

# Scheduling with restrictions on job positions

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# Agenda

- Problems  $1|\beta, pd|\gamma$
- Problems  $1|\beta, fp|\gamma$

**pd (position dependent maintenance):** After at most  $k$  jobs, the machine must be idle for at least  $s$  time units.

**fp (fixed position):** (must not be combined with preemption) For some jobs, the position within the job sequence is specified.

## Definition 1 $|\beta, pd|\gamma$

- Single machine
- $n$  jobs with processing time  $p_j$  and due-dates  $d_j$  (if applicable)
- $\beta$  can be empty or contain (amongst others)
  - ready times  $r_j$
  - preemption (pmtn)
- $pd$  enforces maintenance operations
  - executed after changing *at most*  $k$  jobs (or partial jobs) on the machine
  - last for  $s$  units of time
  - are non-preemptive
- $\gamma$  (objective function) e.g.
  - $\sum C_j$
  - $C_{\max} := \max C_j$
  - $L_{\max} := \max\{C_j - d_j\}$

# (Fake) Applications



Light Bulb



Aircraft Engine & Landing Gear



Automotive Battery

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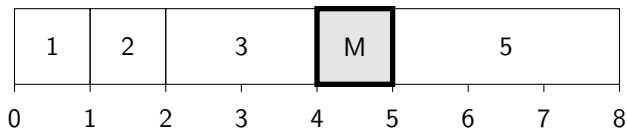
Xuan Shi Sheng, *ROCAF Fokker 50 5003 Right Wing Main Engine with Landing Gears 20110813*, Wikimedia Commons, licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0.

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### Example $1|pd|\sum C_j$

$$k = 3, s = 1$$

$j$	1	2	3	4
$p_j$	1	1	2	3

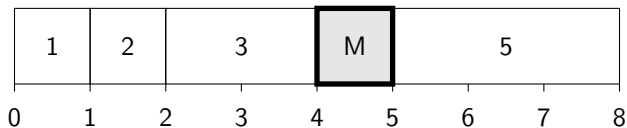


Objective function:  $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 = 15$

# Example $1|pd|C_{\max}$

$$k = 3, s = 1$$

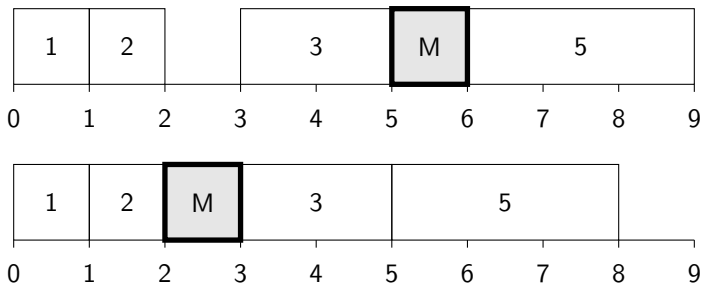
$j$	1	2	3	4
$p_j$	1	1	2	3



# Example $1|r_j, pd|C_{\max}$

$$k = 3, s = 1$$

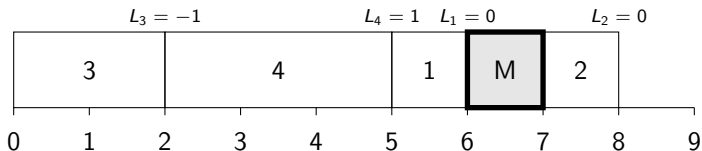
$j$	1	2	3	4
$p_j$	1	1	2	3
$r_j$	0	0	3	3



## Example $1|pd|L_{\max}$

$$k = 3, s = 1$$

$j$	1	2	3	4
$p_j$	1	1	2	3
$d_j$	6	8	3	4



Objective function:  $\max\{0, 0, -1, 1\} = 1$

## Summary of the Examples

### Property

1.  $1|pd|\sum C_j$  is solvable in  $O(n \log n)$   
(SPT-rule, maintenance operations as late as possible)
2.  $1|pd|C_{\max}$  is solvable in  $O(n)$   
(any order of jobs, maintenance operations as late as possible)
3.  $1|r_j, pd|C_{\max}$  is solvable in  $O(n^2)$   
(any order of jobs, DP for scheduling maintenance operations)
4.  $1|pd|L_{\max}$  is solvable in  $O(n \log n)$   
(EDD-rule, maintenance operations as late as possible)

Complexity results remain, even if preemption is allowed.

## Is $pd$ really boring?

$1|pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$  is easy,

$1|r_j, pmtn|L_{\max}$  is easy, but:

Property ( $1|r_j, pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$ )

*Problem  $1|r_j, pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$  is NP-hard in the strong sense.*

Proof.

**Easy Proof:** Setting  $k = n$  and  $s$  very large allows us to “forbid” interruptions.  $1|r_j|L_{\max}$  reduces to the problem at hand.

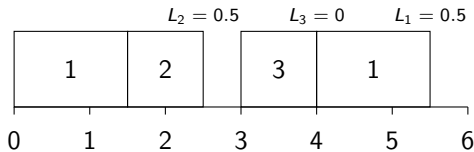
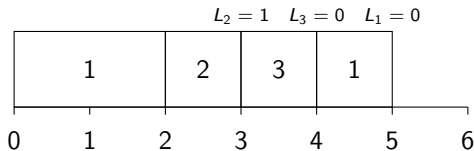
**Another proof:** shows that the problem is strongly NP-hard for any  $k, s \in \mathbb{N}$ .



# Surprising effects for $1|r_j, pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$

$$k = 4, s = 1$$

$j$	1	2	3
$p_j$	3	1	1
$r_j$	0	1	3
$d_j$	5	2	4



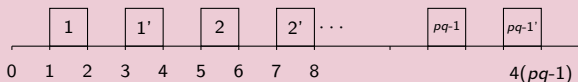
## Fractional schedules for $1|r_j, pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$

### Property

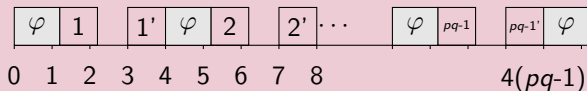
For every rational number  $0 < \frac{p}{q} < 1$  with  $p, q \in \mathbb{N}$ , there is an instance of  $1|r_j, pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$  with optimal objective function value  $L_{\max} = \frac{p}{q}$ .

### Proof.

Set  $k$  such that there are at most  $pq - 1$  interruptions and  $s$  large. There are  $pq - 1$  pairs (!) of jobs with tight release dates and due dates.



Add another job  $\varphi$  with  $r_\varphi = 0$ ,  $d_\varphi = 4(pq - 1) + 1$  and  $p_\varphi = pq + p^2$ .

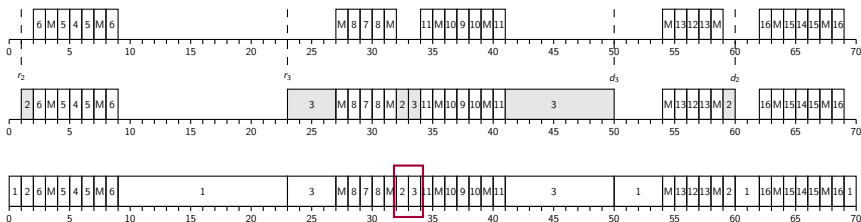


# Number of interruptions for $1|r_j, pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$

From for  $1|r_j, pmtn|L_{\max}$ , we know that there are at most  $n - 1$  interruptions, each of which is induced by a release date.

## Property

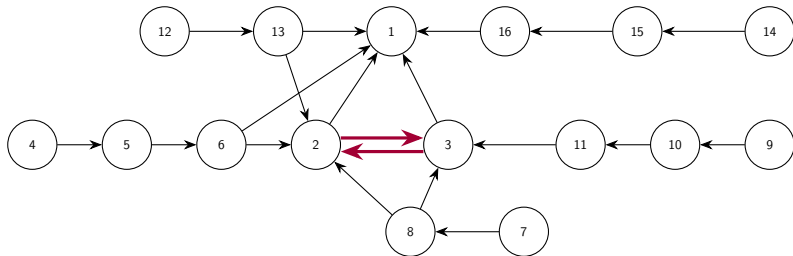
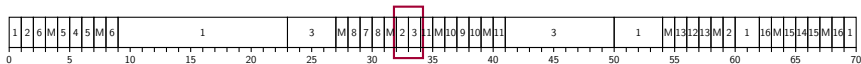
*For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there is an instance with more than  $\frac{13}{12}n - \varepsilon$  interruptions of jobs in any optimum schedule.*



# Number of interruptions for $1|r_j, pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$

## Property

*For any instance  $1|r_j, pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$ , there is an optimum solution with at most  $2n - 2$  interruptions of jobs.*



# Open questions in position dependent maintenance scheduling

- Tight bounds on the required number of interruptions in preemptive scheduling for various problem settings?
- Multi machine problems are not analyzed so far.

## Definition 1 $|\beta, fp|\gamma$

- Single machine
- $n$  jobs with processing time  $p_j$  and due-dates  $d_j$  (if applicable)
- $fp$  means:
  - There is a set  $Q \subset J$  of special jobs with  $q := |Q| < n$ .
  - The given injective function,  $\eta : Q \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$ , fixes the position of a special job in the schedule.
  - A special job  $j$  must be scheduled so that exactly  $\eta(j)$  regular jobs are completed before  $j$  starts.
- $\gamma$  (objective function) e.g.
  - $\sum C_j$
  - $\sum w_j C_j$
  - $L_{\max} := \max\{C_j - d_j\}$
  - $\sum_{j \in J} U_j$  with  $U_j := 1$  if  $C_j > d_j$  and  $U_j := 0$  if  $C_j \leq d_j$

Please note that special jobs also contribute to the value of the objective function.

# Applications

- Position dependent maintenance operations that are scheduled as late as possible and that contribute to the objective function value.
- Interim Acceptances in production scheduling.
- Disinfection jobs in Operating Room Scheduling

## Example $1|fp|\sum C_j$

$j$	1	2	3*	4	5
$p_j$	1	1	5*	3	4



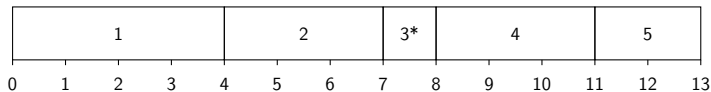
Objective function value:  $1 + 2 + 7 + 10 + 14 = 34$

### Property

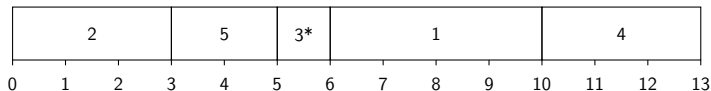
$1|fp|\sum C_j$  is solvable in  $O(n \log n)$  (SPT-rule).

### Example $1|fp|\sum w_j C_j$

$j$	1	2	3*	4	5
$p_j$	4	3	1*	3	2
$w_j$	5	3	9*	2	1



Objective function value (WSPT):  $4 \cdot 5 + 7 \cdot 3 + 8 \cdot 9 + 11 \cdot 2 + 13 \cdot 1 = 148$



Objective function value (OPT):  $10 \cdot 5 + 3 \cdot 3 + 6 \cdot 9 + 13 \cdot 2 + 5 \cdot 1 = 144$

## Results for $1|fp|\sum w_j C_j$

### Property

*Regular jobs, which are not interrupted by special jobs, follow WSPT rule.*

Whether or not  $1|fp|\sum w_j C_j$  is NP-hard remains an open question, even when there is only one special job.

### Property

*There is a FPTAS, a  $(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{n})$ -approx. with  $O\left(n^{3q+3}(\log W \log P)^{q+1} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)^{2q+2}\right)$  runtime.<sup>1</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup>Unpublished result by Kai Wang

## Problem 1|| $L_{\max}$

### Property

*Problem 1|| $L_{\max}$  can optimally be solved using the earliest due date rule (EDD).*

Example:

$j$	1	2	3	4	5	6
$p_j$	3	5	7	4	2	6
$d_j$	25	11	8	20	21	15
$C_j$	3	8	15	19	21	27
$L_j$	-22	-3	7	-1	0	<u>12</u>

→

$j$	3	2	6	4	5	1
$p_j$	7	5	6	4	2	3
$d_j$	8	11	15	20	21	25
$C_j$	7	12	18	22	24	27
$L_j$	-1	1	<u>3</u>	2	<u>3</u>	2

# Problem 1 | $fp | L_{\max}$

Earliest due date rule is no longer optimal:

$j$	1	2	3*	4	5	6
$p_j$	3	5	7*	4	2	6
$d_j$	25	11	8*	20	21	15
$C_j$	3	8	15	19	21	27
$L_j$	-22	-3	7	-1	0	<u>12</u>

→
EDD

$j$	2	6	3*	4	5	1
$p_j$	5	6	7*	4	2	3
$d_j$	11	15	8*	20	21	25
$C_j$	5	11	18	22	24	27
$L_j$	-6	-4	<u>10</u>	2	3	2

Optimal solution:

$j$	2	5	3*	6	4	1
$p_j$	5	2	7*	6	4	3
$d_j$	11	21	8*	15	20	25
$C_j$	5	7	14	20	24	27
$L_j$	-6	-14	<u>6</u>	5	4	2

## Problem $1|fp|L_{\max}$ , Solution

### Theorem

The DECISION VERSION of  $1|fp|L_{\max}$  can be solved in  $O(n^2)$ .

So for a given threshold  $L_{\max}$ , we can decide whether there is a feasible solution. In fact, we can even assume (w.l.o.g.) that  $L_{\max} = 0$  by changing due dates accordingly. If we, for example, ask for  $L_{\max} = 6$ :

$j$	1	2	3*	4	5	6	$\rightarrow$	$j$	1	2	3*	4	5	6
$p_j$	3	5	7*	4	2	6		$p_j$	3	5	7*	4	2	6
$d_j$	25	11	8*	20	21	15		$d_j$	31	17	14*	26	27	21

## Problem 1 | $fp | L_{\max}$ , Algorithm

1. Schedule jobs from the end (i.e., from time  $P = \sum_{j \in J} p_j$ ) as follows.
2. If the next job is a special job, schedule this one and set  $P = P - p_j$ . If it is late, return NO.
3. Else, consider all jobs with  $d_j \geq P$ . If there are none, return NO. Schedule the longest job  $j$  of these jobs and set  $P = P - p_j$ .
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until  $P = 0$ . If so, return YES.

Example for  $L_{\max} = 6$  ( $P = 27$ ):

$j$	1	2	3*	4	5	6
$p_j$	3	5	7*	4	2	6
$d_j$	<u>31</u>	17	14*	26	<u>27</u>	21

 $\xrightarrow{P=24}$ 

$j$	2	4	3*	5	6	1
$p_j$	5	4	7*	2	6	3
$d_j$	17	<u>26</u>	14*	<u>27</u>	21	31

$P = 20$ :

$j$	2	5	3*	6	4	1
$p_j$	5	2	7*	6	4	3
$d_j$	17	<u>27</u>	14*	<u>21</u>	26	31

 $\xrightarrow{P=14}$ 

$j$	2	5	3*	6	4	1
$p_j$	5	2	7*	6	4	3
$d_j$	17	27	14*	21	26	31

and so on

## Problem 1|fp|L<sub>max</sub>, Solution

### Theorem

1|fp|L<sub>max</sub> can be solved in  $O(n^2 \log n)$ .

### Property

Let  $P := \sum p_j$  and  $\underline{L}_{\max} \leq L_{\max}^*$  be a lower bound. If  $P - d_j < \underline{L}_{\max}$  holds for a regular job  $j$ , then job  $j$  does not induce the objective function value in any (non-idle) solution.

Conclusion: If the decision problem returns NO for threshold  $P - d_j$ , i.e.,  $P - d_j \leq \underline{L}_{\max}$ ,  $j$  can be scheduled in any position. Collect these jobs in set  $J'$ .

### Property

If  $P - d_j > \bar{L}_{\max}$  holds for a regular job  $j$  and an upper bound  $\bar{L}_{\max}$ , then job  $j$  must not be scheduled last in an optimal solution

Conclusion: If the decision problem returns YES for threshold  $P - d_j$ , job  $j$  must not be scheduled last, but a job from set  $J'$ .

## Problem 1 | $fp | L_{\max}$ , Algorithm

1. Use lower and upper bounds. Sort regular jobs in non-increasing order of  $d_j$ .
2. (Special jobs are scheduled on their intended position.)
3. For  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ : check feasibility for  $P - d_j$  ( $P = \sum p_j$ ) until job  $k$  returns YES. Update bounds and assign  $1, \dots, k - 1$  to  $J'$ .
4. Schedule the longest job from  $J'$  last and call the algorithm with  $n - 1$  jobs.

$$\underline{L}_{\max} = 3 \text{ (optimal } 1 || L_{\max}\text{-solution)} \quad \bar{L}_{\max} = 10 \text{ (EDD-solution)} \quad P = 27$$

$j$	1	5	3*	4	6	2
$p_j$	3	2	7*	4	6	5
$d_j$	25	21	8*	20	15	11

$$P - d_1 = 2 \leq \underline{L}_{\max} \rightarrow J' = \{1\}$$

$$P - d_5 = 6 \rightarrow \text{YES} \quad \text{Job 1 is scheduled last.}$$

## Problem 1 | $fp | L_{\max}$ , Algorithm

1. Use lower and upper bounds. Sort regular jobs in non-increasing order of  $d_j$ .
2. (Special jobs are scheduled on their intended position.)
3. For  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ : check feasibility for  $P - d_j$  ( $P = \sum p_j$ ) until job  $k$  returns YES. Update bounds and assign  $1, \dots, k - 1$  to  $J'$ .
4. Schedule the longest job from  $J'$  last and call the algorithm with  $n - 1$  jobs.

$$\underline{L}_{\max} = 3$$

$$\bar{L}_{\max} = 6 \text{ (Update)} \quad P = 24$$

$j$	5	4	3*	6	2		1
$p_j$	2	4	7*	6	5		3
$d_j$	21	20	8*	15	11		25

$$P - d_5 = 3 \leq \underline{L}_{\max} \rightarrow J' = \{5\}$$

$$P - d_4 = 4 \text{ delivers NO} \rightarrow J' = \{4, 5\}$$

$$P - d_6 = 9 \rightarrow \text{YES} \quad \text{Job 4 is scheduled last.}$$

## Problem 1 | $fp | L_{\max}$ , Algorithm

1. Use lower and upper bounds. Sort regular jobs in non-increasing order of  $d_j$ .
2. (Special jobs are scheduled on their intended position.)
3. For  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ : check feasibility for  $P - d_j$  ( $P = \sum p_j$ ) until job  $k$  returns YES. Update bounds and assign  $1, \dots, k - 1$  to  $J'$ .
4. Schedule the longest job from  $J'$  last and call the algorithm with  $n - 1$  jobs.

$$\underline{L}_{\max} = 4$$

$$\bar{L}_{\max} = 6$$

$$P = 20$$

$j$	5	6	3*	2	4	1
$p_j$	2	6	7*	5	4	3
$d_j$	21	15	8*	11	20	25

Keep  $J' = \{5\}$

$P - d_6 = 5$  delivers NO. Update of the bounds shows: optimal solution found

## Summary of the Results

### Position-dependent maintenance (pd)

**Problems in  $P$ :**  $1|pd|\sum C_j$        $1|r_j, pd|C_{\max}$        $1|pd|L_{\max}$   
 $1|pmtn, pd|\sum C_j$        $1|pmtn, r_j, pd|C_{\max}$        $1|pmtn, pd|L_{\max}$

**NP-hard:**  $1|pmtn, r_j, pd|L_{\max}$

### Fixed-position constrained (fp)

**Problems in  $P$ :**  $1|fp|\sum C_j$        $1|fp|L_{\max}$

**Open problems:**  $1|fp|\sum w_j C_j$        $1|fp|\sum U_j$

# References

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- Drozdowski, M., Jaehn, F., & Paszkowski, R. (2017). *Scheduling Position-Dependent Maintenance Operations*. **Operations Research** 65(6): 25-31.
- Hardt, J., & Jaehn, F. *Bounds and Fractional Processing Times in Position-Dependent Maintenance Operations*. Working Paper.
- Hipp, A., & Jaehn, F. *Single Machine Scheduling Problems with Fixed Job Positions and Uniform Job Characteristics*. Working Paper.
- Jaehn, F. (2024). *Scheduling with Jobs at Fixed Positions*. **European Journal of Operational Research** 318(2): 388-397.

## APPENDIX: Problem 1 || $\sum U_j$

### Property

Problem 1 ||  $\sum U_j$  can optimally be solved using Moore's algorithm.

- 1. Initialization:** Given an empty set of rejected jobs  $R$ .
- 2. Stop:** Schedule all non-rejected (regular) jobs according to earliest due dates. If all non-rejected (regular) jobs are on-time, add all jobs from  $R$  to the end of the schedule and stop.
- 3. Reject job:** Let  $j$  be the earliest tardy (regular) job, and let  $i$  be a (regular) job with longest processing time among the first  $j$  jobs of the schedule. Add  $i$  to the set of rejected jobs  $R$  and go to Step 2.

$j$	3	2	6	4	5	1		$j$	2	6	4	5	1	3
$p_j$	7	5	6	4	2	3		$p_j$	5	6	4	2	3	7
$d_j$	8	11	15	20	21	25	$\rightarrow$	$d_j$	11	15	20	21	25	8
$C_j$	7	12	18	22	24	27		$C_j$	5	11	15	17	20	27
$L_j$	-1	<u>1</u>	3	2	3	2		$L_j$	-6	-4	-5	-4	-5	19

## Problem $1|fp|\sum U_j$ , Example

Moore's algorithm is no longer optimal:

$j$	1	2	3*	4	5	6
$p_j$	3	5	7*	4	2	6
$d_j$	25	11	8*	20	21	15
$C_j$	3	8	15	19	21	27
$L_j$	-22	-3	<u>7</u>	-1	0	12

W.l.o.g. we assume that each schedule starts and ends with dummy special jobs of zero length and maximal due date.

## Problem $1|fp|\sum U_j$ , Property 1

### Property

*There is always an optimal solution so that between any two special jobs all on-time jobs precede the tardy jobs.*

### Proof.

Exchange jobs in the “wrong” order. □

Dark grey: tardy jobs

Light grey: on-time job

no filling: tardiness unknown



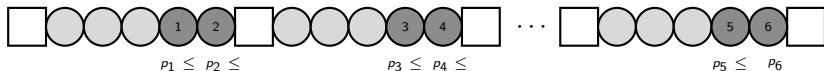
## Problem $1|fp|\sum U_j$ , Property 2

### Property

*There is always an optimal solution so that tardy regular jobs are sorted non-decreasingly with respect to processing times.*

### Proof.

Exchange jobs in the “wrong” order. □



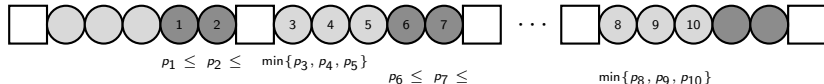
## Problem $1|fp| \sum U_j$ , Property 3

### Property

*There is always an optimal solution so that a tardy regular has no longer processing time than all regular on-time jobs that follow in the schedule.*

### Proof.

Exchange jobs in the “wrong” order. □



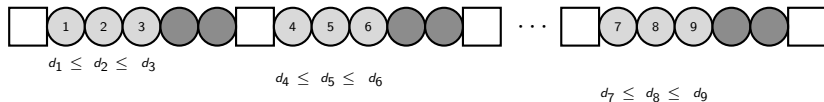
## Problem $1|fp|\sum U_j$ , Property 4

### Property

*There is always an optimal solution so that regular on-time jobs, which are not separated by a special job, are sorted according to EDD.*

### Proof.

Exchange jobs in the “wrong” order. □



## Problem 1 | $fp$ | $\sum U_j$ , Definition

### Definition

For a regular job  $i \in J \setminus Q$  let

$$S[i] := \{j \in J \setminus Q \mid d_i \leq d_j, p_i > p_j\}$$

be the set of jobs that have no smaller due date but a smaller processing time and let

$$L[i] := \{j \in J \setminus Q \mid d_i \leq d_j, p_i \leq p_j\}.$$

Note that in Moore's algorithm, a job  $i$  is only on-time if all jobs from  $S[i]$  are on-time.

Moreover, if the job with smallest due date  $i$  and all jobs from  $S[i]$  can be scheduled on time, then Moore's algorithm schedules job  $i$  first and on-time.

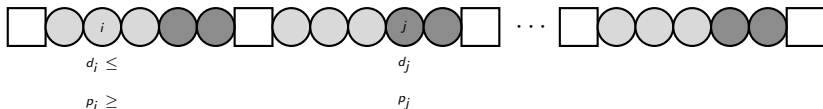
## Problem $1|fp| \sum U_j$ , Property 5

### Property

There is always an optimal solution so that every regular job  $i \in J \setminus Q$  is on-time, only if each job  $j \in S[i]$  is on-time.

### Proof.

Assume for a contradiction that there are only optimal solutions in which job  $i$  is on-time but some job  $j \in S[i]$  is tardy. As  $d_i \leq d_j$ , this can only happen if  $i \preceq_\sigma j$ . However, then we exchange the position of both jobs so that job  $j$  is on-time. As  $p_j < p_i$ , jobs in between the two only advance in time so that the overall objective function does not worsen. This contradicts our assumption.  $\square$



## Problem $1|fp|\sum U_j$ , Example Property 5

If  $i$  and  $S[i]$  can all be scheduled on-time in problem  $1|fp|\sum U_j$ , is  $i$  then on-time in some optimal solution? NO!

$j$	1	2	3*	4	5	6	7
$p_j$	4	2	1*	3	3	5	5
$d_j$	4	19	7*	10	13	12	17
$C_j$	4	6	7	10	13	18	23

- Job 1 and  $S[1] = \{2, 4, 5\}$  can all be scheduled on-time.
- If Job 1 is on time, there are at least two tardy jobs (note that the last job is always tardy).
- If Job 1 is scheduled last, we obtain a solution with just one tardy job.

$j$	4	5	3*	6	7	2	1
$p_j$	3	3	1*	5	5	2	4
$d_j$	10	13	7*	12	17	19	4
$C_j$	3	6	7	12	17	19	23

## Problem $1|fp|\sum U_j$ , What now?

So how can we solve  $1|fp|\sum U_j$ ? I have no idea! :-)

Let us consider a special case with just one special job  $1|fp, q = 1|\sum U_j$ .

### Property

*If there is just one special job,  $1|fp|\sum U_j$  can be solved in  $O(n^5)$ .*