

Addendum

In reference to the Note, "Use of the Simplex Method in Nonlinear Programming for Duct Layout Design," by Brent L. Marsh and Frederick A. Costello (Vol. 9, No. 2, April 1972):

In a personal communication, John Freidenfelds of Bell Telephone Laboratories has constructed an example in which the local, rather than global, minimum is obtained. In this example, each path has a significantly different cost function which is piecewise continuous with large slope for small flows and very small or zero slope for larger flows. The cost function used by the authors, which is representative of actual ducts, is continuous and monotonically increasing. Although the global minimum was obtained in the cases tried by the authors, it is recognized that in the most general case, convergence to a local minimum only can be proved.