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## 3.4 HASH TABLES

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- ▶ *hash functions*
- ▶ *separate chaining*
- ▶ *linear probing*
- ▶ *context*

# Premature optimization

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*“ Programmers waste enormous amounts of time thinking about, or worrying about, the speed of noncritical parts of their programs, and these attempts at efficiency actually have a strong negative impact when debugging and maintenance are considered.*

*We should forget about small efficiencies, say about 97% of the time: premature optimization is the root of all evil.*

*Yet we should not pass up our opportunities in that critical 3%. ”*

Don Knuth

# Symbol table implementations: summary

---

implementation	guarantee			average case			ordered ops?	key interface
	search	insert	delete	search hit	insert	delete		
<b>sequential search</b> (unordered list)	$N$	$N$	$N$	$N$	$N$	$N$		<code>equals()</code>
<b>binary search</b> (ordered array)	$\log N$	$N$	$N$	$\log N$	$N$	$N$	✓	<code>compareTo()</code>
<b>BST</b>	$N$	$N$	$N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\sqrt{N}$	✓	<code>compareTo()</code>
<b>red-black BST</b>	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	✓	<code>compareTo()</code>

Q. Can we do better?

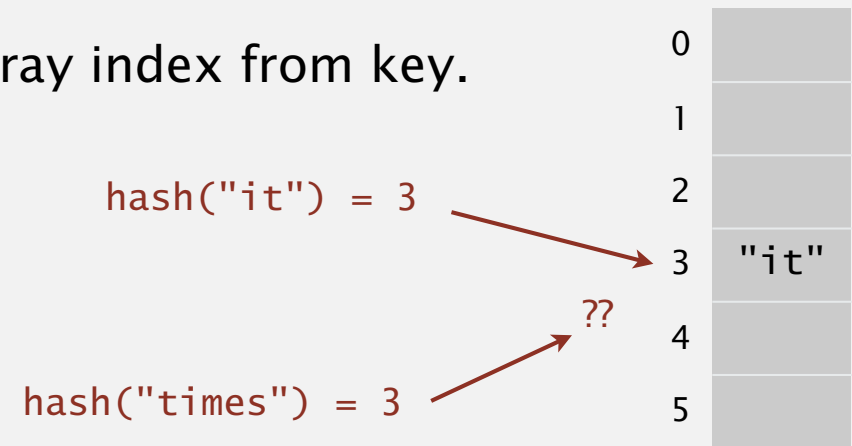
A. Yes, but with different access to the data.

# Hashing: basic plan

---

Save items in a **key-indexed array** (index is a function of the key).

**Hash function.** Method for computing array index from key.



**Issues.**

- Computing the hash function.
- Equality test: Method for checking whether two keys are equal.
- Collision resolution: Algorithm and data structure to handle two keys that hash to the same array index.

**Classic space-time tradeoff.**

- No space limitation: trivial hash function with key as index.
- No time limitation: trivial collision resolution with sequential search.
- Space and time limitations: hashing (the real world).



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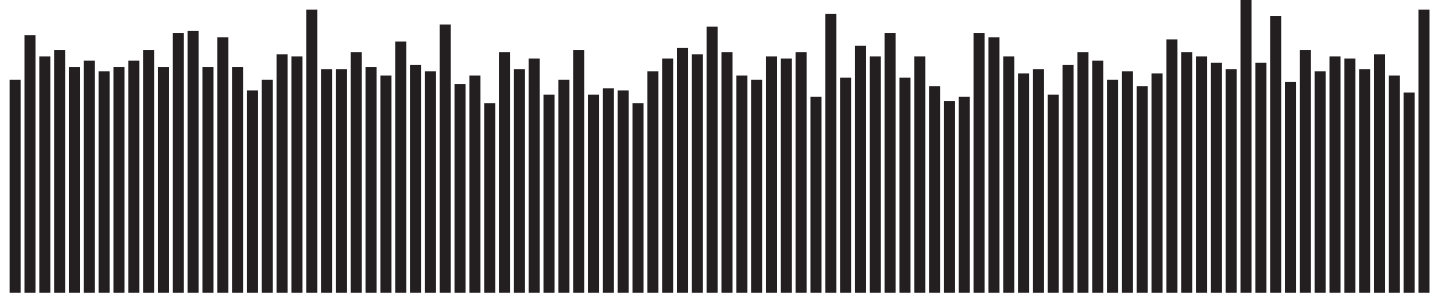
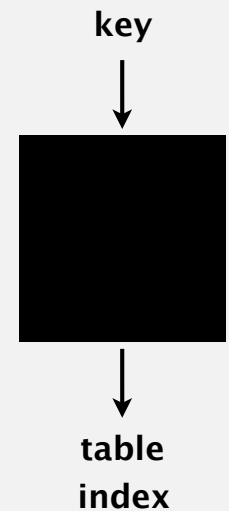
# Computing the hash function

---

**Idealistic goal.** Scramble the keys uniformly to produce a table index.

- Efficiently computable.
- Each table index equally likely for each key.

← thoroughly researched problem,  
still problematic in practical applications



Hash value frequencies for words in Tale of Two Cities ( $M = 97$ )

**Practical challenge.** Need different approach for each key type.

# Minimizing hash function collisions

---

**Challenge.** Distribution of keys unknown, may contain patterns.

Examples of string inputs with patterns:

- Words from ‘tale of two cities’
- Strings consisting of only ‘0’ and ‘1’:  
    0011100, 1010100000, ...
- Only strings of length  $\leq 3$
- URLs on a web server

```
http://www.cs.princeton.edu/introcs/13loop/Hello.java  
http://www.cs.princeton.edu/introcs/13loop/Hello.class  
http://www.cs.princeton.edu/introcs/13loop/Hello.html  
http://www.cs.princeton.edu/introcs/12type/index.html
```

## Hash tables: quiz 1

---

What's the best way to hash a 10-digit phone number to a value between 0 and 999?

- A. First 3 digits
- B. Last 3 digits
- C. Either A or B
- D. Neither A nor B
- E. *I don't know.*



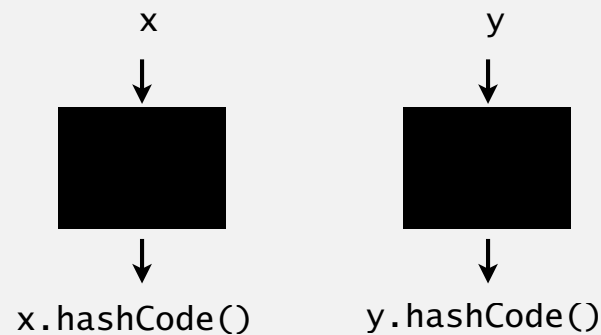
# Java's hash code conventions

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All Java classes inherit a method `hashCode()`, which returns a 32-bit `int`.

**Requirement.** If `x.equals(y)`, then `(x.hashCode() == y.hashCode())`.

**Highly desirable.** If `!x.equals(y)`, then `(x.hashCode() != y.hashCode())`.



**Default implementation.** Memory address of `x`.

**Legal (but poor) implementation.** Always return 17.

**Customized implementations.** `Integer`, `Double`, `String`, `File`, `URL`, `Date`, ...

**User-defined types.** Users are on their own.

# Implementing hash code: integers, booleans, and doubles

---

## Java library implementations

```
public final class Integer
{
    private final int value;
    ...

    public int hashCode()
    { return value; }

}
```

```
public final class Boolean
{
    private final boolean value;
    ...

    public int hashCode()
    {
        if (value) return 1231;
        else      return 1237;
    }

}
```

```
public final class Double
{
    private final double value;
    ...

    public int hashCode()
    {
        long bits = doubleToLongBits(value);
        return (int) (bits ^ (bits >>> 32));
    }

}
```

convert to IEEE 64-bit representation;  
xor most significant 32-bits  
with least significant 32-bits

Warning: -0.0 and +0.0 have different hash codes

Are these magic constants?!

# Implementing hash code: strings

Treat string of length  $L$  as  $L$ -digit, base-31 number:

$$h = s[0] \cdot 31^{L-1} + \dots + s[L-3] \cdot 31^2 + s[L-2] \cdot 31^1 + s[L-1] \cdot 31^0$$

```
public final class String
{
    private final char[] s;
    :
    public int hashCode()
    {
        int hash = 0;
        for (int i = 0; i < length(); i++)
            hash = s[i] + (31 * hash);
        return hash;
    }
}
```

Java library implementation

char	Unicode
...	...
'a'	97
'b'	98
'c'	99
...	...

**Horner's method:** only  $L$  multiplications/additions to hash string of length  $L$ .

```
String s = "call";
s.hashCode(); ← 3045982 = 99·313 + 97·312 + 108·311 + 108·310
                = 108 + 31·(108 + 31·(97 + 31·(99)))
```

# Implementing hash code: strings

---

## Recall:

$$h = s[0] \cdot 31^{L-1} + \dots + s[L-3] \cdot 31^2 + s[L-2] \cdot 31^1 + s[L-1] \cdot 31^0$$

## Peek ahead: modular hashing

Convert hash code to array index by taking remainder mod array length

Q. What could go wrong if the length of array is 31 (or a multiple of 31)?

A. Only the last character of the string affects the array index

Q. Is this hash function better or worse than Java's?

$$h = s[0] \cdot 30^{L-1} + \dots + s[L-3] \cdot 30^2 + s[L-2] \cdot 30^1 + s[L-1] \cdot 30^0$$

A. Worse, because it is much more likely that the array length will have a common factor with 30 than with 31.

# Implementing hash code: strings

## Performance optimization.

- Cache the hash value in an instance variable.
- Return cached value.

**Skipped  
in class**

```
public final class String
{
    private int hash = 0;
    private final char[] s;
    ...

    public int hashCode()
    {
        int h = hash;
        if (h != 0) return h;
        for (int i = 0; i < length(); i++)
            h = s[i] + (31 * h);
        hash = h;
        return h;
    }
}
```

← cache of hash code

← return cached value

← store cache of hash code

Q. What if hashCode() of string is 0? ← hashCode() of "pollinating sandboxes" is 0

# Implementing hash code: user-defined types

---

```
public final class Transaction implements Comparable<Transaction>
{
    private final String who;
    private final Date when;
    private final double howmuch;

    public Transaction(String who, Date when, double howmuch)
    { /* as before */ }

    ...

    public boolean equals(Object y)
    { /* as before */ }

    public int hashCode()
    {
        int hash = 17;
        hash = 31*hash + who.hashCode();
        hash = 31*hash + when.hashCode();
        hash = 31*hash + ((Double) howmuch).hashCode();
        return hash;
    }
}
```

nonzero constant

for reference types,  
use hashCode()



for primitive types,  
use hashCode()  
of wrapper type

typically a small prime

# Hash code design

---

## "Standard" recipe for user-defined types.

- Combine each significant field using the  $31x + y$  rule.
- If field is a primitive type, use wrapper type `hashCode()`.
- If field is `null`, use 0.
- If field is a reference type, use `hashCode()`.  applies rule recursively
- If field is an array, apply to each entry.  or use `Arrays.deepHashCode()`

**In practice.** Recipe above works reasonably well; used in Java libraries.

**In theory.** Keys are bitstrings; "universal" family of hash functions exist.

 awkward in Java since only one (deterministic) `hashCode()`

**Basic rule.** Need to use the whole key to compute hash code; consult an expert for state-of-the-art hash codes.

## Hash tables: quiz 2

---

Which of the following is an effective way to map a hashable key to an integer between 0 and  $M-1$  ?

A.

```
private int hash(Key key)
{ return key.hashCode() % M; }
```

B.

```
private int hash(Key key)
{ return Math.abs(key.hashCode()) % M; }
```

C.

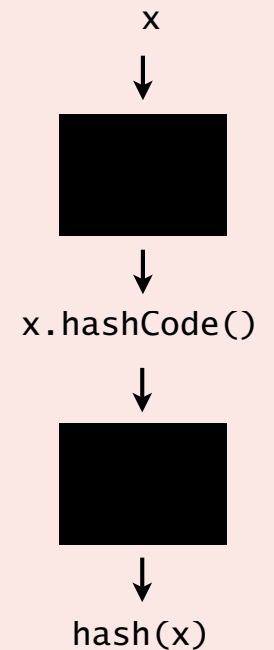
Both A and B.

D.

Neither A nor B.

E.

*I don't know.*



**Trick  
question**



# Modular hashing

---

**Hash code.** An int between  $-2^{31}$  and  $2^{31} - 1$ .

**Hash function.** An int between 0 and  $M - 1$  (for use as array index).

typically a prime or power of 2

```
private int hash(Key key)
{ return key.hashCode() % M; }
```

**bug**

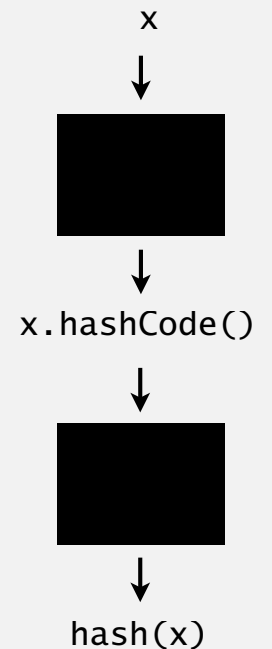
```
private int hash(Key key)
{ return Math.abs(key.hashCode()) % M; }
```

**1-in-a-billion bug**

hashCode() of "polygenelubricants" is  $-2^{31}$

```
private int hash(Key key)
{ return (key.hashCode() & 0x7fffffff) % M; }
```

**correct**

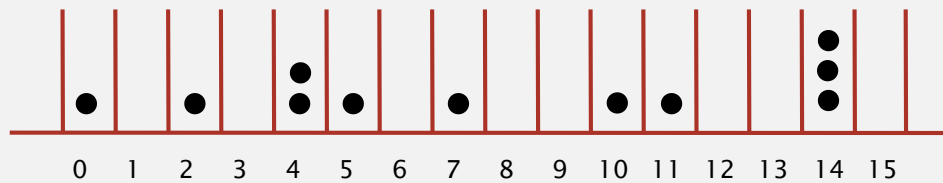


# Uniform hashing assumption

---

**Uniform hashing assumption.** Each key is equally likely to hash to an integer between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Bins and balls.** Throw balls uniformly at random into  $M$  bins.



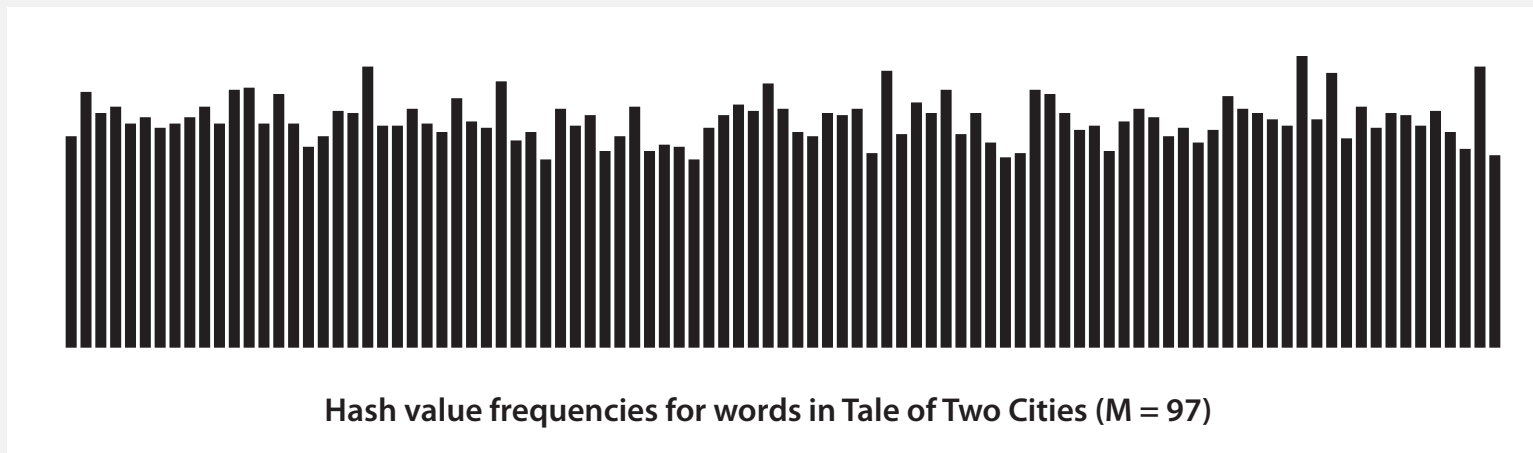
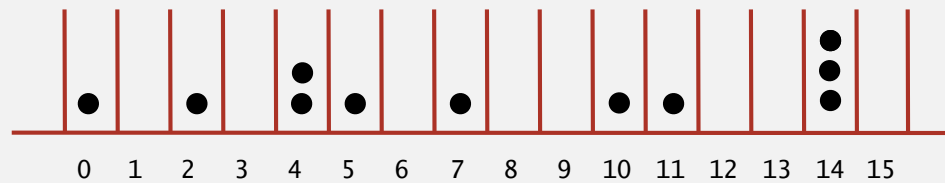
**Birthday problem.** Expect two balls in the same bin after  $\sim \sqrt{\pi M / 2}$  tosses.

# Uniform hashing assumption

---

**Uniform hashing assumption.** Each key is equally likely to hash to an integer between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Bins and balls.** Throw balls uniformly at random into  $M$  bins.



Java's String data uniformly distribute the keys of Tale of Two Cities



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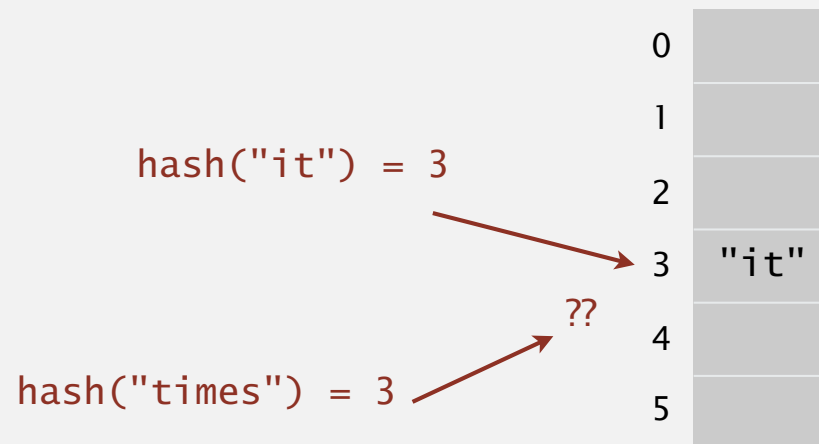
# Collisions

---

**Collision.** Two distinct keys hashing to same index.

Birthday problem  $\Rightarrow$  can't avoid collisions.

← unless you have a ridiculous  
(quadratic) amount of memory



**Challenge.** Deal with collisions efficiently.

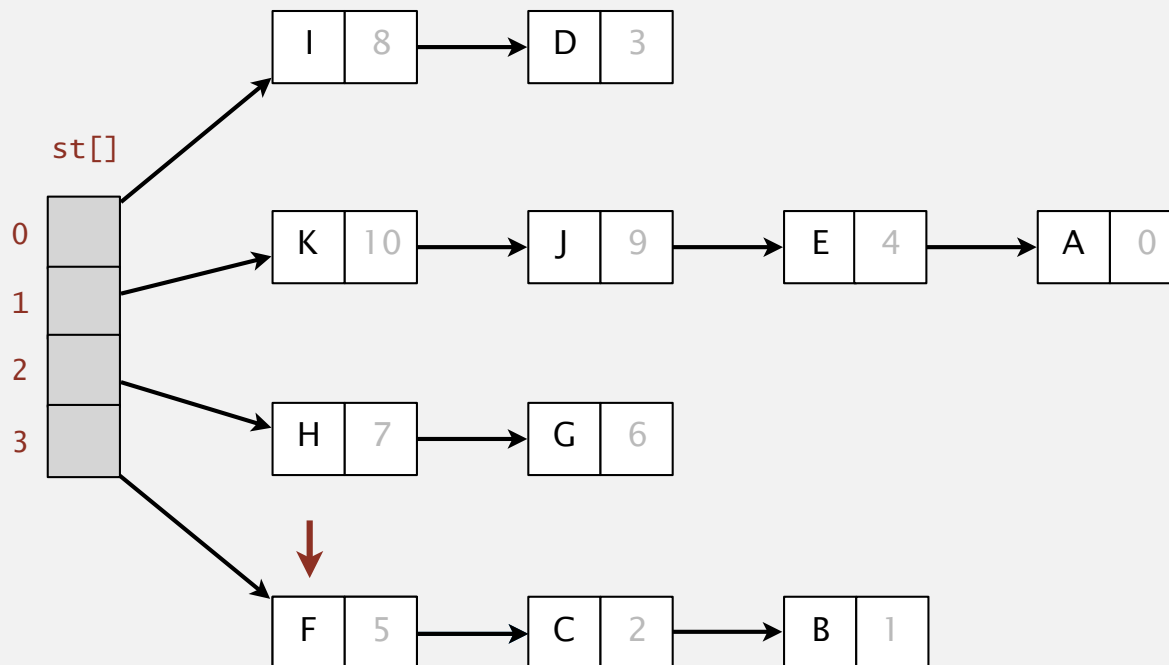
# Separate-chaining symbol table

Use an array of  $M < N$  linked lists. [H. P. Luhn, IBM 1953]

- Hash: map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .
- Insert: put at front of  $i^{\text{th}}$  chain (if not already in chain).
- Search: sequential search in  $i^{\text{th}}$  chain.

**put(L, 11)**  
**hash(L) = 3**

separate-chaining hash table ( $M = 4$ )



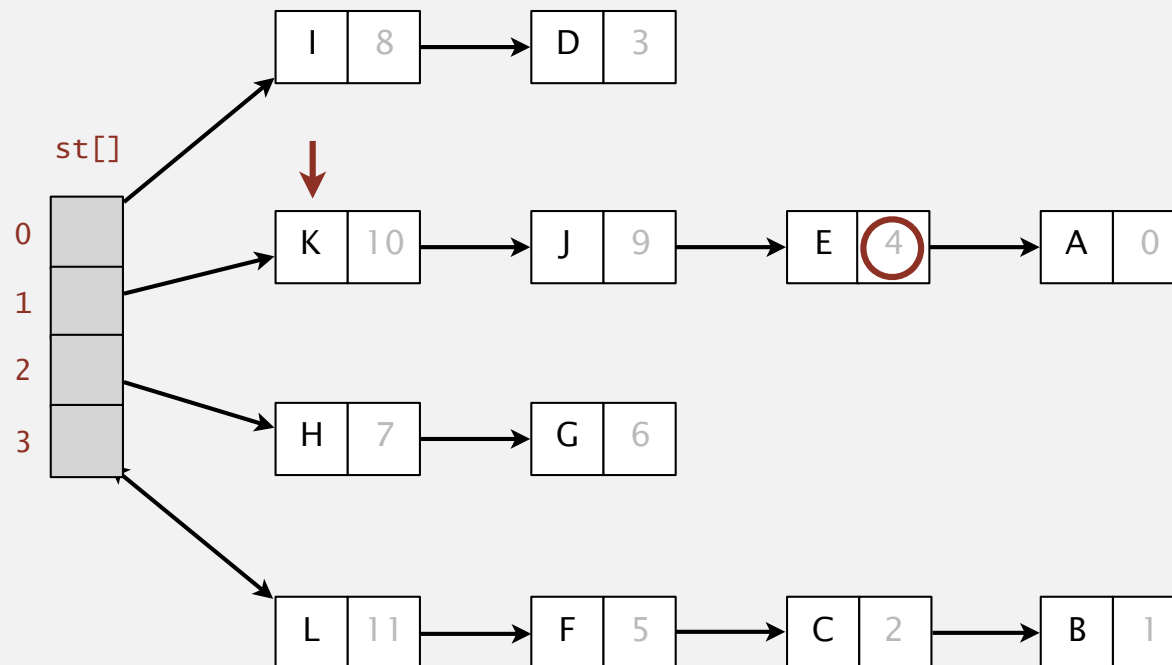
# Separate-chaining symbol table

Use an array of  $M < N$  linked lists. [H. P. Luhn, IBM 1953]

- Hash: map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .
- Insert: put at front of  $i^{\text{th}}$  chain (if not already in chain).
- Search: sequential search in  $i^{\text{th}}$  chain.

separate-chaining hash table ( $M = 4$ )

get(E)  
hash(E) = 1



# Separate-chaining symbol table: Java implementation

```
public class SeparateChainingHashST<Key, Value>
{
    private int M = 97;           // number of chains
    private Node[] st = new Node[M]; // array of chains

    private static class Node
    {
        private Object key; ← no generic array creation
        private Object val; ← (declare key and value of type Object)
        private Node next;
        ...
    }

    private int hash(Key key)
    { return (key.hashCode() & 0x7fffffff) % M; }

    public Value get(Key key) {
        int i = hash(key);
        for (Node x = st[i]; x != null; x = x.next)
            if (key.equals(x.key)) return (Value) x.val;
        return null;
    }
}
```

array doubling and halving code omitted

**Skipped  
in class**



# Separate-chaining symbol table: Java implementation

---

```
public class SeparateChainingHashST<Key, Value>
{
    private int M = 97;           // number of chains
    private Node[] st = new Node[M]; // array of chains

    private static class Node
    {
        private Object key;
        private Object val;
        private Node next;
        ...
    }

    private int hash(Key key)
    { return (key.hashCode() & 0x7fffffff) % M; }

    public void put(Key key, Value val) {
        int i = hash(key);
        for (Node x = st[i]; x != null; x = x.next)
            if (key.equals(x.key)) { x.val = val; return; }
        st[i] = new Node(key, val, st[i]);
    }
}
```

**Skipped  
in class**

# Analysis of separate chaining

---

**Proposition.** Under uniform hashing assumption, the number of keys in each list is close to  $N/M$ .


**Consequence.** Number of **probes** for search/insert is proportional to  $N/M$ .

- $M$  too large  $\Rightarrow$  too many empty chains.
- $M$  too small  $\Rightarrow$  chains too long.
- Typical choice:  $M \sim \frac{1}{4} N \Rightarrow$  constant-time ops.

*equals() and hashCode()*



*M times faster than  
sequential search*



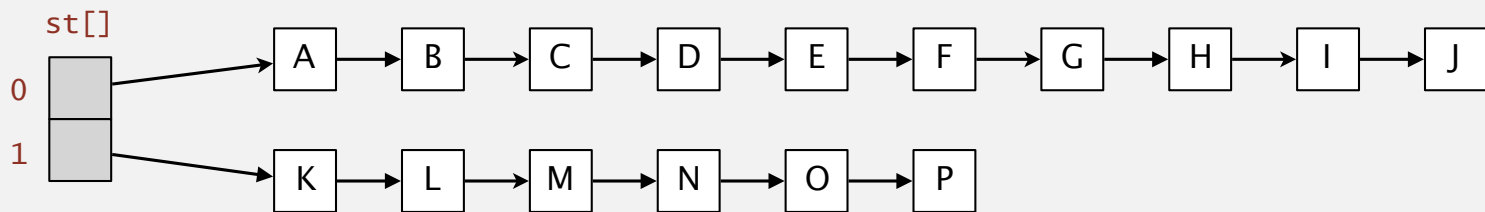
**Q.** When to resize?

# Resizing in a separate-chaining hash table

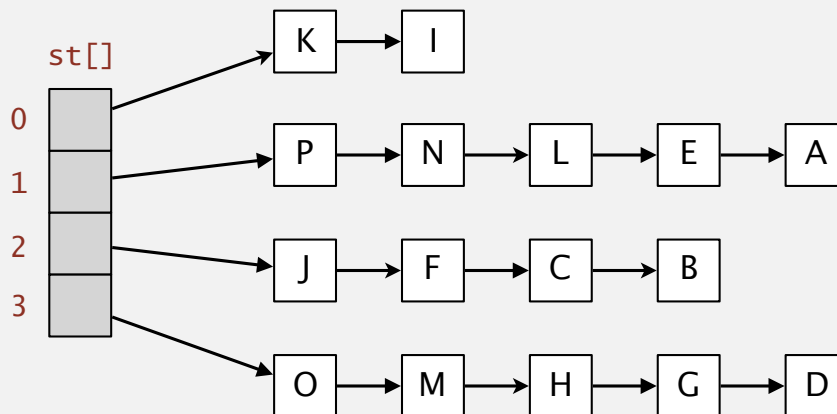
**Goal.** Average length of list  $N / M = \text{constant}$ .

- Double size of array  $M$  when  $N / M \geq 8$ ;  
halve size of array  $M$  when  $N / M \leq 2$ .
- Note: need to rehash all keys when resizing. ←  $x.\text{hashCode}()$  does not change; but  $\text{hash}(x)$  can change

before resizing ( $N/M = 8$ )



after resizing ( $N/M = 4$ )



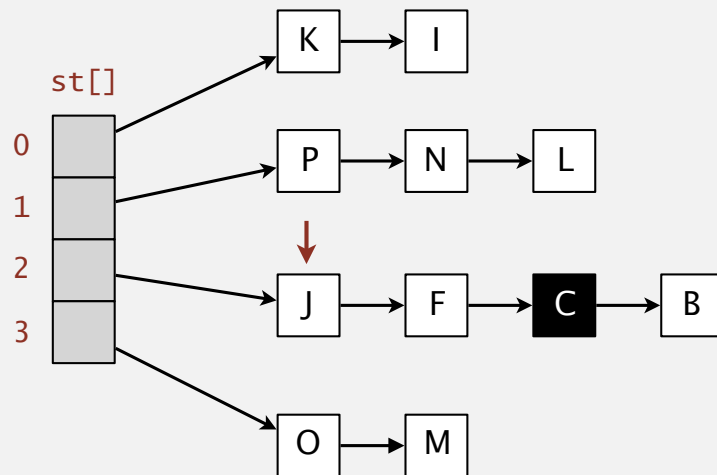
# Deletion in a separate-chaining hash table

---

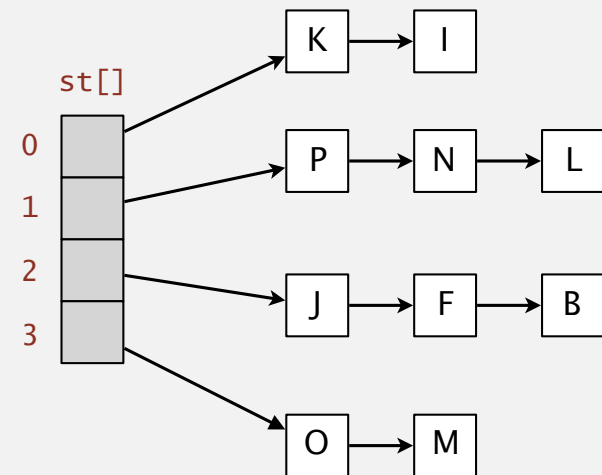
Q. How to delete a key (and its associated value)?

A. Easy: need to consider only chain containing key.

before deleting C



after deleting C



# Symbol table implementations: summary

---

implementation	guarantee			average case			ordered ops?	key interface
	search	insert	delete	search hit	insert	delete		
<b>sequential search (unordered list)</b>	$N$	$N$	$N$	$N$	$N$	$N$		<code>equals()</code>
<b>binary search (ordered array)</b>	$\log N$	$N$	$N$	$\log N$	$N$	$N$	✓	<code>compareTo()</code>
<b>BST</b>	$N$	$N$	$N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\sqrt{N}$	✓	<code>compareTo()</code>
<b>red-black BST</b>	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	✓	<code>compareTo()</code>
<b>separate chaining</b>	$N$	$N$	$N$	$1^*$	$1^*$	$1^*$		<code>equals()</code> <code>hashCode()</code>

\* under uniform hashing assumption



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- ▶ *hash functions*
- ▶ *separate chaining*
- ▶ *linear probing*
- ▶ *context*

# Collision resolution: linear probing

---

**Linear probing.** [Amdahl–Boehme–Rochester–Samuel, IBM 1953]

- Maintain keys and values in two parallel arrays.
- When a new key collides, find next empty slot, and put it there.

**linear-probing hash table (M = 16, N = 10)**

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C		H	L		E				R	X
								K								
								14								
vals[]	11	10			9	5		6	12		13				4	8

# Linear-probing hash table summary

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

**Note.** Array size  $M$  **must be** greater than number of key-value pairs  $N$ .

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

$M = 16$







# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

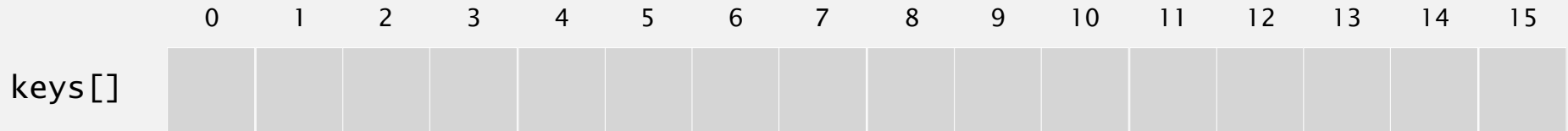
---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert S

hash(S) = 6













# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert E

hash(E) = 10

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]							S				E					



# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]							S				E					

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert A

hash(A) = 4

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]							S				E					

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

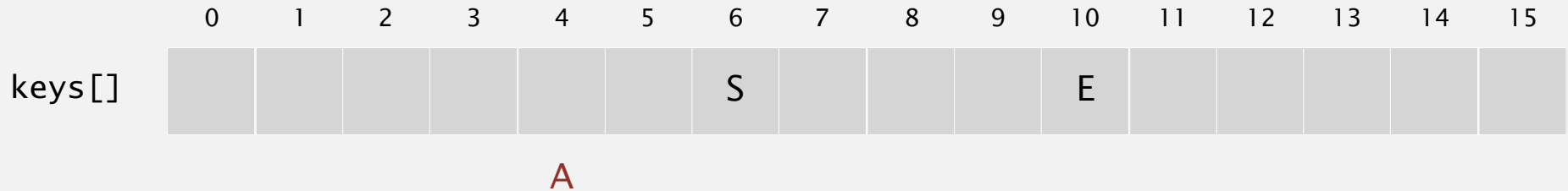
---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert A

hash(A) = 4



# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert A

hash(A) = 4

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A		S				E					

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A		S				E					

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert R

hash(R) = 14

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A		S				E					

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

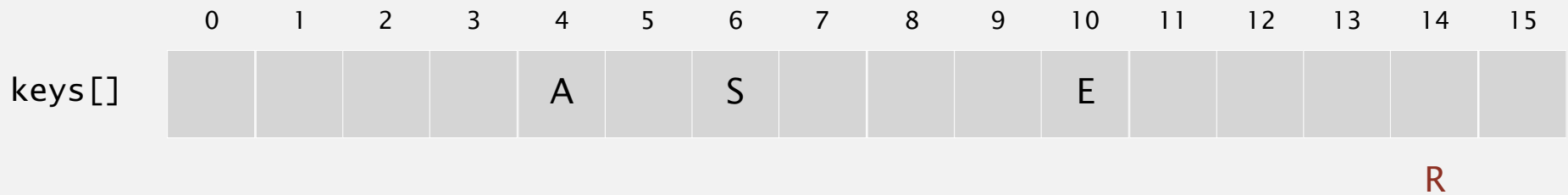
---

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insert R

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# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

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**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

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insert R

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	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A		S				E				R	



# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

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**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

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## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A		S				E				R	

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert C

hash(C) = 5

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A		S				E				R	



# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert C

hash(C) = 5

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A	C	S				E				R	

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A	C	S				E				R	

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert H

hash(H) = 4

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A	C	S				E				R	











# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert H

hash(H) = 4

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A	C	S	H			E				R	

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A	C	S	H			E				R	

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert X

hash(X) = 15

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A	C	S	H			E				R	



# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert X

hash(X) = 15

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A	C	S	H			E				R	X

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A	C	S	H			E				R	X



# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert M

hash(M) = 1

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A	C	S	H			E				R	X



# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert M

hash(M) = 1

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]		M			A	C	S	H			E				R	X

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]		M			A	C	S	H			E				R	X

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert P

hash(P) = 14

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]		M			A	C	S	H			E				R	X





# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert P

hash(P) = 14

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H			E				R	X



# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H			E				R	X

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert L

hash(L) = 6

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H			E				R	X



# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert L

hash(L) = 6

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H			E				R	X

L

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert L

hash(L) = 6

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H			E				R	X

L

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

insert L

hash(L) = 6

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

# Linear-probing hash table demo: insert

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Insert.** Put at table index  $i$  if free; if not try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X



# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search E

hash(E) = 10

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search E

hash(E) = 10

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

E

search hit  
(return corresponding value)

# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search L

hash(L) = 6

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X



# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search L

hash(L) = 6

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

L

# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search L

hash(L) = 6

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

L

search hit

(return corresponding value)

# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

## linear-probing hash table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X



# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search K

hash(K) = 5

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X



# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search K

hash(K) = 5

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

K

# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search K

hash(K) = 5

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

K

# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search K

hash(K) = 5

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

K

# Linear-probing hash table demo: search

---

**Hash.** Map key to integer  $i$  between 0 and  $M - 1$ .

**Search.** Search table index  $i$ ; if occupied but no match, try  $i + 1$ ,  $i + 2$ , etc.

search K  
hash(K) = 5

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X

K

search miss  
(return null)

# Linear-probing symbol table: Java implementation

---

```
public class LinearProbingHashST<Key, Value>
{
    private int M = 30001;
    private Value[] vals = (Value[]) new Object[M];
    private Key[] keys = (Key[]) new Object[M];

    private int hash(Key key)          { /* as before */ }

    private void put(Key key, Value val) { /* next slide */ }

    public Value get(Key key)
    {
        for (int i = hash(key); keys[i] != null; i = (i+1) % M)
            if (key.equals(keys[i]))
                return vals[i];
        return null;
    }
}
```

← array doubling and halving code omitted

**Skipped  
in class**

← sequential search in chain i

# Linear-probing symbol table: Java implementation

---

```
public class LinearProbingHashST<Key, Value>
{
    private int M = 30001;
    private Value[] vals = (Value[]) new Object[M];
    private Key[] keys = (Key[]) new Object[M];

    private int hash(Key key)          { /* as before */ }

    private Value get(Key key)        { /* prev slide */ }

    public void put(Key key, Value val)
    {
        int i;
        for (i = hash(key); keys[i] != null; i = (i+1) % M)
            if (keys[i].equals(key))
                break;
        keys[i] = key;
        vals[i] = val;
    }
}
```

**Skipped  
in class**

← sequential search  
in chain i

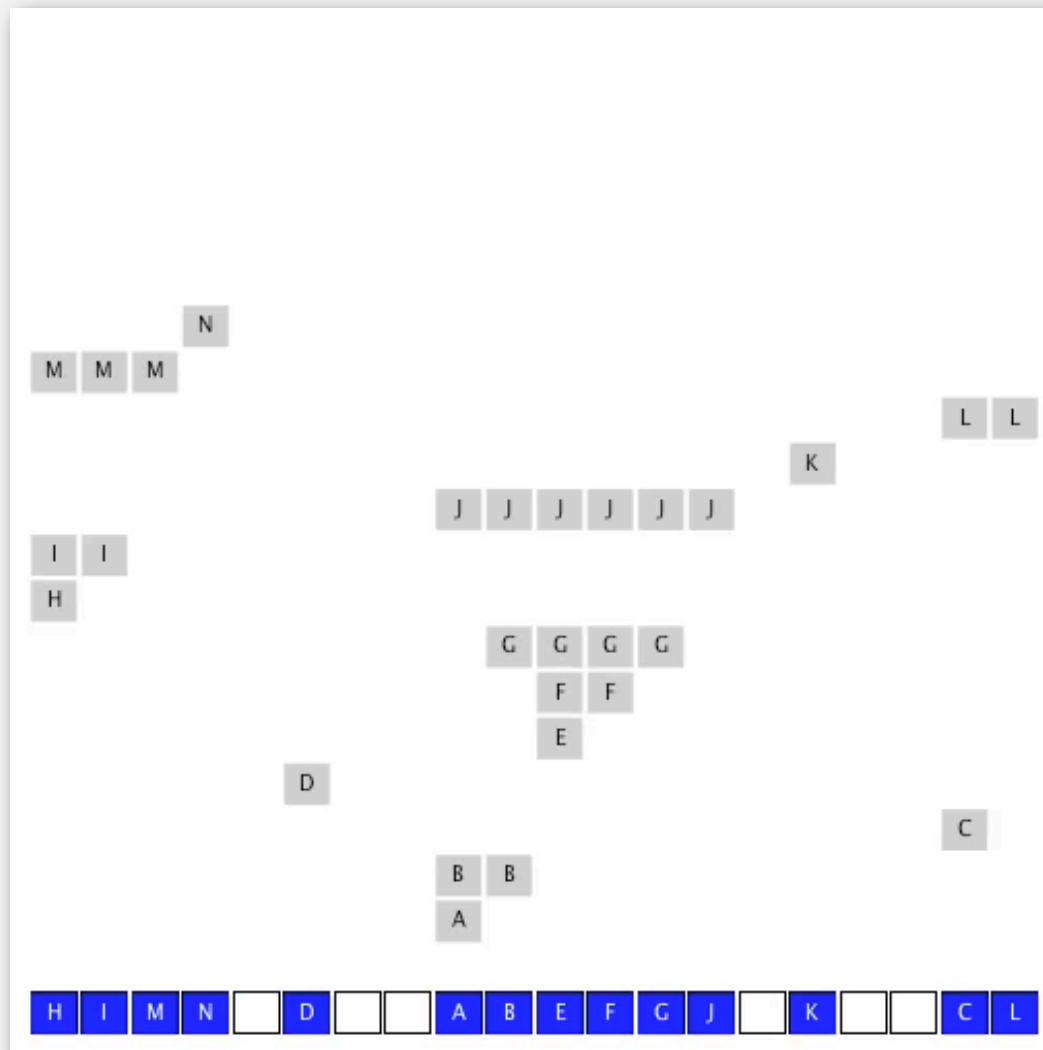


# Clustering

---

**Cluster.** A contiguous block of items.

**Observation.** New keys likely to hash into middle of big clusters.



# Analysis of linear probing

---

**Proposition.** Under uniform hashing assumption, the average # of probes in a linear probing hash table of size  $M$  that contains  $N = \alpha M$  keys is:

$$\sim \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} \right)$$

search hit

$$\sim \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{(1 - \alpha)^2} \right)$$

search miss / insert

↑  
fraction of array that's filled

## Parameters.

- $\alpha$  too small  $\Rightarrow$  too many empty array entries.
- $\alpha$  too large  $\Rightarrow$  search time blows up.
- Typical choice:  $\alpha = N / M \sim 1/2$ .

← # probes for search hit is about 3/2  
# probes for search miss is about 5/2

Q. When to resize?

# Resizing in a linear-probing hash table

---

**Goal.** Average length of list  $N / M \leq 1/2$ .

- Double size of array  $M$  when  $N / M \geq 1/2$ .
- Halve size of array  $M$  when  $N / M \leq 1/8$ .
- Need to rehash all keys when resizing.

**before resizing**

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
keys[]		E	S			R	A	
vals[]		1	0			3	2	

**after resizing**

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]					A		S				E				R	
vals[]					2		0				1				3	

# Deletion in a linear-probing hash table

---

Q. How to delete a key (and its associated value)?

A. Requires some care: can't just delete array entries.

before deleting S

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X
vals[]	10	9			8	4	0	5	11		12				3	7

doesn't work, e.g., if  $\text{hash}(H) = 4$

after deleting S ?

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C		H	L		E				R	X
vals[]	10	9			8	4		5	11		12				3	7

# ST implementations: summary

---

implementation	guarantee			average case			ordered ops?	key interface
	search	insert	delete	search hit	insert	delete		
<b>sequential search (unordered list)</b>	$N$	$N$	$N$	$N$	$N$	$N$		<code>equals()</code>
<b>binary search (ordered array)</b>	$\log N$	$N$	$N$	$\log N$	$N$	$N$	✓	<code>compareTo()</code>
<b>BST</b>	$N$	$N$	$N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\sqrt{N}$	✓	<code>compareTo()</code>
<b>red-black BST</b>	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	$\log N$	✓	<code>compareTo()</code>
<b>separate chaining</b>	$N$	$N$	$N$	$1^*$	$1^*$	$1^*$		<code>equals()</code> <code>hashCode()</code>
<b>linear probing</b>	$N$	$N$	$N$	$1^*$	$1^*$	$1^*$		<code>equals()</code> <code>hashCode()</code>

\* under uniform hashing assumption

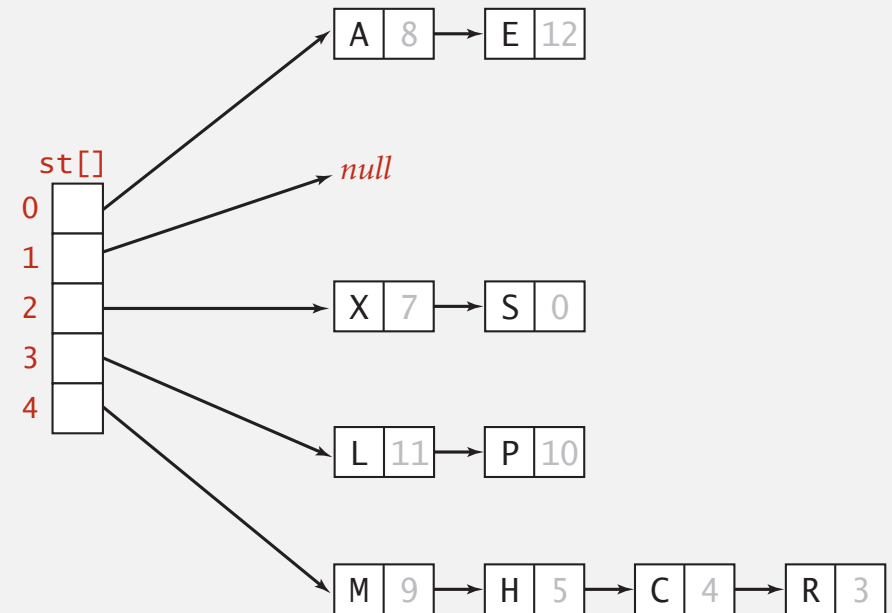
# Separate chaining vs. linear probing

## Separate chaining.

- Performance degrades gracefully.
- Clustering less sensitive to poorly-designed hash function.

## Linear probing.

- Less wasted space.
- Better cache performance.



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
keys[]	P	M			A	C	S	H	L		E				R	X
vals[]	10	9			8	4	0	5	11		12				3	7

# Hashing: variations on the theme

---

Many improved versions have been studied.

**Two-probe hashing.** [ separate-chaining variant ]

- Hash to two positions, insert key in shorter of the two chains.
- Reduces expected length of the longest chain to  $\sim \lg \ln N$ .

**Double hashing.** [ linear-probing variant ]

- Use linear probing, but skip a variable amount, not just 1 each time.
- Effectively eliminates clustering.
- Can allow table to become nearly full.
- More difficult to implement delete.

**Cuckoo hashing.** [ linear-probing variant ]

- Hash key to two positions; insert key into either position; if occupied, reinsert displaced key into its alternative position (and recur).
- Constant worst-case time for search.



# Hash tables vs. balanced search trees

---

## Hash tables.

- Simpler to code.
- No effective alternative for unordered keys.
- Faster for simple keys (a few arithmetic ops versus  $\log N$  compares).
- Better system support in Java for `String` (e.g., cached hash code).

## Balanced search trees.

- Stronger performance guarantee.
- Support for ordered ST operations.
- Easier to implement `compareTo()` correctly than `equals()` and `hashCode()`.

## Java system includes both.

- Red-Black BSTs: `java.util.TreeMap`, `java.util.TreeSet`.
- Hash tables: `java.util.HashMap`, `java.util.IdentityHashMap`.

↑  
linear probing

↑  
separate chaining





<http://algs4.cs.princeton.edu>

## 3.4 HASH TABLES

---

- ▶ *hash functions*
- ▶ *separate chaining*
- ▶ *linear probing*
- ▶ *context*

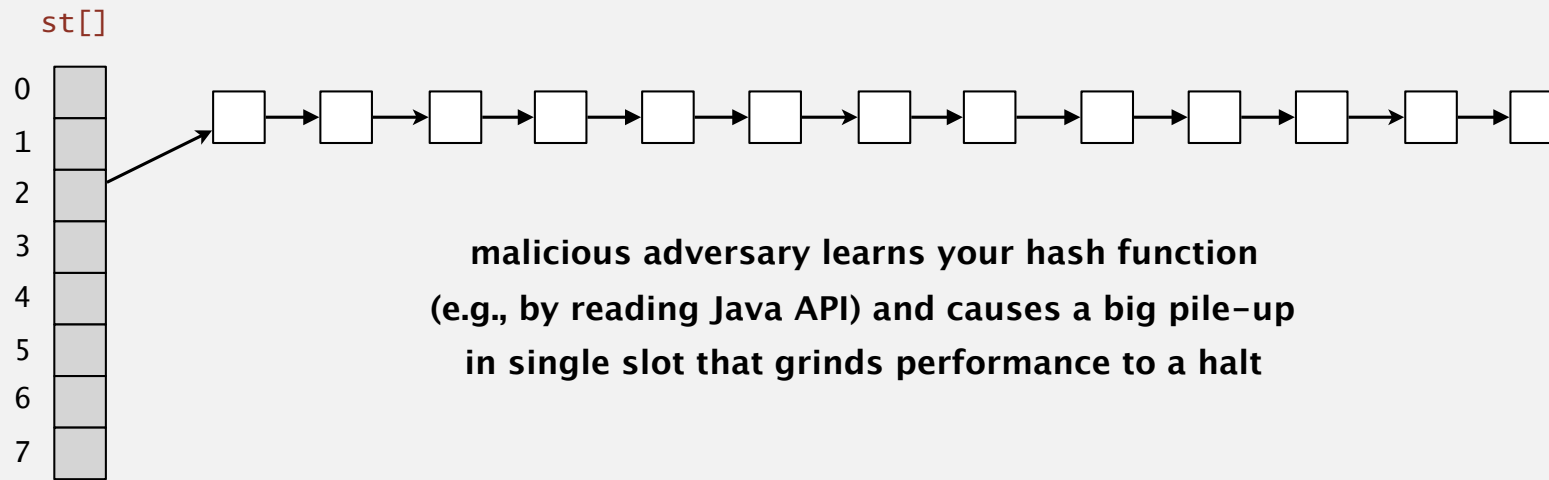
# War story: algorithmic complexity attacks

---

Q. Is the uniform hashing assumption important in practice?

A. Obvious situations: aircraft control, nuclear reactor, pacemaker, HFT, ...

A. Surprising situations: **denial-of-service** attacks.



**Real-world exploits.** [Crosby–Wallach 2003]

- Bro server: send carefully chosen packets to DOS the server, using less bandwidth than a dial-up modem.
- Perl 5.8.0: insert carefully chosen strings into associative array.
- Linux 2.4.20 kernel: save files with carefully chosen names.

# Algorithmic complexity attack on Java

---

**Goal.** Find family of strings with the same hashCode().

**Solution.** The base-31 hash code is part of Java's String API.

key	hashCode()
"Aa"	2112
"BB"	2112

key	hashCode()
"AaAaAaAa"	-540425984
"AaAaAaBB"	-540425984
"AaAaBBaA"	-540425984
"AaAaBBBB"	-540425984
"AaBBaAaA"	-540425984
"AaBBaAaBB"	-540425984
"AaBBBBaA"	-540425984
"AaBBBBBB"	-540425984


key	hashCode()
"BBaAaAaA"	-540425984
"BBaAaAaBB"	-540425984
"BBaAaBBaA"	-540425984
"BBaAaBBBB"	-540425984
"BBBBaAaA"	-540425984
"BBBBaAaBB"	-540425984
"BBBBBBaA"	-540425984
"BBBBBBBB"	-540425984

**$2^N$  strings of length  $2N$  that hash to same value!**

## Diversion: one-way hash functions

---

**One-way hash function.** Hard to find a key that will hash to a desired value (or two keys that hash to same value).

**Ex.** MD4, MD5, SHA-0, SHA-1, SHA-2, WHIRLPOOL, RIPEMD-160, ....  


```
String password = args[0];
MessageDigest sha1 = MessageDigest.getInstance("SHA1");
byte[] bytes = sha1.digest(password);

/* prints bytes as hex string */
```

**Applications.** Crypto, message digests, passwords, Bitcoin, ....

**Caveat.** Too expensive for use in ST implementations.