

**Thm:** For set cover greedy picks at most  $O(\ln n)$  of OPT.

**Pf.** Suppose OPT is  $k$ .

OPT has  $k$  sets  $\Rightarrow \exists S$  s.t.  $|S| \geq n/k$ .

(Otherwise OPT cannot cover all of the elements)

Therefore in the first step our algorithm will cover at least  $n/k$  elements.

**Fact:** More generally, for any  $A \subseteq [1, n]$  of elements,  $\exists S$  s.t.

$S$  covers at least  $1/k$  fraction of elements in  $A$ :  $|S \cap A| \geq \frac{|A|}{k}$ .

**BC.** OPT covers  $A$  using  $k$  sets.

In the second step we cover at least  $1/k$  fraction of remaining elements, i.e., at least  $\frac{n - n/k}{k}$

# remaining elements after step 2  $\leq \frac{k}{k} n - \frac{n - n/k}{k} = n(1 - 1/k)^2$ .

~~Supp~~ Supp we run for  $t = k \ln n$  step.

$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{ remaining elements} &\leq n \left(1 - \frac{1}{k}\right)^t = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{k}\right)^{k \ln n} \\ &= n \left(\underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{1}{k}\right)^k}_{\leq \frac{1}{e}}\right)^{\ln n} \leq n e^{-\ln n} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

**IH:**  $x_i \dots x_j$  is max of  $x_1 \dots x_{n-1}$

$x_{j+1} \dots x_{n-1}$  is max suff

**IS.** Supp OPT is  $x_a \dots x_b$ .

• Case 1:  $b < n$ : Then  $x_a \dots x_b$  is also OPT of  $x_1 \dots x_{n-1}$   
must have  $a = i$   $b = j$ .

Case 2: