

Min size subarray

Let's go very slowly and clarify what "top" means first.

We are using a stack.

- The stack stores indexes of bars (not heights).
- The top means the last pushed index in the stack (the most recent one).

For example:

```
ini
```

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```
heights = [10,20,30]
```

```
stack = [0,1]
```

- `stack[-1] = 1` is the top index
- `heights[stack[-1]] = heights[1] = 20` is the top bar height

So when I say top(50) it means:

- Look at `stack[-1]` , get that index → say it's 4
- Then `heights[4] = 50` is the height of the top bar.

Now let's repeat the same example step by step with this clarified.

heights = [10,20,30,40,50,0]

We'll process $i = 0 \rightarrow 5$.

$i = 0 \rightarrow \text{height} = 10$

- Stack is empty → push this index
- Stack = `[0]`

Now the top = 0 → `heights[top] = 10`

$i = 1 \rightarrow \text{height} = 20$

- Compare `heights[i]=20` with `heights[top]=10`

- $20 \geq 10 \rightarrow$ taller, so just push

Stack = [0,1]

Now top = 1 \rightarrow heights[1] = 20

i = 2 \rightarrow height = 30

- Compare heights[i]=30 with heights[top]=20
- $30 \geq 20 \rightarrow$ taller \rightarrow push

Stack = [0,1,2]

Now top = 2 \rightarrow heights[2] = 30

i = 3 \rightarrow height = 40

- Compare with heights[top]=30
- $40 \geq 30 \rightarrow$ push

Stack = [0,1,2,3]

Now top = 3 \rightarrow heights[3] = 40

i = 4 \rightarrow height = 50

- Compare with heights[top]=40
- $50 \geq 40 \rightarrow$ push

Stack = [0,1,2,3,4]

Now top = 4 \rightarrow heights[4] = 50

i = 5 \rightarrow height = 0

Now $0 < \text{heights}[\text{top}] = 50 \rightarrow$ so we start popping.

First pop

- Pop index 4
- height = heights[4] = 50
- Now top becomes 3

- Width = $i - \text{top} - 1 = 5 - 3 - 1 = 1$
 - Area = $50 \times 1 = 50$
-

Second pop

- Pop index 3
 - height = heights[3] = 40
 - Now top becomes 2
 - Width = $i - \text{top} - 1 = 5 - 2 - 1 = 2$
 - Area = $40 \times 2 = 80$
-

Third pop

- Pop index 2
 - height = heights[2] = 30
 - Now top becomes 1
 - Width = $i - \text{top} - 1 = 5 - 1 - 1 = 3$
 - Area = $30 \times 3 = 90$
-

Fourth pop

- Pop index 1
 - height = heights[1] = 20
 - Now top becomes 0
 - Width = $5 - 0 - 1 = 4$
 - Area = $20 \times 4 = 80$
-

Fifth pop

- Pop index 0
 - height = heights[0] = 10
 - Stack is now empty \rightarrow width = $i = 5$
 - Area = $10 \times 5 = 50$
-

Finally push `i=5`
Stack = `[5]`

MAX AREA FOUND = 90

Key idea about top:

- top is always `stack[-1]` , the most recent bar that hasn't been closed yet.
 - If the current bar is shorter than top, it closes the rectangle for that top bar.
 - While popping:
 - height = popped bar height
 - width = current index `i` - new top after popping - 1
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Would you like me to:

1. Draw a simple diagram showing bars and stack visually after each step?
2. Or use an even simpler example `[2,1,2]` so the width idea is clearer?

