Self-Referential Data Structures

Structures can hold <u>pointers</u> to <u>instances</u> of <u>themselves</u>

```
struct tree {
    char *word;
    int count;
    struct tree *left, *right;
};

• Structures cannot contain instances of themselves:
    struct tree {
    char *word
```

struct tree left, right;
};
what is sizeof (struct tree)?

int count;

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Dynamic Data Structures

- C library routines malloc and free allocate and deallocate memory extern void *malloc(unsigned nbytes);
 allocates nbytes of memory and returns a pointer to the 1st byte extern void free(void *p)
 deallocates the memory pointed to by p, which must come from malloc
- To create a new treenode:

```
typedef struct tree *Tree;
Tree talloc(void) {
    return malloc(sizeof (struct tree));
}
```

Better yet, provide arguments to <u>initialize</u> the new tree:

```
Tree talloc(char *word, int count, Tree left, Tree right) {
    Tree t = malloc(sizeof *t);
    t->word = word; t->count = count;
    t->left = left; t->right = right;
    return t;
}
```

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Deallocating Memory

Delallocate a previously created tree:

```
void tfree(Tree t) {
    free(t);
}
```

Other allocation functions:

```
extern void *calloc(unsigned n, unsigned nbytes)

allocates <u>and clears</u> memory for n copies of nbytes, e.g. an array of structures

extern void *realloc(void *p, unsigned size)

expands/shrinks the memory pointed by p to occupy nbytes; may <u>relocate</u>
```

All allocation functions return NULL if there is no memory available

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Example: Binary Trees

Function insert(Tree *p, char *word)
 adds word to the tree rooted at p if word isn't already in the tree
 otherwise, it increments the count associated with word

```
void insert(<u>Tree *p</u>, char *word) {
   Tree q = *p;
   if (q) {
      int cond = strcmp(word, q->word);
      if (cond < 0)
            insert(&q->left, word);
      else if (cond > 0)
            insert(&q->right, word);
      else
            q->count++;
   } else
      *p = talloc(strsave(word), 1, NULL, NULL);
}
```

char strsave(char *s) makes a copy of string s and returns it

```
char *strsave(char *s) {
    char *new = malloc(strlen(s) + 1);
    assert(new);
    return strcpy(new, s);
}
```

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