

ISE 426

Optimization models and applications

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Introduction

- ▶ What do I expect from this course?
- ▶ Homeworks, TAs (Hiva Ghanbari and Ali Mohammad Nezhad) and lab time.
- ▶ Use of cell phones and laptops.
- ▶ How to take lecture notes.
- ▶ Introductions.
- ▶ A few practical issues.

Evaluation

Homework:	25%	(one every two weeks?)
Quiz #1:	10%	(first part of October)
Quiz #2:	10%	(early November)
Case study:	20%	(assigned in November)
Final exam:	25%	
In-class participation:	10%	

Case studies

- ▶ study an Optimization problem,
- ▶ propose a model, and
- ▶ solve it using a tool¹ of their choice.

¹An optimization tool...

Lecture plan

- ▶ Convexity, relaxations, lower/upper bounds
- ▶ Linear Programming (+ duality)
- ▶ Integer Programming
- ▶ Nonlinear Programming
- ▶ Relaxation and Decomposition
- ▶ Stochastic Programming
- ▶ Robust Optimization
- ▶ Multicriteria Optimization

Material

- ▶ “Introduction to Mathematical Programming: Applications and Algorithms”, Volume 1, by W.L. Winston and M. Venkataramanan;
- ▶ Select chapters of “Introduction to Operations Research” by F.S. Hillier and G.J. Lieberman, McGraw-Hill: New York, NY, 1990;
- ▶ Select chapters of “Operations Research: Applications and Algorithms” by Wayne L. Winston, PWS-Kent Pub. Co., 1991;
- ▶ modeling language: “AMPL: A Modeling Language for Mathematical Programming” by Robert Fourer, David M. Gay, and Brian W. Kernighan.
- ▶ Lecture slides.

Modeling languages

They are similar, and each has its own pros/cons. All have limited version available to students.

Mosel: very nice Graphical User Interface (GUI)

AMPL: preferred. No GUI, but I and TAs know it better (can help) also helps the formulation process.

GAMS: Has version with even nicer GUI (Aimms)

What is optimization?

- ▶ When to use it?
- ▶ What to use it for?
- ▶ How to use it?

Optimization models...

- ▶ Optimization aims at finding the best configuration of processes, systems, products, etc.
- ▶ It relies on a theory developed mostly in the past 50 years
- ▶ Applying Optimization in an industrial, financial, logistic context yields a better use of budget/resources (\$\$\$) or a higher revenue (\$\$\$)

...and applications

Source: <http://www.informs.com>

(see also <http://www.ScienceOfBetter.org>)

yr	company	result
86	Eletrobras (hydroelectric energy)	43M\$ saved
90	Taco Bell (human resources)	7.6M\$ saved
92	Harris semicond. prod. planning	50% → 95% orders “on time”
95	GM – Car Rental	+50M\$
96	HP printers — re-designed prod.	2x production
99	IBM — supply chain	750M\$ saved
00	Syngenta — corn production	5M\$ saved

A few examples from IBM Research

- ▶ Circuit design
- ▶ Sorting facility optimization
- ▶ Limousine driver/fleet optimization

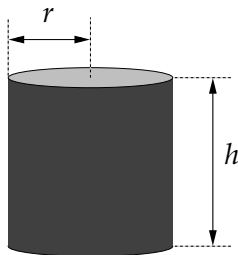
An example

- ▶ You work at a company that sells food in glass containers only. Today, your boss has a bright idea! The **tin can**®. It's a cylinder made of tin.
- ▶ The can must contain $V = 20$ cu.in. (11 fl.oz., 33 cl)
- ▶ Cut and solder tin foil to produce cans
- ▶ Tin (foil) is expensive, use as little as possible

Boss: “What is the ideal can? Tall and thin or short and fat?”

You: A cylinder with volume V using as little tin as possible.

Example



If we knew radius r and height h ,

▶ the volume would be $\pi r^2 h$

▶ qty of tin would be $2\pi r^2 + 2\pi r h$

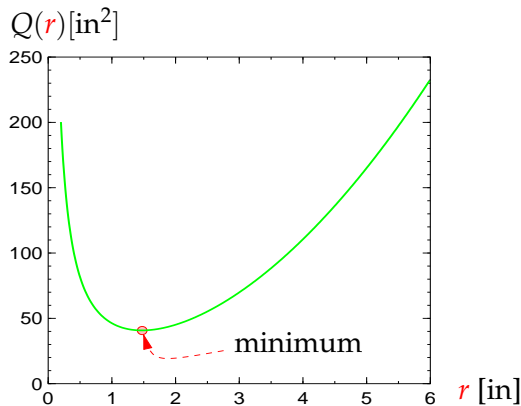
$\pi r^2 h$ must be $V = 20\text{in}^3 \Rightarrow h = \frac{V}{\pi r^2}$

Rewrite the quantity of tin as $Q(r) = 2\pi r^2 + 2\pi r \frac{V}{\pi r^2}$, or

$$Q(r) = 2\pi r^2 + \frac{2V}{r}$$

⇒ Find the minimum of $Q(r)$!

Minimize the quantity of tin



$$r = \boxed{1.471 \text{ in}}$$

$$h = \frac{V}{\pi(1.471)^2} = 2.942 \text{ in}$$

Aims of this course

- ▶ model Optimization problems
- ▶ so that they can be solved
- ▶ learn a modeling language
- ▶ apply modeling languages to real-world problems

Your first Optimization model

Variables	r : radius of the can's base h : height of the can
Objective	$2\pi rh + 2\pi r^2$ (minimize)
Constraints	$\pi r^2 h = V$

Your first Optimization model

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Constraints	$\pi r^2 h = V$ $h > 0$ $r > 0$

Optimization Models, in general, have:

Variables: Height and radius, number of trucks, ... The *unknown* (and desired) part of the problem (one thing your boss cares about).

Constraints: Physical, explicit ($V = 20\text{in}^3$), imposed by law, budget limits... They define all and only values of the variables that give possible solutions.

Objective function: what the boss really cares about. Quantity of tin, total cost of trucks, total estimated revenue, ... a function of the **variables**

The general optimization problem

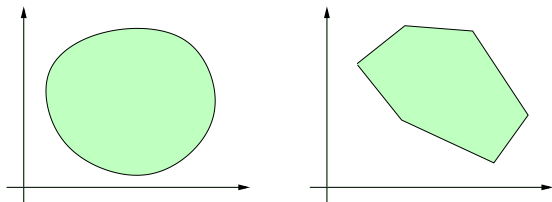
Consider a vector $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ of variables.

An optimization problem can be expressed as:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{P} : & \text{minimize } f_0(x) \\ & \text{such that } f_1(x) \leq b_1 \\ & \phantom{\text{such that }} f_2(x) \leq b_2 \\ & \phantom{\text{such that }} \vdots \\ & \phantom{\text{such that }} f_m(x) \leq b_m \end{array}$$

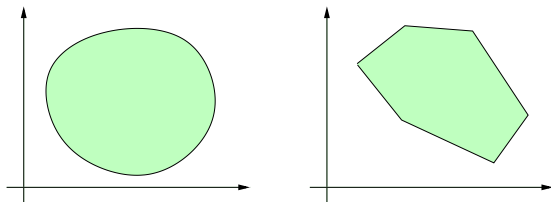
Convexity

Convex sets



Def.: A set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is **convex** if any two points x' and x'' of S are joined by a segment **entirely** contained in S :

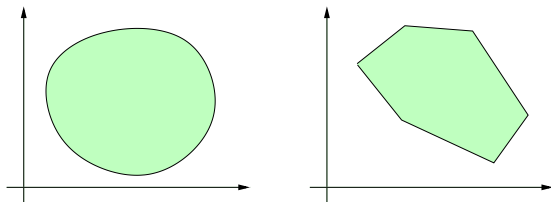
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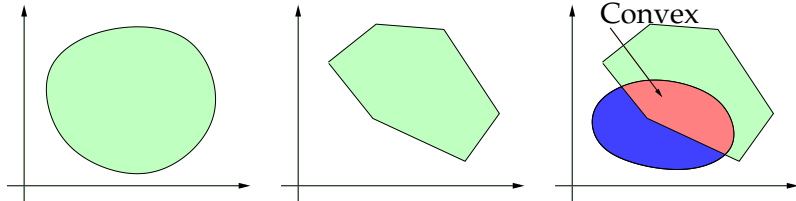


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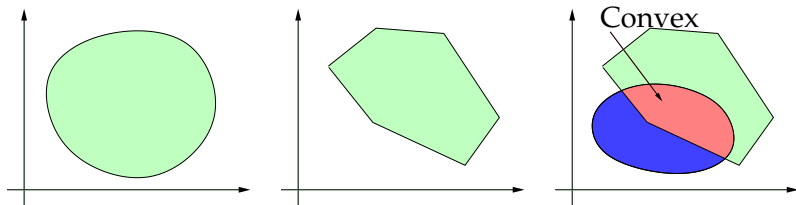
$$\forall x', x'' \in S, \alpha \in [0, 1], \quad \alpha x' + (1 - \alpha)x'' \in S$$

The intersection of two convex sets is convex.

Examples: Convex sets

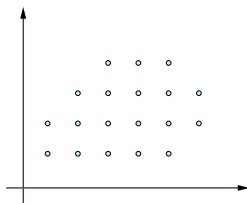
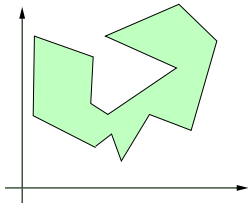
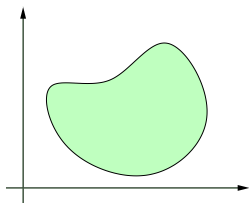


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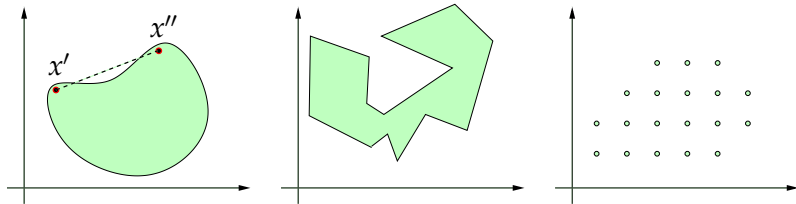


- ▶ $\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^3$, etc. are convex
- ▶ $[a, b]$ is convex
- ▶ $\{4\}$ is convex

Examples: Nonconvex sets

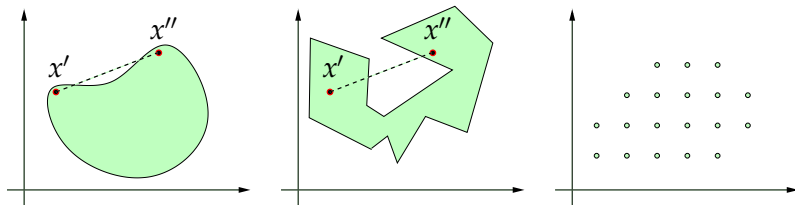


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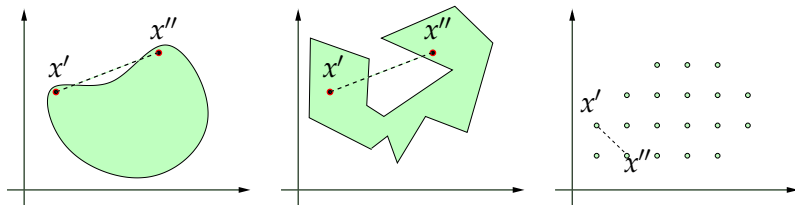
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- ▶ $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \leq 2 \vee x \geq 3\}$ is nonconvex
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Convex functions

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- ▶ The **sum** of convex functions is a convex function
- ▶ Multiplying a convex function by a positive scalar gives a convex function
- ▶ **linear** functions $\sum_{i=1}^k a_i x_i$ are convex, irrespective of the sign of a_i 's.