + 14x_2$

$s. t.$ $-x_1 - 5x_2 \leq -6$
 $-x_1 - 4x_2 \leq -5$
 $-x_1 - 3x_2 \leq -4$
 $-x_1 - 2x_2 \leq -5$
 $-x_1 - x_2 \leq -6$
 $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

Output: “This linear program does not have an optimal solution”, or a corresponding exception

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: IM2 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#)

5.1.3 Tests for Faulty Inputs

[It would be nice to have a blurb here to explain why the subsections below cover the requirements. References to the SRS would be good. In this case, you could reference any table of data constraints. —SS]

1. **T6: No Objective Function**

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: \min

$$\begin{aligned} s. t. \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \leq 10 \\ & 4x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3 \leq 3 \\ & 2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 \leq 10 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Output: “Error: No objective function”, or a corresponding exception

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: IM1 & IM2 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#)

2. **T7: No Linear Constraints**

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: $\max Z = 2x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3$

Output: “Error: No linear constraints”, or a corresponding exception

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: IM1 & IM2 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#)

3. **T8: No Objective Function Goal**

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: $Z = 2x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3$

$$\begin{aligned} s. t. \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \leq 10 \\ & 4x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3 \leq 3 \\ & 2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 \leq 10 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Output: “Error: No objective function goal”, or a corresponding exception

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: IM1 & IM2 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#)

4. **T9: No Non-negativity Constraints/Negative Decision Variables**

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: $\max Z = 2x_1 - 3x_2$

$s. t.$ $x_1 + x_2 \leq 5$
 $4x_1 - 3x_2 \leq 4$

Output: “Error: The decision variables must be positive”, or a corresponding exception

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: Theoretical Model 1 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#)

5. **T10: Greater Than or Equal to Inequalities**

Control: Automatic

Initial State: -

Input: $\max Z = 2x_1 - 3x_2$

$s. t.$ $x_1 + x_2 \leq 5$
 $4x_1 - 3x_2 \geq 4$
 $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

Output: “Error: The inequalities of the main constraints must be of type less than or equal to”, or a corresponding exception

How test will be performed: Unit testing using JUnit/PyUnit

Test Case Derivation: A2 in [Zlitni \(2018\)](#)

[\[Seems like good coverage. —SS\]](#)

5.2 Tests for Nonfunctional Requirements

5.2.1 Usability

1. **T11: Test for the Usability of LoSMS**

Type: Usability Testing

Initial State: -

Input/Condition: -

Output/Result: -

How test will be performed: Asking participants to try the tool [\[you should clarify that you are going to make a tool using your library—SS\]](#) then answer the usability survey questions (see Appendix 7.2). The goal is to ensure that the library provided the services the users requested and that they are satisfied with the results obtained.

5.2.2 Portability

1. T12: Test for the Portability of LoSMS

Type: Static

Initial State: -

Input/Condition: -

Output/Result: -

How test will be performed: Running LoSMS on Mac, Windows and Linux operating systems

5.2.3 Accuracy

1. T13: Test for the Accuracy of the Outputs

Type: Dynamic

Initial State: -

Input/Condition: -

Output/Result: -

How test will be performed: I plan to report the relative error of the expected output for each test case detailed in this document [\[great!—SS\]](#)

5.2.4 Correctness & Performance

1. T14: Test for the Correctness & Performance of LoSMS

Type: Parallel Testing

Initial State: -

Input/Condition: -

Output/Result: -

How test will be performed: I plan to make a comparison between LoSMS and MatLab to evaluate the correctness and performance of LoSMS

5.2.5 Stability

1. T15: Test for the Stability of LoSMS Under Heavy Load

Type: Stress Testing

Initial State: -

Input/Condition: -

Output/Result: -

How test will be performed: Use the library to solve problems with great number of inputs and observe how it would behave [You need to be more specific. —SS]

5.3 Traceability Between Test Cases and Requirements

The following table describes the mapping between the test cases and requirements.

Test Case Number	Requirements
T1	R1, R4, R5, R6, R7
T2	R1, R4, R5, R6, R7
T3	R1, R4, R5, R6, R8
T4	R1, R4, R5, R6, R7
T5	R1, R4, R5, R6, R8
T6	R1, R2, R3
T7	R1, R2, R3
T8	R1, R2, R3
T9	R1, R2, R3
T10	R1, R2, R3

Table 1: Traceability Between Test Cases and Requirements

6 Static Verification Techniques

Static verification of the LoSMS library implementation will be performed using code review with Dr. Spencer Smith and my CAS 741 classmates (the comments will be in the form of GitHub issues).

References

- Shun-Chen Niu. Special situations in the simplex algorithm.
URL <https://www.utdallas.edu/~scniu/OPRE-6201/documents/LP10-Special-Situations.pdf>.
- Hanane Zlitni. Commonality analysis of a library of simplex method solvers, 2018. URL <https://github.com/hananezlitni/HZ-CAS741-Project/blob/master/docs/SRS/CA.pdf>.

7 Appendix

This section provides additional content related to this system V&V plan.

7.1 Symbolic Parameters

There are no symbolic parameters used in this document.

7.2 Usability Survey Questions

1. Did LoSMS successfully provide all the services you requested?
(Yes / No)
Why have you chosen the above response?
2. How confident are you that LoSMS provided you with the correct results?
(1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5) ; (1) *being not confident at all* and (5) *being very confident*
Why have you given the above score?
3. How satisfied are you with the library's response time?
(1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5) ; (1) *being not satisfied at all* and (5) *being very satisfied*
Why have you given the above score?
4. How likely are you to recommend LoSMS to a friend?
(1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5) ; (1) *being very unlikely* and (5) *being very likely*
Why have you given the above score?
5. Rate your overall satisfaction with LoSMS out of 10
(1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5 / 6 / 7 / 8 / 9 / 10)
Why have you given the above score?

[Good survey questions. —SS]