

Review

- Conditional Constructs
 - If Statement
 - If-Else Statement
- Iteration Constructs
 - While Statement
 - Do-While Statement
 - For Statement
 - Break and Continue Statements
 - Switch Statement

Functions in C – Grammar

Lecture 28-1

Hyung-Sin Kim



SNU Graduate School of Data Science

You already know what functions are.

Today we focus more on

- (1) slightly different **grammar** in C*
- (2) what happens in the **memory** (LIFO stack)
when you call a function in C*

Functions in C – Grammar

- Definition
 - Header: Function name, parameter list including **data types**, and return value's **data type**
 - Any variable declared in the body is **local** to the function

```
• #include <stdio.h>
• int Factorial(int n);
•
• int main(void) {
•     int number;
•     int answer;
•     printf("Input a number: ");
•     scanf("%d", &number);
•     answer = Factorial(number);
•     printf("The factorial of %d is %d\n", number, answer);
• }
•
• int Factorial(int n) {
•     int result = 1;
•     for (int i=1; i <=n; i++)
•         result *= i;
•     return result;
• }
```

Functions in C – Grammar

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 - Any variable declared in the body is **local** to the function
- Call
 - The caller must transmit proper arguments (number, **data type**) to the callee
 - Calling is possible only when the callee is **declared** before (not necessarily **defined**)

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• #include <stdio.h>
• int Factorial(int n);
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• int main(void) {
•     int number;
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•     printf("Input a number: ");
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• int Factorial(int n) {
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Functions in C – Grammar

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```
• #include <stdio.h>
• int Factorial(int n);
•
• int main(void) {
•     int number;
•     int answer;
•     printf("Input a number: ");
•     scanf("%d", &number);
•     answer = Factorial(number);
•     printf("The factorial of %d is %d\n", number, answer);
• }
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• int Factorial(int n) {
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Functions in C – Grammar

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 - Header: Function name, parameter list including **data types**, and return value's **data type**
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- Call
 - The caller must transmit proper arguments (number, **data type**) to the callee
 - Calling is possible only when the callee is **declared** before (not necessarily **defined**)
- **Declaration** (function prototype)
 - Informs the compiler about relevant properties
 - Name, data type of return value, type of input arguments, and **semicolon!**

```
• #include <stdio.h>
• int Factorial(int n);
•
• int main(void) {
•     int number;
•     int answer;
•     printf("Input a number: ");
•     scanf("%d", &number);
•     answer = Factorial(number);
•     printf("The factorial of %d is %d\n", number, answer);
• }
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• int Factorial(int n) {
•     int result = 1;
•     for (int i=1; i <=n; i++)
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•     return result;
• }
```

Functions in C

– Memory Operation Overview

Lecture 28-2

Hyung-Sin Kim



SNU Graduate School of Data Science

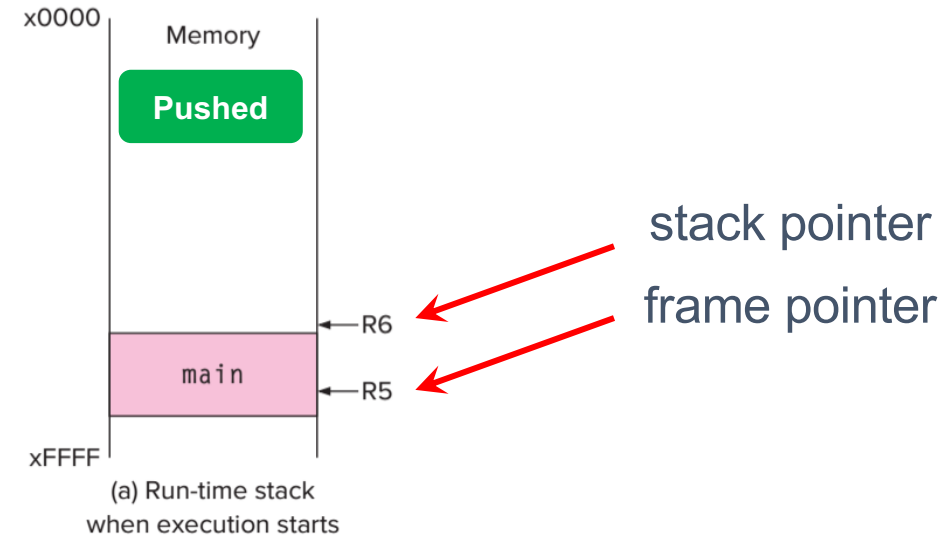
A Function Example in C

```
• int main(void) {  
•     int a;  
•     int b;  
•     b = Watt(a);    // main calls Watt first  
•     b = Volt(a, b); // then calls Volt  
• }  
•  
• int Watt(int a) {  
•     int w;  
•     w = Volt(w, 10); // Watt calls Volt  
•     return w;  
• }  
•  
• int Volt(int q, int r) {  
•     int k;  
•     int m;  
•     return k;  
• }
```

Memory Operation – Overview

```
• int main(void) {  
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• }  
  
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•     int w;  
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•     return w;  
• }  
  
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•     int k;  
•     int m;  
•     return k;  
• }
```

Main is started!



Memory Operation – Overview

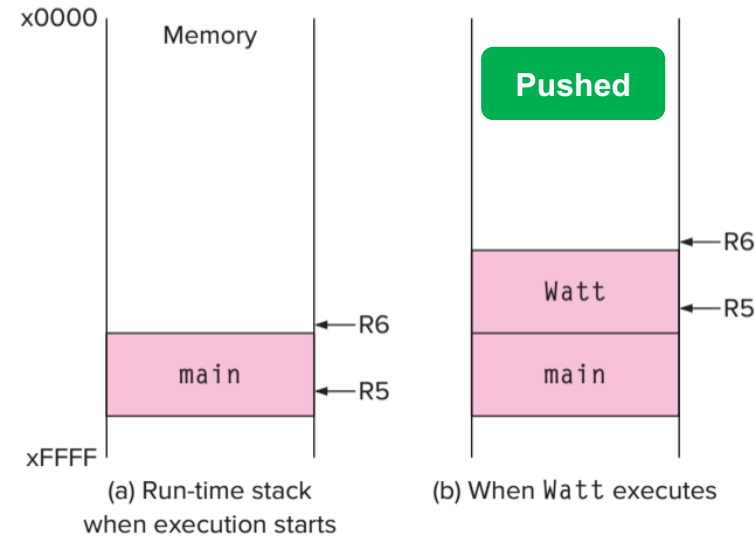
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    int a;  
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    b = Watt(a); // main calls Watt first  
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}
```

```
int Watt(int a) {  
    int w;  
    w = Volt(w, 10); // Watt calls Volt  
    return w;  
}
```

```
int Volt(int q, int r) {  
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    int m;  
    return k;  
}
```

Main is started!

Main calls Watt!



Memory Operation – Overview

```
int main(void) {  
    int a;  
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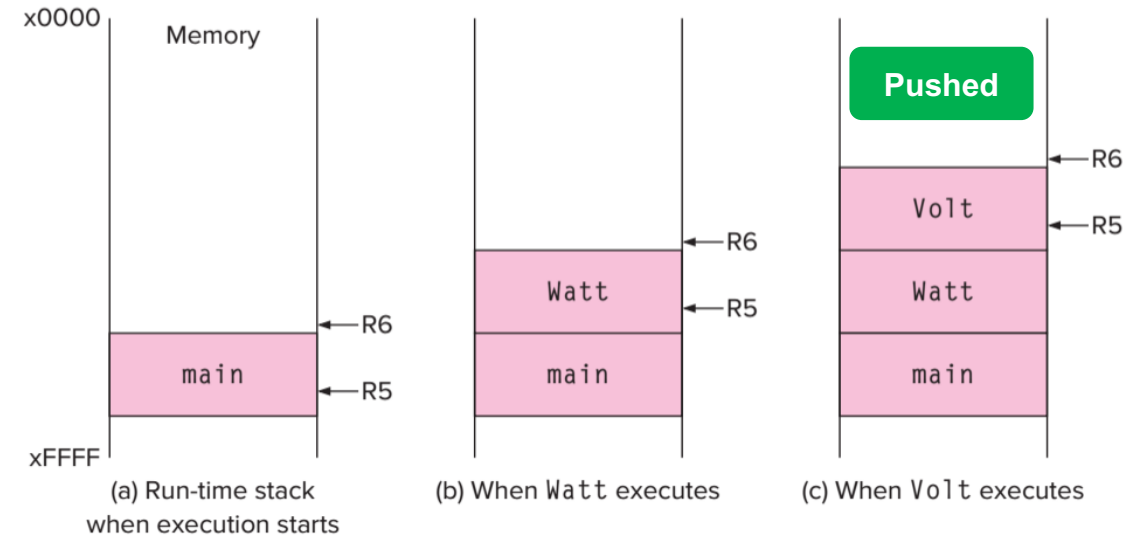
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    return k;  
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Main is started!

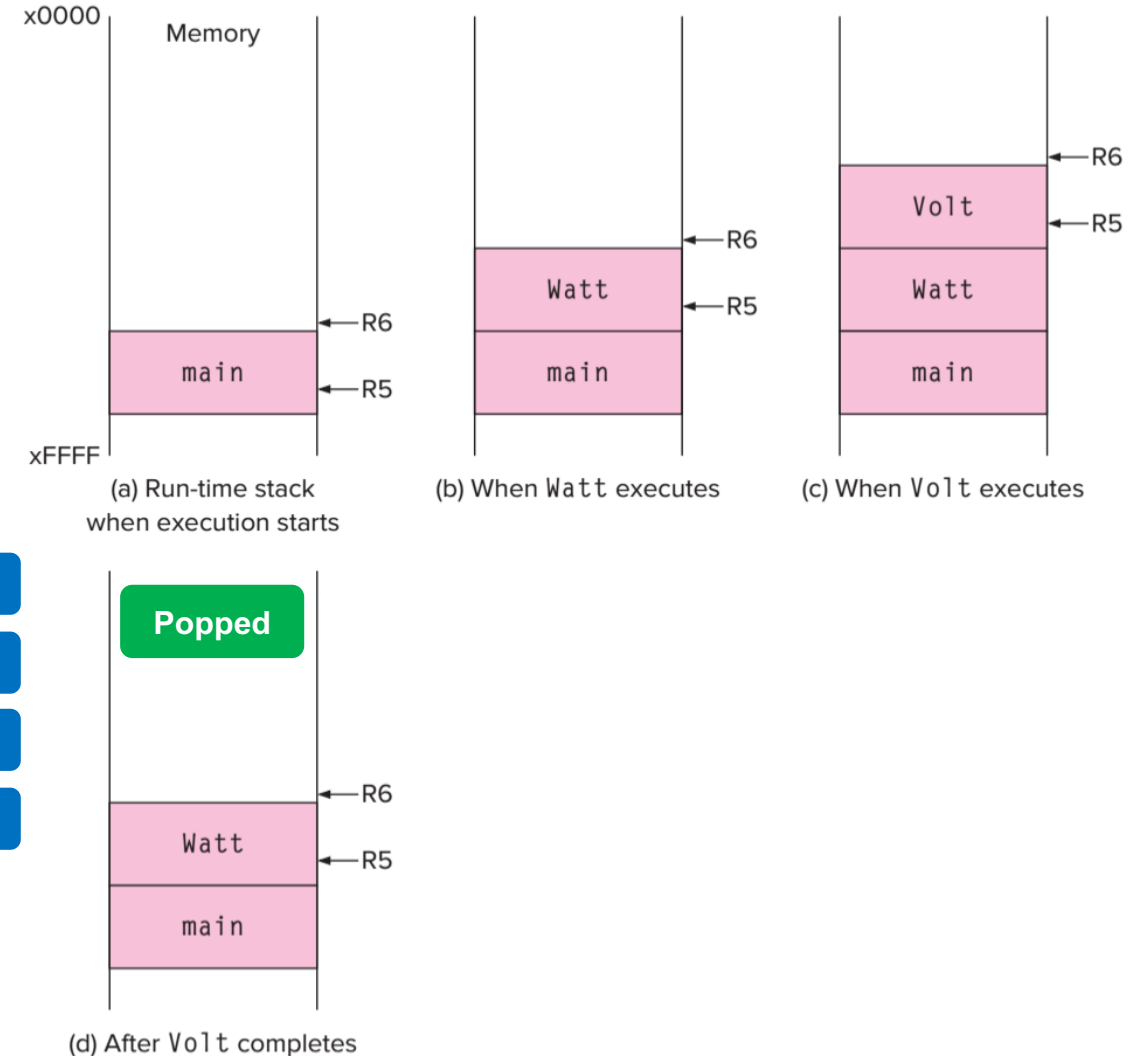
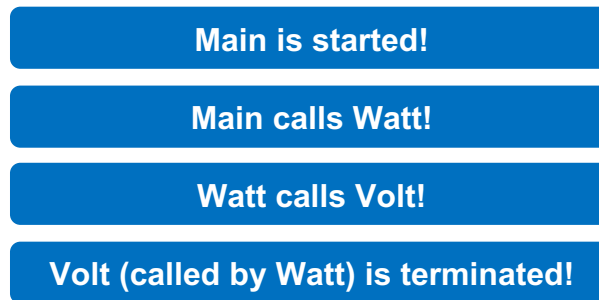
Main calls Watt!

Watt calls Volt!



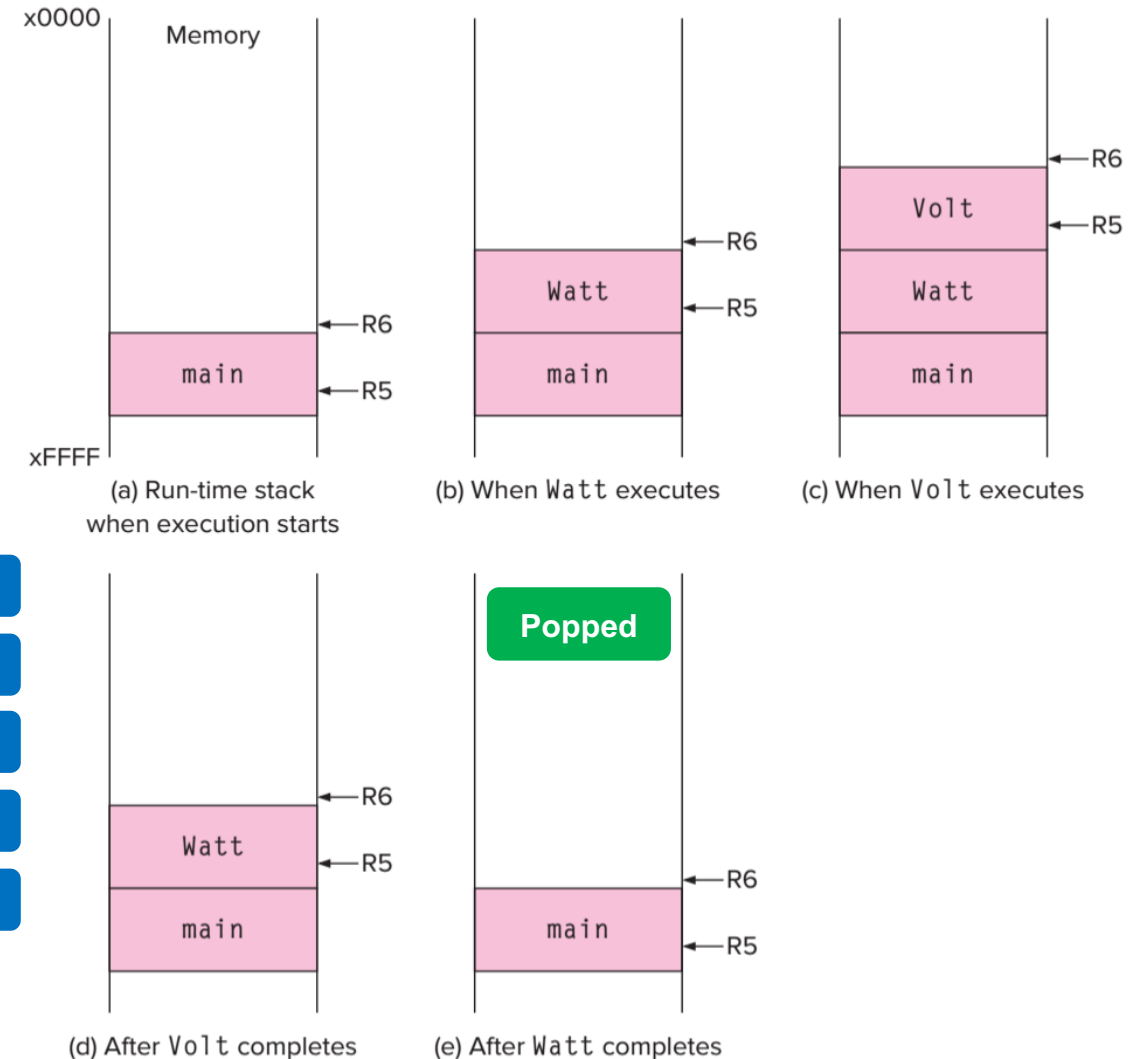
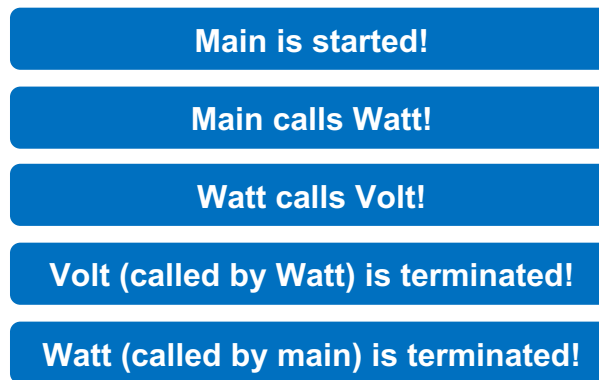
Memory Operation – Overview

```
int main(void) {  
    int a;  
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    b = Watt(a); // main calls Watt first  
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Memory Operation – Overview

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Memory Operation – Overview

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int main(void) {  
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int Watt(int a) {  
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}
```

Main is started!

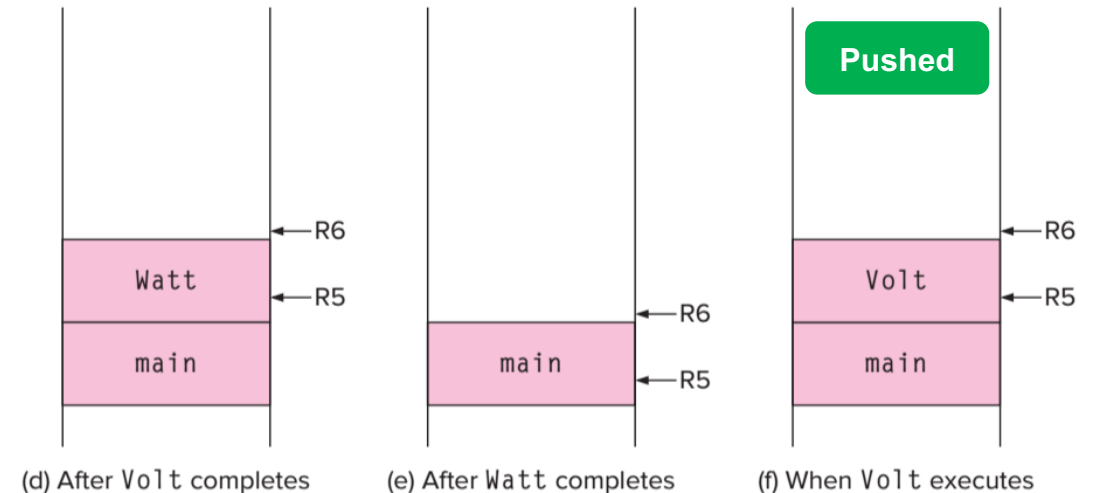
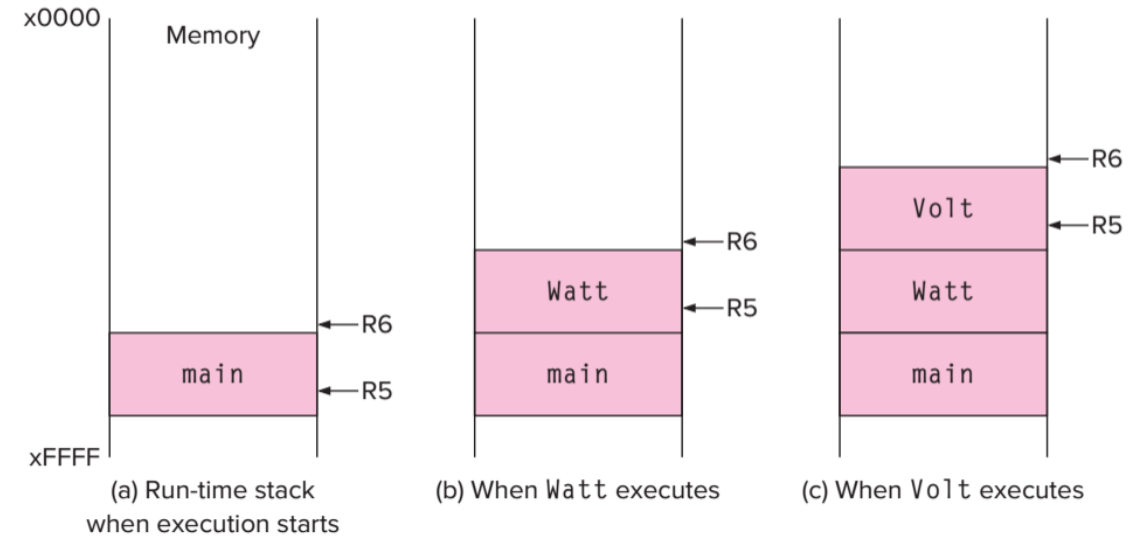
Main calls Watt!

Watt calls Volt!

Volt (called by Watt) is terminated!

Watt (called by main) is terminated!

Main calls Volt!



Functions in C

– Memory Operation Details

Lecture 28-3

Hyung-Sin Kim



SNU Graduate School of Data Science

*Let's take a deeper look into
each stage of a function's lifetime*

(1) Calling (Passing arguments to the function)

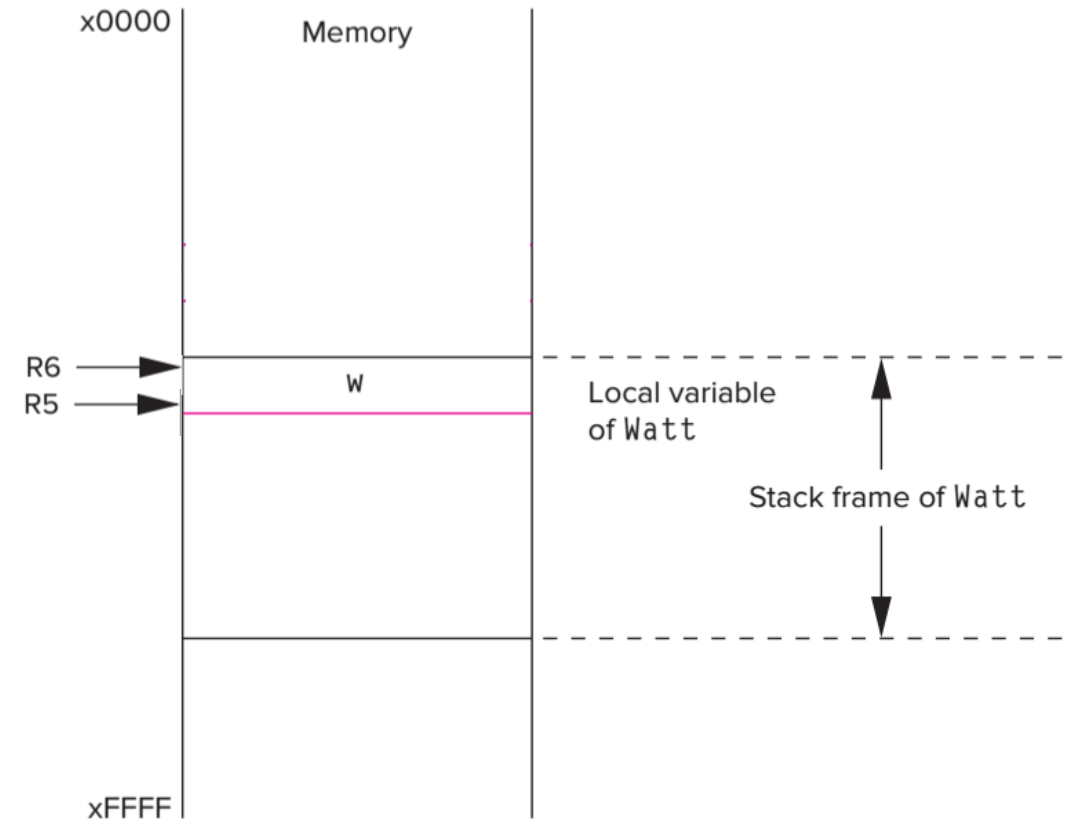
(2) Start Callee (Reserve stack for the function)

(3) End Callee (Return)

(4) Return to Caller

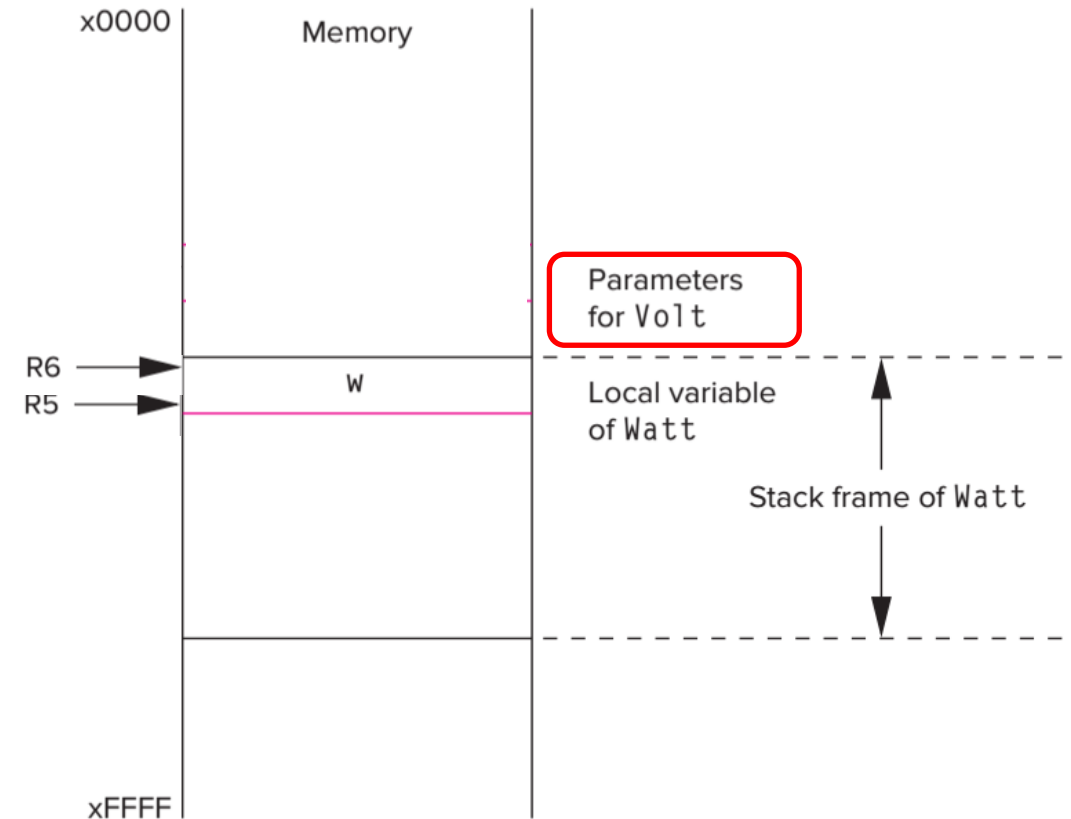
Detailed Memory Operation – Calling

- `int main(void) {`
- `int a;`
- `int b;`
- `b = Watt(a); // main calls Watt first`
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- `int Watt(int a) {`
- `int w;`
- `w = Volt(w, 10); // Watt calls Volt`
- `return w;`
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- `return k;`
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Detailed Memory Operation – Calling

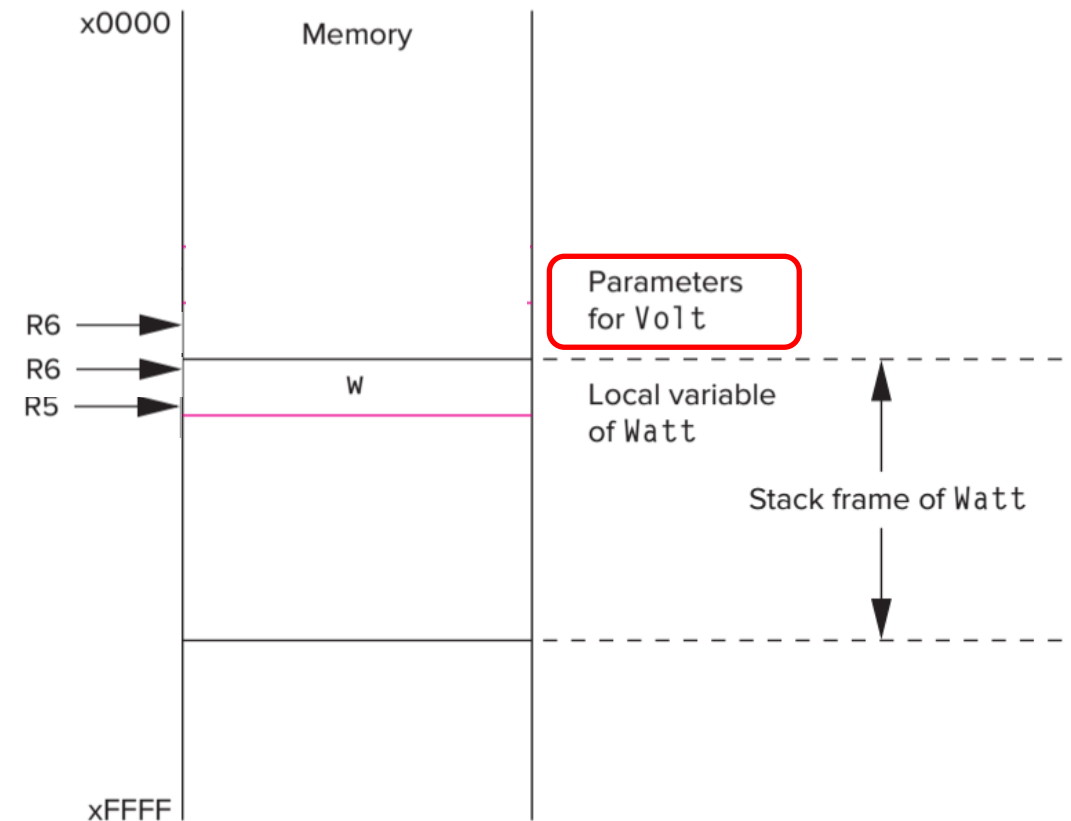
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Detailed Memory Operation – Calling

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- `int m;`
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- `}`

(1) Decrement R6 and Push 10

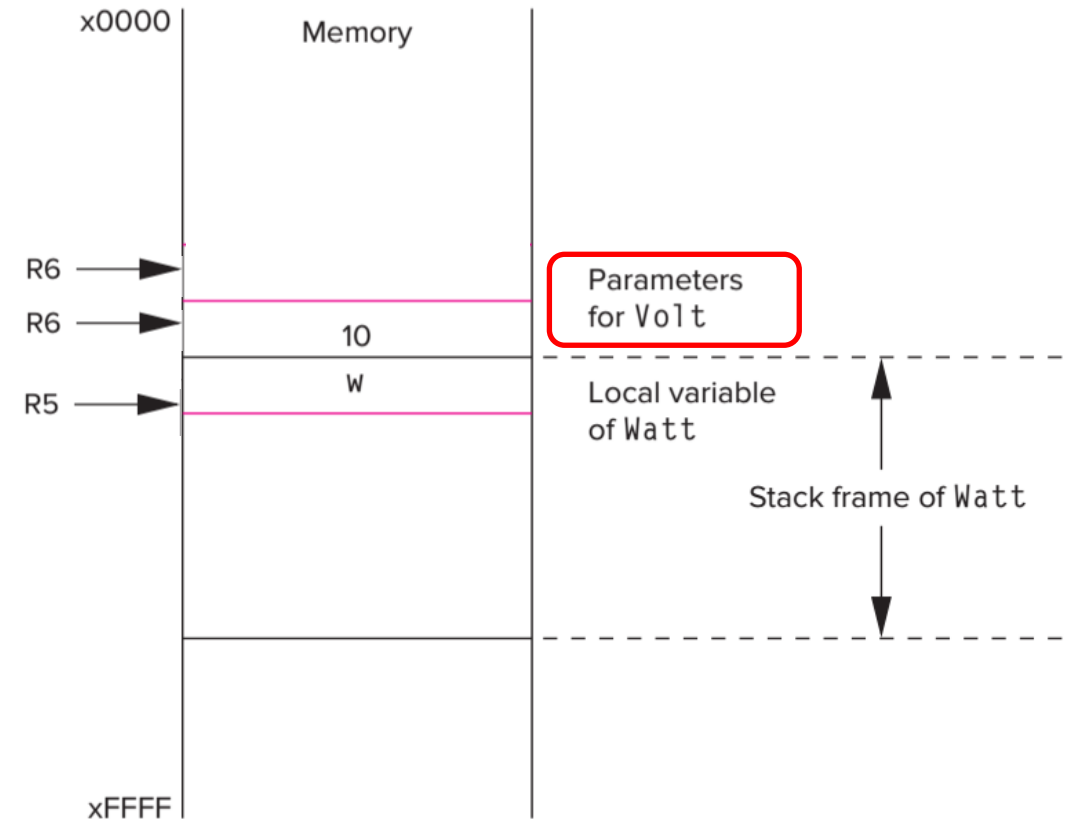


Detailed Memory Operation – Calling

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- `return k;`
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(1) Decrement R6 and Push 10

(2) Decrement R6 and Push w value



Detailed Memory Operation – Calling

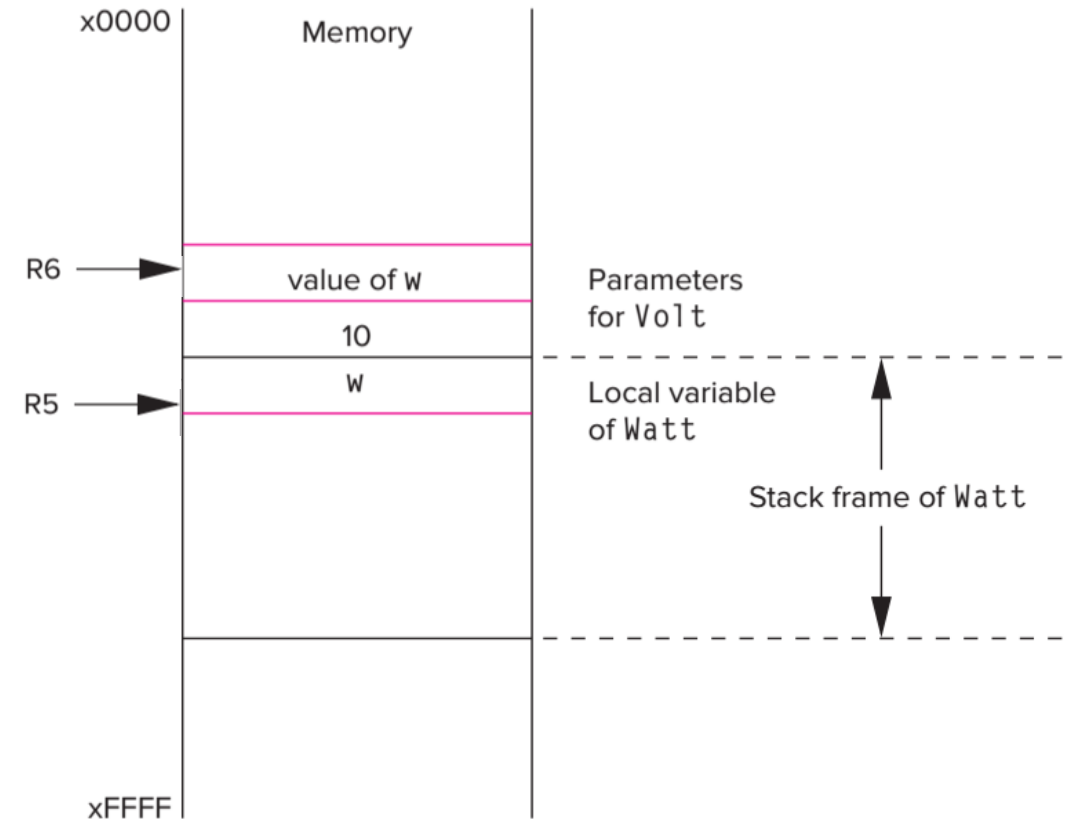
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•     return k;  
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```

PC

(1) Decrement R6 and Push 10

(2) Decrement R6 and Push w value

(3) Pass the control to Volt



*Let's take a deeper look into
each stage of a function's lifetime*

(1) Calling (Passing arguments to the function)

(2) Start Callee (Reserve stack for the function)

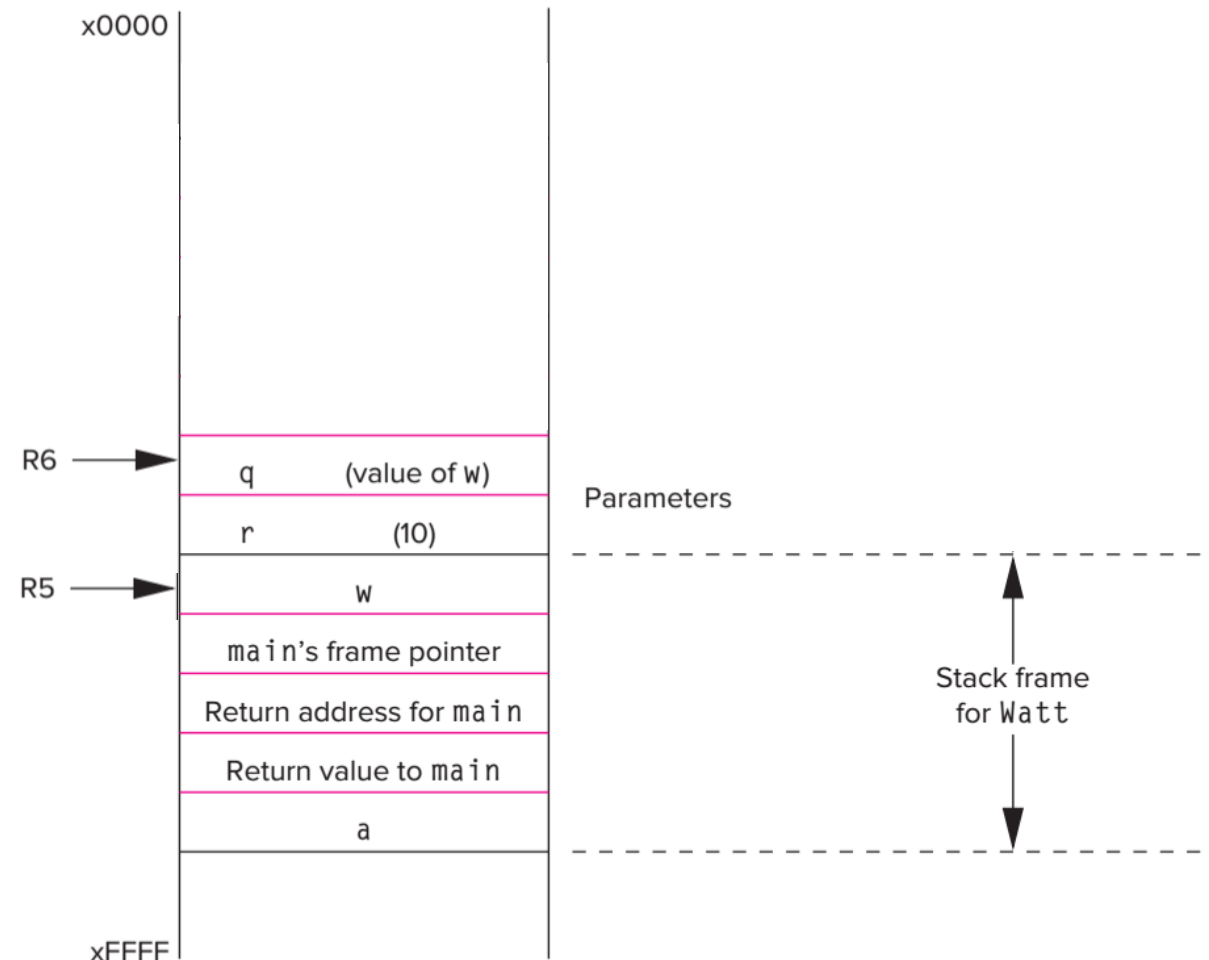
(3) End Callee (Return)

(4) Return to Caller

Detailed Memory Operation – Start Callee

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(1) Parameters are already in the stack



Detailed Memory Operation – Start Callee

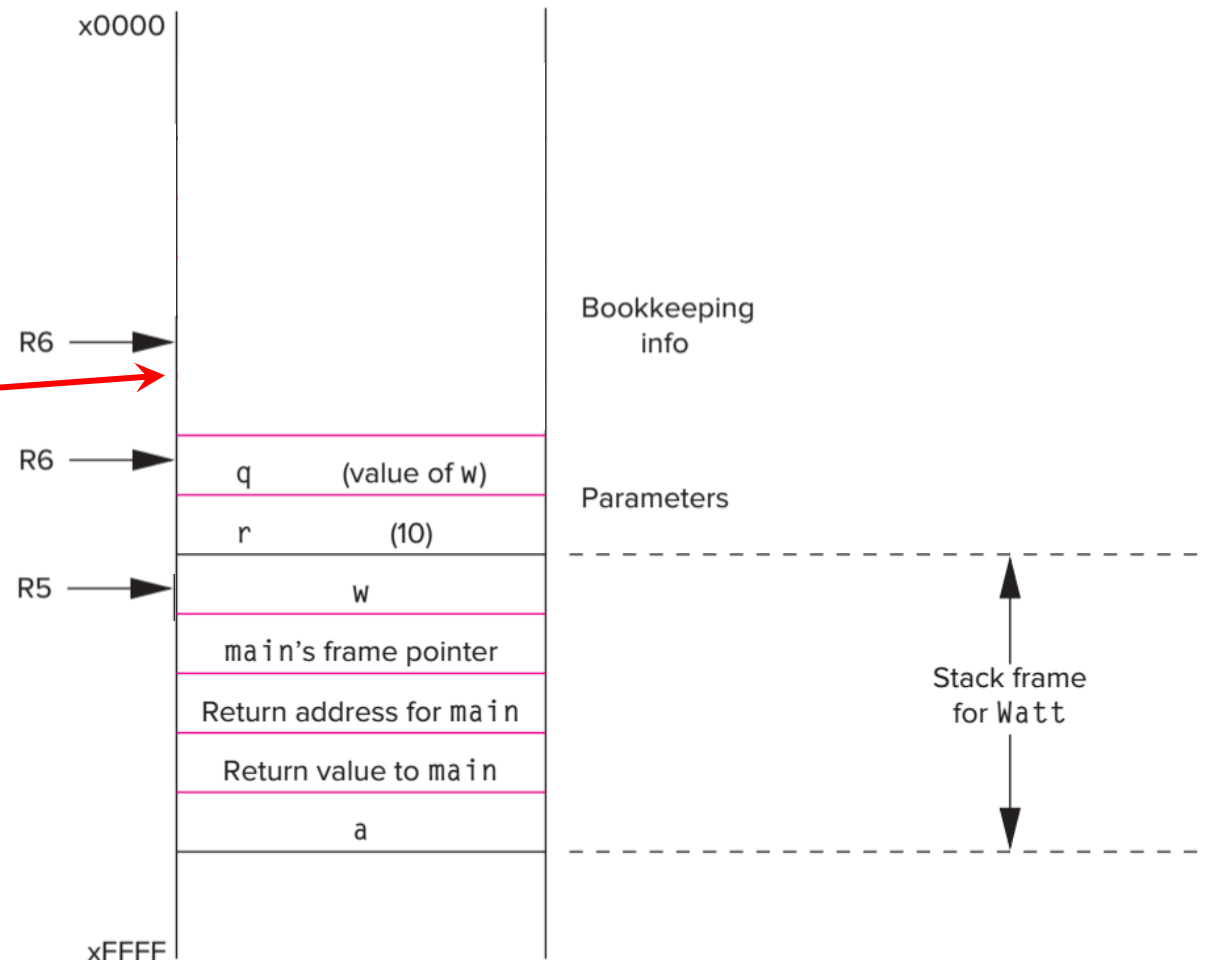
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(1) Parameters are already in the stack

(2) Reserve memory for the return value and store return address



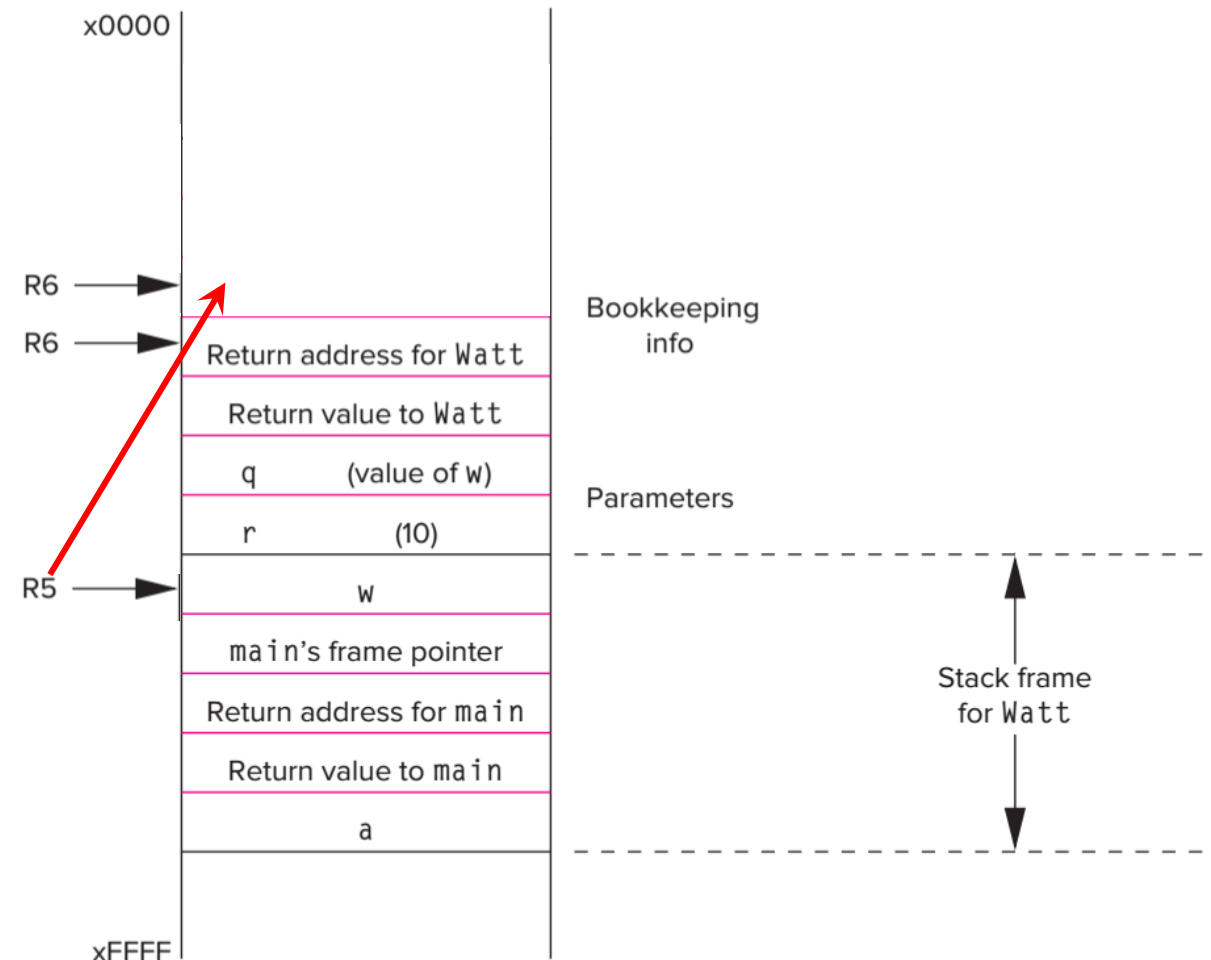
Detailed Memory Operation – Start Callee

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(1) Parameters are already in the stack

(2) Reserve memory for the return value and store return address

(3) Decrease R6 and copy Watt's frame pointer in R5 to where R6 points at



Detailed Memory Operation – Start Callee

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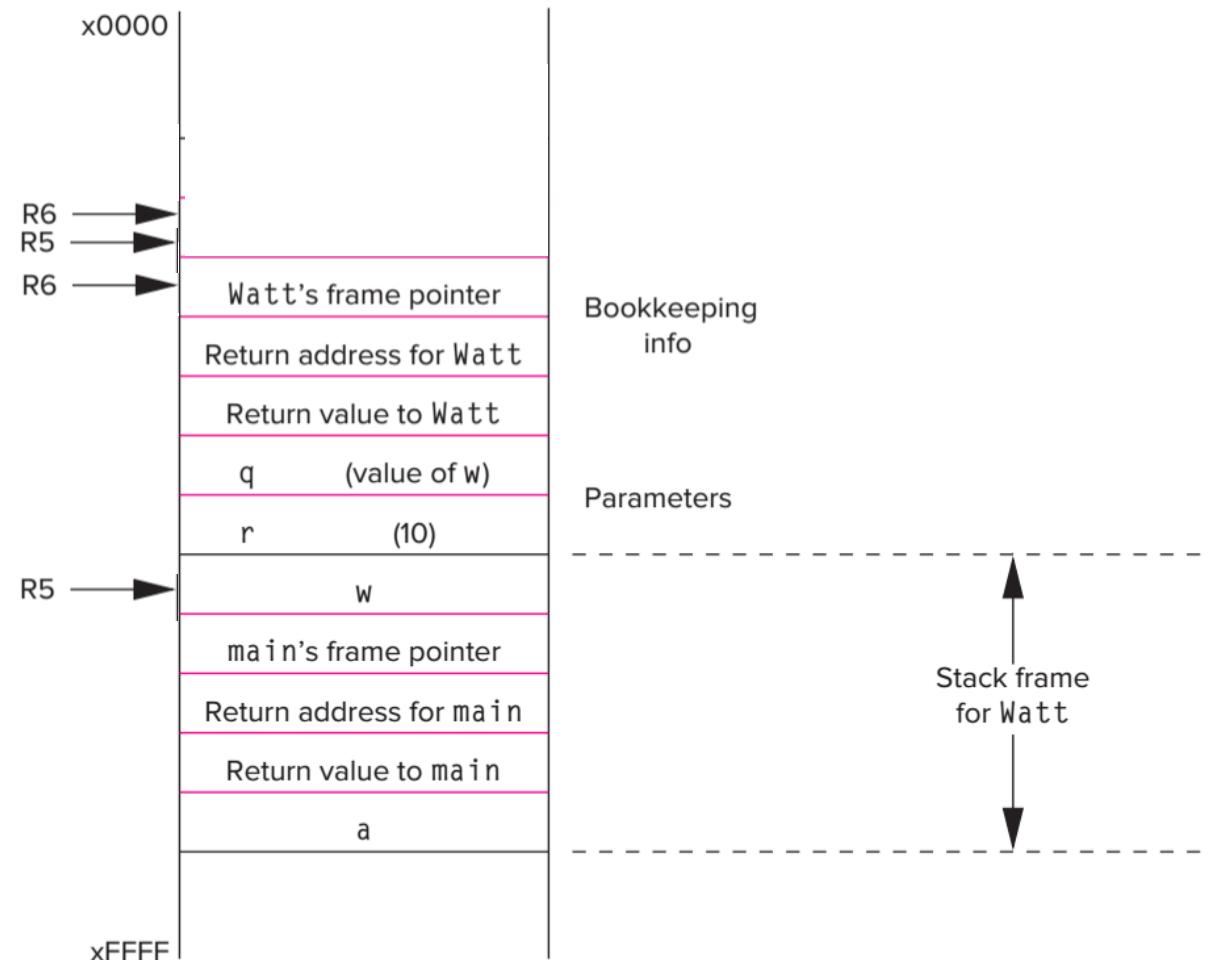
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(4) Decrease R6 and move the frame point (R5) to R6



Detailed Memory Operation – Start Callee

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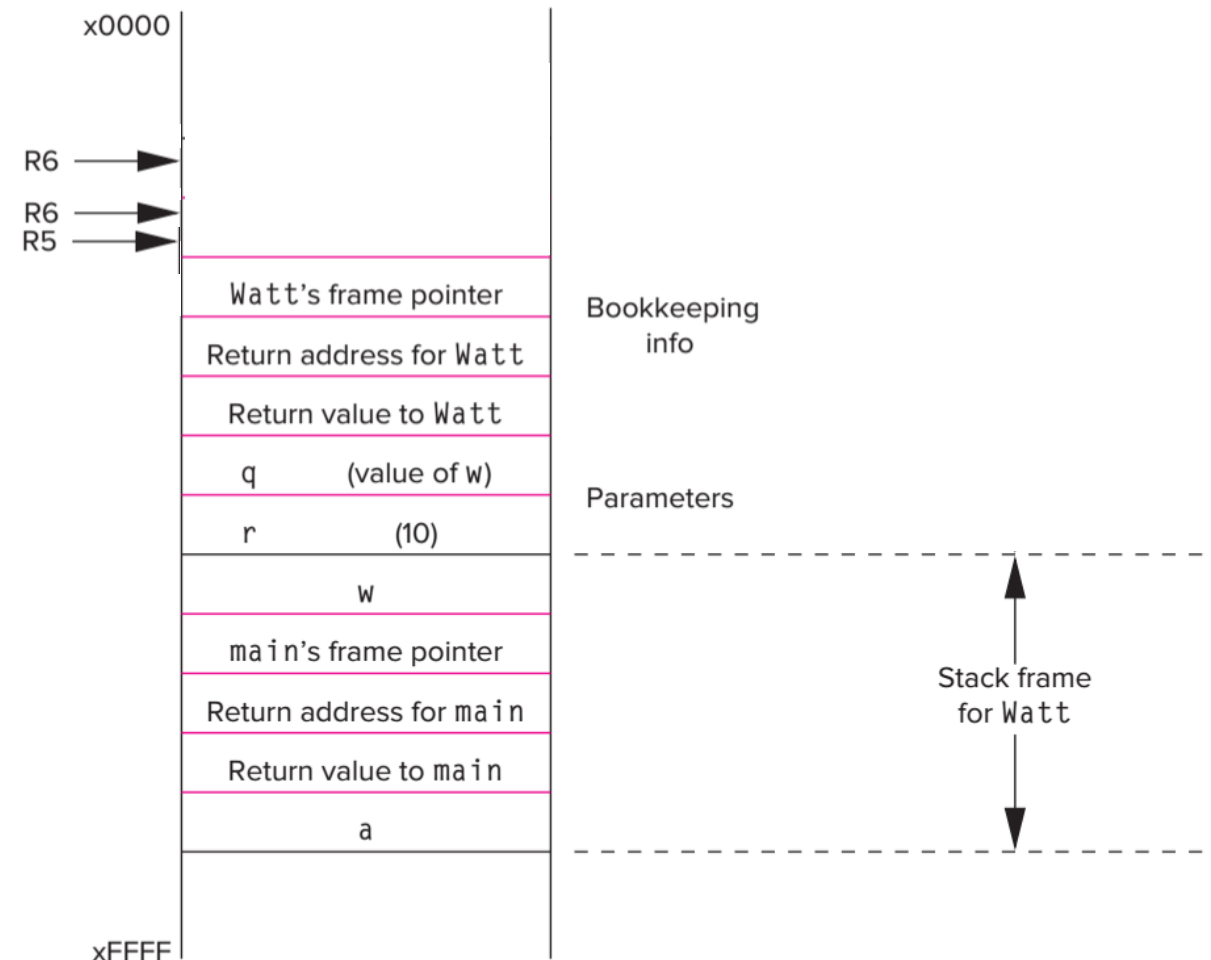
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(2) Reserve memory for the return value and store return address

(3) Decrease R6 and copy Watt's frame pointer in R5 to where R6 points at

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(5) Reserve memory for Volt's local variables



Detailed Memory Operation – Start Callee

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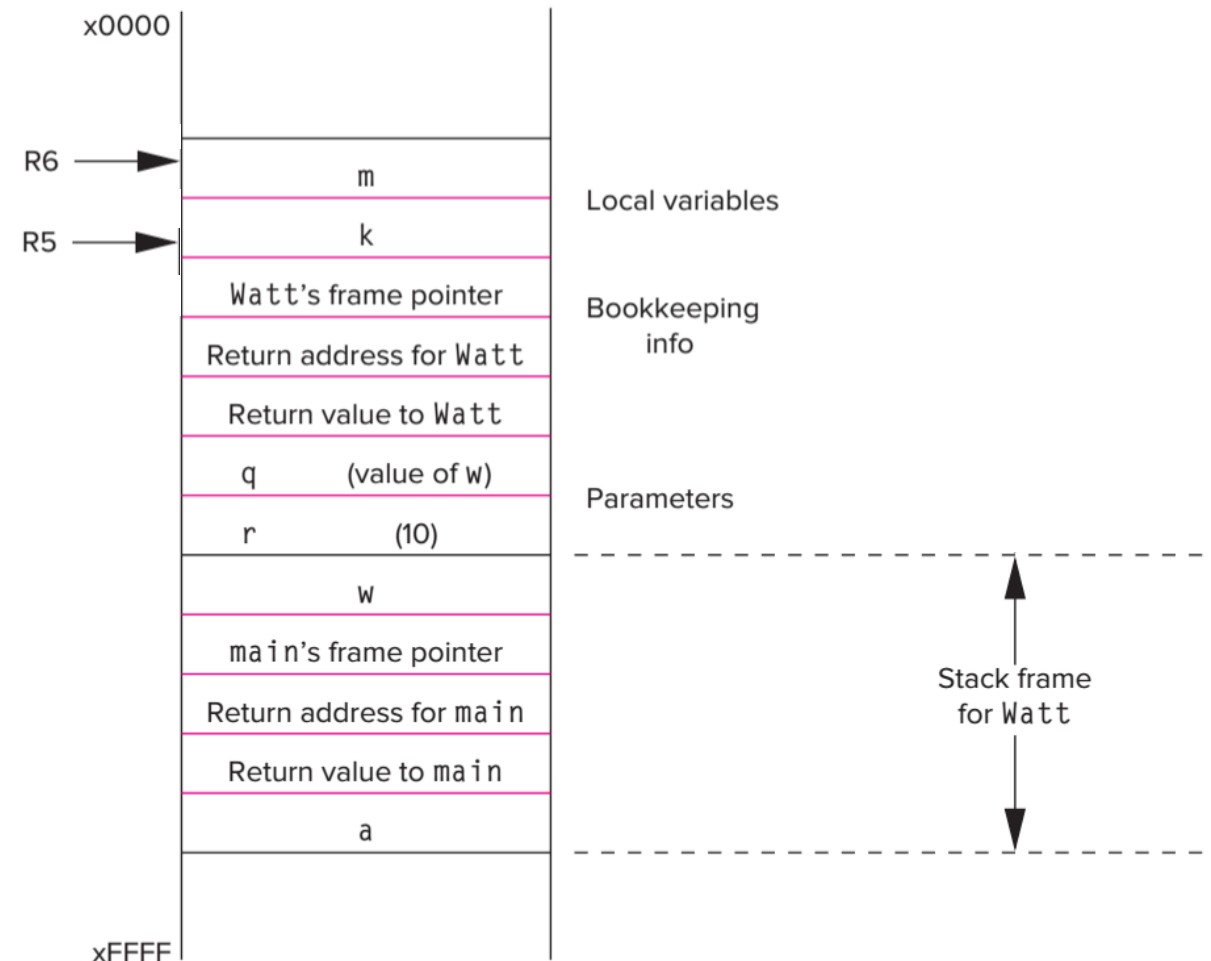
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(2) Reserve memory for the return value and store return address

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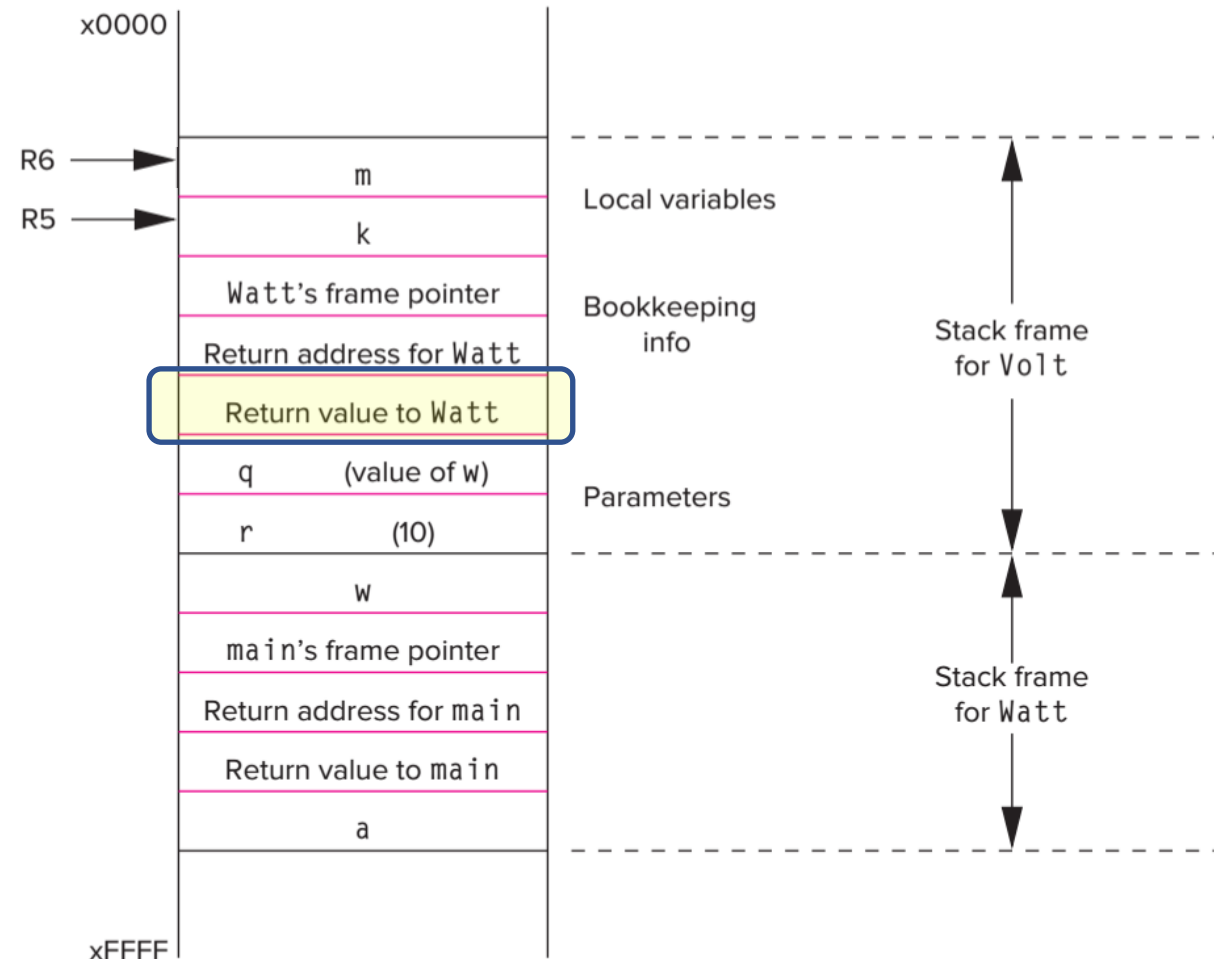
*Let's take a deeper look into
each stage of a function's lifetime*

- (1) Calling (Passing arguments to the function)*
- (2) Start Callee (Reserve stack for the function)*
- (3) End Callee (Return)***
- (4) Return to Caller*

Detailed Memory Operation – End Callee

```
• int main(void) {  
•   int a;  
•   int b;  
•   b = Watt(a);    // main calls Watt first  
•   b = Volt(a, b); // then calls Volt  
• }  
  
• int Watt(int a) {  
•   int w;  
•   w = Volt(w, 10); // Watt calls Volt  
•   return w;  
• }  
  
• int Volt(int q, int r) {  
•   int k;  
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• }
```

(1) Store the return value in R5+3

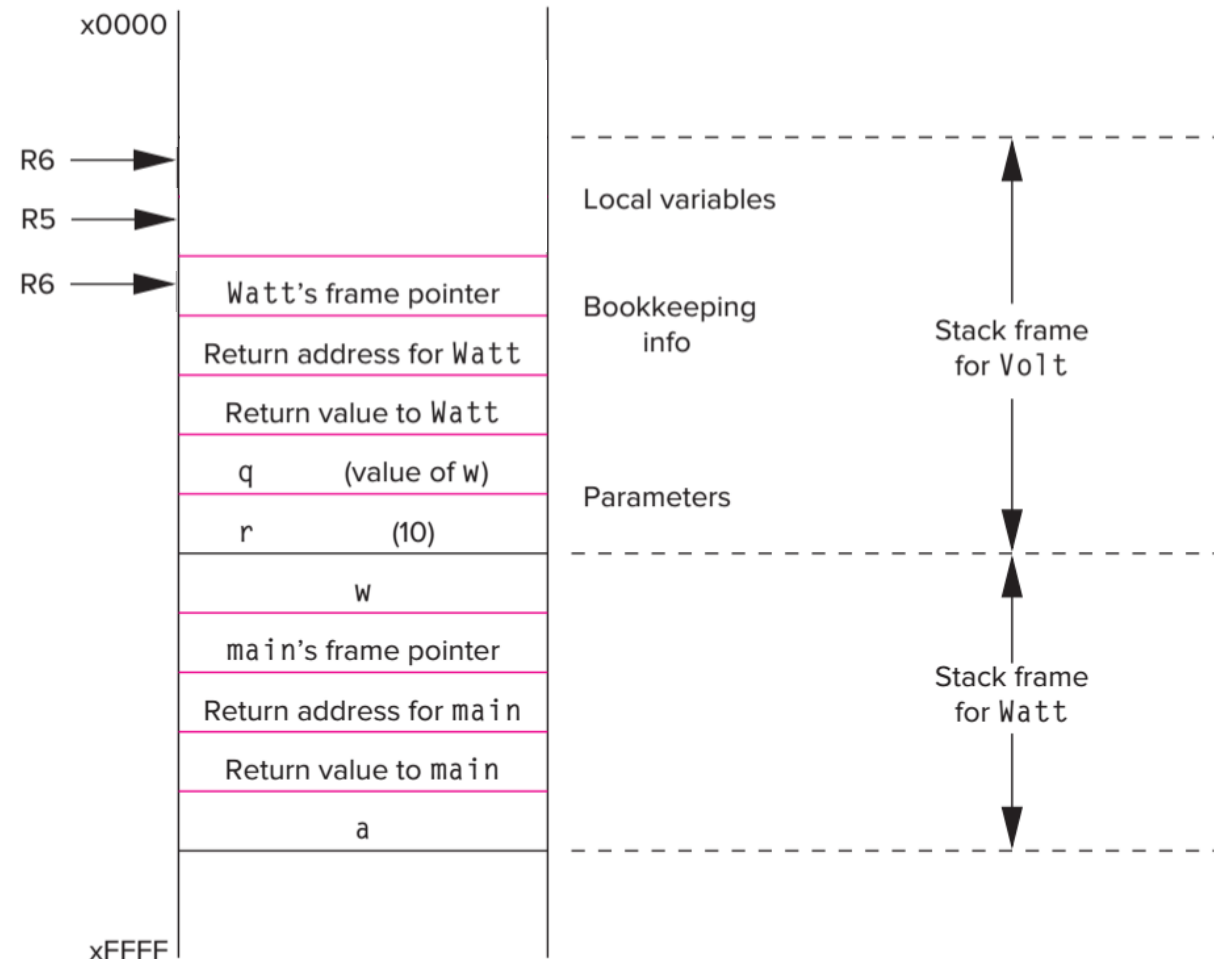


Detailed Memory Operation – End Callee

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• }  
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• int Volt(int q, int r) {  
•     int k;  
•     int m;  
•     return k;  
• }
```

(1) Store the return value in R5+3

(2) Pop the local variables
(increase R6 by 2)



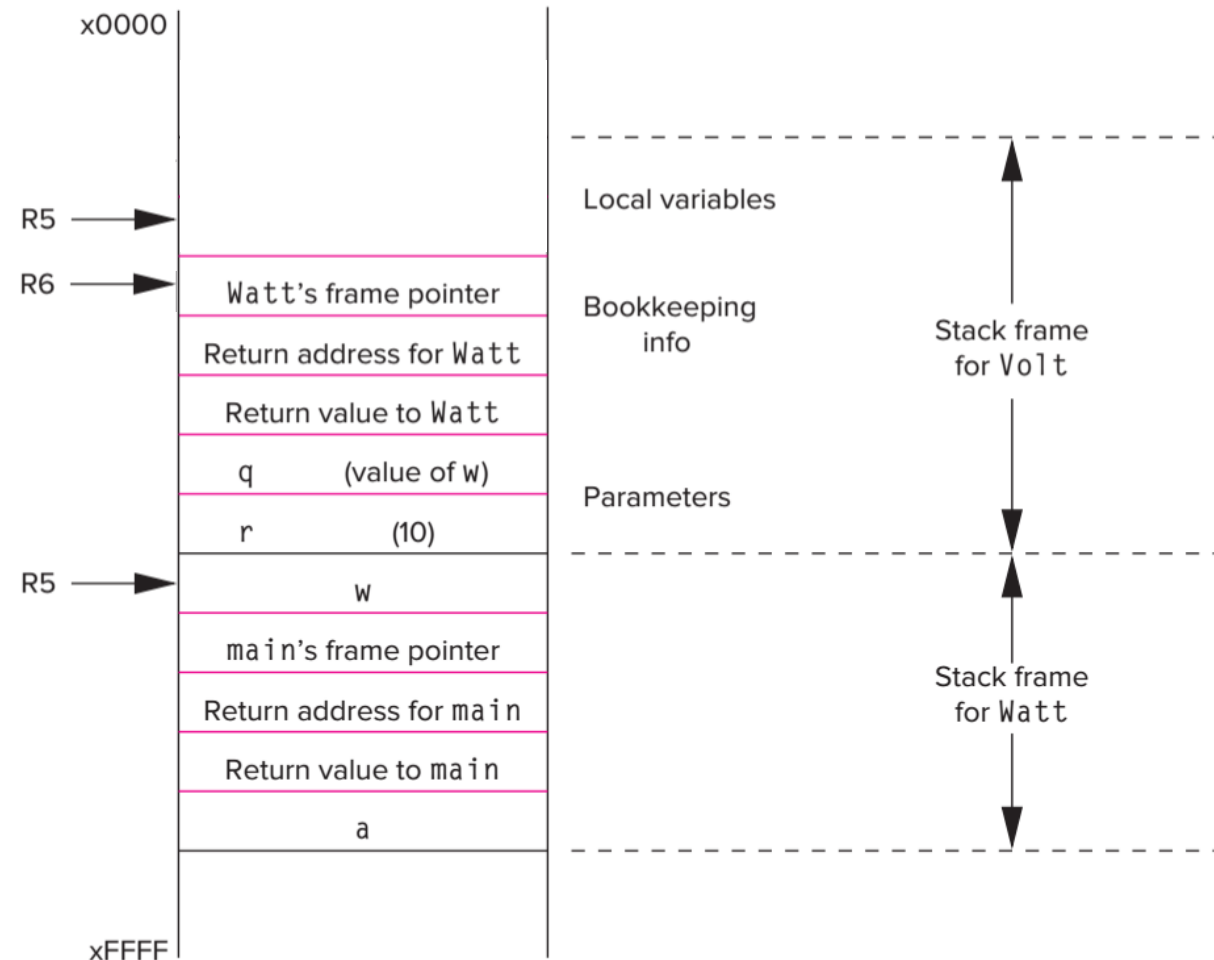
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• }  
•  
• int Volt(int q, int r) {  
•   int k;  
•   int m;  
•   return k;  
• }
```

(1) Store the return value in R5+3

(2) Pop the local variables
(increase R6 by 2)

(3) Restore Watt's frame pointer
(Push R6's value to R5) and pop



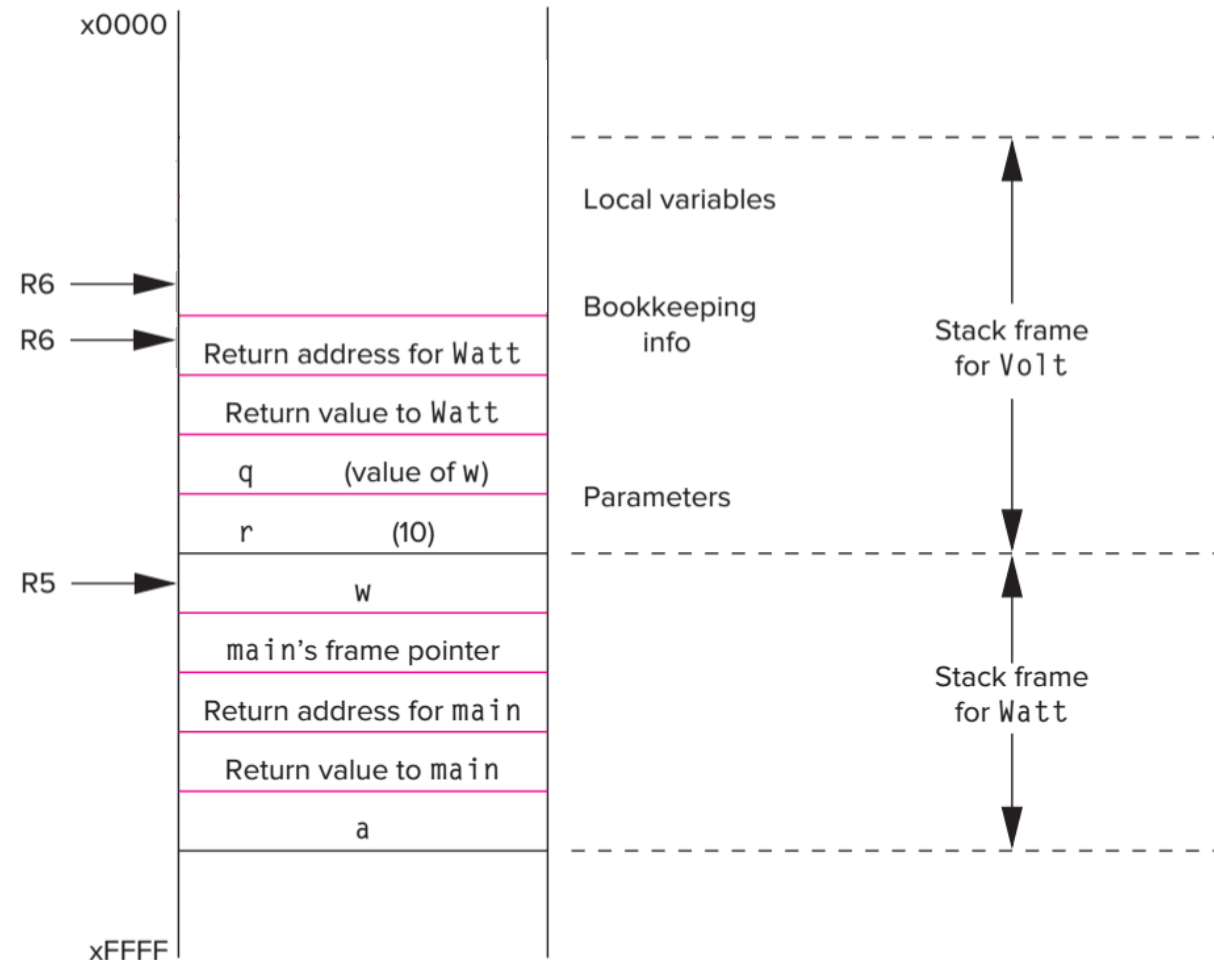
Detailed Memory Operation – End Callee

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(1) Store the return value in R5+3

(2) Pop the local variables
(increase R6 by 2)

(3) Restore Watt's frame pointer
(Push R6's value to R5) and pop



Detailed Memory Operation – End Callee

```
• int main(void) {  
•   int a;  
•   int b;  
•   b = Watt(a);    // main calls Watt first  
•   b = Volt(a, b); // then calls Volt  
• }
```

```
• int Watt(int a) {  
•   int w;  
•   w = Volt(w, 10); // Watt calls Volt  
•   return w;  
• }
```

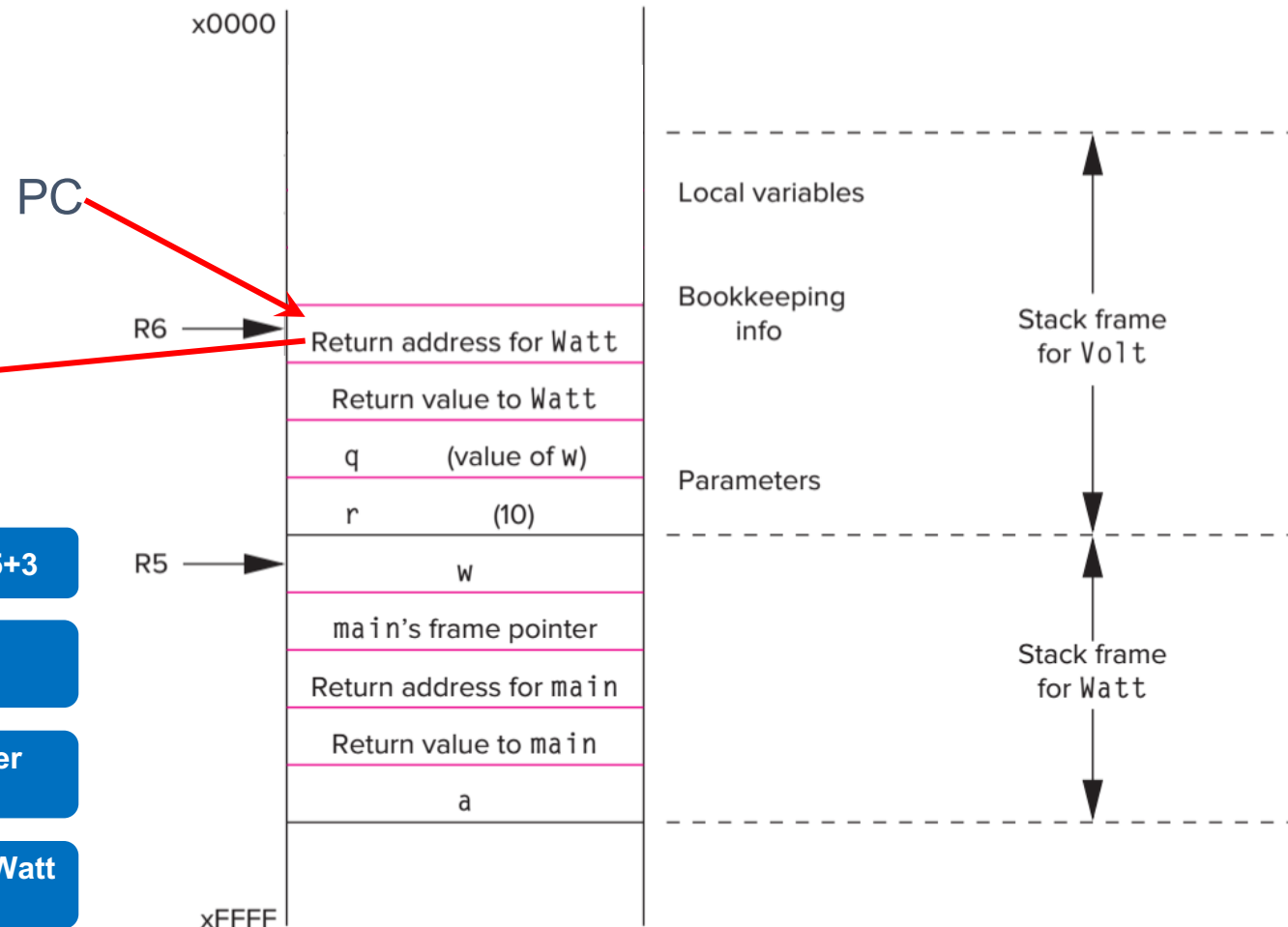
```
• int Volt(int q, int r) {  
•   int k;  
•   int m;  
•   return k;  
• }
```

(1) Store the return value in R5+3

(2) Pop the local variables
(increase R6 by 2)

(3) Restore Watt's frame pointer
(Push R6's value to R5)

(4) Transfer the control to Watt
(PC = Return value) and pop



Detailed Memory Operation – End Callee

```
• int main(void) {  
•   int a;  
•   int b;  
•   b = Watt(a);    // main calls Watt first  
•   b = Volt(a, b); // then calls Volt  
• }  
  
• int Watt(int a) {  
•   int w;  
•   w = Volt(w, 10); // Watt calls Volt  
•   return w;  
• }  
  
• int Volt(int q, int r) {  
•   int k;  
•   int m;  
•   return k;  
• }
```

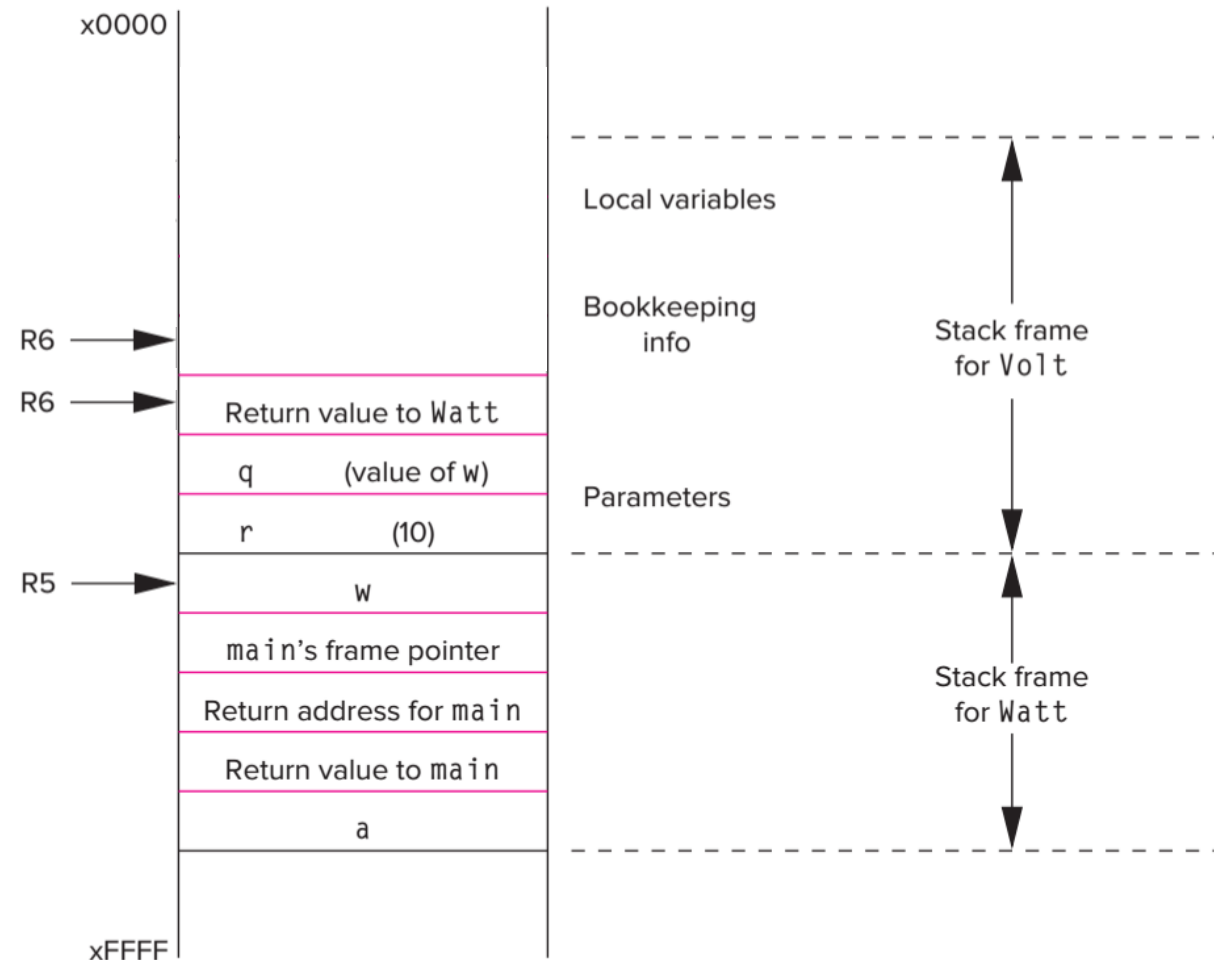
PC

(1) Store the return value in R5+3

(2) Pop the local variables
(increase R6 by 2)

(3) Restore Watt's frame pointer
(Push R6's value to R5)

(4) Transfer the control to Watt
(PC = Return value) and pop



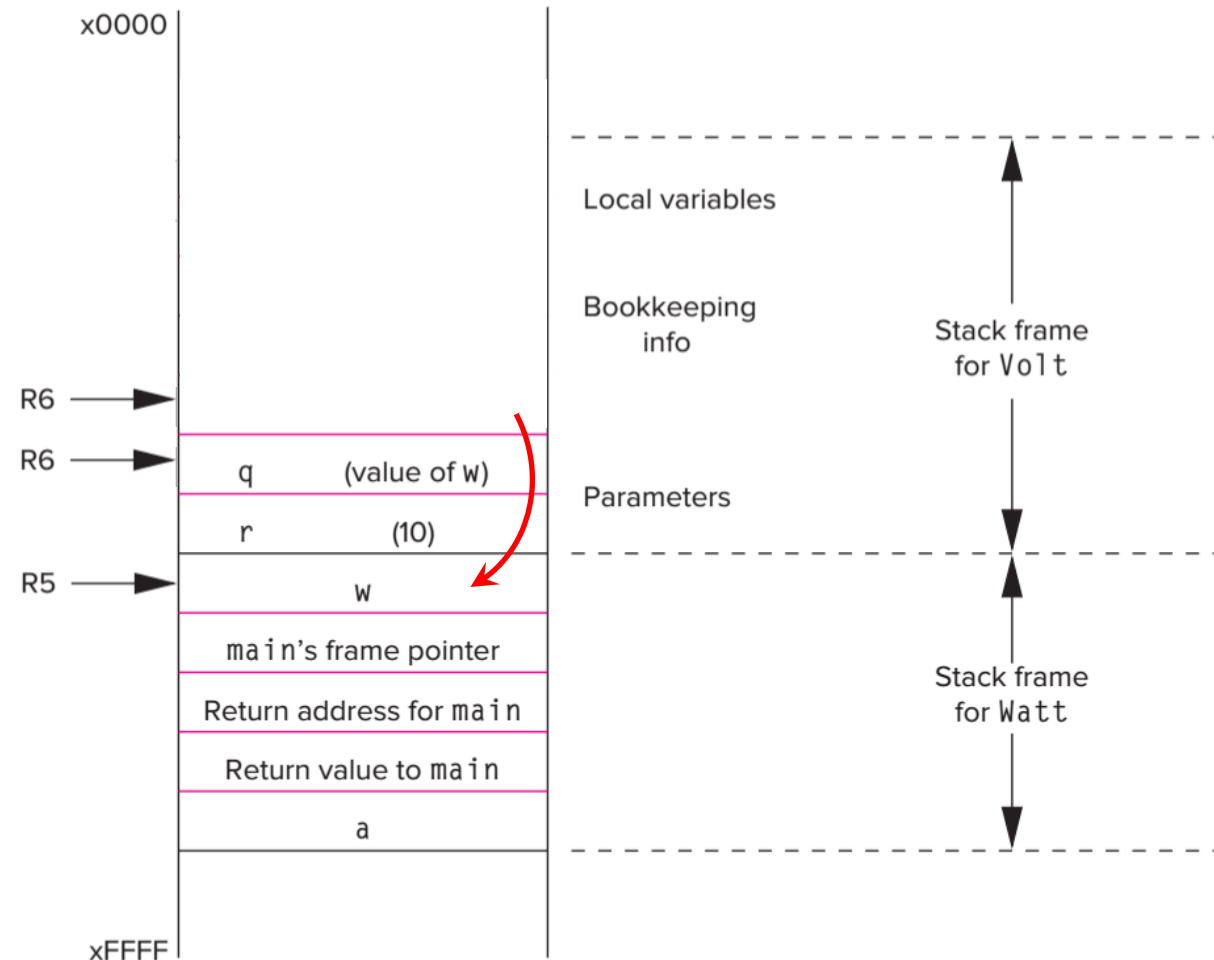
*Let's take a deeper look into
each stage of a function's lifetime*

- (1) Calling (Passing arguments to the function)*
- (2) Start Callee (Reserve stack for the function)*
- (3) End Callee (Return)*
- (4) Return to Caller**

Detailed Memory Operation – Return to Caller

```
• int main(void) {  
•   int a;  
•   int b;  
•   b = Watt(a);    // main calls Watt first  
•   b = Volt(a, b); // then calls Volt  
• }  
  
• int Watt(int a) {  
•   int w;  
•   w = Volt(w, 10); // Watt calls Volt  
•   return w;  
• }  
  
• int Volt(int q, int r) {  
•   int k;  
•   int m;  
•   return k;  
• }
```

(1) Load the return value (R6) to w and pop

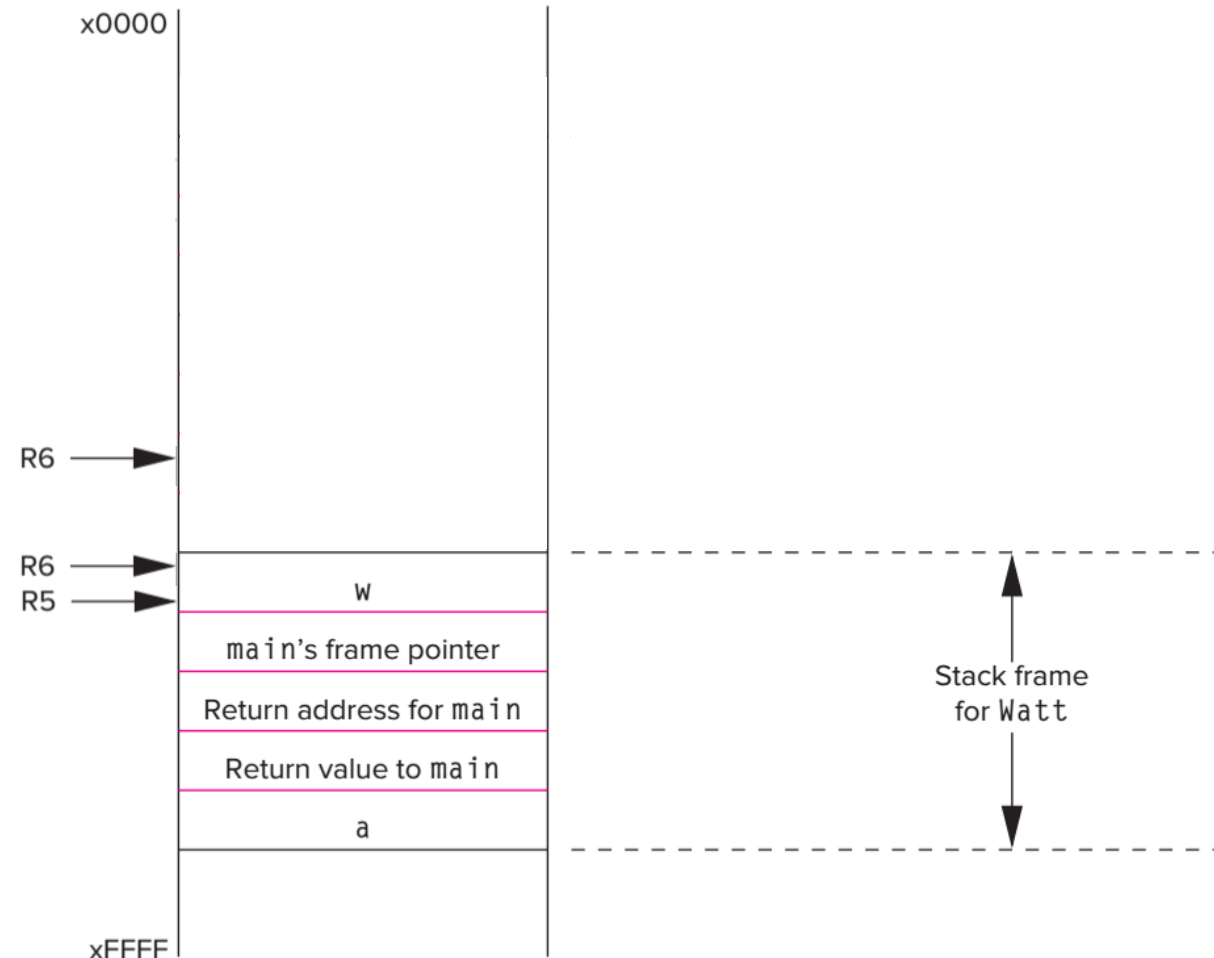


Detailed Memory Operation – Return to Caller

```
• int main(void) {  
•   int a;  
•   int b;  
•   b = Watt(a);    // main calls Watt first  
•   b = Volt(a, b); // then calls Volt  
• }  
  
•  
• int Watt(int a) {  
•   int w;  
•   w = Volt(w, 10); // Watt calls Volt  
•   return w;  
• }  
  
•  
• int Volt(int q, int r) {  
•   int k;  
•   int m;  
•   return k;  
• }
```

(1) Load the return value (R6) to w and pop

(2) Pop the arguments



Summary

- Compared to Python, a few more things need to be considered to play with functions in C
 - You need to write **data types** of its parameters and return value explicitly in the function header
 - You can **declare** a function using its prototype before its full definition
- C uses **stack** to manage memory operation of a function call
 - We have seen why using stack (LIFO data structure) makes sense
 - We have seen how all the information is pushed and popped correctly using only the two pointers (stack pointer and frame pointer)

Functions in C – Examples

Lecture 28-4

Hyung-Sin Kim



SNU Graduate School of Data Science

Problem

- Given two integers a, b **recursively** find its greatest common divisor (GCD)
- Ex)
 - Input: $a = 10, b = 45$
 - Output: 5

 - Input: $a = 128, b = 96$
 - Output: 32

Thanks!