System Programming HW3 report

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(a)

main	rbp:0x7fffffffe6d0 rsp:0x7fffffffe6b0
funct_5	rbp:0x7fffffffe6a0 rsp:0x7fffffff4a40
funct_1	rbp:0x7fffffff4a30 rsp:0x7fffffff4a10
funct_5	rbp:0x7ffffffff4a00 rsp:0x7ffffffeada0
funct_2	rbp:0x7ffffffead90 rsp:0x7ffffffead70
funct_5	<pre>rbp:0x7ffffffead60 rsp:0x7ffffffe1100</pre>
funct_3	<pre>rbp:0x7ffffffe10f0 rsp:0x7ffffffe10d0</pre>
funct_5	rbp:0x7fffffffe10c0 rsp:0x7ffffffd7460
funct_4	rbp:0x7ffffffd7450 rsp:0x7ffffffd7430

- (b) Yes. The stack frame of the function is unchanged. We have used the dummy as a buffer to avoid functions from overwriting the stack frame of other functions. So the value is unaffected by "setjmp" and "longjmp".
- (c) The dummy function acts as a buffer between the functions. We call "Scheduler()" and the kernel calls the signal handler on our behalf in our functions. They are pushed into the stack on top of our functions. If there is no buffer between our functions, they may overlap with the stack frame of other functions. When we later use "longjmp()" to return to a function, the content may already be corrupted.

- (d) No. In fact, when I tested it on the workstation, it resulted in a "stack smashing". When I used GDB to see what was happening underneath the hood, I found that the "stack smashing" occurred when "funct_5" was trying to return to "main". I suspect the reason had something to do with the "rip" register. When "main" first called "funct_5", "funct_5" was pushed onto the stack. In the stack frame, various information was stored, including the "rip" register, which stored the instruction to execute after the function returned. Later when "funct_4" long jumped back to "main", "main" called the "Scheduler" function. The new stack frame overlapped with the original stack frame of "funct_5", overwriting the information, including the content of "rip" register. When "funct_5" was trying to return to "main", the system(Stack Smashing detector) detected the stack frame was altered and it was returning to some place it was not supposed to return to. So it raised a SIGABRT to terminate the process.
- (e) I read the textbook to make sure I had enough understanding of "setjmp()" and "longjmp()" before I started writing the code. All the functions used were taught in class and thus I didn't struggle with it. Most of the time, I was trying to understand how the given "scheduler.o" and "scheduler.c" worked. I didn't know much about compiling multiple files into one executable file, so it took me a while to figured it out.