

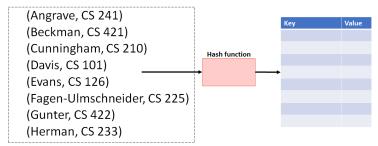
#25: Hashing

April 7, 2021 · Brad Solomon

Every hash table contains three pieces:

- 1. A **hash function**. The hash function transforms a key from the keyspace into an integer.
- 2. A data storage structure. (Usually an array)
- 3. A method of handling hash collisions.

A Perfect Hash Function



...characteristics of this function?

A hash function must be:

- Deterministic:
- Efficient:
- Defined for a given size:

In CS 225, we think hash functions as two separate parts:

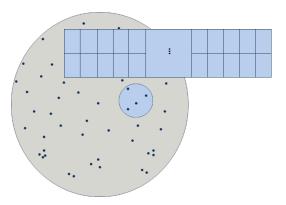
- A hash:
- A compression:

Towards a general-purpose hashing function:

It is <u>easy to create</u> a perfect hashing function when the keyspace is proportional to the table size:

- Ex: Professors at CS@Illinois
- Ex: Anything you can reason about every possible value

It is difficult to create a general-purpose hashing function when the keyspace is large:



For example, given a fixed collection of books what is a viable hash function that will yield no collisions?

... will those hash functions work for all *possible* books?

What is an example of bad input data on this hash function?

Reflections on Hashing

We are starting the study of general-purpose hash functions. There are many other types of hashes for specific uses (ex: cryptographic hash functions).

Even if we build a good hash function, it is not perfect. What happens when the function isn't always a bijection?

Dealing with hashing depends on which type of storage structure you are using.

Open Hashing:

Closed Hashing:

Draw the following hash table using **separate chaining**.

Key	Value	Hash
Bob	B+	2
Anna	A-	4
Alice	A+	4
Betty	В	2
Brett	A-	2
Greg	Α	0
Sue	В	7
Ali	B+	4
Laura	Α	7
Lily	B+	7

Simple Uniform Hashing Assumption (SUHA)

SUHA assumes that our hash function is uniform and independent for all keys in the keyspace (universe).

The expected length of a chain under SUHA:

This value is also known as our 'load factor'.

Running time of Separate Chaining:

	Worst Case	SUHA
Insert		
Remove/Find		

CS 225 – Things To Be Doing:

- 1. Final Project Team Contract / Proposals due April 9th
- 2. Mp traversal due April 12th.
- 3. lab_heaps due April 11th
- 4. Daily POTDs are ongoing!