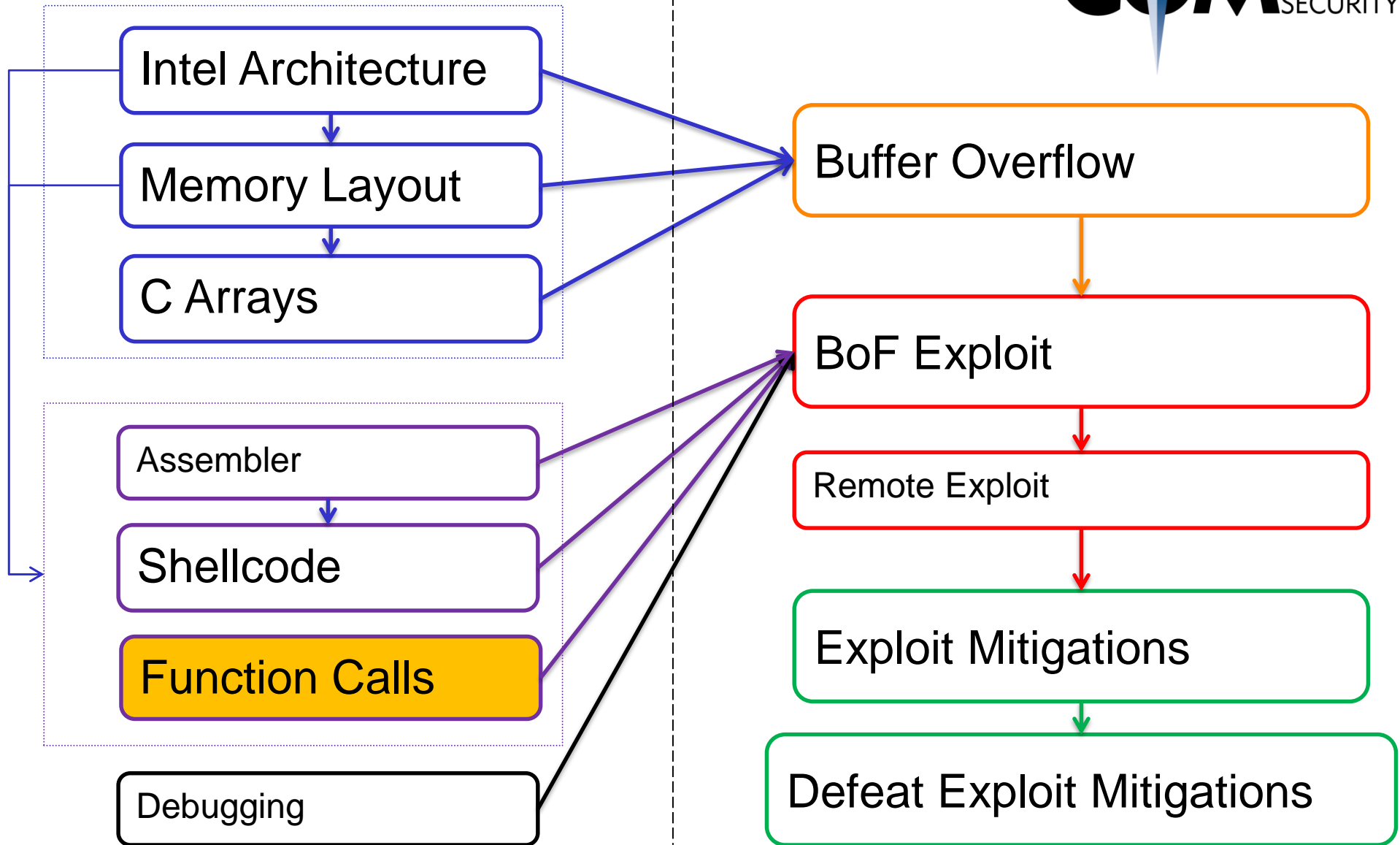


Function Call Convention

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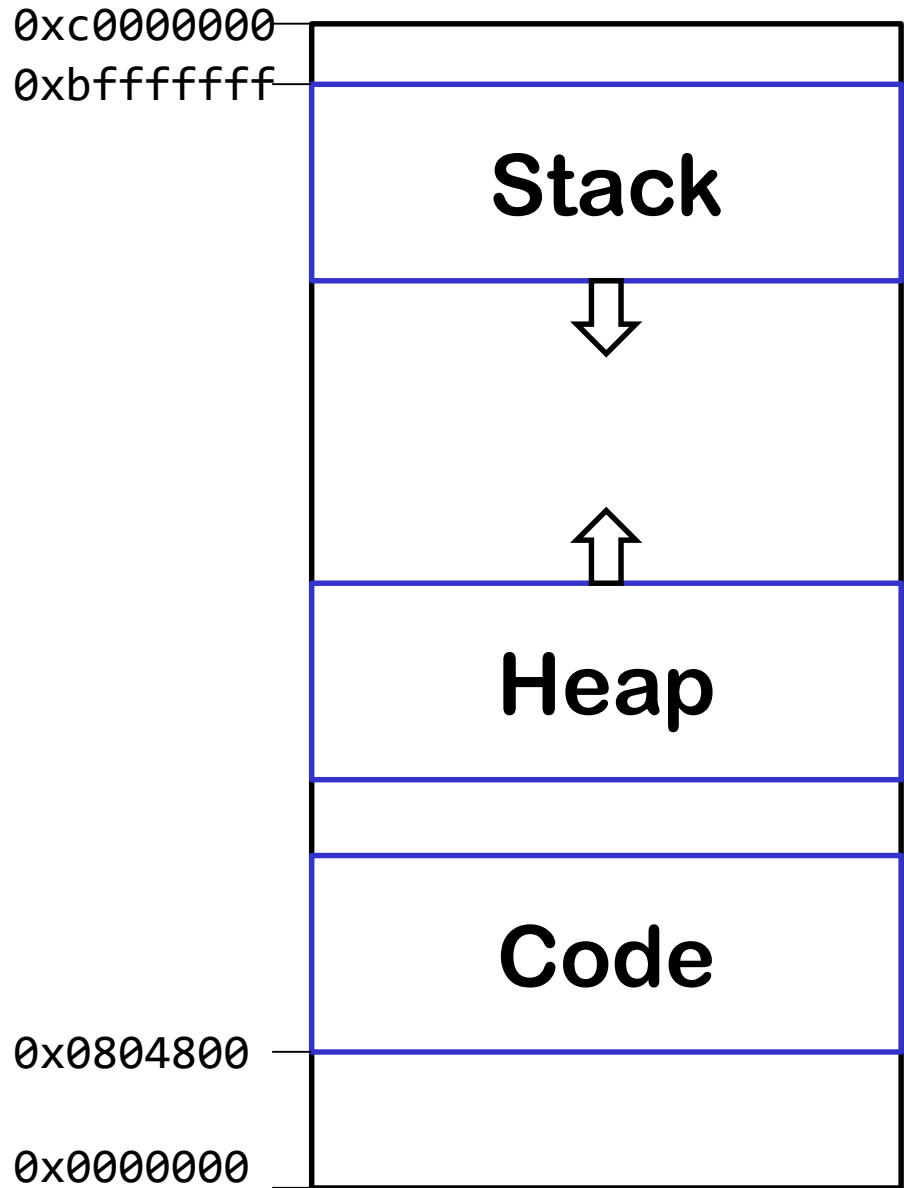
Function call convention:

- ✦ How functions work
- ✦ Program-metadata on the stack

Stack based buffer overflow:

- ✦ Overwrite program-metadata on the stack

x32 Memory Layout



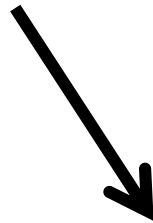
Stacks

How do they work?

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push



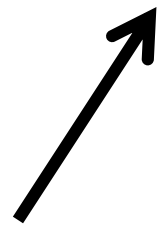
pop



0x10000



0x00010



push



pop

```
push 0x1
```

```
push 0x2
```

```
push 0x3
```

```
pop
```

```
push 0x4
```


push 0x1



push 0x2

push 0x3

pop

push 0x4

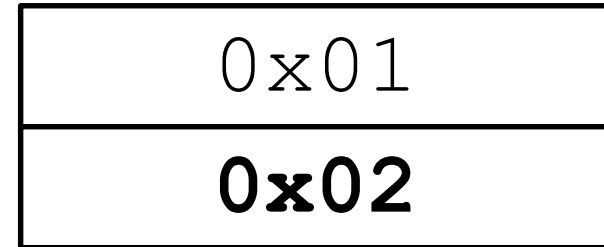
push 0x1

push 0x2

push 0x3

pop

push 0x4



push 0x1

push 0x2

push 0x3

pop

push 0x4

0x01
0x02
0x03

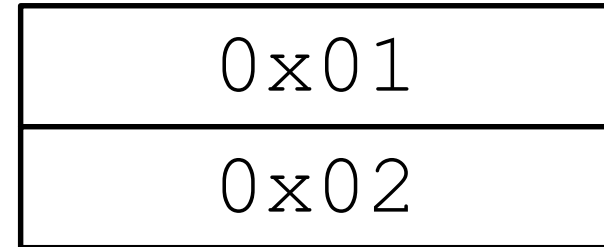
push 0x1

push 0x2

push 0x3

pop

push 0x4



push 0x1

push 0x2

push 0x3

pop

push 0x4

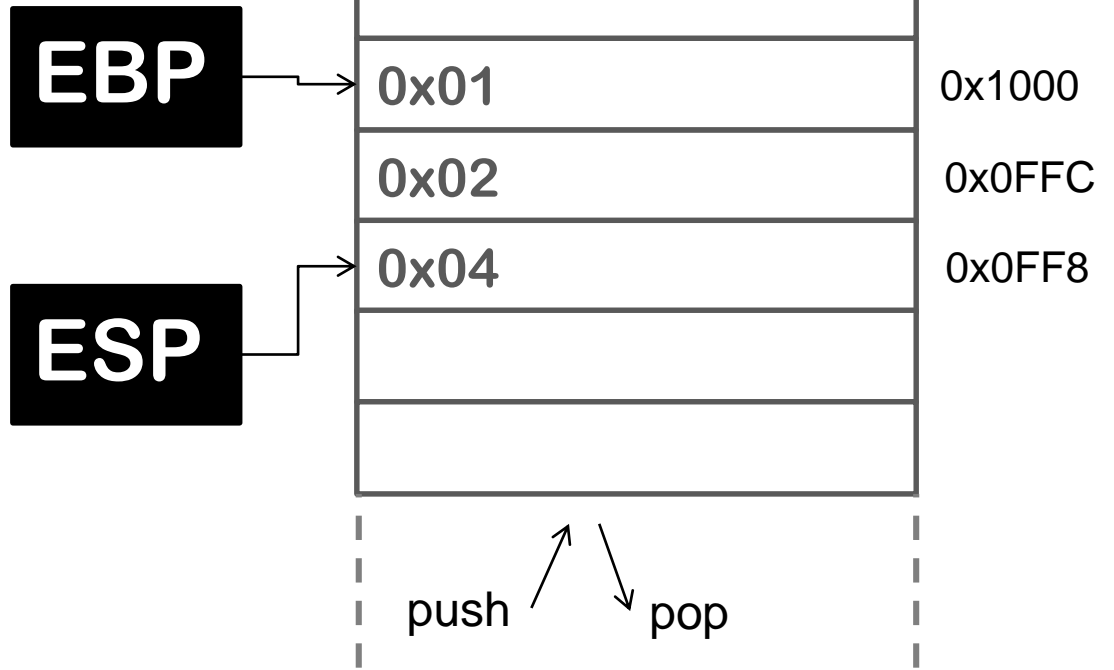
0x01
0x02
0x04

Stack on intel

Intel stack registers:

- ✦ **ESP: Stack Pointer**
- ✦ **EBP: (Stack-) Base Pointer**

EBP = 0x1000
ESP = 0x0FF8



Stack is using process memory as basis

CPU instruction support (because stack is so useful)

Note:

- ✦ CPU instructions like push/pop are just for ease of use
- ✦ The “stack values” can be accessed (read, write) like every other memory address
- ✦ You can point the stack (ebp, esp) to wherever in the memory you want
- ✦ There’s usually just ONE stack per process (thread)

x32 Call Convention

Functions and the Stack

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What is a function?

- ★ Self contained subroutine
- ★ Re-usable
- ★ Can be called from anywhere
- ★ After function is finished: Jump to the calling function (callee)

```
void main(void) {  
    int blubb = 0;  
    foobar(blubb);  
    return;  
}
```

```
void foobar (int arg1) {  
    char compass1[];  
    char compass2[];  
}
```

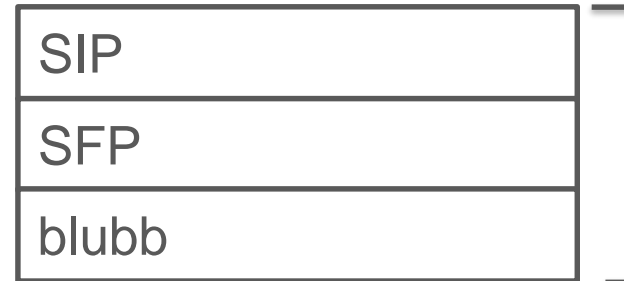
What does the function foobar() need?

- ◆ Function Argument:
 - ◆ blubb
- ◆ Local variables
 - ◆ Compass1
 - ◆ Compass2
- ◆ And: Address of next instruction in main()
 - ◆ &return

x32 Call Convention



Saved IP (&__libc_start)
Saved Frame Pointer
Local Variables <main>



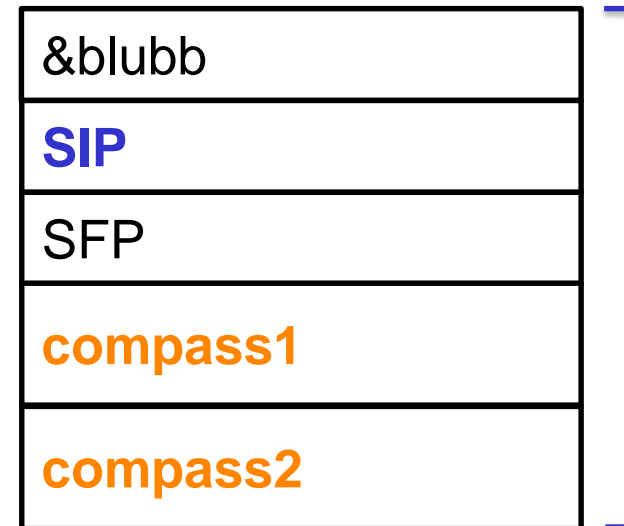
Stack Frame
<main>

Argument for <foobar>

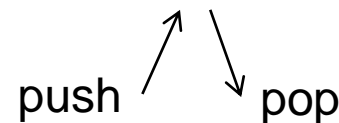
Saved IP (&return)

Saved Frame Pointer

Local Variables <foobar>



Stack Frame
<foobar>



x32 Call Convention

```
void main(void) {
    int blubb = 0;
    foobar (&blubb);
    return;
}
```

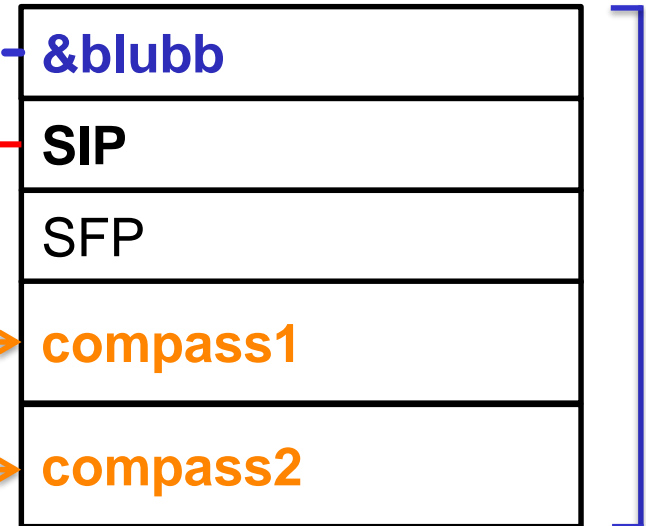
Pointer



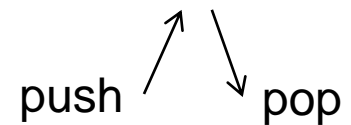
Pointer



```
void foobar(int *arg1) {
    char compass1 [];
    char compass2 [];
}
```



allocate

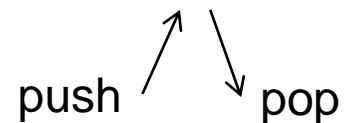
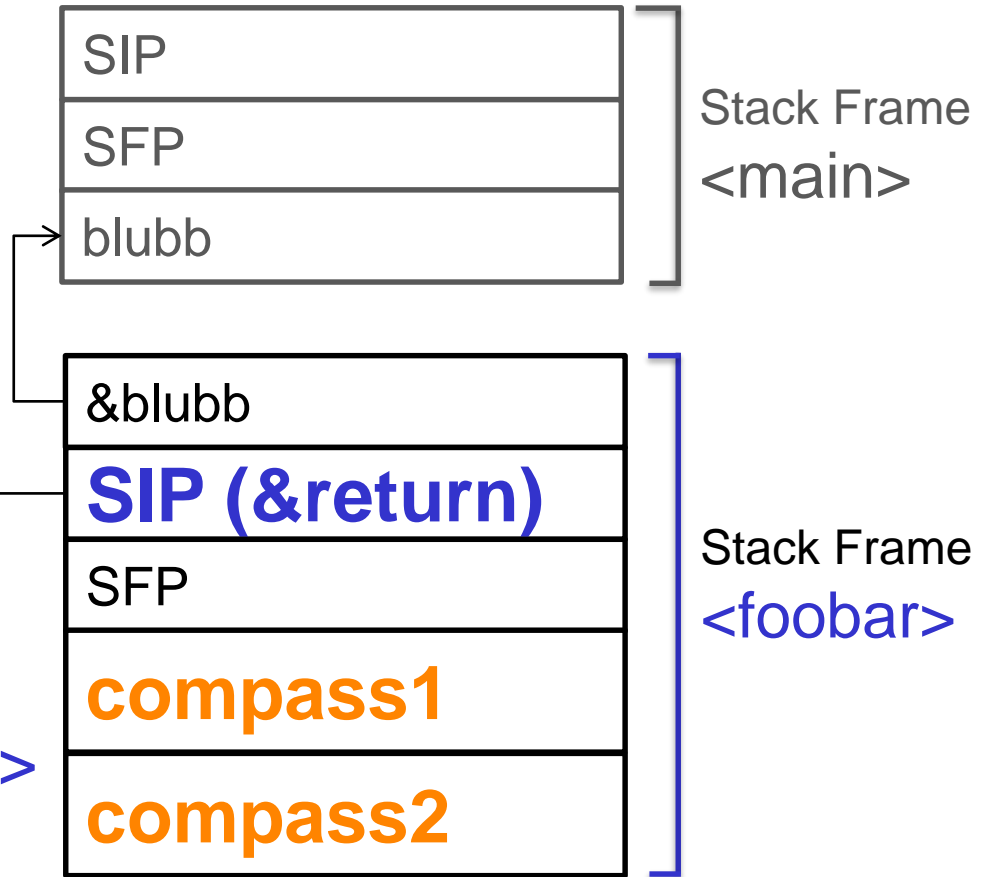


x32 Call Convention

Saved IP (&__libc_start)
Saved Frame Pointer
Local Variables <main>

Argument for <foobar>
Saved IP (&return)
Saved Frame Pointer

Local Variables <foobar>



SIP: Stored Instruction Pointer

- ★ Copy of EIP
- ★ Points to the address where control flow continues after end of function
 - ★ (return, ret)
- ★ Usually points into the code section

Attention! Assembler ahead!

✦ AT&T vs Intel syntax

Intel syntax:

```
mov    eax, 1
mov    ebx, 0ffh
int    80h
```

AT&T syntax:

```
movl   $1, %eax
movl   $0xff, %ebx
int    $0x80
```

Don't hang me if I messed this up somewhere

In ASM:

```
call 0x11223344 <&foobar>
```

⇒

```
push EIP+4
```



```
jmp 0x11223344
```

```
<function code> (0x11223344)
```

```
ret
```

⇒

```
pop eip
```

In ASM:

```
call 0x11223344 <&foobar>
```

```
    push EIP+4  
    jmp 0x11223344
```

```
mov ebp, esp  
<function code>
```

```
mov esp, ebp
```

```
ret
```

```
    pop eip
```

In ASM:

```
call 0x11223344 <&foobar>
```

```
push EIP+4
```

```
jmp 0x11223344
```

```
mov ebp, esp
```

```
<function code>
```

```
mov esp, ebp
```

```
ret
```

```
pop eip
```

Prolog

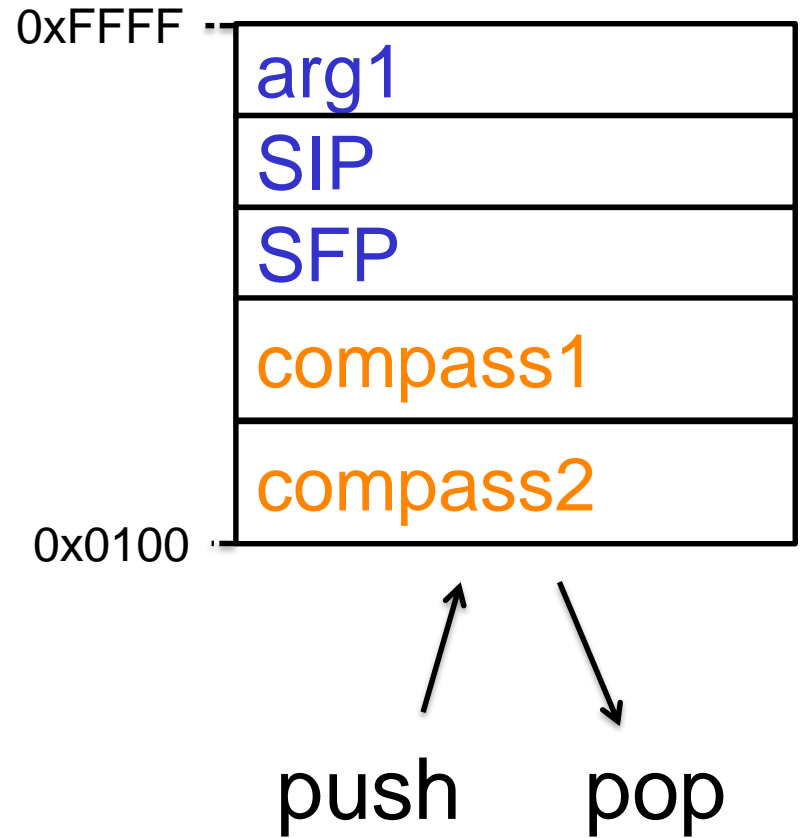
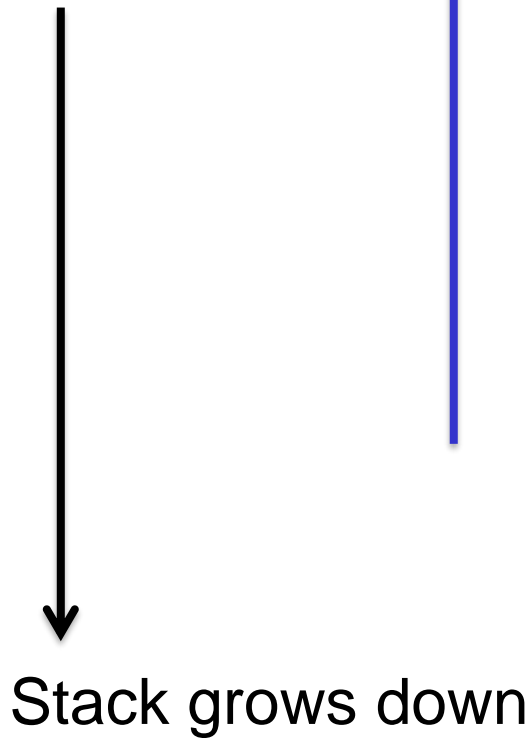
Function

Epilog



x32 Call Convention



Writes go up



Recap:

- ◆ User data is on the stack
- ◆ Also: important stuff is on the stack (Instruction Pointer, SIP)
- ◆ Stack grows down 
- ◆ Writes go up 

x32 Call Convention Details

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```
int add(int x, int y) {  
    int sum;  
    sum = x + y;  
    return sum;  
}
```

```
c = add(3, 4)
```

C

```
push 4  
push 3  
call add
```

ASM

```
push 4  
push 3  
push EIP  
jmp add
```

ASM, detailed

add():

```
push 4  
push 3  
push EIP  
jmp add
```

```
push ebp  
mov ebp, esp,  
sub esp, 0x10
```

```
mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp + 0xc]  
mov edx, DWORD PTR [ebp + 0x8]  
add eax, edx  
mov DWORD PTR [ebp - 0x04], eax  
mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp - 0x04]
```

```
leave  
ret
```

add():

```
push 4  
push 3  
push EIP  
jmp add
```

```
push ebp  
mov ebp, esp,  
sub esp, 0x10  
  
mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp + 0xc]  
mov edx, DWORD PTR [ebp + 0x8]  
add eax, edx  
mov DWORD PTR [ebp - 0x04], eax  
mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp - 0x04]  
  
mov esp, ebp ; leave  
pop ebp ; leave  
ret
```

add():

```
push 4  
push 3  
push EIP  
jmp add
```

```
push ebp  
mov ebp, esp,  
sub esp, 0x10  
  
mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp + 0xc]  
mov edx, DWORD PTR [ebp + 0x8]  
add eax, edx  
mov DWORD PTR [ebp - 0x04], eax  
mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp - 0x04]  
  
mov esp, ebp ; leave  
pop ebp ; leave  
pop eip ; ret
```

add():

```
push 4  
push 3  
push EIP  
jmp add
```

```
push ebp  
mov ebp, esp,  
sub esp, 0x10
```

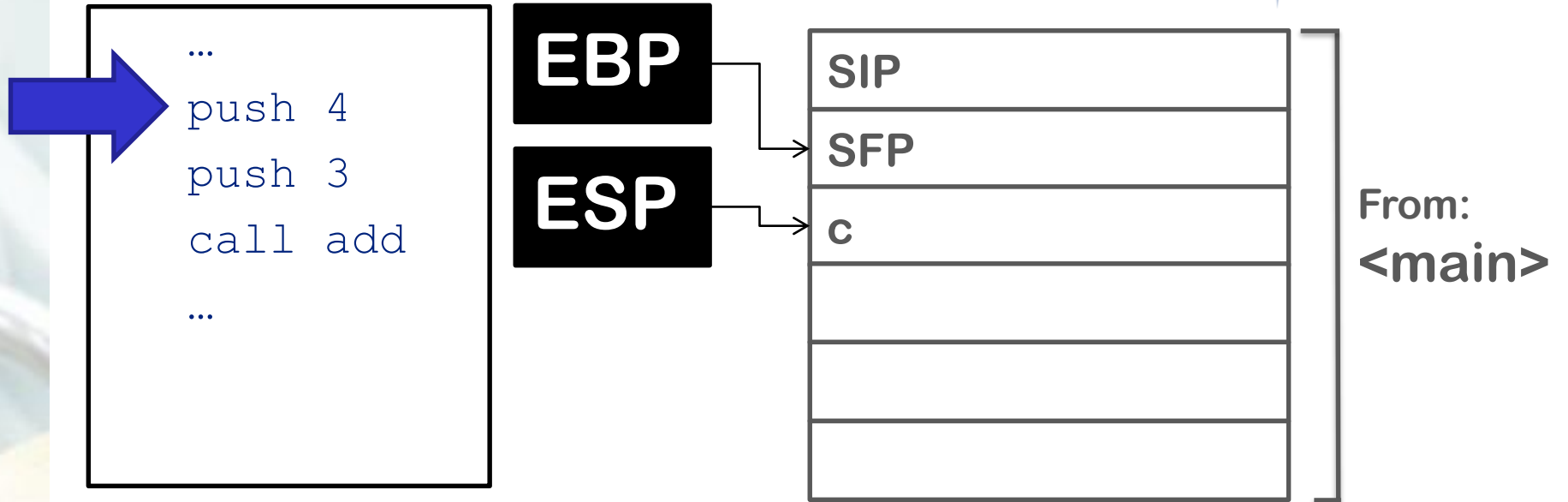
```
mov esp, ebp    ; leave  
pop ebp        ; leave  
pop eip        ; ret
```



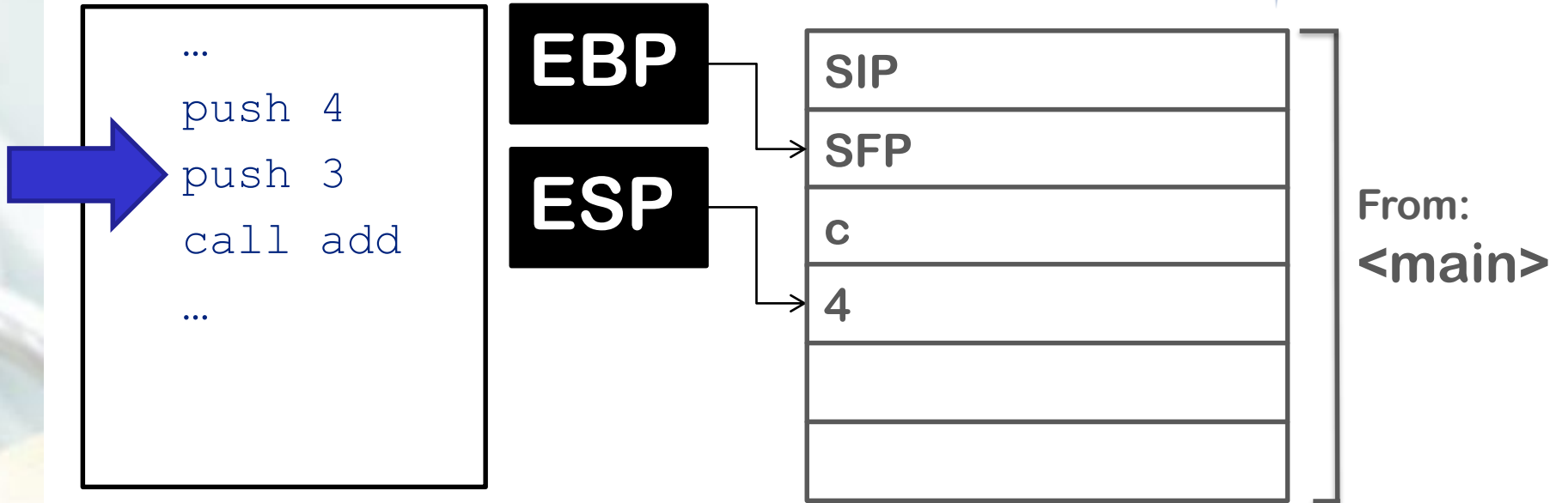
Function Prolog

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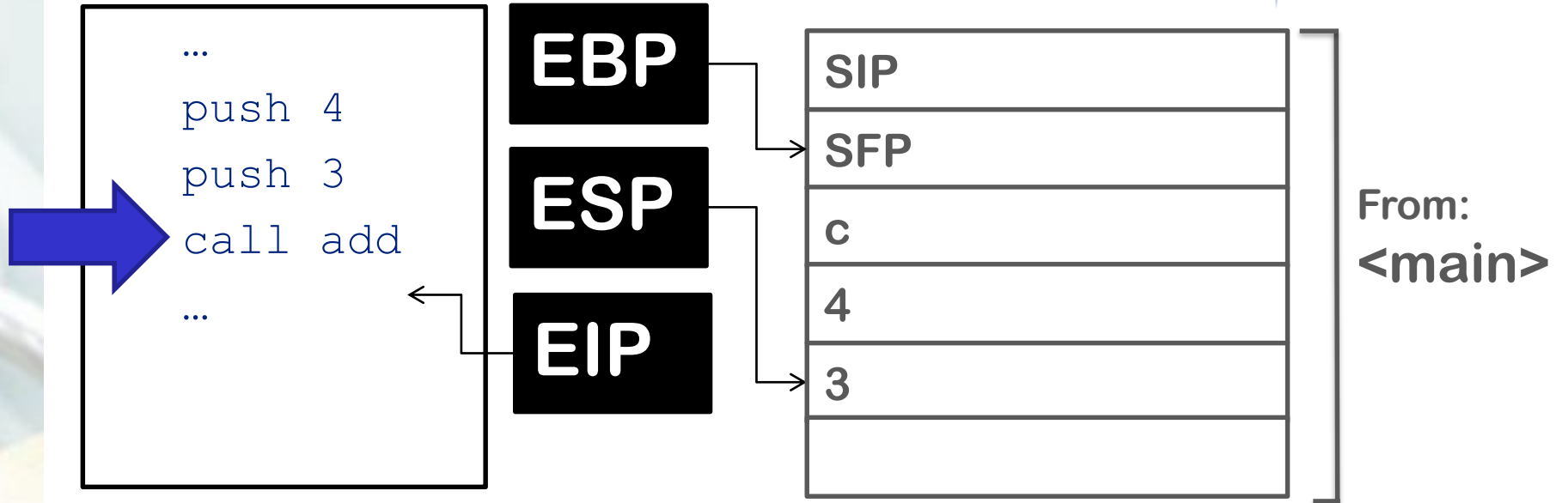
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x32 Call Convention - Function Prolog



x32 Call Convention - Function Prolog



x32 Call Convention - Function Prolog

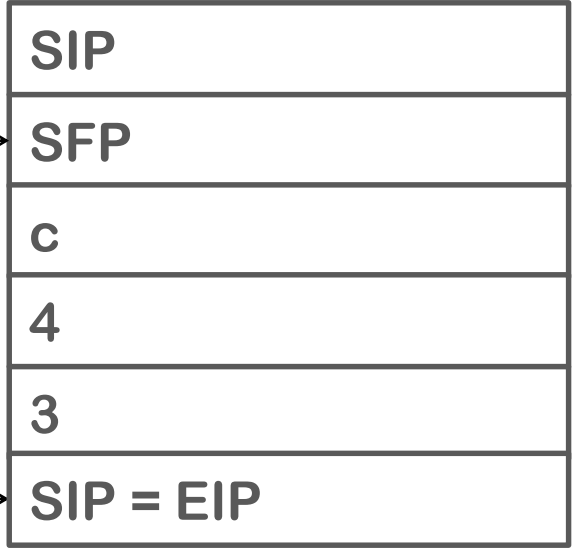


```
...  
push 4  
push 3  
call add  
...
```

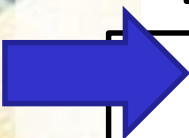
EBP

ESP

EIP

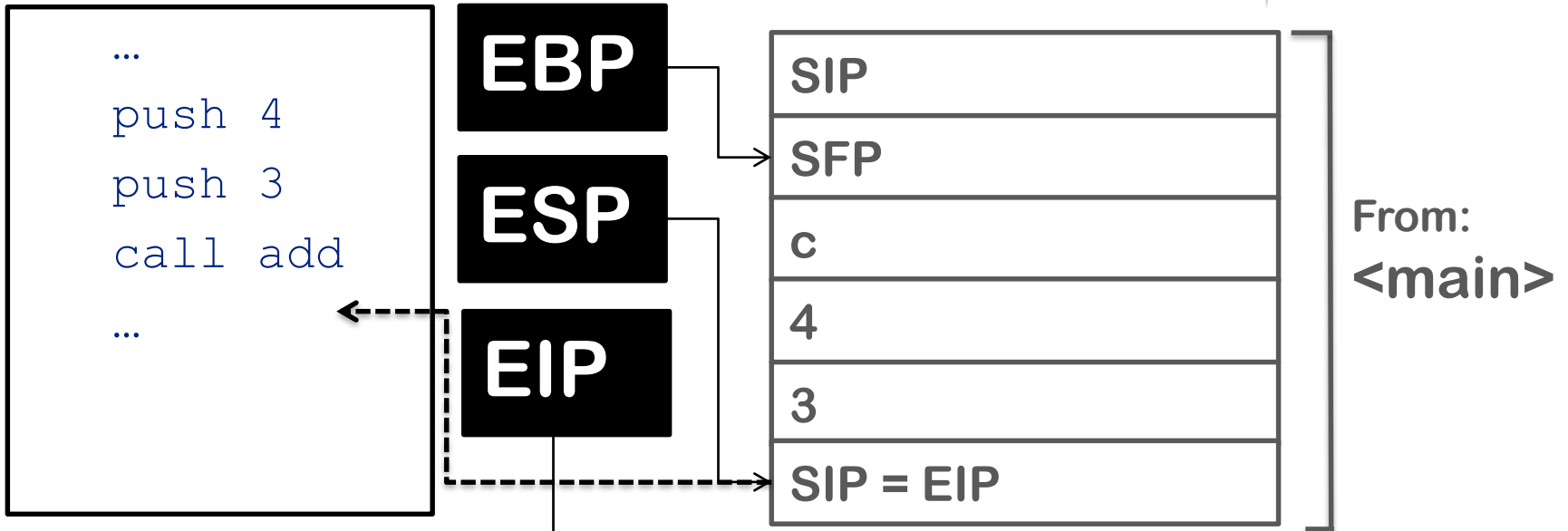


From:
<main>



```
push ebp ←  
mov ebp, esp,  
sub esp, 0x10  
  
mov esp, ebp  
pop ebp  
pop eip
```

x32 Call Convention - Function Prolog



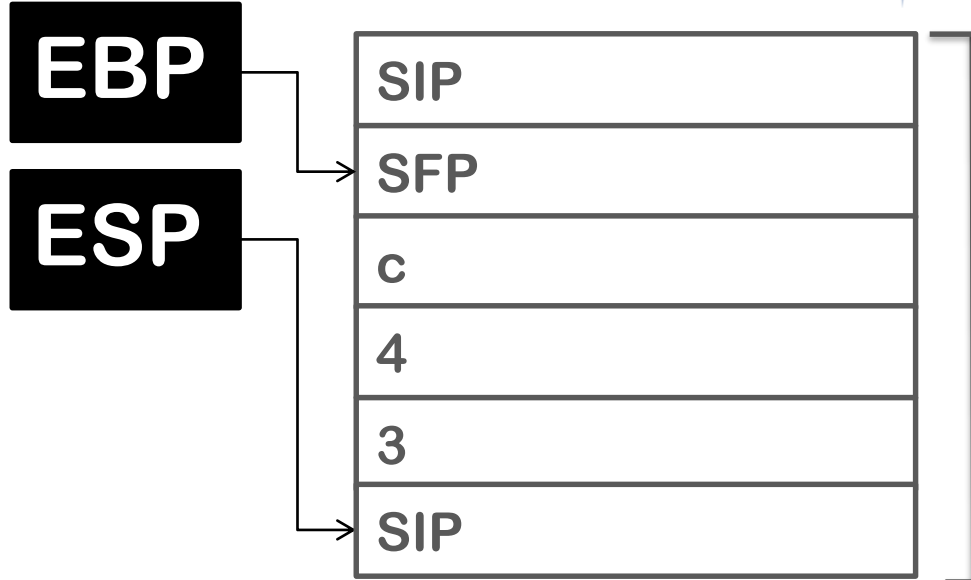
```
push ebp ←  
mov ebp, esp,  
sub esp, 0x10  
  
mov esp, ebp  
pop ebp  
pop eip
```

x32 Call Convention - Function Prolog



```
push ebp
mov ebp, esp,
sub esp, 0x10

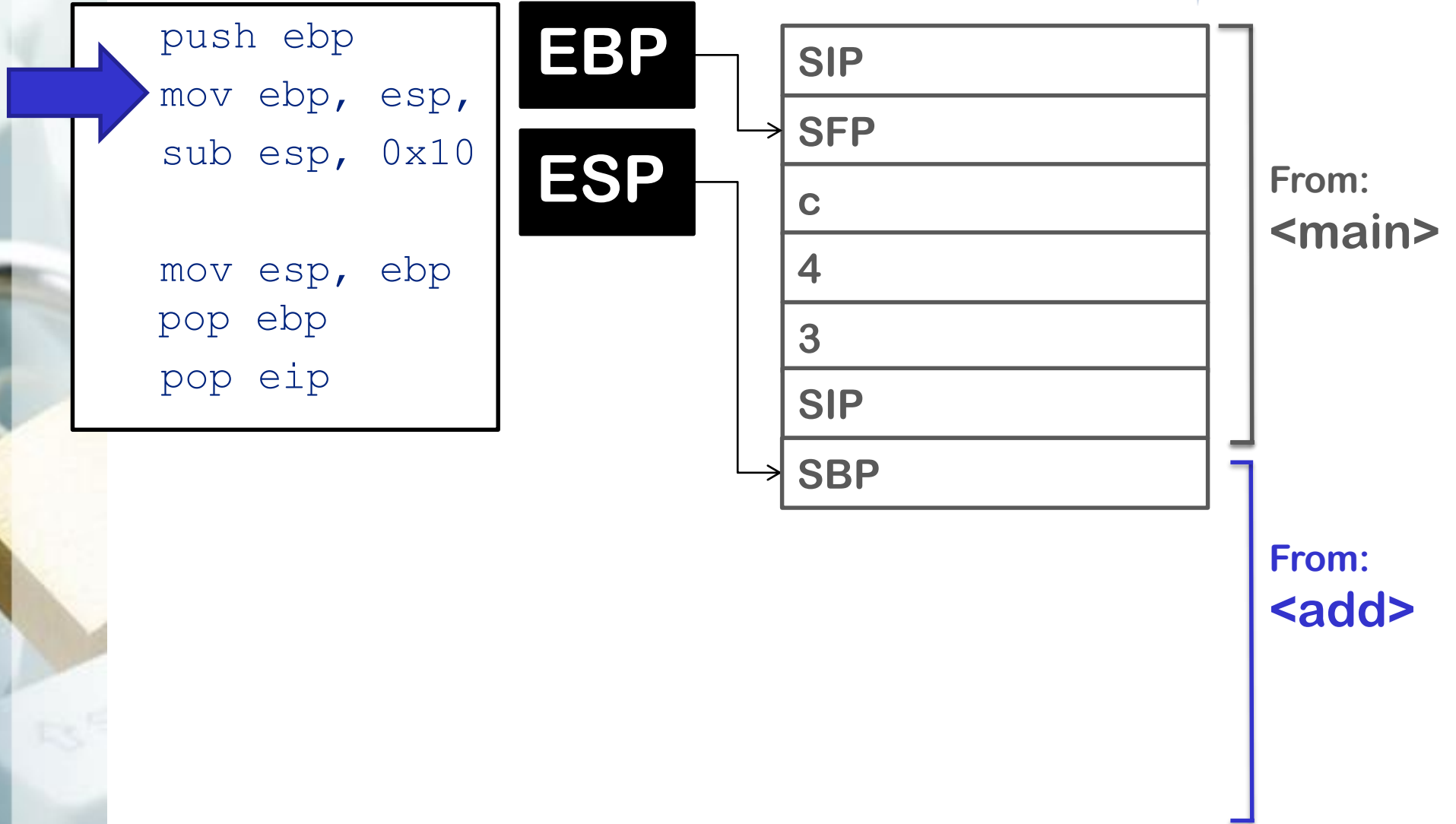
mov esp, ebp
pop ebp
pop eip
```



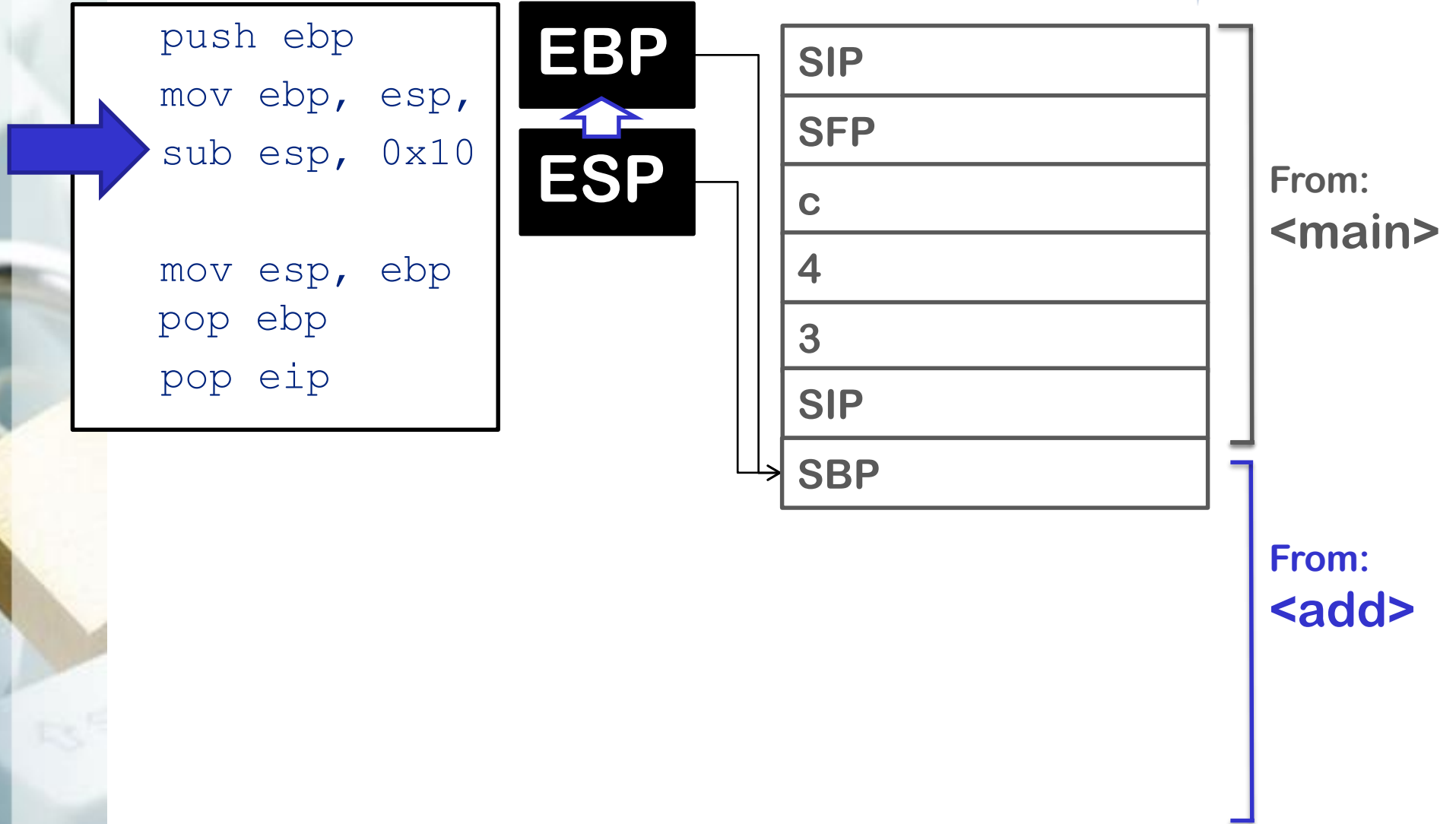
From:
<main>

From:
<add>

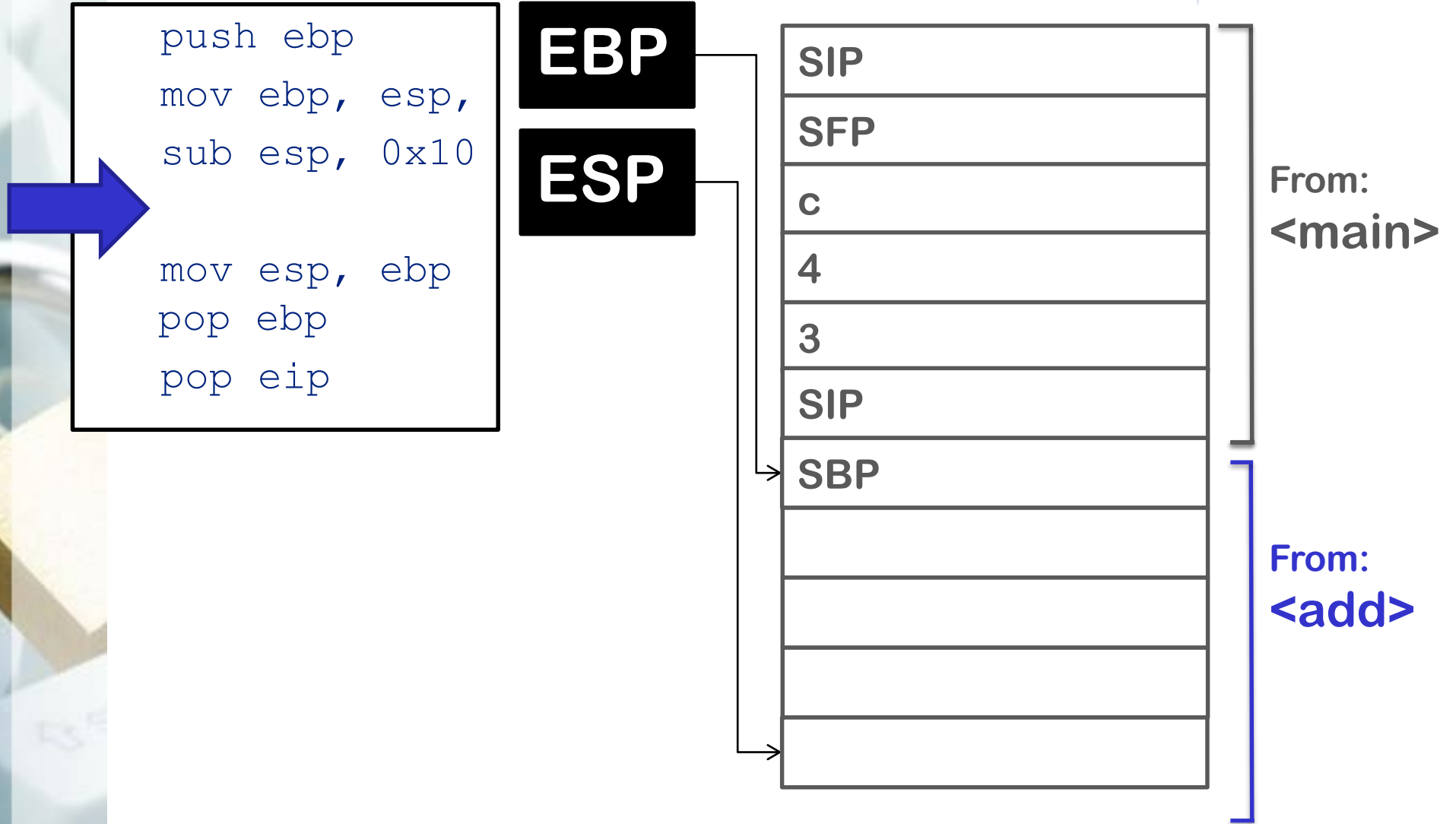
x32 Call Convention - Function Prolog



x32 Call Convention - Function Prolog



x32 Call Convention - Function Prolog



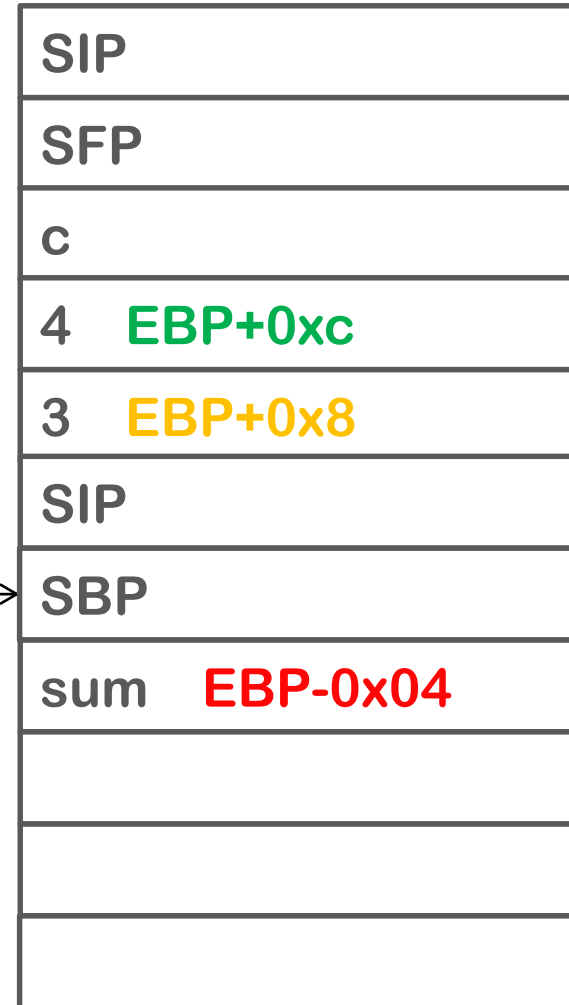


Execute Function

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EBP



From:
<main>

From:
<add>

```
mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp + 0xc]
mov edx, DWORD PTR [ebp + 0x8]
add eax, edx
mov DWORD PTR [ebp - 0x04], eax
mov eax, DWORD PTR [ebp - 0x04]
```

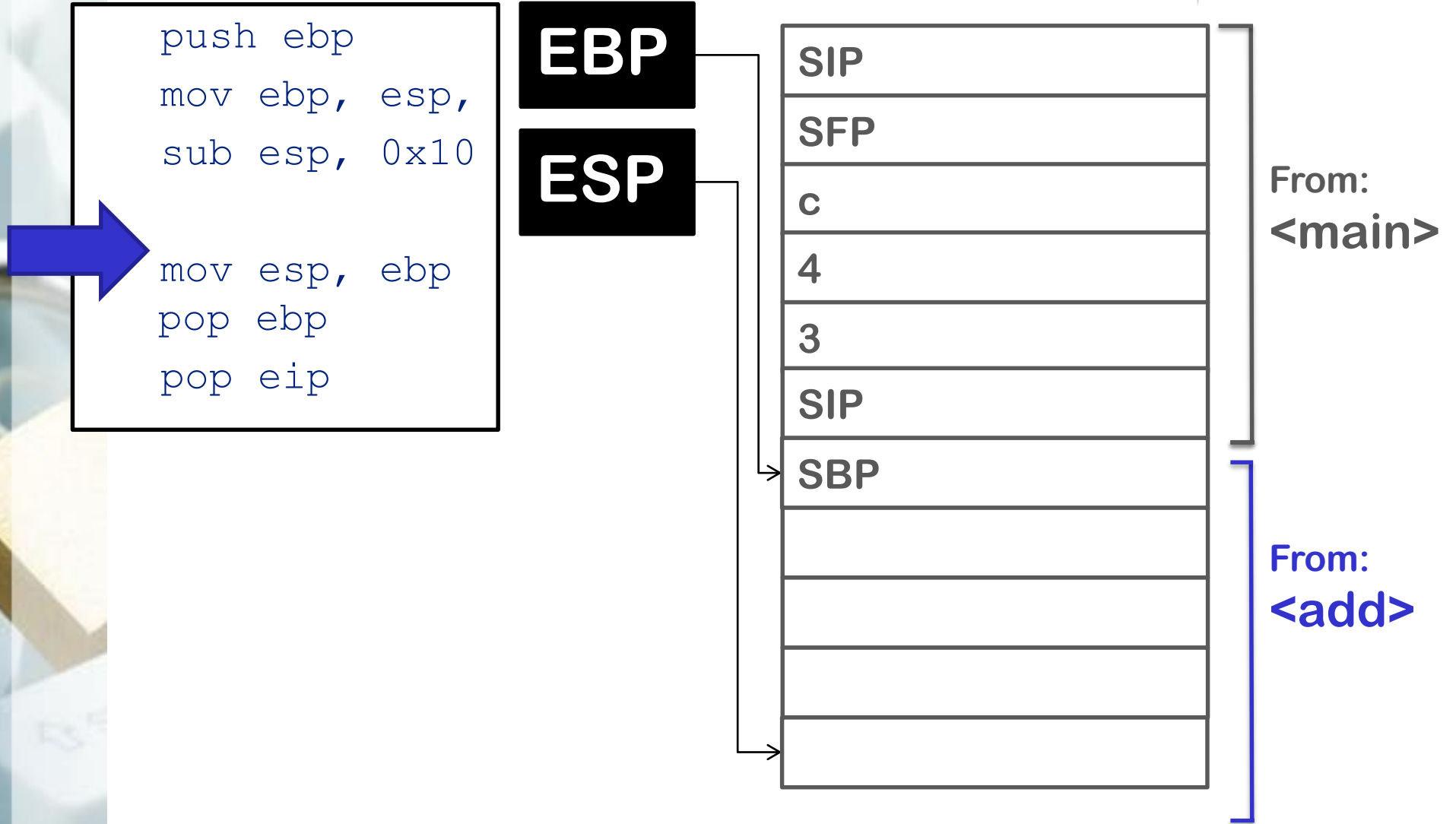


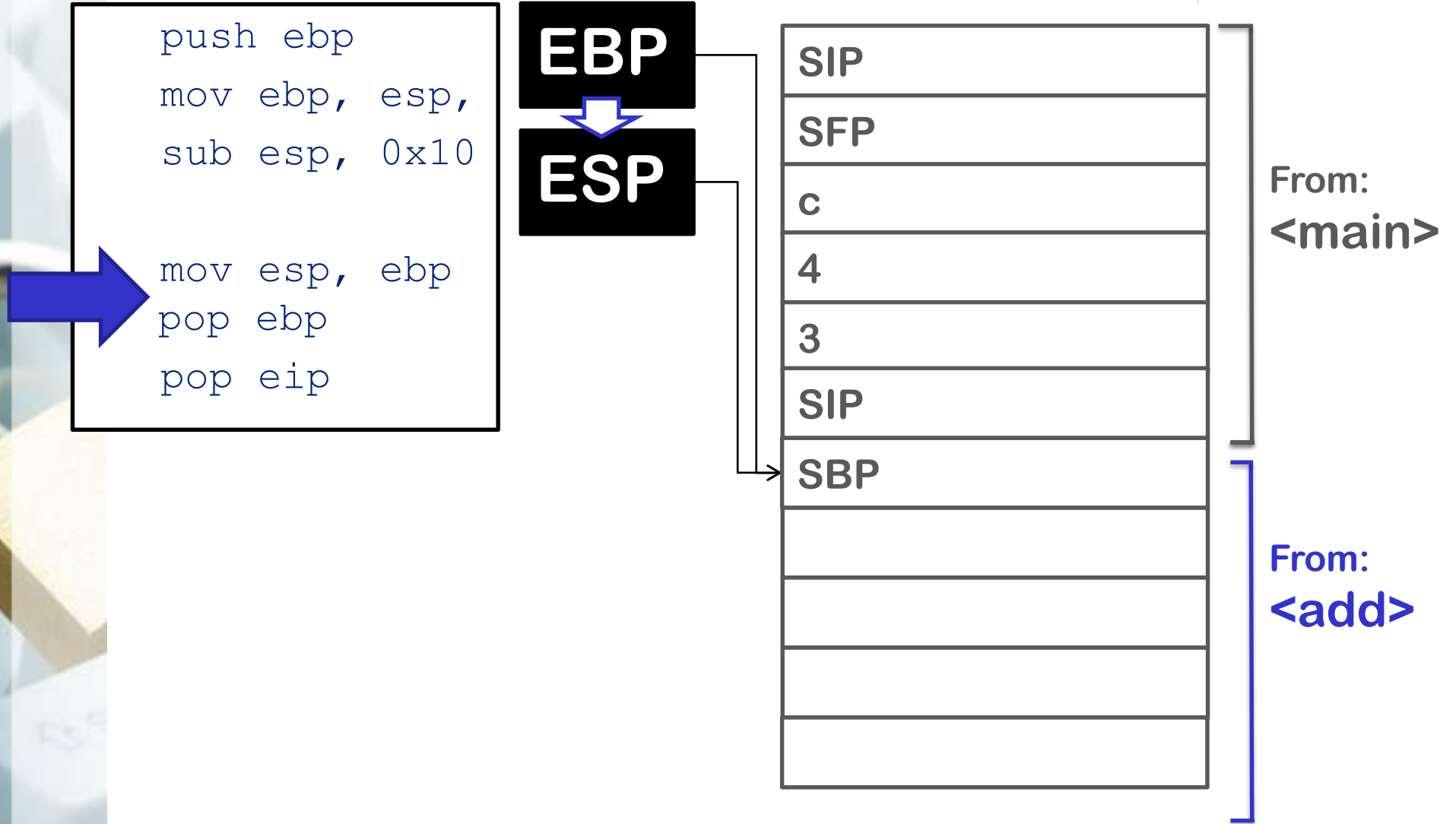

Function Epilog

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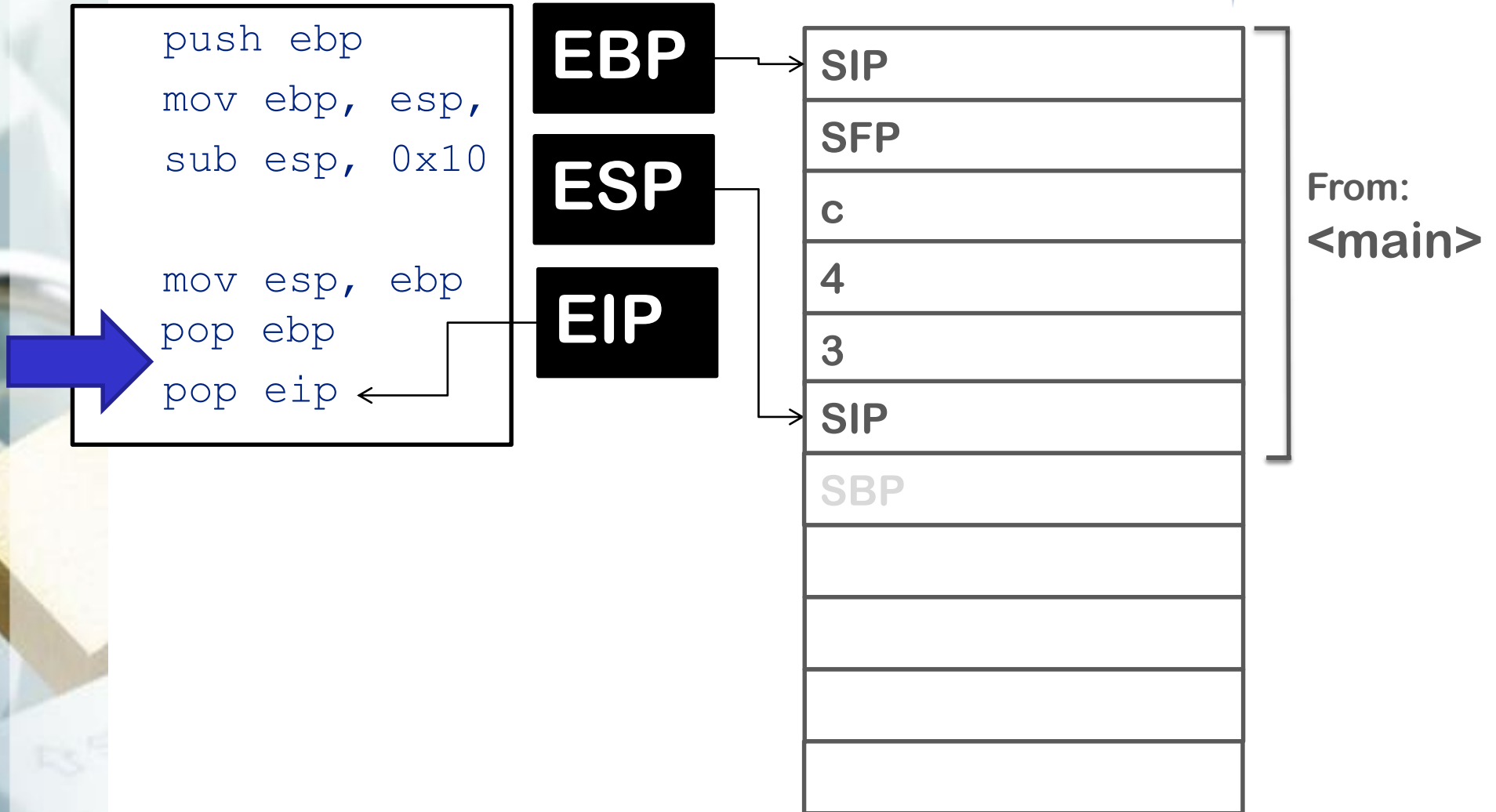
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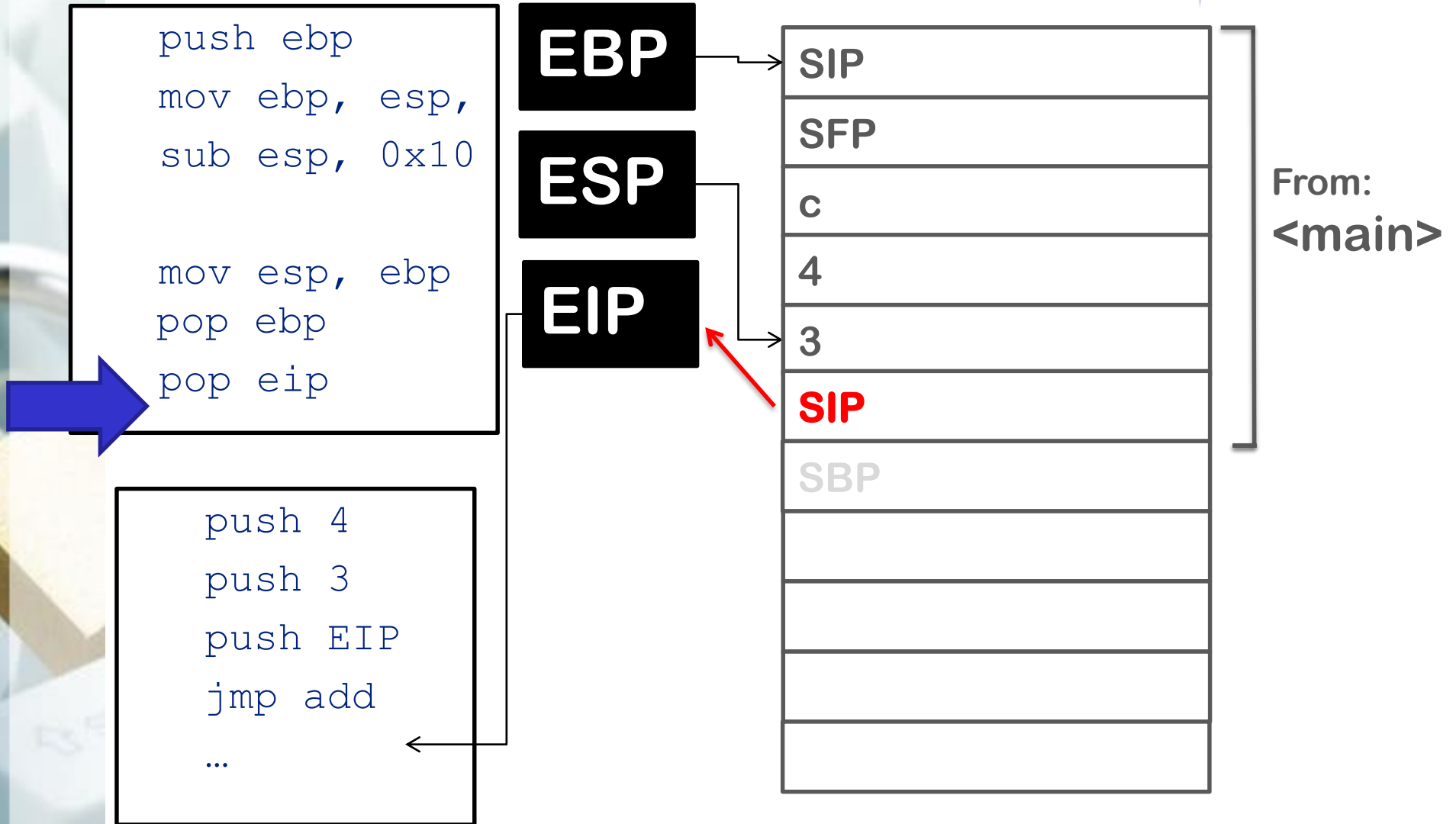
x32 Call Convention - Function Epilog





x32 Call Convention - Function Epilog



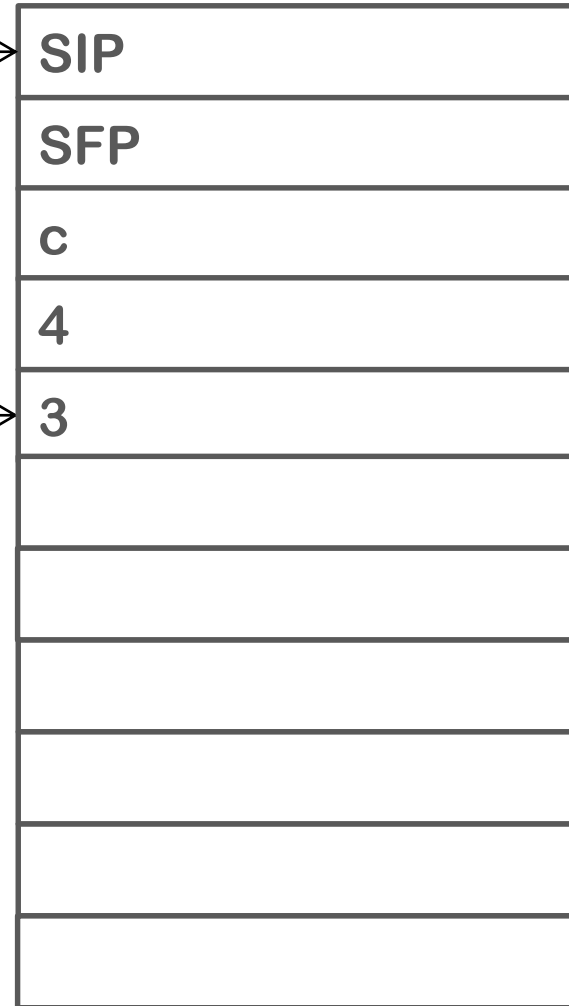


x32 Call Convention - Function Epilog



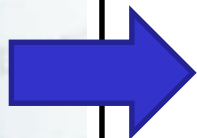
```
push ebp
mov ebp, esp,
sub esp, 0x10

mov esp, ebp
pop ebp
pop eip
```



From:
<main>

```
push 4
push 3
push EIP
jmp add
...
```



x32 Call Convention - Function Calling



```
call <addr> =  
    push EIP+1  
    jmp <addr>
```

```
leave =  
    mov esp, ebp  
    pop ebp
```

```
ret =  
    pop eip
```

Why “leave”?

- ✦ Opposite of “enter”

“enter”:

```
push ebp
mov ebp, esp
sub esp, imm
```

Why no “enter” used?

- ✦ enter:
 - ✦ 8 cycle latency
 - ✦ 10-20 micro ops
- ✦ call <addr>; mov ebp, esp; sub esp, imm:
 - ✦ 3 cycles latency
 - ✦ 4-6 micro ops

Recap:

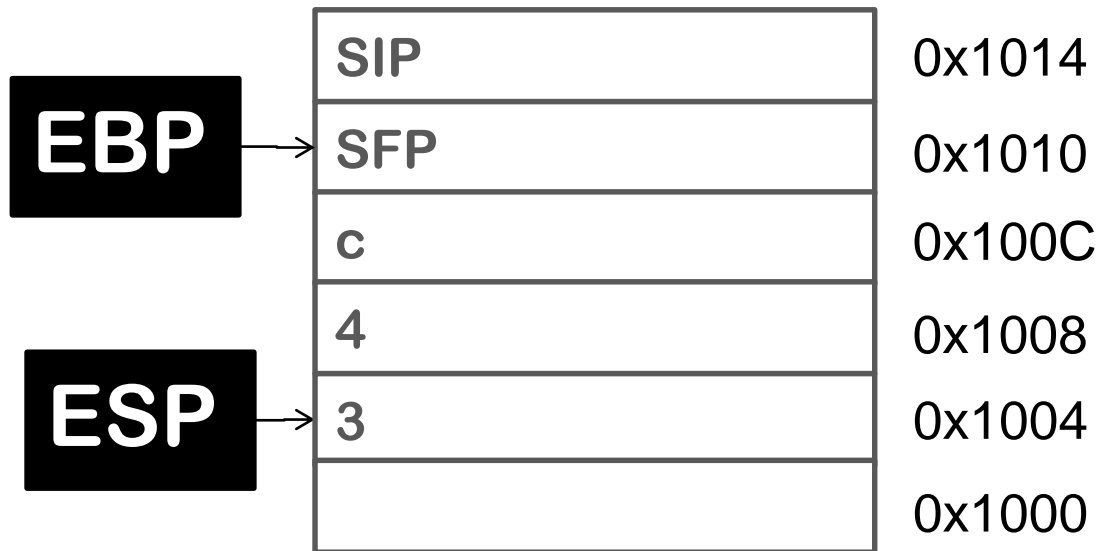
- ✦ When a function is called:
 - ✦ EIP is pushed on the stack (=SIP)
 - ✦ ("call" is doing implicit "push EIP")

- ✦ At the end of the function:
 - ✦ SIP is recovered into EIP
 - ✦ ("ret" is doing implicit "pop EIP")

Accessing the Stack

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- A) `push 0x1`
- B) `mov [ebp-0x10], 0x1`
- C) `mov eax, 0x1000`
`mov [eax], 0x1`

Function Calls in x64

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x32 Call Convention - Function Call in x64



Differences between x32 and x64 function calls:

Arguments are in registers (not on stack)

RDI, RSI, RDX, R8, R9



Differences between x32 and x64 function calls

Different ASM commands doing the same thing

```
callq (call)
```

```
leaveq (leave)
```

```
retq (ret)
```

Some random x64 architecture facts:

The stack should stay **8-byte aligned** at all times

An n-byte item should start at an **address divisible by n**

- ✦ E.g. 64 bit number: 8 bytes, can be at 0x00, 0x08, 0x10, 0x18, ...

%rsp points to the lowest **occupied** stack location

- ✦ not the next one to use!

Function Call Convention Cheat Sheet



x32	Parameter	Syscall nr in
x32 userspace	stack	
x32 syscalls	ebx, ecx, edx, esi, edi, ebp	eax

x64	Parameter	Syscall nr in
x64 userspace	rdi, rsi, rdx, rcx, r8, r9	
x64 syscall	rdi, rsi, rdx, r10, r8, r9	rax

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/2535989/what-are-the-calling-conventions-for-unix-linux-system-calls-on-x86-64>



Outro

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Further questions



Can you implement push/pop in ASM? (without actually using push/pop)

Pseudocode:

```
# EAX is the new ESP
```

```
push:
```

```
    sub eax, 4
```

```
    mov (%eax), <data>
```

```
pop:
```

```
    add eax, 4
```