

9. Hashing

Hash Tables, Pre-Hashing, Hashing, Resolving Collisions using Chaining, Simple Uniform Hashing, Popular Hash Functions, Table-Doubling, Open Addressing: Probing [Ottman/Widmayer, Kap. 4.1-4.3.2, 4.3.4, Cormen et al, Kap. 11-11.4]

Motivating Example

Goal: Efficient management of a table of all n ETH-students of
Possible Requirement: fast access (insertion, removal, find) of a dataset by name

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Dictionary

Abstract Data Type (ADT) D to manage items⁴ i with keys $k \in \mathcal{K}$ with operations

- $D.insert(i)$: Insert or replace i in the dictionary D .
- $D.delete(i)$: Delete i from the dictionary D . Not existing \Rightarrow error message.
- $D.search(k)$: Returns item with key k if it exists.

⁴Key-value pairs (k, v) , in the following we consider mainly the keys

Dictionaries in Python

```
dictionary  $\longrightarrow$  fruits = {  
    "banana": 2.95, "kiwi": 0.70,  
    "pear": 4.20, "apple": 3.95  
}
```

```
insert  $\longrightarrow$  fruits["melon"] = 3.95  
update  $\longrightarrow$  fruits["banana"] = 1.90  
find  $\longrightarrow$  print("banana", fruits["banana"])  
                print("melon in fruits", "melon" in  
                    fruits)print("onion in fruits"  
                    , "onion" in fruits)  
remove  $\longrightarrow$  del fruits["strawberry"]  
iterate  $\longrightarrow$  for name,price in fruits.items():  
                    print(name,"->",price)
```

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Dictionary in Java

```
dictionary → Map<String,Double> fruits =
              new HashMap<String,Double>();

insert → fruits.put("banana", 2.95);
         fruits.put("kiwi", 0.70);
         fruits.put("strawberry", 9.95);
         fruits.put("pear", 4.20);
         fruits.put("apple", 3.95);

update → fruits.put("banana", 2.90);

find → Out.println("banana " + fruits.get("banana"));

remove → fruits.remove("banana");

iterate → for (String s: fruits.keySet())
          Out.println(s+" " + fruits.get(s));
```

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Motivation / Use

Perhaps *the* most popular data structure.

- Supported in many programming languages (C++, Java, Python, Ruby, Javascript, C# ...)
- Obvious use
 - Databases, Spreadsheets
 - Symbol tables in compilers and interpreters
- Less obvious
 - Substrin Search (Google, grep)
 - String commonalities (Document distance, DNA)
 - File Synchronisation
 - Cryptography: File-transfer and identification

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1. Idea: Direct Access Table (Array)

Index	Item
0	-
1	-
2	-
3	[3,value(3)]
4	-
5	-
⋮	⋮
k	[k,value(k)]
⋮	⋮

Problems

- 1 Keys must be non-negative integers
- 2 Large key-range \Rightarrow large array

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Solution to the first problem: Pre-hashing

Prehashing: Map keys to positive integers using a function

$$ph : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

- Theoretically always possible because each key is stored as a bit-sequence in the computer
- Theoretically also: $x = y \Leftrightarrow ph(x) = ph(y)$
- Practically: APIs offer functions for pre-hashing. (Java: `object.hashCode()`, C++: `std::hash<>`, Python: `hash(object)`)
- APIs map the key from the key set to an integer with a restricted size.⁵

⁵Therefore the implication $ph(x) = ph(y) \Rightarrow x = y$ does not hold any more for all x,y .

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Prehashing Example : String

Mapping Name $s = s_1s_2 \dots s_{l_s}$ to key

$$ph(s) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{l_s} s_{l_s-i+1} \cdot b^i \right) \text{ mod } 2^w$$

b so that different names map to different keys as far as possible.

b Word-size of the system (e.g. 32 or 64)

Example (Java) with $b = 31$, $w = 32$. Ascii-Values s_j .

Anna $\mapsto 2045632$

Jacqueline $\mapsto 2042089953442505 \text{ mod } 2^{32} = 507919049$

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Implementation Prehashing (String) in Java

$$ph_{b,m}(s) = \left(\sum_{i=0}^{l-1} s_{l-i+1} \cdot b^i \right) \text{ mod } m$$

With $b = 31$ and $m = 2^{32}$ we get in Java⁶

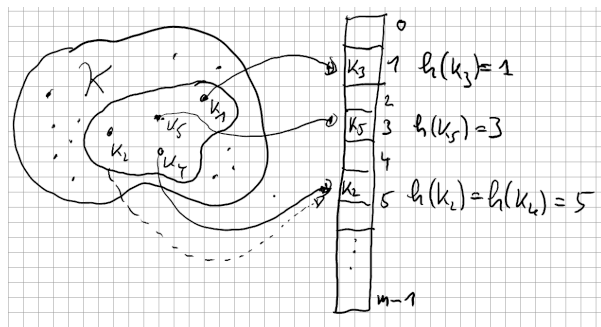
```
int prehash(String s){
    int h = 0;
    for (int k = 0; k < s.length(); ++k){
        h = h * b + s.charAt(k);
    }
    return h;
}
```

⁶Try to understand why this works

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Lösung zum zweiten Problem: Hashing

Reduce the universe. Map (hash-function) $h : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \{0, \dots, m-1\}$
($m \approx n =$ number entries of the table)



Collision: $h(k_i) = h(k_j)$.

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Nomenclature

Hash function h : Mapping from the set of keys \mathcal{K} to the index set $\{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$ of an array (**hash table**).

$$h : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}.$$

Normally $|\mathcal{K}| \gg m$. There are $k_1, k_2 \in \mathcal{K}$ with $h(k_1) = h(k_2)$ (**collision**).

A hash function should map the set of keys as uniformly as possible to the hash table.

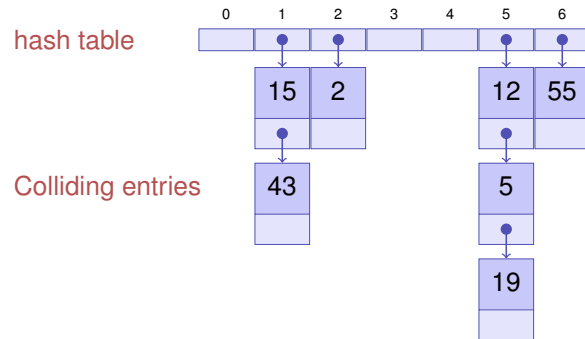
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Resolving Collisions: Chaining

Example $m = 7$, $\mathcal{K} = \{0, \dots, 500\}$, $h(k) = k \bmod m$.

Keys 12, 55, 5, 15, 2, 19, 43

Direct Chaining of the Colliding entries



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Algorithm for Hashing with Chaining

- **insert**(i) Check if key k of item i is in list at position $h(k)$. If no, then append i to the end of the list. Otherwise replace element by i .
- **find**(k) Check if key k is in list at position $h(k)$. If yes, return the data associated to key k , otherwise return empty element **null**.
- **delete**(k) Search the list at position $h(k)$ for k . If successful, remove the list element.

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Worst-case Analysis

Worst-case: all keys are mapped to the same index.

$\Rightarrow \Theta(n)$ per operation in the worst case. 😞

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Simple Uniform Hashing

Strong Assumptions: Each key will be mapped to one of the m available slots

- with equal probability (Uniformity)
- and independent of where other keys are hashed (Independence).

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Simple Uniform Hashing

Under the assumption of simple uniform hashing:

Expected length of a chain when n elements are inserted into a hash table with m elements

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(\text{Länge Kette } j) &= \mathbb{E}\left(\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \mathbb{1}(k_i = j)\right) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \mathbb{P}(k_i = j) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{m} = \frac{n}{m}\end{aligned}$$

$\alpha = n/m$ is called *load factor* of the hash table.

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Simple Uniform Hashing

Theorem

Let a hash table with chaining be filled with load-factor $\alpha = \frac{n}{m} < 1$. Under the assumption of simple uniform hashing, the next operation has expected costs of $\leq 1 + \alpha$.

Consequence: if the number slots m of the hash table is always at least proportional to the number of elements n of the hash table, $n \in \mathcal{O}(m) \Rightarrow$ Expected Running time of Insertion, Search and Deletion is $\mathcal{O}(1)$.

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Advantages and Disadvantages of Chaining

Advantages

- Possible to overcommit: $\alpha > 1$ allowed
- Easy to remove keys.

Disadvantages

- Memory consumption of the chains-

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An Example of a popular Hash Function

Division method

$$h(k) = k \bmod m$$

Ideal: m prime, not too close to powers of 2 or 10

But often: $m = 2^k - 1$ ($k \in \mathbb{N}$)

Other method: multiplication method (cf. Cormen et al, Kap. 11.3).

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Table size increase

- We do not know beforehand how large n will be
- Require $m = \Theta(n)$ at all times.



Table size needs to be adapted. Hash-Function changes \Rightarrow *rehashing*

- Allocate array A' with size $m' > m$
- Insert each entry of A into A' (with re-hashing the keys)
- Set $A \leftarrow A'$.
- Costs $\mathcal{O}(n + m + m')$.

How to choose m' ?

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Table size increase

- 1. Idea $n = m \Rightarrow m' \leftarrow m + 1$
Increase for each insertion: Costs $\Theta(1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n) = \Theta(n^2)$

- 2. Idea $n = m \Rightarrow m' \leftarrow 2m$ Increase only if $m = 2^i$:
 $\Theta(1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots + n) = \Theta(n)$
Few insertions cost linear time but on average we have $\Theta(1)$ 

Jede Operation vom Hashing mit Verkettan hat erwartet amortisierte Kosten $\Theta(1)$.

(\Rightarrow Amortized Analysis)

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Amortisierte Analyse

General procedure for dynamic arrays (e.g. Java: `ArrayList`, Python: `List`)

- The data structure provides, besides the data array, two numbers: size of the array (capacity m) and the number of used entries (size n)
- Double the size and copy entries when the list is full
 $n = m \Rightarrow m \leftarrow 2n$. Kosten $\Theta(m)$.
- Runtime costs for $n = 2^k$ insertion operations:
 $\Theta(1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots + 2^k) = \Theta(2^{k+1} - 1) = \Theta(n)$.

Costs per operation *averaged over all operations* = *amortized costs* = $\Theta(1)$ per insertion operation

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Open Addressing⁷

Store the colliding entries directly in the hash table using a *probing function* $s : \mathcal{K} \times \{0, 1, \dots, m - 1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, m - 1\}$

Key table position along a *probing sequence*

$$S(k) := (s(k, 0), s(k, 1), \dots, s(k, m - 1)) \pmod{m}$$

Probing sequence must for each $k \in \mathcal{K}$ be a permutation of $\{0, 1, \dots, m - 1\}$

⁷Notational clarification: this method uses *open addressing* (meaning that the positions in the hashtable are not fixed) but it is a *closed hashing* procedure (because the entries stay in the hashtable)

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Algorithms for open addressing

- **insert**(i) Search for key k of i in the table according to $S(k)$. If k is not present, insert k at the first free position in the probing sequence. Otherwise error message.
- **find**(k) Traverse table entries according to $S(k)$. If k is found, return data associated to k . Otherwise return an empty element **null**.
- **delete**(k) Search k in the table according to $S(k)$. If k is found, replace it with a special key **removed**.

Linear Probing

$$s(k, j) = h(k) + j \Rightarrow S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + 1, \dots, h(k) + m - 1) \text{ mod } m$$

Example $m = 7, \mathcal{K} = \{0, \dots, 500\}, h(k) = k \text{ mod } m$.
Key 12, 55, 5, 15, 2, 19

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
5	15	2	19		12	55

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Discussion

Example $\alpha = 0.95$

The unsuccessful search considers 200 table entries on average! (here without derivation).

❓ Disadvantage of the method?

⚠️ **Primary clustering**: similar hash addresses have similar probing sequences \Rightarrow long contiguous areas of used entries.

Quadratic Probing

$$s(k, j) = h(k) + \lceil j/2 \rceil^2 (-1)^{j+1}$$

$$S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + 1, h(k) - 1, h(k) + 4, h(k) - 4, \dots) \text{ mod } m$$

Example $m = 7, \mathcal{K} = \{0, \dots, 500\}, h(k) = k \text{ mod } m$.
Keys 12, 55, 5, 15, 2, 19

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
19	15	2		5	12	55

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Discussion

Example $\alpha = 0.95$

Unsuccessfully search considers 22 entries on average (here without derivation)

❓ Problems of this method?

⚠️ **Secondary clustering:** Synonyms k and k' (with $h(k) = h(k')$) traverses the same probing sequence.

Double Hashing

Two hash functions $h(k)$ and $h'(k)$. $s(k, j) = h(k) + j \cdot h'(k)$.
 $S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + h'(k), h(k) + 2h'(k), \dots, h(k) + (m-1)h'(k)) \bmod m$

Example:

$m = 7, \mathcal{K} = \{0, \dots, 500\}, h(k) = k \bmod 7, h'(k) = 1 + k \bmod 5$.

Keys 12, 55, 5, 15, 2, 19

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
5	15	2	19		12	55

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Double Hashing

- Probing sequence must permute all hash addresses. Thus $h'(k) \neq 0$ and $h'(k)$ may not divide m , for example guaranteed with m prime.
- h' should be as independent of h as possible (to avoid secondary clustering)

Independence largely fulfilled by $h(k) = k \bmod m$ and $h'(k) = 1 + k \bmod (m-2)$ (m prime).

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Uniform Hashing

Strong assumption: the probing sequence $S(k)$ of a key l is equally likely to be any of the $m!$ permutations of $\{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$

(Double hashing is reasonably close)

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Analysis of Uniform Hashing with Open Addressing

Theorem

Let an open-addressing hash table be filled with load-factor $\alpha = \frac{n}{m} < 1$. Under the assumption of uniform hashing, the next operation has expected costs of $\leq \frac{1}{1-\alpha}$.

Without Proof, cf. e.g. Cormen et al, Kap. 11.4