



- Infix to Postfix Conversion
 - □ Not only can a **stack** be used <u>to evaluate a postfix expression!</u>
 - □ The **stack** can also be used to convert an expression in standard form (**infix**) into **postfix**.
 - □ Suppose that we have only the **operators** +, *, (, and), and insisting on the usual precedence rules.
 - ☐ Suppose we want to convert the **infix expression**

into postfix.

□ A correct answer is

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Applications of the Stacks



Infix to Postfix Conversion

a + b * c + (d * e + f) * g into a b c * + d e * f + g * +

Algorithm:

- □ When an **operand** is read, it is immediately placed onto the output.
- □ **Operators** and (are not immediately output, so they must be saved onto the **stack**.
- □ If we see a), then we pop the stack, writing symbols until we encounter a (corresponding) (, which is popped but not output.
- □ If we see any other symbol +, *, (, then we pop entries from the stack until we find an entry of lower priority. One exception is that we never remove a (from the stack except when processing a). For the purposes of this operation, + has lowest priority and (highest.
- □ When the popping is done, we push the operator onto the stack.
- ☐ Finally, if we read the end of input, we pop the stack until it is empty, writing symbols onto the output.



Infix to Postfix Conversion

Stack

■ Example:

Next a * is read. The top entry on the operator stack has lower precedence than * , so nothing is output and * is put on the stack.

Output

Applications of the Stacks



- Infix to Postfix Conversion
- Example:





- Infix to Postfix Conversion
 - □ Example:



a b c Output

The next symbol is a +. Checking the stack, we find that we will pop a * and place it on the output; pop the other +, which is not of *lower* but equal priority, on the stack; and then push the +.



a b c * +
Output

Applications of the Stacks



Infix to Postfix Conversion



a b c * +

The next symbol read is a (, which, being of highest precedence, is placed on the stack. Then ${\bf d}$ is read and output.



a b c * + d

We continue by reading a * . Since open parentheses do not get removed except when a closed parenthesis is being processed, there is no output. Next, e is read and output.



- Infix to Postfix Conversion
 - Example:



a b c * +
Output

The next symbol read is a (, which, being of highest precedence, is placed on the stack. Then d is read and output.



a b c * + d
Output

We continue by reading a *. Since open parentheses do not get removed except when a closed parenthesis is being processed, there is no output. Next, e is read and output.

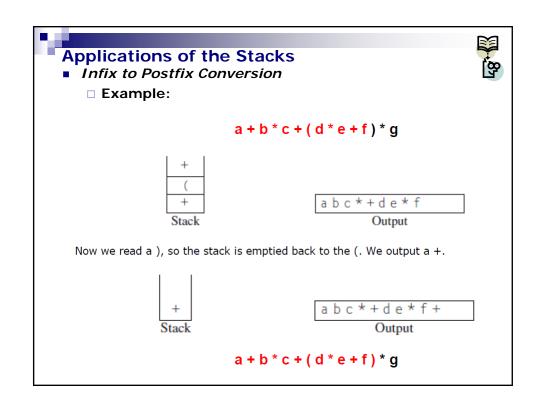
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 - □ Example:

We continue by reading a * . Since open parentheses do not get removed except when a closed parenthesis is being processed, there is no output. Next, e is read and output.





Applications of the Stacks Infix to Postfix Conversion Example: a + b * c + (d * e + f) * g b c * + d e * f + GOutput We read a * next; it is pushed onto the stack. Then g is read and output.

a + b * c + (d * e + f) * g

