

6. Structure of the optimal solution :

If  $(i, j)$  is the optimal solution, then the following three conditions are satisfied :

① if  $k < i$ , then  $p(k) \geq p(i)$ .

If this is not the case, then  $(k, j)$  will give a better solution :  $p(j) - p(k) > p(j) - p(i)$ .

② If  $k > j$ , then  $p(k) \leq p(j)$ .

If this is not the case, then  $(i, k)$  will give a better solution :  $p(k) - p(i) > p(j) - p(i)$

③ If  $i < k < j$ , then  $p(i) \leq p(k) \leq p(j)$ .

If this is not the case, then  $(i, k)$  will give a better solution if  $p(k) > p(j)$  :  
 $p(k) - p(i) > p(j) - p(i)$ ;

and  $(k, j)$  will give a better solution if  $p(k) < p(i)$  :  $p(j) - p(k) > p(j) - p(i)$ .

Let  $\text{opt}(1, n)$  denote the solution of the original problem. From ① and ② we get:

$\text{opt}(1, n) = \text{opt}(k_1, k_2)$  where  $k_1$  is such that

$p(k_1)$  is minimum in  $[1 \dots k_1]$  and  $k_2$  is such that  $p(k_2)$  is maximum in  $[k_2 \dots n]$ . (5)



(2)

Profit (p, n)

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1  i ← 1
2  j ← 1
3  for k1 = 2 to n-1 do
4      if (p(k1) < p(i))
5          i ← k1
6  for k2 = n-1 to i+1 do
7      if (p(k2) > p(j))
8          j ← k2
9  if (p(j) - p(i) ≤ 0)
10     return "No Profit"
11 else
12     return "Profit = p(j) - p(i) at (i, j)" (5)
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complexity of the above algorithm is  $O(n)$  due to the two for loops at lines 3 and 6 respectively. (2)



(3)

(83), 18, 34, 2, 71, 26, 44, 46, 48, (75)

$\Rightarrow$  (18), 34, 2, 71, 26, 44, 46, 48, (75)

$\Rightarrow$  (2), 71, 26, 44, 46, 48, (75).

Now there is no more  $k_1$  and  $k_2$

$\Rightarrow$  max profit =  $75 - 2 = 73$  at (4, 10) (4)

(83), 75, 71, 48, 46, 44, 34, 26, 18, (2)

$\Rightarrow$  (75), 71, 48, 46, 44, 34, 26, 18, (2)

$\Rightarrow$  (71), 48, 46, 44, 34, 26, 18, (2)

$\Rightarrow$  (48), 46, 44, 34, 26, 18, (2)

$\Rightarrow$  (46), 44, 34, 26, 18, (2)

$\Rightarrow$  (44), 34, 26, 18, (2)

$\Rightarrow$  (34), 26, 18, (2)

$\Rightarrow$  (26), 18, (2)

$\Rightarrow$  (18), (2)

$\Rightarrow$  No profit as  $2 - 18 = -16 < 0$  (4)