













Hash Table Code First Pass Value find (Key k) { int index = hash(k) % tableSize; return Table[tableSize]; } What should the hash function be? What should the table size be?



...is easy (fast) to compute (O(1) and practically fast).
...distributes the data evenly (hash(a) % size ≠ hash(b) % size).
...uses the whole hash table (for all 0 ≤ k < size, there's an i such that hash(i) % size = k).







How to Design a Hash Function

- · Know what your keys are
- · Study how your keys are distributed
- Try to include all important information in a key in the construction of its hash
- Try to make "neighboring" keys hash to very different places
- Prune the features used to create the hash until it runs "fast enough" (very application dependent)



























Quadratic Probing May Fail (for $\lambda > \frac{1}{2}$)

• For any *i* larger than size/2, there is some *j* smaller than *i* that adds with *i* to equal size (or a multiple of size). D'oh!



Load Factor in Quadratic Probing For *any* λ ≤ ½, quadratic probing will find an empty slot; for greater λ, quadratic probing *may* find a slot Quadratic probing does not suffer from *primary* clustering

• Quadratic probing possibly suffers from *secondary* clustering





- ... is quick to evaluate.
- ...differs from the original hash function.
- ...never evaluates to 0 (mod size).
- One good choice is to choose a prime R < size and: hash₂(x) = R - (x mod R)



Load Factor in Double Hashing

- For any λ < 1, double hashing will find an empty slot (given appropriate table size and hash₂)
- Search cost appears to approach optimal (random hash):

- successful search: $\frac{1}{\lambda} \ln \frac{1}{1-\lambda}$ - unsuccessful search: 1

 $\frac{1}{1-\lambda}$

- · No primary clustering and no secondary clustering
- · One extra hash calculation



The Squished Pigeon Principle An insert using closed hashing *cannot* work with a load factor of 1 or more. An insert using closed hashing with guadratic prehing.

- An insert using closed hashing with quadratic probing may not work with a load factor of ½ or more.
- Whether you use open or closed hashing, large load factors lead to poor performance!
- How can we relieve the pressure on the pigeons?

Rehashing

- When the load factor gets "too large" (over a constant threshold on λ), rehash all the elements into a new, larger table:
 - takes O(n), but amortized O(1) as long as we (just about) double table size on the resize
 - spreads keys back out, may drastically improve performance
 - gives us a chance to retune parameterized hash functions
 - avoids failure for closed hashing techniques
 - allows arbitrarily large tables starting from a small table
 - clears out lazily deleted items

It's all about tradeoffs!