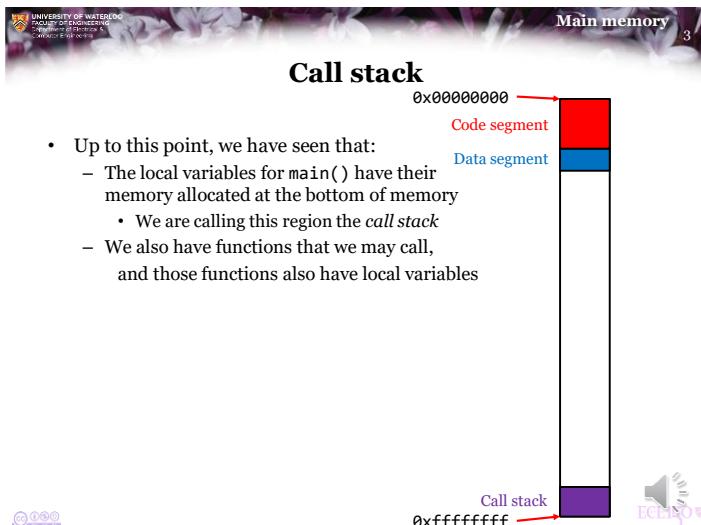




Main memory 2

Outline

- In this lesson, we will:
 - Describe and review the call stack
 - See how the call stack is used to allocate memory for
 - Parameters
 - Local variables
 - Look at two examples in detail



Main memory 4

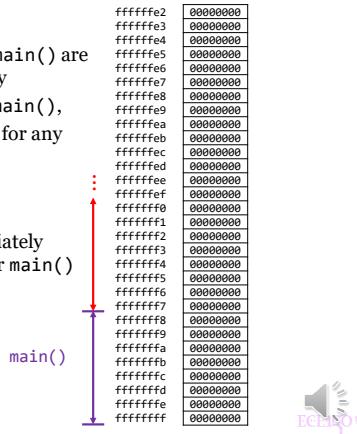
Review of functions

- Recall the behavior of a function:
 - A function is called from within another function
 - It is passed arguments
 - When it returns, it generally returns some value
 - You cannot *jump* into the middle of a function
 - Once a function returns:
 - You cannot go back to continue executing a function
 - You cannot access the parameters or any local variables
 - Functions may call other functions, and those functions may call others

Memory for functions

Main memory 5

- Suppose the local variables of `main()` are stored at the bottom of memory
- When we call a function from `main()`, we must allocate memory for any
 - Parameters
 - Local variables
- The obvious location is immediately above the memory allocated for `main()`



Example: gcd(...)

Main memory 6

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp{m};
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }
    int main() {
        unsigned int val1{42};
        unsigned int val2{91};
        while ( rem != 0 ) {
            std::cout << gcd( val1 + 10, val2 )
                << std::endl;
            rem = m % n;
            m = n;
            n = rem;
        }
        return n;
    }
}
```



Example: gcd(...)

Main memory 7

- Let's tabulate the information:

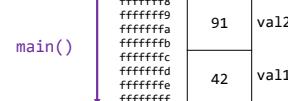
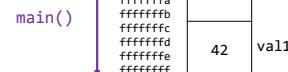
Function	Parameters	Local variables
<code>main()</code>		<code>unsigned int val1</code> <code>unsigned int val2</code>
<code>gcd(...)</code>	<code>unsigned int m</code> <code>unsigned int n</code>	<code>unsigned int tmp</code> <code>unsigned int rem</code>



Example: gcd(...)

Main memory 8

```
fffffe2 00000000
fffffe3 00000000
fffffe4 00000000
fffffe5 00000000
fffffe6 00000000
fffffe7 00000000
fffffe8 00000000
fffffe9 00000000
fffffea 00000000
fffffeb 00000000
fffffec 00000000
fffffed 00000000
fffffee 00000000
fffffef 00000000
ffffff0 00000000
ffffff1 00000000
ffffff2 00000000
ffffff3 00000000
ffffff4 00000000
ffffff5 00000000
ffffff6 00000000
ffffff7 00000000
ffffff8 00000000
ffffff9 00000000
ffffffa 00000000
ffffffb 00000000
ffffffc 00000000
ffffffd 00000000
ffffffe 00000000
int main() {
    unsigned int val1{42};
    unsigned int val2{91};
    std::cout << gcd( val1 + 10, val2 )
        << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

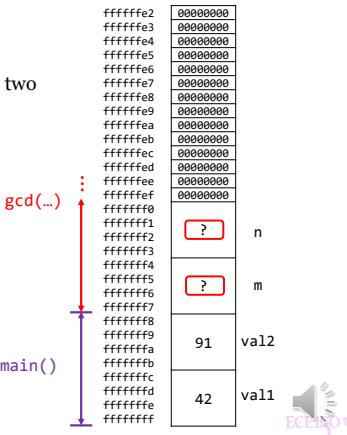


Example: gcd(...)

- When calling `gcd(...)`,
memory is allocated for the two
parameters

```
int main() {
    unsigned int val1{42};
    unsigned int val2{91};

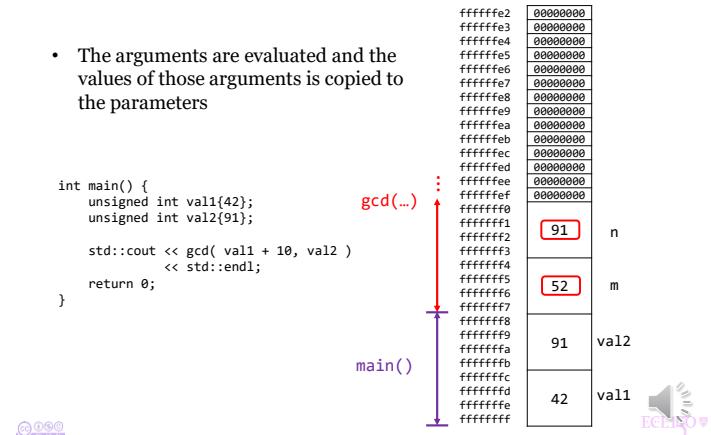
    std::cout << gcd( val1 + 10, val2 )
        << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

**Example: gcd(...)**

- The arguments are evaluated and the
values of those arguments is copied to
the parameters

```
int main() {
    unsigned int val1{42};
    unsigned int val2{91};

    std::cout << gcd( val1 + 10, val2 )
        << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

**Example: gcd(...)**

- The function `gcd(...)` has
two local variables

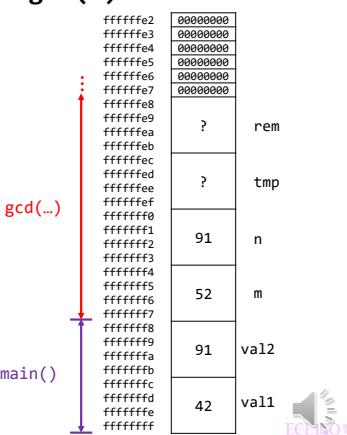
```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }

    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return n;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
}

return n;
```

**Example: gcd(...)**

- The local variable `tmp` is used if $m < n$,
which is true

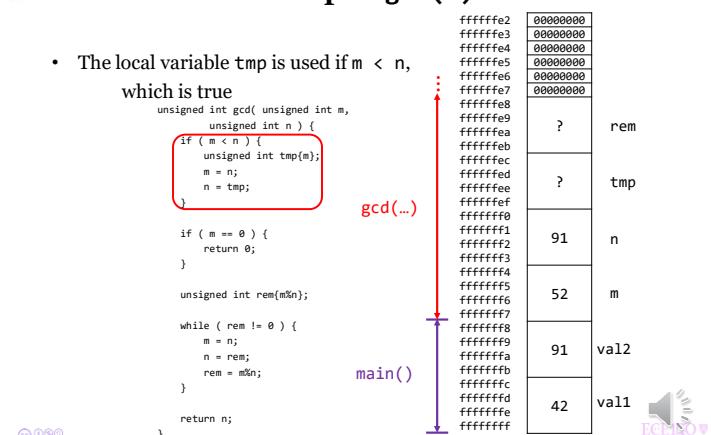
```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }

    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return n;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
}

return n;
```



Example: gcd(...)

Main memory 13

- The local variable `tmp` is initialized with the value of `m`

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

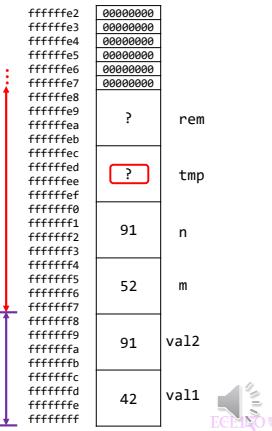
    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```

`gcd(...)`

`main()`



Example: gcd(...)

Main memory 14

- The local variable `tmp` is initialized with the value of `m`

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```

`gcd(...)`

`main()`



Example: gcd(...)

Main memory 15

- `m` is assigned the value of `n`

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

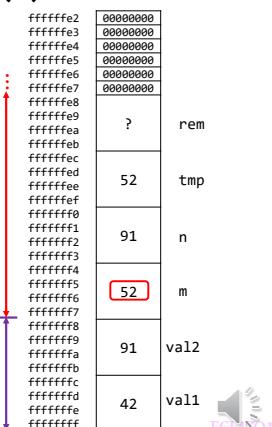
    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```

`gcd(...)`

`main()`



Example: gcd(...)

Main memory 16

- `m` is assigned the value of `n`

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```

`gcd(...)`

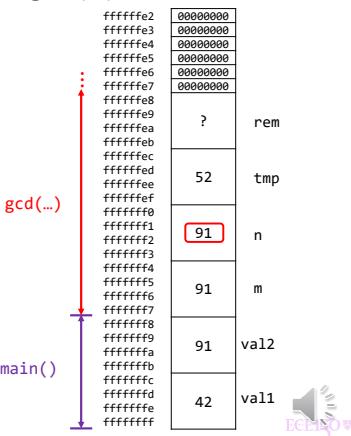
`main()`



Example: gcd(...)

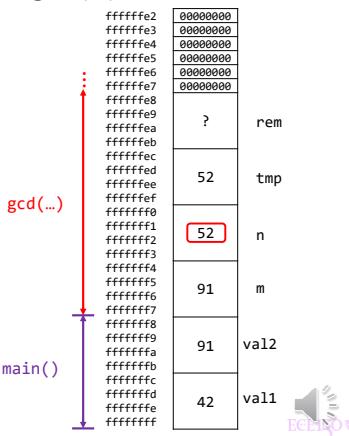
- n is assigned the value of tmp

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }
    unsigned int rem(m%n);
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
    return n;
}
```

**Example: gcd(...)**

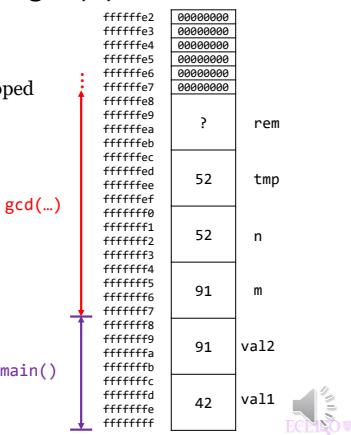
- n is assigned the value of tmp

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }
    unsigned int rem(m%n);
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
    return n;
}
```

**Example: gcd(...)**

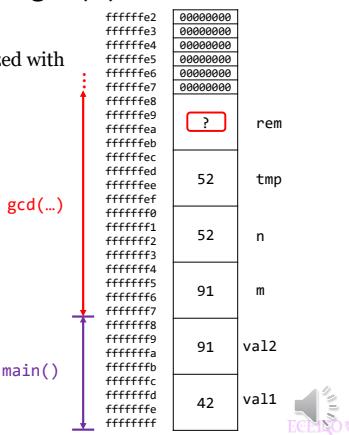
- The condition m == 0 is false,
the consequent body is skipped.

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }
    unsigned int rem(m%n);
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
    return n;
}
```

**Example: gcd(...)**

- The local variable rem is initialized with the value of m%n

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }
    unsigned int rem(m%n);
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
    return n;
}
```

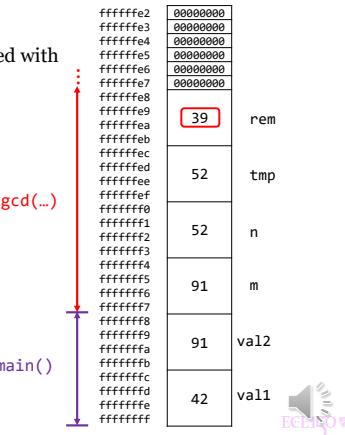


Example: gcd(...)

- The local variable rem is initialized with the value of m%n

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }
    unsigned int rem(m%n);

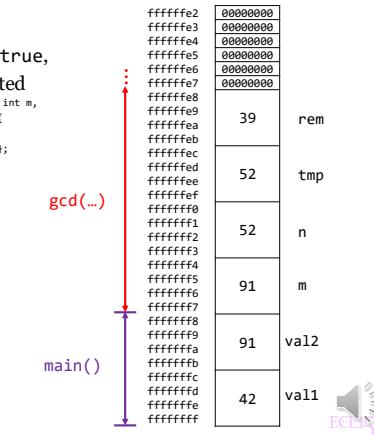
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
    return n;
}
```

**Example: gcd(...)**

- The condition rem != 0 is true, the loop body is executed

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }
    unsigned int rem(m%n);

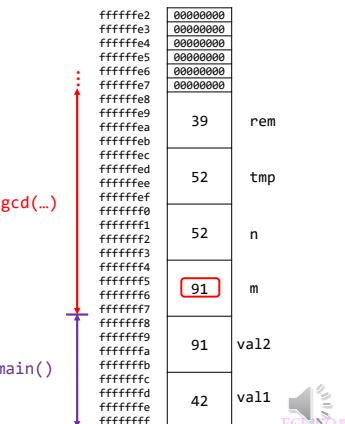
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
    return n;
}
```

**Example: gcd(...)**

- m is assigned the value of n

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }
    unsigned int rem(m%n);

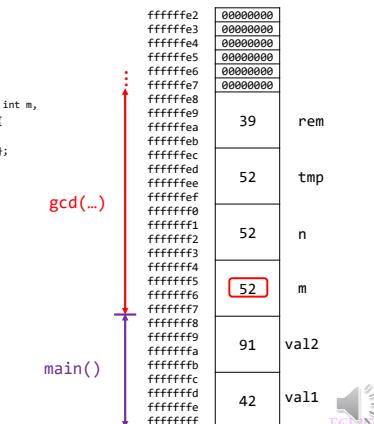
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
    return n;
}
```

**Example: gcd(...)**

- m is assigned the value of n

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }
    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
    return n;
}
```



Example: gcd(...)

- n is assigned the value of rem

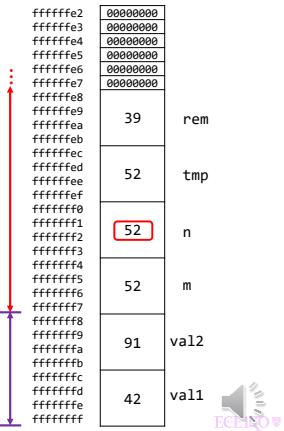
```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```

gcd(...)

**Example: gcd(...)**

- n is assigned the value of rem

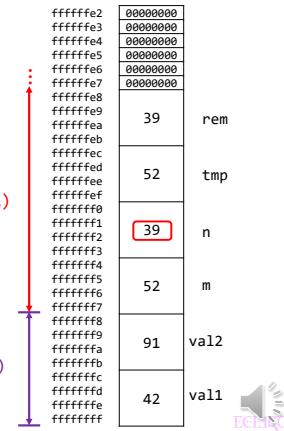
```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```

gcd(...)

**Example: gcd(...)**

- rem is assigned the value of m%n

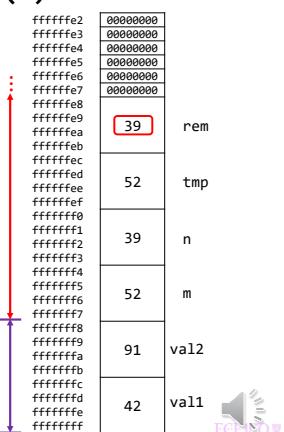
```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```

gcd(...)

**Example: gcd(...)**

- rem is assigned the value of m%n

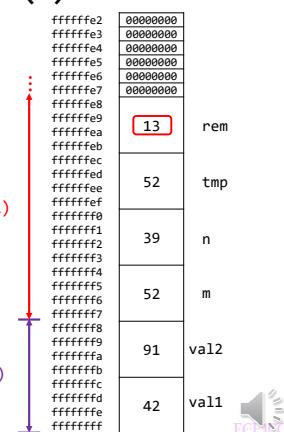
```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```

gcd(...)



Example: gcd(...)

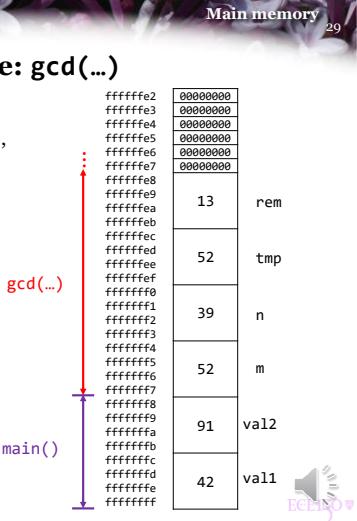
- The condition `rem != 0` is true, the loop body is executed

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```



Main memory 29

Example: gcd(...)

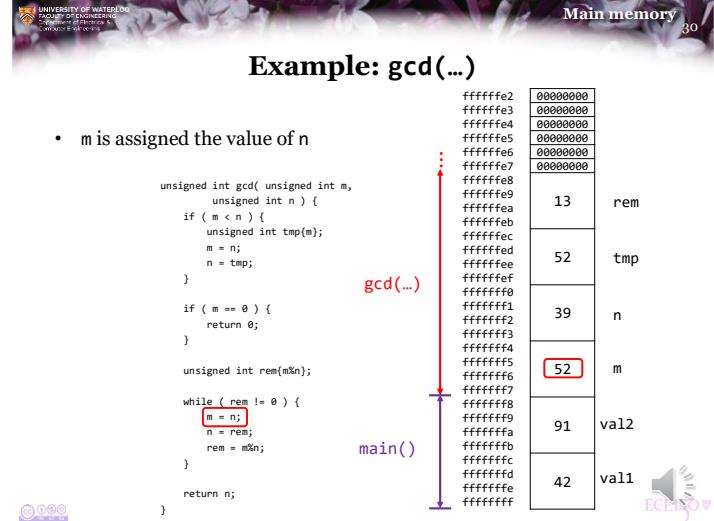
- `m` is assigned the value of `n`

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

    return n;
}
```



Main memory 30

Example: gcd(...)

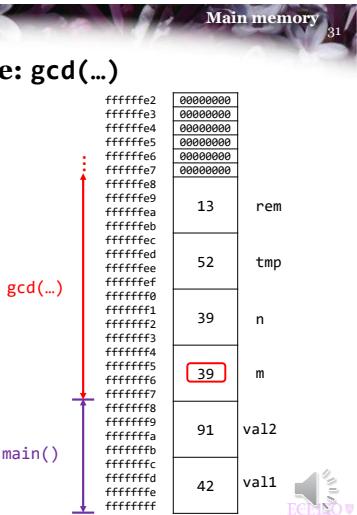
- `m` is assigned the value of `n`

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

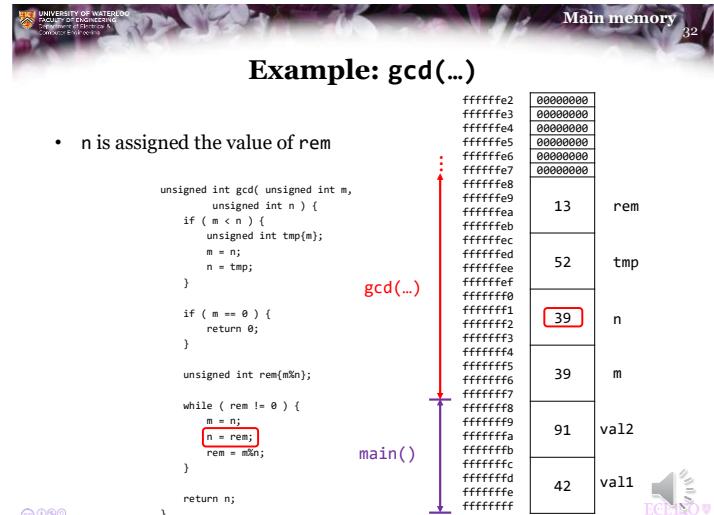
    unsigned int rem(m%n);

    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }

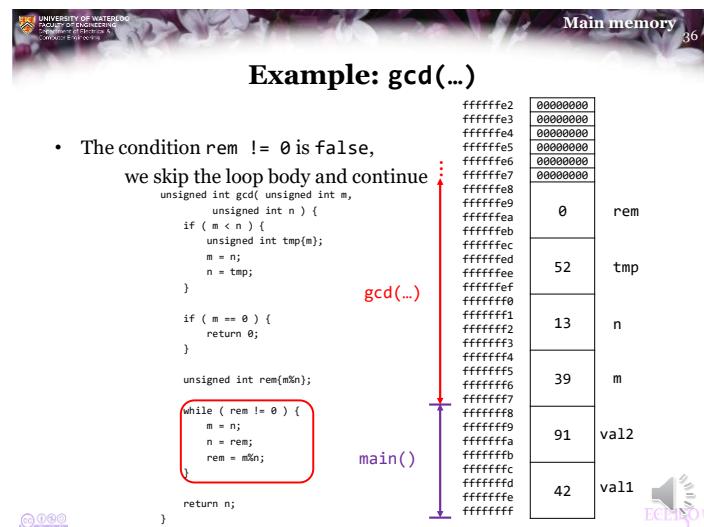
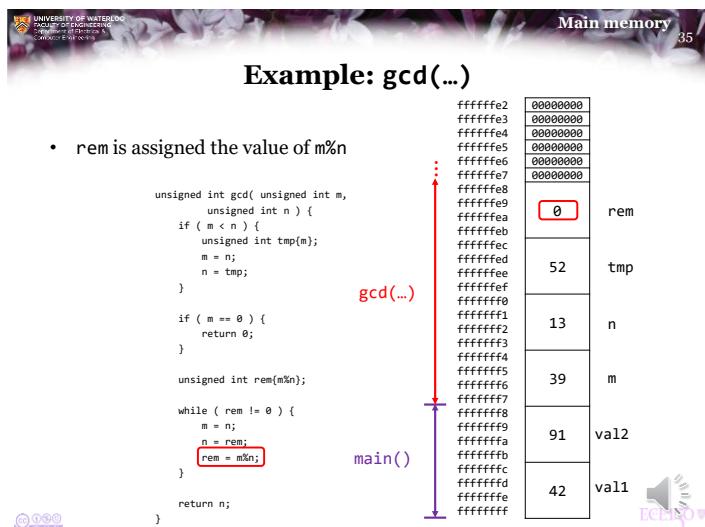
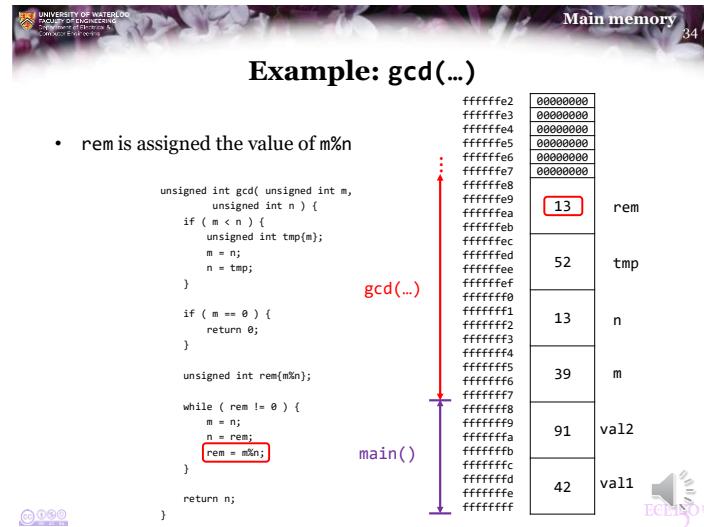
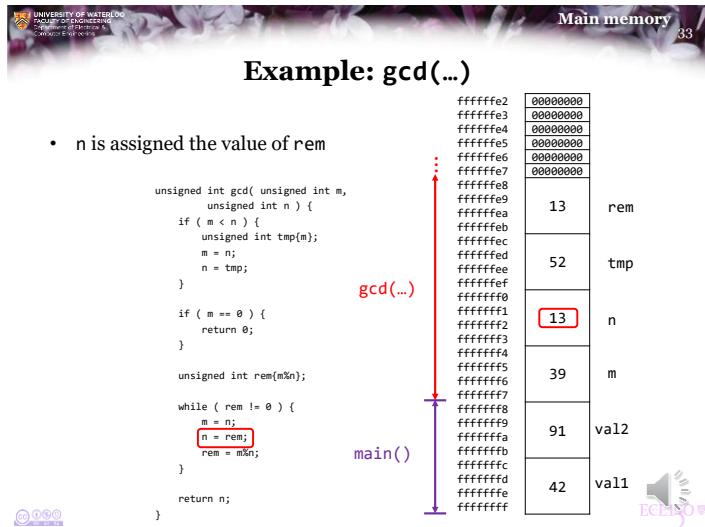
    return n;
}
```



Main memory 31



Main memory 32



Example: gcd(...)

37

- We must now return the value n

– Question: where can main() access it?

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

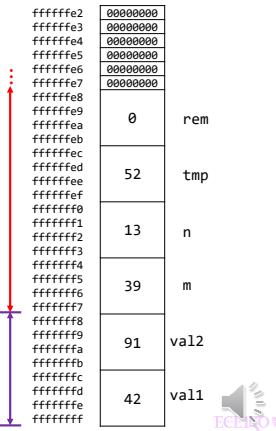
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
}
```

return n;

gcd(...)

main()

return;



Main memory

37

Example: gcd(...)

Main memory

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- Let's put the returned value at the bottom of the memory for the function gcd(...)

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

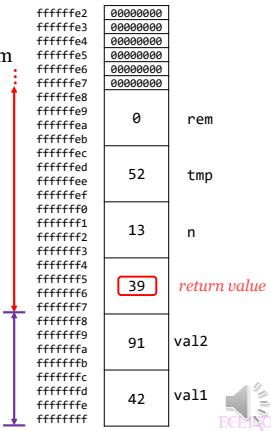
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
}
```

return n;

gcd(...)

main()

return;



Example: gcd(...)

Main memory

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- That location now stores the value 13

```
unsigned int gcd( unsigned int m,
                  unsigned int n ) {
    if ( m < n ) {
        unsigned int tmp(m);
        m = n;
        n = tmp;
    }
    if ( m == 0 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    unsigned int rem(m%n);

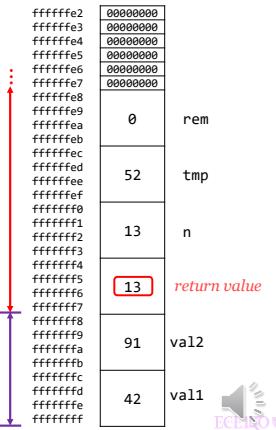
    while ( rem != 0 ) {
        m = n;
        n = rem;
        rem = m%n;
    }
}
```

return n;

gcd(...)

main()

return;



Example: gcd(...)

Main memory

40

- The function main() can now access and use that returned value

– In this case, the returned value is immediately passed to a function to print that value

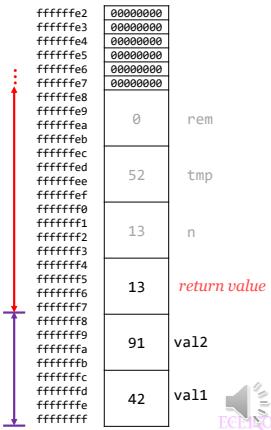
```
int main() {
    unsigned int val1{42};
    unsigned int val2{91};

    std::cout << gcd( val1 + 10, val2 )
           << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

gcd(...)

main()

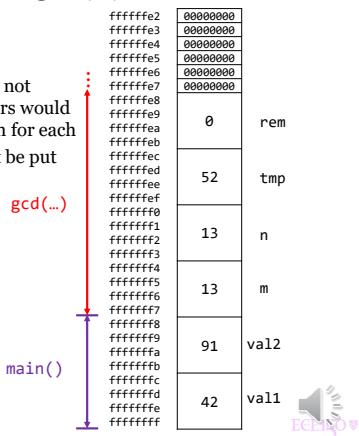
return;



Example: gcd(...)

- A few observations:

- The scopes of `tmp` and `rem` do not overlap, so almost all compilers would use the same memory location for each
- Much more information must be put on the stack



Example: is_prime(...)

- Consider the following:

```
#include <iostream>

// Function declarations
int main();
int nprimes( int n );

// Function definitions
int main() {
    int num{};
    std::cout << "Enter a number: ";
    std::cin >> num;

    std::cout << nprimes( num )
        << std::endl;
}

return 0;
}
```



Example: is_prime(...)

```
int nprimes( int n ) {
    if ( n <= 1 ) {
        return 0;
    }

    assert( n >= 2 );

    // 0 and 1 are not prime, 2 is prime
    // - All other values initialized to being
    //   assumed to be not prime
    bool is_prime[n + 1]{false, false, true};

    // Assume all odd numbers >= 3 are prime
    // - all multiples of 2 are not prime
    for ( int k{3}; k <= n; k += 2 ) {
        is_prime[k] = true;
    }

    // Looking at the odd numbers,
    // if it is prime, flag all multiples of it
    // to be not prime
    for ( int k{3}; k <= n; k += 2 ) {
        if ( is_prime[k] ) {
            for ( int m{k}; m*k <= n; m += 2 ) {
                is_prime[m*k] = false;
            }
        }
    }

    // Count all the prime numbers
    // and return that value
    int count{0};

    for ( int k{2}; k <= n; ++k ) {
        if ( is_prime[k] ) {
            ++count;
        }
    }

    return count;
}
```

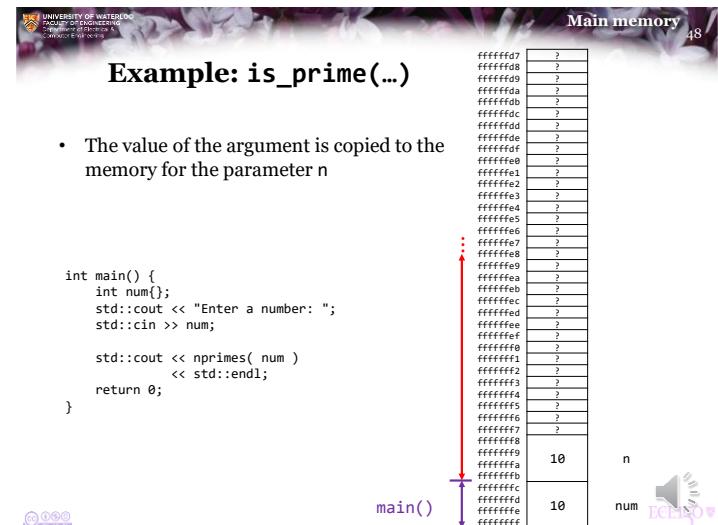
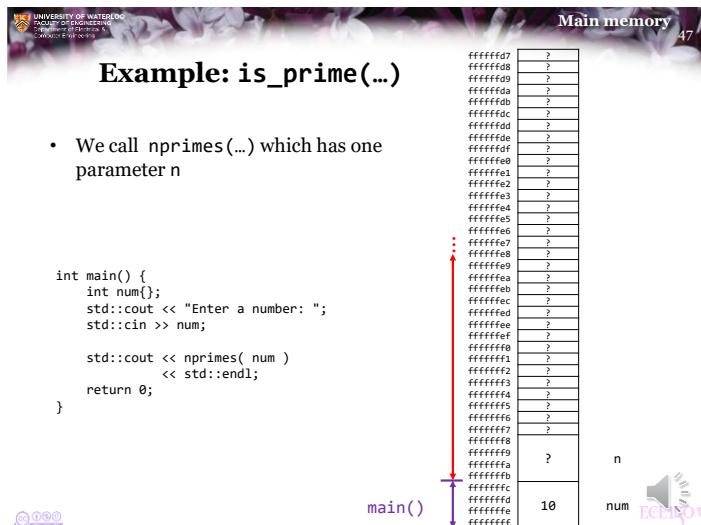
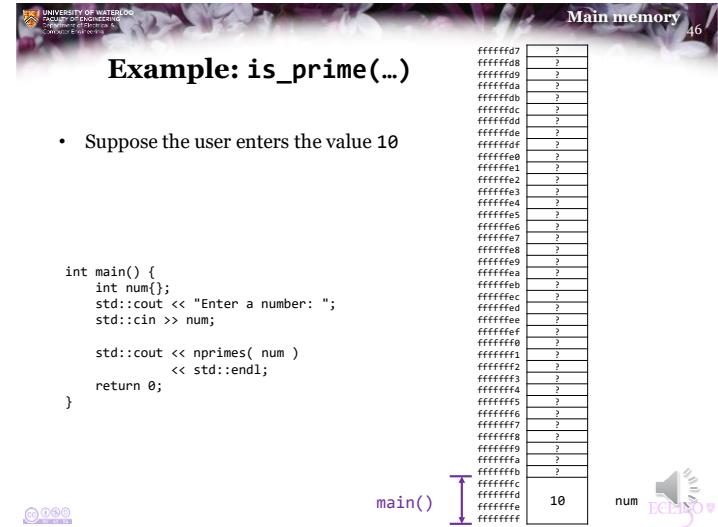
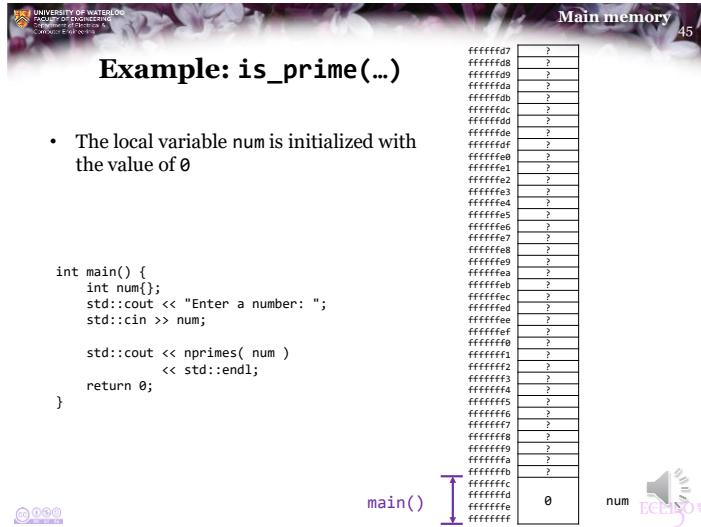


Example: is_prime(...)

- Let's tabulate the information:

Function	Parameters	Local variables
main()		int num
nprimes(...)	int n	int k int k int k int m int count bool is_prime[n + 1]



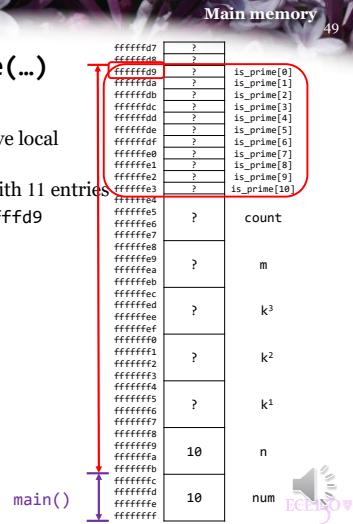


Example: is_prime(...)

- The nprimes(...) function has five local variables of type int
- The local array is of type bool with 11 entries
 - The value of is_prime is ffffffd9

```
int main() {
    int num{};
    std::cout << "Enter a number: ";
    std::cin >> num;

    std::cout << nprimes( num )
        << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

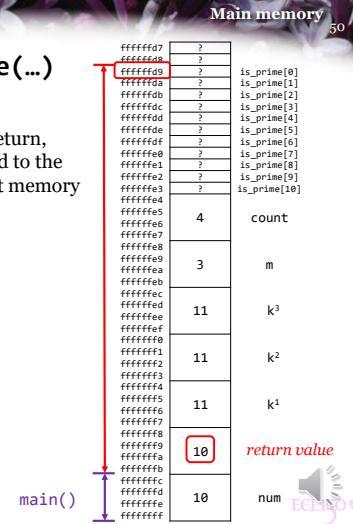


Example: is_prime(...)

- When the function is ready to return, the value returned will be copied to the location immediately above that memory allocated for main()

```
int main() {
    int num{};
    std::cout << "Enter a number: ";
    std::cin >> num;

    std::cout << nprimes( num )
        << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

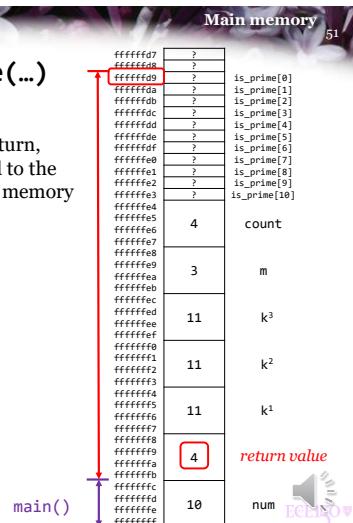


Example: is_prime(...)

- When the function is ready to return, the value returned will be copied to the location immediately above that memory allocated for main()

```
int main() {
    int num{};
    std::cout << "Enter a number: ";
    std::cin >> num;

    std::cout << nprimes( num )
        << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```



Summary

- Following this lesson, you now
 - Have a basic understanding of the call stack
 - The call stack starts at the bottom of memory
 - Understand this memory is used for parameters, local variables, and returned values
 - Have observed two examples of programs using the call stack



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References

- [1] Wikipedia:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Call_stack

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Colophon

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