# [Chap.3-5] Machine-level Representation of Programs

Young Ik Eom (yieom@skku.edu, 031-290-7120)

Distributing Computing Laboratory

Sungkyunkwan University

http://dclab.skku.ac.kr





## Contents

- **■** Introduction
- **■** Program encodings
- Data formats
- Intel processors
- Accessing information
- Primitive instructions
- Data movement instructions
- **■** Arithmetic and logic instructions
- Control instructions
- Procedures
- **...**



### Procedure call

- Handled by manipulating program stack
  - Control transfer
  - ullet Passing of data (parameters and return value) u
  - Allocating space for local variables (on entry/call) and deallocating them (on exit/return)
  - Saving some register values √
  - Saving return address \( \lambda \)



### **■** Procedure call

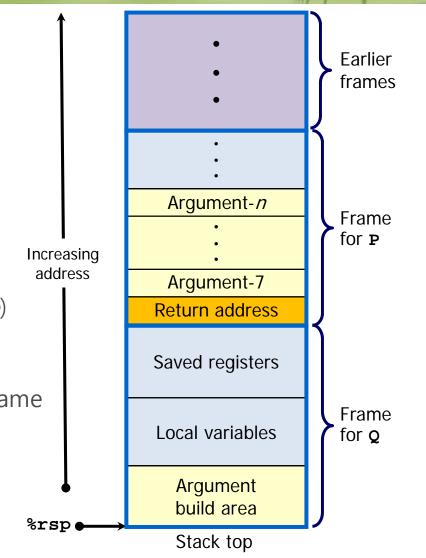
- Stack frame
  - The portion of the stack allocated for a single procedure call
  - Stack pointer (**%rsp**)
    - ✓ Moves while the procedure is executing

### Procedure call

- Stack frame
  - When P calls Q

nH ols钟 -> stack

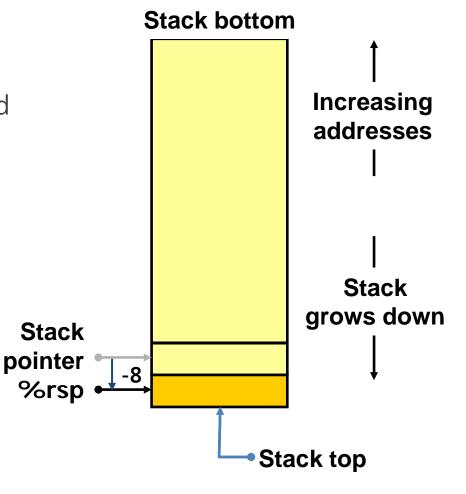
- ✓ The arguments to Q are stored in some registers and P's stack frame
- ✓ The return address is pushed onto the stack (forming the end of P's stack frame)
- ✓ Q's stack frame starts with some register values that should be saved in the Q's frame
- ✓ Some local variables of Q are followed in the Q's frame





### Pushing onto the stack

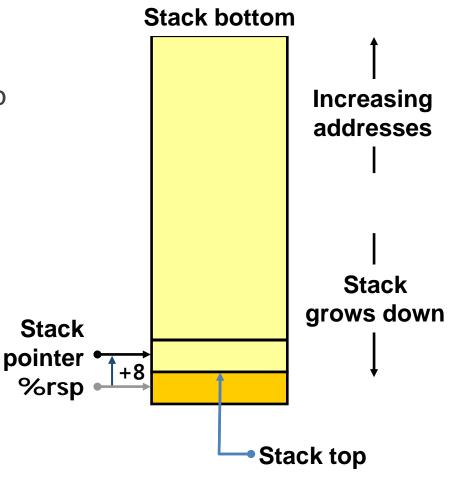
- pushq src
  - Decrement %rsp by 8
  - Fetch operand at src and write it at address given by %rsp





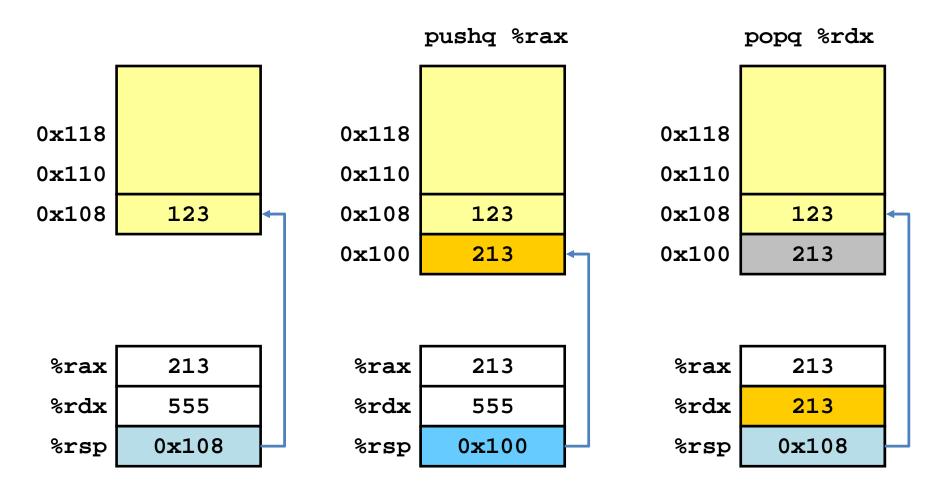
### **■** Popping off the stack

- popq dst
  - Read operand at address given by %rsp and write to dst
  - Increment %rsp by 8





### ■ Stack operation example





### **■** Transferring control

- call instruction
  - Pushes a return address onto the stack and jumps to the target
    - ✓ Direct call
      - · Target as a label
    - ✓ Indirect call
      - Target given by a \* followed by an operand specifier

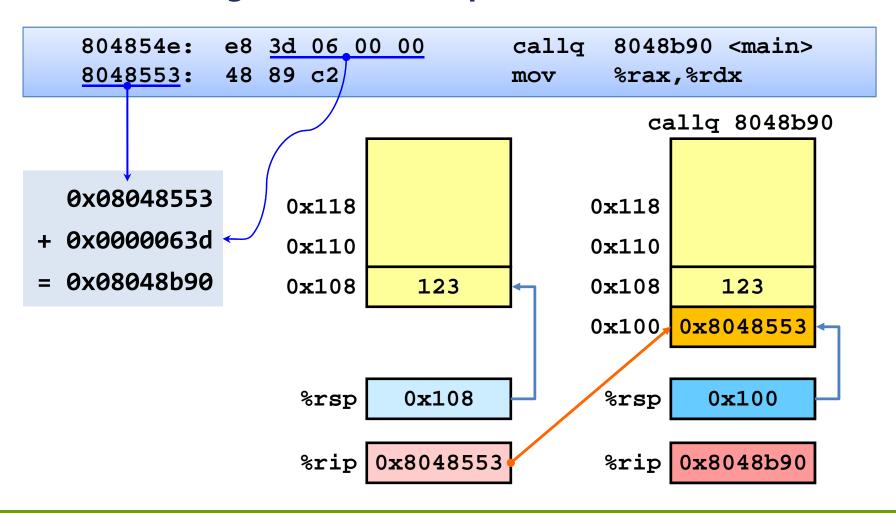
Instruction		Description		
call	Label	Procedure call		
call	*Operand	Procedure call		
ret		Return from call		

### • ret instruction

Pops an address off the stack and jumps to the location

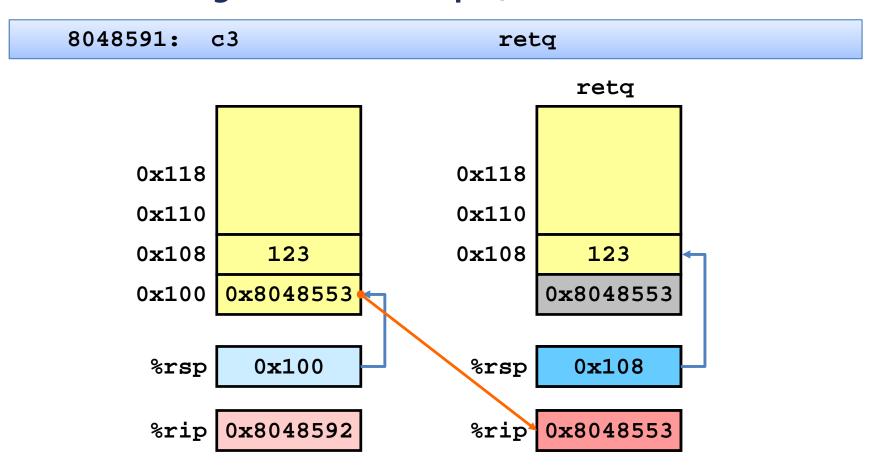


**■** Transferring control: Example) call



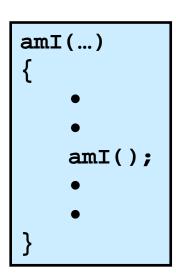


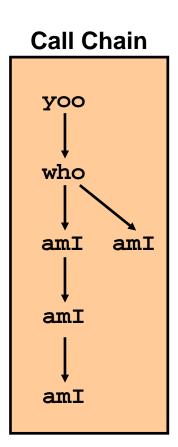
**■** Transferring control: Example) return





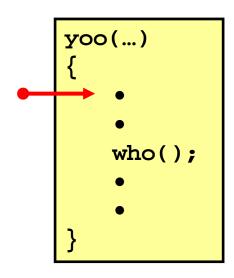
**Code structure** 





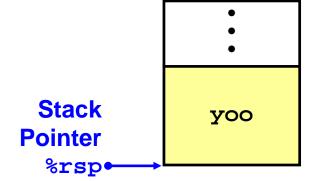


■ Example) Stack frame

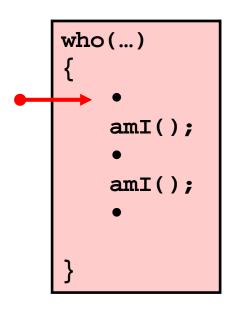


### **Call Chain**

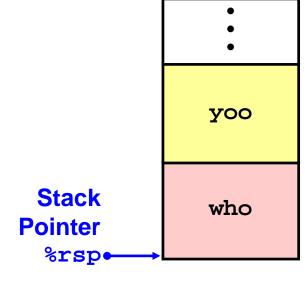
yoo





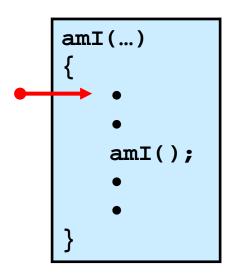




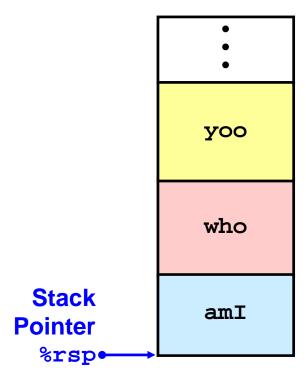




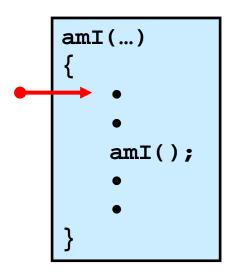
### **■** Example) Stack frame

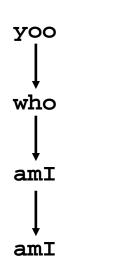


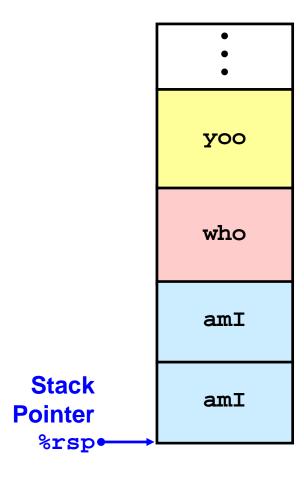




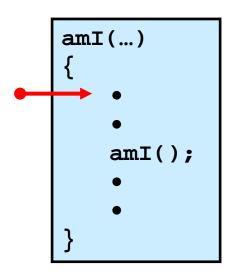




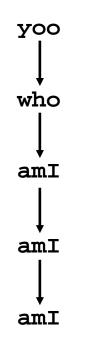


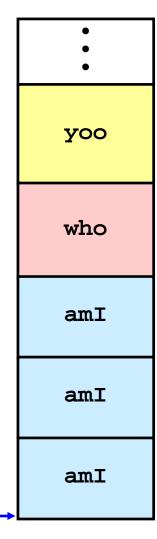






### **Call Chain**



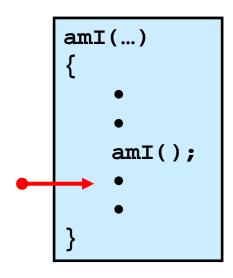


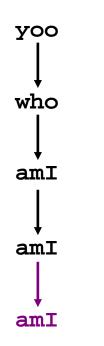
**Stack** 

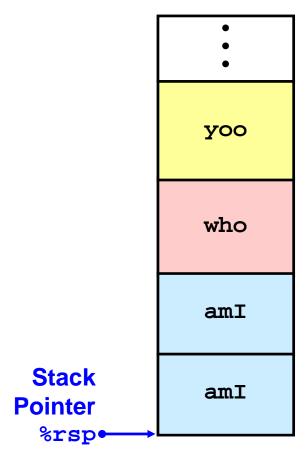
%rsp•

**Pointer** 



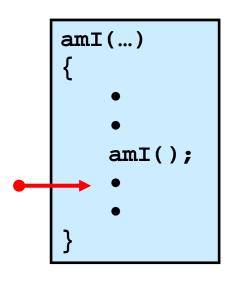


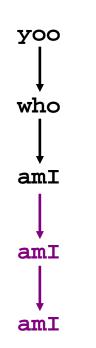


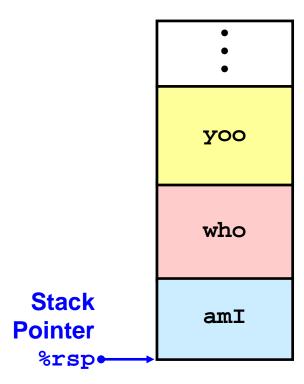




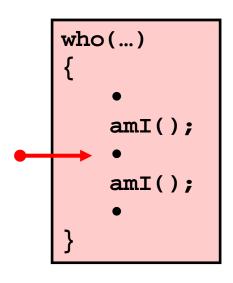
**■** Example) Stack frame



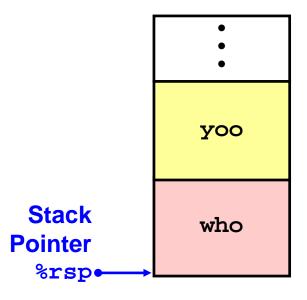






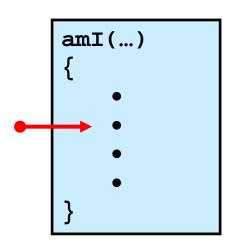


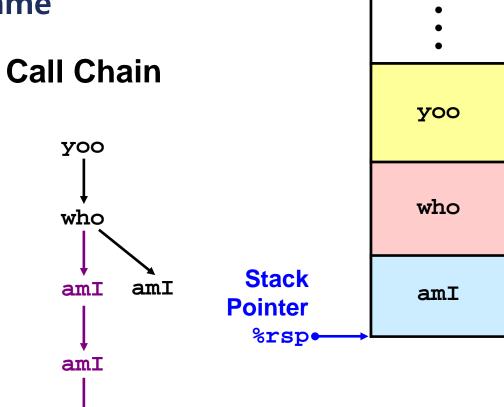






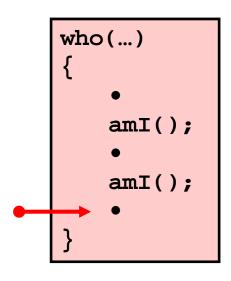
**■ Example) Stack frame** 

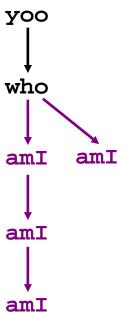


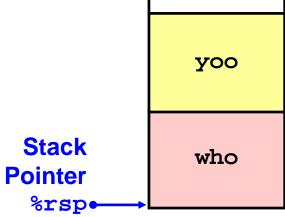


amI

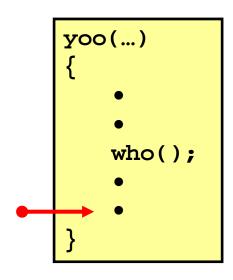


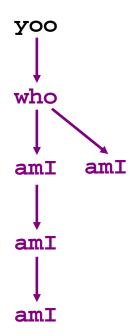


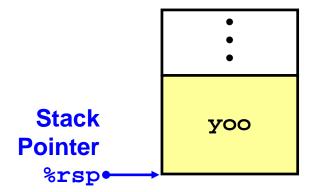




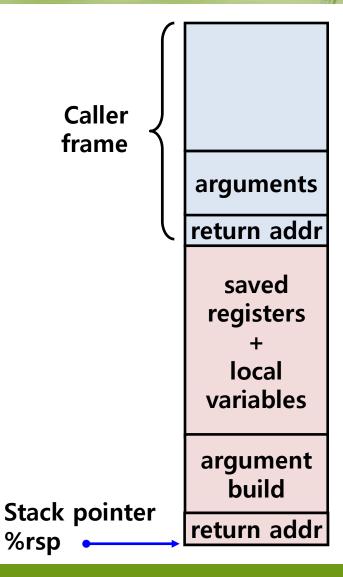








■ Stack frame revisited





### Data transfer

- Most of data passing to and from procedures take place via registers
  - With x86-64, up to 6 integral (i.e., integer and pointer) arguments can be passed via registers
- When a function has more than 6 integral arguments, the other ones are passed on the stack
- Return values are passed through the register %rax



### **■** Data transfer

- Argument passing by registers
  - ✓ Up to first 6 integral arguments

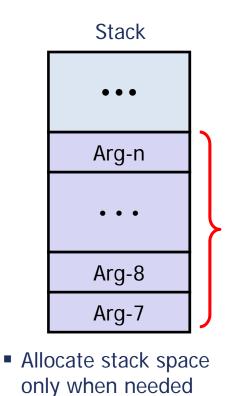
Operand	Argument Number						
size (bits)	1	2	3	4	5	6	
64	%rdi	%rsi	%rdx	%rcx	%r8	%r9	
32	%edi	%esi	%edx	%ecx	%r8d	%r9d	
16	%di	%si	%dx	%cx	%r8w	%r9w	
8	%dil	%sil	%dl	%cl	%r8b	%r9b	



### ■ Data transfer

- For more than 6 integral arguments
  - Argument passing on the stack

# \*rdi Arg-1 %rsi Arg-2 %rdx Arg-3 %rcx Arg-4 %r8 Arg-5 %r9 Arg-6 Return value %rax



### Data transfer

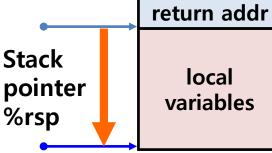
Example) Argument passing

```
void proc(long a1, long *a1p,
                                   in %rdi
                                            (64 bits)
                               a1
                               alp in %rsi (64 bits)
         int a2, int *a2p,
         short a3, short *a3p,
                               a2
                                   in %edx (32 bits)
         char a4, char *a4p)
                               a2p in %rcx (64 bits)
                               a3
                                   in %r8w (16 bits)
   *alp += al;
                               a3p in %r9 (64 bits)
                                   at %rsp+8 (8 bits)
  *a2p += a2;
                               a4
  *a3p += a3;
                               a4p at %rsp+16 (64 bits)
   *a4p += a4;
              proc:
                      %rdi,(%rsi)
                                   # *a1p += a1 (64 bits)
                addq
                addl
                      %edx,(%rcx)
                                   \# *a2p += a2 (32 bits)
                addw
                      %r8w,(%r9)
                                   # *a3p += a3 (16 bits)
                      16(%rsp),%rax # Fetch a4p (64 bits)
               mova
                      8(%rsp),%dl # Fetch a4 (8 bits)
               movb
                addb
                      %dl,(%rax)
                                   # *a4p += a4 (8 bits)
                ret
```



- Generally, local data are stored in processor registers
- But, there are some cases that local data should be stored in memory
  - When there are not enough registers to hold all of the local data
  - When the address operator & is applied to a local variable
    - ✓ Address of the local data must be generated
  - When some of the local variables are arrays or structures

 A procedure allocates space on the stack frame by decrementing the stack pointer





### ■ Local storage on the stack

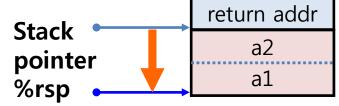
Example)

```
long s_add(long *xp, long *yp)
{
    long x = *xp;
    long y = *yp;
    *xp = y;
    *yp = x;
    return x + y;
}

long caller()
{
    long all = 524;
```

```
long caller()
{
   long al = 534;
   long a2 = 1057;
   long sum = s_add(&al, &a2);
   long diff = al - a2;
   return sum * diff;
}
```

```
long caller()
caller:
subq $16,%rsp
                    Allocate 16 bytes for stack frame
movq $534,(%rsp) Store 534 in a1
movq $1057,8(%rsp) Store 1057 in a2
leaq 8(%rsp), %rsi Compute &a2 as second argument
movq %rsp,%rdi
                    Compute &al as first argument
call s add
                  Call s add(&a1,&a2)
movq (%rsp),%rdx Get al
 subq 8(%rsp),%rdx Compute diff = a1 - a2
                    Compute sum * diff
 imulg %rdx,%rax
addq $16,%rsp
                    Deallocate stack frame
ret
                    Return
```





- Register usage conventions
  - When one procedure (the caller) calls another (the callee), the callee may not overwrite some register values that the caller planned to use later
- Example) When yoo() calls who()
  - How about register %rdx ?

```
yoo:

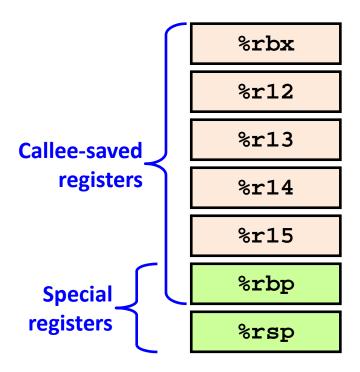
movl $15213,%edx
call who
addq %rdx,%rax

ret
```



### ■ Local storage in registers

- Register usage conventions
  - Callee-saved registers
    - ✓ Callee must save these registers before using them and restore them before returning
    - √ %rbx, %rbp, %r12~%r15
  - Special (callee-saved) register
     ✓ %rsp





### **■** Local storage in registers

- Register usage conventions
  - Caller-saved registers
    - ✓ All other registers
    - ✓ Callee can use (overwrite) these registers with no limitation
    - ✓ Caller must save these registers before calling another function

%rax value %rdi %rsi %rdx Args **Caller-saved** %rcx registers %r8 %r9 %r10 %r11

Return



### **■** Local storage in registers

Example)

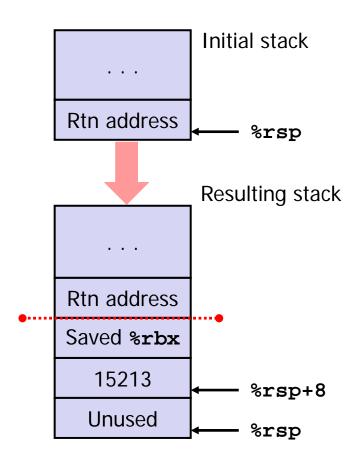
```
long P(long x, long y)
{
    long u = Q(y);
    long v = Q(x);
    return u + v;
}
```

```
Stack pointer %rbp %rbx
```

```
long P(long x, long y)
  x in %rdi, y in %rsi
P:
  pushq %rbp Save %rbp
  pushq %rbx Save %rbx
  subq $8,%rsp
                   Align stack frame
  movq %rdi, %rbp Save x
  movq %rsi,%rdi
                   Move y to first argument
  call 0
                   Call Q(y)
  movq %rax, %rbx
                   Save result
  movq %rbp, %rdi Move x to first argument
  call Q
                   Call O(x)
  addq %rbx,%rax
                   Add saved Q(y) to Q(x)
  addq $8,%rsp
                   Deallocate last part of stack
  popq %rbx
                 Restore %rbx
  popq %rbp
                   Restore %rbp
  ret
```

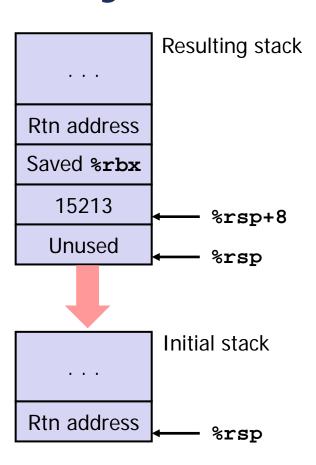


```
long call_incr2(long x) {
   long v1 = 15213;
   long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);
   return x + v2;
call incr2:
  pushq
          %rbx
  subq $16,%rsp
  movq %rdi,%rbx
  movq $15213,8(%rsp)
  movl
       $3000,%esi
  leaq
       8(%rsp),%rdi
  call
        incr
  addq
       %rbx,%rax
       $16,%rsp
  addq
          %rbx
  popq
  ret
```



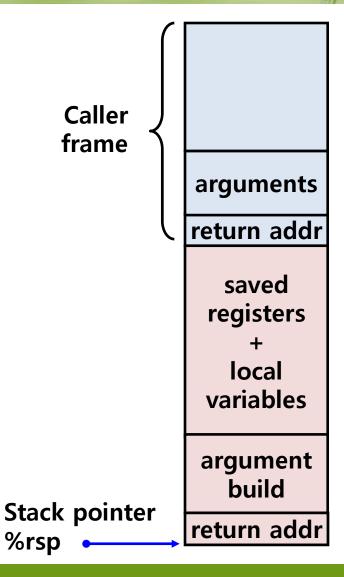
### Example) Local data and register saving

```
long call_incr2(long x) {
   long v1 = 15213;
   long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);
   return x + v2;
call incr2:
  pushq
          %rbx
  subq $16,%rsp
  movq %rdi,%rbx
  movq $15213,8(%rsp)
  movl $3000, %esi
       8(%rsp),%rdi
  leaq
  call
        incr
  addq %rbx,%rax
  addq $16,%rsp
       %rbx
  popq
```



ret

■ Stack frame revisited



# Summary

