

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. (5 points)** Consider the rod-cutting problem for a rod of length six with the profit for each length of rod given in Table 1.

$i$	1	2	3	4	5	6
$p_i$	2	5	8	12	12	15

Table 1: Profit  $p_i$  for a rod of length  $i$

(a) Complete the following table of values for  $r[i]$  and  $s[i]$ . Show all work.

**Solution:**

$i$	1	2	3	4	5	6
$r_i$	2	5	8	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>
$s_i$	1	2	3	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

*Note:* For  $s_4$ ,  $s_5$ , and  $s_6$ , the values 4, 4, and 4 are also acceptable. If this solution is given for part (a), then the answer to part (b) is (4, 2).

To compute  $r_4$ :

$$r_4 = \max(p_1 + r_3, p_2 + r_2, p_3 + r_1, p_4 + r_0) = \max(10, 10, 10, 12) = 12$$

which occurs with an initial cut of four. To compute  $r_5$ :

$$r_5 = \max(p_1 + r_4, p_2 + r_3, p_3 + r_2, p_4 + r_1, p_5 + r_0) = \max(14, 13, 13, 14, 12) = 14$$

which occurs with an initial cut of one *or* four. The computation of  $r_6$  is similar.

(b) Use the  $s$  table to determine the optimal cuts for a rod of length six. Explain your answer.

**Solution:** The value of  $s_6$  is two, so we should make an initial cut of length two, leaving a rod of length four.  $s_4$  is four, so we leave this piece uncut. Thus the optimal cuts for a rod of length six are (2, 4).

(continued on other side)

**2. (5 points)** I own and operate a small delivery truck; every morning I go to a warehouse, load the truck with items awaiting delivery, and deliver them. My truck can carry  $W$  pounds of goods. When I arrive at the warehouse, there are  $n$  items  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  waiting to be delivered, each with weight  $w_i$  and value  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . There are always more items waiting than I can carry in my truck. I want to maximize the total value of my load.

Let  $A = \langle x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_m} \rangle$  be a solution for a truck with capacity  $W$ . That is, the sum of the weights of the items is at most  $W$ ,

$$w_{i_1} + w_{i_2} + \dots + w_{i_m} \leq W,$$

and the total value of the load,  $v_{i_1} + v_{i_2} + \dots + v_{i_m}$ , is as large as possible. Define  $A' = \langle x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_{m-1}} \rangle$ ; that is,  $A'$  is  $A$  with  $x_{i_m}$  removed.

(a) Prove that the packages in  $A'$  will fit in a truck with capacity  $W' = W - w_{i_m}$ .

**Solution:** We are given that  $w_{i_1} + w_{i_2} + \dots + w_{i_m} \leq W$ . Subtracting  $w_{i_m}$  from both sides gives

$$w_{i_1} + w_{i_2} + \dots + w_{i_{m-1}} \leq W - w_{i_m},$$

Since the left-hand side is the weight of  $A'$ , we see that the load will fit in a truck with capacity  $W - w_{i_m}$ .

(b) Use proof by contradiction to show that  $A'$  is a solution for a truck with capacity  $W'$ .

**Solution:** Suppose  $A'$  were not a solution for a truck with capacity  $W'$ . Then there would be a load of weight at most  $W - w_{i_m}$  that is more valuable. Adding item  $x_{i_m}$  to this load yields a solution to the original problem with greater total value, contradicting the supposition  $A$  was optimal.