



Why

We consider the knapsack problem in which the n items are considered to be types of items and we have a certain quantity of each.

Definition

Suppose we have zero-one knapsack problem data (p, w, c) where $p : [n] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is the profit function, $w : [n] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}_+$ is the weight function, and $c \in \mathbf{R}_+$ is the capacity constraint. Given *budgets* $b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathbf{Z}_+$, find $x \in \mathbf{Z}_+^n$ to

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \sum_i p_i x_i \\ & \text{subject to} && \sum_i w_i x_i \leq c \\ & && 0 \leq x_i \leq b_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \\ & && x_i \in \mathbf{Z} \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

The above is called the *bounded knapsack problem*. The problem above *without* the budget constraints, is called the *unbounded knapsack problem*.

