Data Structures and Algorithms

BS (CIS) - PIEAS

Semester / Term Project Report

Title: File Deduplication System

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1. Project Overview

The File Deduplication System is a software application designed to identify duplicate files within a specified directory. It utilizes efficient algorithms and data structures to process and compare file contents, enabling users to eliminate redundant files, save storage space, and maintain an organized file system. The system provides an interactive interface for users to review duplicates and decide whether to delete them.

2. Program Functionality and User Interaction

Functionality:

- Scans a specified directory to identify all files.
- Uses cryptographic hashing (SHA-256) to calculate unique file signatures.
- Organizes files into hash-based buckets for efficient duplicate detection.
- Provides options to view, verify, and delete duplicate files.

User Interaction:

- Users specify the directory to be scanned.
- The program processes files and identifies duplicates.
- Detected duplicates are displayed in a user-friendly format.
- Users are prompted to confirm the deletion of duplicate files, which are then moved to the Recycle Bin.

New to Us:

- Implementing hashing techniques for file comparison.
- Designing and working with a custom linked list and hash map.
- Integrating Windows-specific API functions to move files to the Recycle Bin.

3. Time Breakdown

Phase	Time Spent
Investigation & Research	10 hours
Design & Algorithm Development	15 hours
Coding	1 week
Testing & Debugging	3 days
Documentation	5 hours
Total Time:	10 days and 5 hours

4. Algorithms Used

SHA-256 Hashing Algorithm:

Pseudo-code:

```
Initialize hashing context using OpenSSL.
While reading file in chunks:
    Update hash context with the chunk data.
Finalize hash computation.
Convert the result to a hexadecimal string and return.
```

File Comparison Algorithm:

Pseudo-code:

```
Compute hashes for both files:

Call SHA-256 Hashing Algorithm for each file.

If hashes do not match:

Return false (files are not identical).

If hashes match:

Open both files and compare byte by byte.

Return true if contents are identical; otherwise, return false.
```

Hash Function for Buckets:

Pseudo-code:

```
Input: File hash as a string.

Compute a numeric hash using std::hash.

Map the result to a bucket index by calculating hash % numBuckets.

Return the bucket index.
```

5. Data Structures Used

Linked List:

- Stores file entries in buckets for duplicate detection.
- Class: List
 - o Nodes: Each node contains a FileEntry object and a pointer to the next node.

Hash Map:

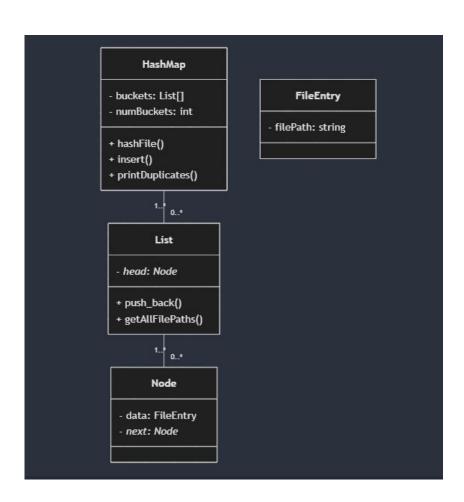
- Organizes files into buckets based on their hash values.
- Class: HashMap
 - o Buckets are implemented as linked lists to handle collisions.

FileEntry Structure:

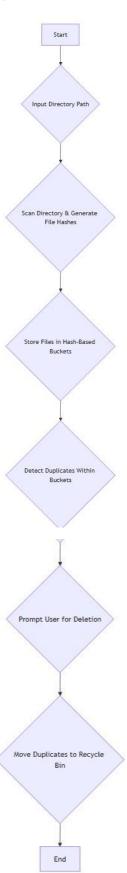
• Holds metadata about each file, such as its path.

6. Class Diagrams and Flowcharts

Class Diagram:



Flowchart:



7. Group Member Contributions

Equal contribution of each member to everything

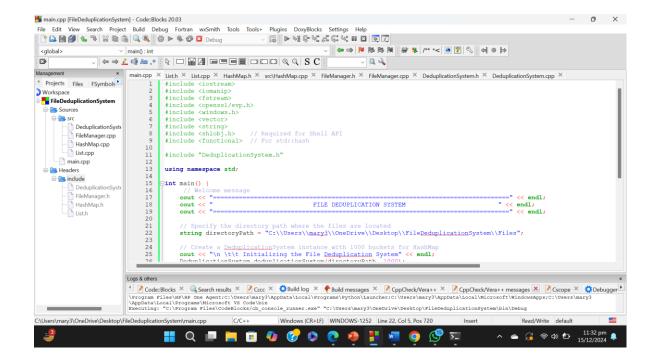
8. Challenges Faced

- Understanding and using OpenSSL for hashing.
- Efficiently handling file operations and memory management.
- Ensuring cross-platform compatibility.

9. Conclusion

The File Deduplication System successfully identifies and handles duplicate files. By leveraging efficient data structures like linked lists and hash maps, it ensures optimal performance even with large file sets. The project provided hands-on experience with cryptographic hashing, advanced C++ programming, and Windows API usage. It has practical applications for file management and storage optimization.

10.Output and Directory Structure



Output:

