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## Stack Stabilization (Chapter 2)

Level 3

Time limit: 5s

In progress

Note: [Chapter 1](#) is an easier version of this puzzle.

There's a stack of  $N$  inflatable discs, with the  $i$ th disc from the top having an initial radius of  $R_i$  inches.

The stack is considered *unstable* if it includes at least one disc whose radius is larger than or equal to that of the disc directly under it. In other words, for the stack to be *stable*, each disc must have a strictly smaller radius than that of the disc directly under it.

As long as the stack is unstable, you can repeatedly choose a disc and perform one of the following operations:

- Inflate the disc, increasing its radius by 1 inch. This operation takes  $A$  seconds and may be performed on discs of any radius (even those that exceed  $10^9$  inches).
- Deflate the disc, decreasing its radius by 1 inch. This operation takes  $B$  seconds and may only be performed if the resulting radius is a positive integer number of inches (that is, if the disc has a radius of at least 2" before being deflated).

Determine the minimum number of seconds needed in order to make the stack stable.

### Constraints

$$1 \leq N \leq 50$$

$$1 \leq R_i \leq 1,000,000,000$$

$$1 \leq A, B \leq 100$$

### Sample test case #1

$N = 5$   
 $R = [2, 5, 3, 6, 5]$   
 $A = 1$   
 $B = 1$

Expected Return Value = 5

### Sample test case #2

$N = 3$   
 $R = [100, 100, 100]$   
 $A = 2$   
 $B = 3$

Expected Return Value = 5

### Sample test case #3

$N = 3$   
 $R = [100, 100, 100]$   
 $A = 7$   
 $B = 3$

Expected Return Value = 9

#### Sample test case #4

$N = 4$   
 $R = [6, 5, 4, 3]$   
 $A = 10$   
 $B = 1$

Expected Return Value = 19

#### Sample test case #5

$N = 4$   
 $R = [100, 100, 1, 1]$   
 $A = 2$   
 $B = 1$

Expected Return Value = 207

#### Sample test case #6

$N = 6$   
 $R = [6, 5, 2, 4, 4, 7]$   
 $A = 1$   
 $B = 1$

Expected Return Value = 10

#### Sample Explanation

In the first case, the discs (from top to bottom) have radii of  $[2'', 5'', 3'', 6'', 5'']$ . It takes  $A = B = 1$  second to inflate or deflate a disc radius by  $1''$ . One optimal way to stabilize the stack is by deflating disc 2 from  $5''$  to  $3''$  (taking 2 seconds), inflating disc 3 from  $3''$  to  $4''$  (taking 1 second), deflating disc 4 from  $6''$  to  $5''$  (taking 1 second), and inflating disc 5 from  $5''$  to  $6''$  (taking 1 second). This yields final radii of  $[2'', 3'', 4'', 5'', 6'']$ , taking a total of  $2 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 5$  seconds.

In the second case, it takes  $A = 2$  seconds to inflate a disc by  $1''$ , and  $B = 3$  seconds to deflate a disc by  $1''$ . One optimal way to stabilize the stack is by deflating disc 1 from  $100''$  to  $99''$  (taking 3 seconds) and inflating disc 3 from  $100''$  to  $101''$  (taking 2 seconds), for a total of 5 seconds.

In the third case, an optimal stabilization strategy is to deflate the first two discs to  $98''$  and  $99''$  respectively, taking  $2 * 3 + 1 * 3 = 9$  seconds.

In the fourth case, an optimal stabilization strategy is to arrive at disc radii  $[1'', 2'', 3'', 4'']$  in  $(6 - 1) * 1 + (5 - 2) * 1 + (4 - 3) * 1 + (4 - 3) * 10 = 19$  seconds.

In the fifth case, it's possible to stabilize the stack in 207 seconds.

In the sixth case, it's possible to stabilize the stack in 10 seconds.

⚠ The code editor for solving puzzles is only available on wider screens.