

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

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ExampleSubroutine1.c

The stack frames in this example will be very simple.
Only saved return addresses (RIP).

```
//ExampleSubroutine1:      func:
// using the stack & subroutine 00000000140001000 mov     eax,0BEEFh
//to call subroutines      00000000140001005 ret
//New instructions:      main:
//push, pop, call, ret, mov  * 00000000140001010 sub     rsp,28h
int func(){              * 00000000140001014 call    func (0140001000h)
    return 0xbeef;      * 00000000140001019 mov     eax,0F00Dh
}                        * 0000000014000101E add     rsp,28h
                        * 00000000140001022 ret
int main(){
    func();
    return 0xf00d;
}
```



CALL - Call Procedure

- CALL's job is to transfer control to a different function, in a way that control can later be resumed where it left off
- First it pushes the address of the next instruction onto the stack
 - For use by RET for when the procedure is done
- Then it changes RIP to the address given in the instruction
- Destination address can be specified in multiple ways
 - Absolute address
 - Relative address (relative to the end of the instruction, or some other register)



RET - Return from Procedure

- Two forms
 - Pop the top of the stack into RIP (remember, *pop* increments stack pointer, RSP)
 - In this form, the instruction is just written as “ret”
 - Pop the top of the stack into RIP and also add a constant number of bytes to RSP
 - In this form, the instruction is written as “ret 0x8”, or “ret 0x20”, etc

Intel vs. AT&T Syntax

(we'll come back to this again much later)

- Intel: Destination <- Source(s)
 - Windows. Think algebra or C: $y = 2x + 1$;
 - `mov rbp, rsp`
 - `add rsp, 0x14 ; (rsp = rsp + 0x14)`
- AT&T: Source(s) -> Destination
 - *nix/GNU. Think elementary school: $1 + 2 = 3$
 - `mov %rsp, %rbp`
 - `add $0x14,%rsp`
 - So registers get a % prefix and immediates get a \$
- My classes will use Intel syntax except in this section
- But it's important to know both, so you can read documents in either format.



MOV - Move

- Can move:
 - register to register
 - memory to register, register to memory
 - immediate to register, immediate to memory
- Never memory to memory!
- Memory addresses are given in r/mX form talked about next

“r/mX” Addressing Forms

- Anywhere you see an r/mX it means it could be taking a value either from a register, or a memory address.
- I’m just calling these “r/mX forms” because anywhere you see “r/m16”, “r/m32”, or “r/m64” in the manual, the instruction can be a variation of the below forms.
- In Intel syntax, most of the time square brackets [] means to treat the value within as a memory address, and fetch the value at that address (like dereferencing a pointer)
 - `mov rax, rbx`
 - `mov rax, [rbx]`
 - `mov rax, [rbx+rcx*X]` (X=1, 2, 4, 8)
 - `mov rax, [rbx+rcx*X+Y]` (Y= one byte, 0-255 or 4 bytes, 0-2³²-1)
- Most complicated form is: `[base + index*scale + disp]`




ADD and SUB

- Adds or Subtracts, just as expected
- Destination operand can be r/mX or register
- Source operand can be r/mX or register or immediate
- No source **and** destination as r/mXs, because that could allow for memory to memory transfer, which isn't allowed on x86
- Evaluates the operation *as if it were on signed AND unsigned data*, and sets flags as appropriate. Instructions modify OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF, and CF flags for what it's worth
- `add rsp, 8 == (rsp = rsp + 8)`
- `sub rax, [rbx*2] == (rax = rax - memorypointedtoby(rbx*2))`

Example Subroutine 1.c 1:

EIP = 00000001`40001010, but no instruction yet executed

rax 000007fe`f239c3a8 ⌘
 rsp 00000000`0012feb8 ⌘

Key:
 **executed instruction,**
 **modified value**
⌘ **start value**

```
func:
00000000140001000 mov  eax,0BEEFh
00000000140001005 ret
main:
00000000140001010 sub  rsp,28h
00000000140001014 call func(0140001000h)
00000000140001019 mov  eax,0F00Dh
0000000014000101E add  rsp,28h
00000000140001022 ret
```

00000000`0012FEB8	<u>00000001`400012ed</u>
...	...
00000000`0012FE90	undef
00000000`0012FE83	undef
00000000`0012FE30	undef
00000000`0012E78	undef

Belongs to the frame
 before main() is called

⌘ notation means the full value is represented by the concatenation of the two values
 For eax=0x112222 and ebx=0x334444, then ebx, eax is the quadword 0x112222334444

ExampleSubroutine1.c 2:

rax 000007fe`f239c3a8 ⌘
 rsp 00000000`0012fe90 ⌘

Key:
 ⌘ **executed instruction,**
 ⌘ **modified value**
⌘ **start value**

```
func:
00000000140001000 mov    eax,0BEEFh
00000000140001005 ret
main:
00000000140001010 sub    rsp,28h ⌘
00000000140001014 call  func(0140001000h)
00000000140001019 mov    eax,0F00Dh
0000000014000101E add    rsp,28h
00000000140001022 ret
```

00000000`0012FEB8	<u>00000001`400012ed</u>
...	...
00000000`0012FE90	undef
00000000`0012FE88	undef
00000000`0012FE80	undef
00000000`0012FE78	undef

Color notation means the full value is represented by the concatenation of the two values
 From = 0x191222 and eax = 0x33444, then rax is the quadword 0x191222334444

ExampleSubroutine1.c 3:

rax 000007fe`f239c3a8 ⌘
 rsp 00000000`0012fe88 ⌘



Key:
 ⌘ **executed instruction,**
 ⌘ **modified value**
⌘ **start value**

```
func:
00000000140001000  mov    eax,0BEEFh
00000000140001005  ret
main:
00000000140001010  sub    rsp,28h
00000000140001014  call  func(0140001000h) ⌘
00000000140001019  mov    eax,0F00Dh
0000000014000101E  add    rsp,28h
00000000140001022  ret
```


00000000`0012FEB8	<u>00000001`400012ed</u>
...	...
00000000`0012FE90	undef
00000000`0012FE88	00000001`40001019 ⌘
00000000`0012FE80	undef
00000000`0012FE78	undef

⌘ notation means the full value is represented by the concatenation of the two values
 From = 0x191222 and eax = 0x33444, then ⌘ eax is the quadword 0x191222334444

ExampleSubroutine1.c 4:

rax 00000000`0000beef 
 rsp 00000000`0012fe88 

Note that it “zero extended” the reg (meaning it filled in the upper 32 bits of RAX with zeros)



```
func:
00000000140001000 mov  eax,0BEEFh 
00000000140001005 ret
main:
00000000140001010 sub  rsp,28h
00000000140001014 call func (0140001000h)
00000000140001019 mov  eax,0F00Dh
0000000014000101E add  rsp,28h
00000000140001022 ret
```

Key:
 **executed instruction,**
 **modified value**
 **start value**

00000000`0012FEB8	<u>00000001`400012ed</u>
...	...
00000000`0012FE90	undef
00000000`0012FE88	00000001`40001019
00000000`0012FE80	undef
00000000`0012FE78	undef

Color notation means the full value is represented by the concatenation of the two values
 From = 0x112222 and eax = 0x334444, then rax is the quadword 0x112222334444

ExampleSubroutine1.c 4:

rax 00000000`0000beef 
rsp 00000000`0012fe88 

Note that it “zero extended” the reg
(meaning it filled in the upper 32 bits
of RAX with zeros)

Key:

 **executed instruction,**

 **modified value**

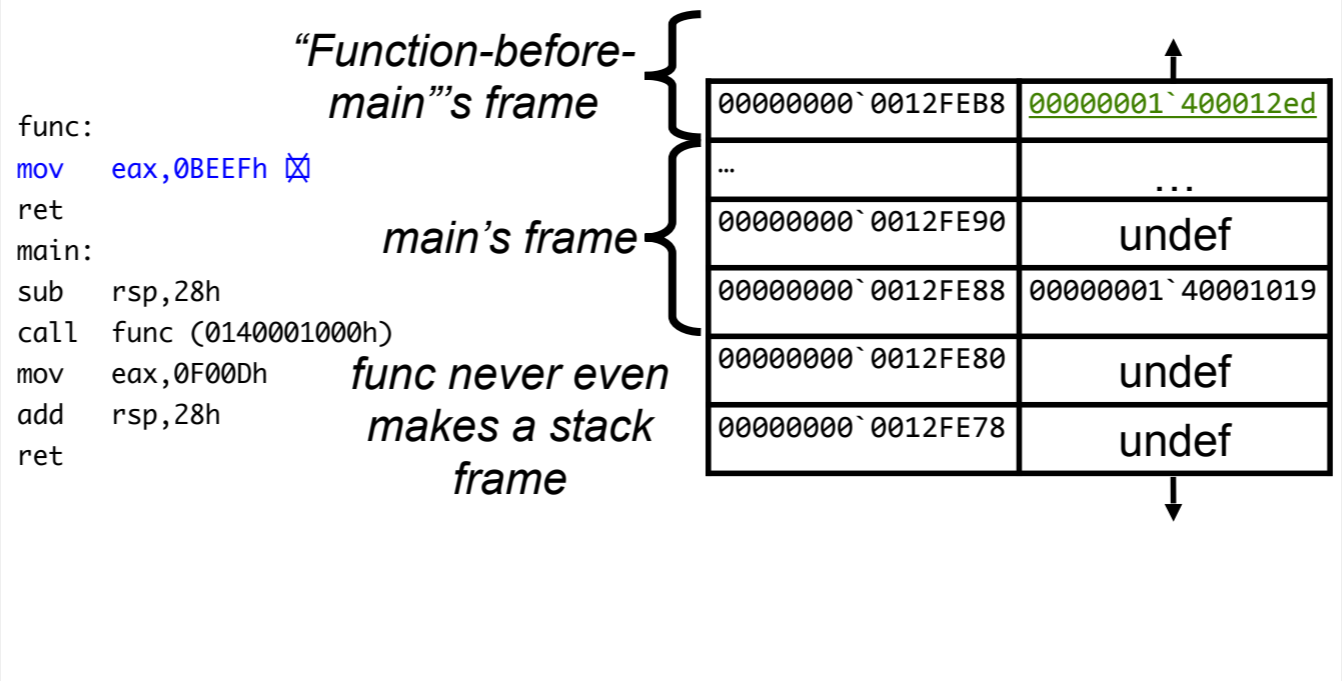
 **start value**

From section 3.4.1.1 in the June 2014 Manual included with class materials:

When in 64-bit mode, operand size determines the number of valid bits in the destination general-purpose register:


- 64-bit operands generate a 64-bit result in the destination general-purpose register.
- 32-bit operands generate a 32-bit result, zero-extended to a 64-bit result in the destination general-purpose register.
- 8-bit and 16-bit operands generate an 8-bit or 16-bit result. The upper 56 bits or 48 bits (respectively) of the destination general-purpose register are not modified by the operation. If the result of an 8-bit or 16-bit operation is intended for 64-bit address calculation, explicitly sign-extend the register to the full 64-bits.

ExampleSubroutine1.c: STACK FRAME TIME OUT






From notation means the full value is represented by the concatenation of the two values
 0x112222 and 0x334444, then 0x112222334444

ExampleSubroutine1.c 5:

rax 00000000`0000beef
 rsp 00000000`0012fe90 


Key:
 **executed instruction,**
 **modified value**
 **start value**

```
func:
00000000140001000 mov  eax,0BEEFh
00000000140001005 ret  
main:
00000000140001010 sub  rsp,28h
00000000140001014 call func(0140001000h)
00000000140001019 mov  eax,0F00Dh
0000000014000101E add  rsp,28h
00000000140001022 ret
```


00000000`0012FEB8	<u>00000001`400012ed</u> 
...	...
00000000`0012FE90	undef
00000000`0012FE88	undef 
00000000`0012FE80	undef
00000000`0012FE78	undef


Color notation means the full value is represented by the concatenation of the two values. For example, rax=0x112222 and eax=0x334444, then rax is the quadword 0x112222334444.

ExampleSubroutine1.c 6:

rax 00000000`0000f00d 
 rsp 00000000`0012fe90


Key:
 **executed instruction,**
 **modified value**
 **start value**



```
func:
00000000140001000 mov  eax,0BEEFh
00000000140001005 ret
main:
00000000140001010 sub  rsp,28h
00000000140001014 call func(0140001000h)
00000000140001019 mov  eax,0F00Dh 
0000000014000101E add  rsp,28h
00000000140001022 ret
```


00000000`0012FEB8	<u>00000001`400012ed</u> 
...	...
00000000`0012FE90	undef
00000000`0012FE88	undef
00000000`0012FE80	undef
00000000`0012FE78	undef


Color notation means the full value is represented by the concatenation of the two values. From 0x191222 and 0x333444, then 0x191222333444 is the quadword 0x1912223334444


ExampleSubroutine1.c 7:

rax 00000000`0000f00d
 rsp 00000000`0012feb8 

Key:
 **executed instruction,**
 **modified value**
 **start value**


```
func:
00000000140001000 mov  eax,0BEEFh
00000000140001005 ret
main:
00000000140001010 sub  rsp,28h
00000000140001014 call func(0140001000h)
00000000140001019 mov  eax,0F00Dh
0000000014000101E add  rsp,28h 
00000000140001022 ret
```

00000000`0012FEB8	<u>00000001`400012ed</u> 
...	...
00000000`0012FE90	undef
00000000`0012FE88	undef
00000000`0012FE80	undef
00000000`0012FE78	undef





Color notation means the full value is represented by the concatenation of the two values
 From = 0x191222 and eax = 0x33444, then rax is the quadword 0x191222334444

ExampleSubroutine1.c 8:

rax 00000000`0000f00d
 rsp 00000000`0012fec0 

Key:
 **executed instruction,**
 **modified value**
 **start value**

```
func:
00000000140001000 mov  eax,0BEEFh
00000000140001005 ret
main:
00000000140001010 sub  rsp,28h
00000000140001014 call func(0140001000h)
00000000140001019 mov  eax,0F00Dh
0000000014000101E add  rsp,28h
00000000140001022 ret 
```

00000000`0012FEB8	undef 
...	...
00000000`0012FE90	undef
00000000`0012FE88	undef
00000000`0012FE80	undef
00000000`0012FE78	undef

Execution would continue at the value ret removed from the stack: 00000001`400012ed

Color notation means the full value is represented by the concatenation of the two values. For example, rax=0x112222 and eax=0x334444, then rax is the quadword 0x112222334444.

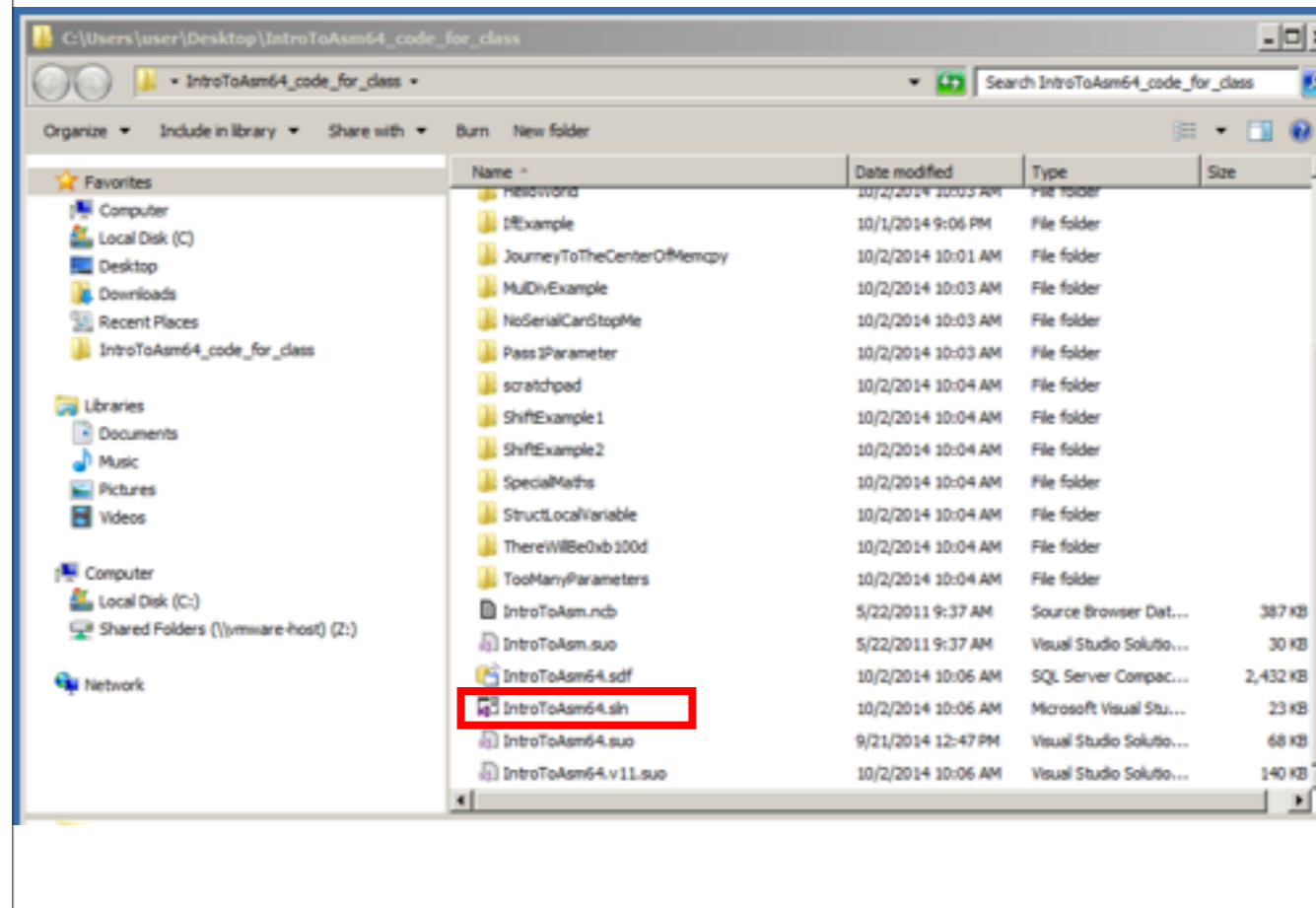
ExampleSubroutine1 Notes

- `func()` is dead code - its return value is not used for anything, and `main()` always returns `0xF00D`. If optimizations were turned on in the compiler, it would remove `func()`
- We don't yet understand why `main()` does `sub rsp,28h` & `add rsp,28h`... We will figure that out later.

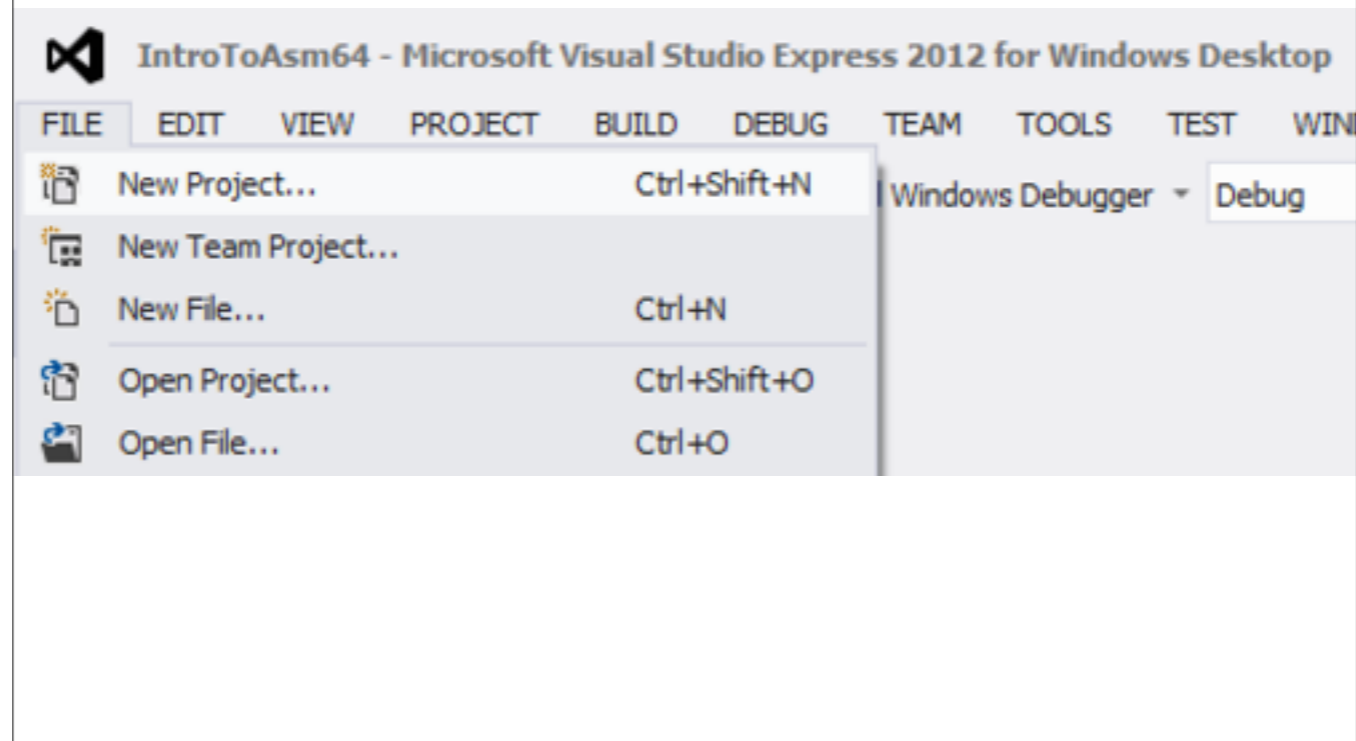
Let's do that in a tool

- Visual C++ 2012 Express edition (which I will shorthand as “VisualStudio” or VS)
- Standard Windows development environment
- Available for free, but missing some features that pro developers might want
- Keep in mind you can't move express-edition-compiled applications to other systems and get them to run without first installing the “redistributable libraries”

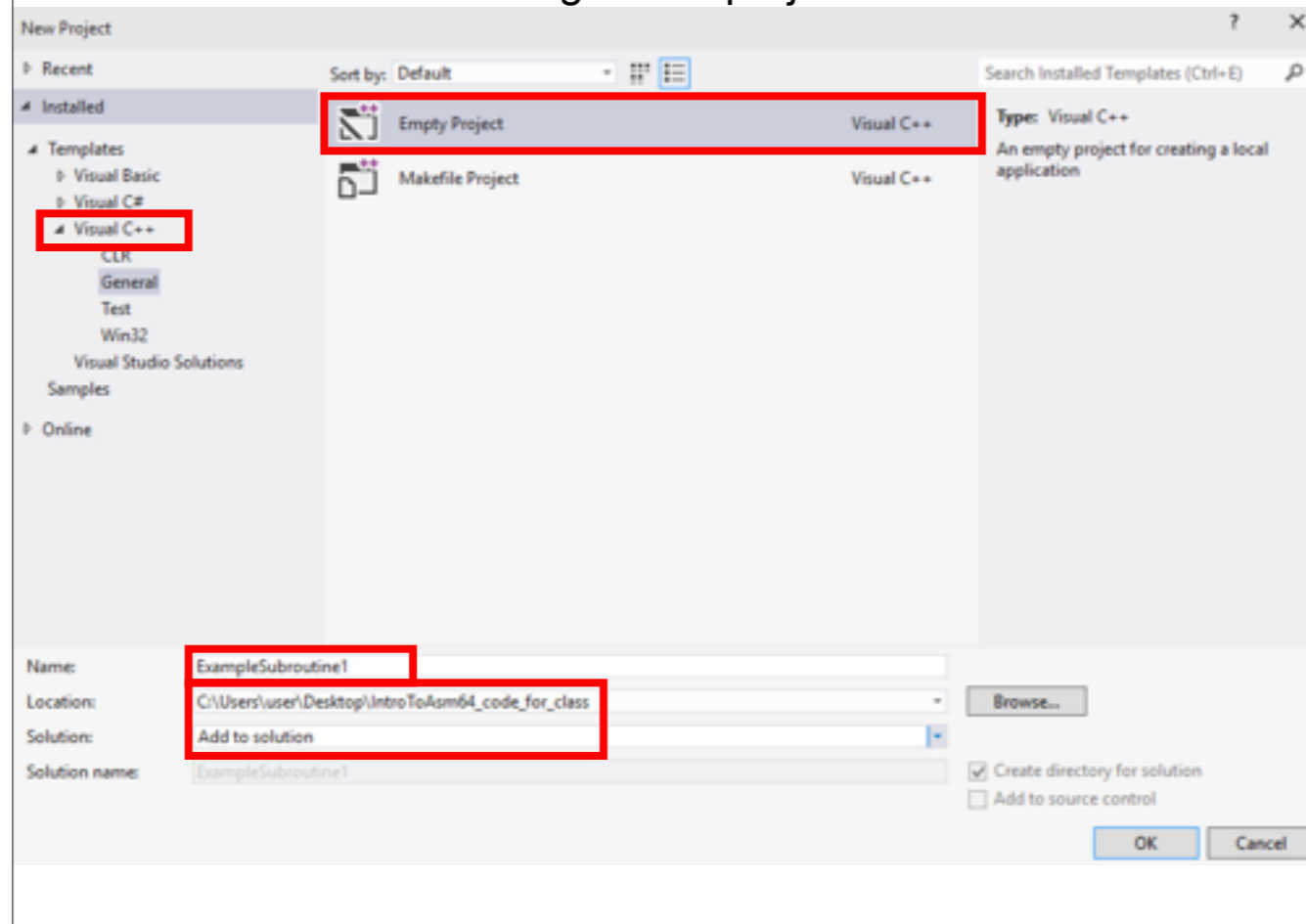
Open IntroToAsm64.sln

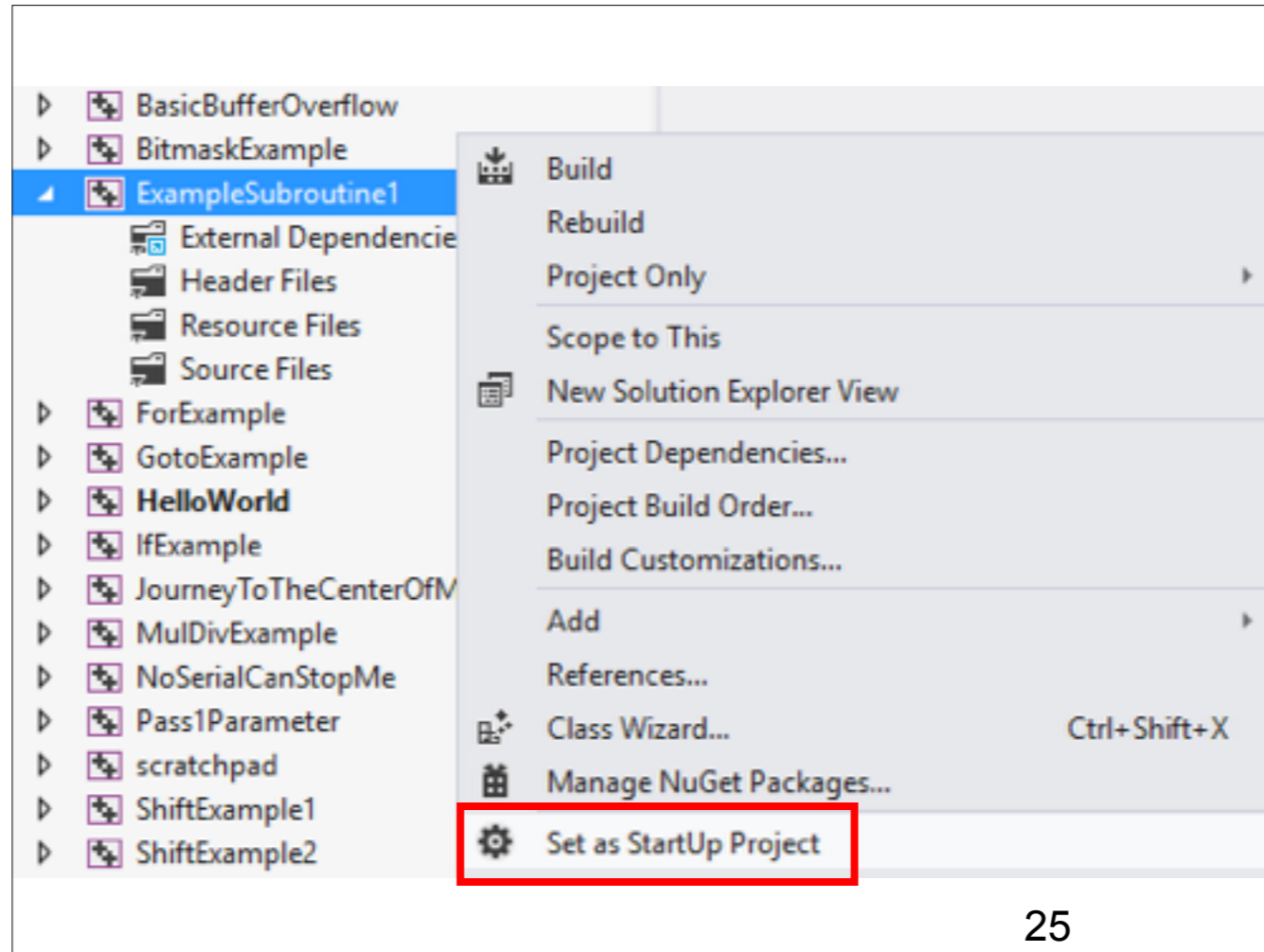


Creating a new project - 1

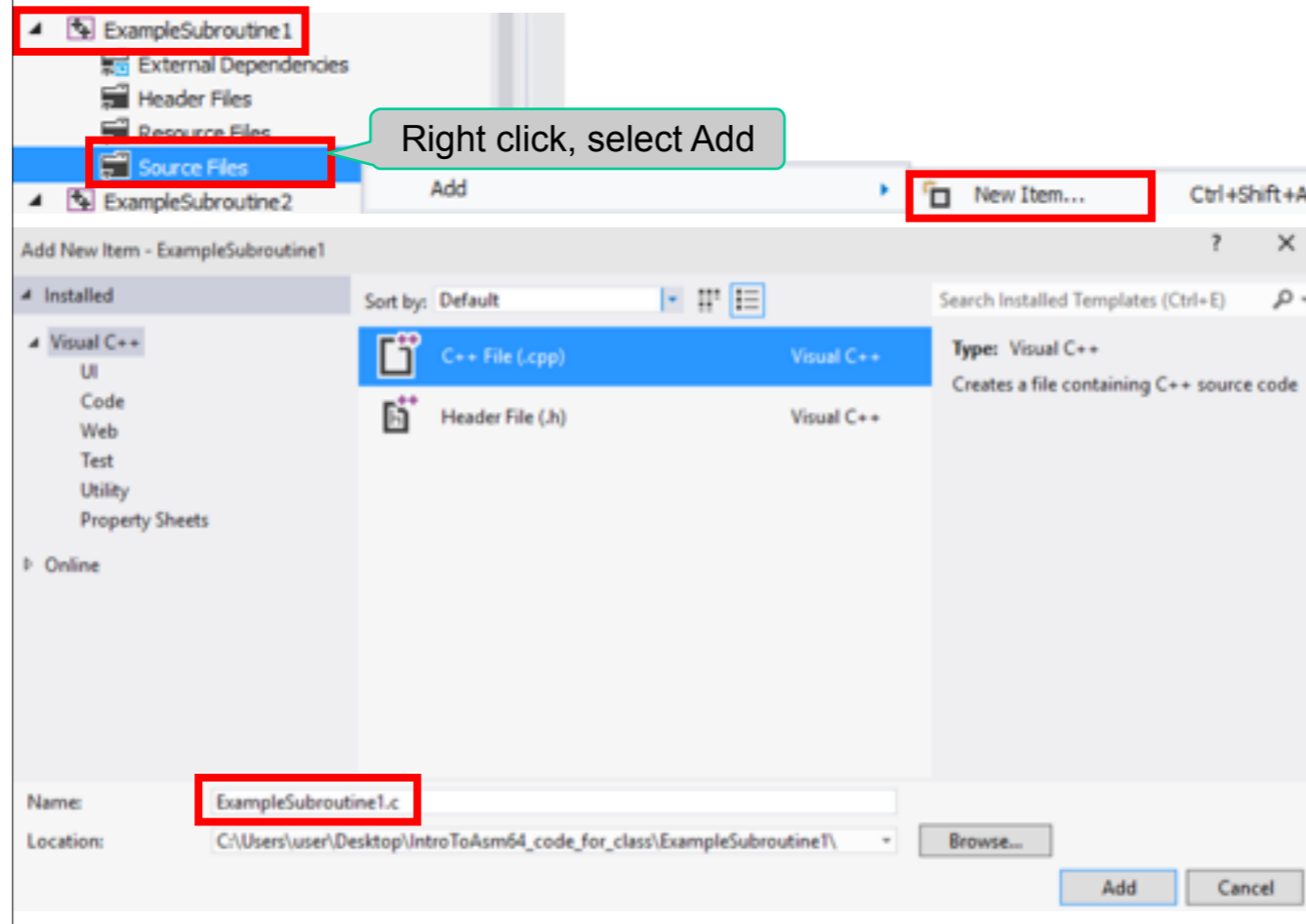


Creating a new project - 2

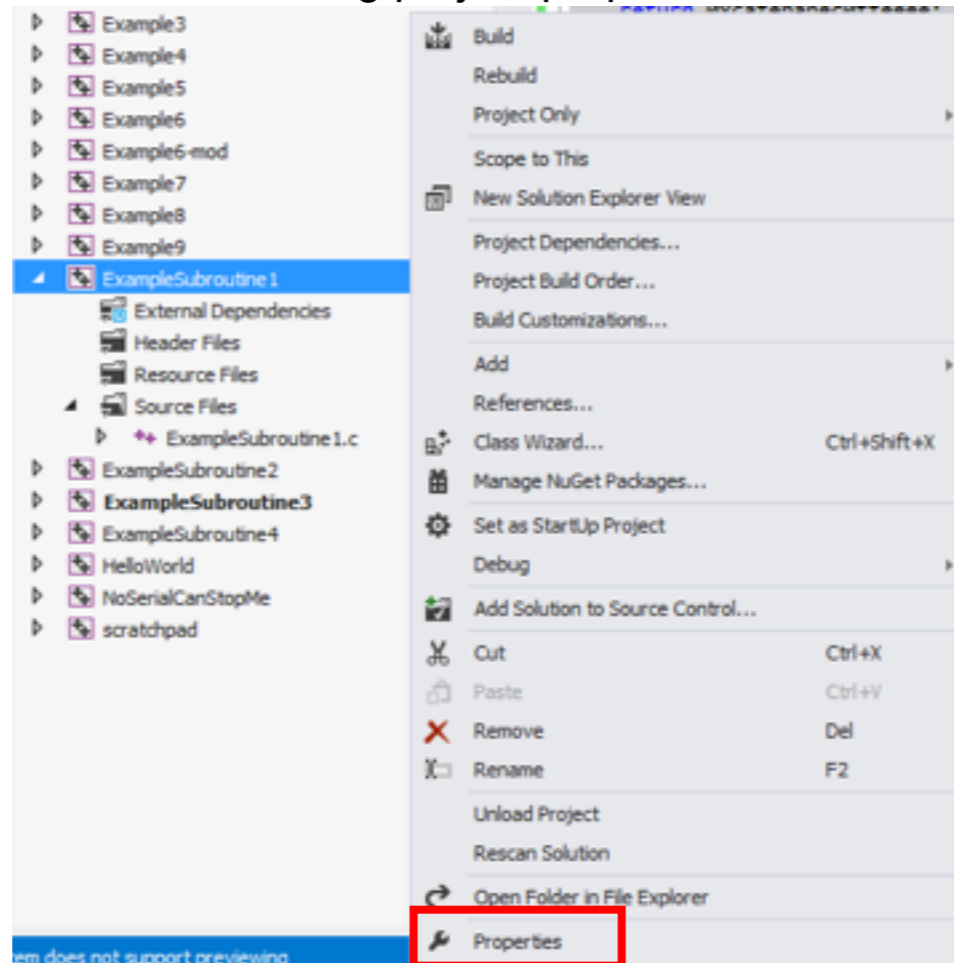




Creating a new project - 4



Setting project properties - 1



Setting project properties - 2

Configuration: Active(Debug) Platform: Active(Win32) Configuration Manager...

Configuration Properties

- General
- C/C++
 - General
 - Optimization
 - Preprocessor
 - Code Generation
 - Language
 - Precompiled Headers
 - Output Files
 - Browse Information
 - Advanced
 - All Options
 - Command Line

Additional Include Directories	
Additional #using Directories	
Debug Information Format	Program Database (/ZI)
Common Language Runtime Support	
Consume Windows Runtime Extension	
Suppress Startup Banner	Yes (/nologo)
Warning Level	Level3 (/W3)
Treat Warnings As Errors	No (/WX-)
SDL checks	
Multi-process Compilation	

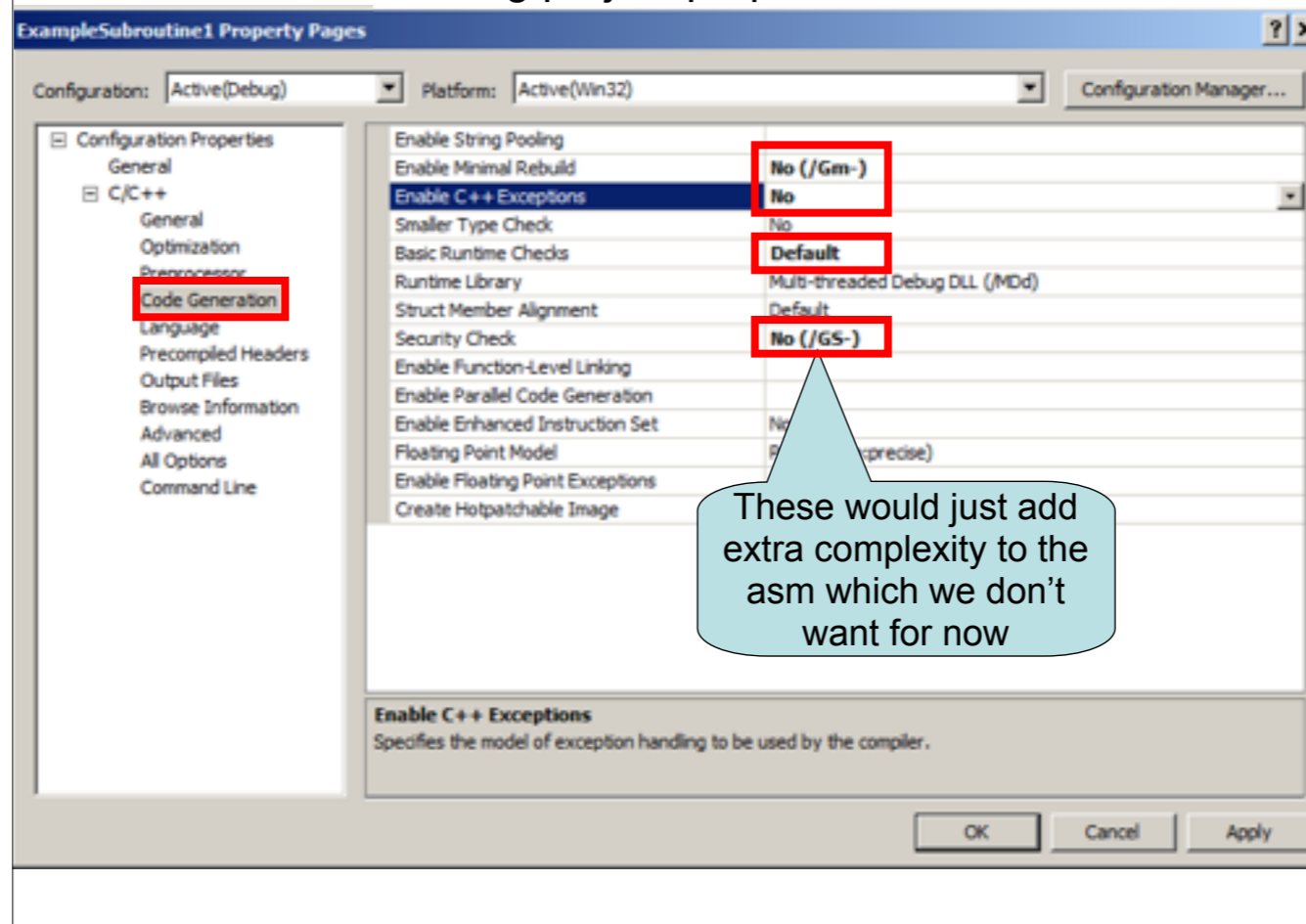
Debug Information Format
Specifies the type of debugging information generated by the compiler. You must also change linker settings appropriately to match. (/Z7, /Zd, /ZI, /ZL)

OK Cancel Apply

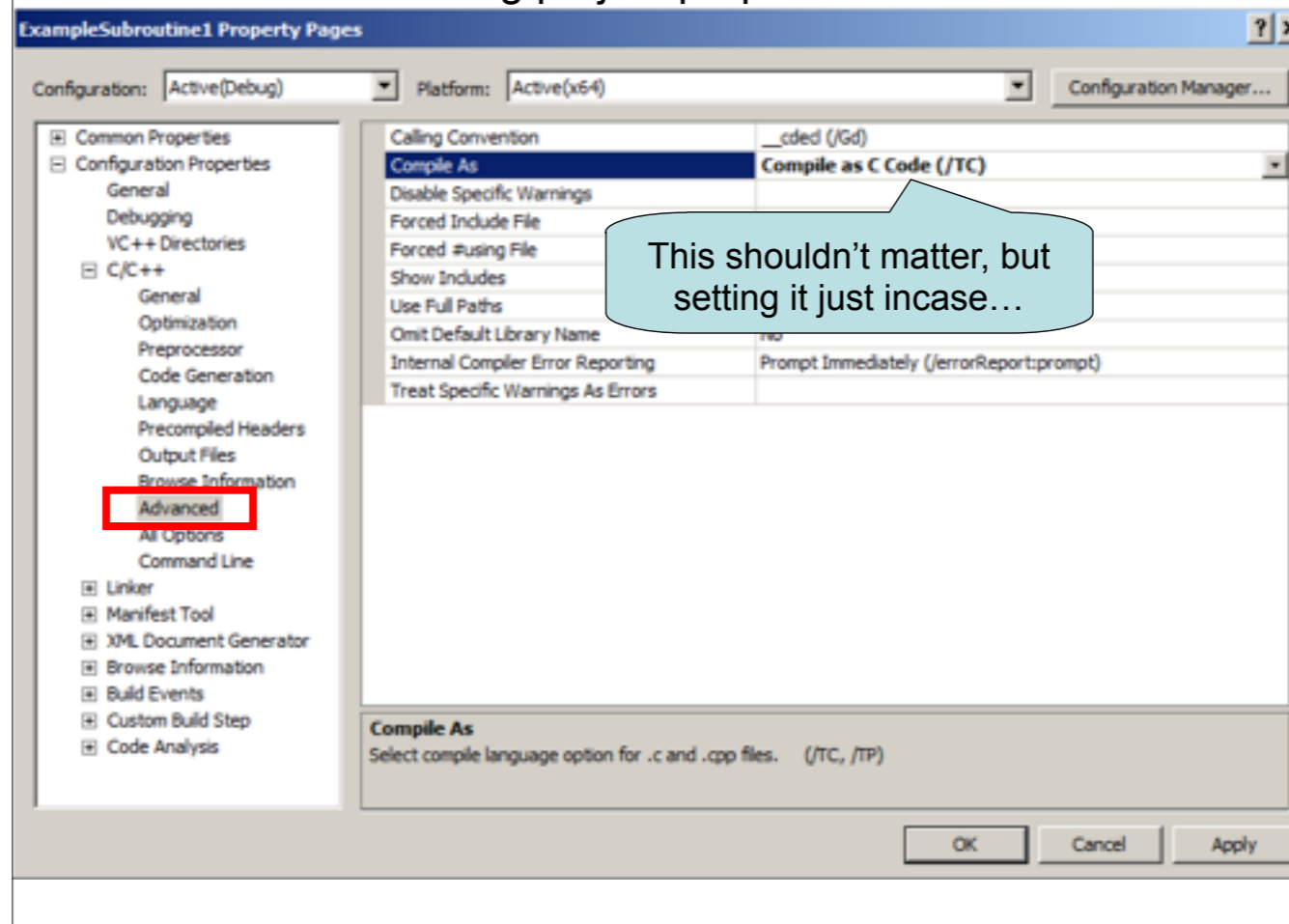
Set SDL checks to **No** (“/sdl-”) in VS2013

Unfortunately the debug information format alters the code which gets generated too much, making it not as simple as I would like for this class.

Setting project properties - 3



Setting project properties - 4



Setting project properties - 5

The screenshot shows the 'ExampleSubroutine1 Property Pages' dialog box. At the top, there are dropdown menus for 'Configuration:' (set to 'Active(Debug)') and 'Platform:' (set to 'Win32'). A red box highlights the 'Configuration Manager...' button. The left sidebar contains a tree view with categories like 'Common Properties', 'Configuration Properties', 'General', 'Debugging', 'VC++ Directories', 'C/C++', 'General', 'Optimization', 'Preprocessor', 'Code Generation', 'Language', 'Precompiled Headers', 'Output', 'Browse', 'Build Events', 'Custom Build Step', and 'Code Analysis'. The main area displays command-line options for the selected configuration. A callout points to the 'Configuration Manager...' button with the text 'Click this to change which config set is active'. Another callout points to the main options area with the text 'The GUI is just a wrapper to set command line options'. A third callout points to the 'Debug' and 'Release' options in the left sidebar with the text 'Different options can be set for release vs debug builds'. At the bottom, there are 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Apply' buttons.

Configuration: Active(Debug) Platform: Win32 Configuration Manager...

Active(Debug)

Debug

Release

All Configurations

Common Properties

Configuration Properties

General

Debugging

VC++ Directories

C/C++

General

Optimization

Preprocessor

Code Generation

Language

Precompiled Headers

Output

Browse

Build Events

Custom Build Step

Code Analysis

Options

/analyze- /W3 /Zc:wchar_t /ZI /Gm /Od /Fd"Debug\vc110.pdb" /fp:precise /D "_MBCS"
/prReport:prompt /WX- /Zc:forScope /RTC1 /Gd /Oy- /MDd /Fa"Debug\" /EHsc /nologo /Fo"Debug\
/Fp"Debug\ExampleSubroutine1.pch"

Additional Options

Inherit from parent or project defaults

OK Cancel Apply

Click this to change which config set is active

The GUI is just a wrapper to set command line options

Different options can be set for release vs debug builds

Setting project properties - 5.1

The screenshot shows the Configuration Manager window with the following details:

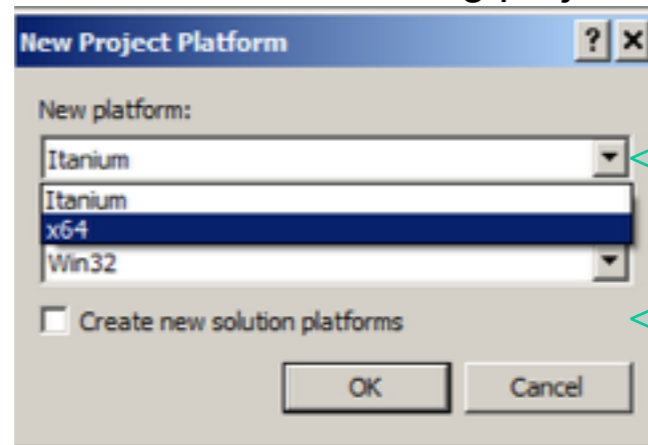
- Active solution configuration: Debug
- Active solution platform: x64
- Project contexts table:

Project	Configuration	Platform	Build	Deploy
Example4	Debug	x64	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Example5	Debug	x64	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Example6	Debug	x64	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Example6-mod	Debug	x64	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Example7	Debug	x64	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Example8	Debug	x64	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Example9	Debug	x64	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
ExampleSubroutine1	Debug	Win32	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Annotations:

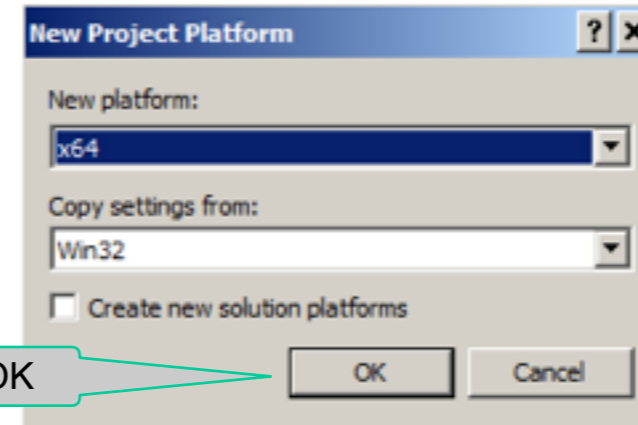
- "Click this box" points to the platform dropdown for ExampleSubroutine1.
- "Click this to change which config set is active" points to the active solution platform dropdown.
- "And then select 'New' here" points to the '<New...>' option in the platform dropdown menu.

Setting project properties - 5.2



Pull down to select x64 build platform option

Very important!
This box should be un-checked



Once it's selected, hit OK

Setting project properties - 6

ExampleSubroutine1 Property Pages

Configuration: Active(Debug) Platform: Active(x64) Configuration Manager...

Precompiled Headers	Output File	\$(OutDir)\$(TargetName)\$(TargetExt)
Output Files	Show Progress	Not Set
Browse Information	Version	
Advanced	Enable Incremental Linking	No (/INCREMENTAL:NO)
All Options	Suppress Startup Banner	Yes (/NOLOGO)
Command Line	Ignore Import Library	No
Linker	Register Output	No
General	Per-user Redirection	No
Input	Additional Library Directories	
Manifest File	Link Library Dependencies	
Debugging	Use Library Dependency Inputs	
System	Link Status	
Optimization	Prevent DLL Binding	
Embedded IDL	Treat Linker Warning As Errors	
Windows Metadata	Force File Output	
Advanced	Create Hot Patchable Image	
All Options	Specify Section Attributes	
Command Line		
Manifest Tool		
XML Document Generator		
Browse Information		
Build Events		
Custom Build Step		
Code Analysis		

Enable Incremental Linking
Enables incremental linking. (/INCREMENTAL, /INCREMENTAL:NO)

OK Cancel Apply

This adds an extra jump between a call and the target function

Setting project properties - 7

ExampleSubroutine1 Property Pages

Configuration: Active(Debug) Platform: Active(x64) Configuration Manager...

Precompiled Headers
Output Files
Browse Information
Advanced
All Options
Command Line

Linker
General
Input
Manifest File
Debugging
System
Optimization
Embedded IDL
Windows Metadata
Advanced
All Options
Command Line

Manifest Tool
XML Document Generator
Browse Information
Build Events
Custom Build Step
Code Analysis

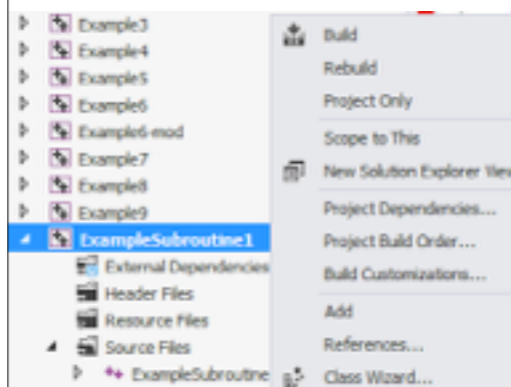
Entry Point	
No Entry Point	No
Set Checksum	No
Base Address	
Randomized Base Address	No (/DYNAMICBASE:NO)
Fixed Base Address	
Data Execution Prevention (DEP)	Yes (No COMPAT)
Turn Off Assembly Generation	No
Unload delay loaded DLL	
Nobind delay loaded DLL	
Import Library	
Merge Sections	
Target Machine	
Profile	
CLR Thread Attribute	
CLR Image Type	
Key File	
Key Container	
Delay Sign	
CLR Unmanaged Code Check	
Detect One Definition Rule violations	

Randomized Base Address
Randomized Base Address (/DYNAMICBASE[:NO])

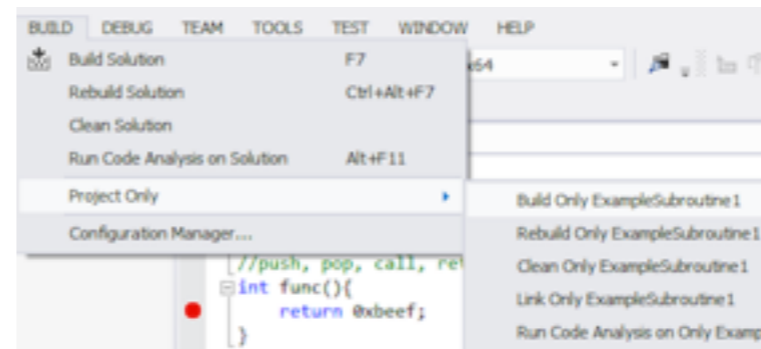
OK Cancel Apply

Disable Address Space Layout Randomization (ASLR) so that we see the same addresses in our labs

2 ways to build the project

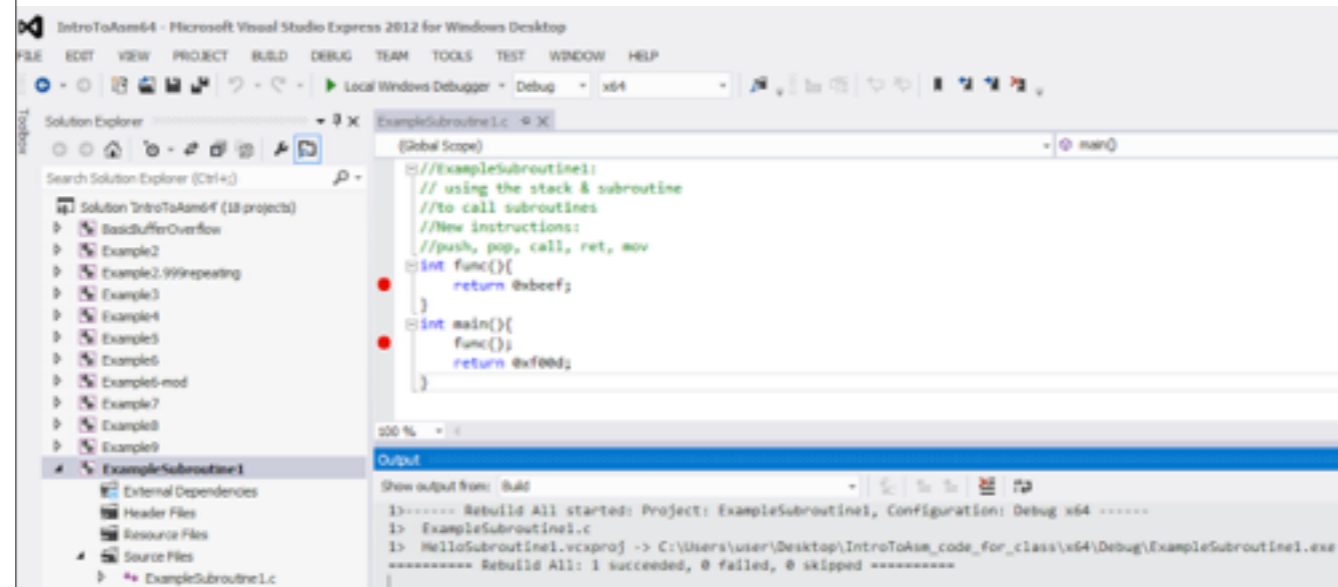


Right click on project
and select build



Or select Build Only ... from the
menu bar

Building the project - 2



Information about whether the build succeeded will be in the Output window. If it fails, a separate Error tab will open up

Setting breakpoints & start debugger

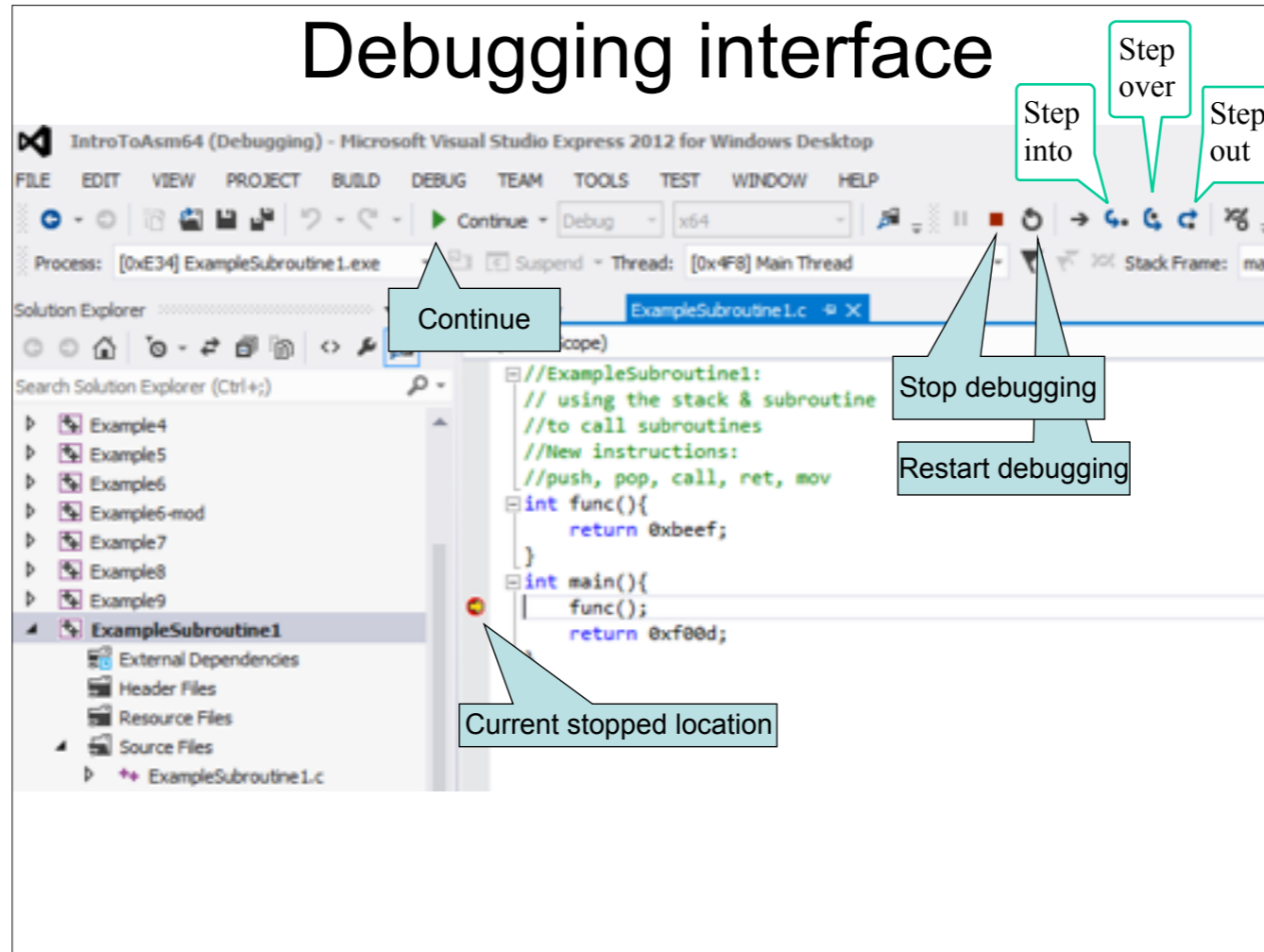
Click to the left of the line to break at. A red circle will appear

```
ExampleSubroutine.L.c [X]
(Global Scope)
//ExampleSubroutine1:
// using the stack & subroutine
//to call subroutines
//New instructions:
//push, pop, call, ret, mov
int func(){
    return 0xbeef;
}
int main(){
    func();
    return 0xf00d;
}
```

The screenshot shows the Visual Studio interface with the 'DEBUG' menu open. The menu items and their keyboard shortcuts are as follows:

Menu Item	Keyboard Shortcut
Start Debugging	F5
Start Without Debugging	Ctrl+F5
Attach to Process...	
Exceptions...	Ctrl+D, E
Step Into	F11
Step Over	F10

Debugging interface



Showing assembly

The screenshot shows a disassembly window titled "Disassembly ExampleSubroutine.L.c". The code is as follows:

```
(Global Scope)
//ExampleSubroutine1:
// using the stack & subroutine
//to call subroutines
//New instructions:
//push, pop, call, ret, mov
int func(){
    return 0xbeef;
}
int main(){
    func();
    return 0xf00d;
}
```

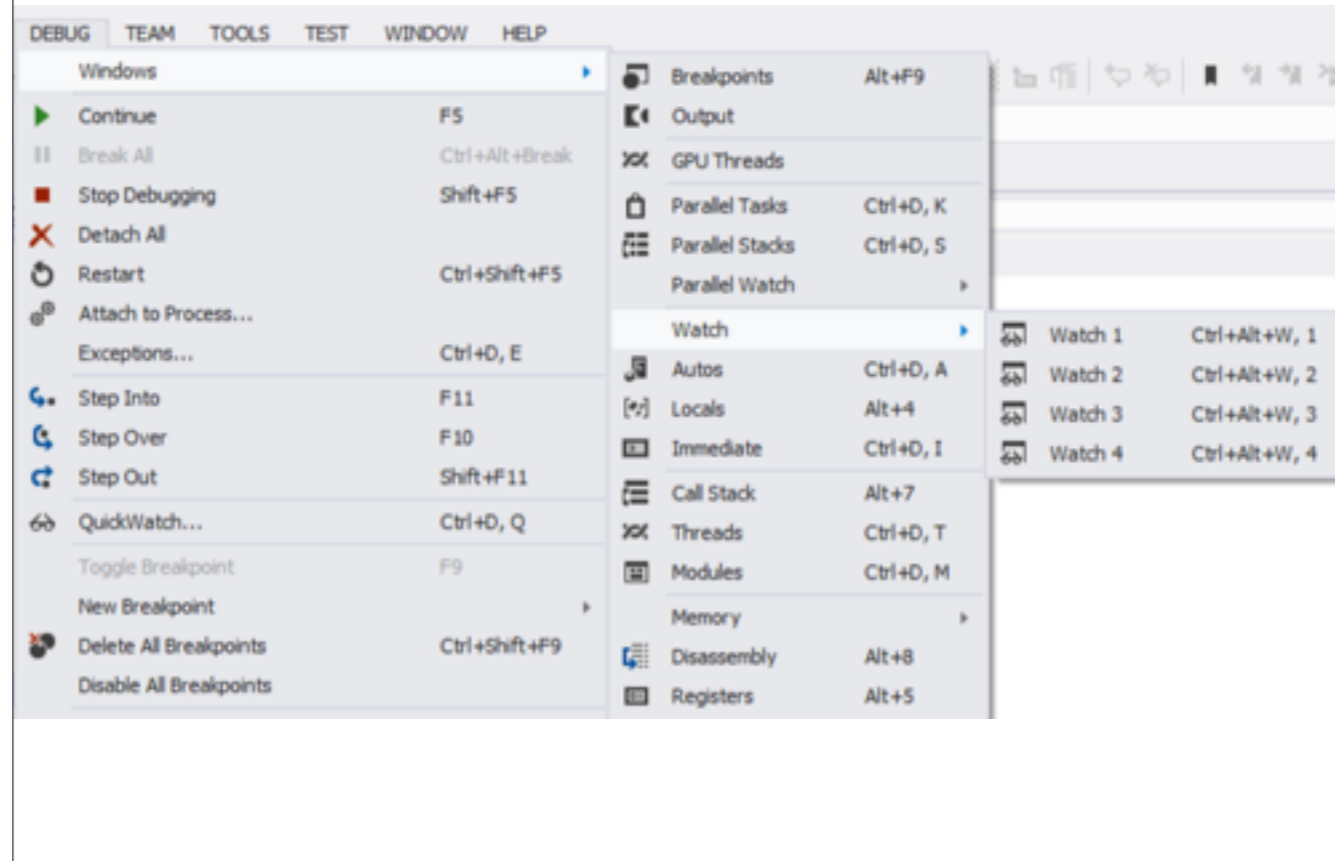
A red dot on the left margin indicates the current stopped location at the start of the `main()` function. A context menu is open over the code, listing various debugging actions such as "Run Tests", "Go To Definition", "Add Watch", and "Go To Disassembly".

Action	Shortcut
Run Tests	Ctrl+R, T
Debug Tests	Ctrl+R, Ctrl+T
Insert Snippet...	Ctrl+K, X
Surround With...	Ctrl+K, S
Go To Definition	F12
Go To Declaration	Ctrl+Alt+F12
Find All References	Ctrl+K, R
View Call Hierarchy	Ctrl+K, Ctrl+T
Go To Header File	
Breakpoint	
Add Watch	
Add Parallel Watch	
QuickWatch...	Ctrl+D, Q
Pin To Source	
Show Next Statement	Alt+Num *
Step Into Specific	
Run To Cursor	Ctrl+F10
Run Flagged Threads To Cursor	
Set Next Statement	Ctrl+Shift+F10
Go To Disassembly	

Current stopped location

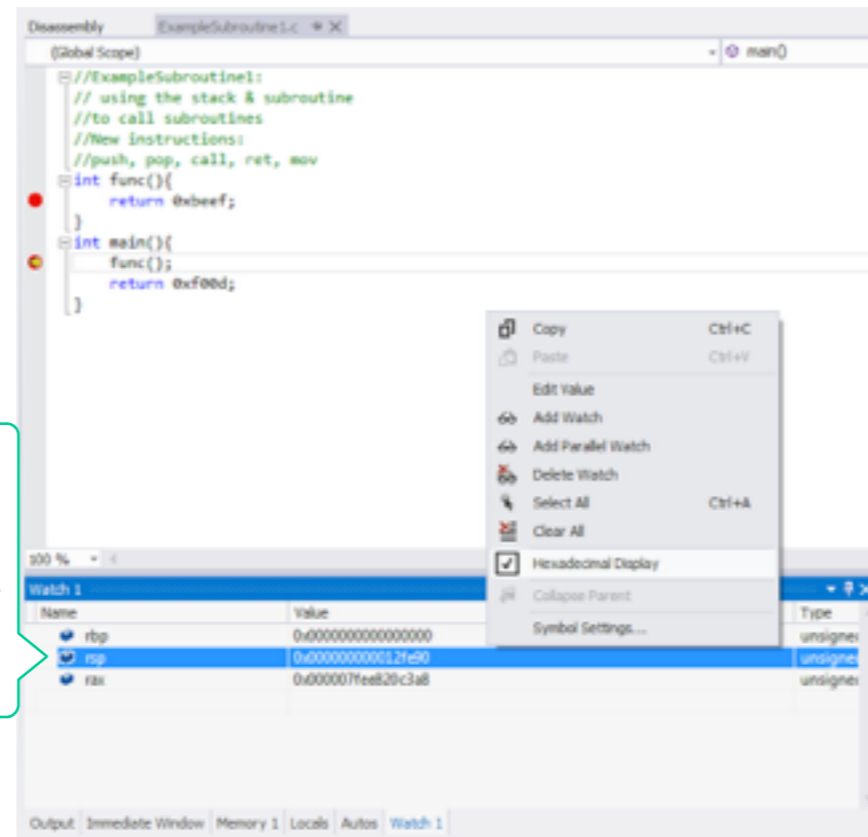
Right click: Only available while debugging

Debugging window options



Watching registers (“watch”)

In the “Watch” tab you can enter register names or variable names



Watching registers (“autos”)

The screenshot displays a debugger window with the following assembly code:

```
000000014000100A int 3
000000014000100B int 3
000000014000100C int 3
000000014000100D int 3
000000014000100E int 3
000000014000100F int 3
--- c:\users\user\desktop\introasm_code_for_class\hellousubroutine1\examplesubroutine1.c
int main(){
0000000140001010 sub    rsp,28h
    func();
0000000140001014 call   func (0140001000h)
    return 0xf00d;
0000000140001019 mov    eax,0f000h
}
000000014000101E add    rsp,28h
0000000140001022 ret
--- No source file ---
0000000140001023 int 3
0000000140001024 int 3
0000000140001025 int 3
0000000140001026 int 3
0000000140001027 int 3
```

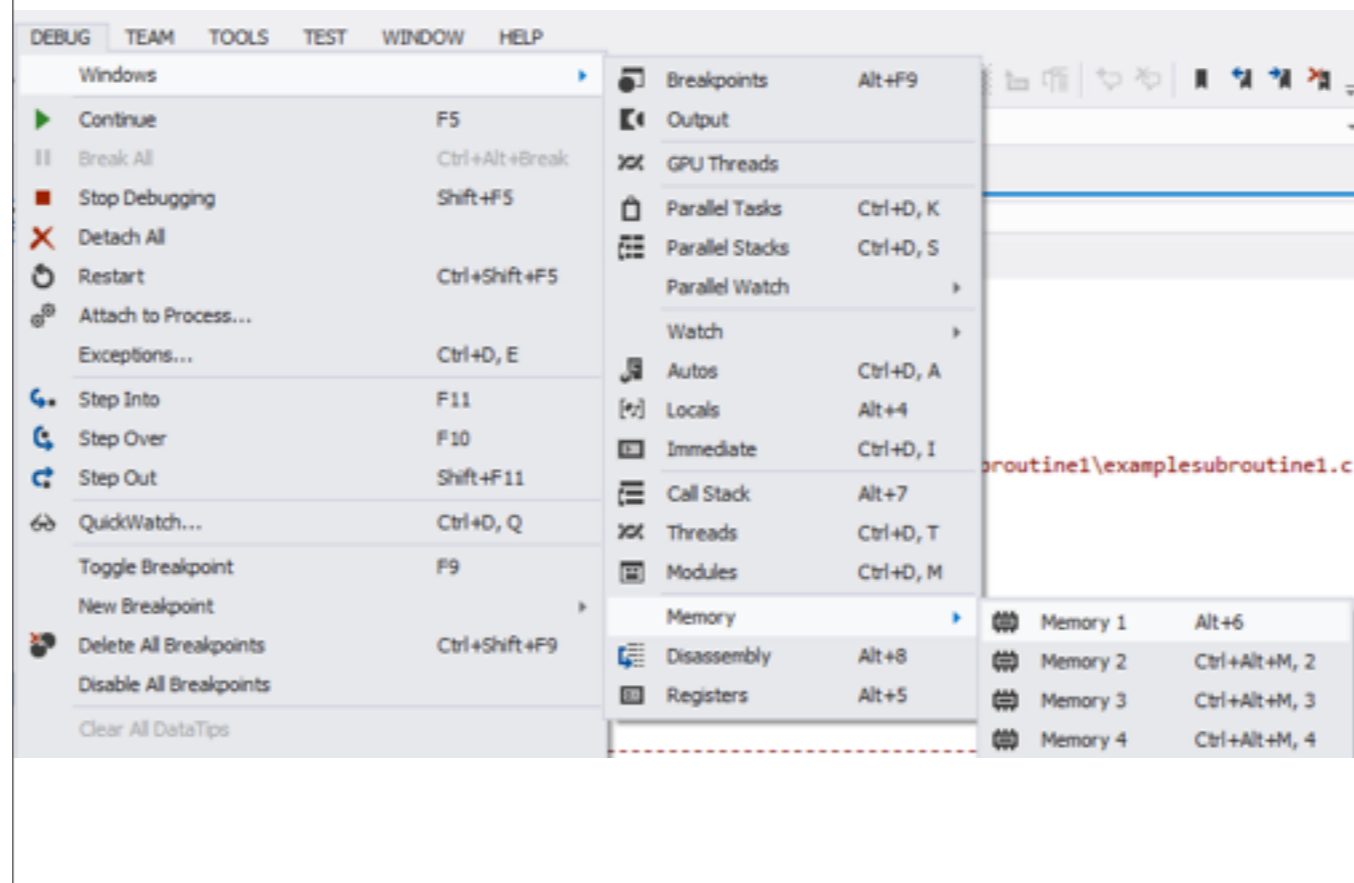
The Autos window shows the following register values:

Name	Value
RSP	000000000012FE90

Note that it knows the RSP register is going to be modified by this instruction

Autos tab

Watching the stack change - 1



Watching the stack change - 2

Set address to rsp (will always be the top of the stack)

Right click on the body of the data in the window and make sure everything's set like this

Set to 8 byte

Set to 1

Click "Reevaluate Automatically" so that it will change the display as rsp

The screenshot shows a debugger's disassembly window for 'ExampleSubroutine.LC'. The assembly code is visible, including a function 'func()' and 'main()'. A context menu is open over the memory dump, with the following options checked: '8-byte Integer', 'Hexadecimal Display', 'ANSI Text', and 'Reevaluate Automatically'. The address in the memory dump is set to 'rsp'. Callouts provide instructions on how to reach this configuration: right-clicking on the data, selecting '8-byte Integer', and clicking 'Reevaluate Automatically'.

Address	Hex	Dec	Comment
0x0000000012FE98	0000000000000000	0	
0x0000000012FEA0	0000000000000000	0	
0x0000000012FEA8	00000000777fb66a	35.7	
0x0000000012FEB0	0000000000000000	0	
0x0000000012FEB8	00000001400012ed	1.0	
0x0000000012FEC0	0000000100000001	1	
0x0000000012FEC8	0000000140002110	1.0	

ExampleSubroutine1.c takeaways

- In VS (when optimization is turned off), there is an over-allocation of stack space as a result of calling a function
 - 0x28 reserved with no apparent storage of data on the stack
 - More about this later once we start passing function parameters

```
int func(){
    return 0xbeef;
}
int main(){
    func();
    return 0xf00d;
}
```

func:			
00000000140001000	mov	eax,	0BEEFh
00000000140001005	ret		
main:			
00000000140001010	sub	rsp,	28h
00000000140001014	call	func	(0140001000h)
00000000140001019	mov	eax,	0F00Dh
0000000014000101E	add	rsp,	28h
00000000140001022	ret		

Instructions we now know (8)

- NOP
- PUSH/POP
- CALL/RET
- MOV
- ADD/SUB