

HASHING

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Hashing

- Sorting was putting things in nice neat order
- Hashing is the opposite
 - Put things in a “random” order
 - Algorithmically determine position of any given item
 - Improve search from $O(\log_2 N)$ to $O(1)$

HOW?

- Place everything in an array based on search key value
 - Run the search key through an address calculator (the hash function)
 - Insert/retrieve from location specified by the hash function (address calculator)
- This scheme is termed hashing
 - The function is the hash function
 - The array is called a hash table

Why not discard other data structures?

The mapping not always one-to-one

- A major drawback
 - Results in collisions - two items mapped to same location
 - which adds complexity
- Ordered operations do not work well
- Making array large enough to avoid collisions seldom practical

Ordered Operations

- We said earlier that hash tables don't work well for ordered operations
 - Now you should know enough to understand why
- Problems:
 - Display the users stored in a hash table alphabetically
 - Finding the lowest/highest values in a database
 - To do these operations, we need to retrieve all the data in the hash table, sort or compare as we retrieve.

Typical Hash Function

- Must
 - Be fast and easy to compute
 - Place items evenly through the hash table
 - More important, because the biggest performance loss is due to resolving collisions

Different Hash Functions

- Division and Remainder method
 $\text{hash}(\text{key}) = \text{key} \% \text{ARRAY_SIZE}$
 - Can distribute array items evenly by choosing a prime number for ARRAY_SIZE
- Folding
Add the digits
 - $\text{hash}(001364825) = 1+3+6+4+8+2+5 = 29$
 - Produces a normal distribution – too bunched up

Continued..

- Universal hashing
 - select hash function at random from designed class of functions
 - Diff address for the same inputs
- Digit Rearrangement
 - taking part of the original value or key , reversing of order, using that sequence of digits

Collision Resolving

- Collision
 $4567 \% 101 = 22 = 7597 \% 101$: collision
 - Two approaches to resolve
 - Alter the hash table to allow multiple entries per location
 - Allocate another location within the hash table

Restructure Hash Table

- Multiple items stored in a single array location
 - Two schemes to do this
 - Buckets
 - Separate chaining

Buckets

- Each array location is itself an array called a bucket
 - Problem is choosing size of these arrays
 - If too small, will fill up and must probe
 - If too large, wasted space

Chaining

- Hash table is an array of linked lists
 - Each array element is a pointer to a linked list, the chain
 - Insertion: place at beginning of chain
 - Deletion/retrieval: search the appropriate chain

Chaining

- Insertion is $O(1)$
- Deletion/retrieval depend on chain length
- Searching
 - $(1 + \alpha)$ for successful search
 - $(1 + \alpha)$ for unsuccessful search
 - Best case: $O(1)$, worst case: $O(N)$

Open Addressing

- Open Addressing
 - Probe for another empty, open location
 - Linear Probing
 - Quadratic probing
 - Double Hashing

Linear probing

- Probe sequentially until an empty spot is found
- Given key K
First slot probed $T[h'(k)]$, if collision continue $T[h'(k)+1]$ Up to $T[m-1]$
- Wrap around if you get to the end
 - Additions straightforward
 - Deletions pose a problem

Problems of Linear Probing

- Items tend to cluster together in consecutively occupied locations
 - Termed primary clustering
 - A cluster tends to increase in size
 - Clusters can merge into larger clusters
 - Increase the average search time
 - Primary clustering makes linear probing inefficient

Quadratic probing

- Uses a hash function
 - $h(k,i) = (h'(k) + C_1 i + C_2 i^2) \bmod m$
 - C_1, C_2 - auxiliary constants
 - $i = 0, \dots, m-1$
 - Positions are offset in a quadratic manner
 - Virtually eliminates primary clusters
 - Suffers from secondary clustering since same probe sequence used to resolve collision at original location

Double Hashing

- Best methods of open addressing
- Uses a hash function
 - $h(k,i) = (h_1(k) + i h_2(k)) \bmod m$
 - h_1, h_2 auxiliary hash functions
- Drastically reduces clustering
- Previous methods are key independent
- Double hashing uses key-dependent probe sequences

Continued

- Choose first function hash() as usual
- Follow these guidelines for hash2()
 - hash2(key) != 0
 - hash2() != hash()

Hashing Efficiency

- Involves the load factor α
 - α = average # of elements
 - α is a measure of how full the table is
 - As the hash table fills
 - α increases
 - Chance of collision increases
 - Search time increases
 - Hashing efficiency decreases

Linear Probing

- As collisions increase
 - Probe sequence increases
 - Search time increases
 - α should not exceed 2/3 for linear probing
- Best case : $O(1)$
- Worst Case : $O(1 + \alpha)$

Quadratic probing ,Double Hashing

- On average, both require fewer comparisons than linear probing
 - For $\alpha = 2/3$, avg unsuccessful search might require at most 3 compares, successful 2
- All three open addressing schemes suffer when unable to predict number of insertions and deletions as table may be too small

Good Hash Function

- Easy and fast to compute
- Scatter data evenly through table
 - Check for various types of data
 - Random data
 - Nonrandom data
 - Two general principles for even distribution
 - Use the whole key
 - If modulo math, base should be prime

Questions

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References

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