

Probability and Computing – Cuckoo Hashing

Stefan Walzer | WS 2024/2025



1. Cuckoo Hashing

- Algorithm
- Analysis

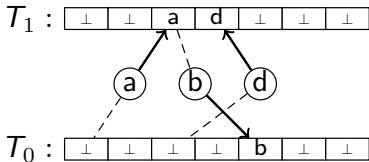


Note: No separate evaluation of the exercise sessions.

Cuckoo Hashing

Setup

$S \subseteq D$ key set of size n
 T_0, T_1 two tables of size m
 $h_0, h_1 \sim \mathcal{U}([m]^D)$ two hash functions (SUHA)
 $\frac{n}{m} = 1 - \beta$ for some $\beta > 0$
(Δ) load factor $\alpha = \frac{n}{2m}$



Algorithm lookup(x):

└ **return** $x \in \{T_0[h_0(x)], T_1[h_1(x)]\}$

Algorithm delete(x):

└ **if** $T_0[h_0(x)] = x$ **then**
└ $T_0[h_0(x)] \leftarrow \perp$
else if $T_1[h_1(x)] = x$ **then**
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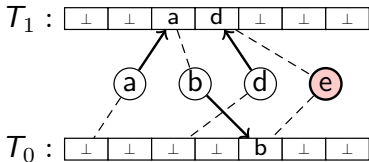
Algorithm insert(x):

└ **for** $i = 0$ **to** LIMIT **do**
└ $b \leftarrow i \bmod 2$
└ **swap**($x, T_b[h_b(x)]$)
└ **if** $x = \perp$ **then**
└└ **return** SUCCESS
└ **return** FAILURE

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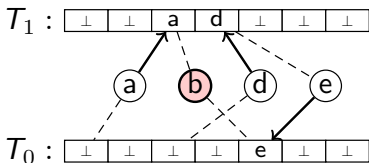
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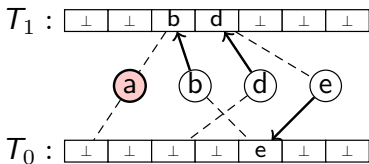
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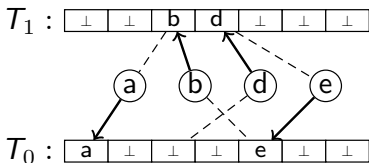
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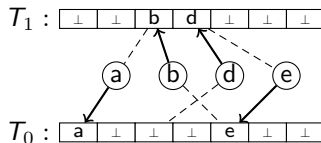
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Cuckoo Hashing Theorem

Algorithm insert(x):

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for  $i = 0$  to LIMIT do
   $b \leftarrow i \bmod 2$ 
  swap( $x$ ,  $T_b[h_b(x)]$ )
  if  $x = \perp$  then
    return SUCCESS
return FAILURE
```



Theorem (Analysis with $LIMIT = \infty$)

Assume we insert all $x \in S$ and then another key y . Let E be the event that this succeeds and

$$T = \begin{cases} \text{insertion time of } y & \text{if } E \text{ occurs} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then **i** $\Pr[E] = 1 - \mathcal{O}(1/m)$ and **ii** $\mathbb{E}[T] = \mathcal{O}(1)$.

Theorem (full analysis, not here)

If we

- set $LIMIT = \Omega(\log n)$ appropriately
- rebuild the table with fresh hash functions when $LIMIT$ is reached

we obtain a hash table where lookup and delete take $\mathcal{O}(1)$ time and insert takes *expected* $\mathcal{O}(1)$ time.

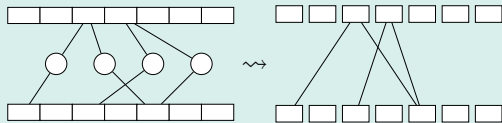
Proof of **i**: Success probability is $1 - \mathcal{O}(1/m)$

The Cuckoo Graph

Consider the bipartite *cuckoo graph*

$$G = ([m], [m], \{(h_0(x), h_1(x)) \mid x \in \mathcal{S}\})$$

the key x corresponds to the edge $(h_0(x), h_1(x))$ and each table position to a vertex.



// Duplicate edges possible, don't worry about it.

Connection to Erdős-Renyi Graphs

G is a bipartite Erdős-Renyi variant

- much like $G^{\text{UE}}(2m, n)$ // uniform endpoint model
- a bit like $G(2m, n)$ // original Erdős-Renyi
- a bit like $G(2m, n/(2m^2))$ // Gilbert

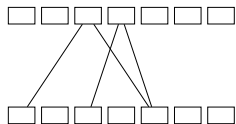
Confusing: n is a number of edges and $2m$ a number of vertices.

Exercise

Design a variant of cuckoo hashing such that the “Sudden Emergence” result for the $G^{\text{UE}}(m, n)$ model implies success for load factor $\alpha < \frac{1}{2}$.

Next: Completely self-contained analysis without reference to Erdős-Renyi.

Proof of **i**: Success probability is $1 - \mathcal{O}(1/m)$



Keys and buckets in the infinite loop

Assume \bar{E} occurs, i.e. an insertion fails due to an infinite loop. Let $G^* = (V^*, E^*)$ be the subgraph of G with

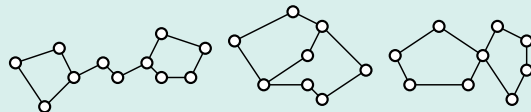
- V^* : table positions touched in the infinite loop
- E^* : keys touched in the infinite loop.

Properties of G^* :

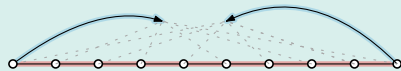
- connected
- $|E^*| = |V^*| + 1$ // can you see why?
- $\deg_{E^*}(v) \geq 2$ for $v \in V^*$.

Possibilities for G^*

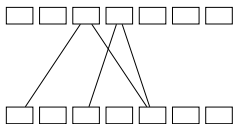
There are three options:



In all three cases: **Simple path through $|V^*|$** and **two extra edges** connecting inwards:



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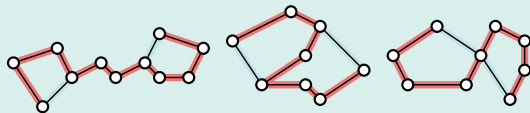
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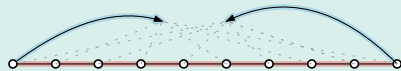
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Proof of **i**: Success probability is $1 - \mathcal{O}(1/m)$

$$\Pr[\bar{E}] = \Pr[\exists \text{path as shown}]$$

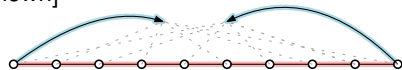
$$= \Pr[\exists k \in \mathbb{N} : \exists x_0, \dots, x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{S} : x_0, \dots, x_{k+1} \text{ form a path as shown}]$$

$$\stackrel{\text{union bound}}{\leq} \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{x_0, \dots, x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{S}} \Pr[x_0, \dots, x_{k+1} \text{ form a path as shown}]$$

$$\leq \sum_{k=1}^n \underbrace{n^{k+2}}_{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \underbrace{2}_{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{m^{k+1}}}_{\mathbf{c}} \cdot \underbrace{\left(\frac{k+1}{2m}\right)^2}_{\mathbf{d}}$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n m^{k+2-k-1-2} (1-\beta)^{k+2} (k+1)^2$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (1-\beta)^{k+2} (k+1)^2 = \frac{1}{m} \cdot \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\beta^3}\right) = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{m}\right) \quad \square$$



- a** Choose sequence of $k + 2$ keys.
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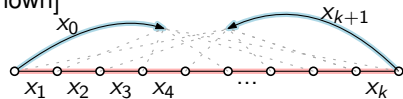
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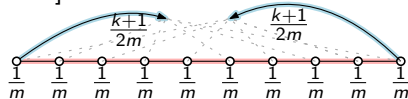
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Proof of ii: Expected insertion time is $\mathcal{O}(1)$

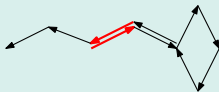
Lemma

If the insertion of y takes $t \in \mathbb{N}$ steps then the cuckoo graph G contained (previously) a path of length $\lceil (t - 2)/3 \rceil$ starting from $h_0(y)$ or from $h_1(y)$.

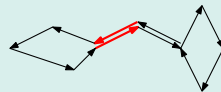
Proof.



no turning back
 \rightsquigarrow path of length $t - 1$
starting from $h_0(y)$



turn back once
 \rightsquigarrow path of length $\lceil (t - 2)/3 \rceil$
starting from $h_0(y)$ or $h_1(y)$



turn back twice
impossible: insertion would fail



Proof of ii: Expected insertion time is $\mathcal{O}(1)$ (continued)

$$\mathbb{E}[T] = \sum_{t \geq 1} \Pr[T \geq t]$$

tail sum formula

$$\leq \sum_{t \geq 1} \Pr[\exists \text{ path of length } \lceil (t-2)/3 \rceil \text{ starting from } h_0(y) \text{ or } h_1(y)]$$

by Lemma

$$\leq 2 \cdot \sum_{t \geq 1} \Pr[\exists \text{ path of length } \lceil (t-2)/3 \rceil \text{ starting from } h_0(y)]$$

union bound + symmetry

$$\leq 2 \left(2 + 3 \cdot \sum_{t \geq 1} \Pr[\exists \text{ path of length } t \text{ starting from } h_0(y)] \right)$$

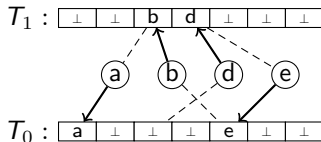
$$\sum_{i \geq 1} f(\lceil t/3 \rceil) = 3 \cdot f(1) + 3 \cdot f(2) + \dots$$

$$\leq 4 + 6 \cdot \sum_{t \geq 1} \sum_{x_1, \dots, x_t \in \mathcal{S}} \Pr[x_1, \dots, x_t \text{ form path starting from } h_0(y)]$$

union bound

$$\leq 4 + 6 \cdot \sum_{t \geq 1} n^t m^{-t} = 6 \sum_{t \geq 0} (1 - \beta)^t = 6/\beta = \mathcal{O}(1). \quad \square$$

Conclusion



Cuckoo Hashing

- hash table with *worst case* constant access times
- analysis considers path in graphs similar to the Erdős-Renyi model
- many variations and spin-offs (not discussed here)

- Was ist und was kann Cuckoo Hashing?
 - Was ist die Grundidee? Wie funktionieren die Operationen?
 - Worauf ist bei der Wahl der Tabellengröße / beim Load Factor zu achten?
 - Was kann man über die Laufzeit der Operationen sagen?
 - Welche Vorteile und Nachteile ergeben sich im Vergleich zu anderen Techniken wie linearem Sondieren?
- Analyse:
 - Eine Einfügung, die fehlschlägt, entspricht gewissen Strukturen im Cuckoo-Graphen. Welchen?
 - Wie haben wir gezeigt, dass solche Strukturen unwahrscheinlich sind?
 - Wie haben wir die erwartete Einfügezeit abgeschätzt?