

Version 1.06

UCSD CSE 30

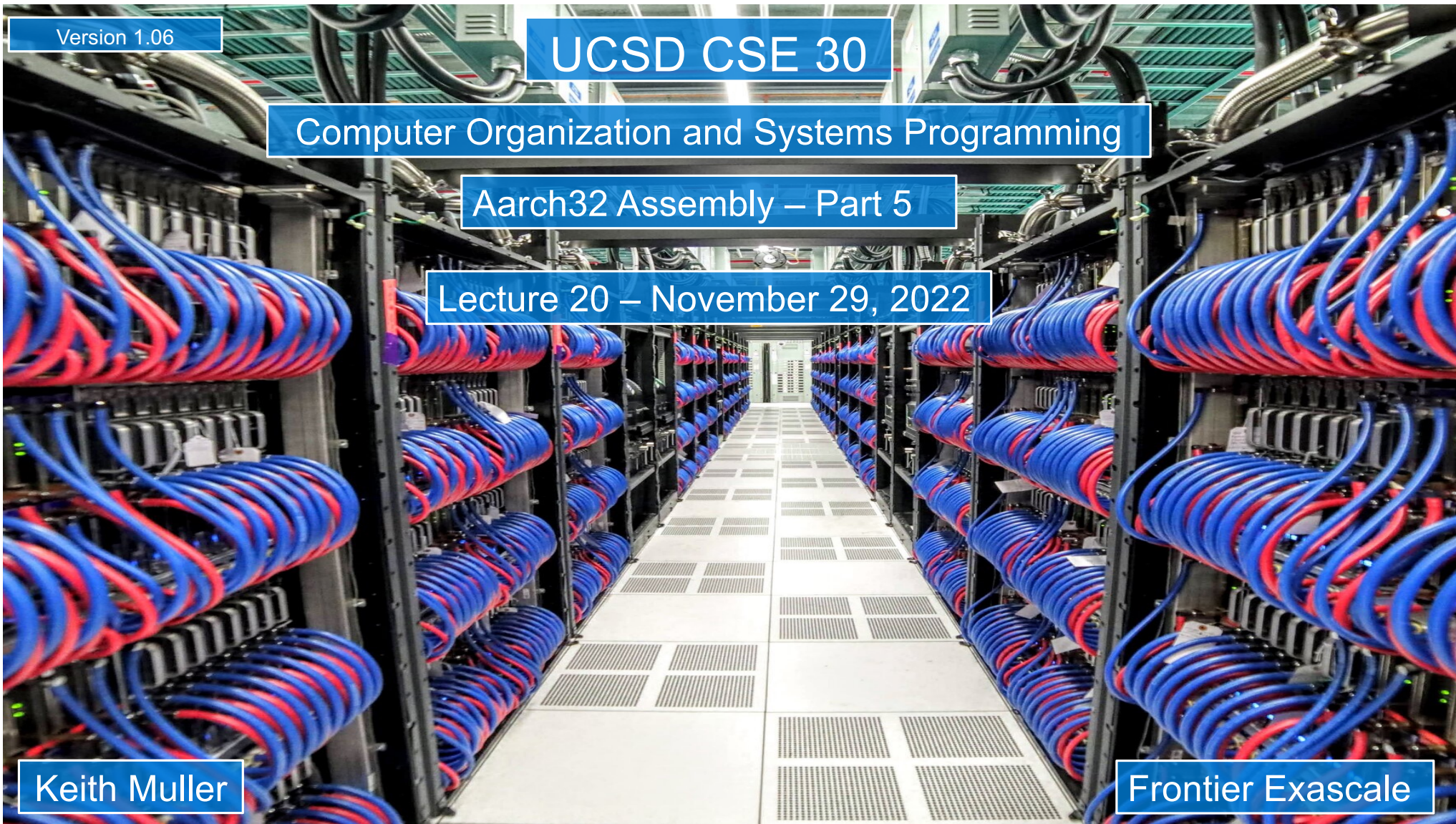
Computer Organization and Systems Programming

Aarch32 Assembly – Part 5

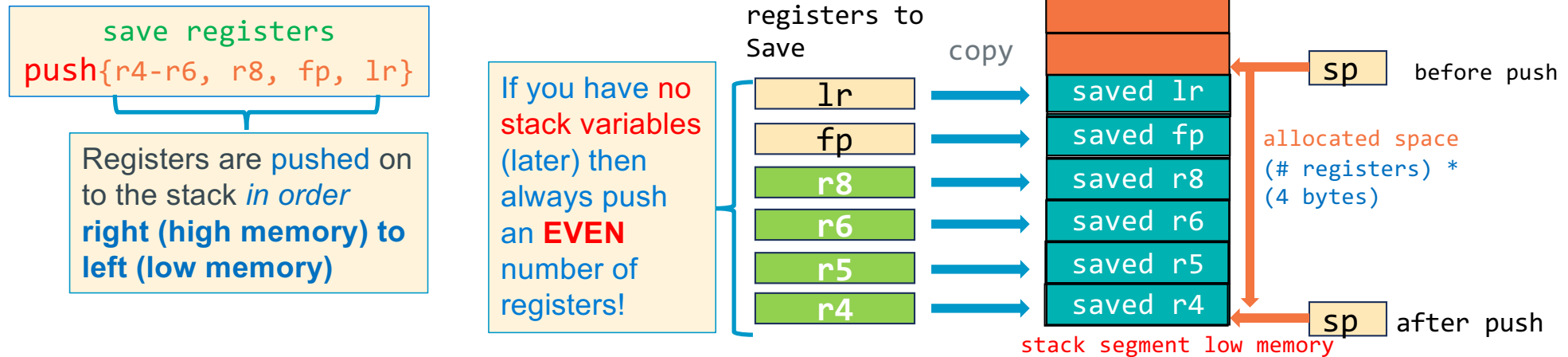
Lecture 20 – November 29, 2022

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Frontier Exascale

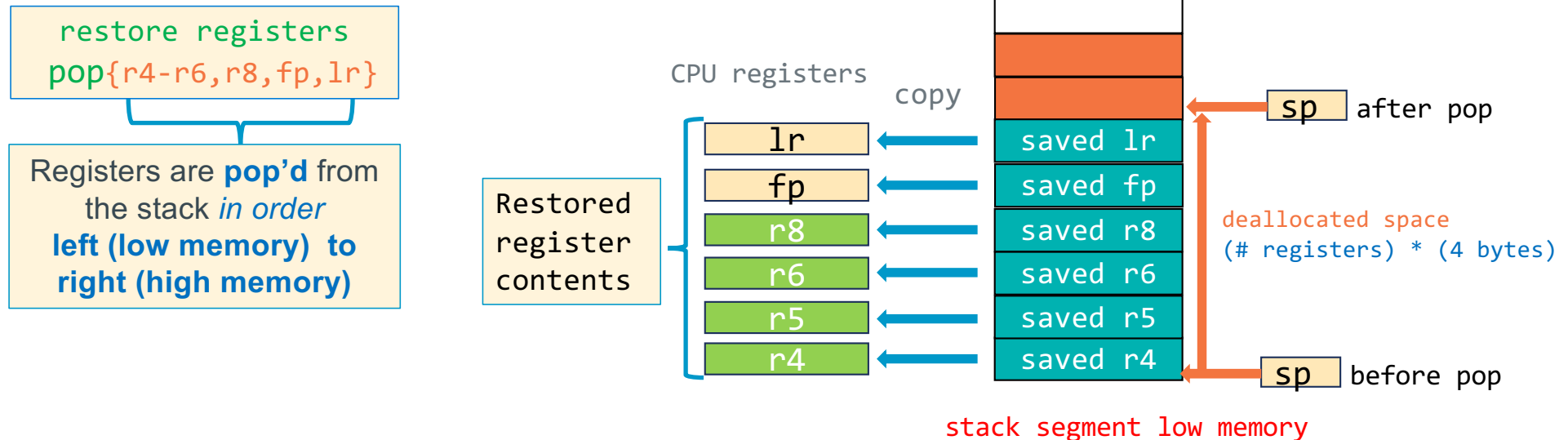


push: Multiple Register Save (str to stack)



- **push** copies the contents of the `{reg list}` to stack segment memory
- **push** **Also** subtracts $(\# \text{ of registers saved}) * (4 \text{ bytes})$ from the `sp` to **allocate** space on the stack
 - $sp = sp - (\# \text{ registers_saved} * 4)$
- **this must always be true: $sp \% 8 == 0$**

pop: Multiple Register Restore (ldr from stack)

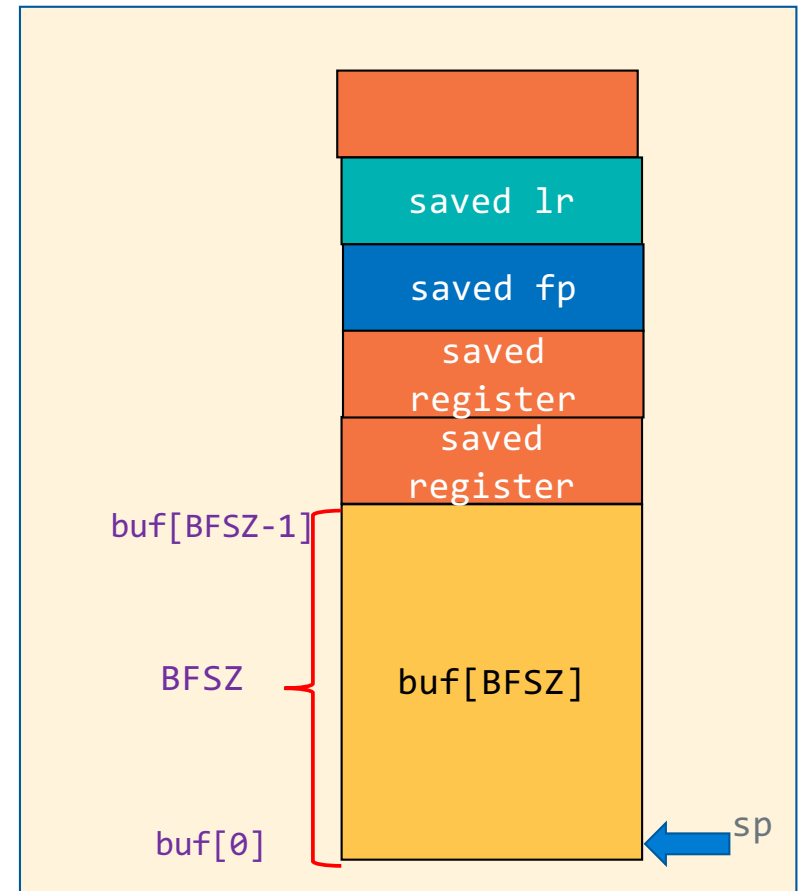
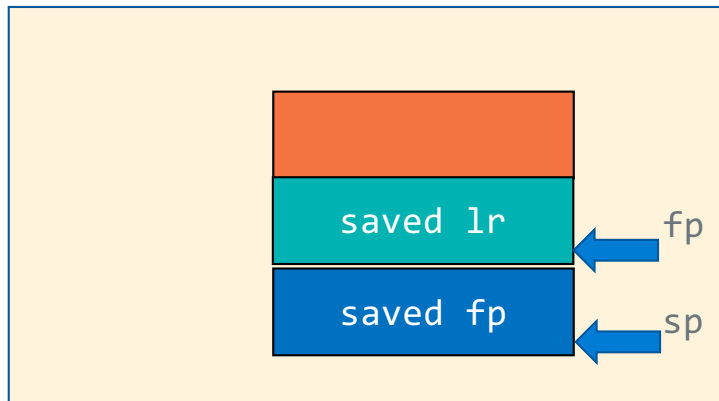


- **pop** copies the contents of stack segment memory to the **{reg list}**
- **pop adds:** $(\# \text{ of registers restored}) \times (4 \text{ bytes})$ to **sp** to **deallocate** space on the stack
 - $sp = sp + (\# \text{ registers restored} \times 4)$
- **Remember:** **{reg list}** must be the same in both the **push** and the corresponding **pop**

Local Variables are Part of Each Stack Frame

- Local variables are on the stack below the lowest numbered saved (pushed) register

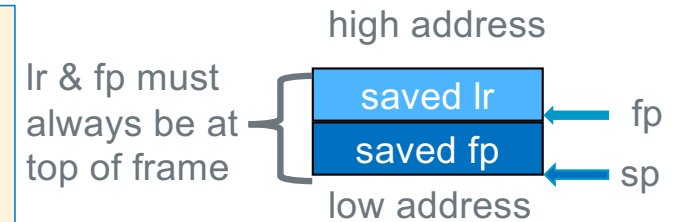
```
#define BFSZ 4
int main(void)
{
    char buf[BFSZ]; // BFSZ bytes
    ...
}
```



Stack Frame (Arm Arch32 Procedure Call Standards)

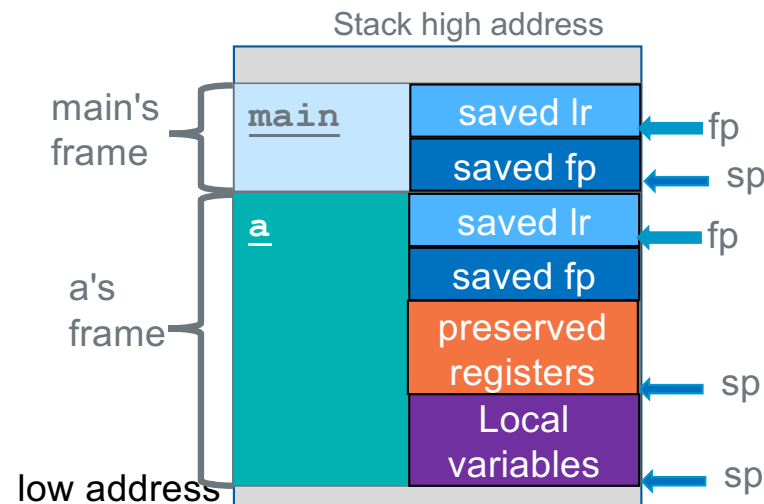
Stack Frame Requirements

- **Minimal frame: at function entry** `push {fp, lr}`
- The top two entries in a stack frame are always (1) saved lr, (2) saved fp
- `sp` points at top element in the stack (lowest byte address)
- `fp` points at the `lr` copy stored in the current stack frame
- **Stack frames MUST ALWAYS BE aligned to 8-byte addresses**
 - So, this must always be true: `sp % 8 == 0`



minimal frame above
Always save at least fp and lr
and set fp at saved lr

```
int main(void)
{
    a();
    /* other code */
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
int a(void)
{
    int x;
    int y;
    /* other code */
    return 0;
}
```



allocate stack space
 $SP = SP - \text{"space"}$
grows "down"

deallocate stack space
 $SP = SP + \text{"space"}$
shrinks "up"

Note slide has builds

FP_OFF: Distance from FP to SP Used to set FP at push and SP before pop

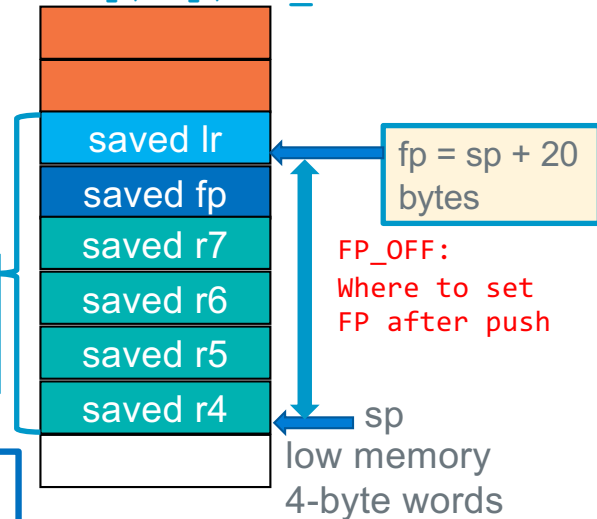
```
// other code etc
.equ    FP_OFF, 20

main:
    push    {r4-r7, fp, lr}
    add     fp, sp, FP_OFF
    .....
    sub     sp, fp, FP_OFF
    pop     {r4-r7, fp, lr}
    bx      lr
```


Function Prologue
always at top of function
saves regs and **sets fp**

Function Epilogue
always at bottom of function
restores
regs including the sp

after push {r4-r7, fp, lr}
add fp, sp, FP_OFF



# regs saved	FP_OFF in Bytes
2	4
3	8
4	12
5	16
6	20
7	24
8	28
9	32

 Means Caution, odd number of regs!
If odd number pushed, make sure frame
is 8-byte aligned (later)
this must always be true: $sp \% 8 == 0$

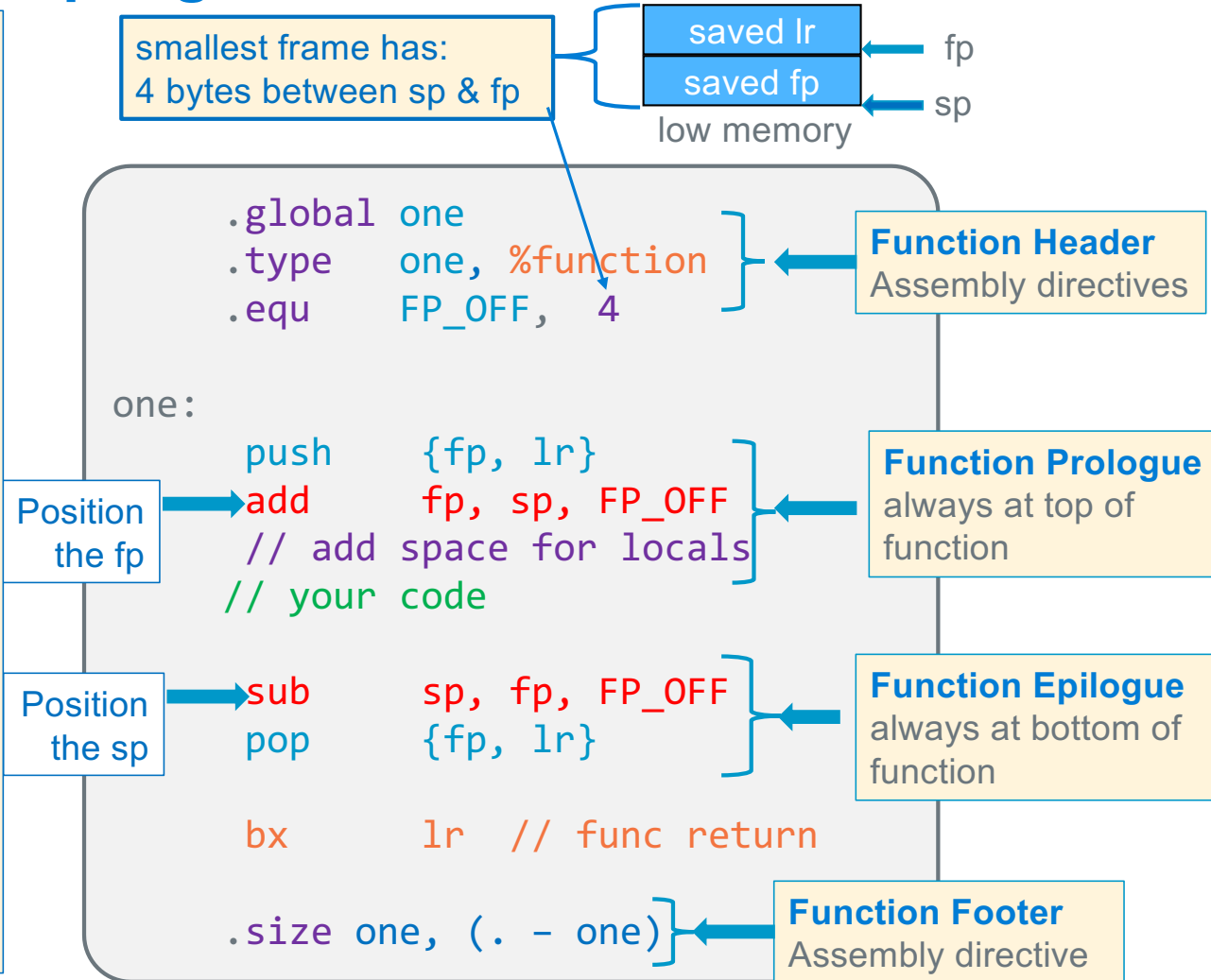
$FP_OFF = (\#regs - 1) * 4$ // -1 is lr offset from sp
Where # regs = #preserved + lr + fp

IMPORTANT: FP_OFF has **two** uses:

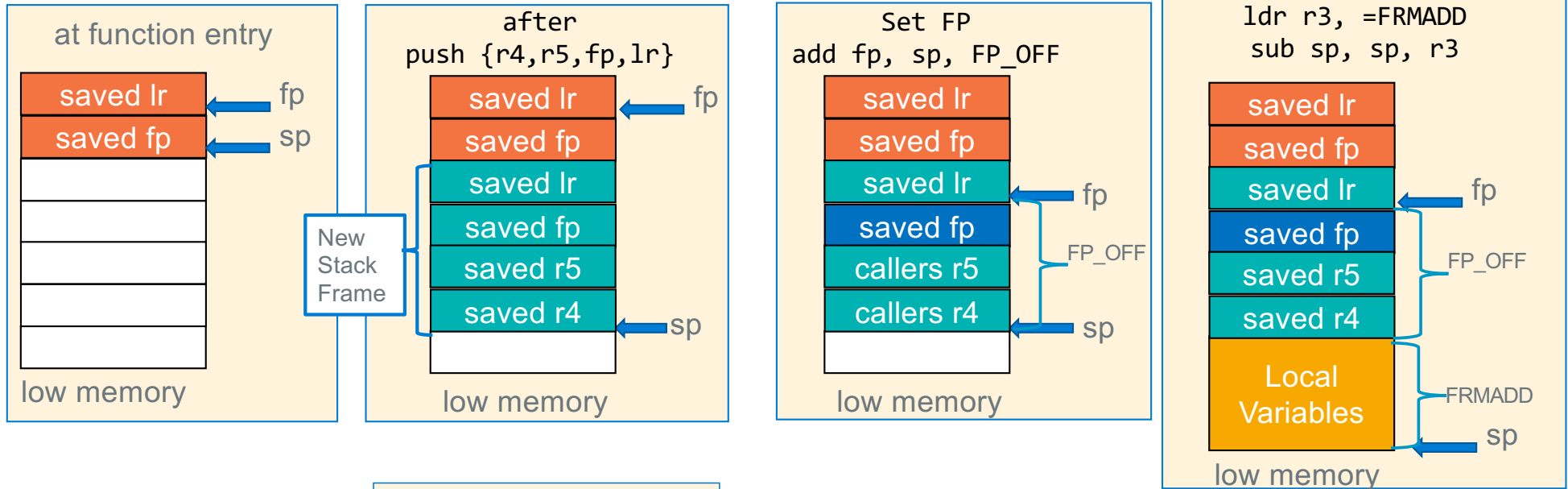
1. Where to set fp after prologue push (remember sp position)
2. Restore sp (deallocate locals) right before epilogue pop

Function Prologue and Epilogue: Minimum Stack Frame

- Each function has only one Prologue at the top of the function body and only one Epilogue at the bottom of the function body
- When you want to exit the function, set the return value in r0, and then branch (or fall through) to the epilogue
- Function entry (Function Prologue):**
 - save preserved registers
 - set the fp to point at saved lr
 - allocate space for locals (subtracts from sp)
- Function return (Function Epilogue):**
 - deallocate space for locals (adds to sp)
 - restores preserved registers
 - return to caller



Function Prologue: Allocating the Stack Frame



Function was just called this how the stack looks
The orange blocks are part of the caller's stack frame

Function saves lr, fp using a push and only those preserved registers it wants to use on the stack
Do not push r12 or r13

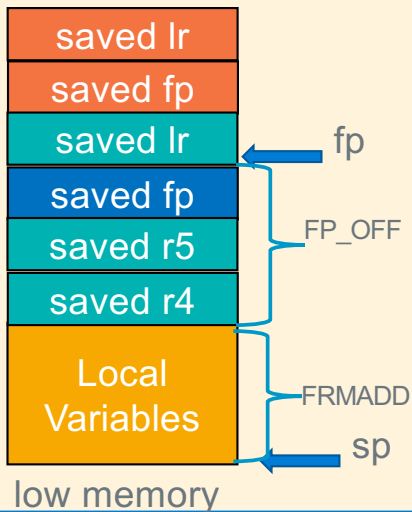
Function moves the fp to point at the saved lr as required by the Aarch32 spec

Allocate Space for Local Variables

Part of function prologue

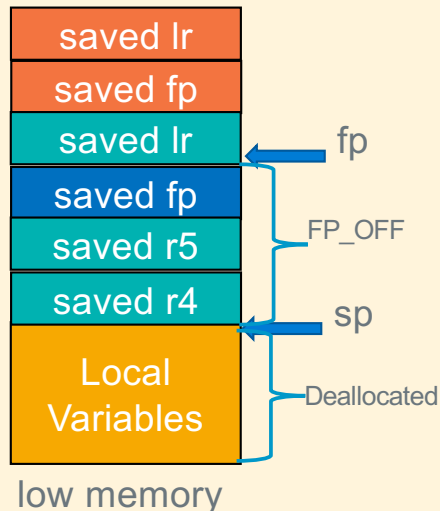
Function Epilogue: Deallocating the Stack Frame

Stack frame while during function body execution



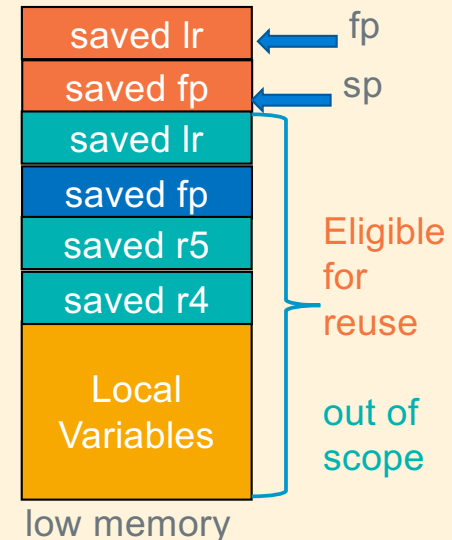
Use fp as a pointer to find local variables on the stack

Deallocate Space for locals
Put SP back so pop works
`sub sp, fp, FP_OFF`



Move SP back to where it was after the push in the prologue. So, the pop works properly (this also deallocates the local variables)

At function exit after
`pop {r4,r5,fp,lr}`



At function exit (in the function epilogue) the function uses **pop** to restore the registers to the values they had at function entry

Part of function prologue

Review Return Value and Passing Parameters to Functions

(Four parameters or less)

Register	Function Call Use
r0	1 st parameter
r1	2 nd parameter
r2	3 rd parameter
r3	4 th parameter

Register	Function Return Value Use
r0	8, 16 or 32-bit result, 32-bit address or least-significant half of a 64-bit result
r1	most-significant half of a 64-bit result

- Where **r0**, **r1**, **r2**, **r3** are arm registers, the function declaration is (first four arguments):

```
r0 = function(r0, r1, r2, r3)           // 32-bit return
```

```
r0, r1 = function(r0, r1, r2, r3)      // 64-bit return - long long
```
- Each **parameter** and **return value** is limited to data that **can fit in 4 bytes or less**
- You receive **up to the first four parameters** in these four registers
- You copy up to the first four parameters into these four registers before calling a function
- For parameter values using more than 4 bytes, a pointer to the parameter is passed (we will cover this later)
- You MUST ALWAYS assume** that the called function will **alter the contents of all four registers: r0-r3**
- Observation:** When a function calls another function, **the called function has the right to overwrite the first 4 parameters that were passed to it by the calling function**

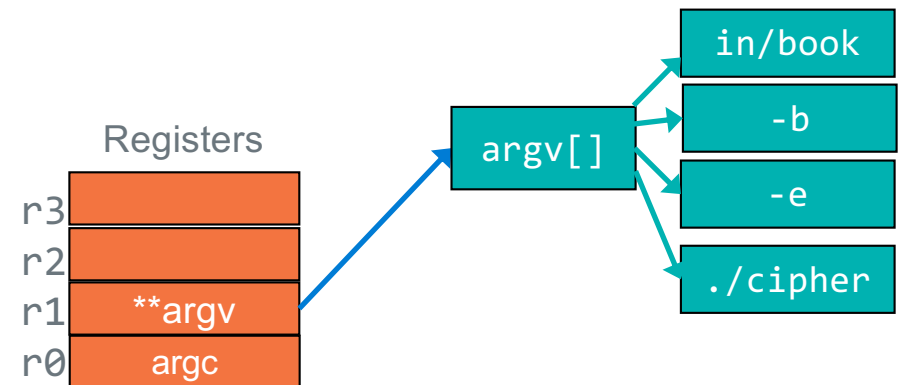
Accessing argv from Assembly (stderr version)

```
.extern printf
.extern stderr
.section .rodata
.Lstr: .string "argv[%d] = %s\n"
.text
.global main // main(r0=argc, r1=argv)
.type main, %function
.equ FP_OFF, 20

main:
    push    {r4-r7, fp, lr}
    add     fp, sp, FP_OFF
    ldr     r4, =stderr // get the address of stderr
    ldr     r4, [r4]     // get the contents of stderr
    ldr     r5, =.Lstr   // get the address of .Lstr
    mov     r6, 0        // set indx = 0;
    mov     r7, r1       // save argv
.Lloop:
    // fprintf(stderr, "argv[%d] = %s\n", indx, argv[indx])
    ldr     r3, [r7]     // argv[indx]
    cmp     r3, 0        // check argv[indx]==NULL
    beq     .Ldone       // if so done
    mov     r2, r6        // indx
    mov     r1, r5        // "argv[%d] = %s\n"
    mov     r0, r4        // stderr
    bl      fprintf
    add     r6, r6, 1     // indx++
    add     r7, r7, 4     // argv++
    b       .Lloop
.Ldone:
    mov     r0, 0
    sub     sp, fp, FP_OFF
    pop     {r4-r7, fp, lr}
    bx      lr
```

Function Prologue
always at top of function
saves regs and **sets fp**

```
% ./cipher -e -b in/BOOK
argv[0] = ./cipher
argv[1] = -e
argv[2] = -b
argv[3] = in/BOOK
```



Function Epilogue
always at bottom of function **Branch to this to exit the function**
restores regs including the sp

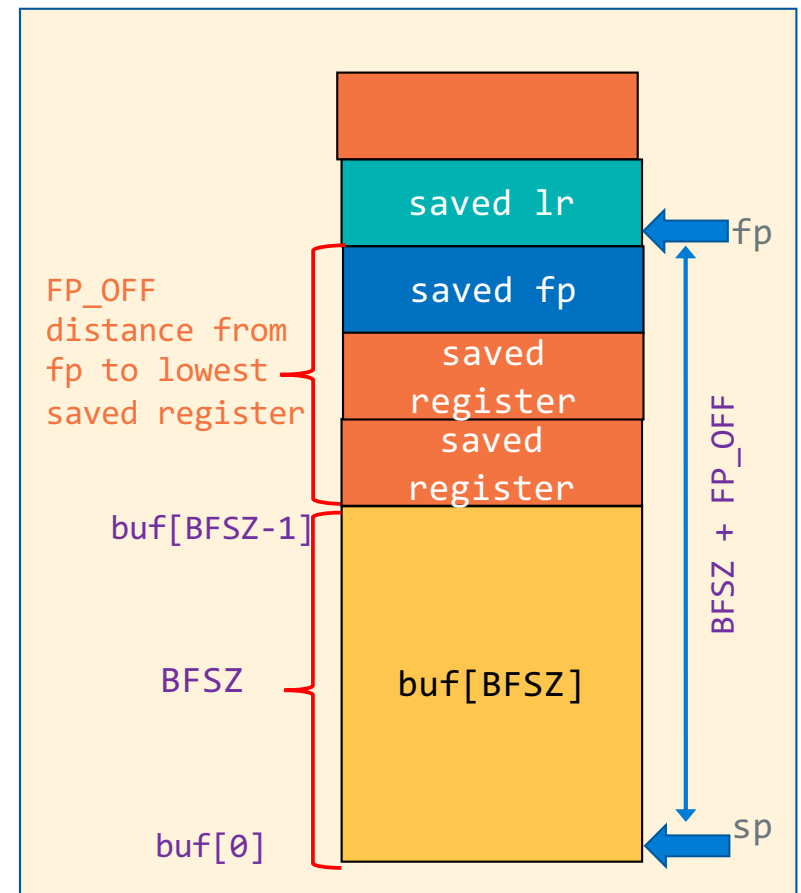
Local Variables on the Stack

- Local variables are on the stack below the lowest numbered saved register
- frame pointer is used as a pointer to stack variables
- fp is the base register in ldr and str instructions
- Example load buf[0] into r4

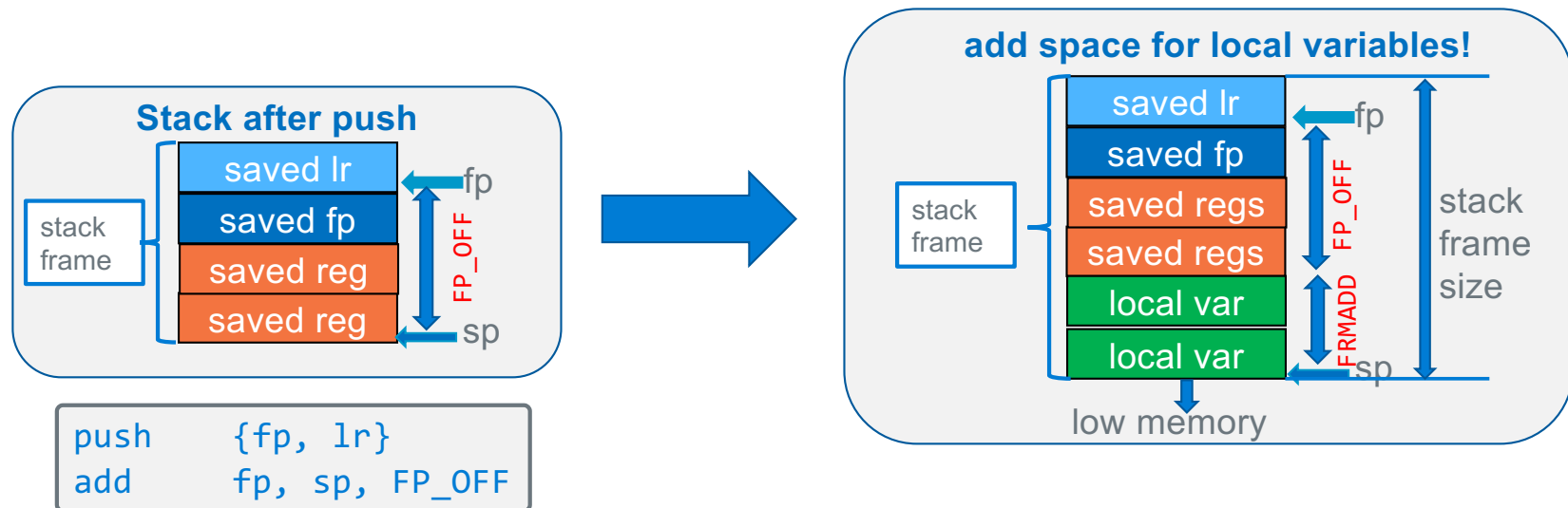
```
#define BFSZ 4
int main(void)
{
    char buf[BFSZ]; // BFSZ bytes
    ...
}
```

- FP_OFF = 12, BFSZ = 4
 - Distance from FP is buf[0] is $12 + 4 = 16$
- ```
ldrb r4, [fp, -16]
```

- Calculate how much additional space is needed by all the local variables
- After the register save push, Subtract from the sp the size of the variable in bytes (+ padding - later slides)**



## Function prologue with local variables



- move the sp to allocate space on the stack for local variables and outgoing parameters (later)

```

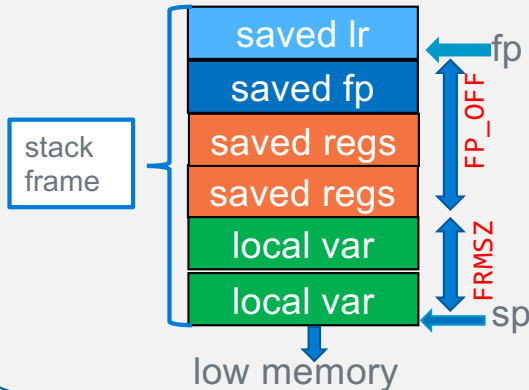
.equ FRMADD, 8
push {fp, lr}
add fp, sp, FP_OFF
ldr r3, =FRMADD // frames may be large
sub sp, sp, r3
// your code

```



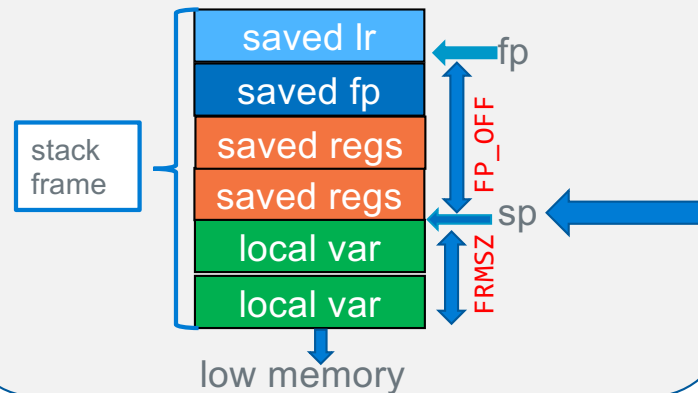
# Function epilogue with local variables

add space for local variables!



- For **pop** to restore the registers correctly:
  - sp** must point at the last saved preserved register put on the stack by the save register operation: the **push**

add space for local variables!



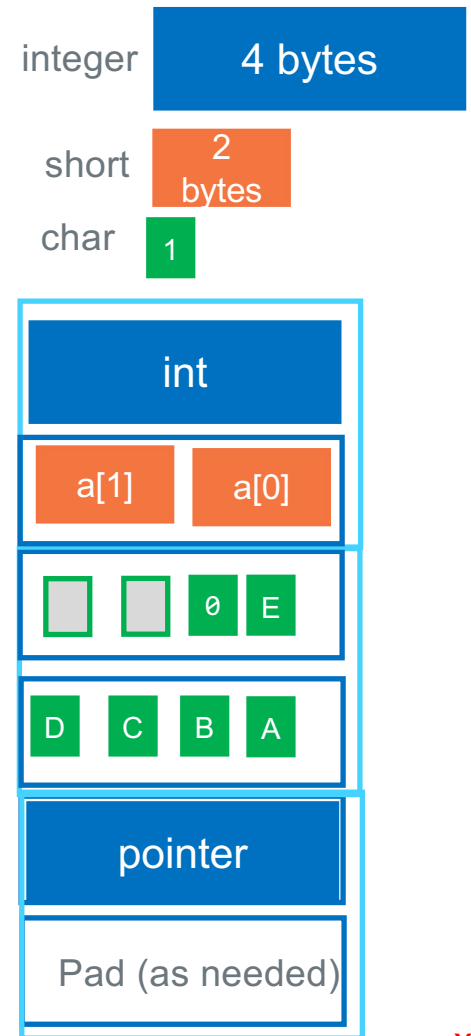
```
.equ FRMADD, 8
push {fp, lr}
add fp, sp, FP_OFF
ldr r3, =FRMADD
sub sp, sp, r3
 // your code
```

```
sub sp, fp, FP_OFF
pop {fp, lr}
bx lr // func return
```

- Return the **sp** (using the **fp**) to the same address it had after the push operation  
**sub sp, fp, FP\_OFF**
- this works no matter how much space was allocated in the prologue

# Stack Frame Design – Local Variables

- **Arrays** start at a 4-byte boundary (even arrays with only 1 element)
  - Exception: double arrays [ ] start at an 8-byte boundary
  - struct arrays are aligned to the requirements of largest member
- Space **padding** (0 or 4 bytes) **when necessary** is added at the **high address end** of a variables allocated space, based on the variable's alignment and the requirements of **variable below it on the stack**
- Single chars (and shorts) can be grouped together in same 4-byte word (following the alignment for the short)
- **After all the variables have been allocated**, add padding at stack **frame bottom** (low memory) so the **total stack frame size** (including all saved registers) is a **multiple of 8** when the prologue is finished

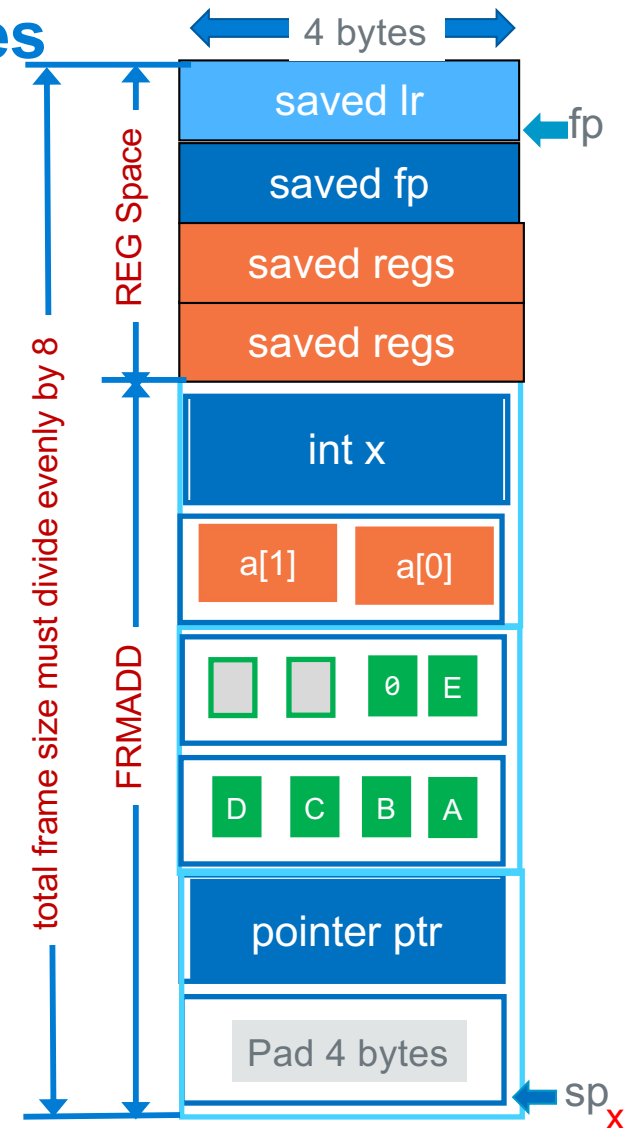


# Step 1: Stack Frame Design – Local Variables

In this example we are allocating in order of variable definition, **no reordering**

```
int func(void)
{
 int x = 0;
 short st[2];
 char str[] = "ABCDE";
 char *ptr = &array[0];
}
```

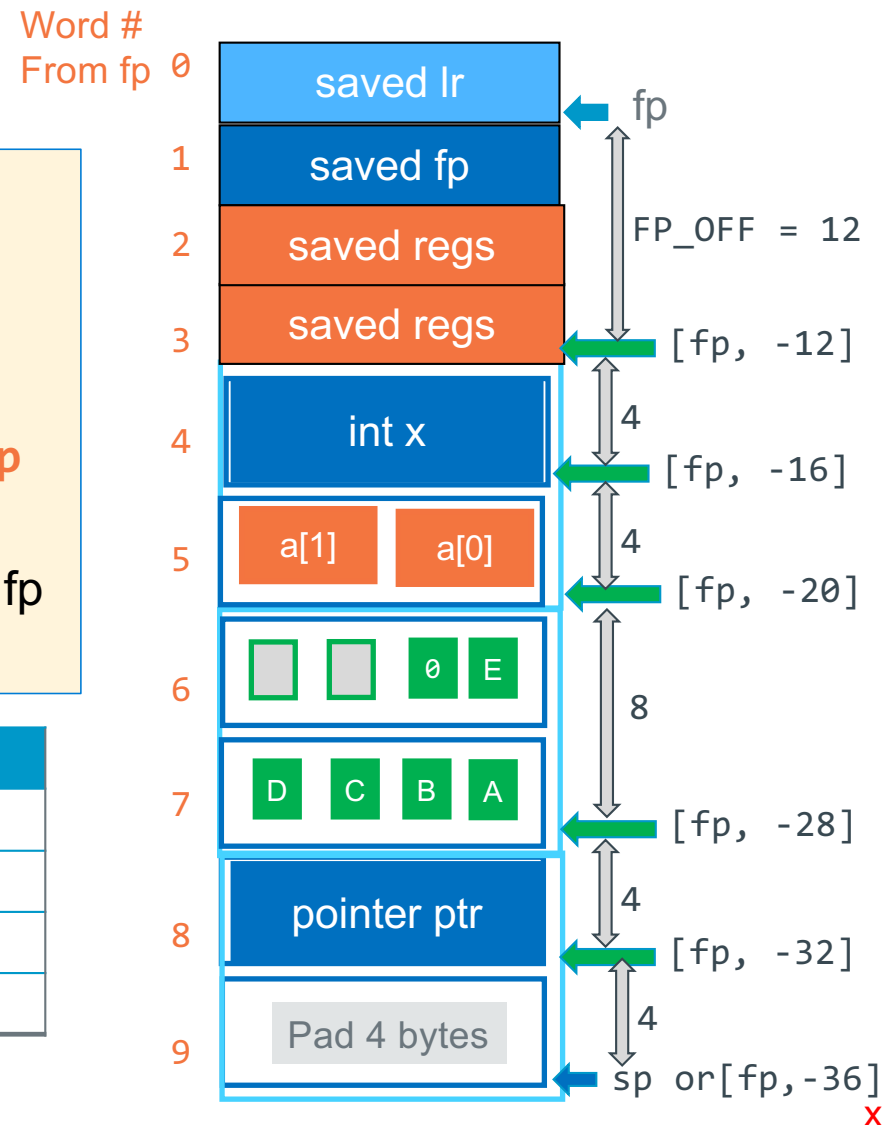
| Variable name        | Initial Value | Size bytes | Alignment pad to next | Total Size |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| int x                | 0             | 4          | 0                     | 4          |
| short a[]            | ??            | 2*2        | 0                     | 4          |
| char str[]           | "ABCDE"       | 6          | 2                     | 8          |
| char *ptr            | &array[0]     | 4          | 0                     | 4          |
| PAD Added            |               | 4          |                       | 4          |
| FRMADD (locals etc)  | -----         | -----      | -----                 | 24         |
| Saved Register Space | -----         | 4 * 4      | ---                   | 16         |
| Total Frame Size     |               |            |                       | 40         |



## Accessing Stack Variables The Hard Way.....

- Access data stored in the stack
  - use `ldr/str` instructions
- Use base register **fp** with offset addressing (either register offset or immediate offset)
- No matter where in memory the stack is located, **fp** always points at saved **lr**)
- Word offset is a way to visualize the distance from fp for calculating offset values

| Variable name           | offset from fp | ldr instruction                  |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| <code>int x</code>      | -16            | <code>ldr r0, [fp, -16]</code>   |
| <code>short a[]</code>  | -20            | <code>ldrsh r0, [fp, -20]</code> |
| <code>char str[]</code> | -28            | <code>ldrb r0, [fp, -28]</code>  |
| <code>char *ptr</code>  | -32            | <code>ldr r0, [fp, -32]</code>   |



## Step 2 Generate Distance offsets from [fp]

- Use the assembler to calculate the offsets from address contained in fp [fp, -offset]

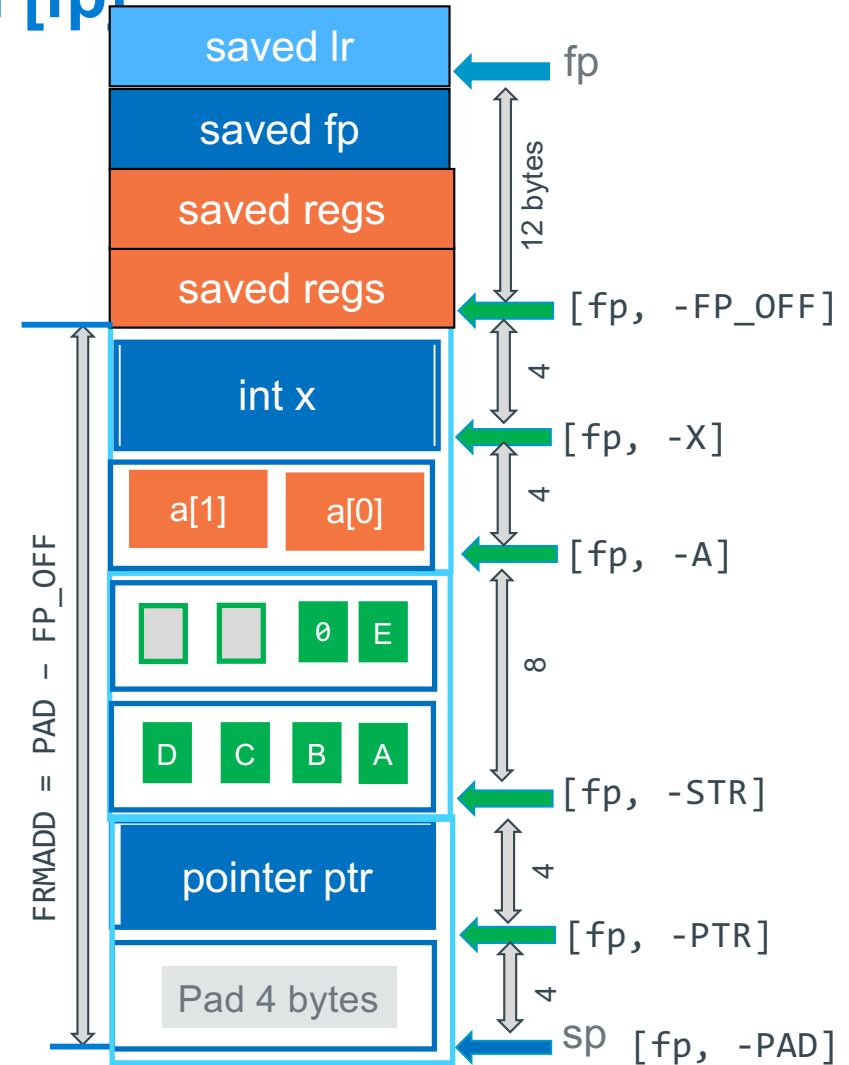
```
.equ FP_OFF, 12
```

```
.equ X, 4+FP_OFF // X = 16
```

```
.equ A, 4+X // A = 20
```

- Assign label names for each local variable
  - Each name is .equ to be the offset from fp

| Variable name | Size | Name   | expression size + prev | Distance from fp |
|---------------|------|--------|------------------------|------------------|
| Pushed regs-1 | 12   | FP_OFF |                        | 12               |
| int x         | 4    | X      | 4 + FP_OFF             | 16               |
| short a[]     | 4    | A      | 4 + X                  | 20               |
| char str[]    | 8    | STR    | 8 + A                  | 28               |
| char *ptr     | 4    | PTR    | 4 + STR                | 32               |
| PAD Added     | 4    | PAD    | 4 + PTR                | 36               |
| FRMADD        |      | FRMADD | PAD-FP_OFF             | 24               |





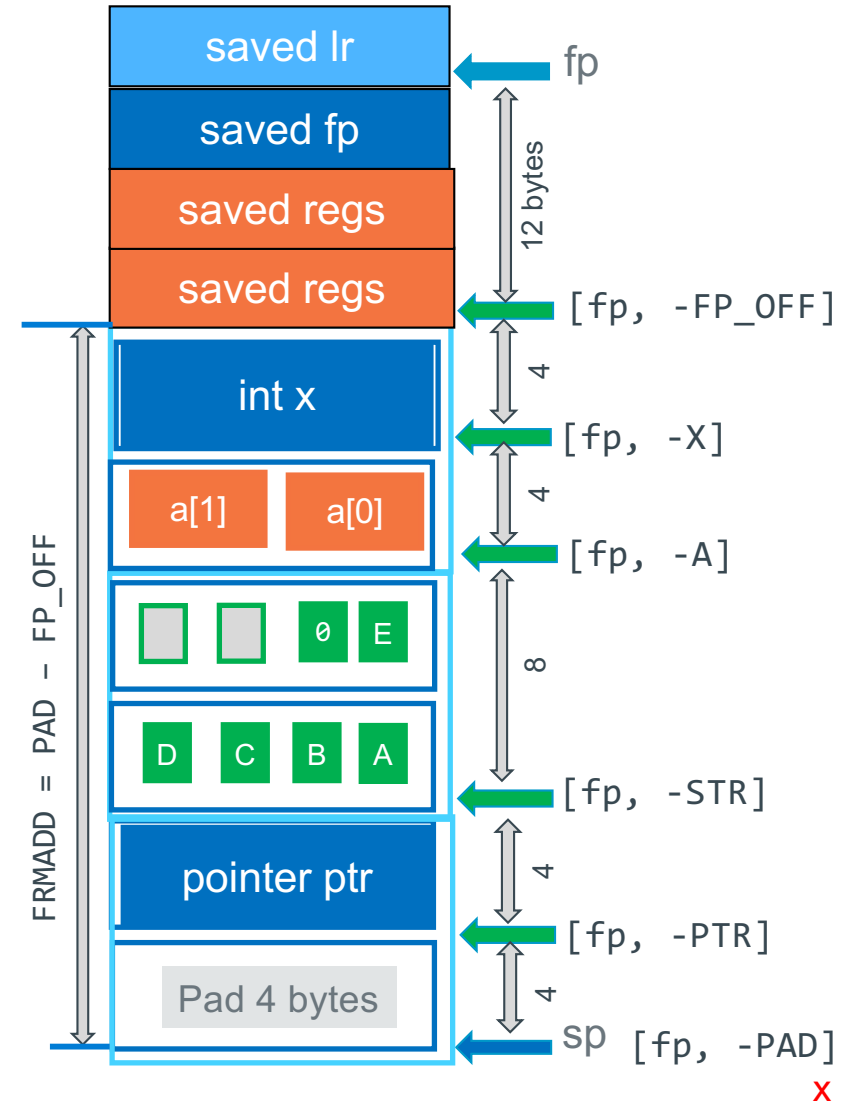
## Step 3 Allocate Space in the Prologue

```

.global func
.type func, %function
.equ FP_OFF, 12
.equ X, 4 + FP_OFF
.equ A, 4 + X
.equ STR, 8 + A
.equ PTR, 4 + STR
.equ PAD, 4 + PTR
.equ FRMADD PAD - FP_OFF

func:
 push {r4, r5, fp, lr}
 add fp, sp, FP_OFF
 ldr r3, =FRMADD //frames can be large
 sub sp, sp, r3 // add space for locals
 // rest of function code
 // no change to epilogue
 sub sp, fp, FP_OFF // deallocate locals
 pop {r4, r5, fp, lr}
 bx lr
 .size func, (. - func)

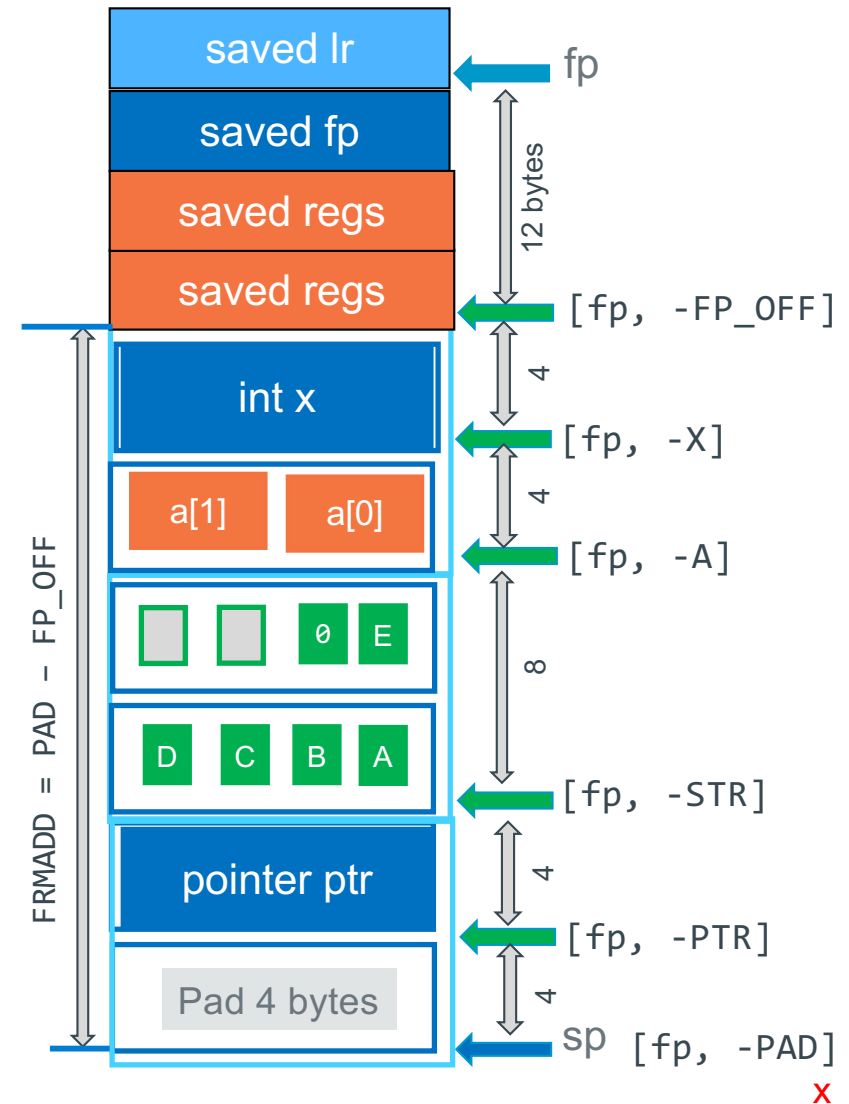
```



# Accessing Stack variables

| var    | how to get the address                         | how to read contents                              |
|--------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| x      | ldr r0, =X<br>sub r0, fp, r0                   | ldr r0, =X<br>ldr r0, [fp, -r0]                   |
| a[0]   | ldr r0, =A<br>sub r0, fp, r0                   | ldr r0, =A<br>ldrsh r0, [fp, -r0]                 |
| a[1]   | ldr r0, =A - 2<br>sub r0, fp, r0               | ldr r0, =A - 2<br>ldrsh r0, [fp, -r0]             |
| str[1] | ldr r0, =STR - 1<br>sub r0, fp, r0             | ldr r0, =STR - 1<br>ldrb r0, [fp, -r0]            |
| ptr    | ldr r0, =PTR<br>sub r0, fp, r0                 | ldr r0, =PTR<br>ldr r0, [fp, -r0]                 |
| *ptr   | ldr r0, =PTR<br>sub r0, fp, r0<br>ldr r0, [r0] | ldr r0, =PTR<br>ldr r0, [fp, -r0]<br>ldr r0, [r0] |

| var  | how to write contents                             |
|------|---------------------------------------------------|
| ptr  | ldr r0, =PTR<br>str r1, [fp, -r0]                 |
| *ptr | ldr r0, =PTR<br>ldr r0, [fp, -r0]<br>str r1, [r0] |

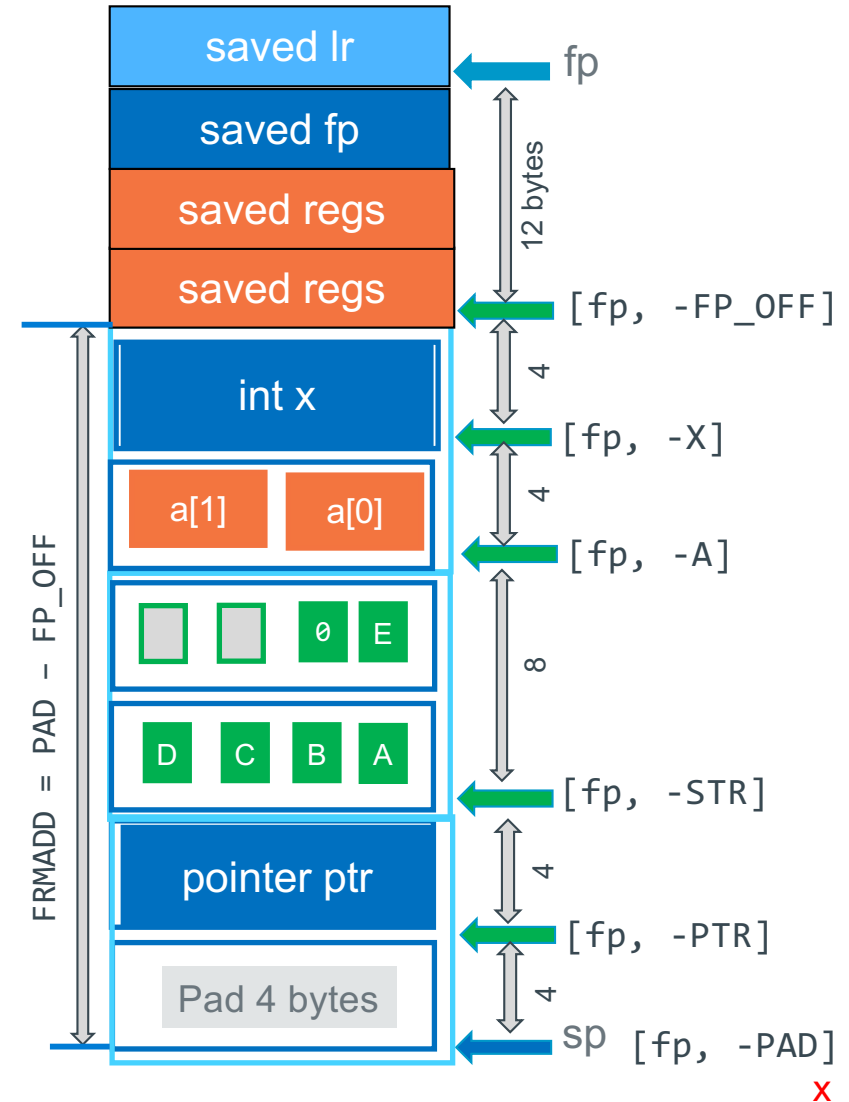


## Step 4 Initialize the Local Variables

```
int func(void)
{
 int x = 0;
 short st[2];
 char str[] = "ABCDE";
 char *ptr = &(str[0]);
}
```

```
mov r4, 0
ldr r5, =X
str r4, [fp, -r5]

ldr r5, =STR
sub r5, fp, r5 // r5 = addr of STR
ldr r4, =PTR
str r5, [fp, -r4] //ptr = &(str[0])
mov r4, 'A'
strb r4, [r5]
mov r4, 'B'
add r5, r5, 1
strb r4, [r5]
//...
```



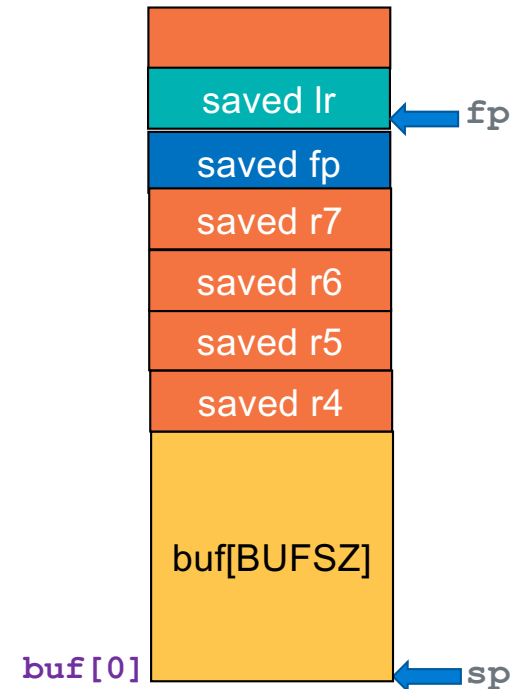
## C Stream Functions Array/block read/write

- These do not process contents they simply **transfer** a fixed number of bytes to and from a buffer passed to them
- `size_t fwrite(void *ptr, size_t size, size_t count, FILE *stream);`
  - Writes an array of *count elements* of *size* bytes from *stream*
  - *Updates the write file pointer forward by the number of bytes written*
  - returns number of elements written
  - error is short element count or 0
- `size_t fread(void *ptr, size_t size, size_t count, FILE *stream);`
  - Reads an array of *count elements* of *size* bytes from *stream*
  - *Updates the read file pointer forward by the number of bytes read*
  - returns number of elements read, **EOF is a return of 0**
  - error is short element count or 0
- **I almost always set size to 1 to return bytes read/written**

# Passing Pointers to Stack Variables

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <errno.h>
#define BUFSZ 4096
// copies input to output
int
main(void) {
 char buf[BUFSZ];
 size_t cnt; // assign to a register only

 // read from stdin, up to BUFSZ bytes
 // and store them in buf
 // Number of bytes read is in cnt
 while ((cnt = fread(buf, 1, BUFSZ, stdin)) > 0) {
 // write cnt bytes from buf to stdout
 if (fwrite(buf, 1, cnt, stdout) != cnt) {
 return EXIT_FAILURE;
 }
 }
 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```



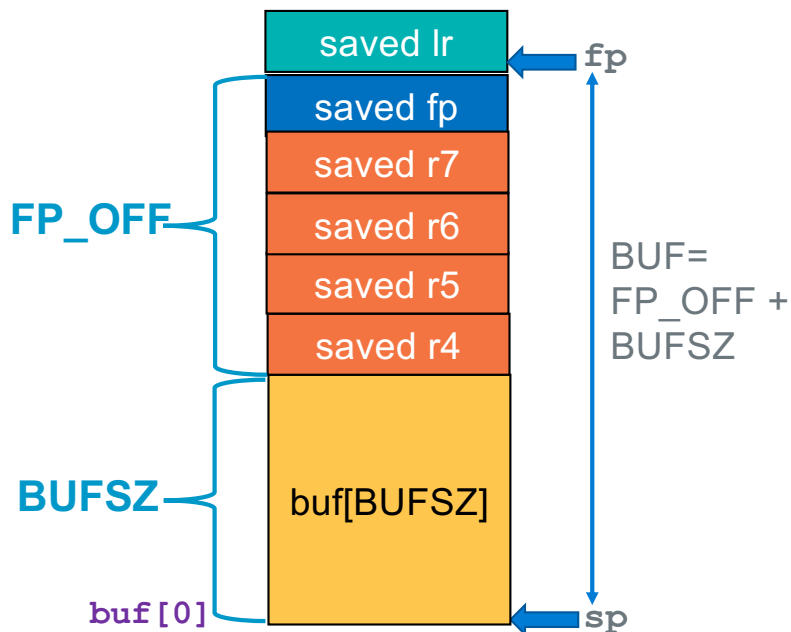
```
.text
.global main
.type main, %function // stack frame below
.equ BUFSZ, 4096
.equ FP_OFF, 20 // fp offset in main stack frame
.equ BUF, BUFSZ+FP_OFF // buffer
.equ PAD, 0+BUF // Stack frame PAD
.equ FRMADD, PAD-FP_OFF // space for locals+passed args
```



# Reading and Writing bytes using C library routines fread() and fwrite()

```
.text
.global main
.type main, %function // stack frame below
.equ BUFSZ, 4096
.equ FP_OFF, 20 // fp offset in main stack frame
.equ BUF, BUFSZ+FP_OFF // buffer
.equ PAD, 0+BUF // Stack frame PAD
.equ FRMADD, PAD-FP_OFF // space for locals+passed args
```

```
// save values in preserved registers
ldr r4, =BUF // offset in frame
sub r4, fp, r4 // pointer to buffer
ldr r5, =stdin // standard input
ldr r5, [r5]
ldr r6, =stdout // standard output
ldr r6, [r6]
```



```
// fread(buffer, element_size, number of elements, FILE *)
// fread(r0=buf, r1=1, r2=BUFSZ, r3=stdin)
mov r0, r4 // buf
mov r1, 1 // bytes
mov r2, BUFSZ // cnt (or ldr r2, =BUFSZ)
mov r3, r5 // stdin
bl fread
cmp r0, 0 // check return value from fread
```

```
// fwrite(buffer, element_size, number of elements, FILE *)
// fwrite(r0=buf, r1=1, r2=cnt, r3=stdout)
mov r0, r4 // buf
mov r1, 1 // bytes
mov r2, r7 // cnt
mov r3, r6 // stdout
bl fwrite
cmp r0, r7 // check return value from fwrite
```

## Passing Pointers to Stack Variables

```
#define BUFSZ 4096
int main(void) {
 char buf[BUFSZ];
 size_t cnt; // assign to a register only

 while ((cnt = fread(buf, 1, BUFSZ, stdin)) > 0) {
 if (fwrite(buf, 1, cnt, stdout) != cnt) {
 return EXIT_FAILURE;
 }
 }
 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

```
.extern fread
.extern fwrite
.extern stdin
.extern stdout
.equ EXIT_FAILURE, 1

.text
.global main
.type main, %function

.equ BUFSZ, 4096
.equ FP_OFF, 20
.equ BUF, BUFSZ + FP_OFF
.equ PAD, 0 + BUF
.equ FRMADD, PAD-FP_OFF
```

// see right -->

```
.Ldone:
 sub sp, fp, FP_OFF
 pop {r4-r7, fp, lr}
 bx lr

.size main, (. - main)
```

```
main:
 push {r4-r7, fp, lr}
 add fp, sp, FP_OFF // set frame pointer
 ldr r3, =FRMADD // get frame size
 sub sp, sp, r3 // allocate space

 // save values in preserved registers
 ldr r4, =BUF // offset in frame
 sub r4, fp, r4 // pointer to buffer
 ldr r5, =stdin // standard input
 ldr r5, [r5]
 ldr r6, =stdout // standard output
 ldr r6, [r6]

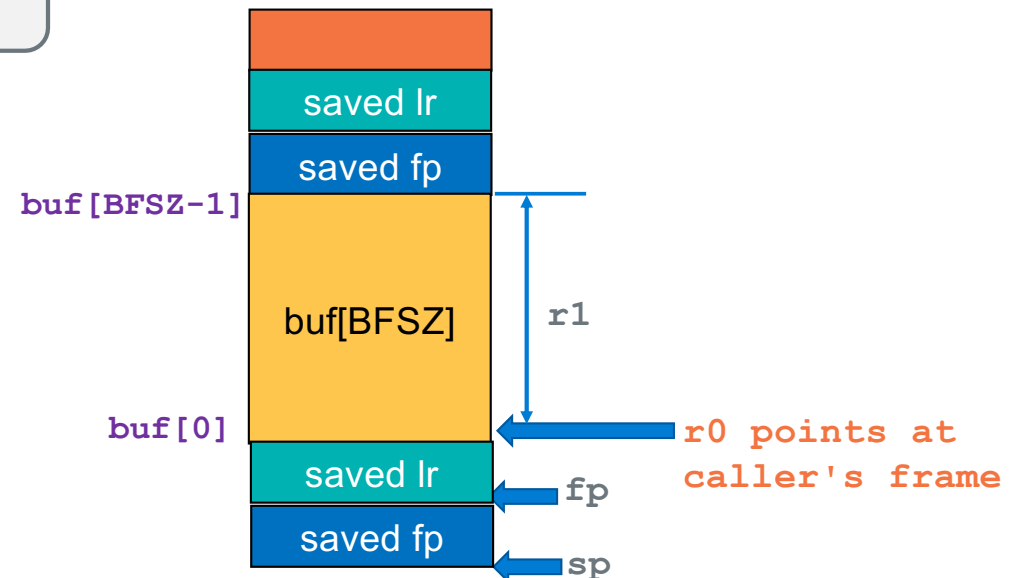
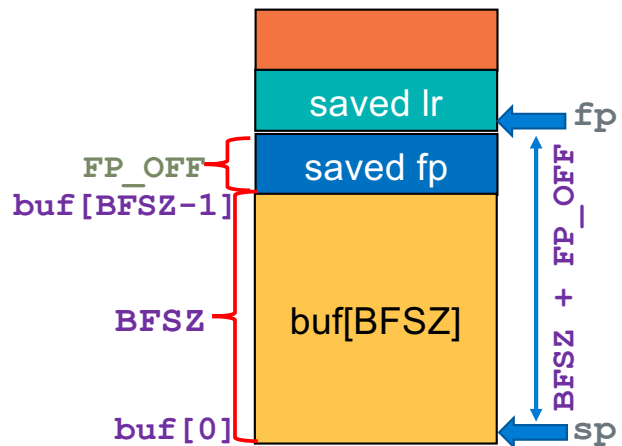
.Lloop:
 // fread(r0=buf, r1=1, r2=BUFSZ, r3=stdin)
 mov r0, r4 // buf
 mov r1, 1 // bytes
 mov r2, BUFSZ // cnt (or ldr r2, =BUFSZ)
 mov r3, r5 // stdin
 bl fread
 cmp r0, 0
 ble .Ldone
 mov r7, r0 // save cnt
 // fwrite(r0=buf, r1=1, r2=cnt, r3=stdout)
 mov r0, r4 // buf
 mov r1, 1 // bytes
 mov r2, r7 // cnt
 mov r3, r6 // stdout
 bl fwrite
 cmp r0, r7 // did we write all the bytes?
 beq .Lloop
 mov r0, EXIT_FAILURE

.Ldone:
 // standard prologue not shown
```

## Writing Functions: Receiving a Pointer Parameter - 1

```
#define BFSZ 256
void fillbuf(char *s, int len, char fill);
int main(void) r0, r1, r2
{
 char buf[BFSZ];
 fillbuf(buf, BFSZ, 'A');
 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

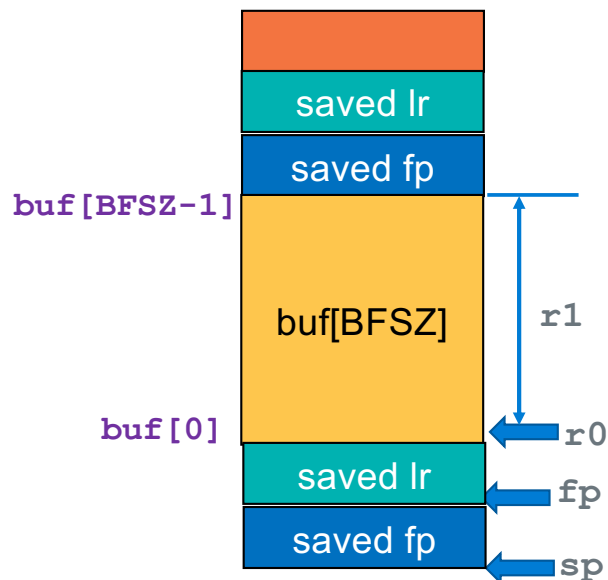
```
void fillbuf(char *s, int len, char fill)
{ r0, r1, r2
 char enptr = s + len;
 while (*s < enptr)
 *(s++) = fill;
}
```



## Writing Function: Receiving a Pointer Parameter - 2

```
void fillbuf(char *s, int len, char fill)
{
 char enptr = s + len;
 while (s < enptr)
 *(s++) = fill;
}
```

Using r1 for endptr



```
fillbuf:
 push {fp, lr} // stack frame
 add fp, sp, FP_OFF // set fp to base

 add r1, r1, r0 // copy up to r1 = bufpt + cnt
 cmp r0, r1 // are there any chars to fill?
 bge .Ldone // nope we are done

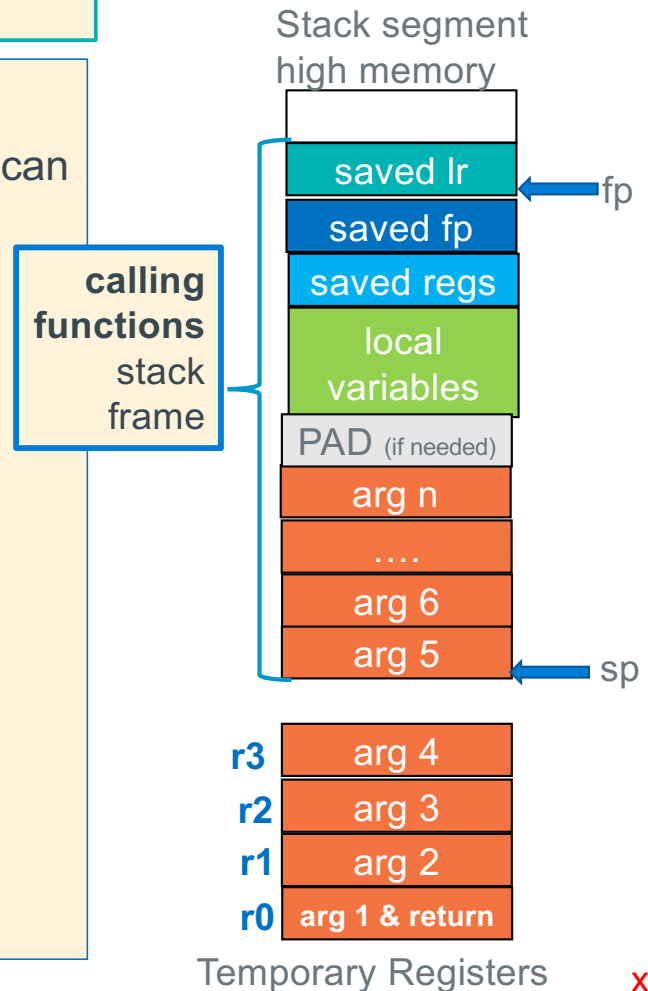
.Ldowhile:
 strb r2, [r0] // store the char in the buffer
 add r0, 1 // point to next char
 cmp r0, r1 // have we reached the end?
 blt .Ldowhile // if not continue to fill

.Ldone:
 sub sp, fp, FP_OFF // restore stack frame top
 pop {fp, lr} // restore registers
 bx lr // return to caller
```

## Passing More Than Four Arguments – At the point of Call

```
r0 = function(r0, r1, r2, r3, arg5, arg6, ... argn)
 arg1, arg2, arg3, arg4, ...
```

- **Args > 4 are in the caller's stack frame at SP (argv5), an up**
- Called functions have the right to change stack args just like they can change the register args!
  - Caller must assume **all args including ones on the stack** are changed by the caller
- Calling function prior to making the call
  1. Evaluate **first four args**: place resulting **values in r0-r3**
  2. Store Arg 5 and greater parameter values on the stack
- **One arg value per slot!** – NO arrays across multiple slots
  - chars, shorts and ints are directly stored
  - Structs (not always), and arrays are passed via a pointer
  - **Pointers** passed as **output parameters** usually contain an **address that points at** the **stack, BSS, data, or heap**





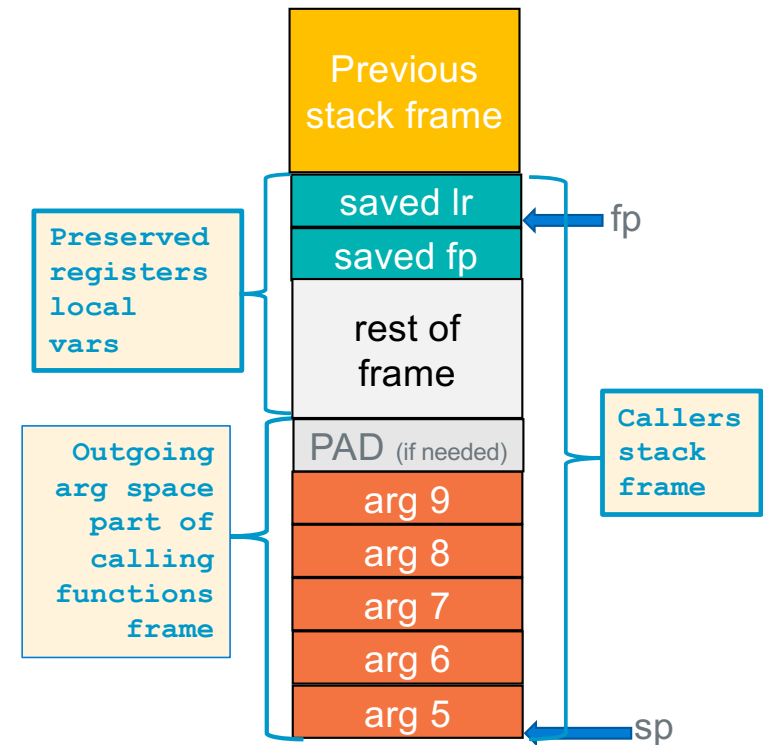
## Calling Function: Allocating Stack Parameter Space

At the point of a function call (and obviously at the start of the called function):

1. sp must point at arg5
2. arg5 must be at an 8-byte boundary,
  - a) padding to force arg5 alignment is placed above the last argument the called function is expecting

**Approach:** Extend the stack frame to include enough space for stack arguments function with the greatest arg count

1. Examine every function call in the body of a function
2. Find the function call with greatest arg count, Determines space needed for outgoing args
3. Add the space needed to the frame layout



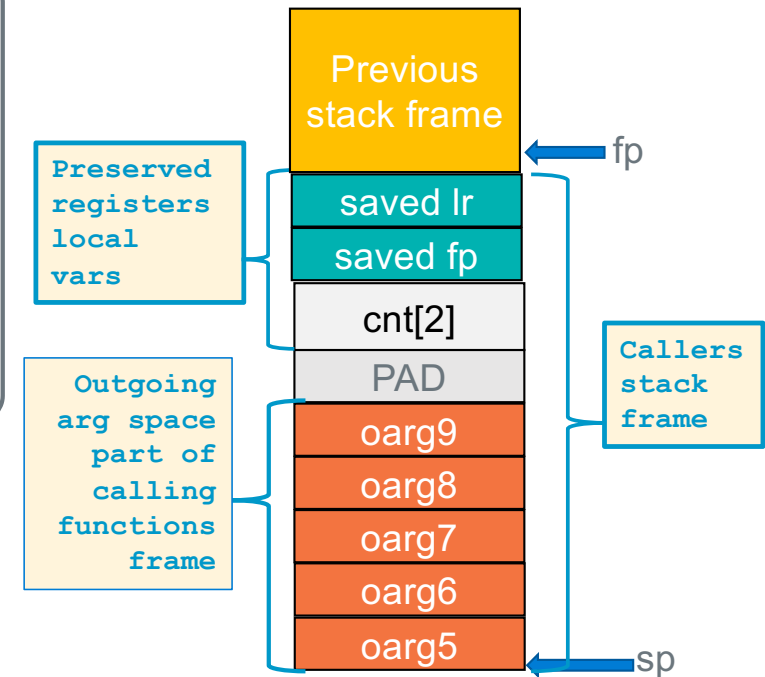
### Rules: At point of call

1. arg5 must be pointed at by sp
2. SP must be 8-byte aligned

## Calling Function: Pass ARGS 5 and higher

```
.equ FP_OFF, 4
.equ CNT, 8 + FP_OFF // int cnt[2];
.equ PAD, 4 + CNT // added as needed
.equ OARG9, 4 + PAD
.equ OARG8, 4 + OARG9
.equ OARG7, 4 + OARG8
.equ OARG6, 4 + OARG7
.equ OARG5, 4 + OARG6
.equ FRMADD OARG5 - FP_OFF
```

| var          | write contents                                                                                       |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| OARG5 = r0   | ldr    r0, =OARG5<br>str    r1, [fp, -r0]                                                            |
| OARG6 = &cnt | ldr    r1, =CNT<br>sub    r1, fp, r0<br>ldr    r0, =OARG6<br>str    r1, [fp, -r0]<br>str    r1, [r0] |



### Rules: At point of call

1. arg5 must be pointed at by sp
2. SP must be 8-byte aligned

## Called Function: Retrieving Args From the Stack

- At function start and before the push{} the sp is at an 8-byte boundary
- Args are in the caller's stack frame and arg 5 always starts at fp+4
  - Additional args are higher up the stack, with one "slot" every 4-bytes
- This "algorithm" for finding args was designed to enable variable arg count functions like printf("conversion list", arg0, ... argn);

```
int func(int a1, int a2, int a3, int a4,
 short a5, int a6, char a7, int a8, int a9)
```

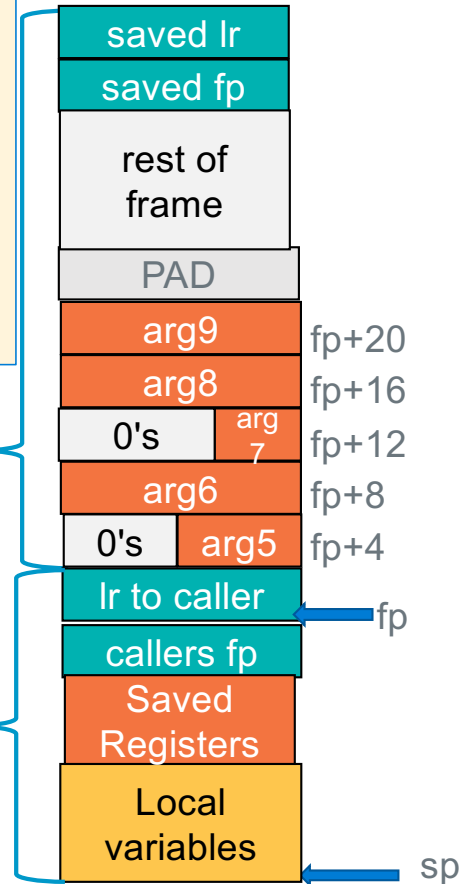
| Constant | Offset  | arm ldr /str statement |
|----------|---------|------------------------|
| ARGN     | (N-4)*4 | ldr r4, [fp, ARGN]     |
| ARG9     | 20      | ldr r4, [fp, ARG9]     |
| ARG8     | 16      | ldr r4, [fp, ARG8]     |
| ARG7     | 12      | ldrb r4, [fp, ARG7]    |
| ARG6     | 8       | ldr r4, [fp, ARG6]     |
| ARG5     | 4       | ldrh r4, [fp, ARG5]    |

### Callers Stack frame

no defined limit to number of args, keep going up stack 4 bytes at a time

```
.equ ARG9, 20
.equ ARG8, 16
.equ ARG7, 12
.equ ARG6, 8
.equ ARG5, 4
```

### Current Stack Frame



**Rule: Called functions always access stack parameters using a positive offset to the fp**

## Determining the Passed Parameter Area on The Stack

- Find the function called by main with the largest number of parameters
- That function determines the size of the Passed Parameter allocation on the stack

```
int main(void)
{
 /* code not shown */
 a(g, h);

 /* code not shown */
 sixsum(a1, a2, a3, a4, a5, a6);

 /* code not shown */

 b(q, w, e, r);
 /* code not shown */
}
```

largest arg count is 6  
allocate space for  $6 - 4 = 2$  arg slots

## Passing More than Four Args – Six Arg Example

- Problem: Write and call a function that receives six integers and returns the sum
- First 4 parameters are in register r0 - r3 and the remaining argument are on the stack
- For this example, we will put all the locals on the stack

```
int main(void)
{
 int cnt = sixsum(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6);

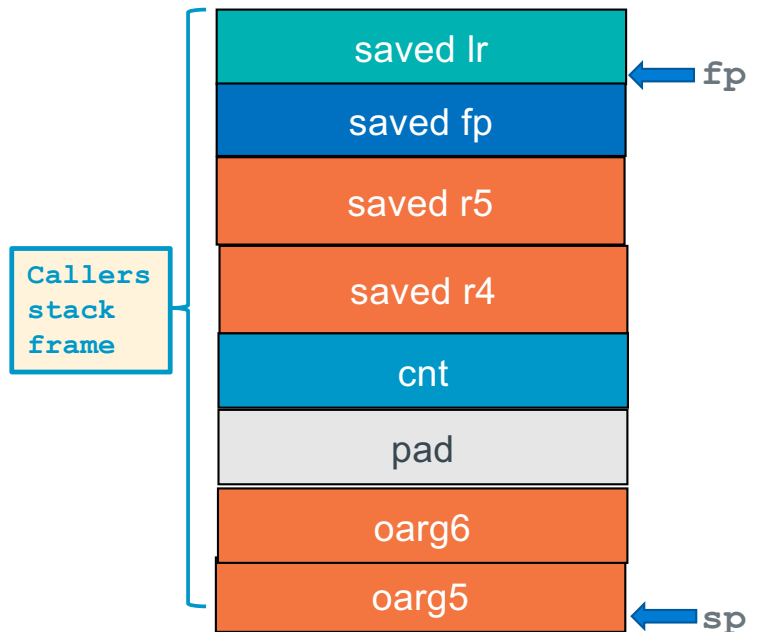
 printf("the sum is %d\n", cnt);
 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

```
int
sixsum(int a1, int a2, int a3, int a4, int a5, int a6)
{
 return a1 + a2 + a3 + a4 + a5 + a6;
}
```

## Calling Function > 4 Args - 1

```
int cnt = sixsum(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6);
```

```
.equ FP_OFF, 12 // local base
 // NAME, SIZE + prev_name
.equ CNT, 4 + FP_OFF
.equ PAD, 4 + CNT
.equ OARG6, 4 + PAD
.equ OARG5, 4 + OARG6
.equ FRAMESZ OARG5 - FP_OFF
```

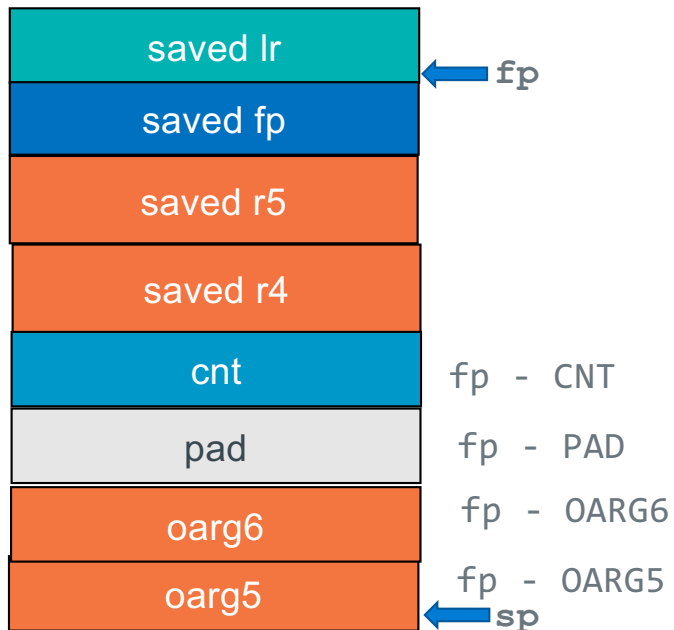


## Calling Function > 4 Args - 2

```
int cnt = sixsum(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6);
```

```
.equ FP_OFF, 12
.equ CNT, 4 + FP_OFF
.equ PAD, 4 + CNT
.equ OARG6, 4 + PAD
.equ OARG5, 4 + OARG6
.equ FRMADD OARG5 - FP_OFF
```

Callers  
stack  
frame



```
main:
 push {r4, r5, fp, lr}
 add fp, sp, FP_OFF
 ldr r3, =FRMADD
 sub sp, sp, r3

 mov r0, 6
 ldr r5, =OARG6
 str r0, [fp, -r5] // arg6
 mov r0, 5
 ldr r5, =OARG5
 str r0, [fp, -r5] // arg5
 mov r3, 4 // arg4
 mov r2, 3 // arg3
 mov r1, 2 // arg2
 mov r0, 1 // arg1
 bl sixsum

 ldr r5, =CNT
 str r0, [fp, -r5] // update cnt on stack
 mov r1, r0
 ldr r0, =.Lpfstr
 bl printf

 mov r0, EXIT_SUCCESS
 sub sp, fp, FP_OFF
 pop {r4, r5, fp, lr}
 bx lr
```

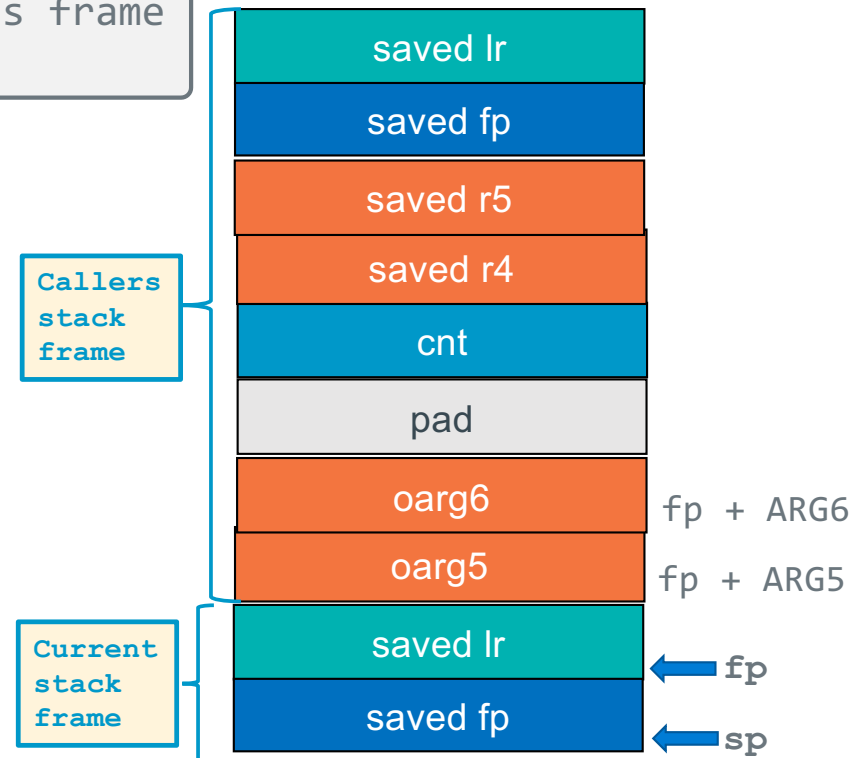
```
.section .rodata
.Lpfstr: .string "the sum is %d\n"
```

## Called Function > 4 Args

```
int sixsum(int a1, int a2, int a3, int a4, int a5, int a6)
 return a1 + a2 + a3 + a4 + a5 + a6;
```

```
.equ ARG6, 8 // offset into caller's frame
.equ ARG5, 4 // offset into caller's frame
.equ FP_OFF, 4 // local base
```

```
sixsum:
 push {fp, lr}
 add fp, sp, FP_OFF
 add r0, r0, r1
 add r0, r0, r2
 add r0, r0, r3
 ldr r1, [fp, ARG5]
 add r0, r0, r1
 ldr r1, [fp, ARG6]
 add r0, r0, r1
 sub sp, fp, FP_OFF
 pop {fp, lr}
 bx lr
```





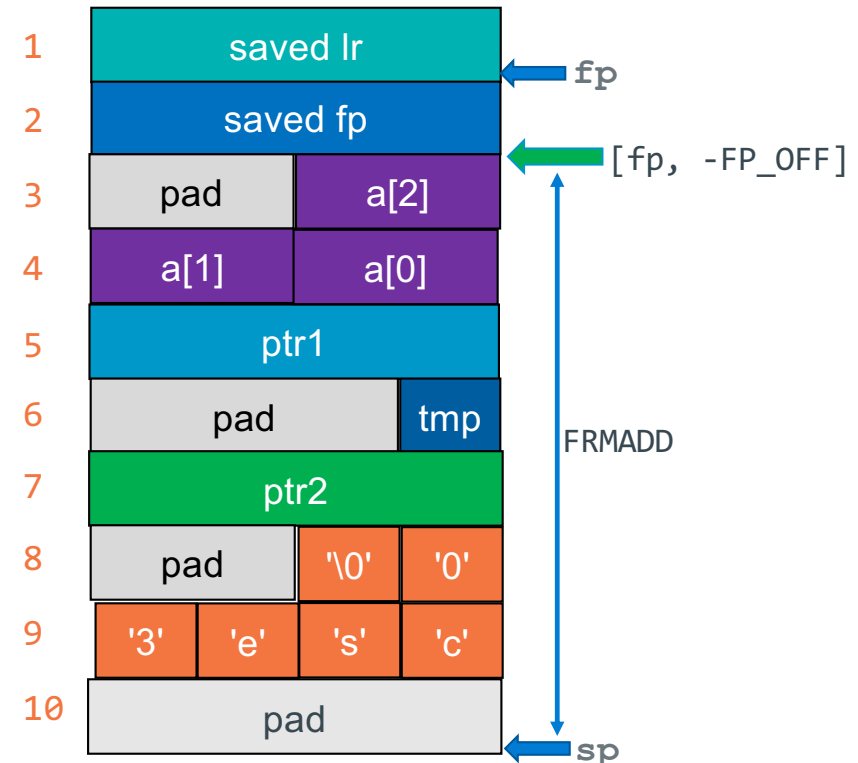
## Extra Slides

# Local Variables: Stack Frame Design Practice

Example shows allocation **without reordering** variables to optimize space

```
short a[3];
short *ptr1;
char tmp;
char *ptr2;
char nm[] = "cse30";
```

```
.equ FP_OFF, 4 // Local base
// NAME, SIZE + prev_name
.equ A, 8 + FP_OFF
.equ PTR1, 4 + A
.equ TMP, 4 + PTR1
.equ PTR2, 4 + TMP
.equ NM, 8 + PTR2
.equ PAD, 4 + NM
.equ FRMADD PAD - FP_OFF // for locals
```



**When writing real code, you do not have to put all locals on the stack**

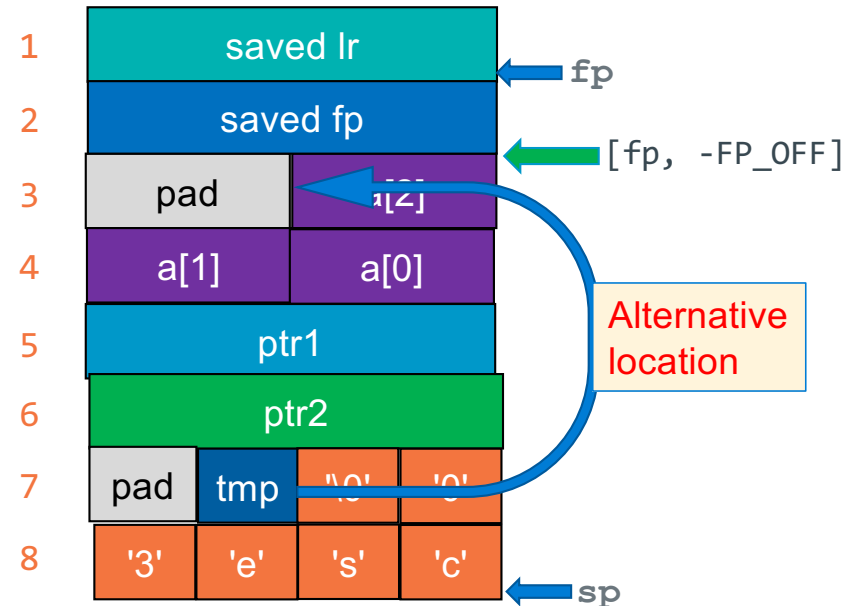
- Place locals in registers if they fit, are accessed often, and
- You do not need their address (they are not an output variable in a function call)

# Local Variables: Stack Frame Design Reordering

Example shows allocation **with reordering** variables to optimize space

```
short a[3];
short *ptr1;
char *ptr2;
char tmp;
char nm[] = "cse30";
```

```
.equ FP_OFF, 4 // Local base
// NAME, SIZE + prev_name
.equ A, 8 + FP_OFF
.equ PTR1, 4 + A
.equ PTR2, 4 + PTR1
.equ TMP, size 2 + PTR2
.equ NM, size change 6 + TMP
.equ PAD, 0 + NM // not needed
.equ FRMADD PAD - FP_OFF
```



**When writing real code, you do not have to put all locals on the stack**

- Place locals in registers if they fit, are accessed often, and
- You do not need their address (they are not an output variable in a function call)

# ARM Assembly Source File: Header and Footer

## File Header

At the top of every  
ARM source file

```
.arch armv6 // armv6 architecture
.arm // arm 32-bit instruction set
.fpu vfp // floating point co-processor
.syntax unified // modern syntax
```

```
// Contents of the other memory segment include .text (your code)
```

## File Footer

At the bottom of every  
ARM source file

```
.section .note.GNU-stack,"",%progbits // set stack/data non-exec
.end

// everything past the .end is ignored!
// Debugging notes etc
```

## `.syntax unified`

- use the standard ARM assembly language syntax called *Unified Assembler Language (UAL)*

## `.section .note.GNU-stack,"",%progbits`

- tells the linker to **make the stack and all data segments not-executable** (no instructions in those sections) – security measure

## `.end`

- at the end of the source file, everything written after the `.end` is ignored

# Function Header and Footer Assembler Directives

**function entry point**  
address of the first  
instruction in the function  
**Must not be a local label**  
**(does not start with .L)**

```
 .text
Function Header {
 .global myfunc // make myfunc global for linking
 .type myfunc, %function // define myfunc to be a function
 .equ FP_OFF, 4 // fp offset in main stack frame
myfunc:
 // function prologue, stack frame setup
 // your code
 // function epilogue, stack frame teardown
Function Footer {
 .size myfunc, (. - myfunc)
```

**.global function\_name**

- Exports the function name to other files. Required for main function, optional for others

**.type name, %function**

- The **.type** directive sets the **type of a symbol/label name**
- %function** specifies that **name** is a function (name is the address of the first instruction)

**equ FP\_OFF, 4**

- Used for basic stack frame setup; the number 4 will change – later slides

**.size name, bytes**

- The **.size** directive is used to **set the size associated with a symbol**
- Used by the linker to exclude unneeded code and/or data when creating an executable file
- It is also used by the **debugger** gdb
- bytes is best calculated as an expression: (period is the current address in a memory segment)**

**In CSE30 required use: .size name, (. - name)**

## Reference For PA8/9: C Stream Functions Opening Files

```
FILE *fopen(char filename[], const char mode[]);
```

- Opens a stream to the specified file in specified file access mode
  - returns NULL on failure – **always check the return value; make sure the open succeeded!**
- Mode is a string that describes the actions that can be performed on the stream:

"r" Open for reading.

The stream is positioned at the beginning of the file. Fail if the file does not exist.

"w" Open for writing.

The stream is positioned at the beginning of the file. Create the file if it does not exist.

"a" Open for writing.

The stream is positioned at the end of the file. Create the file if it does not exist.

Subsequent writes to the file will always be at current end of file.

- An optional "+" following "r", "w", or "a" opens the file for both reading and writing

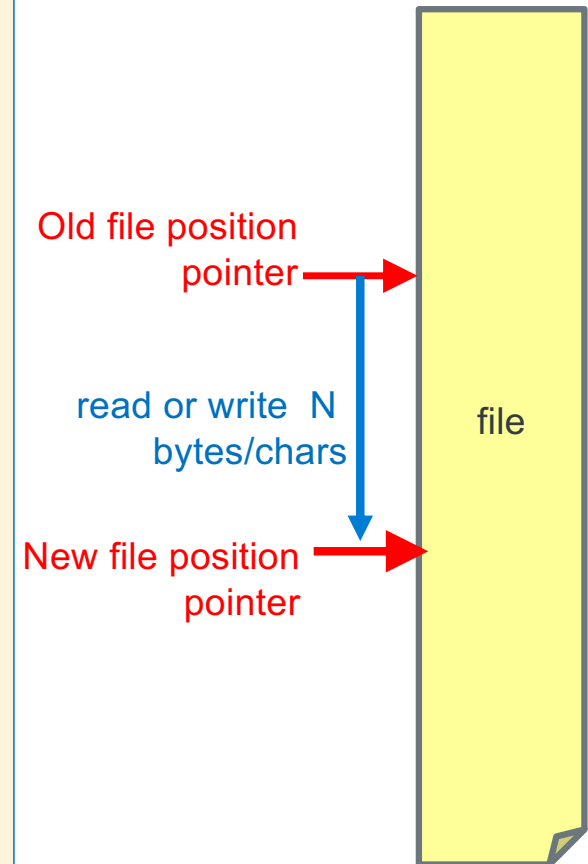
## Reference: C Stream Functions Closing Files and Usage

```
int fclose(FILE *stream);
```

- Closes the specified stream, forcing output to complete (eventually)
  - returns EOF on failure (often ignored as no easy recovery other than a message)
- Usage template for `fopen()` and `fclose()`
  1. Open a file with `fopen()` **always** checking the return value
  2. do i/o – keep calling stdio io routines
  3. close the file with `fclose()` when done with that I/O stream

# C Stream Functions Array/block read/write

- Read/write ops *advance* the **file position pointer** from TOF towards EOF on each I/O
  - Moves towards EOF by number of bytes read/written
- `size_t fwrite(void *ptr, size_t size, size_t count, FILE *stream);`
  - Writes an array `*ptr` of **count elements** of **size** bytes from **stream**
  - Updates the **write file pointer forward** by the **number of bytes written**
  - returns number of elements written
    - Treat return != count as an error
- `size_t fread(void *ptr, size_t size, size_t count, FILE *stream);`
  - Reads an array `*ptr` of **count elements** of **size** bytes from **stream**
  - Updates the **read file pointer forward** by the **number of bytes read**
  - returns number of elements read,
    - Treat a return of 0 as being in EOF state
- **Set element size to 1 to return bytes read/written**
- EOF is **NOT a character in the file**, but a condition on the stream
- `int feof(FILE *stream)`
  - Returns non-zero at end-of-file for stream
- `int ferror(FILE *stream)`
  - Returns non-zero if error for stream






## putchar/getchar Setting up and Usage

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int
main(void)
{
 int c;
 int count = 0;

 while ((c = getchar()) != EOF) {
 putchar(c);
 count++;
 }
 printf("Echo count: %d\n", count);
 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```



```
.extern getchar
.extern putchar
.section .rodata
.Lfstr: .string "Echo count: %d\n"
.text
.equ EOF, -1
.type main, %function
.global main
.equ FP_OFF, 12
.equ EXIT_SUCCESS, 0
main: push {r4, r5, fp, lr}
 add fp, sp, FP_OFF
 mov r4, 0 //r4 = count

/* while loop code will go here */
.Ldone:
 mov r1, r4 // count
 ldr r0, =.Lfstr
 bl printf
 mov r0, EXIT_SUCCESS
 sub sp, fp, FP_OFF
 pop {r4, r5, fp, lr}
 bx lr
 .size main, (. - main)
```

## Putchar/getchar: The while loop

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int
main(void)
{
 int c;
 int count = 0;

 while ((c = getchar()) != EOF) {
 putchar(c);
 count++;
 }
 printf("Echo count: %d\n", count);
 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

initialize count

pre loop test with a call to getchar()  
if it returns EOF in r0 we are done

echo the character read with getchar and  
then read another and increment count

did getchar() return EOF if not loop

saw EOF, print count

```
mov r4, 0 //count
bl getchar
cmp r0, EOF
beq .Ldone

.Lloop:
bl putchar
bl getchar
add r4, r4, 1
cmp r0, EOF
bne .Lloop

.Ldone:
mov r1, r4
ldr r0, =pfstr
bl printf
```

**File header and footers are not shown**

## printing error messages in assembly

```
.Lmsg0: .string "Read failed\n"
 ldr r0, =.Lmsg0 // read failed print error
 bl errmsg
```

```
 // int errmsg(char *errmsg)
 // writes error messages to stderr
.type errmsg, %function // define to be a function
.equ FP_OFF, 4 // fp offset in stack frame
errmsg:
 push {fp, lr} // stack frame register save
 add fp, sp, FP_OFF // set the frame pointer

 mov r1, r0
 ldr r0, =stderr
 ldr r0, [r0]
 bl fprintf
 mov r0, EXIT_FAILURE // Set return value
 sub sp, fp, FP_OFF // restore stack frame top
 pop {fp, lr} // remove frame and restore
 bx lr // return to caller
 // function footer
.size errmsg, (. - errmsg) // set size for function
```

# main.S Source File Showing a minimum stack frame

