CS 33

Intro to Storage Allocation
A Queue

typedef struct list_element {
    int value;
    struct list_element *next;
} list_element_t;

list_element_t *head, *tail;

head

67

17

2

14

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Note that malloc allocates storage to hold a new instance of list_element_t.
Dequeue

```c
int dequeue(int *value) {
    list_element_t *first;
    if (head == 0) {
        // list is empty
        return 0;
    }
    *value = head->value;
    first = head;
    head = head->next;
    if (tail == first) {
        assert(head == 0);
        tail = 0;
    }
    return 1;
}
```

What's wrong with this code???
Storage Leaks

```c
int main() {
    while(1)
        if (malloc(sizeof(list_element_t)) == 0)
            break;
        return 1;
}
```

For how long will this program run before terminating?

Answer: around 3 minutes on a SunLab machine.
Dequeue, Fixed

```c
int dequeue(int *value) {
    list_element_t *first;
    if (head == 0) {
        // list is empty
        return 0;
    }
    *value = head->value;
    first = head;
    head = head->next;
    if (tail == first) {
        assert(head == 0);
        tail = 0;
    }
    free(first);
    return 1;
}
```
Quiz 1

```c
int enqueue(int value) {
    list_element_t *newle
        = (list_element_t *)malloc(sizeof(list_element_t));
    if (newle == 0)
        return 0;
    newle->value = value;
    newle->next = 0;
    if (head == 0) {
        // list was empty
        assert(tail == 0);
        head = newle;
    } else {
        tail->next = newle;
    }
    tail = newle;
    free(newle); // saves us the bother of freeing it later
    return 1;
}
```

This version of enqueue makes unnecessary the call to free in dequeue.

a) It works well.
b) It fails occasionally.
c) It hardly every works.
d) It never works.
malloc and free

```c
void *malloc(size_t size)
  // allocate size bytes of storage and return a pointer to it
  // returns 0 (NULL) if the requested storage isn’t available

void free(void *ptr)
  // free the storage pointed to by ptr
  // ptr must have previously been returned by malloc (or other storage-allocation routine — calloc and realloc)
```
reallocate

```c
void *realloc(void *ptr, size_t size)
```

- change the size of the storage pointed to by `ptr`
- the contents, up to the minimum of the old size and new size, will not be changed
- `ptr` must have been returned by a previous call to `malloc`, `realloc`, or `calloc`
- it may be necessary to allocate a completely new area and copy from the old to the new
  - thus the return value may be different from `ptr`
  - if copying is done the old area is freed
- returns 0 if the operation cannot be done
In this example, we’re to read a line of input. However, we have no upper bound on its length. So we start by allocating four bytes of storage for the line. If that’s not enough (the four bytes read in don’t end with a ‘\n’), we then double our allocation and read in more up to the end of the new allocation, if that’s not enough, we double the allocation again, and so forth. When we’re finished, we reduce the allocation, giving back to the system that portion we didn’t need.
Get (contiguous) Input (2)

```c
while (l) {
    if ((bytes_read
         = read(0, buf+next_read, read_size)) == -1) {
        perror("getinput" unlawfully);
        return 0;
    }
    if (bytes_read == 0) {
        // eof, possibly premature
        return buf;
    }
    if ((buf+next_read)[bytes_read-l] == '\n') {
        // end of line
        break;
    }
}
next_read += read_size;
read_size = alloc_size;
alloc_size *= 2;
newbuf = (char *)realloc(buf, alloc_size);
if (newbuf == 0) {
    // realloc failed: not enough memory.
    // Free the storage allocated previously and report
    // failure
    free(buf);
    return 0;
}
buf = newbuf;
Get (contiguous) Input (4)

// reduce buffer size to the minimum necessary
newbuf = (char *)realloc(buf,
    alloc_size = (read_size - bytes_read));
if (newbuf == 0) {
    // couldn't allocate smaller buf
    return buf;
}
return newbuf;
Some Common Memory-Related Errors
Dereferencing Bad Pointers

- The classic `scanf` bug

```c
int val;
...
scanf("%d", &val);
```
Reading Uninitialized Memory

- Assuming that dynamically allocated data is initialized to zero

```c
/* return y = Ax */
int *matvec(int A[][N], int x[]) {
    int *y = (int *)malloc(N*sizeof(int));
    int i, j;

    for (i=0; i<N; i++)
        for (j=0; j<N; j++)
            y[i] += A[i][j]*x[j];
    return y;
}
```
The problem here is that the storage allocated for \( p \) is of size \( N \times \text{sizeof(int)} \), when it should be \( N \times \text{sizeof(int*)} \) — on a 64-bit machine, \( p \) won’t have been assigned enough storage.
Overwriting Memory

- Not checking the max string size

```c
char s[8];
int i;
gets(s); /* reads "123456789" from stdin */
```

- Basis for classic buffer overflow attacks
Going Too Far

- Misunderstanding pointer arithmetic

```c
int *search(int p[], int val) {
    while (*p && *p != val)
        p += sizeof(int);
    return p;
}
```
Referencing Nonexistent Variables

- Forgetting that local variables disappear when a function returns

```c
int *foo () {
  int val;

  return &val;
}
```
Freeing Blocks Multiple Times

\[
x = (\text{int} *)\text{malloc}(N*\text{sizeof(int)});  
\text{<manipulate x>}
\text{free(x);}  
y = (\text{int} *)\text{malloc}(M*\text{sizeof(int)});  
\text{<manipulate y>}
\text{free(x);}  
\]
Referencing Freed Blocks

```c
x = (int *)malloc(N*sizeof(int));
    <manipulate x>
free(x);
...
y = (int *)malloc(M*sizeof(int));
for (i=0; i<M; i++)
    y[i] = x[i++];
```
Failing to Free Blocks (Memory Leaks)

```c
foo() {
    int *x = (int *)malloc(N*sizeof(int));
    Use(x, N);
    return;
}
```

Supplied by CMU.
Failing to Free Blocks (Memory Leaks)

- Freeing only part of a data structure

```c
struct list {
    int val;
    struct list *next;
};

foo() {
    struct list *head = malloc(sizeof(struct list));
    head->val = 0;
    head->next = NULL;
    /*create and manipulate the rest of the list*/
    ...
    free(head);
    return;
}
```

Supplied by CMU.
Total Confusion

```c
foo() {
    char *str;
    str = (char *)malloc(1024);
    ...
    str = "";
    ...
    strcat(str, "c");
    ...
    return;
}
```
It Works, But ...

- Using a hammer where a feather would do ...

```c
funky() {
    int *x = (int *)malloc(1024*sizeof(int));
    Use(x, 1024);
    free(x);
    return;
}
```

```c
better_funky() {
    int x[1024];
    Use(x, 1024);
    return;
}
```