

## Module 2: Linear Programs (Standard Equality Forms)

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$$\max \quad (1, -2, 4, -4, 0, 0)x + 3$$

s.t.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 & 3 & -3 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} x = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6 \geq 0$$

## Question

Is the following LP in SEF?

$$\max \quad x_1 + x_2 + 17$$

s.t.

$$x_1 - x_2 = 0$$

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## Remarks

- $x_2 \geq 0$  is implied by the constraints.
- $x_2$  is still free since  $x_2 \geq 0$  is not given **explicitly**.

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1. Find an “equivalent” LP in SEF.

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What do we mean by equivalent?

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A pair of LPs are equivalent if they behave in the same way.

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Every LP is equivalent to an LP in SEF.

We will illustrate the proof with a series of examples.

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s.t.

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EQUIVALENT!

## Replacing an Inequality by an Equality

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$$x_1 - x_2 + x_4 - s = 7, \quad \text{where } s \geq 0.$$

# Free Variables

# Free Variables

$$\max z = (1, 2, 3)(x_1, x_2, x_3)^\top$$

s.t.

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Find an equivalent LP without the free variable  $x_3$ . How?

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$$\max z = (1, 2, 3)(x_1, x_2, x_3)^T$$

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## Idea

Any number is the difference between two **non-negative** numbers.

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Set  $x_3 := a - b$  where  $a, b \geq 0$ .

## Free Variables – Rewrite the Objective Function

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2. Show each step yields an equivalent LP.

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2. We defined what it means for two LPs to be equivalent.
3. We showed how to convert any LP into an equivalent LP in SEF.
4. To solve any LP, it suffices to know how to solve LPs in SEF.