

Uses of Hashing

- Hash table (implement a set or map)
- Checksums
 - Error detection and/or correction
- Compression
 - A hash is typically much more compact than the key
- Pruning a search
 - Looking for duplicates
- Cryptographic



Practical Examples...



Luhn Algorithm

Used to check for transcription errors in credit cards (last digit checksum).



Hamming Codes

Error correcting codes (as used in EEC memory).

Practical Examples...



rsync (Tridgell)

Synchronize files by (almost) only moving the parts that are different.



MD5 (Rivest)
Previously used to encode passwords (but no longer).

Java hashCode()

Java provides a hash code for every object.

- 32-bit signed integer
- Inherited from Object, but may be overwritten
- Objects for which equals() is true must also have the same hashCode().
- The hash need not be perfect (i.e. two different objects may share the same hash).