

ECE 6504

Embedded and Controls Systems Security: Stack Smashing II

Reading:

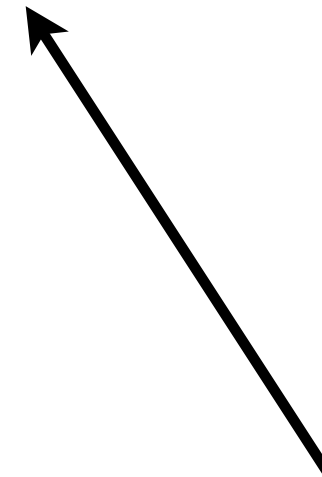
T: *Return to LIBC exploits and Advanced return-into-lib(c) exploits*
N: *The Geometry of Innocent Flesh on the Bone*

“Start every day off with a smile and get it over with.”

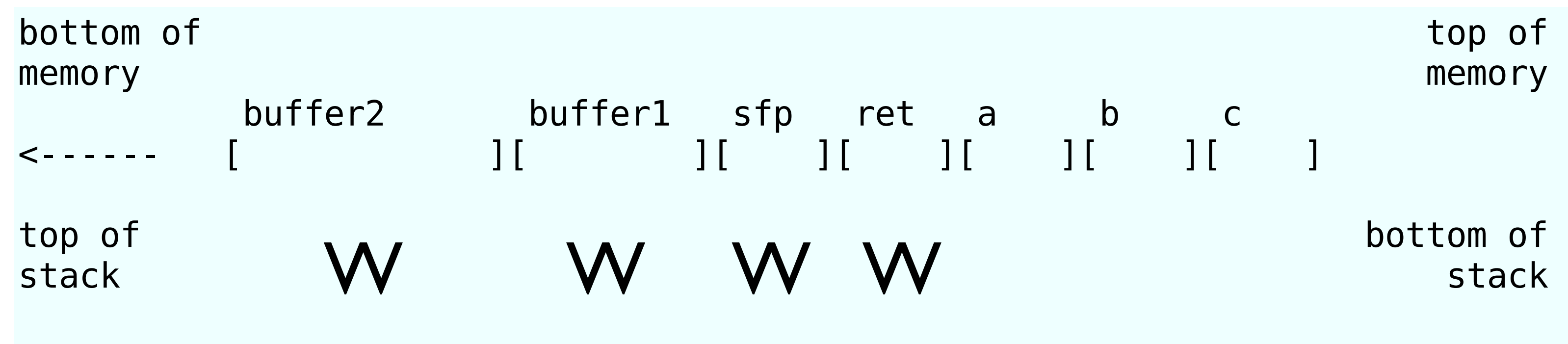
–W.C. Fields

preventing code injection: $W \oplus X$

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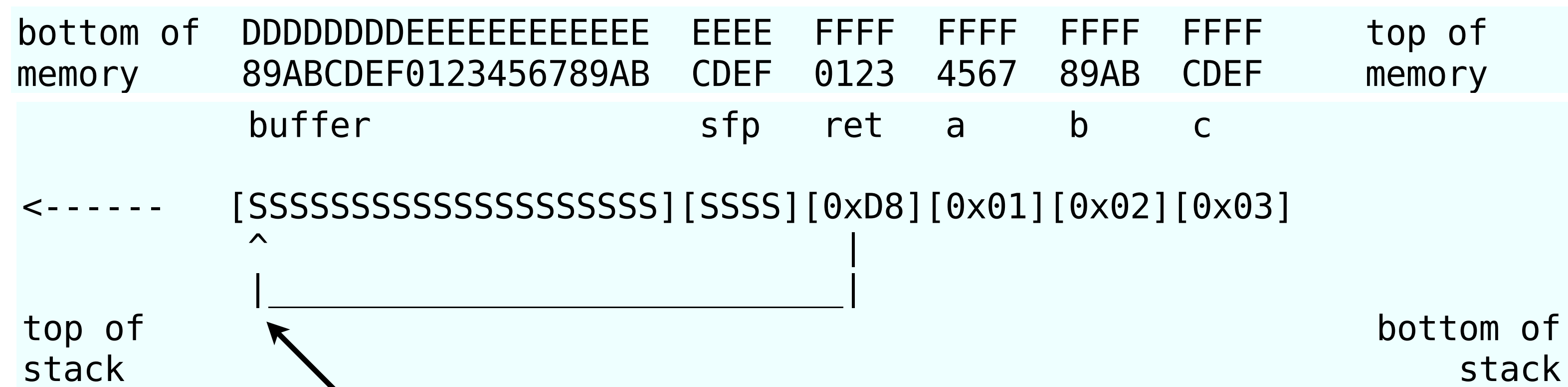


memory marked either writable or
executable, not both



$$W \oplus X$$

memory after buffer
overflow:



jump causes seg. fault
(no execute data)

circumventing $W \oplus X$

attacker:



return-into-libc:

you don't like my code, I'll use yours

circumventing $W \oplus X$

attacker:



return-into-libc:

you don't like my code, I'll use yours

return-into-libc

libc:

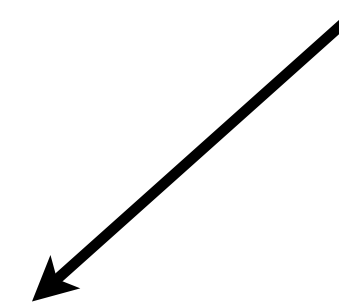
1. linked by (almost) all C programs
2. interesting functions: file and console-based I/O

return-into-libc

libc:

1. linked by (almost) all C programs
2. interesting functions: file and console-based I/O

`int system(const char *cmd);`



return-into-libc

libc:

1. linked by (almost) all C programs
2. interesting functions: file and console-based I/O

```
int system(const char *cmd);
```

program executes cmd

return-into-libc

attack: make function return to libc function

return-into-libc

attack:

make function
return to libc function

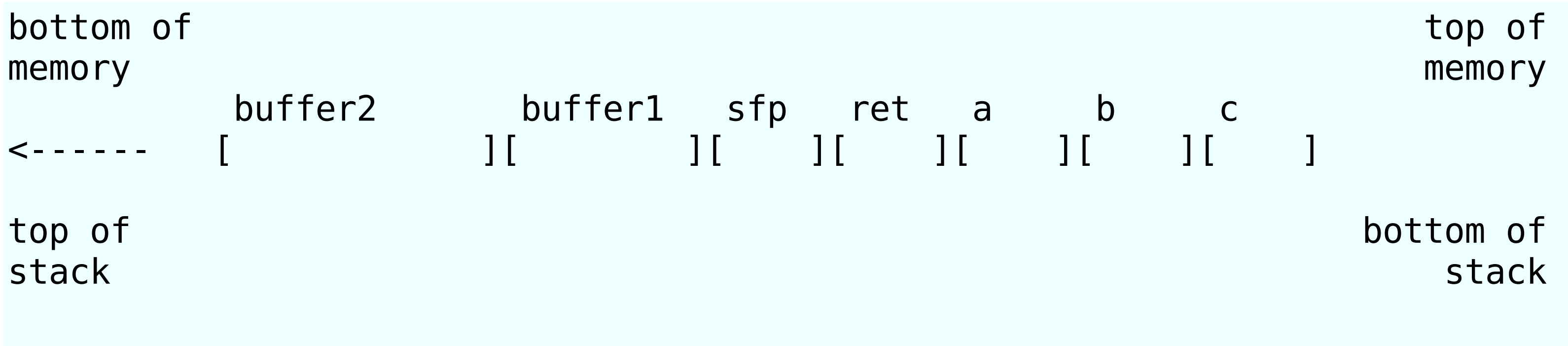
Q: is this possible?

A: remember state w/r/t function call

stack after function called

```
void function(int a, int b, int c) {  
    char buffer1[5];  
    char buffer2[10];  
}  
  
void main() {  
    function(1,2,3);  
}
```

```
pushl %ebp  
movl %esp,%ebp  
subl $20,%esp
```

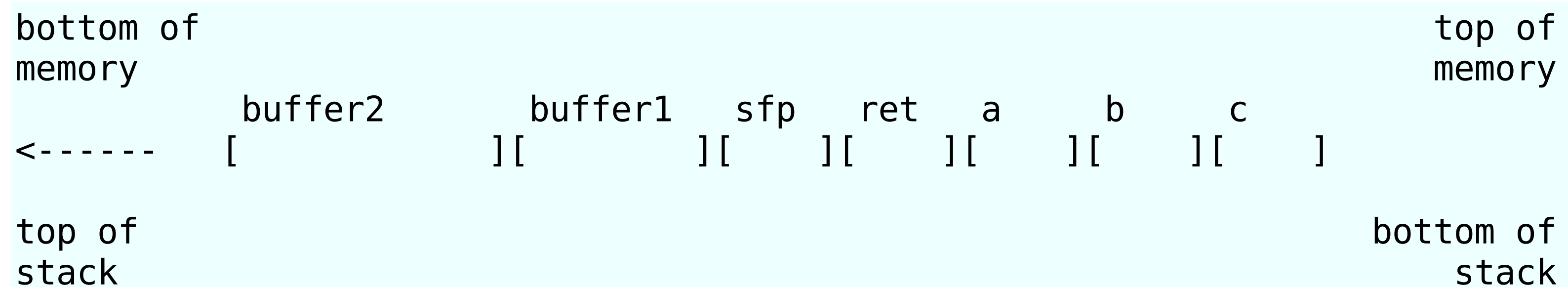


stack after function called

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    char buffer1[5];  
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}
```

→

```
pushl %ebp  
movl %esp,%ebp  
subl $20,%esp
```



to return-to-libc:

1. ret => addr. of libc function
2. a,b,c => arguments of libc function

return-into-libc: stack after buffer overflow

memory addr grow \longrightarrow

stack after call:

`[function(int a, int b, int c)]`

buffer	sfp	ret			
[...]	[]	[???]	[a]	[b]	[c]

return-into-libc: stack after buffer overflow

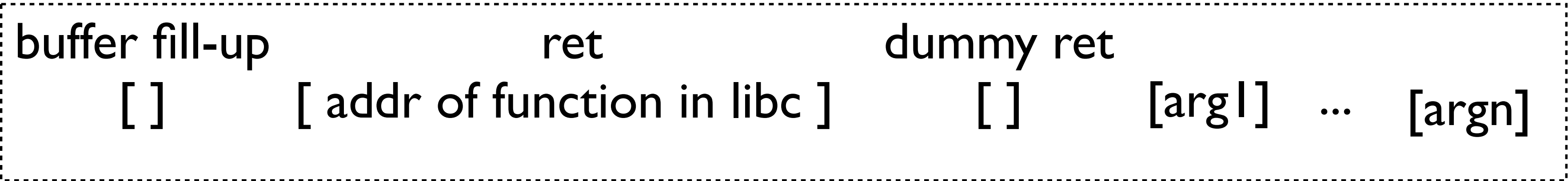
memory addr grow \longrightarrow

stack after call:

[function(int a, int b, int c)]



after overflowing
buffer:

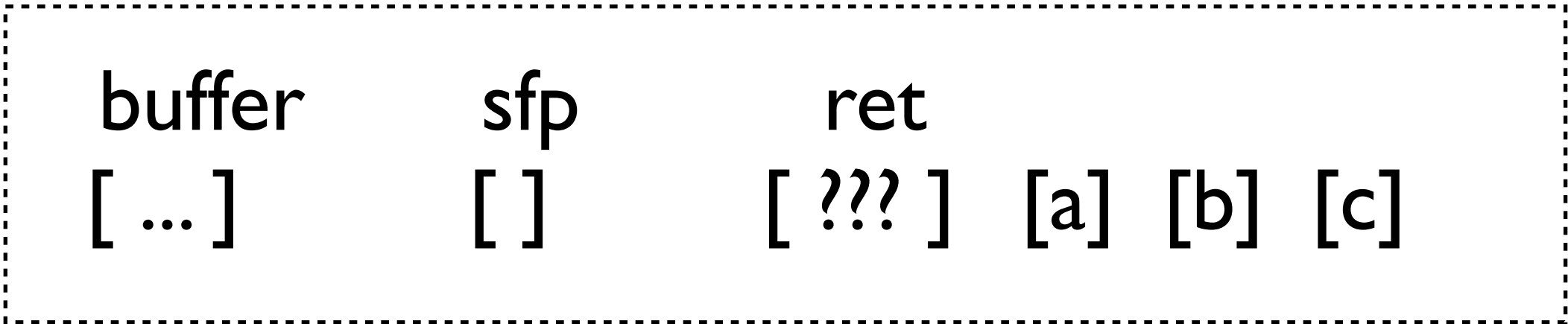


return-into-libc: stack after buffer overflow

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stack after call:

[function(int a, int b, int c)]



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buffer:



args for library
called

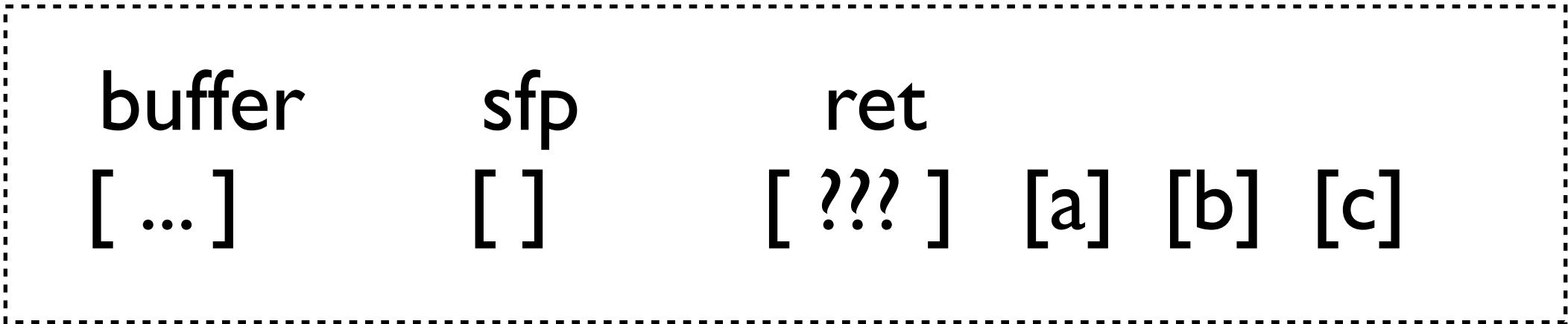


return-into-libc: stack after buffer overflow

memory addr grow \longrightarrow

stack after call:

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after overflowing
buffer:



called library returns
here

args for library
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return-into-libc: stack after buffer overflow

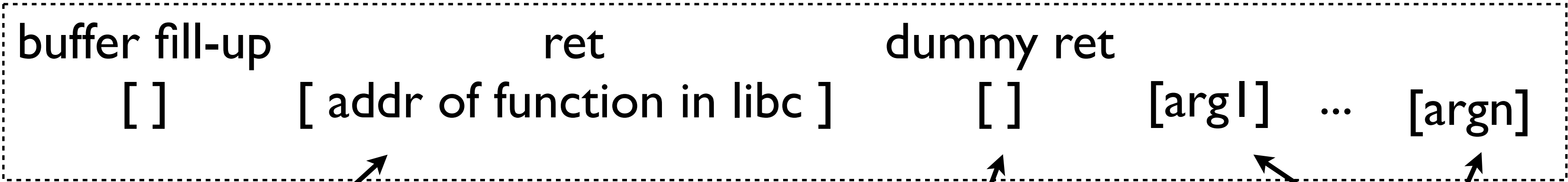
memory addr grow \longrightarrow

stack after call:

[function(int a, int b, int c)]



after overflowing
buffer:



e.g. *system()*

called library returns
here

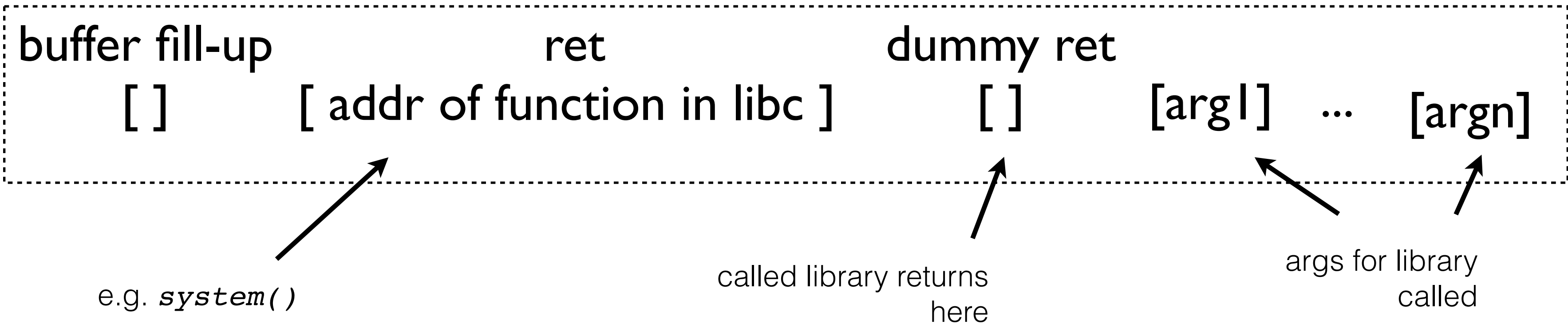
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return-into-libc: stack after buffer overflow

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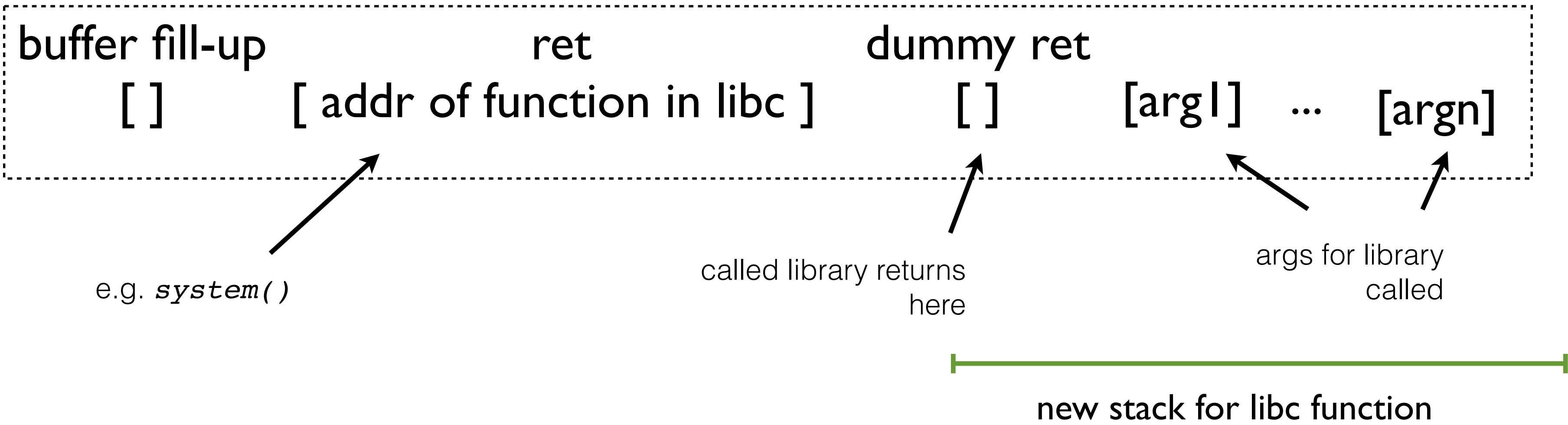
after overflowing
buffer:



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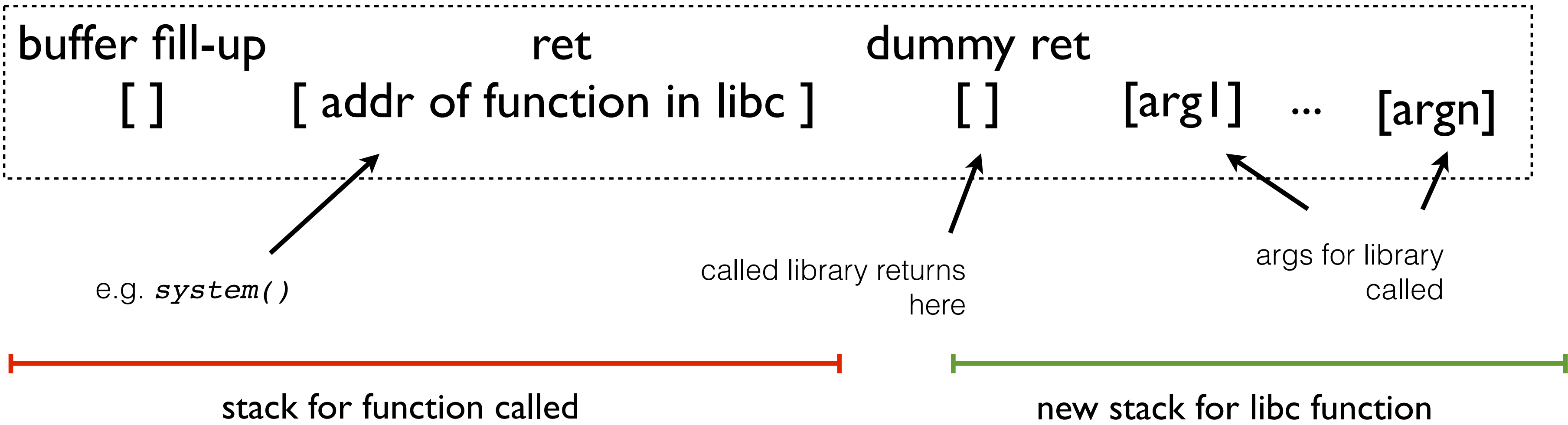
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return-into-libc: stack after buffer overflow

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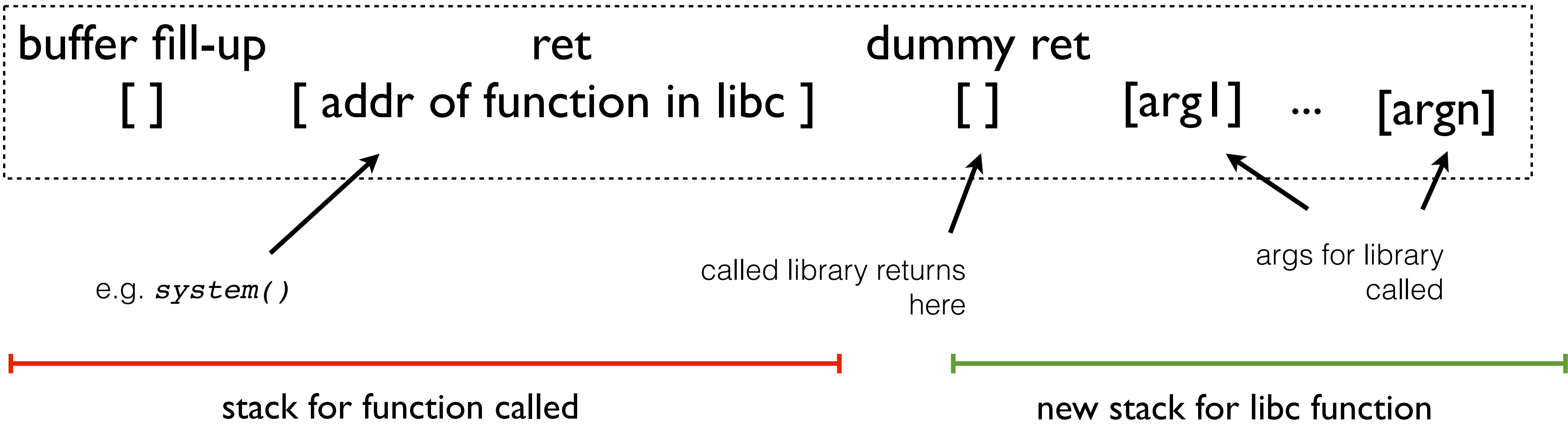
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return-into-libc: stack after buffer overflow

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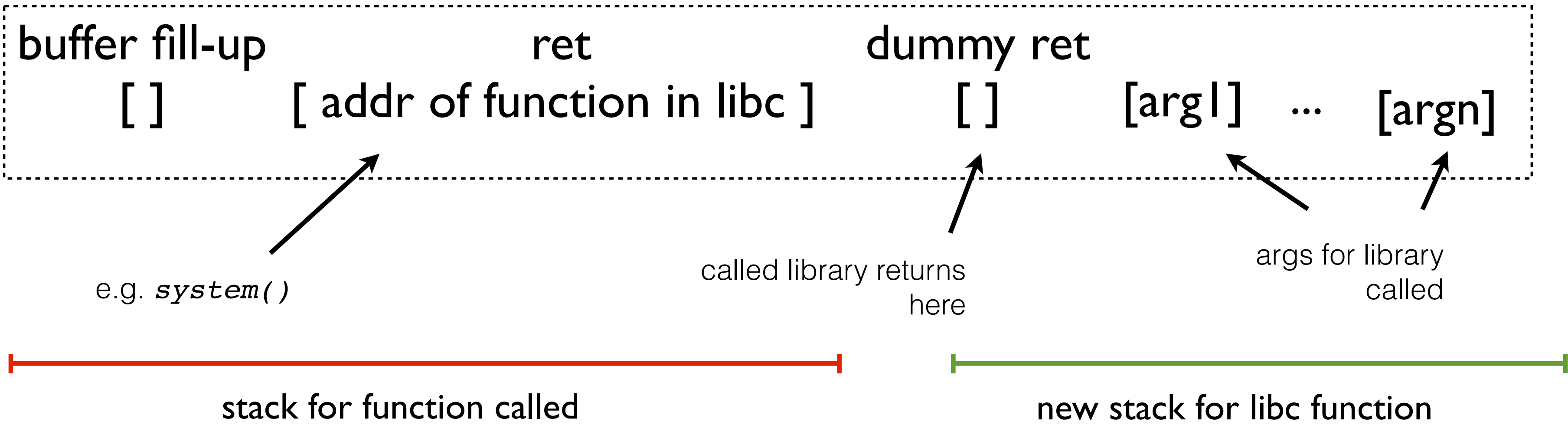


Q: limitation?

return-into-libc: stack after buffer overflow

memory addr grow \longrightarrow

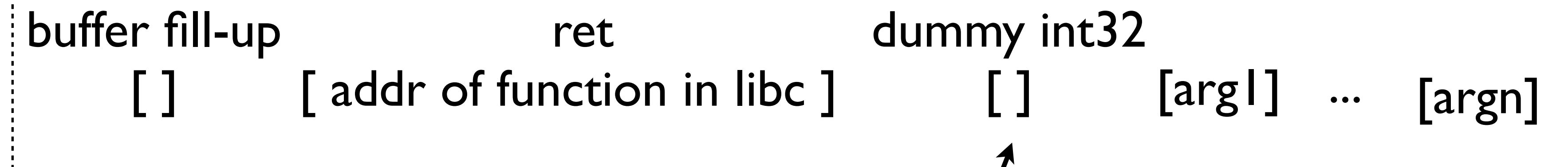
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Q: limitation?

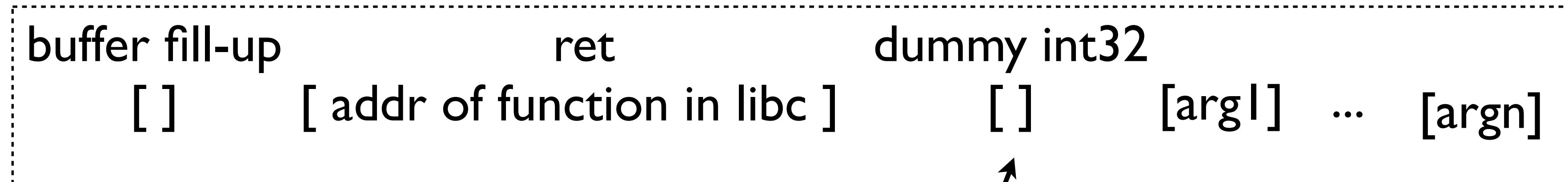
A: one function call

return-into-libc: one function call



called library returns
here

return-into-libc: one function call

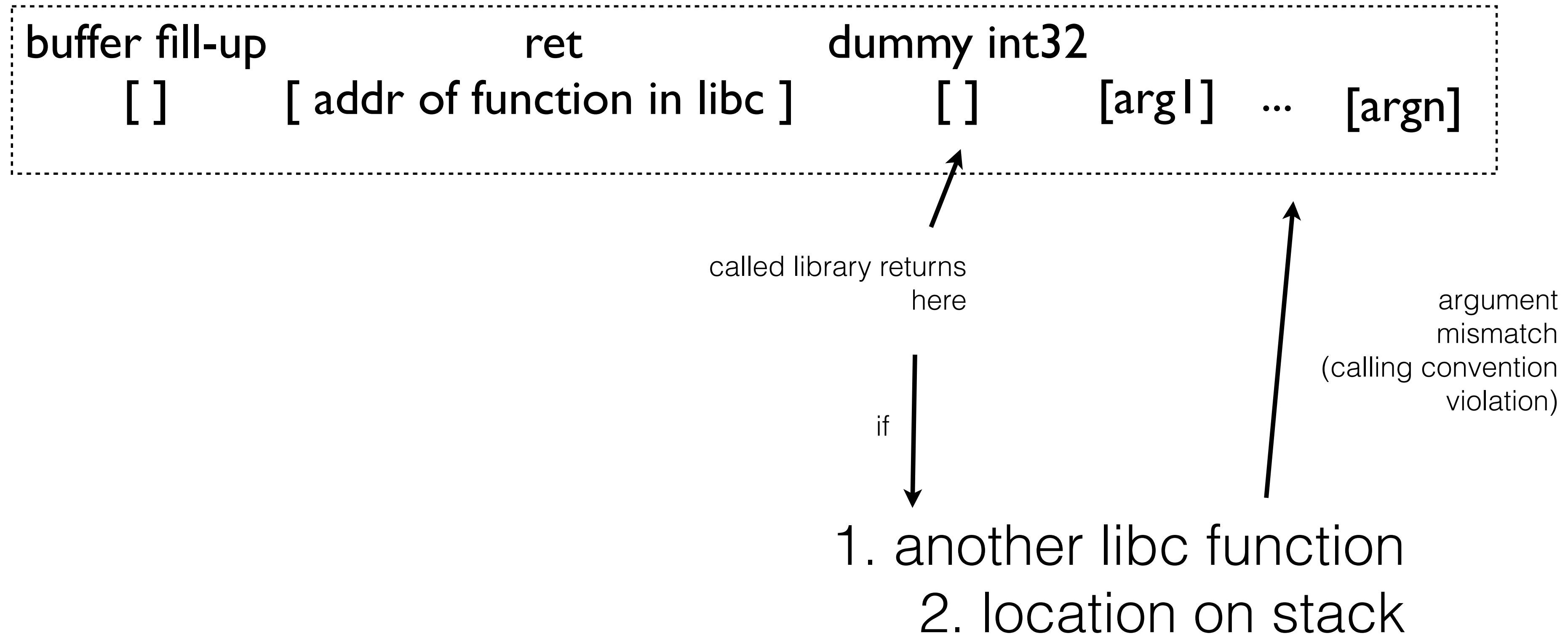


called library returns
here

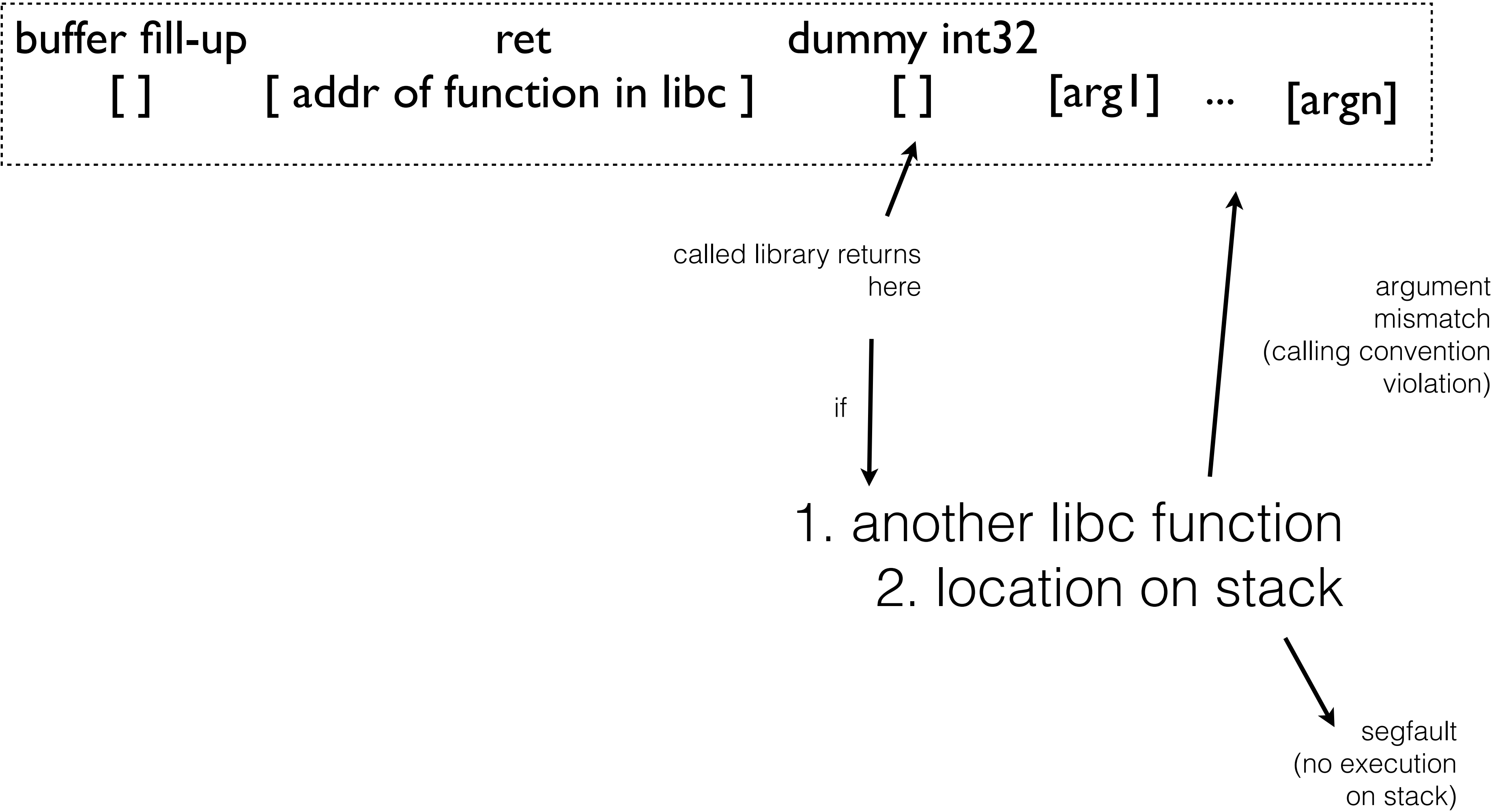
if

1. another libc function
2. location on stack

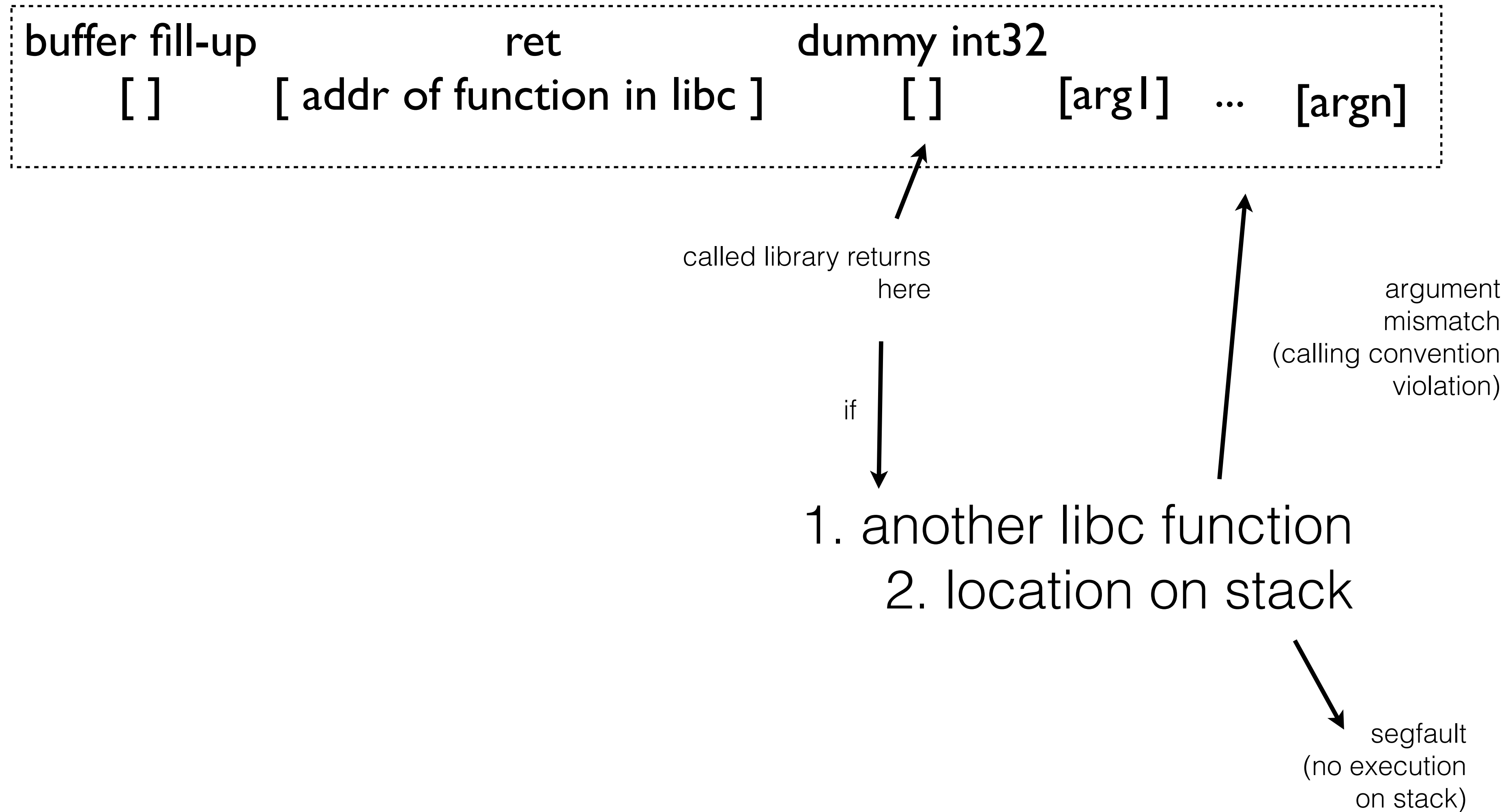
return-into-libc: one function call



return-into-libc: one function call



return-into-libc: one function call



stack is not prepared for another call

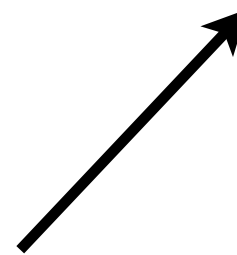
classic return-into-libc prevention:

```
setuid(getuid( ))
```

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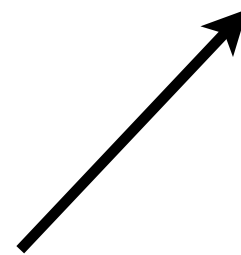
program drops privileges



1. `getuid`: get uid of calling process
2. `setuid`: set uid of current process

classic return-into-libc prevention:

`setuid(getuid())`



program drops privileges

1. `getuid`: get uid of calling process
2. `setuid`: set uid of current process

for exploit need following:

1. `setuid()` (restore privileges)
2. libc function

classic return-into-libc prevention:

`seteuid(getuid())`

program drops privileges

1. `getuid`: get uid of calling process
2. `seteuid`: set uid of current process

for exploit need following:

1. `setuid()` (restore privileges)
2. libc function

two calls....

`seteuid(getuid())` example

`seteuid(getuid())` example

`passwd:`

setuid(getuid()) example

passwd:

1. `setuid(getuid())`

setuid(getuid()) example

passwd:

1. `setuid(getuid())`
2. take user input

setuid(getuid()) example

passwd:

1. `setuid(getuid())`
2. take user input
3. hash

seteuid(getuid()) example

passwd:

1. seteuid(getuid())
2. take user input
3. hash
4. seteuid()

seteuid(getuid()) example

passwd:

1. seteuid(getuid())
2. take user input
3. hash
4. seteuid()
5. write hash

seteuid(getuid()) example

passwd:

1. seteuid(getuid())
2. take user input
3. hash
4. seteuid()
5. write hash
6. exit

seteuid(getuid()) example

passwd:

1. seteuid(getuid())
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3. hash
4. seteuid()
5. write hash
6. exit

exploit here:

1. seteuid()
(restore privileges)
2. libc function

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

if program compiled with:

`-fomit-frame-pointer`

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

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epilogue:

code at end of function

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

if program compiled with:

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epilogue:

`ep1g:`

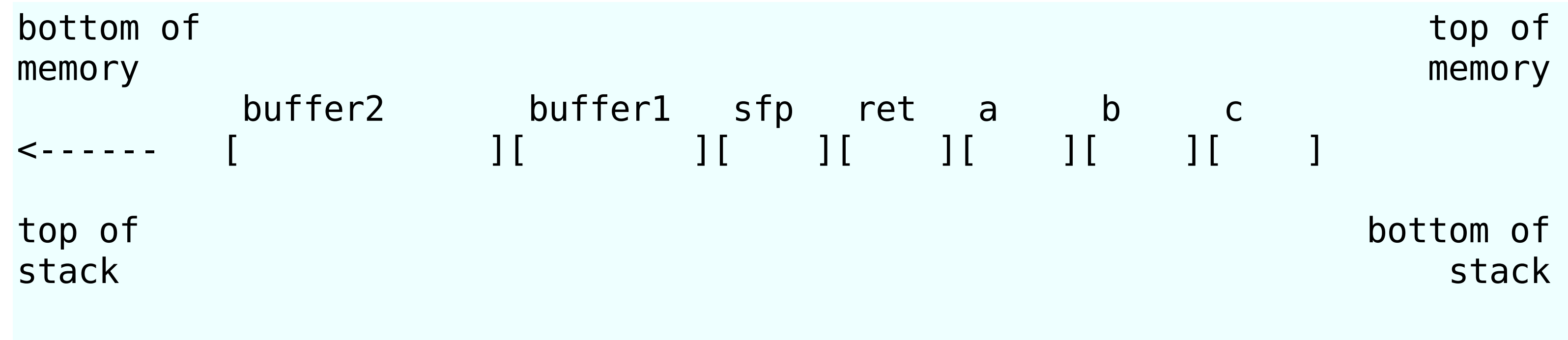
`addl`
`ret`

`$LOCAL_VARS_SIZE, %esp`

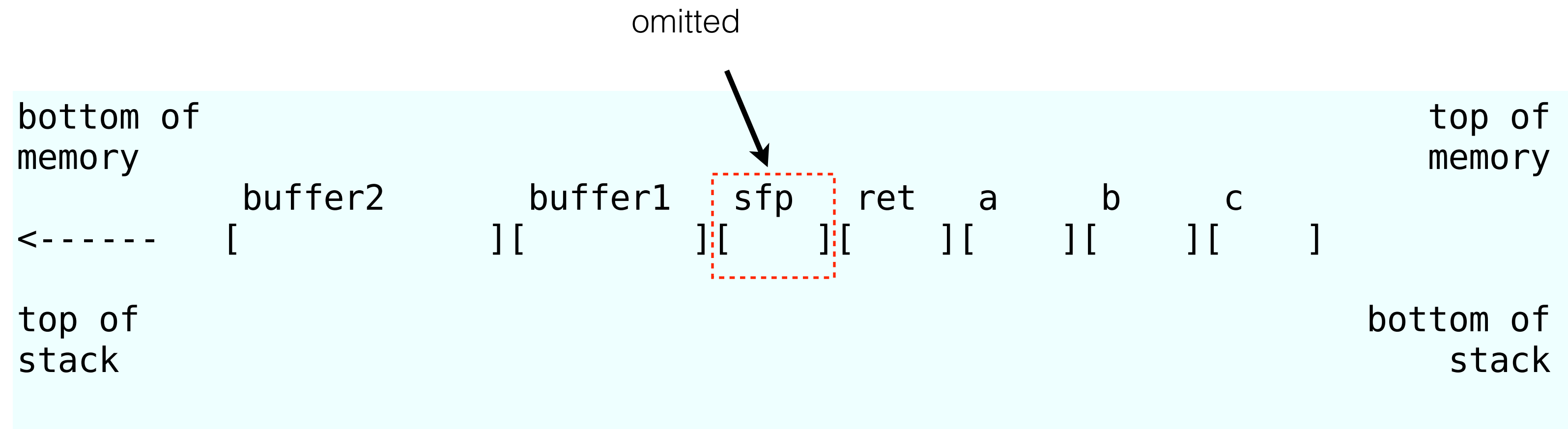
resetting stack
pointer

code at end of function

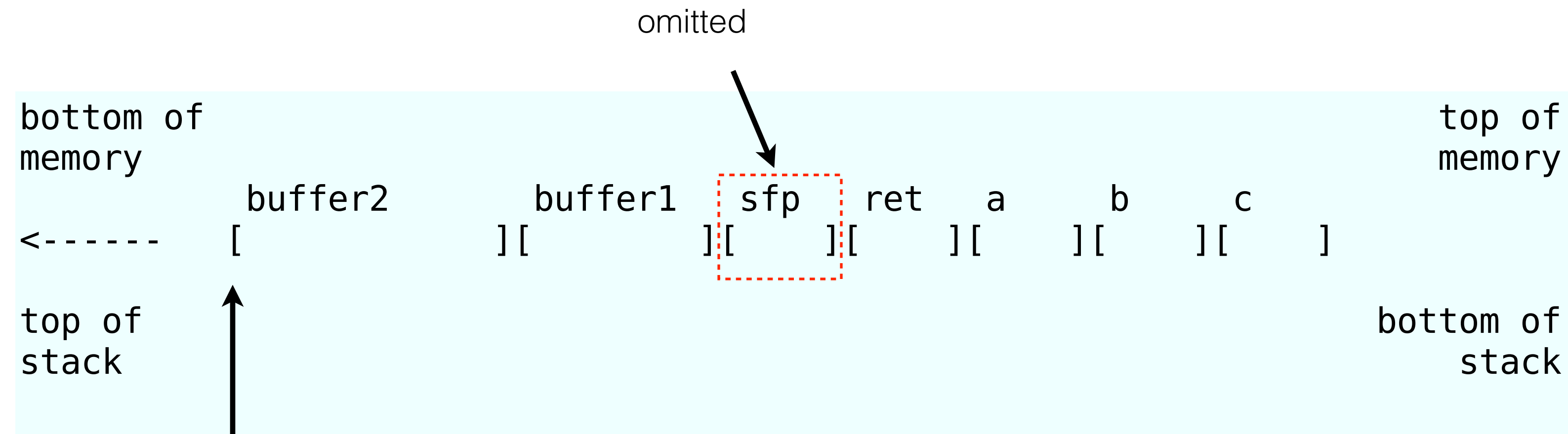
-fomit-frame-pointer



-fomit-frame-pointer

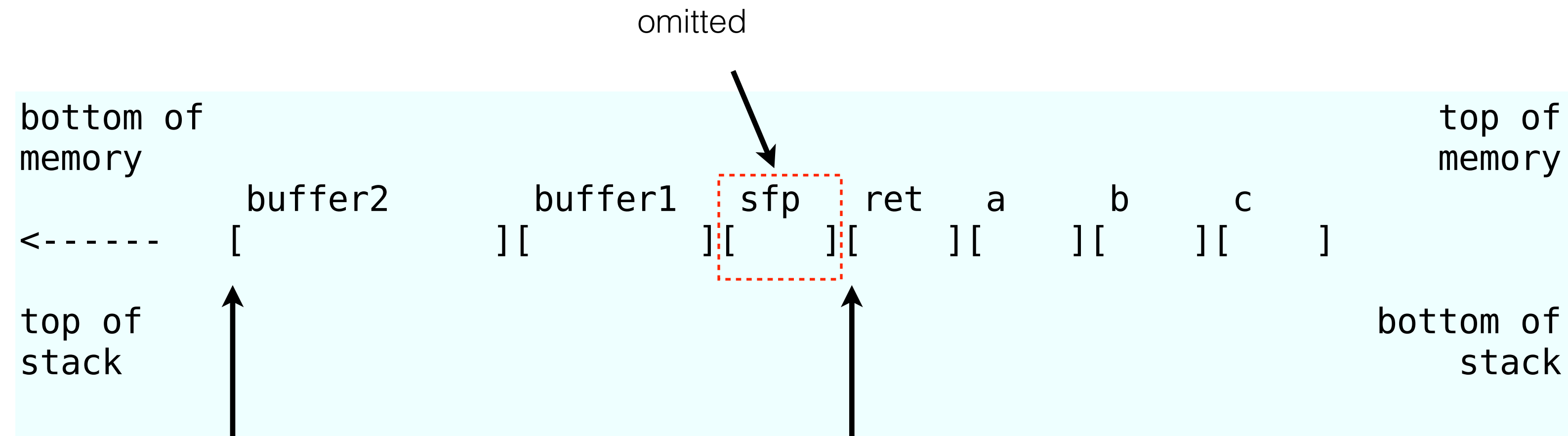


-fomit-frame-pointer



before `ep1g, %esp`

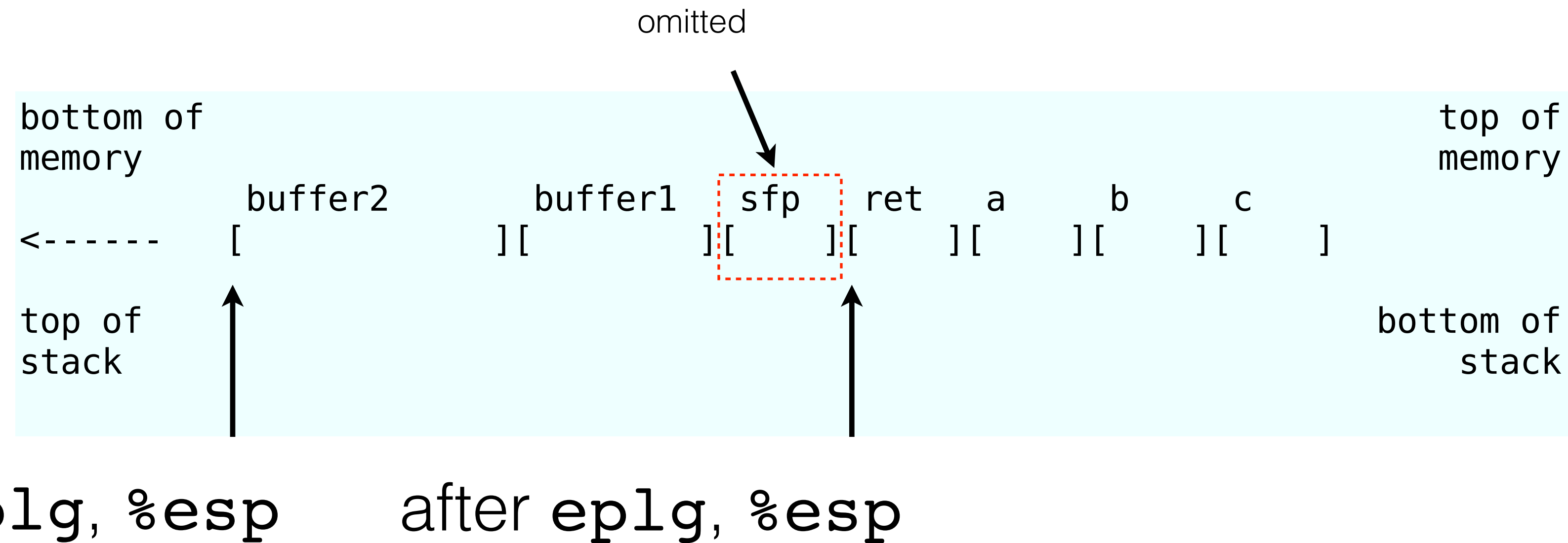
-fomit-frame-pointer



before ep1g, %esp

after ep1g, %esp

-fomit-frame-pointer



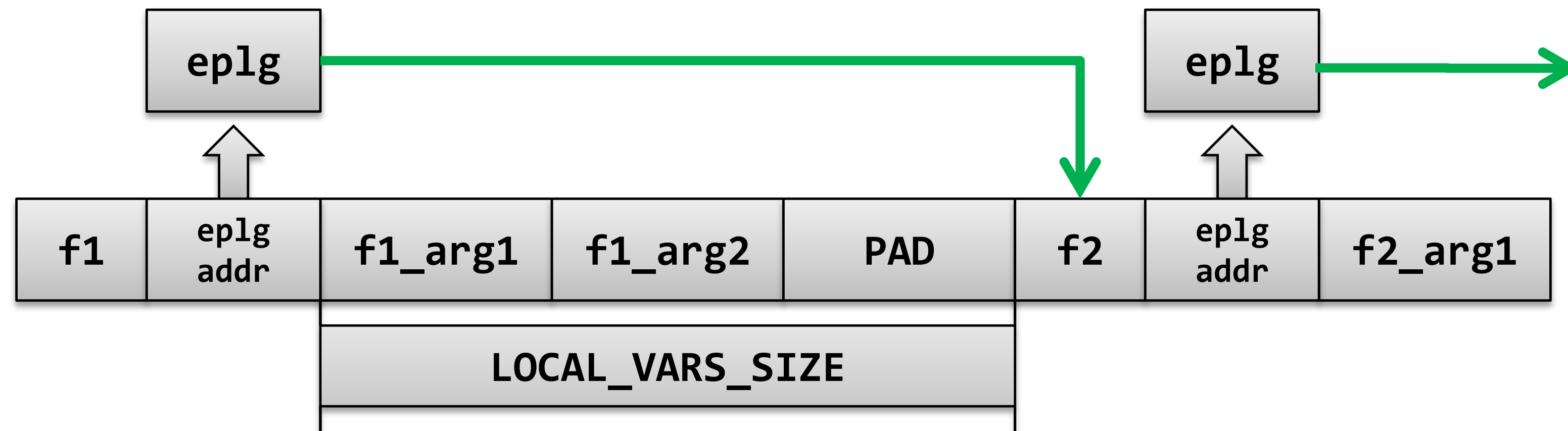
`eplg:`

pops `ret` addr. off stack and branches to it → `addl $LOCAL_VARS_SIZE, %esp`

`ret`

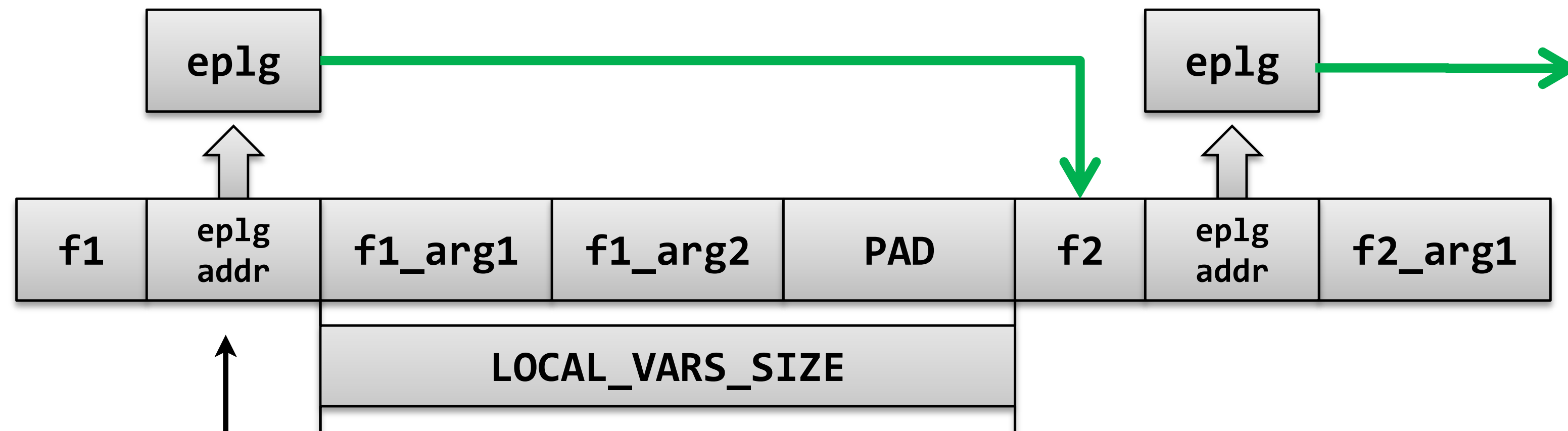
advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

(libc [or other function] should return to epilog of exploited [or other] function)



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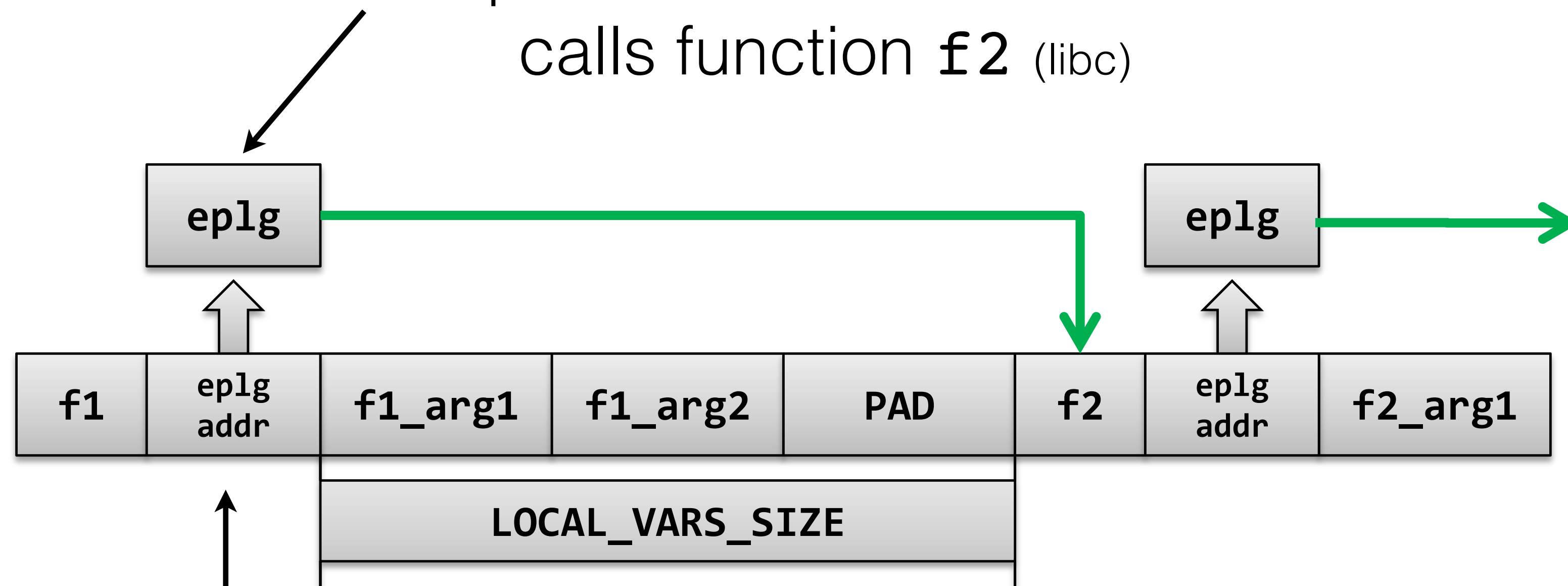
idea:

1. function **f1** (libc) returns to epilogue

advanced return-into-libc: **esp** lifting (1)

(libc [or other function] should return to epilog of exploited [or other] function)

2. epilogue moves stack pointer to so that **ret** calls function **f2** (libc)



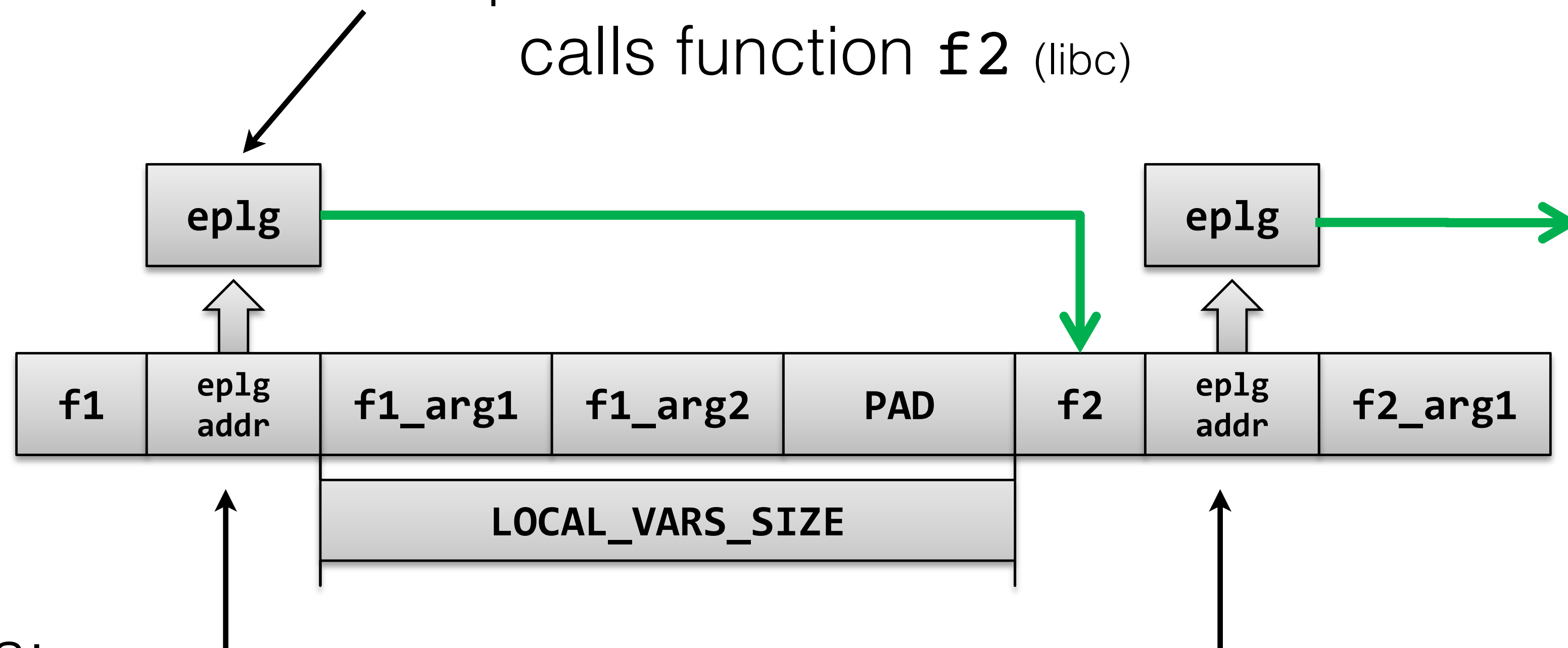
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idea:

1. function **f1** (libc) returns to epilogue

3. function **f2** (libc) returns to epilogue

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

(stack we build: part one)

stack after call:

```
[function(int a, int b, int c)]
```

buffer	ret
[...]	[???] [a] [b] [c]

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

(stack we build: part one)

stack after call:

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[function(int a, int b, int c)]
```

buffer	ret			
[...]	[???]	[a]	[b]	[c]

after overflowing
buffer:

buffer fill-up	ret	fl ret			
[]	[addr of fl in libc]	[ep1g]	[arg1]	...	[argn]

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

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`[function(int a, int b, int c)]`

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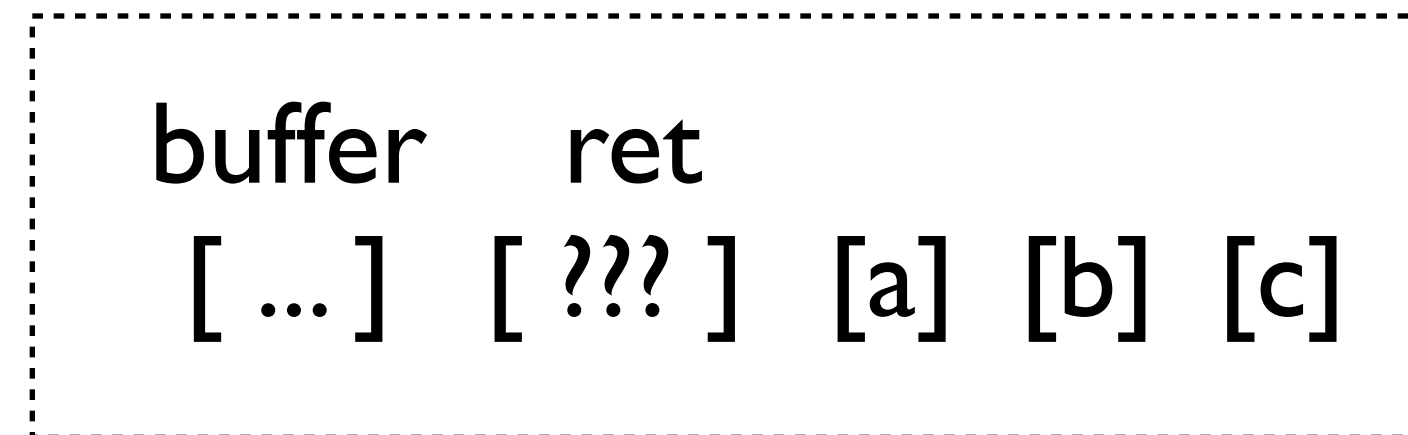
e.g. `setuid()`

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

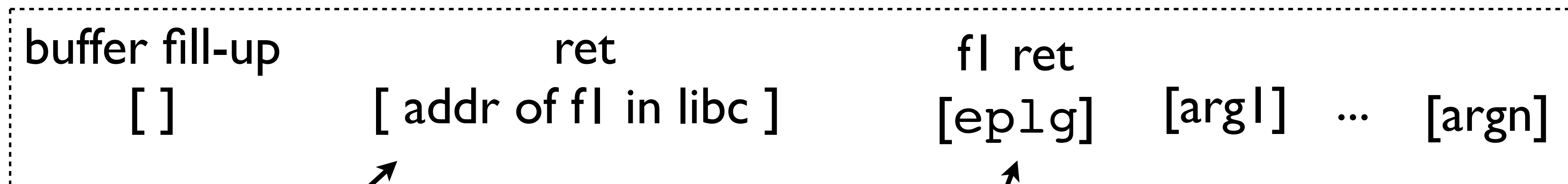
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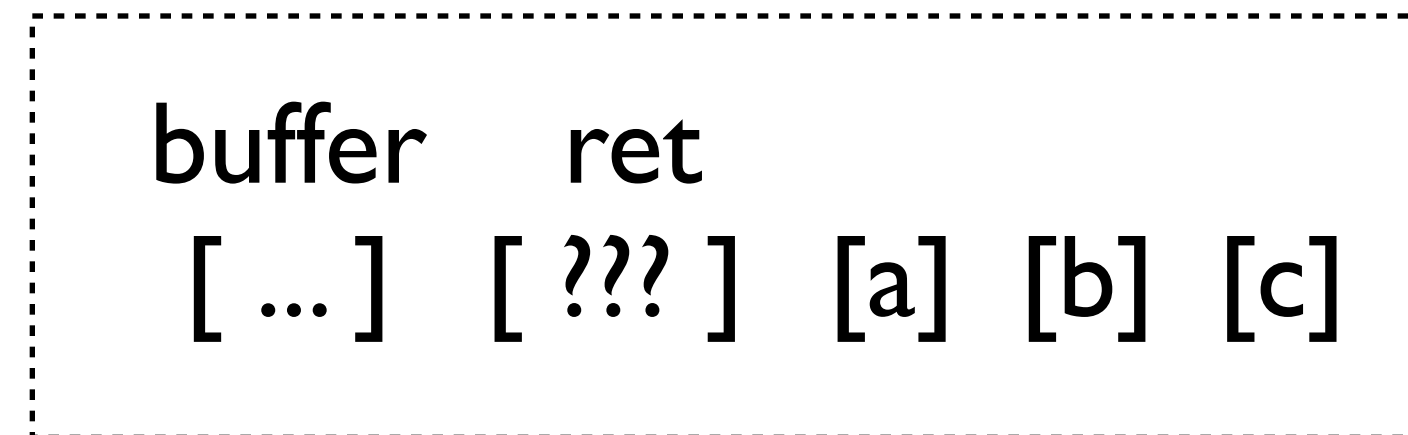
called function `f1` returns
here

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

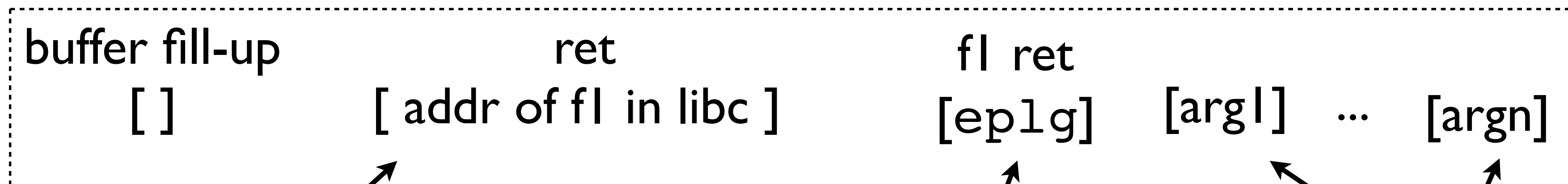
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stack after call:

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after overflowing
buffer:



e.g. `setuid()`

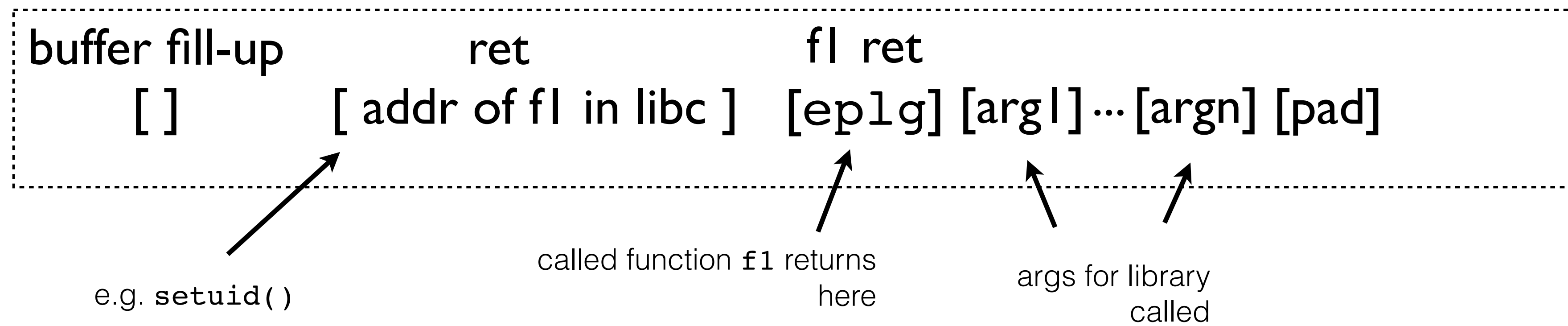
called function `f1` returns
here

args for library
called

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

(stack we build: part two)

after overflowing
buffer:



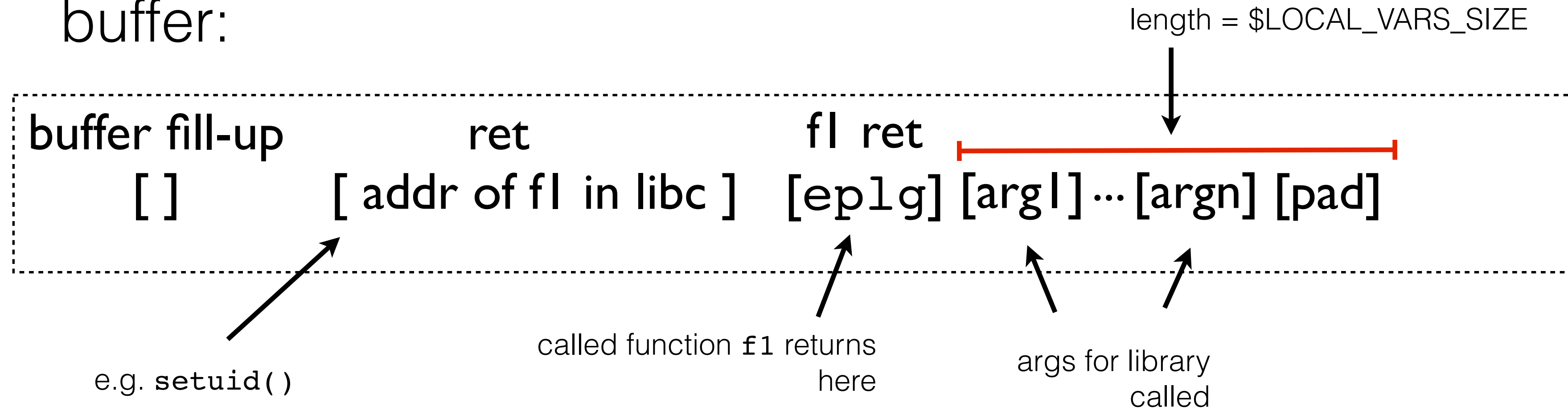
`eplg:`

```
addl    $LOCAL_VARS_SIZE,%esp
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

(stack we build: part two)

after overflowing
buffer:



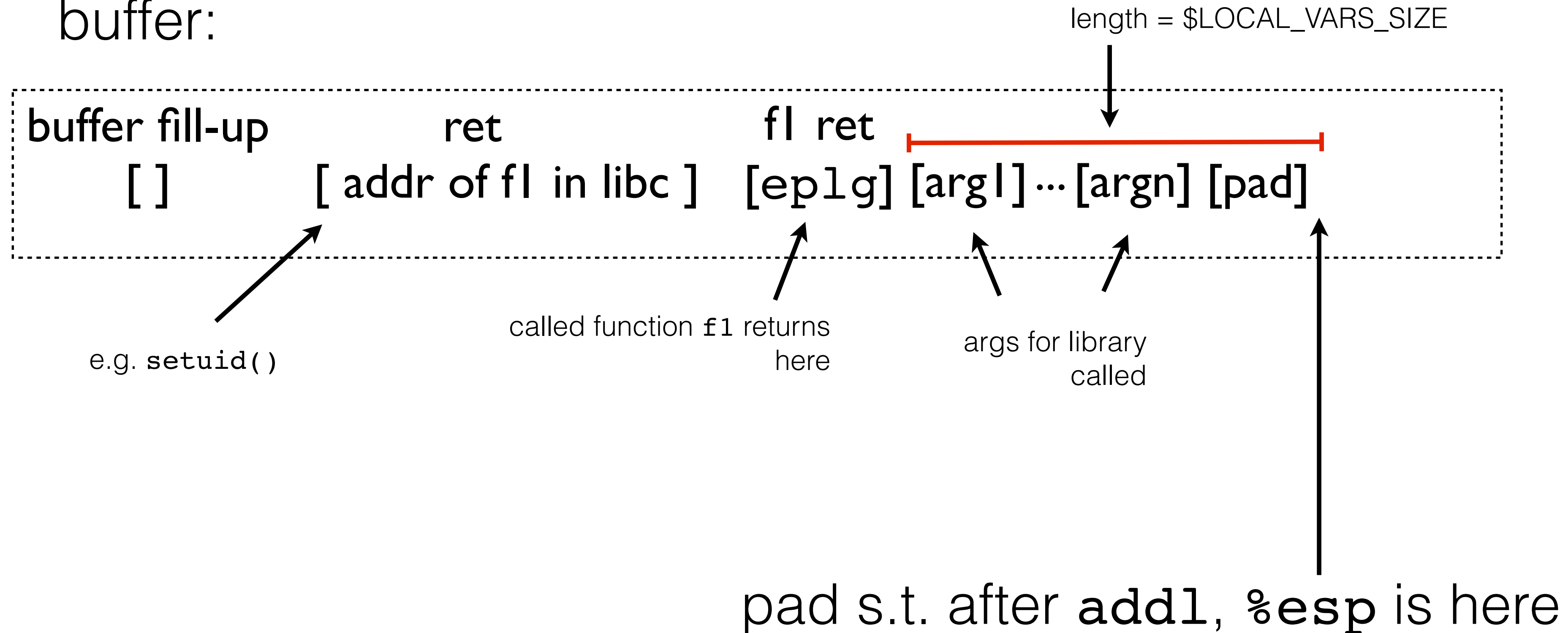
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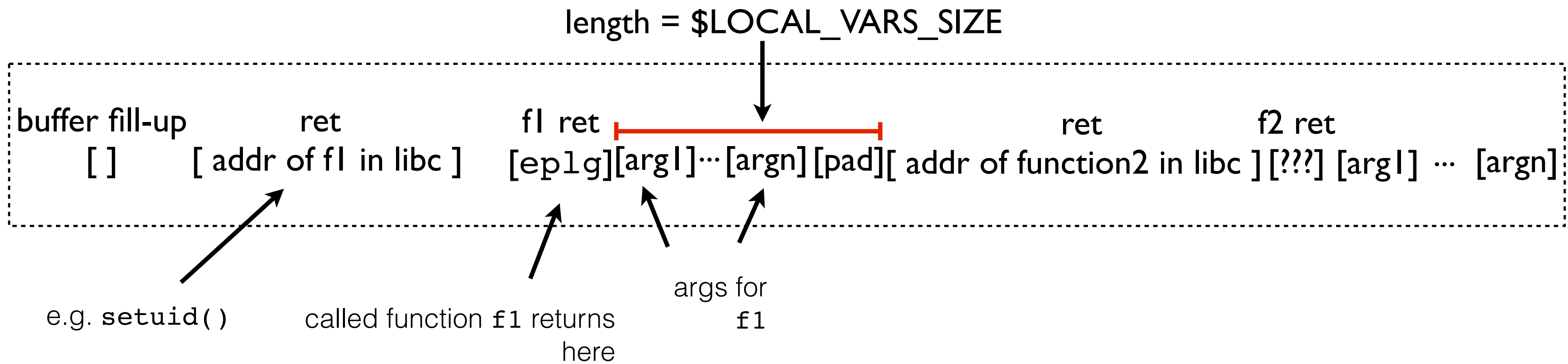
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```

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

(stack we build: part three)

after overflowing
buffer:



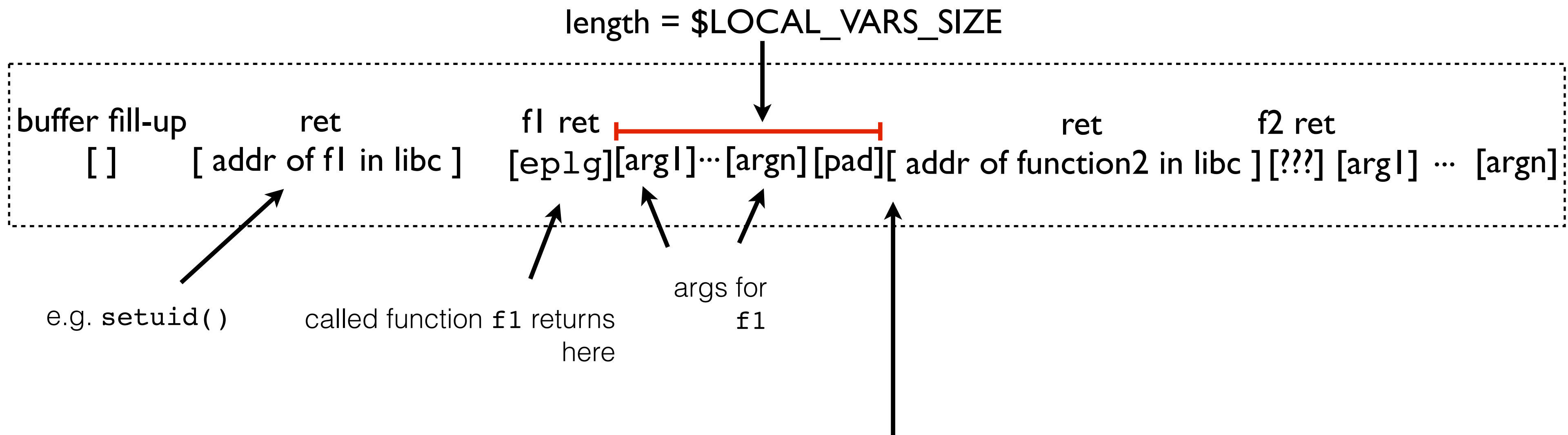
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advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

(stack we build: part three)

after overflowing
buffer:



ret of `eplg` pops and uses this
addr

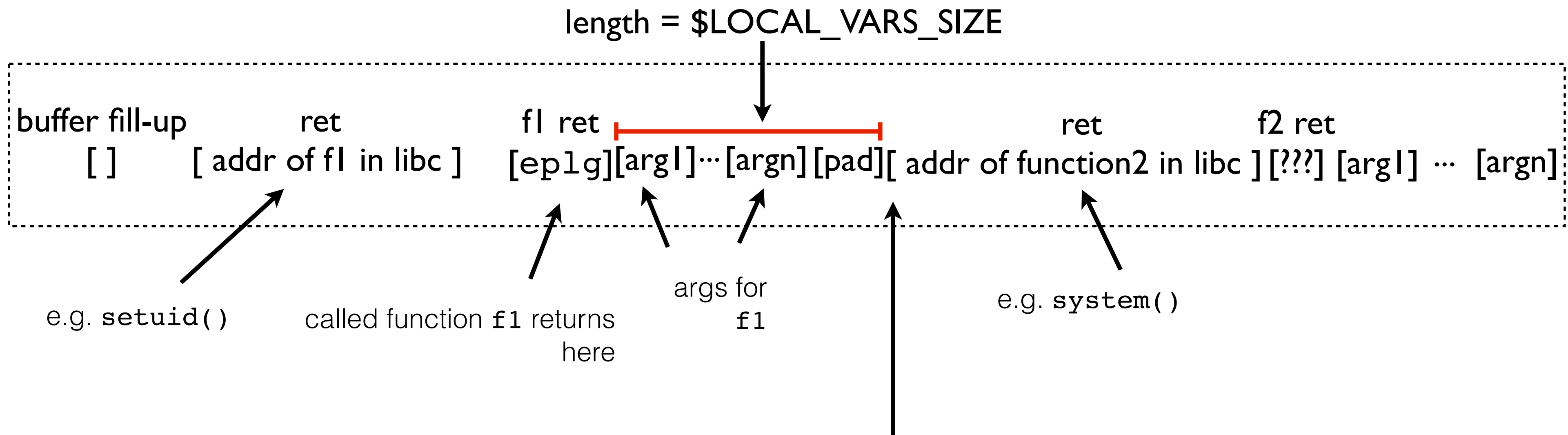
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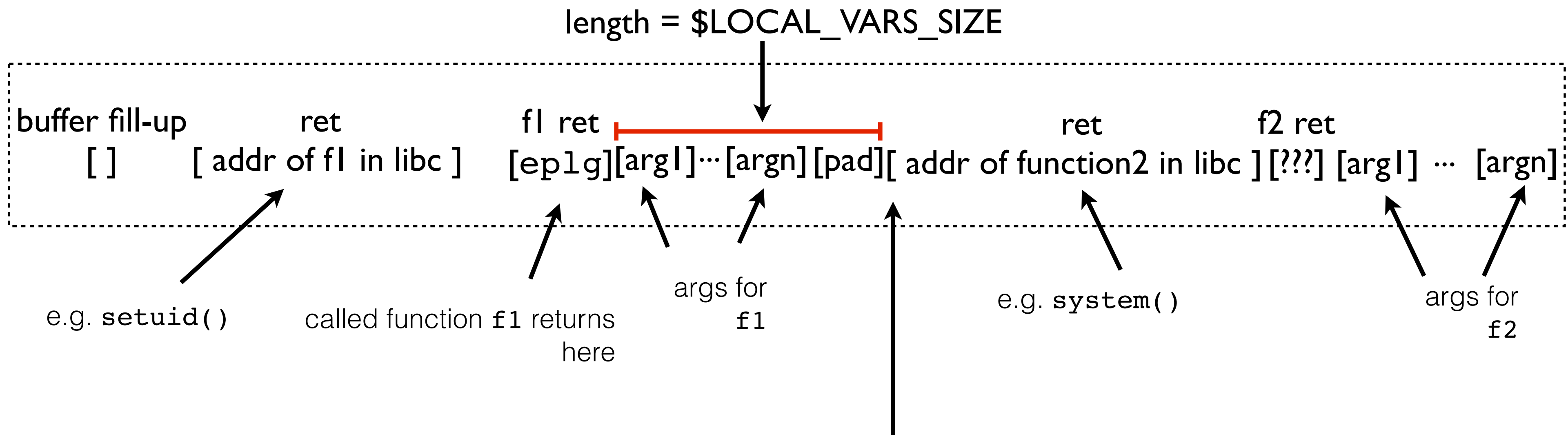
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advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

(execution)

after overflowing
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advanced return-into-libc: esp lifting (1)

(execution)

after overflowing
buffer:



where exploited
function returns to

where f1
function returns to

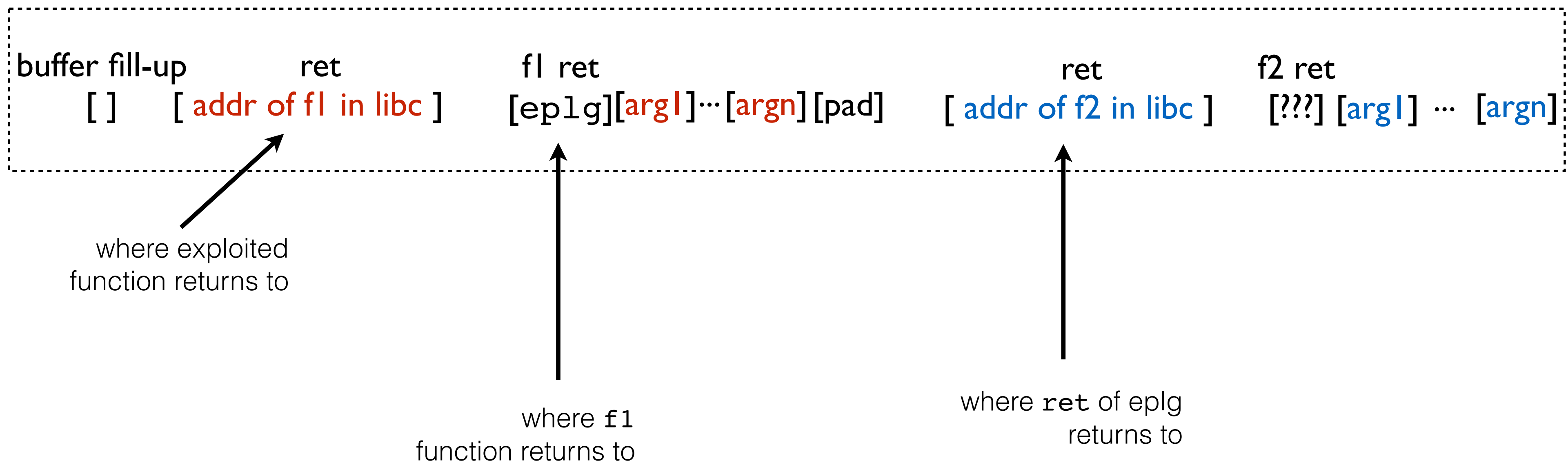
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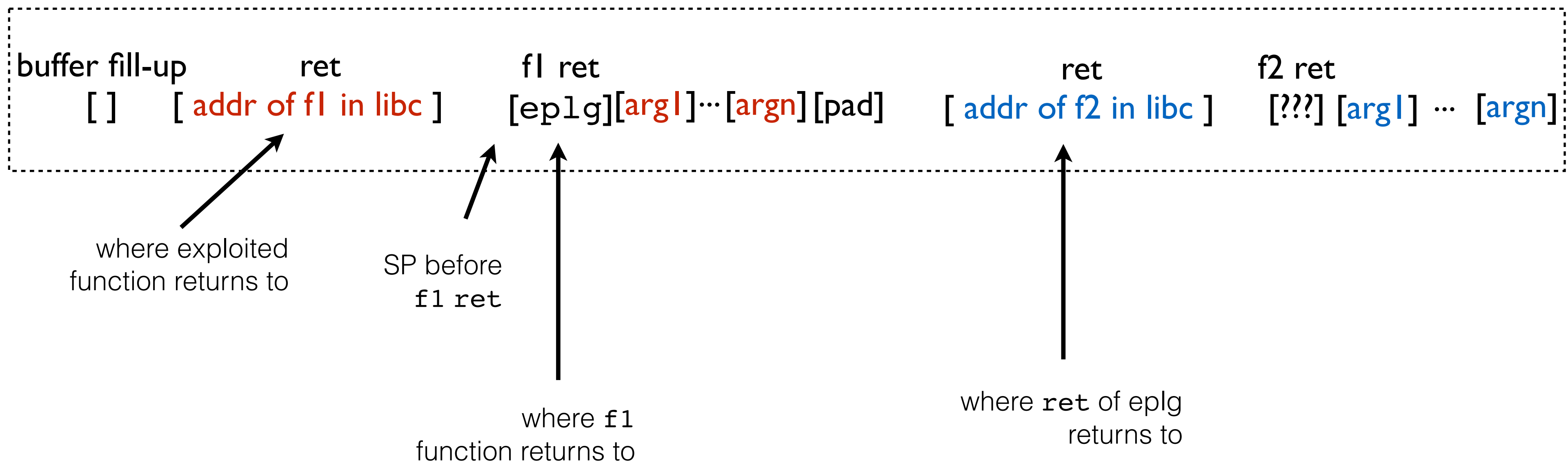
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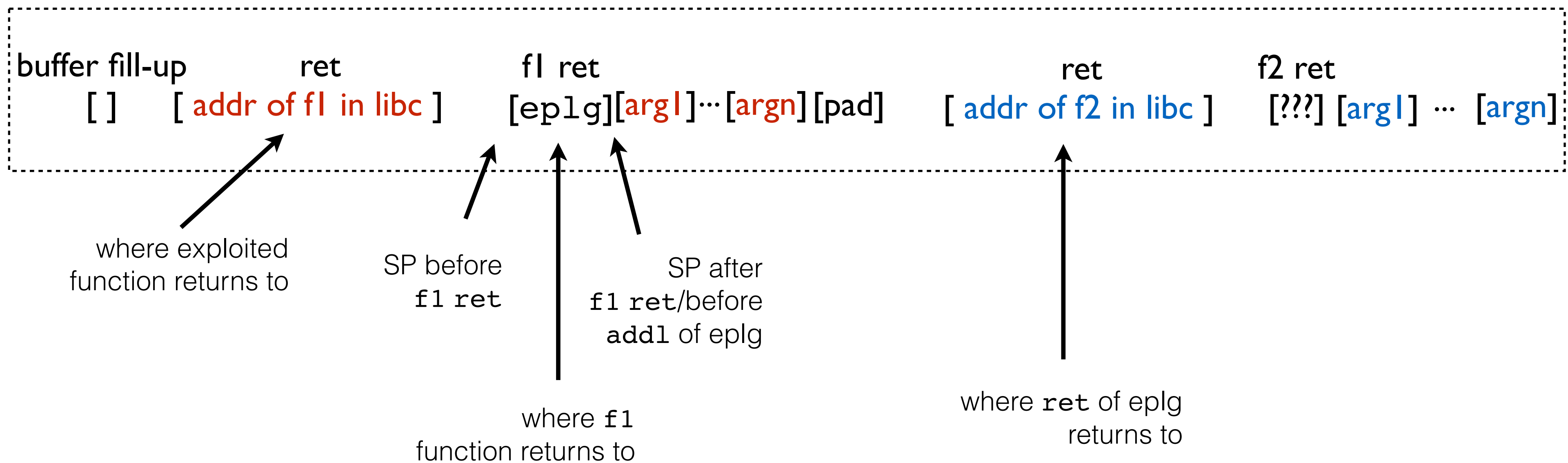
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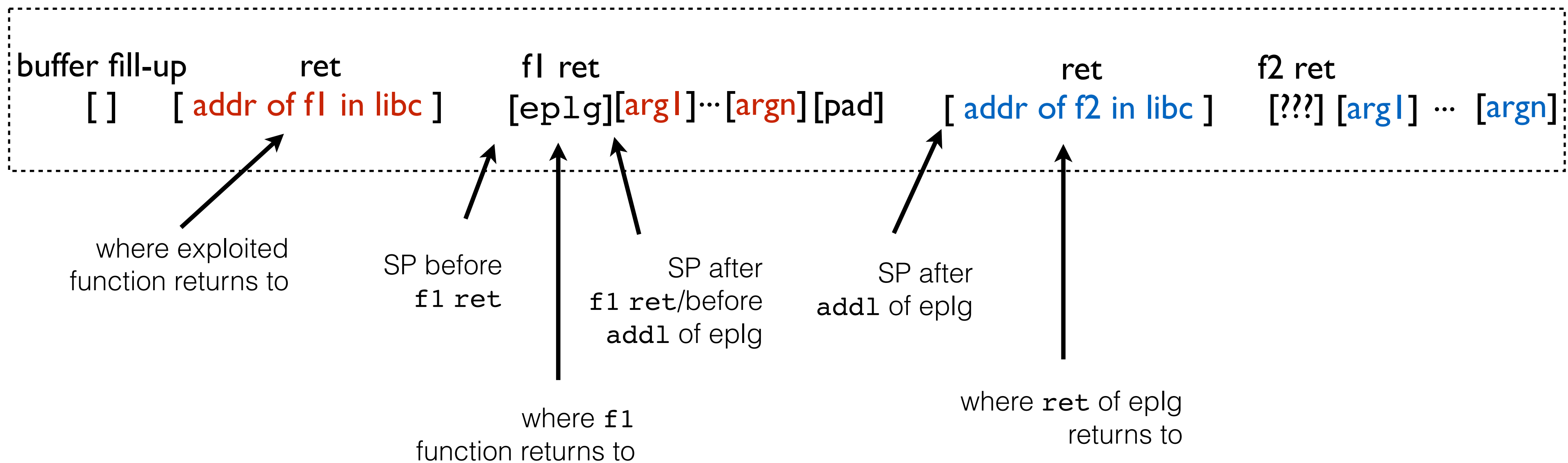
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advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

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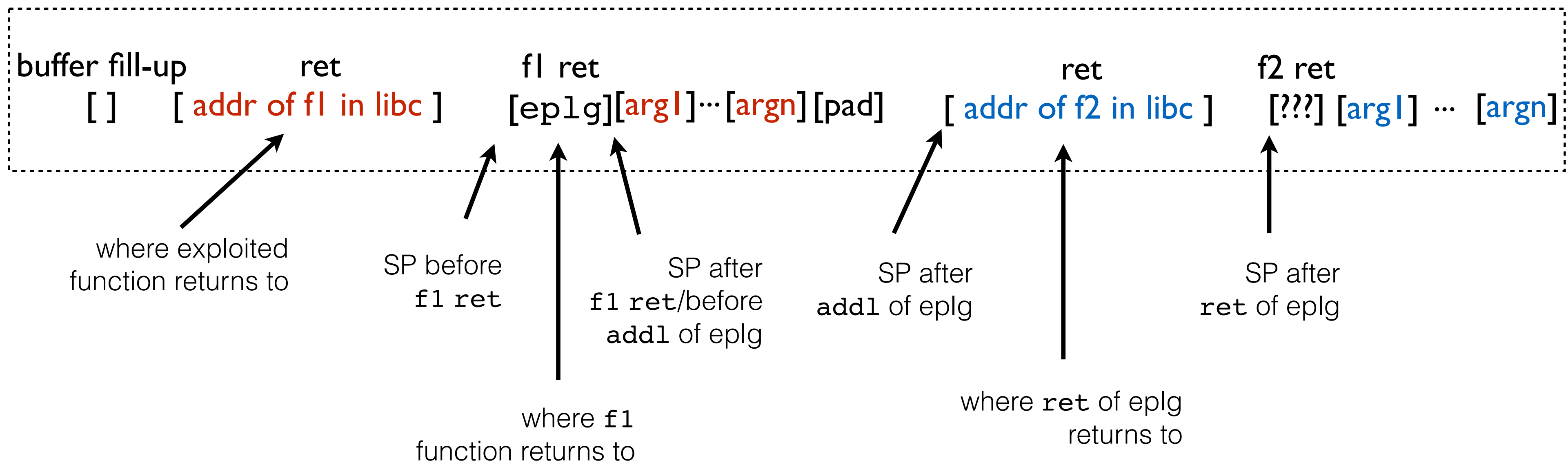
`eplg:`

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```

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (1)

(execution)

after overflowing
buffer:



`eplg:`

```
addl    $LOCAL_VARS_SIZE,%esp
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: **esp** lifting (2)

(move stack pointer to functions via `pop`)

find addr. of following
instructions in linked
library(ies):

`pop-ret:`

```
    popl any_register  
    ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: **esp** lifting (2)

(move stack pointer to functions via **pop**)

after overflowing
buffer:

buffer fill-up	ret	f1 ret	ret
[...]	[addr of f1 in libc]	[pop-ret][arg1]	[addr of f2 in libc]

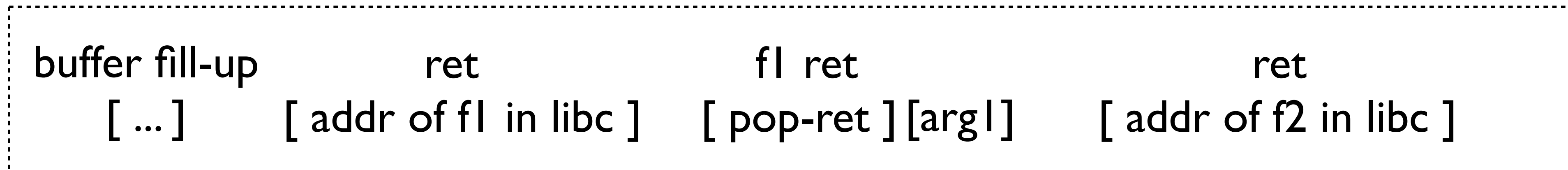
pop-ret:

```
popl any_register  
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: **esp** lifting (2)

(move stack pointer to functions via **pop**)

after overflowing
buffer:



1. takes four bytes off of stack

(SP moved four bytes back/up)

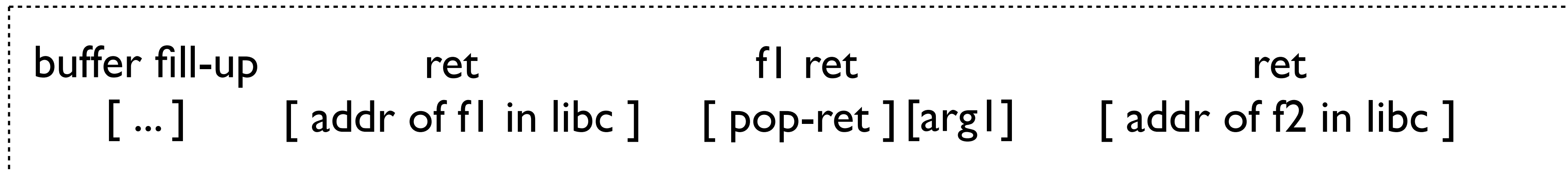
pop-ret:

```
popl any_register  
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (2)

(move stack pointer to functions via `pop`)

after overflowing
buffer:



1. takes four bytes off of stack
(SP moved four bytes back/up)

2. `ret` uses this addr after `pop1`

`pop-ret:`

```
popl any_register
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: `esp` lifting (2)

(execution)

after overflowing
buffer:

buffer fill-up	ret	f1 ret	ret
[...]	[addr of f1 in libc]	[pop-ret] [arg1]	[addr of f2 in libc]

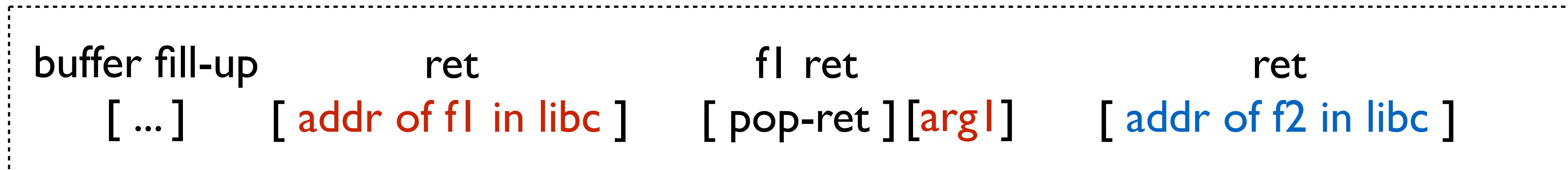
pop-ret:

```
popl any_register
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: esp lifting (2)

(execution)

after overflowing
buffer:



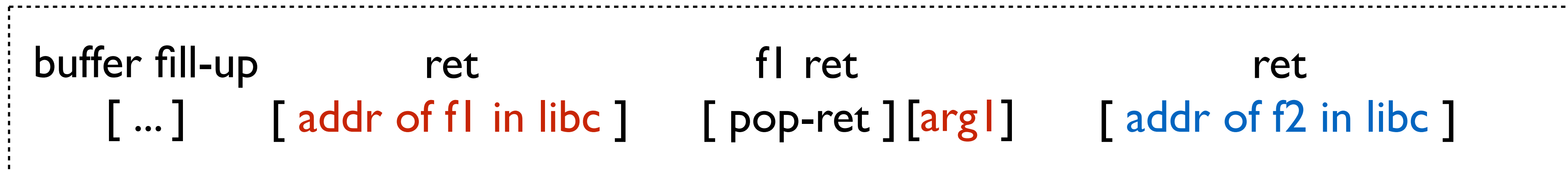
pop-ret:

```
popl any_register  
ret
```


advanced return-into-libc: esp lifting (2)

(execution)

after overflowing
buffer:



where exploited
function returns to

where f1
function returns to

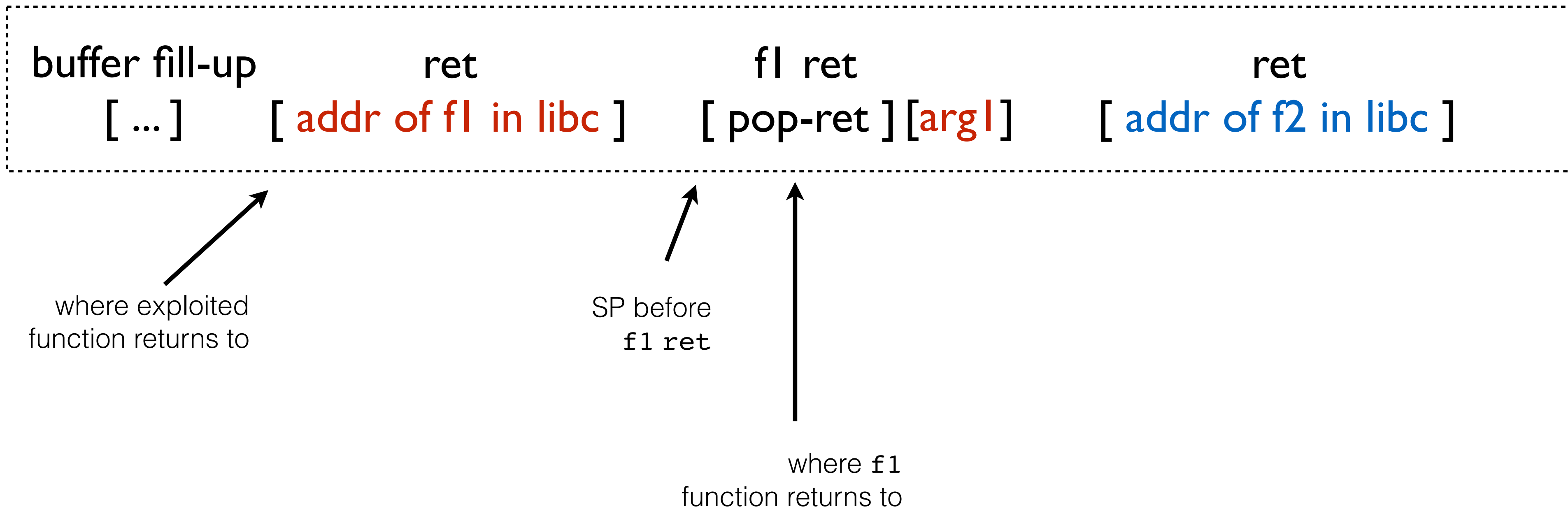
pop-ret:

```
popl any_register  
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: esp lifting (2)

(execution)

after overflowing
buffer:



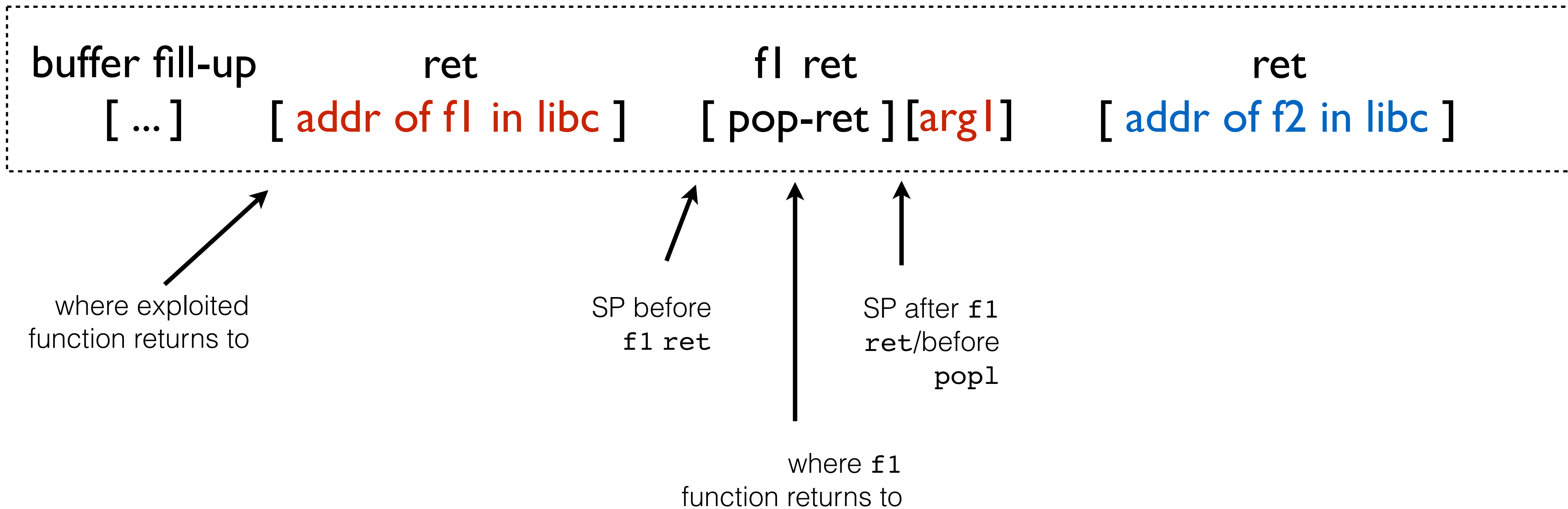
pop-ret:

```
popl any_register  
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: esp lifting (2)

(execution)

after overflowing
buffer:



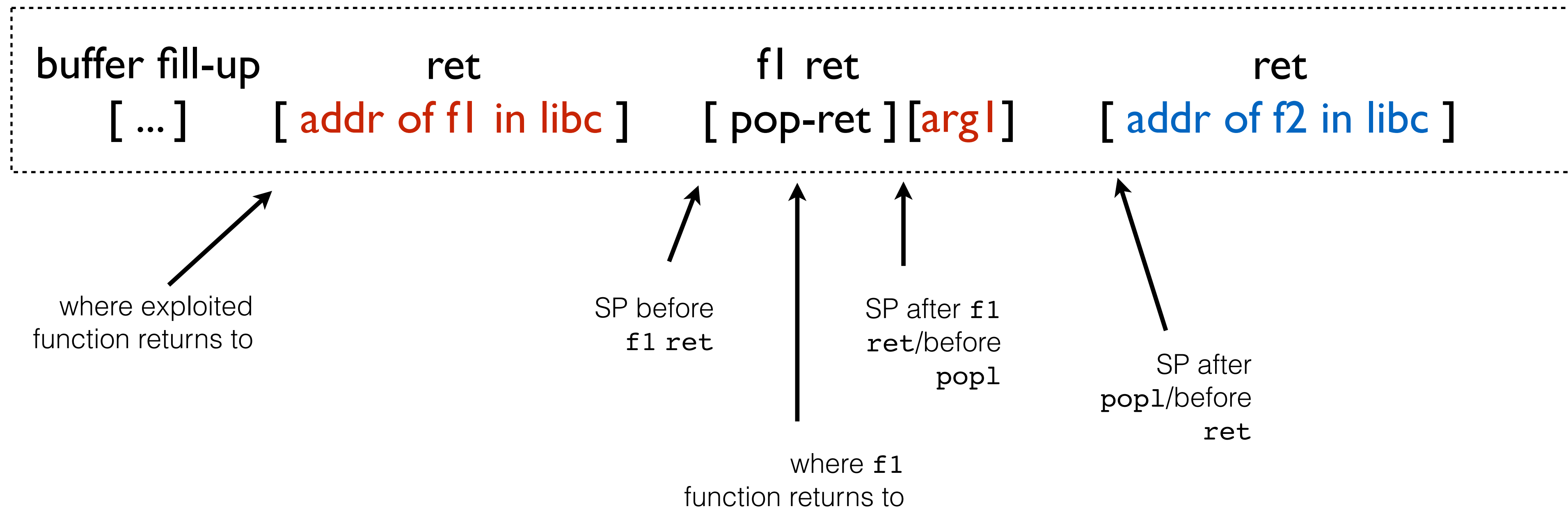
pop-ret:

```
popl any_register  
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: esp lifting (2)

(execution)

after overflowing
buffer:



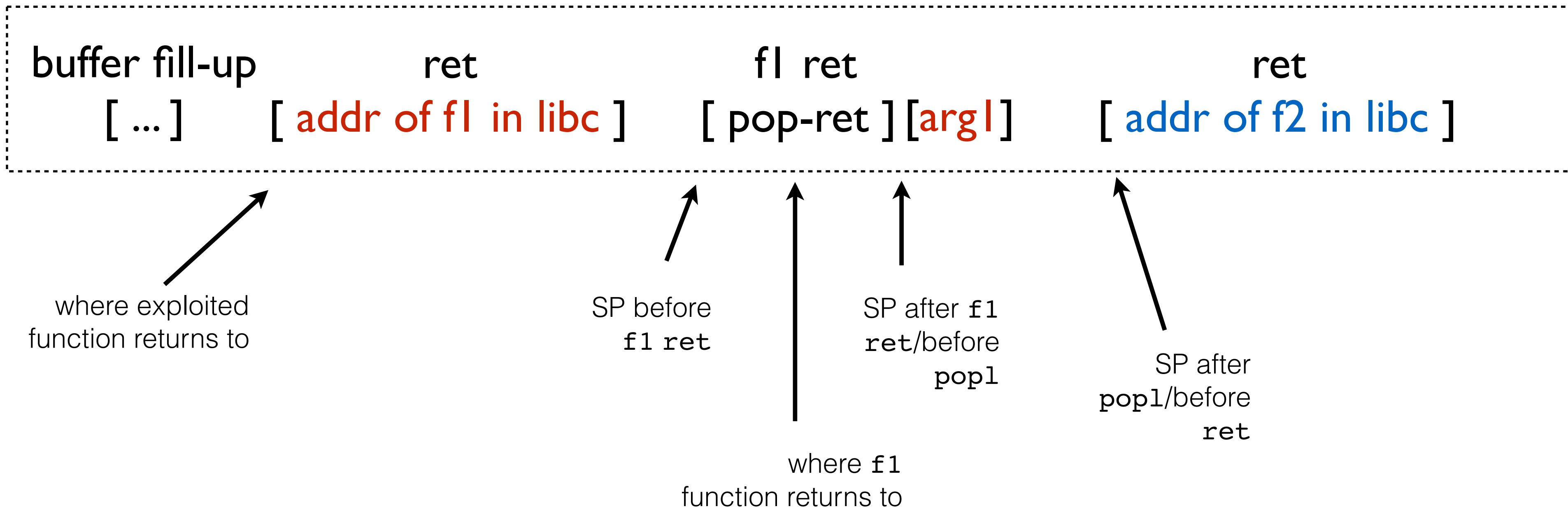
pop-ret:

```
popl any_register  
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: esp lifting (2)

(execution)

after overflowing
buffer:



limitation: argument
can only be four bytes

pop-ret:

```
popl any_register  
ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: **esp** lifting (2)

(arguments more than four bytes)

after overflowing
buffer:

buffer fill-up	ret	f1 ret	ret
[...]	[addr of f1 in libc]	[pop-ret][arg1][arg2]	[addr of f2 in libc]

find sequence:

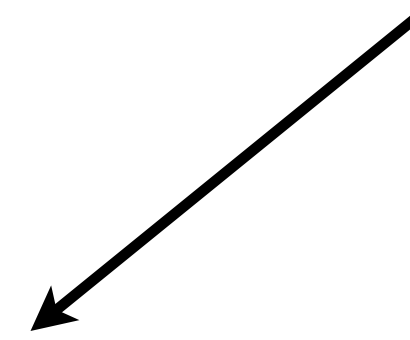
pop-ret:

```
popl any_register  
popl any_register  
ret
```



eight bytes for
arguments

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

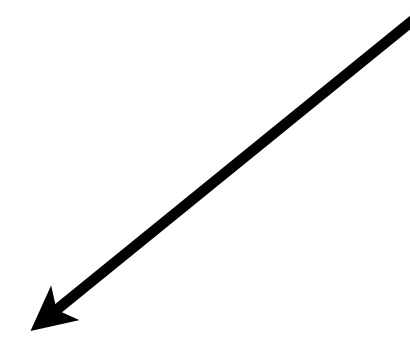


if program compiled *without*:

`-fomit-frame-pointer`

buffer	sfp	ret			
[...]	[]	[???]	[a]	[b]	[c]

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking



if program compiled *without*:

`-fomit-frame-pointer`

epilogue:

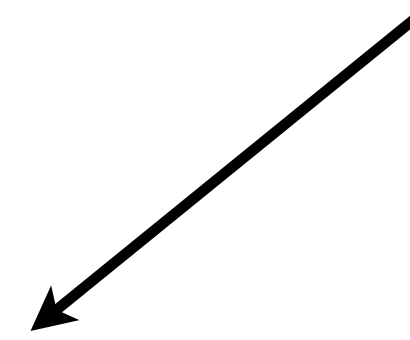
`leaveret:`

`leave`

`ret`

buffer	sfp	ret			
[...]	[]	[???]	[a]	[b]	[c]

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking



if program compiled *without*:

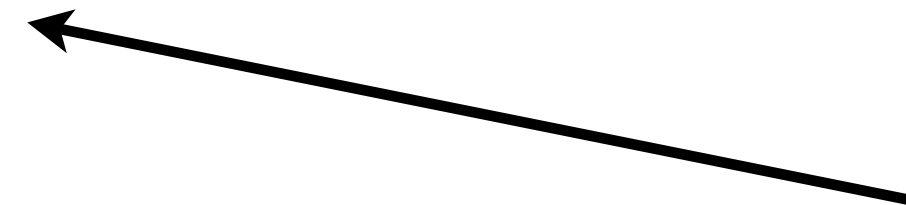
`-fomit-frame-pointer`

epilogue:

`leaveret:`

`leave`

`ret`



1. EBP -> ESP

2. then old frame pointer
popped from stack onto EBP

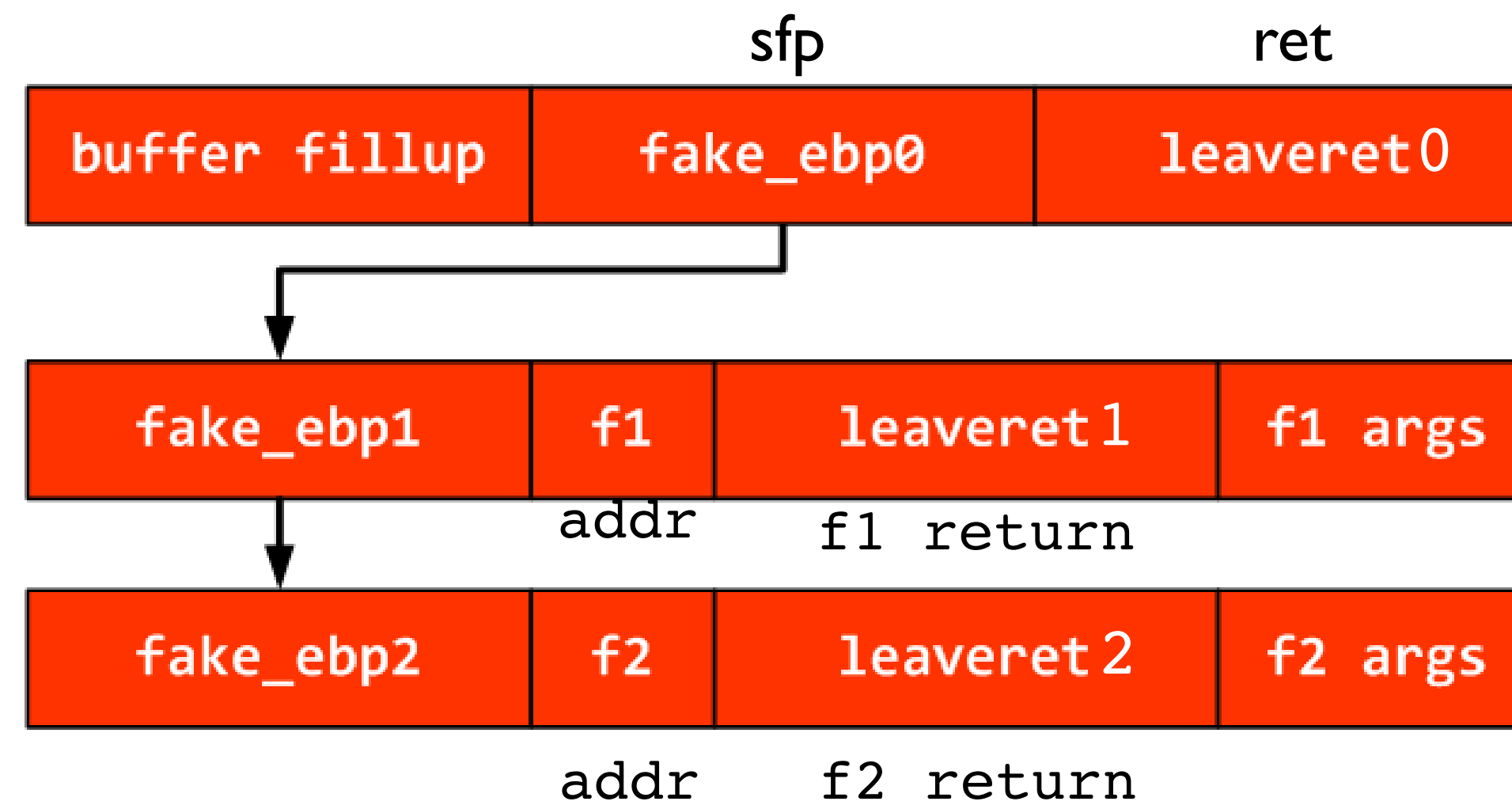
buffer	sfp	ret			
[...]	[]	[???]	[a]	[b]	[c]

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(stack after buffer overflow)

vulnerable function epilogue (function executes `leaveret` normally):

`fake_ebp0` into `%ebp` and returns into `leaveret0`



note:

1. exploited function executes `leaveret` eplog as normal (actual `ebp->esp`; `fake_ebp0->ebp`; `esp` at `leaveret0`)
2. then returns to `leaveret` eplog again (`leaveret0`) (`fake_ebp0->esp`; `fake_ebp1->ebp`; `esp` at `f1 addr`)

`leaveret:`

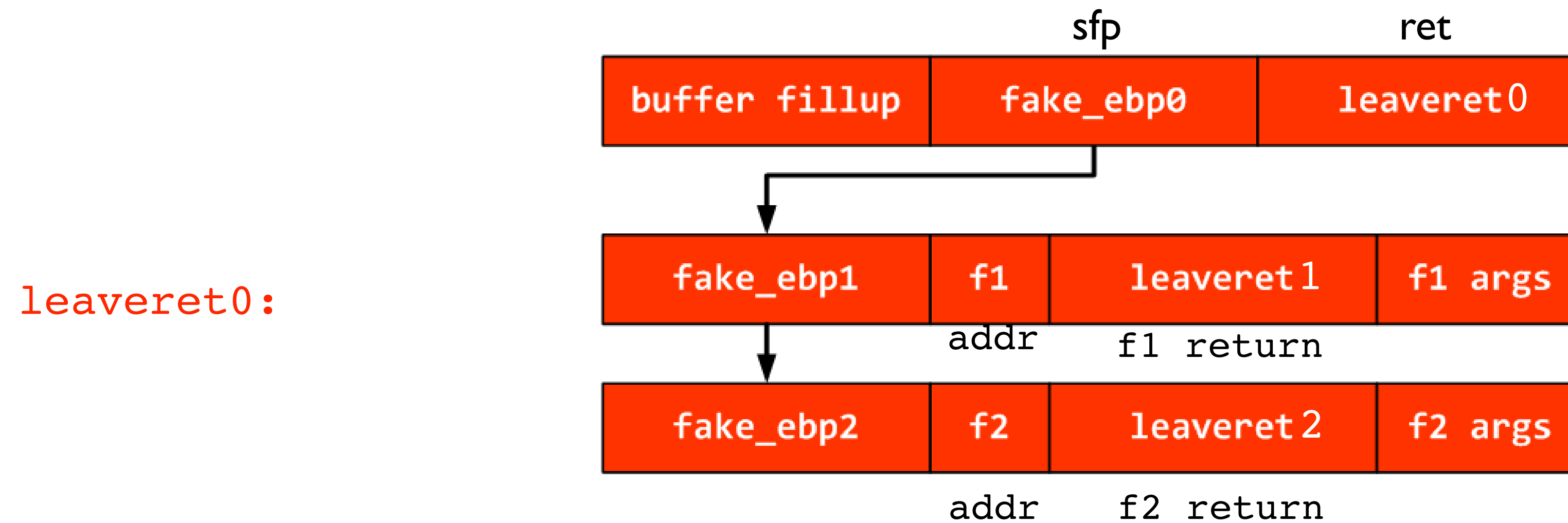
```
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(stack after buffer overflow)

vulnerable function epilogue (function executes `leaveret` normally):

`fake_ebp0` into `%ebp` and returns into `leaveret0`



note:

1. exploited function executes `leaveret` eplog as normal (actual `ebp->esp`; `fake_ebp0->ebp`; `esp` at `leaveret0`)
2. then returns to `leaveret` eplog again (`leaveret0`) (`fake_ebp0->esp`; `fake_ebp1->ebp`; `esp` at `f1 addr`)

`leaveret:`

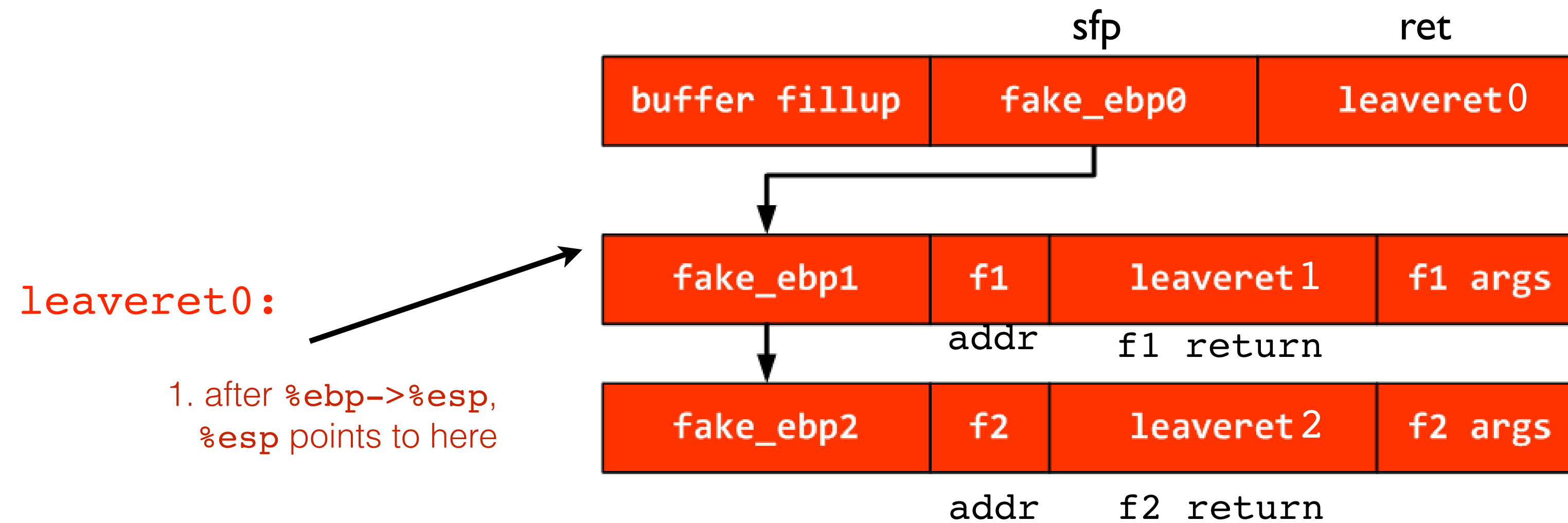
```
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(stack after buffer overflow)

vulnerable function epilogue (function executes `leaveret` normally):

`fake_ebp0` into `%ebp` and returns into `leaveret0`



note:

1. exploited function executes `leaveret` eplog as normal (actual `ebp->esp`; `fake_ebp0->ebp`; `esp` at `leaveret0`)
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`leaveret:`

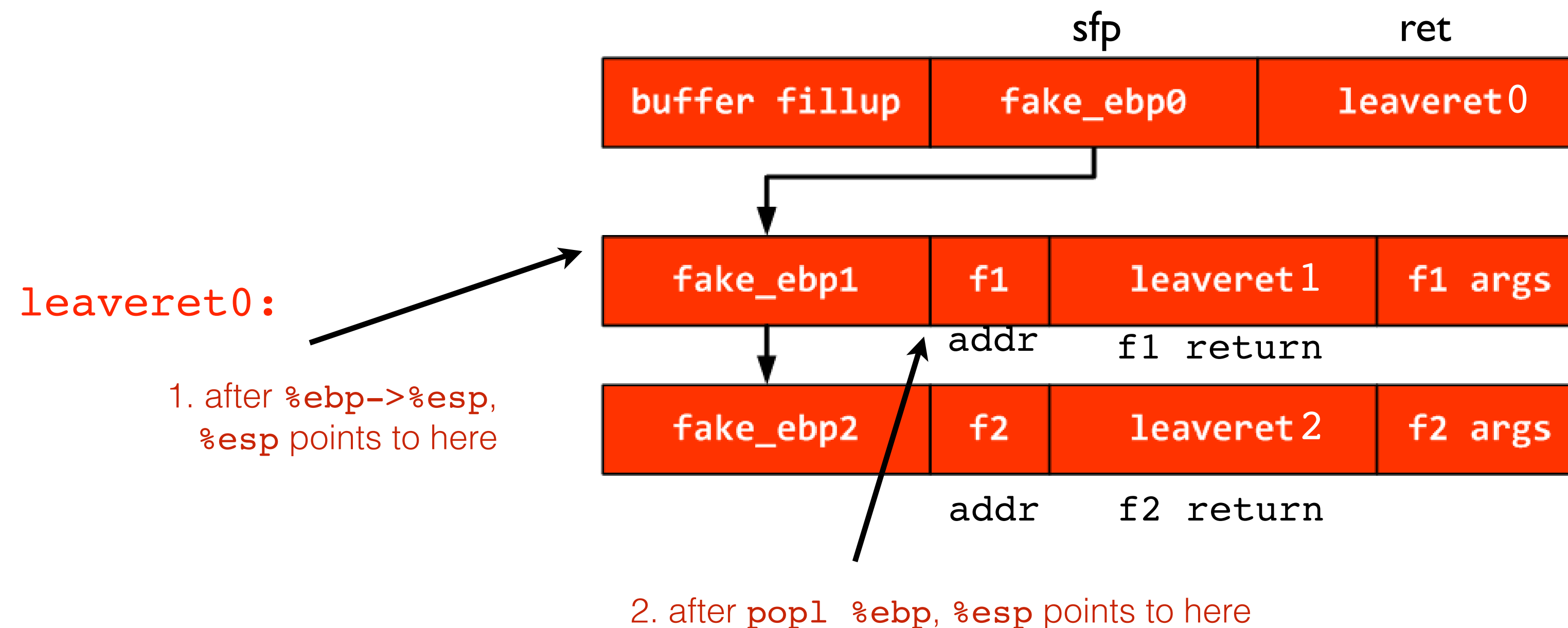
```
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(stack after buffer overflow)

vulnerable function epilogue (function executes `leaveret` normally):

`fake_ebp0` into `%ebp` and returns into `leaveret0`



note:

1. exploited function executes `leaveret` eplog as normal (actual `ebp->esp`; `fake_ebp0->ebp`; `esp` at `leaveret0`)
2. then returns to `leaveret` eplog again (`leaveret0`) (`fake_ebp0->esp`; `fake_ebp1->ebp`; `esp` at `f1 addr`)

`leaveret:`

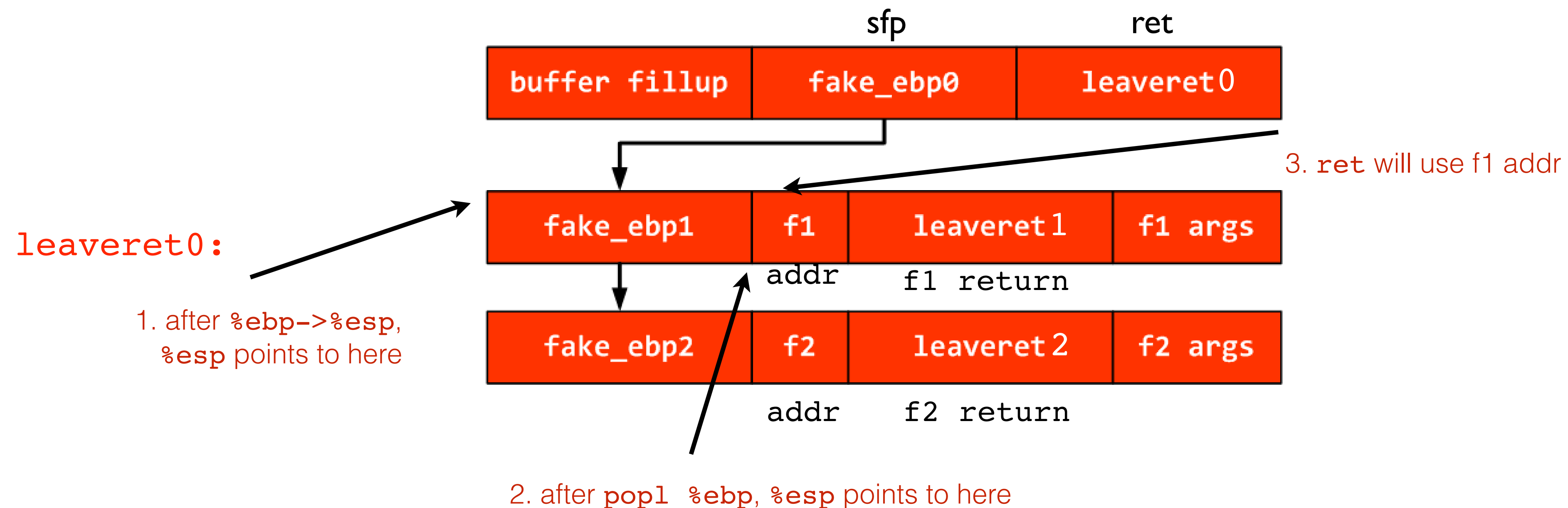
```
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(stack after buffer overflow)

vulnerable function epilogue (function executes `leaveret` normally):

`fake_ebp0` into `%ebp` and returns into `leaveret0`



note:

1. exploited function executes `leaveret` eplog as normal (actual `ebp->esp`; `fake_ebp0->ebp`; `esp` at `leaveret0`)
2. then returns to `leaveret` eplog again (`leaveret0`) (`fake_ebp0->esp`; `fake_ebp1->ebp`; `esp` at `f1` addr)

`leaveret:`

```
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```


advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:

fill-up	fp0	ret0	fp1	f1
[...]	[addr of fp1]	[addr of leaveret]	[addr of fp2]	[addr of f1 in libc]

```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:



where exploited
function returns to

```
leaveret:  
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp  
2.ret
```


advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:



where exploited
function returns to

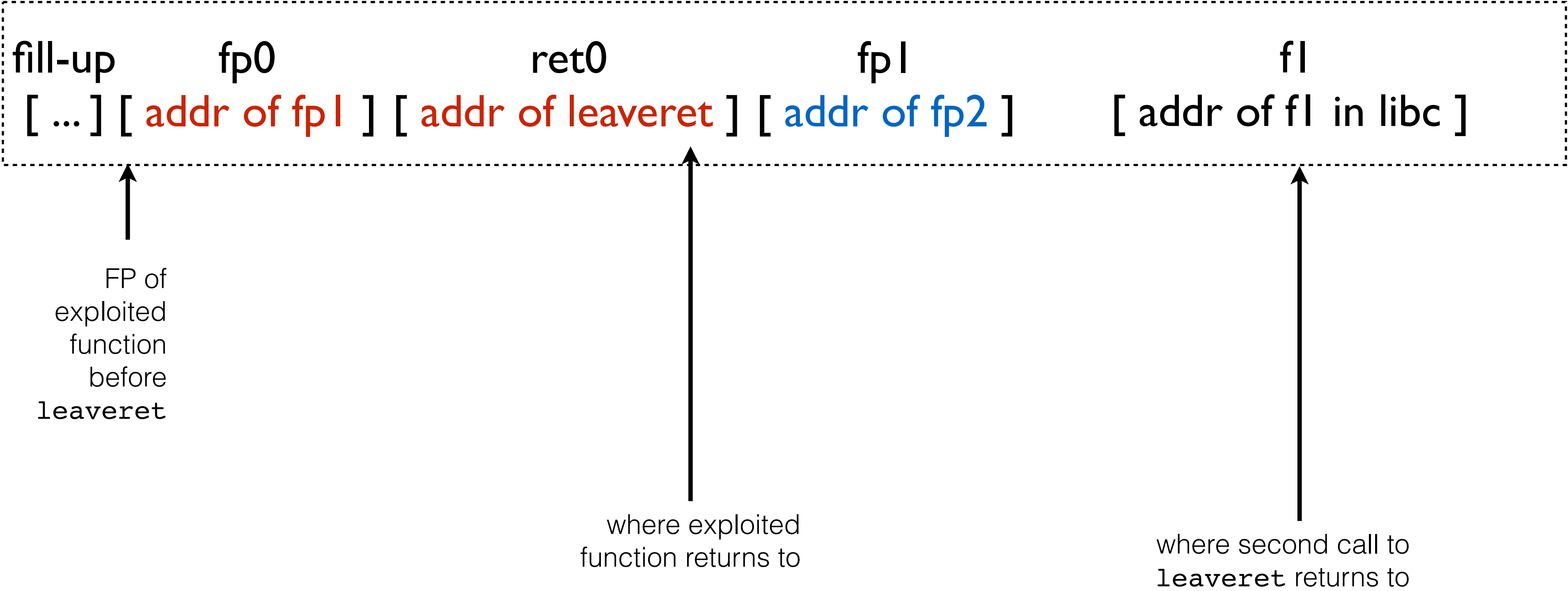
where second call to
`leaveret` returns to

```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:

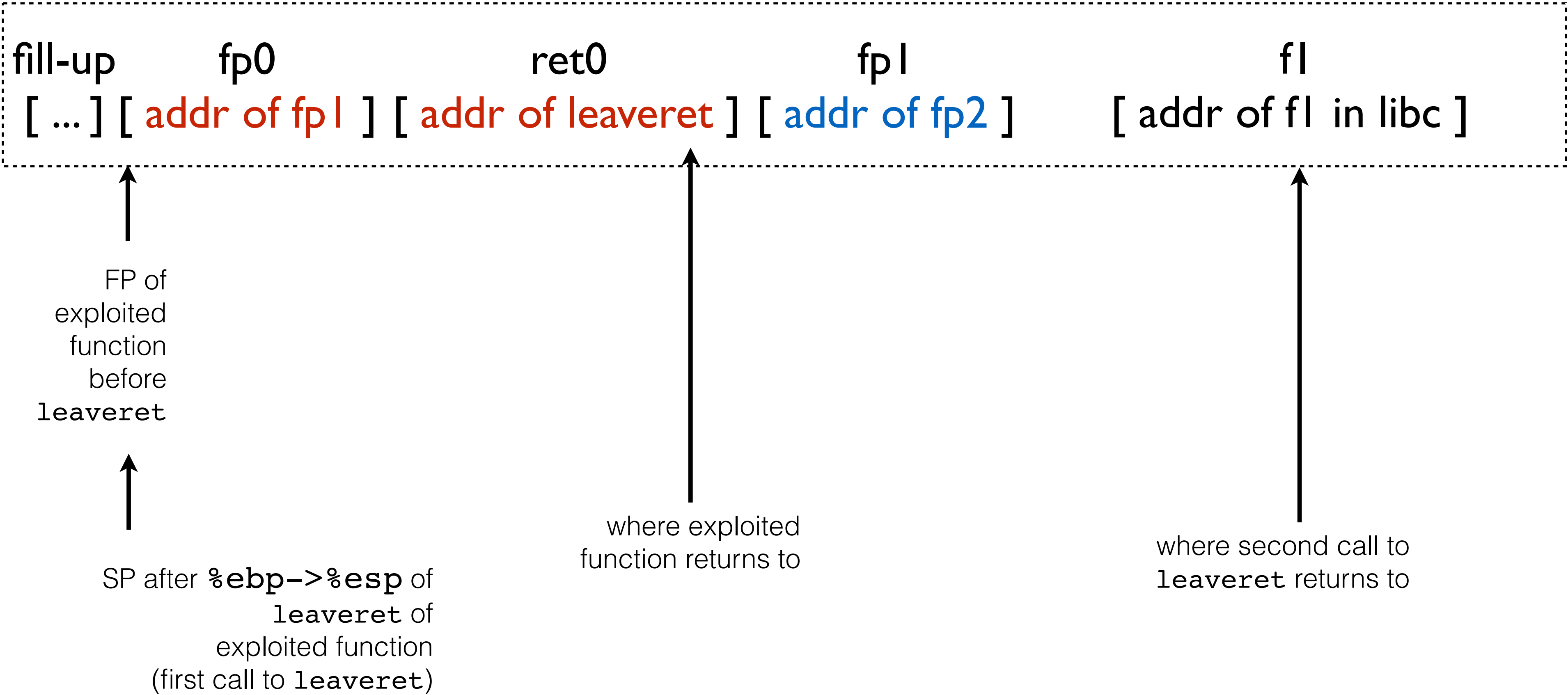


```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp,popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:

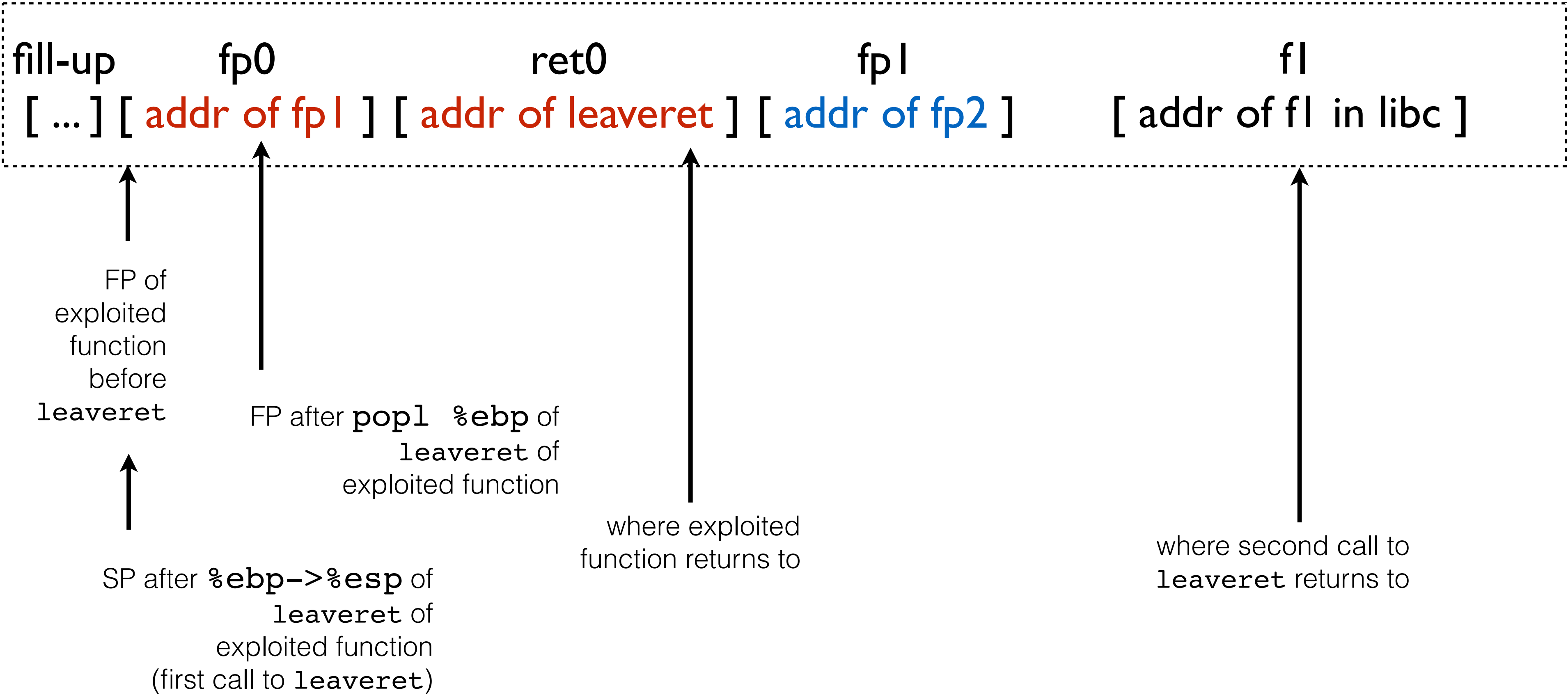


```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:

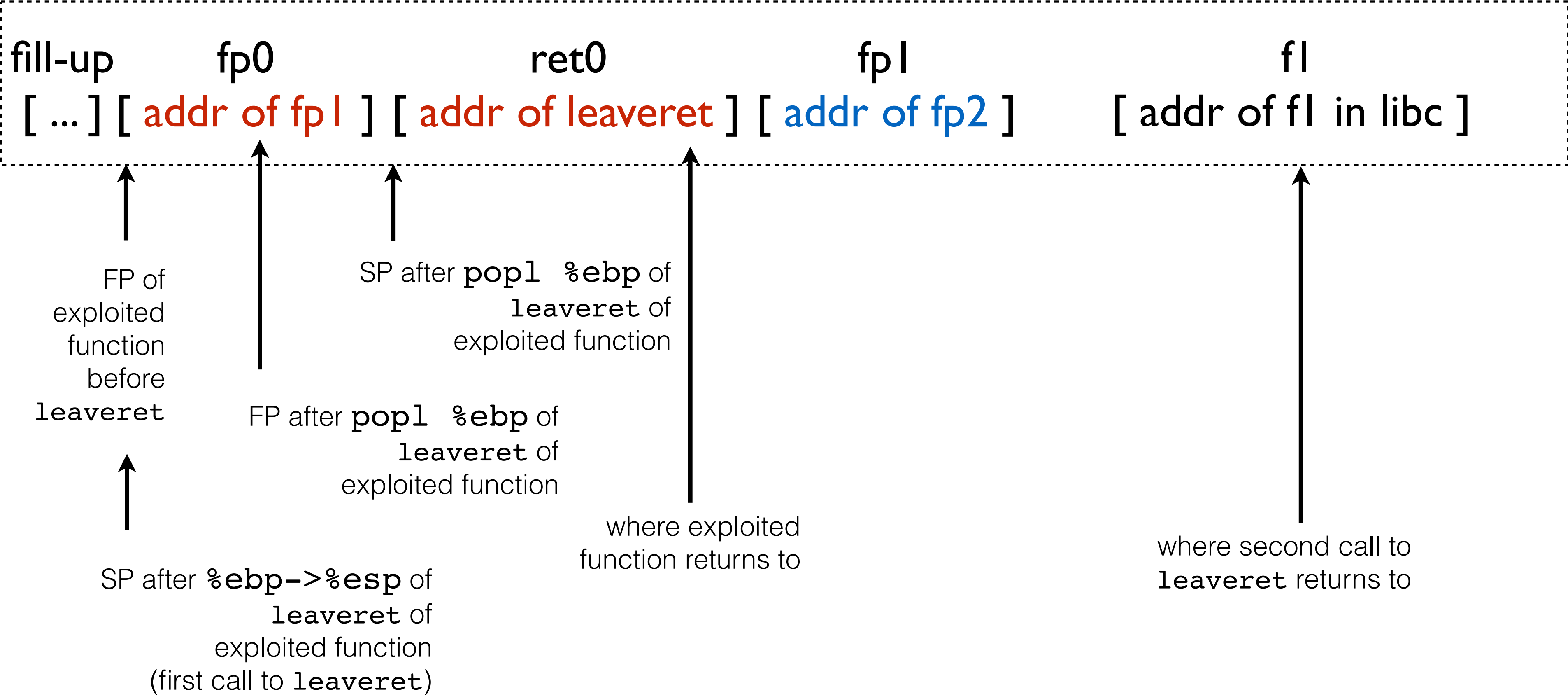


```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:

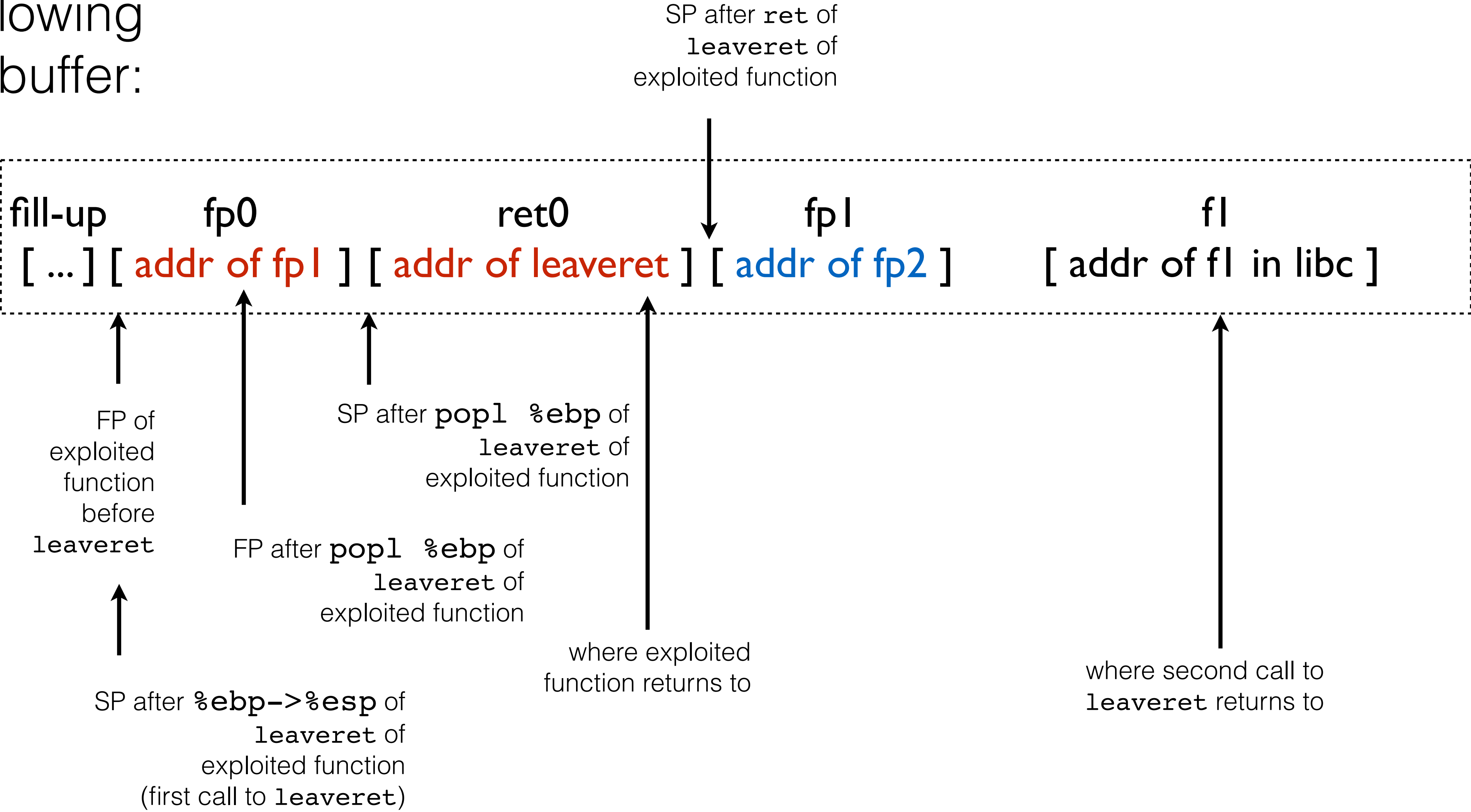


```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:

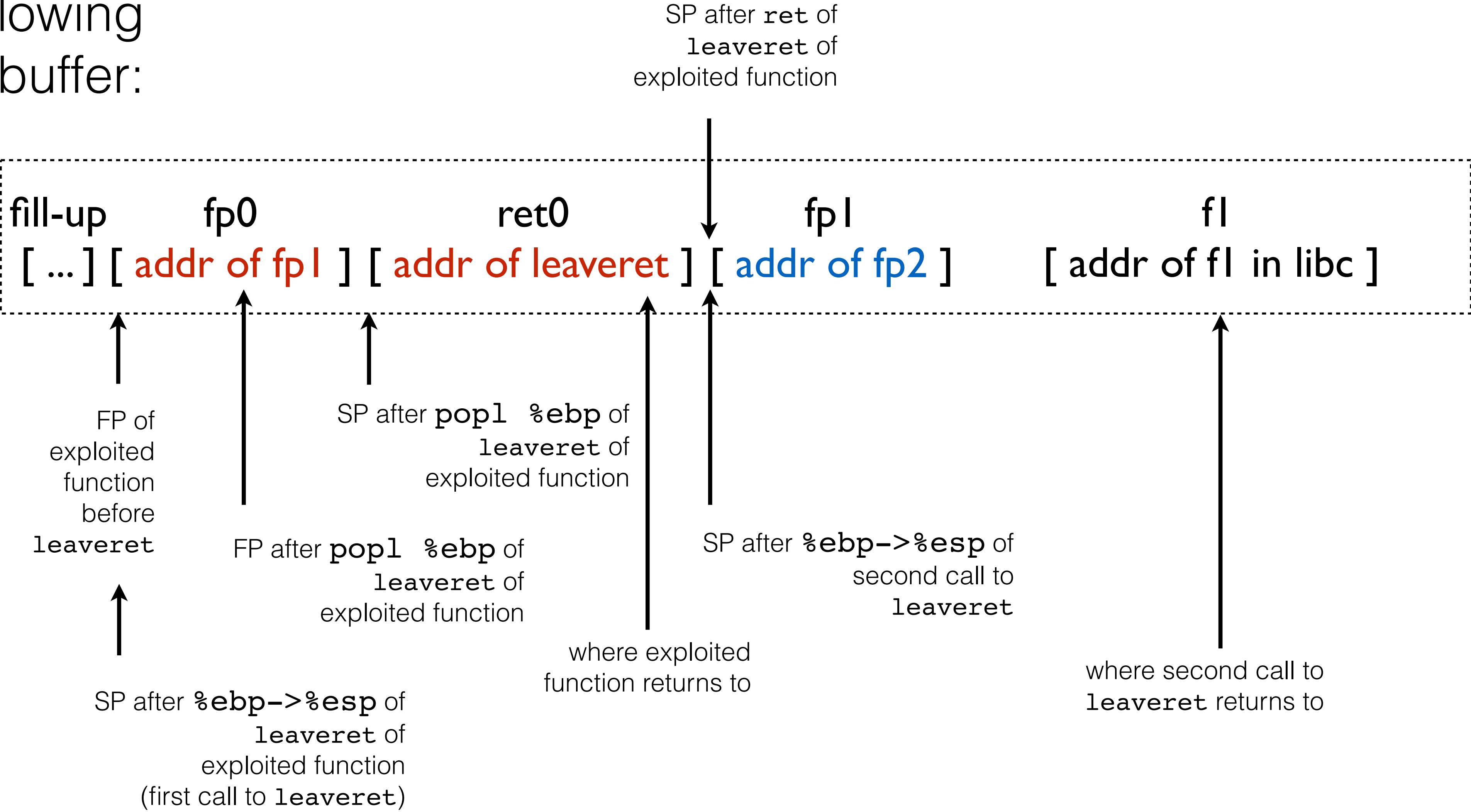


```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```

advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:

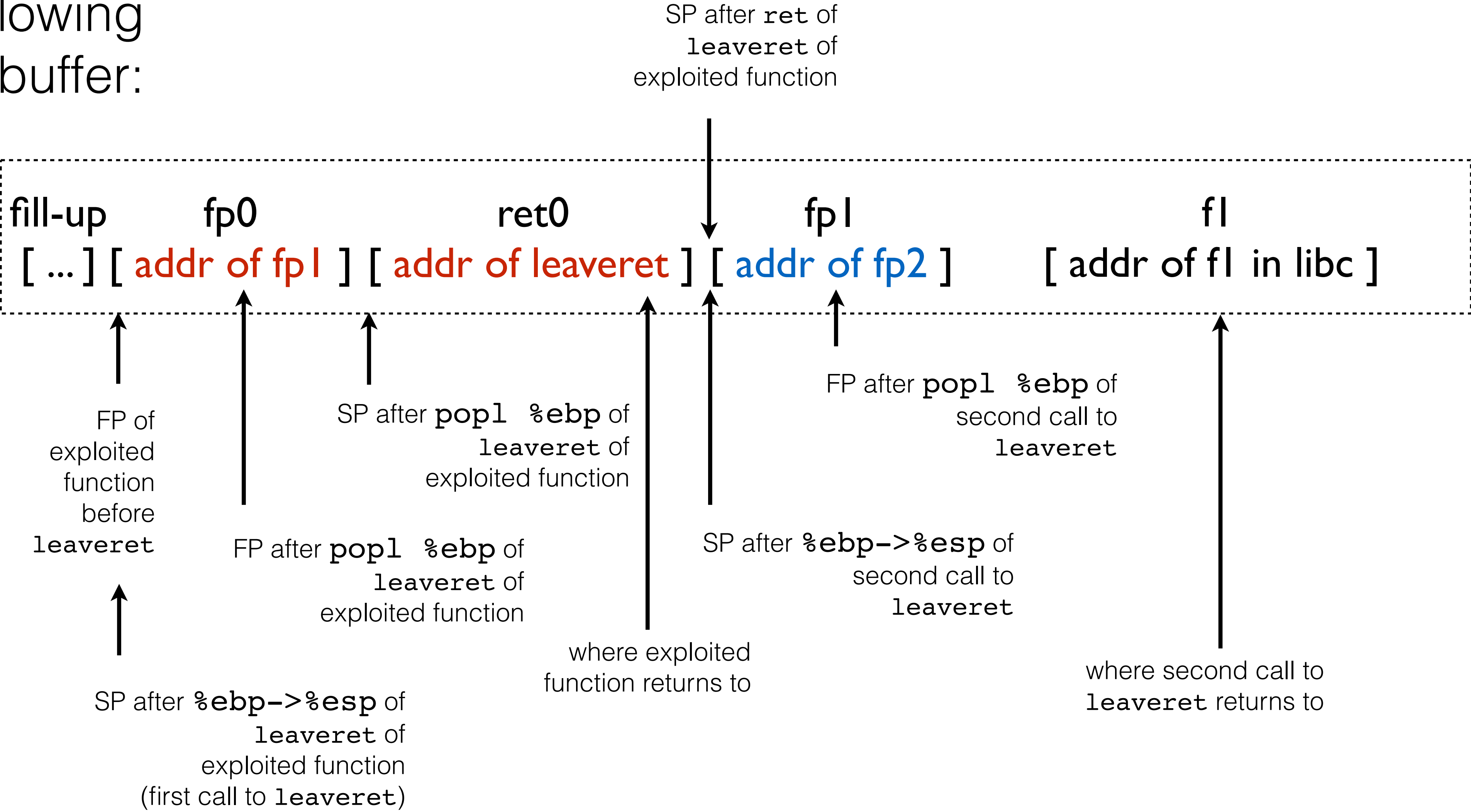


```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```


advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:

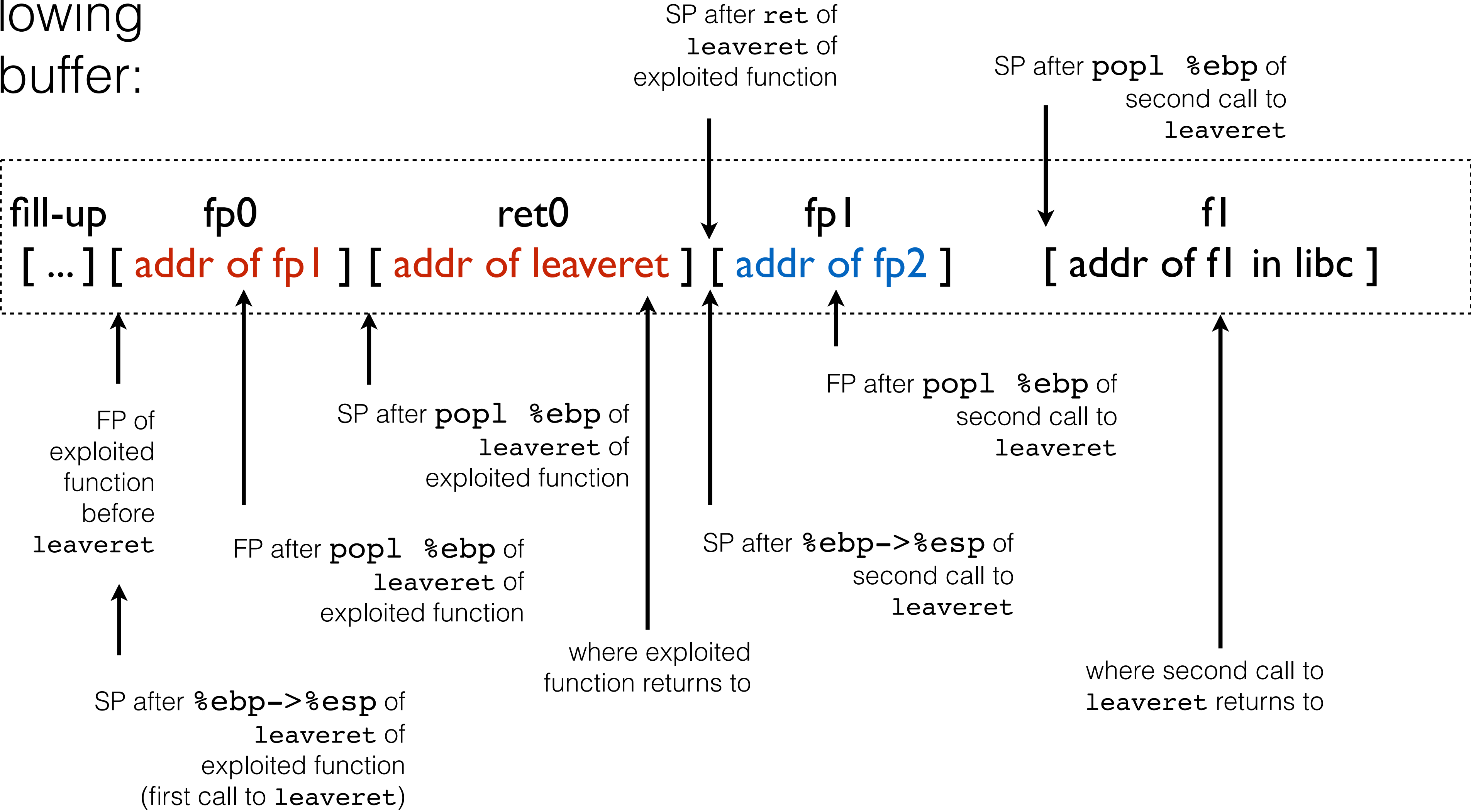


```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```


advanced return-into-libc: frame stacking

(execution; remember: exploited function uses `leaveret` as usual)

after overflowing
buffer:



```
leaveret:
1.%ebp->%esp, popl %ebp
2.ret
```