

11. Container With Most Water



Medium

Topics

Companies

Hint

To move canvas, hc

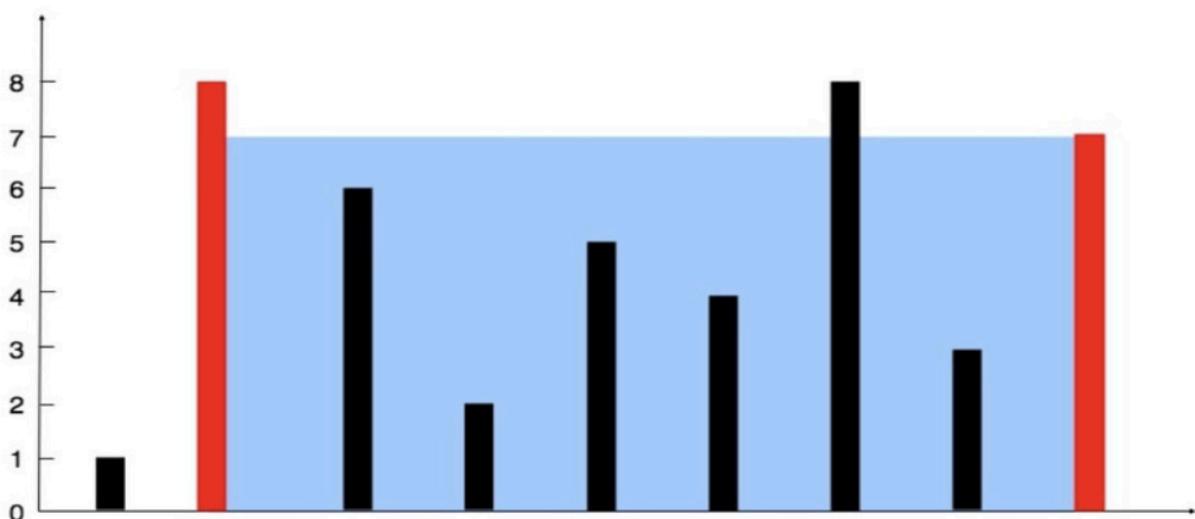
You are given an integer array `height` of length `n`. There are `n` vertical lines drawn such that the two endpoints of the i^{th} line are $(i, 0)$ and $(i, \text{height}[i])$.

Find two lines that together with the x-axis form a container, such that the container contains the most water.

Return *the maximum amount of water a container can store*.

Notice that you may not slant the container.

Example 1:



Input: `height = [1,8,6,2,5,4,8,3,7]`

Output: 49

Explanation: The above vertical lines are represented by array `[1,8,6,2,5,4,8,3,7]`. In this case, the max area of water (blue section) the container can contain is 49.

Example 2:

Input: `height = [1,1]`

Output: 1

Truthful Leopard

Constraints:

- `n == height.length`
- `2 <= n <= 10^5`
- `0 <= height[i] <= 10^4`

Solution Pseudocode

brute force way

two-pointer

compare every element with every other element

```
result = 0
for i in range(height.length)
    for j in range(i+1, height.length)
        area = min(height[i] , height[j]) * (j - i)
        result = max(result, area)

return result
```

$O(n^2)$

we're limited by the minimum of $height[i]$ and $height[j]$

two-pointer, but start each pointer at each end of the array for better coverage

Find the current area with the current i and

Only move the minimum of i and j

```
result = 0
left = 0
right = height.length - 1

while left < right:
    area = min(height[left] , height[right]) * (right - left)
    result = max(result, area)
    if height[left] < height[right]:
        left += 1
    else:
        right -= 1
return result
```

$O(n)$