Data Structures Linear Probing

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Teaching, Training and Coaching since more than a decade!

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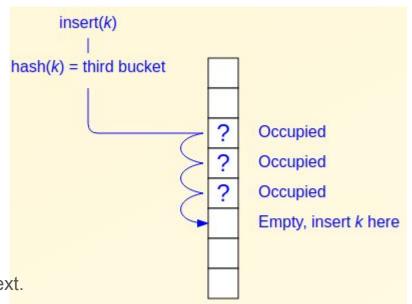


Probing

- Another way to handle collision
- Create only a single 1D array
- Given a hash index:
 - If it is empty, add the item
 - If not, move to the next element (linear probing)
 - Again, if empty use it. If not, move to the next.
 - We may go circular in the array
 - In the worst case, all array content will be used

Observe

- Chaining technique: memory is expanding all the time
- Probing: Fixed memory as limited to initial array
- o In both, we can rehash if we have to

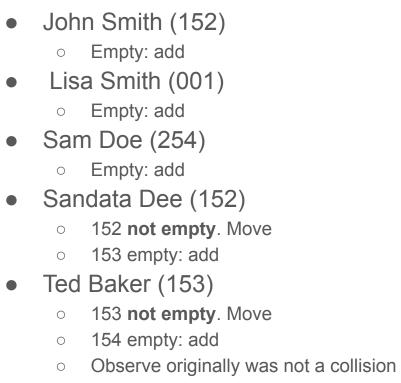


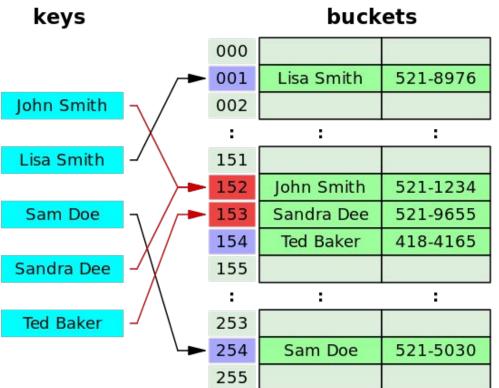
Recall Example

Assume we use these entries and computed their final hash function

Name (as search key)	Attached data (phone #)	Hash Function code
John Smith	5211234	152
Lisa Smith	5218976	1
Sam Doe	5215030	254
Sandata Dee	5219655	152 (collision)
Ted Baker	4184165	153

Put in order (linear probing)

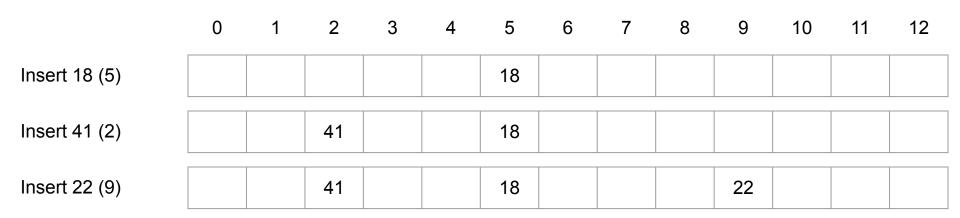




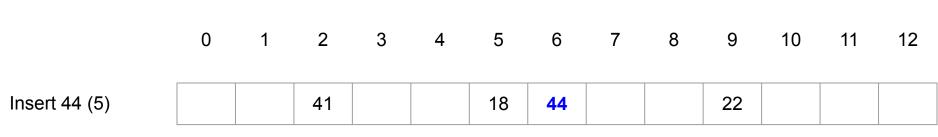
Search and deletion

- Search (same as put)
 - Compute hash idx. As long as not empty and not target key, move 1 step
- Deletion is tricky!
 - Imagine we inserted items that ended up 5 consecutive elements in table
 - E.g. A, B, C, D, E
 - Search(D) ⇒ Exist
 - Delete $C \Rightarrow A$, B, Empty, D, E
 - Search(D) ⇒ not exist!
 - The problem search stops when finds an empty item! But this empty because deletion
 - o Trivial solution: Mark a cell as deleted so that we keep going in search

- Assume we have following integers
 - [18, 41, 22, 44, 59, 32, 31, 73] and their hash index: [5, 2, 9, 5, 7, 6, 5, 8] and our array is 13 cells



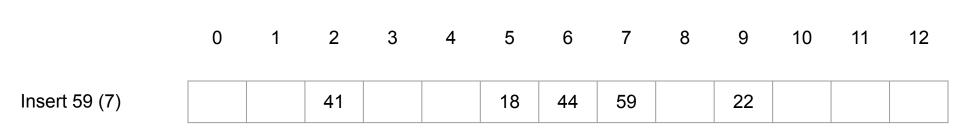
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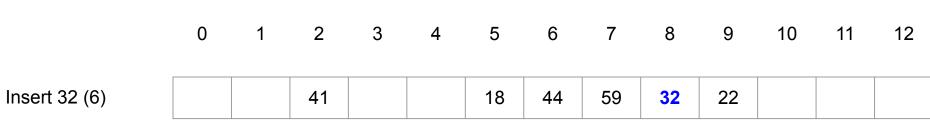
5? not empty

6? Empty. Use it

- Assume we have following integers
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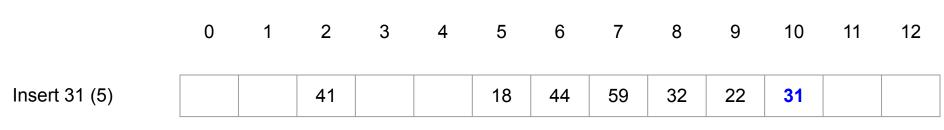


6? not empty

7? not empty

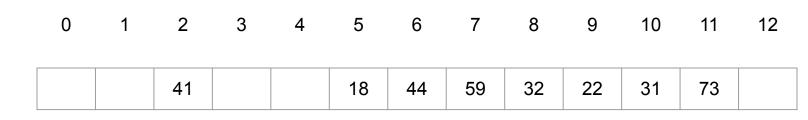
8? Empty. Use it

- Assume we have following integers
 - o [18, 41, 22, 44, 59, 32, **31**, 73] and their hash index: [5, 2, 9, 5, 7, 6, **5**, 8] and our array is 13 cells



5? not empty
6? not empty
7? not empty
8? not empty
9? not empty
10? Empty. Use it

- Assume we have following integers
 - o [18, 41, 22, 44, 59, 32, 31, **73**] and their hash index: [5, 2, 9, 5, 7, 6, 5, **8**] and our array is 13 cells

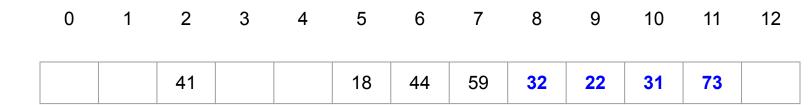


8? not empty

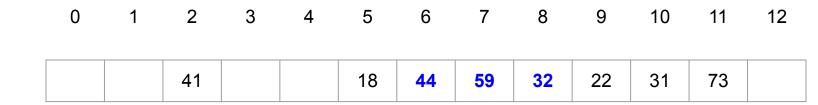
Insert 73 (8)

9? not empty
10? not empty
11? Empty. Use it

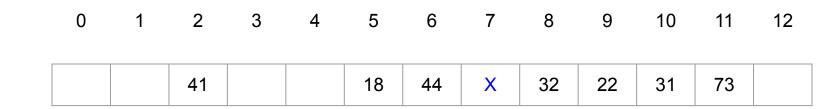
- Search 115 (hash = 8)
 - Idx = 8: 32 == 115? No. Move
 - o Idx = 9: 22 == 115? No. Move
 - Idx = 10: 31 == 115? No. Move
 - o Idx = 11: 73 == 115? No. Move
 - o Idx = 12: None. **Not found**



- Search 32 (hash = 6)
 - o Idx = 6: 44 == 32? No. Move
 - Idx = 7: 59 == 32? No. Move
 - o Idx = 8: 32 == 32? Found



- Delete 59 (hash = 7)
 - o Idx = 7: 59 == 59? Yes, delete (mark as deleted, but leave it showing something was here)

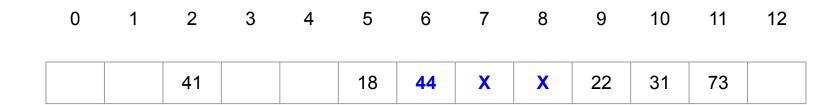


- Search 32 (hash = 6)
 - o Idx = 6: 44 == 32? No. Move
 - Idx = 7: X == 32? No. Move
 - o Idx = 8: 32 == 32? Found

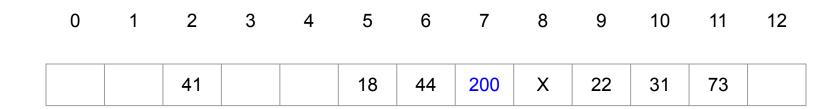
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 41 18 44 X 32 22 31 73

[without mark, we fail here!]

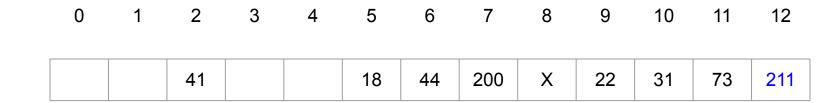
- Delete 32 (hash = 6)
 - o Idx = 6: 44 == 32? No. Move
 - Idx = 7: X == 32? No. Move
 - o Idx = 8: 32 == 32? Mark as deleted



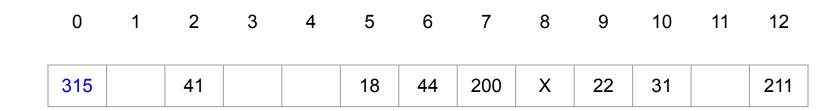
- Insert 200 (hash = 6)
 - o Idx 6: empty? No. move
 - o ldx 7: is marked as deleted. Just use it



- Insert 211 (hash = 12)
 - o Idx 12: empty? Use it



- Insert 315 (hash = 12)
 - Idx 12: empty? No move. Go circular to 0
 - o Idx 0: empty? Use it
- Note: there are only 5 elements remaining in this table (4 + X)



Rehashing

- Similar to chanining, after some load_factor limit we can rehash
- But there is another reason with probing technique
- Imagine we have several deletion. No array has many marks X
- But this means our search will take much time
 - Better rehash at this stage
- With a good hash function, it can be shown that the expected number of insertion approximately 1 / (1 - load_factor) steps
 - E.g. for a load factor of 0.75, we take 4 steps \Rightarrow O(1)

Probing Techniques

- Linear probing (today)
 - Index = (inital_hash + i)%table_size for i = $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ⇒ move to next position
 - o If inital_hash = 10 ⇒ Try as long as not empty {10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15....}
 - Issue: Create blocks of consecutive values ⇒ More time for search

Quadratic Probing

- o Index = (inital hash + i * i)%table size
- We jump to square positions. E.g. 10 + 0, then 10+1, then 10 + 4, then 10+9, then 10+16

Double Hashing

- Use 2 independent hash functions
- o Index = (inital_hash1 + inital_hash2 * i)%table_size
- The 2nd hash function should have <u>several characteristics</u>

"Acquire knowledge and impart it to the people."

"Seek knowledge from the Cradle to the Grave."