

# Chapter11. Hash Tables

- Hash table
- Issue with hashing
- Collision Resolution Techniques
  - Chaining
  - Open addressing
    - Linear probing
    - Quadratic probing
    - Double hashing

# Review

- Array Lists
  - $O(1)$  access
  - $O(N)$  insertion (average case), better at end
  - $O(N)$  deletion (average case)
- Linked Lists
  - $O(N)$  access
  - $O(N)$  insertion (average case), better at front and back
  - $O(N)$  deletion (average case), better at front and back
- Binary Search Trees
  - $O(\log N)$  access if balanced
  - $O(\log N)$  insertion if balanced
  - $O(\log N)$  deletion if balanced

# Review

- What is hashing? Why is it useful to us?
  - There are lots of applications that need to support only the operations INSERT, SEARCH, and DELETE.  
These are known as “dictionary” operations.
- Applications:
  - data base search
    - books in a library
    - patient records, GIS data etc.
  - web page caching (web search)
  - combinatorial search (game tree)

# Review : Performance goal for dictionary operations:

- $O(n)$  is too inefficient.

## Goal

- $O(\log n)$  on average
- $O(\log n)$  in the worst-case
- $O(1)$  on average

## Data structure that achieve these goals:

$O(\log n)$  on average  $\Rightarrow$  binary search tree(BST)

$O(\log n)$  in the worst-case  $\Rightarrow$  balanced BST(AVL tree)

$O(1)$  on average  $\Rightarrow$  hashing. (but worst-case is  $O(n)$ )

# Hash

**hash:** transitive verb<sup>1</sup>

1. (a) to chop (as meat and potatoes) into small pieces  
(b) confuse, muddle
2. ...



Hash brown

# Review

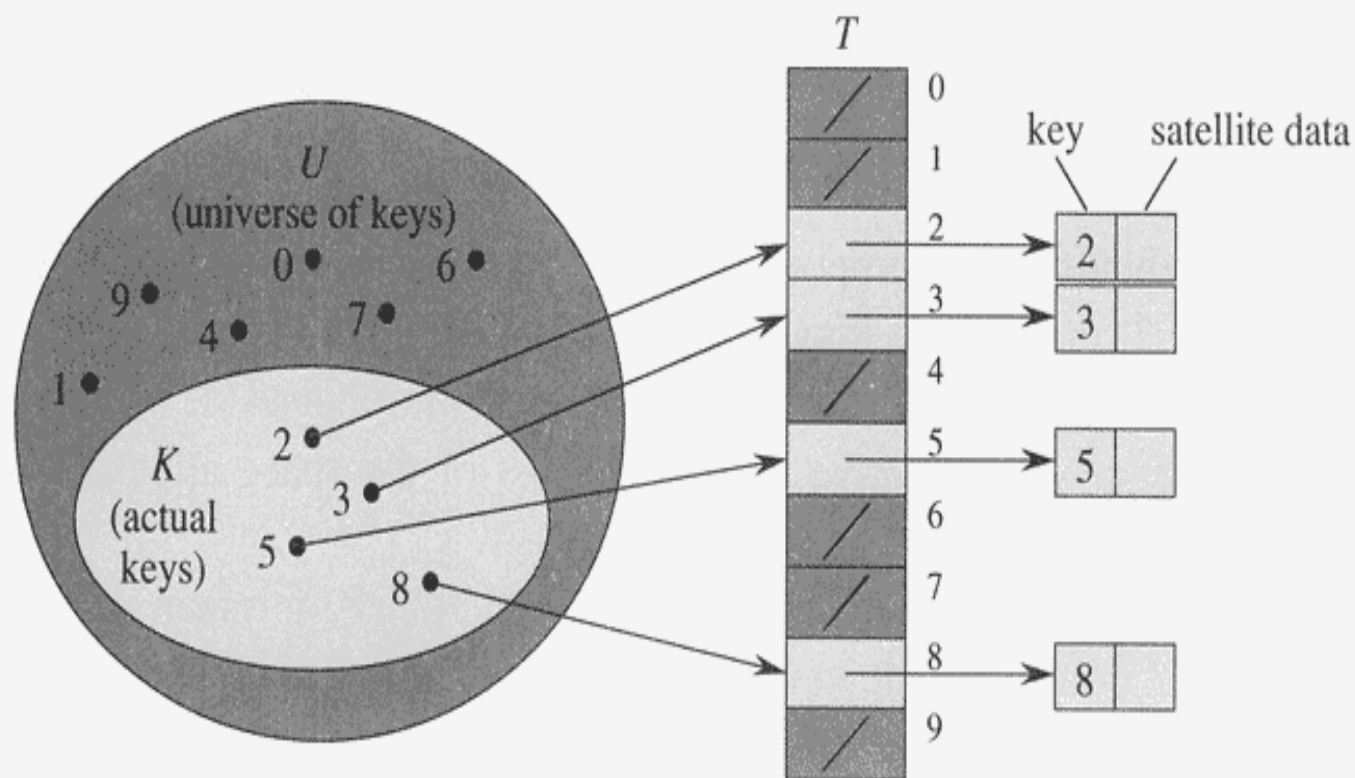
- Hashing
  - important and widely useful technique for implementing dictionaries
  - Technique supporting insertion, deletion, and search in average-case constant time:  $O(1)$
  - Operations requiring elements to be sorted (e.g. find minimum) are not efficiently supported

# Dictionary & Hash Tables

- **Dictionary:**
  - Dynamic-set data structure for storing items indexed using *keys*.
  - Supports operations Insert, Search, and Delete.
  - Applications:
    - Symbol table of a compiler.
    - Memory-management tables in operating systems.
    - Large-scale distributed systems.
- **Hash Tables:**
  - Effective way of implementing dictionaries.
  - Generalization of ordinary arrays.

- Direct-address Tables are ordinary arrays.
- Facilitate direct addressing.
  - Element whose key is  $k$  is obtained by indexing into the  $k^{\text{th}}$  position of the array.
- Applicable when we can afford to allocate an array with one position for every possible key.
  - i.e. when the universe of keys  $U$  is small.
- Dictionary operations can be implemented to take  $O(1)$  time.

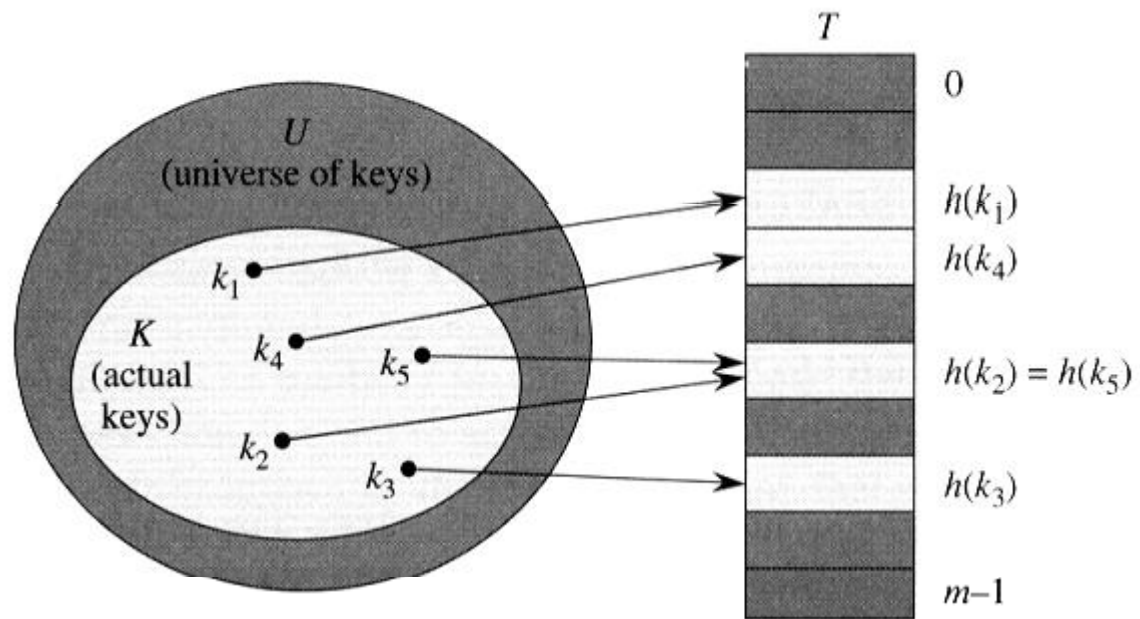




**Figure 11.1** Implementing a dynamic set by a direct-address table  $T$ . Each key in the universe  $U = \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$  corresponds to an index in the table. The set  $K = \{2, 3, 5, 8\}$  of actual keys determines the slots in the table that contain pointers to elements. The other slots, heavily shaded, contain NIL.

# Hash Table

- The difficulty with direct address is obvious: if the universe  $U$  is large, storing a table  $T$  of size  $|U|$  may be impractical, or even impossible.
- Furthermore, the set  $K$  of keys actually stored may be so small relative to  $U$ . Specifically, the storage requirements can be reduced to  $O(|K|)$ , even though searching for an element in the hash table still requires only  $O(1)$  time.



# Hash Table

- **Notation:**
  - $U$  : Universe of all possible keys.
  - $K$  : Set of keys actually stored in the dictionary.
  - $|K| = n$ .
- When  $U$  is very large,
  - Arrays are not practical.
  - $|K| \ll |U|$ .
- Use a table of size proportional to  $|K|$  : *The hash tables.*
  - However, we lose the direct-addressing ability.
  - Define functions that map keys to slots of the hash table.

- Hash function  $h$ :  
Mapping from  $U$  to the slots of a hash table  $T[0..m-1]$ .  
$$h : U \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$$
- With arrays, key  $k$  maps to slot  $A[k]$ .
- With hash tables, key  $k$  maps or “hashes” to slot  $T[h[k]]$ .
- $h[k]$  is the *hash value* of key  $k$ .

# Hash function example

- elements = Integers
- $h(i) = i \% 10 (= i \bmod 10)$
- add 41, 34, 7, and 18
- constant-time lookup:
  - just look at  $i \% 10$  again later
- Hash tables have no ordering information!
  - Expensive to do following:
    - getMin, getMax, removeMin, removeMax,
    - the various ordered traversals
    - printing items in sorted order

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 0 |    |
| 1 | 41 |
| 2 |    |
| 3 |    |
| 4 | 34 |
| 5 |    |
| 6 |    |
| 7 | 7  |
| 8 | 18 |
| 9 |    |

# Issue with Hashing

- Multiple keys can hash to the same slot
  - Collisions(two keys hash to same slot) are possible.
  - Design hash functions such that collisions are minimized.
  - But avoiding collisions is impossible.
    - Design collision-resolution techniques.
- Search will cost  $\Theta(n)$  time in the worst case.
  - However, all operations can be made to have an expected complexity of  $\Theta(1)$ .

# Collision

- Two or more keys hash to the same slot.
- For a given set  $K$  of keys
  - If  $|K| \leq m$ , collisions may or may not happen, depending on the hash function
  - If  $|K| > m$ , collisions will definitely happen (i.e., there must be at least two keys that have the same hash value)
- Avoiding collisions completely is hard, even with a good hash function

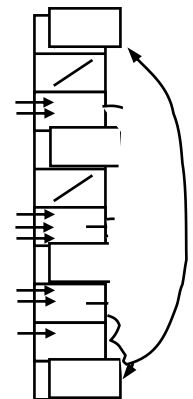
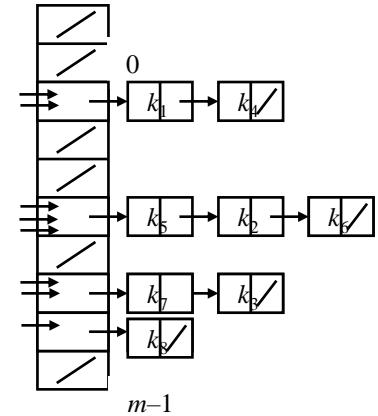


# Collision Resolution Techniques

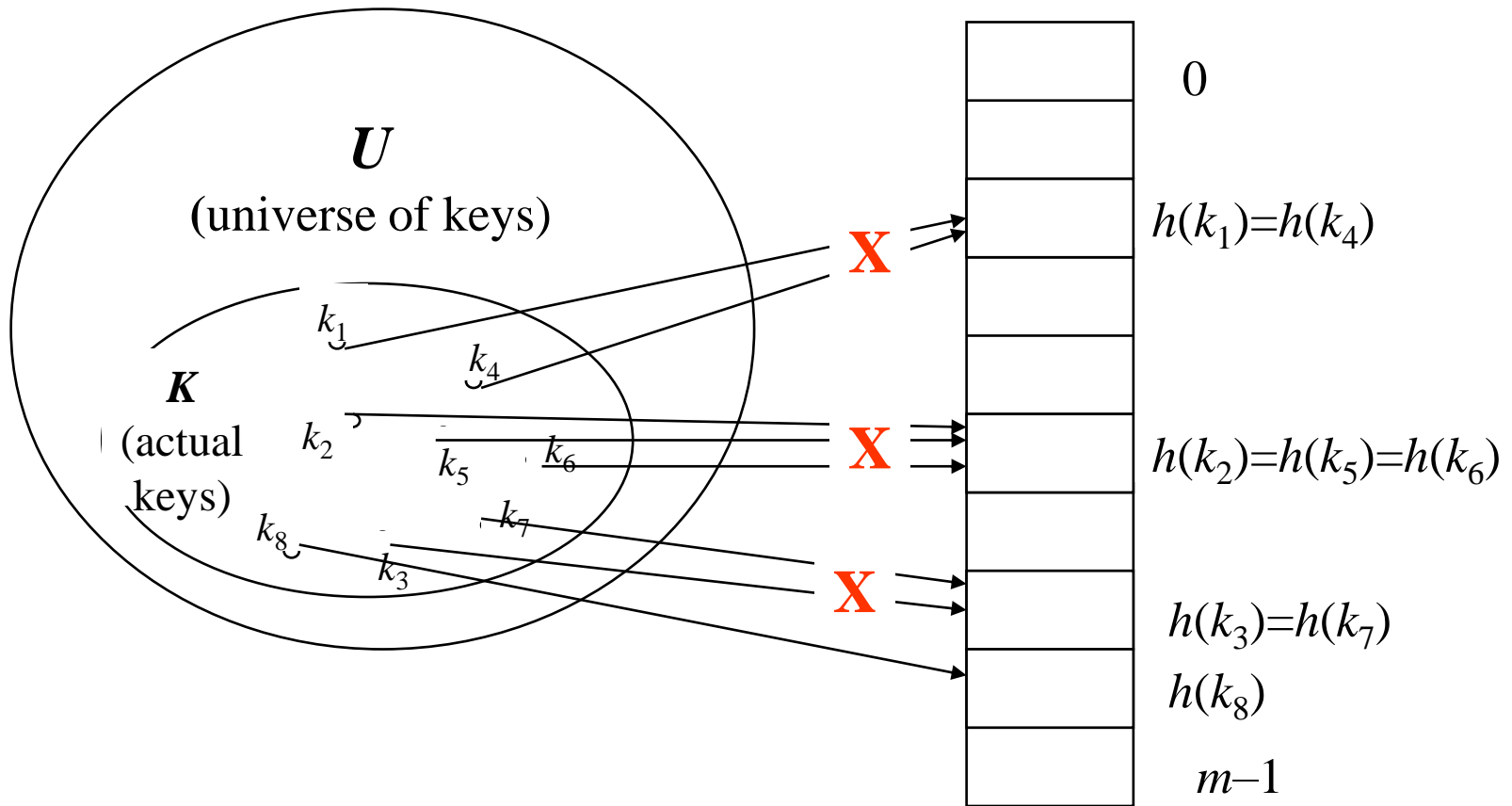
- We will review the following methods:
  - Chaining
  - Open addressing
    - Linear probing
    - Quadratic probing
    - Double hashing

# Collision Resolution Techniques

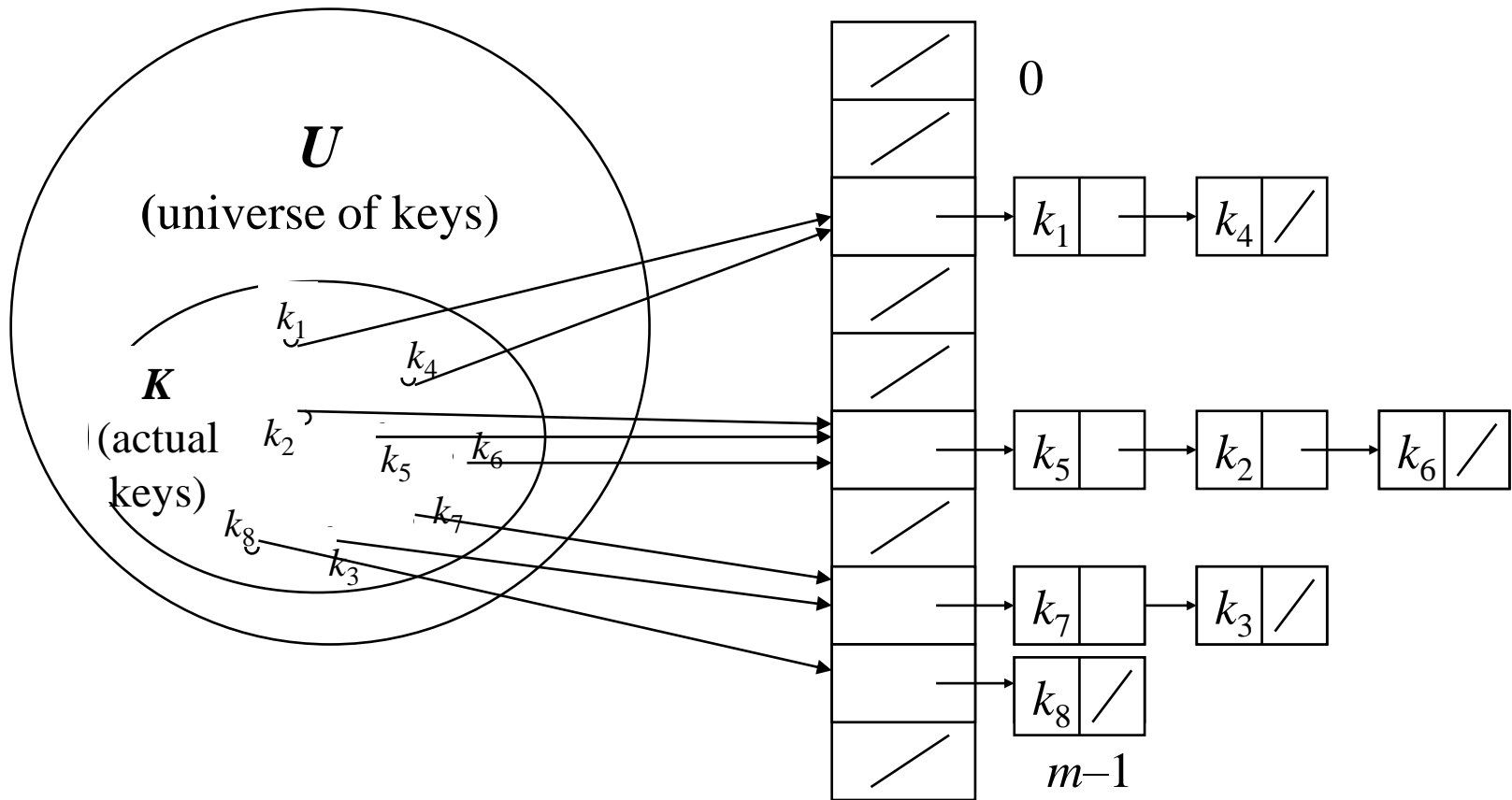
- Chaining:
  - Store all elements that hash to the same slot in a linked list.
  - Store a pointer to the head of the linked list in the hash table slot.
- Open Addressing:
  - All elements stored in hash table itself.
  - When collisions occur, use a systematic (consistent) procedure to store elements in free slots of the table.



# Collision Resolution by Chaining



# Collision Resolution by Chaining



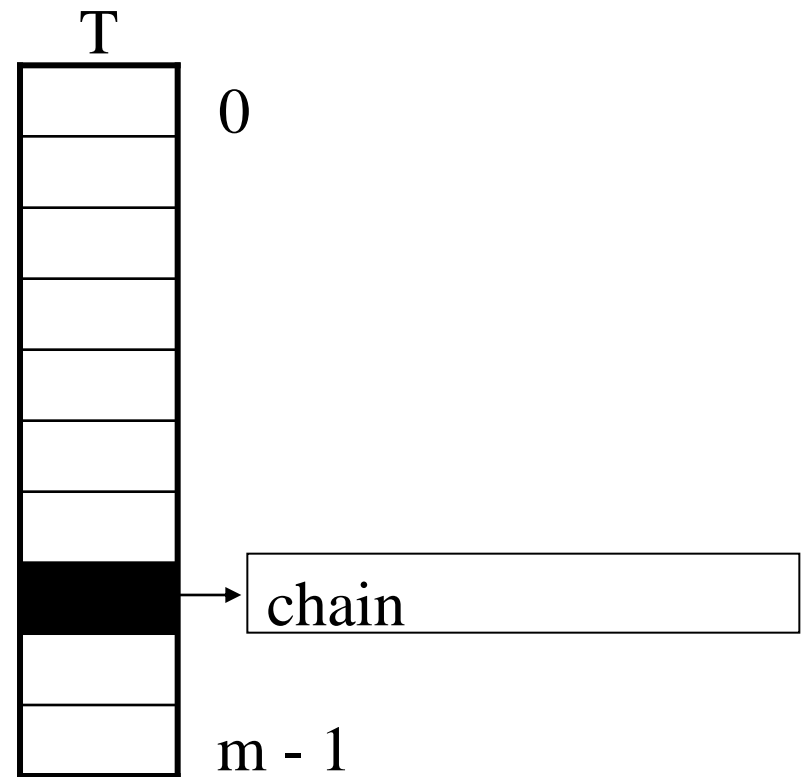
# Hashing with Chaining

## Dictionary Operation

- Chained-Hash-Insert ( $T, x$ )
  - Insert  $x$  at the head of list  $T[h(key[x])]$ .
  - Worst-case complexity :  $O(1)$ .
- Chained-Hash-Delete ( $T, x$ )
  - Delete  $x$  from the list  $T[h(key[x])]$ .
  - Worst-case complexity : proportional to length of list with singly-linked lists.  $O(1)$  with doubly-linked lists.
- Chained-Hash-Search ( $T, k$ )
  - Search an element with key  $k$  in list  $T[h(k)]$ .
  - Worst-case complexity : proportional to length of list.

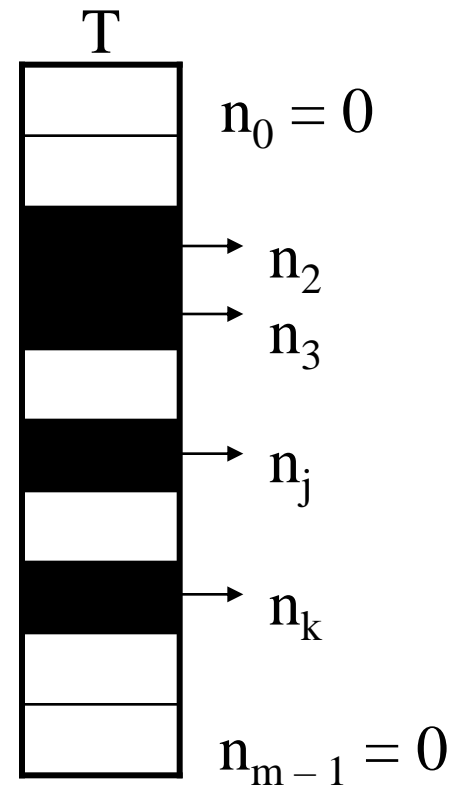
# Analysis of Hashing with Chaining :Worst Case

- How long does it take to search for an element with a given key?
- Worst case:
  - All  $n$  keys hash to the same slot
  - Worst-case time to search is  $\Theta(n)$ , plus time to compute the hash function



# Analysis of Hashing with Chaining :Average Case

- Average case depends on how well the hash function distributes the  $n$  keys among the  $m$  slots
- **Simple uniform hashing** assumption:  
Any given element is equally likely to hash into any of the  $m$  slots (i.e., probability of collision  $\Pr(h(x)=h(y))$ , is  $1/m$ )
- Length of a list:  
$$T[j] = n_j, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$$
- Number of keys in the table:  
$$n = n_0 + n_1 + \dots + n_{m-1}$$
- Average value of  $n_j$ :  
$$E[n_j] = \alpha = n/m$$

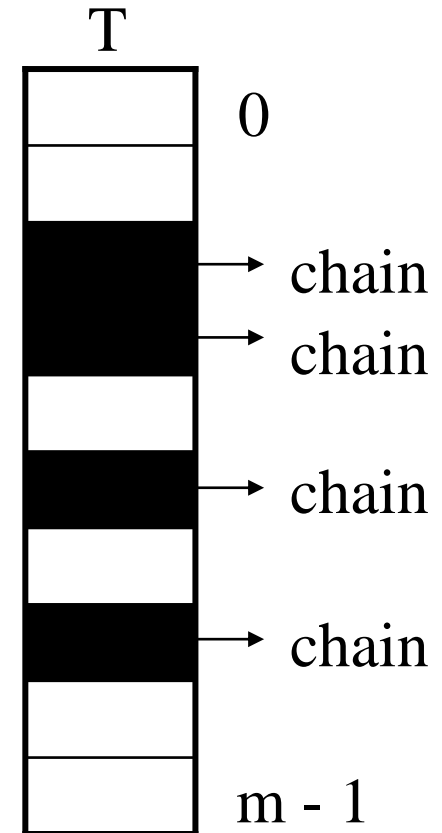


# Load Factor of a Hash Table

- Load factor of a hash table T:

$$\alpha = n/m$$

- $n = \#$  of elements stored in the table
  - $m = \#$  of slots in the table
- $\alpha$  encodes the average number of elements stored in a chain
- $\alpha$  can be  $<$ ,  $=$ ,  $> 1$





# Case 1: Unsuccessful Search (i.e., item not stored in the table)

## Theorem

An unsuccessful search in a hash table takes expected time  $\Theta(1+\alpha)$  under the assumption of simple uniform hashing (i.e., probability of collision  $\Pr(h(x)=h(y))$ , is  $1/m$ )

## Proof

- Searching unsuccessfully for any key  $k$  :  $T[h(k)]$
- Expected length of the list:  $E[n_{h(k)}] = \alpha = n/m$
- Expected number of elements examined in an unsuccessful search is  $\alpha$
- Total time required is:  
 $O(1)$  (for computing the hash function)  $+ \alpha \rightarrow \Theta(1+\alpha)$

# Case 2: Successful Search

**Theorem:** A successful search takes expected time  $\Theta(1+\alpha)$ .

**Proof :**

- Let  $x_i$  be the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element inserted into the table, and let  $k_i = \text{key}[x_i]$ .
- Define indicator random variables  $X_{ij} = I\{h(k_i) = h(k_j)\}$ , for all  $i, j$ .
- Simple uniform hashing  $\Rightarrow \Pr\{h(k_i) = h(k_j)\} = 1/m$   
 $\Rightarrow E[X_{ij}] = 1/m$ .
- Expected number of elements examined in a successful search is:  
$$E\left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(1 + \sum_{j=i+1}^n X_{ij}\right)\right]$$

# Case 2: Successful Search

$$\begin{aligned} & E\left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(1 + \sum_{j=i+1}^n X_{ij}\right)\right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(1 + \sum_{j=i+1}^n E[X_{ij}]\right) \quad (\text{linearity of expectation}) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(1 + \sum_{j=i+1}^n \frac{1}{m}\right) \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{nm} \sum_{i=1}^n (n - i) \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{nm} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n n - \sum_{i=1}^n i\right) \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{nm} \left(n^2 - \frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right) \\ &= 1 + \frac{n-1}{2m} \\ &= 1 + \frac{\alpha}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2n} \end{aligned}$$

Expected total time for a successful search  
= Time to compute hash function + Time  
to search  
=  $O(1 + \alpha/2 - \alpha/2n) = O(1 + \alpha)$ .

# Analysis of Search in Hash Tables

- If  $n = O(m)$ , then  $\alpha = n/m = O(m)/m = O(1)$ .  
 $\Rightarrow$  *Searching takes constant time on average.*
- Insertion is  $O(1)$  in the worst case.
- Deletion takes  $O(1)$  worst-case time when lists are doubly linked.
- Hence, *all dictionary operations take  $O(1)$  time on average with hash tables with chaining.*

# Hash Functions

- A hash function transforms a key into a table address
- What makes a **good hash function**?
  - (1) Easy to compute
  - (2) Approximates a random function: for every input, every output is equally likely (simple uniform hashing)
- In practice, it is very hard to satisfy the simple uniform hashing property

# Good Approaches for Hash Functions

- Minimize the chance that closely related keys hash to the same slot
  - Strings such as *pt* and *pts* should hash to different slots
- Derive a hash value that is independent from any patterns that may exist in the distribution of the keys

# The Division Method

- **Idea:**
  - Map a key  $k$  into one of the  $m$  slots by taking the remainder of  $k$  divided by  $m$ 
$$h(k) = k \bmod m$$
- **Advantage:**
  - fast, requires only one operation
- **Disadvantage:**
  - Certain values of  $m$  are bad, e.g.,
    - power of 2
    - non-prime numbers
- Good choice for  $m$ :
  - Primes, not too close to power of 2 (or 10) are good.

# Example : The Division Method

- If  $m = 2^p$ , then  $h(k)$  is just the least significant  $p$  bits of  $k$ 
  - $p = 1 \Rightarrow m = 2$   
 $\Rightarrow h(k) = \{0,1\}$  , least significant 1 bit of  $k$
  - $p = 2 \Rightarrow m = 4$   
 $\Rightarrow h(k) = \{0,1,2,3\}$  , least significant 2 bits of  $k$
- Choose  $m$  to be a prime, not close to a power of 2
  - Column 2:  $k \bmod 97$
  - Column 3:  $k \bmod 100$

|       | m  | m   |
|-------|----|-----|
|       | 97 | 100 |
| 16838 | 57 | 38  |
| 5758  | 35 | 58  |
| 10113 | 25 | 13  |
| 17515 | 55 | 15  |
| 31051 | 11 | 51  |
| 5627  | 1  | 27  |
| 23010 | 21 | 10  |
| 7419  | 47 | 19  |
| 16212 | 13 | 12  |
| 4086  | 12 | 86  |
| 2749  | 33 | 49  |
| 12767 | 60 | 67  |
| 9084  | 63 | 84  |
| 12060 | 32 | 60  |
| 32225 | 21 | 25  |
| 17543 | 83 | 43  |
| 25089 | 63 | 89  |
| 21183 | 37 | 83  |
| 25137 | 14 | 37  |
| 25566 | 55 | 66  |
| 26966 | 0  | 66  |
| 4978  | 31 | 78  |
| 20495 | 28 | 95  |
| 10311 | 29 | 11  |
| 11367 | 18 | 67  |



# The Multiplication Method

## Idea:

- Multiply key  $k$  by a constant  $A$ , where  $0 < A < 1$
- Extract the fractional part of  $kA$
- Multiply the fractional part by  $m$
- Take the floor of the result

$$h(k) = \lfloor m(kA - \lfloor kA \rfloor) \rfloor = \lfloor m \underbrace{(kA \bmod 1)}_{\text{fractional part of } kA} \rfloor$$

$$\text{fractional part of } kA = kA - \lfloor kA \rfloor$$

- **Disadvantage:** Slower than division method
- **Advantage:** Value of  $m$  is not critical, e.g., typically  $2^p$

# Example : Multiplication Method

- The value of  $m$  is not critical now (e.g.,  $m = 2^p$ )

assume  $m = 2^3$

$$\begin{array}{r} .101101 \text{ (A)} \\ 110101 \text{ (k)} \\ \hline 1001010.0110011 \text{ (kA)} \end{array}$$

discard: 1001010

shift .0110011 by 3 bits to the left

011.0011

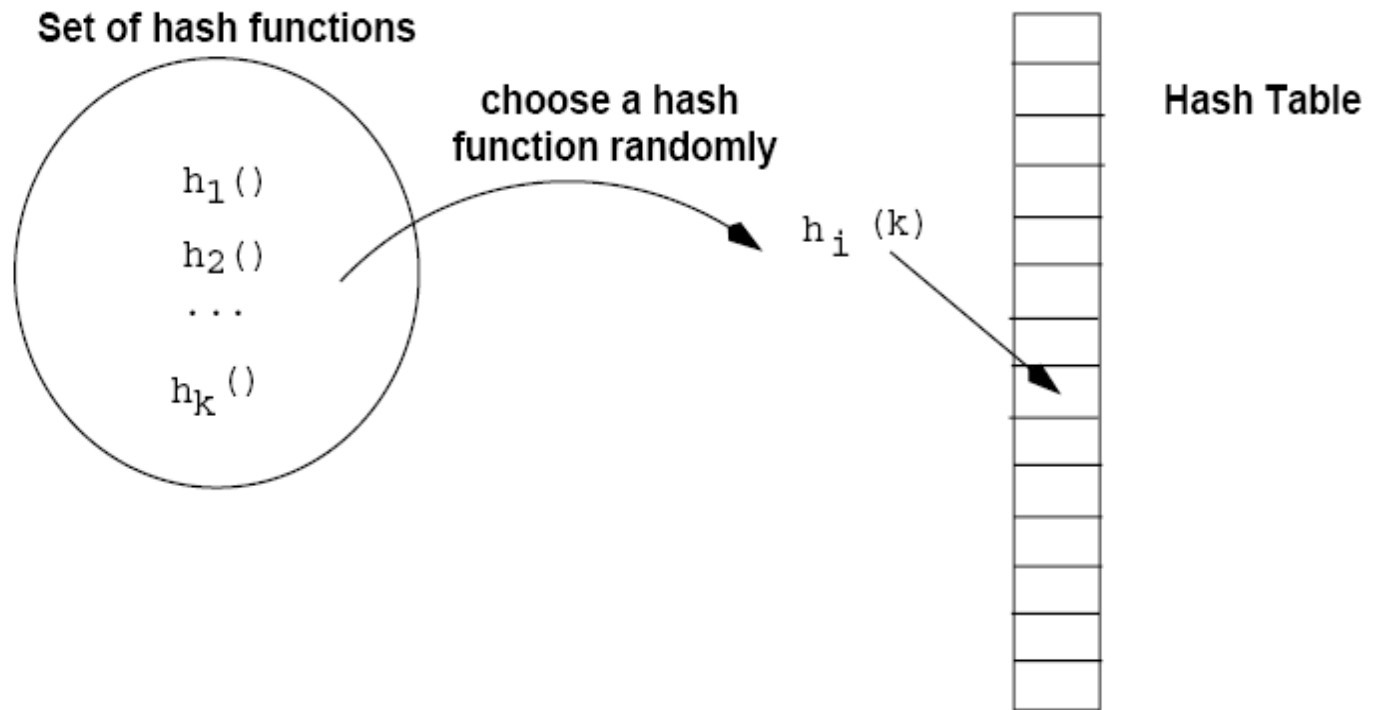
take integer part: 011

thus,  $h(110101)=011$

# Universal Hashing

- A malicious adversary who has learned the hash function chooses keys that all map to the same slot, giving worst-case behavior.
- Defeat the adversary using Universal Hashing
  - Use a different random hash function each time.
  - Ensure that the random hash function is independent of the keys that are actually going to be stored.
  - Ensure that the random hash function is “good” by carefully designing a class of functions to choose from.
    - Design a **universal** class of functions.

# Universal Hashing



# Definition of Universal Hash Functions

$$H = (h(k): U \rightarrow (0, 1, \dots, m-1))$$

$H$  is said to be universal if

$$\text{for } x \neq y, |\{h \in H: h(x) = h(y)\}| = |H|/m$$

(notation:  $|H|$ : number of elements in  $H$  - cardinality of  $H$ )

- The chance of a collision between two keys is the  $1/m$  chance of choosing two slots randomly & independently.
- Universal hash functions give good hashing behavior

# Universal Hashing

- What is the probability of collision in this case ?

It is equal to the probability of choosing a function  $h \in U$  such that  $x \neq y \rightarrow h(x) = h(y)$  which is

$$\Pr(h(x)=h(y)) = \frac{|H|/m}{|H|} = \frac{1}{m}$$

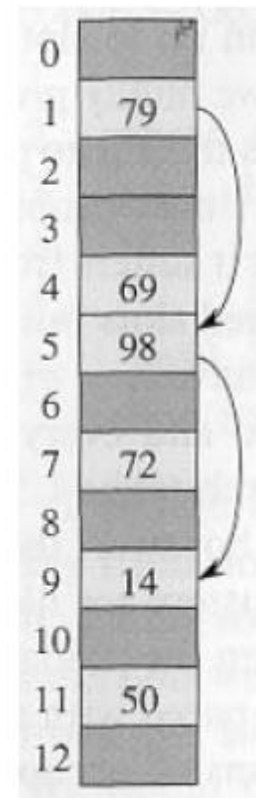
- With universal hashing the chance of collision between distinct keys  $k$  and  $l$  is no more than the  $1/m$  chance of collision if locations  $h(k)$  and  $h(l)$  were randomly and independently chosen from the set  $\{0, 1, \dots, m - 1\}$

# Advantages of Universal Hashing

- Universal hashing provides good results on average, independently of the keys to be stored
- Guarantees that no input will always elicit the worst-case behavior
- Poor performance occurs only when the random choice returns an inefficient hash function  
(this has small probability)

# Open Addressing

- If we have enough contiguous memory to store all the keys ( $m > N$ )  $\Rightarrow$  store the keys in the table itself
  - No need to use linked lists anymore
  - Basic idea:
    - Insertion: if a slot is full, try another one, until you find an empty one
    - Search: follow the same sequence of probes
    - Deletion: more difficult ...
  - Search time depends on the length of the probe sequence!
- e.g., insert 14





# Generalize hash function notation:

- A hash function contains two arguments now:

(i) Key value, and (ii) Probe number

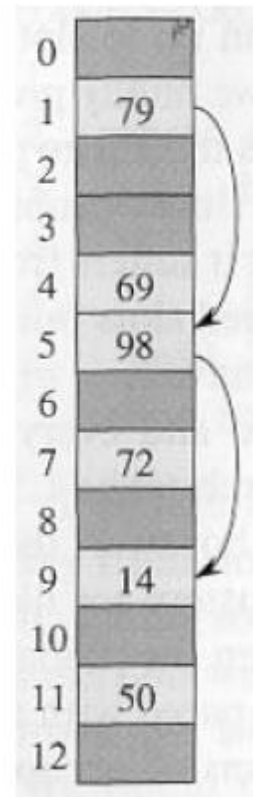
$$h(k,p), \quad p=0,1,\dots,m-1$$

insert 14

- Probe sequences

$$\langle h(k,0), h(k,1), \dots, h(k,m-1) \rangle$$

- Must be a permutation of  $\langle 0,1,\dots,m-1 \rangle$
- There are  $m!$  possible permutations
- Good hash functions should be able to produce all  $m!$  probe sequences



Probe sequence:  $\langle 1, 5, 9 \rangle$

# Open Addressing Methods

- Linear probing
- Quadratic probing
- Double hashing

# Linear probing: Inserting a key

- Idea: when there is a collision, check the next available position in the table (i.e., probing)

$$h(k,i) = (h_1(k) + i) \bmod m$$

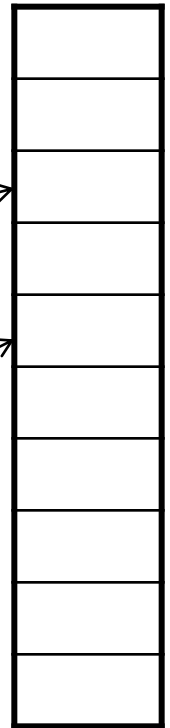
$$i=0,1,2,\dots$$

First slot probed:  $h_1(k)$

Second slot probed:  $h_1(k) + 1$

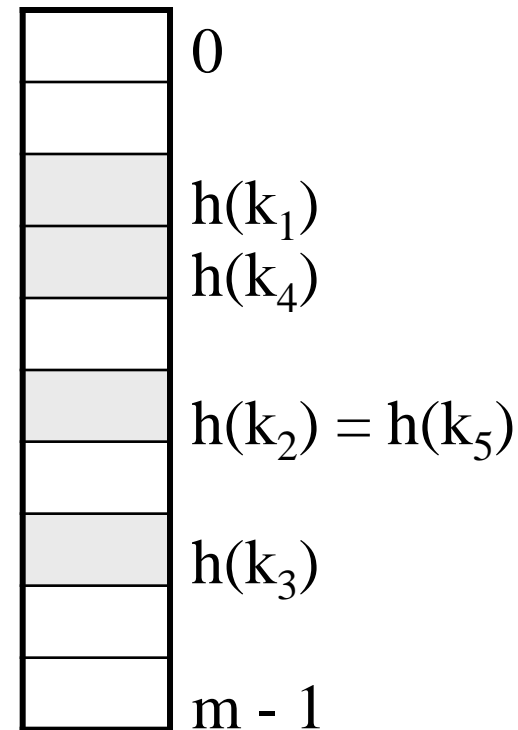
Third slot probed:  $h_1(k)+2$ , and so on

probe sequence:  $\langle h_1(k), h_1(k)+1, h_1(k)+2, \dots \rangle$



# Linear probing: *Searching* for a key

- Three cases:
  - (1) Position in table is occupied with an element of equal key
  - (2) Position in table is empty
  - (3) Position in table occupied with a different element
- Case 2: probe the next higher index until the element is found or an empty position is found
- The process wraps around to the beginning of the table



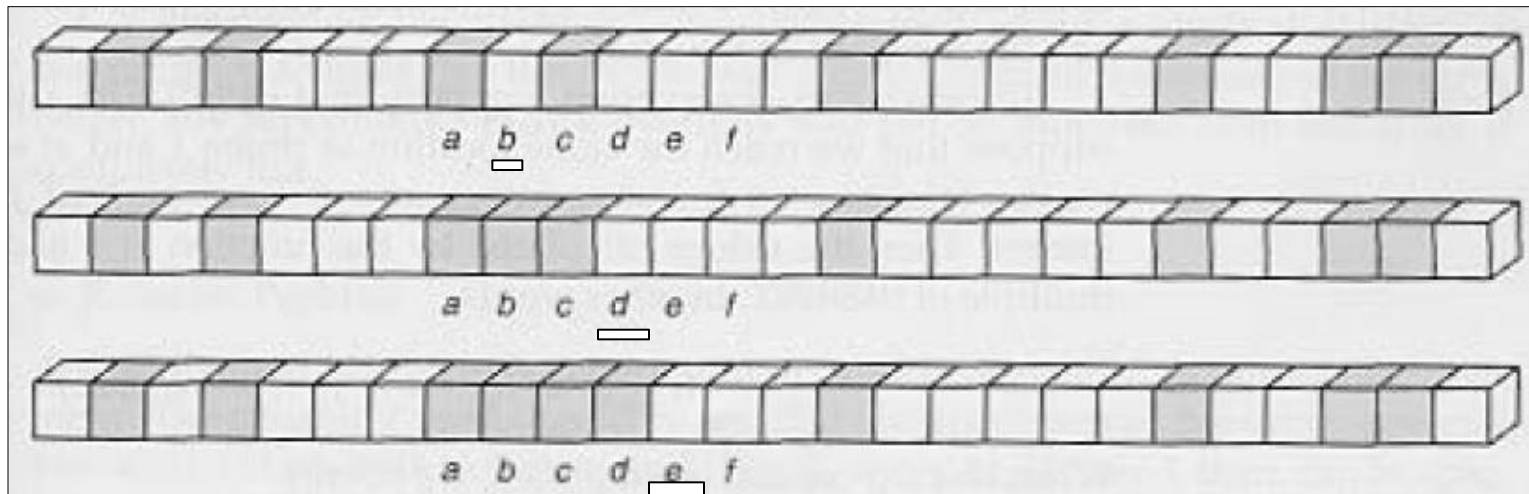
# Linear probing: *Deleting* a key

- Problems
  - Cannot mark the slot as empty
  - Impossible to retrieve keys inserted after that slot was occupied
- Solution
  - Mark the slot with a sentinel value DELETED
- The deleted slot can later be used for insertion
- Searching will be able to find all the keys

# Primary Clustering Problem

- Some slots become more likely than others
- Long chunks of occupied slots are created  
⇒ average insert & search time increases!!

initially, all slots have probability  $1/m$

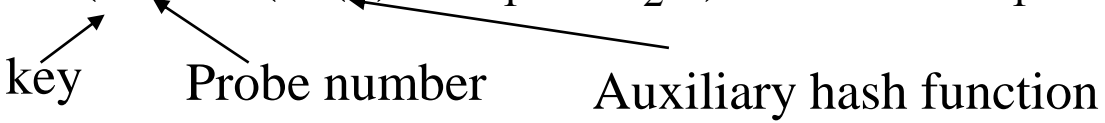


Slot b:  
 $2/m$

Slot d:  
 $4/m$

Slot e:  
 $5/m$

# Quadratic probing

- $h(k,i) = (h'(k) + c_1i + c_2i^2) \bmod m \quad c_1 \neq c_2$   


- The initial probe position is  $T[h'(k)]$ , later probe positions are offset by amounts that depend on a quadratic function of the probe number  $i$ .
- Must constrain  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ , and  $m$  to ensure that we get a full permutation of  $\langle 0, 1, \dots, m-1 \rangle$ .
- Can suffer from *secondary clustering*:
  - If two keys have the same initial probe position, then their probe sequences are the same.

# Double Hashing

- (1) Use one hash function to determine the first slot
- (2) Use a second hash function to determine the increment for the probe sequence

$$h(k,i) = (h_1(k) + i h_2(k)) \bmod m, \quad i=0,1,\dots$$

- Initial probe:  $h_1(k)$
- Second probe is offset by  $h_2(k) \bmod m$ , so on ...
- Advantage: avoids clustering
- Disadvantage: harder to delete an element



# Double Hashing: Example

$$h_1(k) = k \bmod 13$$

$$h_2(k) = 1 + (k \bmod 11)$$

$$h(k,i) = (h_1(k) + i h_2(k)) \bmod 13$$

- Insert key 14:

$$h_1(14,0) = 14 \bmod 13 = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} h(14,1) &= (h_1(14) + h_2(14)) \bmod 13 \\ &= (1 + 4) \bmod 13 = 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} h(14,2) &= (h_1(14) + 2 h_2(14)) \bmod 13 \\ &= (1 + 8) \bmod 13 = 9 \end{aligned}$$

|    |    |
|----|----|
| 0  |    |
| 1  | 79 |
| 2  |    |
| 3  |    |
| 4  | 69 |
| 5  | 98 |
| 6  |    |
| 7  | 72 |
| 8  |    |
| 9  | 14 |
| 10 |    |
| 11 | 50 |
| 12 |    |

# Analysis of Open Addressing

- Analysis is in terms of load factor  $\alpha$ .
- **Assumptions:**
  - Assume that the table never completely fills, so  $n < m$  and  $\alpha < 1$ .
  - Assume uniform hashing.
  - No deletion.
  - All probe sequences are equally likely

# Analysis of Open Addressing

- **Unsuccessful retrieval:**

Prob(probe hits an occupied cell) =  $\alpha$

Prob(probe hits an empty cell) =  $1 - \alpha$

Probability that a probe terminates in 2 steps :  $\alpha(1 - \alpha)$

Probability that a probe terminates in  $k$  steps :  $\alpha^{k-1}(1 - \alpha)$

What is the average number of steps in a probe?

$$E(\# \text{ steps}) = \sum_{k=1}^m k \alpha^{k-1} (1 - \alpha) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \alpha^{k-1} (1 - \alpha) = (1 - \alpha) \frac{1}{(1 - \alpha)^2} = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha}$$

# Analysis of Open Addressing

- **successful retrieval:**

The expected number of probes in a successful search in an open-address hash table is at most  $(1/\alpha) \log (1/(1-\alpha))$ .

Unsuccessful retrieval:

$$\alpha = 0.5 \quad E(\text{\#steps}) = 2$$

$$\alpha = 0.9 \quad E(\text{\#steps}) = 10$$

Successful retrieval:

$$\alpha = 0.5 \quad E(\text{\#steps}) = 3.387$$

$$\alpha = 0.9 \quad E(\text{\#steps}) = 3.670$$