

# Problem 1962: Remove Stones to Minimize the Total

## Problem Information

**Difficulty:** Medium

**Acceptance Rate:** 65.19%

**Paid Only:** No

**Tags:** Array, Greedy, Heap (Priority Queue)

## Problem Description

You are given a **0-indexed** integer array `piles`, where `piles[i]` represents the number of stones in the `ith` pile, and an integer `k`. You should apply the following operation **exactly** `k` times:

\* Choose any `piles[i]` and **remove**  $\text{floor}(piles[i] / 2)$  stones from it.

**Notice** that you can apply the operation on the **same** pile more than once.

Return **the minimum** possible total number of stones remaining after applying the **k** operations.

` $\text{floor}(x)$ ` is the **largest** integer that is **smaller** than or **equal** to `x` (i.e., rounds `x` down).

**Example 1:**

**Input:** piles = [5,4,9], k = 2 **Output:** 12 **Explanation:** Steps of a possible scenario are: - Apply the operation on pile 2. The resulting piles are [5,4,\_5\_]. - Apply the operation on pile 0. The resulting piles are [\_3\_,4,5]. The total number of stones in [3,4,5] is 12.

**Example 2:**

**Input:** piles = [4,3,6,7], k = 3 **Output:** 12 **Explanation:** Steps of a possible scenario are: - Apply the operation on pile 2. The resulting piles are [4,3,\_3\_,7]. - Apply the operation on pile 3. The resulting piles are [4,3,3,\_4\_]. - Apply the operation on pile 0. The resulting piles

are [2,3,3,4]. The total number of stones in [2,3,3,4] is 12.

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

`* `1 <= piles.length <= 105` * `1 <= piles[i] <= 104` * `1 <= k <= 105``

## Code Snippets

**C++:**

```
class Solution {
public:
    int minStoneSum(vector<int>& piles, int k) {
        }
};
```

**Java:**

```
class Solution {
    public int minStoneSum(int[] piles, int k) {
        }
}
```

**Python3:**

```
class Solution:
    def minStoneSum(self, piles: List[int], k: int) -> int:
```