

Embedded Systems with ARM Cortex-M Microcontrollers in Assembly Language and C

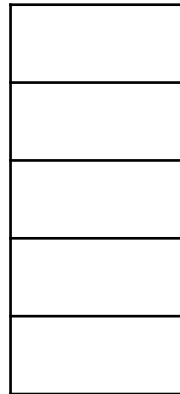
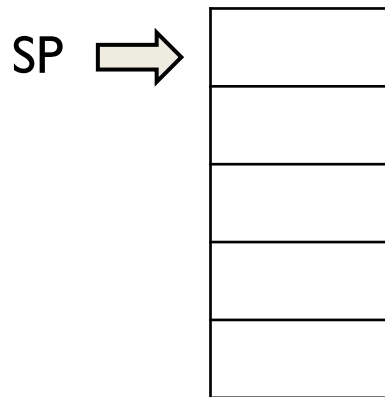
Chapter 8 Subroutines Exercises

Z. Gu

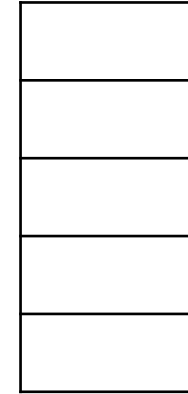
Fall 2025

Stack

- ▶ Initially, let $r0=0$, $r1=1$, $r2=2$.
- ▶ a) Execute `PUSH {r1,r2}`. Draw stack.
- ▶ b) Execute `POP {r0,r1}`. Draw stack.



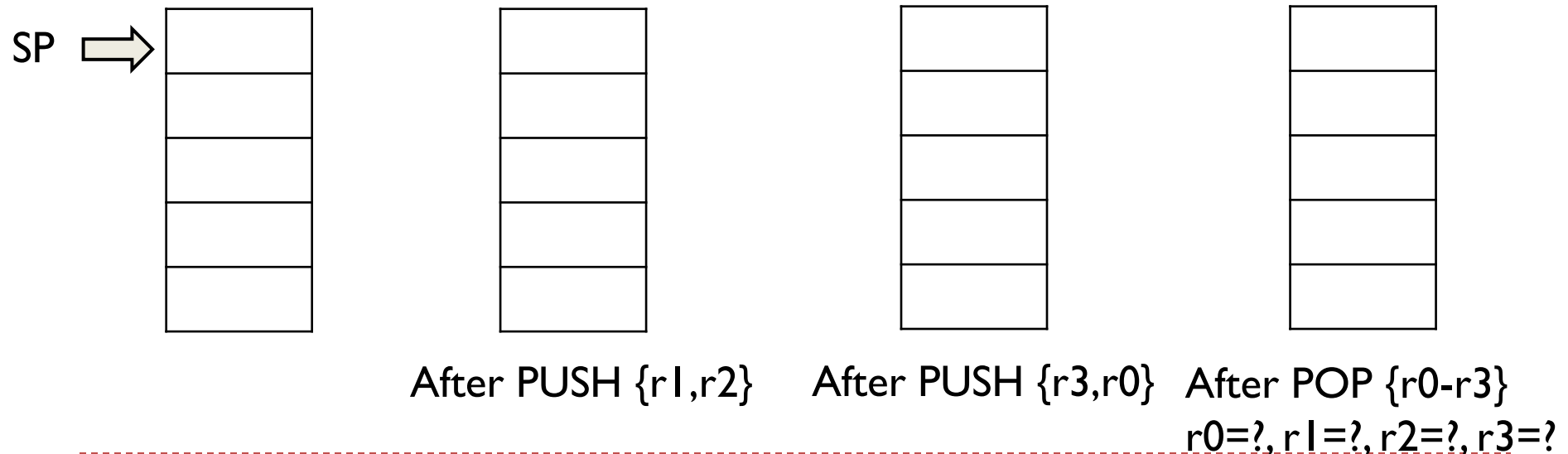
After `PUSH {r1,r2}`



After `POP {r0,r1}`,
 $r0=?$, $r1=?$

Stack

- Initially, let $r0=0$, $r1=1$, $r2=2$, $r3=3$
- Execute
 - $PUSH\ \{r1, r2\}$
 - $PUSH\ \{r3, r0\}$
 - $POP\ \{r0-r3\}$ (same as $POP\ \{r0, r1, r2, r3\}$)
- Draw stack after each instruction. What is in registers after execution?



What's wrong? Passing arguments and Returning Value

```
uint32_t sum(uint8_t a8, uint8_t b8, uint16_t c16, uint16_t d16,  
uint32_t e32);
```

```
s = sum(1, 2, 3, 4, 5);
```

Caller

```
MOV r0, #5 ; e32  
MOV r0, #1 ; a8  
MOV r1, #2 ; b8  
MOV r2, #3 ; c16  
MOV r3, #4 ; d16  
BL sum  
...
```

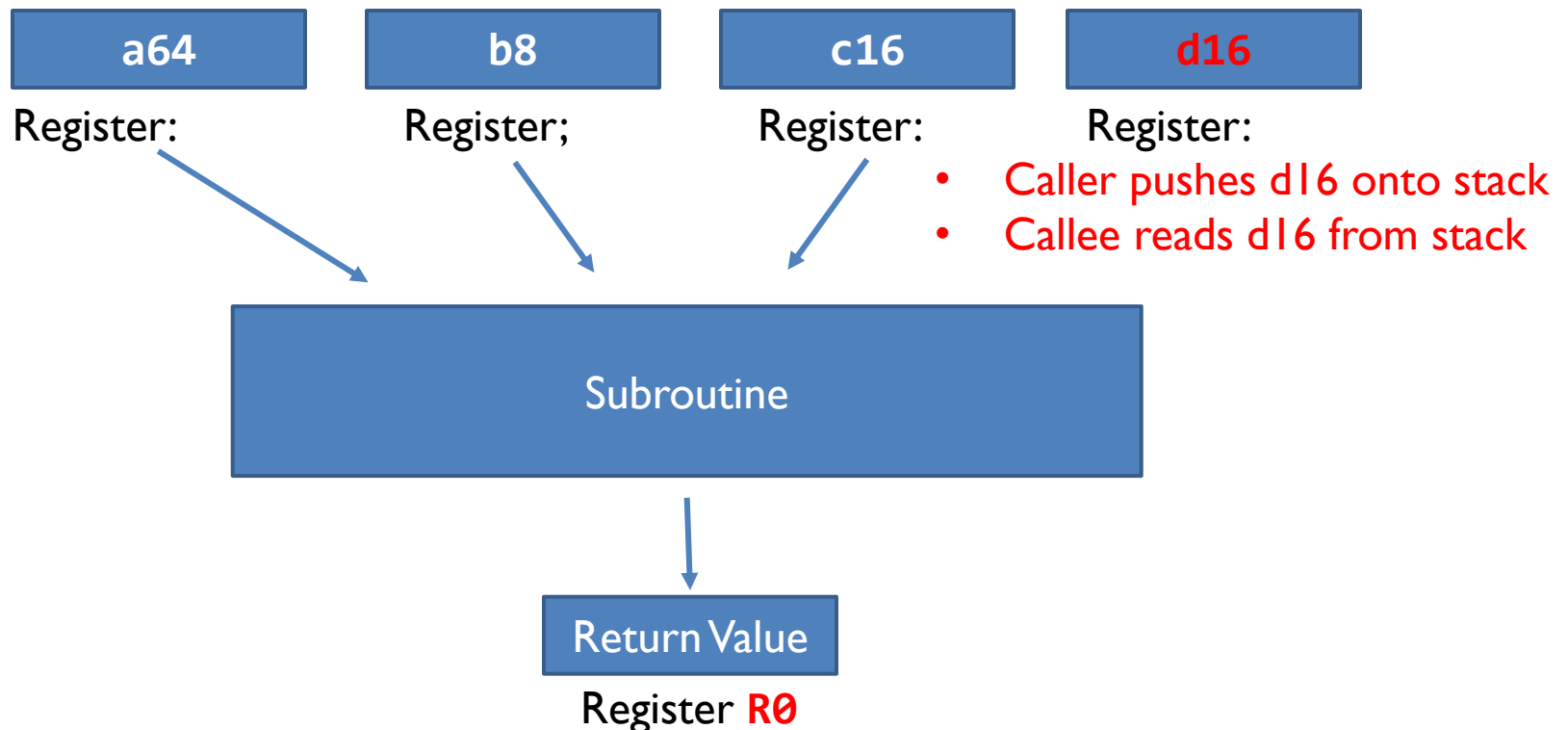
Callee

```
sum PROC  
    ADD r0, r0, r1 ; a8 + b8  
    ADD r0, r0, r2 ; add c16  
    ADD r0, r0, r3 ; add d16  
    ADD r0, r0, r1 ; add e32  
    BX LR  
ENDP
```

Passing arguments and Returning Value

```
uint64_t sum(uint64_t a64, uint8_t b8, uint16_t c16, uint16_t d16);
```

- Fill in register names.



What is Wrong?

Caller Program

```
Extern int32_t sum3(int32_t a1, int32_t a2, int32_t a3);
```

```
int main(void){
```

```
int32_t s
```

```
...
```

```
s = sum3(-1, -2, -3) + sum3(4, 5, 6);
```

```
...
```

Callee Program

```
sum3 PROC
```

```
EXPORT sum3
```

```
; r3 = sum
```

```
ADD r3, r0, r1 ; sum = a1 + a2
```

```
ADD r3, r0, r2 ; sum += a3
```

```
MOV r1, r3
```

```
BX pc
```

```
ENDP
```

toLower

Caller Program

```
#include <stdio.h>

extern int mystery(int); /* mystery assembler routine */

int main(void)
{
    static const char str[] = "Hello, World!";

    const int len = sizeof(str)/sizeof(str[0]);
    char      newstr[len];
    int       i;

    for (i = 0; i < len; i++)
        newstr[i] = toLower (str[i]);

    printf("%s\n", newstr);

    return 0;
}
```

- ▶ Consider the following C program that converts all ASCII letters to lower case. Write the toLower function in ARMv7 assembly code.

Callee Program

```
int toLower (int c)
{
    if (c >= 'A' && c <= 'Z')
        c += 'a' - 'A';

    return c;
}
```

Callee Program Assembly

```
.text
.global toLower
toLower:
```

If Then Else

- Translate the following program into ARMv7 assembly.

C Program	Assembly Program
<pre>int foo(int x, int y) { if (x+y < 0) return 0; else return 1; }</pre>	<pre>@ int foo(int x, int y) - returns 0 if (x+y) < 0, else 1 @ x in r0, y in r1, return in r0 foo: ... BX lr</pre>

Factorial

- ▶ Fill in the blanks (TODO) for the assembly programs for calculating the factorial of a number, corresponding to the following C programs. One recursive version, one iterative version.

```
//Iterative algorithms for Factorial
```

```
#include <stdint.h>
```

```
uint32_t fact_iter(uint32_t n) {
```

```
    uint32_t acc = 1;
```

```
    if (n <= 1) {
```

```
        return 1;
```

```
    }
```

```
    while (n > 1) {
```

```
        acc *= n;
```

```
        n -= 1;
```

```
    }
```

```
    return acc;
```

```
}
```

```
//Recursive algorithms for Factorial
```

```
#include <stdint.h>
```

```
uint32_t fact_rec(uint32_t n) {
```

```
    if (n <= 1) {
```

```
        return 1;
```

```
    }
```

```
    return n * fact_rec(n - 1);
```

```
}
```

Factorial

```
% uint32_t fact_iter(uint32_t n);
% r0 = n, returns r0 = n!
.global fact_iter
fact_iter:
    PUSH    {r4, lr}    % save callee-saved we'll
                        use and return addr
    MOV     r1, r0      % r1 = n (loop counter)
    MOV     r0, #1      % r0 = acc = 1
    CMP     r1, #1
    BLS     .ldone_iter % if n <= 1, return 1

.ldone_iter:
    % TODO

.Lloop_iter:
    % TODO

.ldone_iter:
    POP     {r4, lr}
    BX      lr
```

```
% uint32_t factorial(uint32_t n);
% r0: n
% returns r0: n!

factorial:
    CMP     r0, #1      % if (n <= 1) ...
    BLE     base_case   % ... return 1

    PUSH    {lr}        % save return address for this frame
    PUSH    {r0}        % save current n on stack (we'll need it after the
                        recursive call)

    SUB     r0, r0, #1   % r0 = n - 1 (argument for recursive call)
    BL      factorial    % r0 = factorial(n - 1)

    POP     {r1}        % r1 = saved n (restore caller's n)
    MUL     r0, r0, r1    % r0 = factorial(n - 1) * n

    POP     {lr}        % restore return address
    BX      lr          % return with result in r0

base_case:
    % TODO
```

What is wrong?

```
int16_t sum_of_array(int16_t *pArray){
    uint32_t i;
    int32_t sum = 0;
    for(i=0; i<64; i++) // array size = 64
        sum += pArray[i];
    return (int16_t) sum;
}
```

```
sum_of_array PROC
    MOV     r2, #0    ; loop index
    MOV     r3, #0    ; sum
    B       check
loop LDRSH  r1, [r0], #2
    ADD     r3, r3, r1 ; sum += pArray[i]
    ADD     r2, r2, #1 ; i++
check CMP   r2, #64
    BLO    loop        ; branch if unsigned LOwer
    MOV     r0, r3      ; return result in r0
    BX     lr
ENDP
```

Program Understanding

- ▶ Write out the sequence of values of r0 and r7 after running this program.

```
start:
    mov     r0, #1

main:
    add     r0, r0, #1
    cmp     r0, #5
    bne     skip
    bl      call

skip:
    b       main

call:
    add     r7, r7, #255
    mov     r0, #1
    bx      lr
```