- (a) Let $\{w_1, w_2, w_3\} = \{1, 2, 1\}$, and K = 2. Then the greedy algorithm here will use three trucks, whereas there is a way to use just two.
- (b) Let $W = \sum_i w_i$. Note that in *any* solution, each truck holds at most K units of weight, so W/K is a lower bound on the number of trucks needed.

Suppose the number of trucks used by our greedy algorithm is an odd number m=2q+1. (The case when m is even is essentially the same, but a little easier.) Divide the trucks used into consecutive groups of two, for a total of q+1 groups. In each group but the last, the total weight of containers must be *strictly* greater than K (else, the second truck in the group would not have been started then) — thus, W > qK, and so W/K > q. It follows by our argument above that the optimum solution uses at least q+1 trucks, which is within a factor of 2 of m=2q+1.

 $^{^{1}}$ ex667.592.236