



Smith College

Computer Science

# CSC231 — Assembly

Week #12 — Thanksgiving 2017

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# Summary

## *;;; FUNCTION SIDE*

```
function:    push    ebp        ;save old ebp
             mov     ebp, esp    ;make ebp point
                                     ;to stack frame

             xxx     dword[ebp+8] ;access paramN
             xxx     dword[ebp+12] ;access paramN-1

             pop     ebp        ;restore ebp
             ret     4N         ;return and pop
                                     ;4N bytes from stack
```

## *;;; CALLER SIDE*

```
           push    param1
           push    param2
           ...
           push    paramN
           call    function
```

# Summary (clean function)

**;;; FUNCTION SIDE**

```
function:  push    ebp           ;save old ebp
           mov     ebp, esp       ;make ebp point
                                           ;to stack frame
           push-registers-you-will-use

           xxx     dword[ebp+8] ;access param1
           xxx     dword[ebp+12];access param2

           pop-register-you-used

           pop     ebp           ;restore ebp
           ret     4N            ;return and pop
                                           ;4N bytes from stack
```

**;;; CALLER SIDE**

```
           push   param1
           push   param2
           ...
           push   paramN
           call   function
```

# Useful Instructions for Functions

**pushad**

```
;push EAX, ECX, EDX,  
;EBX, original ESP,  
; EBP, ESI, and EDI.
```

**popad**

```
;pop them back in  
;reverse order
```

# Example 1

```
;;; ; -----  
;;; ; _printString:      prints a string whose address is in  
;;; ;                   ecx, and whose total number of chars  
;;; ;                   is in edx.  
;;; ; Examples:  
;;; ; Assume a string labeled msg, containing "Hello World!",  
;;; ; and a constant MSGLEN equal to 12.  To print this string:  
;;; ;  
;;; ;         mov     ecx, msg  
;;; ;         mov     edx, MSGLEN  
;;; ;         call    _printString  
;;; ;  
;;; ; REGISTERS MODIFIED:  NONE  
;;; ; -----  
  
;;; ;save eax and ebx so that they are not modified by the function  
  
_printString:  
        push     eax  
        push     ebx  
  
        mov     eax, SYS_WRITE  
        mov     ebx, STDOUT  
        int     0x80  
  
        pop     ebx  
        pop     eax  
        ret
```

# Example 2

```
;;; ;-----  
;;; ;-----  
;;; ; getInput: gets a numerical input from the keyboard.  
;;; ; returns the resulting number in eax (32 bits).  
;;; ; recognizes - as the first character of  
;;; ; negative numbers. Does not skip whitespace  
;;; ; at the beginning. Stops on first not decimal  
;;; ; character encountered.  
;;; ;  
;;; ; NO REGISTERS MODIFIED, except eax  
;;; ;  
;;; ; Example of call:  
;;; ;  
;;; ; call    getInput  
;;; ; mov    dword[x], eax ; put integer in x  
;;; ;  
;;; ;-----  
;;; ;-----  
_getInput:  
        section .bss  
buffer  resb   120  
intg    resd   1  
isneg   resb   1  
  
        section .text  
        pushad                ; save all registers  
  
        mov     esi, buffer    ; esi --> buffer  
        mov     edi, 0         ; edi = counter of chars  
  
.loop1:  
        mov     eax, 03        ; input  
        mov     ebx, 0         ; stdin  
        mov     ecx, esi       ; where to put the next char  
  
        ; cut for the sake of simplicity. Look in 231Lib.asm for more info!
```

# Dot-Labels

```
;;; ;-----  
;;; ;-----  
printLine:      mov     esi, buffer      ; esi --> buffer  
                mov     edi, 0          ; edi = counter of chars  
  
.loop1:        mov     eax, 03           ; input  
                mov     ebx, 0          ; stdin  
                mov     ecx, esi        ; where to put the next char  
                loop    .loop1  
  
.for1:         mov     ...  
  
.for2:         mov     ...  
                . . .  
                ret  
  
;;; ;-----  
;;; ;-----  
printReg:      mov     esi, buffer  
                mov     edi, 0  
  
.for1:         mov     ...  
  
.for2:         mov     ...  
                . . .  
                . . .  
                ret
```

# Dot-Labels

```
;;; ;-----  
;;; ;-----  
printLine:      mov     esi, buffer      ; esi --> buffer  
                mov     edi, 0          ; edi = counter of chars  
  
.loop1:         mov     eax, 03          ; input  
                mov     ebx, 0          ; stdin  
                mov     ecx, esi        ; where to put the next char  
                loop    .loop1  
  
.for1:          mov     ...  
  
.for2:          mov     ...  
                . . .  
                ret  
  
;;; ;-----  
;;; ;-----  
printReg:       mov     esi, buffer  
                mov     edi, 0  
  
.for1:          mov     ...  
  
.for2:          mov     ...  
                . . .  
                . . .  
                ret
```

**printLine.for2:**

**printReg.for2:**



# Exercise



- Write a function that copies an array of N bytes into another array of N bytes. The function receives three parameters: the *address* of the first array, the *address* of the second array, and the *number* of bytes.

```
void copyArrays( table1, table2, N );
```

- Passing through **registers** ✓
- Passing through the **stack** ✓
  - Passing by **Value** ✓
  - Passing by **Reference**

## Rule for Writing Functions:

*Pushing* and *popping* operations into/from the stack must always cancel each other out!

$( a + 3 ( b^2 + ( c+1 )^{(d-1)} ) )$



Same as with parentheses

# An Example

```
# example.py
from __future__ import print_function
```

```
def incrementAll( array ):
    for i in range( len( array ) ):
        array[ i ] += 1
```

```
Table = [1, 2, 3, 4]
print( str( Table ) )
```

```
incrementAll( Table )
```

```
print( str( Table ) )
```

```
Table          section .data
               dd          1,2,3,4

               section .text
incrementAll:
               push       ebp
               mov        ebp, esp
               push       ebx
               push       ecx
               mov        ecx, 4
               mov        ebx, dword[ebp+8]
               .for:
               inc        dword[ebx]
               add        ebx, 4
               loop       .for
               pop        ecx
               pop        ebx
               pop        ebp
               ret        4

_Start:
               mov        eax, Table
               push       eax
               call       incrementAll
```

# An Example

```
# example.py
from __future__ import print_function
```

```
def incrementAll( array ):
    for i in range( len( array ) ):
        array[ i ] += 1
```

```
Table = [1, 2, 3, 4]
print( str( Table ) )
```

```
incrementAll( Table )
```

```
print( str( Table ) )
```

```
Table          section .data
               dd          1,2,3,4

               section .text
incrementAll:
               push       ebp
               mov        ebp, esp
               push       ebx
               push       ecx
               mov        ecx, 4
               mov        ebx, dword[ebp+8]
               .for:
               inc        dword[ebx]
               add        ebx, 4
               loop       .for
               pop        ecx
               pop        ebx
               pop        ebp
               ret        4

_Start:
               mov        eax, Table
               push       eax
               call       incrementAll
```

# An Example

```
# example.py
from __future__ import print_function
```

```
def incrementAll( array ):
    for i in range( len( array ) ):
        array[ i ] += 1
```

```
Table = [1, 2, 3, 4]
print( str( Table ) )
```

```
incrementAll( Table )
```

```
print( str( Table ) )
```

```
Table          section .data
               dd      1,2,3,4

               section .text
incrementAll:
               push    ebp
               mov     ebp, esp
               push    ebx
               push    ecx
               mov     ecx, 4
               mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
               .for:
               inc     dword[ebx]
               add     ebx, 4
               loop   .for
               pop     ecx
               pop     ebx
               pop     ebp
               ret     4

_Start:
               mov     eax, Table
               push   eax
               call   incrementAll
```

# An Example

```
# example.py
from __future__ import print_function
```

```
def incrementAll( array ):
    for i in range( len( array ) ):
        array[ i ] += 1
```

```
Table = [1, 2, 3, 4]
print( str( Table ) )
```

```
incrementAll( Table )
```

```
print( str( Table ) )
```

```
Table          section .data
               dd      1,2,3,4

               section .text
incrementAll:
               push    ebp
               mov     ebp, esp
               push    ebx
               push    ecx
               mov     ecx, 4
               mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
               inc     dword[ebx]
               add     ebx, 4
               loop   .for
               pop     ecx
               pop     ebx
               pop     ebp
               ret     4

               .for:

               _Start:
               mov     eax, Table
               push   eax
               call   incrementAll
```

# Single-Step Execution



# Passing Parameters by **Reference**: an Example

**eax**

??

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

```

section .data
Table dd 1,2,3,4

section .text
incrementAll:
    push    ebp
    mov     ebp, esp
    push    ebx
    push    ecx
    mov     ecx, 4
    mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:
    inc    dword[ebx]
    add    ebx, 4
    loop   .for
    pop    ecx
    pop    ebx
    pop    ebp
    ret    4

```

*Start:*

```

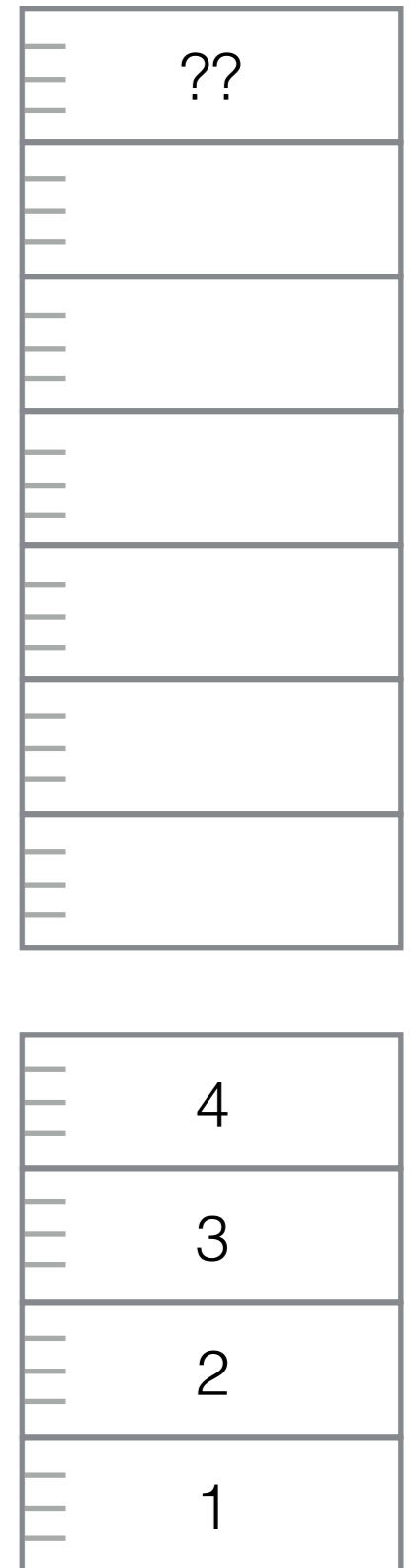
mov     eax, Table
push    eax
call    incrementAll
xxx

```

<— **eip**

Memory

**esp** —>



89A0

**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

```

        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

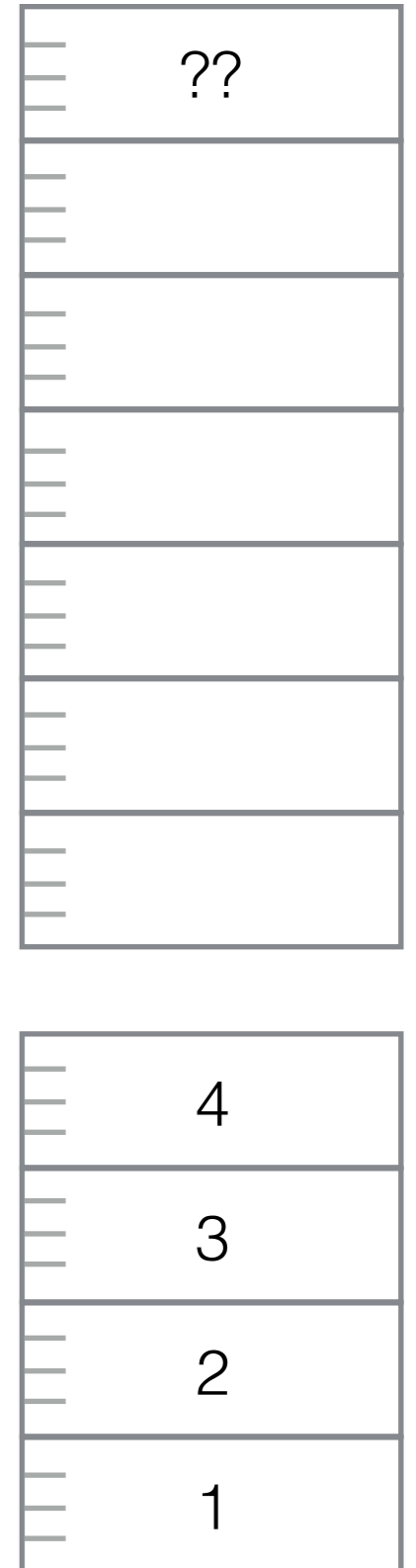
_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

```

<— **eip**

Memory

**esp** —>



89A0

**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

```

        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

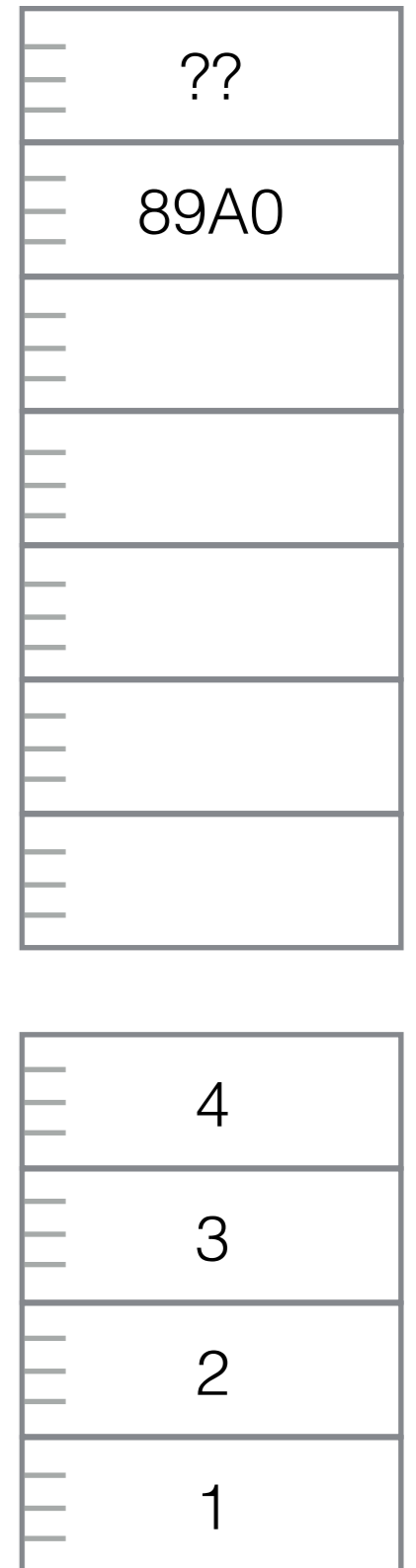
        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll ← eip
        xxx

```

Memory

**esp** →





**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

```

        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

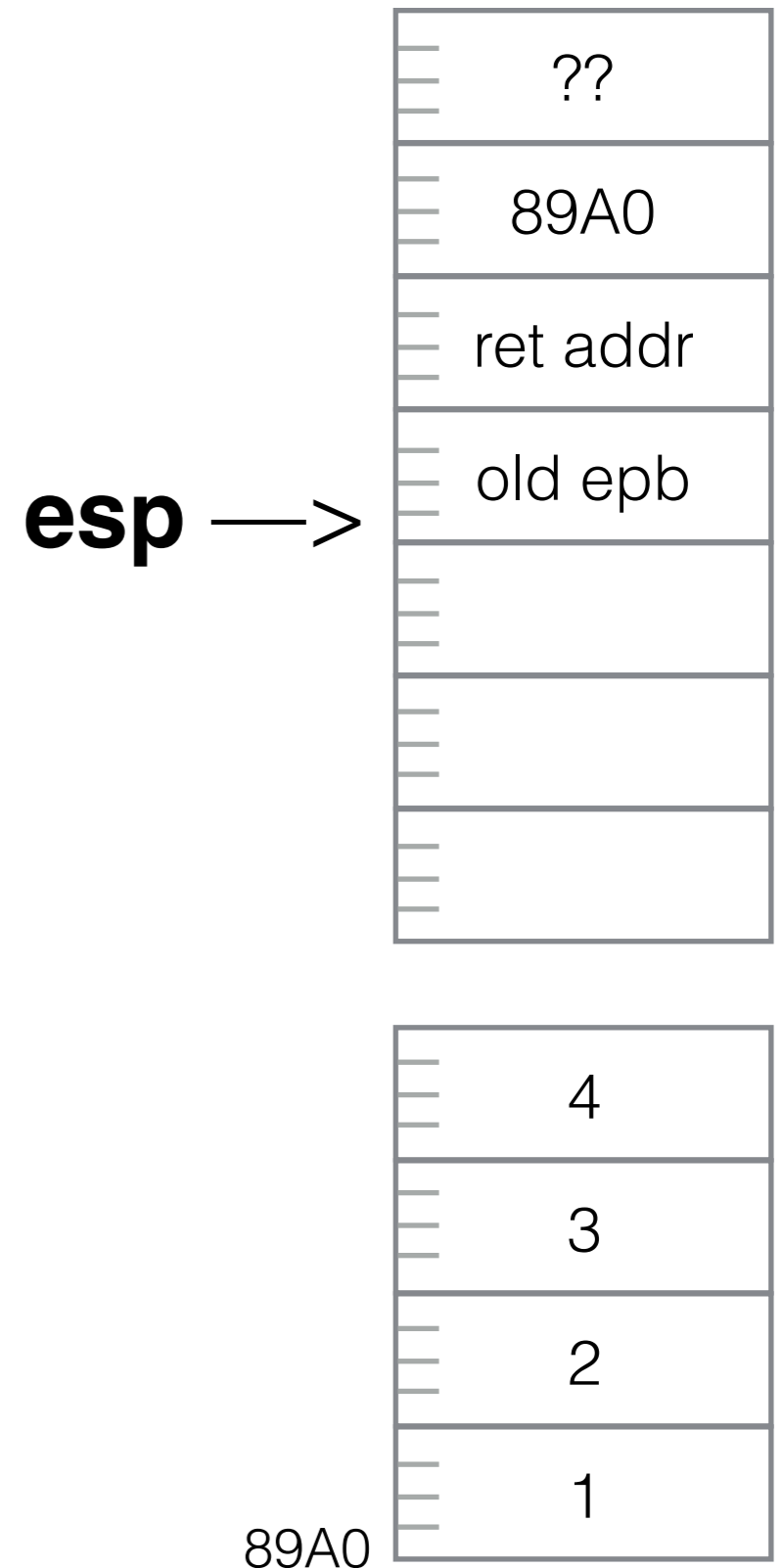
        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

```



# Memory



**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

```

        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

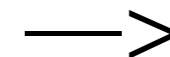
        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

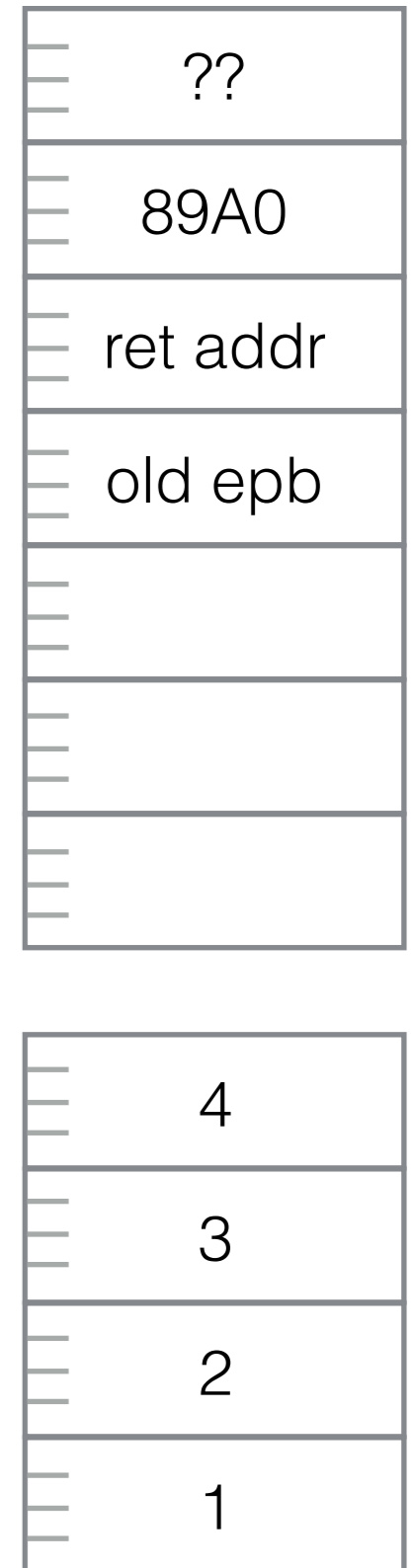
```



**esp**  
**ebp**



Memory



89A0

**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

```

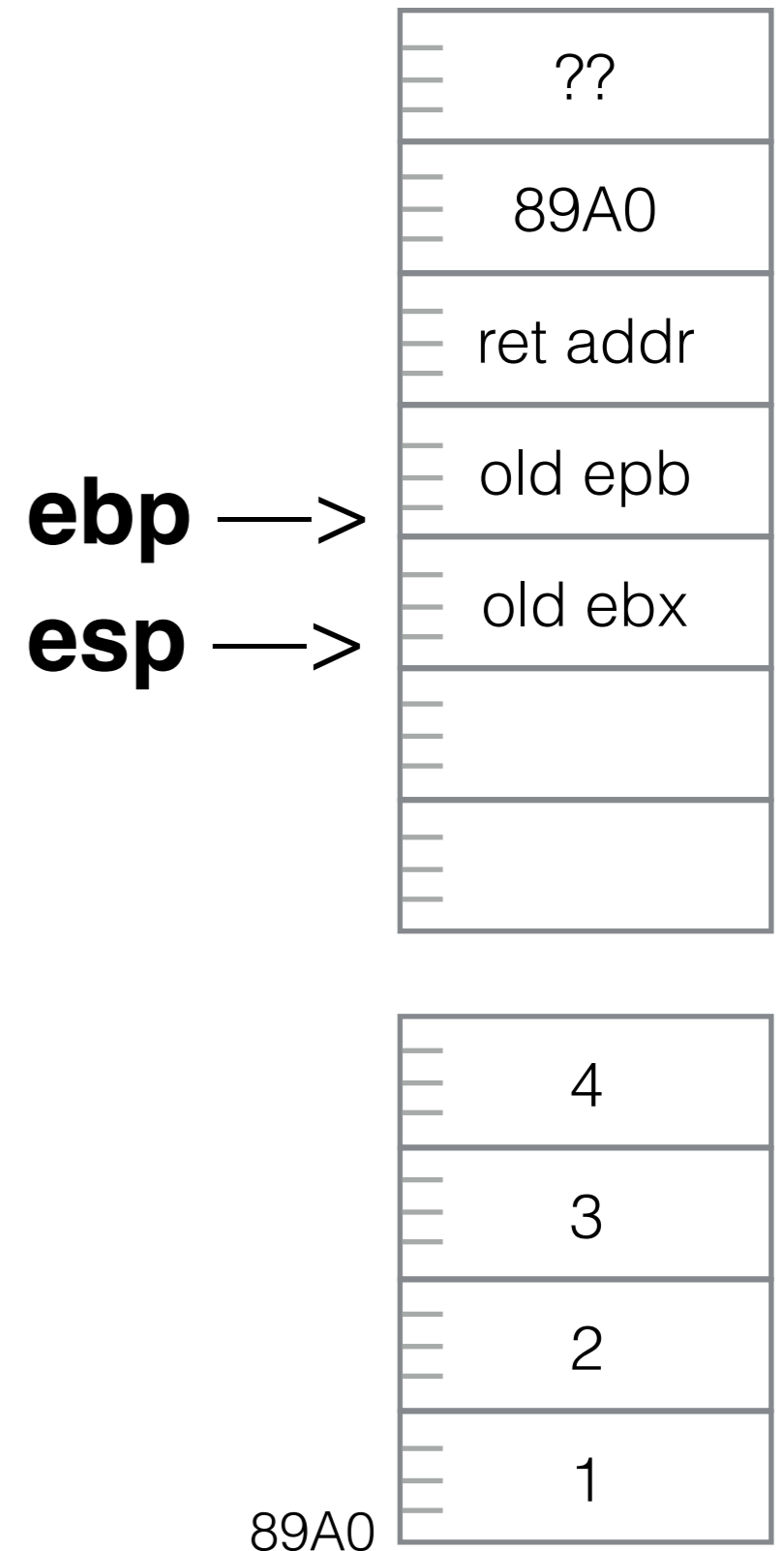
        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx ← eip
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

```

Memory





**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

```

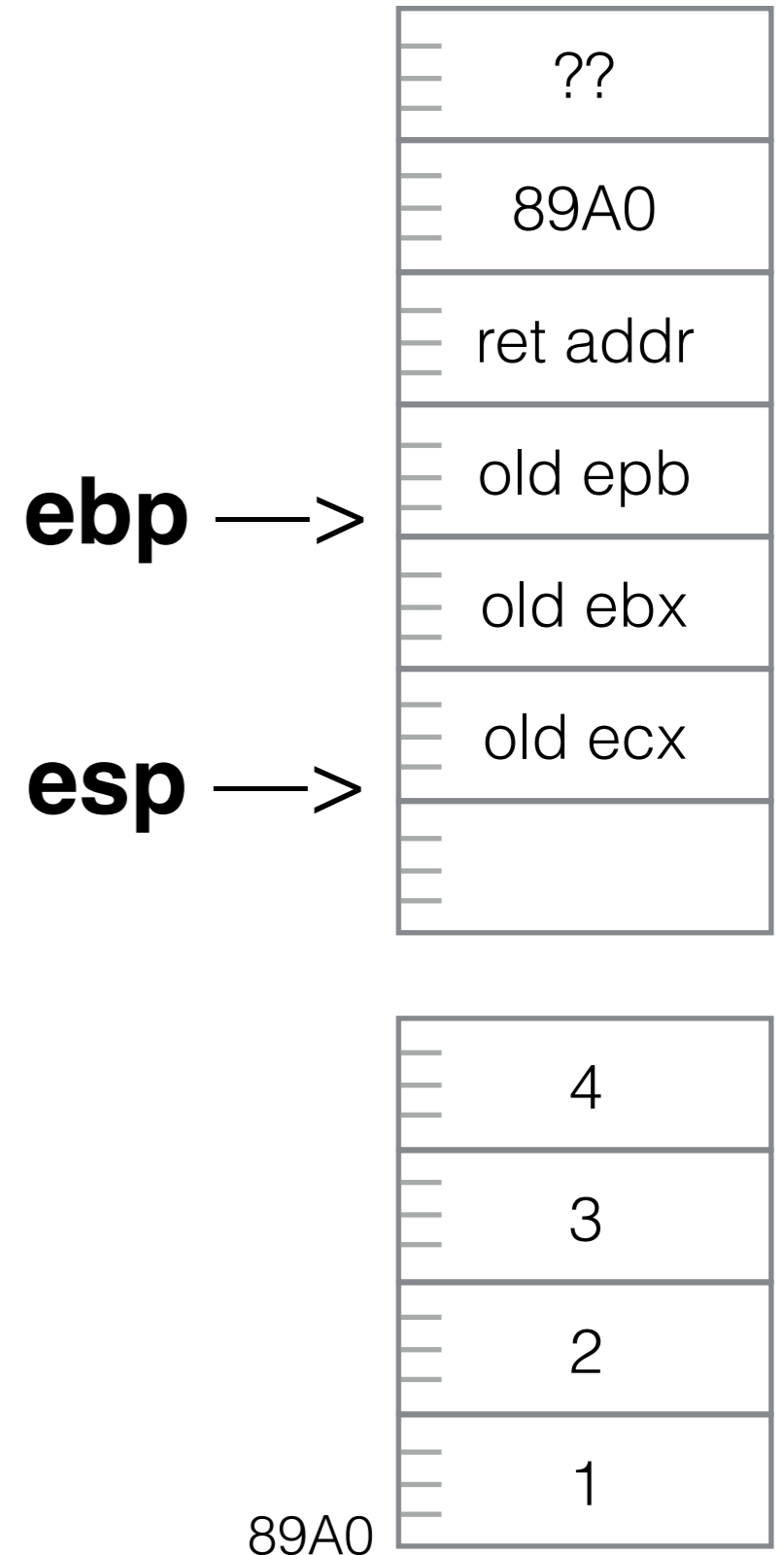
        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

```

Memory



**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

4

```

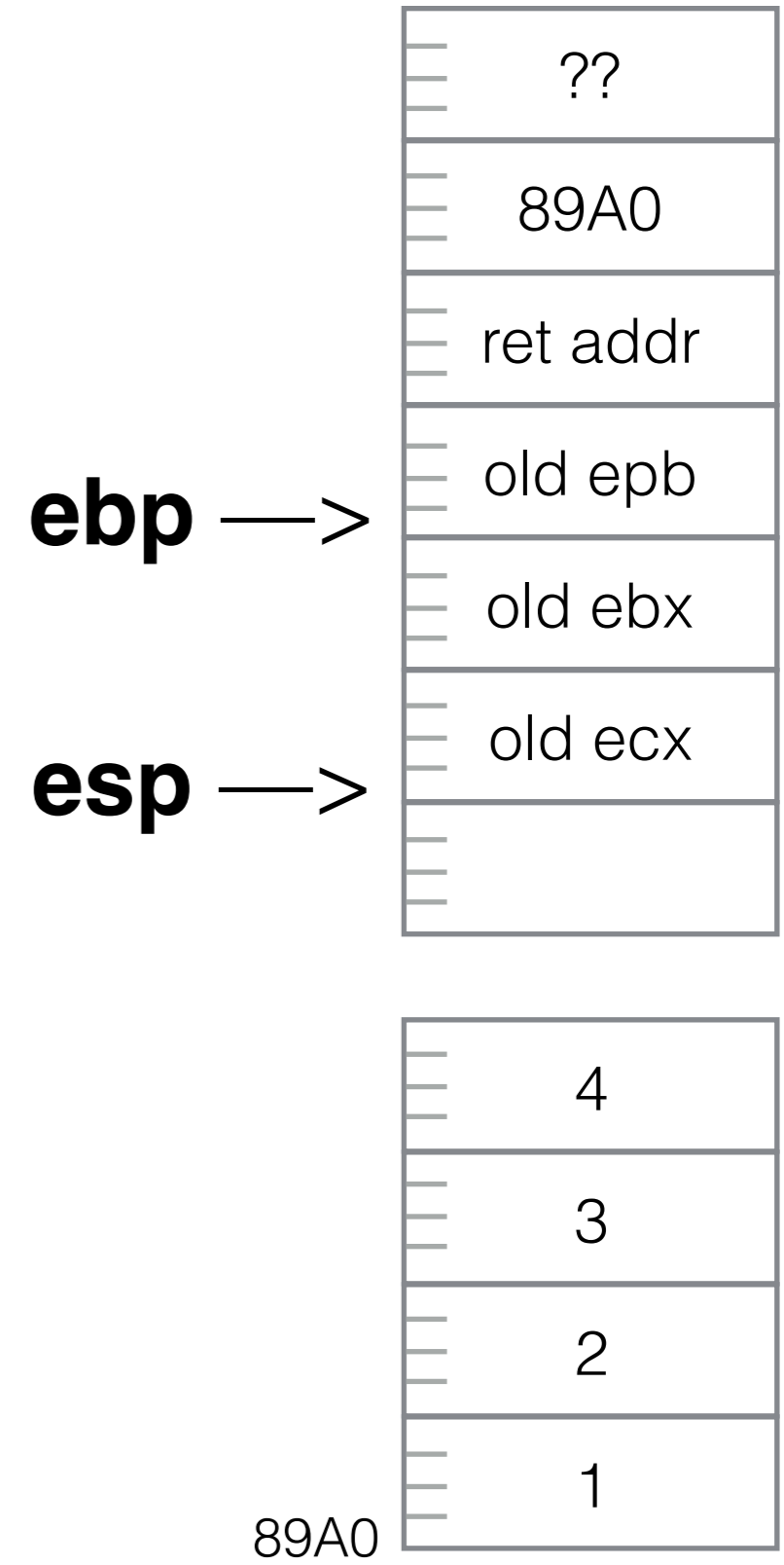
    section .data
Table dd 1,2,3,4

    section .text
incrementAll:
    push    ebp
    mov     ebp, esp
    push    ebx
    push    ecx
    mov     ecx, 4
    mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:
    inc     dword[ebx]
    add     ebx, 4
    loop   .for
    pop     ecx
    pop     ebx
    pop     ebp
    ret     4

_Start:
    mov     eax, Table
    push    eax
    call    incrementAll
    xxx

```

# Memory



**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

89A0

**ecx**

4

Memory

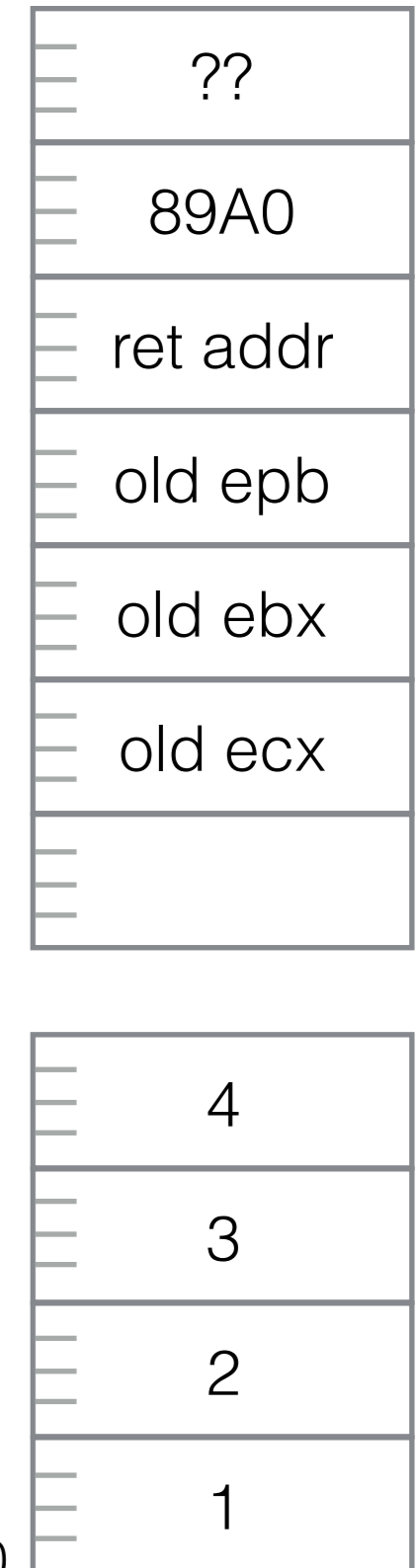
```

        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

```



**ebp** —>

**esp** —>

<— **eip**

**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

89A0

**ecx**

4

Memory

```

        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

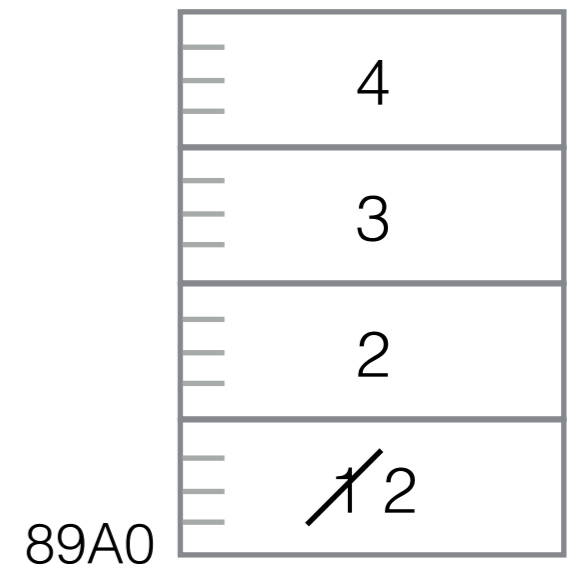
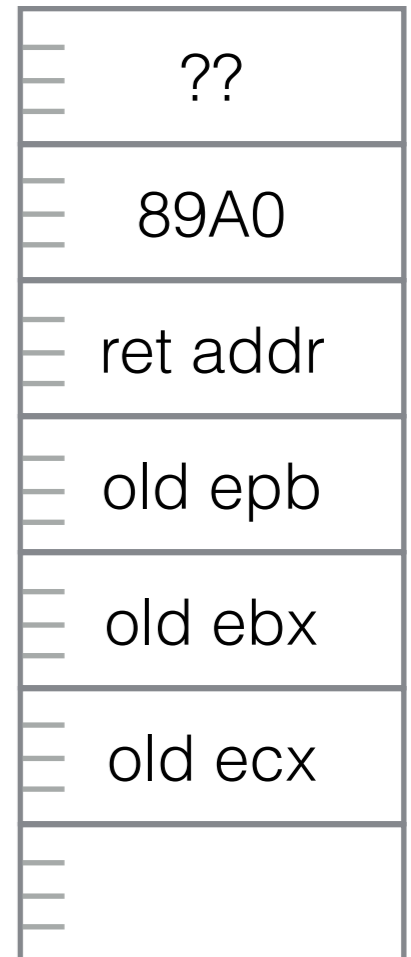
        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

```

**ebp** —>

**esp** —>



**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

89A4

**ecx**

4

# Memory

```

        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

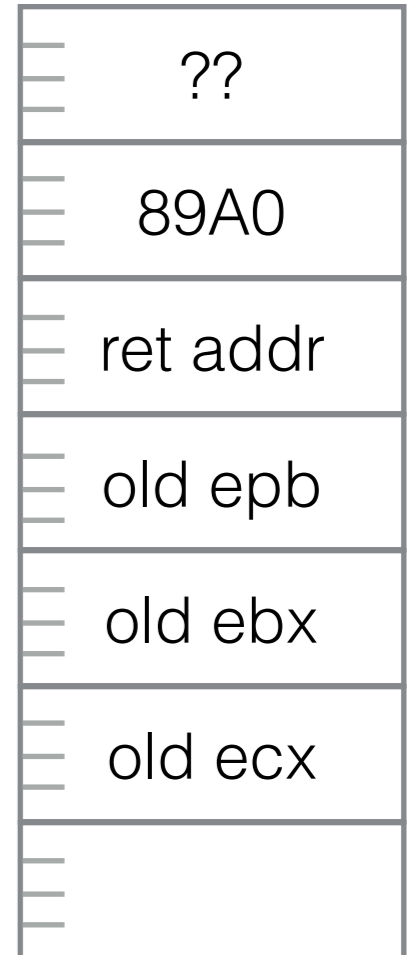
        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

```

**ebp** —>

**esp** —>



89A0

**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

89A4

**ecx**

~~4~~3

Memory

```

section .data
Table dd 1,2,3,4

section .text
incrementAll:
    push    ebp
    mov     ebp, esp
    push    ebx
    push    ecx
    mov     ecx, 4
    mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
    .for:  inc    dword[ebx]
           add    ebx, 4
    loop   .for
    pop     ecx
    pop     ebx
    pop     ebp
    ret     4

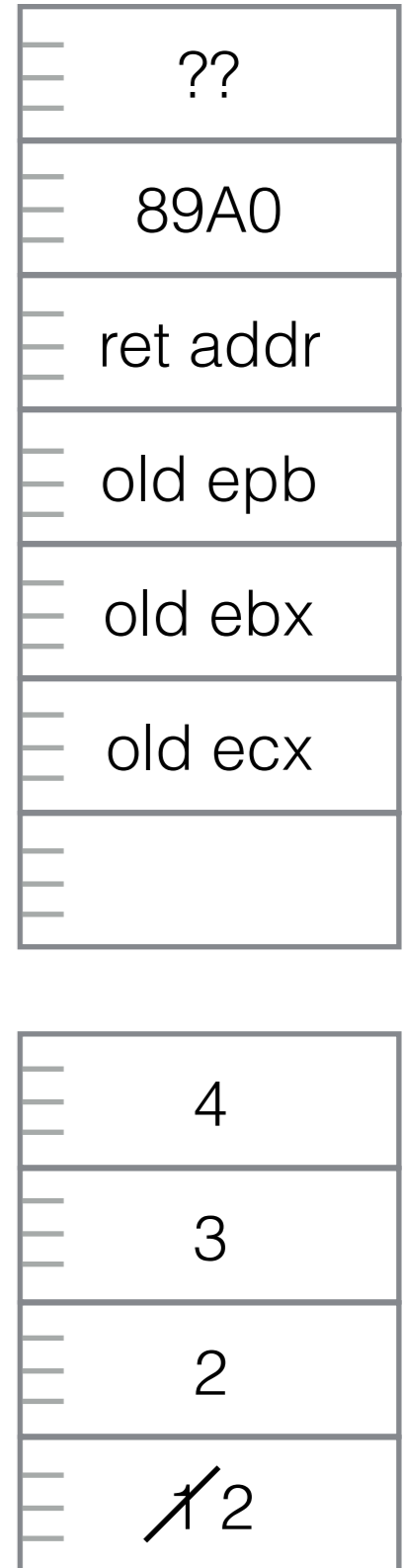
_Start:
    mov     eax, Table
    push    eax
    call    incrementAll
    xxx

```

**ebp** —>

**esp** —>

<— **eip**



89A0

**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

89A4

**ecx**

~~4~~3

Memory

```

    section .data
Table dd 1,2,3,4

    section .text
incrementAll:
    push    ebp
    mov     ebp, esp
    push    ebx
    push    ecx
    mov     ecx, 4
    mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
    loop   .for
    pop     ecx
    pop     ebx
    pop     ebp
    ret     4

_Start:
    mov     eax, Table
    push    eax
    call    incrementAll
    xxx

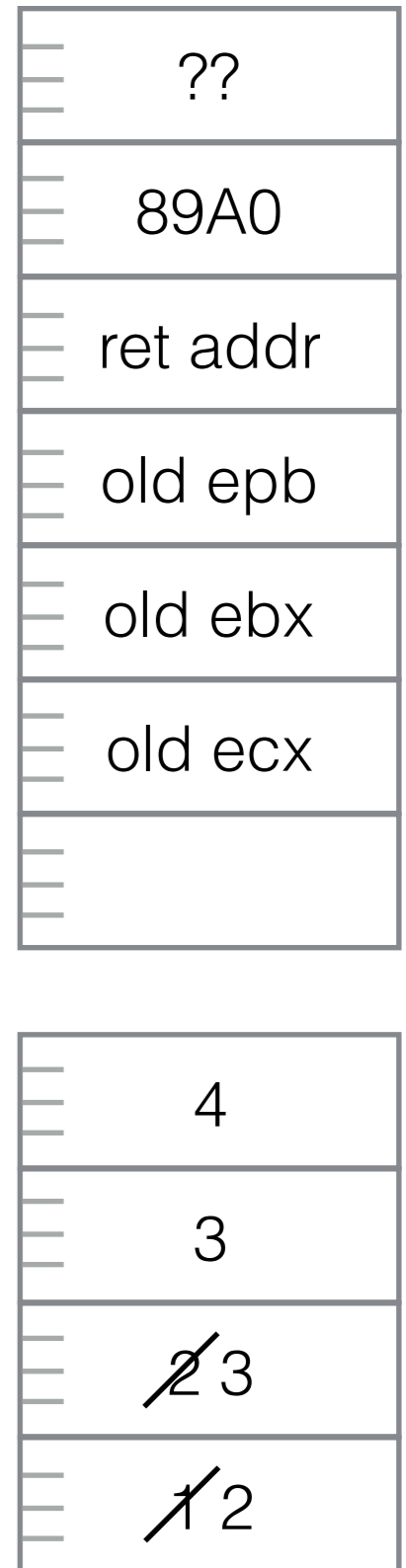
```

**add ebx, 4**

<— **eip**

**ebp** —>

**esp** —>



89A0

**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

89A8

**ecx**

~~4~~3

Memory

```

    section .data
Table dd 1,2,3,4

    section .text
incrementAll:
    push    ebp
    mov     ebp, esp
    push    ebx
    push    ecx
    mov     ecx, 4
    mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:
    inc     dword[ebx]
    add     ebx, 4
    loop   .for
    pop     ecx
    pop     ebx
    pop     ebp
    ret     4

_Start:
    mov     eax, Table
    push    eax
    call    incrementAll
    xxx

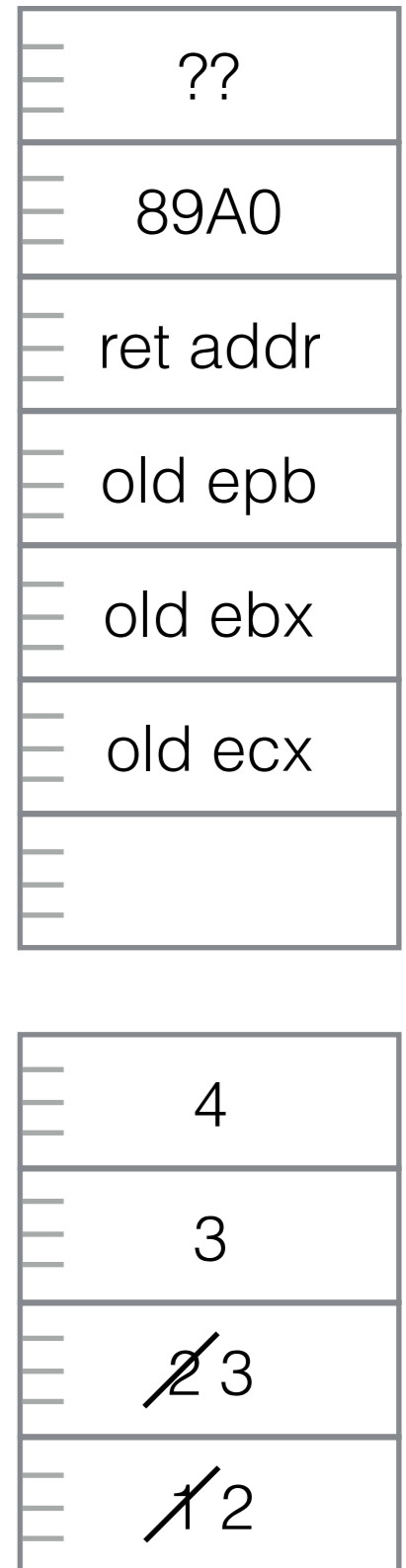
```

loop .for

<— eip

**ebp** —>

**esp** —>



89A0



**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

89B2

**ecx**

~~4~~/~~3~~/~~2~~/~~1~~/0

Memory

```

    section .data
Table dd 1,2,3,4

    section .text
incrementAll:
    push    ebp
    mov     ebp, esp
    push    ebx
    push    ecx
    mov     ecx, 4
    mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:
    inc     dword[ebx]
    add     ebx, 4
    loop   .for
    pop     ecx
    pop     ebx
    pop     ebp
    ret     4

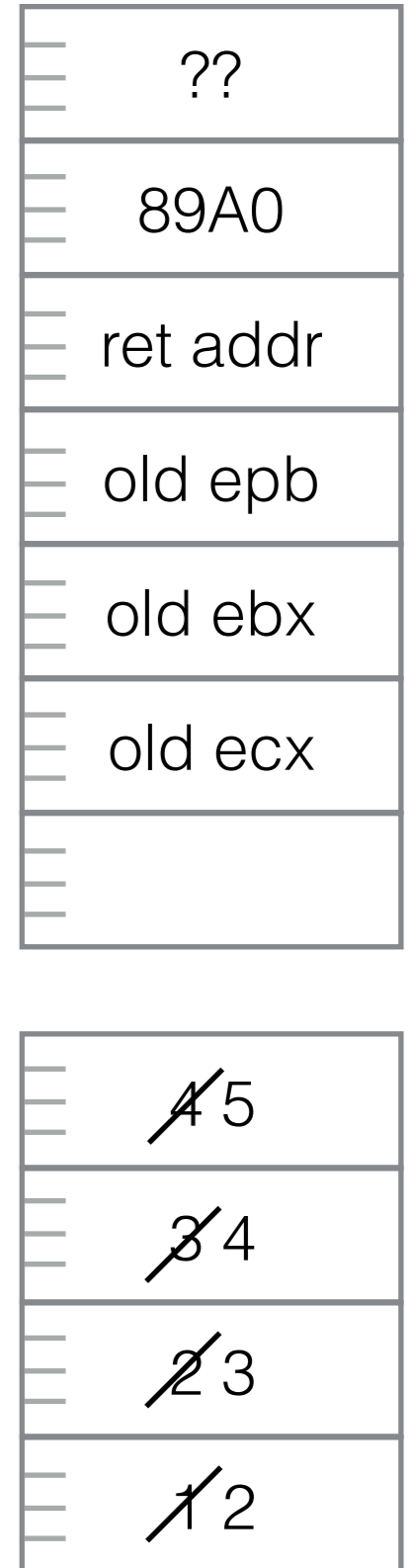
_Start:
    mov     eax, Table
    push    eax
    call    incrementAll
    xxx

```



**ebp** —>

**esp** —>



**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

89B2

**ecx**

??

# Memory

```

section .data
Table dd 1,2,3,4

section .text
incrementAll:
    push    ebp
    mov     ebp, esp
    push    ebx
    push    ecx
    mov     ecx, 4
    mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
    .for:
    inc     dword[ebx]
    add     ebx, 4
    loop   .for
    pop     ecx
    pop     ebx
    pop     ebp
    ret     4

_Start:
    mov     eax, Table
    push    eax
    call    incrementAll
    xxx

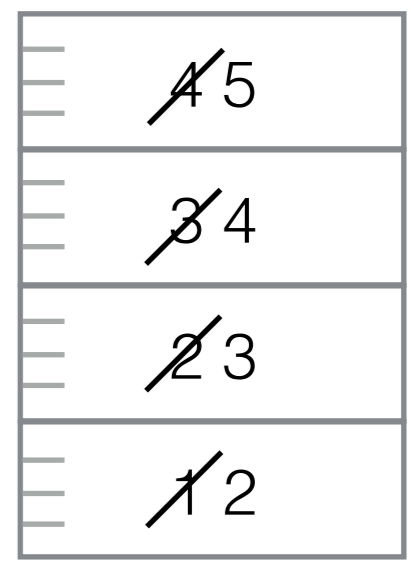
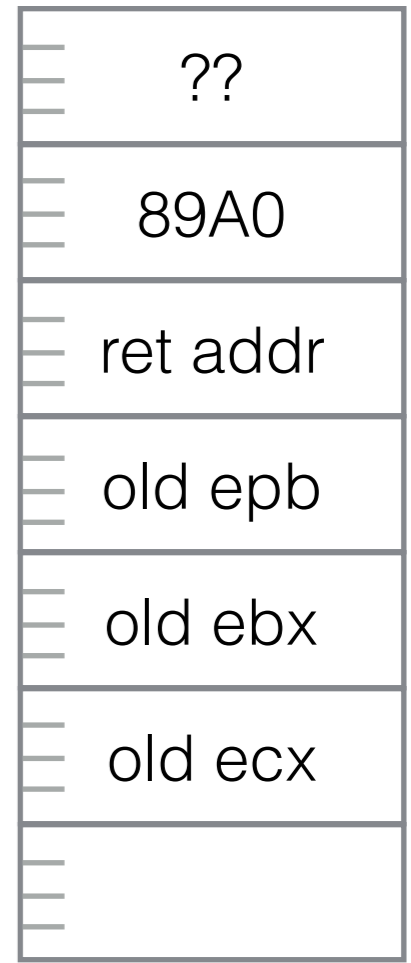
```



<— **eip**

**ebp** —>

**esp** —>



89A0

**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

Memory

```

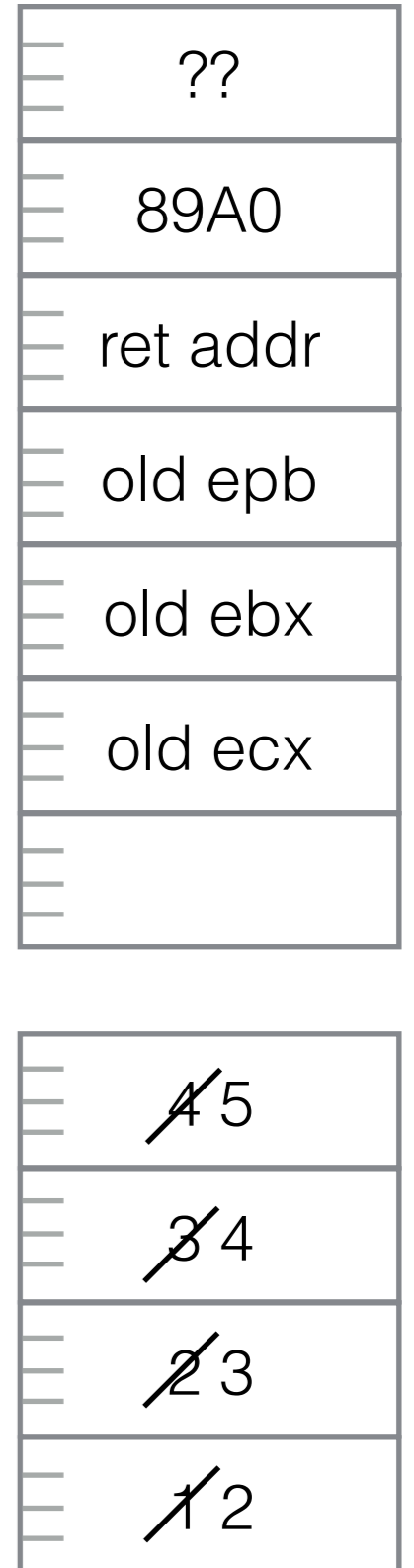
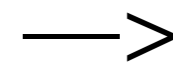
        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

```

**esp**  
**ebp**



89A0

**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

Memory

```

        section .data
Table   dd      1,2,3,4

        section .text
incrementAll:
        push    ebp
        mov     ebp, esp
        push    ebx
        push    ecx
        mov     ecx, 4
        mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:   inc     dword[ebx]
        add     ebx, 4
        loop   .for
        pop     ecx
        pop     ebx
        pop     ebp
        ret     4

```

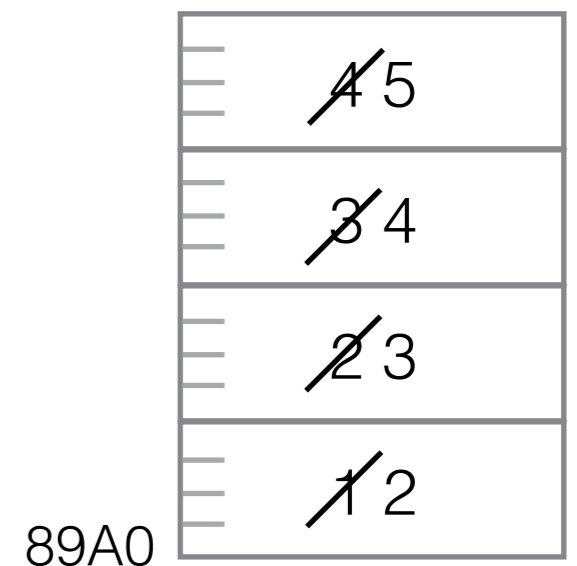
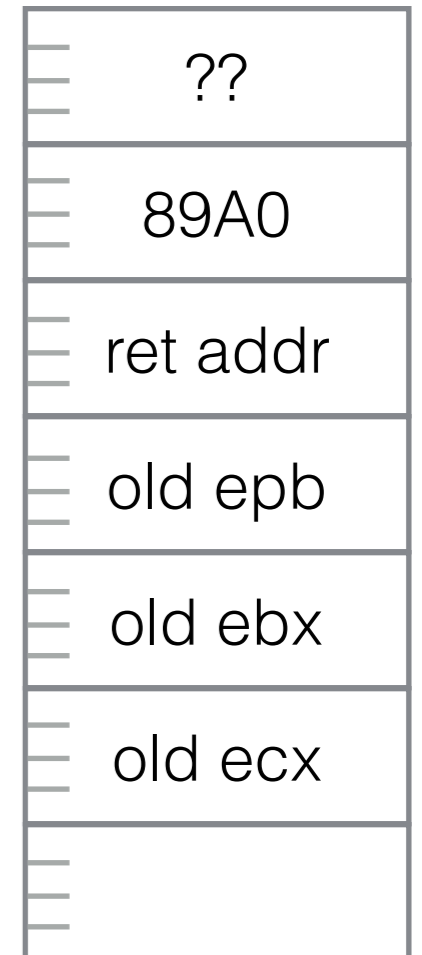
**← eip**

```

_Start:
        mov     eax, Table
        push   eax
        call   incrementAll
        xxx

```

**esp** →



**eax**

89A0

**ebx**

??

**ecx**

??

Memory

```

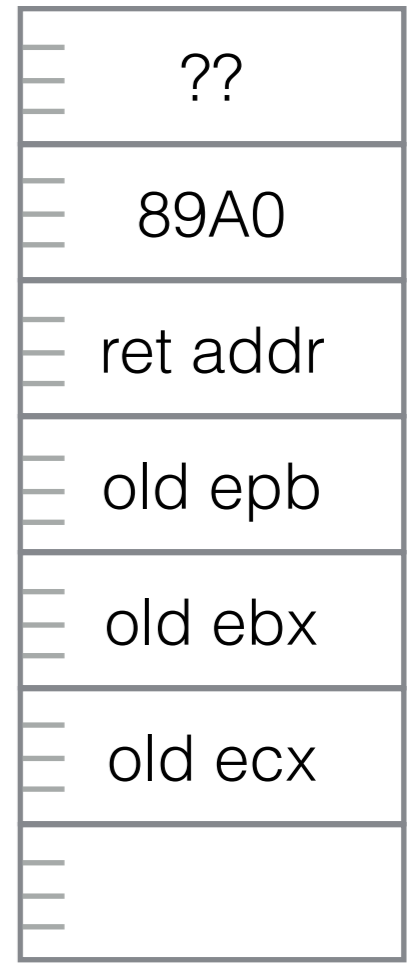
    section .data
Table dd 1,2,3,4

    section .text
incrementAll:
    push    ebp
    mov     ebp, esp
    push    ebx
    push    ecx
    mov     ecx, 4
    mov     ebx, dword[ebp+8]
.for:
    inc     dword[ebx]
    add     ebx, 4
    loop   .for
    pop     ecx
    pop     ebx
    pop     ebp
    ret     4

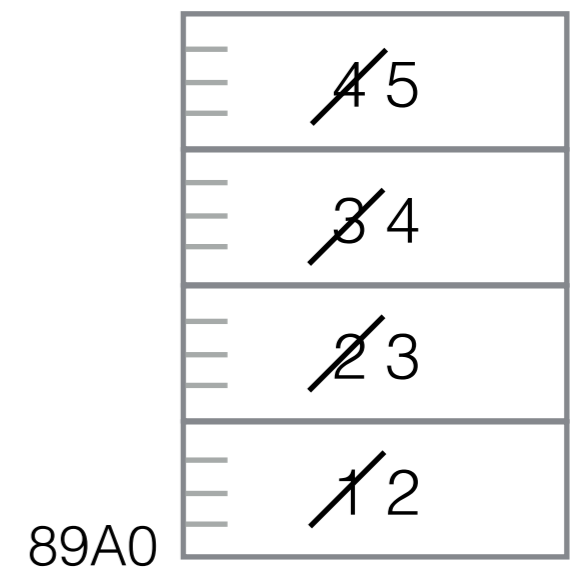
_Start:
    mov     eax, Table
    push    eax
    call    incrementAll
    xxx

```

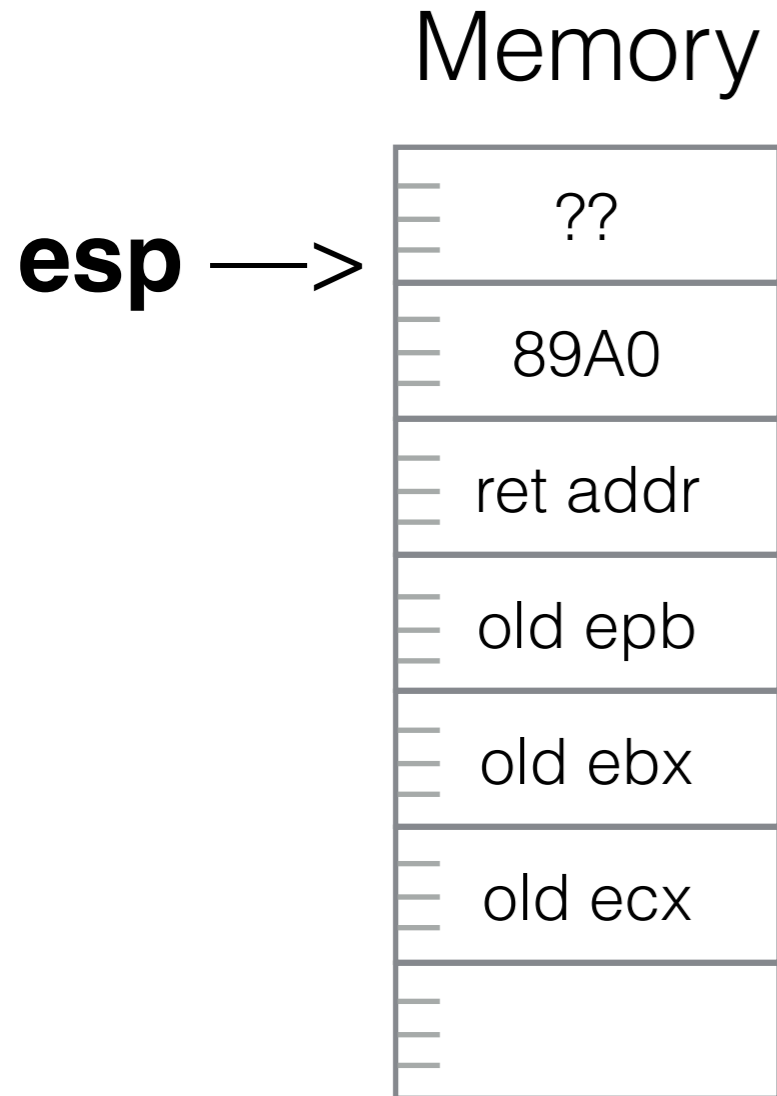
**esp** →



← **eip**

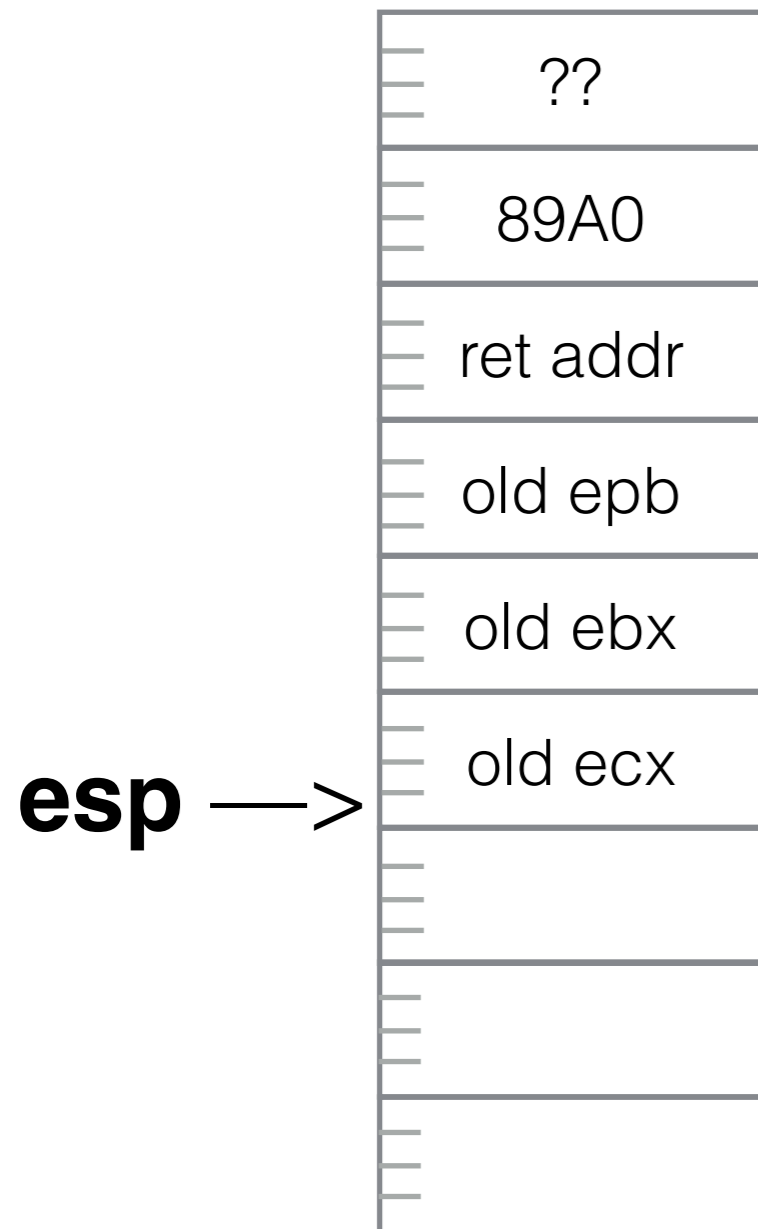


- Passing through **registers** ✓
- Passing through the **stack** ✓
  - Passing by **Value** ✓
  - Passing by **Reference** ✓



***Question 1: What happens to the data "below" esp? Can it be used?***

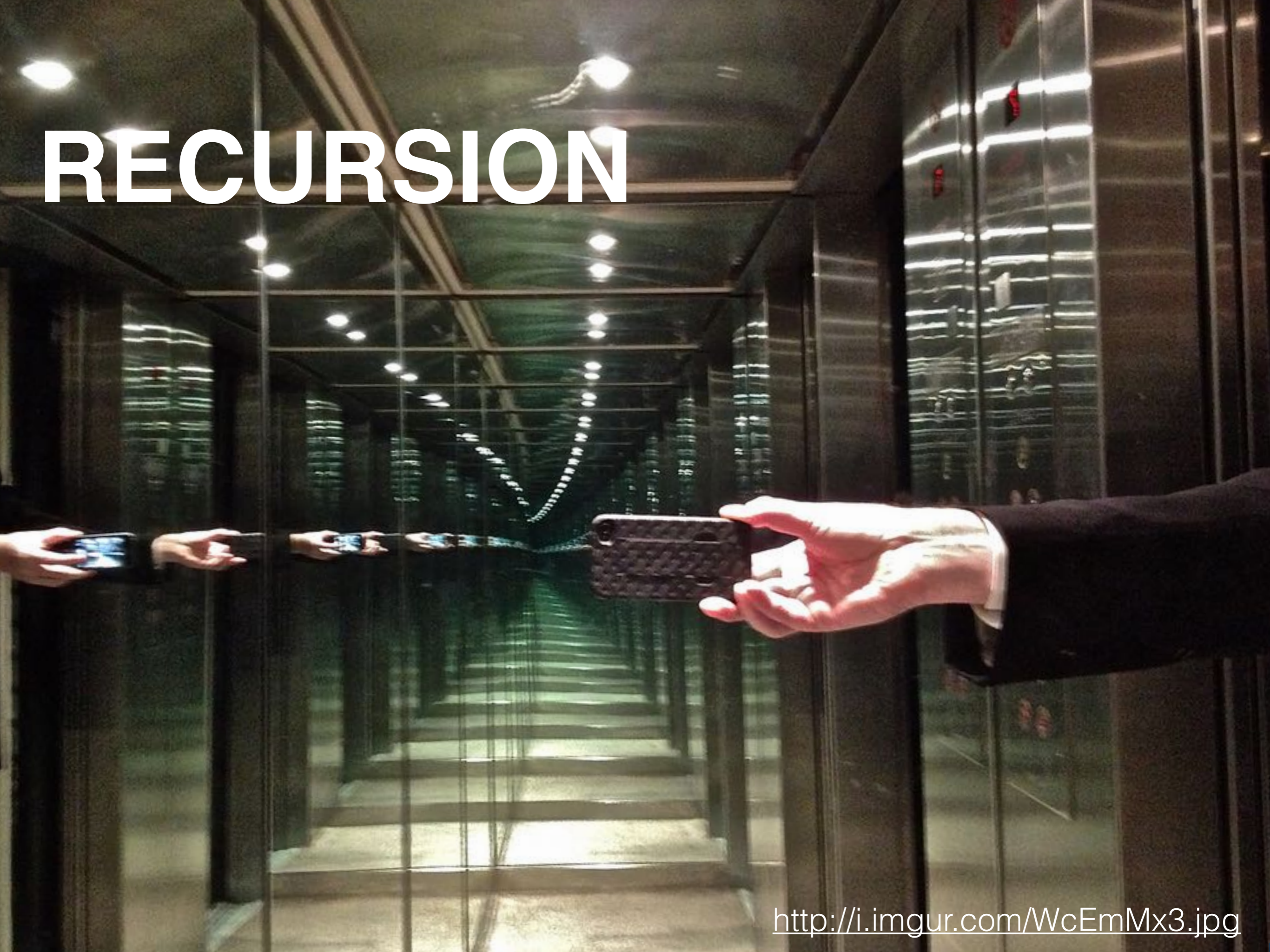
Memory



***Question 2: What about local variables?***



# RECURSION



```

Python 3.5.0b1 (v3.5.0b1:071fefbb5e3d, May 23 2015, 18:22:54)
[GCC 4.2.1 (Apple Inc. build 5666) (dot 3)] on darwin
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more information.

>>> def fact( n ):
    if n <= 1:
        return 1
    return n * fact( n - 1 )

>>> fact( 3 )
6
>>> fact( 5 )
120
>>> fact( 20 )
2432902008176640000
>>> fact( 100 )
9332621544394415268169923885626670049071596826438162146859296389521
7599993229915608941463976156518286253697920827223758251185210916864
00000000000000000000000000000000
>>>

```

$$n! = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \leq 1 \\ n * (n-1)! & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Write the function  
**fact(n)** and call  
it from **main()**,  
*in Assembly*



# Compare to Non-Recursive Version

```
;;; -----  
;;; fact:      computes the factorial of n passed in eax  
;;;           and returns result in eax  
;;; -----  
fact:  push    ebp           ; create stack frame  
       mov     ebp, esp     ; point to it  
  
       push   edx           ; save what we use  
       push   ecx  
       push   edx  
  
       mov     ecx, eax     ; loop N times  
       mov     eax, 1       ; product = 1  
.for:  mul     ecx           ; product *= ecx--  
       loop   .for  
  
       pop    edx           ; restore what we used  
       pop    ecx  
       pop    edx  
  
       pop    ebp           ; return  
       ret
```

# Question 1

- Compare the execution time of the recursive version of ***factorial()*** to its non-recursive version.

# Question 2

- If the maximum stack size given to a program is 8 GBytes, how many terms could **fact()** compute, at most, if we didn't care about multiplication overflow?

*Note: We can get the default stack size linux uses with*

```
ulimit -s
```