This Softwarteme Security

By investigating Buffer overflows

and other memory safety vulnerabilities

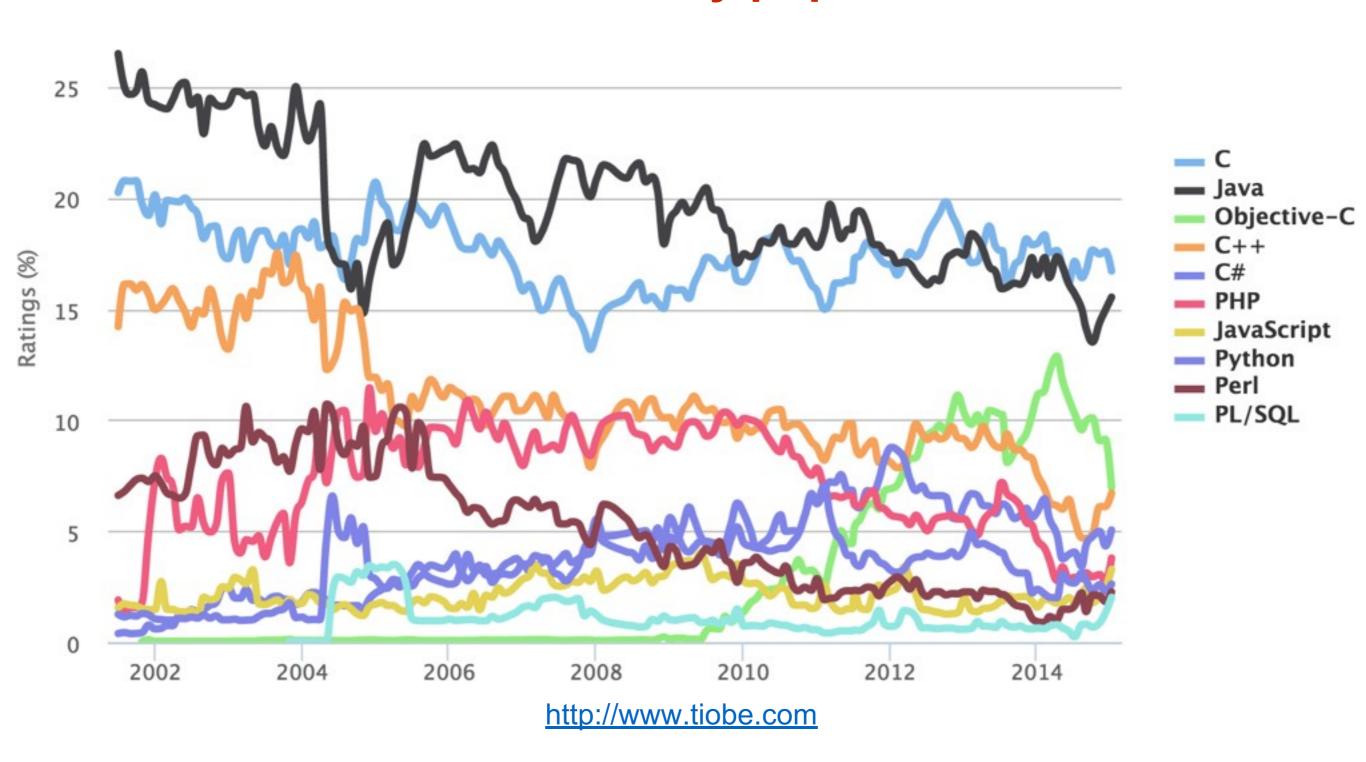
- History
- Memory layouts
- Buffer overflow fundamentals

Software

- · Securification Secu
 - Does the code do "what it should"
 - To this end, we follow the software lifecycle
- Distinguishing factor: an active, malicious attacker
- Attack model
 - The developer is trusted
 - But the attacker can provide any inputs
 - Malformed strings
 - Malformed packets
 - etc.

What harm could an attacker possibly cause?

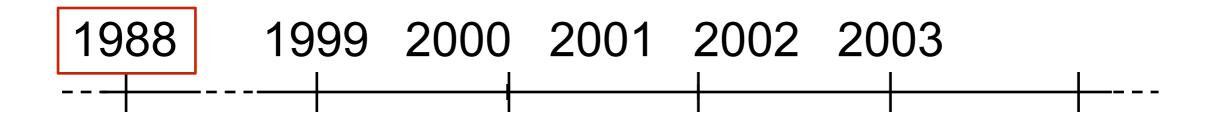
C is still very popular



Many mission critical systems are written in C

- Most kernels & OS utilities
 - fingerd
 - X windows server
- Many high-performance servers
 - Microsoft IIS
 - Microsoft SQL server
- Many embedded systems
 - Mars rover
- But the techniques apply more broadly
 - Wiibrew: "Twilight Hack" exploits buffer overflow when saving the name of Link's horse, Epona

The harm can be substantial



Morris worm

- Propagated across machines (too aggressively, thanks to a bug)
- One way it propagated was a buffer overflow attack against a vulnerable version of fingerd on VAXes
 - Sent a special string to the finger daemon, which caused it to execute code that created a new worm copy
 - Didn't check OS: caused Suns running BSD to crash
- End result: \$10-100M in damages, probation, community service

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Robert Morris is now a professor at MIT

The harm can be substantial



CodeRed

- Exploited an overflow in the MS-IIS
- server 300,000 machines infected in 14 hours

The harm can be substantial

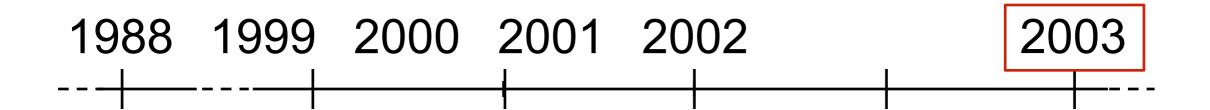


CodeRed

- Exploited an overflow in the MS-IIS
- server 300,000 machines infected in 14 hours



The harm can be substantial



- SQL
 - Slamploited an overflow in the MS-SQL
 - server 75,000 machines infected in 10 minutes

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23-Year-Old X11 Server Security Vulnerability Discovered

Posted by **Unknown Lamer** on Wednesday January 08, 2014 @10:11, from the stack-smashing-for-fun-and-profit dept.

An anonymous reader writes

"The recent report of X11/X.Org security in bad shape rings more truth today. The X.Org Foundation announced today that they've found a X11 security issue that dates back to 1991. The issue is a possible stack buffer overflow that could lead to privilege escalation to root and affects all versions of the X Server back to X11R5. After the vulnerability being in the code-base for 23 years, it was finally uncovered via the automated cppcheck static analysis utility."

There's a scanf used when loading <u>BDF fonts</u> that can overflow using a carefully crafted font. Watch out for those obsolete early-90s bitmap fonts.

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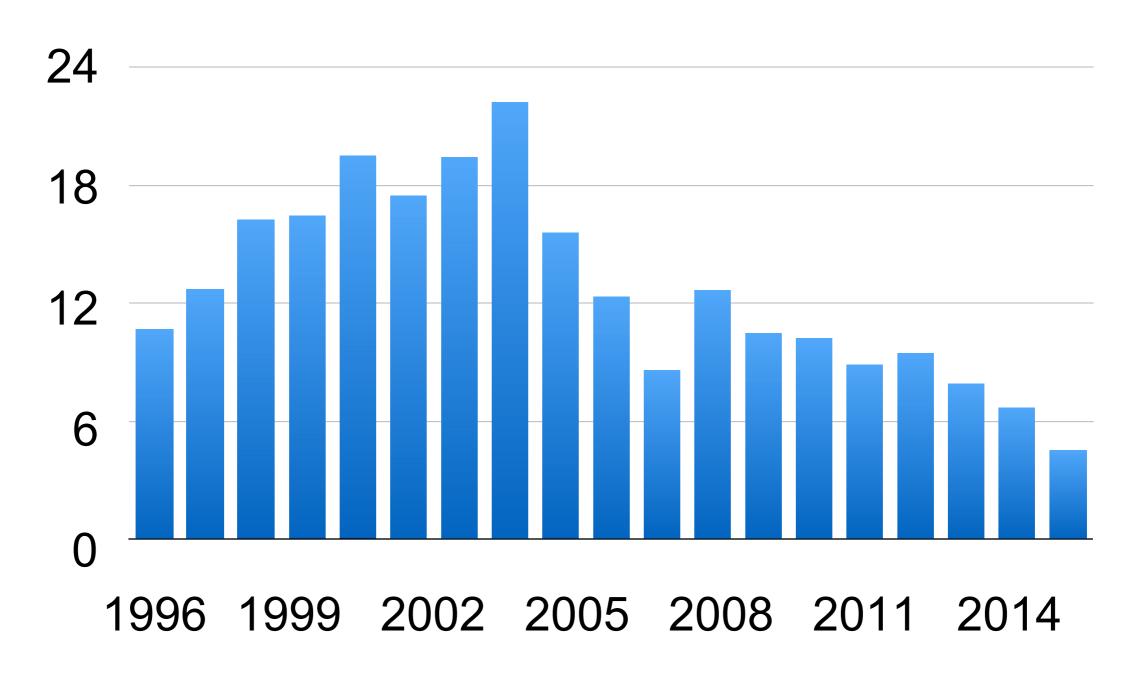
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There's a scanf used when loading <u>BDF fonts</u> that can overflow using a carefully crafted font. Watch out for those obsolete early-90s bitmap fonts.

GHOST: glibc vulnerability introduced in 2000, only just announced two days ago

Buffer overflows are prevalent

Percent of all vulnerabilities



http://web.nvd.nist.gov/view/vuln/statistics

Buffer overflows are prevalent

Total number of buffer overflow

vulnerabilities 900

675

450

225

19961999 2002 2005 2008 2011 2014

http://web.nvd.nist.gov/view/vuln/statistics

Brief Listing of the Top 25

This is a brief listing of the Top 25 items, using the general ranking.

NOTE: 16 other weaknesses were considered for inclusion in the Top 25, but their general scores were not high enough. They are listed in a separate "On the Cusp" page.

Rank	Score	ID	Name
[1]	93.8	<u>CWE-</u> 89	Improper Neutralization of Special Elements used in an SQL Command ('SQL Injection')
[2]	83.3	<u>CWE-</u> 78	Improper Neutralization of Special Elements used in an OS Command ('OS Command Injection')
[3]	79.0	<u>CWE-</u> 120	Buffer Copy without Checking Size of Input ('Classic Buffer Overflow')
[4]	77.7	<u>CWE-</u> 79	Improper Neutralization of Input During Web Page Generation ('Cross-site Scripting')
[5]	76.9	<u>CWE-</u> 306	Missing Authentication for Critical Function
[6]	76.8	<u>CWE-</u> 862	Missing Authorization
[7]	75.0	<u>CWE-</u> 798	Use of Hard-coded Credentials
[8]	75.0	<u>CWE-</u> 311	Missing Encryption of Sensitive Data
[9]	74.0	<u>CWE-</u> 434	Unrestricted Upload of File with Dangerous Type
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E-voting

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Later

This class Later

E-voting

Later

Our goals

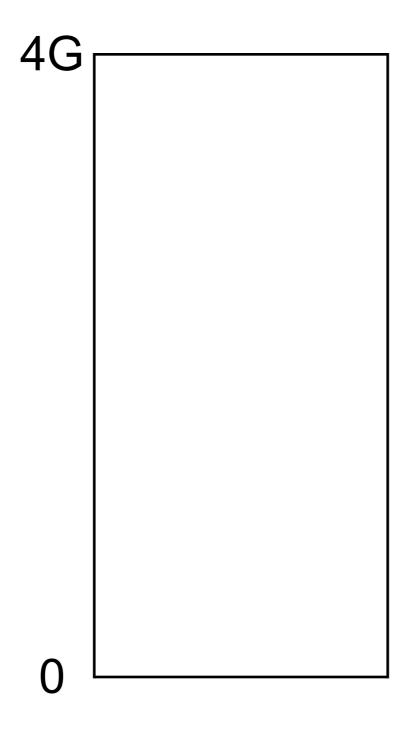
- Understand how these attacks work, and how to defend against them
- These require knowledge about:
 - The compiler
 - The OS
 - The architecture

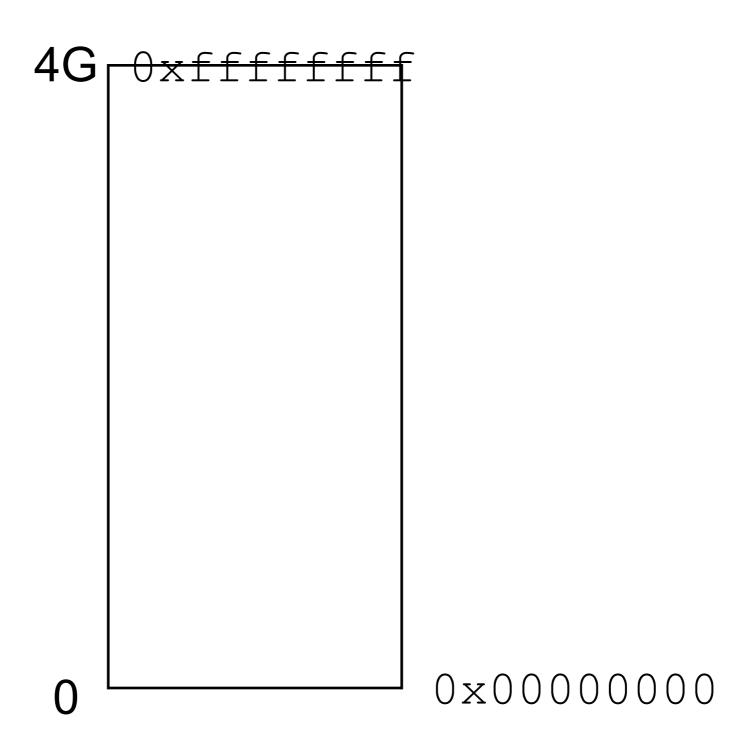
Analyzing security requires a whole-systems view

Memory layout

Refreshe

- How is program data laid out in memory?
- What does the stack look like?
- What effect does calling (and returning from) a function have on memory?
- We are focusing on the Linux process model
 - Similar to other operating systems



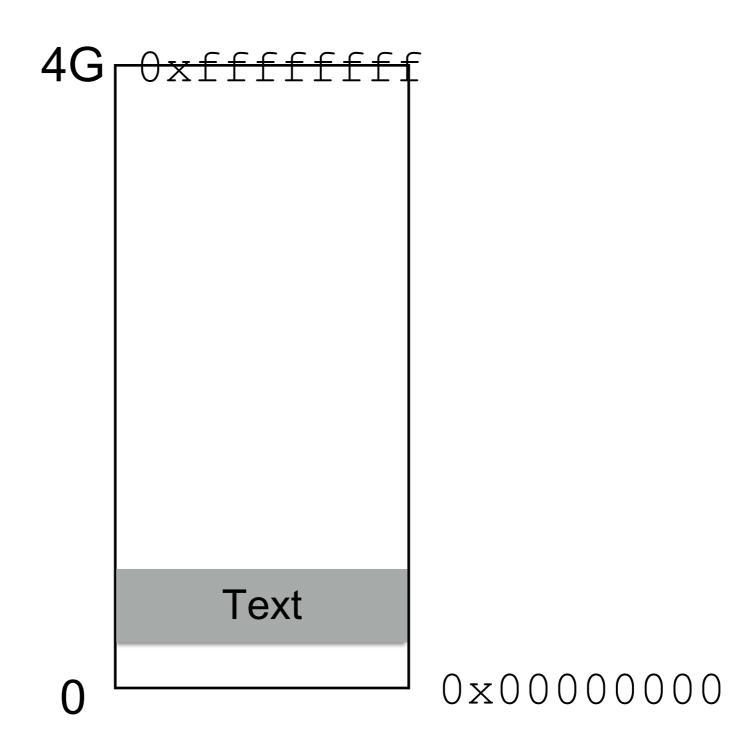


The process's view of memory is that it owns all of it $0 \times 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0$

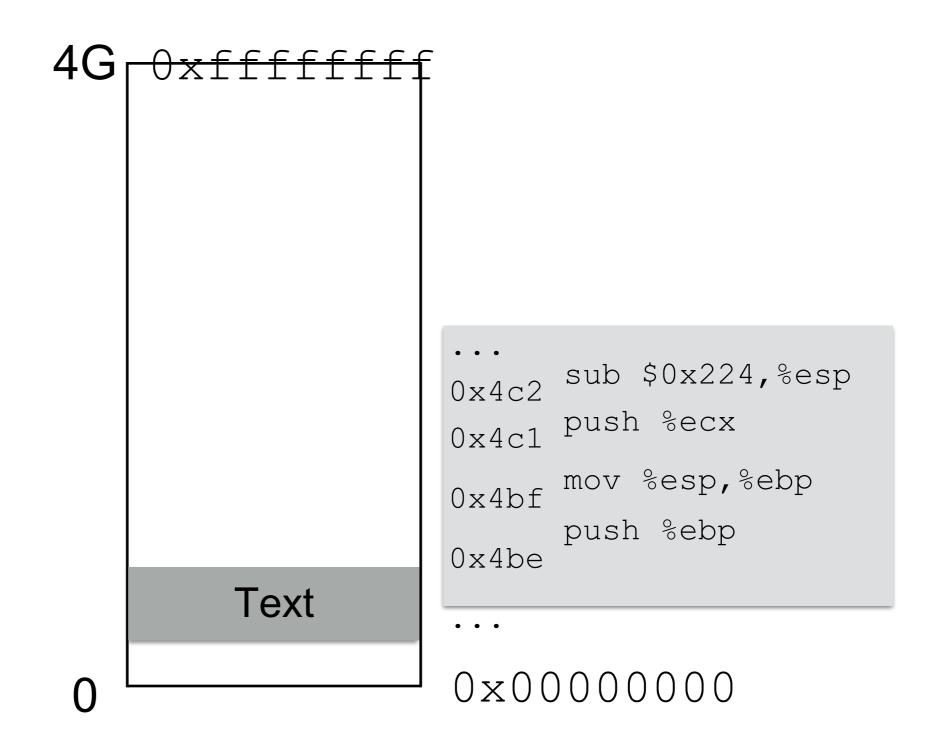
Oxfffffff

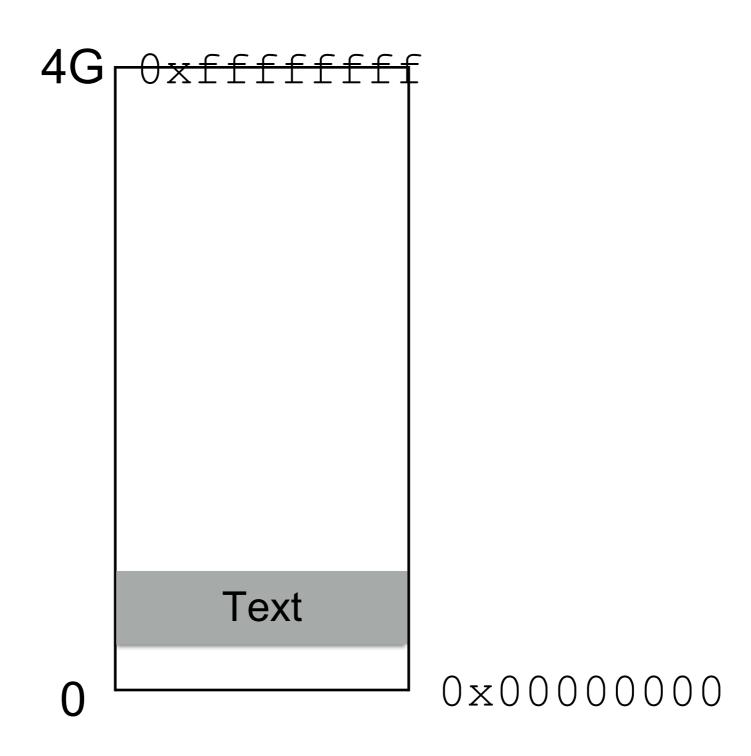
The process's In reality, these view of memory is are virtual that it owns all of addresses; the **OS/CPU** map them to physical addresses 0x0000000

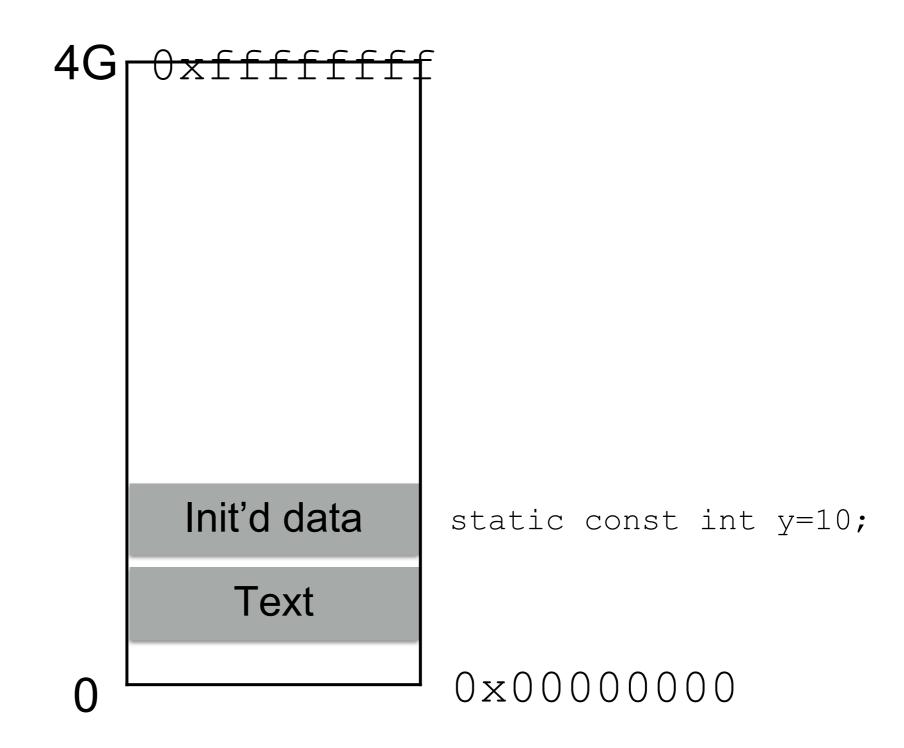
The instructions themselves are in memory

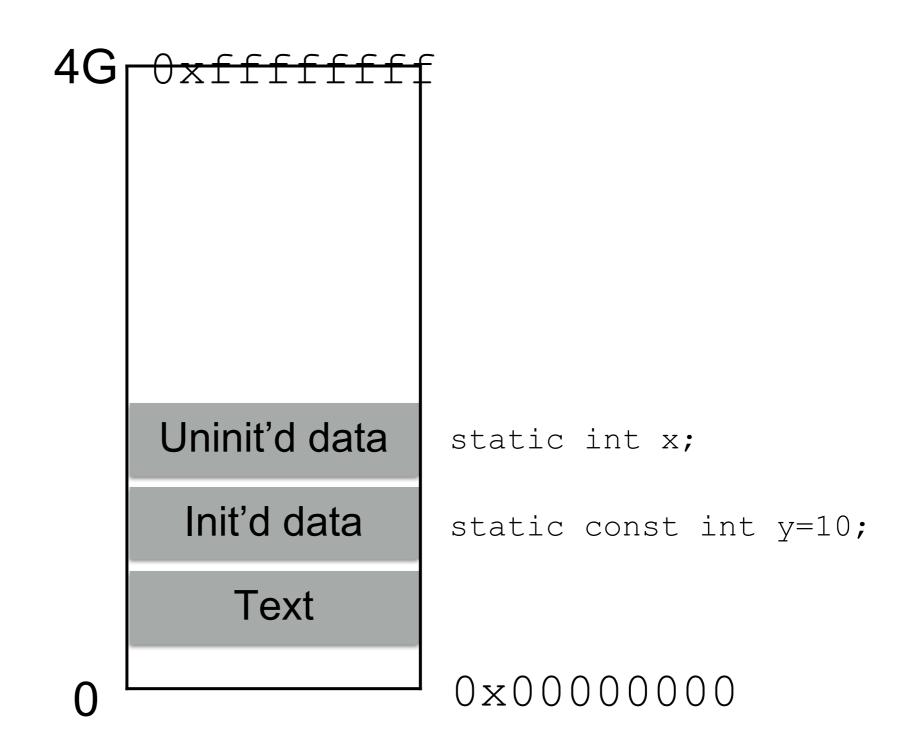


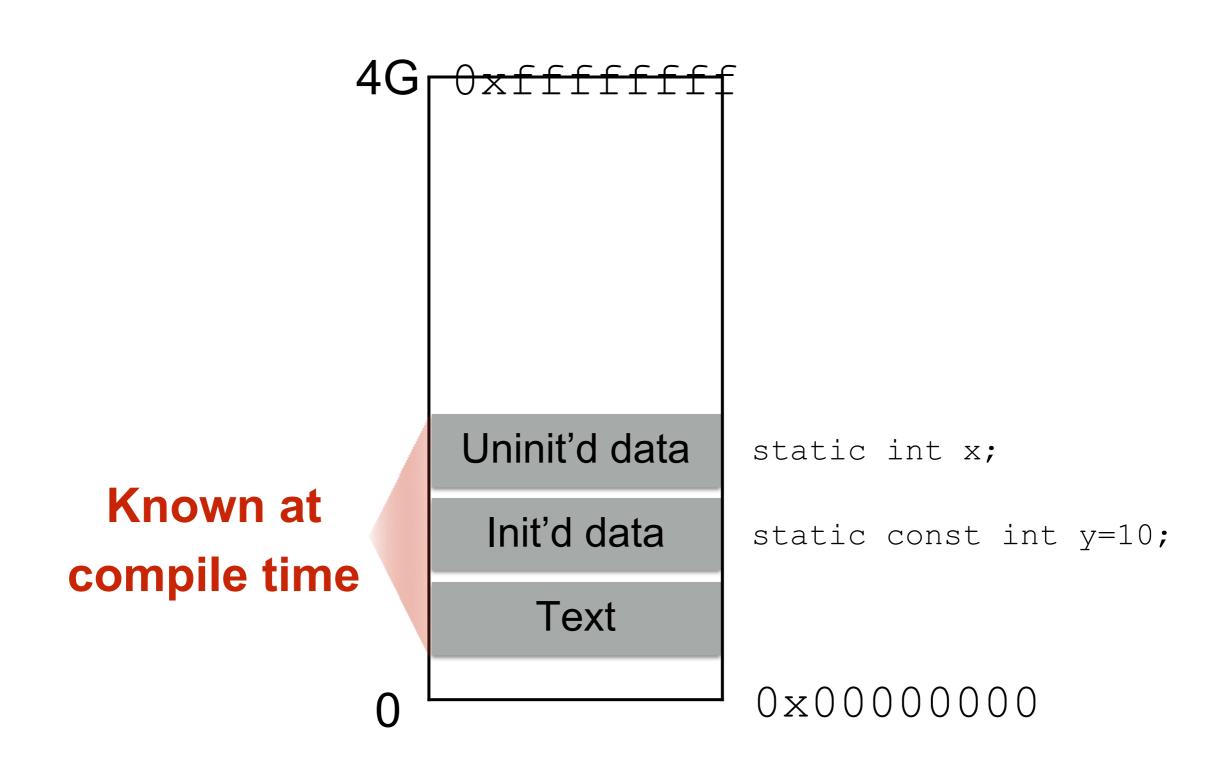
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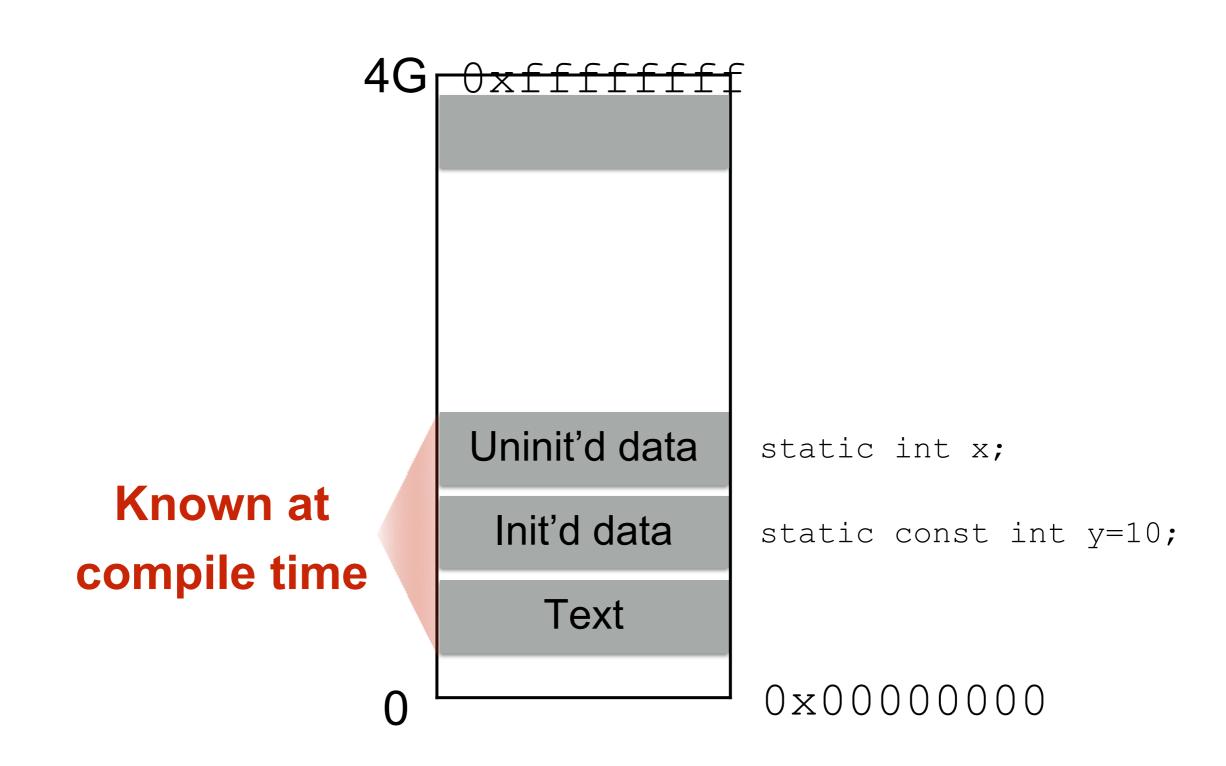


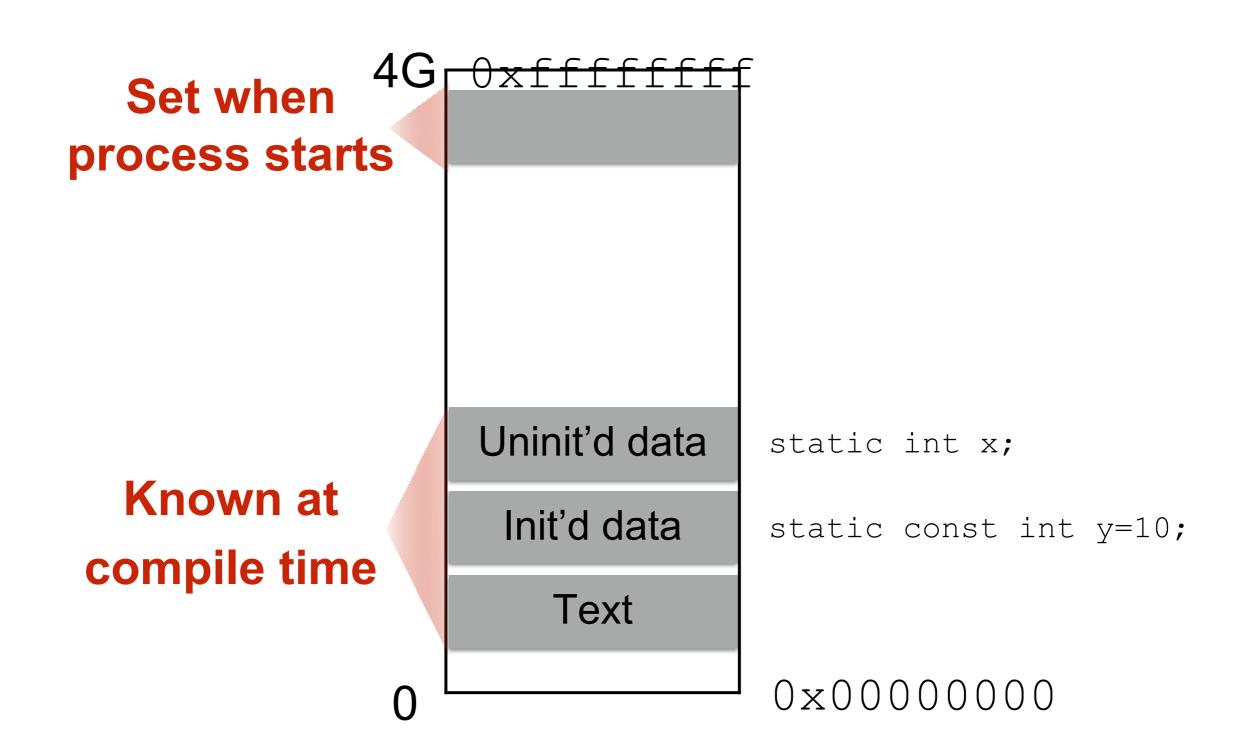


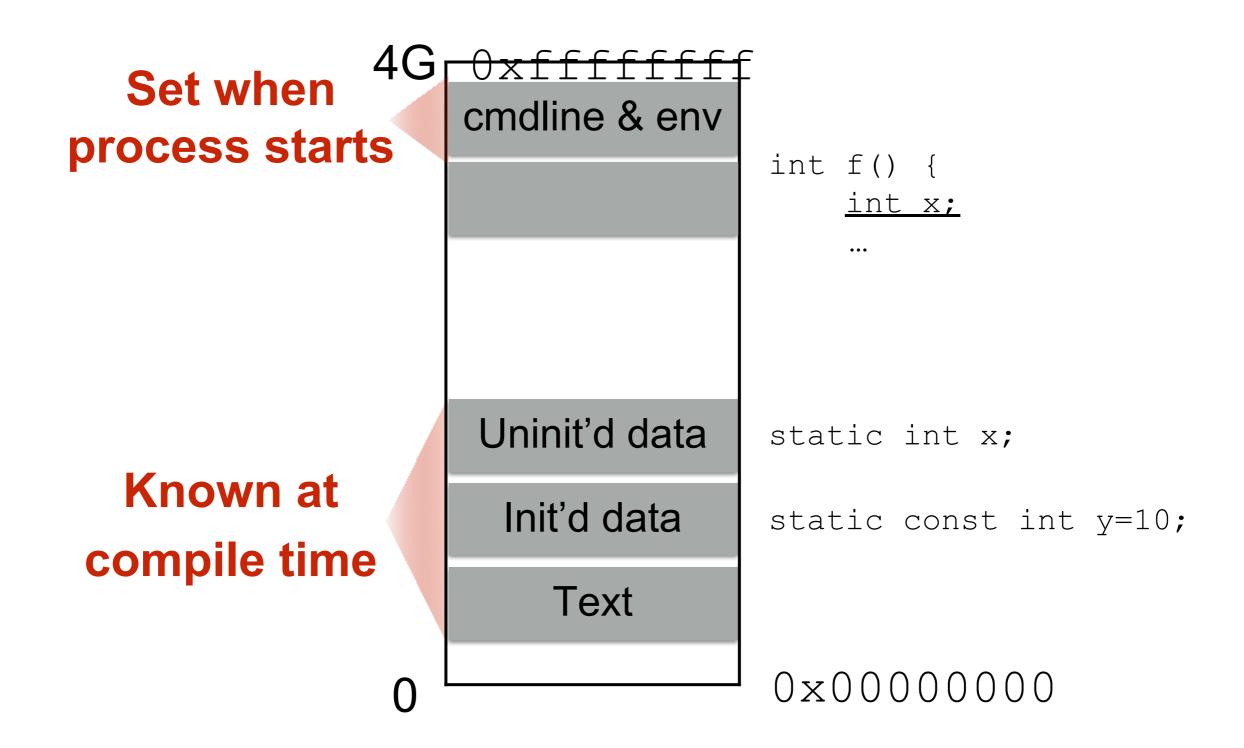












4G Set when cmdline & env process starts int f() { int x; malloc(sizeof(long)); Uninit'd data static int x; Known at Init'd data static const int y=10; compile time Text 0x0000000

4G Set when cmdline & env process starts int f() { int x; Runtime malloc(sizeof(long)); Uninit'd data static int x; Known at Init'd data static const int y=10; compile time Text 0x0000000

We are going to focus on runtime attacks

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

0x0000000

Heap

Stack

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x0000000 0xfffffff



Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x0000000 0xfffffff

Heap Stack

Stack

pointer

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

Ox0000000 Oxfffffff

Heap Stack

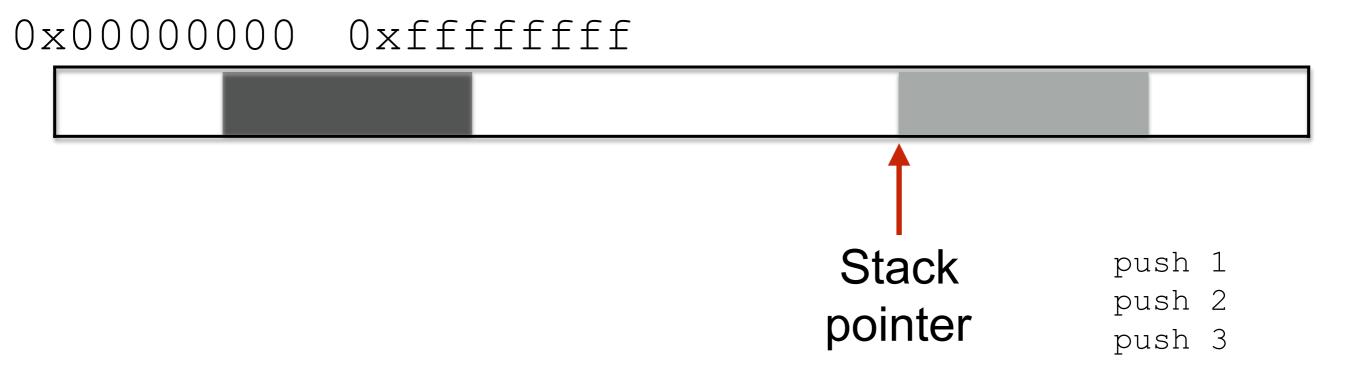
Stack

push 1

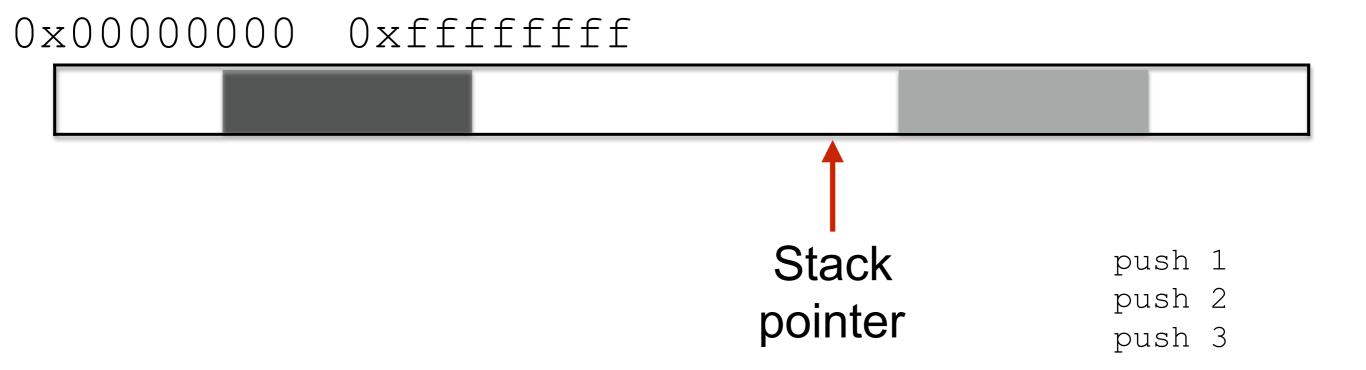
push 2

push 3

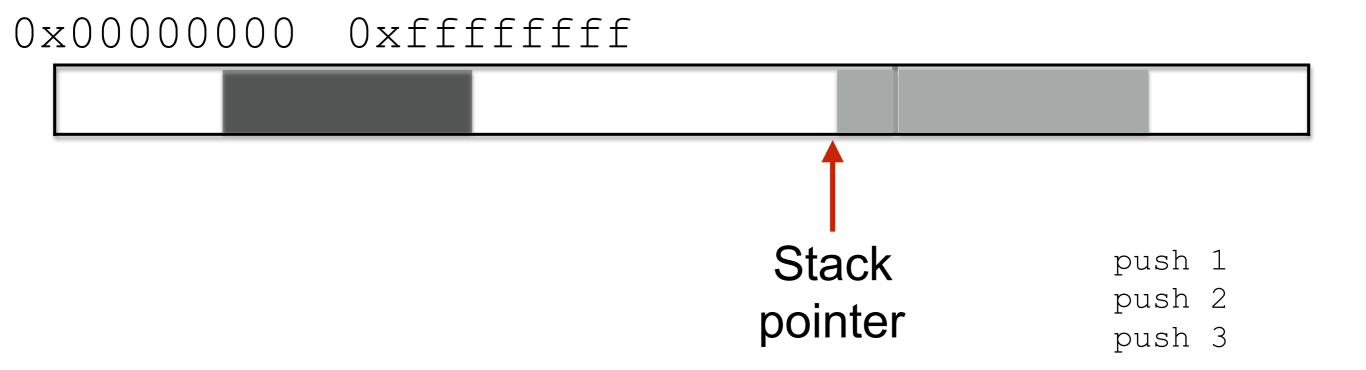
Stack and heap grow in opposite directions



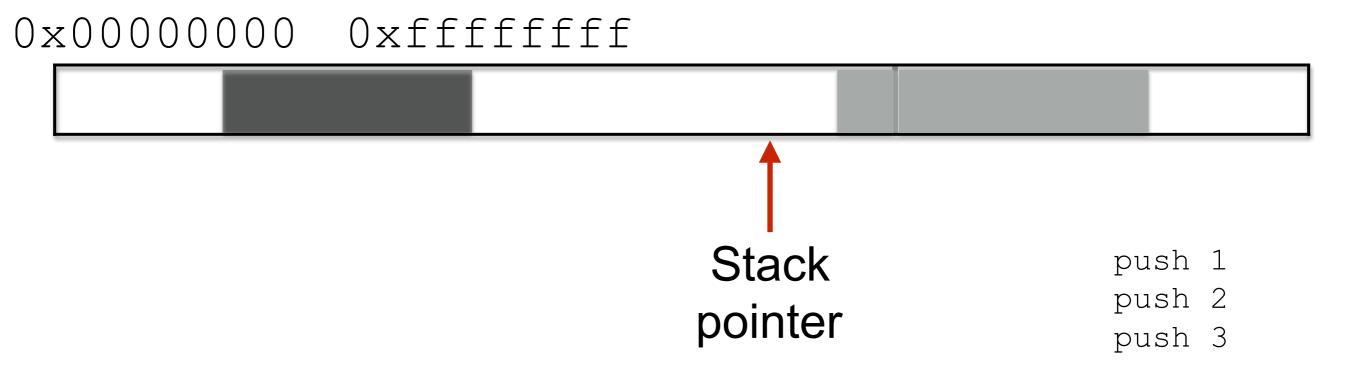
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Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

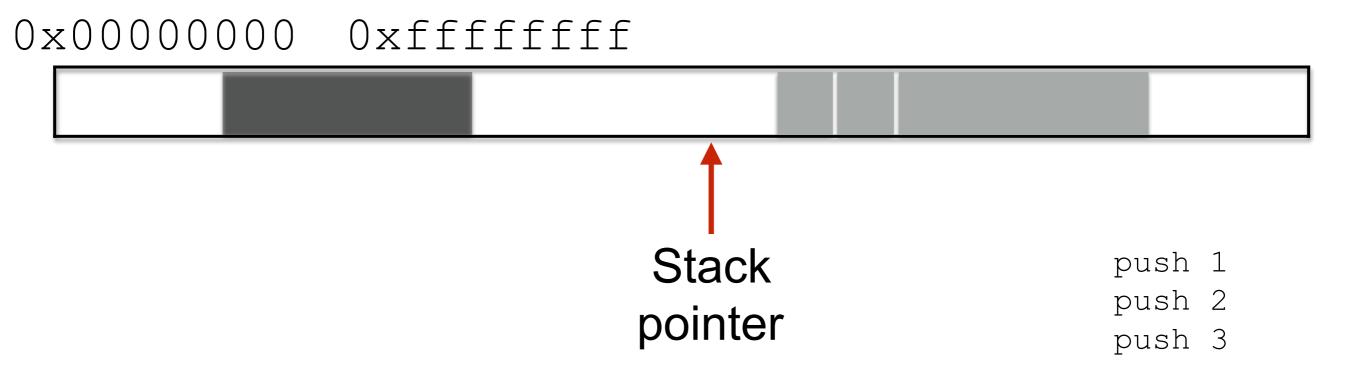


Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

```
0x0000000 0xfffffff

Stack
push 1
push 2
push 3
```

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions



Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

```
0x0000000 0xfffffff

Stack

push 1

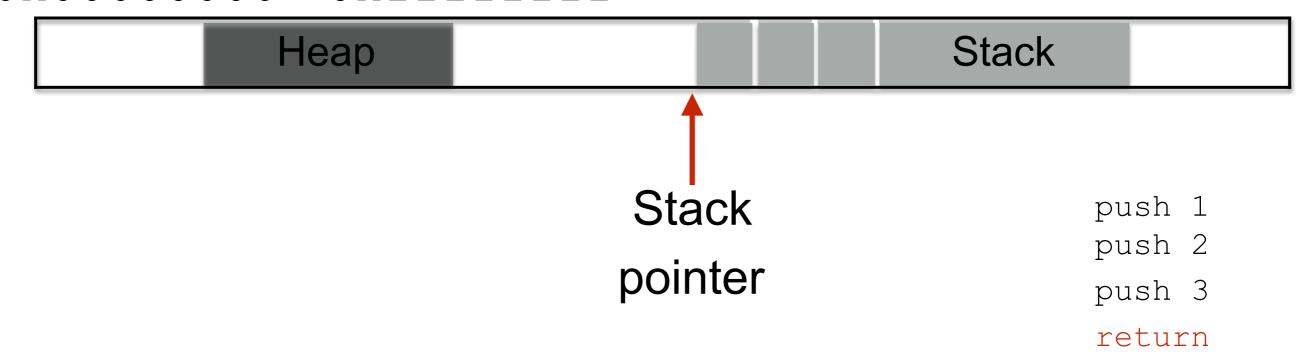
push 2

push 3
```

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

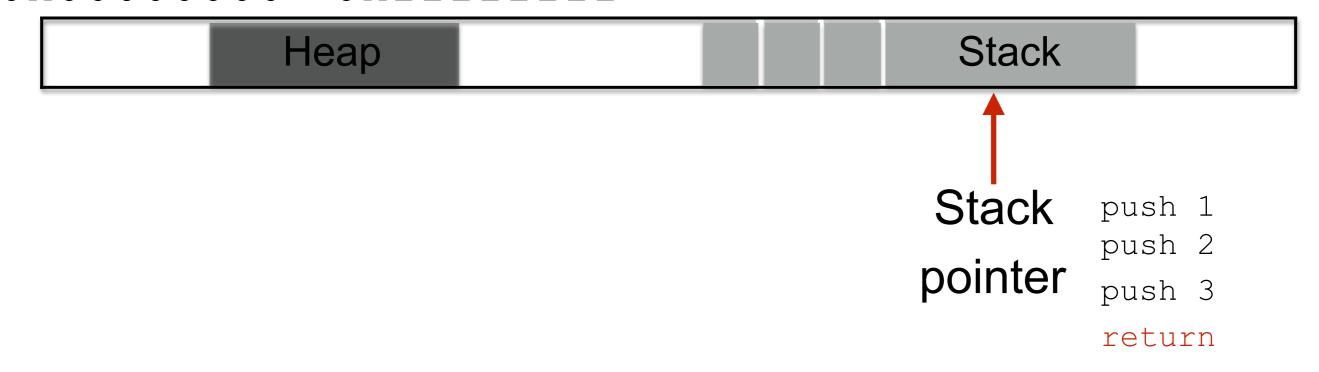
0x0000000 0xfffffff



Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x0000000 0xfffffff



Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

Heap

Stack

apportioned by the OS;

managed in-process

Stack

push 1

push 2

push 2

push 3

return

0x0000000 0xfffffff

by malloc

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x000000 0xfffffff

apportioned by the OS;
managed in-process
by malloc

Stack

push 1

push 2

push 3

return

Focusing on the stack for

- What do we do when we call a function?
 - What data need to be stored?
 - Where do they go?
- How do we return from a function?
 - What data need to be restored?
 - Where do they come from?

Code examples

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
}
```

0x0000000

0xfffffff

caller's data

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
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}
```

0x000000 0xfffffff

arg1 arg2 arg3 caller's data

Arguments
pushed in
reverse order
of code

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
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    int loc2;
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```

 $0 \times 0 0 0 0 0 0 0$

Oxfffffff

Local variables pushed in the same order as they appear in the code

Arguments
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caller's data

Local variables pushed in the same order as they appear in the code

Arguments
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```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    ...
    loc2++;
    ...
}
```

0x0000000 0xfffffff

caller's data

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    ...
    loc2++; Q: Where is (this) loc2?
}
```

0x0000000

0xfffffff

caller's data

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0x0000000

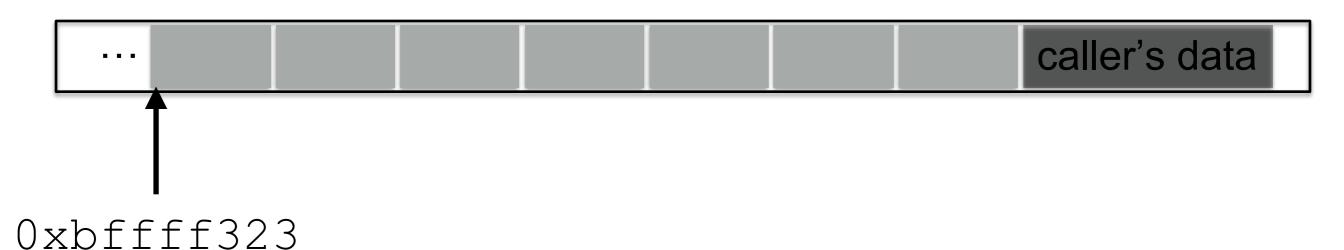
0xfffffff

```
0xbffff323
```

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
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0x0000000

0xfffffff

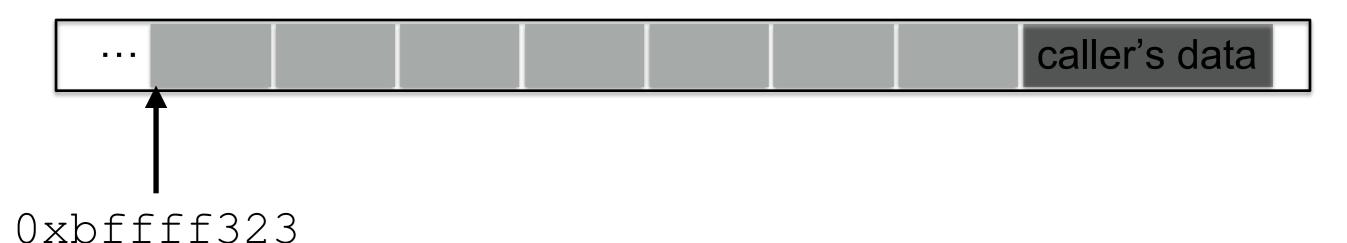


Undecidable at compile time

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0x0000000

0xfffffff



Undecidable at compile time

- I don't know where loc2 is,

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
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0x0000000

Oxfffffff

```
··· caller's data
```

0xbffff323

Undecidable at compile time

- I don't know where loc2 is,
- and I don't know how many args

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
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    ...
}
```

0x0000000

Oxfffffff

```
0xbffff323
```

Undecidable at compile time

- -I don't know where loc2 is,
- -and I don't know how many args
- -but loc2 is always 8B before "???"s

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void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
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0x0000000

Oxfffffff

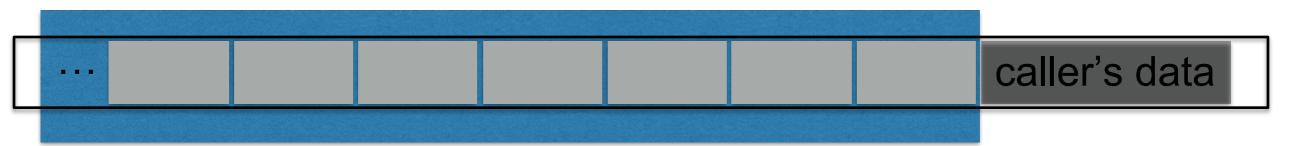
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```

0x0000000

0xfffffff



Stack frame for this call to func

- -I don't know where loc2 is,
- -and I don't know how many args
- -but loc2 is always 8B before "???"s

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
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    int loc3;
    ...
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}
```

0x0000000 0xffffffff caller's data Stack frame for this call to func %ebp Frame pointer -I don't know where loc2 is, -and I don't know how many args -but loc2 is always 8B before "???"s

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    ...
    loc2++; Q: Where is (this) loc2?
    ...
    A: -8(%ebp)
```

Ox0000000

Stack frame
%ebp for this call to func

Frame pointer

-I don't know where loc2 is,
-and I don't know how many args

-but loc2 is always 8B before "???"s

%ebp A memory address

(%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp (like dereferencing a pointer)

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0x0000000

0xfffffff

0xbfff03b8 %ebp A memory address

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0x0000000

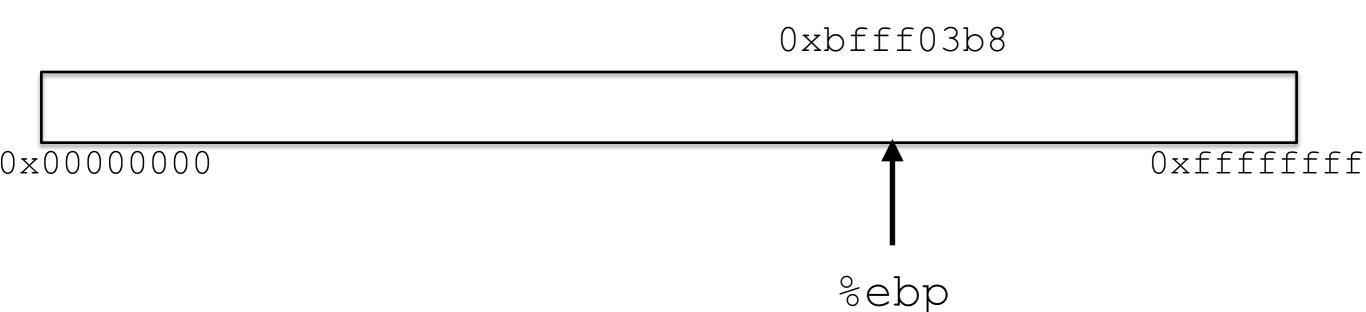
0xffffffff

0xbfff03b8

%ebp

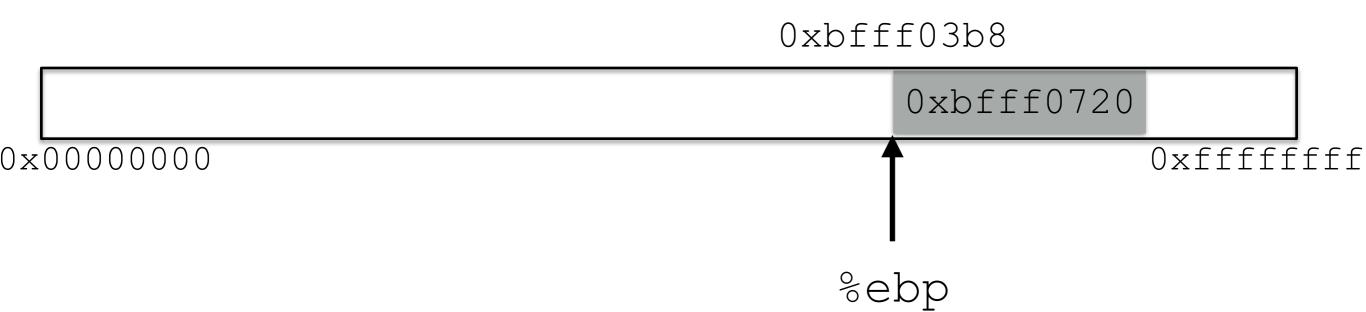
A memory address

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0xbfff03b8 %ebp A memory address

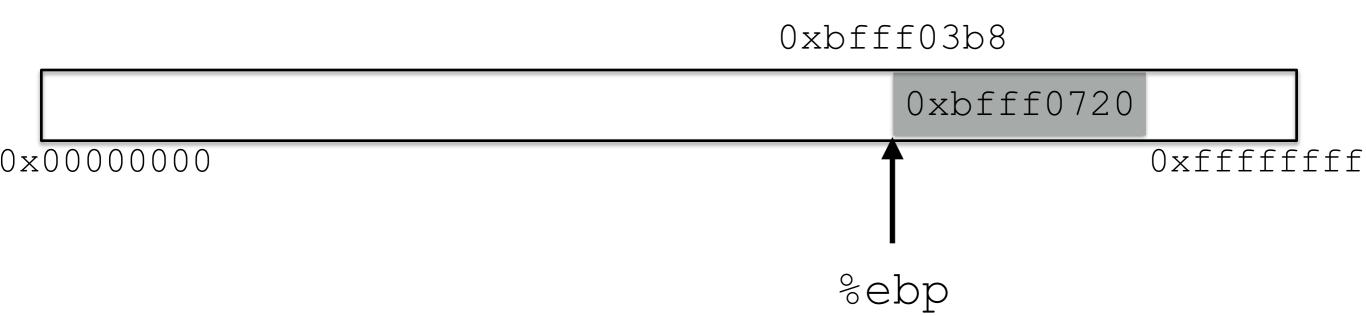
0xbfff0720(%ebp)The value at memory address %ebp(like dereferencing a pointer)



0xbfff03b8 %ebp A memory address

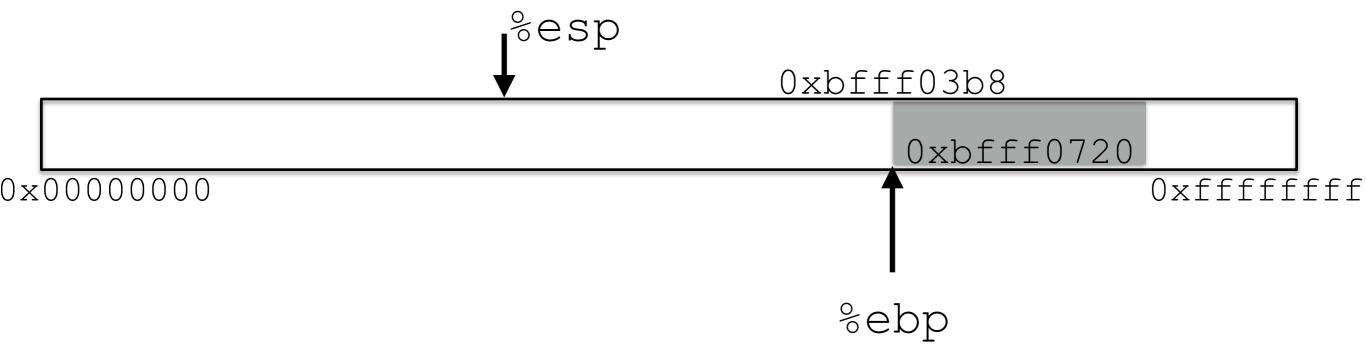
Oxbfff0720 (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp (like dereferencing a pointer)

pushl %ebp



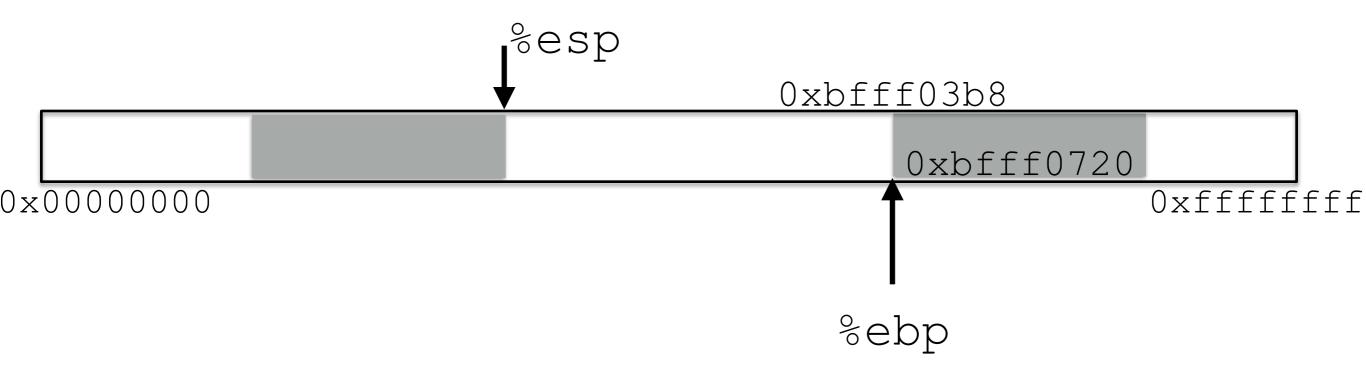
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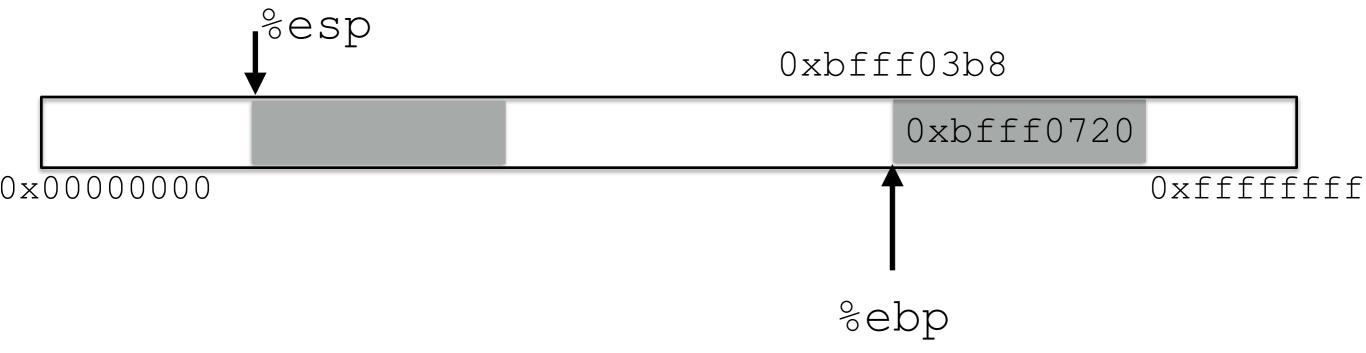
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Oxbfff0720 (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp (like dereferencing a pointer)



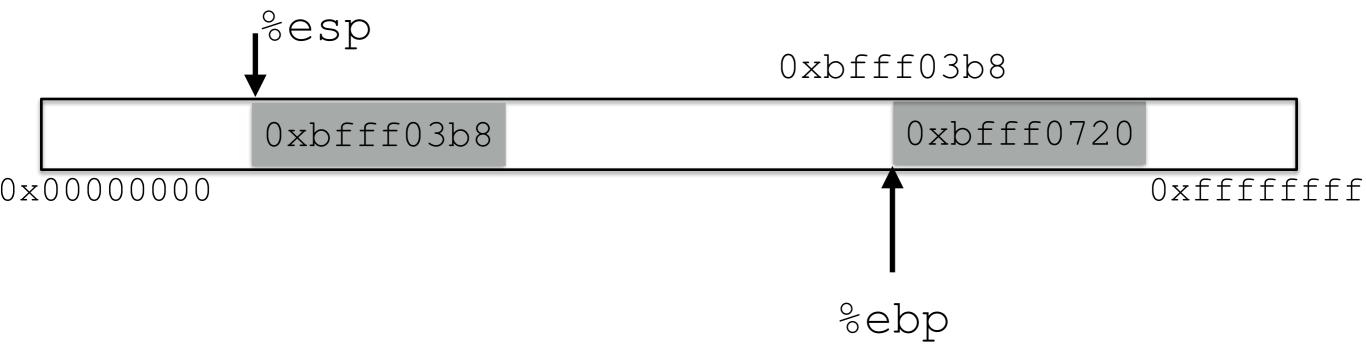
0xbfff03b8 %ebp A memory address

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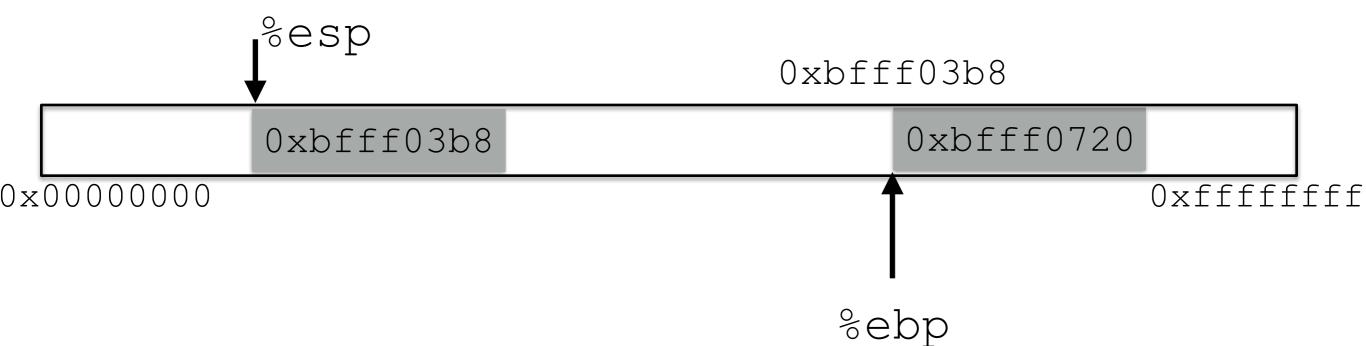
Oxbfff0720 (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp (like dereferencing a pointer)



```
0xbfff03b8 %ebp A memory address
```

Oxbfff0720 (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp (like dereferencing a pointer)

```
pushl %ebp
movl %esp %ebp /* %ebp = %esp */
```



```
0xbfff03b8 %ebp A memory address
```

Oxbfff0720 (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp (like dereferencing a pointer)

```
pushl %ebp
movl %esp %ebp /* %ebp = %esp */
```

```
0xbfff03b8

0xbfff03b8

0x00000000

0xffffffff

%ebp
```

```
A memory address
               %ebp
 0xbfff03b8
              (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp
 0xbfff0720
                       (like dereferencing a pointer)
                    pushl %ebp
                    movl %esp %ebp /* %ebp = %esp */
0xbfff0200
                                  0xbfff03b8
% esp
                                       0xbfff0720
           0xbfff03b8
0x0000000
                                                  0xfffffff
```

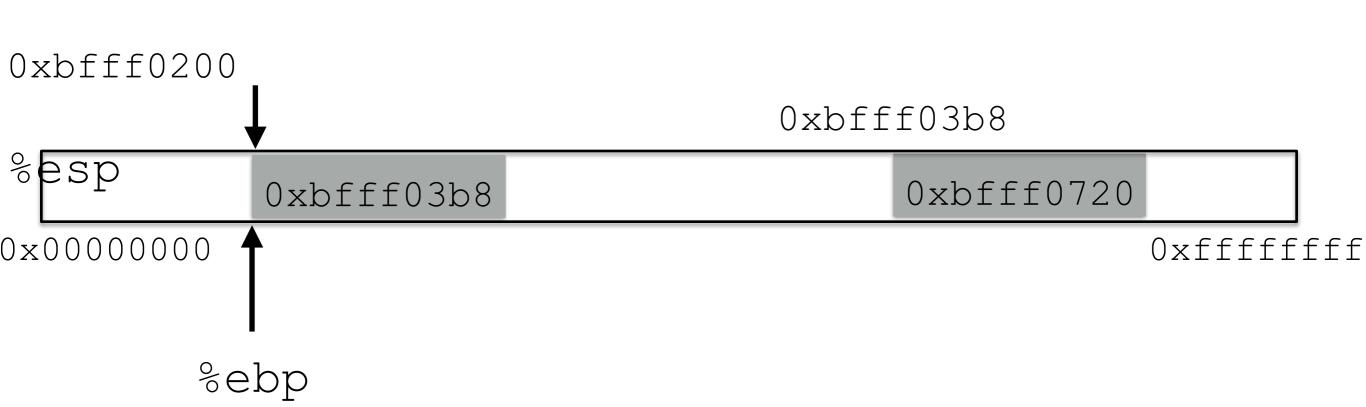
%ebp

```
%ebp A memory address
0xbfff0200

0xbfff0720

(%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp
(like dereferencing a pointer)
```

```
pushl %ebp
movl %esp %ebp /* %ebp = %esp */
```



```
A memory address
                %ebp
 <del>0xbfff03b8</del>
 0xbfff0200
               (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp
 0xbfff0720
 0xbfff03b8
                        (like dereferencing a pointer)
                     pushl %ebp
                     movl %esp %ebp /* %ebp = %esp */
0xbfff0200
                                   0xbfff03b8
%esp
                                         0xbfff0720
            0xbfff03b8
0x0000000
                                                     0xfffffff
```

%ebp

```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ...
}
```

```
Ox0000000

Oxfffffff

caller's data

Stack frame

%ebp for this call to func
```

```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ...
}
```

```
Ox0000000

Oxfffffff

arg3 caller's data

Stack frame

%ebp for this call to func
```

```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ...
}
```

```
Ox0000000

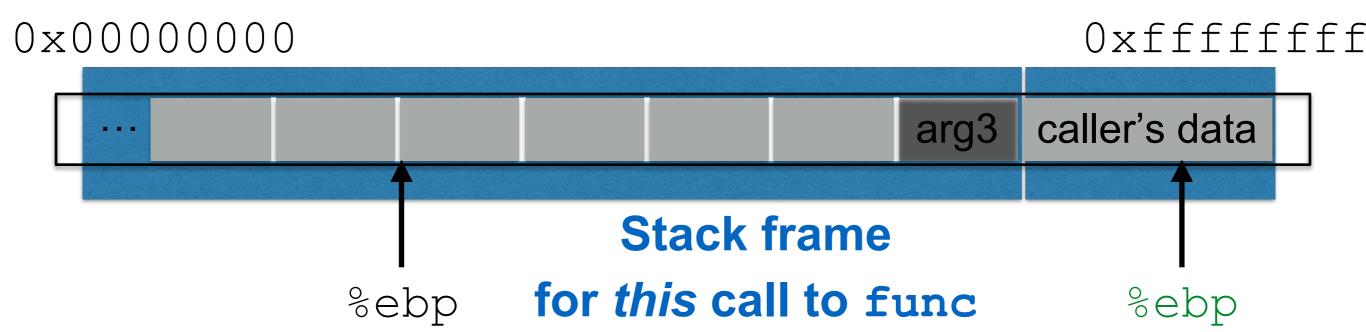
Oxffffffff

arg3 caller's data

Stack frame

%ebp for this call to func %ebp
```

```
int main()
{
     ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
     ... Q: How do we restore %ebp?
```



```
int main()
{
     ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
     ... Q: How do we restore %ebp?
```

```
0x0000000

??? arg1 arg2 arg3 caller's data

Stack frame

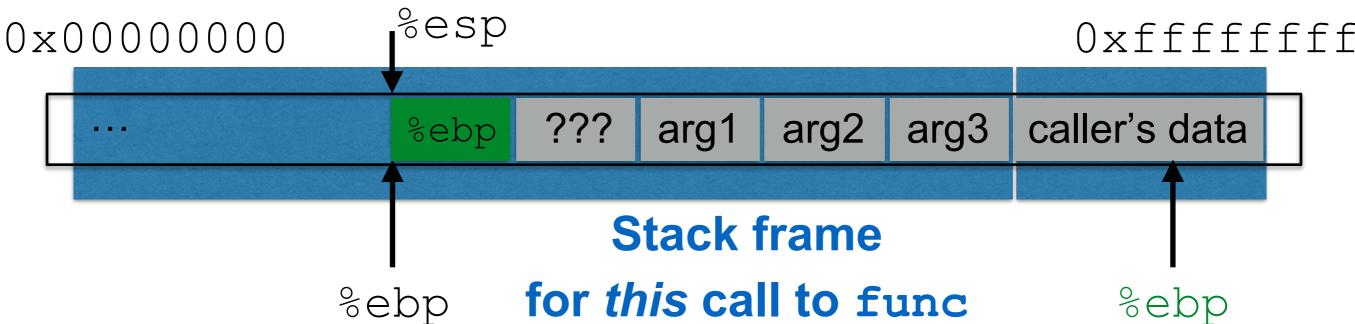
for this call to func %ebp
```

```
int main()
                 func ("Hey", 10, -3);
                 ••• Q: How do we restore %ebp?
                        ¦%esp
0x0000000
                                                  0xffffffff
                         ???
                                          arg3
                                                caller's data
                               arg1
                                    arg2
                            Stack frame
                        for this call to func
                                                    %ebp
```

```
int main()
                 func ("Hey", 10, -3);
                 ••• Q: How do we restore %ebp?
                  ¦%esp
0x0000000
                                                   0xffffffff
                         ???
                                                caller's data
                               arg1
                                    arg2
                                          arg3
                   %ebp
                             Stack frame
                        for this call to func
                                                     %ebp
```

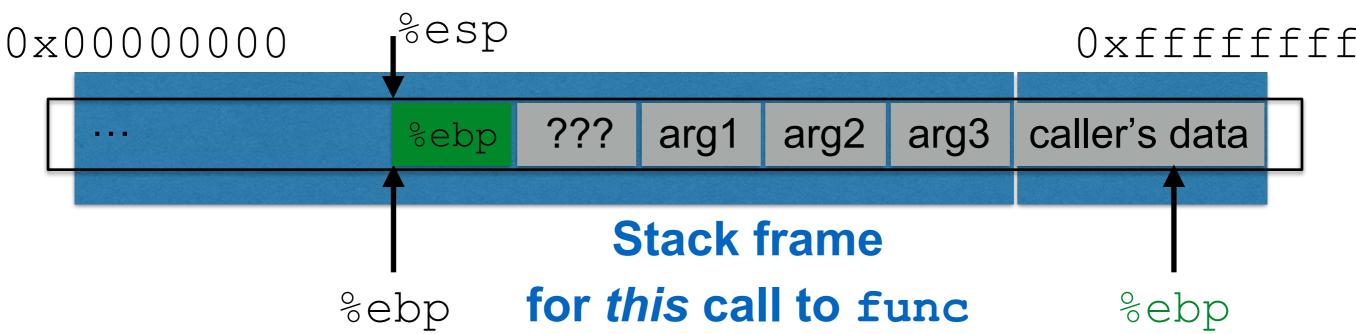
1. Push %ebp before locals

```
int main()
{
...
func("Hey", 10, -3);
... Q: How do we restore %ebp?
}
```



- 1. Push %ebp before locals
- 2. Set %ebp to current %esp

```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ... Q: How do we restore %ebp?
}
```



- 1. Push %ebp before locals
- 2. Set %ebp to current %esp
- 3. Set %ebp to (%ebp) at return

```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ...
}
```

```
Ox0000000

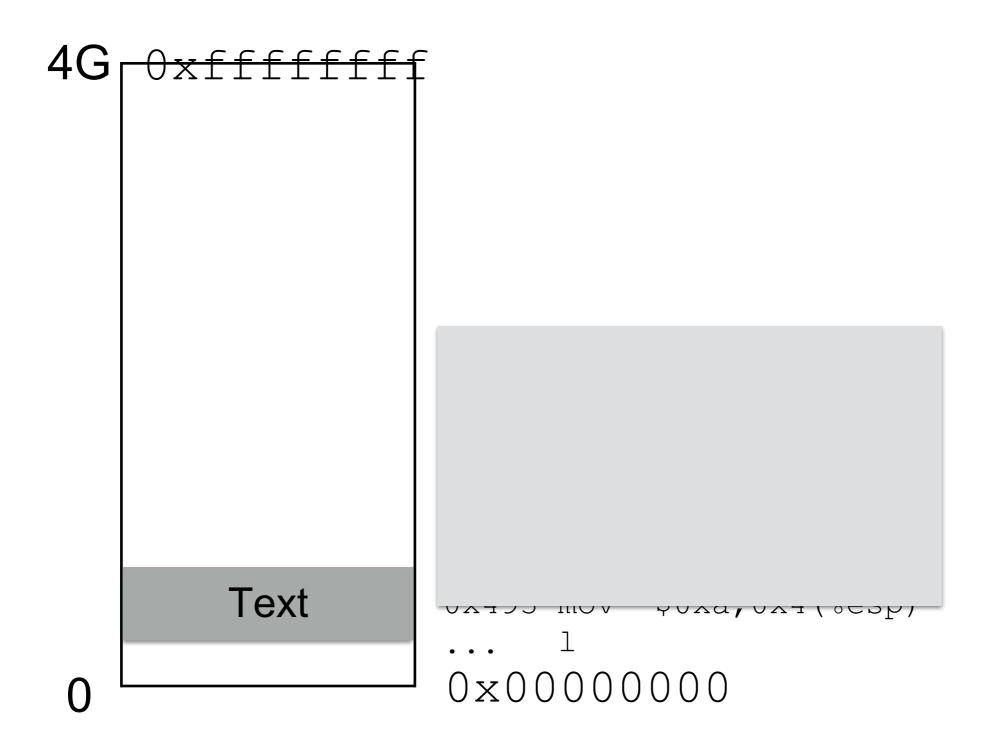
Oxffffffff

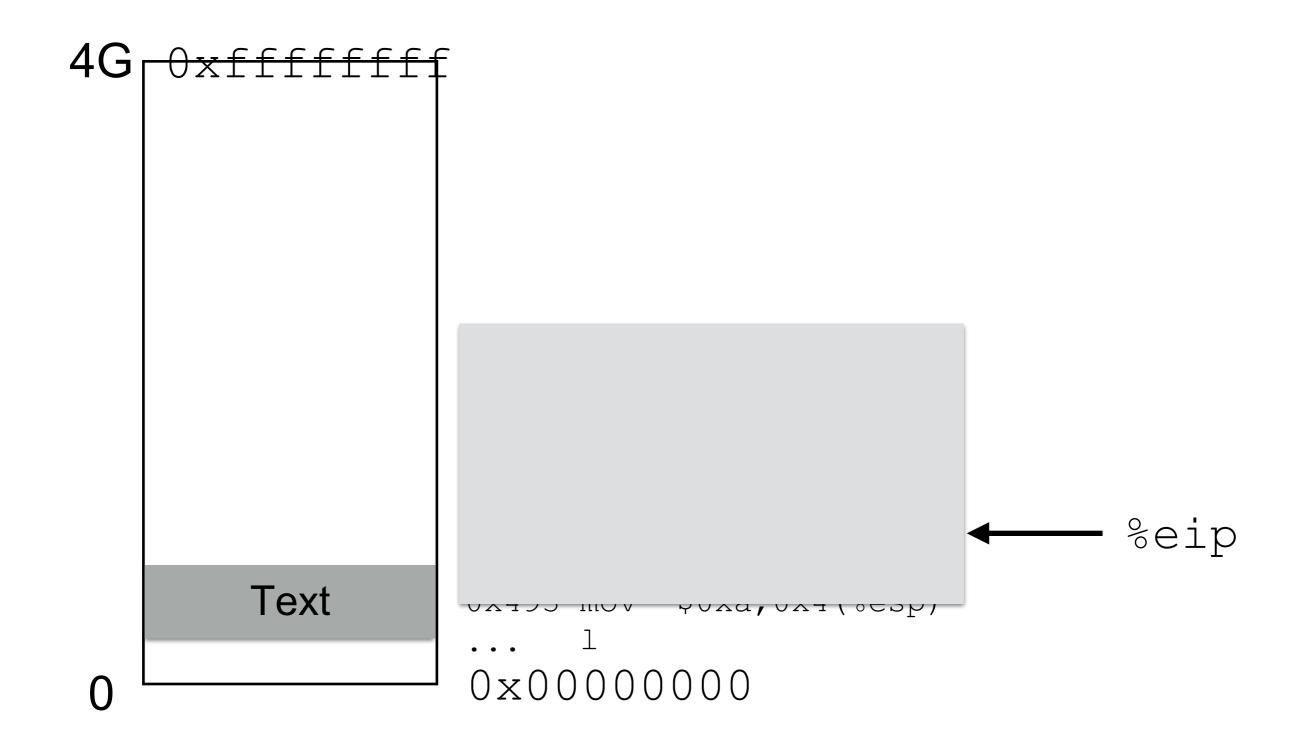
arg3 caller's data

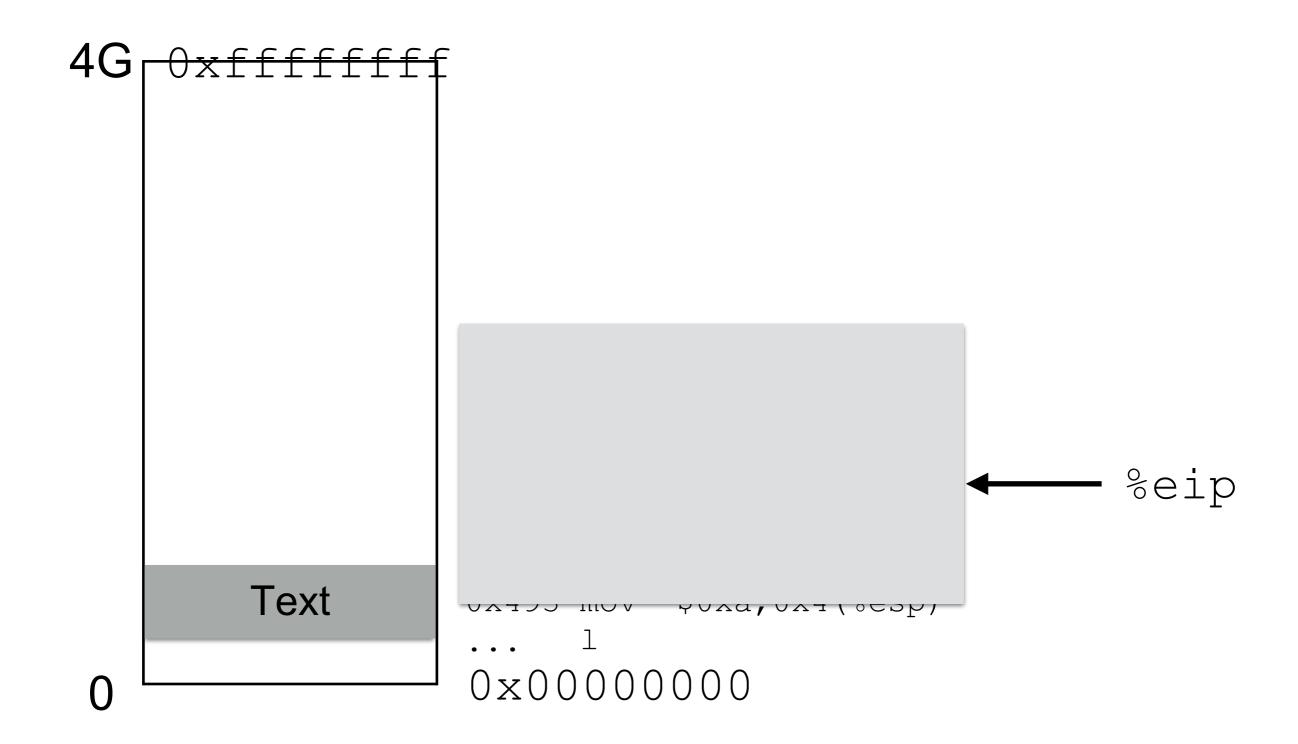
Stack frame

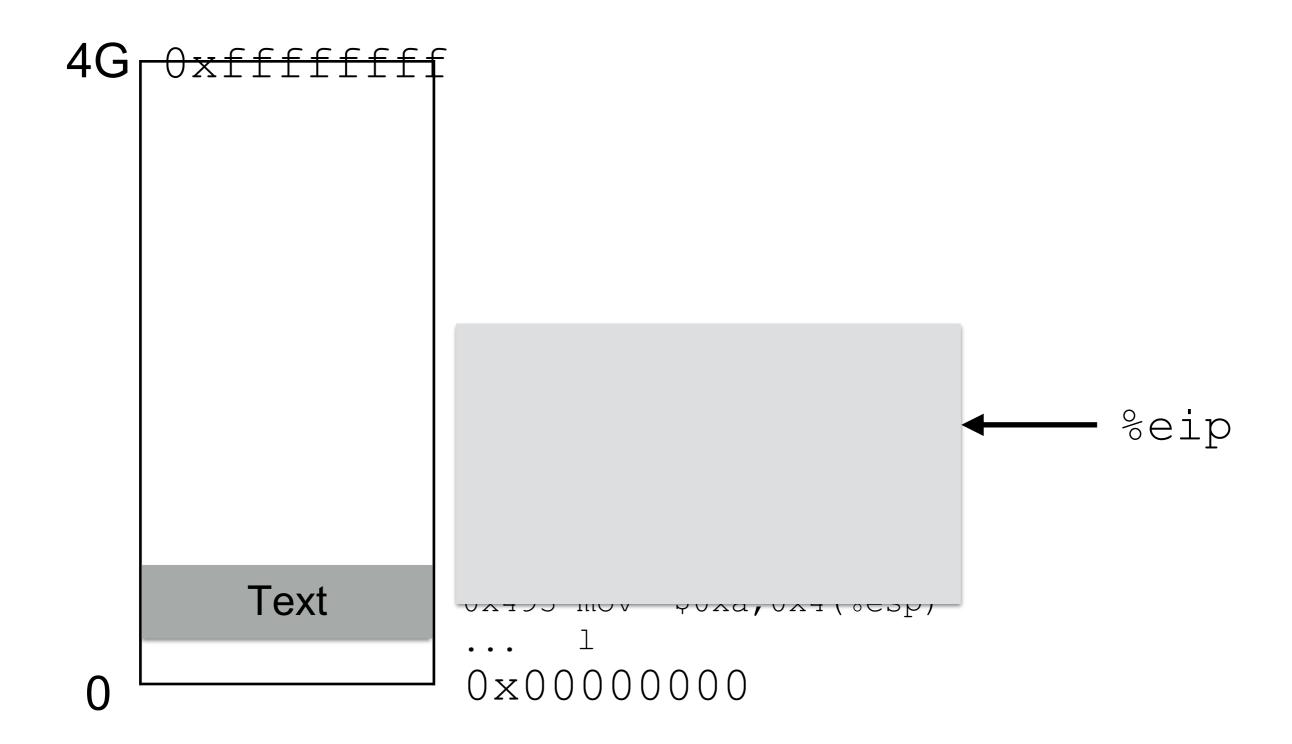
%ebp for this call to func %ebp
```

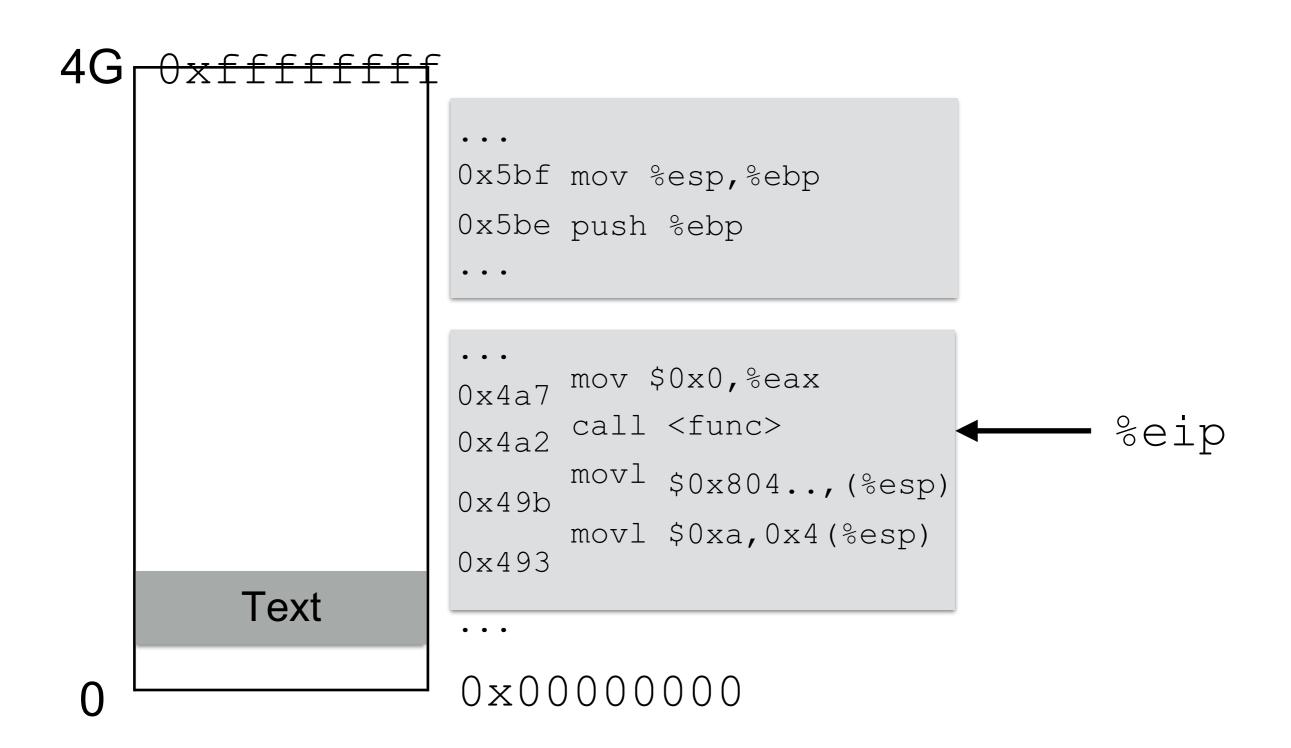
```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ... Q: How do we resume here?
}
```

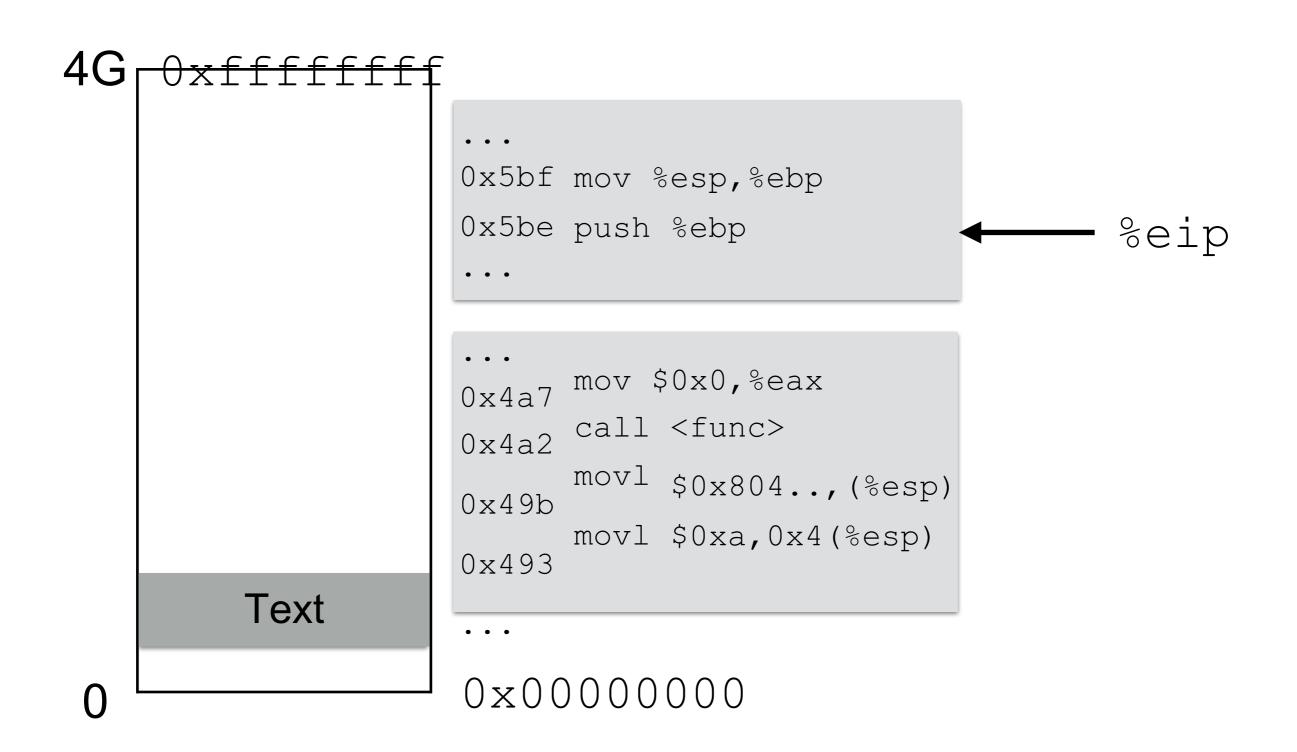


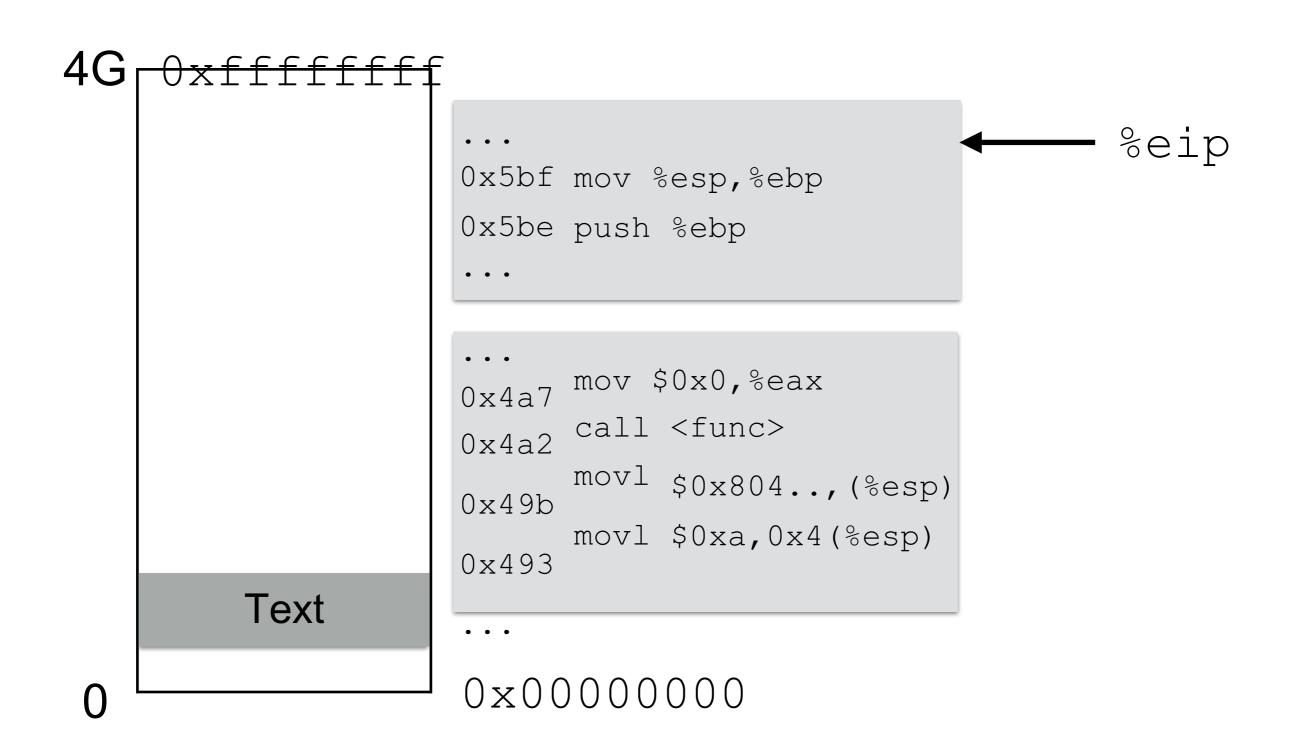


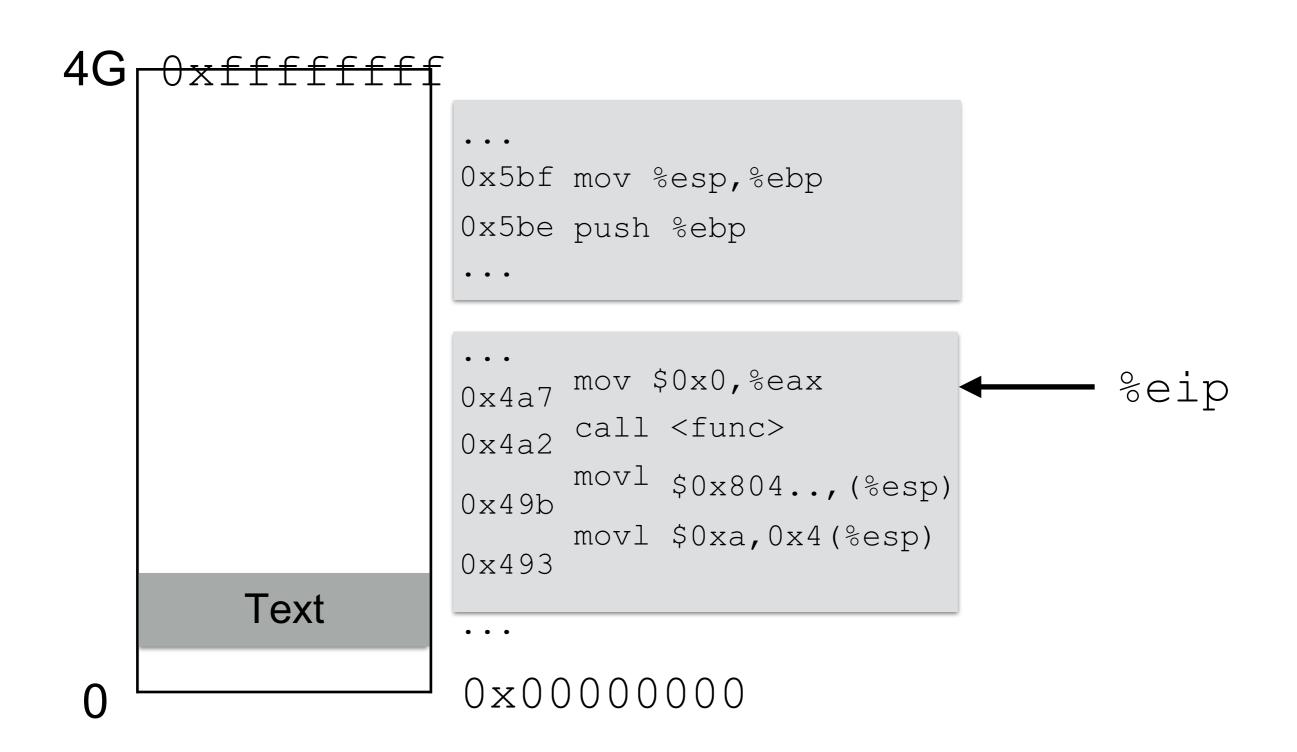






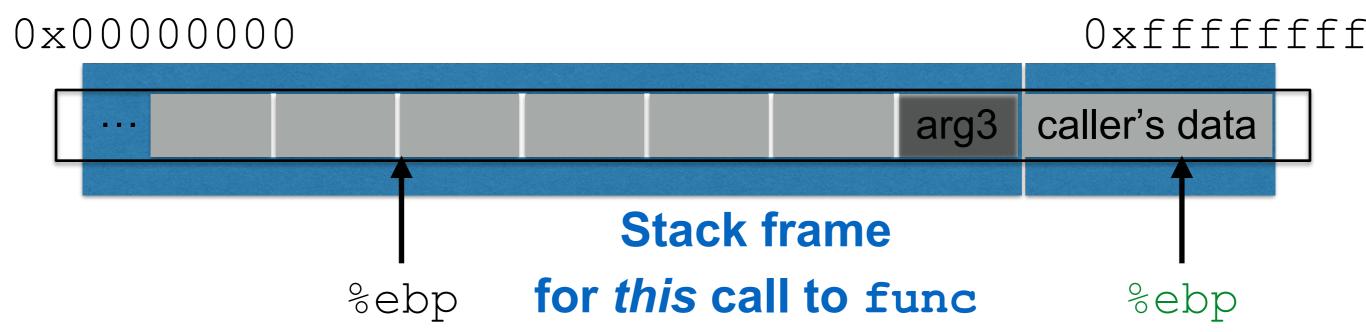






```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ... Q: How do we resume here?
}
```

```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ... Q: How do we resume here?
}
```



Push next %eip before call

```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ... Q: How do we resume here?
}
```

Push next %eip before call

```
int main()
{
    ...
    func("Hey", 10, -3);
    ... Q: How do we resume here?
```

Set %eip to 4 (%ebp) at return

Push next %eip before call

Calling function:

- 1. Push arguments onto the stack (in reverse)
- 2.Push the return address, i.e., the address of the instruction you want run after control returns to you: %eip+something
- 3. Jump to the function's address

Calling function:

- 1. Push arguments onto the stack (in reverse)
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Called function:

- 4. Push the old frame pointer onto the stack: %ebp
- 5.Set frame pointer %ebp to where the end of the stack is right now: %esp
 - 6. Push local variables onto the stack; access them as offsets from %ebp

Calling function:

- 1. Push arguments onto the stack (in reverse)
- 2.Push the return address, i.e., the address of the instruction you want run after control returns to you: %eip+something
- 3. Jump to the function's address

Called function:

- 4. Push the old frame pointer onto the stack: %ebp
- 5.Set frame pointer %ebp t o where the end of the stack is right now: %esp
 - 6. Push local variables onto the stack; access them as offsets from %ebp

Returning function:

- 7.Reset the previous stack frame: %ebp = (%ebp)
- 8.Jump back to return address: %eip = 4(%ebp)

Buffer overflows

Buffer overflows from 10,000 ft

- Buffer =
 - Contiguous set of a given data type
 - Common in C
 - All strings are buffers of char's
- Overflow =
 - Put more into the buffer than it can hold
- Where does the extra data go?
- Well now that you're experts in memory layouts...

```
void func(char *arg1)
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
```

```
void func(char *arg1)
    char buffer[4];
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void func(char *arg1)
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
```

&arg1

```
void func(char *arg1)
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
```

Upon return, sets %ebp to 0x0021654d

&arg1

```
void func(char *arg1)
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
```

Upon return, sets %ebp to

```
0 \times 0021654d M e ! \0
```

```
00 00 00 %ebp
```

buffer

SEGFAULT

```
void func(char *arg1)
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
```

```
void func(char *arg1)
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
```

```
void func(char *arg1)
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
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```

```
void func(char *arg1)
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
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    int authenticated = 0;
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    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
```

```
M e ! \0 %ebp %eip &arg1
```

```
void func(char *arg1)
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
int main()
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
```

Code still runs; user now 'authenticated'



```
void vulnerable()
{
    char buf[80];
    gets(buf);
}
```

```
void vulnerable()
{
    char buf[80];
    gets(buf);
}
```

```
void still_vulnerable()
{
    char *buf = malloc(80);
    gets(buf);
}
```

```
void safe()
{
    char buf[80];
    fgets(buf, 64, stdin);
}
```

```
void safe()
{
    char buf[80];
    fgets(buf, 64, stdin);
}
```

```
void safer()
{
    char buf[80];
    fgets(buf, sizeof(buf), stdin);
}
```

IE's Role in the Google-China War



By Richard Adhikari TechNewsWorld 01/15/10 12:25 PM PT

A A Text Size

☐ Print Version
☐ E-Mail Article

The hack attack on Google that set off the company's ongoing standoff with China appears to have come through a zero-day flaw in Microsoft's Internet Explorer browser. Microsoft has released a security advisory, and researchers are hard at work studying the

exploit. The attack appears to consist of several files, each a different piece of malware.

Computer security companies are scurrying to cope with the fallout from the Internet Explorer (IE) flaw that led to cyberattacks on Google and its corporate and individual customers.

The zero-day attack that exploited IE is part of a lethal cocktail of malware that is keeping researchers very busy.

"We're discovering things on an up-to-the-minute basis, and we've seen about a dozen files dropped on infected PCs so far," Dmitri Alperovitch, vice president of research at McAfee Labs, told TechNewsWorld.

The attacks on Google, which appeared to originate in China, have sparked a feud between the Internet giant and the nation's government over censorship, and it could result in Google pulling away from its business dealings in the country.

Pointing to the Flaw

The vulnerability in IE is an invalid pointer reference, Microsoft said in security advisory 979352, which it issued on Thursday. Under certain conditions, the invalid pointer can be accessed after an object is deleted, the advisory states. In specially crafted attacks, like the ones launched against Google and its customers, IE can allow remote execution of code when the flaw is exploited.

User-supplied strings

- In these examples, we were providing our own strings
- But they come from users in myriad aways
 - Text
 - input
 - Packets
 - Environment variables File input...

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```



buffer

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

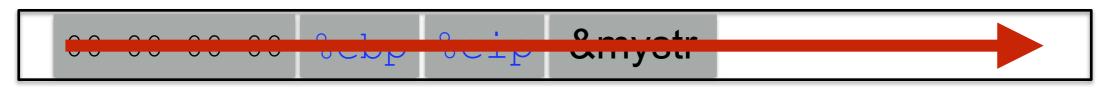


buffer

strcpy will let you write as much as you want (til a '\0')

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

All ours!

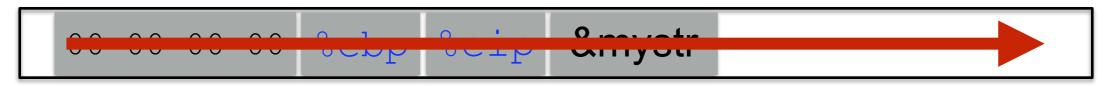


buffer

strcpy will let you write as much as you want (til a '\0')

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void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

All ours!



buffer

strcpy will let you write as much as you want (til a '\0')

What acriding were surely to the property to sure all bosses of

Code injection

High-level idea

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

• • •

buffer

High-level idea

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

• • •

buffer

(1) Load my own code into memory

High-level idea

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

```
%eip
...
```

buffer

- (1) Load my own code into memory
- (2) Somehow get %eip to point to

High-level idea

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

%eip

buffer

- (1) Load my own code into memory
- (2) Somehow get %eip to point to

High-level idea

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

%eip

↓

buffer

- (1) Load my own code into memory
- (2) Somehow get %eip to point to

This is nontrivial

- Pulling off this attack requires getting a few things really right (and some things sorta right)
- Think about what is tricky about the attack
 - The key to defending it will be to make the hard parts really hard

Loading code into memory

- It must be the machine code instructions (i.e., already compiled and ready to run)
- We have to be careful in how we construct it:
 - It can't contain any all-zero bytes
 - Otherwise, sprintf / gets / scanf / ... will stop copying How
 - could you write assembly to never contain a full zero byte?
 - It can't make use of the loader (we're injecting)
 - It can't use the stack (we're going to smash it)

What kind of code would we want to run?

- Goal: full-purpose shell
 - The code to launch a shell is called "shell code"
 - It is nontrivial to it in a way that works as injected code
 - No zeroes, can't use the stack, no loader dependence
 - There are many out the the smallest
- Goal: privilege escalation
 - Ideally, they go from guest (or non-user) to root

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
   char *name[2];
   name[0] = "/bin/sh";
   name[1] = NULL;
   execve(name[0], name, NULL);
}
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
   char *name[2];
   name[0] = "/bin/sh";
   name[1] = NULL;
   execve(name[0], name, NULL);
```

Assembly

```
xorl %eax, %eax
pushl %eax
pushl $0x68732f2f
pushl $0x6e69622f
movl %esp, %ebx
pushl %eax
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
   char *name[2];
   name[0] = "/bin/sh";
   name[1] = NULL;
   execve(name[0], name, NULL);
}
```

```
pushl %eax, %eax

pushl %eax

pushl $0x68732f2f

pushl $0x6e69622f

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pushl %eax
```

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#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
   char *name[2];
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Assembly

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xorl %eax, %eax
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movl %esp, %ebx
pushl %eax
```

```
"\x31\xc0"
"\x50"
"\x68""//sh"
"\x68""/bin"
"\x89\xe3"
"\x50"
```

Machine code

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
   char *name[2];
   name[0] = "/bin/sh";
   name[1] = NULL;
   execve(name[0], name, NULL);
```

Assembly

```
xorl %eax, %eax
pushl %eax
pushl $0x68732f2f
pushl $0x6e69622f
movl %eax
pushl
```

```
"\x31\xc0"
"\x50"
"\x68""//sh"
"\x68""/bin"
"\x89\xe3"
"\x50"
```

Machine code

(Part of) your input

•

Privilege escalation

- Permissions later, but for now...
- Recall that each file has:
 - Permissions: read / write / execute
 - For each of: owner / group / everyone else
- Consider a service like passwd
 - Owned by root (and needs to do root-y things)
 - But you want any user to be able to run it

Effective userid

- Userid = the user who ran the process
- Effective userid = what is used to determine what access the process has
- Consider passwd:
 - getuid() will return you (real userid)
 - seteuid(0) to set the effective userid to root
 - It's allowed to because root is the owner
- What is the potential attack?

Effective userid

- Userid = the user who ran the process
- Effective userid = what is used to determine what access the process has
- Consider passwd:
 - getuid() will return you (real userid)
 - seteuid(0) to set the effective userid to root
 - It's allowed to because root is the owner
- What is the potential attack?

If you can get a root-owned process to run setuid(0)/seteuid(0), then you get root permissions

Getting our injected code to run

- We can't insert a "jump into my code" instruction
- We have to use whatever code is already running



buffer

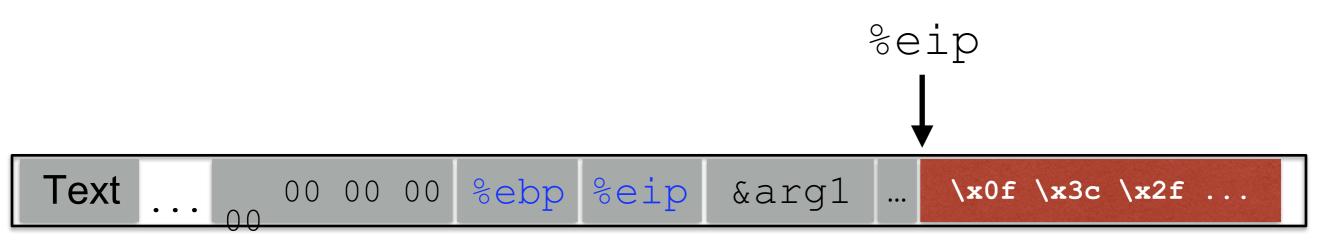
Getting our injected code to run

- We can't insert a "jump into my code" instruction
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Getting our injected code to run

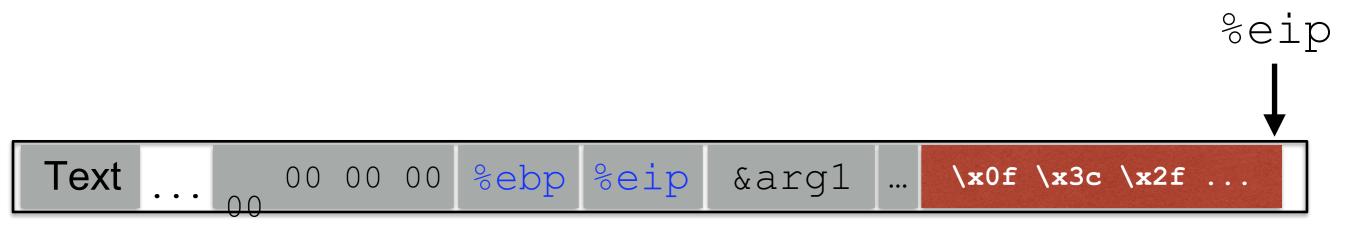
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buffer

Getting our injected code to run

- We can't insert a "jump into my code" instruction
- We have to use whatever code is already running



buffer

Stack and functions: Summary

Calling function:

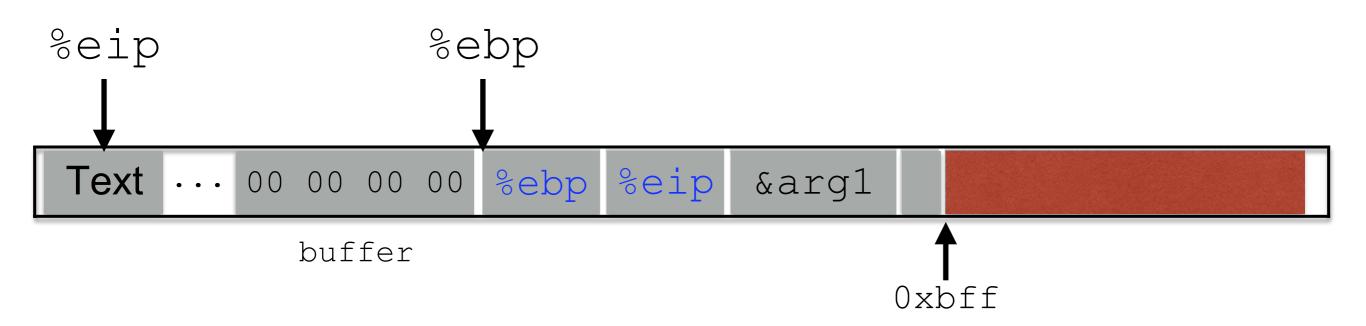
- 1. Push arguments onto the stack (in reverse)
- 2.Push the return address, i.e., the address of the instruction you want run after control returns to you: %eip+something
- 3. Jump to the function's address

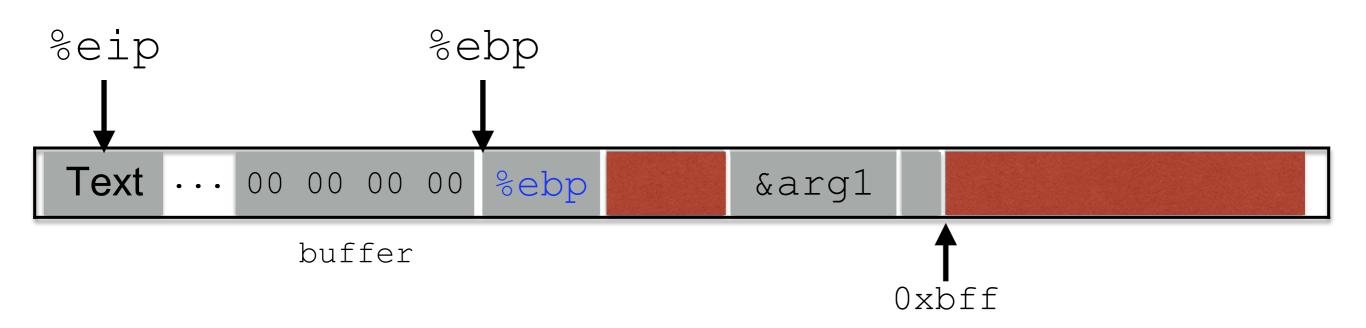
Called function:

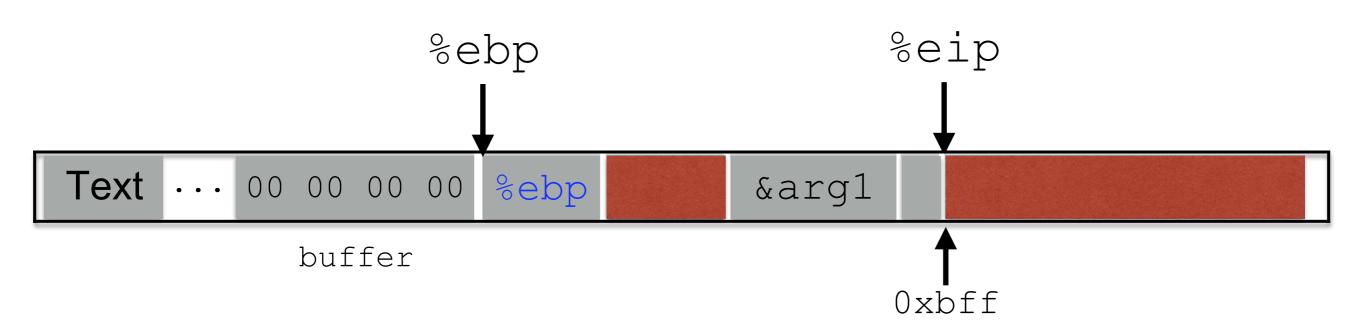
- 4. Push the old frame pointer onto the stack: %ebp
- 5.Set frame pointer %ebp to where the end of the stack is right now: %esp
 - 6. Push local variables onto the stack; access them as offsets from %ebp

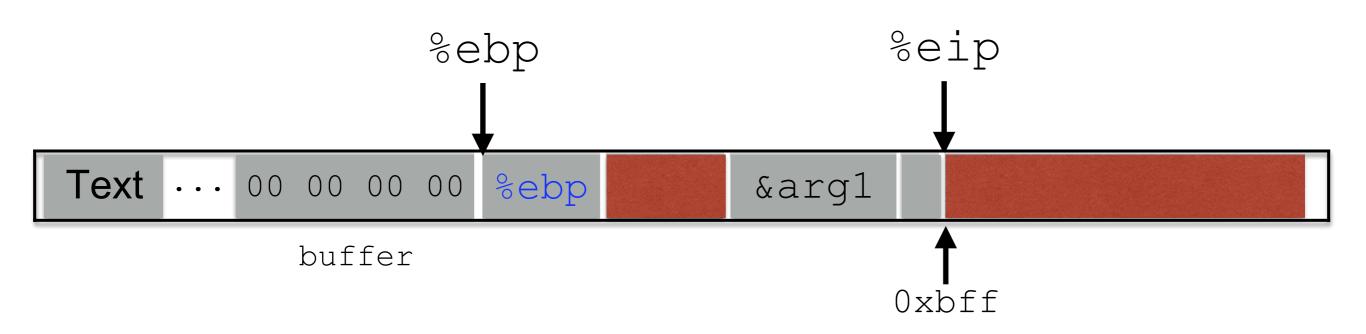
Returning function:

```
9.Jump back to return address: %sip = 1(%sbp)
```



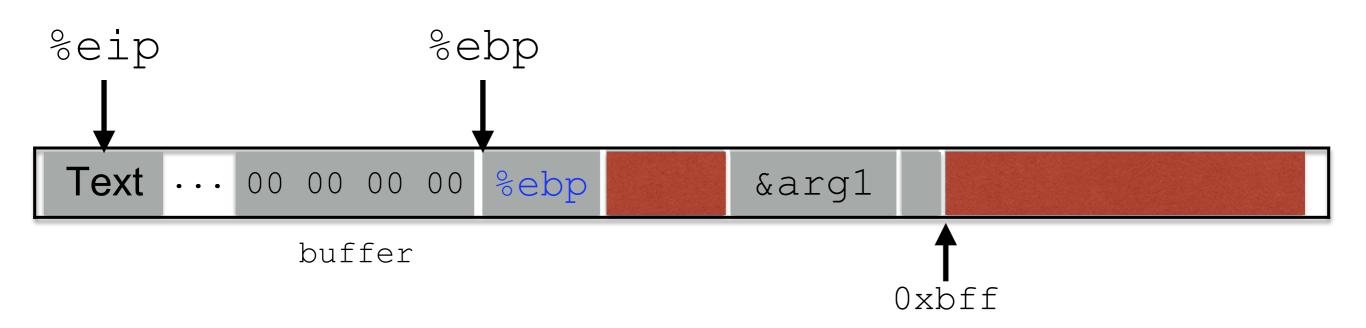




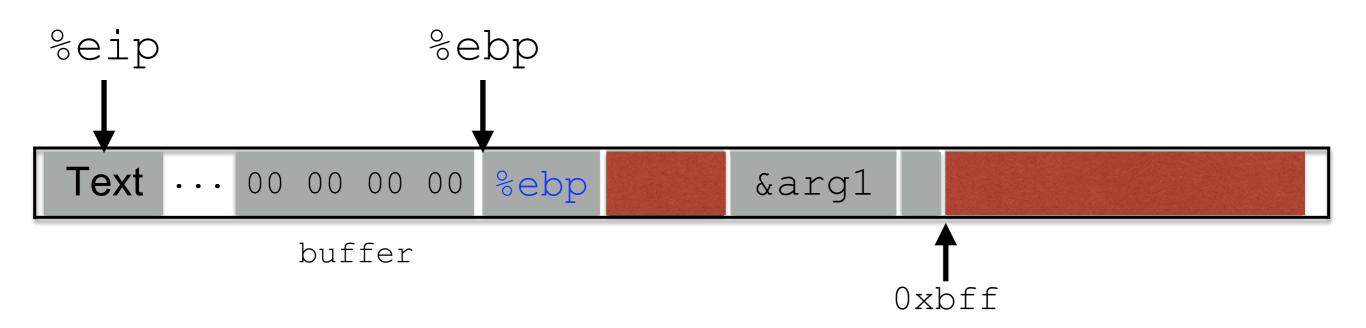


But how do we know the address?

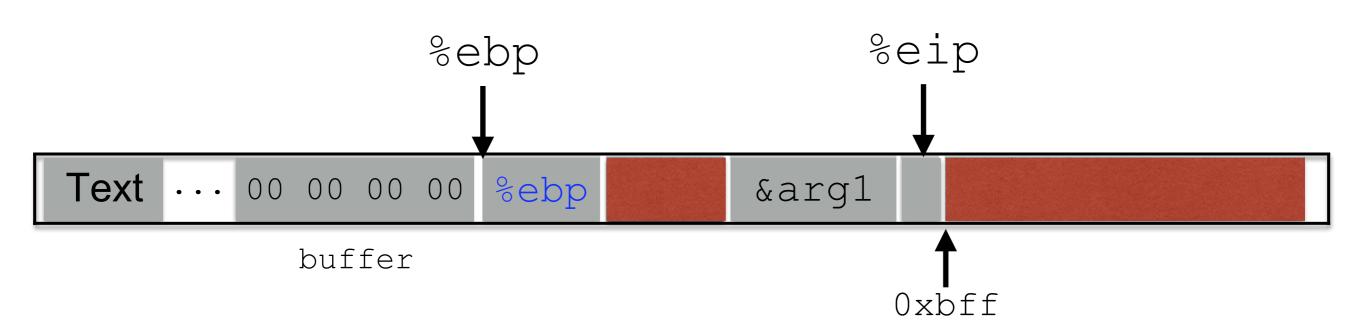
What if we are wrong?



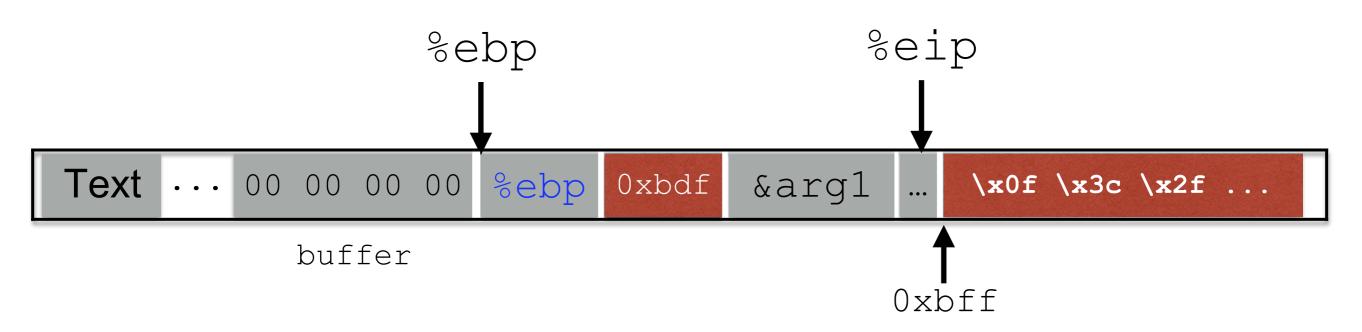
What if we are wrong?



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What if we are wrong?



This is most likely data, so the CPU will panic (Invalid Instruction)

Finding the return address

 If we don't have access to the code, we don't know how far the buffer is from the saved %ebp

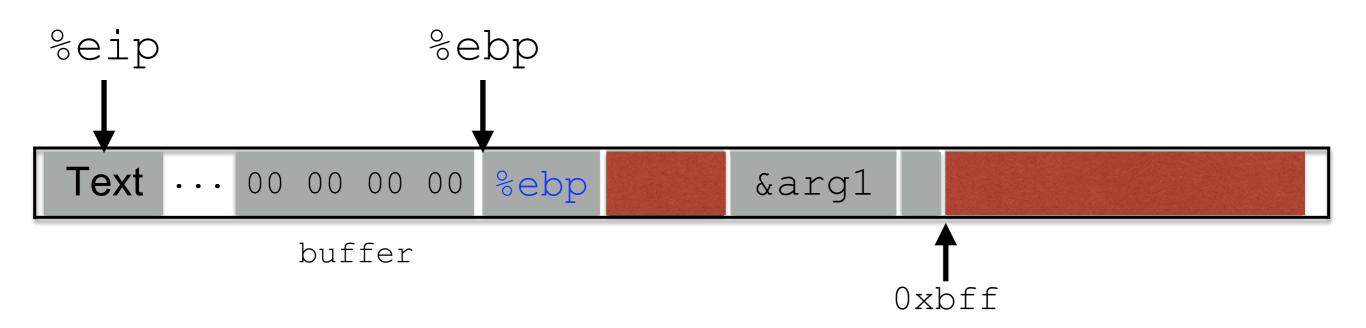
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- One approach: just try a lot of different values!
- Worst case scenario: it's a 32 (or 64) bit memory space, which means 2³² (2⁶⁴) possible answers
- But without address randomization:
 - The stack always starts from the same, fixed address
 - The stack will grow, but usually it doesn't grow very deeply (unless the code is heavily recursive)

gdb tutorial

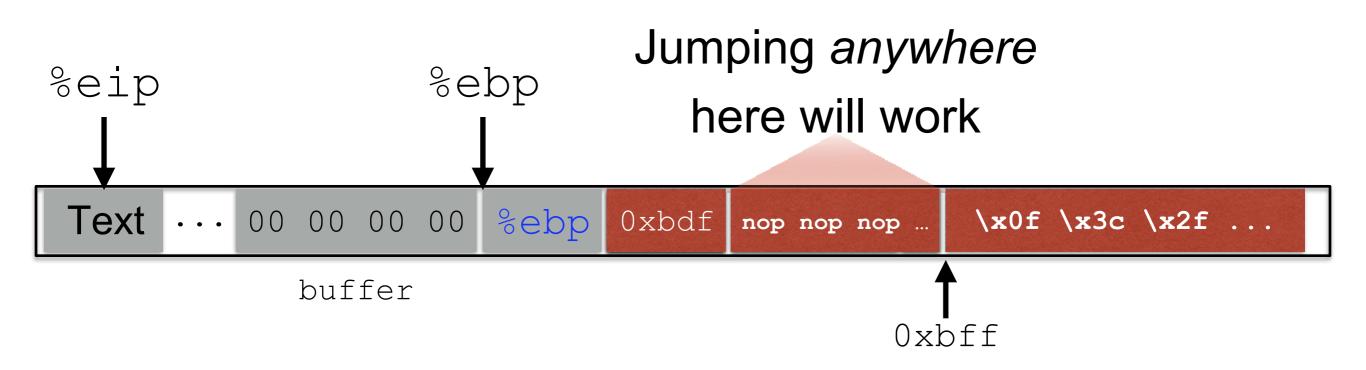
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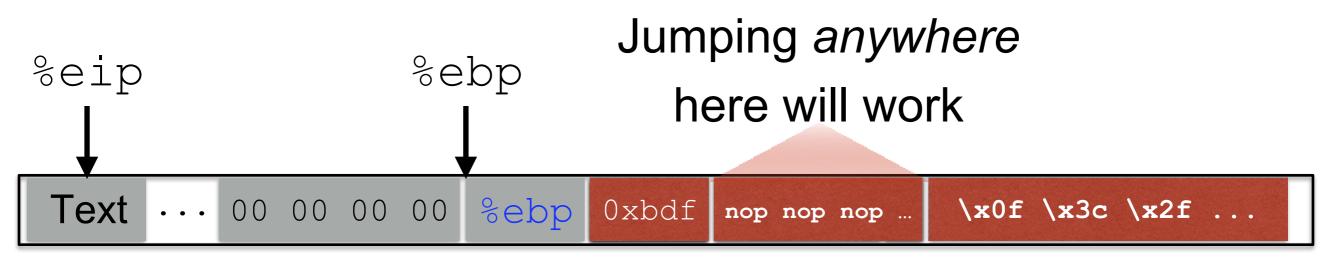


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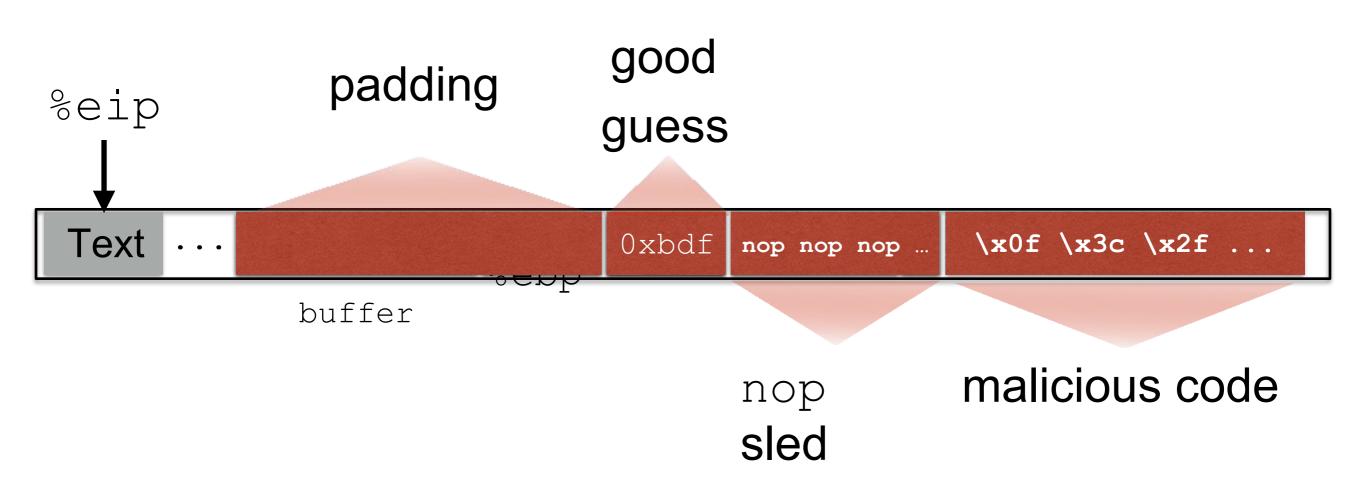
buffer

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buffer

Now we improve our chances of guessing by a factor of #nops



But it has to be *something*; we have to start writing wherever the input to gets/etc. begins. good padding %eip guess Text $\x0f \x3c \x2f$ 0xbdf nop nop nop ... buffer malicious code nop sled

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Next time

Continuing with





Required reading:

"StackGuard: Simple Stack Smash Protection for GCC"