Stacks – Calculator Application

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Infix and Postfix Notation

- The standard notation we use for writing mathematical expressions is called infix notation.
 - The operators are between the operands.
- There are two alternative notations:
 - prefix notation: the operator comes before the operands.
 - postfix notation: the operator comes after the operands.
- Example:
 infix: 5 * (((9+8)*(4*6))-7)
 - prefix: (* 5 (- (* (+ 9 8) (* 4 6)) 7))
 - postfix: 598+46**7-*
 - No parentheses needed.
 - Can be easily evaluated using a stack.

Processing a Symbolic Expression

How do we process an expression such as:

```
-5*(((9+8)*(4*6))-7)
```

- postfix: 598+46**7-*

- Think of the input as a list of tokens.
 - Assume it is already tokenized
- A token is a logical unit of input, such as:
 - A number
 - An operator
 - A parenthesis.

Tokens

- A token is a logical unit of input, such as:
 - A number
 - An operator
 - A parenthesis.
- What are the tokens in:
 - -51*(((195+8)*(4-6))+7)
- Answer: 51, *, (, (, (, 195, +, 8,), *, (, 4, -, 6,),), +, 7,)
 - 19 tokens.
 - Note that a token is NOT a character. For example 195 is one token, but it contains 3 characters.
 - We will not discuss how to build tokens from characters.
 - The numbers are the difficult part.

Converting Infix to Postfix

Input: a list/stream of tokens in infix order.

Output: a list of tokens in postfix order.

Assumptions:

Each operator has two operands.

2. The input is fully parenthesized.

Every operation (that contains an operator and its two operands) is enclosed in parentheses.

Fully parenthesized	Not fully parenthesized (not allowed as input)
(3+5)	3+5
(2+(5-4))	(2+5-4) 2+(5-4) 2+((5-4))
((2 + 9) - (4 + 5))	(2 + 9) - (4 + 5)

Т	op_stack	result list
5		5
*	*	
9		5 9
+	* +	
8		5 9 8
)	*	5 9 8 +
/	* /	
4		5 9 8 + 4
*	* / *	
6		5 9 8 + 4 6
)	* /	5 9 8 + 4 6 *
)	*	5 9 8 + 4 6 * /
-	* _	
7		5 9 8 + 4 6 * / 7
)	*	5 9 8 + 4 6 * / 7 -
)		5 9 8 + 4 6 * / 7 - *

```
input: a stream of tokens in infix order.
output: a list, result, of tokens in postfix order.
(Uses a stack: op stack)
result = empty list
op stack = empty stack
while(the input stream is not empty)
    T = next token
    If T is left parenthesis, ignore.
    If T is a number, insertAtEnd(result, T)
    If T is an operator, push(op stack, T).
    If T is right parenthesis:
        op = pop(op stack)
        insertAtEnd(result, op)
```

Evaluating Expressions in Postfix Notation

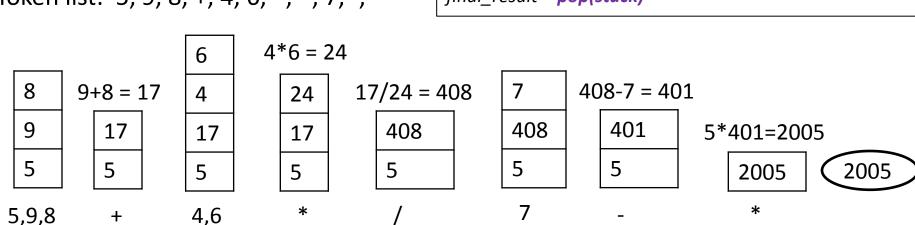
Input: a list tokens in infix order.

Output: the result of the calculation (a number).

Assumption: the list of tokens is be provided as input.

Postfix: 5 9 8 + 4 6 * * 7 - *

Token list: 5, 9, 8, +, 4, 6, *, *, 7, -, *



 A student pointed out that in the previous example, slide 7 was not evaluating the same postfix expression we got in slide 6. This is what was shown in class.

 Below I have modified the original infix expression slightly and redid the steps so that the same expression is evaluated. (2:40pm)

Т	op_stack	result list
5		5
*	*	
2		5 2
+	* +	
8		5 2 8
)	*	5 2 8 +
/	* /	
6		5 2 8 + 6
-	* / -	
4		5 2 8 + 6 4
)	* /	5 2 8 + 6 4 -
)	*	5 2 8 + 6 4 - /
-	* _	
7		5 2 8 + 6 4 - / 7
)	*	5 2 8 + 6 4 - / 7 -
)		5 2 8 + 6 4 - / 7 - *

```
input: a stream of tokens in infix order.
output: a list, result, of tokens in postfix order.
(Uses a stack: op stack)
result = empty list
op stack = empty stack
while(the input stream is not empty)
    T = next token
    If T is left parenthesis, ignore.
    If T is a number, insertAtEnd(result, T)
    If T is an operator, push(op stack, T).
    If T is right parenthesis:
        op = pop(op stack)
        insertAtEnd(result, op)
```

Infix → Postfix

Evaluating Expressions in Postfix Notation

Input: a list tokens in infix order.

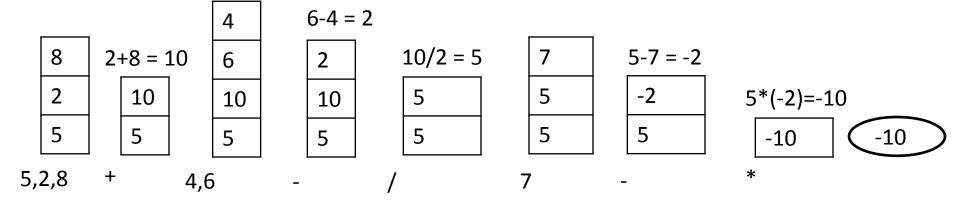
Output: the result of the calculation (a number).

Assumption: the list of tokens is be provided as input.

Postfix: 528 + 64 - /7 - *

Token list: 5, 2, 8, +, 6, 4, -, /, 7, -, *

```
while(token list is not empty)
   T = remove next token (number or operator) from list.
   If T is a number, push(stack, T).
   If T is an operator:
      A = pop(stack)
       B = pop(stack)
       C = apply operator T on A and B
                (order: B T A, e.g.: B-A)
       push(stack, C)
final result = pop(stack)
```



Here the * indicates the multiplication operator, not a pop() operation on the stack. We do not explicitly show the pop operations. Instead, for each operator we pop, pop, calculate, push.