

Best time to buy and sell stock

example: 7, 1, 5, 3, 6, 4

buy on day 2, price = 1, sell at day 5, price = 6
profit = $6 - 1 = 5$

example: 7, 6, 4, 3, 1
profit = 0, no transactions.

example: 2, 4, 1

buy at day 1, $p = 2$, sell at day 2, $p = 4$
profit = $4 - 2 = 2$

Solution analytics:

we should ask questions

when we sell? when we buy?

if you are selling on i^{th} day, you have to buy

on minimum price from day $1^{\text{st}} \rightarrow i - 1$

7, 4, 5, 3, 6, 4

$i=0, \min P=7$
 $i=1, 4-7 < 0 \Rightarrow$ dont sell, $\min P=4$ ^{$\min P=7 < 4$}
 $i=2, 5-4 > 0 \Rightarrow$ can sell, profit $4 > 0, \Rightarrow p=4$
 $i=3, 3-4 > 0 \Rightarrow$ can sell but $p=4 > 2$, dont sell
 $i=4, 6-4=2 > 0 \Rightarrow$ can sell, $6 > 4 \Rightarrow$ sell profit = 2
end.

```
class Solution {
public:
    int maxProfit(vector<int> &prices) {
        int minP = prices[0];
        int maxProfit = 0;
        for (int i = 1; i < prices.size(); i++) {
            int profit = prices[i] - minP;
            if (profit > 0) {
                // we can sell
                if (profit > maxProfit) {
                    maxProfit = profit;
                }
            } else {
                minP = prices[i];
            }
        }
        return maxProfit;
    }
};
```