Hands-On: Cache side channel on GnuPG

CS 773: Computer Architecture for Performance and Security, Autumn 2022

Computer Science and Engineering Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

Due Date: TBD

Instruction to build GnuPG

- 1. Download GnuPG from https://gnupg.org/ftp/gcrypt/gnupg/gnupg-1.4.13.tar.gz
- 2. Extract it
- 3. cd path/to/gnupg
- 4. Install **lib32-glibc** and **gcc-multilib** (require to build GnuPG for 32bit Architecture)
- 5. Configure Build system for 32 bit architecture with debugging symbol as follows:

./configure -build=i686-pc-linux-gnu "CFLAGS=-m32 -g" "CXXFLAGS=-m32 -g" "LDFLAGS=-m32 -g"

6. make

The binary will show up in path/to/gnupg/g10/gpg

Creating a Victim Private Key

- Create a directory (let say it testconf) mkdir path/to/gnupg/testconf
- Change permission to 700 for testconf chmod 700 path/to/gnupg/testconf
- 3. Set an environment variable **GNUPGHOME** with the **testconf** directory **export GNUPGHOME=path/to/gnupg/testconf**
- 4. Generate RSA key pair of 2048 bit path/to/gnupg/g10/gpg-gen-key

Select:

RSA and RSA

2048 bit

Never Expires

Name for key: let say it TestKey

Encrypt and Decrypt a Message

- Create a Directory (let say it testdir) mkdir testdir
- Create a message file (let say hello.txt in testdir directory) echo
 "Hello world" > path/to/testdir/hello.txt
- 3. Encrypt the message file using gnupg. path/to/gnupg/g10/gpg -r "TestKey" -e path/to/testdir/hello.txt
- 4. Decrypt the message file using gnupg. path/to/gnupg/g10/gpg -d path/to/testfiles/hello.txt.gpg

Functions of interest for Cache Side Channel attack

- 1. Square (S) function located in mpih-mul.c file at line 270 (function mpih_sqr_n())
- 2. **Module (r)** function located in **mpih-div.c** file at line **329** (Loop in default case in **mpihelp_divrem()**)
- 3. Multiply (M) function located in mpih-mul.c file at line 121 (mul_n())

To find the virtual address for Functions of Interest we can use objdump or GDB

Using objdump

Use **objdump** to get the object dump of **gpg** binary as follows:

objdump -D -M intel path/to/gnupg/g10/gpg | less

After getting the object dump of **gpg** search for desired Functions.

Using GDB

Run your **gpg** with **gdb** and place **break points** on the desired function.

```
gdb path/to/gnupg/g10/gpg
br mpih_sqr_n
br mpihelp_divrem
br mul_n
run -d path/to/testdir/hello.txt.gpg
```