

CIS 551 - Computer and Network Security Assignment #1 - Buffer Overflows

Consider the following program, which we might call `badbuf.c`:

```
#include <stdio.h>
int match(char *s1, char *s2) {
    while( *s1 != '\0' && *s2 != 0 && *s1 == *s2 ){
        s1++; s2++;
    }
    return( *s1 - *s2 );
}
void welcome(char *str) { printf(str); }
void goodbye(char *str) { void exit(); printf(str); exit(1); }
main(){
    char name[123], pw[123]; /* passwords are short! */
    char *good = "Welcome to The Machine!\n";
    char *evil = "Invalid identity, exiting!\n";

    printf("login: "); scanf("%s", name);
    printf("password: "); scanf("%s", pw);
    if( match(name,pw) == 0 )
        welcome( good );
    else
        goodbye(evil );
}
```

Here is your assignment:

- Part 1: (due before class Sept. 10th) **Control** (25 points) Use a buffer overflow attack on this program so that it prints the welcome message for `name != pw`.
- Part 2: (due before class Sept. 17th) **Data payload** (25 points) Enhance your buffer overflow attack so that the program prints `‘‘0wnz_U!’’`.
- Part 3: (due before class Sept. 24th) **General payload** (50 points) Further enhance your buffer overflow attack so that `/bin/sh` is executed and provides the attacker interactive access to the system on which `badbuf` is executing.

Turn in *all* source code used, including test cases and payload creation software. Turn in a demonstration log captured on a speclab machine using the Linux `script` command and run on an unmodified `badbuf`. Do not turn in executables. We suggest including a *makefile* so we can reproduce your setup - see `make(1)` in the Linux documentation accessible by typing in `man make` at the command prompt. The easiest way to submit is to create a “tarball” with the Linux `tar(1)` command and submit the tarball using the `turnin` command on `eniach.seas.upenn.edu`. If needed, more details may be posted on Piazza, so stay tuned!

Advice:

- The assignment is tough, but feasible. Start early! If you finish one part early, begin building up skills for the next part - it takes a *lot* of experimentation.
- Read <http://insecure.org/stf/smashstack.html> for a readable introduction to the basic techniques.
- The speclab machines status is viewable at:
<http://www.seas.upenn.edu/cets/checklab/index.php?lab=speclab>.
- These are 64-bit machines so Aleph One's 32-bit code *will not work*. The general techniques are still applicable.
- The speclab machines are configured *without* stack randomization; to allow execution of code on the stack various assembler or link time flags can be set - see <http://linux.die.net/man/8/execstack>.
- Contact the course TAs, Nikos Vasilakis - nvas@cis.upenn.edu, Rohit Dureja - rohit@seas.upenn.edu, or Sibi Vijayakumar - sibiv@seas.upenn.edu, or Avinash Repaka - avinashr@seas.upenn.edu if you have any questions; they know the principles *and* the practice.