REVERSE ENGINEERING MACHINE CODE: PART 1

Function Conventions

- Standard Entry Sequence (cdecl)
  - Save the old base pointer
  - Set the new stack base pointer
  - Allocate space for variables

```
__function:
    push ebp        ; 55
    mov ebp, esp    ; 8BEC
    sub esp, x      ; Not always present
```

```
__function:
    enter         ; C8
    sub esp, x    ; Not always present
```

Function Conventions

- Standard Exit Sequence (cdecl)
  - Reload old stack pointer
  - Reload old stack base
  - Deallocate space for variables

```
...
    mov esp, ebp    ; 8BE5
    pop ebp         ; 5D
    ret             ; C3 near, CB far
```

```
...
    leave           ; C9
    ret             ; C3 near, CB far
```

Function Call Conventions

- cdecl
  - Used by GCC and GNU libraries
- stdcall
  - Used by Win32 API
  - Sometimes incorrectly called “pascal”
- fastcall
  - Many different implementations
  - Not standardized

Function Call Conventions

- cdecl
  - Parameters pushed right to left
  - EAX, ECX, EDX not preserved
  - Return values are returned in EAX
    - Floating point returns in STo
  - Caller performs clean-up
- stdcall
  - Same as cdecl, except callee cleans-up
    - `RET imm` is a sign of this
- fastcall
  - One or more parameters passed in registers
  - MS VC++, GCC
    - First arg → ECX, second arg → EDX, remainder right → left

cdecl Function Call Convention

- Push Parameters on Stack
- Call the Function
- Save and Update EBP
- Save Registers that Will Be Overwritten
- Allocate Local Variables
- Execute Function
- Release Local Storage

cdecl Function Call Convention

- Restore Saved Registers
- Restore EBP
- Return
- Clean Up Parameters

stdcall Function Call Convention

- Push Parameters on Stack
- Call the Function
- Save and Update EBP
- Save Registers that Will Be Overwritten
- Allocate Local Variables
- Execute Function
- Release Local Storage

stdcall Function Call Convention

- Restore Saved Registers
- Restore EBP
- Clean Up Parameters
- Return

Function Call Conventions

- Others
  - pascal
    - Parameters pushed left to right
    - Windows 3.*
  - syscall
    - Parameter size passed in AL
  - safecall
    - Encapsulated COM error handling
  - thiscall
    - Either caller or callee clean-up
  - …

Control Statements

- If-Else
- Switch
- For
- While

If-Else Statement

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>


void do_something(int);

void main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    do_something(1);
}

void do_something(int i) {
    if (i > 0)
        printf("Greater than zero\n");
    else
        printf("Not greater than zero\n");
}
```

If-Else Statement

```
00401060  r> 55            PUSH EBP
00401061  |. 8BEC          MOV EBP,ESP
00401063  |. 83EC 40       SUB ESP,40
00401066  |. 53            PUSH EBX
00401067  |. 56            PUSH ESI
00401068  |. 57            PUSH EDI
00401069  |. 8D7D C0       LEA EDI,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-40]
0040106C  |. B9 10000000   MOV ECX,10
00401071  |. B8 CCCCCCCC   MOV EAX,CCCCCCCC
00401076  |. F3:AB         REP STOS DWORD PTR ES:[EDI]
00401078  |. 837D 08 00    CMP DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8],0
0040107C  |.v7E 0F         JLE SHORT if_state.0040108D
0040107E  |. 68 38004200   PUSH OFFSET if_state.??_C@_0BD@HFLA@Gre  format = "Greater than zero"
00401083  |. E8 78000000   CALL if_state.printf                      printf
00401088  |. 83C4 04       ADD ESP,4
0040108B  |.vEB 0D         JMP SHORT if_state.0040109A
0040108D  |> 68 1C004200   PUSH OFFSET if_state.??_C@_0BH@HNHD@Not  format = "Not greater than zero"
00401092  |. E8 69000000   CALL if_state.printf                      printf
00401097  |. 83C4 04       ADD ESP,4
0040109A  |> 5F            POP EDI
0040109B  |. 5E            POP ESI
0040109C  |. 5B            POP EBX
0040109D  |. 83C4 40       ADD ESP,40
004010A0  |. 3BEC          CMP EBP,ESP
004010A2  |. E8 19000000   CALL if_state.__chkesp
004010A7  |. 8BE5          MOV ESP,EBP
004010A9  |. 5D            POP EBP
004010AA  L. C3            RETN
```

Switch Statement

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>


void do_something(int);

void main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    do_something(1);
}

void do_something(int i) {
    switch(i) {
        case 0:
        case 1:
            printf("Zero or one\n");
            break;
        case 2:
            printf("Two\n");
            break;
        default:
            break;
    }
}
```

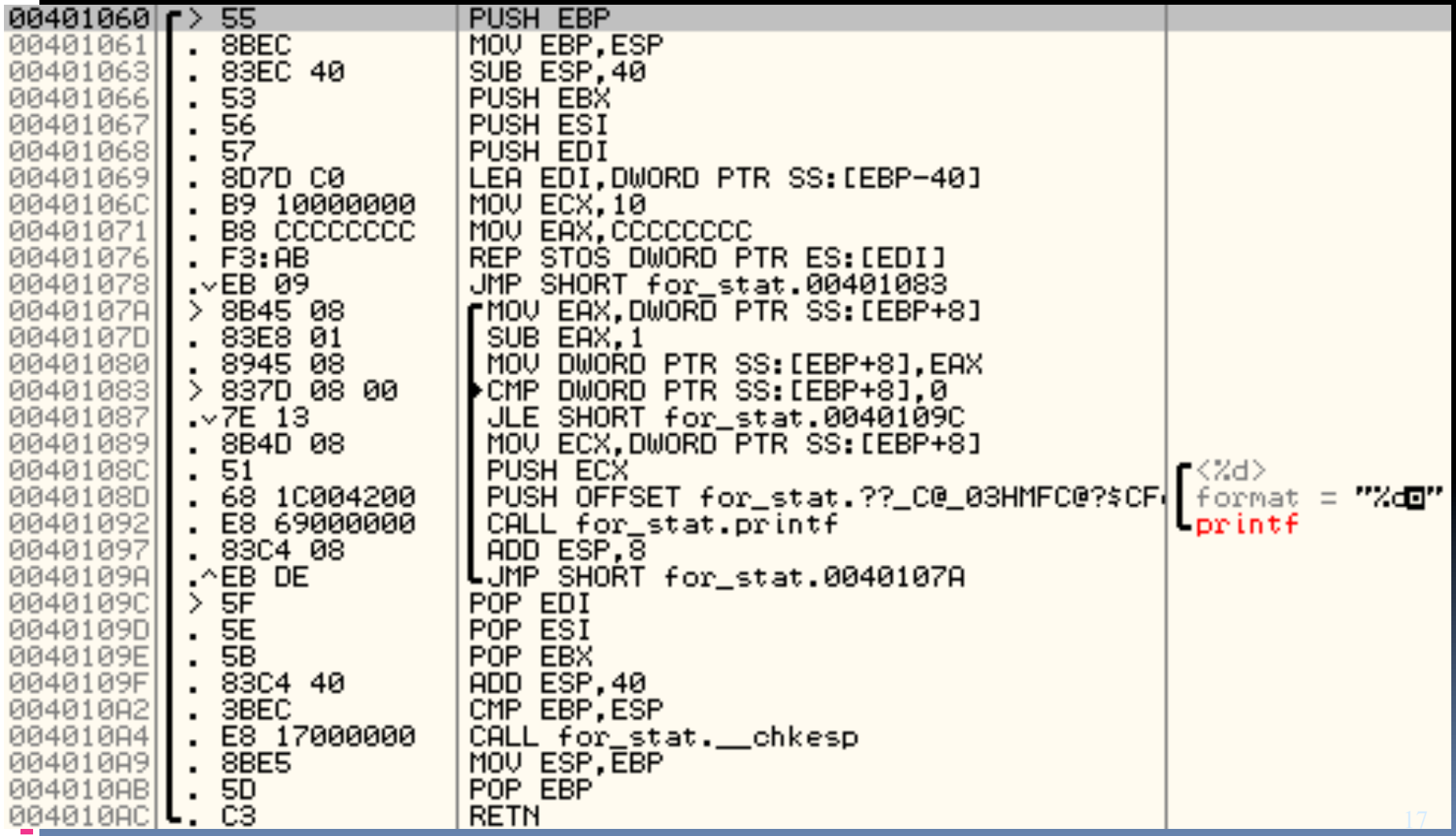
Switch Statement

```
00401060  > 55              PUSH EBP
00401061  . 8BEC            MOV EBP,ESP
00401063  . 83EC 44         SUB ESP,44
00401066  . 53              PUSH EBX
00401067  . 56              PUSH ESI
00401068  . 57              PUSH EDI
00401069  . 8D7D BC         LEA EDI,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-44]
0040106C  . B9 11000000     MOV ECX,11
00401071  . B8 CCCCCCCC     MOV EAX,CCCCCCCC
00401076  . F3:AB           REP STOS DWORD PTR ES:[EDI]
00401078  . 8B45 08         MOV EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8]
0040107B  . 8945 FC         MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4],EAX
0040107E  . 837D FC 00      CMP DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4],0
00401082  .v7C 2A           JL SHORT switch_s.004010AE
00401084  . 837D FC 01      CMP DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4],1
00401088  .v7E 08           JLE SHORT switch_s.00401092
0040108A  . 837D FC 02      CMP DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4],2
0040108E  .v74 11           JE SHORT switch_s.004010A1
00401090  .vEB 1C           JMP SHORT switch_s.004010AE
00401092  > 68 24004200     PUSH OFFSET switch_s.??_C@_0N@OGF@Zero?!  format = "Zero or one◘"
00401097  . E8 84000000     CALL switch_s.printf                      printf
0040109C  . 83C4 04         ADD ESP,4
0040109F  .vEB 0D           JMP SHORT switch_s.004010AE
004010A1  > 68 1C004200     PUSH OFFSET switch_s.??_C@_04GGPI@Two?6   format = "Two◘"
004010A6  . E8 75000000     CALL switch_s.printf                      printf
004010AB  . 83C4 04         ADD ESP,4
004010AE  > 5F              POP EDI
004010AF  . 5E              POP ESI
004010B0  . 5B              POP EBX
004010B1  . 83C4 44         ADD ESP,44
004010B4  . 3BEC            CMP EBP,ESP
004010B6  . E8 25000000     CALL switch_s.__chkesp
004010BB  . 8BE5            MOV ESP,EBP
004010BD  . 5D              POP EBP
004010BE  . C3              RETN
```

For Statement

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>


void do_something(int);

void main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    do_something(10);
}

void do_something(int i) {
    for(; i > 0; i--)
        printf("%d\n", i);
}
```

For Statement



While Statement

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>


void do_something(int);

void main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    do_something(10);
}

void do_something(int i) {
    while(i > 0) {
        printf("%d\n", i);
        i--;
    }
}
```

While Statement

```
00401060  > 55              PUSH EBP
00401061  . 8BEC            MOV EBP,ESP
00401063  . 83EC 40         SUB ESP,40
00401066  . 53              PUSH EBX
00401067  . 56              PUSH ESI
00401068  . 57              PUSH EDI
00401069  . 8D7D C0         LEA EDI,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-40]
0040106C  . B9 10000000     MOV ECX,10
00401071  . B8 CCCCCCCC     MOV EAX,CCCCCCCC
00401076  . F3:AB           REP STOS DWORD PTR ES:[EDI]
00401078  > 837D 08 00      CMP DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8],0
0040107C  .v7E 1C           JLE SHORT while_st.0040109A
0040107E  . 8B45 08         MOV EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8]
00401081  . 50              PUSH EAX                          <%d>
00401082  . 68 1C004200     PUSH OFFSET while_st.??_C@_03HMFC@?$CF  format = "%d"
00401087  . E8 74000000     CALL while_st.printf              printf
0040108C  . 83C4 08         ADD ESP,8
0040108F  . 8B4D 08         MOV ECX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8]
00401092  . 83E9 01         SUB ECX,1
00401095  . 894D 08         MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8],ECX
00401098  .^EB DE           JMP SHORT while_st.00401078
0040109A  > 5F              POP EDI
0040109B  . 5E              POP ESI
0040109C  . 5B              POP EBX
0040109D  . 83C4 40         ADD ESP,40
004010A0  . 3BEC            CMP EBP,ESP
004010A2  . E8 19000000     CALL while_st.__chkesp
004010A7  . 8BE5            MOV ESP,EBP
004010A9  . 5D              POP EBP
004010AA  . C3              RETN
```

Determining Signed-ness

- Signed and Unsigned Variables
  - Operations on signed/unsigned variables use different instructions
  - IMUL/MUL
  - IDIV/DIV
  - Jcc

Determining Signed-ness

Instruction Mnemonic	Condition (Flag States)	Description
Unsigned Conditional Jumps		
JA/JNBE	(CF or ZF) = 0	Above/not below or equal
JAE/JNB	CF = 0	Above or equal/not below
JB/JNAE	CF = 1	Below/not above or equal
JBE/JNA	(CF or ZF) = 1	Below or equal/not above
JC	CF = 1	Carry
JE/JZ	ZF = 1	Equal/zero
JNC	CF = 0	Not carry
JNE/JNZ	ZF = 0	Not equal/not zero
JNP/JPO	PF = 0	Not parity/parity odd
JP/JPE	PF = 1	Parity/parity even
JCXZ	CX = 0	Register CX is zero
JECXZ	ECX = 0	Register ECX is zero
Signed Conditional Jumps		
JG/JNLE	((SF xor OF) or ZF) = 0	Greater/not less or equal
JGE/JNL	(SF xor OF) = 0	Greater or equal/not less
JL/JNGE	(SF xor OF) = 1	Less/not greater or equal
JLE/JNG	((SF xor OF) or ZF) = 1	Less or equal/not greater
JNO	OF = 0	Not overflow
JNS	SF = 0	Not sign (non-negative)
JO	OF = 1	Overflow
JS	SF = 1	Sign (negative)

Tools of the Trade

- Disassembler
  - Machine code to instructions
- Decompiler
  - Instructions to code (often to C code)
- Debugger
  - Real-time, step-thru-code debugging

Disassemblers

- Disassemblers
  - Converts machine code to instructions

```
010040F1  |.  FF75 08          PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8]
010040F4  |.  FFD0             CALL EAX
010040F6  |>  5E               POP ESI
010040F7  |.  C9               LEAVE
010040F8  |.  C2 1000          RETN 10
010040FB  |$  55               PUSH EBP
010040FC  |.  8BEC             MOV EBP,ESP
010040FE  |.  51               PUSH ECX
010040FF  |.  51               PUSH ECX
01004100  |.  8D45 FC          LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4]
01004103  |.  56               PUSH ESI
01004104  |.  33F6             XOR ESI,ESI
01004106  |.  50               PUSH EAX
01004107  |.  68 19000200      PUSH 20019
0100410C  |.  56               PUSH ESI
```

Decompilers

- Decompilers
  - Attempt to convert instructions or byte codes to higher-level languages
  - Good decompilers are implemented via p-code analysis
    - Allows decompiler code to be applied to various architectures as long as a p-code translation exists

Debuggers

- Debuggers
  - Modes
    - User-mode
    - Kernel-mode
  - Common features
    - Create/attach to a process
    - Set/clear breakpoint
    - Step into/over
    - Trace into/over

Debuggers

- Breakpoints
  - Software breakpoints
    - INT 3h (\xCC)
  - Memory breakpoints
  - Hardware breakpoints
    - Intel Dro-Dr7 registers
- Traces
  - Records instructions and execution contexts
- Stepping
  - Step into/over

GNU Debugger (gdb)

- Disassembler, Debugger
  - Command-line
    - Insight is a GUI wrapper for gdb
  - Not just for Linux
    - Native x86 Windows support
    - Special versions for various architectures

GNU Debugger (gdb) Breakpoint Tutorial

```
jojo@grey:~> gdb hello_world
GNU gdb 6.6.50.20070726-cvs
Copyright (C) 2007 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
GDB is free software, covered by the GNU General Public License, and you are
welcome to change it and/or distribute copies of it under certain conditions.
Type "show copying" to see the conditions.
There is absolutely no warranty for GDB.  Type "show warranty" for details.
This GDB was configured as "i586-suse-linux"...
Using host libthread_db library "/lib/libthread_db.so.1".
(gdb) disas main
Dump of assembler code for function main:
0x08048238 <main+0>:    lea    0x4(%esp),%ecx
0x0804823c <main+4>:    and    $0xfffffff0,%esp
0x0804823f <main+7>:    pushl  -0x4(%ecx)
0x08048242 <main+10>:   push   %ebp
0x08048243 <main+11>:   mov    %esp,%ebp
0x08048245 <main+13>:   push   %ecx
0x08048246 <main+14>:   sub    $0x4,%esp
0x08048249 <main+17>:   movl   $0x809fd48,(%esp)
0x08048250 <main+24>:   call   0x8048c50 <puts>
0x08048255 <main+29>:   mov    $0x0,%eax
0x0804825a <main+34>:   add    $0x4,%esp
0x0804825d <main+37>:   pop    %ecx
0x0804825e <main+38>:   pop    %ebp
0x0804825f <main+39>:   lea    -0x4(%ecx),%esp
0x08048262 <main+42>:   ret
End of assembler dump.
(gdb)
```

GNU Debugger (gdb) Breakpoint Tutorial

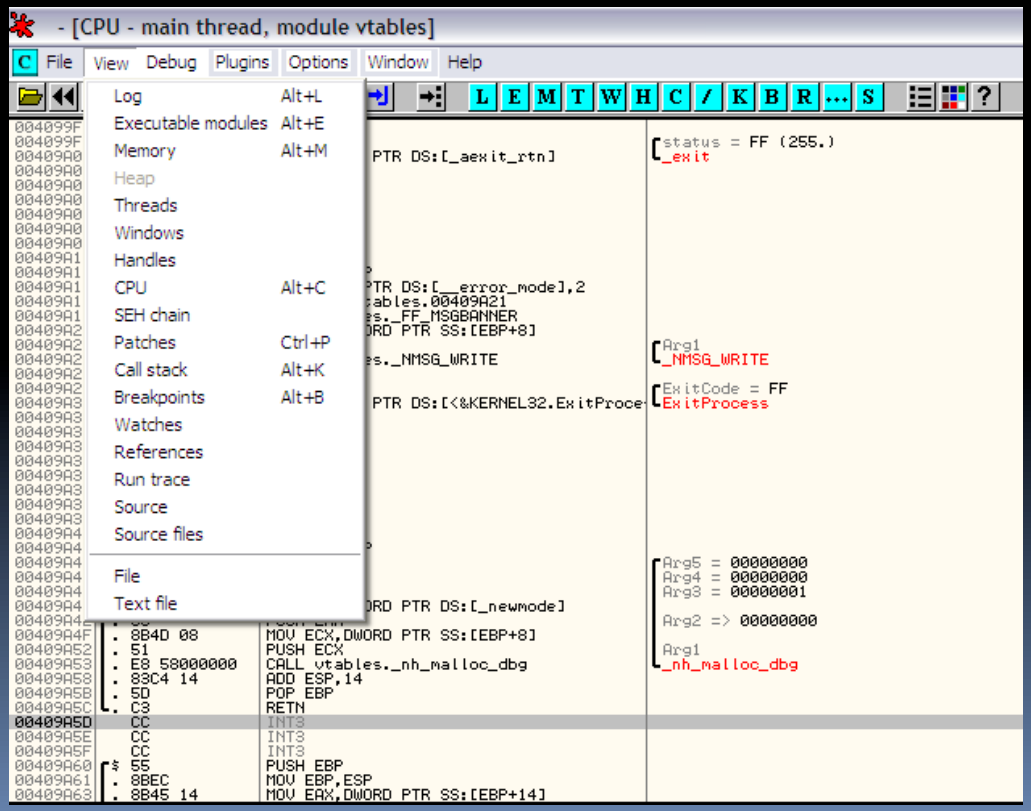
```
(gdb) break *0x08048249
Breakpoint 1 at 0x8048249
(gdb) run
Starting program: /home/jojo/hello_world

Breakpoint 1, 0x08048249 in main ()
(gdb) x/s0x0809fd48
0x809fd48:       "Hello World"
(gdb) c
Continuing.
Hello World

Program exited normally.
(gdb) q
jojo@grey:~>
```

OllyDbg

- Disassembler
- Debugger
  - Open
    - Creates a process with debug privileges
  - Attach
    - Attach to a process already running
  - Detach (version 2.*)
    - Detaches the debugger and allows the process to continue
  - Terminate
    - Kills the debuggee

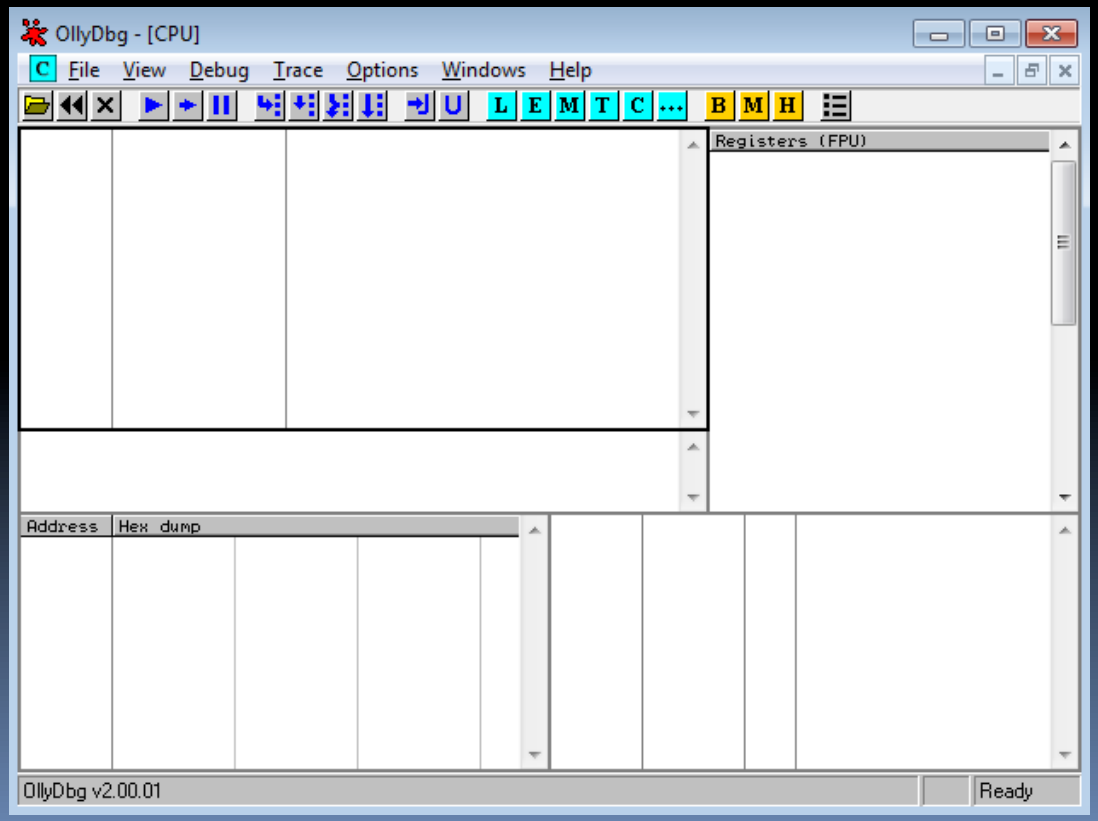
OllyDbg

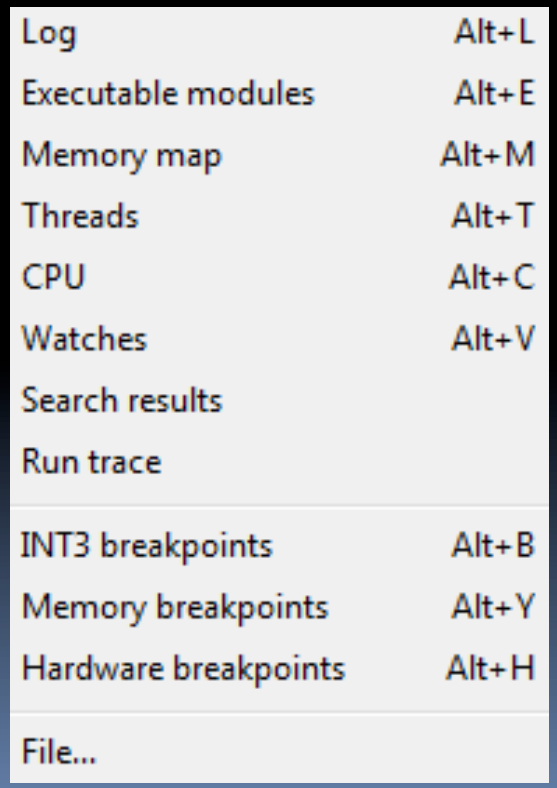
- Views



OllyDbg 2.0

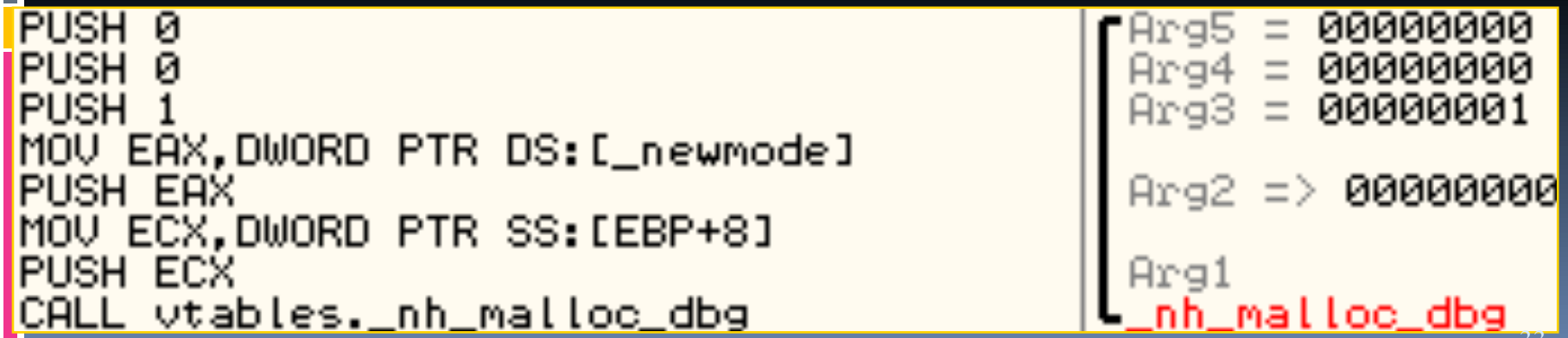
- Views





OllyDbg

- Code Analysis
  - Right-click→Analysis→Analyse code (Ctrl + A)
  - Static code analysis
    - Argument labeling
    - Function address name resolution
    - Control logic labeling

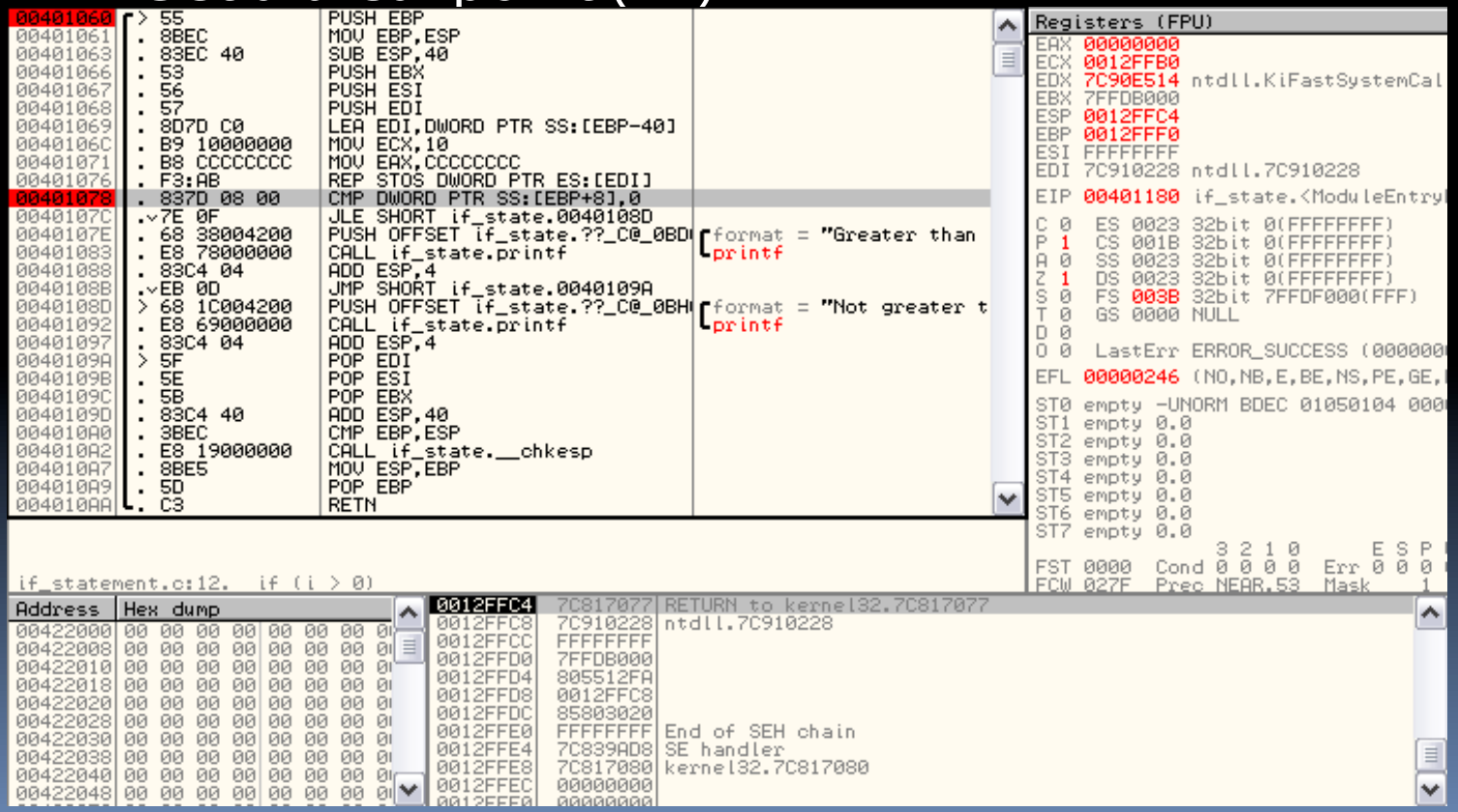


OllyDbg

- Just-in-time Debugger
  - Options → Just-in-time debugging
  - Runs Olly when a fatal error occurs
- Plugins
  - Great feature
  - Well used by the reverse engineering community

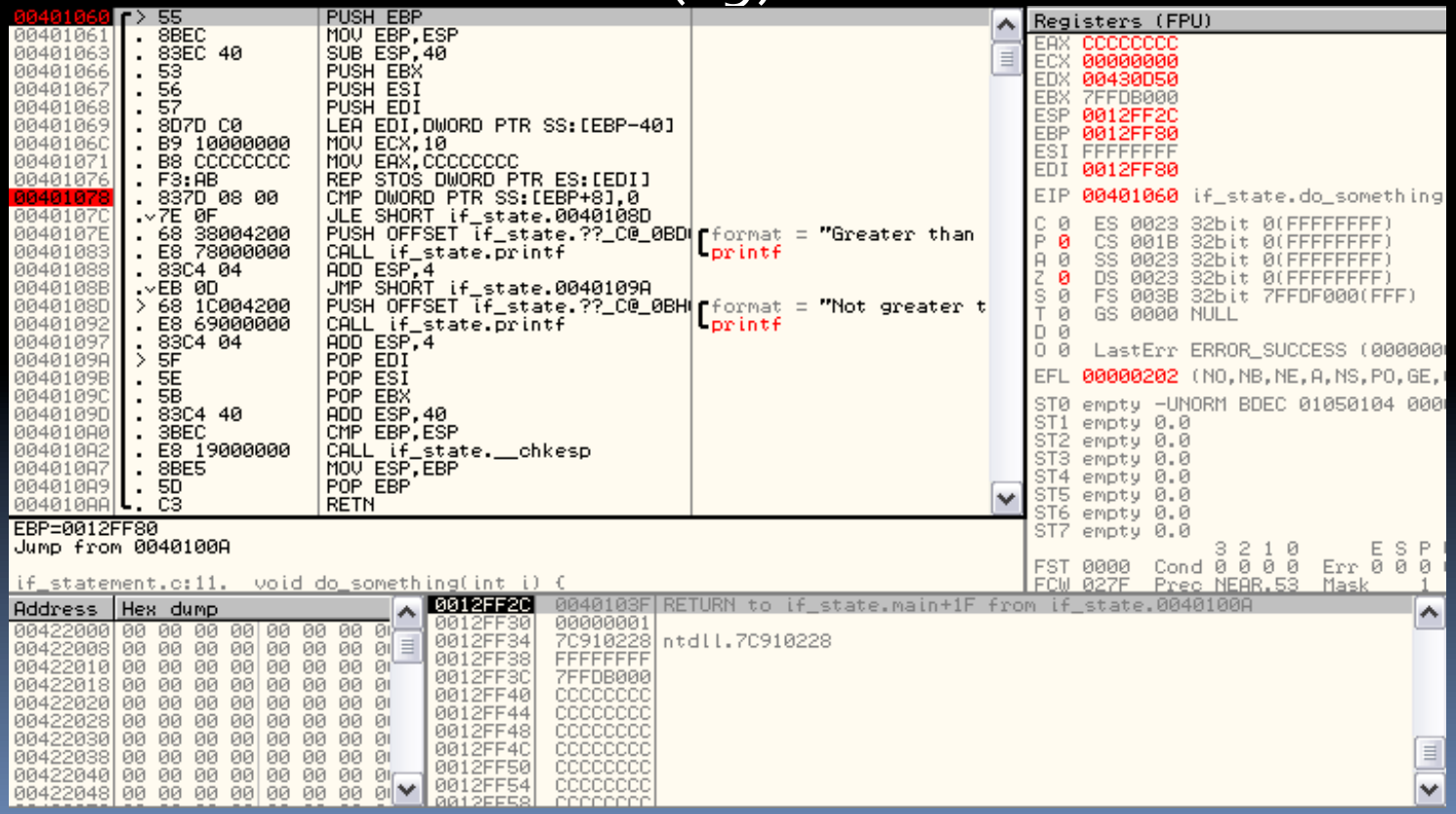
OllyDbg Debugging Tutorial

- Breakpoints
  - Set a breakpoint (F2)



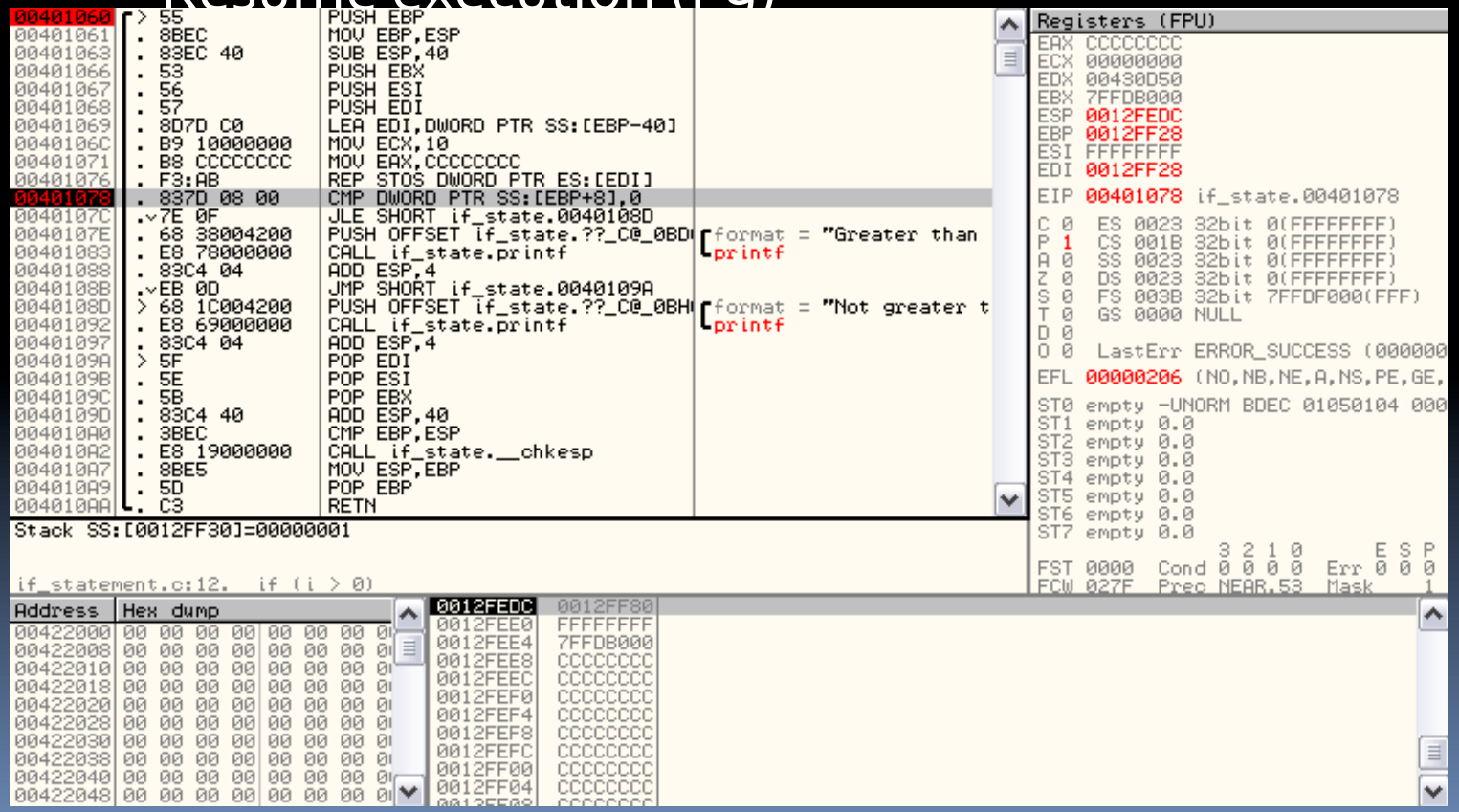
OllyDbg Debugging Tutorial

- Breakpoints
  - Resume execution (F9)



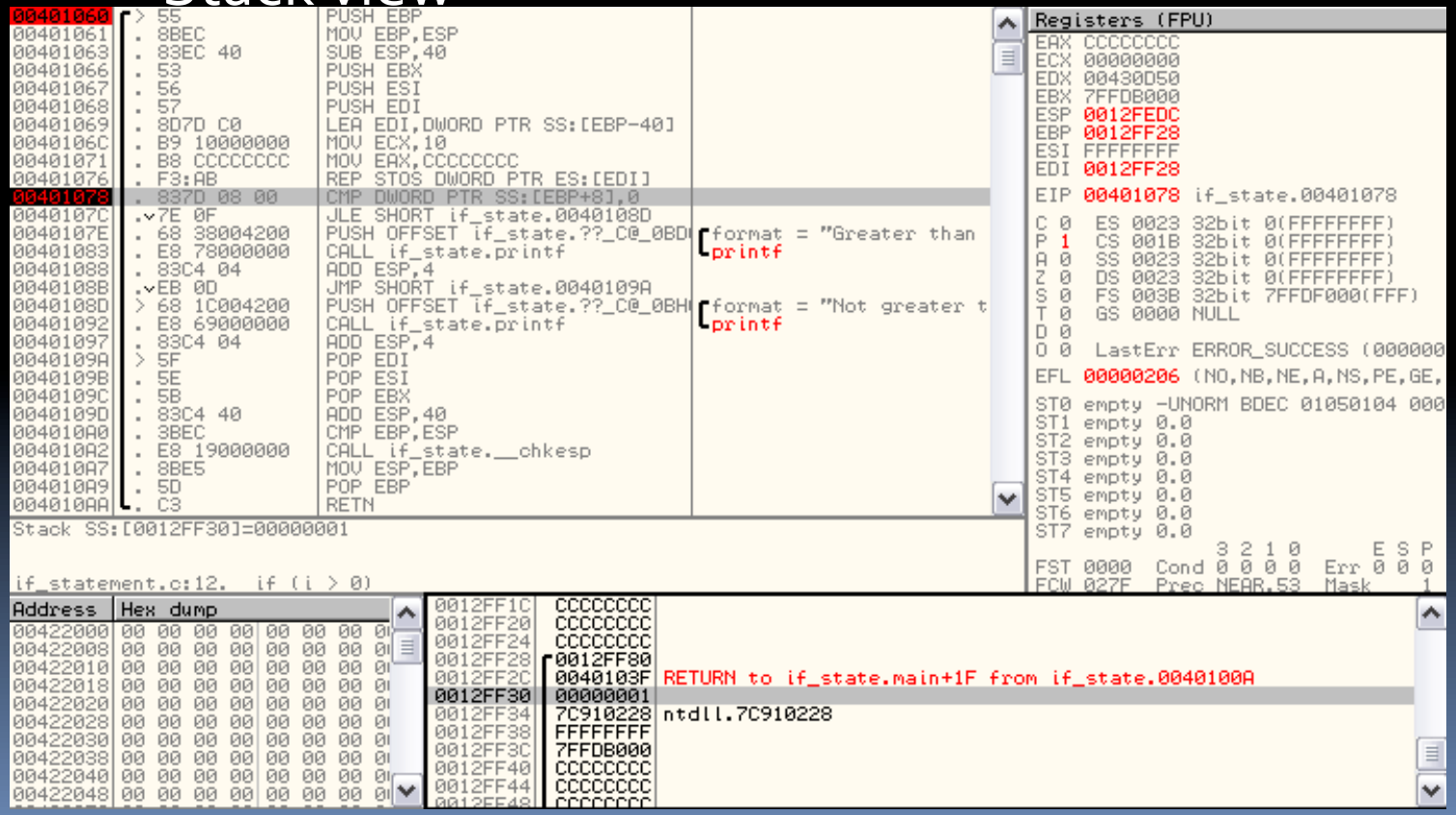
OllyDbg Debugging Tutorial

- Breakpoints
  - Resume execution (F9)



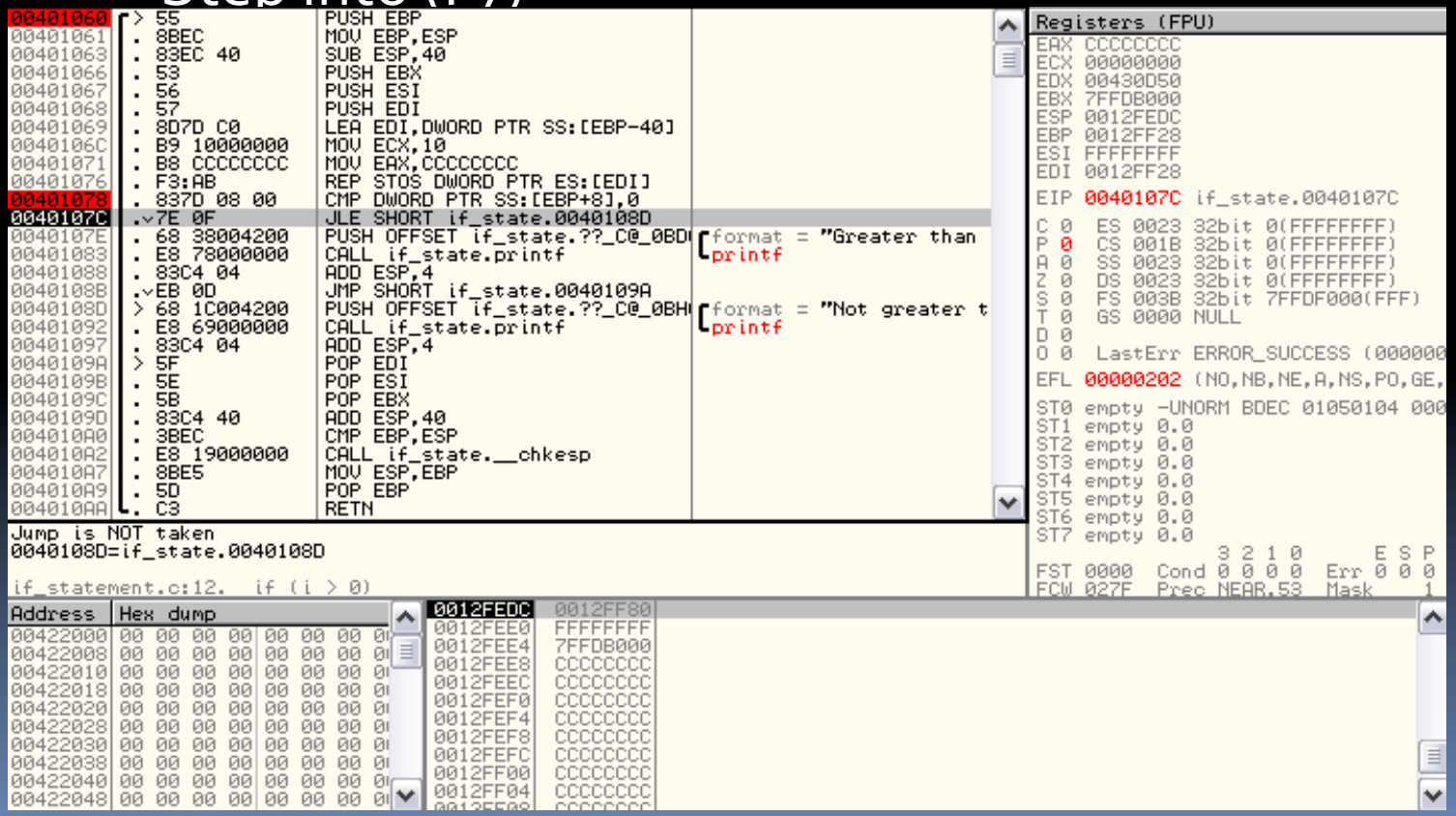
OllyDbg Debugging Tutorial

- Breakpoints
  - Stack view



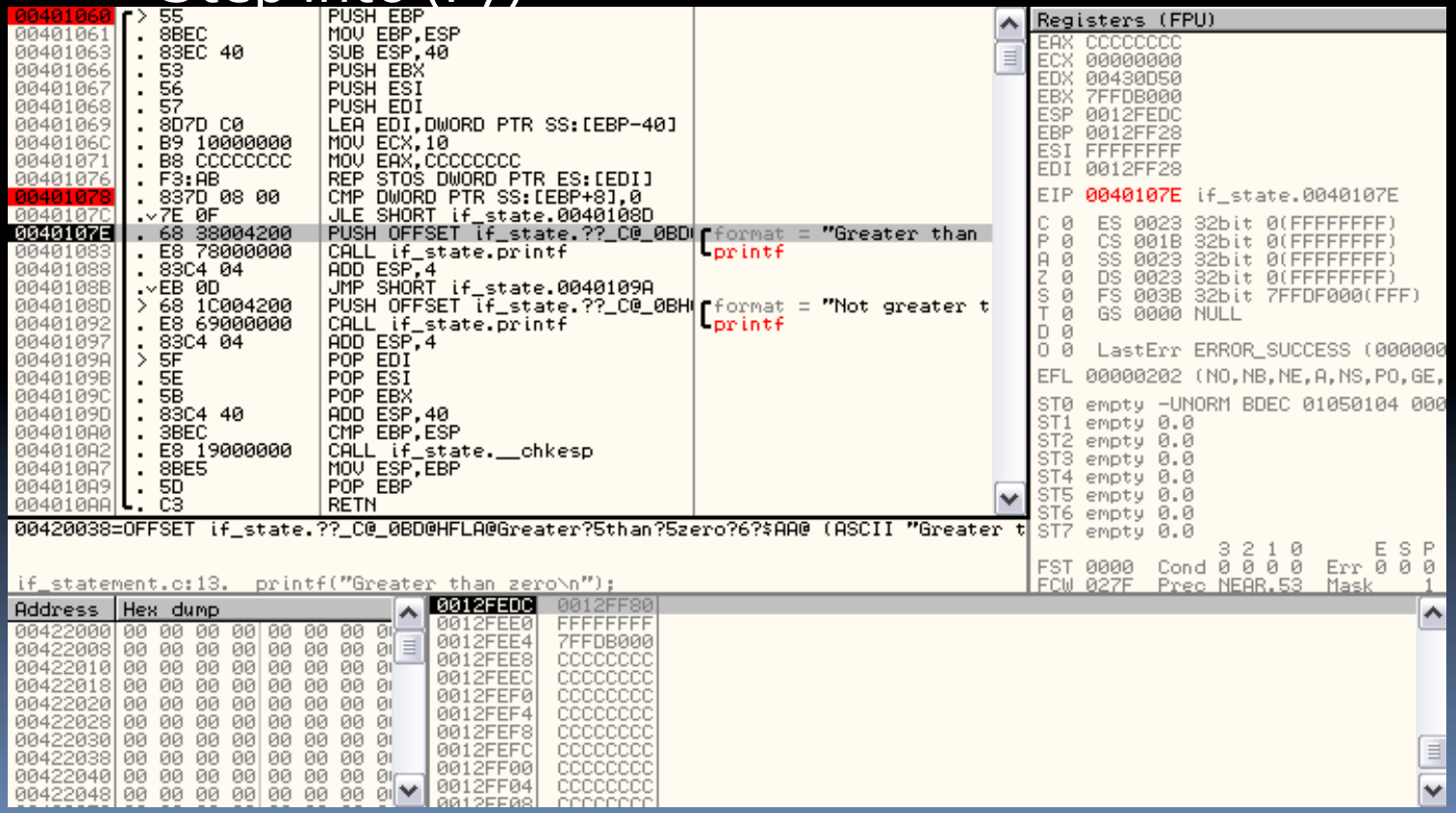
OllyDbg Debugging Tutorial

- Stepping
  - Step into (F7)



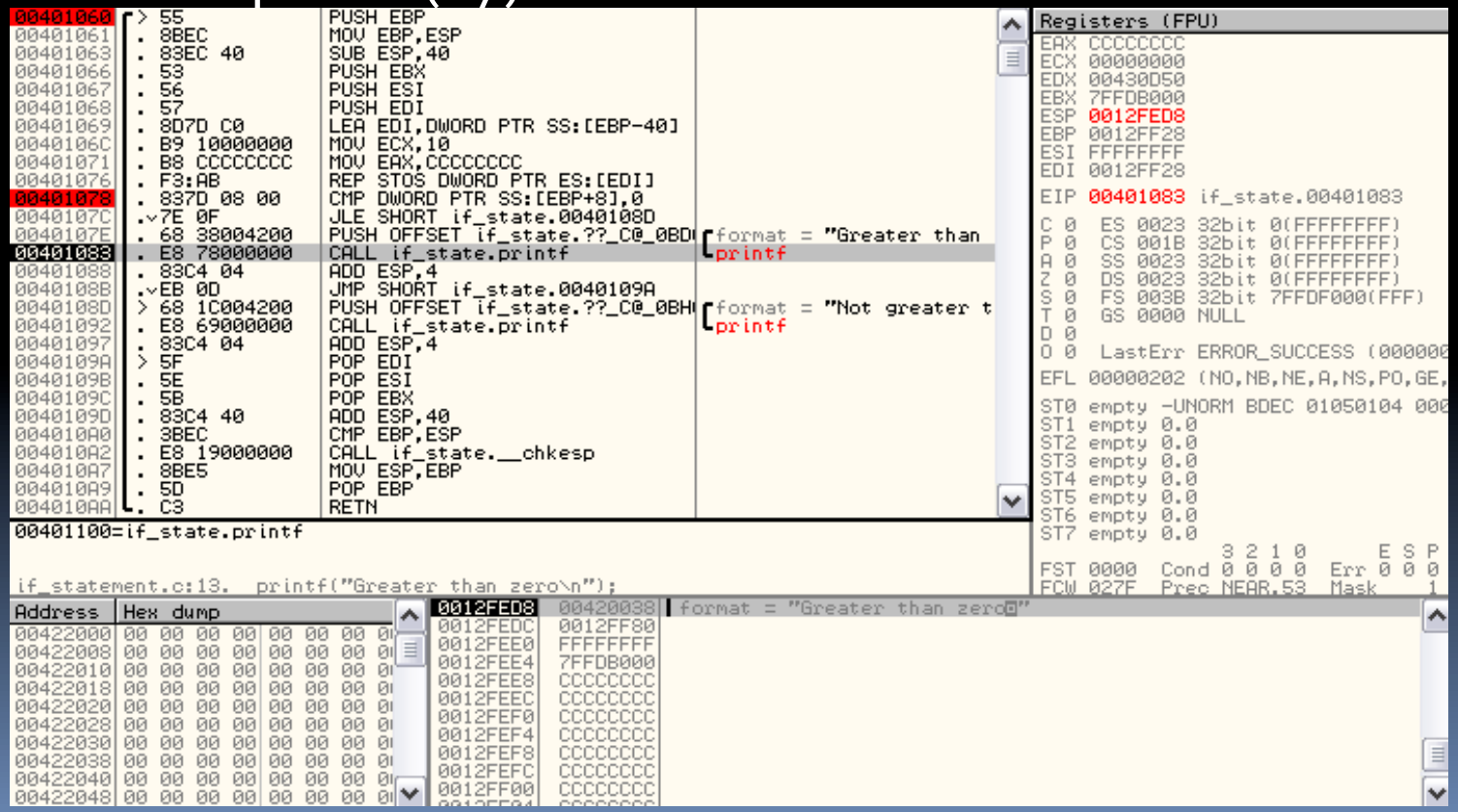
OllyDbg Debugging Tutorial

- Stepping
  - Step into (F7)



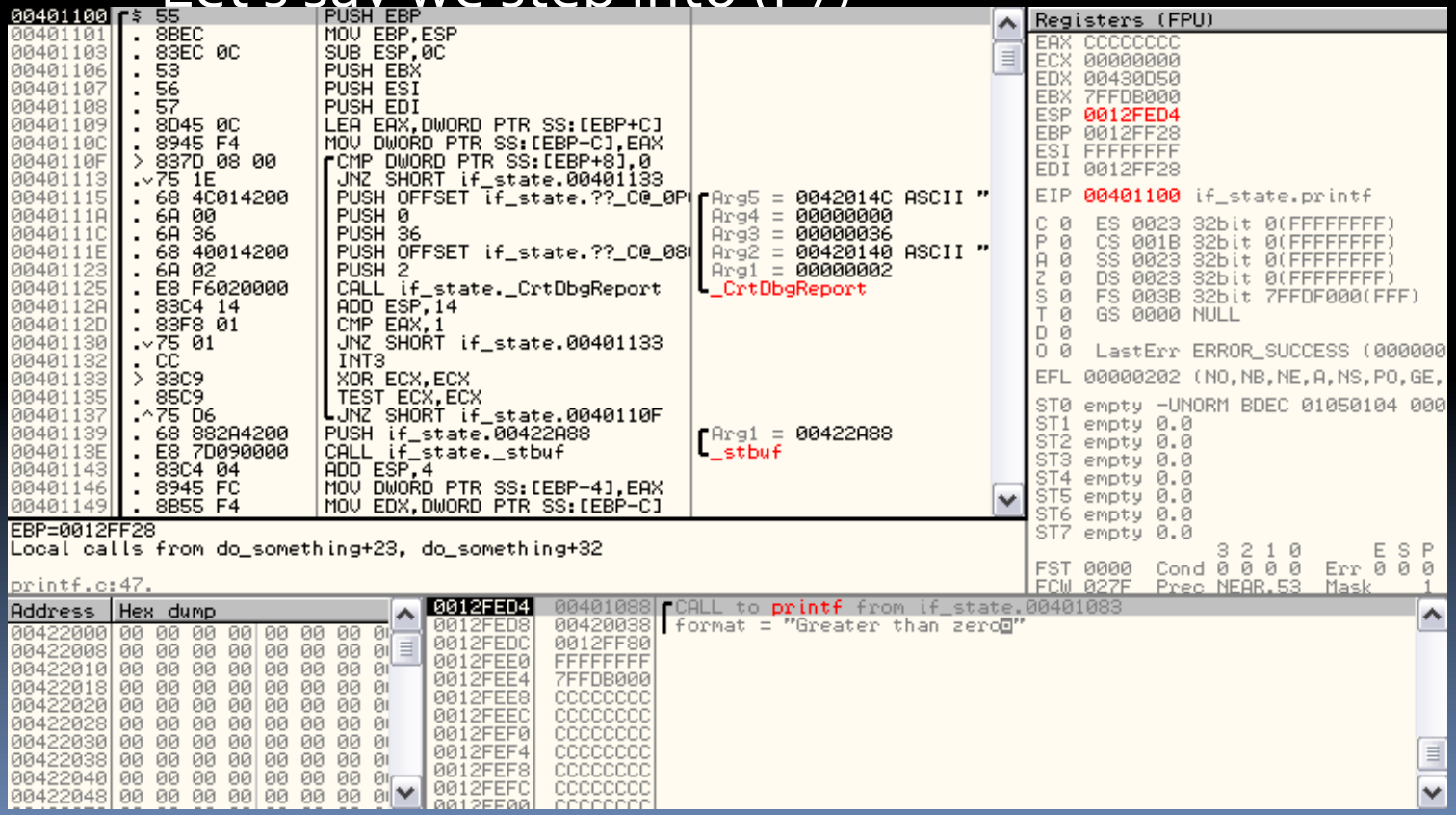
OllyDbg Debugging Tutorial

- Stepping
  - Step into (F7)



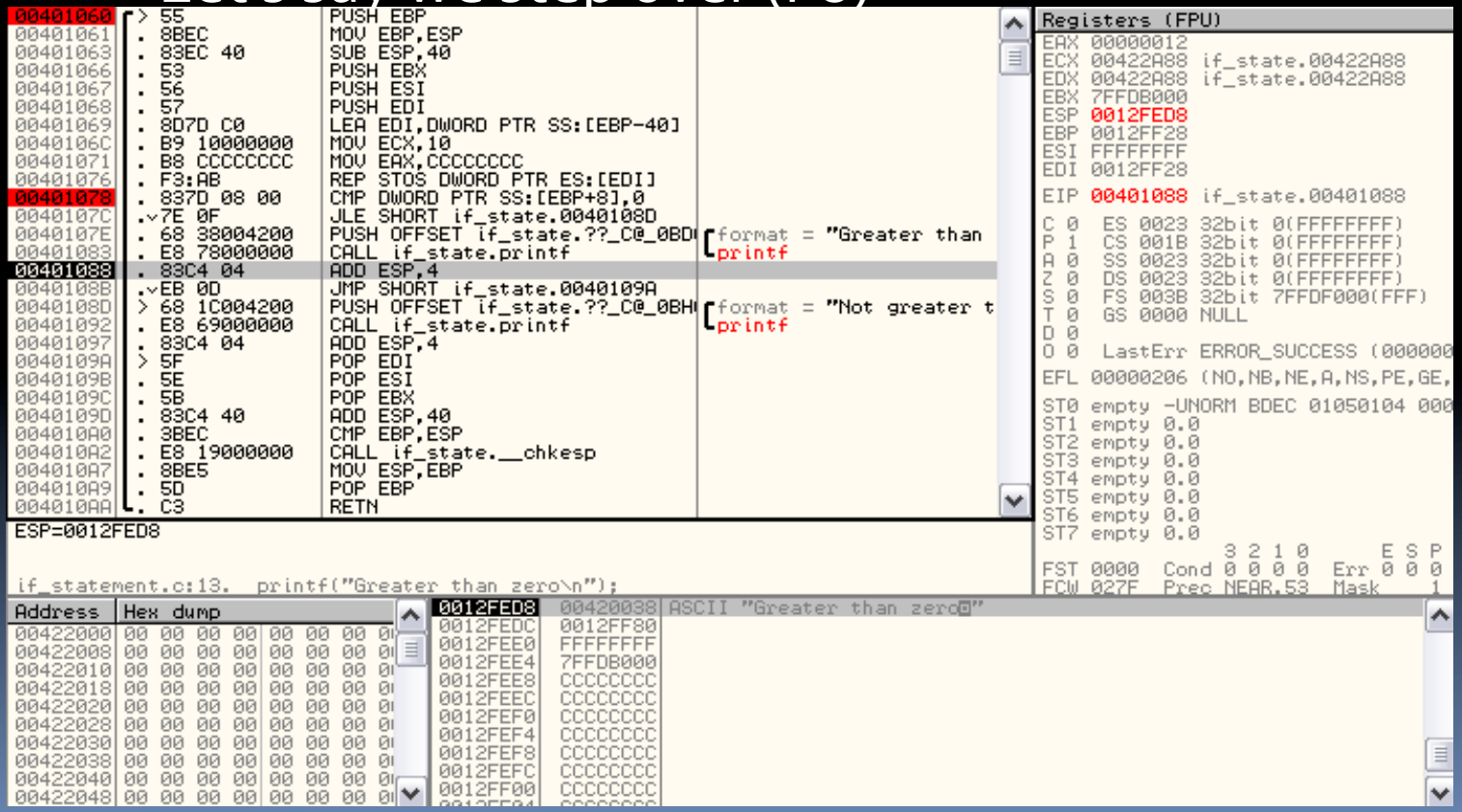
OllyDbg Debugging Tutorial

- Stepping
  - Let's say we step into (F7)

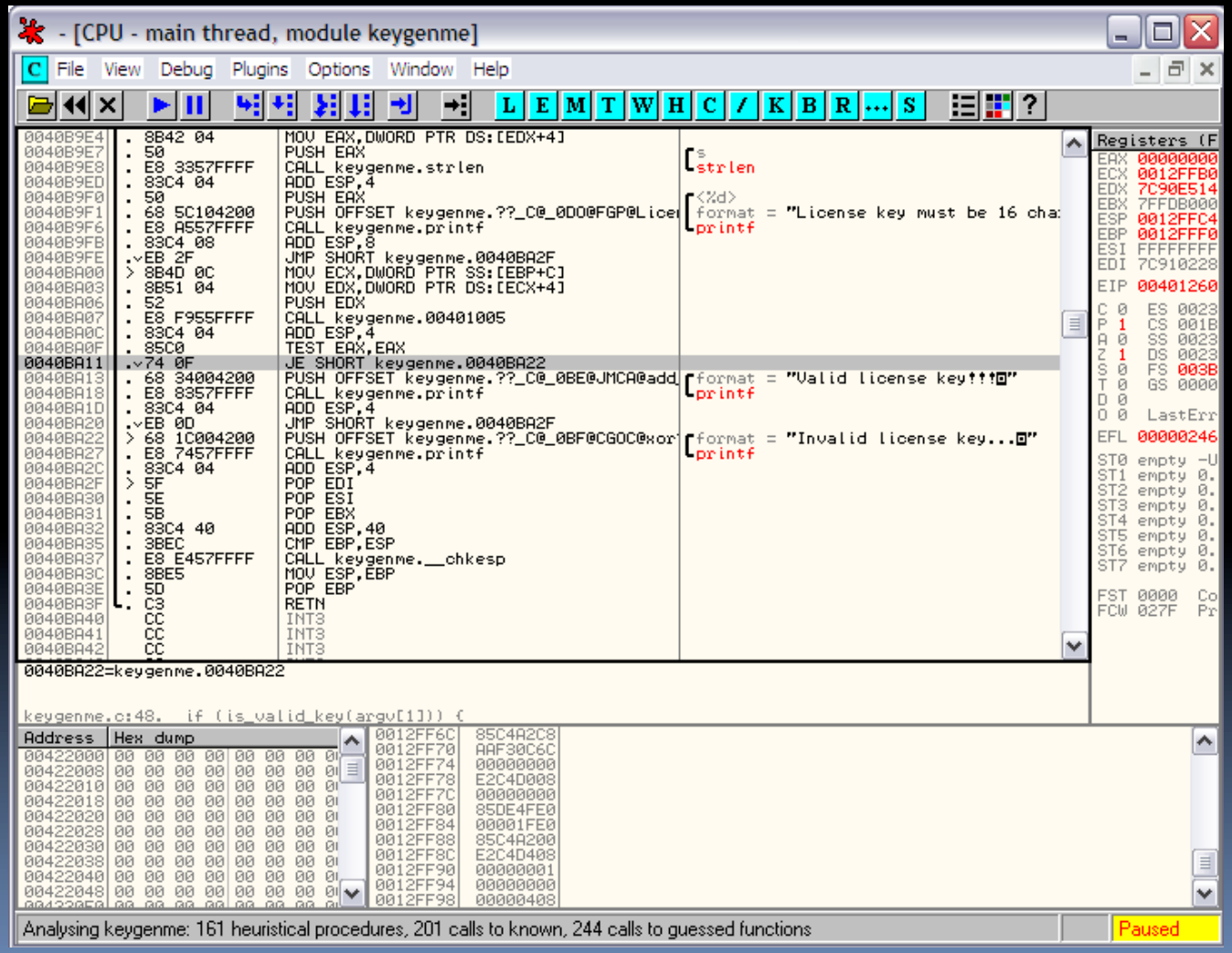


OllyDbg Debugging Tutorial

- Stepping
  - Let's say we step over (F8)

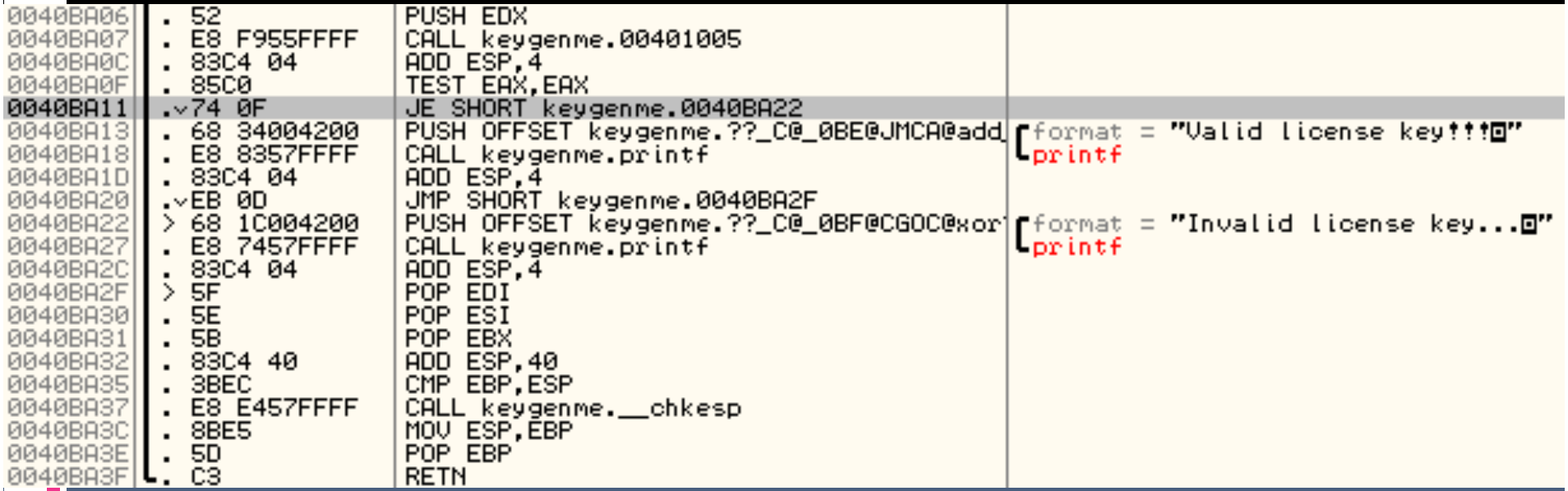


OllyDbg
Assembly Patching Tutorial



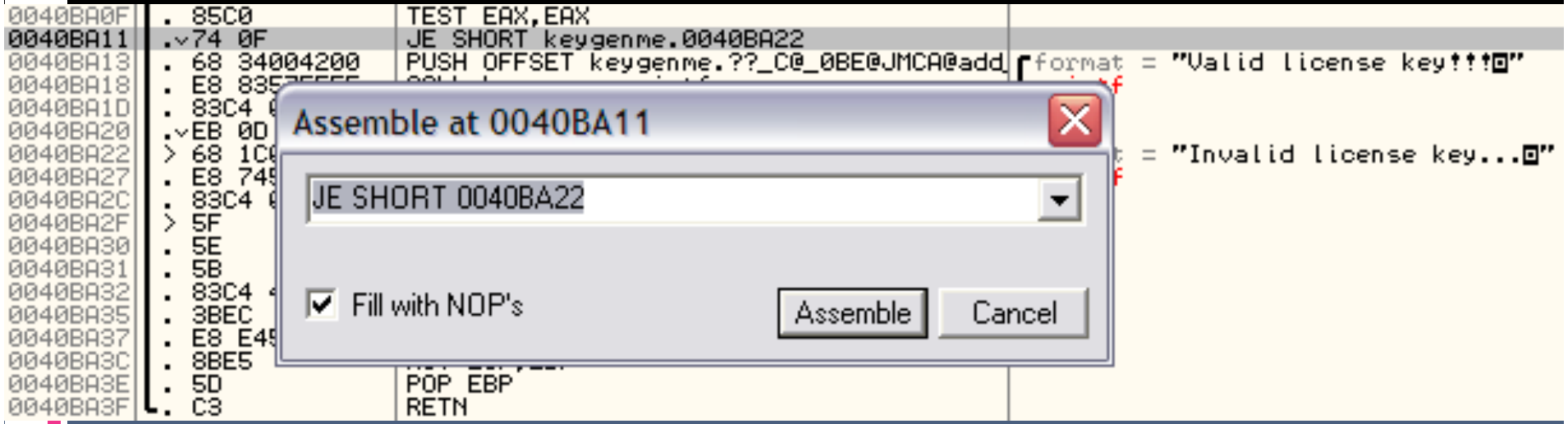
OllyDbg
Assembly Patching Tutorial

- Assembly Patching
  - Change the jump from "invalid" code to "valid" code



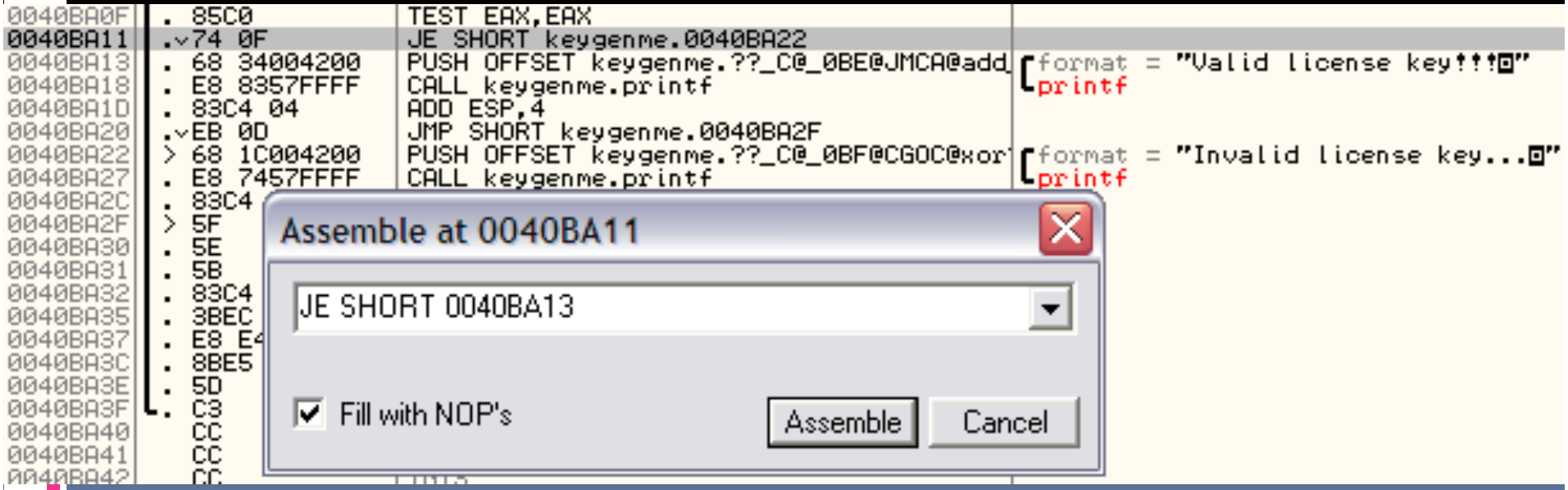
OllyDbg
Assembly Patching Tutorial

- Assembly Patching
  - Double-click on the short jump



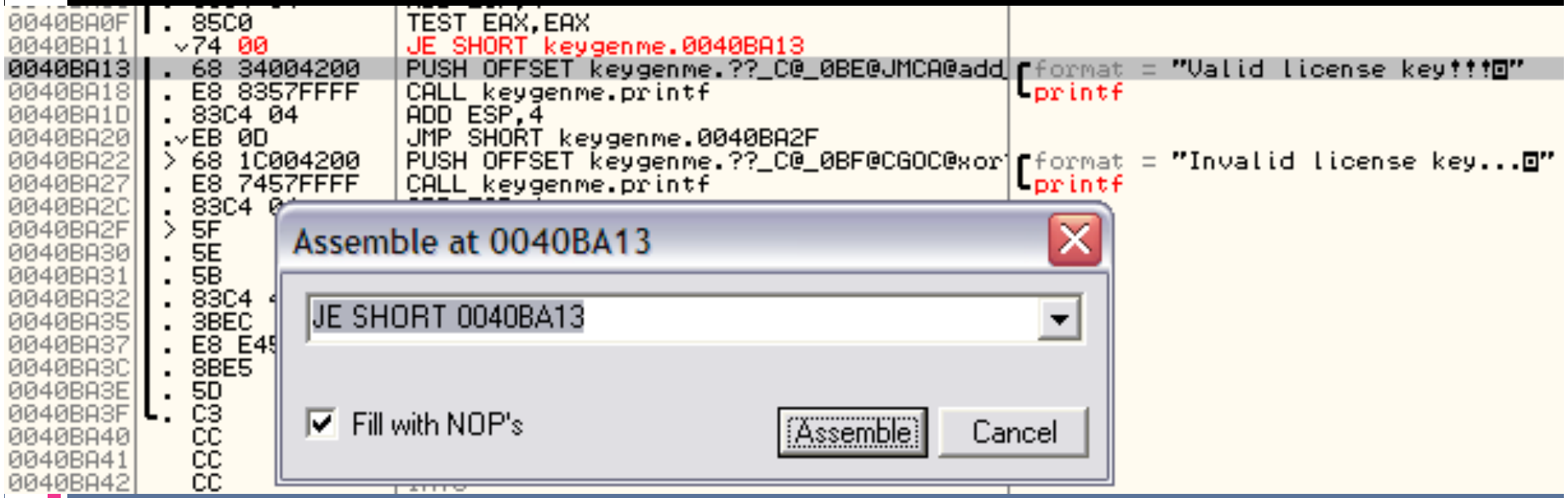
OllyDbg
Assembly Patching Tutorial

- Assembly Patching
  - Change the jump address



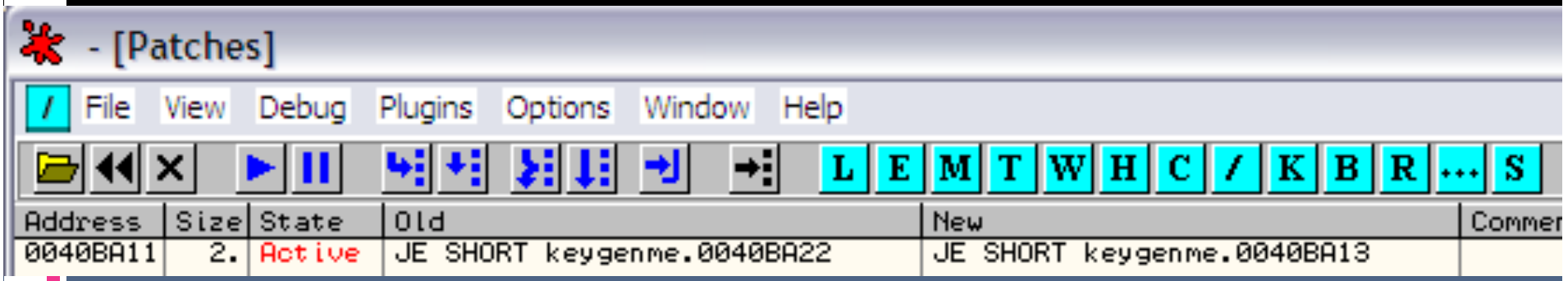
OllyDbg
Assembly Patching Tutorial

- Assembly Patching
  - Hit assemble
  - Check that the size of the code hasn't changed



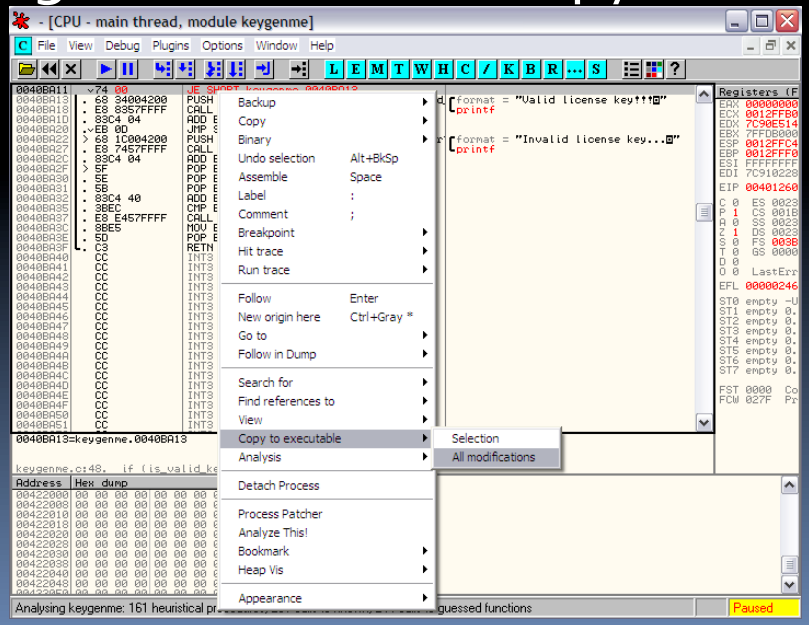
OllyDbg Assembly Patching Tutorial

- Assembly Patching
  - View patches
    - Click on the "/" toolbar button or hit Ctrl+P
    - Right click on an entry and click "Follow in Disassembler" to return to the disassembler at the target address



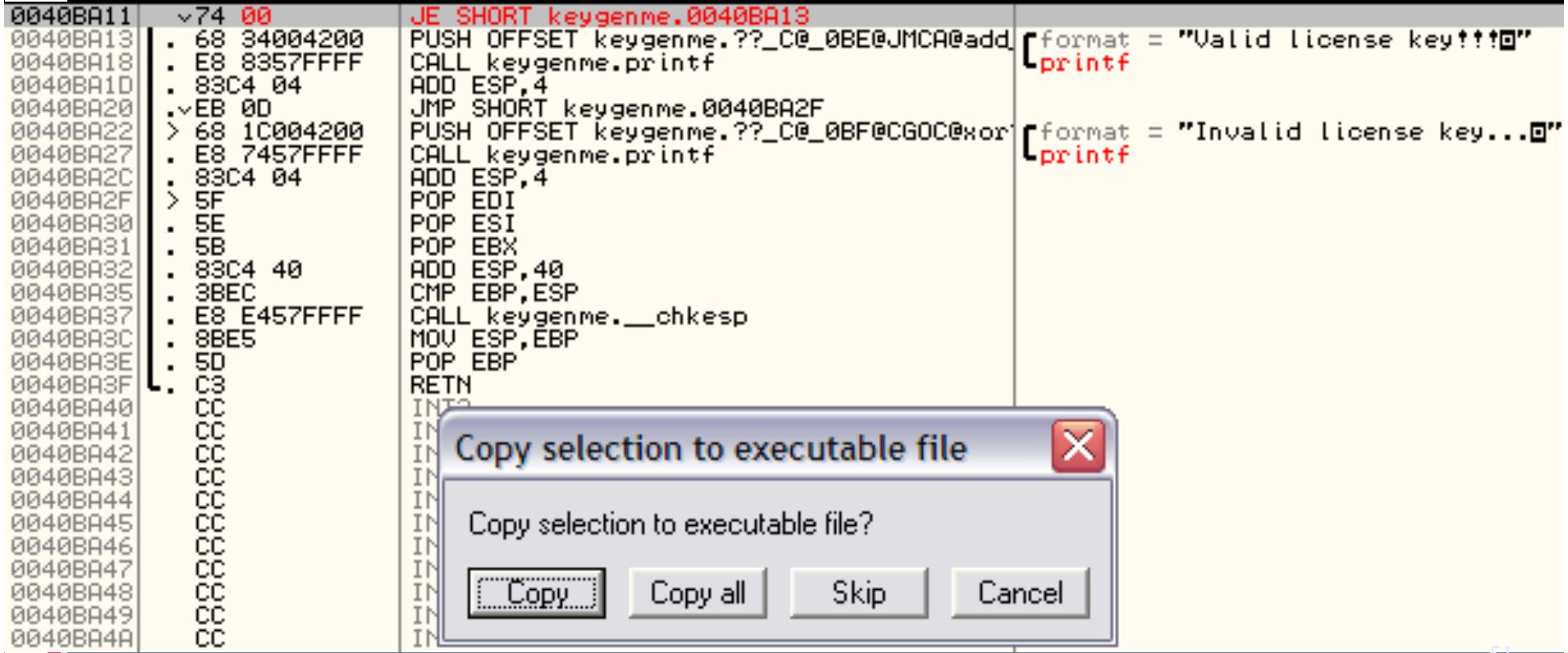
OllyDbg
Assembly Patching Tutorial

- Assembly Patching
  - Right click on the patch
  - "Copy to executable" → "All Modifications"
  - OllyDbg 2.0: "Edit" → "Copy to executable"



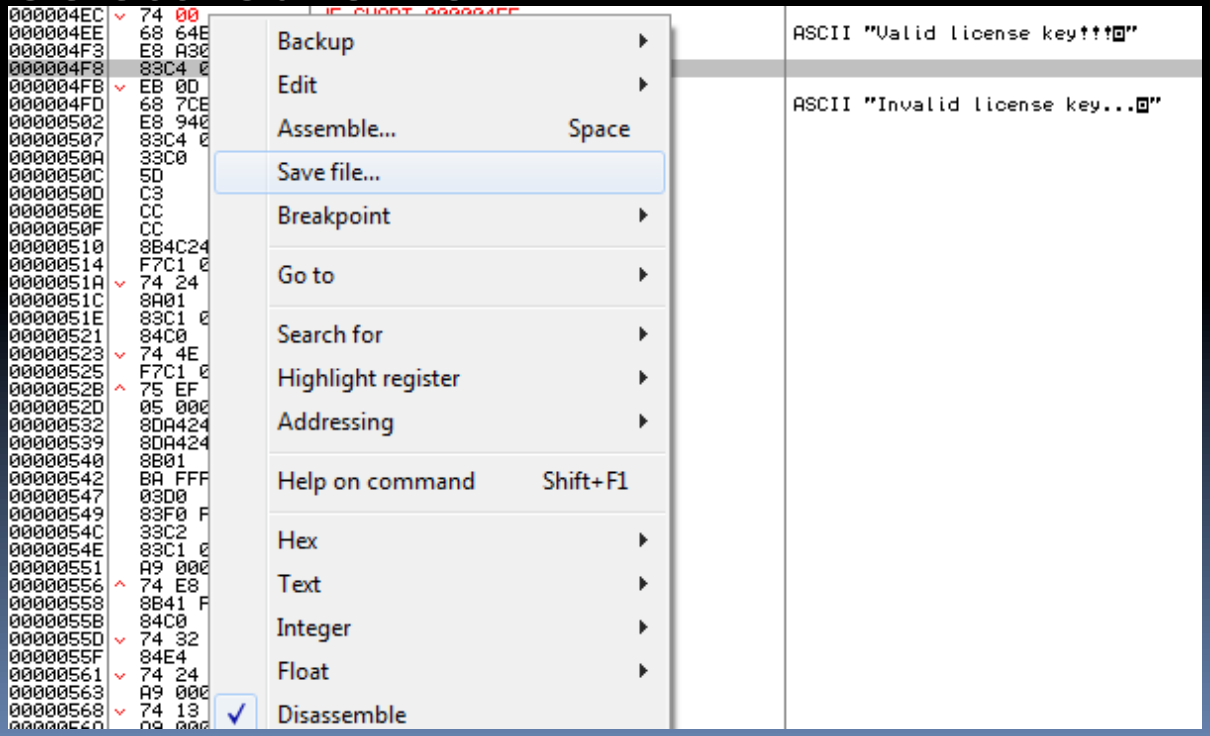
OllyDbg
Assembly Patching Tutorial

- Assembly Patching
  - Select "Copy all" (OllyDbg 1.* only)



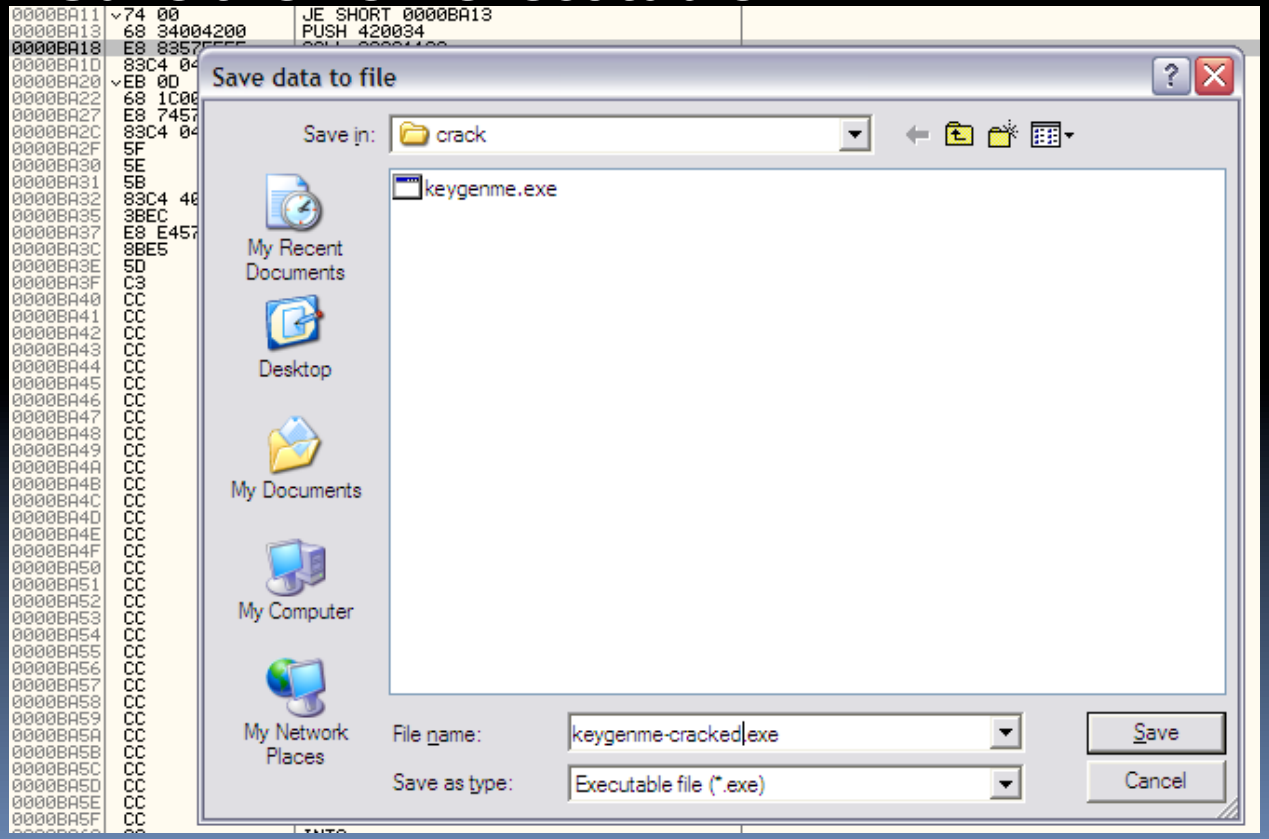
OllyDbg
Assembly Patching Tutorial

- Assembly Patching
  - Right click in the newly generated executable
  - Select "Save file"



OllyDbg Assembly Patching Tutorial

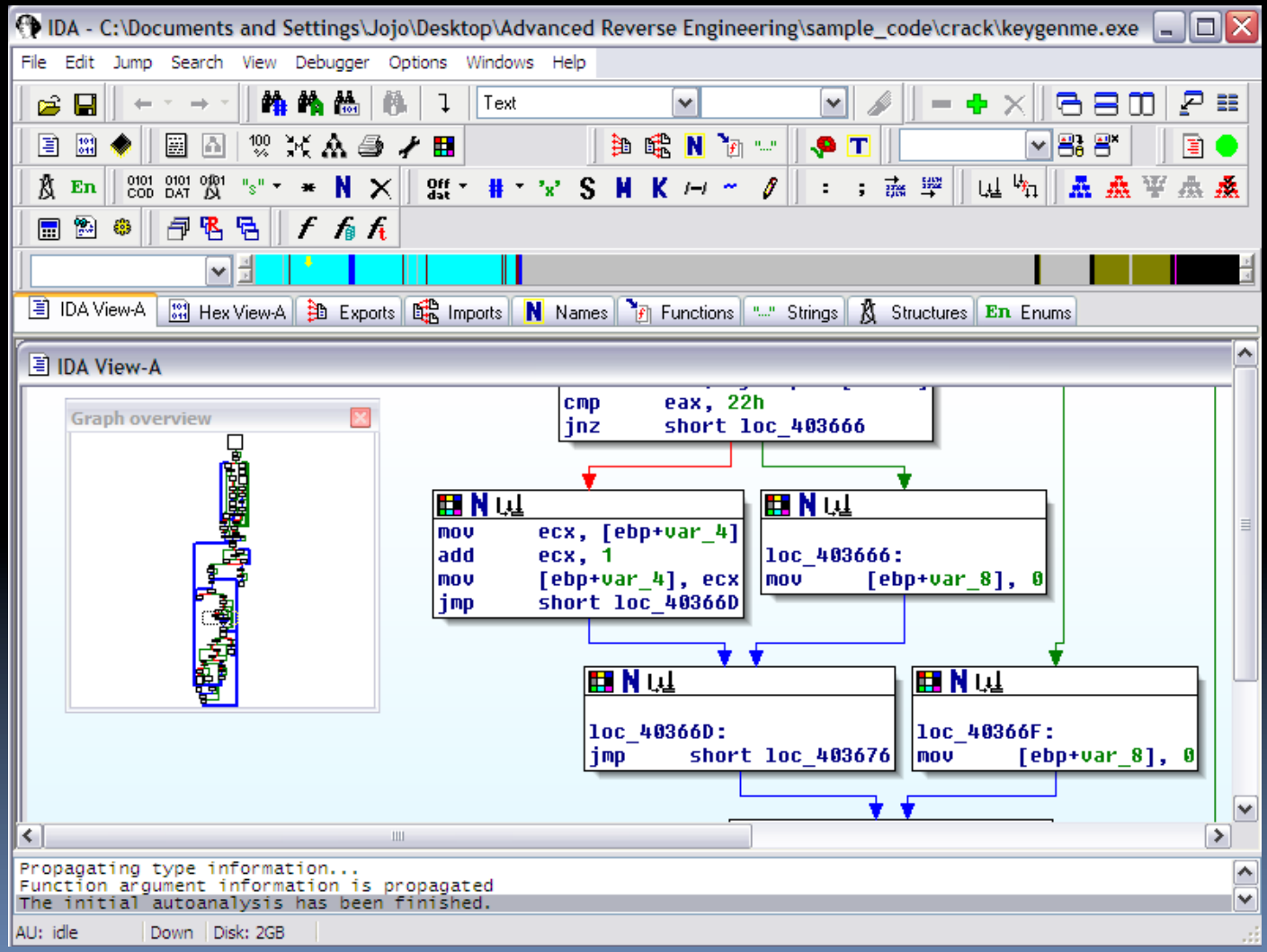
- Assembly Patching
  - Save the new executable



IDA

- Disassembler, Decompiler*, Debugger
  - Commercial debugger
    - With freeware and demo versions
  - Now a Hex-Rays product
    - Formerly Datarescue
  - *Decompilers sold seperately (and is expensive)

IDA

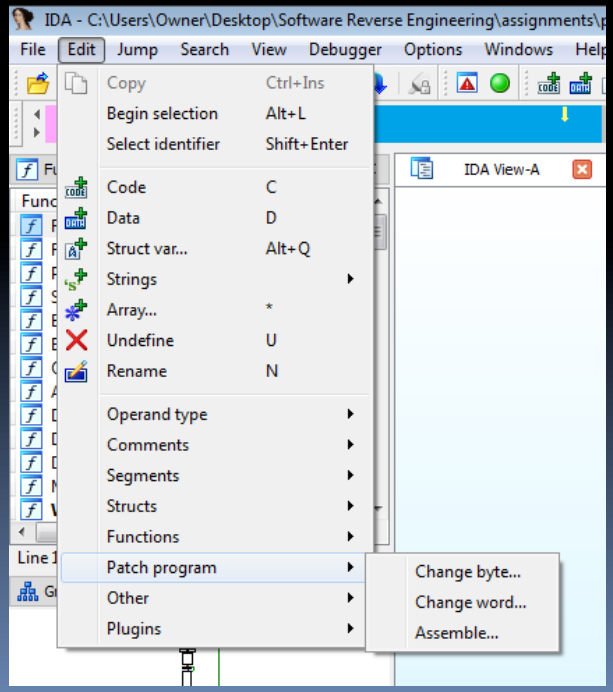

IDA - C:\Documents and Settings\Jojo\Desktop\Advanced Reverse Engineering\sample_code\crack\keygenme.exe
File Edit Jump Search View Debugger Options Windows Help
IDA View-A
Hex View-A
Exports
Imports
Names
Functions
Strings
Structures
Enums
IDA View-A
Graph overview
cmp eax, 22h
jnz short loc_403666
mov ecx, [ebp+var_4]
add ecx, 1
mov [ebp+var_4], ecx
jmp short loc_40366D
loc_403666:
mov [ebp+var_8], 0
loc_40366D:
jmp short loc_403676
loc_40366F:
mov [ebp+var_8], 0
Propagating type information...
Function argument information is propagated
The initial autoanalysis has been finished.
AU: idle
Down
Disk: 2GB

IDA

- Shortcuts
  - Run (F9), step into (F7), step over (F8)
  - Set/clear breakpoint (F2)
  - Apply name to an address (N)
  - Comment (:), repeatable comment (;)
  - Toggle graph view/assembly view (space)
  - Jump to name/address (G)
  - Follow reference (enter)
  - Display/jump to cross-references (X)
  - Return to previous location (esc)

IDA Patching

- Patching
  - Edit "cfg/idagui.cfg"
  - Change "DISPLAY_PATCH_SUBMENU" to "YES"



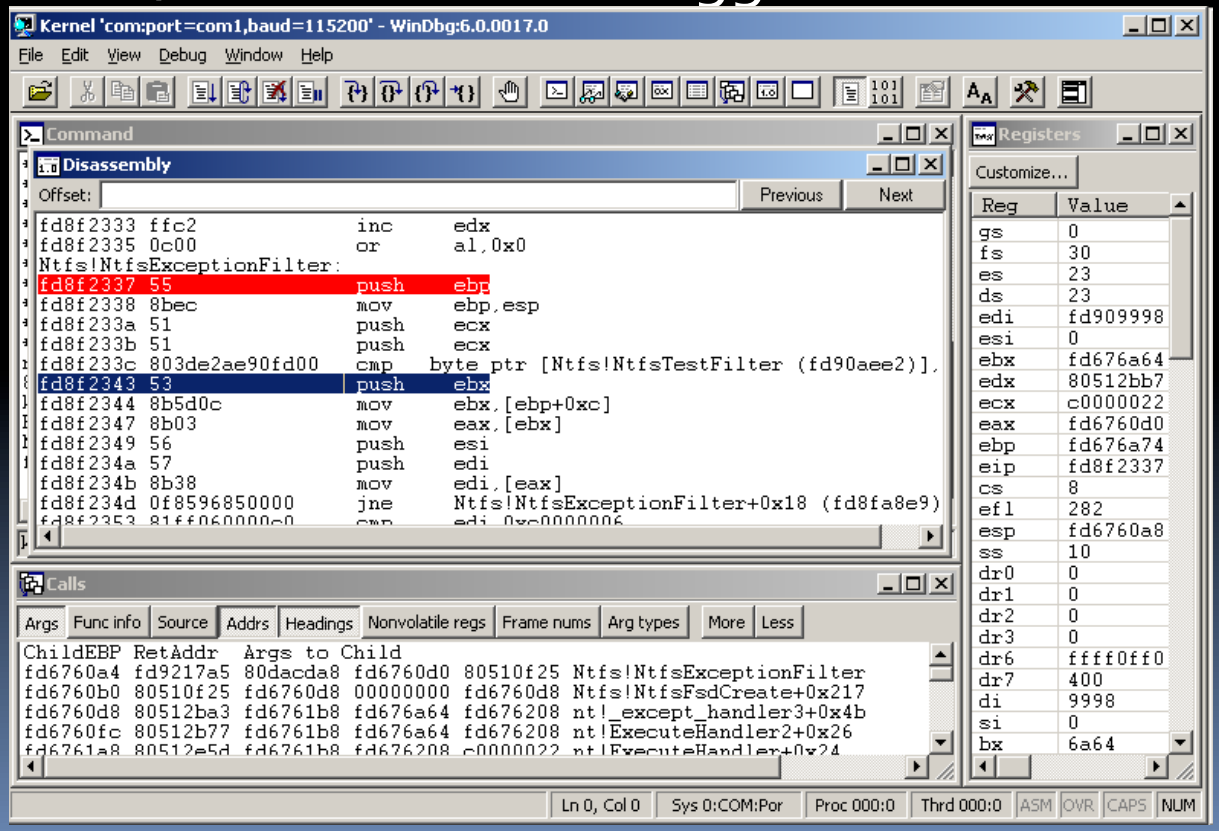
Hex-Rays Decompilers

```
; =============== S U B R O U T I N E =======================================

; Attributes: bp-based frame

; sgell(__int64, __int64)
                public @sgell$qjj
@sgell$qjj      proc near

arg_0           = dword ptr  8
arg_4           = dword ptr  0Ch
arg_8           = dword ptr  10h
arg_C           = dword ptr  14h

                push    ebp
                mov     ebp, esp
                mov     eax, [ebp+arg_0]
                mov     edx, [ebp+arg_4]
                cmp     edx, [ebp+arg_C]
                jnz     short loc_10226
                cmp     eax, [ebp+arg_8]
                setnb   al
                jmp     short loc_10229
; ---------------------------------------------------------------------------

loc_10226:                              ; CODE XREF: sgell(__int64,__int64)+Cj
                setnl   al

loc_10229:                              ; CODE XREF: sgell(__int64,__int64)+14j
                and     eax, 1
                pop     ebp
                retn
@sgell$qjj      endp
```

```
bool __cdecl sgell(__int64 a1, __int64 a2)
{
  return a1 >= a2;
}
```

WinDbg

- Disassembler, Debugger
  - User/kernel-mode debugger



Questions/Comments?