EECS 4101-5101 Advanced Data Structures



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Topic 2e - Hash Tables

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Picture is from the cover of the textbook CLRS.



Lower bound for search

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Proof: Similar to lower bound for sorting.

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• We can do better if keys are integers!



Direct Addressing

Requirement: For a given $M \in \mathbb{N}$, every key k is an integer with $0 \le k < M$.

• All keys are in [0, M).

Data structure : An array of values A with size M search(k) : Check whether A[k] is empty insert(k, v) : $A[k] \leftarrow v$ delete(k) : $A[k] \leftarrow Null$



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- E.g., assume student id's are in [0, 1000) and values are pointers to students' records.
 - Maintain an array A of pointers with size 1000.
 - If a student with id k is present in the dictionary, the content of A[k] will be the pointer to that students' record; otherwise it is Null.



Direct Addressing

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- Total storage is O(M).
- Direct addressing isn't possible if keys are not integers.
- And the storage is very wasteful if $n \ll M$, e.g., if student numbers are 32-bit integers, you will need an array of size $M = 2^{32}$.





Hashing

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- Challenges:
 - Choosing a good hash function
 - Dealing with collisions (when $h(k_1) = h(k_2)$)



Choosing a good hash function

• Uniform Hashing Assumption: Each hash function value is equally likely.

Proving is usually impossible, as it requires knowledge of the input distribution and the hash function distribution.

We can get good performance by following a few rules.

A good hash function should:

- be very efficient to compute
- be unrelated to any possible patterns in the data
- depend on all parts of the key



Hash Functions

- The goal of a hash function is to distribute the keys uniformly.
- A hash function takes a key and returns a location in memory that can be accessed in O(1) time.
- A hash function is the composition of two functions:
 - Hash code map:
 - $h_1:\mathsf{keys}\to\mathsf{integers}$
 - Compression map
 - : h_2 : integers \rightarrow [0, M 1]
 - The hash code map is applied first and the compression map is then applied on the result: $h(x) = h_2(h_1(x))$



Basic hash functions

- If all keys are integers (or can be mapped to integers), the following two approaches tend to work well:
 - Division method: $h(k) = k \mod M$.

We should choose M to be a prime not close to a power of 2. In the case of non-random data, this ensures the most wide-spread distribution of integers to indices.



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 - Multiplication method: h(k) = [M(kA [kA])], for some constant floating-point number A with 0 < A < 1. Knuth suggests A = φ = √5 1/2 ≈ 0.618.
 E.g., k = 2023, M = 31, and A = 0.618, we get [31(1984 * 0.618 [1984 * 0.618])] = [31(1226.112 [1226.112])] = [31 * 0.112] = 3



Non-integer keys

• Suppose we have a table capable of holding 5001 records and keys consisting of strings that are 6 characters long. We can apply numeric operations to the ASCII codes of the characters in the string in order to determine a hash index:

```
static int hashFn(String key) {
    int hashCode = 0;
    for (i = 0 ; i < key.length() ; i++)
        hashCode += (int) key.charAt(i);
    return hashCode % 5001; }</pre>
```



Non-integer keys

• A better solution via Horner's Rule

```
static int hashFn(String key) {
    int hashCode = 0;
    int m = 2; (any int ≠ 1 or 0)
    for (i = 0; i < key.length(); i++)
        hashCode = m * hashCode + (int) key.charAt(i);
    return hashCode % 5001;
}</pre>
```

• E.g., for m = 10 and string "hope", we get: $\rightarrow 104(h) \rightarrow 10 * 104 + 111(o) \equiv 1151 \rightarrow 10 * 1151 + 112(p) \equiv 1620 \rightarrow 18 * 1620 + 101(e) \equiv 4526.$



Collisions

- If a hash function h maps two different keys x and y to the same index (i.e., $x \neq y$ and h(x) = h(y)), then x and y collide.
 - A perfect hash function causes no collisions. That is, the function is one-to-one.
 - Unfortunately, creating a perfect hash function requires knowledge of what keys will be hashed.
 - Even a hash function that distributes items randomly can cause collisions, even when the number of items hashed is small.
 - Consequently, we must design a scheme to handle collisions.

Buckets

....

Collision Resolution

- Two basic strategies:
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Collision Resolution

- Two basic strategies:
 - Allow multiple items at each table location (buckets)
 - Allow each item to go into multiple locations (open addressing)
- We will examine the average cost of *search*, *insert*, *delete*, in terms of n, M, and/or the load factor $\alpha = n/M$.
- We probably want to rebuild the whole hash table and change the value of M when the load factor gets too large or too small. This is called **rehashing**, and should cost roughly O(M + n).



Chaining

Each table entry is a **bucket** containing 0 or more KVPs. This could be implemented by any dictionary (even another hash table!).

The simplest approach is to use an unsorted linked list in each bucket.

This is called collision resolution by chaining.

- search(k): Look for key k in the list at T[h(k)].
- insert(k, v): Add (k, v) to the front of the list at T[h(k)].
- delete(k): Perform a search, then delete from the linked list.

Buckets



Chaining example









Buckets Chaining example $M = 11, \quad h(k) = k \mod 11$ insert(46) 0 h(46) = 2 2

 

Buckets Chaining example







Buckets

Complexity of chaining

- Recall the load balance $\alpha = n/M$.
- Assuming uniform hashing, average bucket size is exactly α .
- Analysis of operations:

search $O(1 + \alpha)$ average-case, O(n) worst-case insert O(1) worst-case, since we always insert in front. delete Same cost as search: $O(1 + \alpha)$ average, O(n)worst-case

• If we maintain $M \in O(n)$, then average costs are all O(1). This is typically accomplished by rehashing whenever $n < c_1 M$ or $n > c_2 M$, for some constants c_1, c_2 with $0 < c_1 < c_2$.



Open addressing

- Main idea: Each hash table entry holds only one item, but any key k can go in multiple locations.
- search and insert follow a probe sequence of possible locations for key k: ⟨h(k,0), h(k,1), h(k,2),...⟩.
- *delete* is similar to *search* but we must distinguish between **empty** and **deleted** locations.



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- delete is similar to search but we must distinguish between empty and deleted locations.
- Simplest idea: linear probing $h(k, i) = (h(k) + i) \mod M$, for some hash function h.

Open addressing Linear probing example M = 11, $h(k) = k \mod 11$ $h(k, i) = (h(k) + i) \mod M$









Open addressing Linear probing example M = 11, $h(k) = k \mod 11$ $h(k, i) = (h(k) + i) \mod M$ delete(43)h(43,0) = 10deleted





- We have **two** hash functions h_1, h_2 that are **independent**.
- For double hashing, define $h(k,i) = h_1(k) + i \cdot h_2(k) \mod M$.
- *search, insert, delete* work just like for linear probing, but with this different probe sequence.



Open Addressing: Double Hashing

- Assume we have hash functions: $h_1(x) = x \mod 10$, $h_2(x) = \lfloor x/10 \rfloor \mod 10$.
- Recall that $h(k,i) = h_1(k) + i \cdot h_2(k) \mod M$.
- We want to insert keys: 24, 34, 14, 54, 64, 35, ...



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Cuckoo hashing

- We have two independent hash functions h_1, h_2 .
- We always insert a new item into $h_1(k)$.
- This might "kick out" another item, which we then attempt to re-insert into its alternate position.
- Insertion might not be possible if there is a loop. In this case, we have to rehash with a larger *M*.
- The big advantage is that an element with key k can only be in $T[h_1(k)]$ or $T[h_2(k)]$.



Cuckoo hashing insertion

• Here a pseudocode for Cuckoo hashing:

```
cuckoo-insert(T,x)

T: hash table, x: new item to insert

1. y \leftarrow x, i \leftarrow h_1(x.key)

2. do at most n times:

3. swap(y, T[i])

4. if y is "empty" then return "success"

5. if i = h_1(y.key) then i \leftarrow h_2(y.key)

6. else i \leftarrow h_1(y.key)

7. return "failure"
```



Cuckoo hashing example





Cuckoo hashing example







Cuckoo hashing example





Cuckoo hashing example





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Cuckoo hashing example





Cuckoo hashing example



3

Cuckoo hashing example



3







Cuckoo hashing example



 $M = 11, \quad h_1(k) = k \mod 11, \quad h_2(k) = |11(\varphi k - |\varphi k|)|$





Complexity of open addressing strategies

We won't do the analysis, but just state the costs.

For any open addressing scheme, we must have $\alpha < 1$ (why?). Cuckoo hashing requires $\alpha < 1/2$.

The following gives the **big-Theta** cost of each operation for each strategy:

	search	insert	delete
Linear Probing	$\frac{1}{(1-\alpha)^2}$	$\frac{1}{(1-\alpha)^2}$	$\frac{1}{1-lpha}$
Double Hashing	$\frac{1}{1-\alpha}$	$\frac{1}{1-\alpha}$	$\frac{1}{\alpha} \log \left(\frac{1}{1 - \alpha} \right)$
Cuckoo Hashing	1	$\frac{\alpha}{(1-2\alpha)^2}$	1



Hashing Summary

- When the size of the hash table *M* is sufficiently large all search, insert, deleted operations can be done in constant time.
- This requires having α (load factor) being small (e.g., $\alpha=1/2$ or $\alpha=1/100.$



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- When the size of the hash table *M* is sufficiently large all search, insert, deleted operations can be done in constant time.
- This requires having α (load factor) being small (e.g., $\alpha=1/2$ or $\alpha=1/100.$
- Hashing is often the preferred method for implementing dictionaries.