Dynamic Hashing Schemes

David Bui

Static Hashing



Separate Chaining

- Storage space allocated statically
- Issue 1: If file size exceeds allocated space the entire file needs to be moved to a larger space and rehashed
- Issue 2: Eventually access time will grow from O(1) to O(n) due to overflow.
- Static hash techniques: Linear Probing, Coalesced Chaining, Separate Chaining

Dynamic Hashing

- Hashing schemes that expand and contract when needed.
- Require hash functions to generate more key bits as file expands and less key bits as file shrinks.
- There are two types of dynamic hashing schemes those with directory schemes and directoryless schemes



Extendible Hashing



- The dynamic hashing technique that uses directories.
- Directories store bucket addresses in pointers. Each directory has a dynamically changing id.
- Global Depth: Number of bits in directory id
- Local Depth: Number of bits in bucket id. Local Depth is always
 <= Global Depth

Extendible hashing steps

- 1. Hash the data
- 2. Match "global depth" number lower significant bits of the hashed data to the corresponding directory id
- 3. Go to bucket pointed by directory and insert if there is no overflow.
- 4. If bucket overflows and local depth = global depth, expand directory, split bucket, and then increment local and global depth number.
- 5. If bucket overflows and and local depth < global depth just split the bucket and increment local depth by 1
- 6. All split buckets must be rehashed





Linear Hashing

Example of Linear Hashing

 On split, h_{Level+1} is used to re-distribute entries.



- The dynamic hashing technique that uses no directories.
- Instead, keys are hashed directly to a bucket.

Linear Hashing Terms

- N = number of buckets (initial number always a power of 2)
- S = index of bucket to be split
- I= number of bits needed to address N BUCKETS
- Load factor = number used a threshold to determine if we expand or contract the table

Linear Hashing Steps

- A hash function will give typically give some number of bits. Let's say our hash function gives 32-bit output from some key. However, in Linear Hashing we will only use the first I bits since we only start with N buckets.
- If we start with N= 2 buckets, then I = 1 bits. So, we will only use the first bit of the hash function's 32-bit output to map to a bucket.
- Once number of insertions exceed the load factor add 1 bucket to N. If N >(2¹-1) we need to increment I to address to the new bucket.
- When any bucket is added we split the bucket at index S's keys with the new bucket, rehash if I is incremented, and then increment S. Once N has doubled from where it was initially, we reset S to 0.

Comparison

- Extendible Hashing
- Advantages
 - 1. Since Buckets are a fixed size in directory hashing schemes possible to set a upper bound access times.
- Disadvantages
 - 1. Wasted memory when global and local depth difference becomes large.
 - 2. Directory can become unbalanced due to too many hashed records.



- Linear Hashing
- Advantages
 - Lower on average access time due to no directory.
 - 2. Partial expansion more graceful than doubling directory
- Disadvantages
 - 1. Unable to set an upper bound like directory schemes
 - 2. Physical implementation performance is unclear.

Reference

• Enbody, R. J., & Du, H. C. (1988). Dynamic hashing schemes. ACM Computing Surveys, 20(2), 850-113