



Summer School on Hashing  
Theory and Application

# Dictionaries with implicit keys

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# Agenda

- The retrieval problem - “storing a function”
- Perfect hashing - a recursive construction
  - Static
  - Use with signatures
  - Dynamic
- Retrieval without perfect hashing.
- **Exercise:** Linear data structures for storing sets

# Retrieval problem

- For field  $F$  and set  $S \subseteq F$ , represent a function  $f: S \rightarrow F$ .
- Solution: Polynomial degree  $k-1$  hash function:

$$p(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} a_i x^i$$

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Q: Can we map to  $\{0,1\}$   
with close to 1 bit/key?

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# Perfect hashing

- Given set  $S$  of size  $n$ .
  - Without loss of generality,  $2 \log n$  bits/key.
- **Idea:** Carefully choose a hash function  $h$  that has:
  - No collisions among items in  $S$ , and
  - Hashes to  $\{1, \dots, r\}$ , where  $r = O(n)$ .

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Such functions  
are extremely  
rare!

# “Less than perfect” hashing

- Suppose  $r = 2n$  and  $h$  is 2-independent, then the expected number of collisions is:

$$\binom{n}{2} / r < (n^2 / 2) / (2n) = n/4$$

- **Conclusion:** Set  $S_1 \subseteq S$  of at least  $n/2$  items are not involved in a collision.
- **Idea:** Store  $h(S_1)$  as a bit map, and recurse on  $S \setminus S_1$ .



# Recursive perfect hashing

$2n$

$n$

$n/2$

$n/4$

$\vdots$

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**#levels:**  $\log n$  [improvable to  $\log \log n$ ]

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Time to compute  
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 $O(1)$  expected.

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Time to compute  
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 $O(1)$  expected.

To map to range of  
size  $n$ , augment with  
rank data structure.

Total size:  $4n$  bits [improvable to  $en$ ]

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# Adding signatures

$n$

Idea: Replace bits  
by signatures of  
(e.g.)  $\log \log n$  bits

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Answer membership queries with false positive prob.  $1/\log n$

**Total size:**  $2n \log \log n + O(n)$  bits

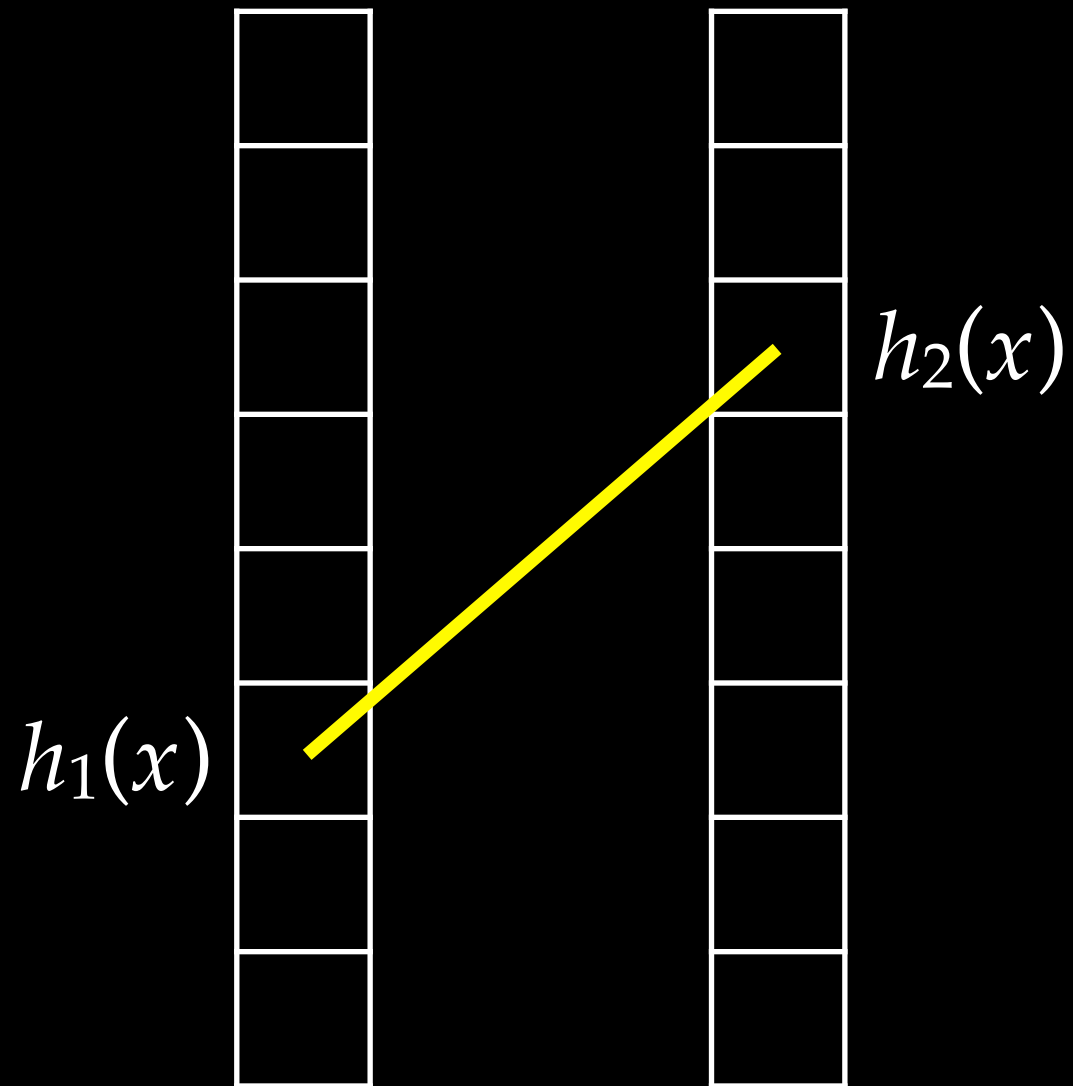
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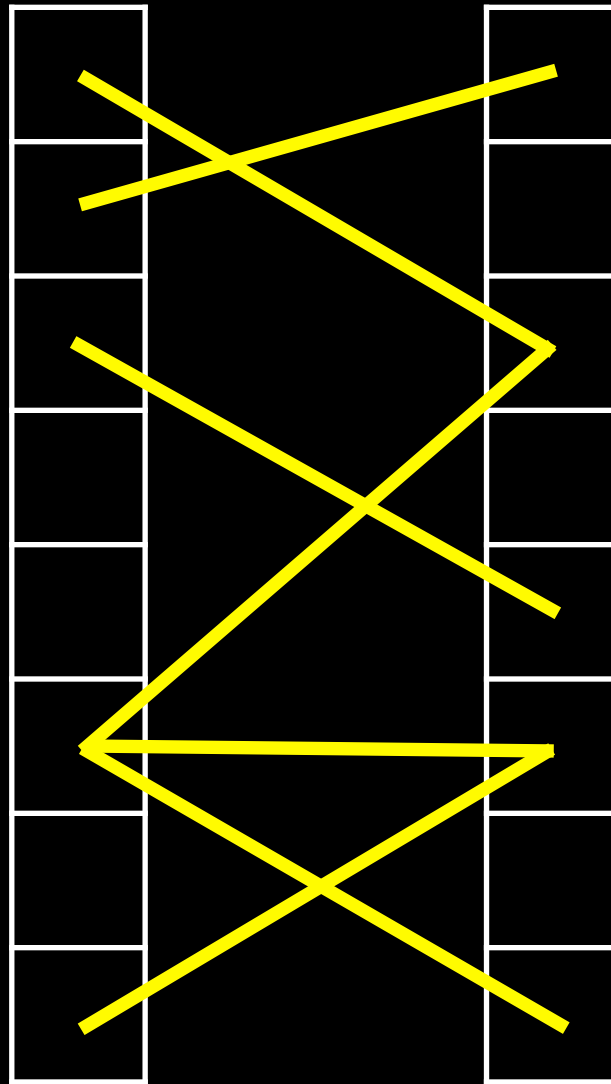
# Retrieval w / o perfect hashing

- The best “implementable” solutions of perfect hashing with range  $n$  use 2-3 bits / key.
- Lower bound: Need  $> 1.44$  bits / key.
- Is it possible to get rid of this fixed cost per key?

# Choice graph



# Choice graph

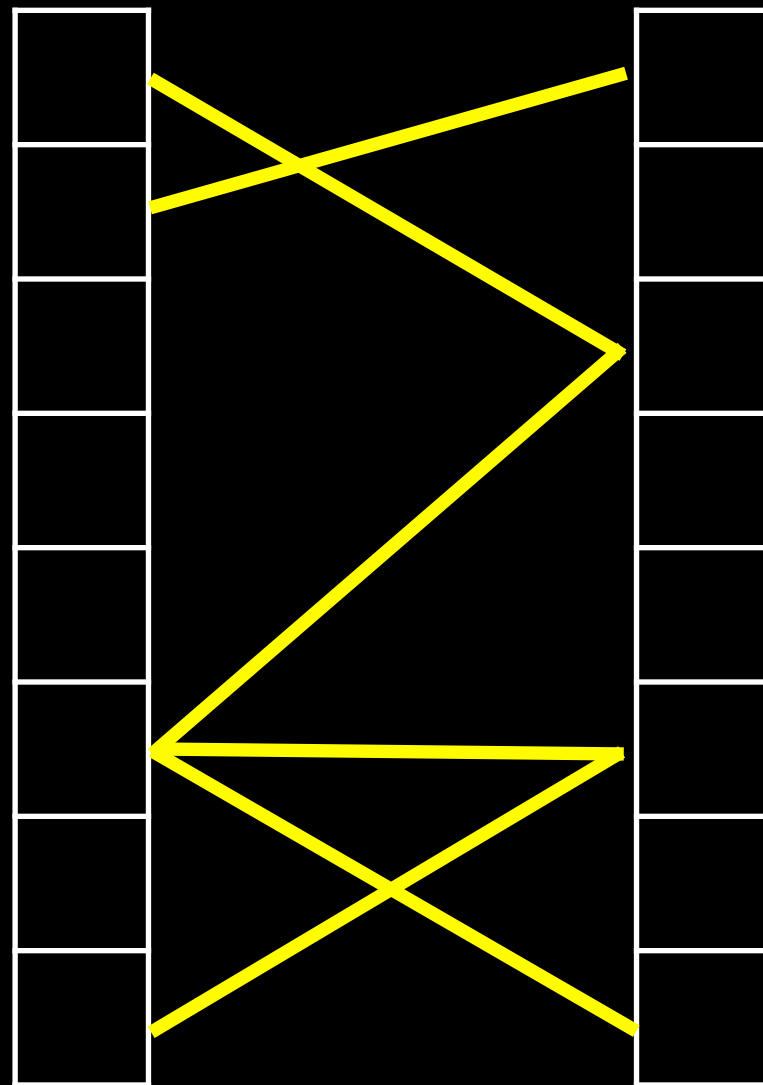


$$V = \{1, \dots, r/2\} \cup \{r/2 + 1, \dots, r\}$$

$$E = \{\{h_1(x), h_2(x)\} \mid x \in S\}$$

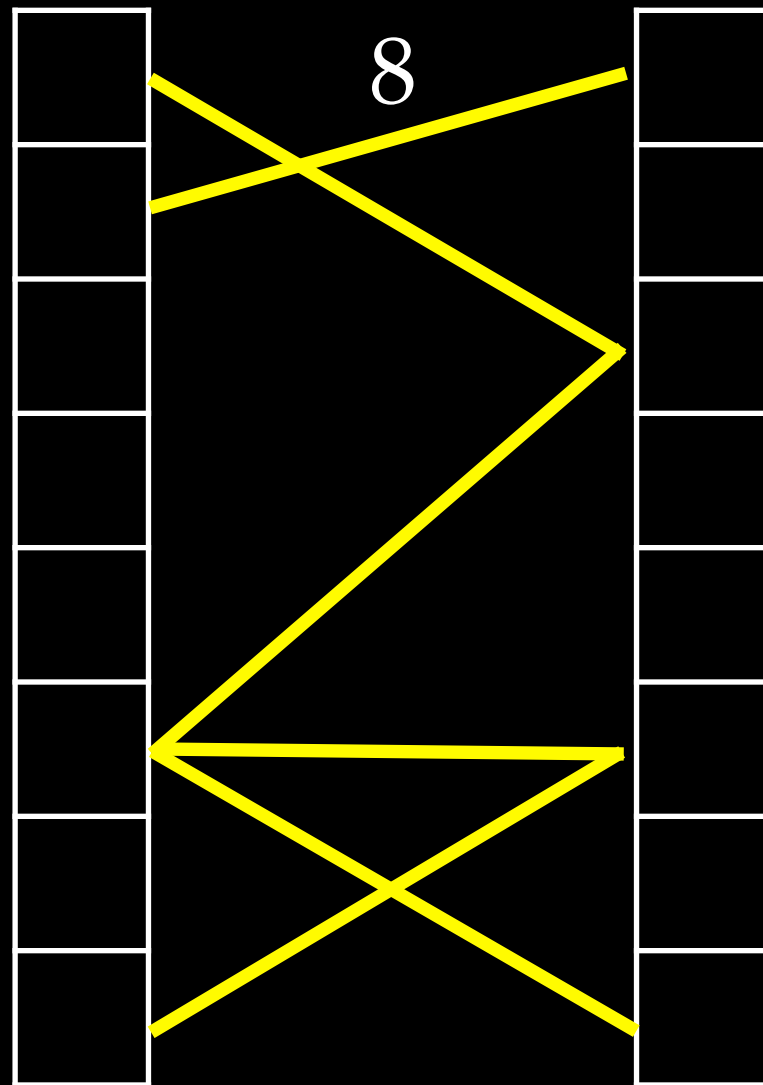
# Associating values with edges

**Idea:** Choose hash  
table entries s.t  
 $f(x) = T[h_1(x)] + T[h_2(x)]$



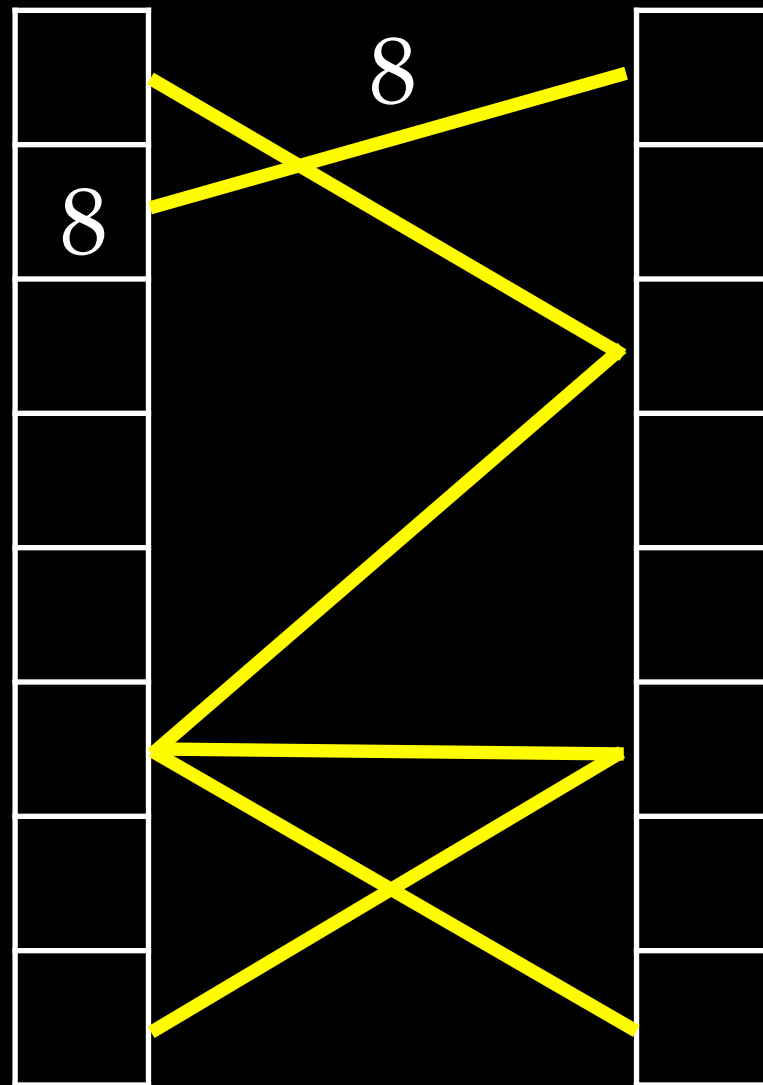
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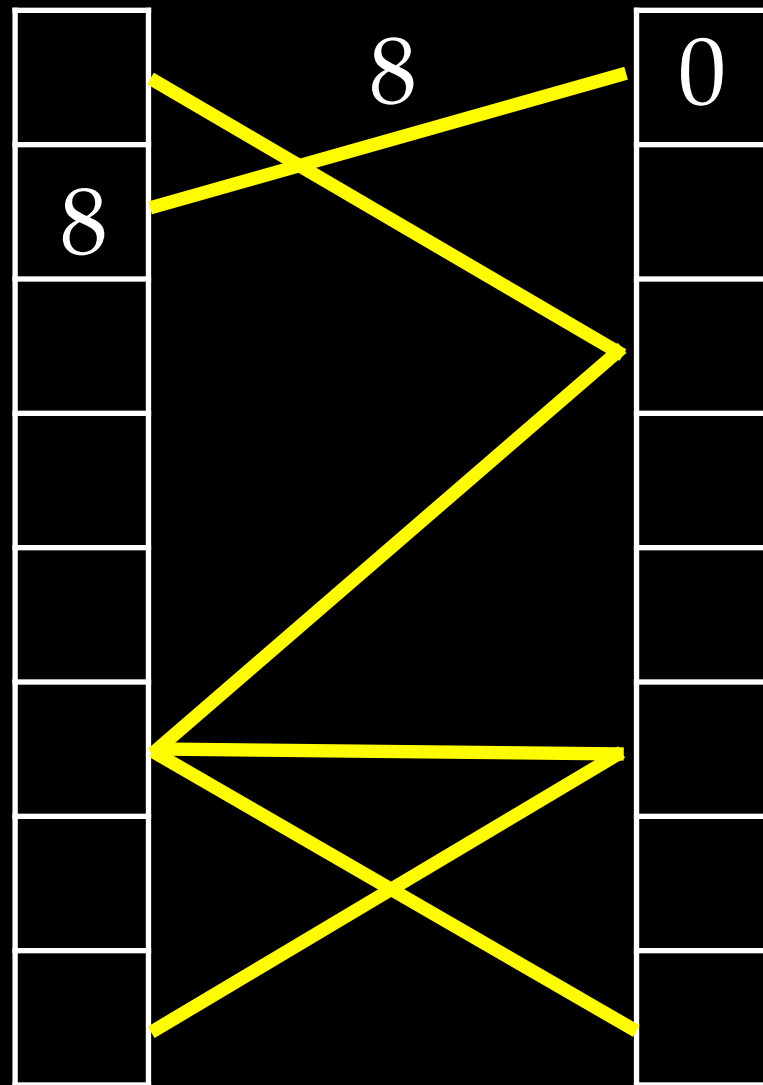
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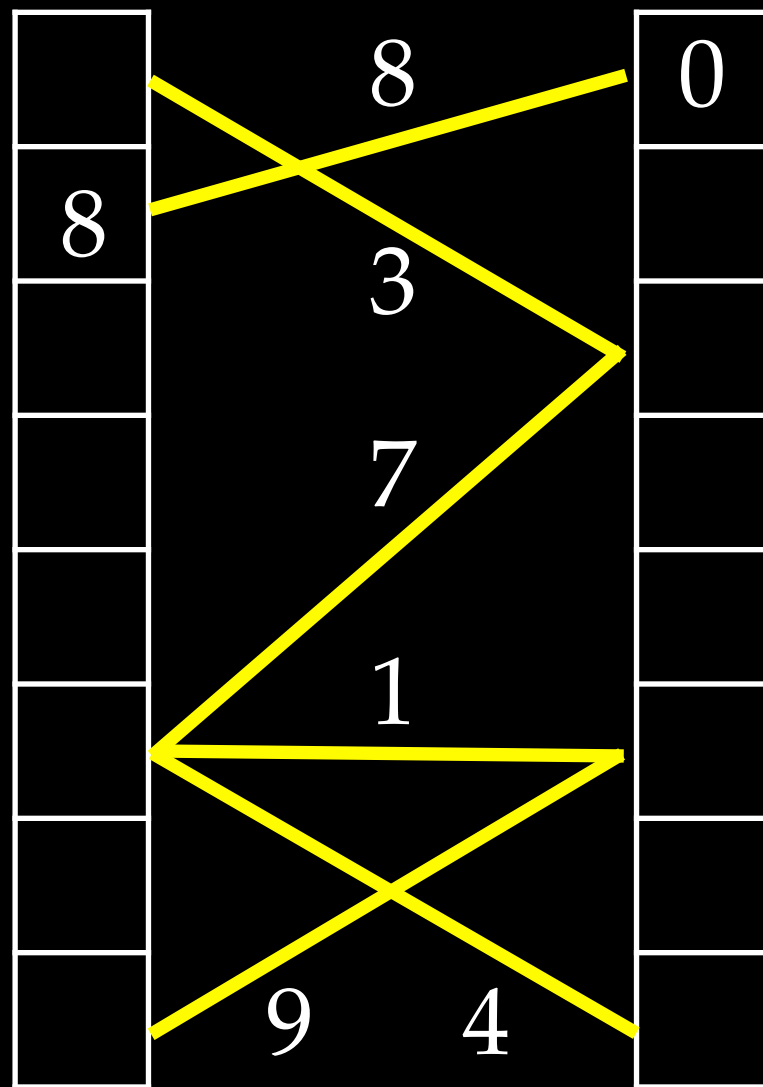
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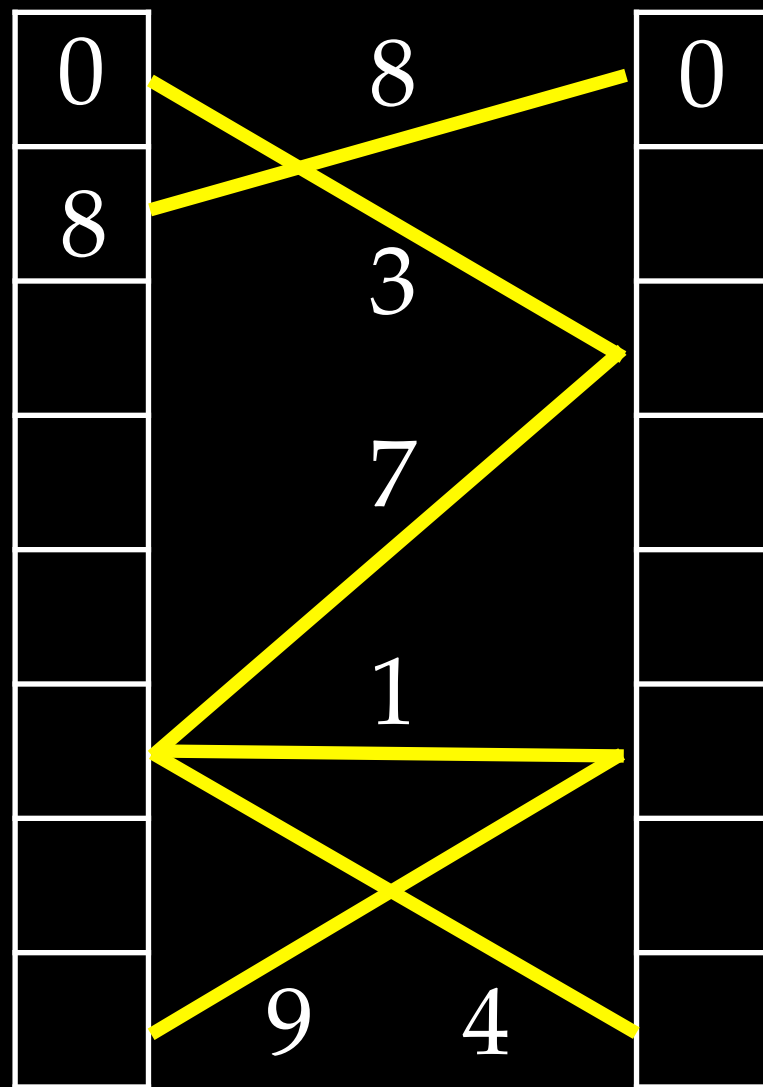
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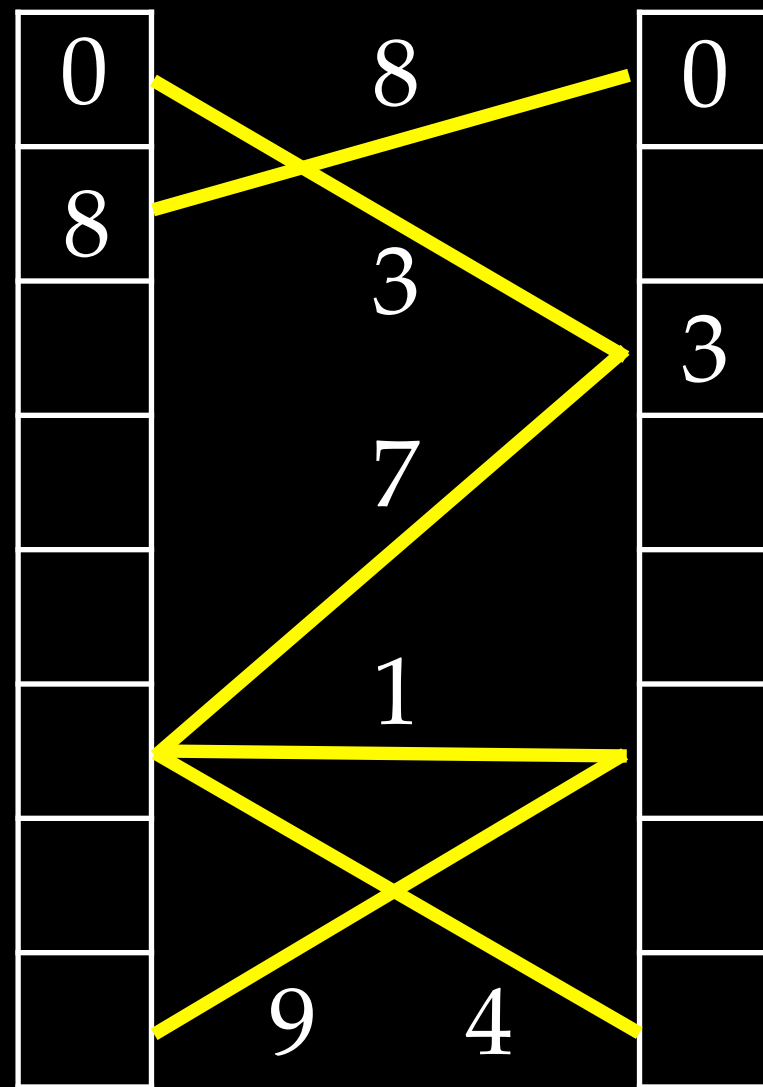
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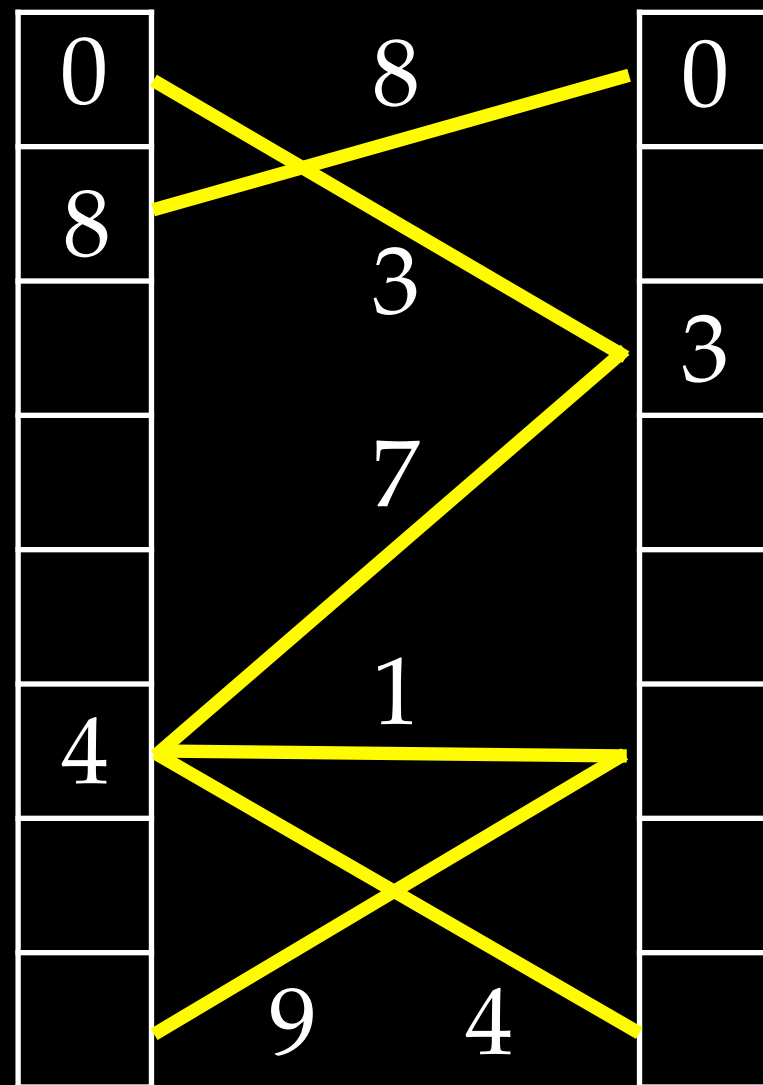
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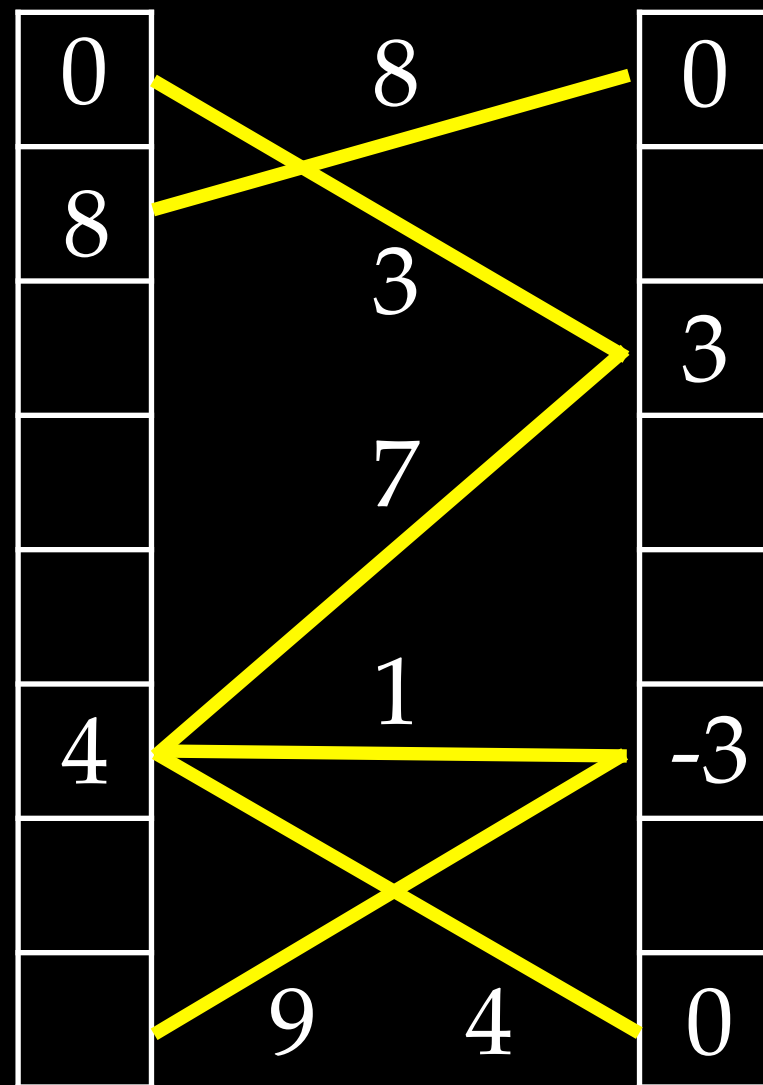
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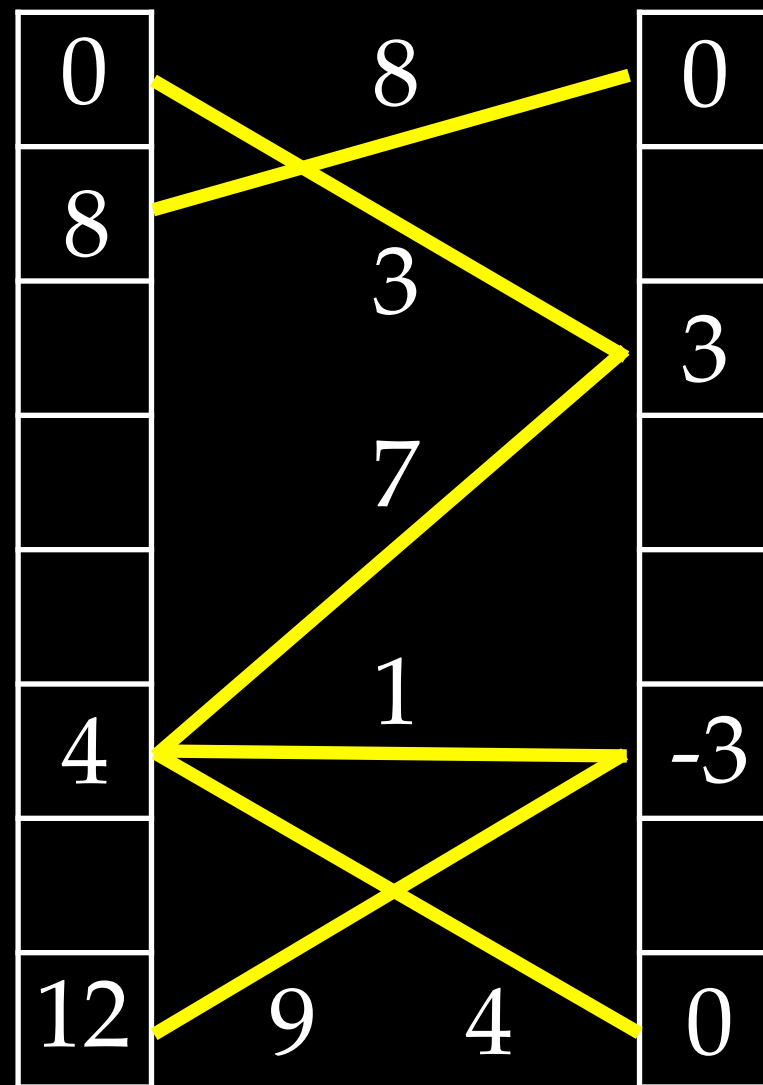
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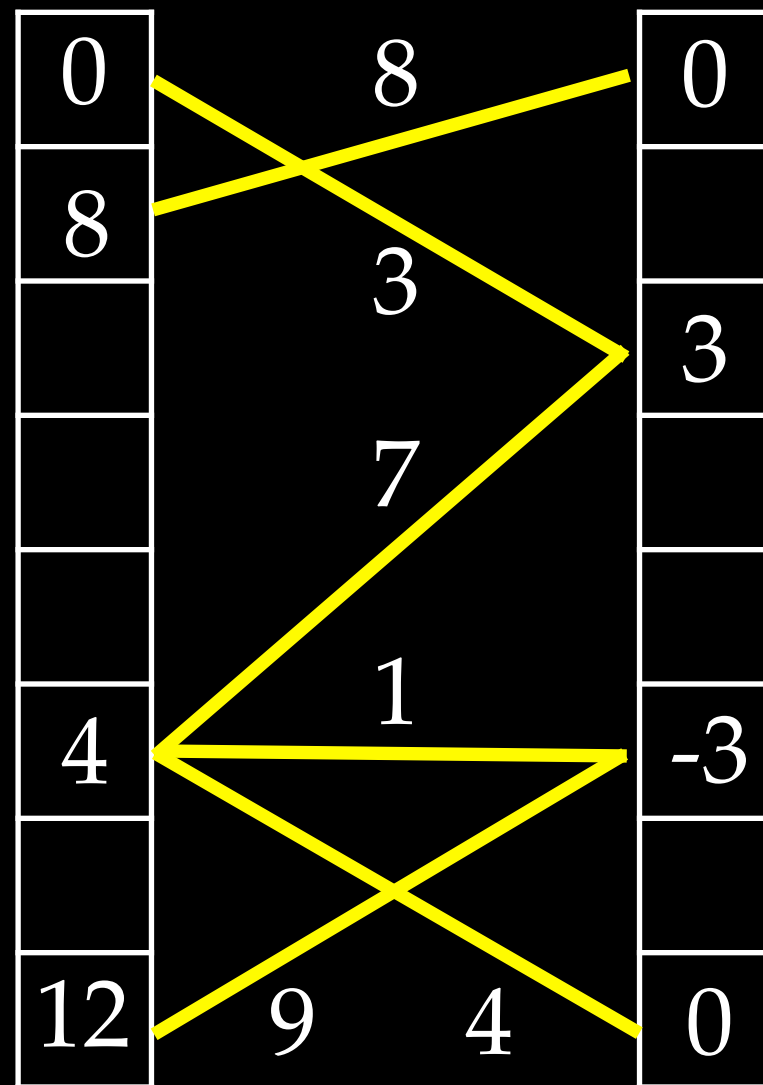
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Works if choice  
graph is acyclic!

# Random graph theory

Assuming fully random hash functions

- Kind of random graph depends on whether  $n < r / (2 + \varepsilon)$  (*threshold*).
- Below threshold: Connected components are all *pseudotrees* (trees + at most 1 edge) with high probability.
- In fact, *acyclic* with constant probability.

# Choice matrix

- The choice graph as a sparse 0-1 matrix:

	$h_1(x)$	$h_2(x)$
$v_x$	1	1

- Row  $v_x$  = the set of hash values of a key  $x$ .  
Generalizes to  $k > 2$  hash functions.



# Choice matrix properties

- **Lemma:** If choice hypergraph is acyclic, choice matrix  $A$  has full rank (any field).
- Ratio  $r/n$  needed for peelability:

$k$	2	3	4	5	6	7
$r/n$	2.000	1.222	1.295	1.425	1.570	1.721

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Drawback: Solving the linear systems becomes more demanding.

# Some references

- Broder & Karlin: Multilevel Adaptive Hashing  
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- Pagh, Segev, & Wieder. How to Approximate A Set Without Knowing Its Size in Advance  
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