Writing Smart Contracts... Without Solidity



Agenda

- Why learn EVM opcodes?
- Contract create example
- Introducing: Trim
- Implementing the Greeter contract



Why learn EVM Opcodes?

To become a better Solidity engineer.



A Better Solidity Engineer

- Is better prepared for low-level hacks
- Has a deeper understanding of common design patterns
- Has internalized how smart contracts run on the EVM



Introducing: BASM

Instead of writing this...

0x600960405260206040f3

(This is EVM bytecode)

...you get to write this!

PUSH1 0x09

PUSH1 0x40

MSTORE

PUSH1 0x20

PUSH1 0x40

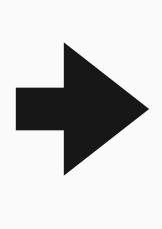
RETURN



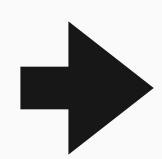
Introducing: BASM

...you get to write this!

PUSH1 0x09 PUSH1 0x40 MSTORE PUSH1 0x20 PUSH1 0x40 RETURN



60 09 60 40 52 60 20 60 40 f3



0x600960405260206040f3



PUSH1 0x0a
PUSH1 0x0c
PUSH1 0x00
CODECOPY
PUSH1 0x0a
PUSH1 0x00
RETURN
STOP

PUSH1 0x09
PUSH1 0x40
MSTORE
PUSH1 0x20
PUSH1 0x40
RETURN

Goal: Deploy a contract that always returns the number 9

Note that there are no "functions" in this contract.

Memory Usage



PUSH1 0x0a
PUSH1 0x0c
PUSH1 0x00
CODECOPY
PUSH1 0x0a
PUSH1 0x00
RETURN
STOP

Init bytecode

PUSH1 0x09
PUSH1 0x40
MSTORE
PUSH1 0x20
PUSH1 0x40
RETURN

Runtime bytecode

Memory Usage



PUSH1 0x0a
PUSH1 0x0c
PUSH1 0x00
CODECOPY
PUSH1 0x0a
PUSH1 0x0a

RETURN

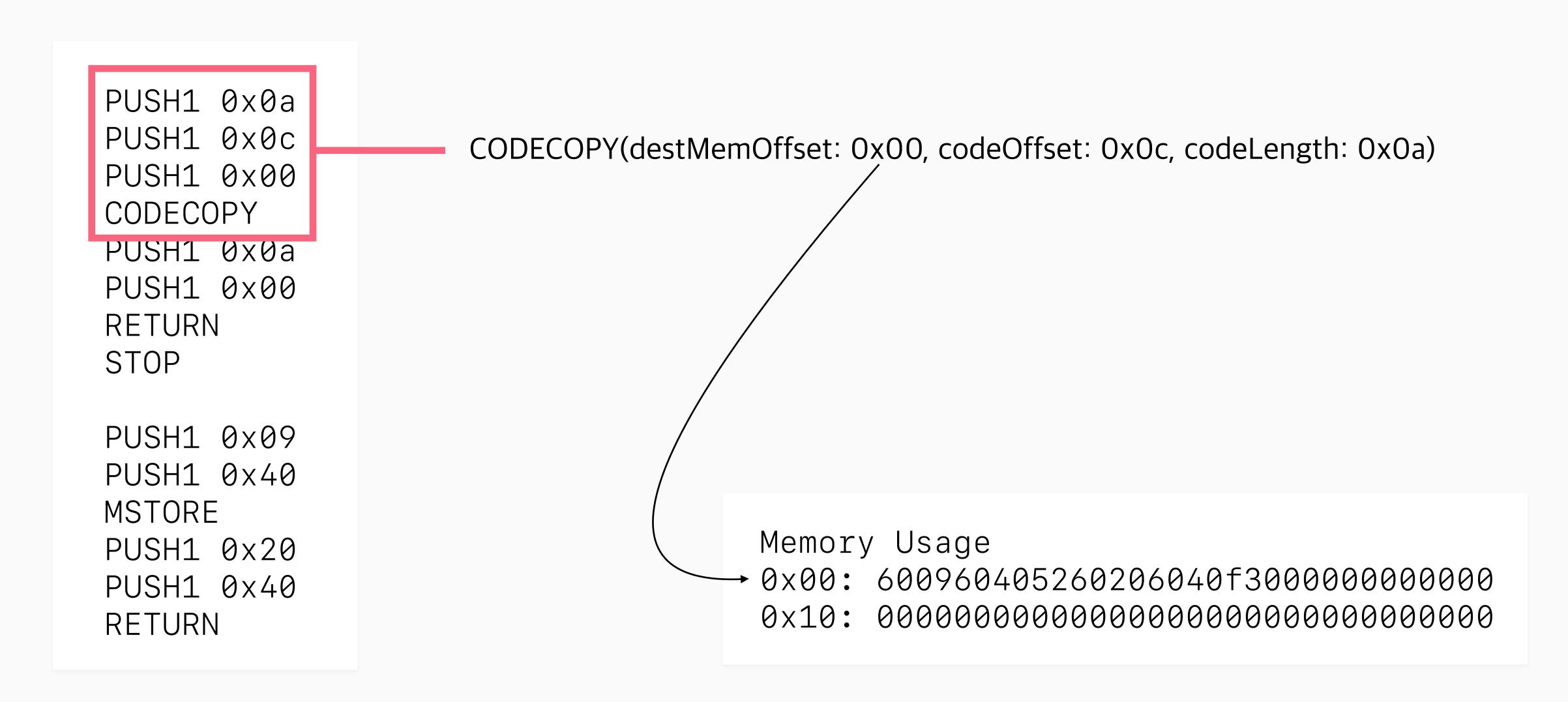
STOP

CODECOPY(destMemOffset: 0x00, codeOffset: 0x0c, codeLength: 0x0a)

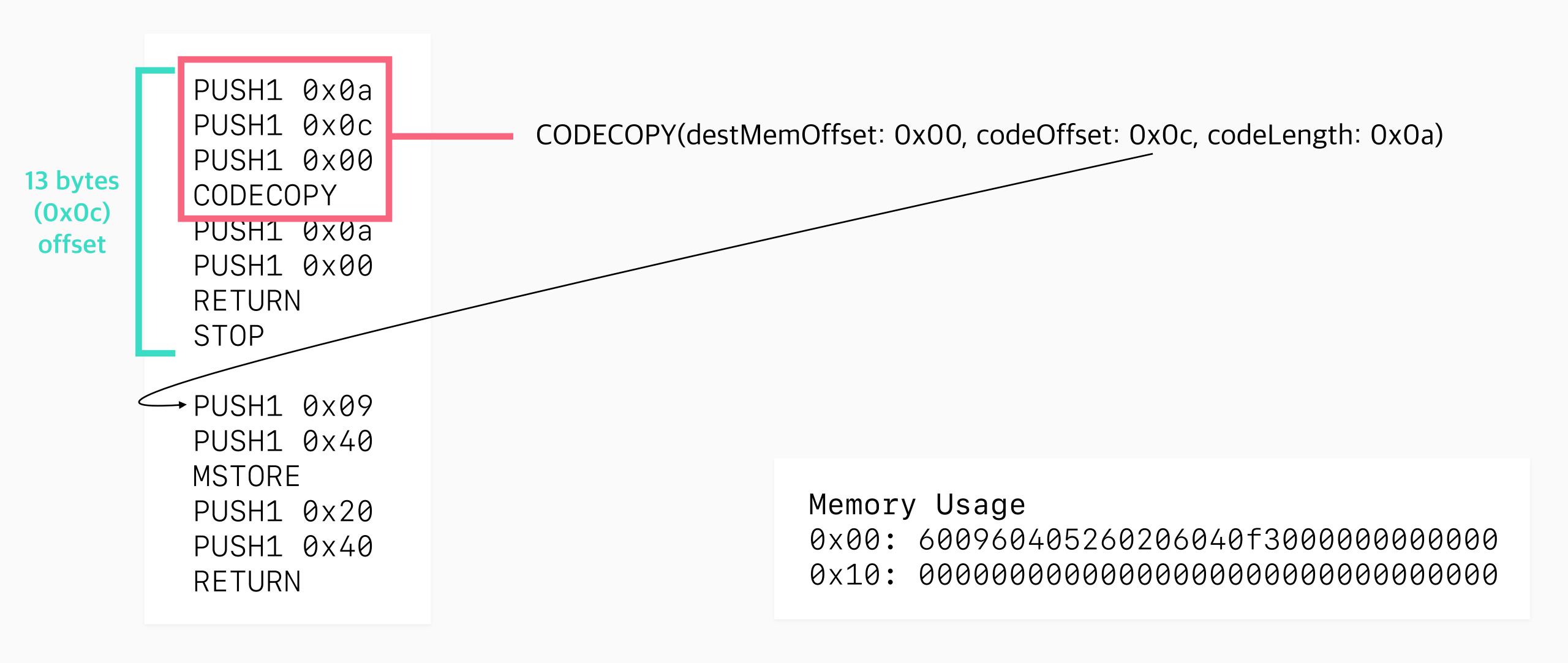
PUSH1 0x09
PUSH1 0x40
MSTORE
PUSH1 0x20
PUSH1 0x40
RETURN

Memory Usage

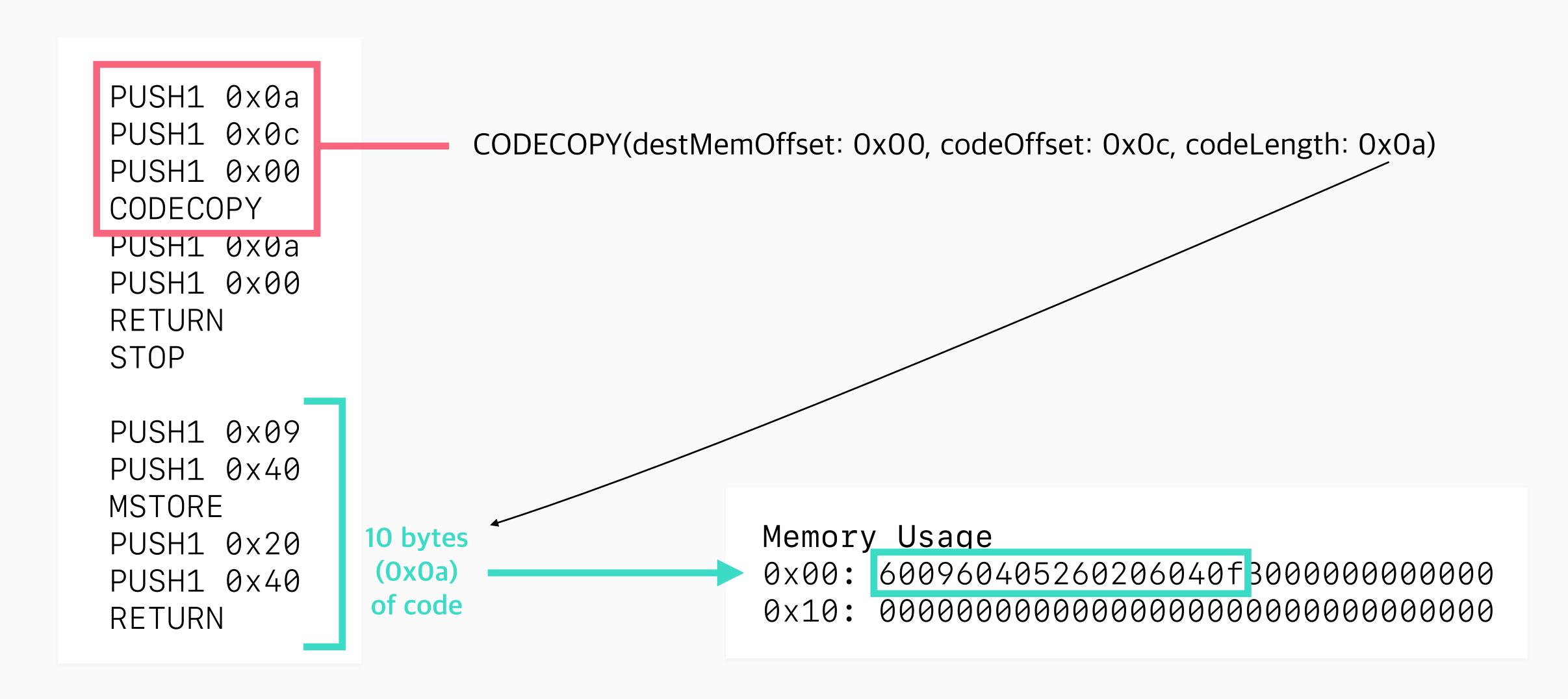




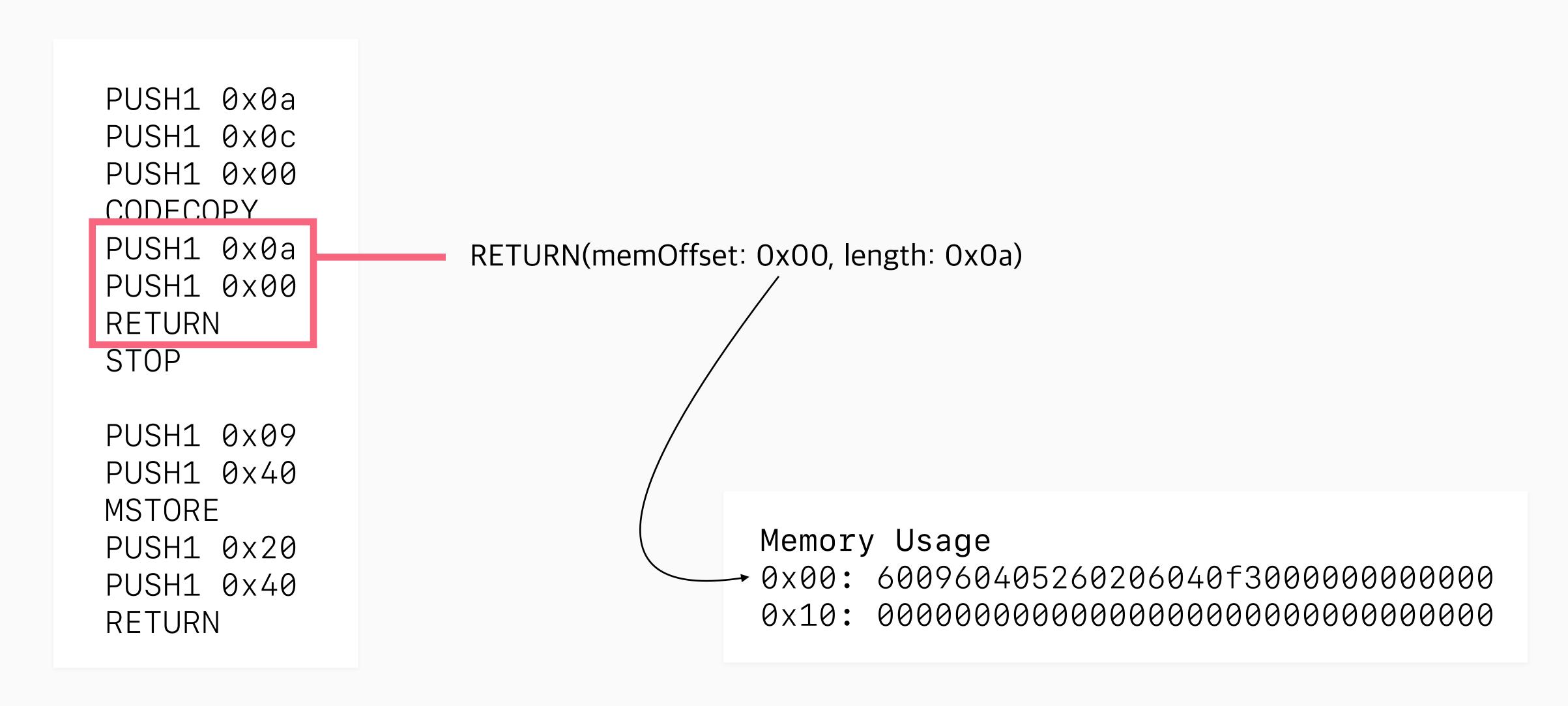




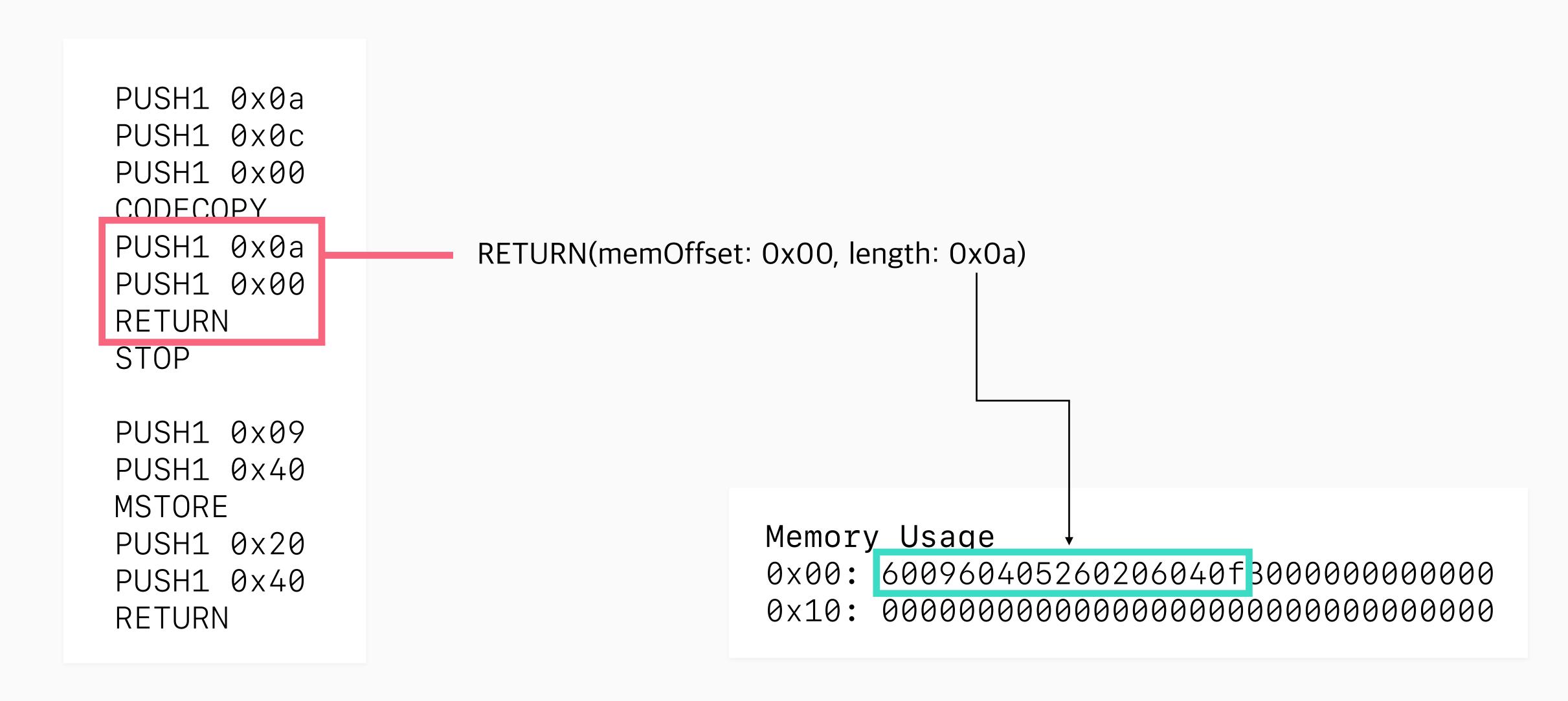




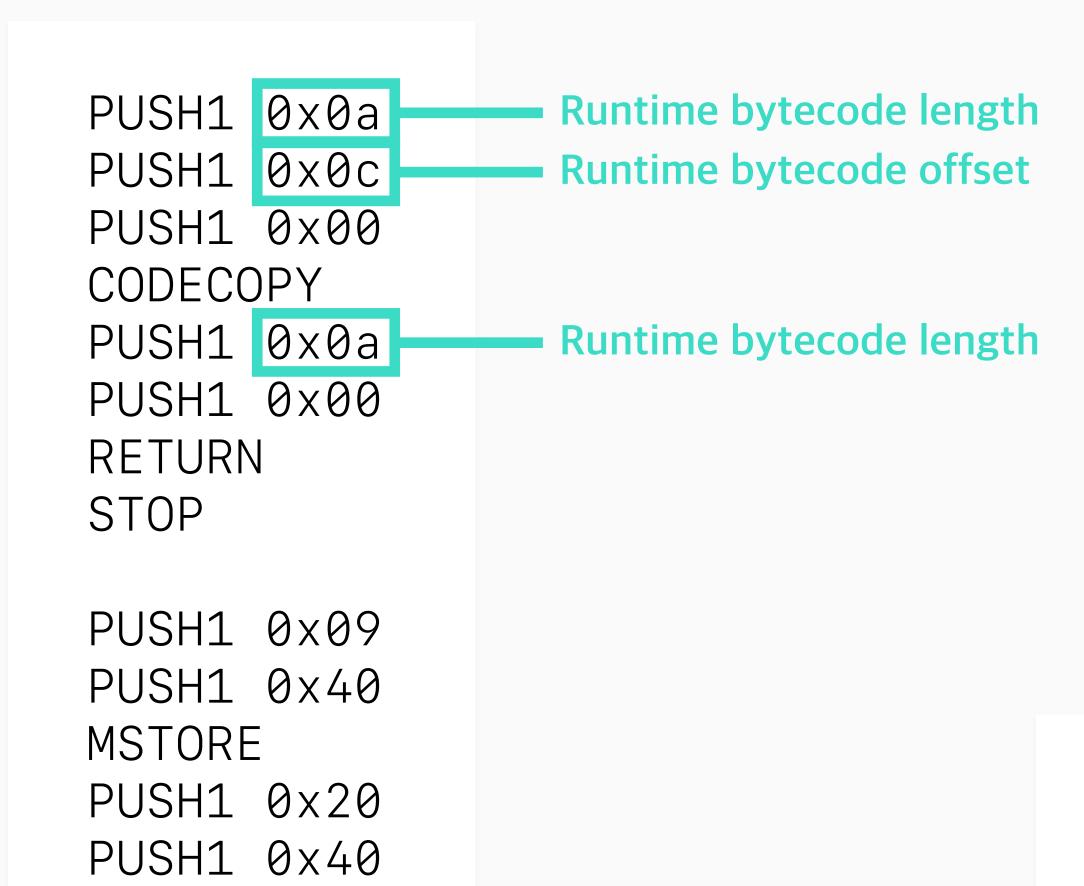












Problem: Manual byte counting!

Memory Usage

0x00: 600960405260206040f30000000000000



RETURN

Introducing: Trim

Instead of writing this...

...you get to write this!

PUSH1 0x0a
PUSH1 0x00
PUSH1 0x00
CODECOPY
PUSH1 0x00
RETURN
STOP

PUSH1 0x09
PUSH1 0x40
MSTORE
PUSH1 0x20
PUSH1 0x40
RETURN

(CODECOPY 0x00 0x0c 0x0a) (RETURN 0x00 0x0a)

STOP

(MSTORE 0x40 0x09) (RETURN 0x40 0x20)



Introducing: Trim

Instead of writing this...

```
(CODECOPY 0x00 0x0c 0x0a)
(RETURN 0x00 0x0a)

STOP

(MSTORE 0x40 0x09)
(RETURN 0x40 0x20)
```

...you get to write this!

```
(SUB CODESIZE #runtime)
DUP1
(CODECOPY 0x00 #runtime _)
(RETURN 0x00 _)

STOP

#runtime
(MSTORE 0x40 0x09)
(RETURN 0x40 0x20)
```



Introducing: Trim

Instead of writing this...

...you get to write this!

```
; Push "Hello, Trim!"
PUSH12 0x48656c6c6f2c205472696d21
EQ
```

(EQ "Hello, Trim!")



```
contract Greeter {
  bytes32 private greeting = "Hello, EVM!";
  function greet() external view returns (bytes32) {
    return greeting;
  }
  function setGreeting(bytes32 _greeting) external {
    greeting = _greeting;
  }
}
```

Goal: Deploy a contract that implements this Solidity code behavior



Init storage slot zero

; TODO

```
Runtime copying code
```

```
(SSTORE 0x00 "Hello, EVM!")
(SUB CODESIZE #runtime)
DUP1
(CODECOPY 0x00 #runtime _)
(RETURN 0x00 _)
```



Omit init code for slideshow

```
#runtime
; TODO
```



```
#runtime
(CALLDATACOPY 0x1c 0x00 0x04)
(MLOAD 0x00)
```

Copy function id onto stack



```
#runtime
(CALLDATACOPY 0x1c 0x00 0x04)
(MLOAD 0x00)
```

(EQ 0xcfae3217 DUP1)

Check if it matches our known function id



```
#runtime
(CALLDATACOPY 0 \times 1c 0 \times 00 0 \times 04)
(MLOAD 0 \times 00)
(EQ 0xcfae3217 DUP1)
(JUMPI #greet _)
If so, jump to the relevant code!
#greet
; TODO
#setGreeting
; TODO
```



```
#runtime
(CALLDATACOPY 0 \times 1c 0 \times 00 0 \times 04)
(MLOAD 0 \times 00)
(EQ 0xcfae3217 DUP1)
(JUMPI #greet _)
(EQ 0x50513b4f DUP1)
(JUMPI #setGreeting _)
 Same idea for setGreeting
#greet
; TODO
#setGreeting
; TODO
```



```
#runtime
(CALLDATACOPY 0 \times 1c 0 \times 00 0 \times 04)
(MLOAD 0x00)
(EQ 0xcfae3217 DUP1)
(JUMPI #greet _)
(EQ 0x50513b4f DUP1)
(JUMPI #setGreeting _)
REVERT If no match, revert
#greet
; TODO
#setGreeting
; TODO
```



Omit for space

```
#greet
; TODO
#setGreeting
; TODO
```



```
#greet
JUMPDEST
Conventional no-op
```

```
#setGreeting
; TODO
```



```
#greet
JUMPDEST
(MSTORE 0x20 (SLOAD 0x00))
Load current greeting into memory

#setGreeting
; TODO
```



```
#greet
JUMPDEST
(MSTORE 0x20 (SLOAD 0x00))
(RETURN 0x20 0x20)

Return the value!

#setGreeting
; TODO
```



```
#greet
JUMPDEST
(MSTORE 0x20 (SLOAD 0x00))
(RETURN 0x20 0x20)
```

#setGreeting
JUMPDEST

Conventional no-op



```
#greet
JUMPDEST
(MSTORE 0x20 (SLOAD 0x00))
(RETURN 0x20 0x20)

#setGreeting
JUMPDEST
(SSTORE 0x0 (CALLDATALOAD 0x04))
Store ABI arg into storage slot zero
```



```
#greet
JUMPDEST
(MSTORE 0x20 (SLOAD 0x00))
(RETURN 0x20 0x20)

#setGreeting
JUMPDEST
(SSTORE 0x0, (CALLDATALOAD 0x04))
STOP
All done!
```



```
(SSTORE 0x00 "abc")
(SUB CODESIZE #runtime)
DUP1
(CODECOPY 0x00 #runtime _)
(RETURN 0 \times 00 _)
STOP
#runtime
(CALLDATACOPY 0x1c 0x00 0x04)
(MLOAD 0x00); copy function id onto the stack
(EQ 0xcfae3217 DUP1)
(JUMPI #greet _)
DUP1
PUSH4 0x50513b4f; function id for setGreeting
(JUMPI #setGreeting _)
REVERT; If no matches, revert
#greet
JUMPDEST
(MSTORE 0 \times 20 (SLOAD 0 \times 00))
(RETURN 0 \times 20 \ 0 \times 20)
#setGreeting
JUMPDEST
(SSTORE 0 \times 0, (CALLDATALOAD 0 \times 04))
STOP
```

So how did we do?

Solidity bytecode: 404 bytes

Trim bytecode: 76 bytes

6261626360005561001738038061001760003 96000f30060046000601c376000518063cfae 32171461002157806350513b4f1461002d57f d5b60005460205260206020f35b6004356000 5500



Conclusion

- Learning EVM opcodes helps you become a better Solidity engineer
- Trim is pretty cool
- Take our Smart Contract Engineering course at Optilistic!
 - Find out more at optilistic.com



Thanks!

