

Algorithm Design XI

Linear Programming I

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An Introduction to Linear Programming

Linear Programming



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A linear programming problem gives a set of variables, and assigns real values to them so as to

- 1 satisfy a set of linear equations and/or linear inequalities involving these variables, and
- 2 maximize or minimize a given linear objective function.



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- triangular chocolates, called Pyramide,
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Q: How much of each should it produce to maximize profits?

- Every box of Pyramide has a a profit of \$1.
- Every box of Nuit has a profit of \$6.
- The daily demand is limited to at most 200 boxes of Pyramide and 300 boxes of Nuit.
- The current workforce can produce a total of at most 400 boxes of chocolate per day.



```
Objective function \max x_1 + 6x_2

Constraints x_1 \le 200

x_2 \le 300

x_1 + x_2 \le 400

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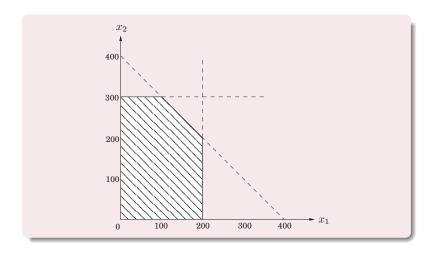
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It is a convex polygon.

The Convex Polygon







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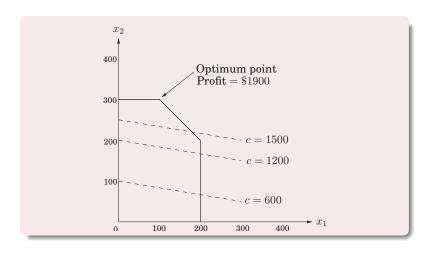
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Since the goal is to maximize c, we must move the line as far up as possible, while still touching the feasible region.

The optimum solution will be the very last feasible point that the profit line sees and must therefore be a vertex of the polygon.

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The only exceptions are cases in which there is no optimum; this can happen in two ways:

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This algorithm starts at a vertex, and repeatedly looks for an adjacent vertex of better objective value.

It does hill-climbing on the vertices of the polygon, walking from neighbor to neighbor so as to steadily increase profit along the way.

Upon reaching a vertex that has no better neighbor, simplex declares it to be optimal and halts.



Q: Why does this local test imply global optimality?

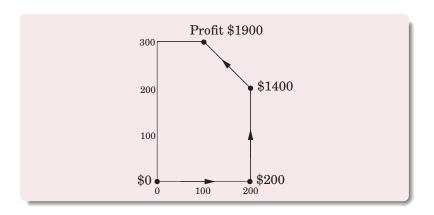


Q: Why does this local test imply global optimality?

By simple geometry. Since all the vertex's neighbors lie below the line, the rest of the feasible polygon must also lie below this line.

The Example





More Products



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Nuit and Luxe require the same packaging machinery. Luxe uses it three times as much, which imposes another constraint $x_2 + 3x_3 \le 600$.



$$\max x_1 + 6x_2 + 13x_3$$

$$x_1 \le 200$$

$$x_2 \le 300$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \le 400$$

$$x_2 + 3x_3 \le 600$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3 \ge 0$$





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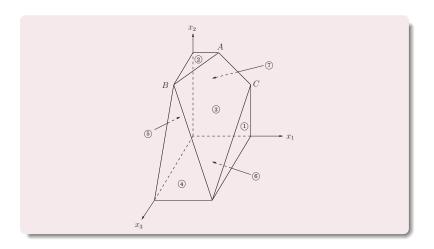
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A profit of c corresponds to the plane $x_1 + 6x_2 + 13x_3 = c$.

As c increases, this profit-plane moves parallel to itself, further into the positive orthant until it no longer touches the feasible region.

The Example







The point of final contact is the optimal vertex: (0, 300, 100), with total profit \$3100.



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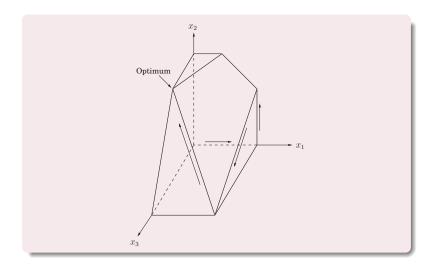
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A possible trajectory

$$\frac{(0,0,0)}{\$0} \to \frac{(200,0,0)}{\$200} \to \frac{(200,200,0)}{\$1400} \to \frac{(200,0,200)}{\$2800} \to \frac{(0,300,100)}{\$3100}$$

The Example





Integer Linear Programming and Rounding



The company makes handwoven carpets, a product for which the demand is extremely seasonal.



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Currently with 30 employees, each of whom makes 20 carpets per month and gets a monthly salary of \$2000.

With no initial surplus of carpets.



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- Q: How can we handle the fluctuations in demand? There are three ways:
 - $oldsymbol{0}$ Overtime. Overtime pay is 80% more than regular pay. Workers can put in at most 30% overtime.
 - 2 Hiring and firing, costing \$320 and \$400, respectively, per worker.
 - Storing surplus production, costing \$8 per carpet per month. Currently without stored carpets on hand, and without any carpets stored at the end of year.



```
egin{array}{lll} w_i &=& {
m number of workers during $i$-th month; $w_0=30$.} \\ x_i &=& {
m number of carpets made during $i$-th month.} \\ o_i &=& {
m number of carpets made by overtime in month $i$.} \\ h_i, f_i &=& {
m number of workers hired and fired, respectively,} \\ &=& {
m at beginning of month $i$.} \\ s_i &=& {
m number of carpets stored at end of month $i$}; s_0=0. \\ \hline \end{array}
```





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$$x_i = 20w_i + o_i$$

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The total number of carpets made per month consists of regular production plus overtime:

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The number of workers can potentially change at the start of each month:

$$w_i = w_{i-1} + h_i - f_i$$





The number of carpets stored at the end of each month is what we started with, plus the number we made, minus the demand for the month:

$$s_i = s_{i-1} + x_i - d_i$$



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And overtime is limited:

$$o_i \le 6w_i$$



The objective function is to minimize the total cost:

$$\min 2000 \sum_{i} w_i + 320 \sum_{i} h_i + 400 \sum_{i} f_i + 8 \sum_{i} s_i + 180 \sum_{i} o_i$$



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In the example, most of the variables take on fairly large values, and thus rounding is unlikely to affect things too much.



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In NP problems, finding the optimum integer solution of an LP is an important but very hard problem, called integer linear programming.

Duality



Recall:

$$\begin{aligned} \max x_1 + 6x_2 \\ x_1 &\leq 200 \\ x_2 &\leq 300 \\ x_1 + x_2 &\leq 400 \\ x_1, x_2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



Recall:

$$\max x_1 + 6x_2 x_1 \le 200 x_2 \le 300 x_1 + x_2 \le 400 x_1, x_2 \ge 0$$

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We take the first inequality and add it to six times the second inequality:

$$x_1 + 6x_2 \le 2000$$



Multiplying the three inequalities by 0, 5, and 1, respectively, and adding them up yields

$$x_1 + 6x_2 \le 1900$$



Let's investigate the issue by describing what we expect of these three multipliers, call them y_1, y_2, y_3 .

Multiplier	Inequality				
y_1	x_1			\leq	200
y_2			x_2	\leq	300
y_3	x_1	+	x_2	\leq	400



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After the multiplication and addition steps, we get the bound:

$$(y_1 + y_3)x_1 + (y_2 + y_3)x_2 \le 200y_1 + 300y_2 + 400y_3$$



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We want the left-hand side to look like the objective function $x_1 + 6x_2$ so that the right-hand side is an upper bound on the optimum solution.



$$x_1 + 6x_2 \le 200y_1 + 300y_2 + 400y_3$$

if

$$y_1, y_2, y_3 \ge 0$$

 $y_1 + y_3 \ge 1$
 $y_2 + y_3 \ge 6$





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What we want is a bound as tight as possible, so we minimize

$$200y_1 + 300y_2 + 400y_3$$

subject to the preceding inequalities. This is a new linear program!



$$\min 200y_1 + 300y_2 + 400y_3$$
$$y_1 + y_3 \ge 1$$
$$y_2 + y_3 \ge 6$$
$$y_1, y_2, y_3 \ge 0$$



$$\min 200y_1 + 300y_2 + 400y_3$$
$$y_1 + y_3 \ge 1$$
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Any feasible value of this dual LP is an upper bound on the original primal LP.



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Here is just such a pair:

- Primal: $(x_1, x_2) = (100, 300)$;
- Dual: $(y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 5, 1)$.



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They both have value 1900 and certify each other's optimality.

Matrix-Vector Form and Its Dual



Primal LP

Dual LP

$$\begin{aligned} \max c^T \mathbf{x} & \min \mathbf{y}^T b \\ A \mathbf{x} &\leq b & \mathbf{y}^T A \geq c^T \\ \mathbf{x} &\geq 0 & \mathbf{y} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Primal LP:

Dual LP:

$$\max_{a_{i1}x_{1}+\cdots+a_{in}x_{n}\leq b_{i}} a_{i1}x_{1}+\cdots+a_{in}x_{n}\leq b_{i} \text{ for } i\in I$$

$$a_{i1}x_{1}+\cdots+a_{in}x_{n}=b_{i} \text{ for } i\in E$$

$$x_{j}\geq 0 \text{ for } j\in N$$

$$\min b_1 y_1 + \dots + b_m y_m$$

$$a_{1j} y_1 + \dots + a_{mj} y_m \ge c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N$$

$$a_{1j} y_1 + \dots + a_{mj} y_m = c_j \quad \text{for } j \notin N$$

$$y_i \ge 0 \quad \text{for } i \in I$$

Matrix-Vector Form and Its Dual



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$$y_1 + y_3 \ge 1$$
$$y_2 + y_3 \ge 6$$
$$y_1, y_2, y_3 \ge 0$$

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Theorem (Duality)

If a linear program has a bounded optimum, then so does its dual, and the two optimum values coincide.



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An inequality constraint has slack if the slack variable is positive.

The complementary slackness refers to a relationship between the slackness in a primal constraint and the associated dual variable.

LP and Its Dual



$$\max x_1 + 6x_2 x_1 \le 200 x_2 \le 300 x_1 + x_2 \le 400 x_1, x_2 \ge 0$$

$$x_1 = 100, x_2 = 300$$

$$\min 200y_1 + 300y_2 + 400y_3$$
$$y_1 + y_3 \ge 1$$
$$y_2 + y_3 \ge 6$$
$$y_1, y_2, y_3 \ge 0$$

$$y_1 = 0, y_2 = 5, y_3 = 1$$



Theorem

Assume LP problem (P) has a solution x^* and its dual problem (D) has a solution y^* .

- **1** If $x_i^* > 0$, then the *j*-th constraint in (D) is binding.
- 2 If the *j*-th constraint in (D) is not binding, then $x_j^* = 0$.
- 3 If $y_i^* > 0$, then the *i*-th constraint in (P) is binding.
- If the *i*-th constraint in (P) is not binding, then $y_i^* = 0$.