

# Tiptoe: A Compositional Real-Time Operating System

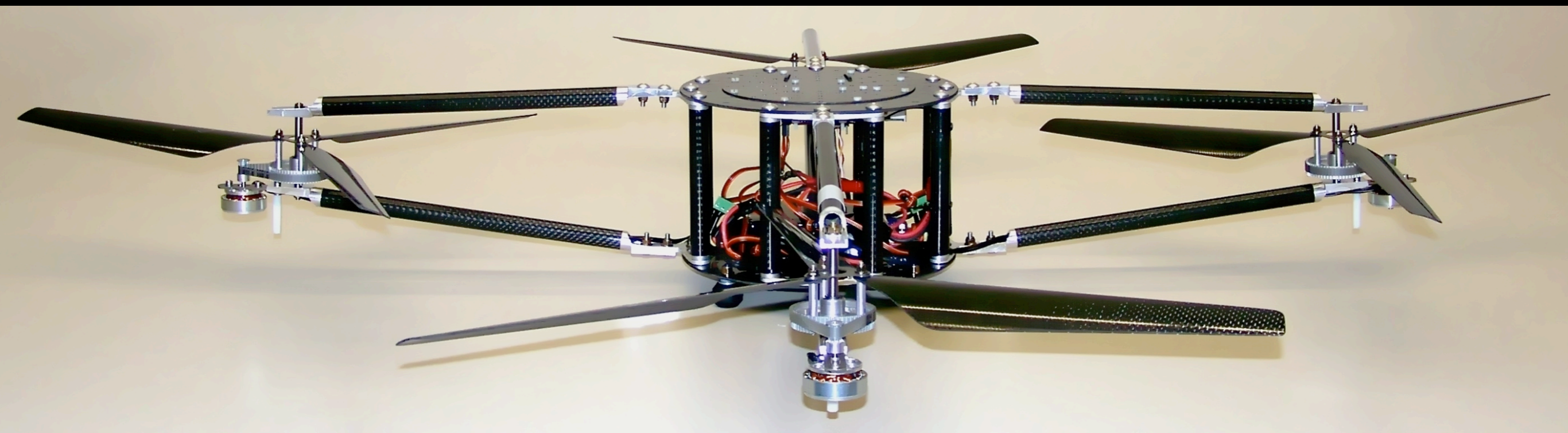
Christoph Kirsch  
Universität Salzburg



UC Irvine, CS Colloquium  
March 2008

# [tiptoe.cs.uni-salzburg.at](http://tiptoe.cs.uni-salzburg.at)

- Silviu Craciunas\* (Programming Model)
- Hannes Payer (Memory Management)
- Harald Röck (VM, Scheduling)
- Ana Sokolova\* (Theoretical Foundation)
- Horst Stadler (I/O Subsystem)

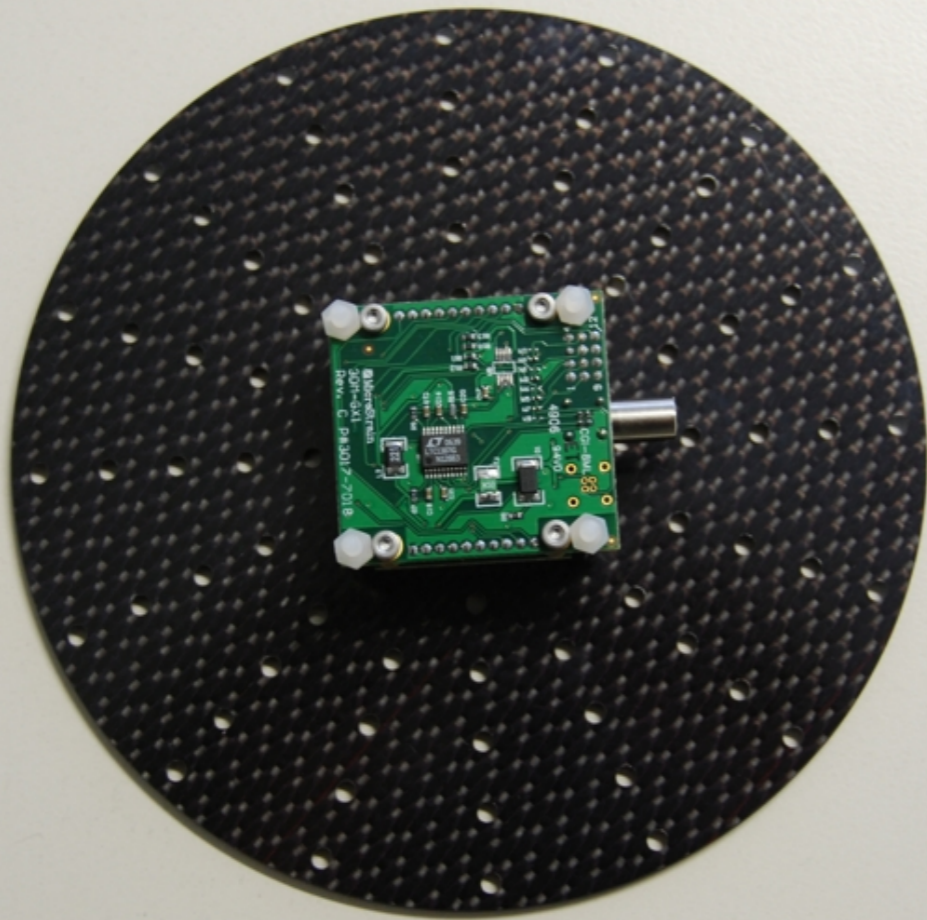


# The JAviator

[javiator.cs.uni-salzburg.at](http://javiator.cs.uni-salzburg.at)

# Quad-Rotor Helicopter



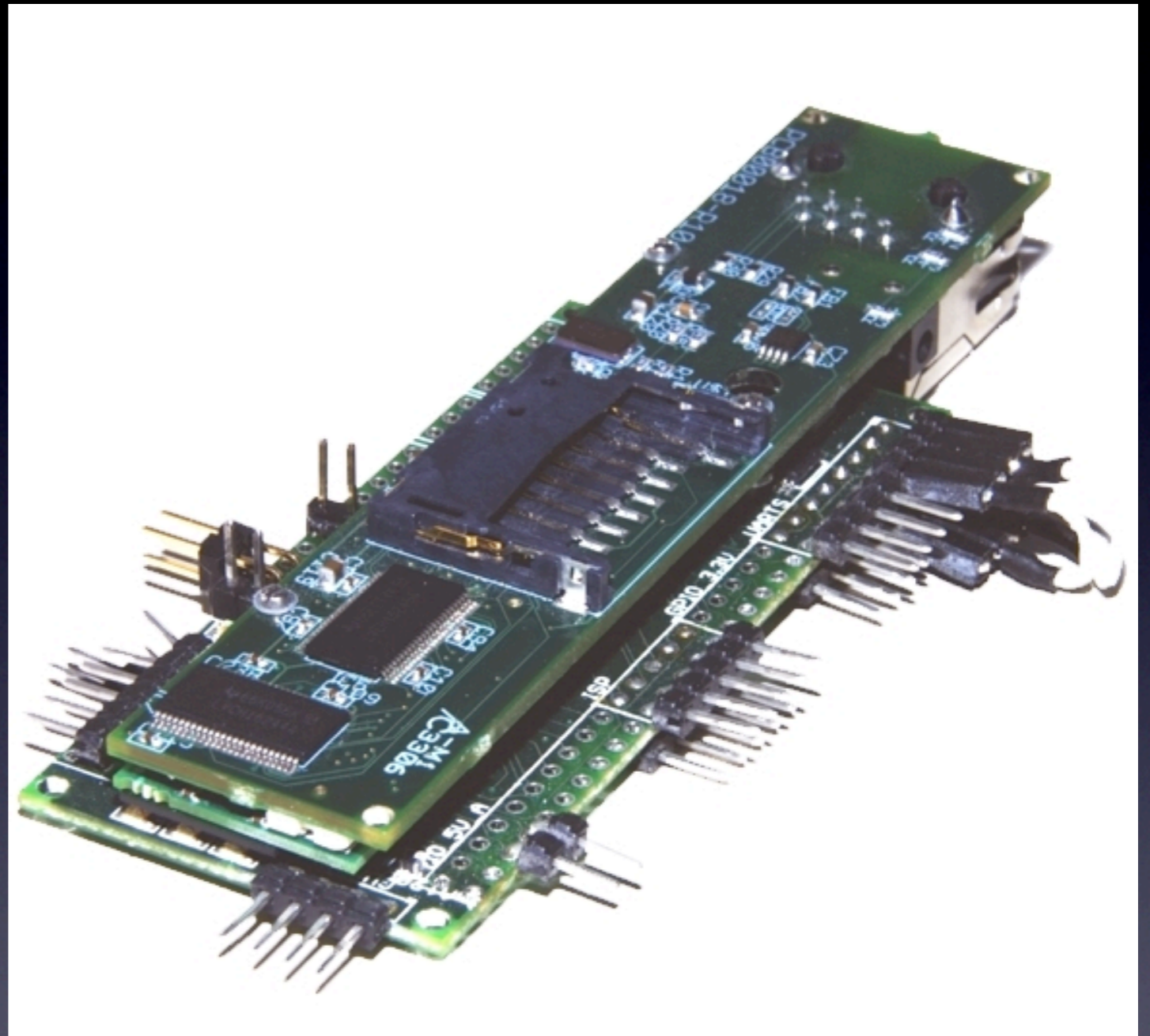


Gyro

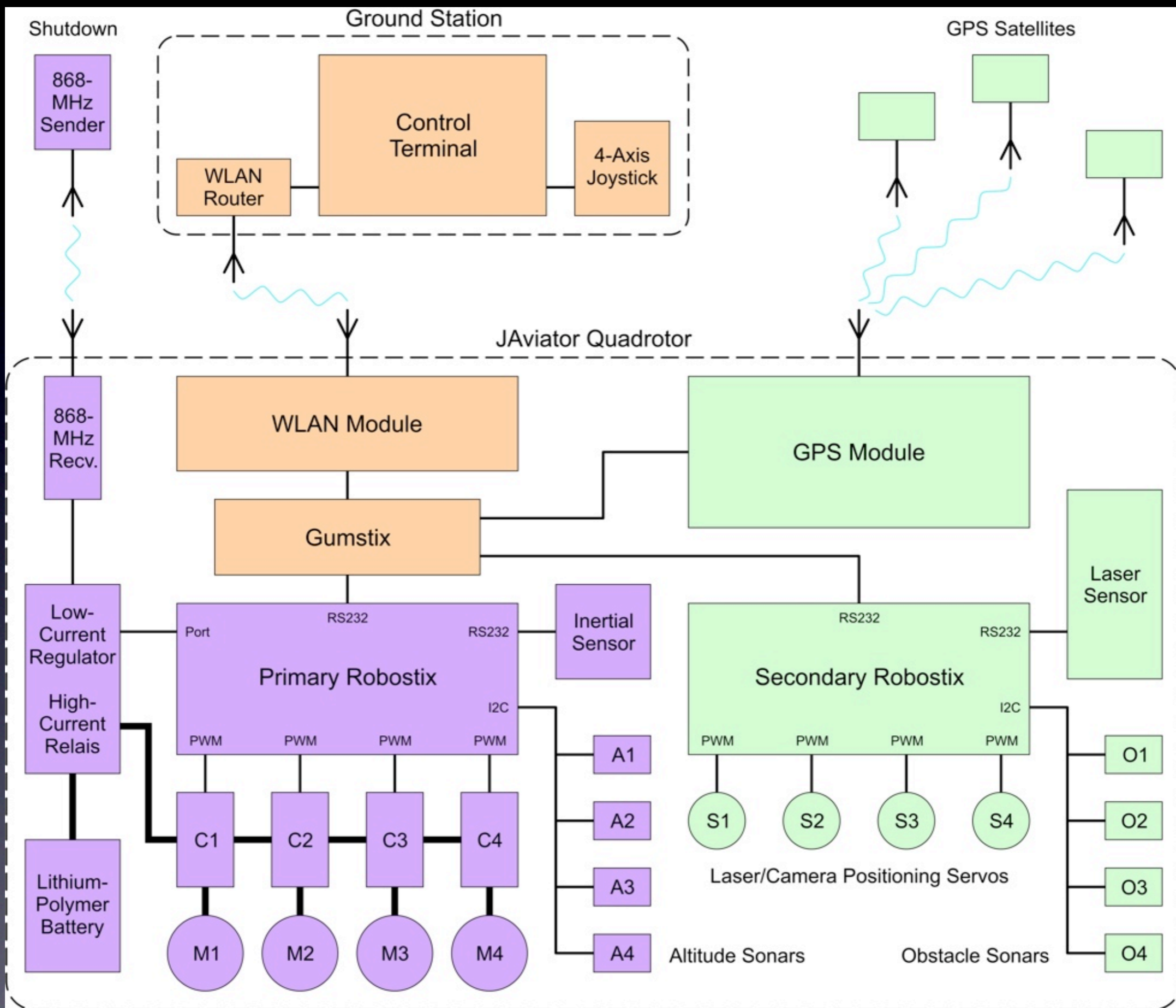
Propulsion

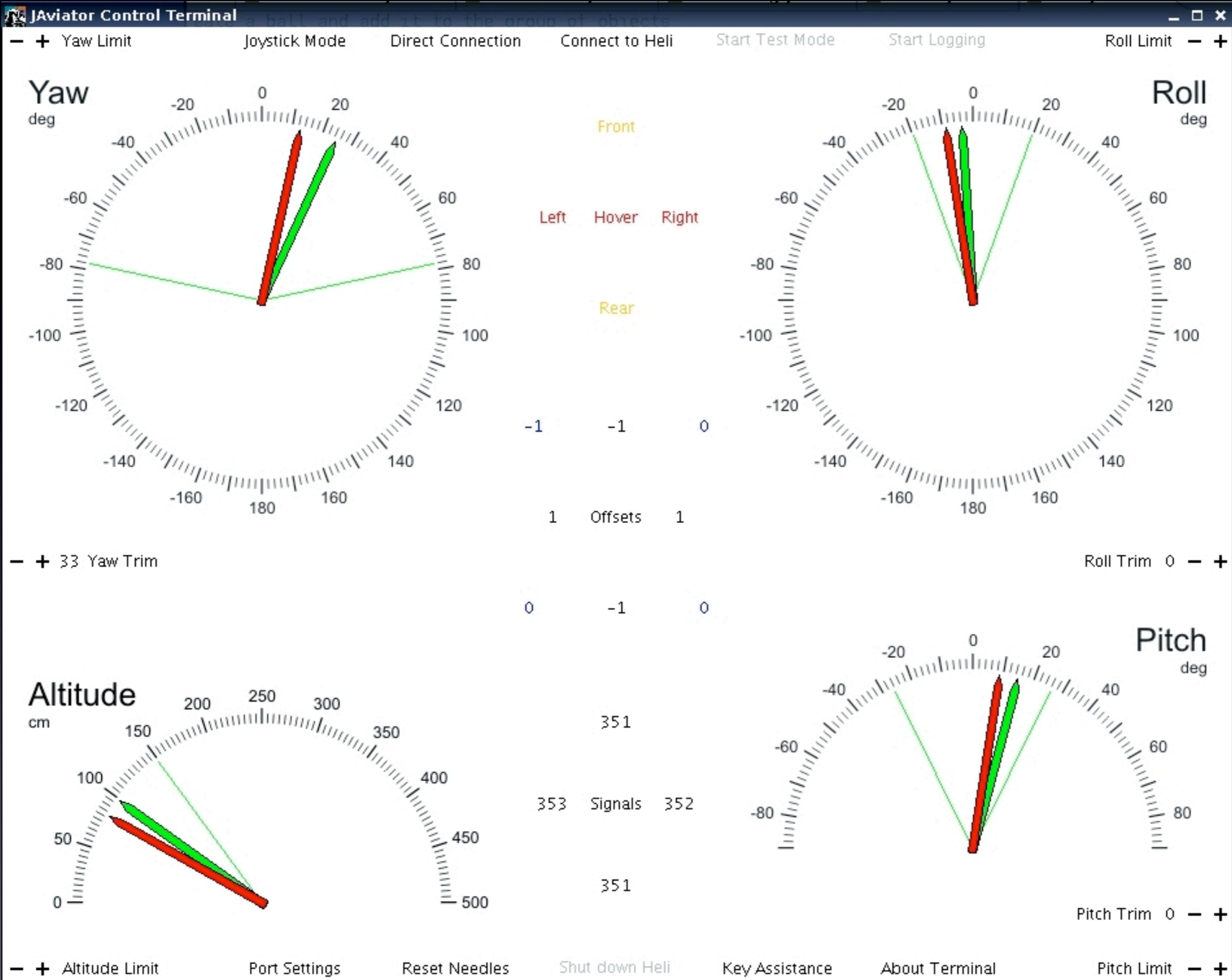


# Gumstix

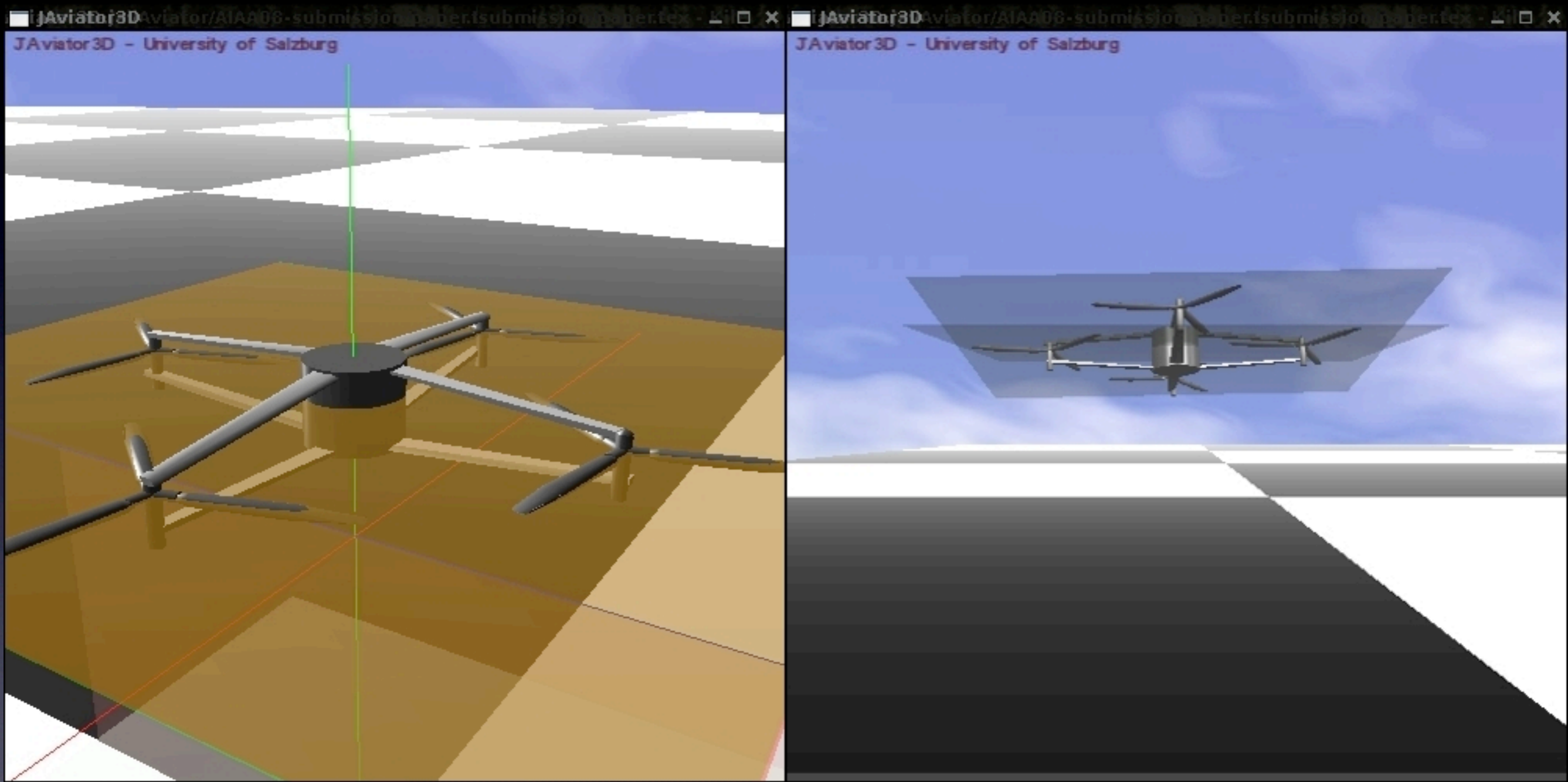


600MHz XScale, 128MB RAM, WLAN, Atmega uController

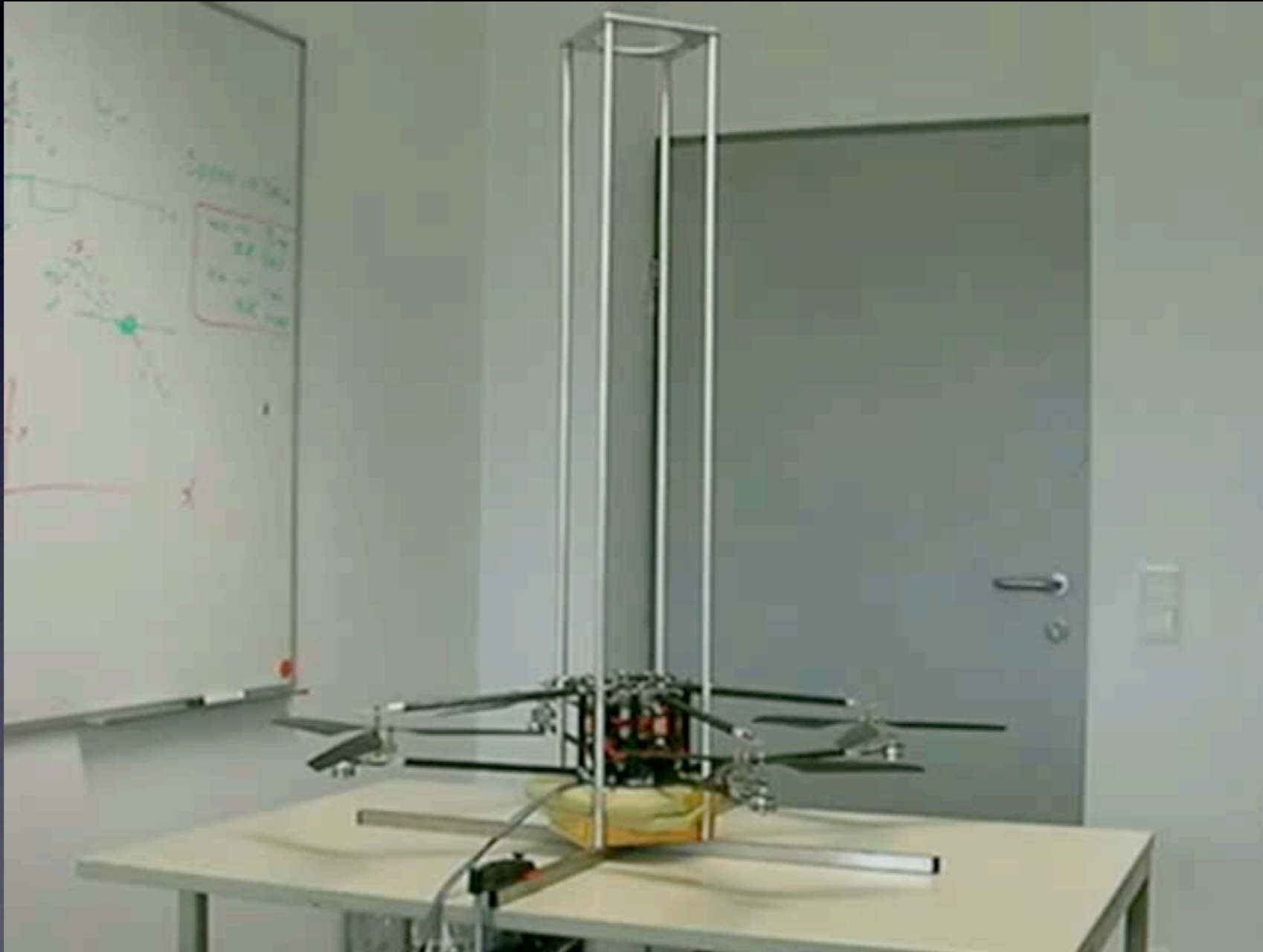




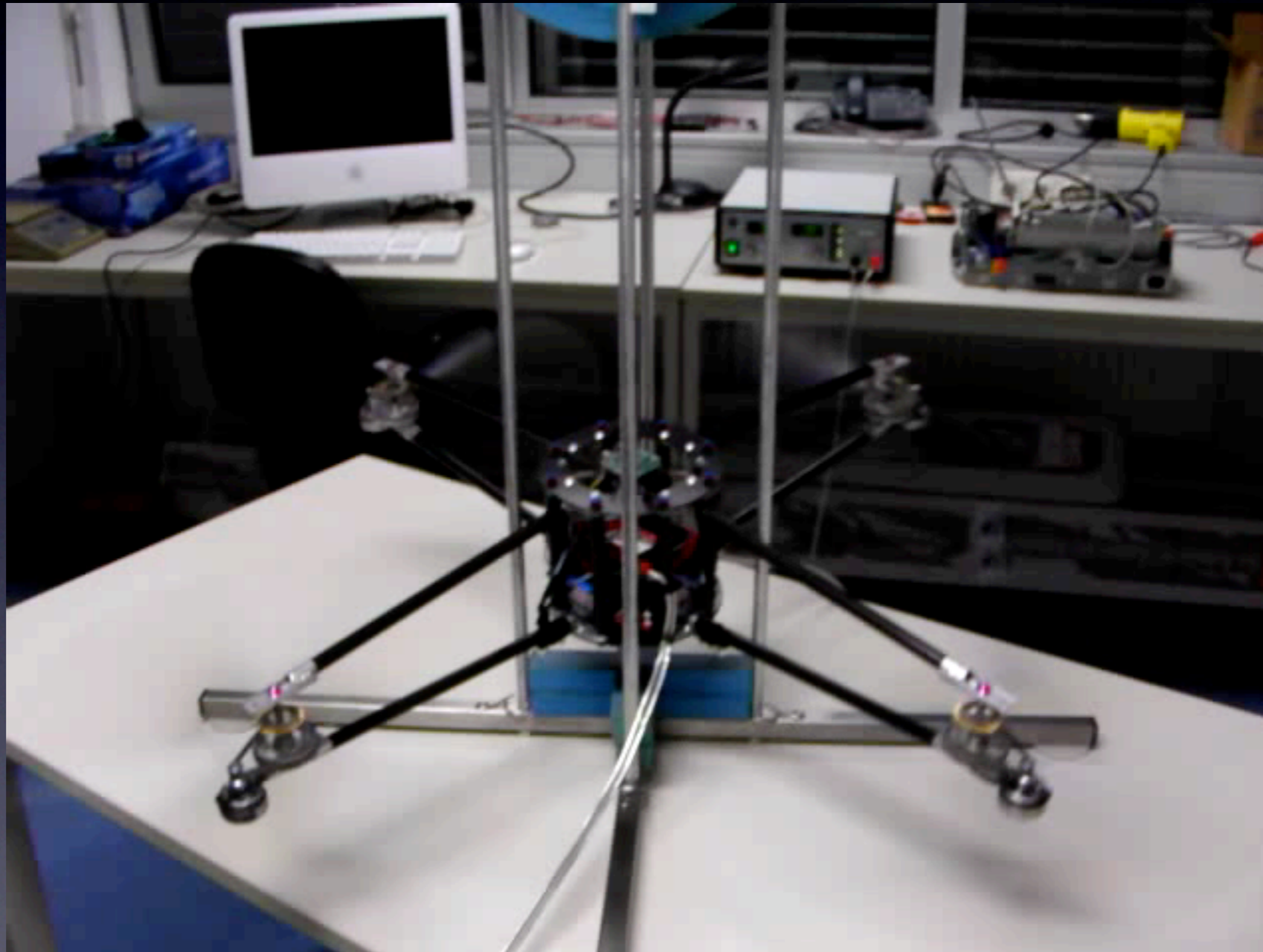




# Oops



# Flight Control



# Free Flight





Process A



Process B

Operating System

Memory

CPU

I/O

# “Theorem”

- (Compositionality) The **time** and **space** a software process needs to execute is determined by the **process**, not the system and not other software processes.
- (Predictability) The **system** can tell how much **time** and **space** is available without looking at any existing software processes.

# “Corollary”

- **(Memory)** The time a software process takes to **allocate** and **free** a memory object is determined by the size of the **object**.
- **(I/O)** The time a software process takes to **read** input data and **write** output data is determined by the size of the **data**.



# Programming Model

- A software process determines functional and **non-functional** behavior, for example:
- 1ms/100ms CPU time (  $\neq$  10ms/s )
- 4MB/2s memory allocation rate
- 1KB/10ms network bandwidth
- 10J/100ms energy consumption

# Outline

1. Memory Management
2. Concurrency Management
3. I/O Management

Toe A



Toe B

Tip

Memory

CPU

I/O

# Outline

1. Memory Management
2. Concurrency Management
3. I/O Management

# Tiptoe System

p2p Ethernet  
Connection

OR

Serial  
Connection

I/O Host Computer

Network

Disk

AD/DA

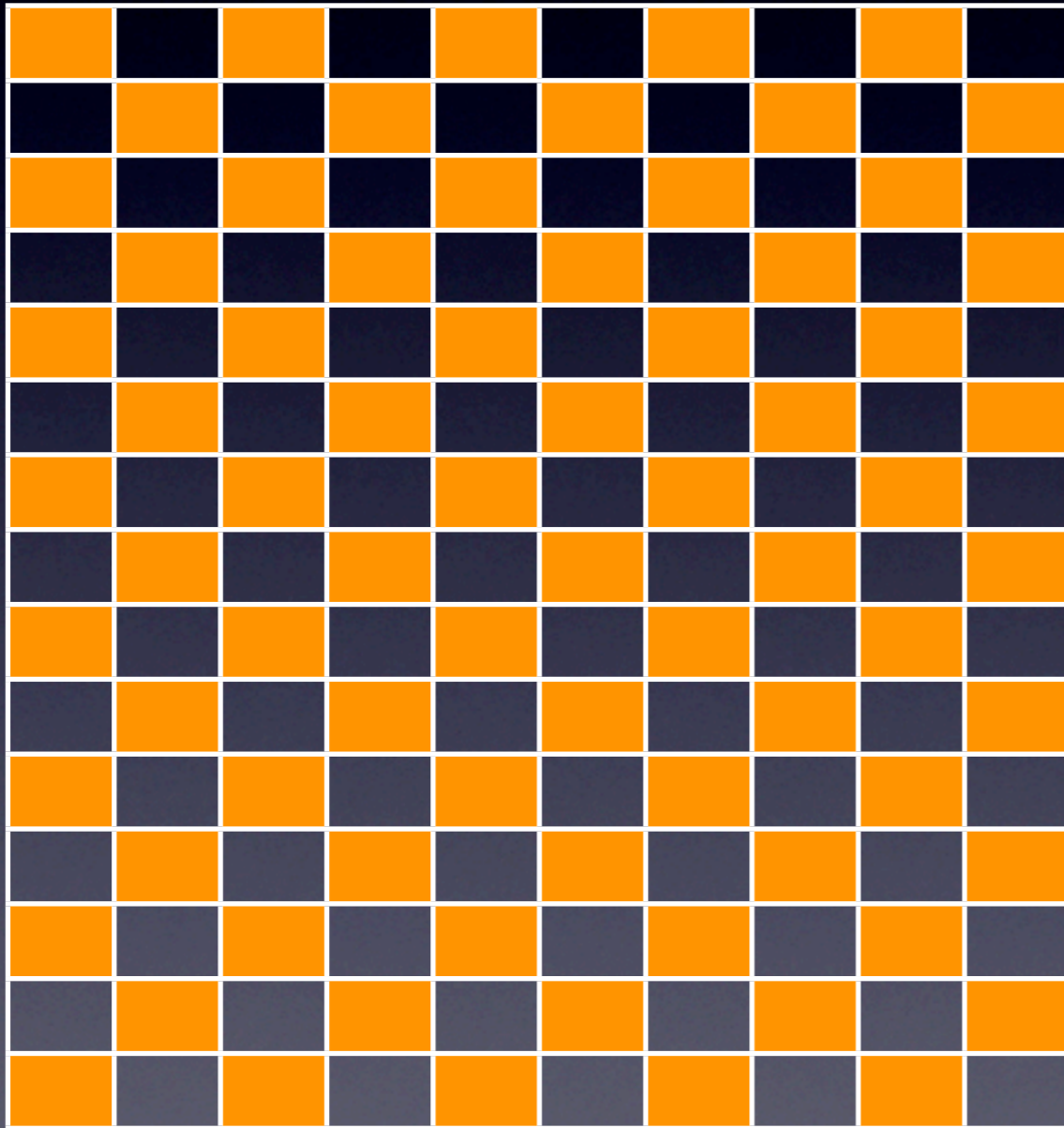
# Outline

1. **Memory Management**
2. Concurrency Management
3. I/O Management

# Goals

- `malloc(n)` takes at most  $\text{TIME}(n)$
- `free(n)` takes at most  $\text{TIME}(n)$
- access takes **small** constant time
  
- **small** and **predictable** memory fragmentation bound

# The Problem

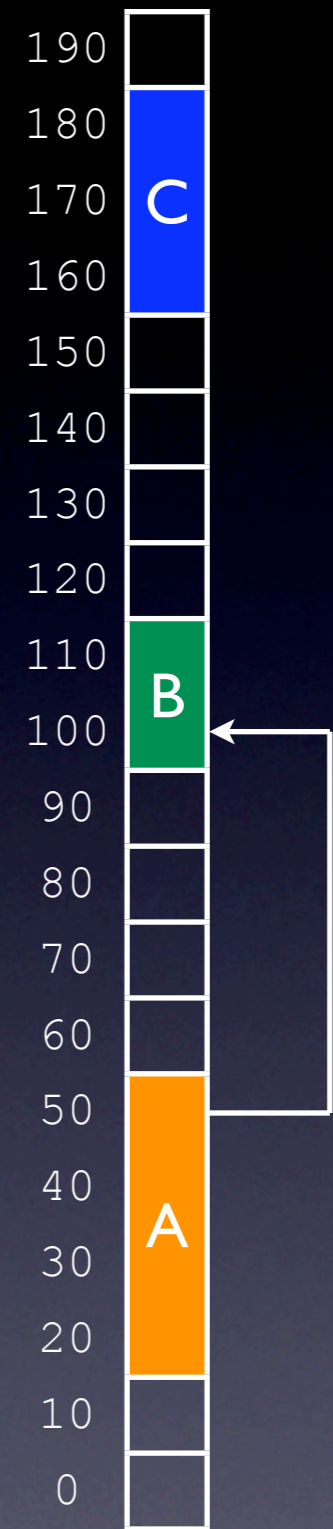


- Fragmentation
  - ▶ Compaction
- References
  - ▶ Abstract Space

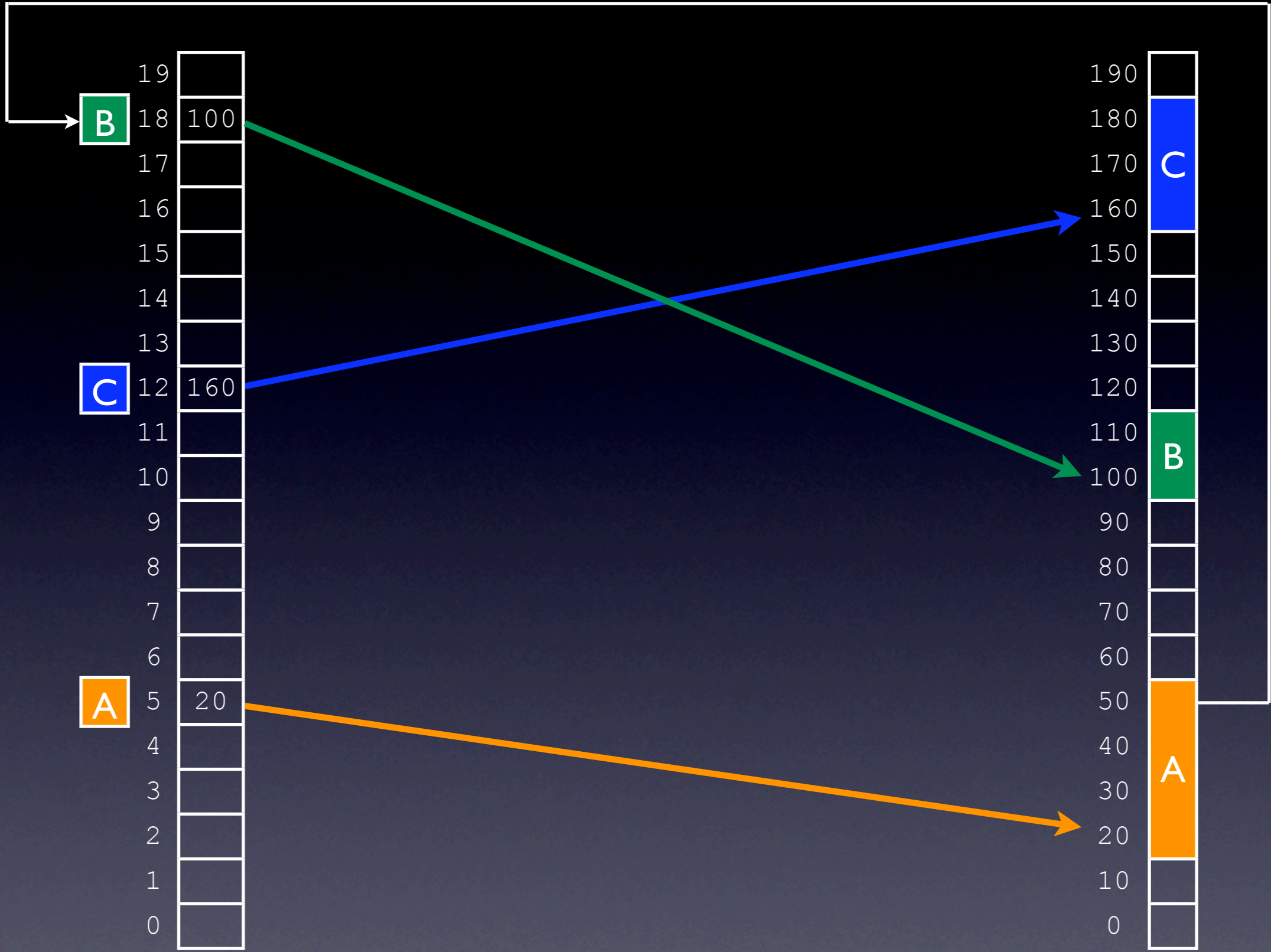


## Example:

- There are three objects
- Object **A** starts at address 20
- Object **A** needs 40 bytes
- **B** starts at 100, needs 20 bytes
- **C** starts at 160, needs 30 bytes
- **A** contains a reference to **B**



Memory



Abstract Space

Concrete Space





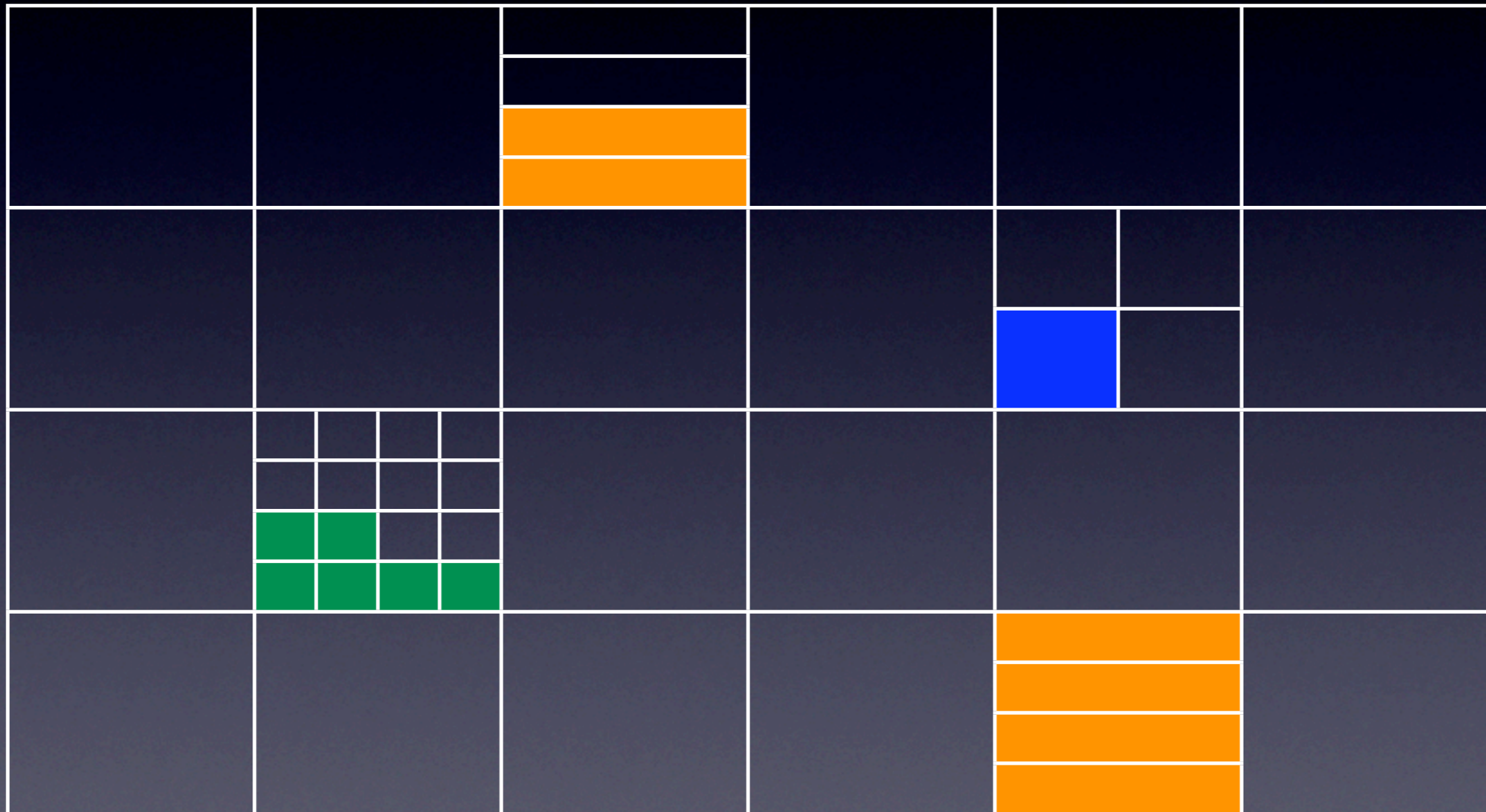
# Trade-off Speed for Memory Fragmentation

Keep Speed and  
Memory Fragmentation  
**Bounded** and **Predictable**

# Partition Memory into Pages

16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB
16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB
16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB
16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB	16KB

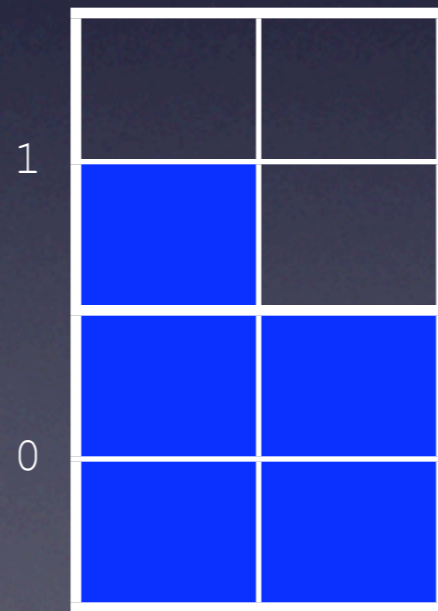
# Partition Pages into Blocks



# Size-Class Compact



Objects < 32

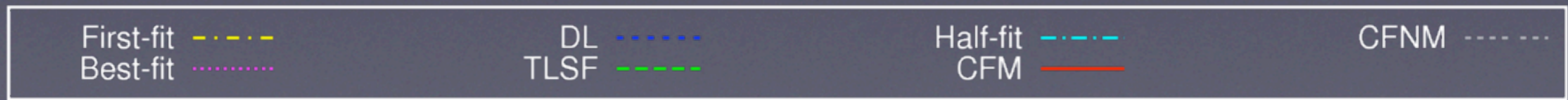
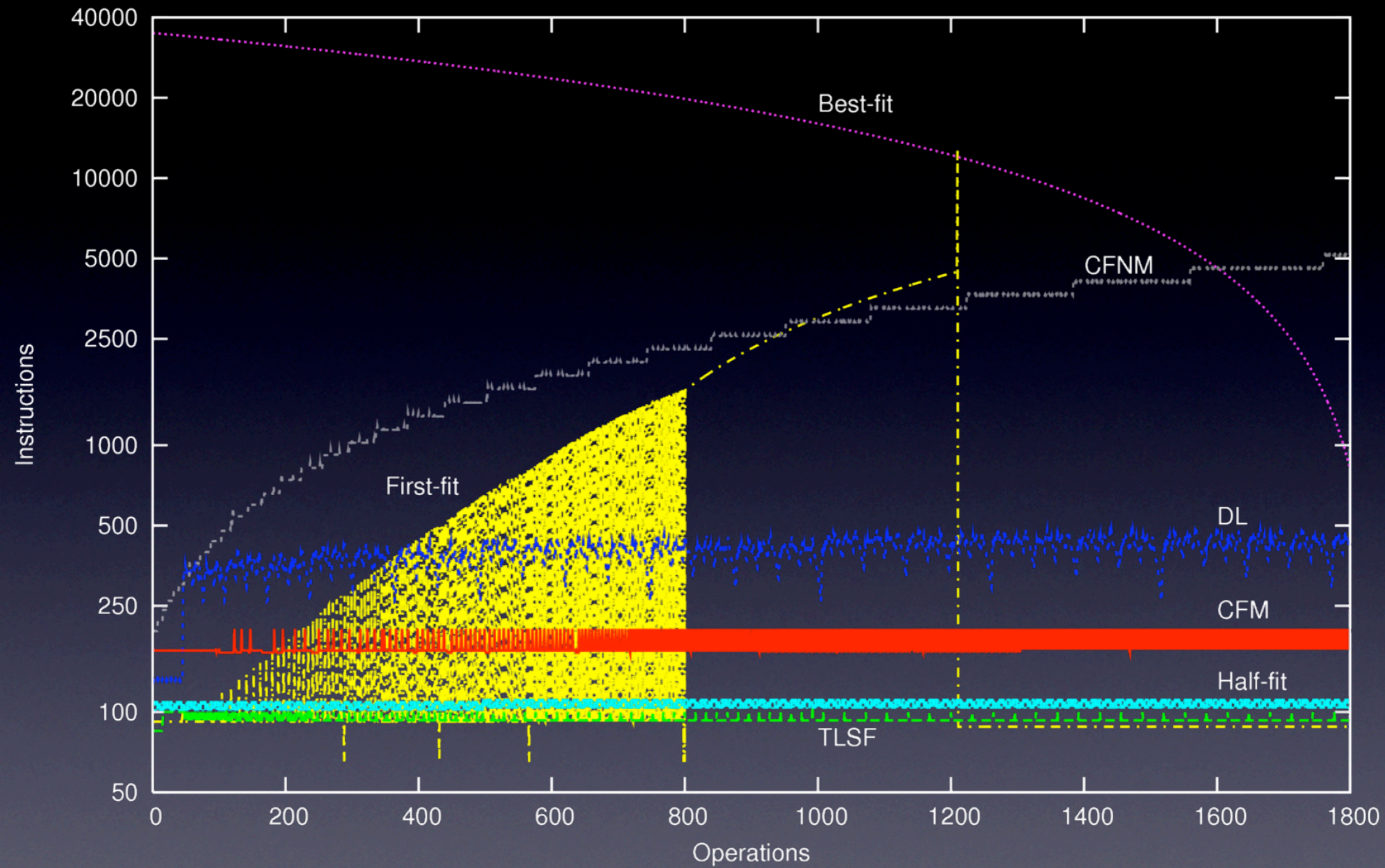


Objects < 48



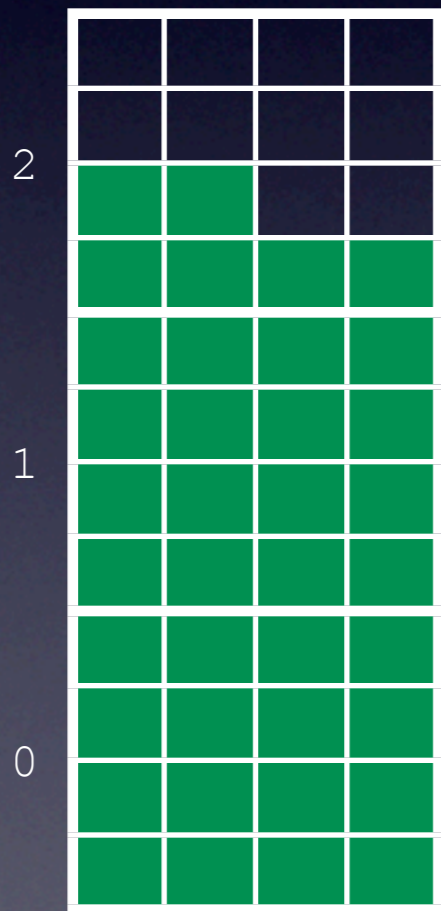
Objects < 64



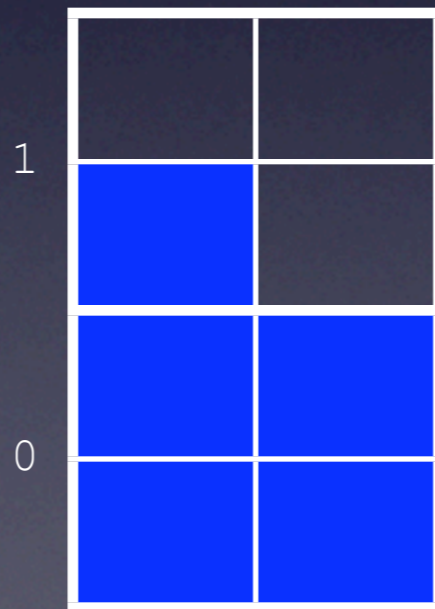


# “Compact-Fit” (Bounded Compaction)

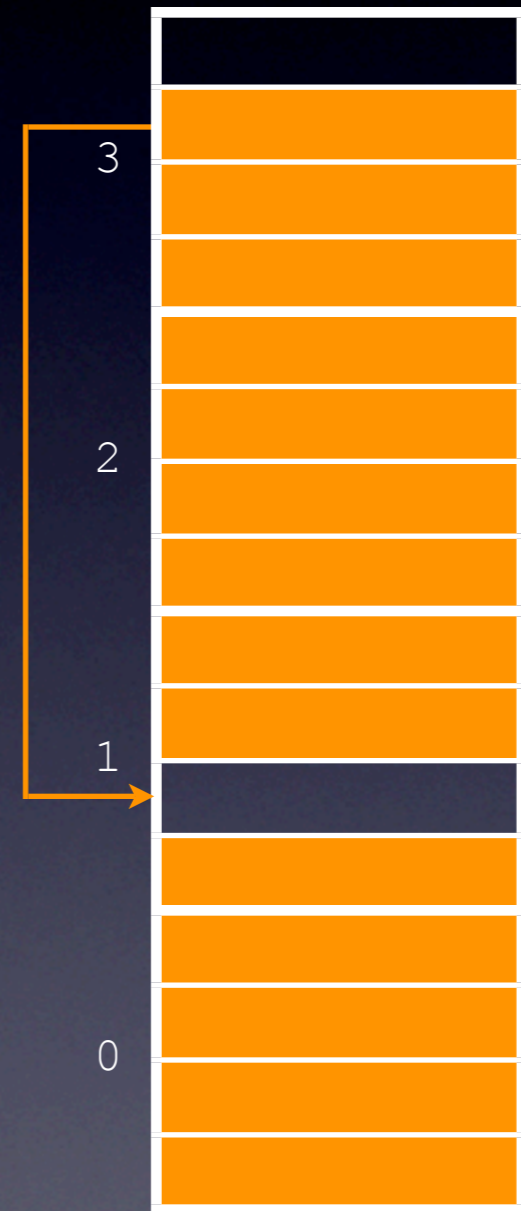
just **move** ‘last’ object



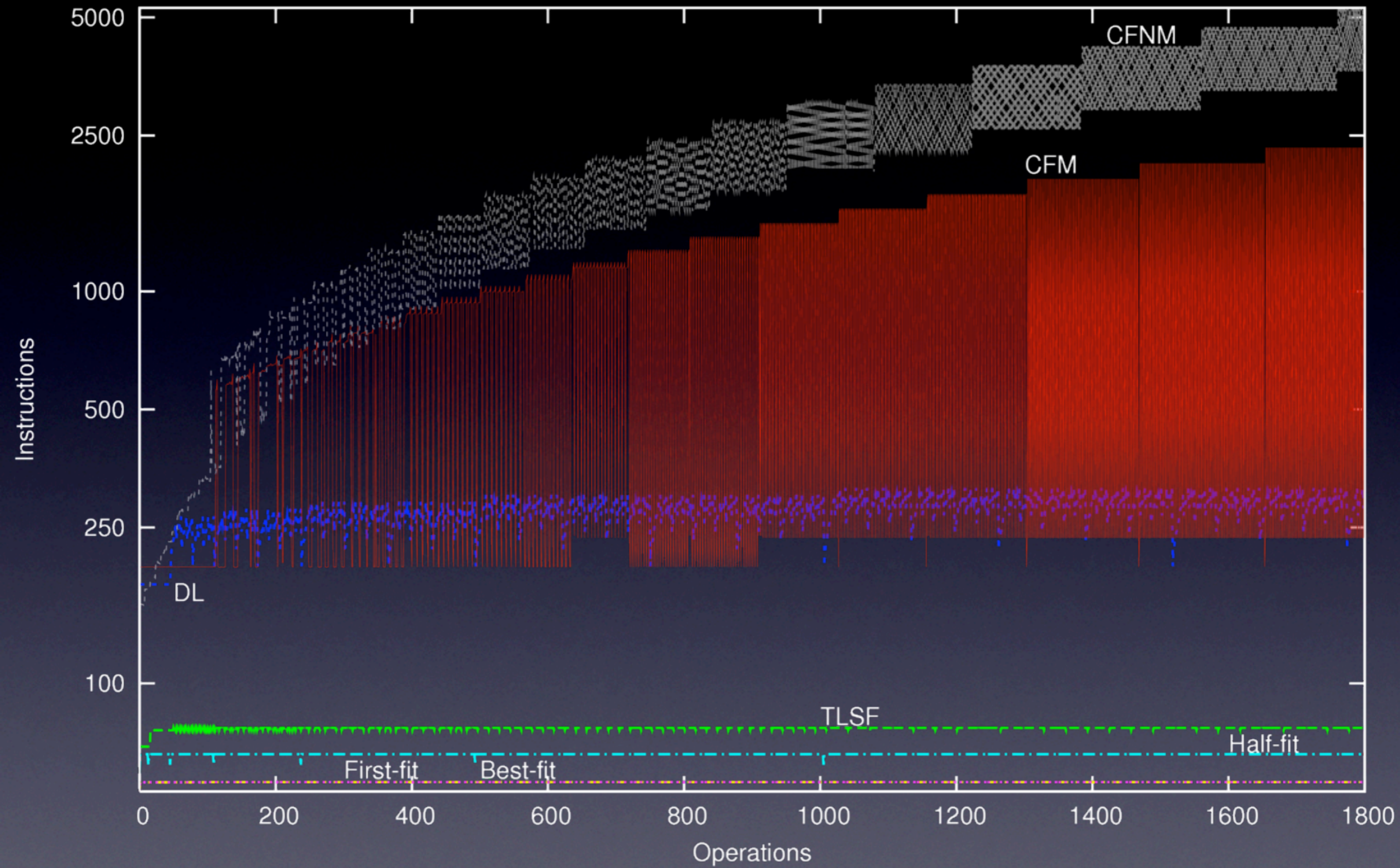
Objects < 32



Objects < 48



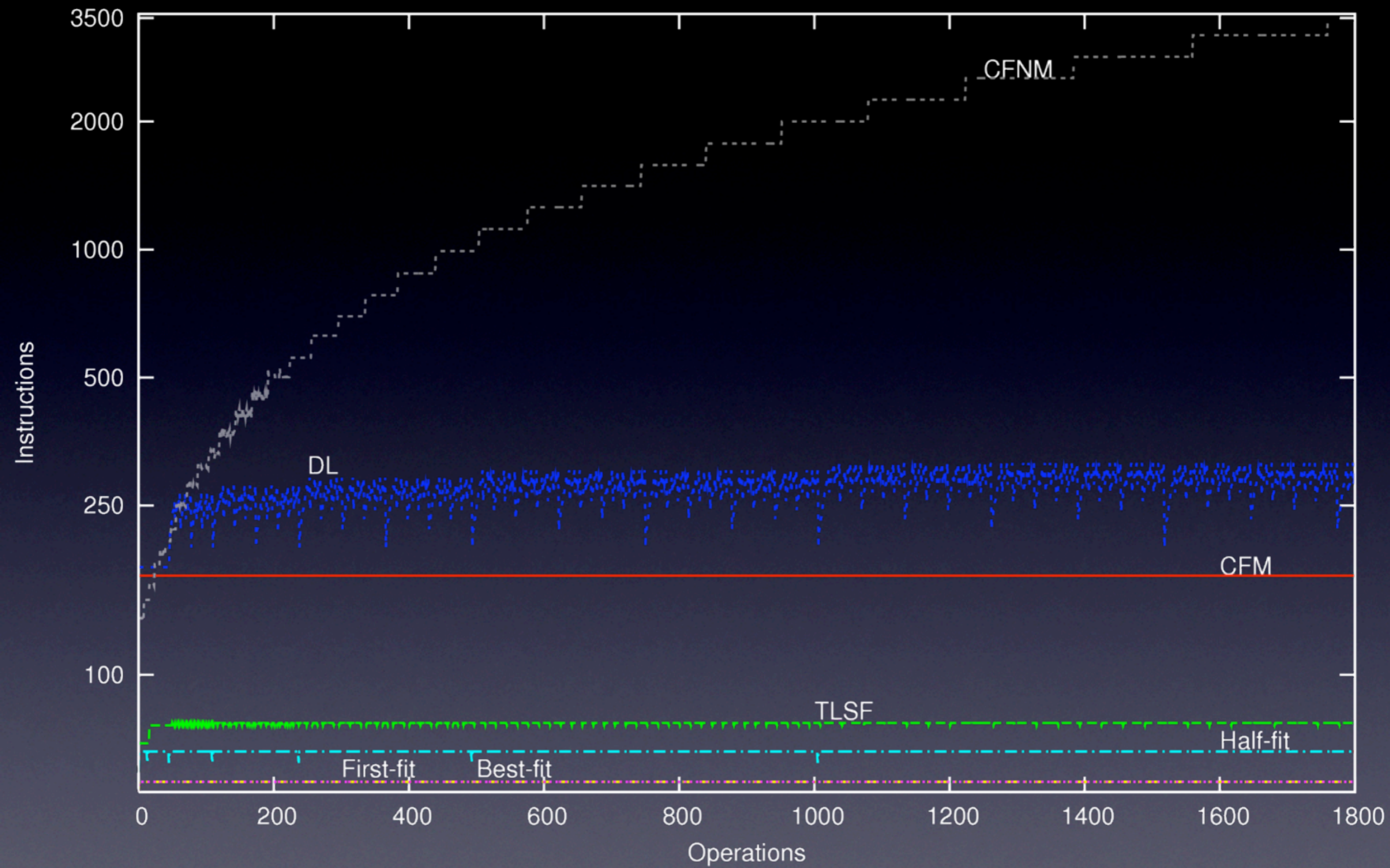
Objects < 64



# Results I

- `malloc(n)` takes  $O(1)$
- `free(n)` takes  $O(n)$
- access takes **one** indirection
  
- memory fragmentation is **bounded** and **predictable** in constant time





# Program Analysis

Definition:

Let  $k$  count deallocations in a given size-class for which no subsequent allocation was done (“ $k$ -band mutator”).

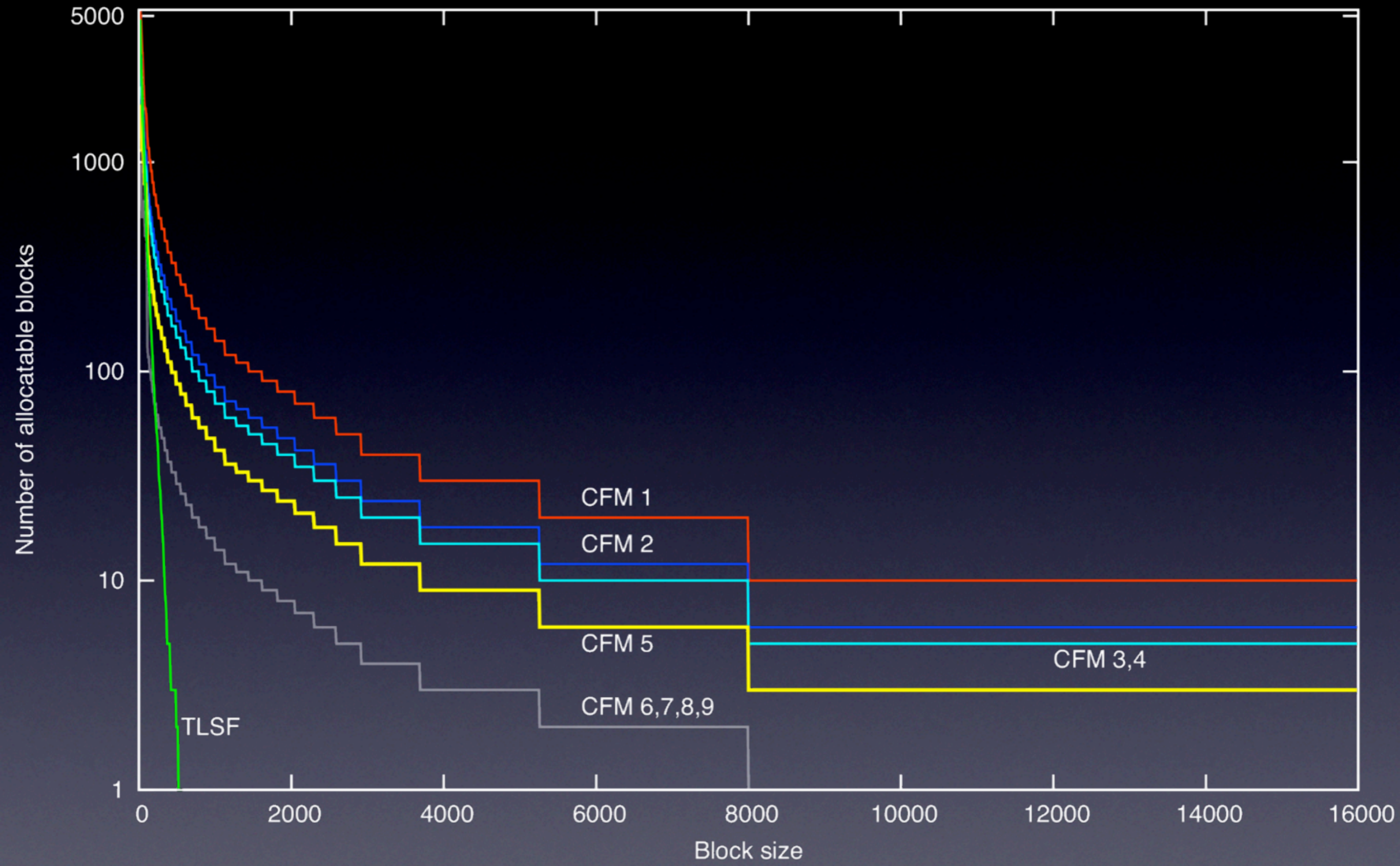
Proposition:

Each deallocation that happens when  $k < \text{max\_number\_of\_non\_full\_pages}$  takes constant time.

# Results II

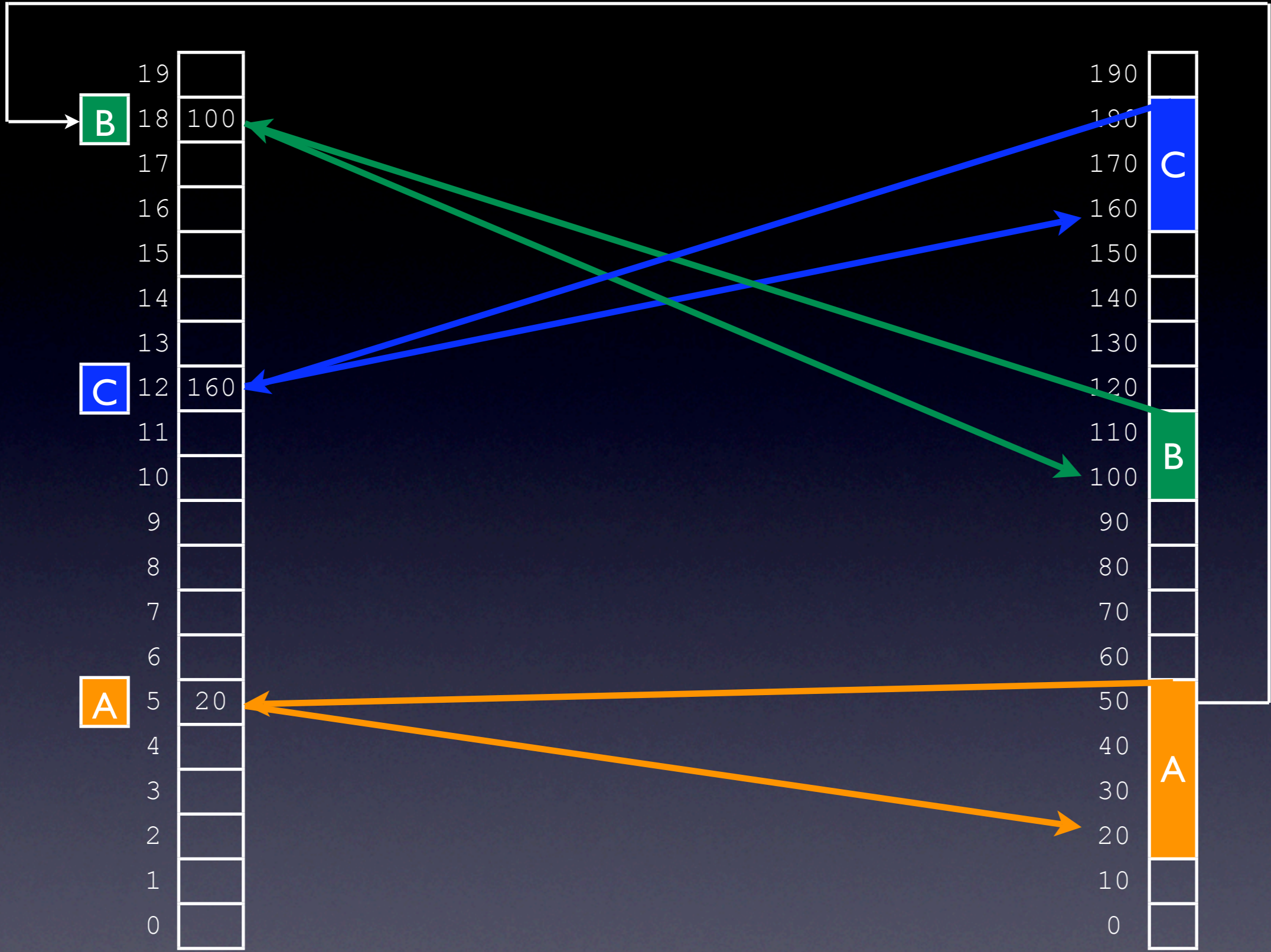
- if mutator stays within k-bands:
  - malloc(n) takes  $O(1)$
  - free(n) takes  $O(1)$
  - access takes **one** indirection
- memory fragmentation is **bounded** in k and **predictable** in constant time





# Two Implementations!

1. Concrete Space = Physical Memory
2. Concrete Space = Virtual Memory

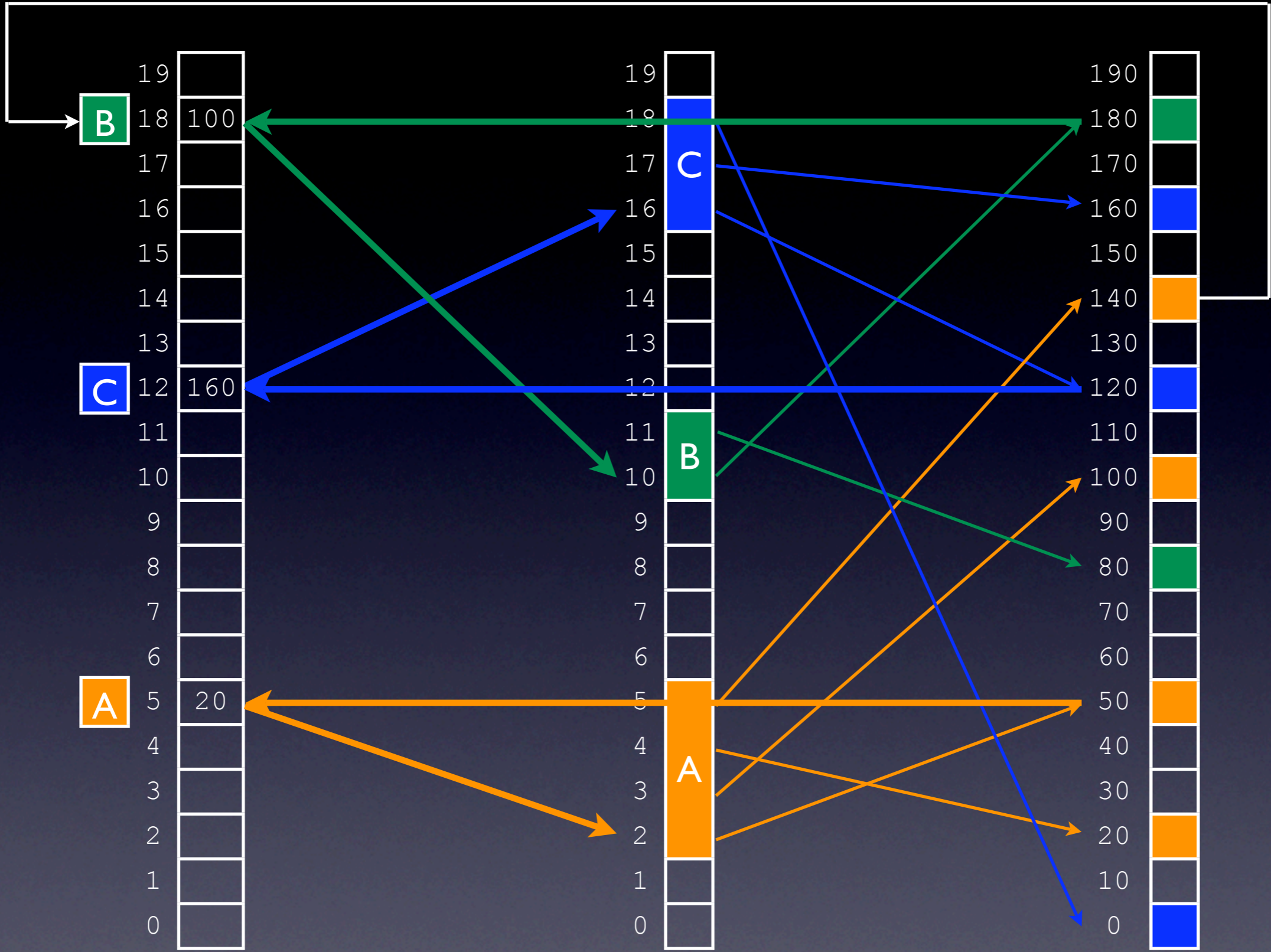


Abstract Space

Physical Memory

# Two Implementations!

1. Concrete Space = Physical Memory
2. Concrete Space = Virtual Memory



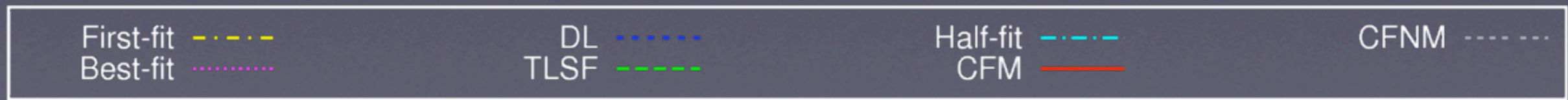
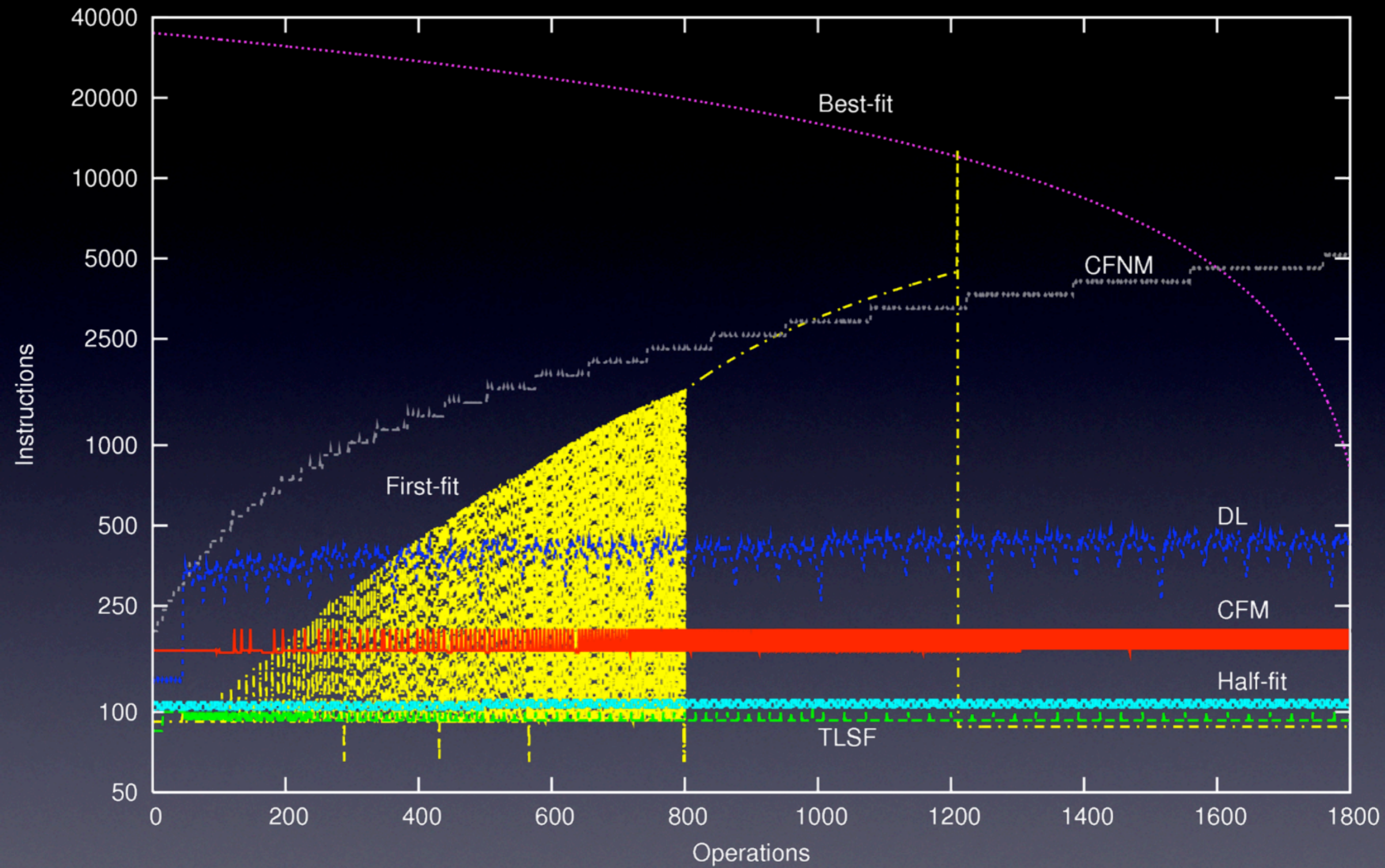
Abstract Space

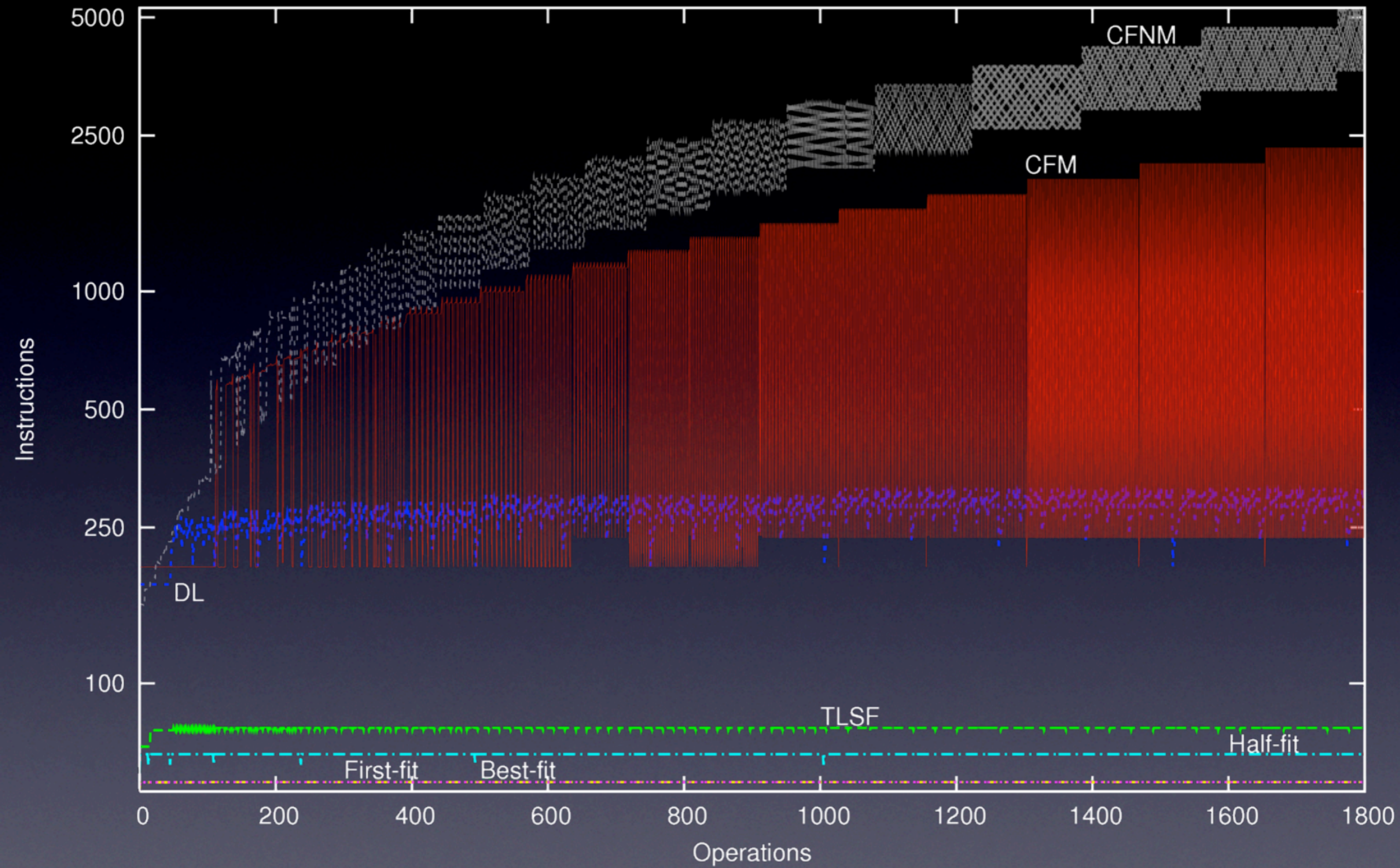
Virtual Space

Physical Memory

# Results III

- `malloc(n)` takes  $O(n)$
- `free(n)` takes  $O(n)$
- access takes **two** indirections
  
- memory fragmentation is **bounded** in  $k$  and **predictable** in constant time







# Current/Future Work

- Concurrent memory management
- I/O subsystem
- Constant-time scheduler
- Java bytecode VM

Thank you