

Oct 6

Correctness of Greedy algo (Interval Scheduling problem)

Recall: $f(i) \leq f(j) \leq \dots \leq f(n)$

0. $R \leftarrow [n]$
1. $S \leftarrow \emptyset$
2. While $R \neq \emptyset$
 - (2.1) Pick $i \in R$ with smallest index
 - (2.2) Add i to S
 - (2.3) Remove all $j \in R$ s.t. j conflicts w/ i
3. return $S^* \leftarrow S$

THM 1: For all inputs, S^* is an optimal schedule

\hookrightarrow i.e. has max # intervals among all valid schedules for the input.

Let \mathcal{O} be an optimal solution

Idea: Prove $S^* = \mathcal{O}$ X as multiple optimal solutions possible

THM 2: $|S^*| = |\mathcal{O}|$



Notation: $S^* = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\}$

$\mathcal{O} = \{j_1, \dots, j_m\}$

$f(i_1) \leq f(i_2) \leq \dots \leq f(i_k)$

$f(j_1) \leq f(j_2) \leq \dots \leq f(j_m)$

THM 2': $k = m$

Claim 1: $k \leq m$ (as \mathcal{O} is an optimal solution)

Lemma 1 (Greedy stays ahead) $\forall 1 \leq l \leq k$

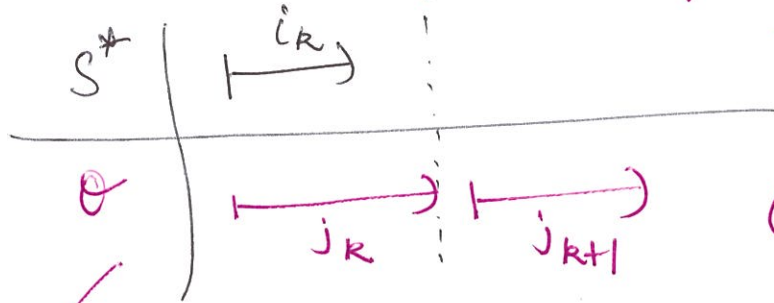
$$f(i_l) \leq f(j_l)$$

[Assume Lemma 1 is true]

Pf (idea) of Thm 2' " By contradiction.

Assume $k \neq m \xrightarrow{\text{Claim 1}} k < m$
 $\Leftrightarrow m \geq k+1$
 $\Rightarrow j_{k+1} \in \emptyset$

By Lemma 1, $f(i_k) \leq f(j_k)$



\rightarrow Consider the situation right after Greedy algo adds i_k to S .
 (Note: i_k is last interval added to S .)

$\Rightarrow j_{k+1} \in R$ { j_{k+1} doesn't conflict with i_k }
 (Ex) $\Rightarrow R \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow$ Greedy algo cannot terminate \Rightarrow contradicts

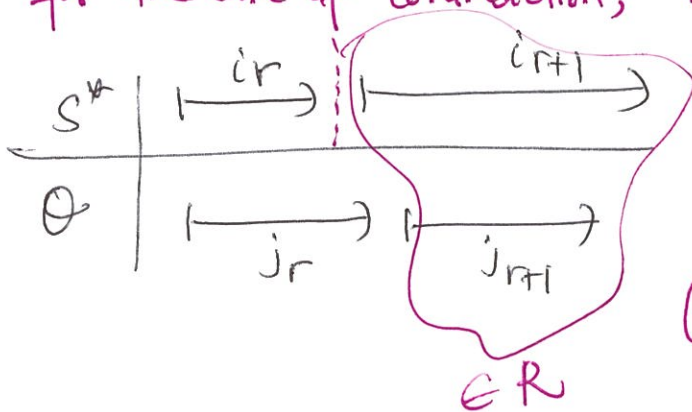
Pf (idea) of Lem 1 : By induction on l

Base case: $l=1$. $f(i_1) \leq f(j_1) \Leftarrow$ By algo defn $i_1 = 1$ & $f(i)$ is smallest finish time

I.H. Assume for some $r \geq 1$
 $\forall 1 \leq l \leq r, f(i_l) \leq f(j_l)$

I.S. $f(i_{r+1}) \leq f(j_{r+1})$

for the sake of contradiction, assume $f(i_{r+1}) > f(j_{r+1})$



\rightarrow Consider the algo right after i_r is added to S
 $\Rightarrow i_{r+1} \in R \Rightarrow$ As $f(j_{r+1}) < f(i_{r+1})$
 $\Rightarrow j_{r+1} \in R$
 (Ex) \rightarrow algo cannot pick i_{r+1}
 \Rightarrow contradicts $i_{r+1} \in S^*$