#  FROGRAMHME PROUEMS USING STEPBYSTEP ADPITON GF CONGTRANTS 

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AN ALGORITHM FOR THE SOLUTION OF LINEAR PROGRAMMING PROBLEMS USING STEP-BY-STEP
-ADDITION OF CONSTRAINTS
by

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As linear programming techniques find applications in more diverse fields, the problem of solution time becomes increasingly important. A variation of the revised simplex algorithm, in which the constraints are added in a step-by-step fashion, is investigated as a potentially faster solution technique. A computational procedure, coded for the IBM 360 computer, is developed to compare this algorithm with the standard two-phase revised simplex algorithm. A limited number of problems, including several randomly generated problems, is solved by each of the two methods. The resulting comparison of solution times indicates that a significant improvement is obtained by the use of the procedure of step-by-step addition of constraints.

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1. Introduction

Increased utilization of linear programming techniques has led to the formulation of problems of sufficient size to tax the storage capabilities of many computers now in use. The problem of storage capacity may be alleviated by auxiliary storage, with the accompanied requirement of access delays which increase solution time. Even with sufficient storage and a coded procedure large enough to accommodate a problem, the computation time may be such that solution costs approach a budget limitation. For example, the CEIR LP/90 program for the IBM 7090 computer, which can accommodate 512 constraints and an unlimited number of variables, or the Philco Corporation LP 2000 System for the S -2000 computer, which can accommodate 2500 constraints and an unlimited number of variables, might take several hours to solve a large problem at a cost of several thousand dollars.

Improvement in the solution time might be accomplished by improvement of the hardware or by an improvement in the mathematical procedure. The hardware improvements, which are becoming available in the newer computers such as the IBM 360, are increased computation speeds and faster access to external storage.

Solution procedure improvement has been attempted by several methods. Some attempts are being made to take advantage of special structuring of the problem. These techniques are directed toward partitioning or decomposing the problems into manageable sub-problems. Another approach to improved solution time is the Primal-Dual algorithm which was developed by Dantzig. [3]

This project has been directed towards another possible method for improving solution procedures. An appraisal is made of the step-
by-step addition of constraints to the two-phase revised simplex procedure as a possible solution technique which would serve to improve solution times. This method, called here the "step-by-step addition of constraints (SSAC)," exploits the advantage of obtaining a rapid solution to a small sub-problem and then moving from one optimal solution to an optimal solution of a slightly larger sub-problem as the remaining constraint equations are added one at a time. In the earlier stages of the solution procedure, the size of the matrices used in the iteration procedure would be relatively small, compared to the complete problem. By exploiting the advantage of multiplying smaller-dimensioned matrices, with the attendant shorter computational times, a shorter overall solution time might be achieved in spite of the fact that a greater number of iterations would be required.
2. Notation

The notation used throughout this paper was chosen to correspond to the notation most frequently used in linear programming texts.
(1) Upper case letters represent matrices.
(2) Lower case letters represent columr or row vectors.
(3) Subscripted lower case letters represent elements of row or column vectors.
(4) Tableau notation, as illustrated below, is similar to that used by Dantzig. [3]


The columns corresponding to basis vectors are indicated by a dot. The pivot column (or row in the case of the dual simplex algorithm) is indicated by an arrow. The pivot element, as determined by the appropriate minimum $\theta$ criterion, is indicated by circling the element, and the basis variable which is then to be driven out is indicated by circling the associated dot.

The tableau rows are referred to as the "z", "w' or Ri" row where $i$ is an integer corresponding to the sequence in which the constraints appear. That is, 'R1" refers to the first constraint, "R2"' refers to the second constraint and so on.

Specific notation which will receive repeated use in this paper includes:
$m$ number of constraint equations
$n$ number of variables
A $m \times n$ matrix of coefficients of the constraint equations, having elements $a_{i j}$
B m x m matrix of basis vectors
$B^{-1}$ inverse of the basis
$P_{j}$ the m-dimensional vectors which make up the $B$ matrix
$x$ an $n$-dimensional column vector having elements $x_{j}$
c the $n$-element row vector of cost coefficients having elements $c_{j}$
b the m-element column vector of the right-hand side of the constraint equations (requirements vector), having elements $b_{i}$
3. Formulation of the Problem

The general linear programming problem is stated as:
Maximize

> cx
subject to:

$$
A x=b,
$$

and,

$$
x \geq 0
$$

For the algorithm to be investigated, we define

$$
z=c x .
$$

We can then rewrite the problem as:
Maximize
z,
subject to:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A x=b, \\
& z-c x=0,
\end{aligned}
$$

and,

$$
x \geq 0
$$

To obtain an identity matrix to begin the two-phase revised simplex procedure we add artificial variables $x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, \ldots . ., x_{n+m}$ to the constraint equation with $x_{n+j} \geq 0$ for $j=1, \ldots, m$.

If we define

$$
w=-x_{n+1}-x_{n+2} \quad-\ldots-x_{n+m}
$$

and then maximize $w$, we will drive the artificial variables out of the basis and either obtain an initial basic feasible solution or an indication that the problem is infeasible. The process associated with maximizing $w$ is usually referred to as Phase I.

During the second phase (Phase II), the problem is stated in the following form:

Maximize
$z$
subject to:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& a_{11} x_{1}+a_{12} x_{2}+\ldots .+a_{1 n} x_{n}+x_{n+1}=b_{1} \\
& a_{21} x_{1}+a_{22} x_{2}+\ldots+a_{2 n} x_{n}+x_{n+2}=b_{2} \\
& a_{m 1} x_{1}+a_{m 2} x_{2}+\ldots+a_{m n} x_{n}+x_{n+m}=b_{m} \\
& -c_{1} x_{1}-c_{2} x_{2}-\ldots .+c_{n} x_{n}+z=0 \\
& x_{n+1}+x_{n+2}+\ldots+x_{n+m}+w=0
\end{aligned}
$$

and,

$$
x_{j} \geq 0 \quad \text { for } j=1,2, \ldots, m
$$

Because of the $w$ equation we do not have an identity matrix to use as a starting basis. Therefore, we subtract from that equation each of the other equations, as appropriate, to remove the $x_{n+1}, \ldots$, $x_{n+m}$ variables. We obtain the following form for the wequation: $w+a_{m+2}, 1^{x_{1}}+a_{m+2,2} x_{2}+\ldots+a_{m+2,} n_{n}=b_{m+2}$
where,

$$
a_{m+2, j}=-\sum_{i=1}^{m} a_{i j} j=1, \ldots, n
$$

and,

$$
b_{m+2}=-\sum_{i=1}^{m} b_{i}
$$

for those artificial variables, i, having non-zero prices. Our problem is now in a form such that we have an identity matrix to use as our starting basis.

Maximize
z ,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { subject to: } \\
& a_{11} x_{1}+a_{12} x_{2}+\ldots .+a_{1 n} x_{n}+x_{n+1}=b_{1} \\
& a_{21} x_{1}+a_{22} x_{2}+\ldots \ldots+a_{2 n} x_{n}+x_{n+2}=b_{2} \\
& a_{m 1} x_{1}+a_{m 2} x_{2}+\ldots+a_{m n} x_{n} \quad+x_{n+m} \quad=b_{m} \\
& -c_{1} x_{1}-c_{2} x_{2}-\ldots . c_{n} x_{n}+z=0 \\
& a_{m+2,1} x_{1}+a_{m+2,2} x_{2}+\ldots+a_{m+2,} n_{n} \quad+w \quad=b_{m+2} \text {, } \\
& \text { and, }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
x \geq 0 \text { for } j=1,2, \ldots, n+m
$$

If we let $a_{m+1, j}=-c_{j}$, the problem resolves into the three matrices used for computations in the revised simplex procedure:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& B^{-1}=\left[\begin{array}{lllll}
1 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & 1 & & & \cdot \\
\cdot & & & & \cdot \\
0 & & & 1
\end{array}\right] \text {, an identity matrix, and }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
b=\left[\begin{array}{l}
b_{1} \\
b_{2} \\
\cdot \\
b_{m} \\
0 \\
b_{m+2}
\end{array}\right]
$$

For simplification in handing the matrices when coded in FORTRAN, they will be re-arranged so that the objective function and the modified w equation appear in the first two rows rather than the last two:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& B^{-1}=I \text {, and } b=\left[\begin{array}{l}
0 \\
b_{m+2} \\
b_{1} \\
. \\
b_{m}
\end{array}\right] \text {. }
\end{aligned}
$$

In the revised simplex procedure, the original $A$ matrix and $b$ vector of the full starting tableau ("original" tableau) are used at each iteration with the inverse of the current basis matrix to determine certain unknown elements of the current tableau.

When a constraint is added, the original $A$ matrix and $b$ vector are changed. The size of each is increased by one row, and the A matrix is increased by one column. The basis matrix is therefore increased in size by the addition of a row vector, $\gamma$, corresponcing to the elements of the new constraint which are in the current basis. It is, at the same time, increased by a column vector corresponding to a new artificial variable.

The new $(m+1) \times(m+1)$ basis is:

$$
\bar{B}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
B & 0 \\
\gamma & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

By partitioning of the $\bar{B}$ matrix, the new inverse is readily obtained:

$$
\vec{B}^{-1}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
B^{-1} & 0 \\
-\gamma B^{-1} & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

Upon adding a new constraint to a problem, one of three cases will result:
(1) the new constraint is satisfied;
(2) the new constraint is not satisfied and the value of the additional artificial variable is positive in the basic solution;
(3) the new constraint is not satisfied and the value of the additional artificial variable is negative in the basic solution.

In the first case, the new constraint has no effect and the optimal solution to the entire original problem has been obtained if no further constraints are to be added. The optimal value of $z$ is not affected by the new constraint.

In the second casf, the two-phase revised simplex procedure is used to first drive out the artificial variable and then to maximize $z$.

In the third case, if the new artificial variable is assigned a zero cost in the $z$ equation, the dual simplex procedure can then be applied to the infeasible primal to obtain an optimal solution to the dual, and hence an optimal solution to the primal. The artificial variable is considered to be a legitimate variable of the original problem in the dual simplex approach. As a consequence, it never appears in the w equation. For convenience, we will carry along the "w" row of the tableau, for use when later constraints are added.

When a solution is obtained which satisfies the added constraint, the optimal solution to the original problem has been found if there are no new constraints to be added.

The addition of a new constraint to a linear programming will have the effect of either decreasing the previously obtained maximum solution or leaving it unchanged. That is, letting the subscript on $z$ denote the number of constraints,

$$
\max z_{m+1} \leq \max z_{m}
$$

Solution of a linear programming problem by step-by-step addition of constraints may result in one or more unbounded solutions to the subproblems if the initial constraints have fewer variables than are included in the objective function. This causes no difficulty, however, as the addition of one or more new constraints will serve to place bounds on the problem, unless the original problem is unbounded.

The method of step-by-step addition of constraints has the advantage that an infeasible solution at an early stage will determine that the original problem has no feasible solution, and no new constraints need be added. The solution procedure is then terminated.
4. Sample Problem

> Consider, as an example, the problem: maximize

$$
z=2 x_{1}+4 x_{3}
$$

subject to:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 3 x_{1}+4 x_{2}+6 x_{3} \leq 24 \\
& 4 x_{1}+3 x_{2}+12 x_{3} \leq 24 \\
& x_{1}+x_{2}+4 x_{3}=8
\end{aligned}
$$

and,

$$
x_{j} \geq 0 \text { for } j=1,2,3
$$

Adding slack variables and rewriting the problem, we have maximize
z,
subject to:

$$
\begin{aligned}
z-2 x_{1}-4 x_{3} & =0 \\
3 x_{1}+4 x_{2}+6 x_{3}+x_{4} & =24 \\
4 x_{1}+3 x_{2}+12 x_{3}+x_{5} & =24 \\
x_{1}+x_{2}+4 x_{3} & =8
\end{aligned}
$$

and,

$$
x_{j} \geq 0 \text { for } j=1, \ldots, 5
$$

For our solution by the SSAC procedure, the modified $w$ equation for the first sub-problem will be:

$$
w-3 x_{1}-4 x_{2}-6 x_{3}-x_{4}=-24
$$

because the original w equation is

$$
w+x_{6}=0,
$$

where $x_{6}$ is the artificial variable introduced into 'R1'.

The initial tableau will be:


In Phase I we will maximize w. We choose the most negative value in the modified $w$ equation and pivot on the element which meets the minimum $\theta$ criterion according to the usual (primal) simplex procedure. Note that in the first tableau the first pivot will always be such as to drive out the first artificial variable.

We pivot using the product form of the inverse. [5] The $\eta$ vector corresponding to the $x_{3}$ column will be

$$
\eta=\left[\begin{array}{l}
4 / 6 \\
6 / 6 \\
1 / 6
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c}
2 / 3 \\
1 \\
1 / 6
\end{array}\right]
$$

and,

$$
E=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & 0 & 2 / 3 \\
0 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 1 / 6
\end{array}\right]
$$

The new inverse is determined from $\bar{B}^{-1}=E B^{-1}$ as follows:
$\bar{B}^{-1}=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}1 & 0 & 2 / 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 / 6\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{lll}1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{llc}1 & 0 & 2 / 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 / 6\end{array}\right]$

The new tableau is now

| $z$ | $w$ | $x_{6}$ | $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{3}$ | $x_{4}$ | $x_{5}$ | $b$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 0 | $2 / 3$ | 0 | $8 / 3$ | 0 | $2 / 3$ | 0 | 16 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | $1 / 6$ |  |  | 1 |  |  | 4 |

where $x_{3}$ is now a basic variable; all values of $z_{j}-c_{j} \geq 0$, and we have achieved the "first" optimal solution.

To add a new constraint, the "original" tableau is augmented by one row and the column vector for $x_{7}$, where $x_{7}$ is the artificial variable associated with "R2". Ignoring the "'w" row for the time being, the augmented "original" tableau will be

| $z$ | $w$ | $x_{6}$ | $x_{7}$ | $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{3}$ | $x_{4}$ | $x_{5}$ | $b$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 |  |  |  | -2 | 0 | -4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 24 |  |
|  |  |  | 12 | 0 | 1 | 24 |  |  |  |  |

We compute the $\gamma$ vector by determining from the previous solutions which vectors are in the basis: Observe that the coefficient vectors associated with $z$ and $w$ will always be in the basis since we are maximizing $z$ and $w$. The first two elements of the $\gamma$ vector will therefore always be zeros. The third element in this case will be the coefficient of $x_{3}$ in the new constraint.

$$
\gamma=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
0 & 0 & 12
\end{array}\right]
$$

The augmented inverse of the basis is determined by partitioning:

$$
\bar{B}^{-1}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
B^{-1} & 0 \\
-\gamma B^{-1} & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

The product $-\gamma B^{-1}$, in this case, is

$$
\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
0 & 0 & -12
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & 0 & 2 / 3 \\
0 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 1 / 6
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
0 & 0 & -2
\end{array}\right]
$$

and the new inverse becomes

$$
\bar{B}^{-1}=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 2 / 3 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 / 6 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & -2 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

Our next step is to determine if the value of the new artificial variable is positive or negative in the basic solution. We find

$$
x_{7}=24-12 x_{3}=-24
$$

Because it is negative, our procedure tells us to assign $c_{7}=0$ to the new artificial variable, $x_{7}$, and use the dual simplex algorithm to drive out the artificial variable.


We pivot on the row having the most negative $b_{i}$ element in the dual simplex method. As a consequence, the new artificial variable will be dropped as a basic variable.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Our pivot element is determined for } a_{4 j}<0 \text {. } \\
& \qquad \theta=\operatorname{Min}\left[-a_{1 j} / a_{4 j}\right]=\operatorname{Min}[0,8 / 15,2 / 6]=0 .
\end{aligned}
$$

The new inverse is determined by the product form of the inverse.

$$
\eta=\left[\begin{array}{c}
0 \\
0 \\
1 / 4 \\
-1 / 2
\end{array}\right] \quad E=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 1 / 4 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & -1 / 2
\end{array}\right]
$$

The current tableau becomes:


Since the up-dated requirements vector, $b$, still has a negative component, the dual simplex algorithm must again be applied. Pivoting on the $x_{4}$ column gives:

| $z$ | $w$ | $x_{6}$ | $x_{7}$ | $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{3}$ | $x_{4}$ | $x_{5}$ | $b$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | $1 / 2$ | 0 | $3 / 2$ | 2 | 0 | $1 / 2$ | 12 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | $-3 / 4$ |  |  | 1 |  | 6 |  |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | $1 / 4$ | 1 |  |  |  |  | 6 |

Since all elements of $b$ are now non-negative, our solution is optimal. Notice that the "w' row is retained but not operated on in the use of the dual simplex approach.

Adding the third constraint, the augmented "original" tableau becomes


Again, the "w'" row is ignored until after we determine if the new artificial variable, $x_{8}$, is positive or negative in the basic solution. After bringing in the new constraint,

$$
X=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

and,

$$
-\gamma_{B^{-1}}=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
0 & 0 & 0 & -1 / 4
\end{array}\right]
$$

The value of the new artificial variable, $x 8$, for constraint "R3", is

$$
x_{8}=8-x_{1}=2 .
$$

Since the value of $x_{8}$ is positive in the basic solution, we can use Phase I of the revised simplex procedure to move to the optimal solution for the complete "original" problem. The augmented "w" equation in the "original" tableau will be

and the current tableau becomes

$$
\begin{aligned}
& z \\
& z \\
& \begin{array}{|cccccccccc|c|}
\hline 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 / 2 & 0 & x_{6} & x_{7} & x_{8} & x_{1} & x_{2} & x_{3}
\end{array} x_{4} \\
& x_{5} \\
& 0
\end{aligned} 1
$$

Pivoting on the appropriate element of the column having the most negative value in the "w" row, we bring $x_{3}$ into the basis. The resulting tableau is then


Since all of the coefficients of the "w" row are not non-negative, we again pivot on the column having the most negative element, or in the case of ties, the left-handed one of the tied columns. Pivoting on the $x_{1}$ column, we bring $x_{1}$ into the basis.

After this iteration, we find that all elements of the "w" row are zero and at the same time, all $z_{j}-c_{j} \geq 0$ so we have completed both Phase I and Phase II. The final tableau is:
$z$
$z$

| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | -2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | $-3 / 2$ | 3 |  |  |  | 1 |  | 12 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | -3 | 1 |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | $-1 / 4$ | 1 |  |  | 1 |  |  | 2 |

We have now arrived at the optimal solution of the "original" problem:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& z=8 \\
& x_{1}=0 \\
& x_{3}=2 \\
& x_{4}=12
\end{aligned}
$$

and a 11 other $x_{j}=0$.
5. Programming Technique

As a means of testing the feasibility of solving general linear programming problems by the SSAC method, the solution technique was coded in FORTRAN IVg for use on the IBM $360 / 67$ computer.

One subroutine was designed which would carry out the solution procedure by either the two-phase revised iimplex method or the dual simplex method as appropriate. This same subroutine was used to solve the problems by both the standard revised simplex procedure and by the SSAC procedure. By using the same subroutine for both methods, it was hoped that any bias which might result from programming technique could be avoided. A driving routine was designed which would first solve a problem by the revised simplex method and then re-solve the same problem using the SSAC method. The two sections of the program were then timed. ${ }^{1}$ Sections of the program not germane to the method being investigated, such as the reading in and printing out of data, were not included in the timing. The number of iterations required for solution by each method was tabulated.

[^0]6. Efficiency of the Algorithm

Several small problems, for which hand solutions could easily be obtained, were used for preliminary testing and debugging of the program. A number of larger problems were then solved to obtain a limited experimental verification of the new procedure. The problems were chosen from three categories of problem types; mixing problems, transportation problems, (including a network problem and a transshipment problem), and caterer problems. Results based on this preliminary comparison, as shown in Table I, were inconclusive.

In order to obtain the solutions to a large number of problems, and as a means of avoiding the considerable time and effort required to input data by hand, a routine was designed which would generate random problems. This routine utilized a random-number generator to generate elements for the $A$ and $b$ matrices. To insure the existence of $a$ bounded optimal feasible solution, the problems were formulated as: Maximize

$$
z=c x
$$

subject to:

$$
A x \geq b
$$

and,

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
c_{j} \leq 0 \\
x_{j} \geq 0 \\
a_{i} \geq 0 \\
b_{i} \geq 0
\end{array} \quad \text { for } j=1, \ldots, n
$$

The problems were generated to have 70 variables, including slack variables, and 20 constraints. The distribution of the coefficients was uniform over the following intervals:
$a_{i j}$, uniform (0.1);
$b_{i}$, uniform $(0,5)$;
$c_{j}$, uniform ( $-1,0$ ).
A total of forty-six problems were solved using this method of problem generation. A tabulation of solution times for these random problems is given in Appendix I.

A comparison of the solution times of these forty-six problems shows that the method of step-by-step addition of constraints was faster in thirty-four cases. The mean solution time for the SSAC procedure was 3.94 seconds faster than the mean solution time by the revised simplex procedure. By applying an appropriate statistical test to the solution results, it was determined that, with $95 \%$ confidence, the mean difference in solution times for the two methods is not less than 2.27 seconds. ${ }^{2}$ Therefore, it can be concluded that the method of SSAC is significantly faster than the revised simplex method.

[^1]SOLUTION TIME RESULTS OF PROBLEMS USED IN PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

| Problem | Revised Simplex (RS) |  | Add. of Constr. (SSAC) |  | Time RatioSSAC/R.S. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Iteratio | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ons Time } \\ & \quad(\mathrm{sec} .) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Iterat | $\begin{aligned} \text { ns } & \begin{array}{l} \text { Time } \end{array} \\ & (\mathrm{sec} .) \end{aligned}$ |  |
| Mixing Problems |  |  |  |  |  |
| Waugh's Diet | 9 | . 106 | 15 | . 188 | 1.17 |
| Gasoline Blend | 10 | . 766 | 29 | 1.446 | 1.88 |
| Transportation Problems |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 by 33 tableau | 85 | 118.829 | 89 | 51.352 | . 43 |
| 7 by 7 tableau | 41 | 6.398 | 38 | 4.071 | . 64 |
| 3 by 5 tableau | 18 | . 852 | 22 | . 700 | . 82 |
| 3 by 4 tableau | 13 | . 446 | 21 | . 479 | 1.07 |
| Transshipment ${ }^{\text {[3] }}$ | 18 | 4.223 | 20 | 3.117 | . 74 |
| Network F low | 17 | 3.318 | 24 | 2.507 | . 75 |
| Caterer Problems |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wardroom Napkin | 35 | 10.768 | 39 | 6.177 | . 57 |
| Hadley Napkin [5] | 10 | . 745 | 25 | . 918 | 1.23 |

7. Concluding Remarks

It is important to emphasize that the solution time is a function of the way the computer program is written. In the code employed, a full set of artificial variables was generated for each problem. An algorithm which takes advantage of existing slack variables for an initial feasible solution might well prove to be faster than the present program.

Round-off error and exponent underflow can greatly affect the solution technique. The use of the product form of the inverse in the pivoting operation relieves this situation somewhat. In the experimental algorithm a routine was employed which set any element having an absolute value less than . 0001 equal to zero. A better method might be to use double precision mode for computations and then allow values smaller than . 0001 to be carried along in the solution.

By using a single subroutine for the simplex iteration procedure in both methods of problem solution, it was hoped that any inconsistency due to programming technique could be kept to a minimum. That is, necessary computations for the iteration procedure were carried out in the same sequence for both methods of problem solution.

It is recognized that the problems selected are not necessarily a representative sampling of linear programming problems. The manual input problems were selected primarily because they were large enough to allow the step-by-step addition of constraints to be demonstrated, yet small enough to handle conveniently as data inputs. The randomly generated problems were considered to be of a size which was large enough to effectively test the procedure, subject to available computer time.

The results of this limited number of tests indicate that the SSAC method is worthy of further investigation. This further effort could be directed in one of several areas. The present method should be applied to a large number of more diverse problems in order to obtain a better data base for verification of the results already obtained, and to determine more accurately the advantage of this method over the revised simplex procedure. At the same time, it would be possible to determine some bounds of effectiveness of this procedure as to the size and structure of problems.

Modification of the step-by-step procedure might be attempted to take advantage of an existing basis in the original problem so as to require generation of fewer artificial variables. An attempt might also be made to modify the step-by-step addition of constraints procedure for application to the primal-dual algorithm.
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## APPENDIX I.

Statistical Testing of Random Problem Solutions
If it can be assumed that the solution times obtained by each method form two normal distributions, we can test to determine if the mean solution time by the addition of constraints method, $\mu_{\text {SSA }}$ is less than the mean solution time by the revised simplex method, $\mu_{R S}$.

Letting $X_{i}$ be the solution time obtained by the revised simplex procedure, and $Y_{i}$ the solution time obtained by the addition of constraints procedure for problem i, a pairwise comparison of the results of the two methods can be made.

Consider the hypothesis that the mean solution time difference, $\mu=\mu_{R S}-\mu_{S S A C}$, is non-positive. That is,
$H_{0}: \mu \leq 0$,
with the alternative hypothesis,

$$
H_{1}: \quad \mu>0 .
$$

To show that the method of addition of constraints is faster, we must be able to reject $\mathrm{H}_{0}$.

```
If we form a t statistic for }\textrm{n}=46\mathrm{ samples,
```

$$
t=\frac{\bar{D} \sqrt{n}}{s}
$$

where,

$$
\bar{D}=\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(x_{i}-y_{i}\right)
$$

and,

$$
s^{2}=\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(D_{i}-\bar{D}\right)^{2},
$$

and then compare it against tabulated values of the cumulative $t$ distribution, we would reject the hypothesis if

$$
t^{t} \geqslant{ }^{t} \alpha, n-1 \cdot
$$

In this case we choose a $100(1-\alpha)=95 \%$ confidence level. The compotation of the $t$ statistic for $n=46, s=6.74$ gives,

$$
t=\frac{3.94 \sqrt{46}}{6.74}=3.97
$$

The tabulated value for ${ }^{t}(0.05), 45=1.68$. Since $t \geqslant t, \alpha, n-1$ we reject the hypothesis that the revised simplex method is faster.

A lower confidence limit on the mean difference in solution times can be determined from the expression

$$
\operatorname{Prob}\left\{\frac{\left(\bar{D}-\mu_{L}\right) \sqrt{n}}{S} \leqslant{ }^{t_{\alpha}}\right\}=1-\alpha
$$

Since with $95 \%$ confidence

$$
\frac{\left(\bar{D}-\mu_{L}\right) \sqrt{n}}{s} \leqslant{ }^{t_{\alpha}}
$$

we can solve for the lower limit on $\mu$,

$$
\bar{D}-\frac{\mathrm{ts}}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \mu_{L}
$$

For the given data,

$$
3.94-\frac{(1.68)(6.74)}{(6.785)} \leq \mu_{L}
$$

or,

$$
2.27 \leq \mu_{L}
$$

So we can say with $95 \%$ confidence that the mean difference in solution times is no less than 2.27 seconds. That is, the mean solution time obtained by the step-by-step addition of constraints is at least 2.27 seconds less than the solution time obtained by the revised simplex procedure.

## SOLUTION TIME RESULTS OF RANDOMLY GENERATED PROBLEMS

Prob
No.
RS
SSAC
No. Time $\left(X_{i}\right)$ Iter. Time $\left(Y_{i}\right)$ Iter. $\quad X_{i}-Y_{i} \quad\left(X_{i}-Y_{i}\right)^{2}$

| 1 | 23.90 | 68 | 5.11 | 25 | 18.79 | 220.5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | 18.19 | 51 | 7.08 | 56 | 11.11 | 51.4 |
| 3 | 14.97 | 42 | 10.39 | 71 | 4.58 | 0.4 |
| 4 | 28.25 | 82 | 18.34 | 101 | 9.91 | 35.6 |
| 5 | 20.21 | 58 | 16.66 | 92 | 3.55 | 0.2 |
| 6 | 23.31 | 64 | 9.88 | 64 | 13.43 | 90.1 |
| 7 | 27.24 | 79 | 25.23 | 179 | 2.01 | 3.7 |
| 8 | 12.10 | 33 | 5.14 | 24 | 6.96 | 9.1 |
| 9 | 13.47 | 37 | 17.63 | 93 | -4.16 | 65.6 |
| 10 | 13.47 | 37 | 5.56 | 38 | 7.91 | 15.8 |
| 11 | 13.13 | 36 | 18.50 | 113 | -5.02 | 80.3 |
| 12 | 14.50 | 40 | 5.69 | 38 | 8.81 | 23.7 |
| 13 | 9.72 | 26 | 14.68 | 80 | -4.96 | 79.2 |
| 14 | 13.48 | 37 | 7.68 | 59 | 5.80 | 3.5 |
| 15 | 13.14 | 36 | 10.10 | 91 | 3.04 | 0.8 |
| 16 | 10.76 | 29 | 18.43 | 93 | -7.67 | 134.8 |
| 17 | 15.53 | 43 | 15.41 | 90 | 0.12 | 14.6 |
| 18 | 19.62 | 56 | 7.29 | 48 | 12.33 | 70.4 |
| 19 | 24.38 | 69 | 12.05 | 65 | 12.33 | 70.4 |
| 20 | 19.16 | 54 | 10.30 | 51 | 8.86 | 24.2 |
| 21 | 22.23 | 63 | 8.68 | 56 | 13.55 | 92.4 |
| 22 | 21.93 | 62 | 10.83 | 60 | 11.10 | 51.3 |
| 23 | 26.35 | 75 | 19.69 | 87 | 6.66 | 7.4 |
| 24 | 23.65 | 67 | 7.69 | 45 | 15.96 | 144.5 |
| 25 | 14.40 | 43 | 5.22 | 38 | 9.18 | 27.5 |
| 26 | 9.72 | 28 | 12.20 | 90 | -2.48 | 41.2 |
| 27 | 14.73 | 44 | 7.02 | 52 | 7.71 | 14.2 |
| 28 | 10.34 | 30 | 10.93 | 70 | -0.59 | 20.5 |
| 29 | 11.58 | 34 | 14.32 | 97 | -2.74 | 44.6 |
| 30 | 11.62 | 34 | 9.06 | 58 | 2.56 | 1.9 |
| 31 | 12.51 | 35 | 11.81 | 81 | 0.70 | 10.5 |
| 32 | 12.17 | 34 | 5.43 | 32 | 6.74 | 7.8 |
| 33 | 13.16 | 37 | 5.44 | 38 | 7.72 | 14.3 |
| 34 | 11.83 | 33 | 5.55 | 40 | 6.28 | 5.5 |
| 35 | 12.18 | 34 | 17.25 | 93 | -5.07 | 81.2 |
| 36 | 12.51 | 35 | 16.03 | 73 | -3.52 | 55.7 |
| 37 | 11.18 | 31 | 14.30 | 101 | -3.12 | 49.8 |
| 38 | 15.18 | 43 | 15.07 | 90 | 0.11 | 14.7 |
| 39 | 9.24 | 27 | 7.90 | 54 | 1.34 | 6.8 |
| 40 | 11.98 | 36 | 12.72 | 81 | -0.74 | 21.9 |
| 41 | 11.06 | 33 | 9.99 | 74 | 1.07 | 8.2 |
| 42 | 11.41 | 34 | 7.86 | 62 | 3.55 | 0.2 |
| 43 | 13.52 | 41 | 6.88 | 57 | 6.64 | 7.3 |
| 44 | 11.36 | 34 | 8.63 | 51 | 2.73 | 1.5 |
| 45 | 11.68 | 35 | 24.94 | 142 | -13.26 | 295.8 |
| 46 | 9.53 | 28 | 8.16 | 58 | 1.37 | 6.6 |

## APPENDIX II.

Flow Diagrams of the Computer Program

2. Simplex and Dual Simplex Iteration Subprogram







15 XAMIN=XACL.JI
IS IVECT=J
CONTINIIF

COMPIITE VALIJFS DF THETA ANO DETERMINE MINIMUM THETA ROW


DHAL SIMDIFX SFCTION

## $I=1 \cdot M T F M P$

## dWコIW I I



上

$10 C r$
1110
$1315-\times R$
$1016 \times B$
$102 C$ CO
$C$ DFTFR
$C$

XR(I)1-1.0201 111C16. 1 (1) 16.1020
C DFTFRMINF MOST NFGATIVF XRITI

คП $1035 \quad I=3$. MTFMP

IJE
NCT $2 C 5 \cdot 2 C 5 \cdot 104 \hat{Q}$
$C$ COMPIITE ELEMENTS OF XA(KVECT.I)

- NTEMP

TEMP
FEMP
(KVECT, J) + RINV KKVECT, 1

$1 \times N$
$=O$
$\cdot N$
$=X A$
$V E C$
$=0$
$\rightarrow-\infty \rightarrow 11>11$

ruveU-
Hucruen
vucurunuz
$0>00>\infty>$

- $x+1$
$E \times Q \in \subset 4$
1.25
1036
1035

1040
1045 1 ก45

## $\therefore 5^{n}$

XAIK
$C H N T I N E$
35
355 1355
$136 f$







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13. ABSTRACT

As linear programming techniques find applications in more diverse fields, the problem of solution time becomes increasingly important. A variation of the revised simplex algorithm, in which the constraints are added in a step-by-step fashion, is investigated as a potentially faster solution technique. A computational procedure, coded for the IBM 360 computer, is developed to compare this algorithm with the standard two-phase revised simplex algorithm. A limited number of problems, including several randomly generated problems, is solved by each of the two methods. The resulting comparison of solution times indicates that a significant improvement is obtained by the use of the procedure of step-by-step addition of constraints.




[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The timing routine was developed by Lt E. A. Singer, a student at the Naval Postgraduate School.

[^1]:    2 Detailed computations for the t-test and computation of lower confidence limits on the mean solution time difference are given in Appendix I.

