

## Outline

- What are the differences between memory on the stack vs. the heap? How is each region of memory utilized?
  - Stack
    - Used for static memory allocation
    - Fixed size
    - Fast access
    - Includes local variables, and function arguments
  - Heap
    - Used for dynamic memory allocation
    - Variables stay in memory until they are deallocated
    - Size changes depending the amount of memory being allocated/deallocated
    - Can be accessed globally as long as a pointer to the memory exists
    - Susceptible to memory leaks
- What is malloc() used for? What is the proper syntax for calling malloc()? Specifically, describe every component of a sample call, such as `int* ptr = (int*)malloc(sizeof(int)*100);`
  - `malloc()` allocates memory from the heap
  - `int*` = declares a pointer to an integer
  - `(int*)` typecasts the memory address to an integer pointer
  - `sizeof(int) * 100` = the size of 1 int times 100 so it gives the size of 100 ints
  - `malloc()` = allocates the specified amount of memory from the heap and returns a pointer to the memory address
- What is realloc() used for? What is the proper syntax for calling realloc()? How does realloc() differ from malloc()?
  - `realloc()` adjusts the size of the memory that has already been allocated without changing the data that is stored

- `ptr = (int*)realloc(ptr, sizeof(int) * 200);`
  - `Ptr` = the pointer to memory that has already been dynamically allocated from the heap
  - `(int*)` casts the memory address to an int pointer
  - `realloc(ptr, sizeof(int) * 200)` = resizes the amount of dynamically allocated memory to the size of 200 ints
- Difference between `malloc()` and `realloc()`
  - `malloc()` allocates a new block of memory
  - `realloc()` resizes a block of memory that was already allocated without changing the data that was stored inside
- What is `free()` used for? When should `free()` be called? What are the potential issues if `free()` is not used properly?
  - `free()` deallocates the memory to avoid memory leaks
  - `free()` should be called when the data stored in the memory block is no longer needed
  - Potential issues
    - Memory leaks
      - Memory isn't being deallocated and all free memory ends up being used causing the system to crash
    - Deallocated pointers
      - Using `free()` on a pointer that has already been deallocated can cause unpredictable behavior