

Introduction to Intel x86-64 Assembly, Architecture, Applications, & Alliteration

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ArrayLocalVariable2.c

Zero-initializing the array

```
main:
00000000140001000 push    rdi
00000000140001002 sub     rsp,20h
00000000140001006 xor     eax,eax
//ArrayLocalVariable2.c:
short main(){
  int a;
  short b[6] = {0};
  a = 0x100d;
  b[1] = (short)a;
  return b[1];
}
00000000140001008 mov     word ptr [rsp+8],ax
0000000014000100D lea    rax,[rsp+0Ah]
00000000140001012 mov     rdi,rax
00000000140001015 xor     eax,eax
00000000140001017 mov     ecx,0Ah
0000000014000101C rep stos byte ptr [rdi]
0000000014000101E mov     dword ptr [rsp],100Dh
00000000140001025 mov     eax,2
0000000014000102A imul   rax,rax,1
0000000014000102E movzx  ecx,word ptr [rsp]
00000000140001032 mov     word ptr [rsp+rax+8],cx
00000000140001037 mov     eax,2
0000000014000103C imul   rax,rax,1
00000000140001040 movzx  eax,word ptr [rsp+rax+8]
00000000140001045 add     rsp,20h
00000000140001049 pop     rdi
0000000014000104A ret
```



REP STOS - Repeat Store String

- STOS is one of number of instructions that can have the “rep” prefix added to it, which repeat a single instruction multiple times.
- All rep operations use *cx register as a “counter” to determine how many times to loop through the instruction. Each time it executes, it decrements *cx. Once *cx == 0, it continues to the next instruction.
- Either stores 1, 2, 4, or 8 bytes at a time
- Either fill 1 byte at [di] with al or fill 2/4/8 bytes at [*di] with *ax.
- Moves the *di register forward 1/2/4/8 bytes at a time, so that the repeated store operation is storing into consecutive locations.
- So there are 3 pieces which must happen before the actual rep stos occurs: set *di to the start destination, *ax/al to the value to store, and *cx to the number of times to store

Book p. 284

As with other instructions prefixes like “LOCK”, “REP” can only be used with certain instructions - as defined in the manual.

ArrayLocalVariable2.c takeaways

- If you're manually coding asm, REP STOS is functionally a memset()
- Sometimes when you use memset() from C, the compiler may turn it into a REP STOS

```
//ArrayLocalVariable2.c:
```

```
short main(){  
    int a;  
    short b[6] = {0};  
    a = 0x100d;  
    b[1] = (short)a;  
    return b[1];  
}
```

```
main:  
    push    rdi  
    sub     rsp,20h  
    xor     eax,eax  
    mov     word ptr [rsp+8],ax  
    lea    rax,[rsp+0Ah]  
    mov     rdi,rax  
    xor     eax,eax  
    mov     ecx,0Ah  
    rep stos byte ptr [rdi]  
    mov     dword ptr [rsp],100Dh  
    mov     eax,2  
    imul   rax,rax,1  
    movzx  ecx,word ptr [rsp]  
    mov     word ptr [rsp+rax+8],cx  
    mov     eax,2  
    imul   rax,rax,1  
    movzx  eax,word ptr [rsp+rax+8]  
    add     rsp,20h  
    pop     rdi  
    ret
```

ThereWillBe0xb100d.c

```
int main(){
    char buf[40];
    buf[39] = 42;
    return 0xb100d;
}
```

ThereWillBe0xb100d.c

```
main:
0000000140001010 push    rdi
0000000140001012 sub     rsp,60h
0000000140001016 mov     rdi,esp
0000000140001019 mov     ecx,18h
000000014000101E mov     eax,0CCCCCCCCh
0000000140001023 rep stos dword ptr [rdi]
0000000140001025 mov     eax,1
000000014000102A imul   rax,rax,27h
000000014000102E mov     byte ptr buf[rax],2Ah
0000000140001033 mov     eax,0xb100d
0000000140001038 mov     edi,eax
000000014000103A mov     rcx,rsp
000000014000103D lea    rdx,[__xi_z+1A0h (0140006910h)]
0000000140001044 call   _RTC_CheckStackVars (01400010B0h)
0000000140001049 mov     eax,edi
000000014000104B add     rsp,60h
000000014000104F pop     rdi
0000000140001050 ret
```

rep stos setup

```
0000000140001016 mov    rdi, rsp  
Set rdi - the destination
```

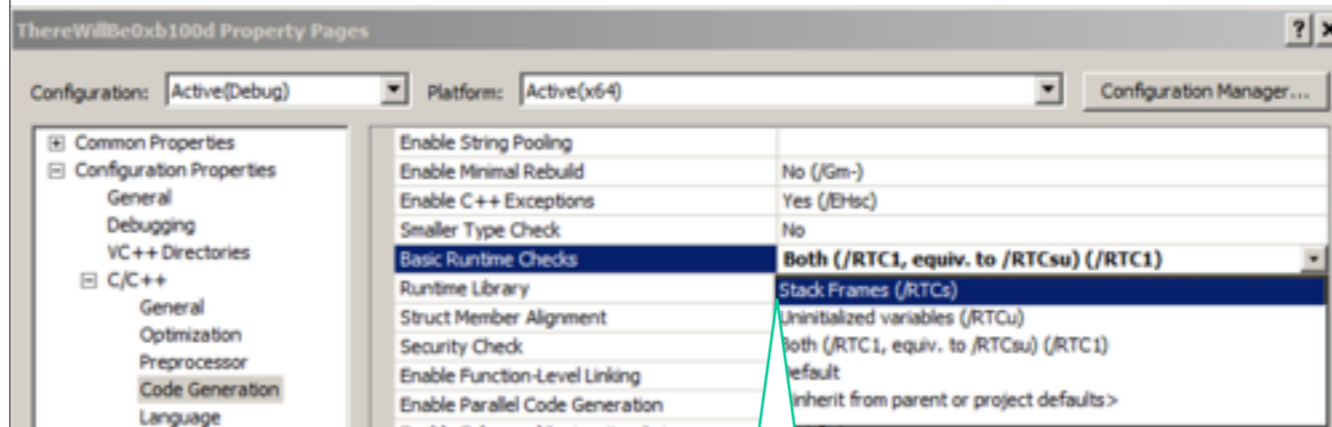
```
0000000140001019 mov    ecx, 18h  
Set ecx - the count
```

```
000000014000101E mov    eax, 0CCCCCCCCh  
Set eax - the value
```

```
0000000140001023 rep stos dword ptr [rdi]  
Start the repeated store
```

- So what's this going to do? Store 0x18 copies of the dword 0xCCCCCCCC starting at rsp
- And that just happens to be 0x60 bytes of 0xCC, the entire reserved stack space!

Q: Where does the rep stos come from in this example?



A: Compiler-auto-generated code. From the stack frames runtime check option. This is enabled by default in the debug build. Disabling this option removes the compiler-generated code.

More straightforward without the runtime check

```
main:  
00000000140001010 sub    rsp,38h  
00000000140001014 mov    eax,1  
00000000140001019 imul   rax,rax,27h  
0000000014000101D mov    byte ptr [rsp+rax],2Ah  
00000000140001021 mov    eax,0B100Dh  
00000000140001026 add    rsp,38h  
0000000014000102A ret
```

But still not entirely clear :)

Instructions we now know (29)

- NOP
- PUSH/POP
- CALL/RET
- MOV
- ADD/SUB
- IMUL
- MOVZX/MOVSX
- LEA
- JMP/Jcc (family)
- CMP/TEST
- AND/OR/XOR/NOT
- INC/DEC
- SHR/SHL/SAR/SAL
- DIV/IDIV
- REP STOS