
Secure Systems Engineering

Program Binaries

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Executables and Processes

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    char str[] = "Hello World\n";
    printf("%s", str);
}
```

\$gcc hello.c

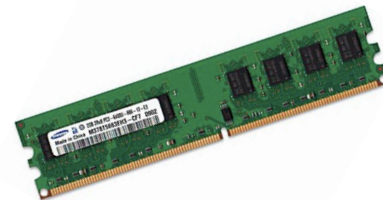
Executable
ELF
(a.out)

./a.out

Process



Stored on disk



Executed from RAM

ELF Executables

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    char str[] = "Hello World\n";
    printf("%s", str);
}
```

\$gcc hello.c

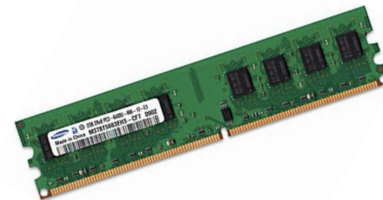
Executable
ELF
(a.out)

./a.out

Process



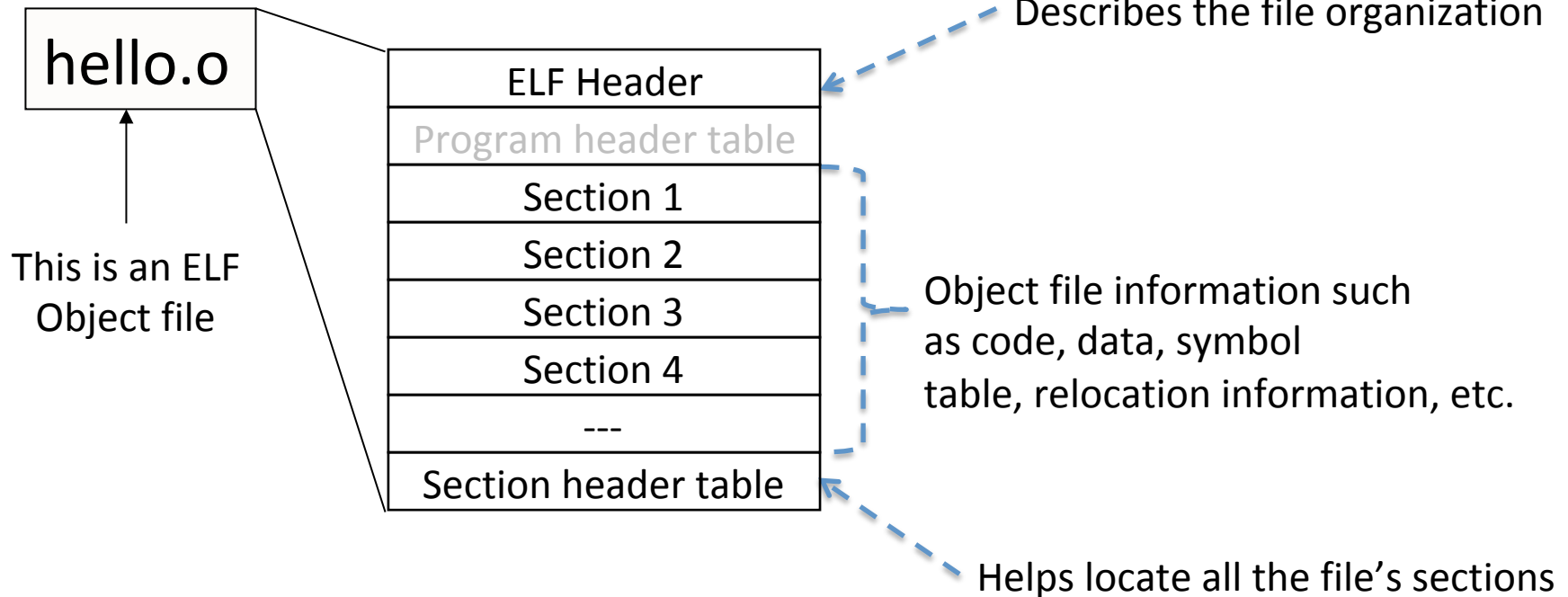
Stored on disk



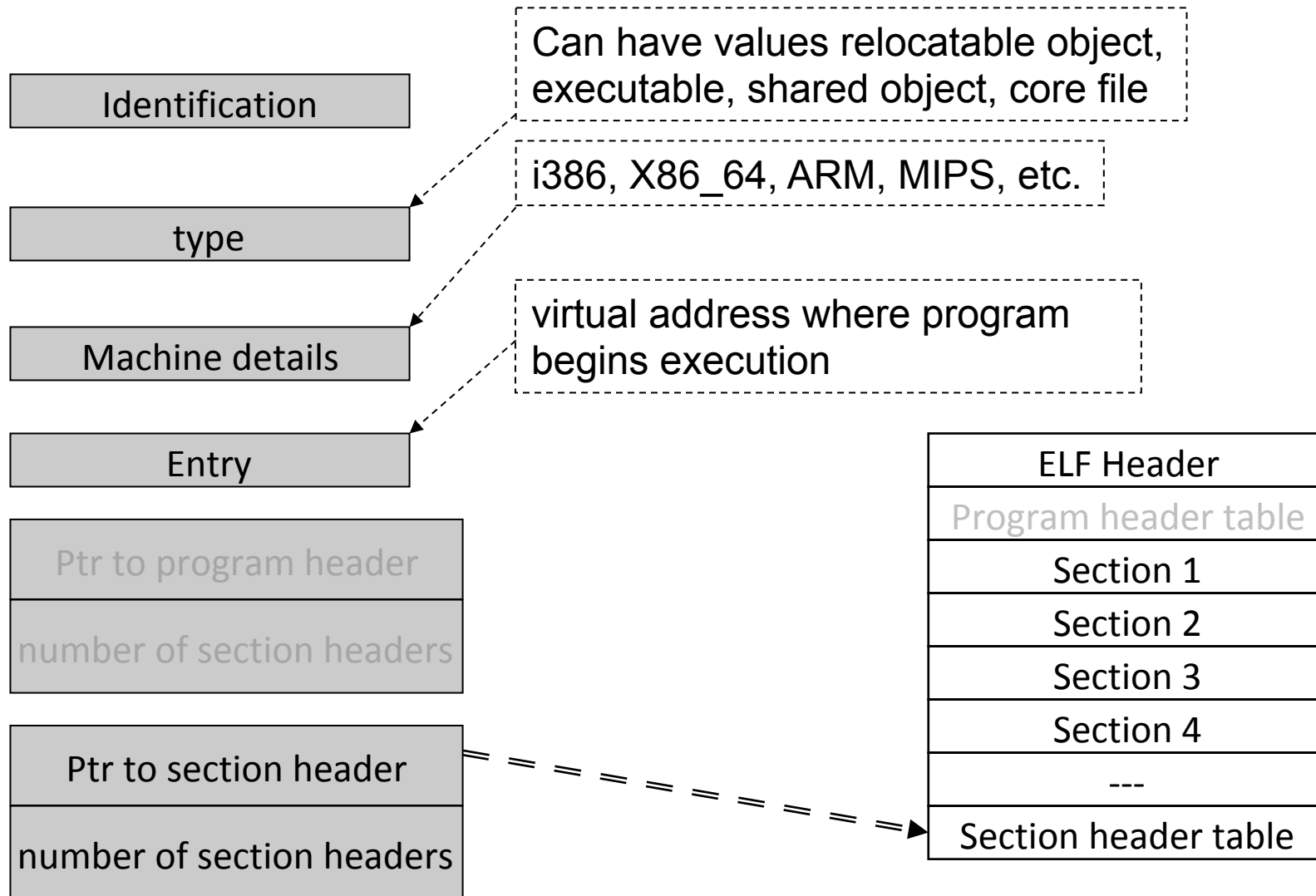
Executed from RAM

ELF Executables (linker view)

\$gcc hello.c -c



ELF Header



Hello World's ELF Header

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    char str[] = "Hello World\n";
    printf("%s", str);
}
```

```
$ gcc hello.c -c
$ readelf -h hello.o
```

```
optiplex:~/tmp$ readelf -h hello.o
ELF Header:
  Magic:   7f 45 4c 46 02 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
  Class:                               ELF64
  Data:                                   2's complement, little endian
  Version:                             1 (current)
  OS/ABI:                               UNIX - System V
  ABI Version:                          0
  Type:                                  REL (Relocatable file)
  Machine:                              Advanced Micro Devices X86-64
  Version:                              0x1
  Entry point address:                   0x0
  Start of program headers:              0 (bytes into file)
  Start of section headers:              368 (bytes into file)
  Flags:                                  0x0
  Size of this header:                   64 (bytes)
  Size of program headers:               0 (bytes)
  Number of program headers:              0
  Size of section headers:               64 (bytes)
  Number of section headers:              13
  Section header string table index:     10
```

Section Headers

Contains
information about
the various sections`

\$ readelf -S hello.o

```
chester@optiplex:~/work/SSE/sse/src/elf$ readelf -S hello.o
There are 13 section headers, starting at offset 0x138:

Section Headers:
 [Nr] Name                Type              Addr             Off             Size            ES Flg Lk  Inf Al
 [ 0]                      NULL              00000000         000000          000000          00   0  0  0  0
 [ 1] .text                  PROGBITS          00000000         000034          00003c          00  AX  0  0  1
 [ 2] .rel.text             REL               00000000         000408          000010          08   11  1  4
 [ 3] .data                  PROGBITS          00000000         000070          000000          00  WA  0  0  1
 [ 4] .bss                   NOBITS            00000000         000070          000000          00  WA  0  0  1
 [ 5] .rodata                PROGBITS          00000000         000070          000003          00   A  0  0  1
 [ 6] .comment               PROGBITS          00000000         000073          00002c          01  MS  0  0  1
 [ 7] .note.GNU-stack        PROGBITS          00000000         00009f          000000          00   0  0  1
 [ 8] .eh_frame              PROGBITS          00000000         0000a0          000038          00   A  0  0  4
 [ 9] .rel.eh_frame          REL               00000000         000418          000008          08   11  8  4
[10] .shstrtab              STRTAB            00000000         0000d8          00005f          00   0  0  1
[11] .symtab                SYMTAB            00000000         000340          0000b0          10   12  9  4
[12] .strtab                STRTAB            00000000         0003f0          000015          00   0  0  1

Key to Flags:
 W (write), A (alloc), X (execute), M (merge), S (strings)
 T (info), L (link order), G (group), T (TLS), E (exclude), x (unknown)
 0 (extra OS processing required) o (OS specific), p (processor specific)
chester@optiplex:~/work/SSE/sse/src/elf$
```

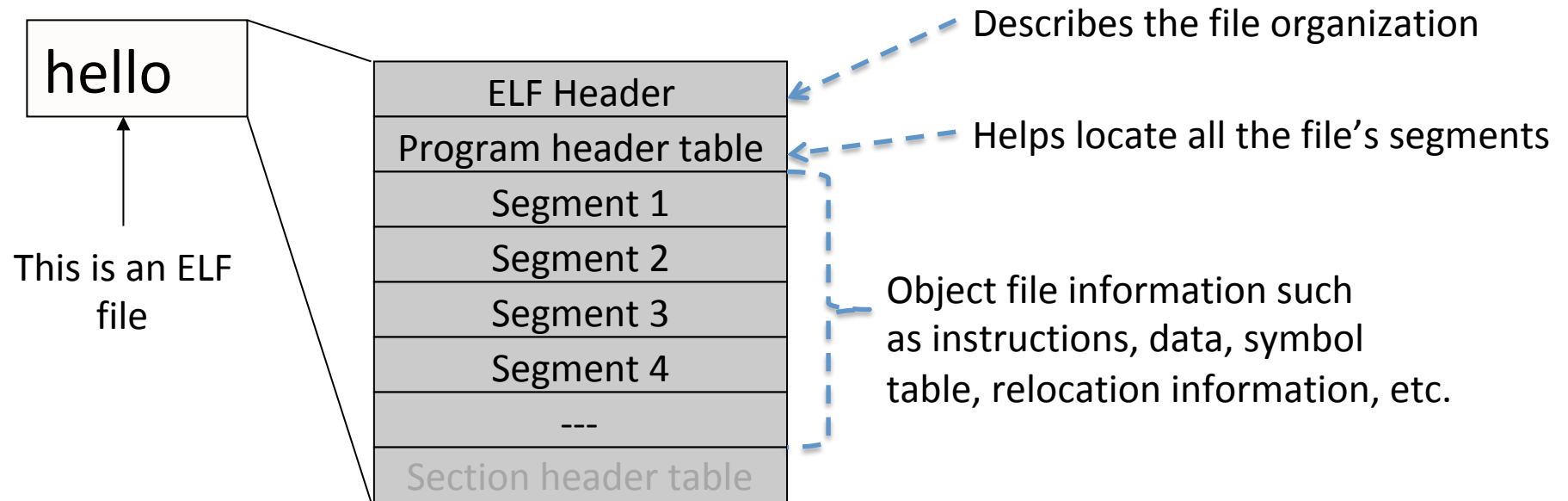
Type of the section
PROGBITS : information defined by program
SYMTAB : symbol table
NULL : inactive section
NOBITS : Section that occupies no bits
RELA : Relocation table

Virtual address where the
Section should be loaded
(* all 0s because this is a .o file)

Offset and size of the section

ELF Executables (Executable view)

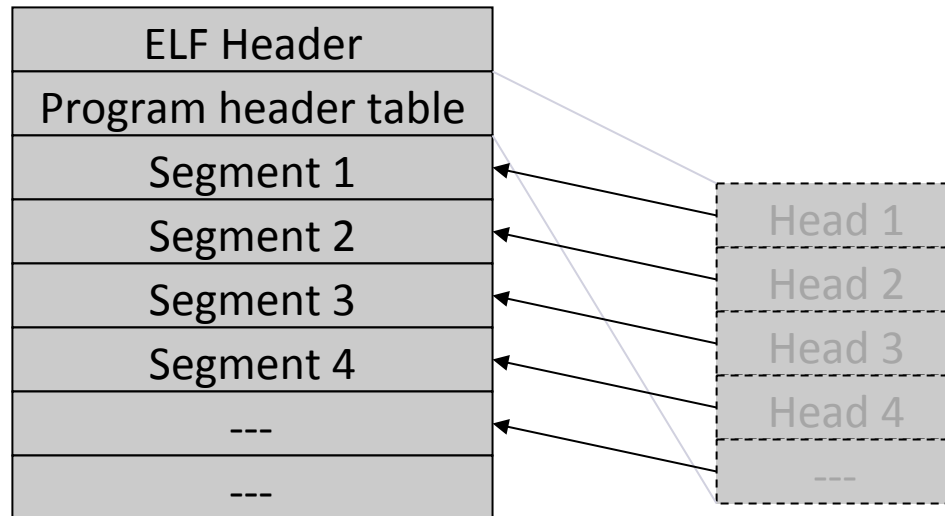
```
$gcc hello.c -o hello
```



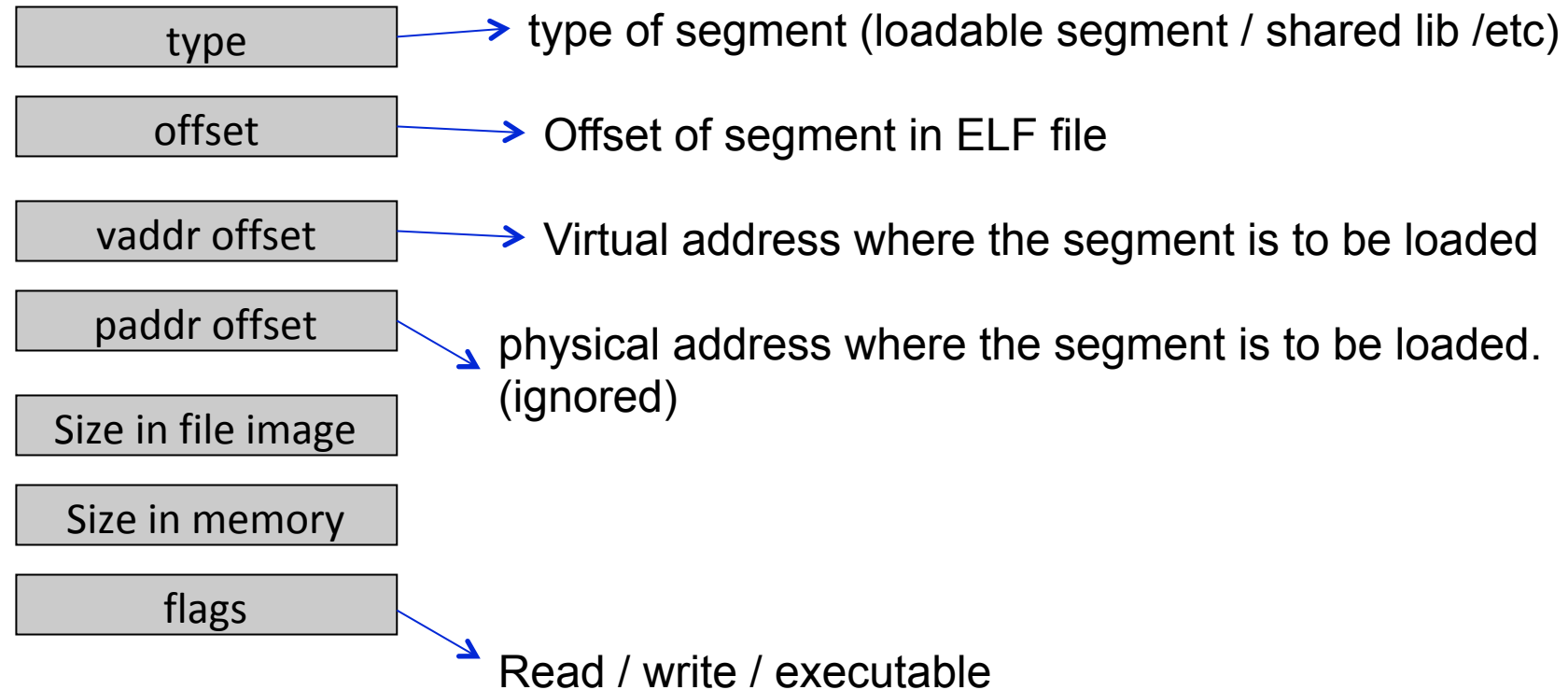
ELF Executable View

Program Header (executable view)

- Contains information about each segment
- One program header for each segment



Program Header Contents



Program headers for Hello World

\$ readelf -l hello

```
chester@optiplex:~/work/SSE/sse/src/elf$ readelf -l hello

Elf file type is EXEC (Executable file)
Entry point 0x8048320
There are 9 program headers, starting at offset 52

Program Headers:
  Type           Offset             VirtAddr           PhysAddr          FileSiz MemSiz  Flg Align
  PHDR            0x000034           0x08048034         0x08048034         0x00120 0x00120  R E  0x4
  INTERP          0x000154           0x08048154         0x08048154         0x00013 0x00013  R   0x1
      [Requesting program interpreter: /lib/ld-linux.so.2]
  LOAD            0x000000           0x08048000         0x08048000         0x005d0 0x005d0  R E 0x1000
  LOAD            0x000f08           0x08049f08         0x08049f08         0x00118 0x0011c  RW  0x1000
  DYNAMIC          0x000f14           0x08049f14         0x08049f14         0x000e8 0x000e8  RW  0x4
  NOTE            0x000168           0x08048168         0x08048168         0x00044 0x00044  R   0x4
  GNU_EH_FRAME    0x0004f4           0x080484f4         0x080484f4         0x0002c 0x0002c  R   0x4
  GNU_STACK       0x000000           0x00000000         0x00000000         0x00000 0x00000  RWE 0x10
  GNU_RELRO       0x000f08           0x08049f08         0x08049f08         0x000f8 0x000f8  R   0x1

Section to Segment mapping:
Segment Sections...
00
01      .interp
02      .interp .note.ABI-tag .note.gnu.build-id .gnu.hash .dynsym .dynstr
03      .rodata .eh_frame_hdr .eh_frame
04      .init_array .fini_array .jcr .dynamic .got .got.plt .data .bss
05      .dynamic
06      .note.ABI-tag .note.gnu.build-id
07      .eh_frame_hdr
08      .init_array .fini_array .jcr .dynamic .got
```

Mapping between
segments and
sections

Contents of the Executable

\$ objdump --disassemble-all hello > hello.lst

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    char str[] = "Hello World\n";
    printf("%s", str);
}
```

```
0804841d <main>:
804841d: 55                push    %ebp
804841e: 89 e5             mov     %esp,%ebp
8048420: 83 e4 f0          and     $0xffffffff0,%esp
8048423: 83 ec 20          sub     $0x20,%esp
8048426: c7 44 24 13 48 65 6c movl    $0x6c6c6548,0x13(%esp)
804842d: 6c
804842e: c7 44 24 17 6f 20 57 movl    $0x6f57206f,0x17(%esp)
8048435: 6f
8048436: c7 44 24 1b 72 6c 64 movl    $0xa646c72,0x1b(%esp)
804843d: 0a
804843e: c6 44 24 1f 00     movb    $0x0,0x1f(%esp)
8048443: 8d 44 24 13        lea     0x13(%esp),%eax
8048447: 89 44 24 04        mov     %eax,0x4(%esp)
804844b: c7 04 24 f0 84 04 08 movl    $0x80484f0,0x4(%esp)
8048452: e8 99 fe ff ff     call    80482f0 <printf@plt>
8048457: c9                leave   %eax
8048458: c3                ret
8048459: 66 90             xchgb   %ax,%ax
804845b: 66 90             xchgb   %ax,%ax
804845d: 66 90             xchgb   %ax,%ax
804845f: 90                nop
```

ELF Executables

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    char str[] = "Hello World\n";
    printf("%s", str);
}
```

\$gcc hello.c

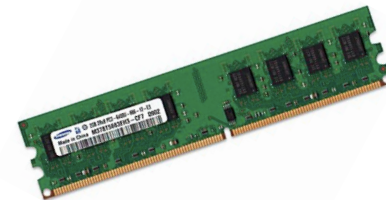
Executable
ELF
(a.out)

./a.out

Process

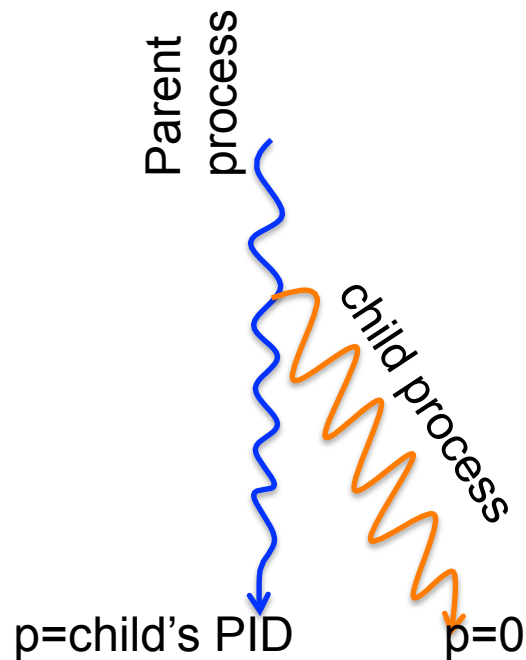


Stored on disk



Executed from RAM

Creating a Process by Cloning (using fork system call)



```
int p;  
  
p = fork();  
if (p > 0){  
    printf("Parent : child PID = %d", p);  
    p = wait();  
    printf("Parent : child %d exited\n", p);  
} else{  
    printf("In child process");  
    execlp("hello", "", NULL);  
    exit(0);  
}
```

Process Virtual Memory Map

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

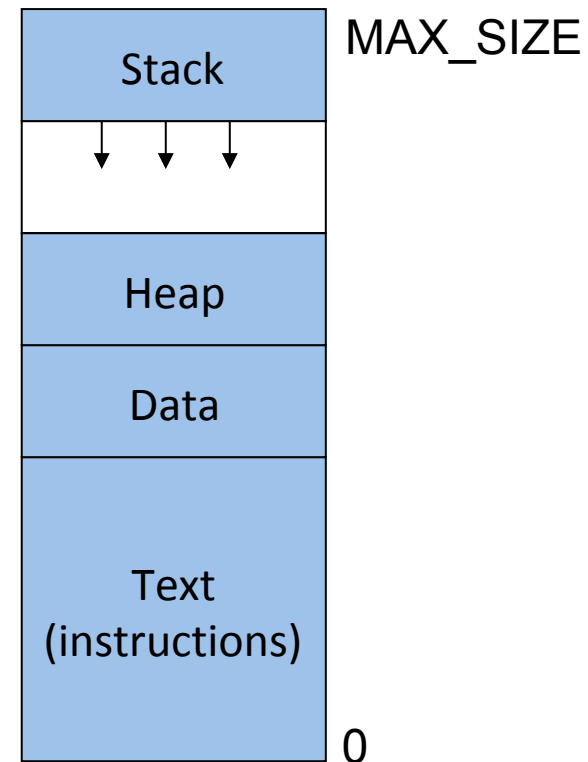
int calls;

void fact(int a, int *b){
    calls++;
    if (a==1) return;
    *b = *b * a;
    fact(a - 1, b);
}

int main(){
    int n, *m;

    scanf("%d", &n);
    m = malloc(sizeof(int));
    *m = 1;
    fact(n, m);
    printf("Factorial(%d) is %d\n", n, *m);
    free(m);
}
```

Program



Virtual Memory Map

Process Virtual Memory Map

```
chester@optiplex:~$ ps -ae | grep hello
6757 pts/25 00:00:00 hello
chester@optiplex:~$ sudo cat /proc/6757/maps
08048000-08049000 r-xp 00000000 08:07 2491006 /home/chester/work/SSE/sse/src/elf/hello
08049000-0804a000 r-xp 00000000 08:07 2491006 /home/chester/work/SSE/sse/src/elf/hello
0804a000-0804b000 rwxp 00001000 08:07 2491006 /home/chester/work/SSE/sse/src/elf/hello
f759f000-f75a0000 rwxp 00000000 00:00 0
f75a0000-f774b000 r-xp 00000000 08:06 280150 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc-2.19.so
f774b000-f774d000 r-xp 001aa000 08:06 280150 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc-2.19.so
f774d000-f774e000 rwxp 001ac000 08:06 280150 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc-2.19.so
f774e000-f7751000 rwxp 00000000 00:00 0
f7773000-f7777000 rwxp 00000000 00:00 0
f7777000-f7778000 r-xp 00000000 00:00 0 [vdso]
f7778000-f7798000 r-xp 00000000 08:06 280158 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/ld-2.19.so
f7798000-f7799000 r-xp 0001f000 08:06 280158 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/ld-2.19.so
f7799000-f779a000 rwxp 00020000 08:06 280158 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/ld-2.19.so
ff885000-ff8a6000 rwxp 00000000 00:00 0 [stack]
chester@optiplex:~$
```

Virtual address
memory range

flags

Device details
(offset in file; device number; inode)

Stack Frames

Stack

%ebp →

%esp →

main locals

} main frame

PC →

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int calls;

void fact(int a, int *b){
    calls++;
    if (a==1) return;
    *b = *b * a;
    fact(a - 1, b);
}

int main(){
    int n, *m;

    scanf("%d", &n);
    m = malloc(sizeof(int));
    *m = 1;
    fact(n, m);
    printf("Factorial(%d) is %d\n", n, *m);
    free(m);
}
```

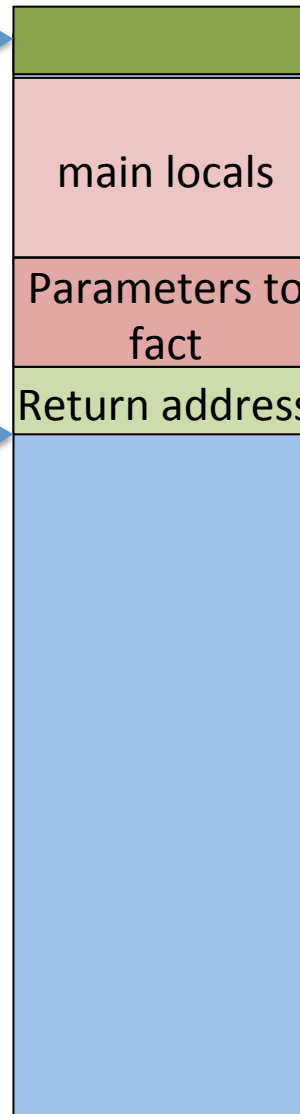
Program

%esp : stack pointer
%ebp : frame pointer

Stack Frames

Stack

%ebp →



main locals

Parameters to
fact

Return address

%esp →

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int calls;

void fact(int a, int *b){
    calls++;
    if (a==1) return;
    *b = *b * a;
    fact(a - 1, b);
}

int main(){
    int n, *m;

    scanf("%d", &n);
    m = malloc(sizeof(int));
    *m = 1;
    fact(n, m);
    printf("Factorial(%d) is %d\n", n, *m);
    free(m);
}
```

PC →

Program

%esp : stack pointer
%ebp : frame pointer

Stack Frames

```
PC → #include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

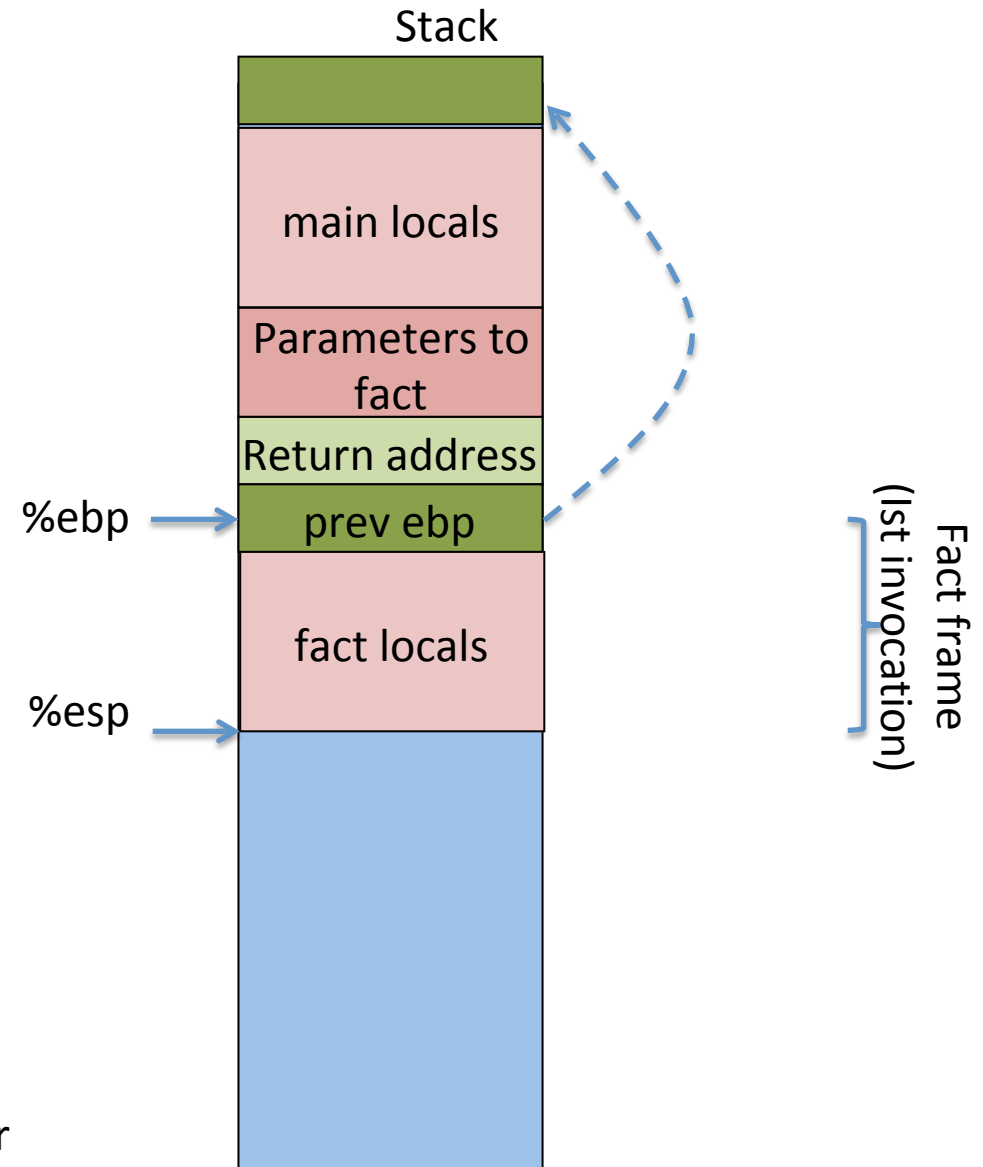
int calls;

void fact(int a, int *b){
    calls++;
    if (a==1) return;
    *b = *b * a;
    fact(a - 1, b);
}

int main(){
    int n, *m;

    scanf("%d", &n);
    m = malloc(sizeof(int));
    *m = 1;
    fact(n, m);
    printf("Factorial(%d) is %d\n", n, *m);
    free(m);
}
```

Program



%esp : stack pointer
%ebp : frame pointer

Stack Frames

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

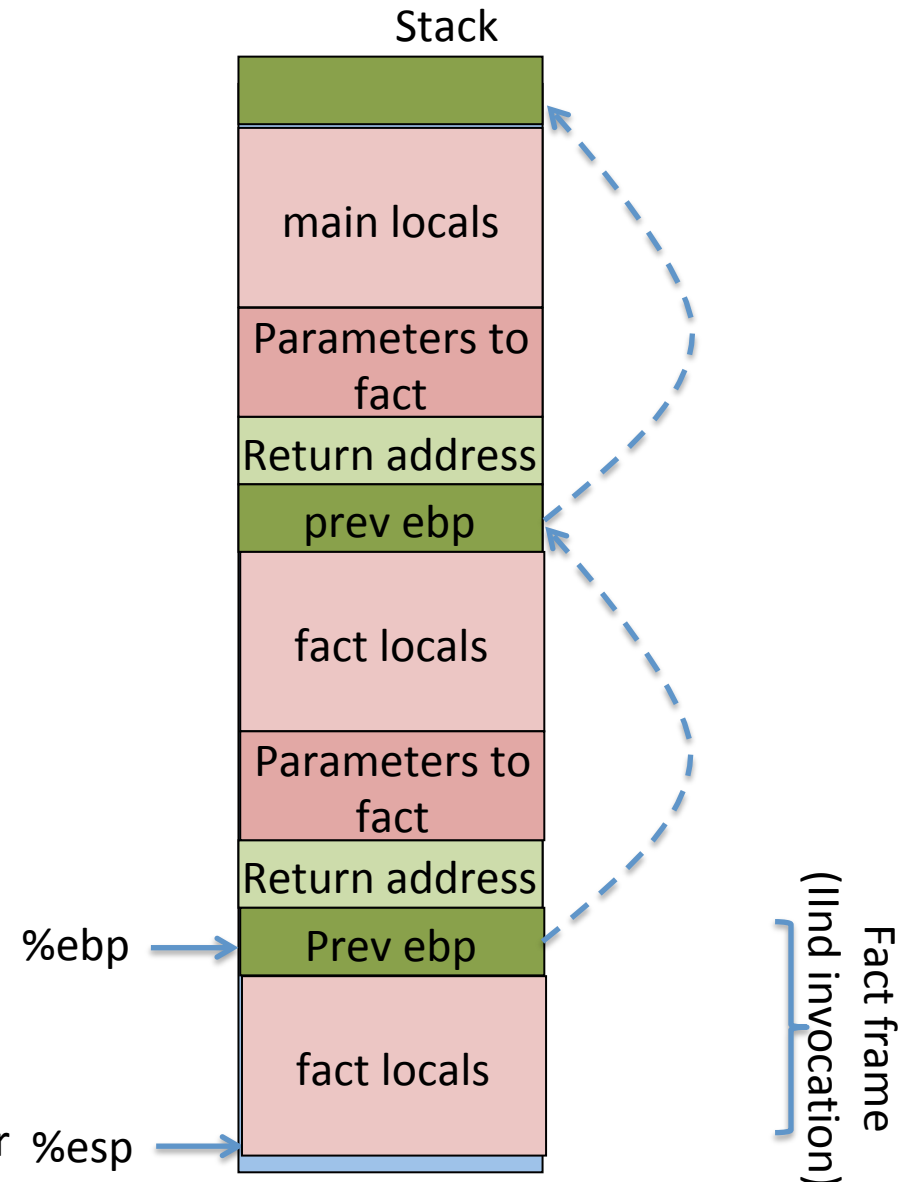
int calls;

void fact(int a, int *b){
    calls++;
    if (a==1) return;
    *b = *b * a;
    fact(a - 1, b);
}

int main(){
    int n, *m;

    scanf("%d", &n);
    m = malloc(sizeof(int));
    *m = 1;
    fact(n, m);
    printf("Factorial(%d) is %d\n", n, *m);
    free(m);
}
```

Program



%esp : stack pointer

%ebp : frame pointer

Stack Frames

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

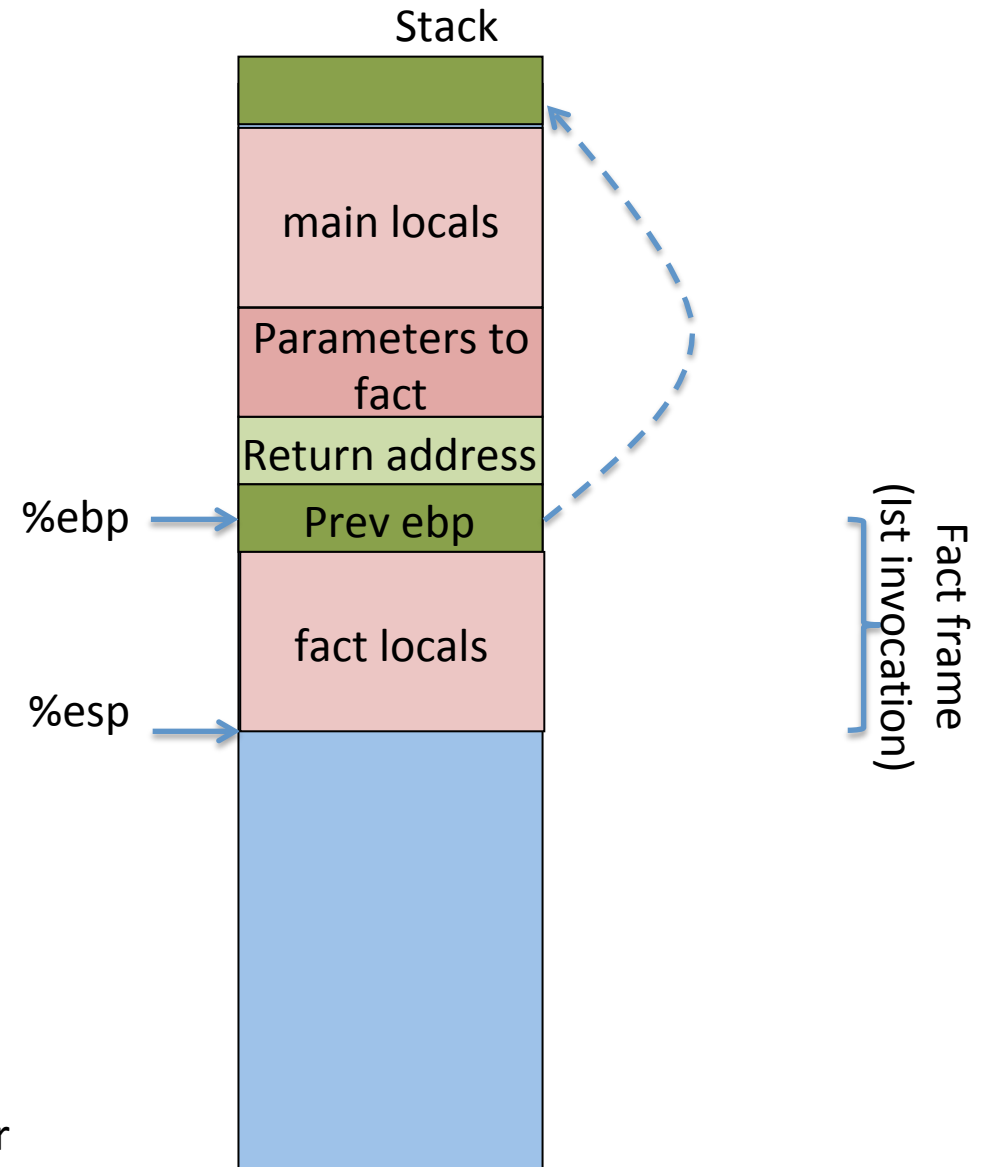
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    calls++;
    if (a==1) return;
    *b = *b * a;
    fact(a - 1, b);
}

int main(){
    int n, *m;

    scanf("%d", &n);
    m = malloc(sizeof(int));
    *m = 1;
    fact(n, m);
    printf("Factorial(%d) is %d\n", n, *m);
    free(m);
}
```

Program



`%esp` : stack pointer
`%ebp` : frame pointer

Stack frames

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

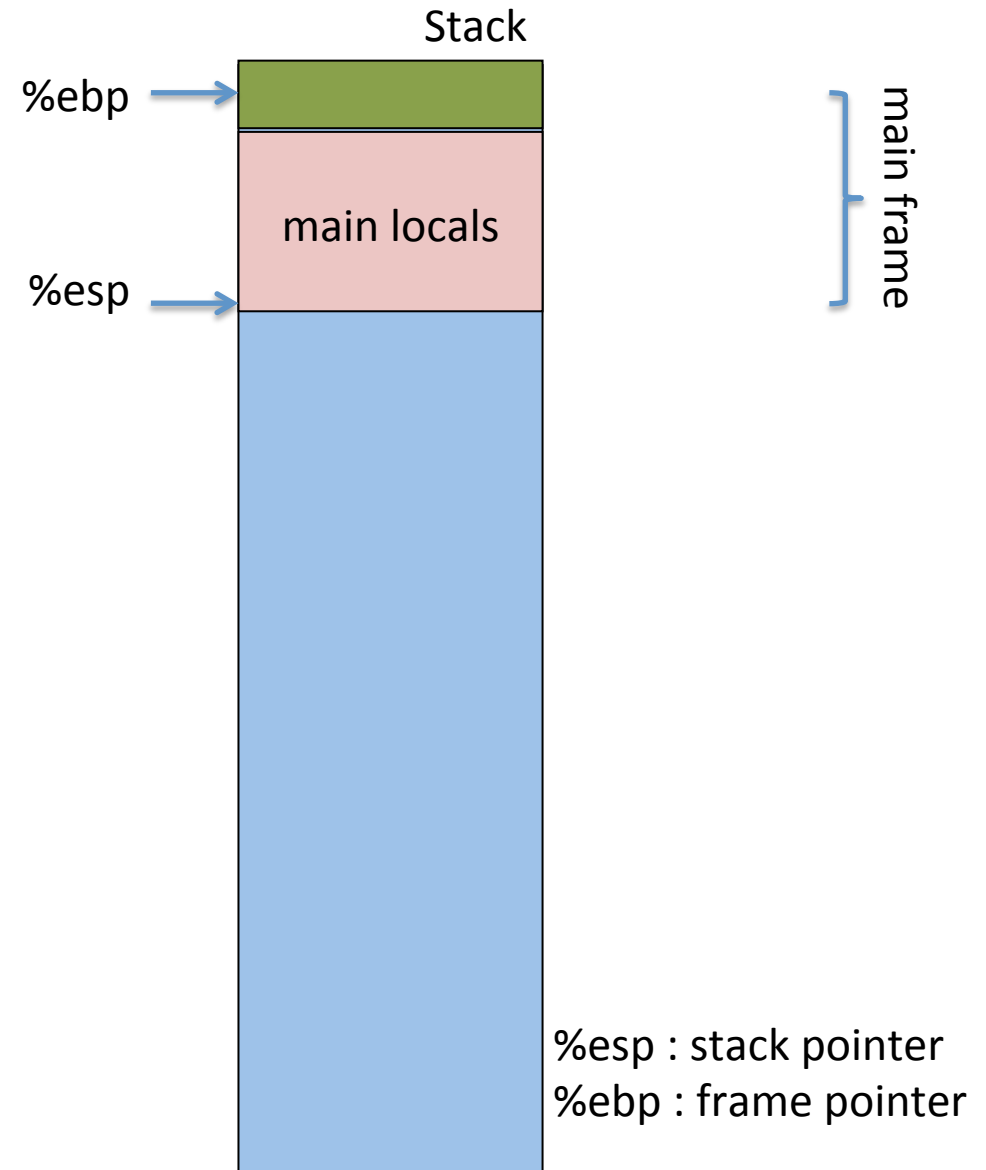
int calls;

void fact(int a, int *b){
    calls++;
    if (a==1) return;
    *b = *b * a;
    fact(a - 1, b);
}

int main(){
    int n, *m;

    scanf("%d", &n);
    m = malloc(sizeof(int));
    *m = 1;
    fact(n, m);
    printf("Factorial(%d) is %d\n", n, *m);
    free(m);
}
```

Program



Points to Ponder

How and who passes command line arguments to the process?

