

COL 351: Analysis and Design of Algorithms

Lecture 18

Hash Function

Definition: A function that can be used to map data of arbitrary size to fixed-size output.

Examples:

$$x \mapsto x \pmod{n}$$

$$x \mapsto (2x^2 + 4x - 5) \pmod{n}$$

Applications:

Message
Digest



Password
Verification



Data-structures



Block-chains



Two applications of Hash Functions

1. Set Membership

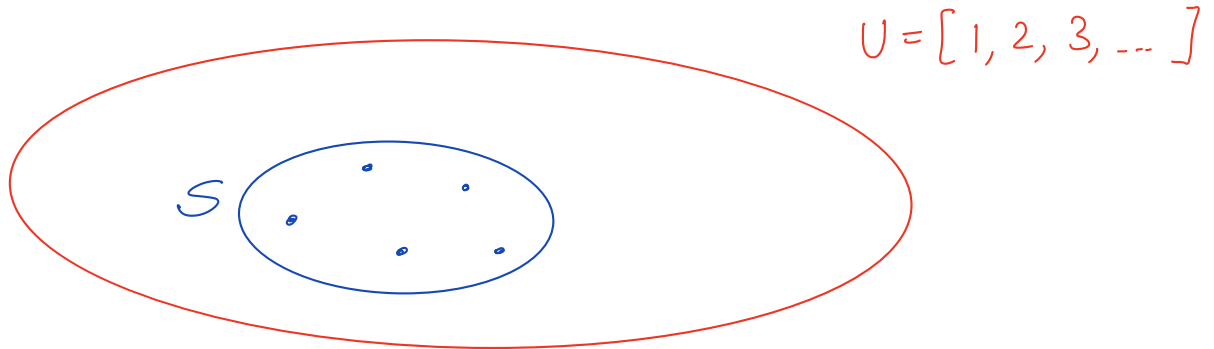
2. Pattern Matching

Set Membership

Given: A universe $U = [1, 2, \dots, M]$, and a set $S \subsetneq [1, M]$ of size n .

Goal: Find a data-structure of $O(n = |S|)$ size that answers for any $x \in [1, M]$ query of form:

“Does $x \in S$?”



Set Membership

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“Does $x \in S$?”

	Search-Time	Space
Boolean Array (Yes/No)	$O(1)$	$O(M)$
Link List storing S	$O(n)$	$O(n)$
AVL Tree storing S	$O(\log n)$	$O(n)$

Hash Table

$$\text{Eg: } H(z) = z \bmod n$$

Given: Hash Function $H : U \rightarrow [0, n - 1]$.

Table T of size n :

$T[i]$ — List storing $\{z \in S \mid H(z) = i\}$

Search-Query(z)

1. Compute $i = H(z)$
2. Scan the link-list stored at $T[i]$
3. If $z \in T[i]$ return “Found”, else return “Not-found”

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} T[i] = O(n)$$

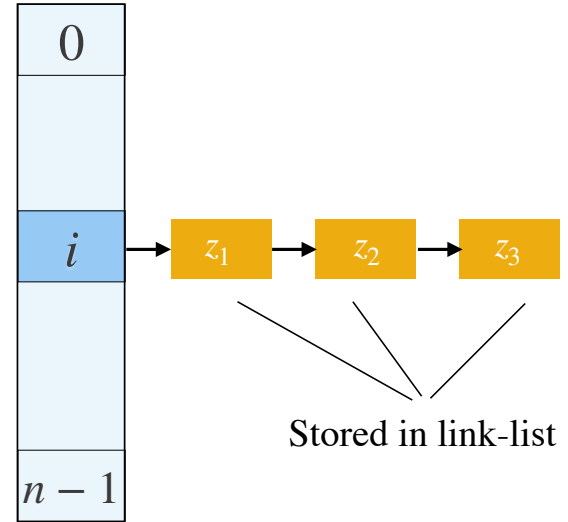


Table T

Simplest Hash Function

$$H(z) = z \bmod n$$

- Bad for sets like $S = \{n, 2n, 3n, \dots, n^2\}$
- Good for a **random** S

Reason:

We will have

$$|T[0]| = n$$

$$|T[i]| = 0, \text{ for } i > 0$$

Simplest Hash Function

$$H(z) = z \bmod n$$

Suppose $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ where every s_i is a uniformly random integer in $U = [1, M]$.

Question: For random $x, y \in U$, what is collision probability (probability that $H(x) = H(y)$)?

Solution:

Suppose $i = H(x)$.

$$\text{Prob}(H(y) = i) = \frac{|\{i, n + i, 2n + i, \dots\}|}{M} \approx \frac{1}{n}$$

Eg. $M = 1000$

$|S| = 10$

$x = 17$

Now, for random $y \in [1, 1000]$

$$\text{Prob}(y \bmod 10 = 7) = \frac{1}{10}, \text{ i.e. } \frac{1}{n}$$

Simplest Hash Function

$$H(z) = z \bmod n$$

Suppose $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ where every s_i is a uniformly random integer in $U = [1, M]$.

Question: For a given $x \in [1, M]$, what is expected time to verify if $x \in S$?

Solution:

Suppose $i = H(x)$.

$$\text{Exp}(|T[i]|) = 1 + \underbrace{\sum_{y \in S \setminus \{x\}} \text{Prob}(H(y) = i)}_{O(1)} = 1 + (n-1) \left(\frac{1}{n} \right) = O(1)$$

Thus, time to search x is sum of

- (i) Time to compute $i = H(x)$, and
- (ii) $|T[i]|$ which is $O(1)$ on expectation.

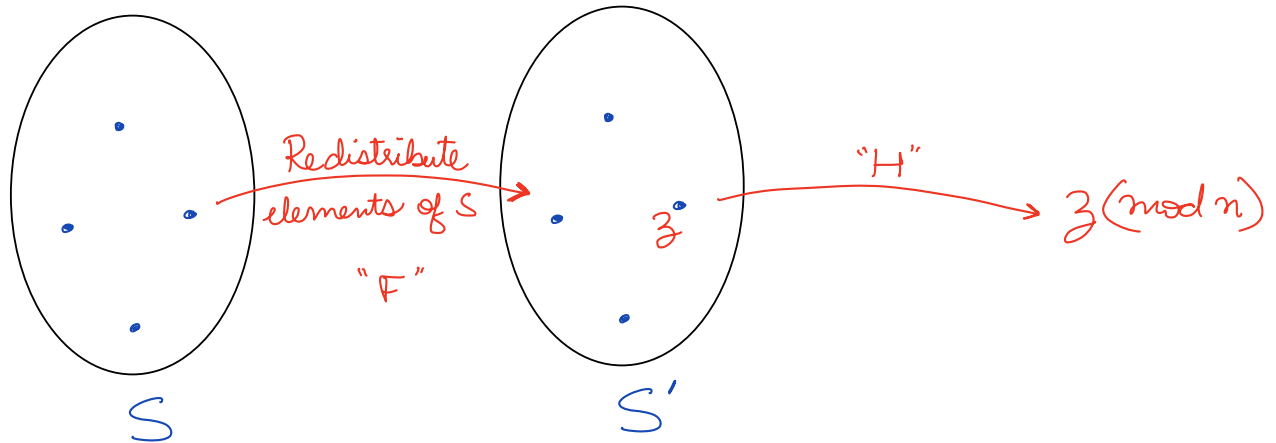
$$|T[i]| = 1 + \sum_{y \in S \setminus \{x\}} 1_{H(y)=i}$$

Each $y \in S \setminus \{x\}$ contributes one unit to $T[i]$ iff $H(y) = i$.

Simplest Hash Function

$$H(z) = z \bmod n$$

- Works well for a **random** S
- What if S is not random?



Modular Arithmetics

$$F(z) = (r \cdot z) \bmod p \quad (\text{Here, } p \text{ is a prime}).$$

Eg. of a different number system

$$A = \{ 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 \}$$

$$\text{New addition } "\oplus" : a \oplus b = a + b \bmod z$$

$$\text{New product } "\otimes" : a \otimes b = a \times b \bmod z$$

Must be
prime

$$\begin{array}{l} 2 \oplus ? = 0 \\ \text{Ans} = 5 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 5 \oplus ? = 0 \\ \text{Ans} = 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 5 \otimes ? = 1 \\ \text{Ans} = 3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 4 \otimes ? = 1 \\ \text{Ans} = 2 \end{array}$$

Additive inverse

Multiplicative inverse

Modular Arithmetics

Remark

$$p C_i = 0 \pmod{p}$$

for $i \in [1, p-1]$

$$F(z) = (r \cdot z) \pmod{p} \quad (\text{Here, } p \text{ is a prime}).$$

Claim 1: For any $r \in [1, p-1]$, we have $r^{p-1} = 1 \pmod{p}$

Proof:

Suppose claim holds for $r \leq p-1$.

$$(r+1)^p = \underbrace{r^p}_{=r} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{p-1} p C_i}_{=0} + 1 \pmod{p} = r + 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{(r+1)^p - (r+1)}{p} = \frac{(r+1)((r+1)^{p-1} - 1)}{p} \text{ is integer}$$

As p doesn't divide $r+1$, we prove the claim.

Modular Arithmetics

$$F(z) = (r \cdot z) \bmod p \quad (\text{Here, } p \text{ is a prime}).$$

Claim 2: $F(z)$ is invertible, and its inverse is given by $F^{-1}(y) := (r^{p-2} y) \bmod p$

Proof:

$$z \xrightarrow[r]{r} r z \bmod p \xrightarrow[F^{-1}]{r^{p-2}} \underbrace{r^{p-2} \cdot r}_{=1} \cdot z \bmod p$$

Modular Arithmetics

$$F(z) = (r \cdot z) \bmod p \quad (\text{Here, } p \text{ is a prime}).$$

Claim 3: If $r \in [1, p-1]$ was random, then for any $z, i \in [1, p-1]$, we have

$$\text{Prob}(F(z) = i) = \frac{1}{p-1}.$$

Proof:

Note: z, i are fixed, but r is random.

$$F(z) = i \iff r z \pmod{p} = i \iff r = z^{p-2} i \pmod{p}$$

$$\text{So, } \text{Prob}_r(F(z) = i) = \text{Prob}_r(r = z^{p-2} i \pmod{p})$$

This is $\left(\frac{1}{p-1}\right)$ as r has $p-1$ possibilities

Modular Arithmetics

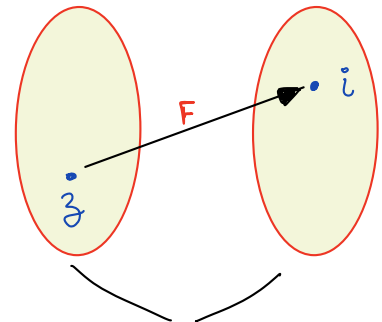
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Both input/output sets have size $p-1$