

# Sets & Maps

# 8B

Hash tables



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## Hashing



- Data records are stored in a hash table.
- The position of a data record in the hash table is determined by its key.
- A hash function maps keys to positions in the hash table.
- If a hash function maps two keys to the same position in the hash table, then a collision occurs.

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## Example

- Let the hash table be an 11-element array.
- If  $k$  is the key of a data record, let  $H(k)$  represent the hash function, where  $H(k) = k \bmod 11$ .
- Insert the keys 83, 14, 29, 70, 10, 55, 72:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

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## Goals of Hashing

- An insert without a collision takes  $O(1)$  time.
- A search also takes  $O(1)$  time, if the record is stored in its proper location (without a collision).
- The hash function can take many forms:
  - If the key  $k$  is an integer:  
 $k \% \text{tablesize}$
  - If key  $k$  is a String (or any Object):  
 $k.\text{hashCode()} \% \text{tablesize}$
  - Any function that maps  $k$  to a table position!
- The table size should be a prime number.

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# Hash Functions for String Values



```
int h(String x, int M) {  
    char ch[];  
    ch = x.toCharArray();  
    int xlength = x.length();  
  
    int i, sum;  
    for (sum=0, i=0; i < x.length(); i++)  
        sum += ch[i];  
    return sum % M;  
}
```

Some examples are as follows -

sum for the String "abc" =  $97 + 98 + 99 = 294$

Given  $M = 15$ , the result is  $294 \% 15 = 9$

sum for the String "Hello" =  $72 + 101 + 108 + 108 + 111 = 500$

Given  $M = 15$ , the result is  $500 \% 15 = 5$

## Linear Probing



- During insert of key  $k$  to position  $p$ :  
If position  $p$  contains a different key, then examine positions  $p+1$ ,  $p+2$ , etc.\* until an empty position is found and insert  $k$  there.
- During a search for key  $k$  at position  $p$ :  
If position  $p$  contains a different key, then examine positions  $p+1$ ,  $p+2$ , etc.\* until either the key is found or an unused position is encountered.

*\*wrap around to beginning of array if  $p+i \geq \text{table size}$*

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## Linear Probing Example



- Example: Insert additional keys 72, 36, 65, 48 using  $H(k) = k \bmod 11$  and linear probing.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
55			14	70		83	29			10

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# Chained Hashing

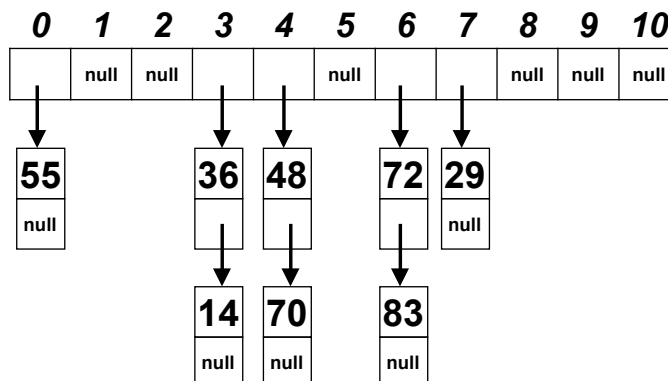


- The maximum number of elements that can be stored in a hash table implemented using an array is the table size.
- We can store more elements than the table size by using chained hashing.
  - Each array position in the hash table is a head reference to a linked list of keys (a "bucket").
  - All colliding keys that hash to an array position are inserted to that bucket.
- `HashMap` and `HashSet` use chained hashing.

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Example: Insert additional keys 72, 36, 48, 29, 55, 14, 70, 83 using  $H(k) = k \bmod 11$  and chained hashing.



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**Use chained hashing and linear probing to insert the following keys:**



**103 8 108 208 308 10 9**

## Load Factor



- The load factor  $\alpha$  of a hash table with  $n$  elements is given by the following formula:

$$\alpha = n / \text{table.length}$$

- Thus,  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  for linear probing.  
( $\alpha$  can be greater than 1 for other collision resolution methods)
- For linear probing, as  $\alpha$  approaches 1, the number of collisions increases

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## Reducing Collisions

- The probability of a collision increases as the load factor increases.
- We cannot just double the size of the table and copy the elements from the original table to the new table.
  - Why?



## Rehashing

- Algorithm:
  - Allocate a new hash table twice the size of the original table.
  - Reinsert each element of the old table into the new table (using the hash function).
  - Reference the new table as the hash table.
- `HashMap` and `HashSet` use a default load factor of 0.75 and an initial capacity of 16.