

# Problem 3196: Maximize Total Cost of Alternating Subarrays

## Problem Information

**Difficulty:** Medium

**Acceptance Rate:** 29.27%

**Paid Only:** No

**Tags:** Array, Dynamic Programming

## Problem Description

You are given an integer array `nums` with length `n`.

The **cost** of a subarray `nums[l..r]`, where  $0 \leq l \leq r < n$ , is defined as:

$$\text{cost}(l, r) = \text{nums}[l] - \text{nums}[l + 1] + \dots + \text{nums}[r] \cdot (-1)^{r - l}$$

Your task is to **split** `nums` into subarrays such that the **total cost** of the subarrays is **maximized**, ensuring each element belongs to **exactly one** subarray.

Formally, if `nums` is split into `k` subarrays, where  $k > 1$ , at indices `i1, i2, ..., ik - 1`, where  $0 \leq i1 < i2 < \dots < ik - 1 < n - 1$ , then the total cost will be:

$$\text{cost}(0, i1) + \text{cost}(i1 + 1, i2) + \dots + \text{cost}(ik - 1 + 1, n - 1)$$

Return an integer denoting the **maximum total cost** of the subarrays after splitting the array optimally.

**Note:** If `nums` is not split into subarrays, i.e.  $k = 1$ , the total cost is simply `cost(0, n - 1)`.

**Example 1:**

**Input:** `nums = [1,-2,3,4]`

**Output:** 10

**\*\*Explanation:\*\***

One way to maximize the total cost is by splitting `[1, -2, 3, 4]` into subarrays `[1, -2, 3]` and `[4]`. The total cost will be  $(1 + 2 + 3) + 4 = 10$ .

**\*\*Example 2:\*\***

**\*\*Input:\*\*** `nums = [1,-1,1,-1]`

**\*\*Output:\*\*** 4

**\*\*Explanation:\*\***

One way to maximize the total cost is by splitting `[1, -1, 1, -1]` into subarrays `[1, -1]` and `[1, -1]`. The total cost will be  $(1 + 1) + (1 + 1) = 4$ .

**\*\*Example 3:\*\***

**\*\*Input:\*\*** `nums = [0]`

**\*\*Output:\*\*** 0

**\*\*Explanation:\*\***

We cannot split the array further, so the answer is 0.

**\*\*Example 4:\*\***

**\*\*Input:\*\*** `nums = [1,-1]`

**\*\*Output:\*\*** 2

**\*\*Explanation:\*\***

Selecting the whole array gives a total cost of  $1 + 1 = 2$ , which is the maximum.

**\*\*Constraints:\*\***

`1 <= nums.length <= 105` `-109 <= nums[i] <= 109`

## Code Snippets

### C++:

```
class Solution {  
public:  
    long long maximumTotalCost(vector<int>& nums) {  
  
    }  
};
```

### Java:

```
class Solution {  
    public long maximumTotalCost(int[] nums) {  
  
    }  
}
```

### Python3:

```
class Solution:  
    def maximumTotalCost(self, nums: List[int]) -> int:
```