ABOUT THE AUTHORS

George B. Dantzig received the National Medal of Science from the President of the United States “for inventing Linear Programming and for discovering the Simplex Algorithm that led to wide-scale scientific and technical applications to important problems in logistics, scheduling, and network optimization, and to the use of computers in making efficient use of the mathematical theory.” He is world famous for his twin discoveries; linear programming and the Simplex Algorithm, which together have enabled mankind for the first time to structure and solve extremely complex optimal allocation and resource problems. Among his other discoveries are the Decomposition Principle (with Philip Wolfe) which makes it possible to decompose and solve extremely large linear programs having special structures, and applications of these techniques with sampling to solving practical problems subject to uncertainty.

Since its discovery in 1947, the field of linear programming, together with its extensions (mathematical programming), has grown by leaps and bounds and is today the most widely used tool in industry for planning and scheduling.

George Dantzig received his master’s from Michigan and his doctorate in mathematics from Berkeley in 1946. He worked for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, served as chief of the Combat Analysts Branch for USAF Headquarters during World War II, research mathematician for RAND Corporation, and professor and head of the Operations Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley. He is currently professor of Management Science and Engineering and Computer Science at Stanford University. He served as director of the System Optimization Laboratory and the PILOT Energy-Economic Model Project. Professor Dantzig’s seminal work has laid the foundation for the field of systems engineering, which is widely used in network design and component design in computer, mechanical, and electrical engineering. His work inspired the formation of the Mathematical Programming Society, a major section of the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics, and numerous professional and academic bodies. Generations of Professor Dantzig’s students have become leaders in industry and academia.

He is a member of the prestigious National Academy of Science, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Academy of Engineering.
Mukund N. Thapa is the President & CEO of Optical Fusion, Inc., President of Stanford Business Software, Inc., as well as a consulting professor of Management Science and Engineering at Stanford University. He received a bachelor of technology degree in metallurgical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in operations research from Stanford University in 1981. His Ph.D. thesis was concerned with developing specialized algorithms for solving large-scale unconstrained nonlinear minimization problems. By profession he is a software developer who produces commercial software products as well as commercial-quality custom software. Since 1978, Dr. Thapa has been applying the theory of operations research, statistics, and computer science to develop efficient, practical, and usable solutions to a variety of problems.

At Optical Fusion, Inc., Dr. Thapa is developing a multi-point IP-based videoconferencing system for use over networks. The feature-rich system will focus primarily on the needs of users and allow corporate users to seamlessly integrate conferencing in everyday business interactions. At Stanford Business Software, Dr. Thapa, ensures that the company produces high-quality turnkey software for clients. His expert knowledge of user friendly interfaces, databases, computer science, and modular software design plays an important role in making the software practical and robust. His speciality is the application of numerical analysis methodology to solve mathematical optimization problems. He is also an experienced modeler who is often asked by clients to consult, prepare analyses, and to write position papers. At the Department of Management Science and Engineering, from time to time, Dr. Thapa teaches graduate-level courses in mathematical programming computation and numerical methods of linear programming.
TO

To Tobias and Anja Dantzig, my parents, in memoriam
Anne S. Dantzig, my wife, and to
the great pioneers that made this field possible:
Wassily Leontief, Tjalling Koopmans, John von Neumann,
Albert Tucker, William Orchard-Hays, Martin Beale.
— George B. Dantzig

Radhika H. Thapa, my wife,
Isha, my daughter, and to
Devi Thapa & Narain S. Thapa, my parents.
— Mukund N. Thapa
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DEFINITION OF SYMBOLS

The notation described below will be followed in general. There may be some deviations where appropriate.

• Uppercase letters will be used to represent matrices.
• Lowercase letters will be used to represent vectors.
• All vectors will be column vectors unless otherwise noted.
• Greek letters will typically be used to represent scalars.

\( \mathbb{R}^n \) – Real space of dimension \( n \).
\( c \) – Coefficients of the objective function.
\( A \) – Coefficient matrix of the linear program.
\( B \) – Basis matrix (nonsingular). It contains the basic columns of \( A \).
\( N \) – Nonbasic columns of \( A \).
\( x \) – Solution of the linear program (typically the current one).
\( x_B \) – Basic solution (typically the current one).
\( x_N \) – Nonbasic solution (typically the current one).
\( (x, y) \) – The column vector consisting of components of the vector \( x \) followed by the components of \( y \). This helps in avoiding notation such as \( (x^T, y^T)^T \).
\( L \) – Lower triangular matrix with 1s on the diagonal.
\( U \) – Upper triangular matrix (sometimes \( R \) will be used).
\( R \) – Alternative notation for an upper triangular matrix.
\( D \) – Diagonal matrix.
\( \text{Diag} \ (d) \) – Diagonal matrix. Sometimes \( \text{Diag} \ (d_1, d_2, \ldots, d_n) \) will be used.
\( D_x \) – \( \text{Diag} \ (x) \).
\( I \) – Identity matrix.
**DEFINITION OF SYMBOLS**

\( e_j \) - \( j \)th column of an identity matrix.

\( e \) - Vector of 1s (dimension will be clear from the context).

\( E_j \) - Elementary matrix (\( j \)th column is different from the identity).

\(|v|\) - The 2-norm of a vector \( v \); i.e., \(|v|_2 = \sqrt{v^T v} \).

\(|v|_1\) - The 1-norm of a vector \( v \); i.e., \(|v|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} |v_i| \).

\(|v|_\infty\) - The \( \infty \)-norm of a vector \( v \); i.e., \(|v|_\infty = \max_{i=1,...,n} |v_i| \).

\(|A|\) - The 2-norm of an \( m \times n \) matrix \( A \); i.e.,

\(|A|_2 = \sqrt{\lambda_{\text{max}}(A^T A)} \).

\(|A|_1\) - The 1-norm of an \( m \times n \) matrix \( A \); i.e.,

\(|A|_1 = \max_{j=1,...,n} \sum_{i=1}^{m} |a_{ij}| \).

\(|A|_\infty\) - The \( \infty \)-norm of an \( m \times n \) matrix \( A \); i.e.,

\(|A|_\infty = \max_{i=1,...,m} \sum_{j=1}^{n} |a_{ij}| \).

\( \det(A) \) - Determinant of the matrix \( A \).

\( A_{\bullet} \) - \( j \)th column of \( A \).

\( A_{i\bullet} \) - \( i \)th row of \( A \).

\( B^t \) - The matrix \( B \) at the start of iteration \( t \).

\( B[t] \) - Alternative form for the matrix \( B^t \).

\( B \) - Update from iteration \( t \) to iteration \( t + 1 \).

\( B_{ij}^{-1} \) - Element \((i,j)\) of \( B^{-1} \).

\( X \subset Y \) - \( X \) is a proper subset of \( Y \).

\( X \subseteq Y \) - \( X \) is a subset of \( Y \).

\( X \cup Y \) - Set union, that is, the set \( \{ \omega \mid \omega \in X \text{ or } \omega \in Y \} \).

\( X \cap Y \) - The set \( \{ \omega \mid \omega \in X \text{ and } \omega \in Y \} \).

\( X \setminus Y \) - Set difference, that is, the set \( \{ \omega \mid \omega \in X, \omega \notin Y \} \).

\( \emptyset \) - Empty set.

\( | \) - Such that. For example, \( \{ x \mid Ax \leq b \} \) means the set of all \( x \) such that \( Ax \leq b \) holds.

\( \alpha^n \) - A scalar raised to power \( n \).

\( (A)^n \) - A square matrix raised to power \( n \).

\( A^T \) - Transpose of the matrix \( A \).

\( \approx \) - Approximately equal to.

\( \gg (\ll) \) - Much greater (less) than.

\( \succ (\prec) \) - Lexicographically greater (less) than.

\( \leftarrow \) - Store in the computer the value of the quantity on the right into the location where the quantity on the left is stored. For example, \( x \leftarrow x + \alpha \).

\( O(v) \) - Implies a number \( \leq kv \), where \( k \), a fixed constant independent of the value of \( v \), is meant to convey the notion that \( k \) is some small integer value less than 10 (or possibly less than 100) and not something ridiculous like \( k = 10^{100} \).
\text{argmin}_x f(x) \quad - \quad \text{The value of } x \text{ where } f(x) \text{ takes on its global minimum value.}

\text{argmin}_i \beta_i \quad - \quad \text{The value of the least index } i \text{ where } \beta_i \text{ takes on its minimum value.}

\text{LP} \quad - \quad \text{Linear program.}

\text{sign (} \alpha \text{)} \quad - \quad \text{The sign of } \alpha. \text{ It is } +1 \text{ if } \alpha \geq 0 \text{ and } -1 \text{ if } \alpha < 0.
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