

# **CS 33: Week 3 Discussion**

x86 Assembly (v1.0)

Section 1G

# Announcements

- HW2 due Sunday
- **MT1 this Thursday!**
- Lab2 out

# Info

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Office Hours (Boelter 2432)

- Wed (3-4 PM)

- Thurs (12-1 PM)

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# **This Week...**

- More x86 assembly fun

# Exercise: Fun with arithmetic

(a) C code

```
1  int arith(int x,  
2      int y,  
3      int z)  
4  {  
5      int t1 = x+y;  
6      int t2 = z*48;  
7      int t3 = t1 & 0xFFFF;  
8      int t4 = t2 * t3;  
9      return t4;  
10 }
```



Figure 3.8 C and assembly code for arithmetic routine body. The stack set-up and completion portions have been omitted.

Convert this function to x86. Assume that: x at %ebp+8, y at %ebp+12, z at %ebp+16. Recall: `addl src dst`, `imull src dst`, and `andl src dst`.

# Exercise: Fun with arithmetic

(a) C code

```
1  int arith(int x,  
2      int y,  
3      int z)  
4  {  
5      int t1 = x+y;  
6      int t2 = z*48;  
7      int t3 = t1 & 0xFFFF;  
8      int t4 = t2 * t3;  
9      return t4;  
10 }
```

(b) Assembly code

```
      x at %ebp+8, y at %ebp+12, z at %ebp+16  
1  movl    16(%ebp), %eax      z  
2  leal   (%eax,%eax,2), %eax  z*3  
3  sall   $4, %eax            t2 = z*48  
4  movl   12(%ebp), %edx      y  
5  addl   8(%ebp), %edx       t1 = x+y  
6  andl   $65535, %edx       t3 = t1&0xFFFF  
7  imull  %edx, %eax         Return t4 = t2*t3
```

Figure 3.8 C and assembly code for arithmetic routine body. The stack set-up and completion portions have been omitted.

Does this make sense? Note the usage of `leal` and `sall`, rather than simply using `imull`. Using `imull` isn't wrong - but it's good to be able to see why both approaches work!

# Function Calling Convention

# Function Frames

- When a function is called, a section of the stack is set aside for the function.
- Represented by two registers: the base pointer (`%ebp`) and the stack pointer (`%esp`).



# **%ebp: base pointer**

- Points to the "beginning" of the function's stack frame.
- Should not change during function execution, unless another function call is made.

# **%ebp: Accessing Arguments**

- Suppose  $f()$  calls  $g(x,y)$ . Then,  $g$  can access its arguments  $x,y$  via `%ebp`:
  - $x$  is at  $8(\%ebp)$ , and  $y$  is at  $12(\%ebp)$

# `%ebp`

- What's at `0(%ebp)` and `4(%ebp)`?
  - `%ebp` points to the saved `%ebp`, ie the f's base pointer.
  - Need to set `%ebp` to the f's `%ebp` before returning from g! More on this later.

# **%ebp**

- `4(%ebp)` points to the saved return address, i. e. the next instruction to execute after returning from the function.
- The command `ret` updates the `%eip` (Instruction Pointer)

# **%esp: Stack Pointer**

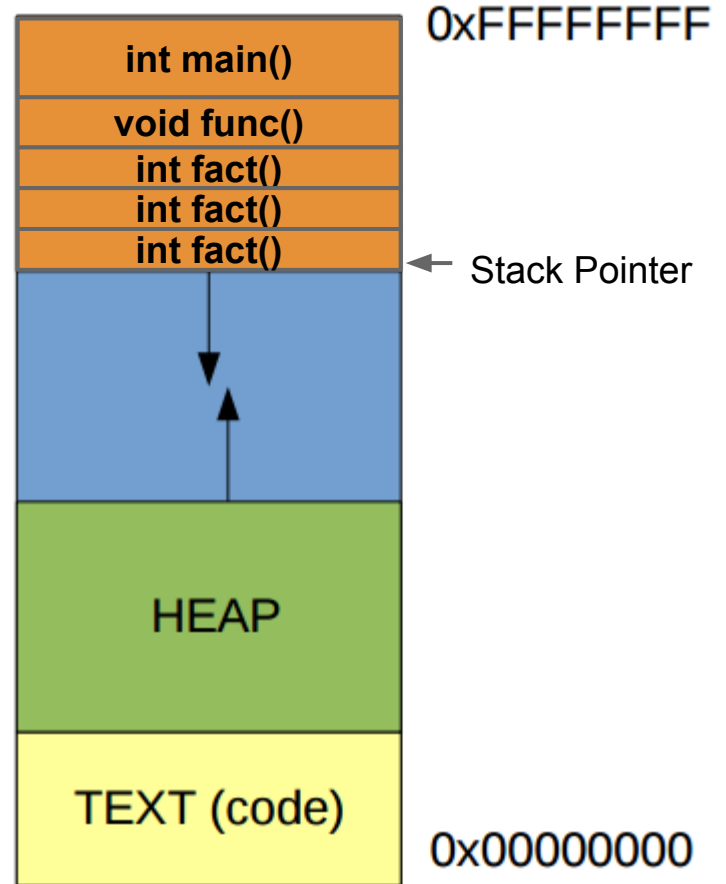
- Points to the "end" of the function frame.
- All of a function's local variables are stored between %ebp and %esp

# **%esp - Static Allocation**

- At the start of a function, we allocate all required storage of local/temp variables by updating %esp

# The Stack

- Contains local variables
- LIFO
- Grows “downward”
- Organized in frames



# The Stack: pushl and popl

- pushl <SRC>
  - subl \$4, %esp
  - movl <SRC> (%esp)
- popl <DST>
  - movl (%esp) <DST>
  - addl \$4 %esp

pushl, popl are convenience commands. Could simply use subl, movl, addl, etc. But you'd raise some eyebrows.



# The Stack

Consider the following stack.

What happens when I do:

```
pushl %ebp
```

Addresses  
grow down



0x7fff401c

STACK

```
%esp = 0x744401C  
%ebp = 0x12C  
%edx = 0x800448B
```

# The Stack

Addresses  
grow down



STACK

0x7fff401c

0x7fff4018

0x00000012c

**%esp = 0x7444018**  
**%ebp = 0x12C**  
**%edx = 0x800448B**

# The Stack

What happens when I  
do:

```
popl %edx
```

Addresses  
grow down



0x7fff401c

STACK

0x7fff4018

0x00000012c

**%esp = 0x7444018**

**%ebp = 0x12C**

**%edx = 0x800448B**

# The Stack

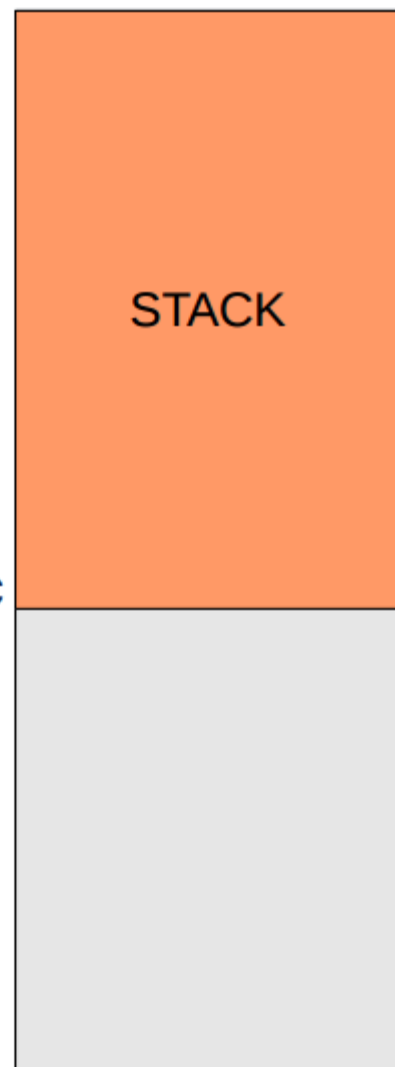
Addresses  
grow down



STACK

0x7fff401c

```
%esp = 0x744401C  
%ebp = 0x12C  
%edx = 0x12C
```



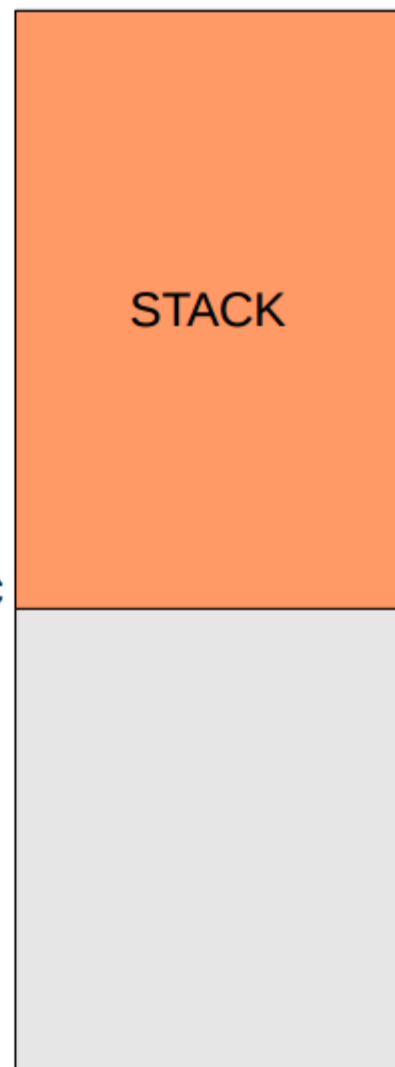
# The Stack

- How do we create frame abstractions for procedures?

Addresses  
grow down



0x7fff401c



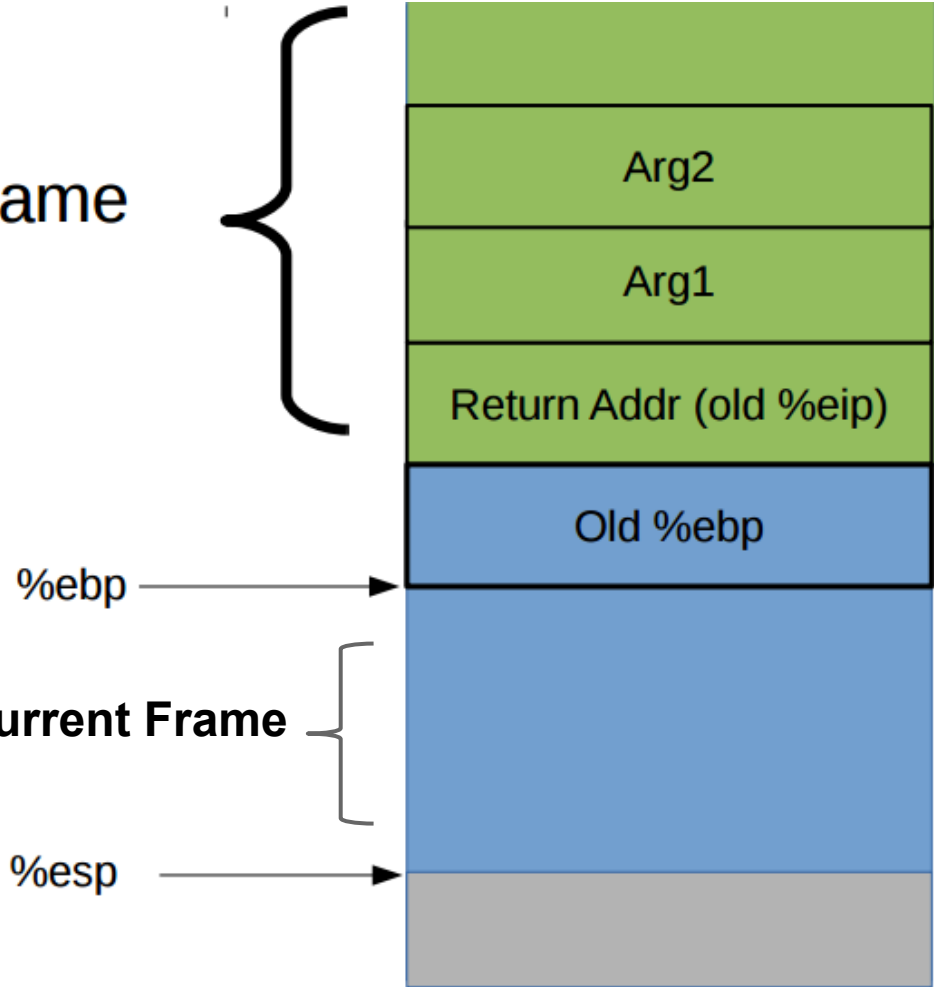
```
%esp = 0x744401C  
%ebp = 0x12C  
%edx = 0x12C
```

# Stack Frames

- `%ebp`
  - base pointer
  - bottom of frame
- `%eip`
  - instruction pointer

Caller Frame

Current Frame



# x86 Calling Conventions

- **Caller saved registers**
  - pushed to the stack before function call is made
  - restored after the callee exits
  - %eax, %ecx, %edx
  - arguments: \$0x8(%ebp), %0xc(%ebp), %0x10(%ebp) ...
- **Callee saved registers**
  - pushed to the stack at the start of the function
  - restored before the callee exits
  - %ebx, %edi, %esi
  - return value in %eax

# Even More Assembly

- call <label>
  - pushl %eip
  - movl <label (function address)> %eip
- leave
  - movl %ebp, %esp
  - popl %ebp
- ret
  - popl %eip



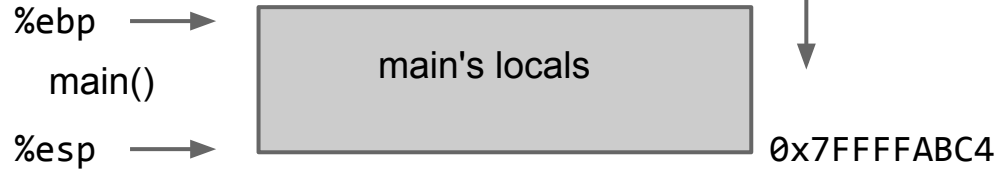
# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int num) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```

```
In main():  
    f();
```

# Example: Function Call

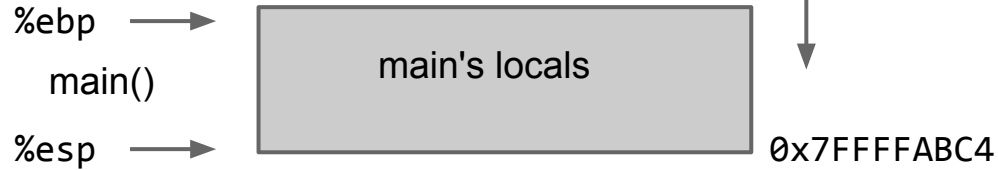
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    int x = 42;  
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}
```



In `main()`, about to call `f()`.

# Example: Function Call

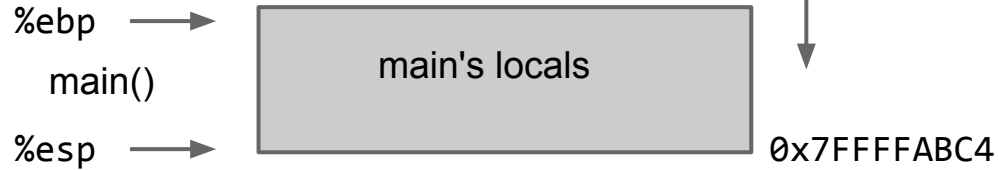
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}  
int g(int num) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```



In `main()`, about to call `f()`.  
1. Prepare arguments to `f()`.

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int num) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```

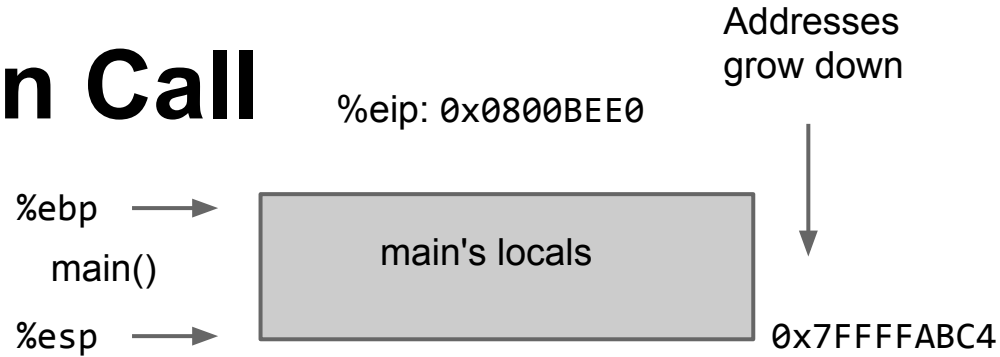


In `main()`, about to call `f()`.  
1. Prepare arguments to `f()`.

**No arguments!**

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int num) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```



- In `main()`, about to call `f()`.
1. Prepare arguments to `f()`.
  2. Call `f()`

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {
    int x = 42;
    int foo = g(x);
    return foo + 5;
}
int g(int num) {
    return num+10;
}
```



Assume instruction after call to `g(x)` is at location: `0x0800BEE4`  
Assume first instruction of `g` is at location: `0x0800F00D`

In `main()`, about to call `f()`.  
1. Prepare arguments to `f()`.                      `call f`  
2. Call `f()`

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int num) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```



In main(), about to call f().

1. Prepare arguments to f().
2. Call f()

call f

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int num) {  
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```



In main(), about to call f().

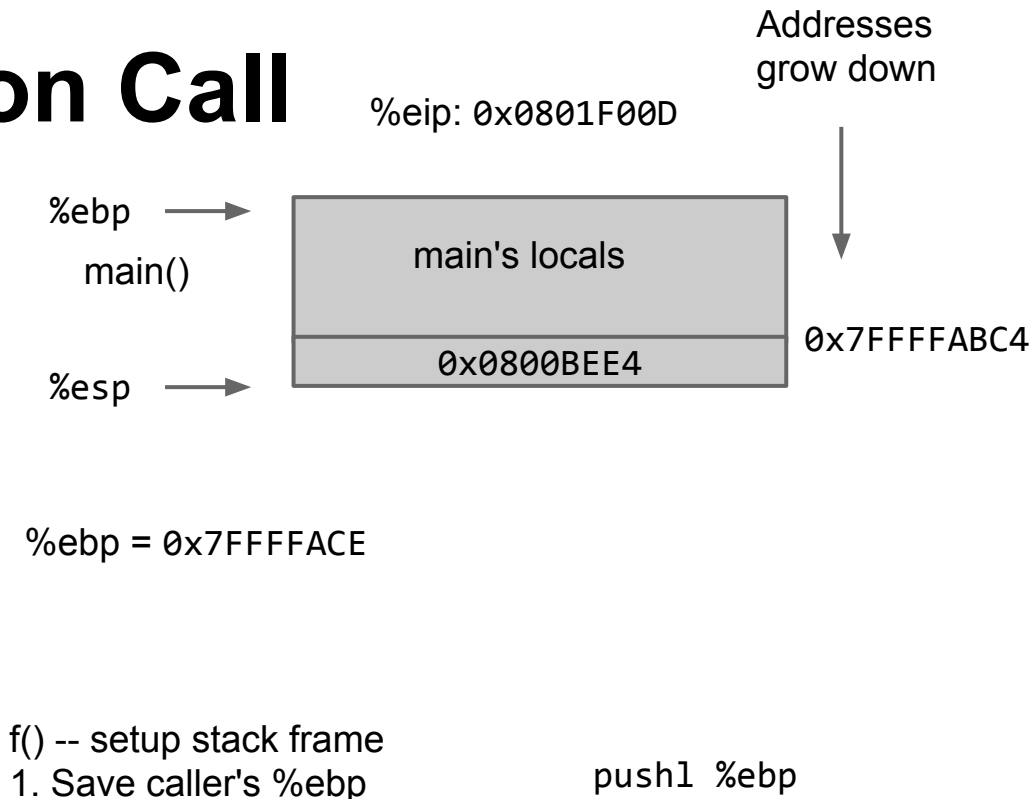
1. Prepare arguments to f().
2. Call f()
3. f() is now "in control"

call f



# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int num) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```



# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
    return foo + 5;  
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    return num+10;  
}
```



f() -- setup stack frame  
1. Save caller's %ebp

pushl %ebp

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
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int g(int num) {  
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```



f() -- setup stack frame

1. Save caller's %ebp
2. Update %ebp to point to \*my\* frame base.

```
movl %esp %ebp
```

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
    return foo + 5;  
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int g(int num) {  
    return num+10;  
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```



f() -- setup stack frame

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# Example: Function Call

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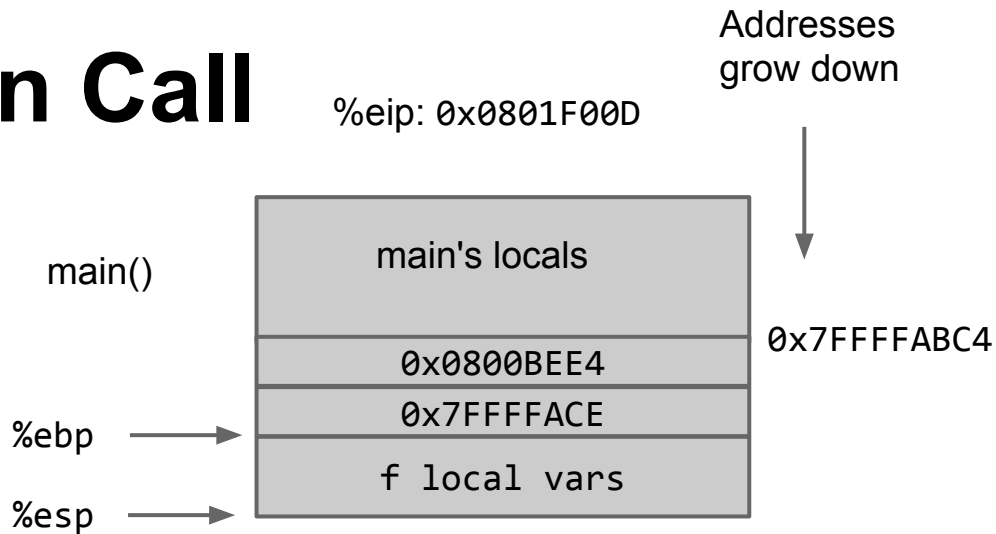
f() -- setup stack frame

1. Save caller's %ebp
2. Update %ebp to point to \*my\* frame base.
3. Allocate space for local variables

```
subl $8 %esp
```

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int num) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```



*Note: Depending on how clever the compiler is, it may not allocate stack space for \*all\* local vars if it can do it with registers.*

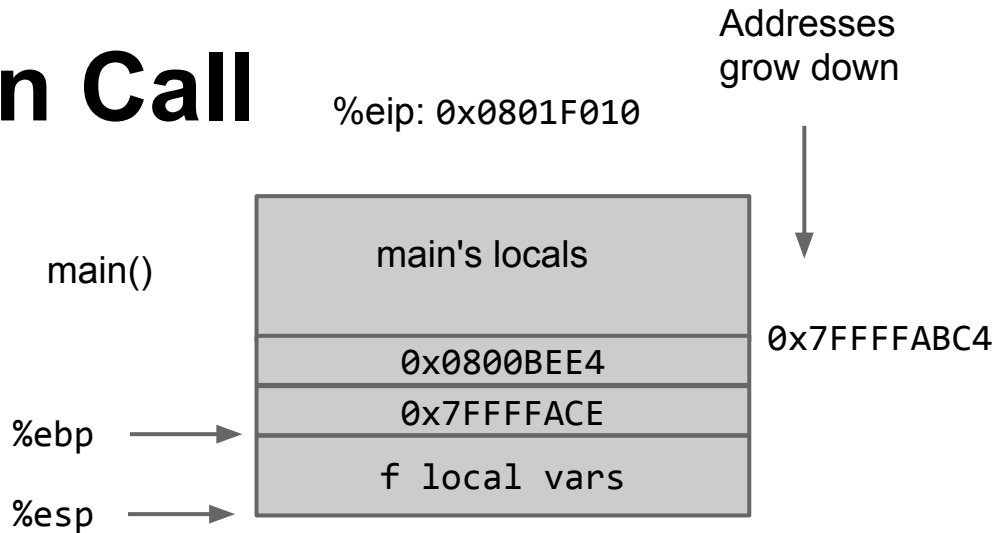
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# Example: Function Call

```
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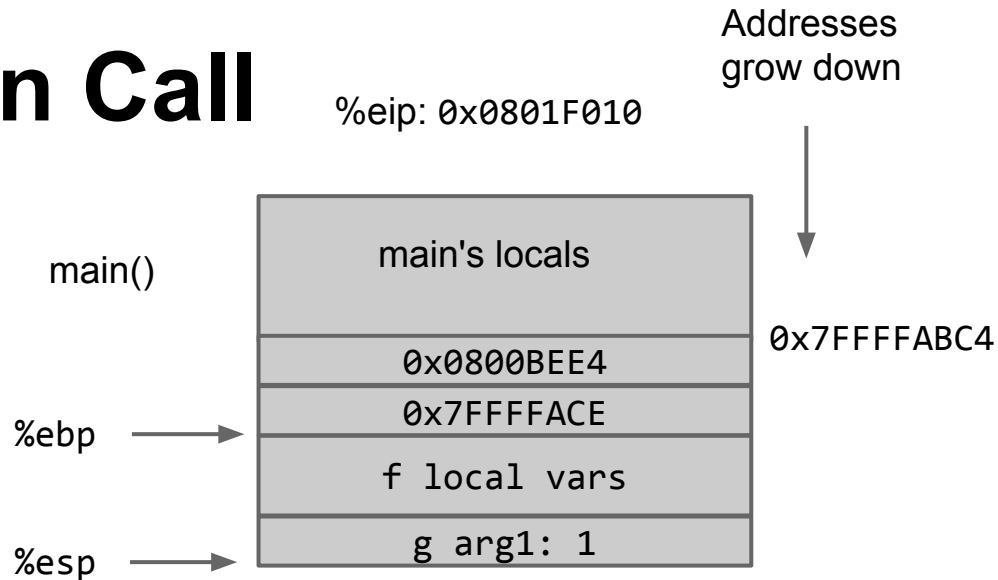
f() executes its code, and is about to call g().

1. Prepare arguments to g

pushl \$eax

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```



f() executes its code, and is about to call g().

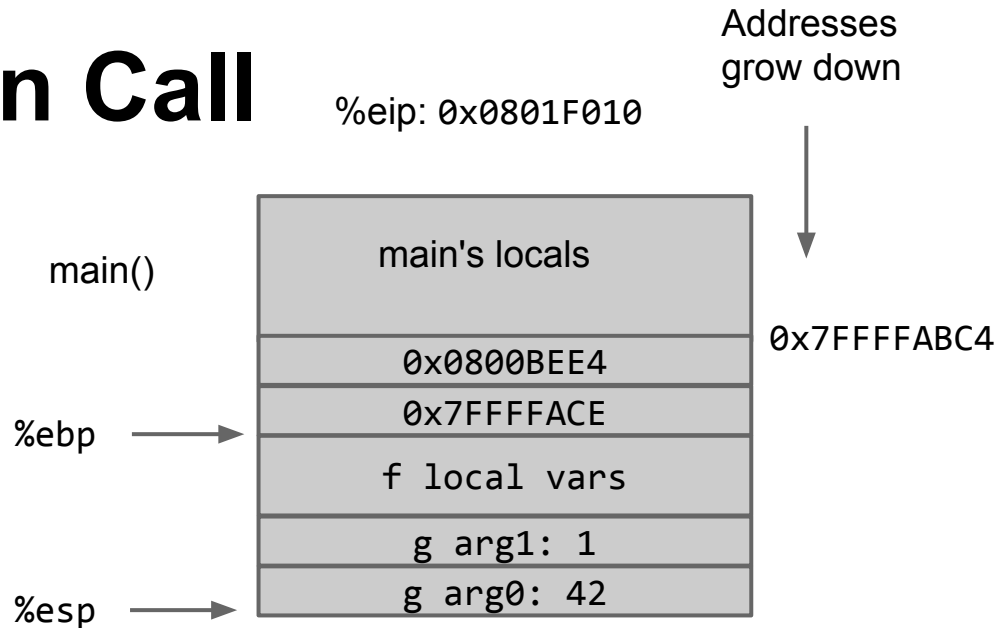
1. Prepare arguments to g

```
pushl 1  
pushl $eax
```



# Example: Function Call

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f() executes its code, and is about to call g().

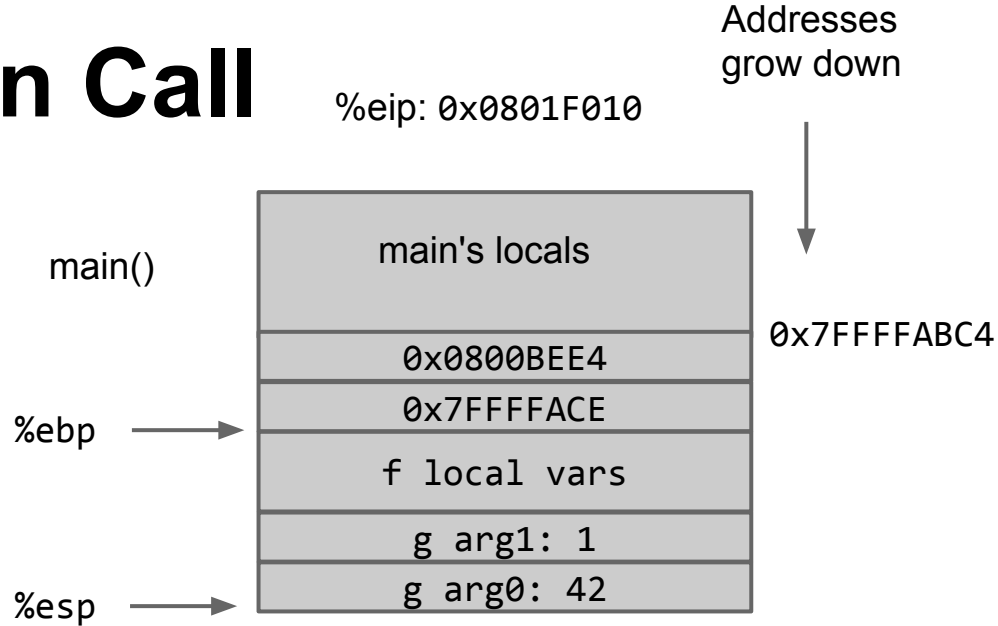
1. Prepare arguments to g

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pushl $eax
```

# Example: Function Call

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```

Assume f's next instruction  
is at 0x0801F014



f() executes its code, and is  
about to call g().

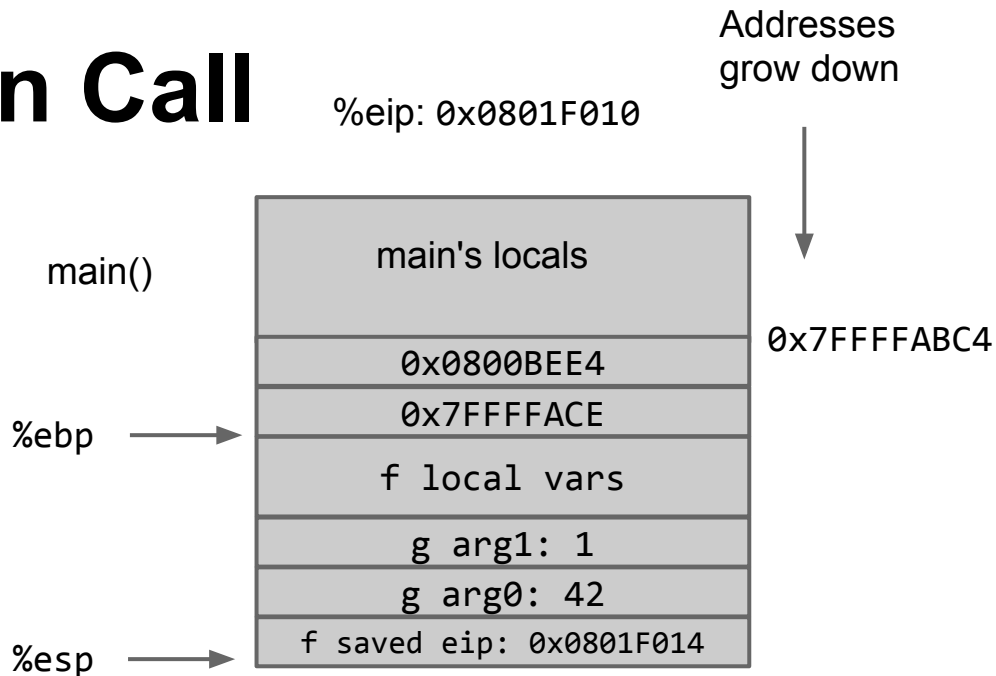
1. Prepare arguments to g
2. Call g (saves %eip).

call g

# Example: Function Call

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int f() {  
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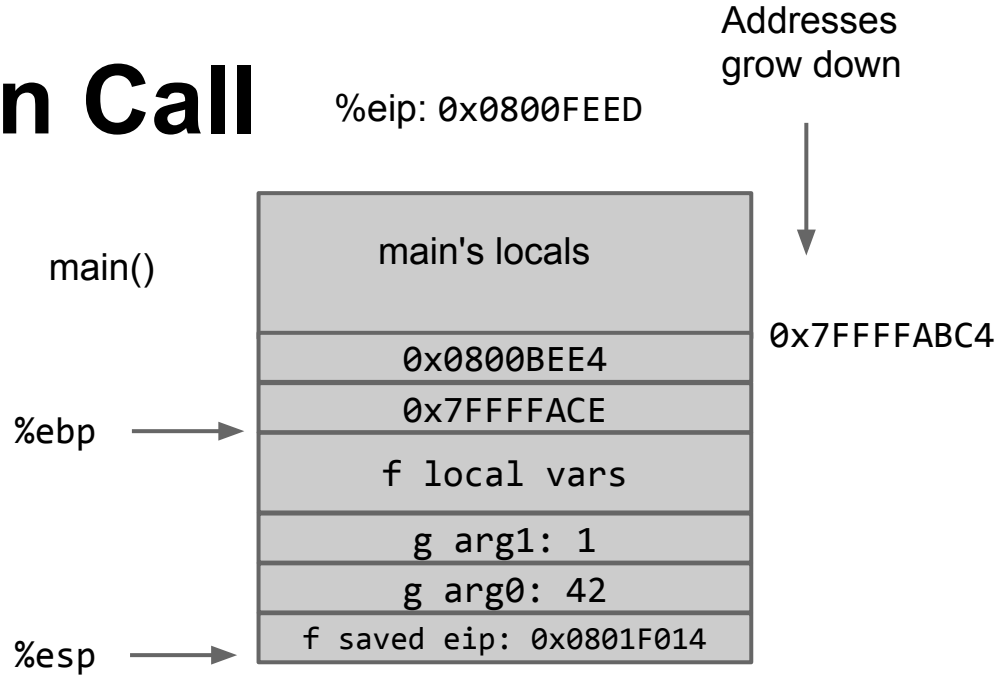
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call g

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int g(int n, int a) {
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Assume f's next instruction  
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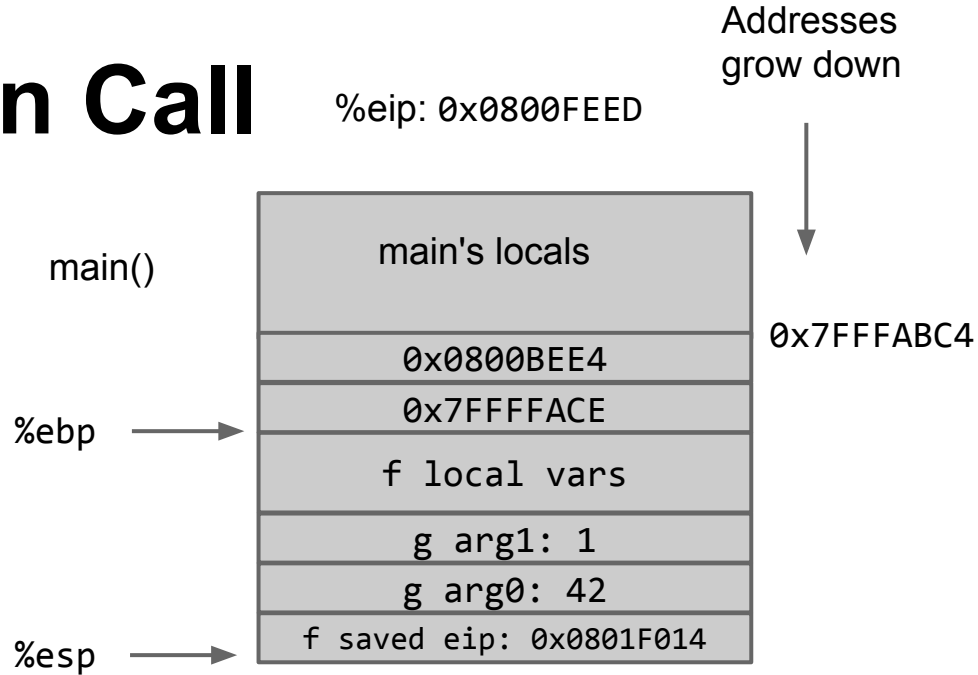
f() executes its code, and is  
about to call g().

1. Prepare arguments to g
2. Call g (saves %eip).
3. g is in control now!

call g

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```



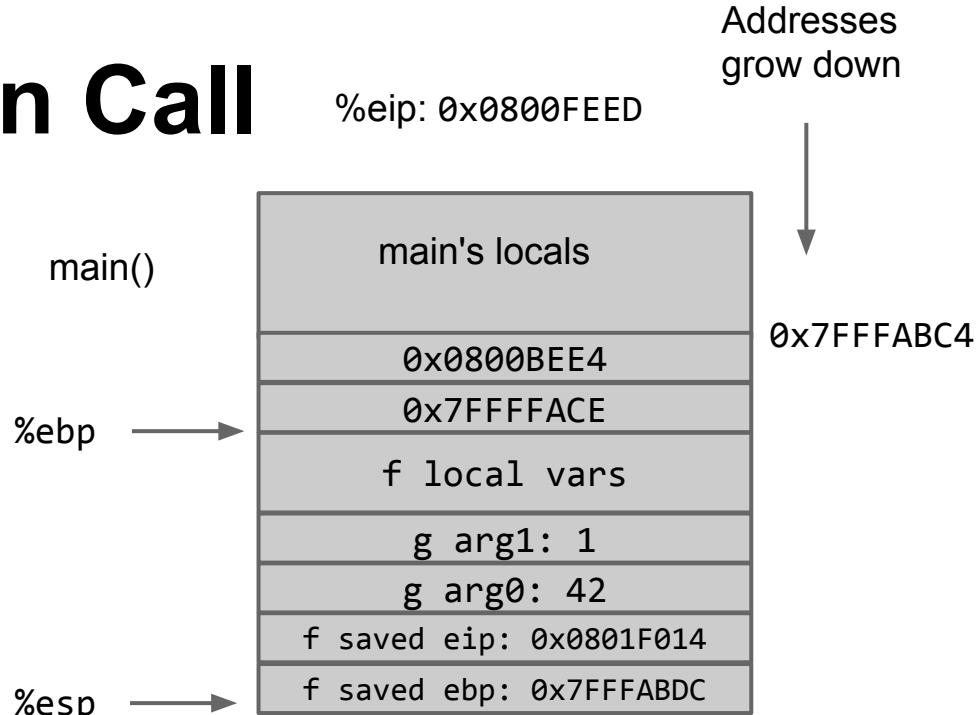
g must setup its stack frame.

1. Save caller's %ebp.

pushl %ebp

# Example: Function Call

```
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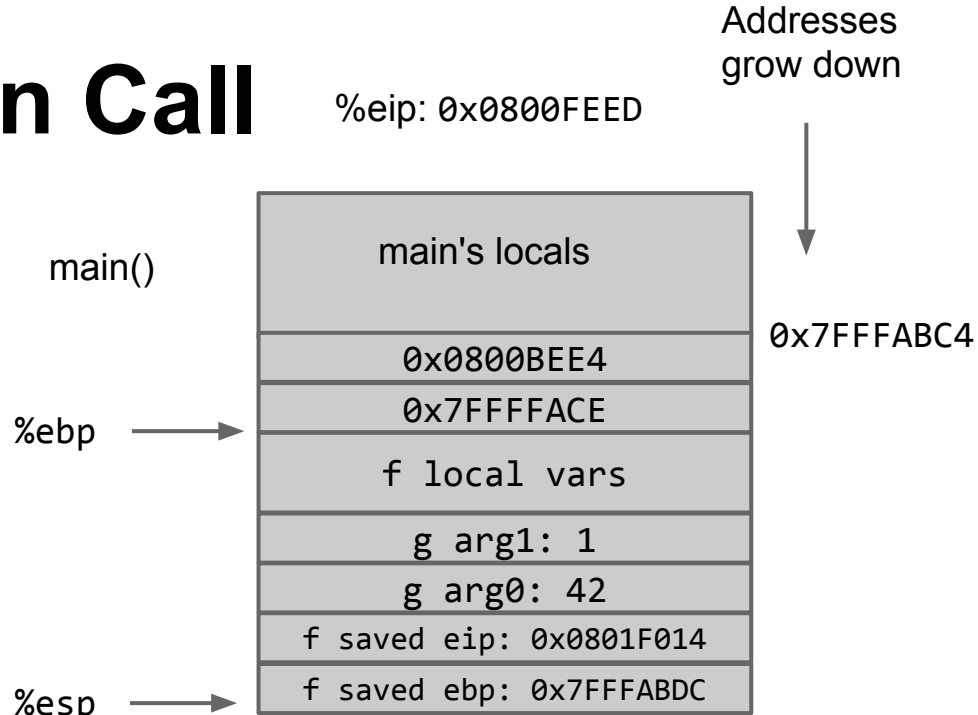
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int g(int n, int a) {  
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}
```



g must setup its stack frame.

1. Save caller's %ebp.
2. Update %ebp to point to \*my\* frame base.

```
movl %esp %ebp
```

# Example: Function Call

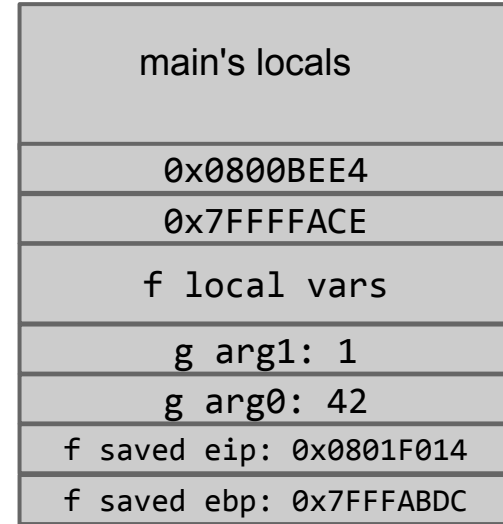
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    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return num+10;  
}
```

%eip: 0x0800FEED

Addresses  
grow down

main()

%ebp  
%esp



0x7FFFABDC4

g must setup its stack frame.

1. Save caller's %ebp.
2. Update %ebp to point to \*my\* frame base.

```
movl %esp %ebp
```



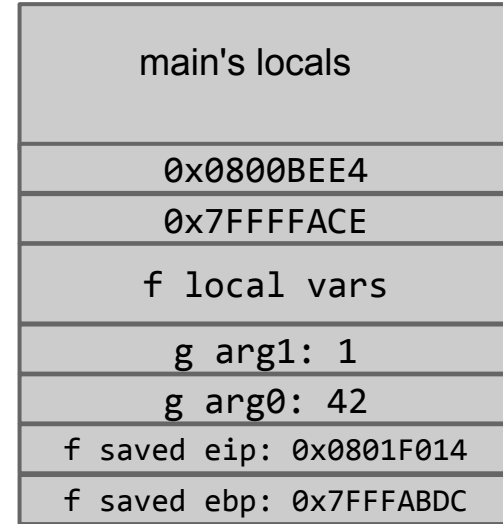
# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {
    int x = 42;
    int foo = g(x,1);
    return foo + 5;
}
int g(int n, int a) {
    return num+10;
}
```

%eip: 0x0800FEED

Addresses  
grow down

main()



0x7FFFABDC4

%ebp

%esp

g must setup its stack frame.

1. Save caller's %ebp.
2. Update %ebp to point to \*my\* frame base.
3. Allocate space for local vars.

# Example: Function Call

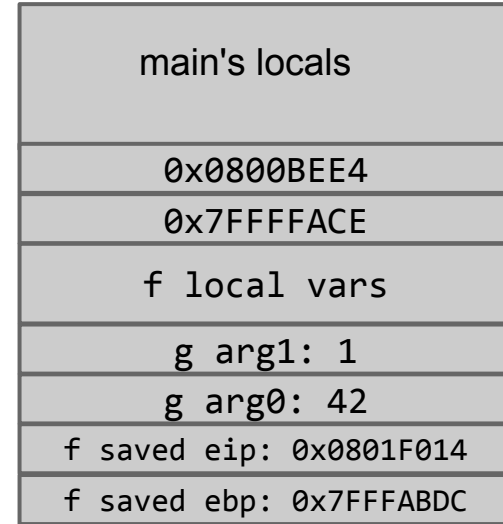
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}
```

%eip: 0x0800FEED

Addresses  
grow down

main()

%ebp  
%esp



0x7FFFABDC4

g must setup its stack frame.

1. Save caller's %ebp.
2. Update %ebp to point to \*my\* frame base.
3. Allocate space for local vars.

**No local vars!**

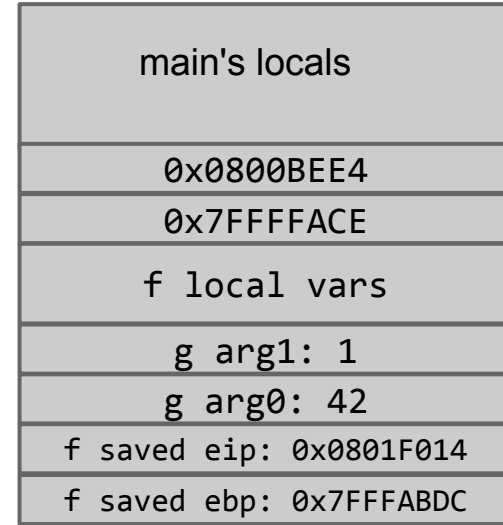
# Example: Function Call

```
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    int x = 42;  
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}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```

%eip: 0x0800FEED

Addresses  
grow down

main()



%ebp

%esp

g() finishes, now must return.

1. Set %esp to caller's original %esp.
2. Set %ebp to caller's original %ebp.

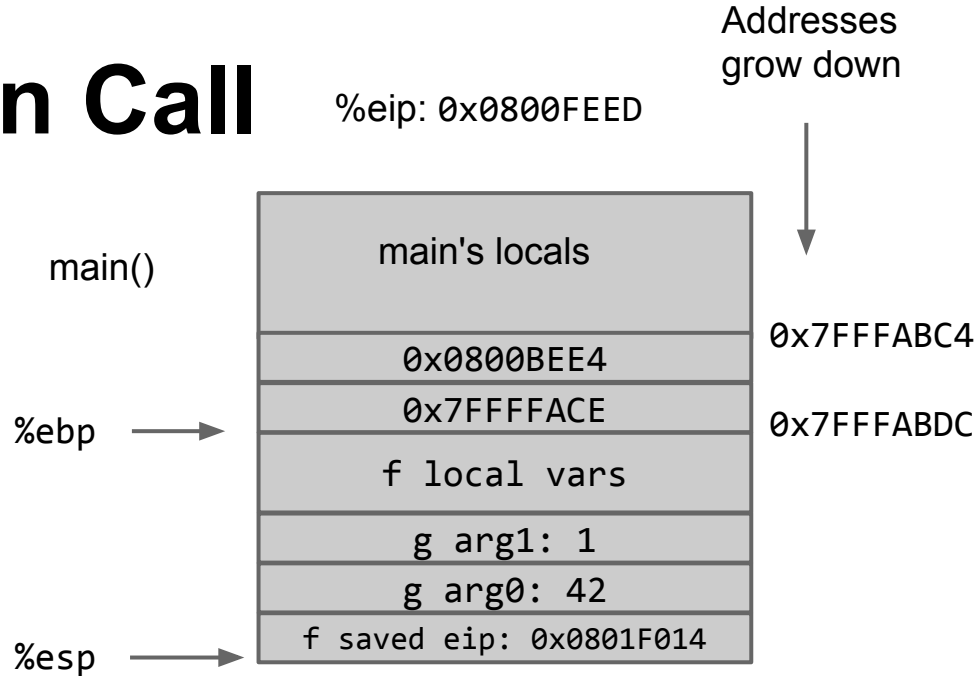
**This is %ebp!**

movl %ebp %esp

popl %ebp

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {
    int x = 42;
    int foo = g(x,1);
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}
int g(int n, int a) {
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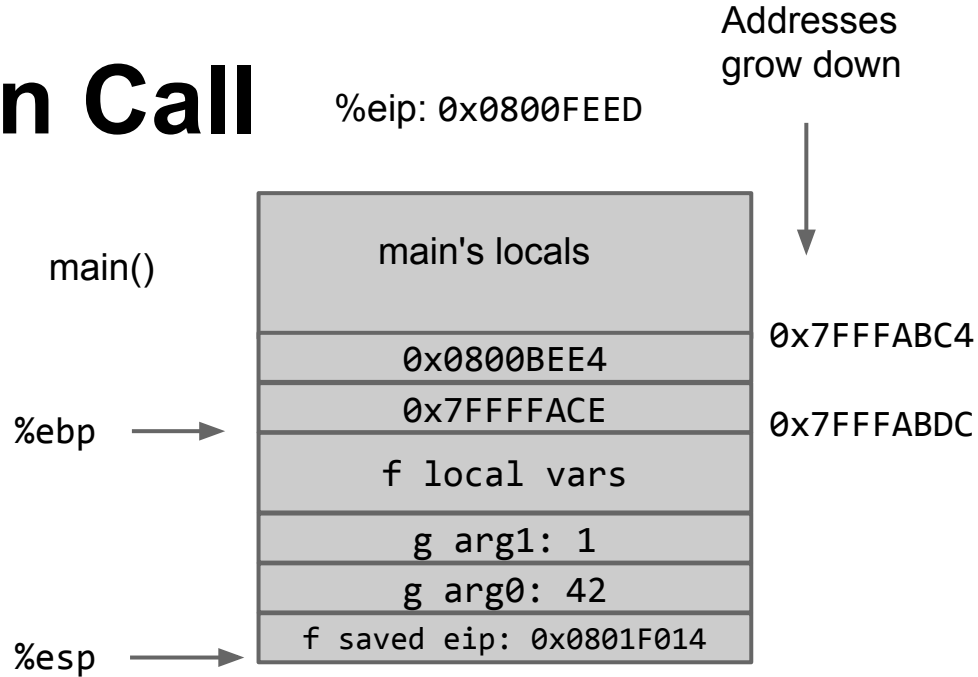
**This is %ebp!**

```
movl %ebp %esp
```

```
popl %ebp
```

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```



g() finishes, now must return.

1. Set %esp to caller's original % esp.
2. Set %ebp to caller's original % ebp.
3. Return to caller.

***Pops top of stack,  
places value into  
%eip.***

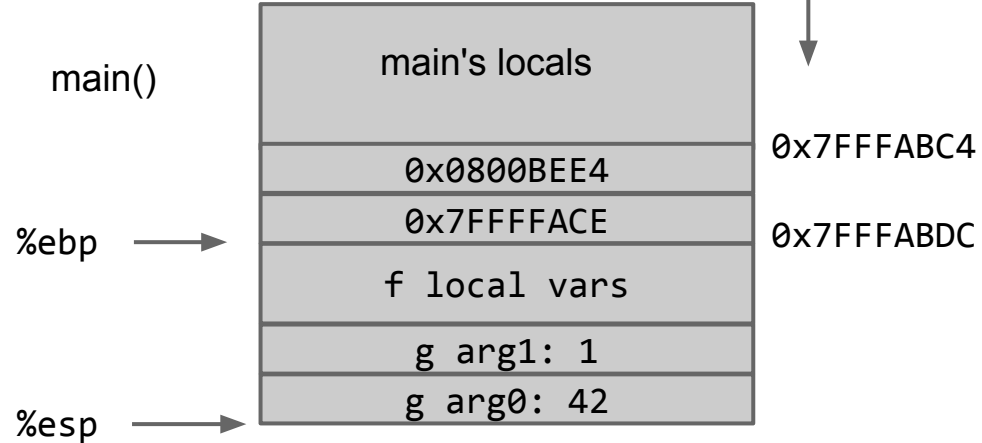
ret

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```

f in control now!  
%eip: 0x0801F014

Addresses  
grow down



g() finishes, now must return.

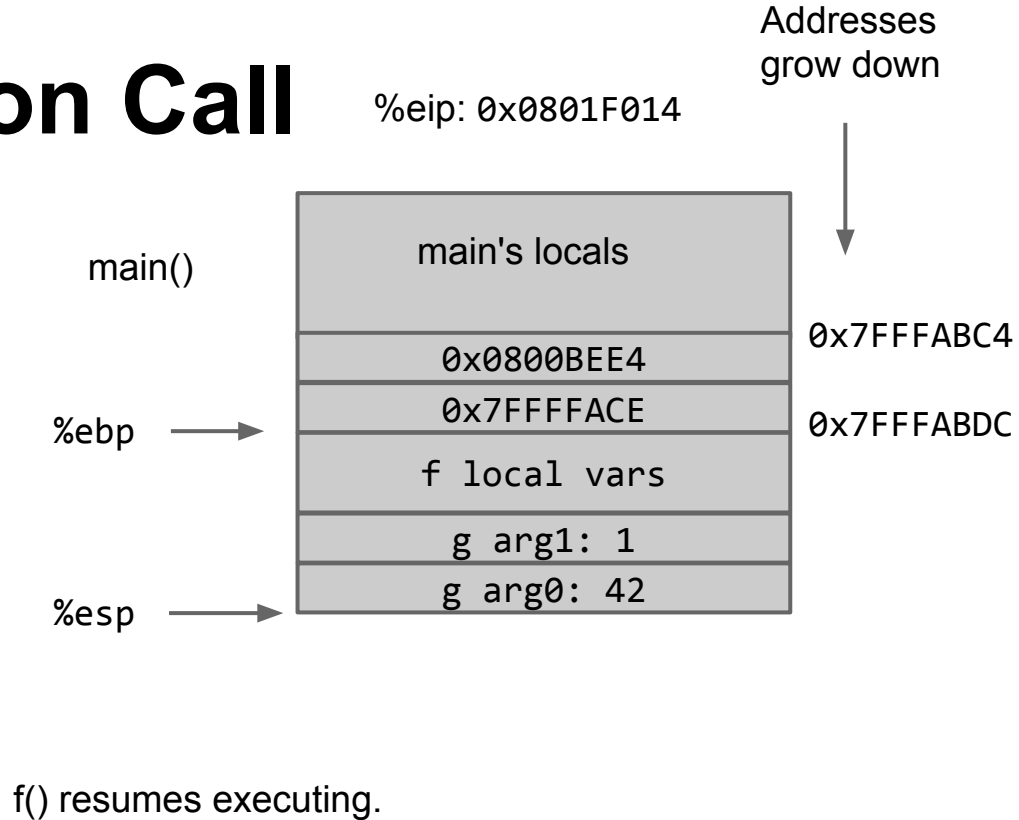
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2. Set %ebp to caller's original % ebp.
3. Return to caller.

***Pops top of stack,  
places value into  
%eip.***

ret

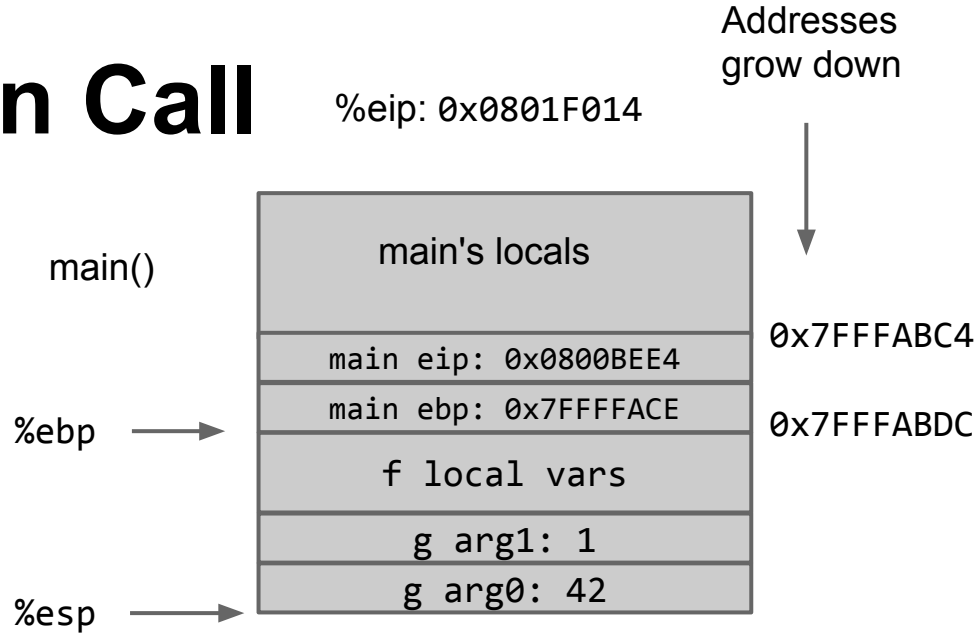
# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```



# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
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}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
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}
```



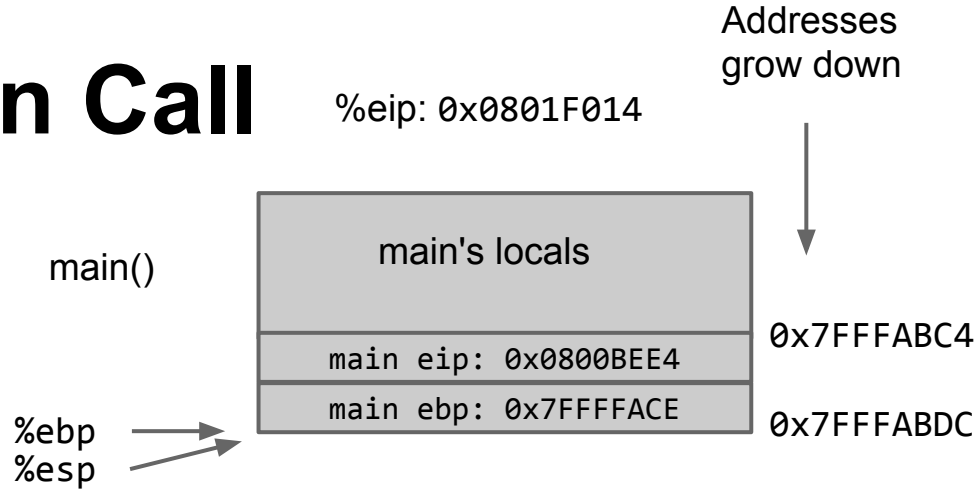
f() is ready to return.

1. Update %esp to caller's %esp.    `movl %ebp %esp`



# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x, 1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```

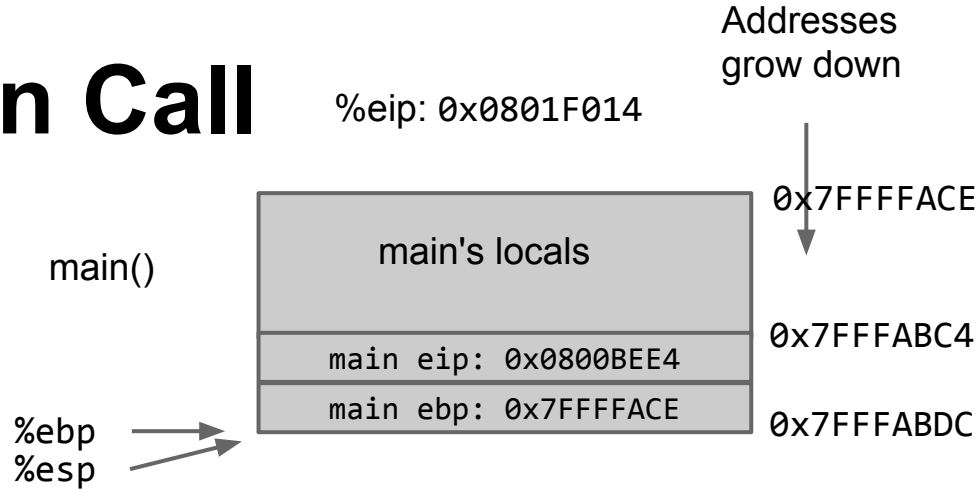


f() is ready to return.

1. Update %esp to caller's %esp. `movl %ebp %esp`

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x, 1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```



f() is ready to return.

1. Update %esp to caller's %esp.
2. Update %ebp to caller's %ebp.

```
popl %ebp
```

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```



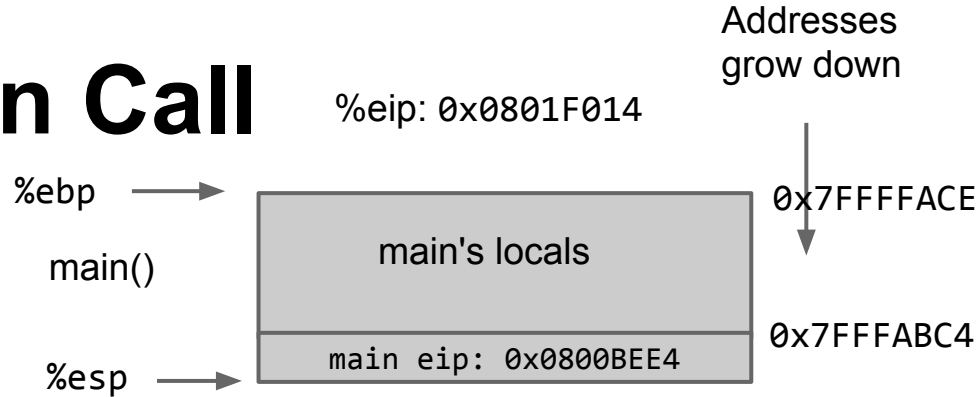
f() is ready to return.

1. Update %esp to caller's %esp.
2. Update %ebp to caller's %ebp.

```
popl %ebp
```

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```



f() is ready to return.

1. Update %esp to caller's %esp.
2. Update %ebp to caller's %ebp.
3. Return control to caller.

ret

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```



f() is ready to return.

1. Update %esp to caller's %esp.
2. Update %ebp to caller's %ebp.
3. Return control to caller.

ret

# Example: Function Call

```
int f() {  
    int x = 42;  
    int foo = g(x,1);  
    return foo + 5;  
}  
int g(int n, int a) {  
    return n+10;  
}
```



main() resumes executing where it left off, and finishes its awesome computation.

```
.main:  
    ...  
    call f  
    # here now  
    ...
```

# Conditional Jumps

`je, jz` -- jump if equal/zero

`jne, jnz` -- jump if not-equal/not-zero

`j1, j1e` -- jump if less than/less-than-or-equal

`jg, jge` -- jump if greater than/greater-than-or-equal

Several more jump types (ie overflow, sign, parity, etc.).

# cmp

Use `cmpl`, `testl` to use the conditional jump!

```
cmpl %eax %edx  
jge .L2
```

Jumps to `.L2` if `%eax <= %edx`



# testl

```
testl %eax, %eax
```

```
jz zeroLabel; jump if %eax is zero
```

```
js negLabel ; jump if EAX is negative
```

```
jns posLabel ; jump if EAX is positive
```

Quick way to check if a register is 0, negative, or positive.

# Compiling at Home

Try creating assembly output yourself!

```
$ gcc -m32 -S -O0 -o code.s code.c
```

Use x86 (ie  
32-bit mode)

Compile to  
assembly

Do least  
amount of  
optimizations

Save  
generated  
assembly to:  
code.s

Input C source  
file. Your code  
here!

# Compiling at Home

Add this flag to disable weird lines with `.cfi_junk`:

```
$ gcc -m32 -S -O0 -fno-asynchronous-unwind-tables -o code.s code.c
```

# Compiling at Home

Full pipeline to compile .c code -> .s -> executable.

```
# Compile: generates assembly from c code
gcc -S -m32 -O0 -fno-asynchronous-unwind-tables -o printint.s printint.c
# Assemble: generates object file from assembly
gcc -c -m32 -o printint.o printint.s
# Linker: generates executable from object file
gcc -m32 -o printint printint.o
```

Use last two commands to create executables of your own x86 code!

# Midterm

- ~9 questions
- Open book
- Covers:
  - Integers: §1–§2.3, §2.5
  - Assembly: §3–§3.5, §3.13
  - Control: §3.6
  - Procedures: §3.7
  - Data structures: §3.8–§3.10
  - Pointers: §3.11, §3.12, §3.15
  - Lab 2 and HW3

# The Bad News

- The midterm doesn't exist yet
- You won't find the answers in your book
  - "What if" questions
  - "No right answer" questions
    - "Explain your reasoning"
  - Multi-topic questions
- Essentially a timed take-home assignment  
(minus ability to google/stackoverflow)

# Tips

- Practice problems from the book, labs
- Condense your notes to save time
- Think like the professor
  - Take note of tangents to the lecture material
  - Why would he choose one HW problem over another?
  - “Come up with more efficient calling conventions for performing multiple precision arithmetic”
  - “Count the number of transitions from 0 to 1 when counting the bits of an integer from right to left.”
- Bring a calculator

# More Practice

- Bit Manipulation:
  - 2.67, 2.73, 2.75
- Reverse Engineering Assembly:
  - 3.62, 3.63, 3.65, 3.66, 3.58
- Procedures x Data Structures:
  - 3.64