

Numerical Optimization

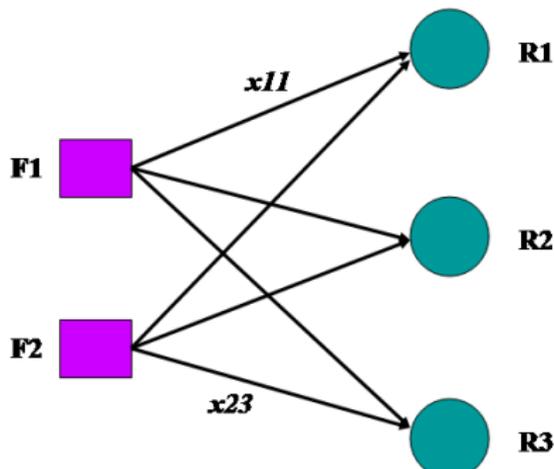
Linear Programming

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NPTEL Course on Numerical Optimization

Transportation Problem



$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & \sum_{ij} c_{ij}x_{ij} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^3 x_{ij} \leq a_i, \quad i = 1, 2 \\ & \sum_{i=1}^2 x_{ij} \geq b_j, \quad j = 1, 2, 3 \\ & x_{ij} \geq 0 \quad \forall i, j \end{aligned}$$

- a_i : Capacity of the plant F_i
- b_j : Demand of the outlet R_j
- c_{ij} : Cost of shipping one unit of product from F_i to R_j
- x_{ij} : Number of units of the product shipped from F_i to R_j (**variables**)
- The **objective** is to *minimize* $\sum_{ij} c_{ij}x_{ij}$
- $\sum_{j=1}^3 x_{ij} \leq a_i, \quad i = 1, 2$ (**constraints**)
- $\sum_{i=1}^2 x_{ij} \geq b_j, \quad j = 1, 2, 3$ (**constraints**)
- $x_{ij} \geq 0 \quad \forall i, j$ (**constraints**)

The Diet Problem: Find the *most economical* diet that satisfies *minimum* nutritional requirements.

- Number of food items: n
- Number of nutritional ingredient: m
- Each person must consume *at least* b_j units of nutrient j per day
- Unit cost of food item i : c_i
- Each unit of food item i contains a_{ji} units of the nutrient j
- Number of units of food item i consumed: x_i

Constraint corresponding to the nutrient j :

$$a_{j1}x_1 + a_{j2}x_2 + \dots + a_{jn}x_n \geq b_j, \quad x_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i$$

Cost:

$$c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \dots + c_nx_n$$

Problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \dots + c_nx_n \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & a_{j1}x_1 + a_{j2}x_2 + \dots + a_{jn}x_n \geq b_j \quad \forall j \\ & x_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i \end{aligned}$$

Given: $\mathbf{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_n)^T$, $\mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{a}_1 | \dots | \mathbf{a}_n)$, $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_m)^T$.

Linear Programming Problem (LP):

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{Ax} \geq \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

- Assumption: $m \leq n$, $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = m$
- Linear Constraints can be of the form $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ or $\mathbf{Ax} \leq \mathbf{b}$

Constraint (Feasible) Set:

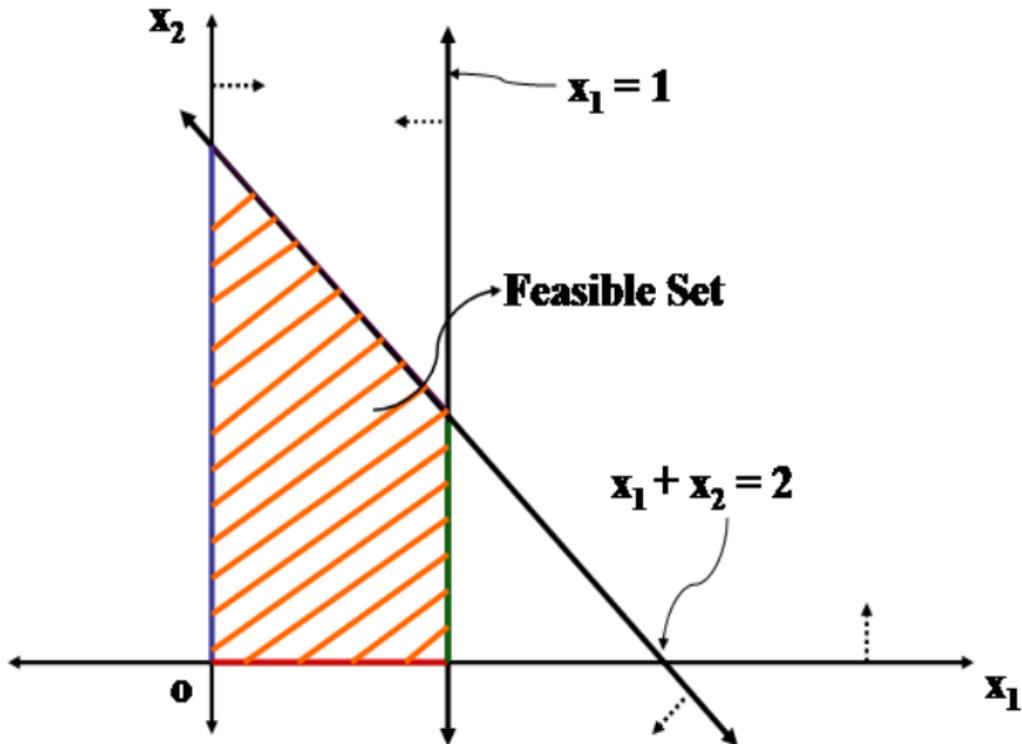
- Inequality constraint of the type $\{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}\}$ or $\{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{b}\}$ denotes a *half space*
- Equality constraint, $\{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}\}$, represents an affine space
- Non-negativity constraint, $\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$
- Constraint set of an LP is a *convex* set

Polyhedral Set

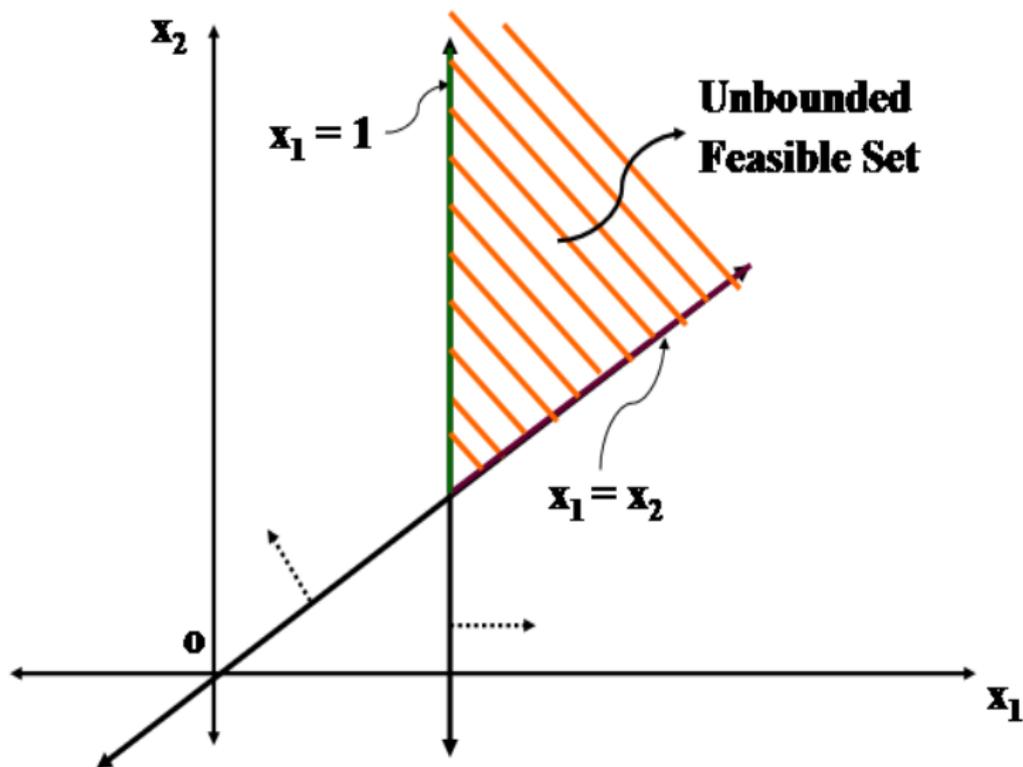
$$X = \{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$$

Polytope: A bounded polyhedral set

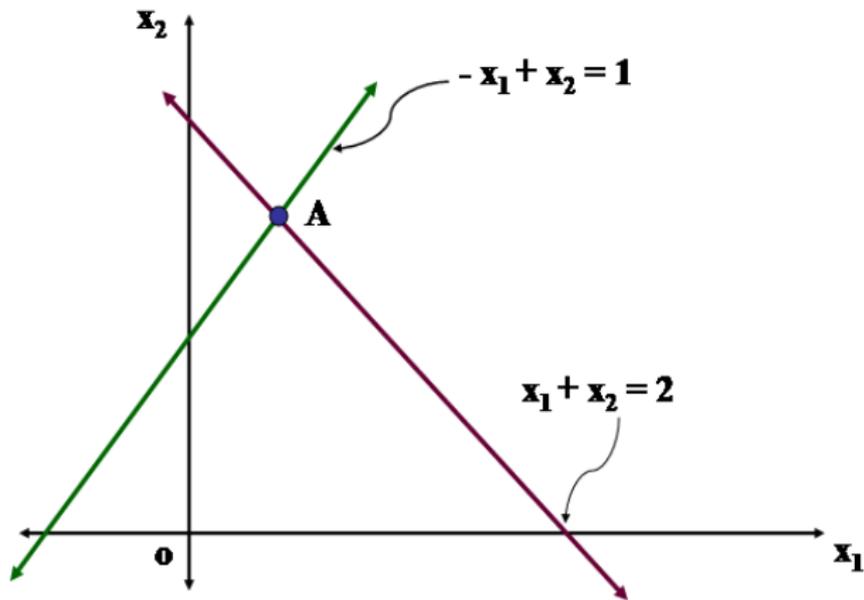
Consider the constraint set in \mathbb{R}^2 :



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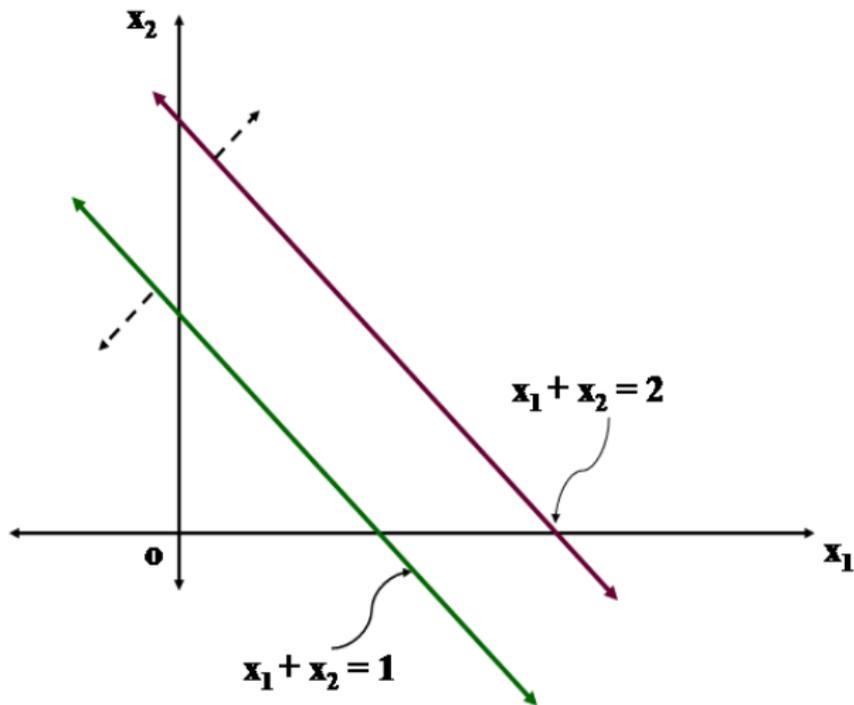


Feasible set can be a singleton set



$$\text{Feasible Set} = \{(x_1, x_2) : x_1 + x_2 = 2, -x_1 + x_2 = 1\} = \{A\}$$

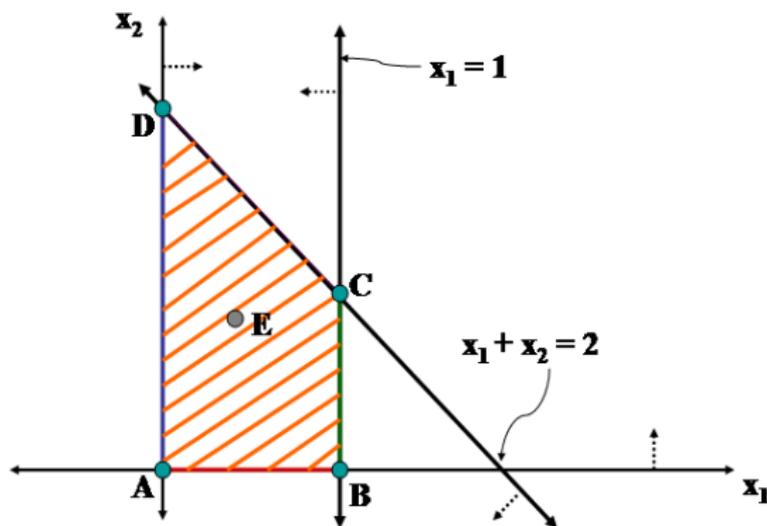
Feasible set can be empty!



Feasible Set = $\{(x_1, x_2) : x_1 + x_2 \geq 2, x_1 + x_2 \leq 1\} = \phi$

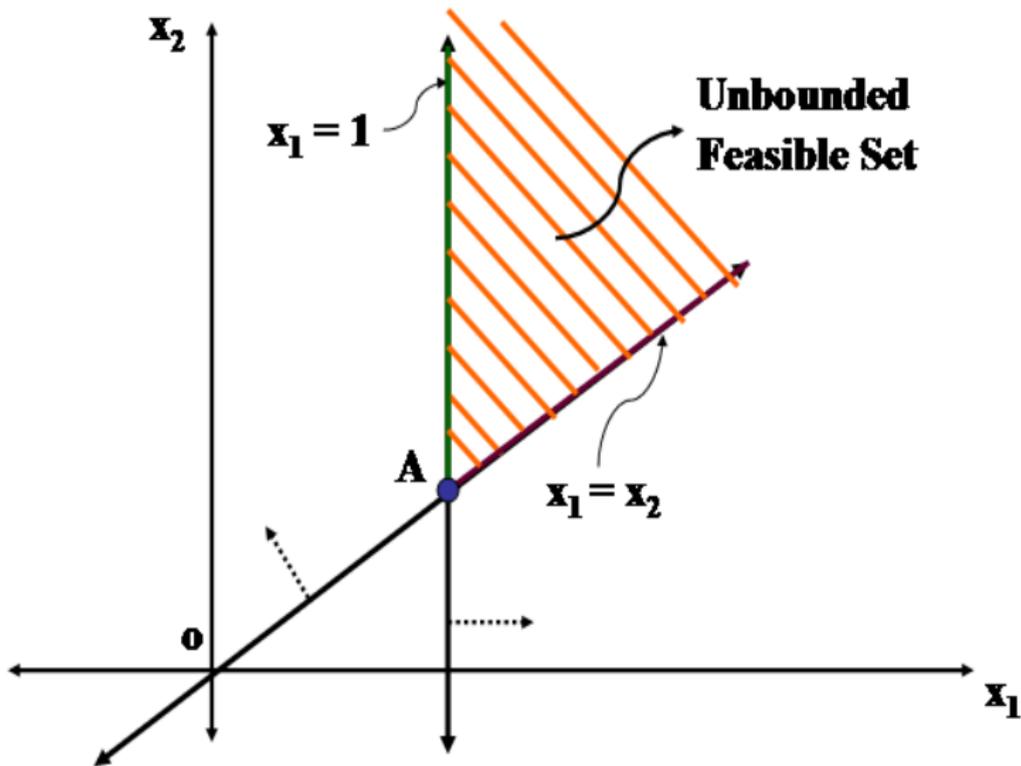
Definition

Let X be a convex set. A point $x \in X$ is said to be an **extreme point** (corner point or vertex) of X if x cannot be represented as a strict convex combination of two distinct points in X .



Extreme Points: A, B, C and D.

E is not an extreme point.

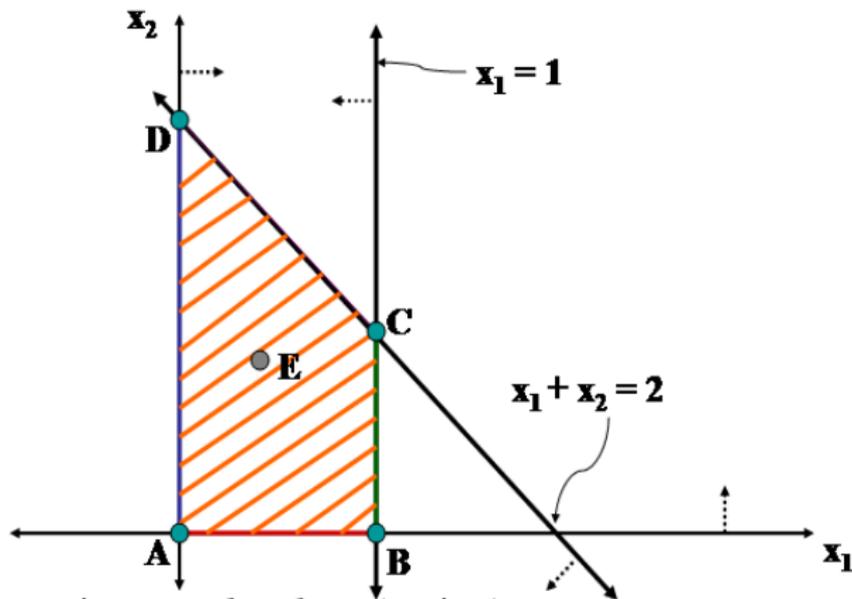


Extreme Point: A

- Constraint Set:

$$X = \{(x_1, x_2) : x_1 + x_2 \leq 2, x_1 \leq 1, x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0\}$$

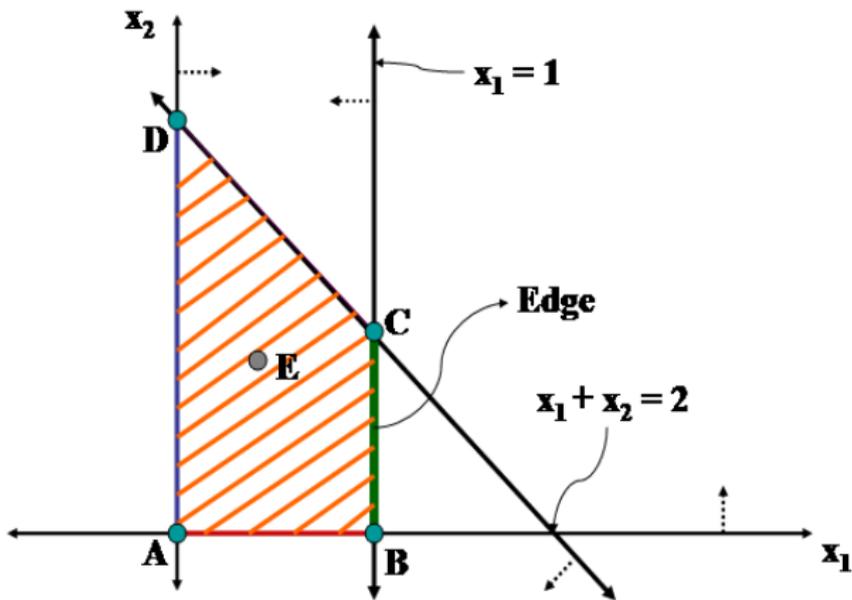
- 4 constraints in \mathbb{R}^2



- Two constraints are *binding* (active) at every extreme point
- Fewer than two constraints are binding at other points

Consider the constraint set: $X = \{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{Ax} \leq \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$ where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = m$.

- $m + n$ hyperplanes associated with $m + n$ halfspaces
- $m + n$ halfspaces define X
- An extreme point lies on n linearly independent defining hyperplanes of X
- If X is nonempty, the set of extreme points of X is not empty and has a finite number of points.
- An **edge** of X is formed by intersection of $n - 1$ linearly independent hyperplanes
- Two extreme points of X are said to be **adjacent** if the line segment joining them is an edge of X



- For example, B and C are *adjacent* points
- Adjacent extreme points have $n - 1$ common binding linearly independent hyperplanes

Remarks:

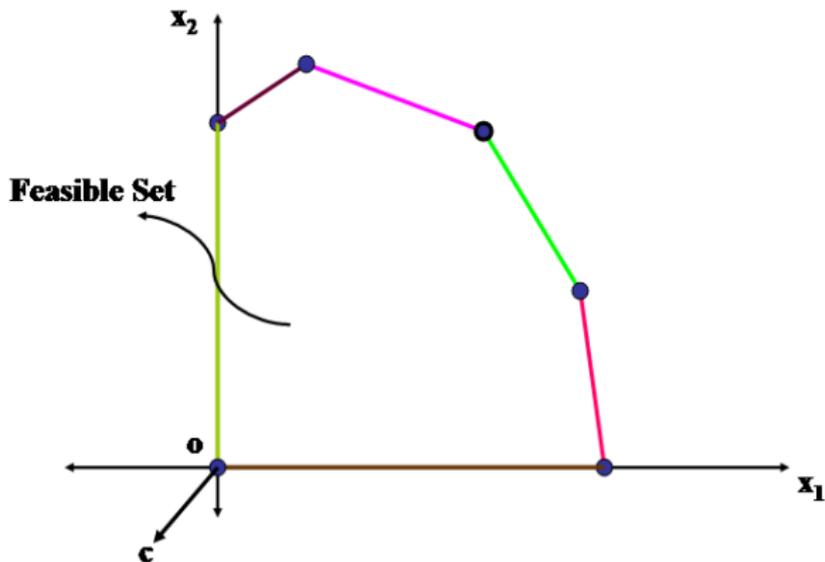
Consider the constraint set: $X = \{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$ where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = m$.

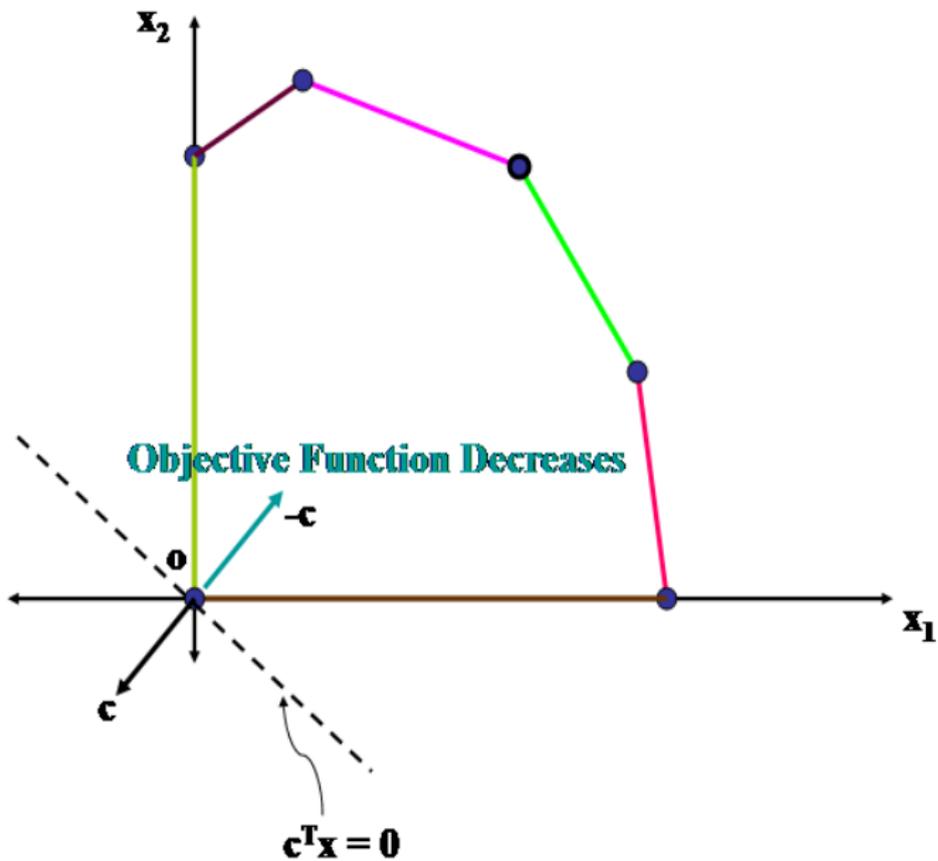
- Let $\bar{\mathbf{x}} \in X$ be an extreme point of X
- m equality constraints are active at $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$
- Therefore, $n - m$ additional hyperplanes (from the non-negativity constraints) are active at $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$

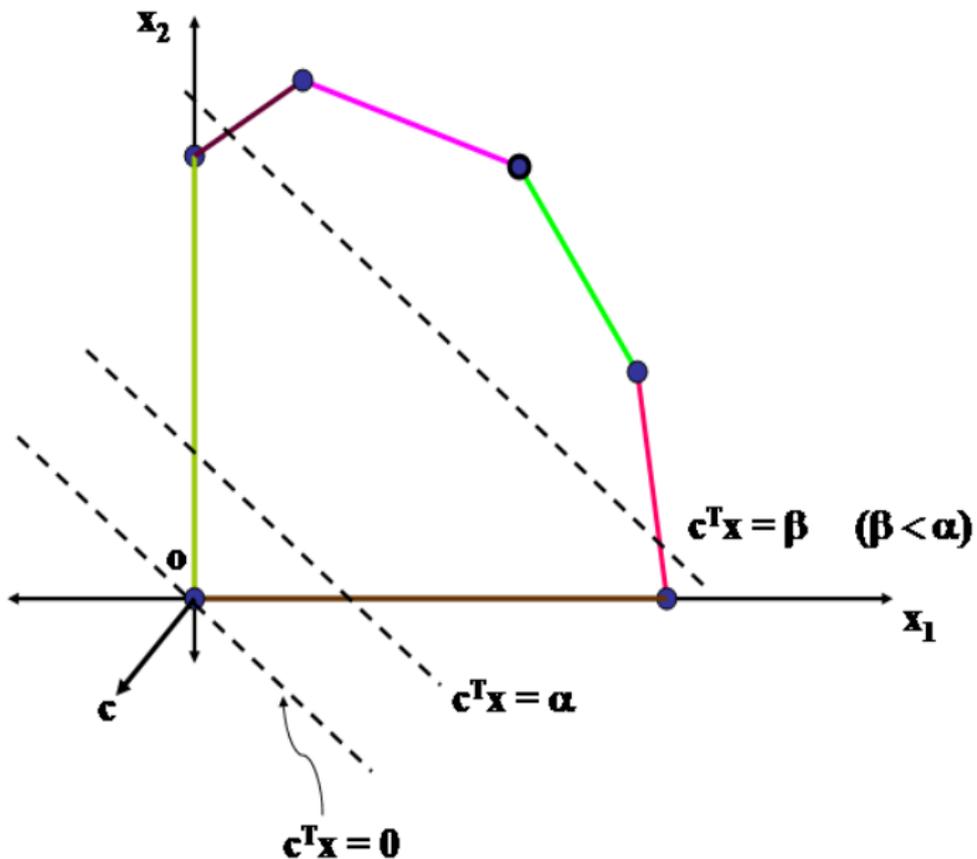
Geometric Solution of a LP:

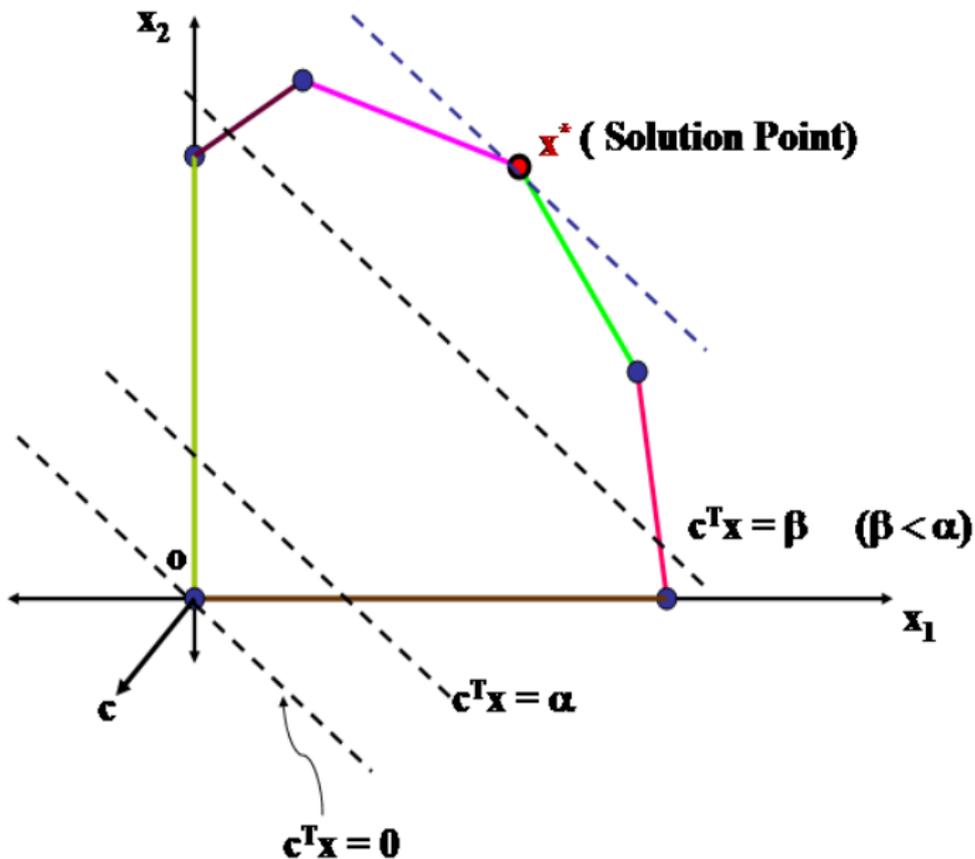
$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{Ax} \geq \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

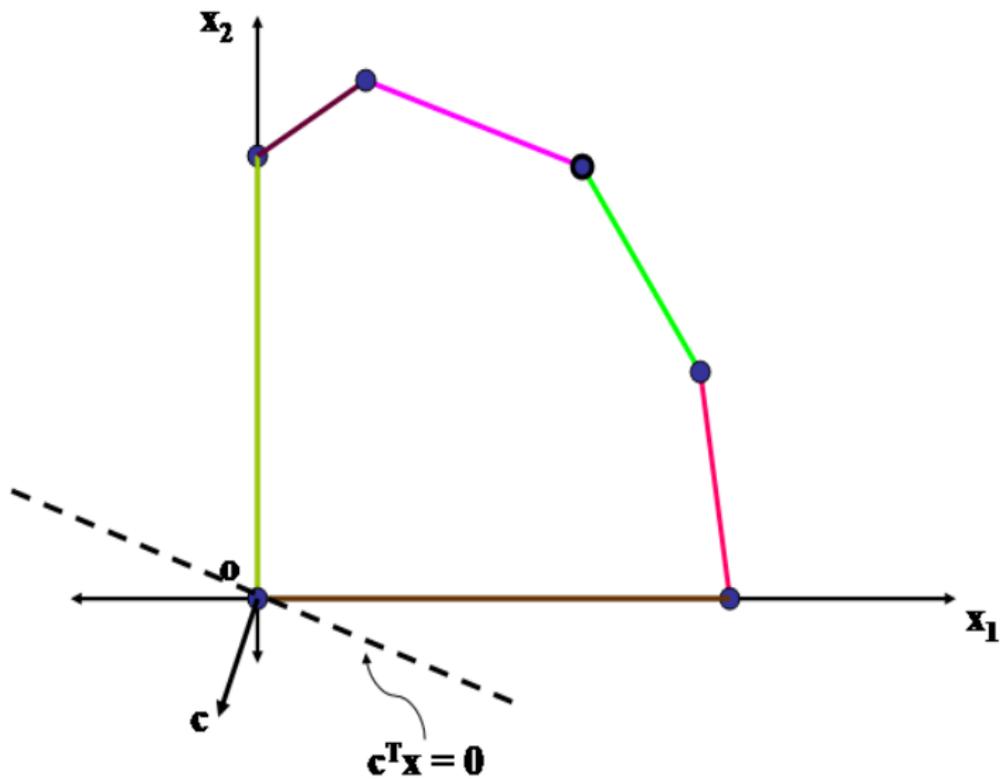
where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

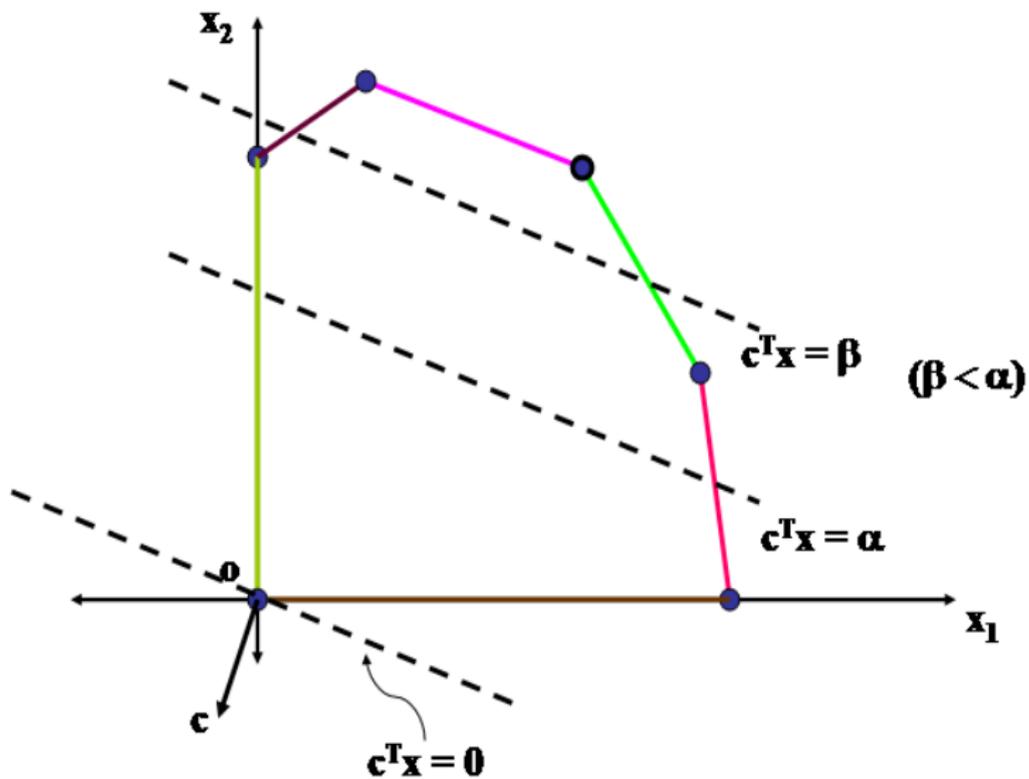


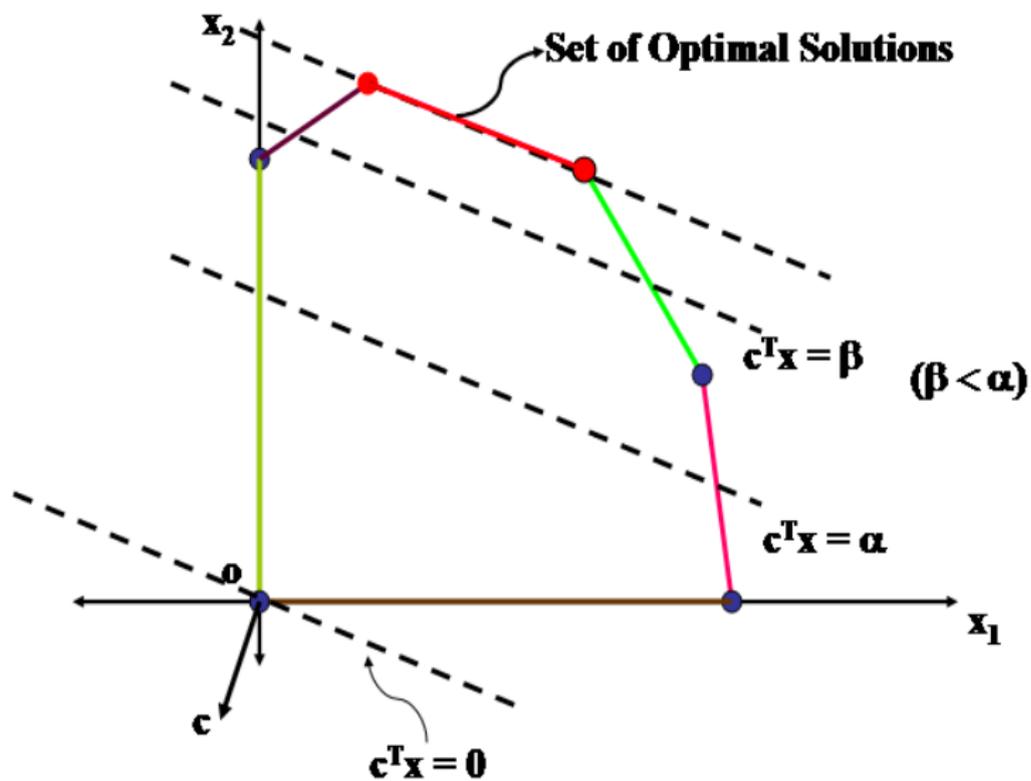






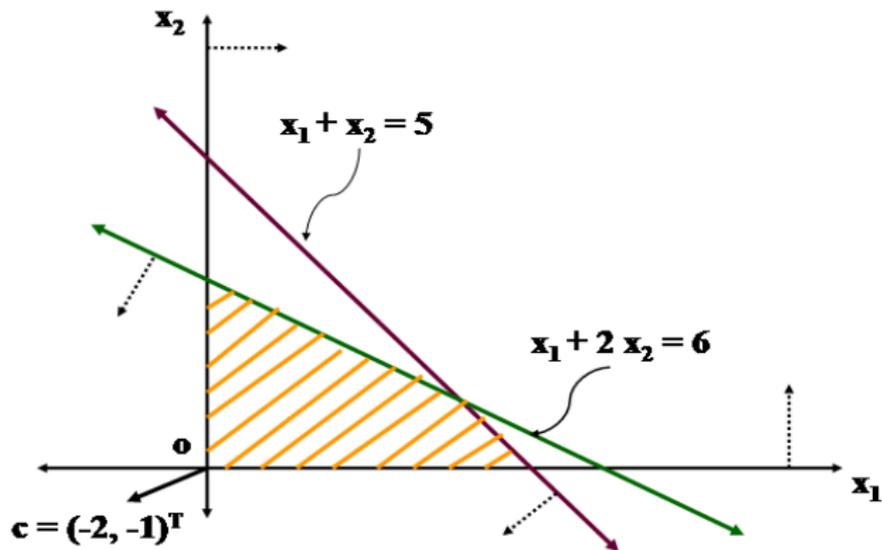






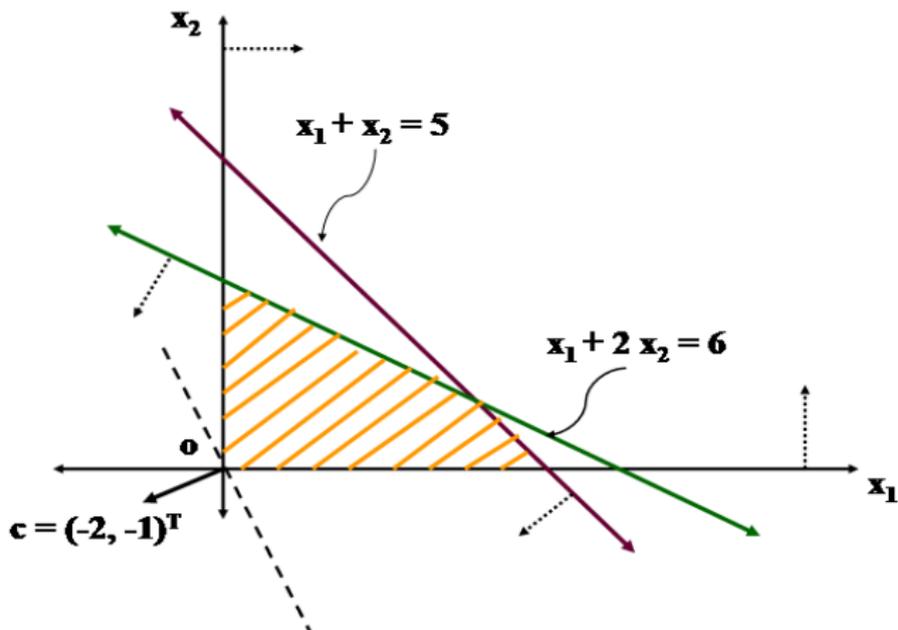
Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & -2x_1 - x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 \leq 5 \\ & x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 6 \end{aligned}$$



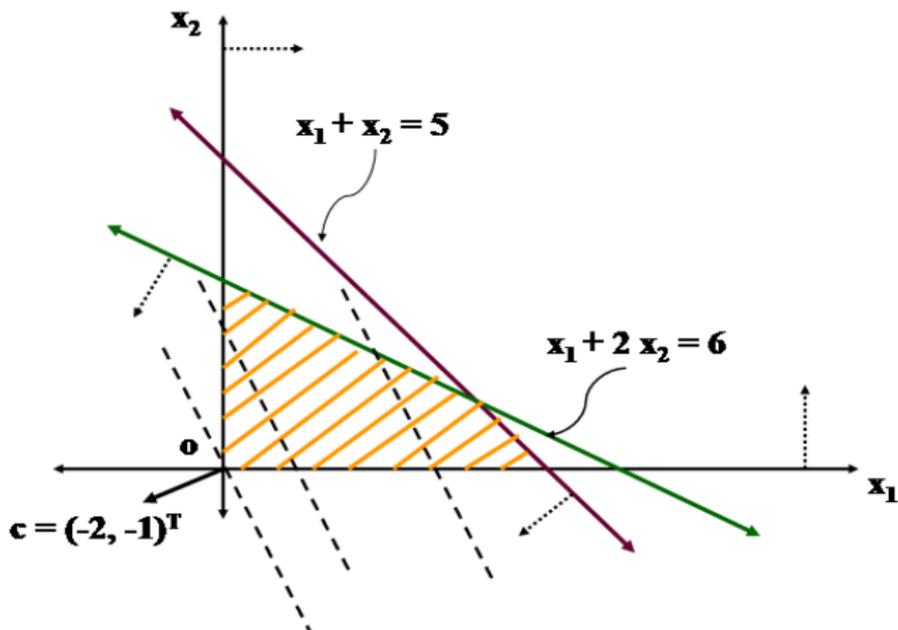
Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & -2x_1 - x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 \leq 5 \\ & x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 6 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



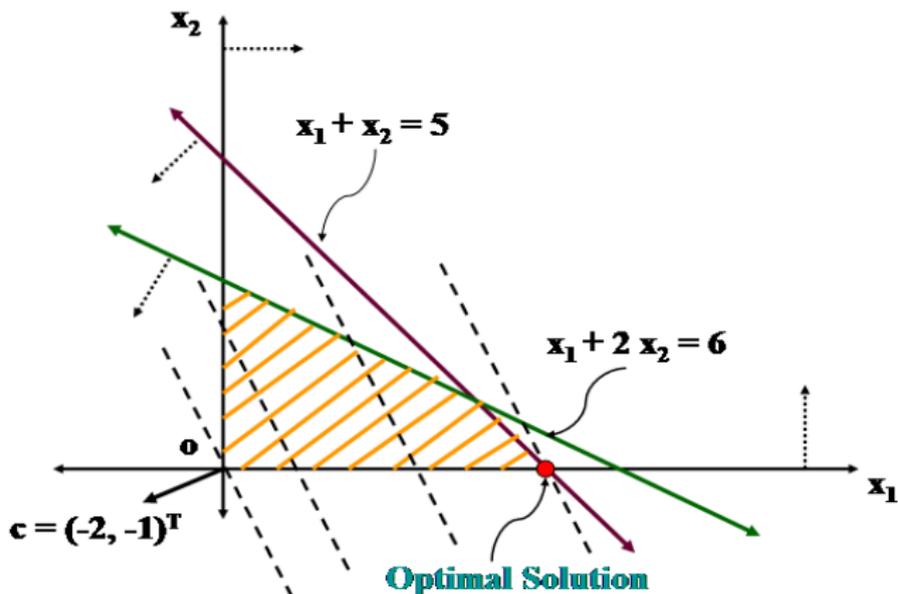
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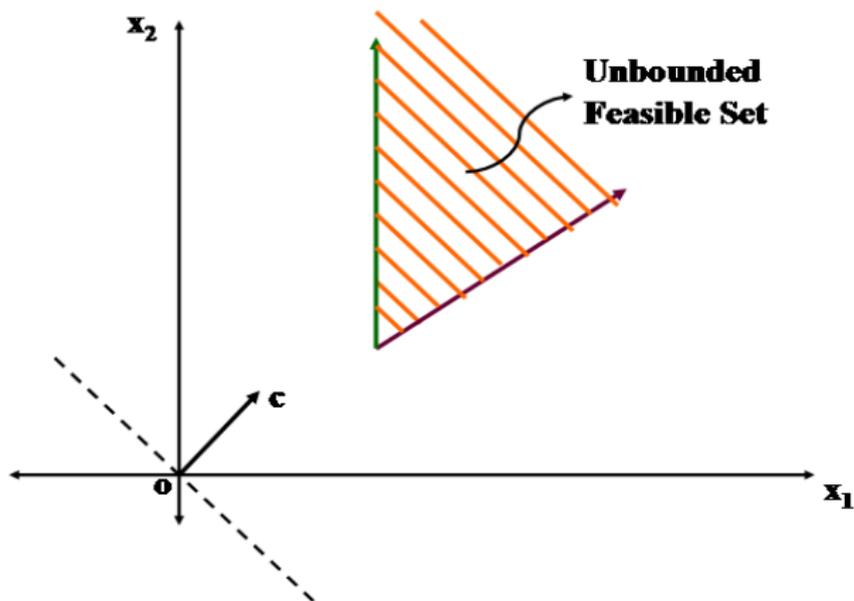
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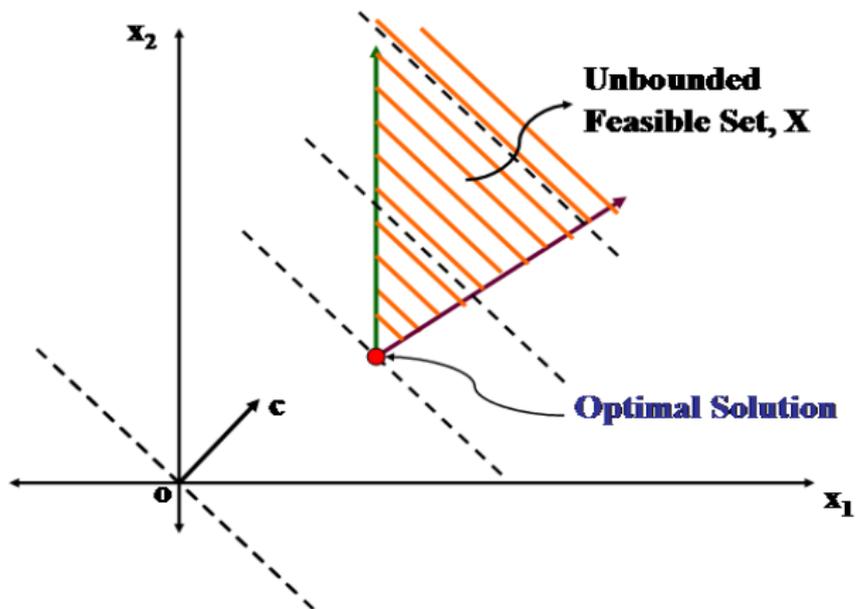
Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{x} \in X \end{aligned}$$



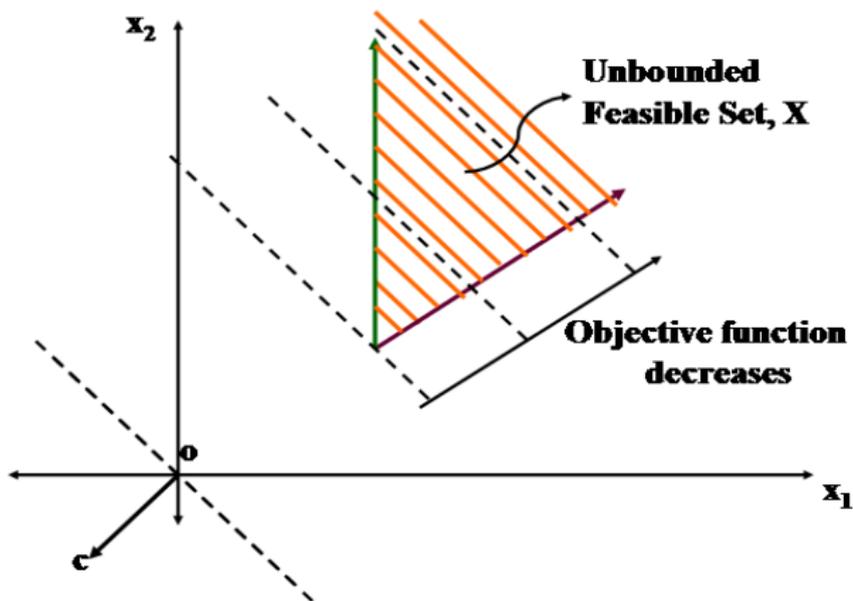
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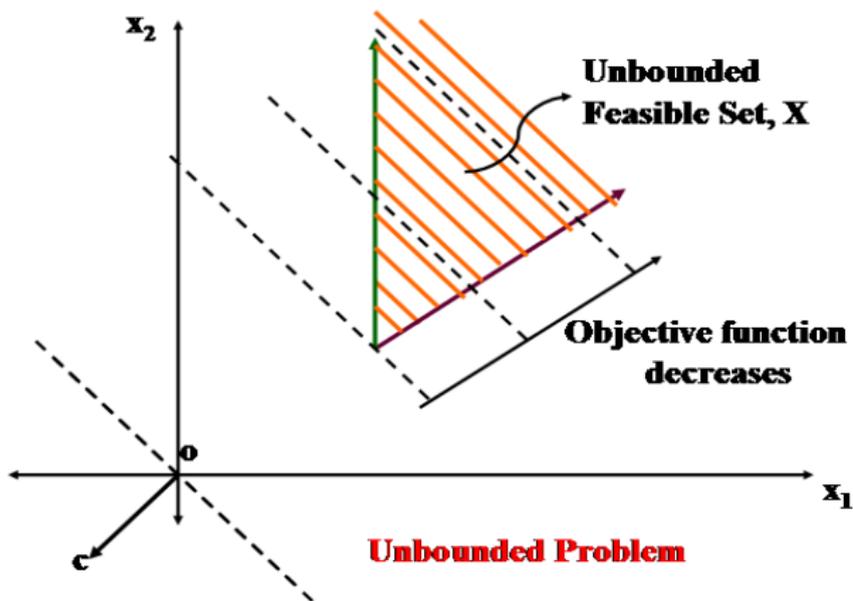
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$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x \in X \end{aligned}$$



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Consider a linear programming problem **LP**:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{x} (\leq, =, \geq) \mathbf{b}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

Let $X = \{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{x} (\leq, =, \geq) \mathbf{b}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$.

Remarks:

- X is a closed convex set
- The set of optimal solutions is a convex set.
- The linear program may have *no solution* or a *unique solution* or *infinitely many solutions*.
- If \mathbf{x}^* is an optimal solution to **LP**, then \mathbf{x}^* must be a *boundary* point of X . If $z = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}^*$, then $\{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} = z\}$ is a supporting hyperplane to X .
- If X is compact and if there is an optimal solution to **LP**, then *at least one* extreme point of X is an optimal solution to the linear programming problem.

LP in Standard Form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = m$.

Assumption: Feasible set is non-empty

- Any linear program can be converted to the Standard Form.

(a) $\max \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} = - \min -\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$

(b) Constraint of the type

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \leq b, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

can be written as

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} + y = b$$

$$\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

$$y \geq 0$$

(c) Constraint of the type

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} \geq b, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x} - z &= b \\ \mathbf{x} &\geq \mathbf{0} \\ z &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

(d) Free variables ($x_i \in \mathbb{R}$) can be defined as

$$x_i = x_i^+ - x_i^-, \quad x_i^+ \geq 0, \quad x_i^- \geq 0$$

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x_1 - 2x_2 - 3x_3 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 \leq 14 \\ & x_1 + 2x_2 + 4x_3 \geq 12 \\ & x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \text{ unrestricted} \end{aligned}$$

- Write the constraints as *equality* constraints
 - $x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 14$, $x_4 \geq 0$
 - $x_1 + 2x_2 + 4x_3 - x_5 = 12$, $x_5 \geq 0$
- Define new variables $x_1^+, x_1^-, x_2^+, x_2^-$ and x'_3 such that
 - $x_1 = x_1^+ - x_1^-$, where $x_1^+ \geq 0, x_1^- \geq 0$
 - $x_2 = x_2^+ - x_2^-$, where $x_2^+ \geq 0, x_2^- \geq 0$
 - $x'_3 = -3 - x_3$ so that $x'_3 \geq 0$

Therefore, the program

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x_1 - 2x_2 - 3x_3 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 \leq 14 \\ & x_1 + 2x_2 + 4x_3 \geq 12 \\ & x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \text{ unrestricted} \\ & x_3 \leq -3 \end{aligned}$$

can be converted to the standard form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & x_1^+ - x_1^- - 2(x_2^+ - x_2^-) + 3(3 + x_3') \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1^+ - x_1^- + 2(x_2^+ - x_2^-) - x_3' + x_4 = 17 \\ & x_1^+ - x_1^- + 2(x_2^+ - x_2^-) - 4x_3' - x_5 = 24 \\ & x_1^+ - x_1^- - x_2^+ + x_2^- - x_3' = 5 \\ & x_1^+, x_1^-, x_2^+, x_2^-, x_3', x_4, x_5 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Consider the linear program in standard form (SLP):

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \\ & \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{b}) = m$.

Let $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ be formed using m linearly independent columns of \mathbf{A} .

Therefore, the system of equations, $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ can be written as,

$$(\mathbf{B} \quad \mathbf{N}) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_B \\ \mathbf{x}_N \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{b}.$$

Letting $\mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{0}$, we get

$$\mathbf{Bx}_B = \mathbf{b} \Rightarrow \mathbf{x}_B = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{b}. \quad (\mathbf{x}_B : \text{Basic Variables})$$

$(\mathbf{x}_B \quad \mathbf{0})^T$: **Basic solution** w.r.t. the *basis matrix* \mathbf{B}

Basic Feasible Solution

If $\mathbf{x}_B \geq \mathbf{0}$, then $(\mathbf{x}_B \ \mathbf{0})^T$ is called a *basic feasible solution* of

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

w.r.t. the basis matrix \mathbf{B} .

Theorem

Let $X = \{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$. \mathbf{x} is an extreme point of X if and only if \mathbf{x} is a basic feasible solution of

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}.$$

Proof.

(a) Let \mathbf{x} be a basic feasible solution of $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$.

Therefore, $\mathbf{x} = (\underbrace{x_1, \dots, x_m}_{\geq 0}, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{n-m})$. Let $\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{a}_1 | \mathbf{a}_2 | \dots | \mathbf{a}_m)$

where $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m$ are linearly independent. So,

$$x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + x_m \mathbf{a}_m = \mathbf{b}.$$

Suppose \mathbf{x} is not an extreme point of X .

Let $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z} \in X$, $\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{z}$ and $\mathbf{x} = \alpha \mathbf{y} + (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{z}$, $0 < \alpha < 1$.

Since $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z} \geq \mathbf{0}$, we have

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} y_{m+1} = \dots = y_n = 0 \\ z_{m+1} = \dots = z_n = 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{ and } \begin{array}{l} y_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + y_m \mathbf{a}_m = \mathbf{b} \\ z_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + z_m \mathbf{a}_m = \mathbf{b} \end{array}$$

Since $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m$ are linearly independent, $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{z}$, a contradiction. So, \mathbf{x} is an extreme point of X .

Proof.(continued)

(b) Let \mathbf{x} be an extreme point of X .

$$\mathbf{x} \in X \Rightarrow \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}.$$

There exist n linearly independent constraints active at \mathbf{x} .

- m active constraints associated with $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$.
- $n - m$ active constraints associated with $n - m$ non-negativity constraints

\mathbf{x} is the *unique* solution of $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x}_N = \mathbf{0}$.

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \Rightarrow \mathbf{Bx}_B + \mathbf{Nx}_N = \mathbf{b} \Rightarrow \mathbf{x}_B = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{b} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

Therefore, $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_B \ \mathbf{x}_N)^T$ is a basic feasible solution. □

$$\text{Number of basic solutions} \leq \binom{n}{m}$$

Enough to search the finite set of vertices of X to get an optimal

Theorem

Let X be non-empty and compact constraint set of a linear program. Then, an optimal solution to the linear program exists and it is attained at a vertex of X .

Proof.

Objective function, $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$, of the linear program is continuous and the constraint set is compact. Therefore, by Weierstrass' Theorem, optimal solution exists.

The set of vertices, $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_k\}$, of X is finite.

Therefore, X is the convex hull of $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_k$.

Hence, for every $\mathbf{x} \in X$, $\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i$ where $\alpha_i \geq 0$, $\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i = 1$.

Let $z^* = \min_{1 \leq i \leq k} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}_i$. Therefore, for any $\mathbf{x} \in X$,

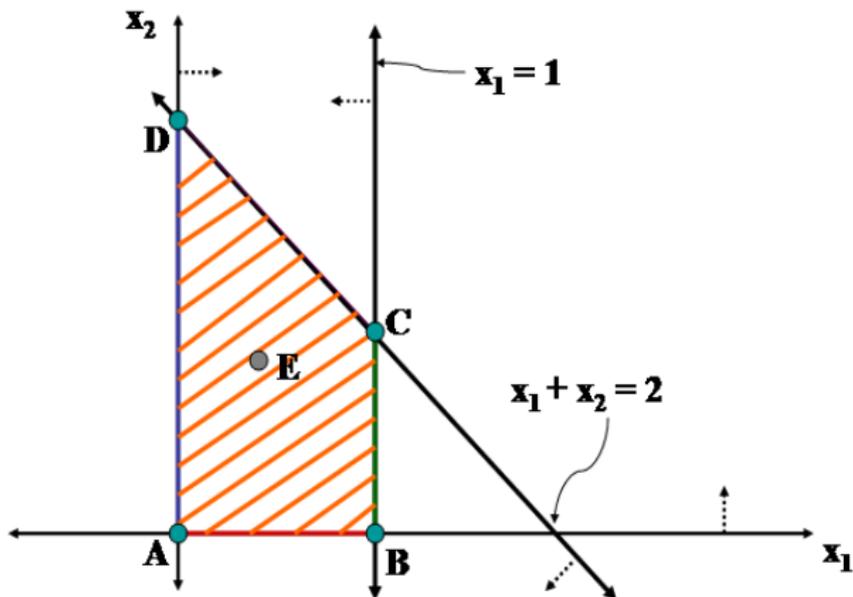
$z = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}_i \geq z^* \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i = z^*$. So, the minimum value of $\mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}$ is attained at a vertex of X . □

Consider the constraints:

$$x_1 + x_2 \leq 2$$

$$x_1 \leq 1$$

$$x_1, x_2 > 0$$



The given constraints

$$x_1 + x_2 \leq 2$$

$$x_1 \leq 1$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$

can be written in the form, $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$, $\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$:

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 2$$

$$x_1 + x_4 = 1$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \geq 0$$

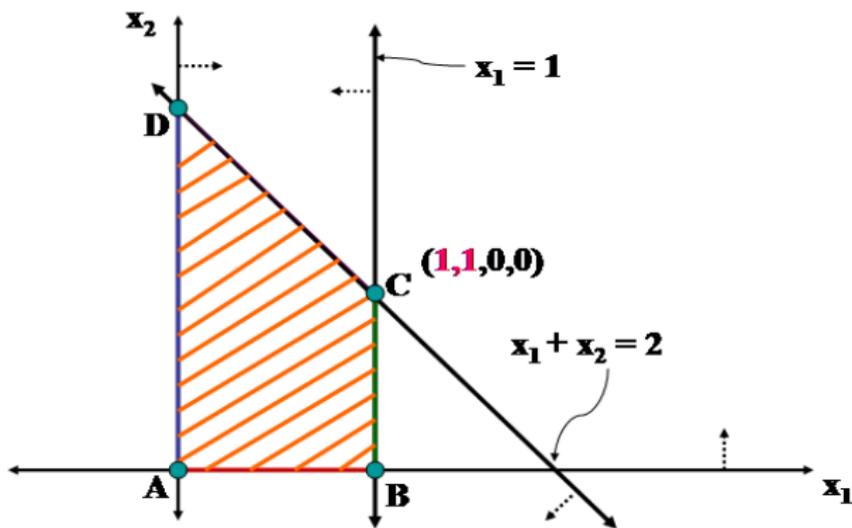
$$\text{Let } \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (\mathbf{a}_1 | \mathbf{a}_2 | \mathbf{a}_3 | \mathbf{a}_4) \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (a_1|a_2|a_3|a_4) \text{ and } b = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(1) B = (a_1|a_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_B = (x_1 \ x_2)^T = B^{-1}b = (1 \ 1)^T \text{ and } x_N = (x_3 \ x_4)^T = (0 \ 0)^T.$$

$x = (x_B \ x_N)^T$ corresponds to the vertex **C**.

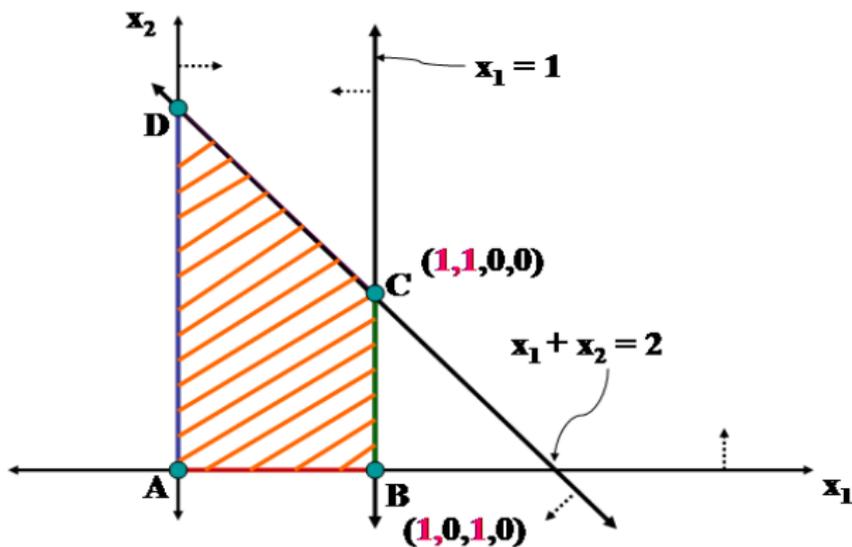


$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (a_1|a_2|a_3|a_4) \text{ and } b = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(2) B = (a_1|a_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_B = (x_1 \ x_3)^T = B^{-1}b = (1 \ 1)^T \text{ and } x_N = (x_2 \ x_4)^T = (0 \ 0)^T.$$

$x = (x_B \ x_N)^T$ corresponds to the vertex **B**.



$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{1} & 1 & 1 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{1} & 0 & 0 & \mathbf{1} \end{pmatrix} = (\mathbf{a}_1 | \mathbf{a}_2 | \mathbf{a}_3 | \mathbf{a}_4) \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(3) \mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{a}_1 | \mathbf{a}_4) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_B = (x_1 \ x_4)^T = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{b} = (2 \ -1)^T \text{ and } \mathbf{x}_N = (x_2 \ x_3)^T = (0 \ 0)^T.$$

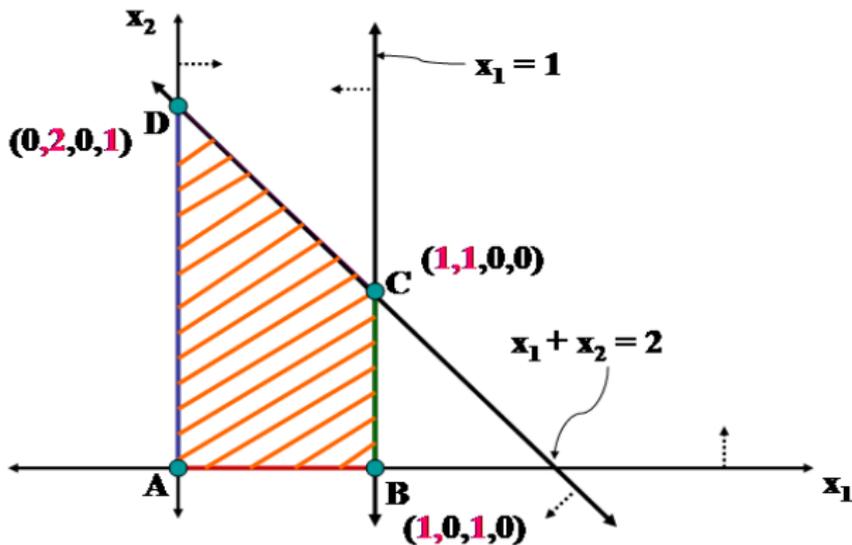
$\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_B \ \mathbf{x}_N)^T$ is not a basic feasible point

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (a_1|a_2|a_3|a_4) \text{ and } b = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(4) B = (a_2|a_4) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_B = (x_2 \ x_4)^T = B^{-1}b = (2 \ 1)^T \text{ and } x_N = (x_1 \ x_3)^T = (0 \ 0)^T.$$

$x = (x_B \ x_N)^T$ corresponds to the vertex **D**.

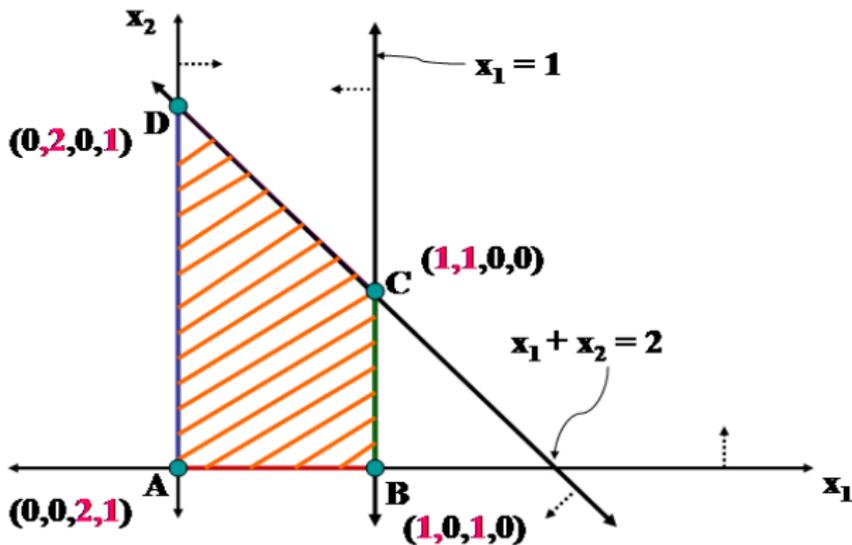


$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (a_1|a_2|a_3|a_4) \text{ and } b = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(5) B = (a_3|a_4) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_B = (x_3 \ x_4)^T = B^{-1}b = (2 \ 1)^T \text{ and } x_N = (x_1 \ x_2)^T = (0 \ 0)^T.$$

$x = (x_B \ x_N)^T$ corresponds to the vertex **A**.



Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & -3x_1 - x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_1 + x_2 \leq 2 \\ & x_1 \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

