

11.1-2.

A **bit vector** is simply an array of bits (0s and 1s). A bit vector of length m takes much less space than an array of m pointers. Describe how to use a bit vector to represent a dynamic set of distinct elements with no satellite data. Dictionary operations should run in $O(1)$ time.

Answer.

Using the bit vector data structure, we can represent keys less than m by a string of m bits, denoted by $V[0..m-1]$, in which each position that occupied by the bit 1, corresponds to a key in the set S . If the set contains no element with key k , then $V[k] = 0$. For instance, we can store the set $\{2, 4, 6, 10, 16\}$ in a bit vector of length 20:

0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0

The dictionary operations are trivial to implement:

BITMAP-SEARCH(V, k)

```
1  if  $V[k] \neq 0$ 
2      return  $k$ 
3  else return NIL
```

BITMAP-INSERT(V, x)

```
1   $V[x] = 1$ 
```

BITMAP-DELETE(V, x)

```
1   $V[x] = 0$ 
```

Each of these operations takes only $O(1)$ time.

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