

1. We show that  $\forall i \in [n - 1]$  it is the case that  $r_{i+1} \sum_{j=1}^i r_j$  by induction on  $i$ . The basis case is  $i - 1$ , so

$$r_2 \geq 2r_1 > r_1 = \sum_{j=1}^1 r_j,$$

where  $r_2 \geq 2r_1$  by the property of being super-increasing. For the induction step we have

$$r_{i+1} \geq 2r_i = r_i + r_i > r_i + \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} r_j = \sum_{j=1}^i r_j,$$

where we used the property of being super-increasing and the induction hypothesis.

2. Here is the algorithm:

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X ← S
Y ← ∅
for i = n ... 1
  if (r_i ≤ X)
    X ← X - r_i
    Y ← Y ∪ {i}

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and let the pre-condition state that  $\{r_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is super-increasing and that there exists an  $S \subseteq \{r_i\}_{i=1}^n$  such that  $\sum_{i \in S} r_i = S$ . Let the post-condition state that  $\sum_{i \in Y} r_i = S$ .

Define the following loop invariant: “ $Y$  is promising” in the sense that it can be extended, with indices of weights not considered yet, into a solution. That is, after considering  $i$ , there exists a subset  $E$  of  $\{i - 1, \dots, 1\}$  such that  $\sum_{j \in X \cup E} r_j = S$ .

The basis case is trivial since initially  $X = \emptyset$ , and since the pre-condition guarantees the existence of a solution,  $X$  can be extended into that solution.

For the induction step, consider two cases. If  $r_i > X$  then  $i$  is not added, but  $Y$  can be extended with  $E' \subseteq \{i - 1, i - 2, \dots, 1\}$ . The reason is that by induction hypothesis  $X$  was extended into a solution by some  $E \subseteq \{i, i - 1, \dots, 1\}$  and  $i$  was not part of the extension as  $r_i$  was too big to fit with what was already in  $Y$ , i.e.,  $E' = E$ .

If  $r_i \leq X$  then  $i \in E$  since by Q1 the remaining weights would not be able to close the gap between  $S$  and  $\sum_{j \in Y} r_j$ .