

Algebra of the Simplex Method

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November 10, 15, 2016

Outline

1 Representation Issues

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- 2 Checking Optimality

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- 3 Determining the entering and departing variables

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Principal Ideas

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Representing z and x

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Basic Solution

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$$z = \mathbf{c}_B \cdot \mathbf{B}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{b} - \sum_{j \in J} (\mathbf{c}_B \cdot \mathbf{B}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{a}_j - c_j) \cdot x_j$$

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Main idea

The *key idea* of the simplex method is to move from an extreme point to an improving adjacent extreme point by interchanging a column in \mathbf{B} and a column in \mathbf{N} .

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Thus, if $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x_j} > 0$, then increasing x_j will increase z .

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Thus, if $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x_j} > 0$, then increasing x_j will increase z .

$(\mathbf{c}_B \cdot \mathbf{B}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{a}_j - c_j)$ is sometimes referred to as *reduced cost* and is denoted by $(z_j - c_j)$.

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Based on the derived expression for z , the *rate of change* of z with respect to the nonbasic variable x_j is:

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x_j} = -(\mathbf{c}_B \cdot \mathbf{B}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{a}_j - c_j)$$

Thus, if $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x_j} > 0$, then increasing x_j will increase z .

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What is $(z_j - c_j)$ for a basic variable?

Determining the entering variable and departing variable

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Pick the non-basic variable for which $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x_j}$ is the largest.

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x_k is determined by a blocking constraint.

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The theorem is proven!

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Can $\delta = 0$?



Exchanging columns (contd.)

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Thus $\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_{m-1}, \mathbf{a}$ are linearly independent and form a basis for E^m .



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Identifying the departing variable

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All variables must be non-negative; hence,

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Let

$$\mathbf{B}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \boldsymbol{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_m \end{pmatrix}$$

Departing Variable (contd.)

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We thus have,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_m \end{pmatrix} - x_j \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{1,j} \\ \alpha_{2,j} \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_{m,j} \end{pmatrix} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

Departing Variable (contd.)

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Final Step

Departing Variable (contd.)

Final Step

We get an upper bound on x_k as:

$$x_k \leq \text{minimum} \left\{ \frac{\beta_i}{\alpha_{i,k}} : \alpha_{i,k} > 0 \right\}$$

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The above test is called the minimum ratio test.

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Unboundedness

Departing Variable (contd.)

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Unboundedness

If we attempt to bring non-basic variable x_k into the basis and $\alpha_k \leq 0$, then the objective function can be increased indefinitely and no finite optimal solution exists.

Example

Example

Example

Example

Example

Example

Example

$$\text{maximize } z = 2 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot x_2$$

Example

Example

maximize $z = 2 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot x_2$
subject to

Example

Example

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{maximize } z = 2 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot x_2 \\ &\text{subject to} \\ &x_1 - 2 \cdot x_2 \leq 4 \end{aligned}$$

Example

Example

$$\text{maximize } z = 2 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot x_2$$

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$$x_1 - 2 \cdot x_2 \leq 4$$

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Note

Solve the above problem graphically.

Standardization

Standardization

Standardizing the constraints

Standardization

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Standardization

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Standardization

Standardizing the constraints

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Standardizing the constraints

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Summary

This problem can be summarized as follows:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Standardization

Standardizing the constraints

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Ploughing through

Ploughing through

Locate the initial basis

Ploughing through

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An obvious choice is I .

Ploughing through

Locate the initial basis

An obvious choice is \mathbf{I} .

$$\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4, \mathbf{a}_5) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{I}$$

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Is this basis feasible?

Moving from one basis to the next

Moving from one basis to the next

Basic variables in terms of non-basic variables

Expressing z and \mathbf{x}_B in terms of \mathbf{x}_N , we get:

Moving from one basis to the next

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Starting solution is obtained by setting the nonbasic variables equal to zero

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$$\mathbf{x}_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Is the current basic solution optimal?

Choosing the departing variables

Choosing the departing variables

Choosing the entering variable

Choosing the departing variables

Choosing the entering variable

$$\partial z / \partial x_1 = 2.$$

Choosing the departing variables

Choosing the entering variable

$$\partial z / \partial x_1 = 2. \quad \partial z / \partial x_2 = 3$$

Choosing the departing variables

Choosing the entering variable

$\partial z / \partial x_1 = 2$. $\partial z / \partial x_2 = 3$ (maximal).

Choosing the departing variables

Choosing the entering variable

$\partial z / \partial x_1 = 2$. $\partial z / \partial x_2 = 3$ (maximal). We choose x_2 as the entering variable.

Choosing the departing variables

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How to pick the departing variable

Choosing the departing variables

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How to pick the departing variable

As x_2 is increased, we must ensure that x_3 and x_4 and x_5 remain nonnegative.

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As x_2 is increased, we must ensure that x_3 and x_4 and x_5 remain nonnegative.

x_2 needs to satisfy the most restrictive upper bound $x_2 \leq 10$ due to x_5 .

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Choosing the entering variable

$\partial z / \partial x_1 = 2$. $\partial z / \partial x_2 = 3$ (maximal). We choose x_2 as the entering variable.

How to pick the departing variable

As x_2 is increased, we must ensure that x_3 and x_4 and x_5 remain nonnegative.

x_2 needs to satisfy the most restrictive upper bound $x_2 \leq 10$ due to x_5 .

x_5 is the *departing variable* and the corresponding constant is called the blocking constraint.

Pivoting

Pivoting

Pivot

Pivoting

Pivot

The new canonical representation of z and \mathbf{x}_B is formed using $x_2 = 10 - x_5$ to eliminate x_2 ;

Pivoting

Pivot

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$$z = 2 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot (10 - x_5) = 30 + 2 \cdot x_1 - 3 \cdot x_5$$

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$$z = 2 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot (10 - x_5) = 30 + 2 \cdot x_1 - 3 \cdot x_5$$

$$x_3 = 4 - x_1 + 2 \cdot (10 - x_5) = 24 - x_1 - 2 \cdot x_5$$

Pivoting

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The new canonically representation of z and \mathbf{x}_B is are formed using $x_2 = 10 - x_5$ to eliminate x_2 ; i.e., to represent the basic variables x_2 , x_3 and x_4 by the non-basic variables x_1 and x_5 .

$$z = 2 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot (10 - x_5) = 30 + 2 \cdot x_1 - 3 \cdot x_5$$

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$$x_2 = 10 - x_5$$

New basis

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Summary

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The current solution and basis matrix can be summarized as follows:

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New basis

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The current solution and basis matrix can be summarized as follows:

$$z = 30$$

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$$\mathbf{x}_N = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

New basis

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New basis

Summary

The current solution and basis matrix can be summarized as follows:

$$z = 30$$

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This also means that x_1 is the entering variable.

Final move

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Departing variable

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$$z = 30 + 2 \cdot x_1 - 3 \cdot x_5$$

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Final move

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$$z = 30 + 2 \cdot x_1 - 3 \cdot x_5$$

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Thus x_1 can be raised up to 4.

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Replacing x_1 with $4 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot x_4 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot x_5$, we get,

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Is the new solution optimal?

Important observations

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- 1 *There is finite progress being made at each pivot. If the optimum is finite, the algorithm will converge (barring cycling).*
- 2 *How do we get the initial bfs?*

Finding an initial basis

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Initial Basis

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Consider the system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\max 3 \cdot x_1 - 4 \cdot x_2 \quad \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

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Change the system to:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & -3 & -1 & 0 \\ -2 & 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad \max 3 \cdot x_1 - 4 \cdot x_2 \quad \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

Finding initial basis (contd.)

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Finding a bfs

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Finding initial basis (contd.)

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Finding initial basis (contd.)

Finding a bfs

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Finally drive x_5 and x_6 out of the system, by changing the system to:

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Finally drive x_5 and x_6 out of the system, by changing the system to:

$$\max -x_5 - x_6 \quad \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

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