

Explicit, Dynamic Memory Management with Temporal and Spatial Guarantees

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Universität Salzburg



Artist Summer School 2009
Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Memory Management

- Allocation:
 - ▶ `malloc`

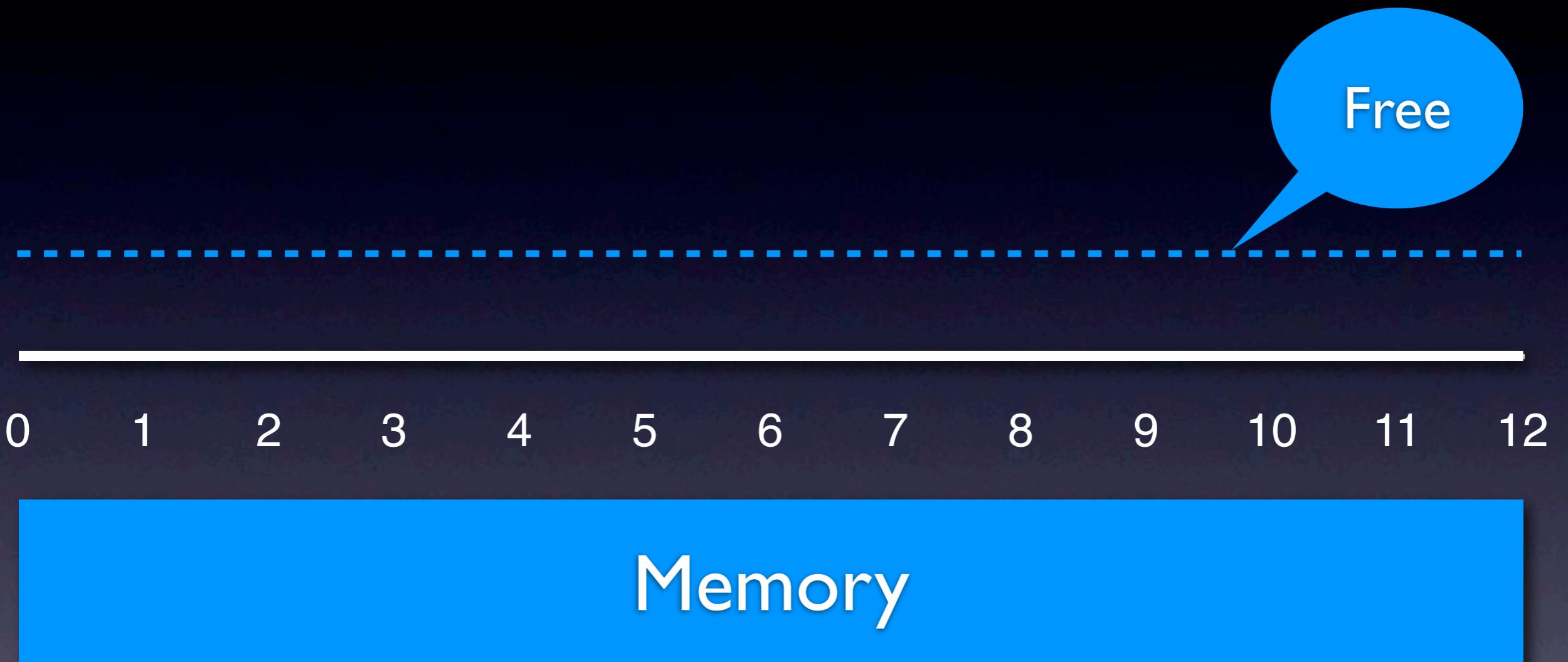
Memory Management

- Allocation:
 - ▶ `malloc`
- Deallocation:
 - ▶ `free`

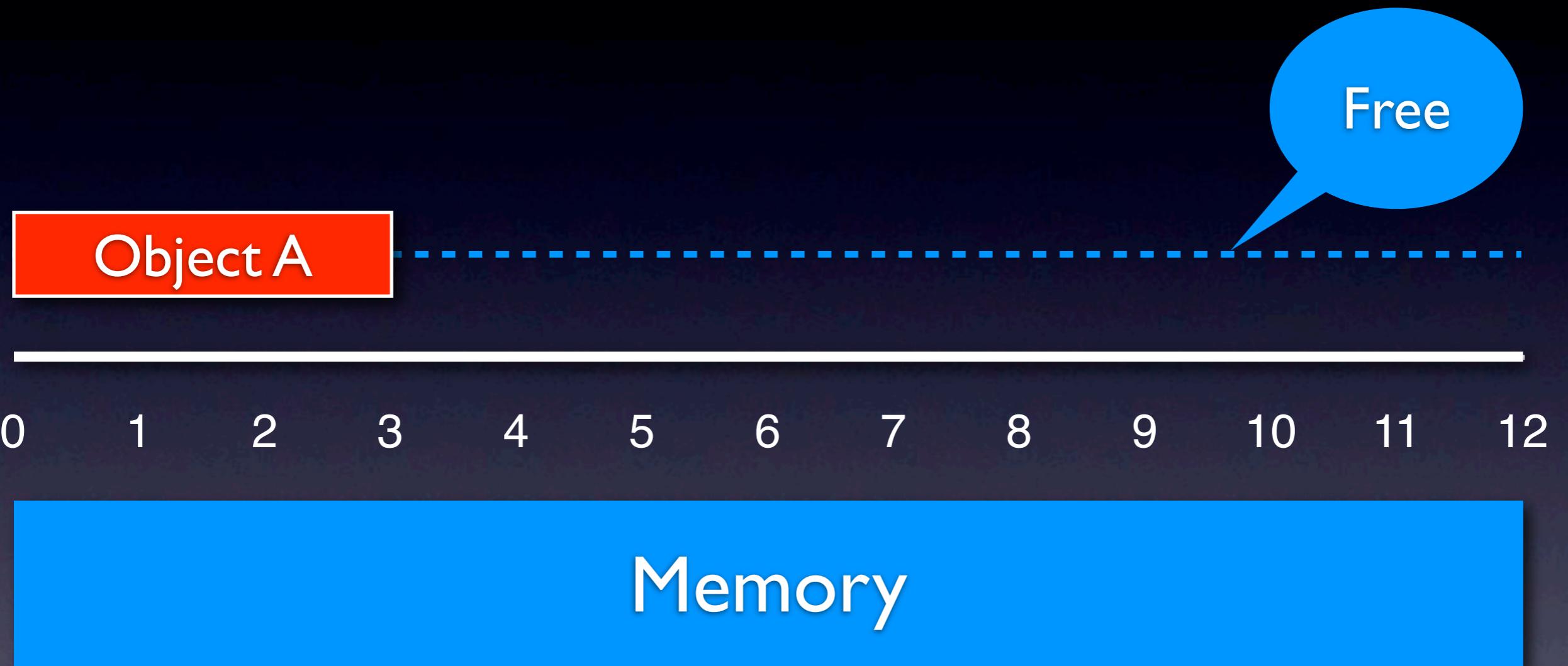
Memory Management

- Allocation:
 - ▶ `malloc`
- Deallocation:
 - ▶ `free`
- Access:
 - ▶ `read` and `write`

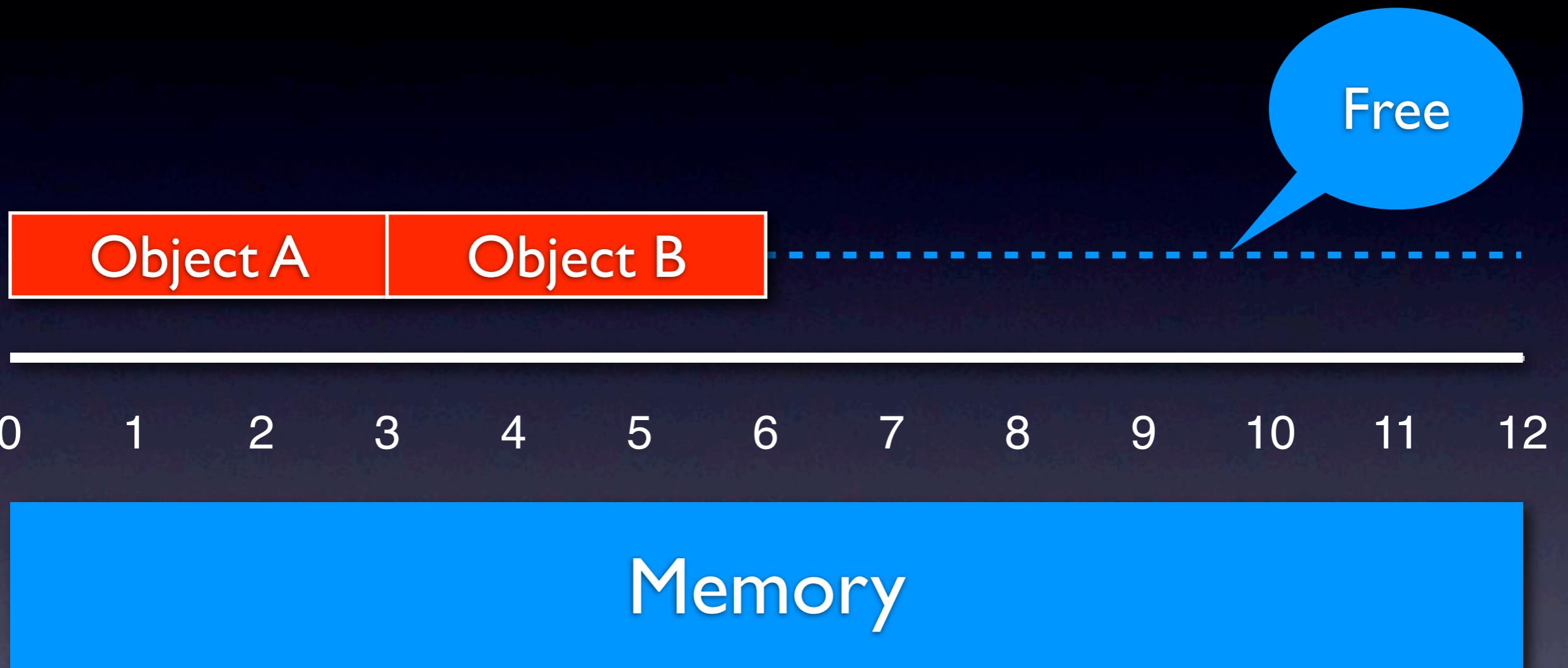
Allocation



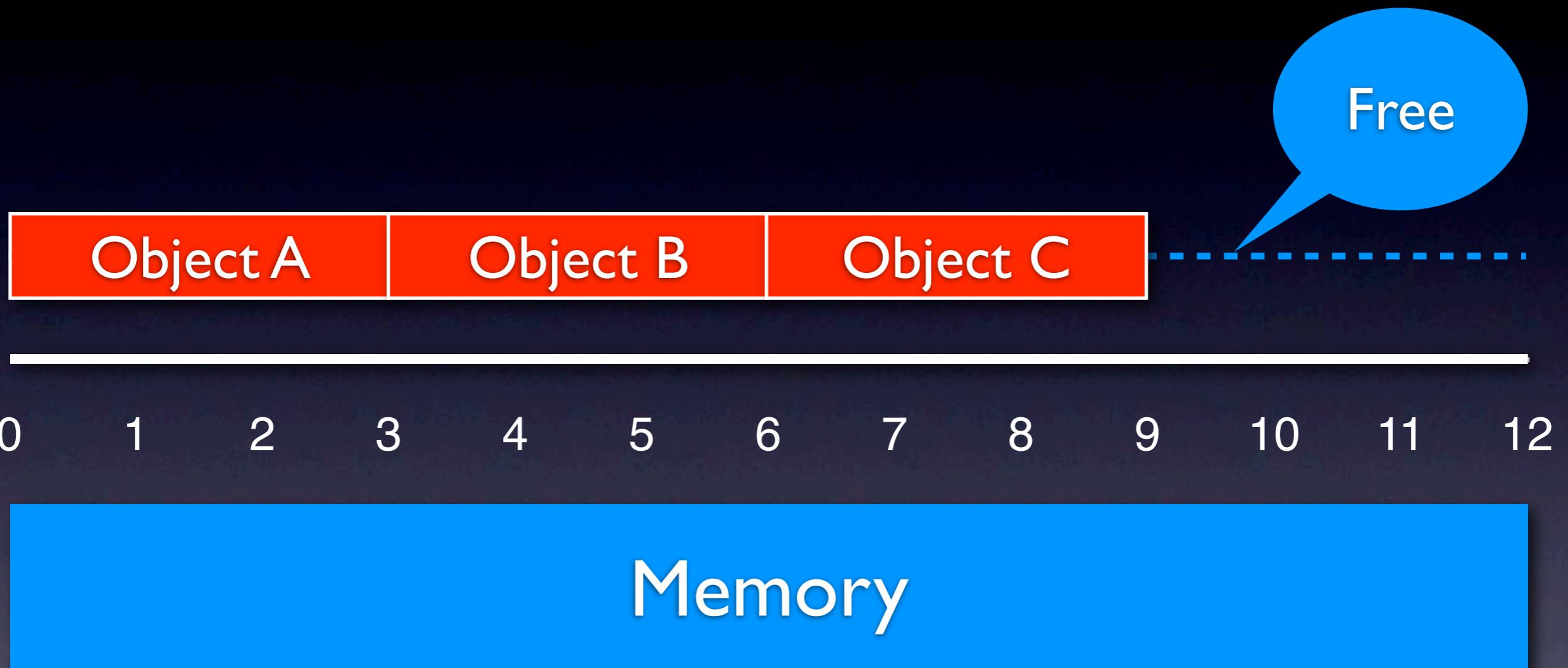
Allocation



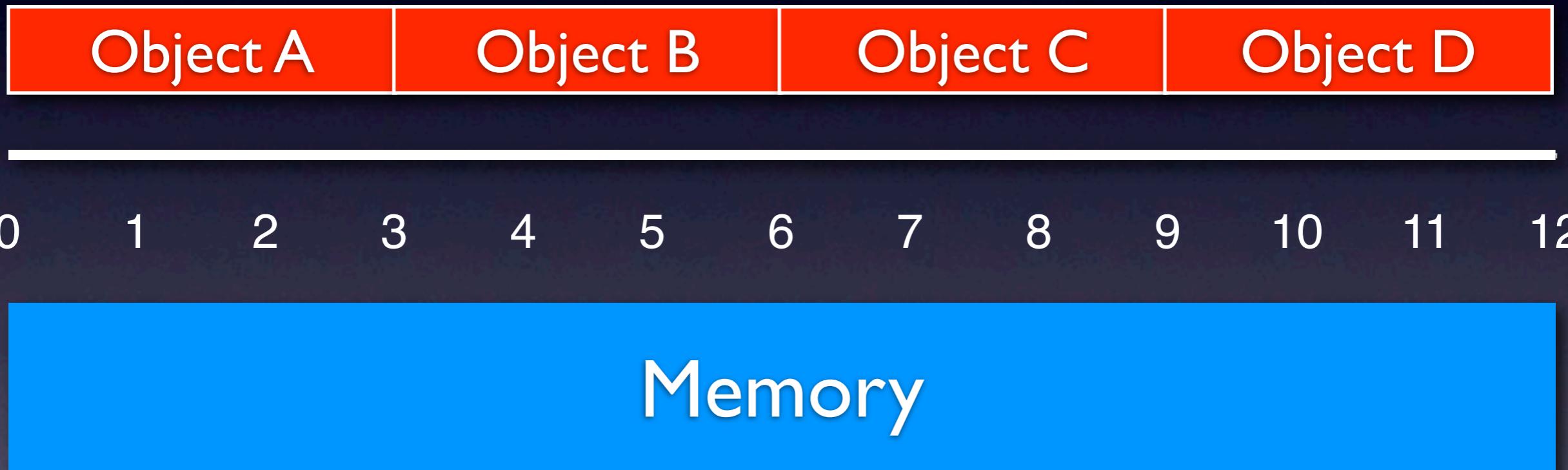
Allocation



Allocation



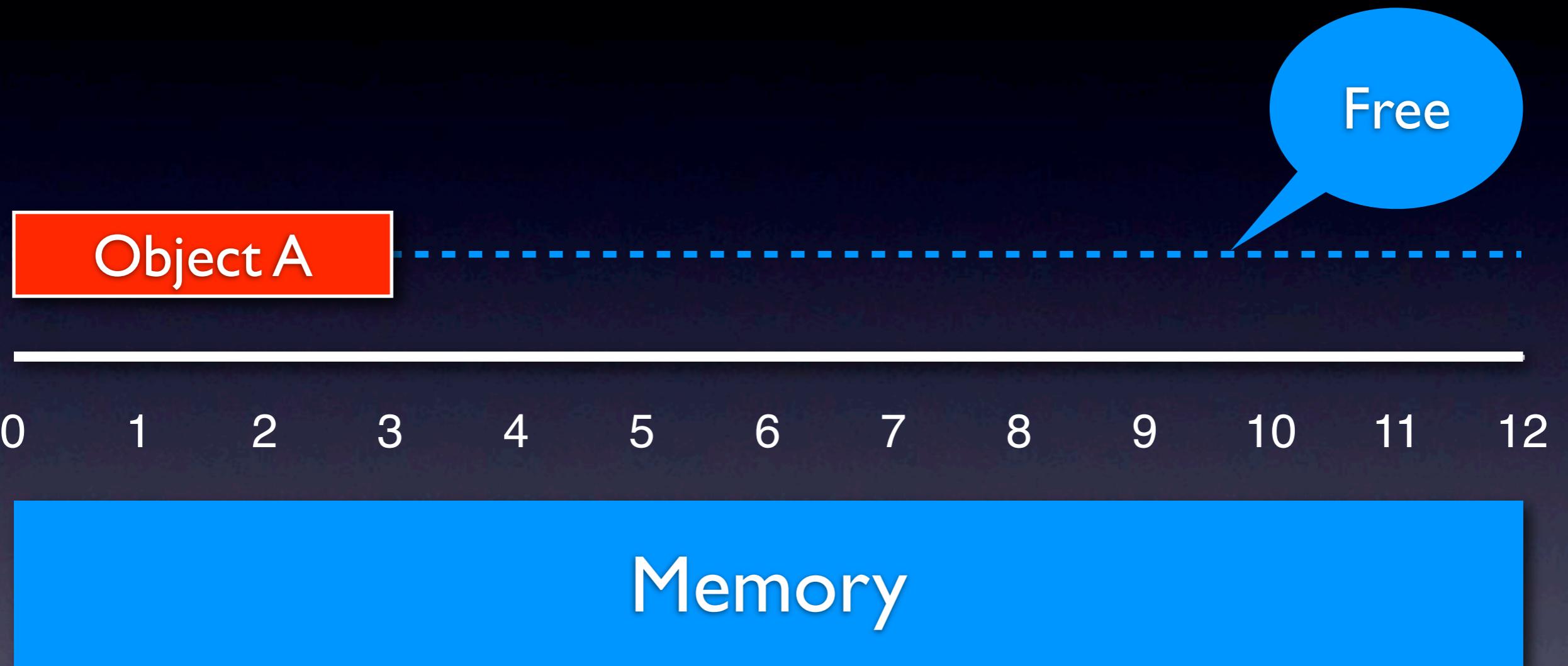
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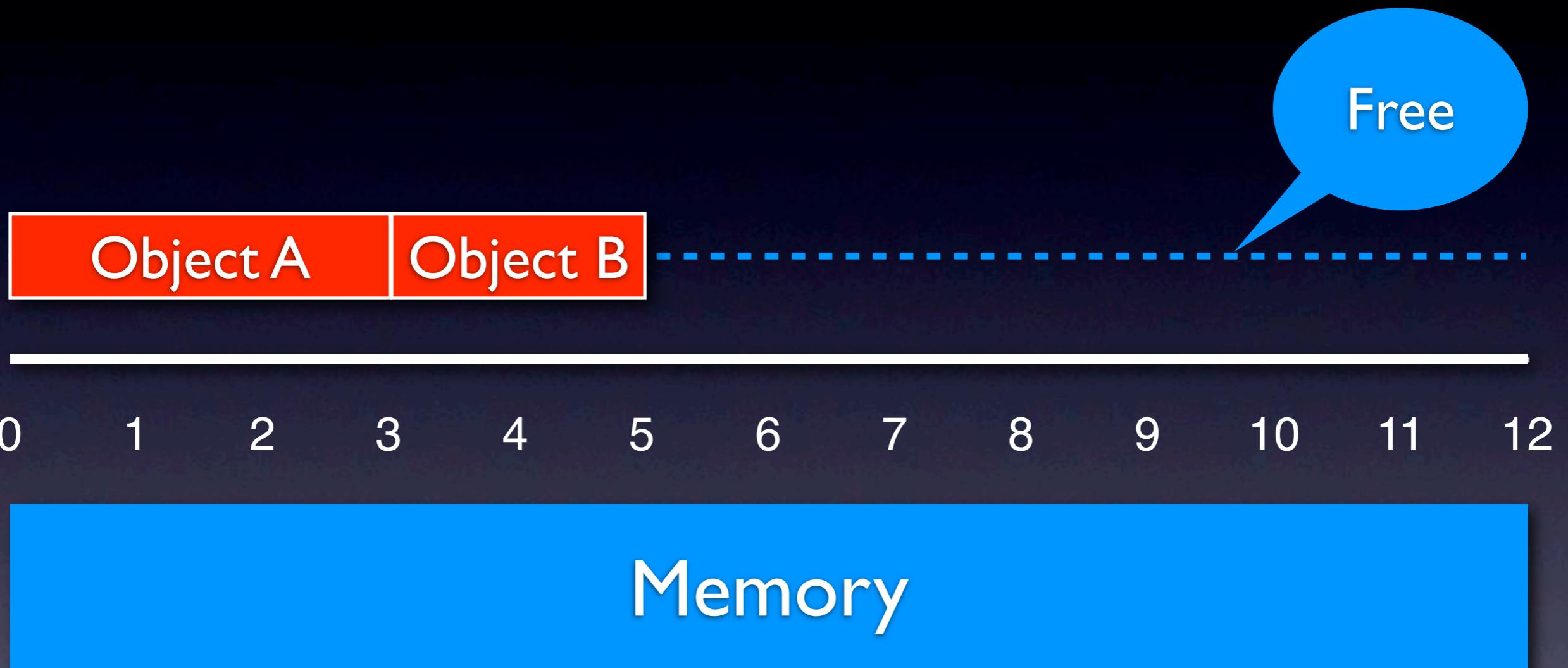
I.Assumption:

Objects may have
different sizes

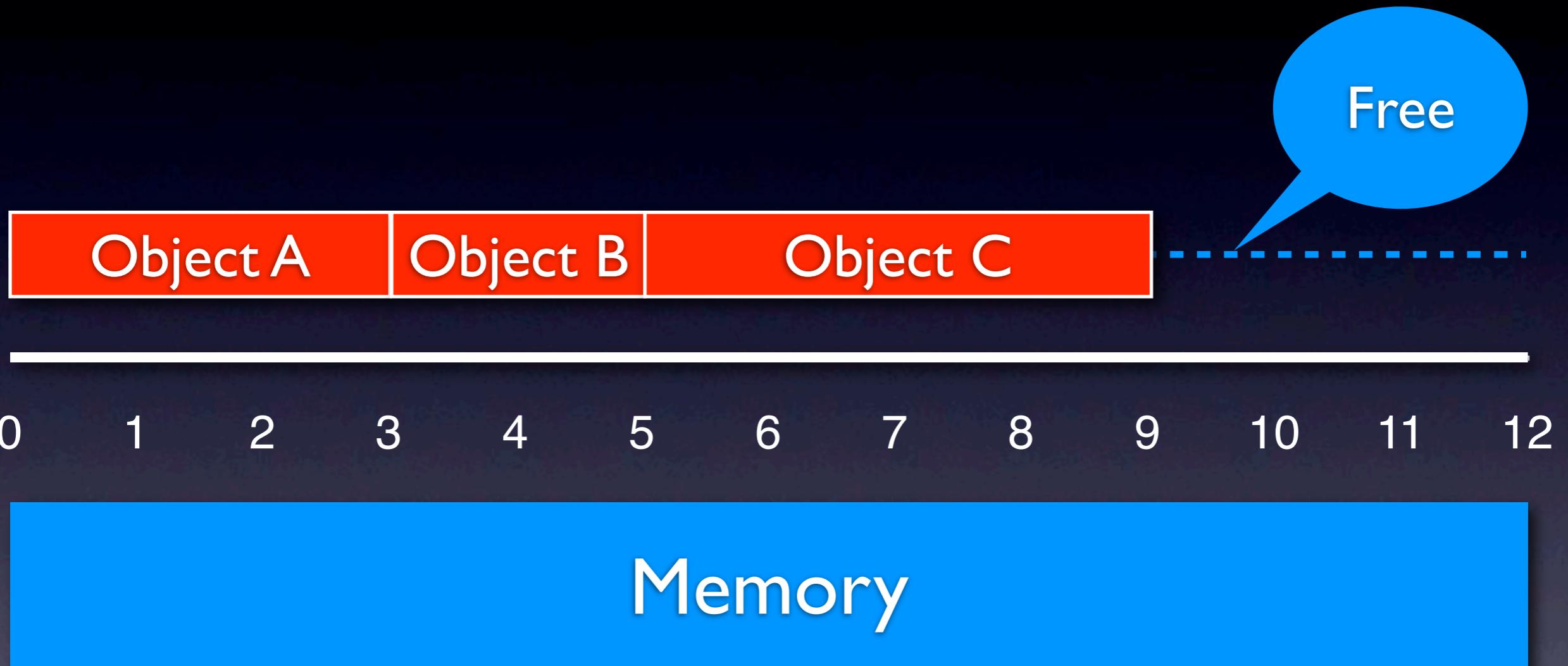
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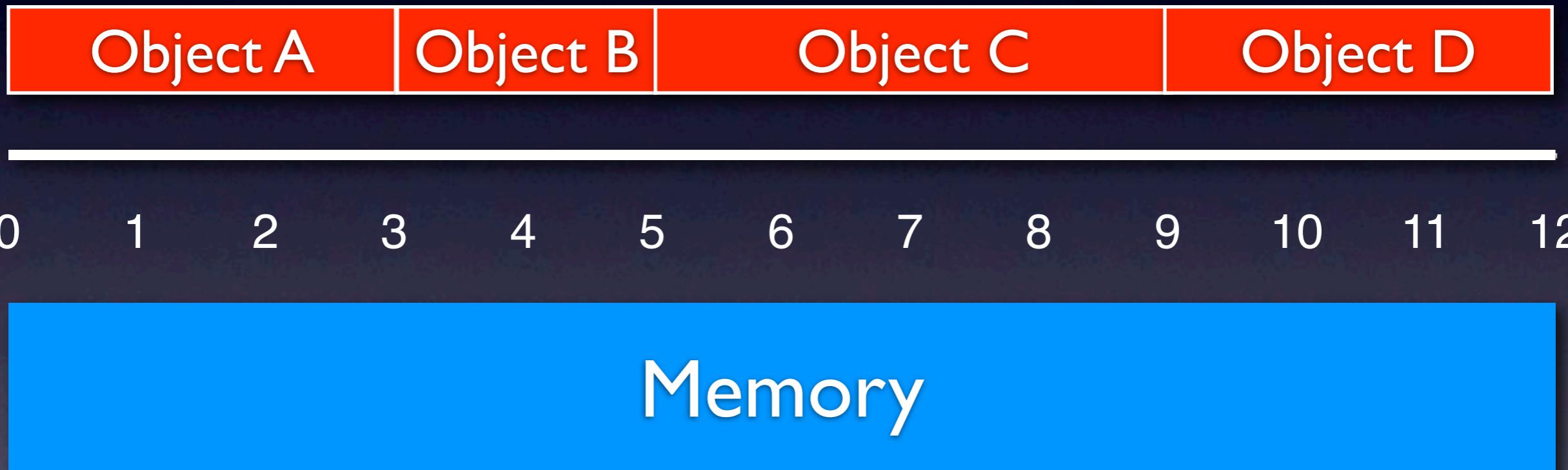
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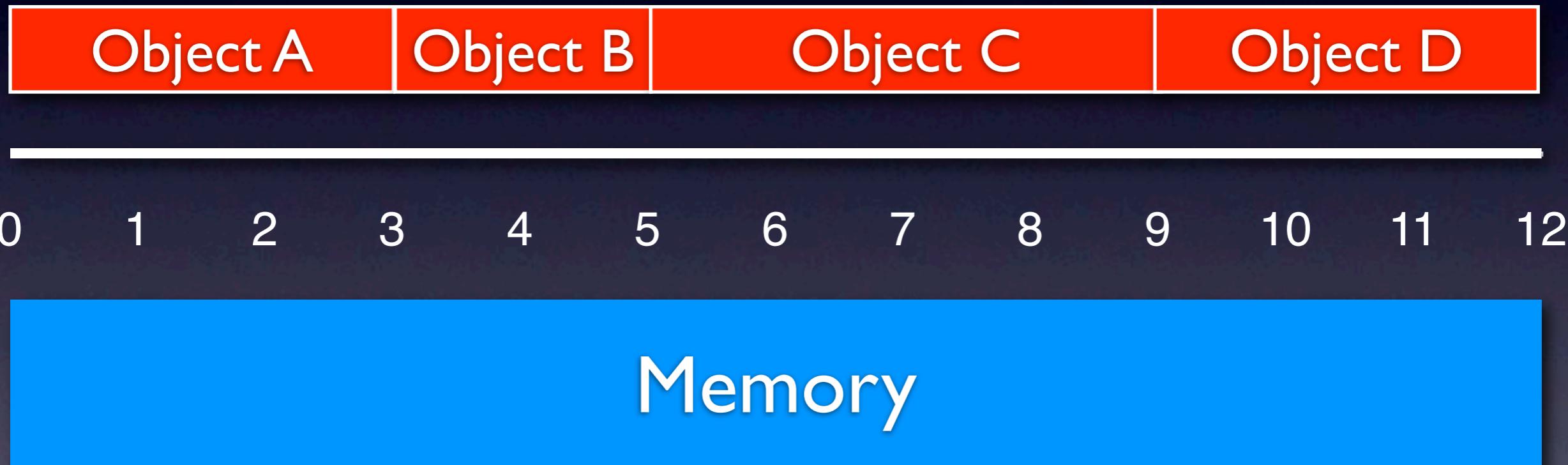
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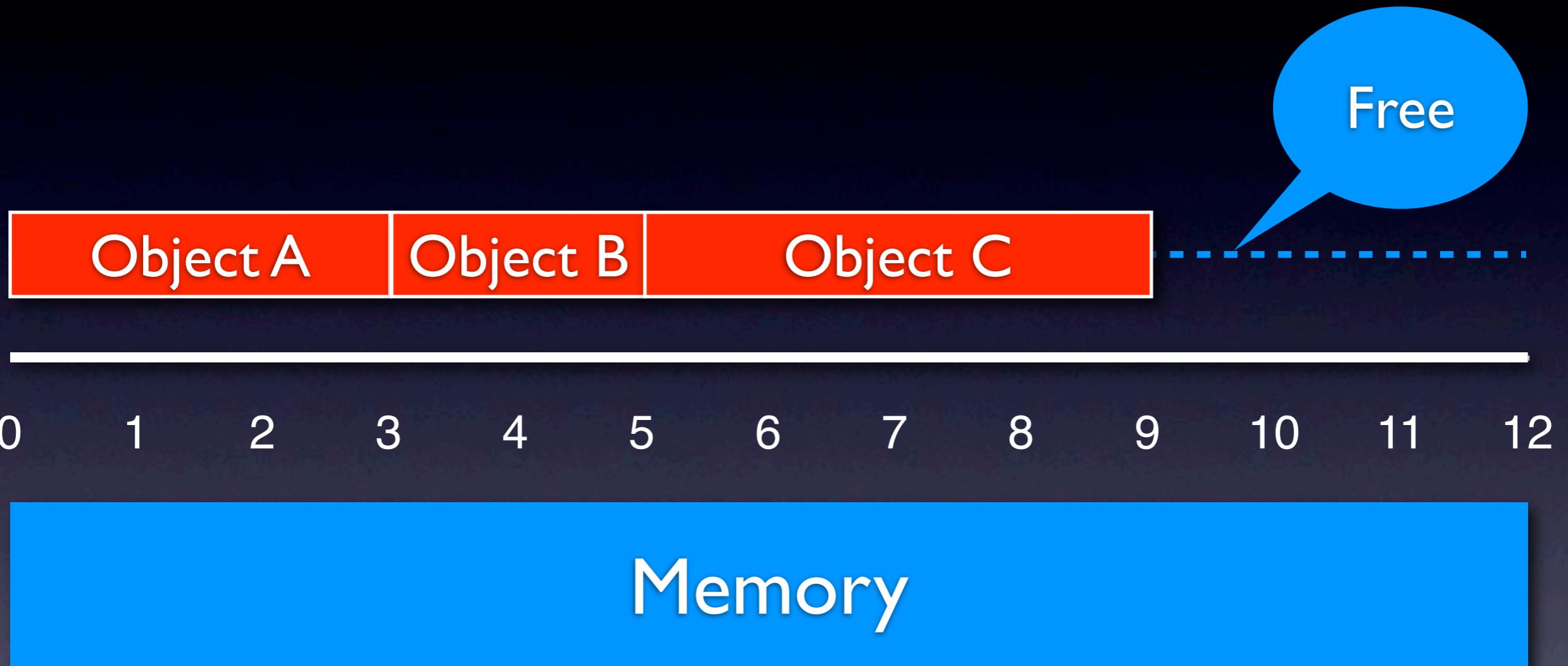
Allocation



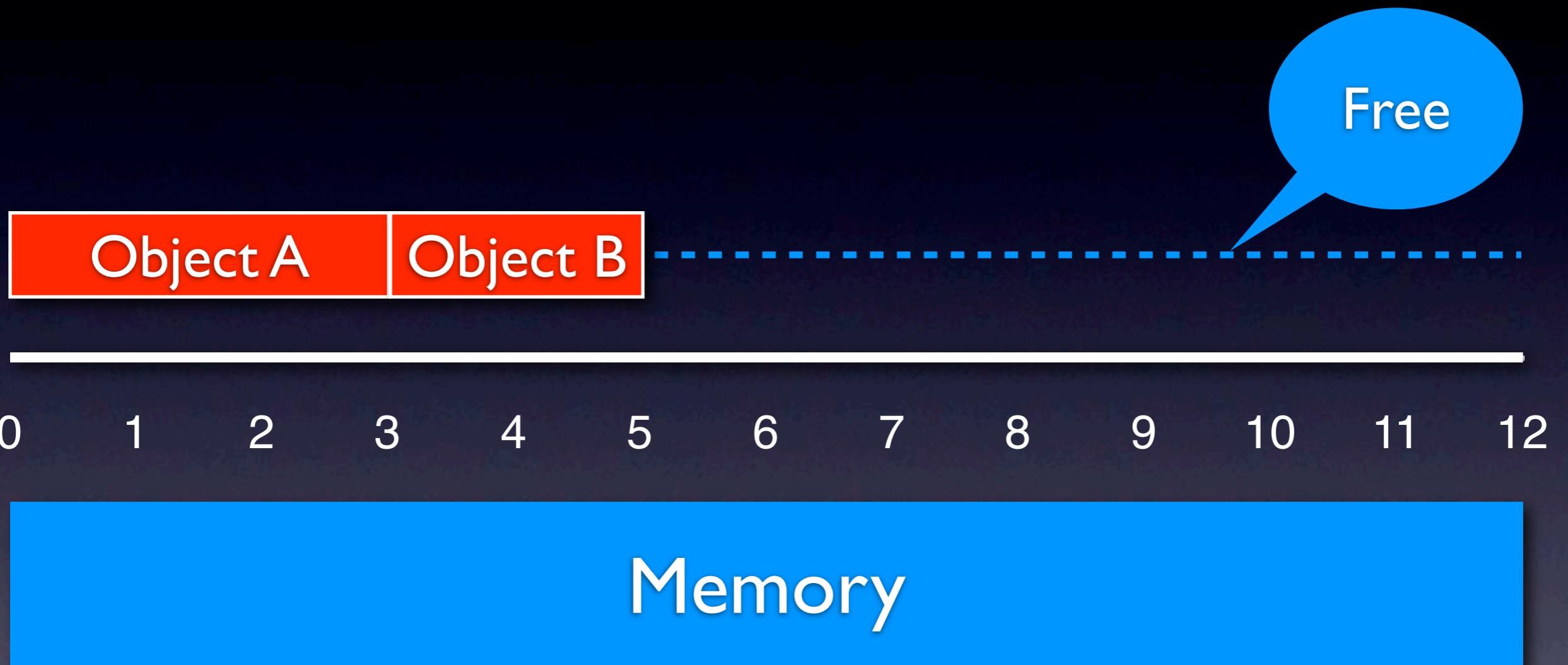
Deallocation



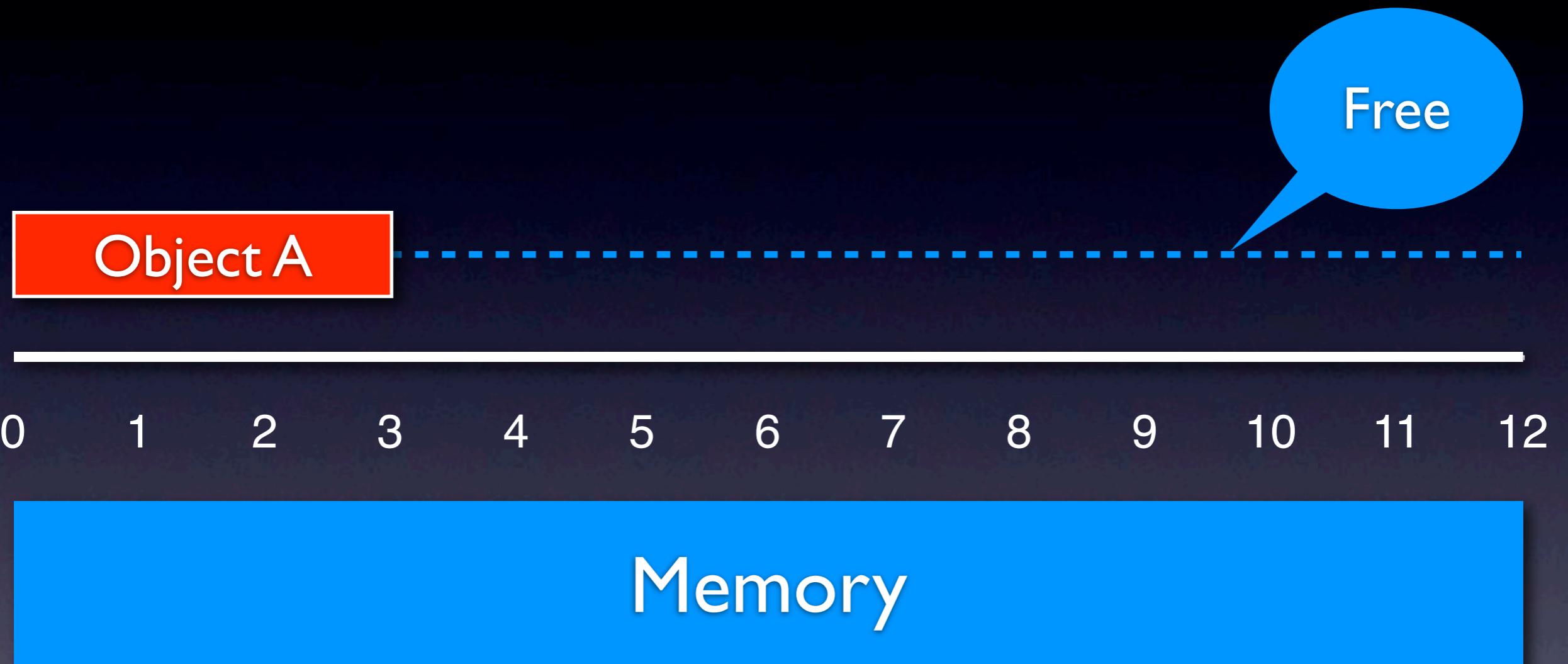
Deallocation



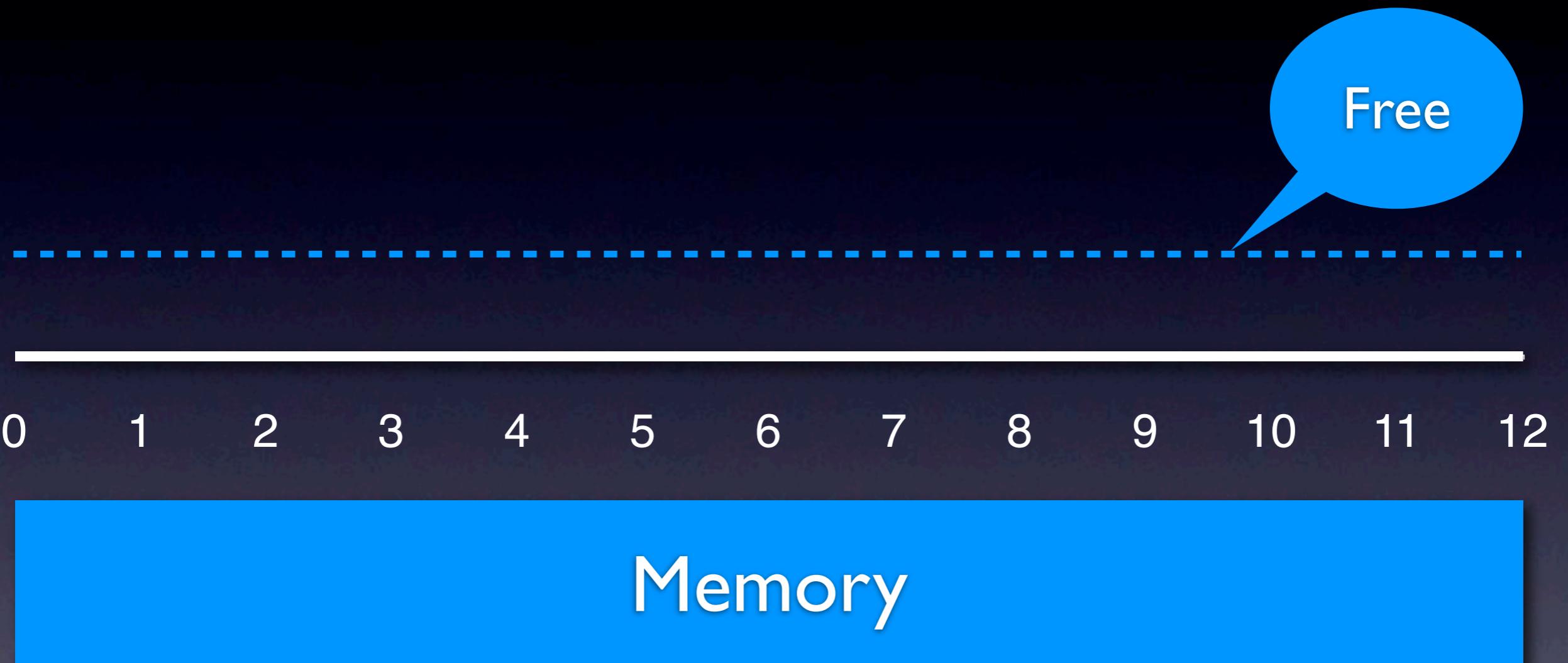
Deallocation



Deallocation



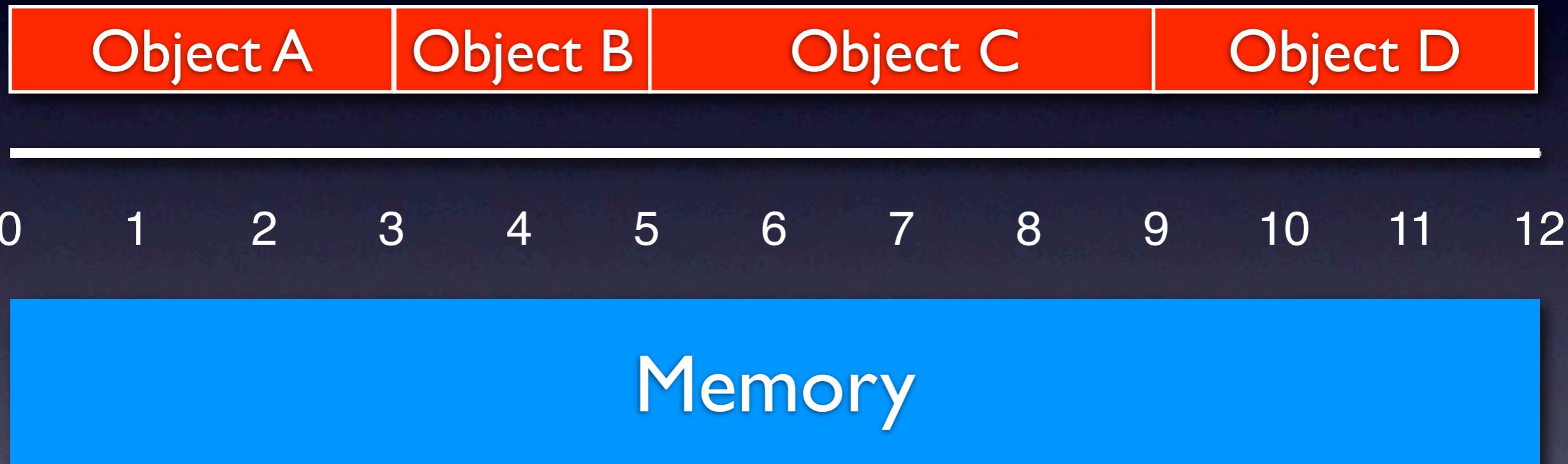
Deallocation



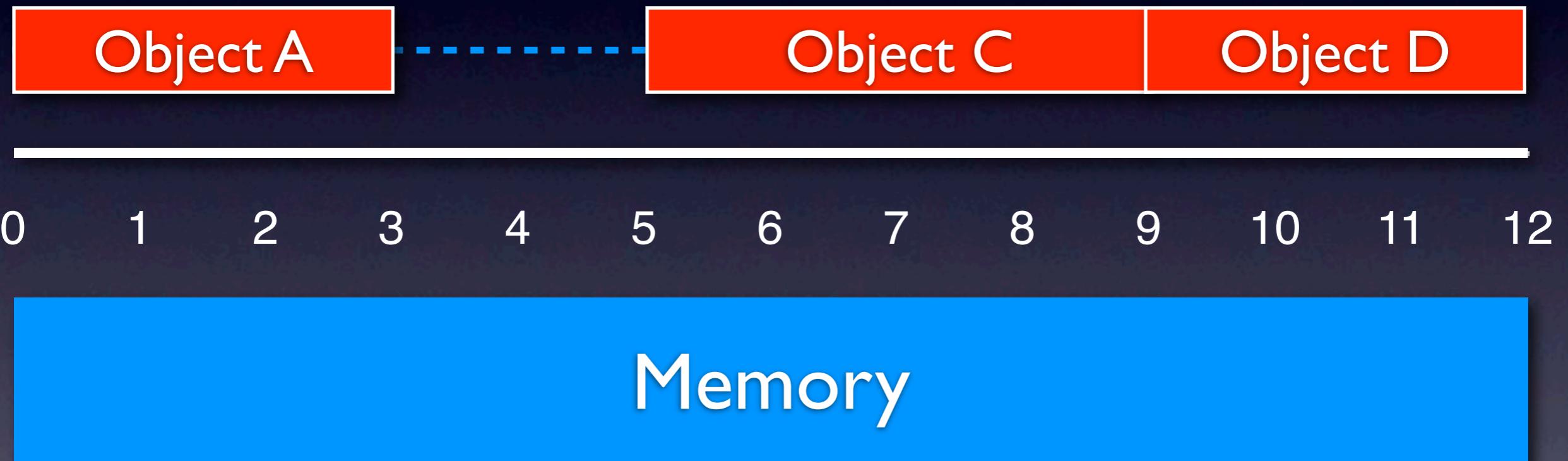
2. Assumption:

Objects may be
allocated and deallocated
in random order

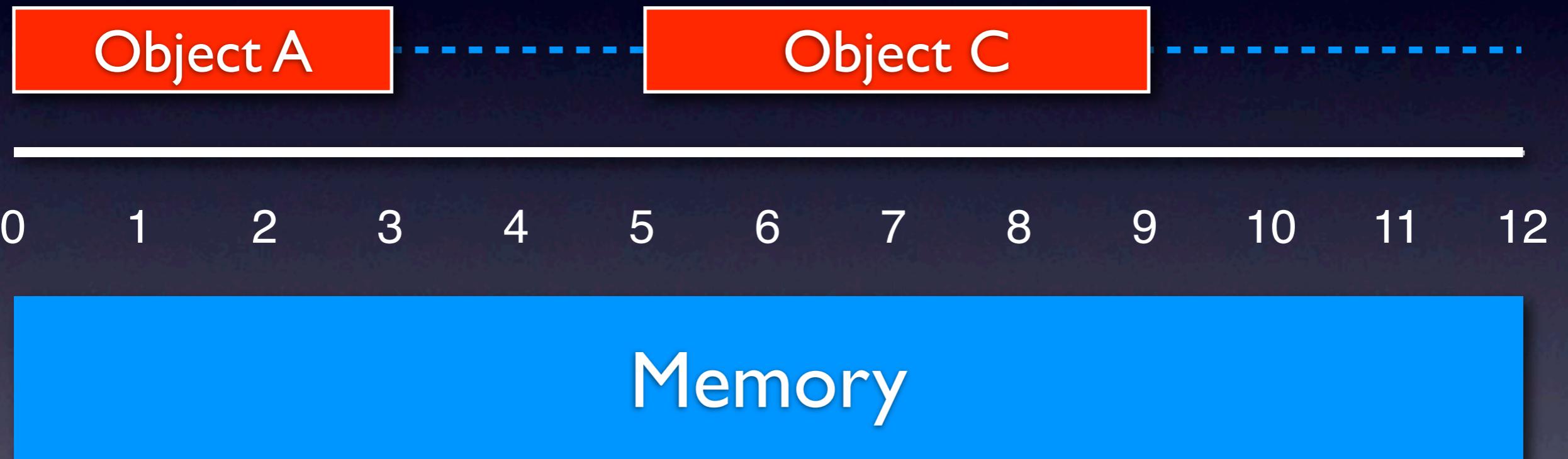
Deallocation



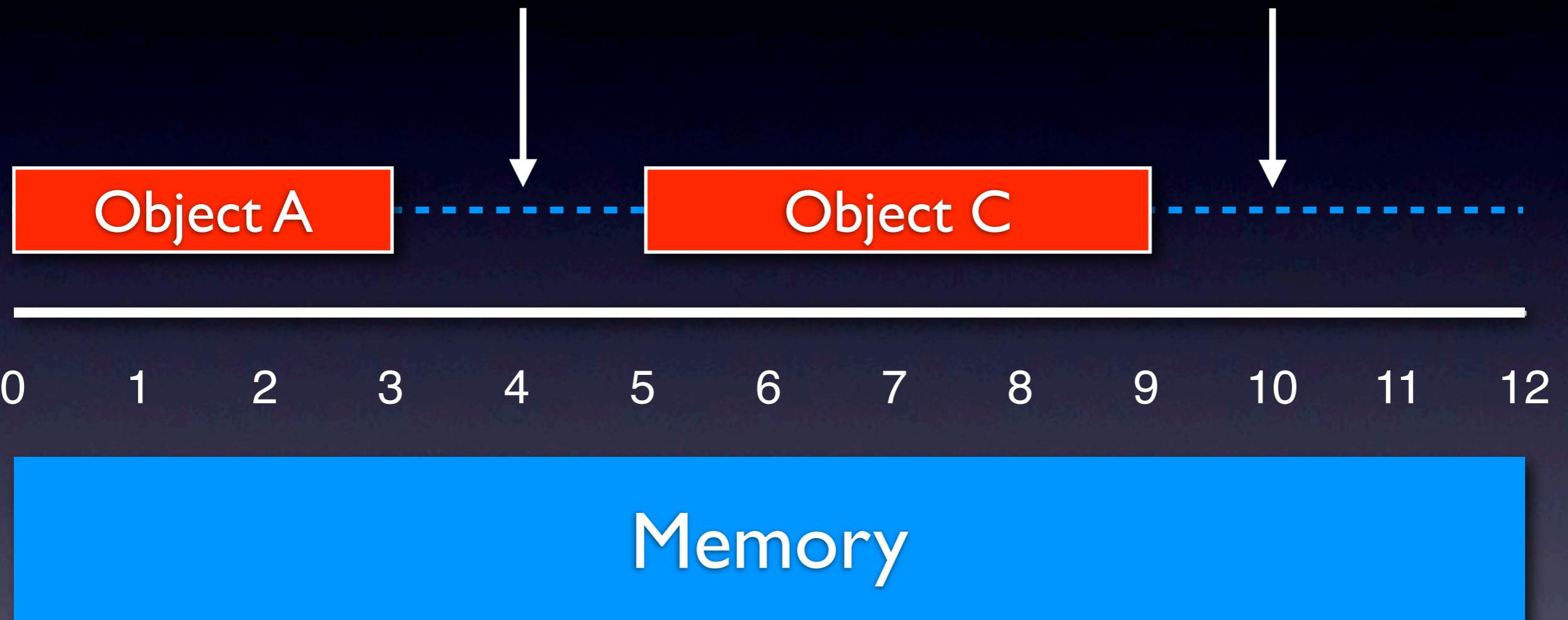
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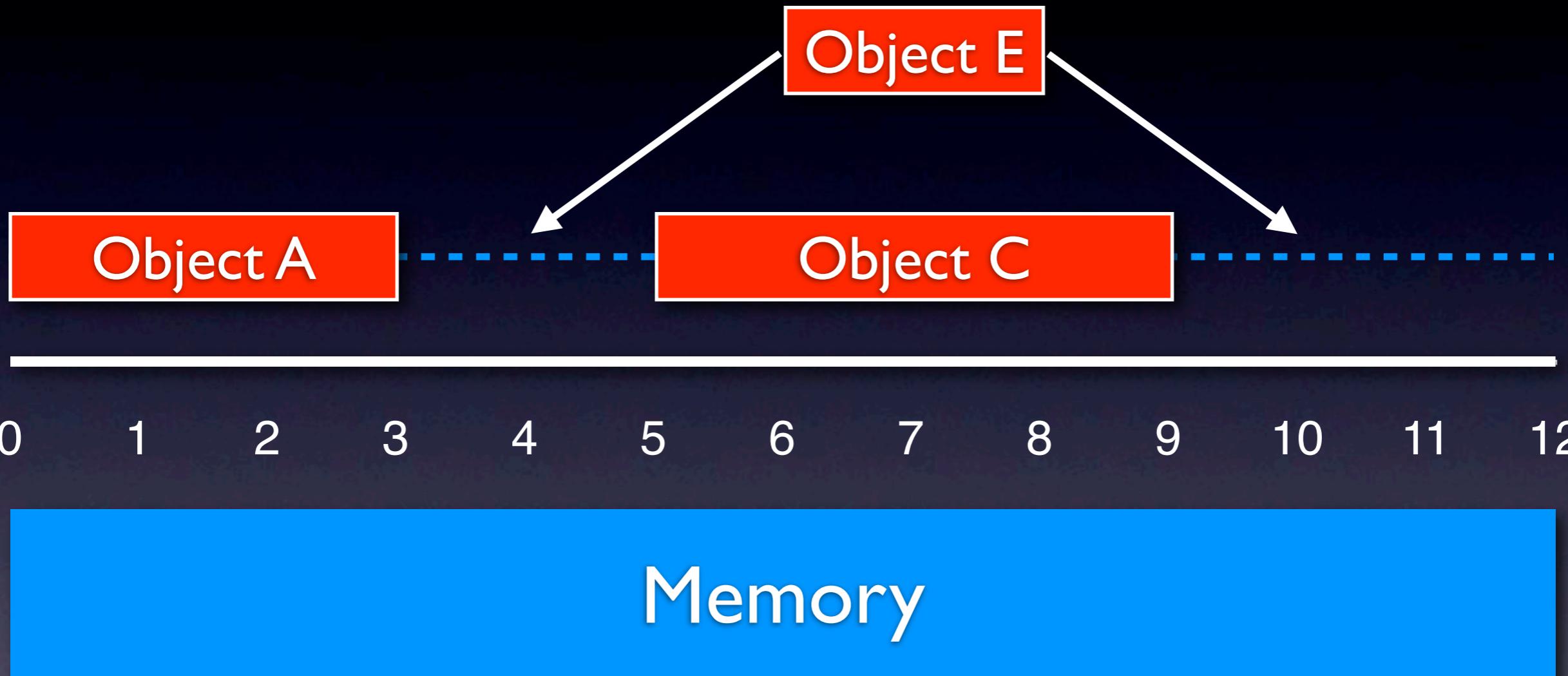
Deallocation



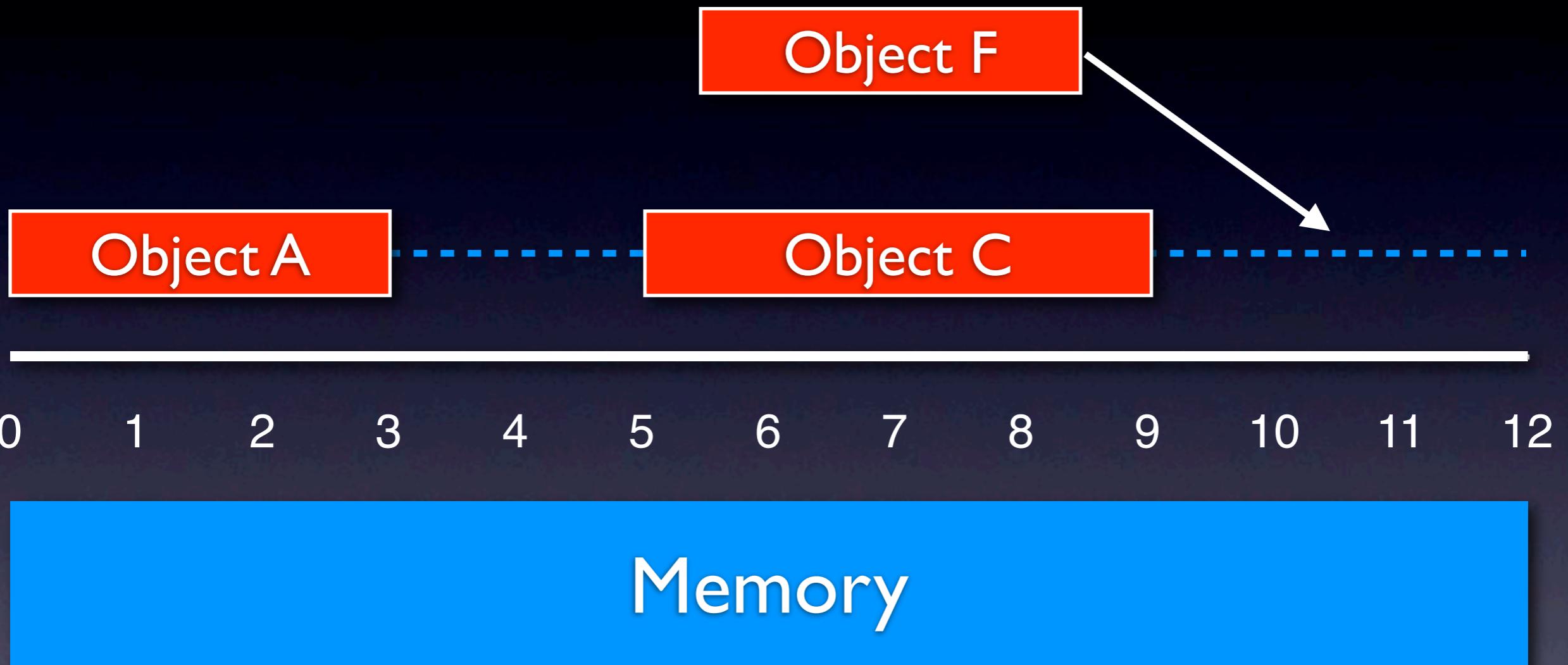
External Fragmentation



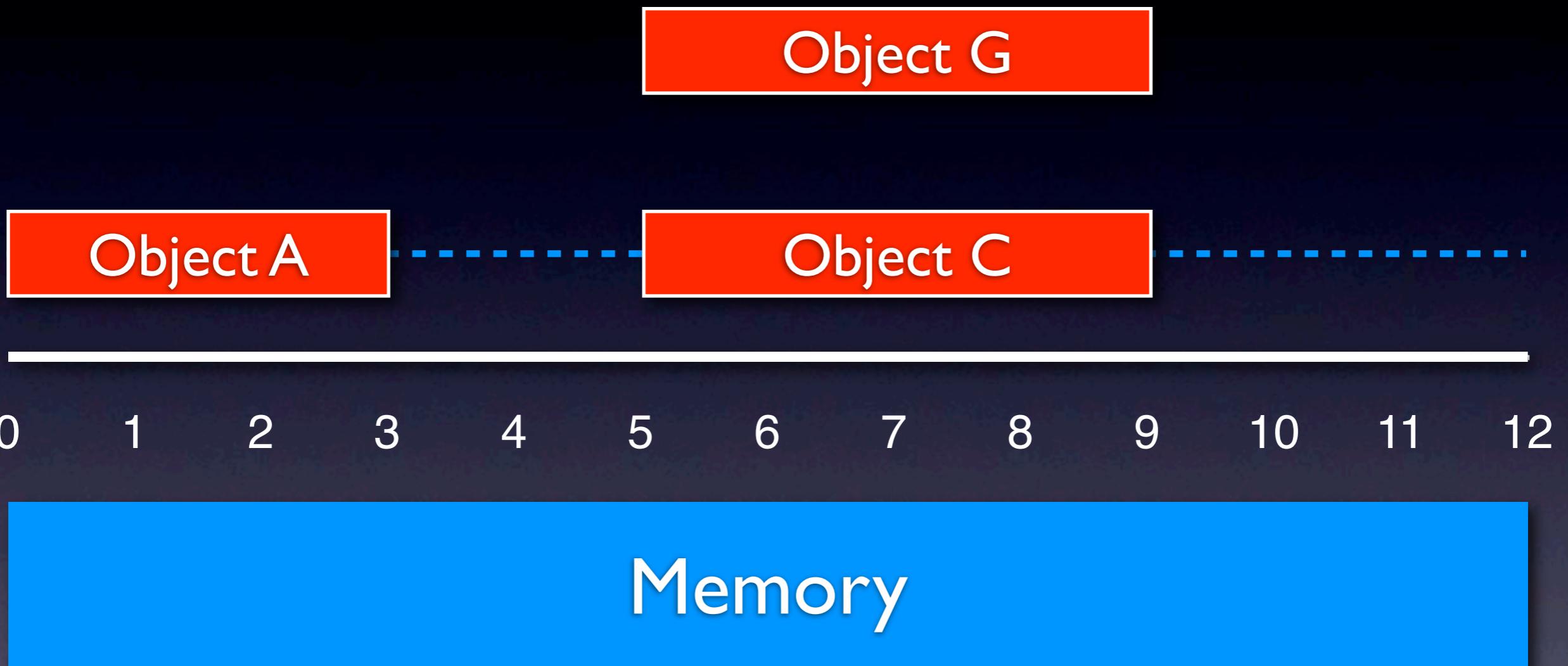
Allocation



Allocation



Allocation



Memory is fragmented if
the largest, contiguous
piece of available space
is
smaller than
the **total** available space

Fragmentation

- Memory objects may have **different sizes**
 - Memory objects may be allocated and deallocated in **random** order
- ▶ creates the problem of memory **fragmentation!**

Explicit, Dynamic Memory Management with Temporal and Spatial Guarantees

Static versus Dynamic

- **Static memory management:**
 - ▶ Preallocate all memory at **compile time**

Static versus Dynamic

- **Static memory management:**
 - ▶ Preallocate all memory at **compile time**
- **Dynamic memory management:**
 - ▶ Allocate and deallocate memory at **run time**

Explicit, Dynamic Memory Management with Temporal and Spatial Guarantees

Implicit versus Explicit

- **Implicit**, dynamic memory management:
 - ▶ Garbage collector (GC) deallocates objects, not programmer (**implicit free calls by GC**)

Implicit versus Explicit

- **Implicit**, dynamic memory management:
 - ▶ Garbage collector (GC) deallocates objects, not programmer (**implicit free calls by GC**)
- **Explicit**, dynamic memory management:
 - ▶ Objects are deallocated by programmer (**explicit free calls**)

Programming Abstraction

Runtime Overhead

Implicit, Dynamic Memory Management

Explicit, Dynamic Memory Management

Static Memory Management

Programming Abstraction

Runtime Overhead

Implicit

Web, Safety

Explicit

Server, Performance

Static

Embedded, Real Time

Programming Abstraction

Runtime Overhead

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Programming Abstraction

Runtime Overhead

Implicit

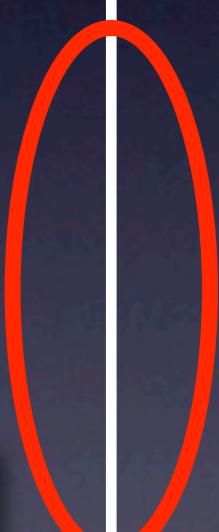
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Temporal Performance

- Throughput:
 - ▶ 10MB/s **allocation** rate
 - ▶ 10MB/s **deallocation** rate

Temporal Performance

- Throughput:
 - ▶ 10MB/s **allocation** rate
 - ▶ 10MB/s **deallocation** rate
- Latency/Responsiveness:
 - ▶ 1ms **execution** time (malloc/free)
 - ▶ 0.1ms **preemption** time (malloc/free)

Spatial Performance

- Degree of fragmentation:
 - ▶ The **number** of contiguous pieces of memory of a given size that can still be allocated

Spatial Performance

- Degree of fragmentation:
 - ▶ The **number** of contiguous pieces of memory of a given size that can still be allocated
- Administrative space:
 - ▶ **meta** data structures (used, free lists)

There is a trade-off
between
temporal and **spatial**
performance

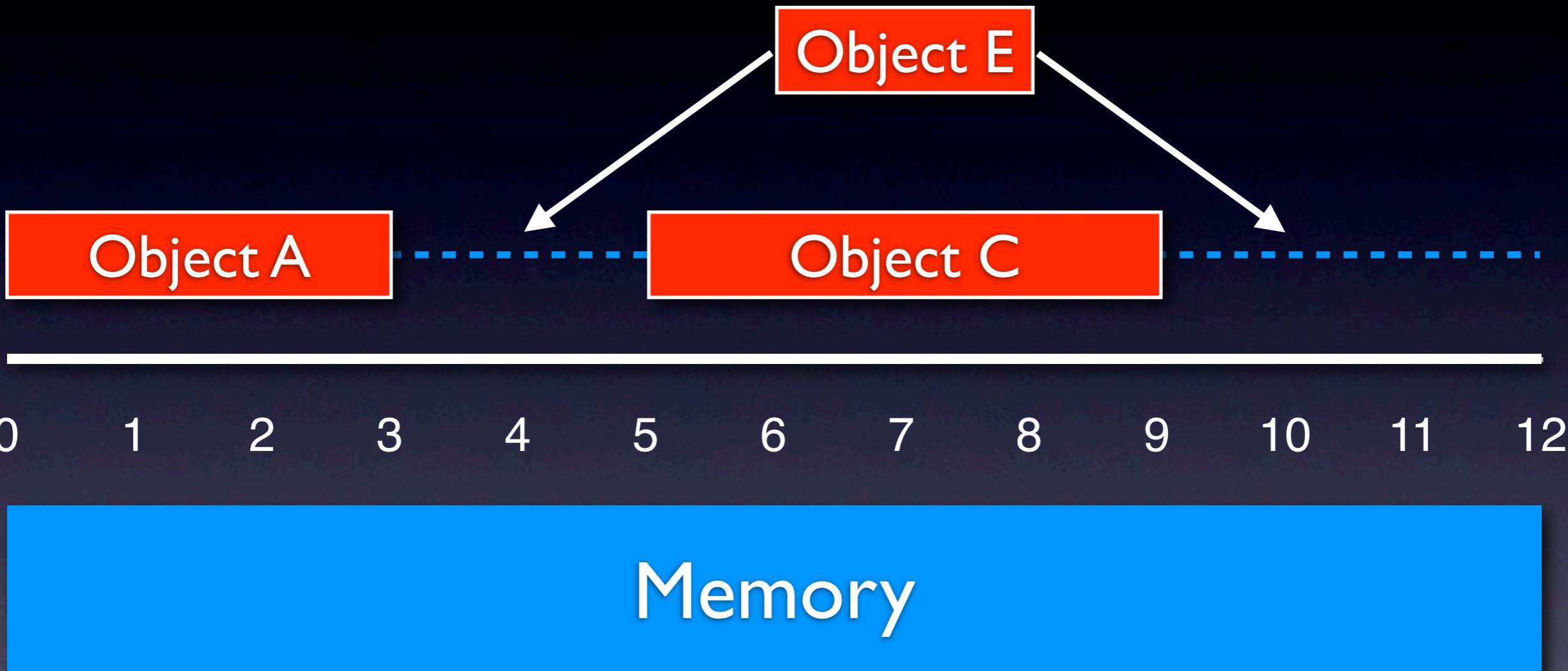
Temporal Predictability

- Unpredictable complexity (in terms of input):
 - ▶ allocation/deallocation may take time proportional to the total size of memory

Temporal Predictability

- Unpredictable complexity (in terms of input):
 - ▶ allocation/deallocation may take time proportional to the total size of memory
- Predictable complexity (in terms of input):
 - ▶ allocation/deallocation takes time at most proportional to the size of involved object
 - ▶ access takes time at most proportional to the size of involved object

Allocation Complexity



It may be difficult to
improve
average **performance**
but it may still be possible to
improve
predictability
without loosing too much
performance

Spatial Predictability

- Unpredictable fragmentation:
 - ▶ the degree of fragmentation may depend on the full allocation and deallocation **history**, i.e., the order of invocations

Spatial Predictability

- Unpredictable fragmentation:
 - ▶ the degree of fragmentation may depend on the full allocation and deallocation **history**, i.e., the order of invocations
- Predictable fragmentation:
 - ▶ the degree of fragmentation only depends on the **number** of allocations and deallocations, independently of the order of invocations

Time

predictable
unpredictable

unpredictable

predictable

Space

Explicit, Dynamic Memory Management with **Temporal** and **Spatial Guarantees**

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Embedded, Real Time

Programming Abstraction

Runtime Overhead

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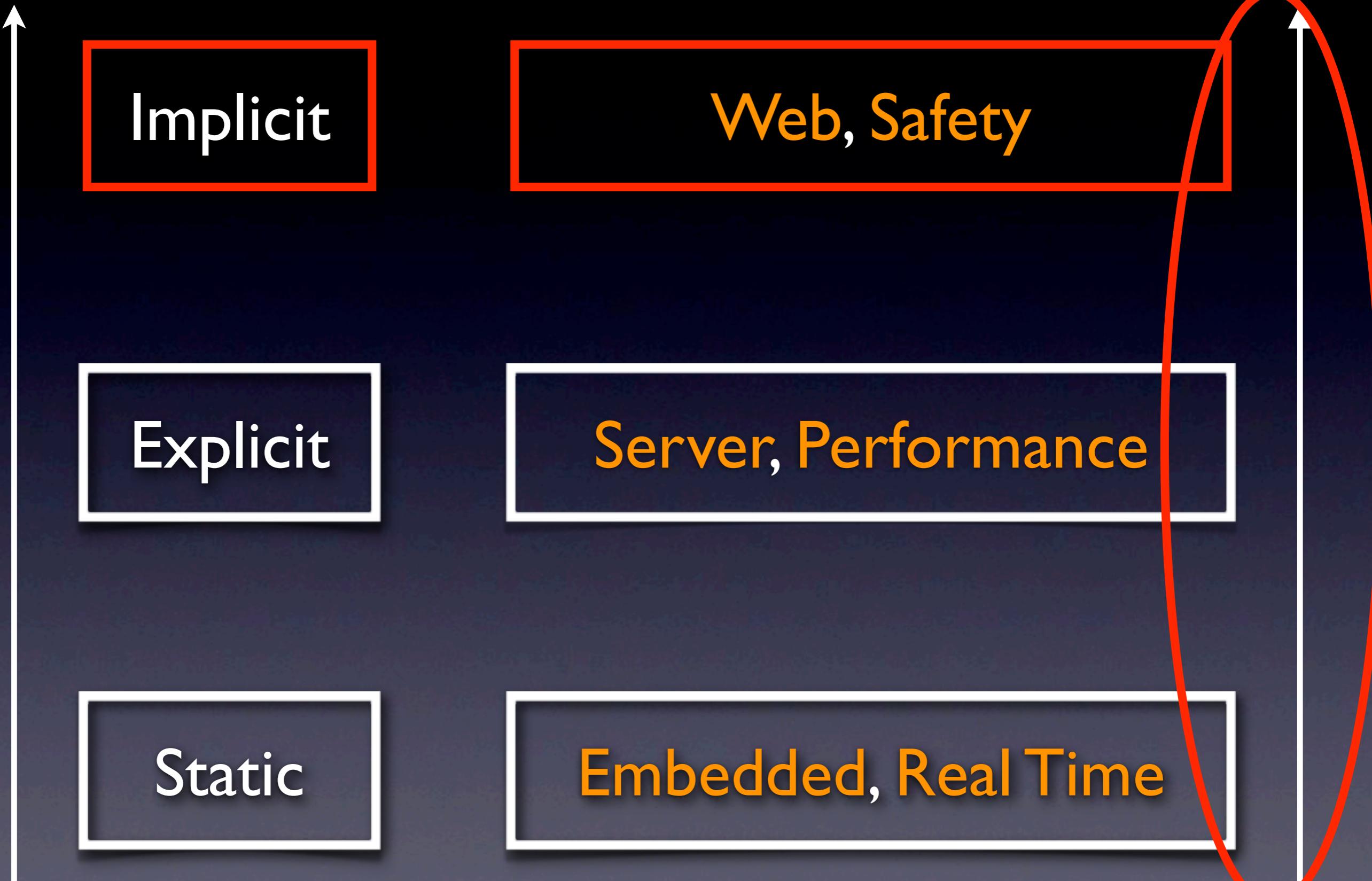
Web, Safety

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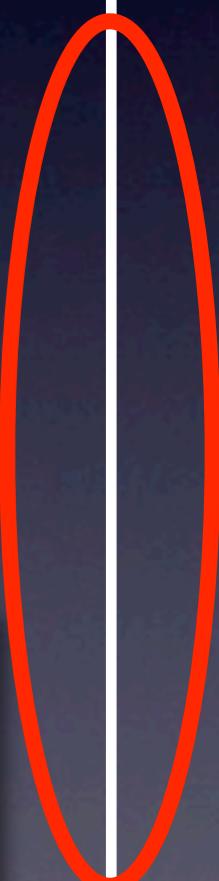
Web, Safety

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Server, Performance

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tiptoe.cs.uni-salzburg.at[#]

- Silviu Craciunas[#] (Programming Model)
- Andreas Haas (Memory Management)
- Hannes Payer[#] (Memory Management)
- Harald Röck (VM, Scheduling)
- Ana Sokolova^{*} (Theoretical Foundation)

[#]Supported by a 2007 IBM Faculty Award, the EU ArtistDesign Network of Excellence on Embedded Systems Design, and Austrian Science Fund Project P18913-N15.

^{*}Supported by Austrian Science Fund Project V00125.

Tiptoe

- Tiptoe is a microkernel-based virtual machine and process monitor for embedded systems

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- Tiptoe virtualizes the host platform (system VM) and provides infrastructure to run process VMs and processes in real time

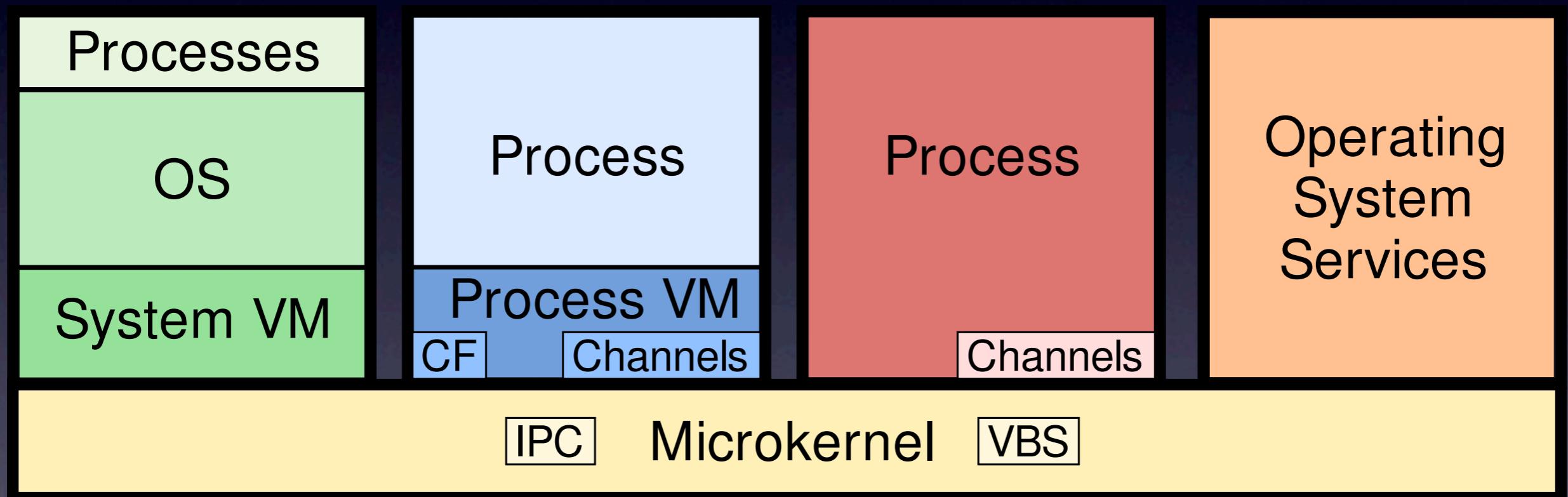
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- Tiptoe controls throughput and latency of CPU, memory, and I/O
- I/O is multiplexed through IPC to a system VM running Linux

Tiptoe



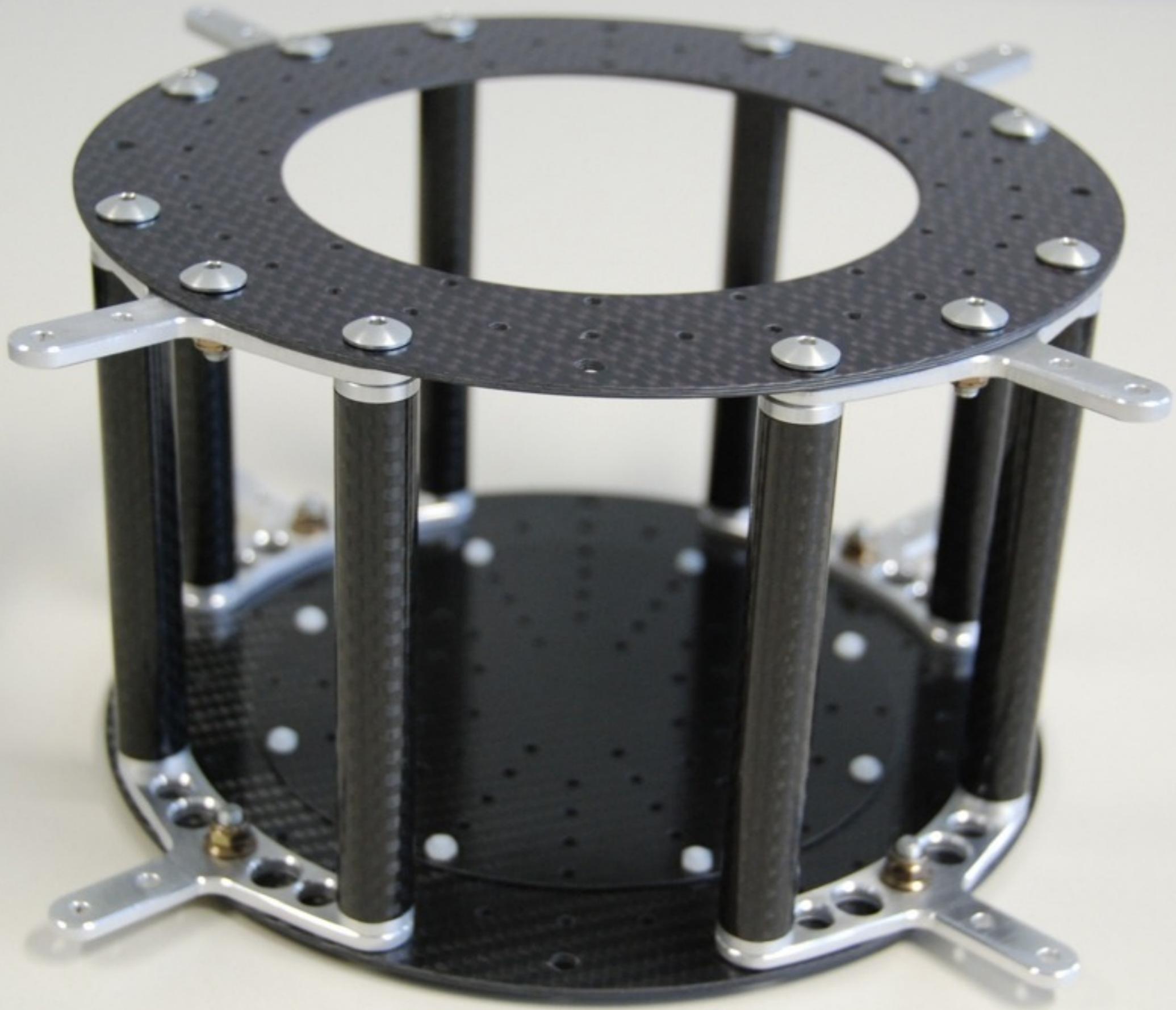


The JAviator
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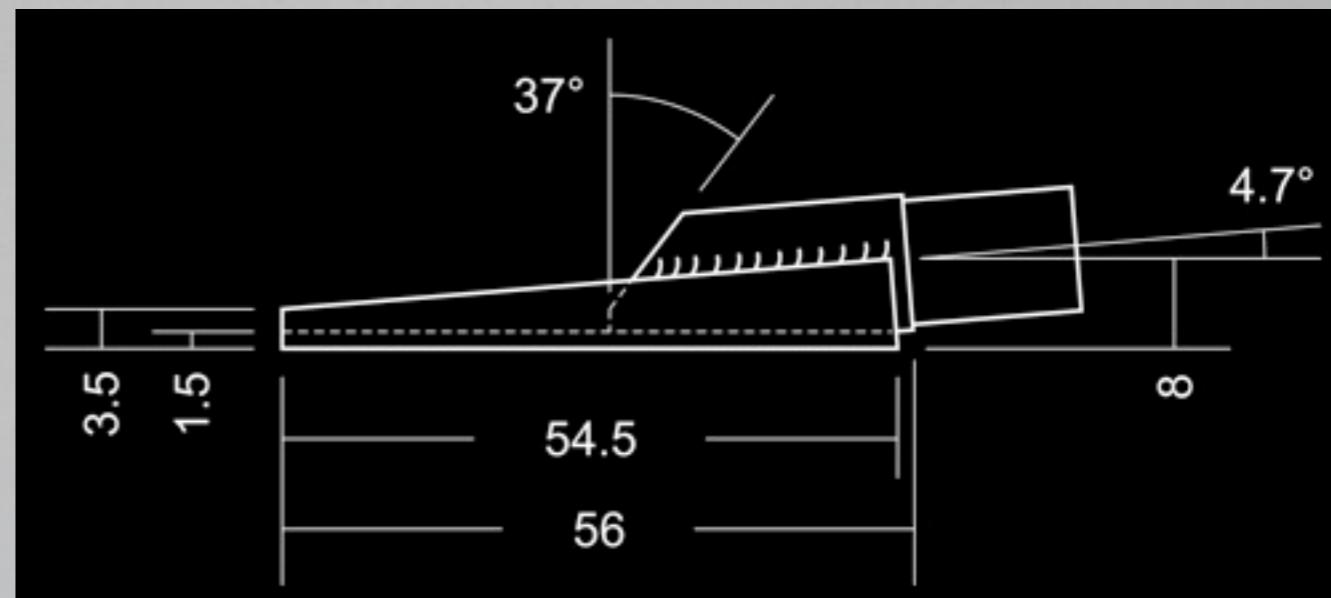
Quad-Rotor Helicopter

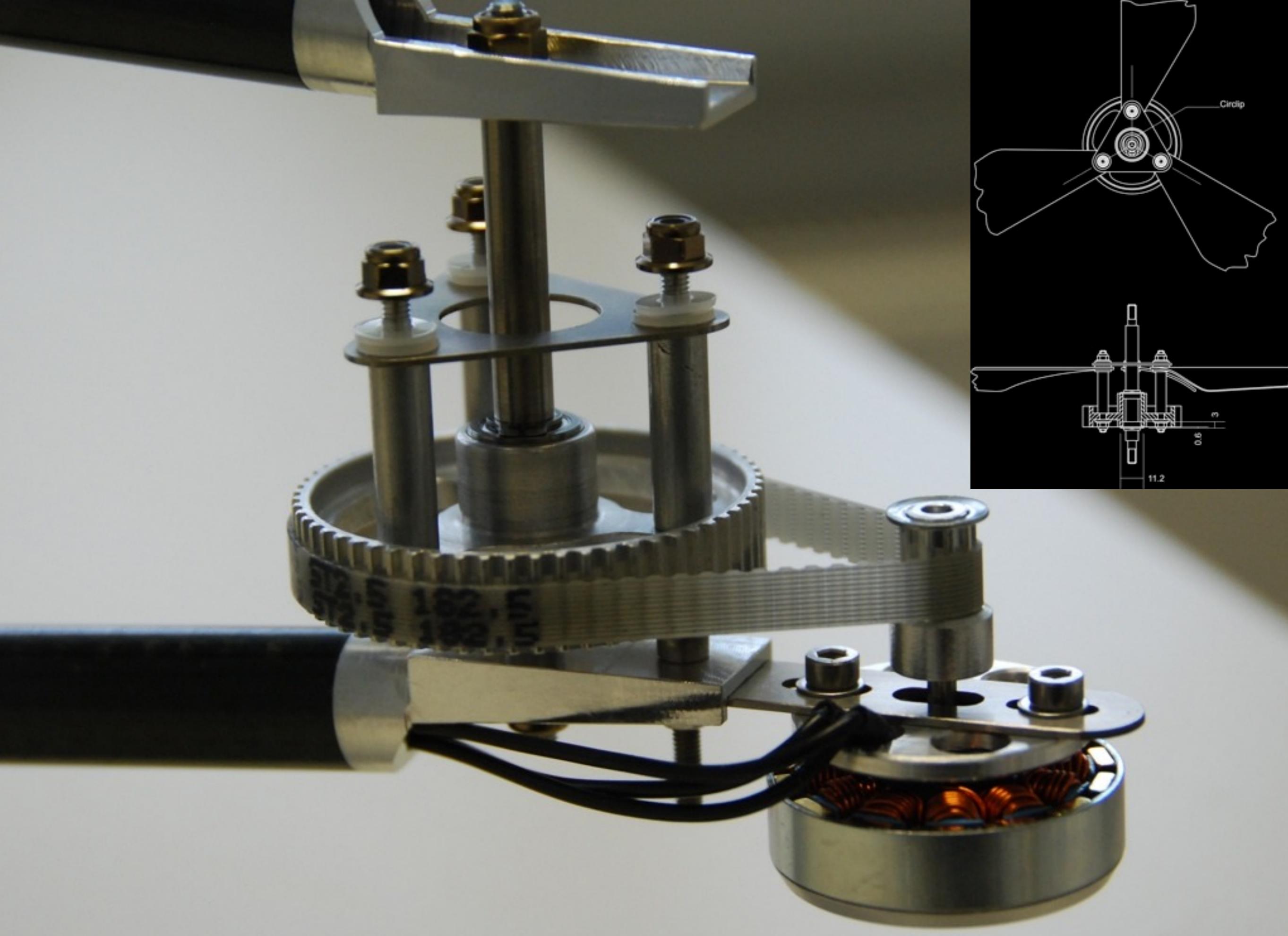








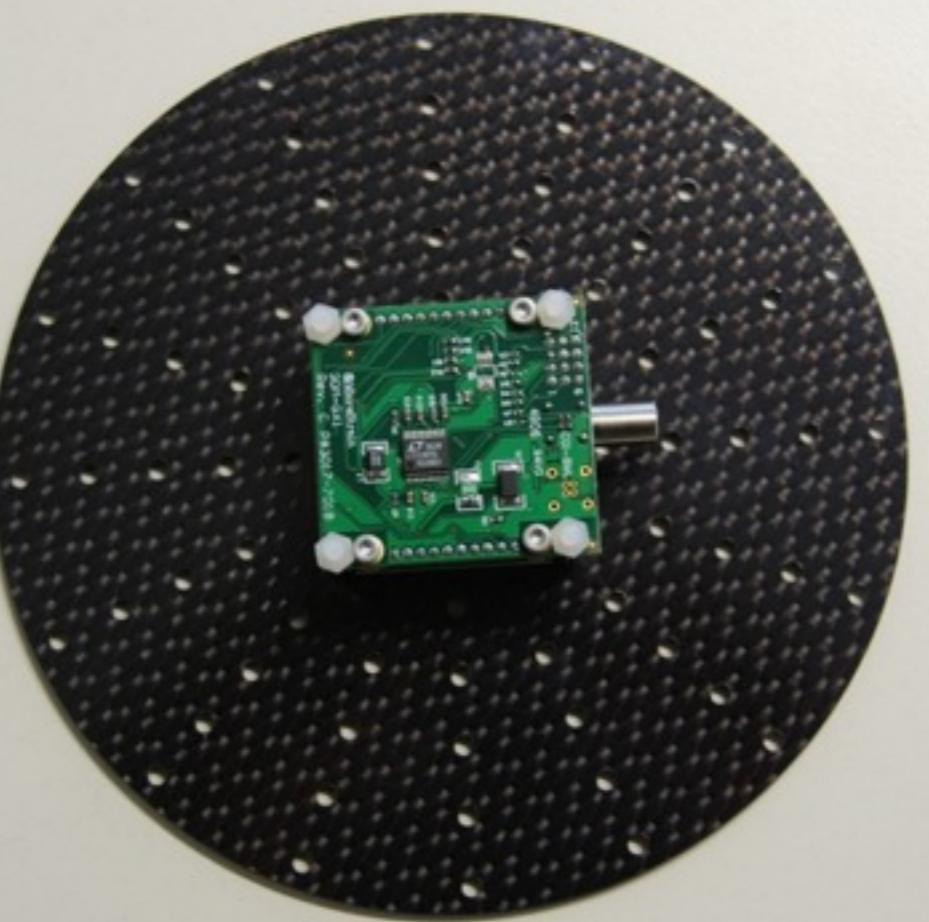




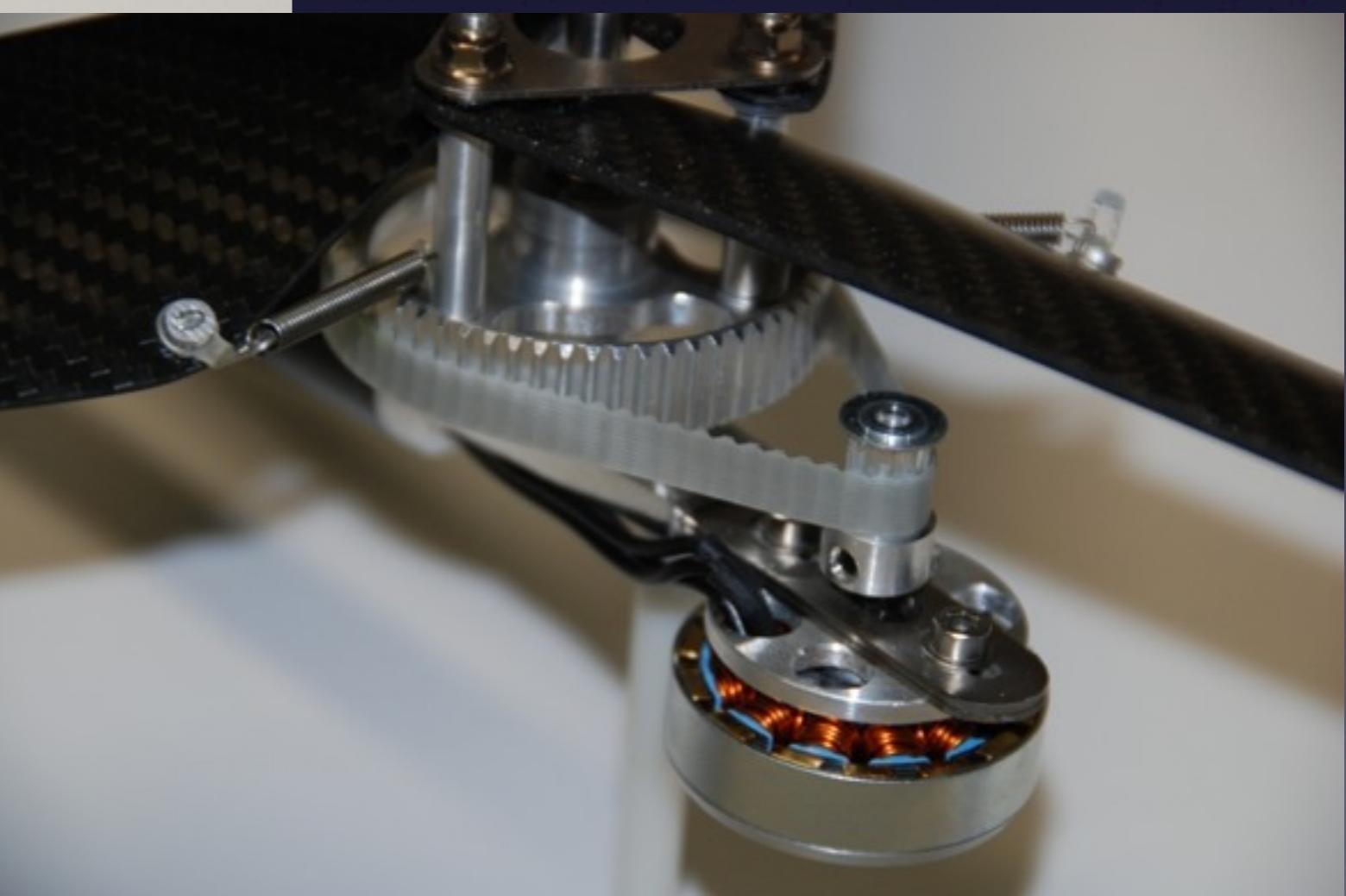


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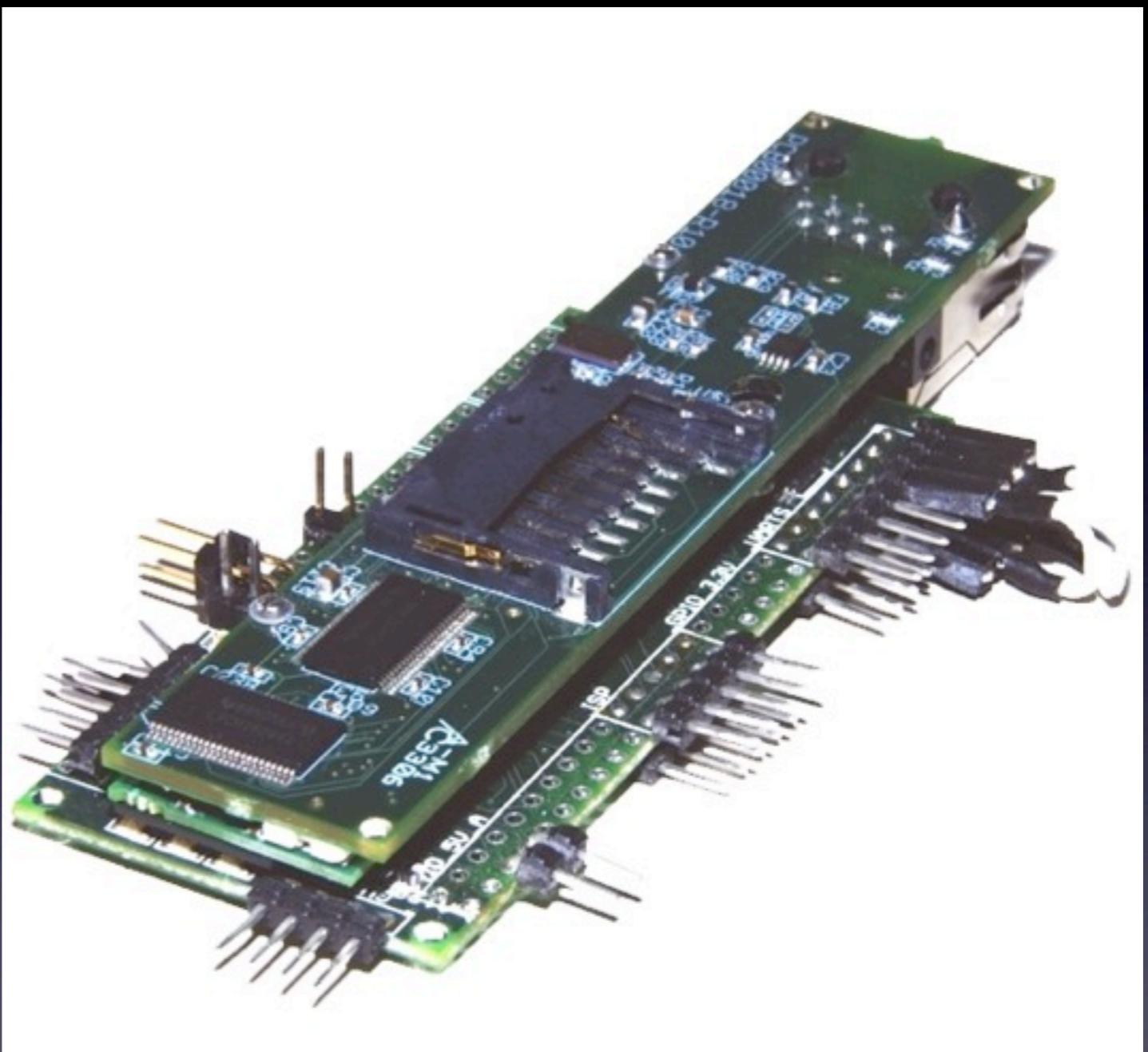


Propulsion



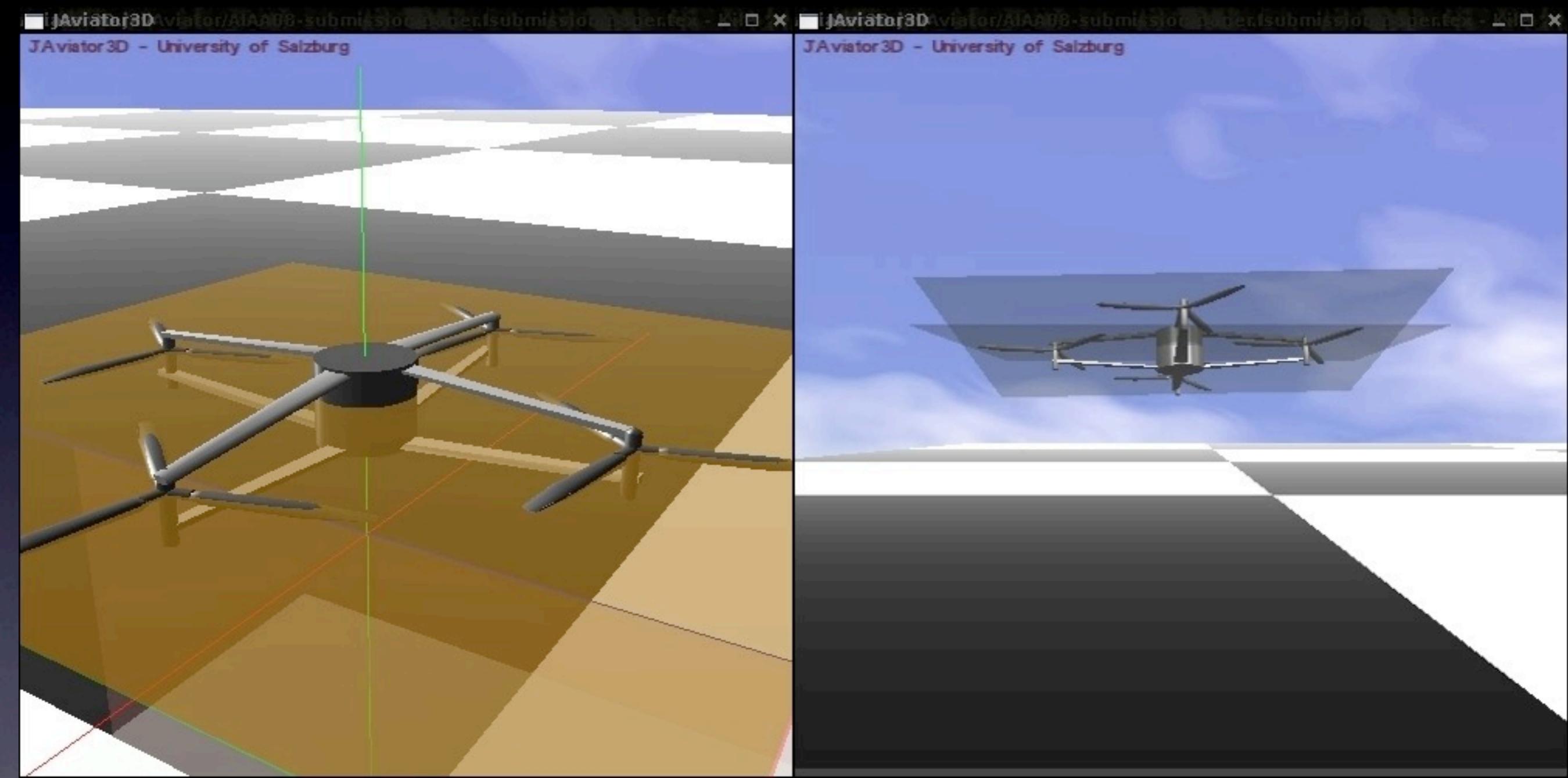
Gyro

Gumstix

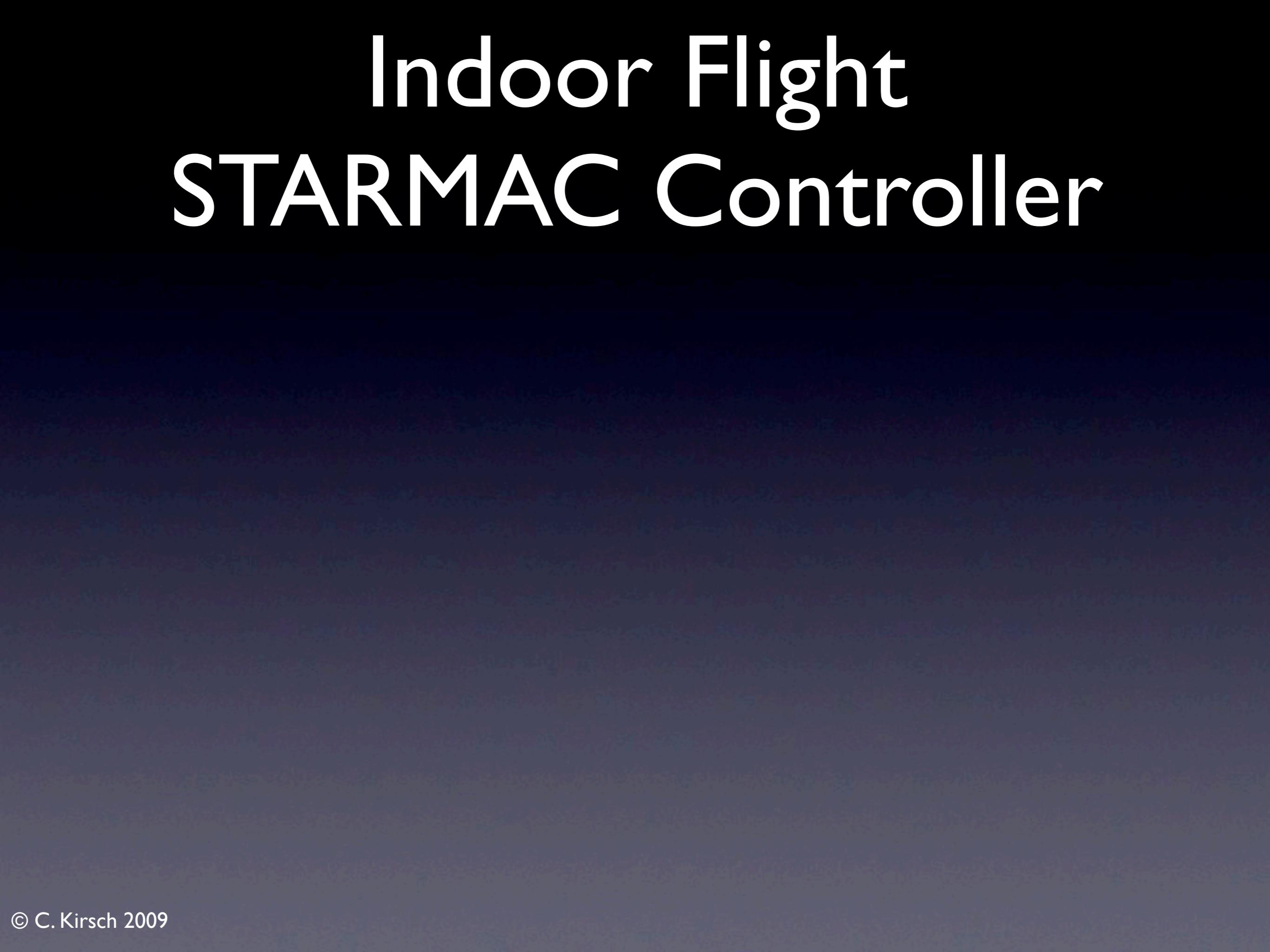


600MHz XScale, 128MB RAM, WLAN, Atmega uController

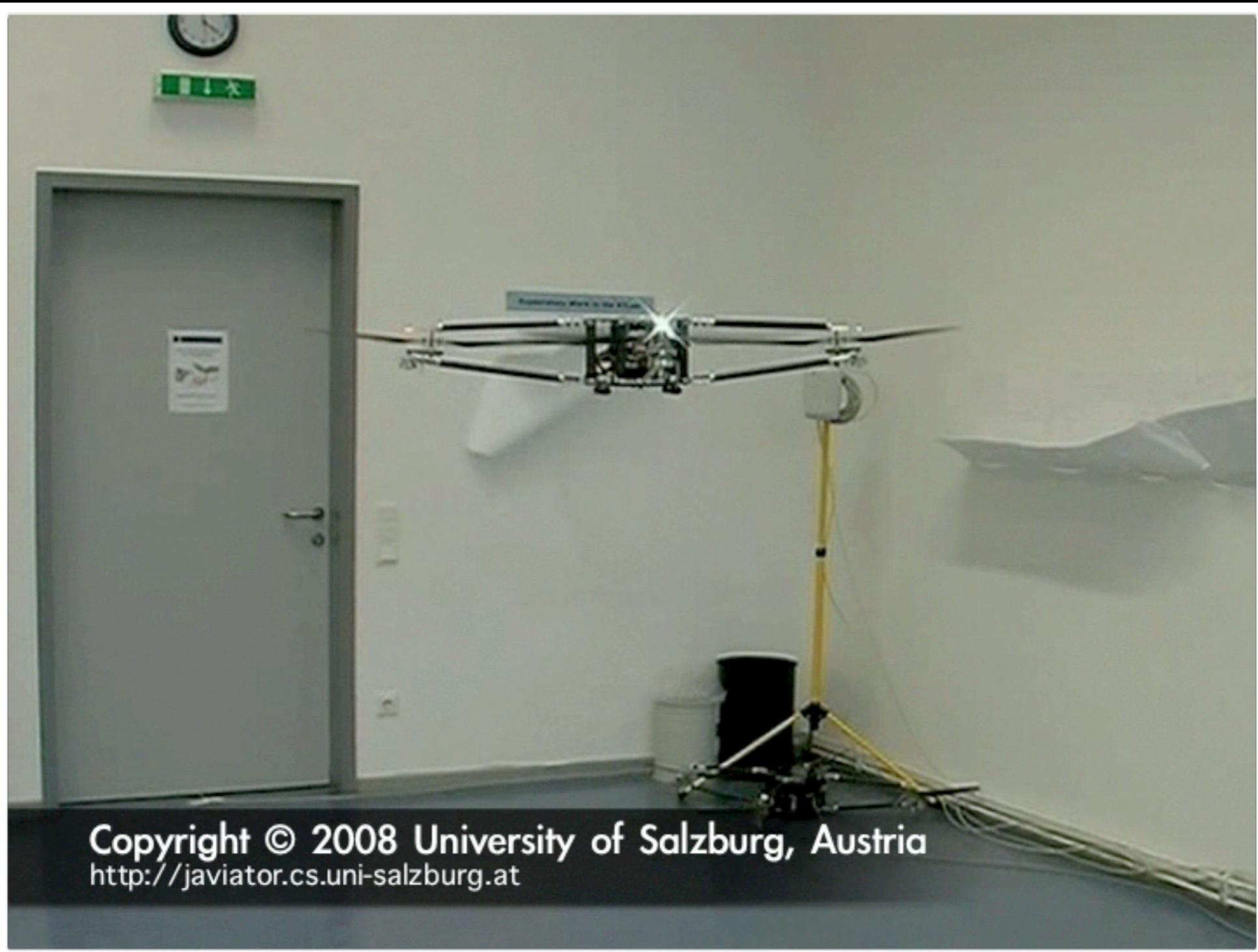




Indoor Flight STARMAC Controller



Indoor Flight STARMAC Controller



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Outdoor Flight STARMAC Controller

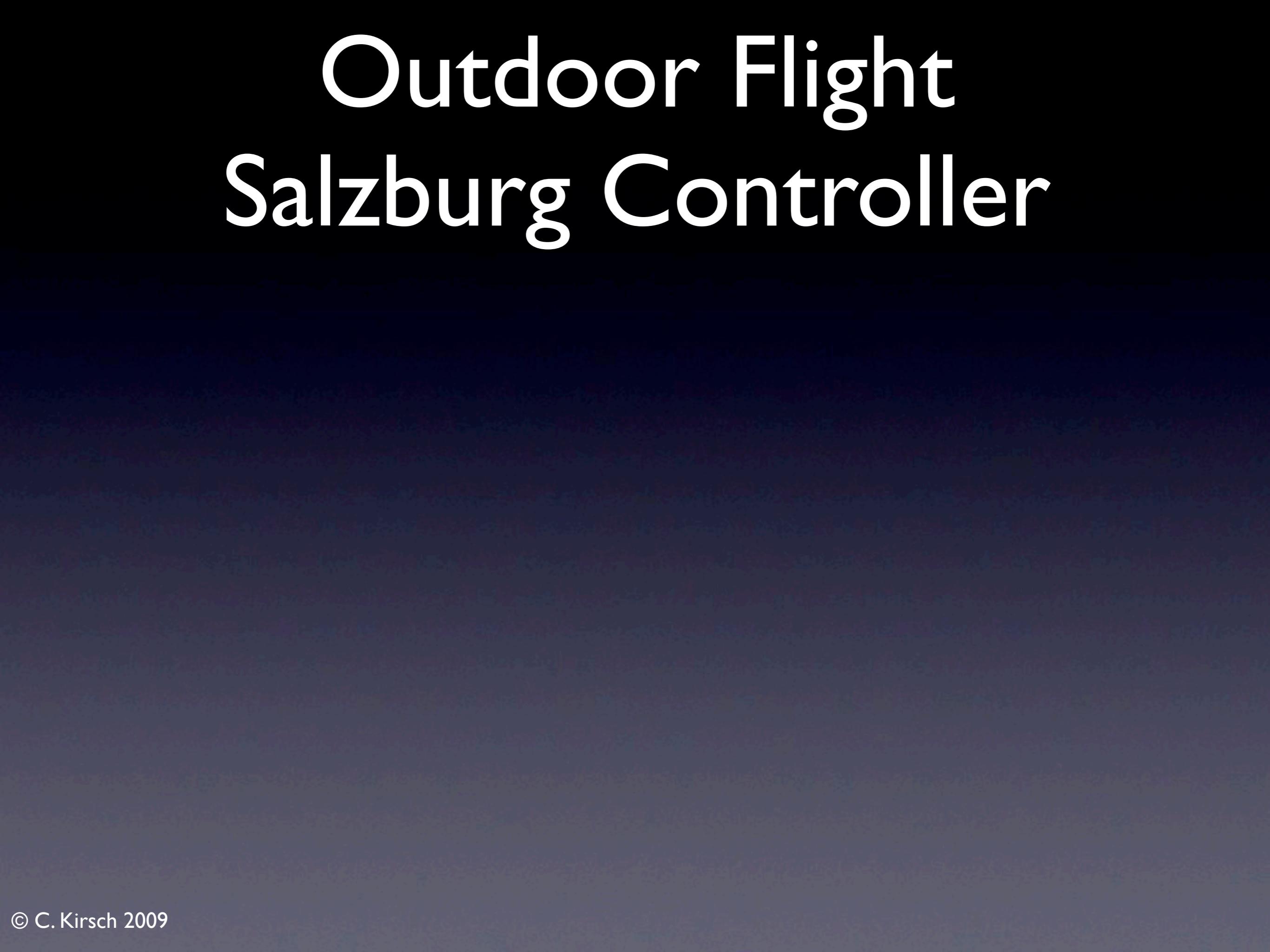


Outdoor Flight STARMAC Controller



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Outdoor Flight Salzburg Controller



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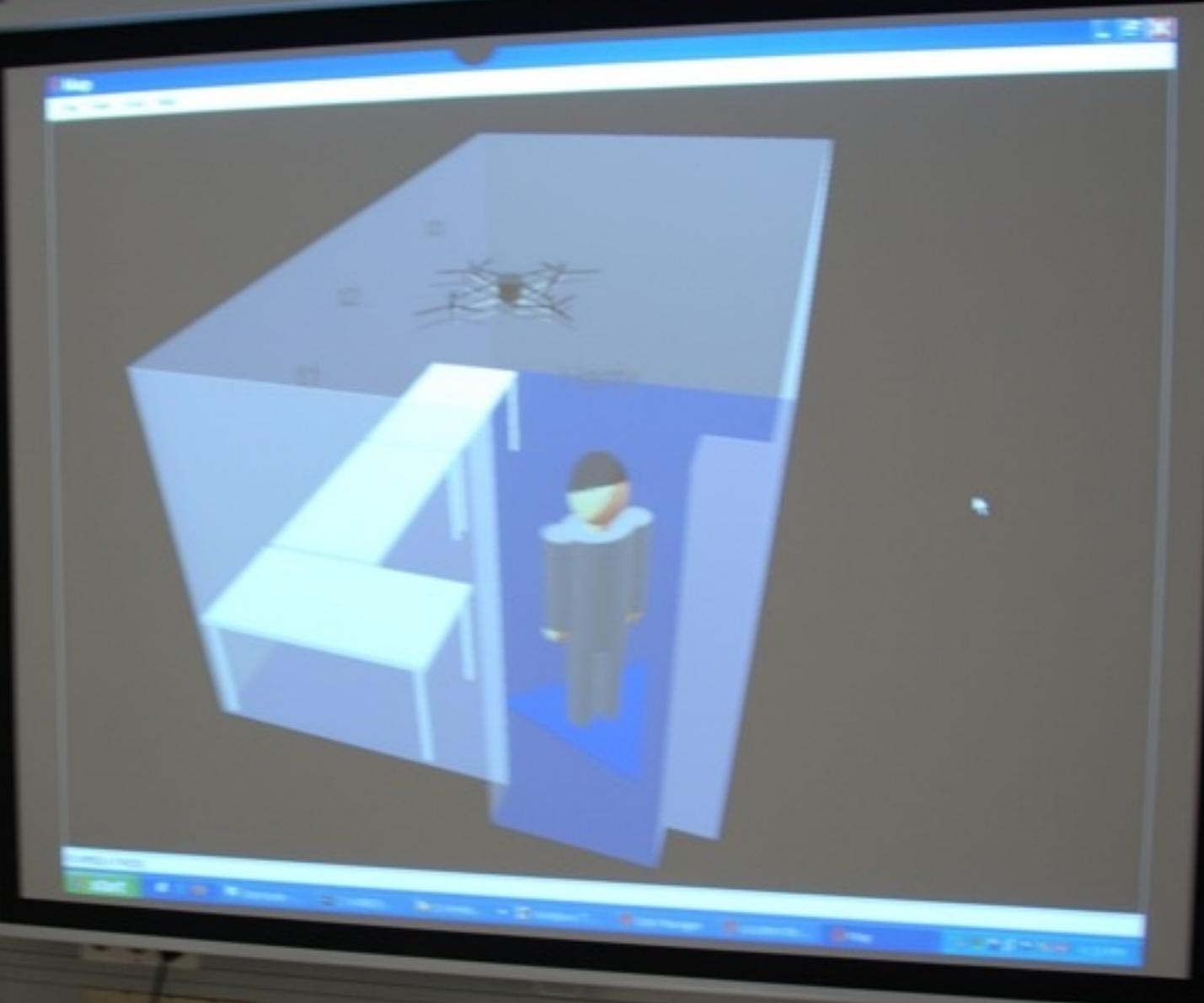
What's next?

- Autonomous single-vehicle flights
 - position controller
 - waypoint controller

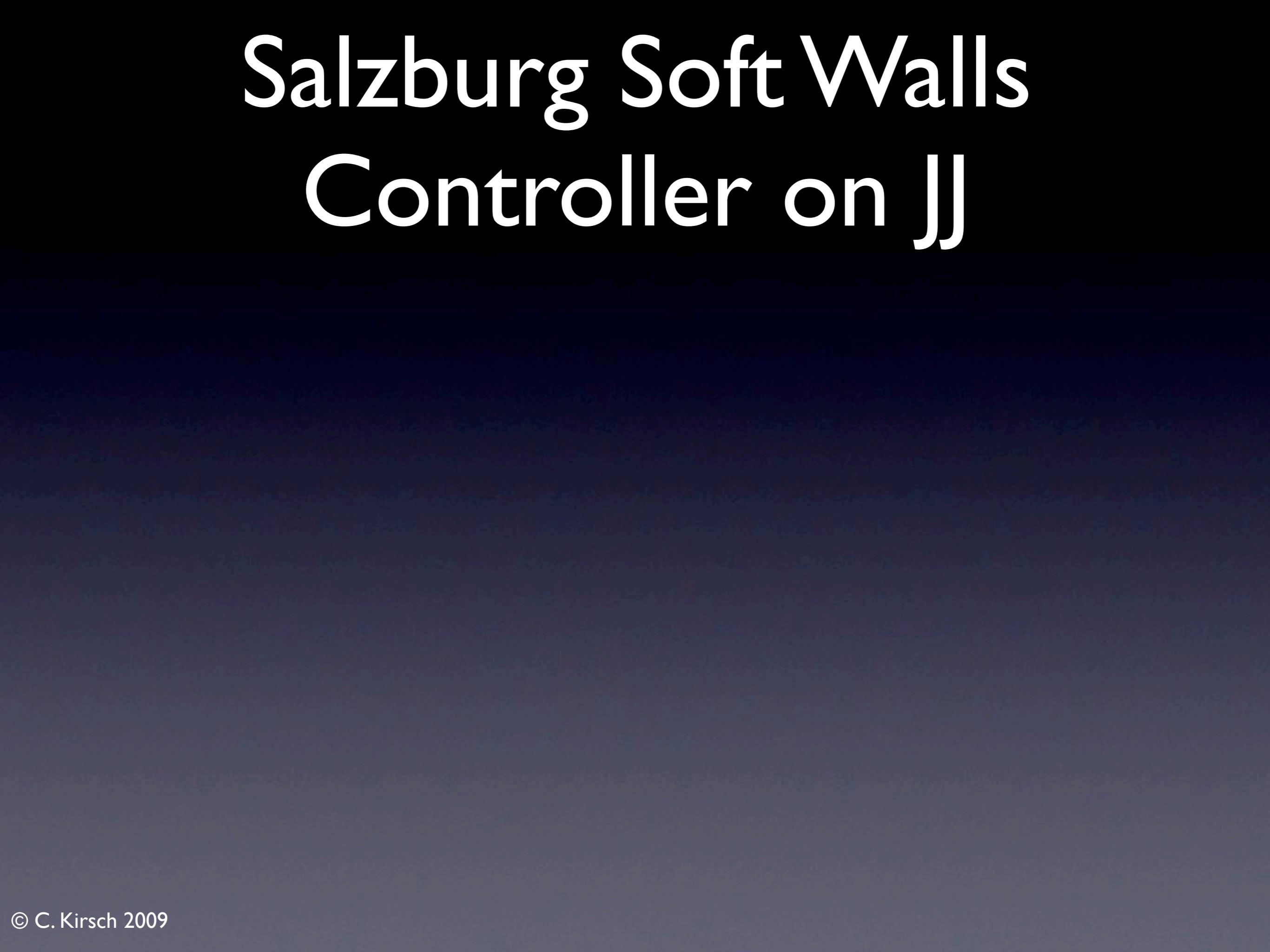
What's next?

- Autonomous single-vehicle flights
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 - waypoint controller
- Autonomous multi-vehicle flights
 - mission controller

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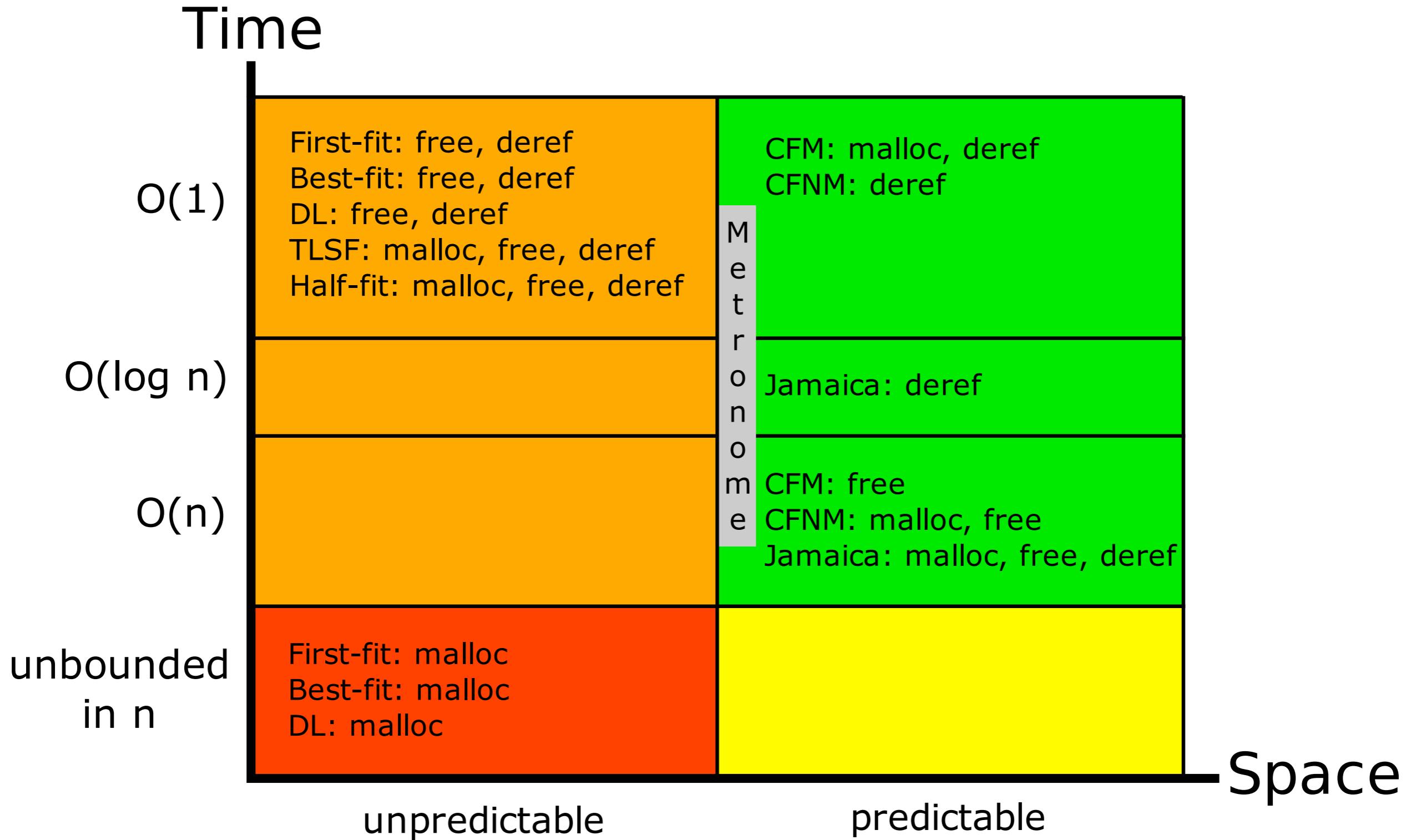
Salzburg Soft Walls Controller on JJ

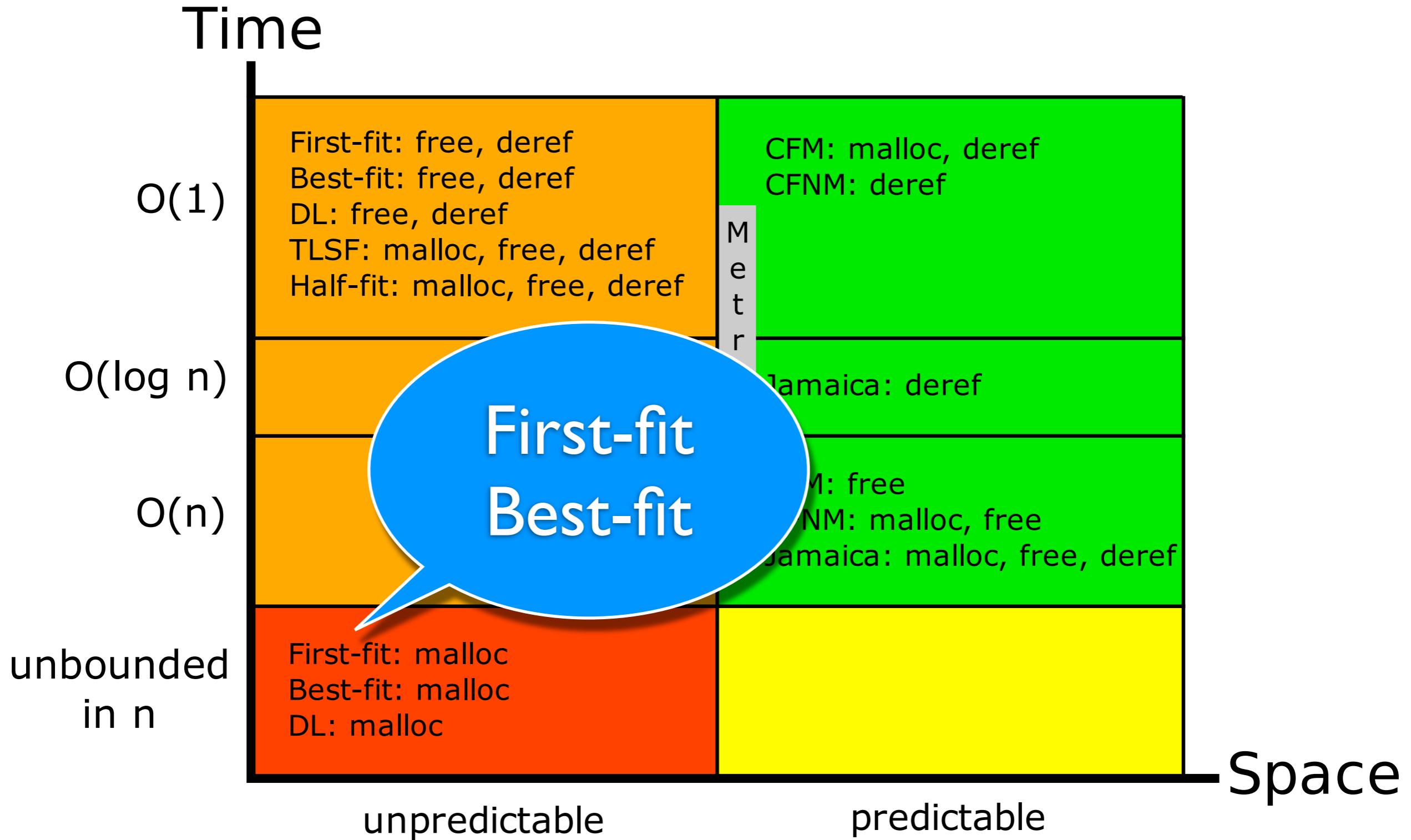


Salzburg Soft Walls Controller on JJ

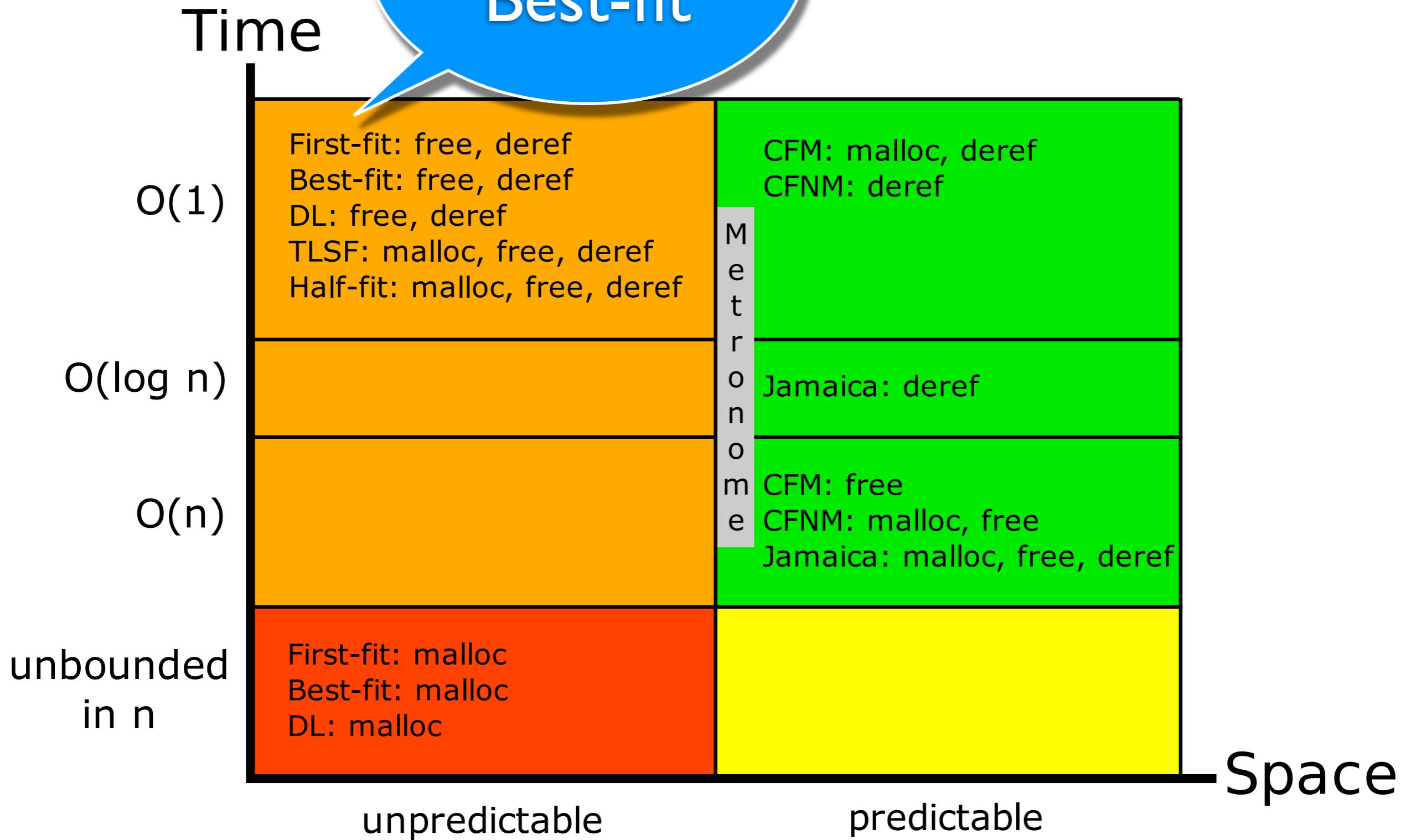


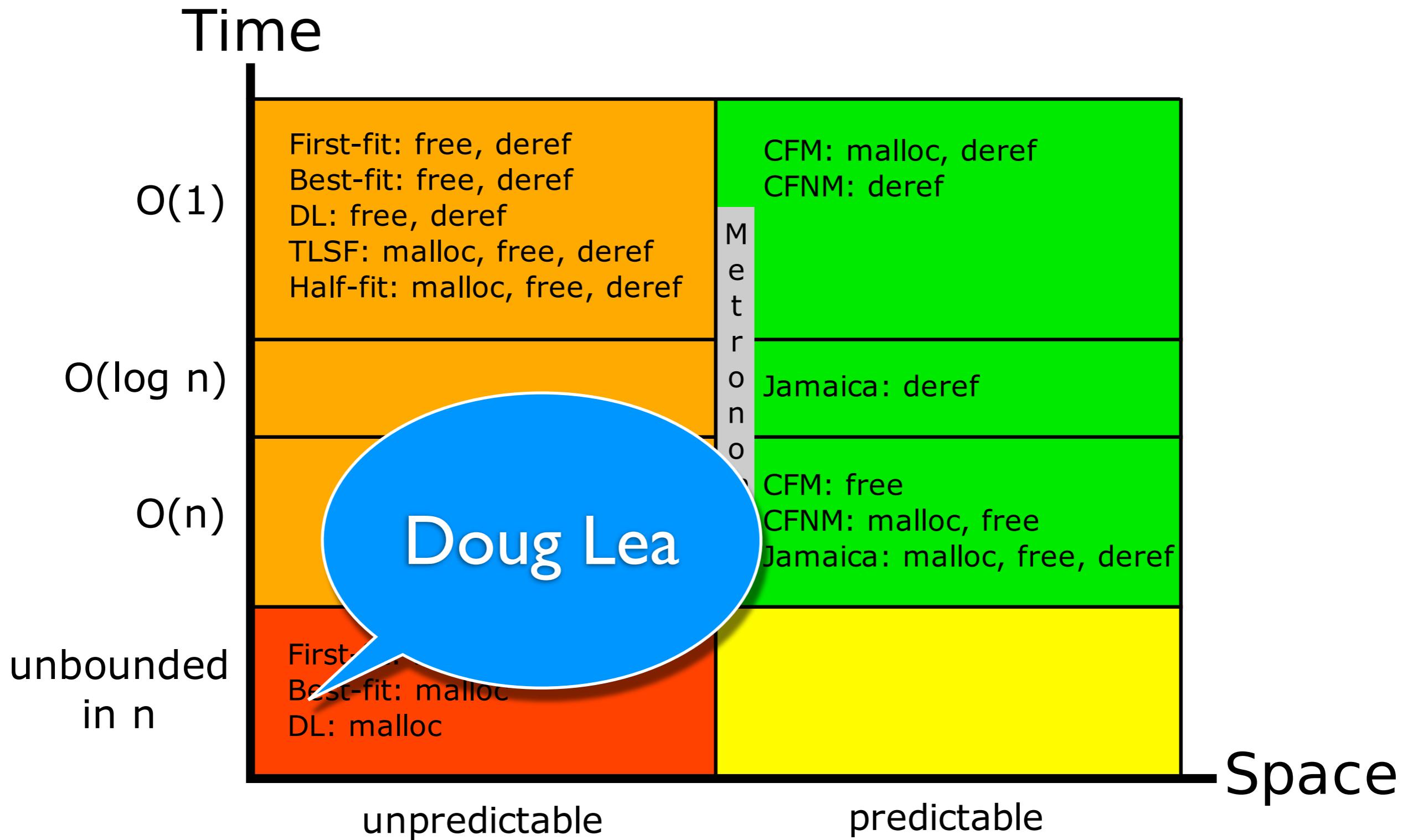
Memory Management Systems Overview

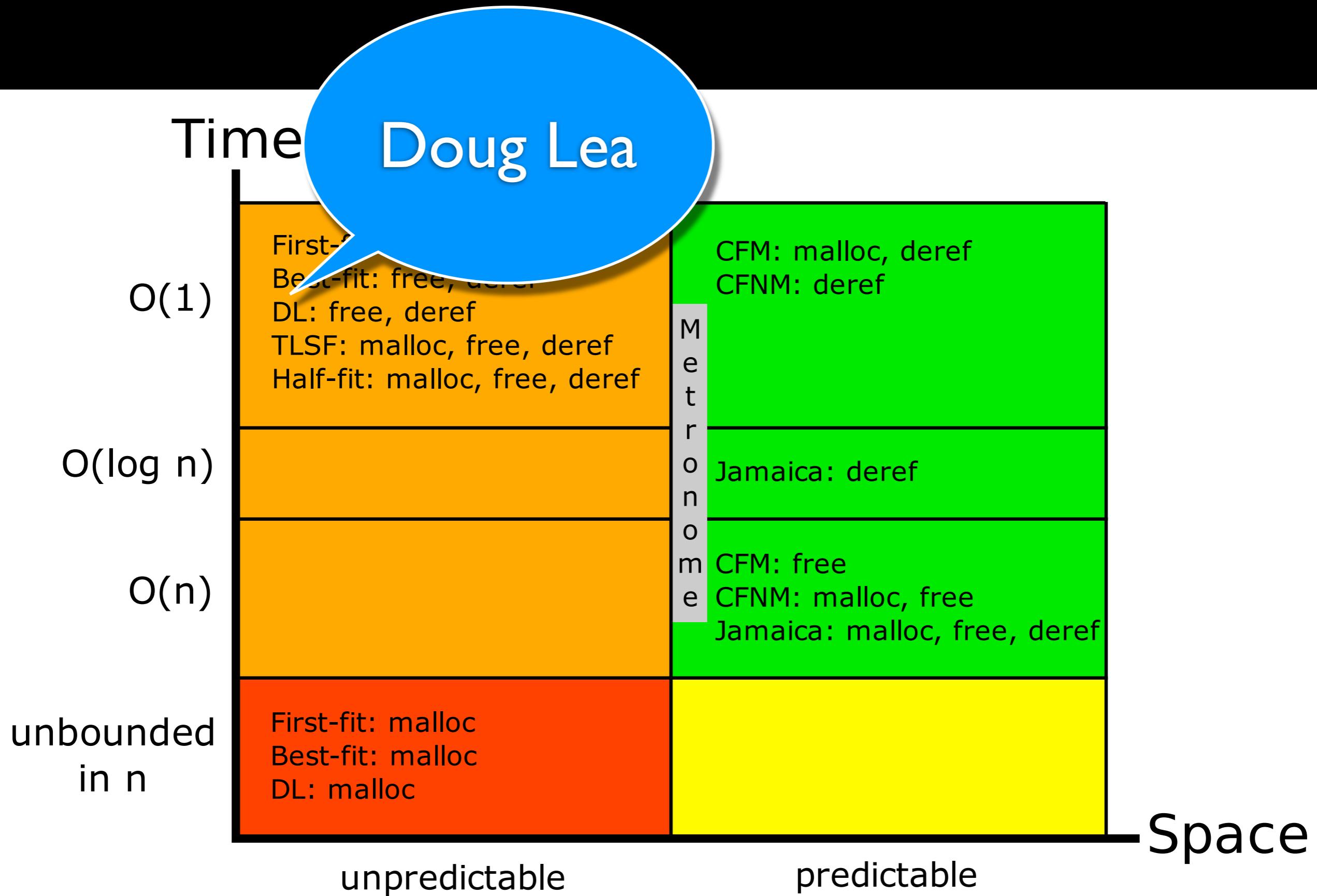


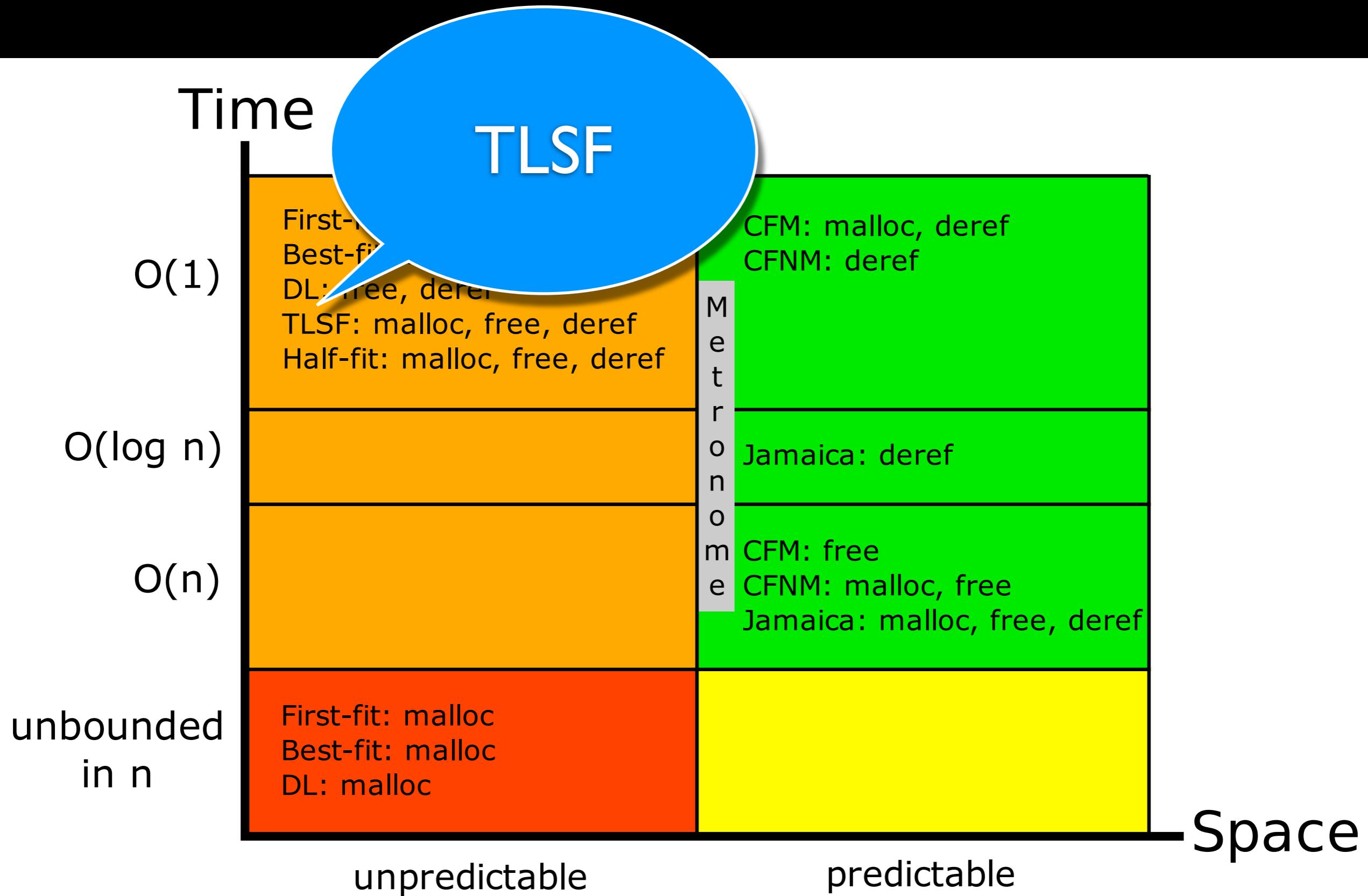


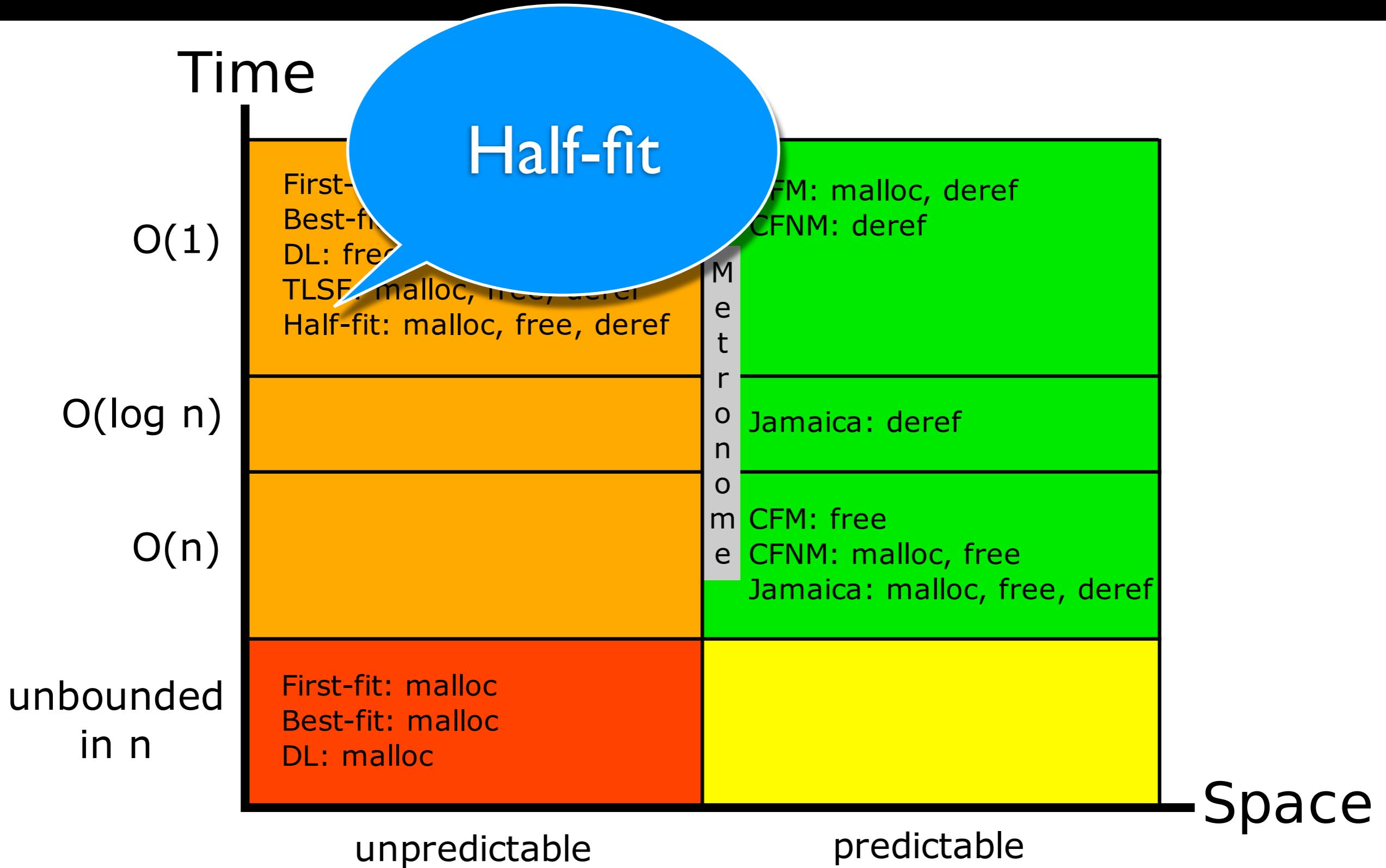
First-fit Best-fit

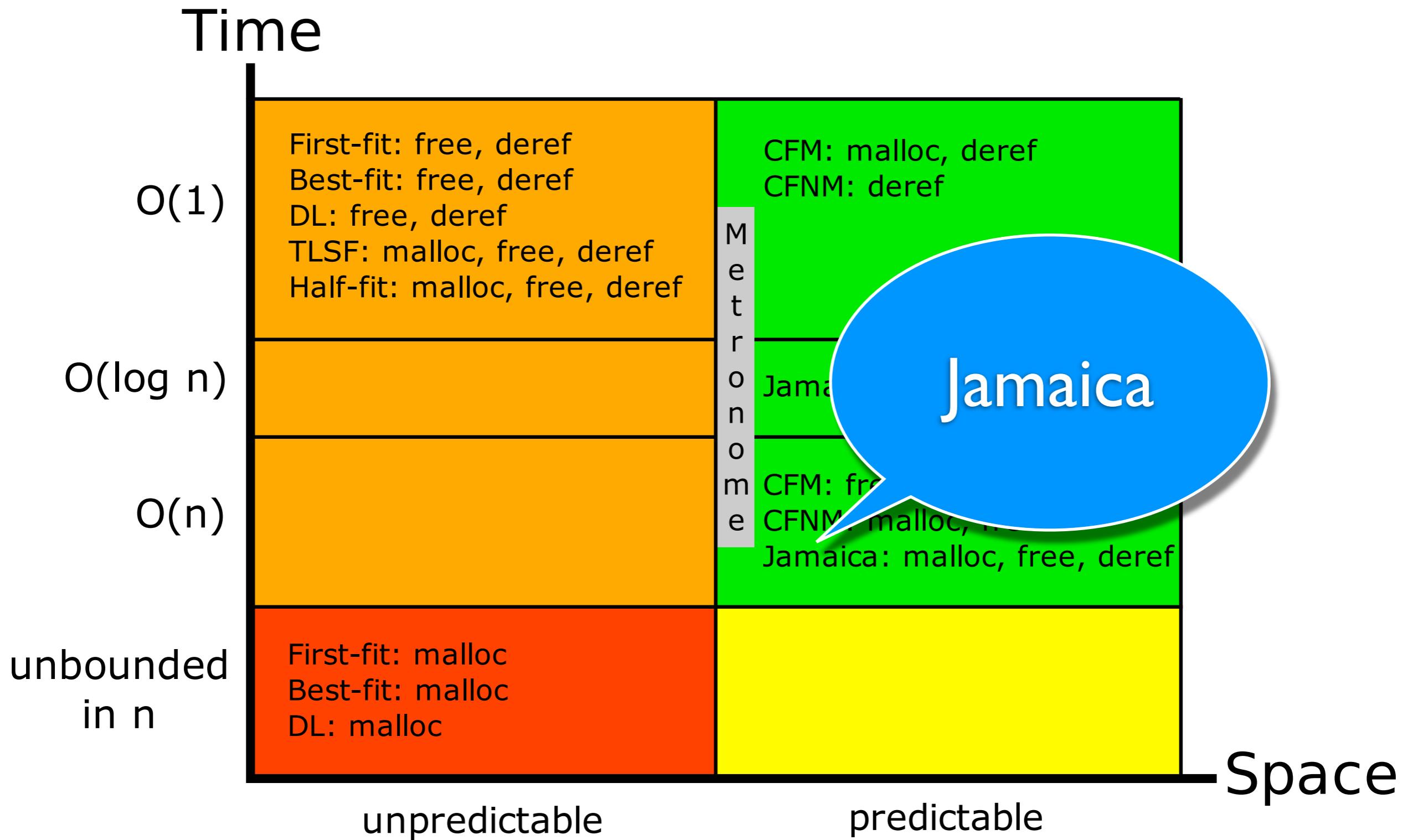


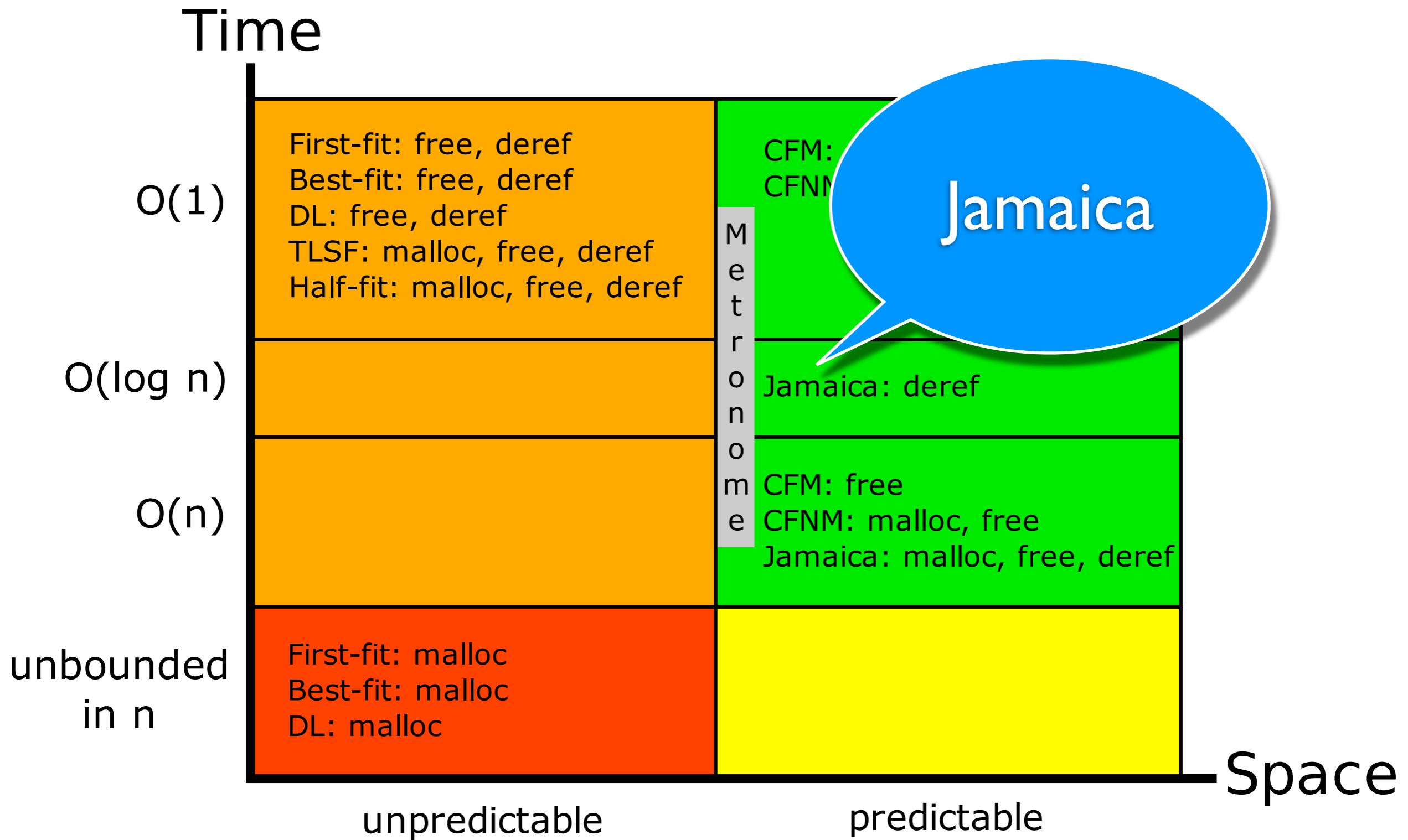




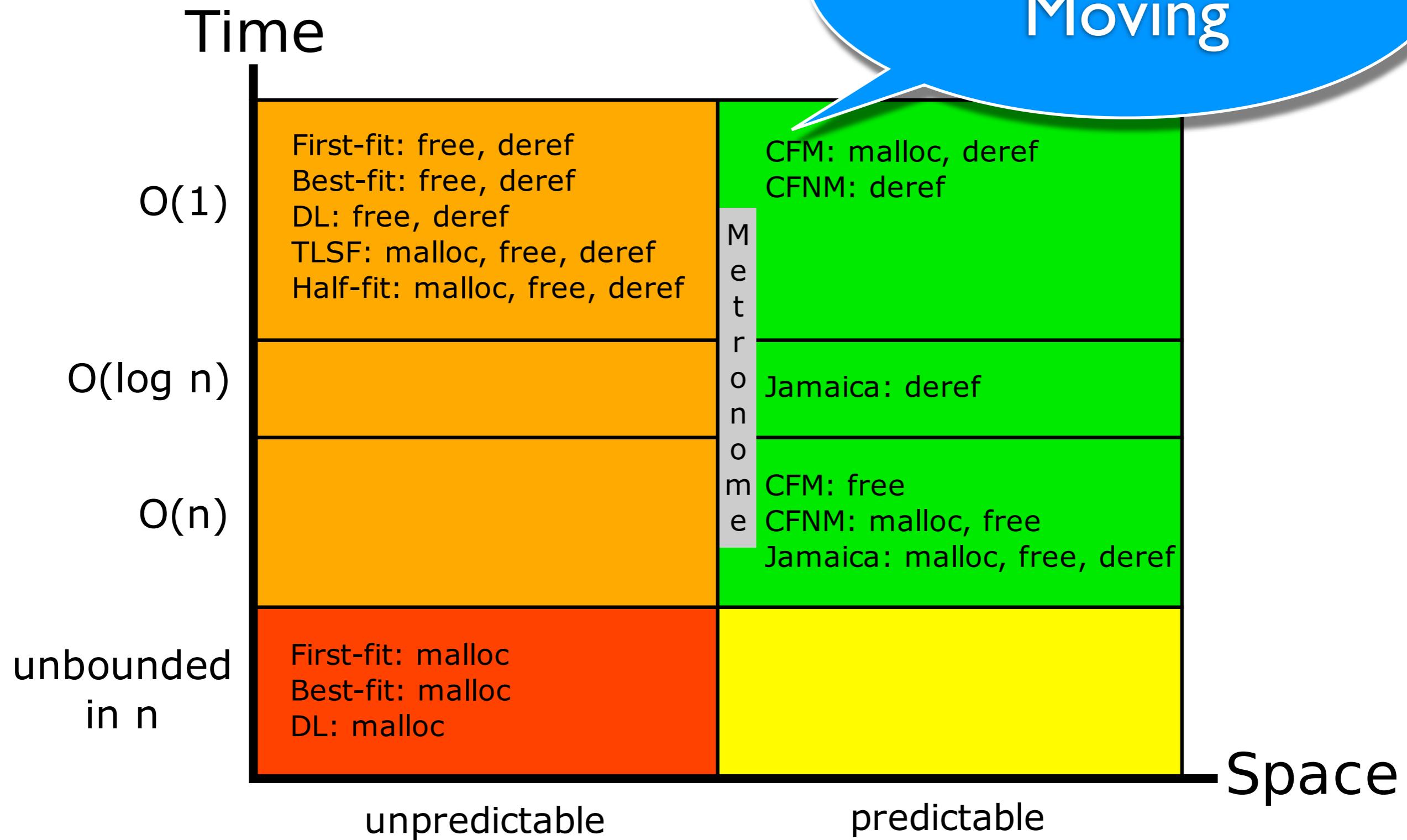


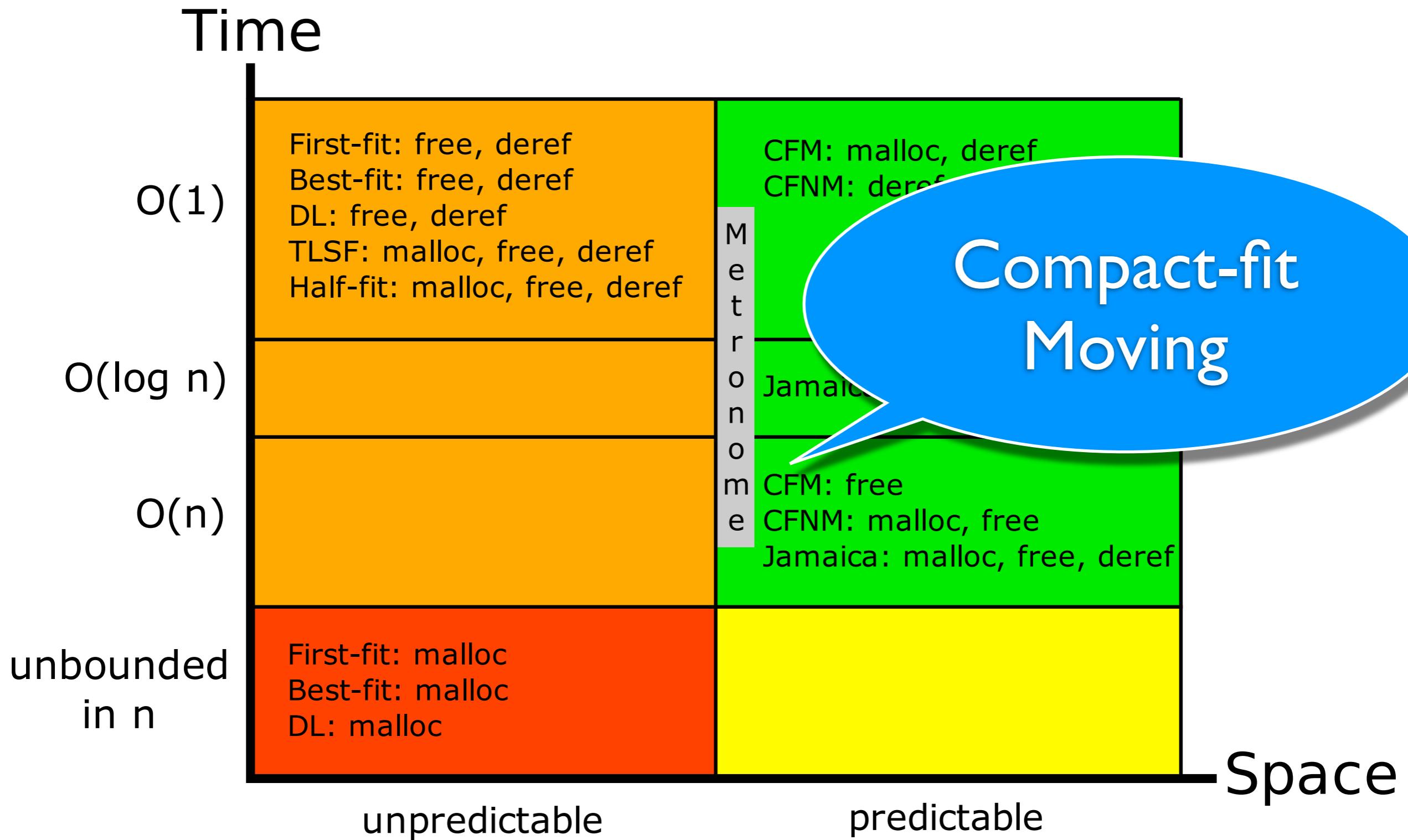


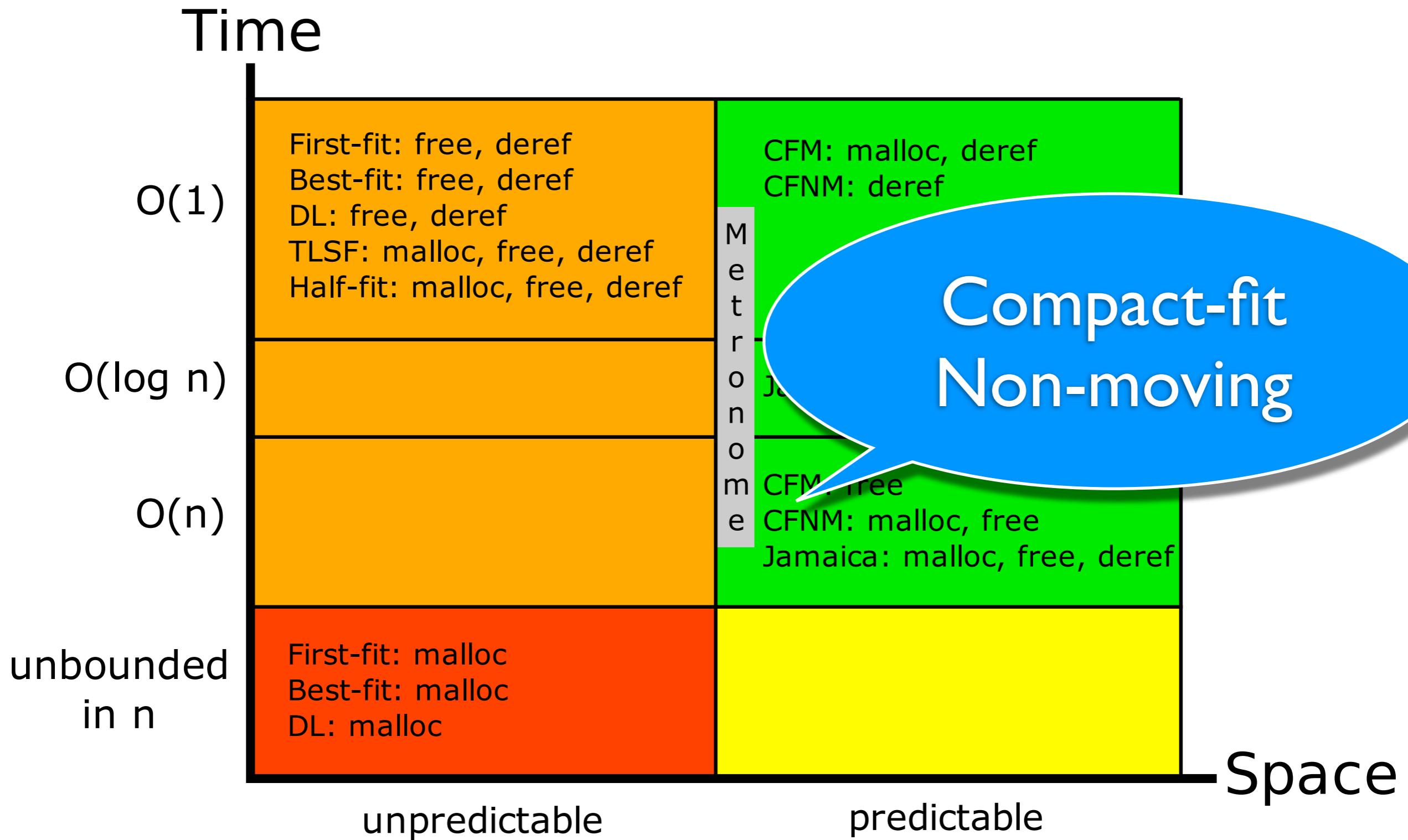




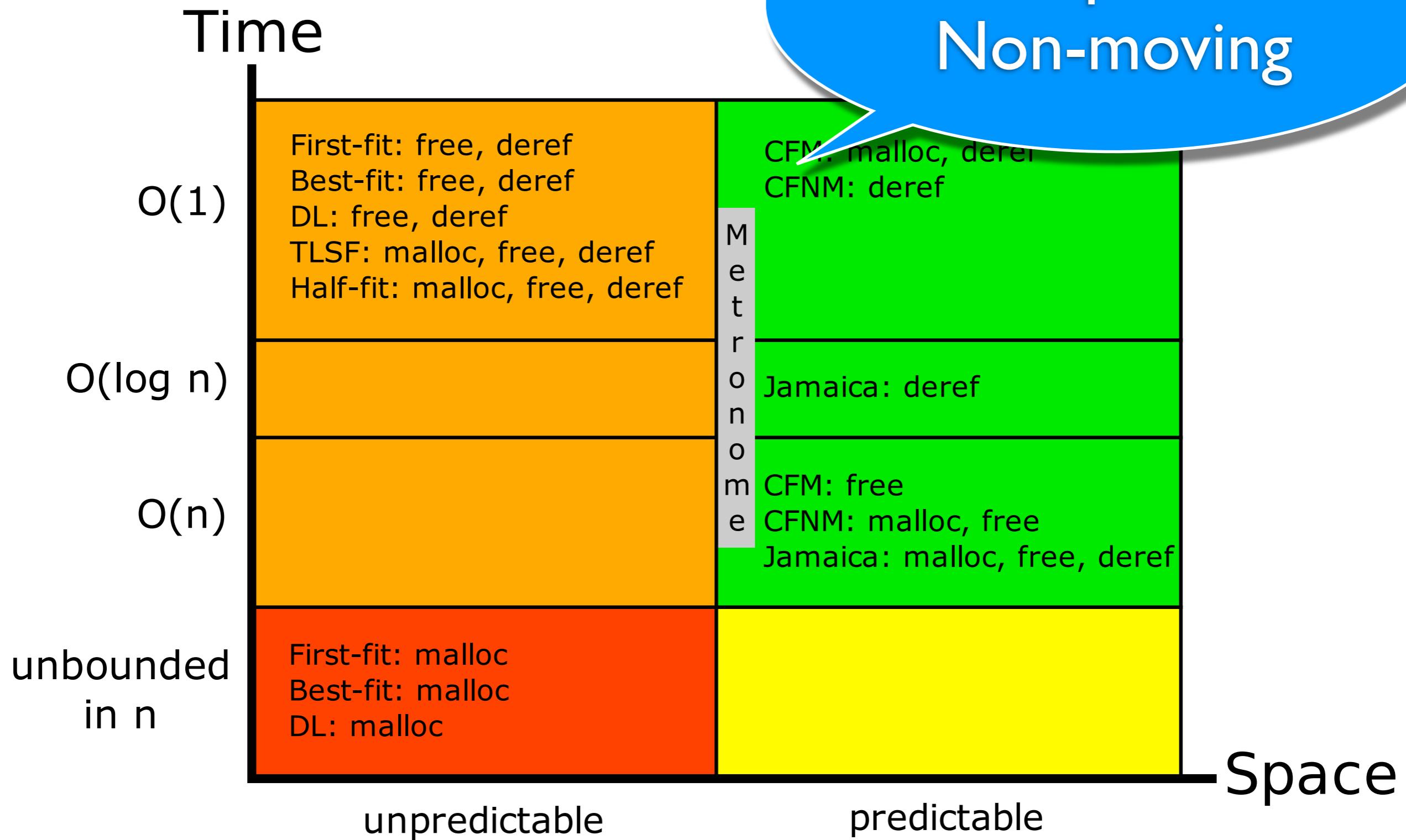
Compact-fit Moving



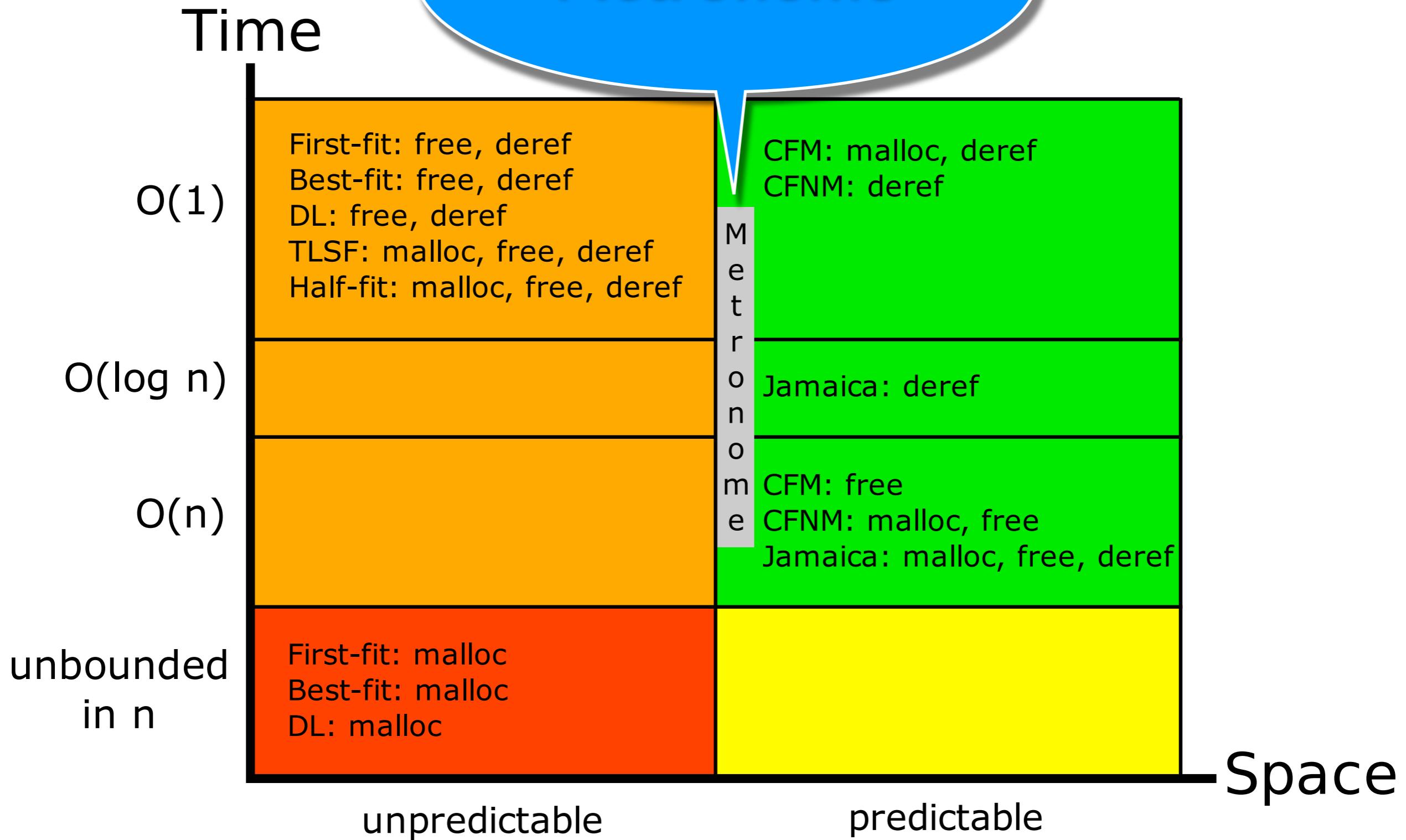




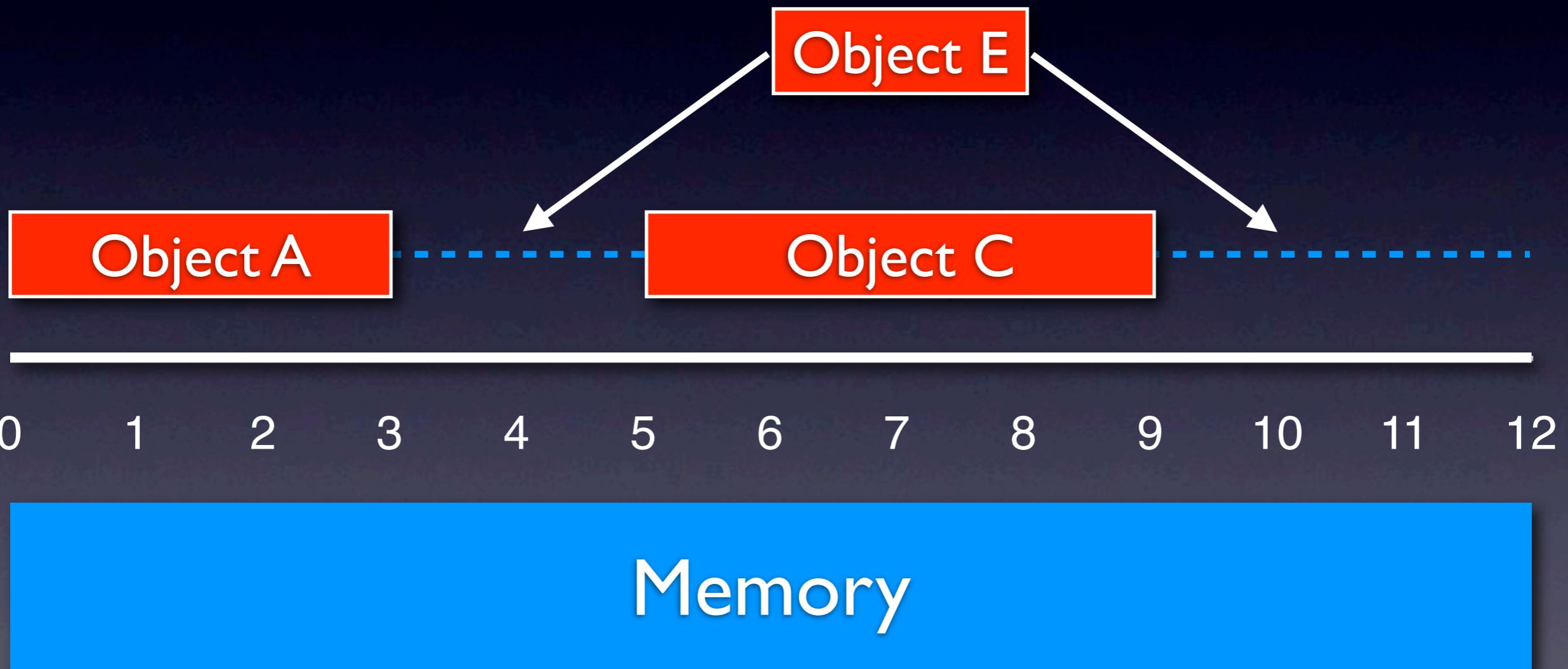
Compact-fit Non-moving



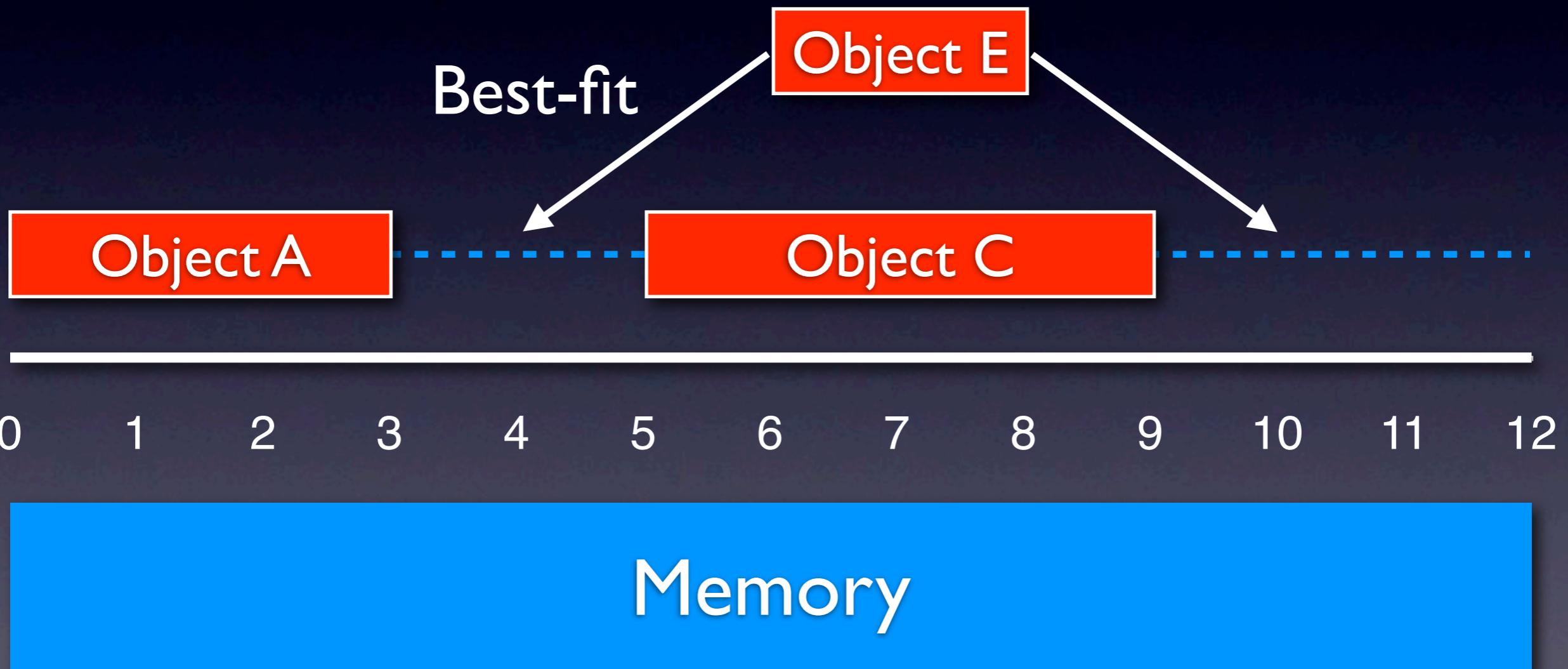
Metronome



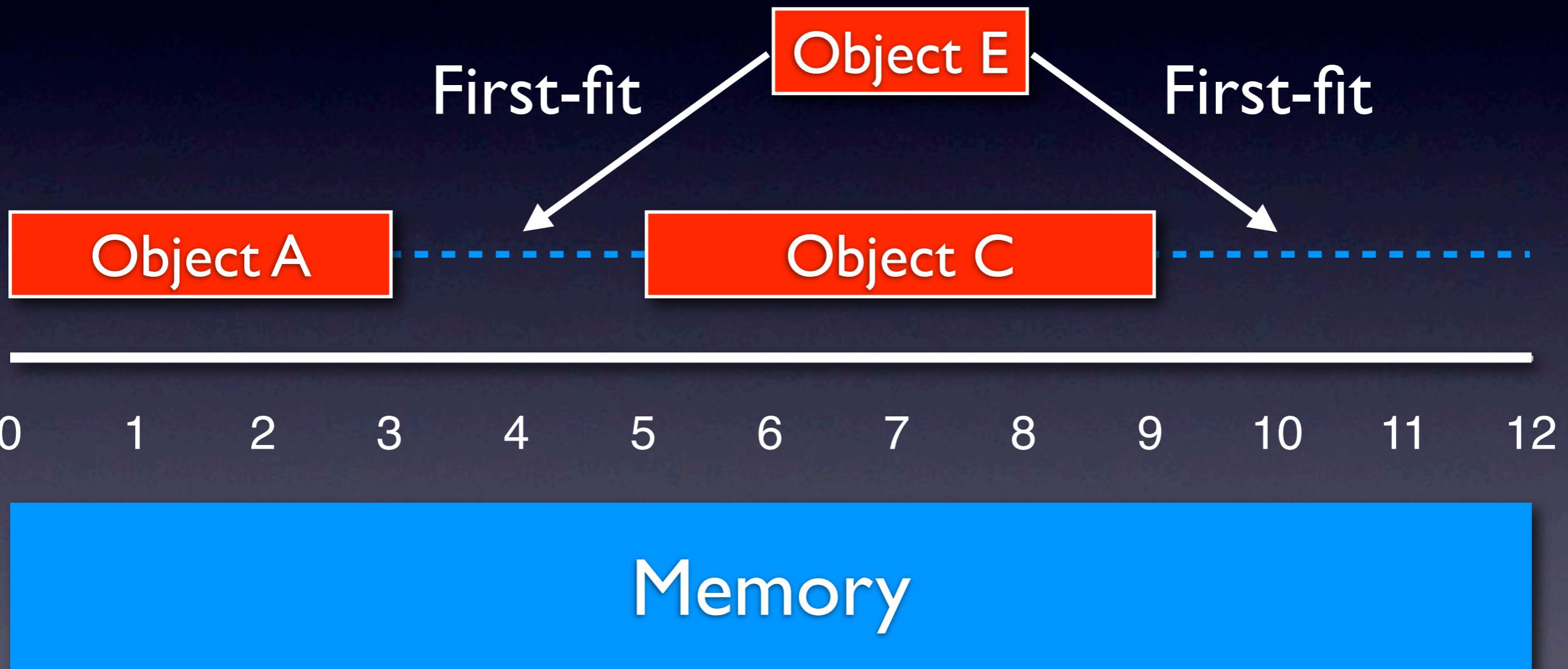
Best-fit versus First-fit



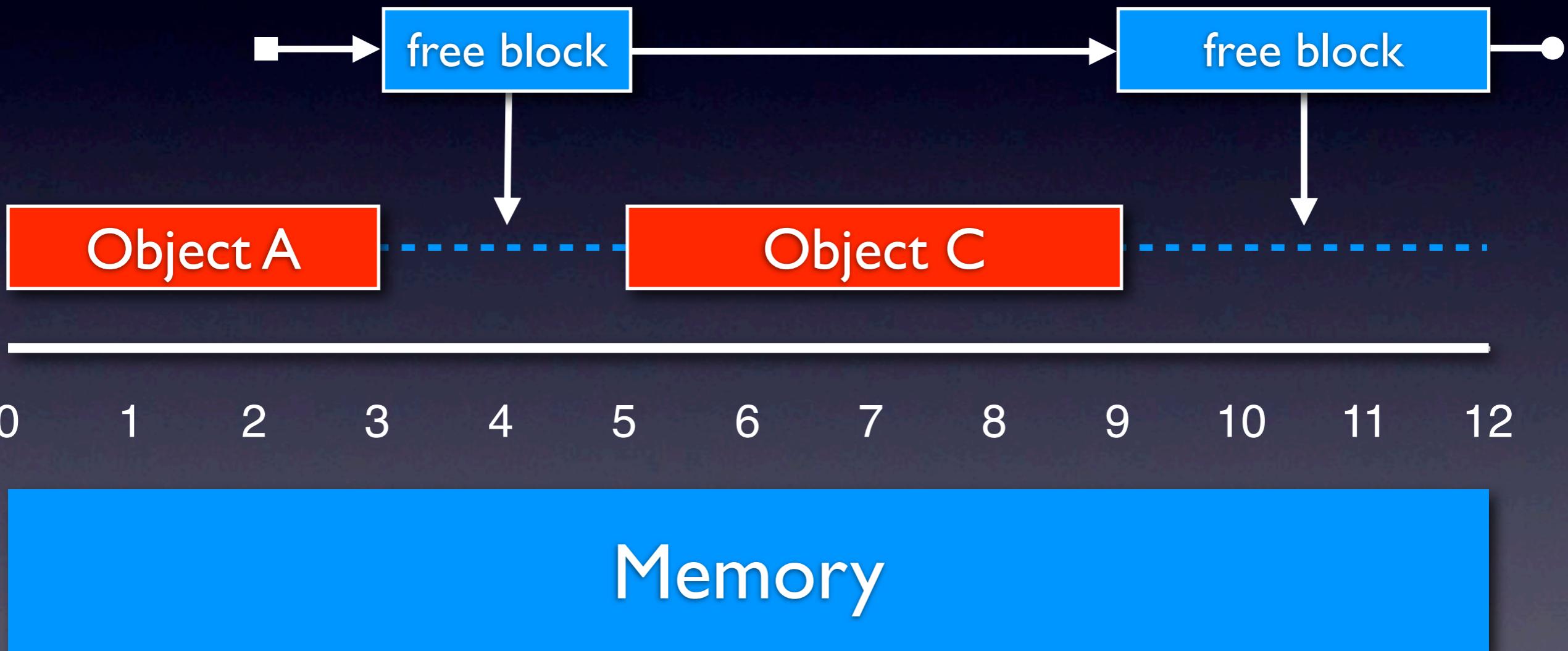
Best-fit versus First-fit



Best-fit versus First-fit



Free List



Best-fit, First-fit Complexity

- Allocation:
 - ▶ `malloc` may take time proportional to heap size

Best-fit, First-fit Complexity

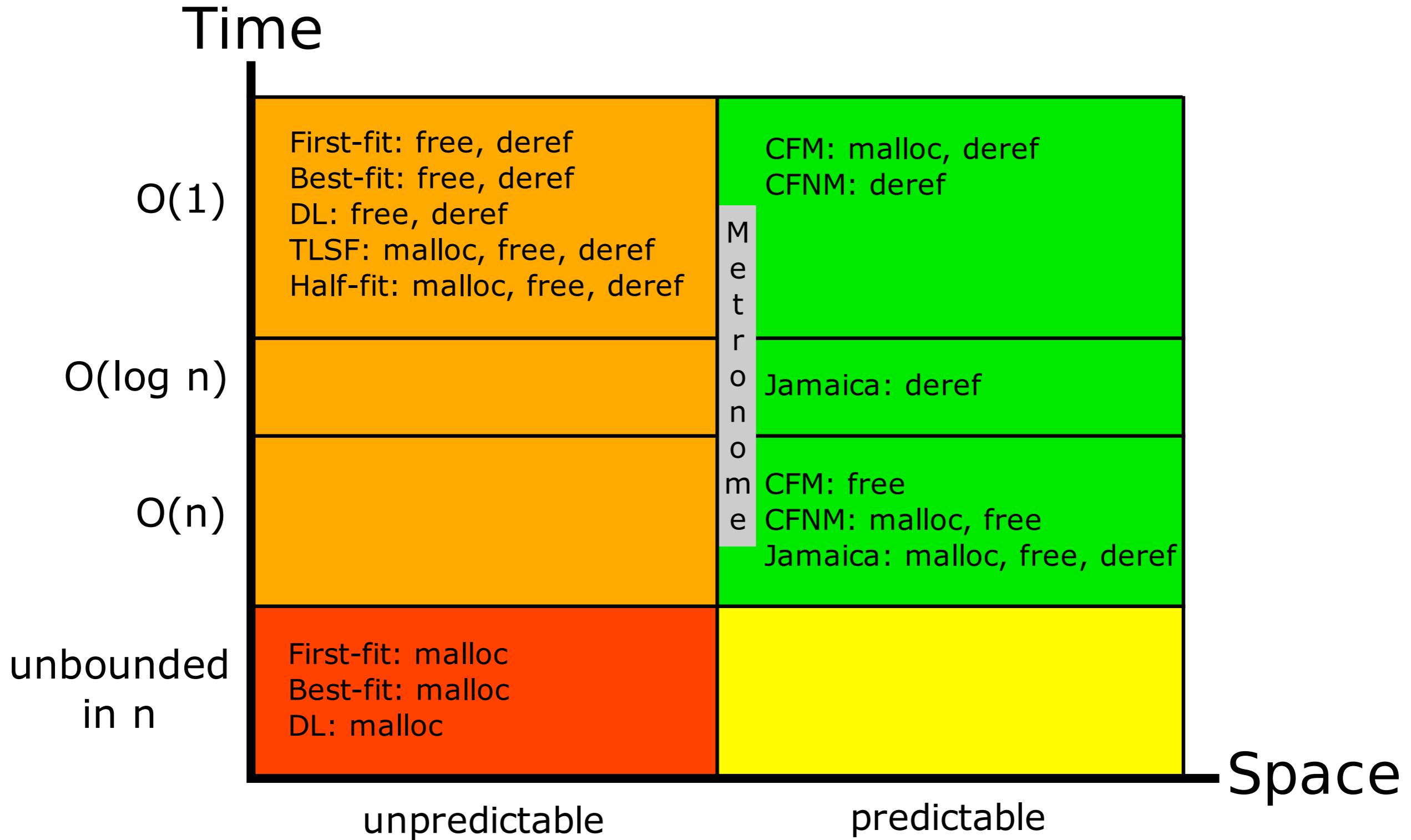
- Allocation:
 - ▶ `malloc` may take time proportional to heap size
- Deallocation:
 - ▶ `free` takes constant time

Best-fit, First-fit Complexity

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- Allocation:
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- Access:
 - ▶ `read` and `write` take constant time
- Unpredictable fragmentation



Free List Operations

- Select:
 - ▶ `malloc`

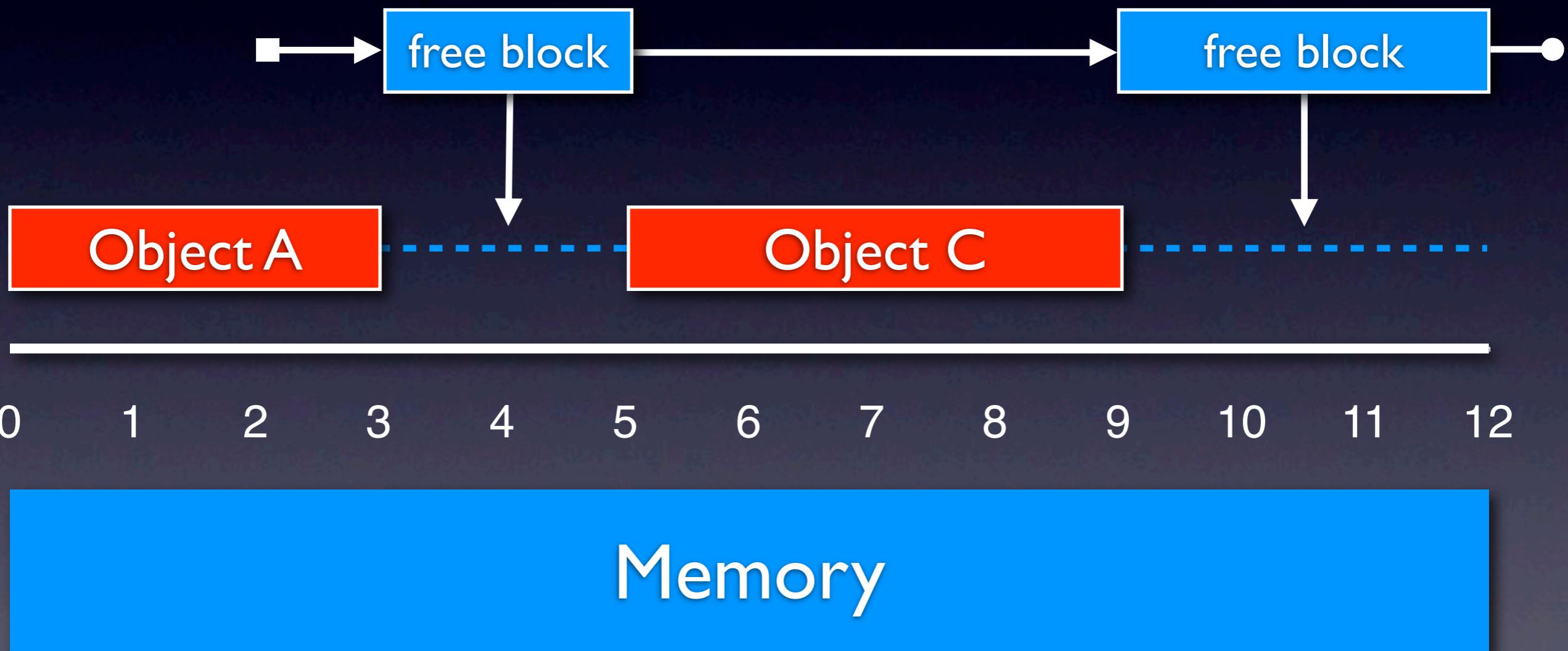
Free List Operations

- Select:
 - ▶ `malloc`
- Insert:
 - ▶ `free`

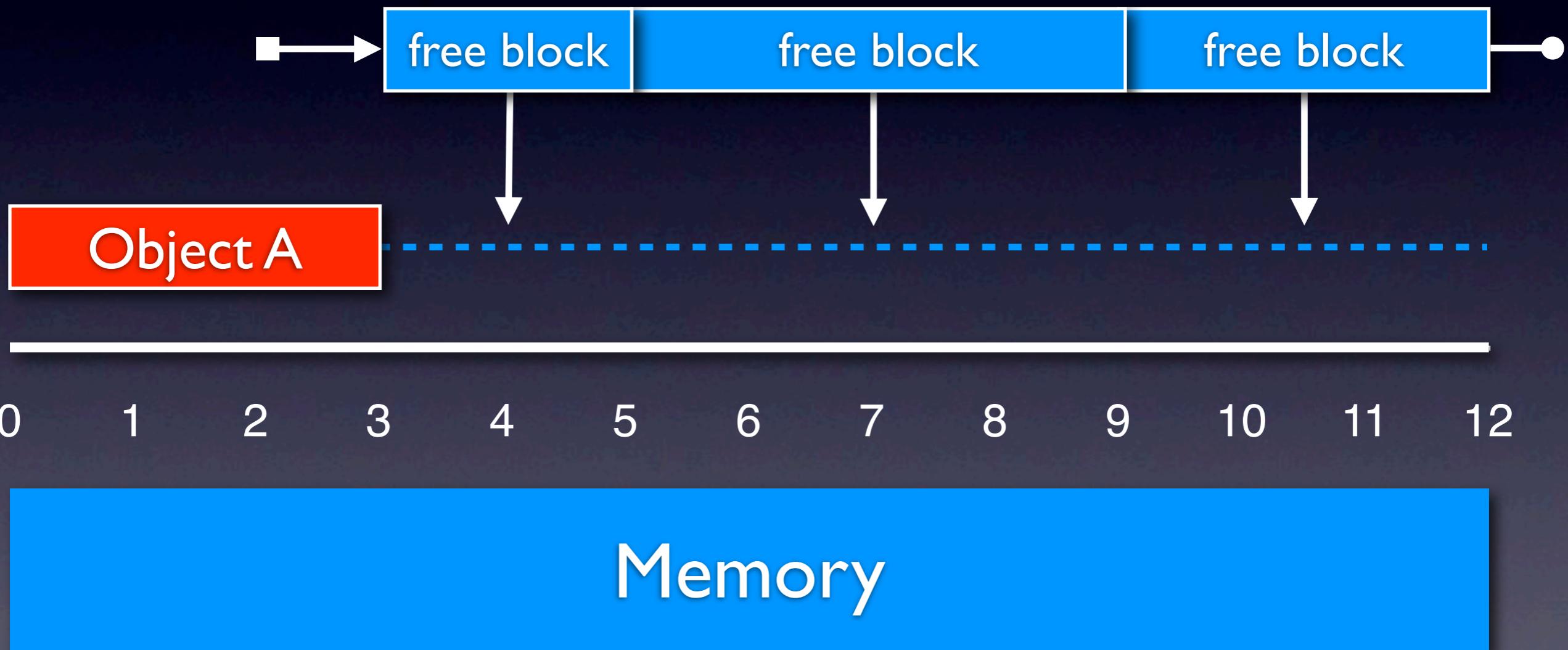
Free List Operations

- Select:
 - ▶ `malloc`
- Insert:
 - ▶ `free`
- Delete:
 - ▶ `coalescing`

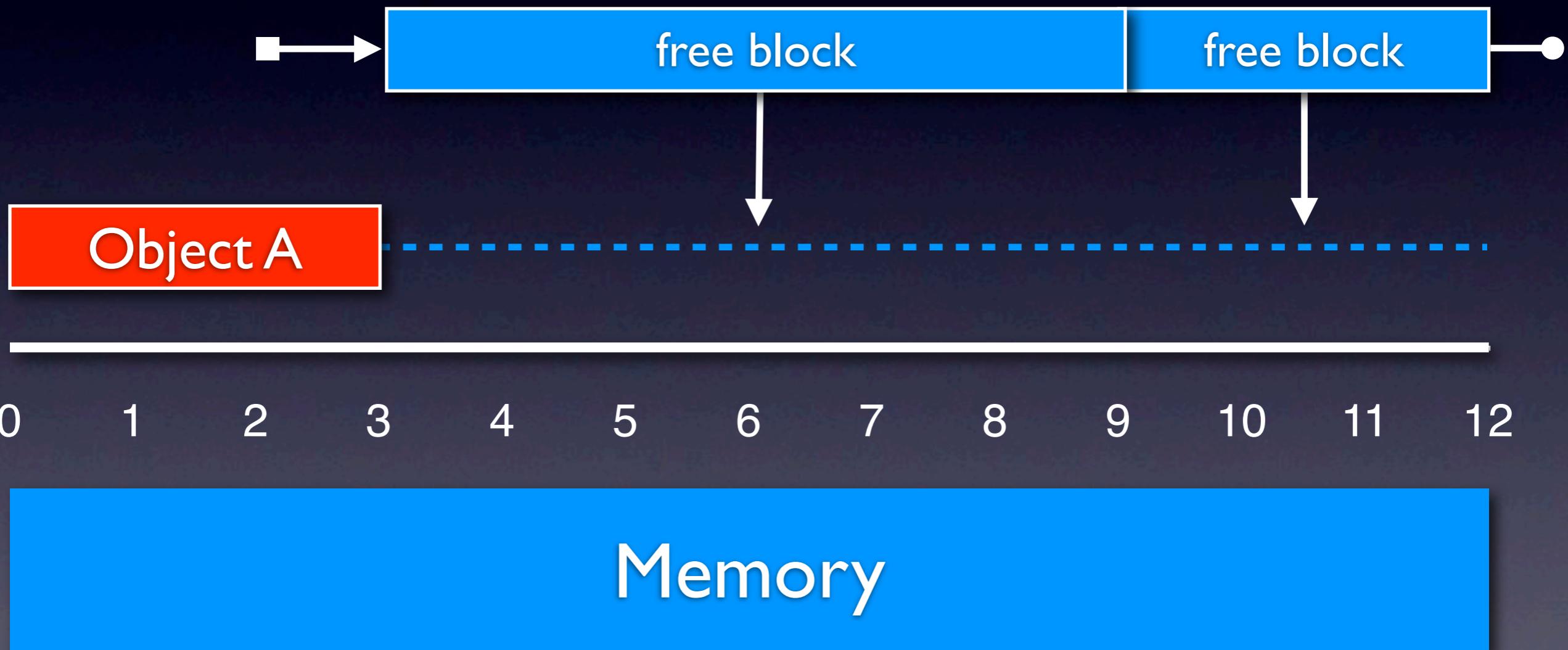
Coalescing



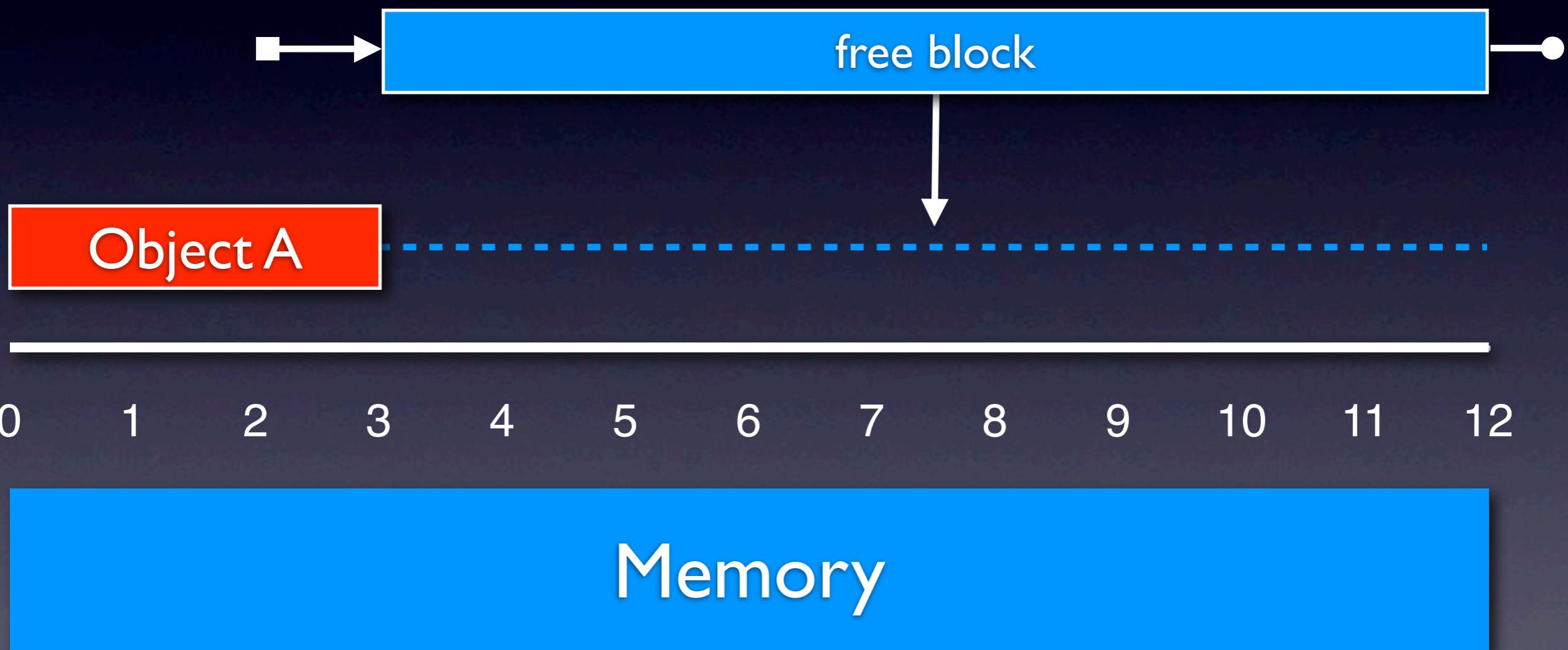
Coalescing



Coalescing



Coalescing



List Representations

- List: singly-linked or doubly-linked (using boundary tags)

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- Indexed lists: trees, bitmaps

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- Buddy systems: split blocks in powers of two (called buddies if same size)
- Indexed lists: trees, bitmaps
- Hybrid: Doug Lea's allocator

DL Complexity

- Allocation:
 - ▶ `malloc` may take time proportional to heap size
- Deallocation:
 - ▶ `free` takes constant time
- Access:
 - ▶ `read` and `write` take constant time
- Unpredictable fragmentation

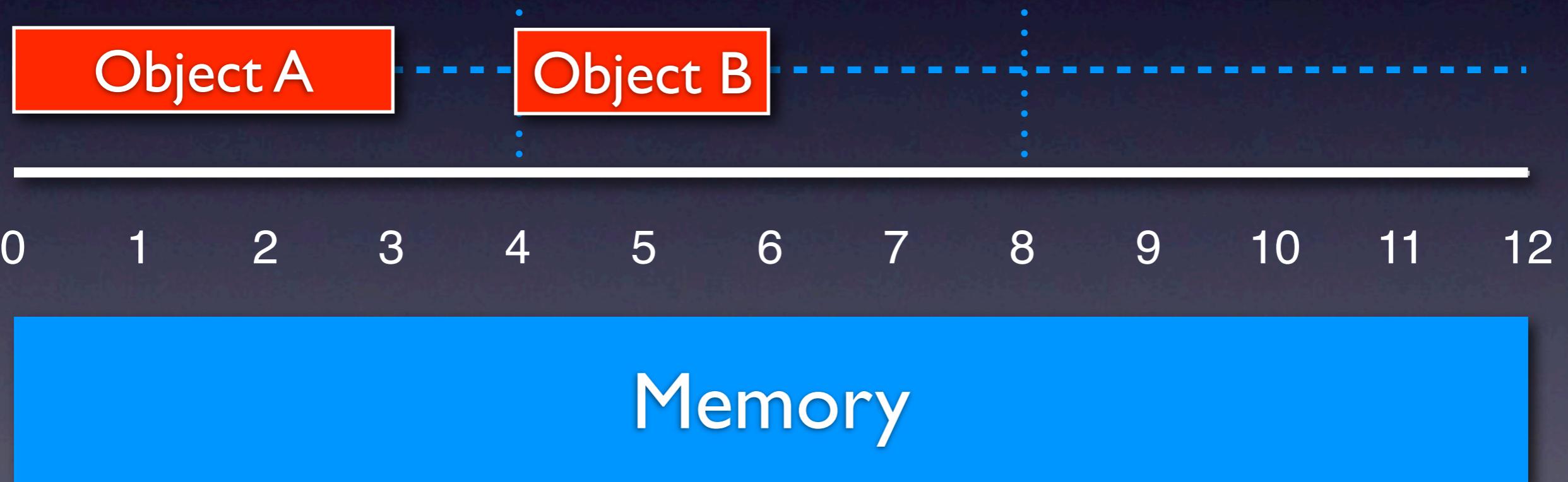
Partitioning



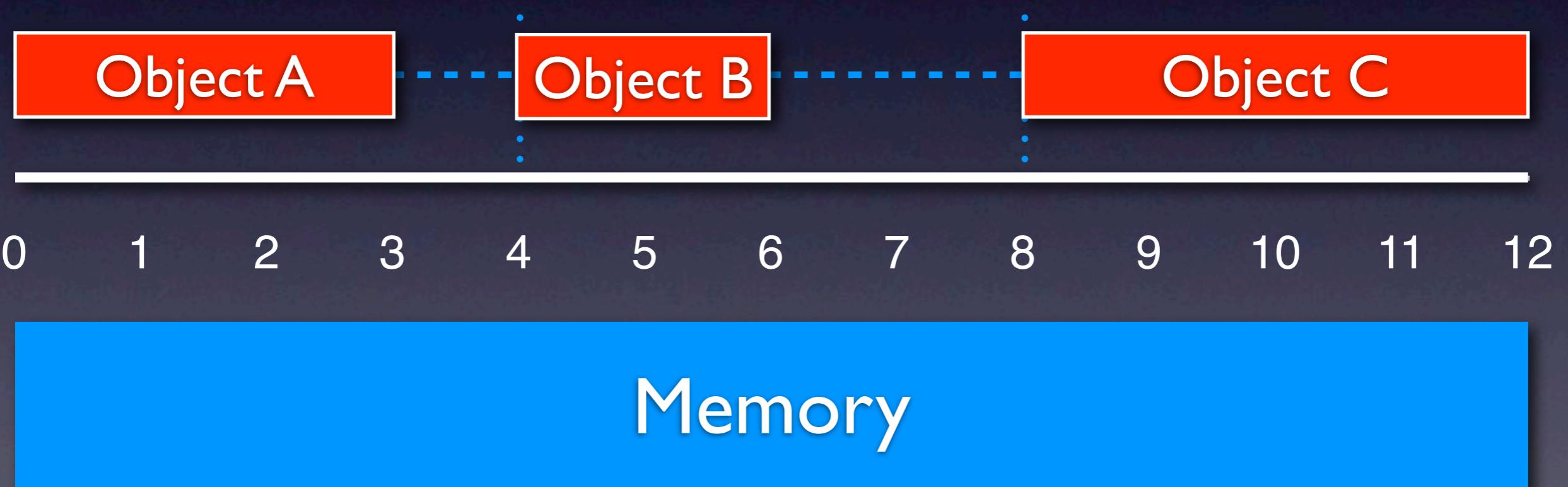
Partitioning



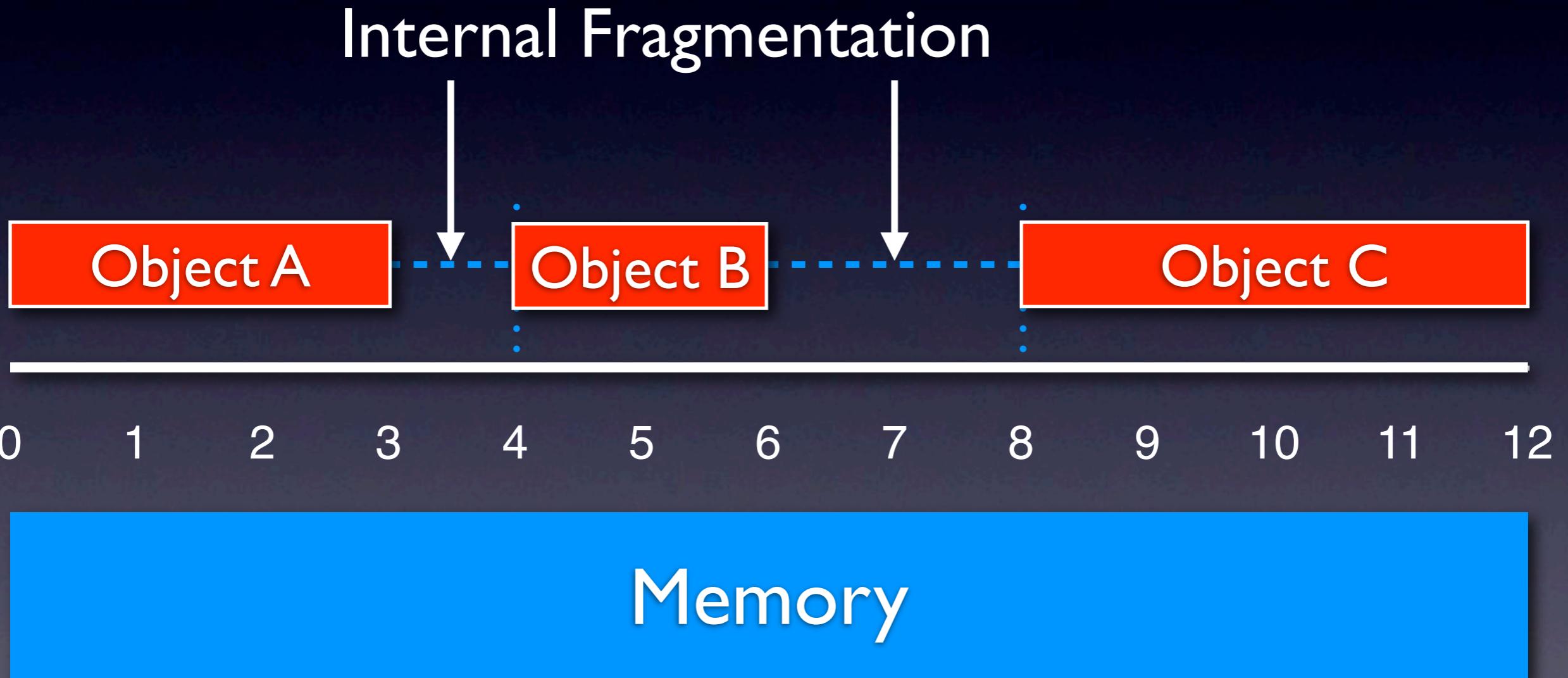
Partitioning



Partitioning



Partitioning

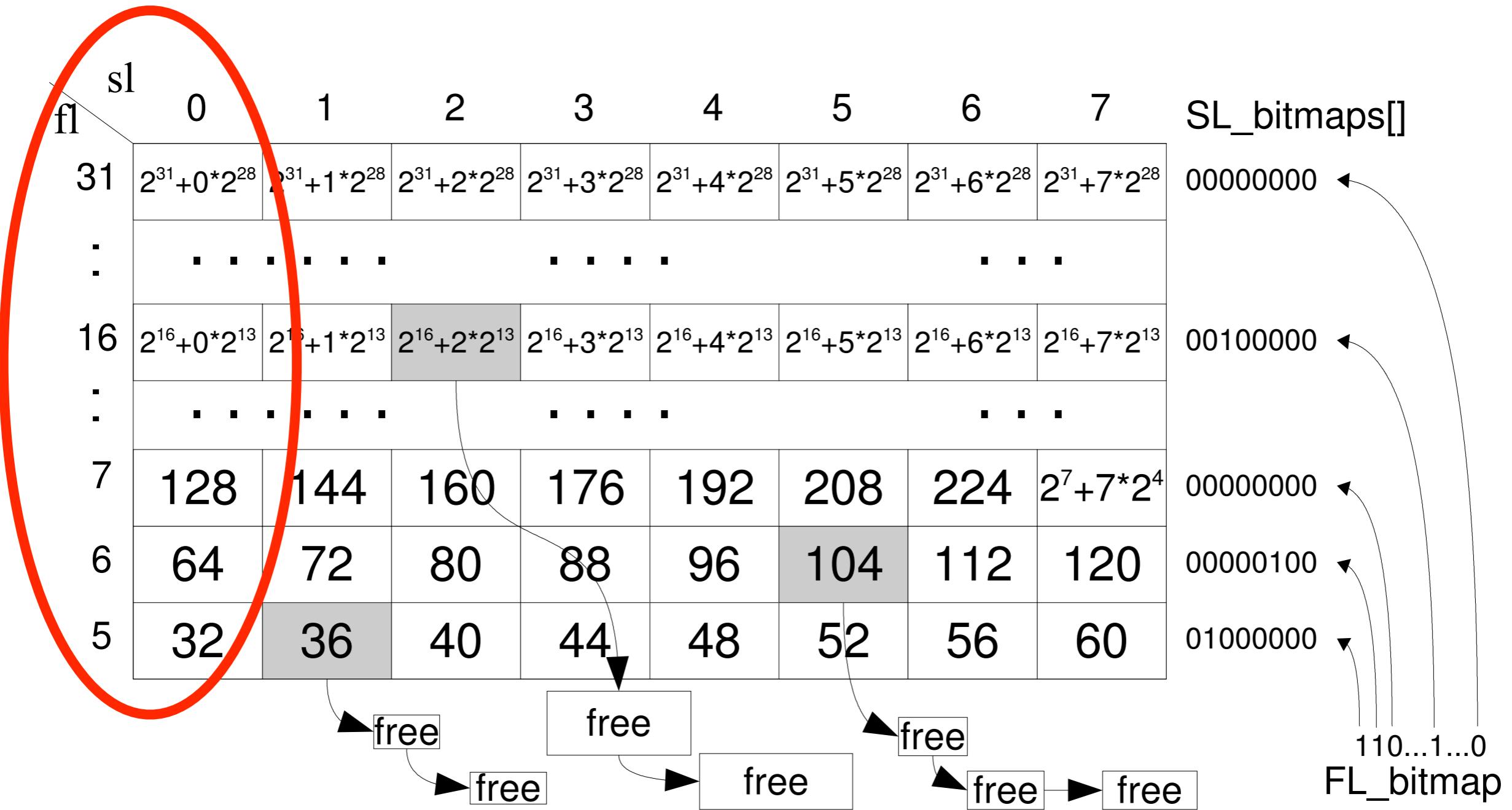


There is a trade-off
between
external and **internal**
fragmentation

12

Half-fit

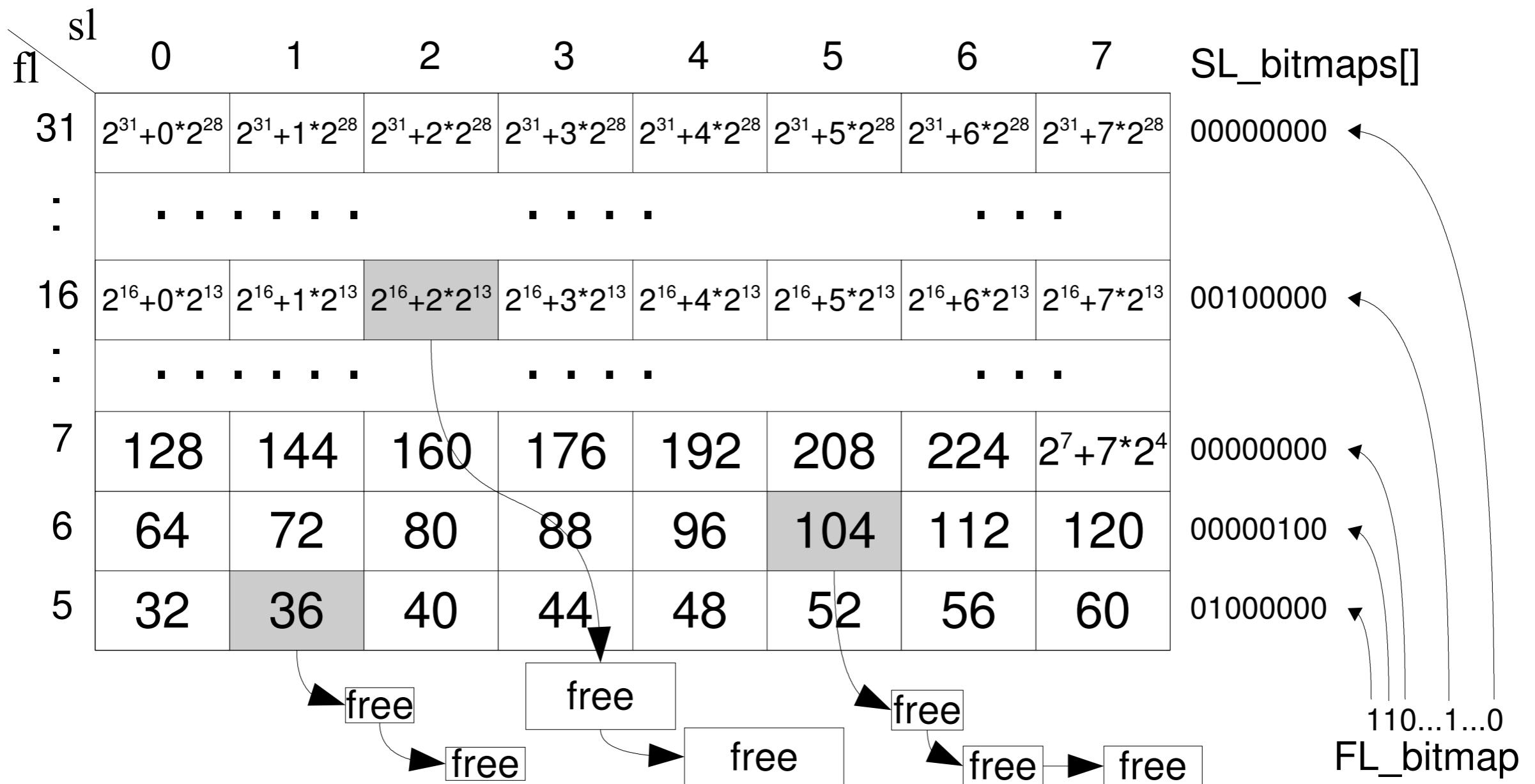
M. Masmano et al.



Half-fit Complexity

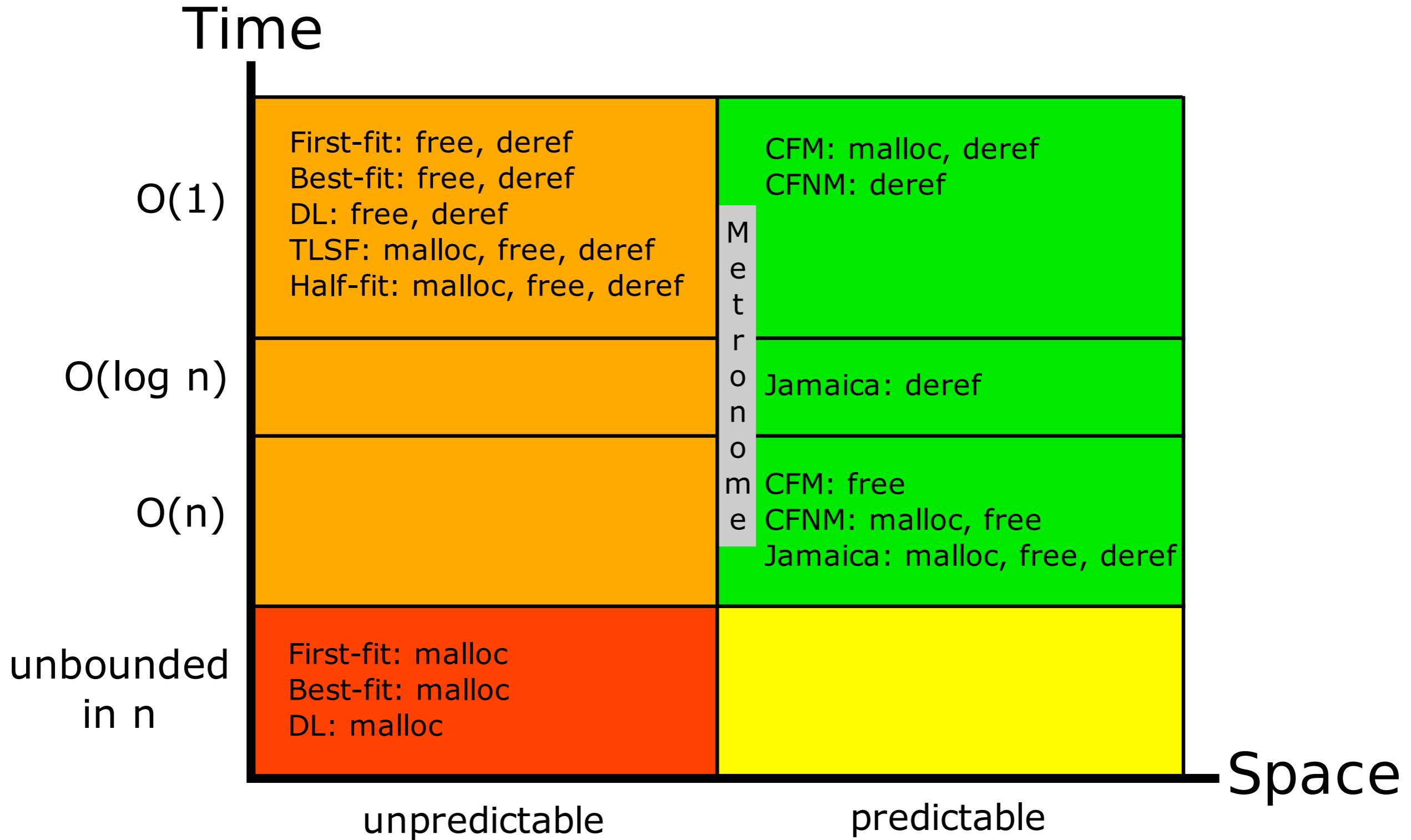
- Allocation:
 - ▶ `malloc` takes constant time
- Deallocation:
 - ▶ `free` takes constant time
- Access:
 - ▶ `read` and `write` take constant time
- Unpredictable fragmentation

Two-level Segregated Fit (TLSF)

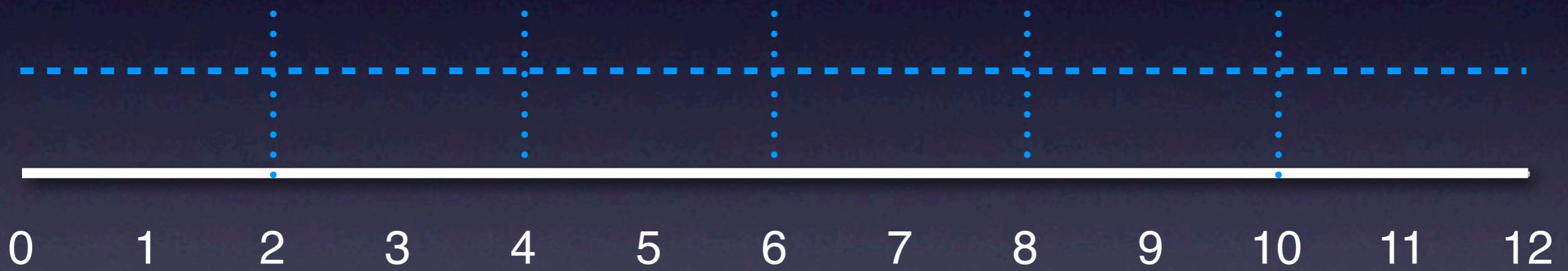


TLSF Complexity

- Allocation:
 - ▶ `malloc` takes constant time
- Deallocation:
 - ▶ `free` takes constant time
- Access:
 - ▶ `read` and `write` take constant time
- Unpredictable fragmentation (yet better than HF)



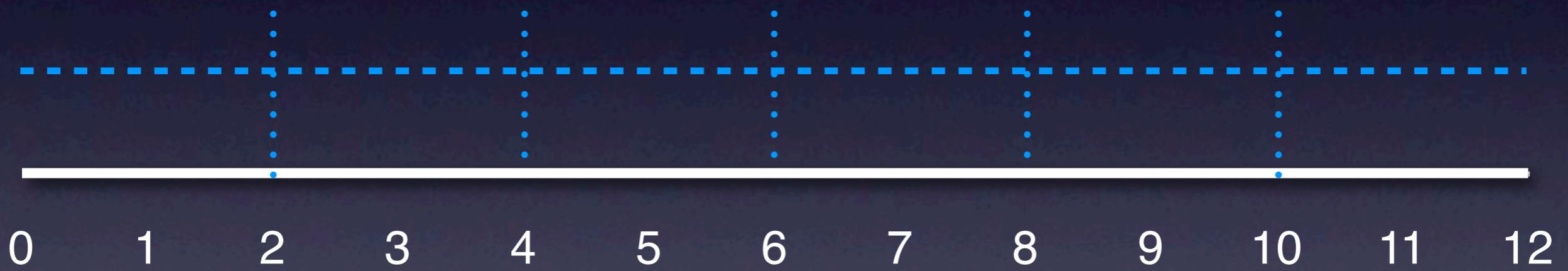
Jamaica



Memory

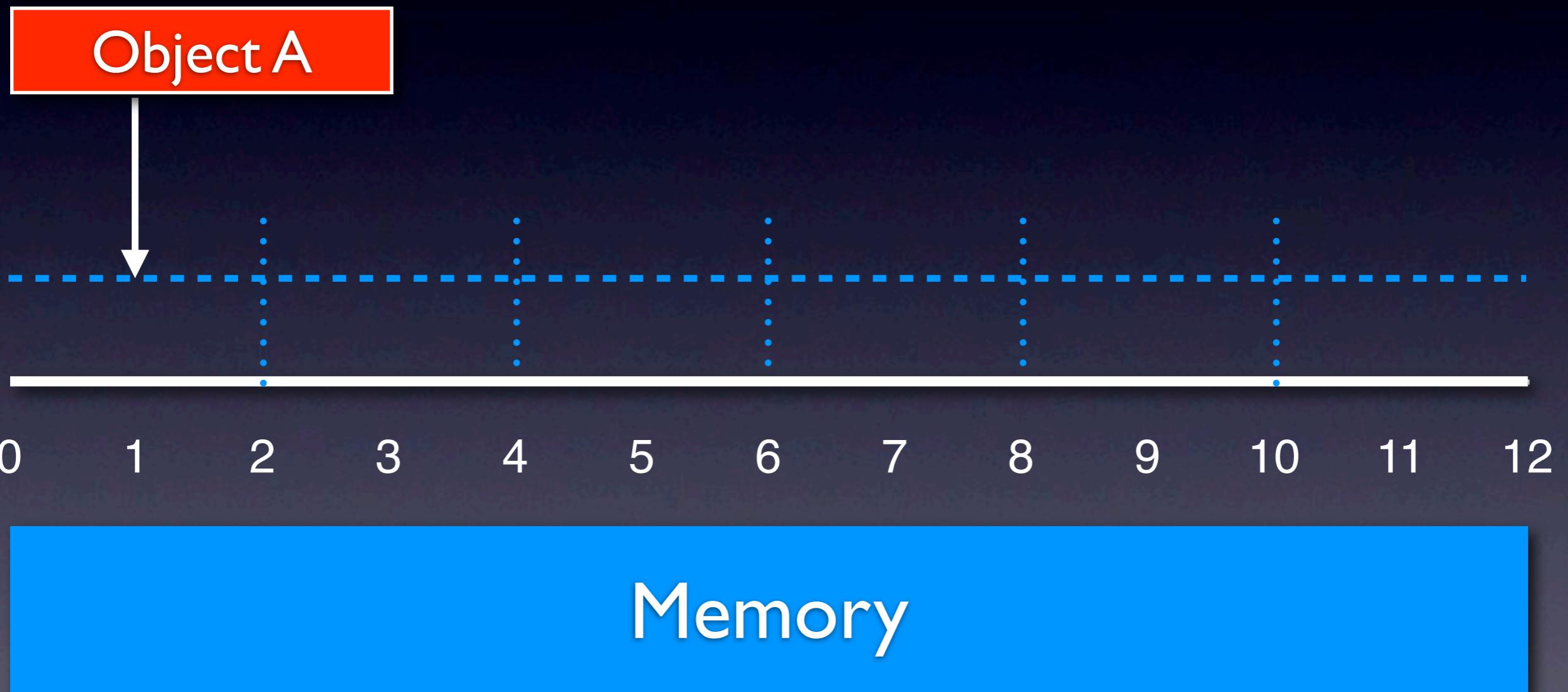
Jamaica

Object A

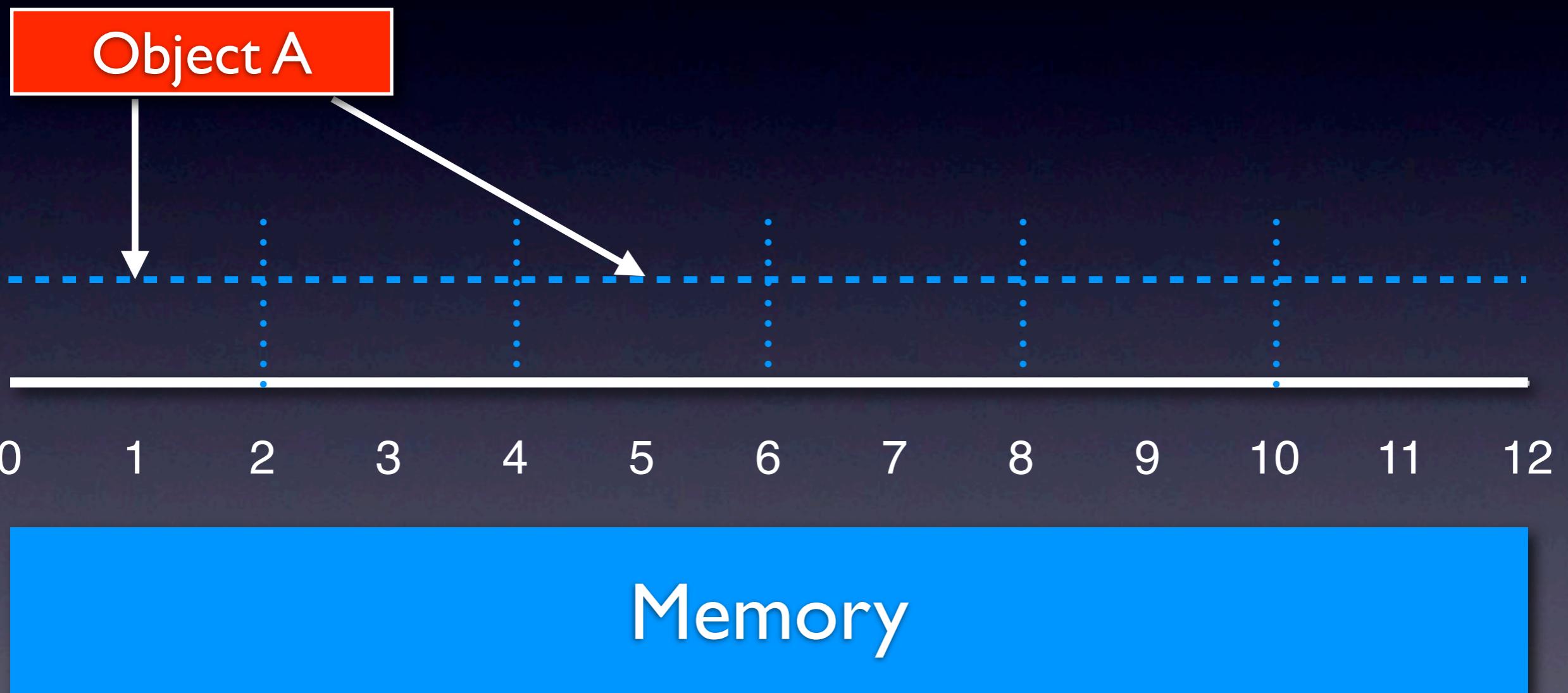


Memory

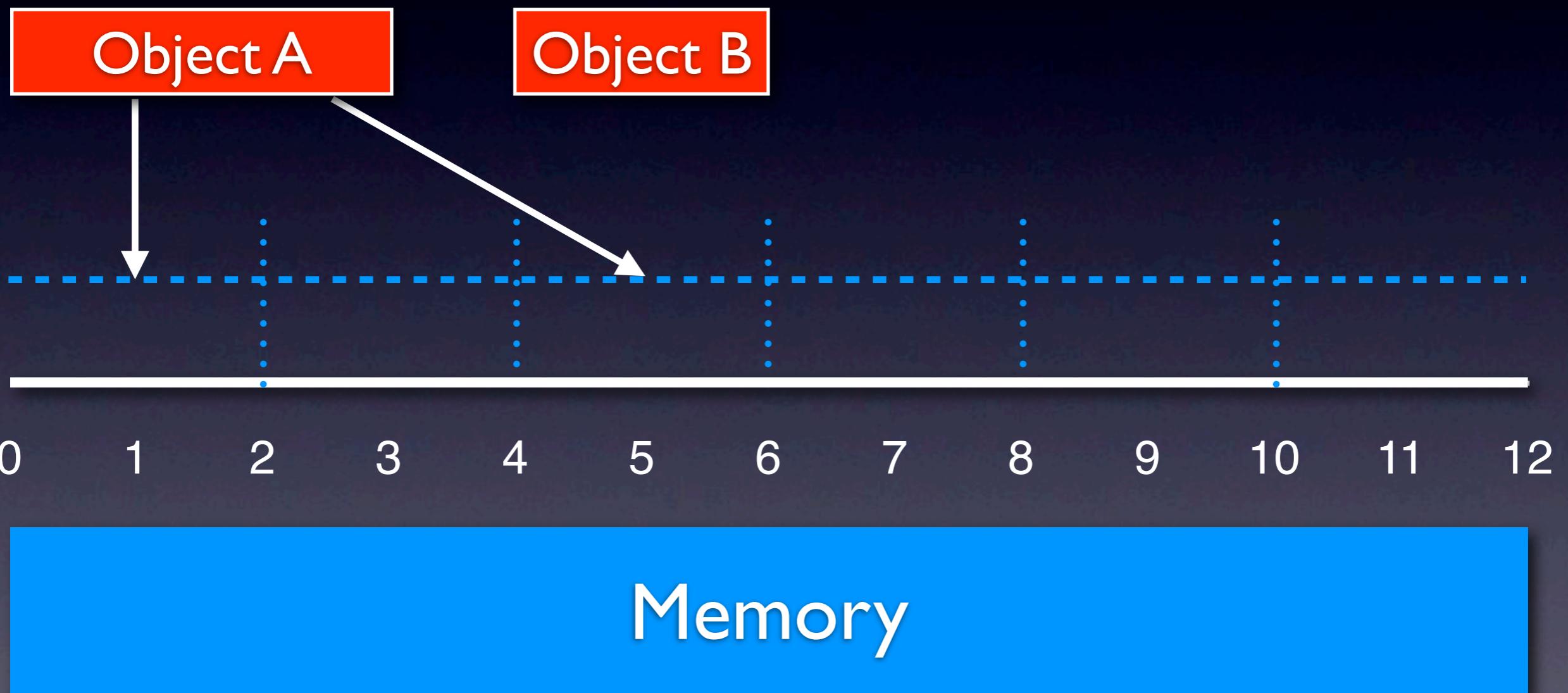
Jamaica



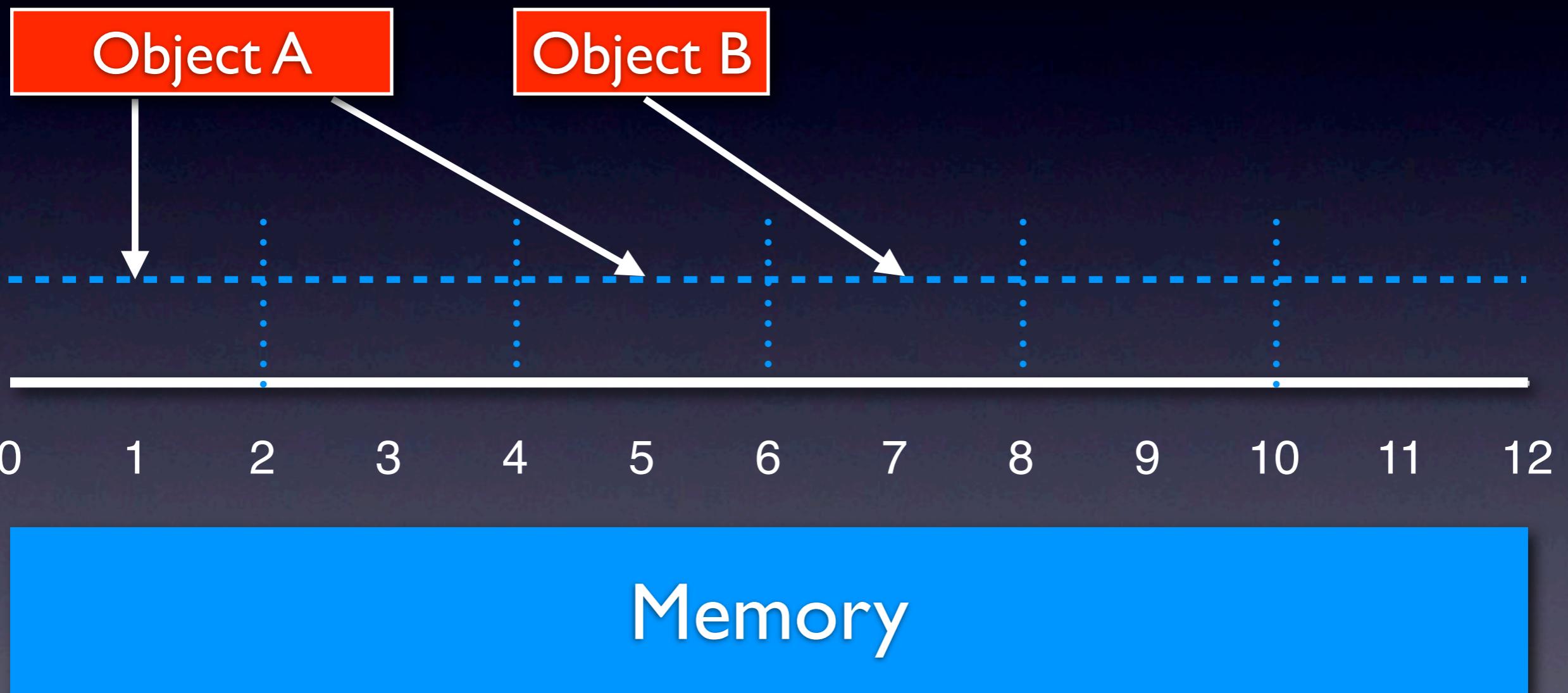
Jamaica



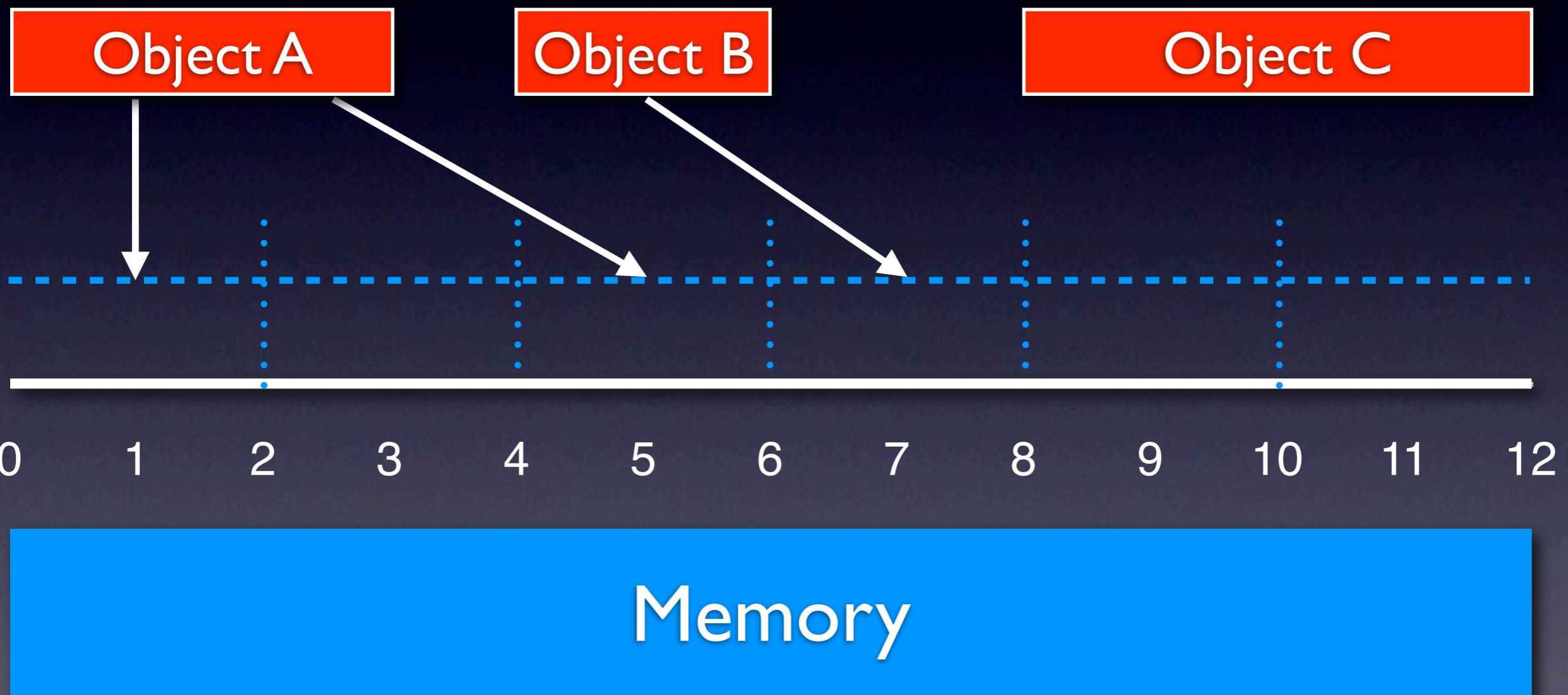
Jamaica



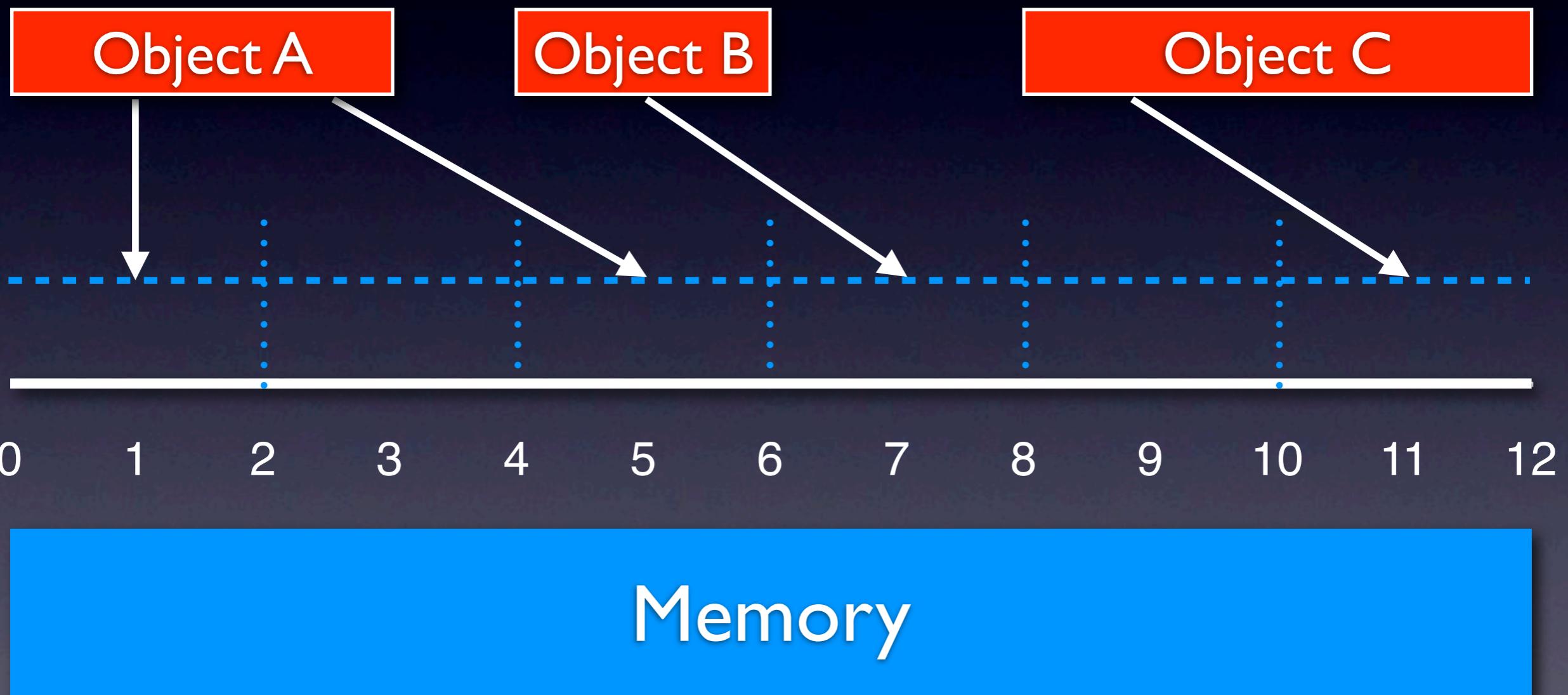
Jamaica



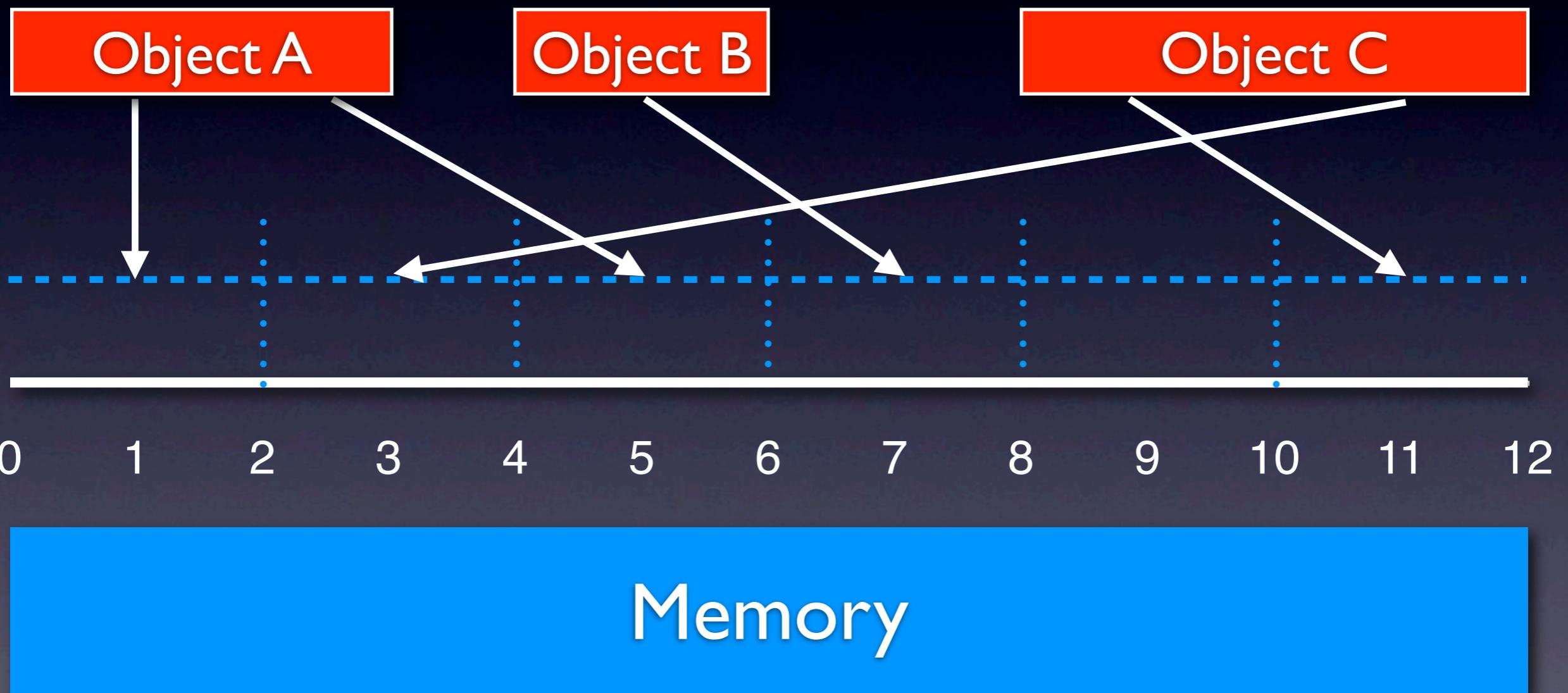
Jamaica



Jamaica

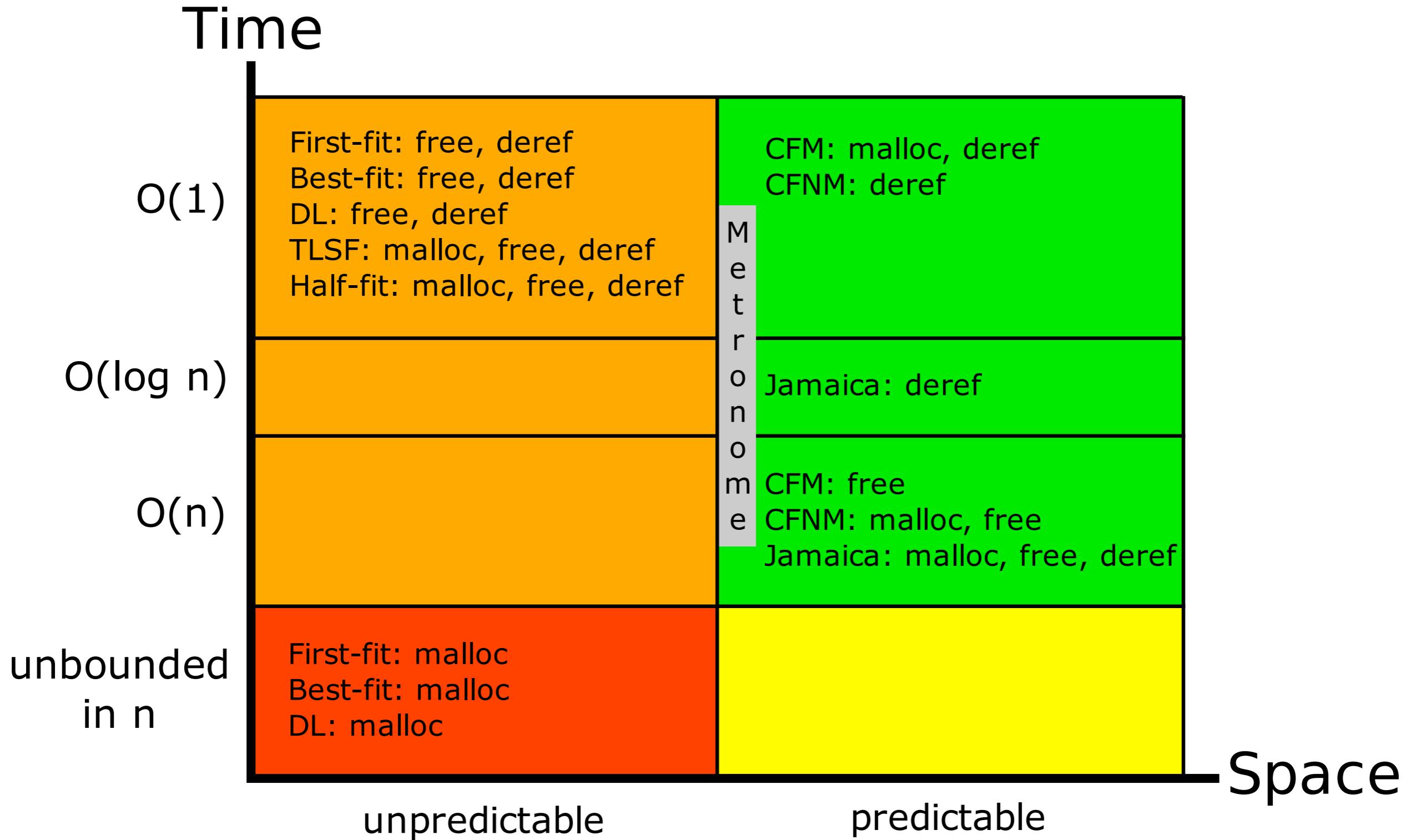


Jamaica



Jamaica Complexity

- Allocation:
 - ▶ `malloc(n)` takes time proportional to n
- Deallocation:
 - ▶ `free(n)` takes time proportional to n
- Access:
 - ▶ `read` and `write` take time proportional to n
- Predictable fragmentation



Introduction to Compact-fit

Concurrent
Compact-fit

Concurrency & Scalability
versus
Fragmentation & Compaction

Questions

- Does allocation/deallocation throughput scale with multiple processors?

Questions

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- Which aspects influence scalability?

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- Does compaction of large objects harm system latency?

Questions

- Does allocation/deallocation throughput scale with multiple processors?
- Which aspects influence scalability?
- Does compaction of large objects harm system latency?
- Does concurrency and incrementality affect memory consumption?

Partial Compaction

- Per-size-class partial compaction bound κ bounds **size-class fragmentation**:
 - $\kappa = l$: fully compacting
 - $l < \kappa < \infty$: partially compacting
 - $\kappa = \infty$: non-compacting

Partial Compaction

- Per-size-class partial compaction bound κ bounds **size-class fragmentation**:
 - $\kappa = l$: fully compacting
 - $l < \kappa < \infty$: partially compacting
 - $\kappa = \infty$: non-compacting
- Non-compacting CF can be optimized by not using abstract addresses

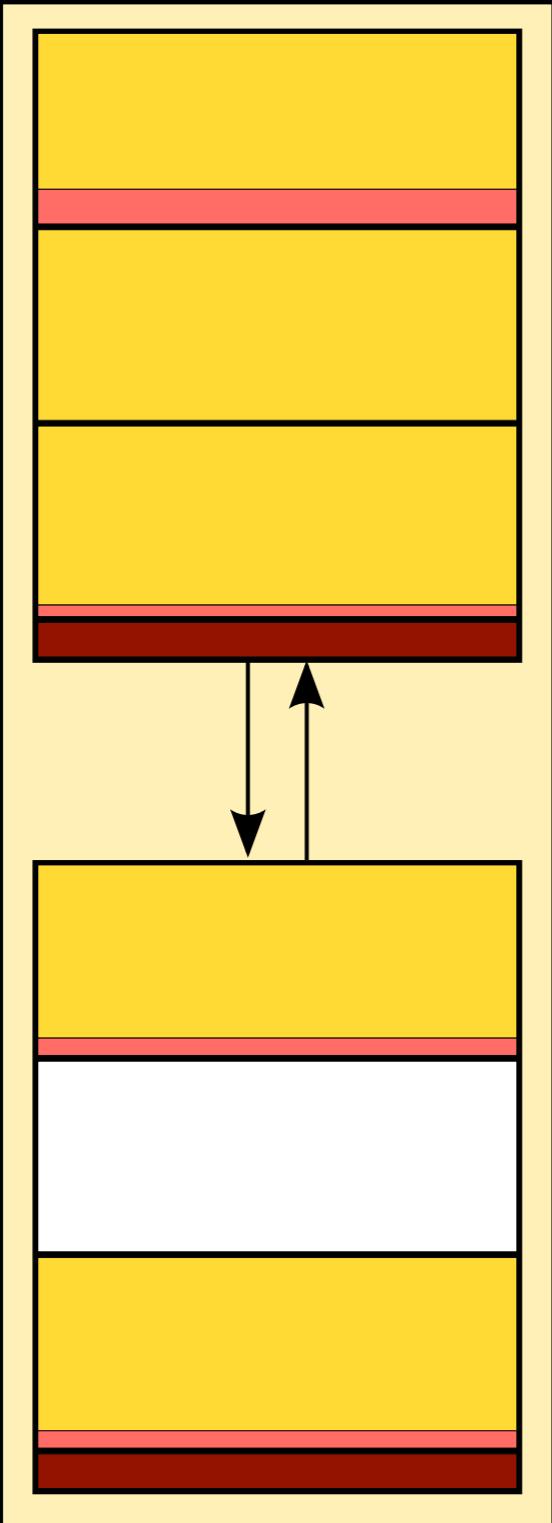
Fragmentation through Partitioning

- Fragmentation through partitioning is fixed at compile time and is not controlled by partial compaction:
 - Page-block-internal fragmentation
 - Page-internal fragmentation

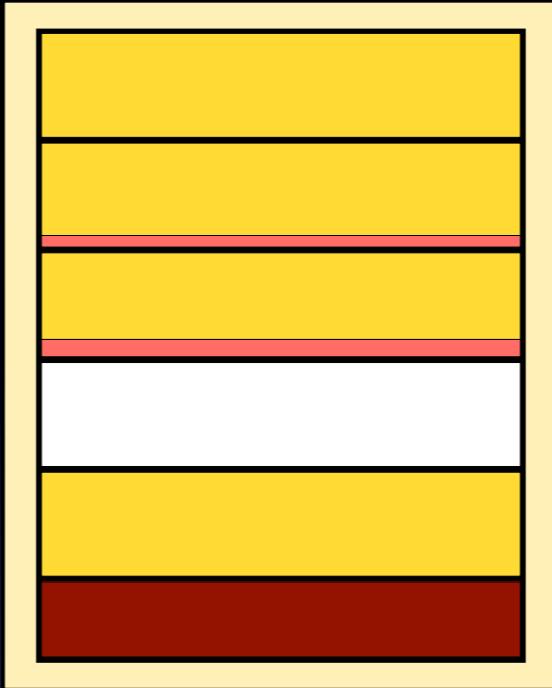
Fragmentation through Partitioning

- Fragmentation through partitioning is fixed at compile time and is not controlled by partial compaction:
- Page-block-internal fragmentation
- Page-internal fragmentation
- May dominate overall fragmentation

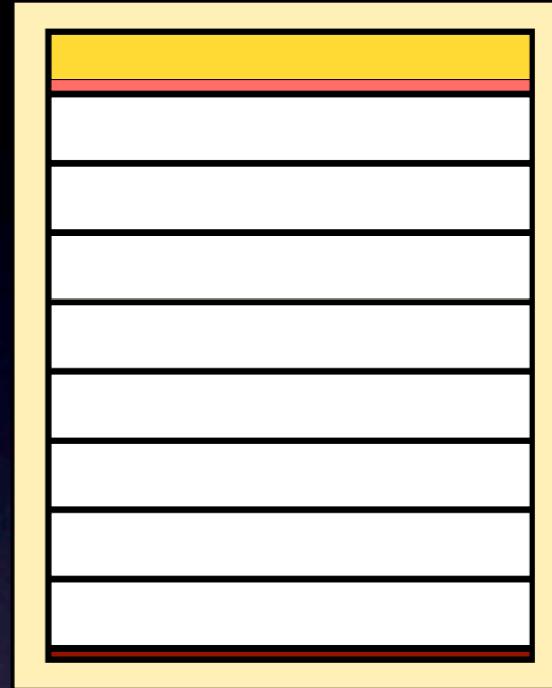
Size Class 1



Size Class 2

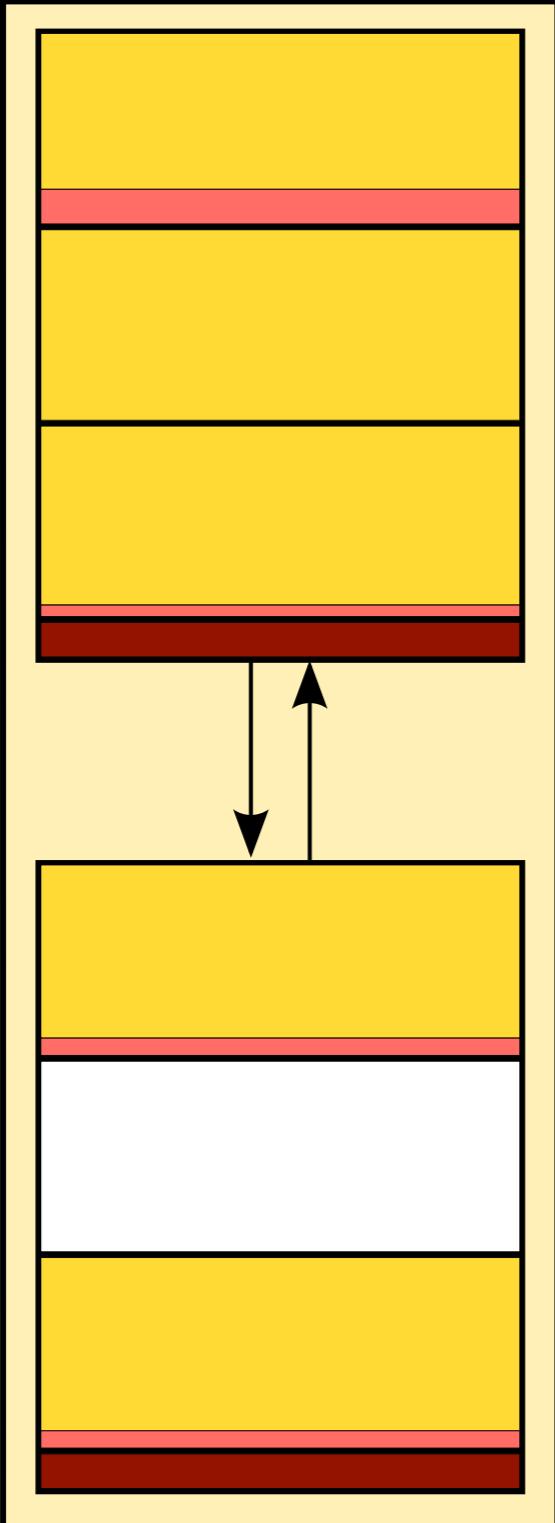


Size Class 3

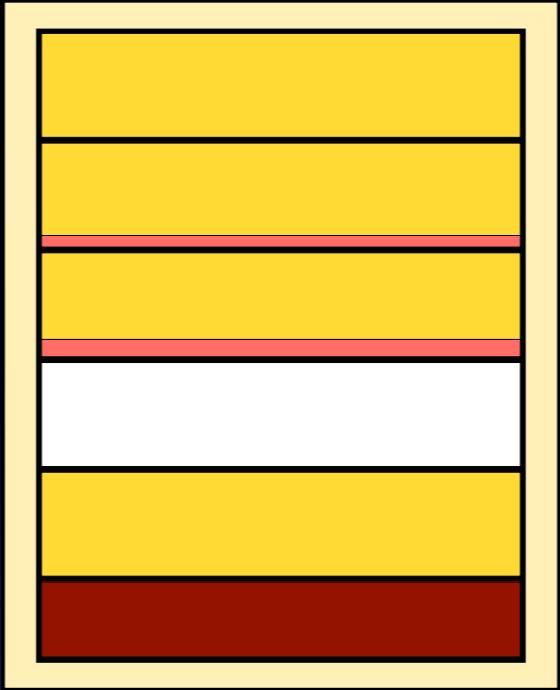


- free range
- used space
- page-block-internal fragmentation
- page-internal fragmentation

Size Class 1



Size Class 2



Size Class 3



size-class
fragmentation

- free range
- used space
- page-block-internal fragmentation
- page-internal fragmentation

Incremental Compaction

- Global compaction increment l bounds size of memory involved in any **atomic** compaction operation:
 - $l < L < \infty$: incremental compaction of objects larger than l
 - $L = \infty$: non-incremental compaction

Incremental Compaction

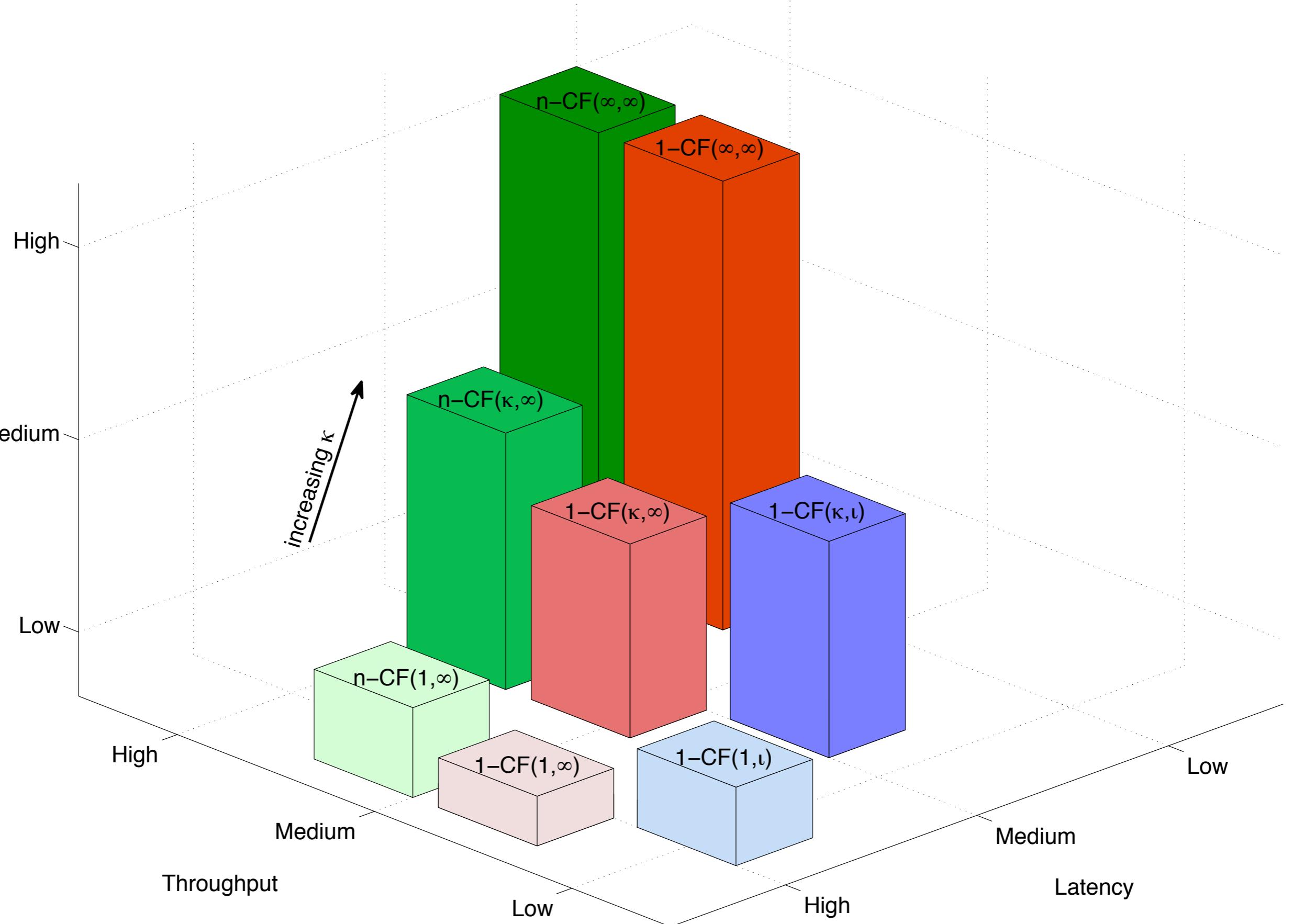
- Global compaction increment l bounds size of memory involved in any **atomic** compaction operation:
 - $l < L < \infty$: incremental compaction of objects larger than l
 - $L = \infty$: non-incremental compaction
- Incremental compaction creates **transient size-class fragmentation**

CF Configurations

- $\text{I-CF}(k, l)$
 - one CF instance for multiple threads
 - partial compaction bound k
 - compaction increment l

CF Configurations

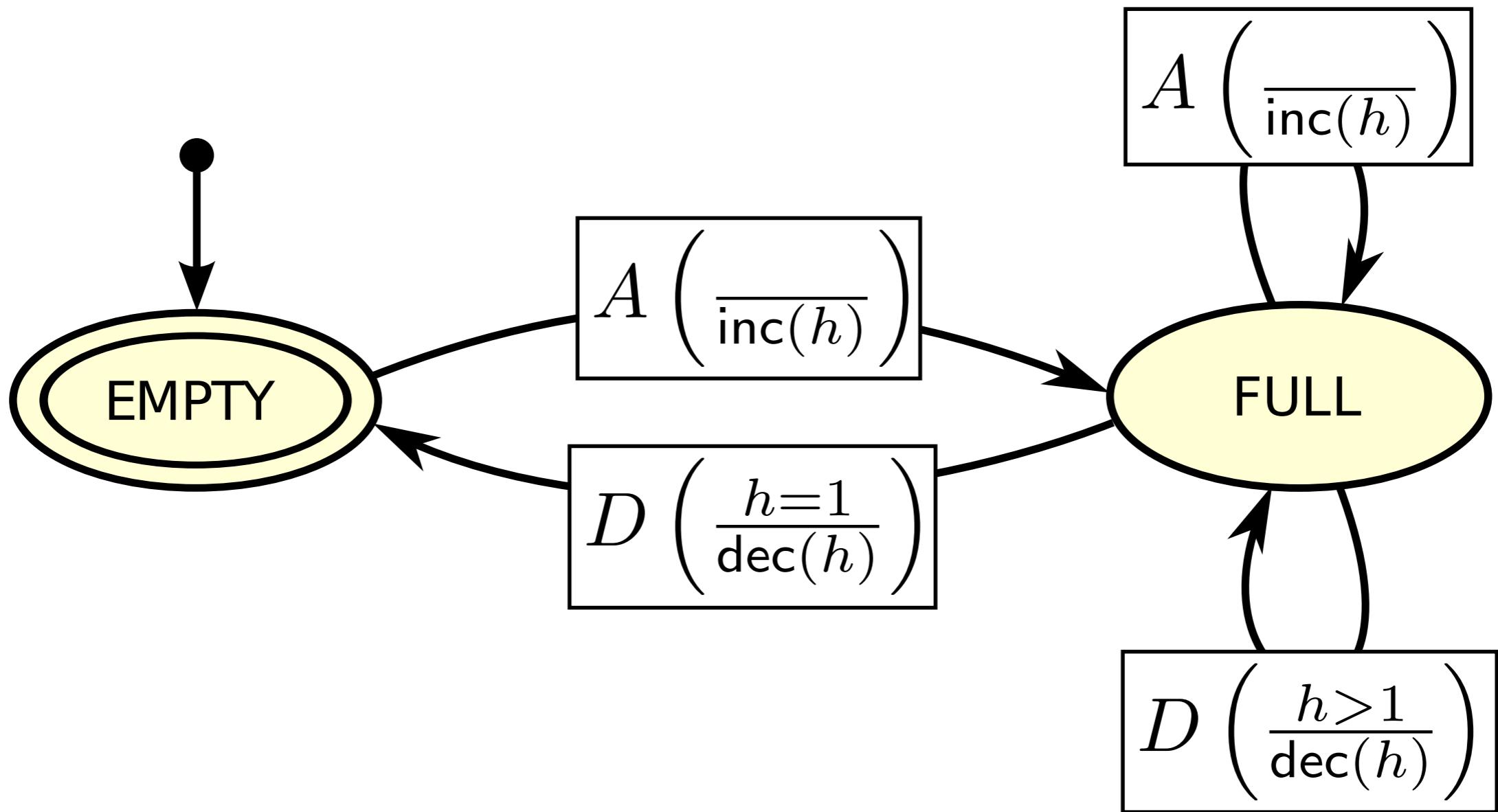
- $\text{I-CF}(\kappa, l)$
 - one CF instance for multiple threads
 - partial compaction bound κ
 - compaction increment l
- $n\text{-CF}(\kappa, l)$
 - n CF instances for n threads
 - allows to control degree of sharing



To make CF
concurrent and incremental
we model the algorithm
as a
finite state machine
whose transitions
must be atomic!

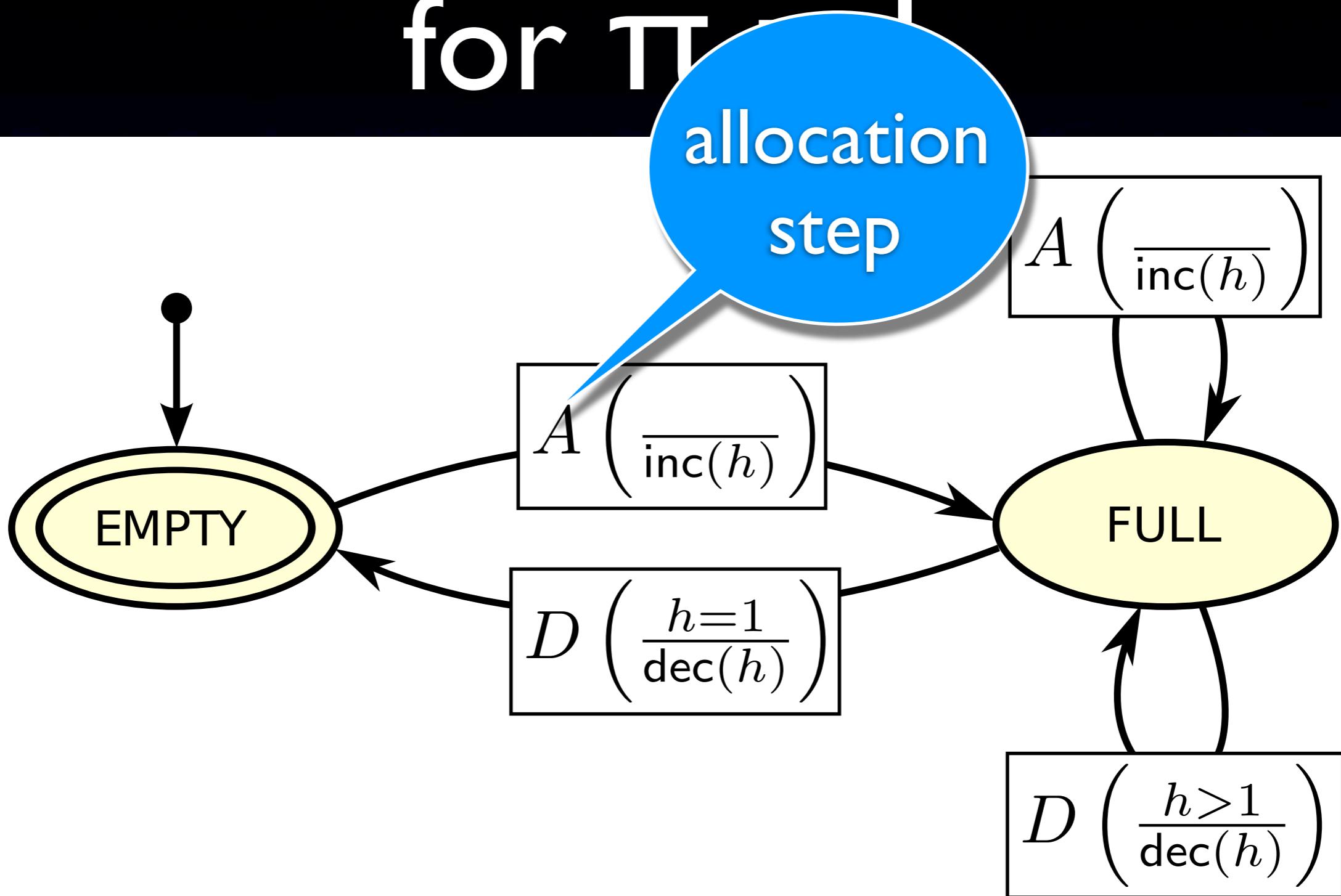
Size-Class Automaton

for $\pi = \text{I}$



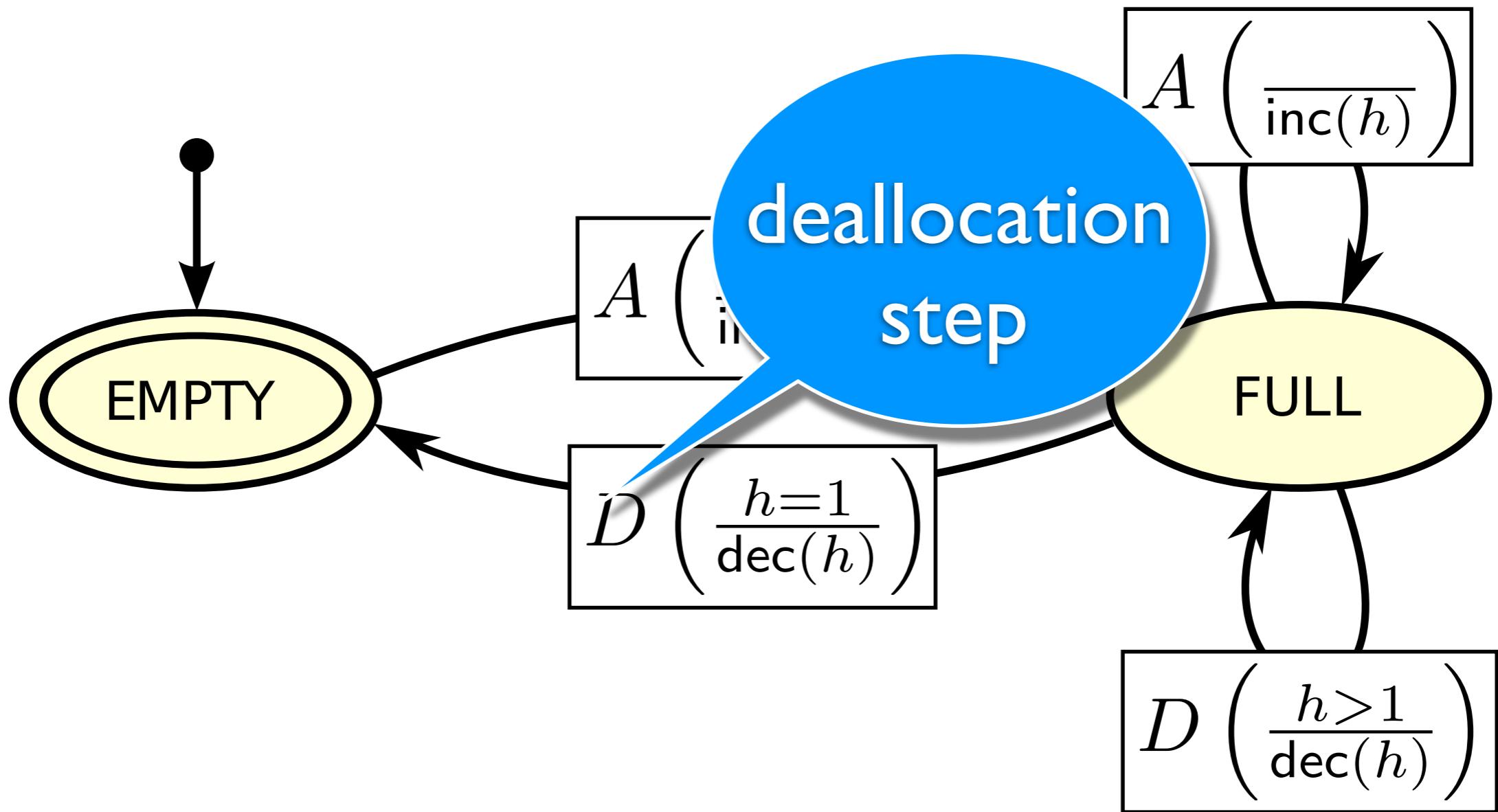
Size-Class Automaton

for Π_1



Size-Class Automaton

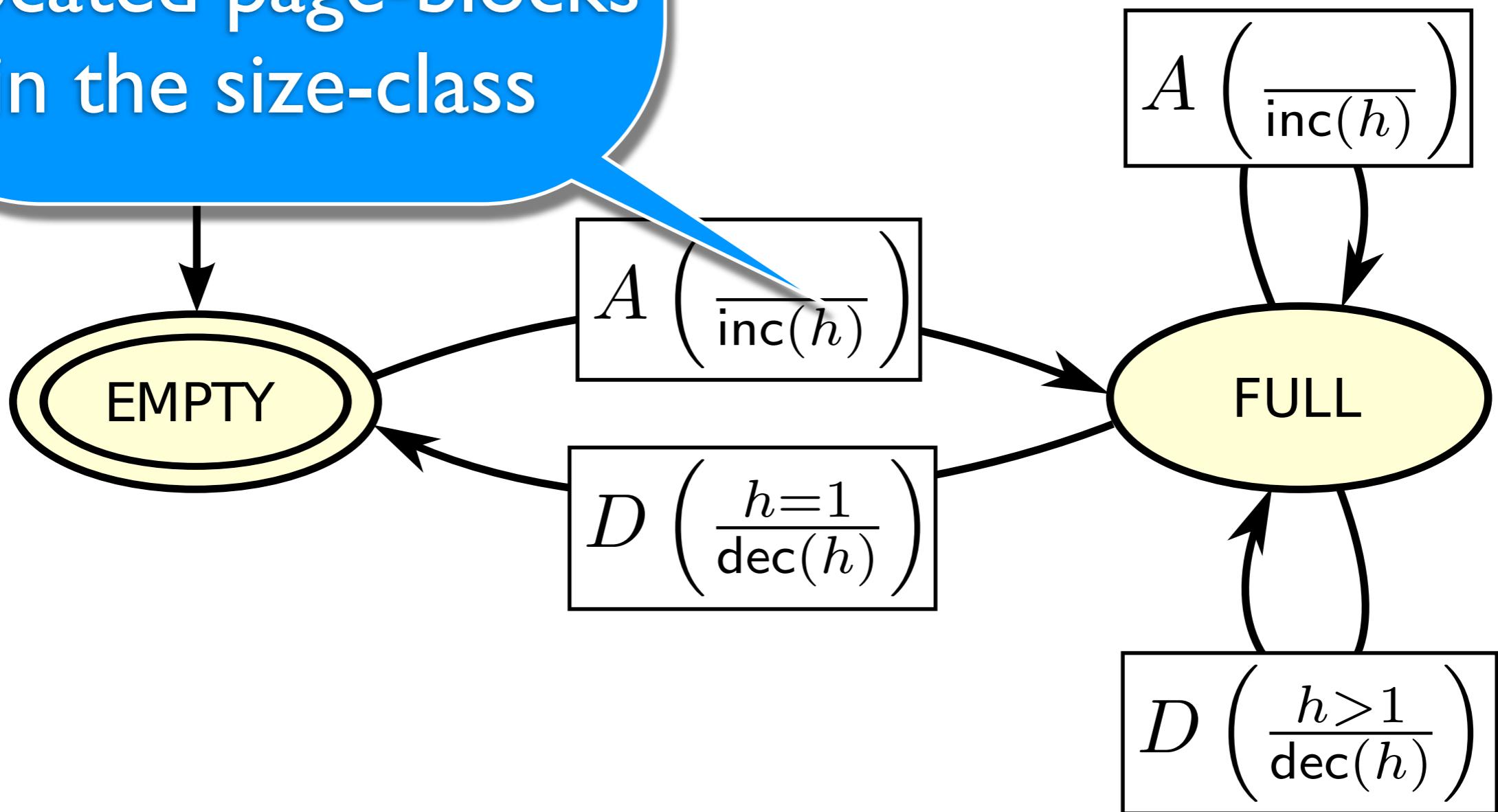
for $\pi = \mathbb{I}$



Size-Class Automaton

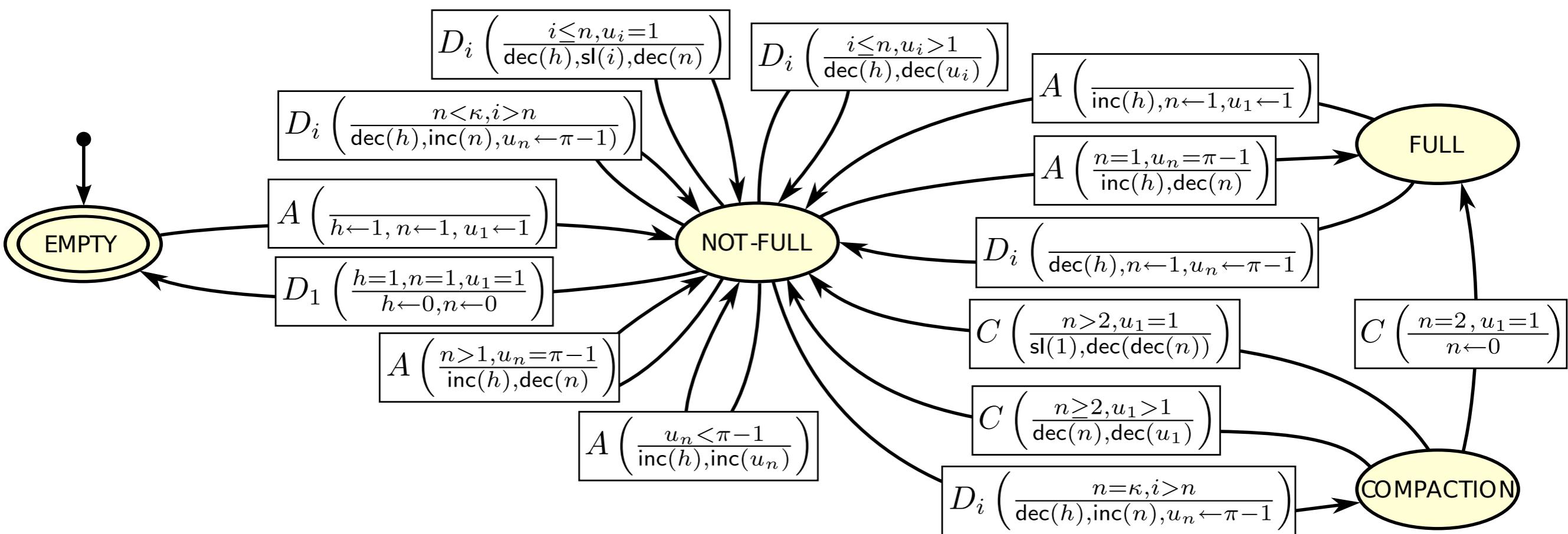
$$\pi = |$$

h is the total # of allocated page-blocks in the size-class



Size-Class Automaton

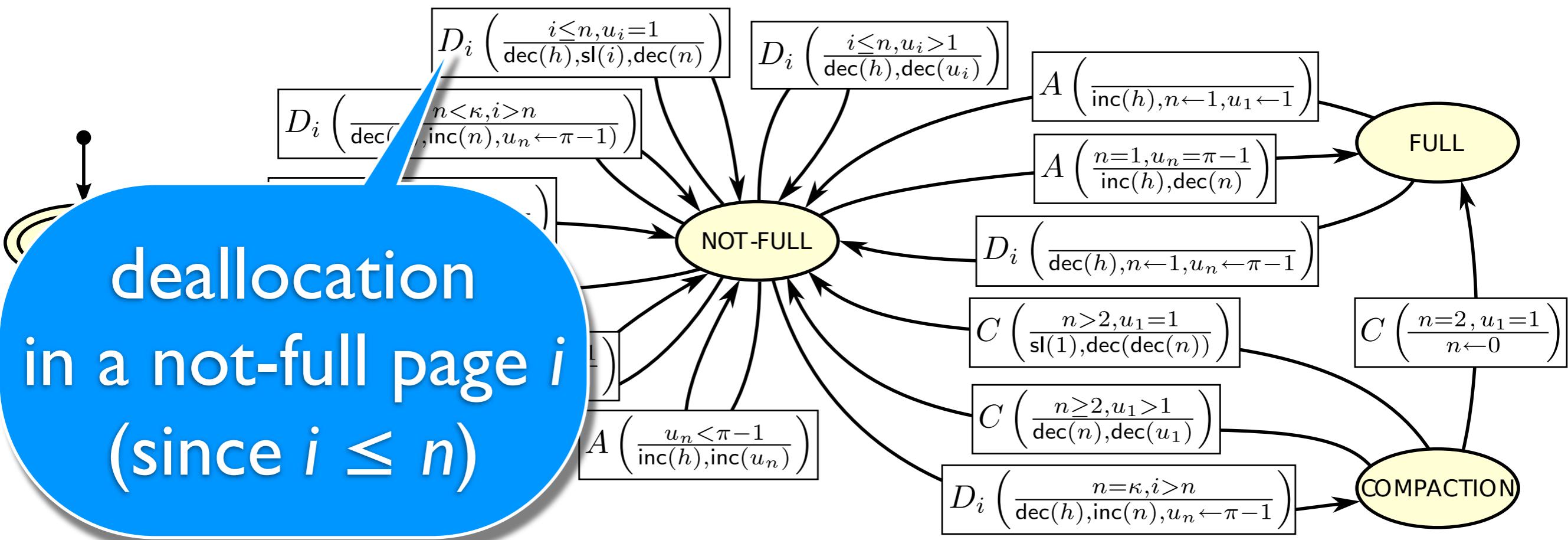
for $\pi > 1$



h is the total # of allocated page-blocks in the size-class
 n is the # of not-full pages
 u_i is the # of used page-blocks in a not-full page i

Size-Class Automaton

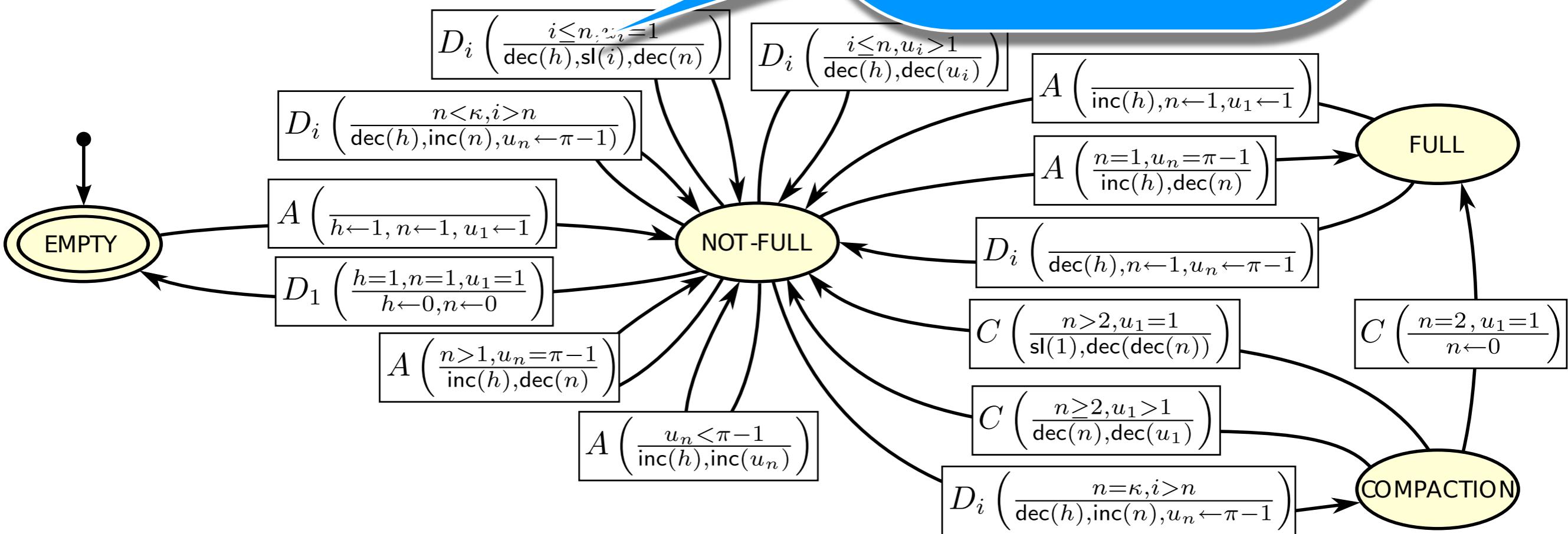
for $\pi > 1$



h is the total # of allocated page-blocks in the size-class
 n is the # of not-full pages
 u_i is the # of used page-blocks in a not-full page i

Size-Class A for Π

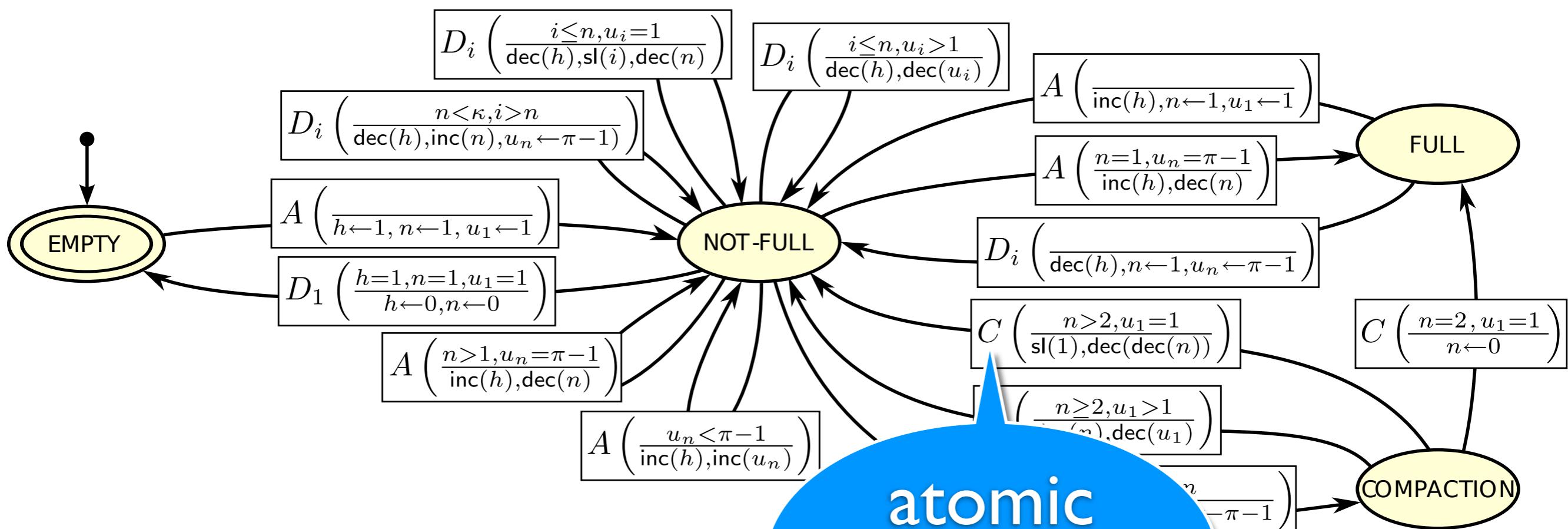
remove page
since it is now
empty



h is the total # of allocated page-blocks in the size-class
 n is the # of not-full pages
 u_i is the # of used page-blocks in a not-full page i

Size-Class Automaton

for $\pi > 1$



atomic

compaction!

h is the total # of allocated pages

n is the # of not-full pages

u_i is the # of used page-blocks in a not-full page i

the size-class

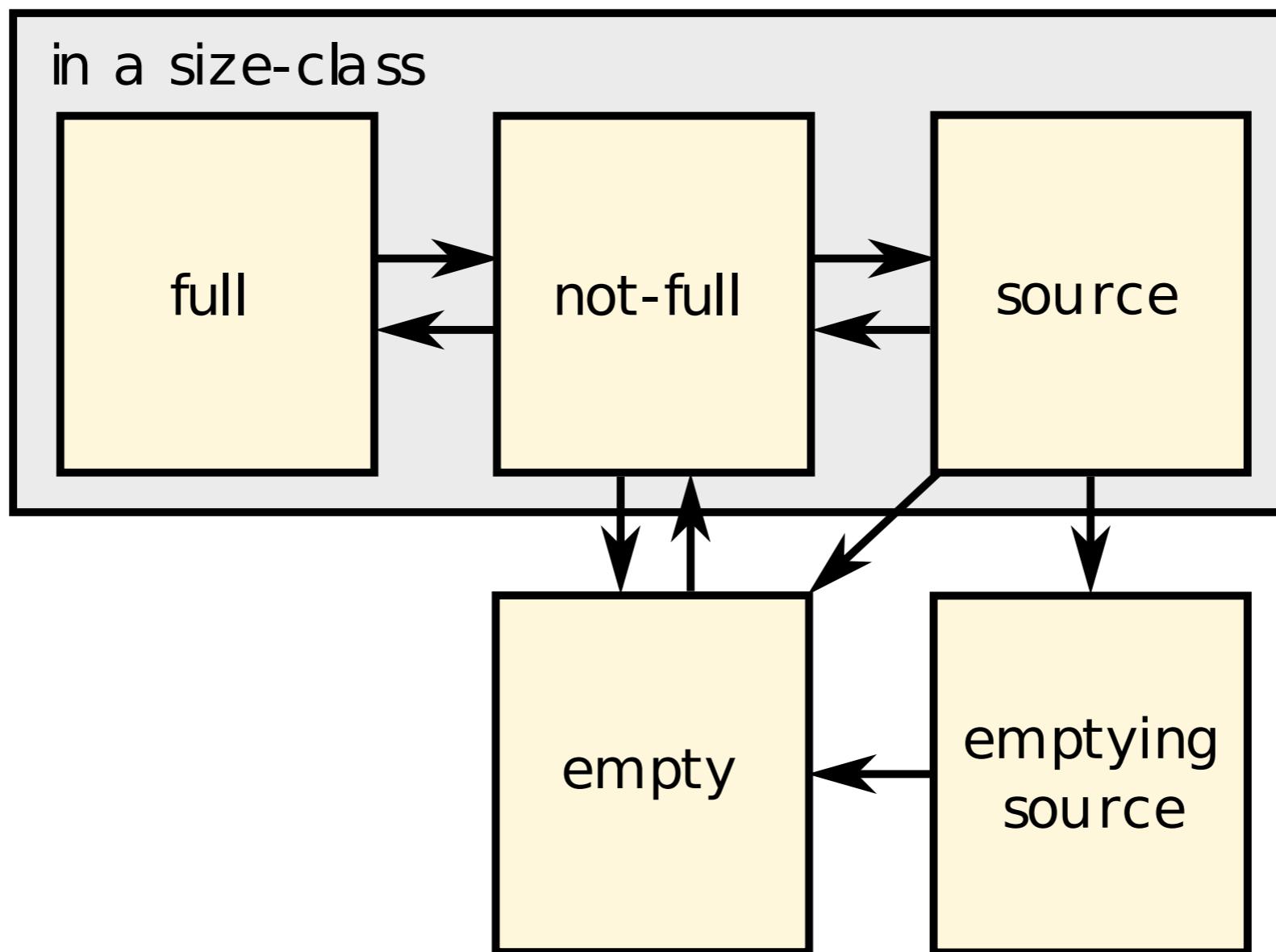
Incremental Compaction

- A page-block that is incrementally moved actually occupies **two** page-blocks:
 - **source** page-block
 - **target** page-block

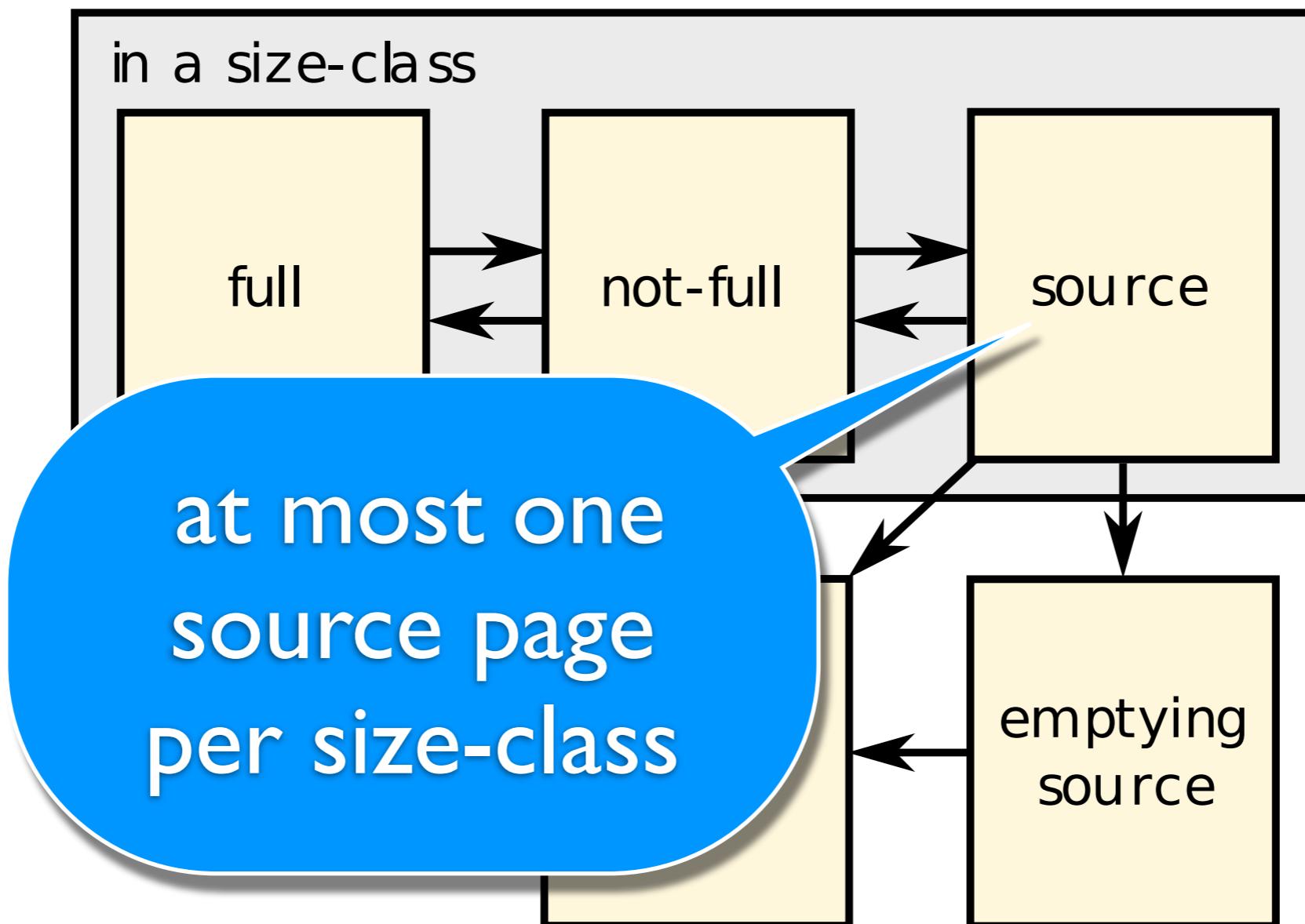
Incremental Compaction

- A page-block that is incrementally moved actually occupies **two** page-blocks:
 - **source** page-block
 - **target** page-block
- A page containing source page-blocks is called **source** page
 - may also contain **used** and **free** page-blocks

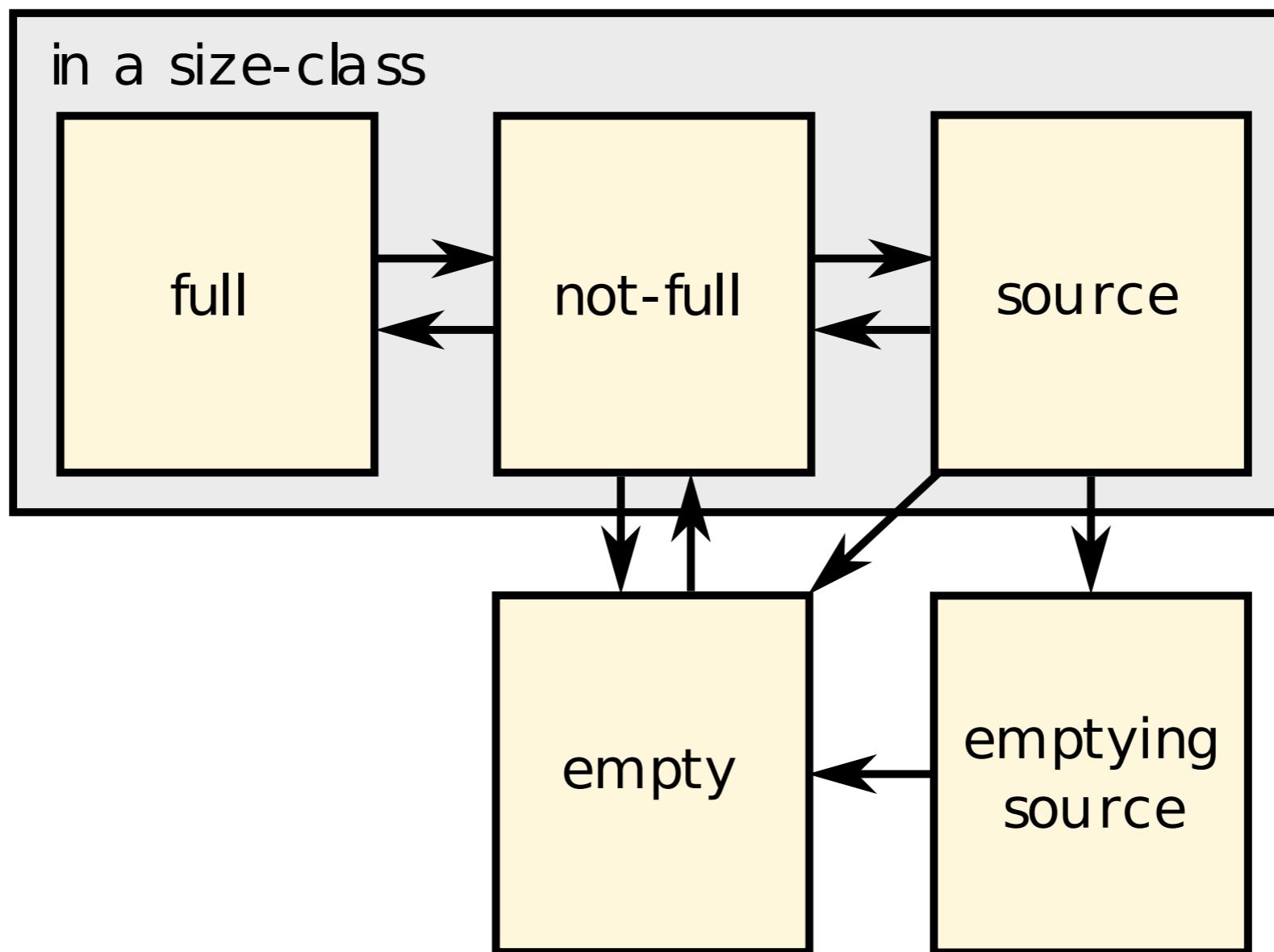
The Lifetime of a Page



The Lifetime of a Page

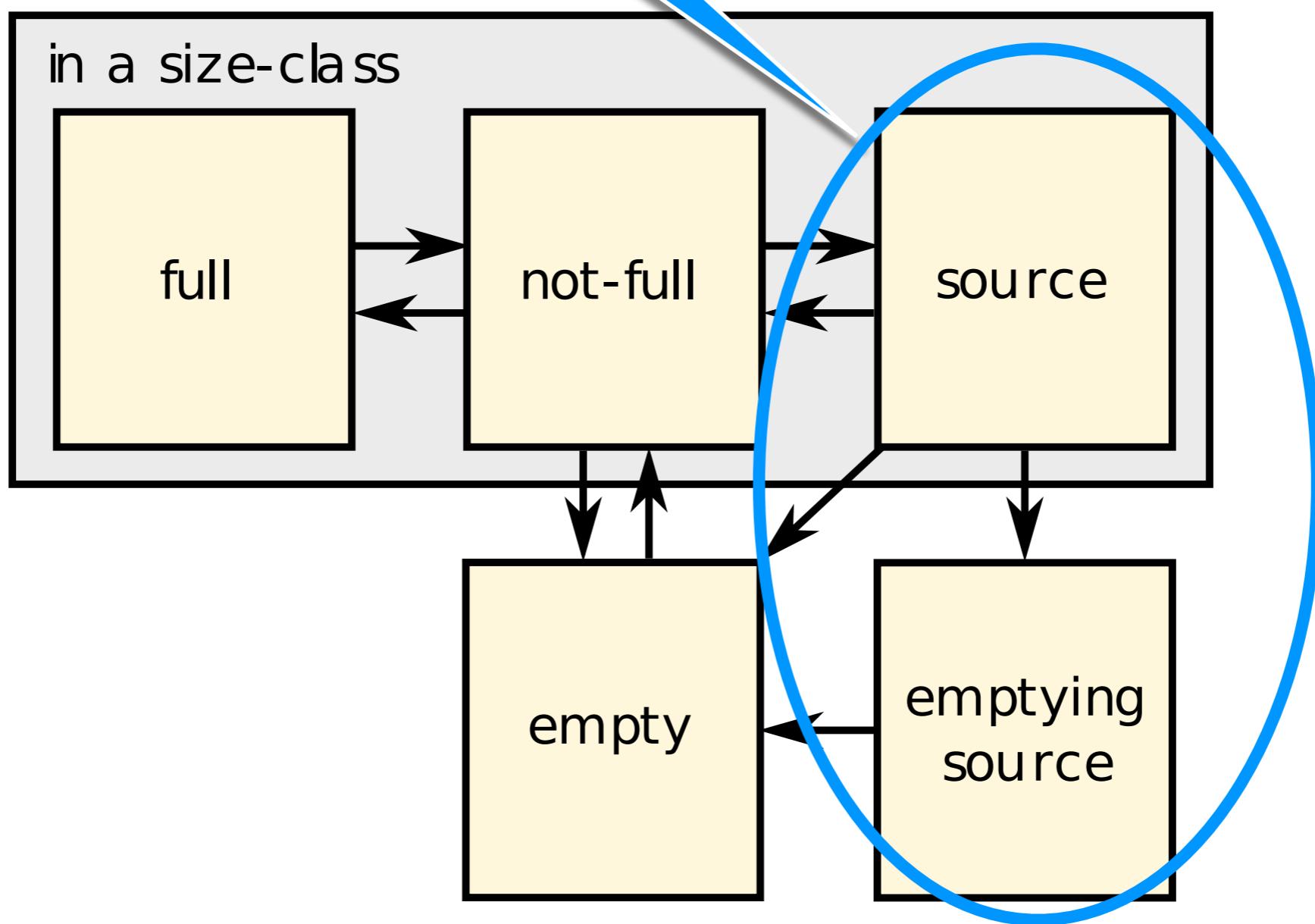


The Lifetime of a Page

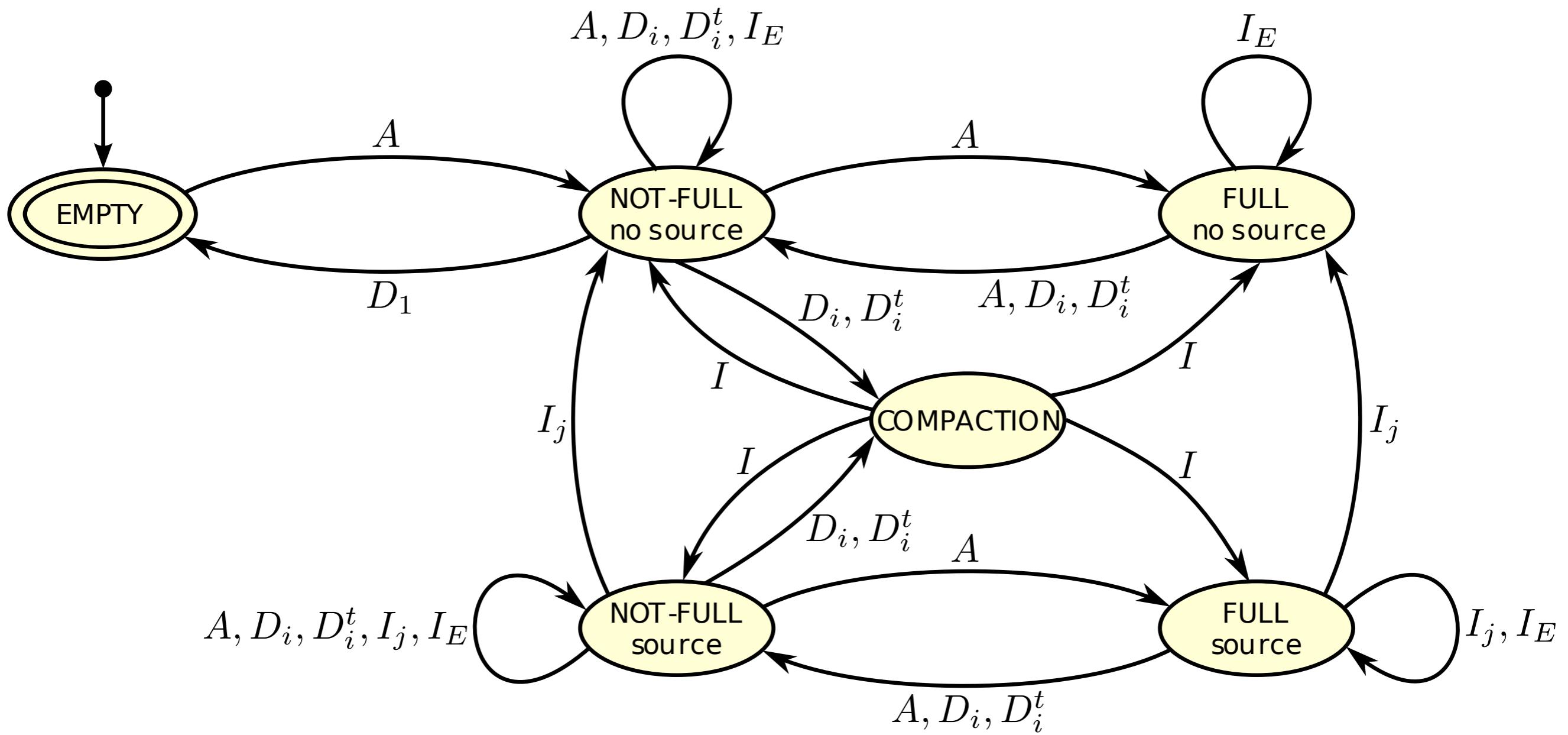


transient size-class
fragmentation

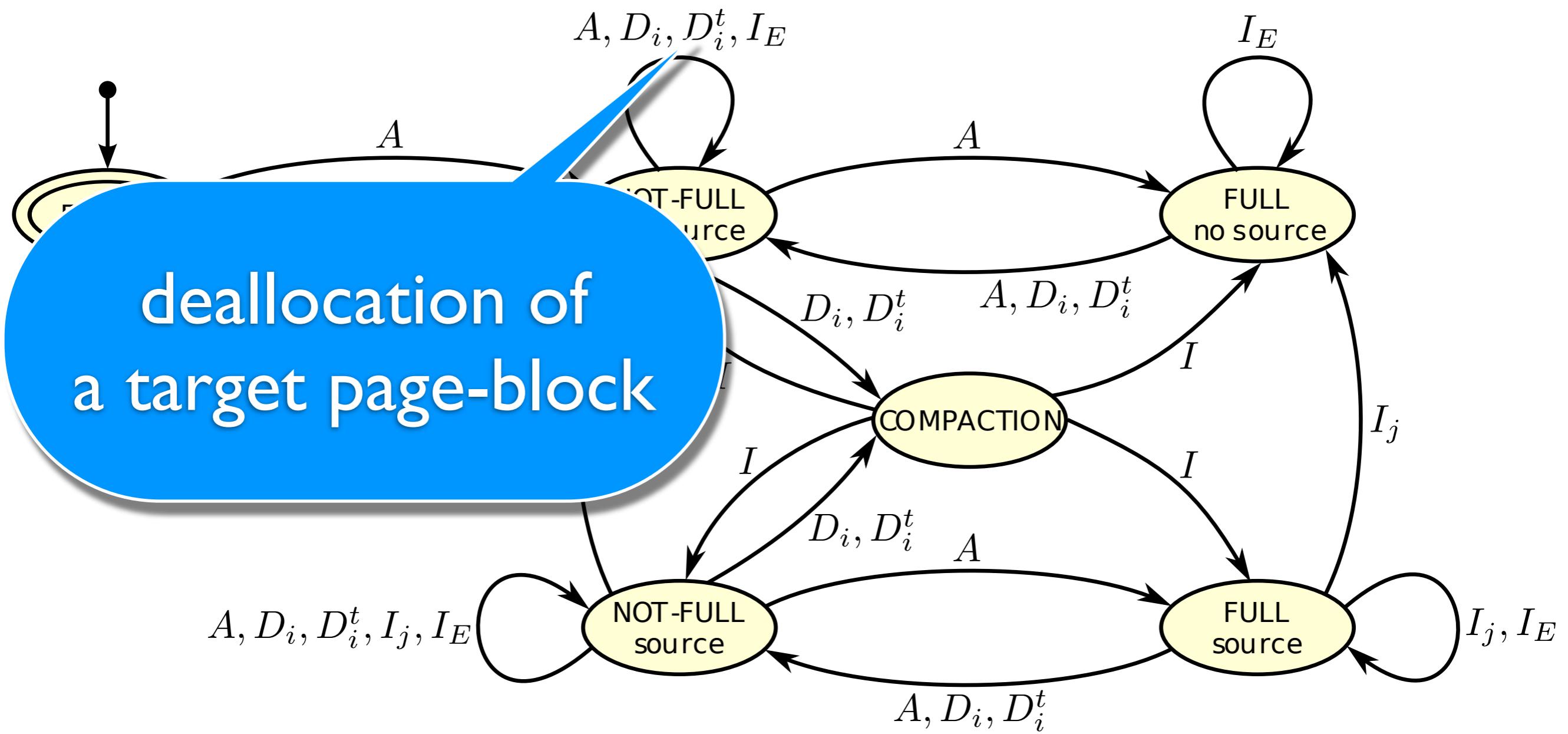
of a Page



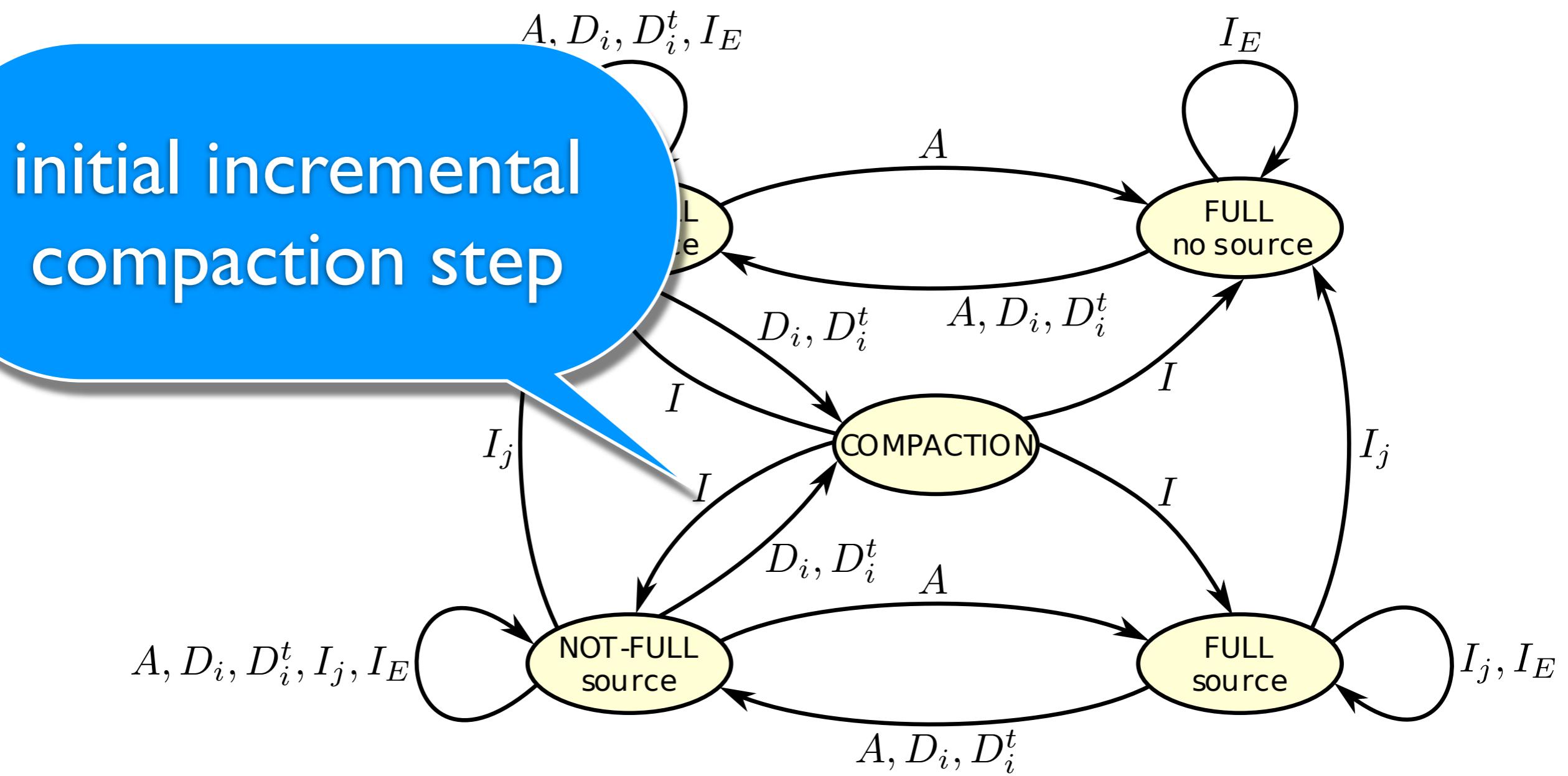
Incremental Size-Class Automaton for $\pi > l$



Incremental Size-Class Automaton for $\pi > l$



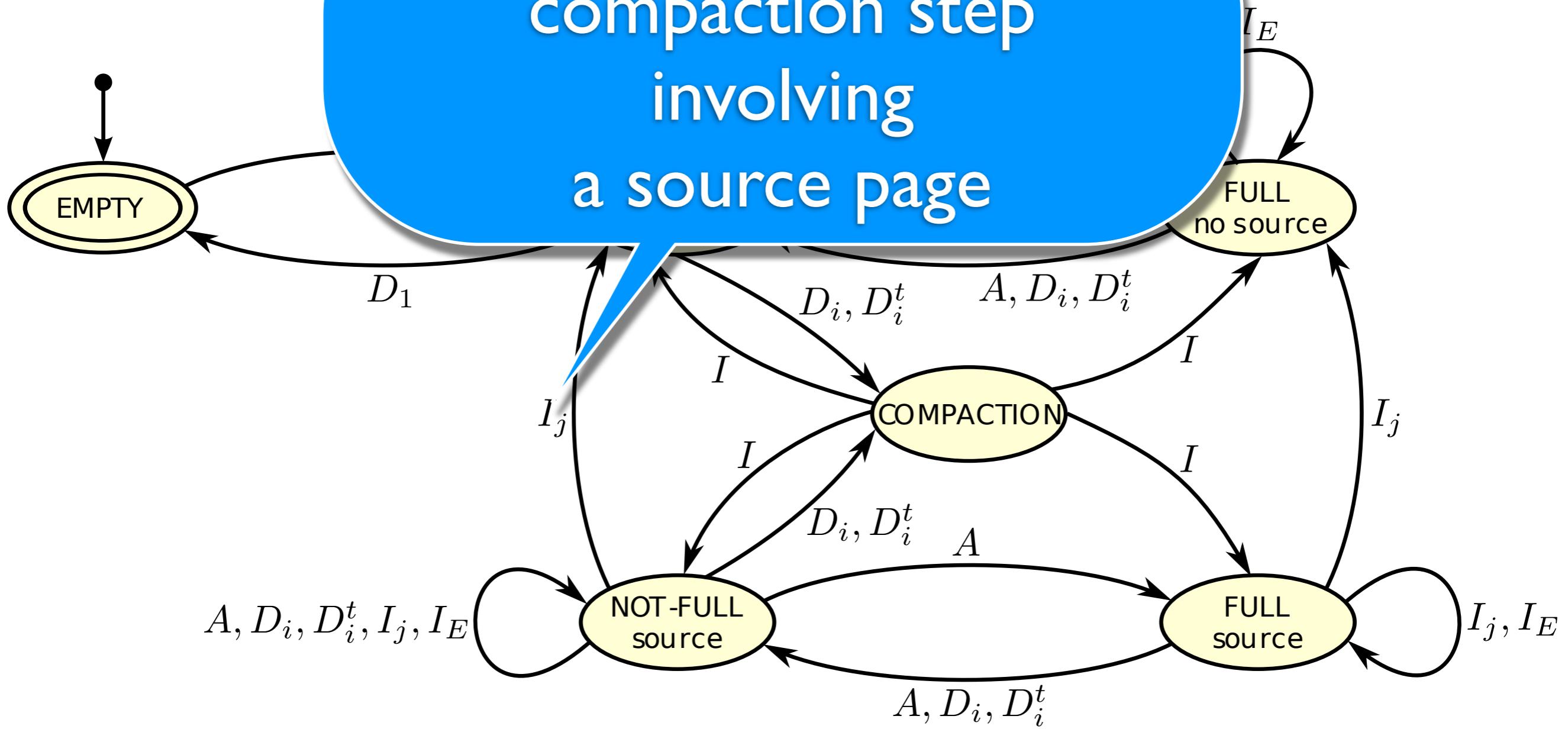
Incremental Size-Class Automaton for $\pi > l$



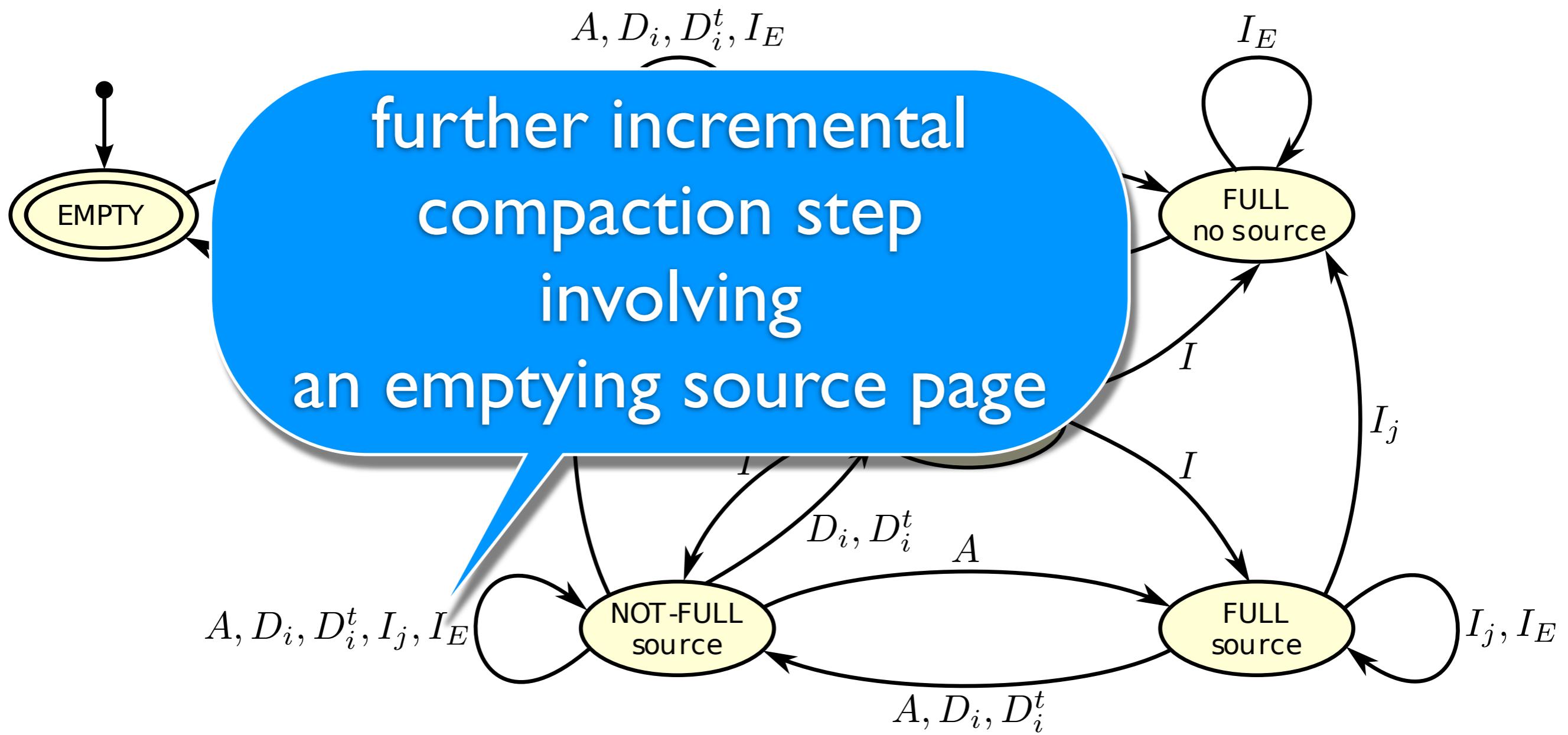
Incremental Size-Class

Automaton for $\Pi > I$

further incremental
compaction step
involving
a source page



Incremental Size-Class Automaton for $\pi > l$



Temporal and Spatial Complexity per CF Configuration and Size-Class

	malloc	free	latency
1-CF(∞, ∞)	$O(n)$	$O(n)$	$O(1)$
1-CF(κ, ∞)	$O(n)$	$O(n + \beta)$	$O(\beta)$
n -CF(∞, ∞)	$O(1)$	$O(1)$	$O(1)$
n -CF(κ, ∞)	$O(1)$	$O(\beta)$	$O(\beta)$
1-CF(κ, ι)	$O(n)$	$O(n + \beta + \lfloor \frac{\beta}{\iota} \rfloor)$	$O(\min(\beta, \iota))$

	memory size	size-class fragmentation
1-CF(∞, ∞)	$O(n * m * \pi * \beta)$	$O(n * m * (\pi - 1) * \beta)$
1-CF(κ, ∞)	$O((n * m + \kappa * (\pi - 1)) * \beta)$	$O(\kappa * (\pi - 1) * \beta)$
n -CF(∞, ∞)	$O(n * m * \pi * \beta)$	$O(n * m * (\pi - 1) * \beta)$
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n -CF(κ, ∞)	$O(1)$	$O(\beta)$	$O(\beta)$
		$(n + \beta + \lfloor \frac{\beta}{\iota} \rfloor) O(\min(\beta, \iota))$	

n is the # of threads

	size	size-class fragmentation
1-CF(∞, ∞)	$O(n * m * \pi * \beta)$	$O(n * m * (\pi - 1) * \beta)$
1-CF(κ, ∞)	$O((n * m + \kappa * (\pi - 1)) * \beta)$	$O(\kappa * (\pi - 1) * \beta)$
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Temporal and Spatial Complexity per CF Configuration and Size-Class

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n -CF(∞, ∞)	$O(1)$	$O(1)$	$O(1)$
n -CF(κ, ∞)	$O(1)$	$O(\beta)$	$O(\beta)$
1-CF(κ, ι)	$O(n)$	$O(\iota)$	

β is the page-block size

	memory size	
1-CF(∞, ∞)	$O(n * m * \pi * \beta)$	$O(n * m * (\pi - 1) * \beta)$
1-CF(κ, ∞)	$O((n * m + \kappa * (\pi - 1)) * \beta)$	$O(\kappa * (\pi - 1) * \beta)$
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Temporal and Spatial Complexity per CF Configuration and Size-Class

	latency
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1-CF(κ, ι)	$O(\beta)$
n -CF	$O(1)$
n -CF(κ, ι)	$O(\beta)$
1-CF(κ, ι)	$O(\min(\beta, \iota))$

m is the # of per-thread-allocated page-blocks

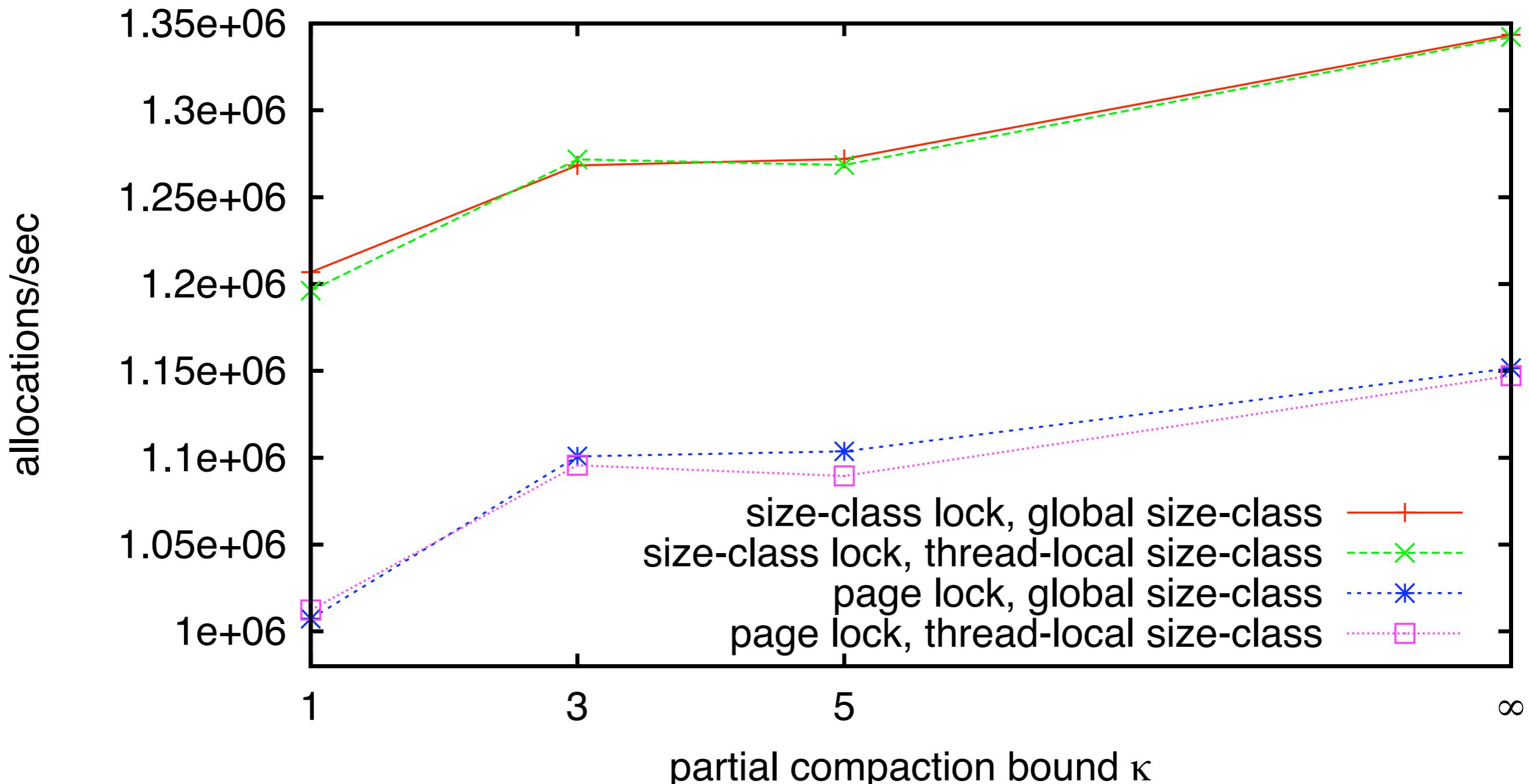
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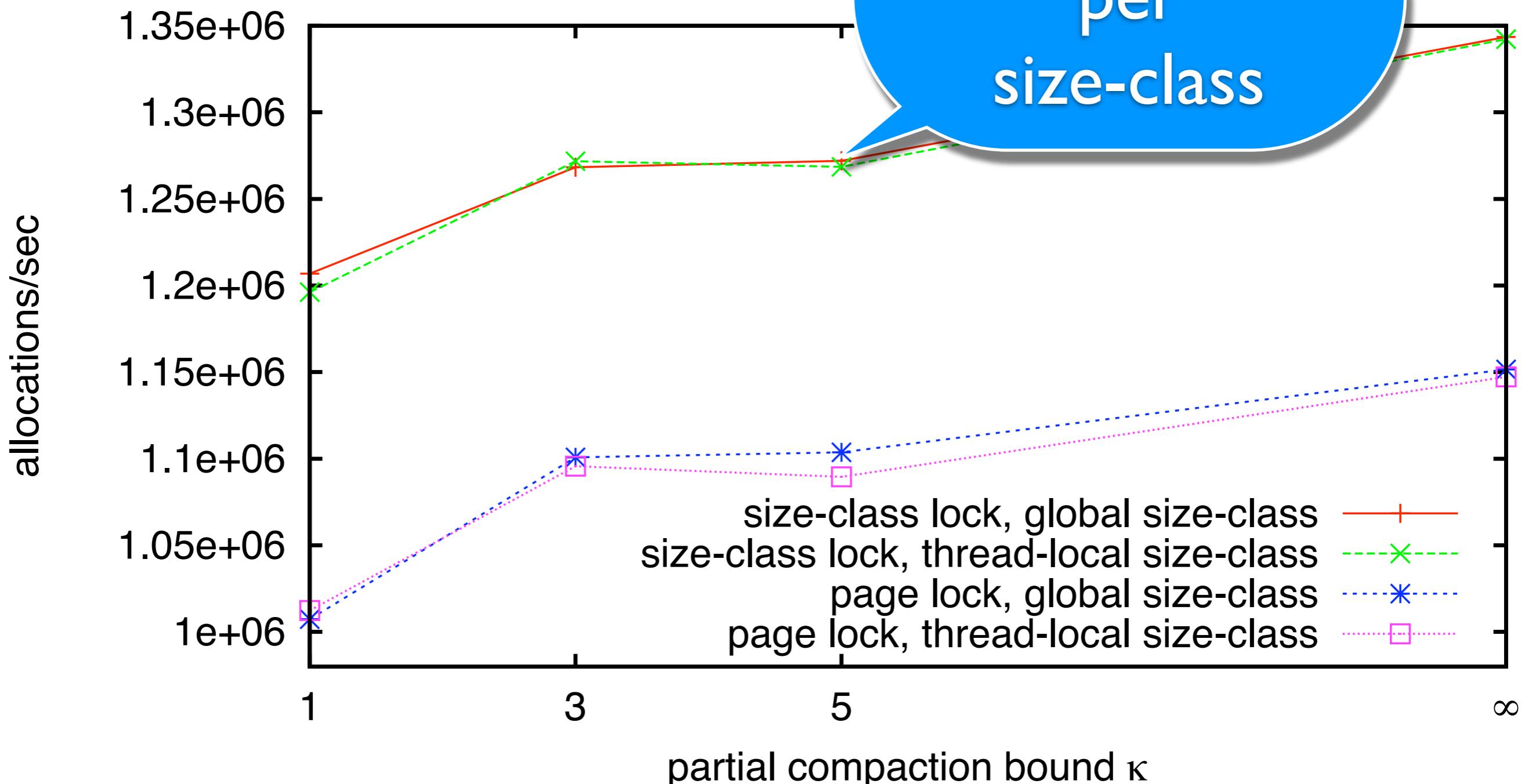
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1-CF(κ, ι)	$O((n * m + n * \pi + \kappa * (\pi - 1)) * \beta)$	$O((n * \pi + \kappa * (\pi - 1)) * \beta)$

Single Thread Allocation Throughput

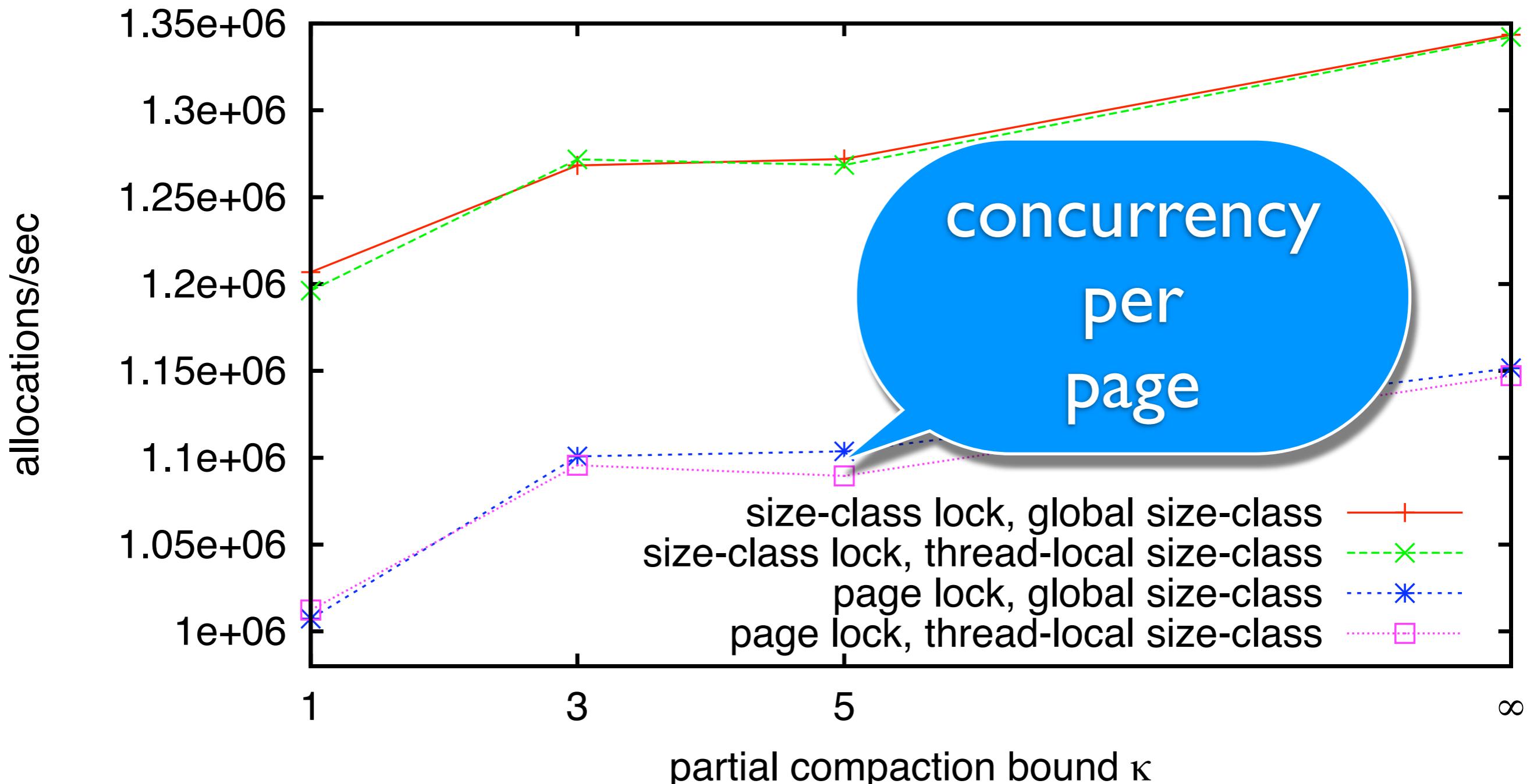


Single Thread Allocation Throughput

concurrency
per
size-class

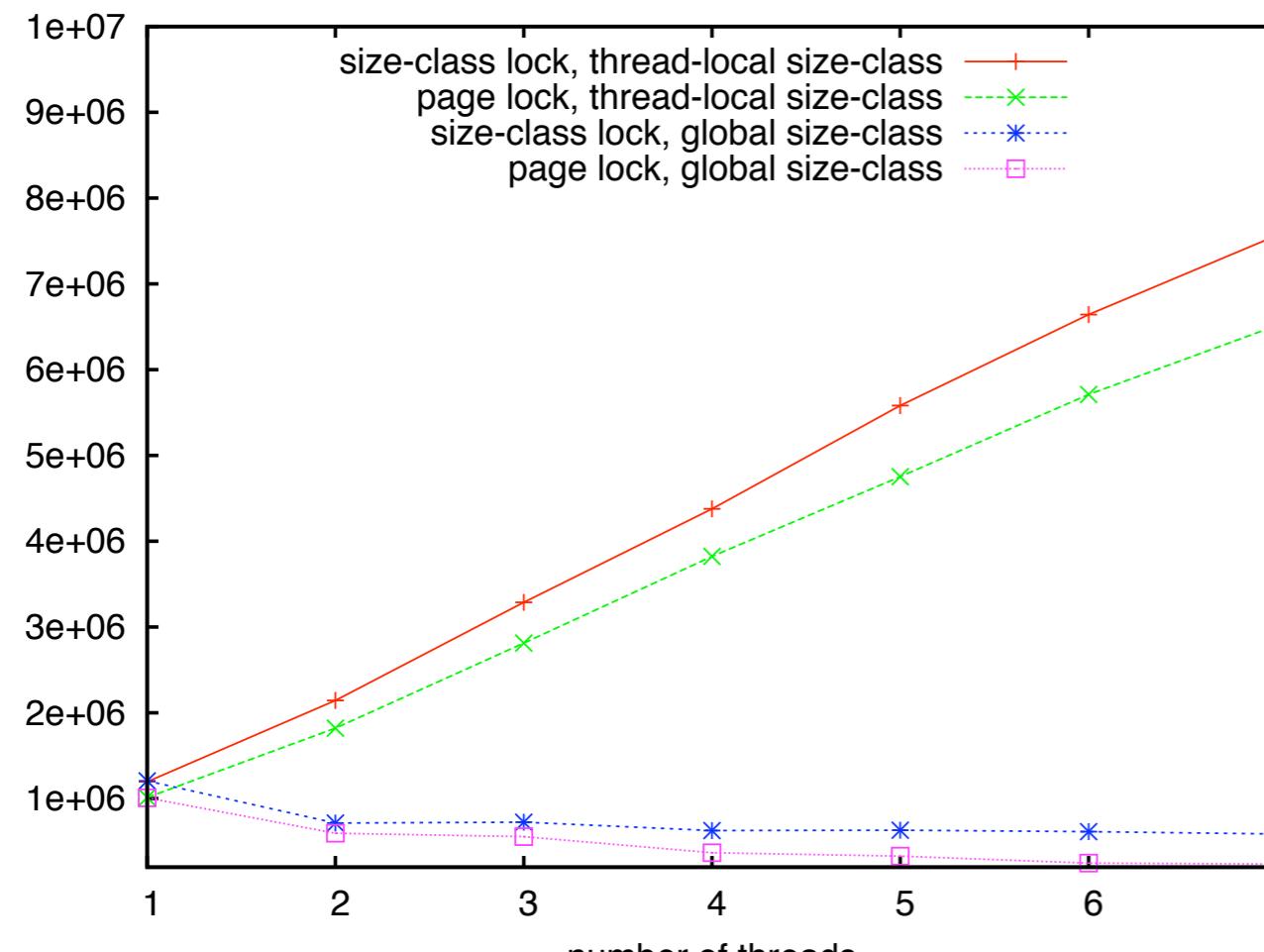


Single Thread Allocation Throughput

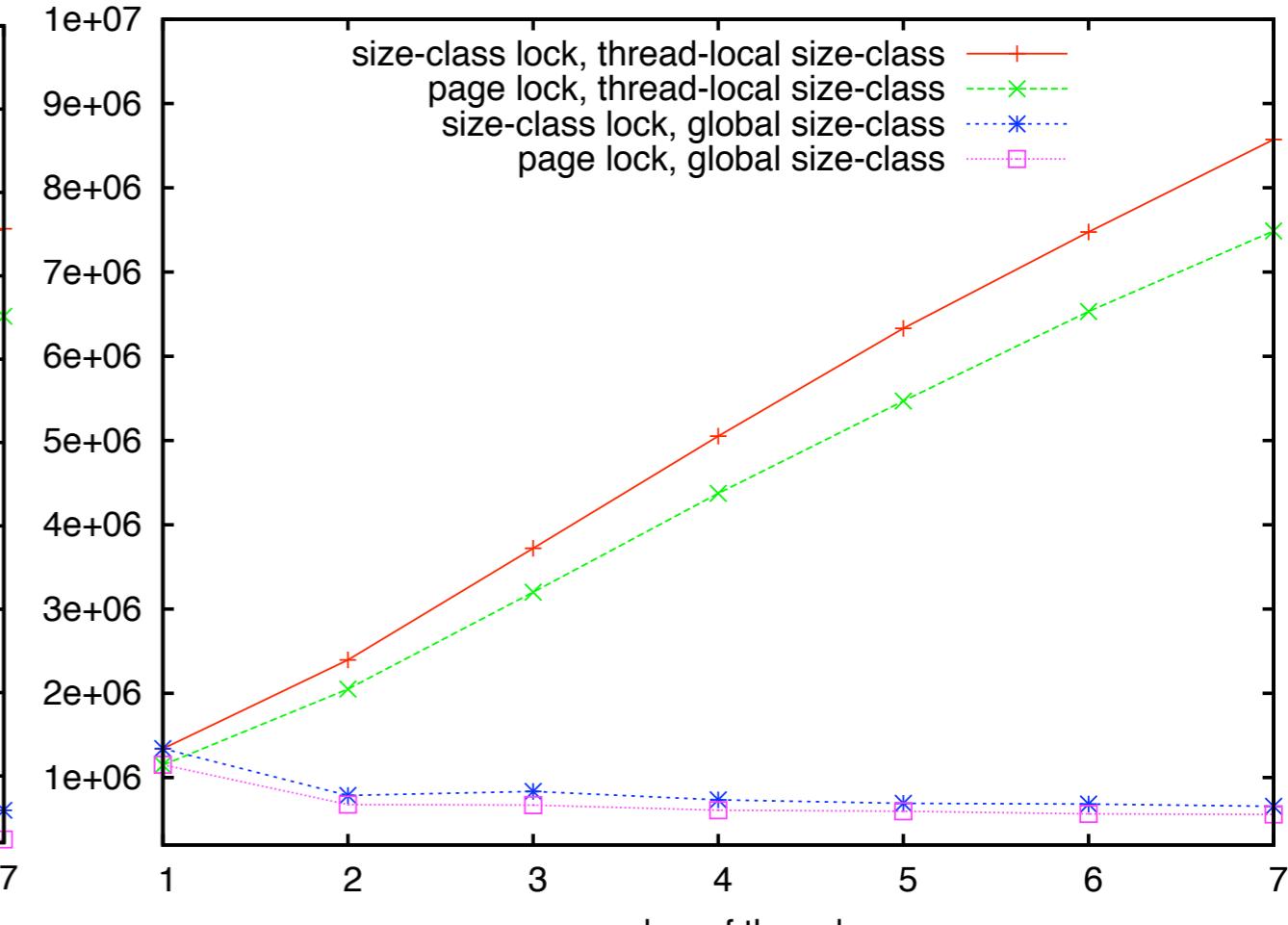


- less compaction may result in better allocation throughput
- size-class locks better than page locks

Scalability of Allocation Throughput

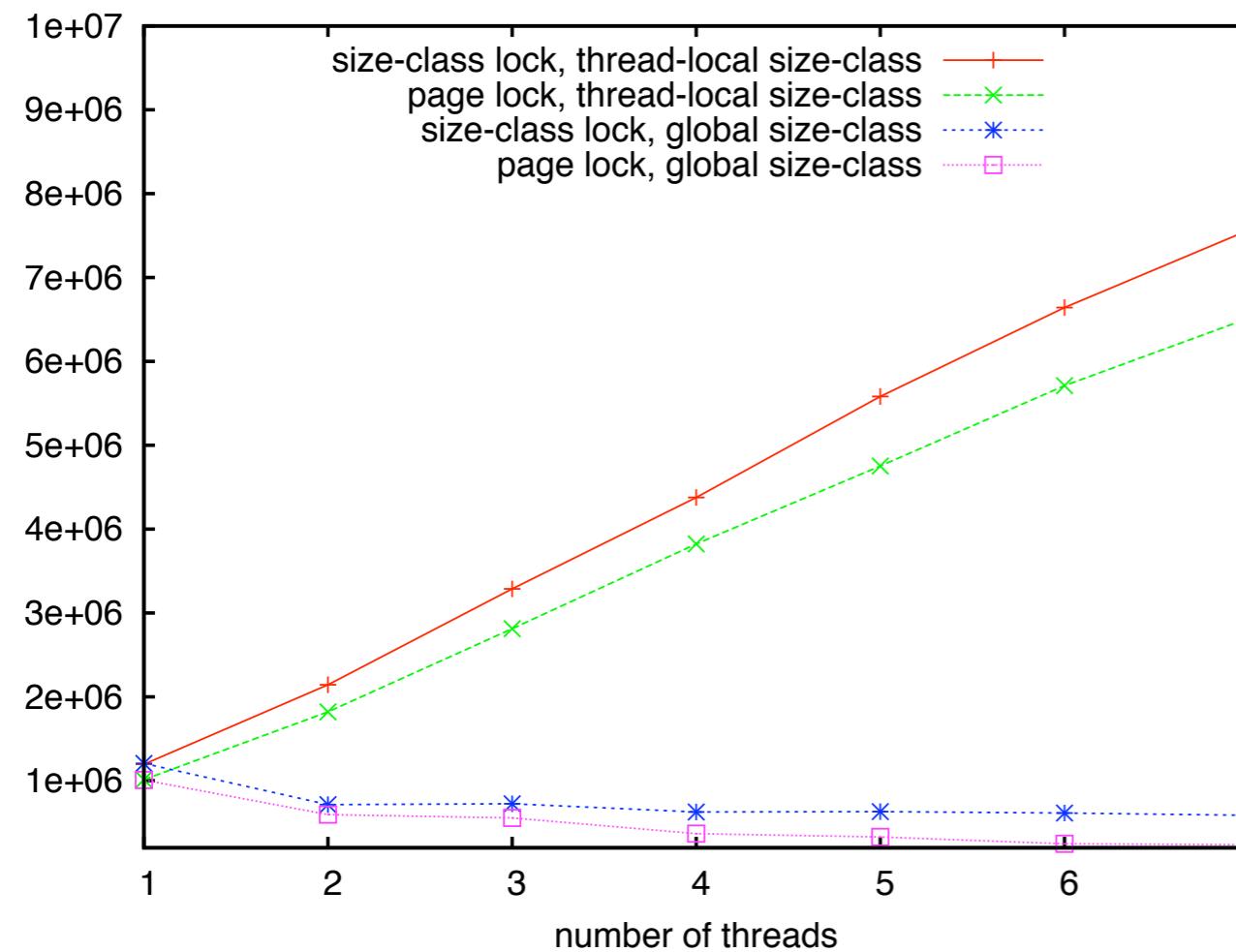


(a) full compaction

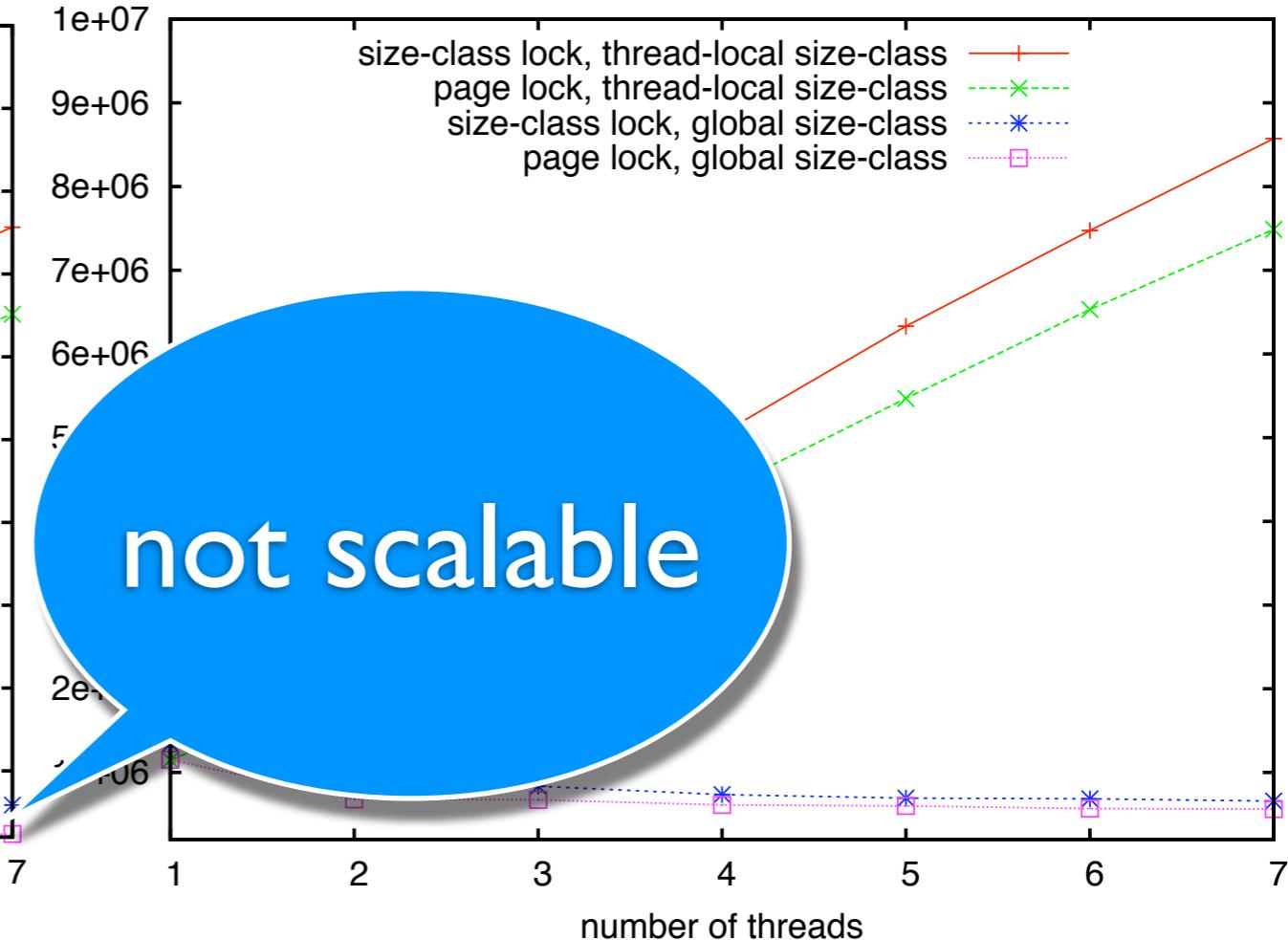


(b) optimized, non-compacting

Scalability of Allocation Throughput



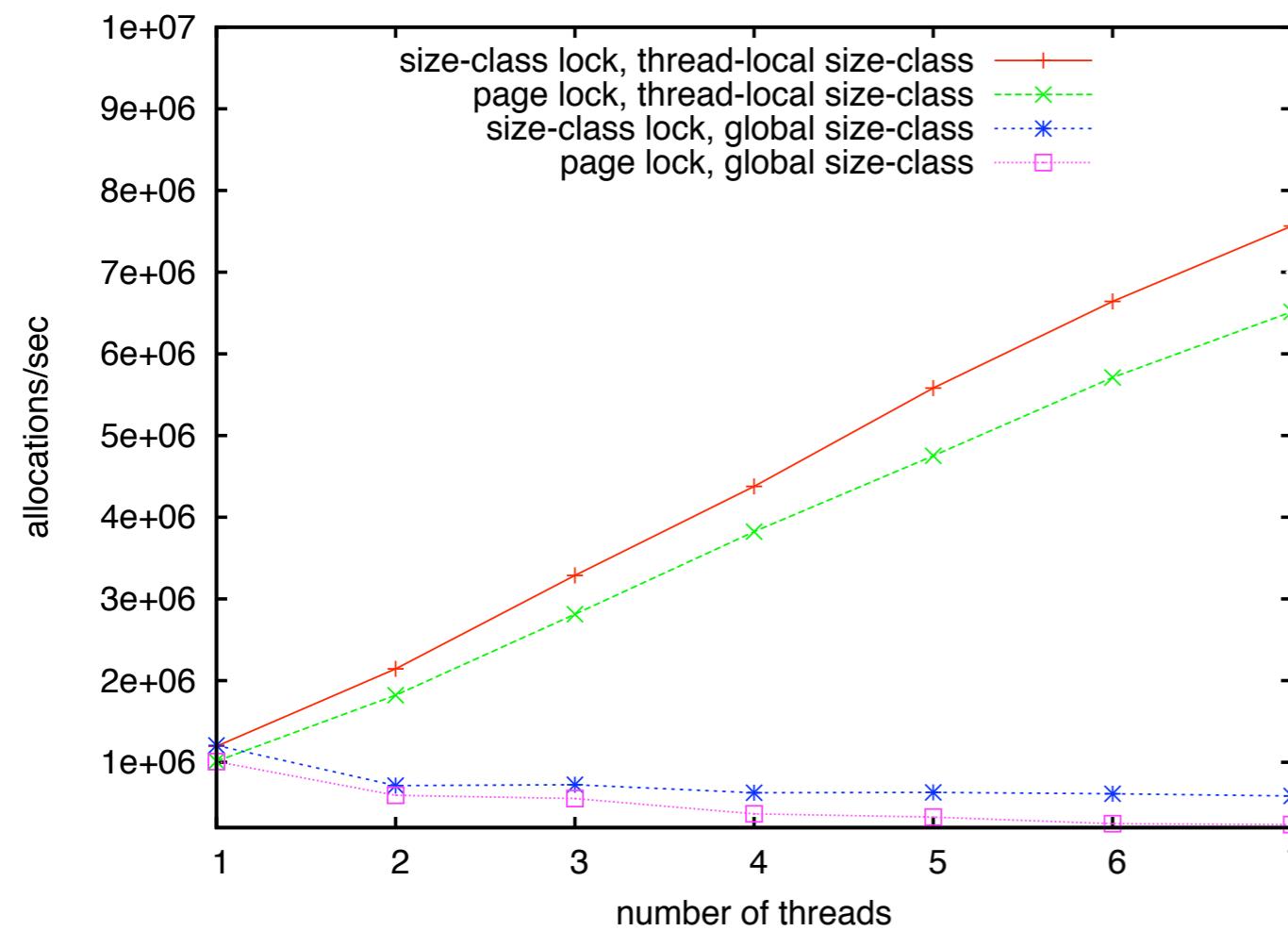
(a) full compaction



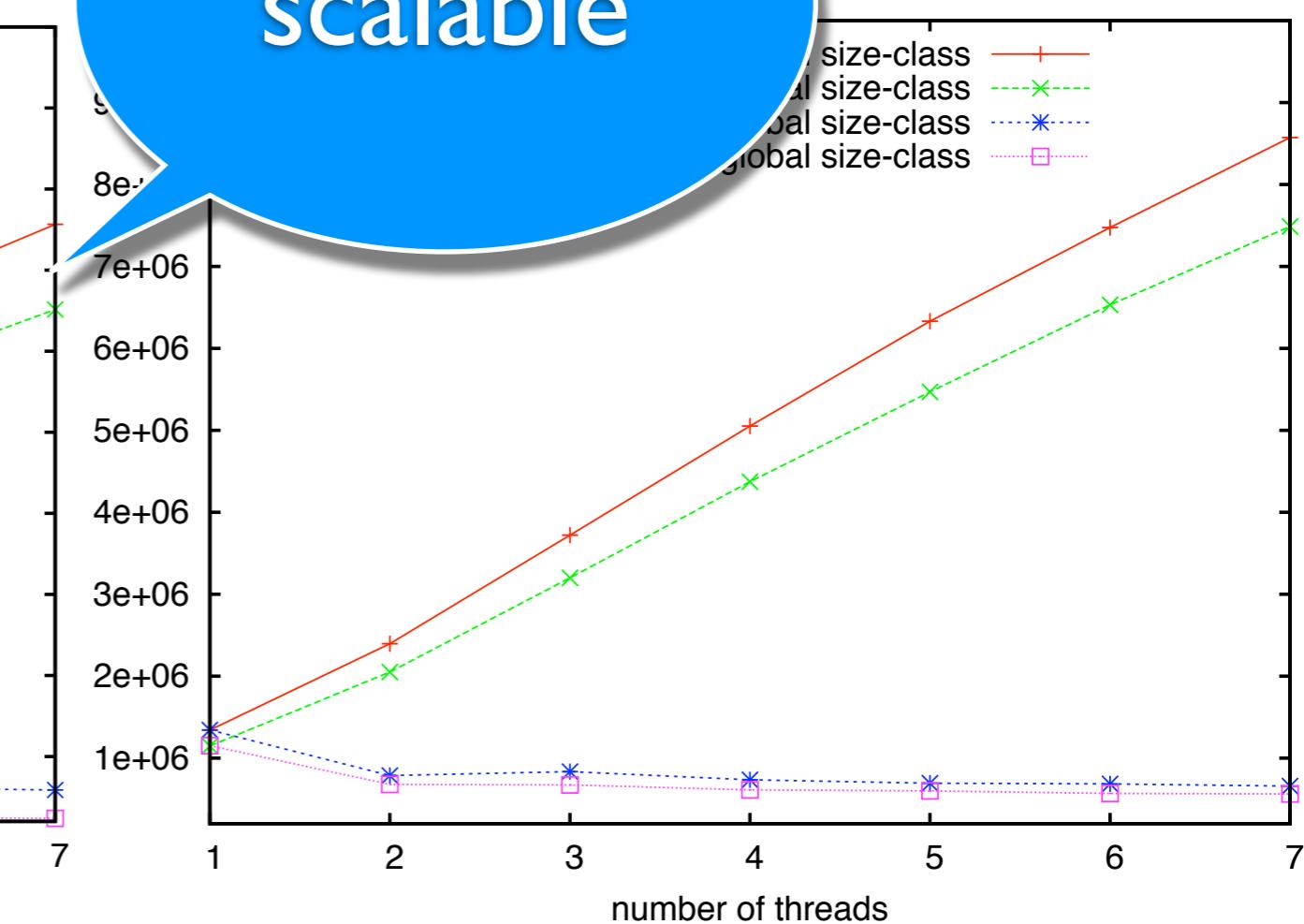
(b) optimized, non-compacting

Scalability of Allocation Throughput

scalable



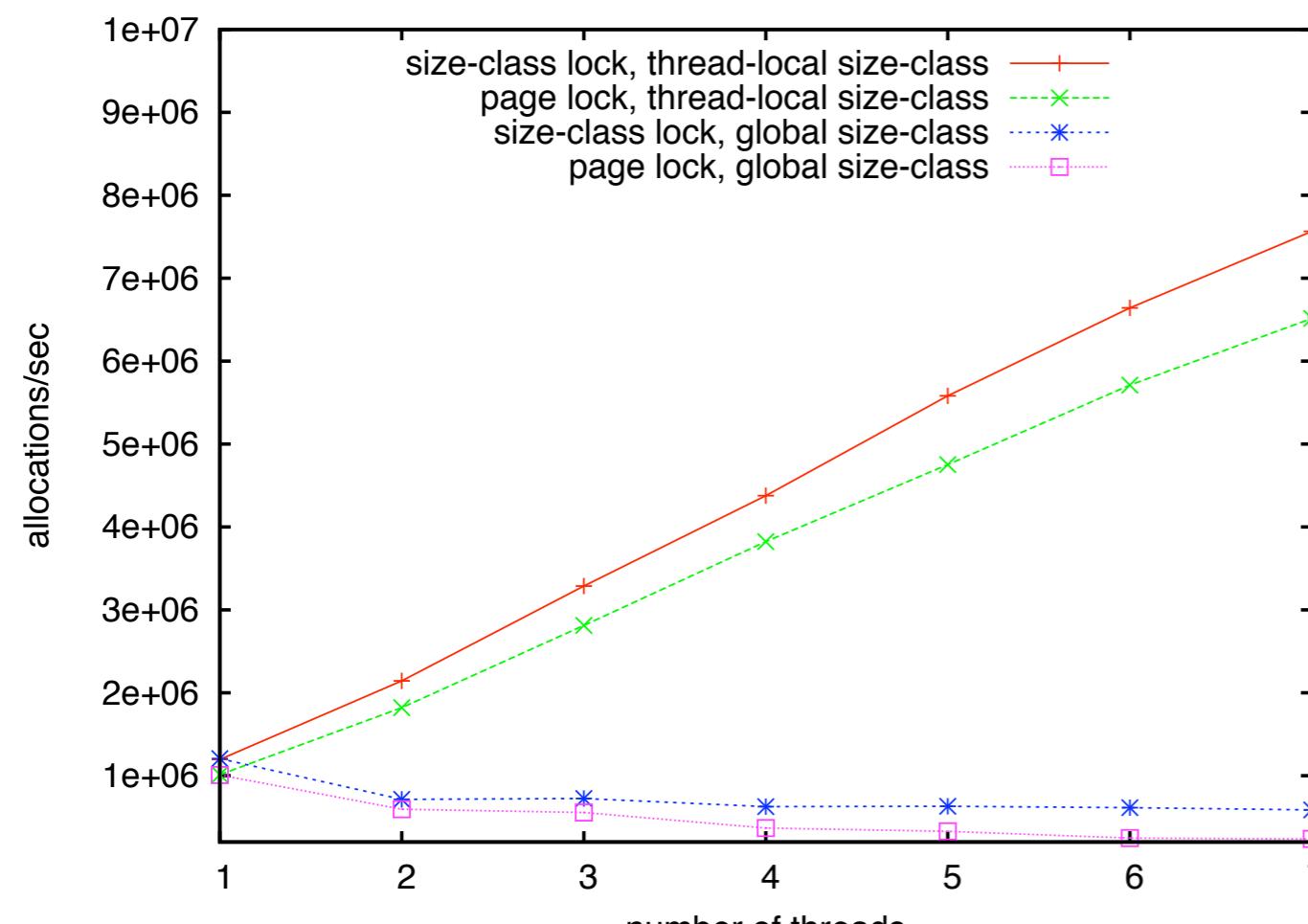
(a) full compaction



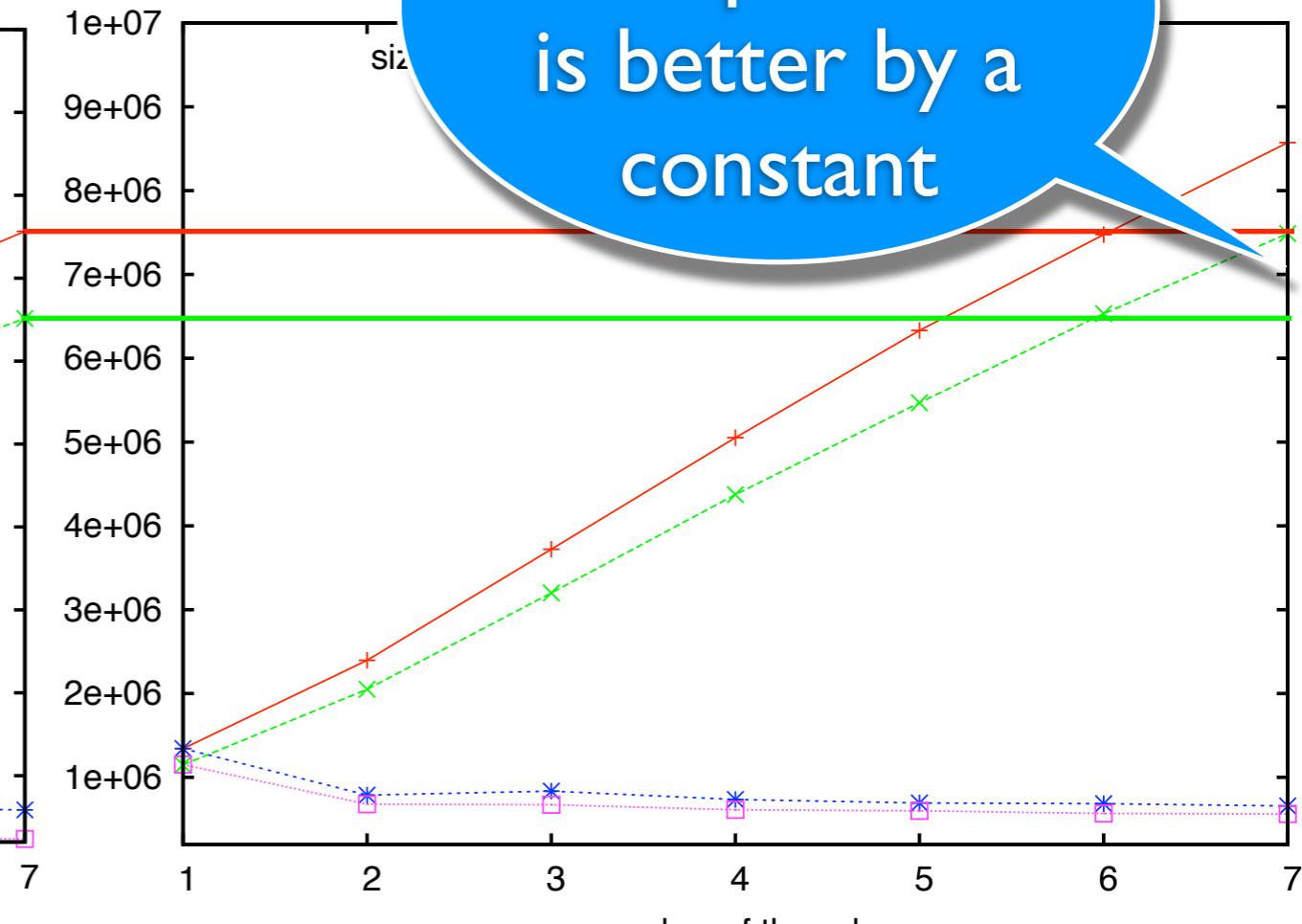
(b) optimized, non-compacting

Scalability of Allocation Throughput

no
compaction
is better by a
constant



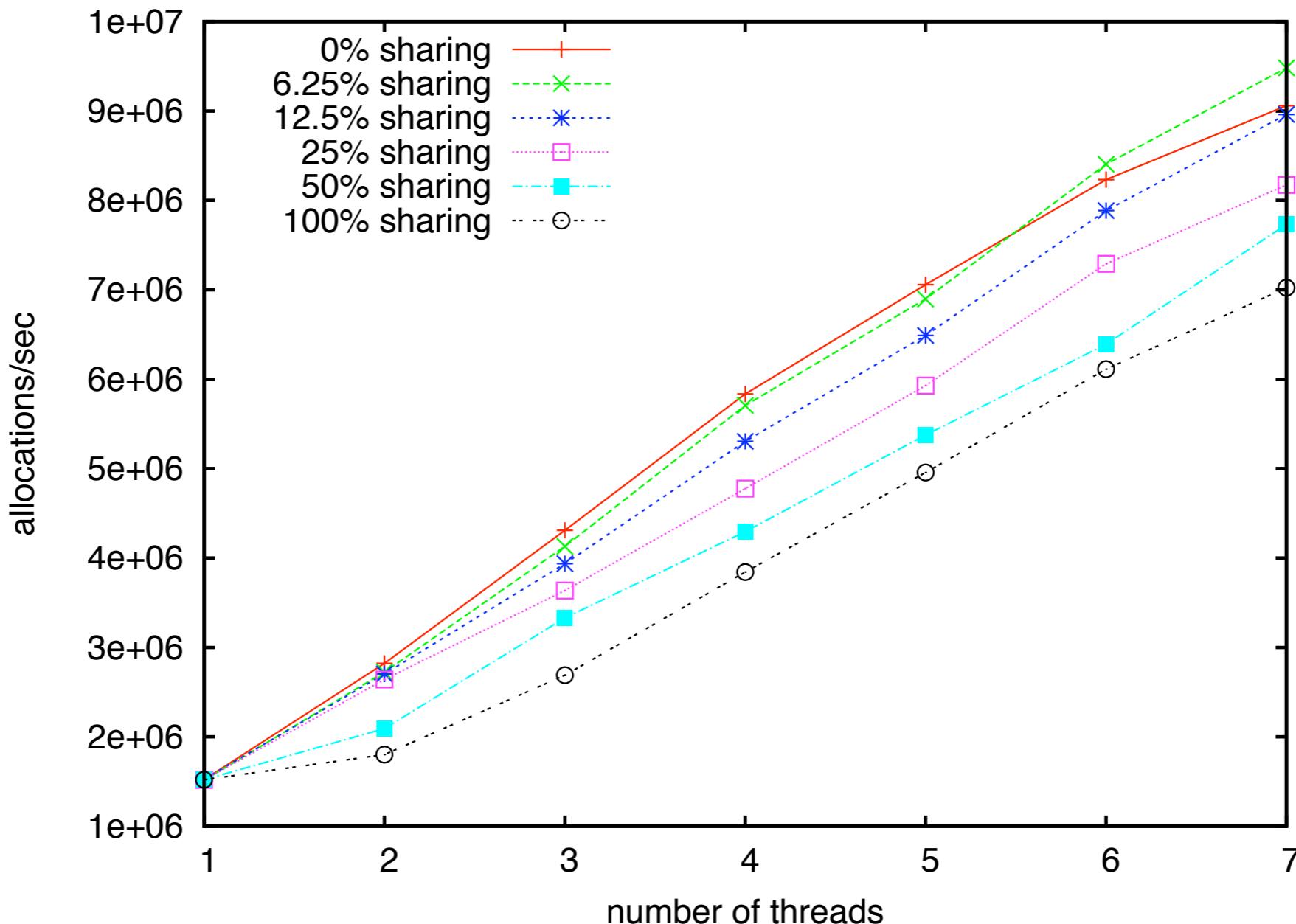
(a) full compaction



(b) optimized, non-compacting

- **global** size-class locks do not scale
- **full** compaction only requires constant factor

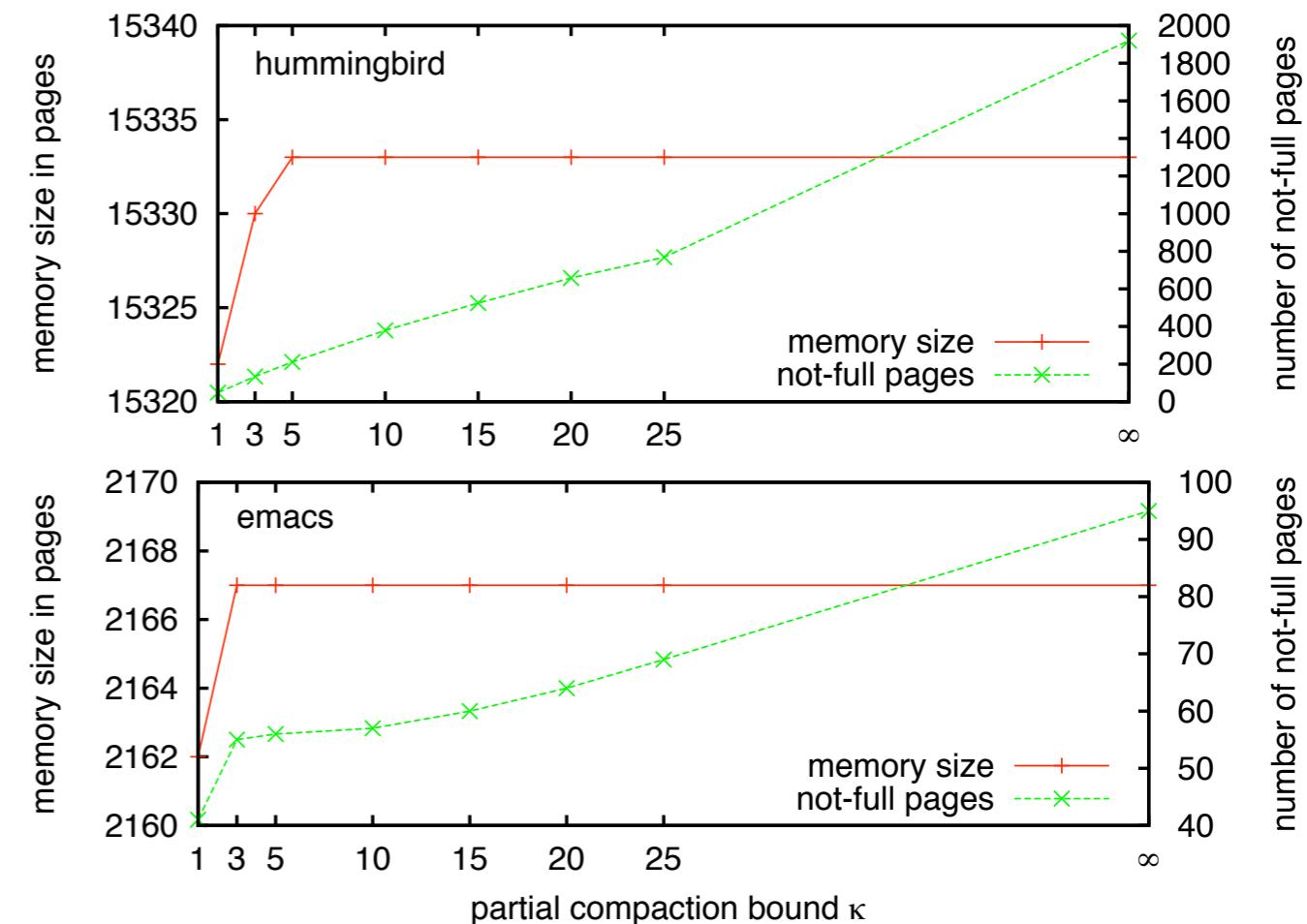
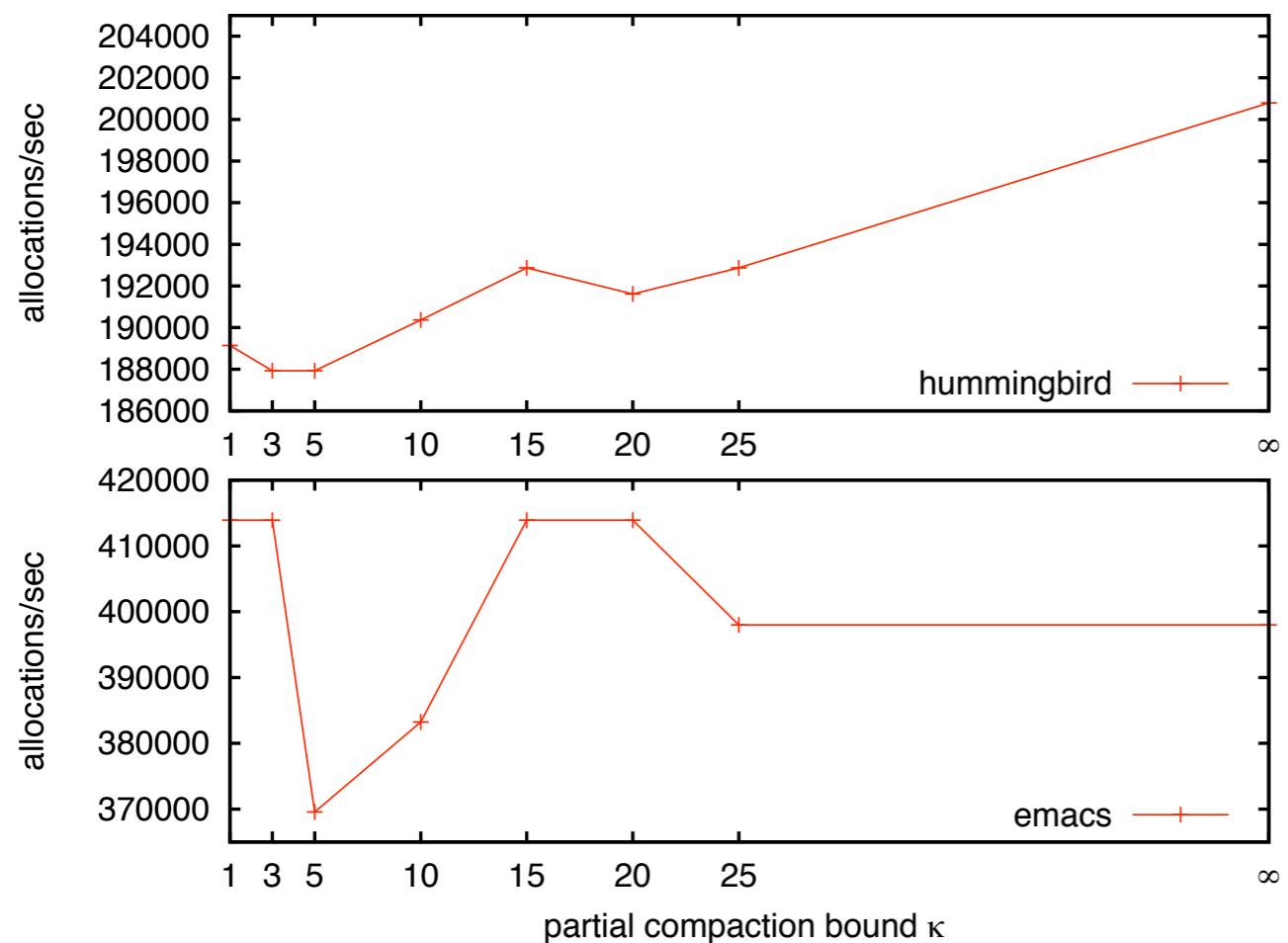
Scalability of Allocation Throughput



(c) opt., non-comp. with sharing

- level of **sharing** determines scalability

Real Application Performance



- less compaction may result in better allocation throughput
- size-class fragmentation increases with less compaction but total memory consumption may not

TLSF vs. opt., non-comp. CF Performance

	memory (in MB)					
	TLSF	CF (16B blocks)		CF (32B blocks)		
	memory size	memory size	size-class fragmentation	memory size	size-class fragmentation	
Emacs	25.7	34.6	0.46	34.5	0.38	
Hummingbird	203.7	245.3	8.3	245.9	11.4	

	malloc (in clock ticks)				free (in clock ticks)			
	TLSF		CF		TLSF		CF	
	avg time	max time	avg time	max time	avg time	max time	avg time	max time
Emacs	228	93359	260	81662	153	71159	279	74798
Hummingbird	411	109079	529	98820	500	69192	574	79914

TLSF vs. opt., non-comp. CF Performance

	memory fragmentation (in clock ticks)					
	TLSF	CF (16B blocks)	size-class	size-class	size-class	size-class
	memory size	memory size	fragmentation	class size	class size	class size
Emacs	25.7	34.6	0.46	34.5	0.38	0.38
Hummingbird	203.7	245.3	8.3	245.9	11.4	11.4

only 1.3%
of the 35% more
memory

	malloc (in clock ticks)				free (in clock ticks)			
	TLSF		CF		TLSF		CF	
	avg time	max time	avg time	max time	avg time	max time	avg time	max time
Emacs	228	93359	260	81662	153	71159	279	74798
Hummingbird	411	109079	529	98820	500	69192	574	79914

TLSF vs. opt., non-comp. CF Performance

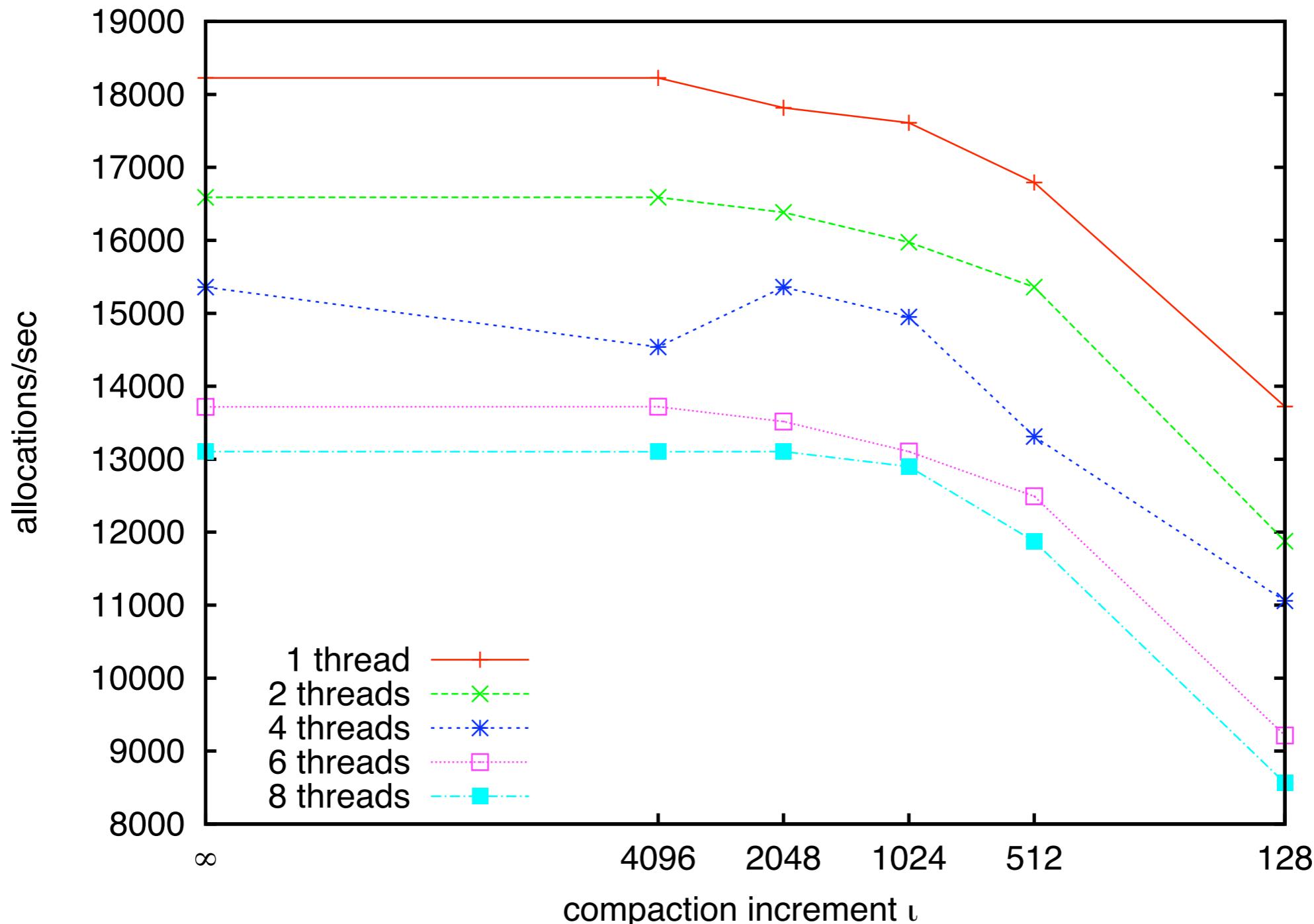
	memory (in MB)					
	TLSF	CF (16B blocks)		CF (32B blocks)		
	memory size	memory size	size-class fragmentation	memory size	size-class fragmentation	
Emacs	25.7	34.6	0.46	34.5	0.38	
Hummingbird	203.7	245.3	8.3	245.9	11.4	

	malloc (in clock ticks)				free (in clock ticks)			
	TLSF		CF		TLSF		CF	
	avg time	max time	avg time	max time	avg time	max time	avg time	max time
Emacs	228	93359	260	81662	153	71159	279	74798
Hummingbird	411	109079	529	98820	500	69192	574	79914

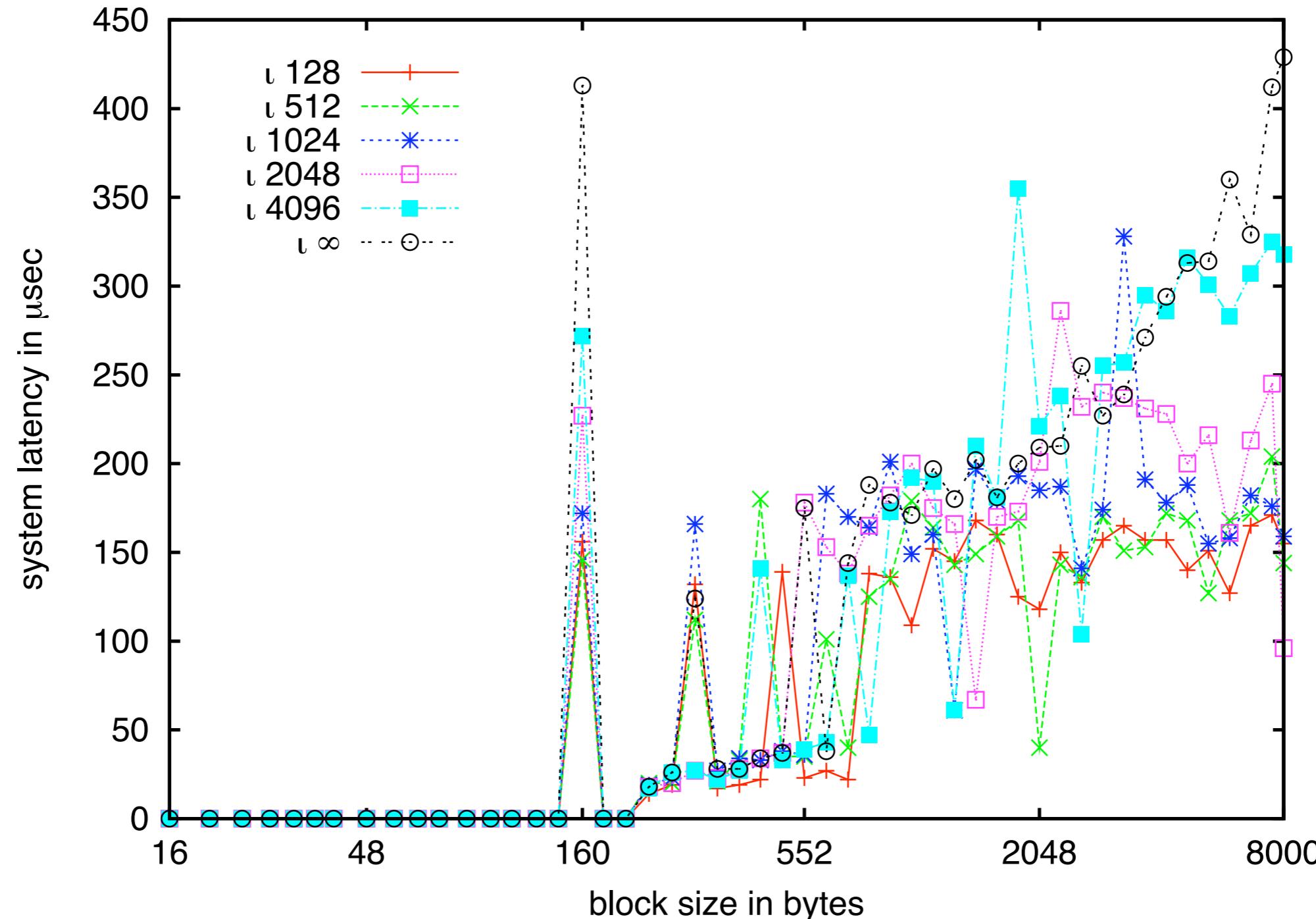
sometimes
even better
than TLSF

- fragmentation through partitioning **dominates** CF memory consumption
- opt., non-comp. CF only slightly slower than TLSF

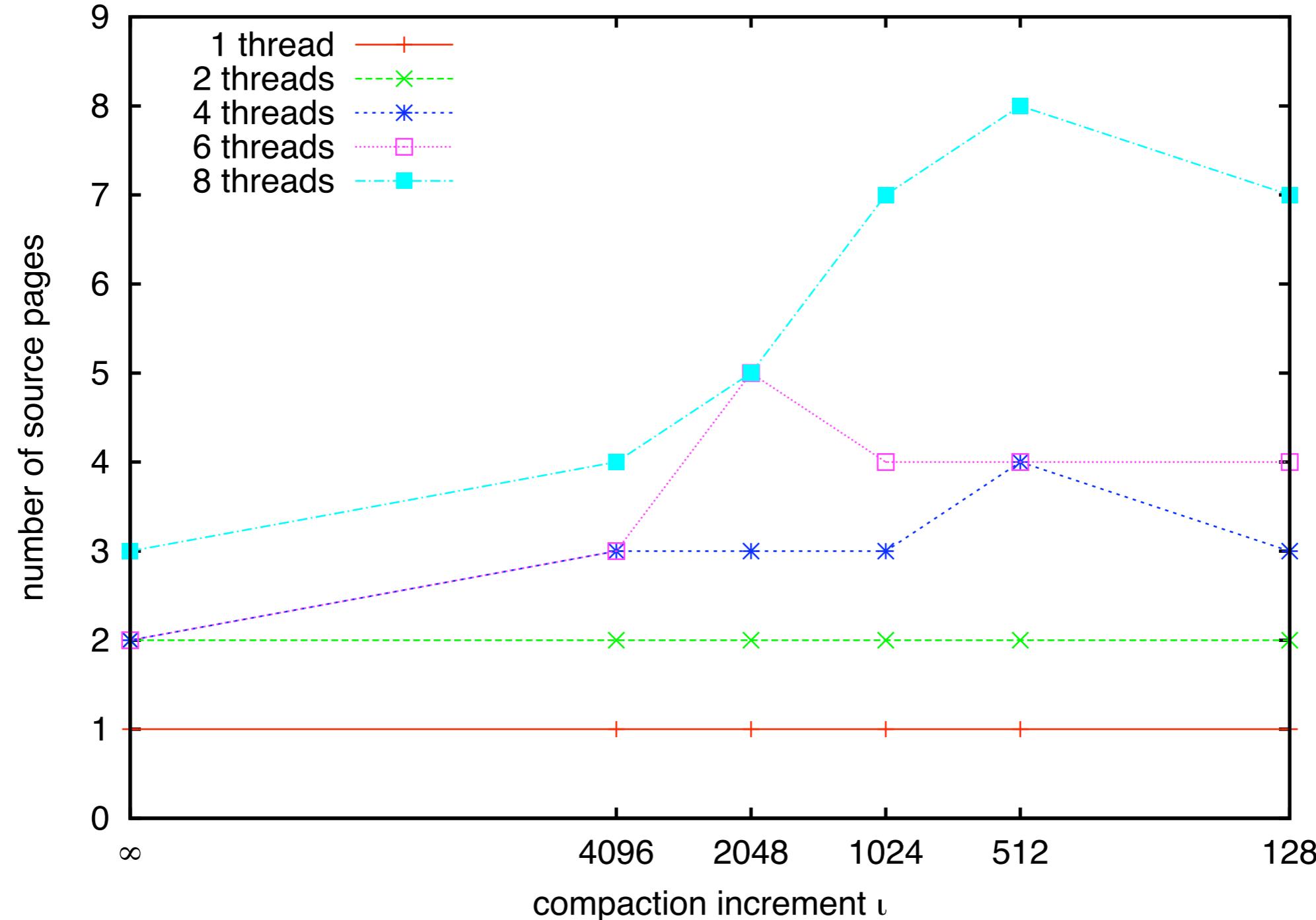
Allocation Throughput with Decreasing Compaction Increment



System Latency with 8 Threads and Increasing Block Size



Transient Size-Class Fragmentation with Decreasing Compaction Increment





Thank you