

# CS460: Intro to Database Systems

## Class 17: Hash Indexing

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<https://midas.bu.edu/classes/CS460/>

# Hash Indexing

Static Hashing

Extendible Hashing

Linear Hashing

# Introduction

1. Actual data record (with key value **k**)
2. **<k, rid of matching data record>**
3. **<k, list of rids of matching data records>**

Choice is orthogonal to the indexing technique

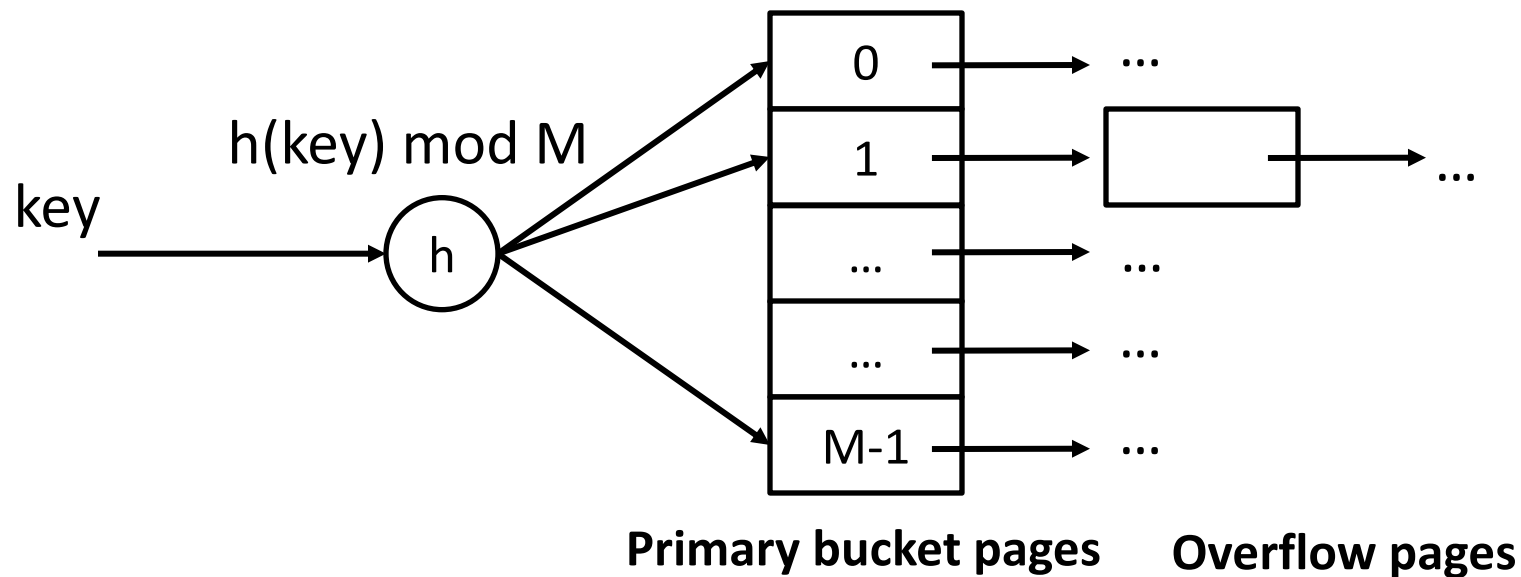
*Hash-based indexes* → *equality selections*  
**Cannot** support range searches

Static and dynamic hashing techniques exist

# Static Hashing

#primary bucket pages fixed, allocated sequentially, never de-allocated; overflow pages if needed

$h(k) \bmod M$  = bucket to insert data entry with key  $k$  ( $M$ : #buckets)



# Static Hashing (Contd.)

Buckets contain **data entries**

Hash function on *search key* field of record  $r$

Must distribute values over range  $0 \dots M-1$

What is a good hash function?

$h(key) = (a * key + b)$  usually works well

$a$  and  $b$  are constants; lots known about how to tune  $h$

# Static Hashing (Problems!)



Long overflow chains can develop and degrade performance



Ways to solve?

- Reorganization is expensive and may block queries
- *Extendible* and *Linear Hashing*: Dynamic techniques to fix this problem

# Hash Indexing

Static Hashing

Extendible Hashing

Linear Hashing

# Extendible Hashing



Why not double the number of buckets?

Note that reading and writing all pages is expensive!

Idea:

Use directory of pointers to buckets

On overflow, double the directory (not the # of buckets)

Why does this help?

- Directory is much smaller than the entire index file

- Only one page of data entries is split

- No overflow page! (caveat: duplicates w.r.t. the hash function)*

Trick lies in how the hash function is adjusted!



# Extendible Hashing

Directory: an array

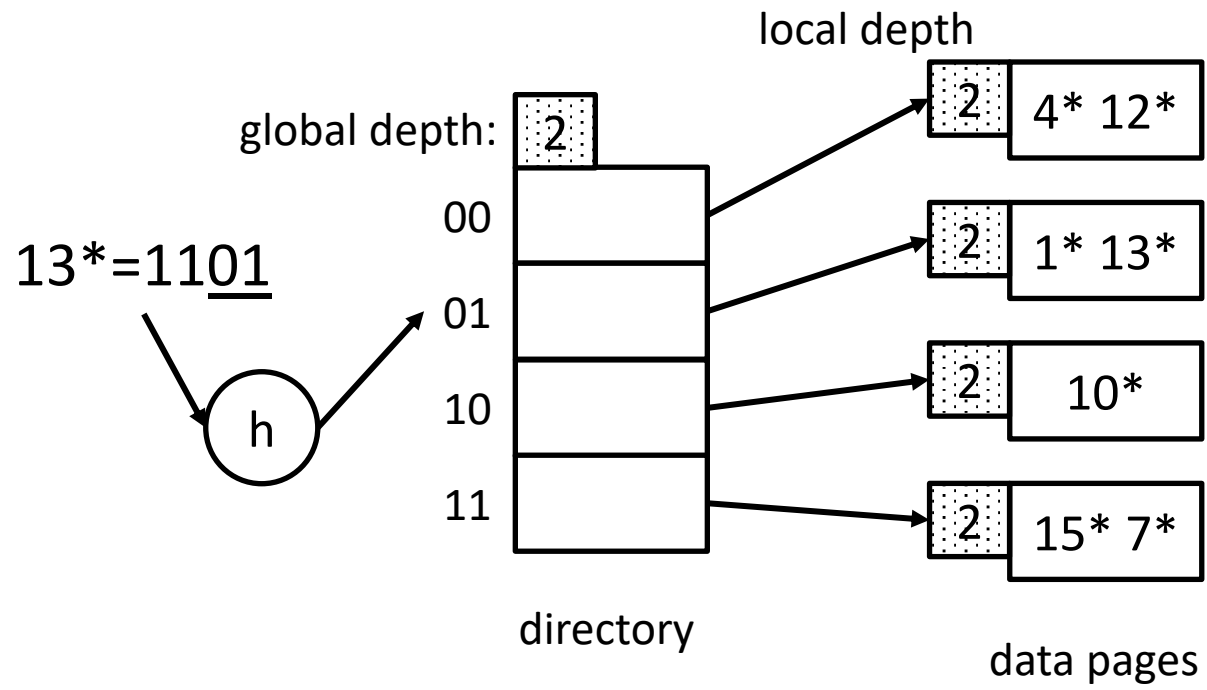
Search for  $k$ :

- Apply hash function  $h(k)$
- Take last **global depth** # bits of  $h(k)$

Insert:

- If the bucket has space, insert, done
- If the bucket is full, **split** it, re-distribute – If necessary, double the directory

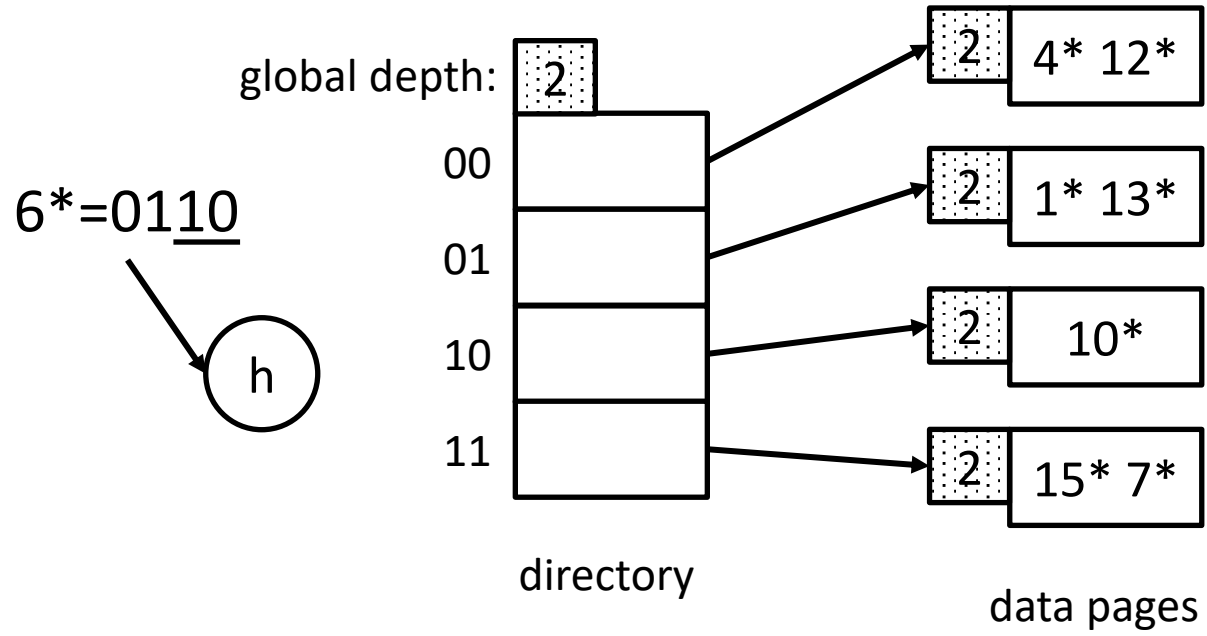
# Example



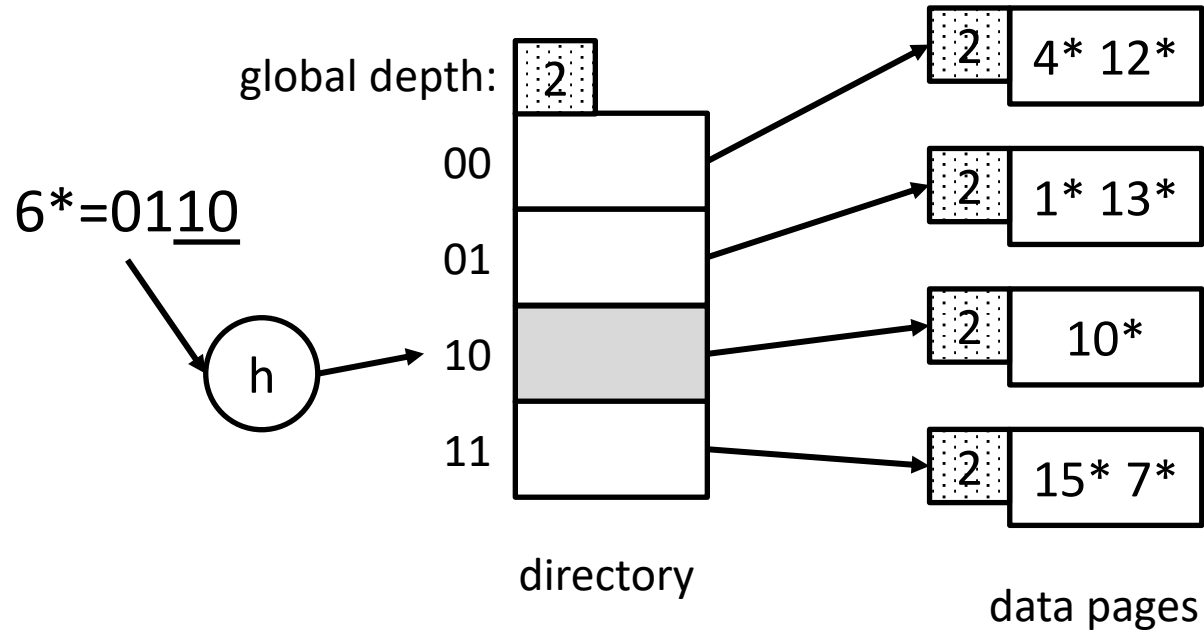
what is the hash function?



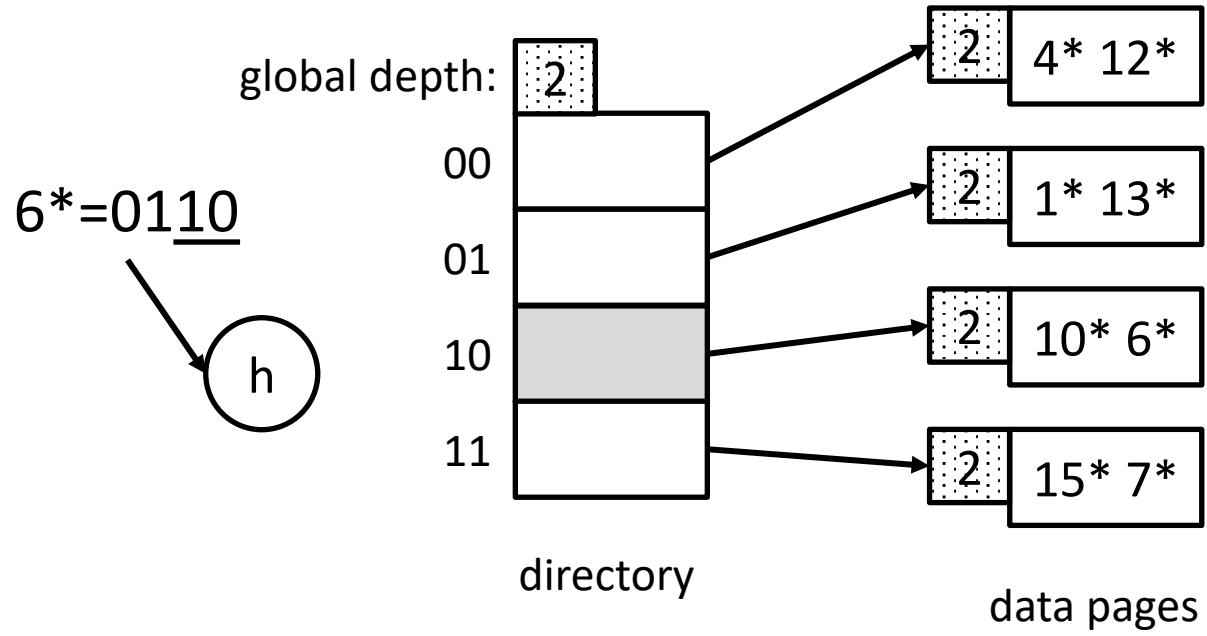
# Example: Insert 6



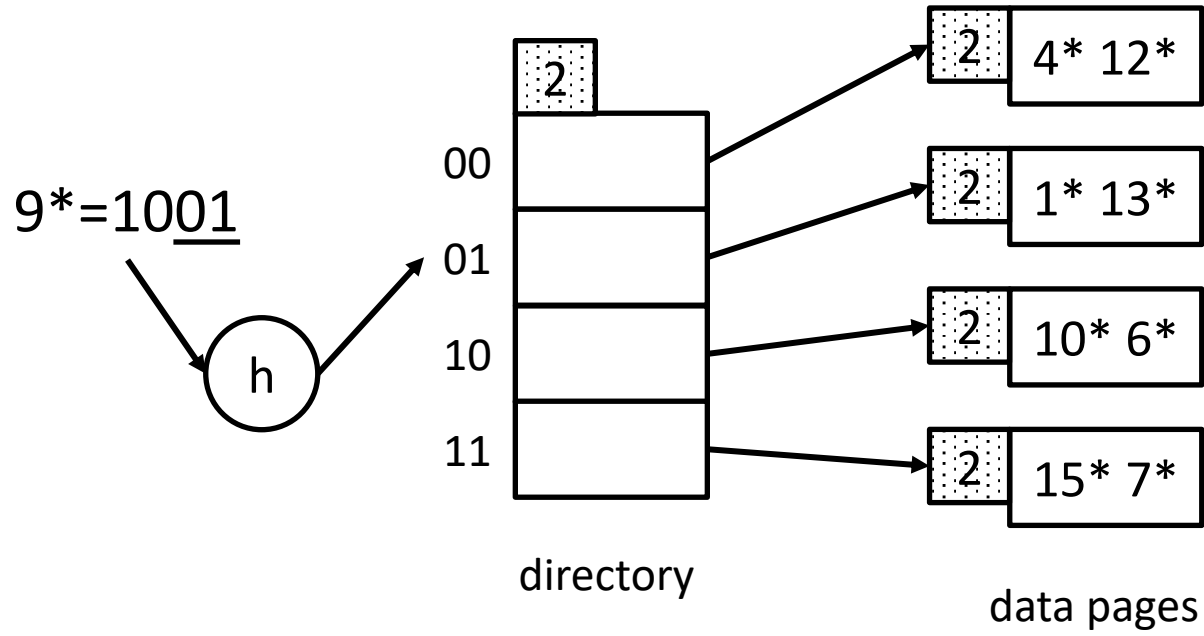
# Example: Insert 6



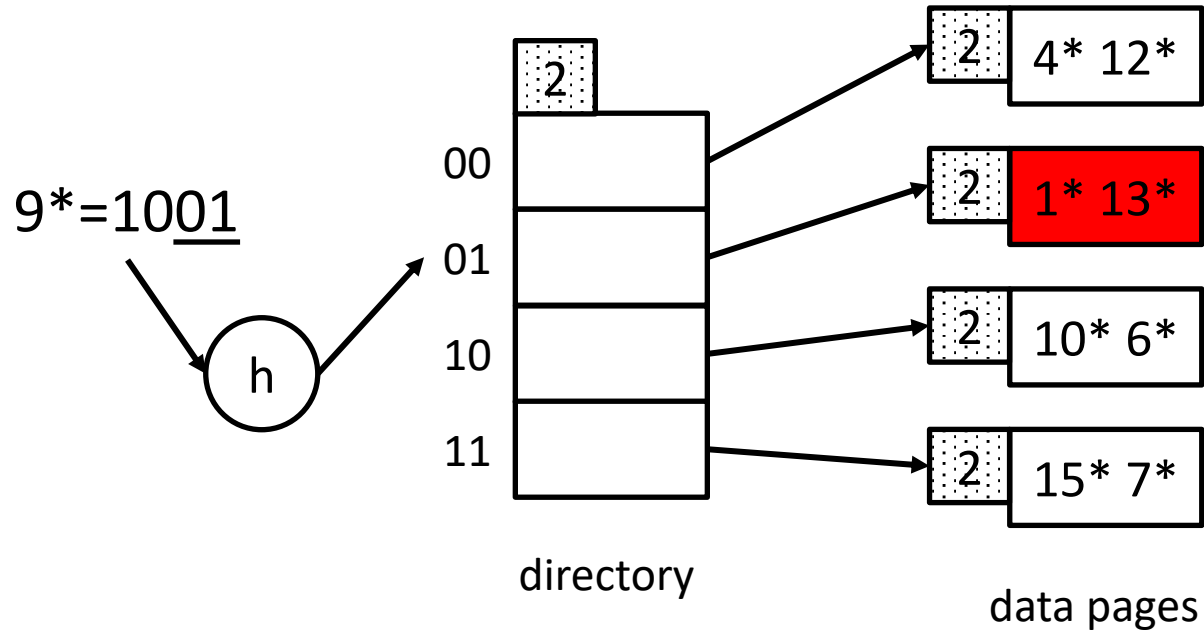
# Example: Insert 6



## Example 2: Insert 9



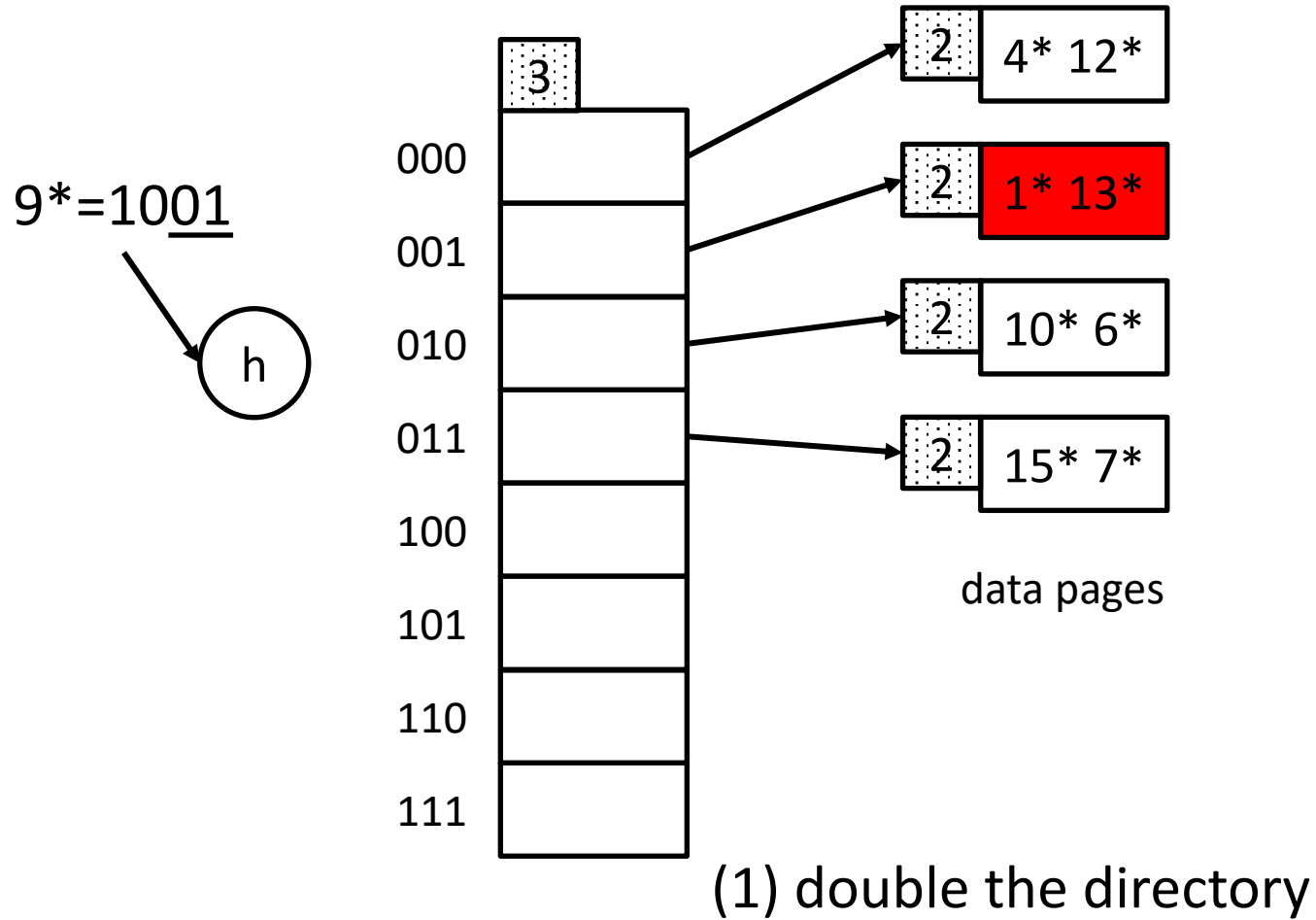
# Example 2: Insert 9



now what??

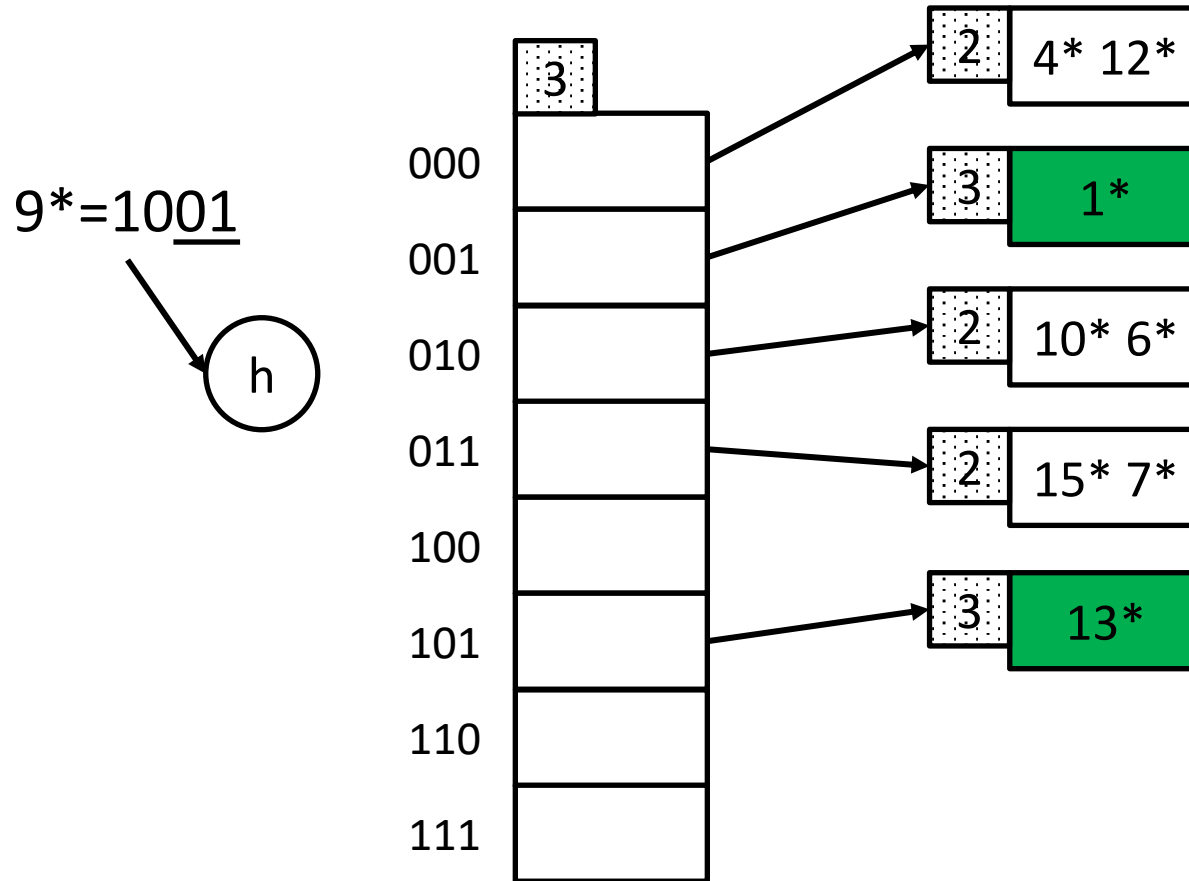


# Example 2: Insert 9



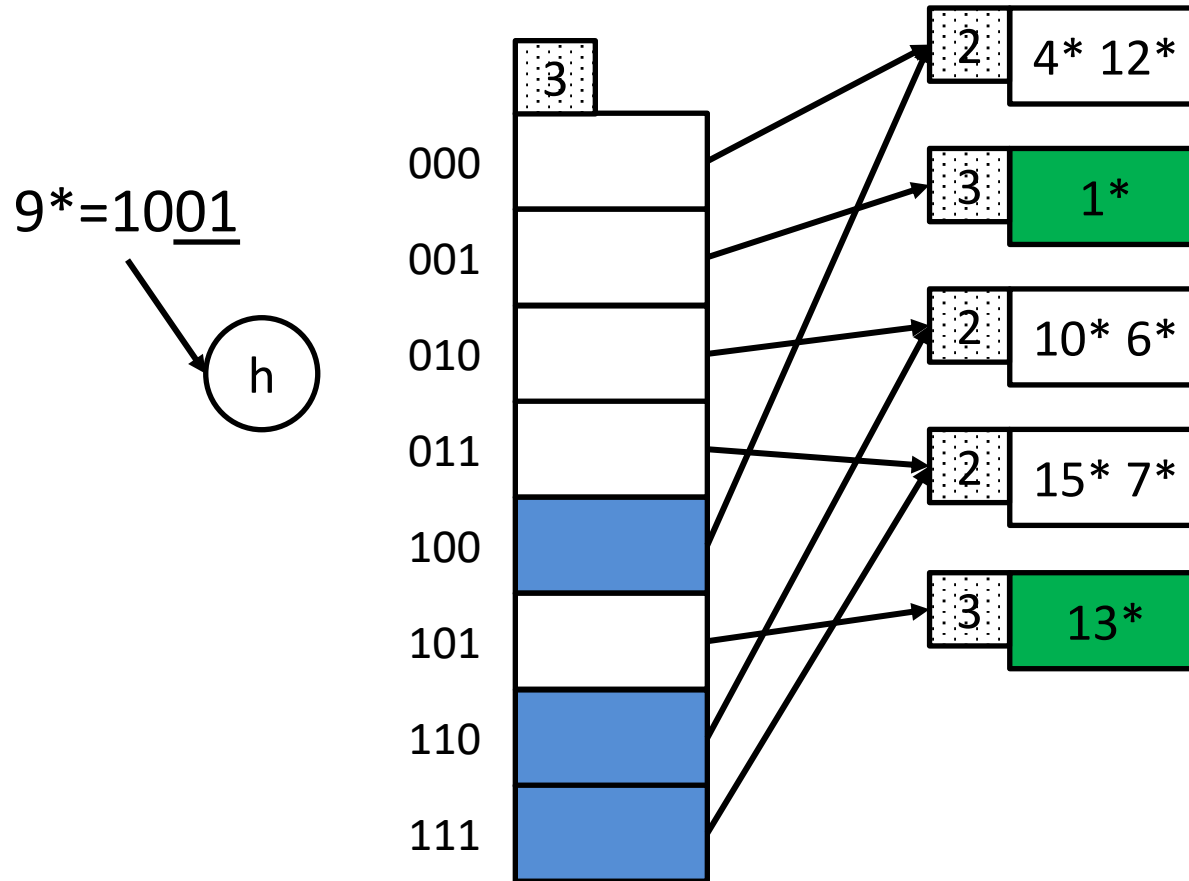


# Example 2: Insert 9



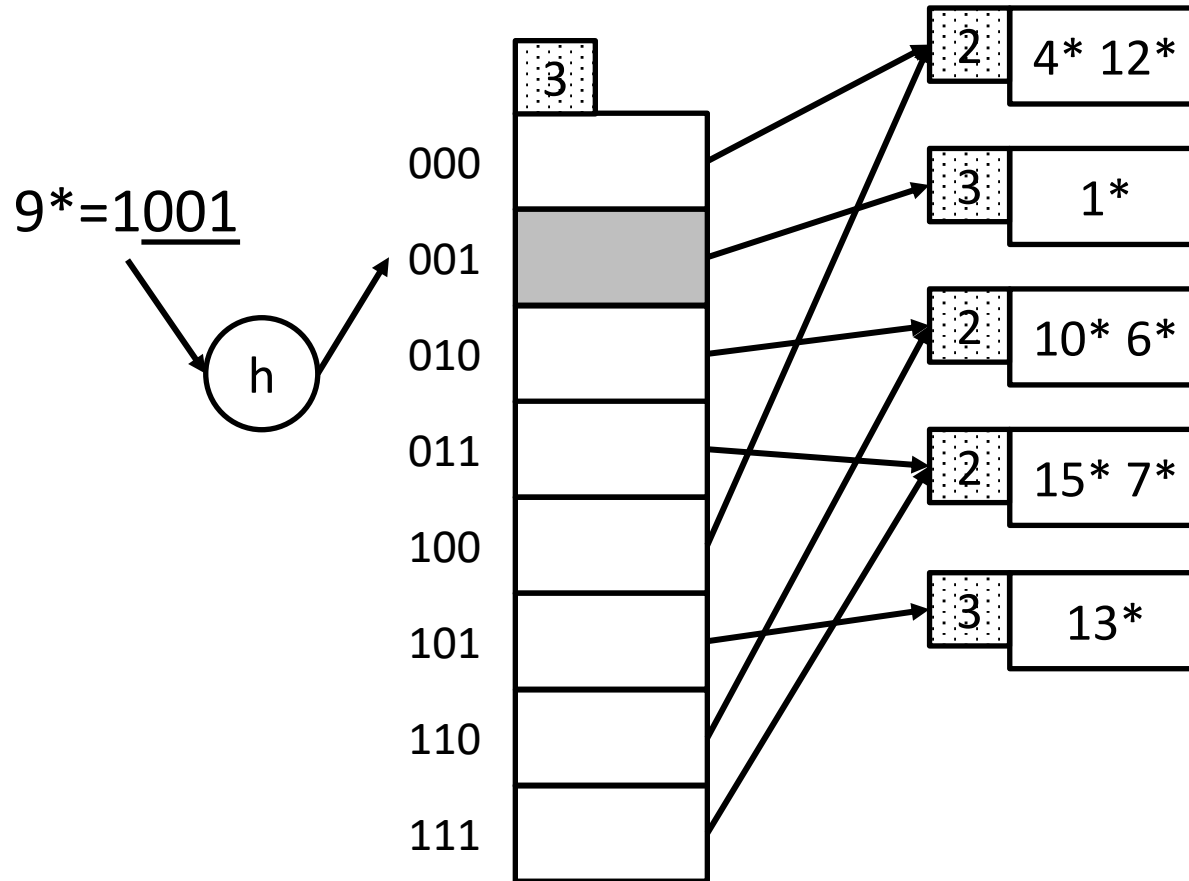
- (1) double the directory
- (2) re-distribute the split bucket

# Example 2: Insert 9

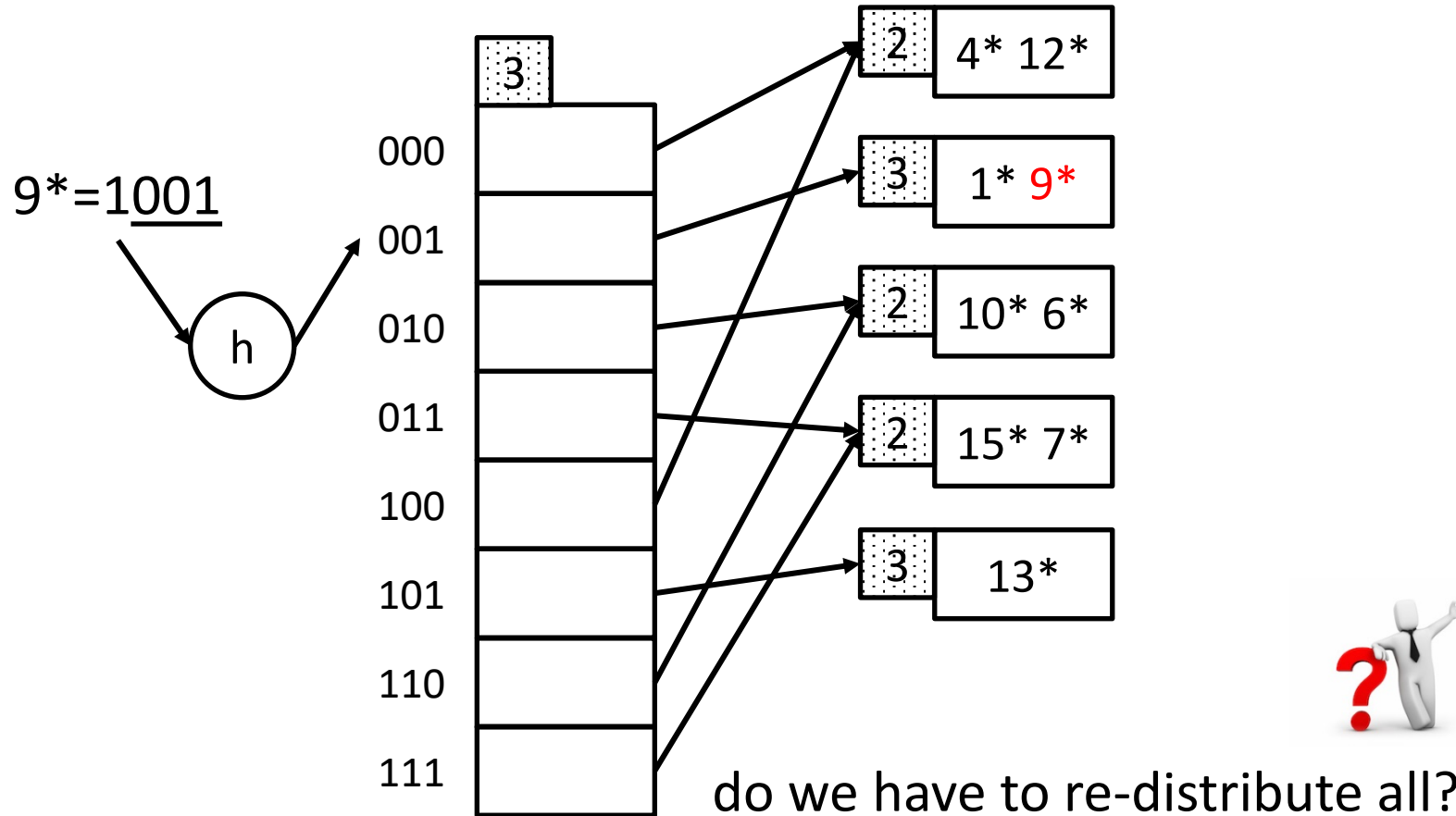


- (1) double the directory
- (2) re-distribute the split bucket
- (3) connect corresponding buckets

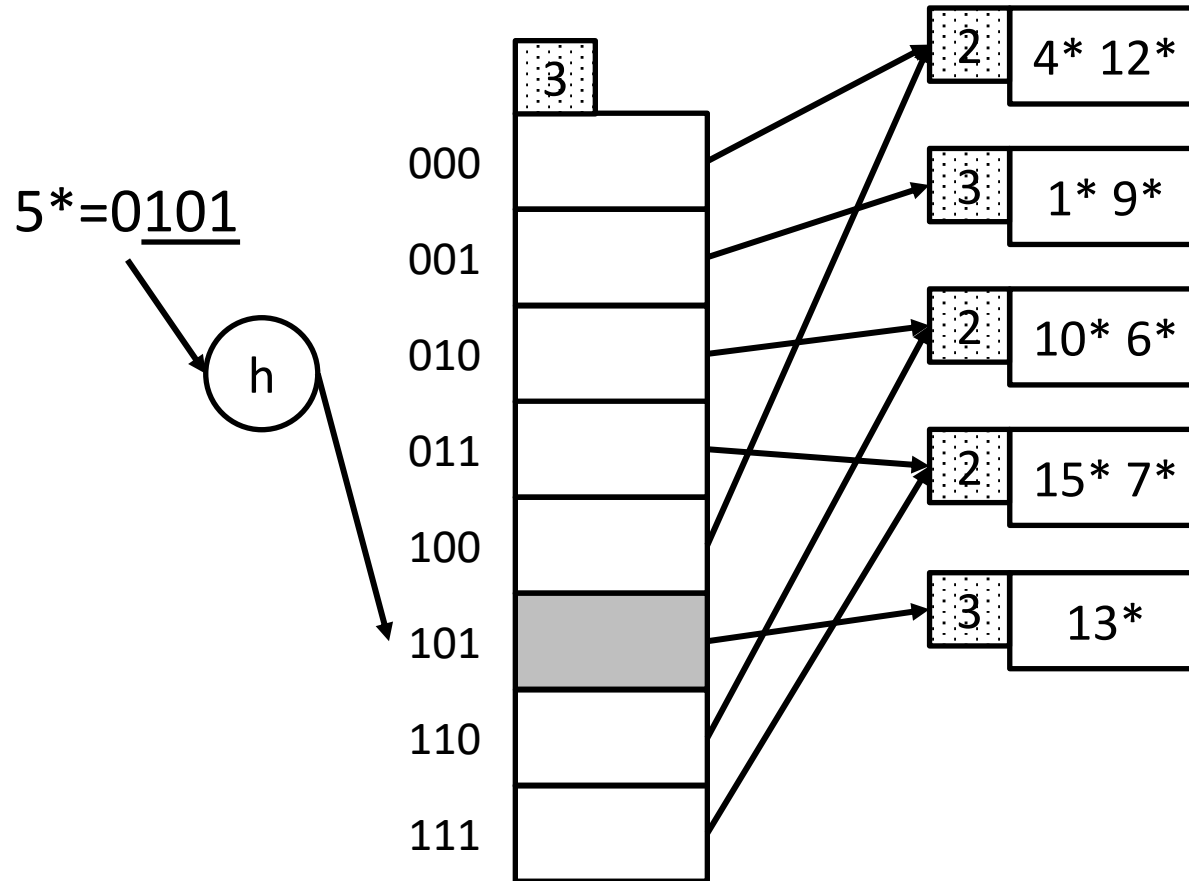
## Example 2: Insert 9



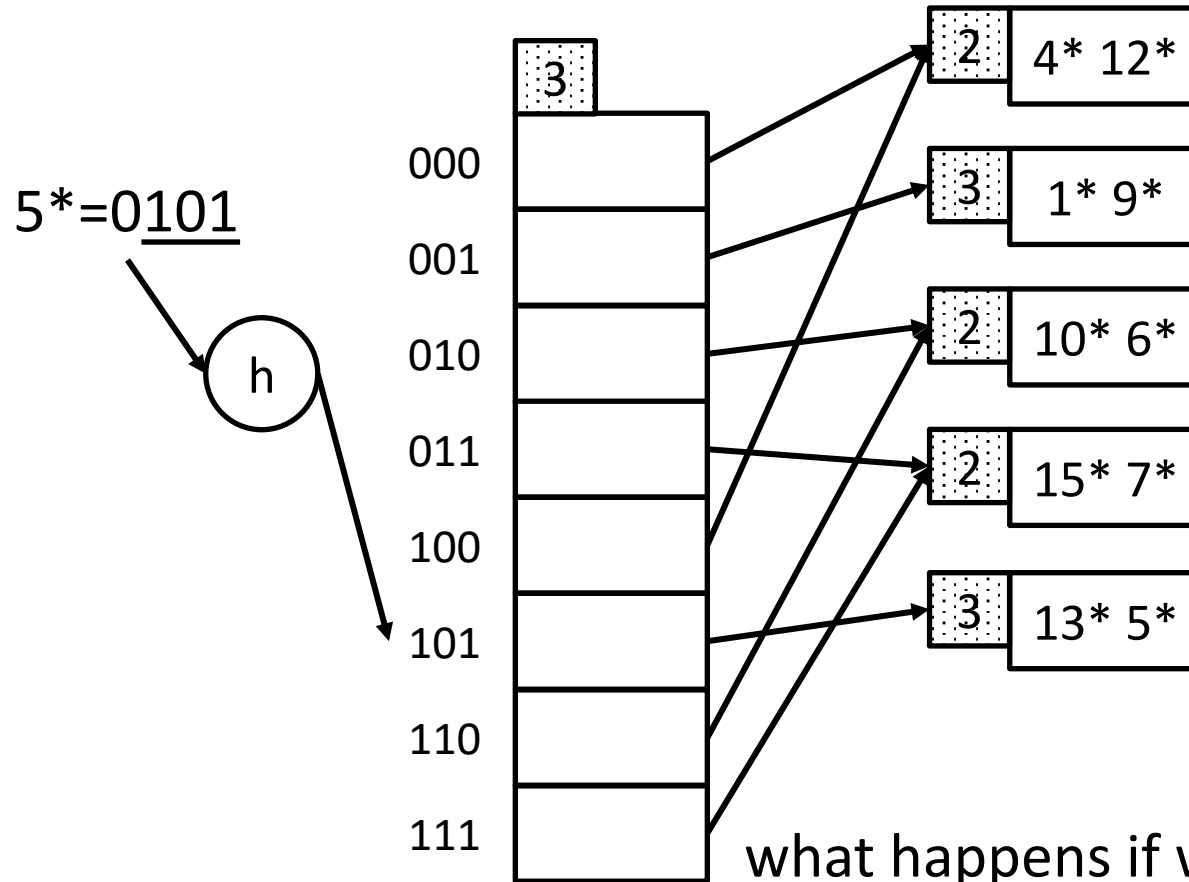
# Example 2: Insert 9



# Example 3: Insert 5



# Example 3: Insert 5



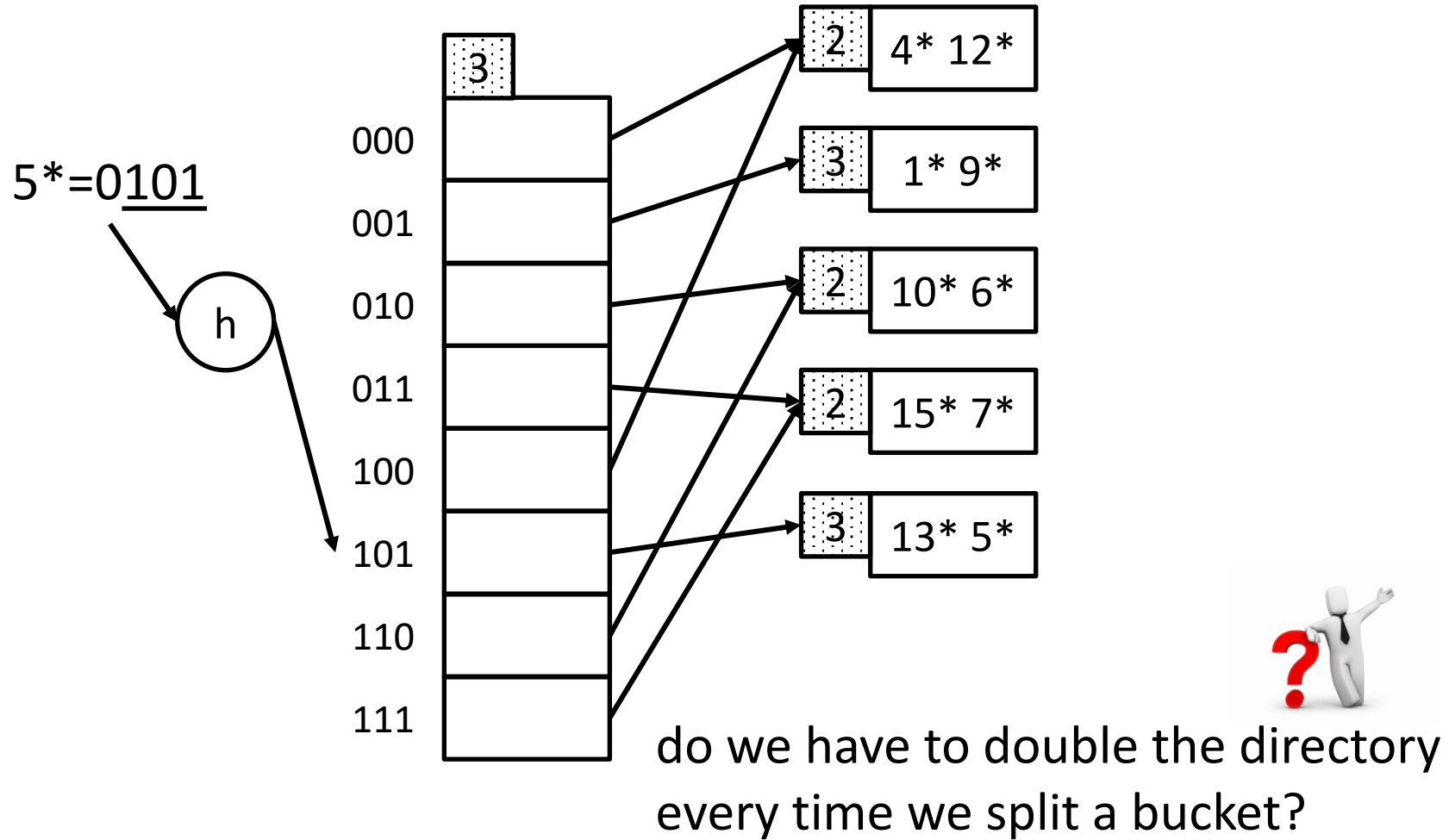
what happens if we want to insert 17?

do we have to re-distribute all?

$[17 \rightarrow 10001]$  so, double the dir again!



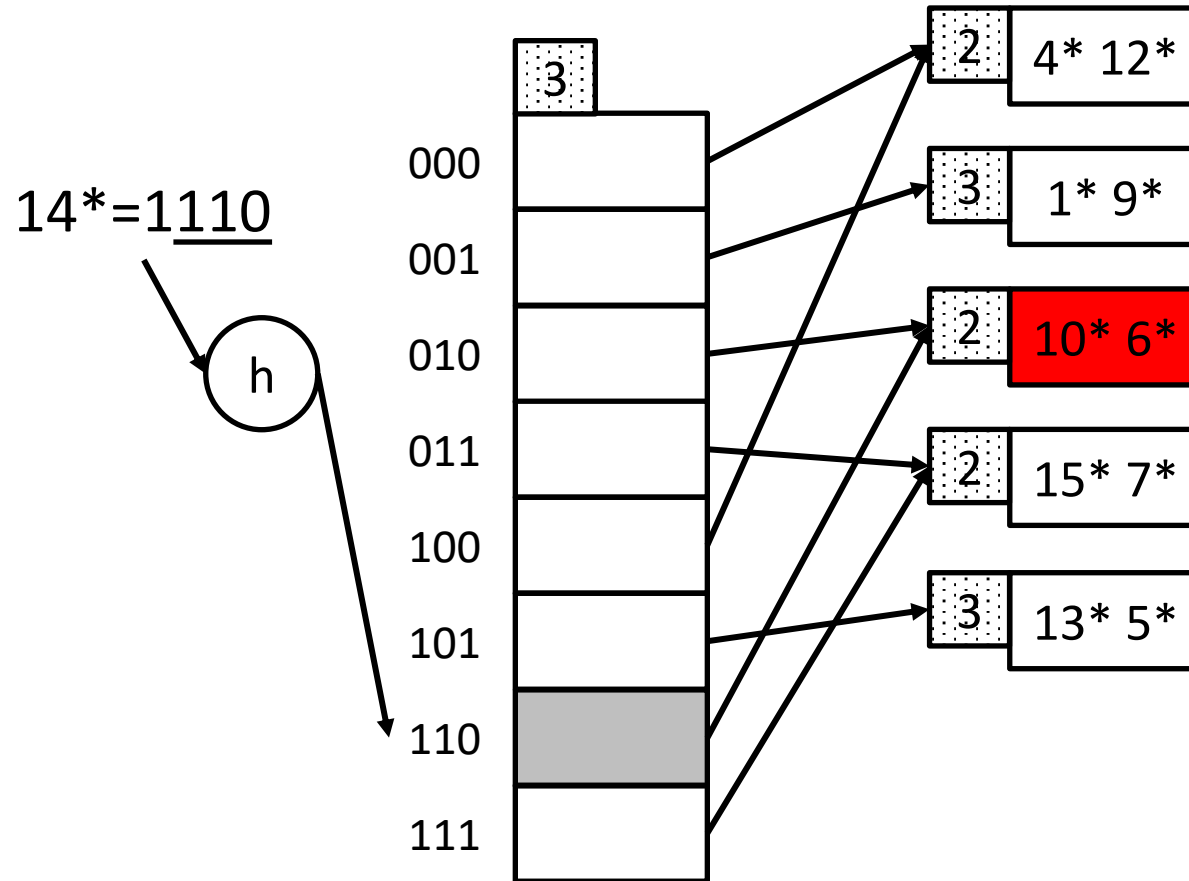
# Example 3: Insert 5



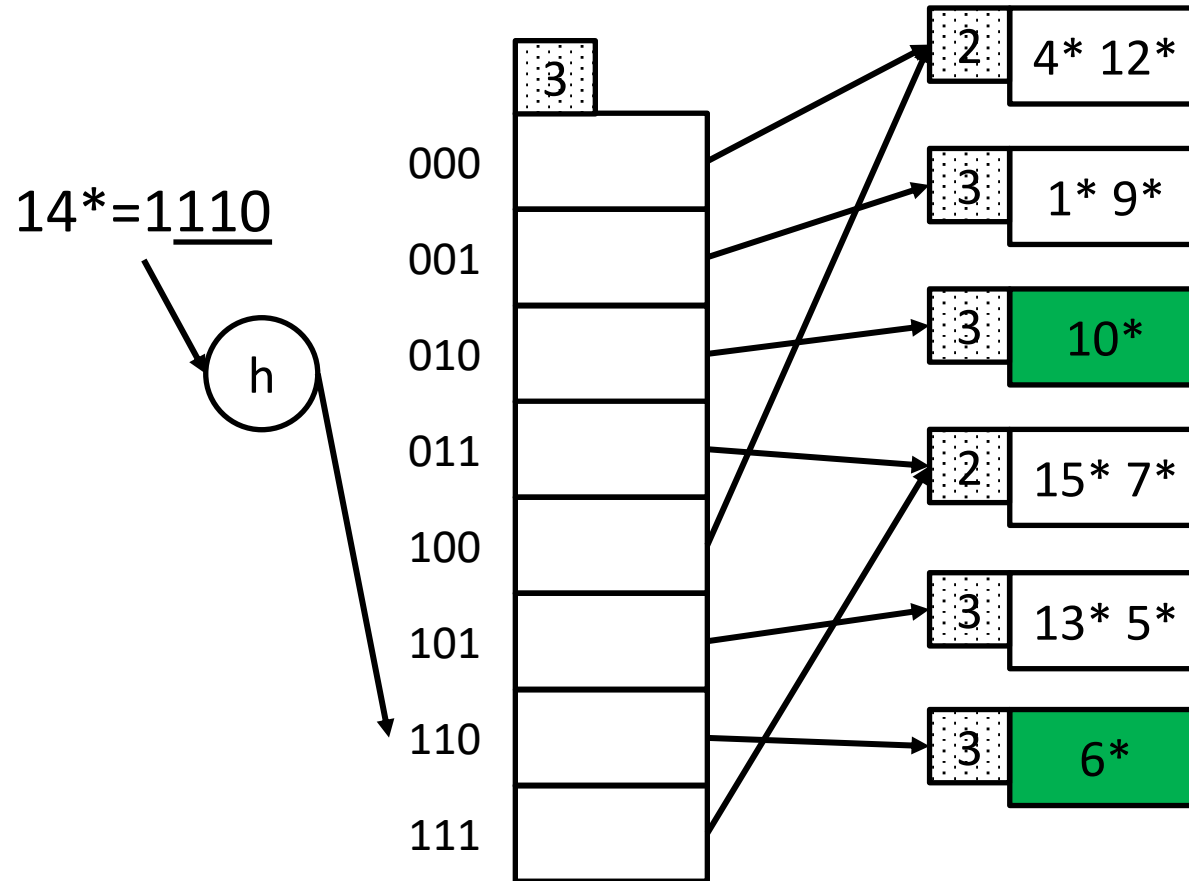




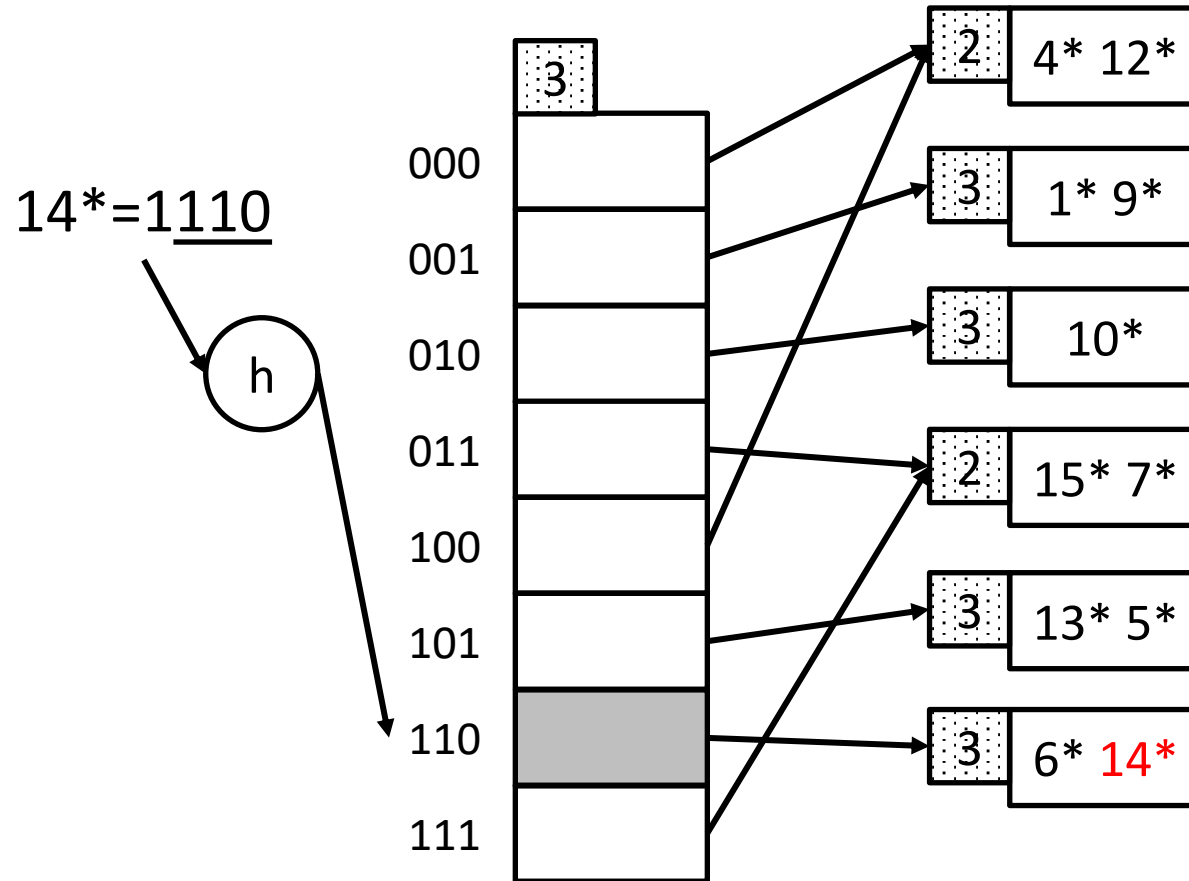
# Example 3: Insert 14



# Example 3: Insert 14



# Example 3: Insert 14



# Notes on Extendible Hashing

How many disk accesses for equality search?

- One if directory fits in memory, else two



Directory grows in spurts, and, if the distribution *of hash values* is skewed, can grow large

# Notes on Extendible Hashing

Do we ever need overflow pages?

- Multiple entries with same hash value cause problems!

**Delete:** Reverse of inserts

- Can merge with split image
- Can shrink the directory by half. When?  
Each directory element points to same bucket as its split image
- Is shrinking/merging a good idea?



# Hash Indexing

Static Hashing

Extendible Hashing

Linear Hashing

# Linear Hashing

another dynamic hashing scheme

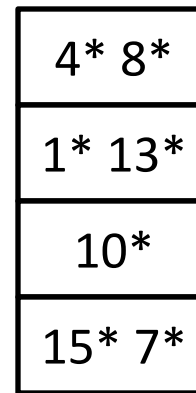
LH handles overflow chains without a directory

Idea: Use overflow pages, and split pages in a round-robin fashion

# Example

this for information reasons!  
it is not really kept.

$h_1$	$h_0$
000	00
001	01
010	10
011	11



Next bucket to split



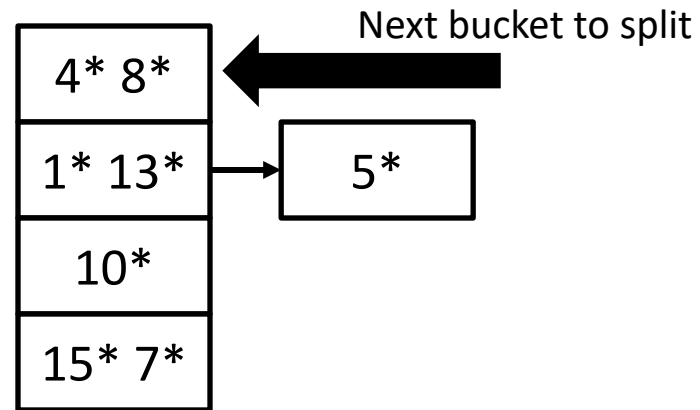
what happens when we insert 5?



# Example

this for information reasons!  
it is not really kept.

$h_1$	$h_0$
000	00
001	01
010	10
011	11



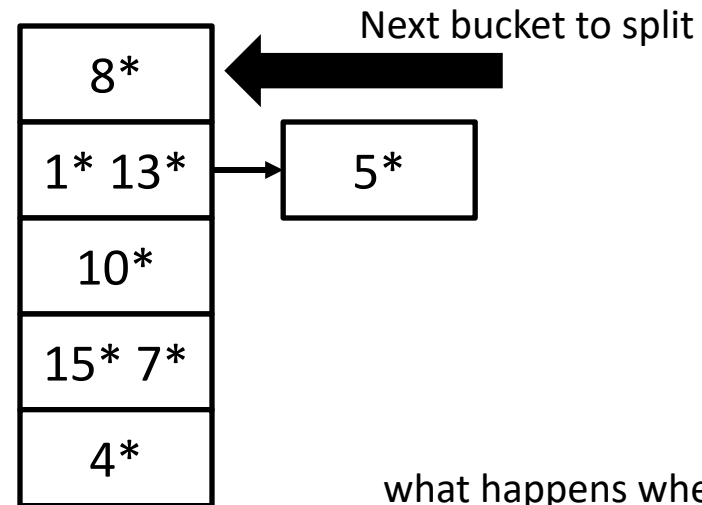
what happens when we insert 5?

(1) 5 goes to an overflow page

# Example

this for information reasons!  
it is not really kept.

$h_1$	$h_0$
000	00
001	01
010	10
011	11
100	



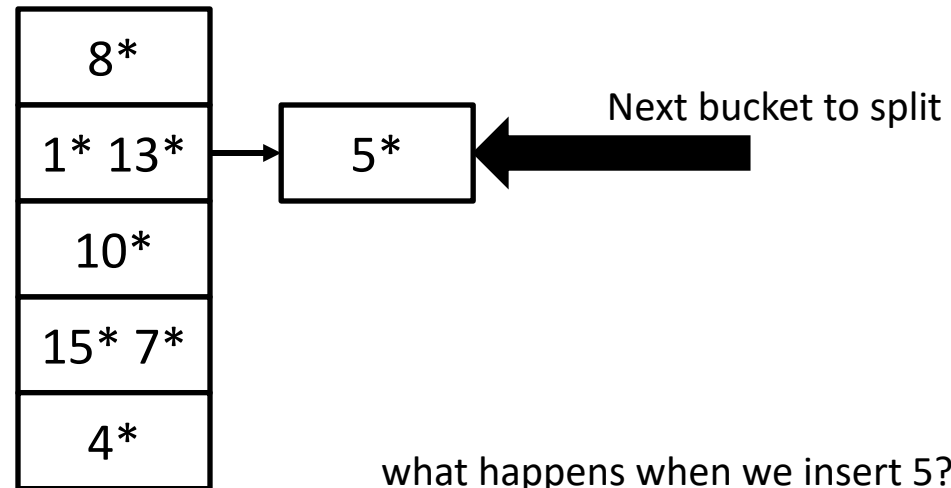
what happens when we insert 5?

- (1) 5 goes to an overflow page
- (2) we split the "next" page

# Example

this for information reasons!  
it is not really kept.

$h_1$	$h_0$
000	00
001	01
010	10
011	11
100	



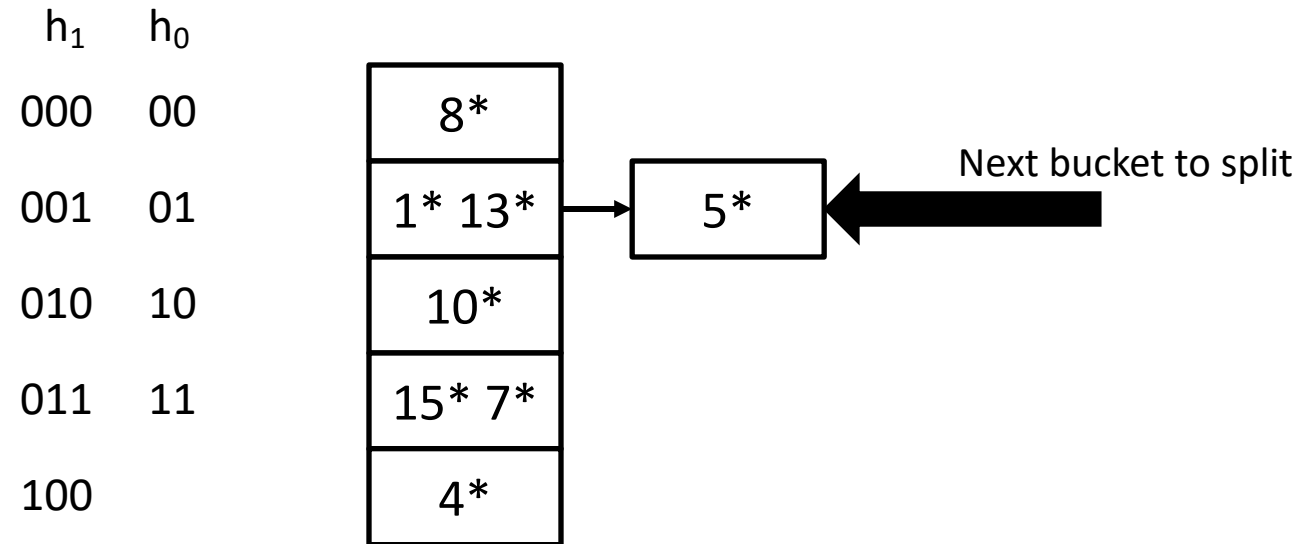
what happens when we insert 5?

- (1) 5 goes to an overflow page
- (2) we split the "next" page
- (3) we move the "next" pointer

# Example: Insert 2

this for information reasons!

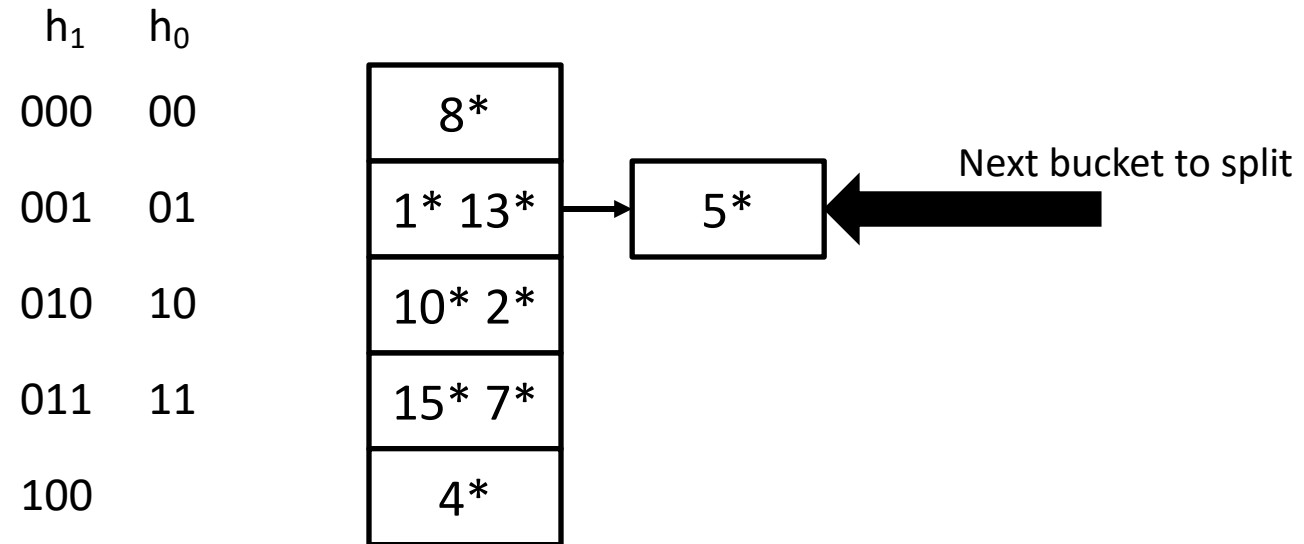
it is not really kept.



# Example: Insert 2

this for information reasons!

it is not really kept.



# Example: Insert 3

this for information reasons!

it is not really kept.

$h_1$     $h_0$

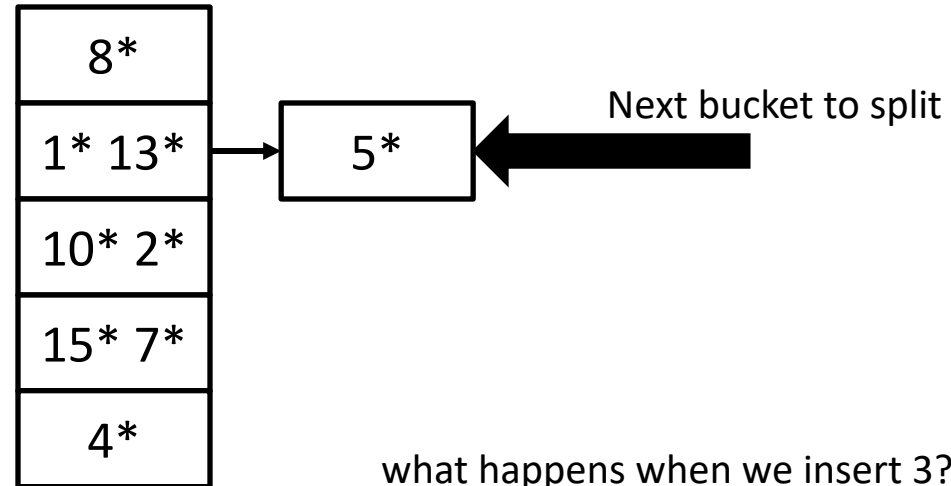
000   00

001   01

010   10

011   11

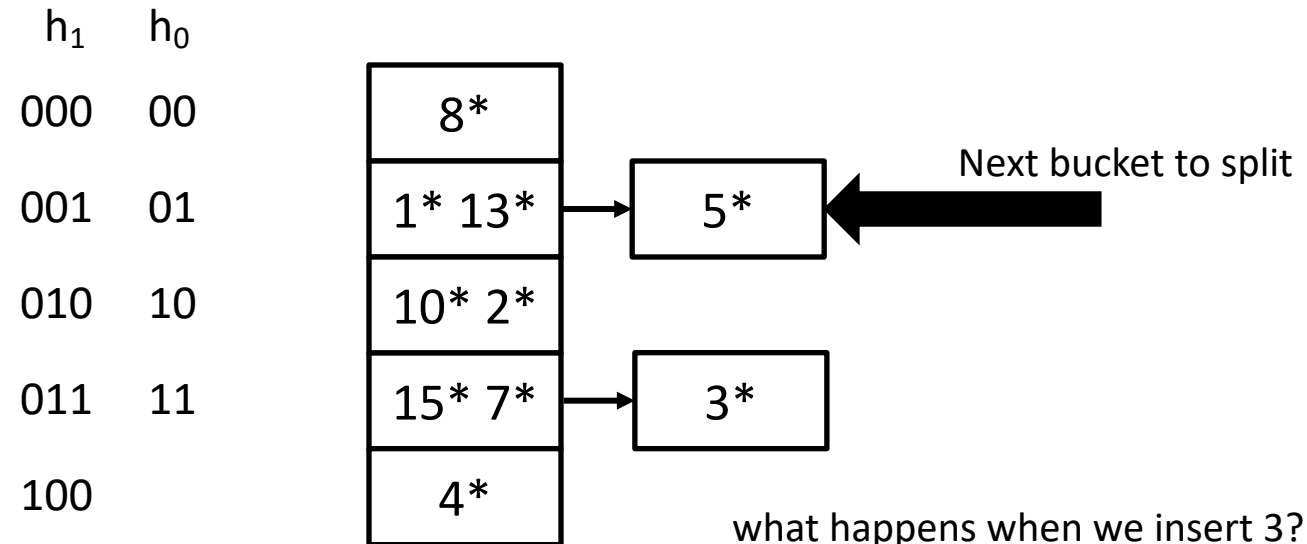
100



# Example: Insert 3

this for information reasons!

it is not really kept.



(1) 3 goes to an overflow page

# Example: Insert 3

this for information reasons!

it is not really kept.

$h_1$     $h_0$

000   00

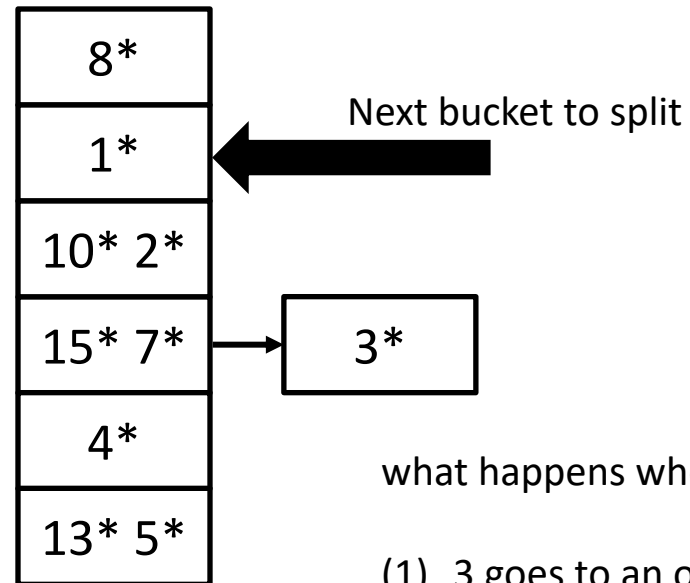
001   01

010   10

011   11

100

101



what happens when we insert 3?

- (1) 3 goes to an overflow page
- (2) we split the "next" page



# Example: Insert 3

this for information reasons!

it is not really kept.

$h_1$     $h_0$

000   00

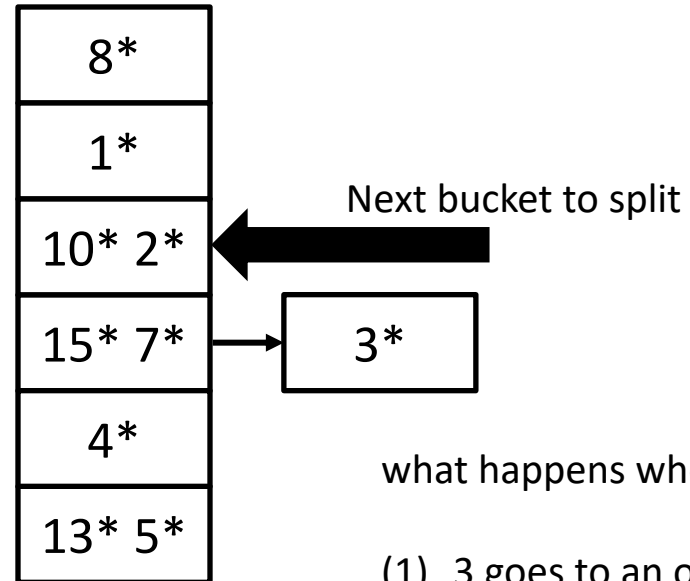
001   01

010   10

011   11

100

101



what happens when we insert 3?

- (1) 3 goes to an overflow page
- (2) we split the "next" page
- (3) we move the "next" pointer

# Linear Hashing

$h_0, h_1, h_2 \dots$  can be more general hash functions

when  $h_0$  hits on a split buffer we employ  $h_1$  and we have to look in both buffers

if the second is also split we use  $h_2$  and so on

Benefit: buckets are split round-robin  
→ no long chains

# Hash Indexing

Hash indexes: best for equality searches

*Static Hashing* can lead to long overflow chains

*Extendible Hashing*

- avoids overflow pages by splitting a bucket when full
- directory to keep track of buckets
- dir. can get too large (>memory) when data is skewed

*Linear Hashing*

- avoids directory by splitting buckets round-robin
- uses overflow pages
- overflow pages not likely to be long