



EE 357 Unit 7

Subroutines Stacks





Subroutines

 Subroutines (or functions) are portions of code that we can call from anywhere in our code, execute that subroutine, and then return to where we left off

```
C code:
                            void main() {
                                                                     We call the
                                                                   subroutine to
                              x = 8;
                                                           calculate the average
                              res = avg(x, 4);
     A subroutine to
calculate the average
                            int avg(int a, int b) {
       of 2 numbers
                              return (a+b)/2;
```





Subroutines

 Subroutines are similar to branches where we jump to a new location in the code

C code:

```
void main() {
  x = 8;
  res = avg(x, 4);
                             Call "avg" sub-routine
                          will require us to branch
                              to that code
int avg(int a, int b) {
  return (a+b)/2;
```





Normal Branches vs. Subroutines

 Difference between normal branches and subroutines is that subroutines automatically return to location after the subroutine call

```
C code:
                        void main() {
                           x = 8;
                           res = avq(x, 4);
                                                       Call "avg" sub-routine to
                                                   calculate the average
After subroutine
                        int avg(int a, int b) {
completes,
return to the
                           return (a+b)/2;
statement in the
main code
where we left off
```





Implementing Subroutines

- To implement subroutines in assembly we need to be able to:
 - Branch to the subroutine code (BSR/JSR instruc.)
 - Return to the instruction after BSR when we finish the subroutine (RTS instruc.)





Branching to a Subroutine

- Use BSR instruction (<u>Branch SubRoutine</u>)
- Format:
 - BSR. {S,W,L} Addr
- Similar to branches we still add a displacement value to the PC [e.g. PC + disp→PC]
 - S,W,L refers to 8-, 16-, or 32-bit displacement values similar to normal branches
 - Addr is the address you want to branch to
 - Usually specified as a label
- Automatically stores the <u>return address (RA)</u> for use by the RTS instruction





BSR & RTS

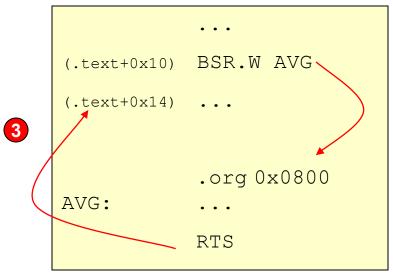
Branch Formula:

```
disp. = Addr of Label – (Addr. of Branch + 2)
= 0x0800 - (0x0010+2) = 0x07EE
```

 Use RTS instruction to indicate that the subroutine is complete and we should return to where the routine was called

Assembly:

RTS loads the PC with the return address stored by the BSR



- 1 BSR will add displacement 0x07EE to PC to get the new PC = .text+0x0800
- 2 BSR will also store the return address:.text+0x14 for use by the RTS instruction





Jumping to a Subroutine

- Format:
 - JSR Addr
- Rather than storing a displacement to add to the PC like BSR does, JSR simply stores the start address of the subroutine [e.g. PC = Addr.]
 - Addr is the address you want to branch to
 - Usually specified as a label
- Automatically stores the <u>return address (RA)</u> for use by the RTS instruction just like BSR





Return Addresses: Fact 1

 AVG may be called many times from many places in the code...which means a different return address each time

Assembly:

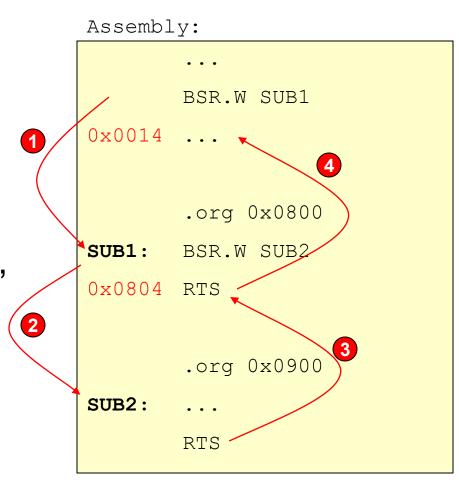
```
(.text+0x10) \quad BSR.W \quad AVG
(.text+0x14) \quad ... \quad 0x0050
(.text+0x4c) \quad BSR.W \quad AVG
(.text+0x50) \quad ...
.org \quad 0x0800
AVG: \quad ...
RTS
```





Return Addresses: Fact 2

- Subroutines may call other subroutines (i.e. arbitrary number of "nested" subroutines calls)
- Example: 'main' calls 'sub1' which calls 'sub2' and so on...
 - Need to store all these return addresses until they are used by RTS instructions

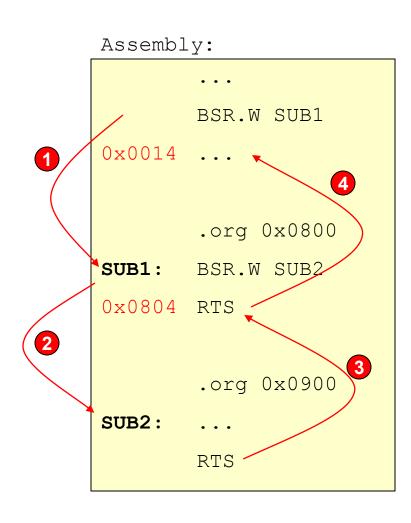






Dealing with Return Addresses

- Q: Can we store return address in a particular processor register (i.e. select A6 as the "return address register")?
- A: No because we have multiple return addresses alive at the same time
- Q: Can we use more registers to store RA's?
- A: Not if we want to support arbitrary depth of subroutine calls

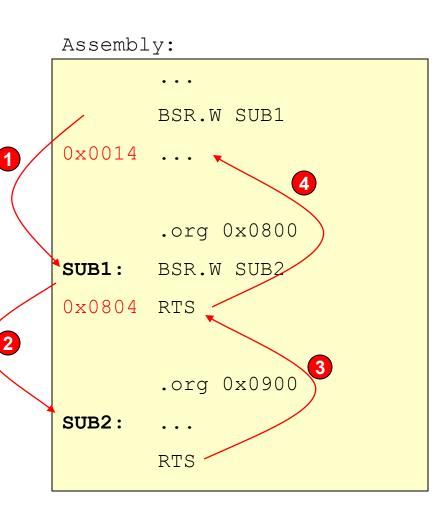






Storing Return Addresses

- To store arbitrary number of return addresses, need to store them in memory (i.e. usually enough main memory to allow for arbitrary depth of subroutine calls)
- Return addresses will be accessed in reverse order as they are stored
 - 0x0804 is the second RA to be stored but should be the first one used to return
- Implies we should use a <u>stack</u> data structure to store RA's





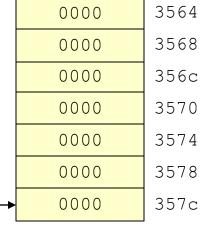


Stacks

- Use a stack to store the return addresses
- Stack is a data structure where data is accessed in reverse order as it is stored
- System stack will use a specific area in memory and growing towards smaller addresses
- Stack is accessed using A7 as a pointer
 - A7 is renamed SP (Stack pointer)

<u>Stack</u>

Main memory



Stack Pointer
Convention
Always points to
top occupied
element of the
stack

0x357c

(SP/A7) =

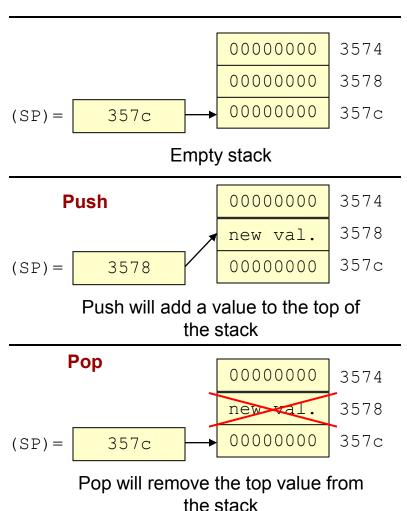
0x0357c is the base of the stack, but it will always be empty due to our convention





Stacks

- 2 Operations on stack
 - Push: Put new data on top of stack
 - Decrement SP
 - Write value to where SP points
 - Pop: Retrieves and "removes" data from top of stack
 - Read value from where SP points
 - Increment SP to effectively "delete" top value



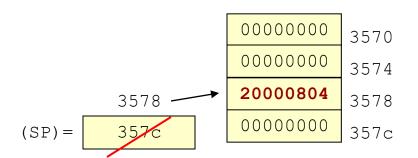




Push Operation

- Push: Put new data on top of stack
 - Decrement SP
 - SP = SP-4
 - Write value to where SP points
 - M[SP] = value
 - Can be accomplished w/ predecrement mode
 - MOVE.L D0,-(SP)

Push value 0x20000804



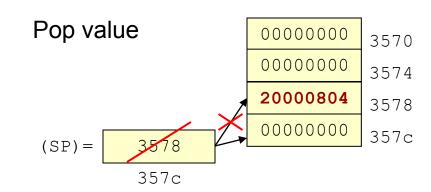
Decrement SP by 4 (since pushing a longword), then write value to where the SP is now pointing





Pop Operation

- Pop: Retrieves and "removes" data from top of stack
 - Read value from where SP points
 - dst = M[SP]
 - Increment SP to effectively "delete" top value
 - SP = SP + 4
 - Can be accomplished w/ predecrement mode
 - MOVE.L (SP)+,D0



Read value that SP points at then increment SP (this effectively deletes the value because the next push will overwrite it)

Warning: Because the stack grows towards lower addresses, when you push something on the stack you subtract 4 from the SP and when you pop, you add 4 to the SP.





User-Defined Stack Example

- Users can create their own stack data structures using M68000 Instructions
 - Predecrement mode is perfect for push operations while postincrement mode is perfect for pop operations
 - Due to the assumption that top of stack is 1st occupied location and that the stack grows upwards (towards lower addresses)

```
* Setup stack pointer

MOVEA.L #$2000,A5 1

* Use pre-decrement to push

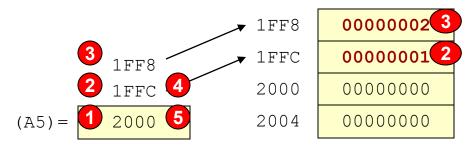
MOVE.L #1,-(A5) 2

MOVE.L #2,-(A5) 3

* Use post-increment to pop

MOVE.L (A5)+,D0 4

MOVE.L (A5)+,D1 5
```







M68000 System Stack

- RA's are used in reverse (LIFO) order
- Processor "automatically" maintains system stack
 - A7 is used as system stack pointer
 - Points to top occupied element of stack
 - Aliased with name SP [i.e. use (SP)+, -(SP), etc.]
 - Coldfire 5211 initializes SP/A7 to 0x20004000
 - In this class we will start our stack at 0x357C (just to use save writing).
- BSR/JSR will automatically PUSH the RA
- RTS will automatically POP the RA





Subroutines and Stacks

- BSR instruction automatically <u>pushes</u> the RA
 - -SP = SP 4
 - M[SP] = Return Address
 - PC = PC + displacement
- RTS instruction automatically pops the RA
 - PC = M[SP] // i.e. return address put back in PC
 - -SP = SP + 4

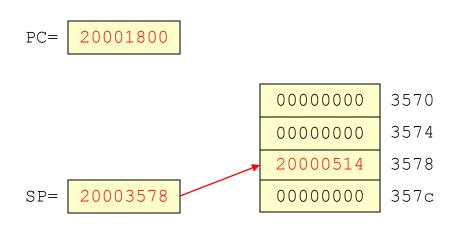




Assembly:

text = 0x200005000510 BSR.W PRINTF 0514 1 .org 0x1300 PRINTF: MOVE.B (A0)+,D1 1802 BSR.W PCHAR 1806 . . . 181C RTS .org 0x1400 PCHAR: RTS

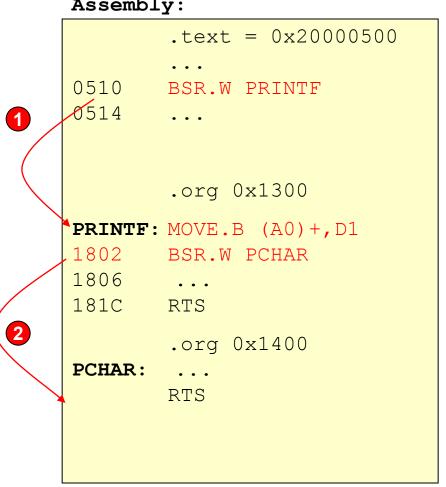
• When we hit the first BSR, it will push the RA on the stack and update the PC to 20001800



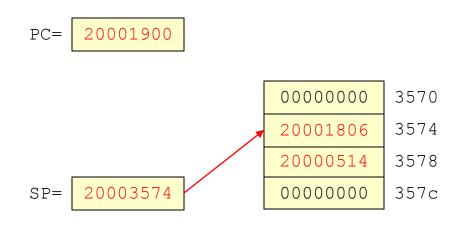




Assembly:



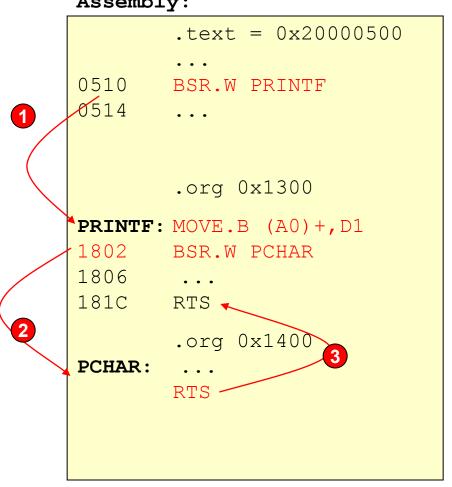
When we hit the second BSR, it will push the RA on the stack and update the PC to 0x20001900



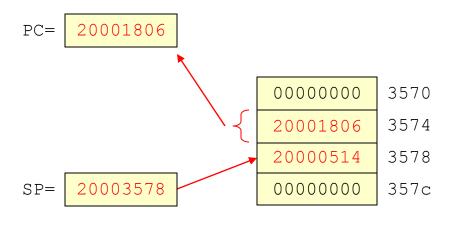




Assembly:



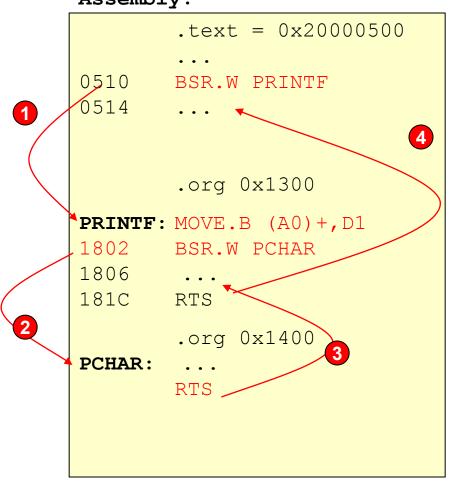
The first RTS will pop off the RA from the top of the stack and return the PC to 0x20001806



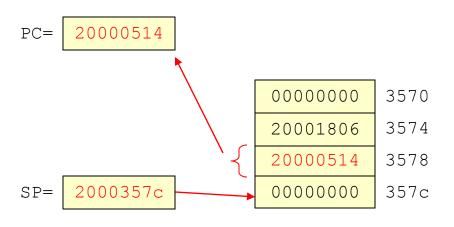




Assembly:

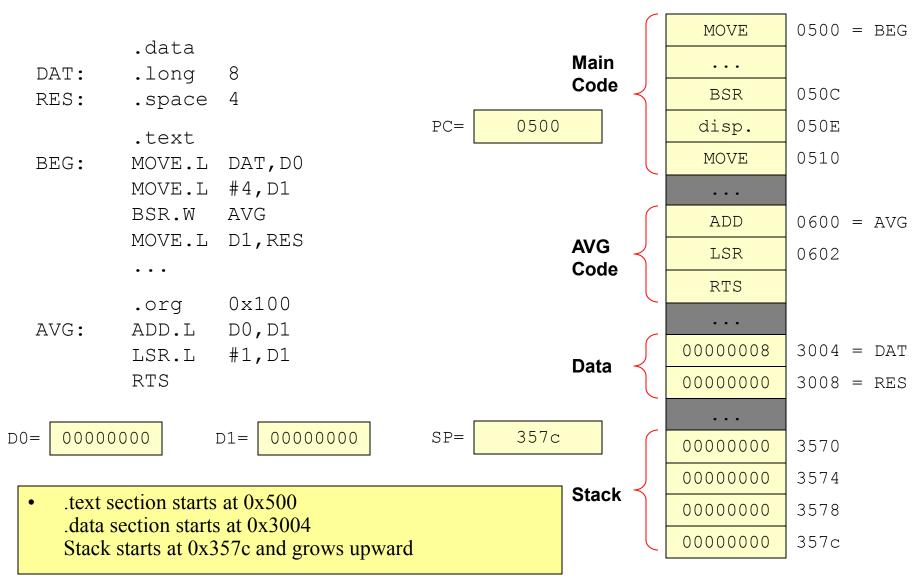


• The second RTS will pop off the RA from the top of the stack and return the PC to 0x20000514













PC=

050C

.data

DAT: .long 8
RES: .space 4

.text

BEG: MOVE.L DAT, DO

MOVE.L #4, D1

BSR.W AVG

MOVE.L D1, RES

. . .

.org 0x100

AVG: ADD.L D0, D1

LSR.L #1,D1

RTS

D0= 00000008 D1= 00000004

SP= 357c

• First two move instructions initialize D0 and D1 with 8 and 4 respectively

MOVE	0500	=	BEG
• • •			
BSR	050C		
disp.	050E		
MOVE	0510		
• • •			
ADD	0600	=	AVG
LSR	0602		
RTS			
•••			
8000000	3004	=	DAT
00000000	3008	=	RES
• • •			
00000000	3570		
00000000	3574		
00000000	3578		
00000000	357c		





0000000

357c

Subroutine Example

0500 = BEGMOVE .data . . . DAT: .long 050C BSR RES: .space PC= 0600 disp. 050E .text 0510 MOVE BEG: MOVE.L DAT, DO MOVE.L #4,D1 AVG BSR.W 0600 = AVGADD MOVE.L D1, RES LSR 0602 RTS 0x100 .org AVG: ADD.L D0, D1 0000008 3004 = DATLSR.L #1,D1 RTS 0000000 3008 = RES00000008 00000004 SP= 3578 D0 =D1 =0000000 3570 0000000 3574 BSR pushed return address of 0x0510 onto stack and 20000510 3578 sets PC to 0x0600 (AVG subroutine)





PC=

0604

.data

DAT: .long 8
RES: .space 4

.text

BEG: MOVE.L DAT, D0

MOVE.L #4,D1

BSR.W AVG

MOVE.L D1, RES

. . .

.org 0x100

AVG: ADD.L DO, D1

LSR.L #1,D1

RTS

D0= 00000008 D1= 0

D1= 00000006

SP= 3578

• ADD and LSR instructions find average of 8 and 4 which is 6.

MOVE	0500	=	BEG
BSR	050C		
disp.	050E		
MOVE	0510		
ADD	0600	=	AVG
LSR	0602		
RTS			
• • •			
00000008	3004	=	DAT
00000000	3008	=	RES
• • •			
00000000	3570		
00000000	3574		
20000510	3578		

357c

0000000





PC=

0510

.data

DAT: .long 8
RES: .space 4

.text

BEG: MOVE.L DAT, DO

MOVE.L #4,D1

BSR.W AVG

MOVE.L D1, RES

. . .

.org 0x100

AVG: ADD.L D0,D1

LSR.L #1,D1

RTS

D0= 00000008 D1= 00000006

SP= 357c

PRTS pops RA (0x0510) back into PC and moves SP back down to 0x357c

	MOVE	0500	=	BEG
	• • •			
	BSR	050C		
	disp.	050E		
	MOVE	0510		
	• • •			
	ADD	0600	=	AVG
	LSR	0602		
	RTS			
	• • •			
	00000008	3004	=	DAT
	00000000	3008	=	RES
	• • •			
	00000000	3570		
	00000000	3574		
	20000510	3578		
¥	00000000	357c		





PC=

0516

.data

DAT: .long 8
RES: .space 4

.text

BEG: MOVE.L DAT, DO

MOVE.L #4,D1

BSR.W AVG

MOVE.L D1, RES

. . .

.org 0x100

AVG: ADD.L D0,D1

LSR.L #1,D1

RTS

D0= 00000008 D1= 00000006

SP= 357c

 MOVE instruction writes average result in D1 back to memory
 Notice stack is back to original position MOVE 0500 = BEG
...

BSR 050C
disp. 050E
MOVE 0510
...

ADD 0600 = AVG
LSR 0602
RTS

00000008 3004 = DAT

00000006 3008 = RES

00000000 3570

00000000 3574

20000510 3578

00000000 357c





Subroutine Arguments & Return Values

- Hand-coded assembly
 - Parameters and return values can be passed/returned in specific registers
 - If too many arguments, use the stack (i.e. caller can push arguments on and have callee retrieve them
 - Passing values in registers does not work for recursive of re-entrant routines where multiple instances of the routine can be running at the same time => Need separate storage for each instance

Compilers

- Almost always use the stack
- Create a structure on the stack known as a "frame"

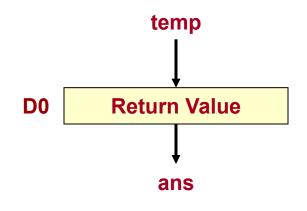




Return Values

- Subroutines often need to return a value
- HLL's like C only allow 1 return value
 - Usually returned in a specific register
 - For Coldfire, D0 is usually the return value

```
int ans;
void main() {
   ans = avg(1,5);
}
int avg(int a, int b) {
   int temp = 1;
   return a + b >> temp;
}
```







Saving Registers

- One routine may generate values in registers, call a subroutine, and then expect to use those values
- Meanwhile the subroutine may overwrite the register
- Solution: Save registers on the stack before overwriting them in the subroutine, then restore them before returning

```
.text
main: move.l var,d5
    movea.l #dat,a0
    ...
    bsr.w sub1
    ...
    add.l (a0)+,d5 3

.org 0x0300
sub1: move.l #1,d5
    ...
    rts
```

```
.text
main: move.l var,d5
    movea.l #dat,a0
...
    bsr.w sub1
...
    add.l (a0)+,d5
.org 0x0300
sub1: move.l d5,-(sp)
    move.l #1,d5
...
    move.l (sp)+,d5
rts
```





Recursive Factorial Routine

C Code:

```
int ans;
void fact(int n)
   if(n == 1)
       ans = 1;
   else {
      // calculate (n-1)!
      fact(n-1);
       // now ans = (n-1)!
       // so calculate n!
      ans = n * ans;
```

Assembly:

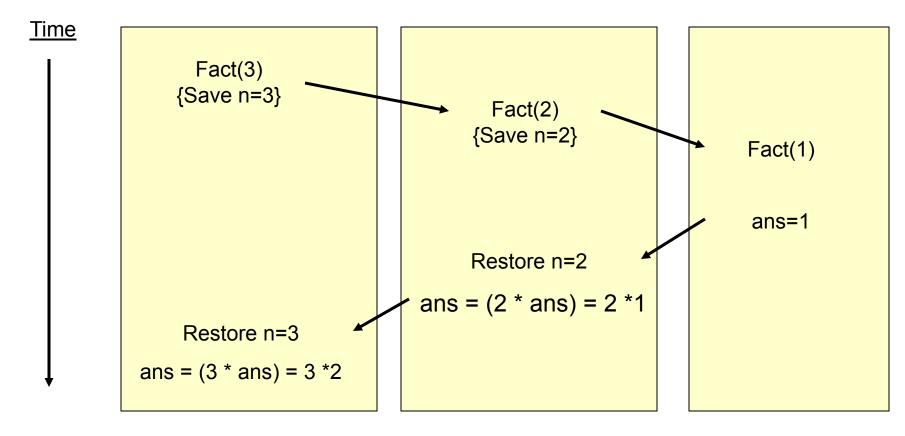
```
.data
ANS:
                     4
           .space
           .text
START:
          MOVE.L
                     #3,D0
          BSR.W
                     FACT
                     D1,ANS
          MOVE.L
                     #$2700
          STOP
                     0x300
           .org
                     #1,D0
FACT:
          CMPI.L
          BEQ.S
                     NEQ1
                     D0,-(SP)
          MOVE.L
                     #1,D0
          SUBI.L
                     FACT
          BSR.S
                    (SP) + D0
          MOVE.L
                     D0,D1
          MULU
          BRA.L
                     DONE
                     #1,D1
NEQ1:
          MOVE . L
DONE:
          RTS
```

 Implementation Detail: Make sure each call of Fact is working with its own value of n





Recursive Call Timeline



 Before calling yourself, you need to save copies of all your locally declared variables/parameters (e.g. n)





SP=

357c

.data
ANS: .space 4

.text = 0x20000500

START: MOVE.L #3,D0

BSR.W FACT
MOVE.L D1,ANS
STOP #\$2700

.org 0x300 FACT: CMPI.L #1,D0

BEQ.S NEQ1
MOVE.L D0,-(SP)
SUBI.L #1,D0
BSR.S FACT

MOVE.L (SP)+,D0 MULU D0,D1

BRA.L DONE NEO1: MOVE.L #1,D1

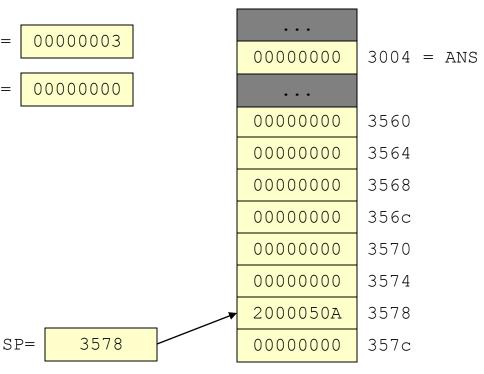
DONE: RTS

• ANS is where we will place the final n! answer when finished calculating it. During calculation we will keep it in D1





```
.data
                                               D0 =
ANS:
                       4
           .space
           .text = 0x20000500
                                               D1=
                      #3,D0
           MOVE.L
START:
           BSR.W
                      FACT
0 \times 050 A
           MOVE.L
                      D1,ANS
                      #$2700
           STOP
                      0x300
           .org
                      #1,D0
FACT:
           CMPI.L
           BEQ.S
                      NEQ1
           MOVE.L
                      D0,-(SP)
                      #1,D0
           SUBI.L
           BSR.S
                      FACT
                       (SP) + D0
           MOVE.L
                      D0,D1
           MULU
           BRA.L
                      DONE
NEO1:
           MOVE.L
                      #1,D1
DONE:
           RTS
```



- Initialize N (D0) = 3
- Call Fact(3) => BSR pushes return address and goes to FACT





.data ANS: 4 .space .text = 0x20000500#3,D0 MOVE.L START: FACT BSR.W $0 \times 050 A$ MOVE.L D1, ANS #\$2700 STOP 0x300.org CMPI.L #1,D0 FACT: BEO.S NEQ1 MOVE.L D0,-(SP) #1,D0 SUBI.L BSR.S FACT (SP) + D0MOVE.L D0,D1 MULU BRA.L DONE NEO1: MOVE.L #1,D1 DONE: RTS

0000003 D0 =0000000 3004 = ANS0000000 D1= 00000000 3560 00000000 3564 0000000 3568 00000000 356c 00000000 3570 00000000 3574 2000050A 3578 SP= 3578 00000000 357c

- Start by checking if N==1
- If not we continue sequentially





00000002 .data D0 =0000000 3004 = ANSANS: 4 .space .text = 0x200005000000000 D1= #3,D0 MOVE.L START: 00000000 3560 FACT BSR.W 0x050AMOVE.L D1, ANS 00000000 3564 #\$2700 STOP 00000000 3568 0x300.org #1,D0 FACT: CMPI.L 0000000 356c BEQ.S NEQ1 20000812 3570 **RA** MOVE . L D0, -(SP)#1,D0 SUBI.L 0000003 FACT BSR.S MOVE.L (SP) + D0 0×0812 2000050A 3578 **RA** D0,D1 MULU SP= 3570 00000000 357c BRA.L DONE NEO1: MOVE.L #1,D1 DONE: RTS

- We want to call Fact(2) but that means changing n (i.e. D0) to 2. We don't want to lose our current value of 3 so we push it on the stack first.
- Then we decrement n and call Fact(2) pushing the RA



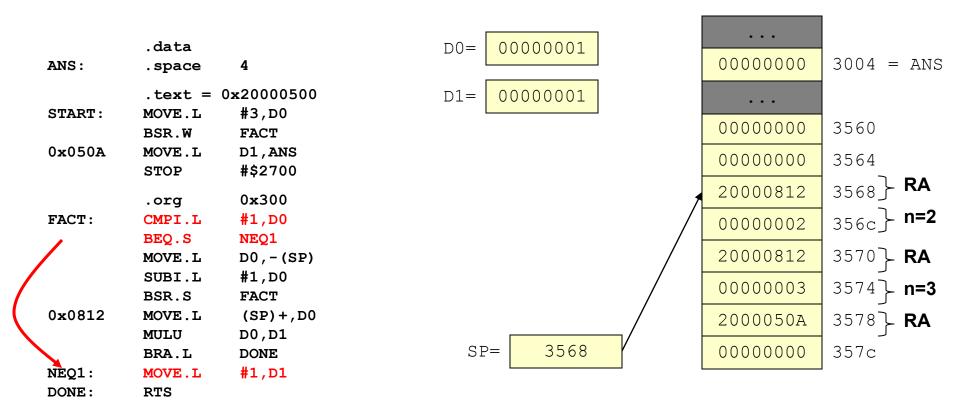


0000001 .data D0 =0000000 3004 = ANSANS: 4 .space .text = 0x200005000000000 D1= #3,D0 MOVE.L START: 00000000 3560 FACT BSR.W 0x050AMOVE.L D1,ANS 00000000 3564 #\$2700 STOP 3568} **RA** 20000812 0x300.org $_{356c}$ n=2 CMPI.L #1,D0 FACT: 00000002 BEQ.S NEQ1 20000812 3570 **RA** MOVE.L D0, -(SP)SUBI.L #1,D0 0000003 BSR.S FACT MOVE.L (SP) + D0 0×0812 3578 **RA** 2000050A D0,D1 MULU 3568 SP= 00000000 357c DONE BRA.L NEO1: MOVE.L #1,D1 DONE: RTS

• We now perform the check of n again, find that it is not equal to 1, save n=2 and decrement n=1 in order to call Fact(1)



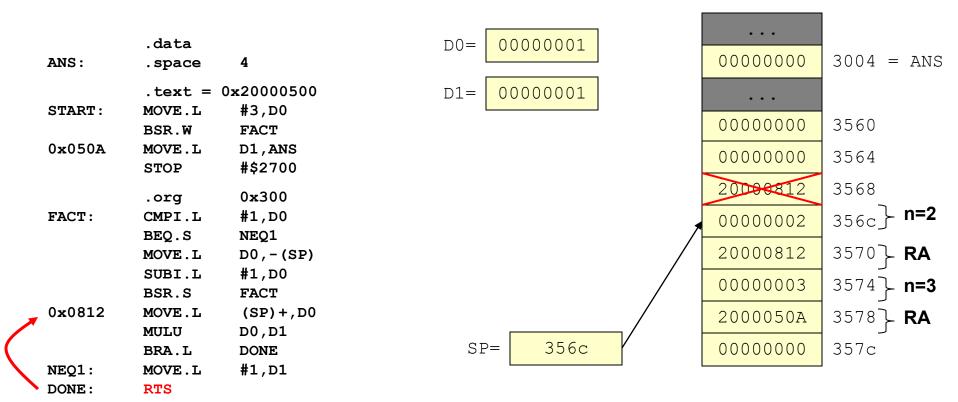




• In Fact(1) our comparison will find that n is equal to 1, branch to NEQ1 and store the value 1 in D1 (i.e. ans)







• RTS will pop off the RA of \$880E and go back to that instruction, effectively returning us into the context of Fact(2)





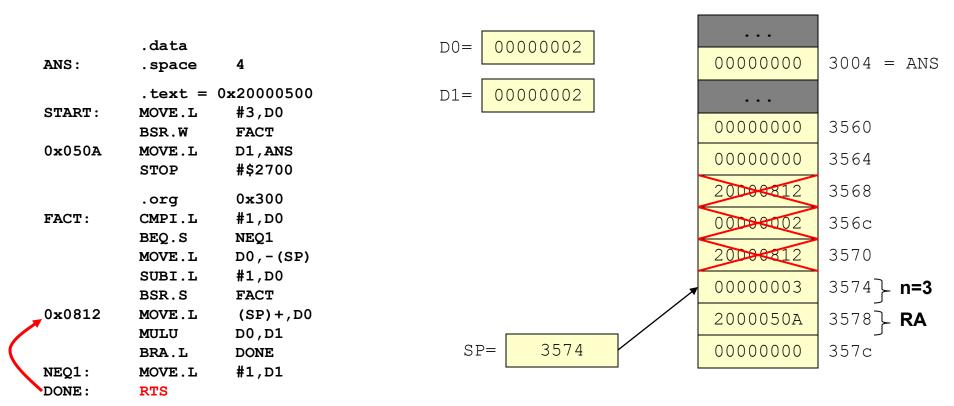
.data ANS: 4 .space .text = 0x20000500#3,D0 MOVE.L START: FACT BSR.W 0x050AMOVE.L D1,ANS #\$2700 STOP 0x300.org #1,D0 FACT: CMPI.L BEQ.S NEQ1 MOVE.L D0,-(SP) #1,D0 SUBI.L FACT BSR.S MOVE.L (SP) + D0 0×0812 MULU D0,D1 BRA.L DONE NEO1: MOVE.L #1,D1 DONE: RTS

00000002 D0 =0000000 3004 = ANS00000002 D1 =00000000 3560 0000000 3564 20000812 3568 00000002 356c 20000812 3570 **RA** 0000003 2000050A 3578 **RA** SP= 3570 00000000 357c

- We will first restore our value of n = 2 by popping it off the stack back into D0
- We then calculate the factorial by taking ans = n * ans







PRTS is executed again, popping the RA off the stack and returning us into the context of Fact(3)





.data ANS: 4 .space .text = 0x20000500#3,D0 MOVE.L START: FACT BSR.W 0x050AMOVE.L D1,ANS #\$2700 STOP 0x300.org #1,D0 FACT: CMPI.L BEQ.S NEQ1 MOVE.L D0,-(SP) #1,D0 SUBI.L FACT BSR.S MOVE.L (SP) + D0 0×0812 MULU D0,D1 BRA.L DONE NEO1: MOVE.L #1,D1 DONE: RTS

0000003 D0 =0000000 3004 = ANS00000006 D1 =00000000 3560 0000000 3564 20000812 3568 00000002 356c 20000812 3570 00000003 3574 2000050A 3578 **RA** SP= 3578 0000000 357c

- We again restore our value of n = 3 by popping it off the stack back into D0
- We then calculate the factorial by taking ans = n * ans





.data ANS: 4 .space .text = 0x20000500#3,D0 MOVE.L START: FACT BSR.W 0x050AMOVE . L D1,ANS #\$2700 STOP 0x300.org #1,D0 FACT: CMPI.L BEQ.S NEQ1 MOVE.L D0,-(SP) #1,D0 SUBI.L FACT BSR.S (SP) + D0 0×0812 MOVE . L D0,D1 MULU BRA.L DONE NEO1: MOVE.L #1,D1 DONE: RTS

0000003 D0 =00000006 3004 = ANS00000006 D1 =00000000 3560 00000000 3564 20000812 3568 00000002 356c 20000812 3570 00000003 3574 2009850A 3578 SP= 357c 0000000 357c

- Executing the RTS this time pops the last RA from the stack and returns us to the original calling function
- We then store the result to memory