Memory Representation

- We typically draw diagrams representing the memory of the computer, our particular program or both as rectangles.
- Our convention will be that "lowmemory" will be on the bottom and "high-memory" on top.
- Typically these drawings are not to scale

High Memory

Low Memory

 Normally the actual program code (executable instructions) is placed in low memory

 Next we have an area for storage of constant data

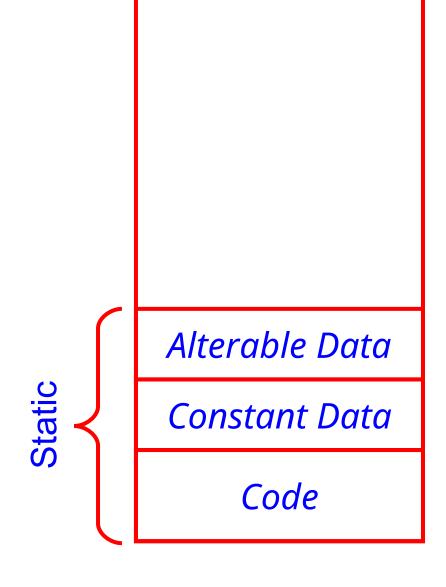
Constant Data

Data that may be changed follows

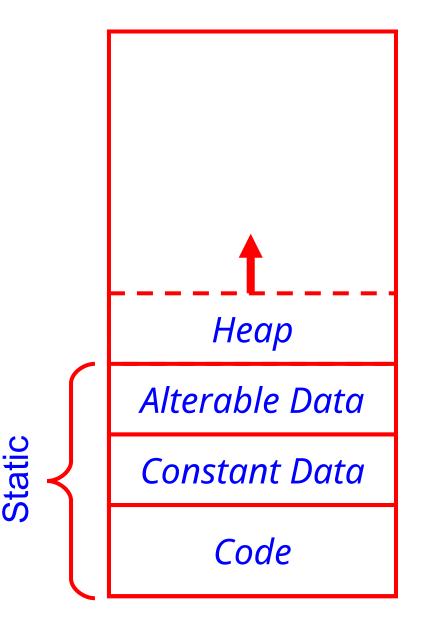
Alterable Data

Constant Data

• These three items comprise what is considered the static area of memory. The static area details (size, what is where, etc.) are known at translation or compile time.

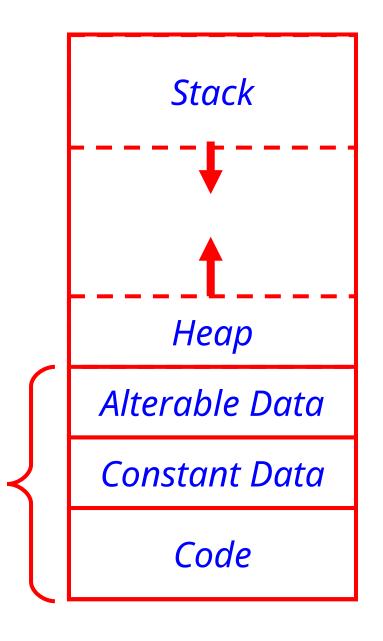


- Immediately above the static area the heap is located.
- The heap can expand upward as the program dynamically requests additional storage space
- In most cases, the runtime environment manages the heap for the user
- We will return to this issue in a while



Static

- Finally, the stack starts in high memory and can grow down as space is needed
- Stack expands with every function call and contracts with every function return
- Items maintained in the stack include
 - Local variables
 - Function parameters
 - Return values

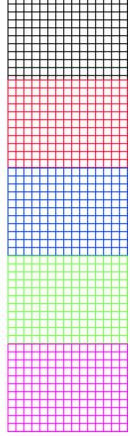


Stack

Last In, First Out (LIFO) memory usage

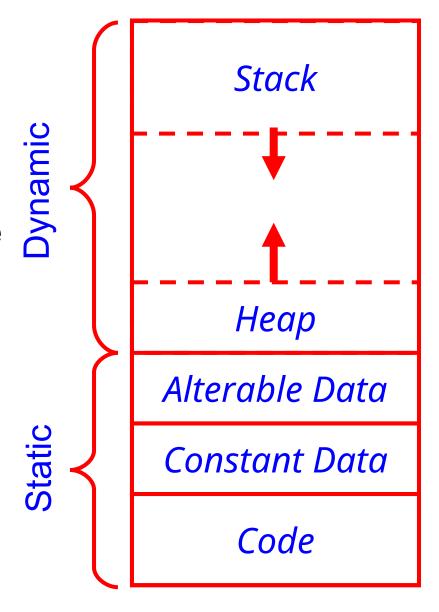
```
main ()
{ a(0);
  void a (int m)
  { b(1);
   void b (int n)
    { c(2);
     void c (int o)
     { d(3);
     void d (int p)
```

stack



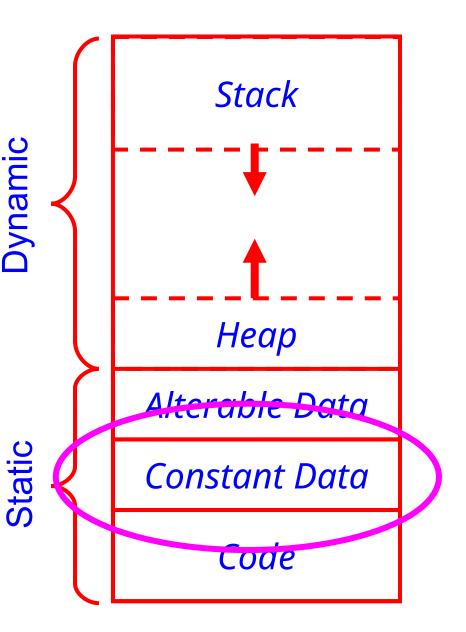
Stack Pointer →

- These items in the upper portion of the diagram change during execution of the program.
- Thus they are called dynamic



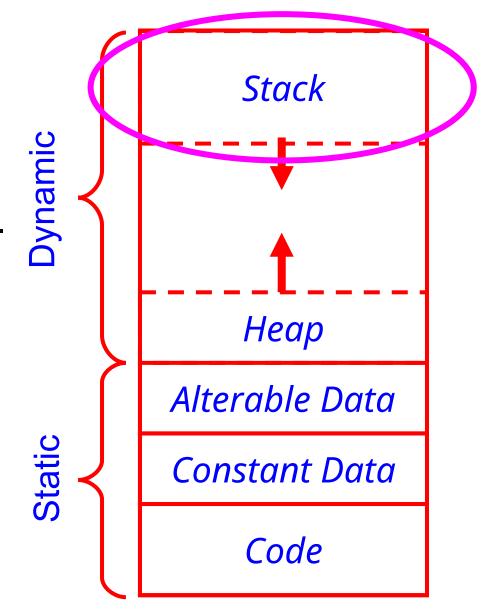
const

- Items to be maintained in the Constant Data area are designated by the programmer with the const keyword
- String constants also go there
- WARNING!!! On some systems, it is possible (and relatively easy) to modify data designated as const



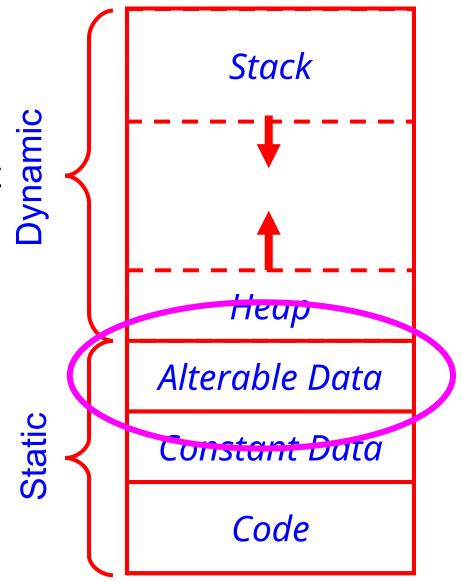
auto

- auto, short for automatic variables are those that exist on the stack. The auto keyword is not normally used.
- Automatic means that space is allocated and deallocated on the stack automatically without the programmer having to do any special operations.



static and extern

- static and extern variables exist in an area of memory set aside for alterable (or readable/writeable) data
- static can have different meanings depending on where used.



Dynamic Memory Allocation

- Fixed-sized objects, where size is known at compile-time, are stored on the stack or in the static memory area
- Sometimes you don't know the size you'll need for an array at compile-time
- You can request memory dynamically, at run time, from the heap
- Dynamic allocation can also be used to create memory for one object (int, structure, etc.)

Dynamic Allocation Functions

- Dynamic allocation functions:
 - malloc allocates space that is uninitialized
 - calloc allocates spaces that is initialized with 0's
 - realloc re-allocates space
 - free deallocates space
- Declared in <stdlib.h>
- Every malloc, calloc, realloc should have a matching call to free
- Otherwise, you have a memory leak

malloc

```
int *ip; /* define a pointer */
ip = malloc(10 * sizeof(int));
/* memory for 10 elements of type int allocated */
if(ip == NULL)
{
    /* Handle Error! */
}
```

- Options for handling error
 - Abort
 - Ask again
 - Save user data
 - Ask for less
 - Free up something

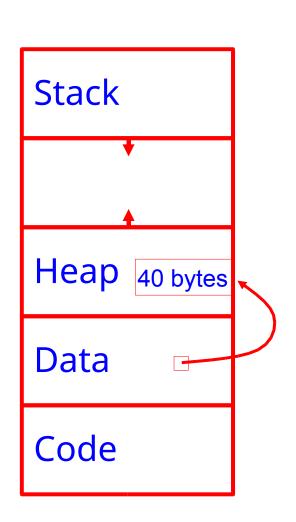
malloc

```
int *ip;
ip = malloc(10 * sizeof(int));
if(ip = NULL)
{
    /* Handle Error! */
}
```

- Note how incredibly bad it would be to use the assignment operator!
- The pointer would be set to NULL
- The error code would be skipped
- Some programmers use: NULL == ip or !ip

malloc - what happens?

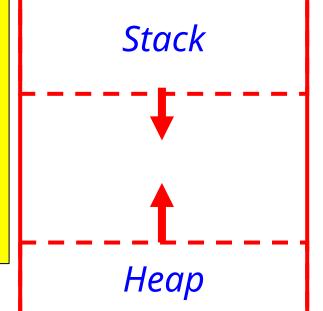
```
int *ip;
ip = malloc(10 * sizeof(int));
```



Memory Layout Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
char ga[]="etext";
static char gb[]="stext";
const static char qc[]="sctext";
int i;
int
main ()
    static char a[]="sltext";
    static const char b[]="slctext";
    const char* p1="text";
    const char* const p2="text";
    char* p3=malloc(10);
    int i;
    printf("main=
                      %p\n", (void*) main);
    printf("sctext=
                      %p\n", (void*)qc);
    printf("slctext= %p\n", (void*)b);
    printf("p1=
                      %p\n", (void*)p1);
                      %p\n", (void*)p2);
    printf("p2=
    printf("etext=
                      %p\n", (void*) qa);
    printf("stext=
                      %p\n", (void*)qb);
    printf("sltext=
                      %p\n",(void*)a);
                      %p\n", (void*) &i);
    printf("&i=
    printf("p3=
                      %p\n", (void*)p3);
                      %p\n", (void*) &p1);
    printf("&p1=
                      %p\n", (void*) &p2);
    printf("&p2=
    printf("&p3=
                      %p\n", (void*) &p3);
                      %p\n",(void*)&j);
    printf("&j=
    return 0;
```

```
0 \times 8048394
main=
          0x8048534
sctext=
slctext = 0x804853b
           0 \times 8048543
p1=
p2=
          0x8048543
etext=
          0x804960c
          0 \times 8049612
stext=
           0x8049618
sltext=
&i=
           0 \times 8049728
=8<del>a</del>
           0x8049738
&p1=
           0xbfffff498
=2q&
           0xbfffff494
=£q3
           0xbfffff490
۠=
           0xbfffff48c
```



Alterable Data

Constant Data

Using The Space

```
int i;
int *ip;
if((ip = malloc(10*sizeof(int))) == NULL)
   /* Handle Error Here */
for (i = 0; i < 10; i++)
   ip[i] = i;
```

Flexibility

```
#define MAX 10
int *ip;
ip = malloc(MAX * sizeof(int));

    What if we change the type of int *ip???

#define MAX 10
int *ip;
ip = malloc(MAX * sizeof(*ip));
```

Prototypes

```
void *malloc(size_t n);
void free(void *p);
void *realloc(void *p, size_t n);
What is this mysterious void pointer?
```

void pointer

- Not originally in C
- Relatively recent addition
- Basically a "generic" pointer
- Intended for use in applications like free where the block of memory located at some address will be freed without any necessity of defining the type

Powerful and Dangerous

```
void *vp;
 char *cp;
 int *ip;
 ip = cp; /* illegal */

    Instead

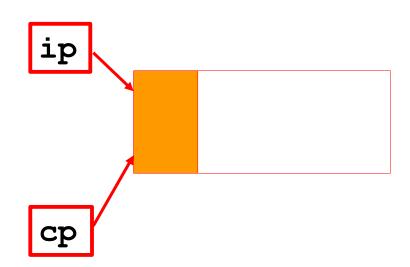
 ip = (int *)cp;
• or
 vp = cp; /* Legal, powerful and */
 ip = vp; /* dangerous!!! */
Why is this being done?
```

Casting

- Usually casting is not required
- May be masking a problem

```
int *ip;
char *cp;
...
*cp = 'x';
*ip = ???

*ip = 42;
*cp = ???
```



Warnings

- Using void pointers as a crutch to get around casting is a "bad" thing!
- malloc doesn't care what you are doing with a block of memory it allocates to you. What you do with the memory is your responsibility
- Passing in random values to free is a bad thing!
- free can change contents of block that was freed
- free does not change pointer
- After a call to free it is usually possible to do anything to the freed memory that was possible before the call!!!
- Definitely a bad thing!!!

Initializing Memory

```
    Use malloc when you do not need the memory initialized:

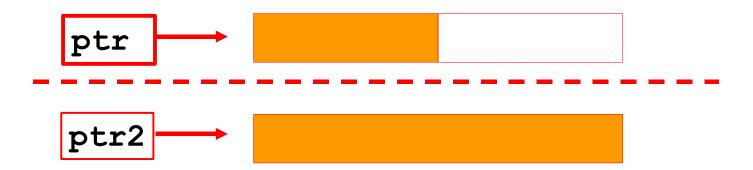
double *a; /* define a pointer */
a = malloc(100*sizeof(double));
 /* memory for 100 elements of type double
 allocated - they have "random" values*/
a[5] = 4.5; /* use a as an array */

    Use calloc when you want to initialize allocated memory:

double *a; /* define a pointer */
a = calloc(100, sizeof(double));
 /* memory for 100 elements of type double
 allocated and initialized with 0s*/
a[5] = 4.5; /* use a as an array */
```

Reallocating memory

- •ptr2 = realloc(ptr, num_bytes);
- What it does (conceptually)
 - Find space for new allocation
 - Copy original data into new space
 - Free old space
 - Return pointer to new space



Dynamic Allocation

- int *ip = malloc(...);
- malloc may allocate more space than requested
- Why?
- Efficiency
- Typically if you ask for 1 byte you will get 8.
- Given this line of code
- char *cp = malloc(1);
- Which is more likely
 - Program will probably keep this memory as is
 - Program will eventually realloc
- How much can you safely use?

Safety

- Program should only use memory actually requested
- Big problem
- Program that oversteps bounds may work
- Sometimes!

```
Note...
```

```
char *cp = malloc(1);
ADDR SIZE
cp 8 (maybe!)
```

• Now...

```
realloc(cp,6);
```

will return same pointer thus...

realloc

- May return same pointer passed to it without indicating any problem (and it is not a problem)
- Using memory beyond that which has been allocated may work
- Some of the time
- Normally it will work when tested by a programmer but will fail when shipped to the customer

realloc

- Realloc may return
 - same pointer
 - different pointer
 - NULL
- Is this a good idea?

```
cp = realloc(cp, n);
```

- No!
- If realloc returns NULL cp is lost
- Memory Leak!

How to Do It

```
void *tmp;
if((tmp = realloc(cp,...)) == NULL)
   /* realloc error */
else
   cp = tmp;
```

Additional Information

```
• realloc(NULL, n) \equiv malloc(n);
```

- It can be used to make realloc work in a single loop design to build a dynamic structure such as a linked list.
- Some people like to define wrappers around memory allocation functions

```
void* xmalloc(size_t size)
{
  void* ptr = malloc(size);
  if(!ptr) abort(); else return ptr;
}
```

• realloc(cp, 0) \equiv undefined behaviour

Dynamic Stack

```
/* stack.h */
void push(int a);
int pop(void);
int peek(void);
void clear(void);
void init(void);
void finalize(void);
int empty(void);
```

```
/* stack.c */
#include <assert.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include "stack.h"
static unsigned int top;
                 /* first free slot on the stack */
static int *data;
static unsigned int size;
void init(void)
        top=0;
        size=0;
        data=0;
void finalize(void)
  free (data);
void clear(void)
        top=0;
int empty(void)
  return(top==0);
```

Dynamic Stack

```
void push(int a)
        if(top>=size)
          unsigned int newsize=(size+1)*2;
          int* ndata=realloc(data,newsize*sizeof(int));
          if (ndata)
           data=ndata;
          else
            free (data);
            abort();
          fprintf(stderr, "Stack size %d -> %d\n", size, newsize);
          size=newsize;
        data[top++]=a;
int pop(void)
        assert(top>0);
        return data[--top];
int peek(void)
        assert(top>0);
        return data[top-1];
```

size_t

- Some unsigned type
- The maximum value of variable of this type can be obtained using the expression

$$(size_t)-1$$

C99 defines the constant SIZE_MAX for that purpose

Dynamic Stack Revisited

```
void push(int a)
  if(top>=size)
    unsigned int newsize;
    int* ndata;
    if (size == 0)
      newsize = 1;
    else if (size <= UINT MAX/2)</pre>
      newsize = 2 * size;
    else
      free (data);
      abort();
    if (newsize <= ((size t)-1) / sizeof(int))</pre>
      ndata=realloc(data, newsize*sizeof(int));
    else
      free (data);
      abort();
    if (ndata)
      data=ndata;
    else
      free (data);
      abort();
    fprintf(stderr, "Stack size %d -> %d\n", size, newsize);
    size=newsize;
  data[top++]=a;
```

Reading Lines from Standard Input

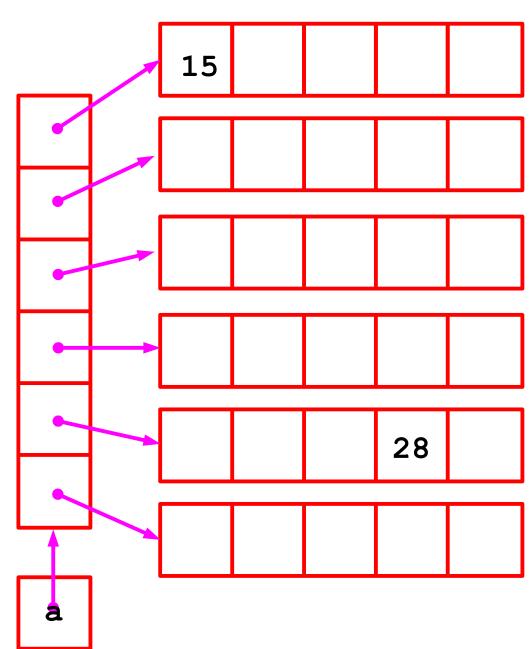
```
char* readline()
 char* line = NULL;
 int c;
 size t bufsize = 0;
  size t size = 0;
 while((c=getchar()) != EOF)
    if (size >= bufsize)
      char* newbuf;
      if (bufsize == 0)
        bufsize = 2:
      else if (bufsize <= ((size t)-1)/2)
       bufsize = 2*size;
      else
        free(line);
        abort();
      newbuf = realloc(line,bufsize);
      if (!newbuf)
        free(line);
        abort();
      line = newbuf;
```

```
line[size++]=c;
  if (c == '\n') break;
if ((c == EOF) && (size == 0))
  return NULL;
if(size >= bufsize)
    char* newbuf;
    if (size < (size t)-1)
     bufsize = size + 1;
    else
      free(line);
      abort();
    newbuf = realloc(line,bufsize);
    if (!newbuf)
      free(line);
      abort();
    line = newbuf;
line[size++]='\0';
return line;
```

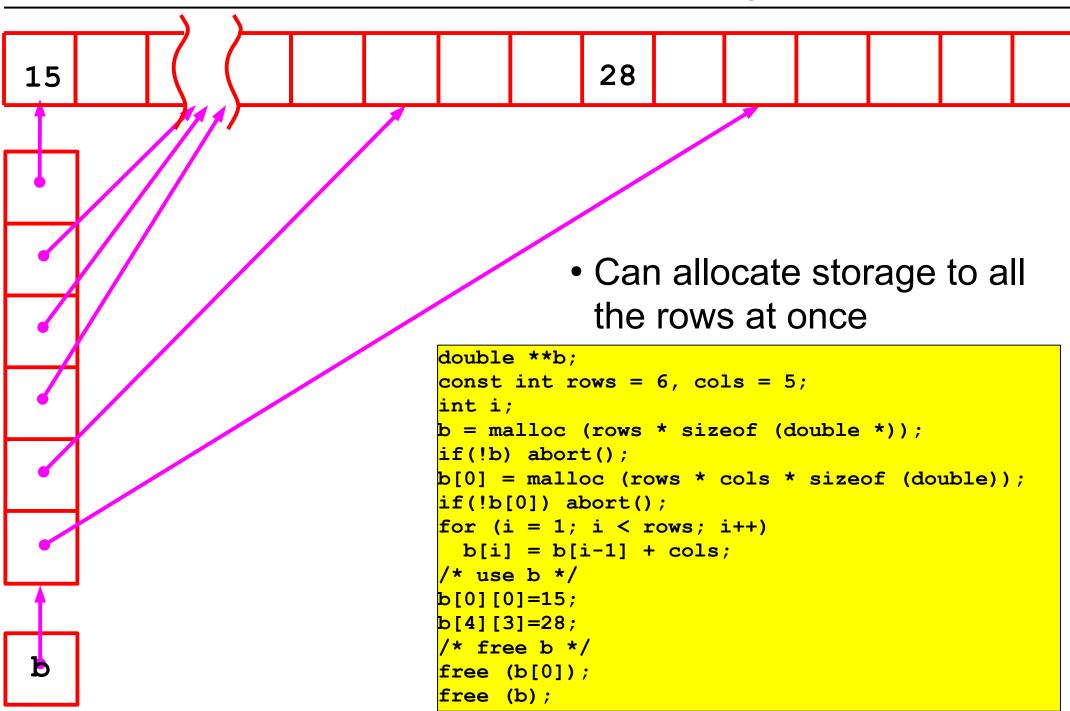
Two-Dimensional Arrays

- Pointer to a pointer
- Must first allocate the storage for the pointers to the rows, then for the contents

```
int i;
const int rows = 6, cols = 5;
double **a;
a = malloc (rows * sizeof (double *));
if(!a) abort();
for (i = 0; i < rows; i++)
 a[i] = malloc (cols * sizeof (double));
 if(!a[i]) abort();
/* use a */
a[0][0]=15;
a[4][3]=28;
/* free a */
for (i = 0; i < rows; i++)
 free (a[i]);
free (a);
```



Two-Dimensional Arrays



Printing Lines in Reverse Order

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include "readline.h"
int main ()
 char **lines = NULL;
  size t nolines = 0;
  size t nolinesmax = 0;
  char *line;
  size t i;
 while ((line = readline ()))
      if (nolines >= nolinesmax)
        char **newlines;
        if (nolines == 0)
          nolinesmax = 1;
        else if (nolines <= ((size t) - 1)
              / 2 / sizeof (char *))
         nolinesmax = 2 * nolines;
```

```
else
          goto error;
        newlines = realloc (lines,
            nolinesmax * sizeof (char *));
        if (newlines == NULL)
          goto error;
        lines = newlines;
      lines[nolines++] = line;
  for (i = nolines; i > 0; i--)
   printf ("%s", lines[i - 1]);
   free (lines[i - 1]);
  free (lines);
 return 0;
error:
 for (i = nolines; i > 0; i--)
  free (lines[i - 1]);
 free (lines);
  abort ();
```

strdup

- strdup duplicates a string
- It is not a standard function, although is present in many systems
- If your system does not have it, you can define it yourself char* strdup(const char* s)

```
char* p = 0;
p = malloc(strlen(s)+1);
if (p)
  strcpy(p, s);
return p;
```

Why +1? Why check p? What are the "ownership semantics"?

strdup

```
• Calling strdup ...
int main()
 /* Make a copy: strdup allocates memory! */
 char* copy = strdup("surgeon");
 /* Use a copy */
printf("Like a %s\n", copy);
 /* Deallocate memory */
 free (copy);
 copy = NULL; /* So we don't accidentally use it */
 return 0;
```

free

- Make sure to free memory once your done with it
- Always set the variable to NULL after freeing it (Why?)

```
char* psz = strdup("Hello");
free(psz);
psz = 0;
```

Don't try to free the same variable twice in a row:

```
char* psz = strdup("Hello");
free(psz);
free(psz); /* boom! */
```

 Don't try to free a variable that's pointing to statically allocated memory:

```
char* psz = "Hello";
free(psz); /* bye bye! */
```

Memory Leaks

- Memory leaks occur when you forget to call free
- Unlike Java, C has no automatic garbage collection
- Particularly fatal to long-running processes that do many allocations (e.g. servers, daemons)
- Usually the result of
 - Simple forgetfulness
 - Multiple return paths
 - Reassigning the pointer without calling free first, esp. for in/out parameters
 - When freeing a structure, forgetting to also free the structure members
 - Not realizing when a function allocates memory that the caller is responsible for freeing

Memory Leaks

- Once a leak has been introduced, can be very hard to track down
- You need to carefully track variables that are associated with dynamic memory line by line, from birth to death
- Memory profilers helpful ElectricFence, valgrind
- Besides memory, what other things can be leaked?

Dynamic Allocation – What Can Go Wrong

- Allocate a block of memory and use the contents without initialization
- Free a block but continue to use the contents
- Call realloc to expand a block of memory and then once moved continue to use the old address
- Allocate a block and lose it by losing the value of the pointer
- Read or write beyond the boundaries of the block
- FAIL TO NOTICE ERROR CONDITIONS

```
#include <stdio.h>
                  /* 1*/
#include <stdlib.h>
                  /* 2*/
                  /* 3*/
#include <assert.h>
                  /* 4*/
                   /* 5*/
int
main ()
                  /* 6*/
                  /* 7*/
                  /* 8*/
 char* p1, *p2;
                  /* 9*/
                  /*10*/
 p1=malloc(10);
 printf("%c\n",p1[0]); /*11*/
          /*12*/
 free(p1);
 *p1='a'; /*13*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*14*/
 p2=realloc(p1,10000); /*15*/
 *p1='b';
         /*16*/
 malloc(30); /*17*/
 p2[10000]='c'; /*18*/
 p1=malloc(200000000);/*19*/
 *p1='c'; /*20*/
 return 0;
                 /*21*/
                   /*22*/
```

```
$ valgrind --leak-check=yes ./errors 2>rep
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
                  /* 1*/
#include <stdlib.h>
                 /* 2*/
#include <assert.h>
                 /* 3*/
                  /* 4*/
                  /* 5*/
int
main ()
                /* 6*/
                 /* 7*/
                /* 8*/
 char* p1, *p2;
                  /* 9*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*10*/
 printf("%c\n",p1[0]); /*11*/
          /*12*/
 free(p1);
 *p1='a'; /*13*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*14*/
 p2=realloc(p1,10000); /*15*/
         /*16*/
 *p1='b';
 malloc(30); /*17*/
 p2[10000]='c'; /*18*/
 p1=malloc(200000000);/*19*/
 *p1='c'; /*20*/
 return 0;
                /*21*/
                  /*22*/
```

```
$ valgrind --leak-check=ves ./errors 2>rep
Conditional jump or move depends on uninitialised value(s)
at 0x4027ACE2: IO vfprintf (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x402823B5: IO printf (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x8048428: main (errors.c:11)
by 0x4024814E: libc start main (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
Syscall param write (buf) contains uninitialised or unaddressable byte(s)
at 0x402F2404: libc write (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x40298E87: (within /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x40298DE5: IO do write (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x4029913F: IO file overflow (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
Address 0x40228000 is not stack'd, malloc'd or free'd
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
                 /* 1*/
#include <stdlib.h>
                 /* 2*/
#include <assert.h>
                /* 3*/
                 /* 4*/
                 /* 5*/
int
main ()
                /* 6*/
                /* 7*/
 char* p1, *p2; /* 8*/
                 /* 9*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*10*/
 printf("%c\n",p1[0]); /*11*/
 free (p1); /*12*/
 *p1='a'; /*13*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*14*/
 p2=realloc(p1,10000); /*15*/
        /*16*/
 *p1='b';
 malloc(30); /*17*/
 p2[10000]='c'; /*18*/
 p1=malloc(200000000);/*19*/
 *p1='c'; /*20*/
 return 0; /*21*/
                 /*22*/
```

```
$ valgrind --leak-check=ves ./errors 2>rep
Invalid write of size 1
at 0x8048437: main (errors.c:13)
by 0x4024814E: libc start main (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x8048350: (within /home/gwj/pdsc/03-lecture04/04-memerrors/errors)
Address 0x41050024 is 0 bytes inside a block of size 10 free'd
at 0x4002698D: free (vg replace malloc.c:231)
by 0x8048433: main (errors.c:12)
by 0x4024814E: libc start main (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x8048350: (within /home/qwj/pdsc/03-lecture04/04-memerrors/errors)
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
                  /* 1*/
#include <stdlib.h>
                 /* 2*/
#include <assert.h>
                 /* 3*/
                  /* 4*/
                  /* 5*/
int
main ()
                /* 6*/
                 /* 7*/
               /* 8*/
 char* p1, *p2;
                  /* 9*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*10*/
 printf("%c\n",p1[0]); /*11*/
         /*12*/
 free(p1);
 *p1='a'; /*13*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*14*/
 p2=realloc(p1,10000); /*15*/
 *p1='b'; /*16*/
 malloc(30); /*17*/
 p2[10000]='c'; /*18*/
 p1=malloc(200000000);/*19*/
 *p1='c'; /*20*/
 return 0;
                /*21*/
                  /*22*/
```

```
$ valgrind --leak-check=ves ./errors 2>rep
Invalid write of size 1
at 0x8048462: main (errors.c:16)
by 0x4024814E: libc start main (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x8048350: (within /home/gwj/pdsc/03-lecture04/04-memerrors/errors)
Address 0x41050060 is 0 bytes inside a block of size 10 free'd
at 0x40026C58: realloc (vg replace malloc.c:310)
by 0x804845B: main (errors.c:15)
by 0x4024814E: libc start main (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x8048350: (within /home/gwj/pdsc/03-lecture04/04-memerrors/errors)
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
                  /* 1*/
#include <stdlib.h>
                 /* 2*/
#include <assert.h>
                 /* 3*/
                  /* 4*/
                  /* 5*/
int
main ()
                 /* 6*/
                 /* 7*/
 char* p1, *p2;
                /* 8*/
                  /* 9*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*10*/
 printf("%c\n",p1[0]); /*11*/
          /*12*/
 free(p1);
 *p1='a'; /*13*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*14*/
 p2=realloc(p1,10000); /*15*/
 *p1='b'; /*16*/
 malloc(30); /*17*/
 p2[10000]='c'; /*18*/
 p1=malloc(200000000);/*19*/
 *p1='c'; /*20*/
 return 0; /*21*/
                  /*22*/
```

```
$ valgrind --leak-check=ves ./errors 2>rep
Invalid write of size 1
at 0x8048479: main (errors.c:18)
by 0x4024814E: libc start main (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x8048350: (within /home/gwj/pdsc/03-lecture04/04-memerrors/errors)
Address 0x410527AC is 0 bytes after a block of size 10000 alloc'd
at 0x40026C58: realloc (vg replace malloc.c:310)
by 0x804845B: main (errors.c:15)
by 0x4024814E: libc start main (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x8048350: (within /home/gwj/pdsc/03-lecture04/04-memerrors/errors)
VG (get memory from mmap): request for 2000003072 bytes failed.
VG (get memory from mmap): 14933038 bytes already allocated.
This may mean that you have run out of swap space,
since running programs on valgrind increases their memory
usage at least 3 times. You might want to use 'top'
to determine whether you really have run out of swap.
If so, you may be able to work around it by adding a
temporary swap file -- this is easier than finding a
new swap partition. Go ask your sysadmin(s) [politely!]
VG (get memory from mmap): out of memory! Fatal! Bye!
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
                    /* 1*/
#include <stdlib.h>
                    /* 2*/
                    /* 3*/
#include <assert.h>
                    /* <u>4</u>*/
                    /* 5*/
int
main ()
                    /* 6*/
                    /* 7*/
                    /* 8*/
 char* p1, *p2;
                    /* 9*/
                    /*10*/
 p1=malloc(10);
 printf("%c\n",p1[0]); /*11*/
 free(p1);
                   /*12*/
 *p1='a'; /*13*/
 p1=malloc(10); /*14*/
 p2=realloc(p1,10000); /*15*/
 *p1='b';
          /*16*/
 malloc(30); /*17*/
 p2[10000]='c';
                   /*18*/
                    /*19*/
                    /*20*/
 return 0;
                    /*21*/
                    /*22*/
```

```
$ valgrind --leak-check=ves ./errors2 2>rep
ERROR SUMMARY: 5 errors from 5 contexts (suppressed: 2 from 1)
malloc/free: in use at exit: 10030 bytes in 2 blocks.
malloc/free: 4 allocs, 2 frees, 10050 bytes allocated.
For counts of detected errors, rerun with: -v
searching for pointers to 2 not-freed blocks.
checked 3413768 bytes.
30 bytes in 1 blocks are definitely lost in loss record 1 of 2
 at 0x400266DE: malloc (vg replace malloc.c:153)
by 0x8048470: main (errors2.c:17)
by 0x4024814E: libc start main (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x8048350: (within /home/qwj/pdsc/03-lecture04/04-memerrors/errors2)
10000 bytes in 1 blocks are definitely lost in loss record 2 of 2
 at 0x40026C58: realloc (vg replace malloc.c:310)
by 0x804845B: main (errors2.c:15)
by 0x4024814E: libc start main (in /lib/libc-2.2.5.so)
by 0x8048350: (within /home/gwj/pdsc/03-lecture04/04-memerrors/errors2)
LEAK SUMMARY:
 definitely lost: 10030 bytes in 2 blocks.
 possibly lost: 0 bytes in 0 blocks.
 still reachable: 0 bytes in 0 blocks.
 suppressed: 0 bytes in 0 blocks.
 Reachable blocks (those to which a pointer was found) are not shown.
 To see them, rerun with: --show-reachable=yes
```

Structures

- A collection of member variables
- Very useful for grouping related data

```
struct Person
{
    char* name;
    int age;
};
```

Creating a Person

Access member variables using a dot (.)

```
int main()
{
    struct Person artist;
    artist.name = strdup("Madonna");
    artist.age = 37;
    return 0;
}
```

Can anyone spot a problem?

Another Way to Initialize A Struct

- Similar to an array, can specify an initialization list
- In C90, initialization list can contain only constants
- In C99, we could move strdup to the initializer

```
int main()
{
    struct Person artist = { NULL, 37 };
    artist.name=strdup("Madonna");
    if(!artist.name) abort();
    ... use artist ...

/* Free memory allocated by strdup */
    free(artist.name);
    artist.name = 0;
    return 0;
}
```

Creating a Person Dynamically

- Can allocate space for a structure using malloc()
- When accessing member variables of a pointer to a structure use ->

```
int main()
  struct Person* artist = malloc(sizeof(struct Person));
 if(!artist) abort();
 artist->name = strdup("Madonna");
 if(!artist->name) abort();
 artist->age = 64;
  ... exploit artist ...
  /* First, free the member variables */
 free(artist->name);
 artist->name = 0; /* So we don't use it */
  /* Then, free the structure */
 free(artist);
  artist = 0; /* So we don't use it */
 return 0;
```

Structure typedefs

- You can make a typedef for the struct:
 typedef struct Person SPerson;
- Or, similar to enums, often we'll combine the struct declaration with a typedef:

```
typedef struct Person {
  char* name;
  int age;
} SPerson, *SPersonPtr;
```

 Can now say SPerson instead of struct Person

Nested Structures

Can nest structures arbitrarily

```
typedef struct Date {
  int mon, day, year;
} SDate, *SDatePtr;

typedef struct Person {
  char* name;
  SDate dob;
} SPerson, *SPersonPtr;
```

Nested Structures

Mixture of static (.) and pointer (->) memory access

```
int
main ()
  SPerson *artist = malloc (sizeof (SPerson));
  if(!artist) abort();
  artist->name = strdup ("Madonna");
  if(!artist->name) abort();
  artist->dob.day = 5;
  artist->dob.mon = 11;
  artist->dob.year = 1967;
  /* Free memory allocated by strdup */
  free (artist->name);
  artist->name = 0;
  /* Free the person */
  free (artist);
  artist = 0;
  return 0;
```

Self-referential Structures

 A structure can have member variables that point to the same structure type

```
typedef struct Person {
  char* name;
  SDate dob;
  struct Person* parents[2];
} SPerson, *SPersonPtr;
```

Self-referential Structures

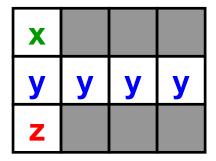
Most frequently, dynamic memory allocation is used in such cases

Structures and sizeof

 Due to memory alignment restrictions, the size of a structure is >= the sum of the sizes of its member variables

```
struct blah {
  char x;
  int y;
  char z;
};
```

Memory layout



```
= Padding
```

- Always use size of to determine the size of a structure
- sizeof(struct blah) $\equiv 12$ bytes

Structure Bit Fields

- Recall bit flags and bit masks
- Useful when we need to pack several flags or objects into the smallest amount of space possible
- Structure bit fields make this a little easier at the cost of portability

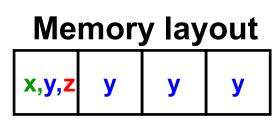
```
struct argb {
  unsigned int alpha : 8;
  unsigned int red : 8;
  unsigned int green : 8;
  unsigned int blue : 8;
};
```

Implementation-dependent!

Unions

- Syntactically similar to structures
- However, all member variables occupy the same location in memory
- You are responsible for accessing the right members at the right time
- Union size is size of the largest member

```
union UBlah {
  char x;
  int y;
  char z;
};
```



Unions

```
union {
   char x;
   int y;
   char* z;
} utype;
utype.x = 'c';
printf("%c\n", utype.x);
utype.z = "Hello";
printf("%s\n", utype.z);
printf("%d\n", utype.y); /* Undefined! */
```