Algorithm 1 Job scheduling

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1: Sort the jobs in non-increasing order of profits: g_1 \geq g_2 \geq \ldots \geq g_n

2: d \leftarrow \max_i d_i

3: for t: 1..d do

4: S(t) \leftarrow 0

5: end for

6: for i: 1..n do

7: Find the largest t such that S(t) = 0 and t \leq d_i, S(t) \leftarrow i

8: end for
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Theorem 2.18. The greedy solution to job scheduling is optimal. That is, the profit P(S) of the schedule S computed by algorithm 1 is as large as possible.

Lemma 2.19. "S is promising" is an invariant for the (second) for-loop in algorithm 1.

Problem 2.21. Why does lemma 2.19 imply theorem 2.18? (Hint: this is a simple observation).

Proof. Assume that after every iteration of the second for loop, the result is promising. After the final iteration, S is still promising, but the only unscheduled tasks are those that cannot extend S at any time. S is promising but it cannot be extended, so it must be optimal.

Identically, assume the last addition made to the schedule is on iteration i. Before it was added, S_{i-1} was promising, and there was exactly 1 task which could extend it. Clearly the profit gained from scheduling this task is the same regardless of when it is scheduled, so every extension of S_{i-1} has the same profit, equal to that of S_i .