

System Programming

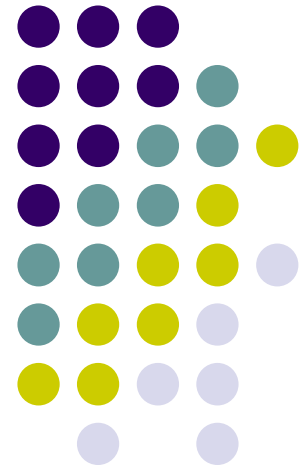
08. Machine-Level Programming III: Procedures

2019. Fall

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Roadmap



Memory & data
Integers & floats
x86 assembly
Procedures & stacks
Executables
Arrays & structs
Memory & caches
Processes
Virtual memory
Memory allocation
Java vs. C

Java:

```
Car c = new Car();  
c.setMiles(100);  
c.setGals(17);  
float mpg =  
    c.getMPG();
```

```
car *c = malloc(sizeof(car));  
c->miles = 100;  
c->gals = 17;  
float mpg = get_mpg(c);  
free(c);
```

Assembly
language:

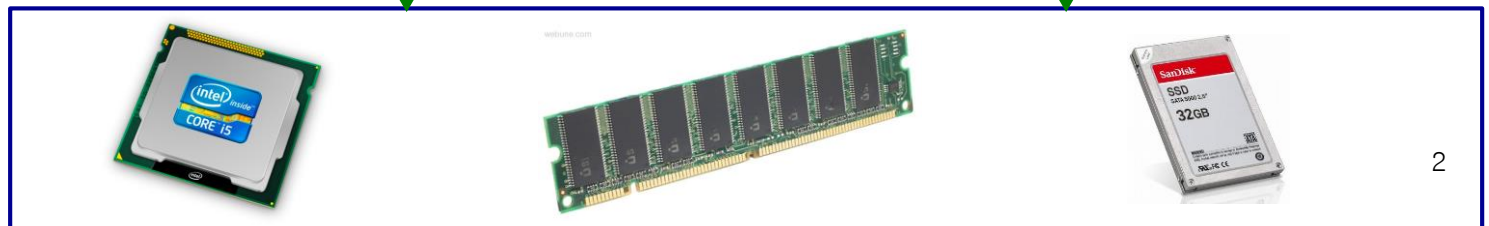
```
get_mpg:  
    pushq    %rbp  
    movq     %rsp, %rbp  
    ...  
    popq     %rbp  
    ret
```

Machine
code:

```
0111010000011000  
100011010000010000000010  
1000100111000010  
110000011111101000011111
```

Computer
system:

OS:



Mechanisms required for *procedures*



1) Passing control

- To beginning of procedure code
- Back to return point

2) Passing data

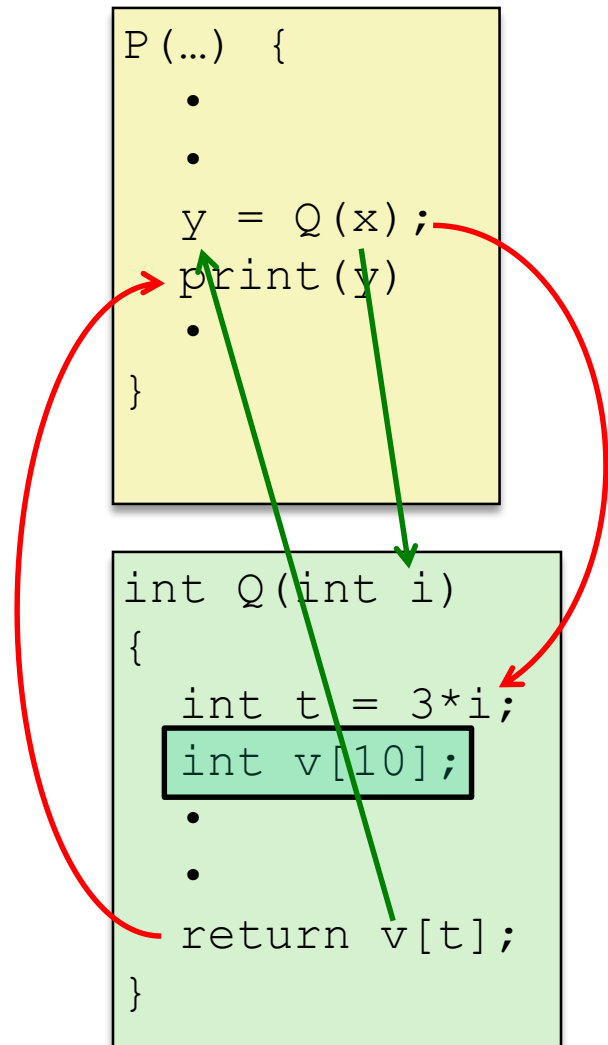
- Procedure arguments
- Return value

3) Memory management

- Allocate during procedure execution
- Deallocate upon return

• All implemented with machine instructions!

- An x86-64 procedure uses only those mechanisms required for that procedure



Questions to answer about procedures



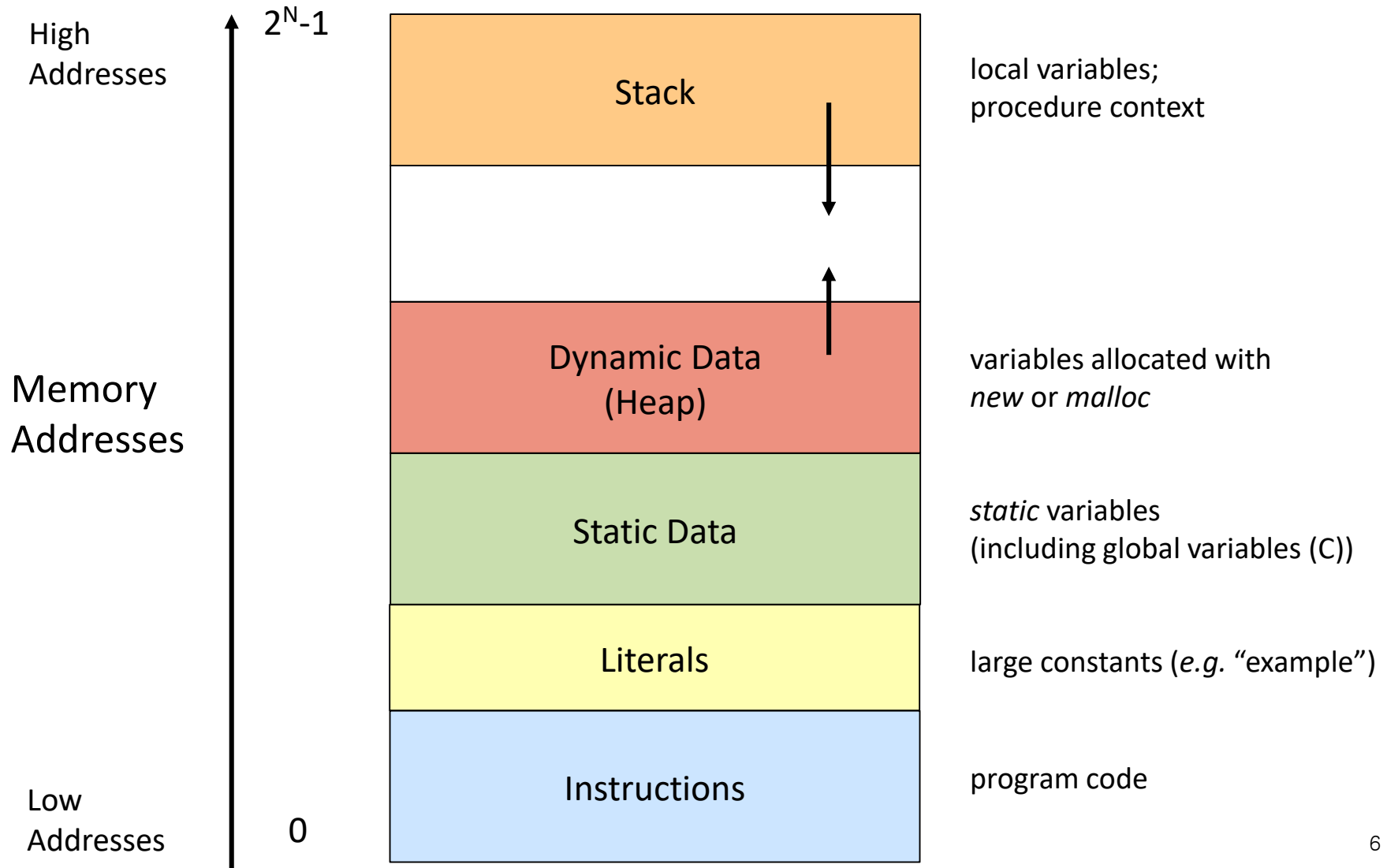
- How do I pass arguments to a procedure?
 - How do I get a return value from a procedure?
 - Where do I put local variables?
 - When a function returns, how does it know where to return?
-
- To answer some of these questions,
we need a **call stack** ...

Outline



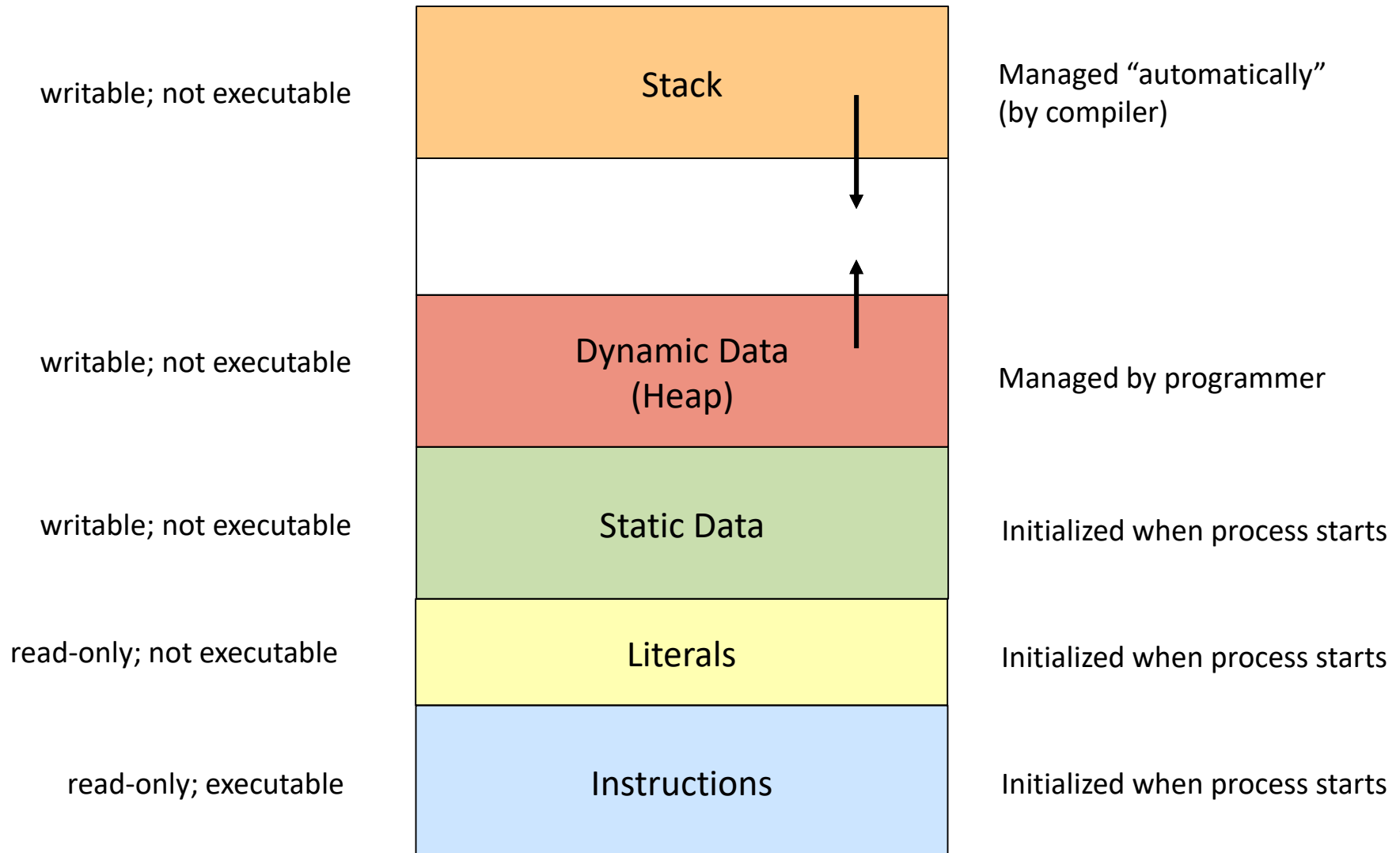
- **Stack Structure**
- Calling Conventions
 - Passing control
 - Passing data
 - Managing local data
- Register Saving Conventions
- Illustration of Recursion

Memory Layout



Memory Permissions

segmentation faults?



x86-64 Stack

- Region of memory managed with stack “discipline”
 - Grows toward lower addresses
 - Customarily shown “upside-down”
- Register `%rsp` contains *lowest* stack address
 - `%rsp` = address of *top* element, the most-recently-pushed item that is not-yet-popped

Stack Pointer: `%rsp` →

Stack “Bottom”



Stack “Top”

High
Addresses

↑
Increasing
Addresses

↓
Stack Grows
Down

Low
Addresses
`0x00...00`

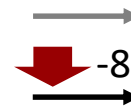
x86-64 Stack: Push

- `pushq src`
 - Fetch operand at `src`
 - `Src` can be reg, memory, immediate
 - **Decrement** `%rsp` by 8
 - Store value at address given by `%rsp`

- Example:

- `pushq %rcx`
- Adjust `%rsp` and store contents of `%rcx` on the stack

Stack Pointer: `%rsp`



Stack “Bottom”



Stack “Top”



High
Addresses

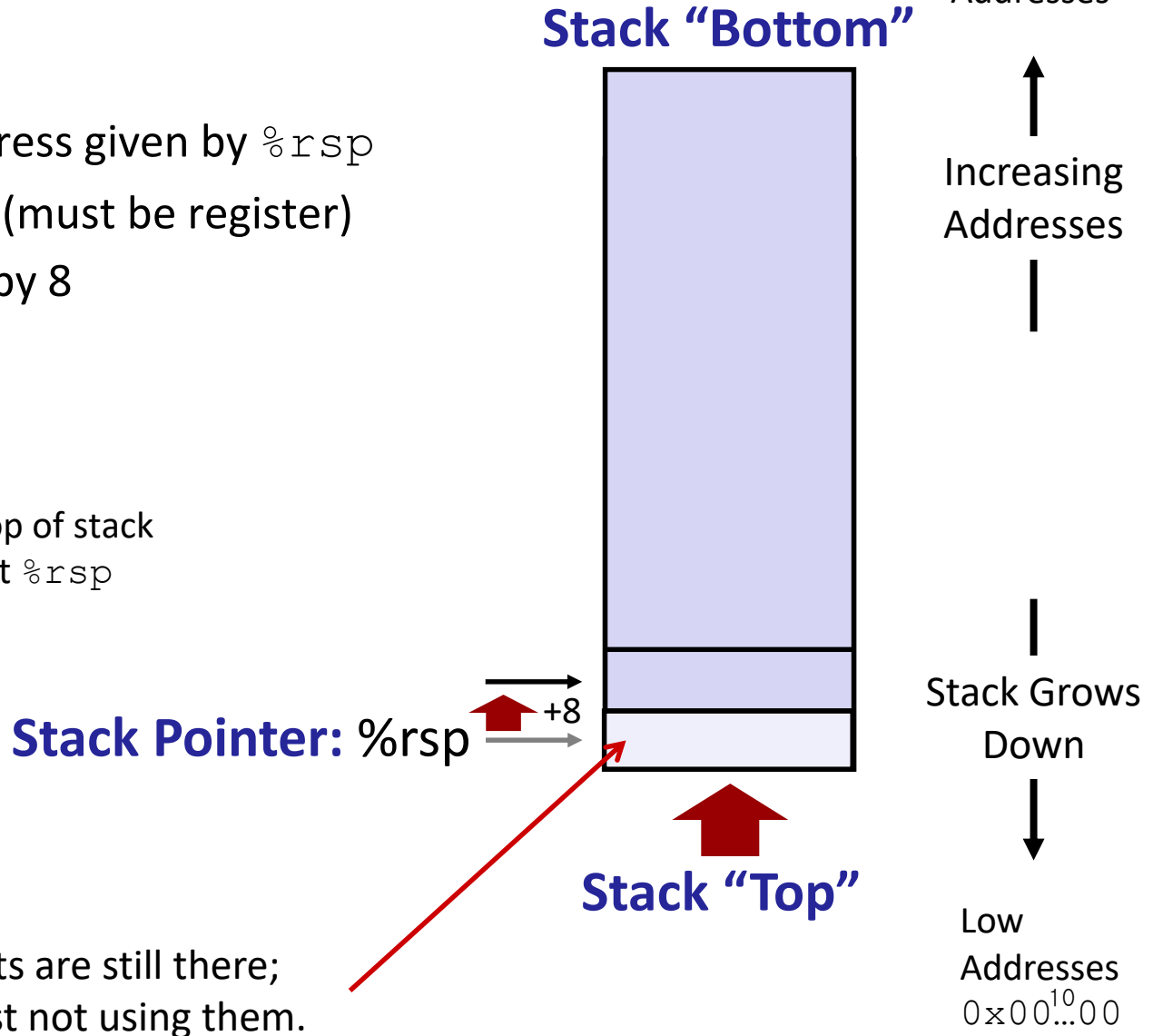
↑
Increasing
Addresses
|

|
Stack Grows
Down
↓

Low
Addresses
0x00⁹...00

x86-64 Stack: Pop

- `popq dst`
 - Load value at address given by `%rsp`
 - Store value at *dst* (must be register)
 - ***Increment*** `%rsp` by 8
- Example:
 - `popq %rcx`
 - Stores contents of top of stack into `%rcx` and adjust `%rsp`



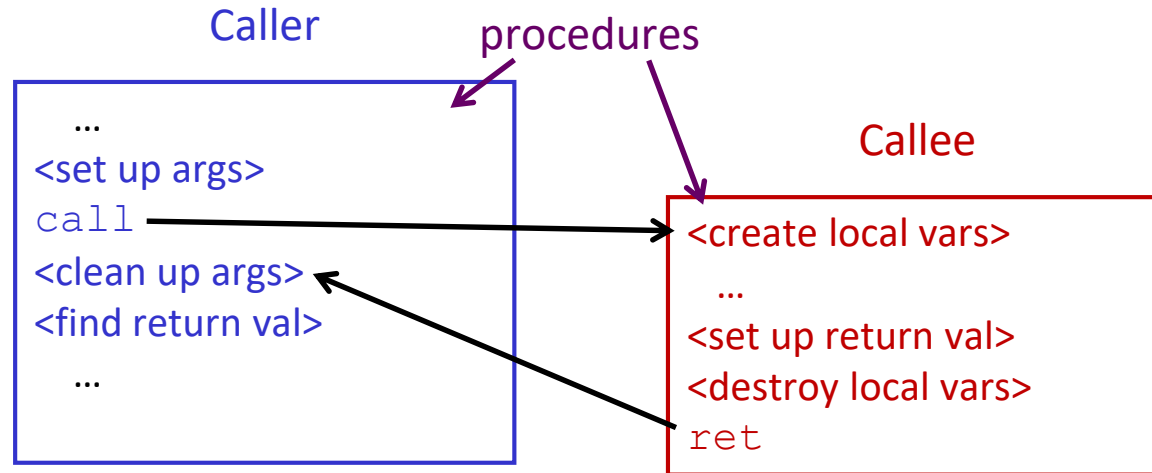
Those bits are still there;
we're just not using them.

Outline



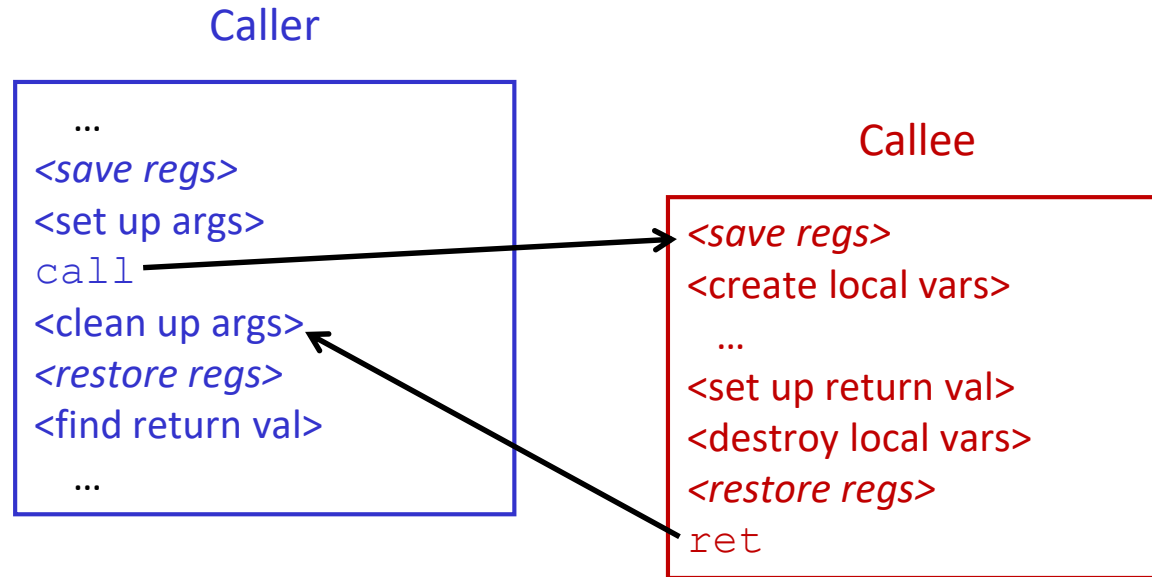
- Stack Structure
- Calling Conventions
 - **Passing control**
 - Passing data
 - Managing local data
- Illustration of Recursion

Procedure Call Overview (1)



- **Callee** must know where to find args
- **Callee** must know where to find *return address*
- **Caller** must know where to find *return value*
- **Caller** and **Callee** run on same CPU, so use the same registers
 - How do we deal with register reuse?
- Unneeded steps can be skipped (e.g. no arguments)

Procedure Call Overview (2)



- The *convention* of where to leave/find things is called the calling convention (or procedure call linkage)
 - Details vary between systems
 - We will see the convention for x86-64/Linux in detail
 - What could happen if our program didn't follow these conventions?

Code Examples



```
void multstore
(long x, long y, long *dest)
{
    long t = mult2(x, y);
    *dest = t;
}
```

Compiler Explorer:

<https://godbolt.org/g/52Sqxi>

```
00000000000400540 <multstore>:
400540: push    %rbx          # Save %rbx
400541: movq    %rdx,%rbx     # Save dest
400544: call    400550 <mult2> # mult2(x,y)
400549: movq    %rax, (%rbx)   # Save at dest
40054c: pop     %rbx          # Restore %rbx
40054d: ret                     # Return
```

```
long mult2
(long a, long b)
{
    long s = a * b;
    return s;
}
```

```
00000000000400550 <mult2>:
400550: movq    %rdi,%rax     # a
400553: imulq   %rsi,%rax     # a * b
400557: ret                     # Return
```

Procedure Control Flow (1)



- Use stack to support procedure call and return
- **Procedure call:** `call label`
 - 1) Push return address on stack (*why? which address?*)
 - 2) Jump to ***label***

Procedure Control Flow (2)



- Use stack to support procedure call and return
- **Procedure call:** `call label`
 - 1) Push return address on stack (*why? which address?*)
 - 2) Jump to *label*
- Return address:
 - Address of instruction immediately after **call** instruction
 - Example from disassembly:

```
400544: call    400550 <mult2>
400549: movq    %rax, (%rbx)
```

Return address = **0x400549**

- **Procedure return:** `ret`
 - 1) Pop return address from stack
 - 2) Jump to address
- next instruction happens to be a move, but could be anything

Procedure **Call** Example (step 1)



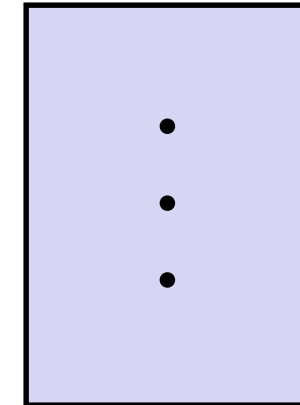
```
00000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: call    400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq    %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

```
00000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq    %rdi, %rax  
.  
.  
400557: ret
```

0x130

0x128

0x120



%rsp

0x120

%rip

0x400544

Procedure **Call** Example (Step2)



```
00000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: call    400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq    %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

```
00000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq    %rdi, %rax  
.  
.  
400557: ret
```

0x130

0x128

0x120

0x118 0x400549

%rsp 0x118

%rip 0x400550

Procedure **Return** Example (Step1)



```
00000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: call    400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq    %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

```
00000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq    %rdi, %rax  
.  
.  
400557: ret
```

0x130

0x128

0x120

0x118 0x400549

%rsp 0x118

%rip 0x400557

Procedure **Return** Example (Step2)



```
00000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: call    400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq    %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

```
00000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq    %rdi, %rax  
.  
.  
400557: ret
```

0x130

0x128

0x120

%rsp

0x120

%rip

0x400549

Outline



- Stack Structure
- **Calling Conventions**
 - Passing control
 - **Passing data**
 - Managing local data
- Illustration of Recursion

Procedure Data Flow



- **Registers – NOT in Memory!**

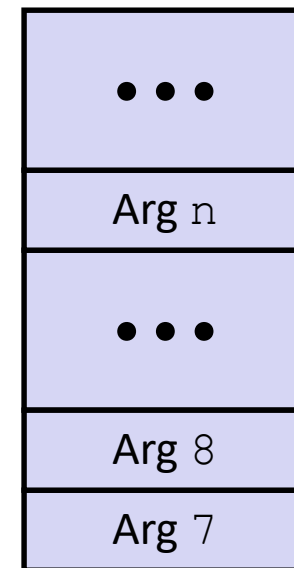
- First 6 arguments

| | |
|------|----------------------------|
| %rdi | <i><u>D</u>iane's</i> |
| %rsi | <i><u>S</u>ilk</i> |
| %rdx | <i><u>D</u>ress</i> |
| %rcx | <i><u>C</u>osts</i> |
| %r8 | <i><u>\$</u>8 <u>9</u></i> |
| %r9 | |

- Return value

| |
|------|
| %rax |
|------|

- **Stack – in Memory!**



High
Addresses

Low
Addresses
0x00...00

- Only allocate stack space when needed

x86-64 Return Values



- By convention, values returned by procedures are placed in `%rax`
 - Choice of `%rax` is arbitrary
- 1) **Caller** must make sure to save the contents of `%rax` before calling a **callee** that returns a value
 - Part of register-saving convention
- 2) **Callee** places return value into `%rax`
 - Any type that can fit in 8 bytes – integer, float, pointer, etc.
 - For return values greater than 8 bytes, best to return a *pointer* to them
- 3) Upon return, **caller** finds the return value in `%rax`

Data Flow Examples



```
void multstore
(long x, long y, long *dest)
{
    long t = mult2(x, y);
    *dest = t;
}
```

```
00000000000400540 <multstore>:
    # x in %rdi, y in %rsi, dest in %rdx
    ...
400541: movq    %rdx,%rbx        # Save dest
400544: call    400550 <mult2>    # mult2(x,y)
    # t in %rax
400549: movq    %rax, (%rbx)      # Save at dest
    ...
```

```
long mult2
(long a, long b)
{
    long s = a * b;
    return s;
}
```

```
00000000000400550 <mult2>:
    # a in %rdi, b in %rsi
400550: movq    %rdi,%rax        # a
400553: imulq   %rsi,%rax        # a * b
    # s in %rax
400557: ret                      # Return
```


Outline



- Stack Structure
- **Calling Conventions**
 - Passing control
 - Passing data
 - **Managing local data**
- Illustration of Recursion

Stack-Based Languages



- Languages that support recursion
 - e.g. C, Java, most modern languages
 - Code must be re-entrant
 - Multiple simultaneous instantiations of single procedure
 - Need some place to store *state* of each instantiation
 - Arguments, local variables, return pointer
- Stack allocated in frames
 - State for a single procedure instantiation
- Stack discipline
 - State for a given procedure needed for a limited time
 - Starting from when it is called to when it returns
 - Callee always returns before caller does

Call Chain Example



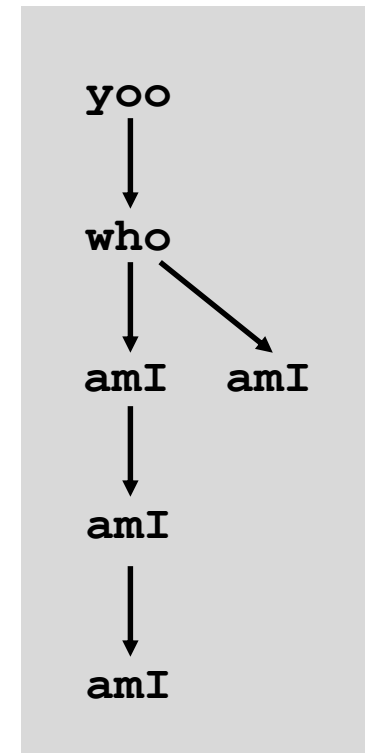
```
yoo (...)  
{  
  •  
  •  
  who ();  
  •  
  •  
}
```

```
who (...)  
{  
  •  
  amI ();  
  •  
  amI ();  
  •  
}
```

```
amI (...)  
{  
  •  
  if (...) {  
    amI ()  
  }  
  •  
}
```

Procedure `amI` is recursive
(calls itself)

Example
Call Chain



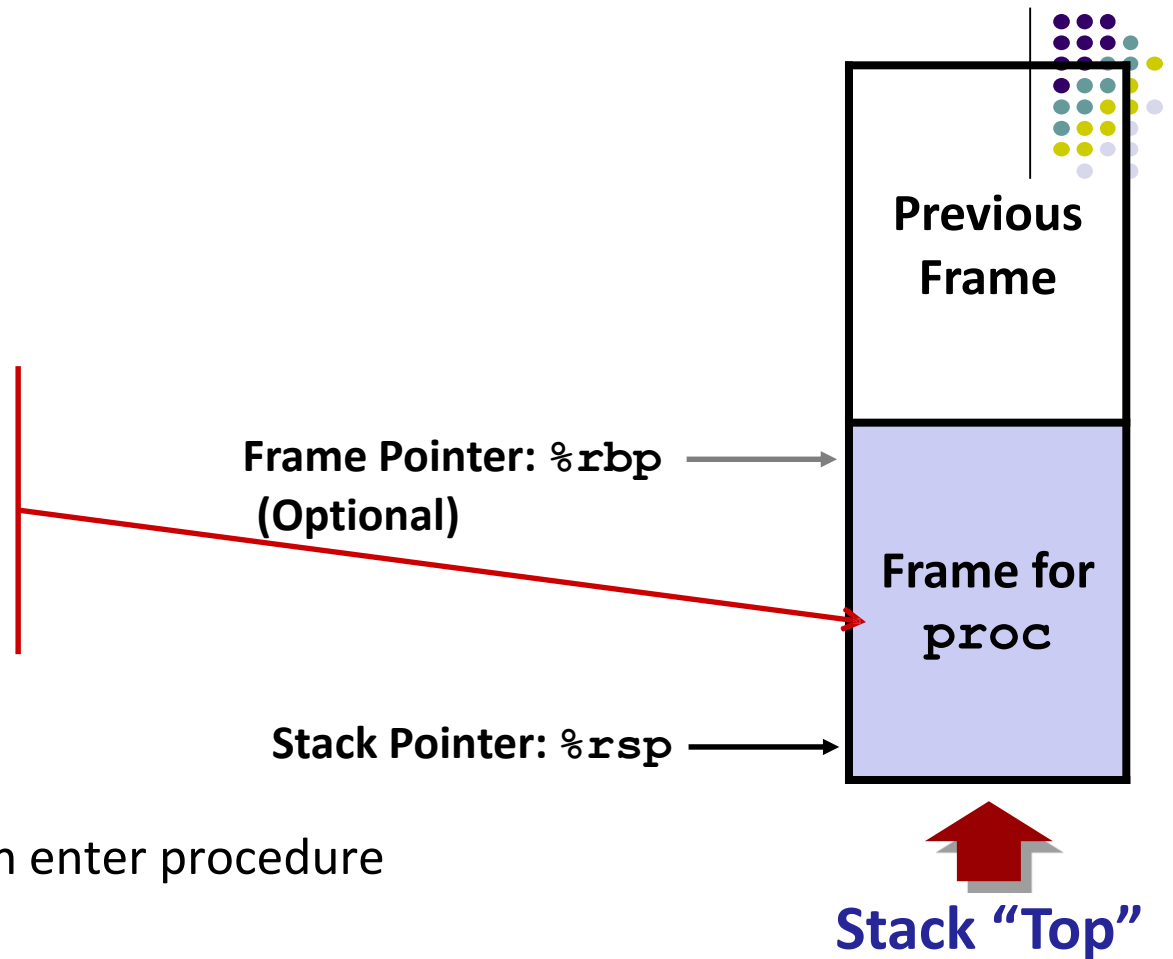
Stack Frames

- Contents

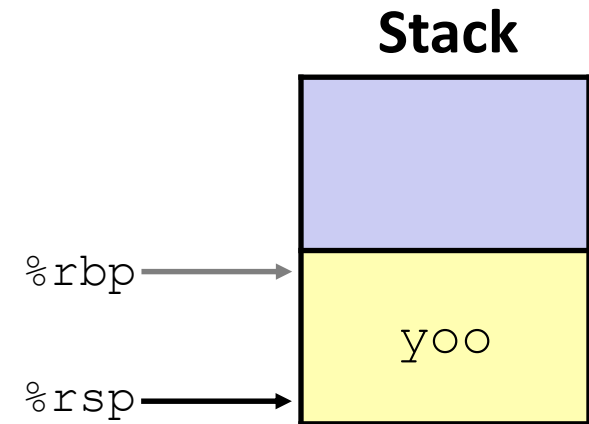
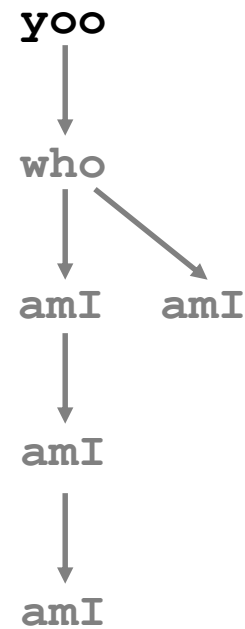
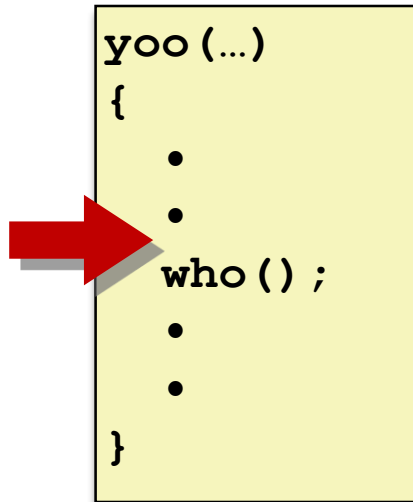
- Return information
- If needed
 - Local storage
 - Temporary space

- Management

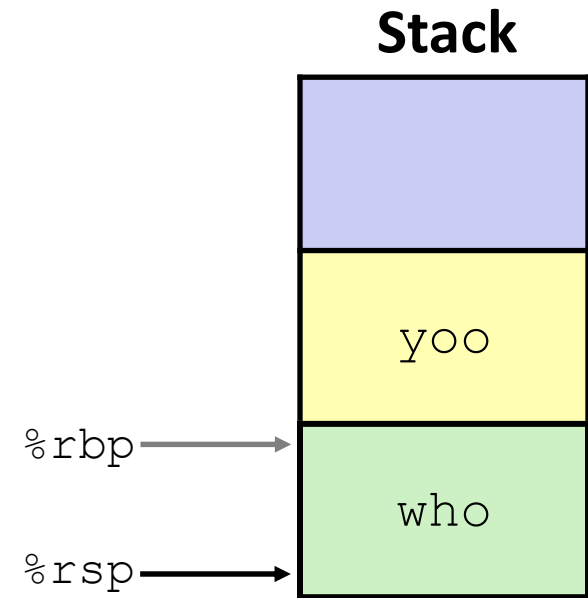
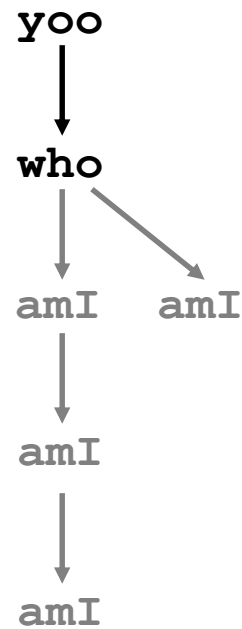
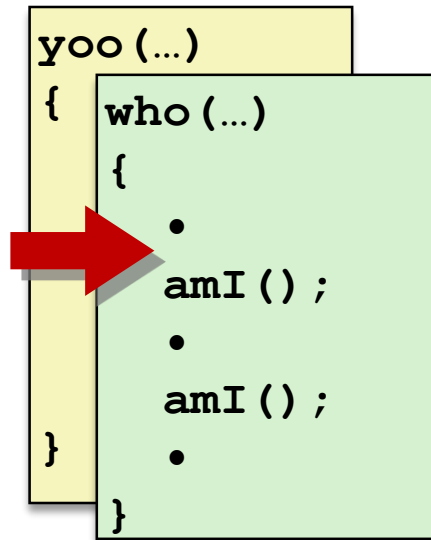
- Space allocated when enter procedure
 - “Set-up” code
 - Includes push by **call** instruction
- Deallocated when return
 - “Finish” code
 - Includes pop by **ret** instruction



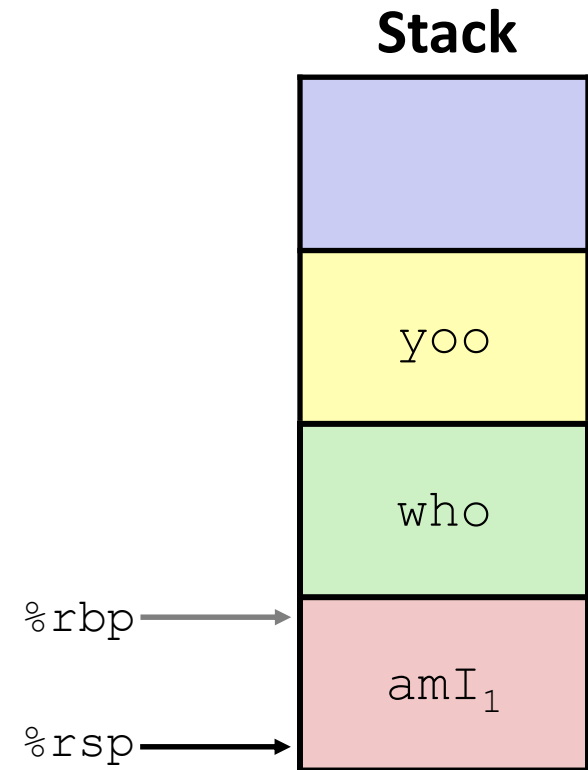
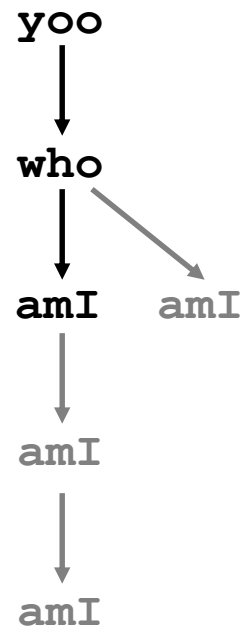
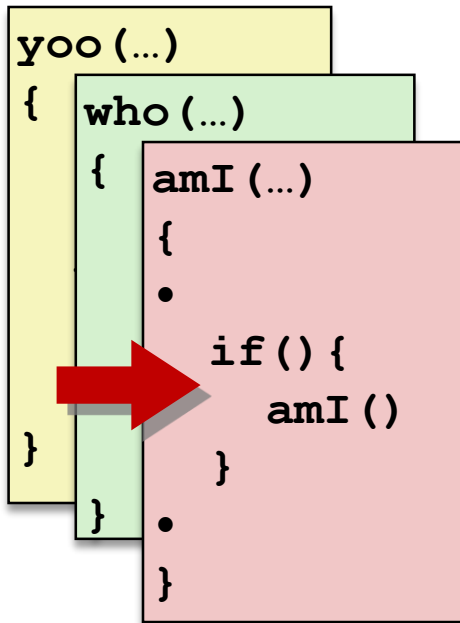
1) Call to yoo



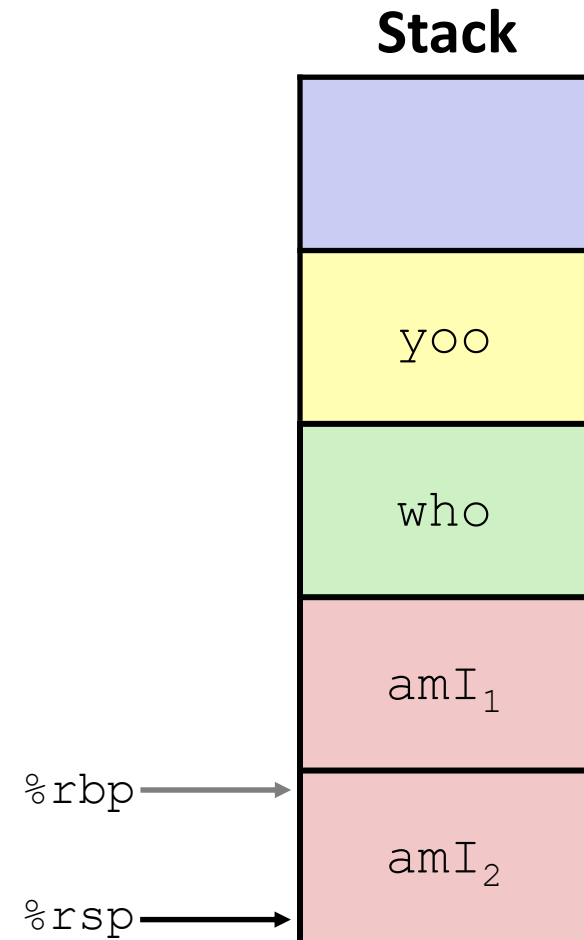
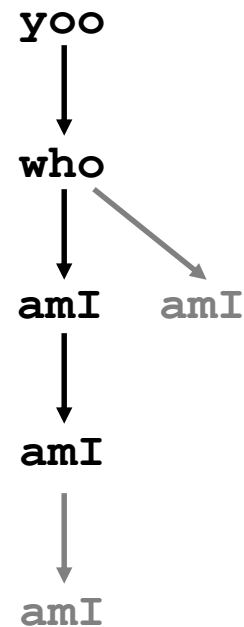
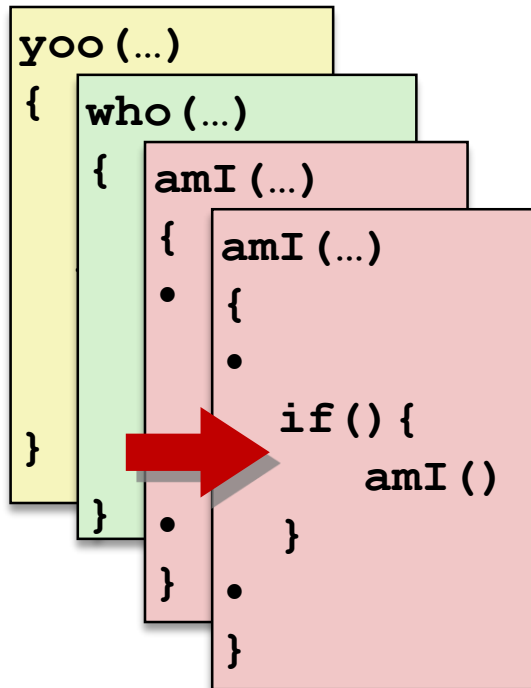
2) Call to who



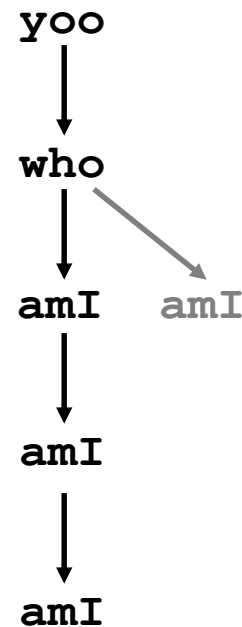
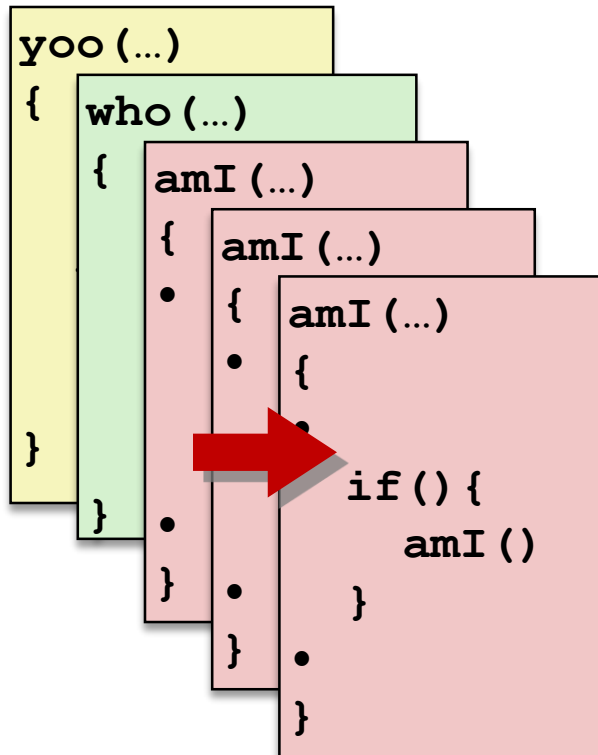
3) Call to amI (1)



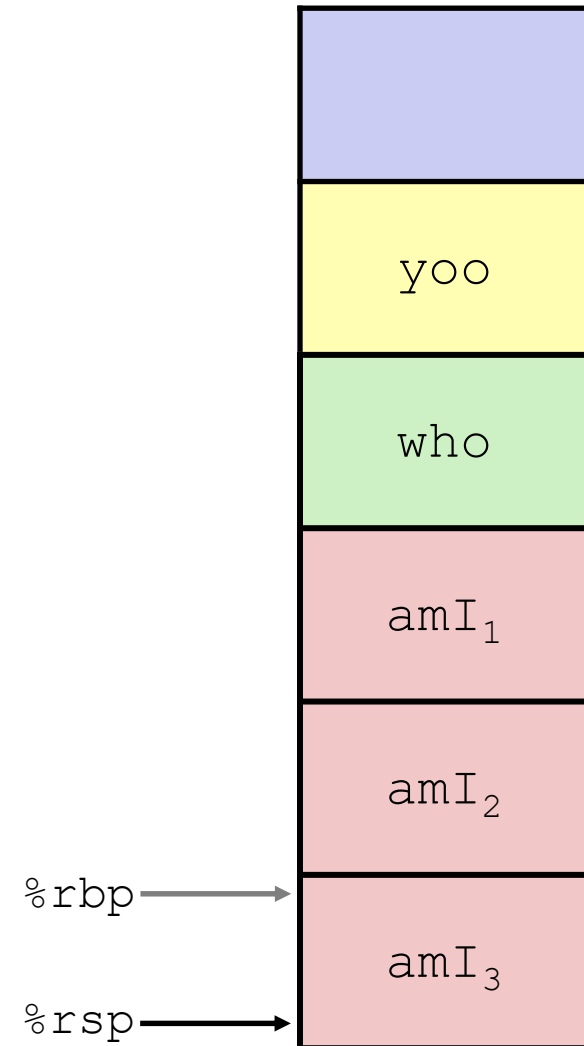
4) Recursive call to amI (2)



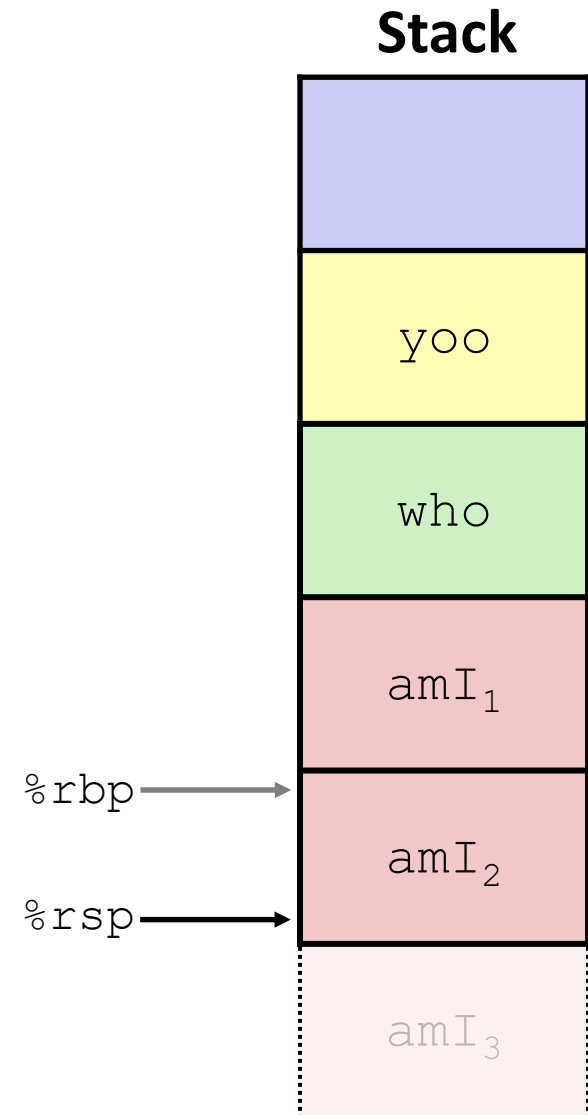
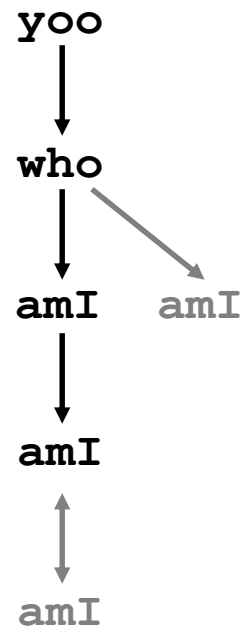
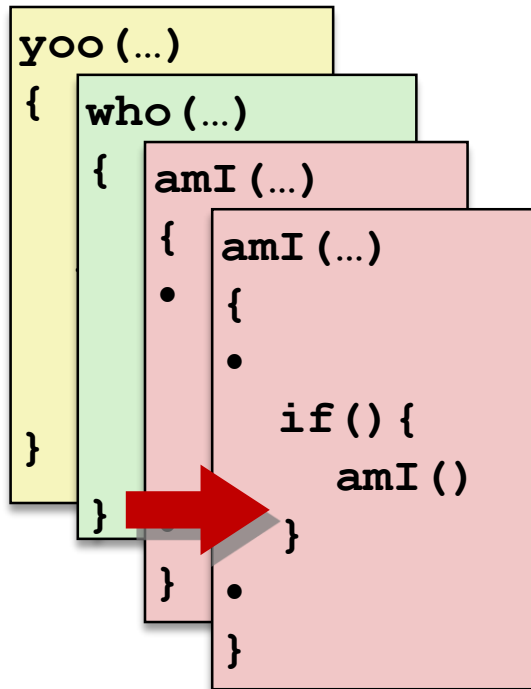
5) (another) Recursive call to amI (3)



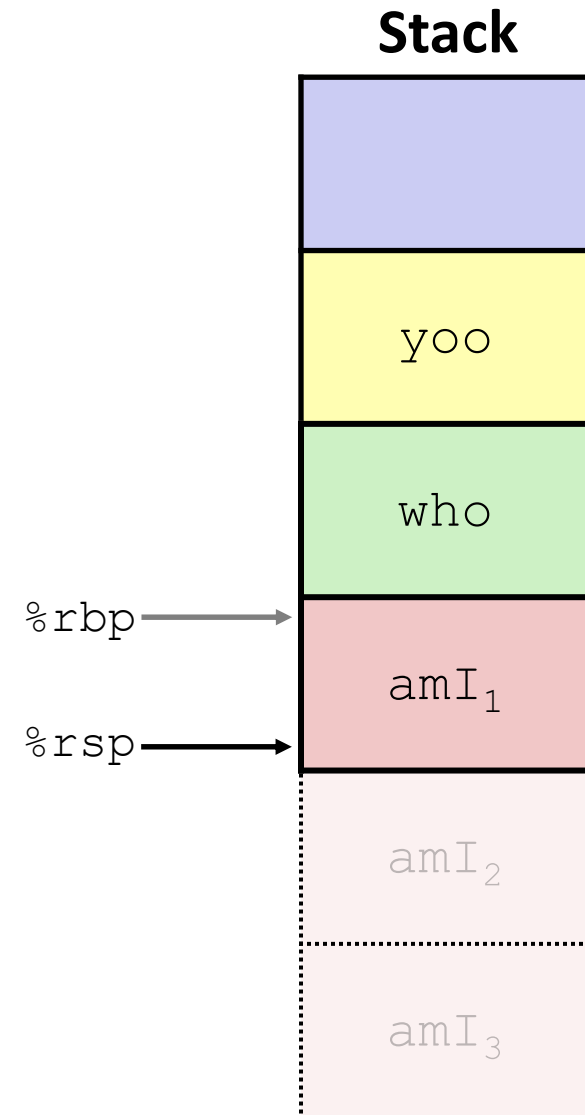
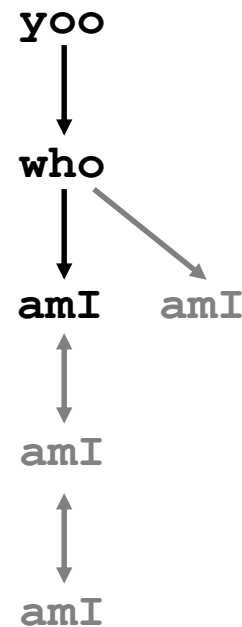
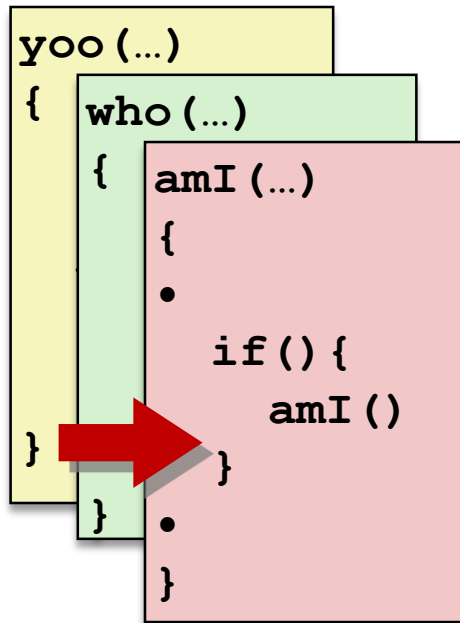
Stack



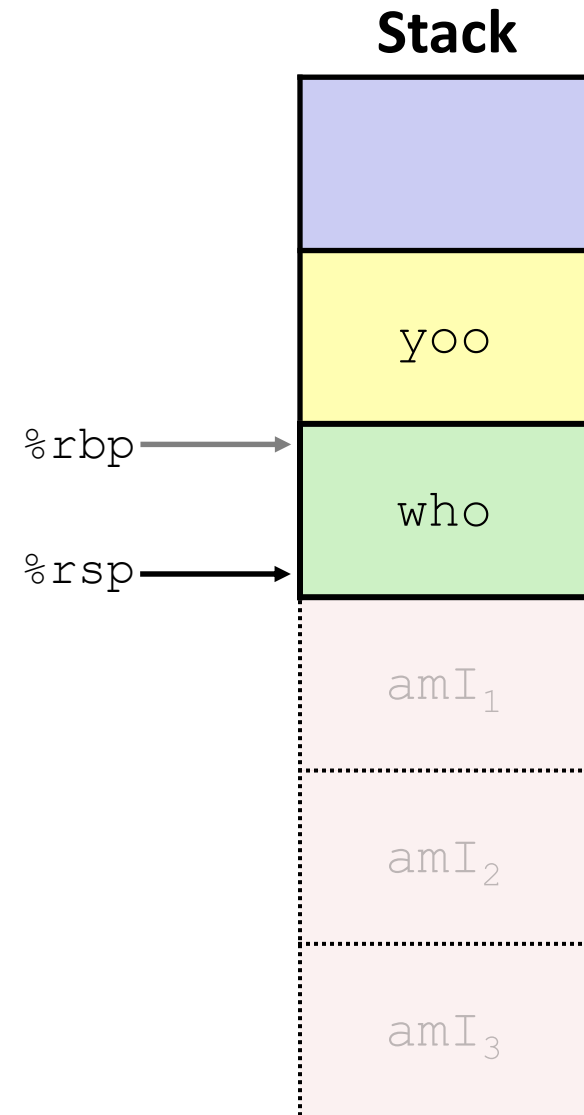
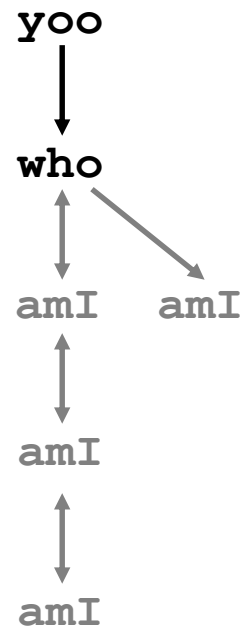
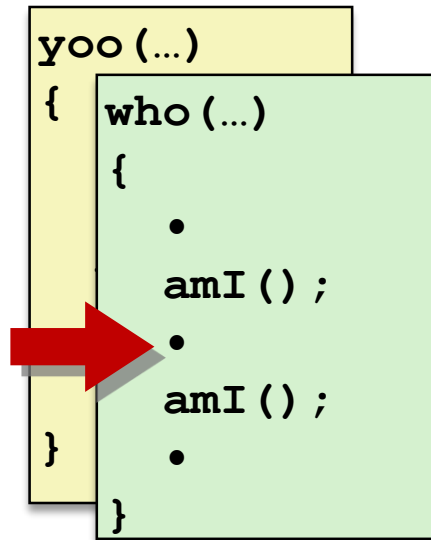
6) Return from (another) recursive call to amI



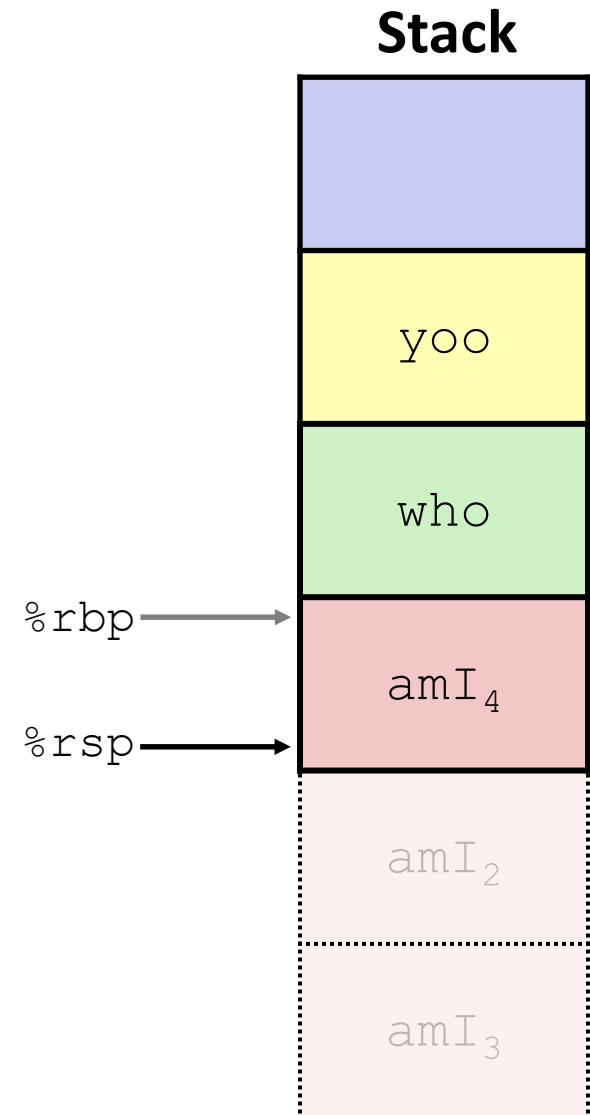
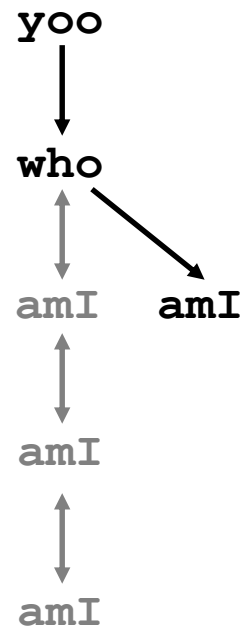
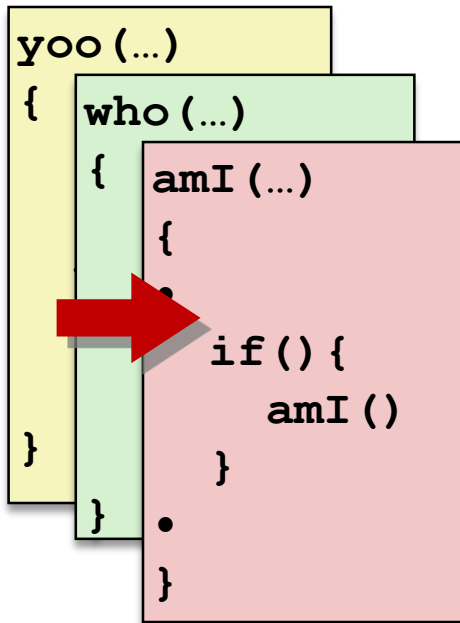
7) Return from recursive call to amI



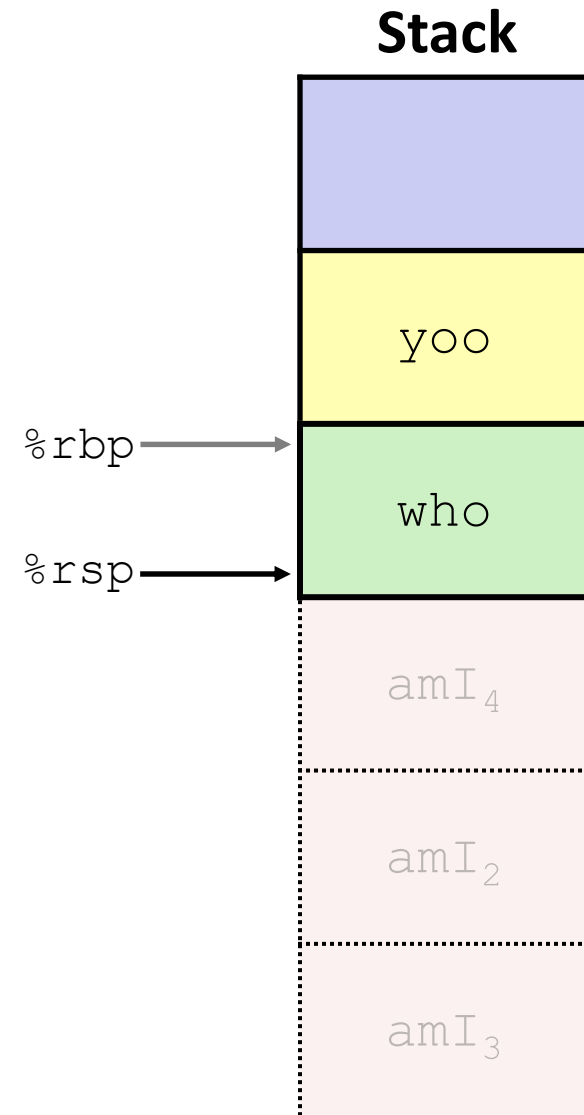
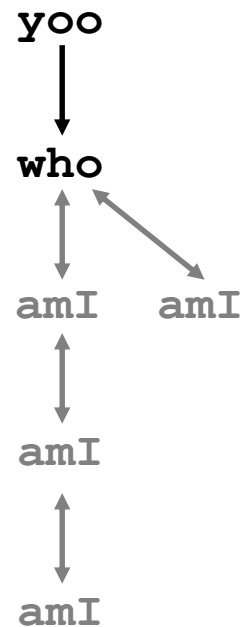
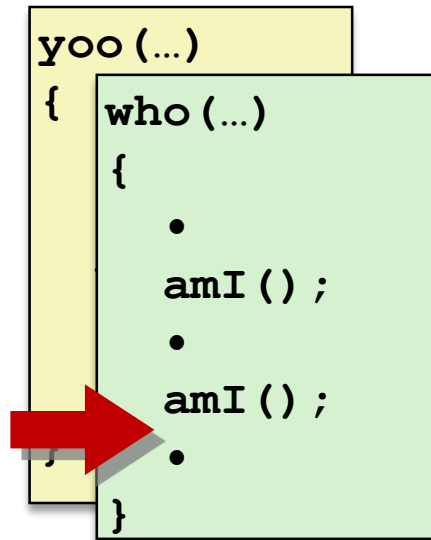
8) Return from call to amI



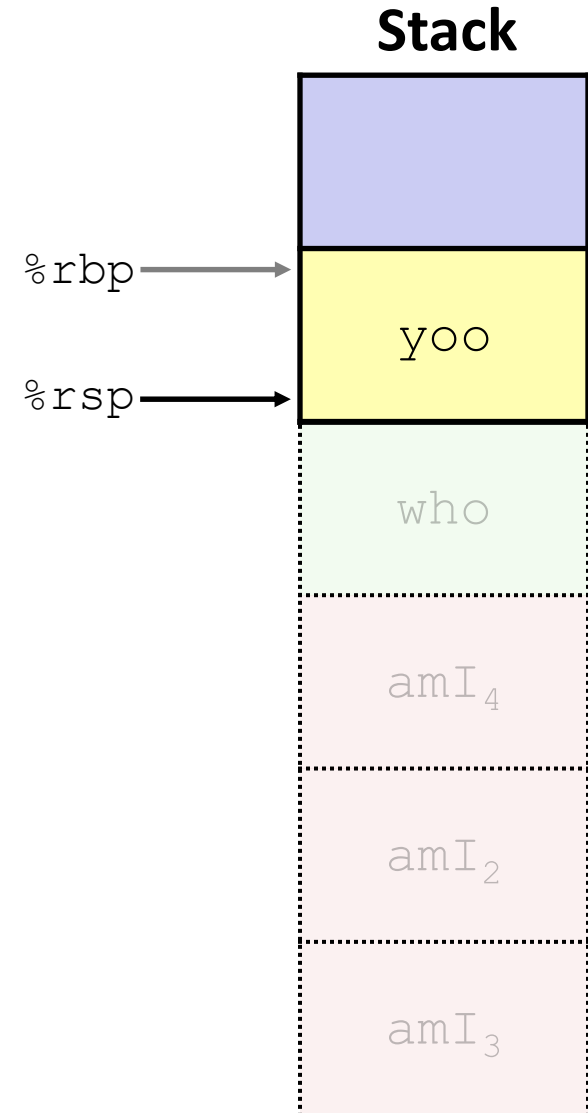
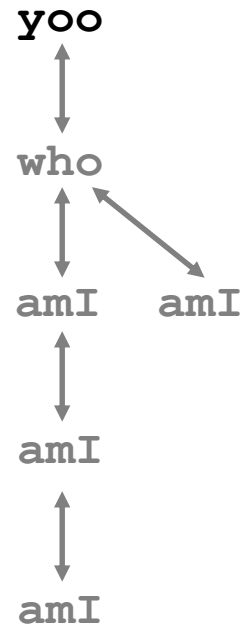
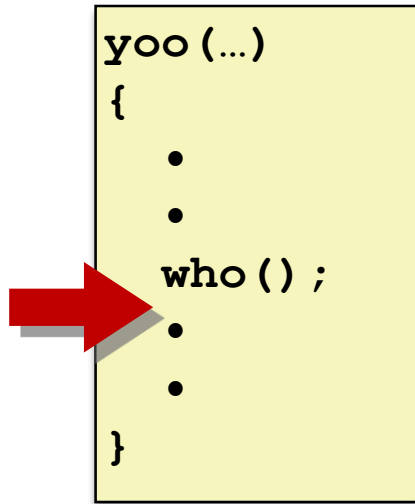
9) (second) Call to amI (4)



10) Return from (second) call to amI



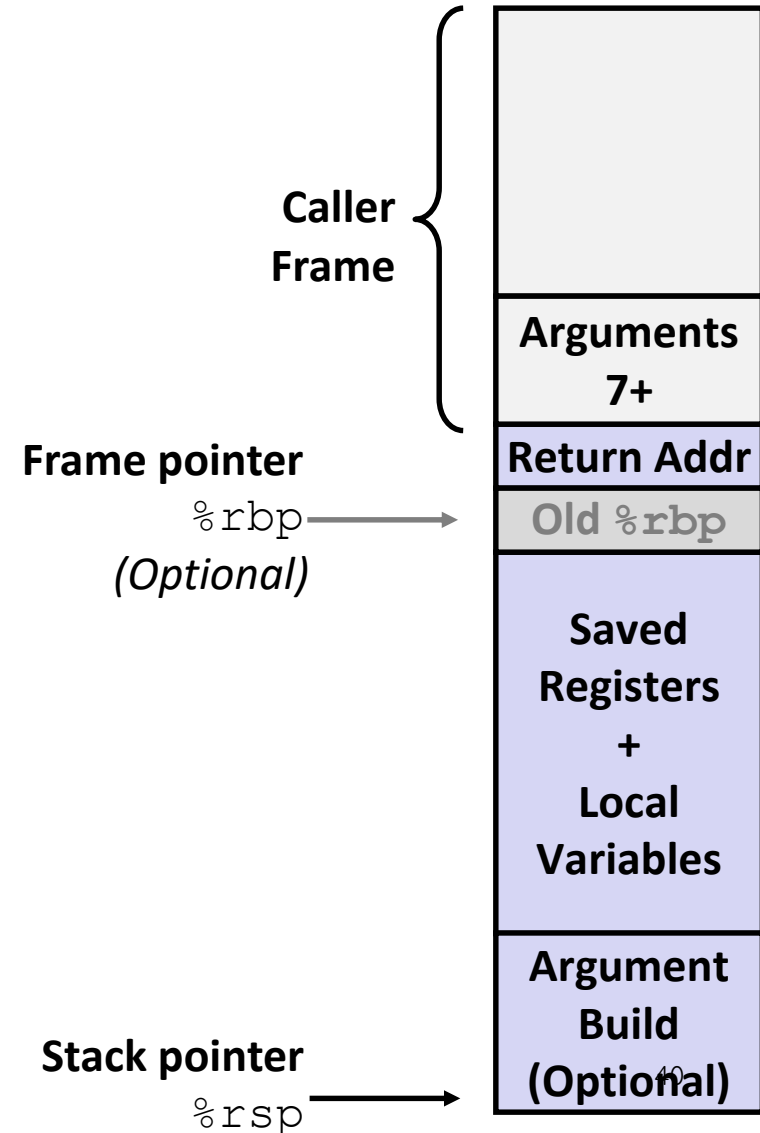
11) Return from call to who



x86-64/Linux Stack Frame



- **Caller's** Stack Frame
 - Extra arguments (if > 6 args) for this call
- Current/**Callee** Stack Frame
 - Return address
 - Pushed by `call` instruction
 - Old frame pointer (optional)
 - Saved register context (when reusing registers)
 - Local variables (If can't be kept in registers)
 - "Argument build" area (If callee needs to call another function -parameters for function about to call, if needed)



Question



- Answer the following questions about when `main()` is run (assume `x` and `y` stored on the Stack):

```
int main() {  
    int i, x = 0;  
    for(i=0; i<3; i++)  
        x = randSum(x);  
    printf("x = %d\n", x);  
    return 0;  
}
```

```
int randSum(int n) {  
    int y = rand()%20;  
    return n+y;  
}
```

- Higher/larger address: `x` or `y`?
- How many total stack frames are *created*?
- What is the maximum *depth* (# of frames) of the Stack?

Example: increment



```
long increment(long *p, long val) {  
    long x = *p;  
    long y = x + val;  
    *p = y;  
    return x;  
}
```

increment:

```
movq    (%rdi), %rax  
addq    %rax, %rsi  
movq    %rsi, (%rdi)  
ret
```

| Register | Use(s) |
|----------|------------------------------|
| %rdi | 1 st arg (p) |
| %rsi | 2 nd arg (val), y |
| %rax | x, return value |

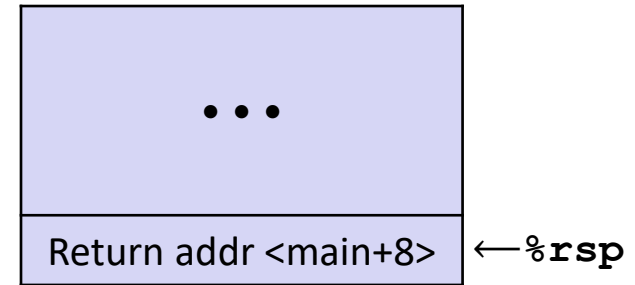
Procedure Call Example (initial state)



```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

Initial Stack Structure



- Return address on stack is the address of instruction immediately *following* the call to “call_incr”
 - Shown here as main, but could be anything)

Procedure Call Example (step 1)

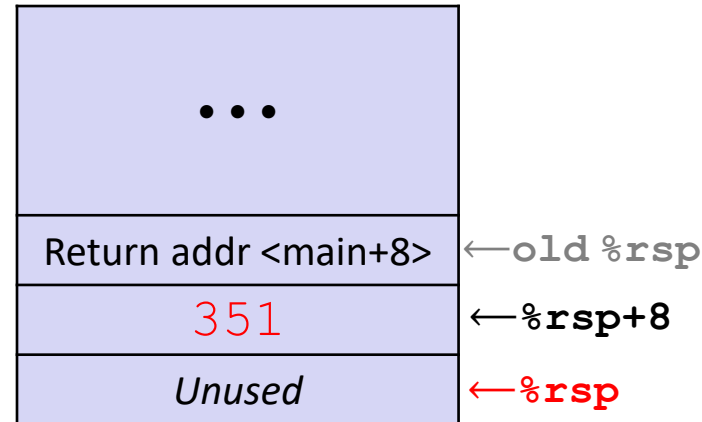


```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

} Allocate space
for local vars

Stack Structure



- Setup space for local variables
 - Only v1 needs space on the stack
- Compiler allocated extra space
 - Often does this for a variety of reasons, including alignment

Procedure Call Example (step 2)

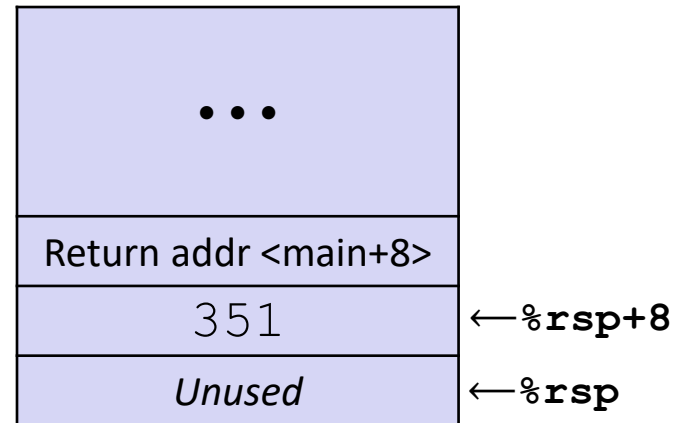


```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

} Set up parameters for call
to increment

Stack Structure



Aside: `movl` is used because 100 is a small positive value that fits in 32 bits. High order bits of `rsi` get set to zero automatically. It takes *one less byte* to encode a `movl` than a `movq`.

| Register | Use(s) |
|----------|--------|
| %rdi | &v1 |
| %rsi | 100 |

Procedure Call Example (step 3)

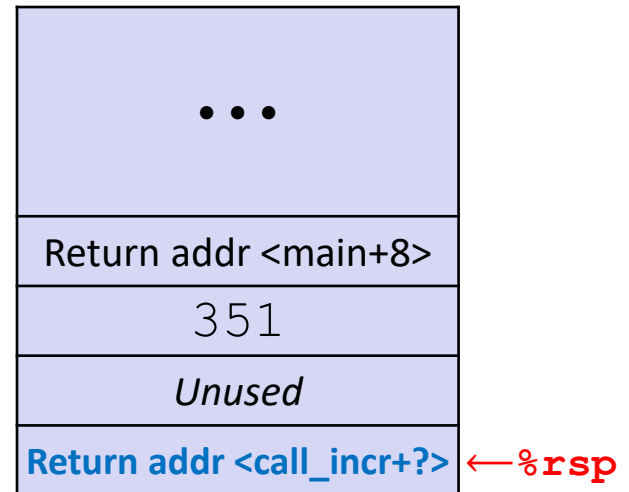


```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

```
increment:  
    movq    (%rdi), %rax  
    addq    %rax, %rsi  
    movq    %rsi, (%rdi)  
    ret
```

Stack Structure



- State while inside `increment`
 - Return address** on top of stack is address of the `addq` instruction immediately following call to `increment`

| Register | Use(s) |
|----------|--------|
| %rdi | &v1 |
| %rsi | 100 |
| %rax | |

Procedure Call Example (step 4)

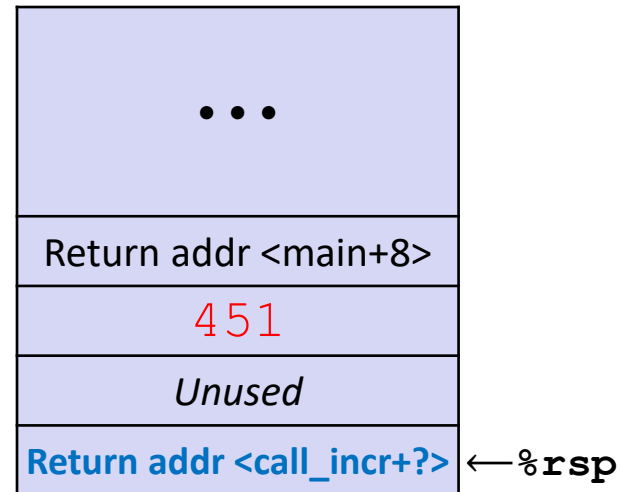


```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

```
increment:  
    movq    (%rdi), %rax # x = *p  
    addq    %rax, %rsi    # y = x+100  
    movq    %rsi, (%rdi) # *p = y  
    ret
```

Stack Structure



- ❖ State while inside `increment`
 - After code in body has been executed

| Register | Use(s) |
|----------|--------|
| %rdi | &v1 |
| %rsi | 451 |
| %rax | 351 |

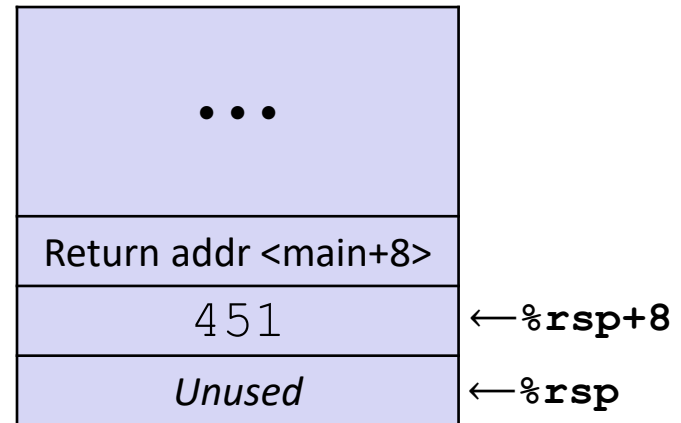
Procedure Call Example (step 5)



```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

Stack Structure



- After returning from call to increment
 - Registers and memory have been modified and return address has been popped off stack

| Register | Use(s) |
|----------|--------|
| %rdi | &v1 |
| %rsi | 451 |
| %rax | 351 |

Procedure Call Example (step 6)

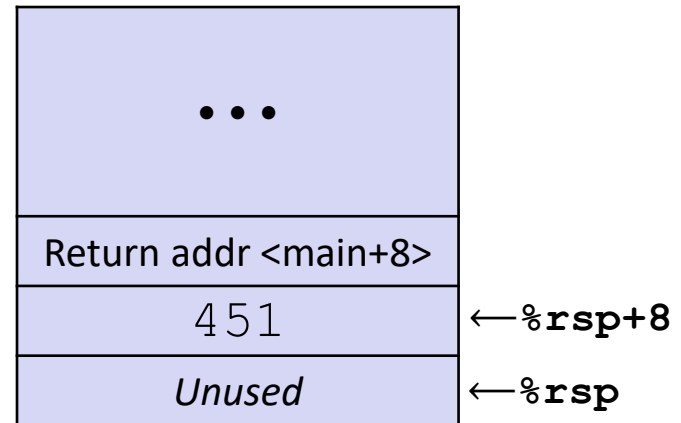


```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

← Update %rax to contain v1+v2

Stack Structure



| Register | Use(s) |
|----------|---------|
| %rdi | &v1 |
| %rsi | 451 |
| %rax | 451+351 |

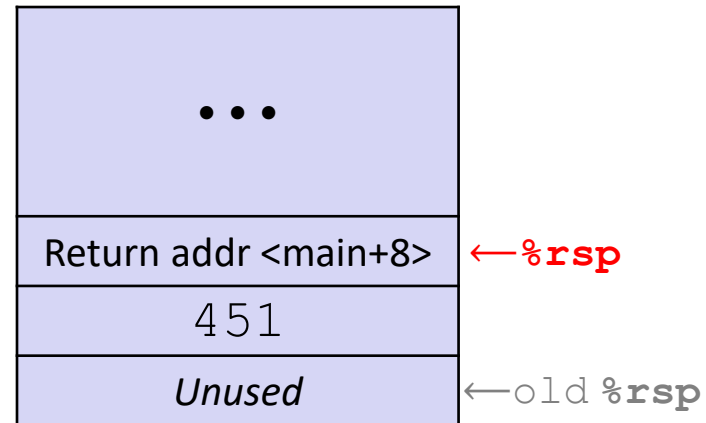
Procedure Call Example (step 7)



```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

Stack Structure



← De-allocate space for local vars

| Register | Use(s) |
|----------|--------|
| %rdi | &v1 |
| %rsi | 451 |
| %rax | 802 |

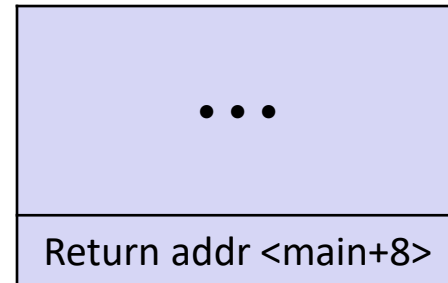
Procedure Call Example (step 8)



```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

Stack Structure



- State *just before* returning from call to `call_incr`

| Register | Use(s) |
|----------|--------|
| %rdi | &v1 |
| %rsi | 451 |
| %rax | 802 |

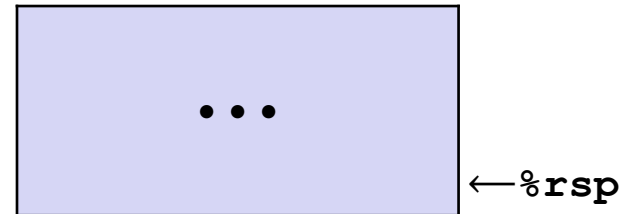
Procedure Call Example (step 9)



```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl    $100, %esi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    increment  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

Final Stack Structure



- State immediately *after* returning from call to `call_incr`
 - Return addr has been popped off stack
 - Control has returned to the instruction immediately following the call to `call_incr` (not shown here)

| Register | Use(s) |
|----------|--------|
| %rdi | &v1 |
| %rsi | 451 |
| %rax | 802 |

Outline



- Stack Structure
- Calling Conventions
 - Passing control
 - Passing data
 - Managing local data
- **Register Saving Conventions**
- Illustration of Recursion

Register Saving Conventions



- When procedure **yoo** calls **who**:
 - **yoo** is the *caller*
 - **who** is the *callee*
- Can register be used for temporary storage?

```
yoo:
. . .
movq $15213, %rdx
call who
addq %rdx, %rax
. . .
ret
```

```
who:
. . .
subq $18213, %rdx
. . .
ret
```

- No! Contents of register `%rdx` overwritten by **who**
- This could be trouble → something should be done! Either:
 - *caller* should save `%rdx` before the call (and restore it after the call)
 - *callee* should save `%rdx` before using it (and restore it before returning)

Register Saving Conventions



- ***“Caller-saved” registers***
 - It is the **caller**’s responsibility to save any important data in these registers before calling another procedure (*i.e.* the **callee** can freely change data in these registers)
 - **Caller** saves values in its stack frame before calling **Callee**, then restores values after the call
- ***“Callee-saved” registers***
 - It is the callee’s responsibility to save any data in these registers before using the registers (*i.e.* the **caller** assumes the data will be the same across the **callee** procedure call)
 - **Callee** saves values in its stack frame before using, then restores them before returning to **caller**

Silly Register Convention Analogy



- 1) Parents (*caller*) leave for the weekend and give the keys to the house to their child (*callee*)
 - Being suspicious, they put away/hid the valuables (*caller-saved*) before leaving
 - Warn child to leave the bedrooms untouched: “These rooms better look the same when we return!”
- 2) Child decides to throw a wild party (*computation*), spanning the entire house
 - To avoid being disowned, child moves all of the stuff from the bedrooms to the backyard shed (*callee-saved*) before the guests trash the house
 - Child cleans up house after the party and moves stuff back to bedrooms
- 3) Parents return home and are satisfied with the state of the house
 - Move valuables back (*caller-saved*) and continue with their lives

x86-64 Linux Register Usage, part1



- **%rax**

- Return value
- Also **caller**-saved
- Can be modified by procedure

- **%rdi, ..., %r9**

- Arguments
- Also **caller**-saved
- Can be modified by procedure

- **%r10, %r11**

- **Caller**-saved
- Can be modified by procedure

Return value

%rax

Arguments

%rdi

%rsi

%rdx

%rcx

%r8

%r9

Caller-saved
temporaries

%r10

%r11

x86-64 Linux Register Usage, part2



- **%rbx, %r12, %r13, %r14**

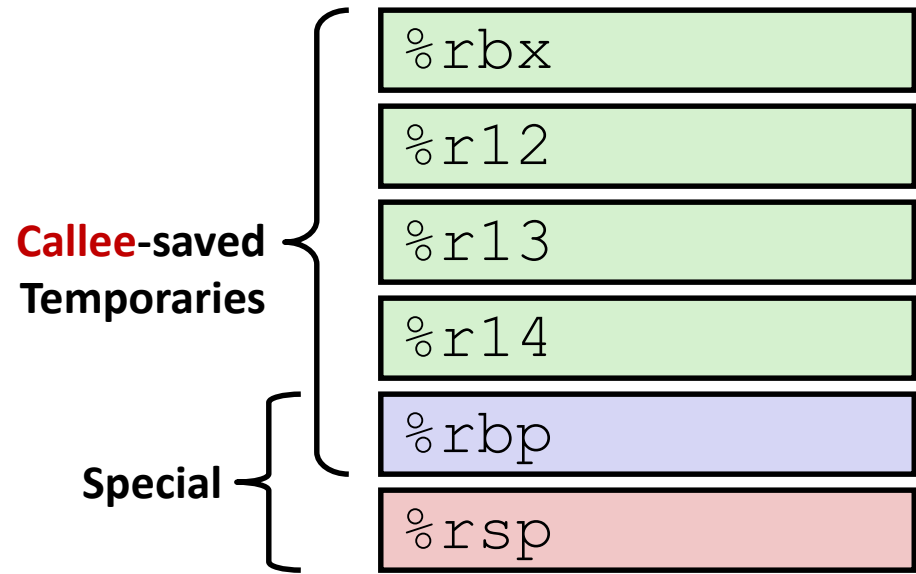
- **Callee**-saved
- **Callee** must save & restore

- **%rbp**

- **Callee**-saved
- **Callee** must save & restore
- May be used as frame pointer
- Can mix & match

- **%rsp**

- Special form of **callee** save
- Restored to original value upon exit from procedure



x86-64 64-bit Registers: Usage Conventions



%rax Return value - **Caller** saved

%rbx **Callee** saved

%rcx Argument #4 - **Caller** saved

%rdx Argument #3 - **Caller** saved

%rsi Argument #2 - **Caller** saved

%rdi Argument #1 - **Caller** saved

%rsp Stack pointer

%rbp **Callee** saved

%r8 Argument #5 - **Caller** saved

%r9 Argument #6 - **Caller** saved

%r10 **Caller** saved

%r11 **Caller** Saved

%r12 **Callee** saved

%r13 **Callee** saved

%r14 **Callee** saved

%r15 **Callee** saved

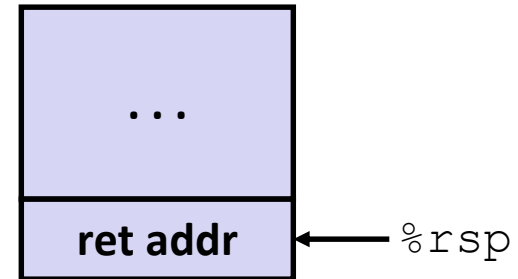
Callee-Saved Example (step 1)



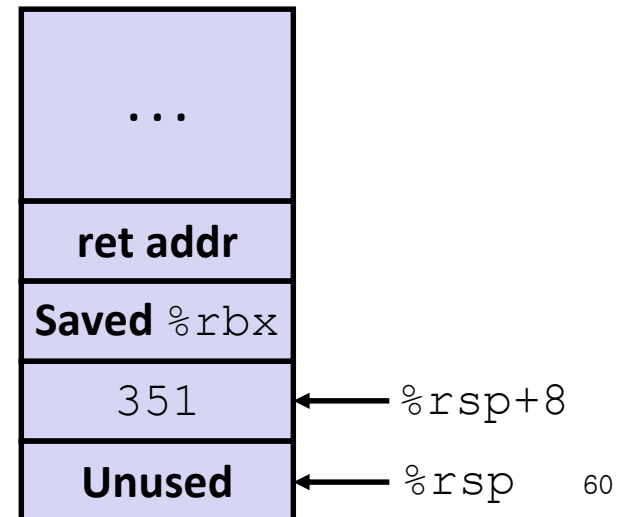
```
long call_incr2(long x) {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return x+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr2:  
    pushq    %rbx  
    subq     $16, %rsp  
    movq     %rdi, %rbx  
    movq     $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl     $100, %esi  
    leaq     8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call     increment  
    addq     %rbx, %rax  
    addq     $16, %rsp  
    popq     %rbx  
    ret
```

Initial Stack Structure



Resulting Stack Structure



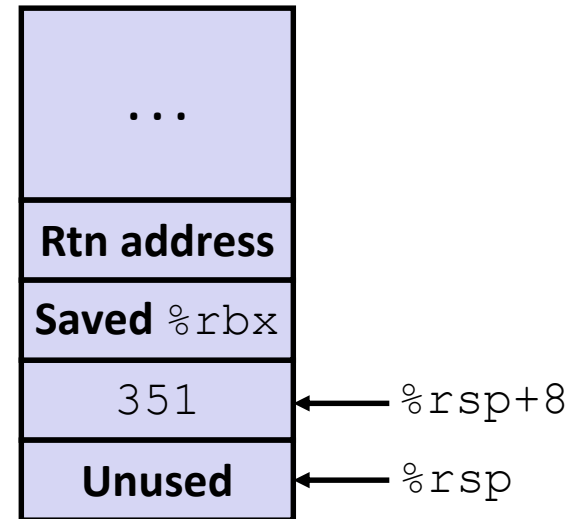
Callee-Saved Example (step 2)



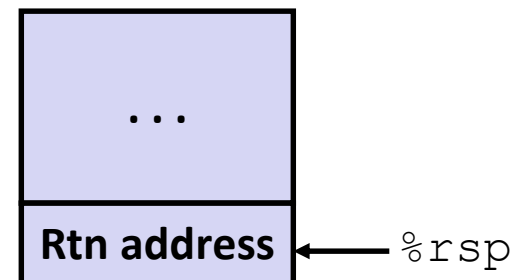
```
long call_incr2(long x) {  
    long v1 = 351;  
    long v2 = increment(&v1, 100);  
    return x+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr2:  
    pushq    %rbx  
    subq     $16, %rsp  
    movq     %rdi, %rbx  
    movq     $351, 8(%rsp)  
    movl     $100, %esi  
    leaq     8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call     increment  
    addq     %rbx, %rax  
    addq     $16, %rsp  
    popq     %rbx  
    ret
```

Stack Structure



Pre-return Stack Structure



Why Caller *and* Callee Saved?



- We want *one* calling convention to simply separate implementation details between caller and callee
- In general, neither caller-save nor callee-save is “best”:
 - If caller isn’t using a register, caller-save is better
 - If callee doesn’t need a register, callee-save is better
 - If “do need to save”, callee-save generally makes smaller programs
 - Functions are called from multiple places
- So... “some of each” and compiler tries to “pick registers” that minimize amount of saving/restoring

Register Conventions Summary



- **Caller**-saved register values need to be pushed onto the stack before making a procedure call *only if the Caller needs that value later*
 - **Callee** may change those register values
- **Callee**-saved register values need to be pushed onto the stack *only if the Callee intends to use those registers*
 - **Caller** expects unchanged values in those registers
- Don't forget to restore/pop the values later!

Outline



- Stack Structure
- Calling Conventions
 - Passing control
 - Passing data
 - Managing local data
- Register Saving Conventions
- **Illustration of Recursion**

Recursive Function



```
/* Recursive popcount */
long pcount_r(unsigned long x) {
    if (x == 0)
        return 0;
    else
        return (x&1)+pcount_r(x >> 1);
}
```

Compiler Explorer:

<https://godbolt.org/g/4ZJbz1>

- Compiled with `-O1` for brevity instead of `-Og`
- Try `-O2` instead!

```
pcount_r:
    movl    $0, %eax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi
    call    pcount_r
    andl    $1, %ebx
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep ret
```

Recursive Function: Base Case



```
/* Recursive popcount */
long pcount_r(unsigned long x) {
    if (x == 0)
        return 0;
    else
        return (x&1)+pcount_r(x >> 1);
}
```

| Register | Use(s) | Type |
|----------|--------------|--------------|
| %rdi | x | Argument |
| %rax | Return value | Return value |

```
pcount_r:
    movl    $0, %eax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi
    call    pcount_r
    andl    $1, %ebx
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep ret
```

Trick because some AMD hardware doesn't like jumping to ret

Recursive Function: **Callee** Register Save



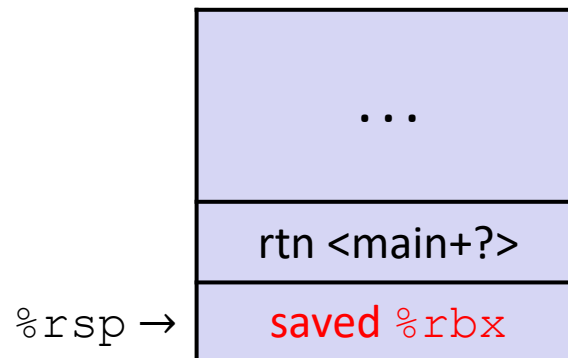
```
/* Recursive popcount */
long pcount_r(unsigned long x) {
    if (x == 0)
        return 0;
    else
        return (x&1)+pcount_r(x >> 1);
}
```

| Register | Use(s) | Type |
|----------|--------|----------|
| %rdi | x | Argument |

Need original value of *x* *after* recursive call to `pcount_r`.

“Save” by putting in `%rbx` (**callee** saved), but need to save old value of `%rbx` before you change it.

The Stack



```
pcount_r:
    movl    $0, %eax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi
    call    pcount_r
    andl    $1, %ebx
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep ret
```

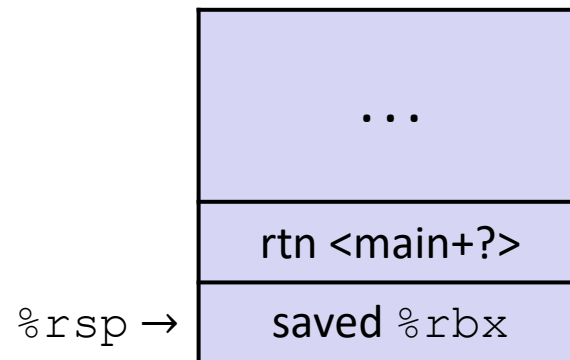
Recursive Function: Call Setup



```
/* Recursive popcount */
long pcount_r(unsigned long x) {
    if (x == 0)
        return 0;
    else
        return (x&1)+pcount_r(x >> 1);
}
```

| Register | Use(s) | Type |
|----------|---------|--------------|
| %rdi | x (new) | Argument |
| %rbx | x (old) | Callee saved |

The Stack



```
pcount_r:
    movl    $0, %eax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi
    call    pcount_r
    andl    $1, %ebx
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep ret
```

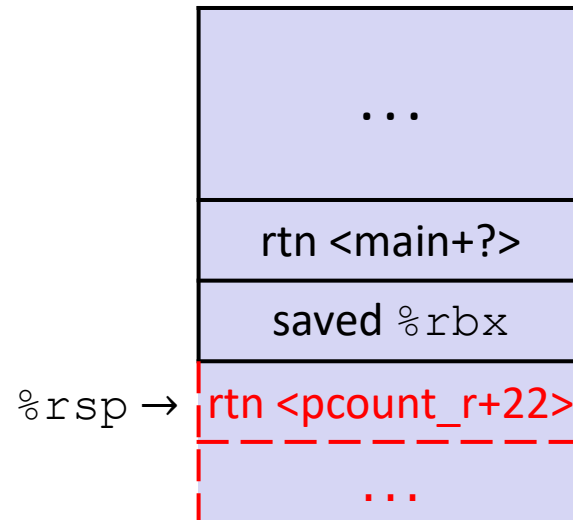
Recursive Function: Call (ink walkthrough)



```
/* Recursive popcount */  
long pcount_r(unsigned long x) {  
    if (x == 0)  
        return 0;  
    else  
        return (x&1)+pcount_r(x >> 1);  
}
```

| Register | Contents |
|----------|----------|
| %rdi | |
| %rbx | |
| %rax | |

The Stack



```
pcount_r:  
    movl    $0, %eax  
    testq   %rdi, %rdi  
    je      .L6  
    pushq   %rbx  
    movq    %rdi, %rbx  
    shrq    %rdi  
    call    pcount_r  
    andl    $1, %ebx  
    addq    %rbx, %rax  
    popq    %rbx  
.L6:  
    rep ret
```



if original $x = 0b100$:

| |
|-------------------|
| ... |
| rtn <main+?> |
| saved %rbx=? |
| rtn <pcount_r+22> |
| 06100 |

```

pcount_r:
    movl    $0, %eax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi
    call    pcount_r
    andl    $1, %ebx
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep ret

```

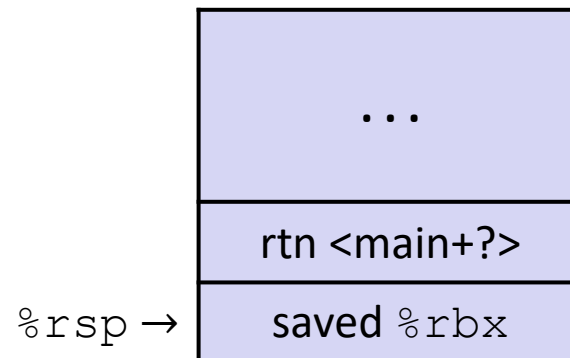
Recursive Function: Result



```
/* Recursive popcount */
long pcount_r(unsigned long x) {
    if (x == 0)
        return 0;
    else
        return (x&1)+pcount_r(x >> 1);
}
```

| Register | Use(s) | Type |
|----------|--------------|--------------|
| %rax | Return value | Return value |
| %rbx | x&1 | Callee saved |

The Stack



```
pcount_r:
    movl    $0, %eax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi
    call    pcount_r
    andl    $1, %ebx
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep ret
```

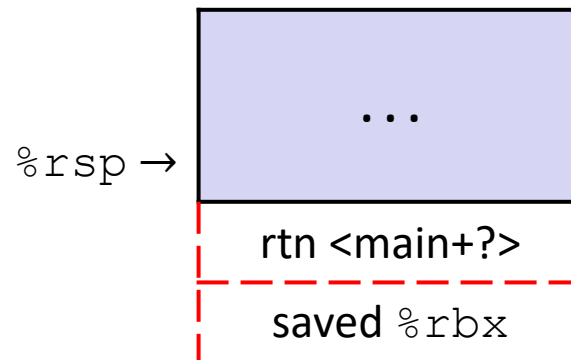
Recursive Function: Completion



```
/* Recursive popcount */
long pcount_r(unsigned long x) {
    if (x == 0)
        return 0;
    else
        return (x&1)+pcount_r(x >> 1);
}
```

| Register | Use(s) | Type |
|----------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| %rax | Return value | Return value |
| %rbx | Previous %rbx x value | Callee restored |

The Stack



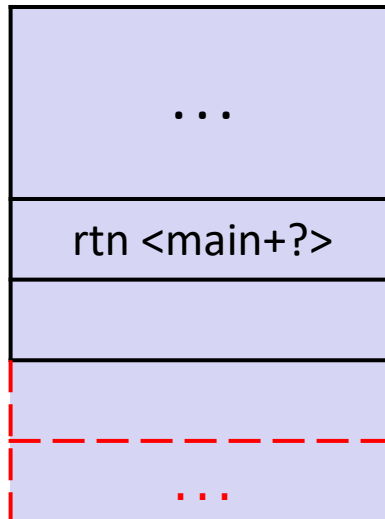
```
pcount_r:
    movl    $0, %eax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi
    call    pcount_r
    andl    $1, %ebx
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep ret
```




Recursive Function: Handout

```
/* Recursive popcount */  
long pcount_r(unsigned long x) {  
    if (x == 0)  
        return 0;  
    else  
        return (x&1)+pcount_r(x >> 1);  
}
```

The Stack



| Register | Contents |
|----------|----------|
| %rdi | |
| %rbx | |
| %rax | |

```
pcount_r:  
    movl    $0, %eax  
    testq   %rdi, %rdi  
    je      .L6  
    pushq   %rbx  
    movq    %rdi, %rbx  
    shrq    %rdi  
    call    pcount_r  
    andl    $1, %ebx  
    addq    %rbx, %rax  
    popq    %rbx  
.L6:  
    rep ret
```

Observations About Recursion



- Handled Without Special Consideration
 - Stack frames mean that each function call has private storage
 - Saved registers & local variables
 - Saved return address
 - Register saving conventions prevent one function call from corrupting another's data
 - Unless the C code explicitly does so (e.g., buffer overflow in Lecture 9)
 - Stack discipline follows call / return pattern
 - If P calls Q, then Q returns before P
 - Last-In, First-Out
- Also works for mutual recursion
 - P calls Q; Q calls P

x86-64 Stack Frames



- Many x86-64 procedures have a minimal stack frame
 - Only return address is pushed onto the stack when calling procedure is called
- A procedure *needs* to grow its stack frame when it:
 - Has too many local variables to hold in **caller**-saved registers
 - Has local variables that are arrays or structs
 - Uses `&` to compute the address of a local variable
 - Calls another function that takes more than six arguments
 - Is using **caller**-saved registers and then calls a procedure
 - Modifies/uses **callee**-saved registers

x86-64 Procedure Summary



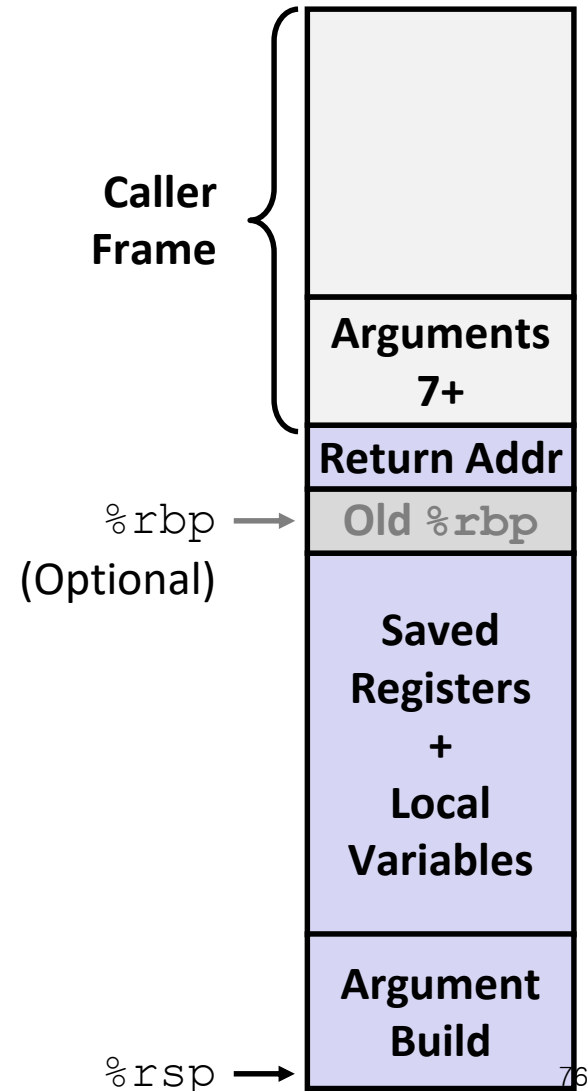
- Important Points

- Procedures are a **combination of instructions and conventions**
 - Conventions prevent functions from disrupting each other
- Stack is the right data structure for procedure call/return
 - If P calls Q, then Q returns before P
- Recursion handled by normal calling conventions

- Heavy use of registers

- Faster than using memory
- Use limited by data size and conventions

- Minimize use of the Stack



One more x86-64 example



- **Example of passing more than 6 parameters and passing addresses of local variables**
- **The following example, along with a brief re-cap of x86-64 calling conventions is in this video:**

x86-64 Example (1)



```
long int call_proc()
{
    long  x1 = 1;
    int    x2 = 2;
    short x3 = 3;
    char   x4 = 4;
    proc(x1, &x1, x2, &x2,
        x3, &x3, x4, &x4);
    return (x1+x2)*(x3-x4);
}
```

```
call_proc:
    subq    $32,%rsp
    movq    $1,16(%rsp) # x1
    movl    $2,24(%rsp) # x2
    movw    $3,28(%rsp) # x3
    movb    $4,31(%rsp) # x4
    . . .
```

Return address to caller of call_proc

←%rsp

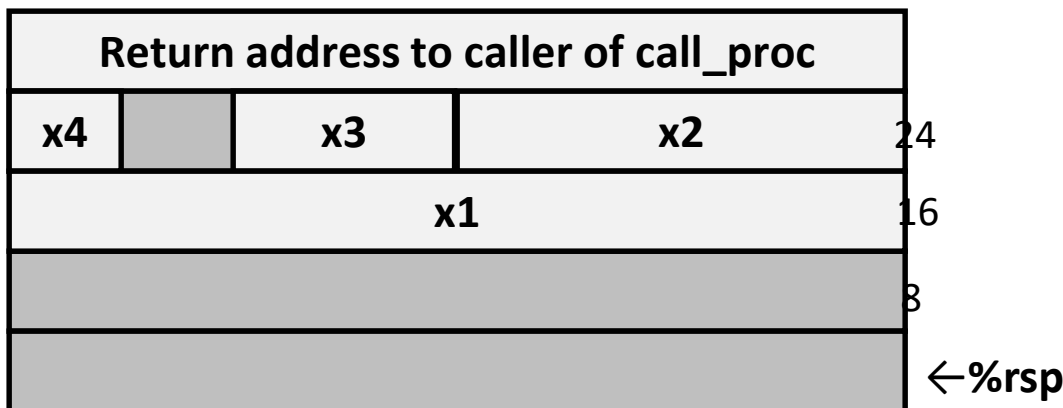
Note: Details may vary depending on compiler. 78

x86-64 Example (2) – Allocate local vars



```
long int call_proc()
{
    long  x1 = 1;
    int    x2 = 2;
    short x3 = 3;
    char  x4 = 4;
    proc(x1, &x1, x2, &x2,
        x3, &x3, x4, &x4);
    return (x1+x2)*(x3-x4);
}
```

```
call_proc:
    subq    $32,%rsp
    movq    $1,16(%rsp)  # x1
    movl    $2,24(%rsp)  # x2
    movw    $3,28(%rsp)  # x3
    movb    $4,31(%rsp)  # x4
    . . .
```



x86-64 Example (3) – setup params to proc



```
long int call_proc()
{
    long   x1 = 1;
    int     x2 = 2;
    short  x3 = 3;
    char    x4 = 4;
    proc(x1, &x1, x2, &x2,
        x3, &x3, x4, &x4);
    return (x1+x2)*(x3-x4);
}
```

call_proc:

```
• • •
leaq    24(%rsp),%rcx # %rcx=&x2
leaq    16(%rsp),%rsi # %rsi=&x1
leaq    31(%rsp),%rax # %rax=&x4
movq    %rax,8(%rsp)  # arg8=&4
movl    $4, (%rsp)    # arg7=4
leaq    28(%rsp),%r9  # %r9=&x3
movl    $3,%r8d       # %r8 = 3
movl    $2,%edx       # %rdx = 2
movq    $1,%rdi       # %rdi = 1
call    proc
• • •
```

| Return address to caller of call_proc | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|----|----|-------|
| x4 | | x3 | x2 | 24 |
| x1 | | | | 16 |
| Arg 8 | | | | 8 |
| Arg 7 | | | | ←%rsp |

Arguments passed in (in order):
rdi, rsi, rdx, rcx, r8, r9

*Same
instructions as in
video, just a
different order.*

x86-64 Example (4) – setup params to proc



```
long int call_proc()
{
    long  x1 = 1;
    int    x2 = 2;
    short x3 = 3;
    char   x4 = 4;
    proc(x1, &x1, x2, &x2,
        x3, &x3, x4, &x4);
    return (x1+x2)*(x3-x4);
}
```

call_proc:

• • •

leaq 24(%rsp), %rcx

leaq 16(%rsp), %rsi

leaq 31(%rsp), %rax

movq %rax, 8(%rsp)

movl \$4, (%rsp)

leaq 28(%rsp), %r9

movl \$3, %r8d

movl \$2, %edx

movq \$1, %rdi

call proc

• • •

**Note
sizes**

| Return address to caller of call_proc | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|----|----|
| x4 | | x3 | x2 |
| x1 | | | |
| Arg 8 | | | |
| Arg 7 | | | |

24

16

8

←%rsp

Arguments passed in (in order):
rdi, rsi, rdx, rcx, r8, r9

x86-64 Example (5) – call proc



```
long int call_proc()
{
    long  x1 = 1;
    int    x2 = 2;
    short x3 = 3;
    char   x4 = 4;
    proc(x1, &x1, x2, &x2,
        x3, &x3, x4, &x4);
    return (x1+x2)*(x3-x4);
}
```

```
call_proc:
    . . .
    leaq 24(%rsp), %rcx
    leaq 16(%rsp), %rsi
    leaq 31(%rsp), %rax
    movq %rax, 8(%rsp)
    movl $4, (%rsp)
    leaq 28(%rsp), %r9
    movl $3, %r8d
    movl $2, %edx
    movq $1, %rdi
    call proc
    . . .
```

| Return address to caller of call_proc | | | |
|---|--|----|----|
| x4 | | x3 | x2 |
| x1 | | | |
| Arg 8 | | | |
| Arg 7 | | | |
| Return address to line after call to proc | | | |

←%rsp

x86-64 Example (6) – after call to proc



```
long int call_proc()
{
    long  x1 = 1;
    int    x2 = 2;
    short x3 = 3;
    char   x4 = 4;
    proc(x1, &x1, x2, &x2,
        x3, &x3, x4, &x4);
    return (x1+x2)*(x3-x4);
}
```

call_proc:

...

```
movswl 28(%rsp),%eax # %eax=x3
movsbl 31(%rsp),%edx # %edx=x4
subl    %edx,%eax # %eax=x3-x4
cltq
movslq 24(%rsp),%rdx # %rdx=x2
addq    16(%rsp),%rdx # %rdx=x1+x2
imulq   %rdx,%rax # %rax=rdx*rdx
addq    $32,%rsp
ret
```

| Return address to caller of call_proc | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|----|----|
| x4 | | x3 | x2 |
| x1 | | | |
| Arg 8 | | | |
| Arg 7 | | | |

movs__:

move and sign extend

cltq:

sign extend %eax into %rax
(special-case to save space)

x86-64 Example (7) – de-allocate local vars



```
long int call_proc()
{
    long   x1 = 1;
    int     x2 = 2;
    short  x3 = 3;
    char    x4 = 4;
    proc(x1, &x1, x2, &x2,
        x3, &x3, x4, &x4);
    return (x1+x2)*(x3-x4);
}
```

```
call_proc:
    . . .
    movswl 28(%rsp),%eax
    movsbl 31(%rsp),%edx
    subl   %edx,%eax
    cltq
    movslq 24(%rsp),%rdx
    addq    16(%rsp),%rdx
    imulq   %rdx,%rax
    addq    $32,%rsp
    ret
```

Return address to caller of call_proc

←%rsp

Q&A

