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1. Hash Table

It's a data structure that implements an associative array, mapping keys to values using a hash function.

• Key Concepts

- Hash Function: Converts a key into an index in the hash table.
- Buckets: Storage slots for values; collisions can result in multiple keys mapping to the same bucket.
- Collision Resolution :
- Chaining: Storing multiple elements in the same bucket using a linked list.
- Open Addressing: Finding alternative slots using methods like linear probing or quadratic probing.

Operations

- Insertion: Insert a key-value pair by computing the hash index.
- Search: Retrieve the value associated with a given key.
- Deletion: Remove a key-value pair by locating the key's index.

Advantages

- Average O(1) time complexity for search, insert, and delete operations.
- Efficient for large datasets.

Disadvantages

- Performance depends on a good hash function.
- Requires resizing and rehashing when the load factor exceeds a threshold.

2. Graphs

It's a data structure used to represent relationships between pairs of objects. It consists of:

- Vertices (nodes): Fundamental units representing entities.
- Edges (connections): Relationships between pairs of vertices.

• Types of Graphs

- Undirected Graph: Edges have no direction.
- Directed Graph (Digraph): Edges have a direction.
- Weighted Graph: Edges have weights representing costs or distances.
- Unweighted Graph: Edges have no weights.
- Cyclic/acyclic Graphs: Graphs with or without cycles.

Representations

- Adjacency Matrix:
- 2D array where rows and columns represent vertices.
- Space complexity: $O(V^2)$, where V is the number of vertices.
- Adjacency List:
- Array of lists where each list contains adjacent vertices.
- Space-efficient for sparse graphs.

• Algorithms

- Traversal:
- Breadth-First Search (BFS): Explores all neighbors level by level.
- Depth-First Search (DFS): Explores as far as possible along one branch before backtracking.
- Shortest Path:
- Dijkstra's Algorithm : For graphs with non-negative weights.
- Bellman-Ford Algorithm : Handles negative weights.
- Minimum Spanning Tree:
- Kruskal's Algorithm: Uses edges sorted by weight.
- Prim's Algorithm: Builds the tree starting from a single vertex.

Advantages

- Models complex relationships effectively.
- Flexible representation for varying applications.

Disadvantages

- Storage can be inefficient for dense graphs.
- Traversal algorithms may be computationally expensive for large graphs.