

# Lecture 7

## Plan:

- ✓ 0. Discuss pset
- ✓ 1. Finish LP duality (prev notes).
2. Faces of Polyhedra

# Faces of Polyhedra

Def:  $a^{(1)} \dots a^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are

affinely independent if

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i a^{(i)} = 0$$

and  $\sum \lambda_i = 0$  imply  $\lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_k = 0$ .

(w/out  $\sum \lambda_i = 0$ , is just linear indep.)

linear independence  $\Rightarrow$  affine independent.

Note:

$\{c_i\}$  n.o. independent iff

$\{a^{(i)}\}$  affinely independent

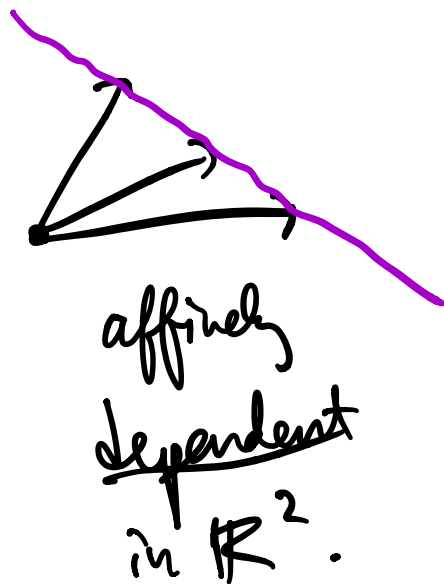
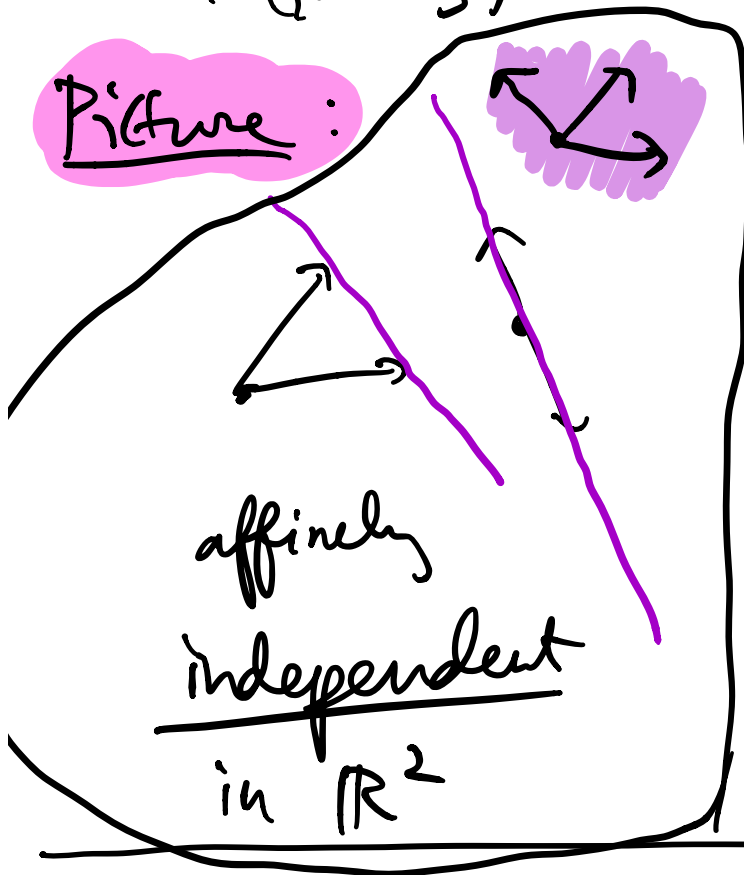
$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a^{(i)} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

linearly independent.

$\Leftrightarrow \text{aff}(\{a^{(i)}\})$  has dimension  $k-1$

$\uparrow$   
# vectors.

Picture:



Def Dimension  $\dim(P)$  of

polyhedron  $P$ :

$-1 + \max \#$  affinely  
independent points in  $P$ .

Equivalently, dimension of  
affine hull of  $P$ .

Examples:  $P = \emptyset$ ,  $\dim(P) = -1$

$P = \text{singleton}$   $\cdot$   $\dim(P) = 0$

$P = \text{line segment}$   $\diagup$   $\dim(P) = 1$

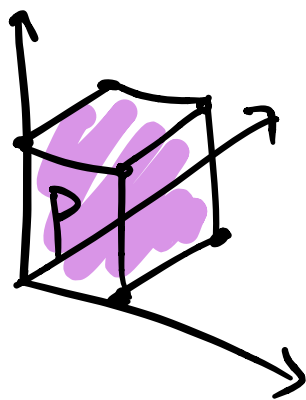
$\vdots$

$$\text{aff}(P) = \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\dim(P) = n;$$

$P$  "full dimensional"

eg. cube in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ :  $\{x_i: 0 \leq x_i \leq 1\}$



$$\dim P = 3$$

$$\dim \mathbb{R}^3 = 3$$

(as polyhedron).

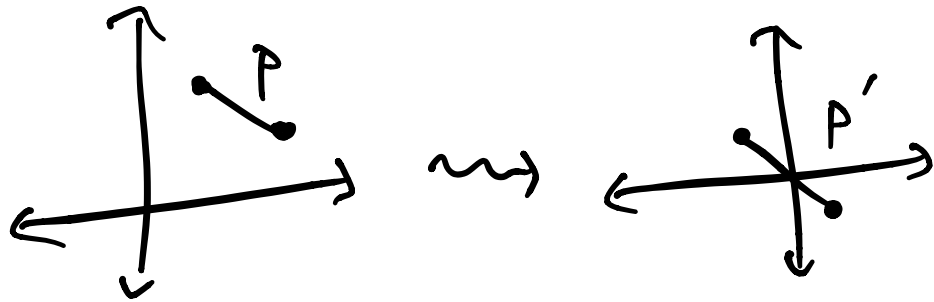
Why affine, not linear? affine

independence is translation invariant:

if I used max # lin indep points - 1

$$\dim(P) = 1$$

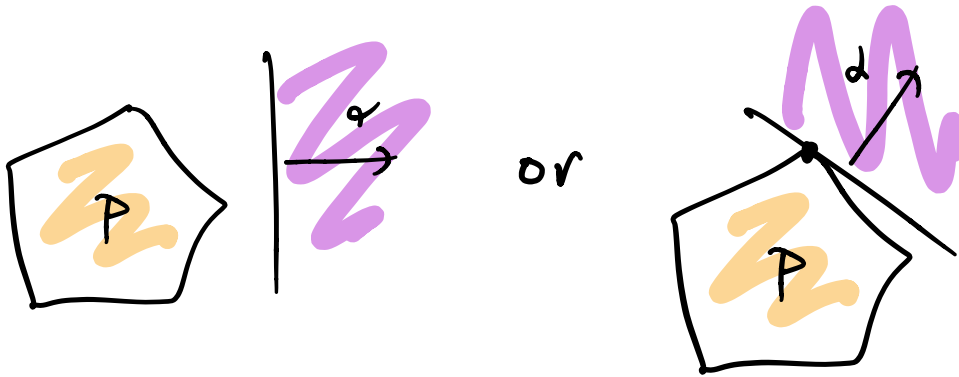
$$\dim(P') = 0$$



$$1 = \dim(P) = \dim(P')$$


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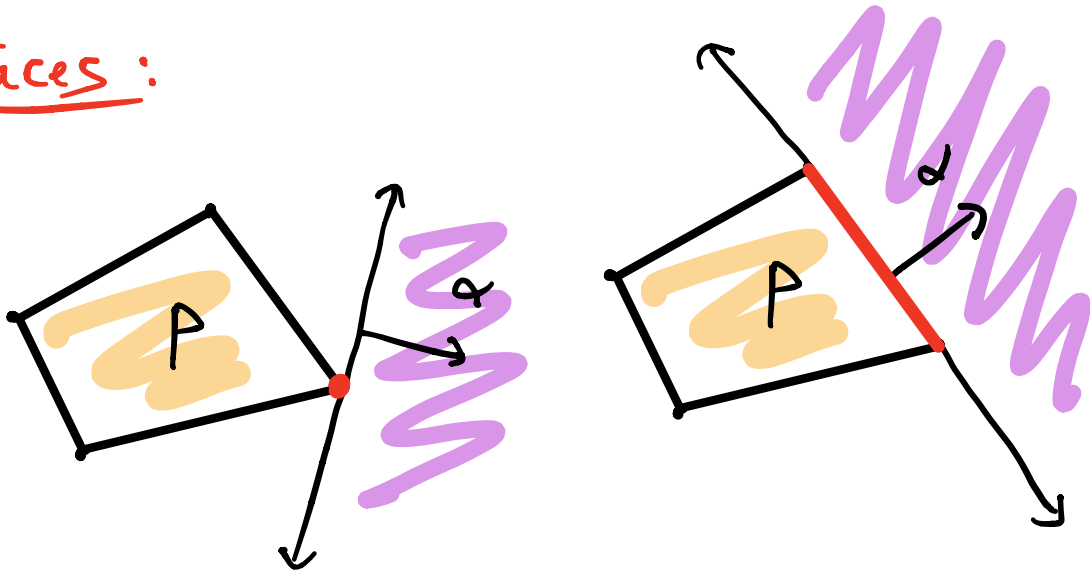
Def:  $a^T x \leq \beta$  is a valid inequality for  $P$  if  $a^T x \leq \beta$  for all  $x \in P$ .



Def A face of a polyhedron  $P$  is  $\{x \in P : \dots\}$  for

$$\alpha^T x \leq \beta \quad \text{valid.}$$

Faces:



Properties:

- Faces are polyhedra
- Empty face & entire  $P$  are called trivial faces
- else  $F$  nontrivial

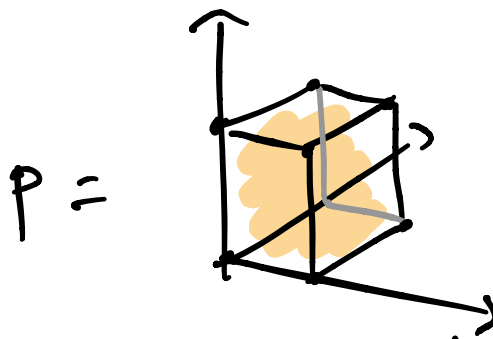
$$\leq \dim(F) \leq$$

- $F : \dim(F) = \dim(P) - 1$  called facets.
- $F : \dim(F) = 0$  called vertices.

• T. ... with vertices

Ex: list the 28 faces of the cube

$$P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^3 : \quad \}$$



Fact:  $\infty$  many valid ineqs,  
but # faces finite!

Theorem: ("Faces" theorem)

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $A = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ -a_i^T \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$



Any nonempty face of  $P = \{x : Ax \leq b\}$

is

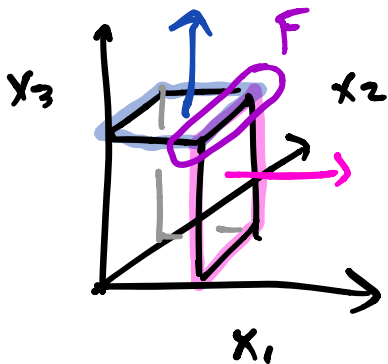
$$\left\{ x : \right\}$$

for some set  $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, m\}$ .

$\Rightarrow$

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E.g. cube



$$F = \left\{ x : \right\}$$

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Proof

Consider valid inequality

$$\alpha^T x \leq b \quad \text{giving nonempty face } F.$$

- $F =$  optimum solutions to bounded LP

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{max} \\ (P) \quad \text{subject to} \end{array}$$

- Let  $y^*$  optimal solution to dual.

- Complementary slackness:

optimal solns  $F$  are

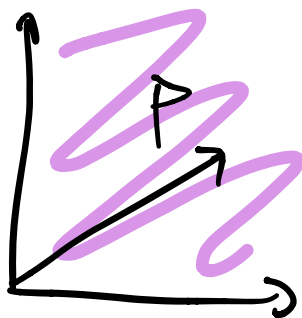
$$\left[ s_v : \right. \quad \left. \left. \right. \right]$$

$\mathbb{R}^n$

Thus we can take  $I = \{i : y_i^* > 0\}$ .  $\square$

Ex: positive orthant  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_i \geq 0\} = P$   
has  $2^n + 1$  faces

• How many of dim  $k$ ?



For poly topes can bound # faces in terms of # vertices.

"upper bound theorem!"

Dehn-Sommerville equation

For extreme points (dimension 0 faces)  
can just use equalities.

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Theorem ("Vertex" Theorem)

Let  $x^*$  extreme point for

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ -a^T \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = \{x : Ax \leq b\}.$$

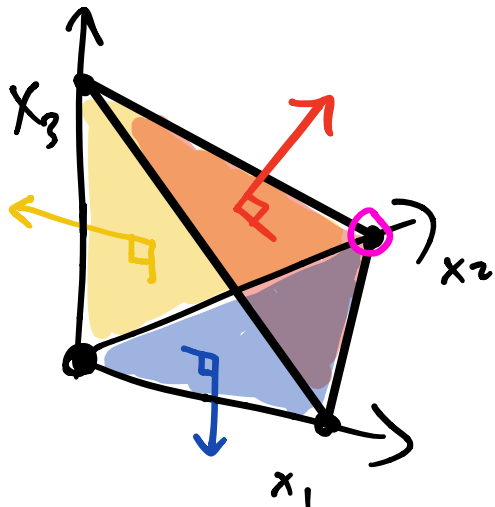
Then  $\exists I$  s.t.  $x^*$  is the unique soln to



moreover, any such unique solution  $x^*$   
is extreme.

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eg. simplex  $(0,1,0)$  is intersection of 3 constraints



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Proof: Given extreme point  $x^*$ ,

- define  $I = \{i: \dots\}$ .
- Note for  $i \notin I$ ,  $\dots$ .
- By "faces theorem",  $x^*$  uniquely defined by

(\*)

$i \in I$

(\*\*)

$i \notin I$ .

• Suppose  $\exists$  other soln.  $\hat{x}$  to (\*).

• Because \_\_\_\_\_ for  $i \notin I$ ,



still satisfies (\*), (\*\*) for

• Contradicts F having only one point.  $\square$ .

## Basic Feasible Solutions:

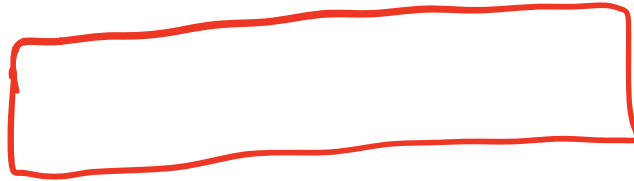
For  $P = \{ \quad , \quad \}$

can describe extreme points very explicitly.

( )

Corollary of Vertex Thm: Extreme pts. of

$P = \{ \quad \}$  come from setting

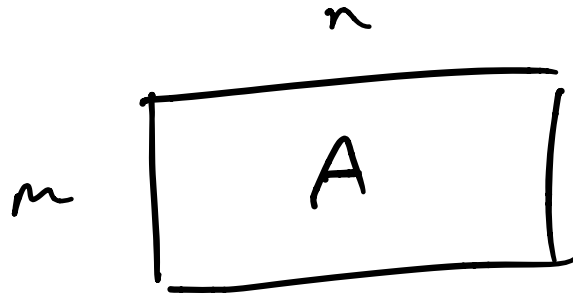


and finding unique solution to  $=$   
for remaining variables.

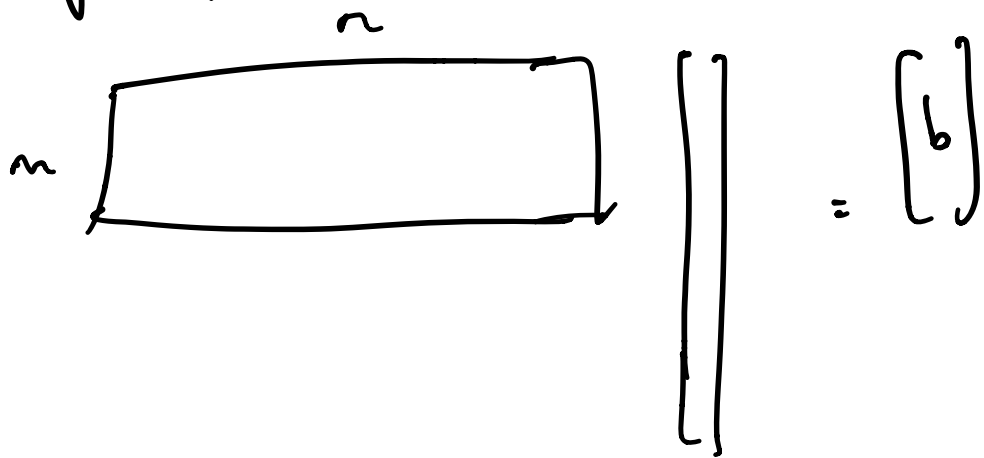
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Can say more: Extreme points  
of  $P = \{x: Ax=b, x \geq 0\}$  are  
the basic feasible solutions (bfs),  
feasible solns obtained as follows:

- Remove redundant rows  
from A ( )



- Choose  $m$  columns  $B$  of  $A$ , ( )



- Solve  $A_B x_B = 0$ ,  
set

$$x_i^* = \begin{cases} & i \in B \\ & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



$$\{ \text{bfs} \} = \{ \text{extreme pts} \}.$$

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## Corollary of Faces Theorem

facets are the maximal nontrivial faces of a nonempty polyhedron  $P$ .

Pf: Exercise.

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## Corollary of vertex theorem

vertices are the minimal nontrivial

Facets .

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Pf: