

MVE165/MMG631

Linear and Integer Optimization with Applications

Lecture 3

Extreme points of convex polyhedra;
reformulations; basic feasible solutions

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Course evaluation

- The first meeting will be held on Friday, March 29 at 9:30
- The second meeting will be held during week 16 or 18
- Notes will be published in the course's PingPong event
- Any voluntary representative from GU is also welcome!
Anyone?
- Student representatives to be decided. Contact these to present your opinion

Linear optimization models = linear programs (LP)

A linear optimization model: c_j , a_{ij} , b_i : constant parameters

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize} \quad & z = \sum_{j=1}^n c_j x_j \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j \leq b_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & x_j \geq 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

In vector/matrix notation: $\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & z = \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}^n \end{aligned}$$

A polyhedron

The *feasible region* of a linear optimization model is defined as the intersection of halfspaces in \mathbb{R}^n defined by its constraints.

The feasible region is a polyhedron, denoted $X \subset \mathbb{R}_+^n$

$$X := \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j \leq b_i, i = 1, \dots, m \right\} \equiv \{ \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}^n \mid \mathbf{Ax} \leq \mathbf{b} \}$$

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Convex combinations (Ch. 4.1)

Definition (Convex combination) (Def. 4.1)

A *convex combination* of the points $\mathbf{x}^p \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $p = 1, \dots, P$, is any point $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ that can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{p=1}^P \lambda_p \mathbf{x}^p$$

where the following constraints hold:

$$\sum_{p=1}^P \lambda_p = 1; \quad \lambda_p \geq 0, \quad p = 1, \dots, P$$

The variables λ_p are called *convexity weights*

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Convex sets

(Ch. 2.4)

Definition (Convex set (Def. 2.5))

A set $X \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a *convex set* if, for any two points $\mathbf{x}^1 \in X$ and $\mathbf{x}^2 \in X$, and any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$, it holds that

$$\mathbf{x} := \lambda \mathbf{x}^1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}^2 \in X$$

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Linear programs and convex polyhedra

(Ch. 4.1)

Let $\mathbf{x} := \lambda \mathbf{x}^1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{x}^2$, where \mathbf{x}^1 and \mathbf{x}^2 are feasible, i.e.,
 $\mathbf{x}^1 \geq \mathbf{0}^n$, $\mathbf{x}^2 \geq \mathbf{0}^n$, $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^1 \leq \mathbf{b}$, and $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^2 \leq \mathbf{b}$ hold.

The intersection of linearly constrained regions forms a convex set

The feasible region of a linear program is a *convex set*, since for any two feasible points \mathbf{x}^1 and \mathbf{x}^2 and any $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j &= \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(\lambda x_j^1 + (1 - \lambda)x_j^2) \\ &= \lambda \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j^1 + (1 - \lambda) \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j^2 \\ &\leq \lambda b_i + (1 - \lambda)b_i \\ &= b_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \end{aligned}$$

and

$$x_j = \lambda x_j^1 + (1 - \lambda)x_j^2 \geq 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

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Extreme points

(Ch. 4.1)

Definition (Extreme point (Def. 4.2))

The point \mathbf{x}^k is an *extreme point* of the polyhedron X if $\mathbf{x}^k \in X$ and it is *not* possible to express \mathbf{x}^k as a *strict convex combination* of two distinct points in X .

I.e: Given $\mathbf{x}^1 \in X$, $\mathbf{x}^2 \in X$, and $0 < \lambda < 1$, it holds that $\mathbf{x}^k = \lambda\mathbf{x}^1 + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{x}^2$ only if $\mathbf{x}^k = \mathbf{x}^1 = \mathbf{x}^2$ hold.

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Optimal solution and extreme points

(Ch. 4.1)

Theorem (Optimal solution in an extreme point (Th. 4.2))

Assume that the feasible region $X = \{\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}^n \mid \mathbf{Ax} \leq \mathbf{b}\}$ is non-empty and bounded.

Then, the minimum value of the objective $\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}$ is attained at (at least) one extreme point \mathbf{x}^k of X .

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Proof of Theorem 4.2

Assume the opposite, that there is a *non-extreme point* $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in X$ with a lower objective value than any of the *extreme points*, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{c}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}} < \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}^k \quad \text{for all extreme points } \mathbf{x}^k \text{ of } X. \quad (1)$$

Since the polyhedron X is a convex set, the point $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ can be expressed as a convex combination of the extreme points of X , i.e.,

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k \mathbf{x}^k; \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k = 1 \quad (3)$$

$$\lambda_k \geq 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, p \quad (4)$$

where p is the number of extreme points. Then, it must hold that

$$\mathbf{c}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \underbrace{=}_{(2)} \mathbf{c}^\top \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k \mathbf{x}^k = \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x}^k \underbrace{>}_{(1),(4)} \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k \mathbf{c}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{c}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k \underbrace{=}_{(3)} \mathbf{c}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}$$

which is a contradiction.

A general linear program — notation

Definition (Notation of linear programs)

minimize or maximize $c_1x_1 + \dots + c_nx_n$

subject to $a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \leq \\ = \\ \geq \end{array} \right\} b_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m$

$x_j \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \leq 0 \\ \text{unrestricted in sign} \\ \geq 0 \end{array} \right\}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n$

The blue notation corresponds to the *standard form*

The standard form of the simplex method for linear programs

(Ch. 4.2)

- Every linear program can be reformulated such that:
 - all constraints are expressed as *equalities* with *non-negative right hand sides*
 - all variables involved are restricted to be *non-negative*
- Referred to as the *standard form*
- These requirements streamline the calculations of the *simplex method*
- *Software solvers* (e.g., Clp, Gurobi, Cplex, GLPK, SCIP) handle also inequality constraints and unrestricted variables — the reformulations are made automatically

The simplex method — standard form reformulations

- Slack variables, s_i :

$$\left[\begin{array}{r} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j \leq b_i, \quad \forall i \\ x_j \geq 0, \quad \forall j \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{r} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j + s_i = b_i, \quad \forall i \\ x_j \geq 0, \quad \forall j \\ s_i \geq 0, \quad \forall i \end{array} \right]$$

- The lego example:

$$\left[\begin{array}{r} 2x_1 + x_2 \leq 6 \\ 2x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 8 \\ x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{r} 2x_1 + x_2 + s_1 = 6 \\ 2x_1 + 2x_2 + s_2 = 8 \\ x_1, x_2, s_1, s_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right]$$

- s_1 and s_2 are called *slack variables*—they “fill out” the (positive) distances between the left and right hand sides

The simplex method — standard form reformulations

- Surplus variables, s_i :

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j \geq b_i, \quad \forall i \\ x_j \geq 0, \quad \forall j \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j - s_i = b_i, \quad \forall i \\ x_j \geq 0, \quad \forall j \\ s_i \geq 0, \quad \forall i \end{array} \right]$$

- Surplus variable s_3 (another instance):

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 \geq 800 \\ x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 - s_3 = 800 \\ x_1, x_2, s_3 \geq 0 \end{array} \right]$$

The simplex method — standard form reformulations

- Suppose that $b < 0$:

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j \leq b \\ x_j \geq 0, \forall j \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=1}^n (-a_j) x_j \geq -b \\ x_j \geq 0, \forall j \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{l} -\sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j - s = -b \\ x_j \geq 0, \forall j \\ s \geq 0 \end{array} \right]$$

- Non-negative right hand side:

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} x_1 - x_2 \leq -23 \\ x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{l} -x_1 + x_2 \geq 23 \\ x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{l} -x_1 + x_2 - s_4 = 23 \\ x_1, x_2, s_4 \geq 0 \end{array} \right]$$

The simplex method — standard form reformulations

- Suppose that some of the variables are unconstrained (here: $k < n$).
Replace x_j with $x_j^1 - x_j^2$ for the corresponding indices:

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j \leq b \\ x_j \geq 0, j = 1, \dots, k \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=1}^k a_j x_j + \sum_{j=k+1}^n a_j (x_j^1 - x_j^2) + s = b \\ x_j \geq 0, j = 1, \dots, k, \\ x_j^1 \geq 0, x_j^2 \geq 0, j = k+1, \dots, n \\ s \geq 0 \end{array} \right]$$

- Sign-restricted (non-negative) variables:

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 \leq 10 \\ x_1 \geq 0 \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2^1 - x_2^2 \leq 10 \\ x_1, x_2^1, x_2^2 \geq 0 \end{array} \right] \iff \left[\begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2^1 - x_2^2 + s_5 = 10 \\ x_1, x_2^1, x_2^2, s_5 \geq 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Basic solutions

(Ch. 4.3)

- Consider m equations and n variables, where $m \leq n$
- Set $n - m$ variables to zero and solve (if possible) the remaining $m \times m$ system of equations
- If the solution is *unique*, it is called a *basic* solution

Definition (Def. 4.3)

A *basic* solution to the $m \times n$ system of equations $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ is obtained if $n - m$ of the variables are set to 0 and the remaining variables get their unique values from the solution to the remaining $m \times m$ system of equations.

The variables that are set to 0 are called *nonbasic variables* and the remaining m variables are called *basic variables*.

Basic feasible solutions (BFS)

(Ch. 4.3)

- A basic solution \mathbf{x} corresponds to the *intersection* of m hyperplanes in \mathbb{R}^m
 - It is *feasible* if $\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$
 - It is *infeasible* if $\mathbf{x} \not\geq \mathbf{0}$
- Each *extreme point* of the feasible set is an intersection of m hyperplanes such that all variable values are ≥ 0
- *Basic feasible solution* \iff *extreme point of the feasible set*

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 a_{11}x_1 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 & & x_1 \geq 0 \\
 a_{21}x_1 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 & & x_2 \geq 0 \\
 & \dots & \dots \\
 a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m & & x_n \geq 0
 \end{array}$$

Basic feasible solutions – algebraic descriptions

Assume that $m < n$ and that $b_i \geq 0$, $i = 1, \dots, m$, and let

$$\mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Consider the linear program to

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\mathbf{x}}{\text{minimize}} && z = \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{x} \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \\ & && \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

- Partition \mathbf{x} into m basic variables \mathbf{x}_B and $n - m$ non-basic variables \mathbf{x}_N , such that $\mathbf{x}^\top = (\mathbf{x}_B^\top, \mathbf{x}_N^\top)$
- Analogously, let $\mathbf{c}^\top = (\mathbf{c}_B^\top, \mathbf{c}_N^\top)$ and $\mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{A}_B, \mathbf{A}_N) \equiv (\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{N})$
- The matrix $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ with inverse \mathbf{B}^{-1} (if it exists)

Basic feasible solutions – algebraic descriptions (Ch. 4.8)

Rewrite the linear program equivalently as

$$\text{minimize } z = \mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{x}_B + \mathbf{c}_N^\top \mathbf{x}_N \quad (5a)$$

$$\text{subject to } \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}_B + \mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{b} \quad (5b)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_B \geq \mathbf{0}^m, \mathbf{x}_N \geq \mathbf{0}^{n-m} \quad (5c)$$

- Multiply the system of equations (5b) by \mathbf{B}^{-1} from the left:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}_B + \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_N &= \mathbf{x}_B + \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{b} \\ \implies \mathbf{x}_B &= \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{B}^{-1}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_N) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

- Replace \mathbf{x}_B in (5a) by the expression in (6):

$$\mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{x}_B + \mathbf{c}_N^\top \mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{B}^{-1}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_N) + \mathbf{c}_N^\top \mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{c}_N^\top - \mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N})\mathbf{x}_N$$

$$\implies \text{minimize } z = \mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{c}_N^\top - \mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N})\mathbf{x}_N$$

$$\text{subject to } \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_N \geq \mathbf{0}^m, \mathbf{x}_N \geq \mathbf{0}^{n-m}$$

Basic feasible solutions – algebraic descriptions

The rewritten program

$$\text{minimize } z = \mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{c}_N^\top - \mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{N}) \mathbf{x}_N \quad (7a)$$

$$\text{subject to } \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{N} \mathbf{x}_N \geq \mathbf{0}^m \quad (7b)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_N \geq \mathbf{0}^{n-m} \quad (7c)$$

At the **basic** solution defined by $B \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$:

- Each **non-basic** variable takes the value 0, i.e., $\mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{0}$
- The **basic** variables take the values $\mathbf{x}_B = \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{N} \mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b}$
- The **value of the objective function** is $z = \mathbf{c}_B^\top \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b}$
- The basic solution is **feasible** if $\mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b} \geq \mathbf{0}^m$

Basic feasible solutions, example

- Constraints:

$$x_1 \leq 23 \quad (1)$$

$$0.067x_1 + x_2 \leq 6 \quad (2)$$

$$3x_1 + 8x_2 \leq 85 \quad (3)$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$

- Add slack variables:

$$x_1 + s_1 = 23 \quad (1)$$

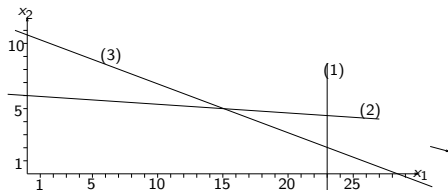
$$0.067x_1 + x_2 + s_2 = 6 \quad (2)$$

$$3x_1 + 8x_2 + s_3 = 85 \quad (3)$$

$$x_1, x_2, s_1, s_2, s_3 \geq 0$$

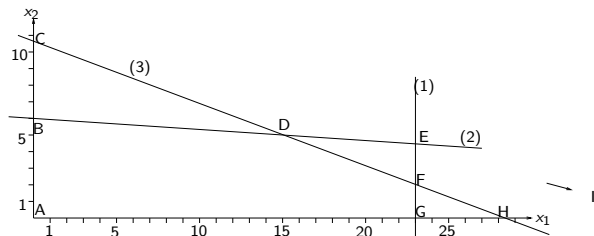
$$m = 3$$

$$n = 5$$

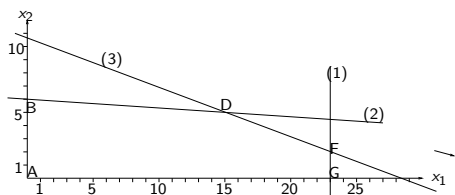


Basic and non-basic variables and solutions

basic variables	basic solution			non-basic variables (0, 0)	point	feasible?
s_1, s_2, s_3	23	6	85	x_1, x_2	A	yes
s_1, s_2, x_1	$-5\frac{1}{3}$	$4\frac{1}{9}$	$28\frac{1}{3}$	s_3, x_2	H	no
s_1, s_2, x_2	23	$-4\frac{5}{8}$	$10\frac{5}{8}$	x_1, s_3	C	no
s_1, x_1, s_3	-67	90	-185	s_2, x_2	I	no
s_1, x_2, s_3	23	6	37	s_2, x_1	B	yes
x_1, s_2, s_3	23	$4\frac{7}{15}$	16	s_1, x_2	G	yes
x_2, s_2, s_3	-	-	-	s_1, x_1	-	-
x_1, x_2, s_1	15	5	8	s_2, s_3	D	yes
x_1, x_2, s_2	23	2	$2\frac{7}{15}$	s_1, s_3	F	yes
x_1, x_2, s_3	23	$4\frac{7}{15}$	$-19\frac{11}{15}$	s_1, s_2	E	no



Basic *feasible* solutions correspond to solutions to the system of equations that *fulfill non-negativity*



$$\begin{array}{rclcl} x_1 & +s_1 & & = & 23 \\ 0.067x_1 & +x_2 & +s_2 & = & 6 \\ 3x_1 & +8x_2 & & +s_3 & = & 85 \end{array}$$

$$A: x_1 = x_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} s_1 & & = & 23 \\ & s_2 & & = & 6 \\ & & s_3 & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$

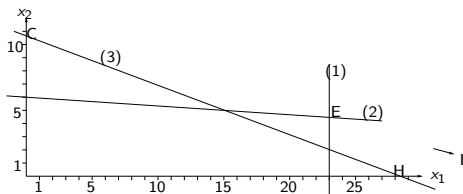
$$B: x_1 = s_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} & s_1 & & = & 23 \\ x_2 & & & = & 6 \\ 8x_2 & & +s_3 & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D: s_3 = s_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & & +s_1 & = & 23 \\ 0.067x_1 & +x_2 & & = & 6 \\ 3x_1 & +8x_2 & & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F: s_3 = s_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & & +s_2 & = & 23 \\ 0.067x_1 & +x_2 & & = & 6 \\ 3x_1 & +8x_2 & & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$G: x_2 = s_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & & & = & 23 \\ 0.067x_1 & +s_2 & & = & 6 \\ 3x_1 & & +s_3 & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$

Basic *infeasible* solutions corresp. to solutions to the system of equations with one or more variables < 0



$$\begin{array}{rclcl}
 x_1 & +s_1 & & = & 23 \\
 0.067x_1 & +x_2 & +s_2 & = & 6 \\
 3x_1 & +8x_2 & & +s_3 & = & 85
 \end{array}$$

$$\text{H: } x_2 = s_3 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & +s_1 & & = & 23 \\ 0.067x_1 & & +s_2 & = & 6 \\ 3x_1 & & & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{C: } x_1 = s_3 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} & s_1 & & = & 23 \\ x_2 & & +s_2 & = & 6 \\ 8x_2 & & & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{I: } s_2 = x_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & +s_1 & & = & 23 \\ 0.067x_1 & & & = & 6 \\ 3x_1 & & +s_3 & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{-: } s_1 = x_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} & & & 0 & = & 23 \\ x_2 & +s_2 & & = & 6 \\ 8x_2 & & +s_3 & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{E: } s_1 = s_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & & & = & 23 \\ 0.067x_1 & +x_2 & & = & 6 \\ 3x_1 & +8x_2 & +s_3 & = & 85 \end{bmatrix}$$