

# The Transportation Simplex Method

Yinyu Ye

Department of Management Science and Engineering

Stanford University

Stanford, CA 94305, U.S.A.

<https://canvas.stanford.edu/courses/179677>

Read Chapters 2.3, 4.1-4.2, 4.5

# Recall the Simplex Method

1. **Initialize** with a minimization problem in the Tableau form with respect to a basic index set  $B$ . Let  $N$  denote the complementary index set.
2. **Test for termination.** First find (Dantzig rule):  $r_e = \min_{j \in N} \{r_j\}$ .

If  $r_e \geq 0$ , stop. The solution is optimal. Otherwise determine whether the column associated with  $x_e$  contains a positive entry. If not, the objective function is unbounded below. Terminate.

3. **Ratio Test.** Execute the RT to determine the maximum increase, the pivot row  $o$  and the pivot element.
4. **Pivot step.** Pivoting and updating the Tableau, the indexes of  $B$ . Return to Step 1.

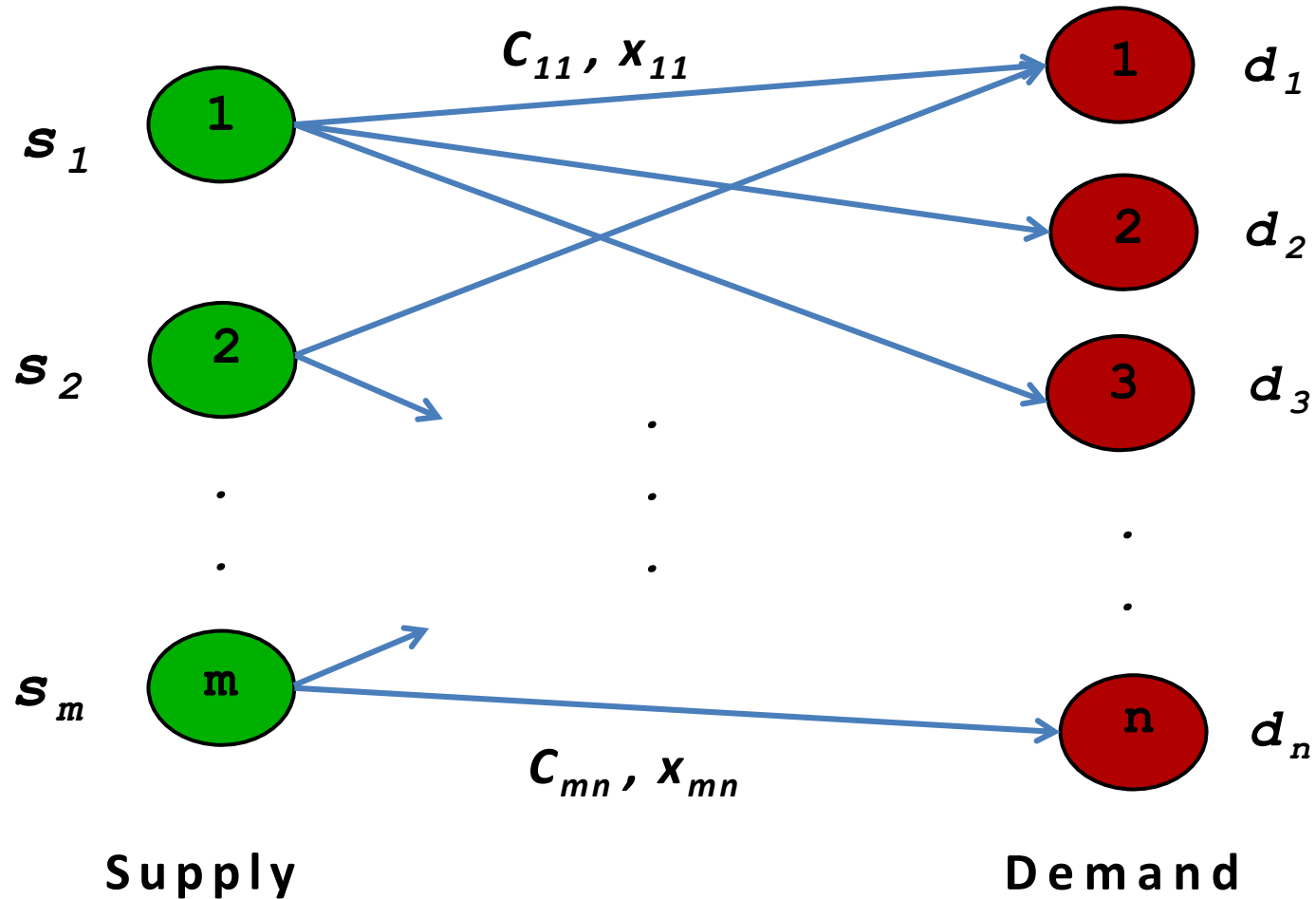
# The Transportation Simplex Method

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} x_{ij} \\ \text{s.t.} & \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} = s_i, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, m \\ & \sum_{i=1}^m x_{ij} = d_j, \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, n \\ & x_{ij} \geq 0, \quad \forall i, j \end{array}$$

Assume that the total supply equal the total demand. Thus, exactly one equality constraint is redundant.

At each step the simplex method attempts to send units along a route that is **unused (non-basic)** in the current BFS, while eliminating one of the routes that is currently being **used (basic)**.

# Transportation and Supply Chain Network



# The Transportation Data Table

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Supply</b>
<b>1</b>	12	13	4	6	500
<b>2</b>	6	4	10	11	700
<b>3</b>	10	9	12	4	800
<b>Demand</b>	400	900	200	500	2000

# Transportation Simplex Method: Phase I

1. Start with the cell in the **northwest corner cell**
2. Allocate as many units as possible, consistent with the **available** supply and demand.
3. Move one cell to **right** if there is remaining supply; otherwise, move one cell **down**.
4. goto Step 2.

				500
				700
				800
400	900	200	500	

# North-West Corner Method: Compute a BFS

400				100
				700
				800
0	900	200	500	

# North-West Corner Method: Compute a BFS

400	100			0
				700
				800
0	800	200	500	



# North-West Corner Method: Compute a BFS

400	100			0
	700			0
				800
0	100	200	500	

# North-West Corner Method: Compute a BFS

400	100			0
	700			0
	100			700
0	0	200	500	

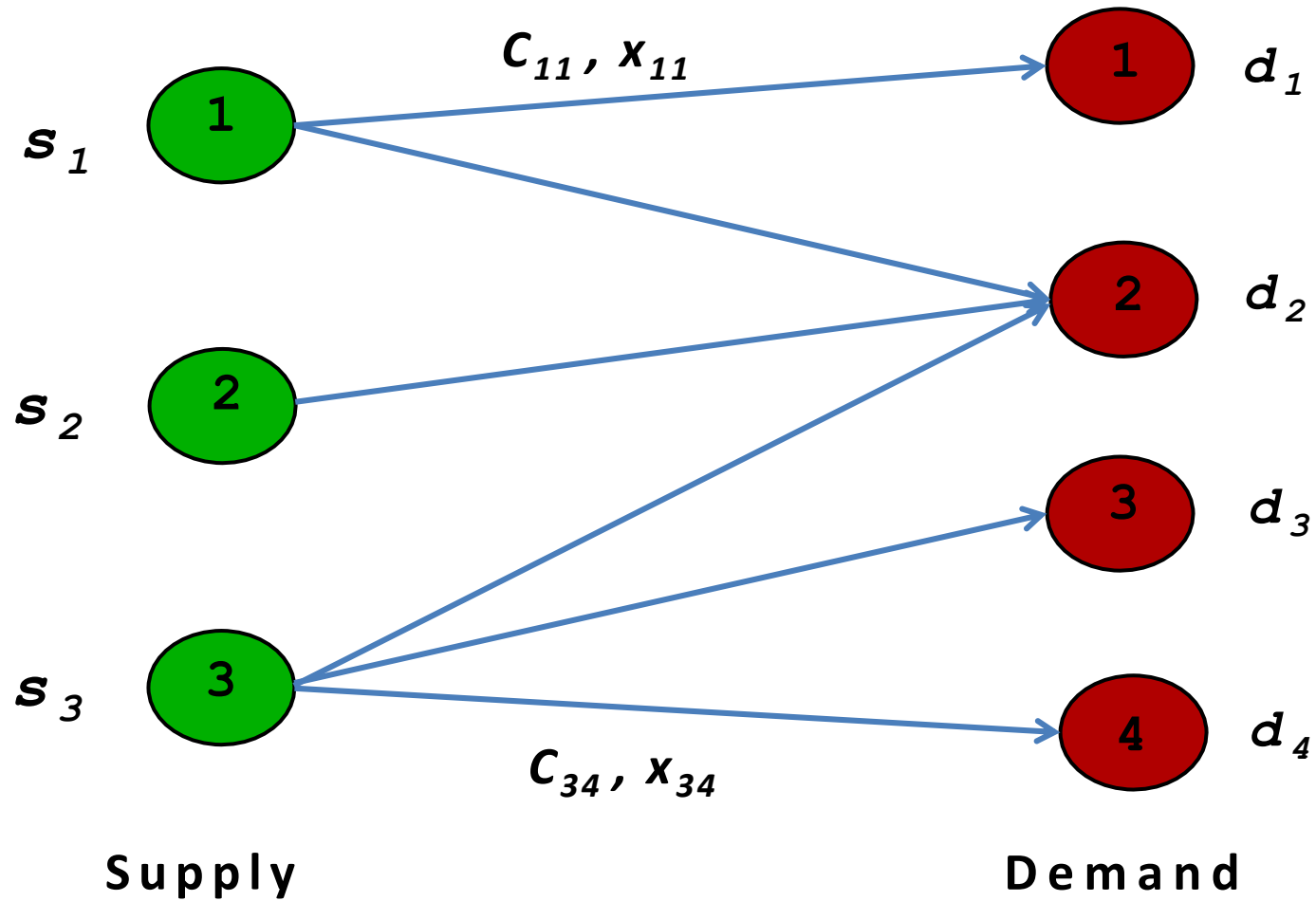
# North-West Corner Method: Compute a BFS

400	100			0
	700			0
	100	200		500
0	0	0	500	

# North-West Corner Method: Compute a BFS

400	100			0
	700			0
	100	200	500	0
0	0	0	0	

# A BFS as a “Tree” Structure in the Network



# (Tailored) Transportation Simplex Method: Phase II

1. Determine the **shadow prices** (for each supply side  $u_i$  and each demand side  $v_j$ ) from every **USED** cell (**basic variable**)

$$\mathbf{y}^T = \mathbf{c}_B^T (A_B)^{-1} \Rightarrow \mathbf{y}^T A_B = \mathbf{c}_B^T \Rightarrow u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$$

One can always set  $v_n = 0$  by viewing the last demand constraint redundant. Then do back-substitution...

# Step 1: Compute Shadow Prices

400 12	100 13			0 $u_1 =$
	700 4			0 $u_2 =$
	100 9	200 12	500 4	0 $u_3 =$
0 $v_1 =$	0 $v_2 =$	0 $v_3 =$	0 $v_4 = 0$	

# Step 1: Compute Shadow Prices

400 12	100 13			0 $u_1 =$
	700 4			0 $u_2 =$
	100 9	200 12	500 4	0 $u_3 = 4$
0 $v_1 =$	0 $v_2 =$	0 $v_3 =$	0 $v_4 = 0$	



# Step 1: Compute Shadow Prices

400 12	100 13			0 $u_1 =$
	700 4			0 $u_2 =$
	100 9	200 12	500 4	0 $u_3 = 4$
0 $v_1 =$	0 $v_2 =$	0 $v_3 = 8$	0 $v_4 = 0$	

# Step 1: Compute Shadow Prices

400 12	100 13			0 $u_1 =$
	700 4			0 $u_2 =$
	100 9	200 12	500 4	0 $u_3 = 4$
0 $v_1 =$	0 $v_2 = 5$	0 $v_3 = 8$	0 $v_4 = 0$	

# Step 1: Compute Shadow Prices

400 12	100 13			0 $u_1 =$
	700 4			0 $u_2 = -1$
	100 9	200 12	500 4	0 $u_3 = 4$
0 $v_1 =$	0 $v_2 = 5$	0 $v_3 = 8$	0 $v_4 = 0$	

# Step 1: Compute Shadow Prices

400 12	100 13			0 $u_1=8$
	700 4			0 $u_2=-1$
	100 9	200 12	500 4	0 $u_3=4$
0 $v_1=$	0 $v_2=5$	0 $v_3=8$	0 $v_4=0$	

# Step 1: Compute Shadow Prices

400 12	100 13			0 $u_1=8$
	700 4			0 $u_2=-1$
	100 9	200 12	500 4	0 $u_3=4$
0 $v_1=4$	0 $v_2=5$	0 $v_3=8$	0 $v_4=0$	

# Transportation Simplex Method: Phase II

1. Determine the **shadow prices** (for each supply side  $u_i$  and each demand side  $v_j$ ) from every **USED** cell (**basic variable**)

$$\mathbf{y}^T = \mathbf{c}_B^T (\mathbf{A}_B)^{-1} \Rightarrow \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{A}_B = \mathbf{c}_B^T \Rightarrow u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$$

One can always set  $v_n = 0$  by viewing the last demand constraint redundant; then do back-substitution...

2. Calculate the **reduced costs** for the **UNUSED** cells (non-basic variable)

$$r_N = \mathbf{c}_N^T - \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{A}_N \Rightarrow r_{ij} = c_{ij} - u_i - v_j$$

If the reduced cost for every unused cell is nonnegative, then STOP: declare **OPTIMAL**

## Step 2: Compute Reduced Costs

400 12	100 13	4	6	500 $u_1=8$
6	700 4	10	11	700 $u_2=-1$
10	100 9	200 12	500 4	800 $u_3=4$
400 $v_1=4$	900 $v_2=5$	200 $v_3=8$	500 $v_4=0$	2000

$$r_{ij} = c_{ij} - u_i - v_j$$

## Step 2: Compute Reduced Costs

400 12   0	100 13   0	4   -12	6   -2	500 $u_1=8$
6   3	700 4   0	10   3	11   12	700 $u_2=-1$
10   2	100 9   0	200 12   0	500 4   0	800 $u_3=4$
400 $v_1=4$	900 $v_2=5$	200 $v_3=8$	500 $v_4=0$	2000

**Reduced costs** are computed in RED



# Transportation Simplex Method: Phase II

1. Determine the **shadow prices** (for each supply side  $u_i$  and each demand side  $v_j$ ) from every **USED** cell (**basic variable**)

$$\mathbf{y}^T = \mathbf{c}^T_B (\mathbf{A}_B)^{-1} \Rightarrow \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{A}_B = \mathbf{c}^T_B \Rightarrow u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$$

One can always set  $v_n = 0$  by viewing the last demand constraint redundant; then do back-substitution...

2. Calculate the **reduced costs** for the **UNUSED** cells (non-basic variable)

$$r_N = \mathbf{c}^T_N - \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{A}_N \Rightarrow r_{ij} = c_{ij} - u_i - v_j$$

If the reduced cost for every unused cell is nonnegative, then STOP: declare **OPTIMAL**

3. Select an unused cell with the **most negative** reduced cost as **in-coming**. Using a **chain-reaction-cycle**, determine the **max** units ( $\alpha$ ) that can be allocated to the in-coming cell and adjust the allocation appropriately. Update the values of the **new set of USED (basic)** cells (a new BFS).

## Step 3: Chain Reaction Cycle

400	100	$+\alpha$		0
	700			0
	100	200 $-\alpha$	500	0
0	0	0	0	

## Step 3: Chain Reaction Cycle

400	100	$+\alpha$		0
	700			0
	100 $+\alpha$	200 $-\alpha$	500	0
0	0	0	0	

## Step 3: Chain Reaction Cycle

400	100 $-\alpha$	$+\alpha$		0
	700			0
	100 $+\alpha$	200 $-\alpha$	500	0
0	0	0	0	

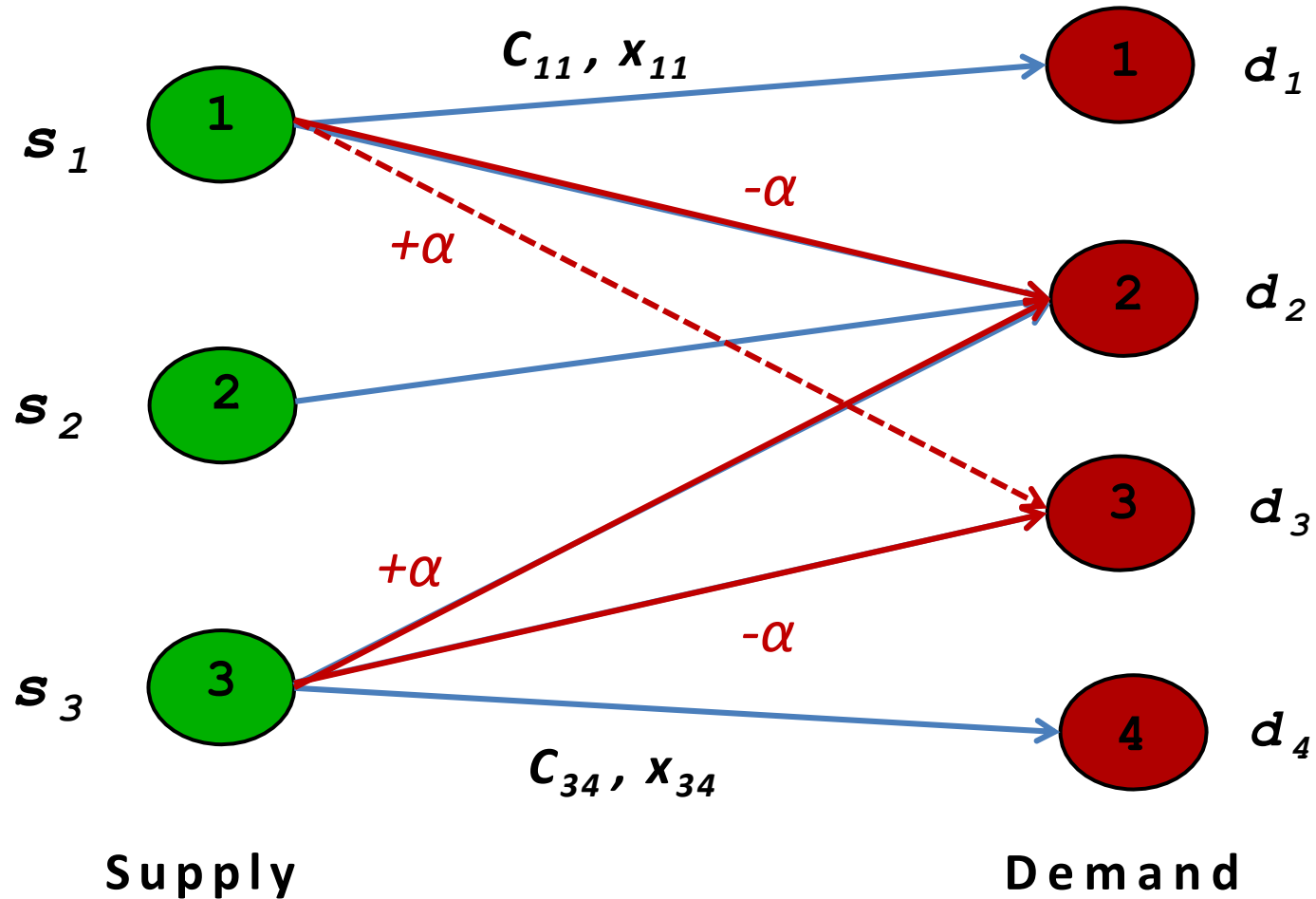
$$\alpha = 100$$

## Step 3: Chain Reaction Cycle

400	100 $13 - \alpha$	$4 + \alpha$		0
	700			0
	100 $9 + \alpha$	200 $12 - \alpha$	500	0
0	0	0	0	

$\alpha = 100$ , and the cost is reduced by 1200

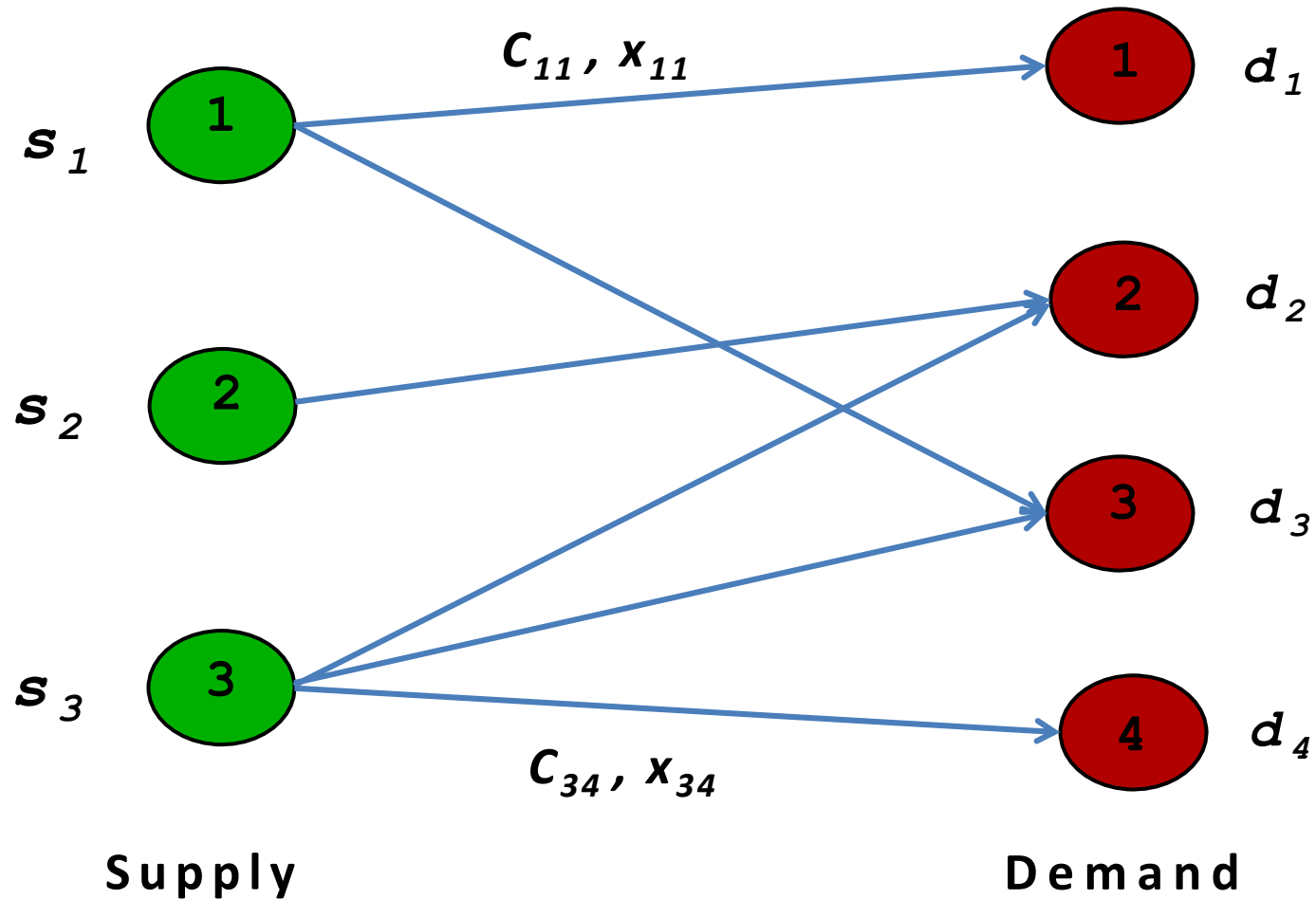
# Find the Cycle on the “Tree” Structure



## Step 3: Update to the New BFS

400		100		0
	700			0
	200	100	500	0
0	0	0	0	

# A New “Tree” Structure in the Network: Repeat the Procedure





# Transportation Simplex Method: Phase II

1. Determine the **shadow prices** (for each supply side  $u_i$  and each demand side  $v_j$ ) from every **USED** cell (basic variable)

$$\mathbf{y}^T = \mathbf{c}^T_B (\mathbf{A}_B)^{-1} \Rightarrow \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{A}_B = \mathbf{c}^T_B \Rightarrow u_i + v_j = c_{ij}$$

One can always set  $v_n = 0$  by viewing the last demand constraint redundant; then do back-substitution...

2. Calculate the **reduced costs** for the **UNUSED** cells (non-basic variable)

$$r_N = \mathbf{c}^T_N - \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{A}_N \Rightarrow r_{ij} = c_{ij} - u_i - v_j$$

If the reduced cost for every unused cell is nonnegative, then STOP: declare **OPTIMAL**

3. Select an unused cell with the **most negative** reduced cost as **in-coming**. Using the **minRT**, **chain-reaction-cycle**, determine the **max** units ( $\alpha$ ) that can be allocated to the in-coming cell and adjust the allocation appropriately. Update the values of the **new set of USED (basic)** cells (a new BFS).

Go to Step 1