

# Core Data Structures

Session 2



# Overview

1. Evaluate RPN
2. Break out session
3. Recap of breakout sessions
4. Recap of the week



# Evaluate Reverse Polish Notation



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Evaluate the value of an arithmetic expression in Reverse Polish Notation.



# What is “Reverse Polish Notation”?



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$$\begin{array}{ccc} 3 & + & 4 \\ \text{operand} & \text{operator} & \text{operand} \end{array}$$

# What is “Reverse Polish Notation”?

How we write arithmetic equations: **infix notation**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 3 & + & 4 \\ \text{operand} & \text{operator} & \text{operand} \end{array}$$

...there are other ways to represent the same equation!





# What is “Reverse Polish Notation”?

Operands go before the operator (also known as **postfix notation**)

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Operands go before the operator (also known as **postfix notation**)

3	4	+
operand	operand	operator

# More complex equations

RPN

12 2 /

Infix Notation

# More complex equations

RPN

12 2 /

Infix Notation

12 / 2

# More complex equations

RPN

12 2 /  
3 12 2 / \*

Infix Notation

12 / 2

# More complex equations

RPN

12 2 /  
3 12 2 / \*

Infix Notation

12 / 2  
12 / 2 \* 3

# More complex equations

RPN

12 2 /  
3 12 2 / \*  
2 3 \*

Infix Notation

12 / 2  
12 / 2 \* 3

# More complex equations

RPN

12 2 /  
3 12 2 / \*  
2 3 \*

Infix Notation

12 / 2  
12 / 2 \* 3  
2 \* 3



# More complex equations

RPN

12 2 /  
3 12 2 / \*  
2 3 \*  
12 2 3 \* /

Infix Notation

12 / 2  
12 / 2 \* 3  
2 \* 3

# More complex equations

RPN

12 2 /  
3 12 2 / \*  
2 3 \*  
12 2 3 \* /

Infix Notation

12 / 2  
12 / 2 \* 3  
2 \* 3  
12 / (2 \* 3)



What would this evaluate to?

10 2 3 + 1 \* / 6 +



What would this evaluate to?

10 2 3 + 1 \* / 6 +



What would this evaluate to?

10 2 3 + 1 \* / 6 +

10 5 1 \* / 6 +



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10 5 / 6 +

2 6 +



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Valid operators are  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$ . Each operand may be an number or another expression.

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Example #1

Input: ["2", "1", "+", "3", "\*"]

Output: 9

Explanation:  $((2 + 1) * 3) = 9$

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Valid operators are +, -, \*, /. Each operand may be an number or another expression.

Example #1

Input: ["2", "1", "+", "3", "\*"]

Output: 9

Explanation:  $((2 + 1) * 3) = 9$

Example #2

Input: ["4", "15", "5", "/", "+"]

Output: 7

Explanation:  $(4 + (15 / 5)) = 7$

# Understand

- Make sure you understand RPN
  - Ask for a few walkthroughs
  - Come up with your own complex examples
  - Verify the order of operands with '/' and '-'
- Will the numbers be integers or floats?
  - For sake of simplicity, let's assume floats
- Do we need to handle the case in which the expression is not valid?
  - No

# Match

- Need a data structure to store values in as you go through this expression
  - Queues or stacks?
- Need a data structure to map `*/+-` operators to their corresponding functions
  - Hash Tables



# Plan / Pseudocode

1. As we go through the list, we want to record the operands
  - a. Need a data structure (stacks or queue?)
2. Every time you see an operand, you add it to the data structure
3. When you see an operator, you get the two most recent operands from the data structure and evaluate.
  - a. Stack, not queue!
4. Add the result to the stack as a new operand
5. You keep repeating this as you go through the list until the end you hit the end



# Plan: Stack based approach

10 2 3 + 1 \* /



# Plan: Stack based approach

10 2 3 + 1 \* /

10

Stack

# Plan: Stack based approach

10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

# Plan: Stack based approach

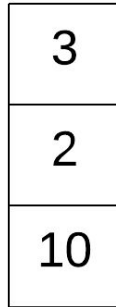
10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

# Plan: Stack based approach

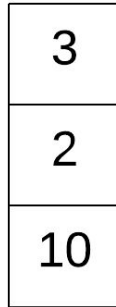
10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

# Plan: Stack based approach

10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

Remove 3 from stack

Remove 2 from stack

Add 2 + 3 to stack

# Plan: Stack based approach

10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

# Plan: Stack based approach

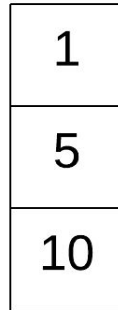
10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

# Plan: Stack based approach

10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

10 2 3 + 1 \* /



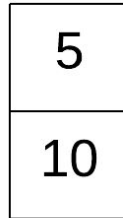
Stack

Remove 5 from stack  
Remove 1 from stack  
Add 1 \* 5 to stack



# Plan: Stack based approach

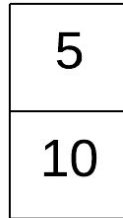
10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

# Plan: Stack based approach

10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

10 2 3 + 1 \* /



Stack

Remove 5 from stack  
Remove 10 from stack  
Add 10/ 5 to stack



# Pseudocode

Create a mapping of operator to functions



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For each item in the list:



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For each item in the list:

    If the item is an operator:

        Pop two off the stack, evaluate, add to stack



# Plan / Pseudocode

Create a mapping of operator to functions

For each item in the list:

    If the item is an operator:

        Pop two off the stack, evaluate, add to stack

    Else:

        Add to stack



# Break out session

- 60 minutes, 2 questions
- Share a repl.it or any similar site
- Use UMPIRE for each problem
- Rotate the leader for each step
- Slack me or the **#se103-jun20** chat for questions

**GOAL:** Have a working solution for Brick Wall and try to at least have the pseudocode for Celebrity

# Recap

- Start even without TA
- Run your code
- Test your code before running it through leet code
  - **DON'T** rely on leetcode
- Plan stage should be pseudocode
- Slack @Elena for any issues





# Interview Recap: Brick Wall

- Really helps to visualize this problem
- A few different edge cases to test
  - All bricks must be crossed
  - No bricks need to be crossed
  - No bricks



# Interview Recap: Celebrity

- Tricky problem to understand



# Interview Recap: Celebrity

- Tricky problem to understand
- Cases to test
  - 0 people, 1 person, no celebrity, celebrity



# Implement “Evaluate RPN”

Time to code!



# Evaluate

Time complexity:  $O(n)$

- $N$  = length of input



# Evaluate

Time complexity:  $O(n)$

- $N$  = length of input

Space complexity:  $O(n)$

- $N$  = length of input



# Week 2 Recap

- Heaps, Stacks, Queues, Hash Tables
- Problems
  - Warm up: [Top K frequent words](#)
  - Session #1: [Design a min stack](#)
  - Session #2: [Evaluate RPN](#)
  - Post session: [Implement queue using stacks](#)
  - Post session: [Find median from a data stream](#)



# Reminders

- Solutions for warm up problems & post assessment questions are up
- Solutions for HackerRank Week #1 is up
- Recommendation
  - Try a hard level difficulty question ([Minimum Number of Refueling Stops](#))
  - Review walkthrough video
  - Review the guides, all the problems
- HackerRank is due on Monday
- Review week next week!