

Given an array of costs, how do we pick the optimal buy and sell positions?

Example data:

A = [87, 86, 84, 92, 91, 89, 93, 94, 88, 93]

Strategy 1

```
def findMax(A):
    bestProfit = -MAX_INT
    bestBuyDate = None
    bestSellDate = None
    for i = 1 to n:
        for j = (i + 1) to n:
            if A[j] - A[i] > bestProfit:
                bestBuyDate = i
                bestSellDate = j
                bestProfit = A[j] - A[i]
    return (bestBuyDate, bestSellDate)
```

Sketch table for storing all bestProfit values:

Strategy 2

B = [-1, -2, 8, -1, -2, 4, 1, -6, 5]

```
def findMaxCrossingSubarray(B, low, mid, high):
    # check first half
    left-sum =
    sum =
    for i=mid down to low:
        sum = sum + B[i]
        if sum > left-sum:
            left-sum = sum
        max-left = i

    # check second half
    right-sum =
    sum =
    for j = (mid+1) to high:
        sum = sum + B[j]
        if sum > right-sum:
            right-sum = sum
        max-right = j
    return (max-left, max-right, left-sum + right-sum)
```

Runtime of this helper function if size of B is n ?

```

def findMaxSubarray(B, low, h):

    # base case
    if low == h:
        return (low, h, B[low])

    else:
        mid = (low + h) // 2
        Llow, Lhigh, Lsum = findMaxSubarray(B, low, mid)
        Rlow, Rhigh, Rsum = findMaxSubarray(B, mid+1, high)
        Clow, Chigh, Csum = findMaxCrossingSubarray(B, low, mid, high)

        # case 1: max is entirely on left
        if (
            ) >= (
            ) and (
            ) >= (
            ):
            return

        # case 2: max is entirely on right
        elif (
            ) >= (
            ) and (
            ) >= (
            ):
            return

        # case 3: max is split
        else:
            return

```