

Geometrical characterization of linear programming. (Intro to polyhedral theory)

Linear comb: A point $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is said to be a linear combination of the points x and y if $z = \lambda x + \mu y$, $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$.

Defs: Subspace:

A set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is called a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n if every linear combination of points in S is also in S .
 Linear indep: $\sum \lambda_i a_i = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_i = 0$

Affine sets:

A point $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is an affine comb. of x and y if $z = \lambda x + (1-\lambda)y$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

A set $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is affine if every affine combination of points in M is also in M .

Half spaces:

$\{x : a^T x \geq \alpha\}$ is a half space

Hyperplane:

$\{x : a^T x = \alpha\}$ is a hyperplane. NB: this is an affine set.
 $= \{x : a^T x \leq \alpha\} \cap \{x : a^T x \geq \alpha\}$

Polyhedron:

~~the~~ ^{finite} Intersection of half spaces.

Feasible region to an LP is a polyhedron.

Faces of a polyhedron: (Do after dimension).

Consider polyhedron P , hyperplane $H \equiv \{x \cdot a^T x = \alpha\}$.

~~If $a^T x \geq \alpha \forall x \in P$~~

Let $Q = P \cap H$. Q is a polyhedron.

If $a^T x \geq \alpha \forall x \in P$ (or $a^T x \leq \alpha \forall x \in P$) then Q is a face of P .

Dimension of a polyhedron:

Dimension of subspace = max no. of lin. indep. vectors in it.

Every affine space is a translation of a subspace. (unique).

Dimension of affine space is dimension of the corresp. subspace. (unique)

Dimension of a polyhedron is the dimension of the smallest affine space containing it eg:

Then: Let P have dimension d .

Face of dim $d-1$ is a facet

Face of dim 1 is an edge

0 vertex. (or extreme point)

TLMVertices \leftrightarrow bfs.Adjacent vertices \leftrightarrow adjacent bfs.
(provided $B^{-1}b > 0$)

POLYEDRAL THEORY AND CUTTING PLANE METHODS

(NS I.4, II.1, II.2, I.4)

~~For~~ IP, typically have a set of points

Would like to find a linear inequality description of the form $Ax \leq b$

for an IP. ~~to be able to solve it by simple linear programming~~

IP has, eg, set of feasible $S = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n : Ax \leq b\}$

In order to get some understanding of what form this linear description would take, we look at polyhedral theory. Do pages 98-102 first.

Recall: Affine set $\Pi = \{x, y \in \Pi, \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \lambda x + (1-\lambda)y \in \Pi\}$

y_1 aff indep $\iff y_2 - y_1, \dots, y_n - y_1$ lin indep.

Conv polyhedron P , subset $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$,

dimension of $S =$ dimension of smallest affine set containing it

Dimension of affine set = max # aff indep pts in the set \implies 1. Full-dimensional dimension $= n$

Polyhedron: $P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$ (A, b) $n \times (n+1)$ matrix.

Prop If $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ $Ax \leq b \neq \emptyset$, the maximum number of aff indep solns of $Ax \leq b$ is $\text{rank}(A)$.

Throughout, will assume P is rational i.e. it can be represented above with (A, b) rational. Also assume P is convex as $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$. (A, b) rational.

Let a_i be i th row of A .

Refer to p. 102

Polyhedral ties between linear and integer programming

Because of this,
if P is nonempty it
has extreme points.

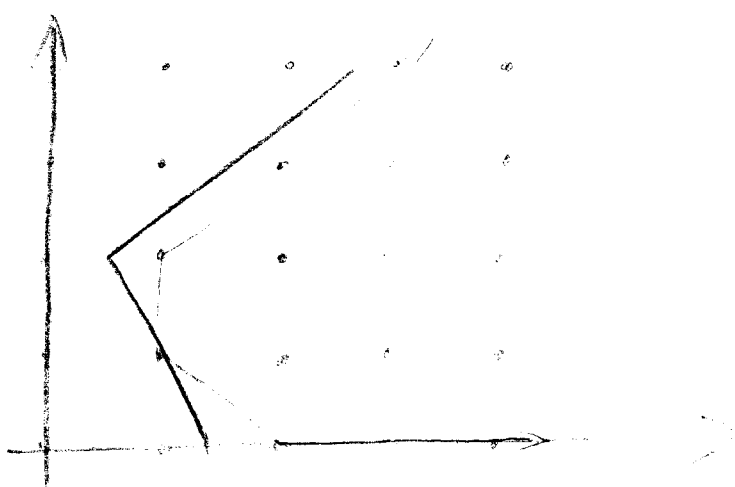
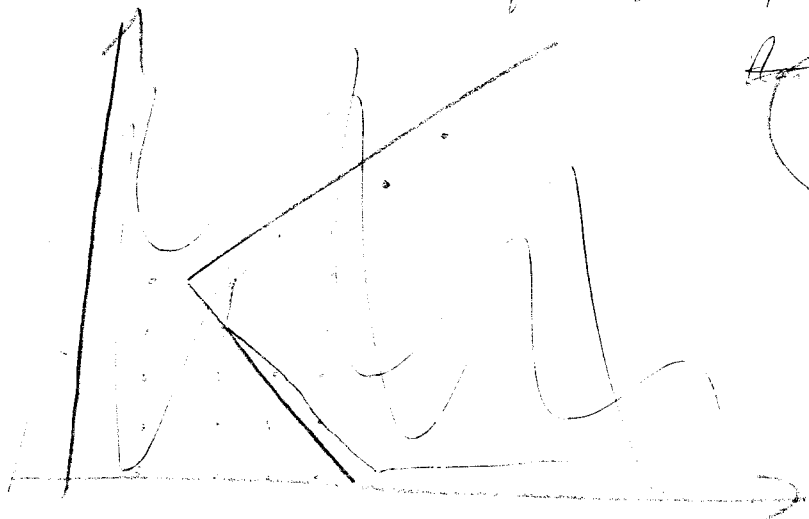
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } S &= \{x \in \mathbb{Z}^n : Ax \leq b, x \geq 0\} \\ &= \mathbb{Z}^n \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^n : Ax \leq b\} = \mathbb{Z}^n \cap P \quad \text{! rational polyhedron.} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem The convex hull of S is a polyhedron

Proof See NWL // Obvious if S is finite

If $\#P < \infty$ unbounded, can show $\text{conv}(S)$ can be generated from a finite # points and rays.

Ans Extreme rays of $\text{conv}(S)$ are extreme rays of P .



Define:

$$(IP) \quad \max \{c^T x : x \in S\} \quad \text{where } S = P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$$

$$P = \{x : Ax \leq b, x \geq 0\}$$

$$(CIP) \quad \max \{c^T x : x \in \text{conv}(S)\}$$

Theorem Given $S = P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n \neq \emptyset$, $P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$ and any $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$, it follows that

(a) The objective value of IP is unbounded from above if and only if the objective value of CIP is unbounded from above.

(b) If CIP has a bounded optimal value, then it has an optimal solution (namely, an extreme point of $\text{conv}(S)$) that is an optimal solution to IP.

(c) If x^0 is an optimal solution to IP then x^0 is an optimal solution to CIP.

Proof Let z^0, z^* be optimal values of IP, CIP respectively.

$$S \subseteq \text{conv}(S) \Rightarrow z^0 \leq z^* \quad (*)$$

(a) (*) implies if $z^0 = \infty$ then $z^* = \infty$.

Conversely, if $z^* = \infty$ then there is an extreme ray r with $c^T r > 0$ and x^0 extreme. Then $x^0 + \theta r \in \text{conv}(S)$, and for appropriate choice of θ , $x^0 + \theta r \in S$.

Since r is extreme it is rational. \square

(b) Since $\text{conv}(S)$ is polyhedron, if CIP has an optimal solution, it has an extreme optimal soln, say x^0 . Then $x^0 \in S$, so $z^0 \geq c^T x^0 = z^*$. By (*), $z^0 = z^*$.

c) Follow from a) and b), since $x_0 \in \text{conv}(S)$.

Corollary IP is either infeasible or unbounded or has an optimal solution.

Then we can solve IP by solving the linear program (LP).

Problem: generally we do not know a set of linear inequalities that define $\text{conv}(S)$

So approximate IP by using some polyhedron $P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$ such that $S = P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$. Reducing a IP to a LP corresponds to deducing an appropriate set of constraints

a linear inequality representative of $\text{conv}(S)$. Note there are many possible polyhedra P such that $S = P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$.

LP relaxation: IP is $\max \{c^T x : x \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n\}$. $P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^n : Ax \leq b\}$

For the given P ,

Define ~~the~~ LP relaxation of IP:

$$\max \{c^T x : Ax \leq b, x \in \mathbb{R}_+^n\} \quad (LP)$$

~~Let~~

Theorem Let z_{LP} = optimal value of LP
 z_{IP} = ~~optimal value of~~ IP.

a) If $P = \emptyset$ then $S = \emptyset$

b) If z_{LP} is finite then $S = \emptyset$ or z_{IP} is finite. If z_{IP} is finite, $z_{IP} \leq z_{LP}$.

~~c) If $z_{LP} = \infty$, then $S = \emptyset$ or $z_{IP} = \infty$.~~

c) If x^0 is optimal for LP and $x^0 \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n$ then x^0 is optimal for IP.

Proof a) $S \subseteq P$ and $P = \emptyset \Rightarrow S = \emptyset$

b) If z_{LP} is finite:

$S \subseteq P$ and if $S \neq \emptyset$ then $z_{IP} \leq z_{LP}$.

c) $S \subseteq P$ and x^0 is ~~finite~~ as good as any other point in P .
 $\therefore x^0$ is as good as any other point in S . //

Let $M = \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$

$$M^= = \{i \in M : a_i^T x = b_i \quad \forall x \in P\}$$

$$M^< = M \setminus M^= \\ = \{i \in M : a_i^T x < b_i \text{ for some } x \in P\}$$

eg
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 \leq 1 \\ +x_1 + x_2 \leq -1 \\ +x_1 \geq 0 \\ \quad \quad \quad x_2 \geq 0 \\ x_1 - x_2 \leq 1 \end{array} \right\} M^=$$

Use the above definition of $M^=$ and $M^<$ to show that all the vertices of a polyhedron are extreme points.

Defn $x \in P$ is an extreme point of P if $a_i^T x < b_i \quad \forall i \in M^<$

$x \in P$ is an interior point of P if $a_i^T x < b_i \quad \forall i \in M$.

Prop Every nonempty polyhedron has an interior point

Proof Exercise // Take conv convs of ph which satisfy each constraint in $M^<$ strictly.

Assume $P \neq \emptyset$. If $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ then $\dim(P) + \text{rank}(A^=, b^=) = n$.

Proof Since $P \neq \emptyset$, $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A, b) = n - k$, say.

Then \exists local aff only solutions to $A^= x = b^=$.

Let y^1, \dots, y^k denote any such solutions, let \bar{x} be an interior point of P .

Now for ϵ sufficiently small, $\bar{x} + \epsilon y^i$ are aff only pts in P .

$\therefore \dim(P) \geq k$ so $\dim(P) + \text{rank}(A^=, b^=) \geq n$.

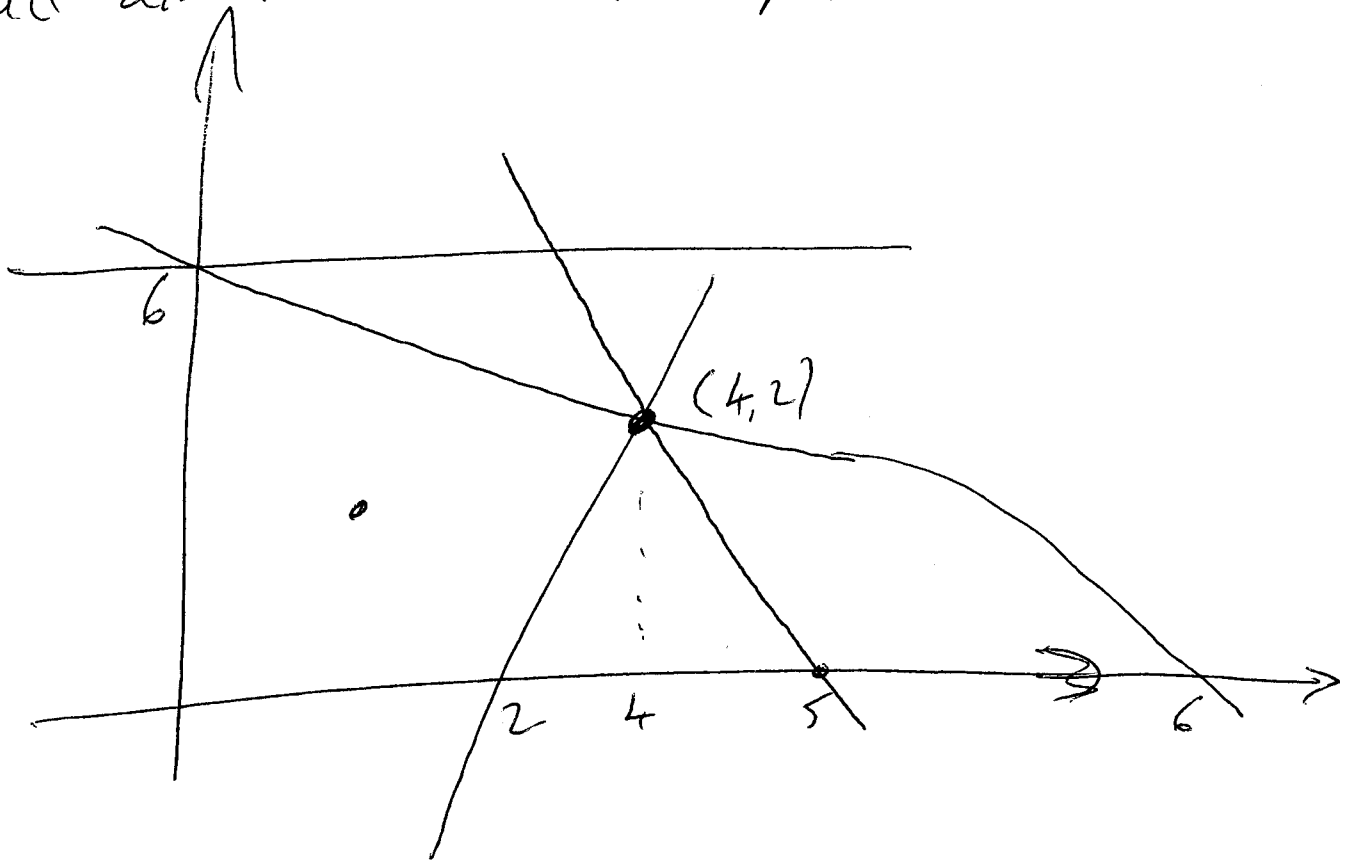
Now suppose $\dim(P) = k$ and x^1, \dots, x^k are aff only pts in P .

Exercise follows from proposition //

So if P is not full dimensional, at least one of inequalities $a_i^T x \leq b_i$ is satisfied as equality by all $x \in P$.

Full dimensional example for page 91:

JF91a.



$$x_1 + x_2 \leq 6$$

$$x_2 \leq 6$$

$$x_1 - x_2 \leq 2$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 10$$

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$x_2 \geq 0$$

Interior point:

$$(1, 3)$$

$$\text{So } \text{rank}(A^{\neq}, b^{\neq}) = 0.$$