Brewery Problem

Brewery brews ale and beer.

- Production limited by supply of corn, hops and barley malt
- Recipes for ale and beer require different amounts of resources

	Corn (kg)	*Hops (kg)*	*Malt (kg)*	*Profit (€)*
ale (barrel)	5	4	35	13
beer (barrel)	15	4	20	23
supply	480	160	1190	

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How can brewer maximize profits?

- only brew ale: 34 barrels of ale
- only brew beer: 32 barrels of beer
- 7.5 barrels ale, 29.5 barrels beer
- 12 barrels ale, 28 barrels beer

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How can brewer maximize profits?

- only brew ale: 34 barrels of ale $\Longrightarrow$ 442 €
- only brew beer: 32 barrels of beer $\Longrightarrow$ 736 €
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Brewery Problem

Linear Program

- Introduce variables a and b that define how much ale and beer to produce.
- Choose the variables in such a way that the objective function (profit) is maximized.
- Make sure that no constraints (due to limited supply) are violated.

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Standard Form LPs

LP in standard form:

- input: numbers a_{ij}, c_j, b_i
- output: numbers x_j
- n = #decision variables, m = #constraints
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Add a slack variable to every constraint.

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It is easy to transform variants of LPs into (any) standard form:

- less or equal to equality:

- greater or equal to equality:

- min to max:

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It is easy to transform variants of LPs into (any) standard form:

- **less or equal to equality:**

$$a - 3b + 5c \le 12 \implies \begin{aligned} a - 3b + 5c + s &= 12 \\ s &\ge 0 \end{aligned}$$

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Observations:

- a linear program does not contain x^2, $\cos(x)$, etc.
- transformations between standard forms can be done efficiently and only change the size of the LP by a small constant factor
- for the standard minimization or maximization LPs we could include the nonnegativity constraints into the set of ordinary constraints; this is of course not possible for the standard form

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Fundamental Questions

Definition 1 (Linear Programming Problem (LP))

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Questions:

- Is LP in NP?
- Is LP in co-NP?
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Input size:

- n number of variables, m constraints, L number of bits to encode the input

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Let $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$, $b \in \mathbb{Q}^m$, $c \in \mathbb{Q}^n$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$. Does there exist $x \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ s.t. $Ax = b$, $x \geq 0$, $c^T x \geq \alpha$?

Questions:

- Is LP in NP?
- Is LP in co-NP?
- Is LP in P?

Input size:

- n number of variables, m constraints, L number of bits to encode the input

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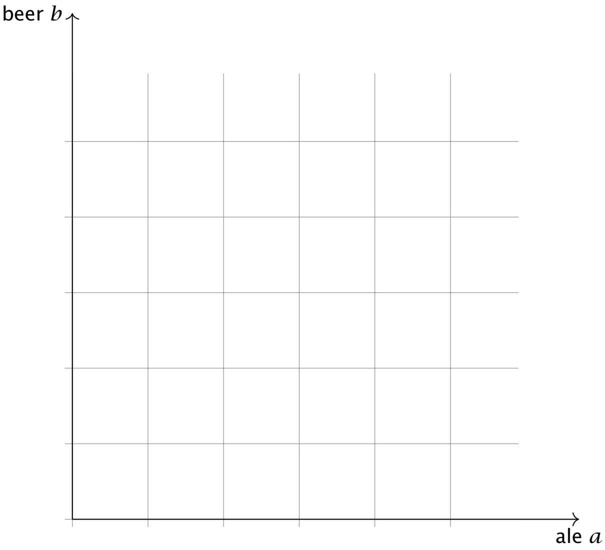
Geometry of Linear Programming



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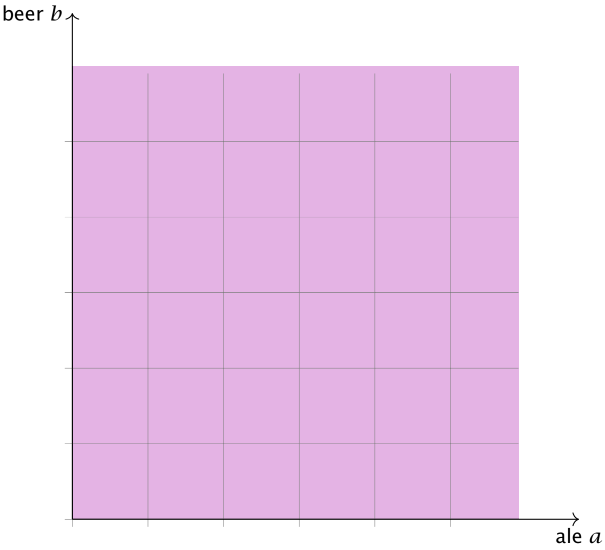

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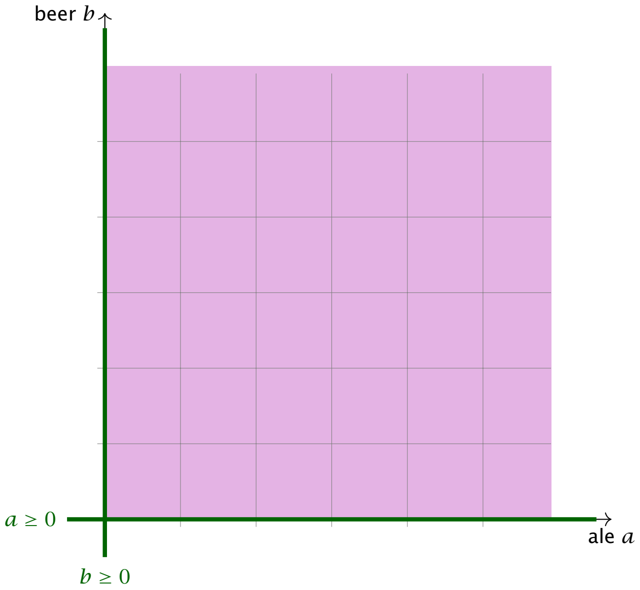

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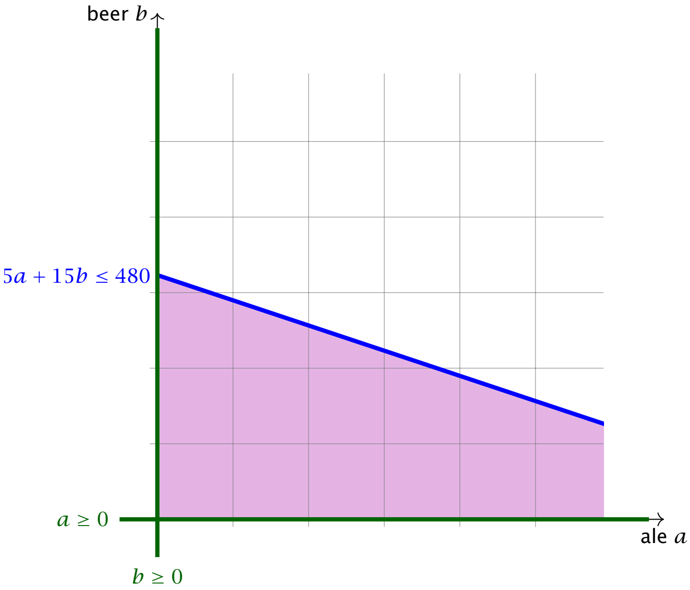

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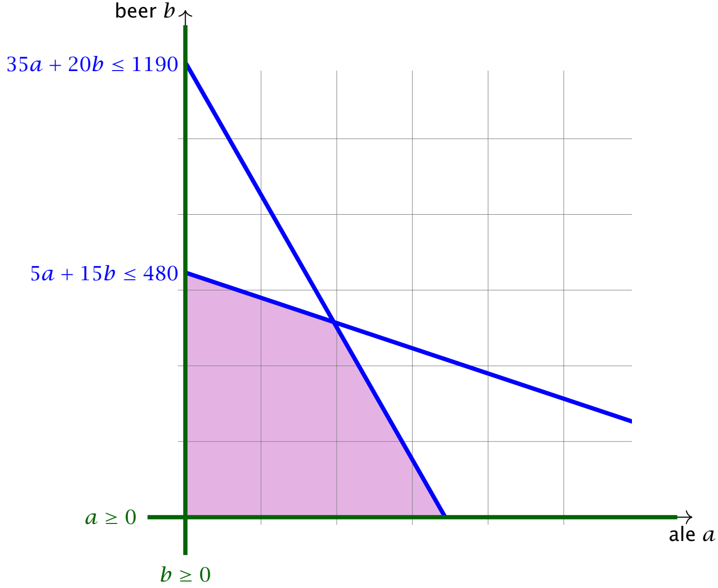

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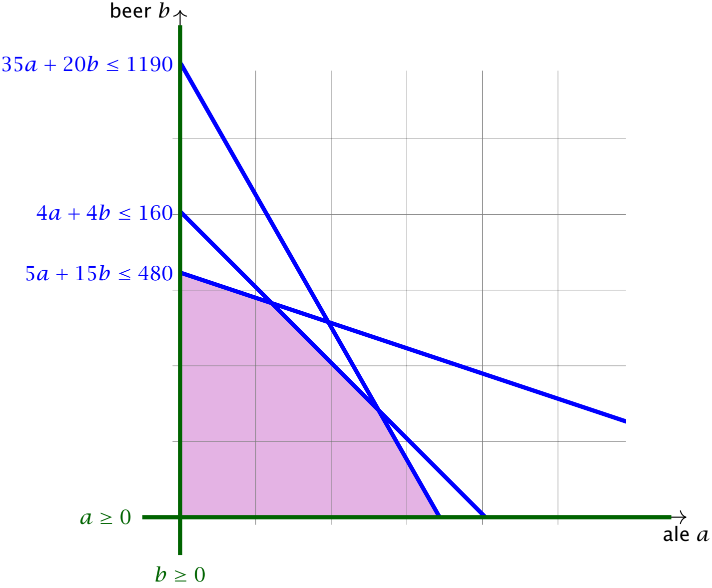

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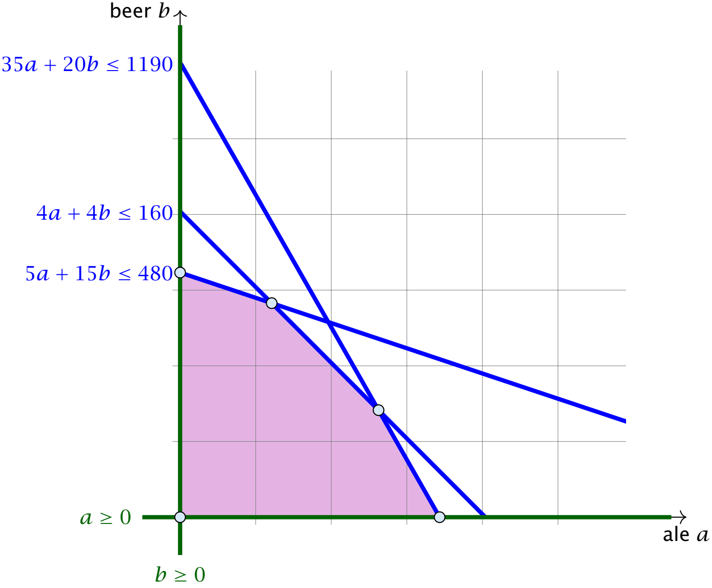

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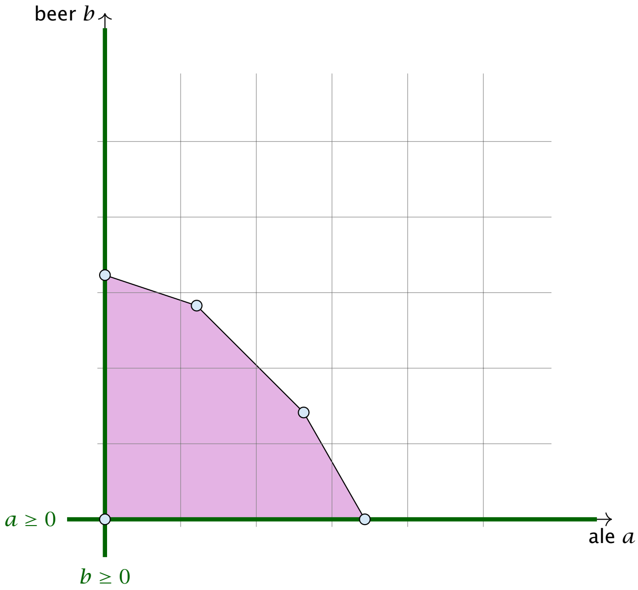

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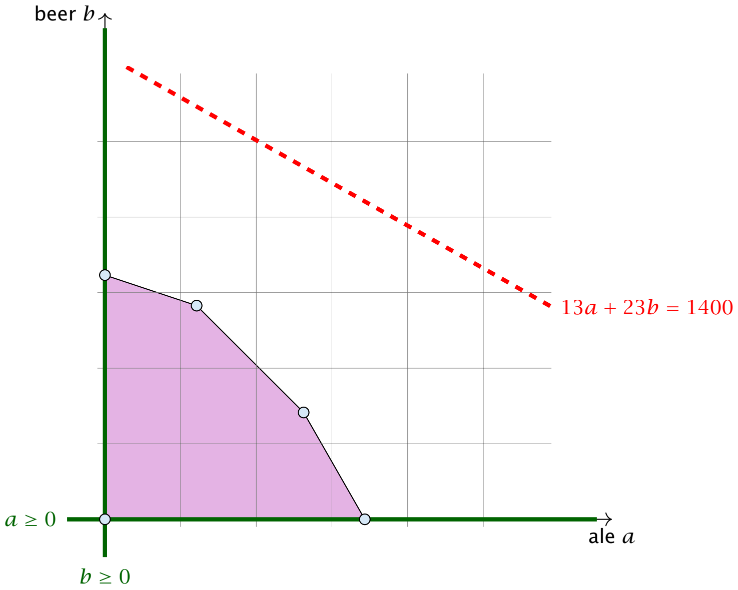

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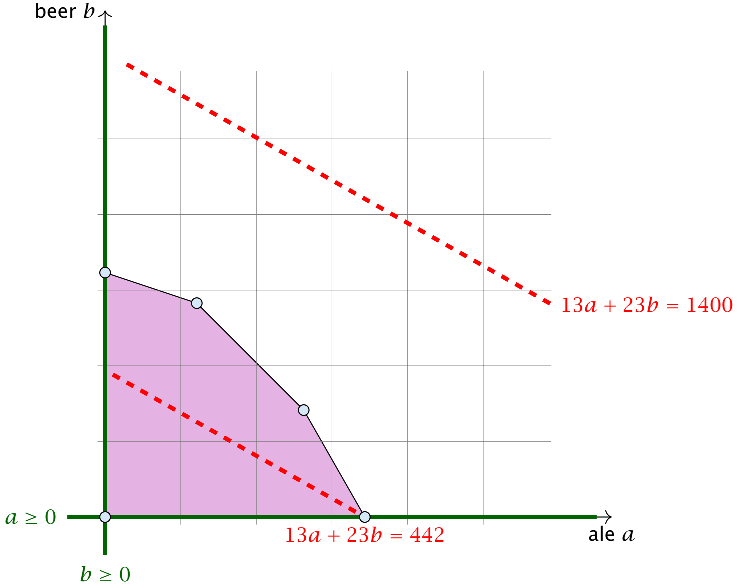

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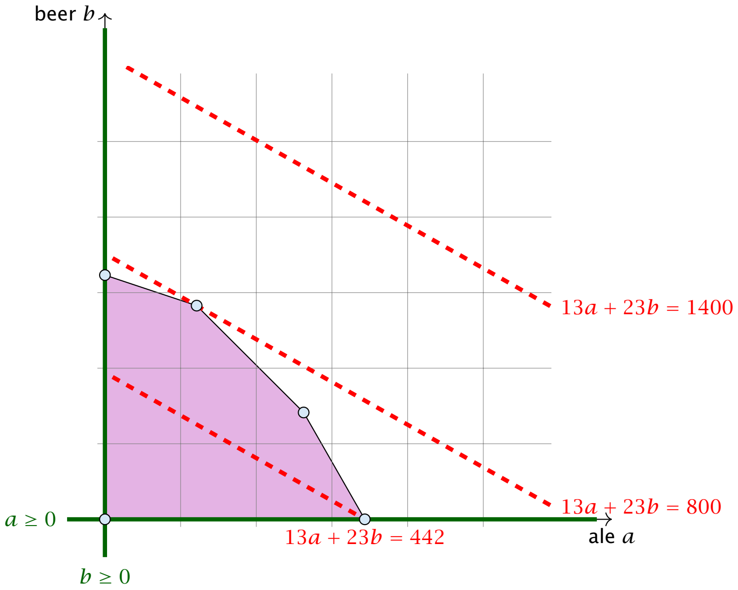

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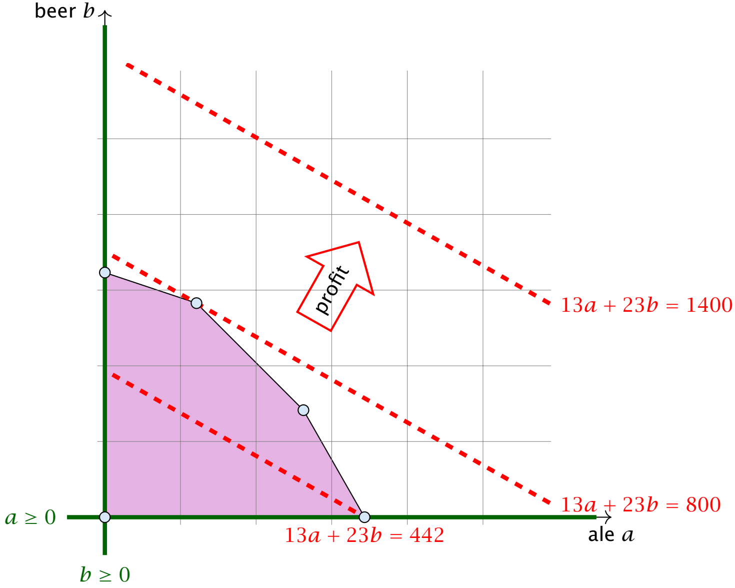
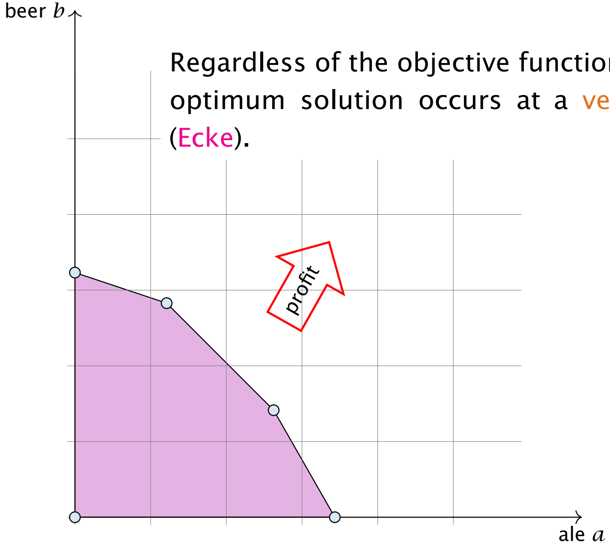


Geometry of Linear Programming

Regardless of the objective function an optimum solution occurs at a vertex (Ecke).



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Definition 2

Given vectors/points $x_1, \ldots, x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\sum \lambda_i x_i$ is called

- linear combination if $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$.
- affine combination if $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sum_i \lambda_i = 1$.
- convex combination if $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sum_i \lambda_i = 1$ and $\lambda_i \geq 0$.
- conic combination if $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\lambda_i \geq 0$.

Note that a combination involves only finitely many vectors.

Definition 3

A set $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is called

- a linear subspace if it is closed under linear combinations.
- an affine subspace if it is closed under affine combinations.
- convex if it is closed under convex combinations.
- a convex cone if it is closed under conic combinations.

Note that an affine subspace is **not** a vector space

Definition 4
Given a set $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$.

- $\mathrm{span}(X)$ is the set of all linear combinations of X (linear hull, span)
- $\mathrm{aff}(X)$ is the set of all affine combinations of X (affine hull)
- $\mathrm{conv}(X)$ is the set of all convex combinations of X (convex hull)
- $\mathrm{cone}(X)$ is the set of all conic combinations of X (conic hull)

Definition 5

A function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is convex if for $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ we have

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y)$$

Lemma 6

If $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, and $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ convex then also

$$Q = \{x \in P \mid f(x) \leq t\}$$

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Dimensions

Definition 7
The dimension $\dim(A)$ of an affine subspace $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is the dimension of the vector space $\{x - a \mid x \in A\}$, where $a \in A$.

Definition 8
The dimension $\dim(X)$ of a convex set $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is the dimension of its affine hull $\mathrm{aff}(X)$.

Definition 9

A set $H \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is a hyperplane if $H = \{x \mid a^T x = b\}$, for $a \neq 0$.

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A set $H' \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is a (closed) halfspace if $H = \{x \mid a^T x \leq b\}$, for $a \neq 0$.

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Definition 11

A polytop is a set $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ that is the convex hull of a finite set of points, i.e., $P = \text{conv}(X)$ where $|X| = c$.

Definitions

Definition 12
A polyhedron is a set $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ that can be represented as the intersection of finitely many half-spaces $\{H(a_1, b_1), \ldots, H(a_m, b_m)\}$, where

$$H(a_i, b_i) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid a_i x \leq b_i\} \ .$$

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A polyhedron P is bounded if there exists B s.t. $\|x\|_2 \leq B$ for all $x \in P$.

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Definitions

Theorem 14

P is a bounded polyhedron iff P is a polytop.

Definition 15

Let $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}$. The hyperplane

$$H(a,b) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid a^T x = b\}$$

is a supporting hyperplane of P if $\max\{a^T x \mid x \in P\} = b$.

Definition 16

Let $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$. F is a face of P if $F = P$ or $F = P \cap H$ for some supporting hyperplane H.

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Let $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$.

- a face v is a vertex of P if $\{v\}$ is a face of P.
- a face e is an edge of P if e is a face and $\dim(e) = 1$.
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Equivalent definition for vertex:

Definition 18

Given polyhedron P. A point $x \in P$ is a vertex if $\exists c \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $c^T y < c^T x$, for all $y \in P$, $y \neq x$.

Definition 19

Given polyhedron P. A point $x \in P$ is an extreme point if $\nexists a, b \neq x$, $a, b \in P$, with $\lambda a + (1-\lambda) b = x$ for $\lambda \in [0,1]$.

Lemma 20

A vertex is also an extreme point.

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Observation

The feasible region of an LP is a Polyhedron.

Convex Sets

Theorem 21

If there exists an optimal solution to an LP (in standard form) then there exists an optimum solution that is an extreme point.

Proof

- suppose x is optimal solution that is not extreme point
- there exists direction $d \neq 0$ such that $x \pm d \in P$
- $Ad = 0$ because $A(x \pm d) = b$
- Wlog. assume $c^T d \geq 0$ (by taking either d or $-d$)
- Consider $x + \lambda d$, $\lambda > 0$

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- increase λ to λ' until first component of $x + \lambda d$ hits 0
- $x + \lambda' d$ is feasible. Since $A(x + \lambda' d) = b$ and $x + \lambda' d \geq 0$
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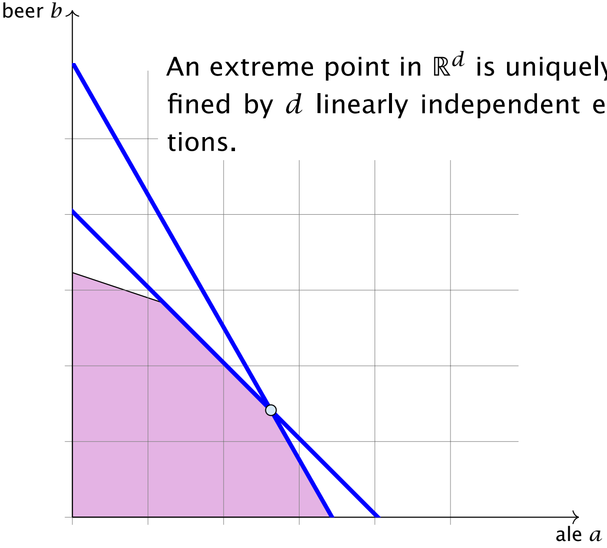
Algebraic View



An extreme point in $\mathbb{R}^d$ is uniquely defined by d linearly independent equations.

Notation

Suppose $B \subseteq \{1 \ldots n\}$ is a set of column-indices. Define A_B as the subset of columns of A indexed by B.

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Let $P = \{x \mid Ax = b, x \geq 0\}$. For $x \in P$, define $B = \{j \mid x_j > 0\}$. Then x is extreme point ***iff*** *A_B has linearly independent columns.*

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- assume x is not extreme point
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- $A_{B'}$ has linearly dependent columns as $Ad = 0$
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Let $P = \{x \mid Ax = b, x \geq 0\}$. For $x \in P$, define $B = \{j \mid x_j > 0\}$. If A_B has linearly independent columns then x is a vertex of P.

- define $c_j = \begin{cases} 0 & j \in B \\ -1 & j \notin B \end{cases}$
- then $c^T x = 0$ and $c^T y \leq 0$ for $y \in P$
- assume $c^T y = 0$; then $y_j = 0$ for all $j \notin B$
- $b = Ay = A_B y_B = Ax = A_B x_B$ gives that $A_B(x_B - y_B) = 0$;
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$$A_1 x = \sum_{i=2}^{m} \lambda_i \cdot A_i x = \sum_{i=2}^{m} \lambda_i \cdot b_i \neq b_1$$

Observation

For an LP we can assume wlog. that the matrix A has full row-rank. This means $\text{rank}(A) = m$.

- assume that $\text{rank}(A) < m$
- assume wlog. that the first row A_1 lies in the span of the other rows $A_2, \ldots, A_m$; this means

$$A_1 = \sum_{i=2}^{m} \lambda_i \cdot A_i, \text{ for suitable } \lambda_i$$

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From now on we will always assume that the constraint matrix of a standard form LP has full row rank.

Theorem 24

Given $P = \{x \mid Ax = b, x \geq 0\}$. x is extreme point iff there exists $B \subseteq \{1, \ldots, n\}$ with $|B| = m$ and

- A_B is non-singular
- $x_B = A_B^{-1} b \geq 0$
- $x_N = 0$

where $N = \{1, \ldots, n\} \setminus B$.

Proof

Take $B = \{j \mid x_j > 0\}$ and augment with linearly independent columns until $|B| = m$; always possible since $\mathrm{rank}(A) = m$.

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Basic Feasible Solutions

$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is called basic solution (Basislösung) if $Ax = b$ and $\operatorname{rank}(A_J) = |J|$ where $J = \{j \mid x_j \neq 0\}$;

x is a basic **feasible** solution (gültige Basislösung) if in addition $x \geq 0$.

A basis (Basis) is an index set $B \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ with $\operatorname{rank}(A_B) = m$ and $|B| = m$.

$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $A_B x_B = b$ and $x_j = 0$ for all $j \notin B$ is the basic solution associated to basis B (die zu B assoziierte Basislösung)

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Basic Feasible Solutions

A BFS fulfills the m equality constraints.

In addition, at least $n - m$ of the x_i's are zero. The corresponding non-negativity constraint is fulfilled with equality.

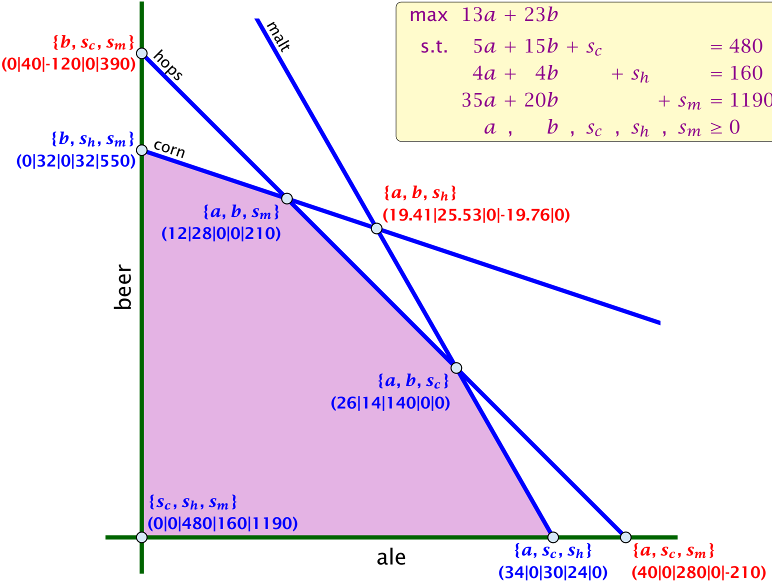
Fact:
In a BFS at least n constraints are fulfilled with equality.

Basic Feasible Solutions

Definition 25
For a general LP ($\max\{c^Tx \mid Ax \le b\}$) with n variables a point x is a basic feasible solution if x is feasible and there exist n (linearly independent) constraints that are tight.

Algebraic View

$$\begin{array}{llllllll} \max & 13a + 23b \\ \text{s.t.} & 5a + 15b + s_c & & & = 480 \\ & 4a + 4b & + s_h & & = 160 \\ & 35a + 20b & & + s_m & = 1190 \\ & a \ , \ b \ , \ s_c \ , \ s_h \ , \ s_m \geq 0 \end{array}$$



Fundamental Questions

Linear Programming Problem (LP)

Let $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$, $b \in \mathbb{Q}^m$, $c \in \mathbb{Q}^n$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$. Does there exist $x \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ s.t. $Ax = b$, $x \geq 0$, $c^T x \geq \alpha$?

Questions:

- Is LP in NP? yes!
- Is LP in co-NP?
- Is LP in P?

Proof:

- Given a basis B we can compute the associated basis solution by calculating $A_B^{-1} b$ in polynomial time; then we can also compute the profit.

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Proof:

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Observation

We can compute an optimal solution to a linear program in time $\mathcal{O}\left(\binom{n}{m}\cdot\text{poly}(n,m)\right)$.

- there are only $\binom{n}{m}$ different bases.
- compute the profit of each of them and take the maximum

What happens if LP is unbounded?