Locks

CSC 213 – February 22, 2021
Agenda for Today

1. Bug of the Day
2. Lab Q&A
3. Locks Exercise
4. Wrap Up
Bug of the Day
What's wrong here?

```c
void triple(int x) {
    x = x * 3;  // this changes x, but does it change value?
}

int main() {
    int value = 3;
    printf("value is %d\n", value);
    triple(value);
    printf("value tripled is %d\n", value);
    return 0;
}
```

It does not! Running `triple(value)` has no effect on `value`. 
What's wrong here?

```c
void triple(int* x) {
    *x = *x * 3;
}

int main() {
    int value = 3;
    printf("value is %d\n", value);
    triple(&value);
    printf("value tripled is %d\n", value);
    return 0;
}
```
Do we have to use a complicated magic value? My group is using 0 and it works fine.
A: It’s pretty likely that the computer will “accidentally” have a zero in place already, so checking for the magic number is not a reliable way to identify whether or not a page is from the allocator.

Can you help with the logging example on Teams?
A: You’ll have to decide what and when to print as log messages.
The example on teams creates a fixed-size buffer of characters to make space for a log message.
Next, it uses snprintf to format a message, which it writes in the buffer. The “n” in the function name means it also takes the maximum length of the buffer.
After snprintf runs, the buffer holds a null-terminated string we can pass to log_message.
How the bank can lose funds:

Accounts A and B are transferring to C

\[ t_1 = \text{accounts}[A].balance \]
\[ t_1 = 1 \]
\[ \text{accounts}[A].balance = t_1 \]
\[ t_2 = \text{accounts}[B].balance \]
\[ t_2 = 1 \]
\[ \text{accounts}[B].balance = t_2 \]

\[ t_3 = \text{accounts}[C].balance \]
\[ t_3 += 1 \]
\[ \text{accounts}[C].balance = t_3 \]

not atomic

Overriding the updated balance from A's transfer

How the bank can gain funds

A → B  B → C

\[ t_4 = \text{accounts}[A].balance \]
\[ t_4 = 1 \]
\[ \text{accounts}[A].balance = t_4 \]

\[ t_5 = \text{accounts}[B].balance \]
\[ t_5 += 1 \]
\[ \text{accounts}[B].balance = t_5 \]

This update replaces
by reduced balance

\[ t_6 = \text{accounts}[C].balance \]
\[ t_6 = 1 \]
\[ \text{accounts}[C].balance = t_6 \]
Wrap Up
Reminders

Malloc Lab
Due next tomorrow at 11:59pm. I'll have the gradescope link up today.

Parallel Lettercount Assignment
Will be released shortly after class. Due on Thursday at 11:59pm.

Reading
Review our lab before class tomorrow (now posted)