

CSC209H Worksheet: Stacks and Heaps

- Trace the memory usage for the program below. We have set up both stack frames for you, and the location of the heap.

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int *mkarray(int a, int b, int c) {
    int arr[3];
    arr[0] = a;
    arr[1] = b;
    arr[2] = c;

    int *p = arr;
    return p;
}
```

```
// Code for other_function() omitted.
```

```
int main() {
    int *ptr = mkarray(10, 20, 30);
    other_function();
    printf("%d %d %d\n", ptr[0], ptr[1], ptr[2]);
}
```

Other_function will probably overwrite the memory used by local variables in mkarray.

Section	Address	Value	Label
Heap for Q2 →	0x23c	10	
	0x240	20	
	0x244	30	
	0x248		
	⋮	⋮	
stack frame for mkarray Q2 ↙	0x454		
	0x458		
	0x45c	0x474	p
	0x460		
	0x464	10	a
	0x46c	20	b
	0x470	30	c
	0x474	10	arr
	0x478	20	
	0x47c	30	
stack frame for main	0x480	0x474	ptr
	0x484		
	0x488		
	0x48c		

- The program in part 1 will not work correctly. Notice the call to `other_function`. Explain to your partner why the program doesn't work. Fix the `mkarray` function, and trace it again.
- Once you've fixed the code, add a statement to your program to deallocate the memory on the heap as soon as possible.

free must be after the print statement

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4. Trace the memory usage for the program below. We have set up the stack frames for you, and the location of the heap.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
/* Build an array in dynamic memory to hold
   multiples of x from x to x*x.
   Return a pointer to this array.
*/
```

```
int *multiples(int x) {
    int *a = malloc(sizeof(int) * x);
    for (int i = 0; i < x; i++) {
        a[i] = (i + 1) * x;
    }
    return a;
}
```

```
int main() {
    int *ptr;
    int size = 3;
```

```
    ptr = multiples(size);

    for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {
        printf("%d\t", ptr[i]);
    }
    printf("\n");
```

```
    return 0;
}
```

Section	Address	Value	Label
Heap	0x224		
	0x228	3	
	0x22c	6	
	0x230	9	
	0x234		
	0x238		
	0x23c		
	0x240		
	0x244		
	⋮	⋮	
stack frame for multiples	0x46c	0x228	a
	0x470		
	0x474		i
	0x478	3	x
stack frame for main	0x47c	0x228	ptr
	0x480		
	0x484	3	size
	0x488		i
	0x48c		

5. Change the `main` function so that it calls `multiples` and prints the array in a loop with sizes of 3, 4, and 5. Besides the changes described, do not make any other changes or additions to the code.
6. Trace the memory usage of your changed program. Explain the problem to your partner and then fix it by adding calls to deallocate the memory.

Address
Space

$2^{64}-1$



read-only memory
uninitialized

initialized

0