

## A) Stacks and Queues

- What are they?
  - Containers that permit storage and retrieval of data items *independent of content*
  - 2 really important ones

## B) Stacks

- Support retrieval by last-in, first-out (LIFO) order
- Simple to implement & very efficient
- Good to use when retrieval order doesn't matter
- *Push* ( $x, s$ )
  - Insert item  $x$  at the top of stack  $s$
- *Pop* ( $s$ )
  - Return and remove the top item in the stack
- Example
  - People in a subway exit in LIFO order

## c) Queues

- Support retrieval in First in, First out (FIFO) order
- minimizes the maximum time spent waiting
- Avg. wait time is same regardless if FIFO or LIFO
- Appropriate where order matters
- **Enqueue( $X, q$ )**
  - Insert item  $X$  at the back of queue  $q$
- **Dequeue( $q$ )**
  - Return and remove the front item from queue  $q$
- Fundamental data structure controlling breadth-first searches in graphs

### Note:

Stacks & Queues can be implemented using either arrays or linked lists