

# 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

# Dictionary

Abstract Data Type (ADT)  $D$  to manage items<sup>4</sup>  $i$  with keys  $k \in \mathcal{K}$  with operations

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

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<sup>4</sup>Key-value pairs  $(k, v)$ , in the following we consider mainly the keys

# Dictionaries in Python

dictionary → 

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

insert → 

```
fruits["melon"] = 3.95
```

update → 

```
fruits["banana"] = 1.90
```

find → 

```
print("banana", fruits["banana"])  
print("melon in fruits", "melon" in  
fruits)print("onion in fruits"  
 , "onion" in fruits)
```

remove → 

```
del fruits["strawberry"]
```

iterate → 

```
for name,price in fruits.items():  
    print(name,"->",price)
```

# Dictionaries 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));`

# 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

# 1. Idea: Direct Access Table (Array)

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

*Problems*

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## *Problems*

- 1 Keys must be non-negative integers



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## *Problems*

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

# 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.<sup>5</sup>

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

# Prehashing Example : String

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

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

$b$  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  $s_i$ .**

Anna  $\mapsto$  2045632

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

# Implementation Prehashing (String) in Java

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

With  $b = 31$  and  $m = 2^{32}$  we get in Java<sup>6</sup>

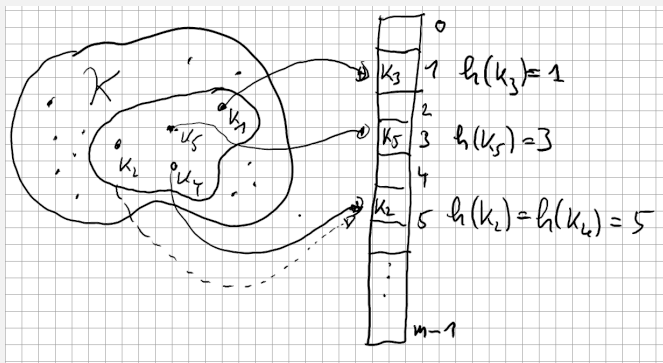
```
int prehash(String s){
    int h = 0;
    for (int k = 0; k < s.length(); ++k){
        h = h * b + s.charAt(k);
    }
    return h;
}
```

---

<sup>6</sup>Try to understand why this works

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

# 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*).

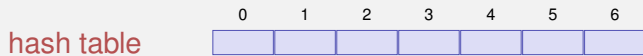
A hash function should map the set of keys as uniformly as possible to the hash table.

# Resolving Collisions: Chaining

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

Keys 12

Direct Chaining of the Colliding entries



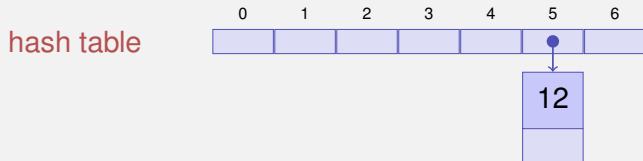
Colliding entries

# Resolving Collisions: Chaining

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

Keys 12 , 55

Direct Chaining of the Colliding entries



Colliding entries

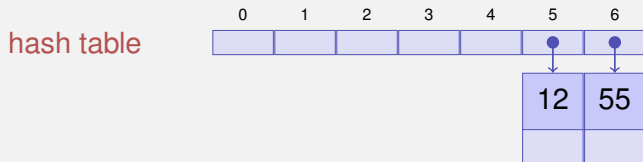


# Resolving Collisions: Chaining

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

Keys 12, 55, 5

Direct Chaining of the Colliding entries



Colliding entries

# Resolving Collisions: Chaining

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

Keys 12, 55, 5, 15

Direct Chaining of the Colliding entries

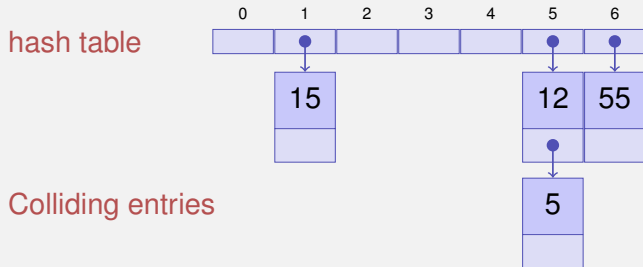


# Resolving Collisions: Chaining

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

Keys 12, 55, 5, 15, 2

Direct Chaining of the Colliding entries

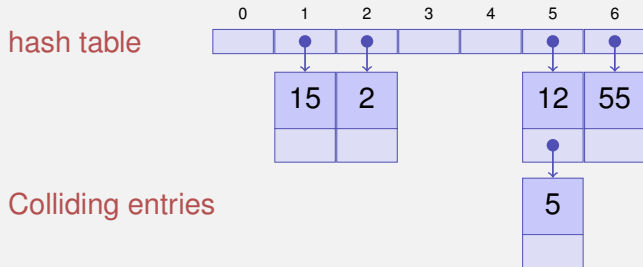


# Resolving Collisions: Chaining

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

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

Direct Chaining of the Colliding entries

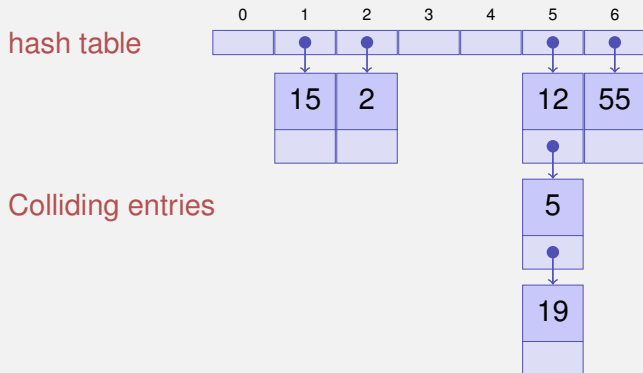


# Resolving Collisions: Chaining

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

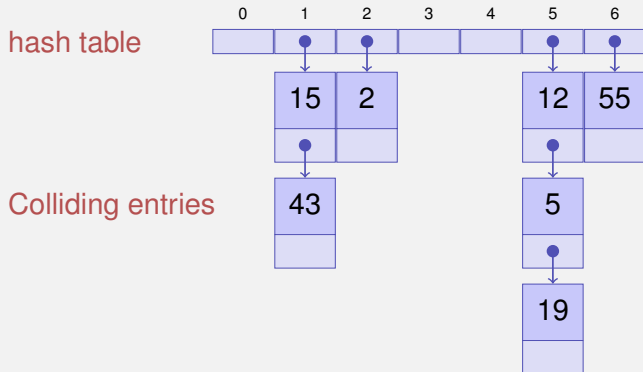


# Resolving Collisions: Chaining

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



# 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.

# Worst-case Analysis

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

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



# 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).

# 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.

# 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  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ .

# Advantages and Disadvantages of Chaining

## Advantages

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

## Disadvantages

- Memory consumption of the chains-

# 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).

# 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  $m'$ ?

# 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 Verketteten hat erwartet amortisierte Kosten  $\Theta(1)$ .

( $\Rightarrow$  Amortized Analysis)

# 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



# Open Addressing<sup>7</sup>

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*

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

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

---

<sup>7</sup>Notational 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)

# 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

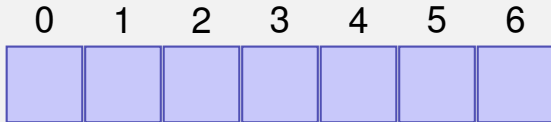
$$s(k, j) = h(k) + j \Rightarrow S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + 1, \dots, h(k) + m - 1) \pmod{m}$$

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

Key 12



# Linear Probing

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Key 12, 55

|   |   |   |   |   |    |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6 |
|   |   |   |   |   | 12 |   |

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Key 12, 55, 5

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

Key 12, 55, 5, 15

|   |   |   |   |   |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6  |
| 5 |   |   |   |   | 12 | 55 |

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

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

Key 12, 55, 5, 15, 2

| 0 | 1  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6  |
|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|
| 5 | 15 |   |   |   | 12 | 55 |



# Linear Probing

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

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

Key 12, 55, 5, 15, 2, 19

|   |    |   |   |   |    |    |
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# Discussion

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❓ Disadvantage of the method?

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

# Quadratic Probing

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

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

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Keys 12

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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Keys 12, 55

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Keys 12 , 55 , 5

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|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
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Keys 12 , 55 , 5 , 15

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

Keys 12, 55, 5, 15, 2

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

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

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❓ 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  $h'(k)$ .  $s(k, j) = h(k) + j \cdot h'(k)$ .

$S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + h'(k), h(k) + 2h'(k), \dots, h(k) + (m - 1)h'(k)) \pmod m$

# Double Hashing

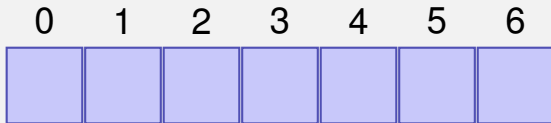
Two hash functions  $h(k)$  and  $h'(k)$ .  $s(k, j) = h(k) + j \cdot h'(k)$ .

$S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + h'(k), h(k) + 2h'(k), \dots, h(k) + (m - 1)h'(k)) \pmod m$

Example:

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

Keys 12



# Double Hashing

Two hash functions  $h(k)$  and  $h'(k)$ .  $s(k, j) = h(k) + j \cdot h'(k)$ .

$S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + h'(k), h(k) + 2h'(k), \dots, h(k) + (m - 1)h'(k)) \pmod m$

Example:

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

Keys 12, 55

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|
|   |   |   |   |   | 12 |   |

# Double Hashing

Two hash functions  $h(k)$  and  $h'(k)$ .  $s(k, j) = h(k) + j \cdot h'(k)$ .

$S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + h'(k), h(k) + 2h'(k), \dots, h(k) + (m - 1)h'(k)) \pmod m$

Example:

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

Keys 12, 55, 5

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6  |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
|   |   |   |   |   | 12 | 55 |

# Double Hashing

Two hash functions  $h(k)$  and  $h'(k)$ .  $s(k, j) = h(k) + j \cdot h'(k)$ .

$S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + h'(k), h(k) + 2h'(k), \dots, h(k) + (m - 1)h'(k)) \pmod m$

Example:

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

Keys 12, 55, 5, 15

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6  |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 5 |   |   |   |   | 12 | 55 |

# Double Hashing

Two hash functions  $h(k)$  and  $h'(k)$ .  $s(k, j) = h(k) + j \cdot h'(k)$ .

$S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + h'(k), h(k) + 2h'(k), \dots, h(k) + (m - 1)h'(k)) \pmod m$

Example:

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

Keys 12, 55, 5, 15, 2

| 0 | 1  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6  |
|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|
| 5 | 15 |   |   |   | 12 | 55 |

# Double Hashing

Two hash functions  $h(k)$  and  $h'(k)$ .  $s(k, j) = h(k) + j \cdot h'(k)$ .

$S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + h'(k), h(k) + 2h'(k), \dots, h(k) + (m - 1)h'(k)) \pmod m$

Example:

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

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

| 0 | 1  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6  |
|---|----|---|---|---|----|----|
| 5 | 15 | 2 |   |   | 12 | 55 |



# Double Hashing

Two hash functions  $h(k)$  and  $h'(k)$ .  $s(k, j) = h(k) + j \cdot h'(k)$ .

$S(k) = (h(k), h(k) + h'(k), h(k) + 2h'(k), \dots, h(k) + (m - 1)h'(k)) \pmod m$

Example:

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

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

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

# 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).

# 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)

# 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