

Exercice 27.1-1

$$h(m) = m + 1, m < p$$

$$h(m) = k + p, m \geq p$$

We wish to find p that minimises the competitive ratio C

If $p < k$:

$$C(m)_p = \left\{ \frac{1}{1} \dots \frac{p}{p}, \frac{p+k}{p+1} \dots \frac{p+k}{k} \right\} \Rightarrow \max_m \{C(m)\}_p = \frac{p+k}{p+1}$$

If $p \geq k$:

$$C(m)_p = \left\{ \frac{1}{1} \dots \frac{k}{k} \dots \frac{p}{k}, \frac{p+k}{k} \dots \frac{p+k}{k} \right\} \Rightarrow \max_m \{C(m)\}_p = \frac{p+k}{k}$$

The minimum competitive ratio is achieved for **$p=k-1$**

$$\text{Where we get: } \max_m \{C(m)\}_p = \frac{2k-1}{k} = 2 - \frac{1}{k}$$

Exercice 27.1-2

Lets denote by:

$d = 1 \dots D$: the possible number of days of skiing

R : rent value per day

B : buy price

$d_0 = E[B/R] + 1$, day starting from which it becomes more profitable to buy than to rent

$F(d)$: The optimal algorithm

$A(d)$: proposed online algorithm

C : set of ratio yields

The optimal algorithm is the one that minimises total spending after d days of skiing given a priori knowledge of total skiing duration:

$$F(d) = d * R, d < d_0$$

$$F(d) = B, d \geq d_0$$

We propose the following online algorithm:

- So long as the number of days of skiing is below d_0 , **rent**
- Otherwise, **buy**

Then, the algorithm looks as below

$$A(d) = d * R, d < d_0$$

$$A(d) = B + (d_0 - 1) * R, d \geq d_0$$

The ratio yields for all values of d for this algorithm is:

$$C = \left\{ \frac{R}{R}, \frac{2R}{2R} \dots \frac{(d_0-1)R}{(d_0-1)R}, \frac{(d_0-1)R+B}{B} \dots \frac{(d_0-1)R+B}{B} \right\}$$

Following computed max ratio:

$$\max_d (C) = \frac{(d_0-1)R+B}{B}$$

On the other side:

$$d_0 - 1 = E[B/R] \leq B/R \rightarrow (d_0 - 1)R + B \leq 2B \rightarrow \max_d (C) \leq 2$$