

# 2780. Make Costs of Paths Equal in a Binary Tree

## Difficulty : Medium

<https://leetcode.com/problems/make-costs-of-paths-equal-in-a-binary-tree>

You are given an integer  $n$  representing the number of nodes in a **perfect binary tree** consisting of nodes numbered from 1 to  $n$ . The root of the tree is node 1 and each node  $i$  in the tree has two children where the left child is the node  $2 * i$  and the right child is  $2 * i + 1$ .

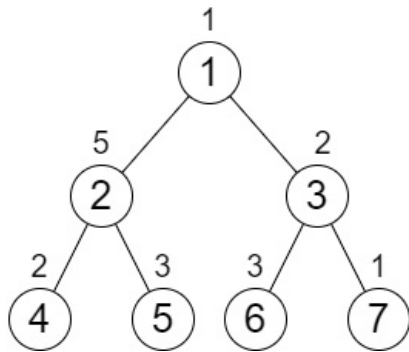
Each node in the tree also has a **cost** represented by a given **0-indexed** integer array `cost` of size  $n$  where `cost[i]` is the cost of node  $i + 1$ . You are allowed to **increment** the cost of **any** node by 1 **any** number of times.

Return the **minimum** number of increments you need to make the cost of paths from the root to each **leaf** node equal.

**Note:**

- A **perfect binary tree** is a tree where each node, except the leaf nodes, has exactly 2 children.
- The **cost of a path** is the sum of costs of nodes in the path.

**Example 1:**



**Input:**  $n = 7$ , `cost = [1,5,2,2,3,3,1]`

**Output:** 6

**Explanation:** We can do the following increments:

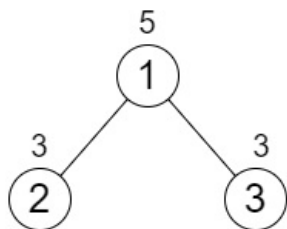
- Increase the cost of node 4 one time.
- Increase the cost of node 3 three times.
- Increase the cost of node 7 two times.

Each path from the root to a leaf will have a total cost of 9.

The total increments we did is  $1 + 3 + 2 = 6$ .

It can be shown that this is the minimum answer we can achieve.

**Example 2:**



**Input:**  $n = 3$ , `cost = [5,3,3]`

**Output:** 0

**Explanation:** The two paths already have equal total costs, so no increments are needed.

**Constraints:**

- $3 \leq n \leq 10^5$
- $n + 1$  is a power of 2
- `cost.length == n`
- $1 \leq \text{cost}[i] \leq 10^4$