

**I.E. 2001 OPERATIONS RESEARCH**  
(Solutions to Assignment 5)

**Question 1**

- a) Here  $x_1, x_4, x_5$  are all nonbasic and all have a value of zero, while  $x_3, x_2, x_6$  are basic, with values of 65, 205 and 480 respectively.
- b) For minimization  $x_1$  and  $x_4$  are legitimate candidates to enter the basis because both have positive reduced costs (of 170 and 25 respectively), while for maximization  $x_5$  is a legitimate candidate to enter the basis because it has a negative reduced cost ( $=-20$ )
- c) Since the reduced cost of  $x_4$  is 25, this means that each 1 unit increase in  $x_4$  (while maintaining the other nonbasic variables at their current values of zero) will **decrease** the objective by 25 units. So if we increase  $x_4$  by 100 units the new objective value will decrease by  $100 \times 25 = 2500$  units, to a new value of 13,050.
- d) The substitution rates for the basic variables (from the column for  $x_4$ ) are  $\frac{1}{2}$  for  $x_3$  (the first basic variable), 0 for  $x_2$  (the second basic variable), and -1 for  $x_6$  (the third basic variable). This means that for a 10 unit increase in  $x_4$ :
  - the value of  $x_3$  should decrease by  $\frac{1}{2}(100) = 50$  units,
  - the value of  $x_2$  should decrease by  $0(100) = 0$  units, and
  - the value of  $x_6$  should decrease by  $-1(100)$  units, i.e., **increase** by  $1(100) = 100$  units.
- e) The maximum actual increase possible in  $x_4 = \text{Min}\{65/(\frac{1}{2}), \infty, \infty\} = 130$  units (at which point  $x_3$  will have decreased by  $\frac{1}{2}(130) = 65$  units from its current value of 65 and reached a value of zero, so that it can now be removed from the basis).
- f) Since we can increase  $x_4$  by 130 units (part e) and each unit increase in  $x_4$  reduces the objective by 25 units (part b), the net decrease in  $Z$  will be  $130 \times 25 = 3,250$  units. So the new value will  $15,550 - (130 \times 25) = 12,300$ . (Note also that the new value of  $x_2$  will be  $205 - (130 \times 0) = 205$ , and the new value of  $x_6$  will be  $480 - (130 \times -1) = 610$ ; and of course  $x_4$  will replace  $x_3$  as a basic variable with a value of 130).

**Question 2** (Q4, p. 213)

Basic	Z	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$S_2$	RHS	
Z	1	-5	1	0	0	0	
$S_1$	0	<u>1</u>	-3	1	0	1	1/1
$S_2$	0	1	-4	0	1	3	3/1

$X_1$  enters;  $S_1$  leaves

Eq. 0  $\leftarrow$  (Eq. 0) + 5\*(Eq. 1);    Eq. 2  $\leftarrow$  (Eq. 2) - (Eq. 1)

Basic	Z	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$S_2$	RHS
Z	1	0	-14	5	0	5
$X_1$	0	1	-3	1	0	1
$S_2$	0	0	-1	-1	1	2

At this point, note that  $X_2$  may enter the basis and be increased from its current value of 0 to improve the objective. However, there is *no limit* to the amount of increase in  $X_2$  and the improvement in  $Z$ , since neither  $X_1$  nor  $S_2$  need to be decreased to compensate (they both have negative substitution rates and the ratio test cannot be taken). Thus the problem has an unbounded objective and we STOP.

### Question 3

First, we put this into standard form

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min } Z &= 30X_1 + 20X_2 \\ \text{st } \quad X_1 \quad \quad -S_1 &= 4 \\ 2X_1 + X_2 &= 20 \\ X_1 + 2X_2 - S_3 &= 19 \\ X_1, X_2, S_1, S_3 &\geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since there is no isolated variable in any constraint we need artificial variables for each of them. After adding artificial variables we get the following Phase 1 problem:

Phase 1

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min } W &= A_1 + A_2 + A_3 \\ \text{st } \quad X_1 \quad \quad -S_1 + A_1 &= 4 \\ 2X_1 + X_2 \quad \quad + A_2 &= 20 \\ X_1 + 2X_2 \quad \quad -S_3 + A_3 &= 19 \\ X_1, X_2, S_1, S_3, A_1, A_2, A_3 &\geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Basic	W	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$S_3$	$A_3$	RHS
W	1	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	-1	0
$A_1$	0	1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	4
$A_2$	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	20
$A_3$	0	1	2	0	0	0	-1	1	19

Eq.0 = Eq.0 + (Eq.1+Eq.2+Eq.3) yields the canonical form below so that we can now start applying the simplex method

Basic	W	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$S_3$	$A_3$	RHS
W	1	4	3	-1	0	0	-1	0	43
$A_1$	0	<u>1</u>	0	-1	1	0	0	0	4
$A_2$	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	20
$A_3$	0	1	2	0	0	0	-1	1	19

Basic	W	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$S_3$	$A_3$	RHS
W	1	0	3	3	-4	0	-1	0	27
$X_1$	0	1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	4
$A_2$	0	0	1	2	-2	1	0	0	12
$A_3$	0	0	<u>2</u>	1	-1	0	-1	1	15

Basic	W	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$S_3$	$A_3$	RHS
W	1	0	0	1.5	-2.5	0	0.5	-1.5	4.5
$X_1$	0	1	0	-1	1	0	0	0	4
$A_2$	0	0	0	<u>1.5</u>	-1.5	1	0.5	-0.5	4.5
$X_2$	0	0	1	0.5	-0.5	0	-0.5	0.5	7.5

Basic	W	X <sub>1</sub>	X <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	A <sub>3</sub>	RHS
W	1	0	0	0	-1	-1	-10/3	-1	0
X <sub>1</sub>	0	1	0	0	0	2/3	1/3	-1/3	7
S <sub>1</sub>	0	0	0	1	-1	2/3	1/3	-1/3	3
X <sub>2</sub>	0	0	1	0	0	-1/3	-2/3	2/3	6

Optimal phase 1 objective=0, so that means we can move on to Phase 2: Drop the columns for artificial variables, remove the Phase 1 objective, and replace it with the original one.

### Phase 2

Basic	Z	X <sub>1</sub>	X <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	RHS
Z	1	-30	-20	0	0	0
X <sub>1</sub>	0	1	0	0	1/3	7
S <sub>1</sub>	0	0	0	1	1/3	3
X <sub>2</sub>	0	0	1	0	-2/3	6

Put into canonical form: Eq. 0 = Eq. 0 + 30\*Eq. 1 + 20\* Eq. 3

Basic	Z	X <sub>1</sub>	X <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	RHS
Z	1	0	0	0	-10/3	330
X <sub>1</sub>	0	1	0	0	1/3	7
S <sub>1</sub>	0	0	0	1	1/3	3
X <sub>2</sub>	0	0	1	0	-2/3	6

No further iterations required - OPTIMAL SOLUTION!

### Question 4 (Q6, p. 213)

#### Big-M Method

Putting into standard form and adding artificial variables where needed yields:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{Maximize } Z = X_1 + X_2 - MA_1 \\
 &\text{st} \quad \quad \quad 2X_1 + X_2 - S_1 + A_1 = 3 \\
 &\quad \quad \quad 3X_1 + X_2 + S_2 = 3.5 \\
 &\quad \quad \quad X_1 + X_2 + S_3 = 1 \\
 &\quad \quad \quad X_1, X_2, S_1, S_2, S_3, A_1 \geq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Basic	Z	X <sub>1</sub>	X <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>3</sub>	RHS
Z	1	-1	-1	0	M	0	0	0
A <sub>1</sub>	0	2	1	-1	1	0	0	3
S <sub>2</sub>	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	3.5
S <sub>3</sub>	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1

Eq.0 = Eq.0 - M(Eq.1) yields the canonical form below:

↓

Basic	Z	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$A_1$	$S_2$	$S_3$	RHS
Z	1	-2M-1	-M-1	M	0	0	0	-3M
$A_1$	0	2	1	-1	1	0	0	3
$S_2$	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	3.5
$S_3$	0	<b>1</b>	1	0	0	0	1	1

Basic	Z	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$A_1$	$S_2$	$S_3$	RHS
Z	1	0	M	M	0	0	2M+1	-M+1
$A_1$	0	0	-1	-1	1	0	-2	1
$S_2$	0	0	-2	0	0	1	-3	0.5
$X_1$	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1

This is an optimal tableau (no negative reduced costs in Row 0). However, the artificial variable  $A_1$  is still in the basis at a positive value of 1. Therefore the original problem is **infeasible**.

### **TWO-PHASE Method:**

The constraints in standard form are the same as with the Big-M method. The Phase 1 objective is to

$$\text{Minimize } W = A_1$$

Basic	W	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$A_1$	$S_2$	$S_3$	RHS
W	1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0
$A_1$	0	2	1	-1	1	0	0	3
$S_2$	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	3.5
$S_3$	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1

Eq.0 = Eq.0 + (Eq.1) yields the canonical form below:

↓

Basic	W	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$A_1$	$S_2$	$S_3$	RHS
W	1	2	1	-1	0	0	0	3
$A_1$	0	2	1	-1	1	0	0	3
$S_2$	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	3.5
$S_3$	0	<b>1</b>	1	0	0	0	1	1

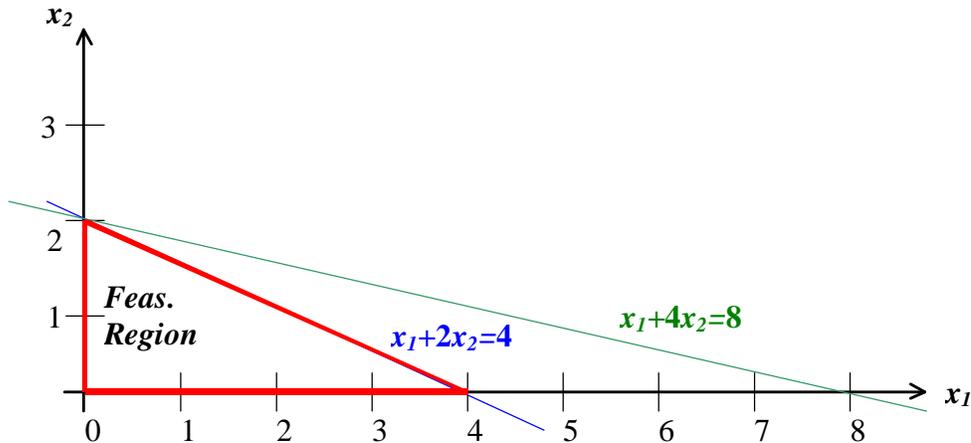
Basic	Z	$X_1$	$X_2$	$S_1$	$A_1$	$S_2$	$S_3$	RHS
Z	1	0	-1	-1	0	0	-1	1
$A_1$	0	0	-1	-1	1	0	-2	1
$S_2$	0	0	-2	0	0	1	-3	0.5
$X_1$	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1

This is an optimal tableau for the Phase 1 problem and the Phase 1 objective is  $>0$  (with a positive artificial variable in the basis). This indicates the original problem is **infeasible**.

**Question 5** (Q18, p. 214-215)

- g) First we **require**:  $b \geq 0$ ,  $c_1$  and  $c_2 \geq 0$  so that the current solution is optimal. There are several ways that this could lead to alternative optima – any of these would work:
- If  $c_1=0$ , we can definitely pivot  $x_1$  into the basis to obtain an alternative optimum (since we can always take the ratio  $b/4$  in the first constraint row);  $a_3$  could be any value.
  - If  $c_1 > 0$  and  $c_2=0$ , then as long as  $a_1 > 0$  we can definitely pivot  $x_2$  into the basis to get an alternative optimum.
  - If  $c_1, c_2 > 0$ , as long as  $a_2 > 0$  we can also pivot  $x_5$  into the basis to get an alternative optimum.
- b) This only requires  $b < 0$ , other unknowns could be anything. If this happens there's obviously something wrong with our math, or we chose the wrong row at the previous iteration when doing the minimum ratio test.
- c) This only requires  $b=0$ , other unknowns could be any value.
- d) Feasibility requires  $b \geq 0$ . We need  $c_2 < 0$  and  $a_1 \leq 0$  for unboundedness through an infinite increase in the value of  $x_2$ ;  $c_1, a_2$  and  $a_3$  could be anything.
- e) Feasibility requires  $b \geq 0$ . To improve the objective value by bringing  $x_1$  into the basis, we require  $c_1 < 0$  and for  $x_1$  to replace  $x_6$  (the third basic variable in the tableau): we need  $a_3 \geq 0$  and we need Row 3 to win the ratio test, i.e.,  $3/a_3 \leq b/4$

**Question 6**



Basic	Z	$x_1$	$x_2$	$S_1$	$S_2$	RHS
Z	1	-6	-9	0	0	0
$S_1$	0	1	<u>4</u>	1	0	8
$S_2$	0	1	<u>2</u>	0	1	4

$8/4=2$

$4/2=2$

$x_2$  enters and replaces  $S_1$

Basic	Z	$x_1$	$x_2$	$S_1$	$S_2$	RHS
Z	1	-3.75	0	2.25	0	18
$x_2$	0	0.25	1	0.25	0	2
$S_2$	0	<u>0.5</u>	0	-0.5	1	0

2/0.25=8  
0/0.5=0

$x_1$  enters and replaces  $S_2$

Basic	Z	$x_1$	$x_2$	$S_1$	$S_2$	RHS
Z	1	0	0	-1.5	7.5	18
$x_2$	0	0	1	<u>0.5</u>	-0.5	2
$x_1$	0	1	0	-1	2	0

2/0.25=8  
 $\infty$

$S_1$  enters and replaces  $x_2$

Basic	Z	$x_1$	$x_2$	$S_1$	$S_2$	RHS
Z	1	0	3	0	6	24
$S_1$	0	0	2	1	-1	4
$x_1$	0	1	2	0	1	4

OPTIMAL!

Note that corresponding to each of the extreme points (0,0) and (4,0) there is exactly one basic feasible solution. However, corresponding to the extreme point (0,2) we have **three** basic feasible solutions. This is because at the first two points exactly two lines are intersecting while at the third there are **three** lines that intersect:  $x_1=0$ ,  $x_1+4x_2=8$  and  $x_1+2x_2=4$ .

Since  $n=4$  and  $m=2$ , at each BFS we have  $n-m=2$  nonbasic and  $m=2$  basic variables so that at the extreme point (0,2) we have the following three different BFS:

BFS No.	Nonbasic Variables	Basic Variables	Intersection of
1	$x_1=S_1=0$	$x_2=2, S_2=0$	$x_2$ axis and Constr. 1
2	$x_1=S_2=0$	$x_2=2, S_1=0$	$x_2$ axis and Constr. 2
3	$S_1=S_2=0$	$x_2=2, x_1=0$	Constr. 2 and Constr. 1

In using the given rule with the simplex method, we first go from (0,0) to (0,2) and improve the objective from 0 to 18. The current BFS corresponds to No. 1 above ( $x_2$  and  $S_2$  basic). At the next iteration we go from BFS no.1 to BFS no. 3 (with  $x_2$  and  $x_1$  basic). However we are still at the same extreme point (0,2) and there is no improvement in the objective at this step. At the next iteration we move to extreme point (4,0) which is the optimum solution with a value of 24.