

## CompSci 105

### Part 3: Hashing, Sorting and Trees

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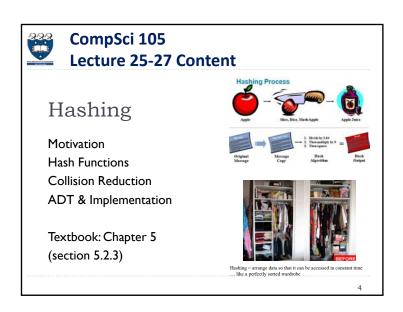
Office hour: Open door policy, but better contact

me to make sure I am around





Virtual Reality, Image-based modelling, Sketch-based modelling, CS Education





### Agenda – Hashing (Lecture 1)

- Agenda
- ▶ Hashing Why?
- ▶ Load Factor
- ▶ Hash Functions folding, mid-square
- ▶ Hash Functions keys that are strings
- ▶ Collisions and Collision Resolution introduction



# What is a Hash Table?

- A collection of items which are stored in such a way that the items are easy to access.
- ▶ Each position (slot) in the hash table can hold one item and is named (indexed) by an integer value starting from 0.
- Initially every slot is empty.

0	1	2	3	_	_	6	_	_	_	10	11	12
None												



## Why hashing?

- ▶ For unsorted data it takes O(n) time to find or delete items (and O(I) to add items)
- ▶ For sorted data it takes O(log n) time to find items (and O(log n) to O(n) time to add or delete items depending on data structure)
- Is there a data structure where inserting, deleting and searching for items is more efficient?
- Using a hash table we can, on average, insert, delete and search for items in constant time - O(1) !! ③

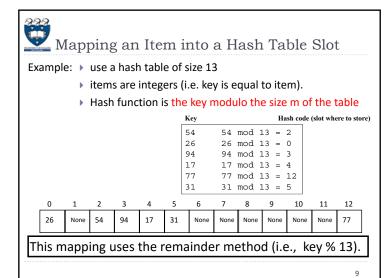
**BUT:** need extra memory, works best if size of data structure can be predicted, "encoding" data often non-trivial ["A good hash function is more an art than a science"], unsuitable for complex queries, e.g. "find k largest values" or "find closest value to X", often causes problems when using "caching" or "out of core computing", worst case O(n) [=> Can be exploited for denial of service attacks]



## What is a Hash Function?

- Takes an item in the collection and returns a slot (i.e. an integer).
- The hash function is the mapping between an item and the slot where the item is stored
- Ideally a hash function maps an item to a unique slot







# Load Factor of the Hash Table

- The load factor (λ) of the hash table is the number of items in the table divided by the size of the table.
- ▶ The example hash table below has a load factor of

$$\lambda = 6 / 13$$





## Mapping an Item into a Hash Table Slot

- A hash function takes the key (which must be unique) of an item and returns a slot number in the hash table.
- Typically, hash functions are more complex than just the remainder function, and have "% table size (m)" as part of the formula since the resulting slot number must be within the range of the table size, i.e. in general:

for some function F.

▶ The result of applying the hash function to the key is an index into the table.

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## Search an Item

- ▶ Use the hash function to compute the slot of a given item and check whether or not it is present.
- ▶ This can be done in O(1)!
- ▶ E.g. For item with key 14, we have 14 mod 13 = 1. Since slot 1 is unoccupied, we conclude that 14 is not present.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
26	None	54	94	17	31	None	None	None	None	None	None	77	



# Collisions

▶ Hash function:

 $hash(item\_key) = item\_key \% 13$ 

▶ 6 items are mapped into the table below:

0	1	2	3	4	. 5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
26	None	54	94	17	31	None	None	None	None	None	None	77

Insert the item 44:

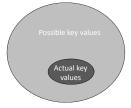
$$hash(44) = 44 \% 13 = 5$$

- Problem!
- ▶ There is an item already in this slot!
- This is referred to as a collision (or a clash)



## Perfect Hash Functions

Trying to find a perfect hash function can be very wasteful as the number of items to be stored (and retrieved) may be much smaller than the actual table size.



We need some sort of compression from the full range of the keys into the number of hash table slots.



## Perfect Hash Functions

- A hash function which uniformly distributes items over the whole hash table is a perfect hash function.
  - I.e. a "perfect hash function" is able to map m distinct items into a table of size n (≥m) with no collisions
- One way to achieve this is to have a hash table which is big enough to accommodate the full range of keys. If the keys were eight digit student ID numbers we would need an 108 sized table (from 00000000 to 99999999)
- ▶ This is usually very inefficient and often even infeasible

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### Good Hash Functions

- ▶ A good hash function should:
- ▶ Be easy and fast to compute
- Achieves even distribution of items (uniformity)
- Ideally have a 1:1 correspondence between the number of items and the number of slots (i.e. size) of the hash table
- General requirements of a hash function:
- The calculation of the hash function should involve the item value in its entirety
- If a hash function uses modulo arithmetic, the base should be a prime number to help ensure even distribution of items

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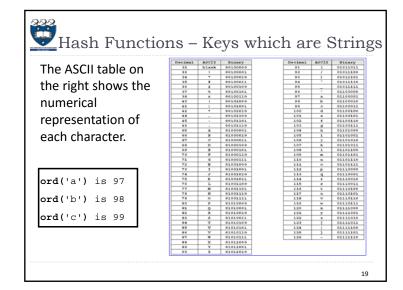


# Hash Functions – The Folding Method

- Divides key into equal-size pieces (the last piece may not be of equal size).
- ▶ Can compute the sum of these pieces or perform some computation on them.
- Example:
- ▶ Keys are 8 digit phone numbers: 468-23496
- ▶ Split into 3 numbers 3 digits, 3 digits, and 2 digits
- Find the sum of these numbers and use with hash function (% table size).

468 234 96 Sum = 798798 % 13 => 5

Note: we use all parts of the key in the calculation in case some parts of the key are very similar (which can result in collisions).





# Hash Functions – The Mid Square Method

- > Square the key and take some portion of the result.
- Example:
  - Square the item
  - ▶ Take all digits apart from the first
  - Take the modulus of the remaining number with the size of the table (13)

For	keys:

key	key <sup>2</sup>	Remove first	% 13
655	429025	29025	9
654	427716	27716	0
653	426409	26409	6

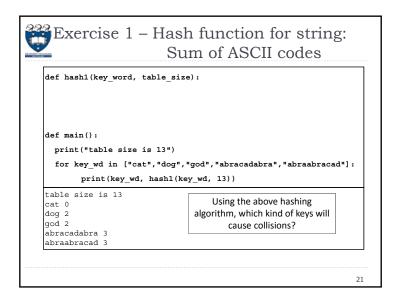


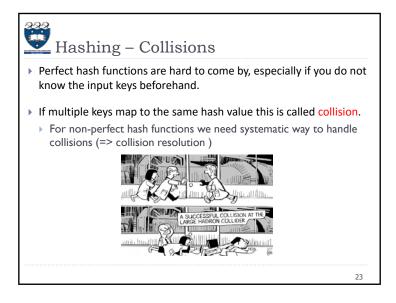
## Can we store String items?

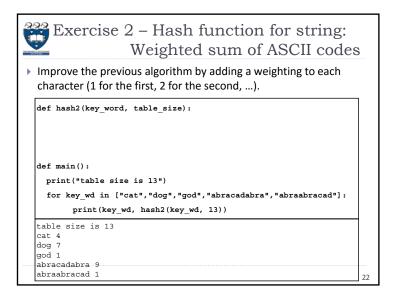
- ▶ The ASCII values of the characters of the string can be used to compute the slot number into which the item is mapped.
- Example:
- Add the ASCII value of each character in the key
- Take the modulus of the result with the size of the table (13)

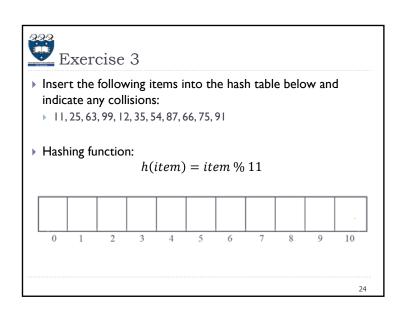
For key:

key	Add ASCII codes	Sum	% 13
"cat"	99 + 97 + 116	312	0









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## Summary

- Using a hash table we can, on average (if table large enough and hash function suitable), insert, delete and search for items in constant time -O(1).
- The hash function is the mapping between an item and the slot where the item is stored.
- A collision occurs when an item is mapped to an occupied slot.
- A perfect hash function is able to map m items into a table of size m with no collisions.
- Perfect hash functions are hard to come by. Handling collisions systematically is required – collision resolution.

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### 🚾 Hashing – Collision Resolution

- > Perfect hash functions are hard to come by, especially if you do not know the input keys beforehand.
- ▶ If multiple keys map to the same hash value this is called collision.
- For non-perfect hash functions we need systematic way to handle collisions (=> collision resolution )
- One method is to systematically find an empty slot in the table, and put the value in this slot. This technique is called 'open addressing'. For example, start at the original hash value position (slot), look sequentially until you find a slot which is empty.

"open addressing" refers to the fact that the location ("address") of the item is not determined by its hash value.



### Agenda – Hashing (Lecture 2 & 3)

- Agenda
  - ▶ Collisions and Collision Resolution open addressing methods, separate chaining
  - Map Abstract Data Type
  - ▶ Implementation of the Map Abstract Data Type
  - ▶ Using the syntax
  - ▶ Using the **del** Operator
  - ▶ Rehashing



### Collision Resolution - Linear Probing

Look sequentially until an empty slot is found.

hash(key, 0) = key % m #may be a different hash function

hash(key, 1) = (hash(key, 0) + 1) % m

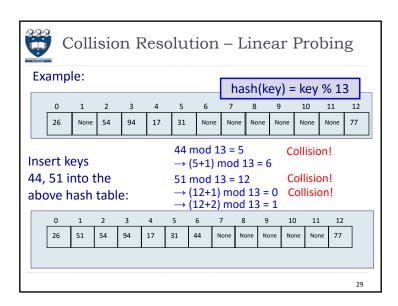
hash(key, 2) = (hash(key, 0) + 2) % m

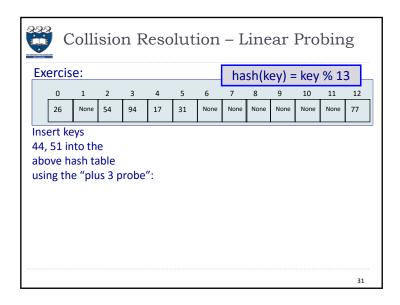
hash(key, 3) = (hash(key, 0) + 3) % m

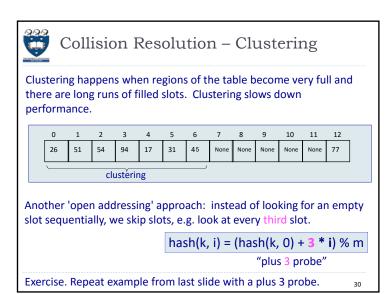
hash(key, i) = (hash(key, 0) + i) % m

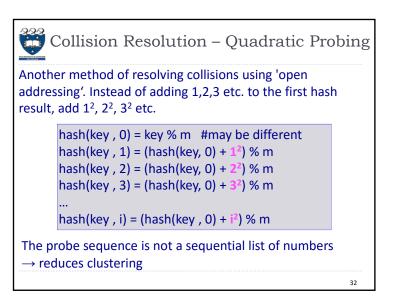
The number of probes is the number of attempts made until an empty slot position is found.

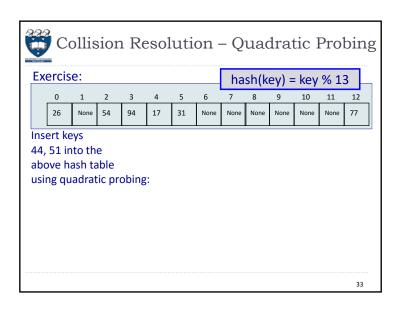
The probe sequence is the sequence of slots which are checked until an available slot is found.

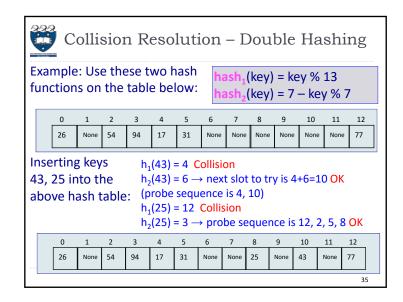














### Collision Resolution - Double Hashing

We first looked at sequential linear probing (look sequentially until we find an empty slot).

→ prone to clustering

Improved 'open addressing' methods skip some slots (e.g. "plus-3 probing") or use non-linear probing, e.g. quadratic probing.

→ clustering reduced, but still problem if many keys map to the same hash value

IDEA: Apply second hash function to key and use resulting value as our skip number for probing.

→ different keys have different probing sequences, even if initial slot was the same.

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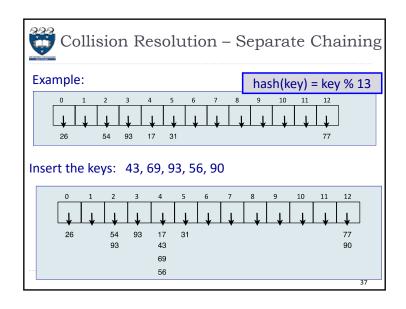
### Collision Resolution - Separate Chaining

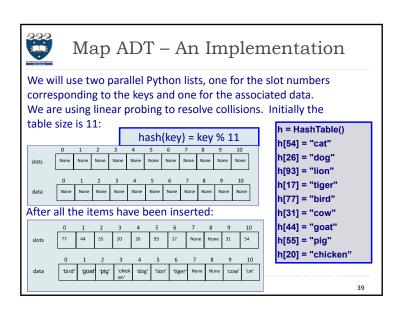
Another way of handling collisions is to use chaining where every element of the hash table is a list and any items which are hashed to a slot are added to the list.

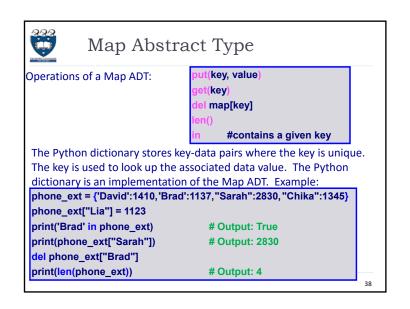
If the hash function is good and if the table has a load factor which is reasonable, the lists in each node of the hash table will be quite small. Therefore the Big O for inserting, deleting or searching for an item will be close to O(1).

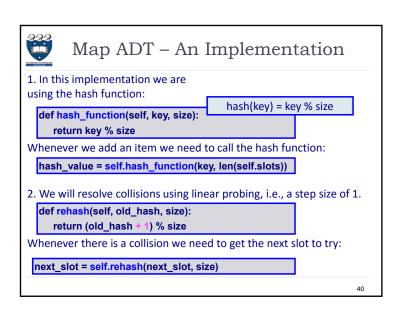
Each element of the hash table could be a linked list or a Python list object.

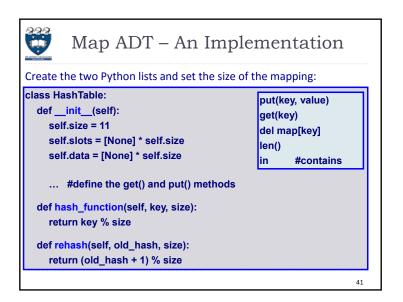
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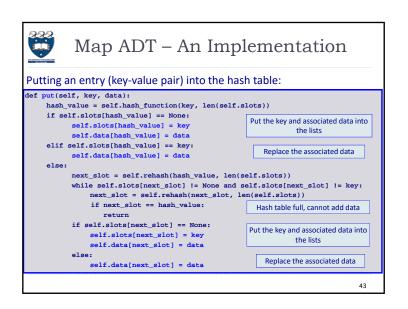


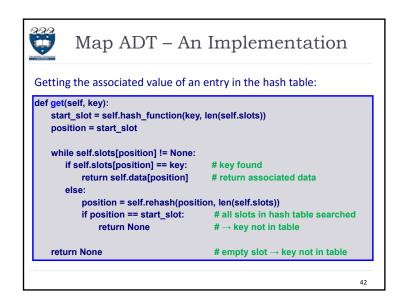


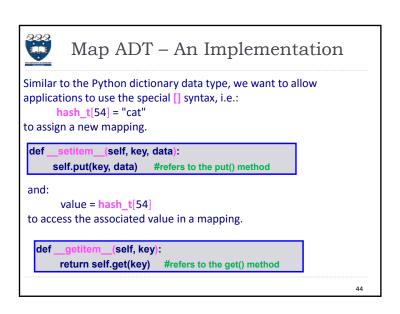


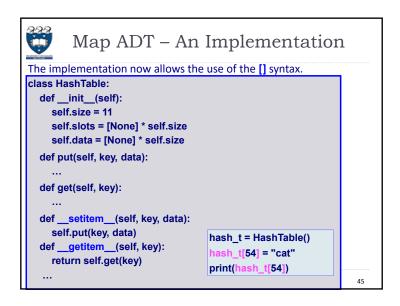


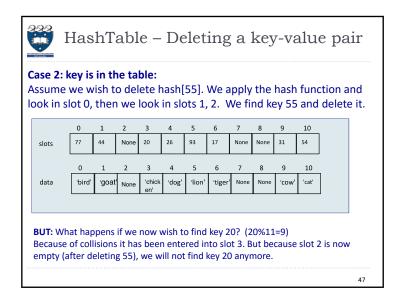


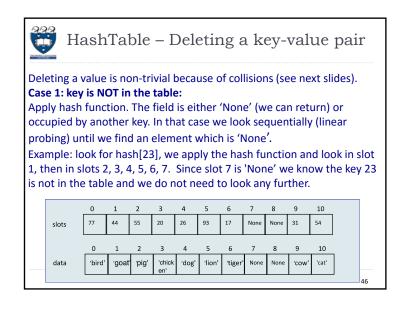


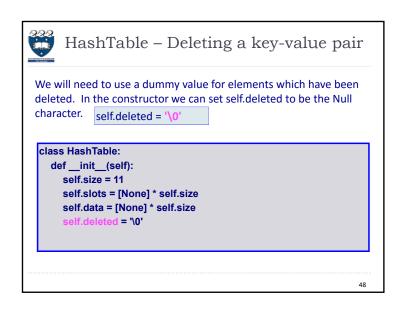


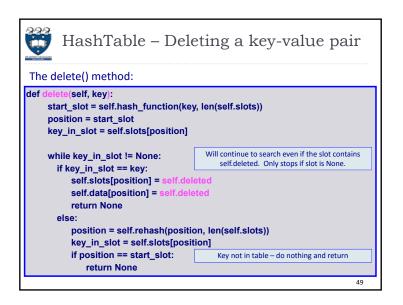


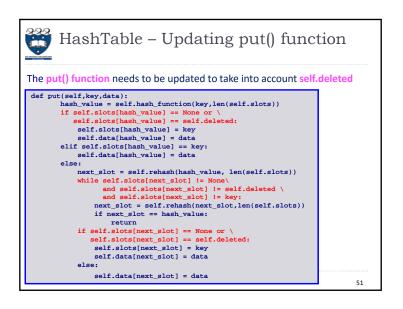


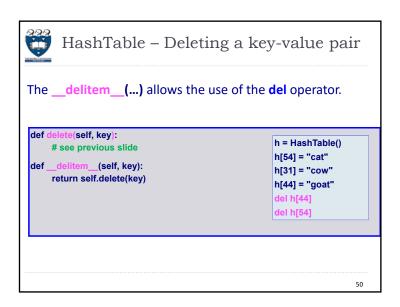


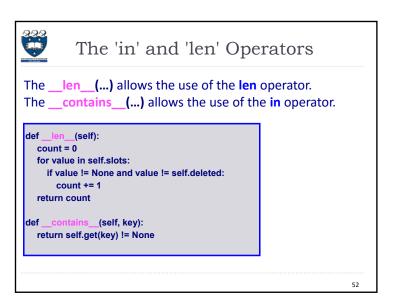














### Hashing Analysis

The load factor ( $\lambda$ ) of the hash table is the number of items in the table divided by the size of the table.

If  $\lambda$  is small then keys are more likely to be mapped to slots where they belong and searching will be O(1).

If  $\lambda$  is large then collisions are more likely and more comparisons (is the slot available or not) are needed to find an empty slot.

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### Rehashing - Exercise



Rehash the above table into the hash table below using the hash function: hash(key) = key % 13 and quadratic probing.



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### Rehashing

The load factor ( $\lambda$ ) of the hash table is the number of items in the table divided by the size of the table.

If the load factor gets to high performance slows down significantly. In that case the easiest solution is to copy the entire hash table into a larger table (rehashing).

For separate chaining the load factor should not exceed **0.75**. For open addressing, the load factor should not exceed **0.5**.

NOTE 1: Rehashing a table is expensive (since elements must be inserted using the new hash function) — do only occasionally, e.g. double size of table each time, but make sure size is a prime number.

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