

Let us define an optimal solution $O = \{L_{x1}, L_{x2}, L_{x3}, \dots, L_{xn}\}$ and the greedy algorithm solution $G = \{L_{y1}, L_{y2}, L_{y3}, \dots, L_{ym}\}$. Assuming that these two solutions are not the same, this means that there are either elements in O that might not be in G , or elements in G that might not be in O and hence the magnitude of O and G might be different or there are elements in G in a different magnitude than O but this is not possible as we will have an equal number of colored sticks in both solutions.

The other difference between O and G might be in the order of the sticks. Lets suppose we had the red set: $\{2, 7\}$, and the blue set: $\{7, 9\}$. The optimal solution O might be $\{\{2,9\},\{7,7\}\}$ where the average length difference is $7/2 = 3.5$. Our greedy solution G will be $\{\{2,7\},\{7,9\}\}$, where the average length difference is $(5+2)/2 = 3.5$. Therefore both solutions are valid and optimal.