

# Stacks

The basic stack problems

Identification

- ① Whenever we have a inner loop  $j$  that is dependent on  $i$ ; we can think of using stacks.

## # 1) Parenthesis Balance

Code

bool is Valid (string x)

for ( $j = i + 1; j < n; j++$ )

like

stack <char> stck;

for (int  $i = 0; i < x.length(); i++$ )

if ( $x[i] == '(' || x[i] == '{' || x[i] == '[')$

stck.push( $x[i]$ )

else if ( $x[i] == ')' || x[i] == '}' || x[i] == ']')$

if (stck.empty() ||

(stck.top() == '(' &&  $x[i] == ')' || x[i] == ']' )$

|| (stck.top() == '{' &&  $x[i] == '}' || x[i] == ']' )$

|| (stck.top() == '[' &&  $x[i] == ']' || x[i] == '}' ))$

between, false;

: (i) push stck

stck.pop();

((i) push stck

((i) == (i))

$\{ \} = \{ \} \neq \{ \}$

between stck.empty();

|| After iterating

the exp.

if stack is empty  
then true;

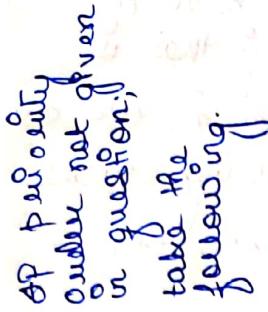
((i) == 0) get stck

((i) != 0) push stck

((i) == 0) push stck

((i) != 0) push stck

## #2) Infix to Postfix Conversion



Rule:- 1) Operator of lower precedence can't be pushed over operator of higher precedence.  
Vice versa can happen

2) \* If ')' encountered; pop all operators from stack and push to string until '(' comes.

### Code

```

int precedence(char x) {
    if (x == '^') return 3;
    else if (x == '*' || x == '/') return 2;
    else if (x == '+' || x == '-') return 1;
    else return 0;
}
  
```

```

string infix_to_postfix(string s) {
    stack<char> stck;
    string res;
    for (int i = 0; i < s.length(); i++) {
        if ((s[i] >= 'a' && s[i] <= 'z') || (s[i] >= 'A' && s[i] <= 'Z'))
            stck.push(s[i]);
        else if (s[i] == '(')
            stck.push(s[i]);
        else if (s[i] == ')')
            while (!stck.empty() && stck.top() != '(')
                stck.pop();
    }
}
  
```

```

while (!stck.empty())
    char x = stck.top();
    stck.pop();
    res += x;
}

if (stck.top() == '(')
    stck.pop();
}
  
```

else {

// Operators '\*' '+', etc.

if

while (!stk.empty() && precedence(s[i]) <= precedence(stk.top()))

char x = stk.top()

stk.pop();

res += x;

}

stk.push(s[i]); // Precedence higher so pushed.

}

} // End of for loop;

while (!stk.empty()) {

char x = stk.top()

stk.pop();

res += x;

}

return res;

}

### #3) Evaluate Postfix expression

Code

int evaluatePostfix(string s).

stack<int> stk;

for (int i=0; i < s.length(); i++) {

if (isdigit(s[i]))

stk.push(int(s[i]) - 48) // ASCII of 0 - 9

a/b.

a+b

else { // For Operator

Postfix:

ab/ ; ab+

int val1 = stk.top(); // Immediate top

stk.pop();

int val2 = stk.top(); // Second.

stk.pop();

switch (s[i]) {

b  
a

So it  
always

second popped  
(val 2) / (val 1)

case '+': stk.push(val2 + val1); break;

case '-': stk.push(val2 - val1); break;

case '\*': stk.push(val2 \* val1); break;

case '/': stk.push(val2 / val1); break;

}

.

3

return stk.top();

{

last to first

For prefix evaluation:- for (i=s.length-1; i>=0; i--)

for operations.

val1 + val2;

val1 - val2;

val1 \* val2;

val1 / val2;

#### 4) longest Valid Parenthesis (LeetCode)

Approach 3.

Code

```
int longest(string st) {  
    stack<int> stck;  
    int count = 0;  
    stck.push(-1);  
    for (int i = 0; i < st.length(); i++) {  
        if (st[i] == '(')  
            stck.push(i);  
        else {  
            stck.pop();  
            if (stck.empty())  
                stck.push(i);  
            else  
                count = max(count, i - stck.top());  
        }  
    }  
    return count;  
}
```

Algorithm

- ① For every '(' push its index
- ② For every ')' encountered, we pop the top most element and subtract current current index from top element, and store the maximum.

After popping stck becomes empty, push its index to the stack.

## #5) Simplify Directory path (Leet Code)

Input: /a/./b/../.c/.

Output: /c.

(.) represents current directory [Do nothing].

(..) go to parent directory ie, previous directory from now. [pop; so we are now in 2nd last directory]

output the simplified path;

Add '/' to each.

### Code (Python)

```
exp = input()
```

```
x = exp.split("/")
```

```
stk = []
```

```
for i in range(len(x)):
```

if (x[i] >= 'a' and x[i] <= 'z') or (x[i] >= 'A' and x[i] <= 'Z')

```
    stk.append(x[i])
```

elif (x[i] == "."):

```
    continue
```

elif (x[i] == ".."):

```
    if len(stk) != 0:
```

```
        stk.pop()
```

```
else:
```

```
    continue
```

```
res = ""
```

```
for i in stk:
```

```
    res = res + "/" + i
```

```
print(res)
```

## #6) Mass of Molecules

$$\text{OIP} = (\text{COOH})_2$$

$$\text{OIP} = 90$$

C, O, H are only symbols.

### Code

```
long long m - mass (& returning ex){  
    stack <int> stck;  
    for (int i = 0; i < ex.length(); i++) {  
        if (ex[i] == 'C') stck.push(12);  
        else if (ex[i] == 'O') stck.push(16);  
        else if (ex[i] == 'H') stck.push(1);  
        else if (ex[i] == 'C') stck.push('C');  
        else if (ex[i] == ')') {  
            int int_mass = 0;  
            while (!stck.empty() && stck.top() != 'C') {  
                int_mass += stck.top();  
                stck.pop();  
            }  
            if (stck.top() == 'C')  
                stck.pop();  
            stck.push(int_mass);  
        }  
        else if (isdigit(ex[i])) {  
            for (int i = 0; i < int(ex[i]) - '0' - 1; i++)  
                stck.push(stck.top());  
        }  
    }  
    long long mass = 0;  
    while (!stck.empty()) {  
        mass += stck.top();  
        stck.pop();  
    }  
    return mass;  
}
```

## #B7) Check for Redundant Brackets

(Algorithm GfG)

### Code

bool check\_redundancy (string s)

stack <char> stck;

for (int i=0; i < s.length(); i++) {  
 if (s[i] == ')') {  
 if (stck.size() > 0 && stck.top() == '(') {  
 stck.pop();  
 } else {  
 return true;  
 }
 }
}

char x = stck.top();

stck.pop();

bool flag = true; i++;

while (x != 'C') {

if (x == '+' || x == '-' || x == '\*' || x == '/') {  
 flag = false;  
 }
}

if ('C' == i) {  
 x = stck.top();  
 stck.pop();
}

if (flag) {  
 return true;
}

else {  
 stck.push(s[i]);  
}
}

Within closing braces there

has to be an operator

for it to be non-

redundant.

return false

}

- 8) Given no. of opening and closing brackets '{' & '}' find out minimum number of reversals to make expression balanced;

Algorithm

balanced

- 1) Remove the valid parenthesis part from the expression.
- 2) Now, we have 0 or more closing brackets (grp together) followed by 0 or more opening brackets (grp together).

{ m times } n times.

$$\text{Result} = \text{ceil}(m/2) + \text{ceil}(n/2)$$

int numberOfReversals(string exp)

int len = exp.length();

if (len % 2 != 0) return -1; // odd length can't be balanced

Stack<char> stck;

for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {

if (exp[i] == '{' && !stck.empty()) {

if (stck.top() == 'C')

stck.pop();

else

stck.push('{');

} else

stck.push(exp[i]);

int count\_open = 0;

while (!stck.empty() && stck.top() == 'C') {

stck.pop();

count += open++

int count\_close = stck.size(); // remaining close braces.

return (ceil(count\_open / 2.0) + ceil(count\_close / 2.0));

\*#3) Standard <sup>for</sup> of <sup>for</sup> where you are writing  
 #9) Nearest Greater to the Right.

I/P : 1 3 2 4  
 O/P : 3 4 4 -1

### Code

```

vector<long long> nextLargerElement(vector<long long> arr, int n)
{
    stack<long long> stck;
    vector<long long> res;

    for(int i=n-1; i>=0; i--) { // Iterate from end of array. Finally reverse the result.
        if(stck.empty())
            res.push_back(-1);
        else if(!stck.empty() && stck.top() > arr[i])
            res.push_back(stck.top());
        else if(!stck.empty() && stck.top() <= arr[i])
            while(!stck.empty() && stck.top() <= arr[i])
                stck.pop();
            if(stck.empty())
                res.push_back(-1);
            else
                res.push_back(stck.top());
    }
    res.push_back(arr[i]);
    reverse(res.begin(), res.end());
    return res;
}
  
```

// For Nearest Greater to the left.

- ① for(<sup>int</sup> i=0; i<n; i++)
- ② Reversing the O/P not needed

} Only changes.

## # 10) Nearest Smaller on the left

I/P - 1 5 0 3 4 5  
 O/P - -1 1 -1 0 3 4

### Code

```
vector<int> leftSmaller(int n, int arr) {
    vector<int> res;
    stack<int> stck;
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        if (!stck.empty())
            res.push_back(-1);
        else if (!stck.empty() && stck.top() < arr[i])
            res.push_back(stck.top());
        else if (!stck.empty() && stck.top() >= arr[i])
            while (!stck.empty() && stck.top() >= arr[i])
                stck.pop();
        if (stck.empty())
            res.push_back(-1);
        else
            res.push_back(stck.top());
    }
    return res;
}
```

II for nearest Greater Smaller to the right.

- ① for (int i = n-1; i >= 0; i--) } Only changes.
- ② Reversing the O/P - ✓

## # 11) Stock Span Problem

The Span  $S_i$  of the stock's price on a given day  $i$  is defined as the max. number of consecutive days just before the given day for which the price of the stock on the current day is less than equal to price on day  $i$ .

I/P = {100, 80, 60, 70, 60, 75, 85} O/P = 1 1 1 2 1 4 6.

So here, we need to find O/P no. of days  
we need to find the nearest left greater and store its index with it.

$\text{O/P}_i = \text{index}(i) - \text{index of nearest greater}$   
~~(to left)~~

Code

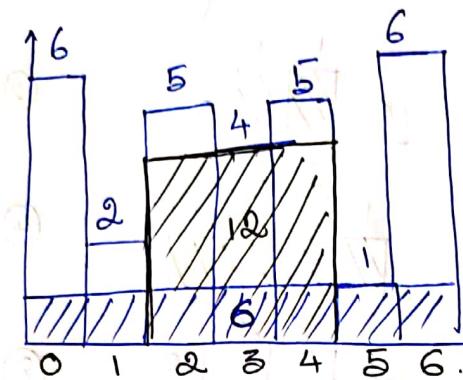
```
vector<int> span(Cint* price, int n){  
    vector<int> res;  
    stack<pair<int, int>> stck; // for storing left nearest  
    for(Cint i=0; i<n; i++){  
        if(stck.empty())  
            res.push_back(-1);  
        else if(!stck.empty() && stck.top().first > price[i])  
            res.push_back(stck.top().second);  
        else if(!stck.empty() && stck.top().first <= price[i])  
            while(true)  
                stck.pop();  
        if(stck.empty())  
            res.push_back(-1);  
        else  
            res.push_back(stck.top().second);  
    }  
    stck.push({price[n], n});  
    for(Cint i=0; i<n; i++)  
        res[i] = i - res[i]; // stores the span  
    return res;
```

## \*\*\* # 12) Maximum area Histogram

$$\Sigma P = \{6, 2, 5, 4, 5, 1, 6\}$$

$$\Omega P = 12.$$

Width of each bar = 1 unit.



Width of rectangular area

$$= (\text{Index of NSL} - \text{Index of NSR} - 1)$$

$$\text{Area} = (\text{Index of NSL} - \text{Index of NSR} - 1) * \text{height}[i]$$

Nearest Left      Nearest Right  
Smaller              Smaller

Code

(MAH)

long long maxArea (long long \*height, int n) {

vector<int> left; right;

left = NSL(height, n); // same code no element (-1)

right = NSR(height, n); // No element push pseudoindex (n).

vector<long long> width; // Do not push (-1)  
Push (n)

for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {

long long w = right[i] - left[i] - 1;

width.push\_back(w);

}

vector<long long> area;

for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {

long long ar = width[i] \* height[i];

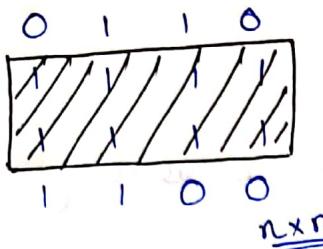
area.push\_back(ar);

}

return \*max\_element(area.begin(), area.end());

\*\*\*\*

### 13) Maximum Area of Rectangle in a Binary Matrix

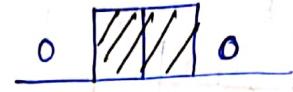


As we keep on getting (1) add to height of histogram.

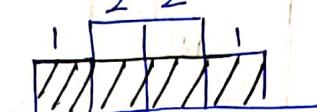
As soon as 0 is encountered; height of histogram is made 0.  
(Cannot float)

We convert each row into a histogram.

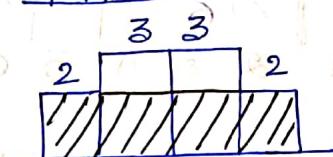
Level 1:



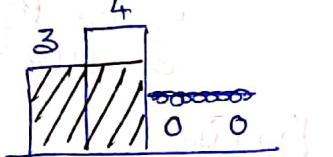
Level 2:



Level 3:



Level 4:



O/P  
 $= 8$

②

④

⑧

⑥

3rd step Max. area Histogram.

For each level call MAH function

Code

vector<int> maxArea(int \*\*mat, int n, int m) {

vector<int> v;

```

for (int j = 0; j < m; j++) {
    if (mat[0][j] == 1) v.push_back(1);
    else v.push_back(0);
}

```

int max = MAH(v);

for (int i = 1; i < n; i++) {

for (int j = 0; j < m; j++) {

if (mat[i][j] == 1)

v[j] = v[j] + mat[i][j];

else v[j] = 0;

}

max = max(max, MAH(v));

> } return max;

## \* \* \* 14) Celebrity Problem

Defined as; a person who does not know any one but everyone knows him.

Algorithm: Method of elimination followed

0	1	0
0	X	0
0	1	0

1) Push all IDs in the stack.

2) Pop top 2 elements till (stack.size() ≥ 2)

and check each.  
3) Find potential.

Run a final check over the pot's row and col.

Code

```
int celebrity (vector<vector<int>> &M, int n) {
```

```
    stack<int> stck;
```

```
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
```

```
        stck.push(i);
```

```
    while (stck.size() ≥ 2) {
```

```
        int A = stck.top(); stck.pop();
```

```
        int B = stck.top(); stck.pop();
```

```
        if (M[A][B] == 1)
```

// If A knows B; A is not a celebrity (B can be  
stck.push(B));

```
else
```

// If A doesn't B; B is not a celebrity  
stck.push(A);

}

```
int pot = stck.top(); // Only the potential candidate  
stck.pop(); // is left in the stack now.
```

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) // Stop 3 of algo
```

```
if (i != pot) { // If i == pot will always be 0
```

```
if (M[i][pot] == 0 || M[pot][i] == 1)
```

// If i does not know potential (pot not celeb)

// If pot knows i (pot not celeb)

```
return -1; // No celeb. found.
```

}

{ return pot;

}