

# Problem 2052: Minimum Cost to Separate Sentence Into Rows

## Problem Information

**Difficulty:** Medium

**Acceptance Rate:** 50.95%

**Paid Only:** Yes

**Tags:** Array, Dynamic Programming

## Problem Description

You are given a string `sentence` containing words separated by spaces, and an integer `k`. Your task is to separate `sentence` into `rows` where the number of characters in each row is `at most k`. You may assume that `sentence` does not begin or end with a space, and the words in `sentence` are separated by a single space.

You can split `sentence` into rows by inserting line breaks between words in `sentence`. A word `cannot` be split between two rows. Each word must be used exactly once, and the word order cannot be rearranged. Adjacent words in a row should be separated by a single space, and rows should not begin or end with spaces.

The `cost` of a row with length `n` is  $(k - n)^2$ , and the `total cost` is the sum of the `costs` for all rows `except` the last one.

\* For example if `sentence = "i love leetcode"` and `k = 12`: \* Separating `sentence` into `"i"`, `"love"`, and `"leetcode"` has a cost of  $(12 - 1)^2 + (12 - 4)^2 = 185$ . \* Separating `sentence` into `"i love"`, and `"leetcode"` has a cost of  $(12 - 6)^2 = 36$ . \* Separating `sentence` into `"i"`, and `"love leetcode"` is not possible because the length of `"love leetcode"` is greater than `k`.

Return `the minimum` possible total cost of separating `sentence` into rows.

**Example 1:**

**Input:** `sentence = "i love leetcode"`, `k = 12` **Output:** `36` **Explanation:** Separating `sentence` into `"i"`, `"love"`, and `"leetcode"` has a cost of  $(12 - 1)^2 + (12 - 4)^2 = 185$ . Separating `sentence` into `"i love"`, and `"leetcode"` has a cost of  $(12 - 6)^2 = 36$ . Separating `sentence` into `"i"`,

"love leetcode" is not possible because "love leetcode" has length 13. 36 is the minimum possible total cost so return it.

**Example 2:**

**Input:** sentence = "apples and bananas taste great", k = 7 **Output:** 21 **Explanation:** Separating sentence into "apples", "and", "bananas", "taste", and "great" has a cost of  $(7 - 6)^2 + (7 - 3)^2 + (7 - 7)^2 + (7 - 5)^2 = 21$ . 21 is the minimum possible total cost so return it.

**Example 3:**

**Input:** sentence = "a", k = 5 **Output:** 0 **Explanation:** The cost of the last row is not included in the total cost, and since there is only one row, return 0.

**Constraints:**

\*  $1 \leq \text{sentence.length} \leq 5000$  \*  $1 \leq k \leq 5000$  \* The length of each word in `sentence` is at most `k`. \* `sentence` consists of only lowercase English letters and spaces. \* `sentence` does not begin or end with a space. \* Words in `sentence` are separated by a single space.

## Code Snippets

**C++:**

```
class Solution {
public:
    int minimumCost(string sentence, int k) {

    }
};
```

**Java:**

```
class Solution {
    public int minimumCost(String sentence, int k) {

    }
}
```

**Python3:**

```
class Solution:
    def minimumCost(self, sentence: str, k: int) -> int:
```