

CS 354 - Machine Organization & Programming

Thursday, October 3, 2019

Midterm Exam - Thursday, October 3rd, 7:15 - 9:15 pm

- **Lec 1 (2:30 pm):** room 3650 of Humanities
- **Lec 2 (4:00 pm):** room B10 of Ingraham Hall
- ♦ UW ID required
- ♦ #2 pencils required
- ♦ closed book, no notes, no electronic devices (e.g., calculators, phones, watches)
- ♦ see “Midterm Exam 1” on course site Assignments for topics

Project p2B (3%) DUE: 10 pm, Monday, October 7th

Last Time

C's Abstract Memory Model
Meet Globals and Static Locals
Where Do I Live?
Linux: Processes and Address Spaces
----- END of Exam 1 Material -----
Meet the Heap

Today

Exam Mechanics
C's Heap Allocator (`stdlib.h`)
Posix `brk` (`unistd.h`)
Allocator Design

Next Time

Heap Internal View, Block Placement, Splitting
Read: B&O 9.9.6 - 9.9.8

C's Heap Allocator (`stdlib.h`)

What? `stdlib.h` contains

C's Heap Allocator Functions

```
void *malloc(size_t size)
```

Allocates and returns generic ptr to block of heap memory of `size` bytes, or returns `NULL` if allocation fails.

```
void *calloc(size_t nItems, size_t size)
```

Allocates, clears to 0, and returns a block of heap memory of `nItems * size` bytes, or returns `NULL` if allocation fails.

```
void *realloc(void *ptr, size_t size)
```

Reallocates to `size` bytes a previously allocated block of heap memory pointed to by `ptr`, or returns `NULL` if reallocation fails.

```
void free(void *ptr)
```

Frees the heap memory pointed to by `ptr`. If `ptr` is `NULL` then does nothing.

✱ *For CS 354, if `malloc/calloc/realloc` returns `NULL`*

Posix `brk` (`unistd.h`)

What?

- ♦ Posix (Portable OS Interface)
- ♦ `unistd.h`

DIY Heap via Posix Calls

- ♦
- ♦

`brk`

```
int brk(void *addr)
```

Sets the top of heap to the specified address `addr`.
Returns 0 if successful, else -1 and sets `errno`.

```
void *sbrk(intptr_t incr)
```

Attempts to change the program's top of heap by `incr` bytes.
Returns the old `brk` if successful, else -1 and sets `errno`.

`errno`

✳ *For most applications, it's best to use `malloc/calloc/realloc/free`*

Allocator Design

Goals

throughput

memory utilization

Requirements

→ List the requirements of a heap allocator.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Design Considerations

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