

Numerical Optimization
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Lecture - 34
Simplex Algorithm and Two-Phase Method

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LP in Standard Form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax = b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $\text{rank}(A) = m$.

x_B	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="border: none; padding: 2px;">Basic Variables</th> <th style="border: none; padding: 2px;">Nonbasic Variables</th> <th style="border: none; padding: 2px;">RHS</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">B</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">N</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">b</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">c_B^T</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">c_N^T</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0</td> </tr> </table>	Basic Variables	Nonbasic Variables	RHS	B	N	b	c_B^T	c_N^T	0
Basic Variables	Nonbasic Variables	RHS								
B	N	b								
c_B^T	c_N^T	0								

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I & B^{-1}N & B^{-1}b \\ \hline c_B^T & c_N^T & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} I & B^{-1}N & B^{-1}b \\ \hline 0^T & c_N^T - c_B^T B^{-1}N & -c_B^T B^{-1}b \end{array} \right)$$

Shirish Shevade, Numerical Optimization

Hello, welcome back. So, in the last class we started discussing about obtaining a solution of linear program. So, in particular we consider the linear programming standard form which is minimize C transpose x subject to $A x$ equal to b , x non negative. And we consider the matrix where the column associated with basic variables and the remaining variables are called non-basic. So, the sub-matrix of A associated with the basic variables will be denoted by B , and the remaining sub-matrix of A associated with non-basic variables will be denoted by N , and the right hand side will be denoted by b . And then the last row of this matrix indicates the cost associated with the basic and the non-basic variables.

Now, in the last class we saw that we wanted 3 pieces of information at every iteration, and that is the basic variable value which is B inverse b , and the current objective function value which is $C B$ transpose B inverse b . And the relative cost of the lambda's, the Lagrangian multipliers corresponding to the non-basic variables; so which will be denoted by a vector $C N$ transpose minus $C B$ transpose B inverse N . So, when we

consider this matrix and multiply the first m rows by B inverse, then we get the identity matrix here in the place of B and then B inverse N and B inverse B; the last row remains unchanged.

And, then what we do is that we multiply the first m rows by C B transpose and subtract it from the last row. So, we get 0 here and C N transpose minus C B transpose B inverse N and minus C B transpose B inverse B. So, you will see that B inverse B gives us the current basic variables C B transpose B inverse B. So, the negative of the entry in this cell gives us the current objective function value and C N transpose minus C B transpose B inverse N gives us the lambda's; lambda N. And at optimality what we want is, this lambda N should be nonnegative. So, this 0 corresponds to lambda B. So, these are the Lagrangian multipliers corresponding to the basic variables. And if we consider a nondegenerate solution x B is greater than 0; so at optimality we expect this lambda b's to be 0, are also called relative cost in the linear programming literature.

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Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & -3x_1 - x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 \leq 2 \\ & x_1 \leq 1 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Given problem in the standard form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & -3x_1 - x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 2 \\ & x_1 + x_4 = 1 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

• Initial Basic Feasible Solution:
 $x_B = (x_3, x_4)^T = (2, 1)^T, x_N = (x_1, x_2)^T = (0, 0)^T$



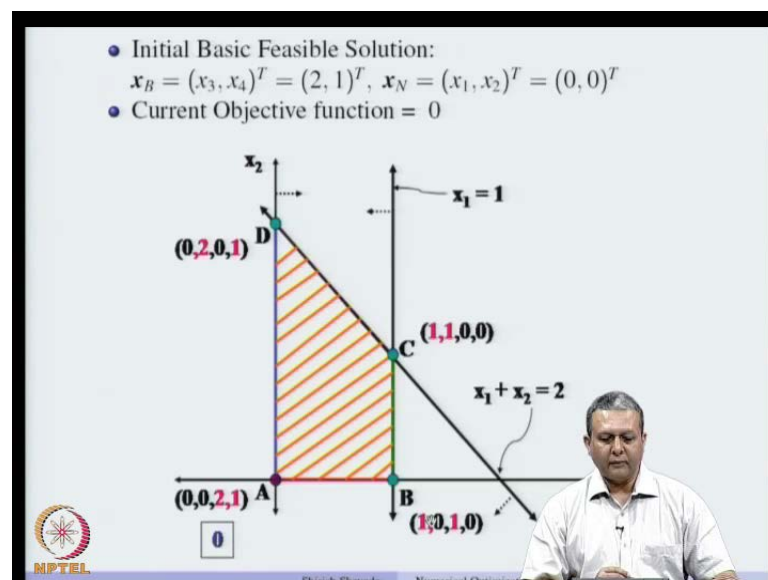
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Now, let us consider example; then we will put this example in the standard form of the type minimize C transpose x subject to A x equal to b. So, the constraints which are inequality constraints can be converted to equality by introducing slack variables. So, x 3 and x 4 are the slack variables that we have included here and now we have the linear programming standard form. Now, from this constraint we can easily find an initial basic feasible solution which is x 3 equal to 2 and x 4 equal to 1 and x 1 x 2 are 0. So, x 3 and

x_3 and x_4 become basic variables, and x_1 and x_2 become non-basic variables. So, x_1 and x_2 is 0; so as you see here.

Now, if you construct the initial tableau or initial matrix associated with this, so there is a matrix associated with this set of constraints. So, whose first row is 1 1 1 0 and the second row is 1 0 1 1 and the right hand side is 2 1. And the basic variables are denoted by x_3 and x_4 in the red color. The objective function corresponding to the basic parts corresponding to the basic variables is 0; cost corresponding to the non-basic variables is minus 3 minus 1. Now, before we start using this tableau one thing we have to make sure is that, the relative cost associated with the basic vectors has to be 0 and which is indeed the case here.

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So, let us start considering the steps that we discuss in the last class. So, before we go into the details just want to mention that this is the current point where x_3 and x_4 are basic variables and their values are 2 and 1 respectively. And the non basic variables are x_1 and x_2 objective function is 0. And this was clear from this initial tableau that the basic variable x_3 has a value 2, x_4 has a value 1; the objective function value is 0 at the current point.

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x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	RHS
1	1	1	0	2
1	0	0	1	1
-3	-1	0	0	0

Incoming basic variable: x_1

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Now, now we will look at the last row and see whether the entries corresponding to the non-basic variables are nonnegative. Now, here the for both the non-basic variables the entries are negative. So, any of these variables is a candidate to become a basic variable. So, in this case we choose minus 3 to be the incoming basic variable. So, once we decide to bring in 1 variable, we have to decide a basic variable which should be made non-basic and as we discussed in the last class, we can use the ratio test. So, we collect all the elements in the particular column that we have selected which are positive. So, both the elements here are positive and then we find the ratios of this right hand side with respect to right hand side and this element. So, 2 by 1 and 1 by 1 are the two ratios that we have found and out of this 1 1 by 1 is the smallest.

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$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Incoming nonbasic variable: x_1

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Outgoing basic variable: x_4

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 3 & 3 \end{array} \right)$$

So, by using the minimum ratio test we decide that x_4 is the variable which needs to be made non-basic. So, that is shown by green color here. Now, once we decide to make a x_4 non-basic and x_1 basic; then in this column we should make sure that the remaining entries are 0 and this entry is 1. Now, in this case it is 1; so we do not have to worry about making this entry 1. So, what we need to do is that, in order to make this entry 0 we have to multiply the second row by minus 1 and add it to plus 1. And similarly, to make this entry 0, we have to multiply this second row by minus plus 3 and add it to this row; the last row; so that this entry will be made 0.

And, finally, what we get is 0 1 0 in this column and the x_4 column which was earlier 0 1 0, now becomes minus 1 1 3. Now, we will see that the matrix corresponding to the basic variables x_1 and x_3 is the identity matrix. And the basic feasible solution associated with this basis matrix is x_3 equal to 1 and x_1 equal to 1 and the current objective function value is minus 3. And remember that the non-basic variables x_2 and x_4 ; if you look at the entries in the last row, the entry corresponding to x_2 is minus 1, so which is negative. So, we have not yet reached the objective function value, the optimal objective function value. But note that we started from the objective function value of 0 and currently the objective function value which is the negative of the entry in this cell is minus 3. So, we have made a progress in the objective function by making x_1 basic variable and x_4 non-basic variable.

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The slide displays a linear programming tableau with variables x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 and a Right Hand Side (RHS). The tableau is as follows:

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & -1 & 0 & 3 & 3 \end{array} \right)$$

- Current Basic Feasible Solution:
 $(x_1, x_3)^T = (1, 1)^T, (x_2, x_4)^T = (0, 0)^T$
- Current Objective function = -3

The slide also features the NPTEL logo in the bottom left corner and the name 'Shrihari Shrivastava' and 'Numerical Optimization' in the bottom center. A lecturer is visible in the bottom right corner of the frame.

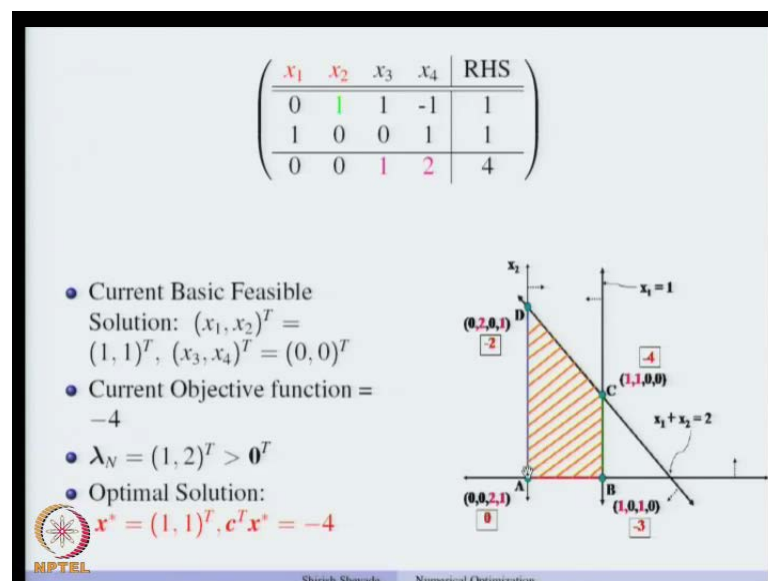
So, the current objective function value is minus 3 and the two basic variables are x_1 and x_3 and this is shown in this figure as point B. So, we started from point A and move to point B and in the process the variable x_4 which was basic is made non-basic. And variable x_1 which was non-basic at A was made basic and the objective function value decrease to minus 3.

Now, this is the current point that we have and the last row entry corresponding to a non-basic variable x_2 is negative. So, that means that x_2 is the candidate is the only candidate basic vector non-basic vector which can be made basic. So, incoming non-basic variable is x_2 and then we apply the ratio the minimum ratio test. So, in this column we collect all the entries which are strictly positive and find the ratio test, find the minimum ratio. Now, in this column you will see that only this entry is positive, the other entry is 0. So, obviously x_3 is the candidate because this row corresponds to the variable x_3 ; so x_3 is the candidate which should be made non-basic. And the next step is to make sure that all the entries in this column except this 1 are 0.

So, that is done by multiplying first row by 1 and adding it to the last row and what we get is the tableau which is like this. Now, x_1 and x_2 are basic variables; where x_2 is equal to 1, x_1 is equal to 1, the current objective function value is minus 4, negative of the quantity in this cell last cell. And the relative cost associated with the two non-basic variables x_3 and x_4 are strictly positive. And obviously the relative cost associated with

the basic variables are 0; so it satisfies our optimality conditions. And therefore, we have reached the solution with the objective function value of minus 4 and x_2 equal to 1 and x_1 equal to 1. So, we can see in this figure that; so in the previous iteration we were at point B and then we made x_2 as our basic variable by making x_3 non-basic. So, when we move from B to C, the objective function value reduce further from minus 3 to minus 4 and we saw that is indeed a minimum.

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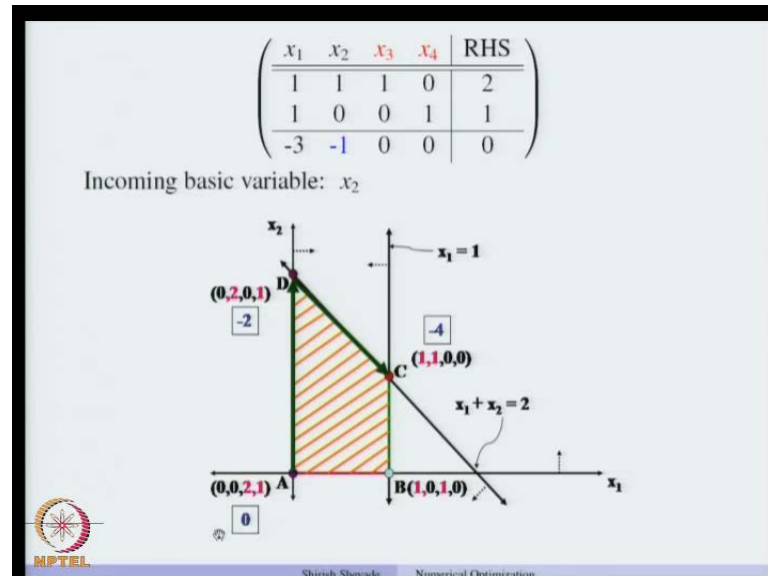


So, the starting from A we move to point B which is a neighboring vertex of A and then we move to point C which is the optimal point in this case. So, if you want to summarize the final tableau that we get gives us all the details. So, the current optimal the current basic feasible solution is x_2 equal to 1 and x_1 equal to 1, x_3 equal to 0 and x_4 equal to 0; those are the non-basic variables. Current objective function is minus 4 and λ_N is the relative cost associated with the non-basic variables, that is 1 and 2 which is strictly greater than 0. So, we have the optimal point.

So, optimal solution is 1 1 for x_1 and x_2 and the optimal objective function value is minus 4. So, as you will see from this figure that this is the point which is optimal and the path that our algorithm traced was from A to B and B to C. And there are 4 extreme points in this case. So, the optimal solution has to lie at one of the extreme points and we will see that this is the least optimal; this is the least objective function value. At point D the objective function value is minus 2 which is higher than minus 4. Now, it is also

possible for the algorithm to follow path A to D and D to C and that amounts to choosing a different entering variable for the initial tableau.

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So, again we start with the point A and the initial tableau that we had considered was like this and initially we decided to make x_1 as an incoming basic variable. Now, instead of x_1 , we make x_2 as our incoming basic variable. Now, if you follow the same steps that we followed, we will see that from A one would move to point B and from B one would move to point C and from C one cannot go to any point because C is the optimum point in this case. So, there are different ways to reach the solution by following different paths. But then one thing that one has to keep in mind is that every time when we move from a basic feasible solution or a vertex to a neighboring vertex; the objective function value decreases if the solution, if the basic feasible solution is nondegenerate.

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LP in Standard Form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = m$.

Simplex Algorithm to solve an LP [Dantzig]¹

¹G. B. Dantzig, *Linear Programming and Extension*
University Press, 1963

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So, this steps what we saw earlier are part of the simplex algorithm to solve a linear program and these were proposed by Dantzig sometime in late 40s. And the basic algorithm which is also called simplex algorithm is also available in Dantzig's book on linear programming and extensions. So, let us consider the LP in standard form and give a simplex algorithm as proposed by Dantzig to solve this.

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Simplex Algorithm (to solve an LP in Standard Form)

- (1) Get initial basis matrix \mathbf{B} , basic feasible solution, $\mathbf{x}_B = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{b}$, $\mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{0}$, set *Unbounded* = FALSE.
- (2) $\lambda_N = \mathbf{c}_N - (\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N})^T \mathbf{c}_B$
- (3) **while** (*Unbounded* == FALSE and $\exists x_j \in N \ni \lambda_j < 0$)
 - (a) Select a non-basic variable $x_q \in N$ such that $\lambda_q < 0$
 - (b) $\hat{B}_q = \{x_j \in B : (\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N})_{jq} > 0\}$.
 - (c) **if** $\hat{B}_q == \emptyset$
 - *Unbounded* = TRUE
 - else**
 - (i) $x_q = \min_{x_j \in \hat{B}_q} \frac{\bar{b}_j}{(\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N})_{jq}} = \frac{\bar{b}_p}{(\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N})_{pq}}$
 - (ii) $x_i = \bar{b}_i - (\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N})_{iq} x_q, \forall x_i \in B$
 - (iii) Swap x_p and x_q between B and N , update λ
- endif**
- endwhile**

Output : $\mathbf{x}^* = (\mathbf{x}_B, \mathbf{x}_N)^T$ if *Unbounded* ==

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Now, one of the important steps of a simplex algorithm is to get the initial basis matrix and the basis vector set B. Once we have the initial basis matrix, we get the basic feasible

solution which is x_B equal to $B^{-1}b$ and x_N equal to 0. Now, the simplex algorithm is also used to find out whether the given problem is unbounded. So, initially we have no idea about the status of the problem; so we set the variable unbounded to be false and the variable will be made true if the problem is unbounded. So, given the basis matrix B , we get a initial basic feasible solution which is x_B equal to $B^{-1}b$ and x_N equal to 0. Now, now we have to check whether this solution is optimal or not. So, for that purpose what we need to do is that, we need to find out λ_N and λ_N is nothing but $C_N - B^{-1}N^T C_B$. So, these are the relative costs associated with non-basic variables.

Now, as we saw earlier in the example as long as there is one λ which is associated with the non-basic variables, if one of those λ s is negative; that means that we have not achieved optimality. So, if the solution is bounded, that means that we have not set the flag associated with the boundedness of the solution to true. So, while unboundedness, unbounded is equal to false and there exists a non-basic variable x_j such that $\lambda_j < 0$; the λ_j is calculated here. Then that means that we have a chance to make a progress in the objective function or find out that the solution is unbounded.

So, the first step that we saw earlier was that to select a non-basic variable x_q belonging to the set N ; the set of non-basic variables, such that $\lambda_q < 0$. And it is always possible to do that because we have already checked that there exists at least one x_j in N such that λ_j is less than 0. So, we first select a non-basic variable to be made basic variable. And then the next step is to find out a basic variable which can be made non-basic and this can be done using ratio test. Now, for ratio test we need to first find out whether in the q th column of $B^{-1}N$ matrix whether the entry is positive or not.

Now, as we saw in the last class if $B^{-1}N_j$ is empty. So, that means in that column q , the column we cannot find the entering basic or leaving non-basic variable; leaving basic variable, then the problem is unbounded. So, if we cannot find x_j which is in the basic variable set such that $B^{-1}N_{j,q}$ is greater than 0; then it clearly shows that as x_q increases all the variables, all the basic variables also increase in their values. And therefore, the solution becomes unbounded. So, if $B^{-1}N_j$ is a null set; then we set the unbounded flag to be true otherwise we find out the minimum ratio of $B^{-1}b_j$ and $B^{-1}N_{j,q}$

inverse $N^{-1}q$ and let that be associated with the basic variable p . So, that means that x_p is the basic variable which will be made non-basic, while making x_q as a basic variable.

Remember, that when x_q earlier belong to the set N means that x_q values earlier was 0 and now we are going to make it positive based on the minimum ratio test. And then we update all the basic variables. So, in that process x_p will become 0; because we have already set x_q to be $B^{-1}q$ by $B^{-1}N^{-1}q$. So, x_p will be made 0 and then we swap x_p and x_q between the sets B and N and update the matrices B and the vector λ . So that the relative costs associated with the basic variables are 0 and the matrix in the tableau corresponding to the basic variables is a identity matrix. So, that is why we need to update our basis matrix. And then this procedure is repeated; so next time if unbounded is not equal to true, so that is unbounded equal to false. Then there still exists some λ associated with non-basic variables which is negative; then there is a scope for improvement in the objective function and then we move to the adjacent extreme point.

And, this procedure is repeated until either unbounded equal to true. So, which means that the problem is unbounded or we get a we get into a situation where λ 's are all greater than or equal to 0 and we have reached the optimality. So, finally, as the solution what we get is x_B and x_N , if unbounded equal to false; otherwise, if unbounded equal to true, that means the problem is unbounded. So, this is a simplex algorithm as proposed by Dantzig sometime in late 40's and it is quite popular algorithm to solve linear programs.

Now, most of the steps in this algorithm are straight forward except that how to select a non-basic variable x_q belonging to N ; such that λ_q is less than 0. There could be many variables, non-basic variables belonging set N for which λ_q will be less than 0. So, how do we choose one non-basic variable from a set of non-basic variables which satisfy this property? So, that is one question that needs to be answered. The second question is that, how do we get the initial basis matrix B that may not always be readily available. So, how do we get the initial basic feasible solution? That is the second question that we need to answer. Now, the third question is that, will this algorithm terminate in finite number of equations or will the algorithm result in cycles? And these are the question we would like to answer now.

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Remarks:

- How to select a non-basic variable $x_q \in N$ in Step 3(a) of the Simplex Algorithm?

$$x_q = \operatorname{argmin}_{x_j \in N: \lambda_j < 0} \lambda_j$$
- If the basic feasible solution is *nondegenerate* at each iteration, then the Simplex Algorithm terminates in a finite number of iterations.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Objective Function} &= \mathbf{c}_B^T \mathbf{x}_B + \mathbf{c}_N^T \mathbf{x}_N \\ &= \mathbf{c}_B^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c}_B^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{N} \mathbf{x}_N + \mathbf{c}_N^T \mathbf{x}_N \\ &= \bar{z} + \bar{\mathbf{c}}_B^T \mathbf{x}_B + \bar{\mathbf{c}}_N^T \mathbf{x}_N \end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{\mathbf{c}}_B^T = \mathbf{0}^T$, $\bar{\mathbf{c}}_N^T = \mathbf{c}_N^T - \mathbf{c}_B^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{N}$ and \bar{z} denotes the current objective function value. If the basic feasible solution is nondegenerate, then the objective function decreases in each iteration. Since the number of basic feasible solutions is finite, the algorithm has finite convergence.



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So, the first question is how to select a non-basic variable from the set N, if there are multiple variables? So, Danzig proposed a very simple idea that choose the variable which has the least value of lambda j. So, pick all the variables in the set N for which lambda j is less than 0 and then choose that variable which has the least lambda j value. So, this idea works fine. Now, the claim is that if the basic feasible solution is nondegenerate at each iteration, then the simplex algorithm terminates in a finite number of iterations. So, what we need to show is that if the solution is nondegenerate at every iteration, then by going to the adjacent point we increase; I am sorry we decrease the objective function value that is 1 part. And then since there exist only finite number of extreme points or finite number of basic feasible solutions. So, every time when we go to the adjacent, if we decrease the objective function; then in finite number of iterations our algorithm is going to converge. So, let us see that proof.

So, the objective function if we split it in terms of the basic and the non-basic variables, it will be $\mathbf{c}_B^T \mathbf{x}_B + \mathbf{c}_N^T \mathbf{x}_N$. And \mathbf{x}_B is nothing but $\mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b}$ at a given point. So, $\mathbf{c}_B^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c}_B^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{N} \mathbf{x}_N + \mathbf{c}_N^T \mathbf{x}_N$; remember that \mathbf{x}_N is 0. So, this two quantities are truly 0 but we have written them because we use them for explanation. Now, this first quantity is the current objective function \bar{z} . And then we have $\bar{\mathbf{c}}_B^T \mathbf{x}_B + \bar{\mathbf{c}}_N^T \mathbf{x}_N$; where $\bar{\mathbf{c}}_B$ is at 0 vector and $\bar{\mathbf{c}}_N$ is the vector $\mathbf{c}_N^T - \mathbf{c}_B^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{N}$. Now, $\bar{\mathbf{c}}_B$ is 0 and \mathbf{x}_N is 0; so this last 2 quantities are 0 and

the current objective function value at x is nothing but $C^T B^{-1} b$ or z . Now, if we decide to make if any of the entries in the $C^T B^{-1} N$ vector is negative; then as we saw earlier x_N , one of the basic variables corresponding to that variables which is negative can be made basic by increasing that variable to a positive value.

And, therefore, once we increase that value to a positive value the objective function value will be because $C^T B^{-1} b$ is any way 0. And since there exists a finite number of basic feasible solutions because we saw that if we have n variables and m constraints; then there are at the most $\binom{n}{m}$ number of basic feasible solutions. So, since there number of basic feasible solutions is finite the algorithm is going to converge in finite number of iterations. So, under the conditions of nondegeneracy, the simplex the nondegeneracy at very iteration; the simplex algorithm terminates in finite number of iterations.

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- How to get initial basic feasible solution?


(a) Case I: Given constraints

$$\begin{aligned} Ax &\leq b \\ x &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

(with $b \geq 0$), can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} Ax + y &= b \\ x, y &\geq 0 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = b$$

Use Basic feasible solution, $(x, y)^T = (\mathbf{0}, b)^T$, to solve

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c^T x + 0^T y \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax + y = b \\ & x, y \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$


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Now, the third important question that we need to address is how to get initial basic feasible solution? Now, for some problems it may be easy to get this initial basic feasible solution. While for some problems as we will see, we may have to solve another sub problem to get initial basic feasible solution. So, let us first see the easy case where it is the basic feasible solution can be determined quickly. Now, if the constraints are of the type $Ax \leq b$ where x nonnegative; where only assume that b is nonnegative. And if in the initial constraints we are particular from component b is

negative; then that can be easily that equation can be easily converted to the form $Ax = b$, where b is nonnegative.

So, by using some matrix transformations matrix operations one can convert a given set of constraints to the form where b is nonnegative. Now, this constraint can be written as $Ax + y = b$; where x, y 's are nonnegative. Now, to get the basic feasible solution, what we need is that we need a sub-matrix of the constraint set matrix to be an identity matrix. So that the solution can be, the basic feasible solution can be easily obtained from the constraint set. And by introducing the slack variables we can see that the constraint set now will have a sub-matrix; which will be an identity matrix. So, this set of equations can be written in the form $Ax + Iy = b$; so this is nothing but $Ax + Iy = b$ and x, y nonnegative. Now, the constraints set matrix if if you look at this matrix, now there is a sub-matrix which is a identity matrix.

So, in such a case it is easy to get a basic feasible solution. So, what we can do is that we can set $Ax = 0$ and $y = b$. And since b is greater than or equal to 0 that means y is greater than or equal to 0. If x is set to 0 and then we get a basic feasible solution. So, one can use the basic feasible solution (x, y) to be $(0, b)$. So, for constraints like this, it is a straight forward thing to get a basic feasible solution. On the other hand so if we use this basic feasible solution, then one can solve the problem minimize $c^T x + 0^T y$ subject to $Ax = b, x, y \geq 0$. So, the in the objective function the costs associated with the slack variables are 0 and one can solve this problem with the initial basic feasible solution as $x = 0$ and $y = b$.

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(b) Case 2: Given constraints (C2)


$$Ax = b$$
$$x \geq 0$$

(with $b \geq 0$), solve the *artificial* linear program (ALP)

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \mathbf{1}^T y \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax + y = b \\ & x, y \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

to get the initial basic feasible solution, $x \geq 0$ (if it exists).

- If there exists x that satisfies constraints C2, then ALP has the optimal objective function value of 0 with $y = 0$ and $x \geq 0$.
- If C2 has no feasible solution, then the optimal objective function value of ALP is *greater than* 0.



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Now, on the other hand if the constraints which are given are $Ax = b$ and x nonnegative then it becomes difficult to get a initial basic feasible solution. Now, in this case it may be a good idea to introduce artificial variables. So, suppose y is used to denote the artificial variables then one solves an artificial linear program. So, minimize $\mathbf{1}^T y$ subject $Ax + y = b$ and $x, y \geq 0$, so where $\mathbf{1}$ is a vector of all 1 of size depending upon the size of y . So, this is artificial linear program that one needs to solve and at the solution if the original system had a solution then the solution of this the optimal objective function value of this will be 0. So, which means that all y 's are 0s and we get x which satisfies this.

On the other hand if the solution of this artificial linear program is positive then we can conclude that there is no basic feasible solution to the given set of constraints. So, if there is no identity sub-matrix associated with the constraints set matrix then it may a good idea to solve an artificial linear program to get either to get a basic feasible solution for this system of equations or conclude that there does not exist a basic feasible solution for the given system of equations or given system of constraints. So as I mentioned that there exists x that satisfies constraints then the artificial linear program has the optimal objective value of function 0 with all y 's to be 0. And therefore, if a y 's are 0 then we have as a solution of this program x where Ax satisfies b $Ax = b$ and x is nonnegative. So, x the basic feasible solution x can be obtained by solving this if such a solution exists or if there exists some x which satisfies this constraint. On the other hand

if c 2 has or the constraints have no feasible solution, then the optimal objective function of LP will be greater than 0 and in that case we can conclude that c 2 has no feasible solution.

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(c) Case 3: Given constraints

$$Ax \geq b$$


$$x \geq 0$$

(with $b \geq 0$), can be written as

$$\begin{array}{l} Ax - z + y = b \\ x, y, z \geq 0 \end{array} \Rightarrow (A \quad I \quad -I) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = b$$

$$x, y, z \geq 0.$$

- Solve an artificial linear program (similar to Case 2)



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Now, if you are given the constraints of the type $Ax = b$ or $Ax \geq b$, now these constraints can be converted to equality constraints by using surplus variables but then those surplus variables will be associated with the negative of the identity matrix and therefore, we need again to use artificial variables and $Ax \geq b$ can be written as $Ax - z + y = b$.

So, when we introduce surplus variables we wrote this $Ax - z = b$ but in order to get an initial basic feasible solution we add these artificial variables y . So, we have $Ax - z + y = b$ and $x, y, z \geq 0$ and this can be written as $(A \quad I \quad -I)x + y = b$ and $x, y, z \geq 0$. Now, if you look at the constraint set matrix which is consisting of sub-matrices A , I , and $-I$, so A is associated with x , I is associated with y , and the negative of the identity is associated with z . So, you will see that there's a sub-matrix which is identity matrix and therefore, the variable now can be made a basic variable so x and z become non-basic and y becomes basic with the value b and then we solve an artificial linear program, as we did in the previous case to get either a basic feasible solution for these constraints or conclude that there does not exist x which

satisfy this. So, the rest of the steps are similar to the one's we discussed in the case of $Ax = b$ or the previous case.

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Two Phase Method

Given the linear program (SLP):

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ax = b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

where $b \geq 0$.

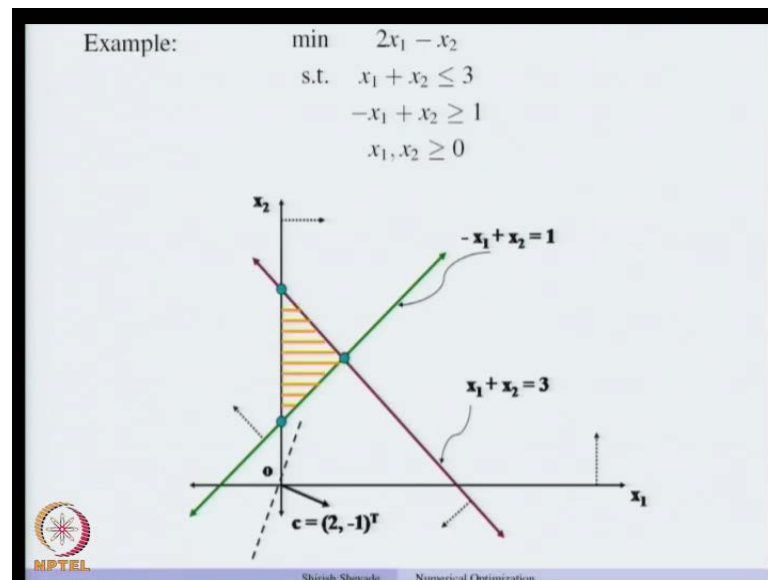
- Phase I: Introduce artificial variables and solve the artificial linear program with initial basic feasible solution, $(x = 0, y = b)$, to get a basic feasible solution for SLP or conclude that it does not exist.
- Phase II: Get the initial basic feasible solution (if it exists) from Phase I to solve SLP.

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Now, this method is called two phase method. The first phase corresponds to finding a initial basic feasible solution for a given system of constraints or conclude that such a solution does not exist. And if the basic feasible solution exists in the first phase then use that to solve the original linear program. Remember that in the phase one to find out whether a basic feasible solution exists or not, we need to solve an artificial linear program and that can be solved again using simplex method. So, given the linear the standard linear program minimize $c^T x$ subject to $x = b$ x nonnegative and b is also nonnegative. The phase one introduces artificial variables and solves the artificial linear program with the initial basic feasible solution as $x = 0$ and $y = b$. So, y is the artificial variable and that linear program solution is used to get a basic feasible solution for SLP if such a solution exists.

Otherwise one can conclude that the basic feasible solution for the given program does not exist. Now, after having obtained an initial basic feasible solution for this program through phase one then the phase two, the given SLP is solved. So, phase one solves the artificial linear program while phase two solves the actual linear program that we want to solve.

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So, let us consider an example to show how this two-phase method works so let us consider a problem to minimize $2x_1 - x_2$ subject to $x_1 + x_2 \leq 3$, $-x_1 + x_2 \geq 1$ and $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$. Now, the first constraint is of the type less than or equal to inequality and the second constraint is of the type greater than or equal to inequality. Now in the first constraint we can add a slack variable and that itself can be made as an artificial variable in the second constraint. We need a surplus variable and also an artificial variable, so if you do that then we can get an identity matrix associated with the constraint set matrix. But before we go into the details let us look at the feasible set and the constraints set we have. So, the first constraint is that $x_1 + x_2 \leq 3$ so $x_1 + x_2 = 3$ is the line which is shown in the $x_1 \times x_2$ space and $x_1 + x_2 \leq 3$ which means that we are interested in the half space pointed to by this arrow.

Now, the second constraint is $-x_1 + x_2 \geq 1$. So, this is the equation of the line $-x_1 + x_2 = 1$ so the line cuts the x_2 axis at 1 and $-x_1 + x_2 \geq 1$ means the half space pointed to by this arrow. Further we have the nonnegativity constraints as usual. So, $x_1 \geq 0$ corresponds to this half space and $x_2 \geq 0$ corresponds to this half space, the vector c is $(2, -1)^T$ so which points in this direction. So, this plane is the hyper-plane which is the, whose normal is the vector c and hyper-plane passes through the origin. So, when you saw geometric interpretation of linear programs we saw

that we have to get a hyper-plane which is parallel to this and where the function value is the list. So, by looking at this figure we can conclude that, so this hyper-plane if you start if you place it here place a hyper-plane parallel to this passing through then as we move in the c direction the optimal the objective function value decreases and finally, then we move when we reach this point, we will see that the objective function value is the least. So, therefore, this turns out to be our optimal point using graphical method so let us verify this using the simplex algorithm that we have seen.

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Example:
$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & 2x_1 - x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 \leq 3 \\ & -x_1 + x_2 \geq 1 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Phase I: Introducing artificial variables, the constraints become

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 3 \\ -x_1 + x_2 - x_4 + x_5 &= 1 \\ x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the artificial linear program

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x_3 + x_5 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 3 \\ & -x_1 + x_2 - x_4 + x_5 = 1 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

has $x_3 = 3, x_5 = 1, x_1 = x_2 = x_4 = 0$ as its initial basic feasible solution.

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Now, let us look at the constraints. So, we introduce the artificial variables so we introduce the artificial variable x_3 and also x_5 so x_4 becomes a slack surplus variables x_3 can also be called the slack variable. But the important thing is that we can get a identity a sub-matrix in the constraint set matrix associated with the variable x_3 and x_5 and that gives us the basic feasible solution for the artificial linear program. So, for the artificial linear program the variables x_1 x_2 and x_4 are 0 and x_3 equal to 3 and x_5 equal to 1. So, the artificial linear program is the sum of the artificial variables, so which is x_3 and x_5 sum of x_3 and x_5 and subject to the same constraints.

And, we can use the simplex method to solve this artificial linear program and that is what we will do now. So, as I said x_3 equal to 3 and x_5 equal to 1 is a basic feasible solution and the corresponding non-basic variables are x_1 x_2 and x_4 which are all set to 0 and that is the initial basic feasible solution for the artificial linear program.

Remember that we first saw in the phase one. We first solve this artificial linear program and in the phase two, if we are able to get the solution in phase one.

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The slide displays the following linear programming problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x_3 + x_5 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 3 \\ & -x_1 + x_2 - x_4 + x_5 = 1 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Initial Tableau:

x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	x_5	RHS
1	1	1	0	0	3
-1	1	0	-1	1	1
0	0	1	0	1	0

Making the relative costs of basic variables 0,

x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	x_5	RHS
1	1	1	0	0	3
-1	1	0	-1	1	1
0	-2	0	1	0	-4

The video frame also shows the NPTEL logo and the text "Shirish Shevade Numerical Optimization" at the bottom.

If we are able to get a solution which is feasible for this constraint set in phase 1 then we move on to phase 2. So, as is the case in our earlier examples we first construct a simplex tableau associated with this set of constraints x_3 and x_4 are our basic variables and x_1 , x_2 and x_5 are non-basic variables x_3 equal to 3 and x_4 equal to 1. Now, the first step is to make the relative cost of the basic variables 0, now here the relative cost of the basic variables is 1. So, we first make them 0, so that is done by multiplying first this row by minus 1 this row minus 1 and then adding the 2 to the last row so if you do this operation you will see that the basic variables.

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Iteration 1:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -4 \end{array} \right)$$

Incoming non-basic variable: x_2

Iteration 2:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -4 \end{array} \right)$$

Outgoing basic variable: x_5

Iteration 3:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

x_3 and x_5 the relative costs are 0 and we get a initial point where the objective function is 4. Now, you will see that for the non-basic variables x_1 , x_2 and x_4 the relative costs are 0 minus 2 and 1, so clearly not all relative costs associated with non-basic variables are nonnegative so that means that x_2 is a candidate for becoming basic variable. So, this is shown by this blue mark here, that this cost is negative and x_2 becomes a candidate to become a basic variable.

Now, once again x_2 becomes a candidate to become a basic variable we need to find out which is the outgoing basic variable or which basic variable can become non-basic and that depends on the ratio test. So, we pick all the elements in this column which are positive in this case both are positive and take the ratio so 3 by 1 by 1, so this the second row which corresponds to the basic variable x_5 is the candidate to become non-basic, so x_5 will which is the existing basic variables will become non-basic in the next iteration. And the remaining step is to make all the entries in this column zeros so that x_2 can become basic variable along with x_3 and this is shown here, now earlier the objective function value was 4 now to has come down to 2 and x_2 and x_3 are now basic variables x_3 equal to 2 and x_2 equal to 1 and the relative cost associated with non-basic variables are minus 2 minus 1 and 2. So, again which are not strict not nonnegative and therefore, there is a scope to improve the objective function further.

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$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

Incoming non-basic variable: x_1

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

Outgoing basic variable: x_3

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

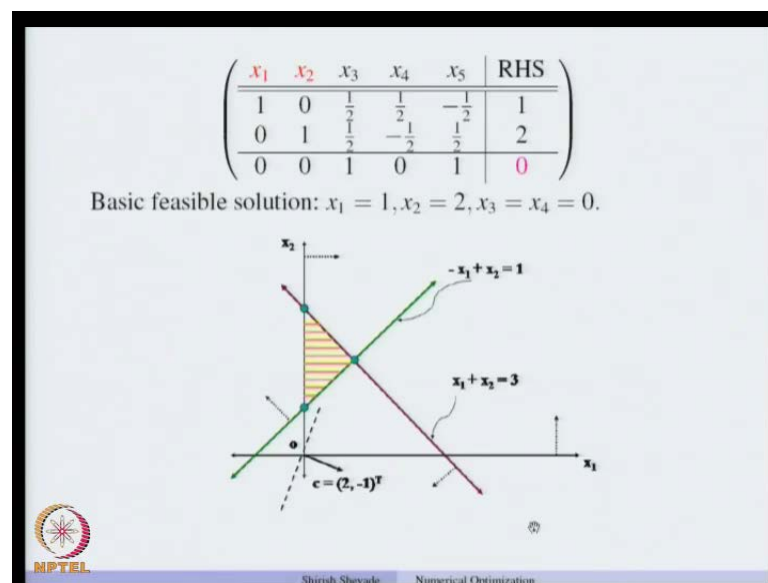
Basic feasible solution: $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = x_4 = 0$.

Now, suppose we choose x_1 to be entering basic variable into the current basic variable set and then we have to look at the outgoing basic variable from the existing basic variable set and that is again based on the ratio test. So, in this case only this first row's entry is positive so we take this ratio and obviously that is the minimum 1. So, the first row corresponds to the basic variable x_3 , so x_3 is the basic variable which will lead the existing basis to make an entry for x_1 to become a basic variable. Now, what we do is that we first make sure that at this point the variable has a value of 1. So, this is done by dividing the entire row by 2 and therefore, the new basic variable x_1 will have a value which is 1.

And, then once we make this entry in the tableau to be 1 we have to make sure that the rest of the entries in that column have to be made 0, so that x_1 will represent the basic variable. Note that by making the rest of the entries 0, first of all we make sure that the columns in the first m entries in this column, they are associated with the identity matrix and the last entry when we make it 0 we make sure that the relative cost associated with that basic variable is 0. So, this first column associated with x_1 now becomes a column with the identity matrix in the simplex tableau. This entry is made 0 which means that the relative cost associated with that variable is made 0. So, these are all done using simple matrix operations and you'll see that the current objective function value is 0.

So, x_1 and x_2 are basic variables x_1 equal to 1 x_2 equal to 2 the non-basic variables are x_3 x_4 x_5 and the corresponding relative costs are nonnegative. So, which means that x_1 equal to 1, and x_2 equal to 2 is the basic feasible solution for the original linear program, the very fact that we have got the optimal objective function value of 0 for the artificial linear program shows that the initial basic feasible solution exists for the original linear program and that basic feasible solution is x_1 equal to 1 and x_2 equal to 2. So, this completes the phase 1 of the simplex method. So, the basic feasible solution for the original program is x_1 equal to 1, x_2 equal to 2, and x_3 x_4 are 0.

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So, x_1 equal to 1 and x_2 equal to 2 corresponds to this point and this is going to be our starting point for our next phase. So, from the original set of constraints it was very difficult to find out what is what will be the initial basic feasible solution for the given problem. But by using phase one of the simplex method and finding out that optimal objective function value of phase one of the artificial linear program was 0. And therefore, that gave us the initial basic feasible solution for the original problem and therefore, we start with this point and then use phase 2 of simplex method to solve the original linear program.

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Phase II: For the given problem,

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x_3 + x_5 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 3 \\ & -x_1 + x_2 - x_4 = 1 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Initial Tableau:

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & 2 \\ \hline 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Making the relative costs of basis variables 0,

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & 2 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} & 0 \end{array} \right)$$


Now, now for this problem the initial tableau was I am sorry this should be 2×1 minus x_2 that should be the objective function and for this objective function the initial tableau was x_1 equal to 1 and x_2 equal to 2. Now, as you will see that these are the basic variables the relative costs of this basic variables are not 0 so first, we make them 0 by using the matrix operations. And now you'll see that the x_3 and x_4 are the non-basic variables and the corresponding relative costs are negative. So, that means there is scope to improve the objective function. Now, note that the current objective function is 0.


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$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & 2 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Incoming non-basic variable: x_4

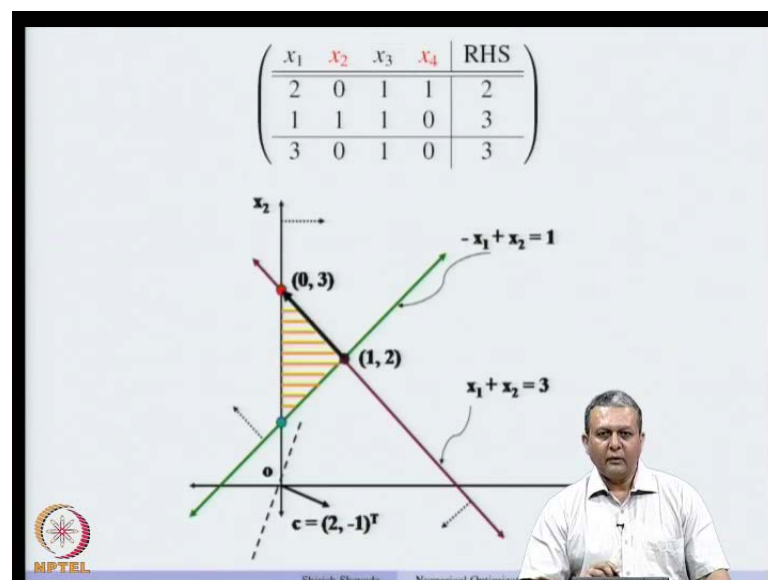
$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & 2 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Outgoing basic variable: x_1

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \text{RHS} \\ \hline 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ \hline 3 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \end{array} \right)$$


So, suppose we decide to use x_4 as an incoming basic variable now x_4 is the incoming basic variable because the incoming cost of x_4 is negative then we have to find out the outgoing basic variable so using the ratio test. So, in this case the entry corresponding to the variable x_1 is the only positive entry in this column and therefore, x_1 is the only choice for making it non-basic therefore, x_1 will be made non-basic by bringing in x_4 into the basic vector set now again doing the same matrix operations you'll see that x_2 and x_4 are the basic variables x_4 equal to 2 x_2 equal to 3 and associated with the non-basic variable x_1 and x_3 , the costs are 3 and 1 which are positive. So, that means that we have indeed found a solution for where the objective function value is minus 3.

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And, this is shown in this figure, where we started from 1 2 in this phase 2 of the simplex method, and then we took a step 0 3 to the neighboring vertex 0 3 and at this point the objective function which is $2x_1 - x_2$ its value is minus 3. And that is the least among all the 3 vertices. So, if the initial basic feasible solution is not available, we have seen that phase one can be used to get a basic initial feasible solution by solving an artificially linear program and then use that in phase two to solve the original linear program. It may so happen that in phase one, we will, we may not be able to find the basic initial feasible solution and we will see an example of that in the next class.

Thank you.