Another application of stack is calculation of postfix expression. There are basically three types of notation for an expression (mathematical expression; An expression is defined as the number of operands or data items combined with several operators.)

1. Infix notation

2. Prefix notation

3. Postfix notation

The ***infix*** *notation* is what we come across in our general mathematics, **where the operator is written in-between the operands.**

For example : A **+** B

Note that the operator ‘+’ is written in between the operands A and B.

The ***prefix*** *notation* is a notation in which the **operator(s) is written before the operands,** it is also called polish notation in the honor of the polish mathematician Jan

+ A B

As the operator ‘+’ is written before the operands A and B, this notation is called prefix (pre means before).

In the ***postfix*** *notation* the **operator(s) are written after the operands,** so it is called the postfix notation (post means after), it is also known as ***suffix*** *notation* or *reverse polish*

*notation*. The above expression if written in postfix expression looks like:

A B +