

Computer Security Hw0x02 Writeup

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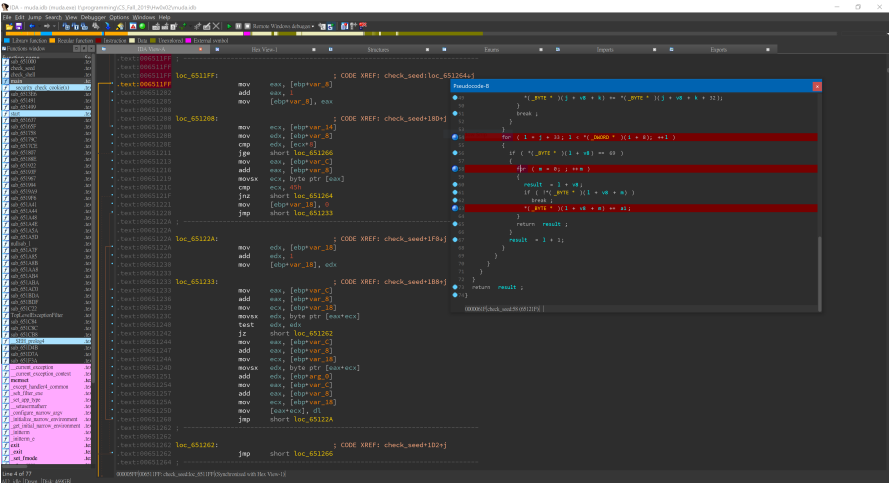
Step 1, Trace the execution progress of seed

- Use IDA Pro to reverse and find out such function.

```
int __cdecl main(int argc, const char **argv, const char **envp)
{
    int v4; // [esp+0h] [ebp-2Ch]
    char v5; // [esp+4h] [ebp-28h]

    sub_651000();
    printf("Oh, it's another ez Reversing Challenge");
    printf("Leverage all you learned in class to solve this one");
    printf("2 step to get the flag: \n\n\n");
    printf("First, give me the seed: ");
    scanf("%d", &v4);
    check_seed(v4);
}
```

- Set 3 breakpoints in its function to see how the seed is being processed.



- We can clearly see that it checks whether the data in memory is 69 or say 0x45, and add the following 80 bytes with seed until it reaches NULL byte.
- To verify the aforementioned property, compare the data from unk_654058 before seed = 8 has been inserted and the following 80 bytes, we can see that unk_654058 has been add up from 45 to 4D and the same is true for all the following 80 bytes.

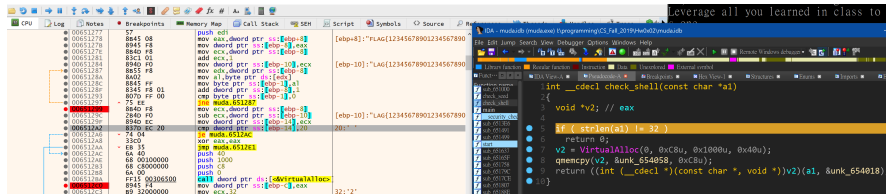
00654050	C9 FC FE 46 F8 40 36 00	45 7B DC 41 B7 35 EC F0
00654060	F0 F0 F0 DB F9 7B 35 EC	73 B0 F1 79 35 EC 7B 3D
00654070	FC F3 3D EC FF AE 01 75	C2 64 15 7B 35 F8 F3 35
00654080	EC FF AE F8 73 B1 13 73	E1 56 FF AE C1 7B 35 FC
00654090	F3 35 EC FF AE F8 2B C1	64 F4 23 B0 DB F7 DB B5
006540A0	A8 F1 F0 F0 F0 7B D5 4D	B3 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

up before, down after

00654050	C9 FC FE 46 F8 40 36 00	4D 83 E4 49 BF 3D F4 F8
00654060	F8 F8 F8 E3 01 83 3D F4	7B B8 F9 81 3D F4 83 45
00654070	04 F8 45 F4 07 B6 09 7D	CA 6C 1D 83 3D 00 FB 3D
00654080	F4 07 B6 00 7B B9 1B 7B	E9 5E 07 B6 C9 83 3D 04
00654090	FB 3D F4 07 B6 00 33 C9	6C FC 2B B8 E3 FF E3 BD
006540A0	B0 F9 F8 F8 F8 83 DD 55	BB 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

Step 2, Choose the seed

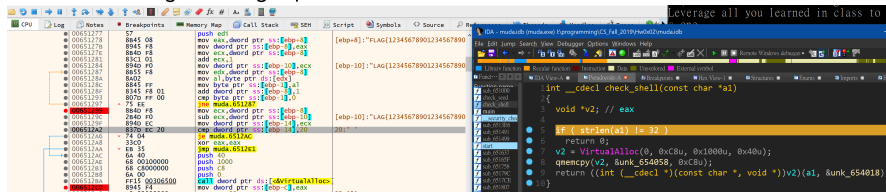
- After the function for seed, we have the function for shellcode, located at unk_654058 in the form just like HWO.



- For shellcode, it serves as a function, so we need `push ebp` first (i.e. the function prologue), with opcode == `0x55`, therefore, seed 16 is suitable since $0x10 + 0x45 == 0x55$

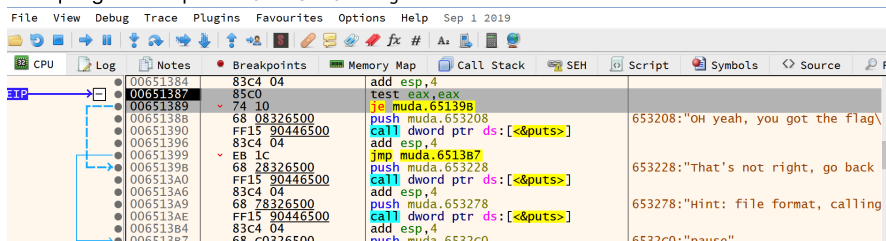
Step 3, What is the flag?

- After the flag has been parsed from stdin, the `check_shell` function will first check whether the length of flag equals 32.

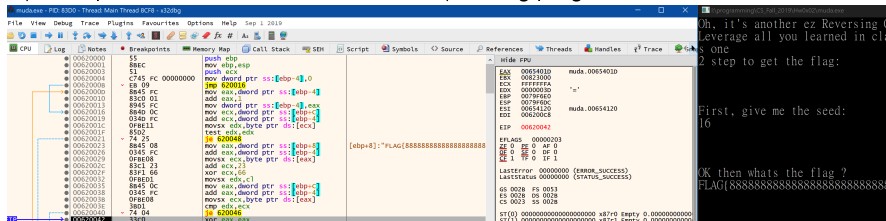


Left is the asm of checking `strlen(flag_in) == 32`
`cmp dword ptr ss:[ebp - 14], 0x20`

- Then we can trace where the flag lies. We see that `test eax, eax` implies if `eax == 0` then program output That is not right...



- Hence we **backtrace to find what makes `eax 0`**, turns out that the program process the input flag with the following: `input_flag = (input_flag + 0x23) ^ 0x66`. Then it loads the data where `eax` points to (in this picture it starts from address `0x654018` and now moves up to `0x65401D`). Finally if the comparison of `flag[i] != 0x654018 + i`, it will process `xor eax, eax` to clear `eax`, making program fail.



For example, `\x0F\x09\x02\x0C\xF8\xFA` is $(\text{FLAG}\{y + 23\} \wedge 66)$, and next character of my input is 8, on account of $(\text{'8'} + 23) \wedge 66$ is `\x3D`, it fails.

- Dig out the data in `[0x654018, 0x654038]`, xor with `0x66` and minus `0x23` for the final flag.

Address	Hex
00654018	0F 09 02 0C F8 FA 30 F0 22 22 FA 30 F0 22 22 FA
00654028	30 F0 22 22 35 ED E4 F6 FA E4 EC 35 E1 22 22 C6
FLAG{y3s!!y3s!!y3s!!0h_my_g0d!!}	

Fake flag pitfall

- Note, if we directly find data lies in `0x654018` merely with IDA Pro, it will direct us for the wrong fake flag.

FLAG{0h-yeah-U-G07-7h3-f4keflag}