

Module 5: Integer Programs (IP versus LP)

LP versus IP

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Remark

We cannot **PROVE** an algorithm that is guaranteed to be fast does not exist, but we can show that it is “highly unlikely”.

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Can solve very large instances	Some small instances cannot be solved
Algorithms exist that are guaranteed to be fast	No fast algorithm exists
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We cannot **PROVE** that sometimes there is no short certificate of infeasibility, but we can show that it is "highly unlikely".

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Let us look at an example...

A Bad Example

A Bad Example

Proposition

The following IP,

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & x_1 - \sqrt{2}x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} & \\ & x_1 \leq \sqrt{2}x_2 \\ & x_1, x_2 \geq 1 \\ & x_1, x_2 \text{ integer} \end{array}$$

is feasible, bounded, and has no optimal solution.

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contradiction !!!

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$$x'_1 = 2x_1 + 2x_2 \geq 1 \text{ and } x'_2 = x_1 + 2x_2 \geq 1 \quad \checkmark$$

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$$\begin{array}{l} x'_1 \\ 2x_1 + 2x_2 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} ? \\ ? \\ \leq \sqrt{2}x'_2 \\ \leq \sqrt{2}(x_1 + 2x_2) \end{array} \quad \iff$$

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$$x'_1 \stackrel{?}{\leq} \sqrt{2}x'_2 \quad \iff$$

$$2x_1 + 2x_2 \stackrel{?}{\leq} \sqrt{2}(x_1 + 2x_2) = \sqrt{2}x_1 + 2\sqrt{2}x_2$$

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$$x_1(2 - \sqrt{2}) \stackrel{?}{\leq} (2\sqrt{2} - 2)x_2$$

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- $>$ otherwise $\sqrt{2} = \frac{x_1}{x_2}$ but $\sqrt{2}$ is not a rational number

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Integer Programming can, in principle, be reduced to Linear Programming.

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This will **NOT** give us a practical procedure to solve IPs,

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This will **NOT** give us a practical procedure to solve IPs, but it will suggest a strategy.

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Let C be a subset of \mathbb{R}^n .

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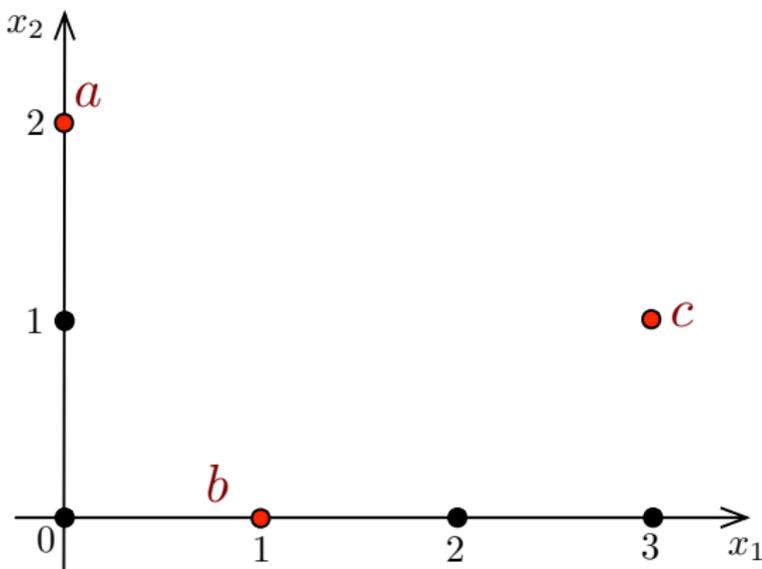
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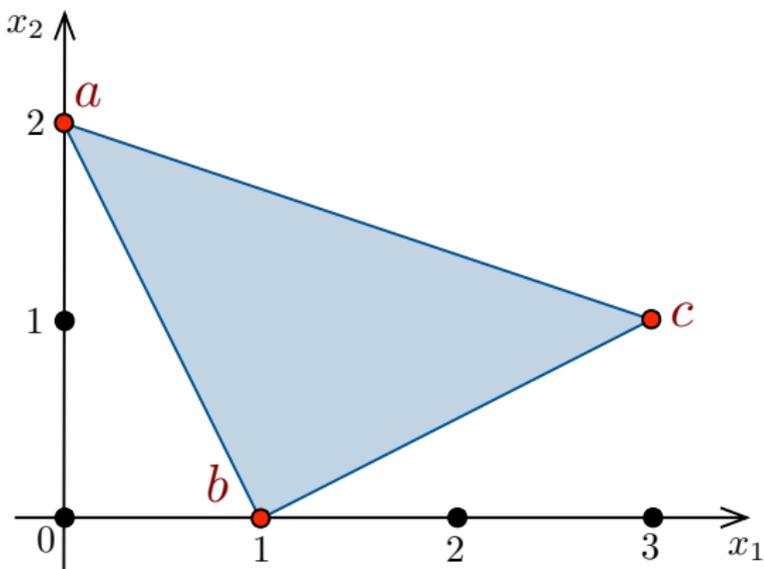


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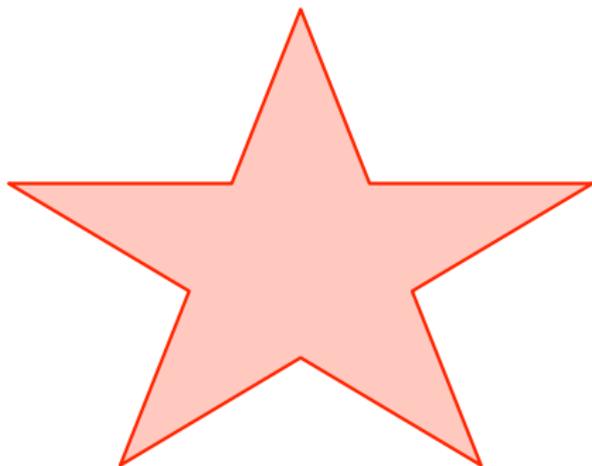
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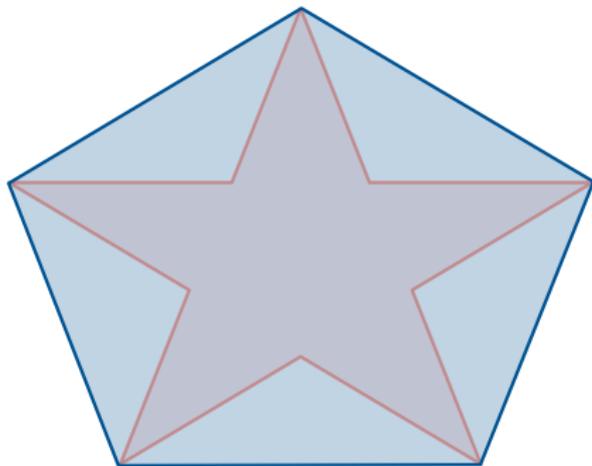


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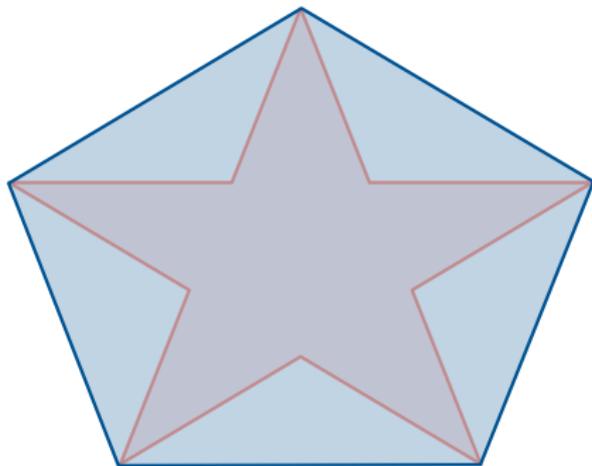
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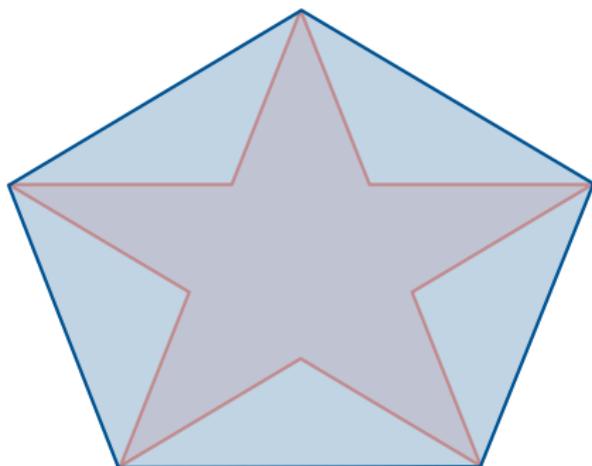
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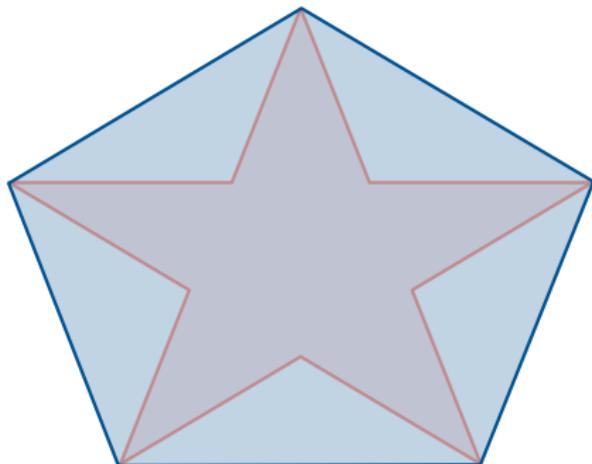
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➡ The notion of a convex hull is well defined.

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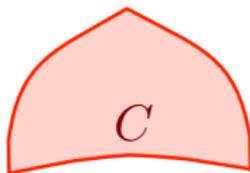
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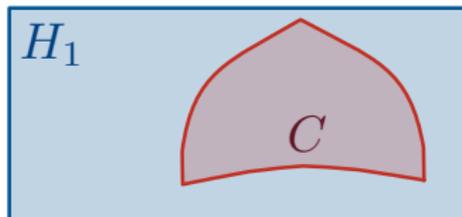
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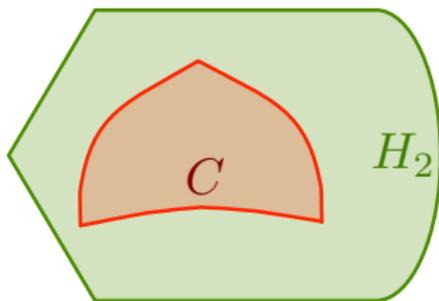
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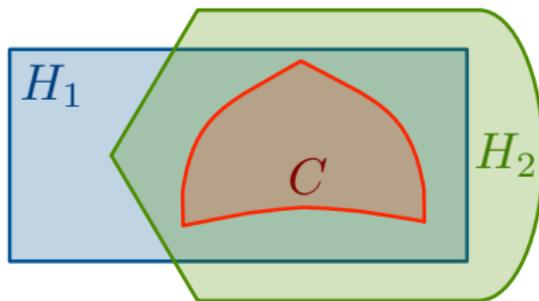
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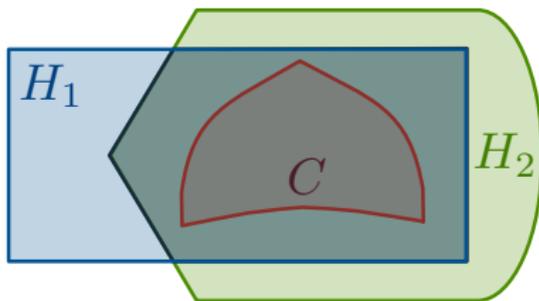
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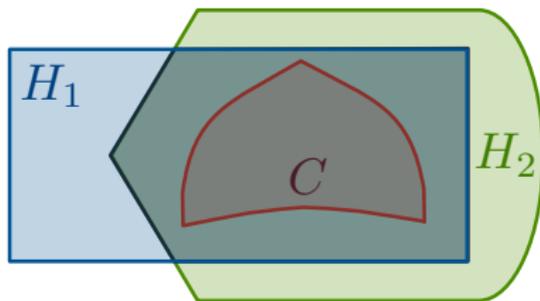
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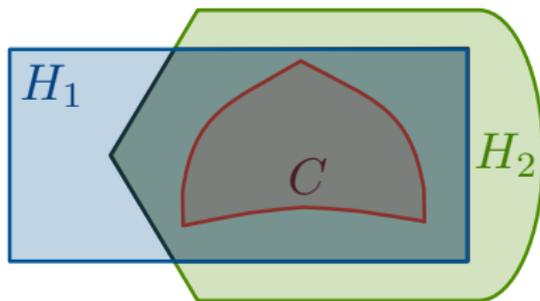
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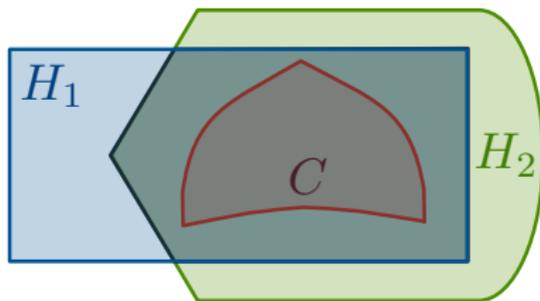
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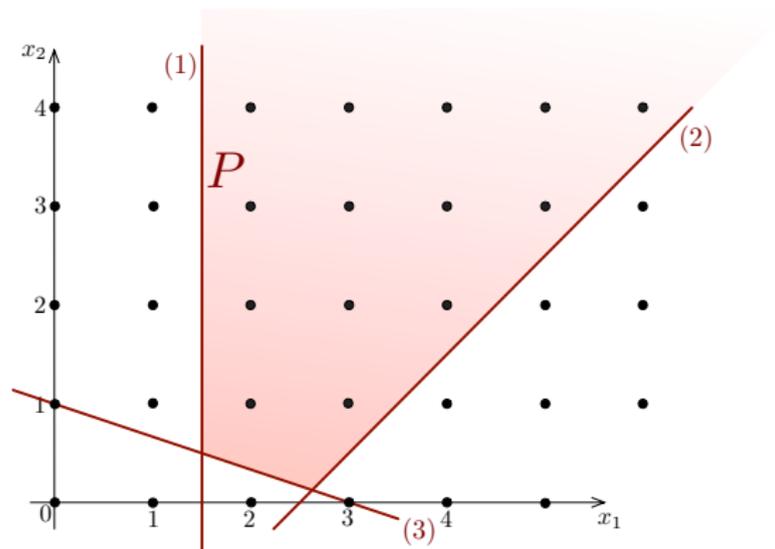
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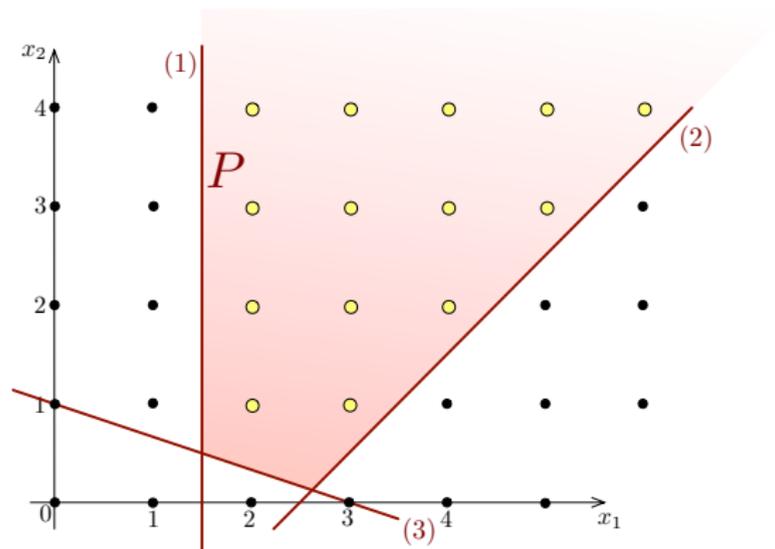
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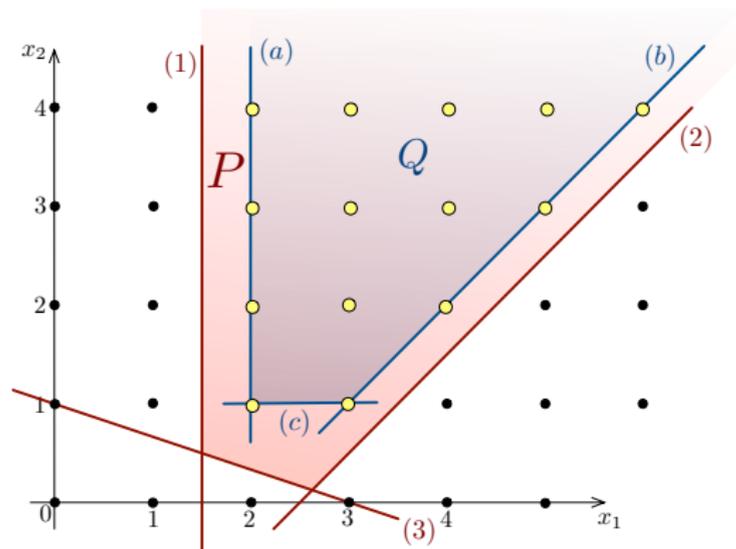
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Integer points in P

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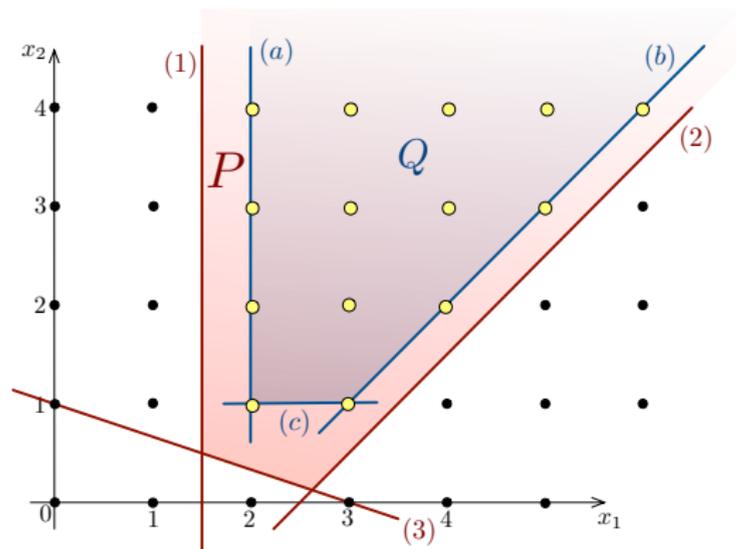
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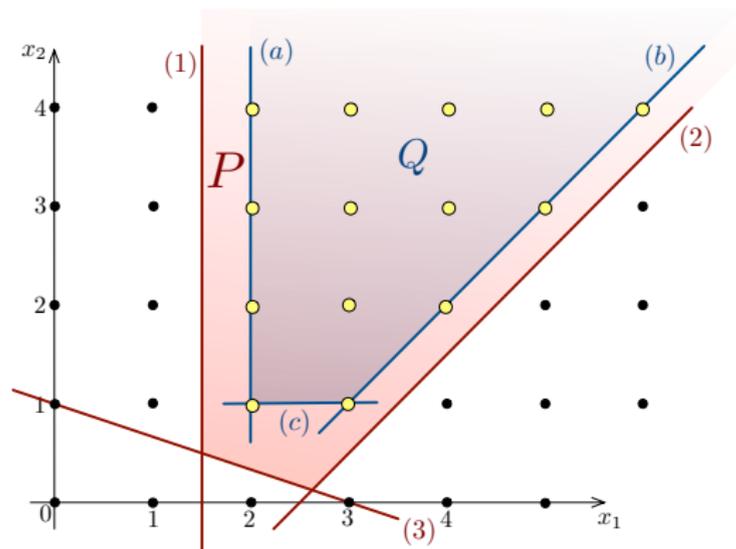


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POLYHEDRON

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Goal: Use Meyer's theorem to reduce the problem of solving *Integer Programs*, to the problem of solving *Linear Program*.

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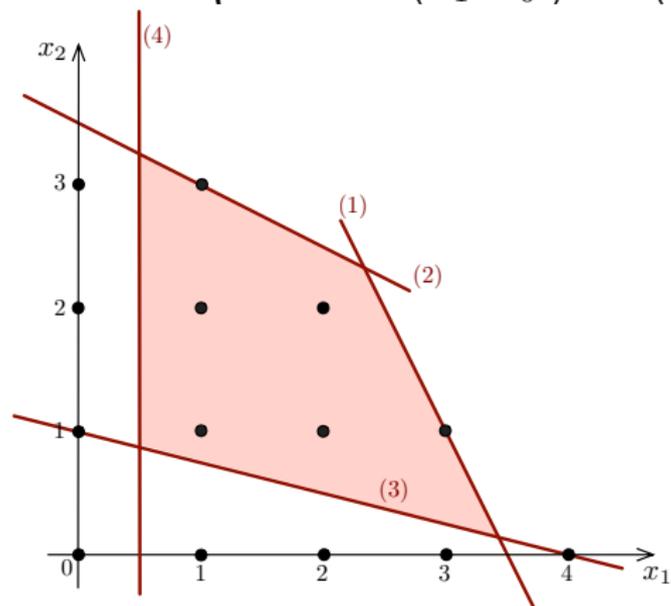
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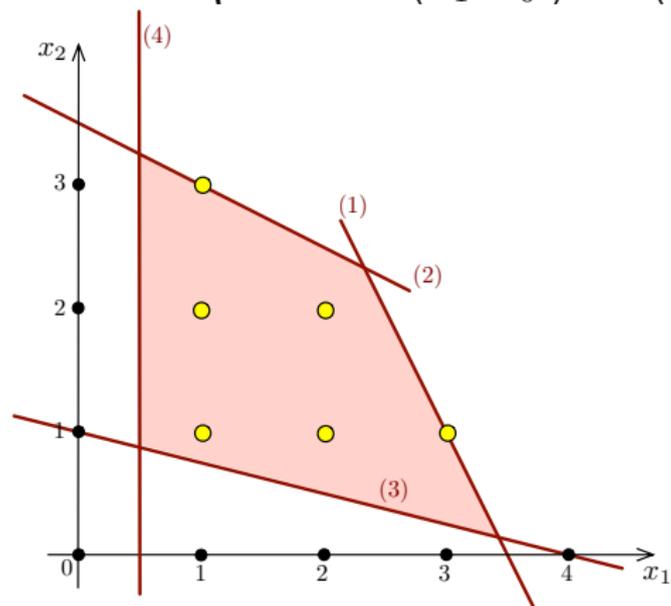
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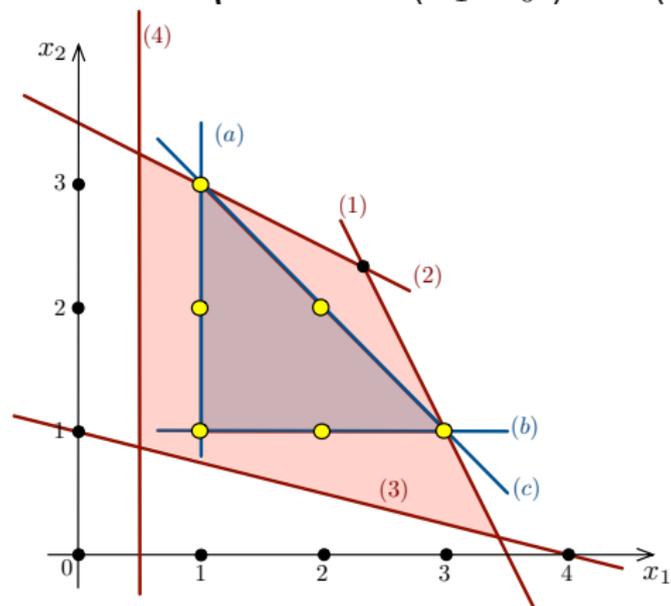
*Feasible region of the
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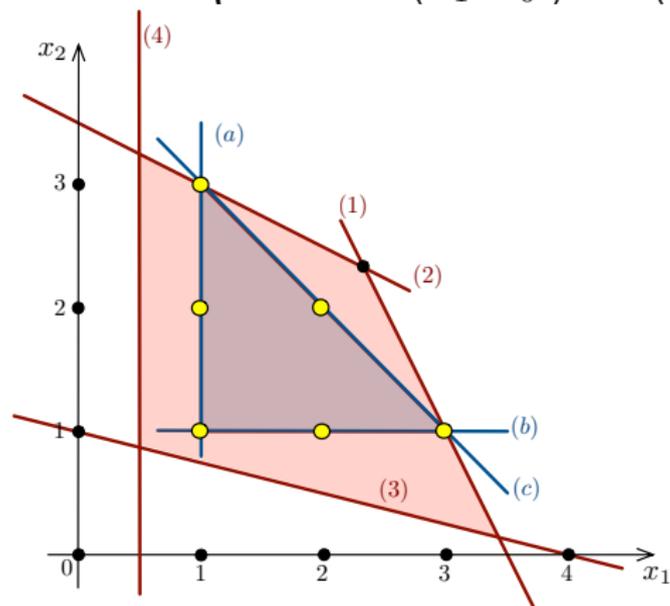
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*The convex hull of
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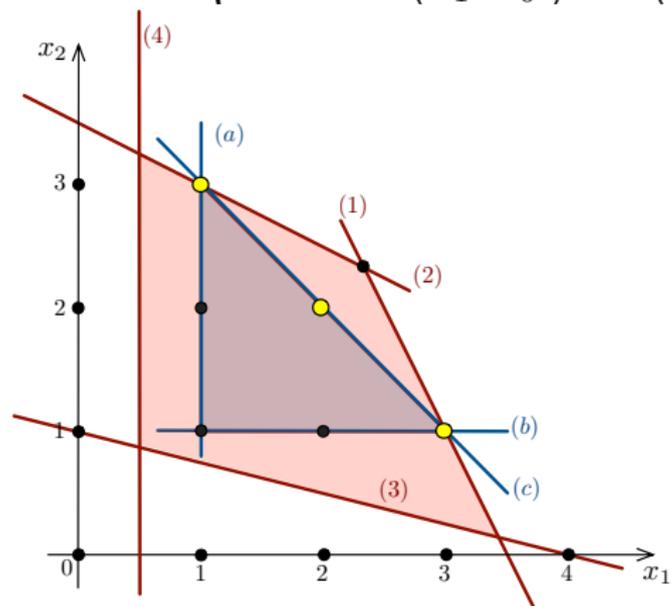
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The convex hull of the feasible region of (IP)

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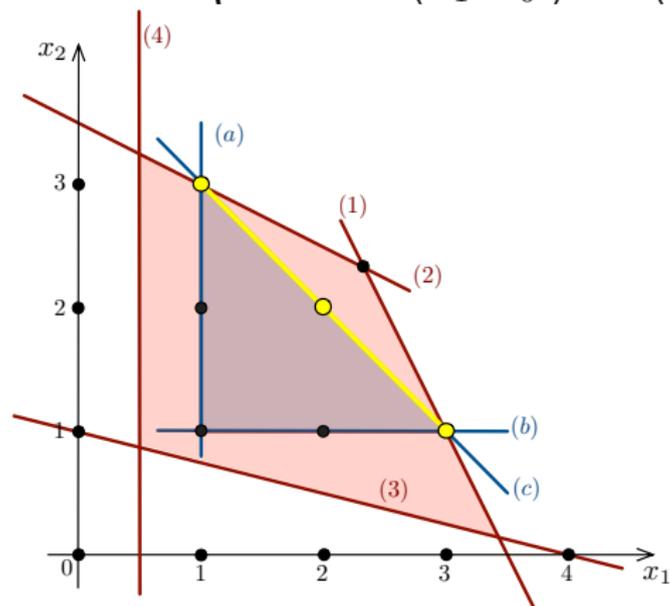
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*Optimal solutions of
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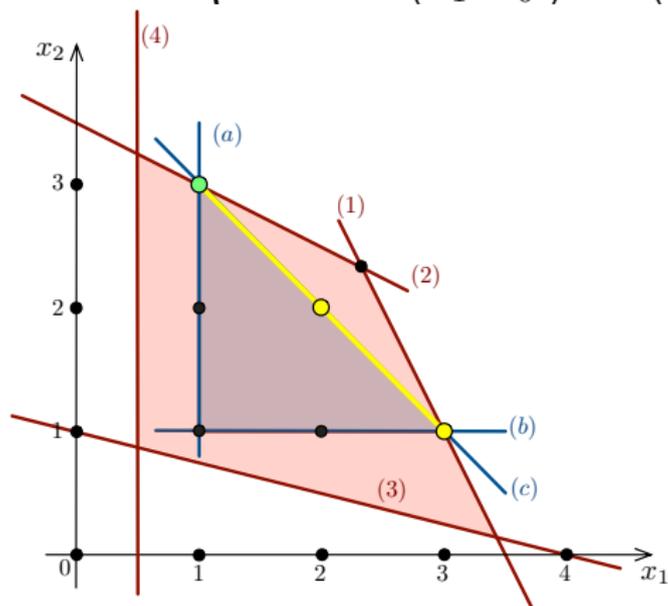
$$\max \left\{ (1 \quad 1) x : \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ -1 & -4 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} x \leq \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 7 \\ -4 \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} (1) \\ (2) \\ (3) \\ (4) \end{matrix} \quad x \text{ integer} \right\} \quad (\text{IP})$$



*Optimal solutions of
(LP)*

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*Extreme optimal
solution of (LP)*

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$$\max\{c^\top x : Ax \leq b, x \text{ integer}\} \quad (\text{IP})$$

The convex hull of the feasible region is a polyhedron $\{x : A'x \leq b'\}$.

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Conceptual way of solving (IP):

Step 1. Compute A', b' .

Step 2. Use Simplex to find an extreme optimal solution.

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WHY NOT?

- We do not know how to compute A', b' , and
- A', b' can be **MUCH** more complicated than A, b .

Question

How do we fix these problems?

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Idea

Construct an **approximation** of the convex hull of the solutions of (IP).

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- Integer Programs are **much harder** to solve than Linear Programs.
- Linear Programming theory does not extend to Integer Programs.
- We defined the notion of convex hulls.
- The convex hull of the integer points in a **rational** polyhedron is a polyhedron.
- Integer programming reduces to Linear programming, but it is **NOT** a practical reduction.