

SRM Institute of Science and Technology

18CSC204J

Design and Analysis of  
Algorithms



MINOR PROJECT  
MAXIMUM PROFIT BY BUYING  
AND SELLING A SHARE AT MOST K  
TIMES



***SRMI INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY***

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*Certified to be bonafide record of the work done by*  
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\_\_\_\_\_, *B.tech degree course in the*  
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**School Of Data Science and  
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**Course Name: Design and Analysis of Algorithm**

<b>Title of Experiment</b>	Maximum profit by buying and selling a share at most K times.
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<b>Date of Experiment</b>	20-06-2022

**Aim:** Solving Maximum profit by buying and selling a share at most K times by using dynamic programming

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## Problem Definition

Problem Statement: Maximum profit by buying and selling a share at most K times.

In share trading, a buyer buys shares and sells on a future date. Given the stock price of N days, the trader is allowed to make at most K transactions, where a new transaction can only start after the previous transaction is complete. The task is to find out the maximum profit that a share trader could have made.



## Problem Explanation with diagram and example

A stock broker or a person who deals with stocks can make maximum profit only when the stock is bought at minimum price and sold at maximum price. Keeping this as our basic principle we aim at solving this problem.

The test case would have the number of days the stock is active and price for each day. This problem also follows a constraint i.e., number of transactions for a given stock are limited and are given.

Say the stock prices for  $N$  days are given, and a maximum of  $K$  transactions allowed, then aim is to determine the maximum profit that can be made.

Example:

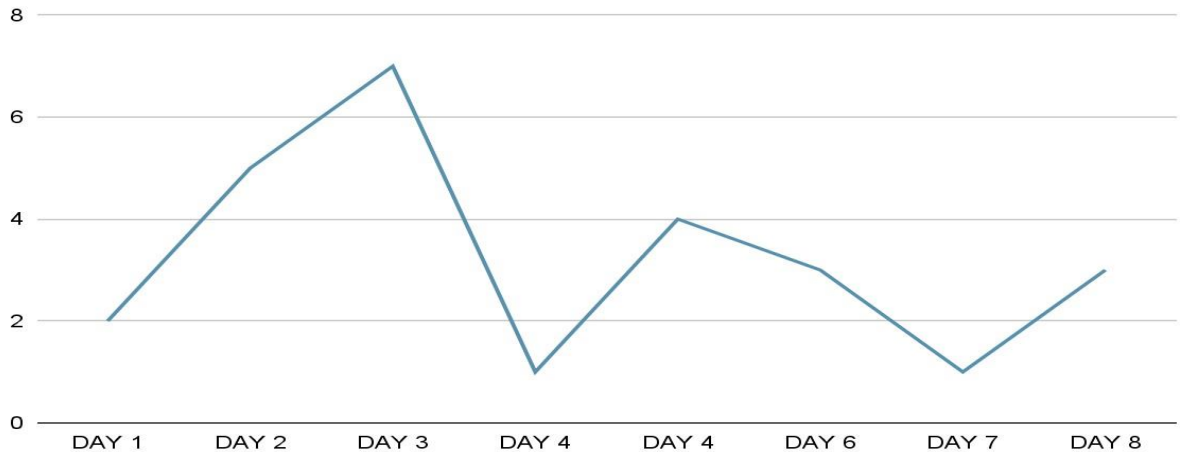
Number of days -  $N = 8$

Maximum number of transactions -  $K = 3$

DAY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STOCK PRICE	2	5	7	1	4	3	1	3

Explanation: The trader performs 3 transactions, the first of which is by purchasing at price 2 and selling it at price 7 followed by a purchase and sale at price 1 and 4, and by a purchase of 1 and selling at 3 respectively. Thus, the profit earned is 10. Output: 10

Points scored



## Design Techniques used Algorithm for the problem Explanation of algorithm with example

Approach: This approach shows how to solve this problem using Dynamic Programming Approach

ALGORITHM:

Let  $\text{profit}[t][i]$  represent maximum profit using at most  $t$  transactions up to day  $i$  (including day  $i$ ). Then the relation is:

$$\text{profit}[t][i] = \max(\text{profit}[t][i-1], \max(\text{price}[i] - \text{price}[j] + \text{profit}[t-1][j]))$$

for all  $j$  in range  $[0, i-1]$

$\text{profit}[t][i]$  will be maximum of –

- $\text{profit}[t][i-1]$  which represents not doing any transaction on the  $i$ th day.
- Maximum profit gained by selling on  $i$ th day. In order to sell shares on  $i$ th day, we need to purchase it on any one of  $[0, i-1]$  days. If we buy shares on  $j$ th day and sell them on  $i$ th day, max profit will be  $\text{price}[i] - \text{price}[j] + \text{profit}[t-1][j]$  where  $j$  varies from 0 to  $i-1$ . Here  $\text{profit}[t-1][j]$  is best we could have done with one less transaction till  $j$ th day.

Consider the above example, using the DP approach the problem can be solved in this manner.

DAY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STOCK PRICE	2	5	7	1	4	3	1	3
	2	5	7	1	4	3	1	3
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	3	5	5	5	5	5	5
2	0	3	5	5	8	8	8	8
3	0	3	5	5	8	8	8	10

Pseudocode

```
# Python program to maximize the profit
# by doing at most k transactions
# given stock prices for n days
# Function to find out maximum profit by
# buying & selling a share at most k times
# given stock price of n days
```

```
def maxProfit(prices, n, k):
```

```
    # Bottom-up DP approach
```

```
    profit := [[0 for i in range(k + 1) do] for j in
               range(n) do]
```

```
    # Profit is zero for the first
```

```
    # day and for zero transactions
```

```
    for i in range(1, n) do:
```

```
        for j in range(1, k + 1) do:
```

```
            max_so_far := 0
```

```
            for l in range(i) do:
```

```
                max_so_far := max(max_so_far, prices[i] - prices[l]
                                   + profit[l][j - 1])
```

```
            end for loop
```

```
            profit[i][j] := max(profit[i - 1][j], max_so_far)
```

```
        End for loop
```

```
    End for loop return
```

```
    profit[n - 1][k]
```

# Complexity analysis

The above solution has time complexity of  $O(k \cdot n^2)$

## Conclusion

We use this dynamic programming approach to solve this problem and thereby optimize profits on the buying and selling of shares, this has great real-life application in the stock market but not only limited to it. We have an option to further optimize the code that is to reduce the time complexity to  $O(kn)$  by using the result from the last transaction but to keep it simple we have gone for this approach.

## References

We have used help from the following sources: <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/maximum-profit-by-buying-and-selling-a-share-at-most-k-times/> <https://www.techiedelight.com/find-maximum-profit-earned-at-most-k-stock-transactions/> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oDhu5uGq\\_ic](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oDhu5uGq_ic)