



LECTURE 6: INTERIOR POINT METHOD

1. Motivation
2. Basic concepts
3. Primal affine scaling algorithm
4. Dual affine scaling algorithm

Motivation

- Simplex method works well in general, but suffers from exponential-time computational complexity.
- Klee-Minty example shows simplex method may have to visit every vertex to reach the optimal one.
- Total complexity of an iterative algorithm
= # of iterations x # of operations in each iteration
- Simplex method
 - Simple operations: Only check adjacent extreme points
 - May take many iterations: Klee-Minty example

Question: **any fix?**

Complexity of the simplex method

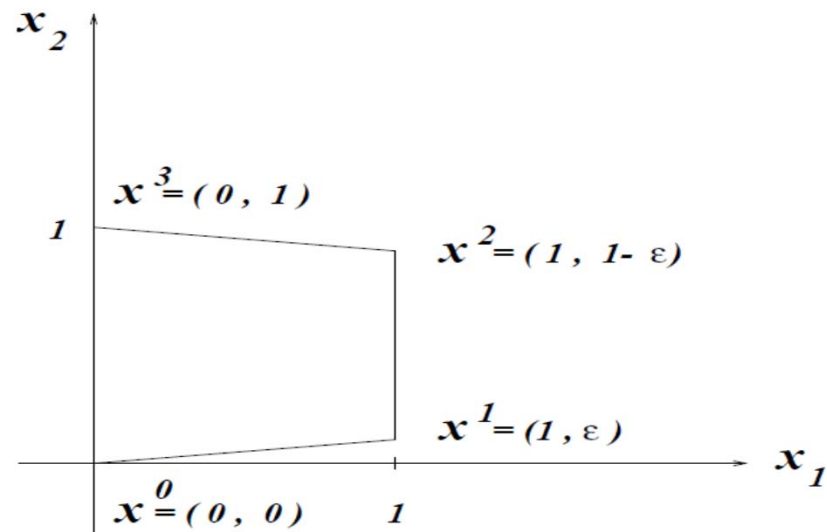
- Total # of elementary operations
= (# of elementary operations at each iteration) \times (# of iterations).
- # of elementary operations at each iteration of the revised simplex method $O(mn)$.
- From practical experience, the simplex method takes about (αm) iterations where $e^\alpha < \log_2(2 + n/m)$. Hence it is of $O(m^2n)$.
- From the worst-case analysis, Klee and Minty [1972] showed a class of examples (in the d -dimensional space) which $2^d - 1$ iterations for the simplex method.

Worst case performance of the simplex method

Klee-Minty Example:

- Victor Klee, George J. Minty, “How good is the simplex algorithm?” in (O. Shisha edited) Inequalities, Vol. III (1972), pp. 159-175.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2 \text{ dim}) \quad & \min \quad -x_2 \\
 \text{s. t.} \quad & x_1 \geq 0 \\
 & x_1 \leq 1 \\
 & x_2 \geq \epsilon x_1 \quad \left(0 < \epsilon < \frac{1}{2}\right) \\
 & x_2 \leq 1 - \epsilon x_1 \\
 & x_1, x_2 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\mathbf{x}^0 \rightarrow \mathbf{x}^1 \rightarrow \mathbf{x}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{x}^3 \text{ (optimal)}$$

$$2^2 - 1 = 3 \text{ iterations}$$

Klee-Minty Example

$$(3 \text{ dim}) \quad \min \quad -x_3$$

$$\text{s. t.} \quad x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_1 \leq 1$$

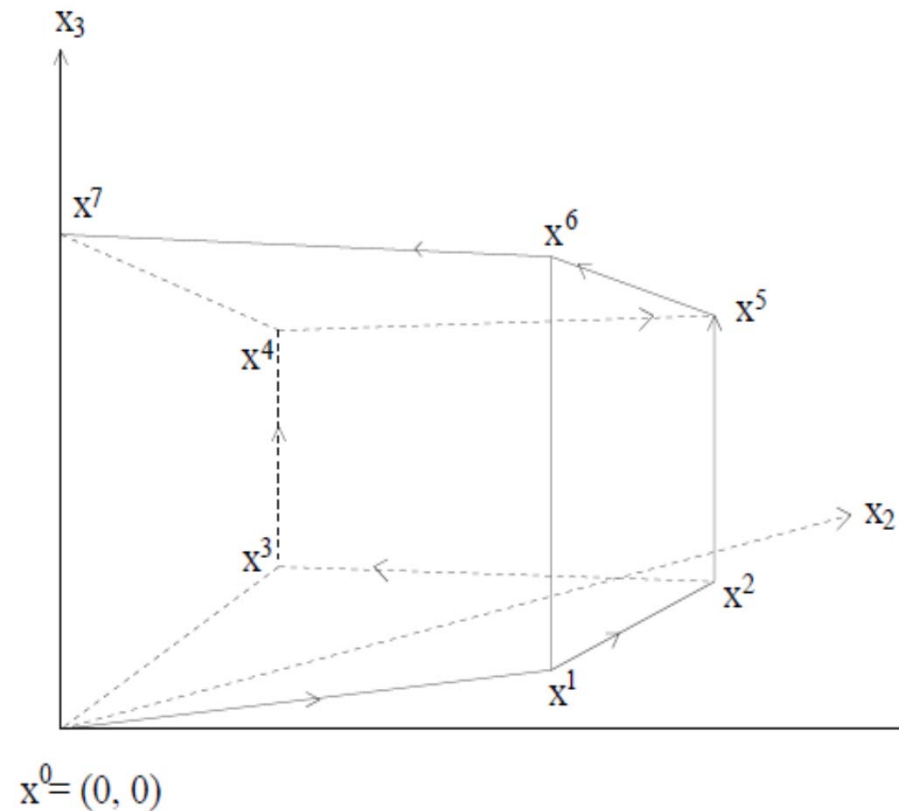
$$x_2 \geq \epsilon x_1$$

$$x_2 \leq 1 - \epsilon x_1$$

$$x_3 \geq \epsilon x_2$$

$$x_3 \leq 1 - \epsilon x_2$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0$$

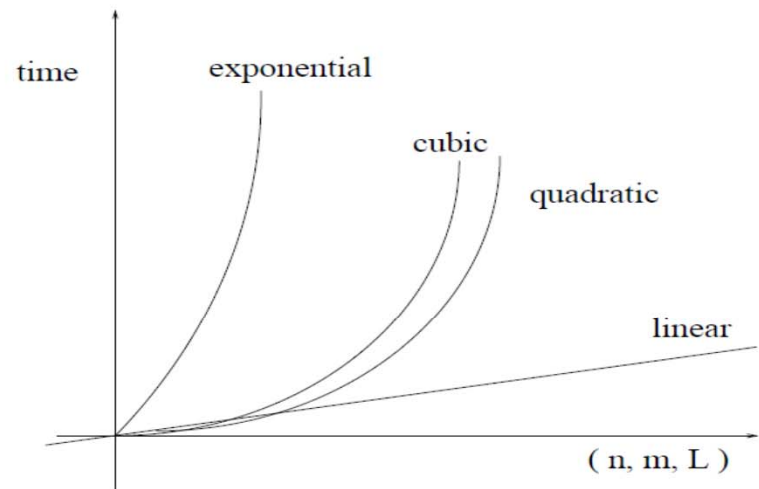


$$2^3 - 1 = 7 \text{ iterations}$$

Klee-Minty Example

$$\begin{aligned} (d \text{ dim}) \quad & \min \quad -x_d \\ & \text{s. t.} \quad x_1 \geq 0 \\ & \quad \quad x_1 \leq 1 \\ & \quad \quad x_2 \geq \epsilon x_1 \\ & \quad \quad x_2 \leq 1 - \epsilon x_1 \\ & \quad \quad \vdots \\ & \quad \quad x_d \geq \epsilon x_{d-1} \\ & \quad \quad x_d \leq 1 - \epsilon x_{d-1} \\ & \quad \quad x_i \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

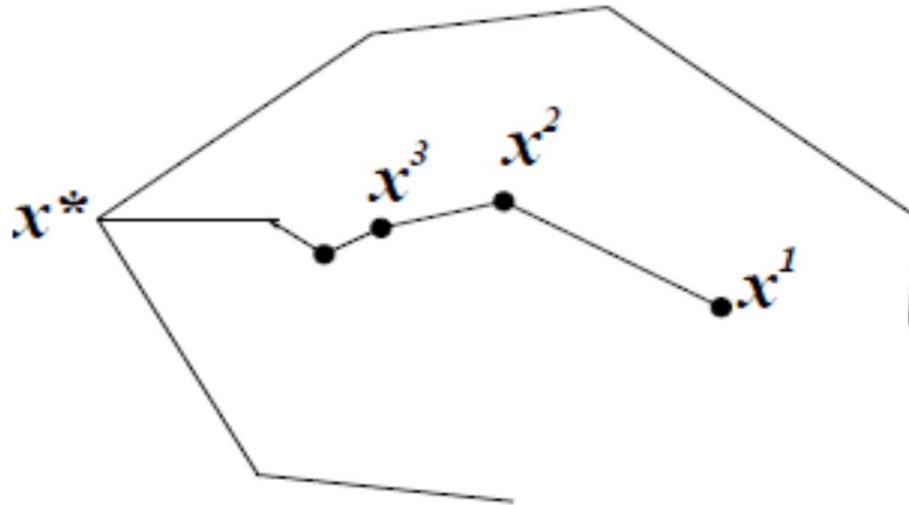
Hence, in theory, the simplex method is not a polynomial-time algorithm. It is an *exponential time* algorithm!



$$2^d - 1 \text{ iterations}$$

Karmarkar's (interior point) approach

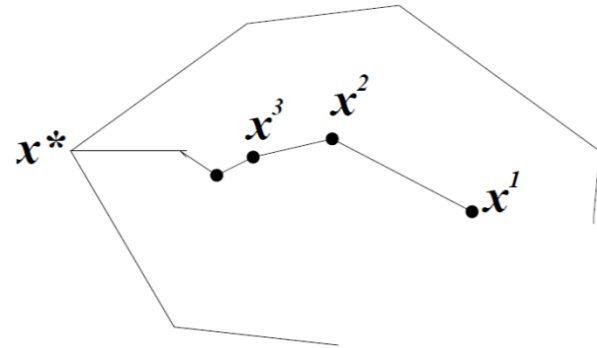
- Basic idea: approach optimal solutions from the interior of the feasible domain



- Take more complicated operations in each iteration to find a better moving direction
- Require much fewer iterations

General scheme of an interior point method

- An iterative method that moves in the interior of the feasible domain



Step 1: Start with an interior solution.

Step 2: If current solution is good enough, STOP.
Otherwise,

Step 3: Check all directions for improvement and
move to a better interior solution.
Go to Step 2.

Interior movement (iteration)

- Given a current interior feasible solution \mathbf{x}^k , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k &= \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{x}^k &> \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

An interior movement has a general format

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^{k+1} &= \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha \mathbf{d}_x^k \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha \geq 0 : \text{Step - length} \\ \mathbf{d}_x^k \in R^n : \text{moving direction} \end{array} \right. \end{aligned}$$

Key knowledge

- 1. Who is in the interior?
 - Initial solution
- 2. How do we know a current solution is optimal?
 - Optimality condition
- 3. How to move to a new solution?
 - Which direction to move? (good feasible direction)
 - How far to go? (step-length)

Q1 - Who is in the interior?

- Standard for LP

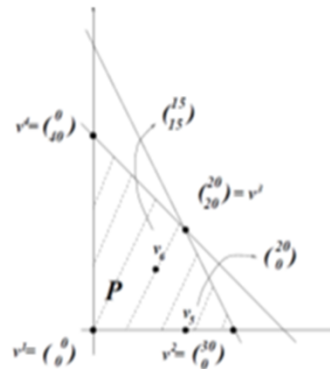
$$\begin{array}{ll} & \text{Min } \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ (\text{LP}) & \text{s. t. } \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- Who is at the vertex?
- Who is on the edge?
- Who is on the boundary?
- Who is in the interior?

What have learned before

Learning from example

Minimize $x_1 - 2x_2$
 subject to $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 40$
 $2x_1 + x_2 + x_4 = 60$
 $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \geq 0$.



What's special?

• Vertices $v^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 40 \\ 60 \end{pmatrix}, v^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ 0 \\ 10 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, v^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 20 \\ 20 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, v^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 40 \\ 0 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}$.

• Edge $v^5 = \begin{pmatrix} 20 \\ 0 \\ 20 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}$ ← one zero x_i Interior $v^6 = \begin{pmatrix} 15 \\ 15 \\ 10 \\ 15 \end{pmatrix}$ ← no zero x_i
 $n = 4, m = 2, n - m = 2$

Who is in the interior?

- **Two criteria** for a point \mathbf{x} to be an interior feasible solution:
 1. $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ (every linear constraint is satisfied)
 2. $\mathbf{x} > \mathbf{0}$ (every component is positive)
- **Comments:**
 1. On a hyperplane $H = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = \beta\}$, every point is interior relative to H .
 2. For the first orthant $K = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$, only those $\mathbf{x} > \mathbf{0}$ are interior relative to K .

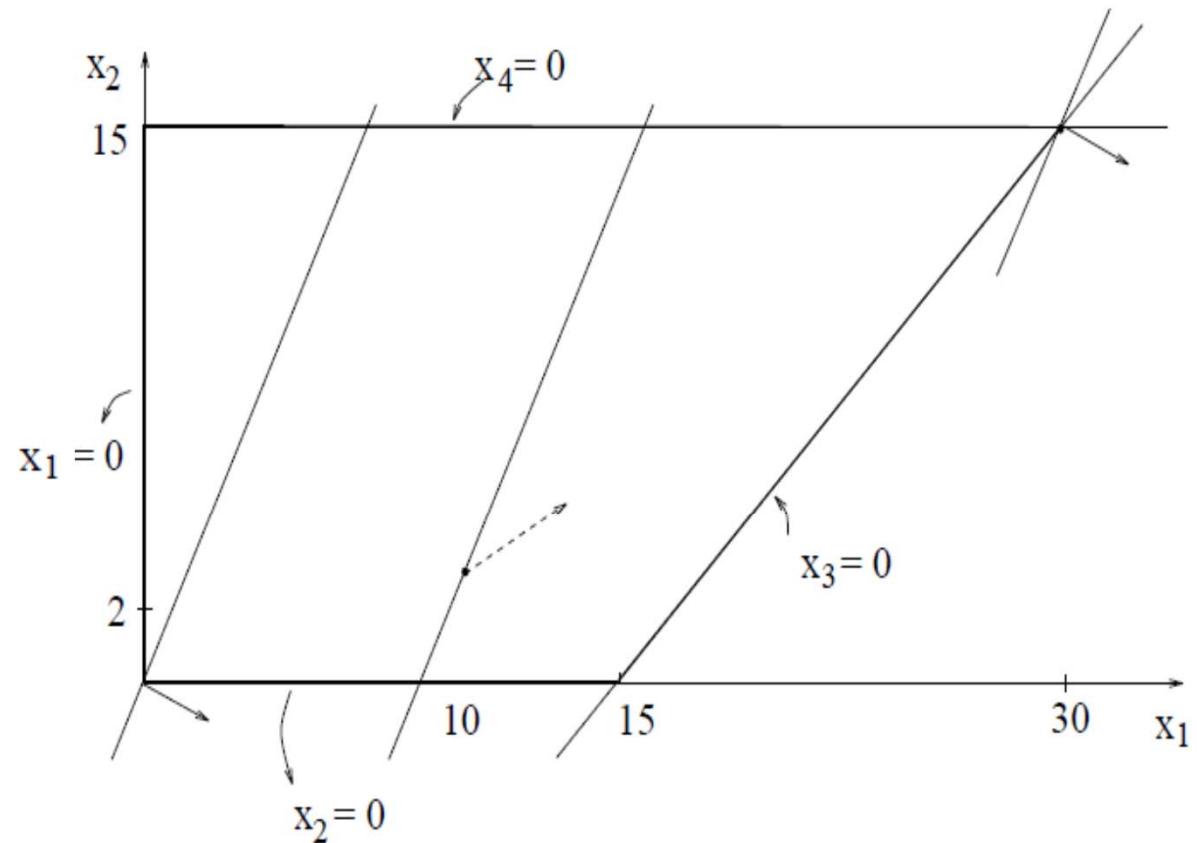
Example

$$\min -2x_1 + x_2$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_1 - x_2 \leq 15$$

$$x_2 \leq 15$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$



How to find an initial interior solution?

- Like the simplex method, we have
 - Big M method
 - Two-phase method

(to be discussed later!)

Key knowledge

- 1. Who is in the interior?
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 - Which direction to move? (good feasible direction)
 - How far to go? (step-length)

Q2 - How do we know a current solution is optimal?

- Basic concept of optimality:
A current feasible solution is optimal if and only if
“no feasible direction at this point is a good direction.”
- In other words, “every feasible direction is not a good direction to move!”

Feasible direction

- In an interior-point method, a **feasible direction** at a current solution is a direction that allows it to take a **small movement** while **staying to be interior feasible**.

- Observations:

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha \mathbf{d}_x^k \quad \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{Ax}^k = \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{x}^k > 0 \end{array}$$

- There is no problem to stay interior if the step-length is small enough.
- To maintain feasibility, we need

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{Ax}^{k+1} = \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{Ax}^k + \alpha \mathbf{Ad}_x^k = \mathbf{b} \end{array} \implies \mathbf{Ad}_x^k = 0$$

i.e. $\mathbf{d}_x^k \in \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$ null space of \mathbf{A} .

Good direction

- In an interior-point method, a **good direction** at a current solution is a direction that leads it to a new solution with a **lower objective value**.
- Observations:

$$\begin{array}{l} \underline{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^{k+1}} \leq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k \\ \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{x}}^k \leq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k \end{array} \implies \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{x}}^k \leq 0$$

Optimality check

- Principle:

“no feasible direction at this point is a good direction.”

- At a current solution, we check that

No $\mathbf{d}_x^k \in R^n$ with $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{d}_x^k = 0$

can make

$$\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d}_x^k < 0$$

Key knowledge

- 1. Who is in the interior?
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 - How far to go? (step-length)

Q3 – How to move to a new solution?

1. Which direction to move?

- a good, feasible direction

“Good” requires $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d}_x^k \leq 0$

“Feasible” requires

$$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}_x^k = 0$$

$\mathbf{d}_x^k \in \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$: null space of \mathbf{A}

Question: any suggestion?

A good feasible direction

- Reduce the objective value

$$\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d}_x^k \leq 0 \quad \text{Candidate: } \mathbf{d}_x^k = -\mathbf{c}$$

(negative gradient)
(Steepest descent)

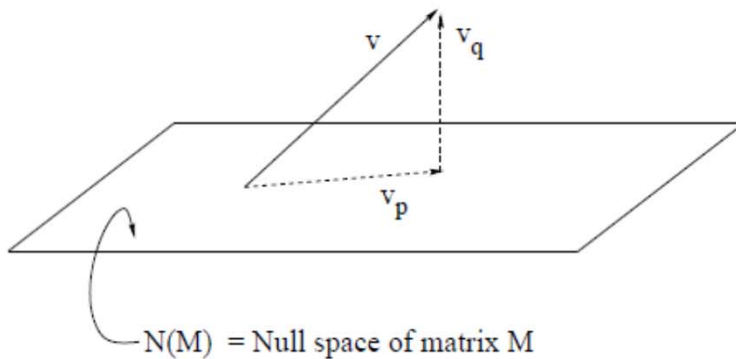
- Maintain feasibility

$$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}_x^k = 0 \quad \text{Candidate: } \text{projected negative gradient}$$
$$\mathbf{d}_x^k = (I - \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A})(-\mathbf{c})$$

Projection mapping

- A projection mapping projects the negative gradient vector $-\mathbf{c}$ into the null space of matrix A

Formula for projection: $v = v_p + v_q$



$$\mathbf{d}_x^k = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A})(-\mathbf{c})$$

$$\mathcal{N}(M) = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid M\mathbf{x} = 0 \}$$

$$v_p = [\mathbf{I} - M^T (M M^T)^{-1} M] v$$

$$v_q = M^T (M M^T)^{-1} M v$$

Q3 – How to move to a new solution?

2. How far to go?

- To satisfy every linear constraint

Since $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{d}_x^k = 0$

$\mathbf{d}_x^k \in \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$: null space of \mathbf{A}

$$\underline{\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{k+1}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k + \alpha\mathbf{A}\mathbf{d}_x^k = \mathbf{b}$$

the step-length can be real number.

- To stay to be an interior solution, we need

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} > 0.$$

How to choose step-length?

- One easy approach

- in order to keep

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha \mathbf{d}_x^k > 0$$

- we may use the “**minimum ratio test**” to determine the step-length.

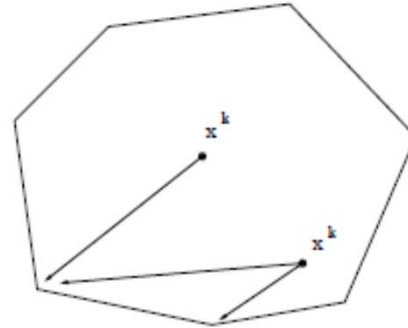
Observation:

- when \mathbf{x}^k is close to the boundary, the step-length may be very small.

Question: **then what?**

Observations

- If a current solution is **near the center** of the feasible domain (polyhedral set), in average we can make a decently long move.

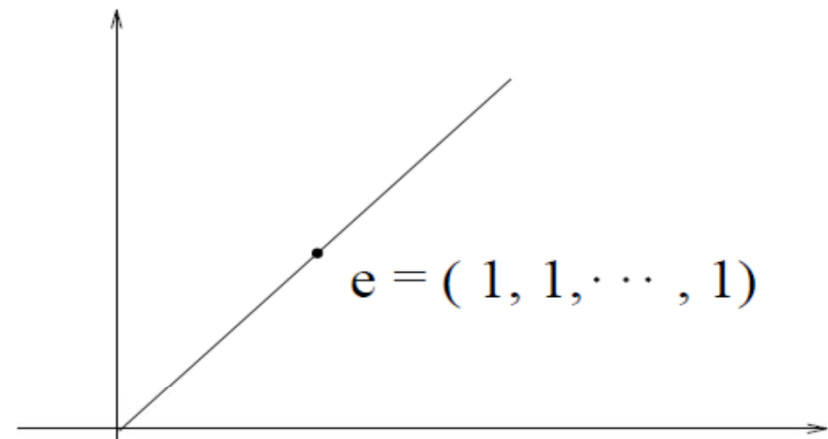


- If a current solution is **not near the center**, we need to **re-scale** its coordinates to transform it to become “near the center”.

Question: **but how?**

Where is the center?

- We need to know where is the “center” of the non-negative/first orthant $\{\mathbf{x} \in R^n \mid \mathbf{x} \geq 0\}$.
 - Concept of equal distance to the boundary



If $\mathbf{x}^k = e$, then

- (1) \mathbf{x}^k is one-unit away from the boundary
- (2) As long as $\alpha < 1$, $\mathbf{x}^{k+1} > 0$

Question: If not,
what to do?

Concept of scaling

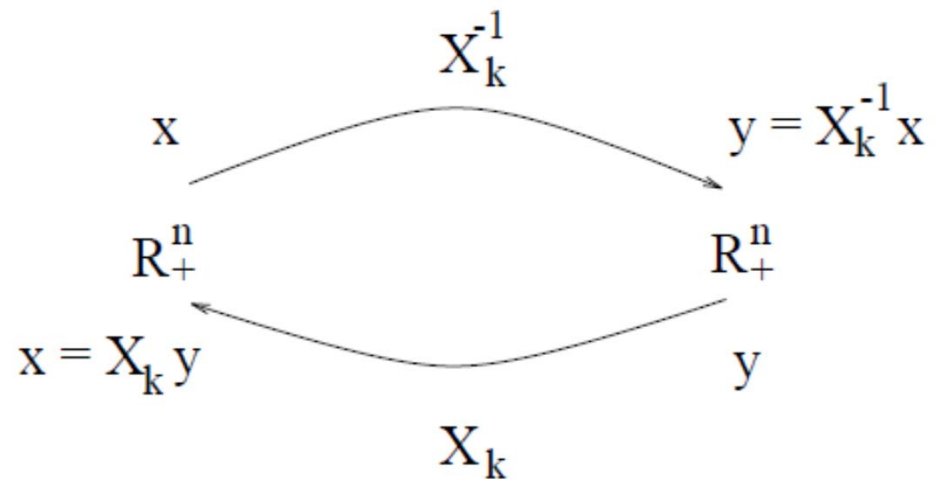
- Scale \mathbf{x}^k to be e
- Define a diagonal scaling matrix

$$X_k = \text{diag}(\mathbf{x}^k) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^k & & & \\ & \mathbf{x}_2^k & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & \mathbf{x}_n^k \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{then } X_k^{-1} \mathbf{x}^k = e$$

Transformation – affine scaling

- Affine scaling transformation



- The transformation is

1. one-to-one

2. onto

3. Invertible

4. boundary to boundary

5. interior to interior

$$X_k^{-1} \mathbf{x}^k = e$$

Transformed LP

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{X}_k \mathbf{y}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Min} & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} & \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^k > \mathbf{0}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Min} & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{X}_k \mathbf{y} \\ \text{s.t.} & \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X}_k \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{y}^k = \mathbf{e}$$

$$\mathbf{d}_y^k = [I - X_k \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} X_k^2 \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A} X_k] (-X_k \mathbf{c})$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = X_k \mathbf{y}^{k+1}$$

$$= X_k \mathbf{y}^k + \alpha_k X_k \frac{\mathbf{d}_y^k}{\|\mathbf{d}_y^k\|}$$

$$= \mathbf{x}^k + \frac{\alpha_k}{\|\mathbf{d}_y^k\|} \mathbf{d}_x^k$$

$$\mathbf{y}^{k+1} = \mathbf{y}^k + \alpha_k \frac{\mathbf{d}_y^k}{\|\mathbf{d}_y^k\|}$$

$$\alpha_k = 0.99 \text{ (say)} \quad 0 < \alpha_k < 1$$

$$\therefore \underline{\mathbf{d}_x^k = -X_k [I - X_k \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} X_k^2 \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A} X_k] X_k \mathbf{c}}$$

Step-length in the transformed space

- Minimum ratio test in the y -space

In order to make sure that $\mathbf{y}^{k+1} > 0$ we need

$$\mathbf{y}^k + \alpha_k \mathbf{d}_y^k > 0$$

||

e

Case 1: $\mathbf{d}_y^k \geq 0$ then $\alpha_k \in (0, \infty)$

Case 2: $(\mathbf{d}_y^k)_i < 0$ for some i

$$\alpha_k = \min_i \left\{ \frac{1}{-(\mathbf{d}_y^k)_i} \mid (\mathbf{d}_y^k)_i < 0 \right\}$$

or

$$\alpha_k = \min_i \left\{ \frac{\alpha}{-(\mathbf{d}_y^k)_i} \mid (\mathbf{d}_y^k)_i < 0 \right\} \text{ for some}$$

$$\alpha \in (0, 1)$$

Property 1

- Iteration in the x-space

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}^{k+1} &= X_k \mathbf{y}^{k+1} \\ &= X_k (e + \alpha_k \mathbf{d}_y^k) \\ &= \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha_k X_k \mathbf{d}_y^k \\ &= \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha_k X_k (-P_k X_k \mathbf{c}) \\ &= \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha_k [-X_k [I - X_k \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} X_k^2 \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A} X_k] X_k \mathbf{c}] \\ &= \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha_k [-X_k^2 [\mathbf{c} - \underbrace{\mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} X_k^2 \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A} X_k^2 \mathbf{c}}_{\mathbf{w}^k}]] \\ &= \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha_k \underbrace{[-X_k^2 [\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w}^k]]}_{\mathbf{d}_x^k} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha_k \mathbf{d}_x^k\end{aligned}$$

Property 2

- Feasible direction in x-space

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}^{k+1} &= X_k \mathbf{y}^{k+1} \\ &= X_k \mathbf{y}^k + \alpha_k X_k \frac{\mathbf{d}_y^k}{\|\mathbf{d}_y^k\|} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^k + \frac{\alpha_k}{\|\mathbf{d}_y^k\|} \mathbf{d}_x^k\end{aligned}$$

Since $\mathbf{d}_y^k = P_k(-X_k \mathbf{c})$

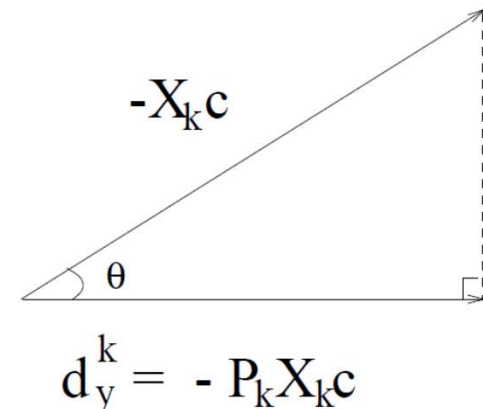
$$\therefore \mathbf{A} X_k \mathbf{d}_y^k = 0 \text{ and } \mathbf{A} \mathbf{d}_x^k = 0$$

i.e. $\mathbf{d}_x^k \in \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$ null space of \mathbf{A} .

Property 3

- Good direction in x-space

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^{k+1} &= \mathbf{c}^T (\mathbf{x}^k + \alpha_k X_k \mathbf{d}_y^k) \\ &= \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha_k \mathbf{c}^T X_k (-P_k X_k \mathbf{c}) \\ &= \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k - \alpha_k \| -P_k X_k \mathbf{c} \|^2 \\ &= \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k - \alpha_k \| \mathbf{d}_y^k \|^2\end{aligned}$$



Hence, $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^{k+1} \leq \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k$

and $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^{k+1} < \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k$ if $\mathbf{d}_y^k \neq 0$

Lemma 7.1 If $\exists \mathbf{x}^k \in P$, $\mathbf{x}^k > 0$ with $\mathbf{d}_y^k > 0$,
then the standard LP is unbounded below.

Property 4

- Optimality check (Lemma 7.2)

For $\mathbf{x}^k \in P^0 = \{\mathbf{x} \in R^n \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} > 0\}$

if $\mathbf{d}_y^k = -P_k X_k \mathbf{c} = 0$ then $X_k \mathbf{c}$ falls in the orthogonal space of $N(\mathbf{A}X_k)$, *i.e.*

$X_k \mathbf{c} \in$ row space of $(\mathbf{A}X_k)$

$\Rightarrow \exists u^k$ s.t. $(\mathbf{A}X_k)^T u^k = X_k \mathbf{c}$

or $(u^k)^T \mathbf{A}X_k = \mathbf{c}^T X_k$

$\Rightarrow (u^k)^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{c}^T$

For any $\mathbf{x} \in P$

$\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} = (u^k)^T \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \underline{(u^k)^T \mathbf{b}}$ (constant)

\therefore Any feasible solution is optimal !!

In particular, \mathbf{x}^k is optimal !

Property 5

- Well-defined iteration sequence (Lemma 7.3)

From properties 3 and 4, if the standard form LP is bounded below and $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ is not a constant, then the sequence $\{\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k \mid k = 1, 2, \dots\}$ is well-defined and strictly decreasing.

Property 6

- Dual estimate, reduced cost and stopping rule

We may define

$$\mathbf{w}^k \equiv (\mathbf{A}X_k^2\mathbf{A}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{A}X_k^2\mathbf{c} \text{ dual estimate}$$

$$\mathbf{r}^k \equiv \mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{w}^k \text{ reduced cost}$$

If $\mathbf{r}^k \geq 0$, then \mathbf{w}^k is dual feasible

and $(\mathbf{x}^k)^T\mathbf{r}^k = e^T X_k \mathbf{r}^k$ becomes the duality gap, *i.e.*,

Therefore, if $\mathbf{r}^k \geq 0$ and $e^T X_k \mathbf{r}^k = 0$

(Stopping rule) ↗

then $\mathbf{x}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{x}^*$, $\mathbf{w}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{w}^*$

Property 7

- Moving direction and reduced cost

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{d}_y^k &= [I - X_k \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} X_k^2 \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A} X_k] (-X_k \mathbf{c}) \\ &= -X_k (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} X_k^2 \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A} X_k^2 \mathbf{c}) \\ &= -X_k (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w}^k) \\ &= -X_k \mathbf{r}^k \end{aligned}$$

Primal affine scaling algorithm

Step1 Set $k \leftarrow 0, \varepsilon > 0, 0 < \alpha < 1$
find $\mathbf{x}^0 > 0$ and $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^0 = \mathbf{b}$

Step2 Compute
 $\mathbf{w}^k = (\mathbf{A}X_k^2\mathbf{A}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{A}X_k^2\mathbf{c}$
 $\mathbf{r}^k = \mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{w}^k$
If $\mathbf{r}^k \geq 0$, and $e^T X_k \mathbf{r}^k \leq \varepsilon$
then STOP! $\mathbf{x}^* \leftarrow \mathbf{x}^k, \mathbf{w}^* \leftarrow \mathbf{w}^k$
Otherwise,

Step3 Compute $\mathbf{d}_y^k = -X_k \mathbf{r}^k$
If $\mathbf{d}_y^k \stackrel{>}{\neq} 0$, then STOP! Unbounded.
If $\mathbf{d}_y^k = 0$, then STOP! $\mathbf{x}^* \leftarrow \mathbf{x}^k$
Otherwise,

Step4 Find

$$\alpha_k = \min_i \left\{ \frac{\alpha}{-(\mathbf{d}_y^k)_i} \mid (\mathbf{d}_y^k)_i < 0 \right\}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha_k X_k \mathbf{d}_y^k$$

$$k \leftarrow k + 1$$

Go to Step 2.

Example

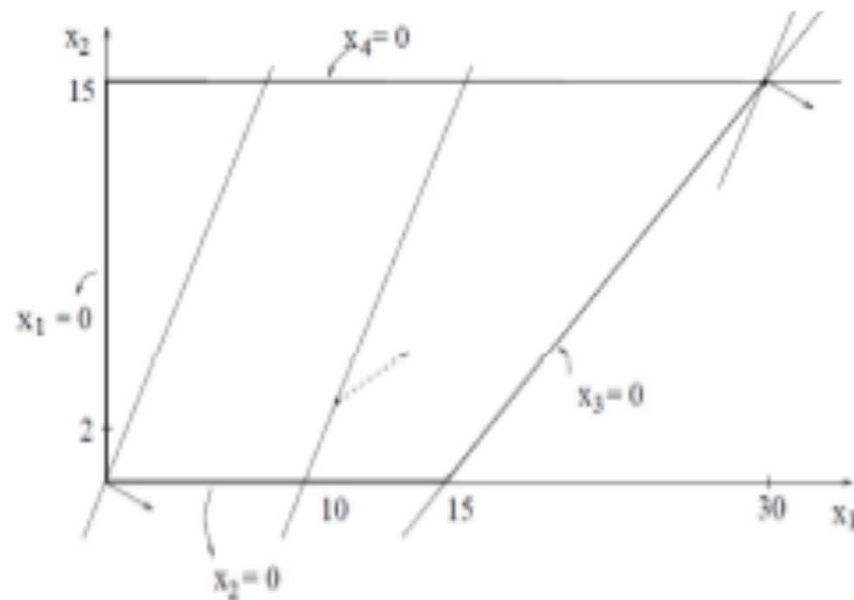
$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & -2x_1 + x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 - x_2 \leq 15 \\ & x_2 \leq 15 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Reformulate to standard form

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & -2x_1 + x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 15 \\ & x_2 + x_4 = 15 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix},$$



$$\mathbf{x}^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 2 \\ 7 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is feasible} \quad \mathbf{X}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 0 \\ & 2 \\ 0 & 7 \\ & & 13 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example

$$\mathbf{X}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 7 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 13 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{w}^0 = (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}_0^2\mathbf{A}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}_0^2\mathbf{c} = [-1.33353 \quad -0.00771]^T$$

Moreover,

$$\mathbf{r}^0 = \mathbf{c} - \mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{w}^0 = [-0.66647 \quad -0.32582 \quad 1.33535 \quad -0.00771]^T$$

Since some components of \mathbf{r}^0 are negative and $\mathbf{e}^T\mathbf{X}_0\mathbf{r}^0 = 2.1187$, we know that the current solution is nonoptimal. Therefore we proceed to synthesize the direction of translation with

$$\mathbf{d}_y^0 = -\mathbf{X}_0\mathbf{r}^0 = [6.6647 \quad 0.6516 \quad -9.3475 \quad 0.1002]^T$$

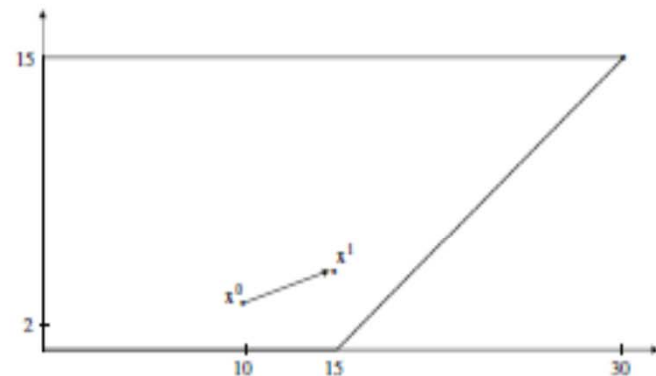
Suppose that $\alpha = 0.99$ is chosen, then the step-length

$$\alpha_0 = \frac{0.99}{9.3475} = 0.1059$$

Therefore, the new solution is

$$\mathbf{x}^1 = \mathbf{x}^0 + \alpha_0\mathbf{X}_0\mathbf{d}_y^0 = [17.06822 \quad 2.13822 \quad 0.07000 \quad 12.86178]^T$$

Notice that the objective function value has been improved from -18 to -31.99822 . The reader may continue the iterations further and verify that the iterative process converges to the optimal solution $\mathbf{x}^* = [30 \quad 15 \quad 0 \quad 0]^T$ with optimal value -45 .



How to find an initial interior feasible solution?

- Big-M method

Idea: add an artificial variable with a big penalty

$$(LP) \begin{cases} \min & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} & \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$(\text{big-M}) \begin{cases} \min & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} + Mx^a \\ \text{s.t.} & \mathbf{Ax} + (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ae})x^a = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq 0, x^a \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

- Objective

to make $e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ be feasible, i.e., $\mathbf{Ae} = \mathbf{b}$?

Properties of (big-M) problem

- (1) It is a standard form LP with $n+1$ variables and m constraints.
- (2) e is an interior feasible solution of (big-M).
- (3) If $x^{a^*} > 0$ in (\mathbf{x}^*, x^{a^*}) then (LP) is infeasible. Otherwise, either (LP) is unbounded or \mathbf{x}^* is optimal to (LP).

Two-phase method

$$(LP) \begin{cases} \min & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} & \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Choose any $\mathbf{x}^0 > 0$, calculate

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax}^0$$

If $\mathbf{v} = 0$, then \mathbf{x}^0 is interior feasible.
Otherwise, consider

$$(Phase - I) \begin{cases} \min & u \\ \text{s.t.} & \mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{v}u = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq 0, u \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Properties of (Phase-I) problem

(1) (Phase-I) is a standard form LP with $n + 1$ variables and m constraints.

(2) $\hat{\mathbf{x}}^0 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}^0 \\ u^0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}^0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is interior feasible for (Phase-I).

(3) (Phase-I) is bounded below by 0.

(4) Apply primal-affine scaling to (Phase-I) will

generate $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}^* \\ u^* \end{pmatrix}$ for (Phase-I).

If $u^* > 0$, (LP) is infeasible.

Otherwise, $\mathbf{x}^* > 0$ for (Phase-II) as an initial feasible solution.

Facts of the primal affine scaling algorithm

(1) The convergence proof, *i.e.*,

$$\{\mathbf{x}^k\} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}^*$$

under Non-degeneracy assumption (Theorem 7.2) is given by Vanderbei/Meketon/Freedman in (1985).

(2) Convergence proof without Non-degeneracy assumption,

T. Tsuchiya (1991)

P. Tseng/ Z. Luo (1992)

(3) The computational bottleneck is to find

$$(AX_k^2A^T)^{-1}$$

(4) No polynomial-time proof

- J. Lagarias showed primal affine scaling is only of super-linear rate.

- N. Megiddo/ M. Shub showed that primal affine scaling might visit all vertices if it moves too close to the boundary.

More facts

(5) In practice, VMF reported

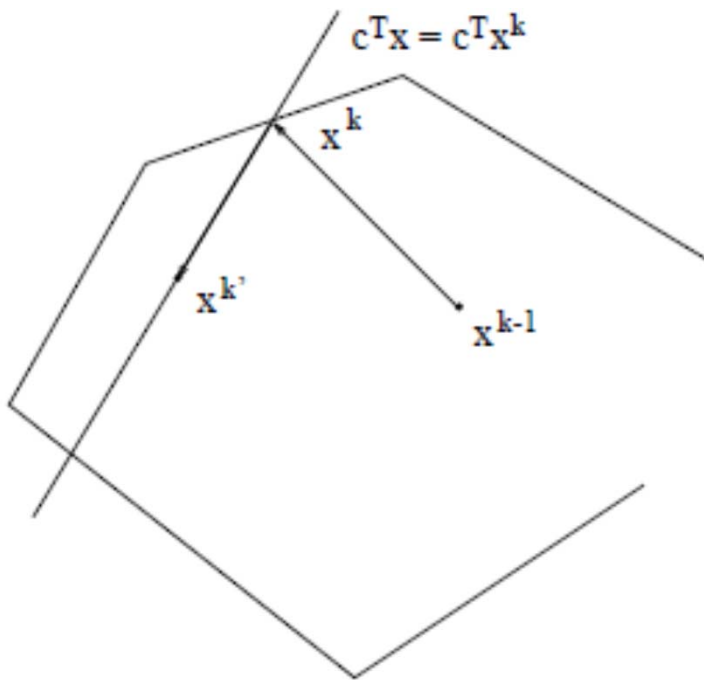
	# iterations
Simplex	$0.7159 m^{0.9522} n^{0.3109}$
Affline Scaling	$7.3385 m^{-0.0187} n^{0.1694}$

(6) It may lose primal feasibility due to machine accuracy (Phase-I again).

(7) May be sensitive to primal degeneracy.

Improving performance – potential push

- Idea: (Potential push method)
 - Stay away from the boundary by adding a potential push.



Consider

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & -\sum_{j=1}^n \log_e x_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} > 0 \\ & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k \end{aligned}$$

Use

$$(\mathbf{x}^k)'$$
 to replace \mathbf{x}^k

Improving performance – logarithmic barrier

- Idea: (Logarithmic barrier function method)

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} - \mu \sum_{j=1}^n \log_e x_j \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} > \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

Properties:

- (1) $\{\mathbf{x}^*(\mu) \mid \mu > 0\} \longrightarrow \mathbf{x}^*$
- (2)
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{d}_\mu^k &= X_k [I - X_k \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{A} X_k^2 \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A} X_k] (-X_k \mathbf{c} + \mu \mathbf{e}) \\ &= X_k P_k (-X_k \mathbf{c}) + \mu X_k P_k \mathbf{e} \\ &= \mathbf{d}_x^k + \underbrace{\mu X_k P_k \mathbf{e}}_{\text{centering force}} \end{aligned}$$
- (3) Polynomial-time proof, *i.e.*, terminates in $O(\sqrt{n}L)$ iterations.
- C. Gonzaga (1989) (Problems in Proof !!)
C. Roos/ J. Vial (1990)
- Total complexity $O(n^3L)$!

Dual affine scaling algorithm

- Affine scaling method applied to the dual LP

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w} \\ (D) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{c} \\ & \mathbf{s} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Idea: Given $(\mathbf{w}^k, \mathbf{s}^k)$ dual interior feasible, *i.e.*,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w}^k + \mathbf{s}^k &= \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{s}^k &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

Objective find $(\mathbf{d}_w^k, \mathbf{d}_s^k)$ and $\beta_k > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{w}^{k+1} &= \mathbf{w}^k + \beta_k \mathbf{d}_w^k \\ \mathbf{s}^{k+1} &= \mathbf{s}^k + \beta_k \mathbf{d}_s^k \end{aligned}$$

is still dual interior feasible, and

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w}^{k+1} \geq \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w}^k$$

Key knowledge

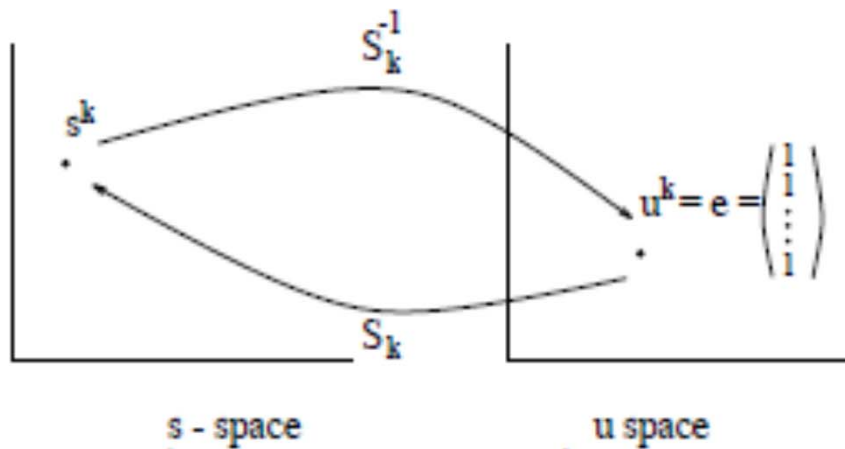
- Dual scaling (centering)
- Dual feasible direction
- Dual good direction – increase the dual objective value
- Dual step-length
- Primal estimate for stopping rule

Observation 1

- Dual scaling (centering)

$\mathbf{w}^k \in R^m$ no scaling needed

$s^k > 0$ scale to $\mathbf{e} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$



$$S_k = \begin{pmatrix} s_1^k & & & \\ & s_2^k & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \\ & 0 & & s_n^k \end{pmatrix} = \text{diag}(s^k)$$

$$\mathbf{u} = S_k^{-1} \mathbf{s} \quad \mathbf{d}_u = S_k^{-1} \mathbf{d}_s$$

$$\mathbf{s} = S_k \mathbf{u} \quad \mathbf{d}_s = S_k \mathbf{d}_u$$

Observation 2

- Dual feasibility (feasible direction)

$$\begin{aligned}\underbrace{\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w}^{k+1} + \mathbf{s}^{k+1}}_{\mathbf{c}} &= \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{w}^k + \beta_k \mathbf{d}_w^k) + (\mathbf{s}^k + \beta_k \mathbf{d}_s^k) \\ &= \underbrace{(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w}^k + \mathbf{s}^k)}_{\mathbf{c}} \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\beta_k (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k + \mathbf{d}_s^k)}_{>0}\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k + \mathbf{d}_s^k = 0 \text{ is required !}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow S_k^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k + \underbrace{S_k^{-1} \mathbf{d}_s^k}_{\mathbf{d}_u^k} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{A} S_k^{-1} (S_k^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k + \mathbf{d}_u^k) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{A} S_k^{-2} \mathbf{A}^T) \mathbf{d}_w^k + \mathbf{A} S_k^{-1} \mathbf{d}_u^k = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{d}_w^k = - \underbrace{(\mathbf{A} S_k^{-2} \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{A} S_k^{-1}}_Q \mathbf{d}_u^k$$

Observation 3

- Increase dual objective function (good direction)

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w}^{k+1} = \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w}^k + \beta_k \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k \geq \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w}^k$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{d}_w^k &= -Q \mathbf{d}_u^k \\ &= Q Q^T \mathbf{b} \\ &= \underbrace{(A S_k^{-2} A^T)^{-1} A S_k^{-1}}_Q \underbrace{S_k^{-1} A^T (A S_k^{-2} A^T)^{-1}}_{Q^T} \mathbf{b} \\ &= (A S_k^{-2} A^T)^{-1} \mathbf{b} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k = -\mathbf{b}^T Q \mathbf{d}_u^k \geq 0$$

We can choose

$$\mathbf{d}_u^k = -Q^T \mathbf{b}$$

$$\text{then } \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k = \mathbf{b}^T Q Q^T \mathbf{b} = \|Q^T \mathbf{b}\|^2 \geq 0 !!$$

$$\text{and } \mathbf{d}_s^k = -A^T \mathbf{d}_w^k = -A^T (A S_k^{-2} A^T)^{-1} \mathbf{b}$$

Observation 4

- Dual step-length

$$\mathbf{s}^{k+1} = \underbrace{\mathbf{s}^k}_{>0} + \beta_k \mathbf{d}_s^k > 0$$

(i) $\mathbf{d}_s^k = 0$, problem (D) has a constant objective value and $(\mathbf{w}^k, \mathbf{s}^k)$ optimal.

(ii) $\mathbf{d}_s^k \stackrel{>}{\neq} 0$, $\beta_k \in (0, \infty)$
problem (D) is unbounded

(iii) some $(\mathbf{d}_s^k)_i < 0$

$$\beta_k = \min_i \left\{ \frac{\alpha s_i^k}{-(d_s^k)_i} \mid (d_s^k)_i < 0 \right\}$$

for $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

Observation 5

- Primal estimate

We define

$$\mathbf{x}^k \triangleq -S_k^{-2} \mathbf{d}_s^k$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k &= -\mathbf{A}S_k^{-2}(-\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k) \\ &= \mathbf{A}S_k^{-2} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k \\ &= (\mathbf{A}S_k^{-2} \mathbf{A}^T)(\mathbf{A}S_k^{-2} \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{b} \\ &= \mathbf{b} \end{aligned}$$

If $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w}^k = 0$, then

$$\mathbf{x}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{x}^*$$

$$\mathbf{w}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{w}^*$$

$$\mathbf{s}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{s}^*$$

Hence \mathbf{x}^k is a primal estimate,

once $\mathbf{x}^k \geq 0$, then \mathbf{x}^k is primal feasible

Dual affine scaling algorithm

Step 1: Set $k = 0$ and find $(\mathbf{w}^0, \mathbf{s}^0)$ s.t.

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w}^0 + \mathbf{s}^0 = \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{s}^0 > 0$$

Step 2: Set $S_k = \text{diag}(\mathbf{s}^k)$

$$\text{Compute } \mathbf{d}_w^k = (\mathbf{A} S_k^{-2} \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{d}_s^k = -\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{d}_w^k$$

Step 3: If $\mathbf{d}_s^k = 0$, STOP! $\mathbf{w}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{w}^*$, $\mathbf{s}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{s}^*$

If $\mathbf{d}_s^k \not\geq 0$, STOP! (D) is unbounded

Step 4: Compute

$$\mathbf{x}^k = -S_k^{-2} \mathbf{d}_s^k$$

If $\mathbf{x}^k \geq 0$ and $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w}^k \leq \varepsilon$

STOP!

$$\mathbf{w}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{w}^*, \mathbf{s}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{s}^*, \mathbf{x}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{x}^*$$

Step 5: Compute

$$\beta_k = \min_i \left\{ \frac{\alpha s_i^k}{-(\mathbf{d}_s^k)_i} \mid (\mathbf{d}_s^k)_i < 0 \right\}$$

Step 6: $\mathbf{w}^{k+1} = \mathbf{w}^k + \beta_k \mathbf{d}_w^k$

$$\mathbf{s}^{k+1} = \mathbf{s}^k + \beta_k \mathbf{d}_s^k$$

Set $k \leftarrow k + 1$ Go to Step 2.

Find an initial interior feasible solution

Find $(\mathbf{w}^0, \mathbf{s}^0)$ s.t.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w}^0 + \mathbf{s}^0 &= \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{s}^0 &> 0\end{aligned}$$

If $\mathbf{c} > 0$, then $\mathbf{w}^0 = 0$, $\mathbf{s}^0 = \mathbf{c}$ will do.

(Big - M Method)

$$\text{Define } \mathbf{p} \in R^n, p_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c_i \leq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } c_i > 0 \end{cases}$$

Consider, for a large $M > 0$,

(Big-M Problem)

$$\begin{aligned}\max \quad & \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w} + M w^a \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{p}w^a + \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{c} \\ & \mathbf{w}, w^a \text{ unrestricted} \\ & \mathbf{s} \geq 0\end{aligned}$$

Properties of (big-M) problem

- (a) (Big-M) is a standard LP with n constraints and $m + 1 + n$ variables.
- (b) Define $\bar{c} = \max_i |c_i|$ and $\theta > 1$ then

$$\mathbf{w} = 0$$

$$w^a = -\theta\bar{c}$$

$$\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{c} + \theta\bar{c}\mathbf{p} > 0$$

is an initial interior feasible solution for problem (D).

- (c) $(w^a)^0 = -\theta\bar{c} < 0$

Since $M > 0$ is large

$(w^a)^k \nearrow 0$ as $k \nearrow +\infty$

if $(w^a)^k$ does not approach or cross zero, then problem (D) is infeasible.

Performance of dual affine scaling

- No polynomial-time proof !
- Computational bottleneck

$$(AS_k^{-2}A^T)^{-1}$$

- Less sensitive to primal degeneracy and numerical errors, but sensitive to dual degeneracy.
- Improves dual objective value very fast, but attains primal feasibility slowly.

Improving performance

1. Logarithmic barrier function method

$$(\mu > 0)$$

$$\begin{cases} \max & \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{w} + \mu \sum_{j=1}^n \ln[e_j - \mathbf{A}_j^T \mathbf{w}] \\ \text{s.t.} & \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w} < \mathbf{c} \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta \mathbf{w} = \frac{1}{\mu} \underbrace{(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{S}_K^{-2} \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{b}}_{\mathbf{d}_w^k} - \underbrace{(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{S}_K^{-2} \mathbf{A}^T) \mathbf{A} \mathbf{S}_k^{-1} \mathbf{e}}_{\text{centering force}}$$

$$\text{as } \mu \rightarrow 0, \quad \mathbf{w}^k(\mu) \rightarrow \mathbf{w}^*$$

Polynomial-time proof

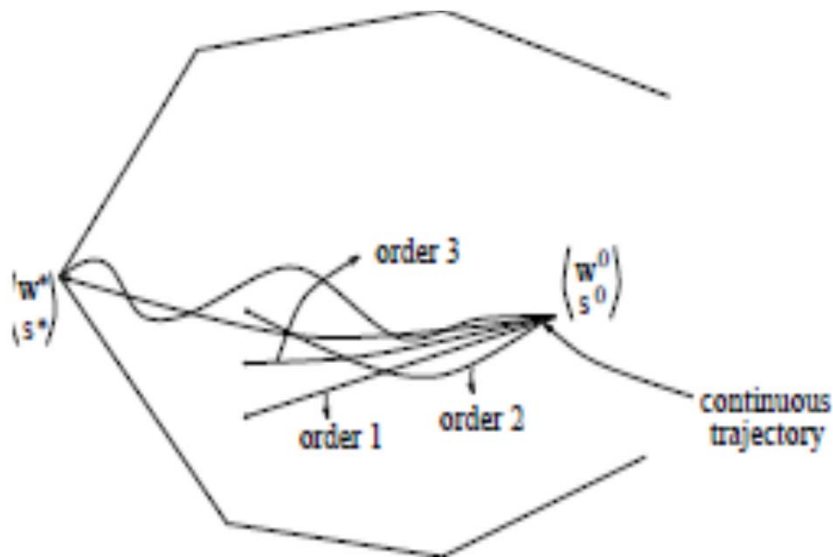
J. Renegar $O(n^{3.5}L)$

P. Vaidya $O(n^3L)$

C. Roos/ J. Vial $O(n^3L)$

Improving performance

- Power series method
 - Basic idea: following a higher order trajectory



$$\text{O.D.E.} \begin{cases} \frac{d \mathbf{w}(\beta)}{d \beta} & = \lim_{\beta_k \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathbf{w}^{k+1} - \mathbf{w}^k}{\beta_k} \\ & = [\mathbf{A}S(\beta)^{-2}\mathbf{A}^T]^{-1}\mathbf{b} \\ \frac{d \mathbf{s}(\beta)}{d \beta} & = -\mathbf{A}^T \frac{d \mathbf{w}(\beta)}{d \beta} \end{cases}$$

Initial condition

$$\mathbf{w}(0) = \mathbf{w}^0, \mathbf{s}(0) = \mathbf{s}^0$$

where

$$S(\beta) = \text{diag}(\mathbf{s}^0 + \beta \mathbf{d}_s)$$

Power series expansion

$$\mathbf{w}(\beta) = \mathbf{w}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \beta^j \left[\frac{1}{j!} \right] \left[\frac{d^j \mathbf{w}(\beta)}{d \beta^j} \right]_{\beta=0}$$

$$\mathbf{s}(\beta) = \mathbf{s}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \beta^j \left[\frac{1}{j!} \right] \left[\frac{d^j \mathbf{s}(\beta)}{d \beta^j} \right]_{\beta=0}$$

- (a) As long as $\left[\frac{d^j \mathbf{w}(\beta)}{d \beta^j} \right]_{\beta=0}$ and $\left[\frac{d^j \mathbf{s}(\beta)}{d \beta^j} \right]_{\beta=0}$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ are known, $\mathbf{w}(\beta)$, $\mathbf{s}(\beta)$ are known.
- (b) Dual Affine Scaling is the case of first-order approximation
- $$\mathbf{w}(\beta) = \mathbf{w}^0 + \beta \left[\frac{d \mathbf{w}(\beta)}{d \beta} \right]_{\beta=0}$$
- $$\mathbf{s}(\beta) = \mathbf{s}^0 + \beta \left[\frac{d \mathbf{s}(\beta)}{d \beta} \right]_{\beta=0}$$
- (c) A power-series approximation of order 4 or 5 cuts total # of iterations by 1/2.