

Midterm Project

CSC-6991

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For this project you will need:

1) Parrot installation

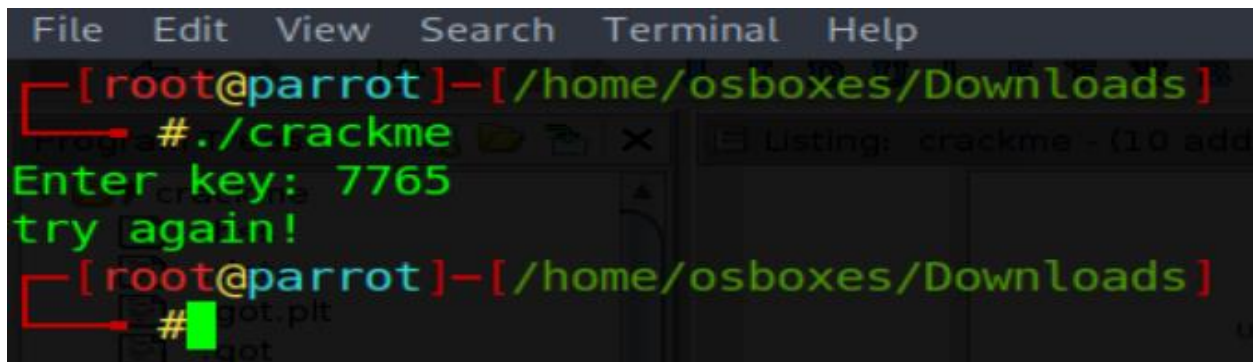
- ghidra application up and working

2) Download the following file on the Parrot node:

https://waynestateprod-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/personal/hg1702_wayne_edu/EV1RR9aRihxGqmP0veDW9HMBqaTzqUbhj8WrVPCC1RO6Ng?e=jHGoU6

1) Perform an analysis on the file.

What does the application do?



```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
[root@parrot]-[/home/osboxes/Downloads]
# ./crackme
Enter key: 7765
try again!
[root@parrot]-[/home/osboxes/Downloads]
#
```

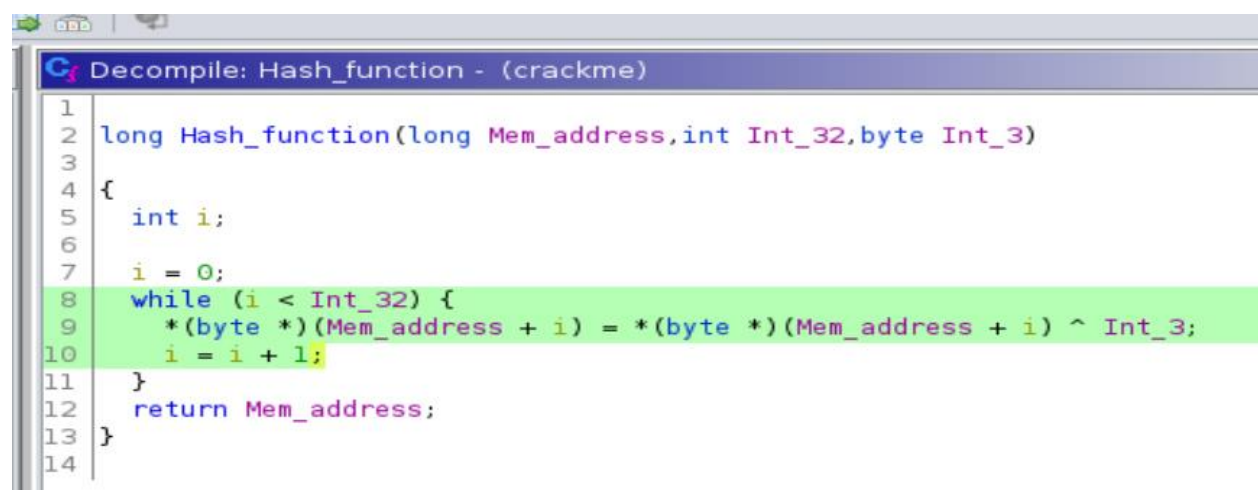
On our initial run of the file, we are able to see that it prompts the user for a password. Its then prints a statement regarding the correctness of our input. We are able to presume that this file executes a comparison between user input and some password. The program then executes separate branches regarding the user input.

```

25
26     local_10 = *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
27     Mem_address = 0x3534323160376761;
28     local_1a0 = 0x3a3b313b60613430;
29     local_198 = 0x3161333a3360313b;
30     local_190 = 0x67373b6132376667;
31     local_188 = 0;
32     local_178 = 0x3533356431383331;
33     local_170 = 0x3638323930383737;
34     local_168 = 0x3065633735393638;
35     local_160 = 0x6161653163396262;
36     local_158 = 0;
37     local_148 = 0x61313b323a3b373b;
38     local_140 = 0x6166676060313b3a;
39     local_138 = 0x6031316135326133;
40     local_130 = 0x6734673730333734;
41     local_128 = 0;
42     printf("Enter key: ");
43     __isoc99_scanf(&DAT_00102010,local_118);
44     __s2 = (char *)Hash_function((long)&Mem_address,0x20,3);
45     iVar1 = strcmp(local_118,__s2);
46     if (iVar1 == 0) {
47         puts("good job!");
48     }
49     else {
50         puts("try again!");
51     }
52     if (local_10 != *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28)) {
53         /* WARNING: Subroutine does not return */

```

Looking to Ghidra we are able to decompile the file and take a closer look into the code. We are able to see that this application takes in user input, calculates a value `__s2`, and then compares the user input with the value stored in `__s2`. The result of this comparison is then stored into 'iVar1.' The program then prints out "good job!" or "try again!" depending on the Boolean value stored in iVar1.



The screenshot shows the Ghidra decompiler interface with the title bar "Decompile: Hash_function - (crackme)". The code is as follows:

```

1
2 long Hash_function(long Mem_address,int Int_32,byte Int_3)
3
4 {
5     int i;
6
7     i = 0;
8     while (i < Int_32) {
9         *(byte *)(Mem_address + i) = *(byte *)(Mem_address + i) ^ Int_3;
10        i = i + 1;
11    }
12    return Mem_address;
13 }
14

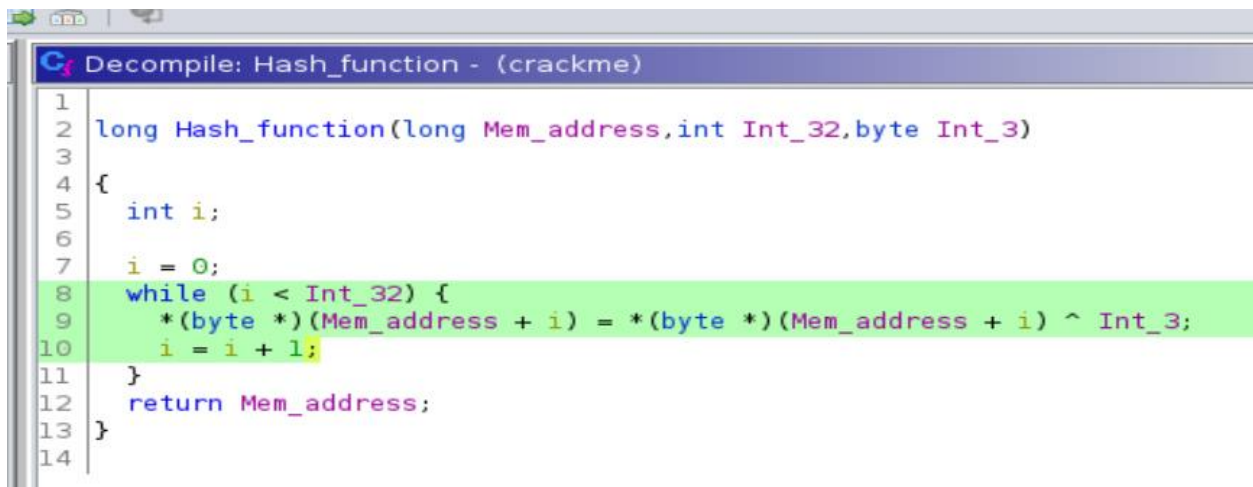
```

In order to get a better idea of what this function is doing we also must look into the Hash_function. Decompiling the hash function and re-naming a few variables for clarity we are able to see that this function is being passed a memory address and two immediate values. These values are then XORed to calculate our hashed value. This as a loop that executed 32 times and hashes each character with the value 3. We are then storing the XORed value back into memory. Once our loop has finished executing, we return the XORed memory address.

```
__s2 = (char *)Hash_function((long)&Mem_address,0x20,3);  
iVar1 = strcmp(local_118,__s2);  
if (iVar1 == 0) {  
    puts("good job!");  
}
```

Finally, the now XORed memory address is compared to the user input. The program then executes one of two branches depending on the result of our strcmp.

What language is it written in?



```
Decompile: Hash_function - (crackme)  
1  
2 long Hash_function(long Mem_address,int Int_32,byte Int_3)  
3  
4 {  
5     int i;  
6  
7     i = 0;  
8     while (i < Int_32) {  
9         *(byte *) (Mem_address + i) = *(byte *) (Mem_address + i) ^ Int_3;  
10        i = i + 1;  
11    }  
12    return Mem_address;  
13 }  
14
```

Decompiling our code we are able to see syntax that resembles some sort of C language.

```
00h  
"libstdc++.so.6"
```

Searching throughout the assembly we are able to find a reference to a C++ library which allows us to conclude that this program was written in C++.

2) The end goal is to discover the password.

In order to solve this crackme we need to determine what the password. We can do this one of two ways. The first and most intuitive was to find that value stored in `__s2`. That way we can simply mimic the compared value and produce a true result.

Since the value stored in `__s2` is a calculated value and not a stored value we are unable to find the password stored in memory. In order to find a calculated value we would either need to calculate the value returned by hash function or set a breakpoint post execution and verify the value recently stored in the previously unutilized `__s2`. Since we cannot De-bug programs through Ghidra we employ the use of ltrace. Ltrace is chosen because of its ability to intercept and print system calls executed by the program. It also shows the parameters of invoked functions and systems calls.

```
[root@parrot]-[/home/osboxes/Downloads]
#ltrace ./crackme
printf("Enter key:")          = 11
__isoc99_scanf(0x55fb23793010, 0x7fffd6bb5930, 0, 0Enter key: hi
) = 1
strcmp("hi","bd4c217637bc828982c090b2de41b84d"... ) = 6
puts("try again!"try again!
) = 11
+++ exited (status 0) +++
```

Running an ltrace on crackme we are able to see that our user input is compared to the highlighted string. We the copy the highlighted string and plug it back into the program. This is able to net us a true result and we have correctly solved this crackme.

```
[root@parrot]-[/home/osboxes/Downloads]
#ltrace ./crackme
printf("Enter key:")          = 11
__isoc99_scanf(0x557046e49010, 0x7fff44d884f0, 0, 0Enter key: bd4c217637bc828982
c090b2de41b84d
) = 1
strcmp("bd4c217637bc828982c090b2de41b84d"... , "bd4c217637bc828982c090b2de41b84d"
...) = 0
puts("good job!"good job!
) = 10
+++ exited (status 0) +++
[root@parrot]-[/home/osboxes/Downloads]
#
```

Here we can see that the crackme has been defeated.

But what would we do if we did not have access to ltrace, or even better yet, ltrace had not work?

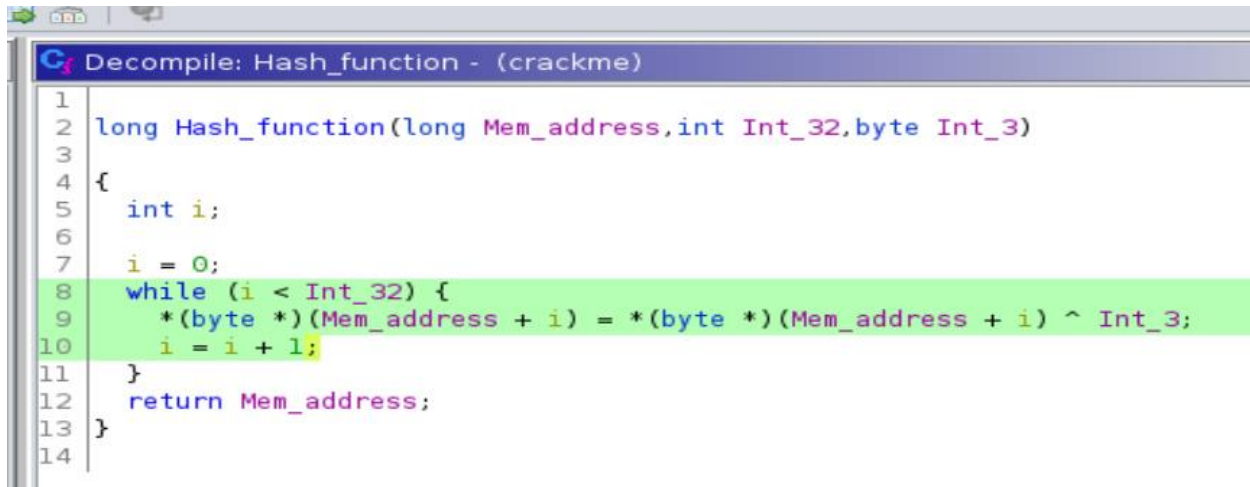
Well, we would have to first identify the value that is being hashed by our function and then we would have to apply the hashing function to ascertain our password. Let's do that.

```

printf("Enter key: ");
__isoc99_scanf(&DAT_00102010,local_118);
__s2 = (char *)Hash_function((long)&Mem_address,0x20,3);
iVar1 = strcmp(local_118,__s2);
if (iVar1 == 0) {

```

Looking at our Hashing function we are able to see that it is passed the memory address of variable Mem_address.




The screenshot shows a debugger window titled "Decompile: Hash_function - (crackme)". The code is as follows:

```

1 long Hash_function(long Mem_address,int Int_32,byte Int_3)
2 {
3     int i;
4     i = 0;
5     while (i < Int_32) {
6         *(byte *) (Mem_address + i) = *(byte *) (Mem_address + i) ^ Int_3;
7         i = i + 1;
8     }
9     return Mem_address;
10 }
11
12
13
14

```

This memory address is then has each bit XORed with the value 3, However it doesn't stop there. See this loop executes 32 times and the initial memory address only contains 8 bytes worth of information which leaves us with a very fun question. Where is the rest of the data? We have 8 bytes of the unhashed password and are missing the other 24 bits. Well if we go back to the main function we and look to the variable declarations we begin to truly understand what this program is doing.



The screenshot shows a debugger window titled "Decompile: Main - (crackme)". The code is as follows:

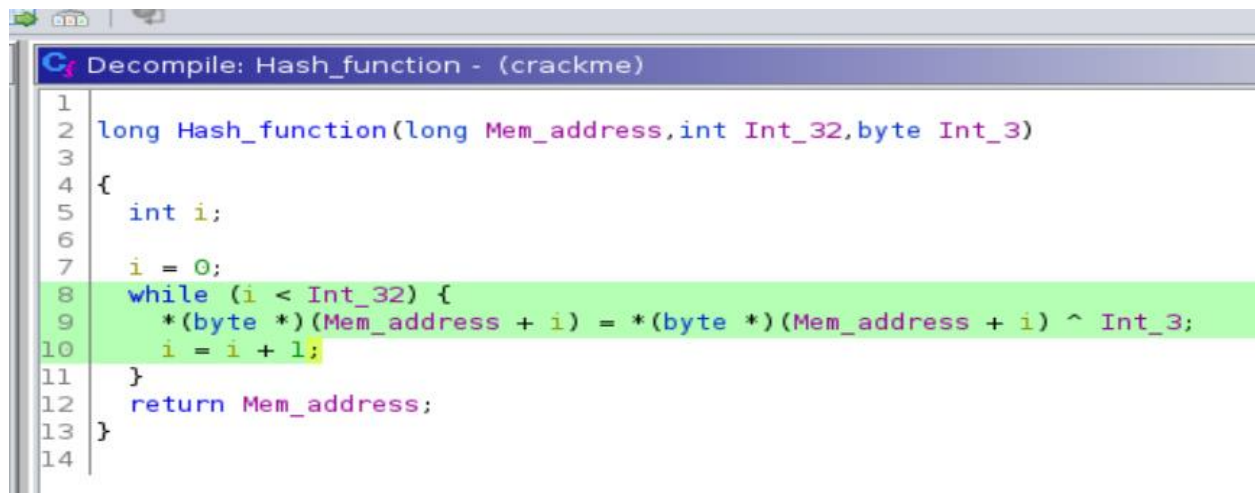
```

1 undefined8 Main(void)
2 {
3     int iVar1;
4     char *__s2;
5     long in_FS_OFFSET;
6     undefined8 Mem_address;
7     undefined8 local_1a0;
8     undefined8 local_198;
9     undefined8 local_190;
10    undefined local_188;
11    undefined8 local_178;
12
13

```

Here we are able to see the additional variable defined directly after Mem_address. Why is this important? Well variables defined consecutively will be stored in memory in that same order, which

mean that is there happened to be some sort of overflow and or overwrite those values would be affected. These additional values also add up to be 24 bytes in size. Aha we begin to see the full picture.



```

1  long Hash_function(long Mem_address,int Int_32,byte Int_3)
2
3
4  {
5      int i;
6
7      i = 0;
8      while (i < Int_32) {
9          *(byte *) (Mem_address + i) = *(byte *) (Mem_address + i) ^ Int_3;
10         i = i + 1;
11     }
12     return Mem_address;
13 }
14

```

Now looking back to our hashing function we are able to see that we start at the passed memory address and then XOR the following 32 bytes of data in order to calculate our password. This also means that we now have more data to work with.

```

local_10 = *(long *) (in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
Mem_address = 0x3534323160376761;
local_1a0 = 0x3a3b313b60613430;
local_198 = 0x3161333a3360313b;
local_190 = 0x67373b6132376667;
local_188 = 0;

```

Now looking at our initialized variables we begin to see that our password is actually the culmination of these first four variables. Sneaky sneaky.

Despite our recent break though we still have not deciphered the password to this crackme. In order to do so we must XOR each of the 32 Bytes with 3. Back in Ghidra we look the Bytes windows to grab the hex values.

f	48	89	95	38	fe	ff	ff	48	b8	31
7	67	48	ba	37	3a	31	35	67	3b	3b
a	ff	ff	48	89	95	48	fe	ff	ff	c6
0	48	b8	61	67	37	60	31	32	34	35
0	3b	31	3b	3a	48	89	85	60	fe	ff
a	ff	ff	48	b8	3b	31	60	33	3a	33
5	37	32	61	3b	37	67	48	89	85	70

01	30	31	3a	00	48	ba	37	30	33	00	33	32	34	00
89	85	30	fe	ff	ff	48	89	95	38	fe	ff	ff	48	b8
61	30	61	67	31	37	67	48	ba	37	3a	31	35	67	3b
60	48	89	85	40	fe	ff	ff	48	89	95	48	fe	ff	ff
85	50	fe	ff	ff	00	48	b8	61	67	37	60	31	32	34
48	ba	30	34	61	60	3b	31	3b	3a	48	89	85	60	fe
ff	48	89	95	68	fe	ff	ff	48	b8	3b	31	60	33	3a
61	31	48	ba	67	66	37	32	61	3b	37	67	48	89	85
fe	ff	ff	48	89	95	78	fe	ff	ff	c6	85	80	fe	ff
00	48	b8	31	33	38	31	64	35	33	35	48	ba	37	37

01	30	01	07	31	37	07	48	ba	37	3a	31	33	07	30	30
60	48	89	85	40	fe	ff	ff	48	89	95	48	fe	ff	ff	c6
85	50	fe	ff	ff	00	48	b8	61	67	37	60	31	32	34	35
48	ba	30	34	61	60	3b	31	3b	3a	48	89	85	60	fe	ff
ff	48	89	95	68	fe	ff	ff	48	b8	3b	31	60	33	3a	33
61	31	48	ba	67	66	37	32	61	3b	37	67	48	89	85	70
fe	ff	ff	48	89	95	78	fe	ff	ff	c6	85	80	fe	ff	ff
00	48	b8	31	33	38	31	64	35	33	35	48	ba	37	37	38
30	39	32	38	36	48	89	85	90	fe	ff	ff	48	89	95	98

The data values are stored in little endian format which means that the least significant bytes are stored before the most significant bytes.

Hex to ASCII Text Converter

Enter hex bytes with any prefix / postfix / delimiter and press the *Convert* button
(e.g. 45 78 61 6d 70 6C 65 21):

Open File

Paste hex numbers or drop file

61 67 37 60 31 32 34 35 30 34 61 60 3b 31 3b 3a 3b 31 60
33 3a 33 61 31 67 66 37 32 61 3b 37 67

Character encoding

ASCII

Convert

Reset

Swap

ag7`124504a`;1;;;1`3:3a1gf72a;7g

Plugging these values into a Hex to ASCII converter we are able to see the un-hashed password.

XOR of two hexadecimal strings

Calculate XOR of two hexadecimal strings. By convention first string (byte array) is treated as source (or plaintext), second byte array is treated as key and looped if it is shorter than first one.

First ("source"/"plaintext") byte array as hex string:

61 67 37 60 31 32 34 35 30 34 61 60 3b 31 3b 3a 3b 31 60 33 3a 33 61 31 67 66 37 32 61 3b 37 67

Second ("key", looped if necessary) byte array as hex string:

03

Note: all characters outside hex set will be ignored, thus "12AB34" = "12 AB 34" = "12, AB, 34", etc. Strings are case-insensitive.

Note 2: using "FF" as key effectively negates all source bits.

Options:

- ☒ source/key: remove "0x" groups from strings
- ☐ output: use 0x and comma as separator (C-like)
- ☒ output: insert newlines after each 16B

Generate XOR-ed array

Cleaned source:

6167376031323435303461603B313B3A3B3160333A33613167663732613B3767

Cleaned key:

03

Output (XOR result) hex:

62643463323137363337626338323839
38326330393062326465343162383464

Here we take the 32 bytes stored in memory and XOR each one of them with the value 3 in order to derive our password.

Hex to ASCII Text Converter

Enter hex bytes with any prefix / postfix / delimiter and press the *Convert* button (e.g. 45 78 61 6d 70 6C 65 21):

Open File

Paste hex numbers or drop file

62 64 34 63 32 31 37 36 33 37 62 63 38 32 38 39
38 32 63 30 39 30 62 32 64 65 34 31 62 38 34 64

Character encoding

ASCII

Convert

Reset

Swap

bd4c217637bc828982c090b2de41b84d

We then convert this calculated value from Hex to ASCII and compare it with our earlier findings or in the event that ltrace failed we would test our resultant ASCII string on crackme.

In conclusion we were able to demonstrate two methods for solving this crackme. We first used ltrace in order to see our password in clear text. This was able to provide a correct result, however it left us with a shallow understanding of how crackme worked. We then utilized Ghidra to explore deeper into the crackme and discovered a deeper understanding of how crackme functioned as a whole. We then

we able to determine what the unhashed password was from memory and then calculate its hashed value which allowed us to correctly solve the crackme.