

Hash-Based Indexes

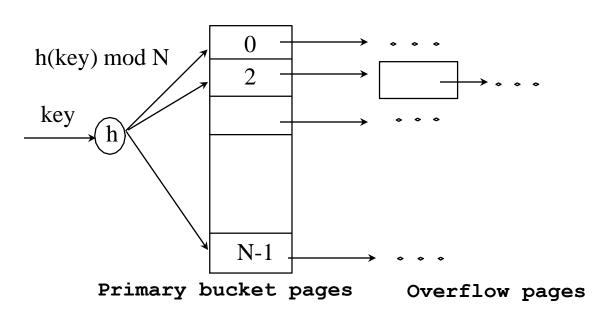
Chapter 10

Introduction

- \diamond As for any index, 3 alternatives for data entries \mathbf{k}^* :
 - Data record with key value k
 - <k, rid of data record with search key value k>
 - <k, list of rids of data records with search key k>
 - Choice orthogonal to the *indexing technique*
- * <u>Hash-based</u> indexes are best for *equality selections*. *Cannot* support range searches.
- Static and dynamic hashing techniques exist; trade-offs similar to ISAM vs. B+ trees.

Static Hashing

- # primary pages fixed, allocated sequentially, never de-allocated; overflow pages if needed.
- * h(k) mod M = bucket to which data entry with key k belongs. (M = # of buckets)





Static Hashing (Contd.)

- * Buckets contain data entries.
- ❖ Hash fn works on search key field of record r. Must distribute values over range 0 ... M-1.
 - $\mathbf{h}(key) = (\mathbf{a} * key + \mathbf{b})$ usually works well.
 - a and b are constants; lots known about how to tune h.
- Long overflow chains can develop and degrade performance.
 - *Extendible* and *Linear Hashing*: Dynamic techniques to fix this problem.

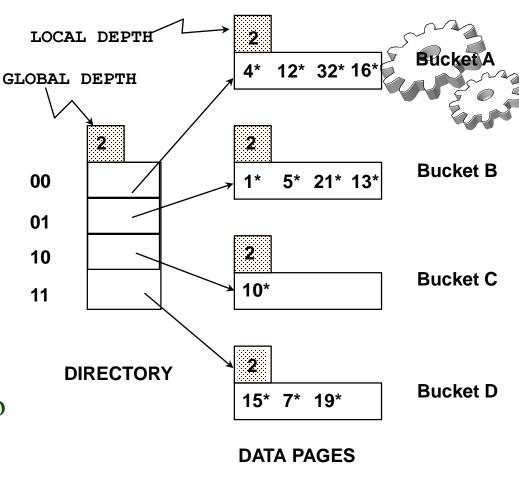


Extendible Hashing

- ❖ Situation: Bucket (primary page) becomes full. Why not re-organize file by *doubling* # of buckets?
 - Reading and writing all pages is expensive!
 - *Idea*: Use *directory of pointers to buckets*, double # of buckets by *doubling the directory*, splitting just the bucket that overflowed!
 - Directory much smaller than file, so doubling it is much cheaper. Only one page of data entries is split. No overflow page!
 - Trick lies in how hash function is adjusted!

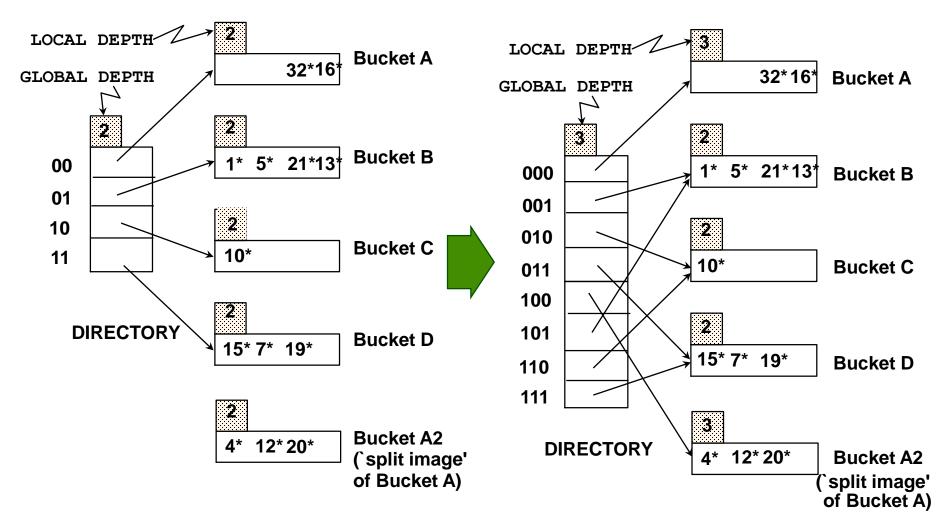


- * Directory is array of size 4.
- * To find bucket for r, take last `global depth' # bits of $\mathbf{h}(r)$; we denote r by $\mathbf{h}(r)$.
 - If $\mathbf{h}(r) = 5 = \text{binary } 101$, it is in bucket pointed to by 01.



- * <u>Insert</u>: If bucket is full, <u>split</u> it (allocate new page, re-distribute).
- * *If necessary*, double the directory. (As we will see, splitting a bucket does not always require doubling; we can tell by comparing *global depth* with *local depth* for the split bucket.)

Insert h(r)=20 (Causes Doubling)



Points to Note

- ❖ 20 = binary 10100. Last 2 bits (00) tell us r belongs in A or A2. Last 3 bits needed to tell which.
 - Global depth of directory: Max # of bits needed to tell which bucket an entry belongs to.
 - Local depth of a bucket: # of bits used to determine if an entry belongs to this bucket.
- When does bucket split cause directory doubling?
 - Before insert, local depth of bucket = global depth. Insert causes local depth to become > global depth; directory is doubled by copying it over and `fixing' pointer to split image page. (Use of least significant bits enables efficient doubling via copying of directory!)





Why use least significant bits in directory?

⇔ Allows for doubling via copying!

$$6 = 110$$

$$000$$

$$001$$

$$010$$

$$01$$

$$01$$

$$10$$

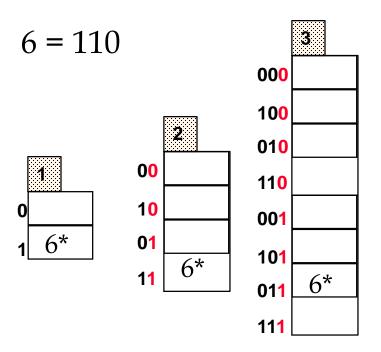
$$6^*$$

$$11$$

$$11$$

$$6^*$$

$$111$$



Least Significant

VS.

Most Significant

Comments on Extendible Hashing

- ❖ If directory fits in memory, equality search answered with one disk access; else two.
 - 100MB file, 100 bytes/rec, 4K pages contains 1,000,000 records (as data entries) and 25,000 directory elements; chances are high that directory will fit in memory.
 - Directory grows in spurts, and, if the distribution *of hash values* is skewed, directory can grow large.
 - Multiple entries with same hash value cause problems!
- * Delete: If removal of data entry makes bucket empty, can be merged with `split image'. If each directory element points to same bucket as its split image, can halve directory.

Linear Hashing

- This is another dynamic hashing scheme, an alternative to Extendible Hashing.
- LH handles the problem of long overflow chains without using a directory, and handles duplicates.
- * *Idea*: Use a family of hash functions \mathbf{h}_0 , \mathbf{h}_1 , \mathbf{h}_2 , ...
 - $\mathbf{h}_{i}(key) = \mathbf{h}(key) \mod(2^{i}N)$; N = initial # buckets
 - **h** is some hash function (range is *not* 0 to N-1)
 - If N = 2^{d0} , for some d0, \mathbf{h}_i consists of applying \mathbf{h} and looking at the last di bits, where di = d0 + i.
 - \mathbf{h}_{i+1} doubles the range of \mathbf{h}_{i} (similar to directory doubling)

Linear Hashing (Contd.)

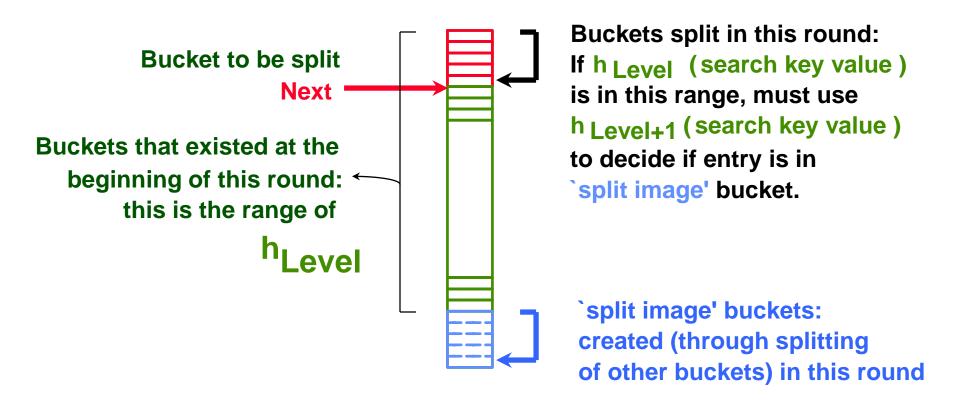


- Directory avoided in LH by using overflow pages, and choosing bucket to split round-robin.
 - Splitting proceeds in `rounds'. Round ends when all N_R initial (for round R) buckets are split. Buckets 0 to *Next-1* have been split; *Next* to N_R yet to be split.
 - Current round number is *Level*.
 - Search: To find bucket for data entry r, find $\mathbf{h}_{Level}(r)$:
 - If $\mathbf{h}_{Level}(r)$ in range `Next to N_R ', r belongs here.
 - Else, r could belong to bucket $\mathbf{h}_{Level}(r)$ or bucket $\mathbf{h}_{Level}(r) + N_R$; must apply $\mathbf{h}_{Level+1}(r)$ to find out.

Overview of LH File



* In the middle of a round.



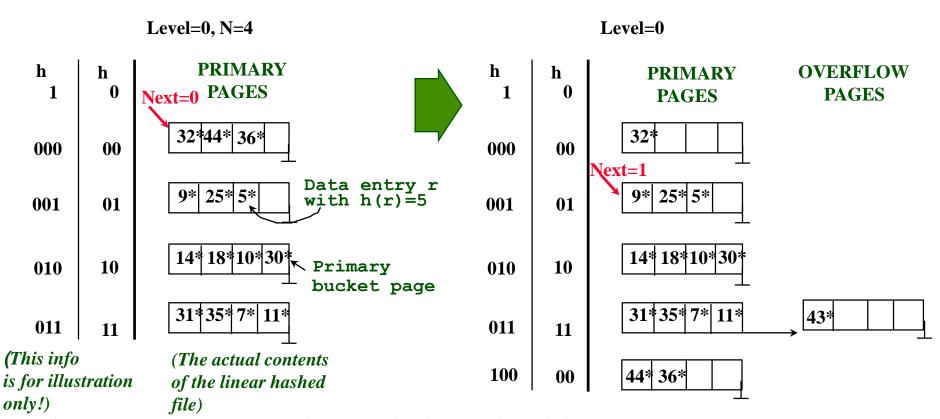
Linear Hashing (Contd.)

- * Insert: Find bucket by applying \mathbf{h}_{Level} / $\mathbf{h}_{Level+1}$:
 - If bucket to insert into is full:
 - Add overflow page and insert data entry.
 - (*Maybe*) Split *Next* bucket and increment *Next*.
- Can choose any criterion to `trigger' split.
- Since buckets are split round-robin, long overflow chains don't develop!
- ❖ Doubling of directory in Extendible Hashing is similar; switching of hash functions is *implicit* in how the # of bits examined is increased.



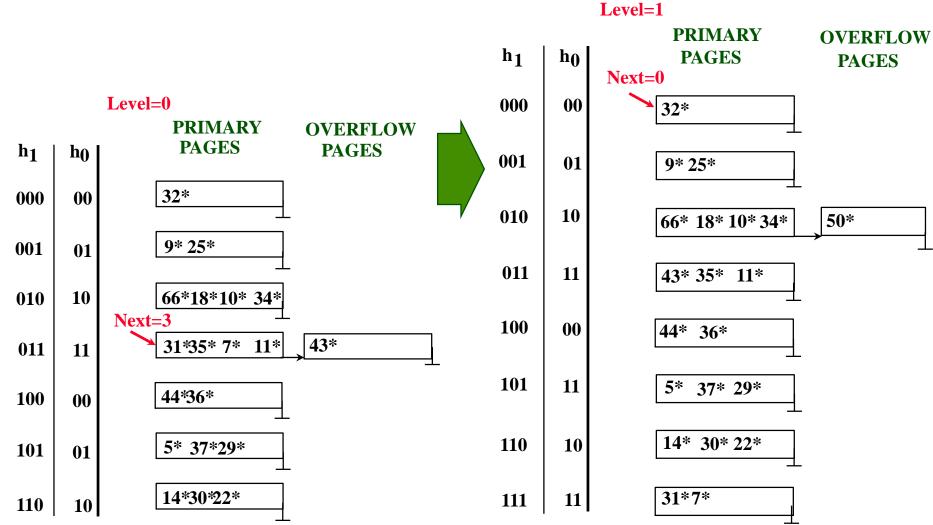
Example of Linear Hashing

On split, h_{Level+1} is used to re-distribute entries.









LH Described as a Variant of EH

- The two schemes are actually quite similar:
 - Begin with an EH index where directory has *N* elements.
 - Use overflow pages, split buckets round-robin.
 - First split is at bucket 0. (Imagine directory being doubled at this point.) But elements <1,N+1>, <2,N+2>, ... are the same. So, need only create directory element N, which differs from 0, now.
 - When bucket 1 splits, create directory element N+1, etc.
- * So, directory can double gradually. Also, primary bucket pages are created in order. If they are *allocated* in sequence too (so that finding i'th is easy), we actually don't need a directory! Voila, LH.

Summary

- Hash-based indexes: best for equality searches, cannot support range searches.
- Static Hashing can lead to long overflow chains.
- * Extendible Hashing avoids overflow pages by splitting a full bucket when a new data entry is to be added to it. (*Duplicates may require overflow pages*.)
 - Directory to keep track of buckets, doubles periodically.
 - Can get large with skewed data; additional I/O if this does not fit in main memory.

Summary (Contd.)

- Linear Hashing avoids directory by splitting buckets round-robin, and using overflow pages.
 - Overflow pages not likely to be long.
 - Duplicates handled easily.
 - Space utilization could be lower than Extendible Hashing, since splits not concentrated on `dense' data areas.
 - Can tune criterion for triggering splits to trade-off slightly longer chains for better space utilization.
- * For hash-based indexes, a *skewed* data distribution is one in which the *hash values* of data entries are not uniformly distributed!