

Advanced Algorithms (Fall 2023)
Linear Programming Rounding

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Nanjing University

- 1 Linear Programming and Rounding
- 2 Exact Algorithms Using LP: Integral Polytopes
 - Bipartite Matching Polytope
 - s - t Flow Polytope
 - Weighted Interval Scheduling Problem
- 3 Approximation Algorithms Using LP: LP Rounding
 - 2-Approximation Algorithm for Weighted Vertex Cover
 - 2-Approximation Algorithm for Unrelated Machine Scheduling

Algorithm Design Based on Linear Programming (LP)

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Algorithm Design Based on Linear Programming (LP)

- Opti. Problem $X \iff$ Integer Program (IP) $\xrightarrow{\text{relax}}$ LP
- Integer programming is NP-hard; linear programming is in P
- For some problems $LP \equiv IP \implies$ exact algorithms
- For some problems, $LP \not\equiv IP$
 - solve LP to obtain a fractional solution,
 - **round** it to an integral solution \implies approximation algorithms

Linear Programming (LP), Linear Program (LP)

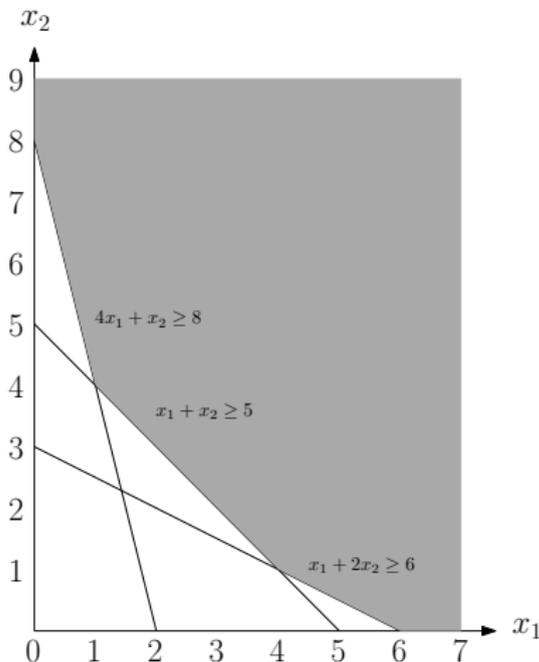
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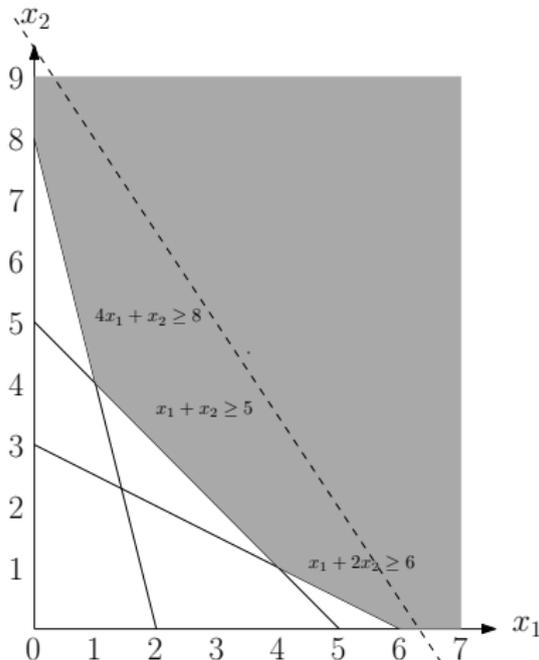
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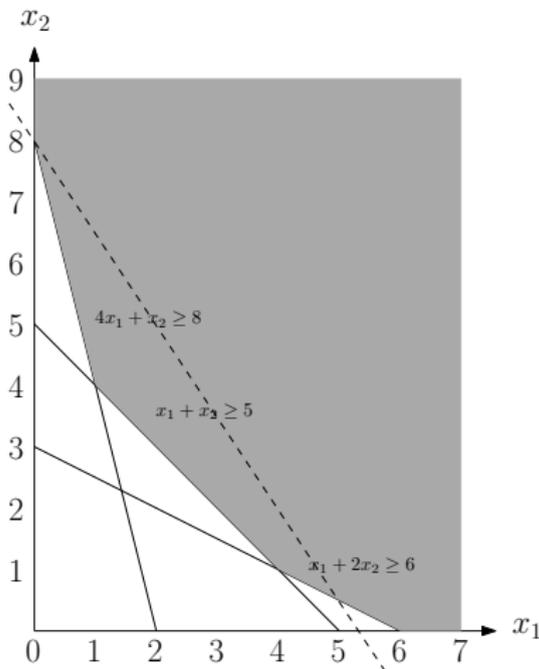
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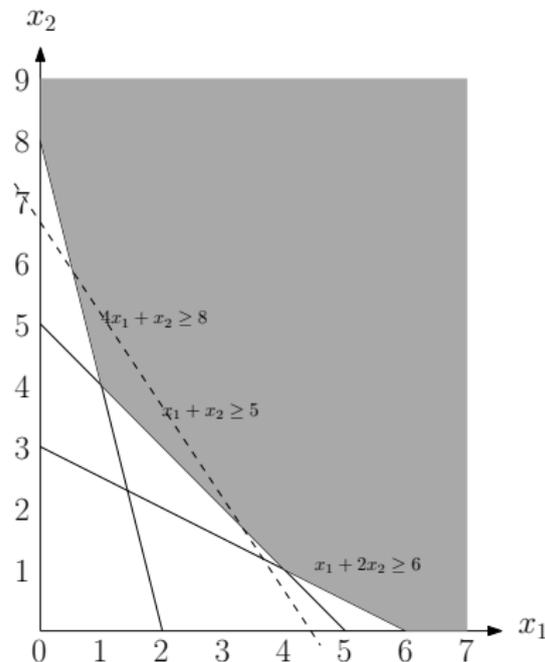
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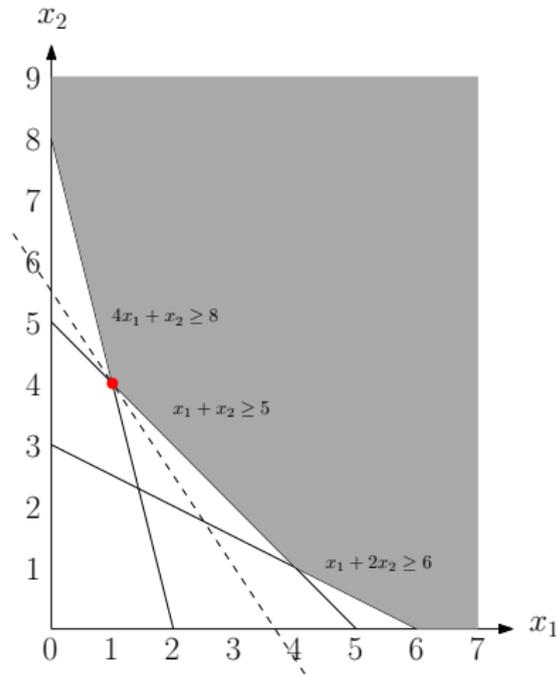
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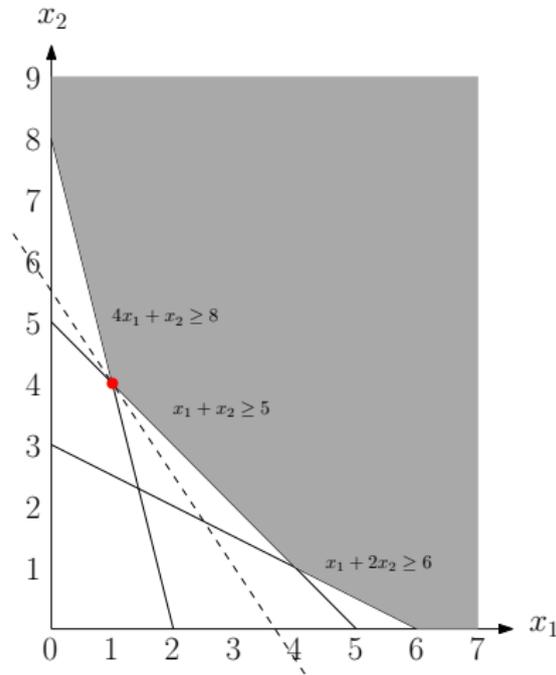
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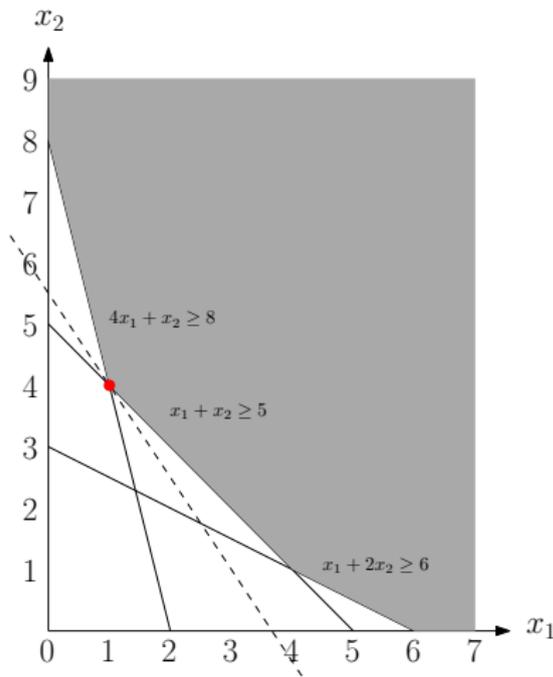
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- optimum value =
 $7 \times 1 + 4 \times 4 = 23$
- general case: many variables and constraints, but objective and constraints are linear



Standard Form of Linear Programs

$$x := \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad c := \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$
$$A := \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & \cdots & a_{1,n} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & \cdots & a_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m,1} & a_{m,2} & \cdots & a_{m,n} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}, \quad b := \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^m.$$

History

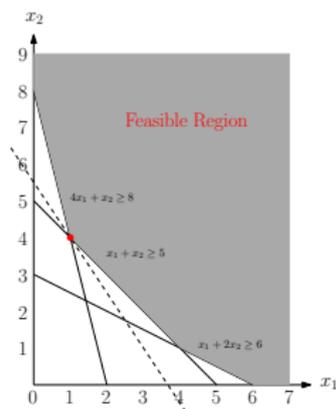
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History

- [Fourier, 1827]: Fourier-Motzkin elimination method
- [Kantorovich, Koopmans 1939]: formulated the general linear programming problem
- [Dantzig 1946]: simplex method
- [Khachiyan 1979]: ellipsoid method, polynomial time, proved linear programming is in P
- [Karmarkar, 1984]: interior-point method, polynomial time, algorithm is practical

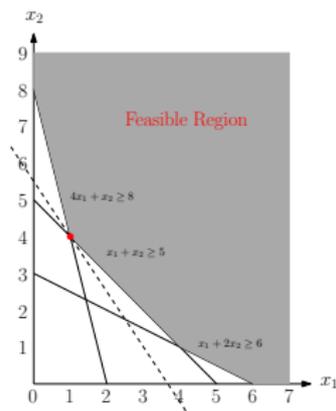
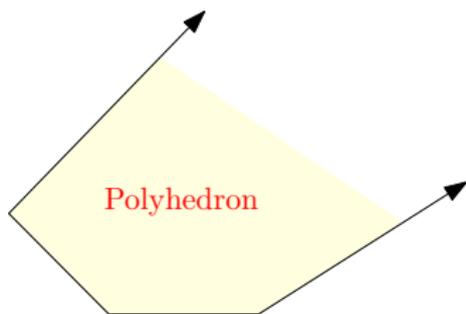
Preliminaries

- **feasible region**: the set of x 's satisfying $Ax \geq b, x \geq 0$



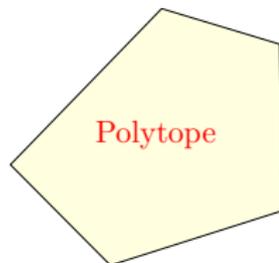
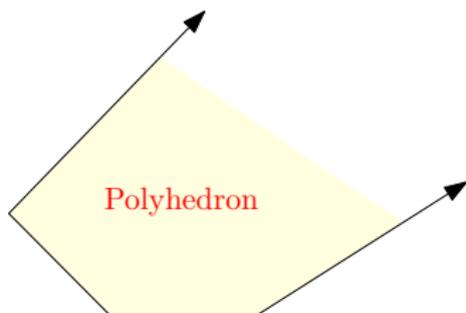
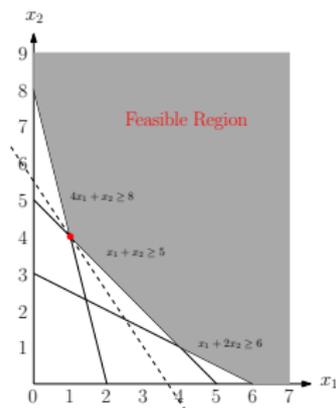
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- **feasible region**: the set of x 's satisfying $Ax \geq b, x \geq 0$
- feasible region is a **polyhedron**
- if every coordinate has an upper and lower bound in the polyhedron, then the polyhedron is a **polytope**



Preliminaries

- x is a **convex combination** of $x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(t)}$ if the following condition holds: there exist $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_t \in [0, 1]$ such that

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_t = 1, \quad \lambda_1 x^{(1)} + \lambda_2 x^{(2)} + \dots + \lambda_t x^{(t)} = x$$

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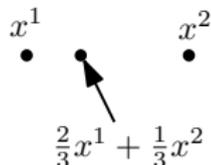
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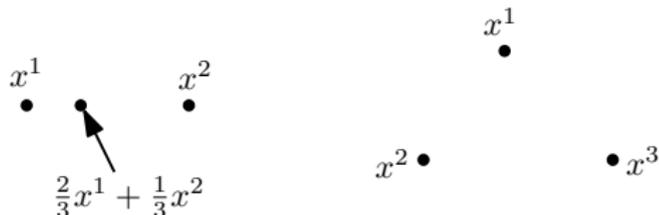
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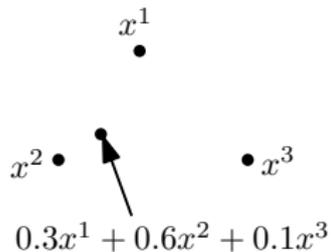
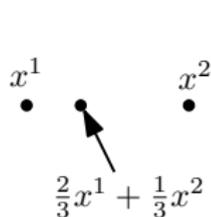
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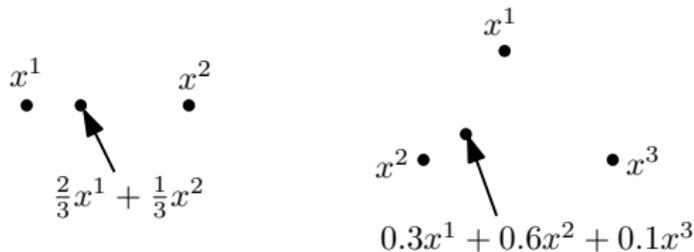


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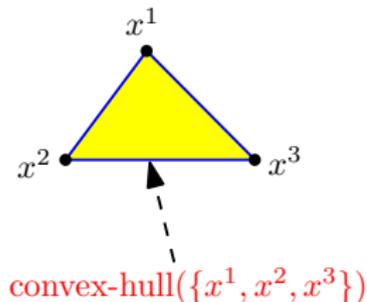
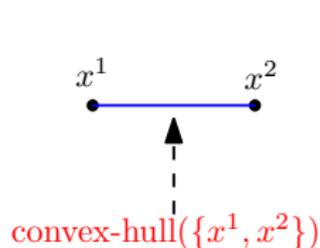


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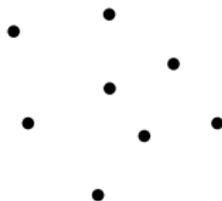
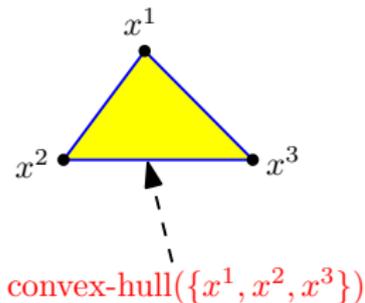
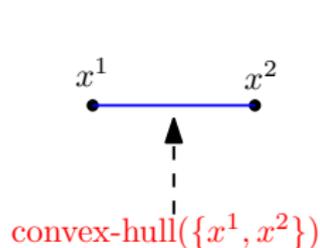


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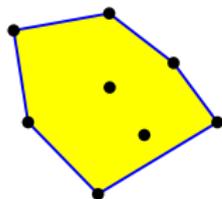
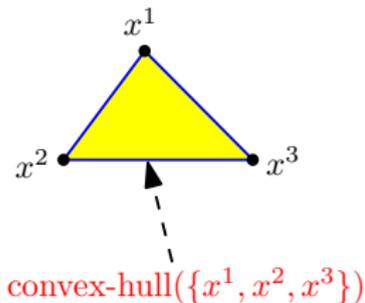
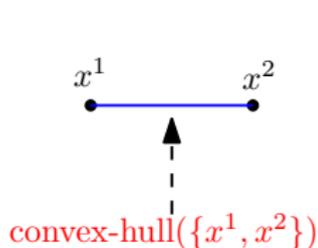


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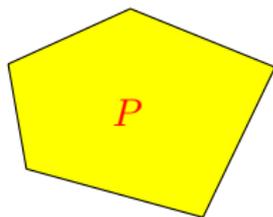
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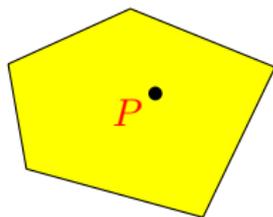
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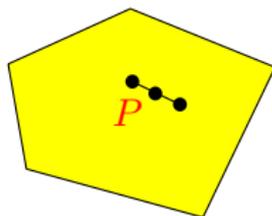
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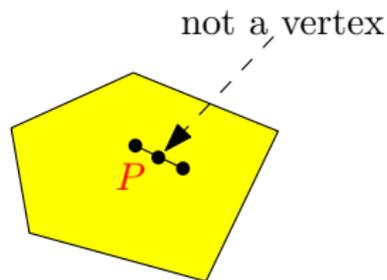
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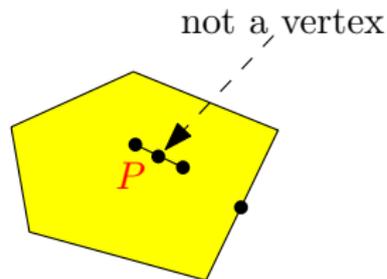
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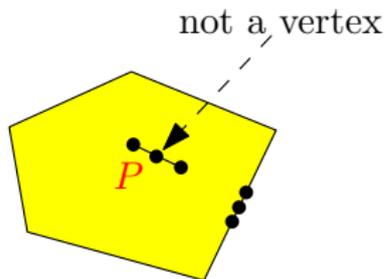
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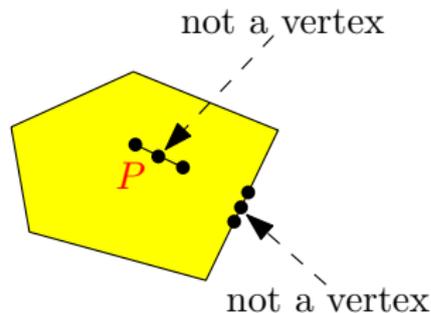
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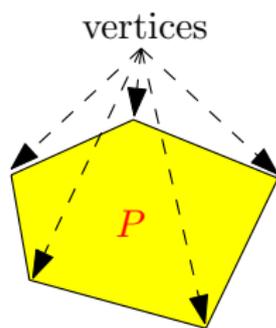
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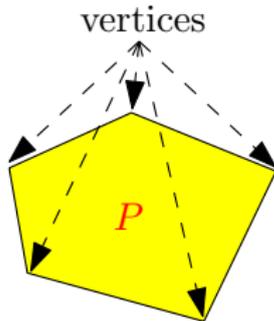
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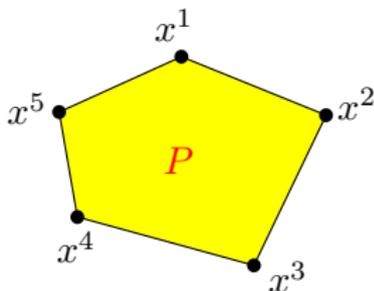
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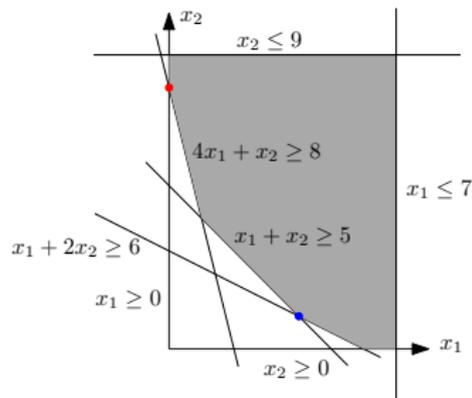
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$$P = \text{convex-hull}(\{x^1, x^2, x^3, x^4, x^5\})$$

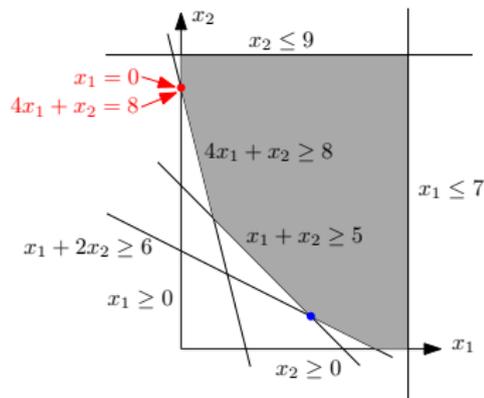
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Lemma Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be an extreme point in a n -dimensional polytope. Then, there are n constraints in the definition of the polytope, such that x is the unique solution to the linear system obtained from the n constraints by replacing inequalities to equalities.



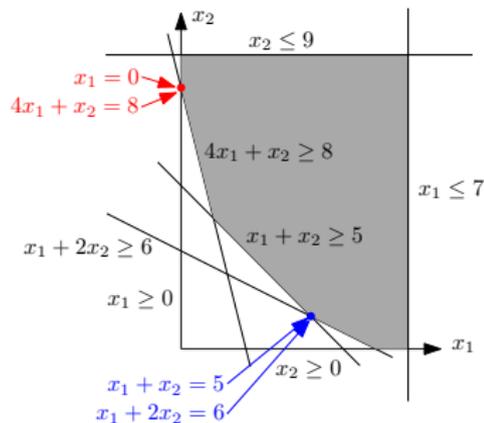
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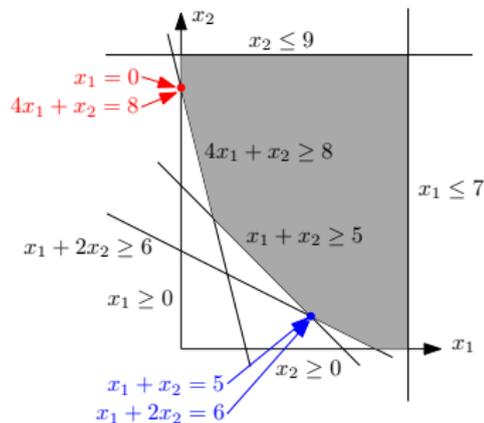
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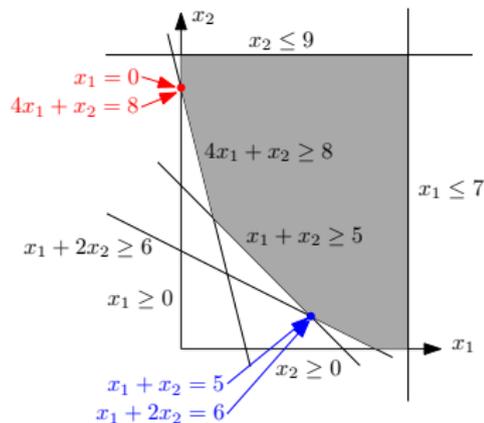
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Lemma If the feasible region of a linear program is a polytope, then the optimum value can be attained at some vertex of the polytope.

Special cases (for minimization linear programs):

- if feasible region is empty, then its value is ∞
- if the feasible region is unbounded, then its value can be $-\infty$

Algorithms for Linear Programming

algorithm	running time	practice
Simplex Method	exponential time	fast
Ellipsoid Method	polynomial time	slow
Interior Point Method	polynomial time	fast

Simplex Method

- [Dantzig, 1946]
- move from one vertex to another, so as to improve the objective
- repeat until we reach an optimum vertex

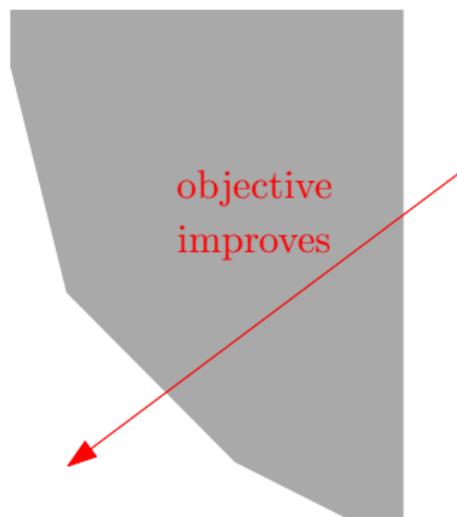
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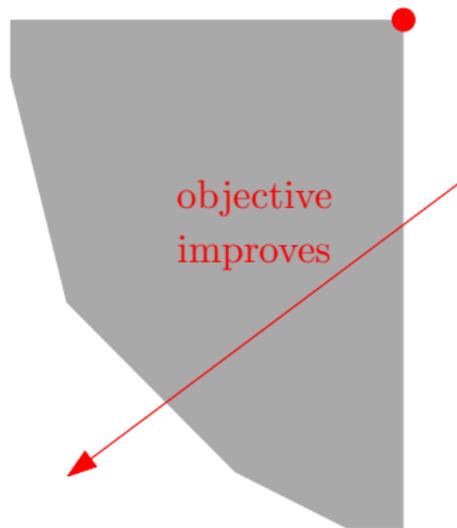
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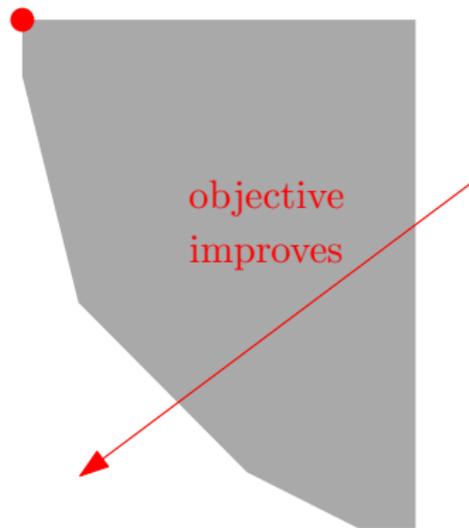
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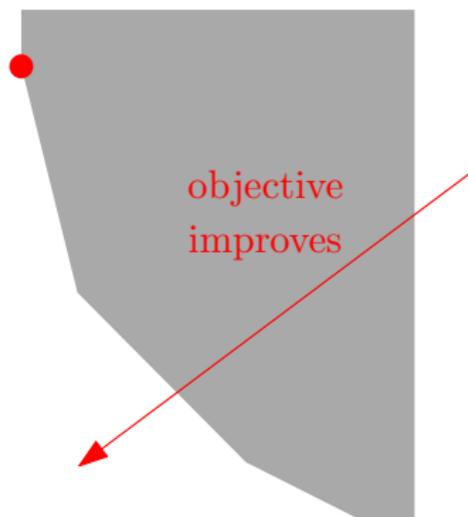
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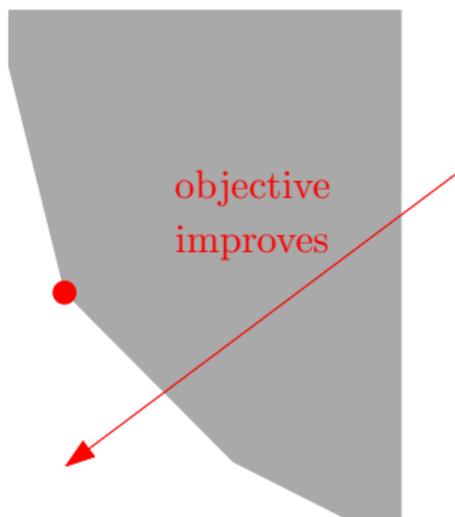
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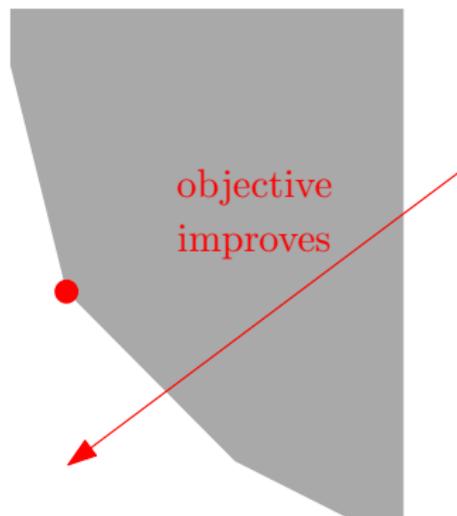
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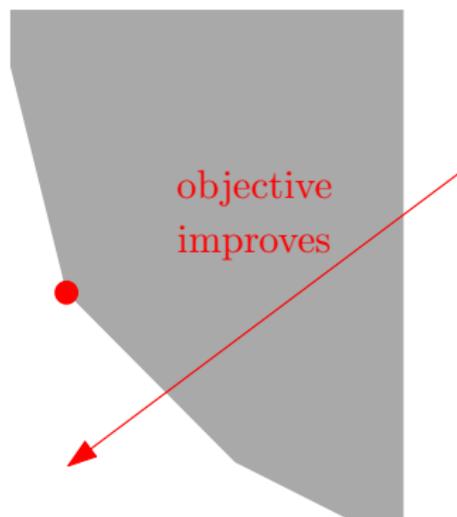


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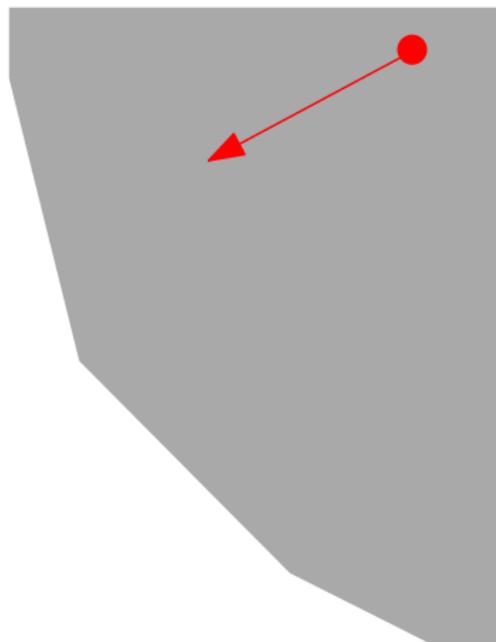
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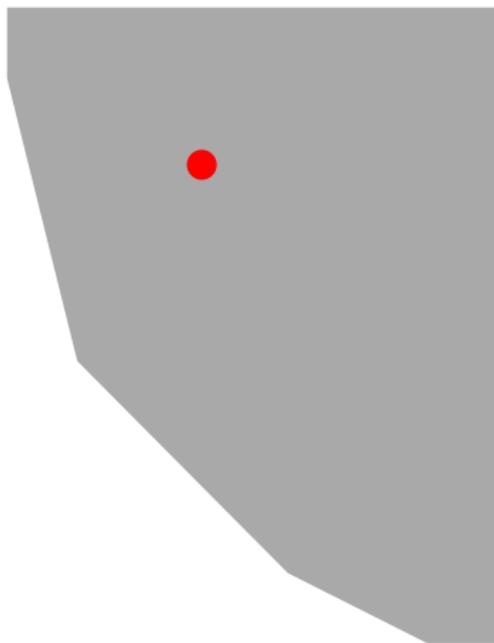
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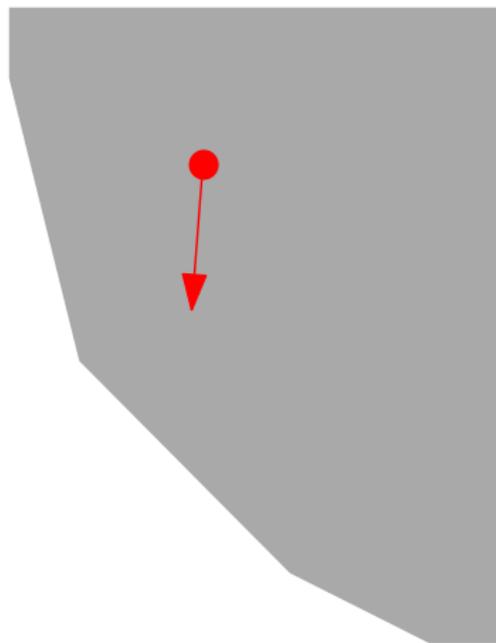
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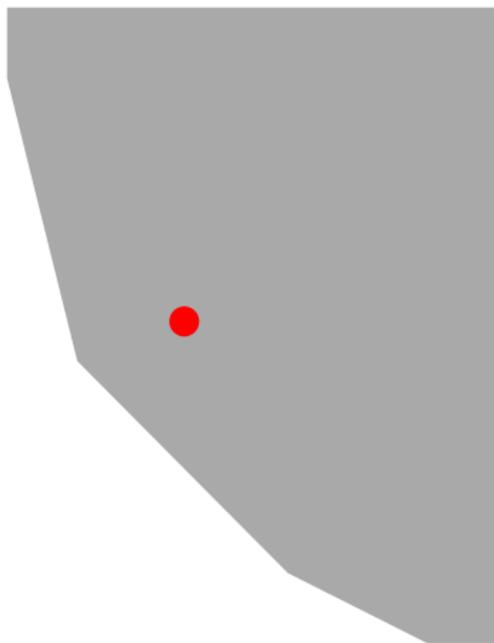
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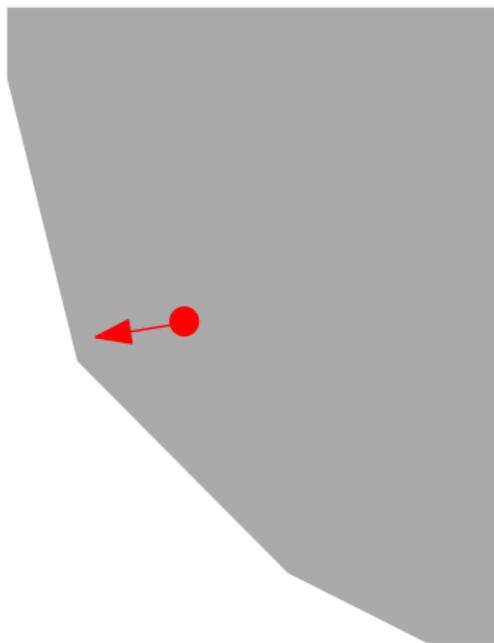
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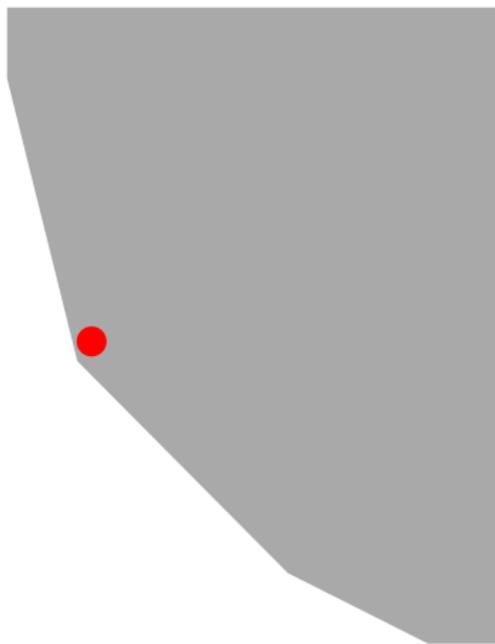
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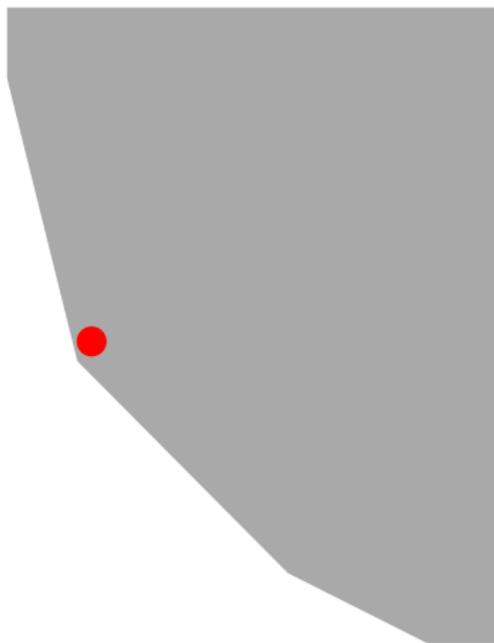
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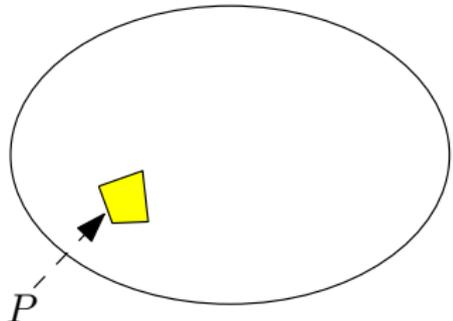
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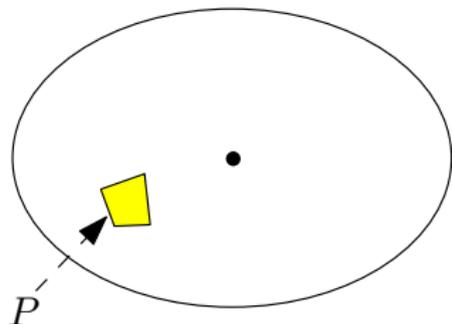
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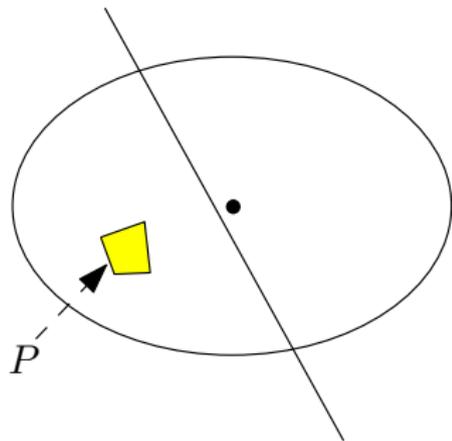
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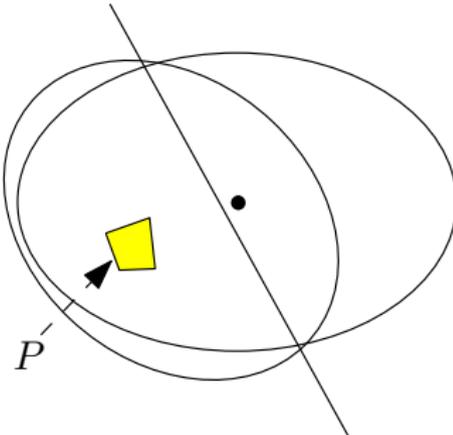


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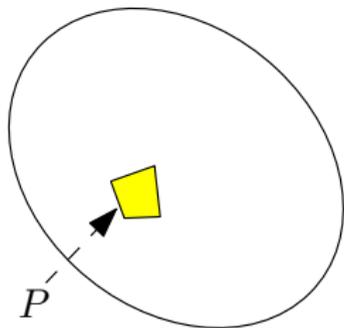


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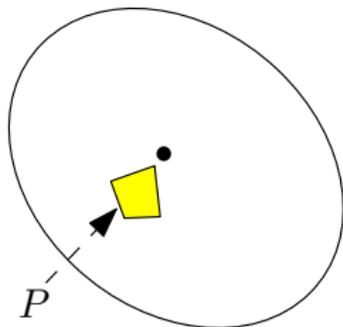
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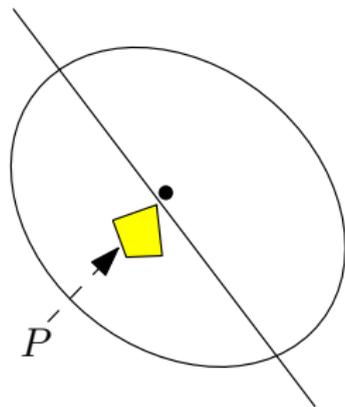
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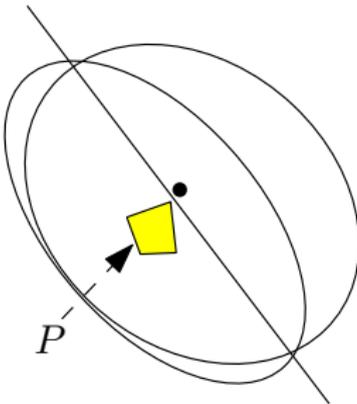


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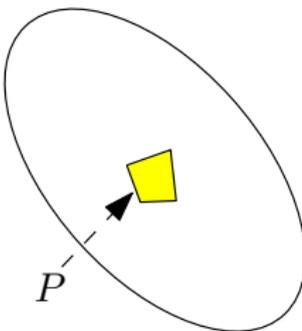
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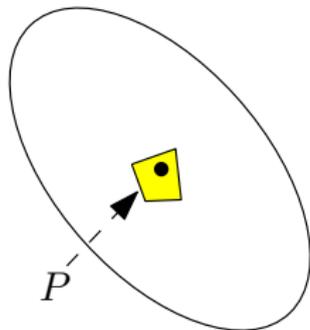
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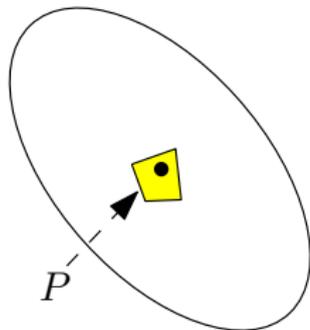
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Open Problem

Can linear programming be solved in strongly polynomial time algorithm?

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- domain: computer science, mathematics, operations research, economics
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Research Directions

- polynomial time exact algorithm
- polynomial time approximation algorithm
- sub-routines for the branch-and-bound method for integer programming
- other algorithmic models: online algorithm, distributed algorithms, dynamic algorithms, fast algorithms

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 - Production limited by scarce resources: corn, hops, barley malt.
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- How can brewer maximize profits?

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$$\max \quad 13x + 23y \quad \text{Profit}$$

$$5x + 15y \leq 480 \quad \text{Corn}$$

$$4x + 4y \leq 160 \quad \text{Hops}$$

$$35x + 20y \leq 1190 \quad \text{Malt}$$

$$x, y \geq 0$$

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- 1 Linear Programming and Rounding
- 2 **Exact Algorithms Using LP: Integral Polytopes**
 - Bipartite Matching Polytope
 - s - t Flow Polytope
 - Weighted Interval Scheduling Problem
- 3 Approximation Algorithms Using LP: LP Rounding
 - 2-Approximation Algorithm for Weighted Vertex Cover
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- Such a problem can be solved directly using the LP:

$$\max / \min \quad c^T x \quad Ax \leq b.$$

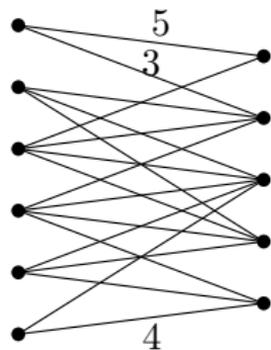
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Maximum Weight Bipartite Matching

Input: bipartite graph $G = (L \uplus R, E)$
edge weights $w \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^E$

Output: a matching $M \subseteq E$ so as to
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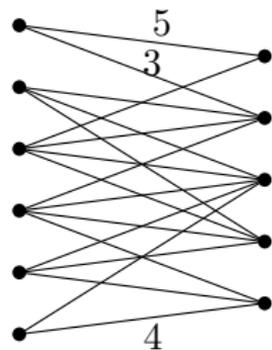


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$$\max \sum_{e \in E} w_e x_e$$

$$\sum_{e \in \delta(v)} x_e \leq 1 \quad \forall v \in L \cup R$$

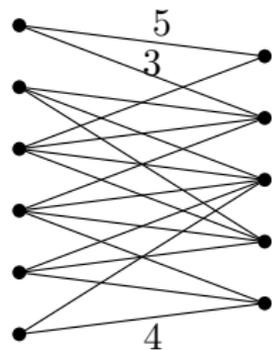
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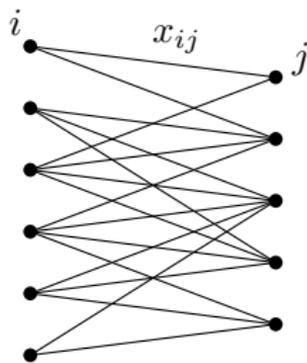
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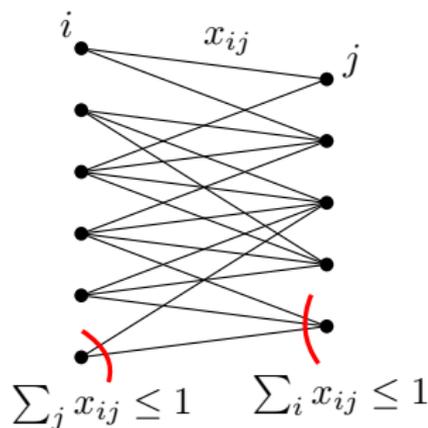
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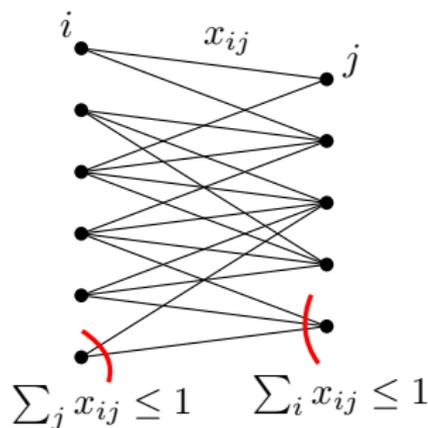
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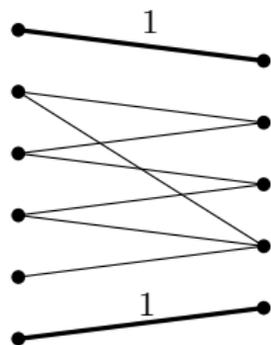
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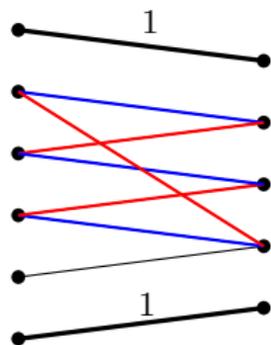


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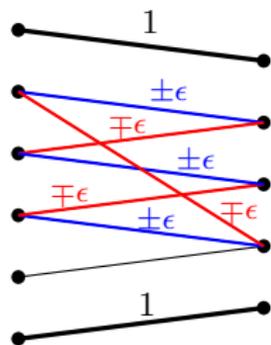
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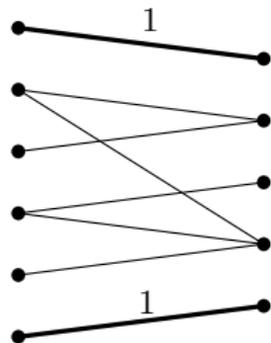
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 - x' : $+\epsilon$ for blue edges, $-\epsilon$ for red edges
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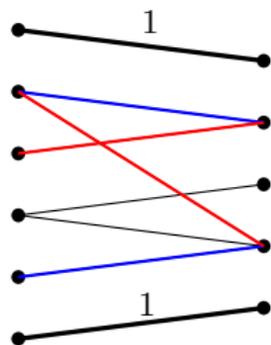
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 - color edges in cycle blue and red
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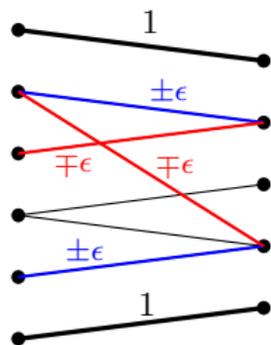
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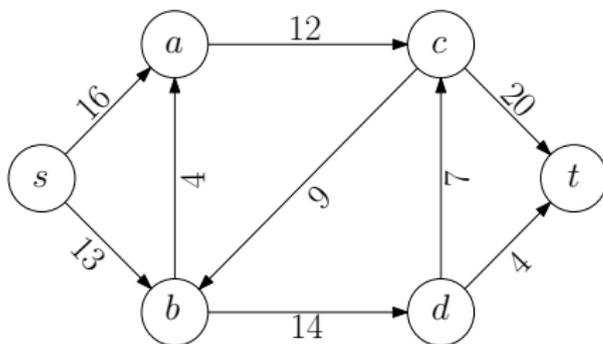


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Example: s - t Flow Polytope

Flow Network

- directed graph $G = (V, E)$, **source** $s \in V$, **sink** $t \in V$, edge capacities $c_e \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}, \forall e \in E$
- s has no incoming edges, t has no outgoing edges



Def. A s - t flow is a vector $f \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^E$ satisfying the following conditions:

- $\forall e \in E, 0 \leq f_e \leq c_e$ (capacity constraints)
- $\forall v \in V \setminus \{s, t\},$

$$\sum_{e \in \delta^{\text{in}}(v)} f_e = \sum_{e \in \delta^{\text{out}}(v)} f_e \quad (\text{flow conservation})$$

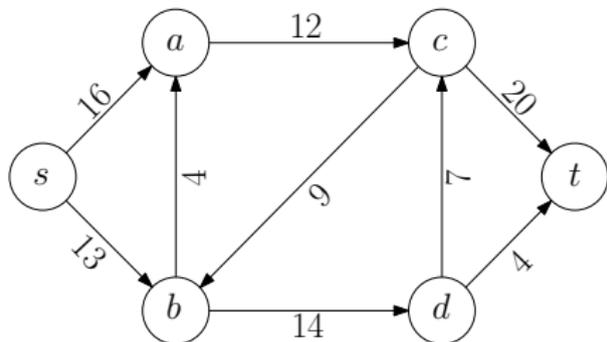
The value of flow f is defined as:

$$\text{val}(f) := \sum_{e \in \delta^{\text{out}}(s)} f_e = \sum_{e \in \delta^{\text{in}}(t)} f_e$$

Maximum Flow Problem

Input: flow network $(G = (V, E), c, s, t)$

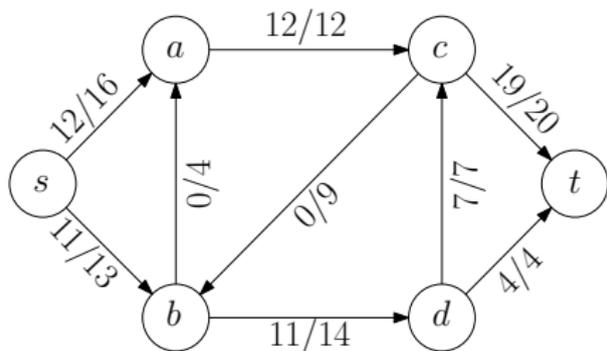
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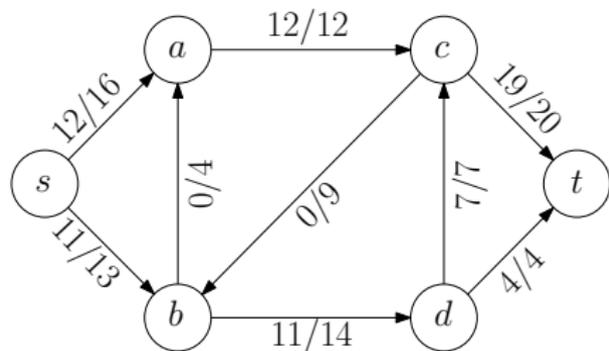
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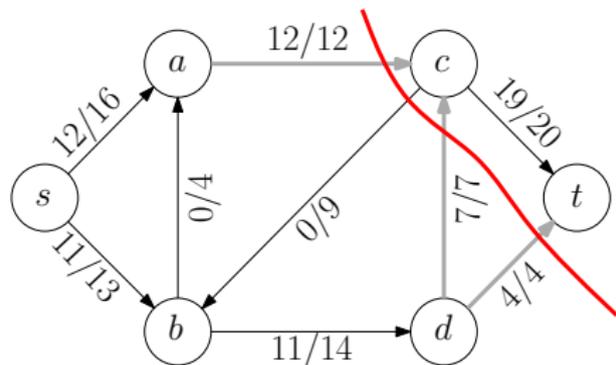


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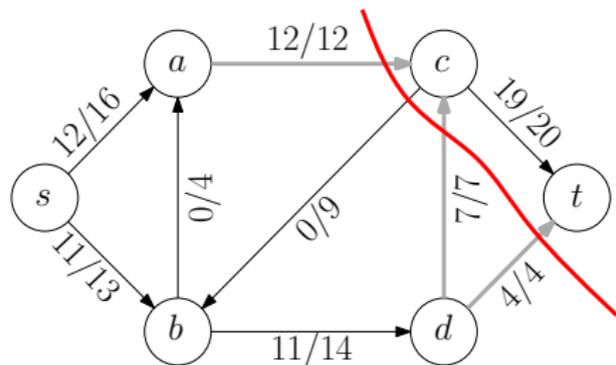


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- [Chen-Kyng-Liu-Peng-Gutenberg-Sachdeva, 2022]: nearly linear-time algorithm

LP for Maximum Flow

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \sum_{e \in \delta^{\text{in}}(t)} x_e \\ & x_e \leq c_e \quad \forall e \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta^{\text{out}}(v)} x_e - \sum_{e \in \delta^{\text{in}}(v)} x_e = 0 \quad & \forall v \in V \setminus \{s, t\} \\ & x_e \geq 0 \quad \forall e \in E \end{aligned}$$

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Theorem The LP polytope is integral.

Sketch of Proof.

- Take any s - t flow x ; consider fractional edges E'
- Every $v \notin \{s, t\}$ must be incident to 0 or ≥ 2 edges in E'
- Ignoring the directions of E' , it contains a cycle, or a s - t path
- We can increase/decrease flow values along cycle/path □

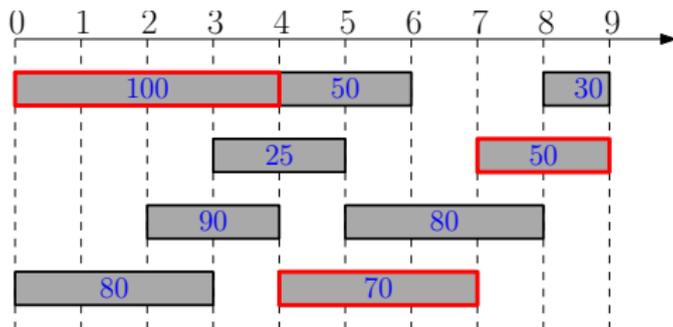
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Weighted Interval Scheduling Problem

Input: n activities, activity i starts at time s_i , finishes at time f_i , and has weight $w_i > 0$

i and j can be scheduled together iff $[s_i, f_i)$ and $[s_j, f_j)$ are disjoint

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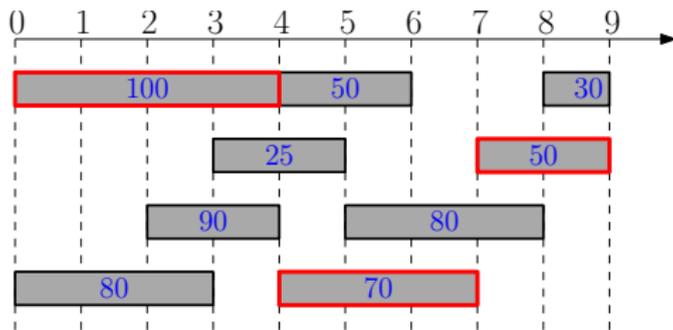
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- Classic Problem for Dynamic Programming

Weighted Interval Scheduling Problem

Linear Program

$$\max \sum_{j \in [n]} x_j w_j$$

$$\sum_{j \in [n]: t \in [s_j, f_j)} x_j \leq 1 \quad \forall t \in [T]$$

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

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Lemma A matrix $A \in \{0, 1\}^{m \times n}$ where the 1's on every column form an interval is TUM.

- So, the matrix for the LP is TUM, and the polytope is integral.

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Proof.

- Every vertex $x \in P$ is the unique solution to the linear system (after permuting coordinates): $\begin{pmatrix} A' & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} x = \begin{pmatrix} b' \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, where
 - A' is a square submatrix of A with $\det(A') = \pm 1$, b' is a sub-vector of b ,
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- Let $x = \begin{pmatrix} x^1 \\ x^2 \end{pmatrix}$, so that $A'x^1 = b'$ and $x^2 = 0$.
- Cramer's rule: $x_i^1 = \frac{\det(A'_i|b)}{\det(A')}$ for every $i \implies x_i^1$ is integer
 $A'_i|b$: the matrix of A' with the i -th column replaced by b □

Example for the Proof

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & a_{1,4} & a_{1,5} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} & a_{2,4} & a_{2,5} \\ a_{3,1} & a_{3,2} & a_{3,3} & a_{3,4} & a_{3,5} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} \geq \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \geq 0$$

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The following equation system may give a vertex:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & a_{1,4} & a_{1,5} \\ a_{3,1} & a_{3,2} & a_{3,3} & a_{3,4} & a_{3,5} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Equivalently, the vertex satisfies

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{3,2} & a_{3,3} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_1 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Coro. The matrix for s - t flow polytope is TUM; thus, the polytope is integral.

Example for the Proof

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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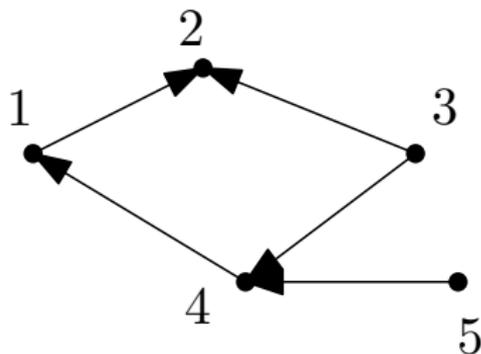
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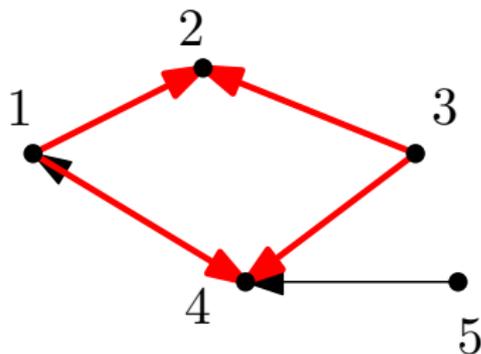
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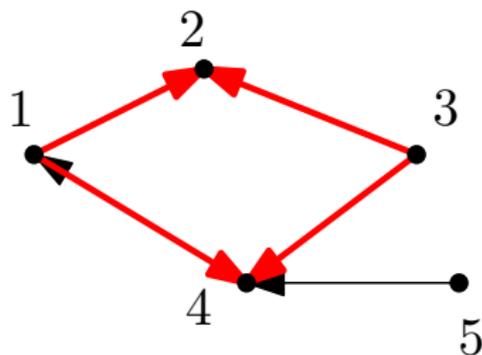
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$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \det(M) = 1.$$

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- $\det(A'M) \in \{0, \pm 1\} \implies \det(A') \in \{0, \pm 1\}$. □

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$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- (col 1, col 2 - col 1, col 3 - col 2, col 4 - col 3, col 5 - col 4)

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- every row has at most one 1, at most one -1

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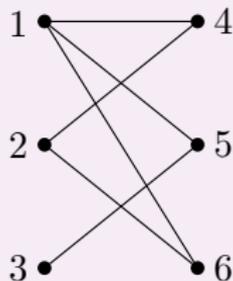
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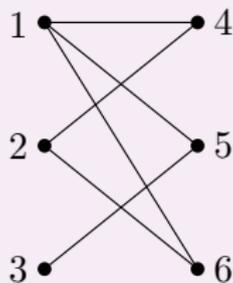


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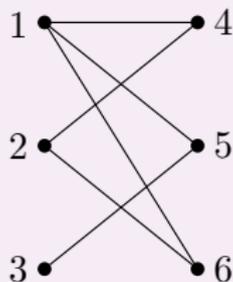
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$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Coro. Bipartite matching polytope is integral.

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Approximation Algorithm based on LP Rounding

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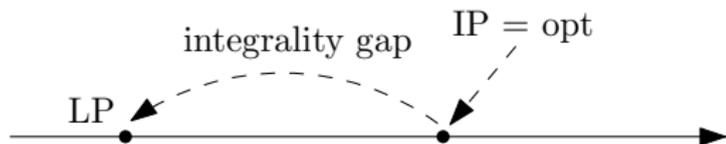
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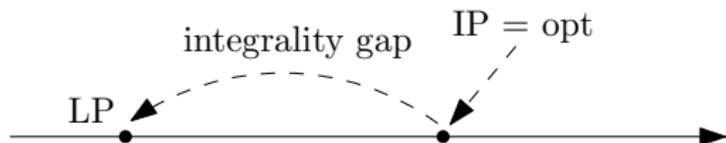
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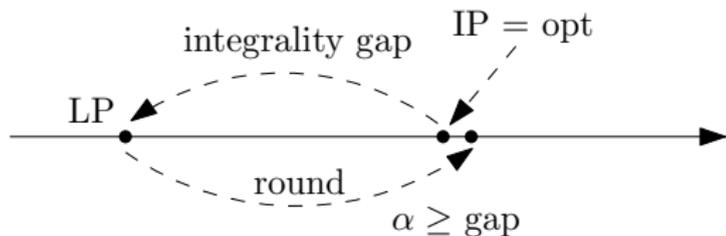
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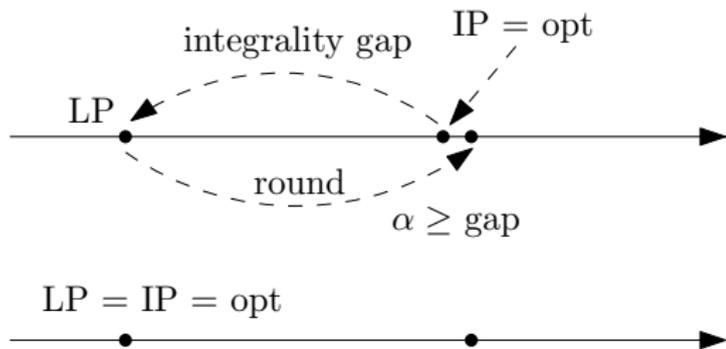
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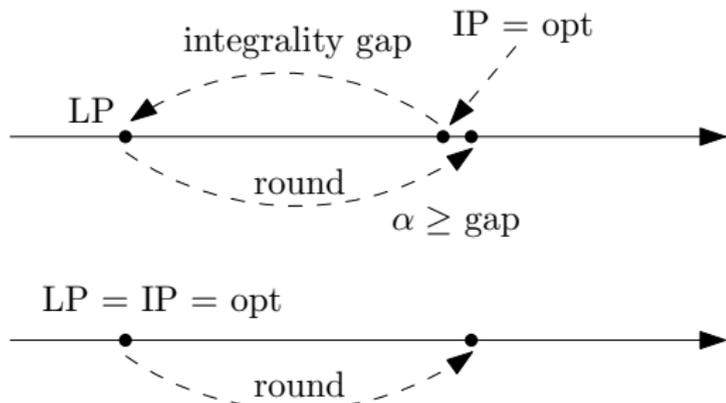
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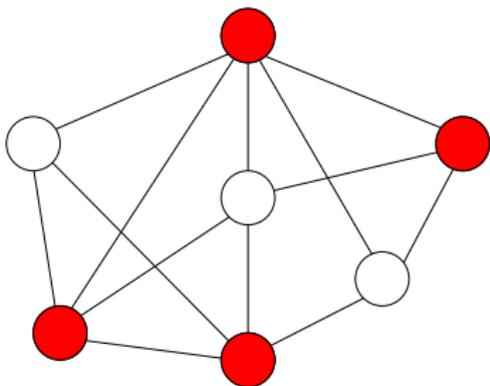
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Weighted Vertex Cover Problem

Input: graph $G = (V, E)$, **vertex weights** $w \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^V$

Output: vertex cover S of G , to minimize $\sum_{v \in S} w_v$

- $x_v \in \{0, 1\}, \forall v \in V$: indicate if we include v in the vertex cover

Integer Program

$$\min \sum_{v \in V} w_v x_v$$

$$x_u + x_v \geq 1 \quad \forall (u, v) \in E$$

$$x_v \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall v \in V$$

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- IP := value of integer program, LP := value of linear program
- $LP \leq IP = \text{opt}$

Rounding Algorithm

1: Solve LP to obtain solution $\{x_u^*\}_{u \in V}$

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Unrelated Machine Scheduling

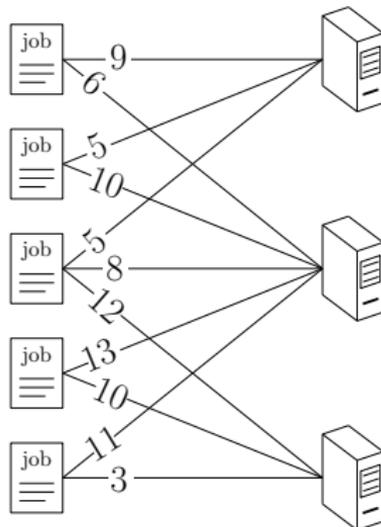
Input: $J, |J| = n$: jobs

$M, |M| = m$: machines

p_{ij} : processing time of
job j on machine i

Output: assignment $\sigma : J \mapsto M$.,
so as to minimize
makespan:

$$\max_{i \in M} \sum_{j \in \sigma^{-1}(i)} p_{ij}$$



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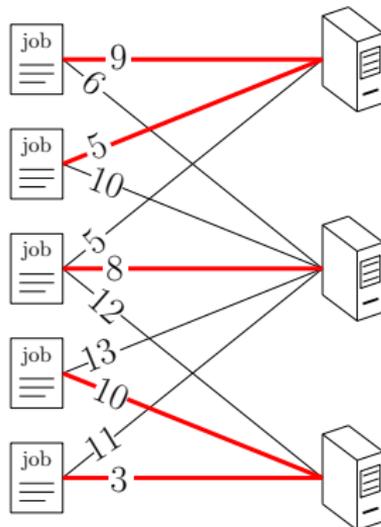
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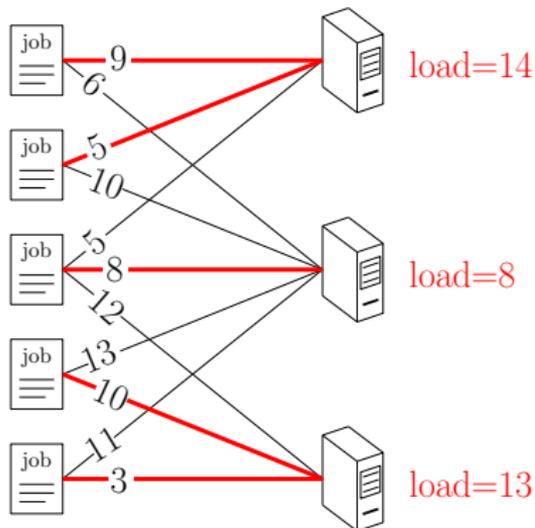
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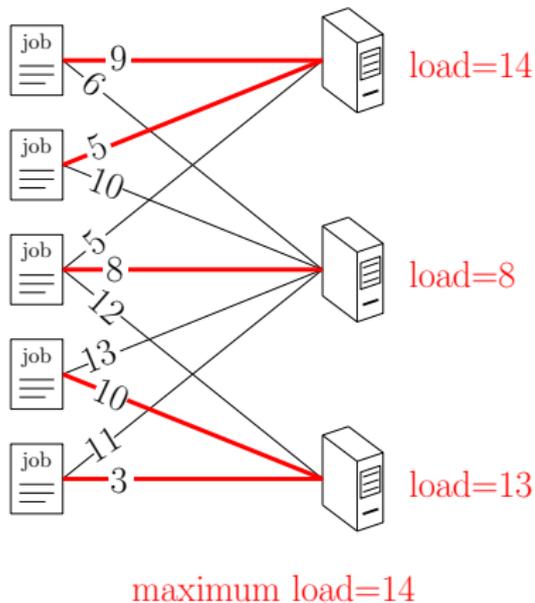
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- Assumption: we are given a target makespan T , and $p_{ij} \in [0, T] \cup \{\infty\}$

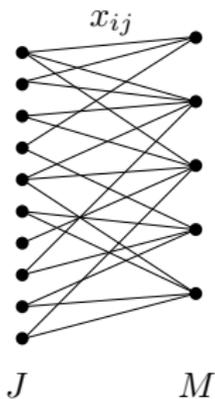
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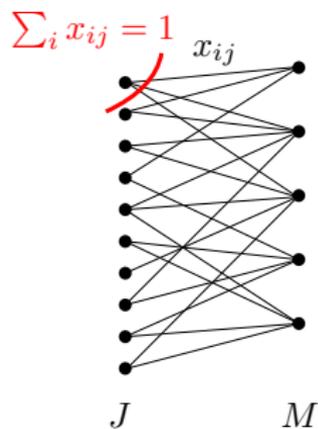
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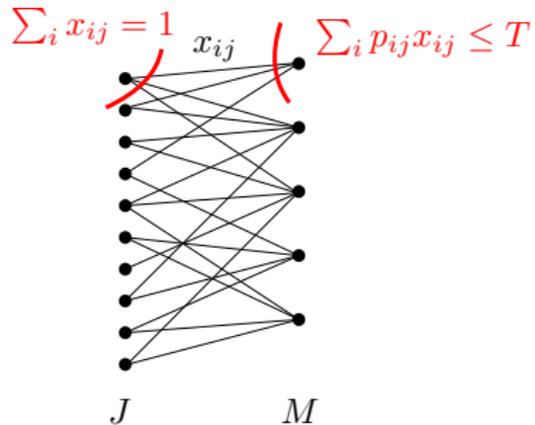
2-Approximate Rounding Algorithm of Shmoys-Tardos



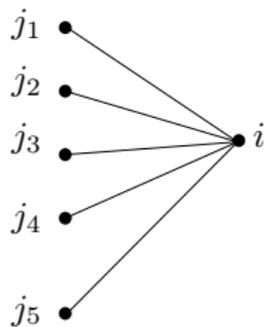
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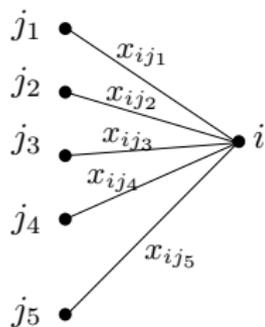


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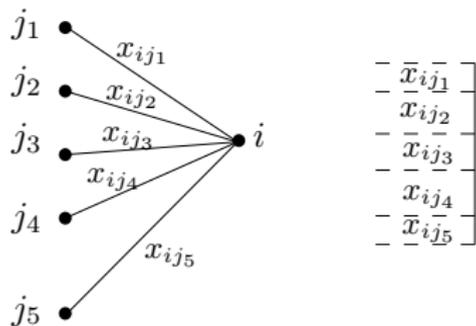
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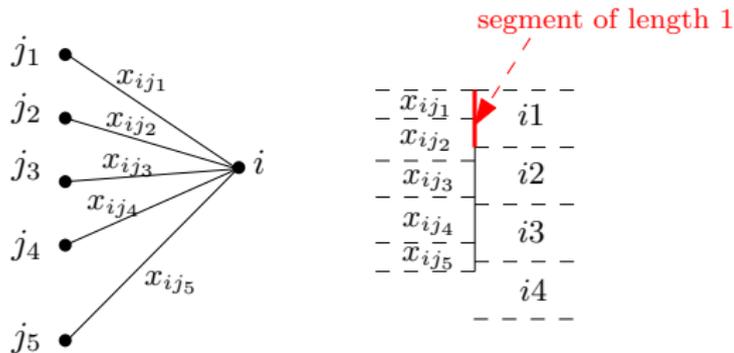
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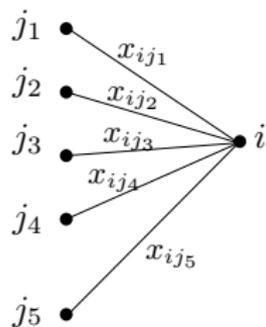
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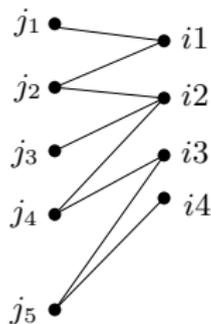
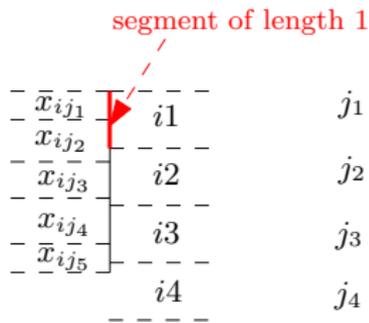


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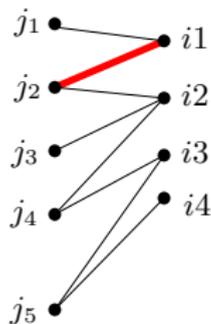
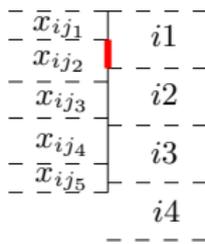
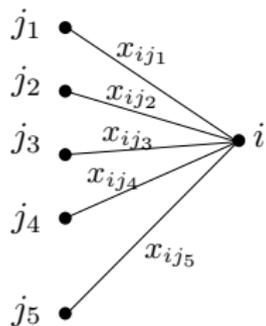
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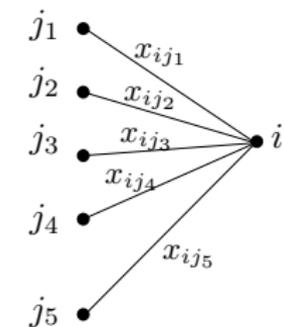


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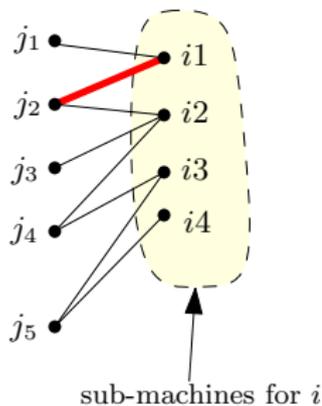
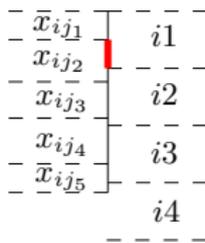


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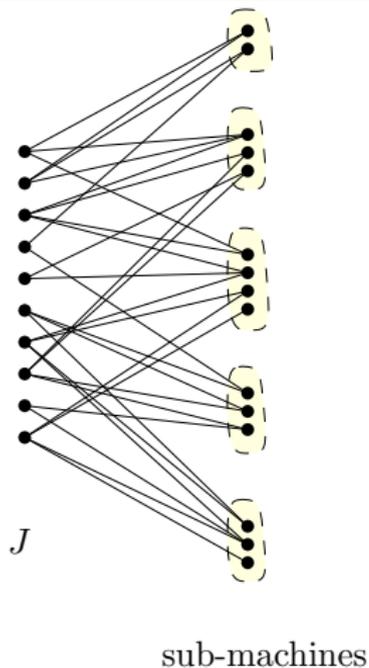
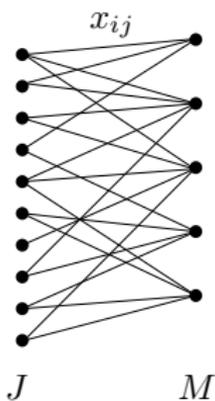
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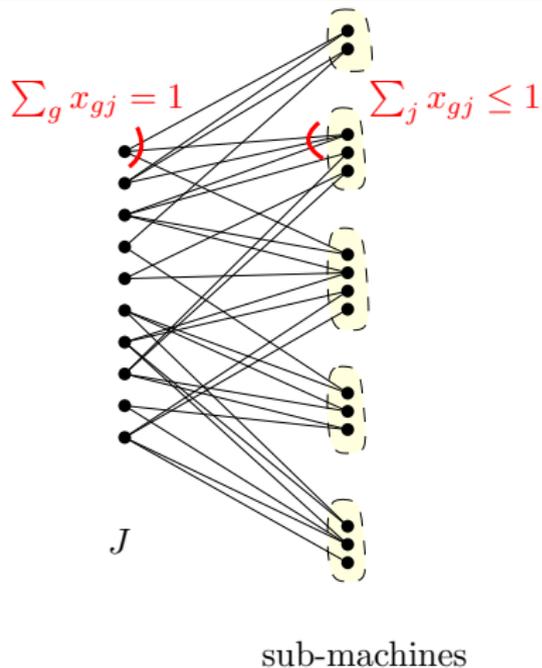
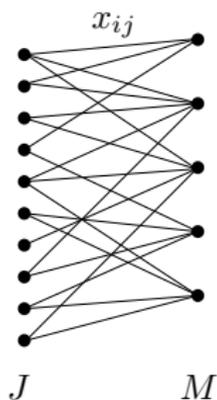
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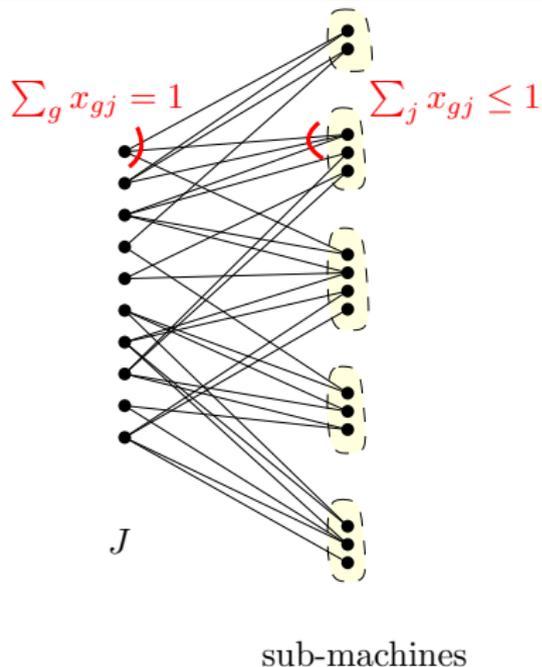
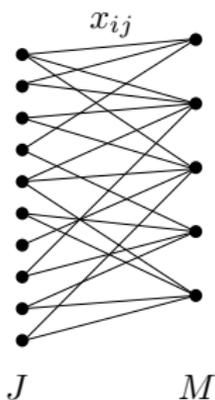
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Obs. x between J and sub-machines is a point in the bipartite-matching polytope, where all jobs in J are matched.

- Recall bipartite matching polytope is integral.

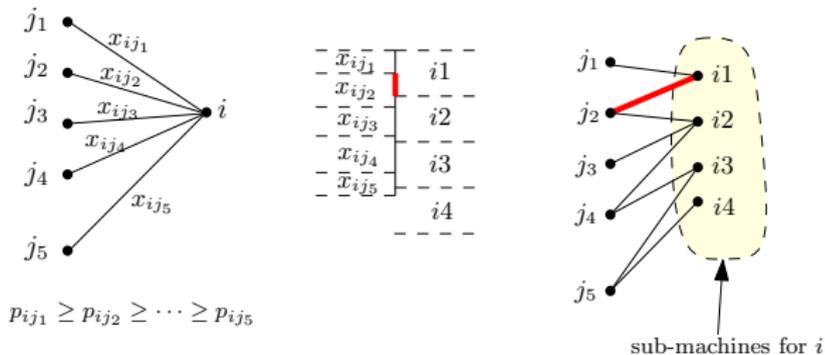
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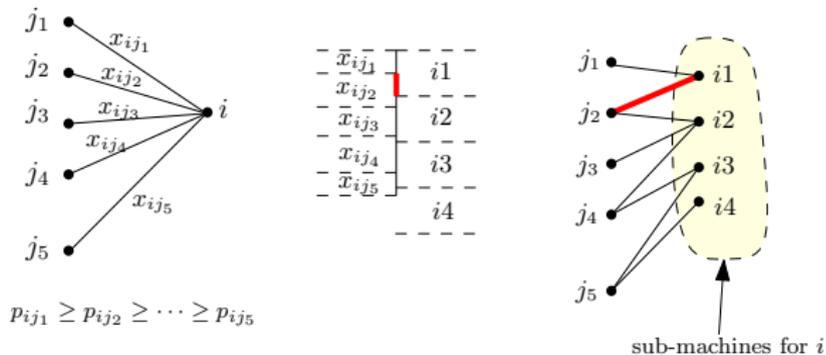
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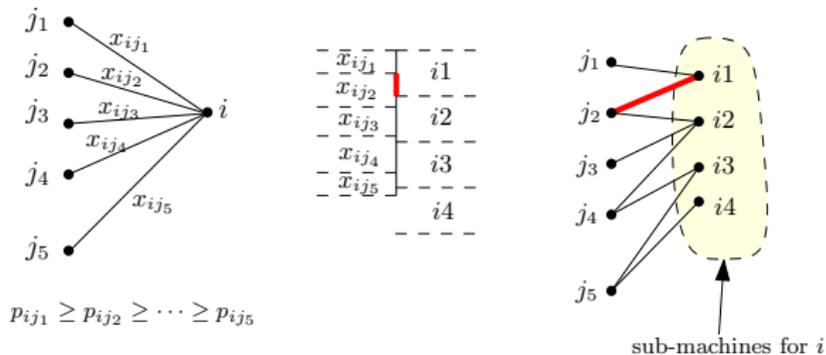
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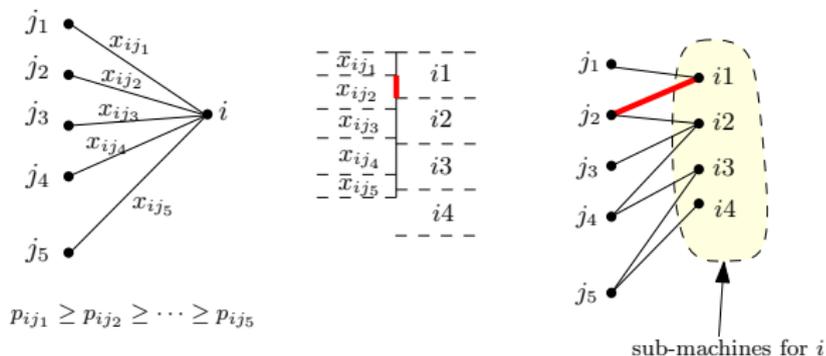
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Proof.

- focus on machine i , let i_1, i_2, \dots, i_a be the sub-machines for i

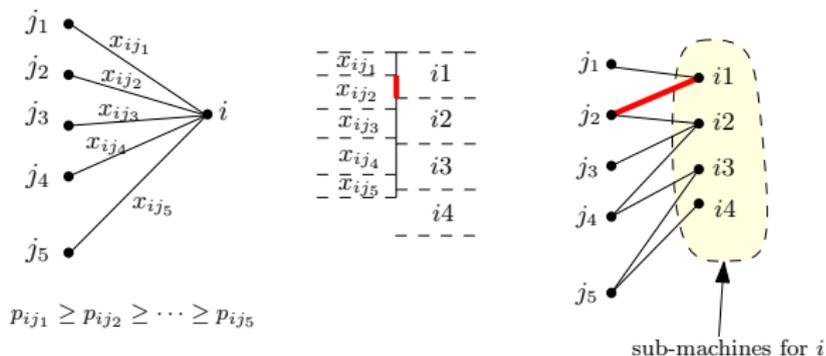
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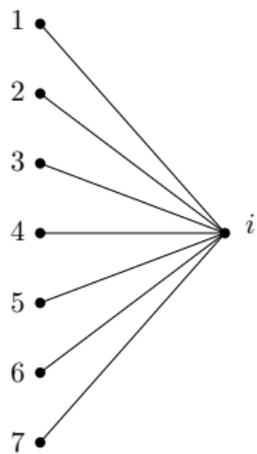
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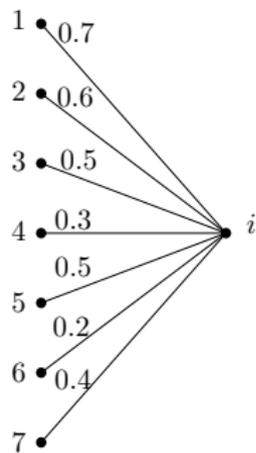
$$\begin{aligned}
 (\text{load on } i) &= \sum_{t=1}^a p_{ik_t} \leq p_{ik_1} + \sum_{t=2}^a \sum_j x_{i_{t-1}j} \cdot p_{ij} \\
 &\leq p_{ik_1} + \sum_j x_{ij} p_{ij} \leq T + T = 2T.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

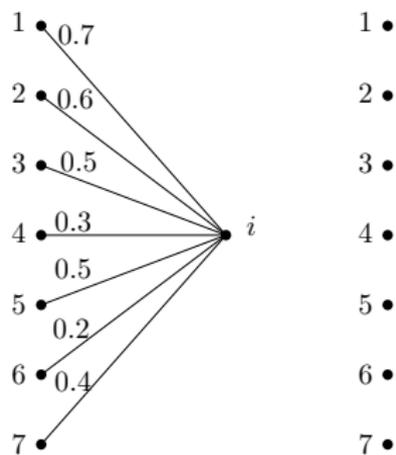
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- worst case:



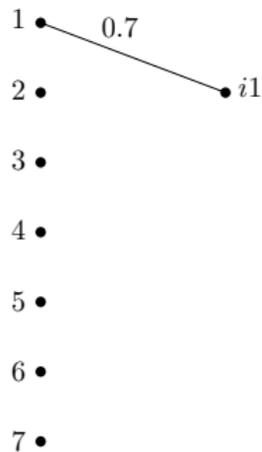
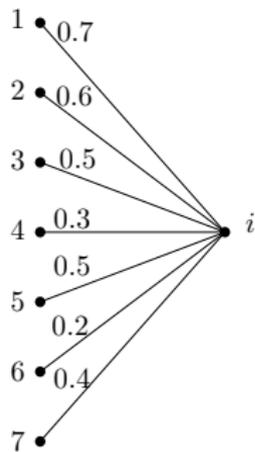
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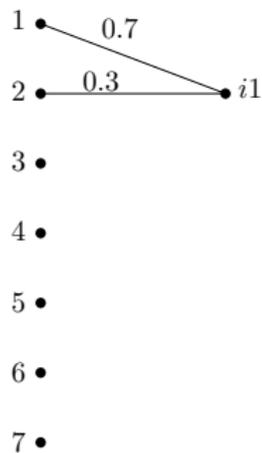
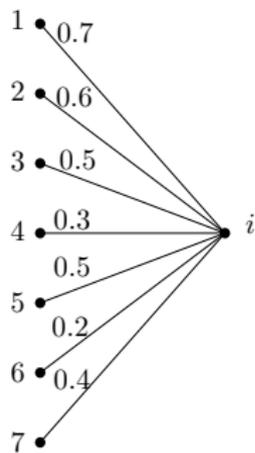
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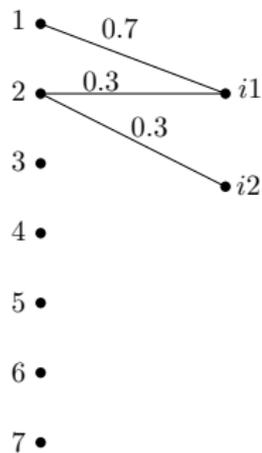
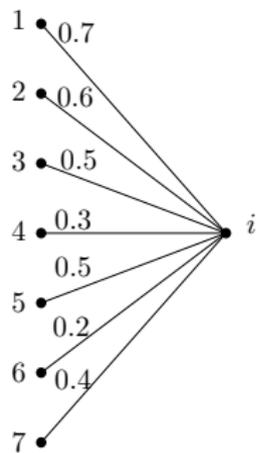
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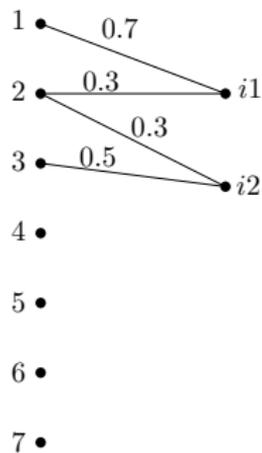
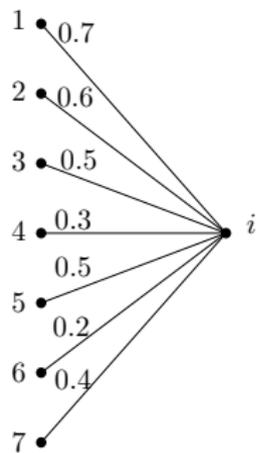
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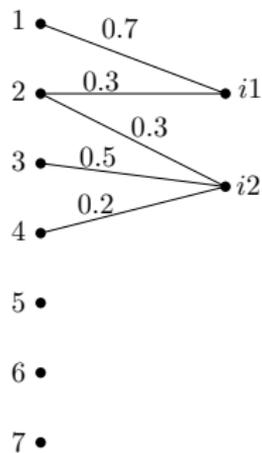
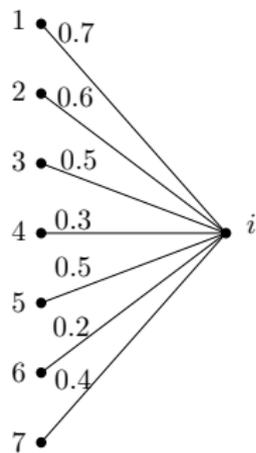
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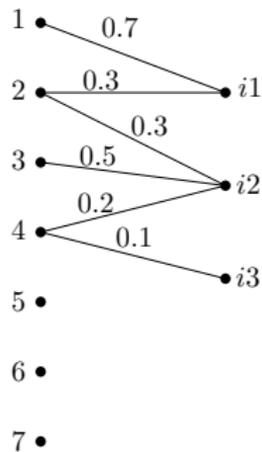
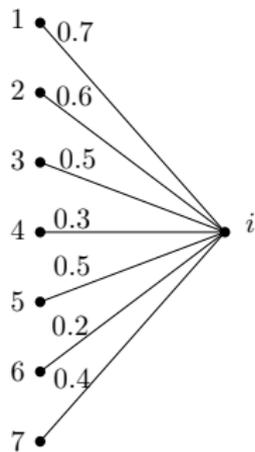
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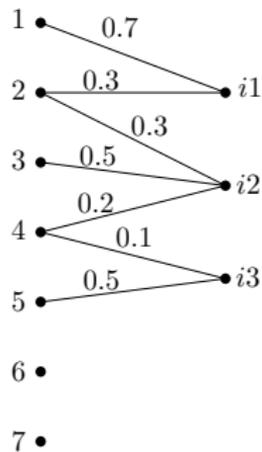
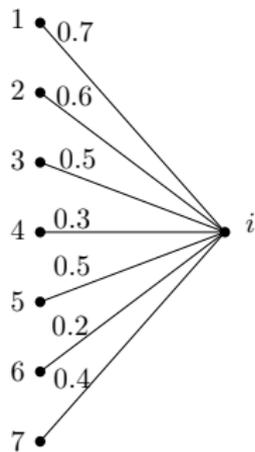
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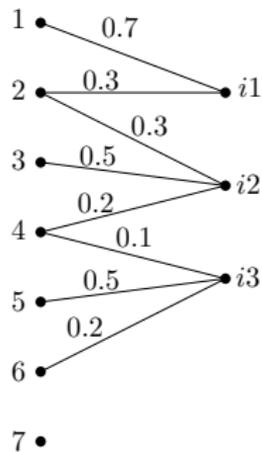
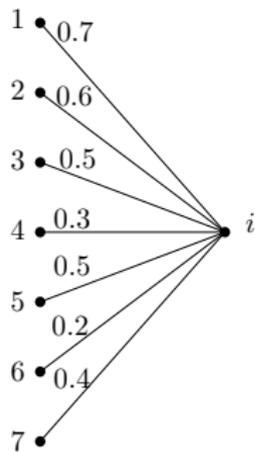
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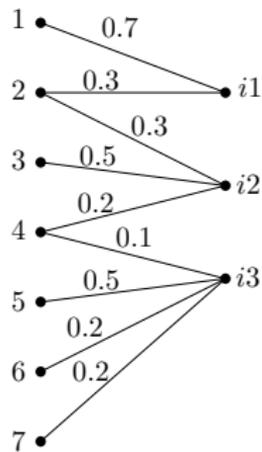
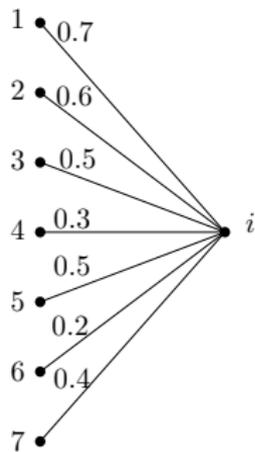
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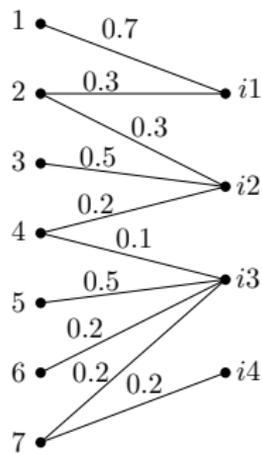
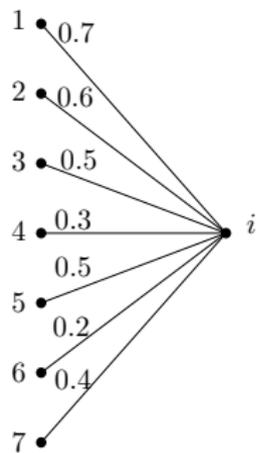
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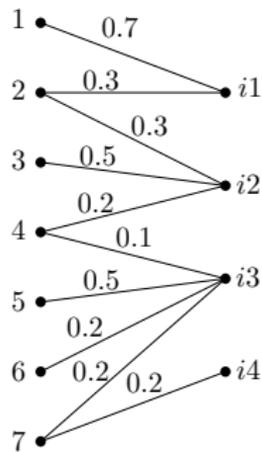
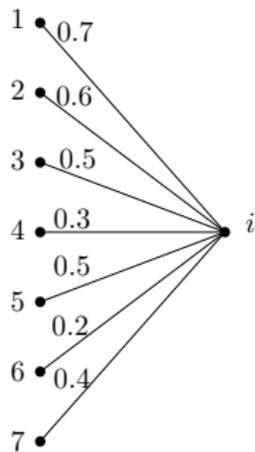
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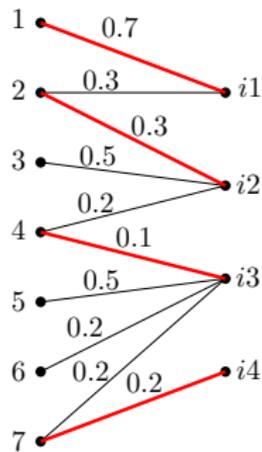
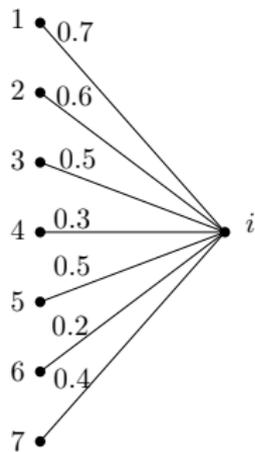
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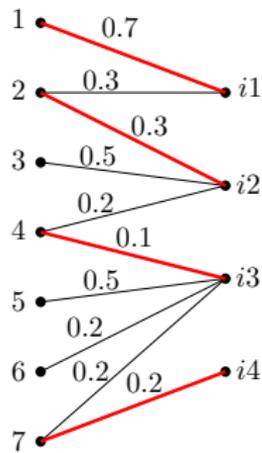
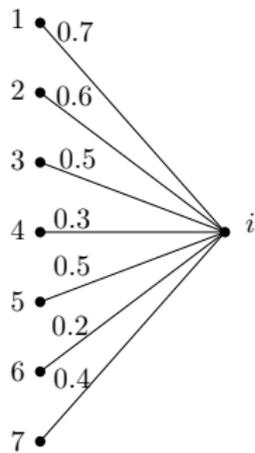
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$$p_1 \leq T$$

$$p_2 \leq 0.7p_1 + 0.3p_2$$

$$p_4 \leq 0.3p_2 + 0.5p_3 + 0.2p_4$$

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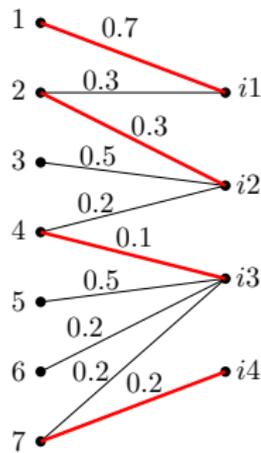
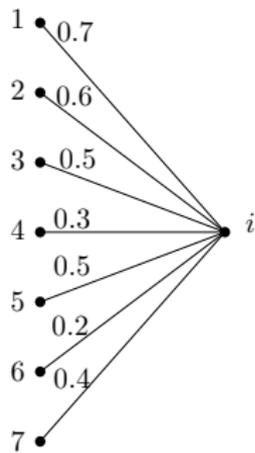
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$$\begin{aligned}
 p_1 + p_2 + p_4 + p_7 &\leq T + (0.7p_1 + 0.3p_2) + (0.3p_2 + 0.5p_3 + 0.2p_4) \\
 &\quad + (0.1p_4 + 0.5p_5 + 0.2p_6 + 0.2p_7) \\
 &\leq T + (0.7p_1 + 0.6p_2 + 0.5p_3 + 0.3p_4 + 0.5p_5 + 0.2p_6 + 0.4p_7) \\
 &\leq T + T = 2T
 \end{aligned}$$

Summary

- linear programming, simplex method, interior point method, ellipsoid method
- integral LP polytopes: bipartite matching polytope, s - t flow polytope, weighted interval scheduling polytope

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- linear programming, simplex method, interior point method, ellipsoid method
- integral LP polytopes: bipartite matching polytope, s - t flow polytope, weighted interval scheduling polytope
- approximation algorithm using LP rounding
 - 2-approximation algorithm for weighted vertex cover
 - 2-approximation for unrelated machine scheduling

Linear Program	:	线性规划
Integer Program	:	整数规划
Feasible Region	:	解域
Polyhedron	:	凸多面体
Polytope	:	有界凸多面体
Vertex/Extreme Point	:	顶点
Convex Combination	:	凸组合
Convex Hull	:	凸包
Dual	:	对偶
Totally Unimodular	:	完全单位模的