

# **CS107, Lecture 13**

## **Control Flow: When in doubt just JMP!**

Reading: B&O 3.1-3.4

# Attendance



<https://forms.gle/Ee4rksrsHaBR3N4A8>

# Learning Goals

- Learn about how assembly stores comparison and operation results in condition codes
- Understand how assembly implements loops and control flow

# cmov: Conditional move

**cmovx src,dst** conditionally moves data in src to data in dst.

- Mov src to dst if condition x holds; no change otherwise
- src is memory address/register, dst is register
- May be more efficient than branch (i.e., jump)
- Often seen with C ternary operator: result = test ? then: else;

```
int max(int x, int y) {  
    return x > y ? x : y;  
}
```

```
cmp    %edi,%esi  
mov    %edi, %eax  
cmove %esi, %eax  
retq
```

# cmov: Conditional move

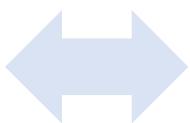
Instruction	Synonym	Move Condition
cmove S,R	cmovz	Equal / zero (ZF = 1)
cmovne S,R	cmovnz	Not equal / not zero (ZF = 0)
cmovs S,R		Negative (SF = 1)
cmovns S,R		Nonnegative (SF = 0)
cmovg S,R	cmovnle	Greater (signed >) (SF = 0 and SF = OF)
cmovge S,R	cmovnl	Greater or equal (signed >=) (SF = OF)
cmovl S,R	cmovnge	Less (signed <) (SF != OF)
cmovle S,R	cmovng	Less or equal (signed <=) (ZF = 1 or SF != OF)
cmova S,R	cmovnbe	Above (unsigned >) (CF = 0 and ZF = 0)
cmovae S,R	cmovnb	Above or equal (unsigned >=) (CF = 0)
cmovb S,R	cmovnae	Below (unsigned <) (CF = 1)
cmovbe S,R	cmovna	Below or equal (unsigned <=) (CF = 1 or ZF = 1)



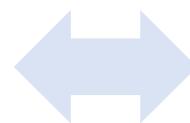
# How to remember cmp/jmp

- $\text{CMP } S1, S2 \equiv S2 - S1$  (just sets condition codes). **But generally:**

`cmp S1, S2`  
`jg ...`



`S2 > S1`



`S2 - S1 > 0`

- Much less important to remember exact condition codes

- Yes, they fully explain conditional jmp...
- ...but more important to know how to translate assembly back into C
- If you're interested, B&O p. 206 has details

Instruction	Synonym	Jump condition	Description
<code>jmp Label</code>		1	Direct jump
<code>jmp *Operand</code>		1	Indirect jump
<code>je Label</code>	<code>jz</code>	<code>ZF</code>	Equal / zero
<code>jne Label</code>	<code>jnz</code>	<code>~ZF</code>	Not equal / not zero
<code>js Label</code>		<code>SF</code>	Negative
<code>jns Label</code>		<code>~SF</code>	Nonnegative
<code>jg Label</code>	<code>jnle</code>	<code>~(SF ^ OF) &amp; ~ZF</code>	Greater (signed $>$ )
<code>jge Label</code>	<code>jnl</code>	<code>~(SF ^ OF)</code>	Greater or equal (signed $\geq$ )
<code>jl Label</code>	<code>jnge</code>	<code>SF ^ OF</code>	Less (signed $<$ )
<code>jle Label</code>	<code>jng</code>	<code>(SF ^ OF)   ZF</code>	Less or equal (signed $\leq$ )
<code>ja Label</code>	<code>jnbe</code>	<code>~CF &amp; ~ZF</code>	Above (unsigned $>$ )
<code>jae Label</code>	<code>jnb</code>	<code>~CF</code>	Above or equal (unsigned $\geq$ )
<code>jb Label</code>	<code>jnae</code>	<code>CF</code>	Below (unsigned $<$ )
<code>jbe Label</code>	<code>jna</code>	<code>CF   ZF</code>	Below or equal (unsigned $\leq$ )

Figure 3.15 The jump instructions. These instructions jump to a labeled destination when the jump condition holds. Some instructions have “synonyms,” alternate names for the same machine instruction.

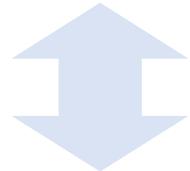


# Remember test exists

- TEST S1, S2 is S2 & S1

test %edi, %edi

jns ...



%edi & %edi is nonnegative

%edi is nonnegative

Instruction	Synonym	Jump condition	Description
jmp <i>Label</i>		1	Direct jump
jmp <i>*Operand</i>		1	Indirect jump
je <i>Label</i>	jz	ZF	Equal / zero
jne <i>Label</i>	jnz	~ZF	Not equal / not zero
js <i>Label</i>		SF	Negative
jns <i>Label</i>		~SF	Nonnegative
jg <i>Label</i>	jnle	~(SF ^ OF) & ~ZF	Greater (signed >)
jge <i>Label</i>	jnl	~(SF ^ OF)	Greater or equal (signed >=)
jl <i>Label</i>	jnge	SF ^ OF	Less (signed <)
jle <i>Label</i>	jng	(SF ^ OF)   ZF	Less or equal (signed <=)
ja <i>Label</i>	jnbe	~CF & ~ZF	Above (unsigned >)
jae <i>Label</i>	jnb	~CF	Above or equal (unsigned >=)
jb <i>Label</i>	jnae	CF	Below (unsigned <)
jbe <i>Label</i>	jna	CF   ZF	Below or equal (unsigned <=)

Figure 3.15 The jump instructions. These instructions jump to a labeled destination when the jump condition holds. Some instructions have “synonyms,” alternate names for the same machine instruction.

# Practice: Fill in the blanks

```
long loop(long a, long b) {  
    long result = ___(1___;  
    while (___(2___) {  
        result = ___(3___;  
        a = ___(4___;  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

```
<+0>:    mov     $0x1,%eax  
<+5>:    cmp     %rsi,%rdi  
<+8>:    jge     0x1151 <loop+24>  
<+10>:   lea     (%rdi,%rsi,1),%rdx  
<+14>:   imul    %rdx,%rax  
<+18>:   add     $0x1,%rdi  
<+22>:   jmp     0x113e <loop+5>  
<+24>:   retq
```

## GCC common while loop construction:

Test

Jump past loop if fails

Body

Jump to test



<https://godbolt.org/z/zrW6c5MGa>

# Practice: Fill in the blanks

```
long loop(long a, long b) {  
    long result = ___(1___;  
    while (___(2___) {  
        result = ___(3___;  
        a = ___(4___;  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

<+0>:	mov	\$0x1,%eax
<+5>:	cmp	%rsi,%rdi
<+8>:	jge	0x1151 <loop+24>
<+10>:	lea	(%rdi,%rsi,1),%rdx
<+14>:	imul	%rdx,%rax
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<+22>:	jmp	0x113e <loop+5>
<+24>:	retq	

## GCC common while loop construction:

Test

Jump past loop if fails

Body

Jump to test



# Practice: Fill in the blanks

```
long loop(long a, long b) {  
    long result = _____;  
    while (_____) {  
        result = _____;  
        a = _____;  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

<+0>:	mov	\$0x1,%eax
<+5>:	cmp	%rsi,%rdi
<+8>:	jge	0x1151 <loop+24>
<+10>:	lea	(%rdi,%rsi,1),%rdx
<+14>:	imul	%rdx,%rax
<+18>:	add	\$0x1,%rdi
<+22>:	jmp	0x113e <loop+5>
<+24>:	retq	

# Practice: Fill in the blanks

```
long loop(long a, long b) {  
    long result = 1;  
    while (a < b) {  
        result = result*(a+b);  
        a = a + 1;  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

<+0>:	mov	\$0x1,%eax
<+5>:	cmp	%rsi,%rdi
<+8>:	jge	0x1151 <loop+24>
<+10>:	lea	(%rdi,%rsi,1),%rdx
<+14>:	imul	%rdx,%rax
<+18>:	add	\$0x1,%rdi
<+22>:	jmp	0x113e <loop+5>
<+24>:	retq	

# Warm-up: Reverse Engineering

```
int elem_arithmetic(int nums[], int y) {  
    int z = nums[_____] * _____;  
  
    z -= _____;  
  
    return _____;  
}  
-----  
// nums in %rdi, y in %esi  
elem_arithmetic:  
    movl %esi, %eax  
    imull 4(%rdi), %eax  
    movslq %esi, %rsi  
    subl (%rdi,%rsi,4), %eax  
    lea 2(%rax, %rax), %eax  
    ret
```

# Warm-up: Reverse Engineering

```
int elem_arithmetic(int nums[], int y) {
    int z = nums[1] * y;

    z -= _____;

    return _____;
}

-----  
// nums in %rdi, y in %esi
elem_arithmetic:
    movl %esi, %eax          // copy y into %eax
    imull 4(%rdi), %eax      // multiply %eax by nums[1]
    movslq %esi, %rsi         // sign-extend %esi to %rsi
    subl (%rdi,%rsi,4), %eax
    lea 2(%rax, %rax), %eax
    ret
```

# Warm-up: Reverse Engineering

```
int elem_arithmetic(int nums[], int y) {
    int z = nums[1] * y;
    z -= nums[y];
    return 2 * z + 2;
}

-----
```

// nums in %rdi, y in %esi

```
elem_arithmetic:
    movl %esi, %eax          // copy y into %eax
    imull 4(%rdi), %eax      // multiply %eax by nums[1]
    movslq %esi, %rsi         // sign-extend %esi to %rsi
    subl (%rdi,%rsi,4), %eax // subtract nums[y] from %eax
    lea 2(%rax, %rax), %eax // multiply %rax by 2, and add 2
    ret
```

# test practice: What's the C code?

```
0x400546 <test_func>    test    %edi,%edi
0x400548 <test_func+2>   jns     0x400550 <test_func+10>
0x40054a <test_func+4>   mov     $0xfeed,%eax
0x40054f <test_func+9>   retq
0x400550 <test_func+10>  mov     $0xaabbccdd,%eax
0x400555 <test_func+15>  retq
```



# test practice: What's the C code?

```
0x400546 <test_func>    test    %edi,%edi
0x400548 <test_func+2>   jns     0x400550 <test_func+10>
0x40054a <test_func+4>   mov     $0xfeed,%eax
0x40054f <test_func+9>   retq
0x400550 <test_func+10>  mov     $0xaabbccdd,%eax
0x400555 <test_func+15>  retq
```

```
int test_func(int x) {
    if (x < 0) {
        return 0xfeed;
    }
    return 0xaabbccdd;           (or anything like this)
}
```

# Practice: “Escape Room”

```
<escape_room+0>      lea    (%rdi,%rdi,1),%eax
<escape_room+3>      cmp    $0x5,%eax
<escape_room+6>      jg     0x114c <escape_room+19>
<escape_room+8>      cmp    $0x1,%edi
<escape_room+11>     je     0x1152 <escape_room+25>
<escape_room+13>     mov    $0x0,%eax
<escape_room+18>     retq
<escape_room+19>     mov    $0x1,%eax
<escape_room+24>     retq
<escape_room+25>     mov    $0x1,%eax
<escape_room+30>     retq
```

What must be passed to the escapeRoom function such that it returns true (1) and not false (0)?

You don't have to reverse-engineer C code exactly!

# Practice: “Escape Room”

```
<escape_room+0>      lea    (%rdi,%rdi,1),%eax
<escape_room+3>      cmp    $0x5,%eax
<escape_room+6>      jg     0x114c <escape_room+19>
<escape_room+8>      cmp    $0x1,%edi
<escape_room+11>     je     0x1152 <escape_room+25>
<escape_room+13>     mov    $0x0,%eax
<escape_room+18>     retq
<escape_room+19>     mov    $0x1,%eax
<escape_room+24>     retq
<escape_room+25>     mov    $0x1,%eax
<escape_room+30>     retq
```

What must be passed to the escapeRoom function such that it returns true (1) and not false (0)?

**First param > 2 or == 1.**

# **%rip**

- **%rip** is a special register that points to the next instruction to execute.
- Let's dive deeper into how **%rip** works, and how jumps modify it.

# %rip

```
void loop() {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < 100) {  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

0x40113f <+0>:	b8 00 00 00 00	mov \$0x0,%eax
0x401144 <+5>:	83 f8 63	cmp \$0x63,%eax
0x401147 <+8>:	7f 05	jg 40114e <loop2+15>
0x401149 <+10>:	83 c0 01	add \$0x1,%eax
0x40114c <+13>:	eb f6	jmp 401144 <loop2+5>
0x40114e <+15>:	c3	retq

# %rip

```
void loop() {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < 100) {  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

0x40113f	<+0>:	b8 00 00 00 00	mov \$0x0,%eax
0x401144	<+5>:	83 f8 63	cmp \$0x63,%eax
0x401147	<+8>:	7f 05	jg 40114e <loop2+15>
0x401149	<+10>:	83 c0 01	add \$0x1,%eax
0x40114c	<+13>:	eb f6	jmp 401144 <loop2+5>
0x40114e	<+15>:	c3	retq

These are 0-based offsets in bytes (hex) for each instruction relative to the start of this function.

# %rip

```
void loop() {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < 100) {  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

0x40113f <+0>:	b8 00 00 00 00	mov \$0x0,%eax
0x401144 <+5>:	83 f8 63	cmp \$0x63,%eax
0x401147 <+8>:	7f 05	jg 40114e <loop2+15>
0x401149 <+10>:	83 c0 01	add \$0x1,%eax
0x40114c <+13>:	eb f6	jmp 401144 <loop2+5>
0x40114e <+15>:	c3	retq

These are bytes for the machine code instructions. Instructions are variable length.

# %rip

```
void loop() {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < 100) {  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

0x40113f <+0>:	b8 00 00 00 00	mov \$0x0,%eax
0x401144 <+5>:	83 f8 63	cmp \$0x63,%eax
<b>0x401147 &lt;+8&gt;:</b>	<b>7f 05</b>	<b>jg 40114e &lt;loop2+15&gt;</b>
0x401149 <+10>:	83 c0 01	add \$0x1,%eax
0x40114c <+13>:	eb f6	jmp 401144 <loop2+5>
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# %rip

```
0x40113f <+0>: b8 00 00 00 00    mov    $0x0,%eax  
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0x401149 <+10>: 83 c0 01          add    $0x1,%eax  
0x40114c <+13>: eb f6          jmp    401144 <loop2+5>  
0x40114e <+15>: c3          retq
```

# %rip

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0x40113f <+0>: b8 00 00 00 00    mov    $0x0,%eax  
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0x401149 <+10>: 83 c0 01          add    $0x1,%eax  
0x40114c <+13>: eb f6          jmp    401144 <loop2+5>  
0x40114e <+15>: c3              retq
```

0x7f means jg.

# %rip

```
0x40113f <+0>: b8 00 00 00 00    mov    $0x0,%eax  
0x401144 <+5>: 83 f8 63          cmp    $0x63,%eax  
0x401147 <+8>: 7f 05             jg    40114e <loop2+15>  
0x401149 <+10>: 83 c0 01          add    $0x1,%eax  
0x40114c <+13>: eb f6          jmp    401144 <loop2+5>  
0x40114e <+15>: c3              retq
```

**0x05** is the number of instruction bytes to jump relative to %rip.

With no jump, %rip would advance to the next line. This **jg** says to then go 5 bytes further!

# %rip

```
0x40113f <+0>: b8 00 00 00 00    mov    $0x0,%eax  
0x401144 <+5>: 83 f8 63          cmp    $0x63,%eax  
0x401147 <+8>: 7f 05              jg     40114e <loop2+15>  
0x401149 <+10>: 83 c0 01          add    $0x1,%eax  
0x40114c <+13>: eb f6              jmp    401144 <loop2+5>  
0x40114e <+15>: c3                retq
```

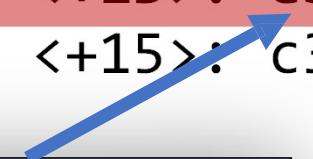
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0x401144 <+5>: 83 f8 63          cmp    $0x63,%eax  
0x401147 <+8>: 7f 05              jg     40114e <loop2+15>  
0x401149 <+10>: 83 c0 01          add    $0x1,%eax  
0x40114c <+13>: eb f6          jmp    401144 <loop2+5>  
0x40114e <+15>: c3              retq
```

0xeb means jmp.



# %rip

```
0x40113f <+0>: b8 00 00 00 00    mov    $0x0,%eax  
0x401144 <+5>: 83 f8 63        cmp    $0x63,%eax  
0x401147 <+8>: 7f 05          jg     40114e <loop2+15>  
0x401149 <+10>: 83 c0 01       add    $0x1,%eax  
0x40114c <+13>: eb f6          jmp    401144 <loop2+5>  
0x40114e <+15>: c3              retq
```

**0xf6** is the number of instruction bytes to jump relative to %rip. This is -10 (in two's complement!).

With no jump, %rip would advance to the next line. This **jmp** says to then go **10** bytes back!

# %rip

```
0x40113f <+0>: b8 00 00 00 00    mov    $0x0,%eax  
0x401144 <+5>: 83 f8 63          cmp    $0x63,%eax  
0x401147 <+8>: 7f 05              jg     40114e <loop2+15>  
0x401149 <+10>: 83 c0 01          add    $0x1,%eax  
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0xf6 is the number of instruction bytes to jump relative to %rip. This is -10 (in two's complement!).

With no jump, %rip would advance to the next line. This **jmp** says to then go **10** bytes back!

# Summary: Instruction Pointer

- Machine code instructions live in main memory, just like stack and heap data.
- %rip is a register that stores a number (an address) of the next instruction to execute. It marks our place in the program's instructions.
- To advance to the next instruction, special hardware adds the size of the current instruction in bytes.
- **jmp** instructions work by adjusting %rip by a specified amount.

# **How do we call functions in assembly?**

# Calling Functions In Assembly

To call a function in assembly, we must do a few things:

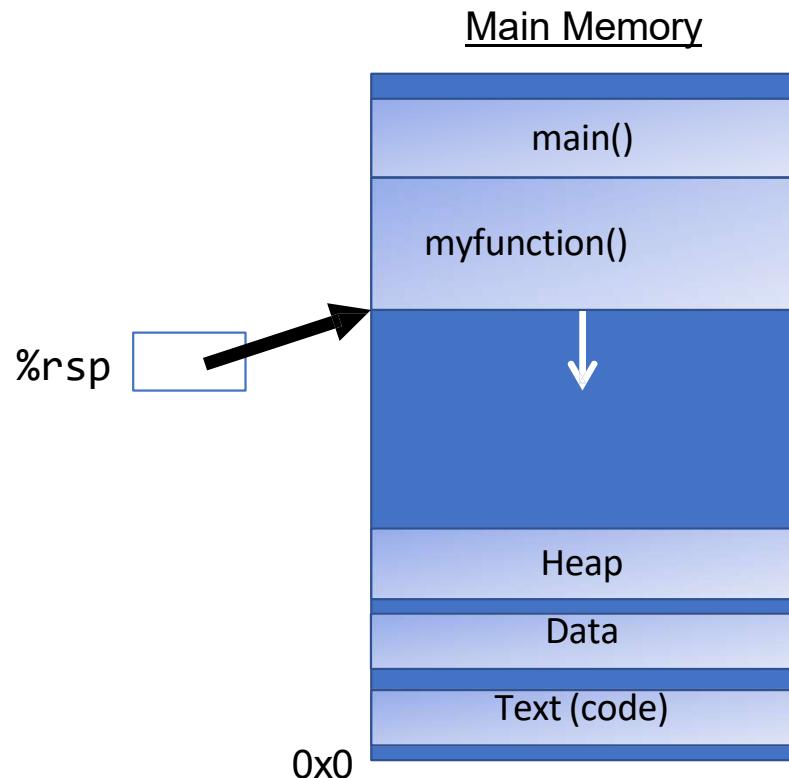
- **Pass Control** – %rip must be adjusted to execute the callee's instructions, and then resume the caller's instructions afterwards.
- **Pass Data** – we must pass any parameters and receive any return value.
- **Manage Memory** – we must handle any space needs of the callee on the stack.

How does assembly  
interact with the stack?

Terminology: **caller** function calls the **callee** function.

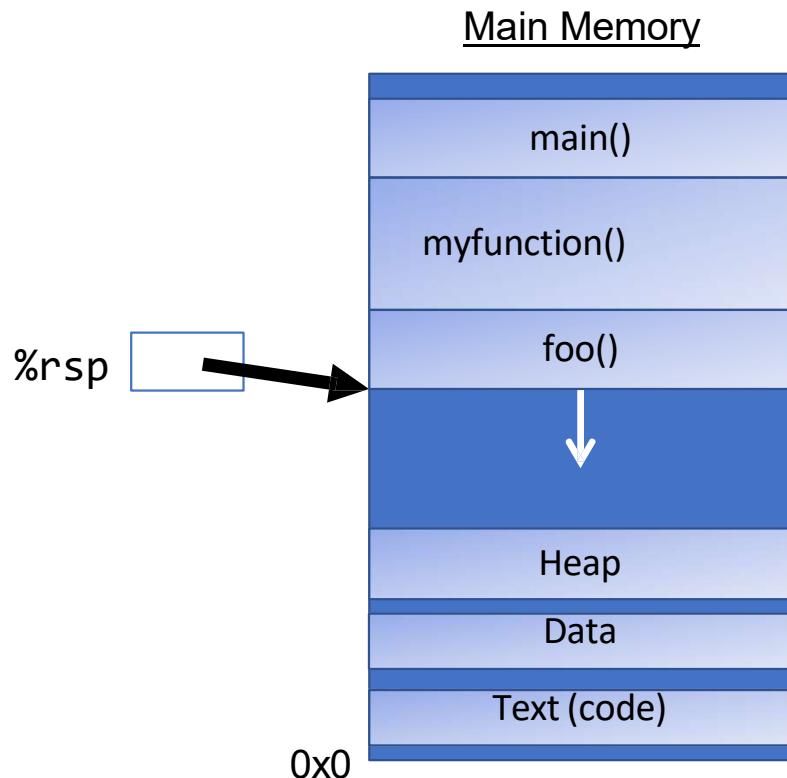
# %rsp

- **%rsp** is a special register that stores the address of the current “top” of the stack (the bottom in our diagrams, since the stack grows downwards).



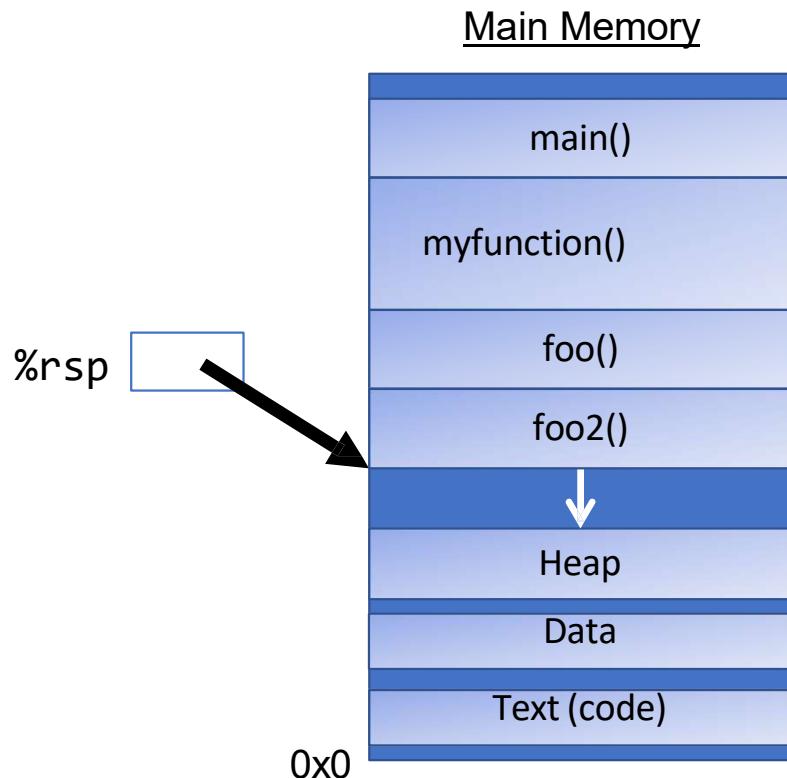
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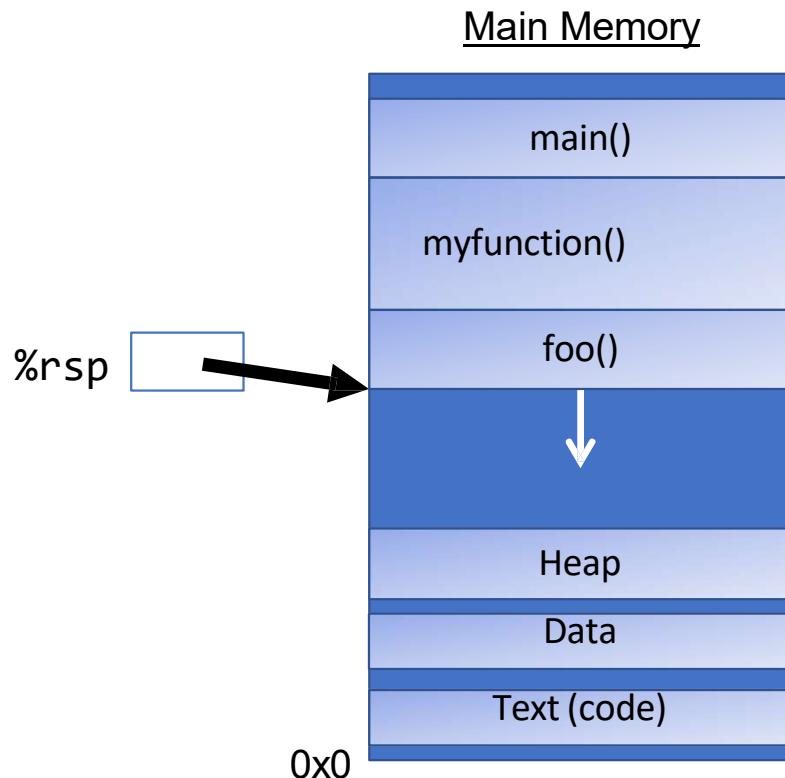
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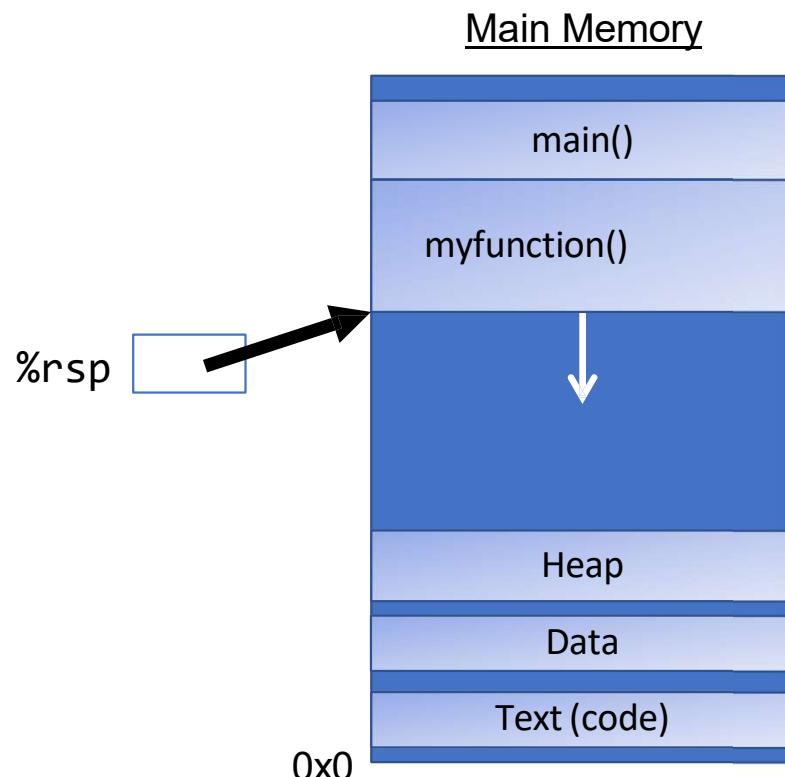
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# %rsp

- **%rsp** is a special register that stores the address of the current “top” of the stack (the bottom in our diagrams, since the stack grows downwards).



**Key idea:** **%rsp** must point to the same place before a function is called and after that function returns, since stack frames go away when a function finishes.

# push

- The **push** instruction pushes the data at the specified source onto the top of the stack, adjusting **%rsp** accordingly.

Instruction	Effect
pushq S	$R[\%rsp] \leftarrow R[\%rsp] - 8;$ $M[R[\%rsp]] \leftarrow S$

# push

- The **push** instruction pushes the data at the specified source onto the top of the stack, adjusting **%rsp** accordingly.

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Instruction	Effect
<code>pushq S</code>	$R[\%rsp] \leftarrow R[\%rsp] - 8;$ $M[R[\%rsp]] \leftarrow S$

- This behavior is equivalent to the following, but `pushq` is a shorter instruction:  
`subq $8, %rsp`  
`movq S, (%rsp)`
- Sometimes, you'll see instructions just explicitly decrement the stack pointer to make room for future data.

# pop

- The **pop** instruction pops the topmost data from the stack and stores it in the specified destination, adjusting **%rsp** accordingly.

Instruction	Effect
popq D	$D \leftarrow M[R[\%rsp]]$ $R[\%rsp] \leftarrow R[\%rsp] + 8;$

- **Note:** this *does not* remove/clear out the data! It just increments **%rsp** to indicate the next push can overwrite that location.

# pop

- The **pop** instruction pops the topmost data from the stack and stores it in the specified destination, adjusting **%rsp** accordingly.

Instruction	Effect
popq D	$D \leftarrow M[R[\%rsp]]$ $R[\%rsp] \leftarrow R[\%rsp] + 8;$

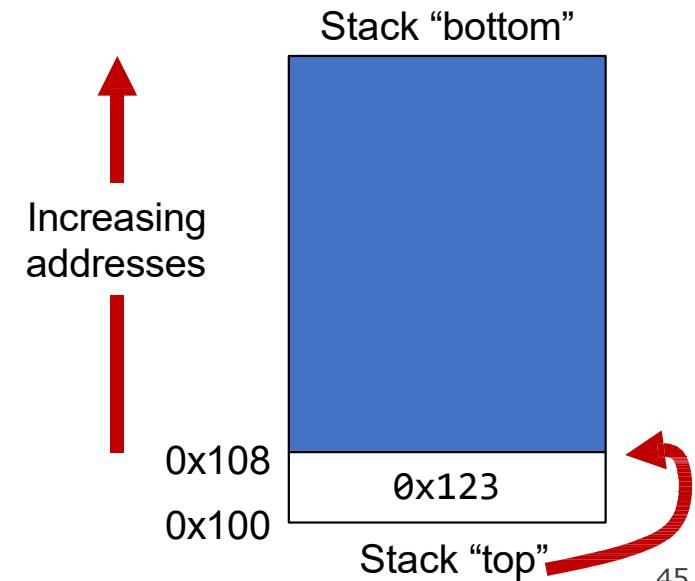
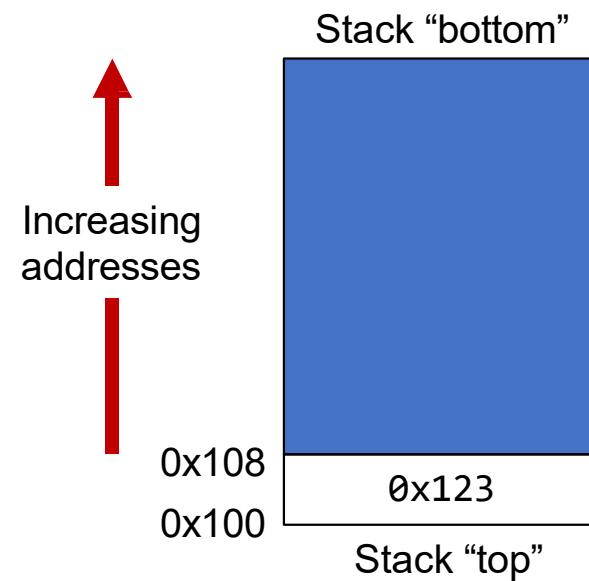
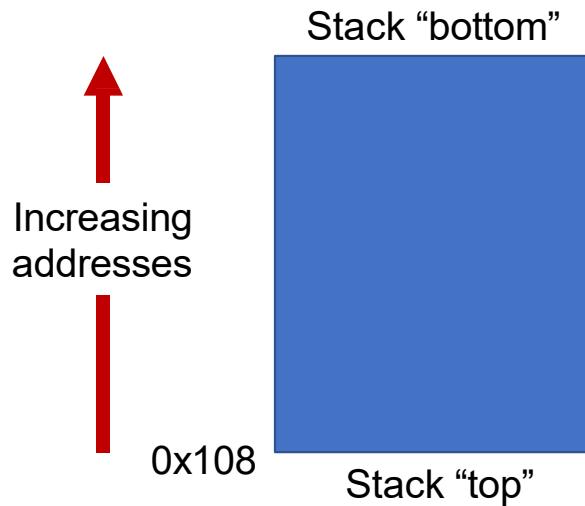
- This behavior is equivalent to the following, but popq is a shorter instruction:  
**movq (%rsp), D**  
**addq \$8, %rsp**
- Sometimes, you'll see instructions just explicitly increment the stack pointer to pop data.

# Stack Example

Initially	
%rax	0x123
%rdx	0
%rsp	0x108

pushq %rax	
%rax	0x123
%rdx	0
%rsp	0x100

popq %rdx	
%rax	0x123
%rdx	0x123
%rsp	0x108



# Calling Functions In Assembly

To call a function in assembly, we must do a few things:

- **Pass Control** – %rip must be adjusted to execute the callee's instructions, and then resume the caller's instructions afterwards.
- **Pass Data** – we must pass any parameters and receive any return value.
- **Manage Memory** – we must handle any space needs of the callee on the stack.

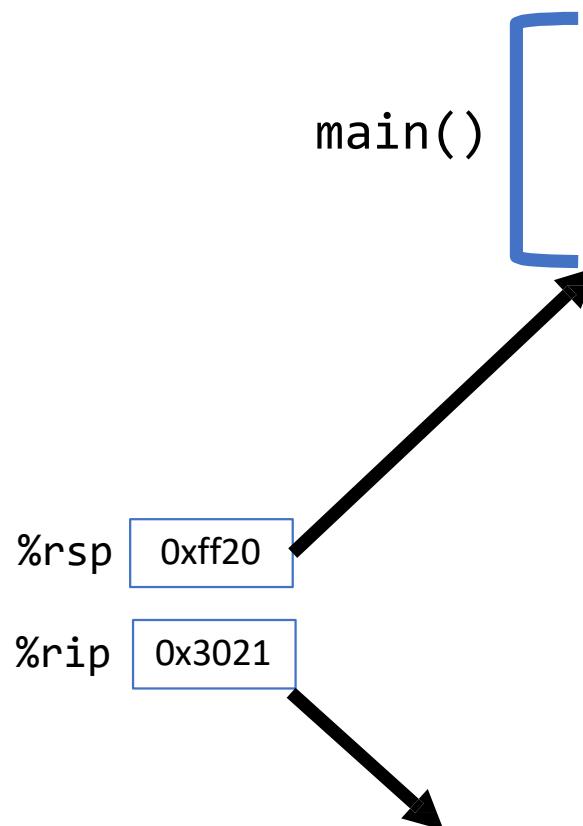
Terminology: **caller** function calls the **callee** function.

# Remembering Where We Left Off

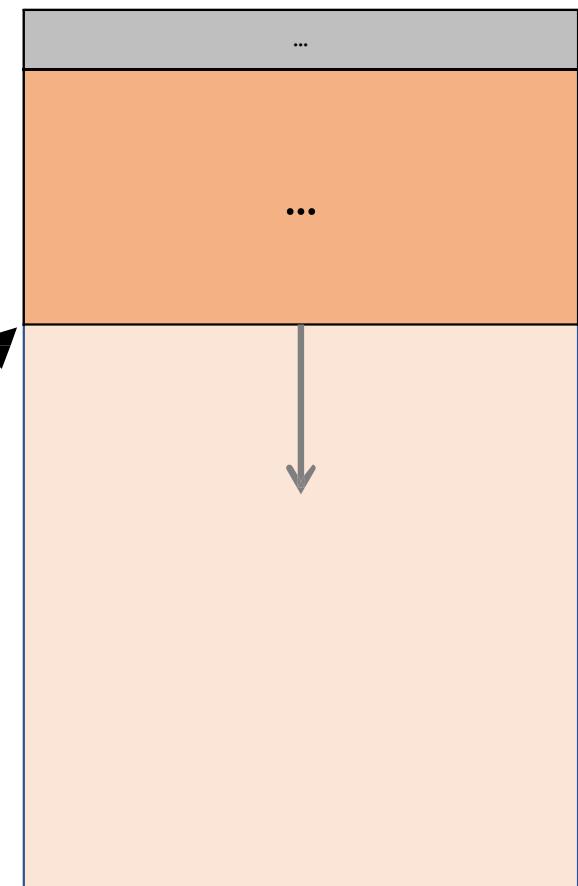
**Problem:** %rip points to the next instruction to execute. To call a function, we must remember the *next* caller instruction to resume at after.

**Solution:** push the next value of %rip onto the stack. Then call the function. When it is finished, put this value back into %rip and continue executing.

*E.g. main() calls foo():*



Stack

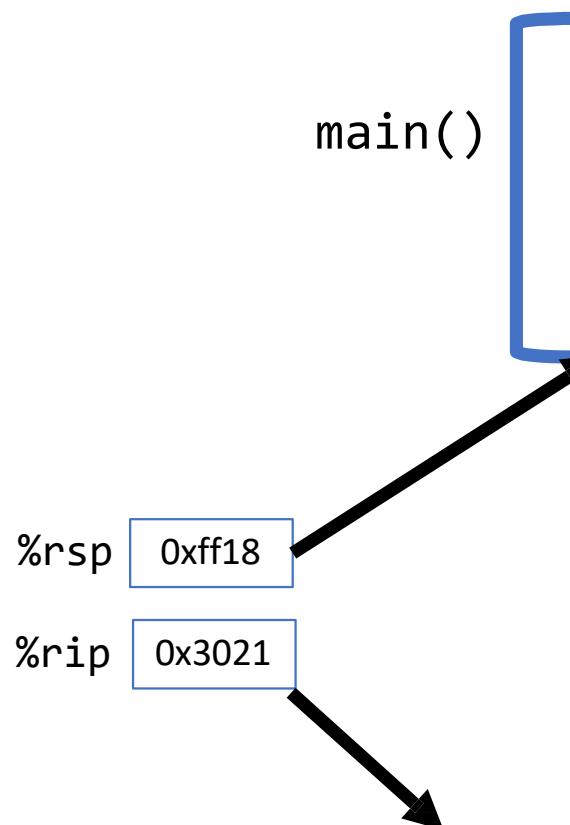


# Remembering Where We Left Off

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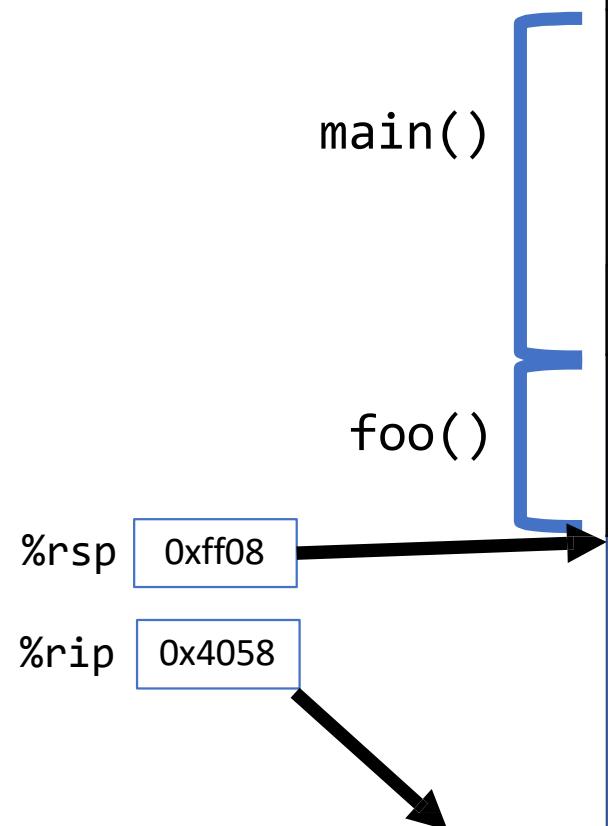
Stack

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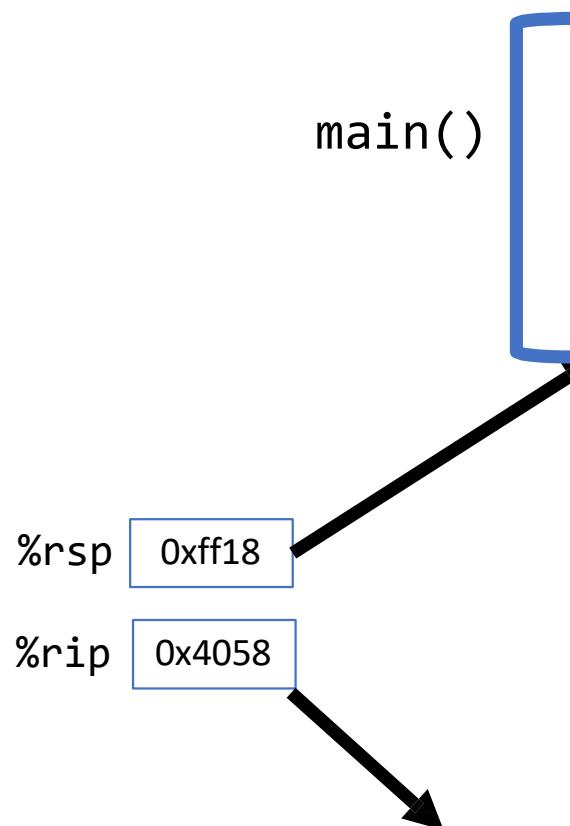
Stack

# Remembering Where We Left Off

**Problem:** %rip points to the next instruction to execute. To call a function, we must remember the *next* caller instruction to resume at after.

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*E.g. main() calls foo():*



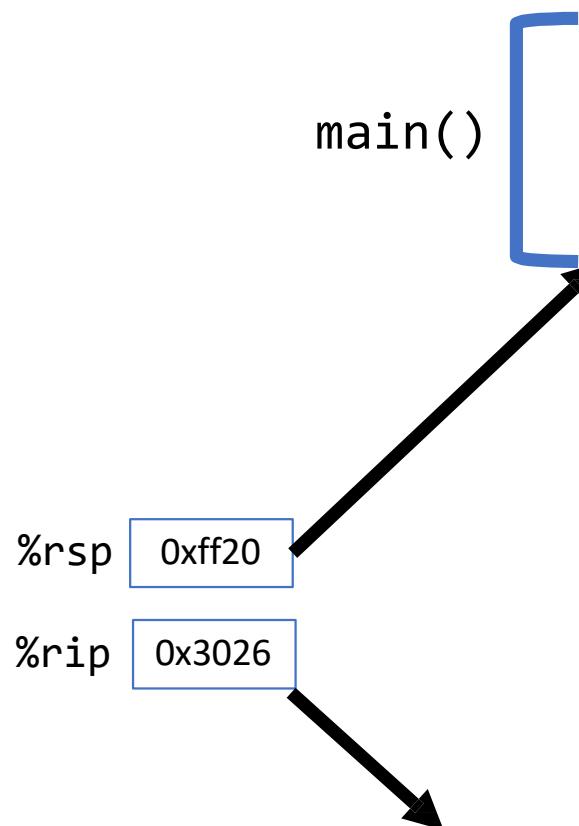
Stack

# Remembering Where We Left Off

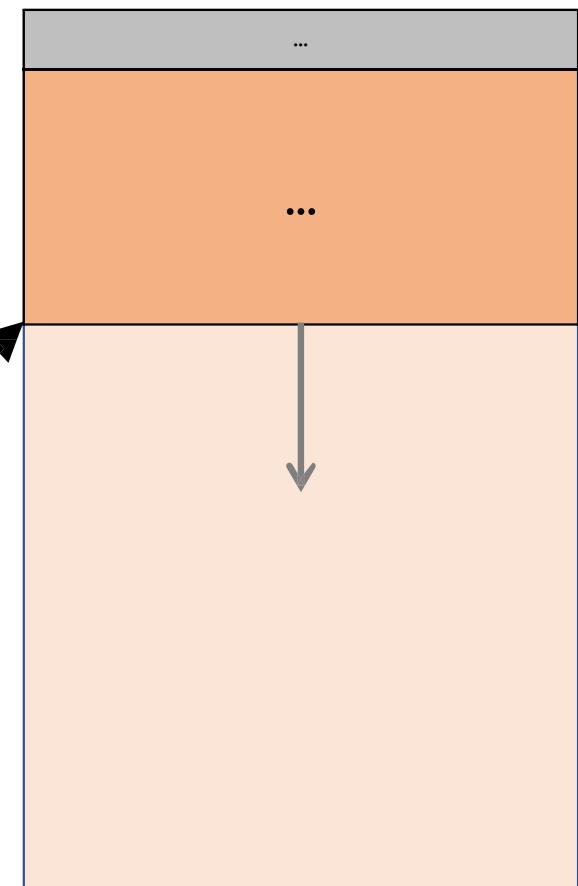
**Problem:** %rip points to the next instruction to execute. To call a function, we must remember the *next* caller instruction to resume at after.

**Solution:** push the next value of %rip onto the stack. Then call the function. When it is finished, put this value back into %rip and continue executing.

*E.g. main() calls foo():*



Stack



# Call And Return

The **call** instruction pushes the address of the instruction immediately following the **call** instruction onto the stack and sets %rip to point to the beginning of the specified function's instructions.

**call Label**

**call \*Operand**

The **ret** instruction pops this instruction address from the stack and stores it in %rip.

**ret**

The stored %rip value for a function is called its **return address**. It is the address of the instruction at which to resume the function's execution. (not to be confused with **return value**, which is the value returned from a function).

# Calling Functions In Assembly

To call a function in assembly, we must do a few things:

- **Pass Control** – %rip must be adjusted to execute the function being called and then resume the caller function afterwards.
- **Pass Data** – we must pass any parameters and receive any return value.
- **Manage Memory** – we must handle any space needs of the callee on the stack.

Terminology: **caller** function calls the **callee** function.

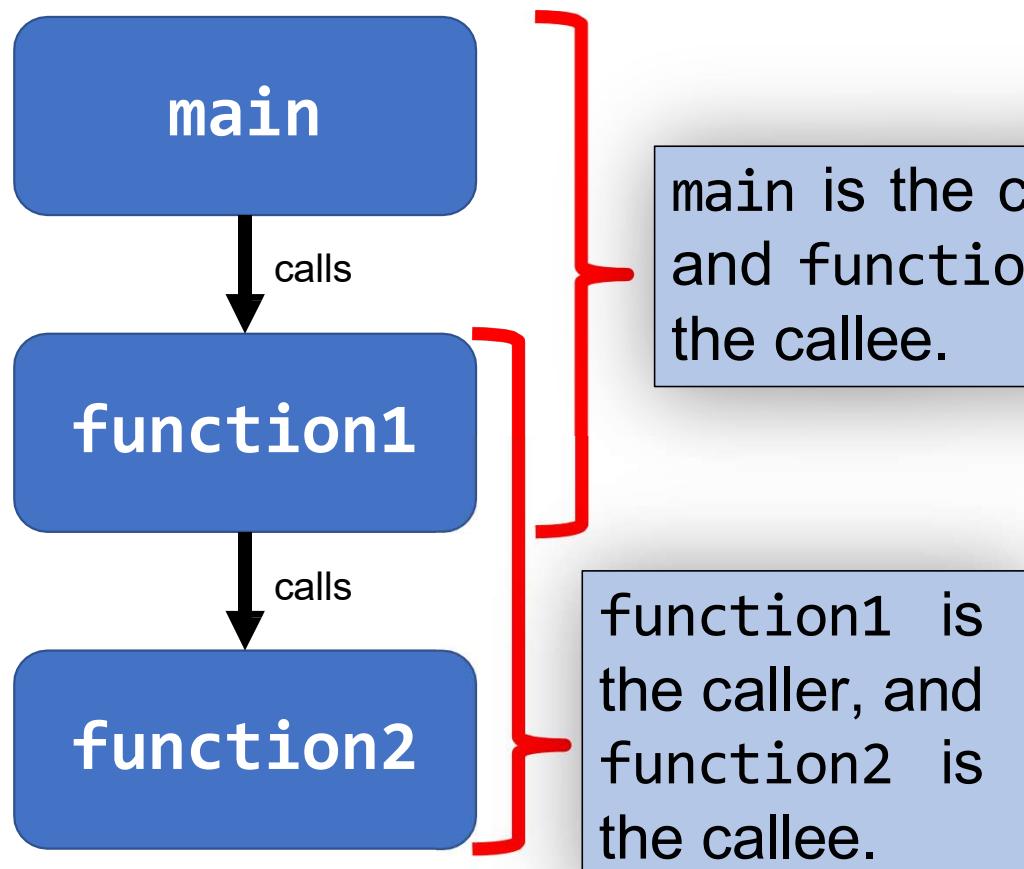
# Register Restrictions

There is only one copy of registers for all programs and functions.

- **Problem:** what if *funcA* is building up a value in register %r10, and calls *funcB* in the middle, which also has instructions that modify %r10? *funcA*'s value will be overwritten!
- **Solution:** make some “rules of the road” that callers and callees must follow when using registers so they do not interfere with one another.
- These rules define two types of registers: **caller-owned** and **callee-owned**

# Caller/Callee

**Caller/callee** is terminology that refers to a pair of functions. A single function may be both a caller and callee simultaneously (e.g. function1 at right).



# Register Restrictions

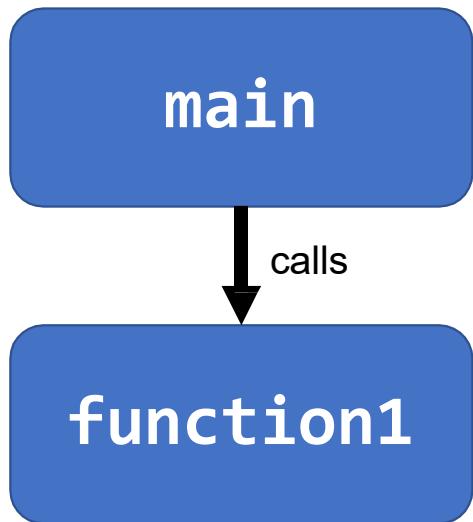
## Caller-Owned

- Callee must *save* the existing value and *restore* it when done.
- Caller can store values and assume they will be preserved across function calls.

## Callee-Owned

- Callee does not need to save the existing value.
- Caller's values could be overwritten by a callee! The caller may consider saving values elsewhere before calling functions.

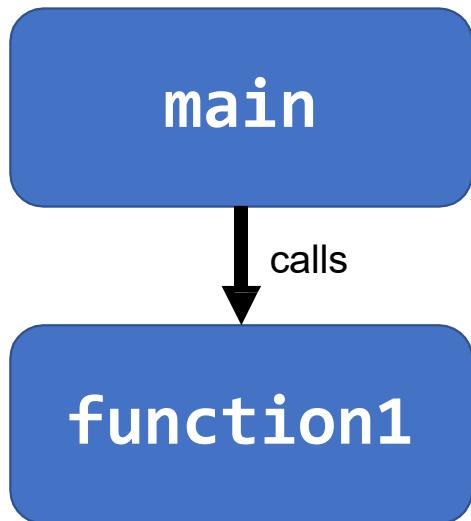
# Caller-Owned Registers



main can use caller-owned registers and know that function1 will not permanently modify their values.

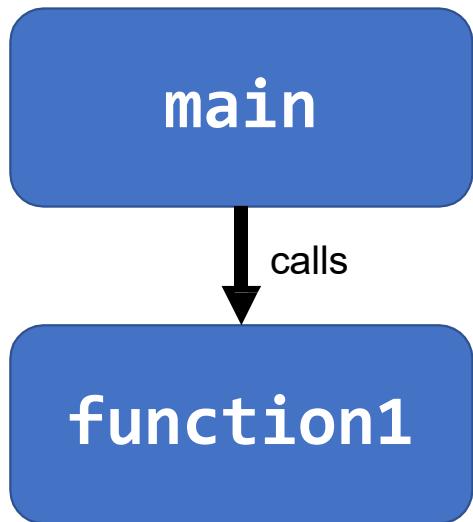
If function1 wants to use any caller-owned registers, it must save the existing values and restore them before returning.

# Caller-Owned Registers



```
function1:  
push %rbp  
push %rbx  
...  
pop %rbx  
pop %rbp  
retq
```

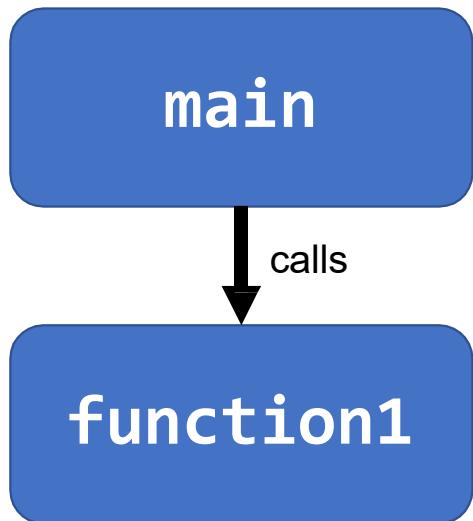
# Callee-Owned Registers



main can use callee-owned registers but calling function1 may permanently modify their values.

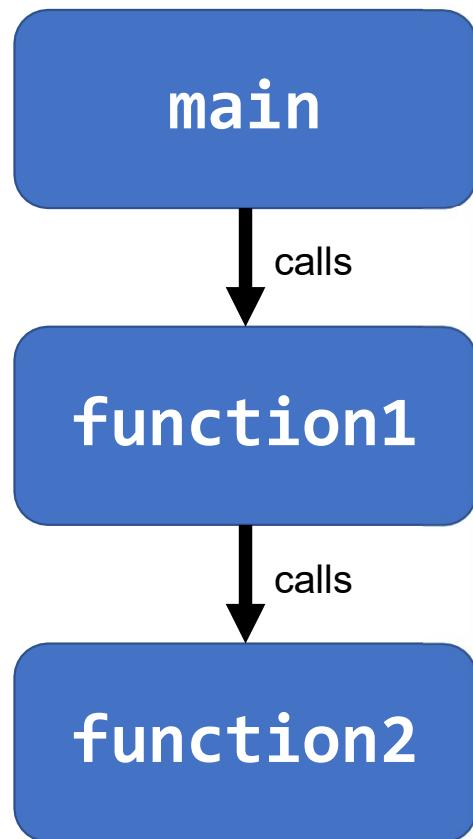
If function1 wants to use any callee-owned registers, it can do so without saving the existing values.

# Callee-Owned Registers



```
main:  
...  
push %r10  
push %r11  
callq function1  
pop %r11  
pop %r10  
...
```

# A Day In the Life of **function1**



## Caller-owned registers:

- **function1** must save/restore existing values of any it wants to use.
- **function1** can assume that calling **function2** will not permanently change their values.

## Callee-owned registers:

- **function1** does not need to save/restore existing values of any it wants to use.
- calling **function2** may permanently change their values.

# Parameters and Return

- There are special registers that store parameters and the return value.
- To call a function, we must put any parameters we are passing into the correct registers. (%rdi, %rsi, %rdx, %rcx, %r8, %r9, in that order)
- Parameters beyond the first 6 are put on the stack.
- If the caller expects a return value, it looks in %rax after the callee completes.

# Calling Functions In Assembly

To call a function in assembly, we must do a few things:

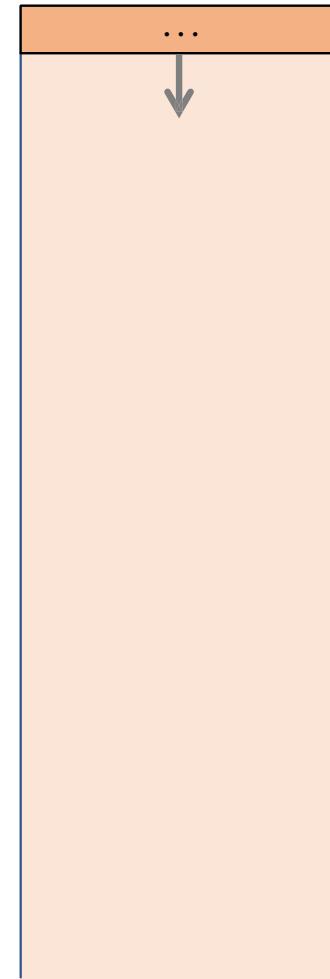
- **Pass Control** – %rip must be adjusted to execute the function being called and then resume the caller function afterwards.
- **Pass Data** – we must pass any parameters and receive any return value.
- **Manage Memory** – we must handle any space needs of the callee on the stack.

Terminology: **caller** function calls the **callee** function.

# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
    int i2 = 2;  
    int i3 = 3;  
    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);  
    ...  
}  
  
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,  
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

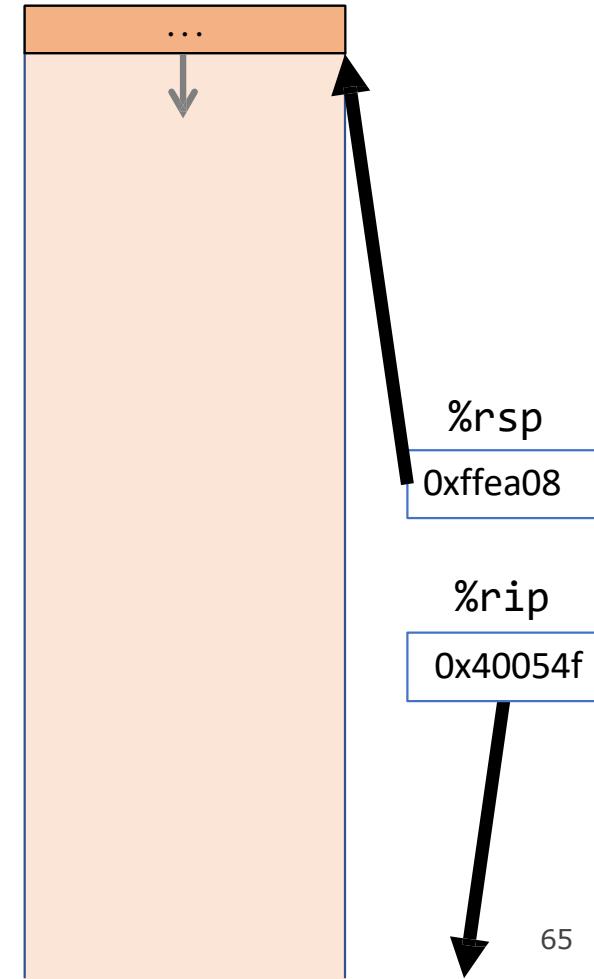
main() ↗



# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
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    ...  
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         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

main() ↗

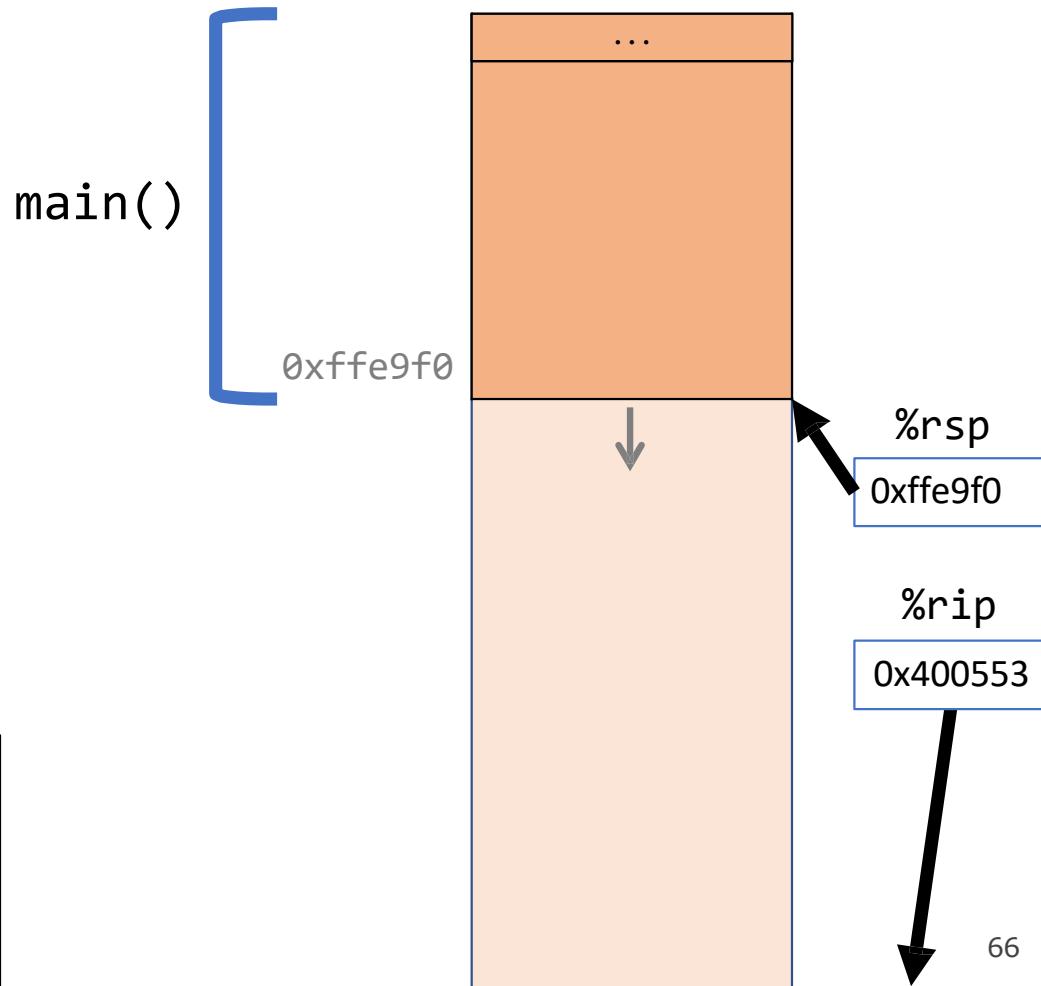


```
0x40054f <+0>:    sub    $0x18,%rsp  
0x400553 <+4>:    movl    $0x1,0xc(%rsp)  
0x40055b <+12>:   movl    $0x2,0x8(%rsp)  
0x400563 <+20>:   movl    $0x3,0x4(%rsp)  
0x40056b <+28>:   movl    $0x4,(%rsp)
```

# Parameters and Return

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    int i1 = 1;  
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    ...  
}  
  
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    ...  
}
```

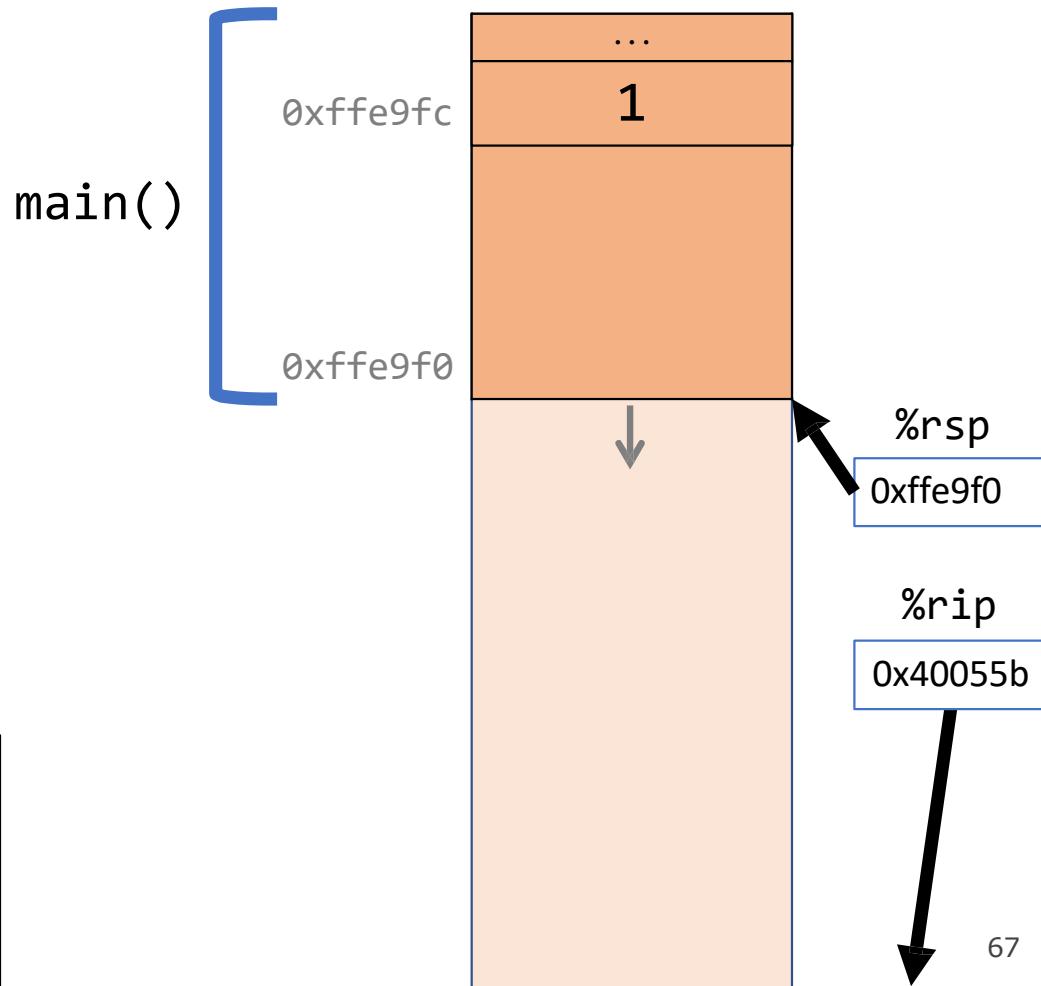
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         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
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```

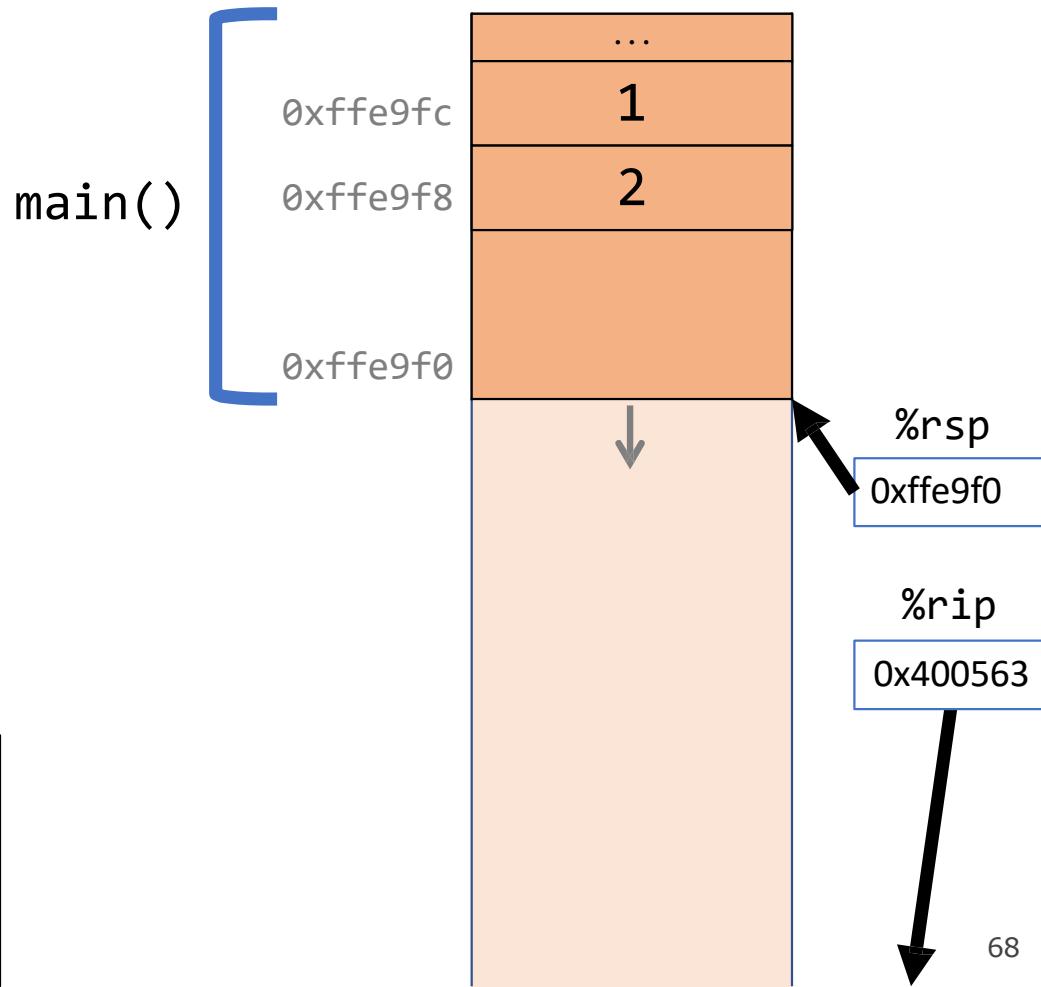
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# Parameters and Return

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    int i3 = 3;  
    int i4 = 4;  
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                      i1, i2, i3, i4);  
    ...  
}  
  
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         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

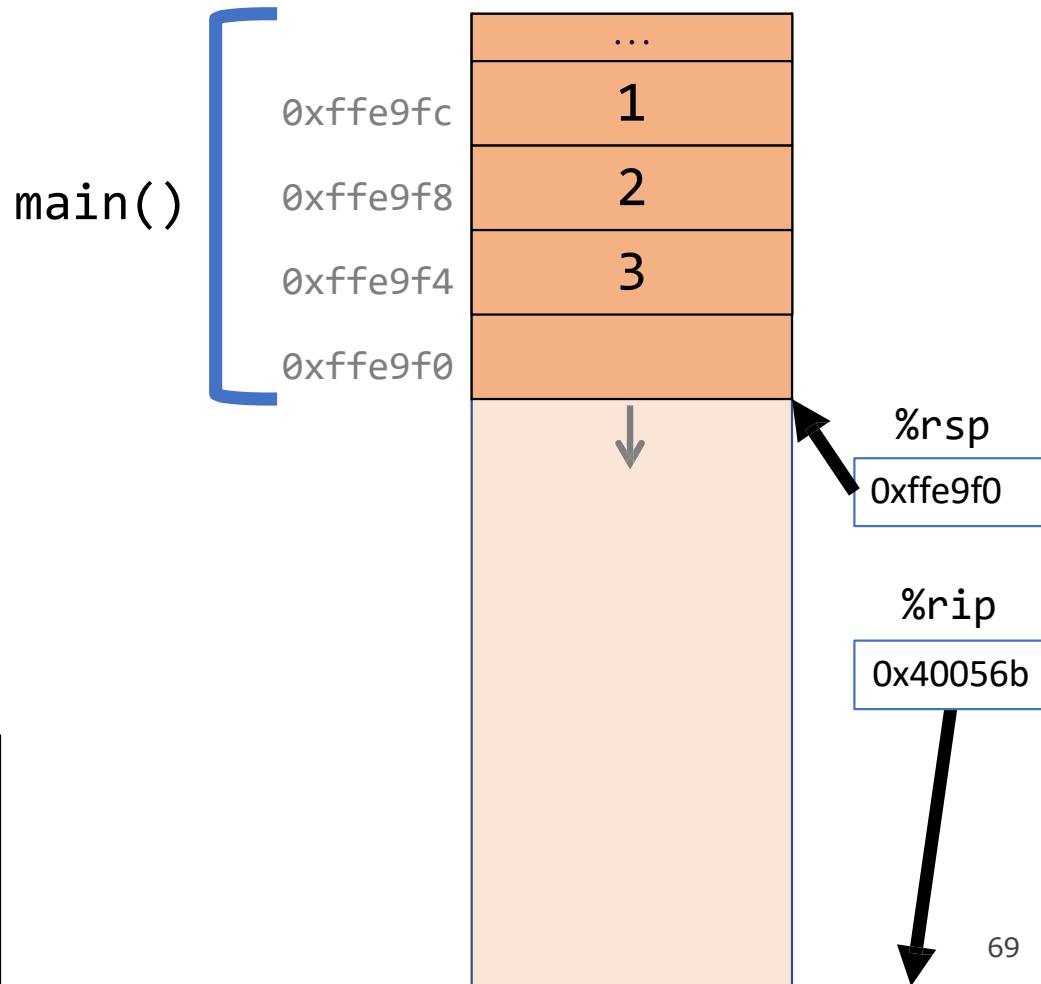
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# Parameters and Return

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    int i1 = 1;  
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    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
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    ...  
}  
  
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    ...  
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```

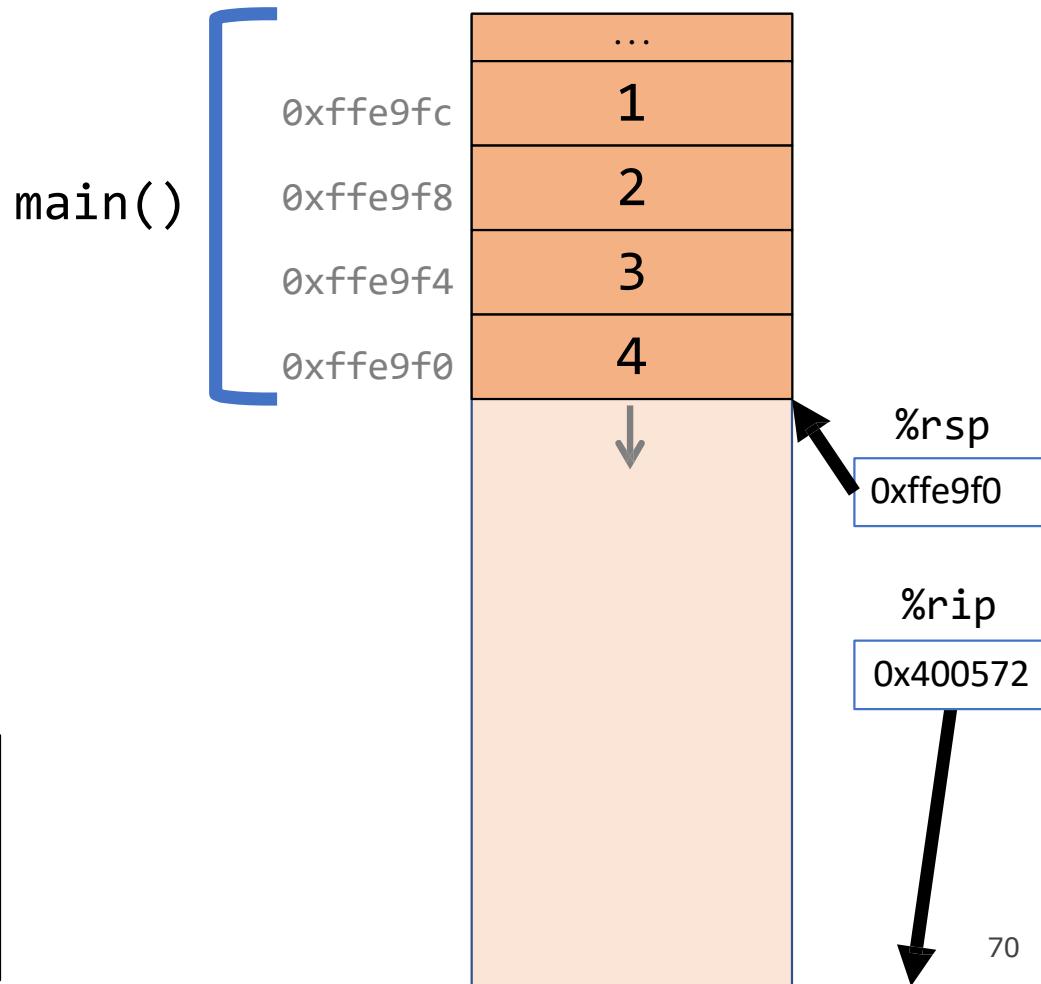
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0x40055b <+12>:   movl  $0x2,0x8(%rsp)  
0x400563 <+20>:  movl  $0x3,0x4(%rsp)  
0x40056b <+28>:   movl  $0x4,(%rsp)  
0x400572 <+35>:   pushq $0x4
```



# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
    int i2 = 2;  
    int i3 = 3;  
    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);  
    ...  
}  
  
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,  
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

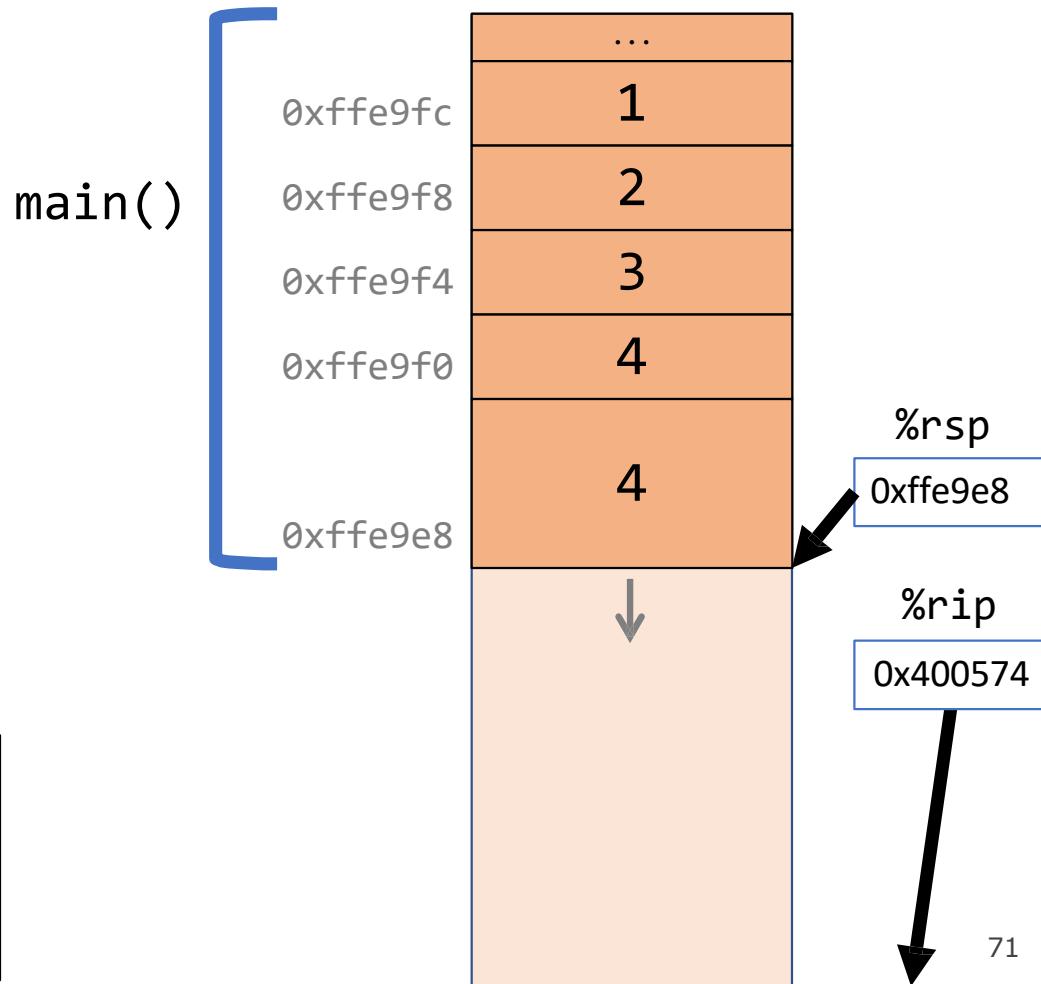
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0x40055b <+12>:  movl  $0x2,0x8(%rsp)  
0x400563 <+20>:  movl  $0x3,0x4(%rsp)  
0x40056b <+28>:  movl  $0x4,%rsp  
0x400572 <+35>:  pushq $0x4  
0x400574 <+37>:  pushq $0x3
```



# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
    int i2 = 2;  
    int i3 = 3;  
    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);  
    ...  
}  
  
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    ...  
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```

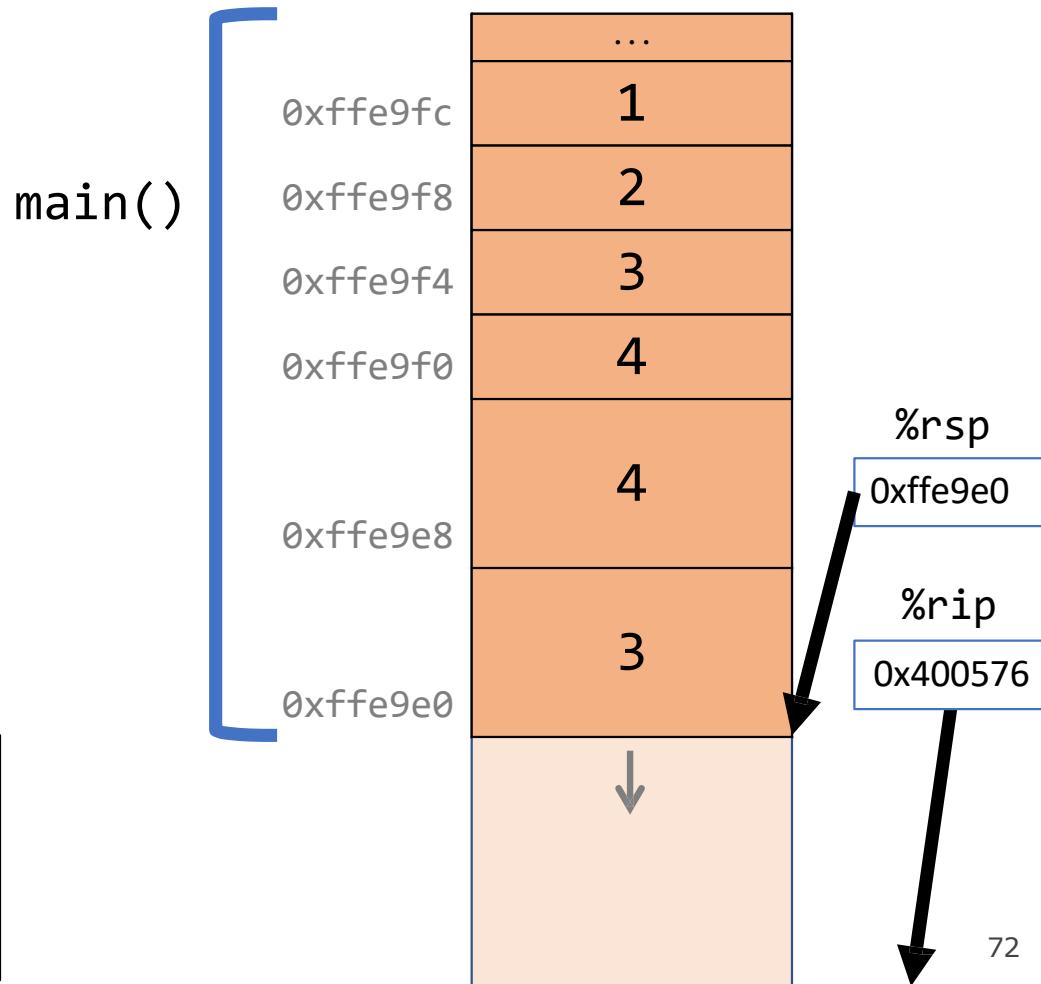
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0x400572 <+35>:  pushq  $0x4  
0x400574 <+37>:  pushq  $0x3  
0x400576 <+39>:  mov     $0x2,%r9d
```



# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
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    int i3 = 3;  
    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);  
    ...  
}  
  
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,  
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

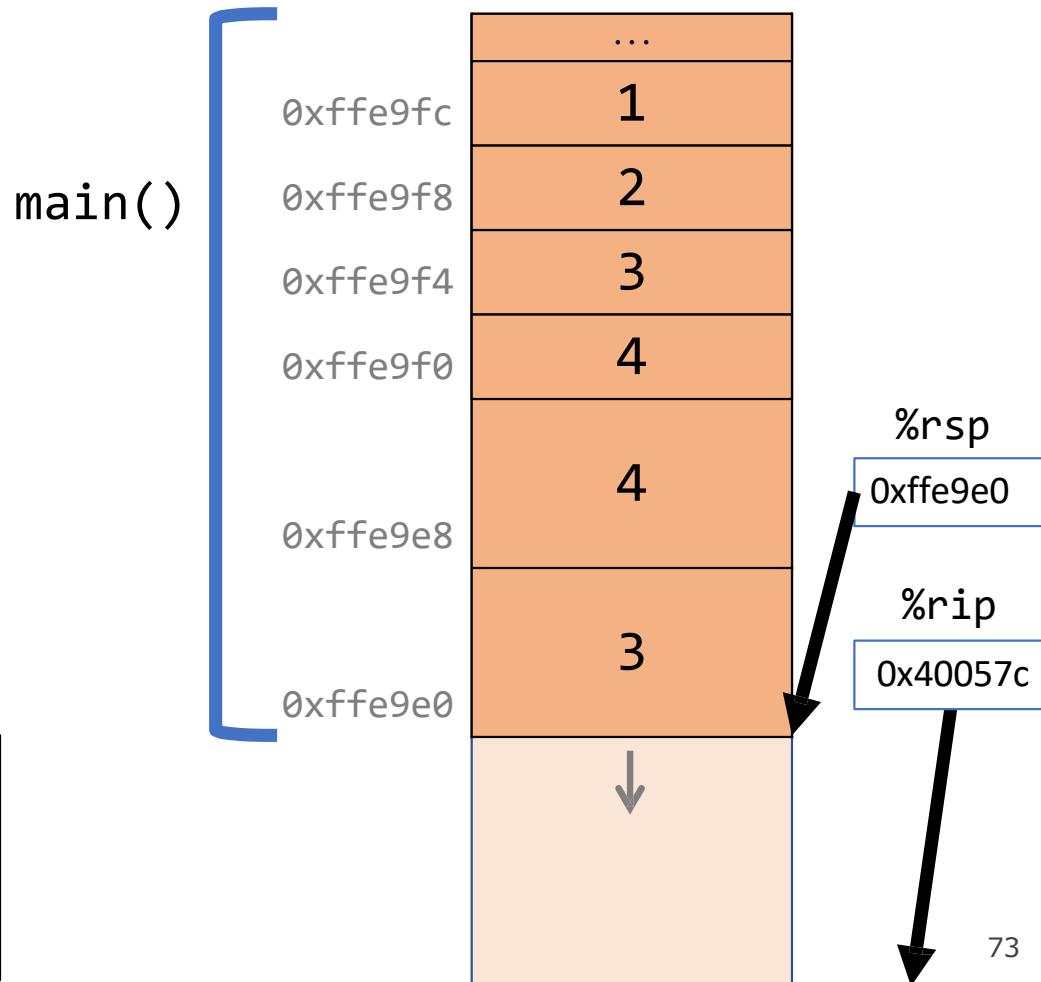
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0x40056b <+28>:  movl  $0x4,(%rsp)  
0x400572 <+35>:  pushq $0x4  
0x400574 <+37>:  pushq $0x3  
0x400576 <+39>:  mov    $0x2,%r9d  
0x40057c <+45>:  mov    $0x1,%r8d
```



# Parameters and Return

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    ...  
}  
  
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         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

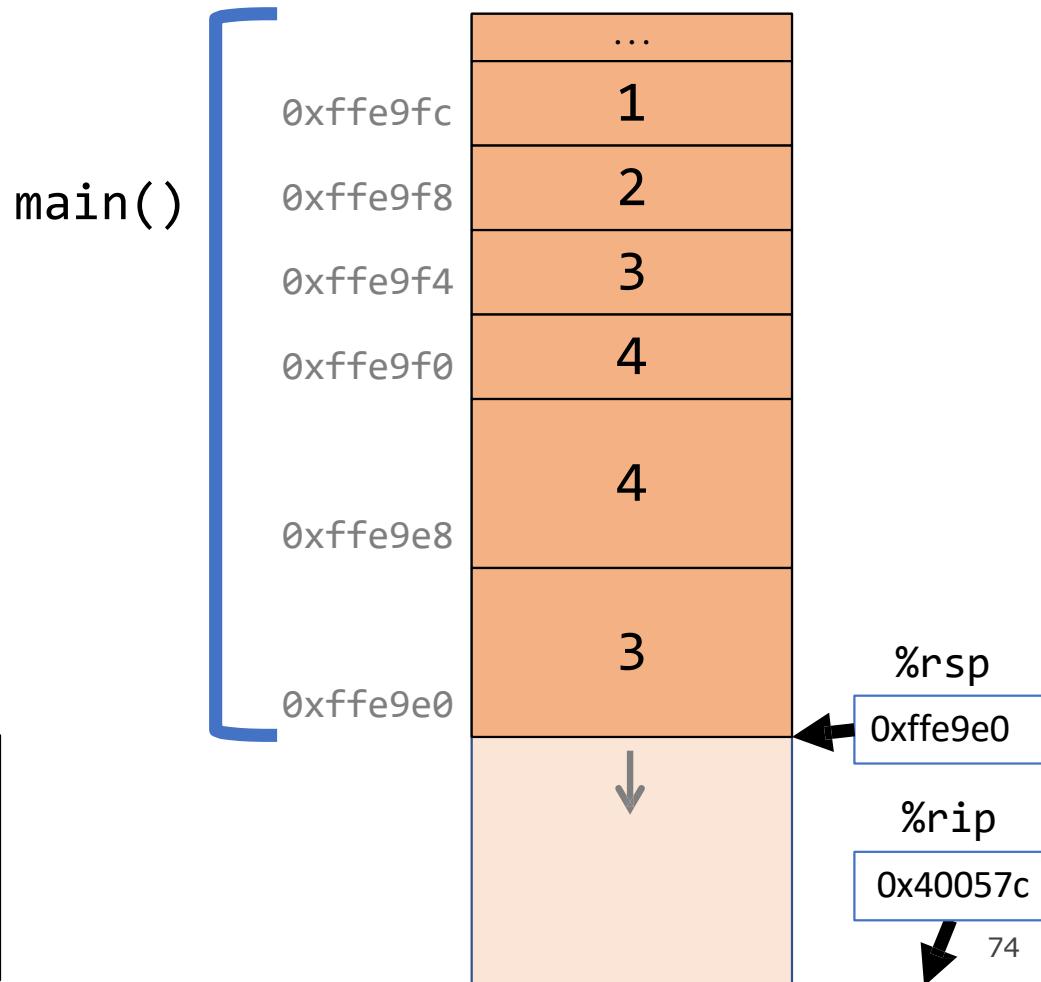
```
0x400572 <+35>: pushq $0x4  
0x400574 <+37>: pushq $0x3  
0x400576 <+39>: mov    $0x2,%r9d  
0x40057c <+45>:  mov    $0x1,%r8d  
0x400582 <+51>:  lea     0x10(%rsp),%rcx
```



# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
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    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
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    ...  
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int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,  
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```

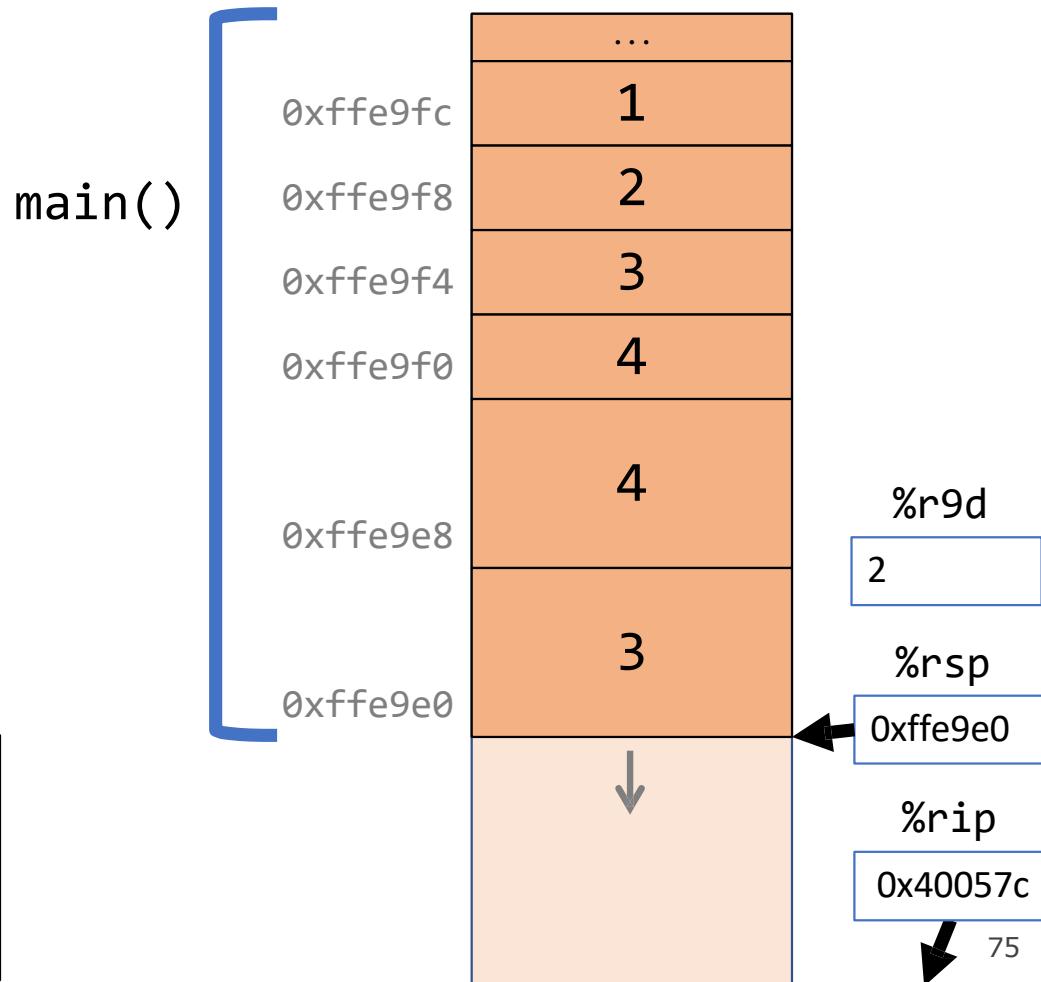
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# Parameters and Return

```
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    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
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    ...  
}  
  
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,  
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

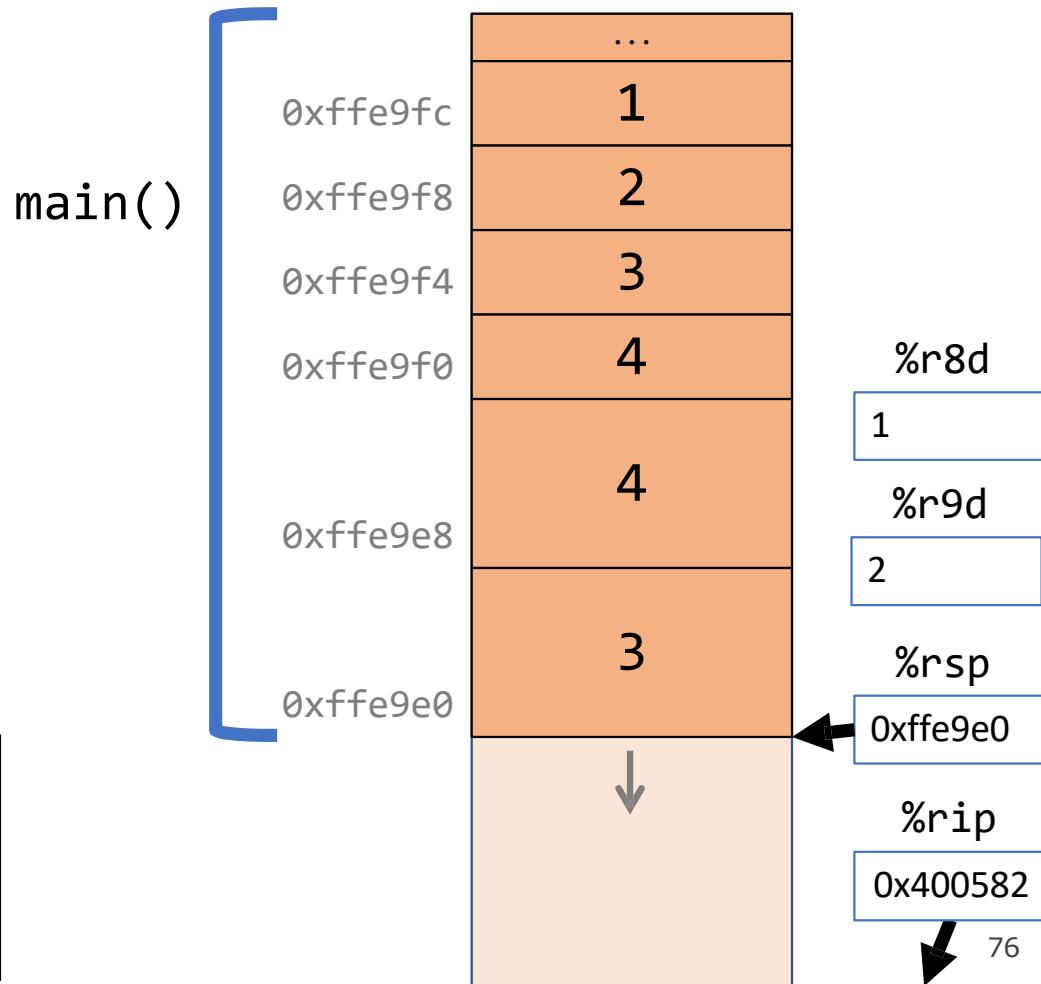
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# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
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    int i3 = 3;  
    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);  
    ...  
}  
  
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,  
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

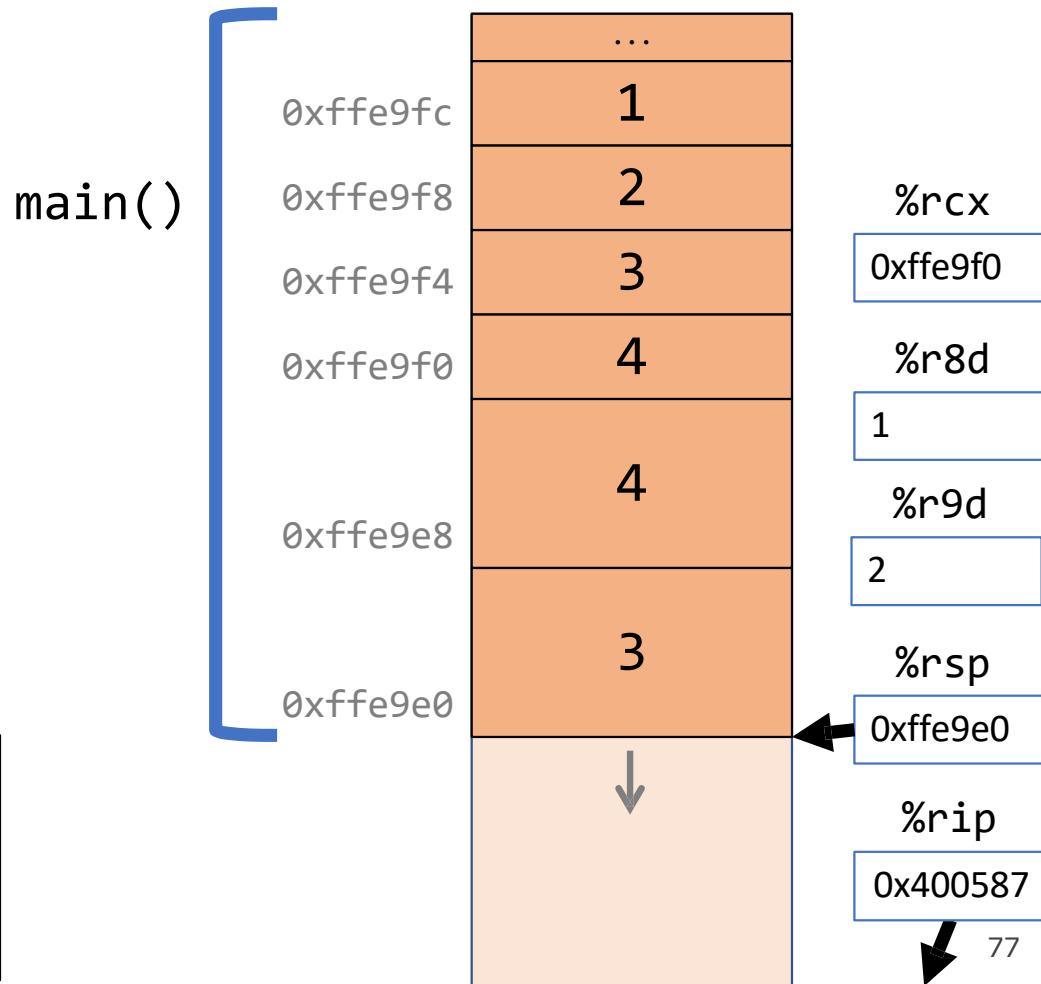
```
0x400574 <+37>: pushq $0x3  
0x400576 <+39>: mov    $0x2,%r9d  
0x40057c <+45>: mov    $0x1,%r8d  
0x400582 <+51>: lea    0x10(%rsp),%rcx  
0x400587 <+56>: lea    0x14(%rsp),%rdx
```



# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
    int i2 = 2;  
    int i3 = 3;  
    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);  
    ...  
}  
  
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,  
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

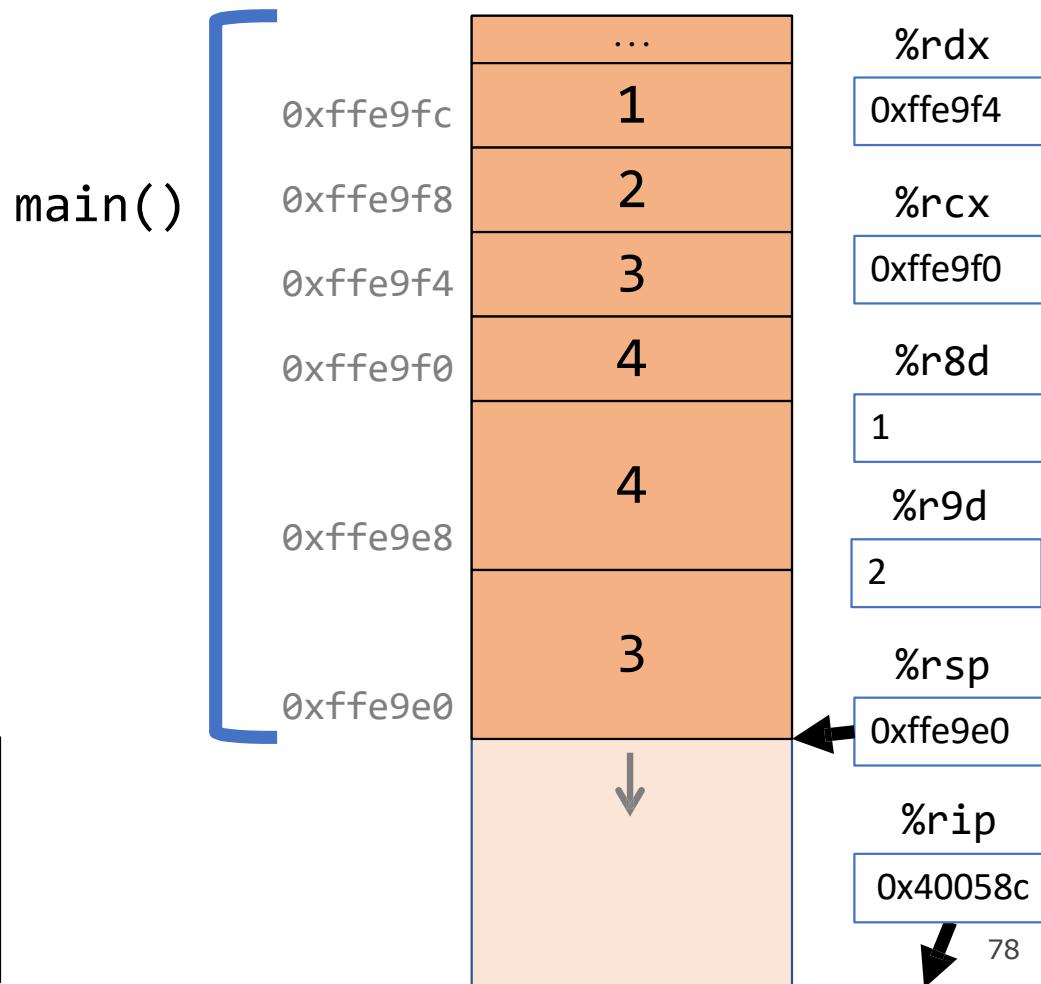
```
0x400576 <+39>:  mov    $0x2,%r9d  
0x40057c <+45>:  mov    $0x1,%r8d  
0x400582 <+51>:  lea    0x10(%rsp),%rcx  
0x400587 <+56>:  lea    0x14(%rsp),%rdx  
0x40058c <+61>:  lea    0x18(%rsp),%rsi
```



# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
    int i2 = 2;  
    int i3 = 3;  
    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);  
    ...  
}  
  
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,  
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

```
0x40057c <+45>:  mov    $0x1,%r8d  
0x400582 <+51>:  lea    0x10(%rsp),%rcx  
0x400587 <+56>:  lea    0x14(%rsp),%rdx  
0x40058c <+61>:  lea    0x18(%rsp),%rsi  
0x400591 <+66>:  lea    0x1c(%rsp),%rdi
```



# Parameters and Return

```

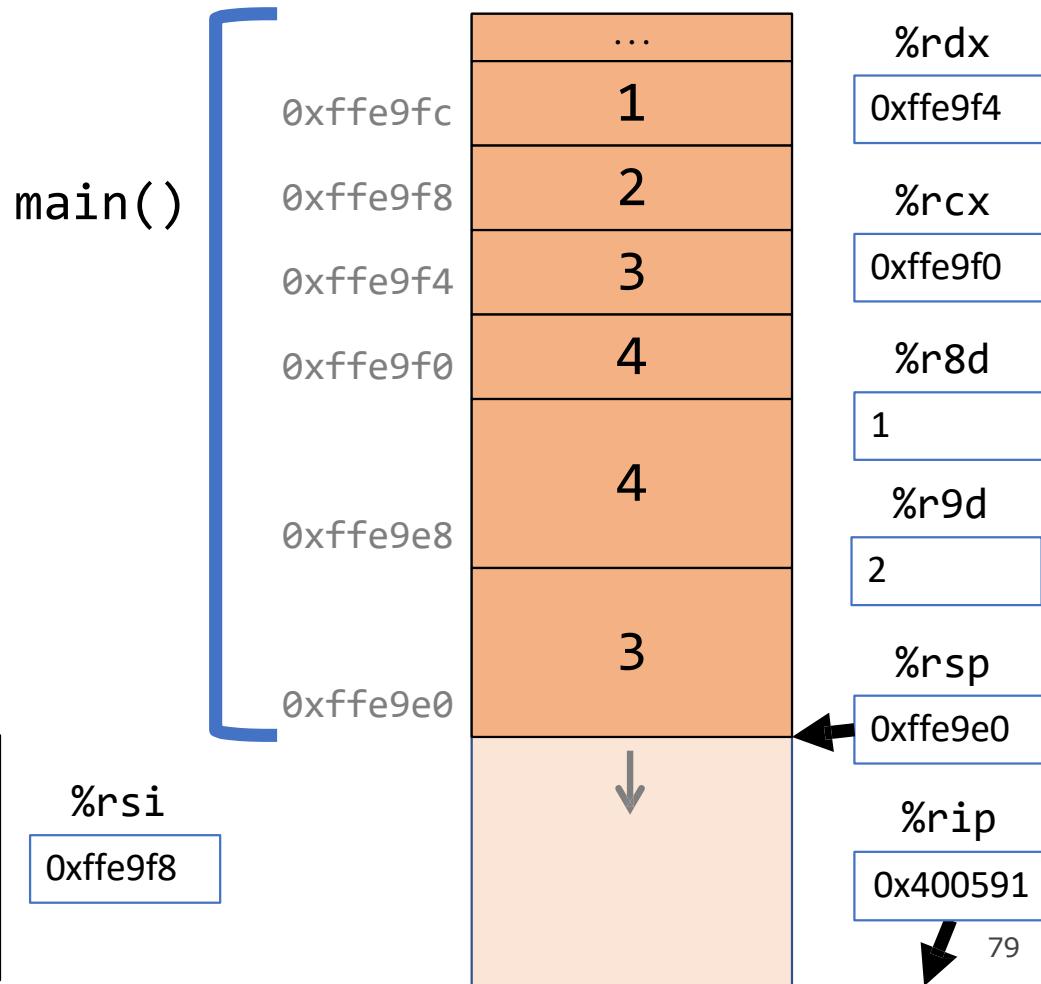
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int i1 = 1;
    int i2 = 2;
    int i3 = 3;
    int i4 = 4;
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);
}
...
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {
}
...

```

```

0x400582 <+51>: lea    0x10(%rsp),%rcx
0x400587 <+56>: lea    0x14(%rsp),%rdx
0x40058c <+61>: lea    0x18(%rsp),%rsi
0x400591 <+66>: lea    0x1c(%rsp),%rdi
0x400596 <+71>: callq  0x400546 <func>

```



# Parameters and Return

```

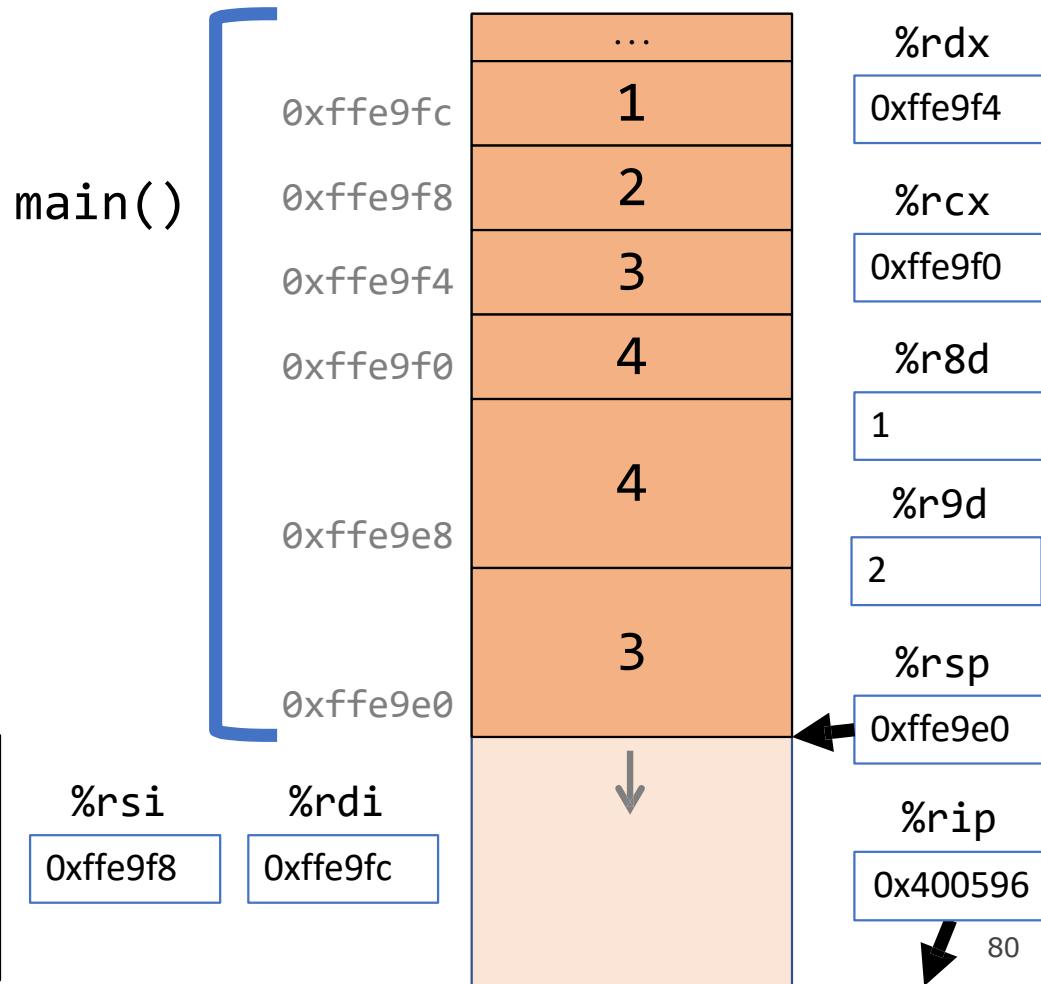
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int i1 = 1;
    int i2 = 2;
    int i3 = 3;
    int i4 = 4;
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);
}
...
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {
}
...

```

```

0x4000587 <+56>: lea    0x14(%rsp),%rdx
0x400058c <+61>: lea    0x18(%rsp),%rsi
0x4000591 <+66>: lea    0x1c(%rsp),%rdi
0x4000596 <+71>: callq  0x4000546 <func>
0x400059b <+76>: add    $0x10,%rsp

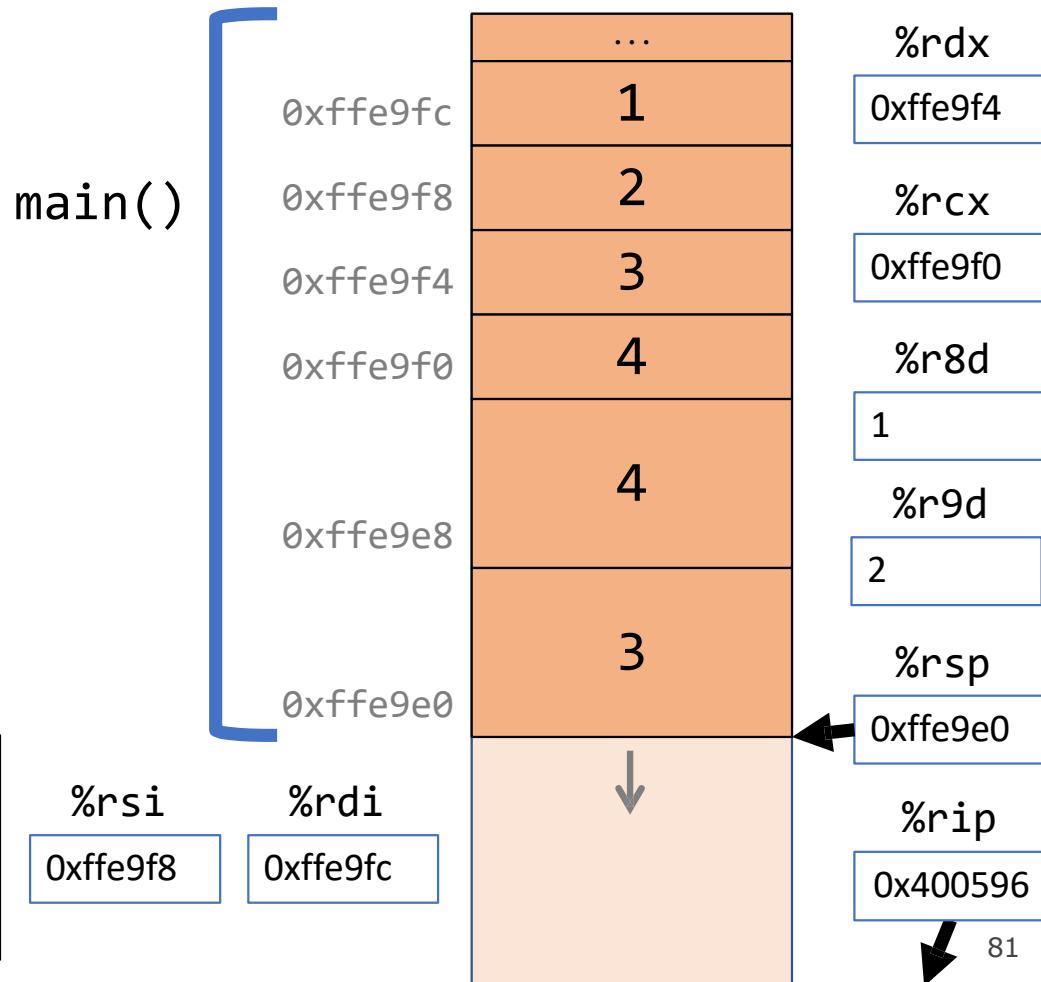
```



# Parameters and Return

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i1 = 1;  
    int i2 = 2;  
    int i3 = 3;  
    int i4 = 4;  
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,  
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);  
    ...  
}  
  
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,  
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {  
    ...  
}
```

```
0x40058c <+61>: lea    0x18(%rsp),%rsi  
0x400591 <+66>: lea    0x1c(%rsp),%rdi  
0x400596 <+71>: callq 0x400546 <func>  
0x40059b <+76>: add    $0x10,%rsp  
...
```



# Parameters and Return

```

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int i1 = 1;
    int i2 = 2;
    int i3 = 3;
    int i4 = 4;
    int result = func(&i1, &i2, &i3, &i4,
                      i1, i2, i3, i4);
    ...
}

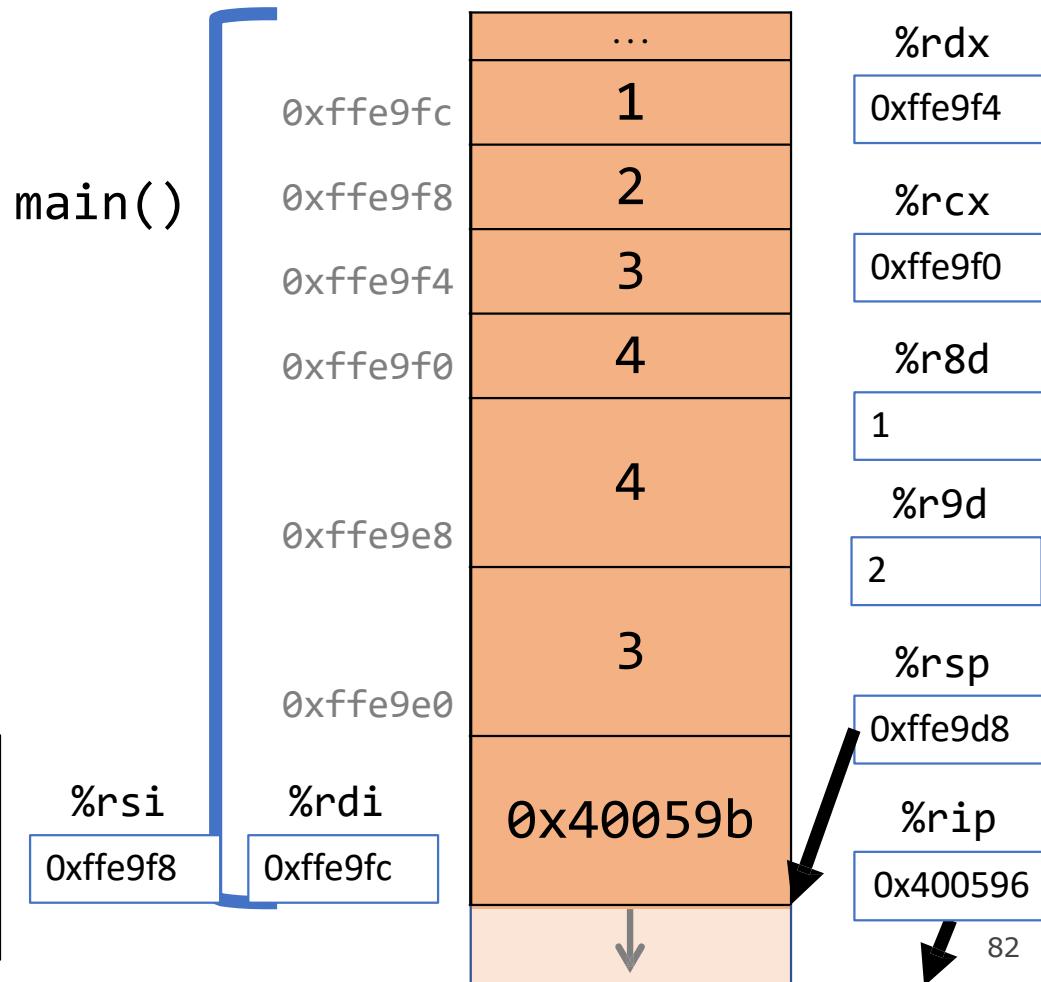
int func(int *p1, int *p2, int *p3, int *p4,
         int v1, int v2, int v3, int v4) {
    ...
}

```

```

0x40058c <+61>: lea    0x18(%rsp),%rsi
0x400591 <+66>: lea    0x1c(%rsp),%rdi
0x400596 <+71>: callq 0x400546 <func>
0x40059b <+76>: add    $0x10,%rsp
...

```



# Local Storage

- So far, we've often seen local variables stored directly in registers, rather than on the stack as we'd expect. This is for optimization reasons.
- There are **three** common reasons that local data must be in memory:
  - We've run out of registers
  - The '&' operator is used on it, so we must generate an address for it
  - They are arrays or structs (need to use address arithmetic)

# Our First Assembly

```
int sum_array(int arr[], int nelems) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < nelems; i++) {  
        sum += arr[i];  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

We're done with all our assembly lectures! Now we can fully understand what's going on in the assembly below, including how someone would call `sum_array` in assembly and what the `ret` instruction does.

---

**0000000000401136 <sum\_array>:**

```
401136 <+0>:  mov    $0x0,%eax  
40113b <+5>:  mov    $0x0,%edx  
401140 <+10>: cmp    %esi,%eax  
401142 <+12>: jge    0x40114f <sum_array+25>  
401144 <+14>: movslq %eax,%rcx  
401147 <+17>: add    (%rdi,%rcx,4),%edx  
40114a <+20>: add    $0x1,%eax  
40114d <+23>: jmp    0x401140 <sum_array+10>  
40114f <+25>: mov    %edx,%eax  
401151 <+27>: retq
```

# Optimizations you'll see

## nop

- **nop/nopl** are “no-op” instructions – they do nothing!
- Intent: Make functions align on address boundaries that are nice multiples of 8.
- “Sometimes, doing nothing is how to be most productive” – Philosopher Nick

## mov %ebx,%ebx

- Zeros out the top 32 register bits (because a mov on an e-register zeros out rest of 64 bits).

## xor %ebx,%ebx

- Optimizes for performance as well as code size (read more [here](#)):

b8 00 00 00 00  
31 c0

mov \$0x0,%eax  
xor %eax,%eax

# GCC For Loop Output

## GCC Common For Loop Output

Initialization

Test

Jump past loop if success

Body

Update

Jump to test

## Possible Alternative

Initialization

Jump to test

Body

Update

Test

Jump to body if success

# GCC For Loop Output

## GCC Common For Loop Output

Initialization

Test

Jump past loop if success

Body

Update

Jump to test

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) // n = 100
```

# GCC For Loop Output

## GCC Common For Loop Output

Initialization

Test

Jump past loop if success

Body

Update

Jump to test

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)           // n = 100
```

Initialization

Test

No jump

Body

Update

Jump to test

Test

No jump

Body

Update

Jump to test

...

# GCC For Loop Output

## GCC Common For Loop Output

Initialization

Test

Jump past loop if success

Body

Update

Jump to test

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)           // n = 100
```

Initialization

Test

No jump

Body

Update

Jump to test

Test

No jump

Body

Update

Jump to test

...

# GCC For Loop Output

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) // n = 100
```

Initialization  
Jump to test  
Test  
Jump to body  
Body  
Update  
Test  
Jump to body  
Body  
Update  
Test  
Jump to body  
...

Possible Alternative

Initialization  
Jump to test  
Body  
Update  
Test  
Jump to body if success

# GCC For Loop Output

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) // n = 100
```

Initialization  
Jump to test  
Test  
Jump to body  
**Body**  
**Update**  
**Test**  
**Jump to body**  
Body  
Update  
Test  
Jump to body  
...

Possible Alternative

Initialization  
Jump to test  
Body  
Update  
Test  
Jump to body if success

# GCC For Loop Output

## GCC Common For Loop Output

Initialization

Test

Jump past loop if passes

Body

Update

Jump to test

## Possible Alternative

Initialization

Jump to test

Body

Update

Test

Jump to body if success

Which instructions are better when  $n = 0$ ?  $n = 1000$ ?

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
```

# Optimizing Instruction Counts

- Both versions have the same **static instruction count** (# of written instructions).
- But they have different **dynamic instruction counts** (# of executed instructions when program is run).
  - If  $n = 0$ , left (GCC common output) is best b/c fewer instructions
  - If  $n$  is large, right (alternative) is best b/c fewer instructions
- The compiler may emit a static instruction count that is several times longer than an alternative, but it may be more efficient if loop executes many times.
- Does the compiler *know* that a loop will execute many times? (in general, no)
- So what if our code had loops that always execute a small number of times? How do we know when gcc makes a bad decision?
- (take EE108, EE180, CS316 for more!)

# Optimizations

- **Conditional Moves** can sometimes eliminate “branches” (jumps), which are particularly inefficient on modern computer hardware.
- Processors try to *predict* the future execution of instructions for maximum performance. This is difficult to do with jumps.

# Data Alignment

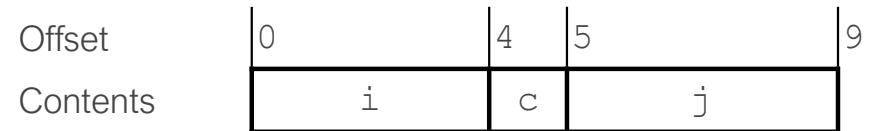
- Computer systems often put restrictions on the allowable addresses for primitive data types, requiring that the address for some objects must be a multiple of some value  $K$  (normally 2, 4, or 8).
- These *alignment restrictions* simplify the design of the hardware.
- For example, suppose that a processor always fetches 8 bytes from the memory system, and an address must be a multiple of 8. If we can guarantee that any double will be aligned to have its address as a multiple of 8, then we can read or write the values with a single memory access.
- For x86-64, Intel recommends the following alignments for best performance:

$K$	Types
1	char
2	short
4	int, float
8	long, double, char *

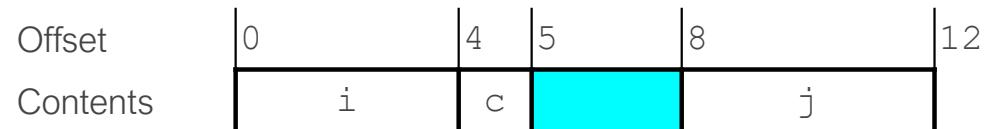
# Data Alignment

- The compiler enforces alignment by making sure that every data type is organized in such a way that every field within the struct satisfies the alignment restrictions.
- For example, let's look at the following struct:

```
struct S1 {  
    int i;  
    char c;  
    int j;  
};
```



- If the compiler used a minimal allocation:
- This would make it impossible to align fields `i` (offset 0) and `j` (offset 5). Instead, the compiler inserts a 3-byte gap between fields `c` and `j`:



- So, don't be surprised if your structs have a `sizeof()` that is larger than you expect!

# **Some Extra Reading**

# Key GDB Tips For Assembly

- Examine 4 giant words (8 bytes) on the stack:

```
(gdb) x/4g $rsp
0x7fffffff870: 0x0000000000000005      0x0000000000400559
0x7fffffff880: 0x0000000000000000      0x0000000000400575
```

- display/undisplay (prints out things every time you step/next)

```
(gdb) display/4w $rsp
1: x/4xw $rsp
0x7fffffff8a8:
0xf7a2d830      0x00007fff      0x00000000      0x00000000
```

# Key GDB Tips For Assembly

- `stepi/finish`: step into current function call/`return to caller`:  
`(gdb) finish`
- Set register values during the run  
`(gdb) p $rdi = $rdi + 1`  
(Might be useful to write down the original value of \$rdi somewhere)
- Tui things
  - `refresh`
  - `focus cmd` – use up/down arrows on gdb command line (vs `focus asm`, `focus regs`)
  - `layout regs`, `layout asm`

# gdb tips



layout split	(ctrl-x a: exit, ctrl-l: resize)	View C, assembly, and gdb (lab5)
info reg		Print all registers
p \$eax		Print register value
p \$eflags		Print all condition codes currently set
b *0x400546		Set breakpoint at assembly instruction
b *0x400550 if \$eax > 98		Set <b>conditional breakpoint</b>
ni		Next assembly instruction
si		Step into assembly instruction (will step into function calls)

# gdb tips



p/x \$rdi  
p/t \$rsi

Print register value in hex  
Print register value in binary

x \$rdi  
x/4bx \$rdi  
x/4wx \$rdi

Examine the byte stored at this address  
Examine 4 bytes starting at this address  
Examine 4 ints starting at this address

# Array Allocation and Access

- Arrays in C map in a fairly straightforward way to X86 assembly code, thanks to the addressing modes available in instructions.
- When we perform pointer arithmetic, the assembly code that is produced will have address computations built into them.
- Optimizing compilers are *very* good at simplifying the address computations (in lab you will see another optimizing compiler benefit in the form of division — if the compiler can avoid dividing, it will!). Because of the transformations, compiler-generated assembly for arrays often doesn't look like what you are expecting.
- Consider the following form of a data type  $T$  and integer constant  $N$ :

$T A[N]$

- The starting location is designated as  $x_A$
- The declaration allocates  $N * \text{sizeof}(T)$  bytes, and gives us an identifier that we can use as a pointer (but it isn't a pointer!), with a value of  $x_A$ .

# Array Allocation and Access

- Example:

		Array	Element Size	Total Size	Start address	Element i
char	A [12] ;	A	1	12	x <sub>A</sub>	x <sub>A</sub> + i
char	*B [8] ;	B	8	64	x <sub>B</sub>	x <sub>B</sub> + 8i
int	C [6] ;	C	4	24	x <sub>C</sub>	x <sub>C</sub> + 4i
double	*D [5]	D	8	40	x <sub>D</sub>	x <sub>D</sub> + 8i

- The memory referencing operations in x86-64 are designed to simplify array access. Suppose we wanted to access C [ 3 ] above. If the address of C is in register %rdx, and 3 is in register %rcx
- The following copies C [ 3 ] into %eax,

```
movl (%rdx,%rcx,4), %eax
```

# Pointer Arithmetic

- C allows arithmetic on pointers, where the computed value is calculated according to the size of the data type referenced by the pointer.
- The array reference  $A[i]$  is identical to  $* (A+i)$
- Example: if the address of array E is in  $\%rdx$ , and the integer index,  $i$ , is in  $\%rcx$ , the following are some expressions involving E:

Expression	Type	Value	Assembly Code
E	int *	$x_E$	<code>movq %rdx, %rax</code>
	int		
E[0]	int	$M[x_E]$	<code>movl (%rdx), %eax</code>
	int		
E[i]	int	$M[x_E+4i]$	<code>movl (%rdx,%rcx,4) %eax</code>
&E[2]	int *	$x_E+8$	<code>leaq 8(%rdx), %rax</code>
E+i-1	int *	$x_E+4i-4$	<code>leaq -4(%rdx,%rcx,4), %rax</code>
* (E+i-3)	int	$M[x_E+4i-12]$	<code>movl -12(%rdx,%rcx,4) %eax</code>
&E[i]-E	long	i	<code>movq %rcx,%rax</code>

# Pointer Arithmetic

- Practice:  $\text{xs}$  is the address of a short integer array,  $S$ , stored in  $\%rdx$ , and a long integer index,  $i$ , is stored in register  $\%rcx$ .
- For each of the following expressions, give its type, a formula for its value, and an assembly-code implementation. The result should be stored in  $\%rax$  if it is a pointer, and the result should be in register  $\%ax$  if it has a data type short.

Expression	Type	Value	Assembly Code
$S+1$	short *	$\text{xs} + 2$	<code>leaq 2(%rdx), %rax</code>
$S[3]$	short	$M[\text{xs} + 6]$	<code>movw 6(%rdx), %ax</code>
$\&S[i]$	short *	$\text{xs} + 2i$	<code>leaq (%rdx,%rcx,2), %rax</code>
$S[4*i+1]$	short	$M[\text{xs} + 8i + 2]$	<code>movw 2(%rdx,%rcx,8), %ax</code>
$S+i-5$	short *	$\text{xs} + 2i - 10$	<code>leaq -10(%rdx,%rcx,2), %rax</code>

# References and Advanced

- References:
  - Stanford guide to x86-64: <https://web.stanford.edu/class/cs107/guide/x86-64.html>
  - CS107 one-page of x86-64: [https://web.stanford.edu/class/cs107/resources/onepage\\_x86-64.pdf](https://web.stanford.edu/class/cs107/resources/onepage_x86-64.pdf)
  - gdbtui: <https://beej.us/guide/bggdb/>
  - More gdbtui: <https://sourceware.org/gdb/onlinedocs/gdb/TUI.html>
  - Compiler explorer: <https://gcc.godbolt.org>
- Advanced Reading:
  - Stack frame layout on x86-64: <https://eli.thegreenplace.net/2011/09/06/stack-frame-layout-on-x86-64>
  - x86-64 Intel Software Developer manual: <https://software.intel.com/sites/default/files/managed/39/c5/325462-sdm-vol-1-2abcd-3abcd.pdf>
  - history of x86 instructions: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/X86\\_instruction\\_listings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/X86_instruction_listings)
  - x86-64 Wikipedia: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/X86-64>