



DAILY PROGRAMMING CHALLENGE



Evaluate a Postfix Expression

Given a postfix expression (also known as Reverse Polish Notation), your task is to evaluate the expression and return the result. The expression can contain integers and the four basic arithmetic operators $+$, $-$, $*$, and $/$. Assume that the input is always valid and the division operator performs integer division, truncating towards zero.

Input:

- A string representing a postfix expression where operands and operators are separated by spaces.
- The string contains only integers (both positive and negative) and the operators $+$, $-$, $*$, and $/$.

Output:

- An integer representing the result of evaluating the postfix expression.

Examples:

- Example 1

Input: "2 1 + 3 *"

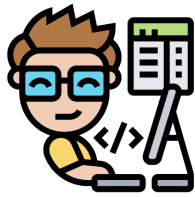
Output: 9

Explanation:

- First, 2 and 1 are pushed onto the stack.
- Encountering '+', 1 and 2 are popped, added to get 3, and pushed back onto the stack.
- Then, 3 is pushed onto the stack.
- Encountering '*', 3 and 3 are popped, multiplied to get 9, and pushed back onto the stack.
- The final result is 9.

Constraints:

- The input is always a valid postfix expression.
- The input contains only integers and the operators $+$, $-$, $*$, $/$.
- The division operator $/$ performs integer division, truncating toward zero.
- The length of the input string is between 1 and 1000 characters.



Test Cases:

1. Input: "5 6 +"
Output: 11
2. Input: "3 4 2 * 1 5 - 2 3 ^ ^ / +"
Output: -1
3. Input: "-5 6 -"
Output: -11
4. Input: "15 7 1 1 + - / 3 * 2 1 1 + + -"
Output: 5
5. Input: "5"
Output: 5

Edge Cases:

1. Single Operand: If the postfix expression consists of a single operand (e.g., "42"), the result should be the operand itself.
2. Negative Numbers: The expression can include negative integers.
3. Integer Division: Division should result in an integer truncated toward zero.
4. Multiple Operations: The expression can have multiple operations, ensuring that the stack handles operations in the correct order.