

Stack Frames (11A)

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Based on

ARM System-on-Chip Architecture, 2nd ed, Steve Furber

Introduction to ARM Cortex-M Microcontrollers
– Embedded Systems, Jonathan W. Valvano

Digital Design and Computer Architecture,
D. M. Harris and S. L. Harris

ARM assembler in Raspberry Pi
Roger Ferrer Ibáñez

<https://thinkingeek.com/arm-assembler-raspberry-pi/>

Local Variables

- Dynamic allocation / release allows for reuse of RAM
- Limited scope of access (making it private) provides for data protection
- Only the program that created the local variable can access it
- Since an interrupt will save registers, the code is reentrant
- Since absolute addressing is not used, the code is relocatable

- We can use symbolic names for the variables making it easier to understand
- The number of variables is only limited by the size of the stack
- Because it is more general, it will be easier to add additional variables
-

Computer Organization and Design ARM Edition: The Hardware Software Interface by D. A. Patterson and J. L. Hennessy

Global Variables

```
void MyFunction (void) {  
    static uint32_t count = 0;  
    count++;  
}
```

```
static int32_t myPrivateGlobalVariable; // accessible by this file only  
void static MyPrivateFunction (void) {  
}
```

```
const int16_t Slope=21;  
const uint8_t SinTable[8] = {0, 50, 98, 142, 180, 212, 236, 250};
```

LIFO Stack

- Program segments should have an equal number of pushes and pops
- Stack accesses (push or pop) should not be performed outside the allocation area
- Stack reads and writes should not be performed within the free area
- Stack push should first decrement SP by 4, then store the data
- Stack pop should first read the data, then increment SP by 4

LIFO Stack

```
LDR    R0, [SP, #4]    ; R0 = the next to the top bytes

SUB    R1, SP, #8      ; R1 points to the free area
STR    R0, [R1]        ; Store contents of R0 into free area (** illegal **)
LDR    R2, [R1]        ; Read contents of free area into R2 (** illegal **)

PUSH   {R0, R1}       ; Store contents of R0, R1 onto the stack
```

Local variables on the stack

```
Func    PUSH    {R4, R5, R8, LR}    ; save registers as needed
        ; 1) allocate local variables
        ; 2) body of the function, access local variables
        ; 3) deallocate local variables
        POP     {R4, R5, R8, PC}
```


Initializing a local array

```
void Set(void) {  
    uint32_t data[10];  
    int i;  
    for (i=0; i<10; i++) {  
        data[i] = i;  
    }  
}
```

Set	SUB	SP, SP, #40	; 1) allocate 10 words
	MOVS	R0, #0x00	; 2) i = 0
	B	test	; 2)
Loop	LSL	R1, R0, #2	; 2) 4*i
	STR	R0, [SP, R1]	; 2) access
	ADDS	R0, R0, #1	; 2) i++
Test	CMP	R0, #10	; 2)
	ADD	SP, SP, #40	; 3) deallocate
	BX	LR	

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1. Binding

Sum EQU 0 ; 32-bit local variable, stored on the stack

2. Allocation

```
MOV    R0, #0
MOV    R1, #2
PUSH   {R0, R1}           ; allocate and initialize two 32-bit variables

SUB    SP, #8             ; allocate two 32-bit variables
```

3. Access

```
LDR    R1, [SP, #sum]    ; R1 = sum
ADD    R1, R0             ; R1 = R0 + sum
STR    R1, [SP, #sum]    ; sum = R0 + sum
```

```
LDR    R0, [SP, #sum]    ; R0 = sum
LSR    R0, R0, #4        ;
STR    R0, [SP, #sum]    ; sum = sum / 4
```

4. Deallocation

```
ADD    SP, #4           ; deallocate sum
```

Stack Frames

- Parameters
- Return address
- Saved registers
- Local variables

Stack Frames

```
uint32_t calc(void) {  
    uint32_t    sum, n;  
    for (n=1000; n>0; n--) {  
        sum = sum + n;  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

Stack Frame Implementation Example 1 (1)

```
; *** binding phase ****  
sum    EQU    0        ; 32-bit unsigned number  
n      EQU    4        ; 32-bit unsigned number  
  
; *** 1) allocation ***  
calc   PUSH   {R4, LR}  
       SUB    SP, #8    ; allocate n, sum
```


Stack Frame Implementation Example 2 (2)

```
; *** 2) access ***
    MOV    R0, #0
    STR    R0, {R11, #sum}    ; sum = 0
    MOV    R1, #1000
    STR    R1, [R11, #n]      ; n = 1000
loop  LDR    R1, [R11, #n]      ; R1 = n
    LDR    R0, [R11, #sum]    ; R0 = sum
    ADD    R0, R1              ; R0 = sum + n
    STR    R0, [R11, #sum]    ; sum = sum + n
    LDR    R1, [R11, #n]      ; R1 = n
    SUBS   R1, #1              ; n-1
    STR    R1, [R11, #n]      ; n = n - 1
    BNE    loop

; *** 3) deallocation ***
    ADD    SP, #8              ; deallocation
    POP    {R4, R5, R11, PC}  ; R0 = sum
```

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Stack Frame Implementation Example 2 (1)

```
; *** binding phase ****
sum    EQU    0        ; 32-bit unsigned number
n      EQU    4        ; 32-bit unsigned number

; *** 1) allocation ***
calc   PUSH   {R4, R5, R11, LR}
        SUB   SP, #8    ; allocate n, sum
        MOV   R11, SP   ; frame pointer
```

Stack Frame Implementation Example 2 (2)

```
; *** 2) access ***
    MOV    R0, #0
    STR    R0, {R11, #sum}    ; sum = 0
    MOV    R1, #1000
    STR    R1, [R11, #n]      ; n = 1000
loop  LDR    R1, [R11, #n]      ; R1 = n
    LDR    R0, [R11, #sum]    ; R0 = sum
    ADD    R0, R1              ; R0 = sum + n
    STR    R0, [R11, #sum]    ; sum = sum + n
    LDR    R1, [R11, #n]      ; R1 = n
    SUBS   R1, #1              ; n-1
    STR    R1, [R11, #n]      ; n = n - 1
    BNE    loop

; *** 3) deallocation ***
    ADD    SP, #8              ; deallocation
    POP    {R4, R5, R11, PC}  ; R0 = sum
```

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Parameter Passing

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Call by value | - safe, simple, good for small amounts of data |
| Call by reference | - parameter can be input or output, good for large amounts |
| Registers | - fast and simple |
| Stack | - flexible, good for large amounts of data |
| Global variables | - simple and poorstyle |

Call by value (1)

```
uint32_t next(uint32_t ang) {  
    ang++;  
    if (ang == 200) {  
        ang = 0;  
    }  
    return ang;  
}
```

```
void main (void) {  
    uint32_t angle = 0; // 0 to 199  
    Stepper_Init();  
    while (1) {  
        Stepper_Step();  
        angle = next(angle);  
    }  
}
```

Call by value (2)

```
; R0 is the angle
next    ADD    R0, #1           ; add to copy
        CMP    R0, #200
        BNE    skip
        MOV    R0, #0         ; roll over
skip    BX     LR             ; 0 to 199
angle   EQU    0
main    SUB    SP, #4         ; allocate
        MOV    R0, #0
        STR    #0, [SP, #angle]
        BL     Stepper_Init
loop    BL     Stepper_Step
        LDR    R0, [SP, #angle] ; R0 = angle
        BL     next
        STR    R0, [SP, #angle] ; update
        B     loop
```

Call by reference A (1)

```
uint32_t next(uint32_t *pt) {
    (*pt) = (*pt) + 1;
    if ((*pt) == 200) {
        (*pt) = 0;
    }
    return *pt;
}

void main (void) {
    uint32_t angle = 0; // 0 to 199
    Stepper_Init();
    while (1) {
        Stepper_Step();
        angle = next(&angle);
    }
}
```

Call by reference A (2)

```
; R0 is points to the angle
next    LDR    R1, [R0]           ; *pt
        ADD    R1, #1           ; increment
        CMP    R1, #200
        BNE    skip
        MOV    R1, #0           ; roll over
skip    STR    R1, [R0]         ; update
        BX    LR                ; 0 to 199
angle   EQU    0
main    SUB    SP, #4           ; allocate
        MOV    R0, #0
        STR    #0, [SP, #angle]
        BL    Stepper_Init
loop    BL    Stepper_Step
        LDR    R0, [SP, #angle] ; R0 = angle
        BL    next
        STR    R0, [SP, #angle] ; update
        B     loop
```


Call by reference B (1)

```
static int32_t Xx, Yy;           // position

void where(    int32_t *xpt,
              int32_t *ypt    ) {
    (*xpt) = Xx;                // return Xx
    (*ypt) = Yy;                // return Yy
}

void func(void) {
    int32_t myX, myY;
    where(&myX, &myY);
    // do something based on myX, myY
}
```

Call by reference B (2)

```
Xx      SPACE      4          ; private to where
Yy      SPACE      4
where   LDR        R2, =Xx
        LDR        R2, [R2]    ; value of Xx
        STR        R2, [R0]    ; pass data
        LDR        R3, =Yy
        LDR        R3, [R3]    ; value of Yy
        STR        R3, [R1]    ; pass data
        BX        LR
myX     EQU        0          ; 32-bit
myY     EQU        4
func    PUSH       {R4, LR}
        SUB        SP, #8      ; allocate
        MOV        R0, SP      ; R0 = &myX
        ADD        R1, SP, #myY ; R1 = &myY
        BL        where
        ; do something base on myX, myY
        ADD        SP, #8      ; deallocate
        POP        {R4, PC}
```

Parameter Passing

```
; Reg R0 = Port A,    Reg R1 = Port B
; Reg R3 = PortC,    Reg R3 = Port D
getPorts    LDR    R0, =GPIO_PORTA_DATA_R
            LDR    R0, [R0]                ; value of Port A
            LDR    R1, =GPIO_PORTB_DATA_R
            LDR    R1, [R1]                ; value of Port B
            LDR    R2, =GPIO_PORTC_DATA_R
            LDR    R2, [R2]                ; value of Port C
            LDR    R3, =GPIO_PORTD_DATA_R
            LDR    R3, [R3]                ; value of Port D
            BX     LR
            *** calling sequence ***
            BL     getPorts
; Reg R0, R1, R2, R3 have four results
```

Parameter Passing – (1) using registers

```
; Inputs:      R0, R1
; Outputs:    R2 = R0 - R1
Sub1          SUB    R2, R0, R1
              BX     LR

              LDR    R0, =A
              LDR    R0, [R0]          ; R0 has the value of A
              LDR    R1, =B
              LDR    R1, [R1]          ; R1 has the value of B
              BL     Sub1
              LDR    R0, =C
              STR    R2, [R0]          ; C = A - B
```

Parameter Passing – (2) using the stack

```
; Inputs:      In1 In2 on stack
; Outputs:    Out= In1 – In2 on stack
In1          EQU      8
In2          EQU      4
Out          EQU      0
Sub2         LDR      R0, [SP, #In1]
             LDR      R1, [SP, #In2]
             SUB      R2, R0, R1
             STR      R2, [SP, #Out]
             BX      LR

             LDR      R0, =A
             LDR      R0, [R0]          ; R0 has the value of A
             LDR      R1, =B
             LDR      R1, [R1]          ; R1 has the value of B
             PUSH    {R0, R1}          ; input parameters
             SUB      SP, #4           ; place for output
             BL      Sub2
             POP     {R2}              ; result
             LDR      R0, =C
             STR      R2, [R0]          ; C = A – B
             ADD     SP, #8           ; balance stack
```

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Parameter Passing – (3) using the stack (a)

```
; Inputs:      In1 In2 on stack
; Outputs:    Out= In1 – In2 on stack
In1          EQU      20
In2          EQU      16
Out          EQU      12
local        EQU      0
Sub3         PUSH     {R11, LR}
             SUB      SP, #4           ; allocate
             MOV     R11, SP          ; frame pointer
             LDR     R0, [R11, #In1]
             LDR     R1, [R11, #In2]
             SUB     R2, R0, R1
             STR     R2, [R11, #Out]
             ADD     SP, #4           ; deallocate
             POP     {R11, PC}
```

Parameter Passing – (3) using the stack (b)

```
LDR    R0, =A
LDR    R0, [R0]           ; R0 has the value of A
LDR    R1, =B
LDR    R1, [R1]           ; R1 has the value of B
PUSH   {R0, R1}           ; input parameters
SUB    SP, #4             ; place for output
BL     Sub3
POP    {R2}               ; result
LDR    R0, =C
STR    R2, [R0]           ; C = A – B
ADD    SP, #4             ; deallocate stack
```

Parameter Passing – (4) using global variables

```
; Inputs:      A, B
; Outputs:    C = A - B
Sub4  LDR      R0, =A
      LDR      R0, [R0]          ; R0 has the value of A
      LDR      R1, =B
      LDR      R1, [R1]          ; R1 has the value of B
      SUB      R2, R1, R0        ; A - B
      LDR      R0, =C
      STR      R0, [R0]
      BX      LR

      BL      Sub4
```


Parameter Passing – (5) using memory locations

```
; Wait for Flag to become 1
Wait    LDR    R0, =Flag
Loop    LDR    R1, [R0]          ; R1 = Flag
        CMP    R1, #1
        BNE    loop            ; wait until 1
        MOV    R1, #0          ;
        STR    R1, [R0]        ; Flag = 0
        BX    LR
```

```
SysTick_Handler
        LDR    R0, =Flag        ; R0 = &Flag
        MOV    R1, #1
        STR    R1, [R0]        ; Flag = 1
        BX    LR                ; return form interrupt
```

Compiler's local and global variable implementation (1)

Out = (99 * In) / 100;

```
LDR    R1, [PC, #208]    ; (R1 + 1) = &In
MOVS   R2, #0x64        ; R2 = 100
LDRB   R0, [R1, #0x01]   ; R0 = In
ADD    R0, R0, R0, LSL #5 ; R0 = R0 + 32*R0 = 33 * In
ADD    R0, R0, R0, LSL #1 ; R0 = R0 + 2 *R0 = 99 * In
UDIV   R0, R0, R2        ; 99 * In / 100
STRB   R0, [R1, #0x02]   ; Out = 99 * In / 100
```

Compiler's local and global variable implementation (1)

```
uint32_t combine (  
    uint32_t  msb,  
    uint32_t  lsb) {  
    return msb << 8 + lsb;  
}
```

```
Combine  MOV     R3, R0      ; R0 = msb  
        ADD     R3, R1, #0x08 ; lsb + 8  
        LSL    R0, R2, R3   ; msb << (8 + lsb)  
        BX     LR
```

Compiler's local and global variable implementation (2)

```
int32_t  G;          // global
int32_t sub(int32_t *pt    // R0
            int32_t index, // R1
            int32_t values) { // R2
    pt[index] -= value;
    return value;
}

Void main(void) {
    int32_t z[20];      //local
    G = 5;              // access global
    z[0] = 6;          // access local
    G = sub(z, 1, 2);
}
```

Compiler's local and global variable implementation (3)

```
; R0 is *pt      ; R1 is index
; R2 is value
Sub      MOV      R3, R0          ; R3 is *pt
        LDR      R0, [R3, R1, LSL #2] ;
        SUBS    R0, R0, R2
        STR      R0, [R3, R1, LSL #2]
        MOV     R0, R2          ; return value
        BX     LR

Main     PUSH    {R4, LR}
        SUB     SP, SP, #0x50    ; allocate z
        MOVS   R0, #0x05
        LDR    R1, [PC, #340]    ; R1 = &G
        STR    R0, [R1, #0x00]   ; z[0] = 6
        MOVS   R2, #0x02        ; value
        MOVS   R1, #0x01        ; index
        MOV    R0, SP           ; *pt
        BL.W   sub
        LDR    R1, [PC, #320]    ; R1 = &G
        STR    R0, [R1, #0x00]   ; store G
        ADD    SP, SP, #0x50    ; deallocates
        POP    {R4, PC}
```

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Callee Saved Registers

function:

```
push { r4, lr } /* Keep the callee saved registers */
    code of the function
pop { r4, lr } /* Restore the callee saved registers */
bx lr
/* Return from the function */
```

Dynamic Link

function:

```
push { r4, r5, fp, lr }
```

```
mov fp, sp
```

code of the function

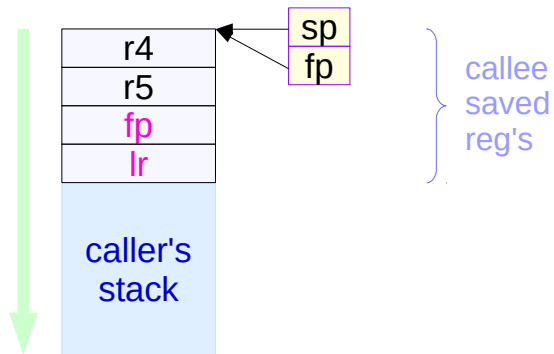
```
mov sp, fp
```

```
pop { r4, r5, fp, lr }
```

```
bx lr
```

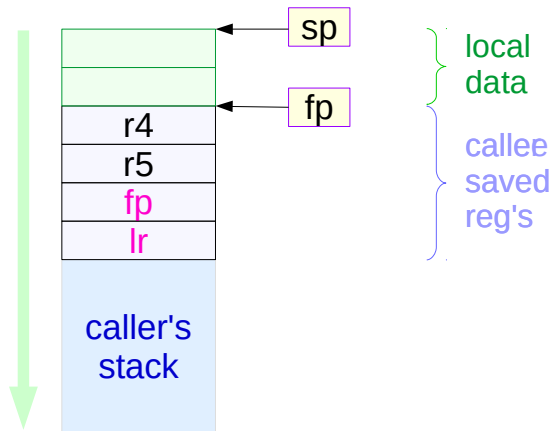
```
/* fp ← sp . Keep dynamic link in fp */
```

```
/* sp ← fp. Restore dynamic link in fp */
```

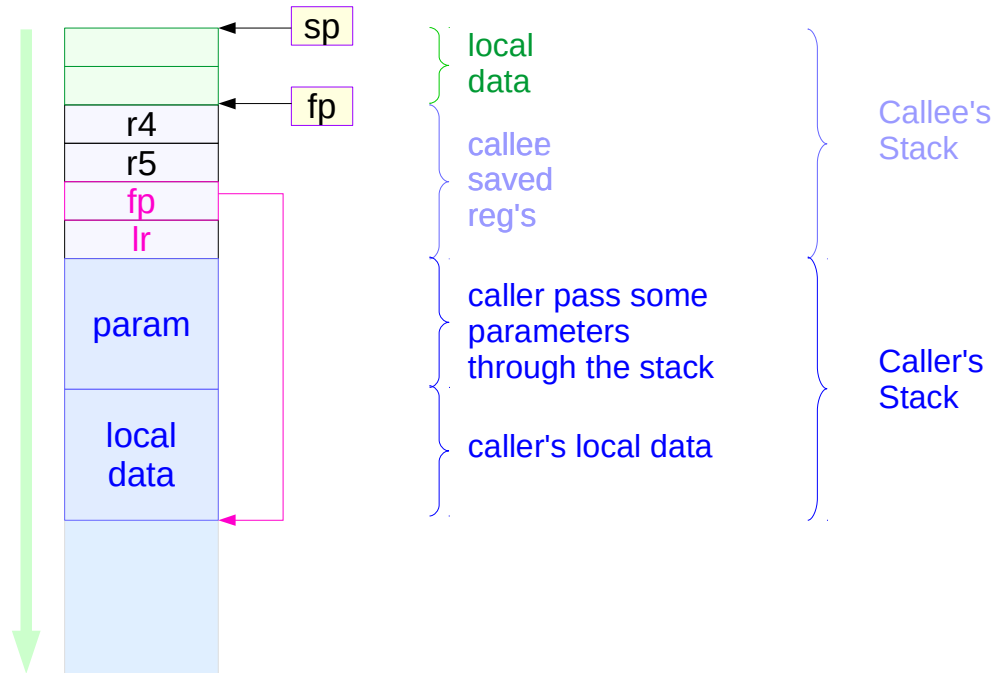


Local Data

```
function:  
push { r4, r5, fp, lr }  
sub sp, sp, #8      /* 8 bytes local data space */  
mov fp, sp  
    code of the function  
mov sp, fp  
pop { r4, r5, fp, lr }  
bx lr
```



Local Data and Parameters



Local Data Generating Examples

```
void sq(int *c)
{
    (*c) = (*c) * (*c);
}
```

```
int sq_sum5(int a, int b, int c, int d, int e)
{
    sq(&a);
    sq(&b);
    sq(&c);
    sq(&d);
    sq(&e);
    return a + b + c + d + e;
}
```

```
...
sq_sum5(1, 2, 3, 4, 5);
...
```

callee
function

- **sq** received a reference
- registers do not have an address
- allocate temporary local storage

caller
function

Callee Function Code (1)

```
sq_sum5:  
push { fp, lr }  
mov fp, sp  
sub sp, sp, #16
```

```
str r0, [ fp, #-16 ]    *( fp - 16 ) ← r0  
str r1, [ fp, #-12 ]    *( fp - 12 ) ← r1  
str r2, [ fp, #-8 ]     *( fp - 8 ) ← r2  
str r3, [ fp, #-4 ]     *( fp - 4 ) ← r3
```

```
mov sp, fp  
pop { fp, lr }  
bx lr
```

```
sq:  
ldr r1, [ r0 ]          r1 ← ( *r0 )  
mul r1, r1, r1          r1 ← r1 * r1  
str r1, [ r0 ]          ( *r0 ) ← r1  
bx lr
```

```
sub r0, fp, #16        r0 ← fp - 16  
bl sq                  call sq ( &a )  
sub r0, fp, #12        r0 ← fp - 12  
bl sq                  call sq ( &b )  
sub r0, fp, #8         r0 ← fp - 8  
bl sq                  call sq ( &c )  
sub r0, fp, #4         r0 ← fp - 4  
bl sq                  call sq ( &d )  
add r0, fp, #8         r0 ← fp + 8  
bl sq                  call sq ( &e )
```

```
ldr r0, [ fp, #-16 ]   r0 ← *( fp - 16 ) :a  
ldr r1, [ fp, #-12 ]   r1 ← *( fp - 12 ) :b  
add r0, r0, r1         r0 ← r0 + r1  
ldr r1, [ fp, #-8 ]    r1 ← *( fp - 8 ) :c  
add r0, r0, r1         r0 ← r0 + r1  
ldr r1, [ fp, #-4 ]    r1 ← *( fp - 4 ) :d  
add r0, r0, r1         r0 ← r0 + r1  
ldr r1, [ fp, #8 ]     r1 ← *( fp + 8 ) :e  
add r0, r0, r1         r0 ← r0 + r1
```

Callee Function Code (2)

```
sq_sum5:  
push { fp, lr }  
mov fp, sp  
sub sp, sp, #16
```

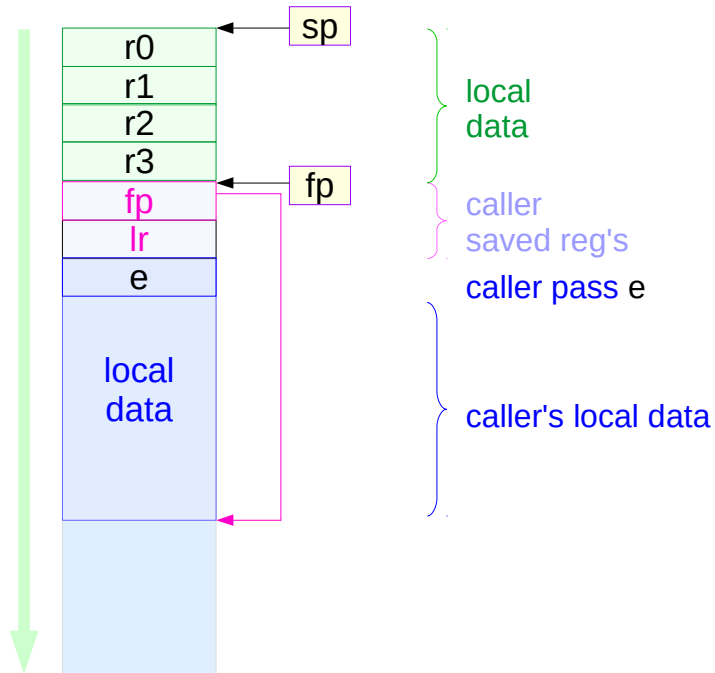
```
str r0, [ fp, #-16 ]    *( fp - 16 ) ← r0  
str r1, [ fp, #-12 ]    *( fp - 12 ) ← r1  
str r2, [ fp, #-8 ]     *( fp - 8 ) ← r2  
str r3, [ fp, #-4 ]     *( fp - 4 ) ← r3
```

```
mov sp, fp  
pop { fp, lr }  
bx lr
```

At this point the stack looks like this
| Value | Address (es)

+-----+-----+-----+			
	Value	Address (es)	
	r0	[fp, #-16], [sp]	local data
	r1	[fp, #-12], [sp, #4]	
	r2	[fp, #-8], [sp, #8]	
	r3	[fp, #-4], [sp, #12]	
	fp	[fp], [sp, #16]	callee saved registers
	lr	[fp, #4], [sp, #20]	
	e	[fp, #8], [sp, #24]	caller pass e parameters
	v		
Higher addresses			

Callee Function Code (3)



At this point the stack looks like this
 | Value | Address (es)

	Value	Address (es)
r0	[fp, #-16]	[sp]
r1	[fp, #-12]	[sp, #4]
r2	[fp, #-8]	[sp, #8]
r3	[fp, #-4]	[sp, #12]
fp	[fp]	[sp, #16]
lr	[fp, #4]	[sp, #20]
e	[fp, #8]	[sp, #24]

v
Higher addresses

local data
 callee saved registers
 caller pass e parameters

Caller Function Code

```
.data
.align 4

message:
.asciz "Sum of 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 +
5^2 is %d\n"

.text

sq: <<defined above>>
sq_sum5: <<defined above>>

.globl main
main:

push { r4, lr }

pop { r4, lr }

bx lr
```

```
mov r0, #1      a ← 1
mov r1, #2      b ← 2
mov r2, #3      c ← 3
mov r3, #4      d ← 4

mov r4, #5      r4 ← 5

sub sp, sp, #8
str r4, [sp]    e ← 5

bl sq_sum5     sq_sum5 ( 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 )

add sp, sp, #8

mov r1, r0
ldr r0, address_of_message

bl printf

address_of_message: .word message
```

APCS Register Use Convention

R11	fp	Frame Pointer
R12	ip	Scratch register / specialist use by linker
R13	sp	Lower end of current stack frame
R14	lr	Link address / scratch register
R15	pc	Program counter

LR and FP Registers

SP where the stack **is**
FP where the stack **was**

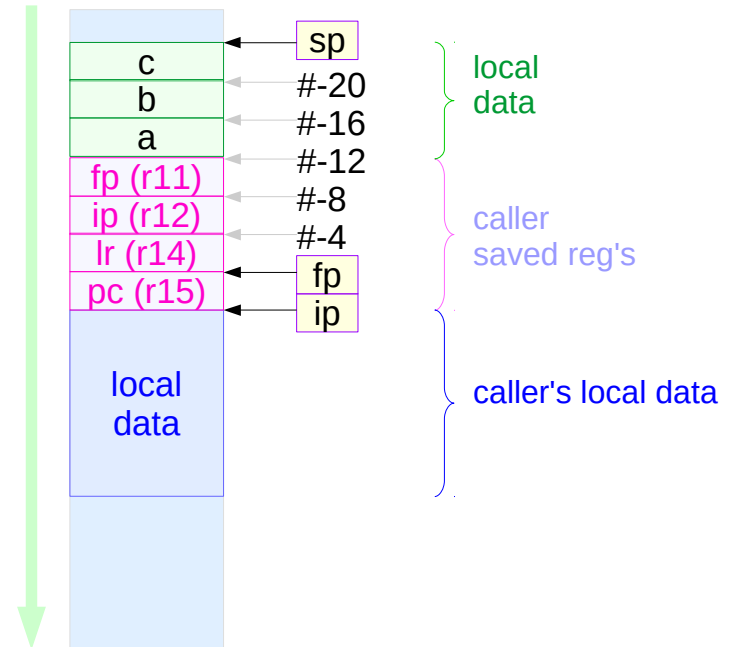
PC where you **are**
LR where you **were**

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/15752188/arm-link-register-and-frame-pointer>

-fno-omit-frame-pointer

```
main:  
mov     ip, sp  
stmfd  sp!, { fp, ip, lr, pc }  
sub     fp, ip, #4  
sub     sp, sp, #12  
ldr     r2, [fp, #-16]  
ldr     r3, [fp, #-20]  
add     r3, r3, r2  
str     r3, [fp, #-24]  
sub     sp, fp, #12  
ldmfd  sp, {fp, sp, pc}
```

```
main()  
{  
    volatile int a, b, c;  
    c = a + b;  
}
```

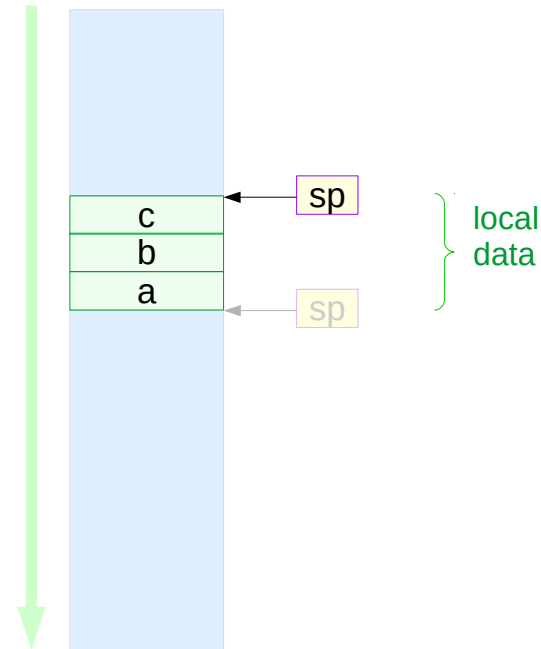


<https://community.arm.com/thread/7092>

-fomit-frame-pointer

```
main:  
sub    sp, sp, #12  
ldr    r2, [sp, #8]  
ldr    r3, [fp, #4]  
add    r3, r3, r2  
str    r3, [sp, #0]  
sub    sp, sp, #12
```

```
main()  
{  
    volatile int a, b, c;  
    c = a + b;  
}
```



<https://community.arm.com/thread/7092>

References

- [1] http://wiki.osdev.org/ARM_RaspberryPi_Tutorial_C
- [2] <http://blog.bobuhiro11.net/2014/01-13-baremetal.html>
- [3] <http://www.valvers.com/open-software/raspberry-pi/>
- [4] <https://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/projects/raspberrypi/tutorials/os/downloads.html>