

# Procedure

*Computer Organization and Assembly Languages*

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*with slides by Kip Irvine*

# Overview

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- Stack Operations
- Defining and Using Procedures
- Stack frames, parameters and local variables
- Recursion
- Related directives

# Stack operations

# Stacks

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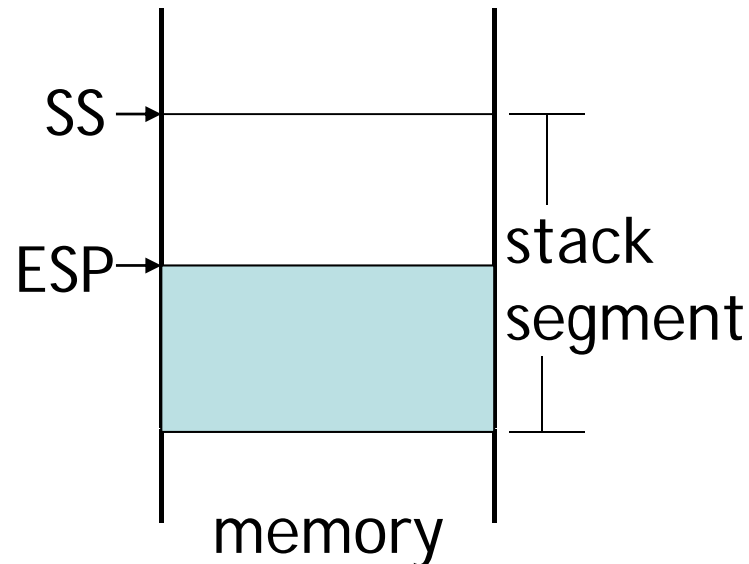


- LIFO (Last-In, First-Out) data structure.
- push/pop operations
- You probably have had experiences on implementing it in high-level languages.
- Here, we concentrate on *runtime stack*, directly supported by hardware in the CPU. It is essential for calling and returning from procedures.

# Runtime stack



- Managed by the CPU, using two registers
  - SS (stack segment)
  - ESP (stack pointer) \* : point to the top of the stack usually modified by **CALL**, **RET**, **PUSH** and **POP**



\* SP in Real-address mode

# PUSH and POP instructions

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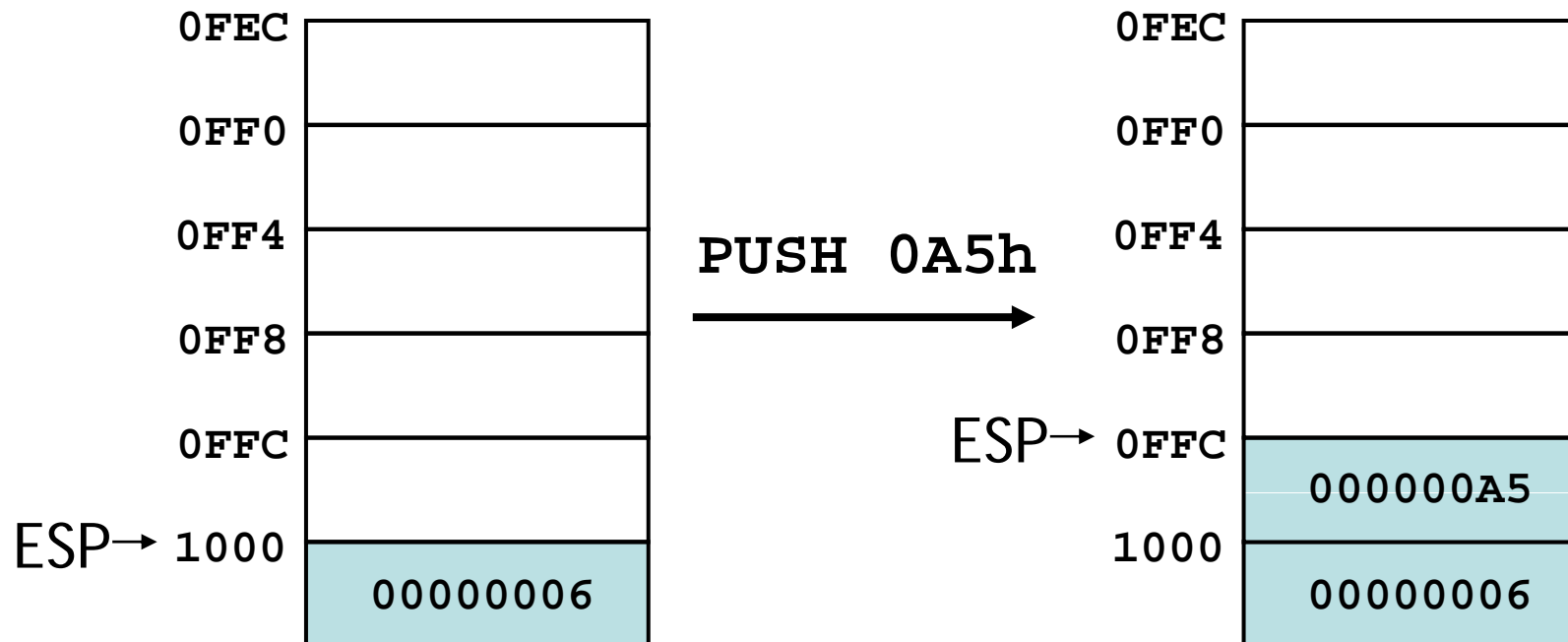


- **PUSH** syntax:
  - PUSH *r/m16*
  - PUSH *r/m32*
  - PUSH *imm32*
- **POP** syntax:
  - POP *r/m16*
  - POP *r/m32*

# PUSH operation (1 of 2)



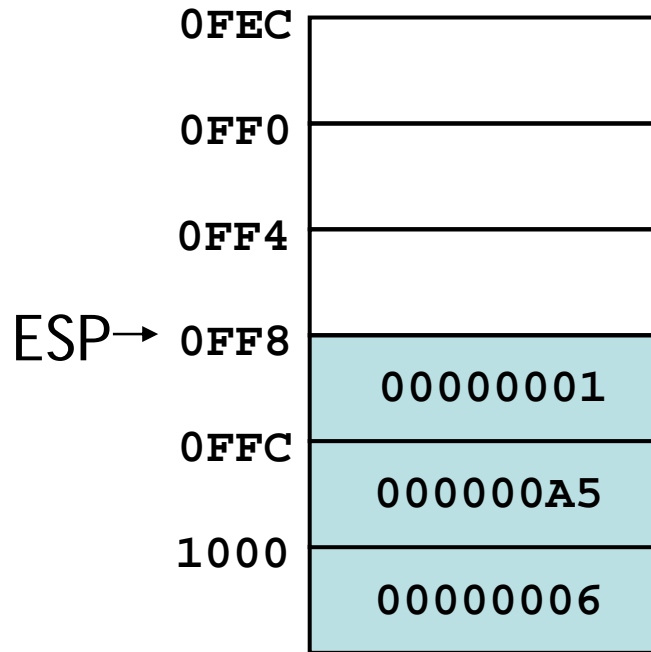
- A **push** operation decrements the stack pointer by 2 or 4 (depending on operands) and copies a value into the location pointed to by the stack pointer.



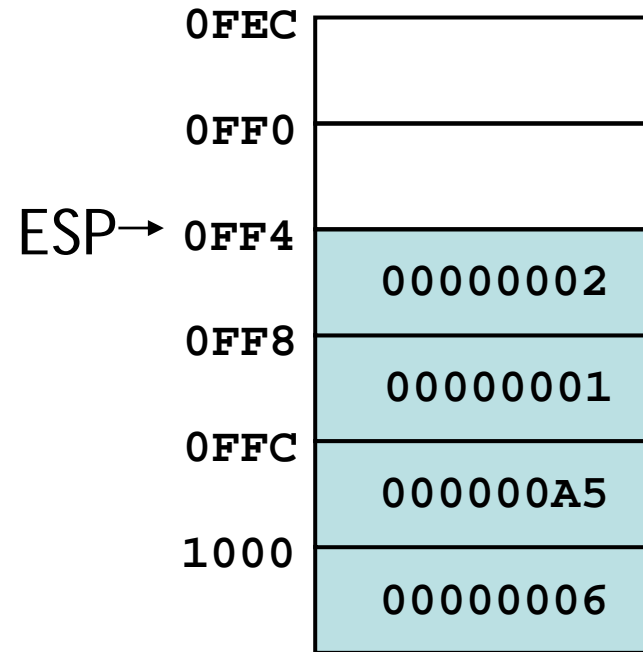
# PUSH operation (2 of 2)



- The same stack after pushing two more integers:



`PUSH 01h`



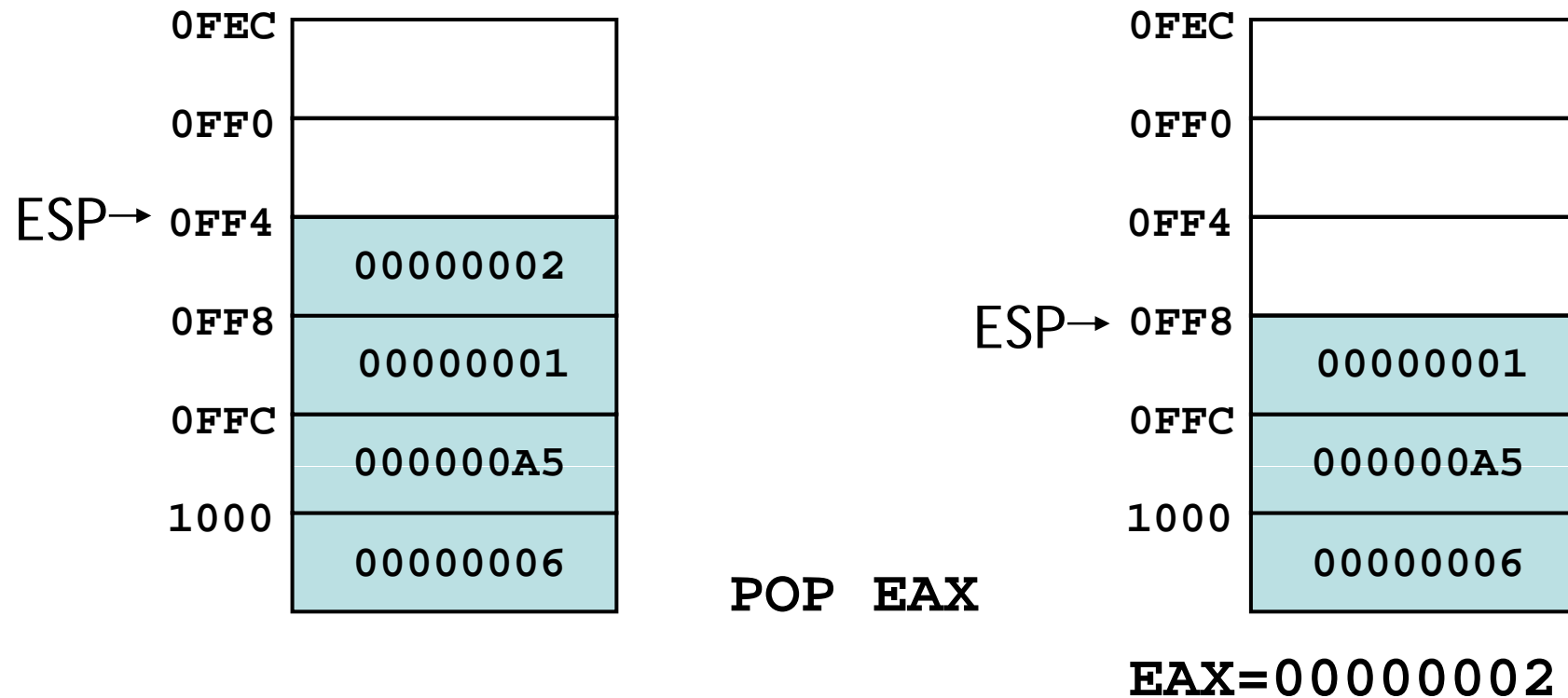
`PUSH 02h`



# POP operation



- Copies value at stack[ESP] into a register or variable.
- Adds  $n$  to ESP, where  $n$  is either 2 or 4, depending on the attribute of the operand receiving the data



# When to use stacks

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- Temporary save area for registers
- To save return address for CALL
- To pass arguments
- Local variables
- Applications which have LIFO nature, such as reversing a string

# Example of using stacks



Save and restore registers when they contain important values. Note that the **PUSH** and **POP** instructions are in the opposite order:

```
push esi           ; push registers
push ecx
push ebx

mov esi,OFFSET dwordVal ; starting OFFSET
mov ecx,LENGTHOF dwordVal; number of units
mov ebx,TYPE dwordVal ;size of a doubleword
call DumpMem        ; display memory

pop ebx           ; opposite order
pop ecx
pop esi
```

# Example: Nested Loop



When creating a nested loop, push the outer loop counter before entering the inner loop:

```
    mov ecx,100      ; set outer loop count
L1:      ; begin the outer loop
    push ecx        ; save outer loop count

    mov ecx,20      ; set inner loop count
L2:      ; begin the inner loop
    ;
    ;
    loop L2        ; repeat the inner loop

    pop ecx         ; restore outer loop count
    loop L1        ; repeat the outer loop
```

# Example: reversing a string

---



```
.data
aName BYTE "Abraham Lincoln",0
nameSize = ($ - aName) - 1

.code
main PROC
; Push the name on the stack.
    mov ecx,nameSize
    mov esi,0
L1:
    movzx eax,aName[esi]    ; get character
    push eax                ; push on stack
    inc esi
    Loop L1
```

# Example: reversing a string



```
; Pop the name from the stack, in reverse,  
; and store in the aName array.
```

```
mov ecx,nameSize
```

```
mov esi,0
```

```
L2:
```

```
pop eax ; get character
```

```
mov aName[esi],al ; store in string
```

```
inc esi
```

```
Loop L2
```

```
exit
```

```
main ENDP
```

```
END main
```

# Related instructions

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- **PUSHFD** and **POPFD**
  - push and pop the EFLAGS register
  - **LAHF**, **SAHF** are other ways to save flags
- **PUSHAD** pushes the 32-bit general-purpose registers on the stack in the following order
  - **EAX, ECX, EDX, EBX, ESP, EBP, ESI, EDI**
- **POPAD** pops the same registers off the stack in reverse order
  - **PUSHA** and **POPA** do the same for 16-bit registers

# Example

---



```
MySub PROC
```

```
    pushad
```

```
    ...
```

```
    ; modify some register
```

```
    ...
```

```
    popad
```

```
    ret
```

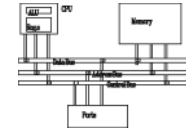
```
MySub ENDP
```

Do not use this if your procedure uses registers for return values



# Defining and using procedures

# Creating Procedures



- Large problems can be divided into smaller tasks to make them more manageable
- A procedure is the ASM equivalent of a Java or C++ function
- Following is an assembly language procedure named sample:

```
sample PROC
    .
    .
    ret
sample ENDP
```

A named block of statements that ends with a return.

# Documenting procedures

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Suggested documentation for each procedure:

- A description of all tasks accomplished by the procedure.
- Receives: A list of input parameters; state their usage and requirements.
- Returns: A description of values returned by the procedure.
- Requires: Optional list of requirements called preconditions that must be satisfied before the procedure is called.

For example, a procedure of drawing lines could assume that display adapter is already in graphics mode.

# Example: SumOf procedure



```
;-----  
SumOf PROC  
;  
; Calculates and returns the sum of three 32-bit  
; integers.  
; Receives: EAX, EBX, ECX, the three integers.  
;           May be signed or unsigned.  
; Returns: EAX = sum, and the status flags  
;           (Carry, Overflow, etc.) are changed.  
; Requires: nothing  
;-----  
    add eax,ebx  
    add eax,ecx  
    ret  
SumOf ENDP
```

# CALL and RET instructions

---



- The **CALL** instruction calls a procedure
  - pushes offset of next instruction on the stack
  - copies the address of the called procedure into **EIP**
- The **RET** instruction returns from a procedure
  - pops top of stack into **EIP**
- We used **jl** and **jr** in our toy computer for **CALL** and **RET**, **BL** and **MOV PC, LR** in ARM.

# CALL-RET example (1 of 2)



0000025 is the offset of the instruction immediately following the CALL instruction



```
main PROC
    00000020 call MySub
    00000025 mov  eax,ebx
    .
    .
main ENDP
```

00000040 is the offset of the first instruction inside MySub

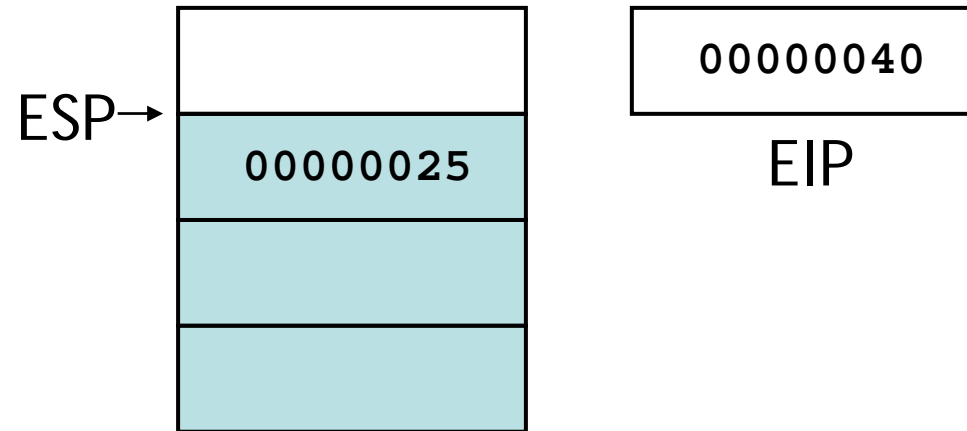


```
MySub PROC
    00000040 mov  eax,edx
    .
    .
    ret
MySub ENDP
```

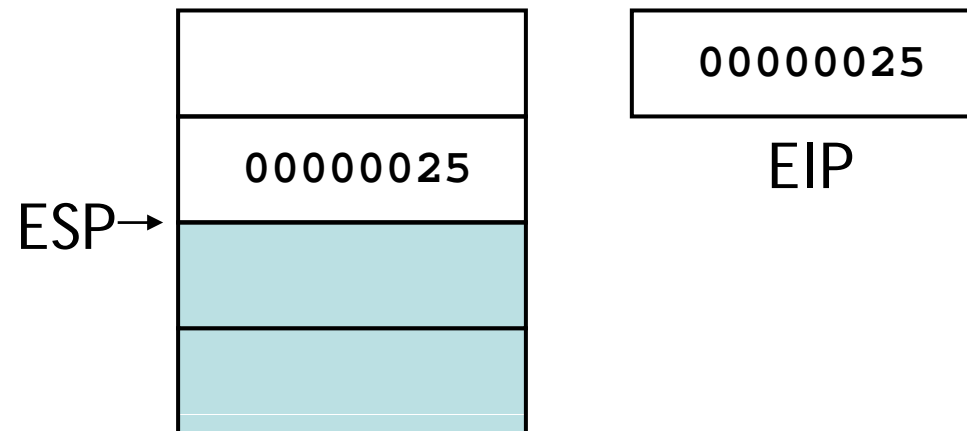
# CALL-RET example (2 of 2)



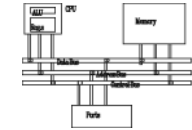
The CALL instruction pushes 00000025 onto the stack, and loads 00000040 into EIP



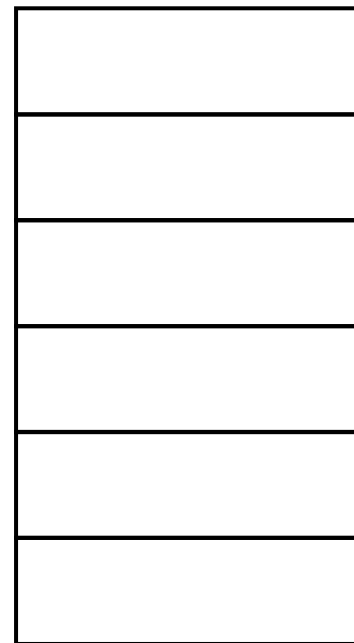
The RET instruction pops 00000025 from the stack into EIP



# Nested procedure calls



```
0050 main PROC  
      .  
      .  
      call Sub1  
      exit  
main ENDP  
  
0100 Sub1 PROC  
      .  
      .  
      call Sub2  
      ret  
Sub1 ENDP  
  
0200 Sub2 PROC  
      .  
      .  
      call Sub3  
      ret  
Sub2 ENDP  
  
0300 Sub3 PROC  
      .  
      .  
      ret  
Sub3 ENDP
```



Stack



EIP



# Local and global labels



A local label is visible only to statements inside the same procedure. A global label is visible everywhere.

```
main PROC
    jmp L2                ; error!
L1::                    ; global label
    exit
main ENDP

sub2 PROC
L2:                    ; local label
    jmp L1                ; ok
    ret
sub2 ENDP
```

# Procedure parameters (1 of 3)

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- A good procedure might be usable in many different programs
- Parameters help to make procedures flexible because parameter values can change at runtime
- General registers can be used to pass parameters

# Procedure parameters (2 of 3)



The ArraySum procedure calculates the sum of an array. It makes two references to specific variable names:

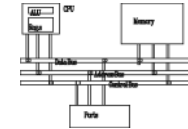
```
ArraySum PROC
    mov esi,0                ; array index
    mov eax,0                ; set the sum to zero

L1:
    add eax,myArray[esi]    ; add each integer to sum
    add esi,4                ; point to next integer
    loop L1                 ; repeat for array size

    mov theSum,eax          ; store the sum
    ret

ArraySum ENDP
```

# Procedure parameters (3 of 3)

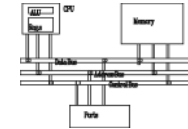


This version returns the sum of any doubleword array whose address is in ESI. The sum is returned in EAX:

```
ArraySum PROC
; Recevies: ESI points to an array of doublewords,
;          ECX = number of array elements.
; Returns:  EAX = sum
;-----
    push esi
    push ecx
    mov eax,0           ; set the sum to zero
L1: add eax,[esi]       ; add each integer to sum
    add esi,4           ; point to next integer
    loop L1             ; repeat for array size
    pop ecx
    pop esi
    ret
ArraySum ENDP
```

# Calling ArraySum

---



```
.data
```

```
array DWORD 10000h, 20000h, 30000h, 40000h
```

```
theSum DWORD ?
```

```
.code
```

```
main PROC
```

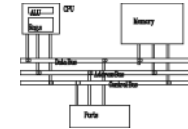
```
    mov     esi, OFFSET array
```

```
    mov     ecx, LENGTHOF array
```

```
    call   ArraySum
```

```
    mov     theSum, eax
```

# USES operator



- Lists the registers that will be saved (to avoid side effects) (return register shouldn't be saved)

```
ArraySum PROC USES esi ecx  
    mov eax,0    ; set the sum to zero  
    . . .
```

MASM generates the following code:

```
ArraySum PROC  
    push esi  
    push ecx  
    .  
    .  
    pop ecx  
    pop esi  
    ret  
ArraySum ENDP
```

# **Stack frames, parameters and local variables**

# Stack frame

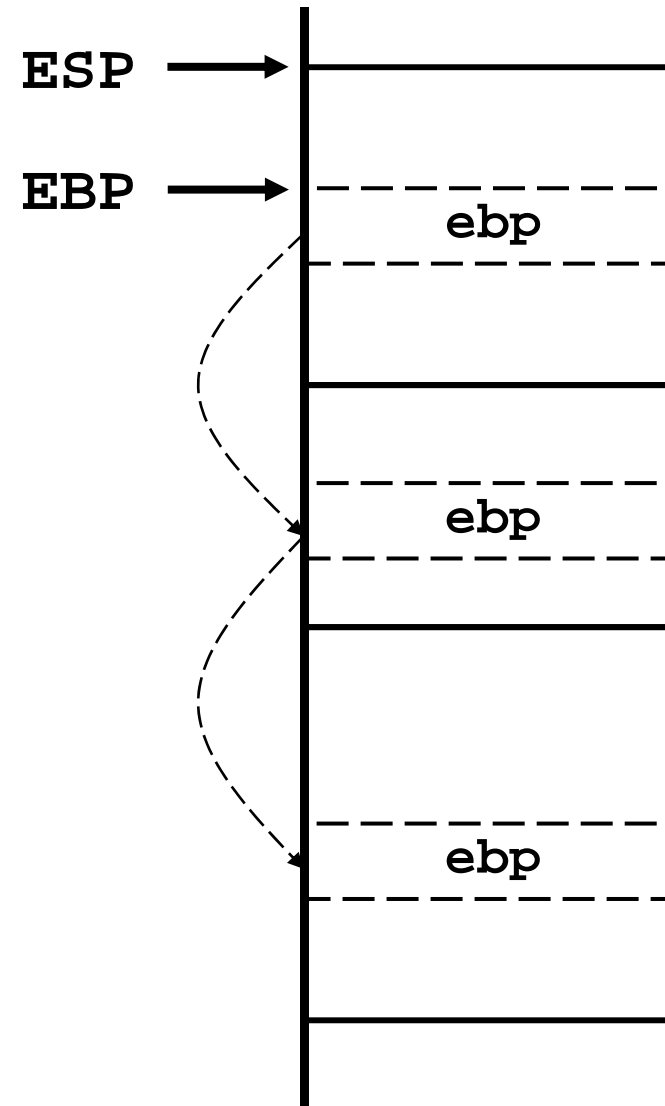
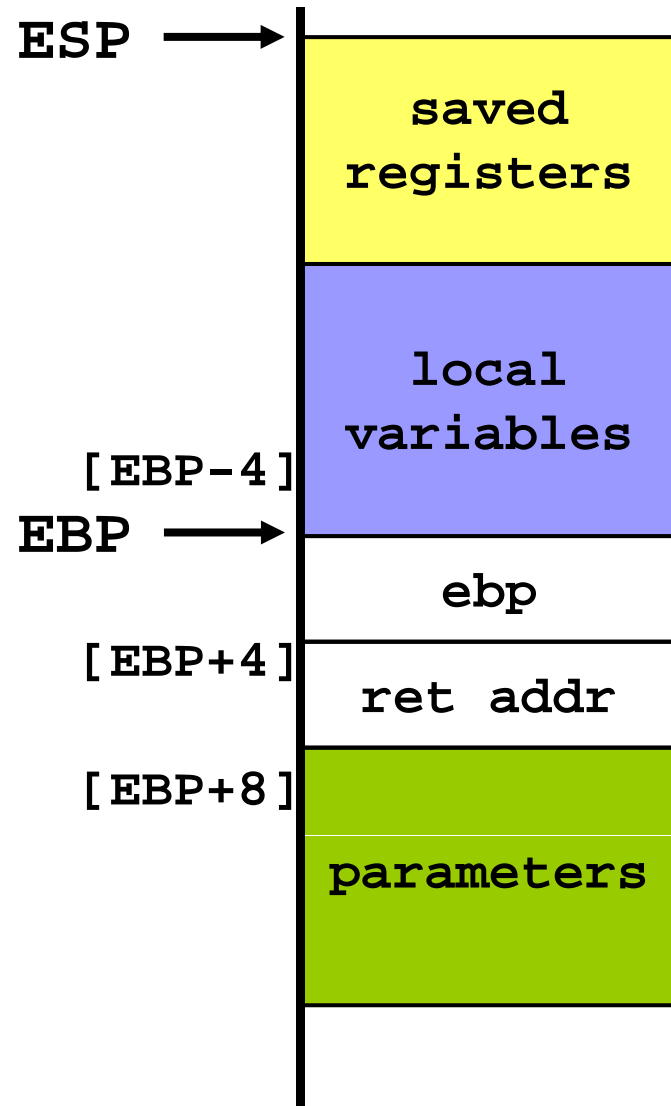
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- Also known as an activation record
- Area of the stack set aside for a procedure's return address, passed parameters, saved registers, and local variables
- Created by the following steps:
  - Calling procedure pushes *arguments* on the stack and calls the procedure.
  - The subroutine is called, causing the *return address* to be pushed on the stack.
  - The called procedure pushes *EBP* on the stack, and *sets EBP to ESP*.
  - If *local variables* are needed, a constant is subtracted from ESP to make room on the stack.
  - The *registers needed to be saved* are pushed.



# Stack frame



# Explicit access to stack parameters

---



- A procedure can explicitly access stack parameters using constant offsets from **EBP**.
  - Example: `[ebp + 8]`
- **EBP** is often called the base pointer or frame pointer because it holds the base address of the stack frame.
- **EBP** does not change value during the procedure.
- **EBP** must be restored to its original value when a procedure returns.

# Parameters



- Two types: register parameters and stack parameters.
- Stack parameters are more convenient than register parameters.

```
pushad  
mov esi,OFFSET array  
mov ecx,LENGTHOF array  
mov ebx,TYPE array  
call DumpMem  
popad
```

register parameters

```
push TYPE array  
push LENGTHOF array  
push OFFSET array  
call DumpMem
```

stack parameters

# Parameters



call by value

```
int sum=AddTwo(a, b);
```

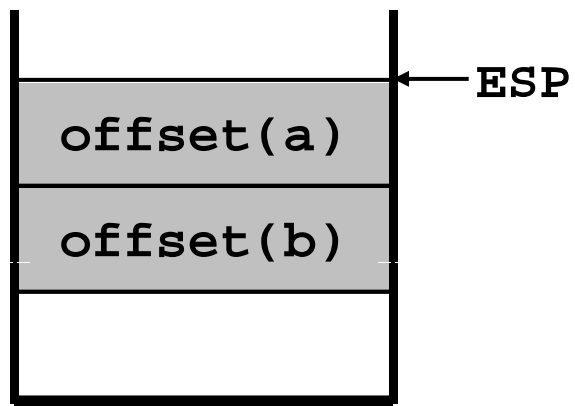
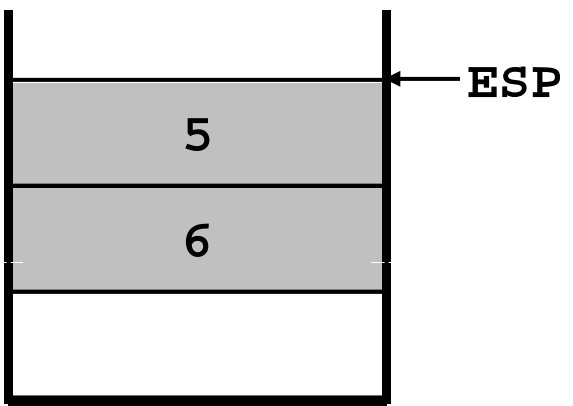
call by reference

```
int sum=AddTwo(&a, &b);
```

.date		
a	DWORD	5
b	DWORD	6

```
push b  
push a  
call AddTwo
```

```
push OFFSET b  
push OFFSET a  
call AddTwo
```

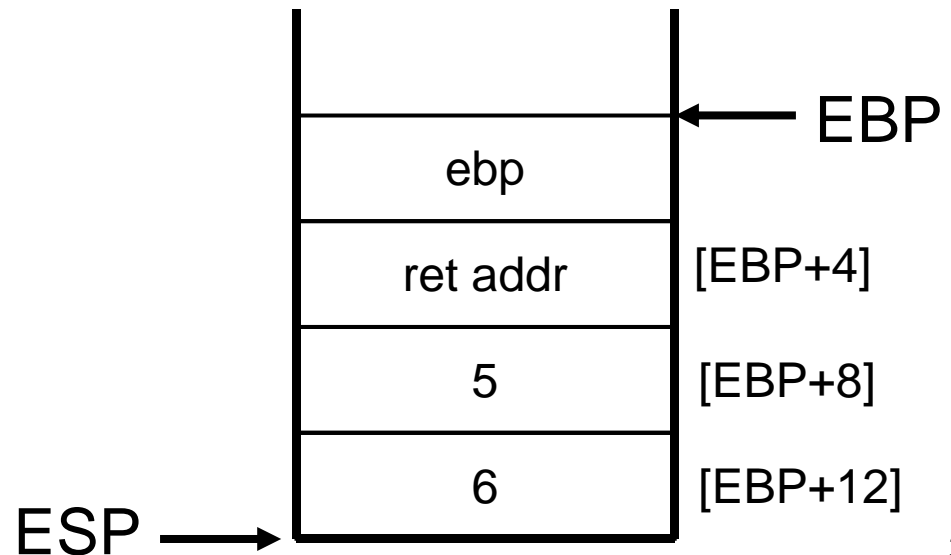


# Stack frame example

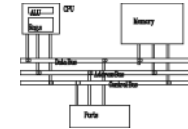


```
.data
sum DWORD ?
.code
push 6 ; second argument
push 5 ; first argument
call AddTwo ; EAX = sum
mov sum, eax ; save the sum
```

```
AddTwo PROC
push ebp
mov ebp, esp
.
.
```

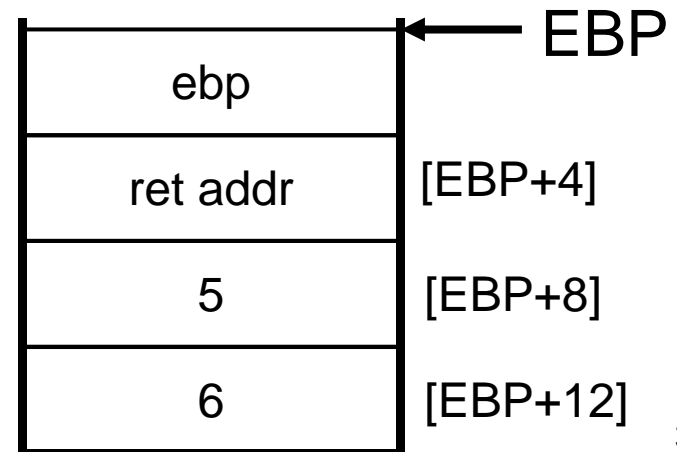


# Stack frame example



```
AddTwo PROC
    push ebp
    mov ebp, esp           ; base of stack frame
    mov eax, [ebp + 12]   ; second argument (6)
    add eax, [ebp + 8]    ; first argument (5)
    pop ebp
    ret 8                 ; clean up the stack
AddTwo ENDP              ; EAX contains the sum
```

Who should be responsible to remove arguments? It depends on the language model.



# RET Instruction

---



- *Return from subroutine*
- Pops stack into the instruction pointer (EIP or IP). Control transfers to the target address.
- Syntax:
  - **RET**
  - **RET *n***
- Optional operand *n* causes *n* bytes to be added to the stack pointer after EIP (or IP) is assigned a value.

# Passing arguments by reference



- The **ArrayFill** procedure fills an array with 16-bit random integers
- The calling program passes the address of the array, along with a count of the number of array elements:

```
.data
count = 100
array WORD count DUP(?)
.code
    push OFFSET array
    push COUNT
    call ArrayFill
```

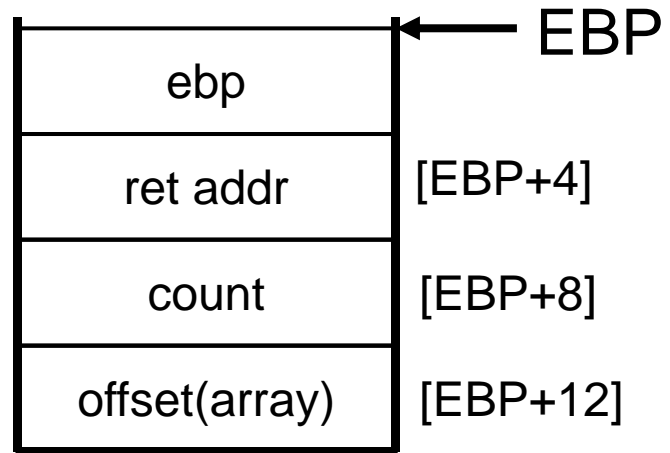


# Passing arguments by reference



**ArrayFill** can reference an array without knowing the array's name:

```
ArrayFill PROC
  push ebp
  mov  ebp, esp
  pushad
  mov  esi, [ebp+12]
  mov  ecx, [ebp+8]
  .
  .
```



# Passing 8-bit and 16-bit arguments

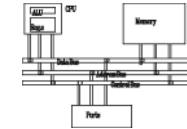


- When passing stack arguments, it is best to push 32-bit operands to keep ESP aligned on a doubleword boundary.

```
Uppercase PROC                                     push  'x' ; error
    push ebp                                       Call  Uppercase
    mov  ebp, esp
    mov  al, [ebp+8]
    cmp  al, 'a'
    jb   L1
    cmp  al, 'z'
    ja   L1
    sub  al, 32
L1: pop  ebp
    ret  4
Uppercase ENDP

.data
charVal BYTE 'x'
.code
movzx  eax, charVal
push  eax
Call  Uppercase
```

# Saving and restoring registers



- When using stack parameters, avoid **USES**.

```

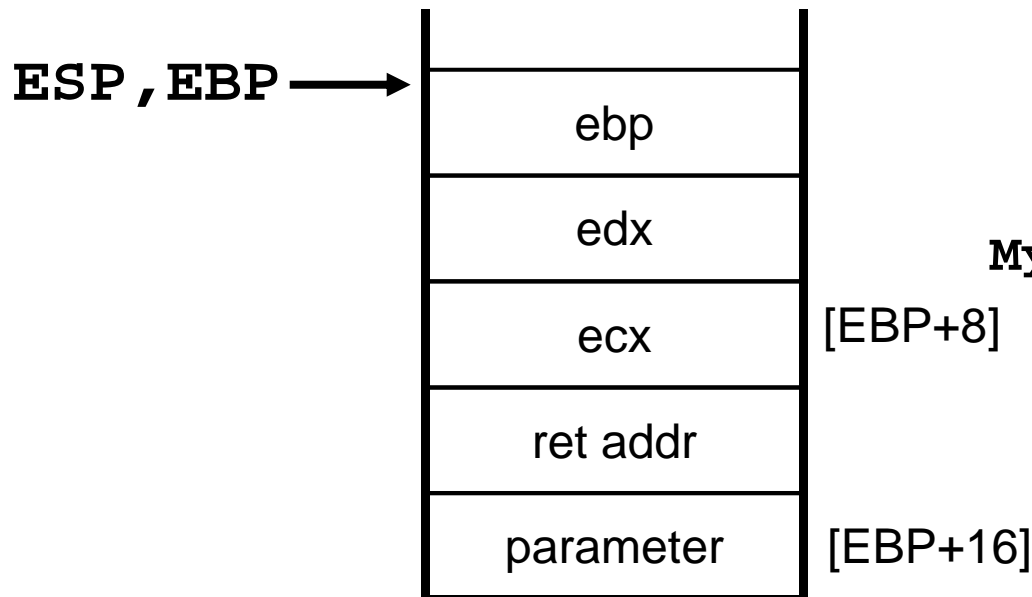
MySub2 PROC USES ecx, edx
    push ebp
    mov  ebp, esp
    mov  eax, [ebp+8]
    pop  ebp
    ret  4
MySub2 ENDP

```

```

MySub2 PROC
    push ecx
    push edx
    push ebp
    mov  ebp, esp
    mov  eax, [ebp+8]
    pop  ebp
    pop  edx
    pop  ecx
    ret  4
MySub2 ENDP

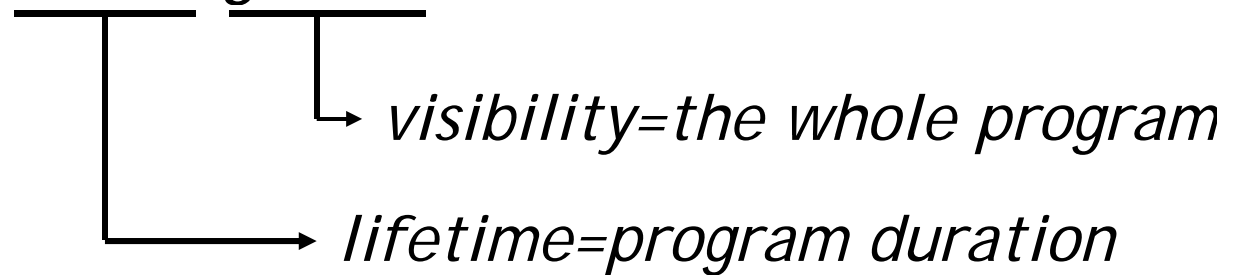
```



# Local variables



- The variables defined in the data segment can be taken as *static global variables*.



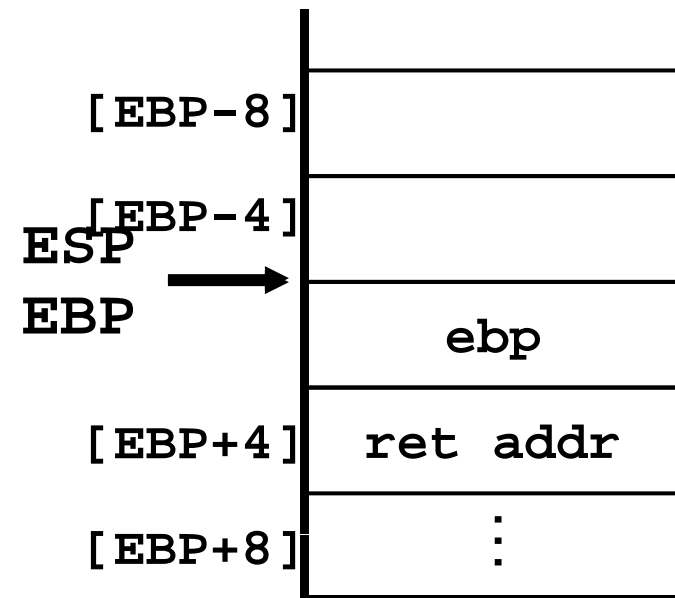
- A local variable is created, used, and destroyed within a single procedure (block)
- Advantages of local variables:
  - Restricted access: easy to debug, less error prone
  - Efficient memory usage
  - Same names can be used in two different procedures
  - Essential for recursion

# Creating local variables

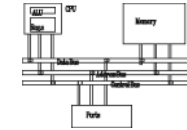


- Local variables are created on the runtime stack, usually above EBP.
- To explicitly create local variables, subtract their total size from ESP.

```
MySub PROC
    push ebp
    mov  ebp, esp
    sub  esp, 8
    mov  [ebp-4], 123456h
    mov  [ebp-8], 0
    .
    .
```

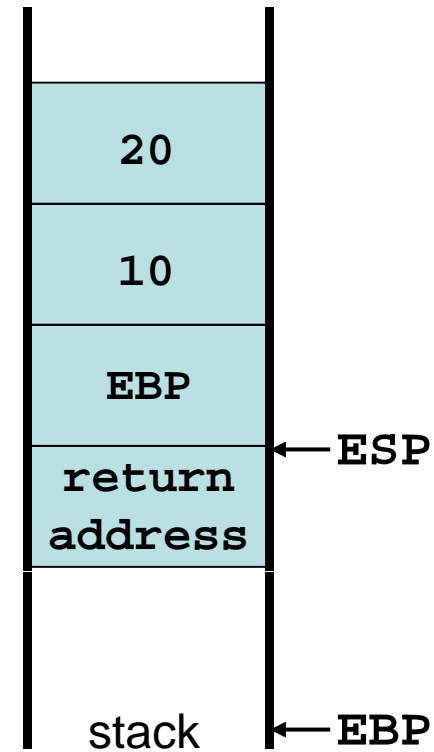


# Local variables



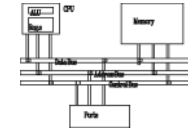
- They can't be initialized at assembly time but can be assigned to default values at runtime.

```
MySub PROC
    push ebp
void MySub() mov  ebp, esp
{          sub  esp, 8
    int X=10; mov  DWORD PTR [ebp-4], 10
    int Y=20; mov  DWORD PTR [ebp-8], 20
    ...
}          mov  esp, ebp
          pop  ebp
          ret
MySub ENDP
```



# Local variables

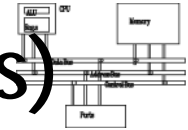
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```
X_local EQU DWORD PTR [ebp-4]
Y_local EQU DWORD PTR [ebp-8]
```

```
MySub PROC
    push ebp
    mov  ebp, esp
    sub  esp, 8
    mov  X_local, 10
    mov  Y_local, 20
    ...
    mov  esp, ebp
    pop  ebp
    ret
MySub ENDP
```

# LEA instruction (load effective address)



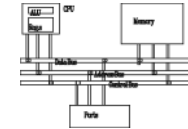
- The **LEA** instruction returns offsets of both direct and indirect operands at run time.
  - **OFFSET** only returns constant offsets (assemble time).
- **LEA** is required when obtaining the offset of a stack parameter or local variable. For example:

```
CopyString PROC,  
    count:DWORD  
    LOCAL temp[20]:BYTE  
  
    mov edi,OFFSET count; invalid operand  
    mov esi,OFFSET temp ; invalid operand  
    lea edi,count        ; ok  
    lea esi,temp         ; ok
```



# LEA example

---



```
void makeArray()
{
    char myString[30];
    for (int i=0; i<30; i++)
        myString[i]='*';
}

makeArray PROC
    push ebp
    mov  ebp, esp
    sub  esp, 32
    lea  esi, [ebp-30]
    mov  ecx, 30
L1: mov  BYTE PTR [esi], '*'
    inc  esi
    loop L1
    add  esp, 32
    pop  ebp
    ret
makeArray ENDP
```

# ENTER and LEAVE



- **ENTER** instruction creates stack frame for a called procedure
  - pushes EBP on the stack `push ebp`
  - set EBP to the base of stack frame `mov ebp, esp`
  - reserves space for local variables `sub esp, n`
- **ENTER nbytes, nestinglevel**
  - **nbytes** (for local variables) is rounded up to a multiple of 4 to keep ESP on a doubleword boundary
  - **nestinglevel**: 0 for now

```
MySub PROC
    enter 8,0
```

```
MySub PROC
    push ebp
    mov ebp, esp
    sub esp, 8
```

# ENTER and LEAVE



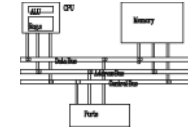
- **LEAVE** reverses the action of a previous **ENTER** instruction.

```
MySub PROC
    enter 8, 0
    .
    .
    .
    .
    leave
    ret
MySub ENDP
```

```
MySub PROC
    push ebp
    mov  ebp, esp
    sub  esp, 8
    .
    .
    mov  esp, ebp
    pop  ebp
    ret
MySub ENDP
```

# LOCAL directive

---



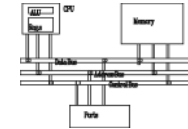
- The **LOCAL** directive declares a list of local variables
  - immediately follows the **PROC** directive
  - each variable is assigned a type
- Syntax:

**LOCAL** *varlist*

Example:

```
MySub PROC  
    LOCAL var1:BYTE, var2:WORD, var3:SDWORD
```

# MASM-generated code



```
BubbleSort PROC
    LOCAL temp:DWORD, SwapFlag:BYTE
    . . .
    ret
BubbleSort ENDP
```

MASM generates the following code:

```
BubbleSort PROC
    push ebp
    mov  ebp,esp
    add  esp,0FFFFFFF8h ; add -8 to ESP
    . . .
    mov  esp,ebp
    pop  ebp
    ret
BubbleSort ENDP
```

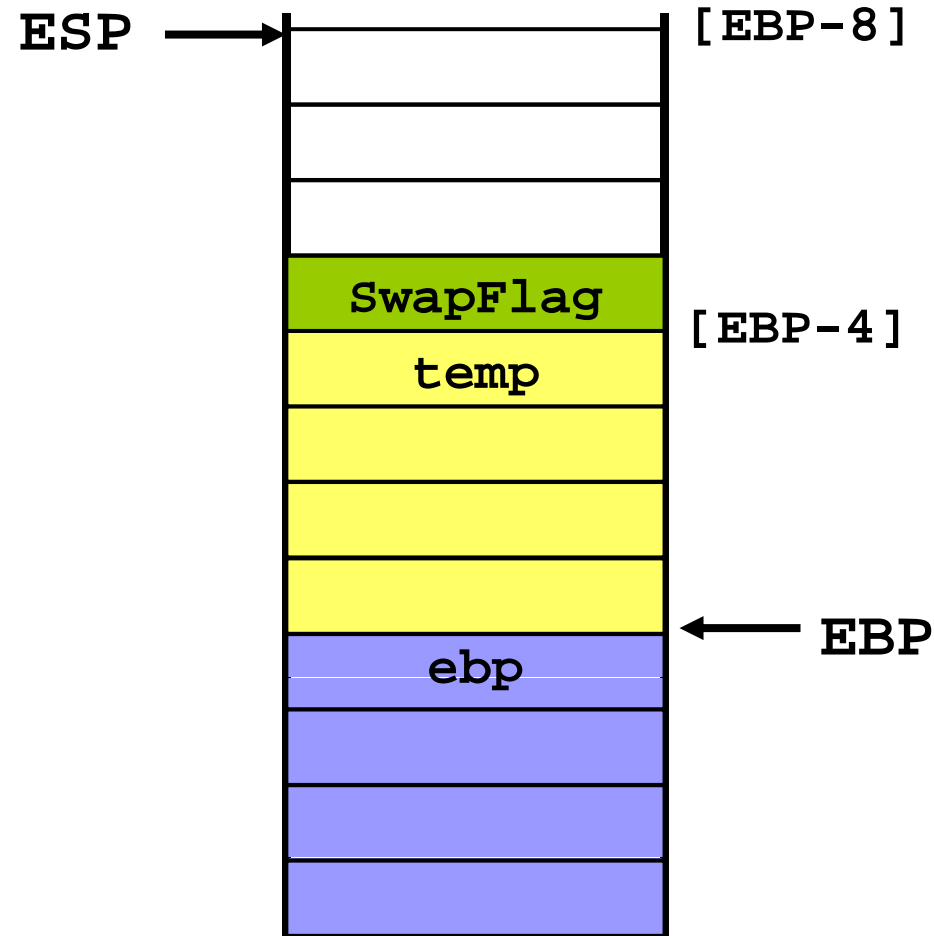
# Non-Doubleword Local Variables

---



- Local variables can be different sizes
- How are they created in the stack by **LOCAL** directive:
  - 8-bit: assigned to next available byte
  - 16-bit: assigned to next even (word) boundary
  - 32-bit: assigned to next doubleword boundary

# MASM-generated code



```
mov  eax, temp  
mov  bl, SwapFlag  
mov  eax, [ebp-4]  
mov  bl, [ebp-5]
```

# Reserving stack space

---



- `.STACK 4096`
- `Sub1` calls `Sub2`, `Sub2` calls `Sub3`, how many bytes will you need in the stack?

`Sub1 PROC`

```
LOCAL array1[50]:DWORD ; 200 bytes
```

`Sub2 PROC`

```
LOCAL array2[80]:WORD ; 160 bytes
```

`Sub3 PROC`

```
LOCAL array3[300]:WORD ; 300 bytes
```

`660+8(ret addr)+saved registers...`

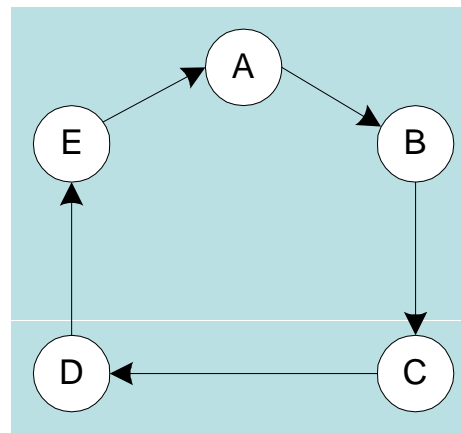


# Recursion

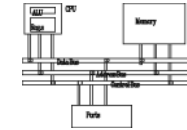
# Recursion



- The process created when . . .
  - A procedure calls itself
  - Procedure A calls procedure B, which in turn calls procedure A
- Using a graph in which each node is a procedure and each edge is a procedure call, recursion forms a cycle:



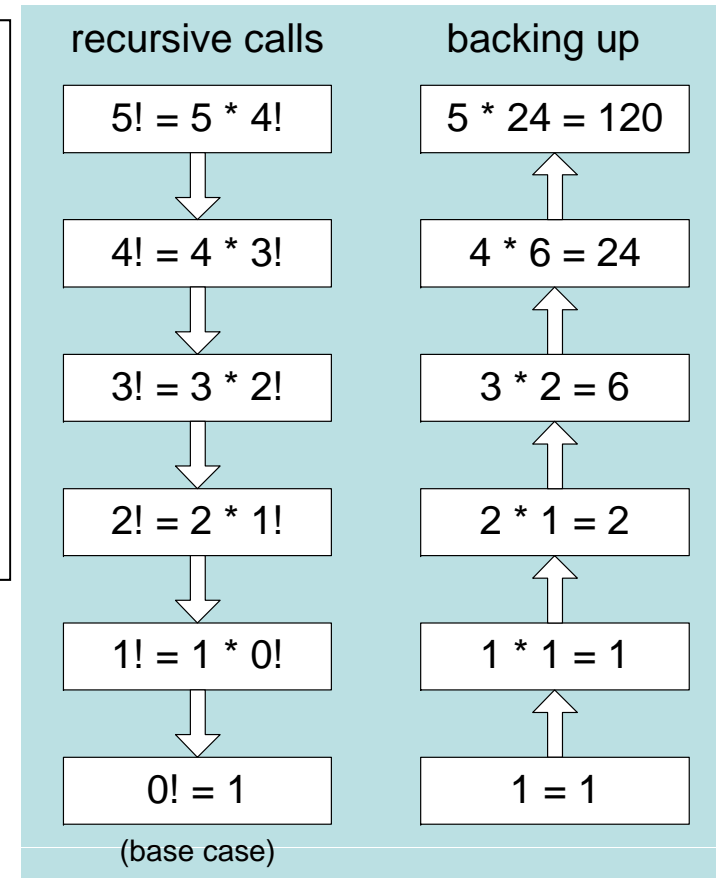
# Calculating a factorial



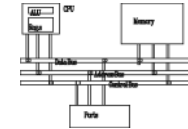
This function calculates the factorial of integer  $n$ .  
A new value of  $n$  is saved in each stack frame:

```
int factorial(int n)
{
    if (n == 0)
        return 1;
    else
        return n*factorial(n-1);
}
```

`factorial(5);`



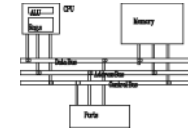
# Calculating a factorial



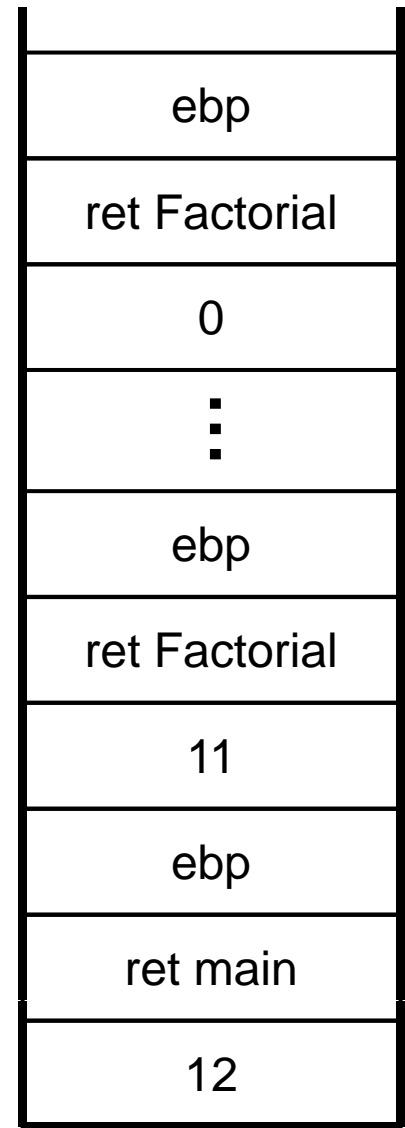
```
Factorial PROC
    push ebp
    mov  ebp, esp
    mov  eax, [ebp+8]    ; get n
    cmp  eax, 0         ; n > 0?
    ja   L1             ; yes: continue
    mov  eax, 1         ; no: return 1
    jmp  L2
L1: dec  eax
    push eax            ; Factorial(n-1)
    call Factorial
ReturnFact:
    mov  ebx, [ebp+8]   ; get n
    mul  ebx            ; edx:eax=eax*ebx
L2: pop  ebp           ; return EAX
    ret  4              ; clean up stack
Factorial ENDP
```

# Calculating a factorial

```
push 12  
call Factorial
```



```
Factorial PROC  
    push ebp  
    mov  ebp, esp  
    mov  eax, [ebp+8]  
    cmp  eax, 0  
    ja   L1  
    mov  eax, 1  
    jmp  L2  
L1: dec  eax  
    push eax  
    call Factorial  
  
ReturnFact:  
    mov  ebx, [ebp+8]  
    mul  ebx  
  
L2: pop  ebp  
    ret  4  
Factorial ENDP
```



# **Related directives**

# .MODEL directive

---



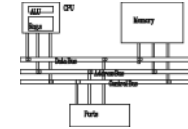
- **.MODEL** directive specifies a program's memory model and model options (language-specifier).
- Syntax:

**.MODEL *memorymodel* [, *modeloptions*]**

- ***memorymodel*** can be one of the following:
  - tiny, small, medium, compact, large, huge, or flat
- ***modeloptions*** includes the language specifier:
  - procedure naming scheme
  - parameter passing conventions
- **.MODEL flat, STDCALL**

# Memory models

---



- A program's memory model determines the number and sizes of code and data segments.
- Real-address mode supports tiny, small, medium, compact, large, and huge models.
- Protected mode supports only the flat model.

Small model: code < 64 KB, data (including stack) < 64 KB.  
All offsets are 16 bits.

Flat model: single segment for code and data, up to 4 GB.  
All offsets are 32 bits.



# Language specifiers

---



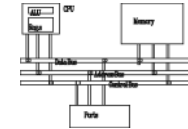
- STDCALL (used when calling Windows functions)
  - procedure arguments pushed on stack in reverse order (right to left)
  - called procedure cleans up the stack
  - `__name@nn` (for example, `_AddTwo@8`)
- C
  - procedure arguments pushed on stack in reverse order (right to left)
  - calling program cleans up the stack (variable number of parameters such as `printf`)
  - `__name` (for example, `_AddTwo`)
- PASCAL
  - arguments pushed in forward order (left to right)
  - called procedure cleans up the stack
- BASIC, FORTRAN, SYSCALL

# INVOKE directive



- The **INVOKE** directive is a powerful replacement for Intel's **CALL** instruction that lets you pass multiple arguments
- Syntax:  
`INVOKE procedureName [, argumentList]`
- ***ArgumentList*** is an optional comma-delimited list of procedure arguments
- Arguments can be:
  - immediate values and integer expressions
  - variable names
  - address and ADDR expressions
  - register names

# INVOKE examples



```
.data
byteVal BYTE 10
wordVal WORD 1000h
.code
; direct operands:
INVOKE Sub1,byteVal,wordVal

; address of variable:
INVOKE Sub2,ADDR byteVal

; register name, integer expression:
INVOKE Sub3,eax,(10 * 20)

; address expression (indirect operand):
INVOKE Sub4,[ebx]
```

# INVOKE example

---



```
.data
```

```
val1 DWORD 12345h
```

```
val2 DWORD 23456h
```

```
.code
```

```
    INVOKE AddTwo, val1, val2
```

```
push val1
```

```
push val2
```

```
call AddTwo
```

# ADDR operator

---

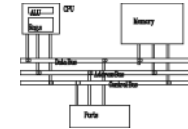


- Returns a near or far pointer to a variable, depending on which memory model your program uses:
  - Small model: returns 16-bit offset
  - Large model: returns 32-bit segment/offset
  - Flat model: returns 32-bit offset
- Simple example:

```
.data  
myWord WORD ?  
.code  
INVOKE mySub,ADDR myWord
```

# ADDR example

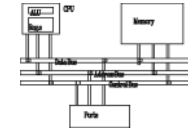
---



```
.data
Array DWORD 20 DUP(?)
.code
...
INVOKE Swap, ADDR Array, ADDR [Array+4]
```

```
push OFFSET Array+4
push OFFSET Array
Call Swap
```

# PROC directive



- The **PROC** directive declares a procedure with an optional list of named parameters.

- Syntax:

*label* **PROC** [**attributes**] [**USES**] *paramList*

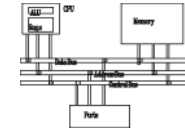
- *paramList* is a list of parameters separated by commas. Each parameter has the following syntax:

*paramName: type*

*type* must either be one of the standard ASM types (BYTE, SBYTE, WORD, etc.), or it can be a pointer to one of these types.

- Example: **foo PROC C USES eax, param1:DWORD**

# PROC example



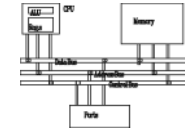
- The AddTwo procedure receives two integers and returns their sum in EAX.
- C++ programs typically return 32-bit integers from functions in EAX.

```
AddTwo PROC,  
    val1:DWORD,  
    val2:DWORD  
  
    mov eax,val1  
    add eax,val2  
    ret  
AddTwo ENDP
```

```
AddTwo PROC,  
    push ebp  
    mov  ebp, esp  
    mov  eax, dword ptr [ebp+8]  
    add  eax, dword ptr [ebp+0Ch]  
    leave  
    ret 8  
AddTwo ENDP
```



# PROC example



```
Read_File PROC USES eax, ebx,  
    pBuffer:PTR BYTE  
    LOCAL fileHandle:DWORD
```

```
    mov    esi, pBuffer  
    mov    fileHandle, eax  
    .  
    .  
    ret  
Read_File ENDP
```

```
Read_File PROC  
    push ebp  
    mov    ebp, esp  
    add    esp, 0FFFFFFFCh  
    push  eax  
    push  ebx  
    mov    esi, dword ptr [ebp+8]  
    mov    dword ptr [ebp-4], eax  
    .  
    .  
    pop    ebx  
    pop    eax  
    ret  
Read_File ENDP
```

# PROTO directive

---



- Creates a procedure prototype
- Syntax:
  - *label* **PROTO** *paramList*
- Every procedure called by the **INVOKE** directive must have a prototype
- A complete procedure definition can also serve as its own prototype

# PROTO directive



- Standard configuration: **PROTO** appears at top of the program listing, **INVOKE** appears in the code segment, and the procedure implementation occurs later in the program:

```
MySub PROTO      ; procedure prototype

.code
INVOKE MySub     ; procedure call

MySub PROC      ; procedure implementation
.
.
MySub ENDP
```

# PROTO example

---



- Prototype for the ArraySum procedure, showing its parameter list:

```
ArraySum PROTO,  
    ptrArray:PTR DWORD, ; points to the array  
    szArray:DWORD      ; array size
```

```
ArraySum PROC USES esi, ecx,  
    ptrArray:PTR DWORD, ; points to the array  
    szArray:DWORD      ; array size
```

# Multimodule programs

# Multimodule programs

---



- A multimodule program is a program whose source code has been divided up into separate ASM files.
- Each ASM file (module) is assembled into a separate OBJ file.
- All OBJ files belonging to the same program are linked using the link utility into a single EXE file.
  - This process is called static linking

# Advantages

---



- Large programs are easier to write, maintain, and debug when divided into separate source code modules.
- When changing a line of code, only its enclosing module needs to be assembled again. Linking assembled modules requires little time.
- A module can be a container for logically related code and data
  - encapsulation: procedures and variables are automatically hidden in a module unless you declare them public

# Creating a multimodule program

---



- Here are some basic steps to follow when creating a multimodule program:
  - Create the main module
  - Create a separate source code module for each procedure or set of related procedures
  - Create an include file that contains procedure prototypes for external procedures (ones that are called between modules)
  - Use the INCLUDE directive to make your procedure prototypes available to each module



# Multimodule programs

---



- `MySub PROC PRIVATE`  
`sub1 PROC PUBLIC`
- `EXTERN sub1@0:PROC`
- `PUBLIC count, SYM1`  
`SYM1=10`  
`.data`  
`count DWORD 0`
- `EXTERN name:type`

# INCLUDE file



The sum.inc file contains prototypes for external functions that are not in the Irvine32 library:

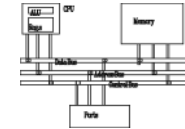
```
INCLUDE Irvine32.inc

PromptForIntegers PROTO,
    ptrPrompt:PTR BYTE,           ; prompt string
    ptrArray:PTR DWORD,          ; points to the array
    arraySize:DWORD              ; size of the array

ArraySum PROTO,
    ptrArray:PTR DWORD,          ; points to the array
    count:DWORD                 ; size of the array

DisplaySum PROTO,
    ptrPrompt:PTR BYTE,         ; prompt string
    theSum:DWORD                ; sum of the array
```

# Main.asm



```
TITLE Integer Summation Program

INCLUDE sum.inc

.code
main PROC
    call Clrscr

    INVOKE PromptForIntegers,
        ADDR prompt1,
        ADDR array,
        Count

    ...
    call Crlf
    INVOKE ExitProcess,0
main ENDP
END main
```