

CS 212

Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science

Lecture 26: Introduction to Linear Programming



Announcements



1. Last problem set PS7 due on Tuesday before Thanksgiving.
2. There is class on Wednesday before Thanksgiving

Linear Programming



Linear Optimization

Suppose you want to buy apples and oranges.

- Apple costs 2\$/lb and oranges cost 1\$/lb.
- Apples have 1mg/lb of vit-C, oranges have 2mg/lb of vit-C.
- Apples and oranges both provide 1Kcal/lb.

How many pounds of apples & oranges can you buy with at most 3\$, so that total Vitamin C intake ≤ 3 mg, in such a way to maximize calorie intake?

Let x_1 be the #lbs of apple bought, x_2 be #lbs of oranges bought

$$\max_{x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}} x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 3$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 3$$

$$x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0$$

(caloric intake)

(vit-C constraint)

(Budget)

(non-negative quantities)

Linear Program

Optimize that...

Value of this LP = 2.

Maximize $x_1 + x_2$

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 3$$

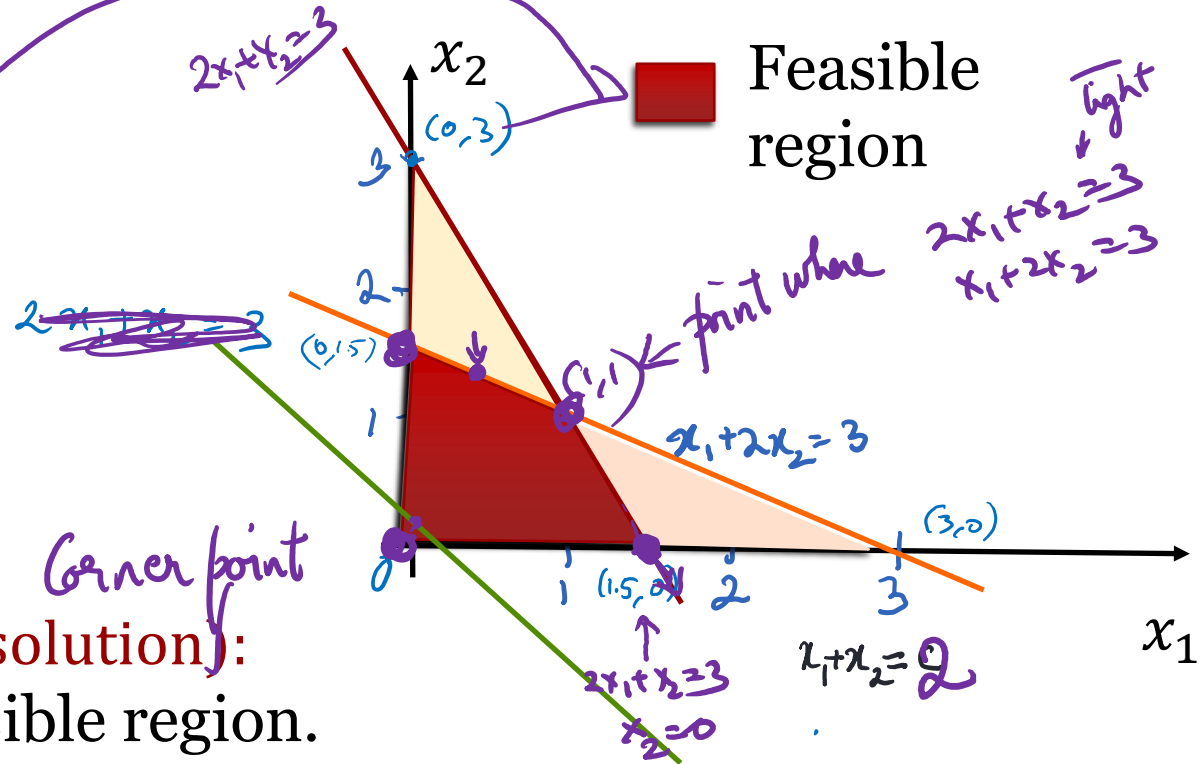
$$x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 3$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$

Vertex (Basic feasible solution):
The corners of the feasible region.

What is the optimal solution?

(1,1)



Linear Equalities

Linear equalities: *variables* x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n fixed vector fixed

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \quad \text{i.e. } \langle a_1, x \rangle = b_1$$

↑ vars

.....

$$a_{i1}x_1 + a_{i2}x_2 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = b_i \quad \text{i.e. } \langle a_i, x \rangle = b_i$$

$$a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \dots + a_{nn}x_n = b_n$$

$$\underbrace{(A)}_{n \times n} \underbrace{x}_{n \times 1} = \underbrace{(b)}_{n \times 1}$$

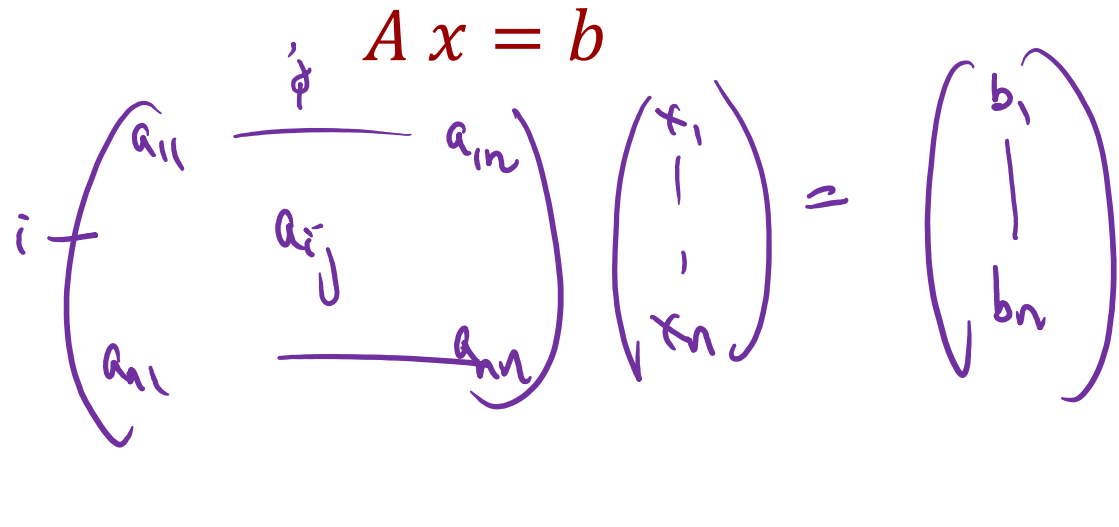
How do you solve Linear Equations?

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \dots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{pmatrix}$$

How to Solve Linear Equations

How do you solve Linear Equations?

$$A x = b$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & a_{ij} & \dots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_i \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_i \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$A^{-1} A x = A^{-1} b$
 $x = A^{-1} b$

If A has rank n , then solution $x = A^{-1} b$ (Cramer's rule).

Another simple procedure: Gaussian elimination.

LP Formulation

Variables: $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Constraints: given by $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^m$

$\max c^T x = c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2 + \dots + c_n x_n$

linear objective

 $\forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}: \langle a_j, x \rangle \leq b_j$

such that

$(Ax) \leq (b)$

 $x \geq 0$

 $\forall i \in [m]: \langle a_i, x \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j \leq b_i$

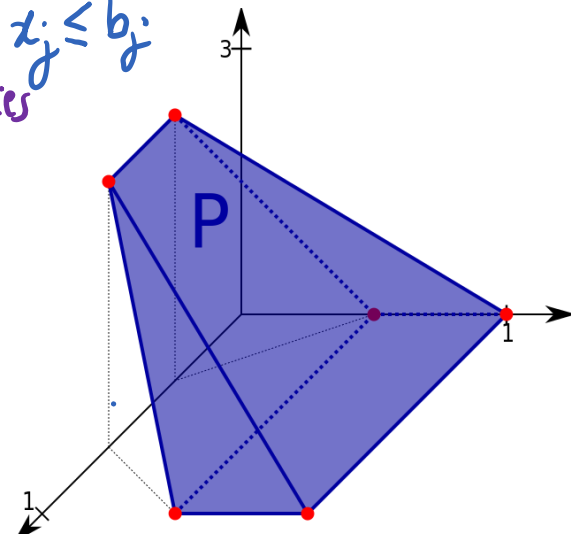
 $\forall j \in [n]: x_j \geq 0$

inequalities and not equalities

each of the n variables is non-negative

 $\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \geq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

m linear constraints (inequalities)



LP Formulation

Variables: $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Constraints: given by $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^m$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{! } A &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ b &= \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad c = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\max \quad c^T x$$

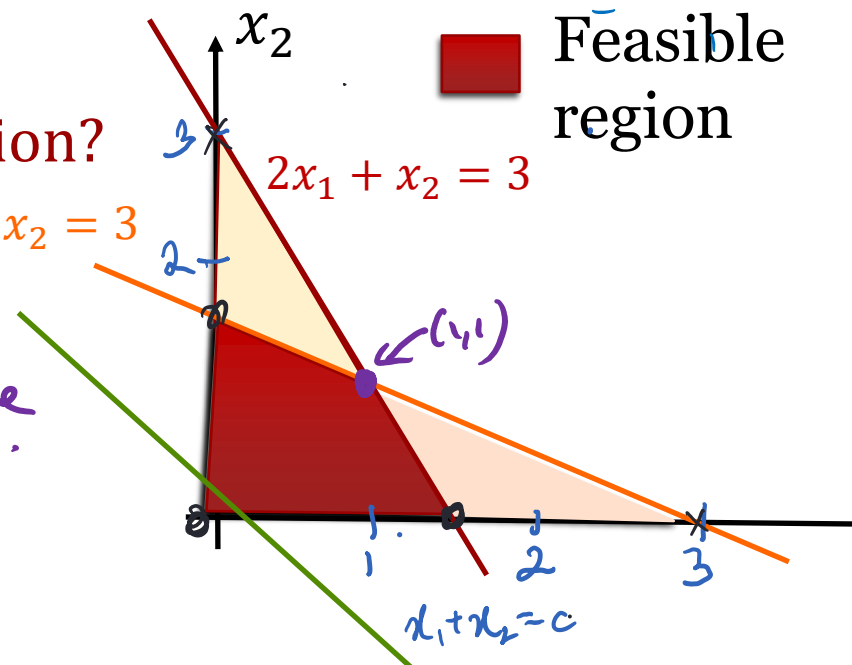
$$\text{s.t.} \quad Ax \leq b, x \geq 0$$

What can we say about optimal solution?

One of the corner points.

What is a corner point?

pt where n of the inequalities become tight.



Optimal Solution always attained at one of the corner points

Variables: $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

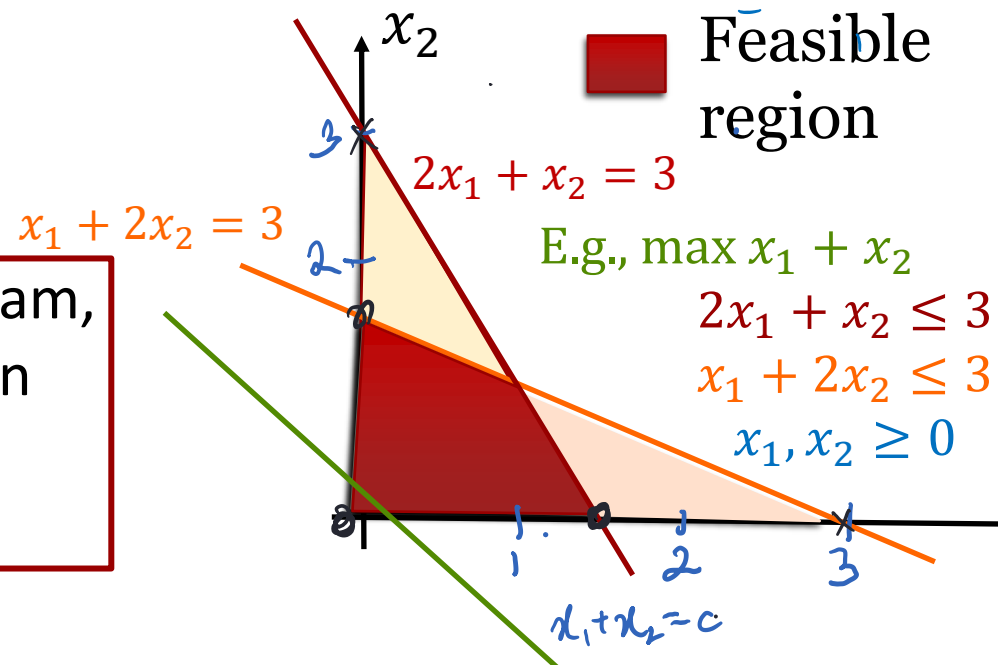
Constraints: given by $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^m$

$$\max c^T x$$

$$\text{s.t. } Ax \leq b, x \geq 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{! } A &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ b &= \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad c = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem. For a given Linear Program, if the maximum is not infinite, then there exists a corner point where optimum is attained.



Corner points

Variables: $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Constraints: given by $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^m$

$\max c^T x$ s.t. $Ax \leq b, x \geq 0$

E.g., maximize $x_1 + x_2$

$$2x_1 + x_2 \leq 3$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 3$$

Corner point: intersection of n tight constraints $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

① $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0: (0,0)$ is intersection. feasible.
Objective value = 0

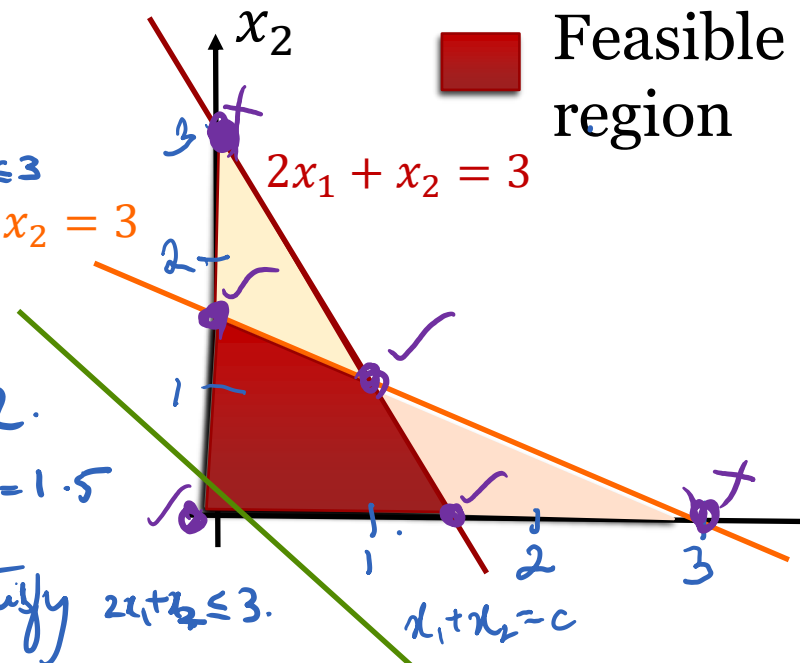
② $2x_1 + x_2 = 3, x_1 = 0: (0,3)$. Does not satisfy $x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 3$
 $x_1 + 2x_2 = 3$

③ $2x_1 + x_2 = 3, x_2 = 0: (1.5, 0)$. Feasible.
Obj. value = 1.5

④ $2x_1 + x_2 = 3, x_1 + 2x_2 = 3: (1,1)$. Feasible. Obj. value = 2.

⑤ $x_1 + 2x_2 = 3, x_1 = 0: (0, 1.5)$. Feasible. Obj. value = 1.5

⑥ $x_1 + 2x_2 = 3, x_2 = 0: (3, 0)$. Not feasible: not satisfy $2x_1 + x_2 \leq 3$.



LP Formulation

Variables: $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Constraints: given by $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^m$

$$\max c^T x$$

s.t. $Ax \leq b, x \geq 0$
m constraints n constraints

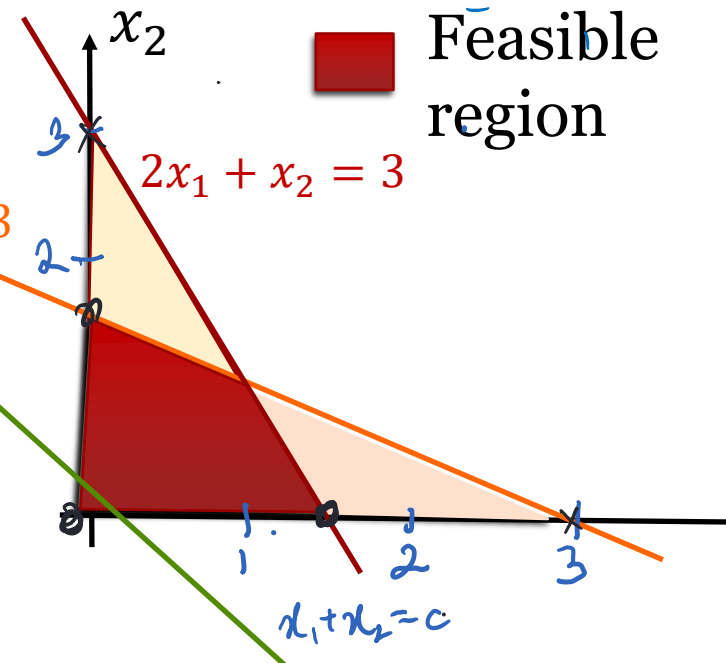
What can we say about optimal solution?

One of the corner points.

How many corner points?

$\binom{m+n}{n}$
↑ exponentially large

! $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$
 $b = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad c = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$



“Standard” LP Formulation

Variables: $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

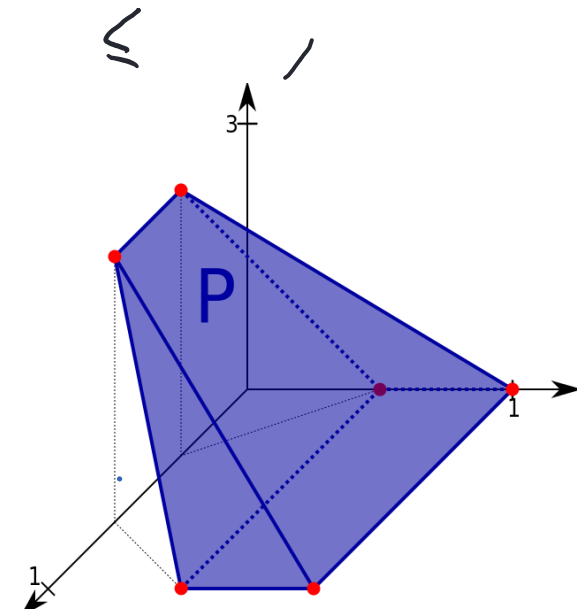
Constraints: given by $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ & given $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\max \quad c^T x = c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2 + \dots + c_n x_n$$

such that $Ax \leq b$ $\forall i \in [m]: \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j \leq b_i$

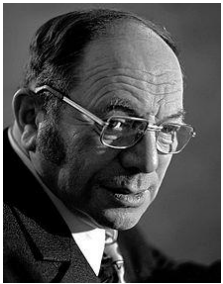
$$x \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in [n]: x_j \geq 0$$

Claim: Standard LP formulation can capture general Linear programs.



How do you optimize/solve a Linear Program?

This Class: No algorithms for LP.



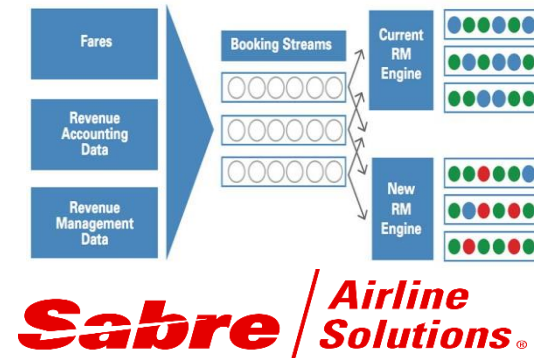
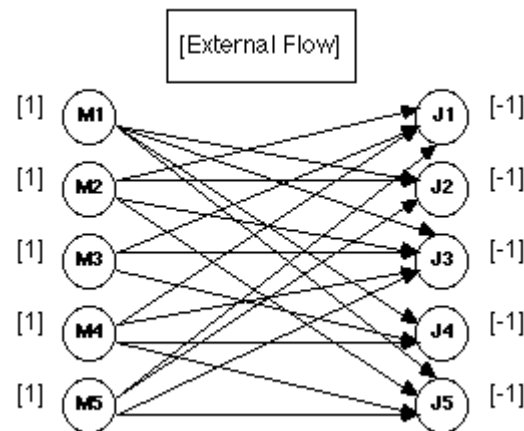
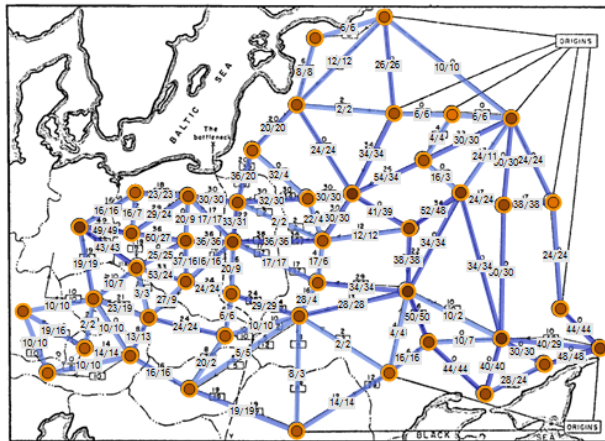
LPs introduced by Kantorovich,
Koopmans, Dantzig.
(Won Nobel Prize in 1971.)



Finding efficient (polynomial time) algorithms for Linear Programming was an open problem from 1940s till it was solved in 1979 by Khachiyan.

Importance of LPs

- Important in Business, Industry and Economics.



- Transportation, Telecommunication, Energy, Manufacturing, Scheduling, Assignment, Routing....



Thank you!