

Best time to buy stock

121. Best Time to Buy and Sell Stock

Easy

24.6K

769

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Companies

You are given an array `prices` where `prices[i]` is the price of a given stock on the i^{th} day.

You want to maximize your profit by choosing a **single day** to buy one stock and choosing a **different day in the future** to sell that stock.

Return the **maximum profit** you can achieve from this transaction. If you cannot achieve any profit, return 0.

Example 1:

Input: `prices = [7,1,5,3,6,4]`

Output: 5

Explanation: Buy on day 2 (price = 1) and sell on day 5 (price = 6), profit = 6 - 1 = 5. Note that buying on day 2 and selling on day 1 is not allowed because you must buy before you sell.

Example 2:

Input: `prices = [7,6,4,3,1]`

Output: 0

Explanation: In this case, no transactions are done and the max profit = 0.

Constraints:

- $1 \leq \text{prices.length} \leq 10^5$
- $0 \leq \text{prices}[i] \leq 10^5$

Brute force: Using 2 loop

→ use loop of i from 0 to n

→ use loop of j from $i+1$ to n

→ If `arr[j] > arr[i]` do $\text{ans} = \max(\text{ans}, \text{arr}[j] - \text{arr}[i])$

→ Return `ans`

`[7, 1, 5, 3, 6, 4]`
i j j > i

T.C - $O(n^2)$
S.C - $O(1)$

`[7, 1, 5, 3, 4]`
i j j > i

$\text{max}(\text{ans}, 5-1)$ | $3 > 1$ True | $6 > 1$
 $\text{ans} = 4$ | $\text{ans} = 4$ | $\text{max}(\text{ans}, 6-1)$
 $\text{ans} = 5$

return `ans` // 5

Optimal solution:

→ Create variable `maxProfit = 0`

→ Create a variable `minPrices = INT_MAX`

→ Run loop 0 to n

→ update `minPrice` if `arr[i]` is smaller than current `minPrice`

→ check `maxProfit` if it greater than current `maxProfit`

Code

`minPrice = INT_MAX`

`maxProfit = 0`

loop 0 → n

`minPrice = min(minPrice, arr[i])`

`maxProfit = max(maxProfit, arr[i] - minPrice)`

T.C - $O(n)$
S.C - $O(1)$

Code

Optimal Code

```
class Solution {
public:
    int maxProfit(vector<int>& p) {
        int maxprofit=0, buy=p[0];
        int n=p.size();
        for(int i=1; i<n; i++)
        {
            if(buy>p[i]){
                buy=p[i];
            }
            maxprofit=max(maxprofit, p[i]-buy);
        }
        // cout<<"buy "<<buy<<" max "<<maxprofit;
        return maxprofit;
    }
};
```

max = 0
min = Initial Max-VALUE

arr → [7, 1, 5, 3, 6, 4] min = 7
 ↑
 min
 arr[i] - min
 ⇒ 7 - 7 = 0
 max = 0

arr[1] = 1 ⇒ 1 < 7 ∴ min = 1;
* arr[i] - min ⇒ 1 - 1 = 0 → max = 0

arr[2] = 5 ⇒ 5 > 1 ∴ min = 1;
* arr[i] - min ⇒ 5 - 1 = 4 → max = 4

arr[3] = 3 ⇒ 3 > 1 ∴ min = 1;
* arr[i] - min ⇒ 3 - 1 = 2 → max = 4

arr[4] = 6 ⇒ 6 > 1 ∴ min = 1
* arr[i] - min ⇒ 6 - 1 = 5 → max = 5

arr[5] = 4 ⇒ 4 > 1 ∴ min = 1
* arr[i] - min ⇒ 4 - 1 = 3 → max = 5

return max; // 5

Taken from
Take you forward