

MSU CSC 325

Spring 2016 Assn. 3. Scheduling Problem

Due 11:59pm, Mon. Feb. 22

(No code is provided)

(Adapted from Dr. Weixiong Zhang, <http://www.cs.wustl.edu/~zhang/teaching/cs441/Fall2012/notes/greedy.pdf>)

Suppose you manage a large space telescope. Many astronomers want to use it to make observations, but only one project can use the telescope at a time. Each astronomer's project p_i requires use of the telescope starting at a fixed start time s_i and running for d_i days. Your goal is to justify your outrageous budget to NASA by scheduling as many projects as possible!

More formally: given a set P of projects p_i , each occupying the half-open interval $[s_i, s_i + d_i)$, choose a subset $\Pi \subseteq P$ of projects such that:

No two projects' intervals overlap

and

The number of projects in subset Π is maximized.

Use the strategy:

For each project p_i , compute finishing time $f_i = s_i + d_i$.

Repeatedly choose a non-conflicting, unscheduled project with earliest finishing time.

The pseudocode from the original problem: WARNING! THIS PSEUDOCODE HAS A BUG

```
SCHEDULE( $P$ )
  sort  $P$  in increasing order  $\{p_1 \dots p_n\}$  of finishing time  $f_i$ 
   $\Pi \leftarrow \{p_1\}$ 
   $j \leftarrow 1$ 
  for  $i = 2 \dots n$  {
    if  $s_i \geq f_j$  {
       $\Pi \leftarrow \Pi \cup \{p_i\}$ 
       $j \leftarrow i$  } }
  return  $\Pi$ 
```

Pseudocode rewritten for MSU CSC 325 – it's still got the bug!

```
Schedule( $P$ ) //  $P$  is a set of projects  $p_i$ 
  Sort  $P$  in increasing order of project finishing time
   $\Pi \leftarrow \{p_0\}$  //  $\Pi$  is a subset of  $P$ , initialized to one element  $p_0$ 
   $j \leftarrow 0$  //  $j$  is an index into  $\Pi$ 
  for  $i = 1 \dots n - 1$  //  $i$  is a valid index to each element  $p_i$  of  $P$ 
    if  $s_i \geq f_j$ 
       $\Pi \leftarrow \Pi \cup \{p_i\}$ 
       $j \leftarrow i$  // This line is provided -- BUT IT'S GOT A BUG!

  // The output of your program is:
  Display the size of  $\Pi$ 
  Display the start and finish time of each element of  $\Pi$ 
```

Name your program **Assn3_MyMSUID.cpp** and put it in your eccentric folder.

The command-line input to your program is a file of integers containing:

One value that is the number of astronomy projects

A series of two-integer pairs for each of the astronomy projects. The pair of integers is the begin time of a project and the project's length.

Test your program with the provided **Small_N_Telescope.txt** and **Med_N_Telescope.txt**. The expected outcomes of those two tests are similar to:

4 astronomy projects can be scheduled.

Start and finish time: 25 75

Start and finish time: 75 100

Start and finish time: 100 125

Start and finish time: 125 175

4 astronomy projects can be scheduled.

Start and finish time: 10 19

Start and finish time: 23 36

Start and finish time: 36 79

Start and finish time: 84 101