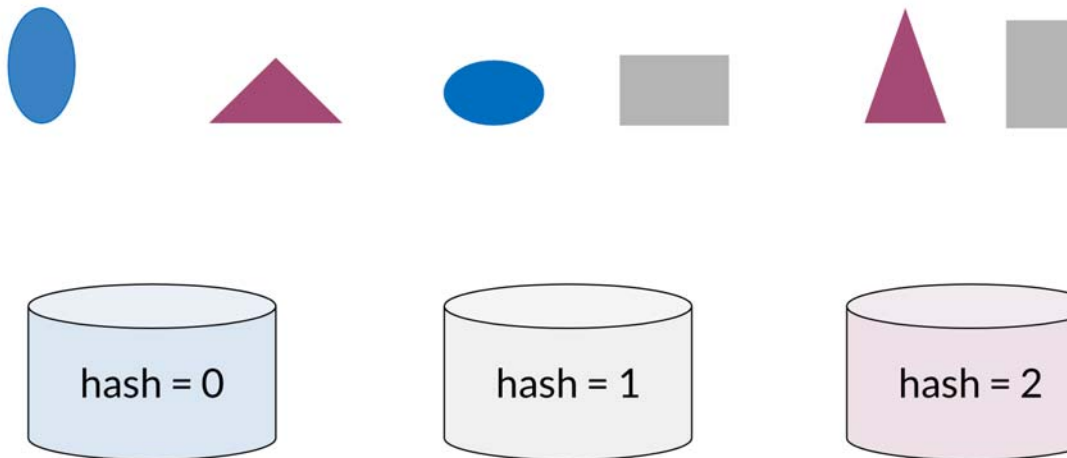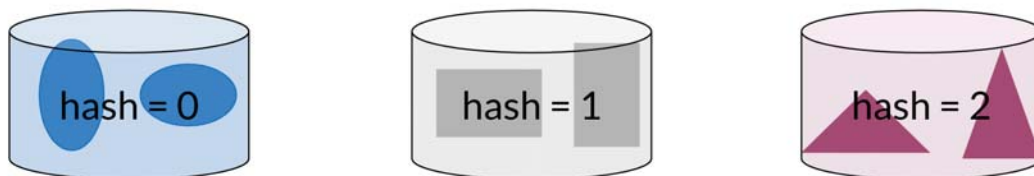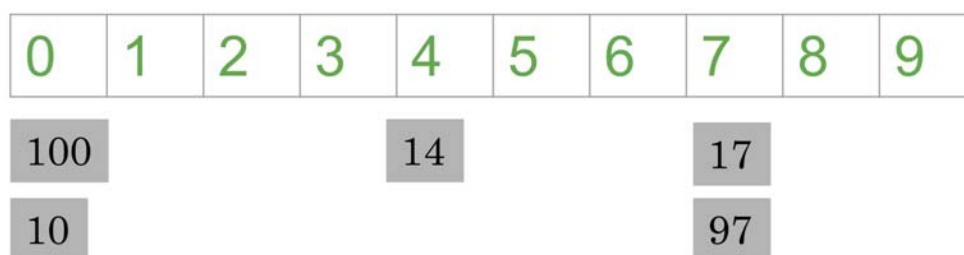coursera

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Hash tables and hash functions

Imagine you had to cluster the following figures into different buckets:

Note that the figures blue, red, and gray ones would each be clustered with each other

You can think of hash function as a function that takes data of arbitrary sizes and maps it to a fixed value. The values returned are known as *hash values* or even *hashes*.