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## Part A: Hash Table Definitions (Conceptual Understanding)

Q1. Define "collision" in the context of hash tables.

A1: keys <sup>after</sup> calculate by hash function has same hash value.  
 It means we need to decide <sup>to</sup> put those keys where.

Q2. What is a "bucket" in a hash table?

A2: The space that store value.

Q3. Define "load factor ( $\alpha$ )" and explain why it affects performance.

A3: load factor ( $\alpha$ ) shows how strong a hash table's collision has.  
 if a table has lot of collision, it doesn't has a good <sup>using</sup> rate.

Q4. What is "primary clustering," and which probing method suffers from it?

A4: Linear probing may lead to this. It means many keys has the same value after  $h(\text{key})$ , but then place in  $\text{bucket}(h(\text{key}) + i)$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ . All keys has same  $h(\text{key})$  are stored side by side.

Q5. What is "secondary clustering," and how is it different from primary clustering?

A5: All keys has same  $h(\text{key})$  ( $h()$  means hash function) are stored by a regular space.  
 for example, key1 is stored at  $\text{bucket}(i)$ , key2 is stored at  $\text{bucket}(i+n)$ , keys at  $\text{bucket}(i+2n)$  etc.  
 Secondary clustering is more separate than primary one but may leads to some keys can not get their own space.

Q6. Briefly explain the difference between:

- Open addressing  $\rightarrow$  array only
- Separate chaining  $\rightarrow$  array + linked list

A6: Open addressing:

- need more computing to determine where key is put.
- if collision happened, need a way to find another space to put key
- good space using rate

Separate chaining

- just add the node after  $h(\text{key})$
- don't need to worried about collision.
- May have lots of array spaces don't be



## Part B: Hash Function Calculation (Collision & Pattern Observation)

Show your steps clearly.

Hash Function 1 — Division Method

$$h_1(k) = k \bmod 10$$

Hash Function 2 — Folding Method

Split key into two-digit chunks and sum the chunks.

$$h_2(k) = (\text{sum of 2-digit groups}) \bmod 11$$

Example:

Key = 8429  $\rightarrow$  groups: 84 + 29  $\rightarrow$  113  $\rightarrow$  113 mod 11 = 3

Q7. (Compute using Hash Function 1)

Given keys: 27, 37, 47, 57, 67

Compute their hash values using:

$$h_1(k) = k \bmod 10$$

A7:  $h_1(27) = 7$   $h_1(57) = 7$   
 $h_1(37) = 7$   $h_1(67) = 7$   
 $h_1(47) = 7$

Q8. (Identify collision pattern)

From your results in Q7:

- What pattern do you observe?
- Explain why these keys collide.

A8: All keys has same hash values after  $h_1()$ .

because they have same digit.  
first-

Q9. (Compute using Hash Function 2)

Compute  $h_2(k)$  for: 1234, 9217, 4519, 9902

A9:  $h_2(1234) = 12 + 34 \Rightarrow 46 \bmod 11 = 2$   
 $h_2(9217) = 92 + 17 \Rightarrow 109 \bmod 11 = 10$   
 $h_2(4519) = 45 + 19 \Rightarrow 64 \bmod 11 = 9$   
 $h_2(9902) = 99 + 02 \Rightarrow 101 \bmod 11 = 2$

Q10. (Compare distribution)

- Which hash function ( $h_1$  or  $h_2$ ) produced more collisions for the input set?
- Which seems to spread keys more evenly?
- Provide 1-2 sentences of explanation.

A10:  $h_1$  use mod 10, will lead the hash value only has 0 ~ 9.  
 $h_1$  has more collisions because

$h_2$  may spread keys more evenly because it has more calculate and also, mod 11 will let to determine hash value between 0 ~ 10, more than  $h_1$ .