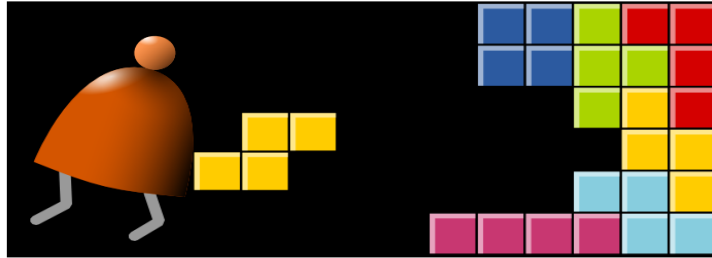


Virtual Machine

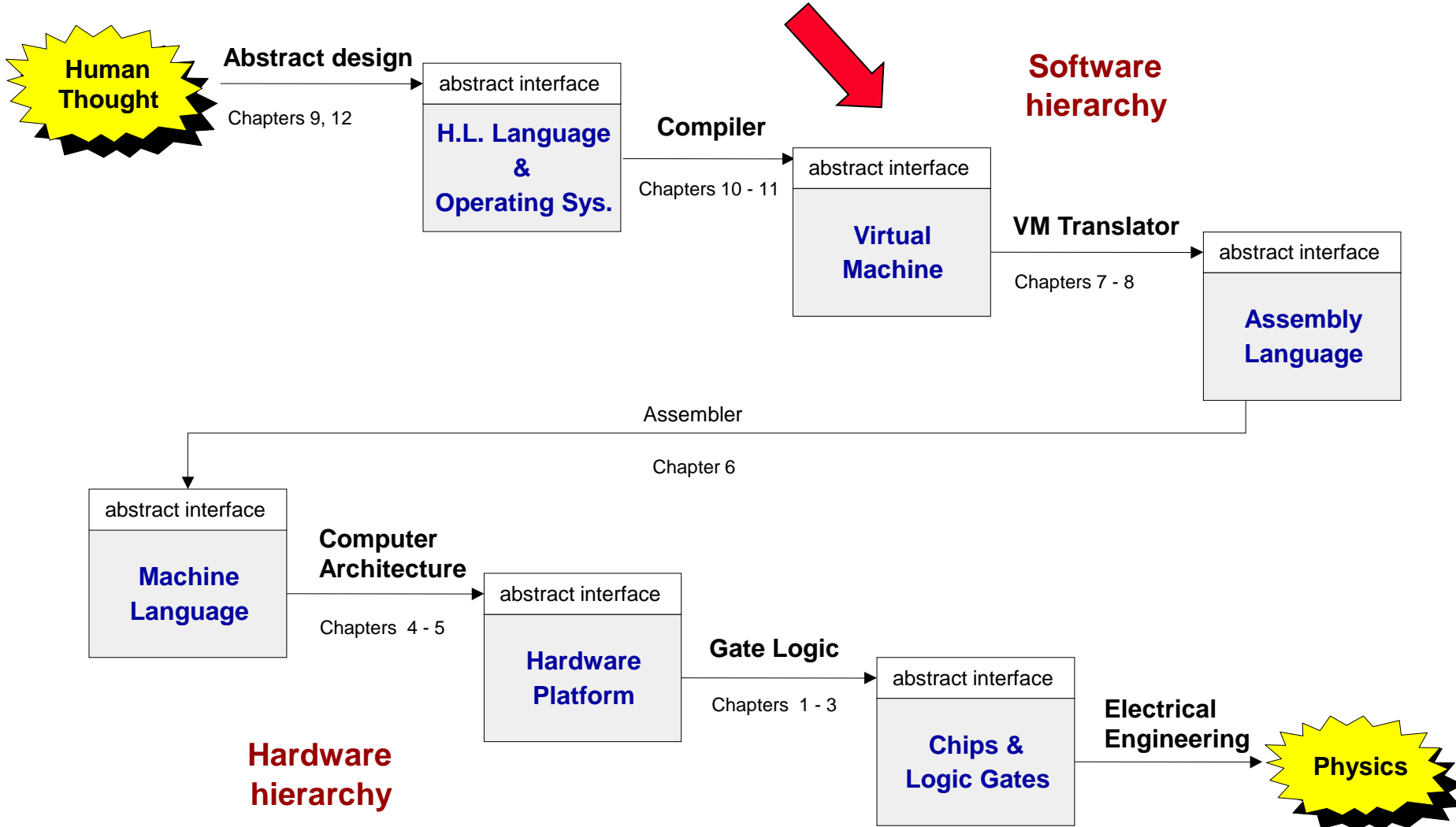
Part II: Program Control



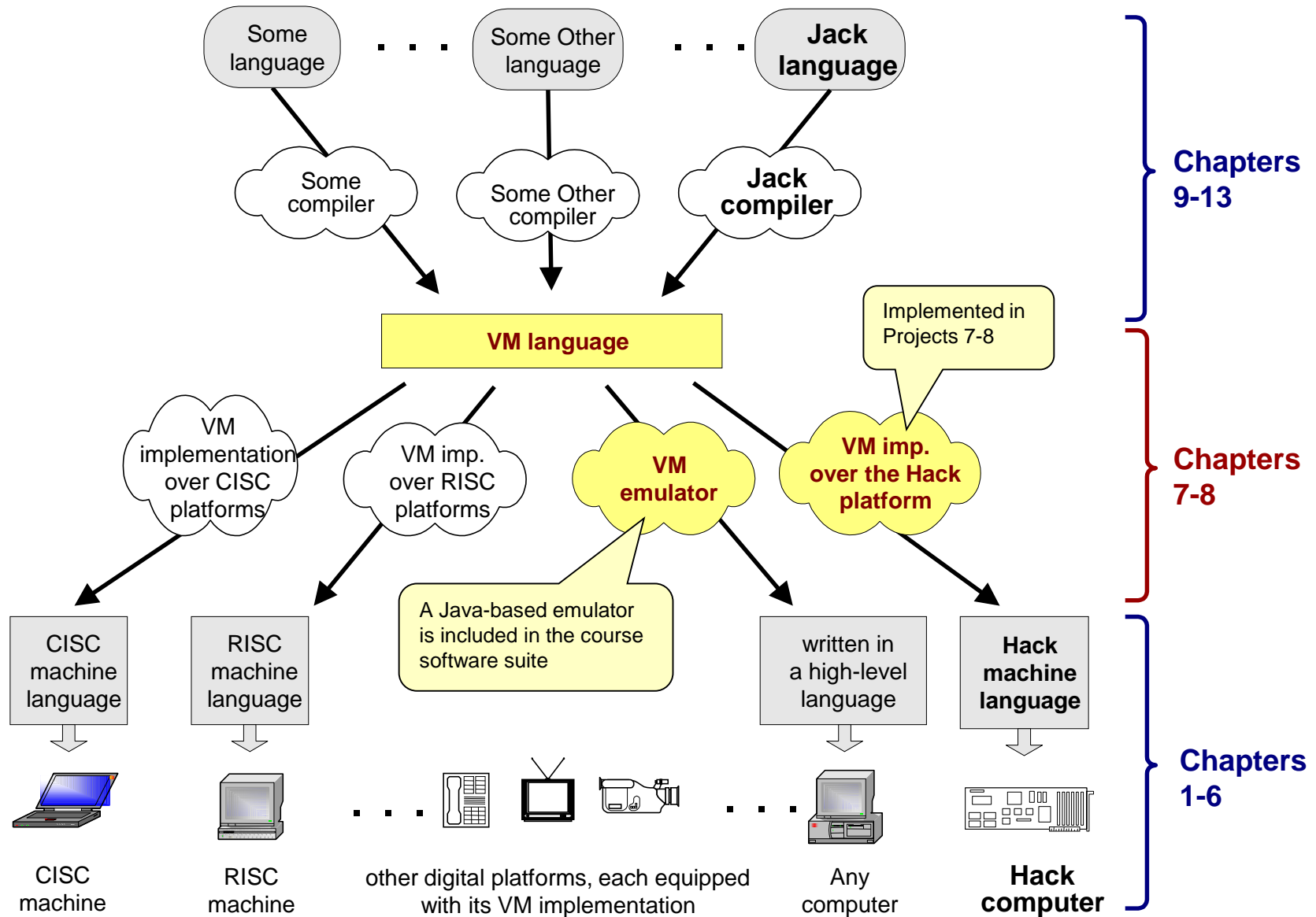
Building a Modern Computer From First Principles

www.nand2tetris.org

Where we are at:



The big picture



The VM language

Goal: Complete the specification and implementation of the VM model and language

Arithmetic / Boolean commands

add

sub

neg

eq

gt

lt

and

or

not

Memory access commands

pop x (pop into x, which is a variable)

push y (y being a variable or a constant)

Chapter 7

Program flow commands

label (declaration)

goto (label)

if-goto (label)

Chapter 8

Function calling commands

function (declaration)

call (a function)

return (from a function)

Method: (a) specify the abstraction (model's constructs and commands)
(b) propose how to implement it over the Hack platform.

The compilation challenge

Source code (high-level language)

```
class Main {
  static int x;

  function void main() {
    // Inputs and multiplies two numbers
    var int a, b, c;
    let a = Keyboard.readInt("Enter a number");
    let b = Keyboard.readInt("Enter a number");
    let c = Keyboard.readInt("Enter a number");
    let x = solve(a,b,c);
    return;
  }
}

// Solves a quadratic equation (sort of)
function int solve(int a, int b, int c) {
  var int x;
  if (~(a = 0))
    x=(-b+sqrt(b*b-4*a*c))/(2*a);
  else
    x=-c/b;
  return x;
}
}
```

Our ultimate goal:

Translate high-level programs into executable code.



Compiler

Target code

```
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
...
```

The compilation challenge / two-tier setting

Jack source code

```
if (~(a = 0))
  x = (-b+sqrt(b*b-4*a*c))/(2*a)
else
  x = -c/b
```

Compiler

VM (pseudo) code

```
push a
push 0
eq
not
if-goto A_NEQ_ZERO
// We get here if a==0
push c
neg
push b
call div
pop x
goto CONTINUE
label A_NEQ_ZERO
// We get here if !(a==0)
push b
neg
push a
push b
push c
call disc
call sqrt
add
push 2
push a
call mult
call div
pop x
label CONTINUE
// code continues
```

VM translator

Machine code

```
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
...
```

- ❑ We'll develop the compiler later in the course
- ❑ We now turn to describe how to complete the implementation of the VM language
- ❑ That is -- how to translate each VM command into assembly commands that perform the desired semantics.

The compilation challenge / two-tier setting

Jack source code

```
if (~(a = 0))
  x = (-b+sqrt(b*b-4*a*c))/(2*a)
else
  x = -c/b
```

Compiler

VM (pseudo) code

```
push a
push 0
eq
not
if-goto A_NEQ_ZERO
// We get here if a==0
push c
neg
push b
call div
pop x
goto CONTINUE
label A_NEQ_ZERO
// We get here if !(a==0)
push b
neg
push a
push b
push c
call disc
call sqrt
add
push 2
push a
call mult
call div
pop x
label CONTINUE
// code continues
```

VM translator

Machine code

```
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
...
```

- ❑ We'll develop the compiler later in the course
- ❑ We now turn to describe how to complete the implementation of the VM language
- ❑ That is -- how to translate each VM command into assembly commands that perform the desired semantics.

The compilation challenge

Typical compiler's source code input:

```
// Computes  $x = (-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4*a*c}) / 2*a$   
if ( $\sim(a = 0)$ )  
     $x = (-b + \sqrt{b * b - 4 * a * c}) / (2 * a)$   
else  
     $x = -c / b$ 
```

program flow logic
(branching)

(this lecture)

Boolean
expressions

(previous lecture)

function call and
return logic

(this lecture)

arithmetic
expressions

(previous lecture)

How to translate such high-level code into machine language?

- In a two-tier compilation model, the overall translation challenge is broken between a *front-end* compilation stage and a subsequent *back-end* translation stage
- In our Hack-Jack platform, all the above sub-tasks (handling arithmetic / Boolean expressions and program flow / function calling commands) are done by the back-end, i.e. by the VM translator.

Lecture plan

Arithmetic / Boolean commands

add

sub

neg

eq

gt

lt

and

or

not

Memory access commands

pop x (pop into x, which is a variable)

push y (y being a variable or a constant)

Chapter 7



Program flow commands

label (declaration)

goto (label)

if-goto (label)

Function calling commands

function (declaration)

call (a function)

return (from a function)

Program flow commands in the VM language

VM code example:

```
function mult 1
  push constant 0
  pop local 0
label loop
  push argument 0
  push constant 0
  eq
  if-goto end
  push argument 0
  push 1
  sub
  pop argument 0
  push argument 1
  push local 0
  add
  pop local 0
  goto loop
label end
  push local 0
  return
```

In the VM language, the program flow abstraction is delivered using three commands:

```
label c      // label declaration

goto c       // unconditional jump to the
              // VM command following the label c

if-goto c    // pops the topmost stack element;
              // if it's not zero, jumps to the
              // VM command following the label c
```

How to translate these abstractions into assembly?

Flow of control

pseudo code

```
if (cond)
    statement1
else
    statement2
```

VM code

```
~cond
if-goto elseLabel
statement1
goto contLabel
label elseLabel
    statement2
label contLabel
```

Flow of control

pseudo code

```
while (cond)
  statement
...
```

VM code

```
label contLabel
  ~(cond)
  if-goto exitLabel
  statement
  goto contLabel
label exitLabel
...
```

Branching

High-level program

```
// Returns x * y
int mult(int x, int y) {
    int sum = 0;
    int n = 1;
    // sum = sum + x, y times
    while !(n > y) {
        sum = sum + x;
        n++;
    }
    return sum;
}
```

compiler



Pseudo VM code

```
function mult(x,y)
    push 0
    pop sum
    push 1
    pop n
    label WHILE_LOOP
    push n
    push y
    gt
    if-goto ENDLOOP
    push sum
    push x
    add
    pop sum
    push n
    push 1
    add
    pop n
    goto WHILE_LOOP
label ENDLOOP
    push sum
    return
```

Label:

`label label`

defines a *label*.

Branching

High-level program

```
// Returns x * y
int mult(int x, int y) {
    int sum = 0;
    int n = 1;
    // sum = sum + x, y times
    while !(n > y) {
        sum = sum + x;
        n++;
    }
    return sum;
}
```

compiler



Pseudo VM code

```
function mult(x,y)
    push 0
    pop sum
    push 1
    pop n
    label WHILE_LOOP
    push n
    push y
    gt
    if-goto ENDLOOP
    push sum
    push x
    add
    pop sum
    push n
    push 1
    add
    pop n
    goto WHILE_LOOP
    label ENDLOOP
    push sum
    return
```

Label:

`label label`

defines a *label*.

Unconditional branching:

`goto label`

Jumps to execute the command just after *label*.

Branching

High-level program

```
// Returns x * y
int mult(int x, int y) {
    int sum = 0;
    int n = 1;
    // sum = sum + x, y times
    while !(n > y) {
        sum = sum + x;
        n++;
    }
    return sum;
}
```

compiler



Pseudo VM code

```
function mult(x,y)
    push 0
    pop sum
    push 1
    pop n
    label WHILE_LOOP
    push n
    push y
    gt
    if-goto ENDLOOP
    push sum
    push x
    add
    pop sum
    push n
    push 1
    add
    pop n
    goto WHILE_LOOP
    label ENDLOOP
    push sum
    return
```

Label:

`label label`

defines a *label*.

Unconditional branching:

`goto label`

Jumps to execute the command just after *label*.

Conditional branching:

`if-goto label`

VM logic:

1. *cond* = pop;
2. if *cond* jump to execute the command just after *label*.

Lecture plan

Arithmetic / Boolean commands

add

sub

neg

eq

gt

lt

and

or

not

Memory access commands

pop x (pop into x, which is a variable)

push y (y being a variable or a constant)

previous
lecture



Program flow commands

label (declaration)

goto (label)

if-goto (label)

Function calling commands

function (declaration)

call (a function)

return (from a function)

Subroutines

```
// Compute  $x = (-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}) / 2a$ 
if ( $\sim(a = 0)$ )
     $x = (-b + \text{sqrt}(b * b - 4 * a * c)) / (2 * a)$ 
else
     $x = -c / b$ 
```

Subroutines = a major programming artifact

- ❑ Basic idea: the given language can be extended by user-defined commands (aka *subroutines/functions/procedures/methods ...*)
- ❑ Important: the language's primitive commands and the user-defined commands have the same look-and-feel
- ❑ This transparent extensibility is the most important abstraction delivered by high-level programming languages
- ❑ The challenge: implement this abstraction, i.e. allow the program control to flow effortlessly between one subroutine to the other

Subroutines in the VM language

Calling code, aka "caller" (example)

```
...
// computes (7 + 2) * 3 - 5
push constant 7
push constant 2
add
push constant 3
call mult 2
push constant 5
sub
...
```

VM subroutine
call-and-return
commands

Called code, aka "callee" (example)

```
function mult 1
  push constant 0
  pop local 0 // result (local 0) = 0
  label loop
  push argument 0
  push constant 0
  eq
  if-goto end // if arg0==0, jump to end
  push argument 0
  push 1
  sub
  pop argument 0 // arg0--
  push argument 1
  push local 0
  add
  pop local 0 // result += arg1
  goto loop
label end
  push local 0 // push result
return
```

Subroutines in the VM language

The invocation of the VM's primitive commands and subroutines follow exactly the same rules (consistent with other stack operations):

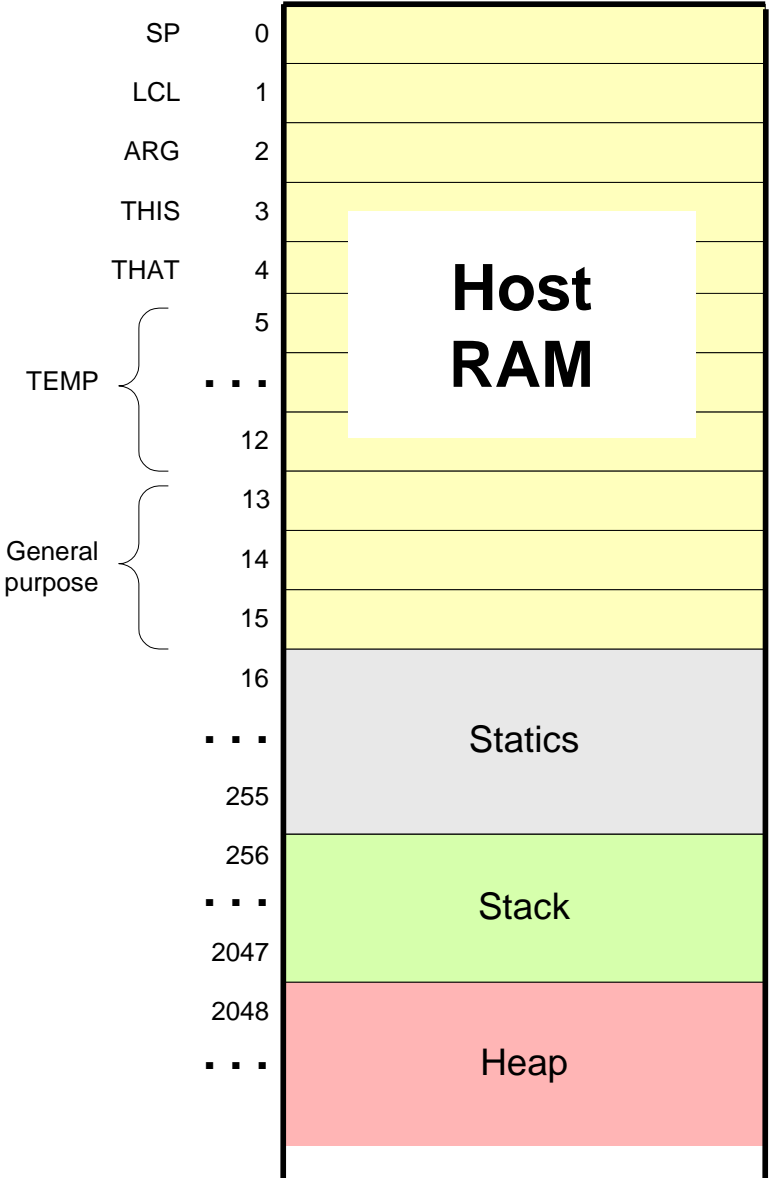
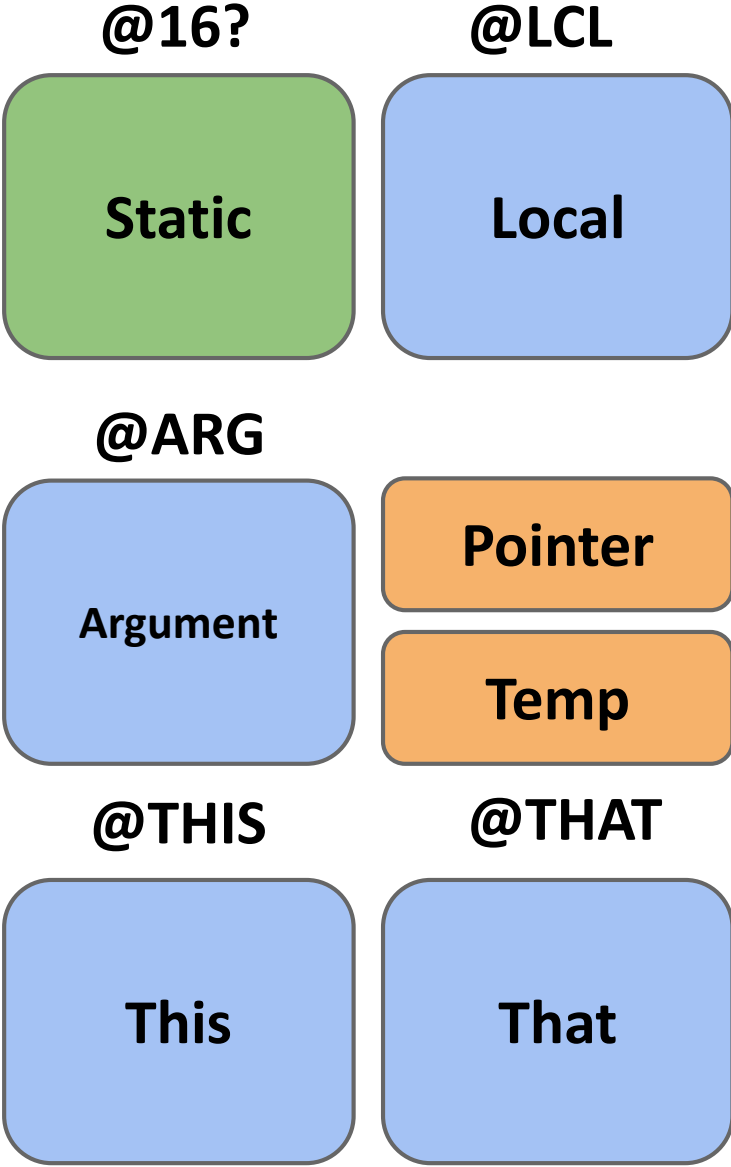
- ❑ The caller pushes the necessary argument(s) and calls the command / function for its effect
- ❑ The callee is responsible for removing the argument(s) from the stack, and for popping onto the stack the result of its execution.

What behind subroutines

The following scenario happens

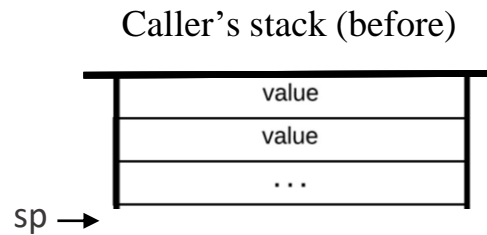
- ❑ The caller pushes the necessary arguments and call callee
- ❑ The **state** of the caller is saved
- ❑ The space of callee's local variables is allocated
- ❑ The callee executes what it is supposed to do
- ❑ The callee pushes the result to the stack
- ❑ Removes all arguments
- ❑ The space of the callee is recycled
- ❑ The caller's state is reinstalled
- ❑ Jump back to where is called

Memory Segments



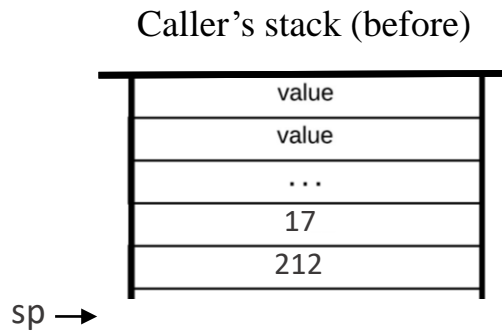
Function call and return: abstraction

Example: computing `mult(17,212)`



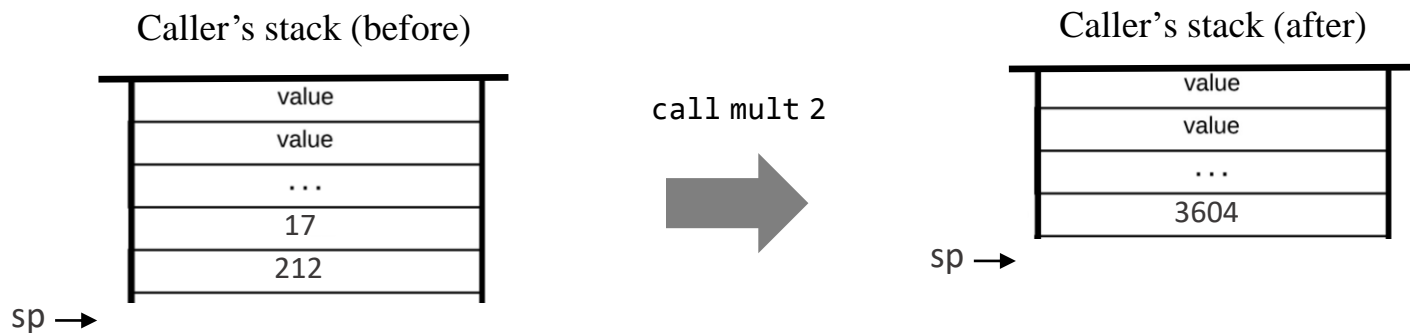
Function call and return: abstraction

Example: computing `mult(17,212)`



Function call and return: abstraction

Example: computing `mult(17,212)`

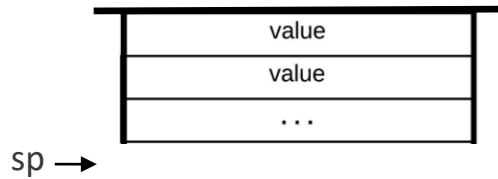


Net effect:

The function's arguments were replaced by the function's value

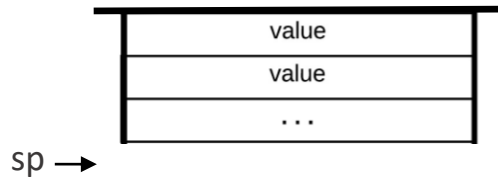
Function call and return: implementation

The function is running,
doing something



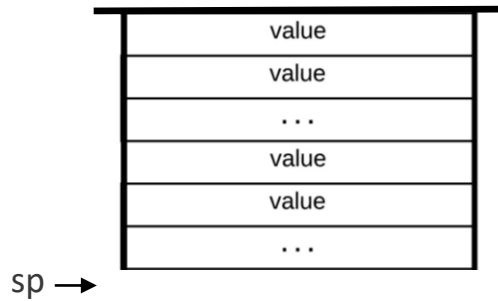
Function call and return: implementation

The function prepares
to call another function:



Function call and return: implementation

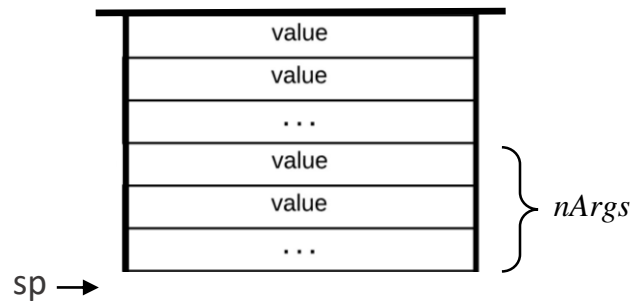
The function pushes arguments:



Function call and return: implementation

The function says:

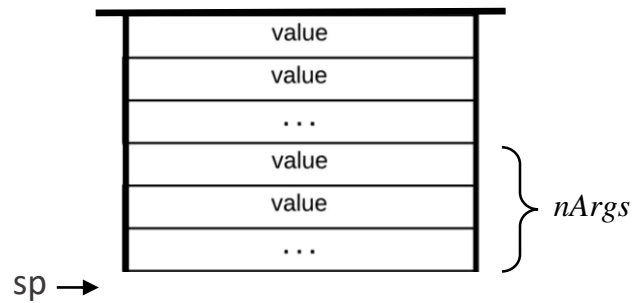
`call foo nArgs`



Function call and return: implementation

The function says:

call foo nArgs

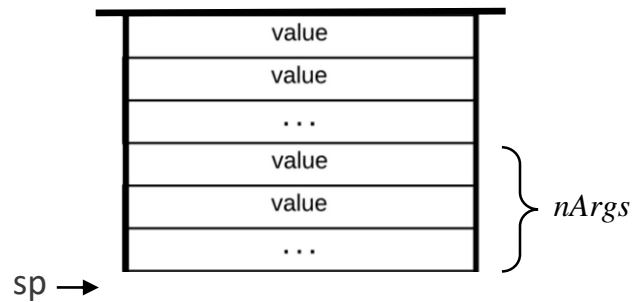


VM implementation (handling call):

Function call and return: implementation

The function says:

call foo nArgs



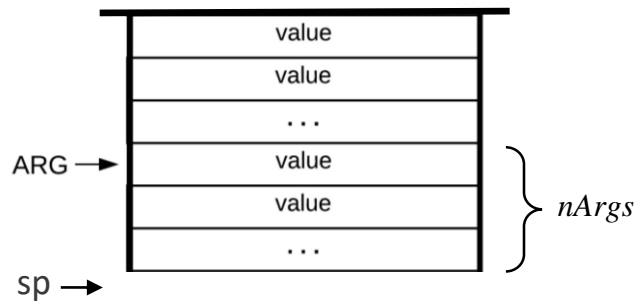
VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG

Function call and return: implementation

The function says:

call foo nArgs



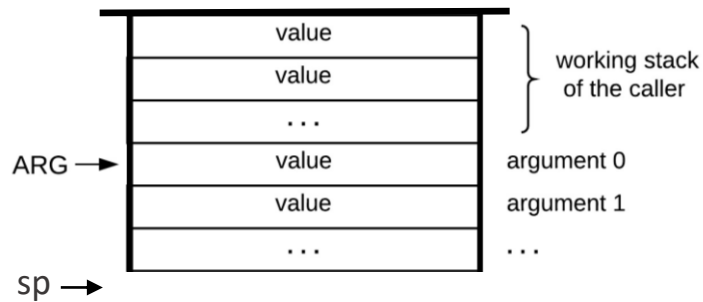
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Function call and return: implementation

The function says:

call foo nArgs



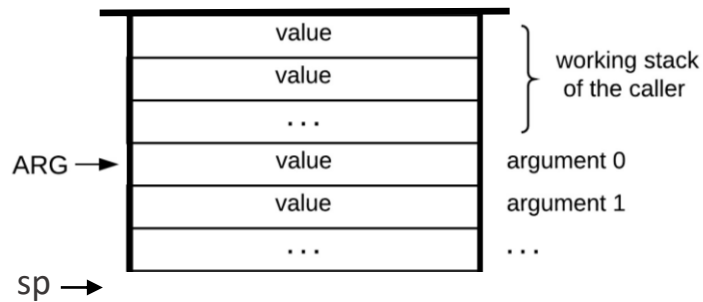
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Function call and return: implementation

The function says:

call foo nArgs



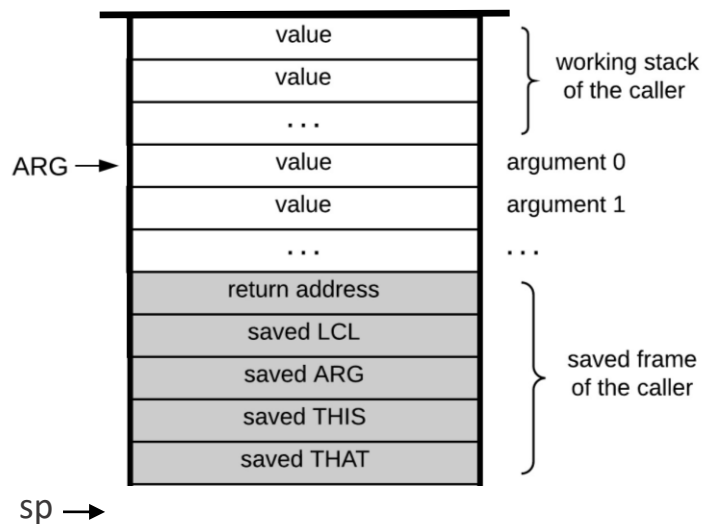
VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame

Function call and return: implementation

The function says:

`call foo nArgs`



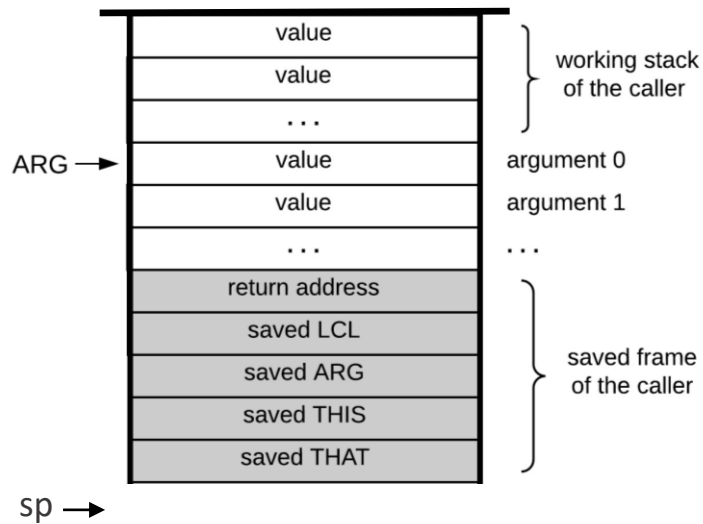
VM implementation (handling call):

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2. Saves the caller's frame

Function call and return: implementation

The function says:

`call foo nArgs`



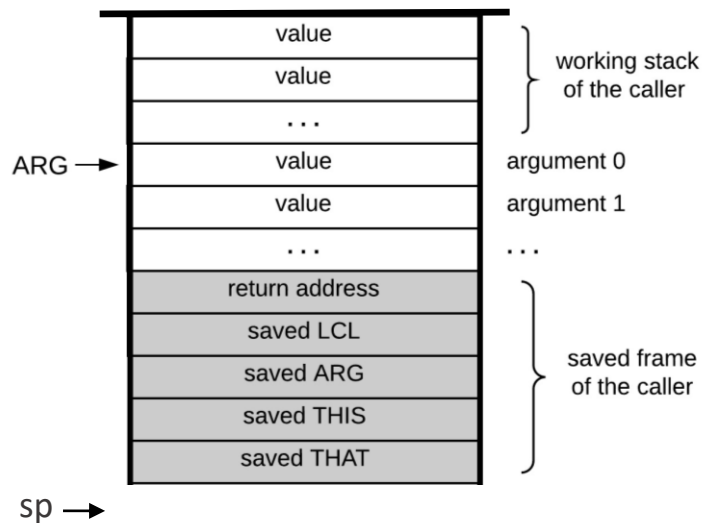
VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

Function call and return: implementation

The called function is entered:

function *foo* *nVars*



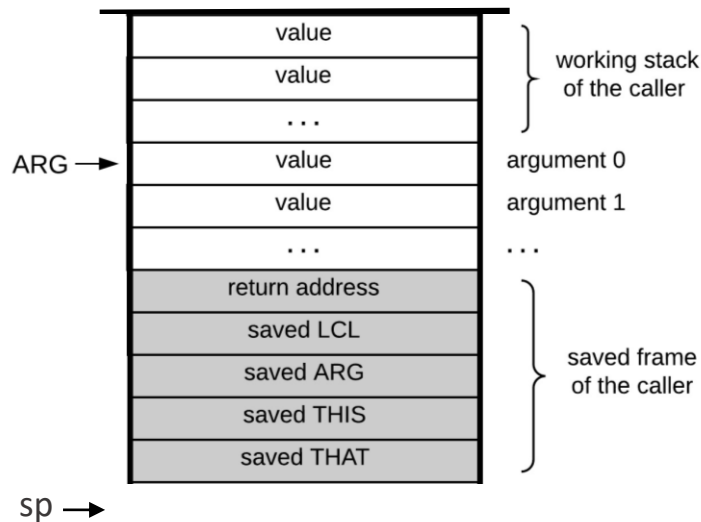
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The called function is entered:

function *foo* *nVars*



VM implementation (handling call):

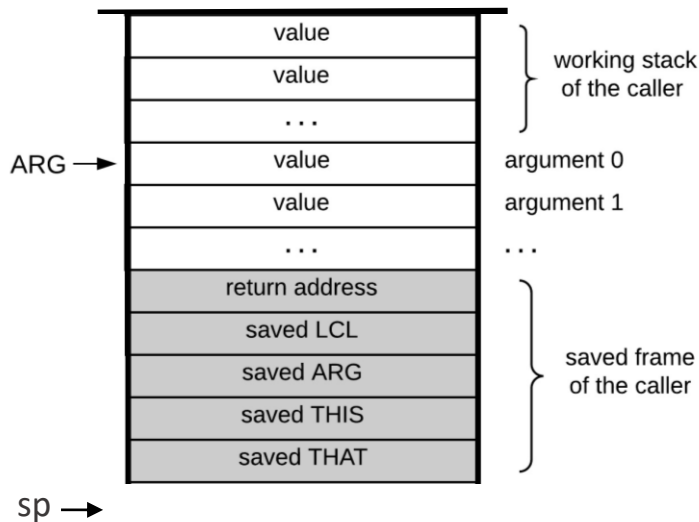
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3. Jumps to execute *foo*

VM implementation (handling function):

Function call and return: implementation

The called function is entered:

function *foo* *nVars*



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
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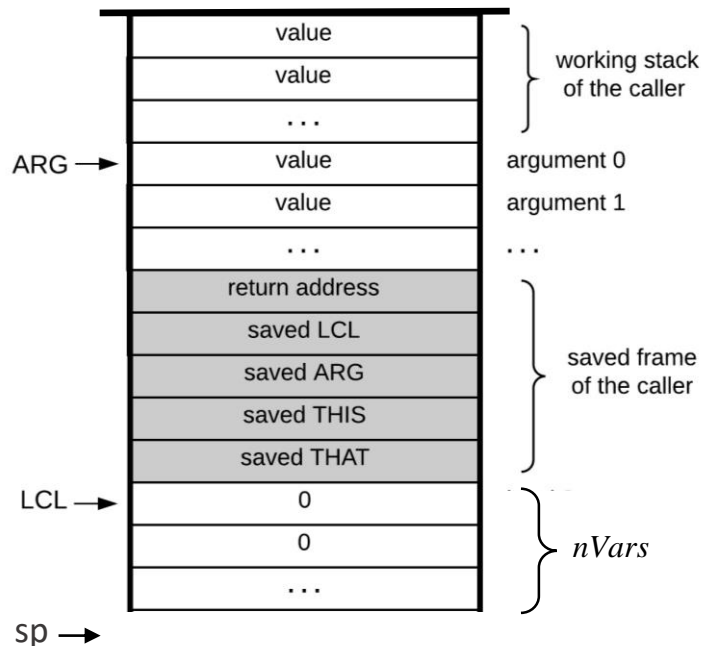
VM implementation (handling function):

Sets up the local segment
of the called function

Function call and return: implementation

The called function is entered:

function *foo* *nVars*



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

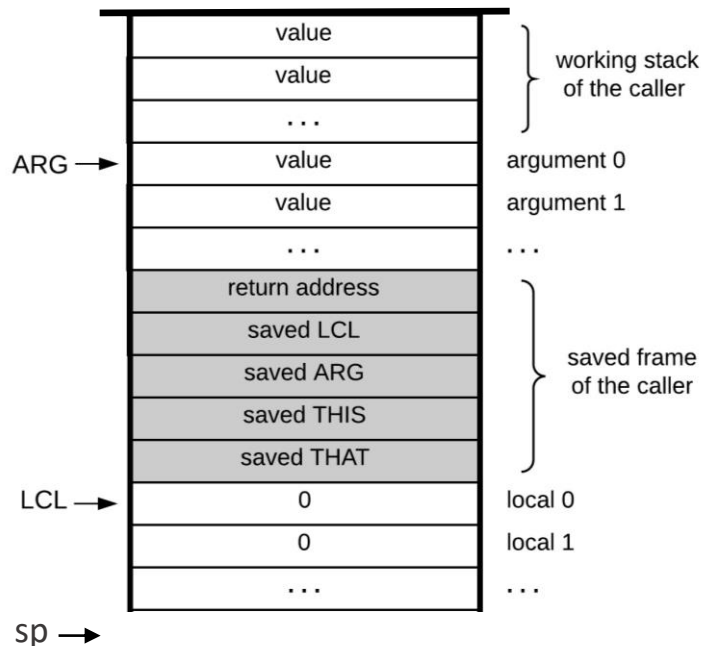
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Function call and return: implementation

The called function is entered:

function *foo* *nVars*



VM implementation (handling call):

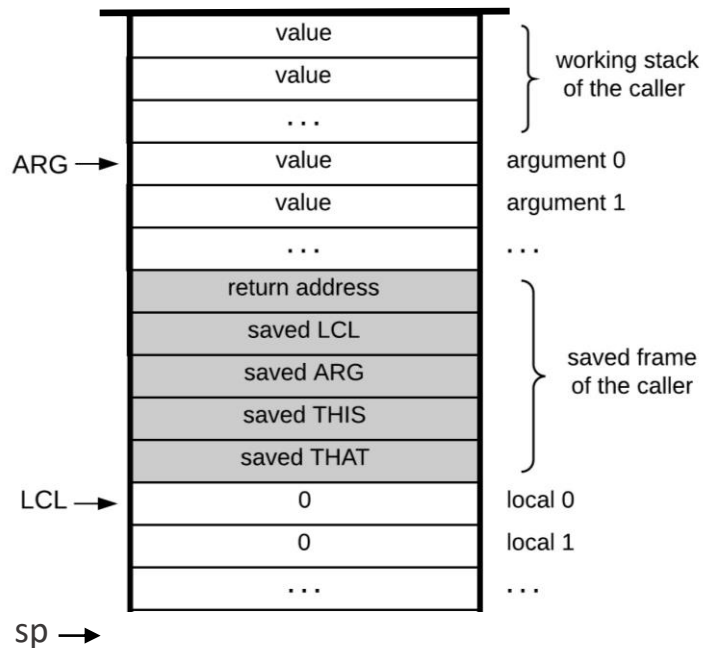
1. Sets ARG
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VM implementation (handling function):

Sets up the local segment of the called function

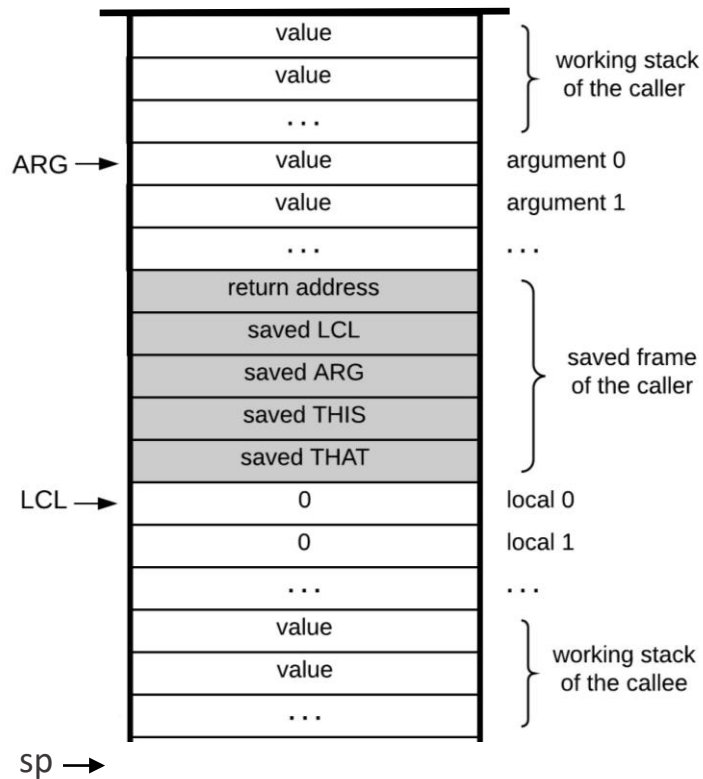
Function call and return: implementation

The called function is running,
doing something



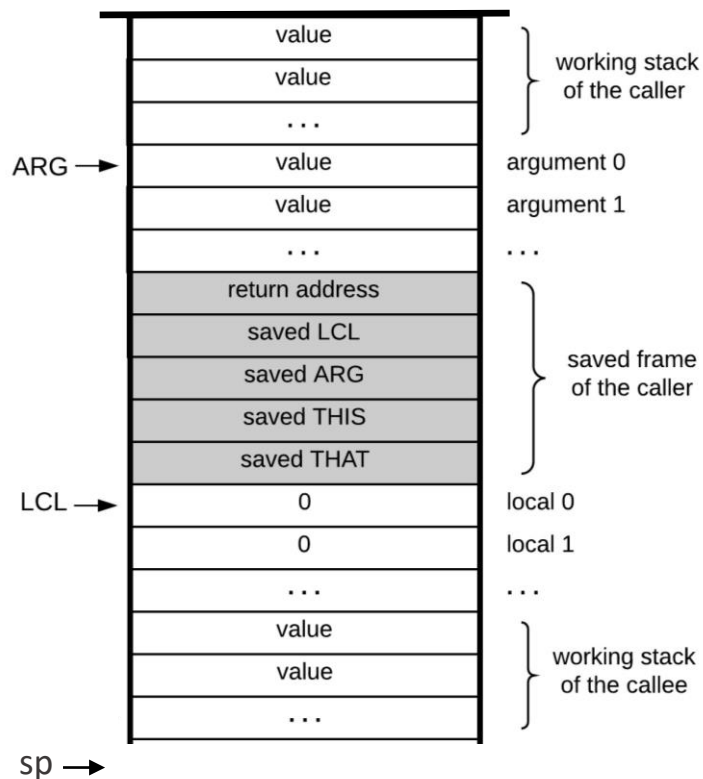
Function call and return: implementation

The called function is running,
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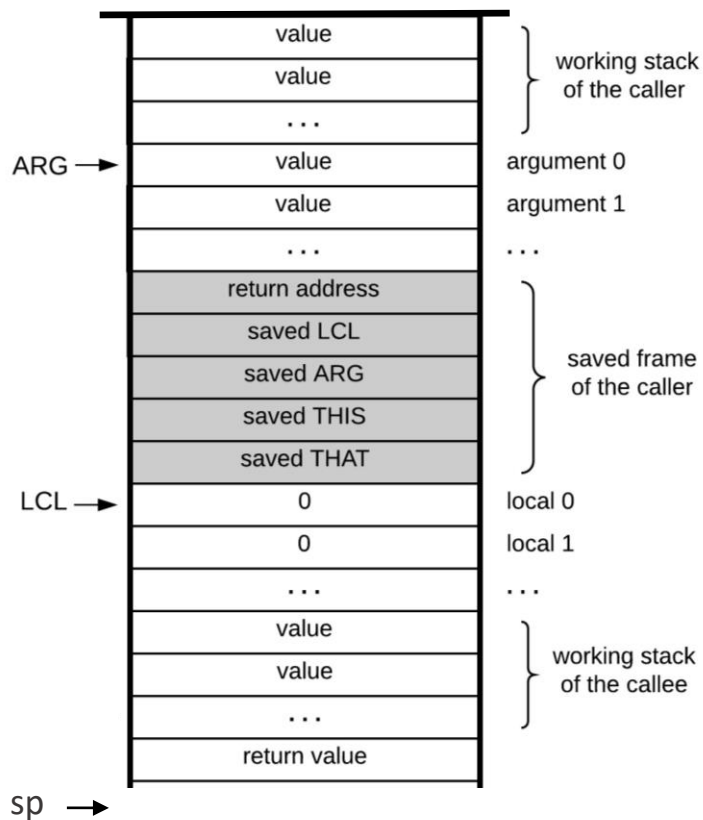
Function call and return: implementation

The called function prepares to return:
it pushes a *return value*



Function call and return: implementation

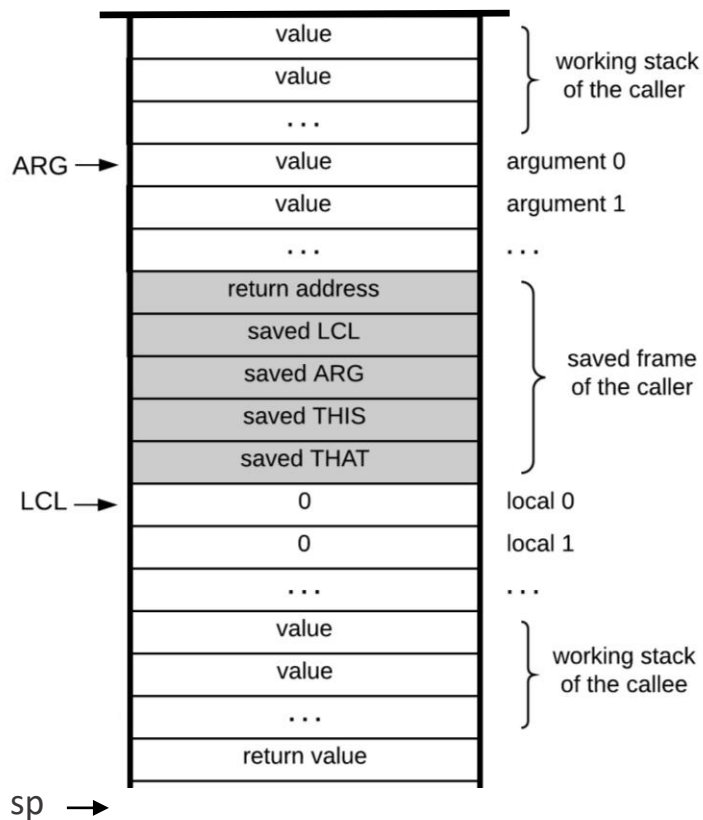
The called function prepares to return:
it pushes a *return value*



Function call and return: implementation

The called function says:

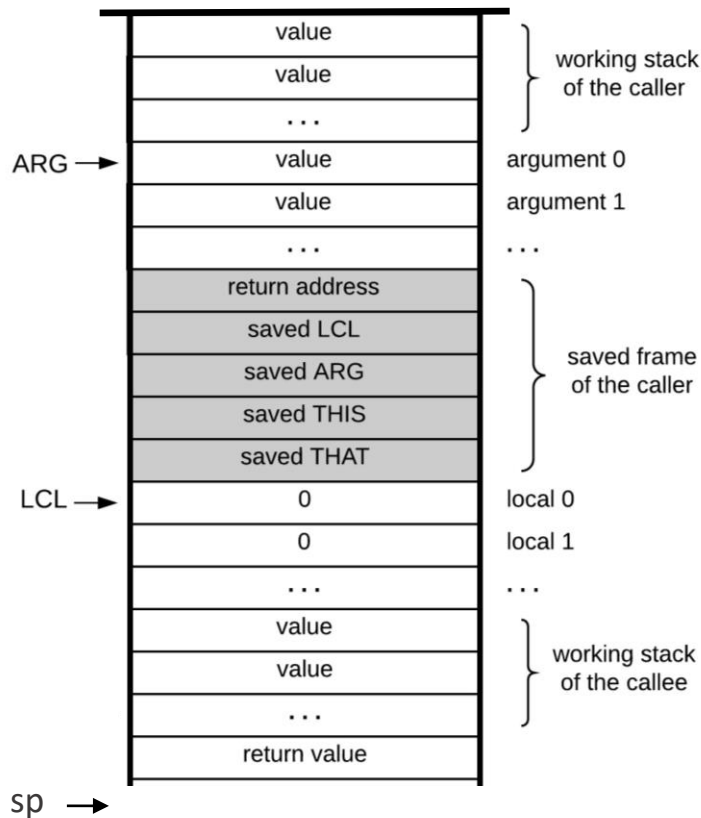
return



Function call and return: implementation

The called function says:

return



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

VM implementation (handling function):

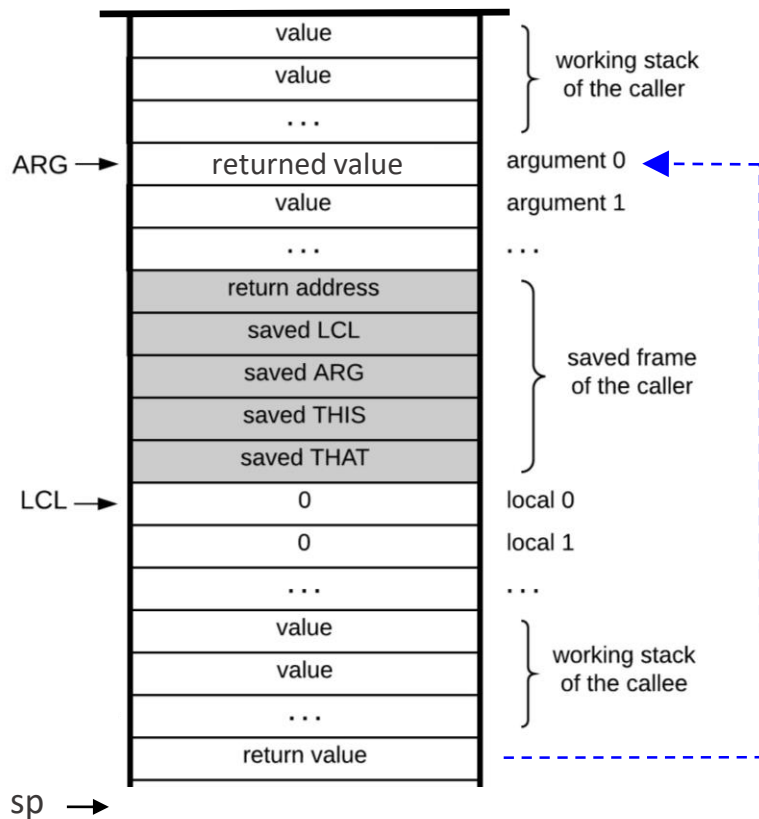
Sets up the local segment of the called function

VM implementation (handling return):

Function call and return: implementation

The called function says:

return



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

VM implementation (handling function):

Sets up the local segment of the called function

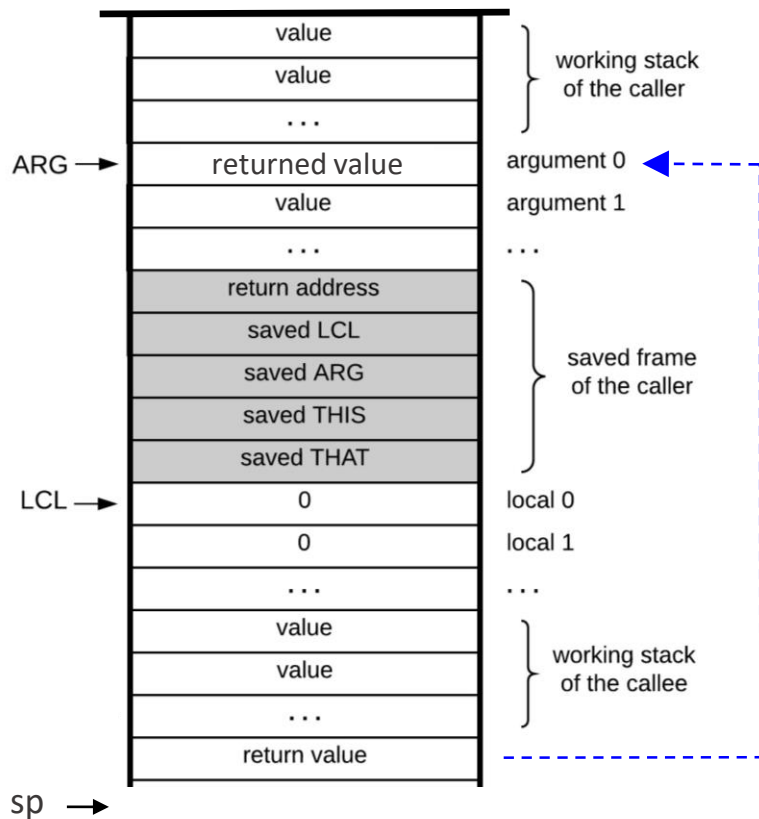
VM implementation (handling return):

1. Copies the return value onto argument 0

Function call and return: implementation

The called function says:

return



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

VM implementation (handling function):

Sets up the local segment of the called function

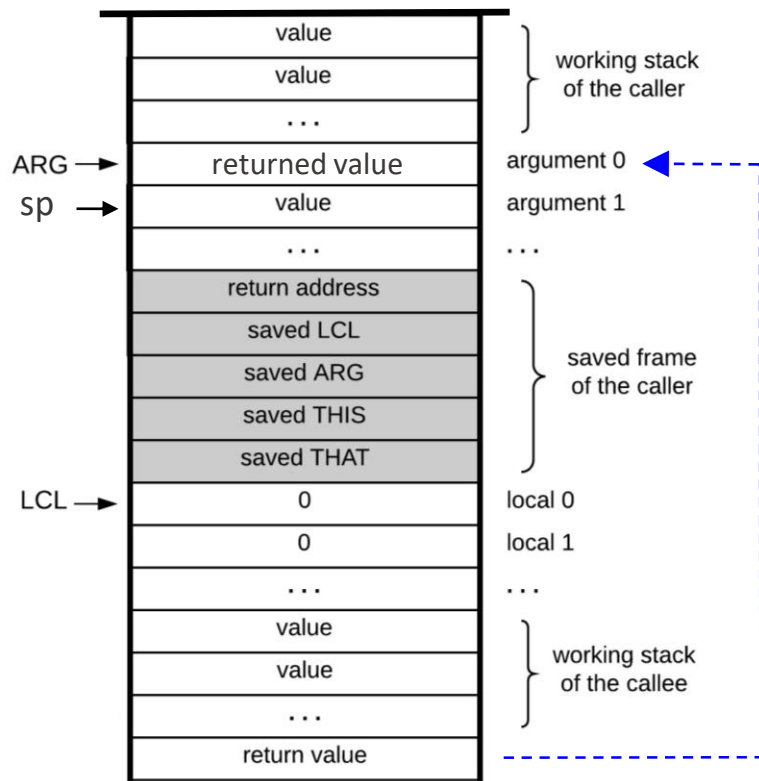
VM implementation (handling return):

1. Copies the return value onto argument 0
2. Sets SP for the caller

Function call and return: implementation

The called function says:

return



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

VM implementation (handling function):

Sets up the local segment of the called function

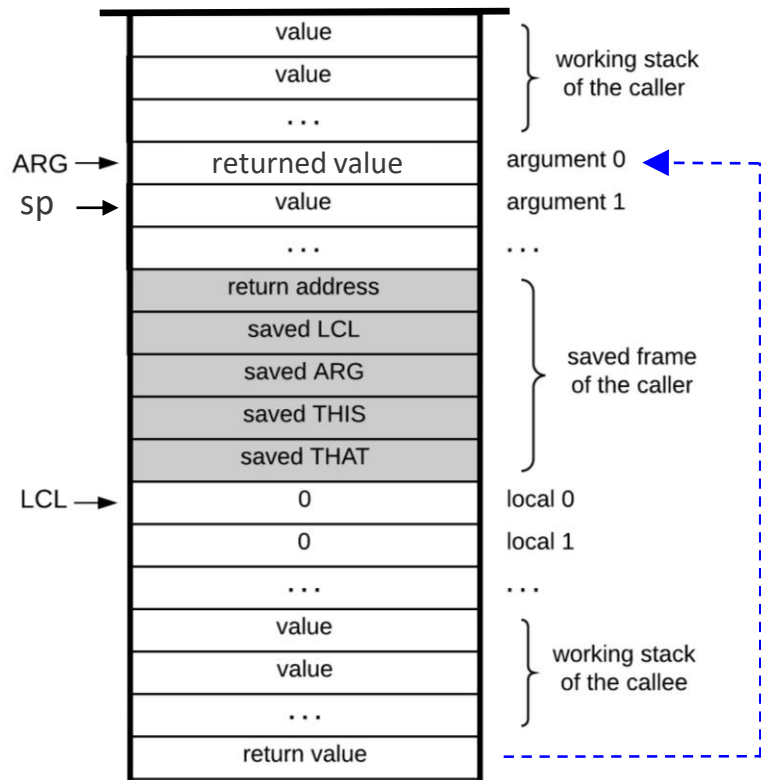
VM implementation (handling return):

1. Copies the return value onto argument 0
2. Sets SP for the caller

Function call and return: implementation

The called function says:

return



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

VM implementation (handling function):

Sets up the local segment of the called function

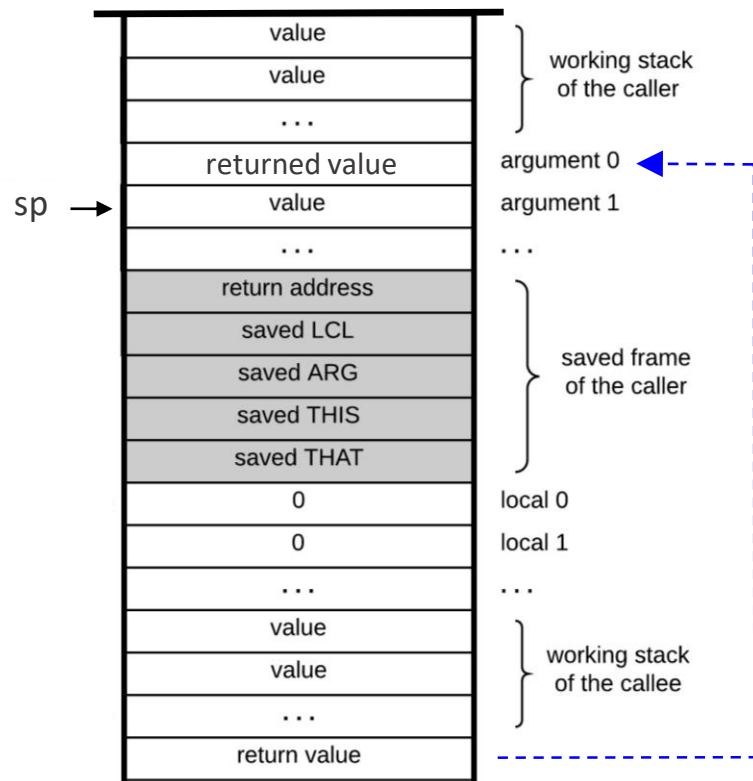
VM implementation (handling return):

1. Copies the return value onto argument 0
2. Sets SP for the caller
3. Restores the segment pointers of the caller

Function call and return: implementation

The called function says:

return



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

VM implementation (handling function):

Sets up the local segment of the called function

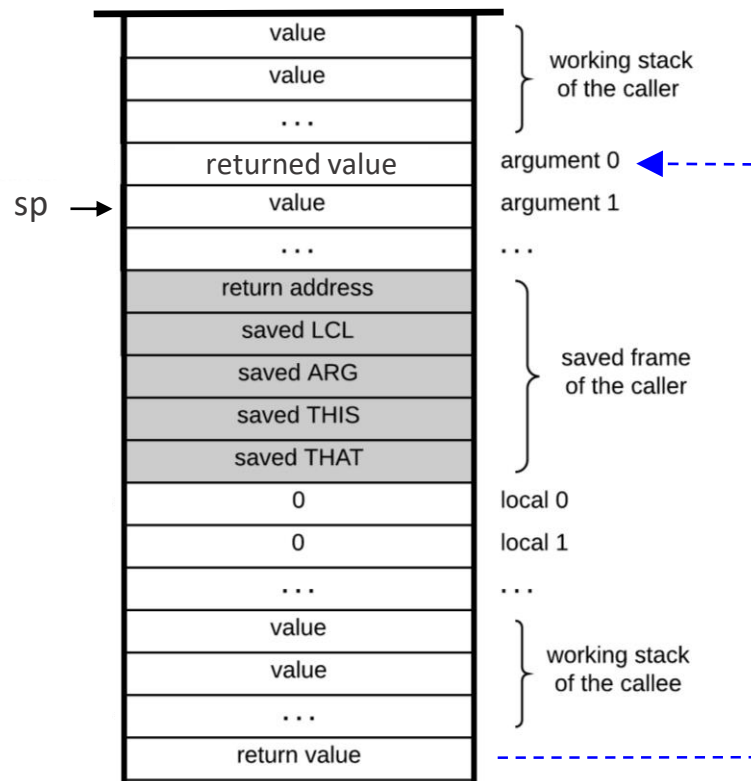
VM implementation (handling return):

1. Copies the return value onto argument 0
2. Sets SP for the caller
3. Restores the segment pointers of the caller

Function call and return: implementation

The called function says:

return



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

VM implementation (handling function):

Sets up the local segment of the called function

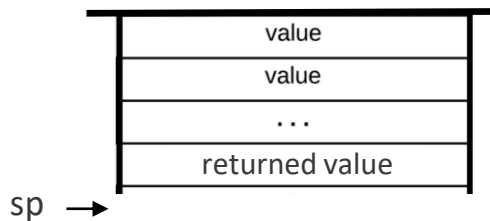
VM implementation (handling return):

1. Copies the return value onto argument 0
2. Sets SP for the caller
3. Restores the segment pointers of the caller
4. Jumps to the return address within the caller's code

(note that the stack space below *sp* is recycled)

Function call and return: implementation

The caller
resumes its execution



VM implementation (handling call):

1. Sets ARG
2. Saves the caller's frame
3. Jumps to execute *foo*

VM implementation (handling function):

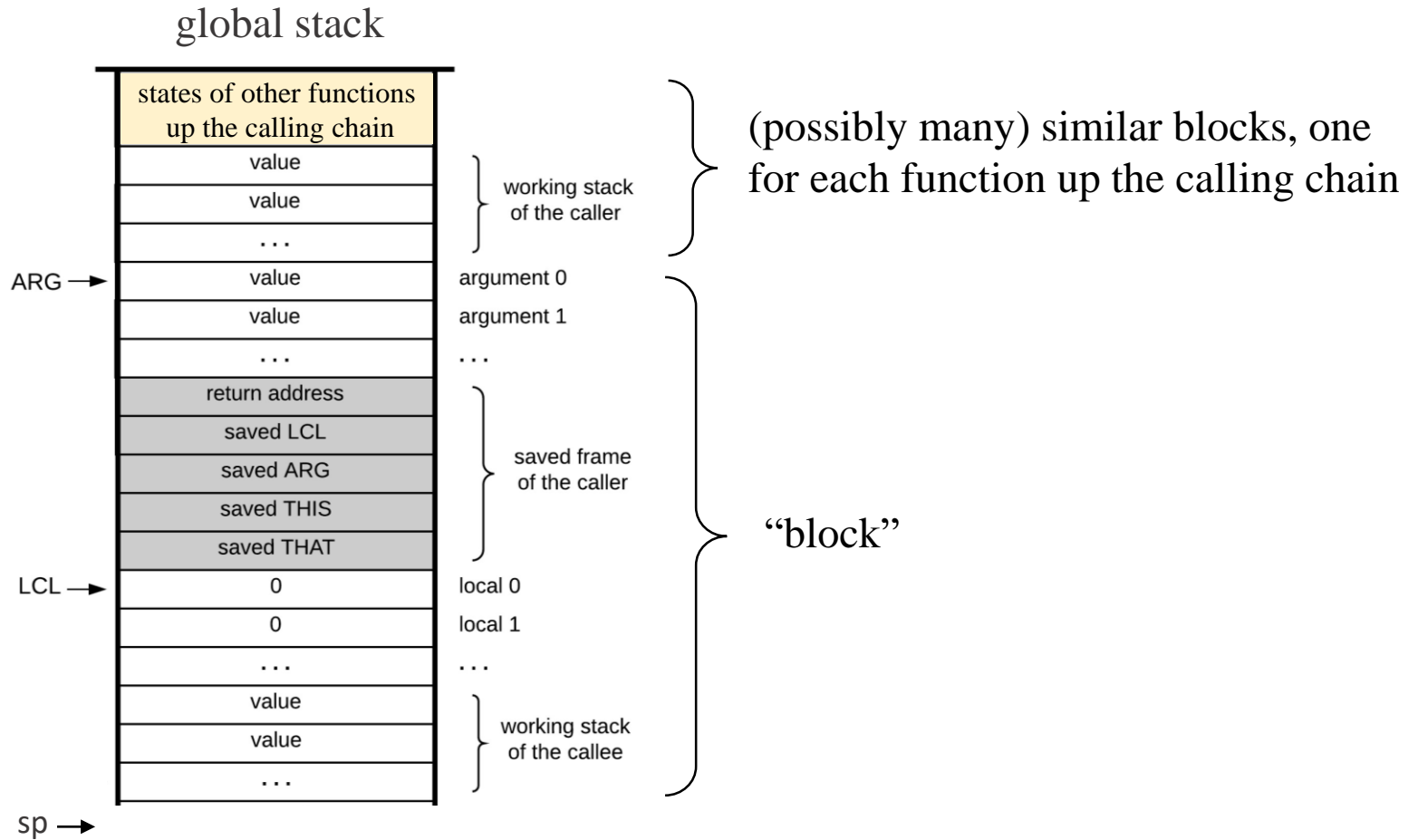
Sets up the local segment
of the called function

VM implementation (handling return):

1. Copies the return value onto argument 0
2. Sets SP for the caller
3. Restores the segment pointers of the caller
4. Jumps to the return address within the caller's code

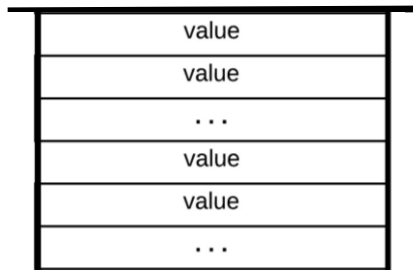
(note that the stack space below *sp* is recycled)

The global stack



Recap: function call and return

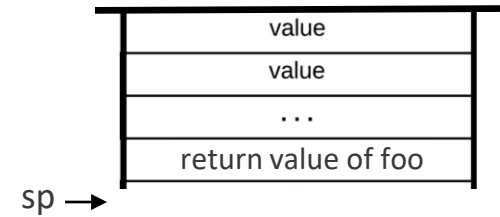
The caller says:
call *foo* *nArgs*



Abstraction:



The caller resumes
its execution

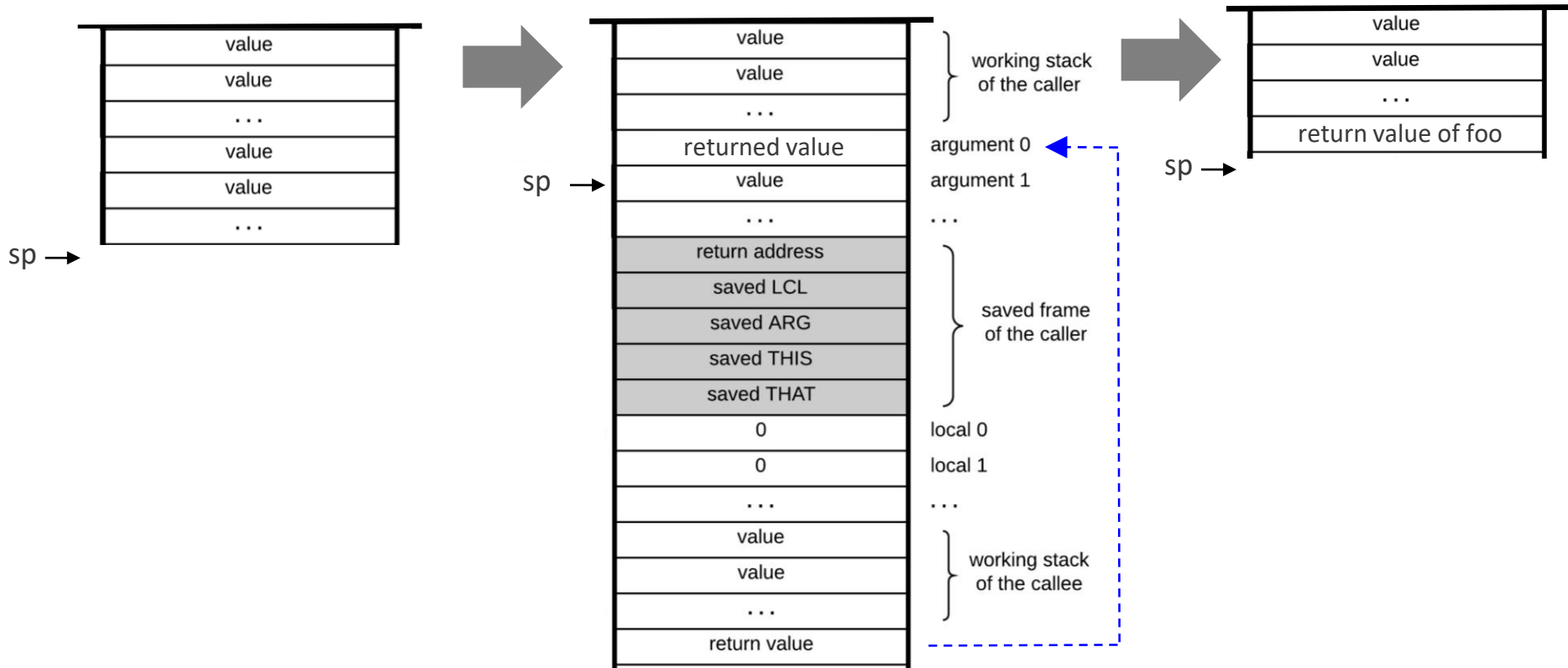


Recap: function call and return

The caller says:
call *foo* *nArgs*

Implementation:

The caller resumes
its execution



Example: factorial

High-level program

```
// Tests the factorial function
int main() {
    return factorial(3);
}

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



compiler

Pseudo VM code

```
function main
    push 3
    call factorial
    return

function factorial(n)
    push n
    push 1
    eq
    if-goto BASECASE

    push n
    push n
    push 1
    sub
    call factorial
    call mult
    return

label BASECASE
    push 1
    return

function mult(a,b)
    // Code omitted
```

VM program

```
function main 0
    push constant 3
    call factorial 1
    return

function factorial 0
    push argument 0
    push constant 1
    eq
    if-goto BASECASE

    push argument 0
    push argument 0
    push constant 1
    sub
    call factorial 1
    call mult 2
    return

label BASECASE
    push constant 1
    return

function mult 2
    // Code omitted
```

Example: factorial

VM program

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



Example: factorial

global stack



```
function main 0
```

```
  push constant 3
```

```
  call factorial 1
```

```
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
```

```
  push argument 0
```

```
  push constant 1
```

```
  eq
```

```
  if-goto BASECASE
```

```
  push argument 0
```

```
  push argument 0
```

```
  push constant 1
```

```
  sub
```

```
  call factorial 1
```

```
  call mult 2
```

```
  return
```

```
label BASECASE
```

```
  push constant 1
```

```
  return
```

```
function mult 2
```

```
  // Code omitted
```

Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack

main: 3

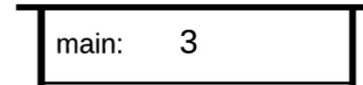
Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack

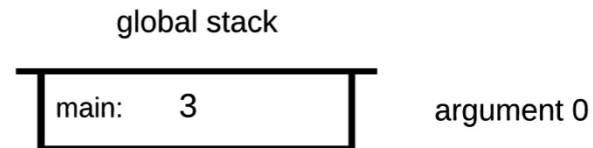


Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

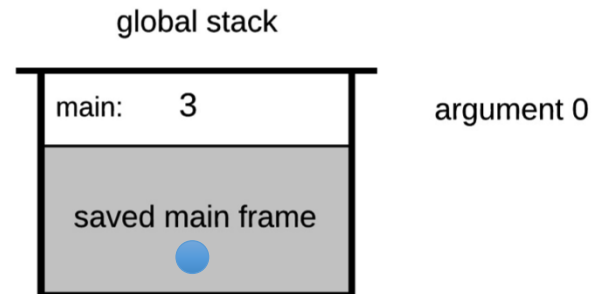


Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

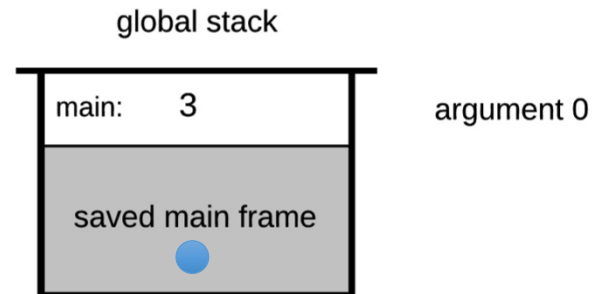


Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

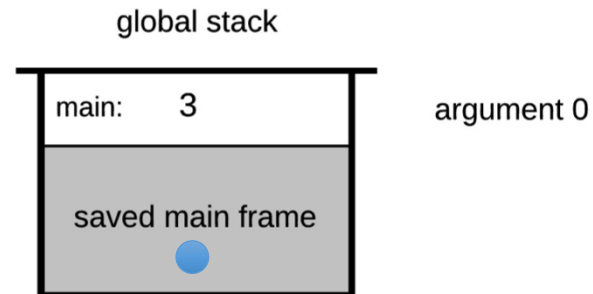


Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```



impact on the
global stack
not shown

Example: factorial

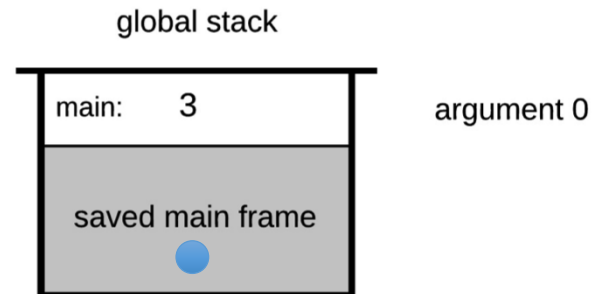
```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
```

```
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
```

```
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```



Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

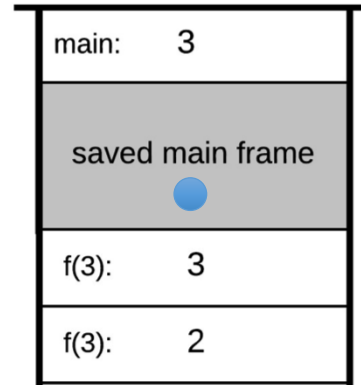
```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
```

```
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
```

```
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



argument 0

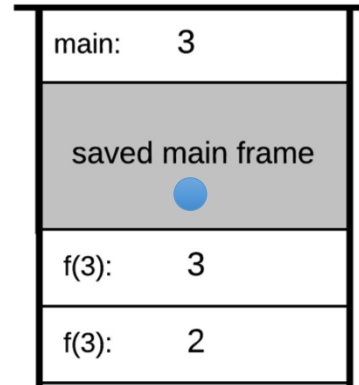
Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



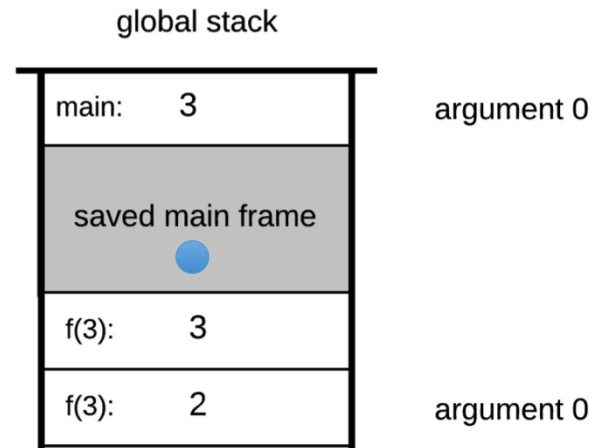
argument 0

Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

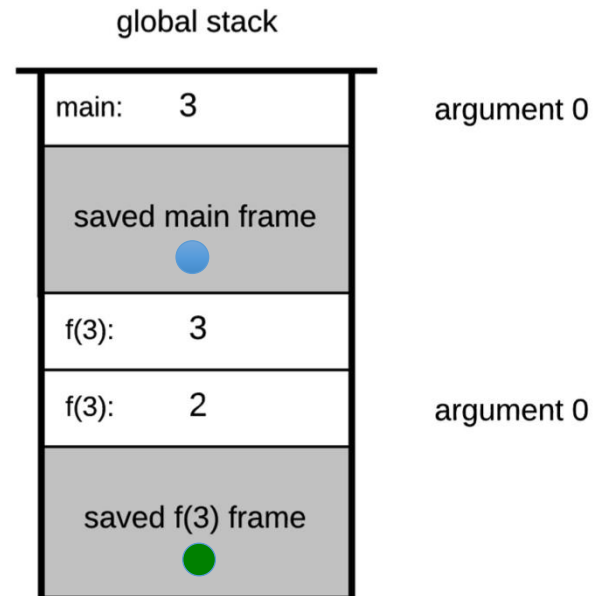


Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```



Example: factorial

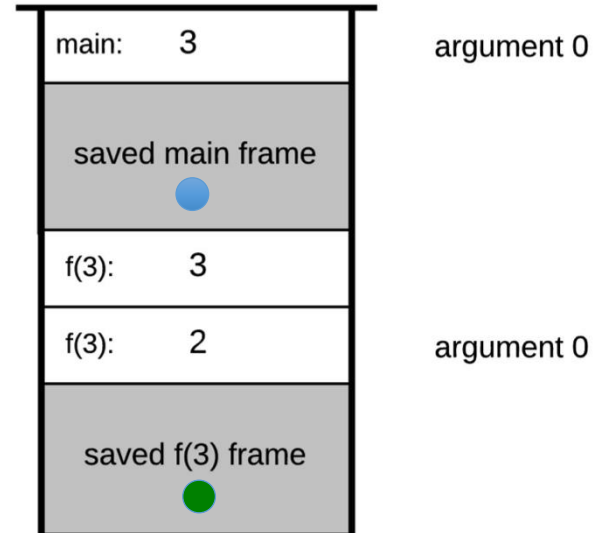
```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
```

```
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



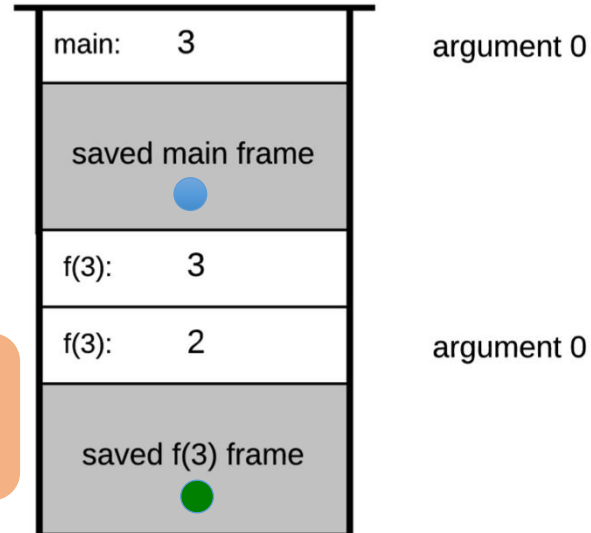
Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



impact on the
global stack
not shown

Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

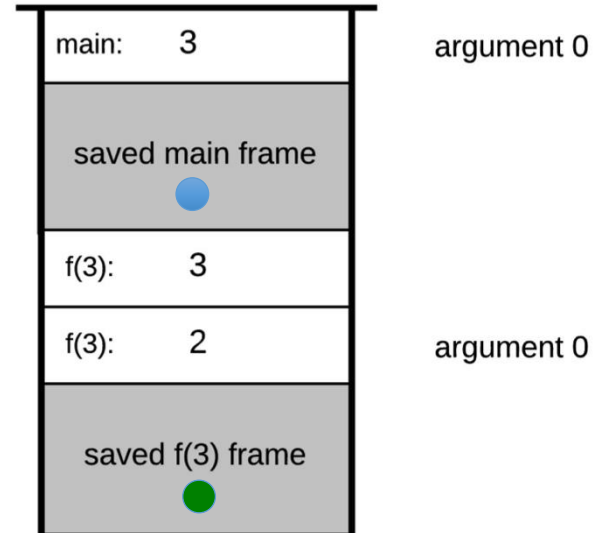
```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
```

```
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
```

```
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
```

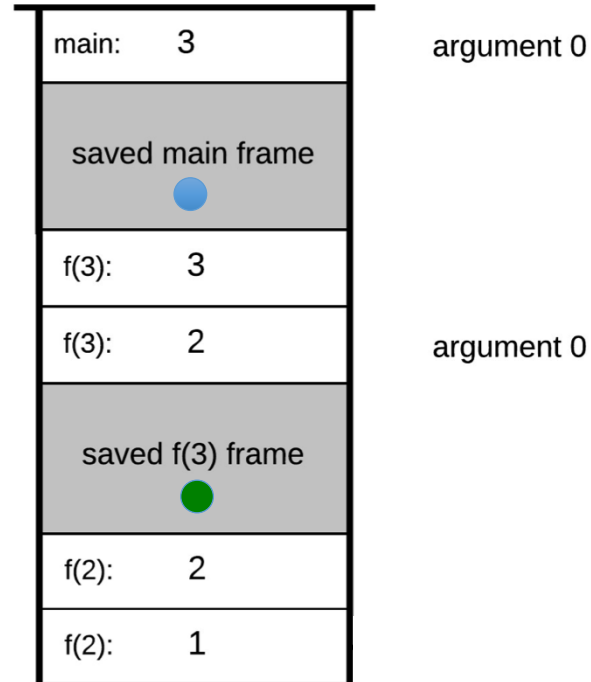
```
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
```

```
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
```

```
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

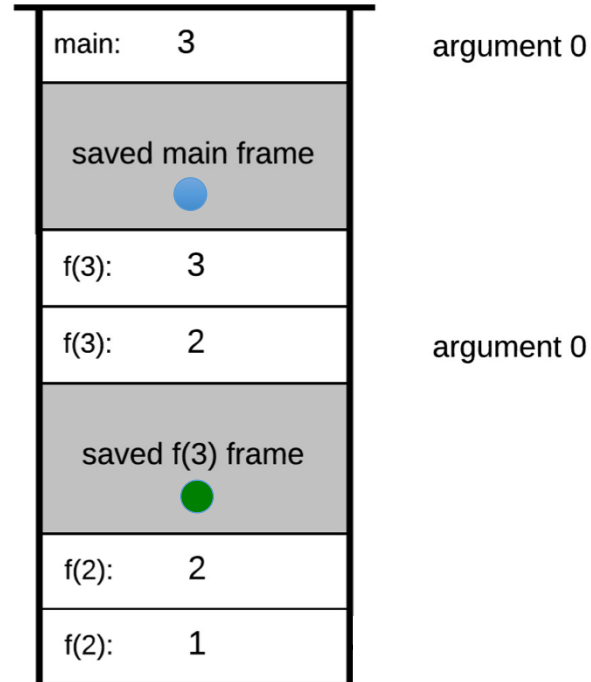
```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
```

```
call factorial 1
call mult 2
return
```

```
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



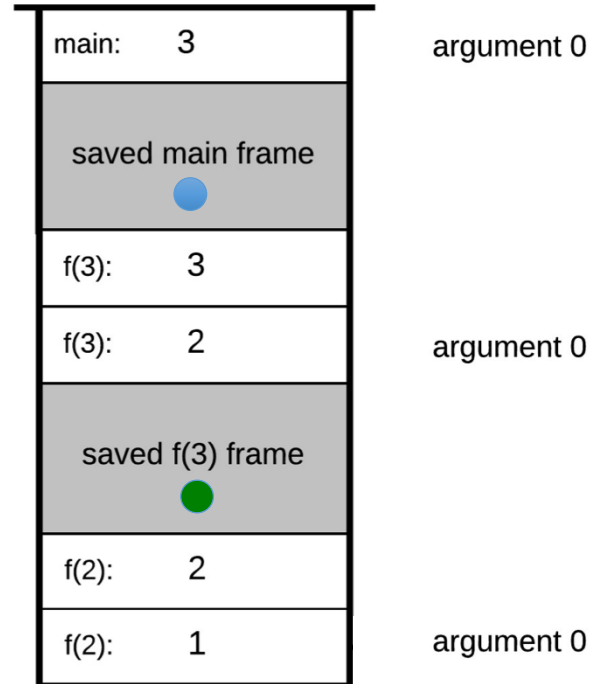
Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack

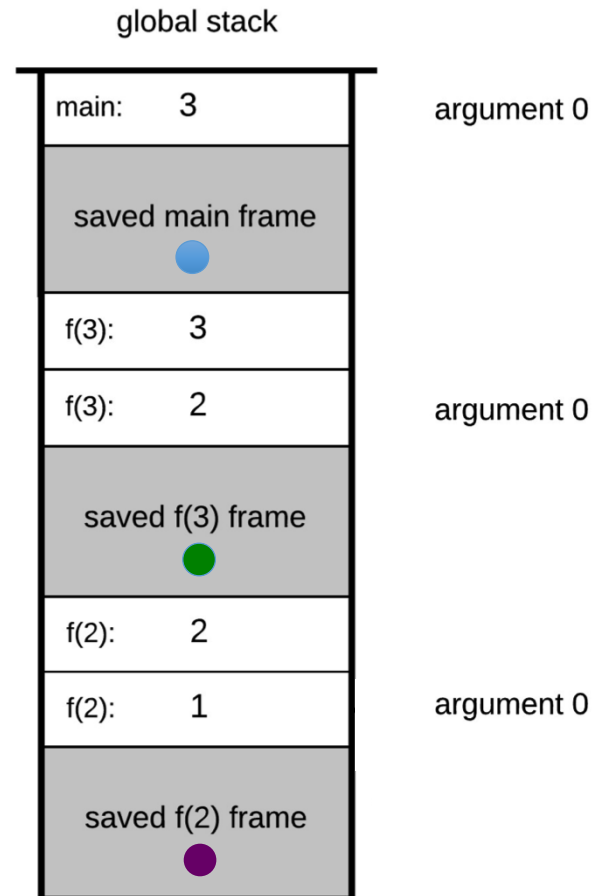


Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```



Example: factorial

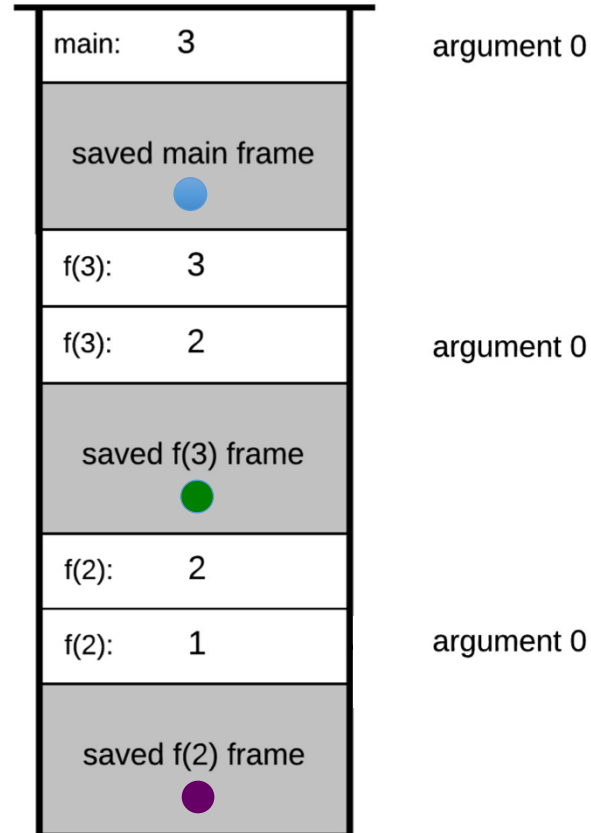
```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
```

```
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



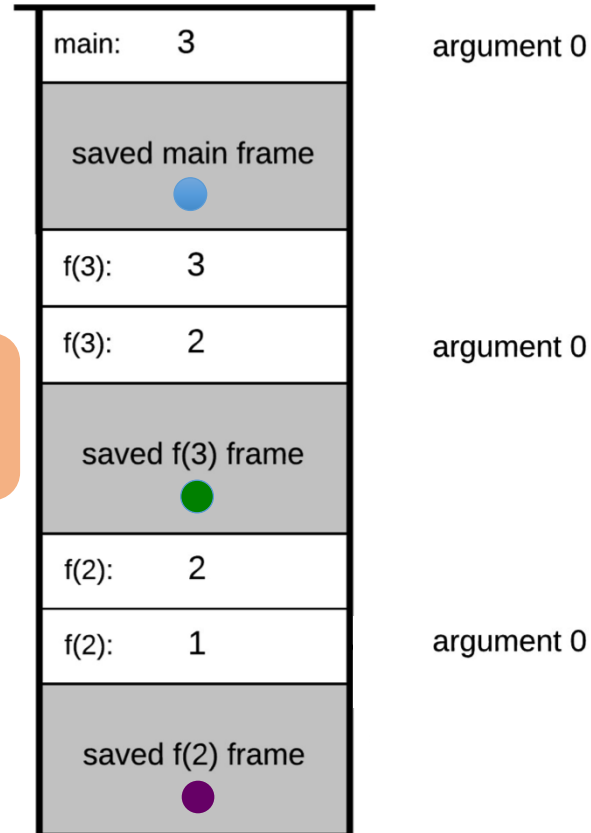
Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



impact on the
global stack
not shown



Example: factorial

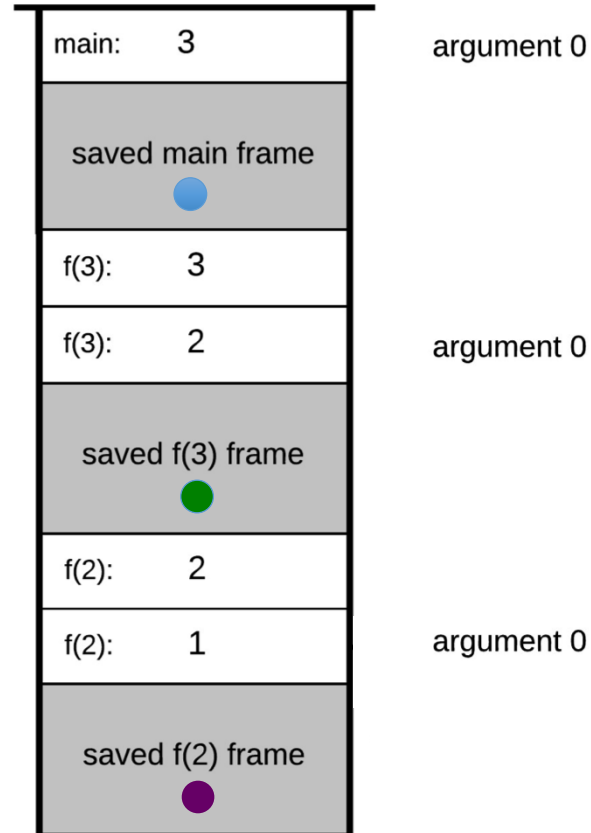
```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
```

```
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



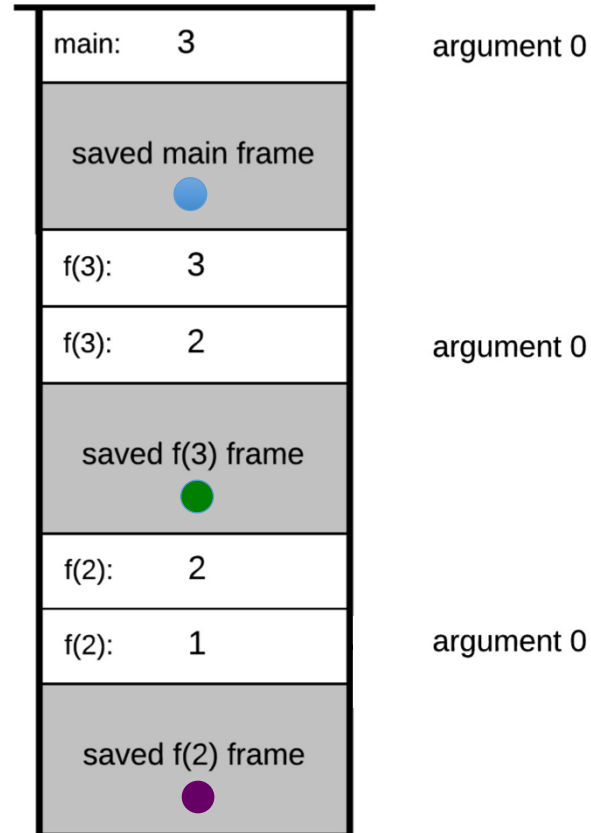
Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack

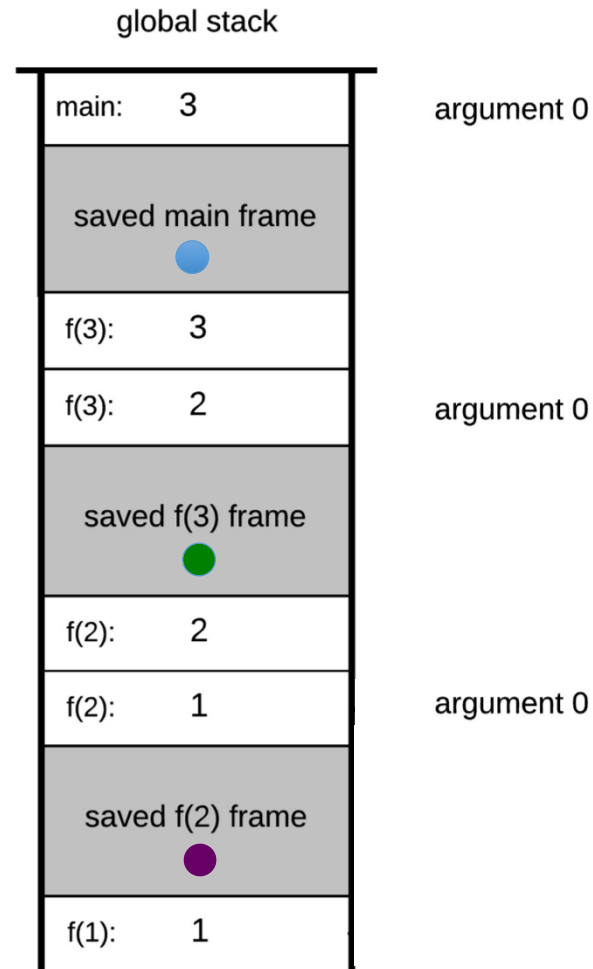


Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

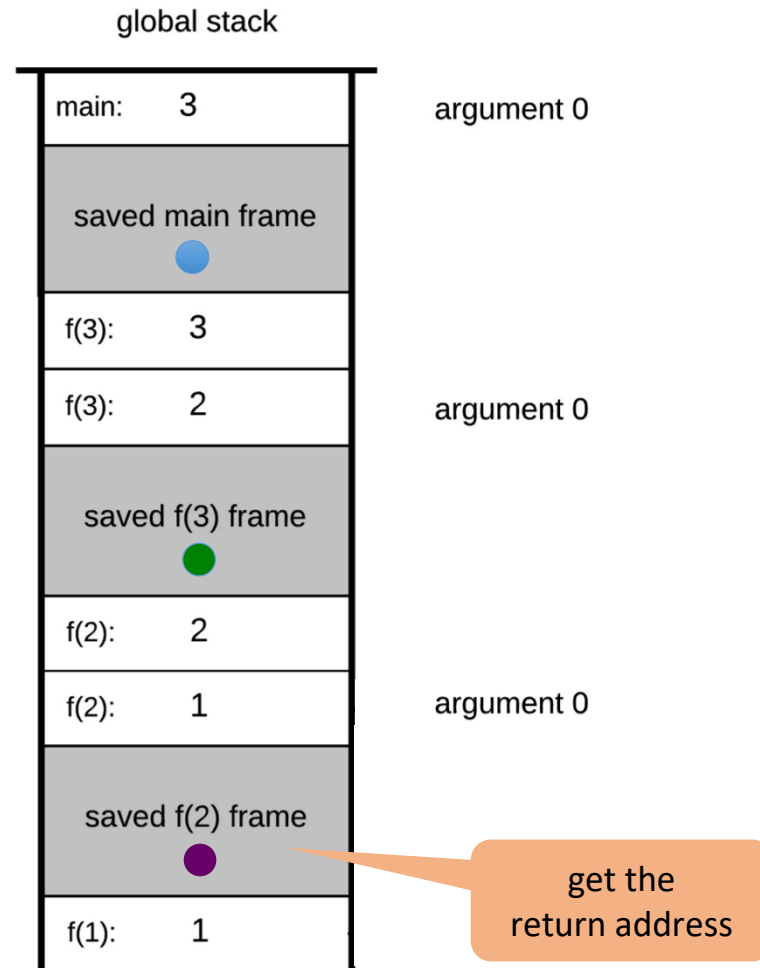


Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

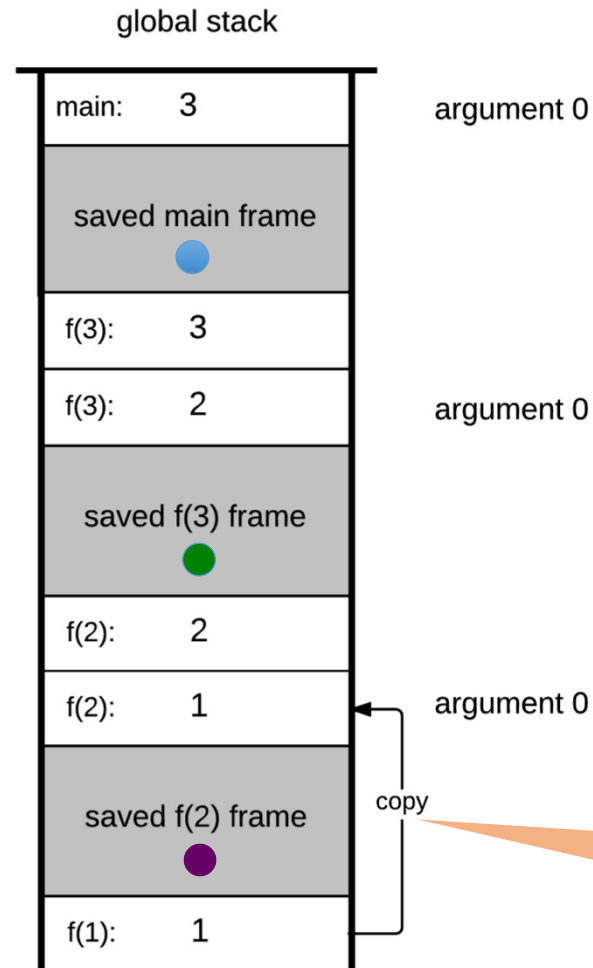


Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```



handle the return value

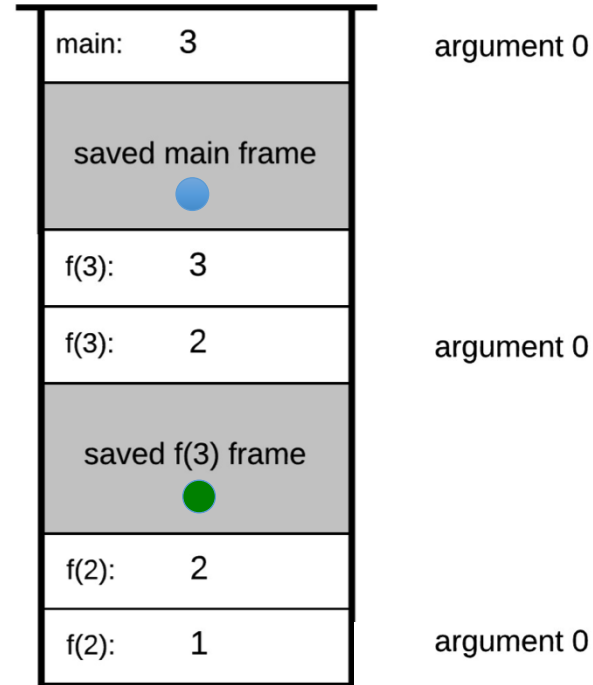
Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return
```

```
function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



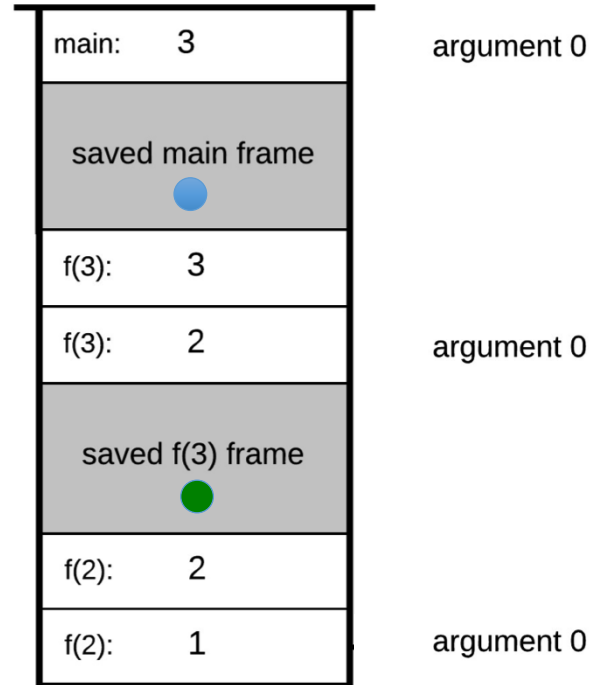
Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



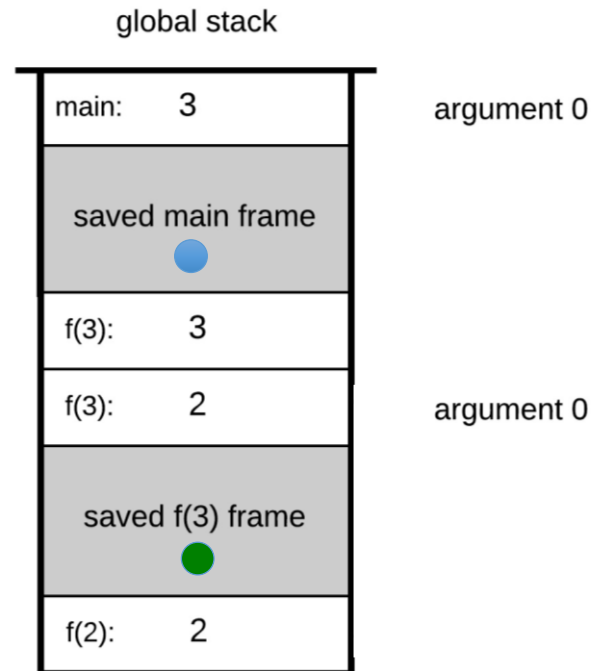
impact on the global stack
not shown
(except for end result)

Example: factorial

```
function main 0
  push constant 3
  call factorial 1
  return

function factorial 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  eq
  if-goto BASECASE
  push argument 0
  push argument 0
  push constant 1
  sub
  call factorial 1
  call mult 2
  return
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return

function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

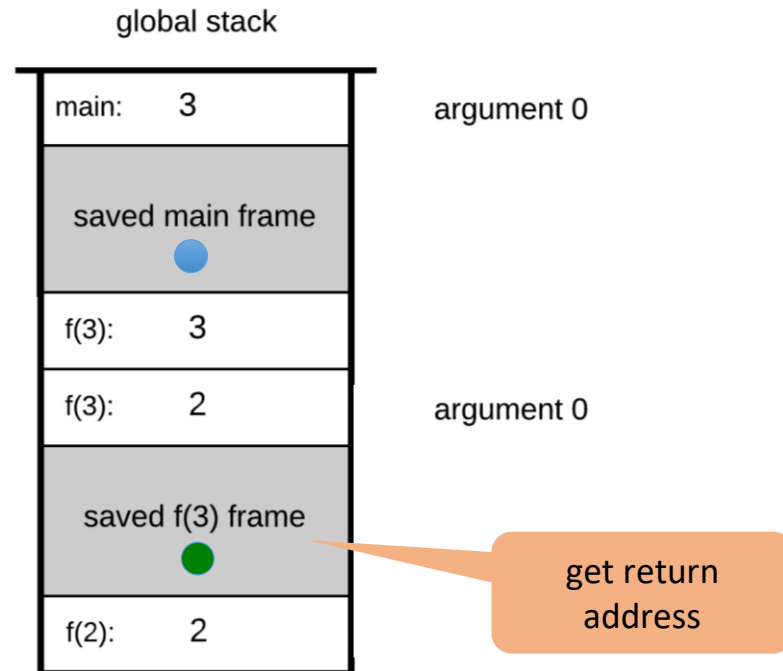


Example: factorial

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  call factorial 1
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  return
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  push constant 1
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function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

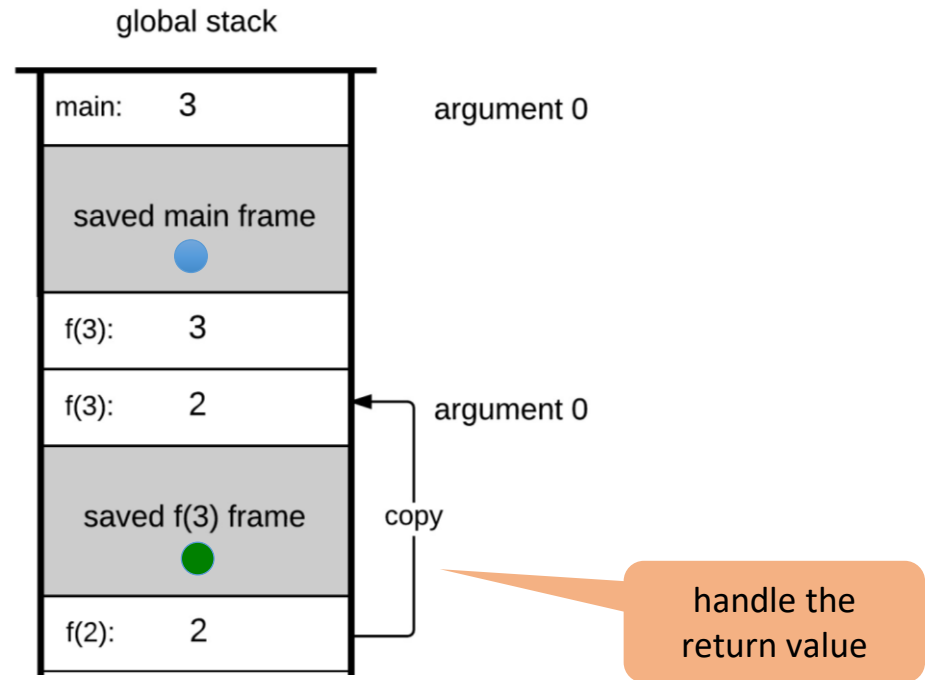


Example: factorial

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function factorial 0
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  call factorial 1
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label BASECASE
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  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```



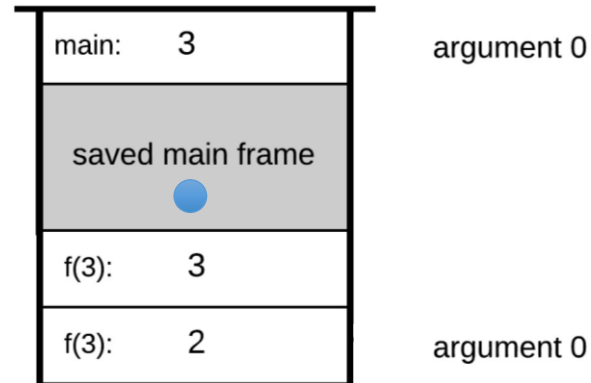
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global stack



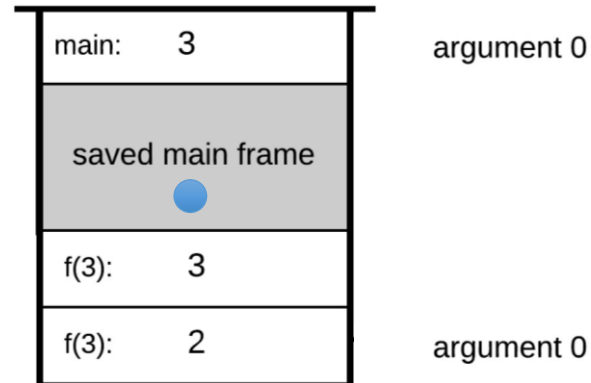
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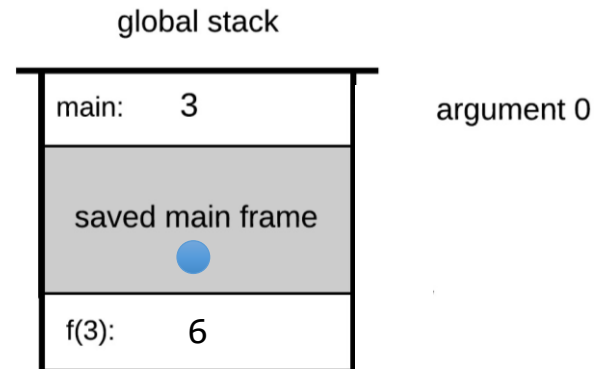
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  // Code omitted
```



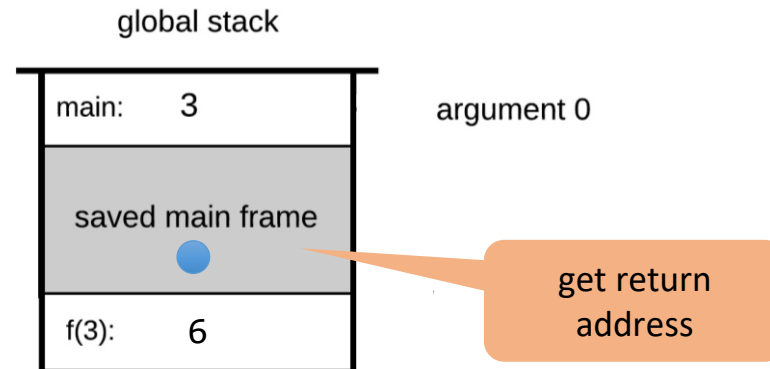
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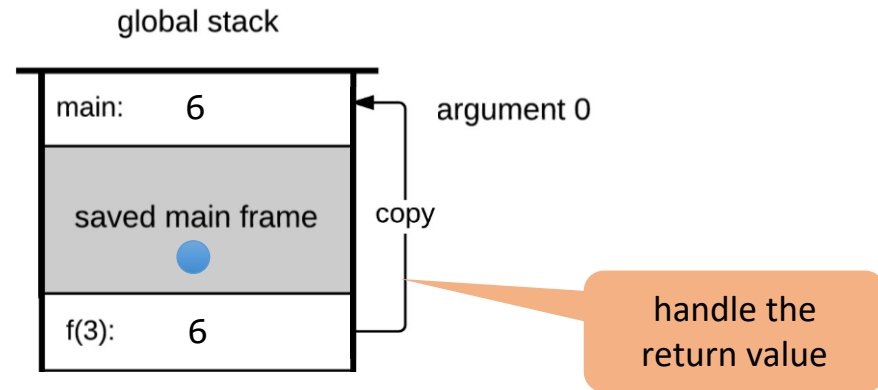
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  return
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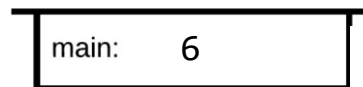
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```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```



Example: factorial

global stack



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function factorial 0
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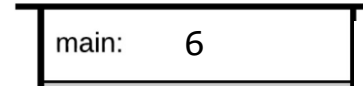
```
return
```

```
label BASECASE
  push constant 1
  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

Example: factorial

global stack



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  return
label BASECASE
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  return
```

```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

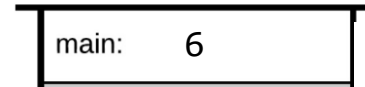

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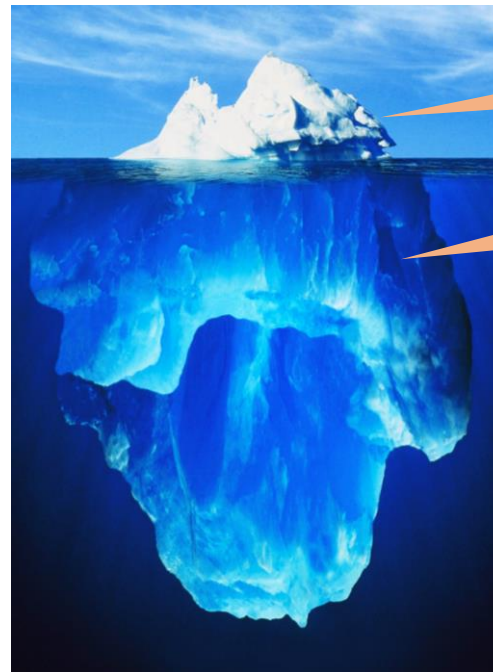
```
function mult 2
  // Code omitted
```

global stack



The caller (main function) wanted to compute 3!

- it pushed 3, called factorial, and got 6
- from the caller's view, nothing exciting happened...



abstraction

implementation

Function commands in the VM language

```
function g nVars // here starts a function called g,  
                    // which has nVars local variables  
  
call g nArgs    // invoke function g for its effect;  
                    // nArgs arguments have already been pushed  
                    // onto the stack  
  
return           // terminate execution and return control  
                    // to the caller
```

Q: Why this particular syntax?

A: Because it simplifies the VM implementation.

Function call and return

VM code (arbitrary example)

caller

```
function Foo.main 4
...
// computes -(19 * (local 3))
push constant 19
push local 3
call Bar.mult 2
neg
...
```

callee

```
function Bar.mult 2
// Computes the product of the first two
// arguments and puts the result in local 1
...
push local 1 // return value
return
```

We focus on the VM function commands:

- `call functionName nArgs`
- `function functionName nVars`
- `return`

Contract: the caller's view

VM code

caller

```
function Foo.main 4
...
// computes -(19 * (local 3))
push constant 19
push local 3
call Bar.mult 2
neg
...

function Bar.mult 2
// Computes the product of the first two
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push local 1 // return value
return
```

- Before calling another function, I must push as many arguments as the function expects to get
- Next, I invoke the function using `call functionName nArgs`
- After the called function returns, the argument values that I pushed before the call have disappeared from the stack, and a *return value* (that always exists) appears at the top of the stack;
- After the called function returns, all my memory segments are exactly the same as they were before the call
(except that temp is undefined and some values of my static segment may have changed).

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blue: must be handled by the VM implementation

Contract: the callee's view

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function Bar.mult 2
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...
push local 1 // return value
return
```

callee

- Before I start executing, my argument segment has been initialized with the argument values passed by the caller
- My local variables segment has been allocated and initialized to zeros
- My static segment has been set to the static segment of the VM file to which I belong
(memory segments this, that, pointer, and temp are undefined upon entry)
- My stack is empty
- Before returning, I must push a value onto the stack.

Contract: the callee's view

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The VM implementation view

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VM translator



Generated assembly code

The VM implementation view

VM code

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Generated assembly code

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The VM implementation view

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VM translator



Generated assembly code

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// function's execution
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// assembly code that handles push local 3
// assembly code that saves the caller's state on the stack,
// sets up for the function call, and then:
goto Bar.mult // (in assembly)
(Foo$ret.1) // created and plugged by the translator
```

The VM implementation view

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The VM implementation view

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VM translator



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// function's execution
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```

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goto Foo$ret.1 // (in assembly)
```

The VM implementation view

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VM translator



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We now turn to describe the more detailed handling of the VM commands:

- call
- function
- return

The VM implementation view

VM code

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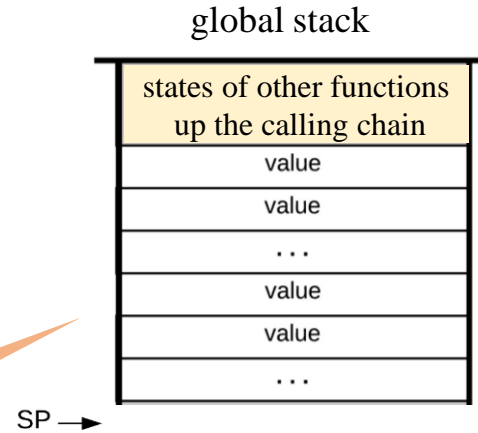
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Handling `call`

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that *nArgs* arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

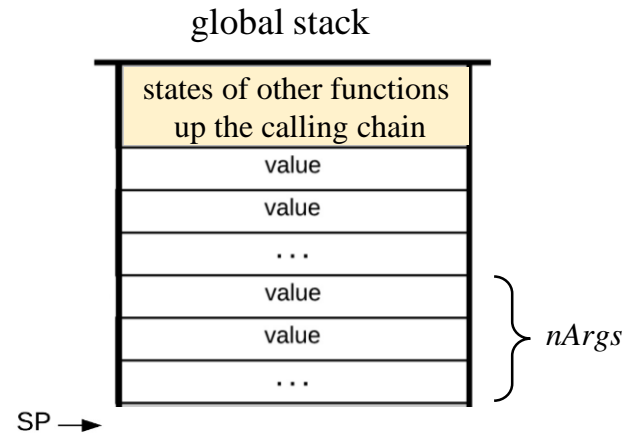
the caller is running, doing some work...



Handling call

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

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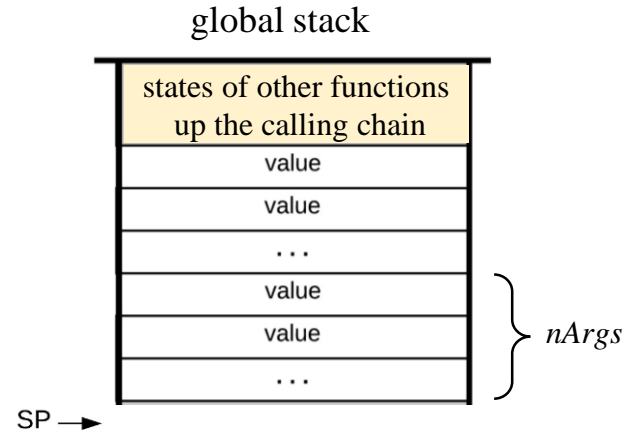


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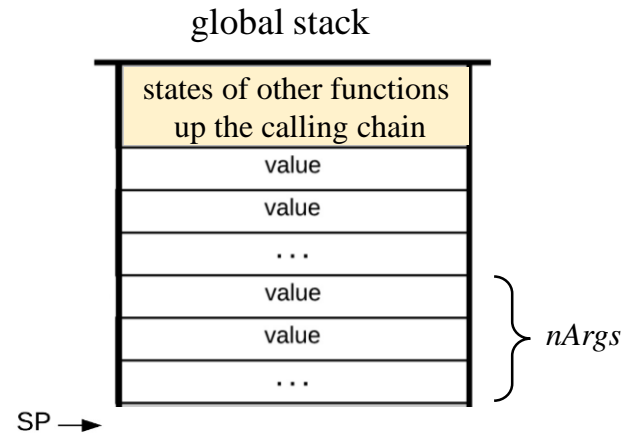
Handling `call`

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that *nArgs* arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel // Using a translator-generated label
```



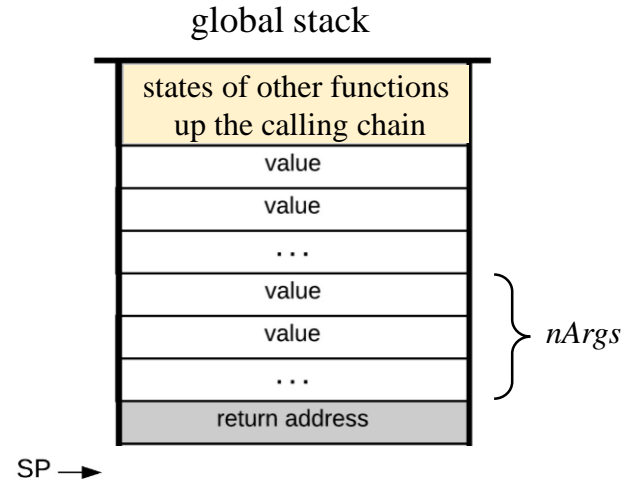
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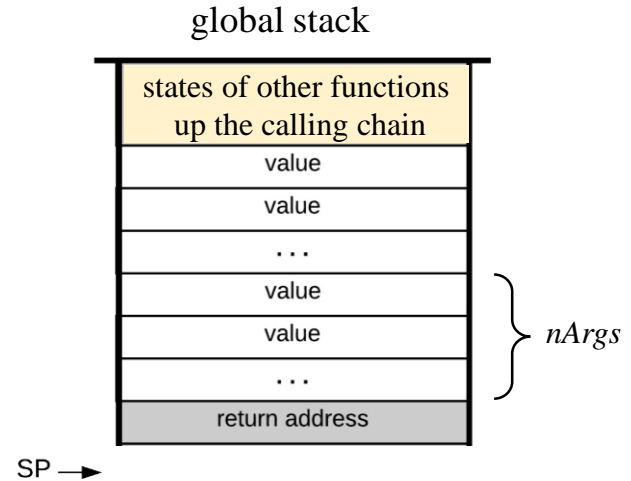
Handling `call`

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that $nArgs$ arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL              // Saves LCL of the caller
```



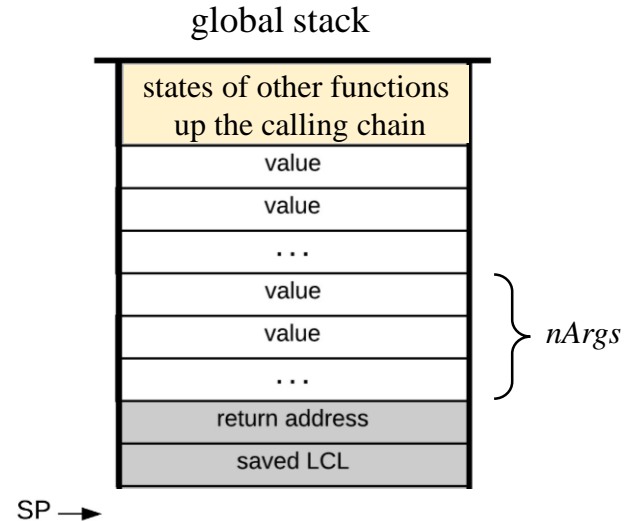
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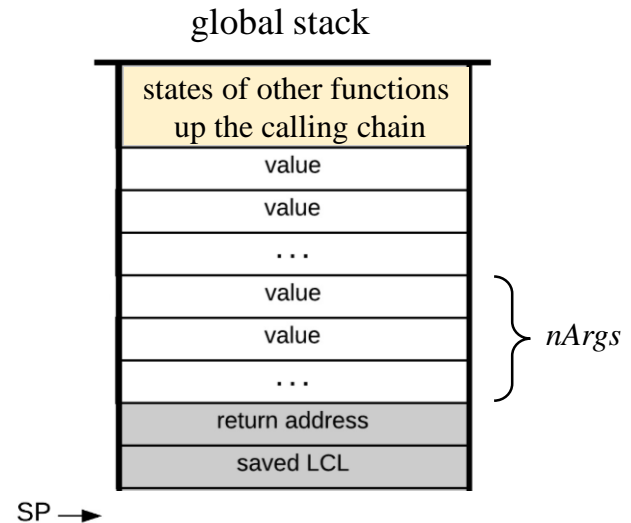
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push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL              // Saves LCL of the caller
push ARG              // Saves ARG of the caller
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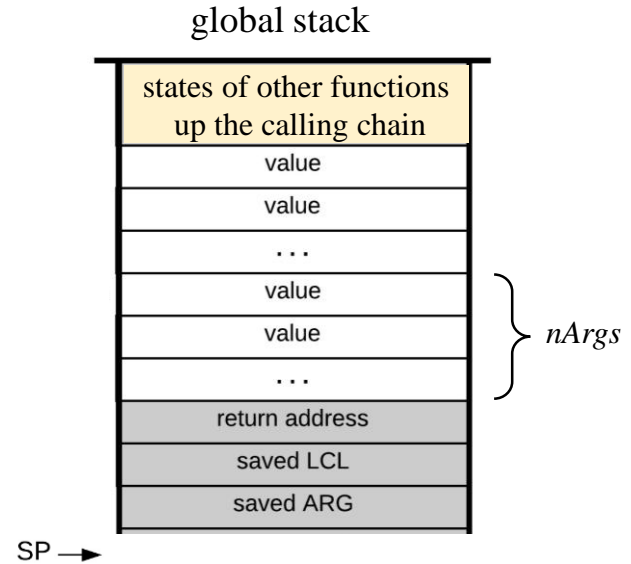
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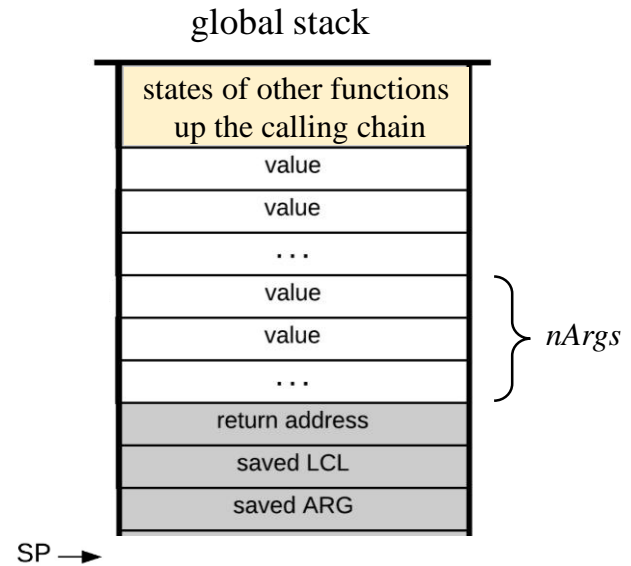
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push ARG             // Saves ARG of the caller
push THIS            // Saves THIS of the caller
```



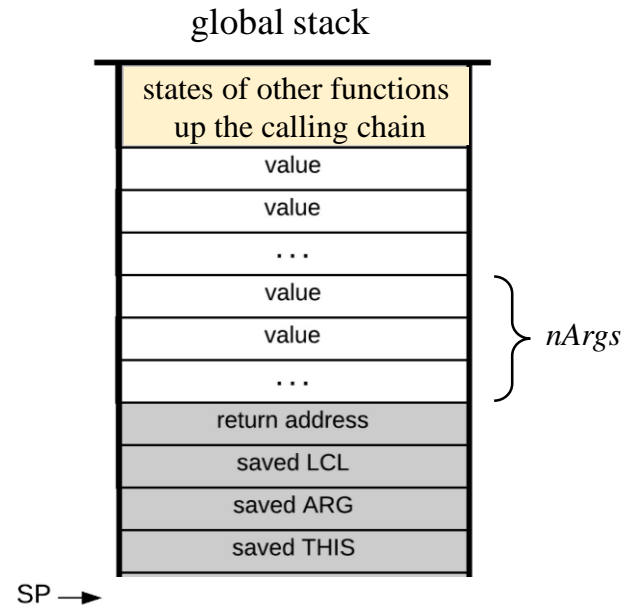
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push THIS             // Saves THIS of the caller
```



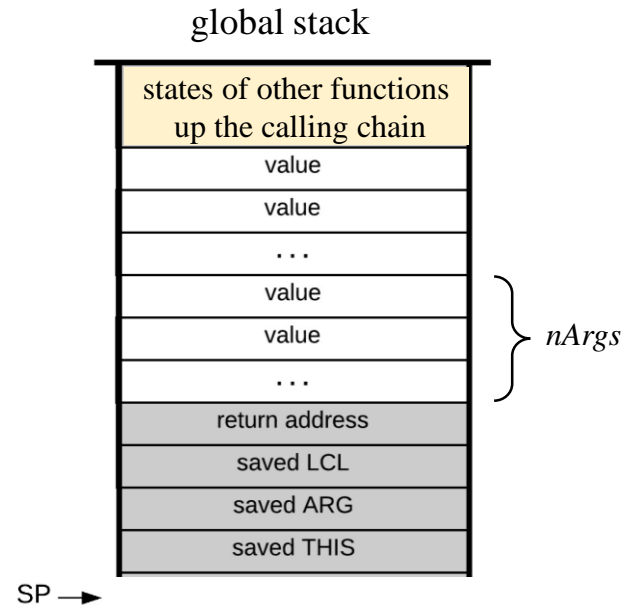
Handling `call`

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that *nArgs* arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL              // Saves LCL of the caller
push ARG              // Saves ARG of the caller
push THIS             // Saves THIS of the caller
push THAT             // Saves THAT of the caller
```



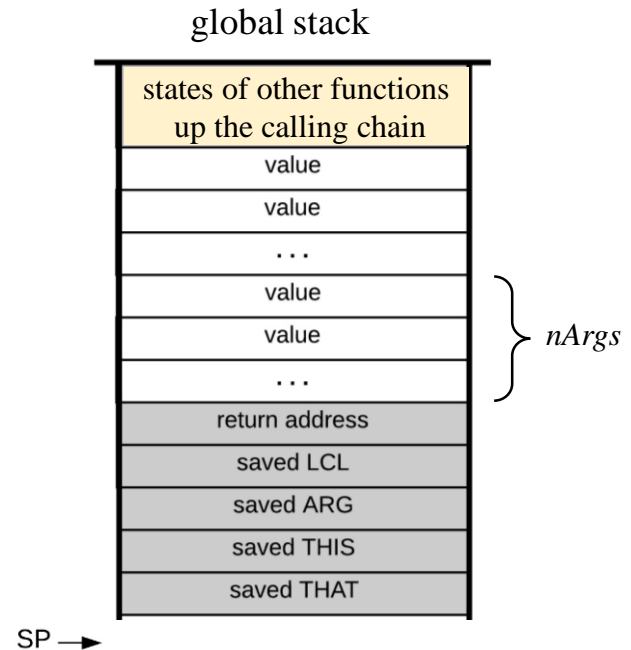
Handling `call`

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that $nArgs$ arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL             // Saves LCL of the caller
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push THAT            // Saves THAT of the caller
```



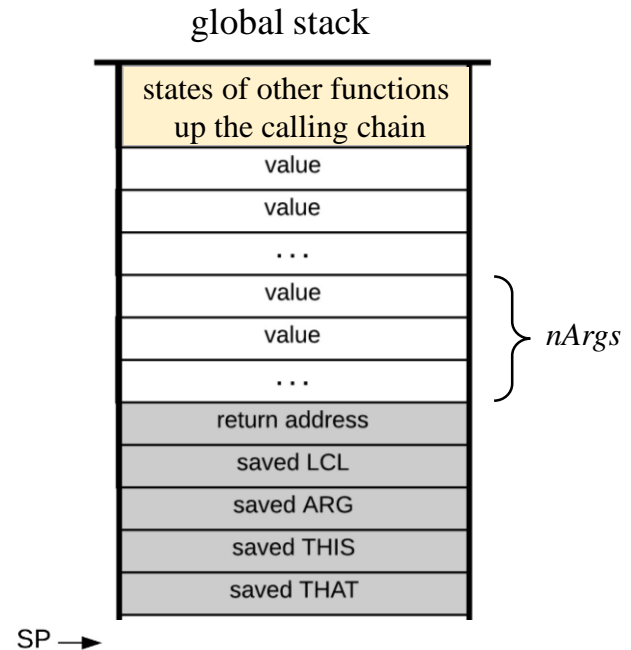
Handling `call`

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that $nArgs$ arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL              // Saves LCL of the caller
push ARG              // Saves ARG of the caller
push THIS             // Saves THIS of the caller
push THAT             // Saves THAT of the caller
ARG = SP - 5 - nArgs  // Repositions ARG
```



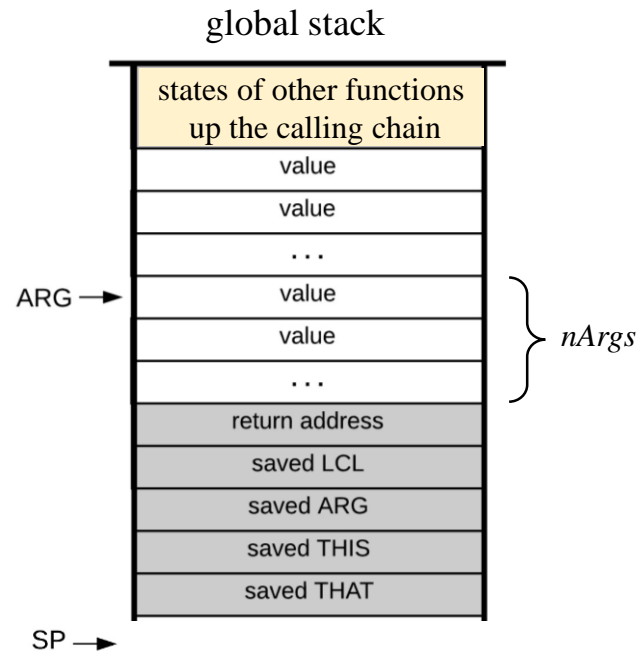
Handling call

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that $nArgs$ arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL             // Saves LCL of the caller
push ARG             // Saves ARG of the caller
push THIS            // Saves THIS of the caller
push THAT            // Saves THAT of the caller
ARG = SP - 5 - nArgs // Repositions ARG
```



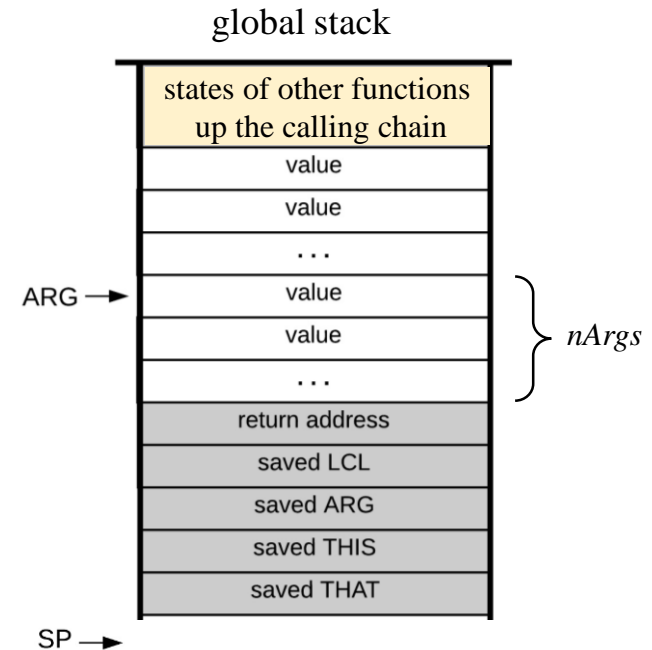
Handling call

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that $nArgs$ arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL             // Saves LCL of the caller
push ARG             // Saves ARG of the caller
push THIS            // Saves THIS of the caller
push THAT            // Saves THAT of the caller
ARG = SP - 5 - nArgs // Repositions ARG
LCL = SP             // Repositions LCL
```



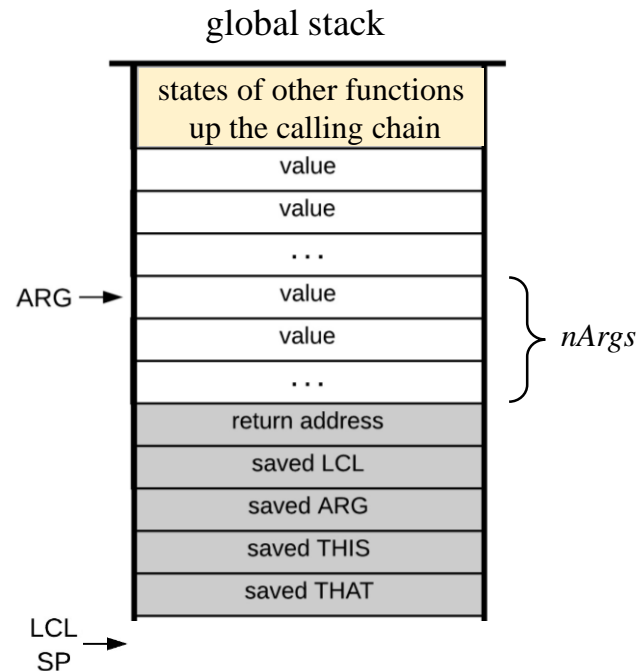
Handling call

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that $nArgs$ arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL             // Saves LCL of the caller
push ARG             // Saves ARG of the caller
push THIS            // Saves THIS of the caller
push THAT            // Saves THAT of the caller
ARG = SP - 5 - nArgs // Repositions ARG
LCL = SP              // Repositions LCL
```



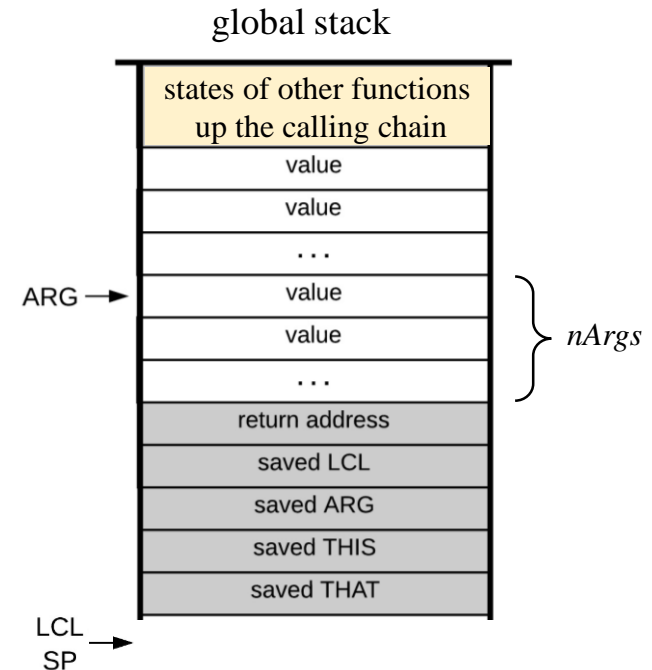
Handling call

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that *nArgs* arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL             // Saves LCL of the caller
push ARG             // Saves ARG of the caller
push THIS            // Saves THIS of the caller
push THAT            // Saves THAT of the caller
ARG = SP - 5 - nArgs // Repositions ARG
LCL = SP              // Repositions LCL
goto functionName    // Transfers control to the called function
```



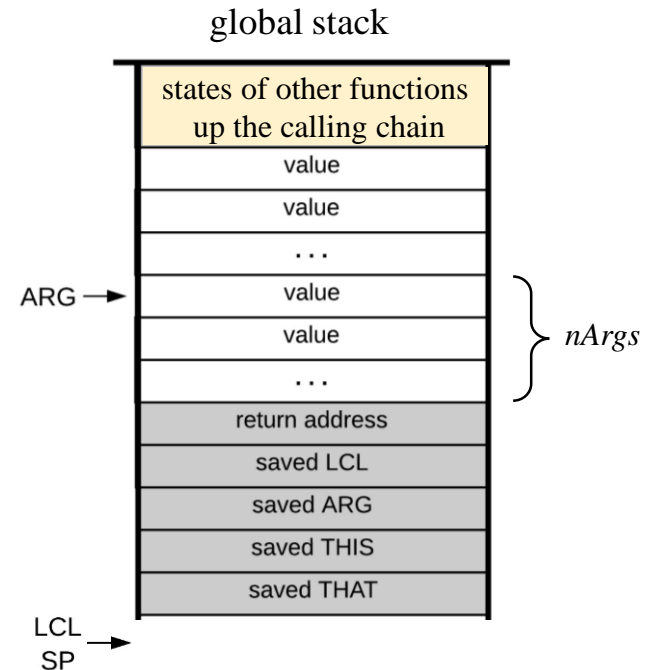
Handling call

VM command: `call functionName nArgs`

(calls a function, informing that *nArgs* arguments have been pushed onto the stack)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
push retAddrLabel    // Using a translator-generated label
push LCL             // Saves LCL of the caller
push ARG             // Saves ARG of the caller
push THIS            // Saves THIS of the caller
push THAT            // Saves THAT of the caller
ARG = SP - 5 - nArgs // Repositions ARG
LCL = SP              // Repositions LCL
goto functionName    // Transfers control to the called function
(retAddrLabel)       // the same translator-generated label
```



Handling call

VM code

```
function Foo.main 4
...
// computes -(19 * (local 3))
push constant 19
push local 3
call Bar.mult 2
neg
...

function Bar.mult 2
// Computes the product of the first two
// arguments and puts the result in local 1
...
push local 1 // return value
return
```

VM translator

Generated assembly code

```
(Foo.main) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles the initialization of the
// function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push constant 19
// assembly code that handles push local 3
// assembly code that saves the caller's state on the stack,
// sets up for the function call, and then:
goto Bar.mult // (in assembly)
(Foo$ret.1) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles neg
...
(Bar.mult) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles the initialization of the
// function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push local 1
// Assembly code that gets the return address (which happens
// to be Foo$ret.1) off the stack, copies the return value to
// the caller, reinstates the caller's state, and then:
goto Foo$ret.1 // (in assembly)
```

Handling function

VM code

```
function Foo.main 4
...
// computes -(19 * (local 3))
push constant 19
push local 3
call Bar.mult 2
neg
...

function Bar.mult 2
// Computes the product of the first two
// arguments and puts the result in local 1
...
push local 1 // return value
return
```

VM translator

Generated assembly code

```
(Foo.main) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles the initialization of the
// function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push constant 19
// assembly code that handles push local 3
// assembly code that saves the caller's state on the stack,
// sets up for the function call, and then:
goto Bar.mult // (in assembly)
(Foo$ret.1) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles neg
...

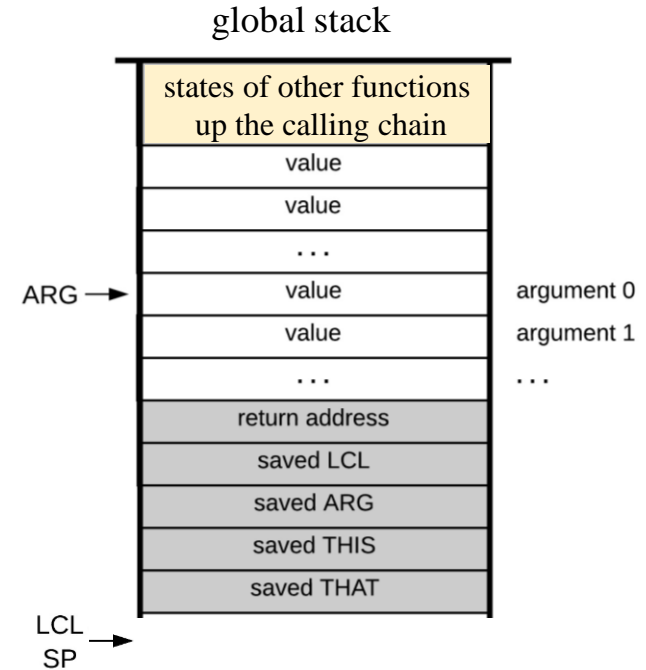
(Bar.mult) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles the initialization of the
// function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push local 1
// Assembly code that gets the return address (which happens
// to be Foo$ret.1) off the stack, copies the return value to
// the caller, reinstates the caller's state, and then:
goto Foo$ret.1 // (in assembly)
```

Handling function

VM command: `function functionName nVars`

(here starts a function that has *nVars* local variables)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):



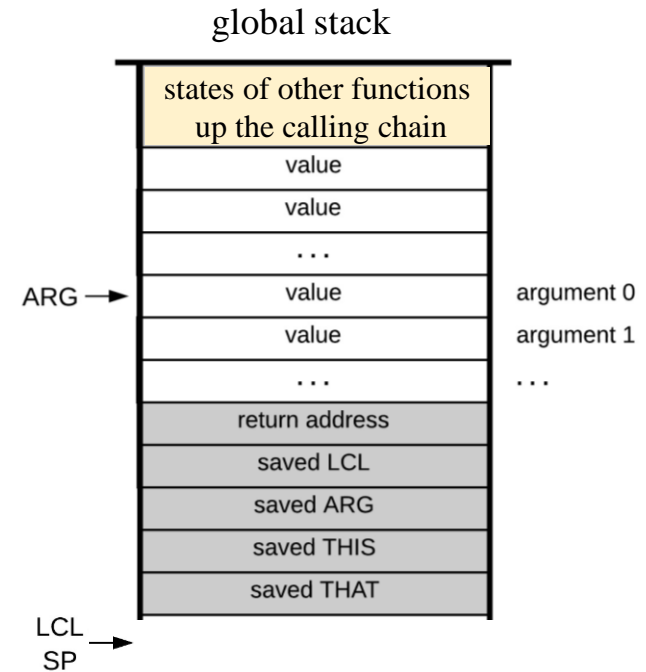
Handling function

VM command: `function functionName nVars`

(here starts a function that has *nVars* local variables)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
(functionName) // using a translator-generated label
```



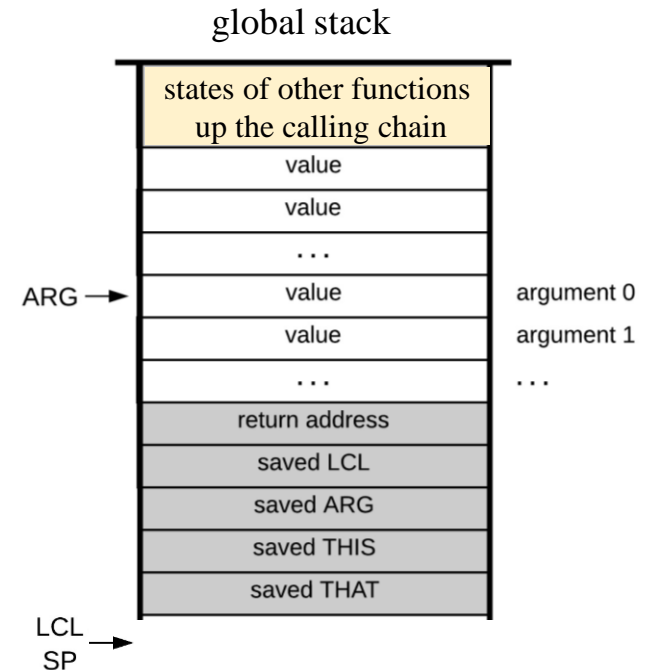
Handling function

VM command: `function functionName nVars`

(here starts a function that has *nVars* local variables)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
(functionName)           // using a translator-generated label
  repeat nVars times:    // nVars = number of local variables
  push 0                   // initializes the local variables to 0
```



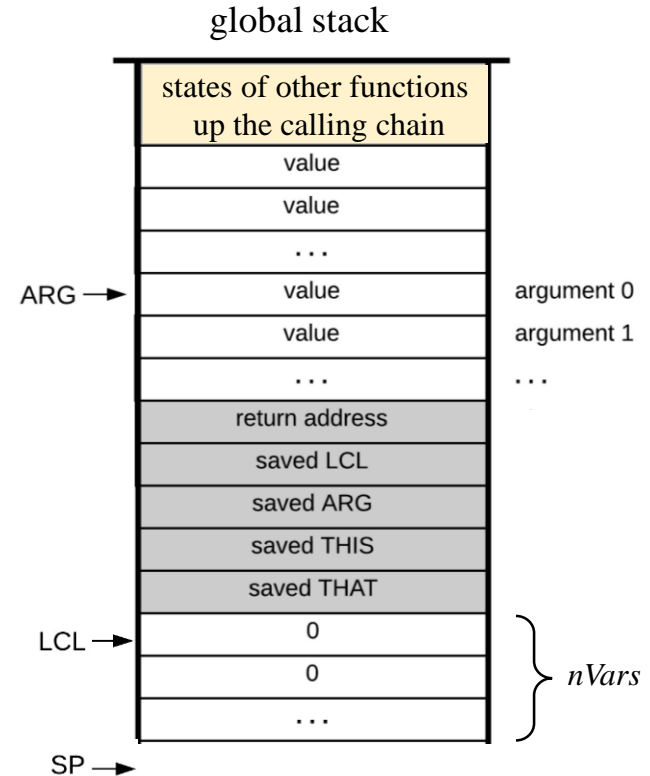
Handling function

VM command: `function functionName nVars`

(here starts a function that has *nVars* local variables)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
(functionName)           // using a translator-generated label
repeat nVars times:      // nVars = number of local variables
push 0                     // initializes the local variables to 0
```



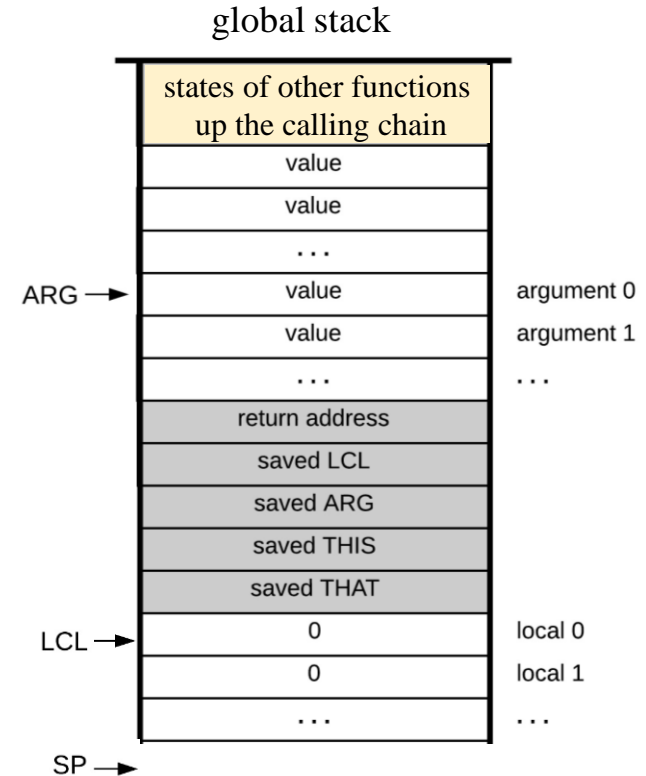
Handling function

VM command: `function functionName nVars`

(here starts a function that has *nVars* local variables)

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
(functionName)           // using a translator-generated label
repeat nVars times:      // nVars = number of local variables
push 0                    // initializes the local variables to 0
```



Handling function

VM code

```
function Foo.main 4
...
// computes -(19 * (local 3))
push constant 19
push local 3
call Bar.mult 2
neg
...
Function Bar.mult 2
// Computes the product of the first two
// arguments and puts the result in local 1
...
push local 1 // return value
return
```

VM translator

Generated assembly code

```
(Foo.main) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles the initialization of the
// function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push constant 19
// assembly code that handles push local 3
// assembly code that saves the caller's state on the stack,
// sets up for the function call, and then:
goto Bar.mult // (in assembly)
(Foo$ret.1) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles neg
...
(Bar.mult) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles the initialization of the
// function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push local 1
// Assembly code that gets the return address (which happens
// to be Foo$ret.1) off the stack, copies the return value to
// the caller, reinstates the caller's state, and then:
goto Foo$ret.1 // (in assembly)
```

Handling return

VM code

```
function Foo.main 4
...
// computes -(19 * (local 3))
push constant 19
push local 3
call Bar.mult 2
neg
...

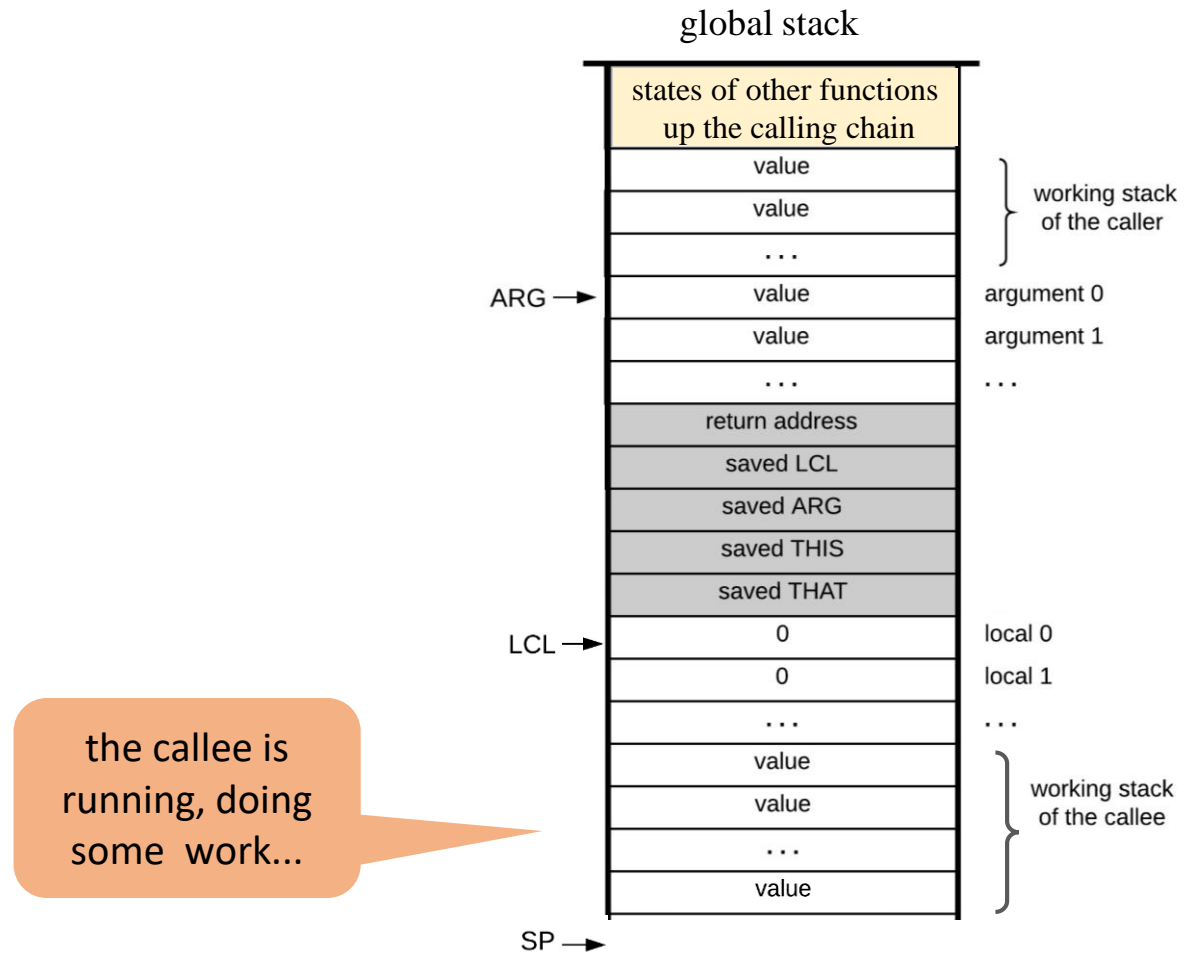
function Bar.mult 2
// Computes the product of the first two
// arguments and puts the result in local 1
...
push local 1 // return value
return
```

VM translator

Generated assembly code

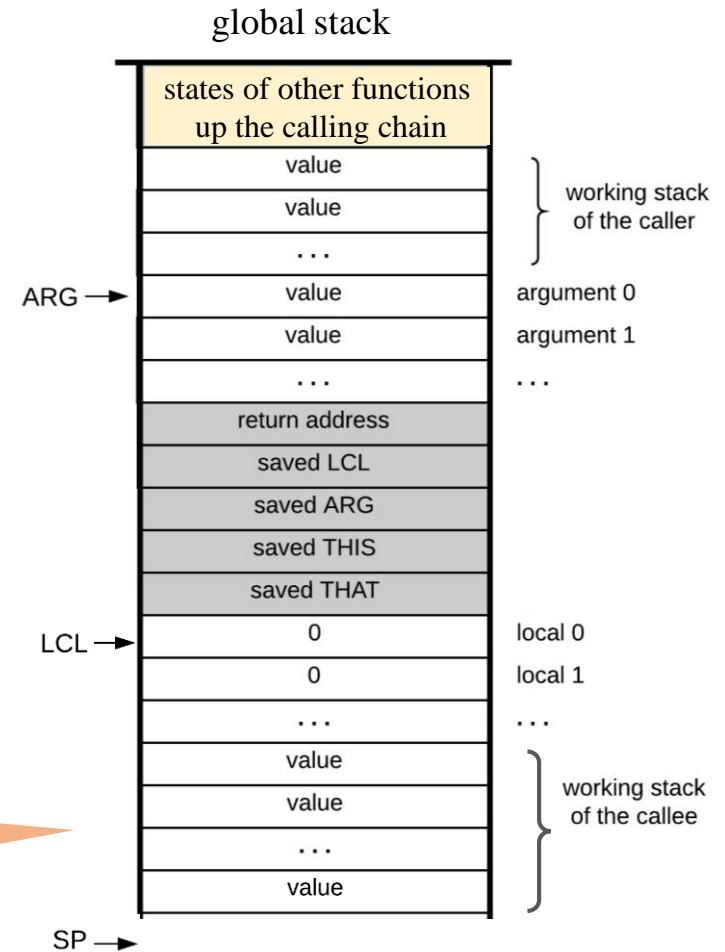
```
(Foo.main) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles the initialization of the
// function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push constant 19
// assembly code that handles push local 3
// assembly code that saves the caller's state on the stack,
// sets up for the function call, and then:
goto Bar.mult // (in assembly)
(Foo$ret.1) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles neg
...
(Bar.mult) // created and plugged by the translator
// assembly code that handles the initialization of the
// function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push local 1
// Assembly code that gets the return address (which happens
// to be Foo$ret.1) off the stack, copies the return value to
// the caller, reinstates the caller's state, and then:
goto Foo$ret.1 // (in assembly)
```

Handling return



Handling return

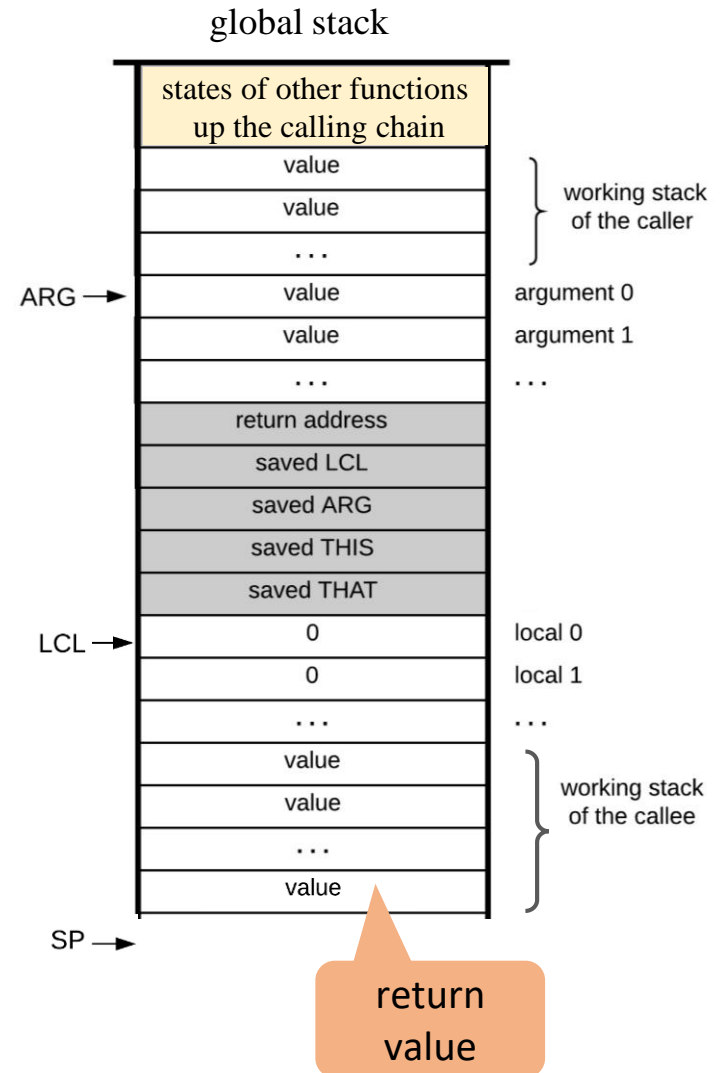
VM command: return



the callee is running, doing some work...

Handling return

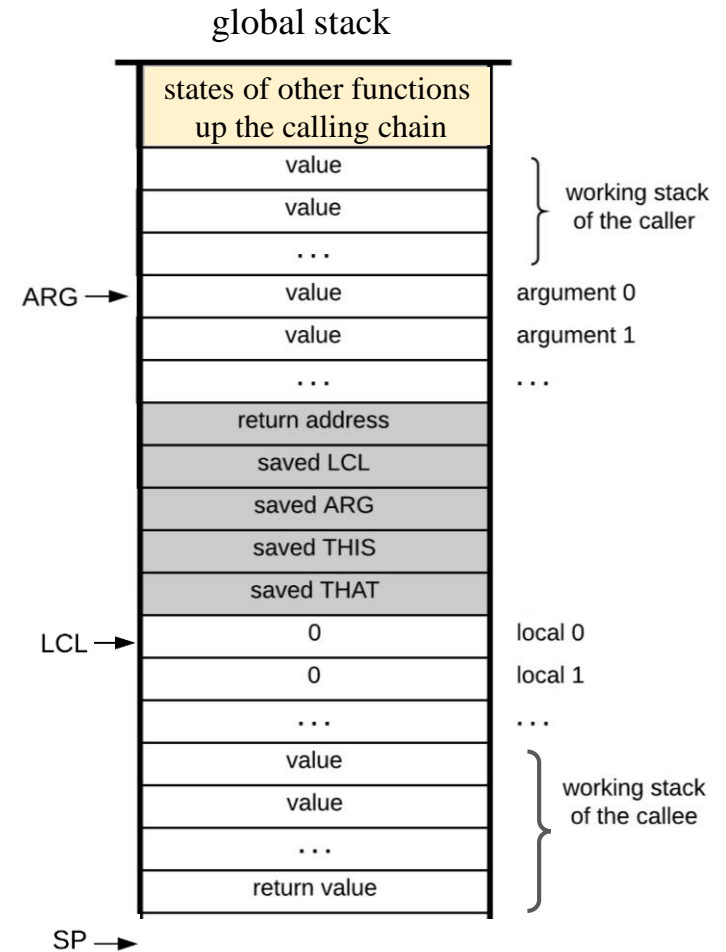
VM command: return



Handling return

VM command: `return`

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

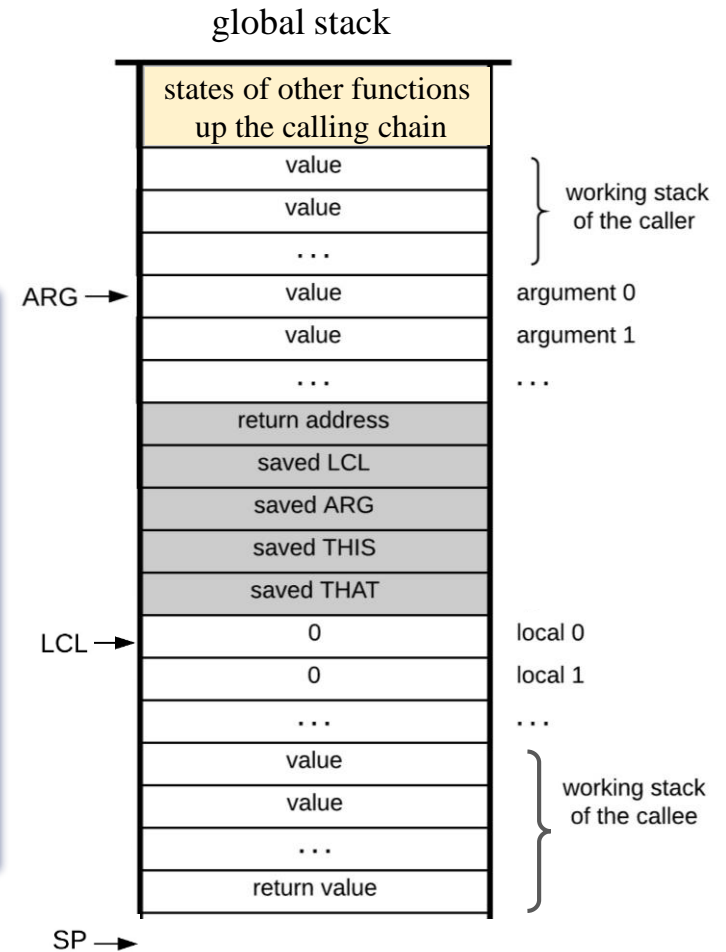


Handling return

VM command: `return`

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
endFrame = LCL           // endframe is a temporary variable
retAddr = *(endFrame - 5) // gets the return address
```

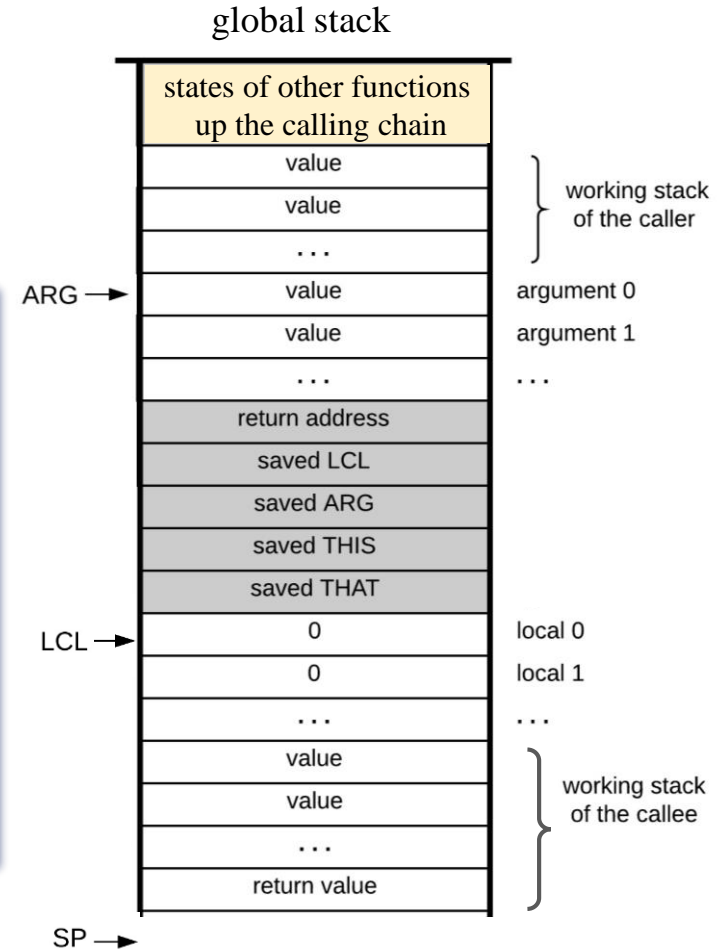


Handling return

VM command: `return`

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
endFrame = LCL           // endframe is a temporary variable
retAddr = *(endFrame - 5) // gets the return address
*ARG = pop()             // repositions the return value for the caller
```

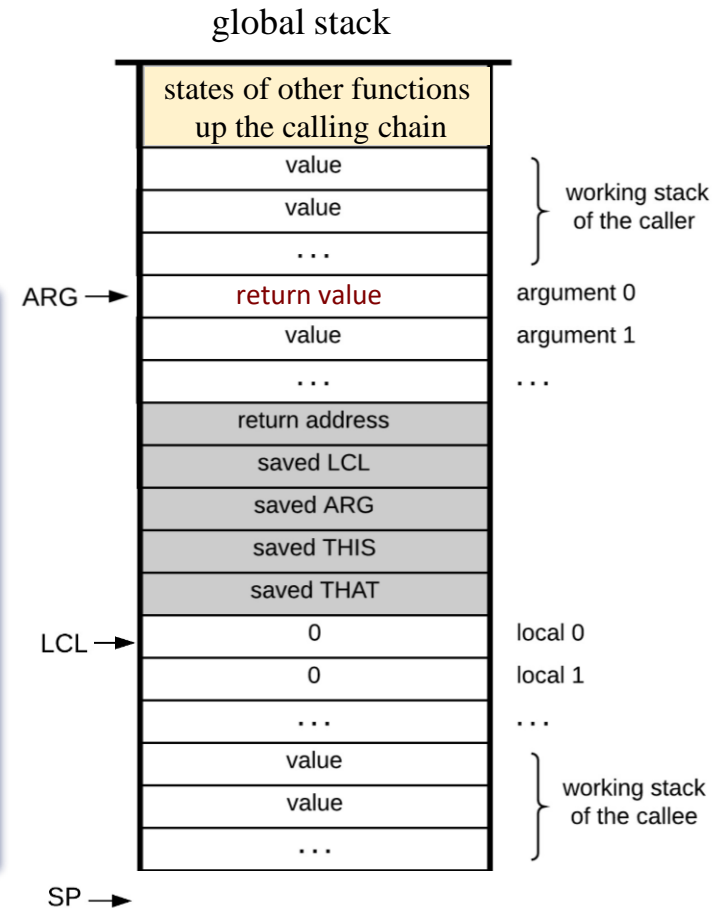


Handling return

VM command: `return`

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
endFrame = LCL           // endframe is a temporary variable
retAddr = *(endFrame - 5) // gets the return address
*ARG = pop()             // repositions the return value for the caller
```

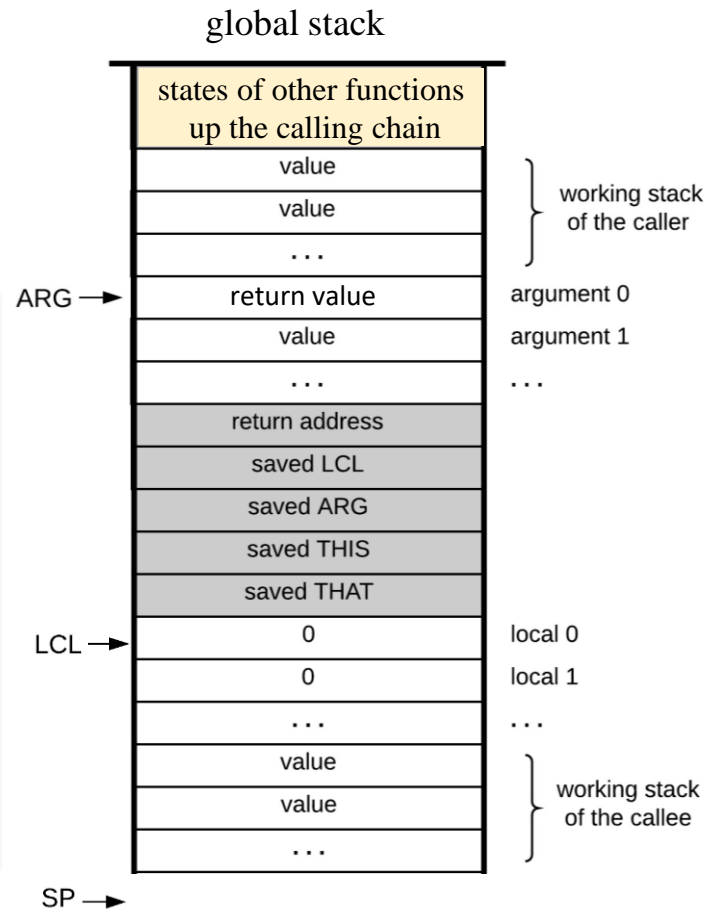


Handling return

VM command: `return`

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
endFrame = LCL           // endframe is a temporary variable
retAddr = *(endFrame - 5) // gets the return address
*ARG = pop()             // repositions the return value for the caller
SP = ARG + 1             // repositions SP of the caller
```

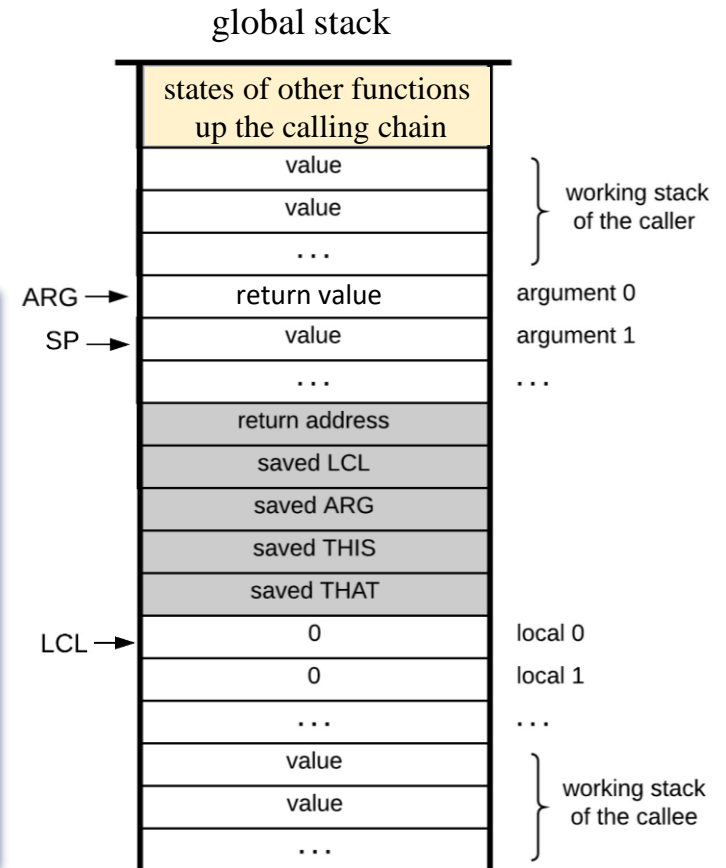


Handling return

VM command: `return`

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
endFrame = LCL           // endframe is a temporary variable
retAddr = *(endFrame - 5) // gets the return address
*ARG = pop()             // repositions the return value for the caller
SP = ARG + 1            // repositions SP of the caller
```

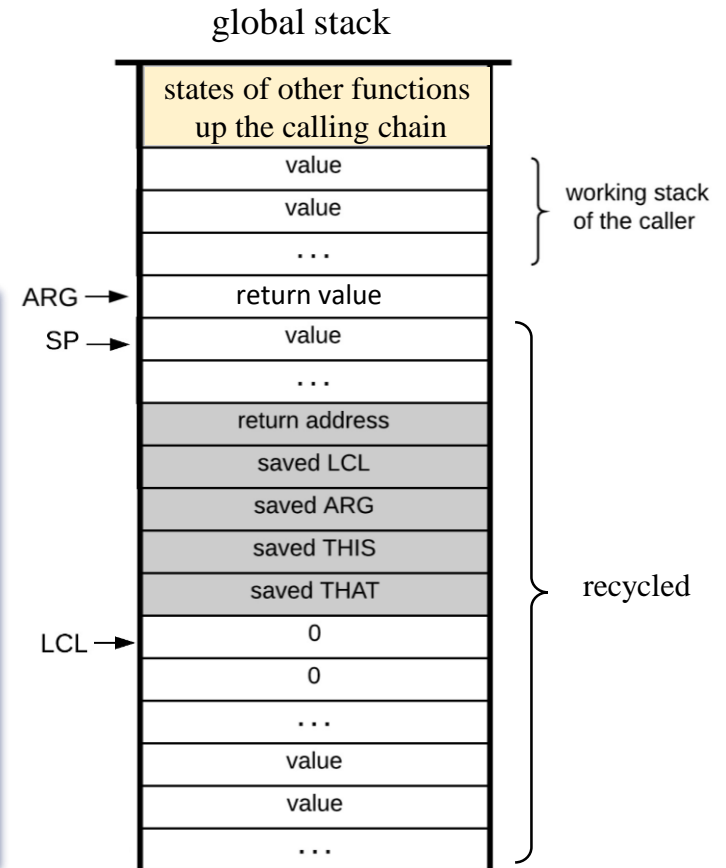


Handling return

VM command: `return`

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
endFrame = LCL           // endframe is a temporary variable
retAddr = *(endFrame - 5) // gets the return address
*ARG = pop()             // repositions the return value for the caller
SP = ARG + 1             // repositions SP of the caller
```

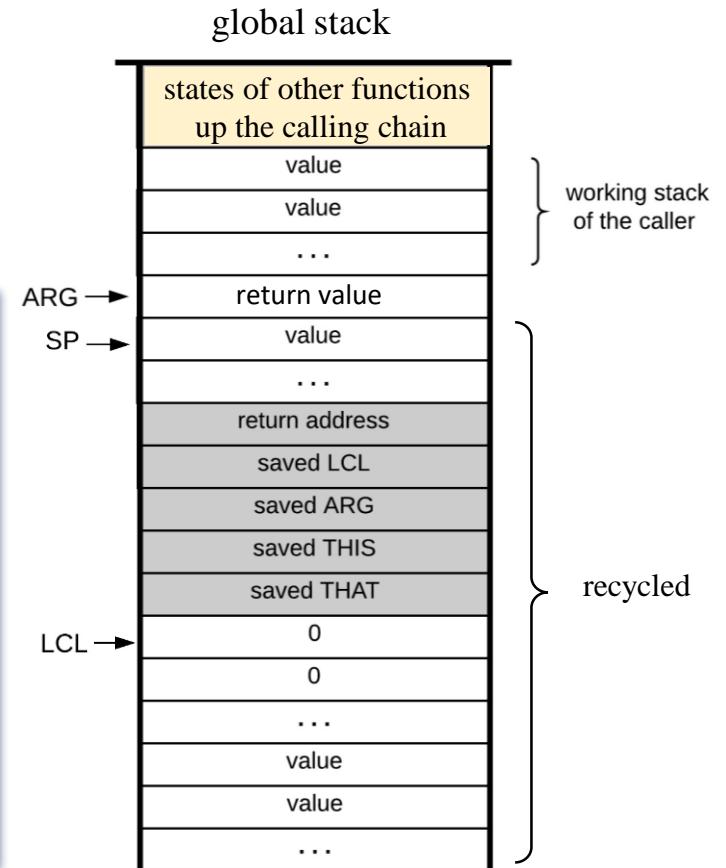


Handling return

VM command: `return`

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
endFrame = LCL           // endframe is a temporary variable
retAddr = *(endFrame - 5) // gets the return address
*ARG = pop()             // repositions the return value for the caller
SP = ARG + 1            // repositions SP of the caller
THAT = *(endFrame - 1)   // restores THAT of the caller
THIS = *(endFrame - 2)   // restores THIS of the caller
ARG = *(endFrame - 3)    // restores ARG of the caller
LCL = *(endFrame - 4)    // restores LCL of the caller
goto retAddr           // goes to the caller's return address
```

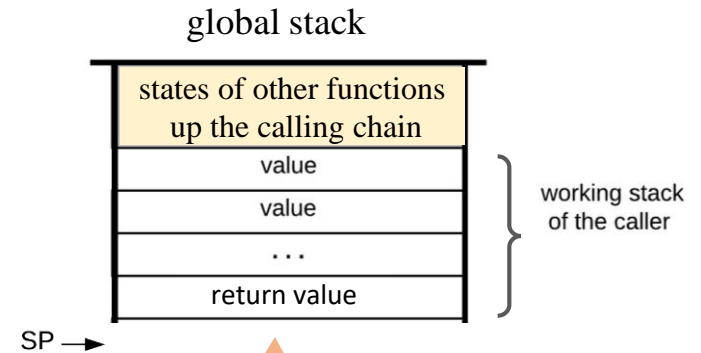


Handling return

VM command: `return`

Assembly code (generated by the translator):

```
endFrame = LCL           // endframe is a temporary variable
retAddr = *(endFrame - 5) // gets the return address
*ARG = pop()             // repositions the return value for the caller
SP = ARG + 1            // repositions SP of the caller
THAT = *(endFrame - 1)  // restores THAT of the caller
THIS = *(endFrame - 2) // restores THIS of the caller
ARG = *(endFrame - 3)  // restores ARG of the caller
LCL = *(endFrame - 4)  // restores LCL of the caller
goto retAddr           // goes to the caller's return address
```



Net impact: the caller is back in business, with the return value at the top of the stack

Handling return

VM code

```
function Foo.main 4
...
// computes -(19 * (local 3))
push constant 19
push local 3
call Bar.mult 2
neg
...

Function Bar.mult 2
// Computes the product of the first two
// arguments and puts the result in local 1
...
push local 1 // return value
return
```

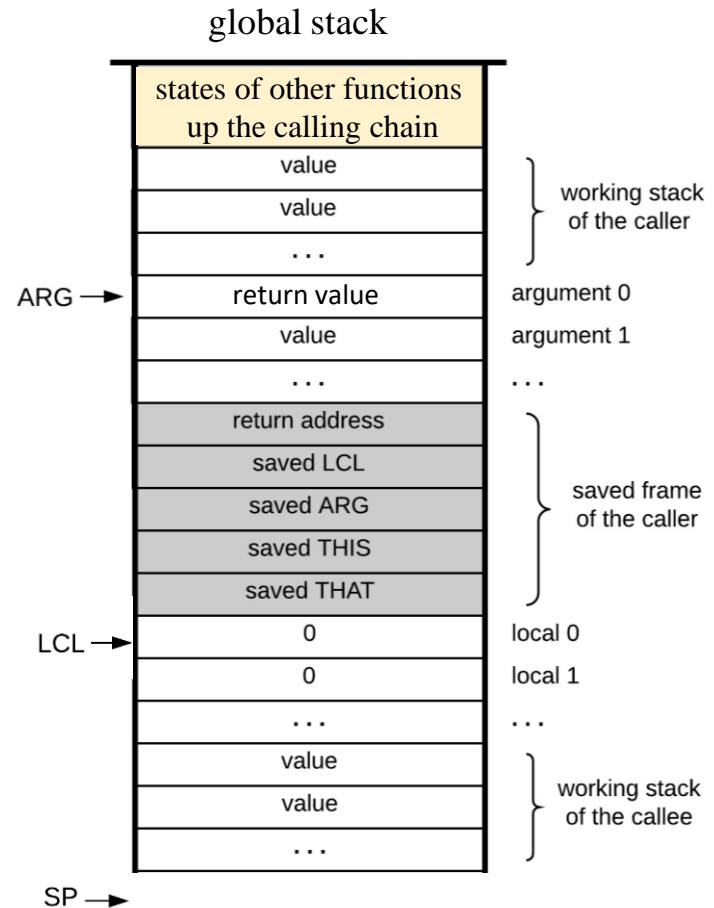
VM translator

Generated assembly code

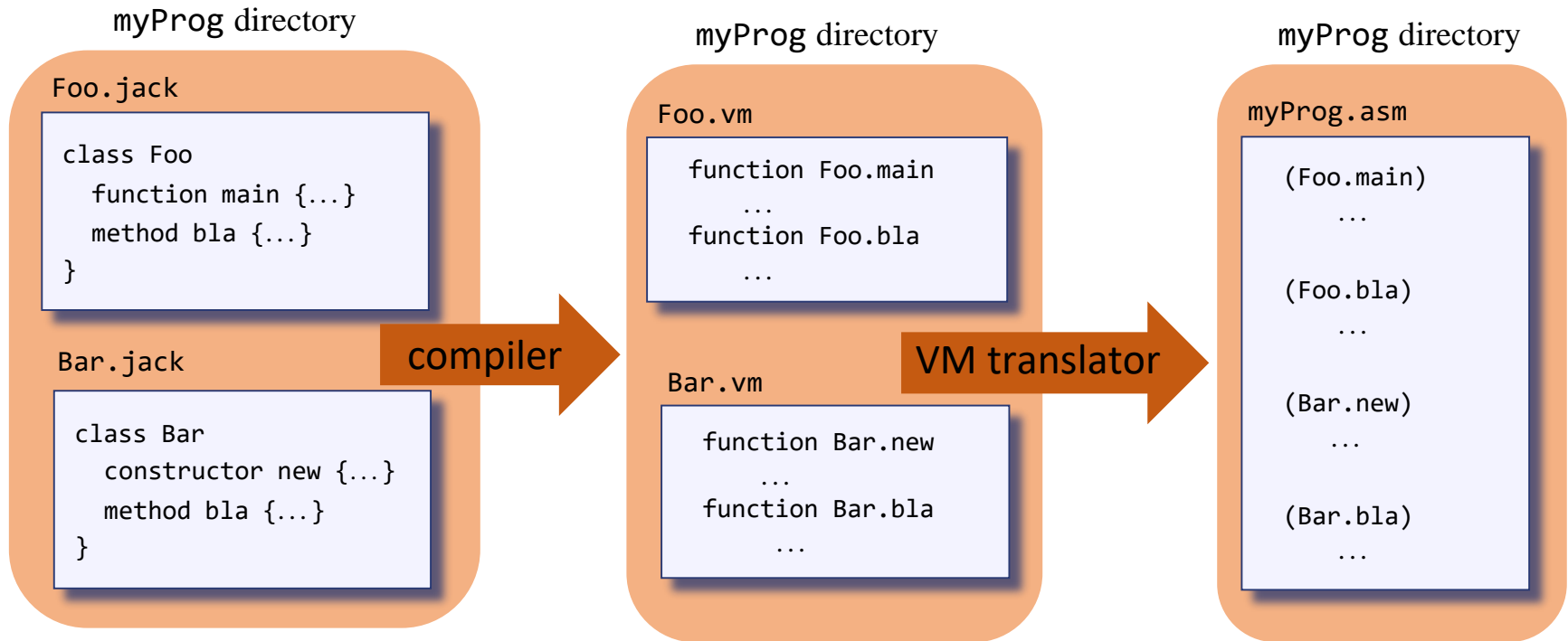
```
(Foo.main)
// assembly code that handles the setting up of
// a function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push constant 19
// assembly code that handles push local 3
// assembly code that saves the caller's state,
// handles some pointers, and then:
goto Bar.mult // (in assembly)
(Foo$ret.1)
// assembly code that handles neg
...
(Bar.mult)
// assembly code that handles the setting up of
// a function's execution
...
// assembly code that handles push local 1
// Assembly code that moves the return value to the
// caller, reinstates the caller's state, and then:
goto Foo$ret.1 // (in assembly)
```

Recap

- We showed how to generate the assembly code that, when executed, will end up building and maintaining the global stack during run-time
- This code will implement the function call-and-return commands and behavior
- The code is language- and platform-independent
- It can be implemented in any machine language.



The big picture: program compilation and translation



- Compiling a program directory: `> JackCompiler directoryName` (later in the course)
- Translating a program directory: `> VMTranslator directoryName`

The VM translator
developed in projects 7-8

Booting

VM program convention

- one file in any VM program is expected to be named `Main.vm`;
- one VM function in this file is expected to be named `main`

VM implementation conventions

- the stack starts in address 256 in the host RAM
- when the VM implementation starts running, or is reset, it starts executing an argument-less OS function named `sys.init`
- `sys.init` is designed to call `Main.main`, and then enter an infinite loop

These conventions are realized by the following code:

```
// Bootstrap code (should be written in assembly)
SP = 256
call Sys.init
```

In the Hack platform, this code should be put in the ROM, starting at address 0