

CLASSIC

MEMORY ATKS & DEFS

CMSC 414

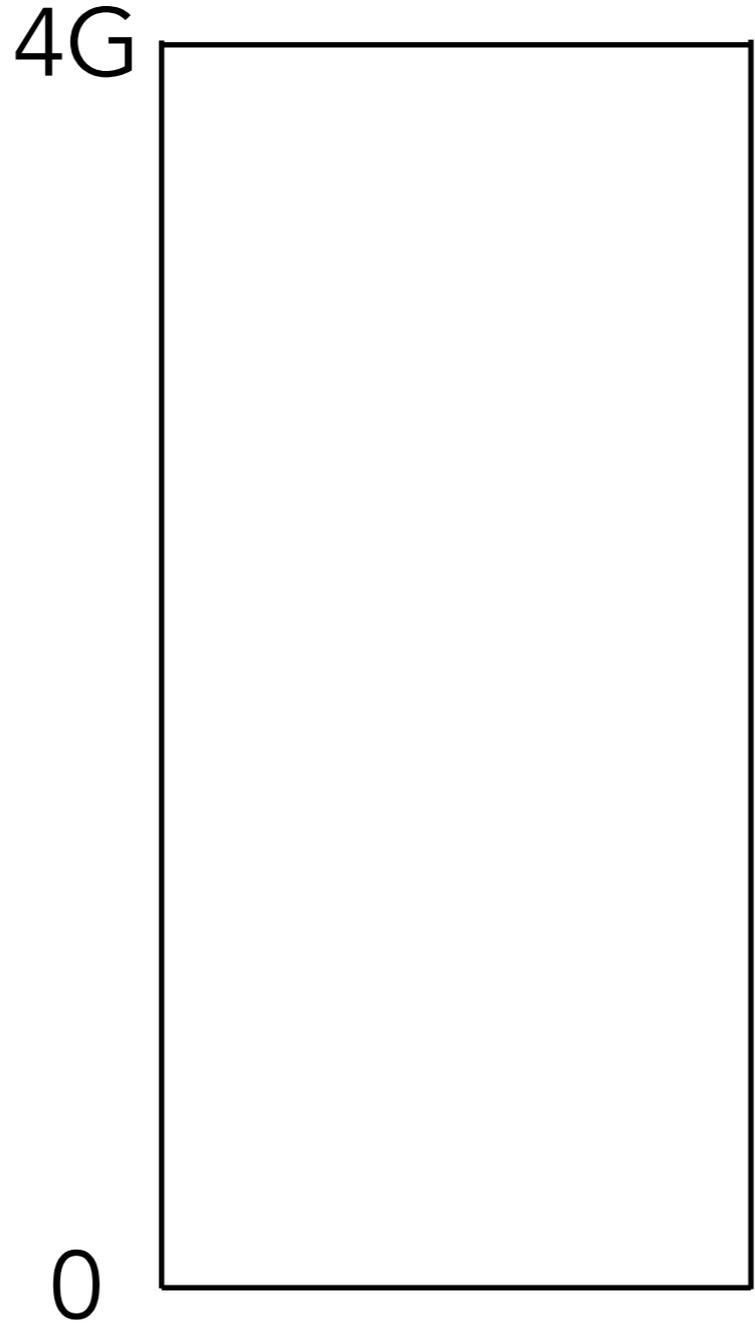
JAN 30 2018



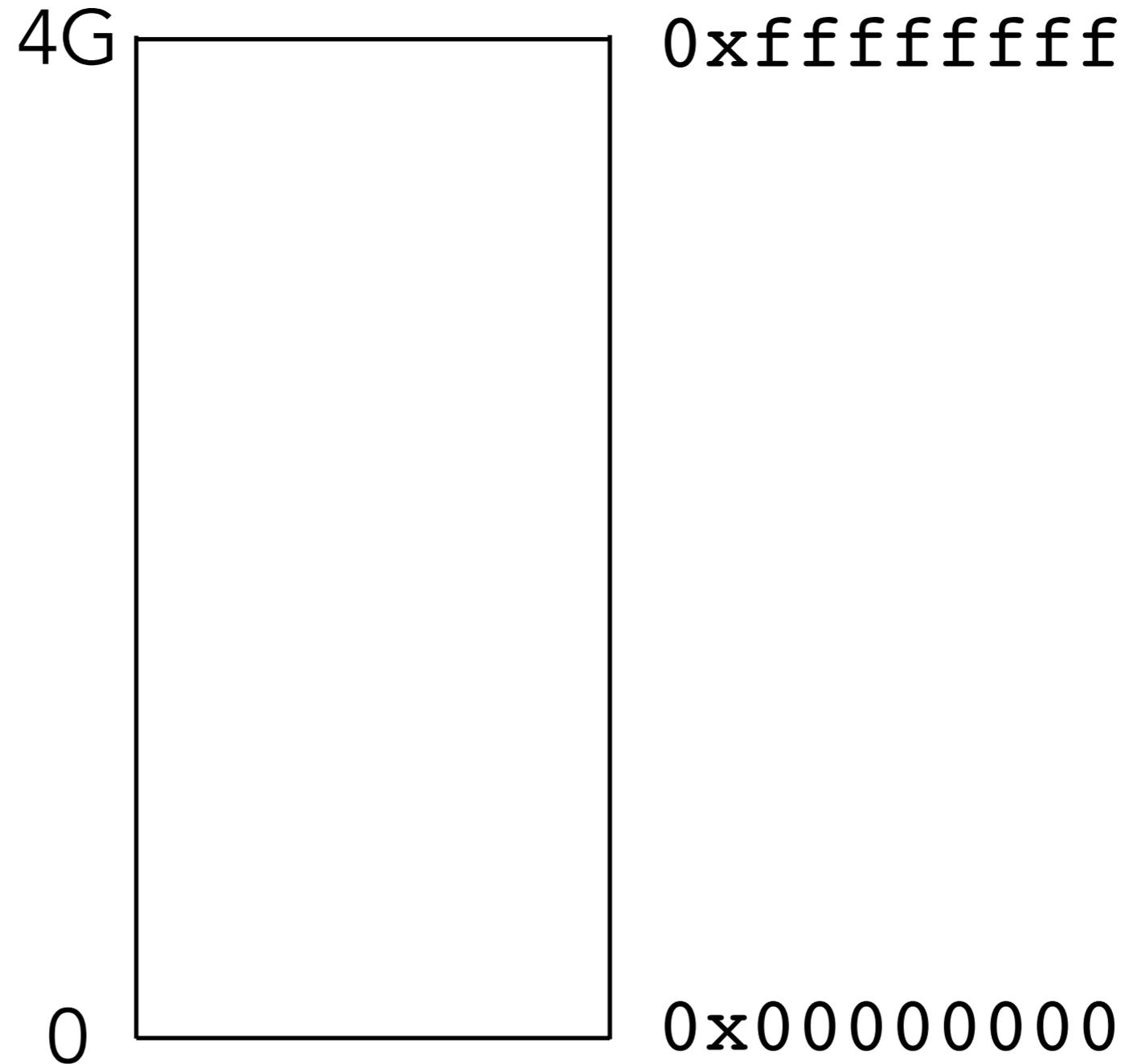
REFRESHER

- How is program data laid out in memory?
- What does the stack look like?
- What effect does calling (and returning from) a function have on memory?
- We are focusing on the Linux process model
 - Similar to other operating systems

ALL PROGRAMS ARE STORED IN MEMORY

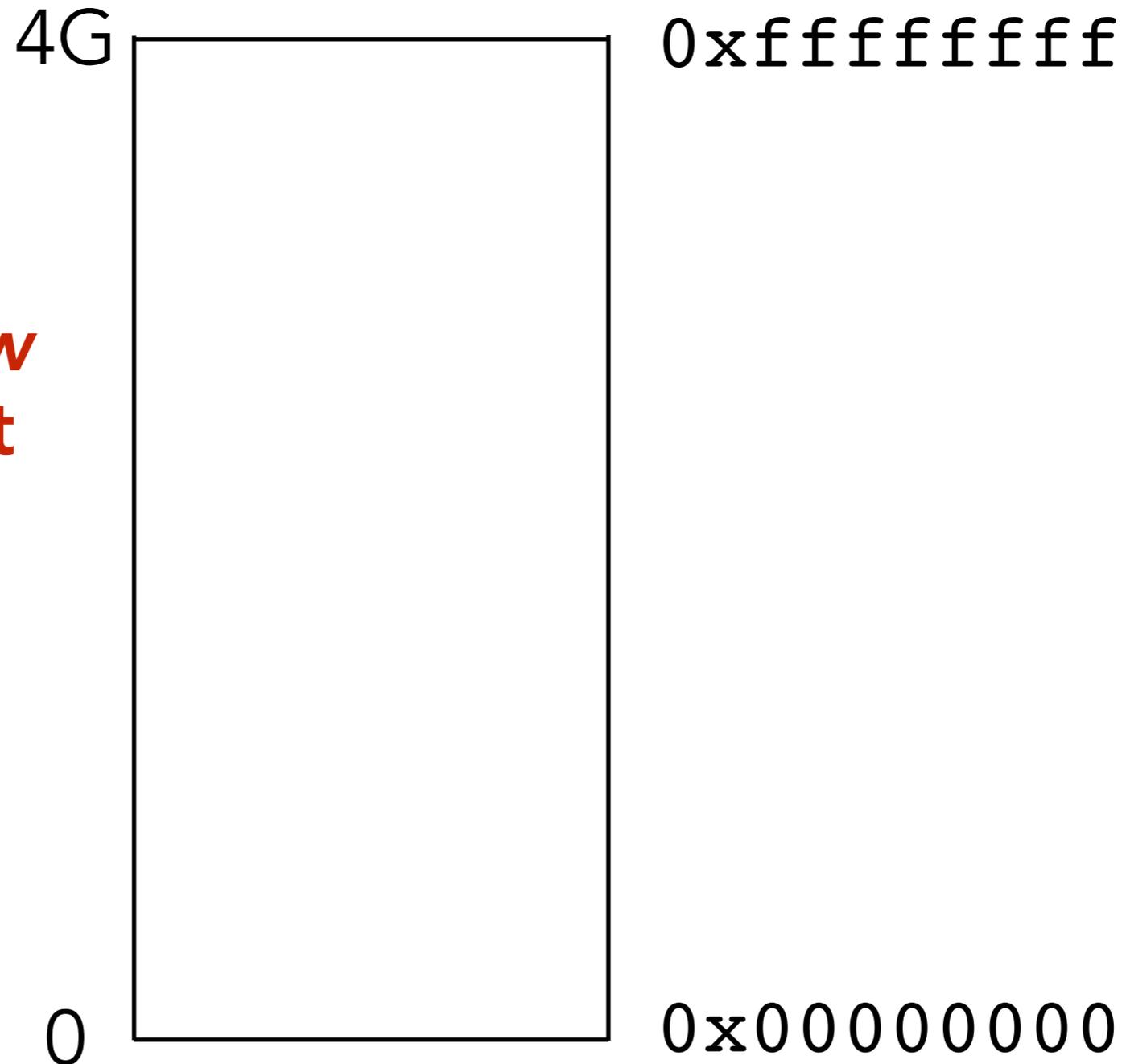


ALL PROGRAMS ARE STORED IN MEMORY



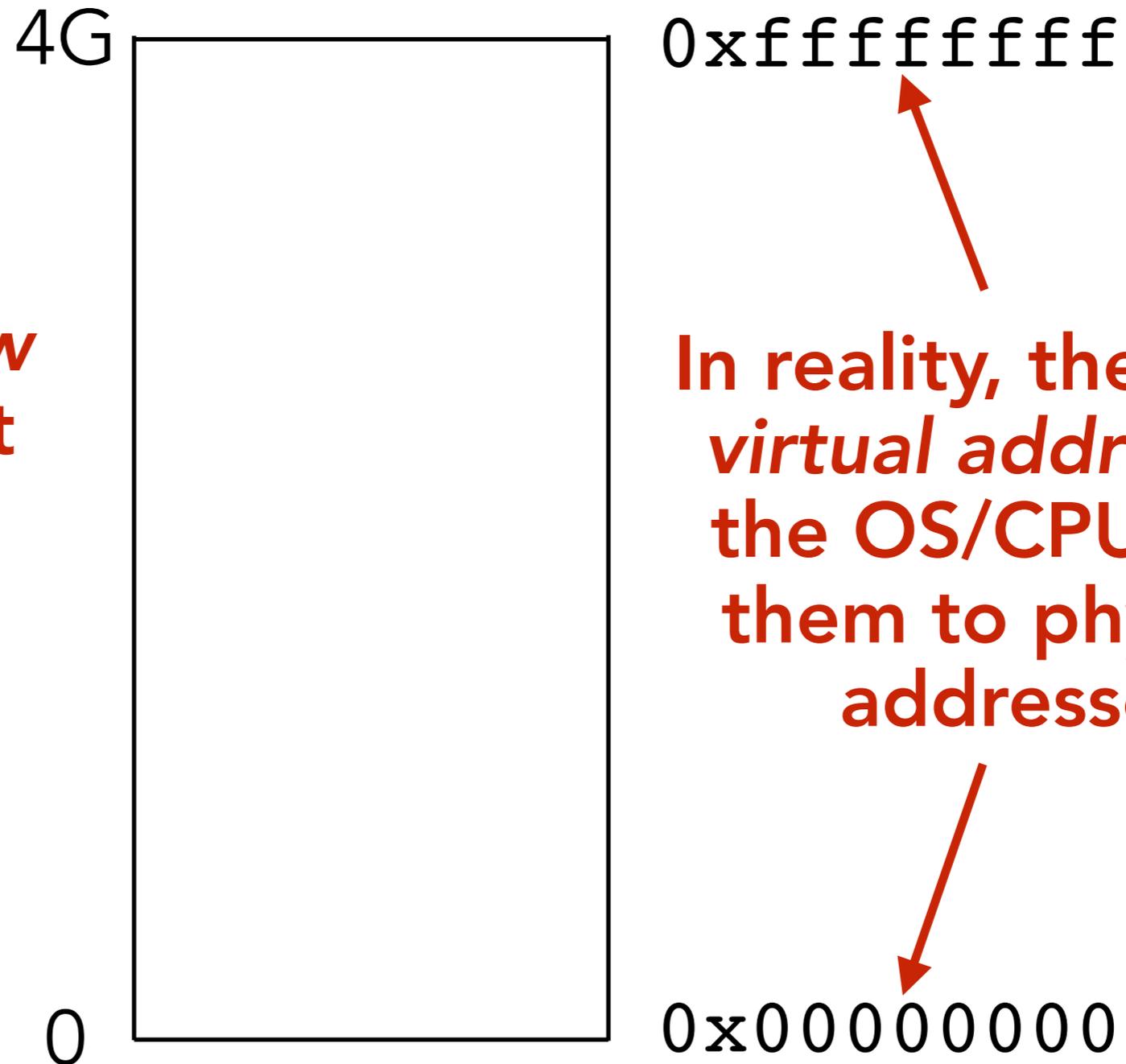
ALL PROGRAMS ARE STORED IN MEMORY

The *process's view* of memory is that it owns all of it



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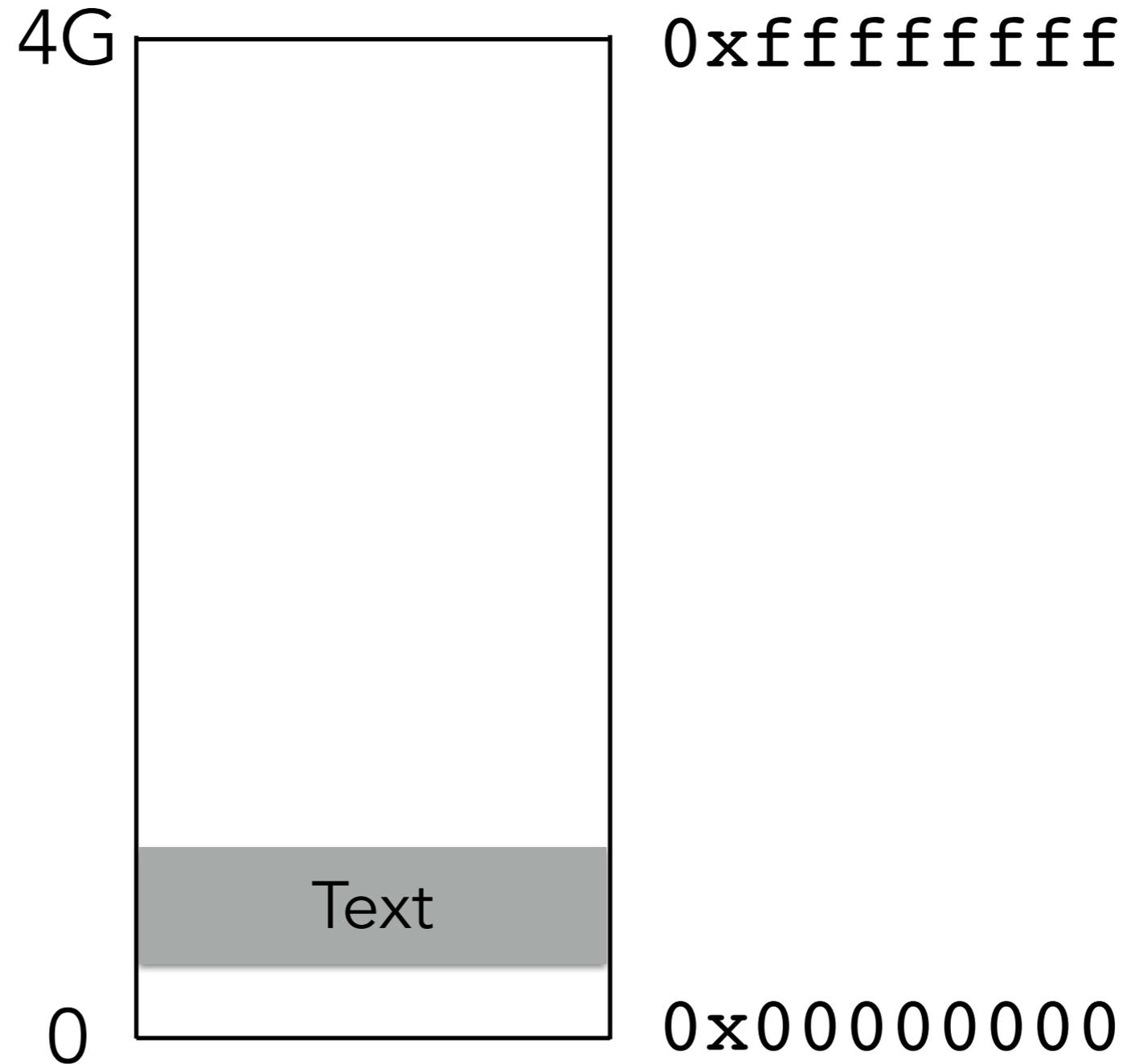


0xffffffff

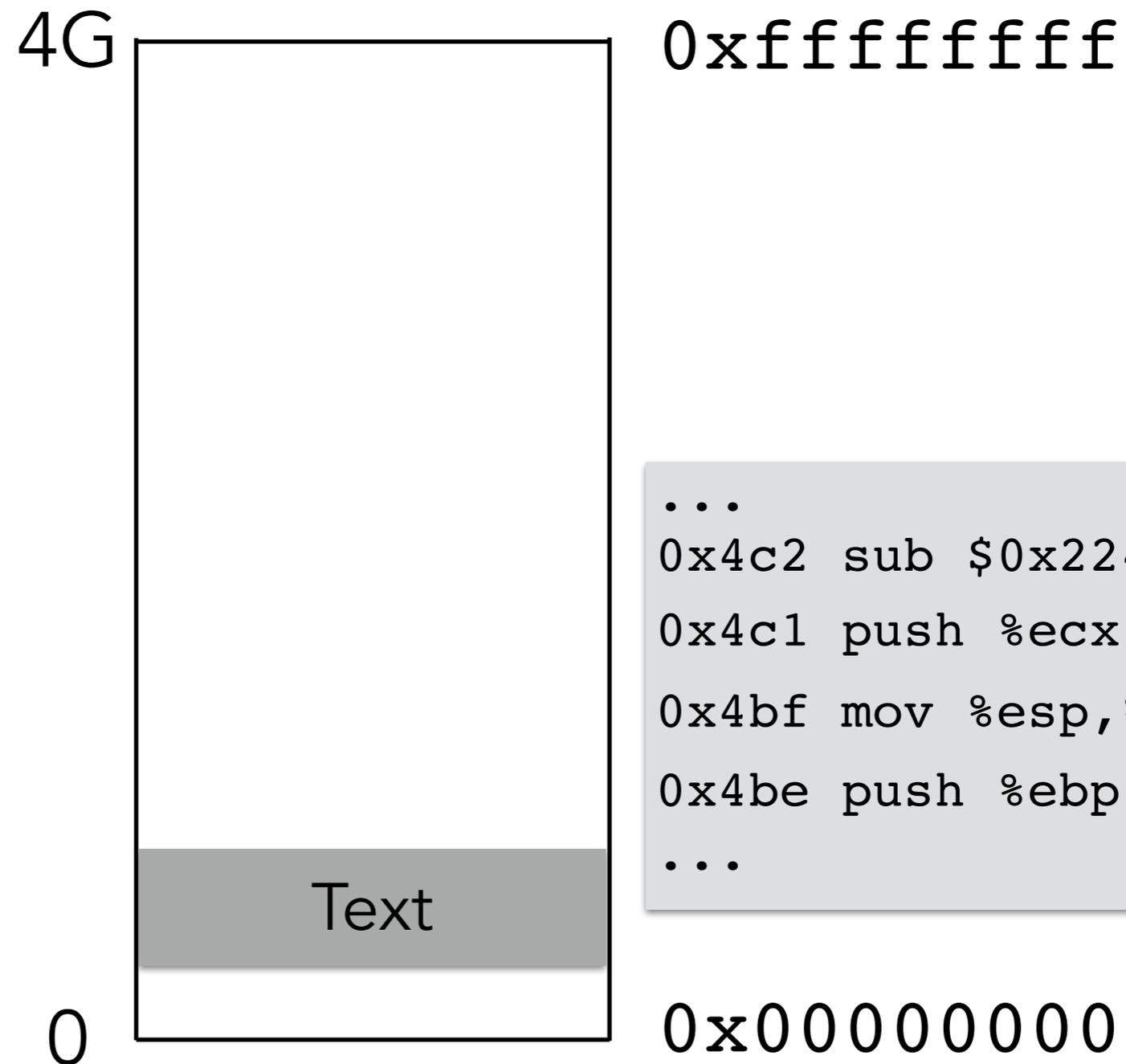
In reality, these are *virtual addresses*; the OS/CPU map them to physical addresses

0x00000000

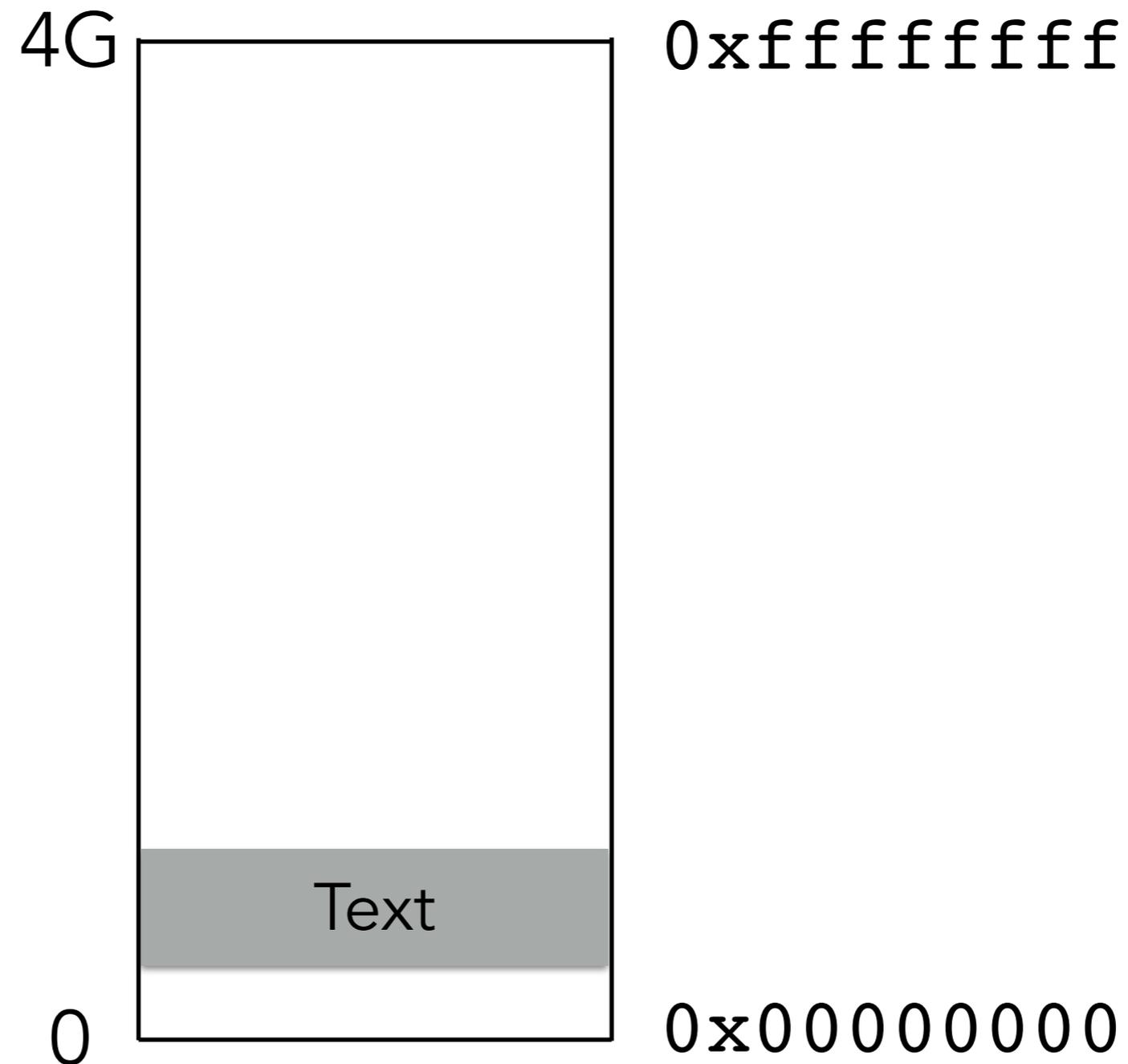
THE INSTRUCTIONS THEMSELVES ARE STORED IN MEMORY



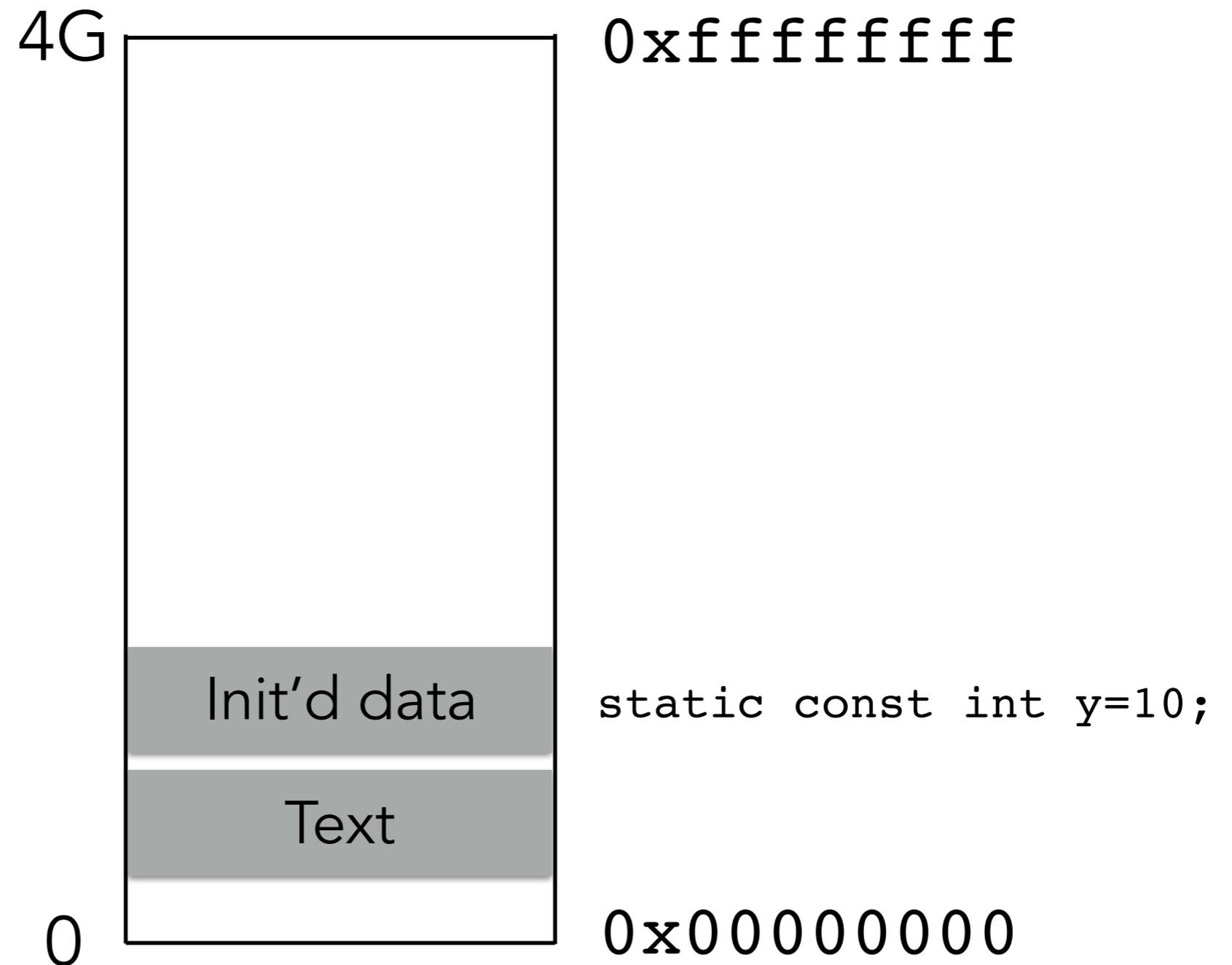
THE INSTRUCTIONS THEMSELVES ARE STORED IN MEMORY



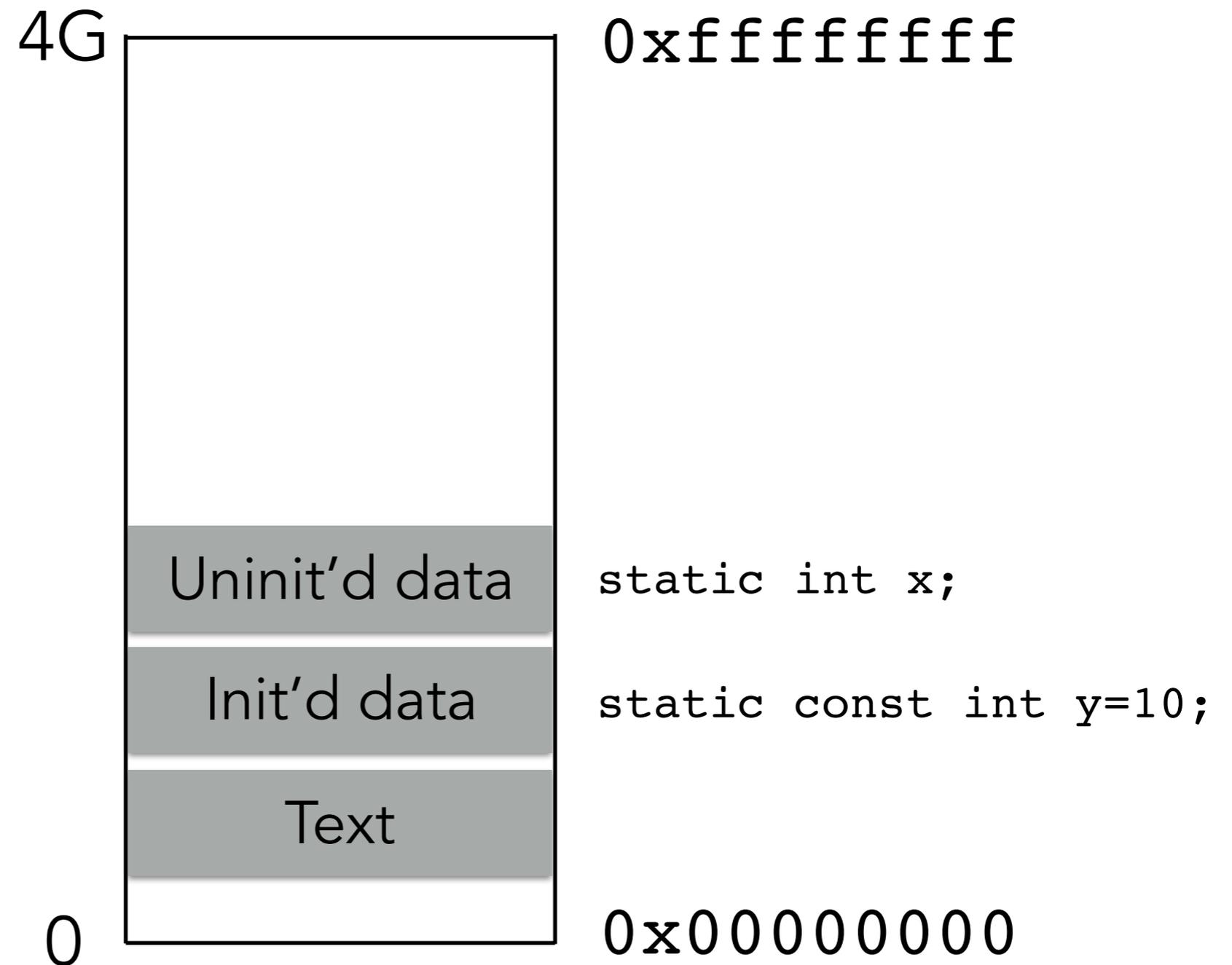
DATA'S LOCATION DEPENDS ON HOW IT'S CREATED



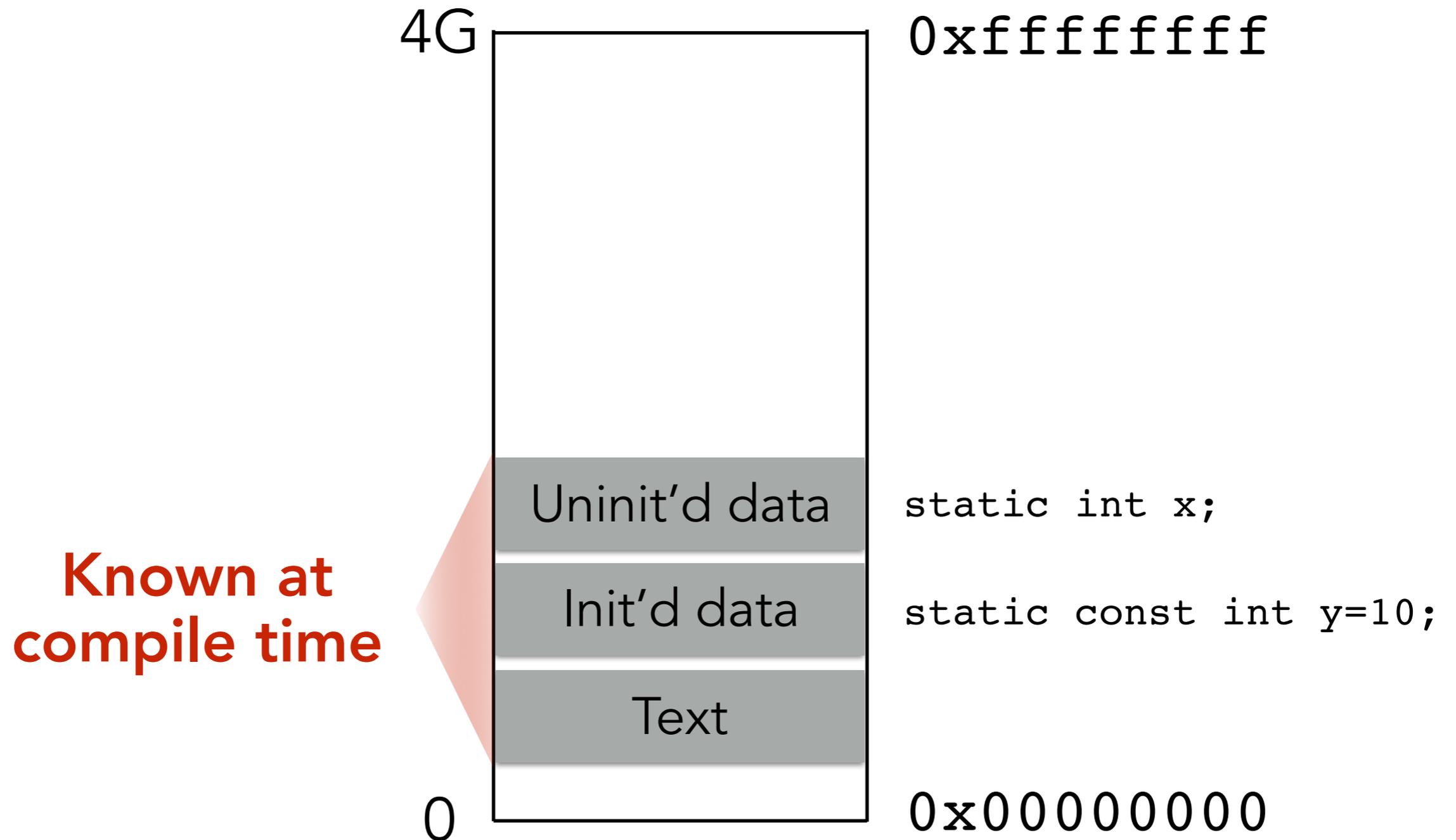
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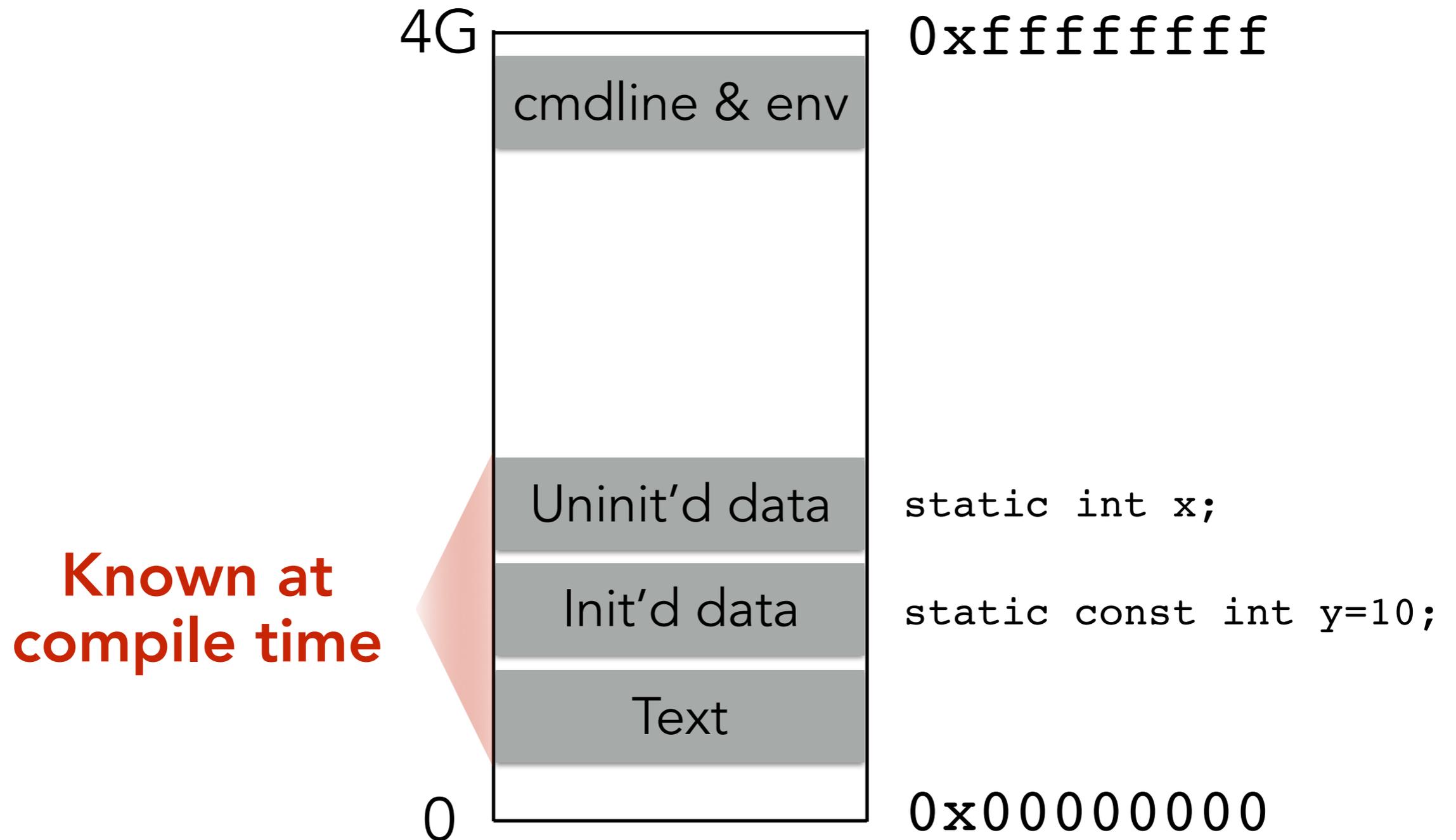
DATA'S LOCATION DEPENDS ON HOW IT'S CREATED



DATA'S LOCATION DEPENDS ON HOW IT'S CREATED



DATA'S LOCATION DEPENDS ON HOW IT'S CREATED



DATA'S LOCATION DEPENDS ON HOW IT'S CREATED

**Set when
process starts**

4G

cmdline & env

0xfffffffffff

**Known at
compile time**

Uninit'd data

```
static int x;
```

Init'd data

```
static const int y=10;
```

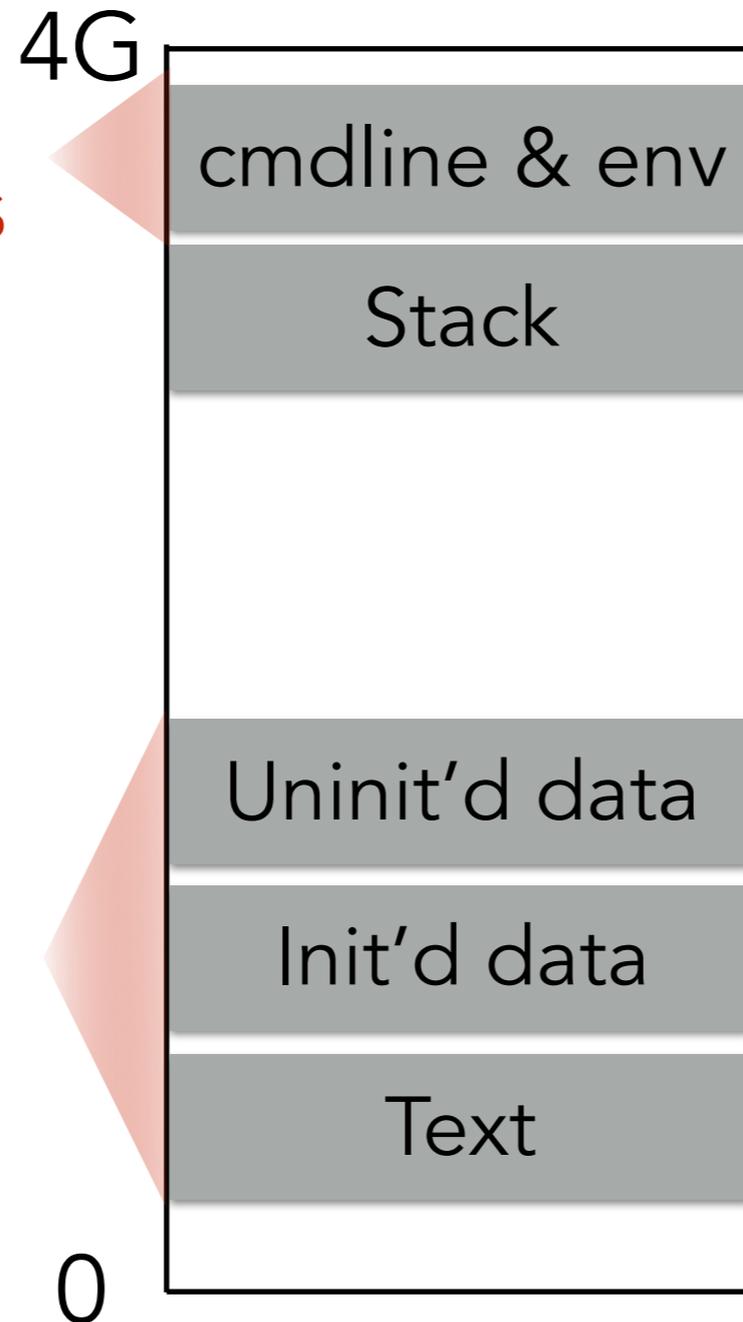
Text

0

0x00000000

DATA'S LOCATION DEPENDS ON HOW IT'S CREATED

**Set when
process starts**



`0xfffffffffff`

```
int f() {  
    int x;  
    ...  
}
```

```
static int x;
```

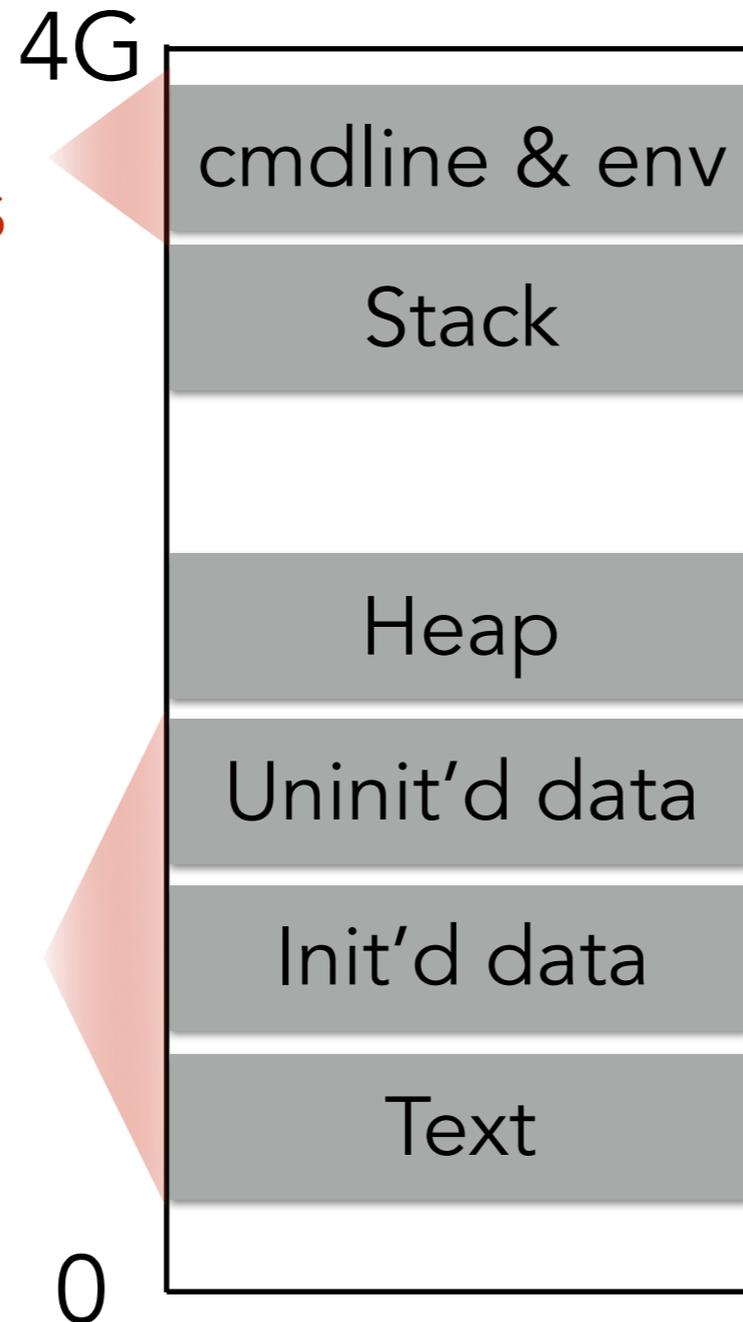
```
static const int y=10;
```

`0x00000000`

**Known at
compile time**

DATA'S LOCATION DEPENDS ON HOW IT'S CREATED

**Set when
process starts**



**Known at
compile time**

`0xfffffffffff`

```
int f() {  
    int x;  
    ...  
}
```

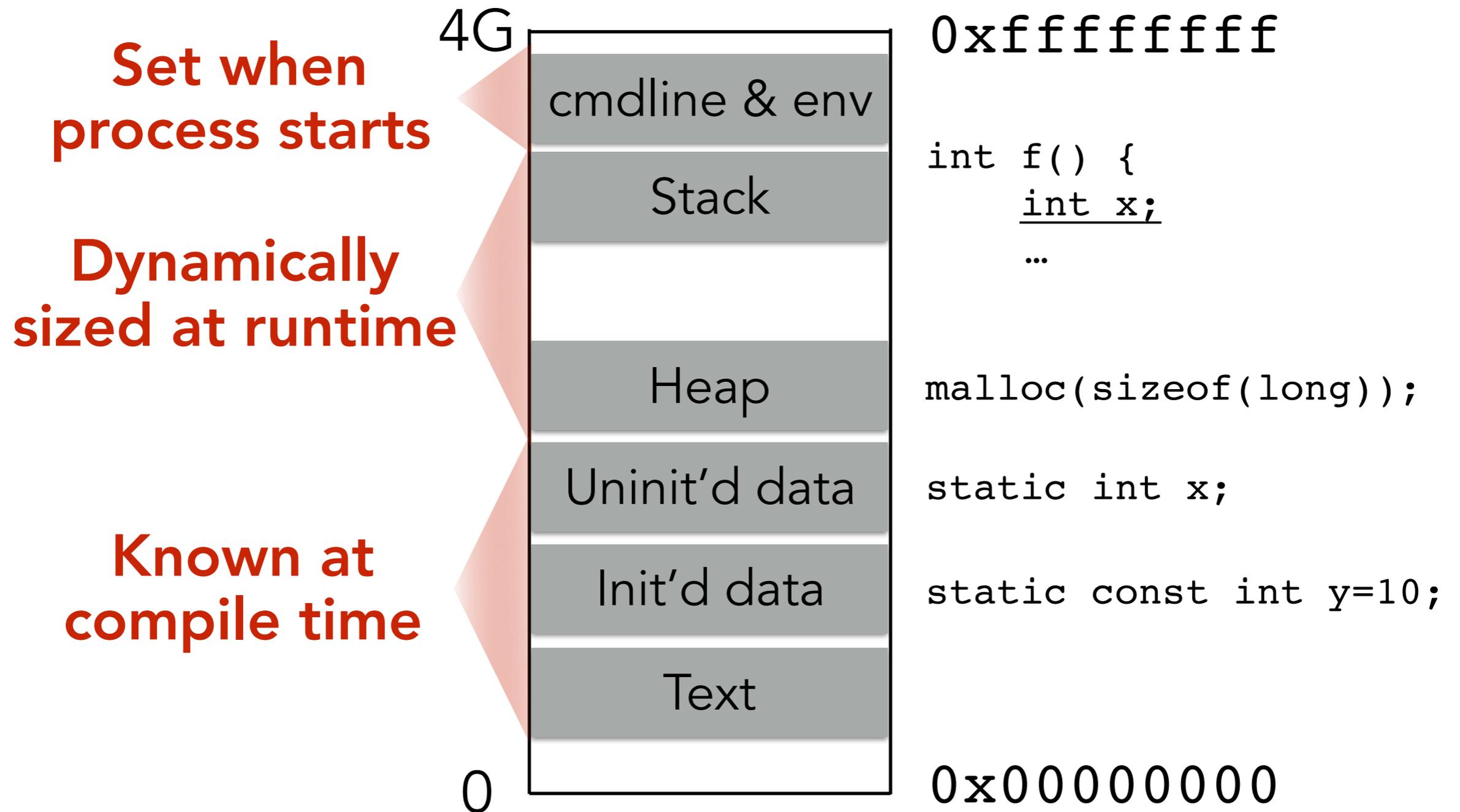
```
malloc(sizeof(long));
```

```
static int x;
```

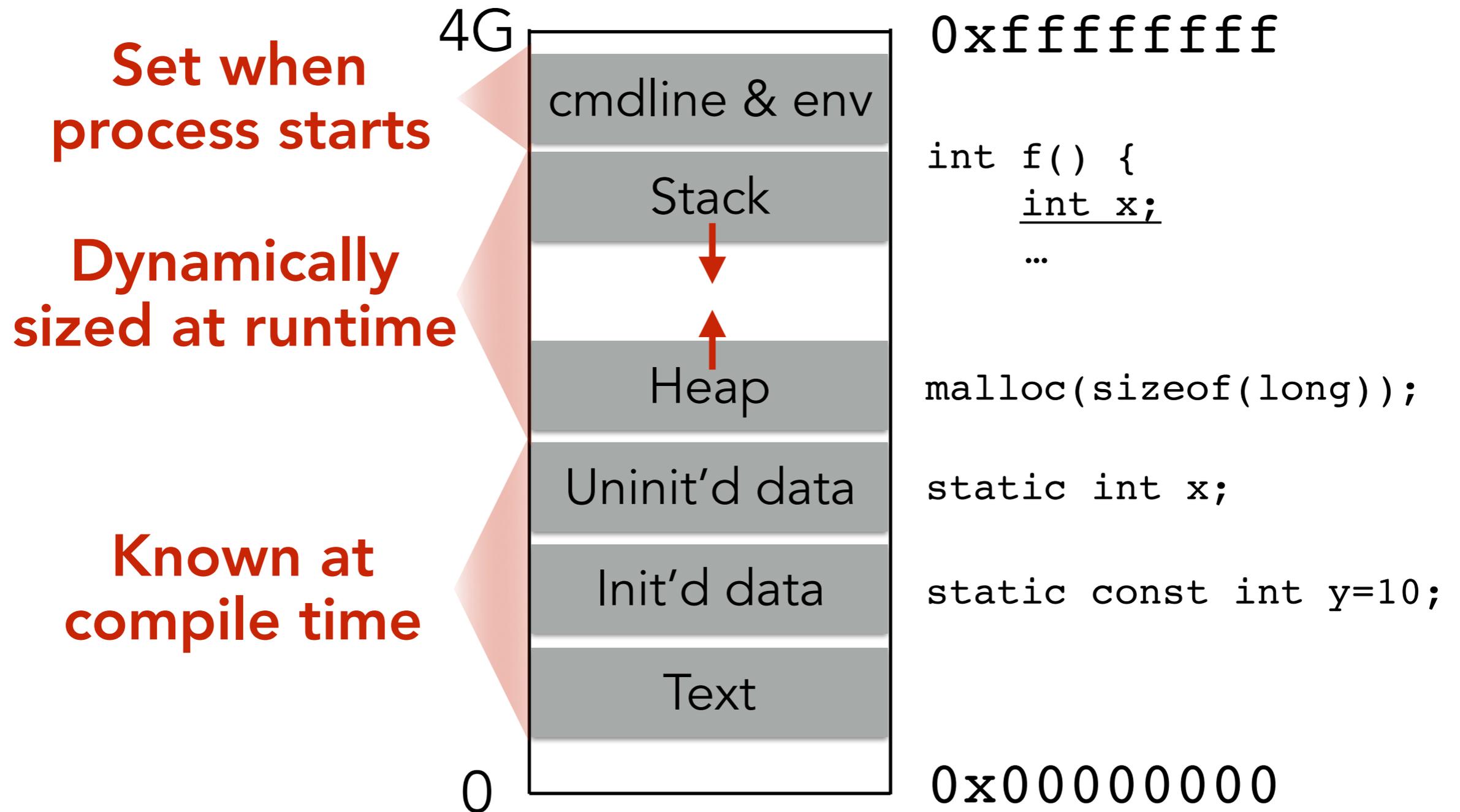
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`0x00000000`

DATA'S LOCATION DEPENDS ON HOW IT'S CREATED



DATA'S LOCATION DEPENDS ON HOW IT'S CREATED



WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

0x00000000

0xffffffff



WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x00000000

0xffffffff



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Stack
pointer

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

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0x00000000

0xffffffff



Stack
pointer

```
push 1  
push 2  
push 3
```

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

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0x00000000

0xffffffff



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↑
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push 3
```

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x00000000

0xffffffff



Stack
pointer

A red arrow points upwards from the text 'Stack pointer' to the boundary between the 'Heap' and 'Stack' regions in the diagram above.

```
push 1  
push 2  
push 3
```

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x00000000

0xffffffff



Stack
pointer

```
push 1  
push 2  
push 3
```

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x00000000

0xffffffff



Stack
pointer

```
push 1  
push 2  
push 3  
return
```

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x00000000

0xffffffff



Stack
pointer

↑

```
push 1  
push 2  
push 3  
return
```

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime

0x00000000

0xffffffff



apporportioned by the OS;
managed in-process
by malloc

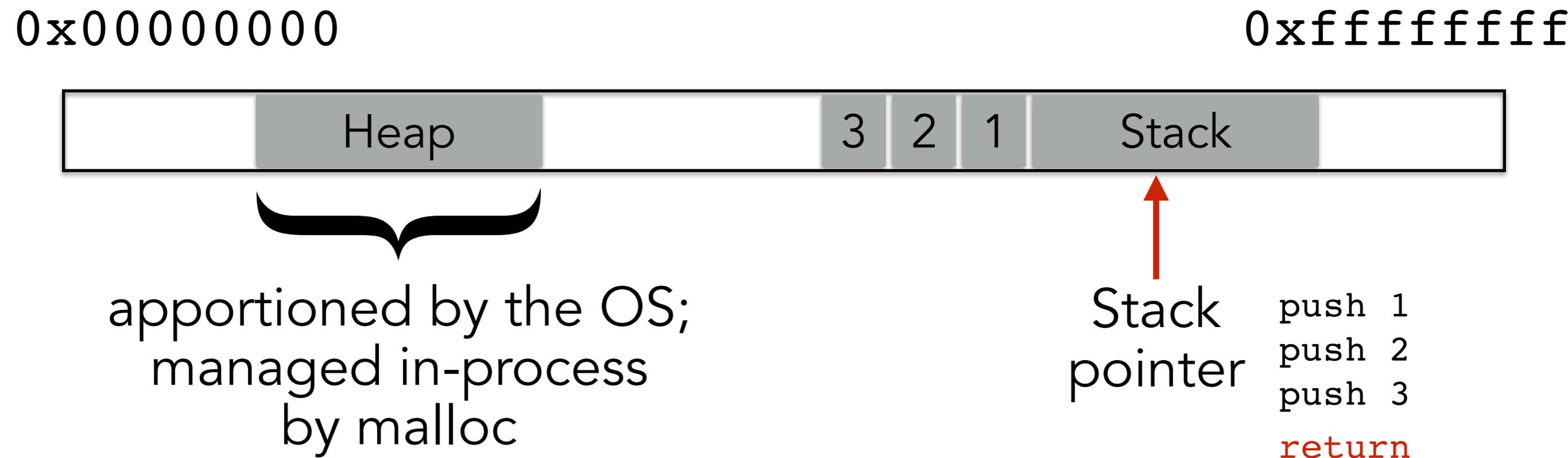
Stack
pointer

push 1
push 2
push 3
return

WE ARE GOING TO FOCUS ON RUNTIME ATTACKS

Stack and heap grow in opposite directions

Compiler provides instructions that adjusts the size of the stack at runtime



Focusing on the stack for now

STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int  loc2;
    int  loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
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    int  loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



**Arguments
pushed in
reverse order
of code**

STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
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{
    char loc1[4]
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    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



**Local variables
pushed in the
same order as
they appear
in the code**

**Arguments
pushed in
reverse order
of code**

STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
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0x00000000

0xffffffff



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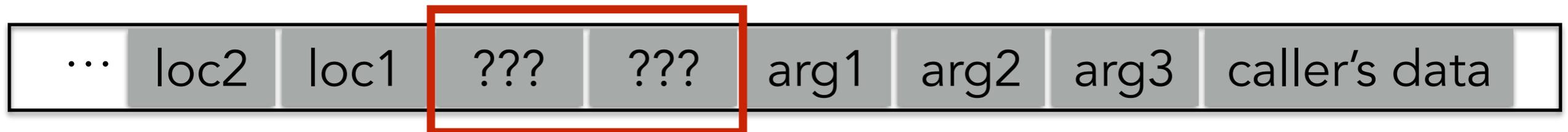
STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int  loc2;
    int  loc3;
    ...
}
```

Two values between the arguments
and the local variables

0x00000000

0xffffffff



Local variables
pushed in the
same order as
they appear
in the code

Arguments
pushed in
reverse order
of code

STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



caller's data

The diagram shows a horizontal bar representing a stack. The right end of the bar is highlighted in light green and labeled 'caller's data'. Above the bar, the memory address 0x00000000 is on the left and 0xffffffff is on the right.

STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



**Arguments
pushed in
reverse order
of code**

STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff

loc2 loc1

arg1 arg2 arg3

caller's data

**Local variables
pushed in the
same order as
they appear
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**Arguments
pushed in
reverse order
of code**

STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



**Local variables
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same order as
they appear
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**Arguments
pushed in
reverse order
of code**

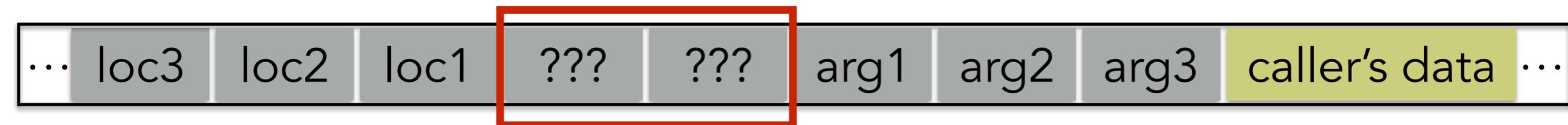
STACK LAYOUT WHEN CALLING FUNCTION

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int  loc2;
    int  loc3;
    ...
}
```

Two values between the arguments
and the local variables

0x00000000

0xffffffff



Local variables
pushed in the
same order as
they appear
in the code

Arguments
pushed in
reverse order
of code

STACK FRAMES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int  loc2;
    int  loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff

The diagram illustrates a stack frame. It features a large grey rectangular area representing the function's local memory. Above the left side of this area is the address 0x00000000, and above the right side is 0xffffffff. A smaller yellow rectangular area is positioned to the right of the grey area, labeled 'caller's data', representing the memory belonging to the function's caller.

STACK FRAMES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int  loc2;
    int  loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



STACK FRAMES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int  loc2;
    int  loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff

loc2

loc1

arg1

arg2

arg3

caller's data

STACK FRAMES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    ...
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



The part of the stack corresponding to this particular invocation of this particular function

STACK FRAMES

```
void main() { countUp(3); }  
  
void countUp(int n) {  
    if(n > 1)  
        countUp(n-1);  
    printf("%d\n", n);  
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff

main() ...

STACK FRAMES

```
void main() { countUp(3); }  
  
void countUp(int n) {  
    if(n > 1)  
        countUp(n-1);  
    printf("%d\n", n);  
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff

main() ...

Stack
pointer

STACK FRAMES

```
void main() { countUp(3); }  
  
void countUp(int n) {  
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}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



Stack
pointer

STACK FRAMES

```
void main() { countUp(3); }  
  
void countUp(int n) {  
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0x00000000

0xffffffff



Stack
pointer

STACK FRAMES

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void main() { countUp(3); }  
  
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0x00000000

0xffffffff



Stack
pointer

STACK FRAMES

```
void main() { countUp(3); }  
  
void countUp(int n) {  
    if(n > 1)  
        countUp(n-1);  
    printf("%d\n", n);  
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff

countUp(1)

countUp(2)

main()

...

Stack
pointer

STACK FRAMES

```
void main() { countUp(3); }  
  
void countUp(int n) {  
    if(n > 1)  
        countUp(n-1);  
    printf("%d\n", n);  
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff

countUp(1)

main() ...

↑
Stack
pointer

STACK FRAMES

```
void main() { countUp(3); }  
  
void countUp(int n) {  
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        countUp(n-1);  
    printf("%d\n", n);  
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff

main() ...

Stack
pointer

ACCESSING VARIABLES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    loc2++;
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



ACCESSING VARIABLES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    loc2++;
}
```

Q: Where is (this) loc2?

0x00000000

0xffffffff



ACCESSING VARIABLES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
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}
```

Q: Where is (this) loc2?

0x00000000

0xffffffff



0xbfff323

ACCESSING VARIABLES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
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```

Q: Where is (this) loc2?

0x00000000

0xffffffff

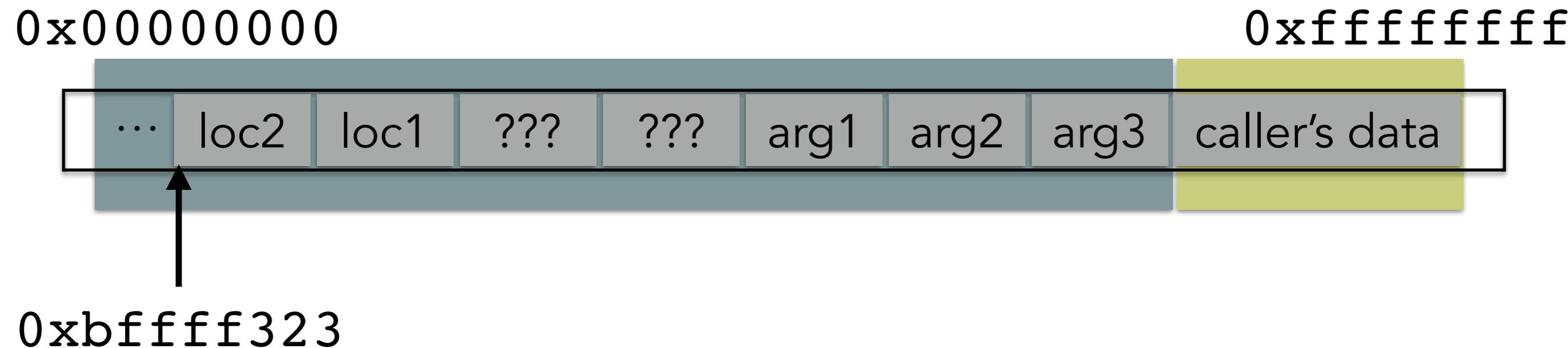


0xbffff323

**Undecidable at
compile time**

ACCESSING VARIABLES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;      Q: Where is (this) loc2?
    int loc3;
    loc2++;
}
```

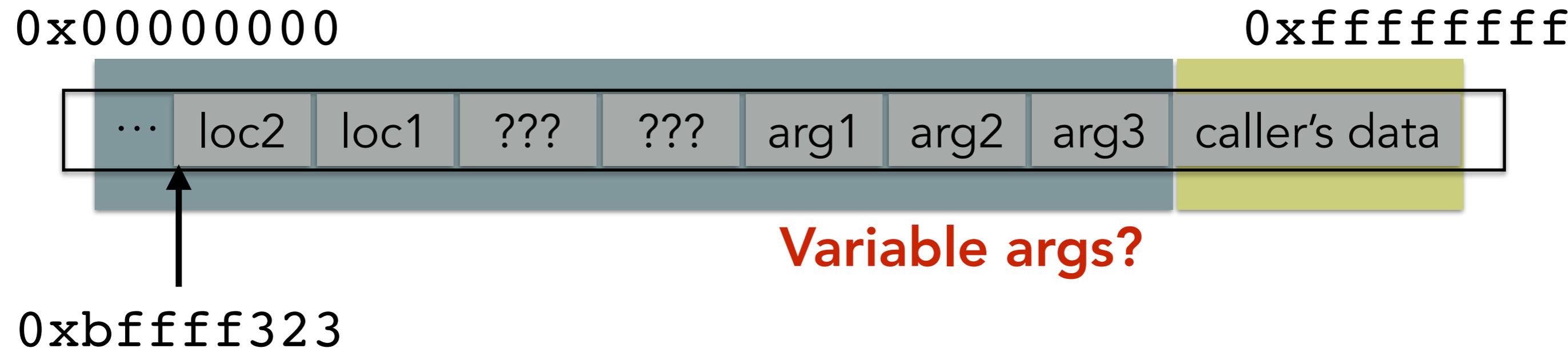


Undecidable at compile time

- I don't know where `loc2` is,

ACCESSING VARIABLES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;      Q: Where is (this) loc2?
    int loc3;
    loc2++;
}
```



Variable args?

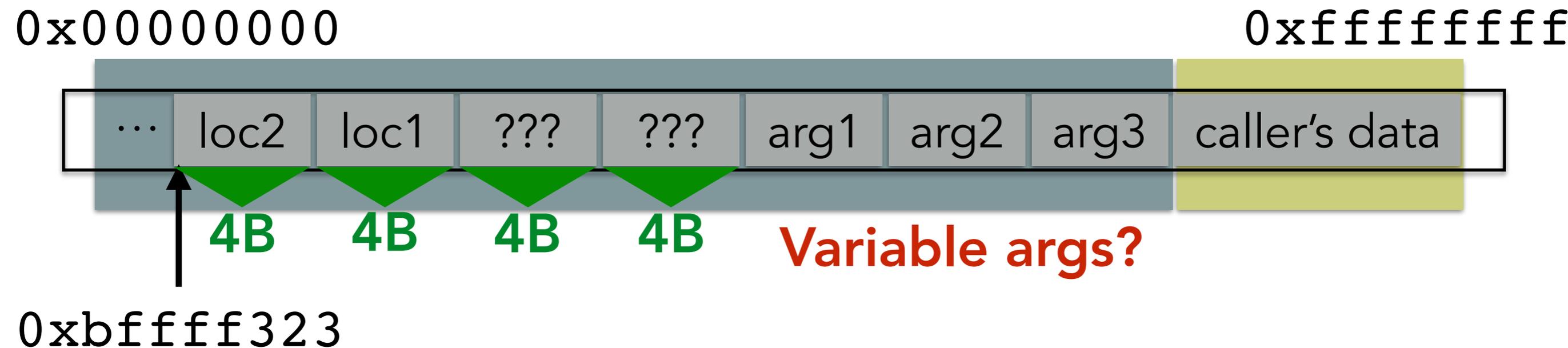
Undecidable at compile time

- I don't know where `loc2` is,
- and I don't know how many args

ACCESSING VARIABLES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int  loc2;
    int  loc3;
    loc2++;
}
```

Q: Where is (this) loc2?



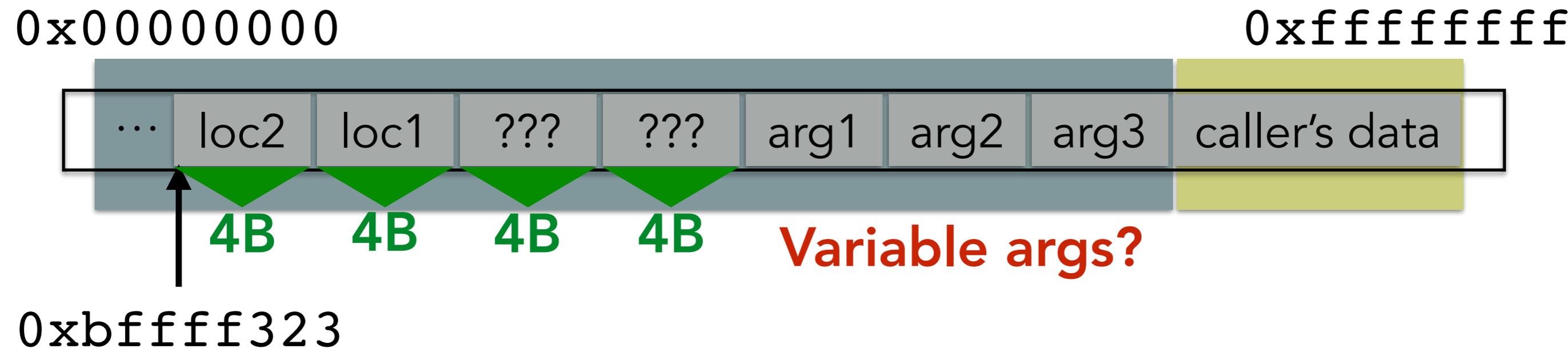
Undecidable at compile time

- I don't know where loc2 is,
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ACCESSING VARIABLES

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void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
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    int loc3;
    loc2++;
}
```

Q: Where is (this) loc2?



Undecidable at compile time

- I don't know where loc2 is,
- and I don't know how many args
- *but* loc2 is *always* 8B before "???"s

ACCESSING VARIABLES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    loc2++;
}
```

Q: Where is (this) loc2?

0x00000000

0xffffffff

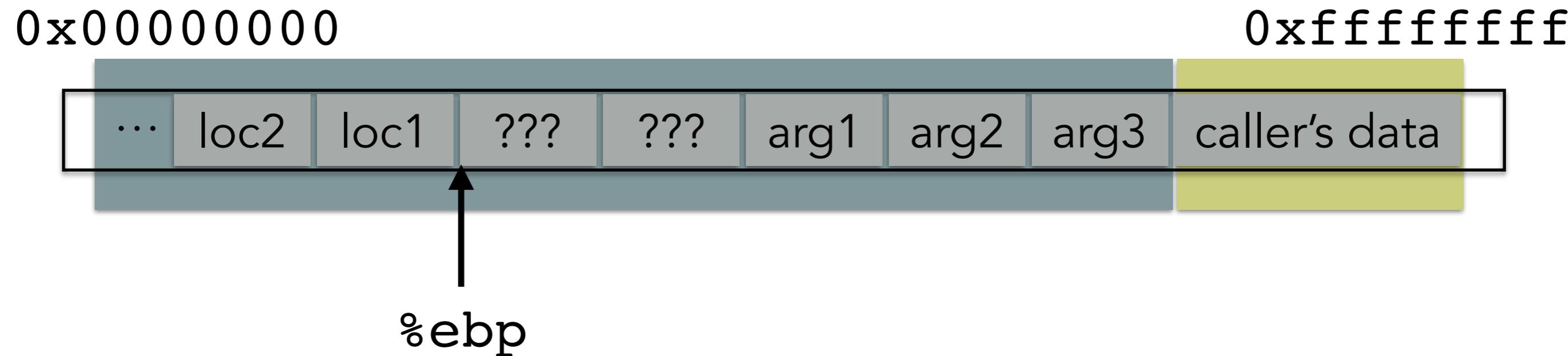


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- *but* loc2 is *always* 8B before "???"s

ACCESSING VARIABLES

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{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    loc2++;
}
```

Q: Where is (this) loc2?



Frame pointer

- I don't know where `loc2` is,
- and I don't know how many args
- *but* `loc2` is *always* 8B before `"???"`s

ACCESSING VARIABLES

```
void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    char loc1[4]
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    loc2++;
}
```

Q: Where is (this) loc2?

A: -8(%ebp)

0x00000000

0xffffffff



%ebp

Frame pointer

- I don't know where loc2 is,
- and I don't know how many args
- *but* loc2 is *always* 8B before "???"s

NOTATION

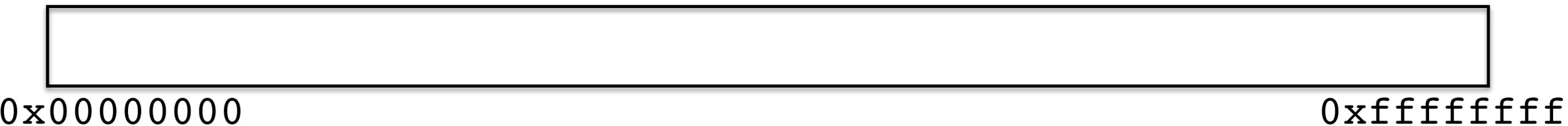
`%ebp` A memory address

`(%ebp)` The value at memory address `%ebp`
(like dereferencing a pointer)

NOTATION

`%ebp` A memory address

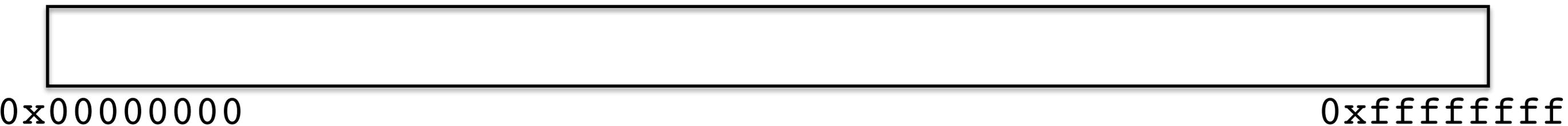
`(%ebp)` The value at memory address `%ebp`
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NOTATION

`0xbfff03b8` `%ebp` A memory address

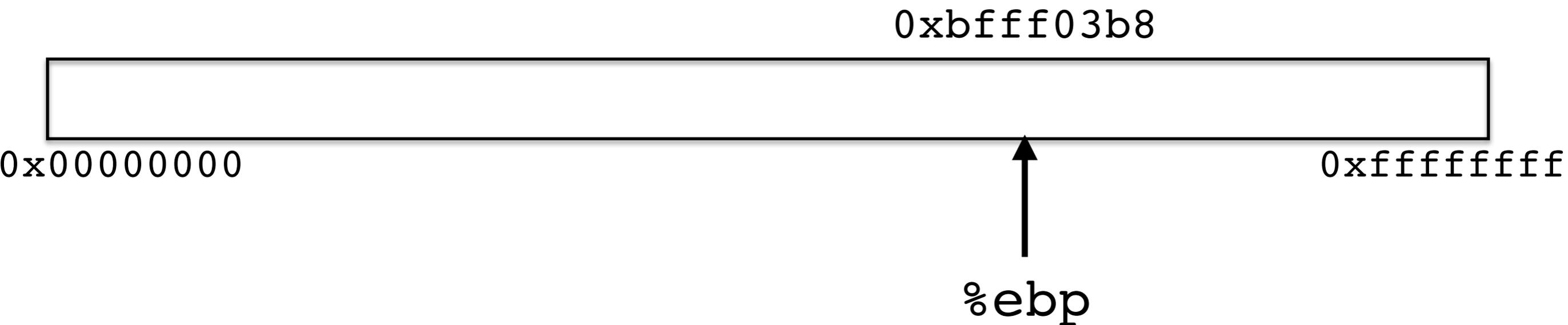
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NOTATION

`0xbfff03b8` `%ebp` A memory address

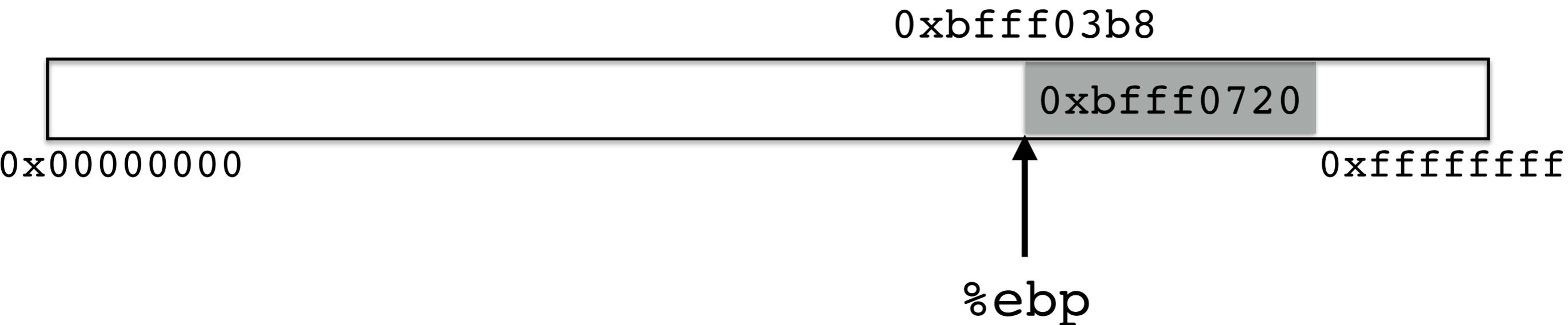
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NOTATION

`0xbfff03b8` `%ebp` A memory address

`0xbfff0720` `(%ebp)` The value at memory address `%ebp`
(like dereferencing a pointer)

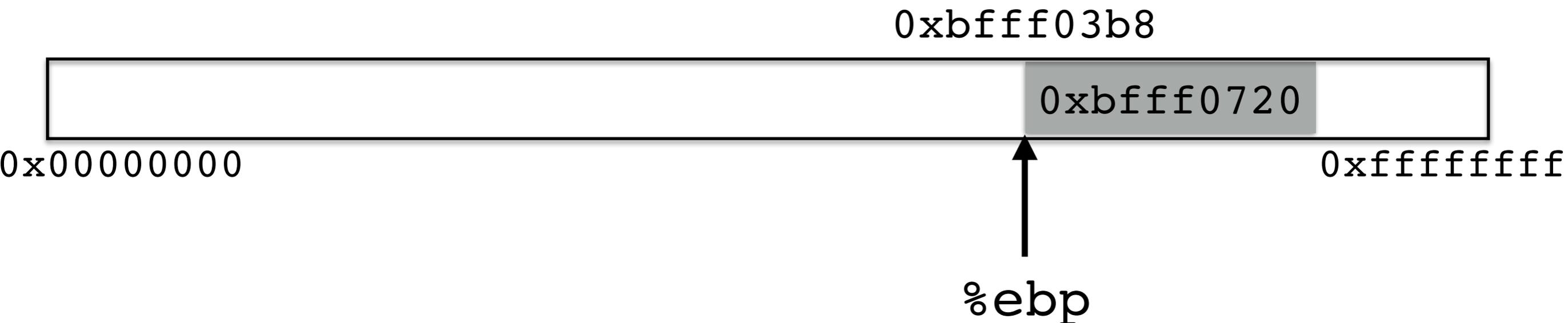


NOTATION

`0xbfff03b8` `%ebp` A memory address

`0xbfff0720` `(%ebp)` The value at memory address `%ebp`
(like dereferencing a pointer)

`pushl %ebp`

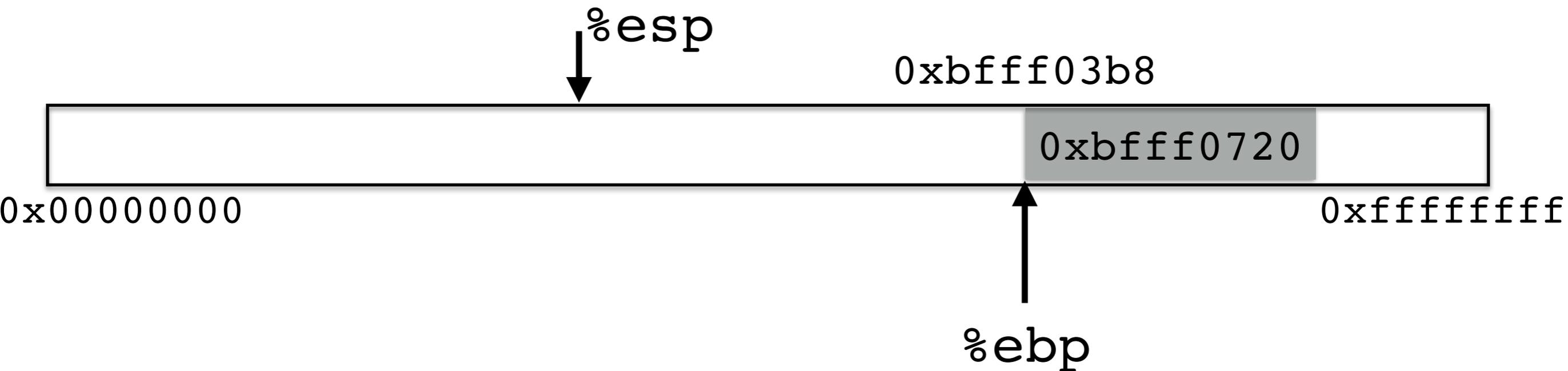


NOTATION

0xbfff03b8 %ebp A memory address

0xbfff0720 (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp
(like dereferencing a pointer)

`pushl %ebp`

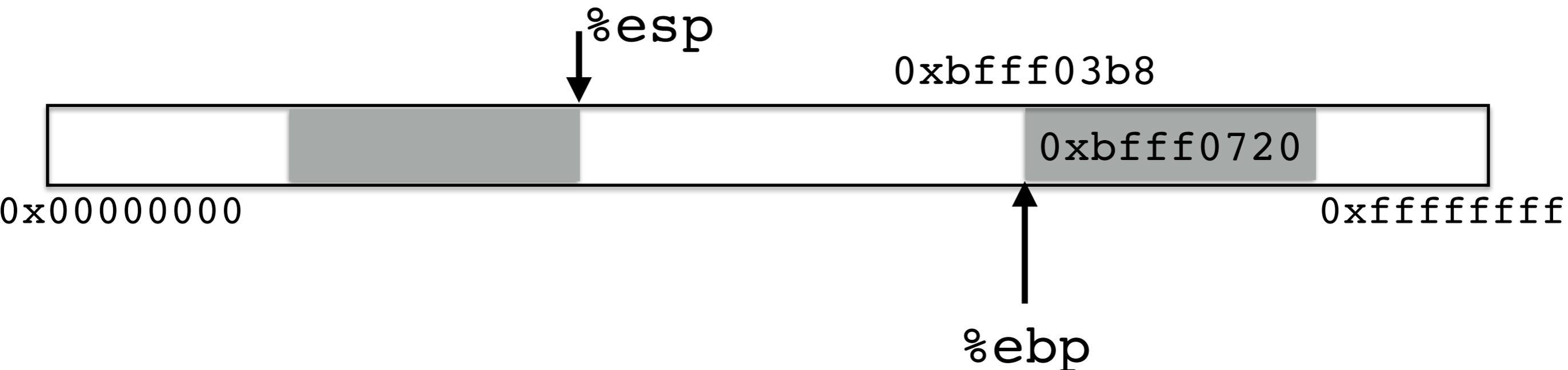


NOTATION

`0xbfff03b8` `%ebp` A memory address

`0xbfff0720` `(%ebp)` The value at memory address `%ebp`
(like dereferencing a pointer)

`pushl %ebp`

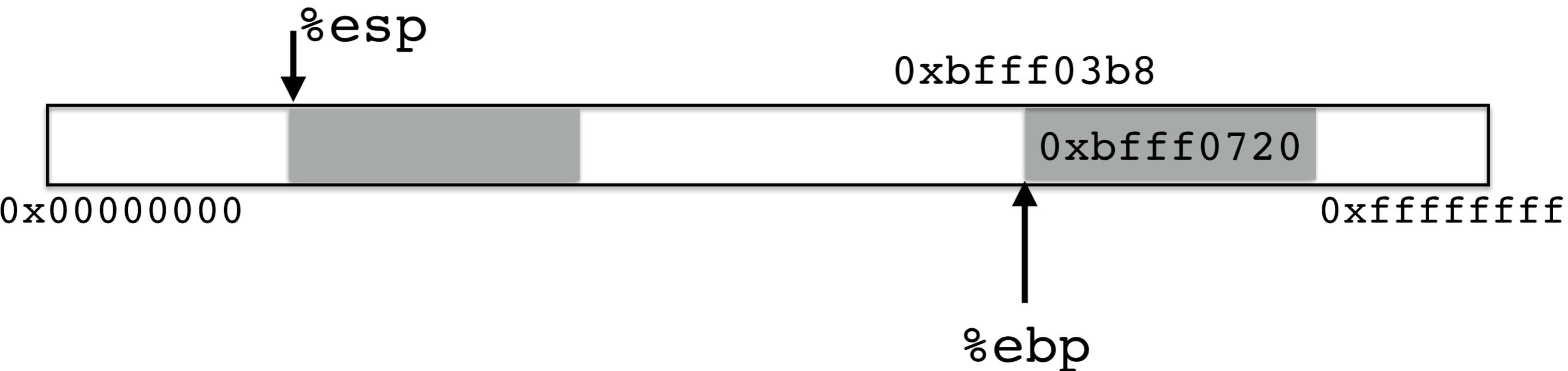


NOTATION

0xbfff03b8 %ebp A memory address

0xbfff0720 (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp
(like dereferencing a pointer)

`pushl %ebp`

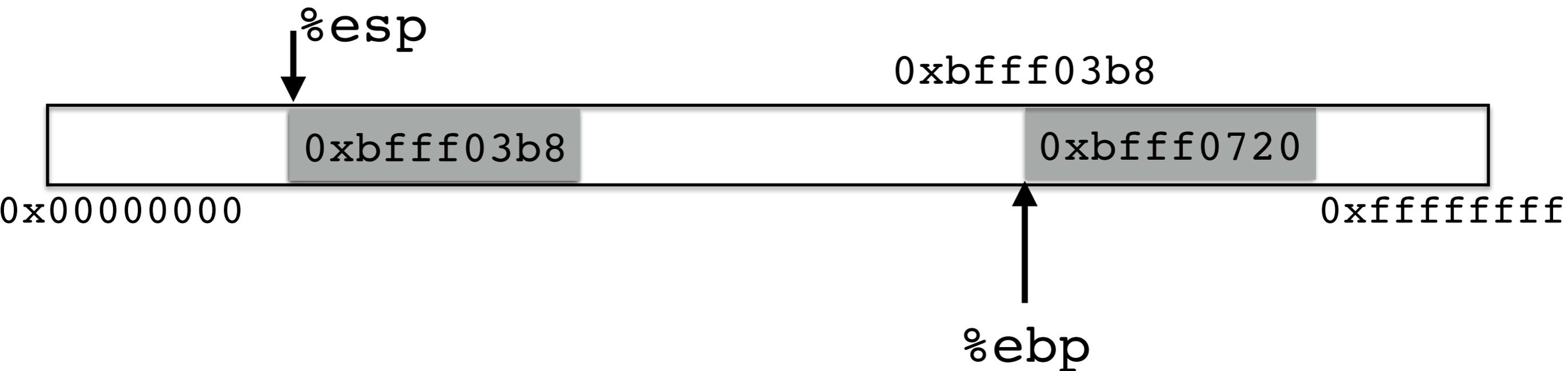


NOTATION

`0xbfff03b8` `%ebp` A memory address

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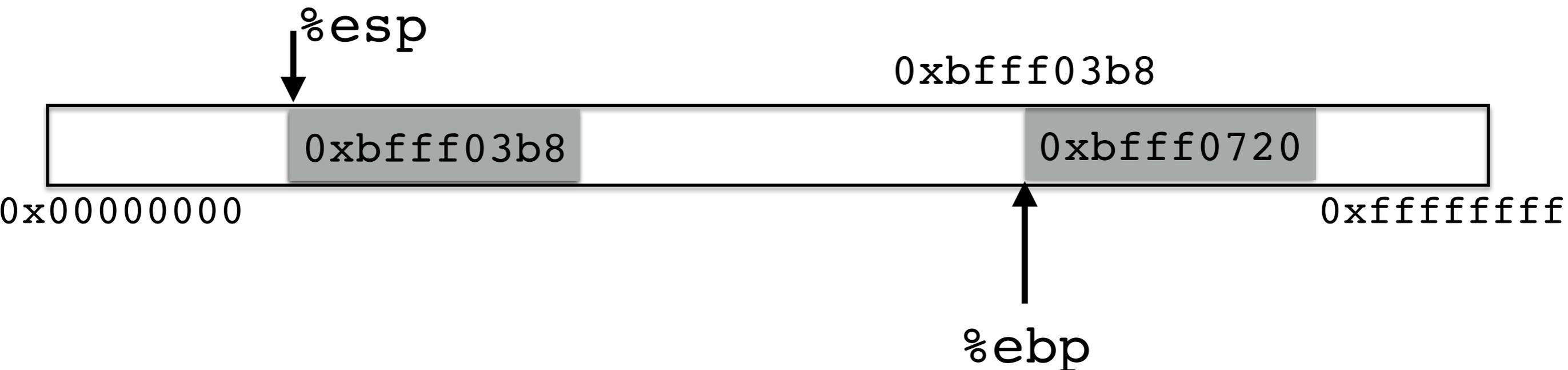
NOTATION

0xbfff03b8 %ebp A memory address

0xbfff0720 (%ebp) The value at memory address %ebp
(like dereferencing a pointer)

```
pushl %ebp
```

```
movl %esp %ebp /* %ebp = %esp */
```



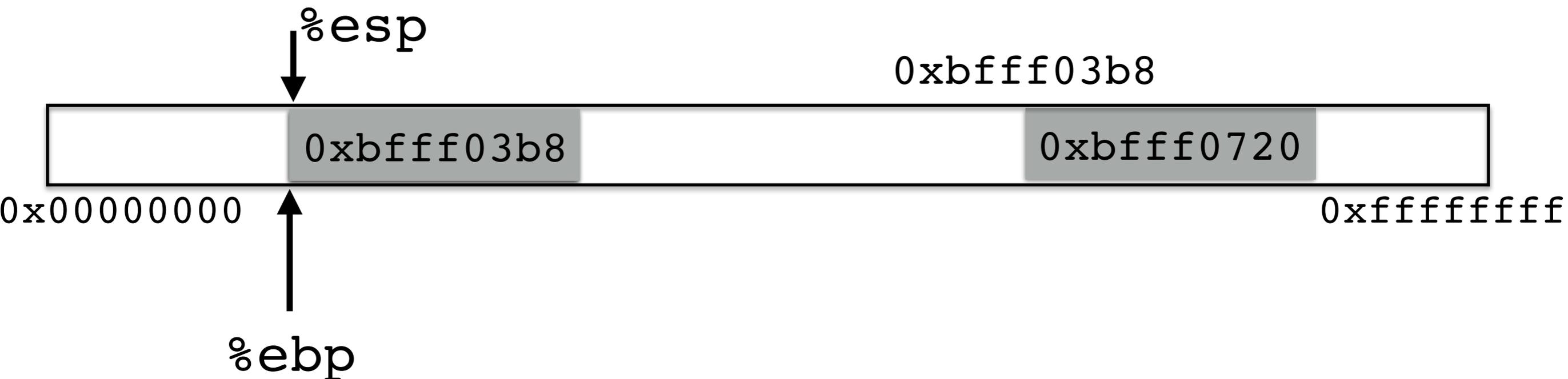
NOTATION

`0xbfff03b8` `%ebp` A memory address

`0xbfff0720` `(%ebp)` The value at memory address `%ebp`
(like dereferencing a pointer)

```
pushl %ebp
```

```
movl  %esp %ebp /* %ebp = %esp */
```



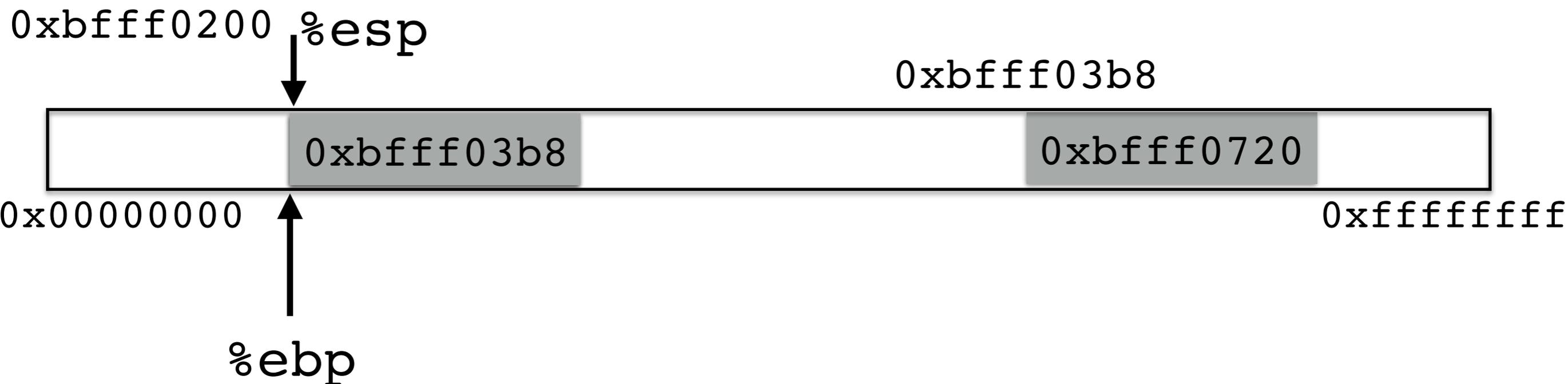
NOTATION

`0xbfff03b8` `%ebp` A memory address

`0xbfff0720` `(%ebp)` The value at memory address `%ebp`
(like dereferencing a pointer)

`pushl %ebp`

`movl %esp %ebp` `/* %ebp = %esp */`



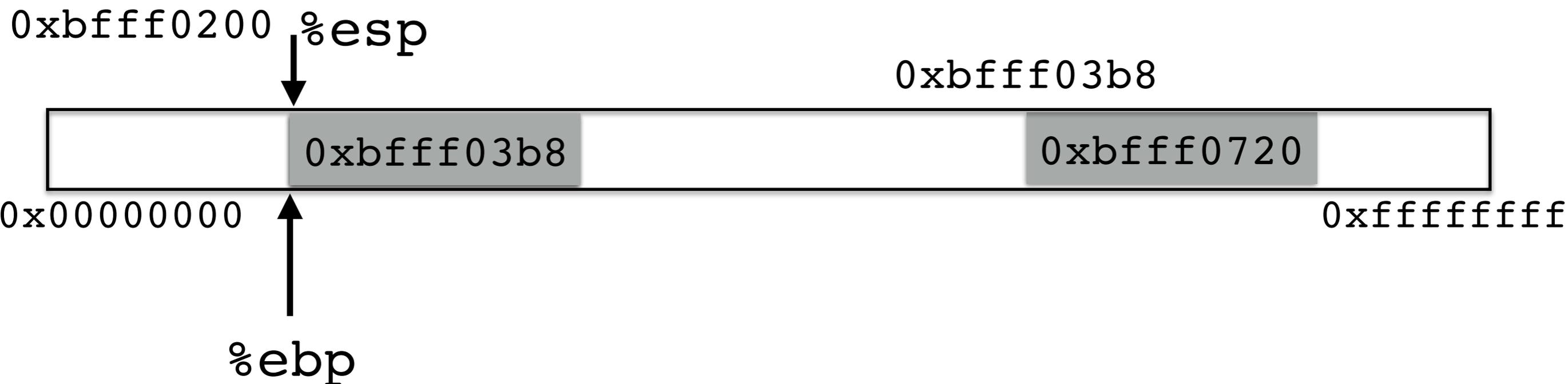
NOTATION

~~0xbfff03b8~~ `%ebp` A memory address
`0xbfff0200`

`0xbfff0720` `(%ebp)` The value at memory address `%ebp`
(like dereferencing a pointer)

`pushl %ebp`

`movl %esp %ebp` `/* %ebp = %esp */`



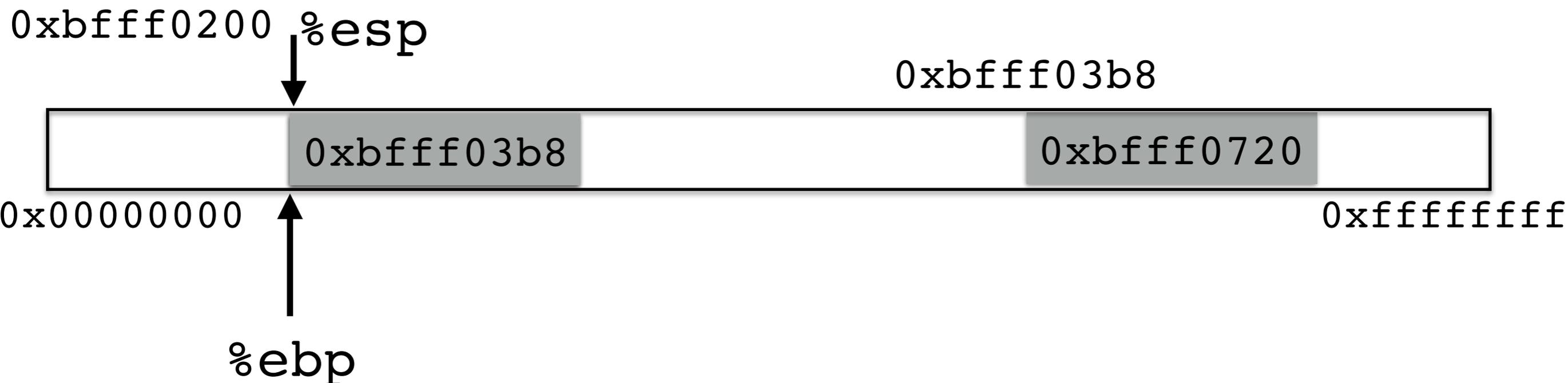
NOTATION

~~0xbfff03b8~~ `%ebp` A memory address
`0xbfff0200`

~~0xbfff0720~~ `(%ebp)` The value at memory address `%ebp`
`0xbfff03b8` (like dereferencing a pointer)

`pushl %ebp`

`movl %esp %ebp` `/* %ebp = %esp */`



NOTATION

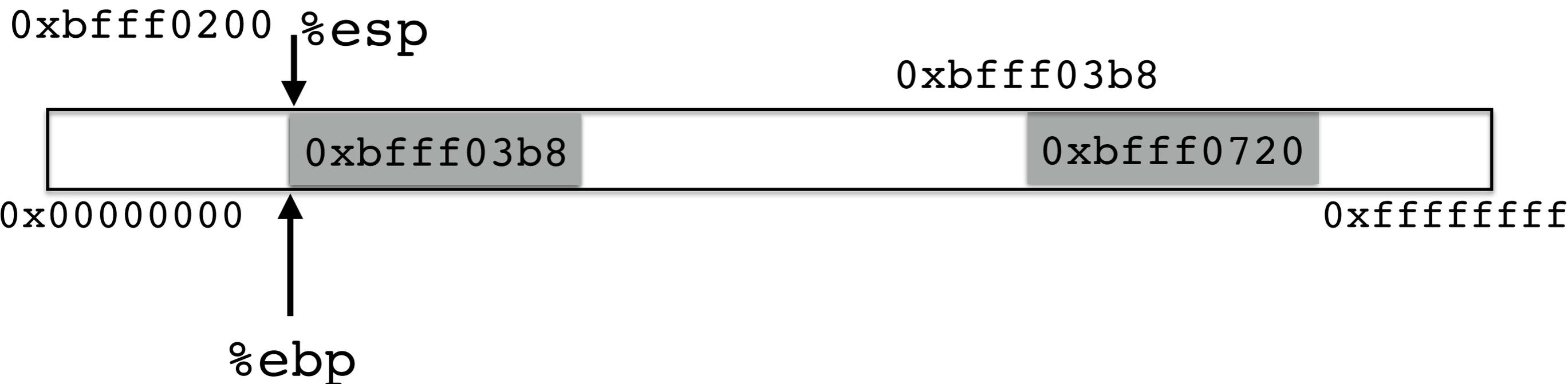
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`pushl %ebp`

`movl %esp %ebp` `/* %ebp = %esp */`

`movl (%ebp) %ebp` `/* %ebp = (%ebp) */`



NOTATION

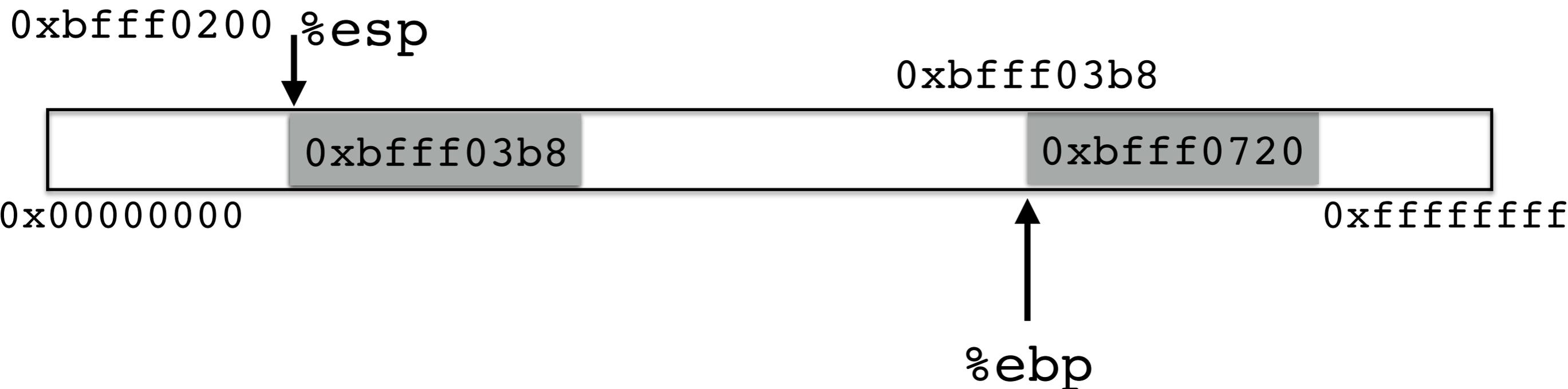
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`movl (%ebp) %ebp` `/* %ebp = (%ebp) */`



RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ...  
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



%ebp

Stack frame
for *this* call to `func`

RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ...  
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



%ebp

Stack frame
for *this* call to **func**

RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ...  
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff



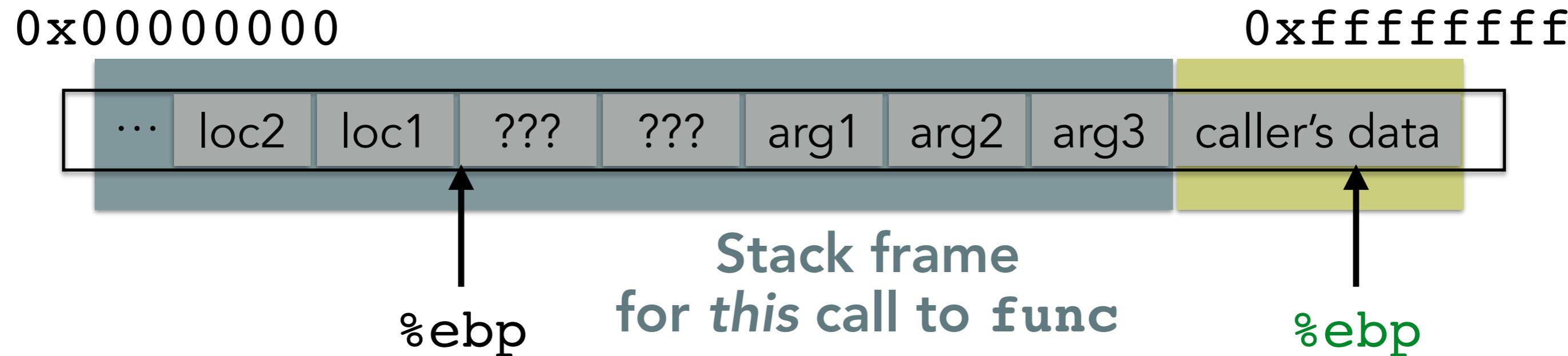
%ebp

Stack frame
for *this* call to `func`

%ebp

RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we restore %ebp?  
}
```



RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we restore %ebp?  
}
```

0x00000000

0xffffffff

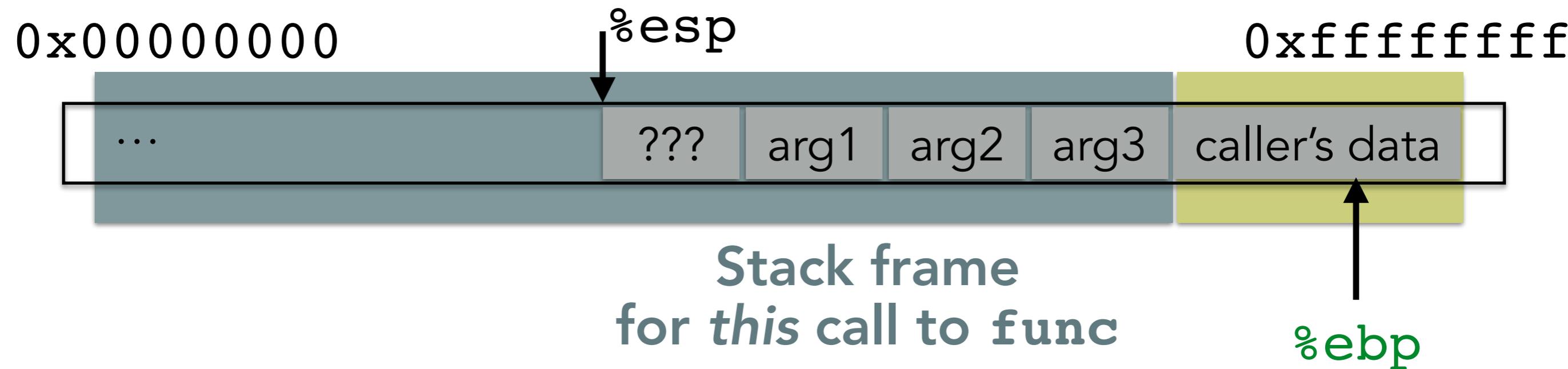


Stack frame
for *this* call to `func`

`%ebp`

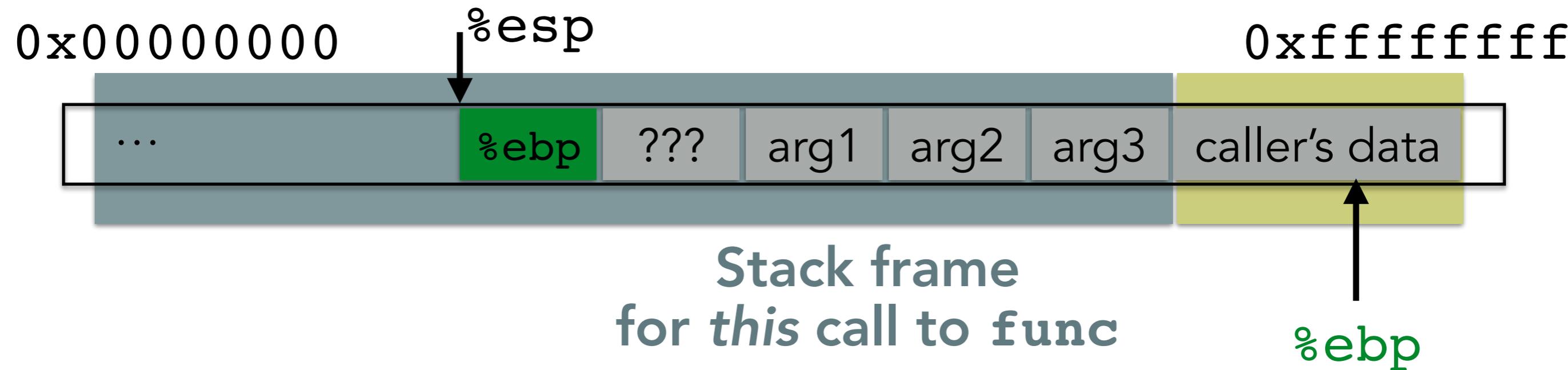
RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we restore %ebp?  
}
```



RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

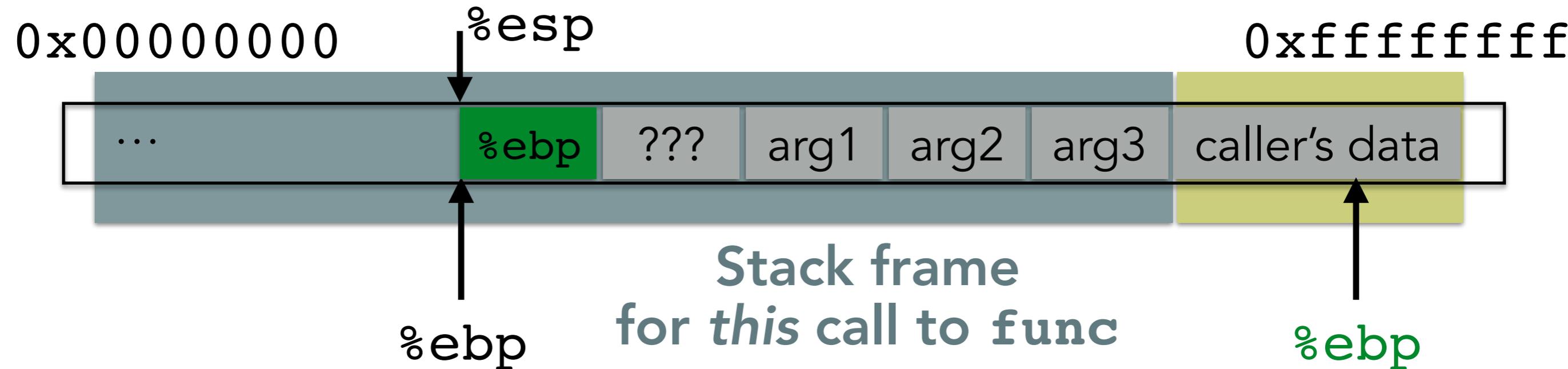
```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we restore %ebp?  
}
```



1. Push %ebp before locals

RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

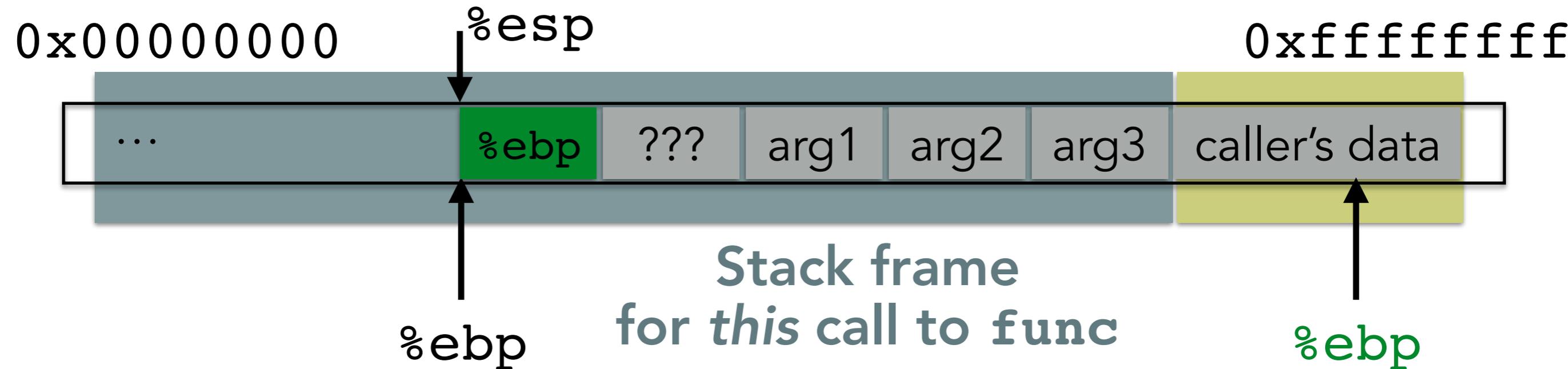
```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we restore %ebp?  
}
```



1. Push `%ebp` before locals
2. Set `%ebp` to current `%esp`

RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

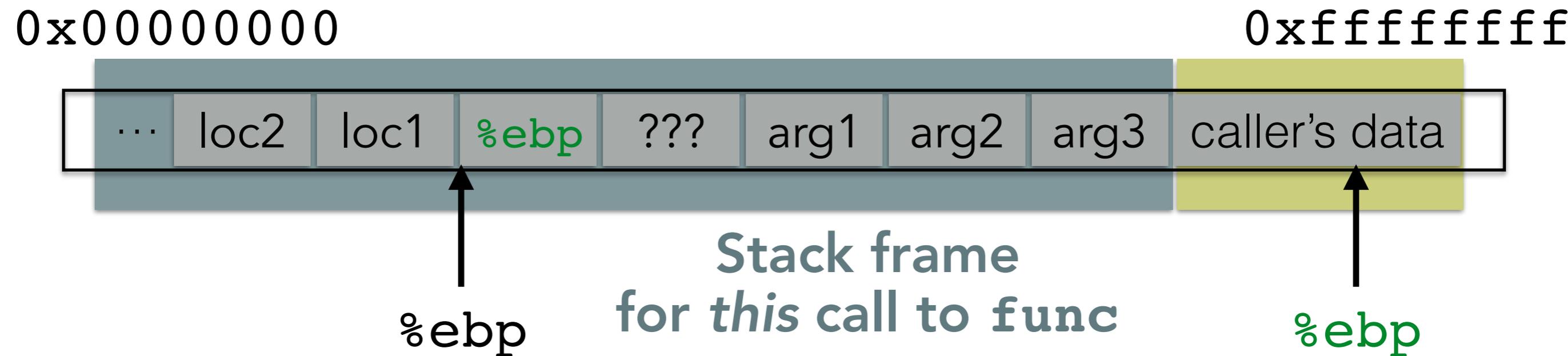
```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we restore %ebp?  
}
```



1. Push `%ebp` before locals
2. Set `%ebp` to current `%esp`
3. Set `%ebp` to `(%ebp)` at return

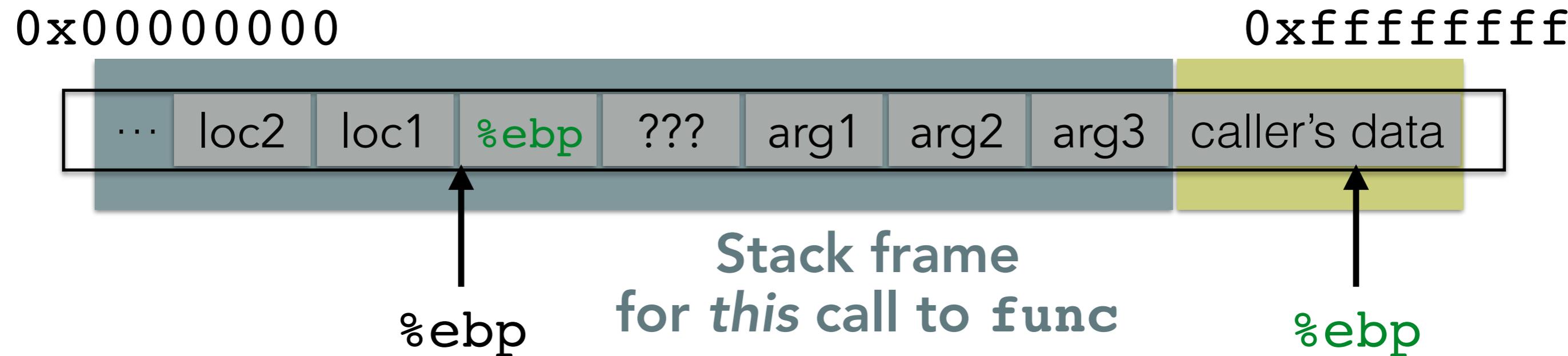
RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ...  
}
```

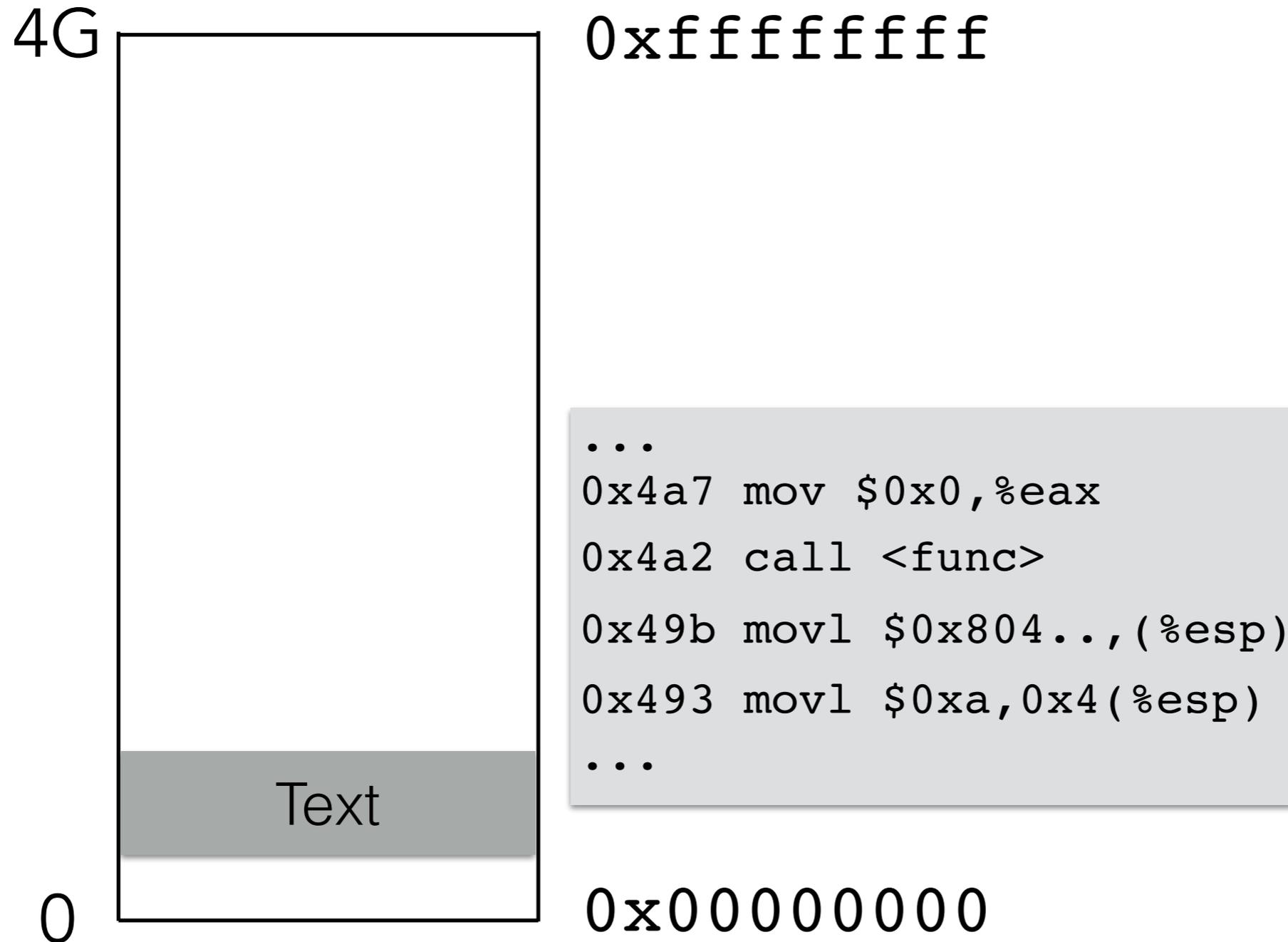


RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

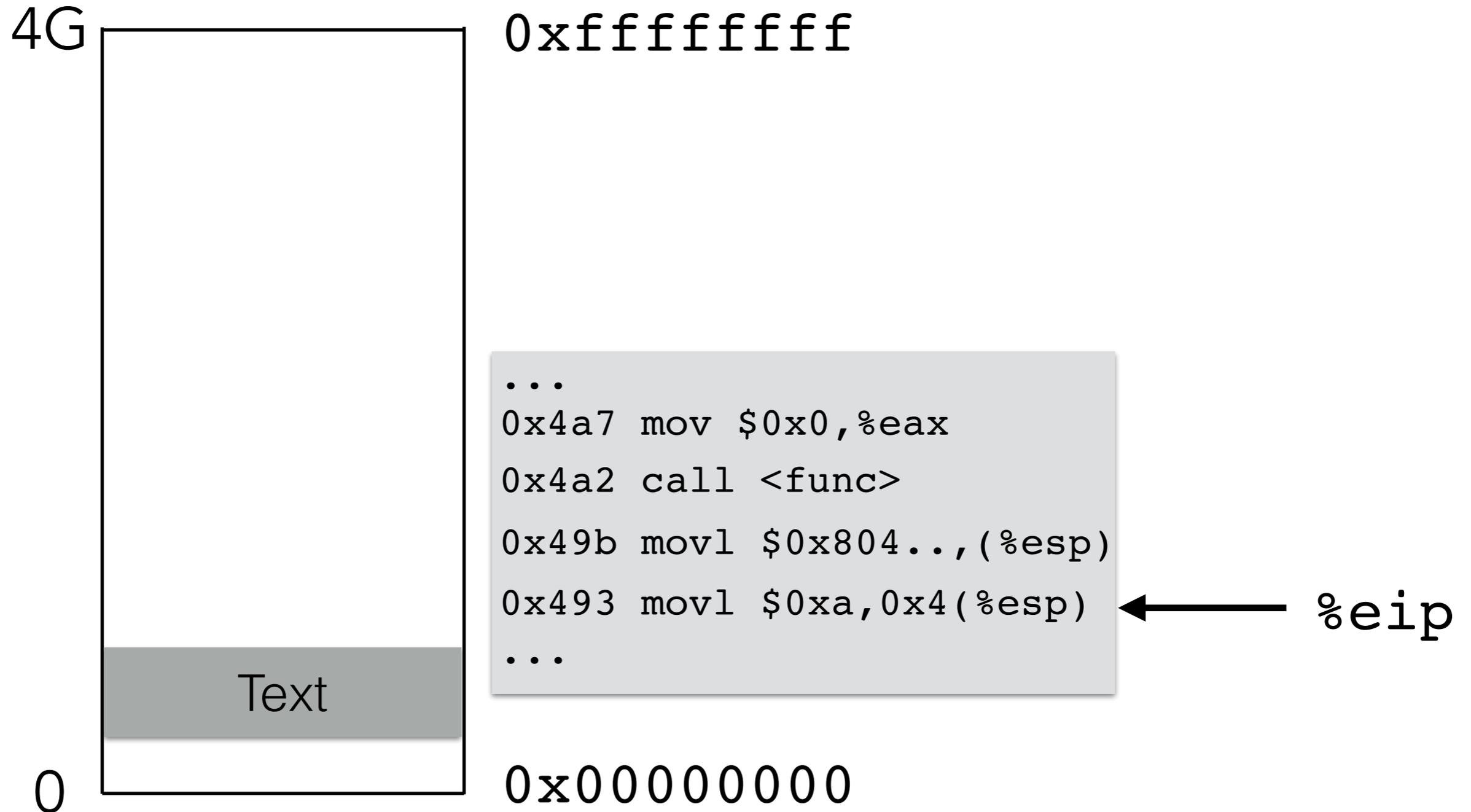
```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we resume here?  
}
```



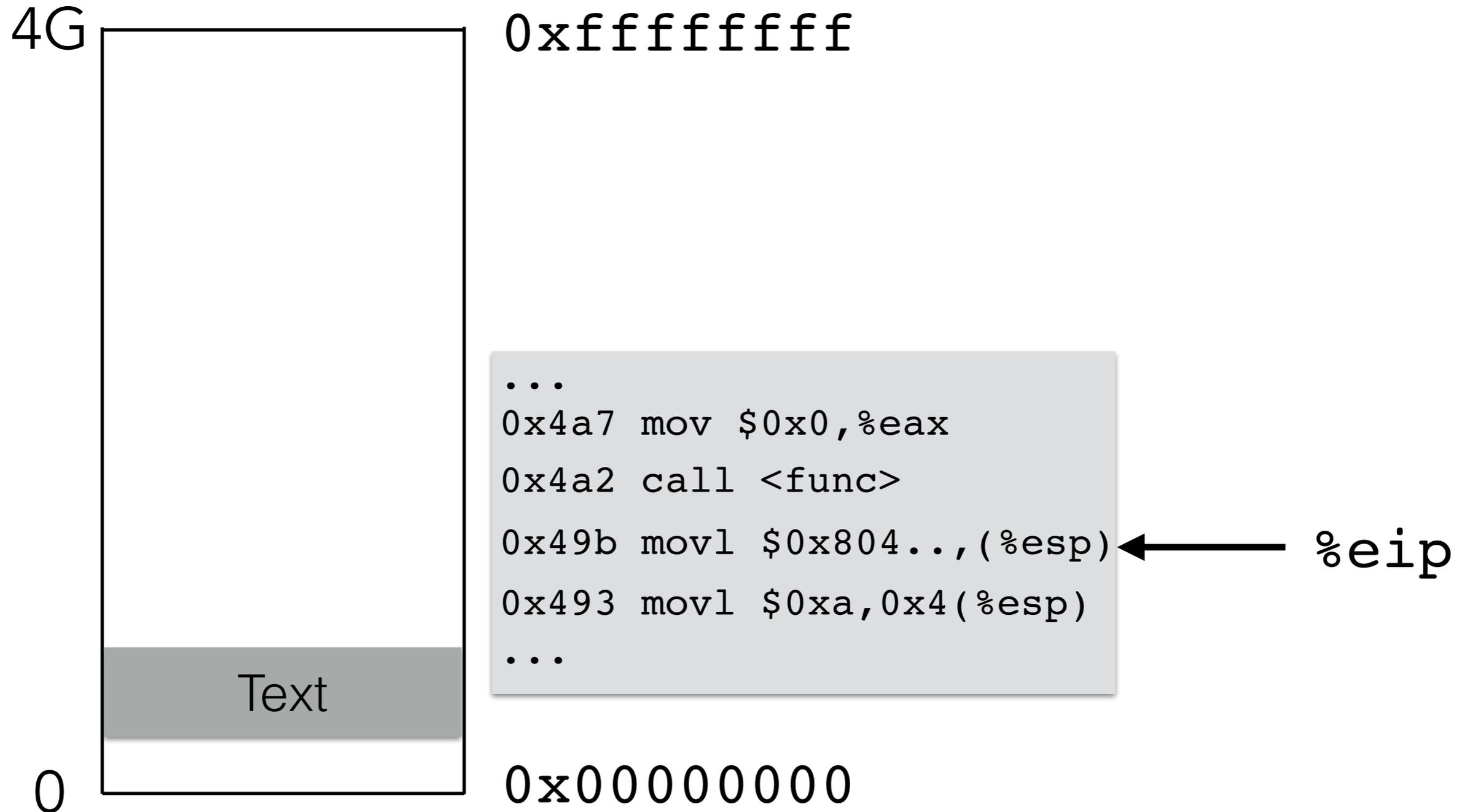
INSTRUCTIONS THEMSELVES ARE IN MEMORY



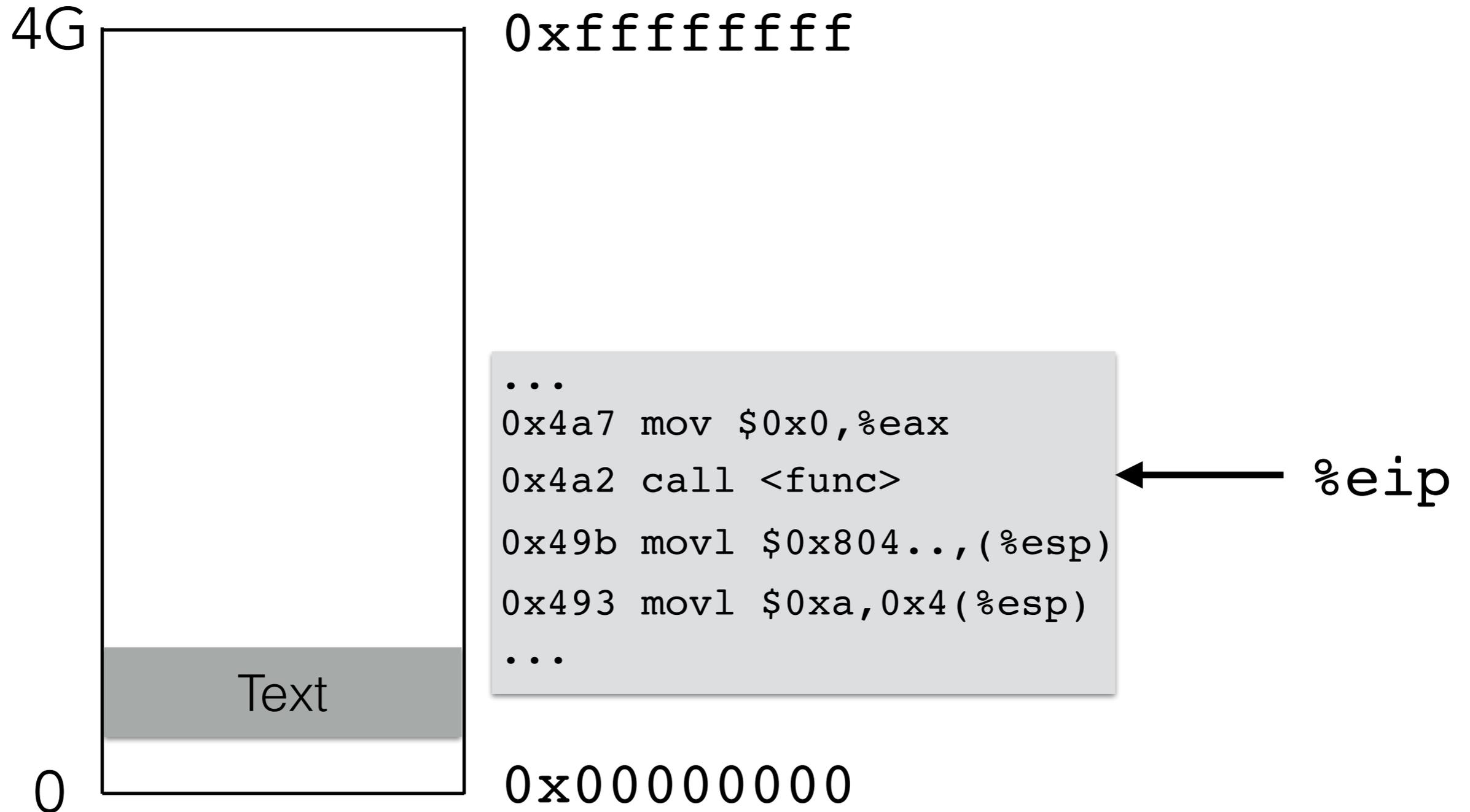
INSTRUCTIONS THEMSELVES ARE IN MEMORY



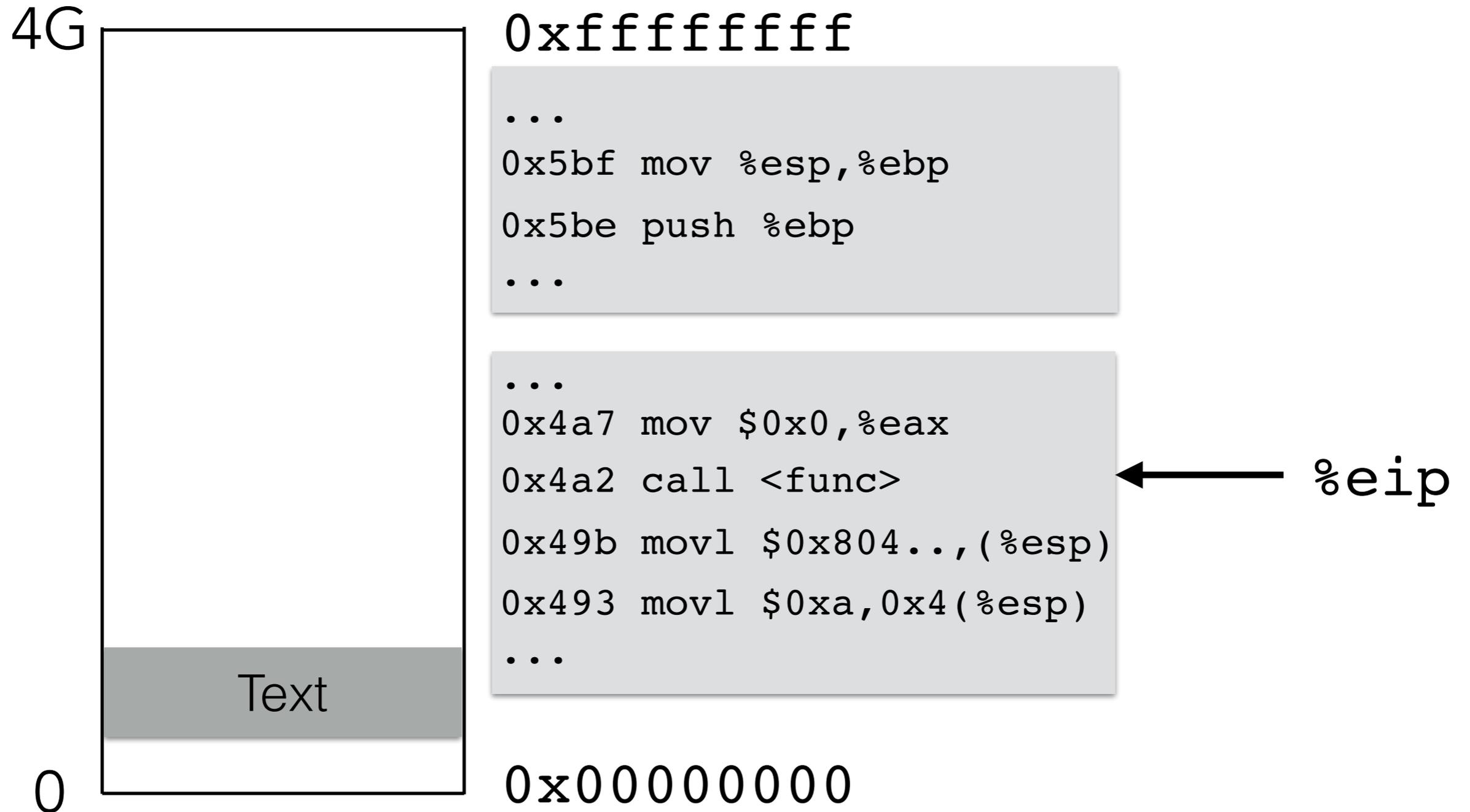
INSTRUCTIONS THEMSELVES ARE IN MEMORY



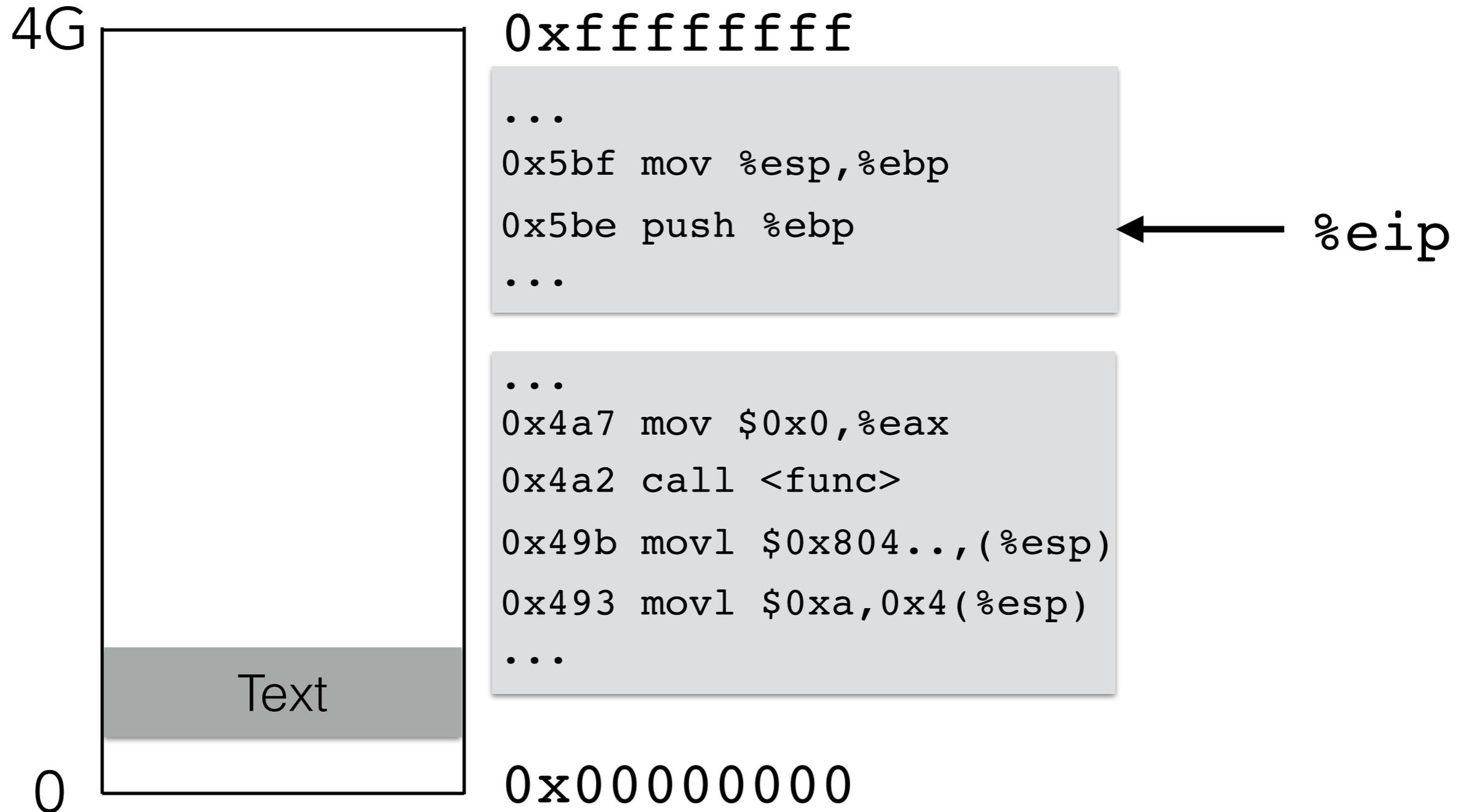
INSTRUCTIONS THEMSELVES ARE IN MEMORY



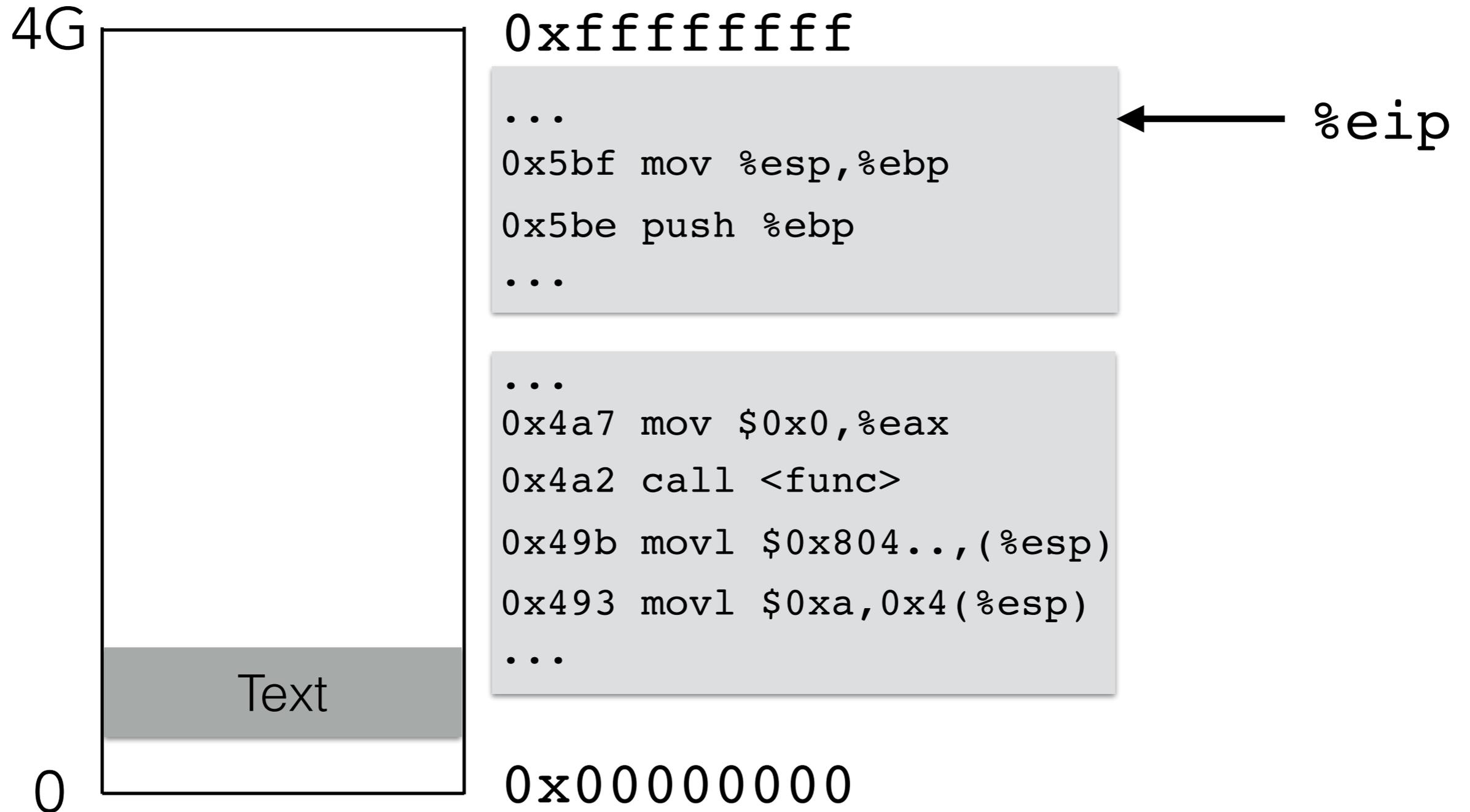
INSTRUCTIONS THEMSELVES ARE IN MEMORY



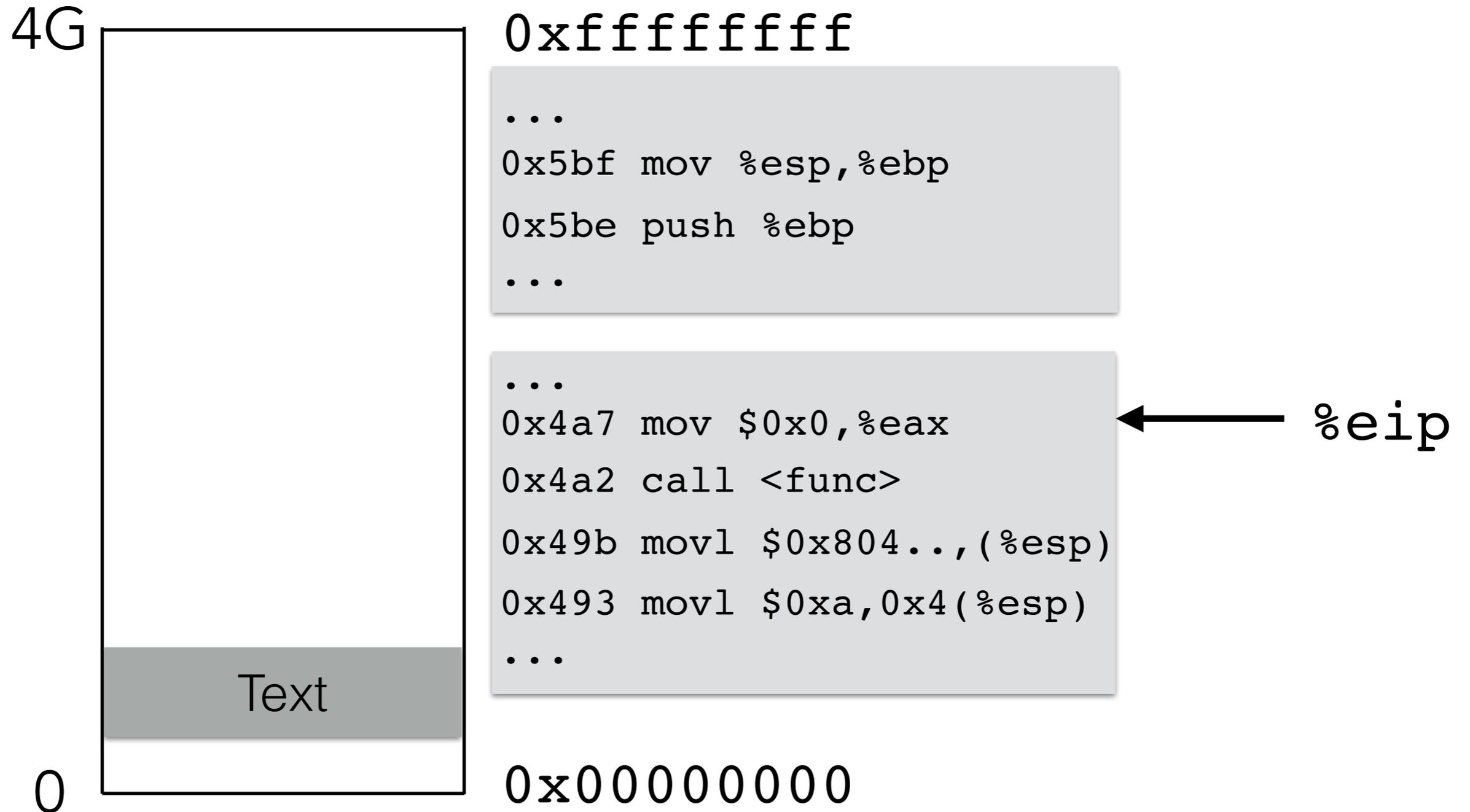
INSTRUCTIONS THEMSELVES ARE IN MEMORY



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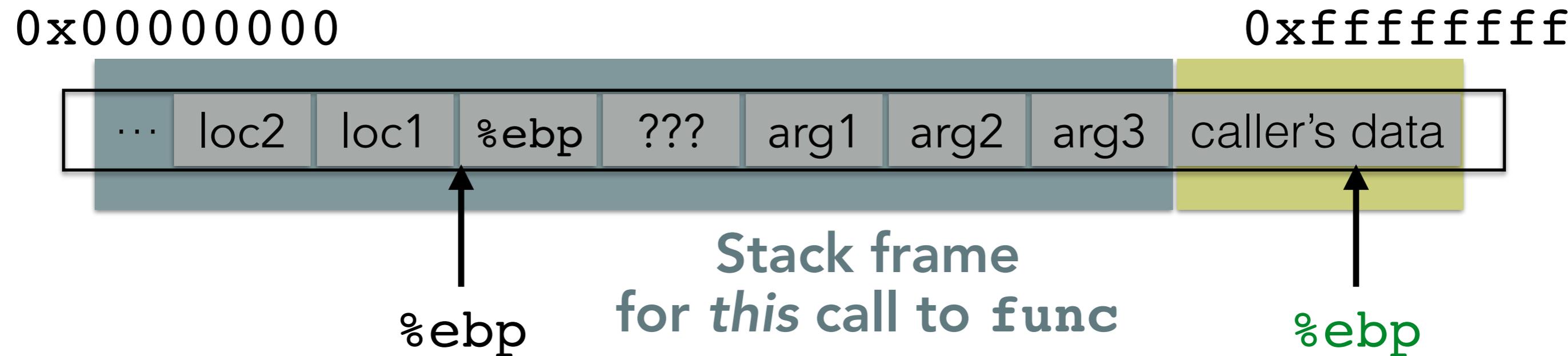


INSTRUCTIONS THEMSELVES ARE IN MEMORY



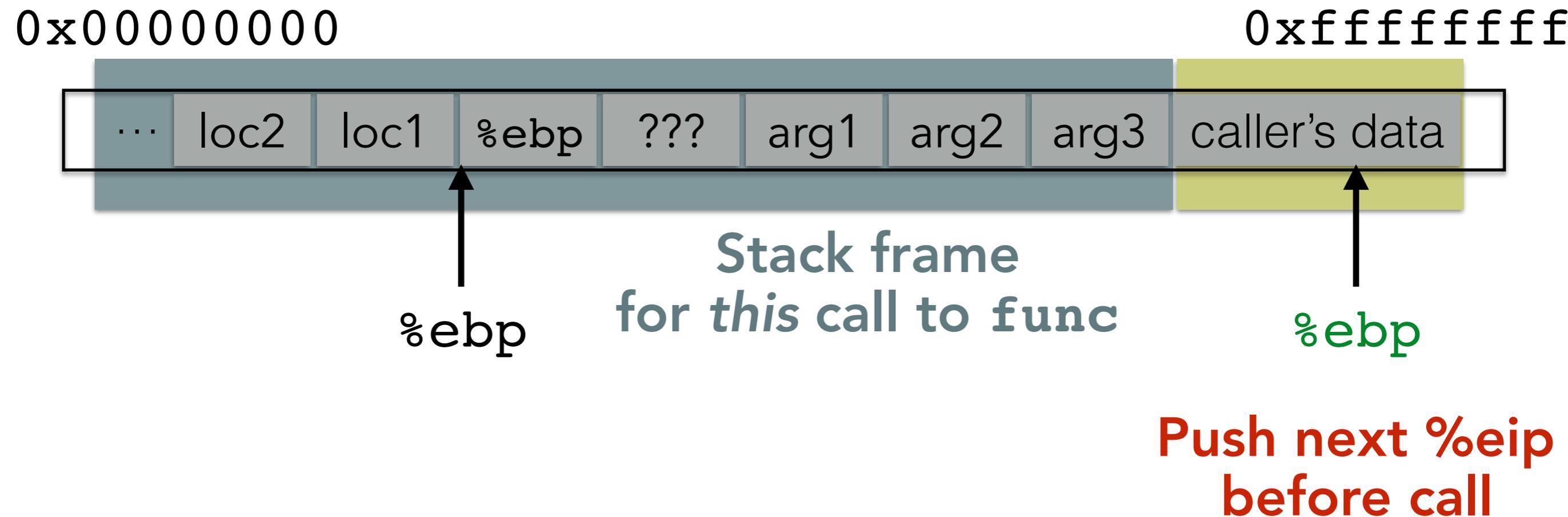
RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we resume here?  
}
```



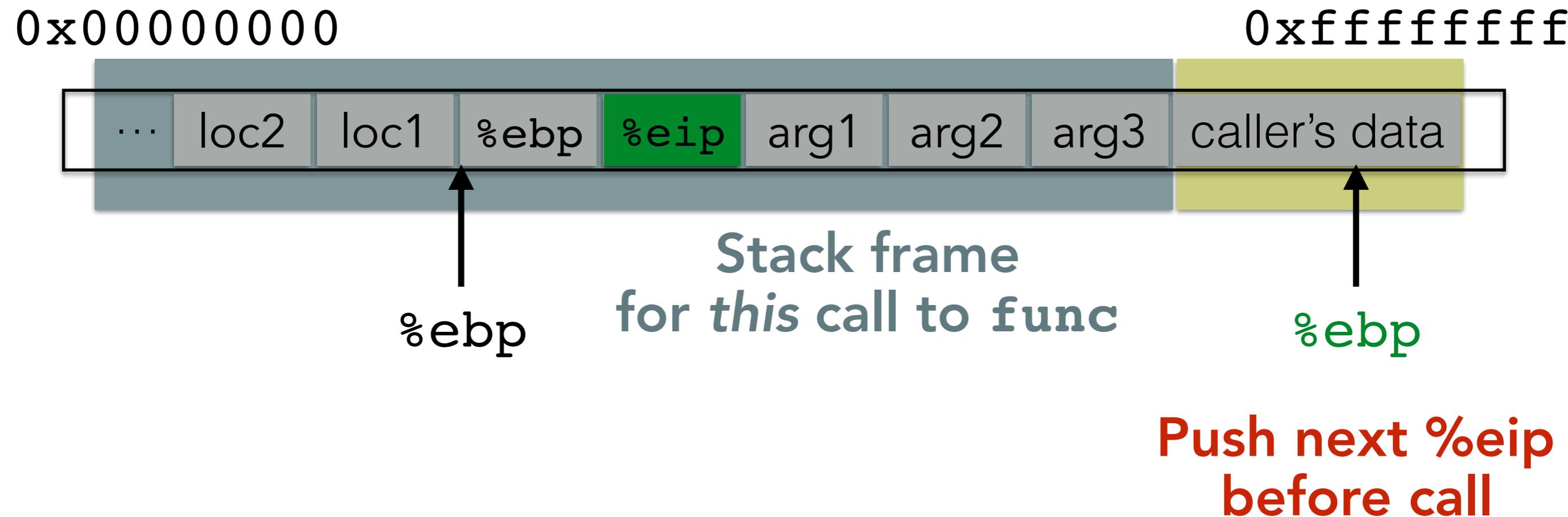
RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
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    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we resume here?  
}
```



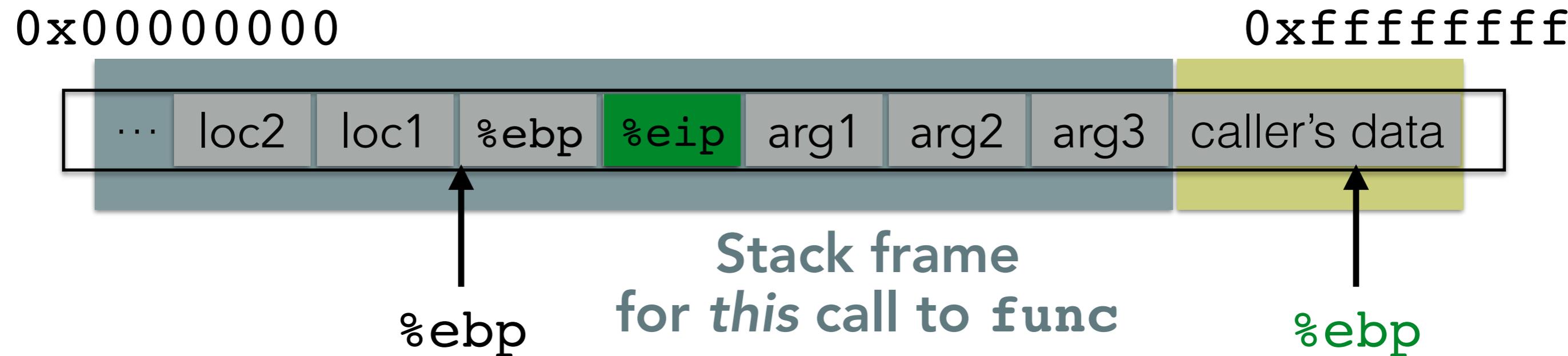
RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
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    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we resume here?  
}
```



RETURNING FROM FUNCTIONS

```
int main()  
{  
    ...  
    func("Hey", 10, -3);  
    ... Q: How do we resume here?  
}
```



**Set %eip to 4(%ebp)
at return**

**Push next %eip
before call**

RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

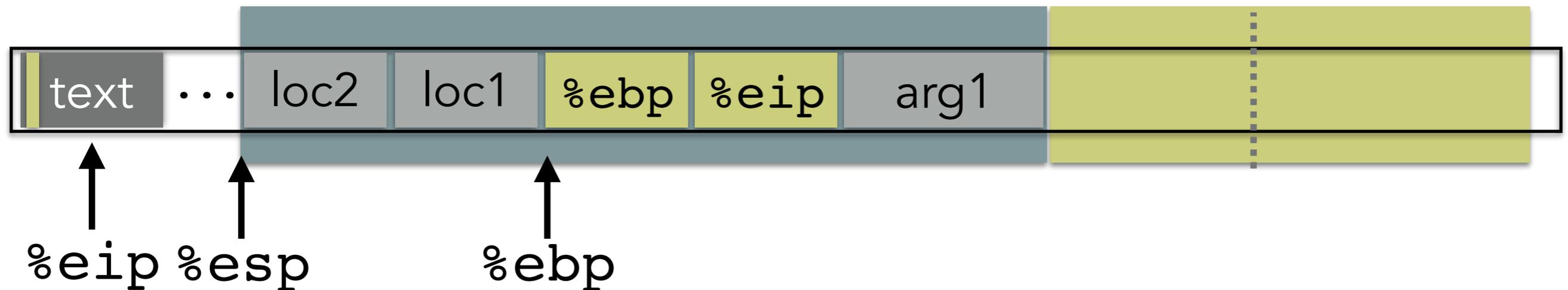
```
return;
```

In compiled assembly

```
leave:  mov %esp %ebp  
        pop %ebp  
ret:    pop %eip
```

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

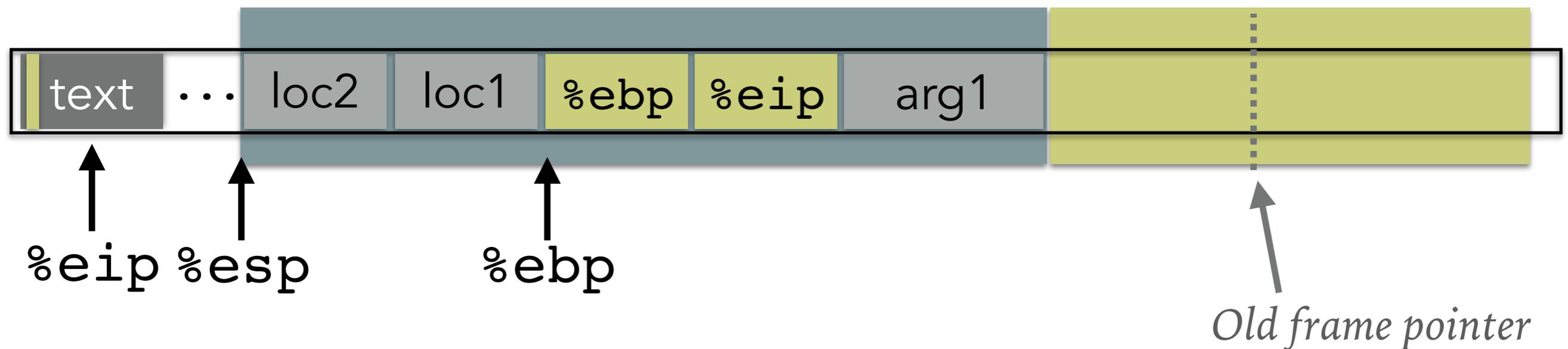
```
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```

In compiled assembly

```
leave:  mov %esp %ebp  
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ret:    pop %eip
```

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

```
return;
```

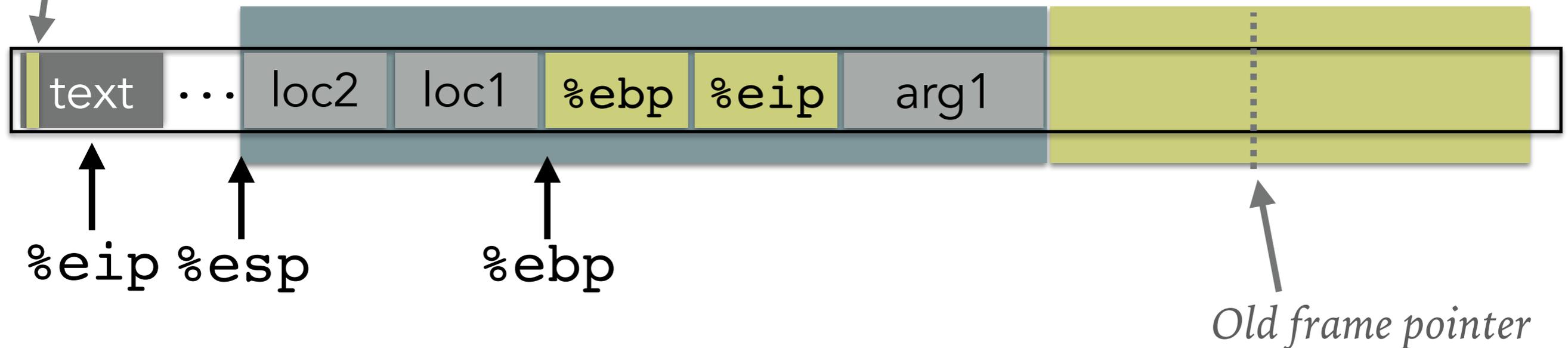
In compiled assembly

```
leave:  mov %esp %ebp
        pop %ebp
ret:    pop %eip
```

Caller's code

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

```
return;
```

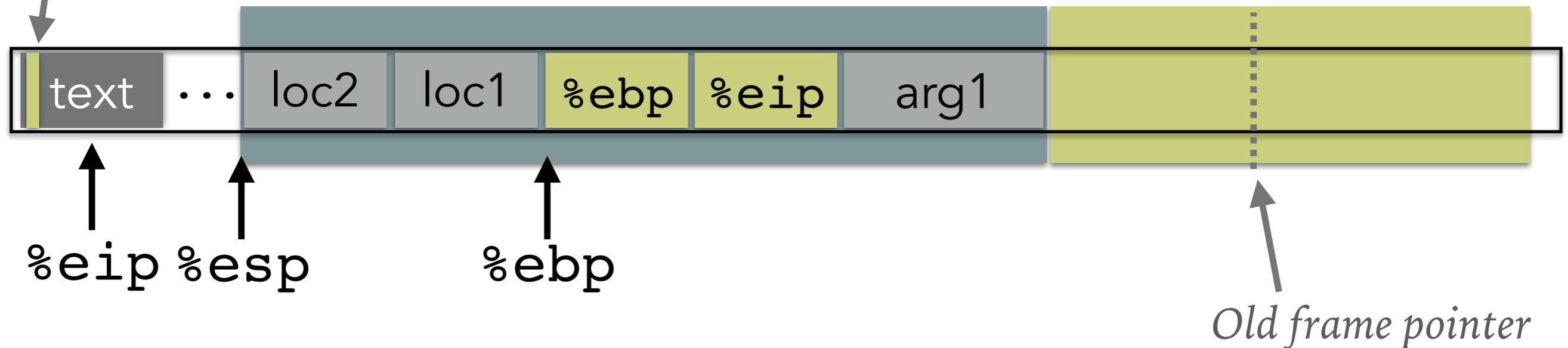
In compiled assembly

```
leave: → mov %esp %ebp  
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ret:   pop %eip
```

Caller's code

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

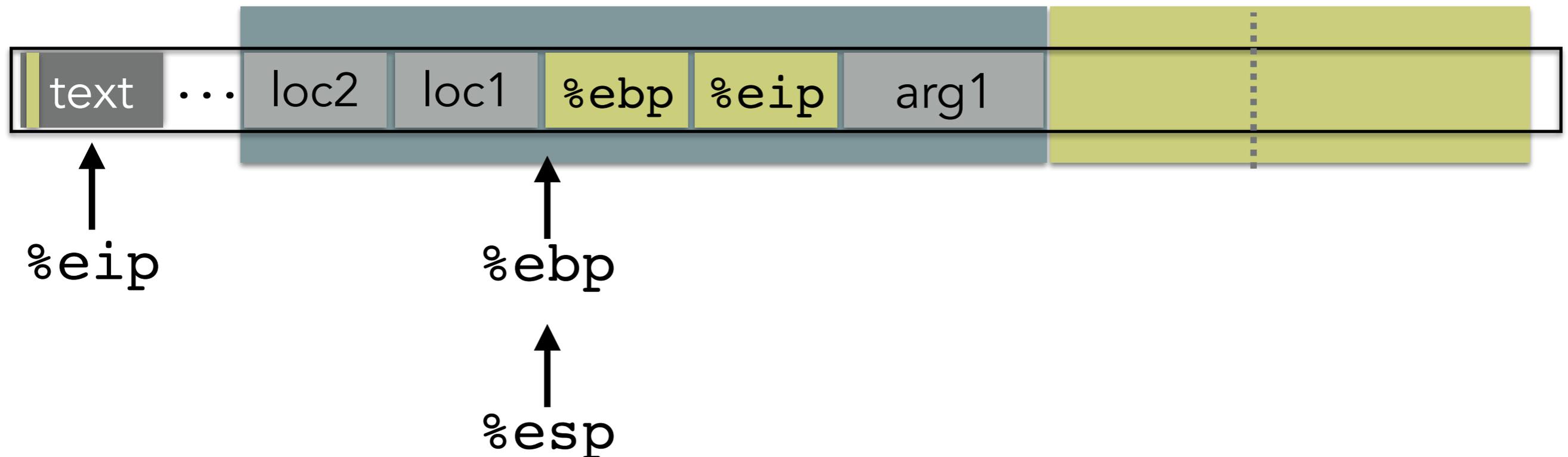
```
return;
```

In compiled assembly

```
leave: → mov %esp %ebp  
      pop %ebp  
ret:   pop %eip
```

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

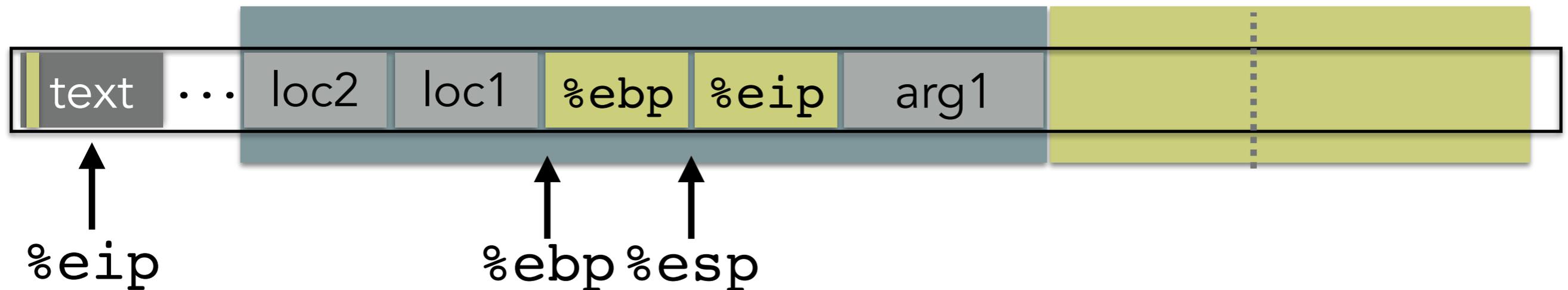
```
return;
```

In compiled assembly

```
leave:  mov %esp %ebp  
        → pop %ebp  
ret:    pop %eip
```

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

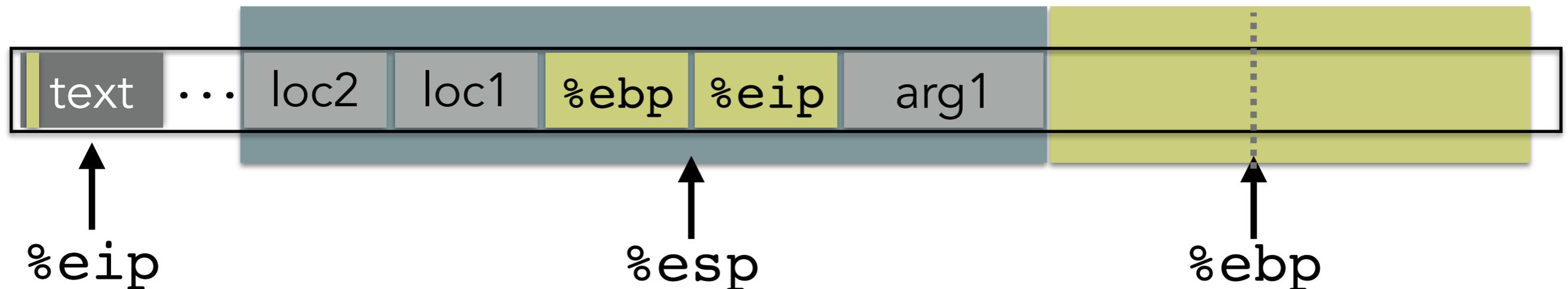
```
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```

In compiled assembly

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leave:  mov %esp %ebp  
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ret:    pop %eip
```

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

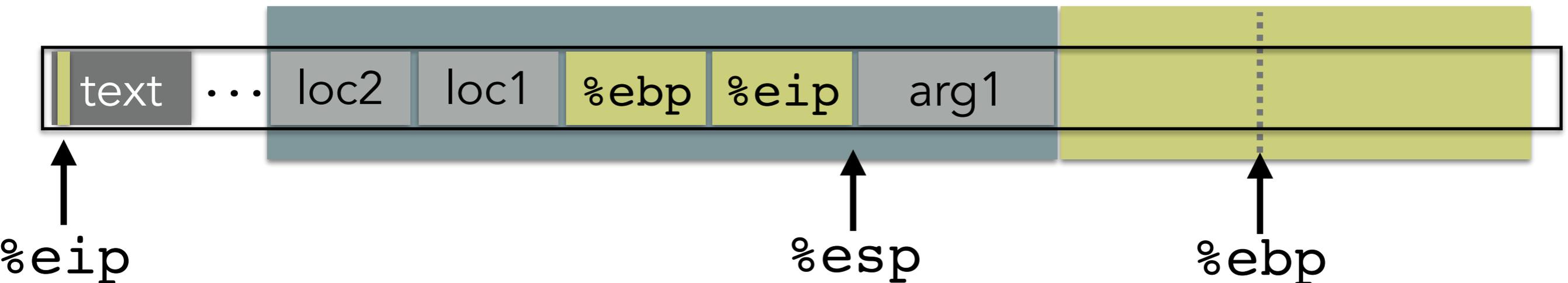
```
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In compiled assembly

```
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```

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

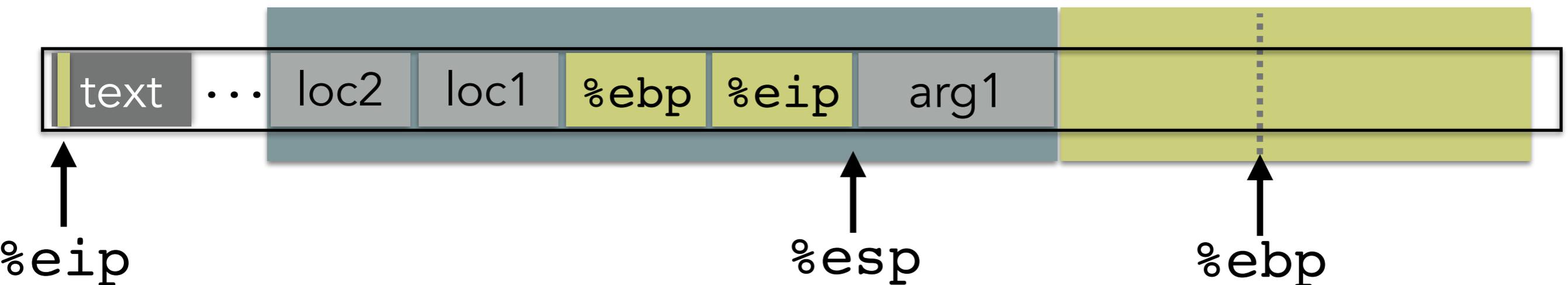
```
return;
```

In compiled assembly

```
leave:  mov %esp %ebp
        pop %ebp
ret:    → pop %eip
```

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



The next instruction is to “remove”
the arguments off the stack

RETURNING FROM A FUNCTION

In C

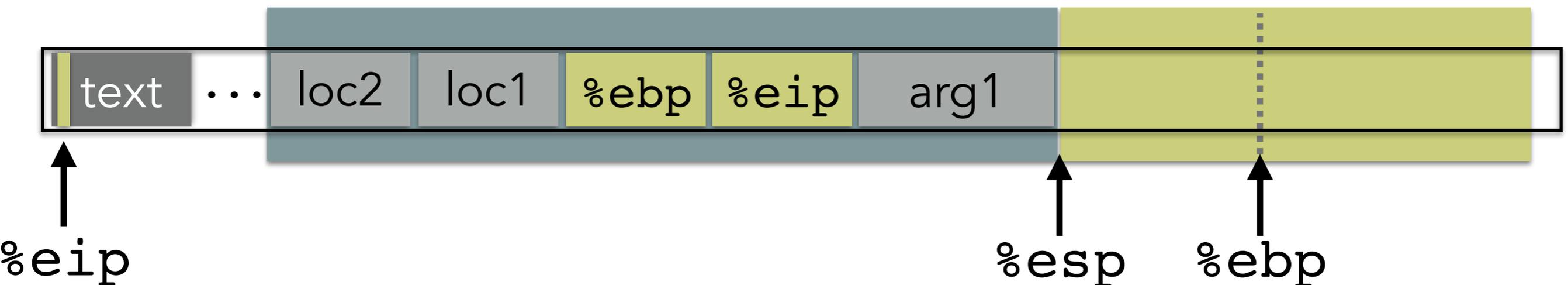
```
return;
```

In compiled assembly

```
leave:  mov %esp %ebp  
        pop %ebp  
ret:    → pop %eip
```

Current stack frame

Caller's stack frame



The next instruction is to “remove”
the arguments off the stack

And now we're
back where we started

STACK & FUNCTIONS: SUMMARY

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Calling function (before calling):

1. **Push arguments** onto the stack (in reverse)
2. **Push the return address**, i.e., the address of the instruction you want run after control returns to you: e.g., `%eip + 2`
3. **Jump to the function's address**

STACK & FUNCTIONS: SUMMARY

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Called function (when called):

4. **Push the old frame pointer** onto the stack: `push %ebp`
5. **Set frame pointer** `%ebp` to where the end of the stack is right now: `%ebp=%esp`
6. **Push local variables** onto the stack; access them as offsets from `%ebp`

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7. **Reset the previous stack frame**: `%esp = %ebp; pop %ebp`
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STACK & FUNCTIONS: SUMMARY

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Called function (when returning):

7. **Reset the previous stack frame**: `%esp = %ebp; pop %ebp`
8. **Jump back to return address**: `pop %eip`

Calling function (after return):

9. **Remove the arguments** off of the stack: `%esp = %esp + number of bytes of args`

BUFFER OVERFLOW ATTACKS

BUFFER OVERFLOWS: HIGH LEVEL

- **Buffer =**
 - Contiguous set of a given data type
 - Common in C
 - All strings are buffers of char's
- **Overflow =**
 - Put more into the buffer than it can hold
- Where does the extra data go?
- Well now that you're experts in memory layouts...

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
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    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
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    ...
}
```

&arg1

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
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{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

%eip

&arg1

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    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```



buffer

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

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{
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    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

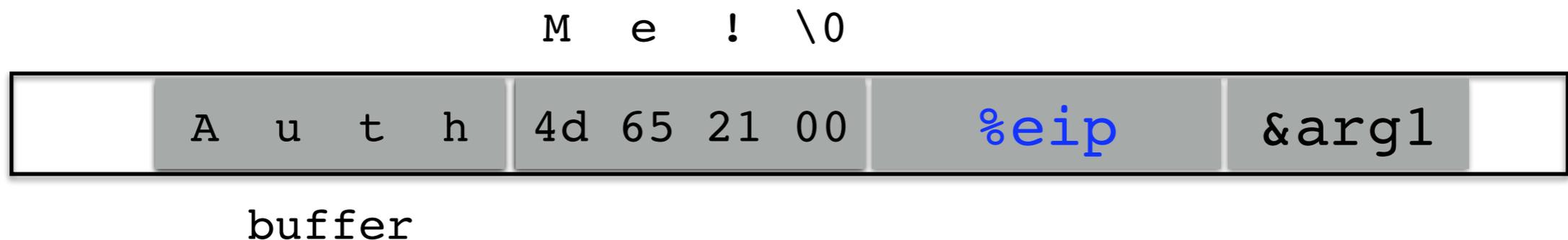


buffer

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}

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{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

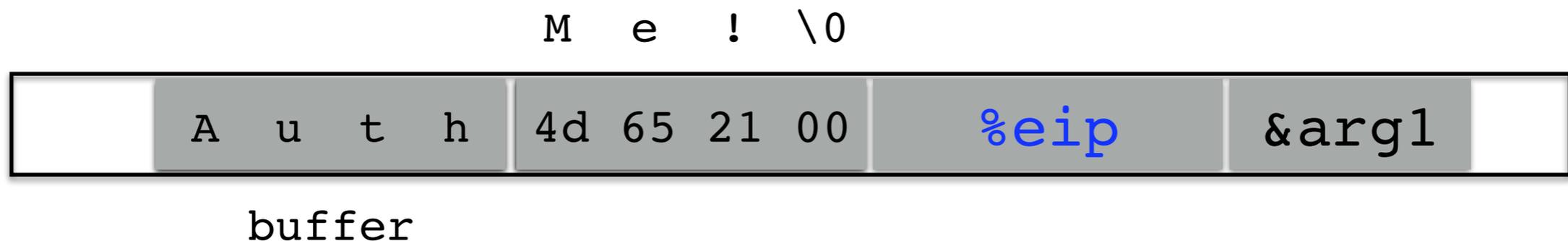


A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}

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{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

Upon return, sets %ebp to 0x0021654d

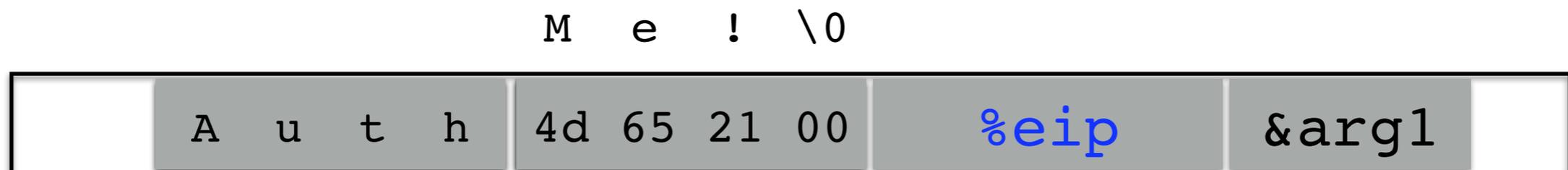


A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
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    ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

Upon return, sets %ebp to 0x0021654d



buffer

SEGFAULT (0x00216551)

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```



A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

&arg1

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

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{
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

	<code>%eip</code>	<code>&arg1</code>	
--	-------------------	------------------------	--

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
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{
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

	%ebp	%eip	&arg1	
--	------	------	-------	--

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
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int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

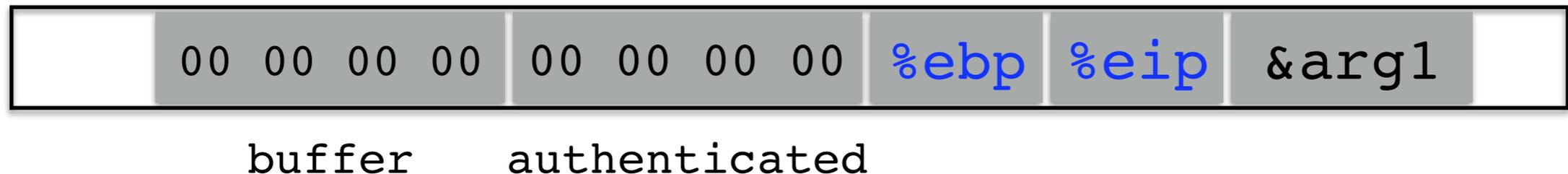


authenticated

A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
}

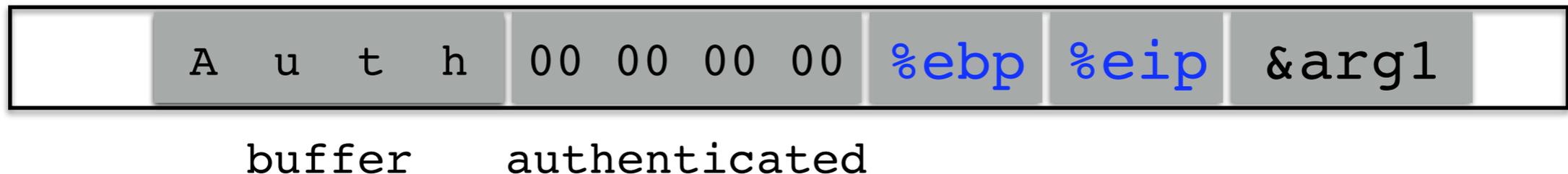
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A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

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    int authenticated = 0;
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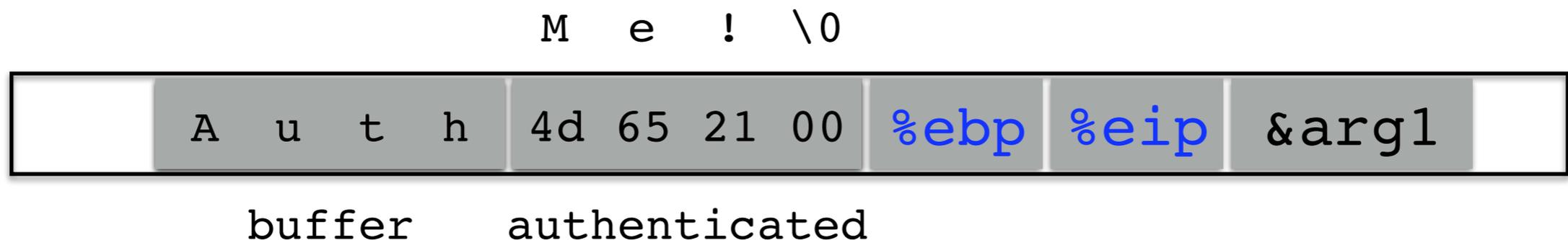
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A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

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    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```



A BUFFER OVERFLOW EXAMPLE

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    int authenticated = 0;
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    if(authenticated) { ...
}

int main()
{
    char *mystr = "AuthMe!";
    func(mystr);
    ...
}
```

Code still runs; user now 'authenticated'

M e ! \0



buffer authenticated

```
void vulnerable()  
{  
    char buf[80];  
    gets(buf);  
}
```

```
void vulnerable()  
{  
    char buf[80];  
    gets(buf);  
}
```

```
void still_vulnerable()  
{  
    char *buf = malloc(80);  
    gets(buf);  
}
```

```
void safe()  
{  
    char buf[80];  
    fgets(buf, 64, stdin);  
}
```

```
void safe()  
{  
    char buf[80];  
    fgets(buf, 64, stdin);  
}
```

```
void safer()  
{  
    char buf[80];  
    fgets(buf, sizeof(buf), stdin);  
}
```

IE's Role in the Google-China War



By Richard Adhikari
TechNewsWorld
01/15/10 12:25 PM PT

AA Text Size
 Print Version
 E-Mail Article

The hack attack on Google that set off the company's ongoing standoff with China appears to have come through a zero-day flaw in Microsoft's Internet Explorer browser. Microsoft has released a security advisory, and researchers are hard at work studying the

exploit. The attack appears to consist of several files, each a different piece of malware.

Computer security companies are scurrying to cope with the fallout from the Internet Explorer (IE) flaw that led to cyberattacks on Google and its corporate and individual customers.

The zero-day attack that exploited IE is part of a lethal cocktail of malware that is keeping researchers very busy.

"We're discovering things on an up-to-the-minute basis, and we've seen about a dozen files dropped on infected PCs so far," Dmitri Alperovitch, vice president of research at McAfee Labs, told TechNewsWorld.

The attacks on Google, which appeared to originate in China, have sparked a feud between the Internet giant and the nation's government over censorship, and it could result in Google pulling away from its business dealings in the country.

Pointing to the Flaw

The vulnerability in IE is an invalid pointer reference, Microsoft said in [security advisory 979352](#), which it issued on Thursday. Under certain conditions, the invalid pointer can be accessed after an object is deleted, the advisory states. In specially crafted attacks, like the ones launched against Google and its customers, IE can allow remote execution of code when the flaw is exploited.

USER-SUPPLIED STRINGS

- In these examples, we were providing our own strings
- But they come from users in myriad ways
 - Text input
 - Network packets
 - Environment variables
 - File input...

WHAT'S THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN?

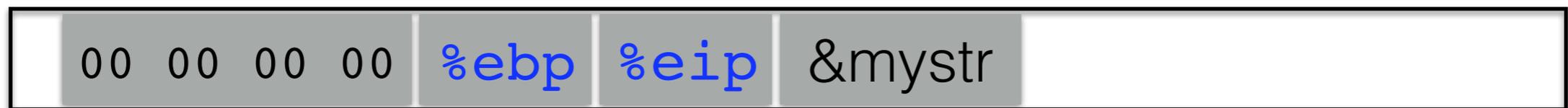
```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```



buffer

WHAT'S THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN?

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

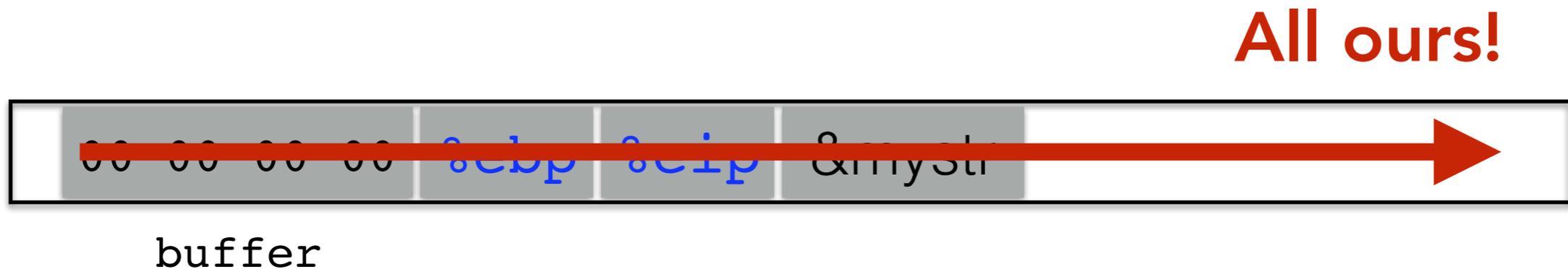


buffer

strcpy will let you write as much as you want (til a '\0')

WHAT'S THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN?

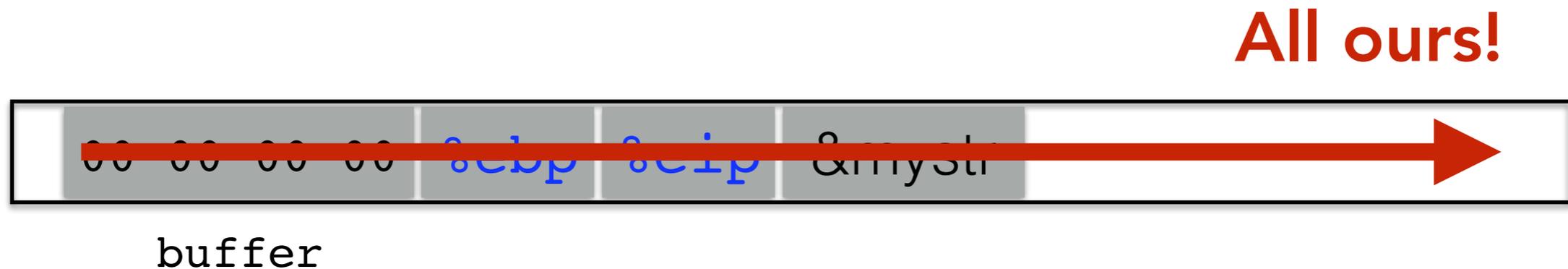
```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```



strcpy will let you write as much as you want (til a '\0')

WHAT'S THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN?

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    strcpy(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```



strcpy will let you write as much as you want (til a '\0')

What could you write to memory to wreak havoc?

FIRST A RECAP: ARGS

```
#include <stdio.h>

void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    printf("arg1 is at %p\n", &arg1);
    printf("arg2 is at %p\n", &arg2);
    printf("arg3 is at %p\n", &arg3);
}

int main()
{
    func("Hello", 10, -3);
    return 0;
}
```

FIRST A RECAP: ARGS

```
#include <stdio.h>

void func(char *arg1, int arg2, int arg3)
{
    printf("arg1 is at %p\n", &arg1);
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}

int main()
{
    func("Hello", 10, -3);
    return 0;
}
```

What will happen?

$\&arg1 < \&arg2 < \&arg3?$

$\&arg1 > \&arg2 > \&arg3?$

FIRST A RECAP: LOCALS

```
#include <stdio.h>

void func()
{
    char loc1[4];
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    printf("loc1 is at %p\n", &loc1);
    printf("loc2 is at %p\n", &loc2);
    printf("loc3 is at %p\n", &loc3);
}

int main()
{
    func();
    return 0;
}
```

FIRST A RECAP: LOCALS

```
#include <stdio.h>

void func()
{
    char loc1[4];
    int loc2;
    int loc3;
    printf("loc1 is at %p\n", &loc1);
    printf("loc2 is at %p\n", &loc2);
    printf("loc3 is at %p\n", &loc3);
}

int main()
{
    func();
    return 0;
}
```

What will happen?

$\&loc1 < \&loc2 < \&loc3?$

$\&loc1 > \&loc2 > \&loc3?$

STACK & FUNCTIONS: SUMMARY

Calling function (before calling):

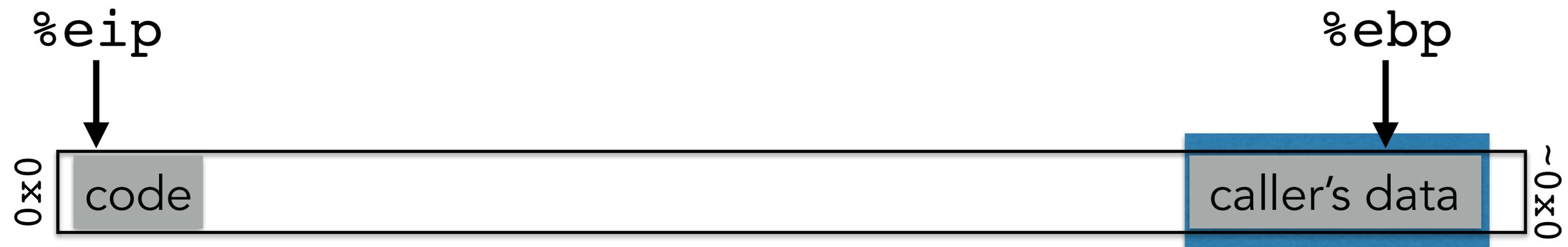
1. **Push arguments** onto the stack (in reverse)
2. **Push the return address**, i.e., the address of the instruction you want run after control returns to you: e.g., `%eip + 2`
3. **Jump to the function's address**

Called function (when called):

4. **Push the old frame pointer** onto the stack: `push %ebp`
5. **Set frame pointer %ebp** to where the end of the stack is right now: `%ebp=%esp`
6. **Push local variables** onto the stack; access them as offsets from `%ebp`

Called function (when returning):

7. **Reset the previous stack frame**: `%esp = %ebp; pop %ebp`
8. **Jump back to return address**: `pop %eip`



STACK & FUNCTIONS: SUMMARY

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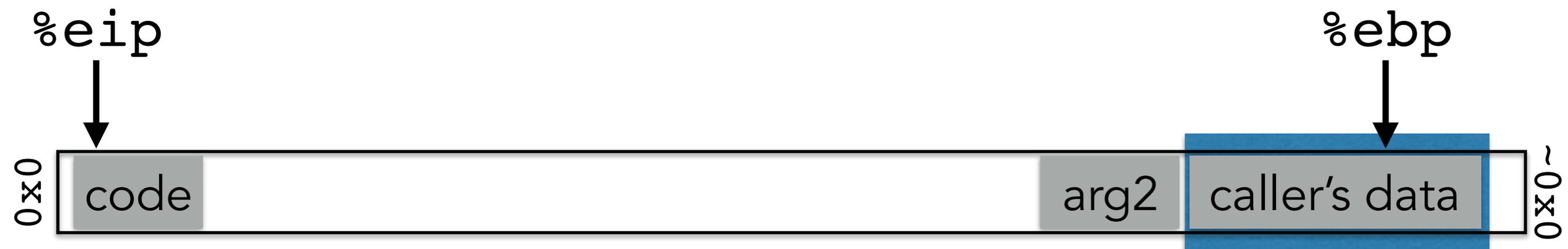
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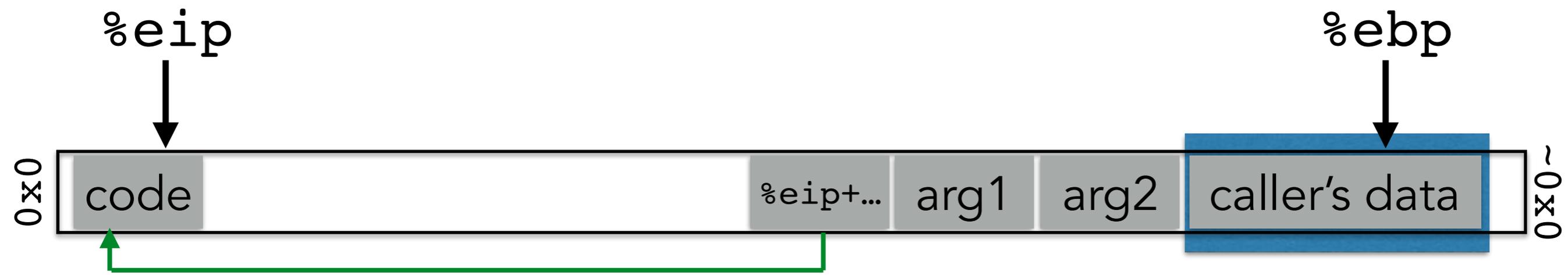
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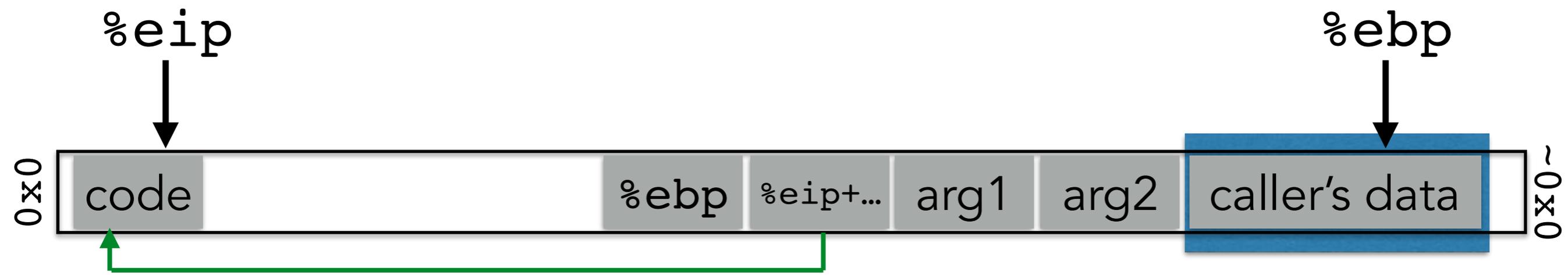
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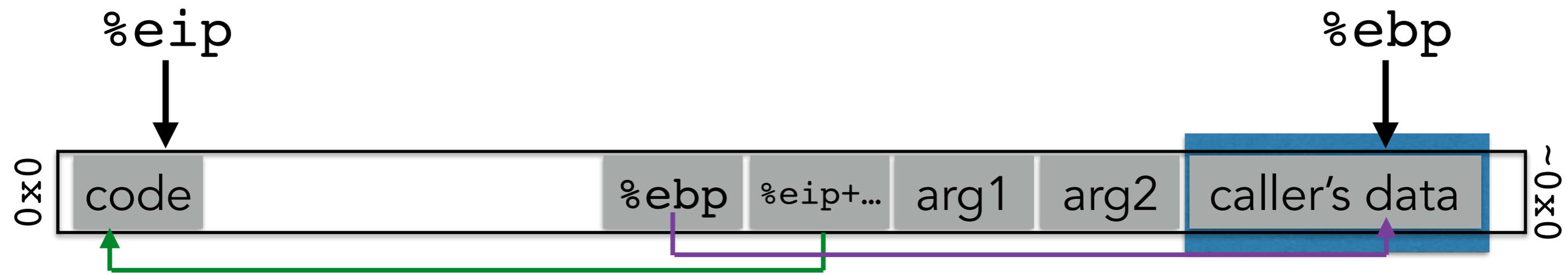
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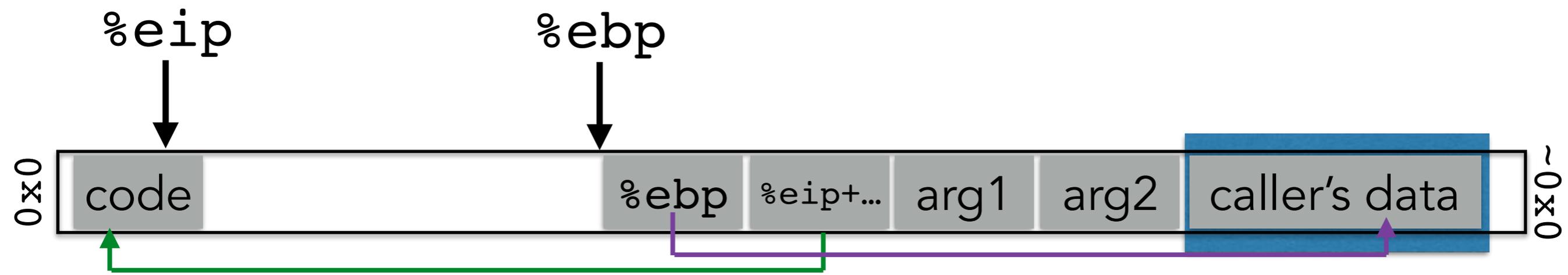
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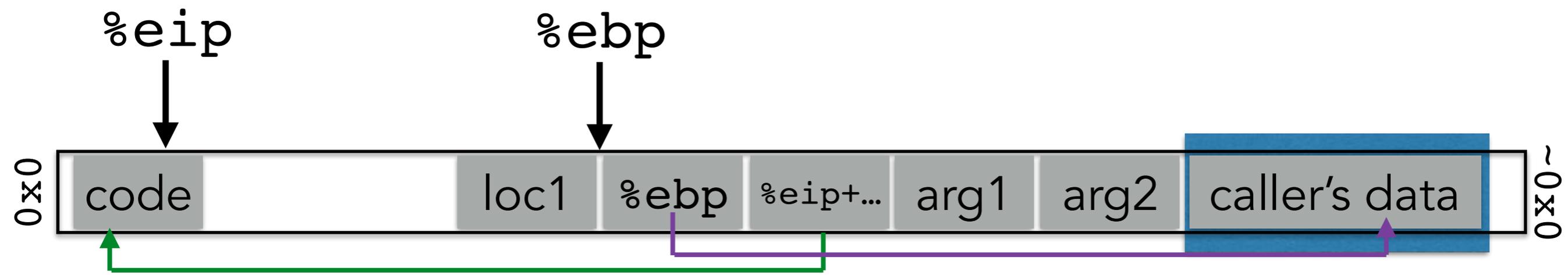
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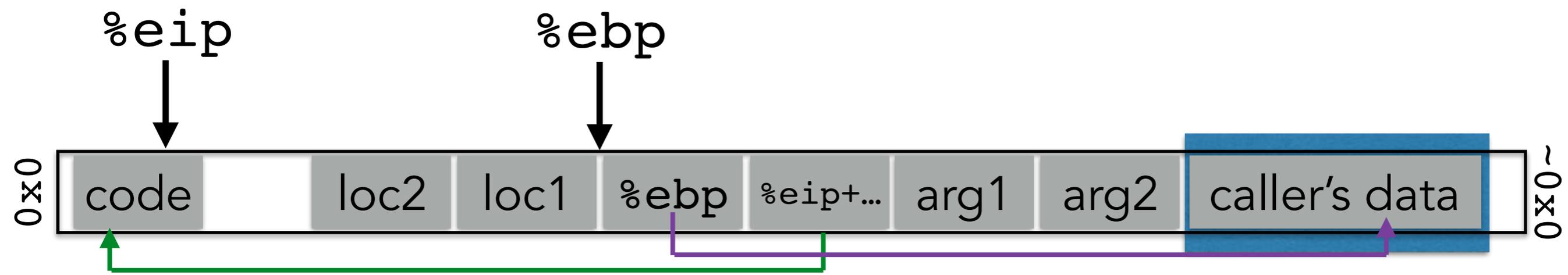
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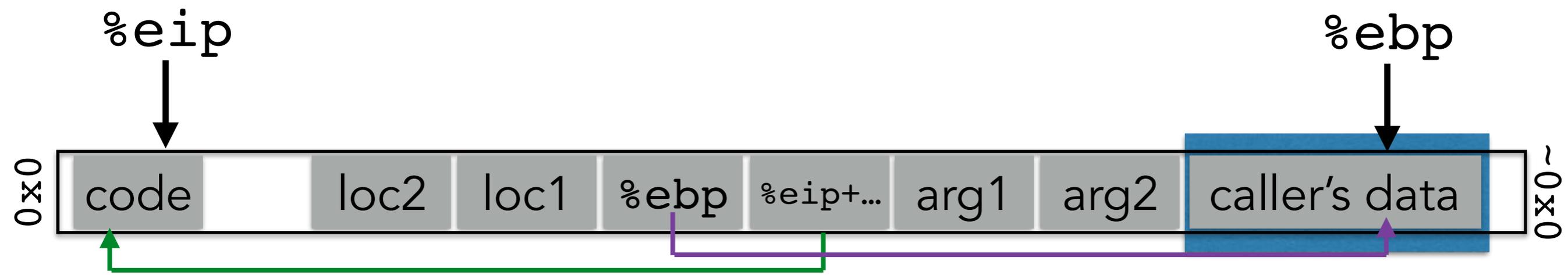
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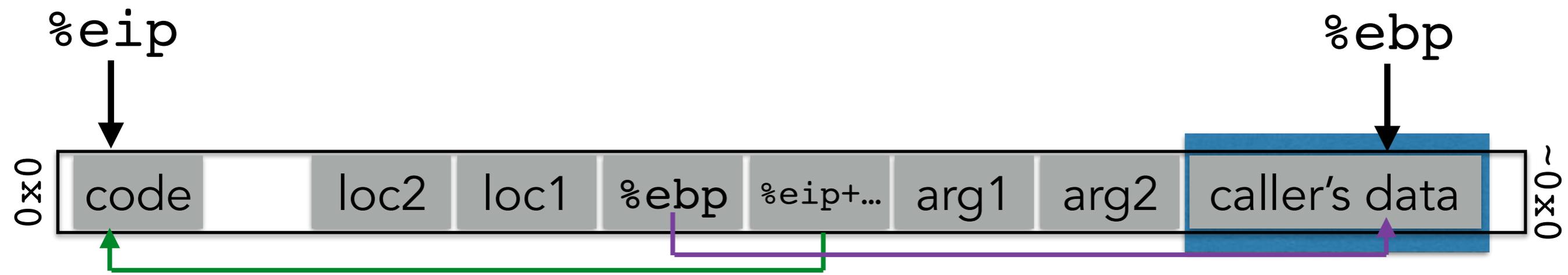
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GDB: YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND

```
run <input>
```

Run the program with `input` as the command-line arguments

```
print <var>  
(or just "p <var>")
```

Print the value of variable `var`
(Can also do some operations: `p &x`)

```
b <function>
```

Set a breakpoint at `function`

```
s
```

s step through execution (into calls)

```
c
```

c continue execution (no more stepping)

GDB: YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND

```
info frame  
(or just "i f")
```

Show **info** about the current **frame**
(prev. frame, locals/args, %ebp/%eip)

```
info reg  
(or just "i r")
```

Show **info** about **registers**
(%ebp, %eip, %esp, etc.)

```
x/<n> <addr>
```

Examine <n> bytes of memory
starting at address <addr>

BUFFER OVERFLOW

char loc1[4];



BUFFER OVERFLOW

char loc1[4];



```
gets(loc1);  
strcpy(loc1, <user input>);  
memcpy(loc1, <user input>);  
etc.
```

BUFFER OVERFLOW

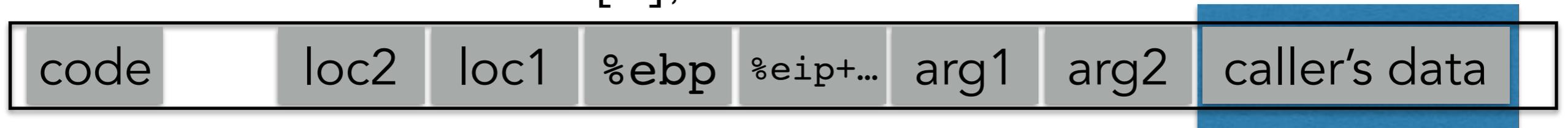
char loc1[4];



```
gets(loc1);  
strcpy(loc1, <user input>);  
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etc.
```

BUFFER OVERFLOW

char loc1[4];



Input writes from low to high addresses

```
gets(loc1);  
strcpy(loc1, <user input>);  
memcpy(loc1, <user input>);  
etc.
```

BUFFER OVERFLOW

Can over-write other data ("AuthMe!")

```
char loc1[4];
```



Input writes from low to high addresses

```
gets(loc1);  
strcpy(loc1, <user input>);  
memcpy(loc1, <user input>);  
etc.
```

BUFFER OVERFLOW

Can over-write other data ("AuthMe!")

Can over-write the program's *control flow* (%eip)

```
char loc1[4];
```



Input writes from low to high addresses

```
gets(loc1);  
strcpy(loc1, <user input>);  
memcpy(loc1, <user input>);  
etc.
```

CODE INJECTION

HIGH-LEVEL IDEA

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

...	00 00 00 00	%ebp	%eip	&arg1	...
-----	-------------	------	------	-------	-----

buffer

HIGH-LEVEL IDEA

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

A horizontal bar representing memory stack layout. From left to right: a white box with '...', a grey box with '00 00 00 00', a grey box with '%ebp', a grey box with '%eip', a grey box with '&arg1', a grey box with '...', and a red box with 'Haxx0r c0d3'.

...	00 00 00 00	%ebp	%eip	&arg1	...	Haxx0r c0d3
-----	-------------	------	------	-------	-----	-------------

buffer

(1) Load our own code into memory

HIGH-LEVEL IDEA

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

%eip



- (1) Load our own code into memory
- (2) Somehow get %eip to point to it

HIGH-LEVEL IDEA

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

%eip



text	...	00 00 00 00	%ebp	%eip	&arg1	...	Haxx0r c0d3
------	-----	-------------	------	------	-------	-----	-------------

buffer

- (1) Load our own code into memory
- (2) Somehow get %eip to point to it

HIGH-LEVEL IDEA

```
void func(char *arg1)
{
    char buffer[4];
    sprintf(buffer, arg1);
    ...
}
```

%eip



text ... 00 00 00 00 %ebp %eip &arg1 ... Haxx0r c0d3

buffer

- (1) Load our own code into memory
- (2) Somehow get %eip to point to it

THIS IS NONTRIVIAL

- Pulling off this attack requires getting a few things really right (and some things sorta right)
- Think about what is tricky about the attack
 - The key to defending it will be to make the hard parts *really* hard

CHALLENGE 1: LOADING CODE INTO MEMORY

- It must be the machine code instructions (i.e., already compiled and ready to run)
- We have to be careful in how we construct it:
 - It can't contain any all-zero bytes
 - Otherwise, `sprintf` / `gets` / `scanf` / ... will stop copying
 - How could you write assembly to never contain a full zero byte?
 - It can't make use of the loader (we're injecting)
 - It can't use the stack (we're going to smash it)

WHAT KIND OF CODE WOULD WE WANT TO RUN?

- Goal: **full-purpose shell**
 - The code to launch a shell is called “**shell code**”
 - It is nontrivial to it in a way that works as injected code
 - No zeroes, can't use the stack, no loader dependence
 - There are many out there
 - And competitions to see who can write the smallest
- Goal: **privilege escalation**
 - Ideally, they go from guest (or non-user) to root

SHELLCODE

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int main( ) {
    char *name[2];
    name[0] = "/bin/sh";
    name[1] = NULL;
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Machine code

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Machine code

(Part of)
your
input

PRIVILEGE ESCALATION

- More on Unix permissions later, but for now...
- Recall that each file has:
 - Permissions: read / write / execute
 - For each of: owner / group / everyone else
- **Permissions** are defined over **userid's** and **groupid's**
 - Every user has a userid
 - root's userid is 0
- Consider a service like passwd
 - Owned by root (and needs to do root-y things)
 - But you want **any user** to be able to execute it

REAL VS EFFECTIVE USERID

- **(Real) Userid** = the user who ran the process
- **Effective userid** = what is used to determine what permissions/access the process has
- Consider passwd: root owns it, but users can run it
 - **getuid()** will return who ran it (real userid)
 - **seteuid(0)** to set the **e**ffective userid to root
 - It's allowed to because root is the owner
- What is the potential attack?

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If you can get a root-owned process to run setuid(0)/seteuid(0), then you get root permissions

CHALLENGE 2: GETTING OUR INJECTED CODE TO RUN

- ***All we can do is write to memory from buffer onward***
 - With this alone we want to get it to jump to our code
 - We have to use whatever code is already running



A horizontal bar representing a memory buffer. It is divided into several segments. From left to right: a white segment containing "...", a grey segment containing "00 00 00 00", a grey segment containing "%ebp", a grey segment containing "%eip", a grey segment containing "&arg1", and a grey segment containing "...".

```
... 00 00 00 00 %ebp %eip &arg1 ...
```

buffer

Thoughts?

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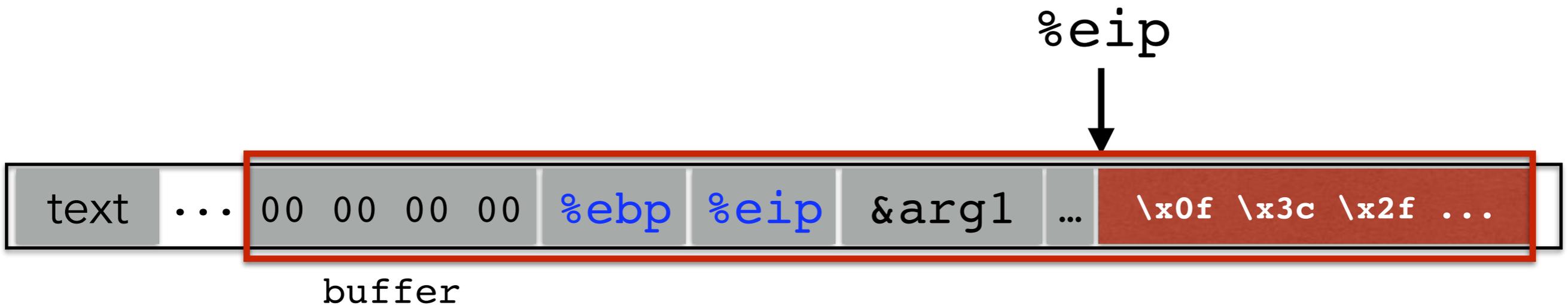
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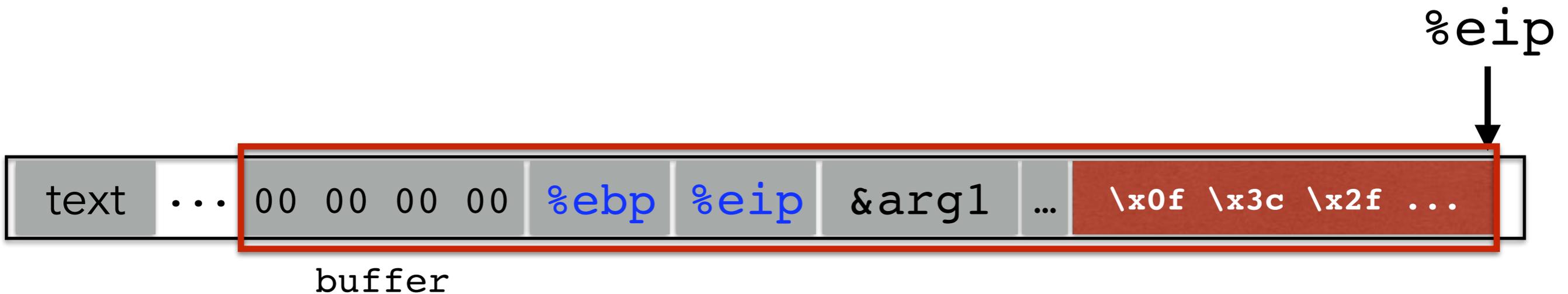
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STACK & FUNCTIONS: SUMMARY

Calling function (before calling):

1. **Push arguments** onto the stack (in reverse)
2. **Push the return address**, i.e., the address of the instruction you want run after control returns to you: e.g., `%eip + 2`
3. **Jump to the function's address**

Called function (when called):

4. **Push the old frame pointer** onto the stack: `push %ebp`
5. **Set frame pointer %ebp** to where the end of the stack is right now: `%ebp=%esp`
6. **Push local variables** onto the stack; access them as offsets from `%ebp`

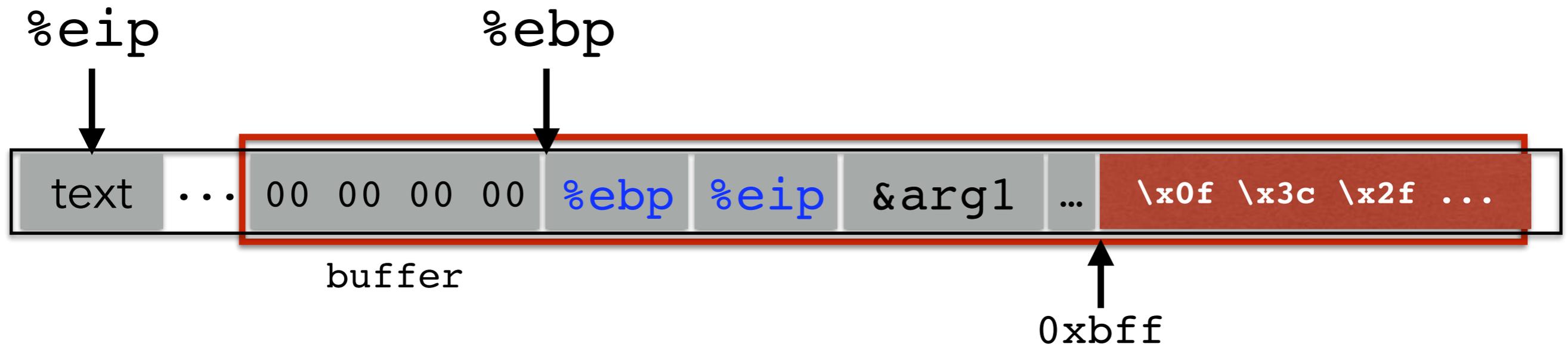
Called function (when returning):

7. **Reset the previous stack frame**: `%esp = %ebp; pop %ebp`
8. **Jump back to return address**: `pop %eip`

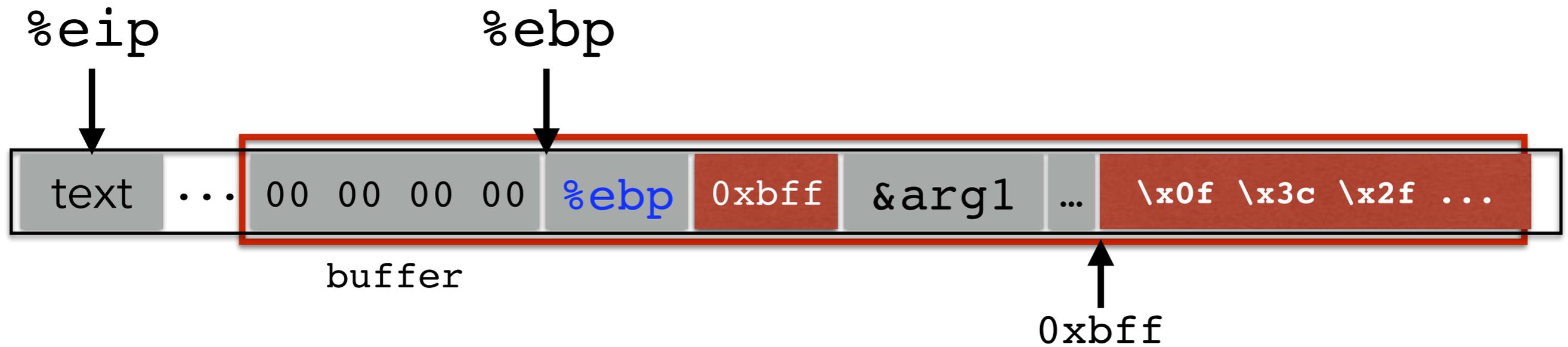
Calling function (after return):

9. **Remove the arguments** off of the stack: `%esp = %esp + number of bytes of args`

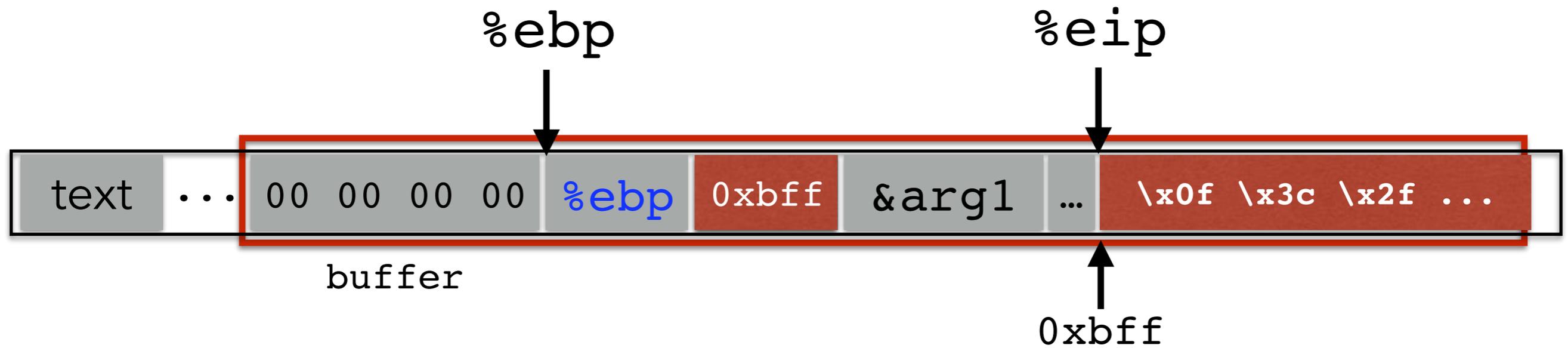
HIJACKING THE SAVED %EIP



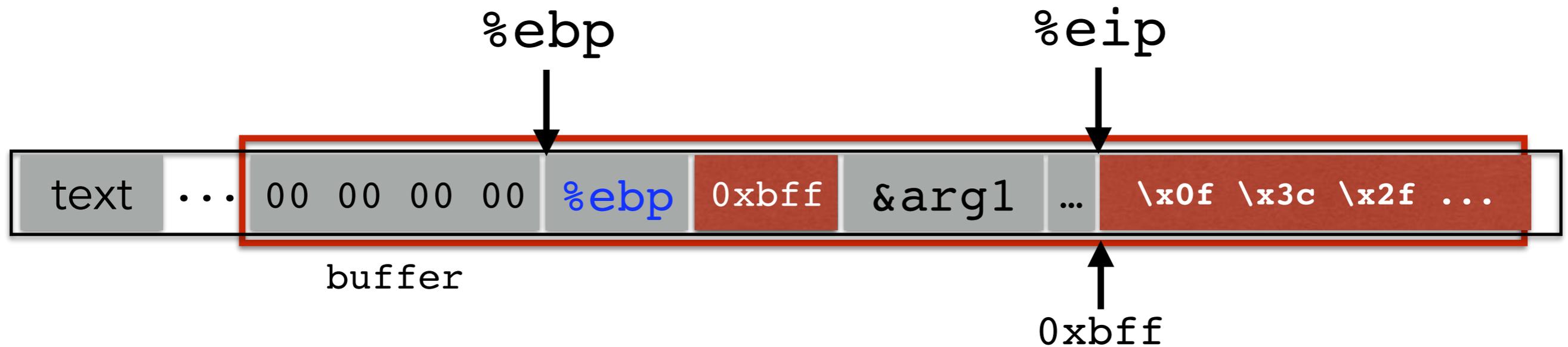
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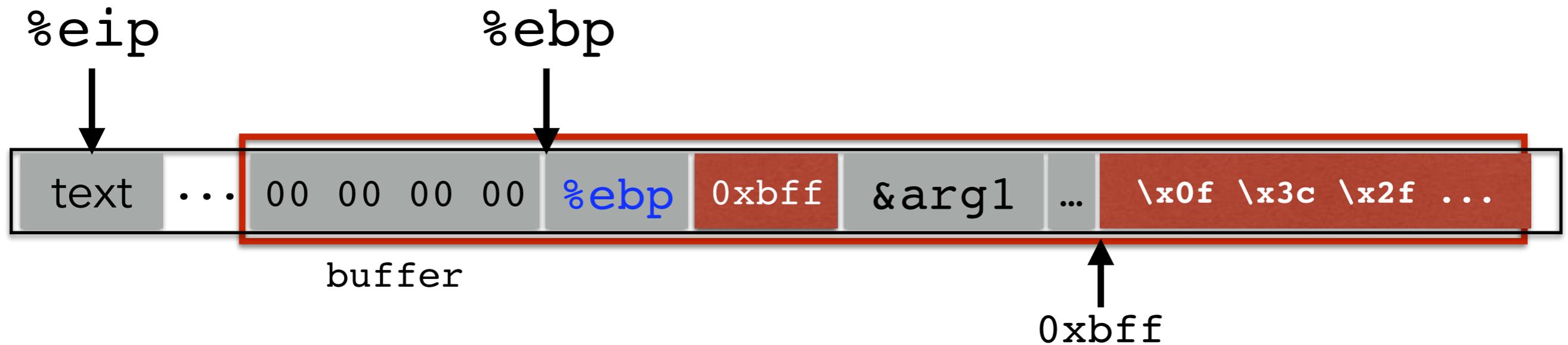
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But how do we know the address?

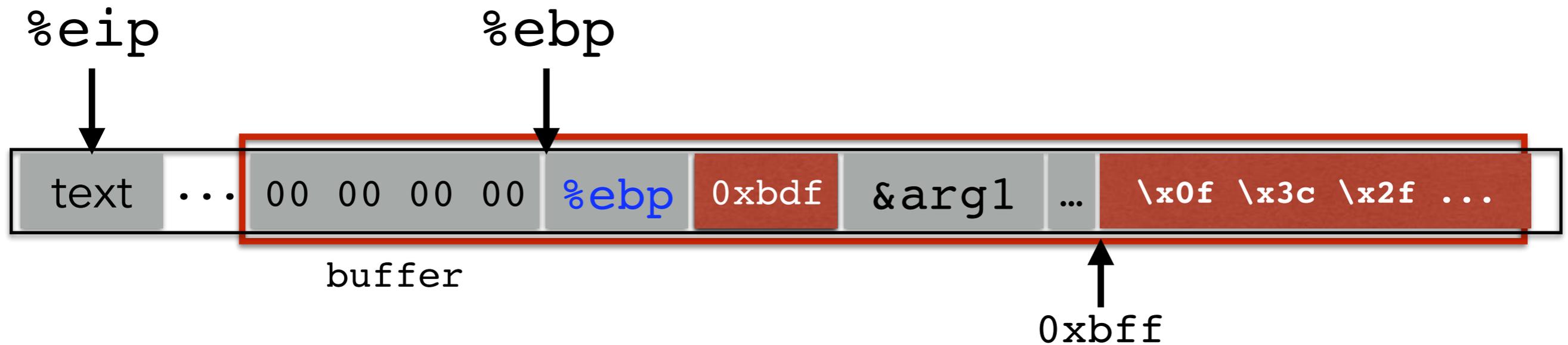
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What if we are wrong?



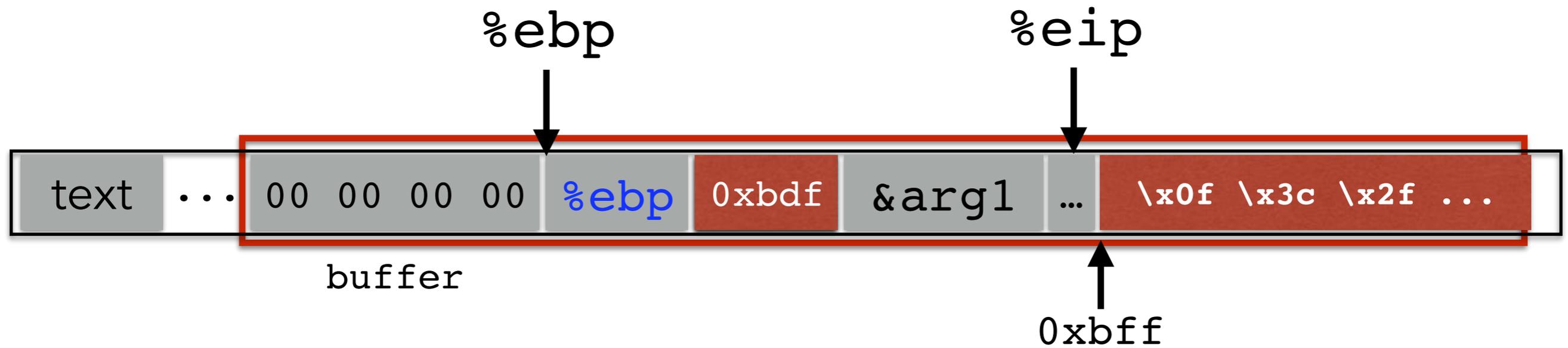
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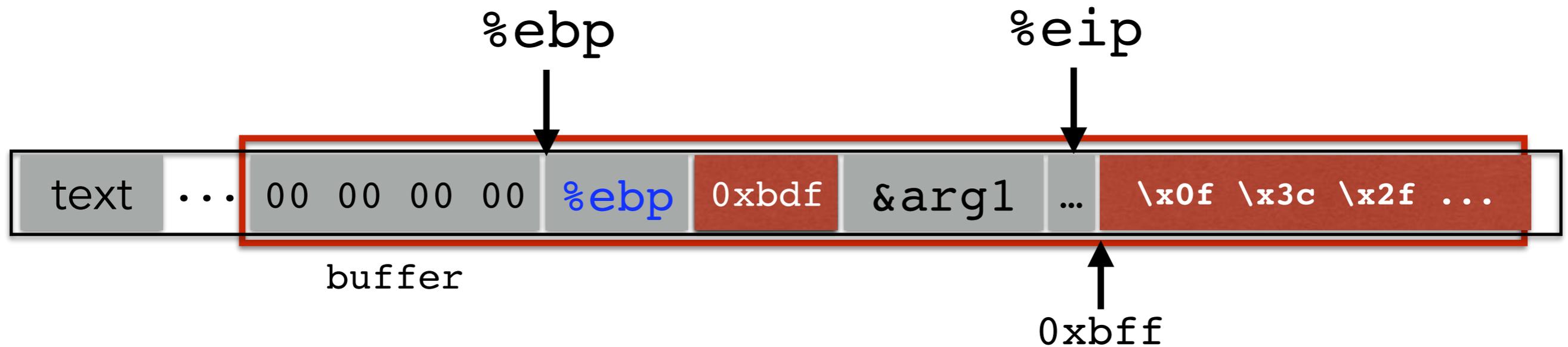
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**This is most likely data,
so the CPU will panic
(Invalid Instruction)**

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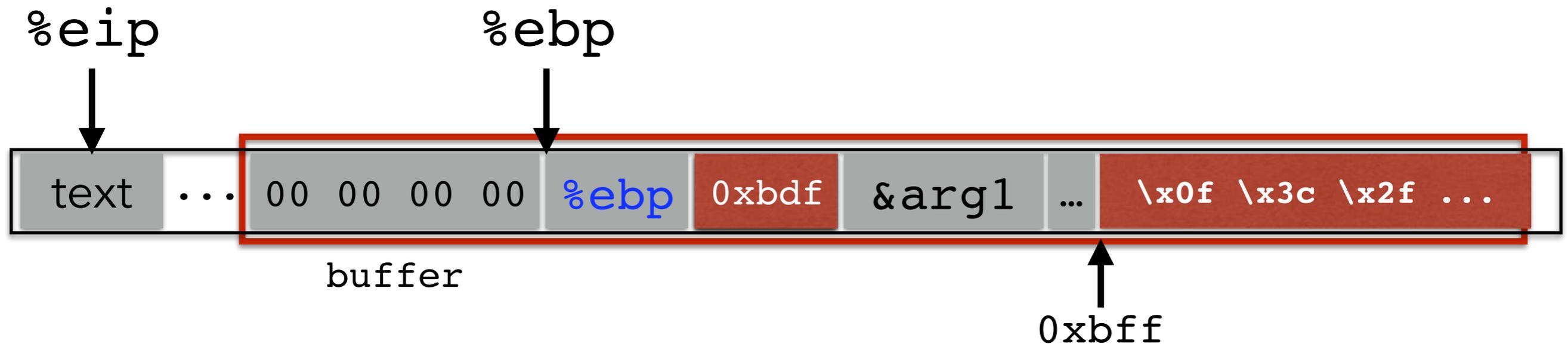
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- Worst case scenario: it's a 32 (or 64) bit memory space, which means 2^{32} (2^{64}) possible answers
- But without address randomization:
 - The stack always starts from the same, **fixed address**
 - The stack will grow, but usually it doesn't grow very deeply (unless the code is heavily recursive)

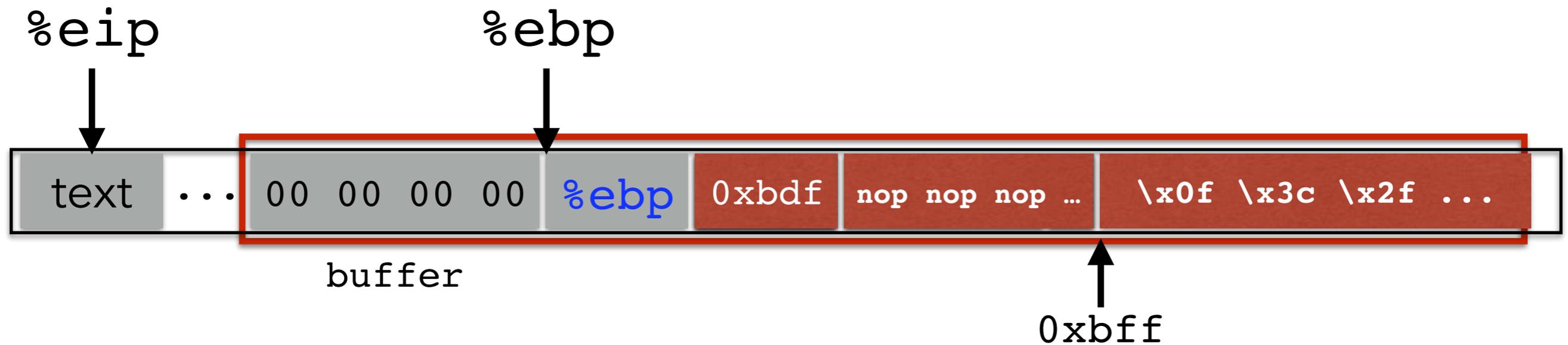
IMPROVING OUR CHANCES: NOP SLEDS

nop is a single-byte instruction
(just moves to the next instruction)



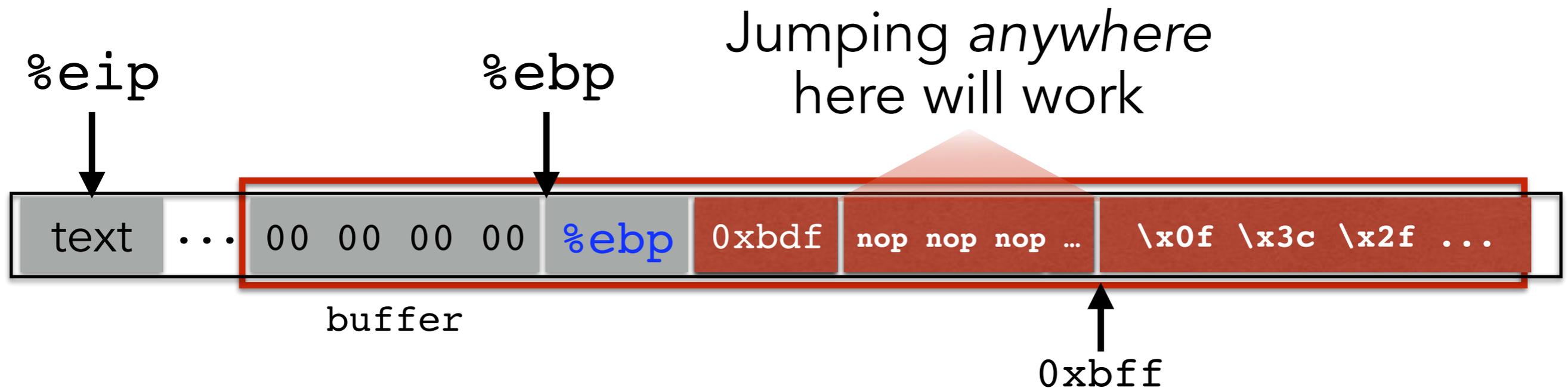
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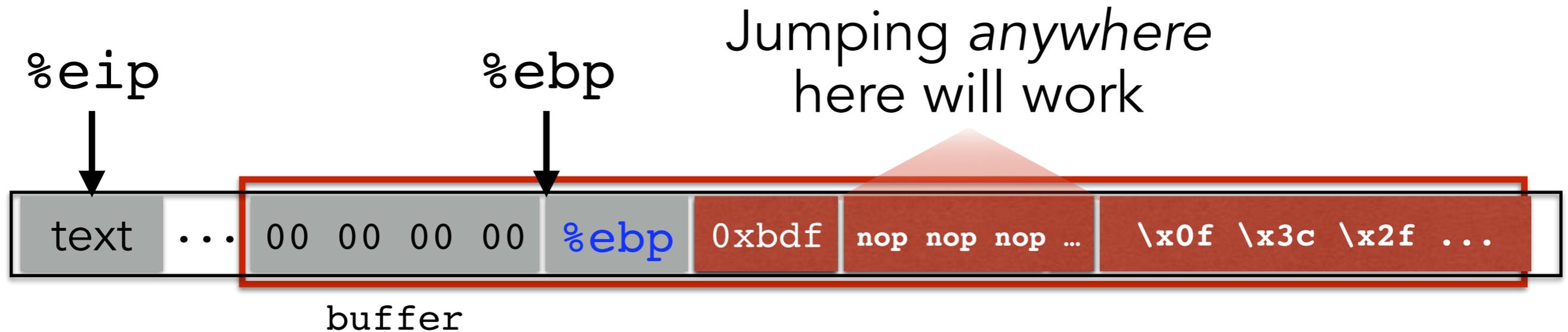
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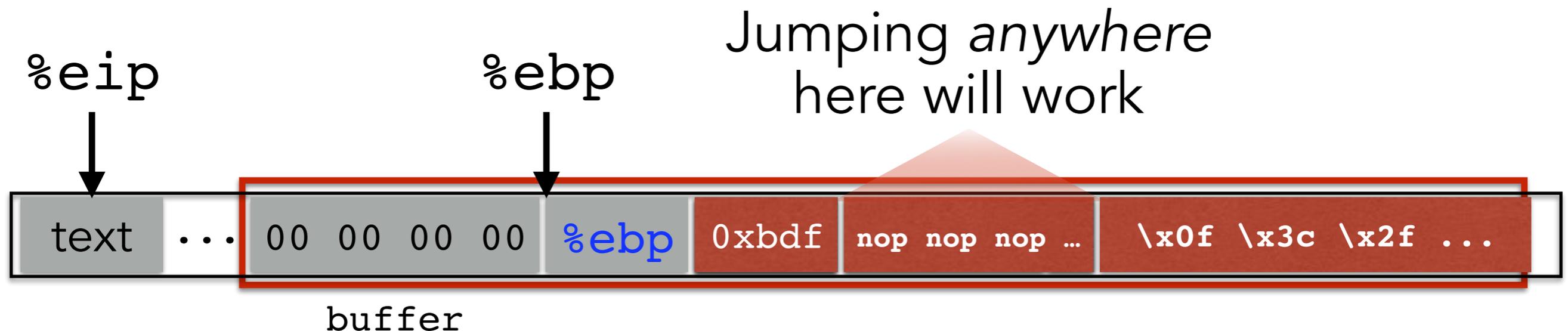
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**Now we improve our chances
of guessing by a factor of #nops**

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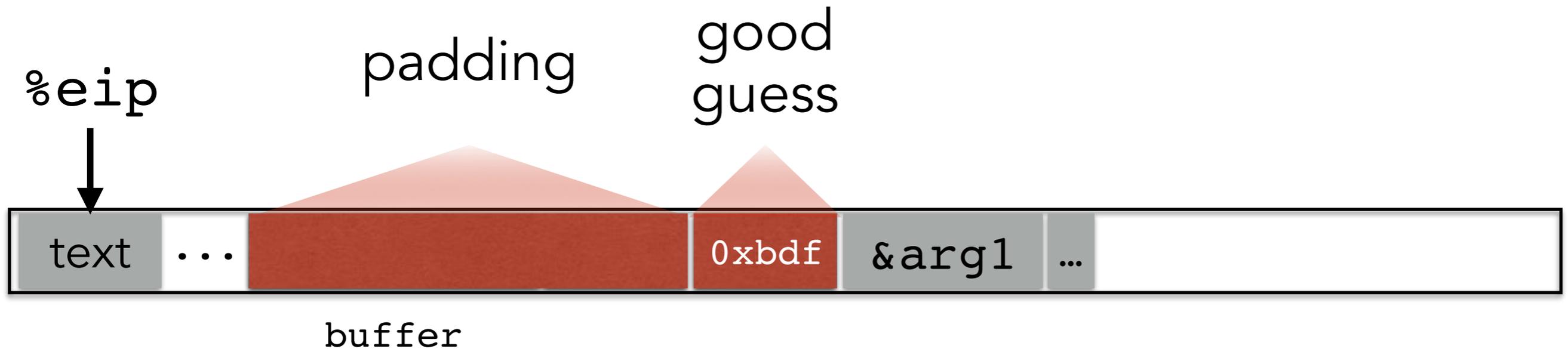
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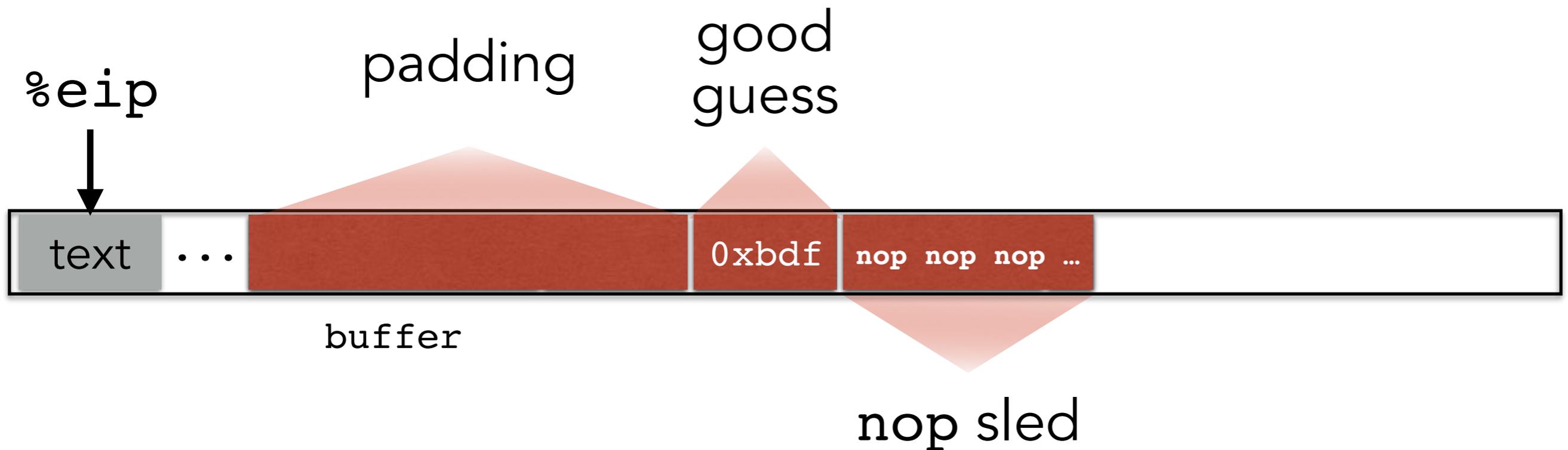
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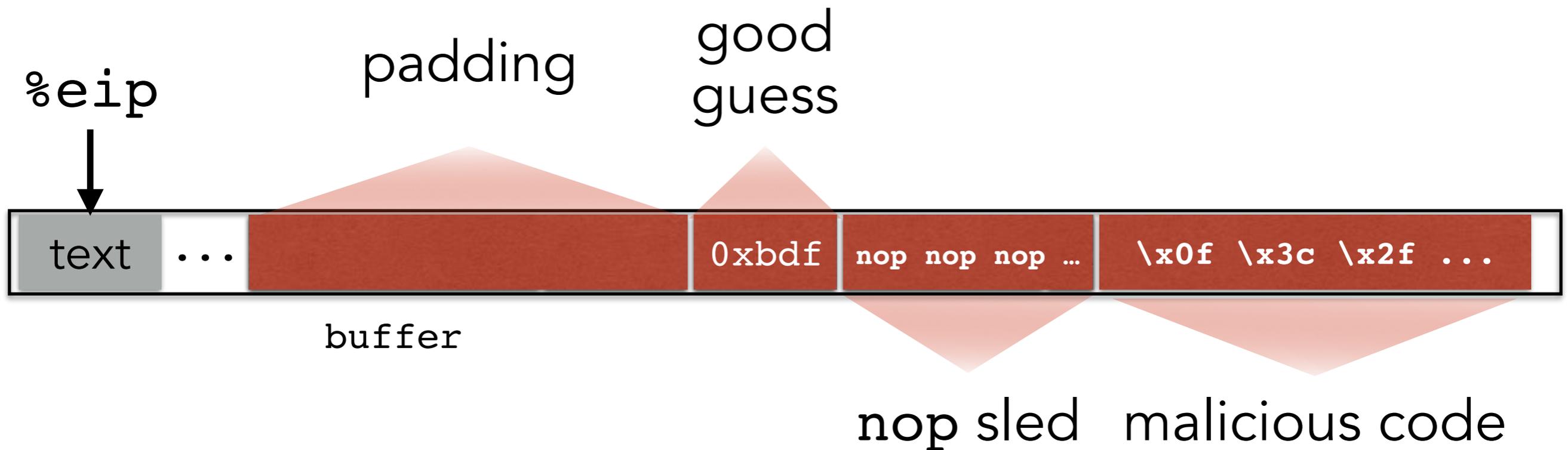
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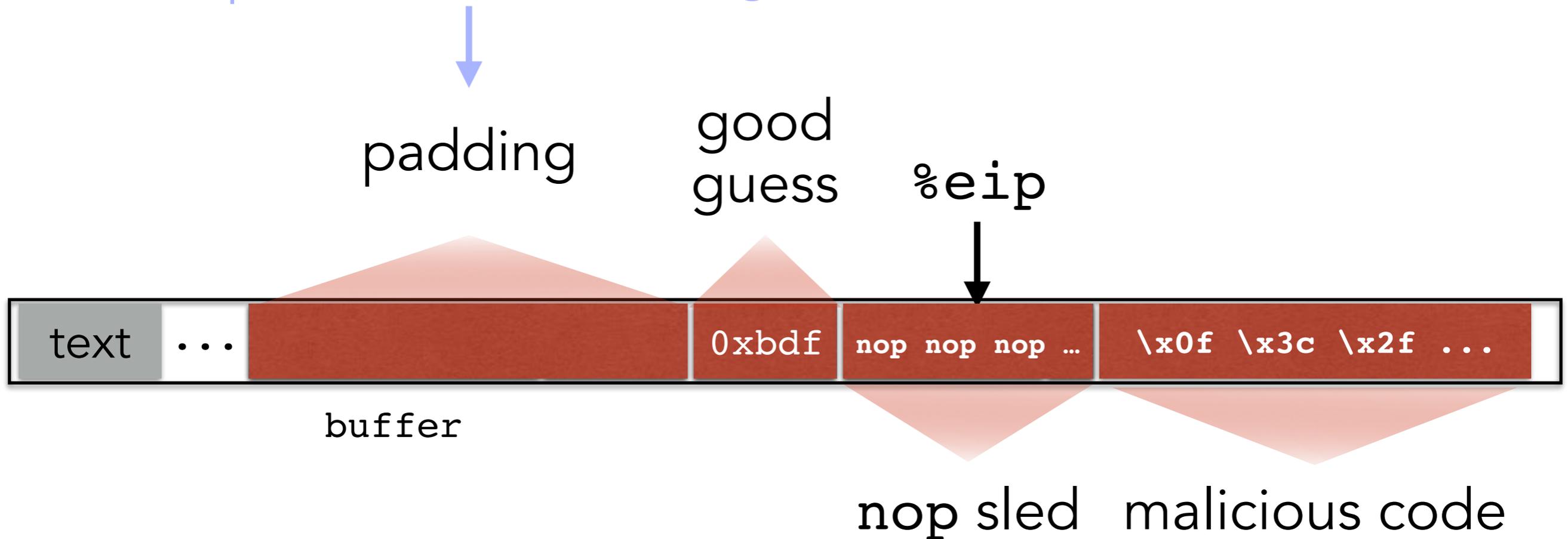
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