# Project Title: Fixed-Capacity Queue Implementation Using Two Stacks

# 1. Introduction

In this project, you will build a queue—a First-In-First-Out (FIFO) data structure—using two stacks, which naturally follow a Last-In-First-Out (LIFO) order. This exercise challenges you to combine these two contrasting data structures to simulate the behavior of a queue. Additionally, you will implement capacity constraints and a full suite of queue operations that mirror those found in standard libraries.

# 2. Objectives

# • Data Structures Mastery:

Gain a deeper understanding of stacks and queues by implementing a queue using two stacks.

## • Algorithm Design:

Develop an efficient algorithm that leverages two stacks to ensure that enqueue and dequeue operations maintain FIFO order.

#### • Capacity Management:

Incorporate a fixed capacity for the queue, ensuring that no more than the specified number of elements can be stored.

#### Method Semantics:

Implement the following methods with behavior consistent with Java's and Python's queue interfaces:

- add(element): Inserts an element. Returns true if successful; throws an exception if the queue is full.
- offer(element): Inserts an element. Returns true if the element was added, or false if the queue is full.
- remove(): Removes and returns the head of the queue. Throws an exception if the queue is empty.
- poll(): Removes and returns the head of the queue. Returns null (or None in Python) if the queue is empty.
- element(): Retrieves, but does not remove, the head of the queue. Throws an exception
  if the queue is empty.

peek(): Retrieves, but does not remove, the head of the queue. Returns null (or None in Python) if the queue is empty.

#### • Testing:

Ensure your solution passes a series of 25 test cases (provided in a Java testing file) that cover normal operations, edge cases, and error conditions.

# 3. Requirements

# **Functional Requirements**

## 1. Fixed Capacity:

The queue must have a fixed capacity defined at initialization (for example, 3 elements).

### 2. Queue Operations:

# Enqueue Operations:

- add(element): Should add an element if there is available space; if not, throw an exception.
- offer(element): Should add an element if there is available space; if not, return false.

## Dequeue Operations:

- remove(): Should remove and return the head element; if the queue is empty, throw an exception.
- poll(): Should remove and return the head element; if the queue is empty, return null (or None).

#### Peek Operations:

- element(): Should return the head element without removing it; throw an exception if the queue is empty.
- peek(): Should return the head element without removing it; return null (or None) if the queue is empty.

## 3. Data Structure Implementation:

Use two stacks:

- Stack In: Used for enqueue (insertion) operations.
- Stack Out: Used for dequeue (removal) and peek operations. When stackOut is empty, transfer all elements from stackIn to stackOut to reverse the order, ensuring FIFO behavior.

## 4. Error Handling:

- The methods remove() and element() must throw exceptions (e.g.,
   NoSuchElementException in Java or IndexError in Python) if the queue is empty.
- The add() method must throw an exception if the queue is full.
- The methods offer(), poll(), and peek() should return a failure value (false or null / None) when the operation cannot be performed.

# **Non-Functional Requirements**

#### • Efficiency:

Aim for O(1) amortized time for queue operations by minimizing the number of transfers between stacks.

#### Code Quality:

Ensure your code is well-organized, with clear documentation and modular design.

## • Portability:

The solution should be implemented in a way that it can be developed in either Java or Python with equivalent functionality.

# 4. Design Overview

# **Two-Stack Concept**

#### 1. Data Structures:

- **stackIn:** Stores incoming elements. All enqueue operations push items onto this stack.
- stackOut: Used for dequeue and peek operations. When this stack is empty, move all elements from stackIn to stackOut to reverse the order, making the oldest element accessible.

### 2. Capacity Check:

Before adding a new element using add() or offer(), check that the current size (the sum of elements in both stacks) is less than the fixed capacity.