# **Algorithms**

**Lecture 14: Linear Programming (Part 4)** 

Anxiao (Andrew) Jiang

- 1) Decide if LP is feasible
- 2) If LP is feasible, turn it into a slack form whose basic solution is feasible.
- 3) Run SIMPLEX algorithm.

maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
  
s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 \le 2$   
 $x_1 - 5x_2 \le -4$   
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 

Is this LP feasible?

That is, does this LP have a solution to  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  that satisfies all the constraints?

Note that feasibility has nothing to do with the objective function.

- 1) Decide if LP is feasible
- 2) If LP is feasible, turn it into a slack form whose basic solution is feasible.
- 3) Run SIMPLEX algorithm.

# maximize $2x_1 - x_2$ s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
2x_1 - x_2 & \leq 2 \\
x_1 - 5x_2 & \leq 4
\end{array}$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$

Is this LP feasible?

That is, does this LP have a solution to  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  that satisfies all the constraints?

How to solve an LP:

- 1) Decide if LP is feasible
- 2) If LP is feasible, turn it into a slack form whose basic solution is feasible.
- 3) Run SIMPLEX algorithm.



Slack-form LP:

$$z = 2x_1 - x_2$$

$$x_3 = 2 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 - x_1 + 5x_2$$

The slack-form LP does not have a feasible basic solution.

Note that feasibility has nothing to do with the objective function.

Does it mean the LP is infeasible? Not at all.

Basic solution:  $x_1 = 0$ ,  $x_2 = 0$ ,  $x_3 = 2$ ,  $x_4 = -4$ 

# maximize $2x_1 - x_2$ s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
2x_1 - x_2 & \leq 2 \\
x_1 - 5x_2 & \leq -2
\end{array}$$

 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 

Is this LP feasible?

Whether this LP is feasible or not,

we can always add a "helper" to make it feasible.

- 1) Decide if LP is feasible
- 2) If LP is feasible, turn it into a slack form whose basic solution is feasible.
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### Original LP:

maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
  
s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 \le 2$   
 $x_1 - 5x_2 \le -4$   
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 

Is this LP feasible?

Whether this LP is feasible or not, we can always add a "helper" to make it feasible.



### Auxiliary LP:

maximize s.t. 
$$2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$$
 
$$x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$$
 
$$x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$$

 $\mathcal{X}_0$  is our "helper".

This auxiliary LP is ALWAYS feasible. Why?

- 1) Decide if LP is feasible
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$$2x_1 - x_2$$
  
s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 \le 2$   
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 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 

Is this LP feasible?

Whether this LP is feasible or not, we can always add a "helper" to make it feasible.



#### Auxiliary LP:

maximize  
s.t.  

$$2x_{1} - x_{2} - x_{0} \le 2$$

$$x_{1} - 5x_{2} - x_{0} \le -4$$

$$x_{0}, x_{1}, x_{2} \ge 0$$

 $\mathcal{X}_0$  is our "helper".

This auxiliary LP is ALWAYS feasible. Why?

Because we can always make  $x_0$  sufficiently large to satisfy all constraints. For example, here we can make  $x_0=4$ , and a feasible solution is

$$x_0 = 4$$
,  $x_1 = 0$ ,  $x_2 = 0$ 

- 1) Decide if LP is feasible
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#### Original LP:

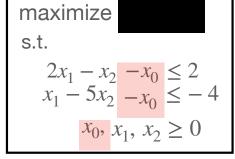
maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
  
s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 \le 2$   
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 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 

Is this LP feasible?

Whether this LP is feasible or not, we can always add a "helper" to make it feasible.



#### Auxiliary LP:



 $x_0$  is our "helper". This auxiliary LP is ALWAYS feasible.

But how large does  $x_0$  have to be to make this auxiliary LP feasible? If  $x_0$  can be 0, then no "help" is needed, which means the original LP is feasible. If  $x_0$  has to be greater than 0, then the original LP is not feasible.

Which case is it? Let's find out.

- 1) Decide if LP is feasible
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#### Original LP:

maximize  $2x_1 - x_2$ s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 \le 2$  $x_1 - 5x_2 \le -4$ 

Is this LP feasible?



 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 

#### Auxiliary LP:

maximize  $-x_0$ s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$   $x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$  $x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$  How small can  $x_0$  be?

In particular, can  $x_0$  be as small as 0?

- 1) Decide if LP is feasible
- 2) If LP is feasible, turn it into a slack form whose basic solution is feasible.
- 3) Run SIMPLEX algorithm.

#### Theorem: Let L be an LP

maximize  $c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \cdots + c_nx_n$  s.t.

$$a_{1,1}x_1 + a_{1,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{1,n}x_n \le b_1$$

$$a_{2,1}x_1 + a_{2,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{2,n}x_n \le b_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$a_{m,1}x_1 + a_{m,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{m,n}x_n \le b_m$$
  
 $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \ge 0$ 

Let  $L_{aux}$  be its auxiliary LP

$$\max_{\cdot} \max_{\cdot} -x_0$$

s.t.

$$a_{1,1}x_1 + a_{1,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{1,n}x_n - x_0 \le b_1$$

$$a_{2,1}x_1 + a_{2,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{2,n}x_n - x_0 \le b_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$a_{m,1}x_1 + a_{m,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{m,n}x_n - x_0 \le b_m$$
  
 $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \ge 0$ 

Then L is feasible if and only if the optimal objective value for  $L_{aux}$  is 0.

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$$a_{m,1}x_1 + a_{m,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{m,n}x_n \le b_m$$
  
 $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \ge 0$ 

Let  $L_{aux}$  be its auxiliary LP

maximize 
$$-x_0$$

s.t.

$$a_{1,1}x_1 + a_{1,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{1,n}x_n - x_0 \le b_1$$

$$a_{2,1}x_1 + a_{2,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{2,n}x_n - x_0 \le b_2$$

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$$a_{m,1}x_1 + a_{m,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{m,n}x_n - x_0 \le b_m$$
  
 $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \ge 0$ 

Then L is feasible if and only if the optimal objective value for  $L_{aux}$  is 0.



Proof: If L has a feasible solution  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ ,

then  $L_{aux}$  has an optimal solution  $(x_0 = 0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .

#### Theorem: Let L be an LP

maximize  $c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \cdots + c_nx_n$  s.t.

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# Let $L_{aux}$ be its auxiliary LP

maximize 
$$-x_0$$

s.t.

$$a_{1,1}x_1 + a_{1,2}x_2 + \dots + a_{1,n}x_n - x_0 \le b_1$$

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 $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \ge 0$ 

Then L is feasible if and only if the optimal objective value for  $L_{aux}$  is 0.

Proof:



If  $L_{aux}$  has an optimal solution  $(x_0 = 0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ ,

then L has a feasible solution  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .

#### Original LP:

maximize  $2x_1 - x_2$ s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 \le 2$  $x_1 - 5x_2 \le -4$  $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 

Is this LP feasible?



Let's solve the Auxiliary LP to find out.

#### Auxiliary LP:

maximize  $-x_0$ s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$   $x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$  $x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$  How small can  $x_0$  be?

In particular, can  $x_0$  be as small as 0?

maximize

$$-x_0$$

s.t.

$$2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$$

$$x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$$

$$x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$$



$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_3 = 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 + x_0 - x_1 + 5x_2$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & -x_0 \\ \text{s.t.} \end{array}$$

$$2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$$
  

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Muxiliary LP:

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$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_3 = 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 + x_0 - x_1 + 5x_2$$

- Move  $x_0$  to left.
- Pick a basic variable whose constant term is the most negative, and move it to right.

Auxiliary LP:

maximize 
$$-x_0$$

s.t.

 $2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$ 
 $x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$ 
 $x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 
 $x_0 = -x_0$ 
 $x_2 = -x_0$ 
 $x_3 = 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2$ 
 $x_4 = -4 + x_0 - x_1 + 5x_2$ 

Most negative



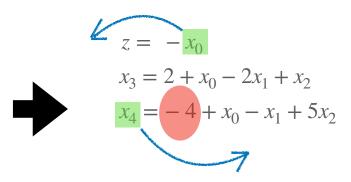
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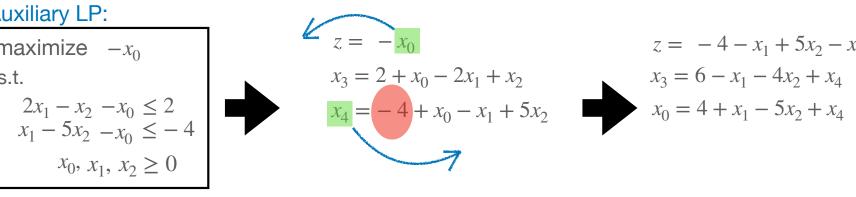
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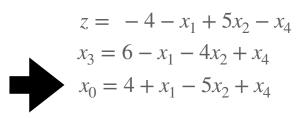
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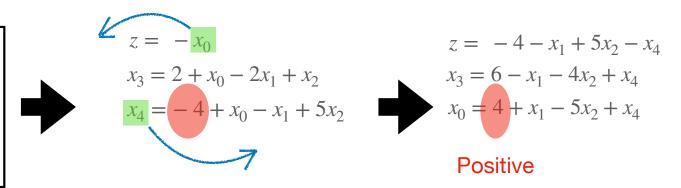
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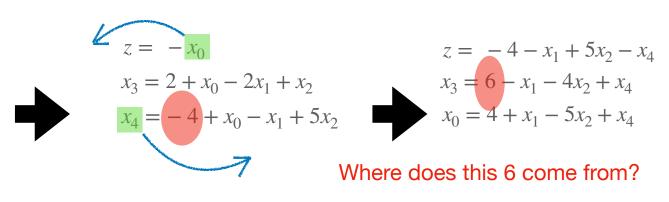
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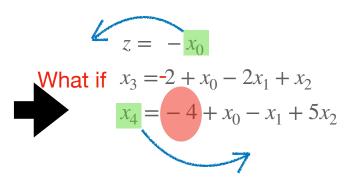
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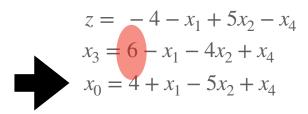


2 + 4 = 6

- 1) Move  $\mathcal{X}_0$  to left.
- 2) Pick a basic variable whose constant term is the most negative, and move it to right.

maximize 
$$-x_0$$
  
s.t.  
 $2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$   
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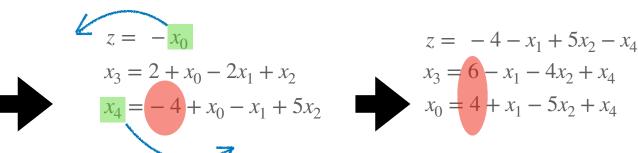


$$-2 + 4 = 2$$

Still non-negative!

- 1) Move  $\mathcal{X}_0$  to left.
- 2) Pick a basic variable whose constant term is the most negative, and move it to right.

maximize 
$$-x_0$$
  
s.t. 
$$2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$$
$$x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$$
$$x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$$



All constant terms are non-negative.

Its basic solution is feasible, So we can run the SIMPLEX Algorithm now!

- 1) Move  $\mathcal{X}_0$  to left.
- 2) Pick a basic variable whose constant term is the most negative, and move it to right.

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & -x_0 \\ \text{s.t.} \end{array}$ 

$$2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$$

$$x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$$

$$x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$$



$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_3 = 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 + x_0 - x_1 + 5x_2$$

$$z = -4 - x_1 + 5x_2 - x_4$$

$$x_3 = 6 - x_1 - 4x_2 + x_4$$

$$x_0 = 4 + x_1 - 5x_2 + x_4$$

#### Basic solution:

$$x_0 = 4$$
,  $x_1 = 0$ ,  $x_2 = 0$ ,  $x_3 = 6$ ,  $x_4 = 0$ 

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & -x_0 \\ \text{s.t.} \end{array}$ 

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$$x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$$
  

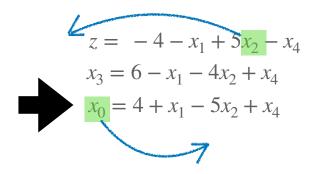
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$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_2 = \frac{4}{5} - \frac{1}{5}x_0 + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{5} + \frac{4}{5}x_0 - \frac{9}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

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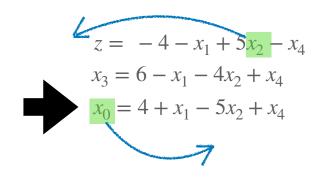
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# Original LP:

maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
 s.t.

$$2x_1 - x_2 \leq 2$$

$$x_1 - 5x_2 \leq -4$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$

It is feasible!

$$z = -x_0$$

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Optimal Objective Value = 0

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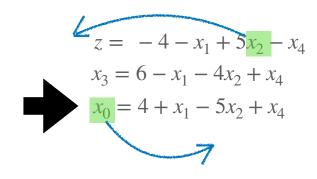
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# Now we need to solve the Original LP. But how?

# Original LP:

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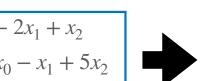


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maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
 s.t.

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2x_1 - x_2 & \leq 2 \\
x_1 - 5x_2 & \leq -4 \\
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\end{array}$$

maximize 
$$-x_0$$
  
s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 < 2$ 

$$x_{1} - 5x_{2} - x_{0} \le -4$$

$$x_{0}, x_{1}, x_{2} \ge 0$$



$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_3 = 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 + x_0 - x_1 + 5x_2$$

$$= -x_0$$

$$= 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$= -4 + x_0 - x_1 + 5x_2$$

maximize 
$$-x_0$$
i.t.
$$\begin{aligned}
 z &= -x_0 \\
 x_3 &= 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2 \\
 x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 &\leq 2 \\
 x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 &\leq -4 \\
 x_0, x_1, x_2 &\geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 z &= -x_0 \\
 x_2 &= \frac{4}{5} - \frac{1}{5}x_0 + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4 \\
 x_3 &= \frac{14}{5} + \frac{4}{5}x_0 - \frac{9}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4
 \end{aligned}$$

# Original LP:

maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
 s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
2x_1 - x_2 & \leq 2 \\
x_1 - 5x_2 & \leq -4 \\
x_1, x_2 \geq 0
\end{array}$$



$$x_3 = 2 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_1 = -4 - x_1 + 5x_1$$

 $z = 2x_1 - x_2$ 

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & -x_0 \\ \text{s.t.} \end{array}$$

$$2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$$

$$x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$$

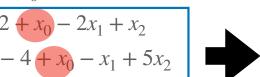
$$x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$$



$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_3 = 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 + x_0 - x_1 + 5x_2$$



$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_2 = \frac{4}{5} - \frac{1}{5}x_0 + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{5} + \frac{4}{5}x_0 - \frac{9}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
 s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
2x_1 - x_2 & \le 2 \\
x_1 - 5x_2 & \le -4 \\
x_1, x_2 \ge 0
\end{array}$$



The constraints  
are equivalent  
when 
$$x_0 = 0$$
  
 $z = 2x_1 - x_2$ 

$$x_3 = 2 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 - x_1 + 5x_2$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & -x_0 \\ \text{s.t.} \end{array}$$

$$2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$$
  

$$x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$$
  

$$x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$$



$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_3 = 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 + x_0 - x_1 + 5x_2$$



$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_2 = \frac{4}{5} - \frac{1}{5}x_0 + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{5} + \frac{4}{5}x_0 - \frac{9}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

# Original LP:

maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
 s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
2x_1 - x_2 & \leq 2 \\
x_1 - 5x_2 & \leq -4 \\
x_1, x_2 \geq 0
\end{array}$$



are equivalent when 
$$x_0 = 0$$

The constraints

$$z = 2x_1 - x_2$$

$$x_3 = 2 - 2x_1 + x_2$$
$$x_4 = -4 - x_1 + 5x_2$$



The constraints are equivalent when 
$$x_0 = 0$$

$$x_2 = \frac{4}{5} + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{5} - \frac{9}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
 s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
2x_1 - x_2 & \leq 2 \\
x_1 - 5x_2 & \leq -4 \\
x_1, x_2 \geq 0
\end{array}$$

$$z = 2x_1 - x_2$$

$$x_3 = 2$$
  $-2x_1 + x_2$   
 $x_4 = -4$   $-x_1 + 5x_2$ 

$$z = 2x_1 - x_2$$

$$= 2x_1 - (\frac{4}{5} + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4)$$

$$= -\frac{4}{5} + \frac{9}{5}x_1 - \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

$$x_2 = \frac{4}{5} + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{5} - \frac{9}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

# This slack-form LP has a feasible basic solution.

# Now we can solve it using the SIMPLEX Algorithm.

maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
  
s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 \le 2$   
 $x_1 - 5x_2 \le -4$   
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 

$$z = 2x_1 - x_2$$

$$x_3 = 2 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 - x_1 + 5x_2$$

$$z = -\frac{4}{5} + \frac{9}{5}x_1 - \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

$$x_2 = \frac{4}{5} + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{5} - \frac{9}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

maximize 
$$-x_0$$
  
s.t.  
 $2x_1 - x_2 - x_0 \le 2$   
 $x_1 - 5x_2 - x_0 \le -4$ 

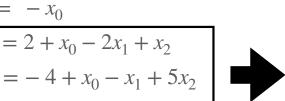
 $x_0, x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 



$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_3 = 2 + x_0 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 + x_0 - x_1 + 5x_2$$



$$z = -x_0$$

$$x_2 = \frac{4}{5} + \frac{1}{5}x_0 + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{5} + \frac{4}{5}x_0 - \frac{9}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

Last question: What if  $X_0$ are a basic variable in these constraint equations?

# Original LP:

maximize 
$$2x_1 - x_2$$
  
s.t.  $2x_1 - x_2 \le 2$   
 $x_1 - 5x_2 \le -4$   
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$ 



$$x_3 = 2 - 2x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_4 = -4 - x_1 + 5x_2$$

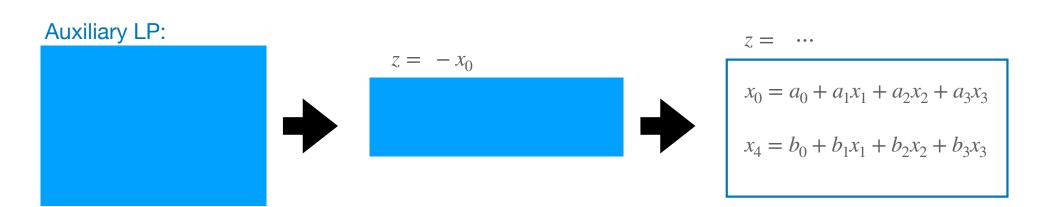
 $z = 2x_1 - x_2$ 



$$x_2 = \frac{4}{5} + \frac{1}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$

 $z = -\frac{4}{5} + \frac{9}{5}x_1 - \frac{1}{5}x_4$ 

$$x_3 = \frac{14}{5} - \frac{9}{5}x_1 + \frac{1}{5}x_4$$



For example ...







$$z = -x_0$$



$$z = \cdots$$

$$x_0 = a_0 + a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + a_3 x_3$$

$$x_4 = b_0 + b_1 x_1 + b_2 x_2 + b_3 x_3$$

# For example ...

# Optimal solution:

$$x_0 = a_0$$
,  $x_1 = 0$ ,  $x_2 = 0$ ,  $x_3 = 0$ ,  $x_4 = b_0$ 

# Optimal objective value:

$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

# Original LP:



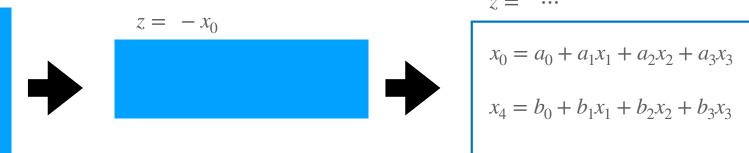
$$z = \cdots$$



#### $7 = \cdots$







$$z = \cdots$$

$$x_0 = a_0 + a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + a_3 x_3$$

$$x_4 = b_0 + b_1 x_1 + b_2 x_2 + b_3 x_3$$

$$a_0 = 0$$
 Optimal solution:  

$$x_0 = a_0, x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0, x_3 = 0, x_4 = b_0$$
 Optimal objective value:  

$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

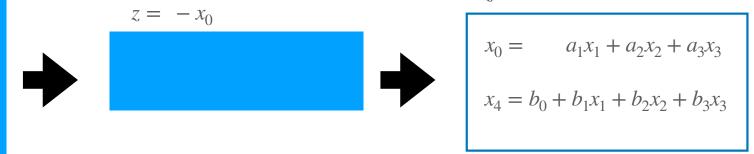


$$z = \cdots$$









$$z = \cdots$$

$$x_0 = a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + a_3 x_3$$

$$x_4 = b_0 + b_1 x_1 + b_2 x_2 + b_3 x_3$$

$$a_0 = 0$$
 Optimal solution:  

$$x_0 = a_0, x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0, x_3 = 0, x_4 = b_0$$
 Optimal objective value:  

$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

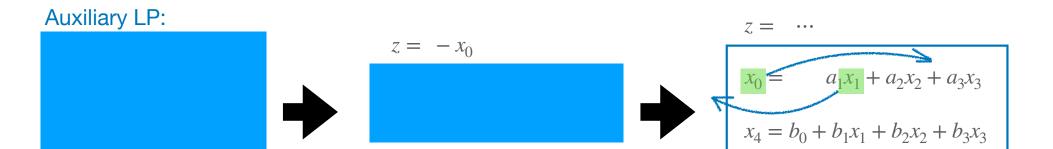


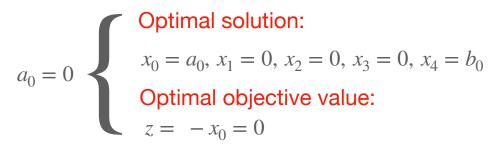




$$z = \cdots$$













$$z = \cdots$$

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{a_1} x_0 - \frac{a_2}{a_1} x_2 - \frac{a_3}{a_1} x_3$$

$$x_4 = b_0 + b_1 x_1 + b_2 x_2 + b_3 x_3$$

$$a_0 = 0$$

$$a_0 = 0$$
 Optimal solution:  

$$x_0 = a_0, x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0, x_3 = 0, x_4 = b_0$$
 Optimal objective value:  

$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

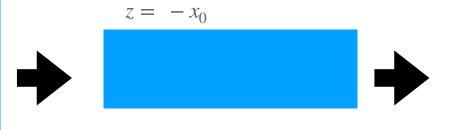


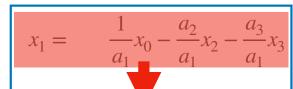
$$z = \cdots$$











$$x_4 = b_0 + b_1 x_1 + b_2 x_2 + b_3 x_3$$

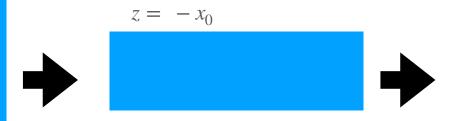
$$a_0 = 0$$

Optimal solution: 
$$a_0 = 0$$
 Optimal solution: 
$$x_0 = a_0, \ x_1 = 0, \ x_2 = 0, \ x_3 = 0, \ x_4 = b_0$$
 Optimal objective value: 
$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

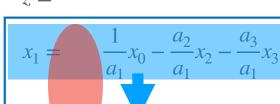
$$z = -x_0 = 0$$







The constants here are still 0 and  $b_0 \ge 0$ 

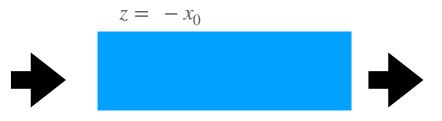


Optimal solution: 
$$a_0 = 0$$
 Optimal solution: 
$$x_0 = a_0, \ x_1 = 0, \ x_2 = 0, \ x_3 = 0, \ x_4 = b_0$$
 Optimal objective value: 
$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

$$z = -x_0 = 0$$

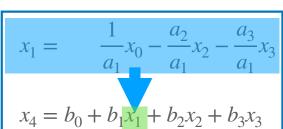






The constants here are still 0 and  $b_0 \ge 0$ 

 $z = \cdots$ 



# Original LP:

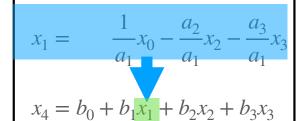


We now have a slack-form LP to start running SIMPLEX Algorithm with.





Let  $x_0 = 0$ 



Is the SIMPLEX Algorithm a polynomial-time algorithm? No

But in practice it is very efficient. Why?

Can LP be solved in polynomial time? Yes