

COMPSCI 690RA: Randomized Algorithms and Probabilistic Data Analysis

Prof. Cameron Musco

University of Massachusetts Amherst. Spring 2022.

Lecture 3

- Problem Set 1 had its due date postponed until Tuesday 2/15 at 8pm.
- We will still have a weekly quiz this week, also due Tuesday 2/15 at 8pm.
- Most people think the lectures are 'just right' or 'a bit too fast'. I'll try to slow down a bit. If you feel that you are really falling behind, let me know.

Summary

Last Time:

- Concentration bounds – Markov's and Chebyshev's inequalities.
- The union bound.
- Quicksort analysis
- Coupon collecting, statistical estimation
- Randomized load balancing and ball-into-bins

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- Concentration bounds – Markov's and Chebyshev's inequalities.
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Today:

- Stronger concentration bounds for sums of independent random variables. I.e., exponential concentration bounds.
- Randomized hash function and fingerprints.
- Applications to fast pattern mining and efficient communication protocols.

Balls Into Bins

I throw m balls independently and uniformly at random into n bins. What is the maximum number of balls any bin?



Bin 1



Bin 2



Bin 3

- Applications to randomized load balancing
- Analysis of hash tables using chaining.

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- Analysis of hash tables using chaining.
- **Direct Proof:** For any bin i , $\Pr[\mathbf{b}_i \geq \frac{c \ln n}{\ln \ln n}] \leq \frac{1}{n^{c-o(1)}}$. Thus, via union bound, the maximum load is exceeds $\frac{c \ln n}{\ln \ln n}$ with probability at most $\frac{1}{n^{c-1-o(1)}}$.

$m = n$

$\cdot n$

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Bin 3

- Applications to randomized load balancing
- Analysis of hash tables using chaining.
- **Direct Proof:** For any bin i , $\Pr[\mathbf{b}_i \geq \frac{c \ln n}{\ln \ln n}] \leq \frac{1}{n^{c-o(1)}}$. Thus, via union bound, the maximum load is exceeds $\frac{c \ln n}{\ln \ln n}$ with probability at most $\frac{1}{n^{c-1-o(1)}}$.
- Proof using Chebyshev's inequality gives a weak bound of $O(\sqrt{n})$ for the maximum load.

Exponential Concentration Bounds

Higher Moments

Markov's Inequality: $\Pr[X \geq t] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{t}$. First moment.

Chebyshev's Inequality: $\Pr[X \geq t] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X^2]}{t^2}$. Second moment.
 $\Pr(X^2 \geq t^2)$

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Often (not always!) we can obtain tighter bounds by looking to higher moments of the random variable.

$$\Pr(X \geq t) = \Pr(X^4 \geq t^4) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}X^4}{t^4}$$

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Moment Generating Function: Consider for any $z > 0$:

$$\underbrace{M_z(X)} = \underbrace{e^{z \cdot X}} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k X^k}{k!}$$

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$$M_z(\mathbf{X}) = e^{z \cdot \mathbf{X}} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k \mathbf{X}^k}{k!}$$

$e^{z \cdot t}$ is non-negative, and monotonic for any $z > 0$. So can bound via Markov's inequality, $\Pr[X \geq t] = \Pr[M_z(\mathbf{X}) \geq e^{zt}] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[M_z(\mathbf{X})]}{e^{zt}}$.

Higher Moments

Markov's Inequality: $\Pr[X \geq t] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{t}$. First moment.

$$\mathbb{E}[XY] = \mathbb{E}[X] \cdot \mathbb{E}[Y]$$

Chebyshev's Inequality: $\Pr[X \geq t] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X^2]}{t^2}$. Second moment.

$$\Pr(X > t) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X^k]}{t^k}$$

Often (not always!) we can obtain tighter bounds by looking to higher moments of the random variable.

Moment Generating Function: Consider for any $z > 0$:

$$\Pr(X > t) = \Pr(X^3 > t^3) \leq ?$$

$$M_Z(X) = e^{z \cdot X} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k X^k}{k!}$$

$$X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$$

$$\mathbb{E}(e^{zX}) = \mathbb{E}(e^{z(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n)})$$

$$= \mathbb{E}(e^{zX_1} \cdot e^{zX_2} \cdot \dots \cdot e^{zX_n})$$

$e^{z \cdot t}$ is non-negative, and monotonic for any $z > 0$. So can bound via Markov's inequality, $\Pr[X \geq t] = \Pr[M_Z(X) \geq e^{zt}] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[M_Z(X)]}{e^{zt}}$

By appropriately picking z and bounding $\mathbb{E}[M_Z(X)]$, we can obtain a variety of **exponential tail bounds**. Typically require that X is a sum of bounded and independent random variables

Let f be monotonic function above zero $\Pr(X \geq t) = \Pr(f(X) \geq f(t)) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[f(X)]}{f(t)}$

The Chernoff Bound

Chernoff Bound (simplified version): Consider independent random variables X_1, \dots, X_n taking values in $\{0, 1\}$ and let $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$. Let $\mu = \mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i]$. For any $\delta \geq 0$

$$\Pr(X \geq (1 + \delta)\mu) \leq \frac{e^{\delta\mu}}{(1 + \delta)^{(1 + \delta)\mu}}$$

$\frac{e^{5\mu}}{6^{6\mu}}$

Is X binomially distributed?

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Chernoff Bound (alternate version): Consider independent random variables X_1, \dots, X_n taking values in $\{0, 1\}$ and let $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$. Let $\mu = \mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i]$. For any $\delta \geq 0$

$$\Pr\left(\left|\sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu\right| \geq \delta\mu\right) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\delta^2\mu}{2 + \delta}\right) \approx 0$$

As δ gets larger and larger, the bound falls off exponentially fast.

Balls Into Bins Via Chernoff Bound

Recall that \mathbf{b}_i is the number of balls landing in bin i , when we randomly throw n balls into n bins.

- $\mathbf{b}_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{l}_{i,j}$ where $\mathbf{l}_{i,j} = 1$ with probability $1/n$ and 0 otherwise. $\mathbf{l}_{i,1}, \dots, \mathbf{l}_{i,n}$ are independent.

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- Apply Chernoff bound with $\mu = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{b}_i] = 1$:

$$\Pr[\mathbf{b}_i \geq k+1] \leq \frac{e^k}{(1+k)^{(1+k)}}.$$

$$\Pr(\mathbf{b}_i \geq (1+\delta)\mu) \leq \frac{e^{-\delta\mu}}{(1+\delta)^{(1+\delta)}} \quad (\mu=1 \quad \delta=k)$$

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- For $k \geq \frac{c \log n}{\log \log n}$ we have:

$$\Pr[\mathbf{b}_i \geq k] \leq \frac{e^{\frac{c \log n}{\log \log n}}}{\left(\frac{c \log n}{\log \log n}\right)^{\frac{c \log n}{\log \log n}}} = e^{[c \log n - c \log n]} \cdot \frac{c \log n}{\log \log n} \approx e^{-c \log n} \cdot e^{\frac{c \log n}{\log \log n}} \approx e^{-\Theta(\log n)} = 1/n^{o(1)}$$

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Upshot: We recover the right bound for balls into bins.

Bernstein Inequality

Bernstein Inequality: Consider independent random variables X_1, \dots, X_n all falling in $[-M, M]$ and let $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$. Let $\mu = \mathbb{E}[X]$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}[X_i]$. For any $t \geq 0$:

$$\Pr \left(\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right| \geq t \right) \leq 2 \exp \left(- \frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2 + \frac{4}{3}Mt} \right).$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(x_i) \leq nM^2$$

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Assume that $M = 1$ and plug in $t = s \cdot \sigma$ for $s \leq \sigma$.

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$$\Pr \left(\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right| \geq s\sigma \right) \leq 2 \exp \left(-\frac{s^2}{4} \right).$$

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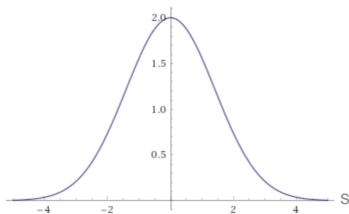
Assume that $M = 1$ and plug in $t = s \cdot \sigma$ for $s \leq \sigma$.

Compare to Chebyshev's: $\Pr \left(\left| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu \right| \geq s\sigma \right) \leq \frac{1}{s^2}$.

- An exponentially stronger dependence on s !

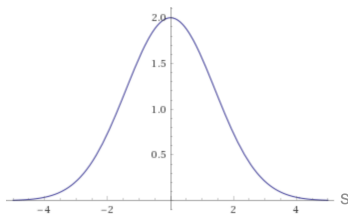
Interpretation as a Central Limit Theorem

Simplified Bernstein: Probability of a sum of independent, bounded random variables lying $\geq s$ standard deviations from its mean is $\approx \exp\left(-\frac{s^2}{4}\right)$. Can plot this bound for different s :



Interpretation as a Central Limit Theorem

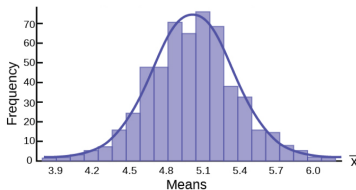
Simplified Bernstein: Probability of a sum of independent, bounded random variables lying $\geq s$ standard deviations from its mean is $\approx \exp\left(-\frac{s^2}{4}\right)$. Can plot this bound for different s :



- Looks like a Gaussian (normal) distribution – can think of Bernstein's inequality as giving a quantitative version of the **central limit theorem**.
- The distribution of the sum of bounded independent random variables can be upper bounded with a Gaussian distribution.

Central Limit Theorem

Stronger Central Limit Theorem: The distribution of the sum of n *bounded* independent random variables converges to a Gaussian (normal) distribution as n goes to infinity.



- The Gaussian distribution is so important since many random variables can be approximated as the sum of a large number of small and roughly independent random effects. Thus, their distribution looks Gaussian by CLT.

Sampling for Approximation

I have an $n \times n$ matrix with entries in $[0, 1]$. I want to estimate the sum of entries. I sample s entries uniformly at random with replacement, take their sum, and multiply it by n^2/s . How large must s be so that this method returns the correct answer, up to error $\pm\epsilon \cdot n^2$ with probability at least $1 - 1/n$?

- (a) $O(n^2)$ (b) $O(n/\epsilon)$ (c) $O(\log n/\epsilon)$ (d) $O(\log n/\epsilon^2)$

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$s \geq \frac{1}{\epsilon^2}$

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$$\Pr\left(\left|\sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu\right| \geq \epsilon n^2\right)$$

$$\Pr\left(\left|\sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu\right| \geq \epsilon S\right)$$

$X_1 \dots X_n =$ sampled entries
 $M = 1$ $t = \epsilon S$

$$6^2 \leq S \cdot M^2 \leq S$$

$$\leq 2 \exp\left(\frac{-\epsilon S}{2S + \frac{4}{3} \cdot 1 \cdot \epsilon S}\right) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon S}{3S}\right)$$

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Application: Linear Probing

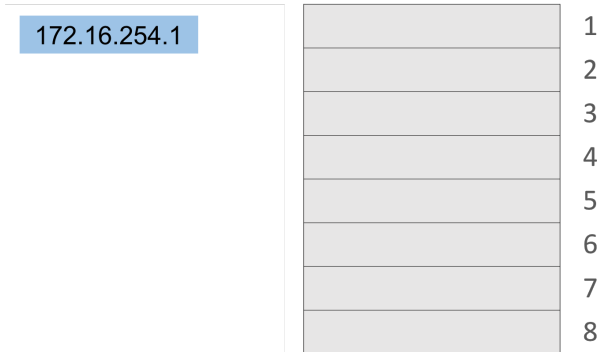
Linear Probing

Linear probing is the simplest form of **open addressing** for hash tables. If an item is hashed into a full bucket, keep trying buckets until you find an empty one.



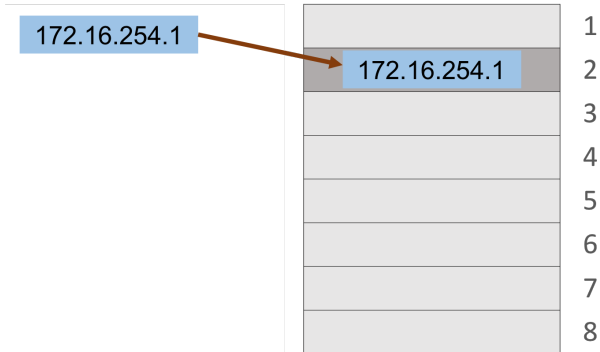
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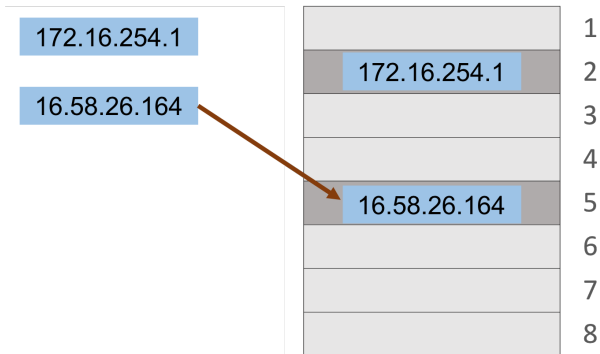
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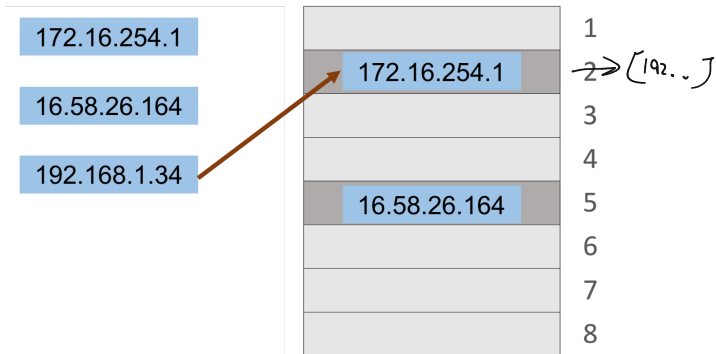
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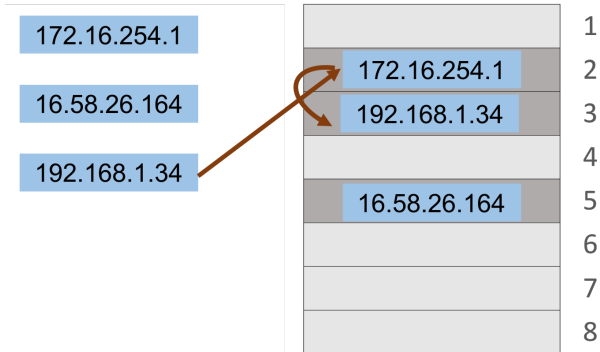
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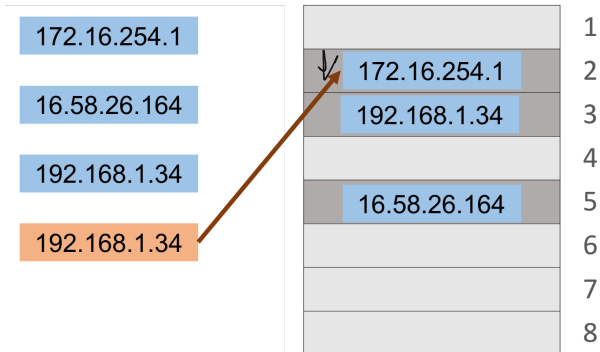
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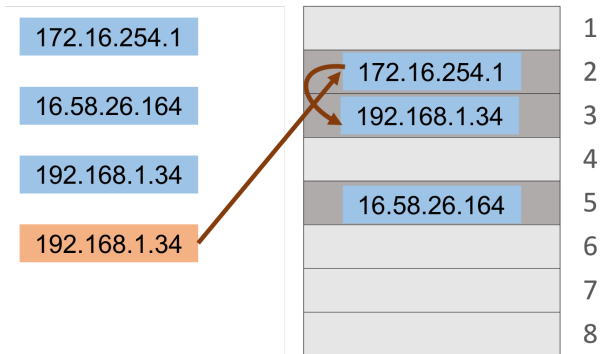
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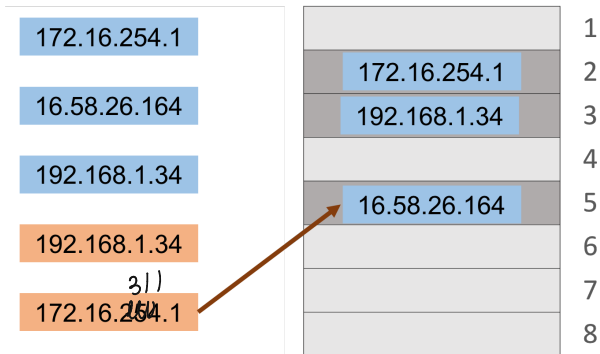
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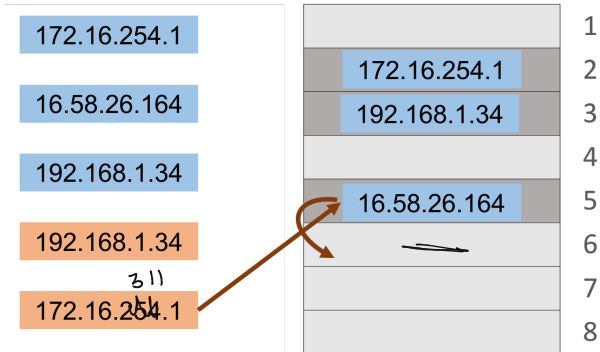
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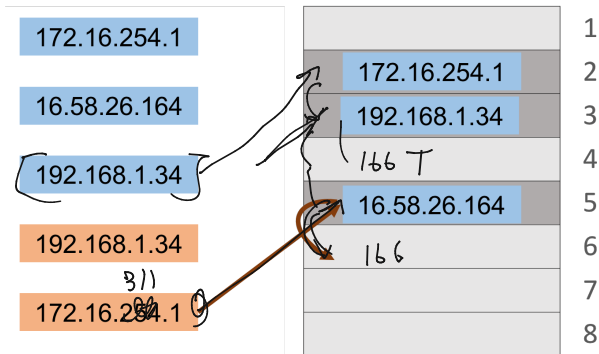
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Simple and potentially very efficient – but performance can degrade as the hash table fills up.

Linear Probing Expected Runtime

Theorem: If the hash table has n inserted items and $m \geq 2n$ buckets, then linear probing requires $O(1)$ expected time per insertion/query.

Linear Probing Expected Runtime

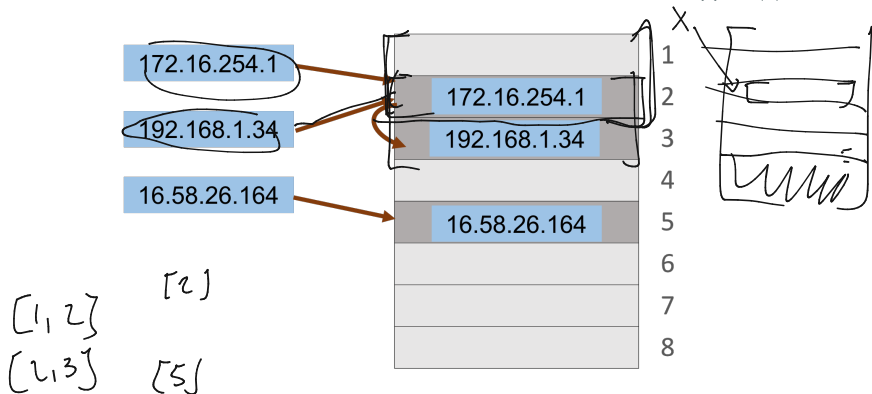
Theorem: If the hash table has n inserted items and $m \geq 2n$ buckets, then linear probing requires $O(1)$ expected time per insertion/query.

Definition: For any interval $I \subset [n]$, let $L(I) = |\{x : h(x) \in I\}|$ be the number of items hashed to the interval. We say I is **full** if $L(I) \geq |I|$.

Linear Probing Expected Runtime

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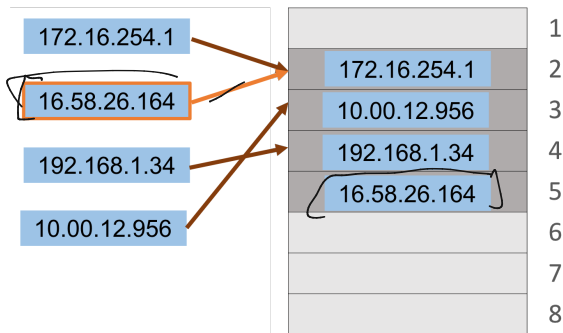


Which intervals in this table are full?

Analysis via Full Intervals

Claim Let $T(x)$ denote the number of steps required for an insertion/query operation for item x . If $T(x) > k$, there are at least k full intervals of different lengths containing $h(x)$.

$$k=3$$



[2]

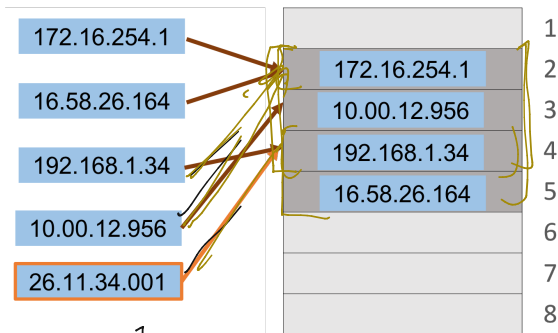
[2,3]

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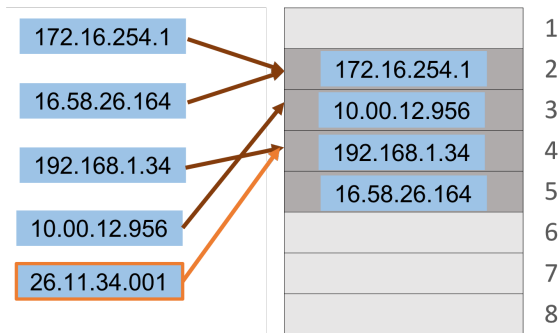


$[4]$
 ~~$[4,5]$~~

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Analysis via Full Intervals

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Let $I_j = 1$ if $h(x)$ lies in some length- j full interval, $I_j = 0$ otherwise.

Operation time for x can be bounded as $T(x) \leq \sum_{j=1}^n I_j$.

Expectation Analysis

$I_j = 1$ if $h(x)$ lies in some length- j full interval, $I_j = 0$ otherwise.

Expected operation time for any x is:

$$\mathbb{E}[T(x)] \leq \sum_{j=1}^m \mathbb{E}[I_j].$$

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Observe that $h(x)$ lies in at most 1 length-1 interval, 2 length-2 intervals, etc. So we can upper bound this expectation by:

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union bound

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$I_j = 1$ if $h(x)$ lies in some length- j full interval, $I_j = 0$ otherwise.

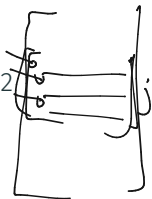
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$$\text{if } L(I) \geq j \\ |L(I) - \mu| \geq \frac{j}{2}$$

$$\Pr[L(I) \geq j] \leq \Pr[|L(I) - \mu| \geq \delta \cdot \mu] \stackrel{j/2}{\leq} \Pr[|L(I) - \mu| \geq \frac{j}{2}] \\ \leq 2e^{-\frac{\frac{j^2}{4}}{2 \cdot \frac{j}{2}}} = 2e^{-\frac{j}{2}} = 2\exp(-j/2)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[L(I) \geq j] &\leq \Pr[|L(I) - \mu| \geq \delta \cdot \mu] \\ &\leq 2e^{-\frac{(1)^2 \cdot j/2}{24}} = 2e^{-c \cdot j}. \end{aligned}$$

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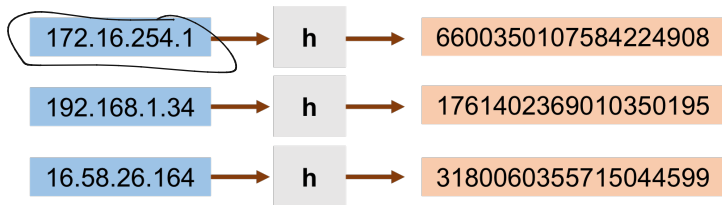
This matches the expected operation cost of chaining when $m \geq 2n$.
In practice, linear probing is typically much faster.

$$\Pr\{T(x) \geq ck\} \leq \exp(-k)$$

Random Hashing and Fingerprinting

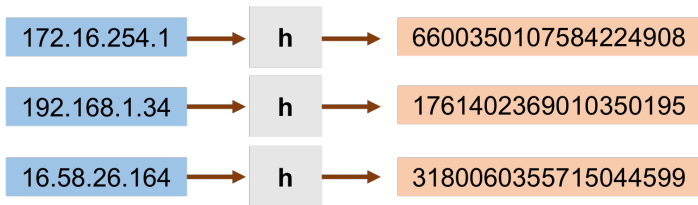
Random Hash Functions

A random hash function maps inputs to random outputs.



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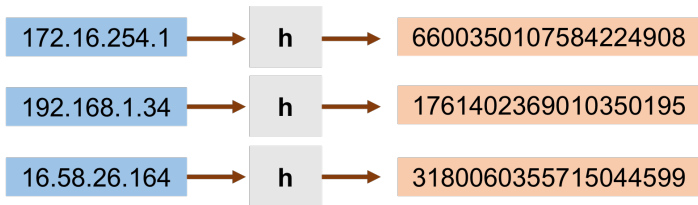
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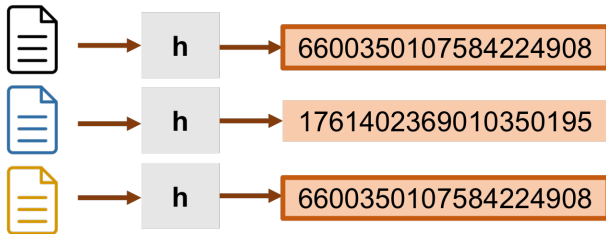
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```
import random
a = random.randint(1,100)
b = random.randint(1,100)
def myHash(x):
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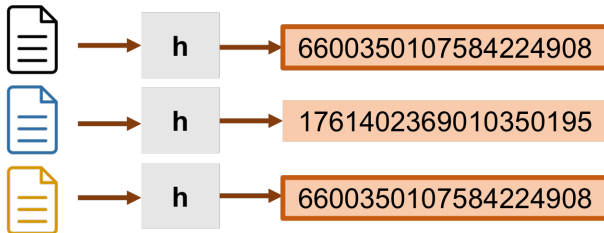
Fingerprinting

Random hash functions are often used to reduce large files down to hash 'fingerprints', which can be used to check equality of files (deduplication), detect updates/corruptions, etc.



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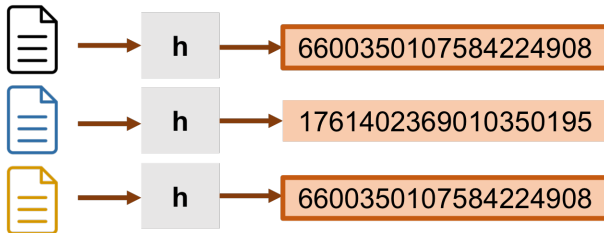
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- In practice h is often a deterministic 'cryptographic' hash function like SHA or MD5 – hard to analyze formally.

Rabin Fingerprint

Rabin Fingerprint: Interpret a bit string x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n as the binary representation of the integer $x = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot 2^{i-1}$. Let

$$h(x) = x \pmod{p},$$

where p is a randomly chosen prime in $[1, \underline{tn \log tn}]$.

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- $x - y$ is an integer in the range $[-2^n, 2^n]$. What is the probability that p divides $x - y$?

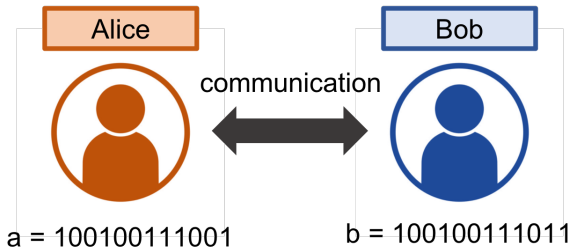
Think-Pair-Share 1: How many unique prime factors can an integer in $[-2^n, 2^n]$ have?

Think-Pair-Share 2: What is the probability that a random prime p chosen from $[1, tn \log tn]$ divides $x - y \in [-2^n, 2^n]$?
Recall: There are $\Theta(tn)$ primes in the range $[1, tn \log tn]$.

Application 1: Communication Complexity

Fingerprinting for Equality Testing

Equality Testing Communication Problem: Alice has some bit string $a \in \{0, 1\}^n$. Bob has some string $b \in \{0, 1\}^n$. How many bits do they need to communicate to determine if $a = b$ with probability at least $2/3$?



Fingerprinting for Equality Testing

Equality Testing Protocol:

- Alice picks a random prime $p \in [1, tn \log tn]$ for some large constant t .
- Alice sends p , along with the Rabin fingerprint $\mathbf{h}(a) := a \bmod p$ to Bob.
- Bob uses p to compute $\mathbf{h}(b) := b \bmod p$.
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- An exponential separation between randomized and deterministic protocols!
- Unlike for running times, for communication complexity problems there are often large provable separations between randomized and deterministic protocols.

Deterministic Equality Testing Lower Bound

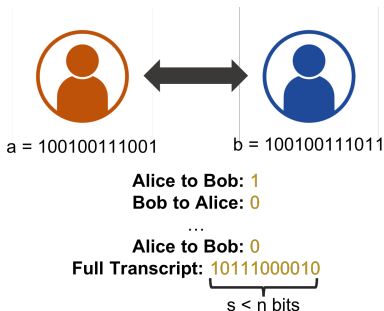
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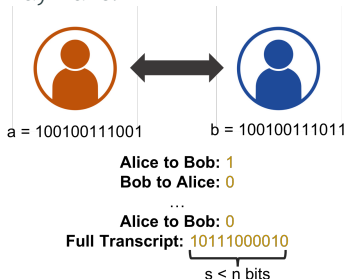
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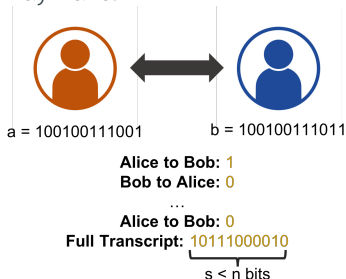
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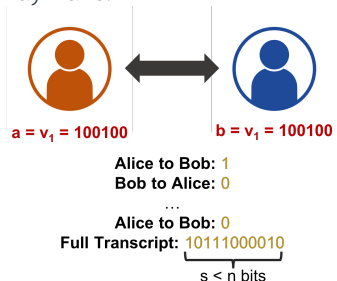
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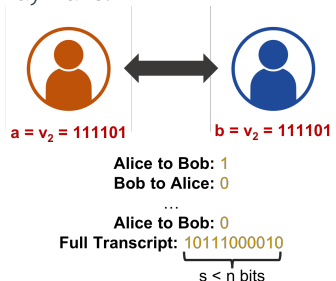
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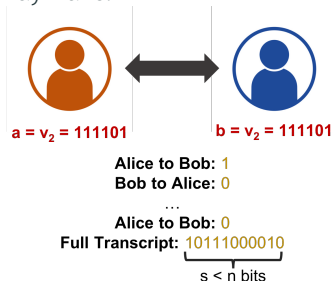
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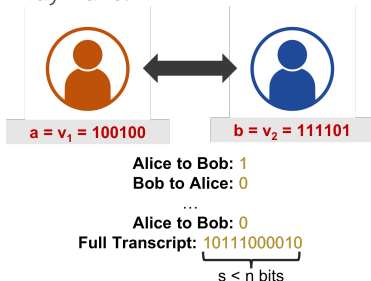
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Application 2: Pattern Matching

Pattern Matching

Given some document $x = x_1x_2 \dots x_n$ and a pattern $y = y_1y_2 \dots y_m$, find some j such that

$$x_jx_{j+1}, \dots, x_{j+m-1} = y_1y_2 \dots y_m.$$

x = The quick brown **fox** jumped across the pond...

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Can assume without loss of generality that the strings are binary strings.

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What is the 'naive' running time required to solve this problem?

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- Letting $X_j = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x_{j+i} \cdot 2^{m-1-i}$ be the integer value represented by the binary string $x_j x_{j+1}, \dots, x_{j+m-1}$, we have

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$$X_{j+1} = 2 \cdot X_j - 2^m x_j + x_{j+m}.$$

- Thus, since for any X , $\mathbf{h}(X) = X \pmod{p}$,

$$\mathbf{h}(X_{j+1}) = 2 \cdot \mathbf{h}(X_j) - 2^m x_j + x_{j+m} \pmod{p}.$$

- Given $\mathbf{h}(X_j)$, this hash value can be computed using just $O(1)$ arithmetic operations.

Rabin-Karp Algorithm

The Rabin-Karp pattern matching algorithm is then:

- Pick a random prime $p \in [1, ctm \log mt]$, for $t = n^2$.
- Let $Y = \mathbf{h}(y)$ be the Rabin fingerprint of the pattern.
- Let $H = \mathbf{h}(X_1)$ be the Rabin fingerprint of the first block of text.
- For $j = 1, \dots, X_{n-m+1}$
 - If $Y == H$, return j .
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Runtime: We require $O(m + n)$ time – $O(m)$ for the initial hash computations, and $O(1)$ for each iteration of the for loop.

Correctness: The probability of a false positive at any step is upper bounded by $\frac{1}{t} = \frac{1}{t^2}$, so via a union bound, the probability of a false positive overall is at most $\frac{n}{t^2} = \frac{1}{n}$.

Questions?