Scientific calculator pseudocode

This calculator uses either [reverse polish notation (RPN)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reverse_Polish_notation) or standard algebraic notation.

# RPN explanation

This is a brief explanation. For more details, see the [Wikipedia article](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reverse_Polish_notation). Reverse polish notation is a notation used by Hewlett-Packard (now HP) calculators in the 1980s and 1990s, and some calculators today use it. It is used because it does not require parentheses (e.g. 20+(17\*3)). Some RPN calculator users wonder why the calculator has an ENTER key instead of a = key. This is because the ENTER key stores the number, and the operator keys calculate it. Example:

RPN notation: 1 5+

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 |  | ENTER |  | 5 |  | + |  |

RPN calculator: