

# Linear Programming

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Programming, Data Structures and Algorithms using Python

Week 11

# Optimization problems

- Many computational tasks involve optimization
  - Shortest path
  - Minimum cost spanning tree
  - Longest common subsequence

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  - **Shortest** path
  - **Minimum** cost spanning tree
  - **Longest** common subsequence
- ...subject to constraints
  - Shortest path follows edges in the graph
  - Spanning tree is a subset of the given edges
  - Subsequence letters are from the given words

# Optimization problems

- Many computational tasks involve optimization
  - **Shortest** path
  - **Minimum** cost spanning tree
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- ...subject to constraints
  - Shortest path follows edges in the graph
  - Spanning tree is a subset of the given edges
  - Subsequence letters are from the given words

## Linear programming

- Constraints and objective to be optimized are **linear** functions
  - **Constraints:**  $a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_mx_m \leq K$ ,  $b_1x_1 + b_2x_2 + \dots + b_mx_m \geq L$ , ...
  - **Objective:**  $c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \dots + c_mx_m$

## Example: Maximize profits

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- Profit for each box of barfis is Rs 100
- Profit for each box of halwa is Rs 600
- Daily demand for barfis is at most 200 boxes
- Daily demand for halwa is at most 300 boxes

## Example: Maximize profits

Grandiose Sweets sells cashew barfis and dry fruit halwa.

- Profit for each box of barfis is Rs 100
- Profit for each box of halwa is Rs 600
- Daily demand for barfis is at most 200 boxes
- Daily demand for halwa is at most 300 boxes
- Staff can produce 400 boxes a day, altogether



## Example: Maximize profits

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- What is the most profitable mix of barfis and halwa to produce?

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## Linear programming model

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## Linear programming model

- $b$  boxes of barfi to produce per day
- $h$  boxes of halwa to produce per day

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## Linear programming model

- $b$  boxes of barfi to produce per day
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- Profit:  $100b + 600h$

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- What is the most profitable mix of barfis and halwa to produce?

## Linear programming model

- $b$  boxes of barfi to produce per day
- $h$  boxes of halwa to produce per day
- Profit:  $100b + 600h$
- Demand constraints:
  - $b \leq 200$
  - $h \leq 300$

As demand for barfis is at most 200 boxes so there is no point in producing more than that, and thus  $b \leq 200$

Similarly for halwa

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Grandiose Sweets sells cashew barfis and dry fruit halwa.

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- Production constraint:  $b + h \leq 400$

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- Production constraint:  $b + h \leq 400$
- Implicit constraints:
  - $b \geq 0$
  - $h \geq 0$

as we cannot make -ve boxes of Barfis or Halwa right?

# Linear program

## Objective

- Maximize  $100b + 600h$

## Linear programming model

- $b$  boxes of barfi to produce per day
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# Linear program

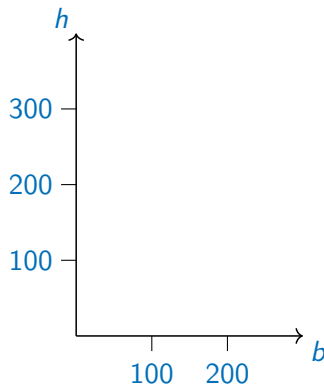
## Objective

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## Constraints

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## Pictorially



# Linear program

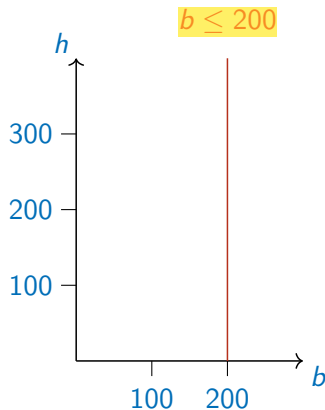
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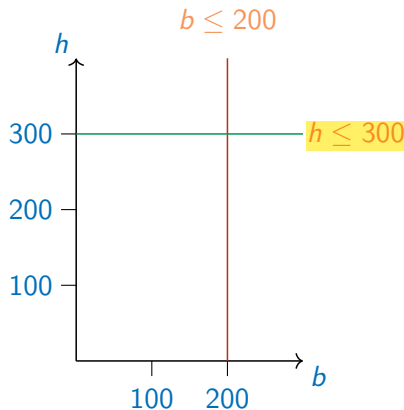
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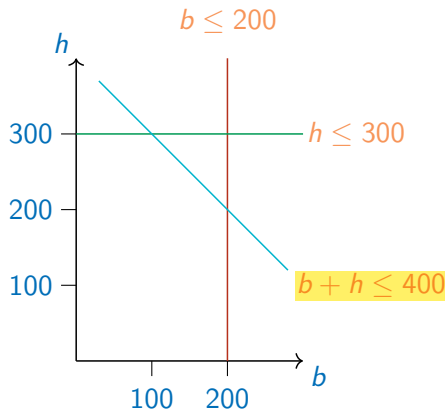
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# Linear program

## Objective

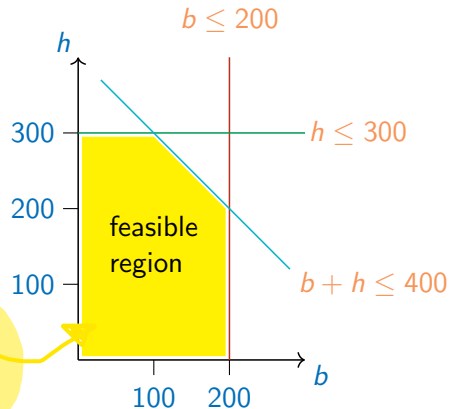
- Maximize  $100b + 600h$

## Constraints

- $b \leq 200$
- $h \leq 300$
- $b + h \leq 400$
- $b \geq 0$
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So now all the values of  $b$  and  $h$  within this region are valid. And we need to maximize objective within this region

## Pictorially



# Linear program

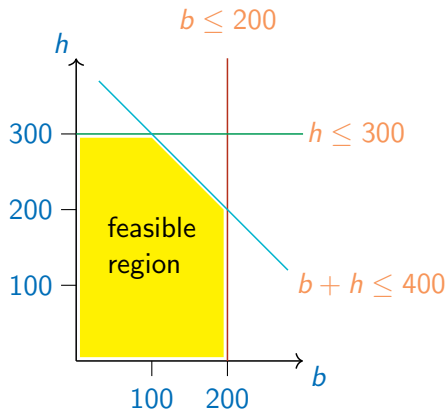
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## Pictorially



Objective:  $c = 100b + 600h$

# Linear program

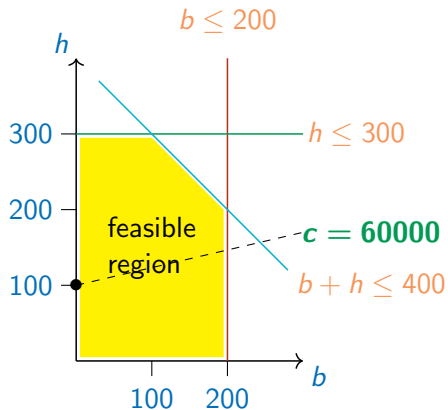
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## Pictorially



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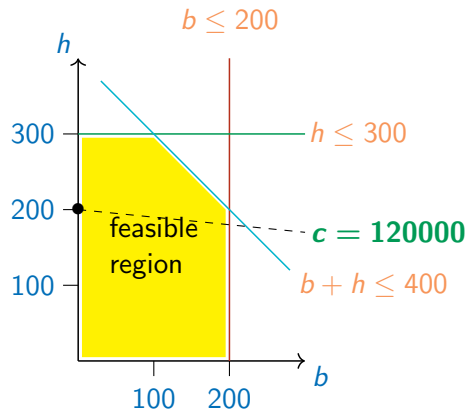
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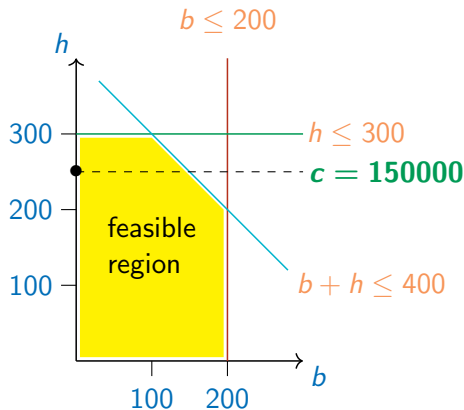
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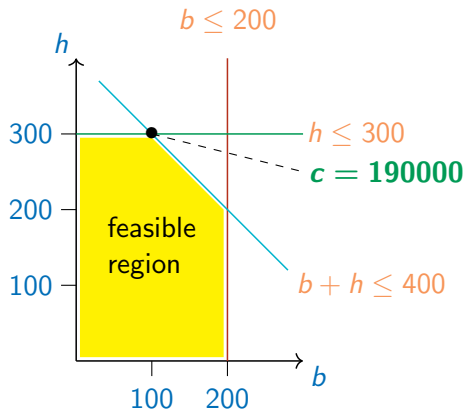
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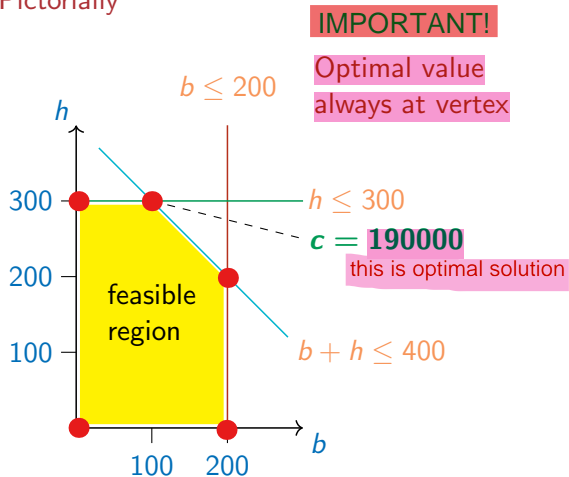
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## Constraints

- $b \leq 200$
- $h \leq 300$
- $b + h \leq 400$
- $b \geq 0$
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Optimal value always at some vertex in the graph

## Pictorially



# Solving linear programs

## Simplex algorithm

- Start at any vertex, evaluate objective

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- Theoretically efficient algorithms exist

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## Existence of solutions

Following conditions are must for the solution to exist

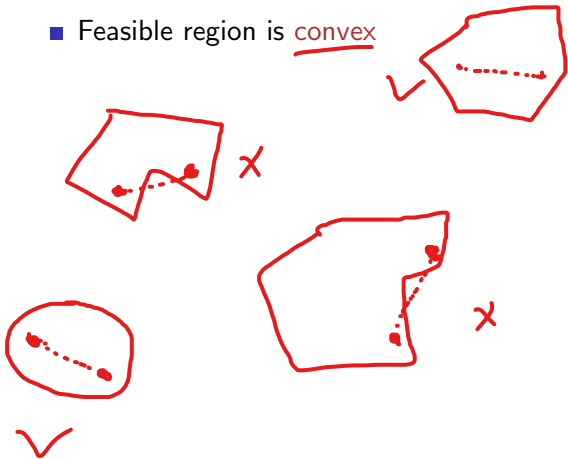
# Solving linear programs

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## Existence of solutions

- Feasible region is convex



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## Existence of solutions

- Feasible region is **convex**
- May be empty — constraints are **unsatisfiable**, **no solutions**

$b \geq 250$

$h \geq 250$

but

$b + h \leq 250$

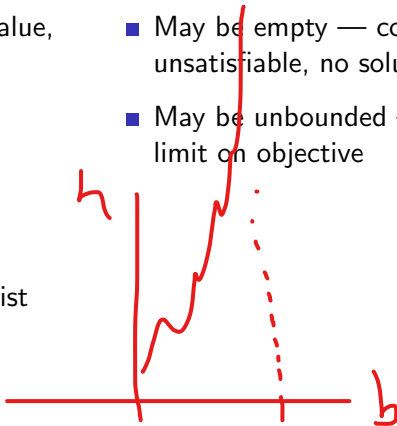
# Solving linear programs

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- Start at any vertex, evaluate objective
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- Can be exponential, but efficient in practice
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## Existence of solutions

- Feasible region is **convex**
- May be empty — constraints are unsatisfiable, no solutions
- May be unbounded — no upper/lower limit on objective



# Example, extended

Grandiose Sweets adds almond rasmalai

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- Profit per box: barfis – Rs 100, halwa – Rs 600, rasmalai – Rs 1300

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- Profit per box: barfis – Rs 100, halwa – Rs 600, rasmalai – Rs 1300
- Daily demand, in boxes: barfis – 200, halwa – 300, rasmalai – unlimited



# Example, extended

Grandiose Sweets adds almond rasmalai

- Profit per box: barfis – Rs 100, halwa – Rs 600, rasmalai – Rs 1300
- Daily demand, in boxes: barfis – 200, halwa – 300, rasmalai – unlimited
- Production capacity: 400 boxes a day, altogether

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- Profit per box: barfis – Rs 100, halwa – Rs 600, rasmalai – Rs 1300
- Daily demand, in boxes: barfis – 200, halwa – 300, rasmalai – unlimited
- Production capacity: 400 boxes a day, altogether
- Milk supply is limited
  - 600 boxes halwa or 200 boxes rasmalai
  - Or any combination (rasmalai needs 3 times as much milk)

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- Most profitable mix to produce?

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New linear program

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Constraints

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- $b + h + r \leq 400$
- $h + 3r \leq 600$



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Constraints

- $b \leq 200$
- $h \leq 300$
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- $h + 3r \leq 600$
- $b \geq 0, h \geq 0, r \geq 0$

# Example, extended

## New linear program

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- Maximize  $100b + 600h + 1300r$

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# Example, extended

## New linear program

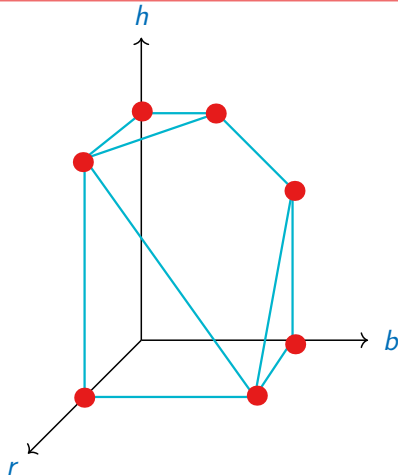
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Again, optimal solutions are always on a vertex



# Example, extended

## New linear program

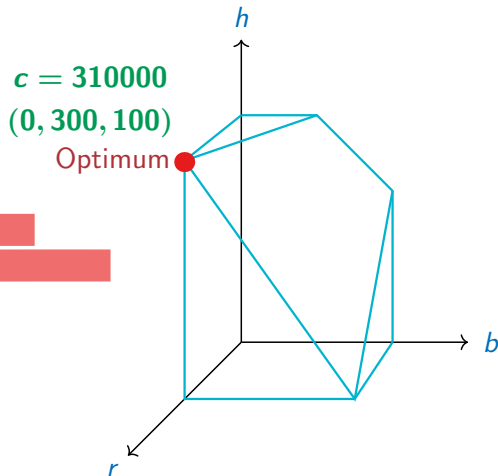
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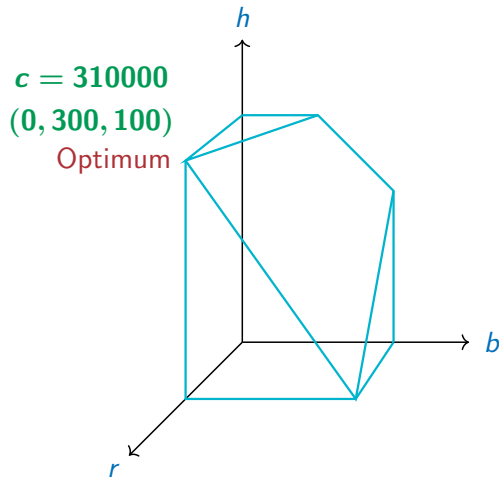
- $b \leq 200$
- $h \leq 300$
- $b + h + r \leq 400$
- $h + 3r \leq 600$
- $b \geq 0, h \geq 0, r \geq 0$

0 barfi  
300 halwa  
100 rasmalai



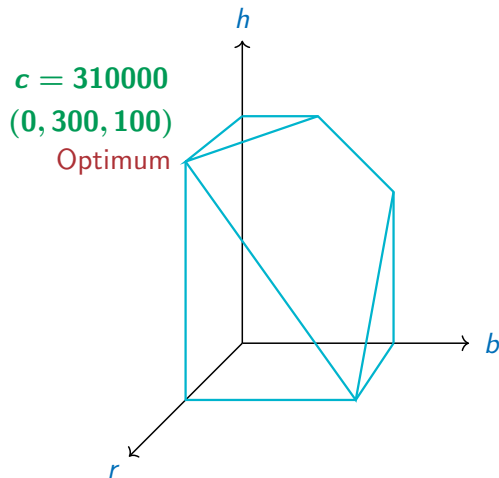
# Example, extended

- Why is  $(0, 300, 100)$  optimal?



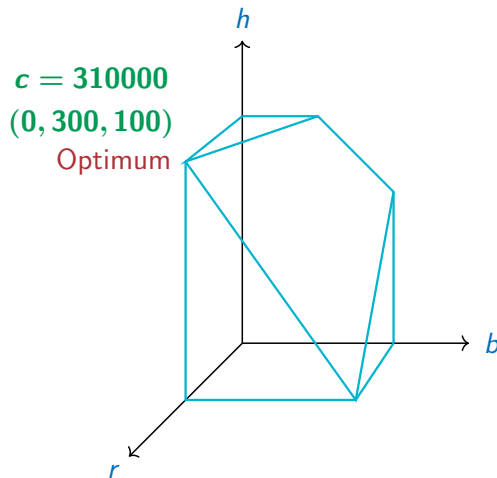
# Example, extended

- Why is  $(0, 300, 100)$  optimal?
- Profit is  $100b + 600h + 1300r$



# Example, extended

- Why is  $(0, 300, 100)$  optimal?
- Profit is  $100b + 600h + 1300r$
- Consider the following constraints
  - (A)  $h \leq 300$
  - (B)  $b + h + r \leq 400$
  - (C)  $h + 3r \leq 600$



# Example, extended

- Why is  $(0, 300, 100)$  optimal?
- Profit is  $100b + 600h + 1300r$
- Consider the following constraints

(A)  $h \leq 300$

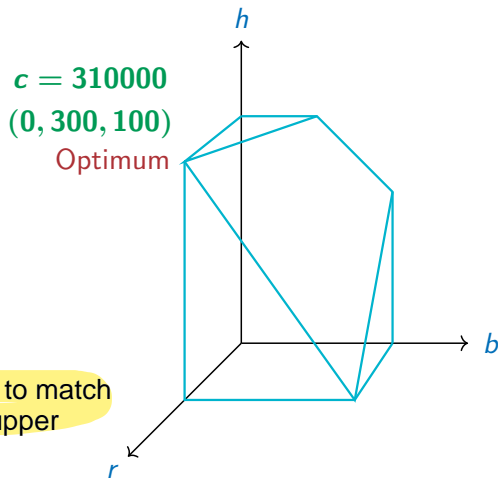
(B)  $b + h + r \leq 400$

(C)  $h + 3r \leq 600$

- Combine as

$$100 \cdot (A) + 100 \cdot (B) + 400 \cdot (C)$$

Trying to make a linear combination of constraints to match the resultant with our objective function to get an upper bound





# Example, extended

- Why is  $(0, 300, 100)$  optimal?
- Profit is  $100b + 600h + 1300r$
- Consider the following constraints

(A)  $h \leq 300$

(B)  $b + h + r \leq 400$

(C)  $h + 3r \leq 600$

- Combine as  
 $100 \cdot (A) + 100 \cdot (B) + 400 \cdot (C)$

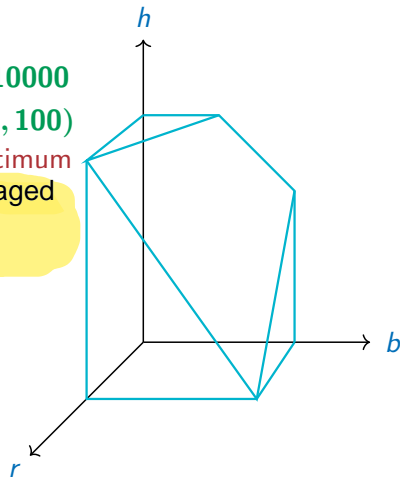
- Result is  
 $100b + 600h + 1300r \leq 310000$

Both are same and we managed to find upper bound for the objective (profit)

$c = 310000$

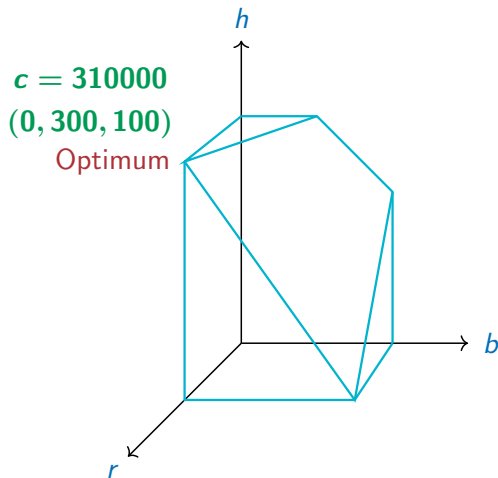
$(0, 300, 100)$

Optimum



# Example, extended

- Why is  $(0, 300, 100)$  optimal?
- Profit is  $100b + 600h + 1300r$
- Consider the following constraints
  - (A)  $h \leq 300$
  - (B)  $b + h + r \leq 400$
  - (C)  $h + 3r \leq 600$
- Combine as
$$100 \cdot (A) + 100 \cdot (B) + 400 \cdot (C)$$
- Result is
$$100b + 600h + 1300r \leq 310000$$
- LHS is profit, so value at  $(0, 300, 100)$  matches upper bound on profit



# LP Duality

- We derived an upper bound on the objective through a linear combination of constraints

- Why is  $(0, 300, 100)$  optimal?
- Profit is  $100b + 600h + 1300r$
- Consider the following constraints

$$(A) \quad h \leq 300$$

$$(B) \quad b + h + r \leq 400$$

$$(C) \quad h + 3r \leq 600$$

- Combine as
$$100 \cdot (A) + 100 \cdot (B) + 400 \cdot (C)$$
- Result is
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# LP Duality

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- This is **always possible!**
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# LP Duality

- We derived an upper bound on the objective through a linear combination of constraints

- This is **always** possible!

- **Dual LP problem**

- Minimize linear combination of constraints
- Variables are multipliers for the linear combination
- Implicit constraint: multipliers are non-negative
- Optimum solution solves both the original (primal) and the dual LP

This was not explained clearly,  
if needed see 2min video below  
<https://youtu.be/3YPqsJpYQJU?t=1560>

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