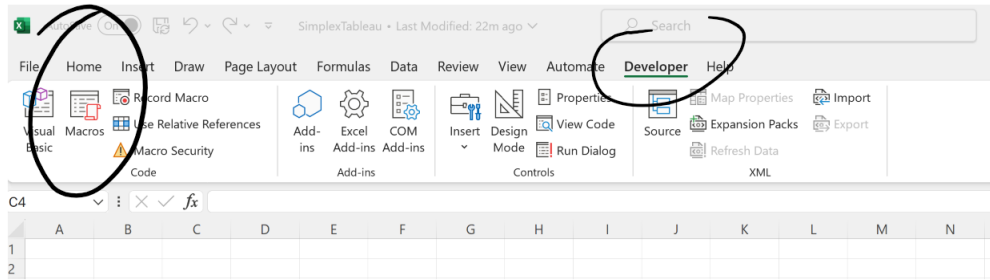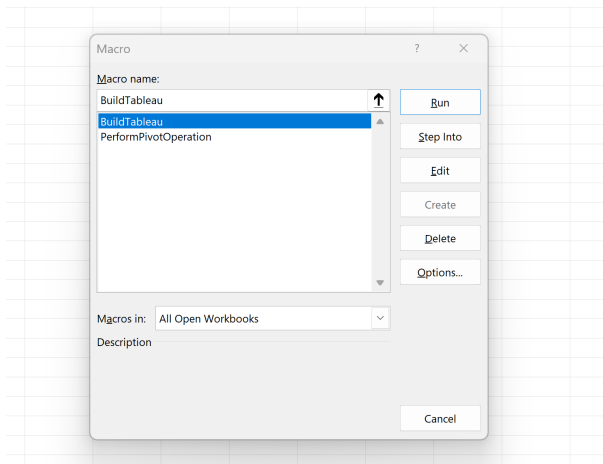# Getting Started With Simplex Excel Programs

The Tableau and Matrix Simplex programs use macros in excel, which require a little bit of setup if you haven't used them before. To get started, follow these steps.

- If you have not already done so, you will need to "show the developer tab" in excel before you can use the Simplex programs. You should only need to do this once. See here:

  `https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/show-the-developer-tab-e1192344-5e56-4d45-931b-e5fd9bea2d45`

- Download the Tableau Simplex and Matrix Simplex .xlsm files and save them locally. The following directions reference the Tableau Simplex program; running the Matrix Simplex program is similar.

- When you open the Tableau Simplex file you should see a message asking to enable macros and you need to do so.

- To run the program, click on the "Developer" tab, then click on "Macros":

- To input an initial tableau, highlight "Build Tableau" and click "Run":

- You will be asked to input the number of decision variables and constraints; the program builds an initial tableau for a standard form maximization problem with slack variables included. You should then change the entries corresponding to your initial tableau. Below is an example of an initial tableau with 2 decision variables and 3 constraints:

- To perform a pivot, go to the cell where you want to pivot and click the "Pivot At Current Cell" button. You can continue pivoting on the resulting tableau in the same manner. To start over you can simply delete all data on the sheet and click on "Build Tableau" again.