

CMSC 430, March 3rd 2020

Hustle

Stacks

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- One thing I was trying to get across, but may have failed:
 - There are many ways to use stacks to store temporaries!
 - Only thing that matters: that it works.

Stacks: Part 1

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- In AMD64, there are two registers normally used for the stack:
 - **rsp** and **rbp**
- Importantly, these registers are not special!
 - In fact, in the architecture specification they are explicitly called out as *general purpose*

Stacks: Part 2

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- The idea behind having two:
 - The stack pointer points to the "top" of the stack
 - The base pointer points to the "bottom" of the stack
- The 'distance' between the determines how many things are currently on the stack.

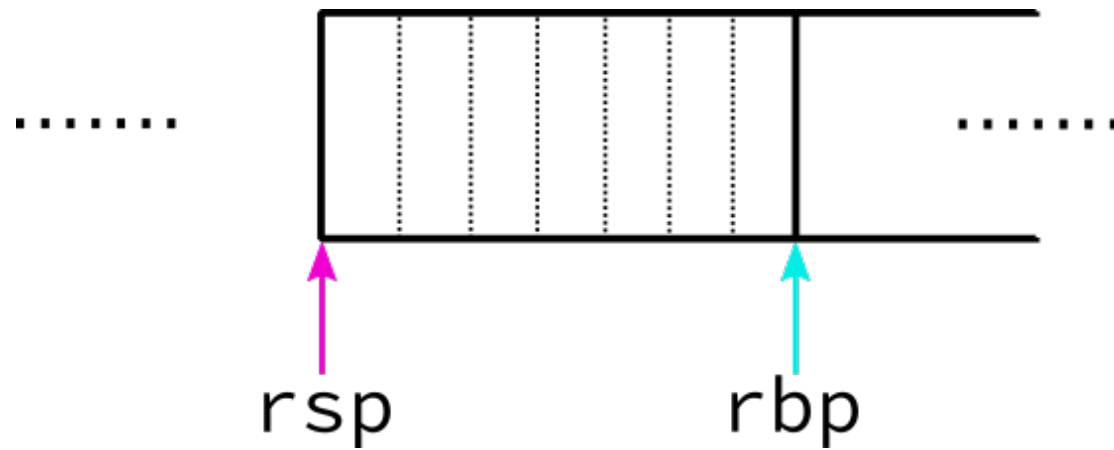
Stacks: Part 3

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- Let's take a look:

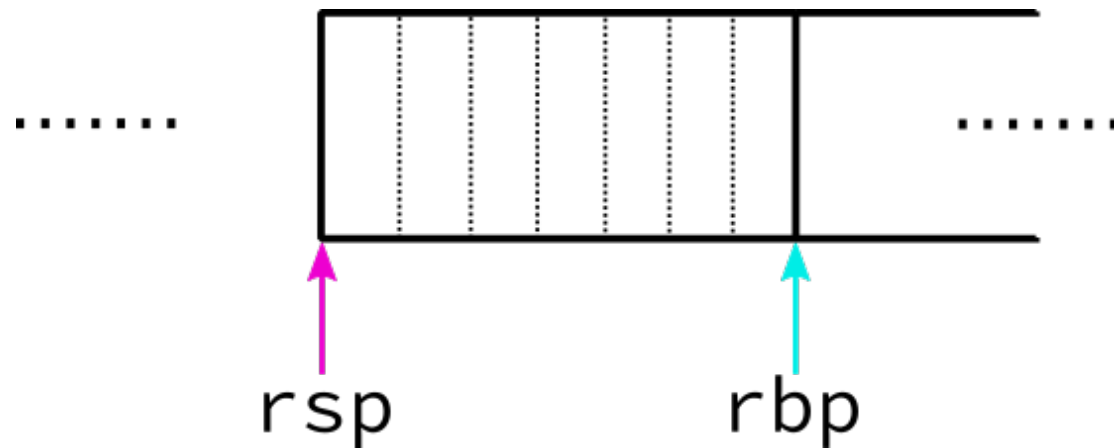
Stacks: Part 3

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- Even with both **rsp** and **rbp** we have to keep track of things

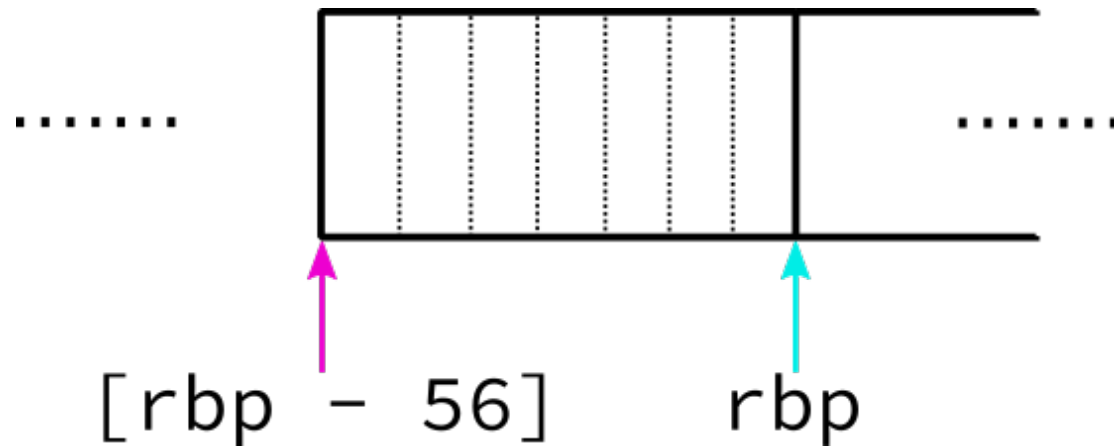
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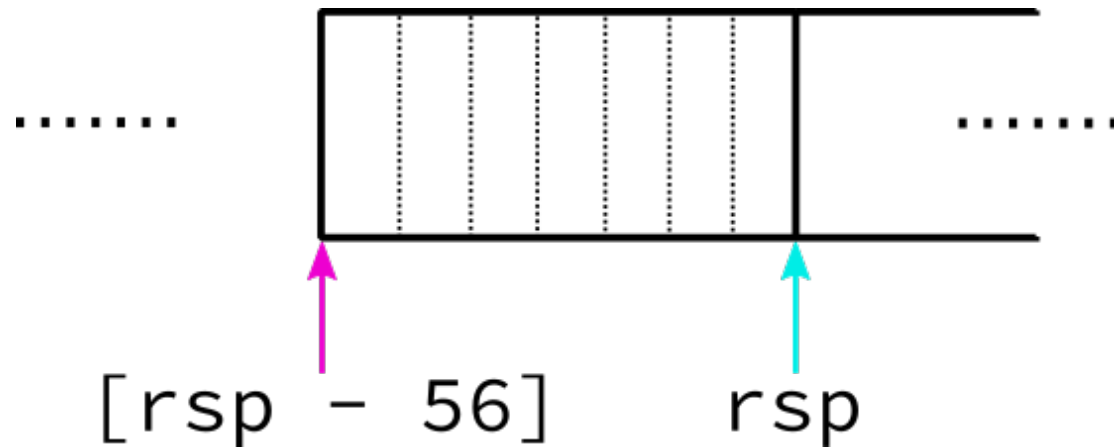
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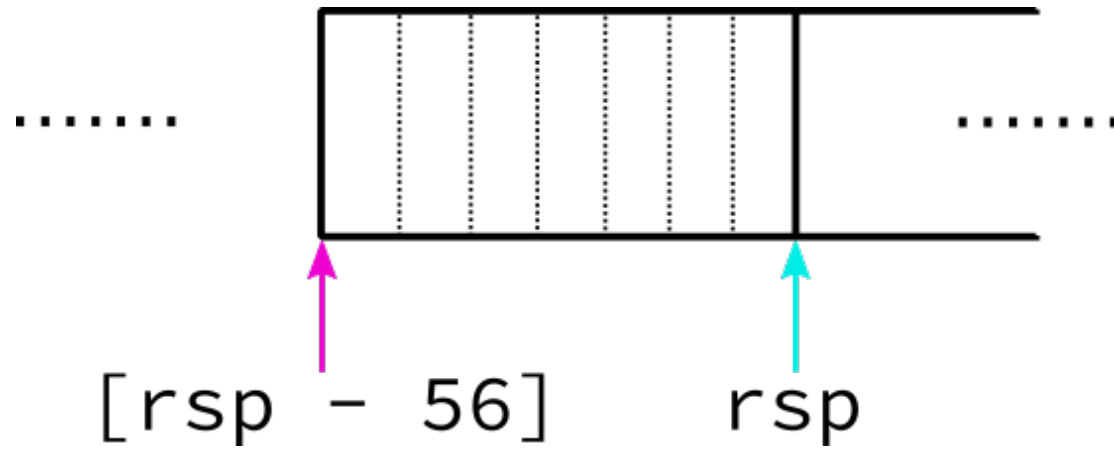
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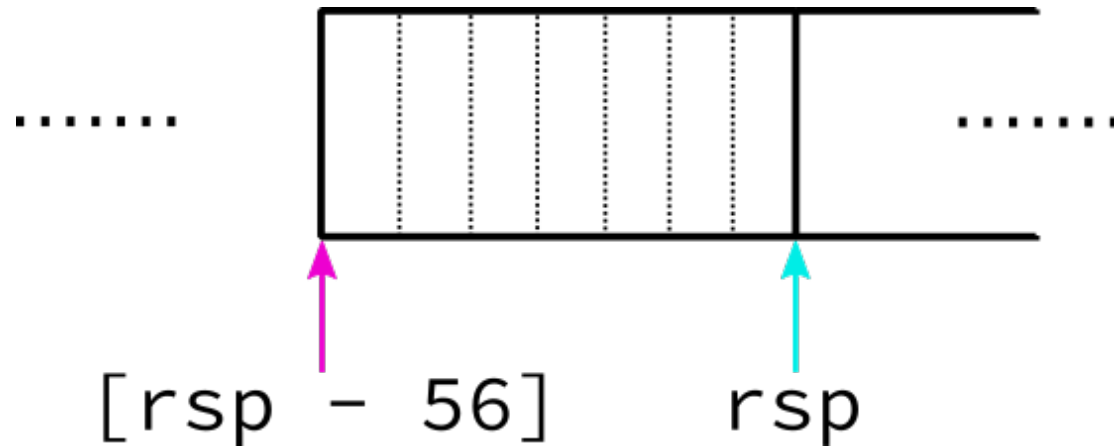
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- Why not use **rbp**?

Stacks: Part 6

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- Why not use **rbp**?
 - Because **rbp** is special to C
 - :(

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- Most of the time these new features change things in our interpreter/compiler but not in our RTS
- Today is an RTS day.
 - Which is also a compiler day, to take advantage of our new RTS!

Hustle

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- We will use the heap to implement *boxed values*

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- In general, boxed values are things you need to dereference a pointer to get.
- But not all things that you need to dereference a pointer are 'boxed'

Boxing Day

racket> ; show box and unbox

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 - **cons**

Getting Box/Car on track

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- Goal for today:
- Understand how things like **box** and **cons** are implemented

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 - **v = ... | (box v) | (cons v v) | '()**

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- Before: All values were 'flat'
- Now: values can be arbitrarily big
 - So they won't all fit in a machine word!
- Idea:
 - Make distinction between flat and boxed values
 - Then make distinctions between the flat (immediate) and boxed values

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- Moving on.

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```
(define imm-shift      1)
(define imm-type-mask  (sub1 (shift 1 imm-shift)))
(define imm-type-int   0)
(define imm-val-true   3)
(define imm-val-false  1)
```

From grifters to hustlers

- Which becomes:

```
(define result-shift      3)
(define result-type-mask (sub1 (shift 1 result-shift)))
(define type-imm         0)
(define type-box         1)
(define type-pair        2)
```

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- However, this only helps us determine the types
- We need more in order to disambiguate the values

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(define type-imm         0)
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(define type-pair        2)
(define imm-shift        (+ 3 result-shift))
(define imm-type-mask    (sub1 (shift 1 imm-shift)))
(define imm-type-int     (shift 0 result-shift))
(define imm-val-true     (shift 1 result-shift))
(define imm-val-false    (shift 2 result-shift))
(define imm-val-empty    (shift 3 result-shift))
```

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- we call this **offset**

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- someone asked about how many 'lets' we can have:
- run the following at your terminal
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- If I did my math right (always questionable), we should be able to store ~1 million let-bound variables.

Let's write it!