

# Carathéodory Lemma:

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Let  $v_j, (j=1 \dots n) \in \mathbb{R}^d$  be given set of ~~vector~~ vectors. Let  $\lambda \neq 0$  be a nonnegative non-zero vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j v_j = 0 \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

[Barany calls  $\lambda$  a non-trivial linear dependence which also happens to be non-negative]

Let  $\lambda_{j^*} > 0$ . Then we can find in  $O(nd^3)$  time a vector  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^n$  such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j v_j = 0; \quad \alpha_j \geq 0 \quad j=1 \dots n,$$

$$\alpha_{j^*} > 0, \quad \lambda_j = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha_j = 0, \text{ and}$$

$$|\{j: \alpha_j > 0\}| \leq d+1 \text{ (including } j^*)$$

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Let  $d \times n$  matrix whose columns correspond to the vectors  $v_j; j=1 \dots n$

$$\left[ \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j v_j = 0 \right] \Leftrightarrow [Ax = 0]$$

If  $x_{j^*} > 0$ ,  $x_j \geq 0$   $j \neq j^*$ ,  $j=1 \dots n$ ; we can rewrite (2)

$$Ax=0 \text{ or } \sum_{j=1}^n x_j v_j = 0 \text{ as follows.}$$

$$- \sum_{j \neq j^*} x_j v_j = x_{j^*} v_{j^*}$$

$$\text{And hence } - \sum_{j \neq j^*} \frac{x_j}{x_{j^*}} v_j = v_{j^*}$$

This system looks like

$$\hat{A} y_j = v_{j^*} = b \rightarrow (I)$$

$$y_j \geq 0 \quad j \neq j^*, \quad j=1 \dots n$$

Where  $\hat{A}$  is  $-A$  with column  $j^*$  removed.

And we are given a feasible solution  $y^0$

$$y_j^0 = \frac{x_j}{x_{j^*}} \quad j \neq j^*; \quad j=1 \dots n. \quad (\text{II})$$

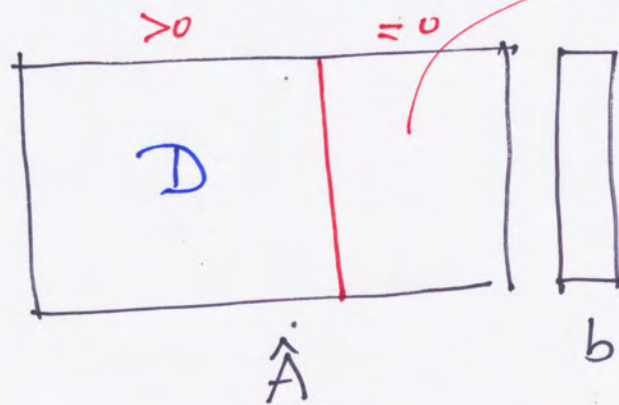
Hence,  $\exists$  a basic feasible solution  $y$  to System I with no more than  $d$  positive components i.e.  $By^B = b$ ,  $y^B \geq 0$ ,

Where  $B$  is submatrix of  $A$  corresponding to the basis; the remaining components of  $y = 0$ . ( $y^{NB} = 0$ )

The algorithm for finding such a Basic (3)  
feasible solution maintains the property that

$y_j^0 = 0 \Rightarrow y_j = 0$  as well. And all this is done  
in  ~~$O(n^3)$~~   $O(nd^3)$  time.

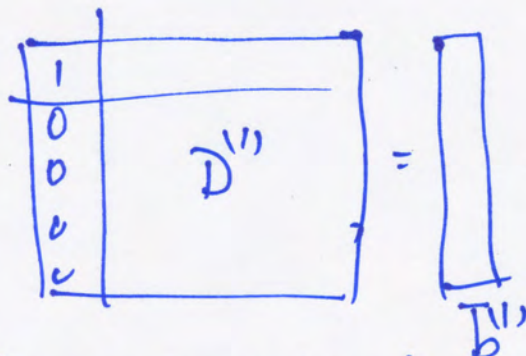
Given  $\hat{A}, b, y^0$ :



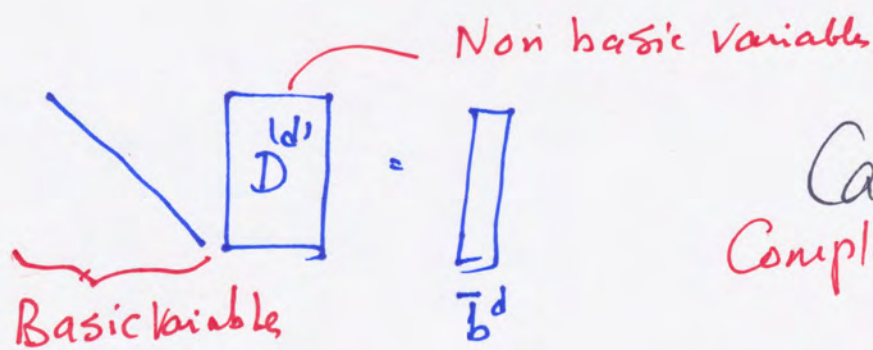
delete these  
or keep these  
variables = 0.

we get  $D(y^0)^D = b, (y^0)^D > 0$ .

Starting "pivoting" on any non zero element  
of  $D$  to get a system that looks like



Keep repeating this with non zero element  
in each row till we get



Canonical form  
Complexity:  $O(d^2 n)$

(3)  
(4)

The solution is still  $(y^0)^D$ .

Start decreasing any one nonbasic variable until and adjusting the values of basic variable until either a basic variable goes down to 0 or the nonbasic variable that we decrease goes to 0. If a basic variable goes to 0, we need to pivot to exchange the role of this basic variable and the chosen nonbasic variable that was decreased. Which ever variable goes down to 0 is removed. The process repeated till we get a basic feasible solution.

Since  $(n-d-1)$  ~~variables~~ variables have to be decreased to zero, this may involve as many pivots. Hence total complexity  $O(nd^3)$

The resulting solution has all the properties promised. End of Caratheodory lemma.