

# Lecture 08

# Procedures

CS213 – Intro to Computer Systems  
Branden Gena – Winter 2024

Slides adapted from:

St-Amour, Hardavellas, Bustamente (Northwestern), Bryant, O'Hallaron (CMU), Garcia, Weaver (UC Berkeley)

# Administrivia

- Homework 2 due today
  - Good practice for the exam
  - With slip days, not sure when I can post solutions 😞
- Midterm Exam 1: Thursday, during class time in class room
  - I have already contacted you if you're at a different time
  - Covers material including last week Thursday (Control Flow in Assembly)
    - Not today's material
  - 80 minutes to complete (starts at 2:00pm sharp)
    - Bring a pencil!
    - Bring one 8.5x11 inch sheet of paper with notes on front and back

# Today's Goals

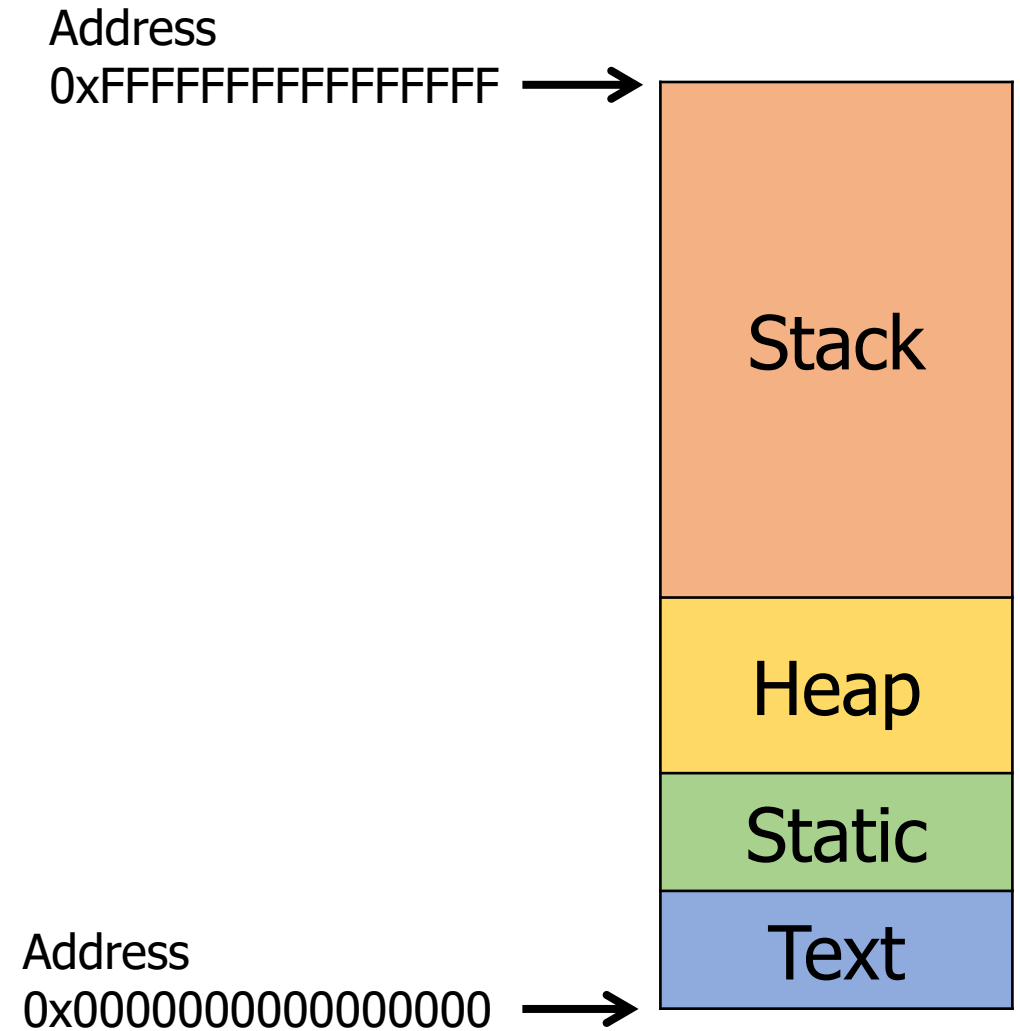
- Describe C memory layout
- Explore functions in assembly
  - How do we call them and return from them?
  - How do we create local variables?
- Understand how we manage register use between functions

# Outline

- **C Code Layout**
- x86-64 Calling Convention
- Managing Local Data
- Register Saving
  - Recursion Example

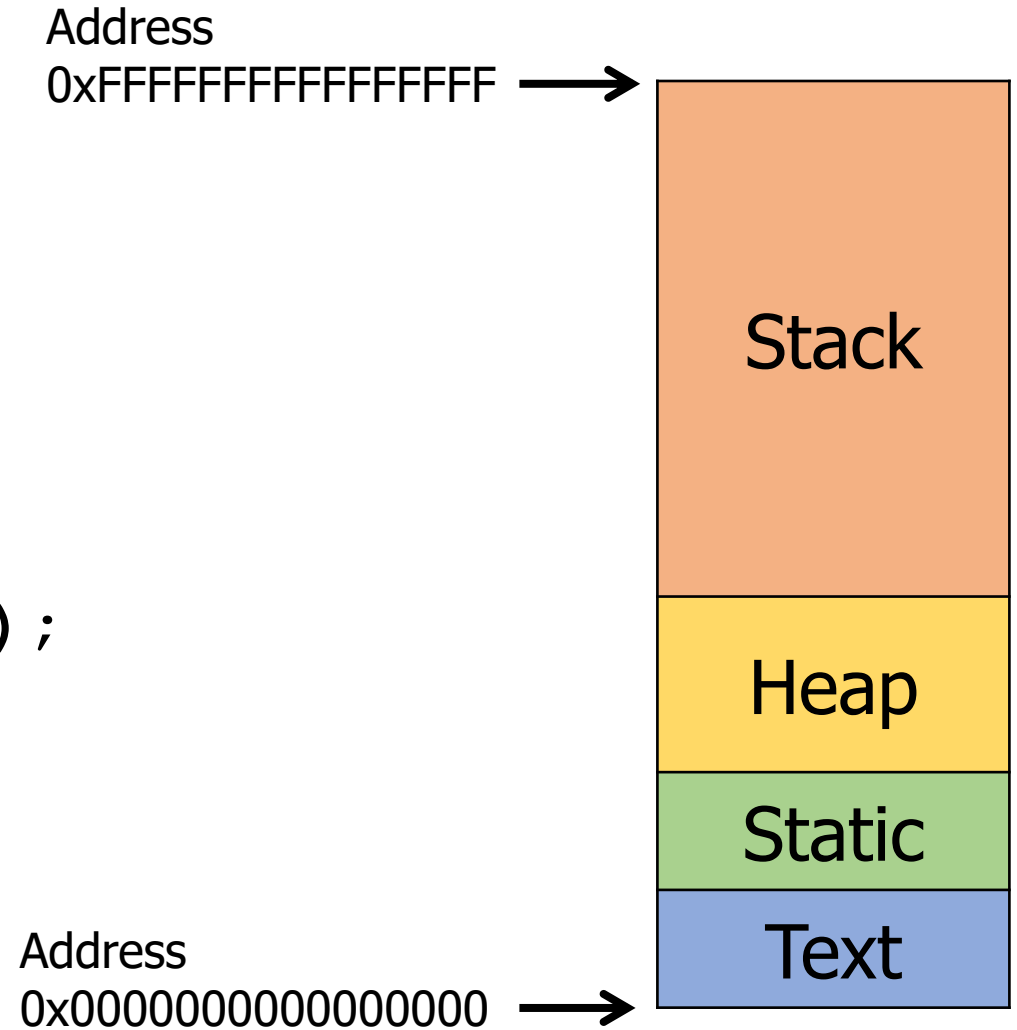
# C memory layout

- Stack Section
  - Local variables
  - Function arguments
- Heap Section
  - Memory granted through `malloc()`
- Static Section (a.k.a. Data Section)
  - Global variables
  - Static function variables
- Text Section (a.k.a Code Section)
  - Program code



# C memory layout

```
char glob_str[80] = {0};  
void func(short b, int* f) {  
    static int c = 3;  
  
    char* d = "Test";  
    int* e = malloc(sizeof(int));  
  
    printf("Hello CS213\n");  
}
```



# C memory layout

```
char glob_str[80] = {0};
```

```
void func(short b, int* f) {
```

```
    static int c = 3;
```

```
    char* d = "Test";
```

```
    int* e = malloc(sizeof(int));
```

```
    printf("Hello CS213\n");
```

```
}
```

Address

0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF →

Stack

Heap

Static

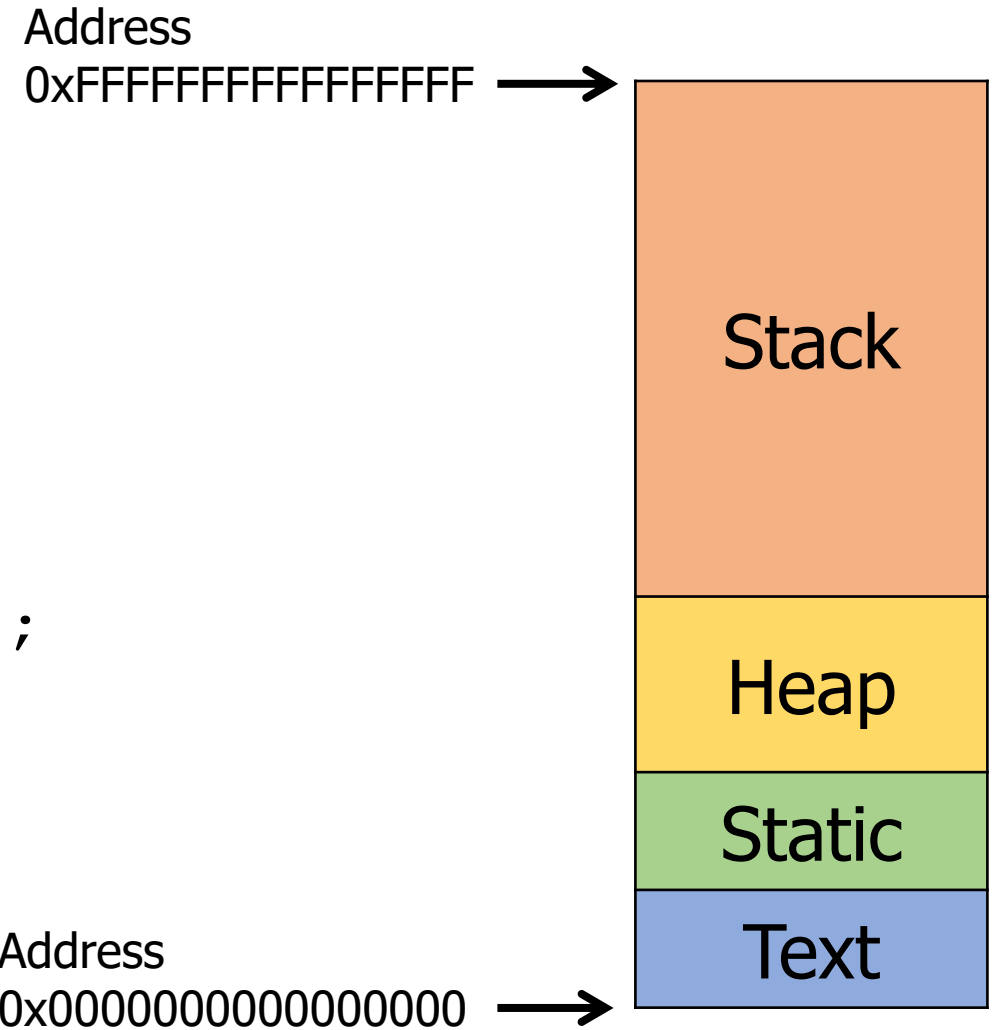
Text

Address

0x0000000000000000 →

# C memory layout

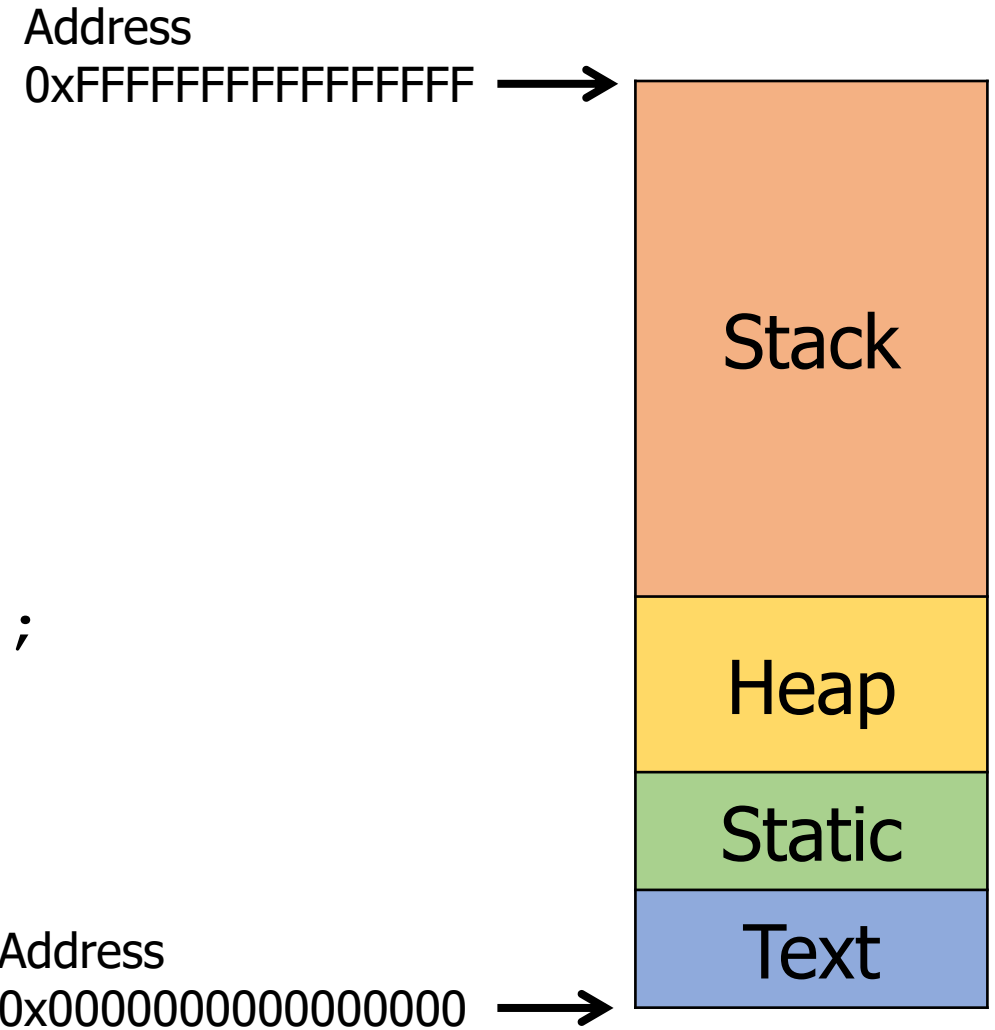
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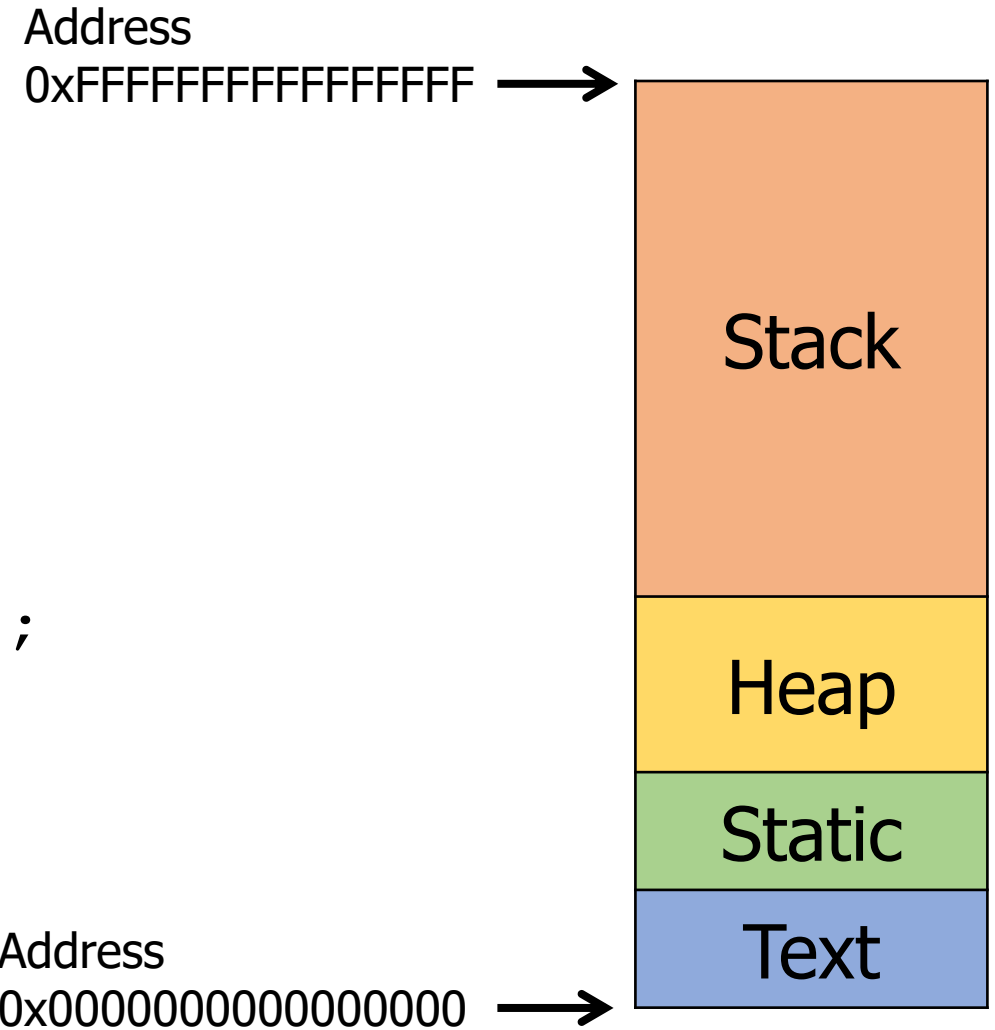
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Stack

Heap

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Text

Address

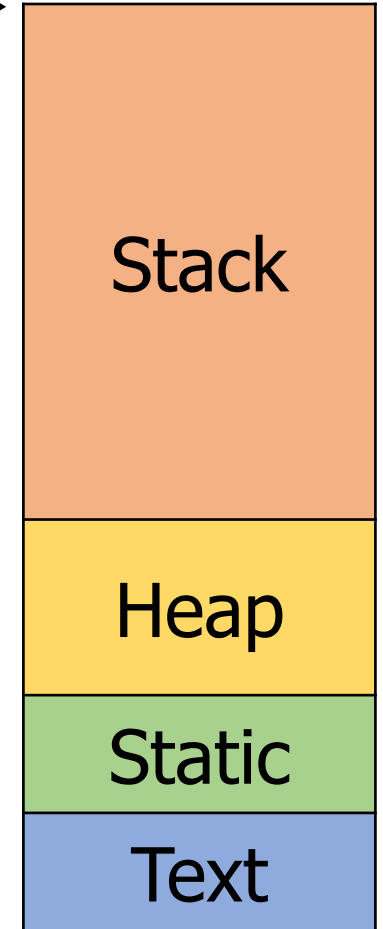
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Address

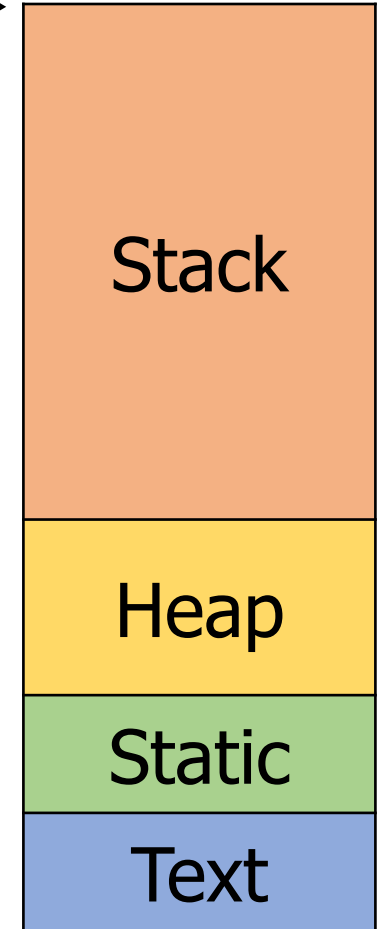
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Address

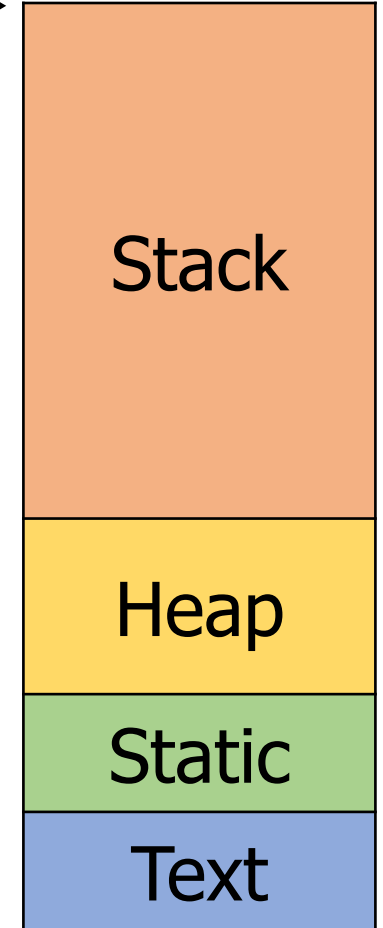
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Address

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Address

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```

Address

0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF →

Stack

Heap

Static

Text

Address

0x0000000000000000 →

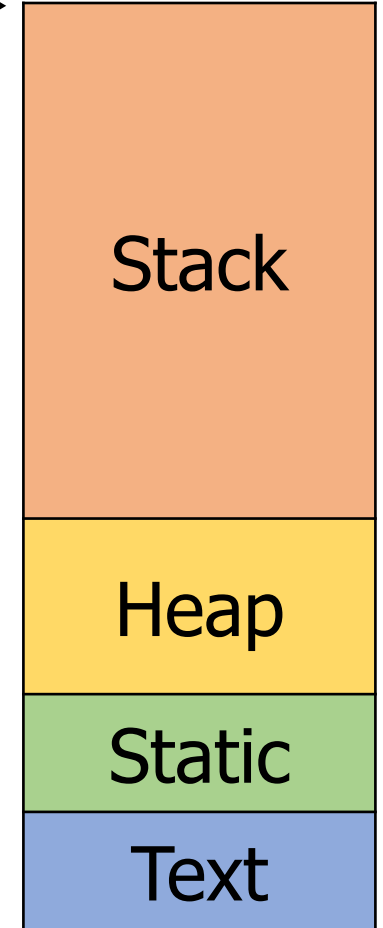
# C memory layout

```
char glob_str[80] = {0};
```

```
void func(short b, int* f) {  
    static int c = 3;  
  
    char* d = "Test";  
    int* e = malloc(sizeof(int));  
  
    printf("Hello CS213\n");  
}
```

Address

0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF →



Address

0x0000000000000000 →

Assembly code goes in the Text section



# Interacting with data sections in assembly

- Stack
  - Stack pointer is saved in `%rsp` and can be moved as needed
  - We'll discuss this today
- Heap
  - C library (malloc) handles this above the machine level
  - i.e. from the machine point of view, there is no heap
- Static
  - Arbitrary pointers to memory can be created and used
    - With memory addressing instructions
  - Assembly directive can place values into Static section
- Text
  - Assembly code is placed here automatically
  - Labels are just addresses within the Text section

# Break + Open Question

- Which sections are absolutely required, and which aren't?
- Text
- Static
- Heap
- Stack

# Break + Open Question

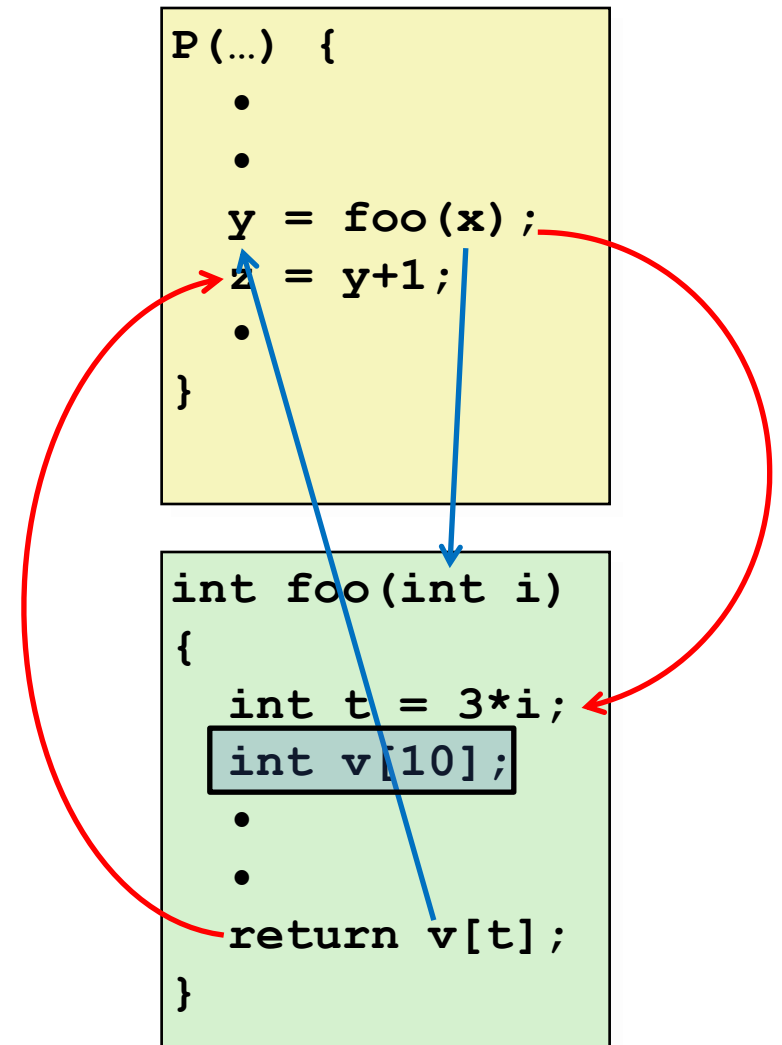
- Which sections are absolutely required, and which aren't?
- Text: necessary since it holds the code
- Static: only necessary if you use globals or strings
- Heap: only necessary if you heap-allocate  
(with malloc or automatically in other languages)
- Stack: necessary if you use variables or call functions  
(so probably always necessary unless you write in assembly)

# Outline

- C Code Layout
- **x86-64 Calling Convention**
- Managing Local Data
- Register Saving
  - Recursion Example

# Mechanisms in Procedures

- Passing control
  - To beginning of procedure code
  - Back to return point
- Passing data
  - Procedure arguments
  - Return value
- Local memory management
  - Allocate during procedure execution
  - Deallocate upon return
- No one instruction does all that
  - Need instructions for each
- The stack is the key to all 3 of these!



# Procedure control flow

- Use stack to support procedure call and return!

- Procedure call

`callq label`      Push return address on stack; jump to *label*

- Procedure return

`retq`      Pop address from stack; jump there  
(stack should be as it was when the call began)

- Return value is in `%rax`

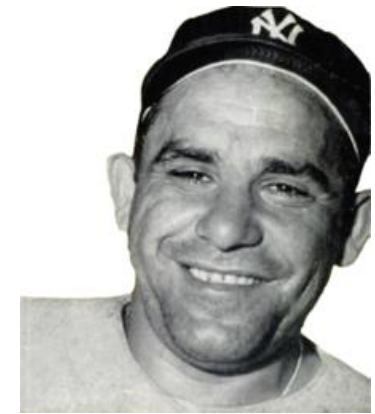
- Return address value

- Address of instruction immediately following `callq`
- Example from disassembly

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

Return address: `0x400549`

Just `call` and `ret` are fine,  
the `q` is assumed (there is no other option)



If you don't know where  
you're going, you may  
not get there.

— Yogi Berra

# Code Examples

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

```
0000000000400540 <multstore>:  
... (we'll fill the start in soon)  
400541: movq    %rdx,%rbx        # Save dest  
400544: callq   400550 <mult2>     # mult2(x,y)  
400549: movq    %rax,(%rbx)       # Store at address dest  
... (we'll fill the end in soon too)  
40054d: retq                    # Return
```

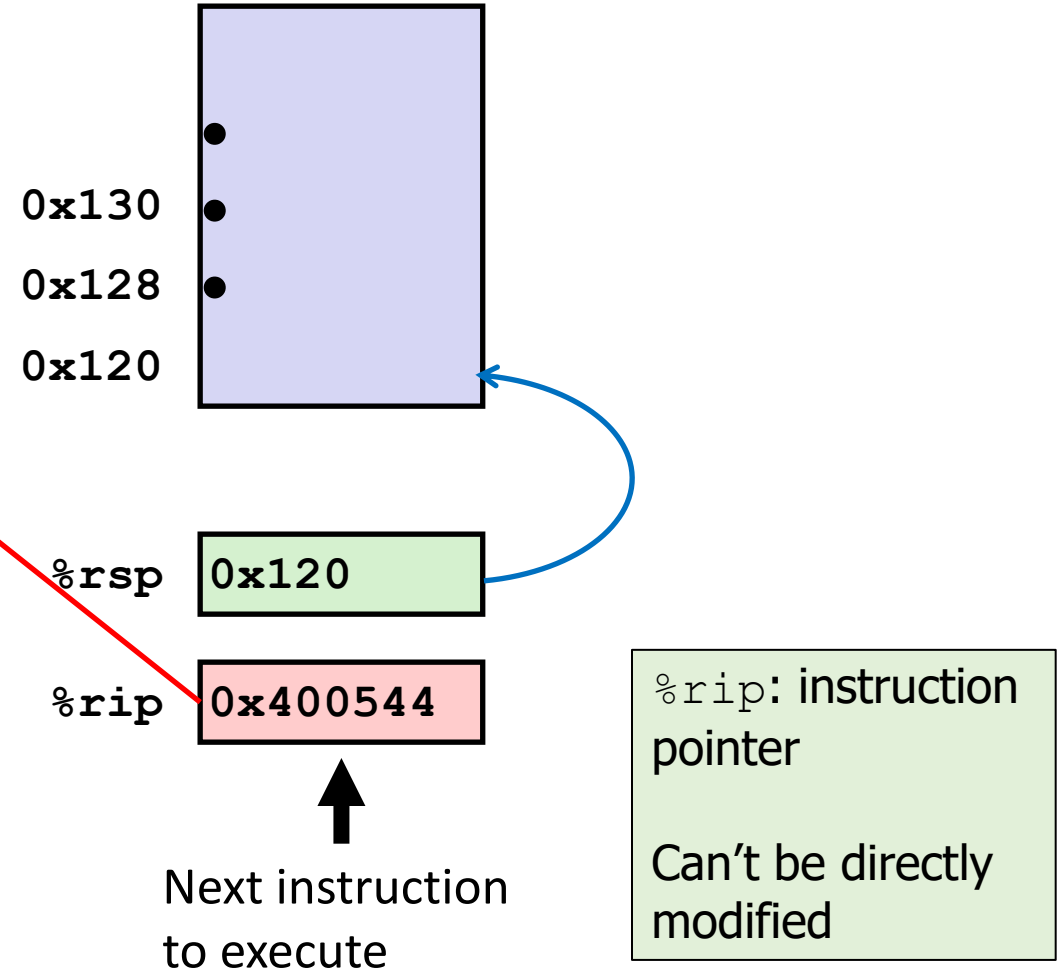
```
long mult2 (long a, long b){  
    long s = a * b;  
    return s;  
}
```

```
0000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq    %rdi,%rax        # a  
400553: imulq  %rsi,%rax        # a * b  
400557: retq                    # Return
```

# Control Flow Example about to execute `callq`

```
0000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: callq 400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

```
0000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq %rdi, %rax  
.  
.  
400557: retq
```



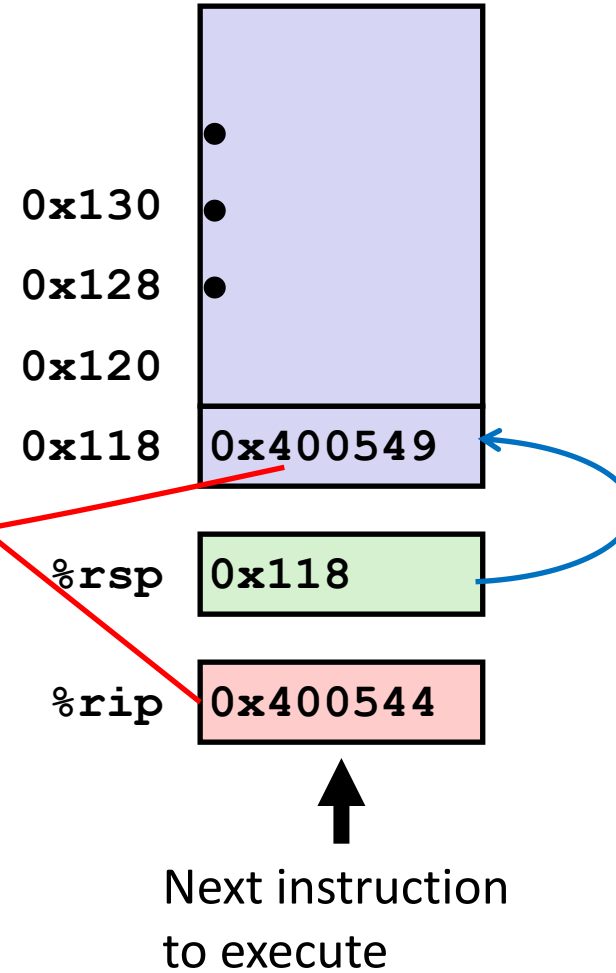


# Control Flow Example

callq step 1

```
0000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: callq 400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

```
0000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq %rdi, %rax  
.  
.  
400557: retq
```

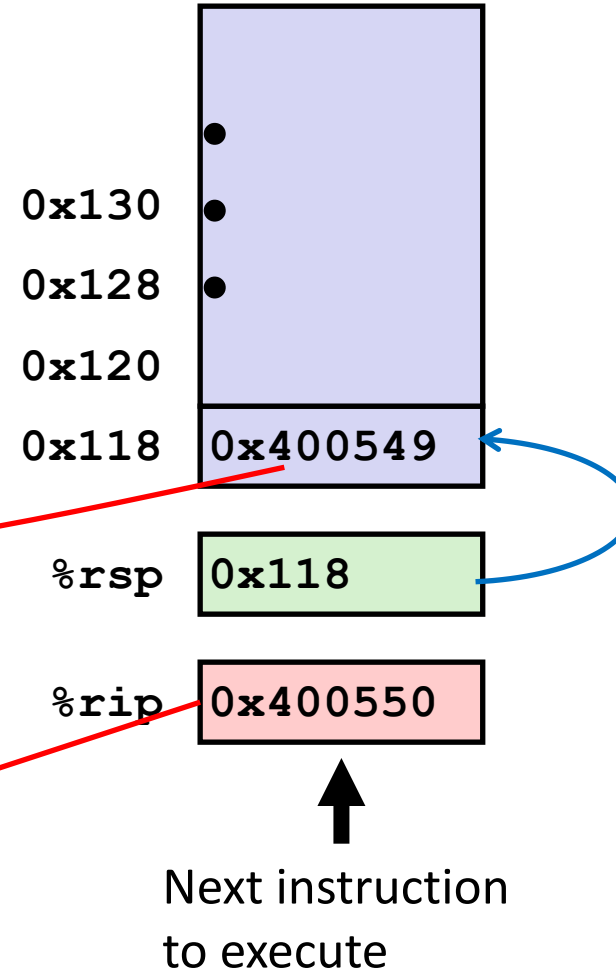


# Control Flow Example

callq step 2

```
0000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: callq 400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

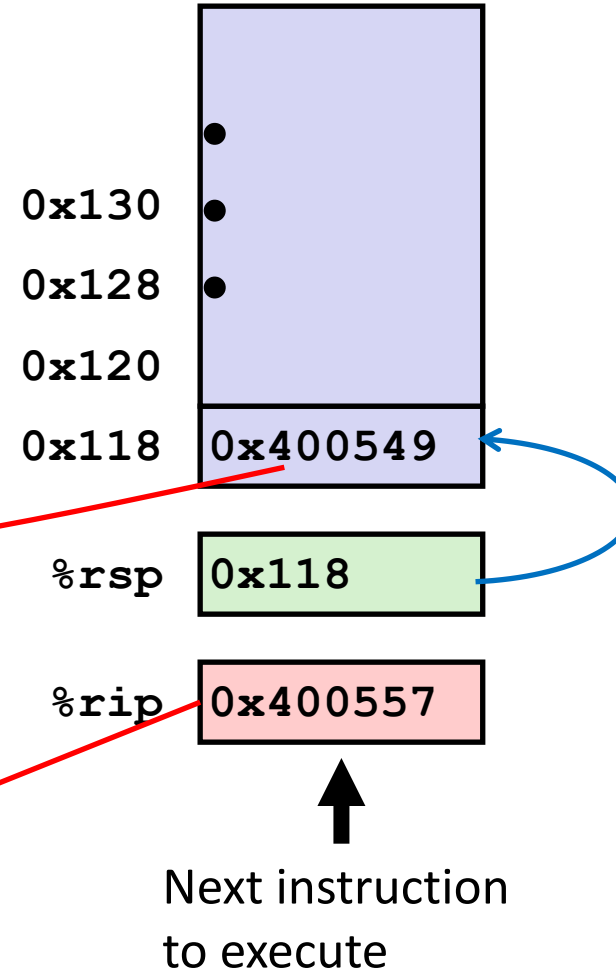
```
0000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq %rdi, %rax  
.  
.  
400557: retq
```



# Control Flow Example about to execute `retq`

```
0000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: callq 400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

```
0000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq %rdi, %rax  
.  
.  
400557: retq
```



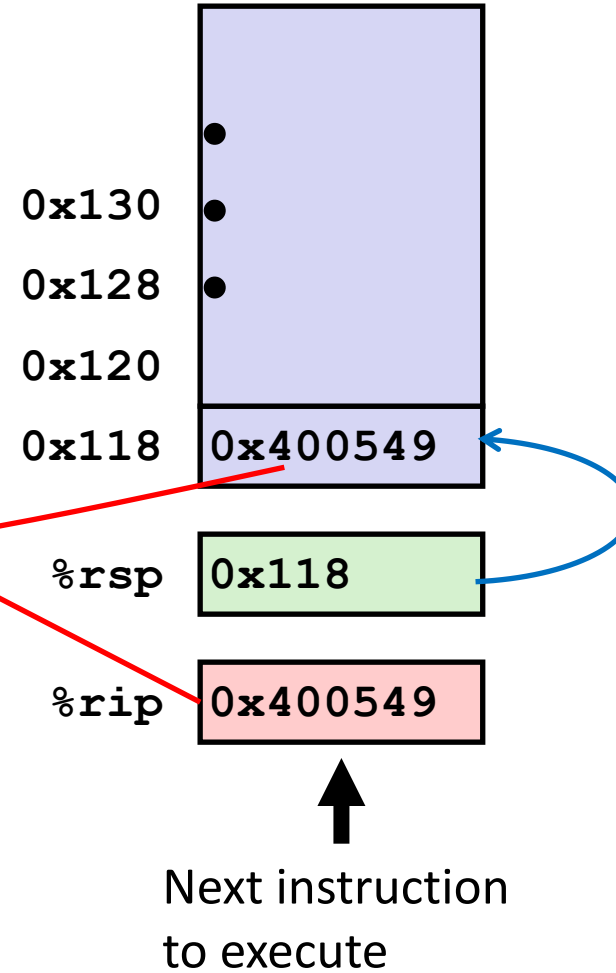
**QUIZ:** What is the address of the instruction we execute after `retq`?

# Control Flow Example

retq step 1

```
0000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: callq 400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

```
0000000000400550 <mult2>:  
400550: movq %rdi, %rax  
.  
.  
400557: retq
```

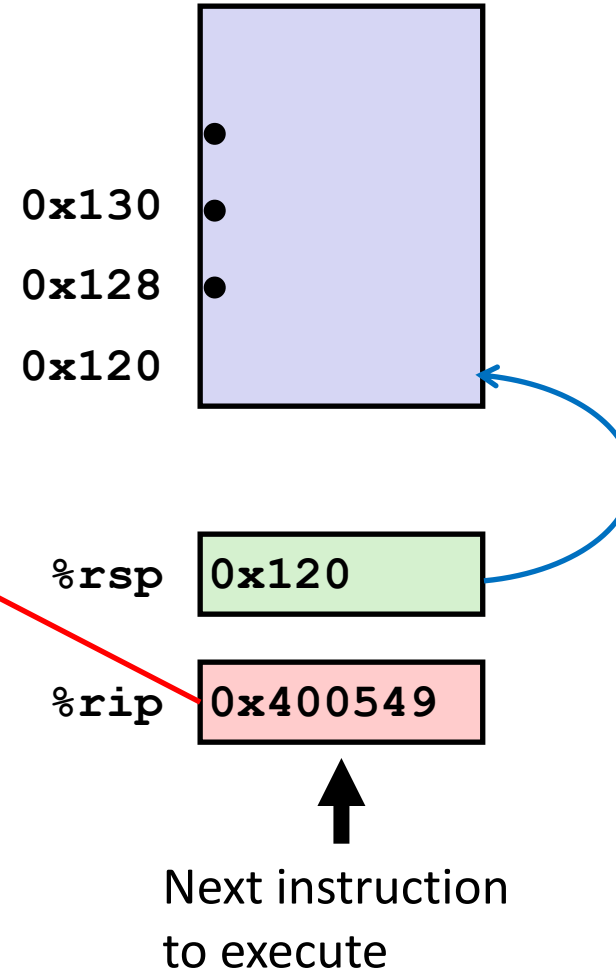


# Control Flow Example

retq step 2

```
0000000000400540 <multstore>:  
.  
.  
400544: callq 400550 <mult2>  
400549: movq %rax, (%rbx)  
.  
.
```

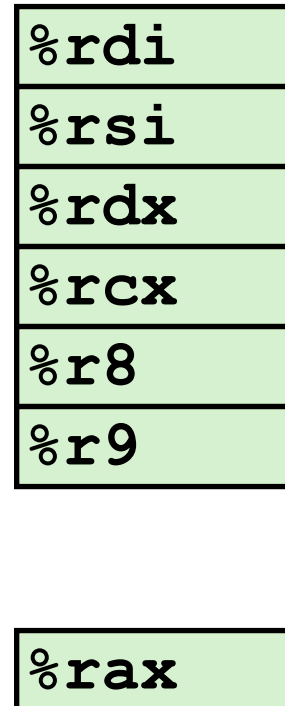
```
0000000000400550 <mult2>:  
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.  
.  
400557: retq
```



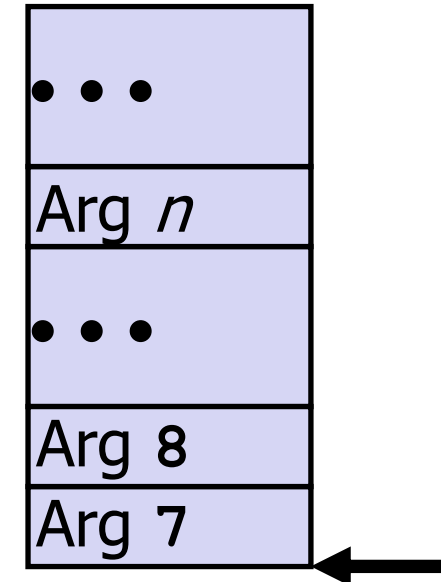
# Function data flow

- First 6 arguments are in registers
  - `%rdi` is first argument
- Next `n` arguments are on the stack
  - This means more arguments is slower
- Return value is in `%rax`

## Registers



## Stack



top

(Only allocate stack space when needed)

# Data Flow Examples

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

```
0000000000400540 <multstore>:
→ # x in %rdi, y in %rsi, dest in %rdx
  ● ● ●
400541: movq    %rdx,%rbx        # Save dest
400544: callq   400550 <mult2>     # mult2(x,y)
→ # t in %rax
400549: movq    %rax,(%rbx)       # *dest = t
  ● ● ●
```

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

```
0000000000400550 <mult2>:
  # a in %rdi, b in %rsi ←
400550: movq    %rdi,%rax        # a
400553: imulq   %rsi,%rax       # a * b
  # s in %rax ←
400557: retq                               # Return
```

# Break + Open Question

- How did we decide how many registers to use for arguments and return values?

<code>%rdi</code>
<code>%rsi</code>
<code>%rdx</code>
<code>%rcx</code>
<code>%r8</code>
<code>%r9</code>

- Do all functions have to use this same convention?

<code>%rax</code>
-------------------



# Break + Open Question

- How did we decide how many registers to use for arguments and return values?
  - Testing lots of real-world programs
  - Many style guides suggest you use four or less arguments
  - x86 (32-bit) only had four arguments
    - x86-64 added two more
  - C only has one return result, so one register is fine
- Do all functions have to use this same convention?
  - All functions within a program must, or they won't work
  - Different programs, or different OSes, could choose different

<code>%rdi</code>
<code>%rsi</code>
<code>%rdx</code>
<code>%rcx</code>
<code>%r8</code>
<code>%r9</code>

<code>%rax</code>
-------------------

# Outline

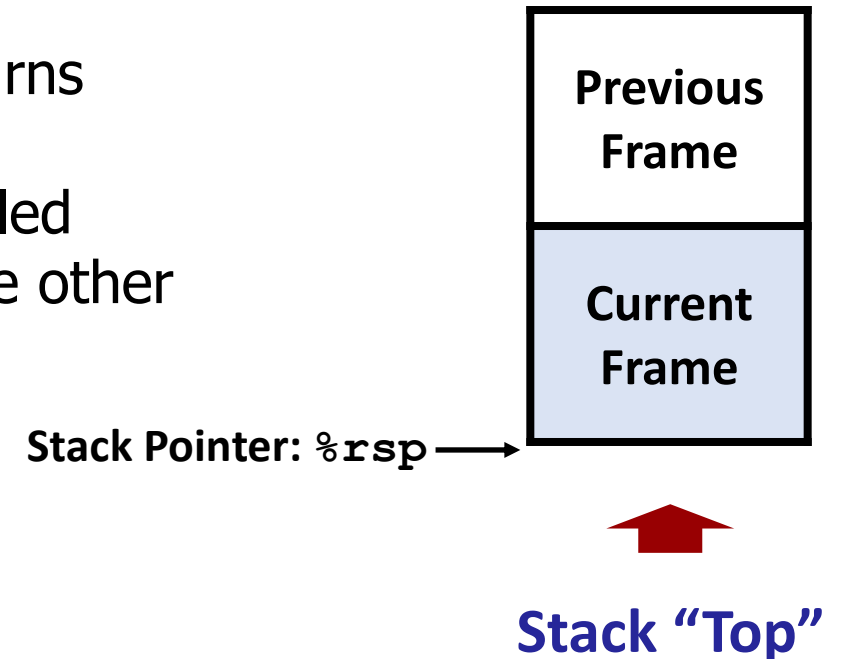
- C Code Layout
- x86-64 Calling Convention
- **Managing Local Data**
- Register Saving
  - Recursion Example

# Call-Local State

- Need some place to store state for each call
  - Return address
  - Arguments
  - Local variables
  - Temporary space (if needed)
- Note: these are separate for each call, not each function
  - Function could be called recursively, but each call needs its own local variables
- State only needs to exist until the function returns

# Using the Stack for Call-Local State

- Place local state on the stack
- Stack discipline
  - That state is only needed for limited time
    - Starts when function is called; ends when it returns
  - ***Callee*** returns before ***caller*** does
    - ***Callee***: for a specific call, the function being called
    - ***Caller***: for a specific call, the function calling the other
- Stack allocated in **Frames**
  - Frame = State for a single procedure invocation
  - Allocated by “setup” code at the start of function
  - Deallocated by “teardown” code before returning



# Call Chain Example

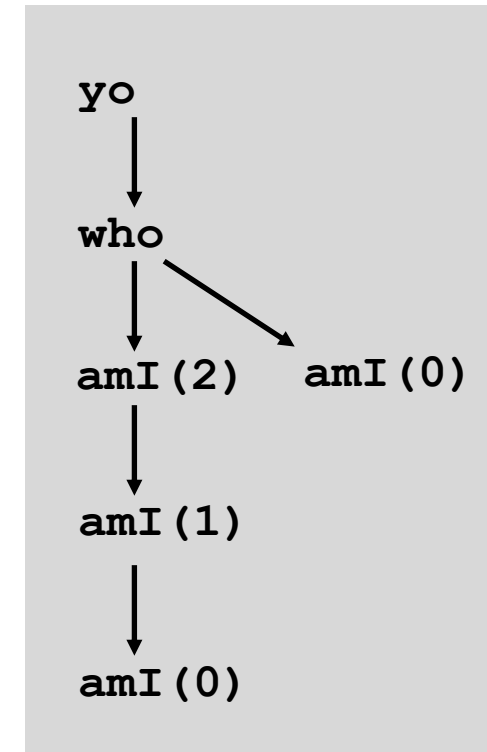
```
yo (...)  
{  
  .  
  .  
  who ();  
  .  
  .  
}
```

```
who (...)  
{  
  . . .  
  amI (2) ;  
  . . .  
  amI (0) ;  
  . . .  
}
```

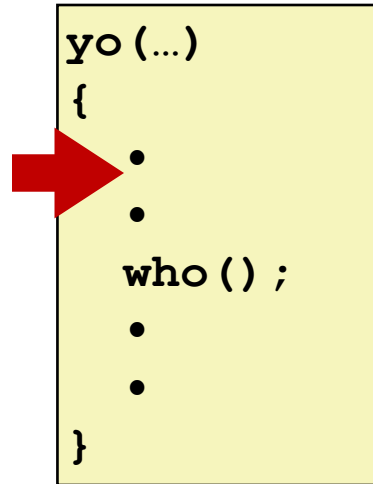
```
amI (int x)  
{  
  .  
  if (x)  
    amI (x-1) ;  
  .  
  .  
}
```

Procedure amI () is recursive

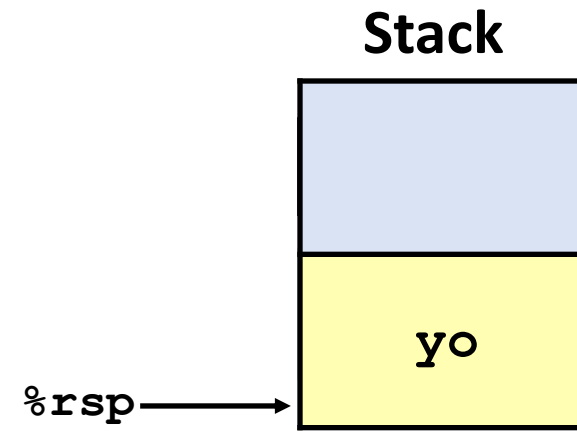
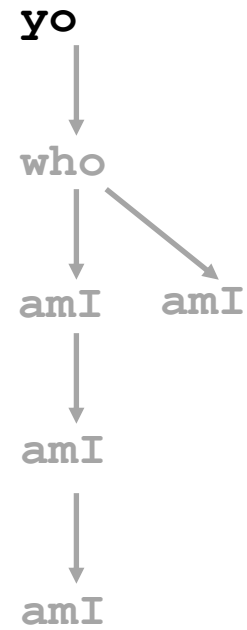
## Example Call Chain



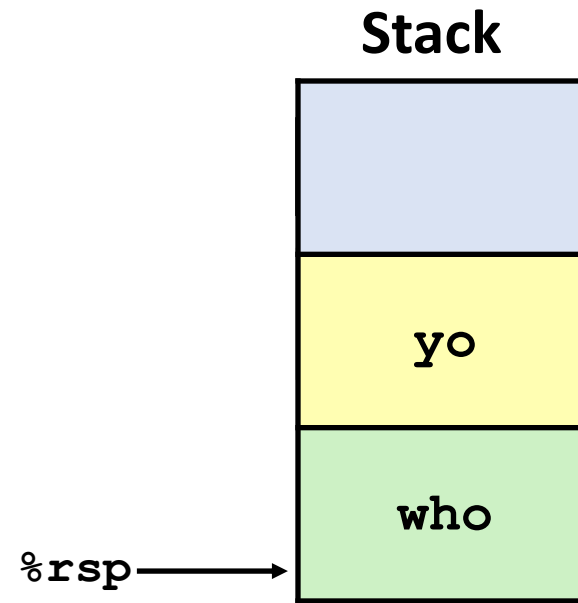
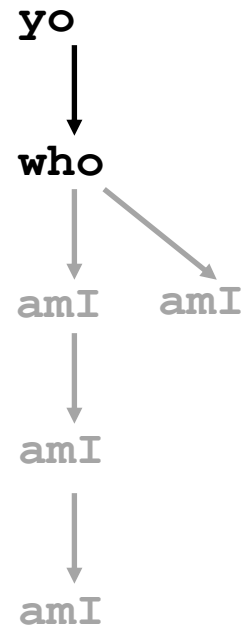
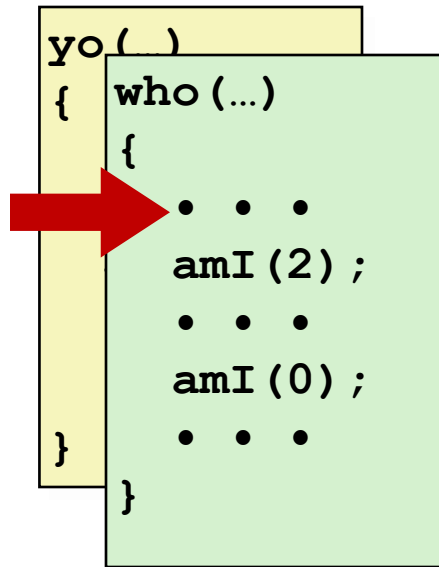
# Example



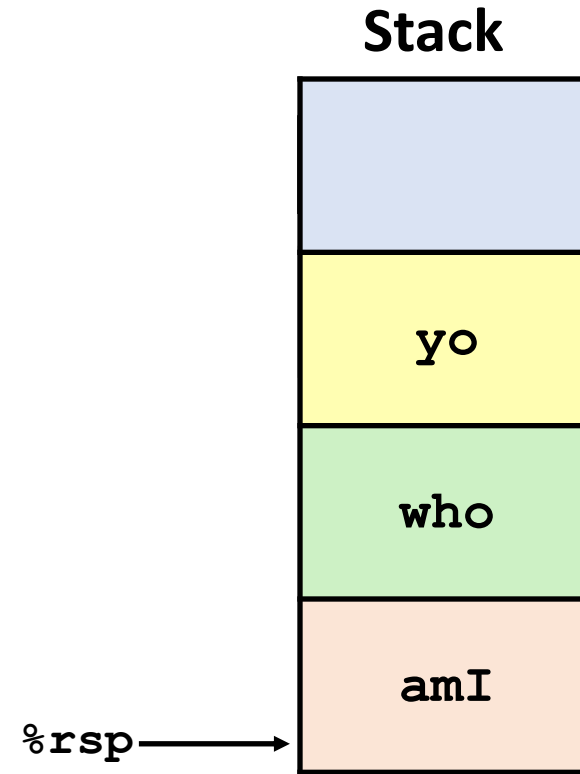
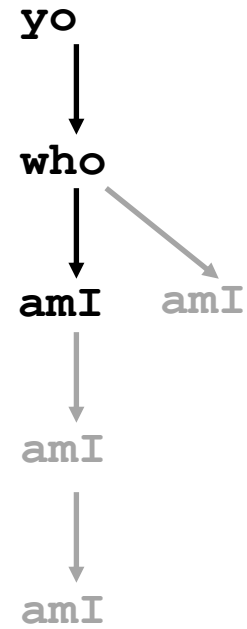
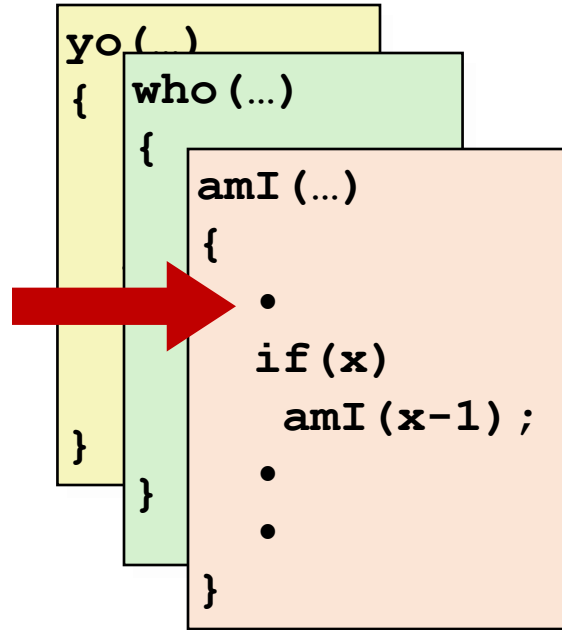
## Call Chain



# Example

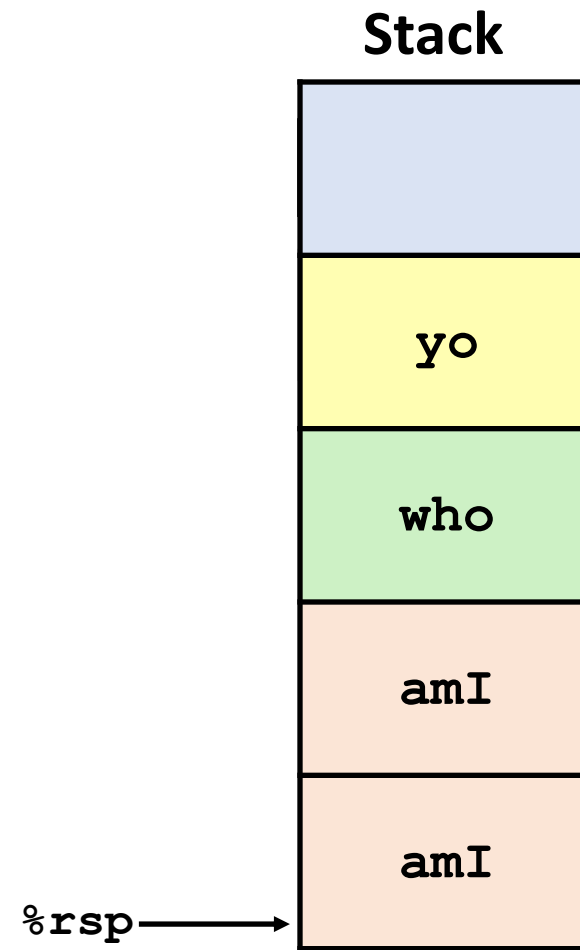
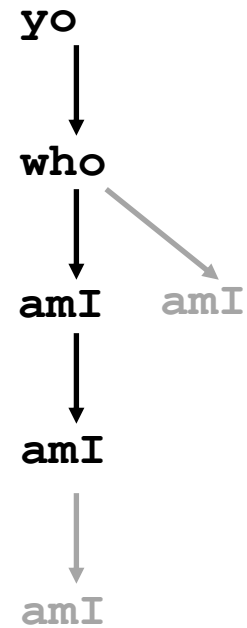
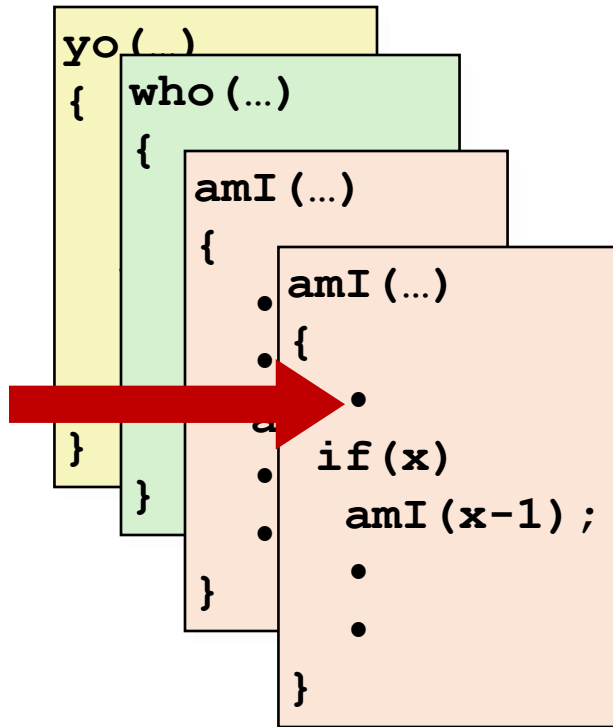


# Example



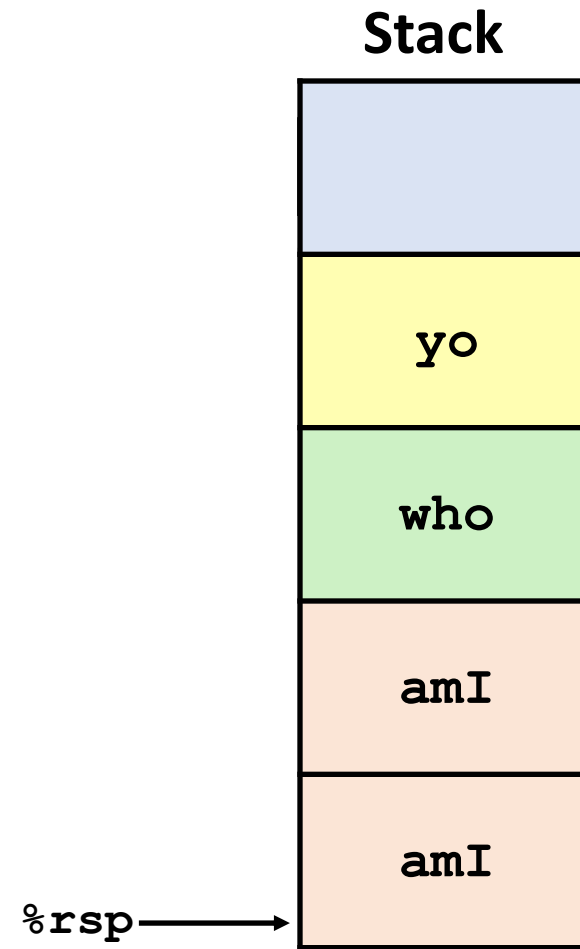
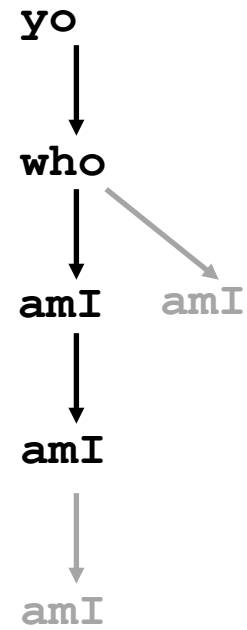
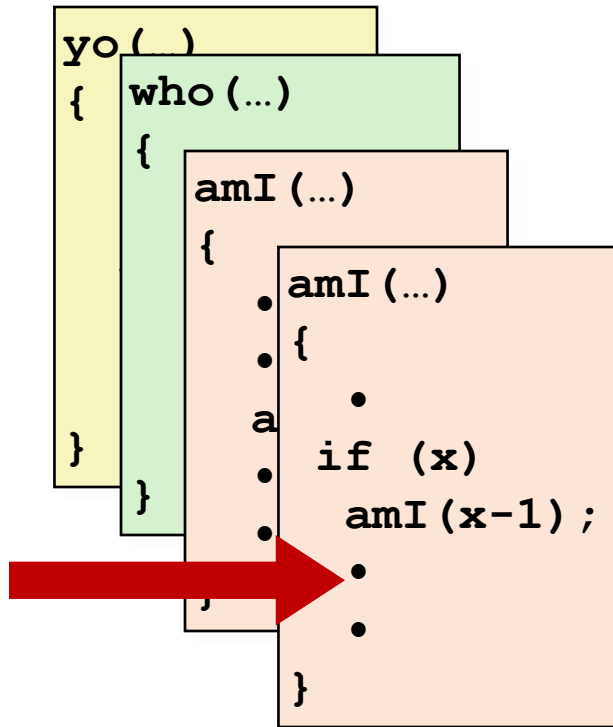


# Example

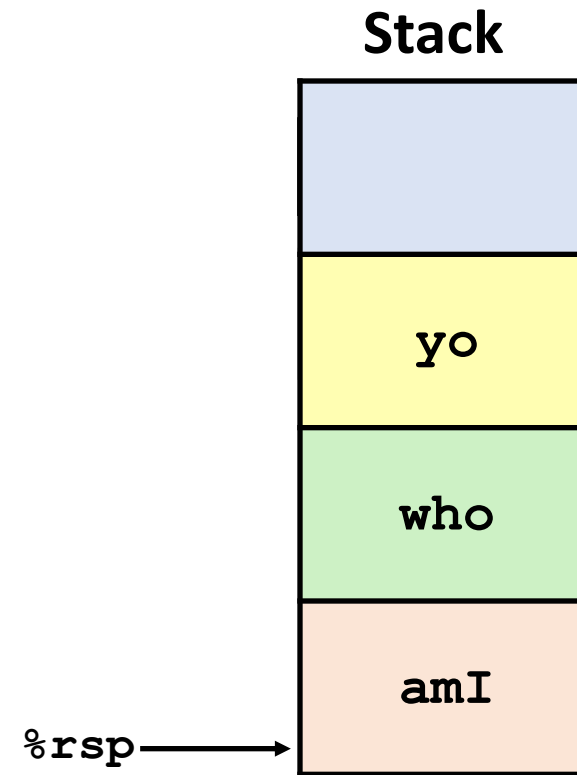
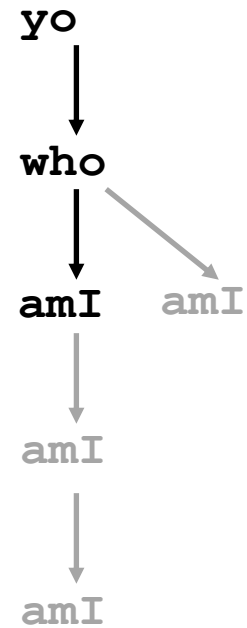
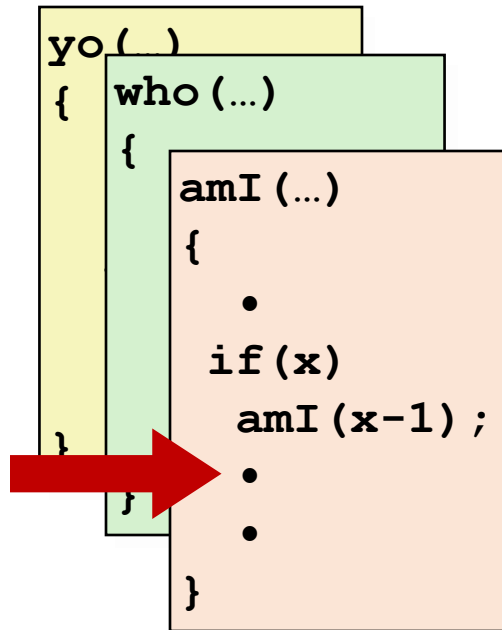




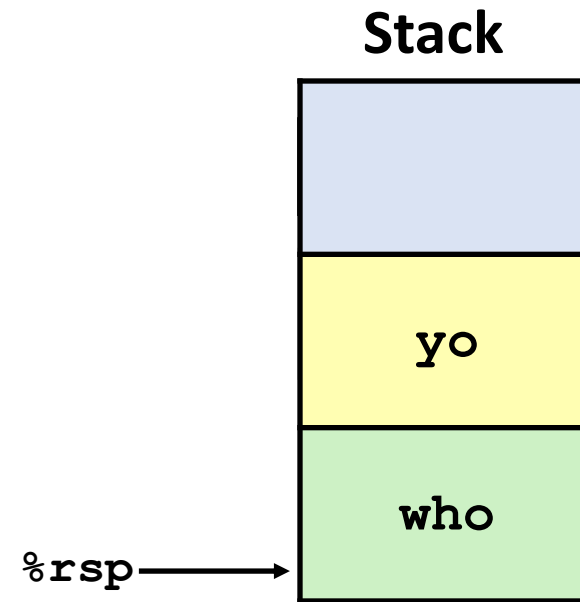
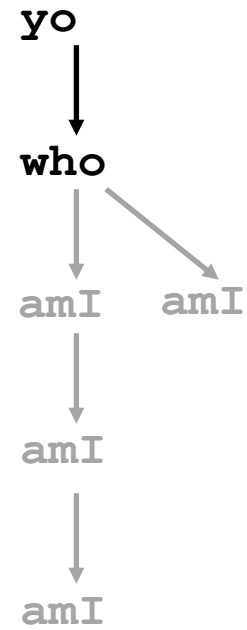
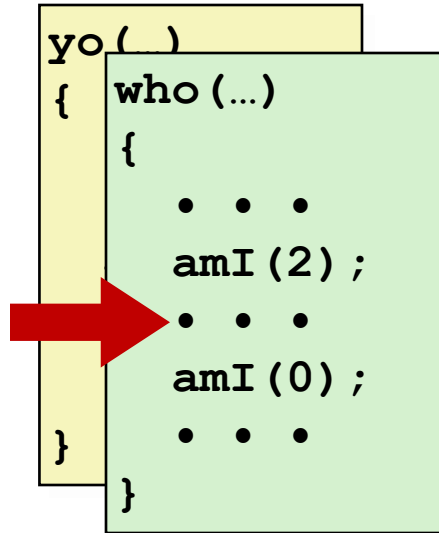
# Example



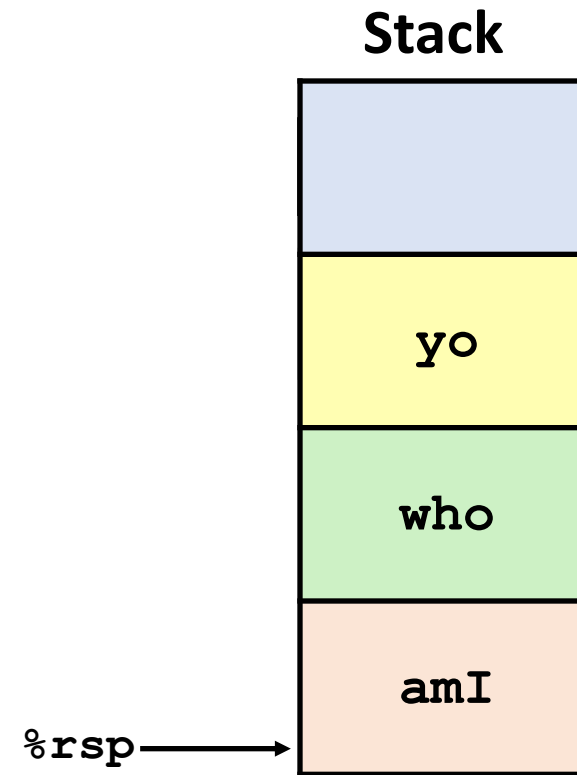
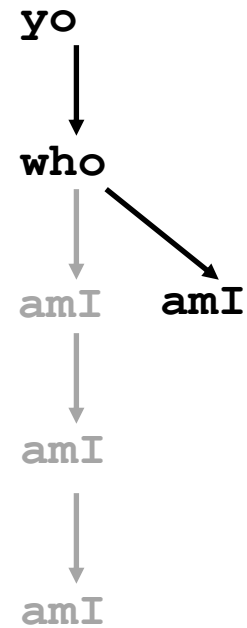
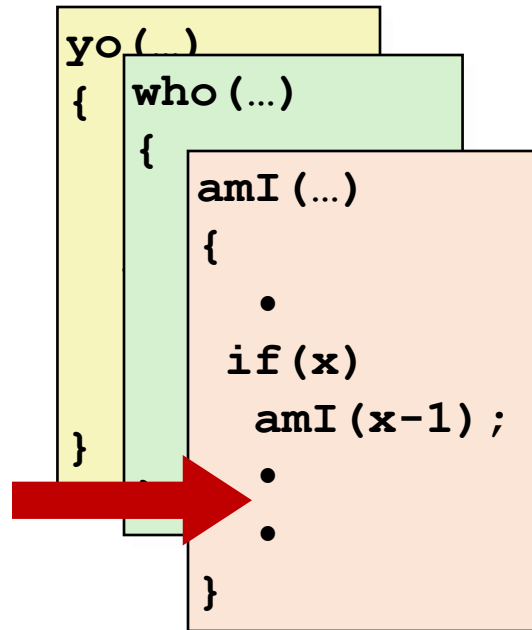
# Example



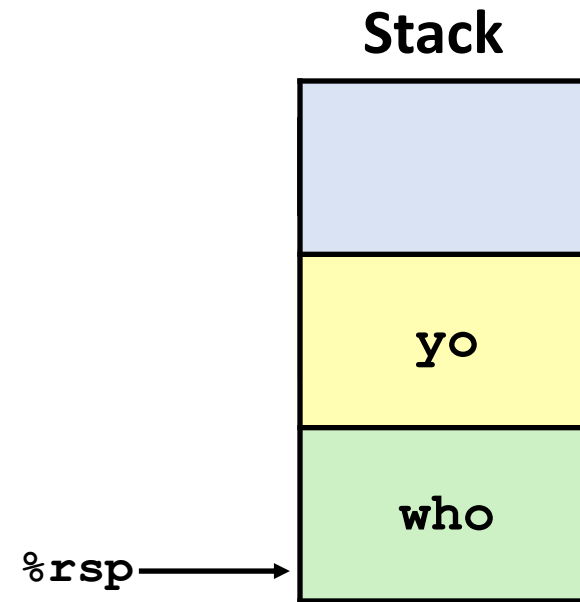
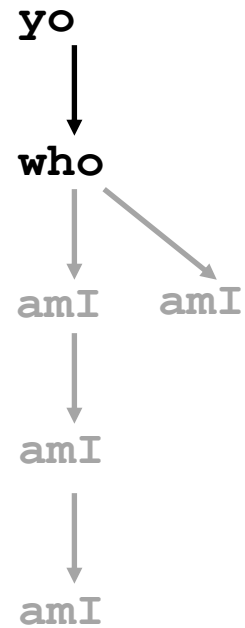
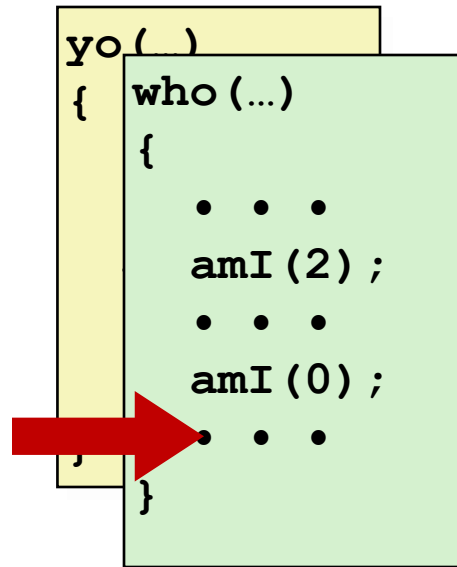
# Example



# Example

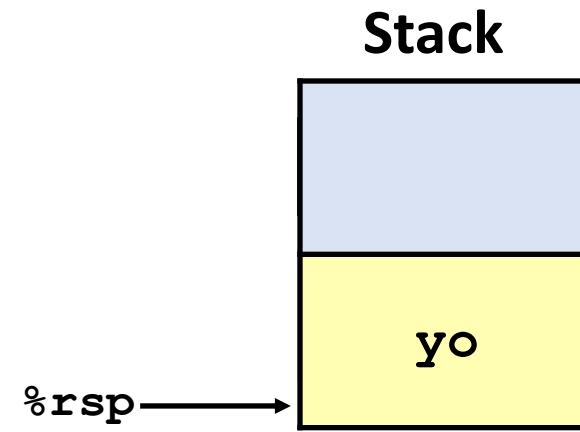
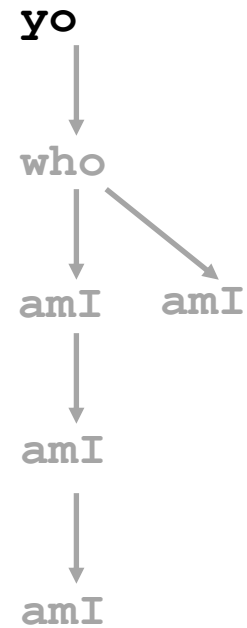



# Example



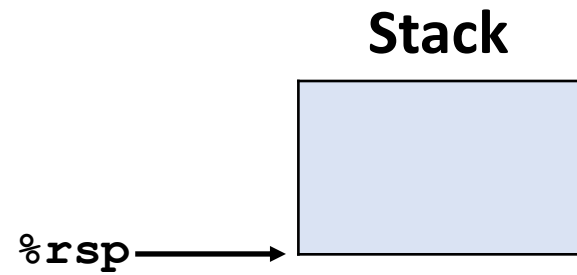
# Example

```
yo (...)  
{  
  .  
  .  
  who ();  
  .  
  .  
}
```





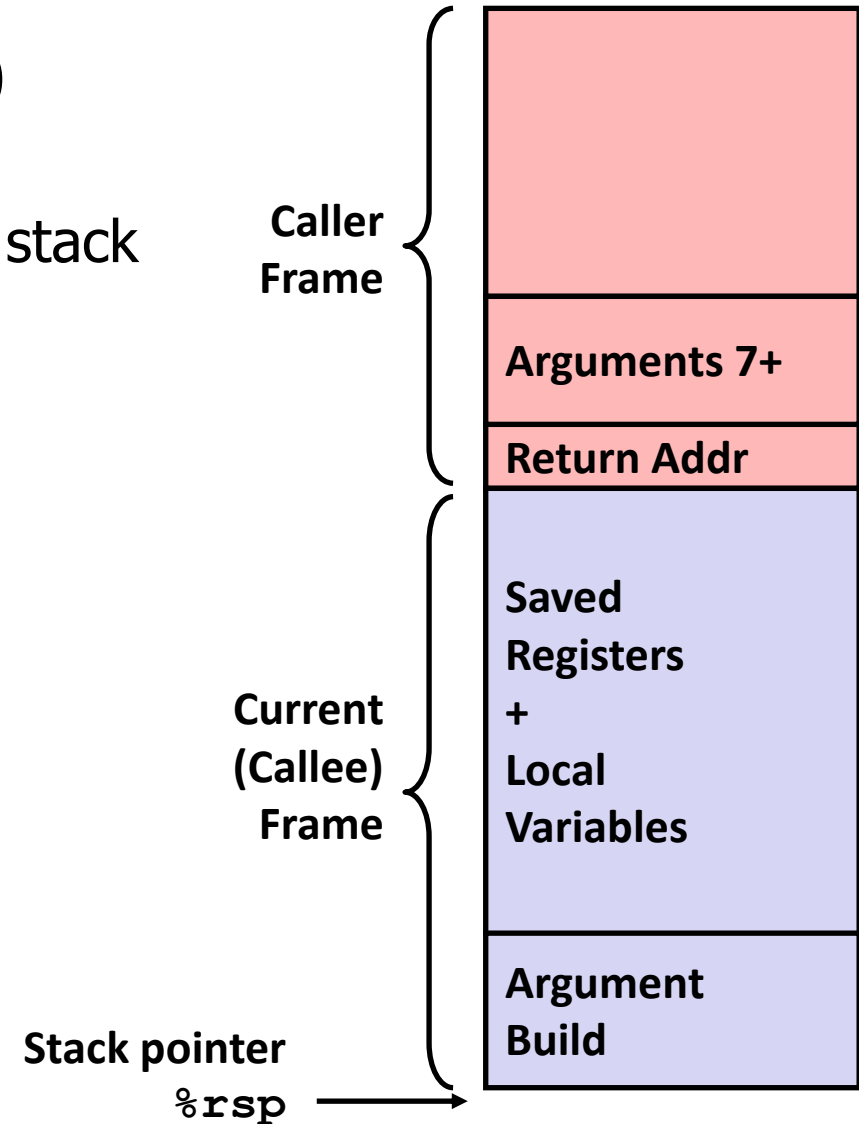
# Returning to original stack



- Stack always eventually returns to its default state
  - Happens automatically in higher-level languages like C
  - Need to manage that ourselves if writing assembly
- Or the program can exit early from anywhere
  - Entire stack is deallocated when the program ends

# x86-64/Linux Stack Frame

- Current Stack Frame (“Top” to Bottom)
  - “Argument build”:  
Arguments for function we’re about to call  
if there are 7+ and they need to be on the stack
  - Local variables  
If we can’t keep them in registers  
(too many, or if must be in memory)
  - Saved register context  
(we’ll get to that soon)
- Caller Stack Frame
  - Return address
    - Pushed by `call` instruction
  - Arguments for this call

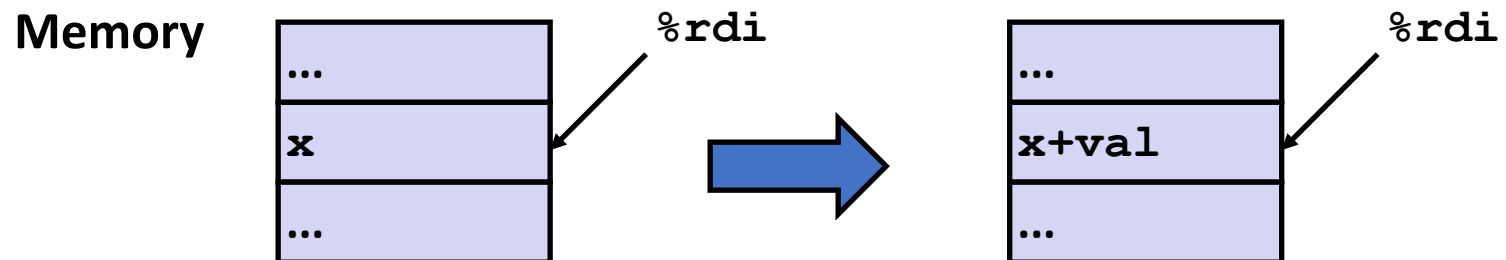


# Example: `incr`

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

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

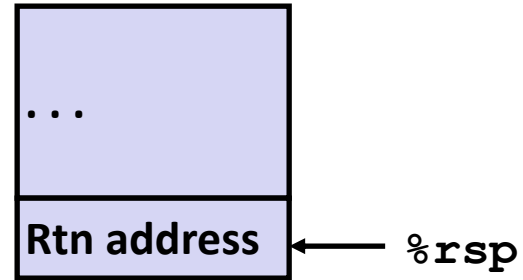
Register	Use(s)
<code>%rdi</code>	Argument <code>p</code>
<code>%rsi</code>	Argument <code>val</code> , also <code>y</code>
<code>%rax</code>	<code>x</code> , Return value



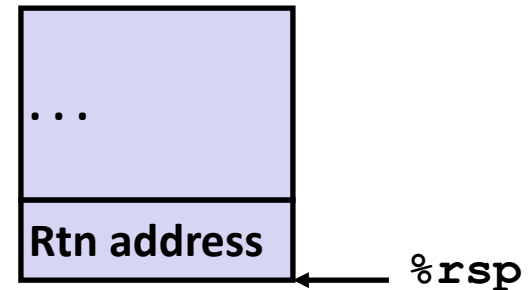
# Example: Calling `incr` #1 (local variables)

```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

Initial Stack Structure



Resulting Stack Structure



# Example: Calling `incr` #1 (local variables)

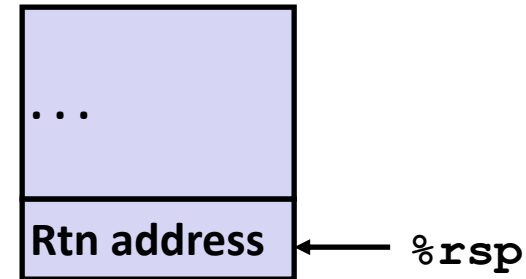
We take `v1`'s address, so must be in memory

```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

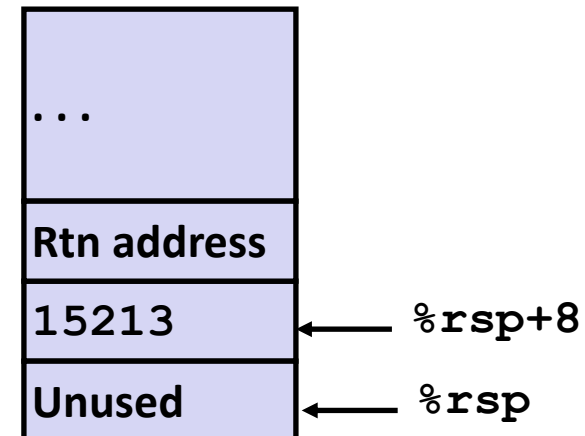
Stack pointer must be multiple of 16

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $15213, 8(%rsp)  
    movq    $3000, %rsi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    incr  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

## Initial Stack Structure



## Resulting Stack Structure



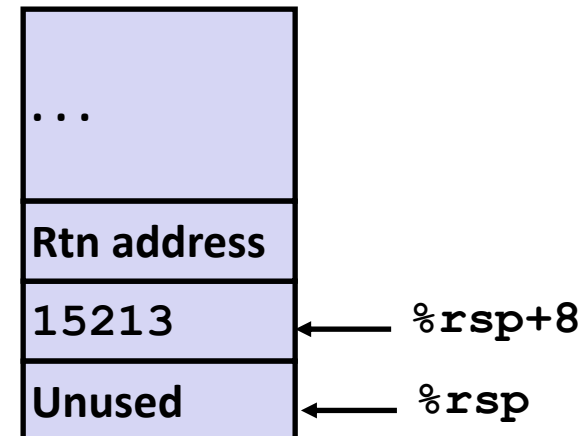
# Example: Calling `incr` #2 (argument build)

```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

Register	Use(s)
<code>%rdi</code>	<code>&amp;v1</code>
<code>%rsi</code>	3000

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $15213, 8(%rsp)  
    movq    $3000, %rsi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    incr  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

## Stack Structure



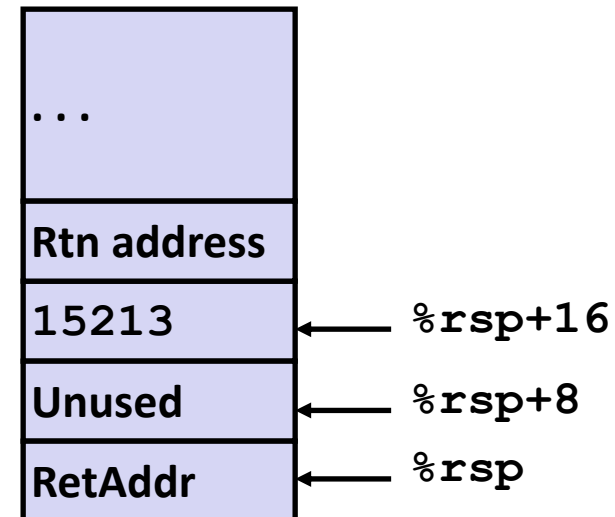
# Example: Calling `incr` #3 (control transfer)

```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

Register	Use(s)
<code>%rdi</code>	<code>&amp;v1</code>
<code>%rsi</code>	3000

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $15213, 8(%rsp)  
    movq    $3000, %rsi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    incr  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

Stack Structure



# Example: executing `incr`

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

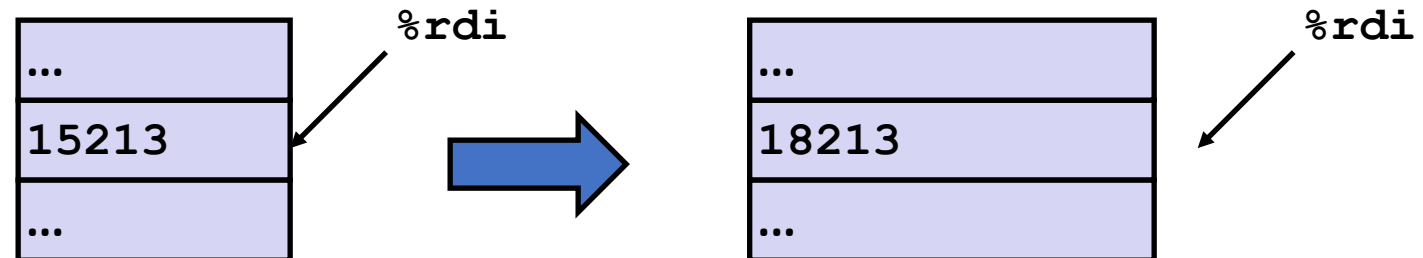
```
incr:  
    movq    (%rdi), %rax  
    addq   %rax, %rsi  
    movq   %rsi, (%rdi)  
    ret
```

Register	Use(s)
<code>%rdi</code>	Argument <code>p</code>
<code>%rsi</code>	Argument <code>val</code> (3000)
<code>%rax</code>	...



Register	Use(s)
<code>%rdi</code>	Argument <code>p</code>
<code>%rsi</code>	18213
<code>%rax</code>	15213 (return value)

Memory





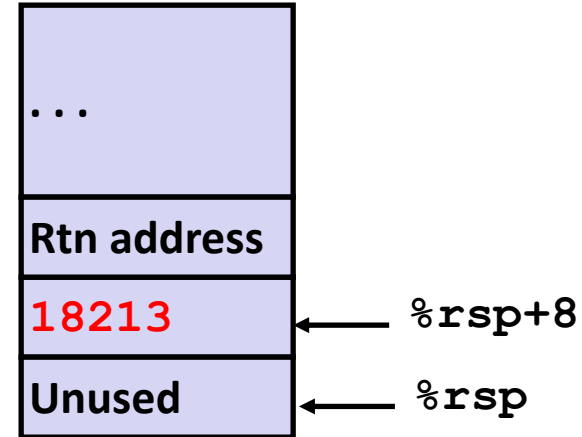
# Example: right after executing `incr`

```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $15213, 8(%rsp)  
    movq    $3000, %rsi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    incr  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```



## Stack Structure



Register	Use(s)
<code>%rdi</code>	<code>&amp;v1</code>
<code>%rsi</code>	18213
<code>%rax</code>	15213

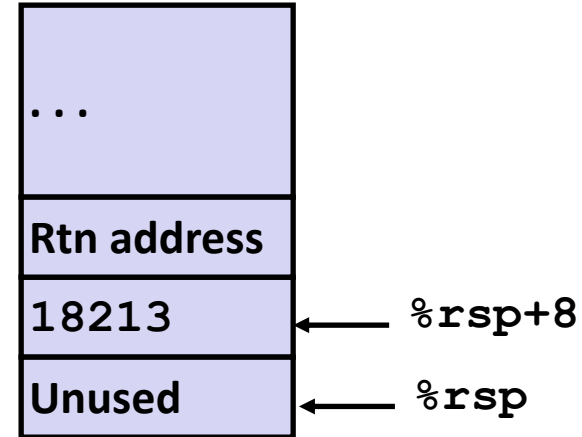
**QUIZ:** where do we find the return value of `incr`?

# Example: Calling `incr` #4 (cleanup)

```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

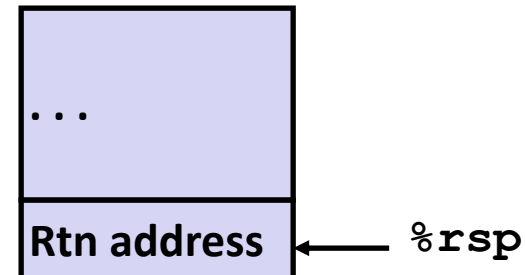
```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $15213, 8(%rsp)  
    movq    $3000, %rsi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call   incr  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

Previous stack Structure



Register	Use(s)
<code>%rax</code>	Return value

Updated Stack Structure

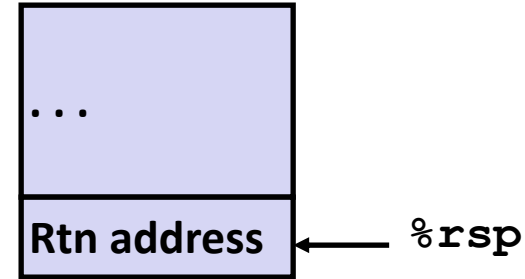


# Example: Calling `incr` #5

```
long call_incr() {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return v1+v2;  
}
```

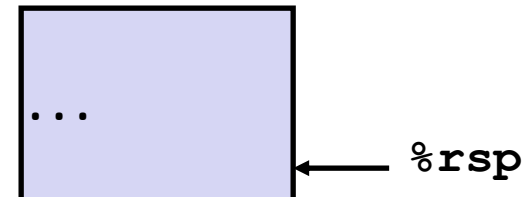
```
call_incr:  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    $15213, 8(%rsp)  
    movq    $3000, %rsi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    incr  
    addq    8(%rsp), %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    ret
```

## Updated Stack Structure



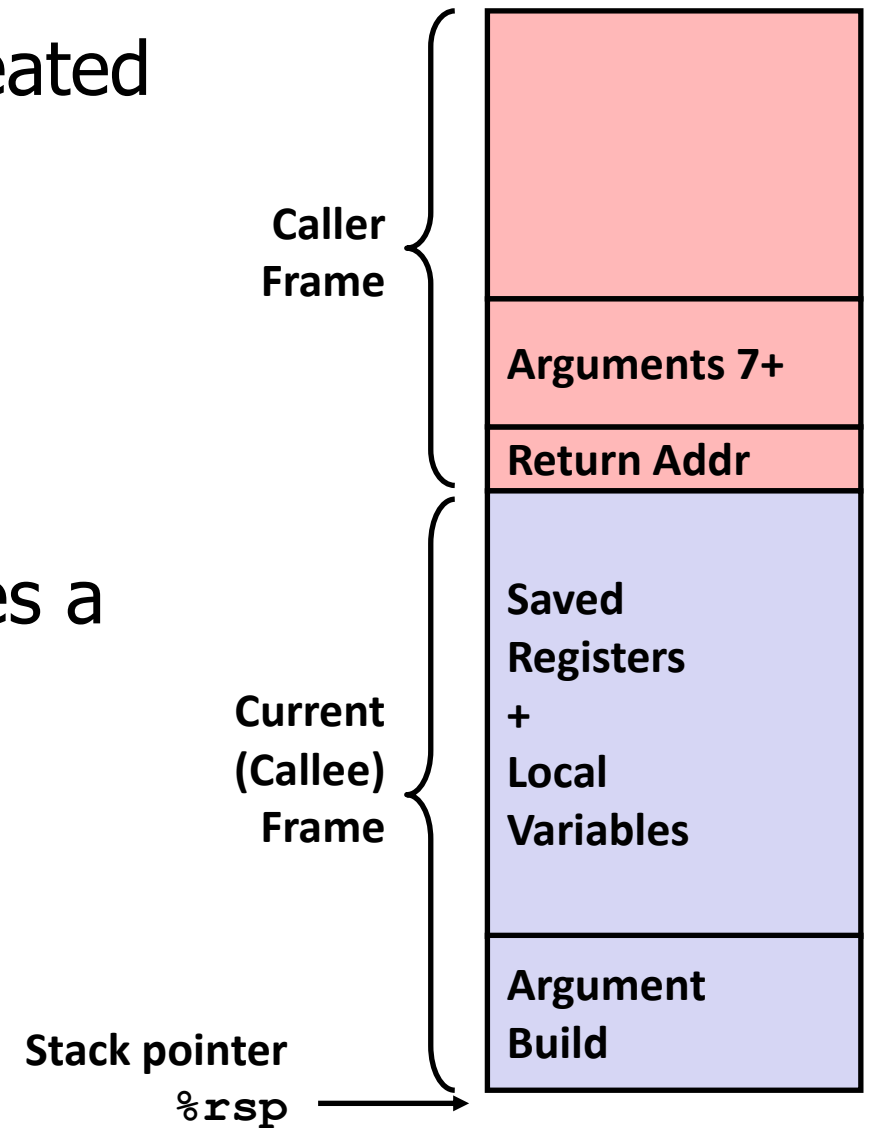
Register	Use(s)
<code>%rax</code>	Return value

## Final Stack Structure



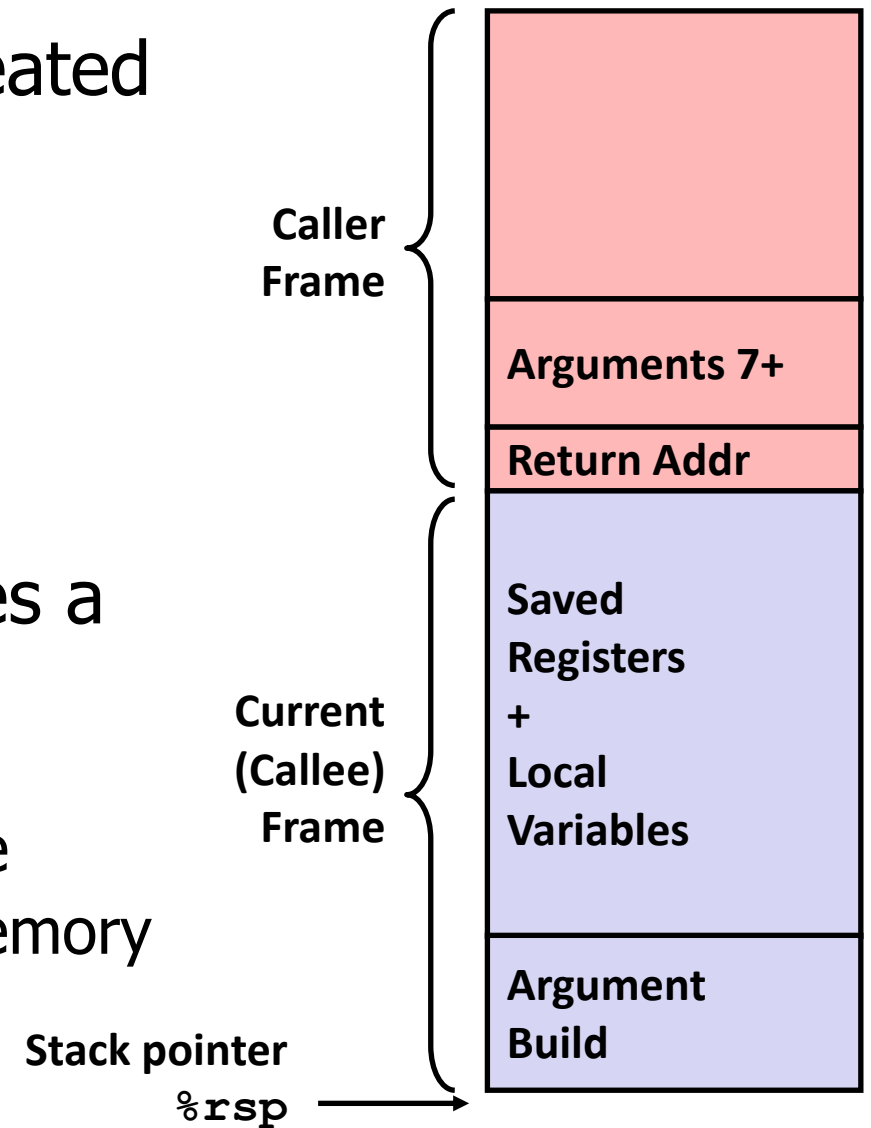
# Break + Open Questions

- What are the initial values of variables created on the stack?
- Is there a limit to how many local variables a function can have?



# Break + Open Questions

- What are the initial values of variables created on the stack?
  - Undefined behavior in C (compiler chooses)
  - Machine just creates a variable in the stack
    - Initial value is whatever was there before
- Is there a limit to how many local variables a function can have?
  - Based on memory limit of the process
  - Stack keeps growing until it runs out of space
    - OS can do lots of tricks to give it more memory



# Outline

- C Code Layout
- x86-64 Calling Convention
- Managing Local Data
- **Register Saving**
  - Recursion Example

# Register Saving

- Can a function use `%rdx` for temporary storage?

## Caller

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

## Callee

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

- Contents of register `%rdx` overwritten by **who!**
- This could be trouble → something should be done!
  - Need some coordination

# Reusing registers

- Problem: registers are shared between functions
  - Callee (function that's run) could overwrite caller's (code that's calling the function) registers by accident
- How does each function know which registers are safe to use?
- Solution:
  - Save original register value to stack
  - Use register as needed
  - Restore original register value from stack
- New question: when should the saving happen? In advance or on demand?



# Saving registers in advance

- New question: who should save the registers, Caller or Callee?
- Attempt 1: Save everything in advance
  - Caller knows which registers it is using
  - Before calling a function, save all registers it is going to need after the call
- Downside: Caller doesn't know what Callee needs
  - Wasted stores to memory if Callee doesn't need those registers
- Example: which registers does `printf()` need to use?

# Saving registers on demand

- New question: who should save the registers, Caller or Callee?
- Attempt 2: Save everything on demand
  - Callee knows which registers it is using
  - At the start of a function, save all registers it is going to use
- Downside: Callee doesn't know what Caller was using
  - Wasted stores to memory if Caller wasn't using those registers
- Example: which registers does code that calls `printf()` use?

# Compromise: some registers in advance, some on demand

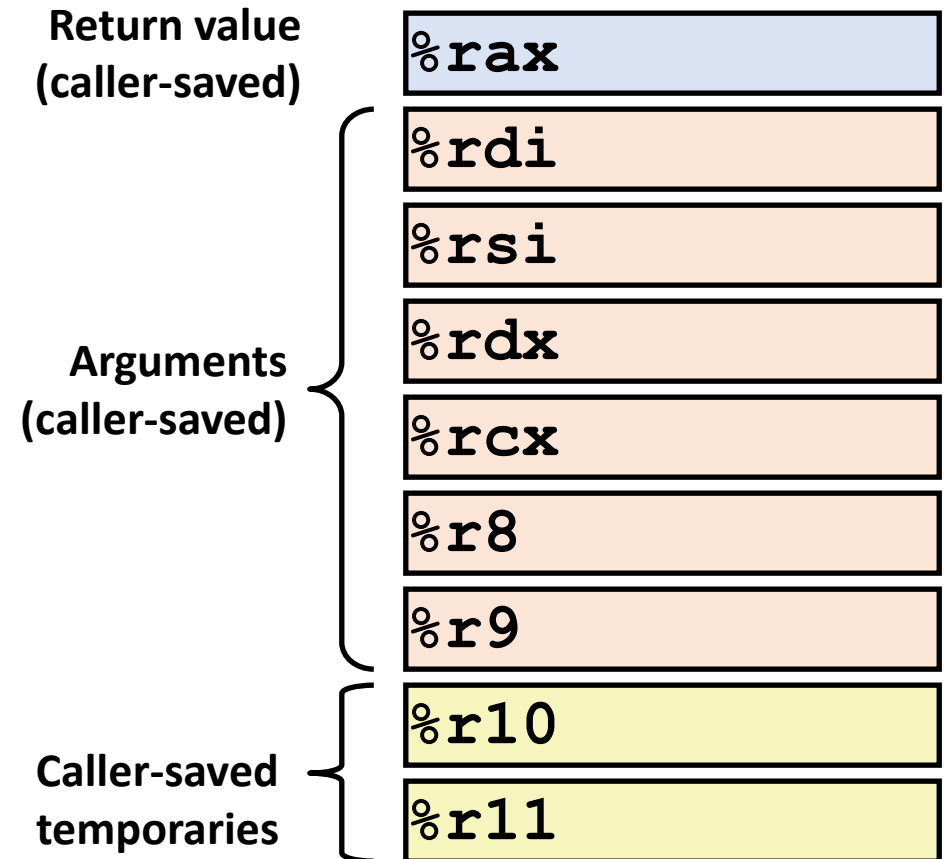
- Neither the Caller nor the Callee has perfect knowledge of register availability
- Designate certain registers are saved in certain way
  - Some are saved in advance: Caller saved
  - Some are saved on demand: Callee saved
- Remember: Caller and Callee are just designations for one call event
  - Functions can and do act as both at different times
  - If  $A()$  calls  $B()$  calls  $C()$ , then  $B()$  is both Callee and Caller

# Full Rules for Register Saving

1. Does the function use any callee-saved (on-demand) registers?
  - They MUST be saved before use and restored before returning
  
2. Does the code call any functions?
  - If no, you're done
  
  - If yes: do any caller-saved (in-advance) registers need to keep their original value after the function call returns?
    - If no, you're done
  
    - If yes, save them before the function call and restore them after it

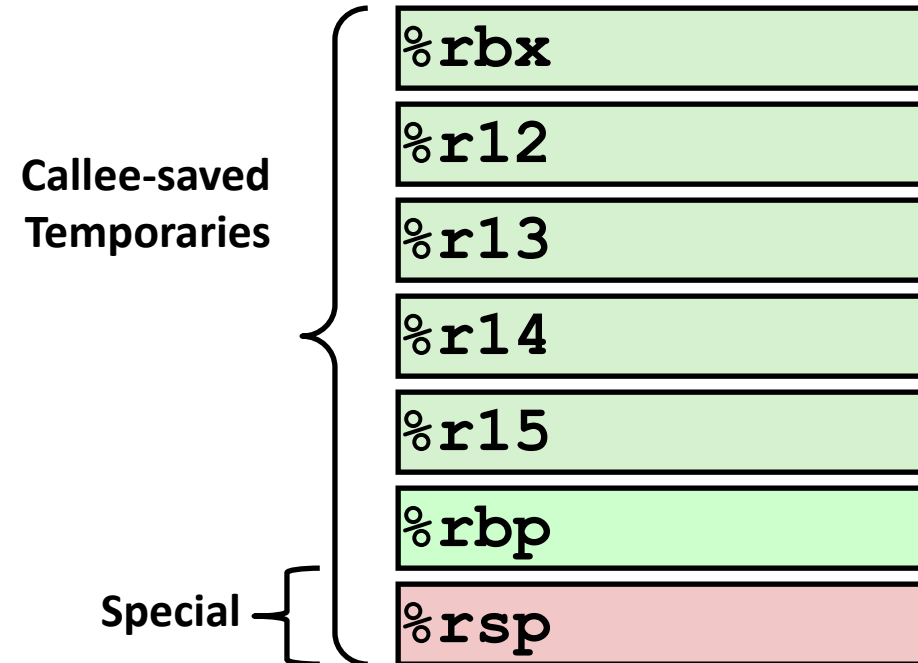
# x86-64 Linux Register Usage #1 (caller-saved, in advance)

- **%rax**
  - Return value
  - Caller-saved
  - **Will** be modified by function we're about to call
- **%rdi, ..., %r9**
  - Arguments
  - Caller-saved
  - Can be modified by function we're about to call
- **%r10, %r11**
  - Caller-saved
  - Can be modified by function we're about to call



# x86-64 Linux Register Usage #2 (callee-saved, on demand)

- **%rbx, %rbp, %r12-%r15**
  - Callee-saved
  - Any function must save/restore the original values if it wants to use these registers



- **%rsp**
  - Special form of callee-saved
  - Restored to original value upon exit from procedure
    - Stack frame is removed

# x86-64 Integer Registers: Usage Conventions

Caller Saved

In advance

Callee saved

On demand

<b>%rax</b>	Return value
<b>%rbx</b>	Callee saved
<b>%rcx</b>	Argument #4
<b>%rdx</b>	Argument #3
<b>%rsi</b>	Argument #2
<b>%rdi</b>	Argument #1
<b>%rsp</b>	Stack pointer
<b>%rbp</b>	Callee saved

<b>%r8</b>	Argument #5
<b>%r9</b>	Argument #6
<b>%r10</b>	Caller saved
<b>%r11</b>	Caller Saved
<b>%r12</b>	Callee saved
<b>%r13</b>	Callee saved
<b>%r14</b>	Callee saved
<b>%r15</b>	Callee saved

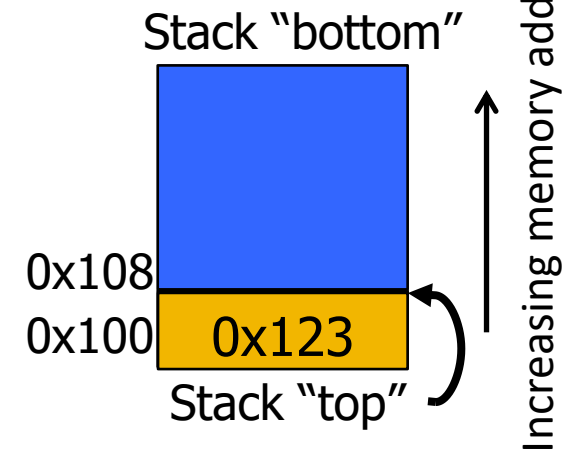
# Push and Pop instructions

Instruction	Effect	Description
<code>pushq S</code>	$R[\%rsp] \leftarrow R[\%rsp] - 8;$ $M[R[\%rsp]] \leftarrow S$	Store S onto the stack
<code>popq D</code>	$D \leftarrow M[R[\%rsp]]$ $R[\%rsp] \leftarrow R[\%rsp] + 8;$	Retrieve D from the stack

- Example:

`%rax = 0x123, %rdx = 0x0, %rsp = 0x108`

```
pushq %rax      %rsp = 0x100
popq %rdx       %rdx = 0x123; %rsp = 0x108
```



- Remember, stack is just memory

- Can also use memory moves and modify `%rsp` manually!
- Functions often mix the two, push some registers and allocate extra space



# Saving a register to the stack

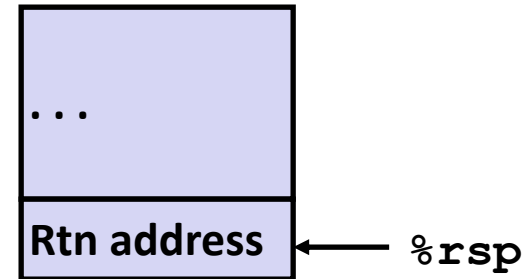
```
long call_incr2(long x) {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return x+v2;  
}
```

↑ Still need **x** after the call!

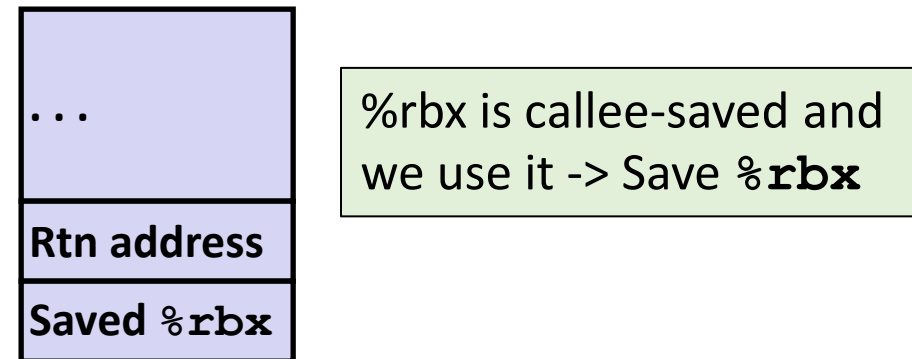
**%rbx** is callee-save (on demand)

```
call_incr2:  
→ pushq    %rbx  
   subq    $16, %rsp  
   movq    %rdi, %rbx  
   movq    $15213, 8(%rsp)  
   movq    $3000, %rsi  
   leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
   call   incr  
   addq    %rbx, %rax  
   addq    $16, %rsp  
   popq    %rbx  
   ret
```

Initial Stack Structure



Resulting Stack Structure



# Manually allocating stack space

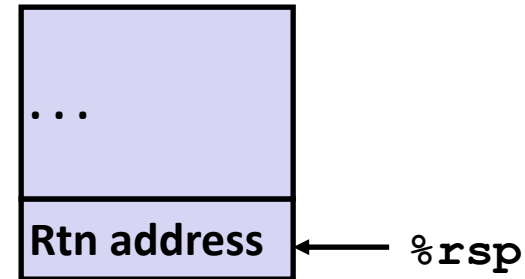
```
long call_incr2(long x) {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return x+v2;  
}
```

↑ Still need **x** after the call!

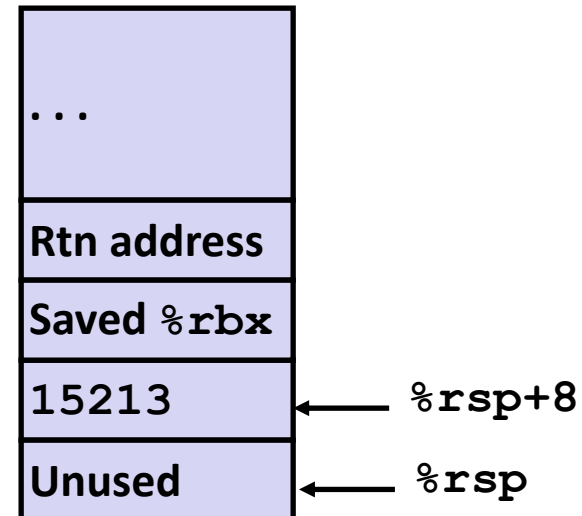
**%rbx** is callee-save (on demand)

```
call_incr2:  
    pushq    %rbx  
    → subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    %rdi, %rbx  
    → movq    $15213, 8(%rsp)  
    movq    $3000, %rsi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    incr  
    addq    %rbx, %rax  
    addq    $16, %rsp  
    popq    %rbx  
    ret
```

### Initial Stack Structure



### Resulting Stack Structure



FYI: Stack moves in multiples of 16 whenever possible.

This accommodates alignment for any 128-byte values on the stack.

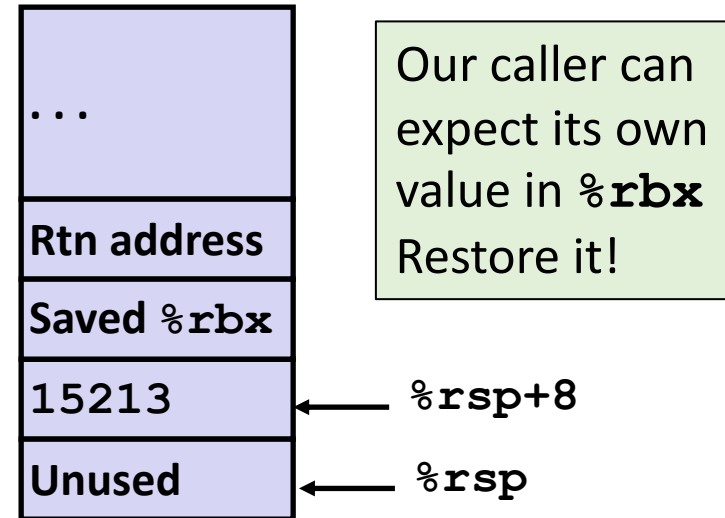
# Restoring the stack and register before a return

```
long call_incr2(long x) {  
    long v1 = 15213;  
    long v2 = incr(&v1, 3000);  
    return x+v2;  
}
```

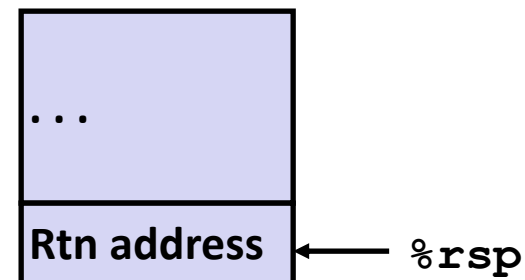
**%rbx** is callee-save (on demand)

```
call_incr2:  
    pushq    %rbx  
    subq    $16, %rsp  
    movq    %rdi, %rbx  
    movq    $15213, 8(%rsp)  
    movq    $3000, %rsi  
    leaq    8(%rsp), %rdi  
    call    incr  
    addq    %rbx, %rax  
    → addq    $16, %rsp  
    → popq    %rbx  
    ret
```

## Resulting Stack Structure



## Pre-return Stack Structure



# Outline

- C Code Layout
- x86-64 Calling Convention
- Managing Local Data
- **Register Saving**
  - **Recursion Example**

# Recursive Function

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

```
pcount_r:
    movq    $0, %rax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je     .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    andq    $1, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi # (by 1)
    callq   pcount_r
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep; ret
```

Note: `rep` instruction inserted as no-op. You can ignore it.

# 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:

```
movq    $0, %rax
testq   %rdi, %rdi
je      .L6
```

Checks if  
%rdi is zero

```
pushq   %rbx
movq    %rdi, %rbx
andq    $1, %rbx
shrq    %rdi # (by 1)
callq   pcount_r
addq    %rbx, %rax
popq    %rbx
```

.L6:

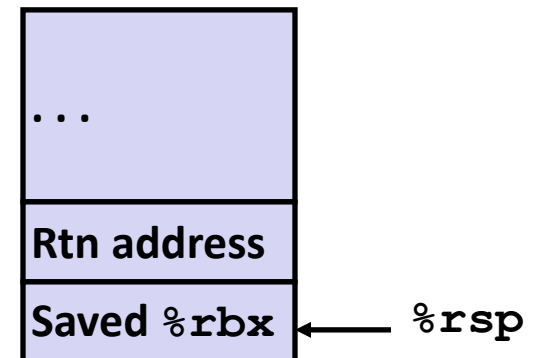
```
rep; ret
```

# Recursive Function 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

```
pcount_r:
    movq    $0, %rax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    andq    $1, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi # (by 1)
    callq   pcount_r
    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 >> 1	Rec. argument
%rbx	x & 1	Callee-saved

```
pcount_r:
    movq    $0, %rax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    andq    $1, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi # (by 1)
    callq   pcount_r
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep; ret
```



# Recursive Function Call

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




```
pcount_r:  
    movq    $0, %rax  
    testq   %rdi, %rdi  
    je     .L6  
    pushq  %rbx  
    movq   %rdi, %rbx  
    andq   $1, %rbx  
    shrq   %rdi # (by 1)  
    callq  pcount_r  
    addq   %rbx, %rax  
    popq   %rbx  
.L6:  
    rep; ret
```

Register	Use(s)	Type
%rbx	x & 1	Callee-saved
%rax	Recursive call return value	

# Recursive Function Result

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



```
pcount_r:
    movq    $0, %rax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je     .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    andq    $1, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi # (by 1)
    callq   pcount_r
    addq    %rbx, %rax
    popq    %rbx
.L6:
    rep; ret
```

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

# Recursive Function Completion

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

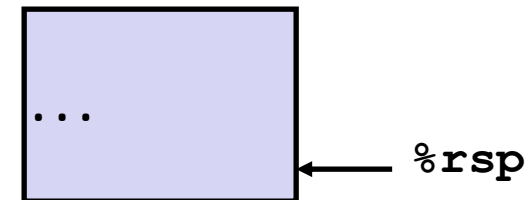
```
pcount_r:
    movq    $0, %rax
    testq   %rdi, %rdi
    je      .L6
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    andq    $1, %rbx
    shrq    %rdi # (by 1)
    callq   pcount_r
    addq    %rbx, %rax
```

```
popq    %rbx
```

```
.L6:
```

```
rep; ret
```

Register	Use(s)	Type
%rax	Return value	Return value



# Example three recursions in

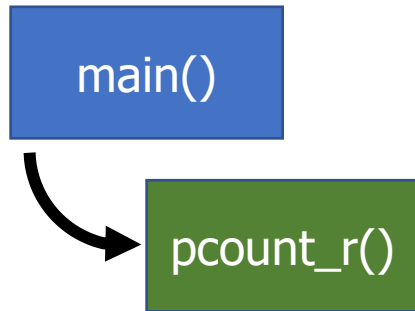
main()

Stack Structure

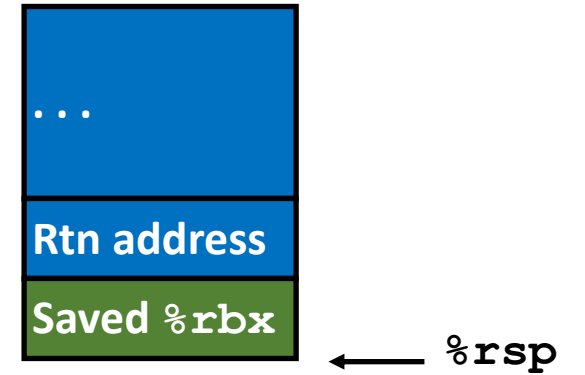


← %rsp

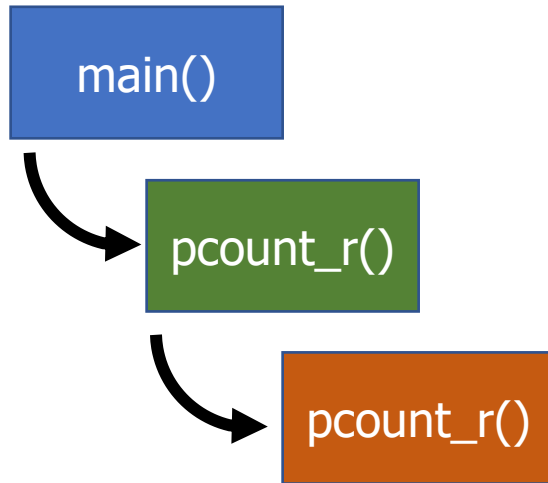
# Example three recursions in



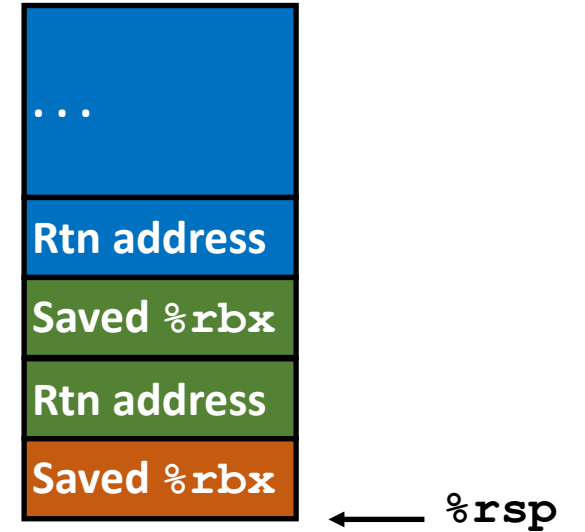
## Stack Structure



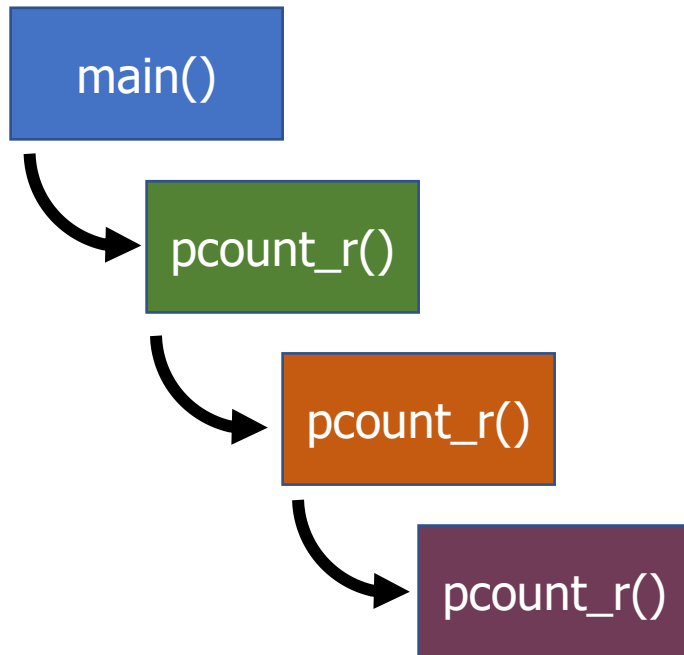
# Example three recursions in



Stack Structure

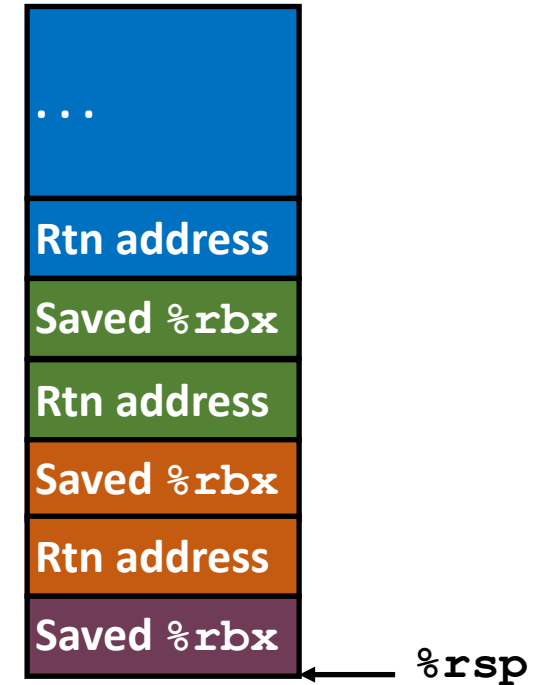


# Example three recursions in



Executing, but has not yet called pcount\_r() again

## Stack Structure



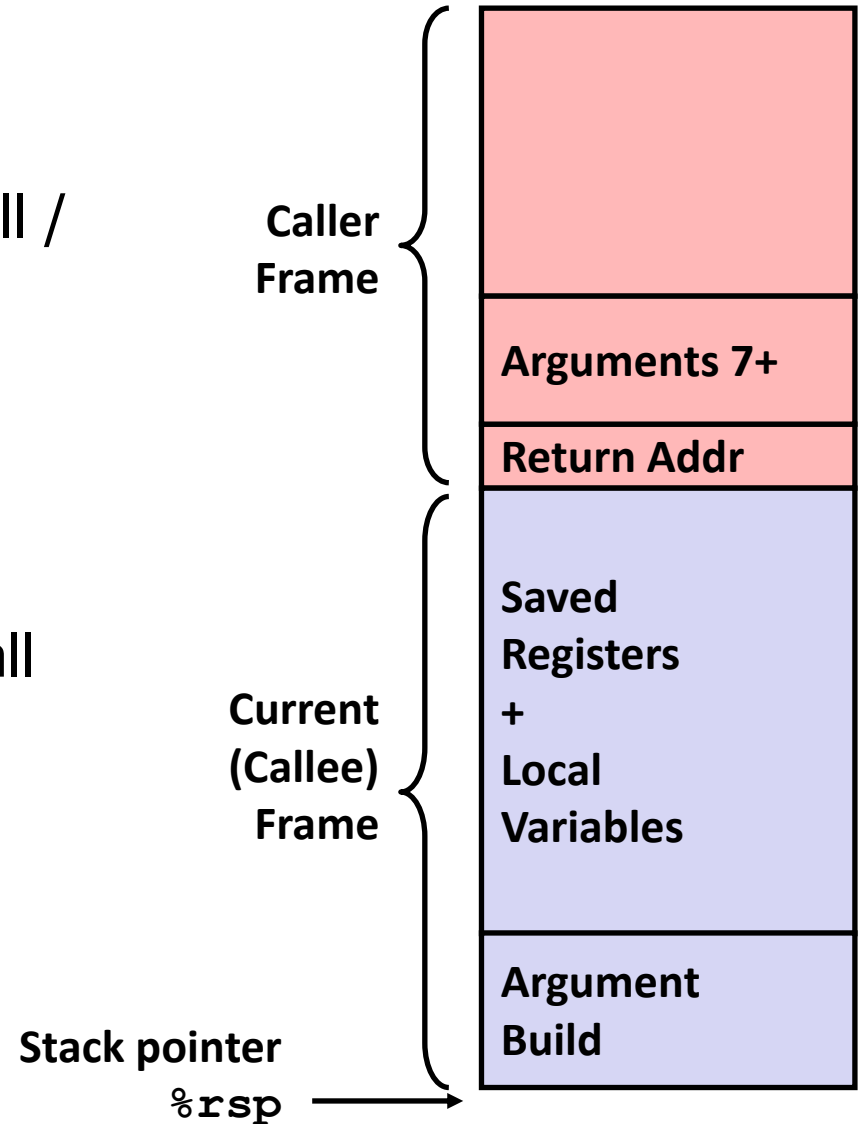
# x86-64 Procedure Summary

- Important Points

- A stack is the right data structure for procedure call / return
  - If P calls Q, then Q returns before P
- The stack makes recursion work

- Calling convention

- Caller-saved registers saved **in advance** before call
- Put arguments in registers (1-6)
- Put further arguments on top of stack (7+)
- Put return address on top of stack
- Callee can safely store values in local stack frame and in callee-saved registers (after saving them)
- Result return in `%rax` and restore callee-saved registers before returning





# Outline

- C Code Layout
- x86-64 Calling Convention
- Managing Local Data
- Register Saving
  - Recursion Example

# Outline

- Bonus: Stack Frame Example

# x86-64 Stack Frame Example

```
long sum = 0;
/* Swap a[i] & a[i+1] */
void
swap_ele_su(long a[], int i)
{
    swap(&a[i], &a[i+1]);
    sum += (a[i]*a[i+1]);
}
```

- Keeps values of `&a[i]` and `&a[i+1]` in callee-save registers
- Must set up stack frame to save these registers

```
swap_ele_su:
    movq    %rbx, -16(%rsp)
    movq    %rbp, -8(%rsp)
    subq    $16, %rsp
    movslq  %esi, %rax
    leaq    8(%rdi,%rax,8), %rbx
    leaq    (%rdi,%rax,8), %rbp
    movq    %rbx, %rsi
    movq    %rbp, %rdi
    call   swap
    movq    (%rbx), %rax
    imulq   (%rbp), %rax
    addq    %rax, sum(%rip)
    movq    (%rsp), %rbx
    movq    8(%rsp), %rbp
    addq    $16, %rsp
    ret
```

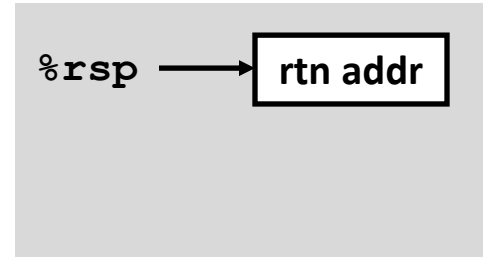
# Understanding x86-64 Stack Frame

swap ele su:

```
movq    %rbx, -16(%rsp)    # Save %rbx
movq    %rbp, -8(%rsp)     # Save %rbp
subq    $16, %rsp         # Allocate stack frame
movslq  %esi, %rax        # Extend i
leaq    8(%rdi,%rax,8), %rbx # &a[i+1] (callee save)
leaq    (%rdi,%rax,8), %rbp # &a[i]   (callee save)
movq    %rbx, %rsi        # 2nd argument
movq    %rbp, %rdi        # 1st argument
call    swap
movq    (%rbx), %rax       # Get a[i+1]
imulq   (%rbp), %rax       # Multiply by a[i]
addq    %rax, sum(%rip)    # Add to sum
movq    (%rsp), %rbx      # Restore %rbx
movq    8(%rsp), %rbp     # Restore %rbp
addq    $16, %rsp        # Deallocate frame
ret
```

# Understanding x86-64 Stack Frame

```
movq    %rbx, -16(%rsp)    # Save %rbx
movq    %rbp, -8(%rsp)     # Save %rbp
```



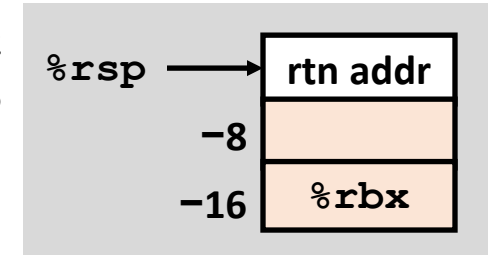
```
subq    $16, %rsp         # Allocate stack frame
```

● ● ●

```
movq    (%rsp), %rbx      # Restore %rbx
movq    8(%rsp), %rbp     # Restore %rbp
addq    $16, %rsp         # Deallocate frame
```

# Understanding x86-64 Stack Frame

→ `movq %rbx, -16(%rsp)` # Save %rbx  
`movq %rbp, -8(%rsp)` # Save %rbp



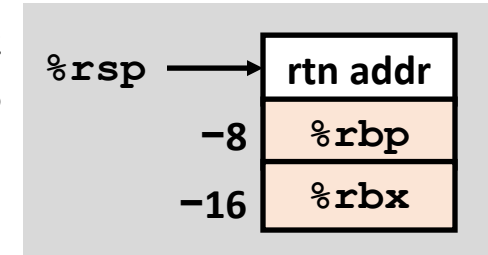
`subq $16, %rsp` # Allocate stack frame

• • •

`movq (%rsp), %rbx` # Restore %rbx  
`movq 8(%rsp), %rbp` # Restore %rbp  
`addq $16, %rsp` # Deallocate frame

# Understanding x86-64 Stack Frame

```
→ movq    %rbx, -16(%rsp)    # Save %rbx
   movq    %rbp, -8(%rsp)    # Save %rbp
```



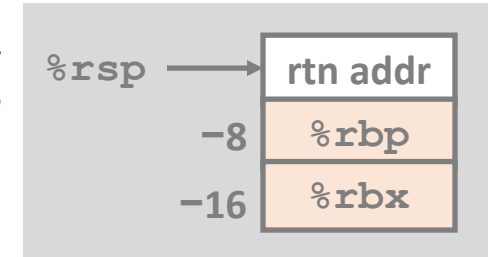
```
subq    $16, %rsp          # Allocate stack frame
```

● ● ●

```
movq    (%rsp), %rbx      # Restore %rbx
movq    8(%rsp), %rbp     # Restore %rbp
addq    $16, %rsp        # Deallocate frame
```

# Understanding x86-64 Stack Frame

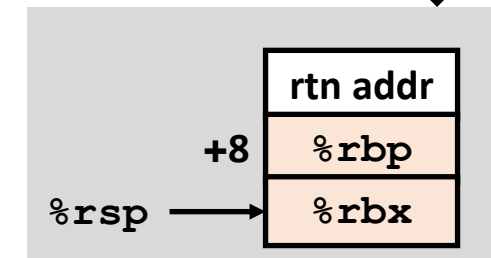
```
movq    %rbx, -16(%rsp)    # Save %rbx
movq    %rbp, -8(%rsp)     # Save %rbp
```



→ **subq \$16, %rsp**

# Allocate stack frame

• • •

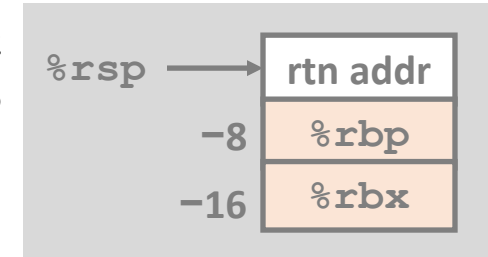


```
movq    (%rsp), %rbx      # Restore %rbx
movq    8(%rsp), %rbp     # Restore %rbp
addq    $16, %rsp        # Deallocate frame
```



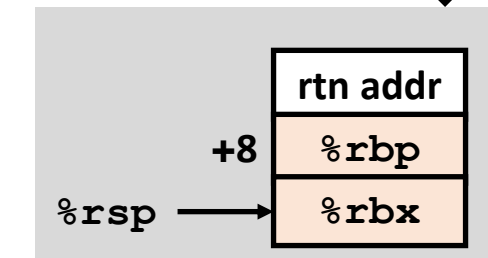
# Understanding x86-64 Stack Frame

```
movq    %rbx, -16(%rsp)    # Save %rbx
movq    %rbp, -8(%rsp)     # Save %rbp
```



```
subq    $16, %rsp         # Allocate stack frame
```

• • •



```
movq    (%rsp), %rbx
movq    8(%rsp), %rbp
addq    $16, %rsp
```

```
# Restore %rbx
# Restore %rbp
# Deallocate frame
```

