

# Simplex method

Prof. (Dr.) Rajib Kumar Bhattacharjya



Professor, Department of Civil Engineering  
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India

Room No. 005, M Block

Email: [rkbc@iitg.ernet.in](mailto:rkbc@iitg.ernet.in), Ph. No 2428

# SIMPLEX METHOD



$$1x_1 + 0x_2 + \cdots + 0x_m + a'_{1m+1}x_{m+1} + \cdots + a'_{1n}x_n = b'_1$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + \cdots + 0x_m + a'_{2m+1}x_{m+1} + \cdots + a'_{2n}x_n = b'_2$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + \cdots + 0x_m + a'_{3m+1}x_{m+1} + \cdots + a'_{3n}x_n = b'_3$$

$$\vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots$$
$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + \cdots + 1x_m + a'_{mm+1}x_{m+1} + \cdots + a'_{mn}x_n = b'_m$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + \cdots + 0x_m - f + c'_{m+1}x_{m+1} + \cdots + c'_n x_n = -f'_o$$

$$x_i = b'_i \quad \text{For } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$$

$$x_i = 0 \quad \text{For } i = m + 1, m + 2, m + 3, \dots, n$$

$$f = f'_o$$

If the basic solution is feasible , then  $b'_i \geq 0$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$

From the last row

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + \cdots + 0x_m - f + c'_{m+1}x_{m+1} + \cdots + c'_n x_n = -f'_o$$

We can write that

$$f = f'_o + \sum_{i=m+1}^n c'_i x_i$$

If all  $c'_i$  are positive, it is not possible to improve (reduce) the objective function value by making a non basic variable as basic variable

Maximum benefit can be obtained by making the non-basic variable with minimum negative coefficient as basic variable

In case of a tie, any one can be selected arbitrarily

$$x_1 = b'_1 - a'_{1s}x_s \quad b'_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 = b'_2 - a'_{2s}x_s \quad b'_2 \geq 0$$

$$\vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots$$

$$x_m = b'_m - a'_{ms}x_s \quad b'_m \geq 0$$

If  $a'_{is}$  is positive, the maximum possible value of  $x_s$  is  $b'_i/a'_{is}$

If  $a'_{is}$  is negative, the maximum possible value of  $x_s$  is  $+\infty$

In this case, the problem has an unbounded solution

## Example 1 (Unbounded solution)

Minimize  $f = -3x_1 - 2x_2$

Subject to

$$x_1 - x_2 \leq 1$$

$$3x_1 - 2x_2 \leq 6$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$



$$x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$3x_1 - 2x_2 + x_4 = 6$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

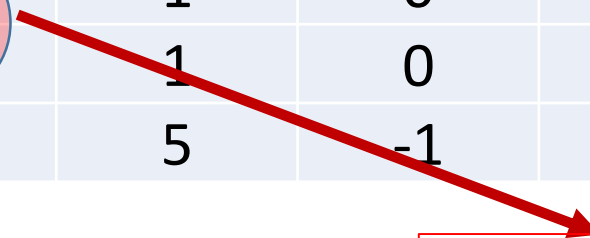
Basic Variable	Variable				f	bi	bi/a <sub>ij</sub>
	x <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>2</sub>	x <sub>3</sub>	x <sub>4</sub>			
x <sub>3</sub>	1	-1	1	0	0	1	1
x <sub>4</sub>	3	-2	0	1	0	6	2
f	-3	-2	0	0	-1	0	



Basic Variable	Variable				f	bi	bi/ais
	x1	x2	x3	x4			
x1	1	-1	1	0	0	1	
x4	0	1	-3	1	0	3	3
f	0	-5	3	0	-1	3	



Basic Variable	Variable				f	bi	bi/ais
	x1	x2	x3	x4			
x1	1	0	-2	1	0	4	
x2	0	1	-3	1	0	3	
f	0	0	-12	5	-1	18	



All  $a_{ij}$  are negative

Unbounded solution

## Example 2 (Alternate optimal solutions)

Minimize  $f = -40x_1 - 100x_2$

Subject to

$$10x_1 + 5x_2 \leq 2500$$

$$4x_1 + 10x_2 \leq 2000$$

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 \leq 900$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$



$$10x_1 + 5x_2 + x_3 = 2500$$

$$4x_1 + 10x_2 + x_4 = 2000$$

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 + x_5 = 900$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$$



Basic Variable	Variable							
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	f	b	bi/ais
x3	10	5	1	0	0	0	2500	500
x4	4	10	0	1	0	0	2000	200
x5	2	3	0	0	1	0	900	300
f	-40	-100	0	0	0	-1	0	



Basic Variable	Variable							
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	f	b	bi/ais
x3	8	0	1	-0.5	0	0	1500	187.5
x2	0.4	1	0	0.1	0	0	200	500
x5	0.8	0	0	-0.3	1	0	300	375
f	0	0	0	10	0	-1	20000	



**Solution is**

$$x_3 = 1500$$

$$x_2 = 500$$

$$x_5 = 0$$

$$x_1 = x_4 = 0$$

$$f = -20000$$

All  $c_j$  are positive, so no improvement is possible



Basic Variable	Variable							
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	f	b	bi/ais
x1	1	0	0.125	-0.0625	0	0	187.5	
x2	0	1	-0.05	0.125	0	0	125	
x5	0	0	-0.1	-0.25	1	0	150	
f	0	0	0	10	0	-1	20000	

**Solution is**

$$x_1 = 187.5$$

$$x_2 = 125$$

$$x_5 = 0$$

$$x_3 = x_4 = 0$$

$$f = -20000$$

**The problem has infinite number of optimal solutions, which can be obtained using the following equation**

$$X(\lambda) = \lambda X^1 + (1 - \lambda)X^2$$

## Example 3 (Artificial variable)

Minimize  $f = 2x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_3 - x_4 + x_5$

Subject to

$$\begin{aligned} 3x_1 - 3x_2 + 4x_3 + 2x_4 - x_5 &= 0 & 3x_1 - 3x_2 + 4x_3 + 2x_4 - x_5 + y_1 &= 0 \\ x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 3x_4 + x_5 &= 2 & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 3x_4 + x_5 + y_2 &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$$

$$y_1, y_2 \geq 0$$

$y_1$  and  $y_2$  Artificial variable



$$3x_1 - 3x_2 + 4x_3 + 2x_4 - x_5 + y_1 = 0$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 3x_4 + x_5 + y_2 = 2$$

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_3 - x_4 + x_5 - f = 0$$

The Artificial variables have to be removed from the basis initially (Phase I)

This can be removed using the following formulation

Minimize  $w = y_1 + y_2$

Now the problem

$$3x_1 - 3x_2 + 4x_3 + 2x_4 - x_5 + y_1 = 0$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 3x_4 + x_5 + y_2 = 2$$

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_3 - x_4 + x_5 - f = 0$$

$$y_1 + y_2 - w = 0$$

$$3x_1 - 3x_2 + 4x_3 + 2x_4 - x_5 + y_1 = 0$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 3x_4 + x_5 + y_2 = 2$$

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_3 - x_4 + x_5 - f = 0$$

$$-4x_1 + 2x_2 - 5x_3 - 5x_4 + 0x_5 - w = -2$$

Basic Variable	Variable										
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	y1	y2	f	w	b	bi/ais
y1	3	-3	4	2	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0
y2	1	1	1	3	1	0	1	0	0	2	0.67
f	2	3	2	-1	1	0	0	-1	0	0	
w	-4	2	-5	-5	0	0	0	0	-1	-2	





Basic Variable	Variable										bi/ais
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	y1	y2	f	w	b	
x4	1.5	-1.5	2	1	-0.5	0.5	0	0	0	0	
y2	-3.5	5.5	-5	0	2.5	-1.5	1	0	0	2	0.36
f	3.5	1.5	4	0	0.5	0.5	0	-1	0	0	
w	3.5	-5.5	5	0	-2.5	2.5	0	0	-1	-2	

Basic Variable	Variable										bi/ais
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	y1	y2	f	w	b	
x4	0.55	0	0.64	1	0.18	0.09	0.27	0	0	0.55	
-											
x2	0.64	1	-0.91	0	0.45	-0.27	0.18	0	0	0.36	
f	4.45	0	5.36	0	-0.18	0.91	-0.27	-1	0	-0.55	
w	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	-1	0	

All  $c_j$  are positive, so no improvement is possible



## Phase II

Basic Variable	Variable							bi/ais
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	f	b	
x4	0.55	0	0.64	1	0.18	0	0.55	3
x2	-0.64	1	-0.91	0	0.45	0	0.36	0.8
f	4.45	0	5.36	0	-0.18	-1	-0.55	




**Solution is**

$$x_4 = 0.4$$



$$x_5 = 0.8$$

$$x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$$

$$f = 0.4$$



Basic Variable	Variable							bi/ais
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	f	b	
x4	0.8	-0.4	1	1	0	0	0.4	
x5	-1.4	2.2	-2	0	1	0	0.8	
f	4.2	0.4	5	0	0	-1	-0.4	



All  $c_j$  are positive, so no improvement is possible

**Optimal solution**

## Example 4 (Unrestricted in sign)

Minimize  $f = 4x_1 + 2x_2$

Subject to

$$x_1 - 2x_2 \geq 2$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 8$$

$$x_1 - x_2 \leq 11$$

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$x_2$  is unrestricted in sign



Consider  $x_2 = x_3 - x_4$

Where,  $x_3, x_4 \geq 0$

Now, the problem can be written as

Minimize  $f = 4x_1 + 2x_3 - 2x_4$

Subject to

$$x_1 - 2x_3 + 2x_4 \geq 2$$

$$x_1 + 2x_3 - 2x_4 = 8$$

$$x_1 - x_3 + x_4 \leq 11$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 3, 4$$



$$x_1 - 2x_3 + 2x_4 - x_5 + y_1 = 2$$

$$x_1 + 2x_3 - 2x_4 + y_2 = 8$$

$$x_1 - x_3 + x_4 + x_6 = 11$$

$$4x_1 + 2x_3 - 2x_4 - f = 0$$

Phase I

Minimize  $w = y_1 + y_2$

Or, Minimize  $w = -2x_1 + 0x_3 + 0x_4 + x_5 = -10$



Phase I problem can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_1 - 2x_3 + 2x_4 - x_5 + y_1 &= 2 \\
 x_1 + 2x_3 - 2x_4 + y_2 &= 8 \\
 x_1 - x_3 + x_4 + x_6 &= 11 \\
 4x_1 + 2x_3 - 2x_4 - f &= 0 \\
 -2x_1 + 0x_3 + 0x_4 + x_5 - w &= -10
 \end{aligned}$$

Basic Variable	Variable							w	f	bi	bi/aij
	x1	x3	x4	x5	x6	y1	y2				
y1	1	-2	2	-1	0	1	0	0	0	2	2
y2	1	2	-2	0	0	0	1	0	0	8	8
x6	1	-1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	11	11
f	4	2	-2	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	
w	-2	0	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	-10	



Basic Variable	Variable							w	f	bi	bi/aij
	x1	x3	x4	x5	x6	y1	y2				
x1	1	-2	2	-1	0	1	0	0	0	2	
y2	0	4	-4	1	0	-1	1	0	0	6	1.5
x6	0	1	-1	1	1	-1	0	0	0	9	9
f	0	10	-10	4	0	-4	0	0	-1	-8	
w	0	-4	4	-1	0	2	0	-1	0	-6	



Basic Variable	Variable							w	f	bi	bi/aij
	x1	x3	x4	x5	x6	y1	y2				
x1	1	0	0	-0.5	0	0.5	0.5	0	0	5	
x3	0	1	-1	0.25	0	-0.25	0.25	0	0	1.5	
x6	0	0	0	0.75	1	-0.75	-0.25	0	0	7.5	
f	0	0	0	1.5	0	-1.5	-2.5	0	-1	-23	
w	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	-1	0	0	

All  $c_j$  are positive, so no improvement is possible

## Phase II



Basic Variable	Variable					f	bi	bi/aij
	x1	x3	x4	x5	x6			
x1	1	0	0	-0.50	0	0	5	
x3	0	1	-1	0.25	0	0	1.5	
x6	0	0	0	0.75	1	0	7.5	
f	0	0	0	1.5	0	-1	-23	

It can be noted that all the coefficients of the cost function is positive, hence it is not possible to improve the objective function value

This the optimal solution of the problem is

$$x_1 = 5 \quad x_2 = 1.5 \quad x_3 = 1.5 \quad x_6 = 7.5 \quad x_4 = x_5 = 0 \quad f = 23$$

## Example 5

A manufacturer produces, A, B, C, and D, by using two types of machines (lathes and milling machines). The time required on the two machines to manufacture one unit of each of the four products, the profit per unit products and the total time available on the two types of machines per day are given below.



Machine	Time required per unit (min) for product				Available time (min)
	A	B	C	D	
Lathe machine	7	10	4	9	1200
Milling machine	3	40	1	1	800
Profit per unit	45	100	30	50	

Find the number of units to be manufactured of each product per day for maximizing profit.

## LP Formulation

$$\text{Maximize } f = 45x_1 + 100x_2 + 30x_3 + 50x_4$$

Subject to

$$7x_1 + 10x_2 + 4x_3 + 9x_4 \leq 1200$$

$$3x_1 + 40x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \leq 800$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4$$



$$\text{Minimize } f = -45x_1 - 100x_2 - 30x_3 - 50x_4$$

Subject to

$$7x_1 + 10x_2 + 4x_3 + 9x_4 + x_5 = 1200$$

$$3x_1 + 40x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_6 = 800$$

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$$



Basic Variable	Variable						f	bi	bi/a <sub>ij</sub>
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6			
x5	7	10	4	9	1	0	0	1200	120
x6	3	40	1	1	0	1	0	800	20
f	-45	-100	-30	-50	0	0	-1	0	



Basic Variable	Variable						f	bi	bi/a <sub>ij</sub>
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6			
x5	6.25	0	3.75	8.75	1	-0.25	0	1000	114
x2	0.075	1	0.025	0.025	0	0.025	0	20	800
f	-37.5	0	-27.5	-47.5	0	2.5	-1	2000	



Basic Variable	Variable						f	bi	bi/a <sub>ij</sub>
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6			
x4	0.71	0	0.43	1	0.11	-0.03	0	114	266
x2	0.06	1	0.01	0	0.00	0.03	0	17	1200
f	-3.57	0	-7.14	0	5.43	1.14	-1	7428	



Basic Variable	Variable						f	bi	bi/a <sub>ij</sub>
	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5	x6			
x3	1.67	0	1	2.33	0.27	-0.07	0	267	
x2	0.03	1	0	-0.03	-0.01	0.03	0	13	
f	8.33	0	0	16.67	7.33	0.67	-1	9333	

This the optimal solution of the problem is

$$x_1 = 0 \quad x_2 = 13 \quad x_3 = 267 \quad x_4 = 0 \quad x_5 = 0 \quad x_6 = 0 \quad f = -9333$$



R. K. Bhattacharjya/CE/IITG  
**Thanks**