

Optimal Solution:

Let there exists any pair in the optimal solution  $O$   
 $(g, s')$  where  $g$  is a child and  $s'$  is a cookie.

$$(g, s') \in O$$

Let there exist another pair

$$(g', s) \in O$$

For these pairs to exist in  $O$ , they must satisfy the following conditions from the problem statement.

$$(1) s' \geq g$$

$$(2) s \geq g'$$

Lets introduce an inversion:

**Precondition:** if  $g \geq g'$  and  $s \geq s'$

**Cause:**

$$(g, s), (g', s')$$

For this inversion to exist, they must satisfy the following conditions from the problem statement.

$$(3) s \geq g$$

$$(4) s' \geq g'$$

From (2) and (3), we have

$$(5) s \geq \max(g, g')$$

From our precondition -

$$(5) s \geq g$$

From (1) and (4), we have

$$(6) s' \geq \max(g, g')$$

From our precondition -

$$(6) s' \geq g$$

For this inversion to not exist, (5) or (6) have to be false.

Case 1 - condition (5) is false:

$$s < g$$

From precondition,  $g > g', s \geq s'$

Therefore,  $s' \leq s < g$

Therefore,  $s' \leq g$

But,  $s' \geq g$

Therefore, (7)  $s' = g$

Case 2 - condition (6) is false:

$s' < g$

But  $s' = g$

This is a contradiction

Case 1 and Case 2 cannot be true simultaneously, therefore, the inversion can exist in the optimal solution.

Applying inversions to all pairs of the optimal solution, we get out greedy solution