

## Problem 1, Defensive Backs Assignment

*Solution.* The proposed algorithm goes as follows:

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1 Sort R[] the wide receivers by descending heights
2 Sort B[] the defensive backs by descending heights
3
4 Start with empty assignment {}
5
6 for i = 1, ..., n do:
7     assign B[i] to defend R[i]
8 return assignment

```

It is trivial that this algorithm indeed outputs a matching  $M$ . We claim  $M$  is optimal. To see this, let  $M' \subset D[] \times R[]$  be any optimal matching and suppose it is different from  $M$ . By the exchange argument shown in lecture, some  $i^{\text{th}}$  and  $(i+1)^{\text{th}}$  entries of  $M'$  is out of order with respect to  $M$ , and it suffices to show that swapping *such* adjacent out-of-order indices preserves optimality. For notational convenience we suppose  $M$  assigns height  $b_i$  to defend  $r_i$  and  $b_{i+1}$  to defend  $r_{i+1}$ , where  $r_i \geq r_{i+1}$  and  $b_i \geq b_{i+1}$ . Hence  $M'$  assigns  $b_{i+1}$  to defend  $r_i$  and  $b_i$  to defend  $r_{i+1}$ . AM-GM implies that given a fixed product, the sum of the two numbers is smaller when they are closer. In this case the product

$$2^{r_i - b_i} \cdot 2^{r_{i+1} - b_{i+1}} = 2^{r_i - b_{i+1}} \cdot 2^{r_{i+1} - b_i},$$

and by assumption

$$(r_i - b_i) - (r_{i+1} - b_{i+1}) = r_i - r_{i+1} - (b_i - b_{i+1}) \leq r_i - r_{i+1} - (b_{i+1} - b_i) = (r_i - b_{i+1}) - (r_{i+1} - b_i).$$

That is,

$$2^{r_i - b_i} + 2^{r_{i+1} - b_{i+1}} \leq 2^{r_i - b_{i+1}} + 2^{r_{i+1} - b_i},$$

so swapping the out-of-order indices of  $M'$  does not increase expected gain. After each adjacency swap, the number of out-of-order pairs reduces by 1, so after finite operations we recover  $M$ , and in doing so we have proven  $M$  is optimal.

Runtime: sorting the two data sets both take  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ ; making assignment takes  $n$  iterations with  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  time each. Therefore the total runtime is  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$  which is indeed asymptotically bounded by  $n^2$ .

## Problem 2, Weight Selection

*Proof of 2(a).* Let  $T$  be given and let  $R(T)$  be the collection of weights representable by sums of subsets of  $T$ . It is immediately clear that  $|R(T)| \leq |\mathcal{P}(T) \setminus \emptyset| = 2^n - 1$  (where  $\mathcal{P}$  denotes the power set), since the mapping

$$\psi : \mathcal{P}(T) \setminus \emptyset \rightarrow R(T) \quad \text{defined by} \quad \psi(A) := \sum_{k \in A} k \quad (*)$$

is by construction a surjection.

On the other hand, we note that  $S = \{2^j\}_{0 \leq j \leq n-1}$ . To see this, we induct on the following claim:

After the  $m^{\text{th}}$  iteration,  $S = \{2^j\}_{0 \leq j \leq m-1}$  and  $R(S) = \{1, \dots, 2^m - 1\}$ .

The base case  $n = 1$  is trivial. Assuming the claim holds for  $k$ , see that  $2^k$  is the smallest integer not representable by  $S$  so we add it to  $S$ . Since we can originally represent every integer in  $[1, 2^k - 1]$ , by adding  $2^k$  to it, we can

now represent any number in  $[2^k + 1, 2^{k+1} - 1]$  as well. And of course  $2^k$  itself is representable by  $\{2^k\}$ . Hence the  $(k + 1)^{\text{th}}$  iteration results in  $S = \{2^j\}_{0 \leq j \leq k}$  with  $R(S) = \{1, \dots, 2^{k+1} - 1\}$ , completing the induction.

After  $n$  iterations,  $R(S)$  precisely contains  $2^n - 1$  consecutive integers. This in conjunction with (\*) proves the optimality of  $S$ . □

*Proof of 2(b).* Done above. □