

The Simplex Method — Canonical Form Summary Sheet

Standard/Original form LP ($A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$, and $c, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$)

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Maximize} && Z = c^T x \\ &\text{subject to} && Ax \preceq b \\ &&& x \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Augmented form LP ($x_s \in \mathbb{R}^m$)

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Maximize} && Z = c^T x + 0x_s \\ &\text{subject to} && Ax + Ix_s = b \\ &&& x, x_s \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Canonical form (Upon choosing $x_N \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $x_B \in \mathbb{R}^m$ —see below)

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{(Increase)} && Z + \bar{c}^T x_N + 0x_B = \bar{Z} \\ &\text{subject to} && \bar{A}x_N + Ix_B = \bar{b} \\ &&& x_N, x_B \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \bar{c}^T & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{A} & I \end{bmatrix}}_M \begin{pmatrix} Z \\ x_N \\ x_B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{Z} \\ \bar{b} \end{pmatrix}$$

Matrix representation of the canonical form

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{(Increase)} && Z + (-c^T + c_B^T A_B^{-1} A)x + (c_B^T A_B^{-1})x_s = c_B^T A_B^{-1} b \\ &\text{subject to} && (A_B^{-1} A)x + A_B^{-1} x_s = A_B^{-1} b \\ &&& x, x_s \succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & c_B^T A_B^{-1} \\ 0 & A_B^{-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{Q_B} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -c^T & 0 \\ 0 & A & I \end{bmatrix}}_{M_0} \begin{pmatrix} Z \\ x \\ x_s \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & c_B^T A_B^{-1} \\ 0 & A_B^{-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{Q_B} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

That is, $M = Q_B M_0 P^{-1}$. (see below)

Tableau representation of the canonical form

BV	Z	$x_1 \dots x_n$	$x_{s,1} \dots x_{s,m}$	
	1	$-c^T + c_B^T A_B^{-1} A$	$c_B^T A_B^{-1}$	$c_B^T A_B^{-1} b$
$x_{B,1}$	0			
\vdots	\vdots	$A_B^{-1} A$	A_B^{-1}	$A_B^{-1} b$
$x_{B,m}$	0			

Note: The entries in the tableau representation are exactly the same entries in the matrix $Q_b M_0$ and $Q_B \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ b \end{pmatrix}$ of the matrix representation

Basic and nonbasic variables for the canonical form. Upon choosing x_N, x_B , we may elucidate a permutation matrix¹ P such that $\begin{bmatrix} x_N \\ x_B \end{bmatrix} = P \begin{bmatrix} x \\ x_s \end{bmatrix}$, from which we obtain

$$[A_N \ A_B] = [A \ I]P^{-1}, \quad \text{and} \quad [c_N^T \ c_B^T] = [c^T \ 0]P^{-1}$$

Specifically, if $x_N = (x_{N,1}, \dots, x_{N,n}) = (x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_n})$ and $x_B = (x_{B,1}, \dots, x_{B,m}) = (x_{k_1}, \dots, x_{k_m})$, then

$A_N = [C_{j_1} \ \dots \ C_{j_n}] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$	The j th column of A_N is the column of $[A \ I]$ corresponding to $x_{N,j}$
$A_B = [C_{k_1} \ \dots \ C_{k_m}] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$	The j th column of A_B is the column of $[A \ I]$ corresponding to $x_{B,j}$
$c_N = (c_{j_1} \ \dots \ c_{j_n})^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$	The j th entry of c_N is the entry of $[c^T \ 0]$ corresponding to $x_{N,j}$
$c_B = (c_{k_1} \ \dots \ c_{k_m})^T \in \mathbb{R}^m$	The j th entry of c_B is the column of $[c^T \ 0]$ corresponding to $x_{B,j}$

where C_j is the j th column of $[A \ I]$, and c_j is the j th entry of $[c^T \ 0]$. Consequently,

$$\begin{array}{ll} \bar{A} = A_B^{-1} A_N & \bar{b} = A_B^{-1} b \\ \bar{c}^T = c_B^T \bar{A} - c_N^T & \bar{Z} = c_B^T \bar{b} \end{array}$$

Connection between canonical form and matrix/tableau representations. Suppose you already know the matrix/tableau representation, and want to obtain the canonical form. Since $M = Q_B M_0 P^{-1}$,

$\bar{A} = \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ matrix whose j th column is the column of $[A_B^{-1} A \ A_B^{-1}]$ corresponding to $x_{N,j}$
$I = \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ matrix whose j th column is the column of $[A_B^{-1} A \ A_B^{-1}]$ corresponding to $x_{B,j}$
$\bar{c} = \mathbb{R}^n$ vector whose j th entry is the entry of $[-c^T + c_B^T A_B^{-1} A \ c_B^T A_B^{-1}]$ corresponding to $x_{N,j}$
$0 = \mathbb{R}^m$ vector whose j th entry is the entry of $[-c^T + c_B^T A_B^{-1} A \ c_B^T A_B^{-1}]$ corresponding to $x_{B,j}$

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¹Recall that a permutation matrix P has exactly one 1 in each row and each column, with all other entries being 0, and that $P^{-1} = P^T$. For any matrix X, Y , one can check that left-multiplying PX will permute the *rows* of X , whereas right-multiplying YP^T will permute the *columns* of Y in exactly the same manner that the rows of X were permuted by PX .