CSC 212: Data Structures and Abstractions Stacks

Prof. Marco Alvarez

Department of Computer Science and Statistics University of Rhode Island

Spring 2025



Quick detour (C++)

Templates

• How to modify the code to support adding floats, or other data types?

```
#include <iostream>
int add_int(int a, int b) {
    return a + b;
}

double add_double(double a, double b) {
    return a + b;
}

int main() {
    std::cout << "Sum (int): " << add_int(5, 3) << "\n";
    std::cout << "Sum (double): " << add_double(2.5, 1.7) << "\n";
    return 0;
}</pre>
```

Templates

```
#include <iostream>
template <typename T>
T add(T a, T b) {
    return a + b;
}
int main() {
    std::cout << "Sum (int): " << add<int>(5, 3) << "\n";
    std::cout << "Sum (double): " << add<double>(2.5, 1.7) << "\n";
    return 0;
}

Template functions/classes allow writing generic code that can work with different data types without the need to write separate code for each type. The compiler generates the appropriate instantiation based on the data type specified to the function/class.</pre>
```

Important C++ topics to review

- Memory model and pointers
- Dynamic memory allocation
- Classes and objects
- References
- Templates
- STL containers

Stacks

Stacks and queues

- Fundamental data structures used to store and manage **collections** of elements
 - ✓ provide a way to organize and manipulate data in a specific order
 - used in various applications, including algorithm design, data processing, and system design
 - better to define stacks and queues separately than using existing vectors/ arrays/lists (clarity, error-prevention, efficiently)
- Available in many programming languages and libraries
 - in C++ std::stack and std::queue are the standard library
 implementations of stacks and queues, respectively
 - in Python, the collections module provides deque (more efficient than lists), which can be used as a stack or a queue
 - in Java, the java.util package provides Stack and Queue interfaces, as well as implementations such as ArrayDeque and LinkedList

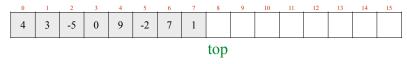
Stacks

- · Last-in-first-out
 - ✓ a **stack** is a linear data structure that follows the (LIFO) principle
 - the last element added to the stack is the first one to be removed
- Main operations
 - Push: add an element to the top of the stack
 - Pop: remove the element from the top of the stack
- Applications
 - expression evaluation, backtracking algorithms, undo mechanisms in applications, browser history navigation, etc.



Implementation

- Using arrays
 - ✓ push and pop at the end of the array (easier and efficient)
 - ✓ array can be fixed-length or a dynamic array (additional cost)
- Considerations
 - ✓ underflow: throw an error when calling pop on an empty stack
 - ✓ overflow: throw an error when calling push on a full stack



https://www.cs.usfca.edu/~galles/visualization/StackArray.html

```
Stack::Stack(int len) {
    lenath = len:
    array = new int[length];
    top = 0:
Stack::~Stack() {
    delete [] array;
void Stack::push(int value) {
    if (top == length) {
        throw std::out of range("Stack is full");
        array[top] = value;
        top ++;
int Stack::pop() {
    if (top == 0) {
        throw std::out_of_range("Stack is empty");
   } else {
        top --;
        return array[top];
```

```
// class implementing a Stack of integers
// fixed-length array (not a dynamic array)
class Stack {
    private:
        // array to store stack elements
        int *array;
        // maximum number of elements stack can hold
        int length;
        // current number of elements in stack
        int top;
    public:
        Stack(int):
        ~Stack();
        // pushes an element onto the stack
        void push(int);
        // returns/removes the top element from the stack
        int pop();
};
```

Using templates

```
template <typename T>
class Stack {
                                 class Stack {
    private:
                                     private:
       int *array;
                                         T *array;
       int length;
                                         size t length;
       int top;
                                         size t top;
    public:
                                     public:
        Stack(int):
                                         Stack(size t);
        ~Stack();
                                         ~Stack();
       void push(int);
                                         void push(T);
       void pop();
                                         void pop();
       int peek();
                                         T peek();
};
                                };
```

Practice

• What is the output of this code?

```
Stack<int> s1, s2;

s1.push(100);
s2.push(s1.pop());
s1.push(200);
s1.push(300);
s2.push(s1.pop());
s2.push(s1.pop());
s1.push(s2.pop());
s1.push(s2.pop());
while (!s1.empty()) {
    std::cout << s1.pop() << std::endl;
}
while (!s2.empty()) {
    std::cout << s2.pop() << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

Example application

- Fully parenthesized infix expressions
 - infix arithmetic expression where every operator and its arguments are contained in parentheses
 - infix arithmetic expressions: operators are placed between two operands
 - operator precedence and associativity don't matter
 - every operation is explicitly enclosed in parentheses
- Consider an algorithm for evaluating fully parenthesized infix expressions

$$((5 + ((10 - 4) * (3 + 2))) + 25)$$

14

Algorithm

- Create two stacks (for values and operators)
- Process the string from left to right
 - ✓ if left parenthesis, ignore
 - ✓ if value, push onto values stack
 - ✓ if operator, push onto operators stack
 - ✓ if right parenthesis:
 - pop operator and two values
 - apply operator to those values in the order they are popped
 - push result back onto values stack

Practice

• Trace the 2-stack algorithm with the following expression

$$((5 + ((10 - 4) * (3 + 2))) + 25)$$

Practice

• Design an algorithm using a single stack to verify if the following code has <u>balanced parenthesis</u> or not

consider the following characters as parenthesis: (), {}, []

```
int foo(int x) { return (x > 0 ? new int[x]{x}[0] : x * (2)); }
```

17