



Stack

ENEE 3582

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# Run-time Stack

- ❖ Area in memory (RAM)
  - Defined at the end of the data RAM
- ❖ Used for temporary storage
  - by programmer
    - to store temporary values instead of creating variables
    - This is how local variables are created inside functions.
  - by specific instructions
    - CALL, RET: used stack to store return address of the function call
- ❖ Has a different and unique functions for storage and retrieval
  - PUSH is used to store into the stack
  - POP is used to retrieve from the stack

# Stack Pointer (SP)

- ❖ SP is a 16-bit IO register used to point to current top of the stack
  - IO registers use IN and OUT to move data to/from them
  - 16 bit register: SPH, and SPL
- ❖ At the beginning SP points to the RAMEND
  - Data stores in the stack are created starting at RAMEND
  - MEGA 2560:
    - Size = 8KB
    - RAM start is 0x0200
    - RAMEND is address 0x21FF

# Changing/Copying SP

## ❖ To re-set SP to RAM-end:

```
LDI R16, HIGH(RAMEND)    ;load SPH
OUT SPH, R16              ;
LDI R16, LOW(RAMEND)     ;load SPL
OUT SPL, R16
```

- Theoretically, RAMEND can be replaced by any number  $< 0x21FF$
- Careful: Changing SP will cause losing the top of the stack

## ❖ To copy SP into another register:

```
IN XH, SPH                ;X = SP
IN XL, SPL                ;
```

# PUSH

- ❖ Creates data on the top of the stack
- ❖ Data is added to RAMEND, going backward towards RAM start
- ❖ SP is decremented by the number of bytes PUSHed into the stack
  - PUSH operates on registers => 1 byte pushed (decrements by 1)
  - Data is stored
  - SP is decremented (post-decrement)
- ❖ Format:     PUSH Rm                     ;Mem[SP-] = Rm

# POP

- ❖ Removes data from the top of the stack
- ❖ Last in, first out
- ❖ Data is removed, going forward towards RAMEND
- ❖ SP is incremented by the number of bytes POPed from the stack
  - PUSH operates on registers => 1 byte POP (increment by 1)
  - SP is incremented (pre-increment)
  - Then the data is removed first
- ❖ Format:     POP   Rm                    ; Rm = Mem[+SP]

# LIFO

- ❖ Stack is a temporary storage
  - Everything pushed into the stack must be removed
- ❖ Last in First Out
- ❖ When using PUSH and POP: POP in reverse order to PUSH

# Coding Example 1/2

```

LDI R16, 16      ;0x10
LDI R17, 17      ;0x11
LDI R18, 18      ;0x12
LDI R19, 19      ;0x13
                  ;SP=0x21FF
                  ;0x21F0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
PUSH R16          ;SP=0x21FE
                  ;0x21F0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 10
PUSH R17          ;SP=0x21FD
                  ;0x21F0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 11 10
PUSH R18          ;SP=0x21FC
                  ;0x21F0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 12 11 10
PUSH R19          ;SP=0x21FB
                  ;0x21F0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 13 12 11 10

```



# Coding Example 2/2

PUSH R16	;mem[0x21FF] = 0x10
PUSH R17	;mem[0x21FE] = 0x11
PUSH R18	;mem[0x21FD] = 0x12
PUSH R19	;mem[0x21FC] = 0x13
	;0x21F0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 13 12 11 10
	;SP= 0x21FB
POP R16	;SP= 0x21FC , R16=0x13
POP R17	;SP= 0x21FD , R17=0x12
POP R18	;SP= 0x21FE , R18=0x11
POP R19	;SP= 0x21FF , R19=0x10

# Coding Exercise

- ❖ Xarr is stored in the data memory. Write a program to reverse the order of array values in Xarr without using the stack and using the stack. Assume the length of the array is stored in len.