



## CS 354 - Machine Organization & Programming Tuesday Oct 4th, and Thursday Oct 6th, 2022

### Midterm Exam - Thurs, Oct 6th, 7:30 - 9:30 pm

If your Lecture number is	and the first letter of your family name is ,	then, your assigned exam room is:
001	A-K	B130 Van Vleck
001	L-Z	B102 Van Vleck
002	A-K	S413 Chemistry
002	L-Z	S429 Chemistry

- ♦ **UW ID required.** Students without UW ID must wait until other students are checked in
- ♦ **#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:** Due on or before Friday, Oct 7th

**Homework hw2:** Due on Monday Oct 3rd (solution available Wed morning)

<b>Last Week:</b> Standard & String I/O in <code>stdio.h</code> File I/O in <code>stdio.h</code> Copying Text Files Meet Globals and Static Locals	C's Abstract Memory Model Where Do I Live? Three Faces of Memory Virtual Address Space Linux: Processes and Address Spaces
<b>This Week:</b> Posix <code>brk</code> & <code>unistd.h</code> C's Heap Allocator & <code>stdlib.h</code> Meet the Heap Allocator Design Simple View of Heap	Free Block Organization Implicit Free List Placement Policies <b>MIDTERM EXAM 1</b>
<b>Next Week:</b> The Heap & Dynamic Memory Allocators Read for next week: B&O 9.9.7 Placing Allocated Blocks 9.9.8 Splitting Free Blocks 9.9.9 Getting Additional Heap Memory 9.9.10 Coalescing Free Blocks	9.9.11 Coalescing with Boundary Tags 9.9.12 Putting It Together: Implementing a Simple Allocator 9.9.13 Explicit Free Lists 9.9.14 Segregated Free Lists

## Posix brk & unistd.h

What? `unistd.h` contains a collection of

Posix API (Portable OS Interface) standard for maintaining compatibility among Unix OS's

### DIY Heap via Posix Calls

brk "program break" - pointer to end of program, at top of heap

```
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`

set by OS functions to communicate a specific error

*Handwritten:*  
`#include <errno.h>`  
`printf("error: %i\n", strerror(errno));`

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

*Handwritten:* bc C std allocator is well imp, safe & portable

\* Caveat: Using both `malloc/calloc/realloc` and break functions above results in undefined program behavior.

*Handwritten:* use one or other → not both!

## C's Heap Allocator & `stdlib.h`

What? `stdlib.h` contains a collection of ~25 commonly used C functions

- Conversion: `atoi`; (convert string  $\rightarrow$  int) (`strtol` better)
- execution flow: `exit/abort`
- Math: `abs`
- Searching: `bsearch`
- Sorting: `qsort`
- rand: `rand` `srand` (seeded rand)  
    *note: `rand` is unsigned int  $\Rightarrow$  don't put negatives in*
- AND  $\downarrow$

### 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)`  $\leftarrow$  use on P2B

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

`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.

*fails if larger existing block is not available*

*if (`ptr == NULL`) return `malloc(size)`;  
else if (`size == 0`) free `ptr`; return `NULL`;  
else /i realloc*

`void free(void *ptr)`

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

*-no error checking*

\* For CS 354, if `malloc/calloc/realloc` returns NULL  
just exit the program with an appropriate error message.

## Meet the Heap

What? The heap is

- Segment of the process <sup>virtual address space</sup> VAS, used for dynamically alloc. memory

dynamically allocated memory: memory requested while program is running to satisfy newly known memory needs

- A collection of various-sized memory blocks that are managed by allocator (p3)

block: Contiguous chunk of memory that contains

Blocks  
have  
2 parts

payload: part of memory block that is usable by process.

overhead: part of block that is used by allocator to manage heap.

allocator: code that allocates and frees mem block

### Two Allocator Approaches

1. Implicit: <sup>JAVA / PY</sup>
  - "new" operator implicitly determines size needed
  - GC: garbage collector determines unused bytes and frees them
2. Explicit: <sup>C</sup>
  - malloc must be explicitly told size (#bytes) needed
  - free must be explicitly called to free malloc'd data

## Allocator Design

### Two Goals

1. maximize throughput # malloc and free requests handled (ops/sec)

Higher is better free  $\rightarrow O(1)$

malloc  $\rightarrow O(N)$  where  $N$  = no. of heap blocks

2. maximize memory utilization % of memory used for payload  
= mem requested/heap allocated  
(payload + overhead)

Trade Off: increasing one  $\Rightarrow$  decrease in other

### Requirements

→ List the requirements of a heap allocator.

1. alloc. requests use heap space.
2. provide immediate response
3. must handle arbitrary seq. of requests
4. must not move/change prev. allocated blocks
5. must follow memory alignment requirements

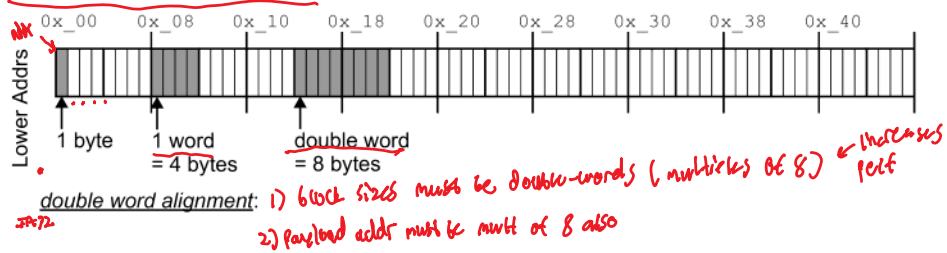
← Improve performance!

### Design Considerations

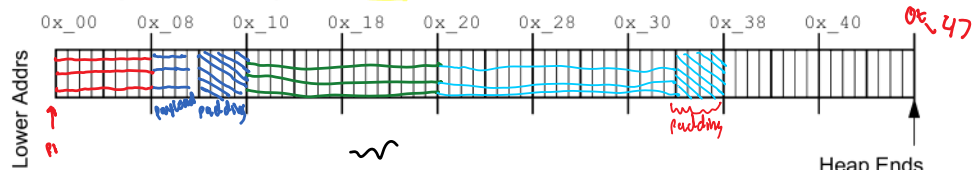
- free blocks organization
- placement policy
- splitting free blocks
- coalescing free blocks

## Simple View of Heap

o/p address



## Run 1: Simple View of Heap Allocation



→ Update the diagram to show the following heap allocations:

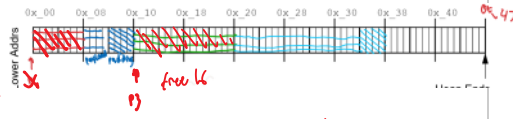
- ```

1) p1 = malloc(2 * sizeof(int)); 8 + 0 = 8 32k 0x-00 0x-00
2) p2 = malloc(3 * sizeof(char)); 3 + 5 = 8 0x-00 0x-00
3) p3 = malloc(4 * sizeof(int)); 16 + 0 = 16 0x-10 0x-34-37
4) p4 = malloc(5 * sizeof(int)); 20 + 4 = 24 0x-20 0x-34-37

```

→ What happens with the following heap operations:

- ```
5) free(p1); p1 = NULL;  
6) free(p3); p3 = NULL;  
7) p5 = malloc(6 * size)
```



External Fragmentation: when there's enough free memory, but it's divided into too small blocks to satisfy the requests.

Internal Fragmentation: When heap memory in a block is used for overhead and not payload

- Why does it make sense that Java doesn't allow primitives on the heap?

memory safety errors?

## Free Block Organization

\* The simple view of the allocator has no way to determine size/status of each block

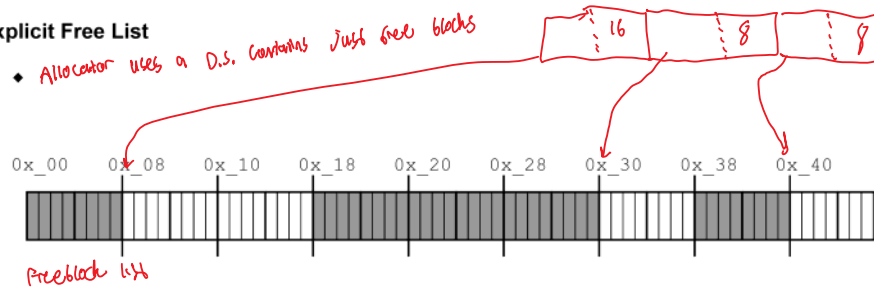
size # of bytes in each block (payload + overhead)

status whether allocated or free (1-bit)

or, free block list (a simple struct)

### Explicit Free List

• Allocator uses a D.S. contains just free blocks



code: Only need to track size of each block

- space: potential to request more memory to spare free bits
- + time: memory faster! (no only search free blocks vs. allocated blocks)

### Implicit Free List

• Allocator uses heap blocks for D.S.

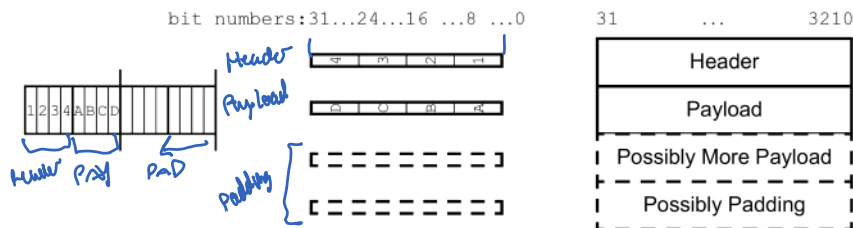
code: Must track size and status of each block

- + space: no extra space, use free space in heap
- time: more time to skip over allocated blocks

## Implicit Free List

\* The first <sup>n bytes</sup> word of each block is a header

Layout 1: Basic Heap Block (3 different memory diagrams of same thing)



\* The header stores size + status as a single integer

→ Since the block size is a multiple of 8, what value will the last three header bits always have?

8 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 → 000 24 0 0 0 0 0 0 → 000 use bit 0 as a bit

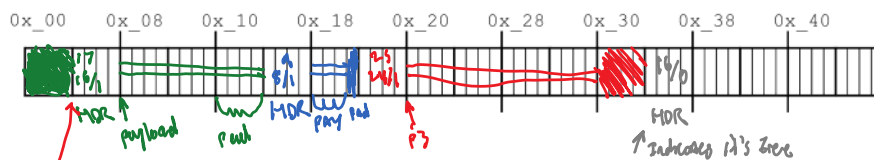
→ What integer value will the header have for a block that is:

allocated and 8 bytes in size?  $8 + 1 = 9$  has block size 8 & allocated

free and 32 bytes in size?  $32 + 0 = 32$

allocated and 64 bytes in size?  $64 + 1 = 65$

Run 2: Heap Allocation with Block Headers



→ Update the diagram to show the following heap allocations:

- 1)  $p1 = \text{malloc}(2 * \text{sizeof}(\text{int}));$   $8 + \text{header}(4) = 12 + 4 (\text{padding to get to } 16) + 1$  (cannot)
- 2)  $p2 = \text{malloc}(3 * \text{sizeof}(\text{char}));$   $4 + 3 + 1 = 8 + 1$
- 3)  $p3 = \text{malloc}(4 * \text{sizeof}(\text{int}));$   $4 - 4 = 16 + 8 = 24 + 1$  (header)
- 4)  $p4 = \text{malloc}(5 * \text{sizeof}(\text{int}));$   $\text{header} + 5 - 4 = 24 (\text{no padding needed}) + 1 = 25$  ALLOC FAILS

→ Given a pointer to the first block in the heap, how is the next block found?

ptr + current block size will get you to next header



## Placement Policies

What? Placement Policies are algorithms used to search heap blocks for free blocks

Assume the heap is pre-divided into various-sized free blocks ordered from smaller to larger.

- **First Fit (FF)**: start from beginning  
stop at first free block that is good enough  
fail if reach "END MARKS"

+ mem util: likely to choose blocks close to desired size

- throughput: requires many steps to find a free block

- **Next Fit (NF)**: start from most recently allocated block  
stop at first free block that is big enough  
fail if you reach starting block, (must wrap-around)

- mem util: Not as good, may choose block that is too big

+ throughput: Faster! Faster than FF,  $O(1)$

- **Best Fit (BF)**: start from beginning  
stop at END MARKS  
or stop early if block is exact size  
fail if no block big enough is found

→

+ mem util: Best / closest to best

- throughput: Awful

### Run 3: Heap Allocation using Placement Policies

→ Given the original heap above and the placement policy, what address is ptr assigned?

<code>ptr = malloc(sizeof(int));</code>	$4 + 4 = 8$	//FF? <code>0x_10</code>	BF? <code>0x_40</code>
<code>ptr = malloc(10 * sizeof(char));</code>	$4 + 10 = 14$	//FF? <code>0x_10</code>	BF? <code>0x_10</code>

→ Given the original heap above and the address of block most recently allocated, what address is ptr assigned using NF?

<code>ptr = malloc(sizeof(char));</code>	$4 + 1 + 3 = 8$	//0x_04? <code>0x_10</code>	0x_34? <code>0x_40</code>
<code>ptr = malloc(3 * sizeof(int));</code>	$4 + 12 = 16$	//0x_1C? <code>0x_20</code>	0x_34? <code>0x_10</code>