

Dictionary

- S : n elements with keys from universe $U = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, v\}$
- OPS: insert, delete, search

Assumption that $|U|$ is small. Then...

→ store S in a direct access table $T[0, 1, \dots, v]$.

use keys as index for location in array to store item

If $|U|$ is big (note: v is just the possible universe of keys, NOT the number of keys you need to label items.)

→ store S in a hash table T :

- n : # of keys to be stored

- m : size of the hash table

- Hash function: $h(k) = i, k \in U \rightarrow i$: index of T

Hash function may map multiple elements from universe to index, causing collisions. Solution: at index, store a linked list that acts as a stack. Putting second item pops it on top of the stack.

- INSERT: $O(1)$

- SEARCH(k): $h(k) = i$, transverse linked list at $T[i]$ to find k

→ worst case: all n items at same index, transverse whole linked list of length n , $\therefore O(n)$

→ expected time is $O(1)$ under the following assumptions

① SUHA: Simple Uniform Hashing Assumption;

[the hashing of keys into slots has uniform probability distribution.
 $P(h(k) = i) = 1/m$; key hashings are independent events

- then expected chain length after n insertions into m spaces on the hash table, $E(l_i) = n/m = \alpha$, load factor

- then total chain length is $n \rightarrow E(l_0 + l_1 + \dots + l_{m-1}) = n$

- then SEARCH $\in O(\alpha + 1)$ $E(l_0) + \dots + E(l_{m-1}) = n$

- if $n \in O(m)$ (ie n & m within constant factor) we can say SEARCH $\in O(1)$ $E(n_i) = E(n_j)$; $m \times E(n_i) = n$

- defining a good hash function is an art