

But $cx_1 \leq z_0$ and $cx_2 \leq z_0$ (as z_0 is the maximum value of cx)

So, (2) will be satisfied if and only if $cx_1 = z_0$ and $cx_2 = z_0$ which indicates $x_1, x_2 \in T$ and it contradicts that x_0 is an extreme point of T . So, x_0 is also an extreme point of X . which makes cx maximum. Finally, we are to show that T has at least one extreme point.

~~T is the intersection of two closed convex sets, one $cx = z_0$ and the other X of \mathbb{R}^n which is also at least bounded from below. Hence~~

Here X is a closed convex set which is bounded from below has at least one extreme point on the optimal hyperplane $cx = z_0$ (which is a supporting hyperplane of X)

So, T has at least one extreme point.

Theorem 3.3.4 (Fundamental Theorem of Linear Programming)

If an LPP, optimize $z = cx$ subject to $Ax = b, x \geq 0$

where $A = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ is the coefficient matrix ($m < n$) and

$r(A) = m$ (where $r(A) = \text{rank of } A$), $x = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ $b = [b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m]$

has an optimal solution then \exists at least one BFS which will be optimal.

Proof: Case 1 Problem of maximization

Let $x_0 = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ be an optimal solution of the problem which makes the objective function maximum. Without loss of generality, we assume that first k components are positive and the last $(n-k)$ components are zero. So, the optimal solution $x_0 = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, \underbrace{0, 0, \dots, 0}_{n-k}]$ and $z_0 = cx_0 = \sum_{j=1}^k c_j x_j$

If a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k be the column vectors associated with the variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k then the optimal solution will be a BFS provided that the vectors a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k are linearly

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 independent which is possible only for $k \leq m$. If a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k are not linearly independent, then the solution is not a BFS.

$$\text{Now } \sum_{j=1}^k x_j a_j = b, \quad x_j > 0, \quad j=1, 2, \dots, k \quad \dots (1)$$

as a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k are not linearly independent there exist $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$ such that $\sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j a_j = 0 \quad \dots (2)$

with at least one $\lambda_j > 0$.

Taking $v = \max_j \left\{ \frac{\lambda_j}{x_j} \right\}$ which is a positive quantity, the solution set

$$x_0' = [x_1', x_2', \dots, x_k', 0, 0, \dots, 0]$$

where $x_j' = x_j - \frac{\lambda_j}{v} \geq 0 \quad [j=1, 2, \dots, k]$, is also a feasible solution which contains maximum $(k+1)$ positive variables. Let x_{k+1} then without loss of

generality, $x_{k+1}' = 0$, then

$$x_0'' = [x_1', x_2', \dots, x_{k+1}', 0, 0, \dots, 0]$$

The value of the objective function for the

solution set x_0'' is

$$z_0' = \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} c_j x_j' = \sum_{j=1}^k c_j x_j' \quad [\text{as } x_{k+1}' = 0]$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^k c_j \left(x_j - \frac{\lambda_j}{v} \right) = \sum_{j=1}^k c_j x_j - \frac{1}{v} \sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lambda_j$$

$$= z_0 - \frac{1}{v} \sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lambda_j \quad \dots (3)$$

If $\sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lambda_j = 0$, then $z_0' = z_0$ and the solution set x_0' is also an optimal solution. If the column vectors corresponding to the variables a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{k+1}

Then the solution is a BFS which is also an optimal solution. If the column vectors are not linearly independent then repeating the process of reducing the number of non-zero variables for a finite number of times, ultimately an optimal solution is obtained which is a BFS and then the theorem is proved.

Now we prove that $\sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lambda_j = 0$

If $\sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lambda_j \neq 0$ then $\sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lambda_j > 0$ or < 0

Multiply $\sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lambda_j$ by a quantity $\delta (\neq 0)$ such that

$$\delta \sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lambda_j > 0 \quad (4)$$

Hence $\sum_{j=1}^k c_j x_j + \delta \sum_{j=1}^k c_j \lambda_j > \sum_{j=1}^k c_j x_j$

or, $\sum_{j=1}^k c_j (x_j + \delta \lambda_j) > z_0 \quad (5)$

Multiplying (2) by δ , adding it with (1) we get

$$\sum_{j=1}^k (x_j + \delta \lambda_j) a_j = b \quad (6)$$

which indicates that $x_j + \delta \lambda_j, j=1, 2, \dots, k$ and $x_{k+1} = x_{k+2} = \dots = x_n = 0$ is a solution set of $Ax = b$.

If $x_j + \delta \lambda_j \geq 0 (j=1, 2, \dots, k)$ for particular values of δ

(which is always possible, if we choose

$$\max_j \left(-\frac{x_j}{\lambda_j} ; \lambda_j > 0 \right) \leq \delta \leq \min_j \left(-\frac{x_j}{\lambda_j} ; \lambda_j < 0 \right)$$

then the solution set $x_j + \delta \lambda_j (j=1, 2, \dots, k), x_{k+1} = x_{k+2} = \dots = x_n = 0$

gives a feasible solution of $Ax = b$

Now from (6), this solution contradicts the fact that x_0 is an optimal solution. So, our assumption is wrong. So, $\sum_{j=1}^n c_j \lambda_j = 0$.

Case 2 Problem of minimization: Proceeding similarly as in the case of maximization, the theorem can also be proved for minimization problem.

Reduction of FS to a BFS

Theorem 3.3.5 (Reduction Theorem): If an LPP optimize, $z = cx$, $Ax = b$, $x \geq 0$ where $A = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ is the coefficient matrix ($n > m$) and $r(A) = m$, has one FS (feasible solution) then it has at least one BFS (basic feasible solution).

Proof: Let x_0 be a feasible solution to the LPP. Without loss of generality, we assume that the first p components are positive and the last $(n-p)$ components are zero, so,

$$x_0 = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p, \overbrace{0, 0, \dots, 0}^{n-p}]$$

Now let $A = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p, \dots, a_n]$ where $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p, \dots, a_n$ are column vectors of A . As x_0 is a feasible solution, we have $Ax_0 = b$ and $x_0 \geq 0$.

$$\text{So, } \sum_{j=1}^p a_j x_j = b \quad \text{and } x_j > 0, j=1, 2, \dots, p \quad (2)$$

a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p are either linearly independent or linearly dependent. In the former case, x_0 will be a basic feasible solution, being non-degenerate, if $p = m$ and degenerate, if $p < m$.