Minimization of Total Completion Time on a Single Processor Subject to Dynamic Arrivals

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The considered problem is common to computer operating systems and operations management (manufacturing as well as service). Given n jobs $N = \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ to process on a single processor. Each job $j \in N$ is characterized by positive processing length p_j and non-negative arrival time r_j . Any job cannot start its processing before its arrival time. The processor processes at most one job at a time. The objective is to construct a feasible schedule that has the minimum sum of job completion times, or called total completion time. Let C_j denote the completion time of job j in a schedule. The objective function is $\sum_j C_j$, called the total completion time or the sum of completion times of the jobs. To determine an optimal schedule is unfortunately NP-hard.

Consider the following set of 6 jobs.

job j	1	2	3	4	5	6
$\overline{r_j}$	0	2	2	6	7	9
p_{j}	6	2	5	2	8	2

- Q1: Implement a full-enumeration tree to list all 6! schedules and their associated objective values.
- Q2: Construct the schedule obtained from the Shortest Remaining Processing Time First (SRPT) rule. Deploy a min-heap to facilitate your implementation of the SRPT rule.
- Q3: What is the difference between the optimal value of Q2 and the optimal value of Q1.
- Q4: By the way, what is the run time of the SRPT algorithm?