

# Gull

## GC :

- \* User doesn't allocate / deallocate
- \* GC finds unused memory and repurpose
- \* User has less direct control

## Mark/Compact

1. Mark
2. Forward
3. Update
4. Compact
5. Unmark

- \* Keep heap-cursor

```
def f x =
let a = (true, 1) in
let b = (true, 2) in
let c = (true, 3) in
(a, c)
end
(f 0, f 4)
```

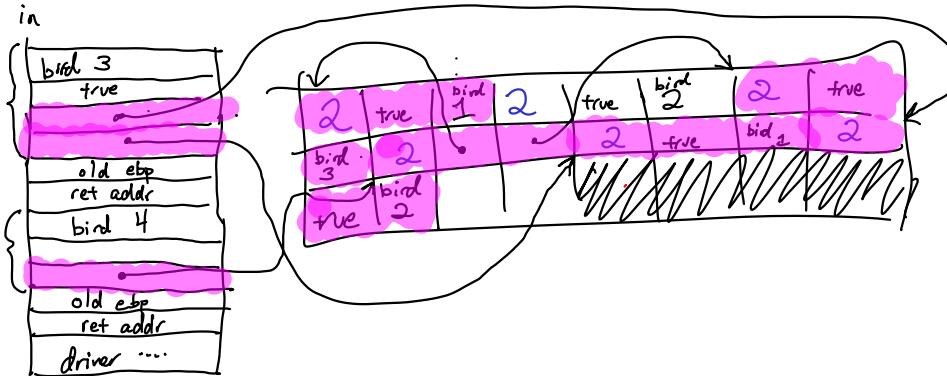
f 4

bird 3 true  
old ebp  
ret addr  
bird 4  
old ebp  
ret addr  
driver ...

main

Assume heap is 20 words in size.

Falcon heap diagram



## Falcon

Tuple

size	elements ...
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Closure

size	params	fn_ptr	elements ...
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## Gull

size	GC word	elements
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size	GC word	params	fn_ptr	elements
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"Invariant" while GC not running, GC word = 0x00000000

# 1. Mark : "paint" heap objects

DFS starting from stack  
Set GC word to  $0x00000001$

$0x80000000$

2	0x8000 0000	true	bird 1	2	0	true	bird 2
2	0x8000 0010	true	bird 3	2	0x8000 0020	0x8000 0002	0x8000 0021
2	0x8000 0030	true	bird 1	2	0x8000 0040	true	bird 2

# 2. Forward : decide where each heap object should go, store in GC word

NOT DFS

iterate over heap

At end: each GC word is either 0 (if obj is garbage) or the machine addr to which it should be moved

# 3. Update ptrs

Either DFS or iteration

Update: follow ptr to heap obj, get GC word, convert to bird ptr, then change the ptr var

# 4. Compact :

Iterate over heap; for each obj:

If GC word  $\neq 0$ , move obj to its new home

# 5. Unmark

When you allocate heap memory:

first: calc how much

then: if  $\text{end\_of\_heap} - \text{heap\_cursor} < \text{need}$ : run GC(need)

Running

(... ( .. ) )

- \* After releasing stack memory, set to zero
- \* Only operate on bird ptrs between start & end of heap

