

# Algorithms for Programming Contests - Week 7

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# Change making



2\$



1\$



25¢



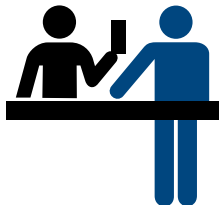
10¢



5¢



1¢



How to give change back  
with the minimum number of coins?

- └ Greedy algorithms
  - └ Change making

# Change making



2\$



1\$



25¢



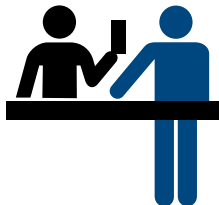
10¢



5¢



1¢



How to give change back  
with the minimum number of coins?

Be **greedy**: go for the largest coins first!

# Change making



2\$



1\$



25¢



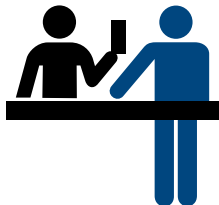
10¢



5¢



1¢



$$5.82\$ - 2 \times 2\$ = 1.82\$$$

$$1.82\$ - 1 \times 1\$ = 0.82\$$$

$$0.82\$ - 3 \times 25¢ = 0.07\$$$

$$0.07\$ - 1 \times 5¢ = 0.02\$$$

$$0.02\$ - 2 \times 1¢ = 0.00\$$$

# Change making



2\$



1\$



25¢



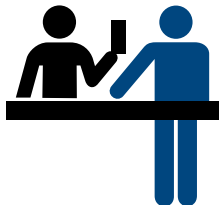
10¢



5¢



1¢



Approach still works if we introduce 20¢ ?

# Change making



2\$



1\$



25¢



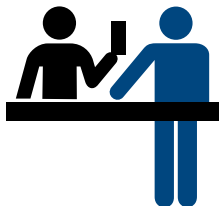
10¢



5¢



1¢



No, for 40¢ it returns  $25¢ + 10¢ + 5¢$   
instead of  $2 \times 20¢$

## Change making: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-CHANGE-MAKING( $c_1, \dots, c_n, m$ )  
  sort  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  in descending order  
   $S \leftarrow []$   
   $i \leftarrow 1, rem \leftarrow m$   
  while  $i \leq n$  and  $rem > 0$  do  
    if  $c_i \leq rem$  then  
       $rem \leftarrow rem - c_i$   
      add  $c_i$  to  $S$   
    else  
       $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  if  $rem = 0$  then return  $S$   
  else return impossible
```

# Change making: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-CHANGE-MAKING( $c_1, \dots, c_n, m$ )  
  sort  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  in descending order  
   $S \leftarrow []$   
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  while  $i \leq n$  and  $rem > 0$  do  
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       $rem \leftarrow rem - c_i$   
      add  $c_i$  to  $S$   
    else  
       $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  if  $rem = 0$  then return  $S$   
  else return impossible
```

GREEDY-CHANGE-MAKING is optimal for \$ (CAD) and € (EUR)



## Change making: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-CHANGE-MAKING( $c_1, \dots, c_n, m$ )  
  sort  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  in descending order  
   $S \leftarrow [ ]$   
   $i \leftarrow 1, \text{rem} \leftarrow m$   
  while  $i \leq n$  and  $\text{rem} > 0$  do  
    if  $c_i \leq \text{rem}$  then  
       $\text{rem} \leftarrow \text{rem} - c_i$   
      add  $c_i$  to  $S$   
    else  
       $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  if  $\text{rem} = 0$  then return  $S$   
  else return impossible
```

The solution of GREEDY-CHANGE-MAKING can be arbitrarily bad

Let  $n > 2$ . On input  $(c_1 = n + 2, c_2 = n + 1, c_3 = n, c_4 = 1, m = 2n + 1)$ , GREEDY-CHANGE-MAKING returns  $n$  coins instead of 2 coins  $\square$

## Change making: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-CHANGE-MAKING( $c_1, \dots, c_n, m$ )  
  sort  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  in descending order  
   $S \leftarrow []$   
   $i \leftarrow 1, rem \leftarrow m$   
  while  $i \leq n$  and  $rem > 0$  do  
    if  $c_i \leq rem$  then  
       $rem \leftarrow rem - c_i$   
      add  $c_i$  to  $S$   
    else  
       $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  if  $rem = 0$  then return  $S$   
  else return impossible
```

Finding an optimal solution is NP-hard for arbitrary currencies

# Greedy algorithms

- Paradigm for solving optimization problems
  - Make local choices, never global
  - Do not reconsider choices
- 
- Often non optimal
    - + Can be good heuristics
    - + Can be good approximations
    - + Simple
    - + Fast

## Greedy algorithms: general template

```
procedure GREEDY(candidates)  
   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$   
  while  $|candidates| > 0$  and  $\neg \text{solution}(S)$  do  
     $c \leftarrow \text{select}(candidates)$   
    remove  $c$  from candidates  
    if  $\text{feasible}(S, c)$  then  
      add  $c$  to  $S$   
  if  $\text{solution}(S)$  then  
    return  $S$   
  else  
    return impossible
```

# Greedy algorithms: general template

**procedure** GREEDY(*candidates*)

$S \leftarrow \emptyset$

**while**  $|candidates| > 0$  **and**  $\neg \text{solution}(S)$  **do**

$c \leftarrow \text{select}(candidates)$

**remove**  $c$  **from** *candidates*

**if**  $\text{feasible}(S, c)$  **then**

**add**  $c$  **to**  $S$

**if**  $\text{solution}(S)$  **then**

**return**  $S$

**else**

**return** impossible

Kruskall algorithm

*candidates*: edges

**select**: smallest edge

**feasible**: connects two connected components?

**solution**: contains  $|V| - 1$  edges?

# Greedy algorithms: general template

**procedure** GREEDY(*candidates*)

$S \leftarrow \emptyset$

**while**  $|candidates| > 0$  **and**  $\neg \text{solution}(S)$  **do**

$c \leftarrow \text{select}(candidates)$

**remove**  $c$  **from** *candidates*

**if**  $\text{feasible}(S, c)$  **then**

**add**  $c$  **to**  $S$

**if**  $\text{solution}(S)$  **then**

**return**  $S$

**else**

**return** impossible

Prim algorithm

*candidates*: edges

**select**: smallest edge with an endpoint  
in explored nodes

**feasible**: has no cycle?

**solution**: covers every node?

# Greedy algorithms: general template

**procedure** GREEDY(*candidates*)

$S \leftarrow \emptyset$

**while**  $|candidates| > 0$  **and**  $\neg \text{solution}(S)$  **do**

$c \leftarrow \text{select}(candidates)$

**remove**  $c$  **from** *candidates*

**if**  $\text{feasible}(S, c)$  **then**

add  $c$  to  $S$

**if**  $\text{solution}(S)$  **then**

return  $S$

**else**

return impossible

Change making

*candidates*: coins

**select**: largest coin smaller or equal to  
remaining amount

**feasible**: —

**solution**: sums up to the amount?

# Approximation algorithms

- Approximate optimal solution up to some factor
- Provable guarantees on such factors
- Way to circumvent NP-hardness
- Can be designed as efficient greedy algorithms



# 0/1 Knapsack problem

Given:

- backpack of capacity  $W \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$
- $n$  objects of value  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{N}$  and weight  $w_1, \dots, w_n \in [1, W]$

Compute: subset of objects of maximal value among subsets of weight at most  $W$

# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value: 10

15

5

50

7

20

Weight: 150g

540g

100g

200g

70g

700g



What to bring in the backpack?

Capacity: 900g

# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value: 10



15



5



50



7



20

Weight: 150g

540g

100g

200g

70g

700g



Value: 32 (870g)

Capacity: 900g

# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value: 10

15

5

50

7

20

Weight: 150g

540g

100g

200g

70g

700g



Value: 70 (900g)

Capacity: 900g

# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value: 10

15

5

50

7

20

Weight: 150g

540g

100g

200g

70g

700g



Value: 75 (890g)

Capacity: 900g

# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value:	10	15	5	50	7	20
Weight:	150g	540g	100g	200g	70g	700g



Greedy way to obtain solution?

Capacity: 900g

# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value:	10	15	5	50	7	20
--------	----	----	---	----	---	----

Weight:	150g	540g	100g	200g	70g	700g
---------	------	------	------	------	-----	------



Sort in desc. order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i \dots$

Capacity: 900g

# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value:	10	15	5	50	7	20
Weight:	150g	540g	100g	200g	70g	700g
Ratio:	1/15	1/36	1/20	1/4	1/10	1/35



Sort in desc. order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i...$

Capacity: 900g



# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value: 50

7

10

5

20

15

Weight: 200g

70g

150g

100g

700g

540g

Ratio:  $1/4$

$1/10$

$1/15$

$1/20$

$1/35$

$1/36$



Sort in desc. order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i \dots$

Capacity: 900g

# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value: 50

7

10

5

20

15

Weight: 200g

70g

150g

100g

700g

540g

Ratio: 1/4

1/10

1/15

1/20

1/35

1/36



Value: 72 (520g)

Capacity: 900g

# 0/1 Knapsack problem



Value: 50

7

10

5

20

15

Weight: 200g

70g

150g

100g

700g

540g

Ratio:  $1/4$

$1/10$

$1/15$

$1/20$

$1/35$

$1/36$



Not optimal, but by how much?

Capacity: 900g

## 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK-NAIVE( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  return  $value$ 
```

## 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK-NAIVE( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  return  $value$ 
```

The solution of GREEDY-KNAPSACK-NAIVE can be arbitrarily bad

# 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK-NAIVE( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  return  $value$ 
```

The solution of GREEDY-KNAPSACK-NAIVE can be arbitrarily bad

Let  $W > 2$ . On input  $(v_1 = 2, w_1 = 1), (v_2 = W, w_2 = W)$ ,  
GREEDY-KNAPSACK-NAIVE returns 2 while the optimal value is  $W$  □

# 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK-FRAC( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  return  $value + \frac{(W - weight)}{w_i} \cdot v_i$ 
```

# 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK-FRAC( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  return  $value + \frac{(W - weight)}{w_i} \cdot v_i$ 
```

GREEDY-KNAPSACK-FRAC is optimal if objects can be taken partially  
by a factor  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$



# 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK-FRAC( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  return  $value + \frac{(W - weight)}{w_i} \cdot v_i$ 
```

GREEDY-KNAPSACK-FRAC is optimal if objects can be taken partially  
by a factor  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$

Relatively straightforward proof

# 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  if  $i \leq n$  then return  $\max(value, v_i)$   
  else return  $value$ 
```

# 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
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  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  if  $i \leq n$  then return  $\max(value, v_i)$   
  else return  $value$ 
```

The solution of GREEDY-KNAPSACK is at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the optimal solution

# 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```

procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$ 
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$ 
   $i \leftarrow 1$ 
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$ 
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$ 
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
  if  $i \leq n$  then return  $\max(value, v_i)$ 
  else return  $value$ 

```

The solution of GREEDY-KNAPSACK is at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the optimal solution

$$\underbrace{(v_1 + \dots + v_{i-1})}_{value} + v_i \geq opt_{\text{frac}} \geq opt \implies \max(value, v_i) \geq opt/2 \quad \square$$

## 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  if  $i \leq n$  then return  $\max(value, v_i)$   
  else return  $value$ 
```

Worst-case time complexity:

by sorting:  $O(n \cdot \log n)$

using recursion and linear time median:  $O(n)$

# 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  if  $i \leq n$  then return  $\max(value, v_i)$   
  else return  $value$ 
```

In general, computing an optimal solution is NP-hard

## 0/1 Knapsack problem: greedy approach

```
procedure GREEDY-KNAPSACK( $W, (v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$ )  
  sort  $(v_1, w_1), \dots, (v_n, w_n)$  in descending order w.r.t.  $v_i/w_i$   
   $value, weight \leftarrow 0$   
   $i \leftarrow 1$   
  while  $weight + w_i \leq W$  and  $i \leq n$  do  
     $value \leftarrow value + v_i$   
     $weight \leftarrow weight + w_i$   
     $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
  if  $i \leq n$  then return  $\max(value, v_i)$   
  else return  $value$ 
```

However, greedy approach is optimal when all weights are equal

# Job scheduling

Given:

- $n$  jobs of duration  $d_1, \dots, d_n \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$
- $m$  processors

Compute: smallest amount of time to complete all jobs



# Job scheduling



How to schedule the jobs on two processors?

# Job scheduling



Time: 31 ms.

Processor 1: 2 ms. | 8 ms. | 11 ms. | 10 ms.

Processor 2: 7 ms. | 13 ms.

# Job scheduling



Greedy way to obtain solution?

# Job scheduling



Assign next job to less busy processor...

# Job scheduling



Time: 29 ms.

Processor 1: 8 ms. 11 ms. 10 ms.

Processor 2: 7 ms. 13 ms. 2 ms.

# Job scheduling



Assign longest job to less busy processor...

# Job scheduling



Time: 28 ms.

Processor 1:     13 ms.   8 ms.   7 ms.

Processor 2:     11 ms.   10 ms.   2 ms.

# Job scheduling



None are optimal!



# Job scheduling



Time: 26 ms.

Processor 1: 10 ms. 8 ms. 7 ms.

Processor 2: 13 ms. 11 ms. 2 ms.

# Job scheduling: greedy approach

**procedure** SCHEDULING-GREEDY( $d_1, \dots, d_n, m$ )

$P_1, \dots, P_m \leftarrow 0$

$time \leftarrow 0$

**for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $n$  **do**

**find**  $j$  such that  $P_j$  is minimal

$P_j \leftarrow P_j + d_i$

$time \leftarrow \max(time, P_j)$

**return**  $time$

# Job scheduling: greedy approach

**procedure** SCHEDULING-GREEDY( $d_1, \dots, d_n, m$ )

$P_1, \dots, P_m \leftarrow 0$

$time \leftarrow 0$

**for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $n$  **do**

**find**  $j$  such that  $P_j$  is minimal

$P_j \leftarrow P_j + d_i$

$time \leftarrow \max(time, P_j)$

**return**  $time$

The solution of SCHEDULING-GREEDY is at most twice the optimal one

# Job scheduling: greedy approach

**procedure** SCHEDULING-GREEDY( $d_1, \dots, d_n, m$ )

$P_1, \dots, P_m \leftarrow 0$

$time \leftarrow 0$

**for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $n$  **do**

**find**  $j$  such that  $P_j$  is minimal

$P_j \leftarrow P_j + d_i$

$time \leftarrow \max(time, P_j)$

**return**  $time$

The solution of SCHEDULING-GREEDY is at most twice the optimal one

First observe that  $opt \geq \max(d_1, \dots, d_n)$  and  $opt \geq \frac{1}{m}(d_1 + \dots + d_n)$

# Job scheduling: greedy approach

**procedure** SCHEDULING-GREEDY( $d_1, \dots, d_n, m$ )

$P_1, \dots, P_m \leftarrow 0$

$time \leftarrow 0$

**for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $n$  **do**

**find**  $j$  such that  $P_j$  is minimal

$P_j \leftarrow P_j + d_i$

$time \leftarrow \max(time, P_j)$

**return**  $time$

- $opt \geq \max(d_1, \dots, d_n)$

- $opt \geq \frac{1}{m}(d_1 + \dots + d_n)$

The solution of SCHEDULING-GREEDY is at most twice the optimal one

First observe that  $opt \geq \max(d_1, \dots, d_n)$  and  $opt \geq \frac{1}{m}(d_1 + \dots + d_n)$

# Job scheduling: greedy approach

**procedure** SCHEDULING-GREEDY( $d_1, \dots, d_n, m$ )

$P_1, \dots, P_m \leftarrow 0$

$time \leftarrow 0$

**for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $n$  **do**

**find**  $j$  such that  $P_j$  is minimal

$P_j \leftarrow P_j + d_i$

$time \leftarrow \max(time, P_j)$

**return**  $time$

- $opt \geq \max(d_1, \dots, d_n)$

- $opt \geq \frac{1}{m}(d_1 + \dots + d_n)$

The solution of SCHEDULING-GREEDY is at most twice the optimal one

Let  $i^*, j^*$  be s.t.  $P_{j^*} = time$  and  $i^*$  is the last job assigned to processor  $j^*$

Let  $P'_k$  be the load of processor  $k$  just before job  $i^*$  is assigned

# Job scheduling: greedy approach

**procedure** SCHEDULING-GREEDY( $d_1, \dots, d_n, m$ )

$P_1, \dots, P_m \leftarrow 0$

$time \leftarrow 0$

**for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $n$  **do**

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**return**  $time$

- $opt \geq \max(d_1, \dots, d_n)$

- $opt \geq \frac{1}{m}(d_1 + \dots + d_n)$

The solution of SCHEDULING-GREEDY is at most twice the optimal one

$$m \cdot P'_{j^*} \leq \sum_{1 \leq j \leq m} P'_j = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq i^*} d_i \leq \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} d_i \leq m \cdot opt$$

# Job scheduling: greedy approach

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$$time = P_{j^*} = P'_{j^*} + d_{i^*} \leq opt + opt = 2 \cdot opt \quad \square$$

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Let  $i^*, j^*$  be s.t.  $P_{j^*} = time$  and  $i^*$  is the last job assigned to processor  $j^*$

From previous proof:  $P_{j^*} \leq opt + d_{i^*}$

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Thus,  $d_{i^*} \leq (d_m + d_{m+1})/2$



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$$d_m + d_{m+1} \leq d_k + d_{k'} \leq opt$$

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$$time = P_{j^*} \leq opt + d_{i^*} \leq opt + \frac{d_m + d_{m+1}}{2} \leq opt + \frac{opt}{2} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot opt \quad \square$$

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Worst-case time complexity when implemented with min-heap:

SCHEDULING-GREEDY-ORD:  $O(m + n \cdot \log m + n \cdot \log n)$

SCHEDULING-GREEDY:  $O(m + n \cdot \log m)$

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Computing an optimal solution is NP-hard, even for two processors