



# DS-210: Programming for Data Science

## Lecture 8: Optimization and Linear Programming





# Updates

- HW 1 grades to be posted today
- HW 2 due today
- HW 3 already posted yesterday





# Optimization

- Traditional area of **Operations Research**





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## Why study optimization?

- Important when making business decision based on data
- Also at heart of many machine learning methods
  - $k$ -means (previous lecture)
  - deep learning and neural networks





# Today: Linear Programming

## General setting

- a number of real variables:  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$
- a number of linear constraints:

$$b_{1,1}x_1 + \dots + b_{1,n}x_n \leq d_1$$

⋮

$$b_{t,1}x_1 + \dots + b_{t,n}x_n \leq d_t$$

- Goal: maximize or minimize  
 $c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \dots + c_nx_n$





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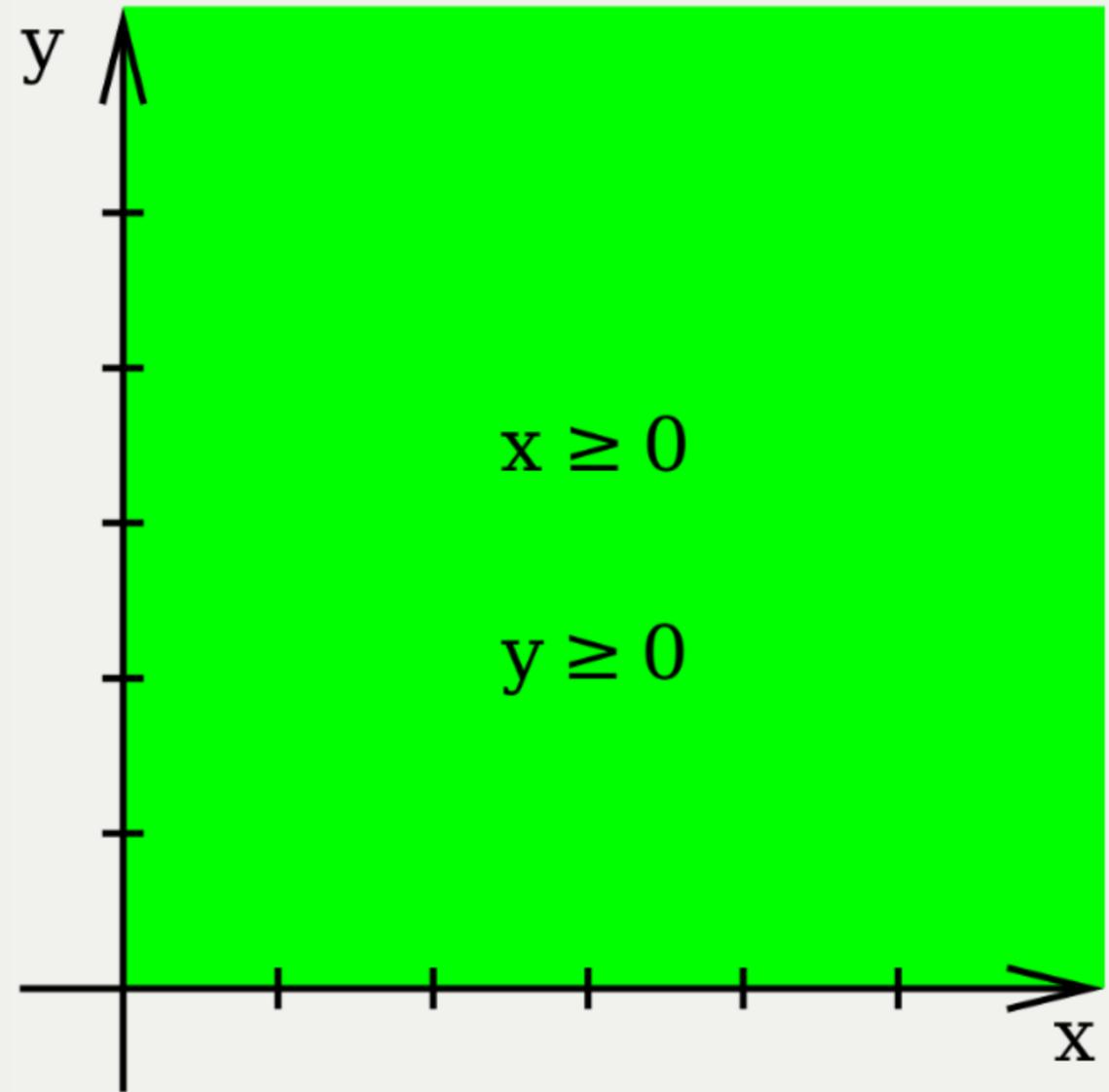
## Simple Example

- variables:  $x$  and  $y$
- linear constraints:  
 $x \geq 0$   
 $y \geq 0$   
 $5x + 4y \leq 20$   
 $3x + 5y \leq 15$
- **Goal:** maximize  $x + y$



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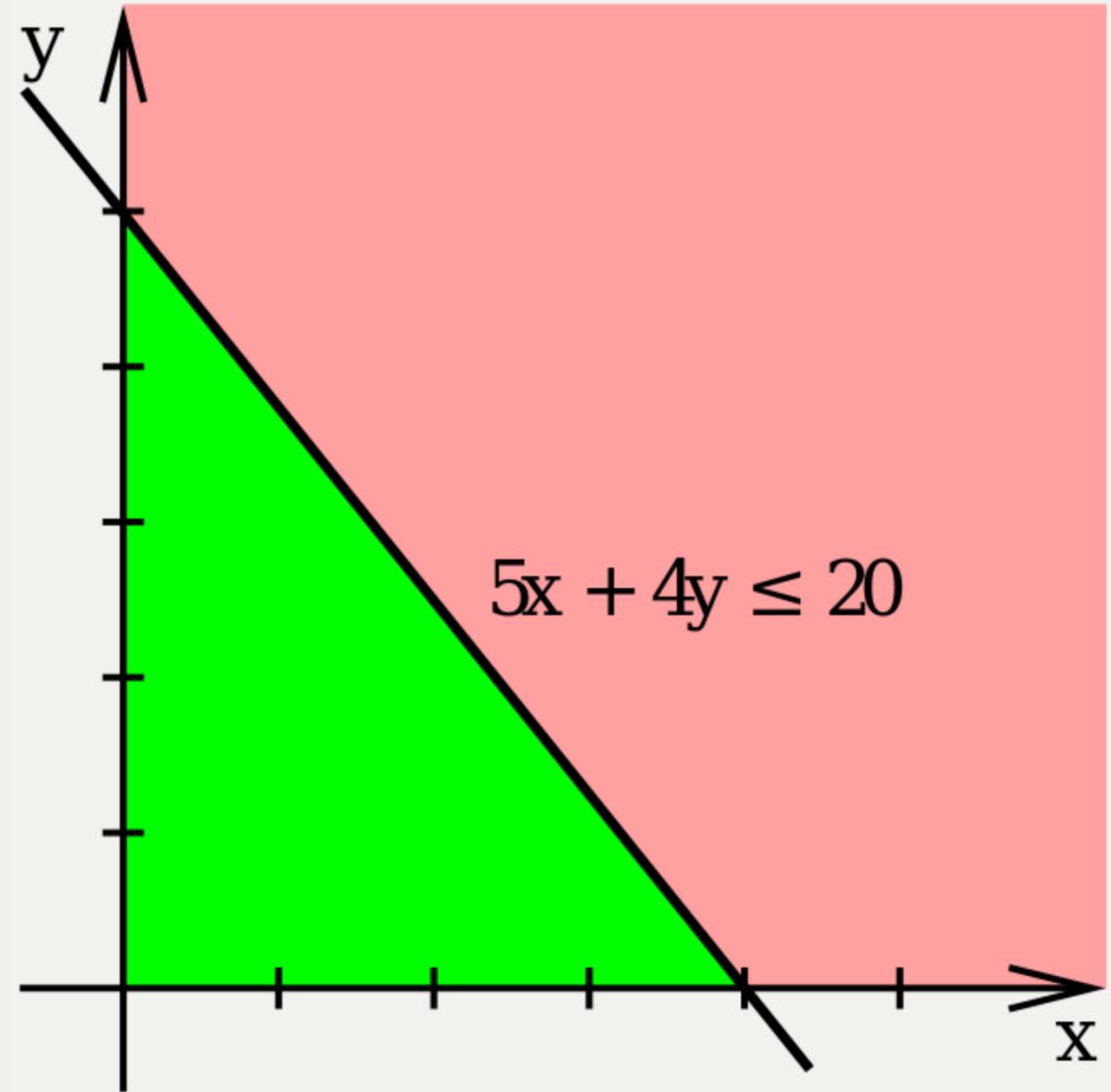
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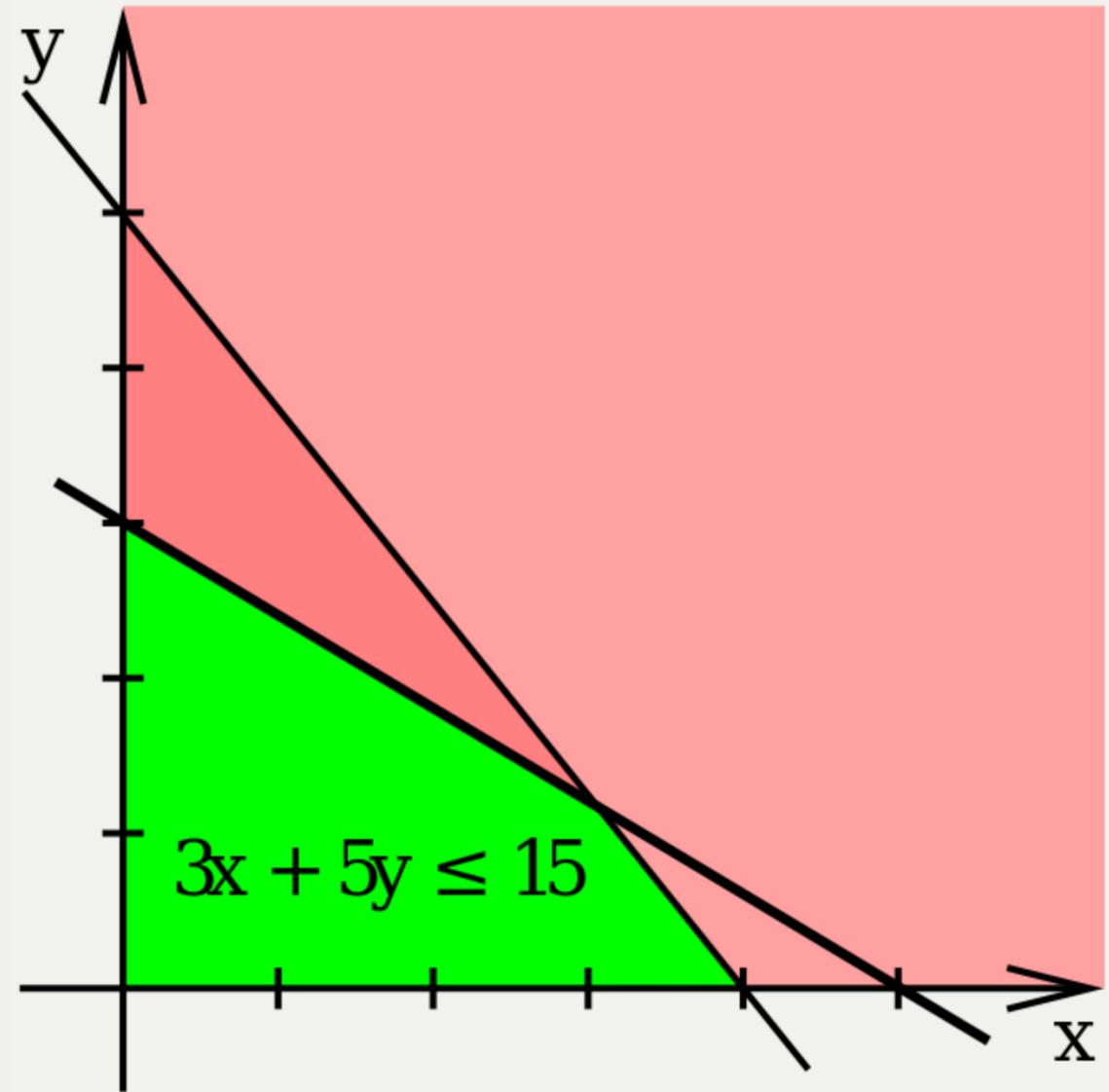
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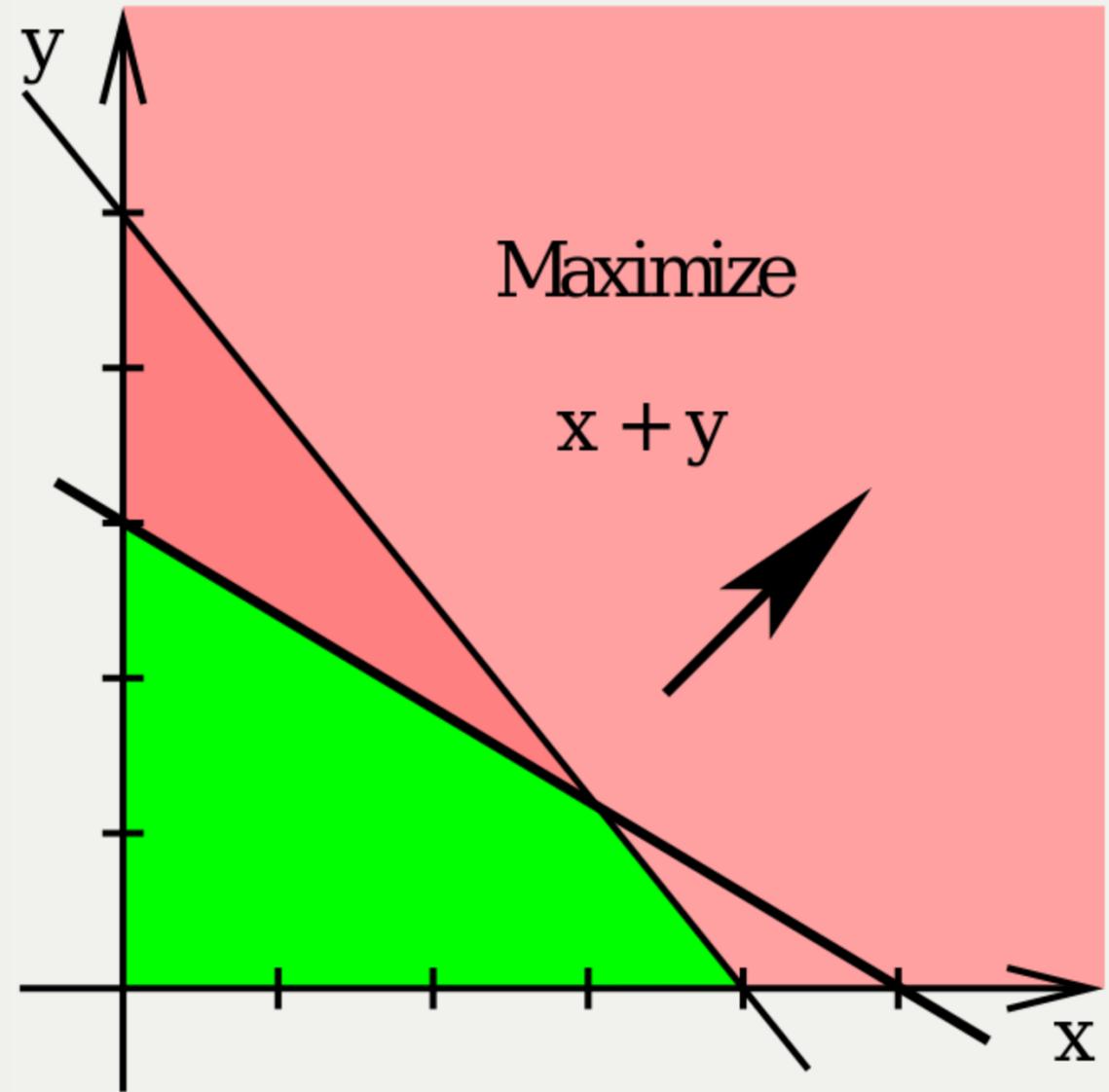
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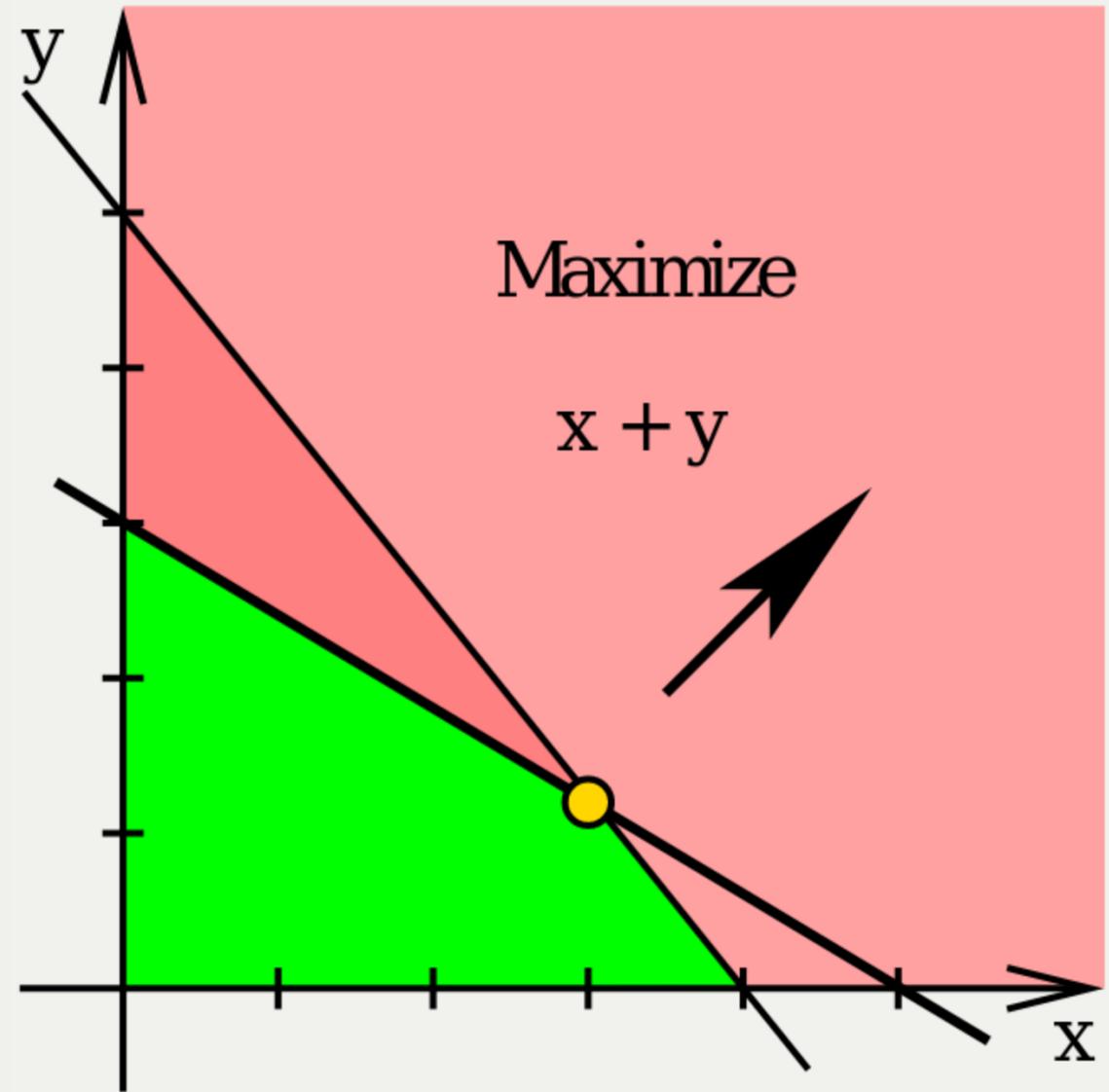
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# Example: get cars to dealerships cheaply

- Five dealerships with demands:  
[20, 40, 10, 25, 10]
- Three warehouses with inventory:  
[25, 45, 40]
- The cost of moving **one** car from warehouse *i* to dealership *j*: `cost[i][j]`

**Goal:** Satisfy all demands while paying as little as possible for moving cars

```
In [1]: demands = [20,40,10,25,10]
inventory = [25,45,40]
```

```
In [2]: import numpy as np
# set costs to random between 1000 and 2000
cost = np.random.uniform(low=1000.0,high=2000.0,
                          size=(3,5))
print(cost)
```

```
[[1485.41300256 1838.31428107 1324.37968618 1577.6532040
 8 1672.03912278]
 [1366.19702012 1056.23740292 1218.76659577 1912.6684397
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**Goal:** Satisfy all demands while paying as little as possible for moving cars

**Variables**  $x_{i,j}$ : correspond to the number of cars moved from warehouse  $i$  to dealership  $j$ .

**What constraints do we need?**

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Demand of each dealership  $j$  is satisfied:

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**Goal:** minimize total cost  $\sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^5 x_{i,j} \cdot \text{cost}[i][j]$





# Solving linear programming with SciPy

<https://docs.scipy.org/doc/scipy/reference/generated/scipy.optimize.linprog.html>

## scipy.optimize.linprog

`scipy.optimize.linprog(c, A_ub=None, b_ub=None, A_eq=None, b_eq=None, bounds=None, method='interior-point', callback=None, options=None, x0=None)` [\[source\]](#)

Linear programming: minimize a linear objective function subject to linear equality and inequality constraints.

Linear programming solves problems of the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \quad & c^T x \\ \text{such that} \quad & A_{ub}x \leq b_{ub}, \\ & A_{eq}x = b_{eq}, \\ & l \leq x \leq u, \end{aligned}$$

where  $x$  is a vector of decision variables;  $c$ ,  $b_{ub}$ ,  $b_{eq}$ ,  $l$ , and  $u$  are vectors; and  $A_{ub}$  and  $A_{eq}$  are matrices.

Alternatively, that's:

minimize:

```
c @ x
```

such that:

```
A_ub @ x <= b_ub
A_eq @ x == b_eq
lb <= x <= ub
```

Note that by default `lb = 0` and `ub = None` unless specified with `bounds`.

## Notes:

- Make sure you understand the matrix multiplication notation in the docs
- Adjust your linear program to the required form:
  - Make constraints "less than" with variables on the left
  - Make minimization the goal (multiply by  $-1$  if you are maximizing!)





# Applying SciPy to our problem

```
In [3]: # convert cost to one dimensional vector  
c = cost.ravel()  
print(c)
```

```
[1485.41300256 1838.31428107 1324.37968618 1577.65320408 1672.03912278  
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```

```
In [4]: # make sure not too much transported out of each warehouse
zeros, ones = [0] * 5, [1] * 5
A_ub = [
    ones + zeros + zeros,
    zeros + ones + zeros,
    zeros + zeros + ones
]
b_ub = inventory
A_ub, b_ub
```

```
Out[4]: ([[1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
         [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0],
         [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1]],
         [25, 45, 40])
```





```
In [5]: # make sure demands at dealerships are satisfied
def delearship(j):
    jth = [1 if k == j else 0 for k in range(5)]
    return jth + jth + jth
A_eq = [delearship(j) for j in range(5)]
b_eq = demands
A_eq, b_eq
```

```
Out[5]: ([[1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0],
          [0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0],
          [0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0],
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```
Out[5]: ([[1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0],
         [0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0],
         [0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0],
         [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0],
         [0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1]],
         [20, 40, 10, 25, 10])
```

```
In [6]: # make sure variables are non-negative
# (None means no upper or lower bound)
bounds = [(0,None) for _ in range(15)]
```

```
In [7]: from scipy.optimize import linprog
linprog(c,A_ub,b_ub,A_eq,b_eq,bounds,method='revised simplex')
```

```
Out[7]:      con: array([0., 0., 0., 0., 0.])
      fun: 134247.32302369346
      message: 'Optimization terminated successfully.'
      nit: 14
      slack: array([0., 0., 5.])
      status: 0
      success: True
      x: array([ 0.,  0.,  0., 25.,  0.,  0., 40.,  5.,  0.,  0., 20.,  0.,  5.,
                0., 10.])
```



# Various optimization options

## Parameter **method**

- Simplex (simplex, revised simplex)
  - better for this class
  - will give you "true" zeros and more accurate numbers
- Default method: Interior point (interior-point)
  - faster for some inputs
- Look into `highs-*` for more highly optimized versions





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With finite-precision computer arithmetic, you should check if  $|x| < 10^{-6}$  or another sufficiently small number





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```
In [8]: essentially_zero = 0.3 - 3 * 0.1
print("Test 1:", essentially_zero == 0)

# better test
def is_zero(x):
    return x < 1e-6 and x > -1e-6

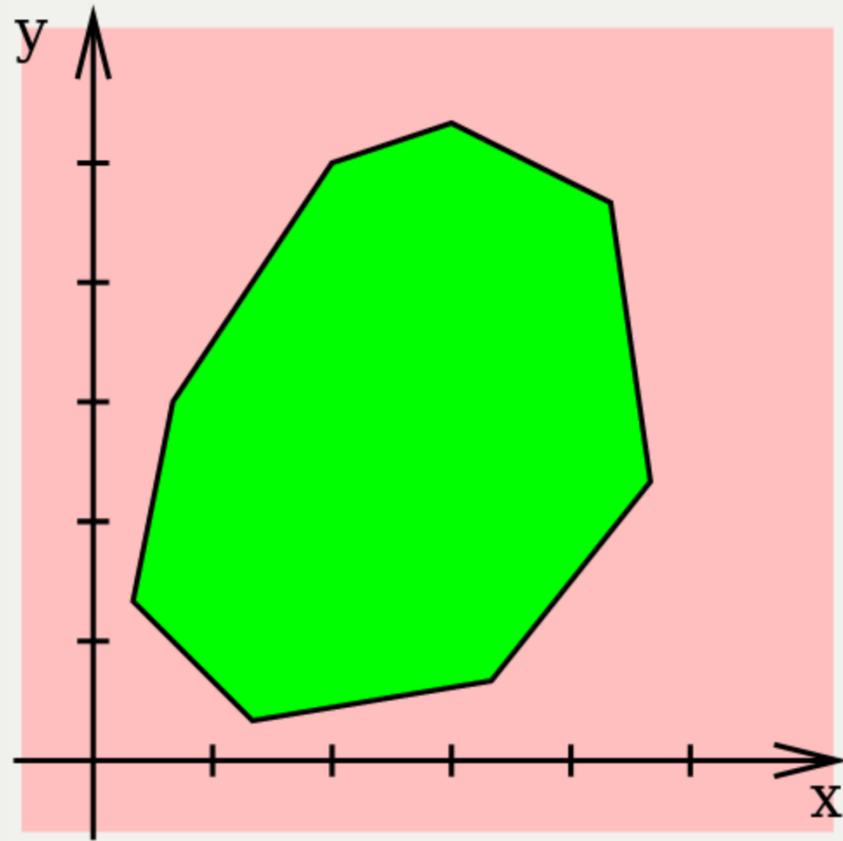
print("Test 2:", is_zero(essentially_zero))
```

```
Test 1: False
Test 2: True
```

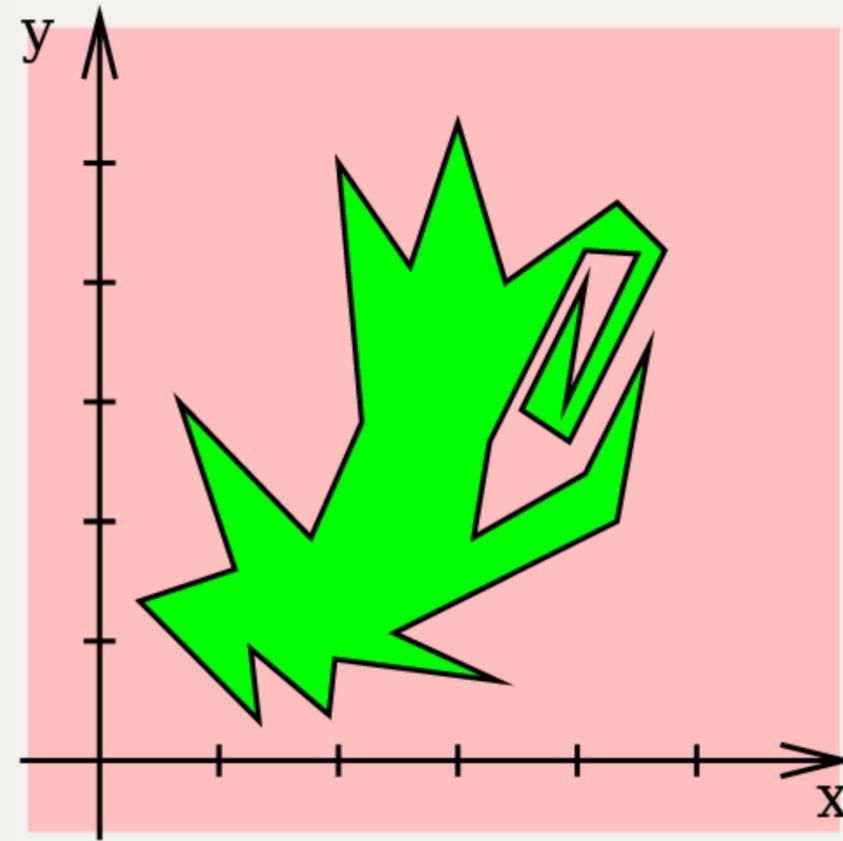




# Convex vs. non-convex optimization



Convex



Non-convex

- Linear programming is an example of convex optimization
- Convex optimization often easier

