

STACK VS QUEUE COMPARISON

1. IMPLEMENTATION

Stack (LIFO - Last In First Out)

```
class Stack:  
    items = []  
  
    push(x):  
        items.append(x)  
  
    pop():  
        return items.pop()
```

Queue (FIFO - First In First Out)

```
class Queue:  
    items = []  
  
    enqueue(x):  
        items.append(x)  
  
    dequeue():  
        return items.remove_first()
```

Comparison Algorithm

Input: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

Stack operations:

→ push(1), push(2), push(3), push(4), push(5)
→ pop() → 5, pop() → 4, pop() → 3, pop() → 2, pop() → 1
→ Output: [5, 4, 3, 2, 1] (REVERSED)

Queue operations:

→ enqueue(1), enqueue(2), enqueue(3), enqueue(4), enqueue(5)
→ dequeue() → 1, dequeue() → 2, dequeue() → 3, dequeue() → 4, dequeue()
→ 5
→ Output: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] (PRESERVED)

2. TEST CASES

Input	Stack Output	Queue Output
[1, 2, 3]	[3, 2, 1]	[1, 2, 3]
[A, B, C]	[C, B, A]	[A, B, C]
[X]	[X]	[X]
[]	[]	[]

Key Observation: Stack reverses order, Queue maintains order

3. COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS

Stack

- push(): $O(1)$ - add to end
- pop(): $O(1)$ - remove from end
- Space: $O(n)$

Queue (array-based)

- enqueue(): $O(1)$ - add to end
- dequeue(): $O(n)$ - remove first, shift all elements
- Space: $O(n)$

Summary

Both use linear space $O(n)$. Stack has $O(1)$ for all operations.

Queue has $O(n)$ dequeue due to array shifting.

Optimization: Use linked list or deque for $O(1)$ queue operations.