Algorithms and programming
École normale supérieure - Département d'informatique
TD 5: Hashing and red-black trees

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1. Suppose we use a hash function h to hash n distinct keys into an array T of length m. Assuming simple uniform hashing, what is the expected number of collisions ? More precisely, what is the expected cardinality of $\{(x, y), x \neq y : h(x) = h(y)\}$?
2. Given a hash table T with m slots that stores n elements from the universe U. Show that if $|U| > nm$, there is a subset of size n consisting of keys that all hash to the same slot, so that the worst-case searching time for hashing with chaining is $\Theta(n)$.
3. Consider a version of the division method in which $h(k) = k \bmod m$, where $m = 2^p - 1$ and k is a character string interpreted in radix-2^p. Show that if string x can be derived from string y by permuting its characters, then x and y hash to the same value. Give an example of an application in which this property would be undesirable in a hash function.
4. Suppose that we use double hashing to resolve collisions ; that is, we use the hash function $h(k, i) = (h_1(k) + ih_2(k)) \mod m$. Show that the probe sequence $(h(k, 0), h(k, 1), \ldots, h(k, m-1))$ is a permutation of the slot sequence $(0, 1, \ldots, m-1)$ if and only if $h_2(k)$ is relatively prime to m.
5. A hash table of size m is used to store n items, with $n \leq m/2$. Open addressing is used for collision resolution.
   (a) Assuming uniform hashing, show that for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, the probability that the i-th insertion requires strictly more than k probes is at most 2^{-k}. Hence show that for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, the probability that the i-th insertion requires more than $2 \log n$ probes is at most $1/n^2$.
   (b) Let the random variable X_i denote the number of probes required by the i-th insertion. You have shown in part (a) that $Pr\{X_i > 2 \log n\} \leq 1/n^2$. Let the random variable $X = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} X_i$ denote the maximum number of probes required by any of the n insertions. Show that $Pr\{X > 2 \log n\} < 1/n$.
   (c) Show that the expected length of the longest probe sequence is $O(\log n)$.
6. If all keys in a binary search tree are distinct, the successor of a node x is the node with the smallest key greater than $key[x]$. Develop a procedure that finds the successor of x in T.
7. Describe a binary search tree on n nodes such that the average depth of a node in the tree is $\Theta(\log n)$ but the height of the tree is $\omega(\log n)$. How large can the height of an n-node binary search tree be if the average depth of a node is $\Theta(\log n)$?
8. What is the largest possible number of internal nodes in a red-black tree with black-height k ? What is the smallest possible number ?
9. Show that any arbitrary n-node tree can be transformed into any other arbitrary n-node tree using $O(n)$ rotations. (Hint : First show that at most $n - 1$ right rotations suffice to transform any tree into a right-going chain.)