

CSC 3210

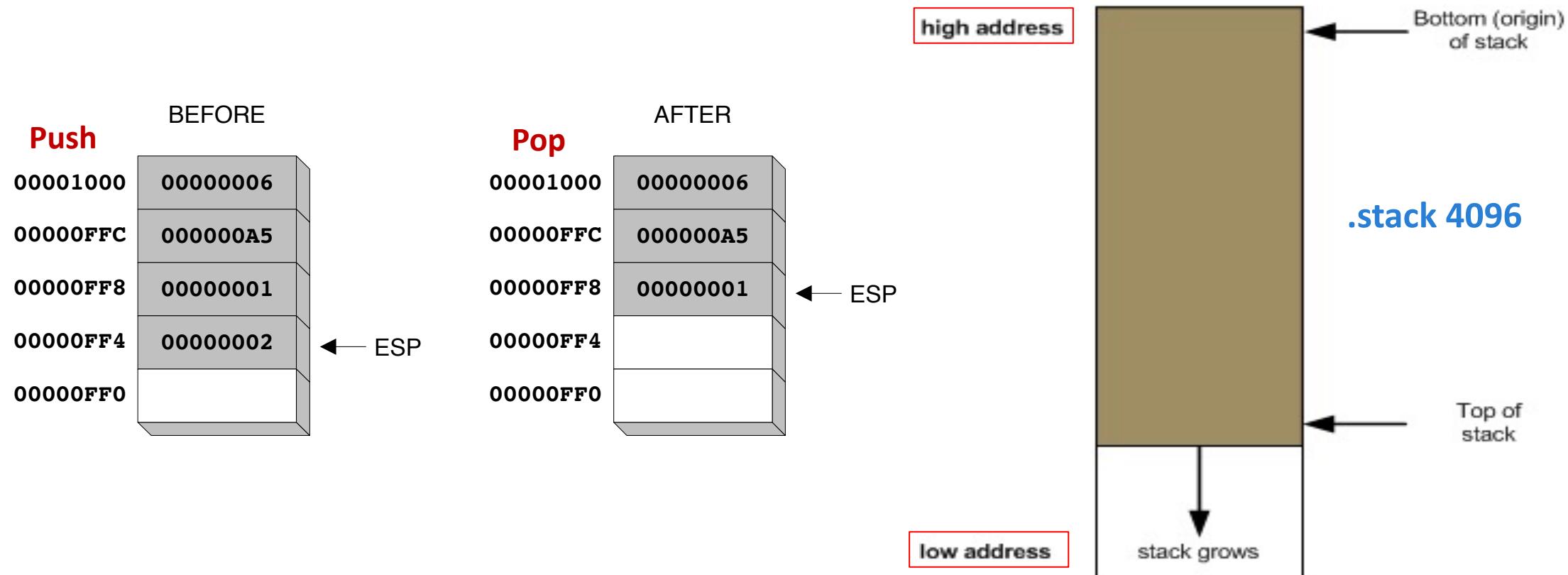
Computer Organization and Programming

CHAPTER 8: ADVANCED PROCEDURES (STACK
FRAME)

Outline

- **Stack Overview**
- Stack Frame
 - Stack Parameters
 - Passing Arguments
 - Accessing Stack Parameters
 - Cleaning Up the Stack
 - Saving and Restoring Registers
 - Local Variables
 - Reference Parameters
 - Recursion
- INVOKE, ADDR, PROC, and PROTO

Stack Overview

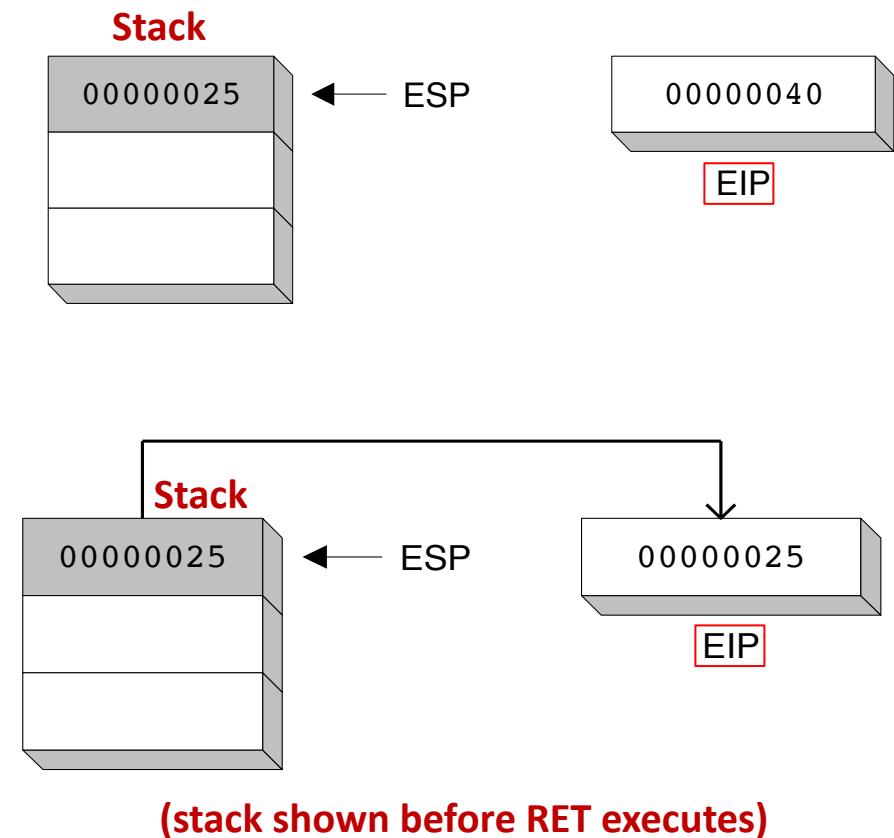


Stack Overview: CALL-RET

The **CALL** instruction pushes **00000025** onto the **stack**, and loads **00000040** into **EIP**

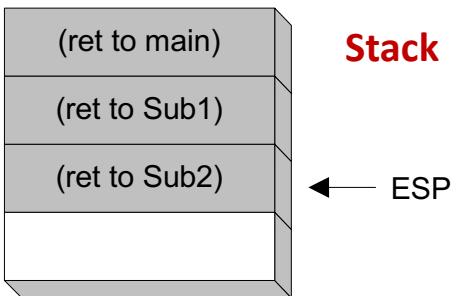
The **RET** instruction pops **00000025** from the **stack** into **EIP**

```
main PROC  
    00000020 call MySub  
    00000025 mov eax, ebx  
    .  
    .  
main ENDP  
  
MySub PROC  
    00000040 mov eax, edx  
    .  
    .  
    ret  
MySub ENDP
```

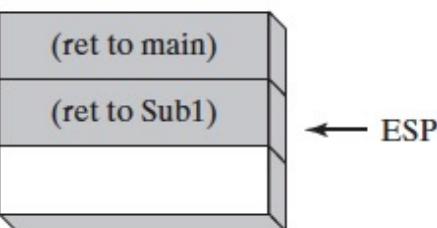


Stack Overview: Nested Calls

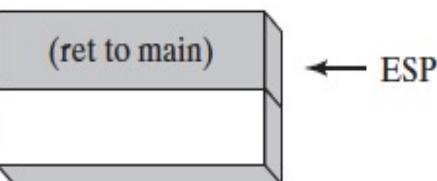
1. By the time **Sub3** is called, **the stack** contains all three return addresses (**main**, **sub1**, **sub2**):



2. After the **return**,
 - o **ESP** points to the next-highest stack entry.



3. Finally, when **Sub1 returns**, **stack[ESP]** is **popped** into the instruction pointer, and execution resumes in **main**:



```
main PROC
.
.
call Sub1
exit
main ENDP
```

```
Sub1 PROC
.
.
call Sub2
ret
Sub1 ENDP
```

```
Sub2 PROC
.
.
call Sub3
ret
Sub2 ENDP
```

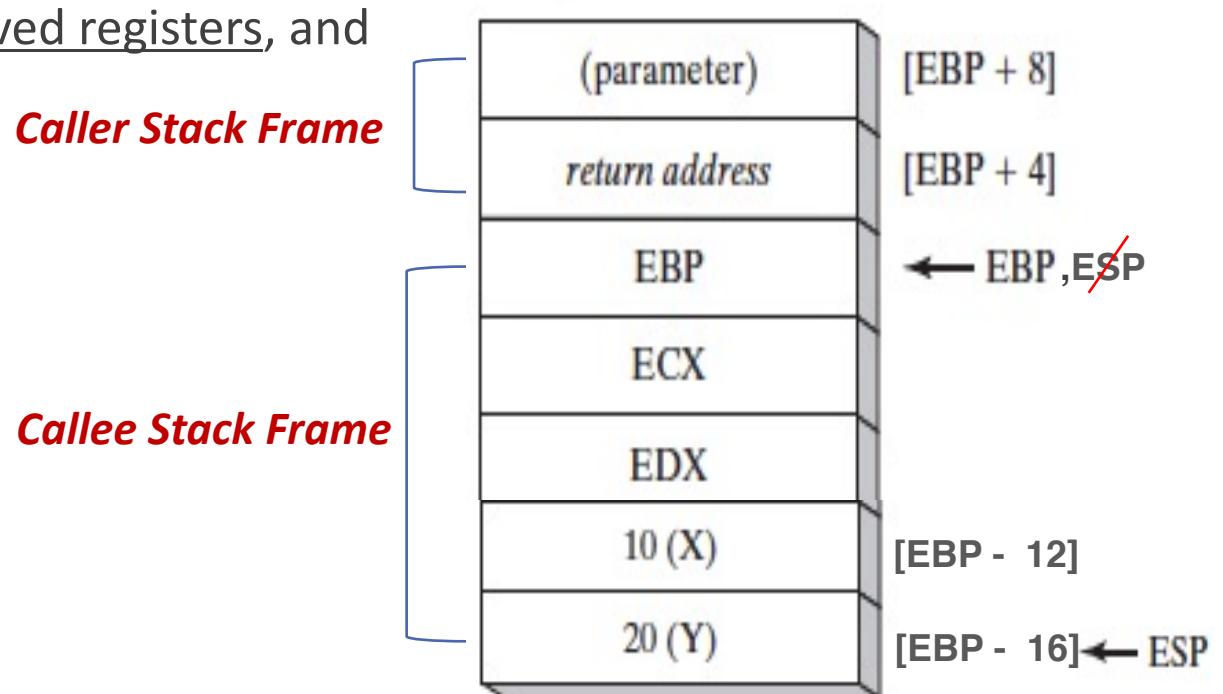
```
Sub3 PROC
.
.
ret
Sub3 ENDP
```

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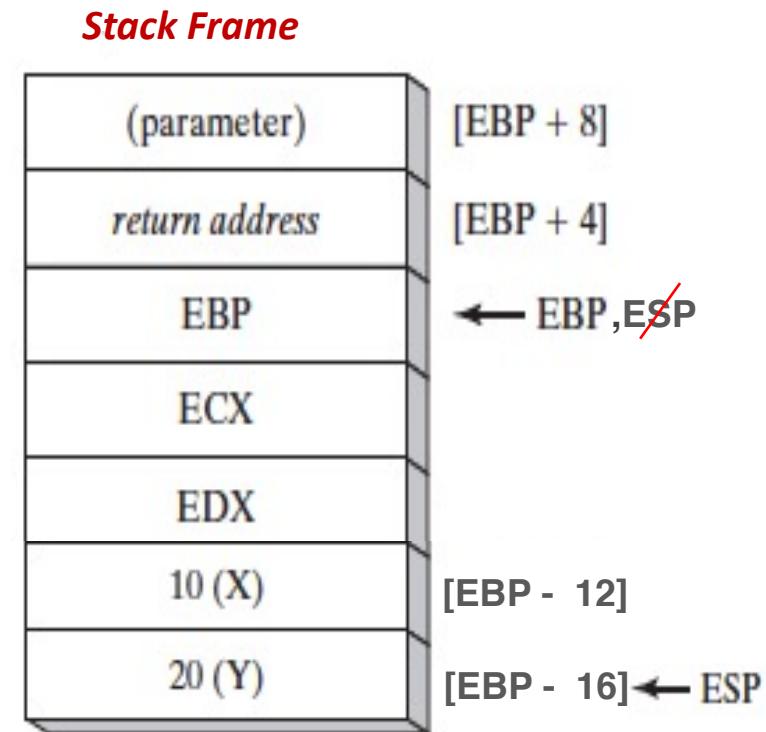
Stack Frame

- Stack **Frame**, also known as an *activation record*
 - Area of the stack set aside for a procedure's:
 - passed parameters, return address, saved registers, and local variables
 - The **structure of a stack frame** is directly affected by a program's **memory model** & its **argument passing convention**



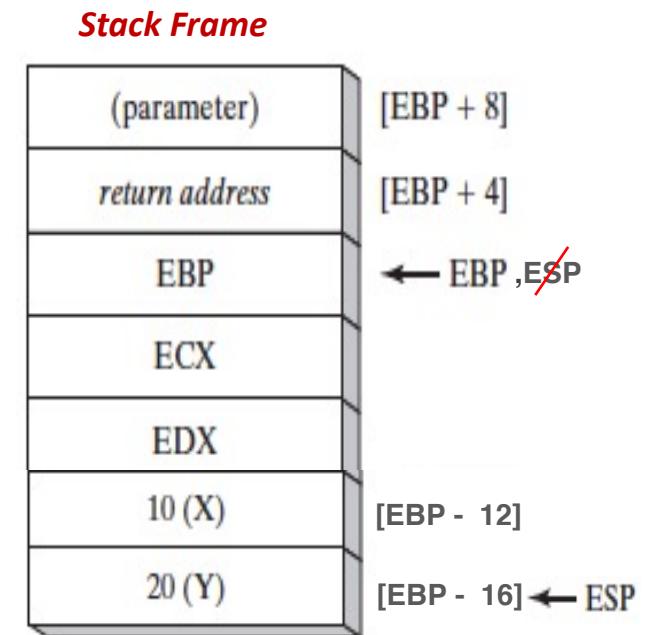
Stack Frame: ESP and EBP

- **ESP**: a register that contains the address of the top of the stack
- **EBP**: a register that points at the top of the stack when the function is first called
- These two registers are the heart of the x86 function-call mechanism
- Why not use just the **ESP**?



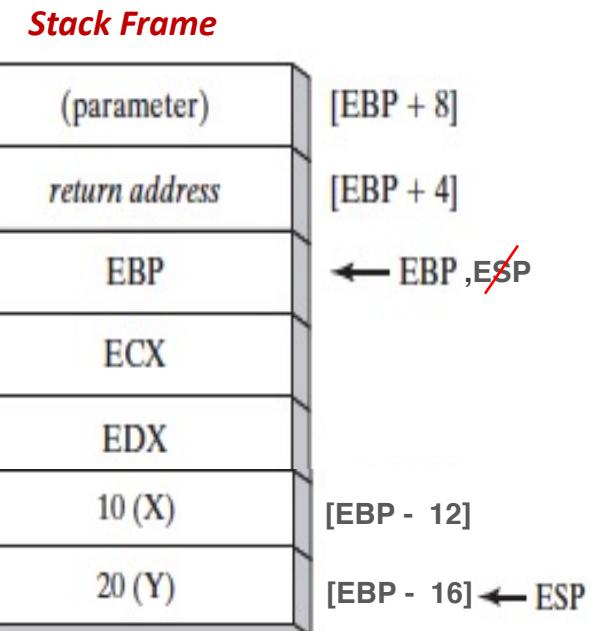
Stack Frame: EBP (Why EBP?)

- Function arguments and local variables are stored at an offset from where the **ESP** is when the function starts
- As **ESP** grows and shrinks during a function calls:
 - the offset of local variables and function parameters relative to **ESP** changes
- To simplify things, x86 uses a **base pointer** (sometimes called a **frame pointer**) that is stored in **EBP**.



Stack Frame: EBP (Why EBP?)

- EBP was designed to provide a “Base Pointer” for the current function so parameters and local variables would be at a fixed offset from the base pointer even if ESP moved with push and pop instructions



Stack Frame: Creation

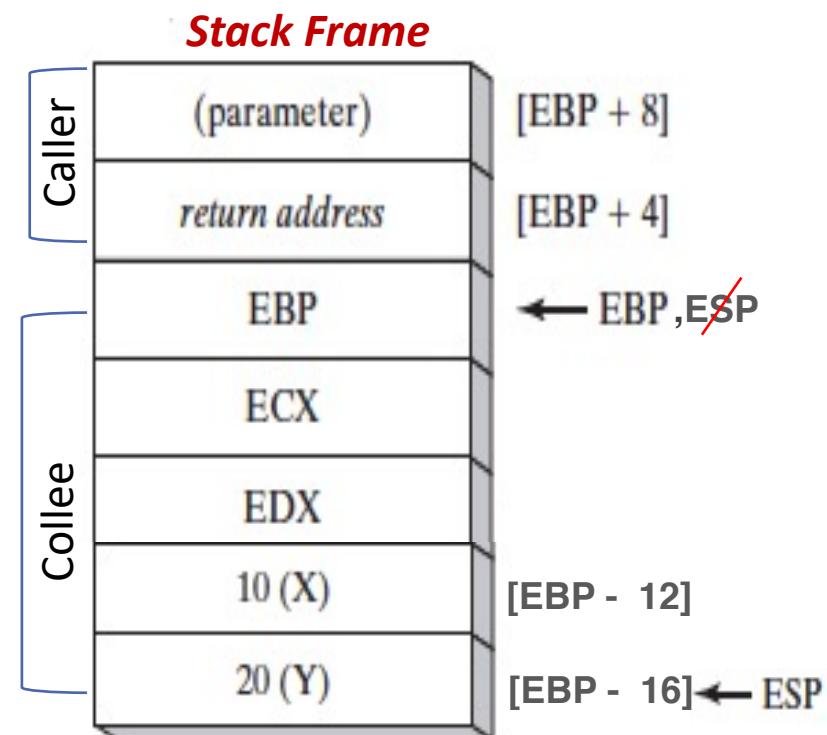
- **Created** by the following steps:

1. **Calling program pushes**

- **arguments**, if any, and
- **return address** on the stack,
- and **calls** the procedure

2. **The called procedure pushes**

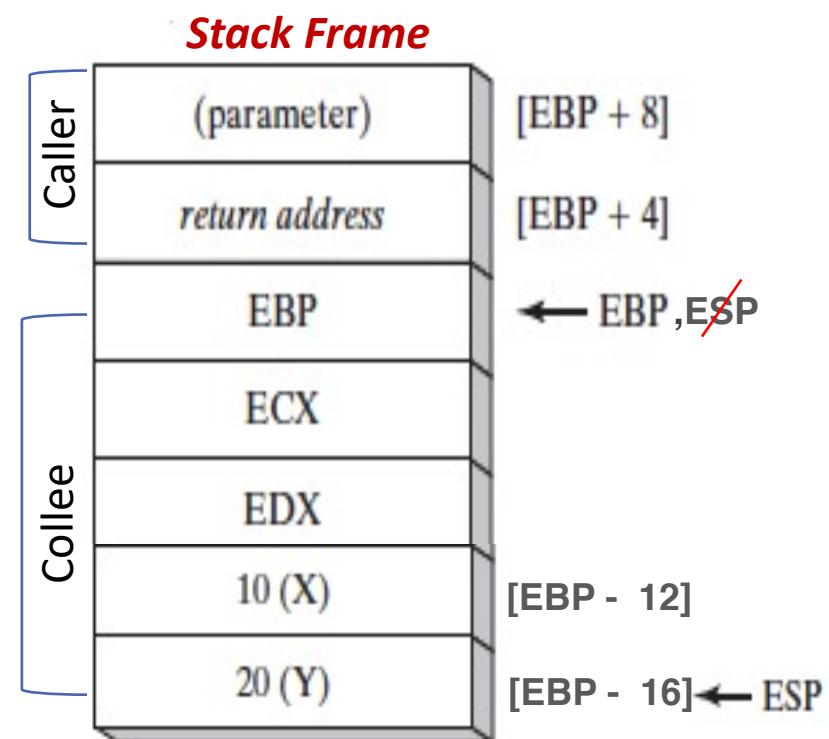
- **EBP** on the stack, and
- **sets EBP to ESP** [from this point on, EBP acts as a **base reference** for all the subroutine parameters]



Stack Frame: Creation

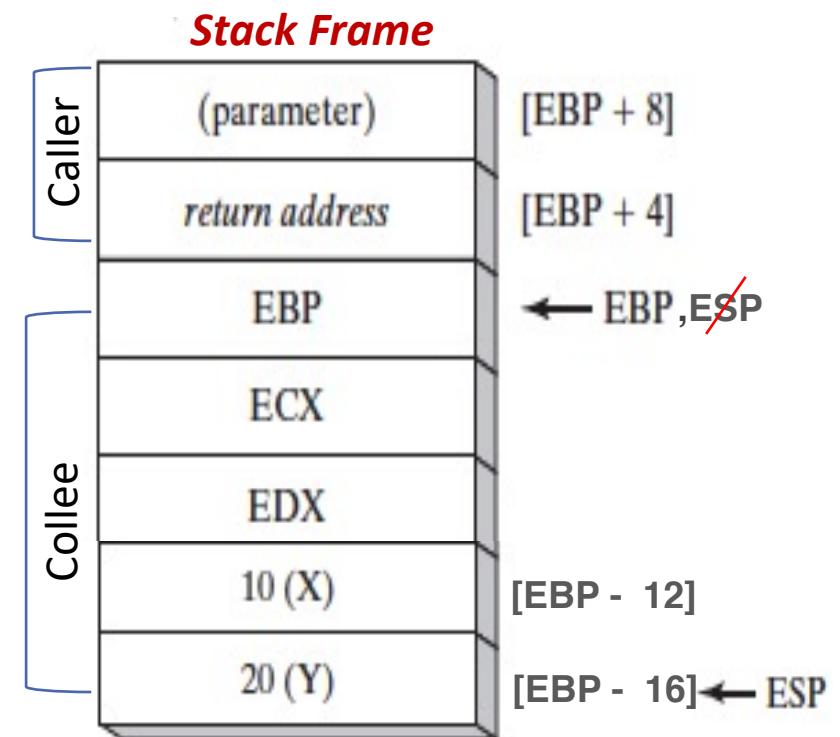
- **Created** by the following steps:

3. If any registers are needed,
 - they are **pushed** on the stack
4. If local variables are needed,
 - a constant is **subtracted** from **ESP** to make room on the stack



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Stack Frame: Stack Parameters (Why?)

- The procedures we have used so far **incorporate** the **general purpose registers** to pass **parameters** to one another:

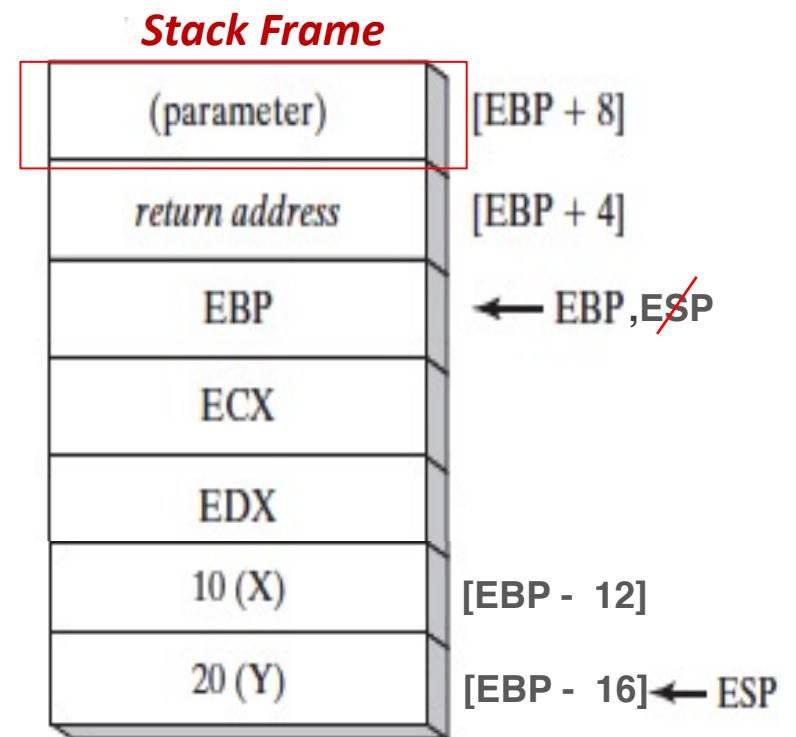
```
pushad  
mov esi,OFFSET array  
mov ecx,LENGTHOF array  
mov ebx,TYPE array  
call DumpMem  
popad
```

EAX, ECX, EDX, EBX, ESP, EBP, ESI, EDI

- This is okay **except** when you create subroutines that require **several (> 8, 😕)** parameters
- In this case you will need to use the stack to pass the parameters

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Source.asm* Project4.lst

```
1 .386
2 .MODEL flat, stdcall
3 .STACK 4096
4 ExitProcess Proto, dwExitCode:DWORD
5 .
6 var1 DWORD 10
7 var2 DWORD 11
8
9
10 .code
11 main PROC
12     push var1
13     push var2
14     call AddTwo
15     INVOKE ExitProcess, 0
16 main ENDP
17
18 AddTwo PROC
19
20     ret
21 AddTwo ENDP
22
23
24 END main
```

Output

Server Explorer Toolbox

Stack

var1 = 10

var2 = 11

return add to main

Top ⇒

Click to add note Ready

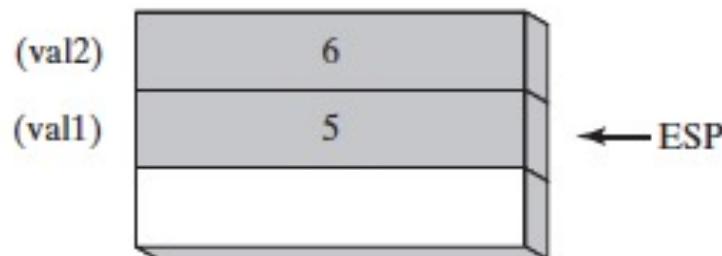
Stack Frame: Passing Arguments

- Two general types of arguments are pushed on the stack during subroutine calls:
 - **Value arguments** (values of variables and constants),
 - **Reference arguments** (addresses of variables)

1) Passing by Value

- When an argument is passed by value, a copy of the value is pushed on the stack

```
.data  
val1    DWORD 5  
val2    DWORD 6  
.code  
push    val2  
push    val1  
call    AddTwo
```

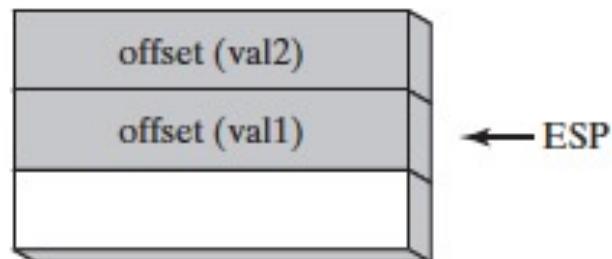


Stack Frame: Passing Arguments

2) Passing by Reference

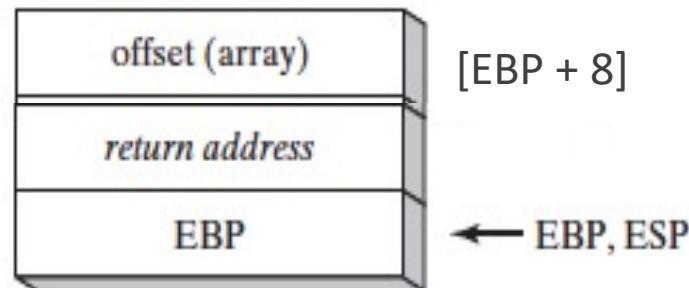
- An argument passed by reference consists of the address (offset) of an object
- The following statements call **Swap**, passing the two arguments by reference:

```
push  OFFSET val2  
push  OFFSET val1  
call   Swap
```



- **Passing Arrays:**

```
.data  
array  DWORD 50 DUP(?)  
.code  
push  OFFSET array  
call   ArrayFill
```



File Edit View Git Project Build Debug Test Analyze Tools Extensions Window Help Search (Ctrl+Q) Project4

Source.asm* Project4.lst

```
1 .386
2 .MODEL flat, stdcall
3 .STACK 4096
4 ExitProcess Proto, dwExitCode:DWORD
5 .
6 .DATA
7 var1 DWORD 10
8 var2 DWORD 11
9 array DWORD 1,2,3,4,5
10 .
11 .code
12 main PROC
13     push var1
14     push var2
15
16     push OFFSET array
17     push LENGTHOF array
18     push TYPE array
19     call AddTwo
20     INVOKE ExitProcess, 0
21 main ENDP
22 .
23 .
24 AddTwo PROC
25
26     ret
27
28
```

4KB

length of the array

size of each item in the array

Type of

initial Address

Top

Offset array

length 5

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

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28

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Ready

Add to Source

Solution Explorer

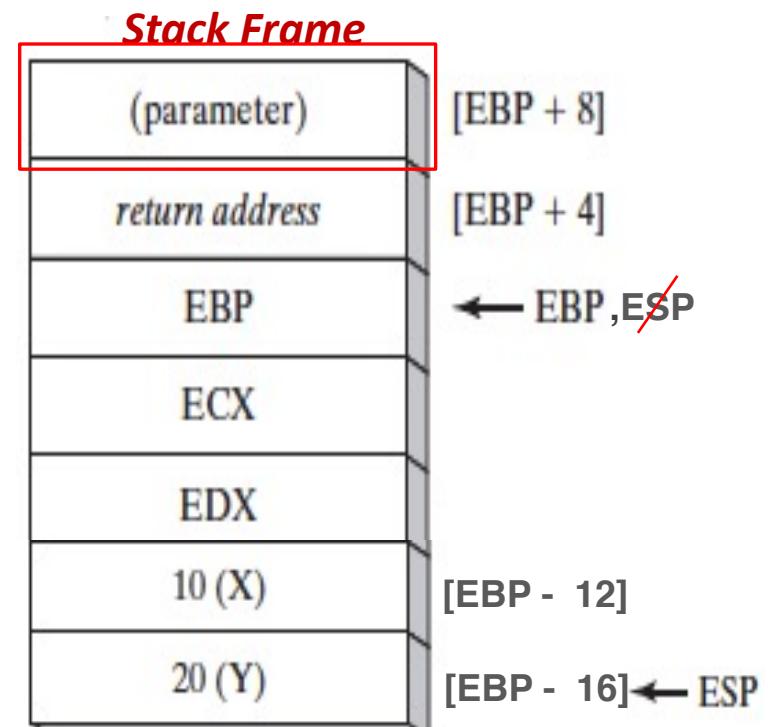
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Solution

Properties

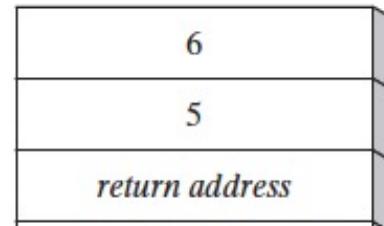
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Stack Frame: Accessing Stack Parameters

- **Base-Offset Addressing**
 - EBP is the base register and **the offset is a constant**.
 - A **function call** such as **AddTwo(5, 6)** would cause the **second parameter** to be pushed on the stack, followed by the **first parameter**:



- 32-bit values are usually returned in **EAX**

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File Edit View Git Project Build Debug Test Analyze Tools Extensions Window Help Search (Ctrl+Q) Project4

Source.asm* Project4.lst

```
7 var2 DWORD 11
8
9
10 .code
11 main PROC
12
13     push var1
14     push var2
15
16     call AddTwo
17     INVOKE ExitProcess, 0
18
19 main ENDP
20
21 AddTwo PROC
22     ; set you EBP register
23     push ebp
24     mov ebp, esp
25
26
27     mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp+12]
28     mov ebx, DWORD PTR [ebp+8]
29     add eax, ebx
30
31     pop ebp
32
33     ret
34
AddTwo ENDP
```

address Stack

1000 ↓ Var1 = 10

996 ↓ Var2 = 11

992 → Return address to main

988 → 0 K bytes (EBP)

ESP = Top

EBP = Base pointer

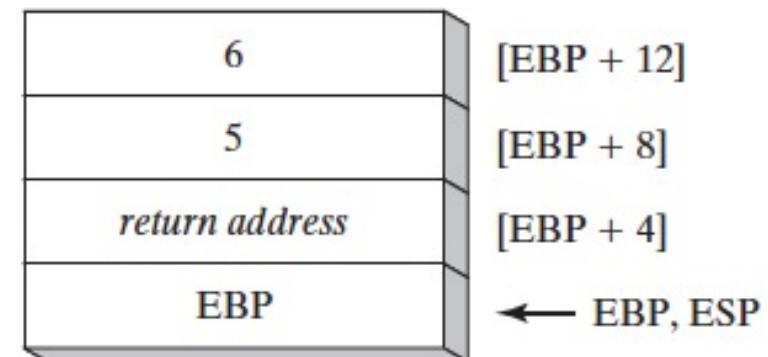
EBP

The diagram illustrates the state of the stack during the execution of the 'main' procedure. The stack grows from high addresses to low addresses. At the top (high addresses), there is a return address to the 'main' procedure at address 992. Below it is the local variable 'Var2' containing the value 11. Further down is the local variable 'Var1' containing the value 10. The bottom of the stack (low addresses) is labeled '0 K bytes (EBP)', where EBP is the Base Pointer. Handwritten annotations include circled numbers 1000, 996, 992, and 988, and circled labels 'Var1 = 10', 'Var2 = 11', 'Return address to main', and '0 K bytes (EBP)'. A red vertical line marks the stack boundary, and a double-headed arrow indicates the current stack address.

Stack Frame: Accessing Stack Parameters

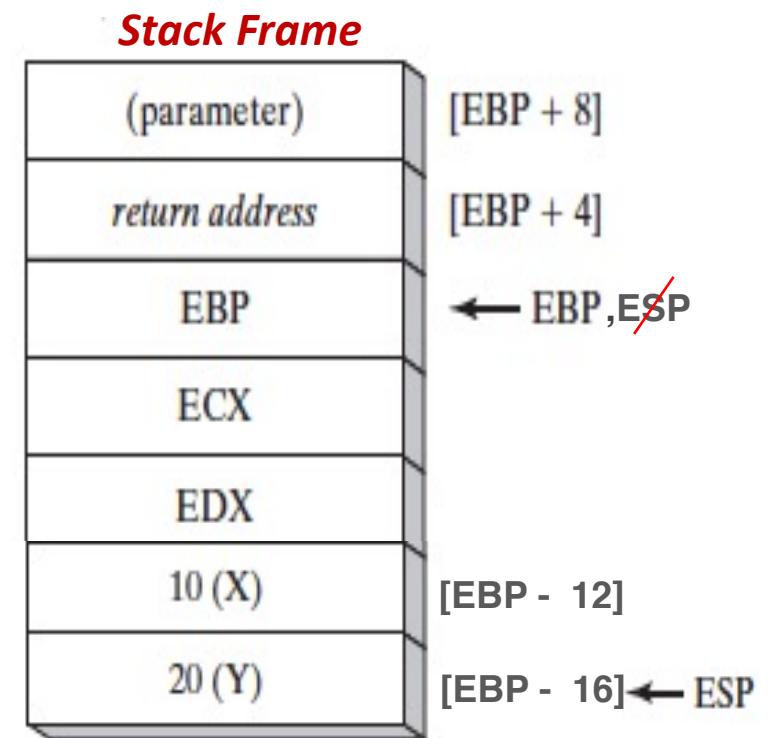
- Base-Offset Addressing

```
.data  
val1    DWORD 5  
val2    DWORD 6  
.code  
push    val2  
push    val1  
call    AddTwo  
  
AddTwo PROC  
    push   ebp  
    mov    ebp,esp  
    mov    eax,[ebp + 12]          ; base of stack frame  
    mov    eax,[ebp + 8]           ; second parameter  
    add    eax,[ebp + 8]           ; first parameter  
    pop    ebp  
    ret  
AddTwo ENDP
```



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Stack Frame: Cleaning Up the Stack

- There must be a way for parameters to be removed from the stack when a subroutine returns
 - Otherwise, a **memory leak** would result, and the **stack would become corrupted**.

main PROC

call Example1

exit

main ENDP

Example1 PROC

push 6
push 5

call AddTwo
ret

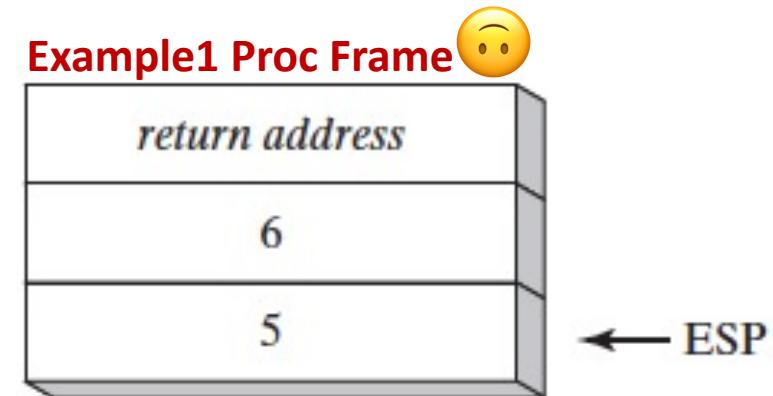
Example1 ENDP

AddTwo PROC

push ebp
mov ebp,esp ; base of stack frame
mov eax,[ebp + 12] ; second parameter
add eax,[ebp + 8] ; first parameter
pop ebp
ret

AddTwo ENDP

Example1 Proc Frame



Stack Frame: Cleaning Up the Stack

- There must be a way for parameters to be removed from the stack when a subroutine returns
 - Otherwise, a **memory leak** would result, and the **stack would become corrupted**.

main PROC

call Example1

 exit

main ENDP

Example1 PROC

 push 6

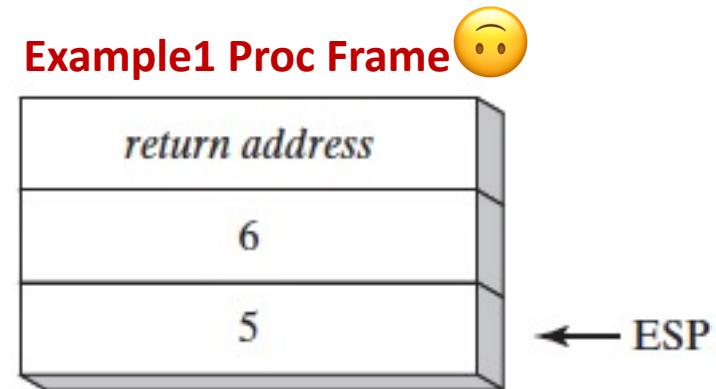
 push 5

call AddTwo

 ret ; **stack is corrupted!**

Example1 ENDP

Example1 Proc Frame



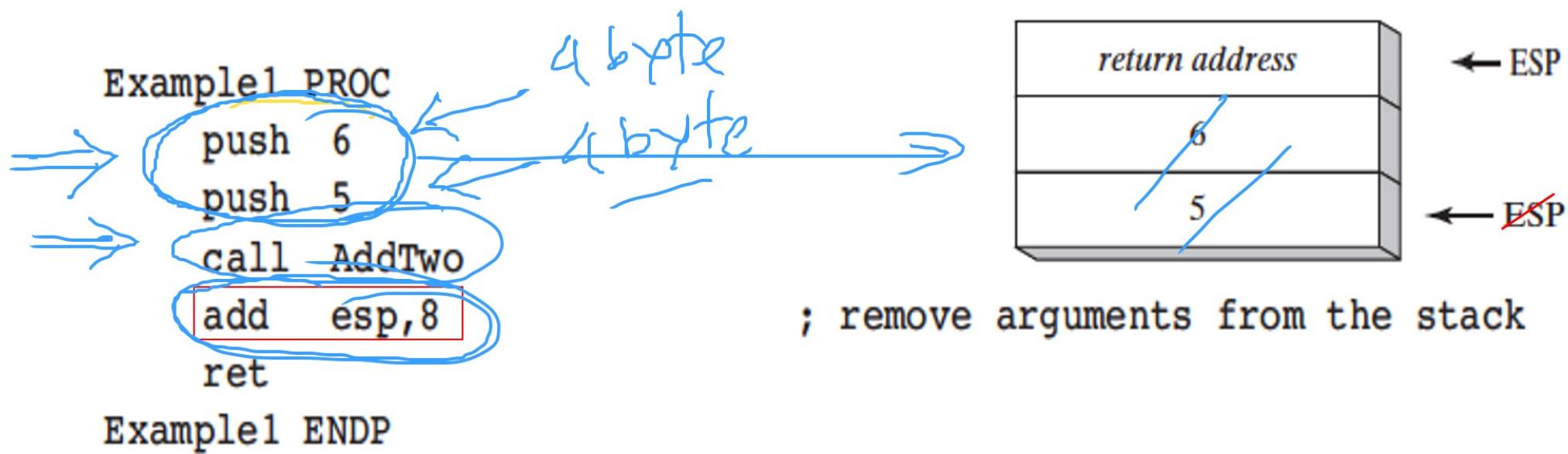
Stack Frame: Cleaning Up the Stack

- The **solution** is to use one of the **calling conventions**:
 - **The C Calling Convention**
 - **STDCALL Calling Convention**

Stack Frame: Cleaning Up the Stack

1) The C Calling Convention:

- Follow **CALL** instruction with a statement that **adds** a value to the **ESP** equal to the combined sizes of the subroutine **parameters**



Stack Frame: Cleaning Up the Stack

2) STDCALL Calling Convention

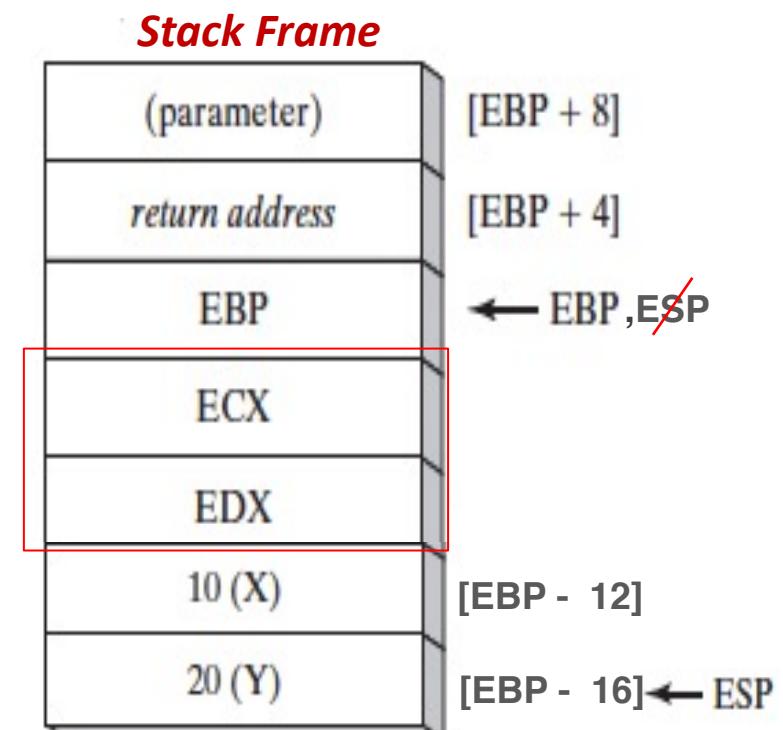
- It supplies an **integer parameter** to the **RET** instruction
- The **integer** must equal the number of bytes of stack space consumed by the procedure's parameters:

```
AddTwo PROC
    push  ebp
    mov   ebp,esp           ; base of stack frame
    mov   eax,[ebp + 12]     ; second parameter
    add   eax,[ebp + 8]      ; first parameter
    pop   ebp
    ret   8                 ; clean up the stack
AddTwo ENDP
```

STDCALL, like C, pushes arguments onto the stack **in reverse order**

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Source.asm* Project4.lst

```
13     mov ecx, 0
14     add ecx, 5
15
16     push var1
17     push var2
18
19     call AddTwo
20     mov edx, ecx
21     INVOKE ExitProcess, 0
22 main ENDP
23
24 AddTwo PROC
25     ; set your EBP register
26     push ebp
27     mov ebp, esp
28
29     mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp+12]
30     mov ebx, DWORD PTR [ebp+8]
31
32     push ecx ; push old ecx to stack
33     add ecx, eax
34     add eax, ebx
35
36     pop ecx
37     pop ebp
38
39     ret 8
40
```

ECX = 5

function call

⇒ ECX = 15

Top

eax = 10

ECX = 0

ebx = 11

eax = 21

stack

varg1 = 10

varg2 = 11

ret. add. to main

EPP

ECX = 5

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Ln: 37 Ch: 9 Col: 12 MIXED CRLF

Solution Explorer

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Solution 'Project4'

Project4

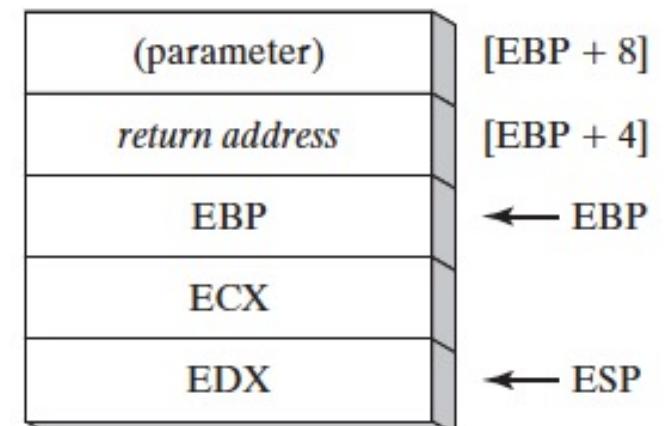
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Properties

Stack Frame: Saving and Restoring Registers

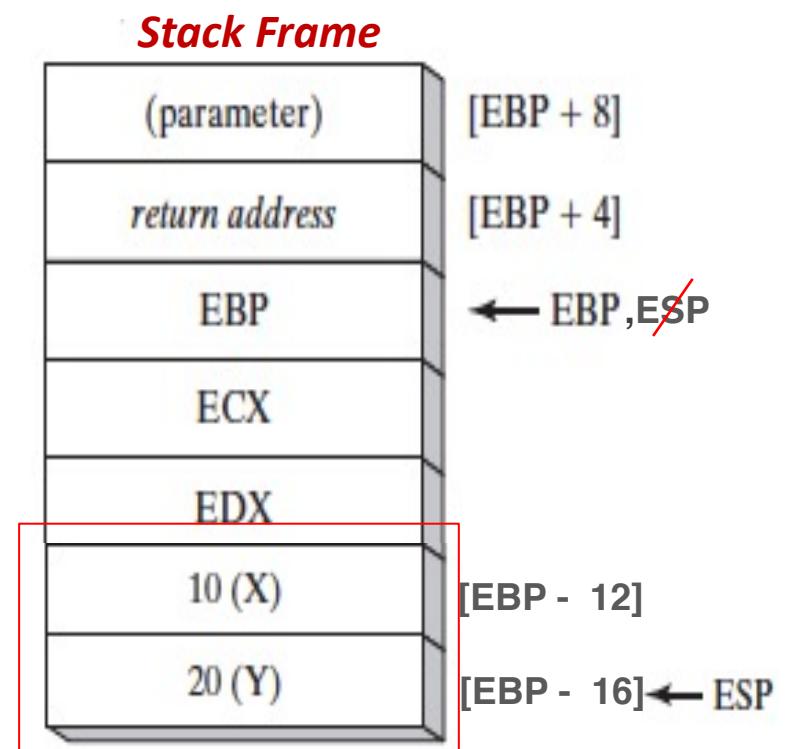
- Registers in question should be pushed on the stack (Rules)
 - just after setting EBP to ESP, and just before reserving space for local variables
 - This helps to avoid changing offsets of existing stack parameters.

```
MySub PROC
    push  ebp          ; save base pointer
    mov   ebp,esp      ; base of stack frame
    push  ecx          ; save ECX
    push  edx          ; save EDX
    mov   eax,[ebp+8]  ; get the stack parameter
    .
    .
    pop   edx          ; restore saved registers
    pop   ecx
    pop   ebp          ; restore base pointer
    ret               ; clean up the stack
MySub ENDP
```



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Stack Frame: Local Variables

- Local variables are created on the runtime stack, usually below the base pointer (EBP)
- They cannot be assigned default values at assembly time, BUT can be initialized at runtime
- EXAMPLE1:

```
void MySub()
{
    int X = 10;
    int Y = 20;
}
```

- Cannot be assigned default values at assembly time
- initialized at runtime

Variable	Bytes	Stack Offset
X	4	EBP - 4
Y	4	EBP - 8

Stack Frame: Local Variables

- EXAMPLE2:

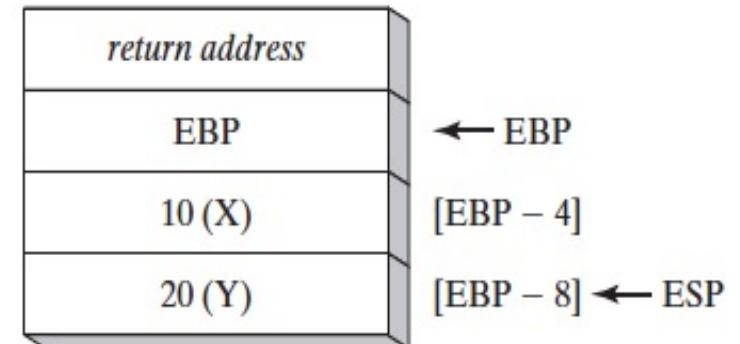
```
MySub PROC  
    push ebp  
    mov ebp,esp  
    sub esp,8
```

; create locals

What if you did
not have this

```
        mov DWORD PTR [ebp-4],10 ; X  
        mov DWORD PTR [ebp-8],20 ; Y  
        mov esp,ebp ; remove locals from stack  
        pop ebp  
        ret
```

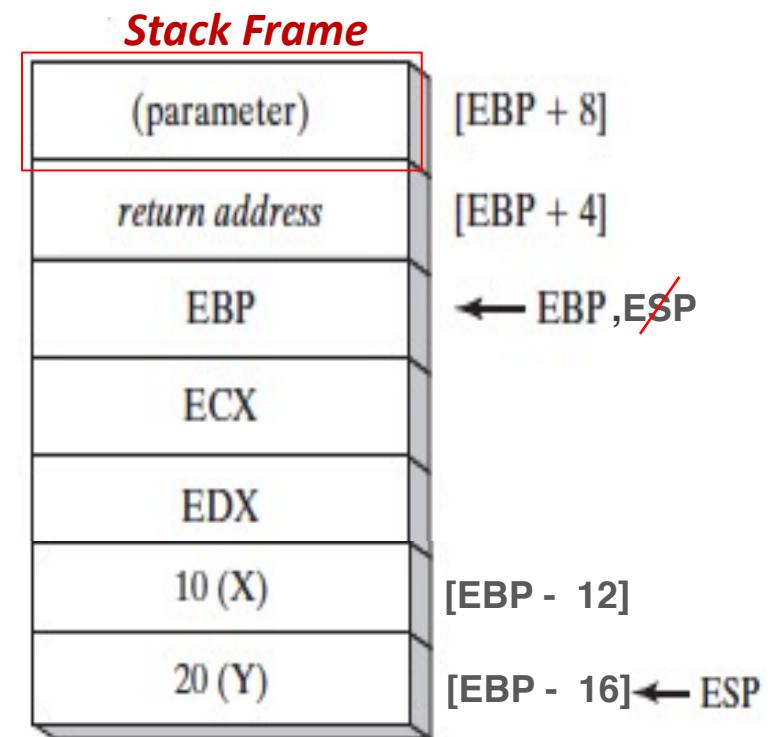
MySub ENDP



Attendance

Outline

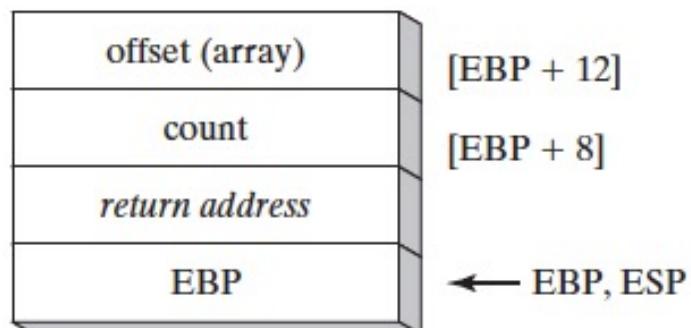
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Stack Frame: Reference Parameters

- **Reference parameters** are usually accessed by procedures using base-offset addressing (from EBP)
- Because each reference parameter is a pointer, it is usually loaded into a register as an indirect operand
- **EXAMPLE1:**
 - Suppose that a pointer to an array is located at **stack address [ebp12]**
 - The following statement copies the pointer into **ESI**:

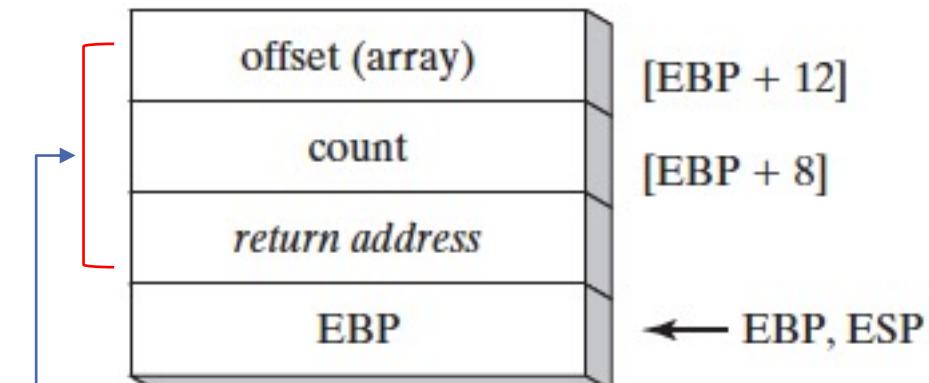
mov esi,[ebp+12] ; points to the array



Stack Frame: Reference Parameters

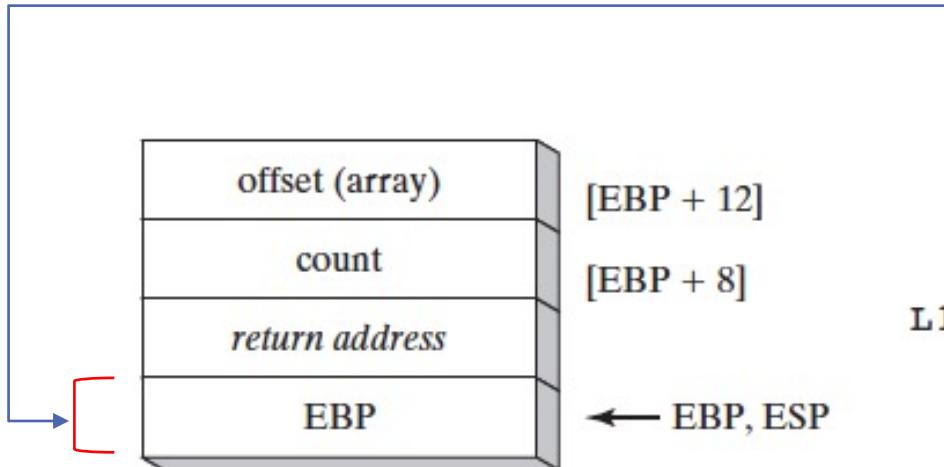
- EXAMPLE2:

```
.data  
count = 100  
array WORD count DUP(?)  
  
.code  
push OFFSET array  
push count  
call ArrayFill
```



Stack Frame: Reference Parameters

- EXAMPLE2:



```
ArrayFill PROC
    push    ebp
    mov     ebp,esp
    pushad
    mov     esi,[ebp+12]
    mov     ecx,[ebp+8]
    cmp     ecx,0
    je      L2

L1:
    mov     eax,10000h
    call    RandomRange
    mov     [esi],ax
    add     esi,TYPE WORD
    loop   L1

L2:   popad
    pop    ebp
    ret    8
ArrayFill ENDP
```

; save registers
; offset of array
; array length
; ECX == 0?
; yes: skip over loop

; get random 0 – FFFFh
; from the link library
; insert value in array

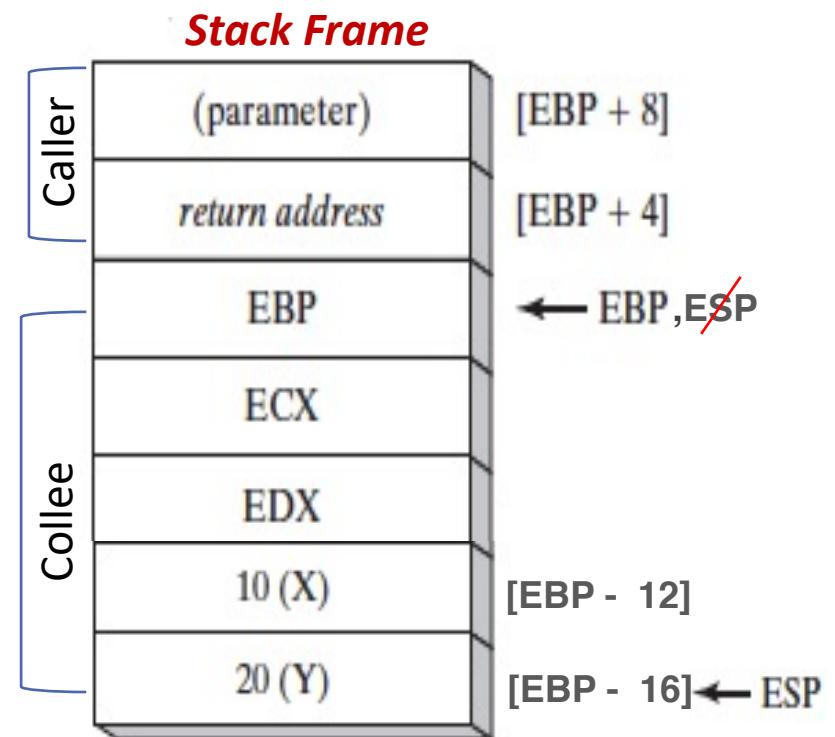
; move to next element

; restore registers

; clean up the stack

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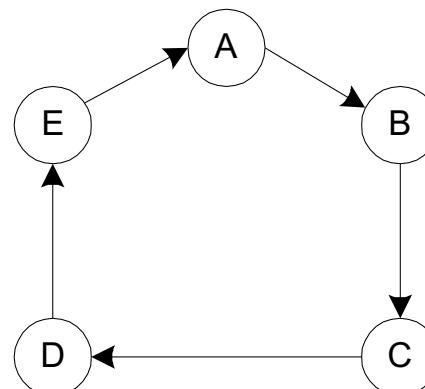
Recursion

- A recursive subroutine is one that calls itself, either directly or indirectly.

The process created when . . .

- A procedure calls itself
- Procedure A calls procedure B, which in turn calls procedure A

- Using a graph in which each node is a procedure and each edge is a procedure call, recursion forms a cycle:



Recursion

- **Endless Recursion:**

```
; Endless Recursion          (Endless.asm)

INCLUDE Irvine32.inc
.data
endlessStr BYTE "This recursion never stops",0
.code
main PROC
    call Endless
    exit
main ENDP

Endless PROC
    mov edx,OFFSET endlessStr
    call WriteString
    call Endless
    ret           ; never executes
Endless ENDP
END main
```

- The **RET** instruction **is never executed**
- The program halts when the stack overflows

Recursion with break condition

Recursion: Recursively Calculating a Factorial

- Recursive subroutines often store temporary data in stack parameters
- When the recursive calls unwind, the **data saved on the stack** can be useful
- **EXAMPLE:**
 - calculate 5!

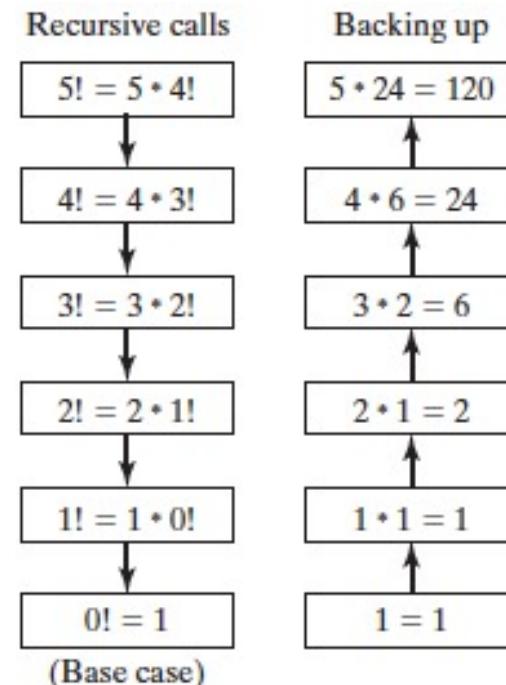
```
int function factorial(int n)
{
    if(n == 0)
        return 1;
    else
        return n * factorial(n-1);
}
```

Recursion: Recursively Calculating a Factorial

- Recursive subroutines often store temporary data in stack parameters
- When the recursive calls unwind, the data saved on the stack can be useful
- **EXAMPLE:**

- **calculate 5!**

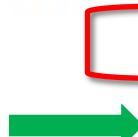
```
int function factorial(int n)
{
    if(n == 0)
        return 1;
    else
        return n * factorial(n-1);
}
```



Recursion: Recursively Calculating a Factorial

- Let's examine the Factorial procedure more closely by tracking a call to it with an initial value of **N = 3**.

```
; Calculating a Factorial (Fact.asm)
INCLUDE Irvine32.inc
.code
main PROC
    push 3          ; calc 3!
    call Factorial ; calculate factorial (EAX)
    call WriteDec   ; display it
    call CrLf
    exit
main ENDP
```



```
int function factorial(int n)
{
    if(n == 0)
        return 1;
    else
        return n * factorial(n-1);
}

;-----
; Factorial PROC
; Calculates a factorial.
; Receives: [ebp+8] = n, the number to calculate
; Returns: eax = the factorial of n
;-----

        push  ebp
        mov   ebp,esp
        mov   eax,[ebp+8]          ; get n
        cmp   eax,0                ; n > 0?
        ja    L1                  ; yes: continue
        mov   eax,1                ; no: return 1 as the value of 0!
        jmp   L2                  ; and return to the caller

L1:   dec   eax
        push  eax          ; Factorial(n-1)
        call  Factorial

; Instructions from this point on execute when each
; recursive call returns.

ReturnFact:
        mov   ebx,[ebp+8]          ; get n
        mul   ebx          ; EDX:EAX = EAX * EBX

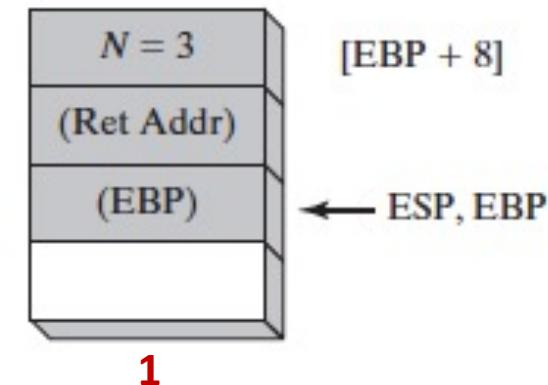
L2:   pop   ebp          ; return EAX
        ret   4           ; clean up stack

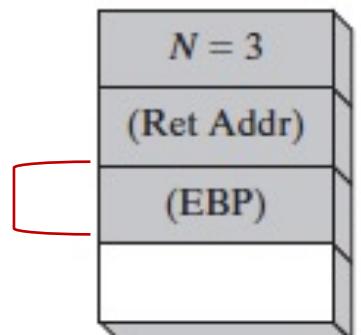
Factorial ENDP
END main
```

Recursion: Recursively Calculating a Factorial

- Let's examine the Factorial procedure more closely by tracking a call to it with an initial value of **N = 3**.

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; Calculating a Factorial (Fact.asm)
INCLUDE Irvine32.inc
.code
main PROC
    push 3           ; calc 3!
    call Factorial ; calculate factorial (EAX)
    call WriteDec   ; display it
    call Crlf
    exit
main ENDP
```





1

```

;-----  

Factorial PROC  

; Calculates a factorial.  

; Receives: [ebp+8] = n, the number to calculate  

; Returns: eax = the factorial of n  

;  

    push    ebp  

    mov     ebp,esp  

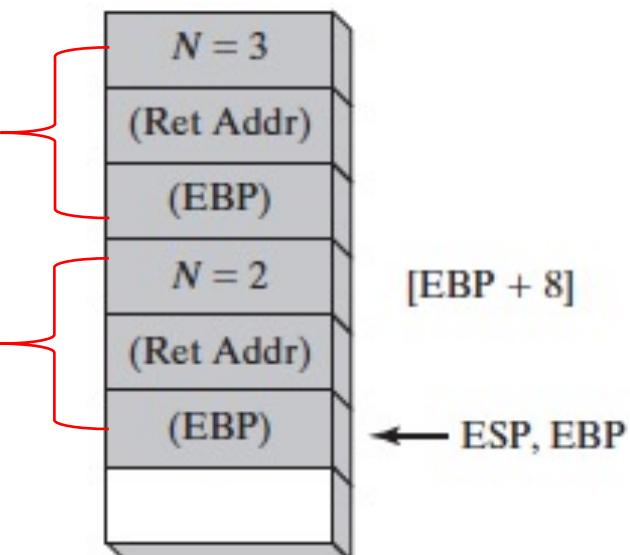
    mov     eax,[ebp+8]          ; get n  

    cmp     eax,0                ; n > 0?  

    ja      L1                  ; yes: continue  

    mov     eax,1                ; no: return 1 as the value of 0!  

    jmp     L2                  ; and return to the caller
;
```



2

```

L1:   dec    eax  

      push   eax  

      call   Factorial           ; Factorial(n-1)  

;  

; Instructions from this point on execute when each  

; recursive call returns.  

;  

ReturnFact:  

    mov    ebx,[ebp+8]          ; get n  

    mul    ebx                 ; EDX:EAX = EAX * EBX  

;  

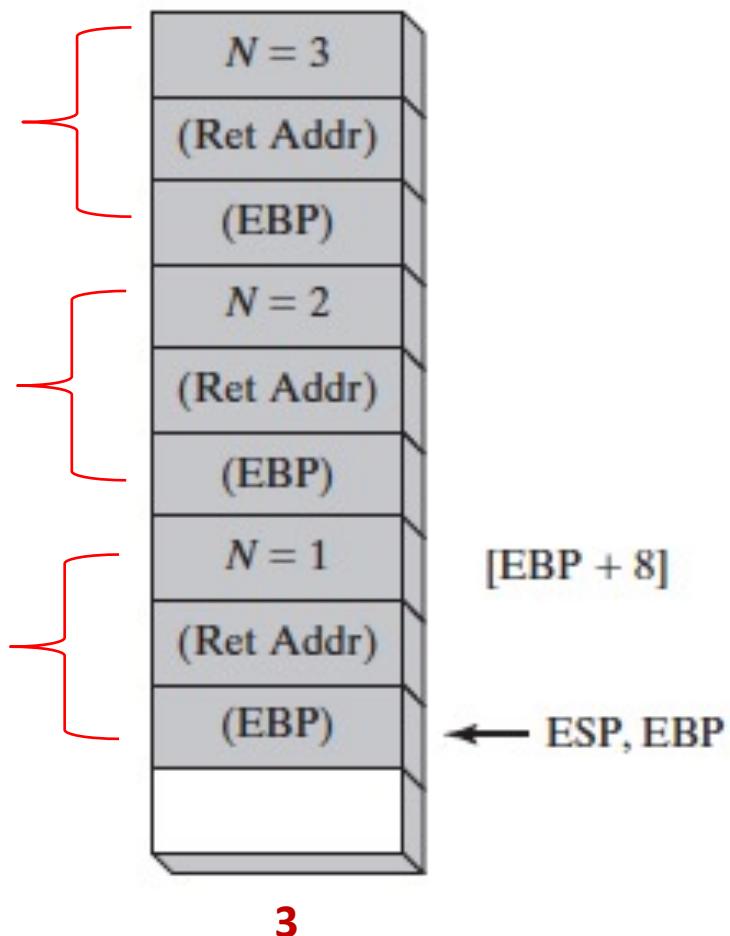
L2:   pop    ebp  

      ret    4                  ; return EAX  

      ; clean up stack  

Factorial ENDP  

END main
;
```



```

;-----
Factorial PROC
    ; Calculates a factorial.
    ; Receives: [ebp+8] = n, the number to calculate
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;-----

    push    ebp
    mov     ebp,esp
    mov     eax,[ebp+8]           ; get n
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    mov     eax,1                ; no: return 1 as the value of 0!
    jmp     L2                  ; and return to the caller

L1:   dec    eax
      push   eax
      call   Factorial          ; Factorial(n-1)

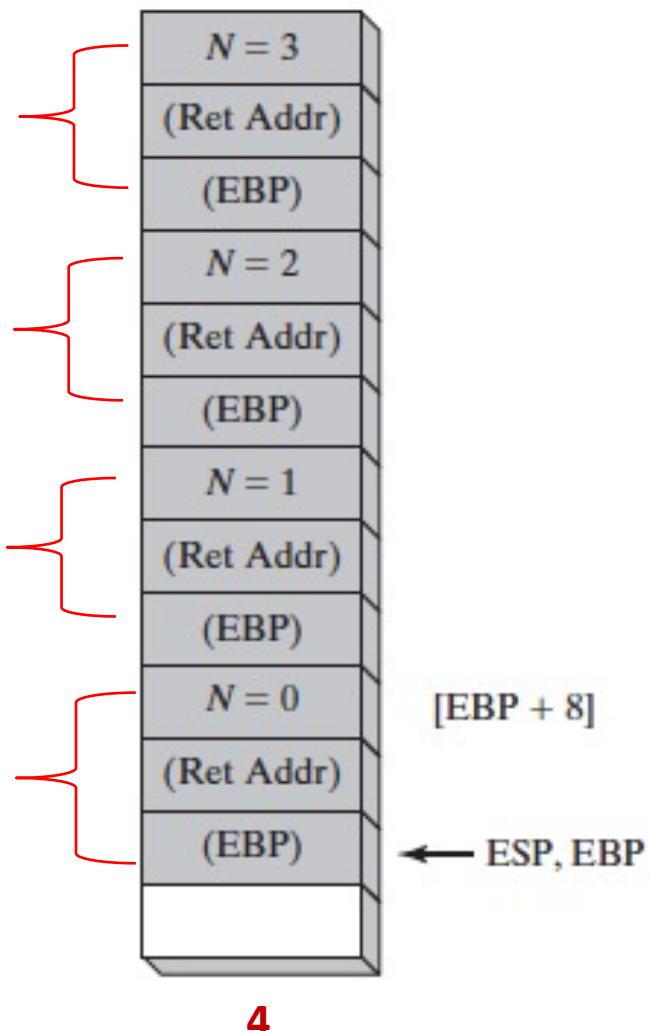
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    mov    ebx,[ebp+8]          ; get n
    mul    ebx                 ; EDX:EAX = EAX * EBX

L2:   pop    ebp
      ret    4                  ; return EAX
                                ; clean up stack

Factorial ENDP
END main

```



```

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Factorial PROC
; Calculates a factorial.
; Receives: [ebp+8] = n, the number to calculate
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    push  ebp
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    mov   eax,[ebp+8]          ; get n
    cmp   eax,0                ; n > 0?
    ja    L1                  ; yes: continue
    mov   eax,1                ; no: return 1 as the value of 0!
    jmp   L2                  ; and return to the caller

L1:  dec   eax
    push  eax
    call  Factorial           ; Factorial(n-1)

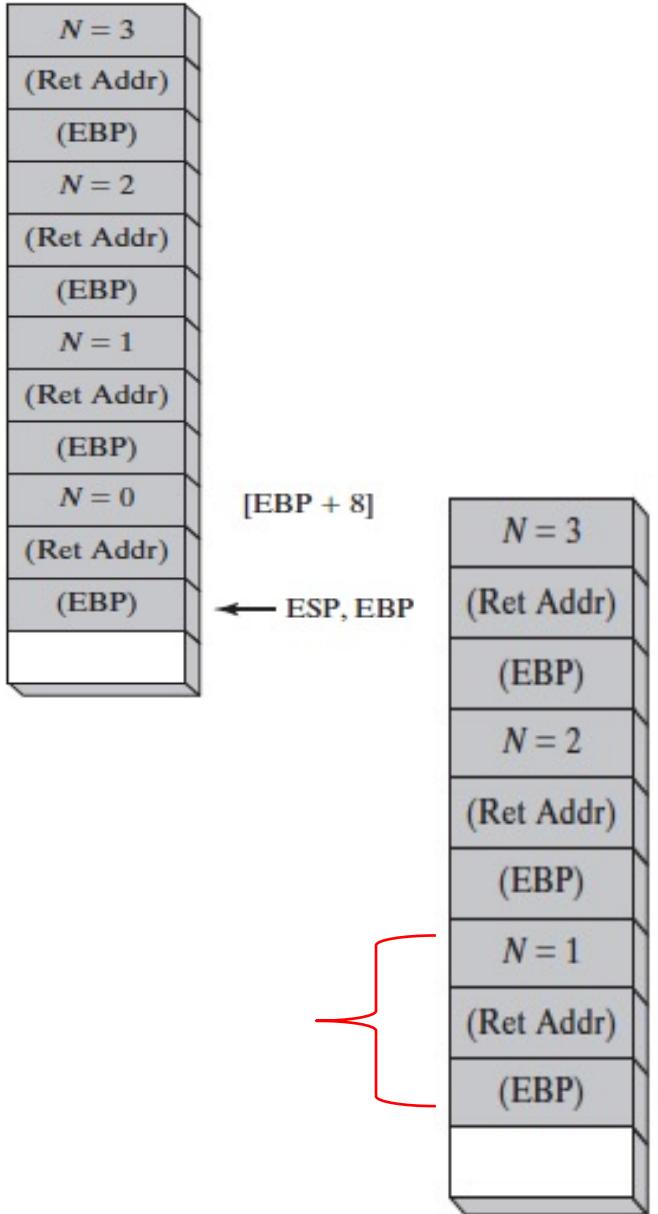
; Instructions from this point on execute when each
; recursive call returns.

ReturnFact:
    mov   ebx,[ebp+8]          ; get n
    mul   ebx                 ; EDX:EAX = EAX * EBX

L2:  pop   ebp
    ret   4                   ; return EAX
                                ; clean up stack

Factorial ENDP
END main

```



```

;-----  

Factorial PROC  

; Calculates a factorial.  

; Receives: [ebp+8] = n, the number to calculate  

; Returns: eax = the factorial of n  

;  

  push  ebp  

  mov   ebp,esp  

  mov   eax,[ebp+8]          ; get n  

  cmp   eax,0                ; n > 0?  

  ja    L1                  ; yes: continue  

  mov   eax,1                ; no: return 1 as the value of 0!  

  jmp   L2                  ; and return to the caller  

;  

L1:  dec   eax  

     push  eax  

     call  Factorial          ; Factorial(n-1)  

;  

; Instructions from this point on execute when each  

; recursive call returns.  

;  

ReturnFact:  

  mov   ebx,[ebp+8]          ; get n  

  mul   ebx                 ; EDX:EAX = EAX * EBX  

;  

L2:  pop   ebp  

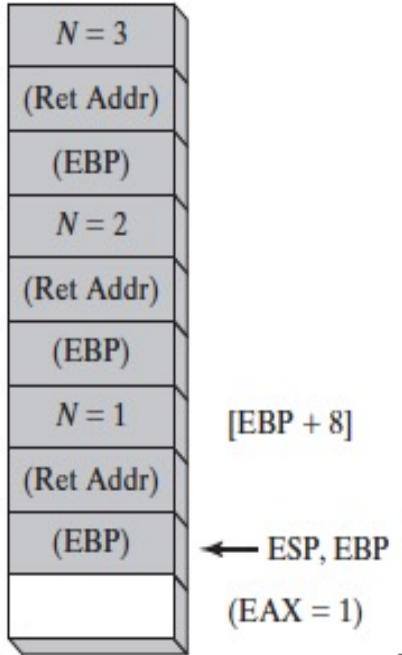
     ret   4                  ; return EAX  

     ; clean up stack  

Factorial ENDP  

END main

```



```

;-----  

Factorial PROC  

    ; Calculates a factorial.  

    ; Receives: [ebp+8] = n, the number to calculate  

    ; Returns: eax = the factorial of n  

;-----  

    push    ebp  

    mov     ebp,esp  

    mov     eax,[ebp+8]          ; get n  

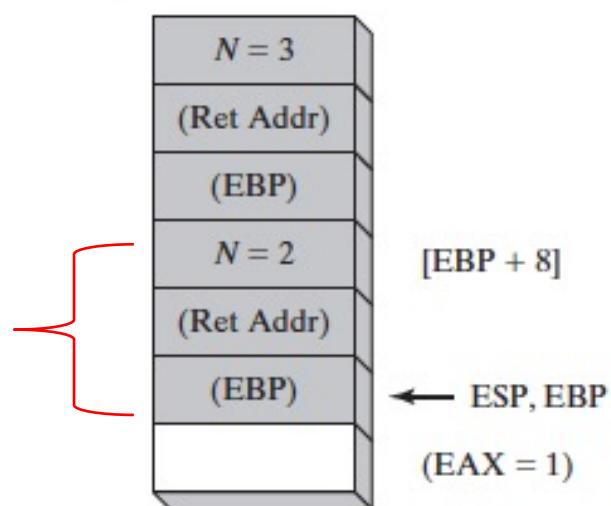
    cmp     eax,0                ; n > 0?  

    ja      L1                  ; yes: continue  

    mov     eax,1                ; no: return 1 as the value of 0!  

    jmp     L2                  ; and return to the caller

```



→ **L1: dec eax
push eax
call Factorial** ; Factorial(n-1)

;

;

Instructions from this point on execute when each recursive call returns.

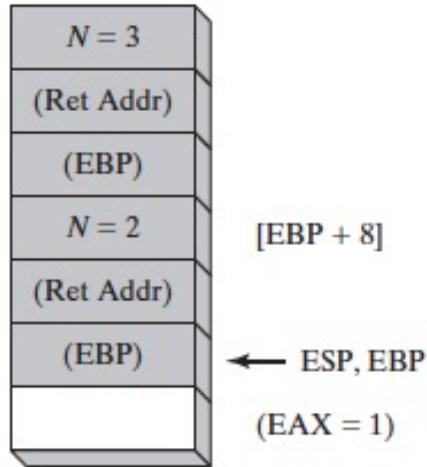
ReturnFact:

mov ebx,[ebp+8] ; get n
mul ebx ; EDX:EAX = EAX * EBX

→ **L2: pop ebp
ret 4** ; return EAX
; clean up stack

Factorial ENDP

END main



```

;-----  

Factorial PROC  

; Calculates a factorial.  

; Receives: [ebp+8] = n, the number to calculate  

; Returns: eax = the factorial of n  

;  

    push  ebp  

    mov   ebp,esp  

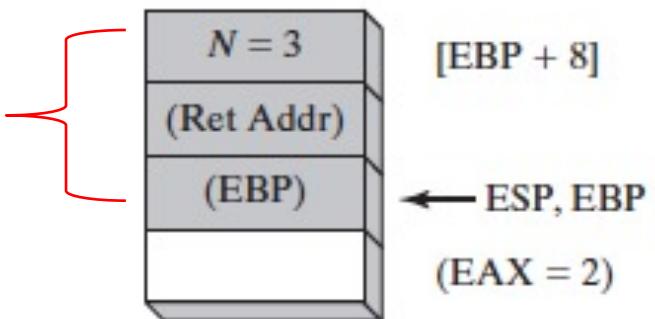
    mov   eax,[ebp+8]          ; get n  

    cmp   eax,0                ; n > 0?  

    ja    L1                  ; yes: continue  

    mov   eax,1                ; no: return 1 as the value of 0!  

    jmp   L2                  ; and return to the caller
;
```



The return value in **EAX**, 6, is the computed value of 3 factorial.

```

L1: dec   eax  

     push  eax          ; Factorial(n-1)  

     call   Factorial  

;  

; Instructions from this point on execute when each  

; recursive call returns.  

;  

ReturnFact:  

    mov   ebx,[ebp+8]      ; get n  

    mul   ebx              ; EDX:EAX = EAX * EBX  

;  

L2: pop   ebp          ; return EAX  

    ret   4               ; clean up stack  

Factorial ENDP  

END main
;
```

Outline

- Stack Overview
- Stack Frame
 - Stack Parameters
 - Passing Arguments
 - Accessing Stack Parameters
 - Cleaning Up the Stack
 - Saving and Restoring Registers
 - Local Variables
 - Reference Parameters
 - Recursion
- **INVOKE, ADDR, PROC, and PROTO**

INVOKE, ADDR, PROC, and PROTO

- **INVOKE Directive**
- ADDR Operator
- PROC Directive
- PROTO Directive
- Parameter Classifications
 - Example: Exchanging Two Integers
 - Debugging Tips

Not in 64-bit mode!

INVOKE Directive

- In 32-bit mode, the **INVOKE** directive is a powerful replacement for Intel's CALL instruction that **lets you pass multiple arguments**

- **Syntax:**

- `INVOKE procedureName [, argumentList]`

- **ArgumentList** is an optional comma-delimited list of procedure arguments

- **Arguments** can be:

- **immediate values and integer expressions**
 - **variable names**
 - **address and ADDR expressions**
 - **register names**

Table 8-2 Argument types used with INVOKE.

Type	Examples
Immediate value	10, 3000h, OFFSET myList, TYPE array
Integer expression	(10 * 20), COUNT
Variable	myList, array, myWord, myDword
Address expression	[myList+2], [ebx + esi]
Register	eax, bl, edi
ADDR name	ADDR myList
OFFSET name	OFFSET myList

Invoke Examples

```
.data  
byteVal BYTE 10  
wordVal WORD 1000h  
.code
```

; direct operands:

```
Invoke Sub1,byteVal,wordVal
```

; address of variable:

```
Invoke Sub2,ADDR byteVal
```

; register name, integer expression:

```
Invoke Sub3,eax,(10 * 20)
```

; address expression (indirect operand):

```
Invoke Sub4,[ebx]
```

INVOKE, ADDR, PROC, and PROTO

- INVOKE Directive
- **ADDR Operator**
- PROC Directive
- PROTO Directive
- Parameter Classifications
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Not in 64-bit mode!

ADDR Operator

- Returns a near or far pointer to a variable, depending on which memory model your program uses:
 - Small model: returns 16-bit offset
 - Large model: returns 32-bit segment/offset
 - **Flat model**: returns 32-bit offset
- Simple example:

```
.data  
myWord WORD ?  
.code  
INVOKE mySub, ADDR myWord
```

INVOKE, ADDR, PROC, and PROTO

- INVOKE Directive
- ADDR Operator
- **PROC Directive**
- PROTO Directive
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Not in 64-bit mode!

PROC Directive

- The **PROC directive** declares a procedure **with an optional list of named parameters**.
- **Syntax:**

label PROC paramList

- **paramList** is a list of parameters separated by commas.
- **Each parameter** has the following syntax:

paramName : type

- **type** must either be one of the standard ASM types (**BYTE, SBYTE, WORD, etc.**),
- or it can be a **pointer** to one of these types.

You can refer to parameter by name instead of calculating the stack offsets (such as [ebp+8])

PROC Directive

- Alternate format permits parameter list to be on one or more separate lines:

label PROC, ← comma required

paramList

- The parameters can be **on the same line** . . .

param-1:type-1, param-2:type-2, . . . , param-n:type-n

- Or they can be on separate lines:

param-1:type-1,

param-2:type-2,

. . .

param-n:type-n

AddTwo Procedure

- The AddTwo procedure receives two integers and returns their sum in EAX.

```
AddTwo PROC,  
    val1:DWORD, val2:DWORD  
  
    mov eax, val1  
    add eax, val2  
  
    ret  
AddTwo ENDP
```

PROC Examples

- FillArray receives a pointer to an array of bytes, a single byte fill value that will be copied to each element of the array, and the size of the array.

```
FillArray PROC,  
    pArray:PTR BYTE,  fillVal:BYTE,  
    arraySize:DWORD  
  
    mov  ecx, arraySize  
    mov  esi, pArray  
    mov  al, fillVal  
L1:   mov  [esi], al  
    inc  esi  
    loop L1  
    ret  
FillArray ENDP
```

Proc c,
Proc STDCALL,

INVOKE, ADDR, PROC, and PROTO

- INVOKE Directive
- ADDR Operator
- PROC Directive
- **PROTO Directive**
- Parameter Classifications
 - Example: Exchanging Two Integers
 - Debugging Tips

PROTO Directive

- Creates a procedure prototype
- Syntax:
 - *label PROTO paramList*
- Every procedure called by the **INVOKE** directive **must have a prototype**
- A complete procedure definition can also serve as its own prototype
- Parameter list **not permitted in 64-bit mode**

PROTO Directive

- Standard configuration:
 - **PROTO** appears at top of the program listing,
 - **INVOKE** appears in the code segment,
 - **Procedure** implementation occurs later in the program:

```
MySub PROTO          ; procedure prototype  
  
.code  
INVOKE MySub          ; procedure call  
  
MySub PROC          ; procedure implementation  
.  
.  
MySub ENDP
```

PROTO Example

- Prototype for the ArraySum procedure, showing its parameter list:

```
ArraySum PROTO,  
    ptrArray:PTR DWORD,      ; points to the array  
    szArray:DWORD           ; array size
```

Parameters are not permitted in 64-bit mode.

INVOKE, ADDR, PROC, and PROTO

- INVOKE Directive
- ADDR Operator
- PROC Directive
- PROTO Directive
- **Parameter Classifications**
 - Example: Exchanging Two Integers
 - Debugging Tips

Parameter Classifications

- An input parameter is **data passed by a calling program** to a procedure.
 - The called procedure is not expected to modify the corresponding parameter variable, and
 - even if it does, the modification is confined to the procedure itself.
- An output parameter is created by **passing a pointer to a variable when a procedure is called**.
 - The procedure does not use any existing data from the variable, but it fills in a new value before it returns.
- An input-output parameter is a pointer to a variable containing input that will be both used and modified by the procedure.
 - The variable passed by the calling program is modified.

Trouble-Shooting Tips

- Save and restore registers when they are modified by a procedure.
 - Except a register that returns a function result
- When using **INVOKE**, be careful to pass a pointer to the correct data type.
 - For example, MASM cannot distinguish between a DWORD argument and a PTR BYTE argument.
- Do not pass an immediate value to a procedure that expects a reference parameter.
 - Dereferencing its address will likely cause a general-protection fault.