STACK ADT

Stack

- The stack is a LIFO (Last-in First-out) linear data structure.

- The only data element that can be removed is the most recently added element.

Stack ADT Specification

- **Elements**: Stack elements can be of any type, but we will assume StackElement.

- **Structure**: Any mechanism for determining the elements order of arrival into the stack.

Stack ADT Continued

- **Domain**: The number of stack elements is bounded. A stack is considered full if the upper-bound is reached. A stack with no elements is considered empty.

- **Operations**: There are seven operations as follows:

Stack ADT Continued

function create (s: Stack, isCreated: boolean)
  results: if s cannot be created, isCreated is false; otherwise, isCreated is true,the stack is created and is empty

function terminate (s: Stack)
  results: stack s no longer exists

Stack ADT Continued

function isFull (s: Stack)
  results: returns true if the stack is full; otherwise false is returned

function isEmpty (s: Stack)
  results: returns true if the stack is empty; otherwise, false is returned

function push (s: Stack, e: StackElement)
  requires: isFull (s) is false
  results: element e is added to the stack as the most recent element

Stack ADT Continued

function pop (s: Stack, e: StackElement)
   requires: isEmpty(s) is false
   results: The most recently added element is removed and
   assigned to e

function peek (s: Stack, e: StackElement)
   requires: isEmpty(s) is false
   results: The most recently added element is assigned to
   e but not removed

Testing your Data Structure

- Your customer will abuse your data structure

- Your data structure should never crash the customer's code
  - code defensively

- Test each each function
  - test each function's requires statement
  - test boundary conditions (full/empty)
  - test bad input
  - test functions called in the wrong order

What are Stacks Useful for?

- Web browser history.

- "undo" in applications.

- Runtime stack.

Ex. 2: Balancing Parentheses

- Parentheses in algebraic expressions need to be balanced in order for the expression to be correct.

- Which of the following are valid expressions?
  - {a^2 - [(c - d)^2 + (e - f)^2] }
  - {a - [(b + c))) - (d + e)] }
  - {a - [[[(b + c) - (d + e)] }
  - {a - [(b + c) - (d + e) }]

- How can a stack be used to test if an expression's parentheses are balanced?