

# Maximum subarray sum

example:  $-2, 1, -3, 4, -1, 2, 1, -5, 4$   
sum = 6

## Solution analytics:

brute force:

possible subarrays?

1, 2, 3, 4:

1  
1, 2  
1, 2, 3  
1, 2, 3, 4  
2  
2, 3  
2, 3, 4  
3  
3, 4  
4

$i=0$  (1)  
 $j=0 \Rightarrow 1$   $0+1=1$   
 $j=1 \Rightarrow (1, 2)$   $1+2=3$   
 $j=2 \Rightarrow (1, 2, 3)$   $3+3=6$   
 $j=3 \Rightarrow (1, 2, 3, 4)$   $6+4=10$   
 $i=1$  (2)  
 $j=1 \Rightarrow (2)$   $0+2=2$   
 $j=2 \Rightarrow (2, 3)$   $2+3=5$   
 $j=3 \Rightarrow (2, 3, 4)$   $5+4=9$   
 $i=2$  (3)  
 $j=2 \Rightarrow (3)$   $0+3=3$   
 $j=3 \Rightarrow (3, 4)$   $3+4=7$   
 $i=3$

$j=3 \Rightarrow (3) = 0+3=3$

max

```
class Solution {
public:
    int maxSubArray(vector<int>& nums) {
        int maxSum = INT_MIN;
        for (int i = 0; i < nums.size(); i++) {
            int sum = 0;
            for (int j = i; j < nums.size(); j++) {
                int value = nums[j];
                sum = sum + value;
                if (sum > maxSum) {
                    maxSum = sum;
                }
            }
        }
        return maxSum;
    }
};
```

complexity:  $O(n^2)$

$O(n)$ ? Kadane's algorithm.

**Current Sum:** the best sum ending at the current position

**Max Sum:** the best found so far

**Loop over numbers**

you decide • it is better to start fresh from this element  
• or continue adding to the current sum (subarray)

**Decision:**

if adding a number drops the sum below that number itself, we start a new sum (new subarray).  
we always compare between sum and  $nums[i]$ .

**Manual execution (example):** 3, -2, 5, -1

currentSum = maxSum = first el = 3

$i=1, el = -2$

$$sum = cSum - 2 = 3 - 2 = 1$$

$$1 (sum) > -2 \Rightarrow \text{no} \Rightarrow cSum = sum = 1$$

$$cSum(1) < maxSum(3), \text{no affect}$$

$i=2, el = 5$

$$sum = cSum + 5 = 1 + 5 = 6$$

$$6 (sum) > 5 \Rightarrow \text{no} \Rightarrow cSum = sum = 6$$

$$cSum(6) > maxSum(3), \text{affect}$$
$$maxSum = 6$$

$i=3, el = -1$

$$sum = cSum - 1 = 6 - 1 = 5$$

$$5 (sum) > -1 \Rightarrow \text{no} \Rightarrow cSum = sum = 5$$

$$cSum(5) < maxSum(6)$$

no affect

if  $sum < nums[i]$ , restart cSum with  $nums[i]$   
(not in this example)

```
class Solution {
public:
    int maxSubArray(vector<int> &nums) {
        int maxSum = nums[0];
        int currentSum = nums[0];
        for (int i = 1; i < nums.size(); i++) {
            int sum = currentSum + nums[i];
            if (sum < nums[i]) {
                // the added number drops the sum, so we drop the subarray and start a fresh one
                currentSum = nums[i];
            } else {
                // we kepp the subarray
                currentSum = sum;
            }
            if (currentSum > maxSum) {
                maxSum = currentSum;
            }
        }
        return maxSum;
    }
};
```