

□ Geometry of LP

- Terminologies:

$$\begin{array}{ll} & \text{Min } \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{(LP)} & \text{s. t. } \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{array}$$

(1) $P = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$

feasible domain

(2) When $P \neq \phi$, LP is consistent.

\mathbf{x} is a feasible solution if $\mathbf{x} \in P$.

(3) P is bounded if

$$\exists M > 0 \text{ such that } \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq M, \forall \mathbf{x} \in P.$$

In this case, LP has a bounded feasible domain.

(4) LP is bounded if

$$\exists M \in R \text{ such that } \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq M \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in P.$$

LP has a bounded feasible domain.

(5) $\Downarrow \Uparrow?$

LP is bounded.

(6) \mathbf{x}^* is an optimal solution if

$$\mathbf{x}^* \in P \text{ and } \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^* = \underset{x \in P}{\text{Min}} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$$

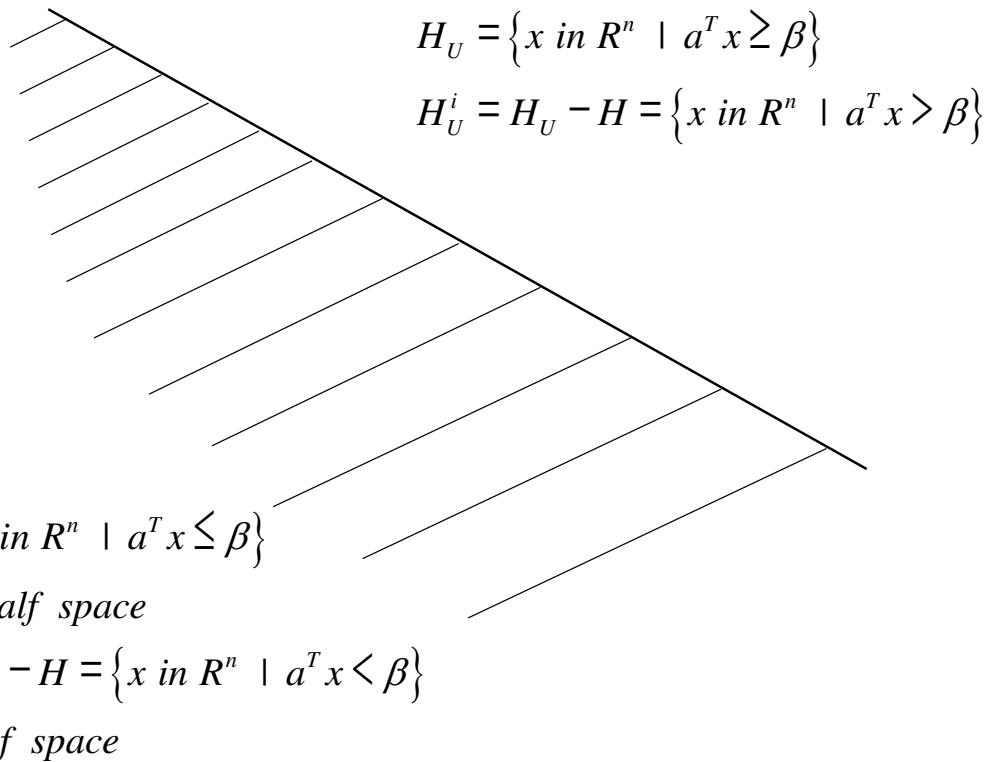
$P^* = \{\mathbf{x}^* \mid \mathbf{x}^* \text{ is optimal}\}$ optimal solution set.

\mathbf{x}^* solves LP, if $\mathbf{x}^* \in P^*$.

- Definition:

For a vector $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbf{R}^n$, $\mathbf{a} \neq 0$, and a scalar $\beta \in \mathbf{R}$, define

$$H = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = \beta\} \text{ hyperplane}$$

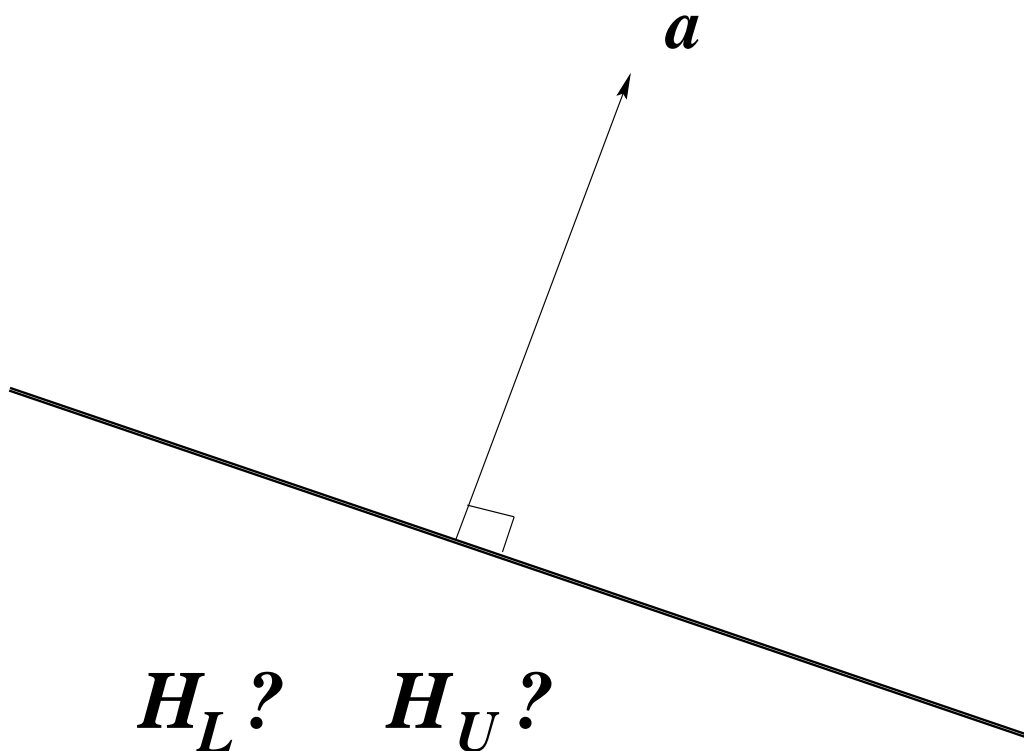


H is the bounding hyperplane of H_L and H_L^i .
 \mathbf{a} is the normal of H .

Property 1: \mathbf{a} is orthogonal to all vectors parallel to H .

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}\forall \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z} \in H, \\ \mathbf{a}^T(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}) &= \mathbf{a}^T\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{a}^T\mathbf{z} \\ &= \beta - \beta = 0.\end{aligned}$$

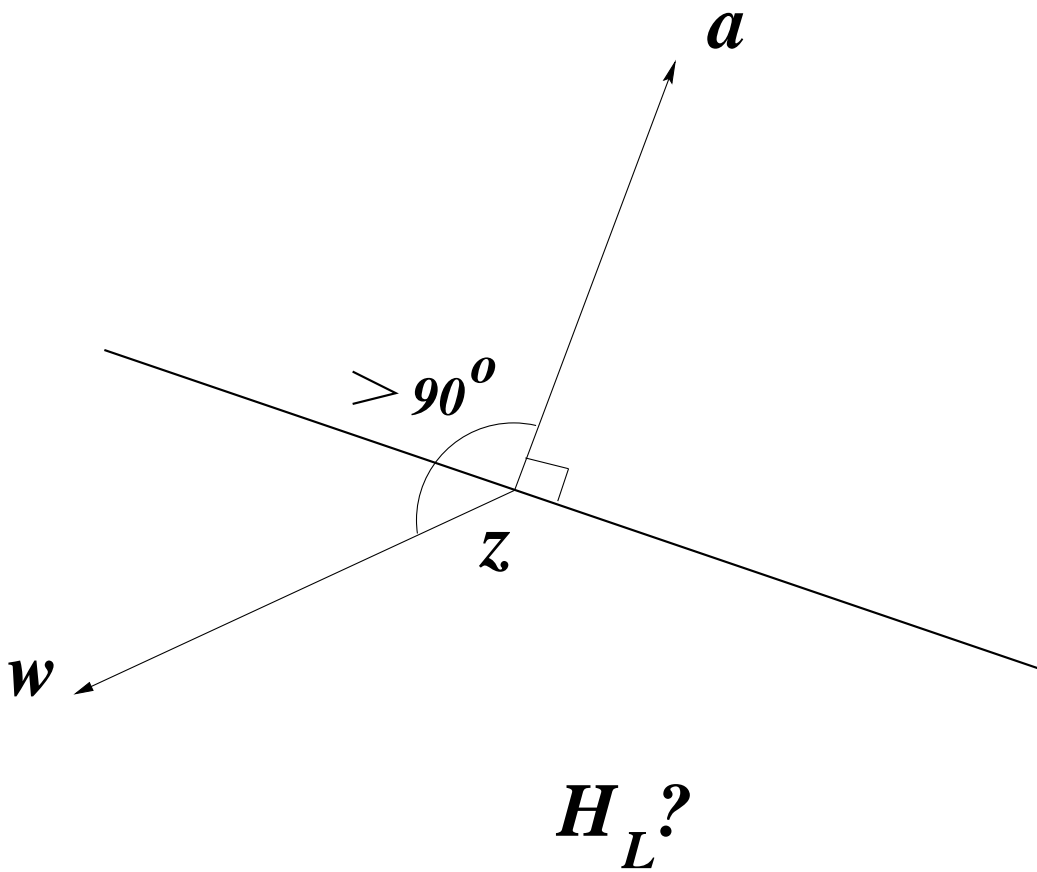


Property 2: \mathbf{a} is directed toward H_U .

Proof:

For any $\mathbf{z} \in H$, $\mathbf{w} \in H_L^i$,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{a}^T(\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{z}) &= \mathbf{a}^T\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{a}^T\mathbf{z} \\ &< \beta - \beta = 0.\end{aligned}$$



- Definition:

A polyhedral set or polyhedron is a set formed by the intersection of a finite number of a closed half spaces. If it is nonempty and bounded, it is a polytope.

Property 3:

$$P = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$$

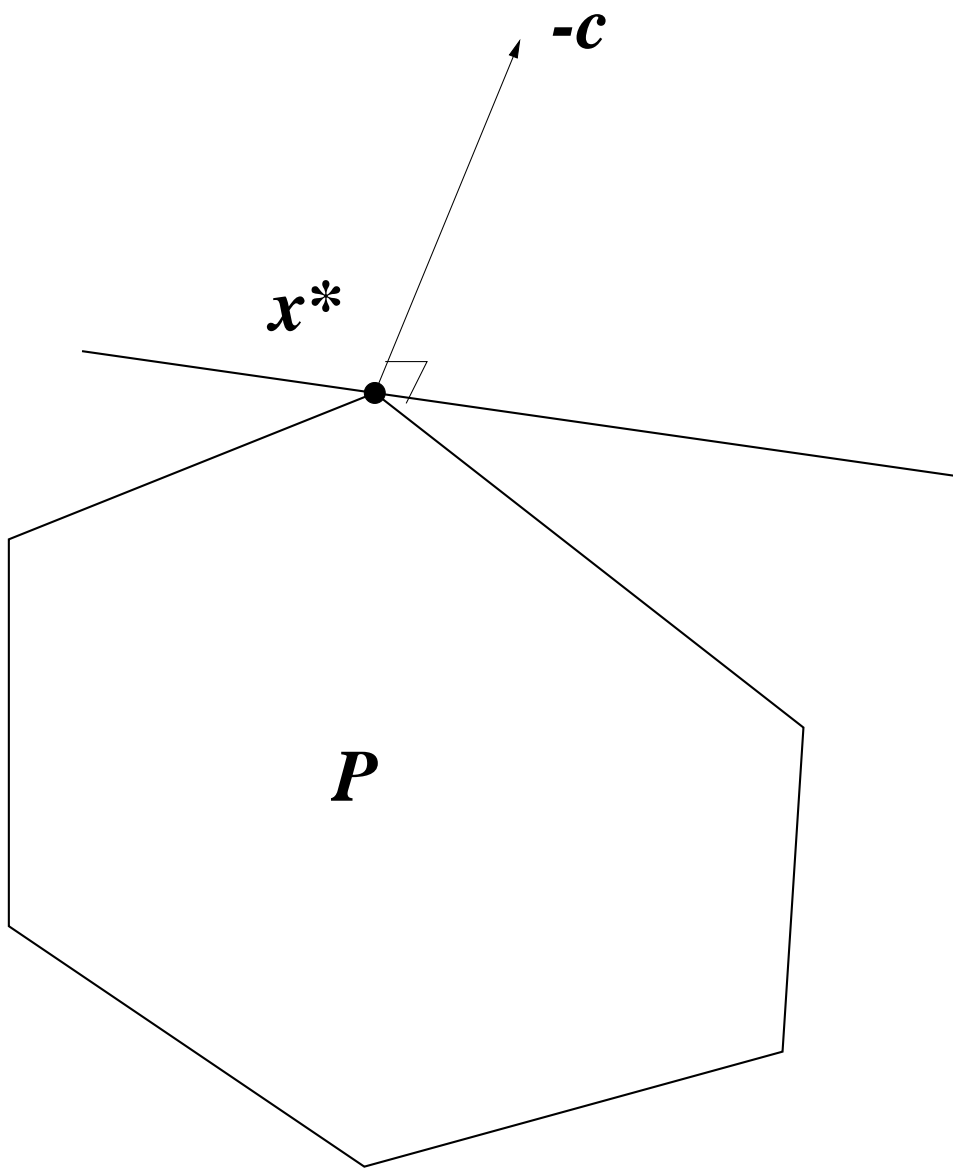
is a polyhedron.

Property 4:

If $P \neq \emptyset$ and $\exists \beta \in \mathbf{R}$ such that

$$P \subset H_L := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid -\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \leq \beta\},$$

then $\text{Min}_{x \in P} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq -\beta$



Moreover, if $\mathbf{x}^* \in P \cap H$ then $\mathbf{x}^* \in P^*$.

Example:

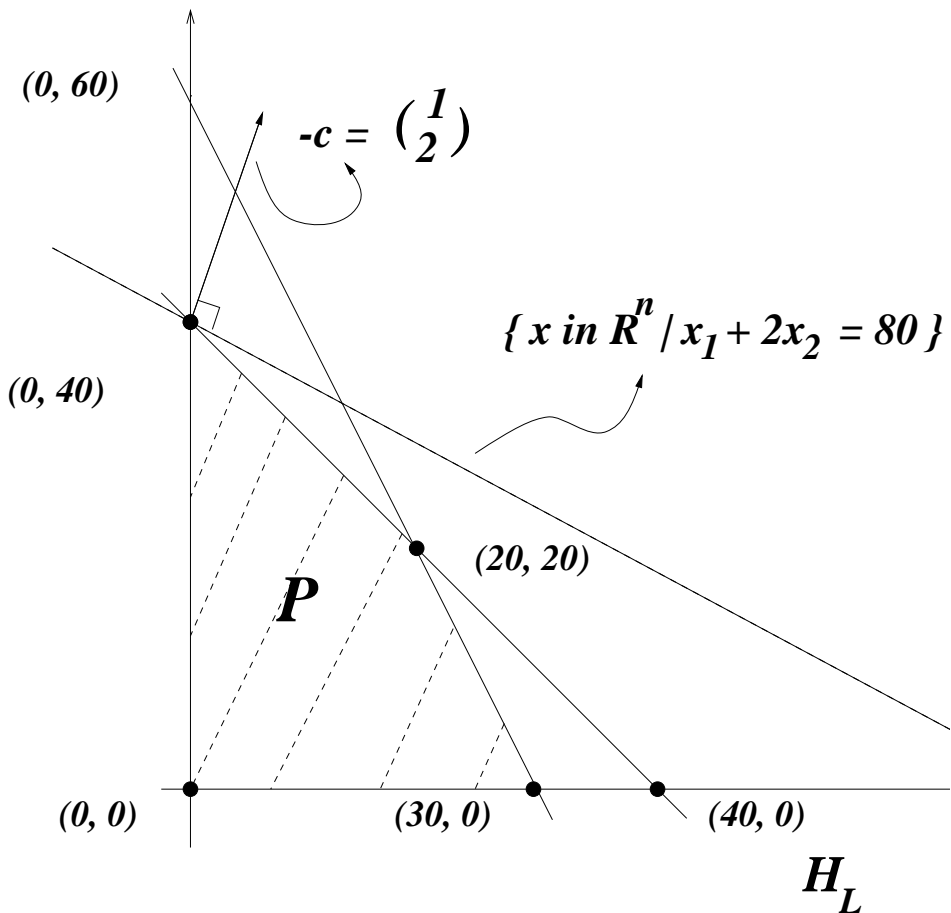
$$\begin{array}{llll} \text{Minimize} & -x_1 & - & 2x_2 \\ \text{s. t.} & x_1 & + & x_2 \leq 40 \\ & 2x_1 & + & x_2 \leq 60 \\ & x_1, & & x_2, \geq 0 \end{array}$$

Standard Form:

$$\begin{array}{llllll} \text{Minimize} & -x_1 & - & 2x_2 & & \\ \text{s. t.} & x_1 & + & x_2 & + & x_3 = 40 \\ & 2x_1 & + & x_2 & & + x_4 = 60 \\ & x_1, & & x_2, & & x_3, & & x_4 \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 40 \\ 60 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution:



Since $\min_{x \in P} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \geq -80$

also $-x_1 - 2x_2 = -80$ at $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 40 \end{pmatrix}$

Hence $\begin{cases} x_1 = 0 \\ x_2 = 40 \end{cases}$ is an optimal solution.

□ Graphic Method:

Step 1: Draw the feasible domain P .

(If $P = \emptyset$, STOP! No solution.)

Step 2: Use $-\mathbf{c}$ as normal vector at each vertex to see if $P \in H_L := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid -\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \leq \beta\}$ for some $\beta \in \mathbf{R}$.

1. If the answer is “YES”, we find an optimal solution.
2. If all answers are “NO”, the problem is unbounded below.

□ Affine, Convex Sets , and Cones

- Definition:

$$\mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2, \dots, \mathbf{x}^p \in \mathbf{R}^n,$$

$$\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_p \in \mathbf{R},$$

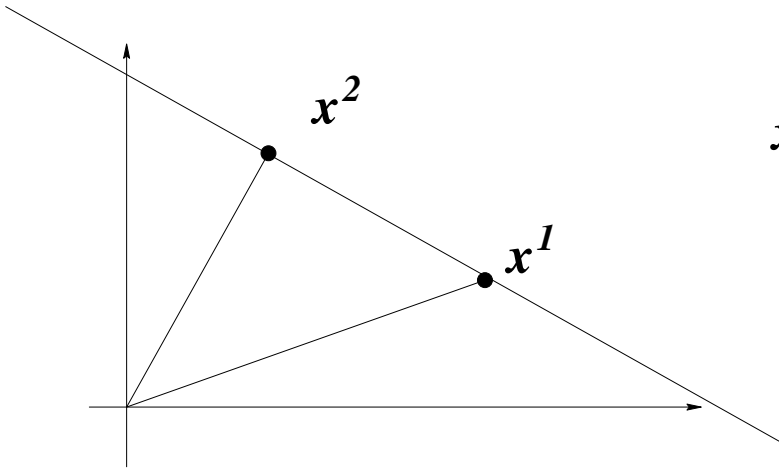
$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i \mathbf{x}^i = \lambda_1 \mathbf{x}^1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{x}^2 + \dots + \lambda_p \mathbf{x}^p$$

is a linear combination of $\{\mathbf{x}^1, \dots, \mathbf{x}^p\}$;

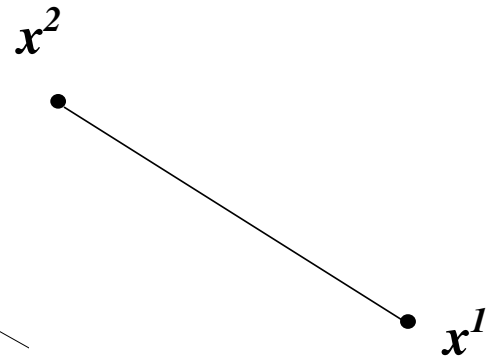
an affine combination if $\sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i = 1$;

a conical combination if $\lambda_i \geq 0$;

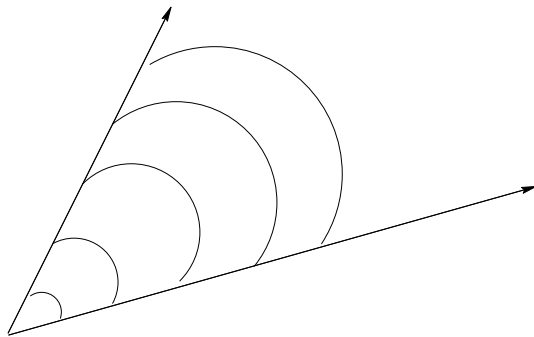
a convex combination if $\sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i = 1, \lambda_i \geq 0$.



Affine combination



Convex combination



Conical combination

- Definition:

$S \subset \mathbf{R}^n$

is affine if

$\forall \mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2 \in S$, any affine combination of $\{\mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2\} \in S$;

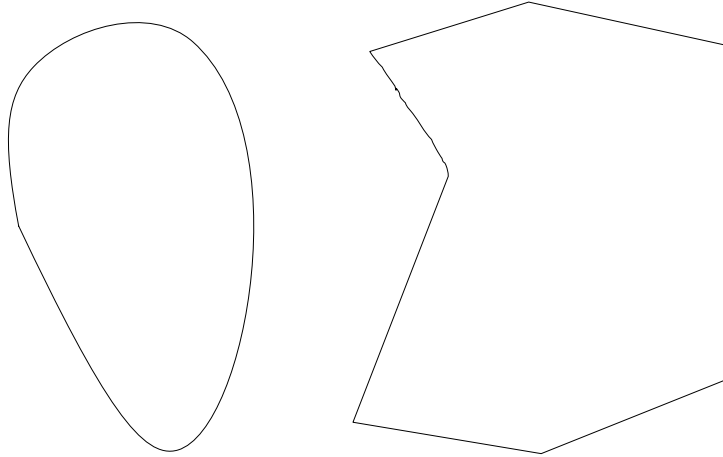
is convex if

$\forall \mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2 \in S$, any convex combination of $\{\mathbf{x}^1, \mathbf{x}^2\} \in S$;

is a cone if

$\forall \mathbf{x} \in S$, $\lambda \mathbf{x} \in S$ for $\lambda \geq 0$.

Example:



$$H = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = \beta\}$$

$$H_L = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq \beta\}$$

$$\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}\}$$

$$P = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq 0\}$$

$$C \quad \cancel{A} \quad \quad C \quad \cancel{A}$$

$$C \quad A \quad \quad C \quad \cancel{A}$$

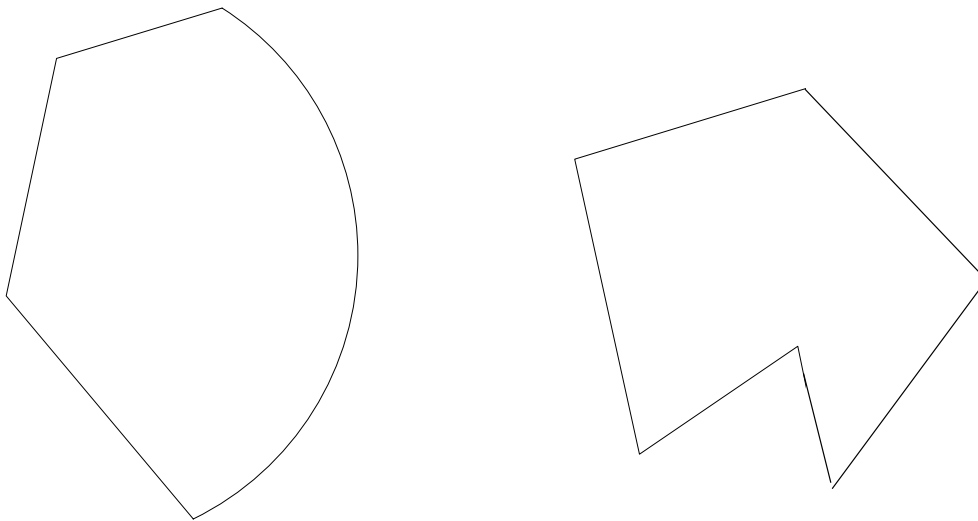
$$C \quad A \quad \quad C \quad \cancel{A}$$

- Definition:

For $S \subset \mathbf{R}^n$, $\mathbf{x} \in S$ is an interior point of S if $\exists \epsilon > 0$ such that

$$B = \{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\| \leq \epsilon\} \subset S.$$

Otherwise, $\mathbf{x} \in S$ is a boundary point of S .

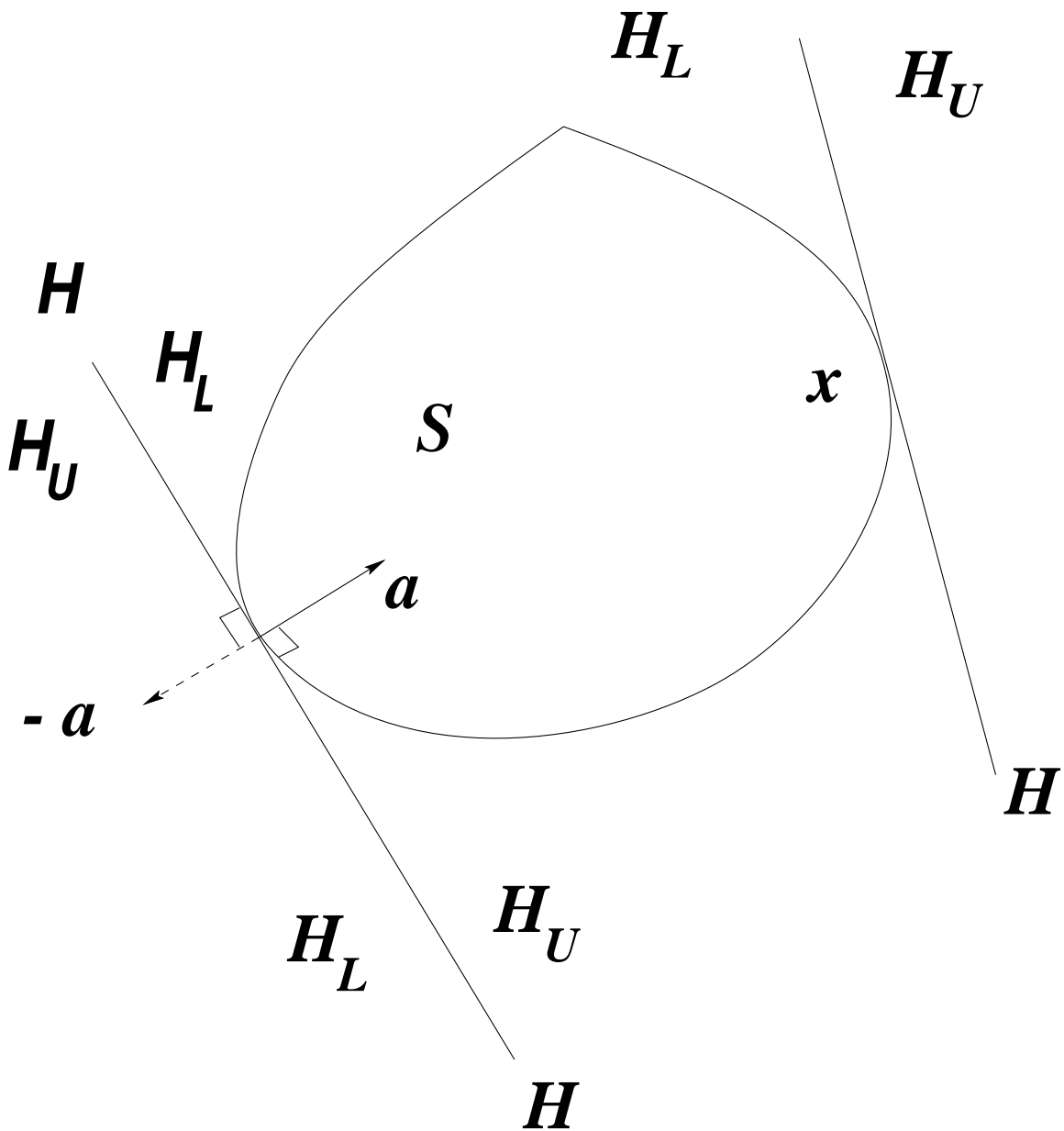


$$\textit{int}(S) = \{ \mathbf{x} \text{ is an interior point of } S \}$$

$$\textit{bdry}(S) = \{ \mathbf{x} \text{ is an boundary point of } S \}$$

Separation Theorem:

$S \subset \mathbf{R}^n$ is convex, then $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \text{bdry}(S), \exists$ a hyperplane H such that $\mathbf{x} \in H$ and either $S \subseteq H_L$ or $S \subseteq H_U$.



Question: Can you now see that if a LP (in two or three dimensions) has a finite optimal solution, then one vertex of \mathbf{P} is optimal ?

[Hint:] Consider the supporting hyperplane

$$H = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid -\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} = \beta\}$$

Question: How about higher dimension?

Answer: Fundamental Theorem of LP!

Special Cone

Given an $m \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{A}_1 | \mathbf{A}_2 | \cdots | \mathbf{A}_n)$,

$$\mathbf{A}_j = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1j} \\ a_{2j} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mj} \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow j\text{th column of } A.$$

$$\text{for } \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}^n \text{ and } \mathbf{x} \geq 0.$$

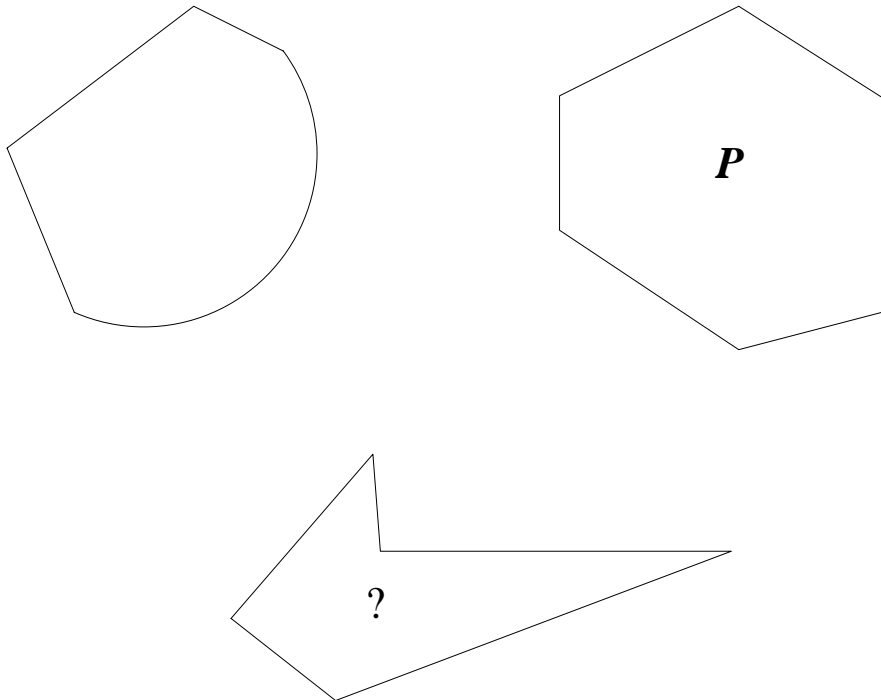
$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{A}_1 | \mathbf{A}_2 | \cdots | \mathbf{A}_n) \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n x_j \mathbf{A}_j \in \mathbf{R}^m.$$

$\mathbf{A}_c = \{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{R}^m | \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \geq 0\}$ is a convex cone generated by the columns of \mathbf{A} .

- Definition:

\mathbf{x} is an extreme point of a convex set $S \subseteq \mathbf{R}^n$, if $\mathbf{x} \in S$ can not be expressed as a convex combination of other points in S .



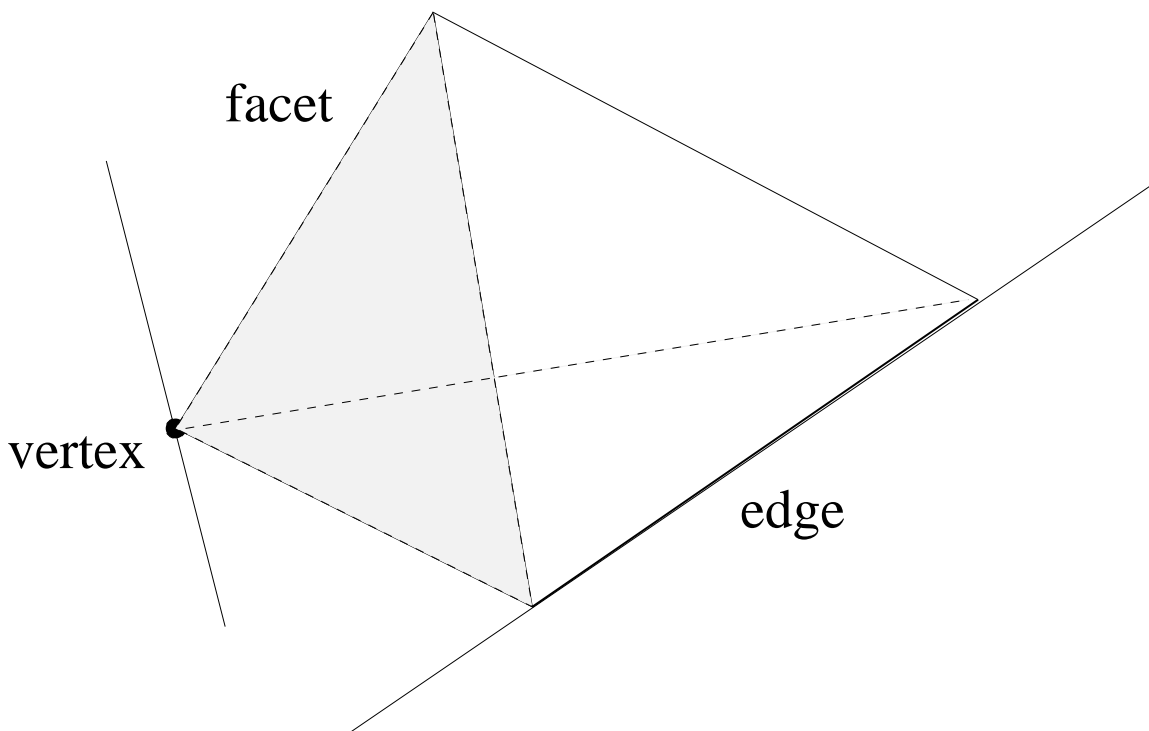
- Definition:

Let P be a convex polyhedron and H be a supporting hyperplane of P , then $F = P \cap H$ defines a face of P .

When $\dim(F) = 0$, it is a vertex

$\dim(F) = 1$, it is an edge

$\dim(F) = \dim(P) - 1$, a facet



Property:

Let P be a convex polyhedron, $\mathbf{x} \in P$ is a vertex if and only if \mathbf{x} is an extreme point of P .

Representing Extreme Points:

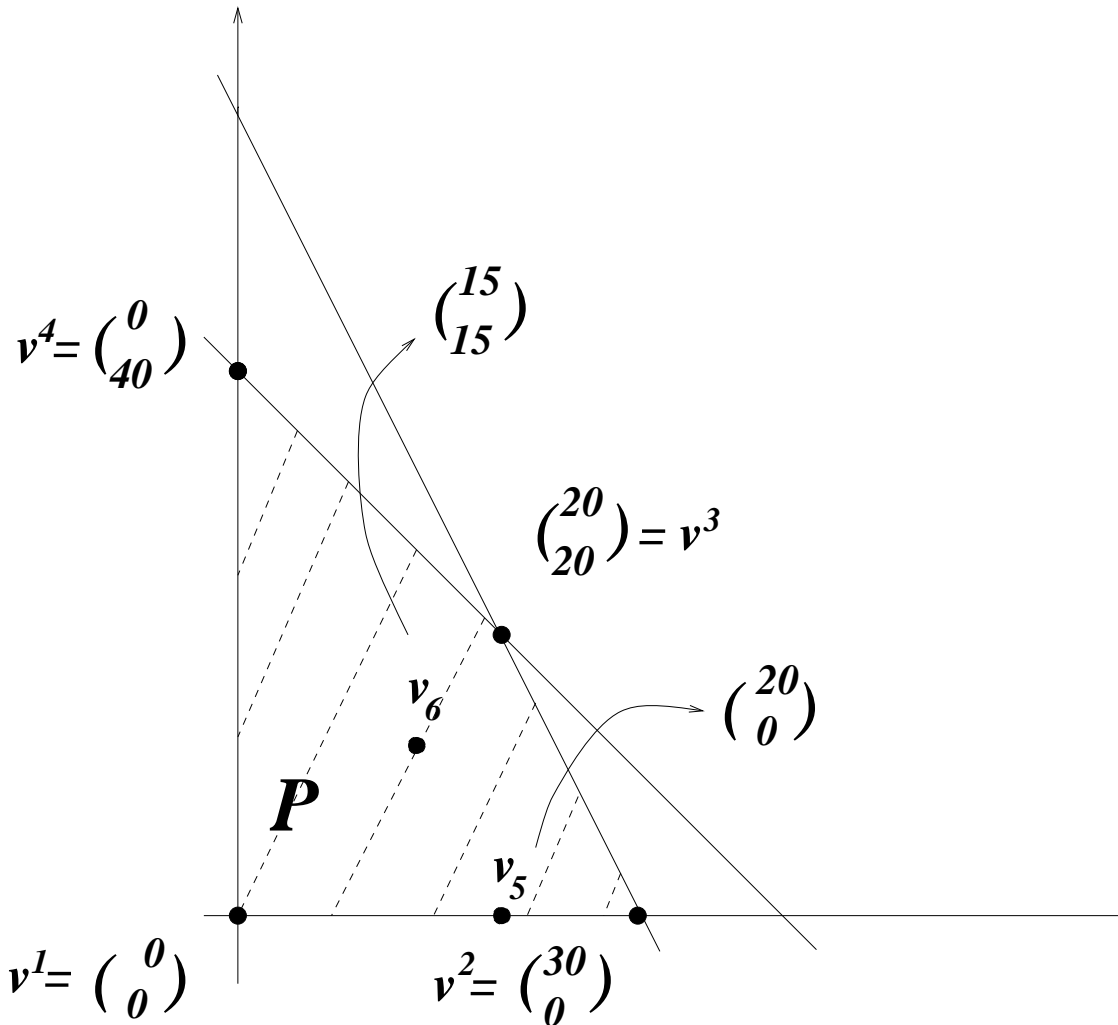
\mathbf{x} is an extreme point of P , then \mathbf{x} is of course a feasible solution of

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{x} \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

But what's special of being an extreme point?
(in terms of feasible solution).

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Minimize} \quad & x_1 - 2x_2 \\ \text{subject to} \quad & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 40 \\ & 2x_1 + x_2 + x_4 = 60 \\ & x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$



$$v^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 40 \\ 60 \end{pmatrix}, v^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ 0 \\ 10 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, v^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 20 \\ 20 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, v^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 40 \\ 0 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$v^5 = \begin{pmatrix} 20 \\ 0 \\ 20 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{one zero } x_i.$$

$$v^6 = \begin{pmatrix} 15 \\ 15 \\ 10 \\ 15 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{no zero } x_i.$$

$$n = 4, m = 2, n - m = 2$$

Observation:

An extreme point of P is obtained by setting $n - m$ variables to be zero and solving the remaining m variables in m equations. Therefore, the columns of \mathbf{A} corresponding to the non-zero (positive) variables better be linear independent!

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 & = 40 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 & + x_4 = 60 \\ x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} x_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} x_2 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} x_3 + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} x_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 40 \\ 60 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Extreme Points & Basic Feasible Solutions

Theorem 2.1:

A point $\mathbf{x} \in P = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$ is an extreme point of P iff the columns of \mathbf{A} corresponding to positive components of \mathbf{x} are linearly independent.

Proof: WLOG, assume that the first p components of \mathbf{x} are positive and the rest are zeroes, *i.e.*

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } \bar{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_p \end{pmatrix} > \mathbf{0}.$$

also denote the first p columns of \mathbf{A} by $\bar{\mathbf{A}}$, then $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \bar{\mathbf{A}}\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{b}$.

Suppose that the columns of $\bar{\mathbf{A}}$ are not linearly independent, then $\exists \bar{\mathbf{w}} \neq \mathbf{0}$ such that $\bar{\mathbf{A}}\bar{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{0}$.

Notice that for ϵ is small enough

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}} \pm \epsilon\bar{\mathbf{w}} \geq \mathbf{0} \text{ and } \bar{\mathbf{A}}(\bar{\mathbf{x}} \pm \epsilon\bar{\mathbf{w}}) = \bar{\mathbf{A}}\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{b}$$

Hence

$$\mathbf{y}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{x}} + \epsilon \bar{\mathbf{w}} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \in P$$

$$\mathbf{y}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{x}} - \epsilon \bar{\mathbf{w}} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \in P$$

and $\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^1 + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^2$, *i.e.* \mathbf{x} can not be a vertex (extreme point) of P .

Thus, \mathbf{x} is an extreme point \Rightarrow columns of $\bar{\mathbf{A}}$ are linearly independent.

Suppose that \mathbf{x} is not an extreme point, then

$\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{y}^1 + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{y}^2$ for some

$\mathbf{y}^1, \mathbf{y}^2 \in P$, $\mathbf{y}^1 \neq \mathbf{y}^2$ and $0 < \lambda < 1$,

Since $\mathbf{y}^1 \geq 0, \mathbf{y}^2 \geq 0$ and $0 < \lambda < 1$.

the last $n - p$ components of \mathbf{y}^1 must be zero, *i.e.*

$$\mathbf{y}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{y}}^1 \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix}$$

Now

$$\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{x}} - \bar{\mathbf{y}}^1 \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \neq \mathbf{0}$$

and $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}^1) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}^1 = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$

\Rightarrow columns of \mathbf{A} are linearly dependent.

Thus , columns of $\bar{\mathbf{A}}$ are linearly independent

$\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ is an extreme point.

Definition: \mathbf{A} $m \times n$ matrix ($m \leq n$).

\mathbf{A} has full (row) rank if $\exists m$ linearly independent columns of \mathbf{A} .

In this case, rearrange

$$\mathbf{A} = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{N} \end{array} \right)$$

$\uparrow \qquad \qquad \uparrow$
basis non – basis

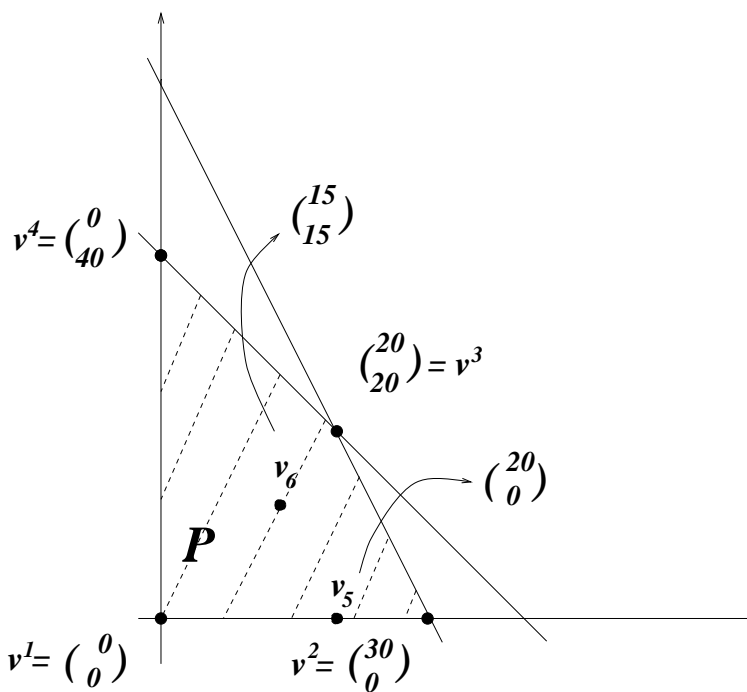
$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_B \\ \mathbf{x}_N \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{basic variables} \\ \leftarrow \text{non-basic variables} \end{array}$$

If we set $\mathbf{x}_N = 0$ and solve \mathbf{x}_B for $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{Bx}_B = \mathbf{b}$ then \mathbf{x} is a basic solution (bs).

Furthermore, if $\mathbf{x}_B \geq 0$, then \mathbf{x} is a basic feasible solution (bfs).

Example:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{Minimize} && x_1 - 2x_2 \\
 &\text{subject to} && x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 40 \\
 &&& 2x_1 + x_2 &+ x_4 &= 60 \\
 &&& x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 &\geq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 v^1 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 40 \\ 60 \end{pmatrix}, v^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ 0 \\ 10 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, v^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 20 \\ 20 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, v^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 40 \\ 0 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix} \text{ bfs} \\
 v^5 &= \begin{pmatrix} 20 \\ 0 \\ 20 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}, v^6 = \begin{pmatrix} 15 \\ 15 \\ 10 \\ 15 \end{pmatrix}, v^7 = \begin{pmatrix} 40 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -20 \end{pmatrix}, v^8 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 60 \\ -20 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ bs}
 \end{aligned}$$

When \mathbf{A} does not have full rank, then either

(1) $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ has no solution and $P = \emptyset$, or

(2) some constraints are redundant.

For (2), after removing the redundant constraints, new \mathbf{A} has full rank.

Corollary 2.1.1: A point $\mathbf{x} \in P$ is an extreme point of P iff \mathbf{x} is a bfs corresponding to some basis \mathbf{B} .

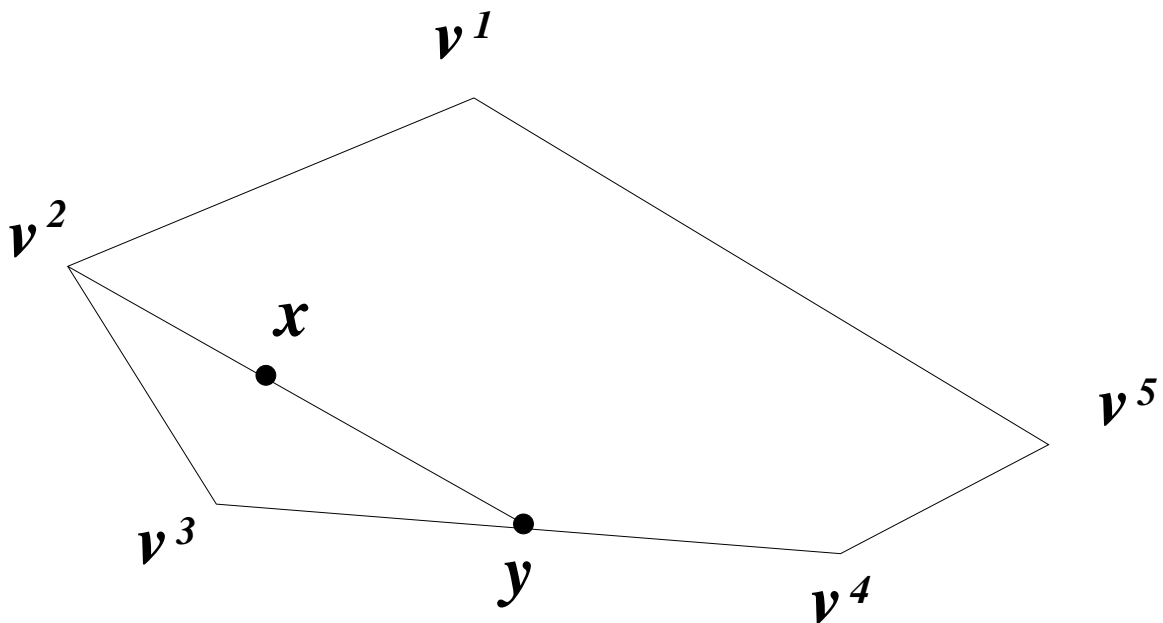
Corollary 2.1.2: The polyhedron P has only a finite number of extreme points.

Proof: # of ways to choose m linearly independent columns from n columns
 $\leq C(n, m) = \frac{n!}{m!(n-m)!}$.

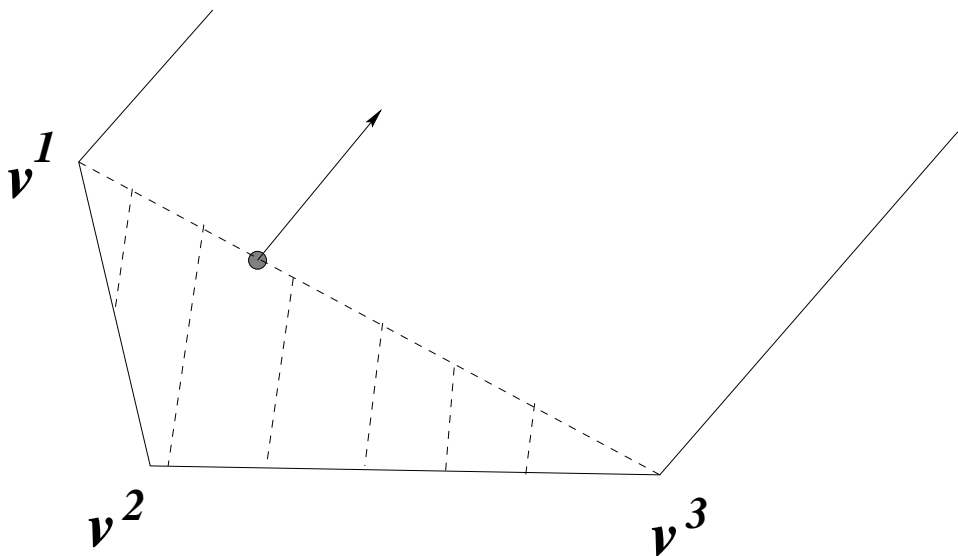
Resolution Theorem

Observation: When

$P = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq 0\}$ is a polytope, then any point in P can be represented as a convex combination of the extreme points of P .



Question: How is the general case?



Definition: $\mathbf{d} (\neq \mathbf{0}) \in \mathbf{R}^n$ is an extremal direction of P if $\forall \mathbf{x}^0 \in P$, $\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^0 + \lambda \mathbf{d}, \lambda \geq 0\} \subset P$.

Observation:

- (1) P is unbounded $\Leftrightarrow P$ has an extremal direction.
- (2) $\mathbf{d} (\neq \mathbf{0})$ is an extremal direction of $P \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{A}\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{d} \geq \mathbf{0}$

Theorem 2.2 Resolution Theorem:

Let $V = \{v^i \in \mathbf{R}^n | i \in I\}$ be a set of all extreme points of P , I is a finite index set, then $\forall \mathbf{x} \in P$, we have

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i v^i + \mathbf{d}$$

where

$$\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i = 1, \quad \lambda_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i \in I.$$

and either $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{0}$ or

\mathbf{d} is an external direction of P .

Corollary 2.2.1: If P is bounded, then any $\mathbf{x} \in P$ can be expressed as a convex combination of its extreme points.

Corollary 2.2.2: If $P \neq \emptyset$, then P has at least one extreme point.

Fundamental Theorem of LP

Theorem 2.3

If $P \neq \emptyset$, then the minimum objective value of $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ over P is either unbounded below or attained at an extreme point of P .

Proof: By the resolution theorem, there are two cases:

Case 1: P has an extremal direction \mathbf{d} such that $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d} < 0$. Hence P is unbounded and $\mathbf{z} \rightarrow -\infty$ along \mathbf{d} .

Case 2: P does not have any extremal direction \mathbf{d} such that $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{d} < 0$, then $\forall \mathbf{x} \in P$, either $\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \mathbf{v}^i$ with $\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i = 1$, $\lambda_i \geq 0$, or $\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \mathbf{v}^i + \bar{\mathbf{d}}$ with $\mathbf{c}^T \bar{\mathbf{d}} \geq 0$.
In both cases,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{c}^T [\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i v^i] (+\mathbf{c}^T \bar{\mathbf{d}}) \\
&\geq \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i (\mathbf{c}^T v^i) \\
&\geq \min_{i \in I} \{\mathbf{c}^T v^i\} (\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i) \\
&= \min_{i \in I} \{\mathbf{c}^T v^i\} \\
&= \mathbf{c}^T v^{\min}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the minimum of \mathbf{z} is attained at one extreme point!