

Stack

Applications of Stack

1. Reversing a list
2. Decimal to Binary Conversion
3. Parentheses matching
4. Expression evaluation
 - a. Infix to postfix conversion
 - b. Postfix expression evaluation

Evaluation of expressions

An arithmetic expression can be represented in three different forms:

1. Infix

The operator comes between the operands, e.g. $a+b$

2. Postfix

The operator comes after the operands, e.g. $ab+$

3. Prefix

The operator comes before the operands, e.g. $-ab$

An arithmetic expression in the infix form may contain parentheses whereas postfix and prefix forms are parenthesis-free.

Evaluation of expressions

Infix expressions cannot be directly evaluated. They must be analyzed to determine the order in which expressions are to be evaluated.

For example, in the expression $a + b / (c - d) * e$, the order of evaluation would be

- i. $(c - d)$ must be evaluated first; let's say the result is r_{cd} .
- ii. b / r_{cd} must be evaluated next; let's say the result is r_{bcd} .
- iii. Then $r_{bcd} * e$ must be evaluated; let's say the result is r_{bcde} .
- iv. Finally, $a + r_{bcde}$ must be evaluated

Compilers typically use postfix notation, which is parenthesis-free.

Operator Precedence

Within any programming language, there is a precedence hierarchy that determines the order in which operators are evaluated.

Operators with the highest precedence are evaluated first.

Precedence	Operator	Description	Associativity
1	::	Scope resolution	Left-to-right
2	a++ a-- type() type{} a() a[] . ->	Suffix/postfix increment and decrement Functional cast Function call Subscript Member access	Right-to-left
3	++a --a +a -a ! ~ (type) *a &a sizeof co_await new new[] delete delete[]	Prefix increment and decrement Unary plus and minus Logical NOT and bitwise NOT C-style cast Indirection (dereference) Address-of Size-of ^[note 1] await-expression (C++20) Dynamic memory allocation Dynamic memory deallocation	Right-to-left
4	.* ->*	Pointer-to-member	Left-to-right
5	a*b a/b a%b	Multiplication, division, and remainder	
6	a+b a-b	Addition and subtraction	
7	<< >>	Bitwise left shift and right shift	
8	<=>	Three-way comparison operator (since C++20)	
9	< <= > >=	For relational operators < and ≤ respectively For relational operators > and ≥ respectively	
10	== !=	For equality operators = and ≠ respectively	
11	&	Bitwise AND	
12	^	Bitwise XOR (exclusive or)	
13		Bitwise OR (inclusive or)	
14	&&	Logical AND	
15		Logical OR	
16	a?b:c throw co_yield = += -= *= /= %= <<= >>= &= ^= =	Ternary conditional ^[note 2] throw operator yield-expression (C++20) Direct assignment (provided by default for C++ classes) Compound assignment by sum and difference Compound assignment by product, quotient, and remainder Compound assignment by bitwise left shift and right shift Compound assignment by bitwise AND, XOR, and OR	Right-to-left
17	,	Comma	Left-to-right

Associativity

When an expression contains two or more operators at the same level of precedence, the associativity of the operators determines the order in which operations are performed.

An operator is said to be **left associative** if it groups from left to right.

All binary arithmetic operators are left associative. Thus, $i - j + k - l$ is equivalent to $((i - j) + k) - l$

Precedence	Operator	Description	Associativity
1	::	Scope resolution	Left-to-right
2	a++ a--	Suffix/postfix increment and decrement	
	type() type{}	Functional cast	
	a()	Function call	
	a[]	Subscript	
3	. ->	Member access	Right-to-left
	++a --a	Prefix increment and decrement	
	+a -a	Unary plus and minus	
	! ~	Logical NOT and bitwise NOT	
	(type)	C-style cast	
	*a	Indirection (dereference)	
	&a	Address-of	
	sizeof	Size-of ^[note 1]	
	co_await	await-expression (C++20)	
	new new[]	Dynamic memory allocation	
	delete delete[]	Dynamic memory deallocation	
4	.* ->*	Pointer-to-member	Left-to-right
5	a*b a/b a%b	Multiplication, division, and remainder	
6	a+b a-b	Addition and subtraction	
7	<< >>	Bitwise left shift and right shift	
8	<=>	Three-way comparison operator (since C++20)	
9	< <=	For relational operators < and ≤ respectively	
	> >=	For relational operators > and ≥ respectively	
10	== !=	For equality operators = and ≠ respectively	
11	&	Bitwise AND	
12	^	Bitwise XOR (exclusive or)	
13		Bitwise OR (inclusive or)	
14	&&	Logical AND	Right-to-left
15		Logical OR	
16	a?b:c	Ternary conditional ^[note 2]	
	throw	throw operator	
	co_yield	yield-expression (C++20)	
	=	Direct assignment (provided by default for C++ classes)	
	+= -=	Compound assignment by sum and difference	
	*= /= %=	Compound assignment by product, quotient, and remainder	
	<<= >>=	Compound assignment by bitwise left shift and right shift	
17	&= ^= =	Compound assignment by bitwise AND, XOR, and OR	
	,	Comma	Left-to-right

Infix to Postfix conversion using stack

Algorithm: Infix to Postfix conversion

Input: An infix expression, exp

Output: exp in postfix form

Steps:

1. Initialize a stack

Infix to Postfix conversion using stack (Contd.)

2. For each character c in exp
 - 2.1. If c is an operand, concatenate c to the postfix expression
 - 2.2. Else if c is an open parenthesis, push it into the stack
 - 2.3. Else if c is a closed parenthesis,
 - 2.3.1. Repeat
 - 2.3.1.1. pop the stack and concatenate the popped character to the postfix expression
 - 2.3.2. until an open parenthesis is encountered
 - 2.4. Else
 - 2.4.1. While the stack is not empty and precedence of c is less than or equal to that of the top (and the top at the stack is not an open parenthesis)
 - 2.4.1.1. Pop the stack and concatenate the popped operator to the postfix expression
 - 2.4.2. End while
 - 2.4.3. Push c
 - 2.5. End if
3. End for

Infix to Postfix conversion using stack (Contd.)

3. While the stack is not empty
 - 3.1. Pop the stack and concatenate the popped operator to the postfix expression
4. End while
5. Return the postfix expression

Infix to Postfix conversion: Example

Convert $A + B * C$ to postfix

Token	Stack content	Postfix expression	Algorithm step
A	{ }	A	2.1

Infix to Postfix conversion: Example

Convert $A + B * C$ to postfix

Token	Stack content	Postfix expression	Algorithm step
A	{}	A	2.1
+	{+}	A	2.4.3

Infix to Postfix conversion: Example

Convert $A + B * C$ to postfix

Token	Stack content	Postfix expression	Algorithm step
A	{}	A	2.1
+	{+}	A	2.4.3
B	{+}	AB	2.1

Infix to Postfix conversion: Example

Convert $A + B * C$ to postfix

Token	Stack content	Postfix expression	Algorithm step
A	{}	A	2.1
+	{+}	A	2.4.3
B	{+}	AB	2.1
*	{+, *}	AB	2.4.3
C	{+, *}	ABC	2.1
	{+}	ABC*	3.1
	{}	ABC*+	3.1

Example: Convert $A * (B + C) / (D + E - F)$ to postfix

Token	Stack content	Postfix expression	Algorithm step
A	{}	A	2.1
*	{*}	A	2.4.3
({*, (}	A	2.2
B	{*, (}	AB	2.1
+	{*, (, +}	AB	2.4.3
C	{*, (, +}	ABC	2.1
)	{*}	ABC+	2.3
/	{/}	ABC+*	2.4.1.1, 2.4.3

Example: Convert $A * (B + C) / (D + E - F)$ to postfix

Token	Stack content	Postfix expression	Algorithm step
A	{}	A	2.1
*	{*}	A	2.4.3
({*, (}	A	2.2
B	{*, (}	AB	2.1
+	{*, (, +}	AB	2.4.3
C	{*, (, +}	ABC	2.1
)	{*}	ABC+	2.3
/	{/}	ABC+*	2.4.1.1, 2.4.3

Token	Stack content	Postfix expression	Algorithm step
({/, (}	ABC+*	2.2
D	{/, (}	ABC+*D	2.1
+	{/, (, +}	ABC+*D	2.4.3
E	{/, (, +}	ABC+*DE	2.1
-	{/, (, -}	ABC+*DE+	2.4.1.1, 2.4.3
F	{/, (, -}	ABC+*DE+F	2.1
)	{/}	ABC+*DE+F-	2.3
	{}	ABC+*DE+F-/	3.1

Infix to Postfix conversion: Exercise

Convert the following infix expression to postfix:

$$(A + B - C / D) * E + (F - G) / H$$

Evaluating postfix expressions

The main idea is to

- Read the tokens one-by-one from left to right,
- Push the token into the stack if it is an operand; if it is an operator, pop two operands from the stack and perform the operation, then push the result into the stack.
- Continue until all tokens are considered.

The result of the expression will be the content of the stack.

Evaluating postfix expressions: Algorithm steps

1. Initialize a stack
2. For each token t in the postfix expression
 - 2.1. If t is an operand, push it into the stack
 - 2.2. Else
 - 2.2.1. Operand2 = pop from the stack
 - 2.2.2. Operand1 = pop from the stack
 - 2.2.3. Operator = t
 - 2.2.4. Result = evaluated the expression Operator1 Operator Operand2
 - 2.2.5. Push the result into the stack
 - 2.3. End if
3. End for
4. Result = Pop from the stack
5. Return Result

Example: Evaluate the postfix expression $2\ 3\ 4\ * \ +$

Token	Stack content	Operation	Algorithm step
2	{2}		2.1

Example: Evaluate the postfix expression $2\ 3\ 4\ *\ +$

Token	Stack content	Operation	Algorithm step
2	{2}		2.1
3	{2, 3}		2.1
4	{2, 3, 4}		2.1
*	{2, 12}	Operand2 = 4 Operand1 = 3 Result = $3 * 4 = 12$	2.2

Example: Evaluate the postfix expression $2\ 3\ 4\ *\ +$

Token	Stack content	Operation	Algorithm step
2	{2}		2.1
3	{2, 3}		2.1
4	{2, 3, 4}		2.1
*	{2, 12}	Operand2 = 4 Operand1 = 3 Result = $3 * 4 = 12$	2.2
+	{14}	Operand2 = 12 Operand1 = 2 Result = $2 + 12$	2.2

Value of $2\ 3\ 4\ *\ + = 14$

Evaluating postfix expressions: Exercise

Evaluate the following postfix expression: $ABC+*DE+F-/$

Where $A = 2$, $B = F = 1$, $C = 3$, $D = 5$, $E = 4$.

Stack ADT

ADT Stack is

Objects: a finite ordered list with zero or more elements

Functions:

For all $stack \in \text{Stack}$, $item \in \text{element}$, $maxStackSize \in \text{positive integer}$

Stack CreateS(maxStackSize) :=

Create an empty stack whose maximum size is maxStackSize

Boolean isFull(stack, maxStackSize) :=

if (number of elements in stack == maxStackSize) return TRUE

else return FALSE

Stack Push(stack, item) :=

if (IsFull(stack)) stackFull

else insert item into top of stack and return

Boolean isEmpty(stack) :=

if (stack == CreateS(maxStackSize)) return TRUE

else return FALSE

Element Pop(stack) :=

if (IsEmpty(stack)) return

else remove and return the element at the top of the stack

Stack ADT (as an interface class in C++)

```
class Stack {  
public:  
    virtual ~Stack() {}  
  
    virtual bool isEmpty() const = 0;  
    virtual bool isFull() const = 0;  
  
    virtual bool push(const int element) =0;  
    virtual bool pop(int &element) = 0;  
    virtual bool top(int &element) const = 0;  
};
```

Stack ADT (as an abstract class in C++)

```
class Stack
{
public:
    virtual ~Stack() {}

    virtual bool isEmpty() const = 0;
    virtual bool isFull() const = 0;
    virtual bool push(const int element) {
        if(!isFull()) {
            return _push(element);
        } else {
            return false;
        }
    }

    virtual bool _push(const int element) = 0;
```

```
    virtual bool pop(int &element) {
        if(!isEmpty()) {
            return _pop(element);
        } else {
            return false;
        }
    }

    virtual bool _pop(int &element) = 0;
    virtual bool top(int &element) const {
        if(!isEmpty()) {
            return _top(element);
        } else {
            return false;
        }
    }

    virtual bool _top(int &element) const =
0;
};
```

Implementation of a stack

1. Array implementation
2. Linked list implementation (will be covered later)

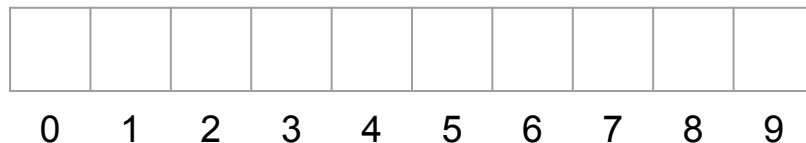
Array-based Stack

- The Stack ADT can be implemented using an array.
- To create a stack, we initialize an array of `maxStackSize`.

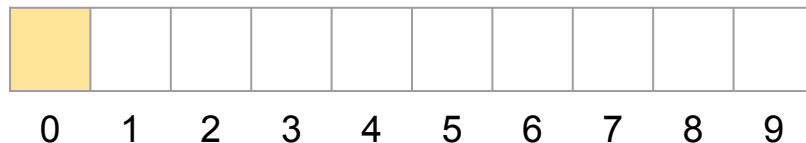


Array-based Stack

- The Stack ADT can be implemented using an array.
- To create a stack, we initialize an array of `maxStackSize`.
- We add elements from left to right (i.e. starting from index 0).

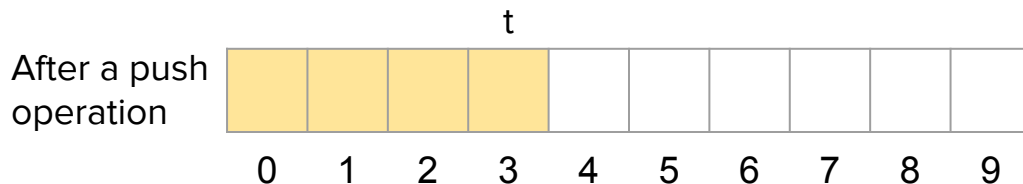
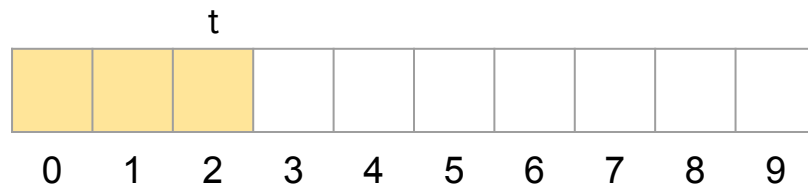


After a push operation



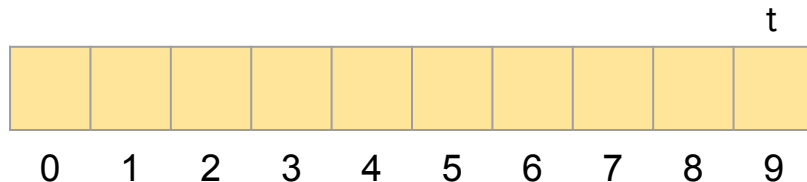
Array-based Stack

- The Stack ADT can be implemented using an array.
- To create a stack, we initialize an array of `maxStackSize`.
- We add elements from left to right (i.e. starting from index 0).
- We use a variable to keep track of the index of the top element.



Array-based Stack

- The Stack ADT can be implemented using an array.
- To create a stack, we initialize an array of `maxStackSize`.
- We add elements from left to right (i.e. starting from index 0).
- We use a variable to keep track of the index of the top element.
- The array may become full.



`t == maxStackSize - 1`

Array-based Stack (in C++)

```
class ArrayStack : public Stack {
private:
    int *data;
    int topIndex;
    int maxStackSize;

public:
    /* Initialize a stack */
    ArrayStack(int maxStackSize);

    ~ArrayStack() { delete[] data; }

    /* Check if the stack is empty */
    bool isEmpty() const;

    /* Check if the stack is full */
    bool isFull() const;

    /* Push an element to the top of the stack */
    bool push(const int element);

    /* Pop the element at the top of the stack */
    bool pop(int &element);

    /* Copy the element at the top of the stack */
    bool top(int &element) const;
};
```


Array-based Stack (in C++)

```
/* Initialize a stack */
ArrayStack::ArrayStack(int size)
    : maxStackSize(size),
      topIndex(-1),
      data(new int[size])
{}

```

```
/* Initialize a stack */
bool ArrayStack::isEmpty() const
{
    return topIndex < 0;
}

```

```
/* Check if the stack is full */
bool ArrayStack::isFull() const
{
    return topIndex == maxStackSize - 1;
}

```

```
/* Push an element to the top of the stack */
bool ArrayStack::push(const int element) {
    if(!isFull()) {
        data[++topIndex] = element;
        return true;
    } else {
        std::cout << "Stack is full!\n";
        return false;
    }
}

```

Array-based Stack (in C++)

```
/* Pop the element at the top of the stack */
bool ArrayStack::pop(int &element) {
    if(!isEmpty()) {
        element = data[topIndex--];
        return true;
    } else {
        std::cout << "Stack is empty!\n";
        return false;
    }
}
```

```
/* Copy the element at the top of the stack */
bool ArrayStack::top(int &element) const {
    if(!isEmpty()) {
        element = data[topIndex];
        return true;
    } else {
        std::cout << "Stack is empty!\n";
        return false;
    }
}
```

Performance and Limitations

Performance

- Each operation runs in time $O(1)$

Limitations

- The maximum size of the stack must be defined a priori.