

# A Formalization of Convex Polyhedra based on the Simplex Method

Séminaire Francilien de Géométrie Algorithmique et Combinatoire

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Xavier Allamigeon<sup>1</sup>    Ricardo D. Katz<sup>2</sup>

March 15th, 2018

<sup>1</sup>INRIA and Ecole polytechnique

<sup>2</sup>CIFACIS-CONICET

## Motivation

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## Informal definition

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... by implementing the proof in a **proof assistant**

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## Recent achievements

- completion of Kepler conjecture [Hales et al., 2017]
- Feit–Thompson theorem [Gonthier et al., 2013]
- a collection of 100 theorems, see <http://www.cs.ru.nl/~freek/100/>

## Why formalizing convex polyhedra?

Convex polyhedra are universal objects:

**Pure maths** discrete mathematics, combinatorics, algebraic geometry, etc

**Applied maths** optimization, operations research, control theory, etc

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- get rid of flaws in complicated proofs
- provide rigorous proof of theorems relying on informal computations (“formal experimental maths”)

## Our contribution

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It is carried out in an **effective** way:

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**Example:** a polyhedron is empty iff there is a certificate of inconsistency of the defining system (Farkas Lemma)

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## Outcome

- predicates naturally come with certificates
- this easily provides several essential results on polyhedra (Farkas, Minkowski, strong duality Th., etc)

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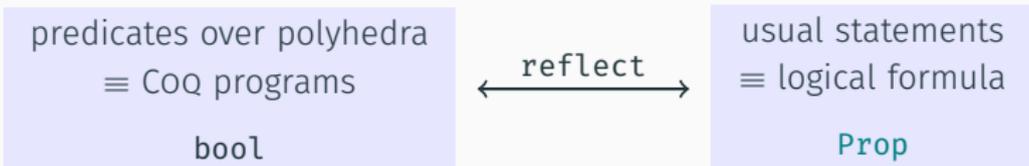
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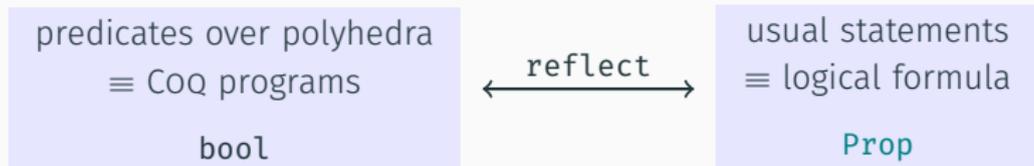
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- we exploit some of its components (mainly linear algebra) to formalize the simplex method.

### Existing formalizations of polyhedra

**HOL-Light** very complete formalization of convex polyhedra, including several important results [Harrison, 2013]

**Isabelle** implementation of a simplex-based satisfiability procedure [Spasić and Marić, 2012]

**Goal:** obtain a practical and executable code for SMT solving

**Coq** implementation of Fourier–Motzkin elimination on linear inequalities [Sakaguchi, 2016]

In comparison,

- our approach is effective, based on certificates
- we use the simplex method as a mathematical tool

### Remark

Polyhedra are also used in formal proving as “informal backend”.

## A quick overview at COQ and Mathematical Components

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## Main features

- developed since ~ 30 years, first implementation by Coquand and Huet
- written in OCaml
- relies on the **Calculus of Inductive Constructions** (CIC)
- GUIs: CoqIDE, Emacs/Proof General, etc

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## CIC is an intuitionistic (constructive) logic

- no excluded middle law  $P \vee \neg P$
- no double negation elimination  $P \Leftrightarrow \neg\neg P$ , no reductio ad absurdum
- to show  $\exists x. P(x)$ , you need to **construct** an  $x$  such that  $P(x)$  holds.

## Digression on functional languages and types

**Functional** = functions are terms like any other (constants, variables, etc)

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### Notation

- $f\ x$  stands for the application of  $f$  to  $x$  (compared with  $f(x)$  in most imperative languages);
- $\text{fun } x \Rightarrow t$  is the function which maps  $x$  to  $t$ ;
- **curryfied** form:  $\text{fun } x \Rightarrow \text{fun } y \Rightarrow t$ , compared with  $\text{fun } (x,y) \Rightarrow t$

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## Types

Every term comes with a type, for instance:

- $\text{nat}$ ,  $\text{bool}$
- $A \rightarrow B$ : functions from  $A$  to  $B$

## Checking proof: Curry–Howard isomorphism

General correspondence principle between logical formulas and types

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## Example

$$\frac{f : A \rightarrow B \quad a : A}{f \ a : B} \quad \equiv \text{if } A \implies B \text{ and } A \text{ hold, then } B \text{ holds}$$

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## Examples!

## Boolean reflection

Two different worlds:

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<code>True, False</code>	<code>true, false</code>
<code>A /\ B</code>	<code>a &amp;&amp; b</code>
<code>A \/ B</code>	<code>a    b</code>
<code>~ A</code>	<code>~~ a</code>
<code>forall x, P x</code>	<code>[forall i, p i]</code>

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## Pros of `bool`

`bool` behaves like the **classical logic**!

- ⇒ overcome the intuitionistic restriction of CIC  
allows case analysis, reductio ad absurdum, etc

## Boolean reflection (2)

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### Example

Decidable equality over naturals (type `nat`)

```
Fixpoint eqn m n {struct m} :=  
  match m, n with  
  | 0, 0 => true  
  | m'.+1, n'.+1 => eqn m' n'  
  | _, _ => false  
end.
```

About `eqn`.

```
eqn : nat -> nat -> bool
```

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### Reflection predicate

`reflect P b` essentially means that  $P:\text{Prop}$  and  $b:\text{bool}$  are equivalent:

- either  $P$  holds and  $b = \text{true}$ ,
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+ MathComp provides **reflection views** to pass from `bool` to `Prop`,  
and vice versa.

## Examples!

## Formalizing the simplex method

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# The purpose of the simplex method

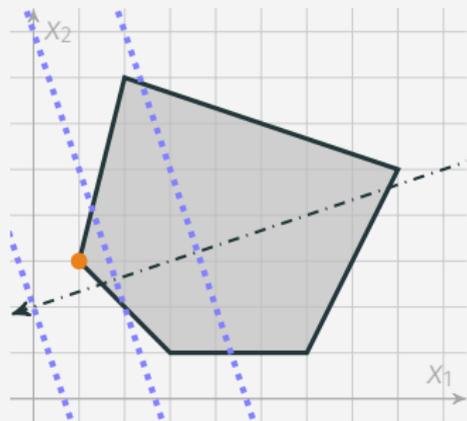
## Linear programming

$$\text{minimize } \langle c, x \rangle$$

$$\text{subject to } Ax \geq b, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\langle c, x \rangle := \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i$ .

## Example



$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize } & 3x_1 + x_2 \\ \text{subject to } & x_1 + x_2 \geq 4 \\ & -x_1 - 3x_2 \geq -23 \\ & 4x_1 - x_2 \geq 1 \\ & -2x_1 + x_2 \geq -11 \\ & x_2 \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

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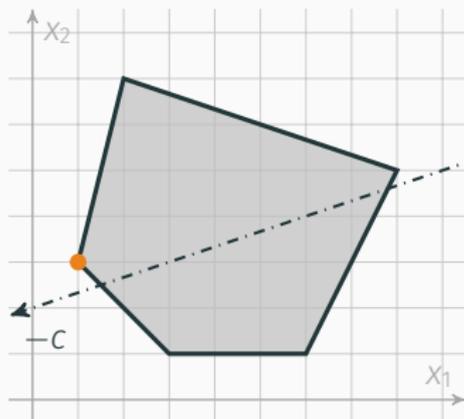
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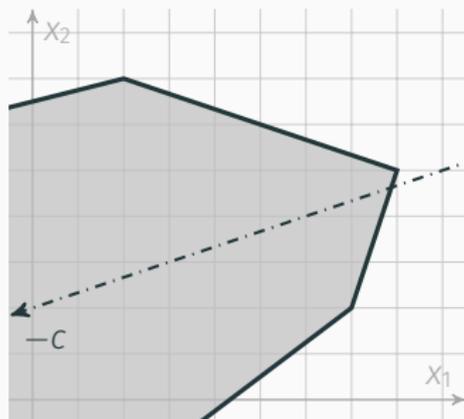
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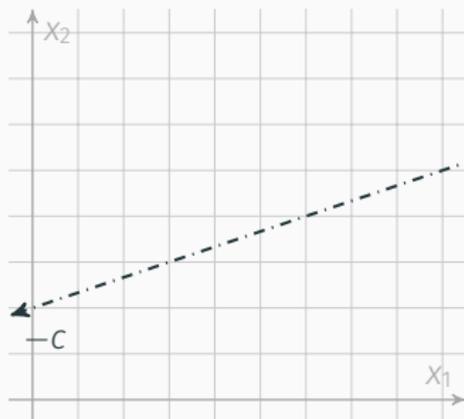
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The **value** of the linear program can be

- finite (optimal point)
- equal to  $-\infty$  (no lower bound)  
     $\implies$  the LP is **unbounded**
- equal to  $+\infty$  (empty feasible set)  
     $\implies$  the LP is **infeasible**



## The purpose of the simplex method (2)

The simplex method can be thought of as a **decision procedure**.

A **linear program**

minimize  $\langle c, x \rangle$

subject to  $Ax \geq b, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

The **dual LP**

maximize  $\langle b, u \rangle$

subject to  $A^T u = c, u \geq 0, u \in \mathbb{R}^m$

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### Theorem (Strong duality)

*If one of the two LPs is feasible, then they have the **same optimal value**.*

*In addition, when both are feasible, the optimal value is simultaneously attained by a primal feasible point  $x^*$  and a dual feasible point  $u^*$ .*

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A linear program	The dual LP
minimize $\langle c, x \rangle$	maximize $\langle b, u \rangle$
subject to $Ax \geq b, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$	subject to $A^T u = c, u \geq 0, u \in \mathbb{R}^m$

### Theorem (Strong duality)

*If one of the two LPs is feasible, then they have the **same optimal value**. (...)*

### Corollary (Farkas Lemma)

*The polyhedron  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \geq b\}$  is empty if and only if the value of the following LP is  $+\infty$ :*

$$\text{maximize } \langle b, u \rangle \quad \text{subject to } A^T u = 0, u \geq 0, u \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

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The simplex method can be thought of as a **decision procedure**.

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minimize $\langle c, x \rangle$	maximize $\langle b, u \rangle$
subject to $Ax \geq b, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$	subject to $A^T u = c, u \geq 0, u \in \mathbb{R}^m$

### Theorem (Strong duality)

*If one of the two LPs is feasible, then they have the **same optimal value**. (...)*

### Corollary (Farkas Lemma)

*The polyhedron  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \geq b\}$  is empty if and only if the value of the following LP is  $+\infty$ :*

$$\text{maximize } \langle b, u \rangle \quad \text{subject to } A^T u = 0, u \geq 0, u \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

### Fit the Boolean reflection framework

Emptiness of polyhedra can be defined as a **Boolean predicate**, relying on the simplex method.

## The purpose of the simplex method (3)

### Linear programming

minimize  $\langle c, x \rangle$

subject to  $Ax \geq b, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^m, c \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\langle c, x \rangle := \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i$ .

Global variables:

Variable A: 'M\_(m,n). (\* matrix of size m\*n \*)

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**Definition** polyhedron A b := [pred x: 'cV\_n | (A \*m x) >=m b].

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• y >=m z is a notation for [forall i, y i 0 >= z i 0]

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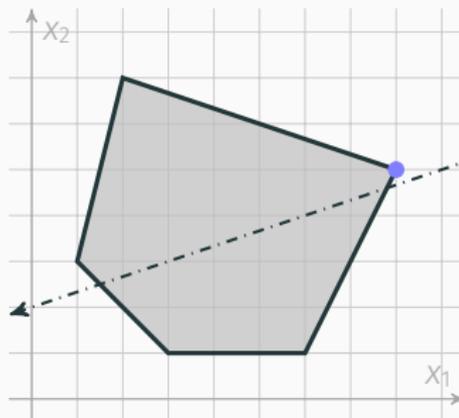
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Objective function  $\equiv$  '[c,x], notation for  $\sum_{i < n} c_i * x_i$ .

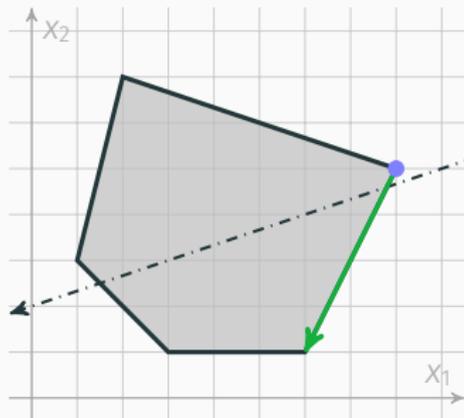
# Geometric interpretation of the simplex method

1. starting from an initial vertex



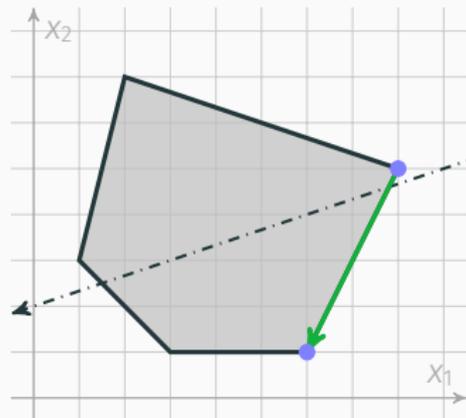
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1. starting from an initial vertex
2. iterate over the **vertex-edge** graph while decreasing the objective function



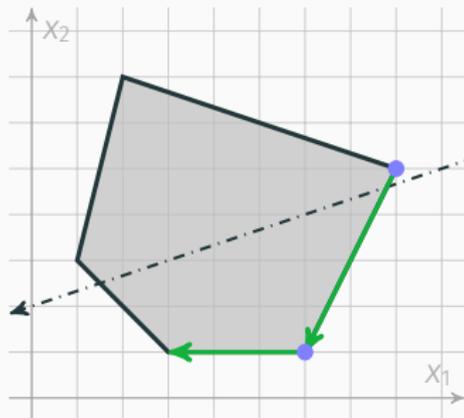
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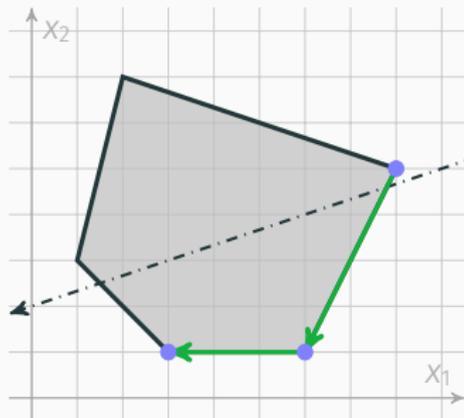
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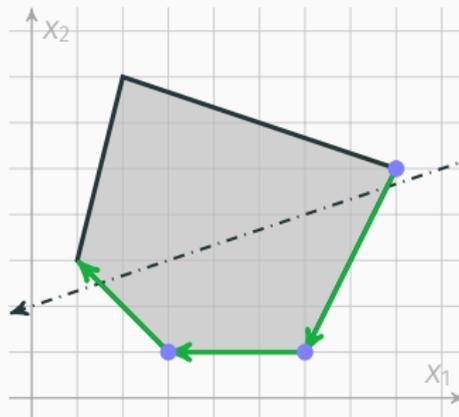
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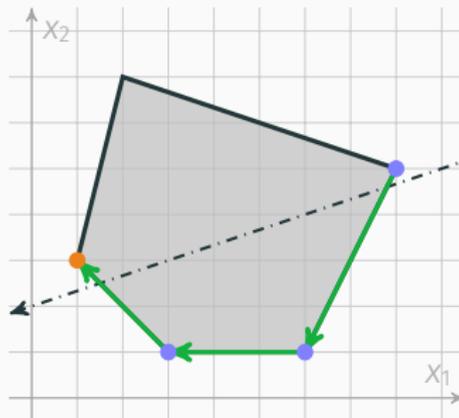
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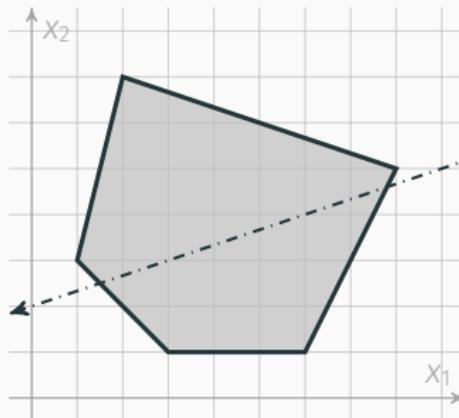
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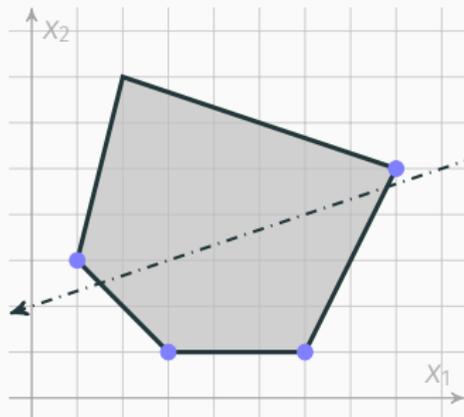


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Three ingredients:

- **bases** encode vertices

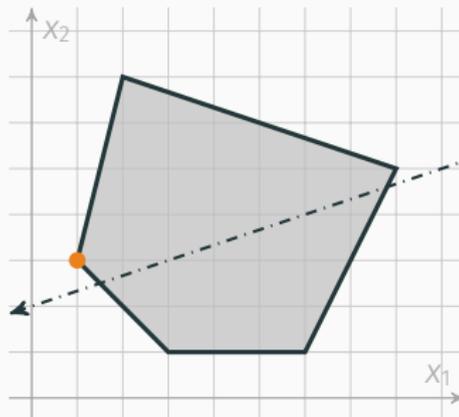


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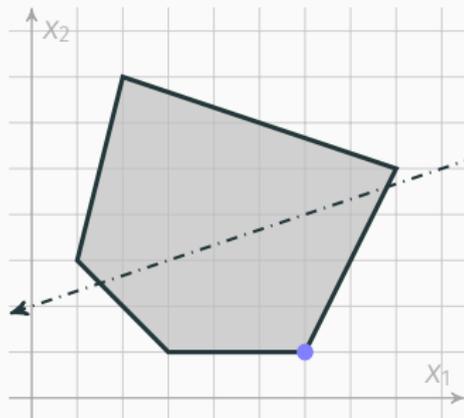


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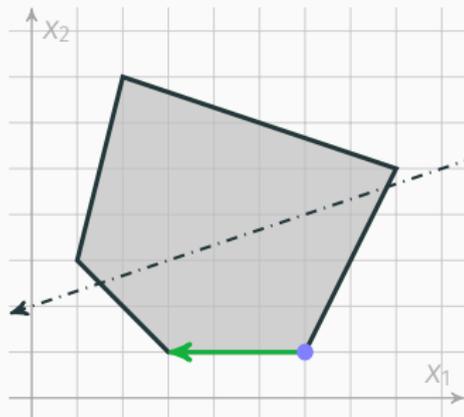


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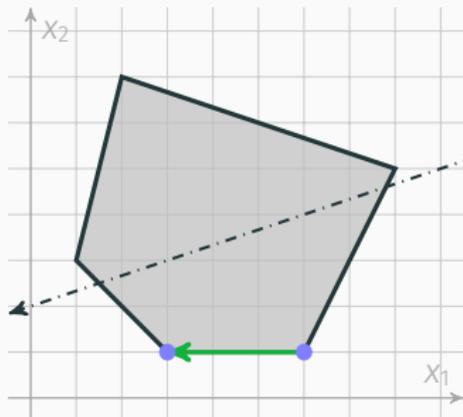


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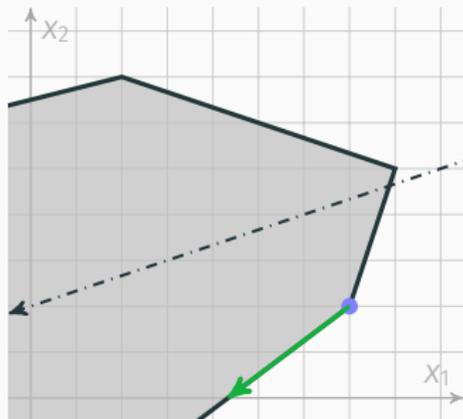


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**or** determines if the LP is unbounded



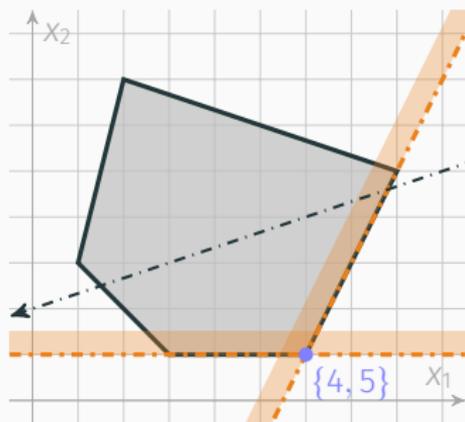
## Definition

A **basis** is a subset  $\mathcal{I} \subset \{1, \dots, m\}$  of cardinality  $n$  such that the system

$$A_i x = b_i, \quad i \in \mathcal{I}$$

has a unique solution, called the **basic point**.

The basis is **feasible** when the basic point belongs to the polyhedron.



$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & 3x_1 + x_2 \\ \text{subject to} & x_1 + x_2 \geq 4 \quad \textcircled{1} \\ & -x_1 - 3x_2 \geq -23 \quad \textcircled{2} \\ & 4x_1 - x_2 \geq 1 \quad \textcircled{3} \\ & -2x_1 + x_2 \geq -11 \quad \textcircled{4} \\ & x_2 \geq 1 \quad \textcircled{5} \end{array}$$

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= submatrix  $A_{\mathcal{I}}$

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```

```
Inductive feasible_basis :=
  FeasibleBasis (I:basis) of point_of_basis I \in polyhedron A b
```

where we have defined:

```
Definition point_of_basis (I:basis) :=
  (qinvmx [...] (row_submx A I)) *m (row_submx b I).
```

Variable I : feasible\_basis.

Variable  $\mathcal{I}$  : feasible\_basis.

### Definition

The *reduced cost vector* at basis  $\mathcal{I}$  is defined as the unique solution  $u \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{I}}$  of the system

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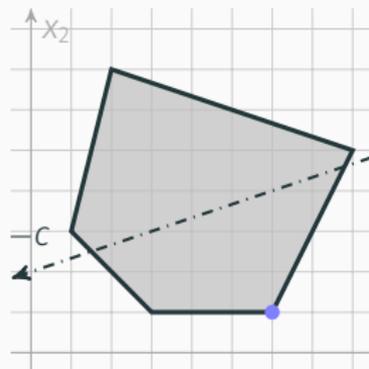


# Pivoting

If the reduced cost vector has some negative entries:

**Variable  $i$**  : 'I\_#|I|.

**Hypothesis [...]** :  $\text{reduced\_cost } i \theta < \theta$ .

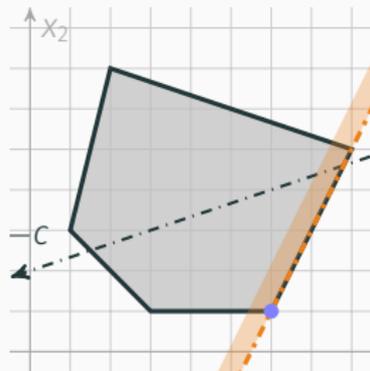


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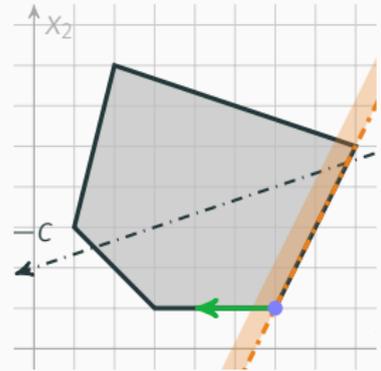
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we can build a direction vector which

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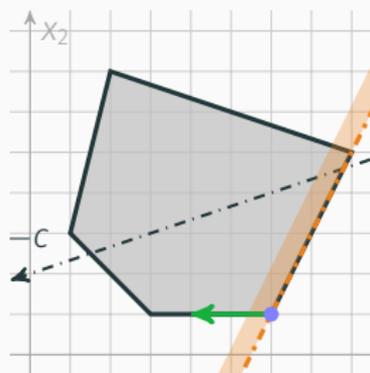
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**Definition** `direction` :=

```
let: ei := (delta_mx i 0) in  
(qinvmx [...] (row_submx A I)) *m ei.
```

**Lemma** `direction_improvement` :

```
'[c, direction] < 0.
```



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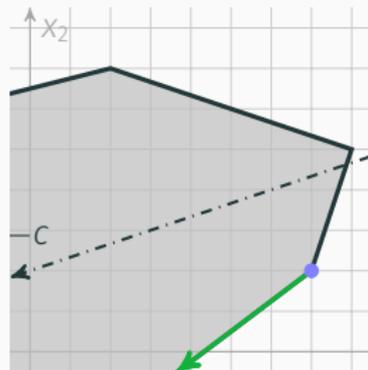
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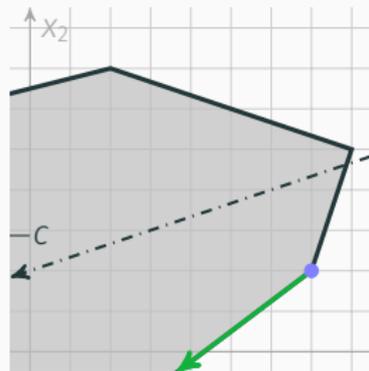
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**Lemma unbounded\_certificate** : `(A * m direction)  $\geq m \theta$  ->`  
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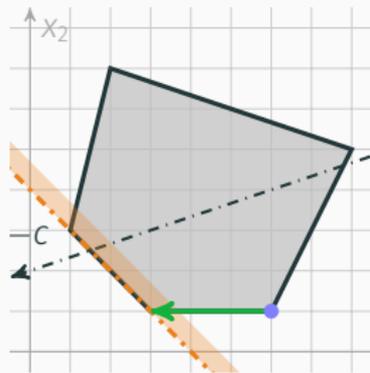
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**Definition** `new_halfspace := [...]`



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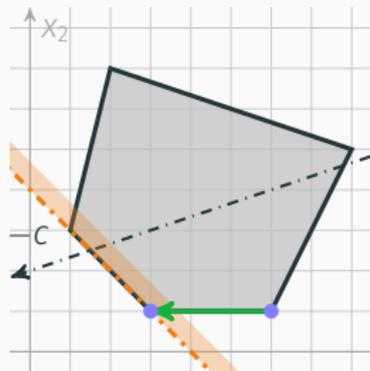
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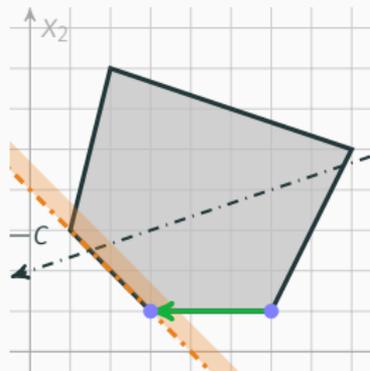
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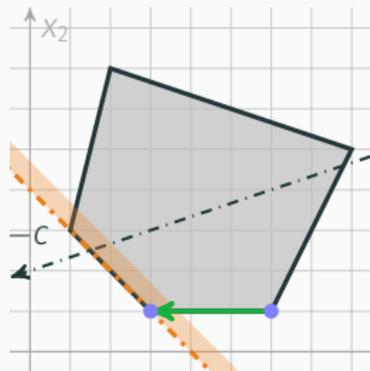
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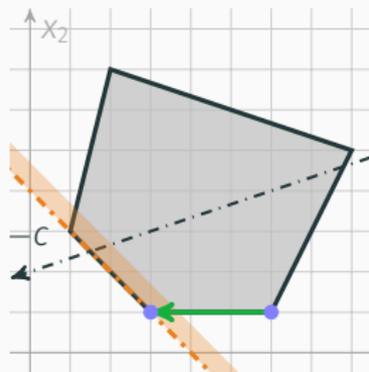
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$'[c, \text{point\_of\_basis } \text{next\_I}] \leq '[c, \text{point\_of\_basis } I].$



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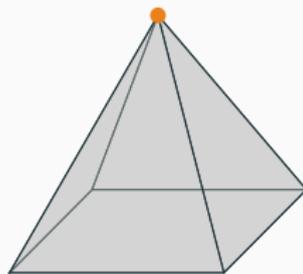
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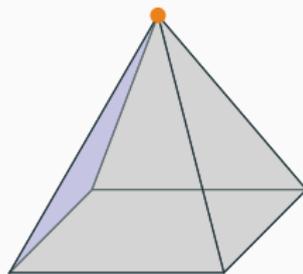
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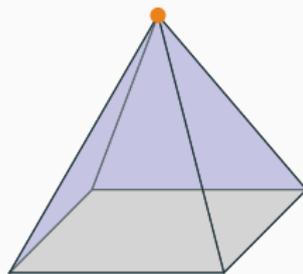
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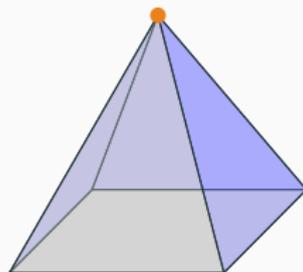
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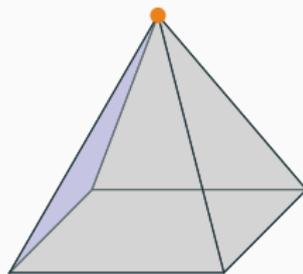
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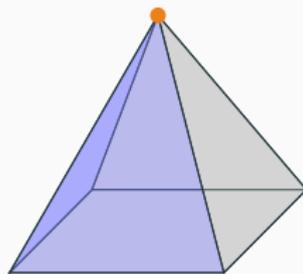
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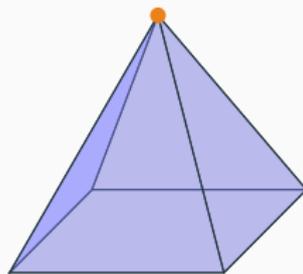
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⇒ type `lex_feasible_basis` ≡ feasible basis in the lex-setting:

**Lemma** `lex_feasible_basis_is_feasible` (I:lex\_feasible\_basis):  
is\_feasible I.

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No degenerate bases anymore!

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Lemma eq_pert_point_imp_eq_bas (I I':basis) :  
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This finally ensure that:

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Fact [...] : (c^T *m point_of_basis_pert next_I)  
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simplex_phase2 : feasible_basis -> result
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$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \geq b\}$  is empty if, and only if, the dual LP is **unbounded**:

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**Lemma infeasibleP** : (\* Farkas Lemma \*)

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(~~ feasible).
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- inconsistency cert.  $d$  is built from the unboundedness certificate □

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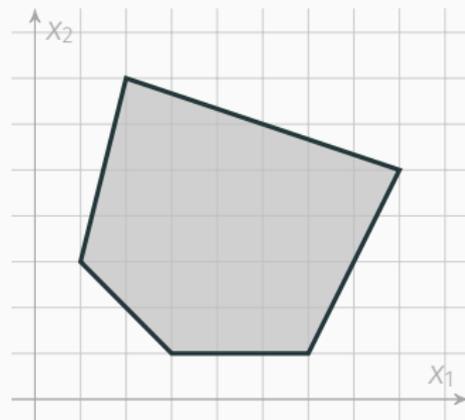
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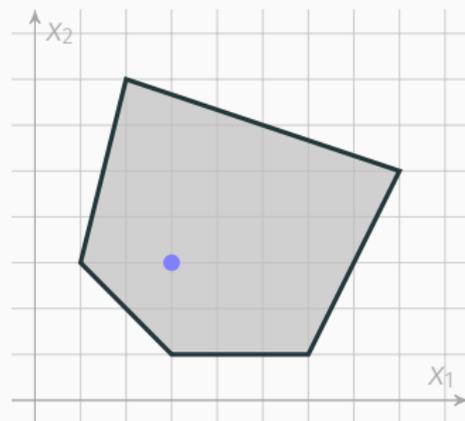
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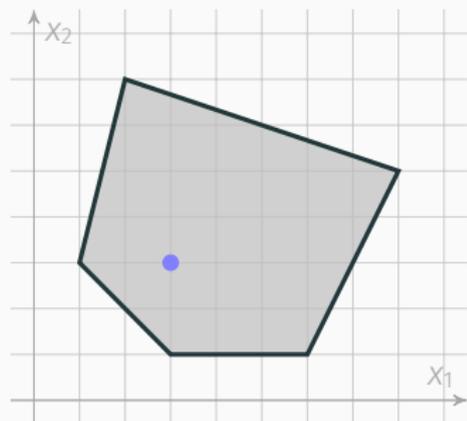
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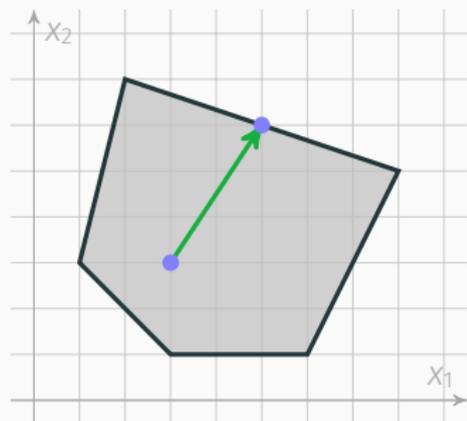


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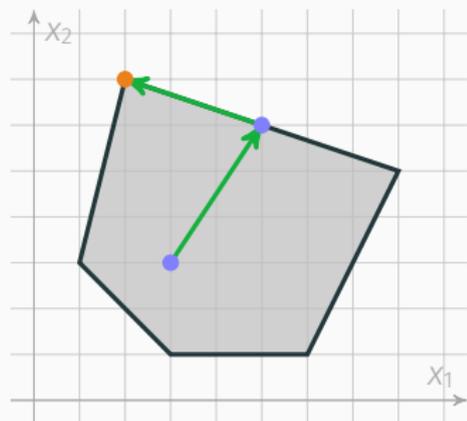


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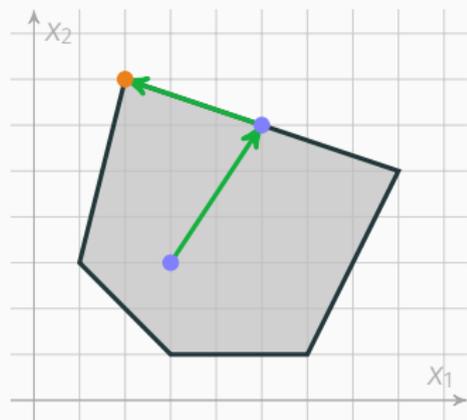
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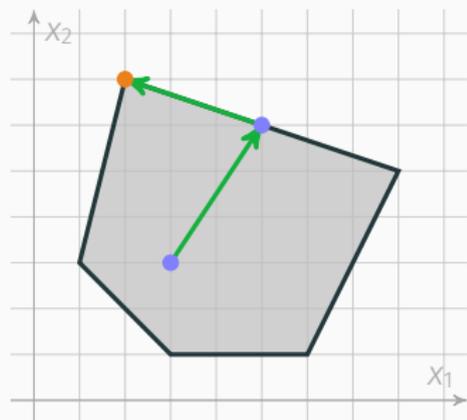
## Phase I: finding a feasible basis (2)

Alternative algorithm :

- start from an arbitrary  $x \in \mathcal{P}(A, b)$
- let  $\mathcal{I}(x) := \{i \in [m] : A_i x = b_i\}$
- take  $d \neq 0$  such that  $d \in \ker A_{\mathcal{I}(x)}$
- move along  $\pm d$  from  $x$ , up to the boundary  
 $\implies$  new point  $x' \in \mathcal{P}(A, b)$ , s.t.

$$\text{rank } A_{\mathcal{I}(x')} > \text{rank } A_{\mathcal{I}(x)}$$

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### Remark

- the initial  $x$  is provided by the dual Phase II:  
**Lemma feasibleP :**  
reflect (exists  $x, x \in \text{polyhedron } A \ b)$  feasible.
- share steps with the simplex method
- conceptually (and computationally) simpler

Reduction to the **pointed** case:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \langle c, v - w \rangle \\ & \text{subject to} && A(v - w) \geq b, v \geq 0, w \geq 0, (v, w) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+n} \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

We arrive at the definition of the function **simplex**:

```
Inductive simplex_spec : simplex_final_result -> Type :=
| Infeasible d of ([/\ A^T *m d = 0, d >=m 0 & '[b, d] > 0):
    simplex_spec (Simplex_infeasible d)
| Unbounded p of
    [/\ (p.1 \in polyhedron A b), A *m p.2 >=m 0 &
    '[c, p.2] < 0]: simplex_spec (Simplex_unbounded p)
| Optimal_point p of
    [/\ (p.1 \in polyhedron A b), (p.2 \in dual_polyhedron A c) &
    '[c, p.1] = '[b, p.2]]: simplex_spec (Simplex_optimal_point p).
```

**Theorem simplexP** : simplex\_spec simplex.

which completely solves an LP (from scratch).

## Additional Boolean predicates on polyhedra

```
Definition unbounded :=  
  if simplex is Simplex_unbounded _ then true else false.  
Lemma unboundedP : reflect  
  (forall M, exists y, y \in polyhedron A b /\ '[c,y] < M)  
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### Proof sketch

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[...]  
| Unbounded p of  
  [/\ (p.1 \in polyhedron A b), (A *m p.2 >=m 0) &  
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[...]
```

The certificate  $y$  is built by taking a point of the form  $p.1 + \lambda p.2$ , where  $\lambda \geq 0$  is sufficiently large.

## Effective formalization of convex polyhedra

---

# Strong duality

## Primal LP

minimize  $\langle c, x \rangle$   
subject to  $Ax \geq b, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

## Dual LP

maximize  $\langle b, u \rangle$   
subject to  $A^T u = c, u \geq 0, u \in \mathbb{R}^m$

### Theorem

- *the value of the primal LP is  $\geq$  the value of the dual LP;*
- *both LP have the **same value**, unless both LP are infeasible.*

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**Fact weak\_duality** : forall x, forall u,  
x \in polyhedron A b -> u \in dual\_polyhedron A c ->  
'[c,x] >= '[b,u].

**Fact strong\_duality** : [...]  
exists x, exists u, x \in polyhedron A b ->  
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## Definition

A point  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  belongs to the convex hull of the set  $V = \{v^1, \dots, v^p\}$  if

$$\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^p, \quad x = \sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i v^i \quad \text{where } \lambda \geq 0, \quad \sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i = 1.$$

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⇒ membership amounts to the non-emptiness of a polyhedron in  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^p$  (parametrized by  $x$  and  $V$ )

Let  $e := (\text{const\_mx } 1) : 'cV\_p$ . (\* vector with constant entry 1 \*)

Definition `is_in_convex_hull` ( $x : 'cV\_n$ ) :=

```
let Ax :=  
  col_mx (col_mx (col_mx V (-V)) (col_mx e^T (-e^T))) 1%:M in  
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Lemma `is_in_convex_hullP` ( $x:'cV\_n$ ) : reflect

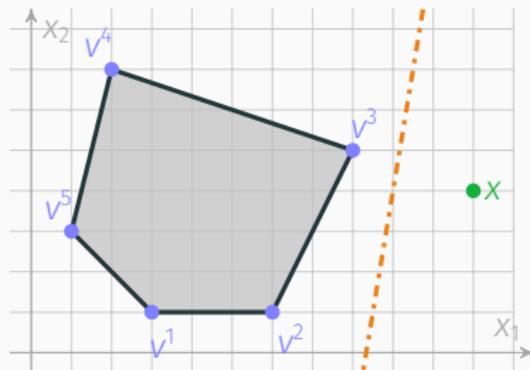
```
(exists lambda:'cV_p,
  [/\ (lambda >=m 0), '[e, lambda] = 1 & x = V *m lambda])
(is_in_convex_hull x).
```

## Convex hulls (2)

### Theorem (Separation result)

If  $x$  does not belong to the convex hull of  $V$ , there exists  $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$\langle c, v^i \rangle > \langle c, x \rangle, \quad i = 1, \dots, p$$

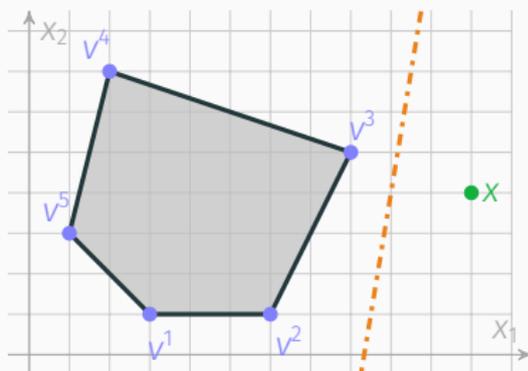


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**Theorem separation** ( $x$ : 'cV\_n) :  $\sim$  (is\_in\_convex\_hull x)  
-> exists c, [forall i, '[c, col i V] > '[c, x]].

### Proof sketch

The certificate  $c$  is built as

$(\text{dsubmx}(\text{usubmx}(\text{usubmx} \text{ d}))) - (\text{usubmx}(\text{usubmx}(\text{usubmx} \text{ d})))$  where  $d$  is the infeasibility certificate of the polyhedron over  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^p$ .

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where:

- `=i` is the extensional equality
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Suppose that  $x$  lies in the polyhedron.

If  $x$  does not belong to the convex hull of the basic points, there exists  $c$  such that

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$$\langle c, z^* \rangle \leq \langle c, x \rangle < \langle c, z \rangle \quad \text{for all feasible basic point } z$$

where  $z^*$  is the basic point found by the simplex method. □

## Conclusion

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**Example:** formally disprove Hirsch conjecture? (e.g.,  $\sim 35\,000$  vertices)  
 $\implies$  refine algorithms to work with low-level data structures

# Thank you!

`github.com/nhojem/Coq-Polyhedra`

## References

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