

Introduction

Welcome to assignment 7, in the assignment you are tasked with implementing a **Hash Table**.

A hash table in C/C++ is a data structure that maps keys to values. A hash table uses a hash function to compute indexes for a key. You can store the value at the appropriate location based on the hash table index.

The benefit of using a hash table is its very fast access time. Typically, the time complexity (**amortized time complexity**) is a constant **$O(1)$** access time.

If two different keys get the same index, you will need to use other data structures (buckets) to account for these collisions. If you choose a very good hash function, the likelihood of a collision can be negligible.

The C++ STL (Standard Template Library) has the **`std::unordered_map()`** data structure.

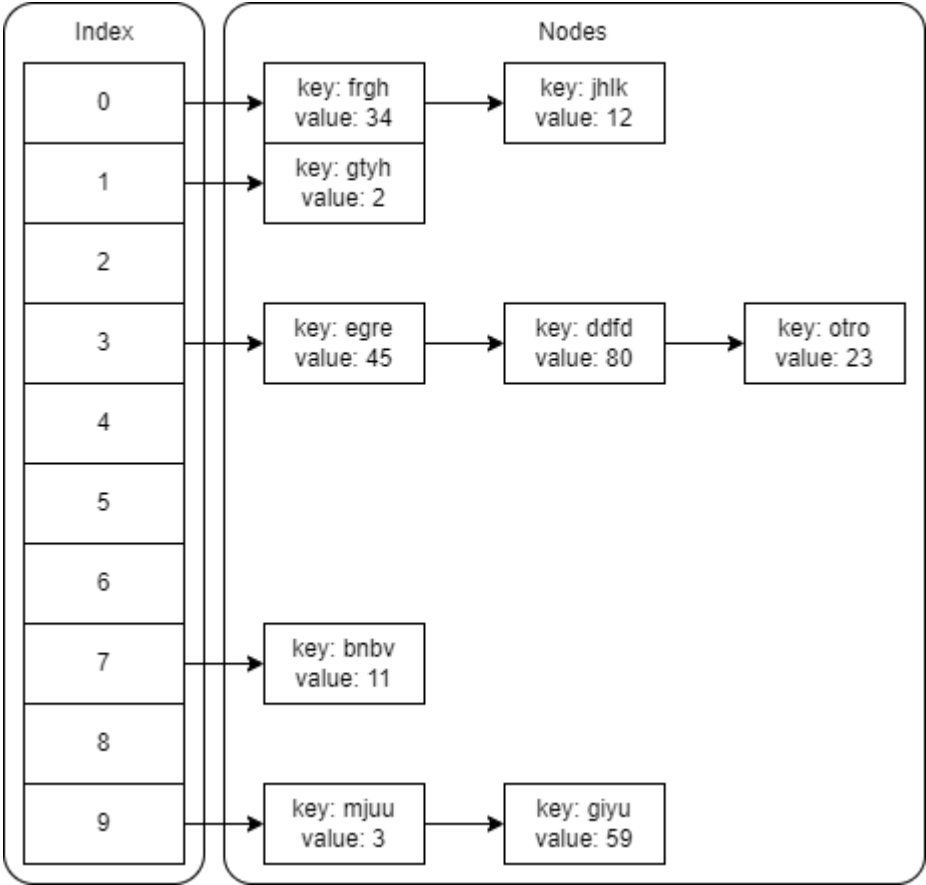
In this assignment, you will construct a hash table from scratch comprised of:

- A hash function to map keys to values.
- A hash table data structure that supports **Insert**, **Get**, and **Delete** operations.
- A data structure to account for a collision of keys.

Hash Tables

Hash Tables are a type of data container. The way they store data is by holding an array of linked lists (also commonly referred to as buckets).

- Here is an example of the memory layout in a Hash Table:



- Hash Tables rely on hash functions to sort the data into their buckets. Hash functions work by taking in a key and applying a user-defined algorithm to generate an index corresponding to the bucket to store that value.

```
key -> HashFunction() -> index
```

Hash Table Structure Layouts

HashTable Structure

```
// Structure for the hash table
typedef struct _HashTable
{
    Node* table[TABLE_SIZE];
} HashTable;
```

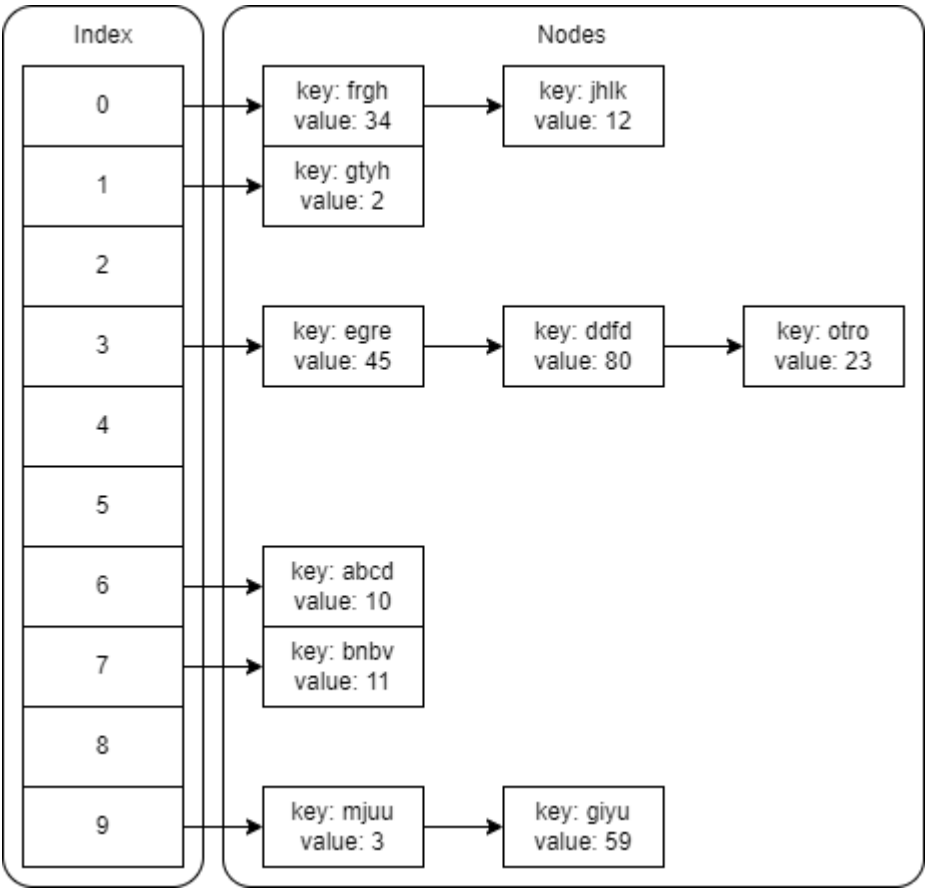
Node Structure

```
// Structure for a node in the linked list
typedef struct _Node
{
    char key[50];
    int value;
    struct _Node* next;
} Node;
```

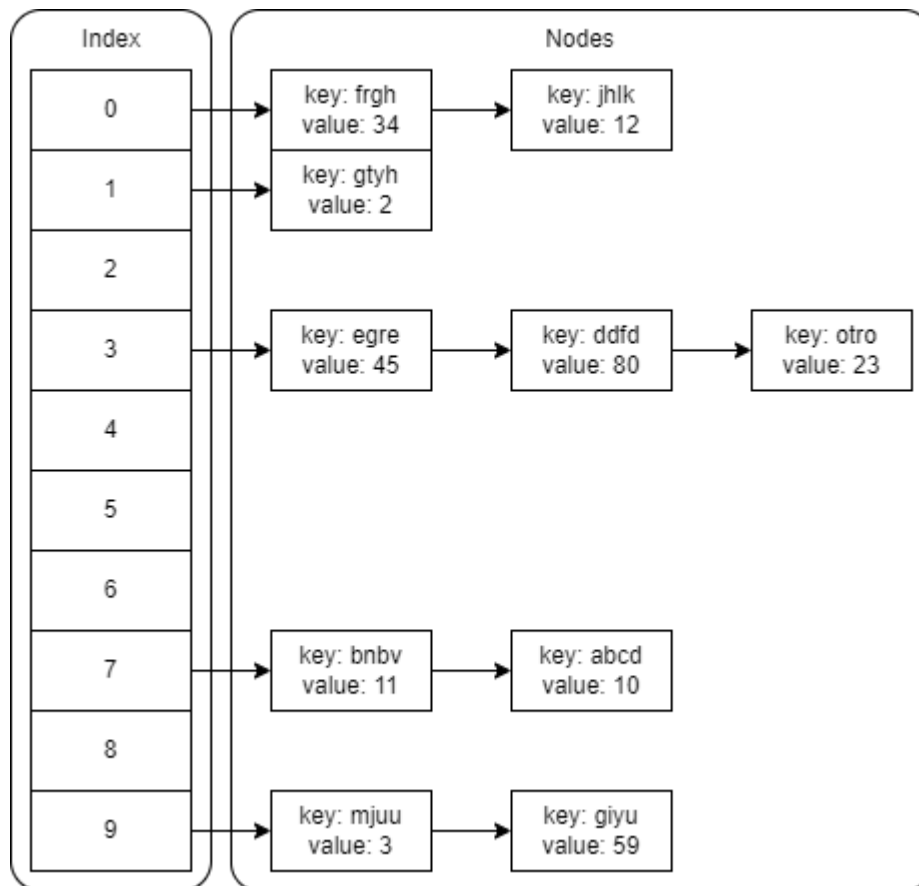
- **Note:** *TABLE_SIZE* should be defined as a constant 10

Hash Table Insertion

- To insert a new item { key: "abcd", value: 10 } into the Hash Table, first we run the key through the hash function to generate an index from 0 - (TABLE_SIZE-1). Let's say the index generated for abcd is 6, so then the value 10 is stored in the bucket at the 6th index of the Hash Table.



- In the event that the index generated was 7 instead, the value 10 would be added as the next element in the bucket at the 7th index of the Hash Table.



- Note:** Each *Node* is dynamically allocated and added to the bucket for every value inserted.

Hash Table Accessing

The process to retrieve values from the Hash Table is similar to insertion. Lets say we want to retrieve value with the key `abcd`.

- Run the key through the hash function to get the index of the data's bucket, in this case `7`.
- Iterate through the bucket till you reach the `Node` with the desired key and return the value.

Hash Table Printing

- Iterate through the array of buckets.
- Iterate through each `Node` in each bucket, printing out it's value.

```
[0] -> 34 -> 12
[1] -> 2
[2]
[3] -> 45 -> 80 -> 23
[4]
[5]
[6]
[7] -> 11 -> 10
[8]
[9] -> 3 -> 59
```

Hash Table Deletion

- Iterate through the array of buckets.
- Iterate through each `Node` in each bucket, deleting the nodes.

Requirements

1. You are tasked with creating and implementing the `hash-table.h` and `hash-table.c` files which declares and defines the Hash Table logic described in the above section.
2. You are allowed to use any techniques/programming patterns previously discussed in our lessons in your implementation.
3. Run the `!run.bat` file to run the suite of tests to test your Hash Table implementation.
4. You are to ensure that there are no memory leaks in your final program submission.