

# wasi-backtrace

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# Motivation

- **Troubleshooting:** being able to dump a stack trace is quite useful (e.g., diagnosed a multi-threading deadlock)
  - Similar to debugger in a browser context
  - Downside: requires a recompile
- **Reflection:** some interest for exception stack traces in Java (?)

# wasi-backtrace

**capture-backtrace:** func() -> list<frame>;

```
record frame {  
    codeoffset: u32,  
    funcidx: u32,  
    funcname: option<string>,  
    moduleidx: u32,  
    modulename: option<string>,  
}
```

Optionally:

```
    locals: list<value>;  
    stack: list<value>;
```

# Problems

- Can't be easily implemented in Wasmtime:
  - a WebAssembly backtrace is only accessible via a Store
  - Wasmtime's WIT tooling prevents this—no access to Caller → Store
  - Implementing lifting and lowering for Frame is complex, fragile

# Next steps

- Some options:
  - Discuss further?
  - Poll for phase 1?