

Midterm Exam Solutions

1. Short Answer

Part 1: Two's Complement

10101100

Part 2: Errors vs. Leaks

The core cause of a memory error is accessing (reading or writing) memory that does not belong to you. For instance, if you create a string that is not null-terminated and call `strlen()` on it, this causes a memory error because it will cause `strlen` to search through memory that doesn't belong to that string in search of a null terminator.

The core cause of a memory leak is not freeing memory you have allocated on the heap. For instance, if you call `malloc()` or `strdup()`, you must free the return value of that function when you are done with it.

Part 3: Memory Errors

The first memory issue is the call to `realloc` does not correctly specify the new larger size; it uses the number of elements instead of the number of bytes. The `realloc` size should multiply the specified value by `sizeof(int)`.

The second memory issue is a double-free at the end of the code; in both cases, we should only free `new_arr`, not `arr`. If `realloc` resizes in place, then `new_arr` and `arr` will point to the same memory, so we should free only once. If `realloc` moves the memory, then `arr` will point to freed memory.

2. C Strings

Sample Solution

```
char *remove_delimiters(const char *str, const char *delimiters) {
    size_t alloc_size = INITIAL_SIZE;
    char *new_str = malloc(alloc_size);

    // strcat assumes the string is null terminated.
    // we must also start with an empty string if there are no tokens.
    new_str[0] = '\0';

    char buf[INITIAL_SIZE];
    while (scan_token(&str, delimiters, buf, sizeof(buf))) {
        // resize if we are out of space
        if (strlen(buf) + strlen(new_str) + 1 > alloc_size) {
            new_str = realloc(new_str, 2 * alloc_size);
            alloc_size *= 2;
        }

        strcat(new_str, buf);
    }

    return new_str;
}
```

3. Extract Min

Part 1: extract_min

Sample Solution

```
void extract_min(void *base, void *dest, size_t nelems, size_t elem_size_bytes,
                int (*cmp_fn)(const void *, const void *)) {

    // Find minimum element - if multiple, return any one
    void *min_elem = base;
    for (int i = 1; i < nelems; i++) {
        void *ith = (char *)base + i * elem_size_bytes;
        if (cmp_fn(ith, min_elem) < 0) {
            min_elem = ith;
        }
    }

    // Copy minimum element to destination
    memcpy(dest, min_elem, elem_size_bytes);

    // Remove minimum element
    void *end = (char *)base + nelems * elem_size_bytes;
    memmove(min_elem, (char *)min_elem + elem_size_bytes,
            (char *)end - ((char *)min_elem + elem_size_bytes));
}
```

Part 2: cmp_strings_asc

Sample Solution

```
int cmp_strings_asc(const void *a, const void *b) {
    return strlen(*(const char **)a) - strlen(*(const char **)b);
}
```

Part 3: calling `extract_min`

```
// write parameter 1 below
strs      or &strs[0]
// write parameter 2 below
&min
// write parameter 3 below
nelems
// write parameter 4 below
sizeof(strs[0])  or sizeof(char *)      or sizeof(*strs)      or 8
// write parameter 5 below
cmp_strings_asc
```

4. Bits and Bytes

Part 1: `get_bit_range`

```
// write expression 1 below
bits >> rightmost_index
// write expression 2 below
(1L << (leftmost_index - rightmost_index + 1)) - 1
// write expression 3 below
shifted & mask
```

Part 2: `mask`

```
// write expression 1 below
(1L << (leftmost_index + 1)) - 1
// write expression 2 below
(1L << rightmost_index) - 1
```