

# Talos Vulnerability Report

TALOS-2022-1460

## KiCad EDA Gerber Viewer gerber and excellon GCode/Dcode parsing stack-based buffer overflow vulnerability

FEBRUARY 16, 2022

### CVE NUMBER

CVE-2022-23947,CVE-2022-23946

### Summary

Multiple stack-based buffer overflow vulnerabilities exist in the Gerber Viewer gerber and excellon GCode/Dcode parsing functionality of KiCad EDA 6.0.1 and master commit de006fc010. A specially-crafted gerber or excellon file can lead to code execution. An attacker can provide a malicious file to trigger this vulnerability.

### Tested Versions

KiCad EDA 6.0.1

KiCad EDA master commit de006fc010

### Product URLs

KiCad EDA - <https://www.kicad.org/>

### CVSSv3 Score

7.8 - CVSS:3.0/AV:L/AC:L/PR:N/UI:R/S:U/C:H/I:H/A:H

### CWE

CWE-121 - Stack-based Buffer Overflow

### Details

KiCad is a cross-platform open-source software for electronics design automation. It allows users to design and simulate electronic hardware and offers several tools like a schematic and symbol editor, PCB and footprint editor, Gerber viewer and others.

KiCad's Gerber Viewer is found in a separate binary called `gerbview` and allows the viewing of Gerber files, Excellon files, Gerber job files, optionally contained in zip archives.

When opening a Gerber file, the method `GERBER_FILE_IMAGE::LoadGerberFile` in `readgerb.cpp` is called:

```

// size of a single line of text from a gerber file.
// warning: some files can have *very long* lines, so the buffer must be large.
#define GERBER_BUFZ 1000000
// A large buffer to store one line
static char lineBuffer[GERBER_BUFZ+1]; // [1]

bool GERBER_FILE_IMAGE::LoadGerberFile( const wxString& aFullFileName )
{
    int      G_command = 0;          // command number for G commands like G04
    int      D_command = 0;          // command number for D commands like D02
    char*     text;

    ClearMessageList( );
    ResetDefaultValues();

    // Read the gerber file */
    m_Current_File = wxFopen( aFullFileName, wxT( "&#34;rt&#34; ) );

    if( m_Current_File == nullptr )
        return false;

    m_FileName = aFullFileName;

    LOCALE_IO toggleIo;

    wxString msg;

    while( true )
    {
        if( fgets( lineBuffer, GERBER_BUFZ, m_Current_File ) == nullptr ) // [2]
            break;

        m_LineNum++;
        text = StrPurge( lineBuffer );

        while( text && *text )
        {
            switch( *text )
            {
                case '&#39; &#39;;:
                case '&#39;\r&#39;;:
                case '&#39;\n&#39;;:
                    text++;
                    break;

                case '&#39;*&#39;;:          // End command
                    m_CommandState = END_BLOCK;
                    text++;
                    break;

                case '&#39;M&#39;;:          // End file
                    m_CommandState = CMD_IDLE;
                    while( *text )
                        text++;
                    break;

                case '&#39;G&#39;;:          /* Line type Gxx : command */
                    G_command = GCodeNumber( text ); // [3]

```

```

        Execute_G_Command( text, G_command );
        break;

    case 'D': /* Line type Dxx : Tool selection (xx > 0) or
               * command if xx = 0..9 */
        D_command = DCodeNumber( text ); // [4]
        Execute_DCODE_Command( text, D_command );
        break;

```

This method takes a gerber file path, opens it and parses it line-by-line [2], restricting the maximum line length to 1,000,000 bytes [1]. When a line starting with "D" or "G" is encountered, the methods DCodeNumber [4] or GCodeNumber [3] are called. In both cases, the current line is passed as parameter. Both methods lead to the same issue. Let's detail them individually.

Also note that the DCodeNumber method can be reached via an Excellon file in a similar way (via EXCELLON\_IMAGE::LoadFile), as discussed below.

## CVE-2022-23946 - GCodeNumber

```

int GERBER_FILE_IMAGE::GCodeNumber( char*& Text )
{
    int ii = 0;
    char* text;
    char line[1024]; // [5]

    if( Text == nullptr )
        return 0;

    Text++;
    text = line;

    while( IsNumber( *Text ) ) // [6]
    {
        *(text++) = *(Text++);
    }

    *text = 0; // [7]
    ii = atoi( line );
    return ii;
}

```

At [5] a line buffer of size 1024 bytes is allocated on the stack. The while loop at [6] expects a number inside the line and stores the current character in the text buffer (that is, the line buffer) [5] and only stops when Text does not point to a number anymore.

Because Text [1] is much larger than line and the loop does not check if it's operating within the line's buffer

bounds, the loop could write out of bounds if a large enough line containing numbers is supplied. This is a straightforward stack-based buffer overflow that could lead to code execution. Moreover, \*text is assigned to later in the same method [7], so corruption could occur slightly later too.

Allowed characters for IsNumber are the following:

```
#define IsNumber( x ) ( ( ( (x) >= 0&#39;0&#39; ) &amp;&amp; ( (x) <= 9&#39;9&#39; ) ) \
                        || ( (x) == &#39;-&#39; ) || ( (x) == &#39;+&#39; ) || ( (x) == &#39;.&#39; ) )
```

## CVE-2022-23947 - DCodeNumber

```
int GERBER_FILE_IMAGE::DCodeNumber( char*& Text )
{
    int    ii = 0;
    char*  text;
    char  line[1024];          // [5]

    if( Text == nullptr )
        return 0;

    Text++;
    text = line;

    while( IsNumber( *Text ) ) // [6]
        *(text++) = *(Text++);

    *text = 0;                  // [7]
    ii    = atoi( line );
    return ii;
}
```

At [5] a line buffer of size 1024 bytes is allocated on the stack. The while loop at [6] expects a number inside the line and stores the current character in the text buffer (that is, the line buffer) [5] and only stops when Text does not point to a number anymore.

Because Text [1] is much larger than line and the loop does not check if it's operating within the line's buffer bounds, the loop could write out of bounds if a large enough line containing numbers is supplied. This is a straightforward stack-based buffer overflow that could lead to code execution. Moreover, \*text is assigned to later in the same method [7], so corruption could occur slightly later too.

Allowed characters for IsNumber are the following:

```
#define IsNumber( x ) ( ( ( (x) >= 0 & < 9 ) & & ( (x) <= 9 & > 0 ) ) \
                        || ( (x) == -1 ) || ( (x) == 1 ) || ( (x) == . ) )
```

Note that this method is also used while parsing an Excellon file, when parsing a TCode. In the EXCELLON\_IMAGE class we find:

```
int TCodeNumber( char*& aText )
{
    return DCodeNumber( aText );
}
```

So in this case, the DCodeNumber issue can be triggered via EXCELLON\_IMAGE::Select\_Tool, which eventually calls DCodeNumber.

## Crash Information

```

=====
==1833==ERROR: AddressSanitizer: stack-buffer-overflow on address 0x7fffffff8700 at
pc 0x7fffed7df5de bp 0x7fffffff82b0 sp 0x7fffffff82a0
WRITE of size 1 at 0x7fffffff8700 thread T0
#0 0x7fffed7df5dd in GERBER_FILE_IMAGE::DCodeNumber(char*&);
src/kicad_1/gerbview/rs274d.cpp:435
#1 0x7fffed7da342 in GERBER_FILE_IMAGE::LoadGerberFile(wxString const&);
src/kicad_1/gerbview/readgerb.cpp:177
#2 0x7fffed7d8e09 in GERBVIEW_FRAME::Read_GERBER_File(wxString const&);
src/kicad_1/gerbview/readgerb.cpp:58
#3 0x7fffed783cd4 in GERBVIEW_FRAME::LoadListOfGerberAndDrillFiles(wxString
const&;, wxArrayString const&;, std::vector<int, std::allocator<int>;>
&; const*) src/kicad_1/gerbview/files.cpp:293
#4 0x7fffed780004 in GERBVIEW_FRAME::LoadGerberFiles(wxString const&);
src/kicad_1/gerbview/files.cpp:199
#5 0x7fffed7acfb5 in GERBVIEW_FRAME::OpenProjectFiles(std::vector<wxString,
std::allocator<wxString>;> &; const&;, int)
src/kicad_1/gerbview/gerbview_frame.cpp:273
#6 0x55555561eae6 in PGM_SINGLE_TOP::OnPgmInit()
src/kicad_1/common/single_top.cpp:428
#7 0x555555625b0c in APP_SINGLE_TOP::OnInit() (gerbview+0xd1b0c)
#8 0x5555556245c1 in wxAppConsoleBase::CallOnInit() (gerbview+0xd05c1)
#9 0x7ffff6a38799 in wxEntry(int&;, wchar_t**) (/lib/x86_64-linux-
gnu/libwx_baseu-3.0.so.0+0x113799)
#10 0x55555561d75a in main src/kicad_1/common/single_top.cpp:269
#11 0x7ffff509e0b2 in __libc_start_main (/lib/x86_64-linux-
gnu/libc.so.6+0x270b2)
#12 0x55555561d2ed in _start (gerbview+0xc92ed)

```

Address 0x7fffffff8700 is located in stack of thread T0 at offset 1056 in frame  
#0 0x7fffed7df229 in GERBER\_FILE\_IMAGE::DCodeNumber(char\*&);  
src/kicad\_1/gerbview/rs274d.cpp:423

This frame has 1 object(s):

[32, 1056) &#39;line&#39;; (line 426) &lt;== Memory access at offset 1056  
overflows this variable

HINT: this may be a false positive if your program uses some custom stack unwind  
mechanism, swapcontext or vfork

(longjmp and C++ exceptions \*are\* supported)

SUMMARY: AddressSanitizer: stack-buffer-overflow src/kicad\_1/gerbview/rs274d.cpp:435  
in GERBER\_FILE\_IMAGE::DCodeNumber(char\*&);

Shadow bytes around the buggy address:

```

0x10007fff7090: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x10007fff70a0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x10007fff70b0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x10007fff70c0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x10007fff70d0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
=&gt;0x10007fff70e0: [f3]f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3 f3
0x10007fff70f0: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x10007fff7100: f1 f1 f1 f1 00 00 00 f2 00 00 00 f2 00 00 00 f2
0x10007fff7110: f2 f2 00 00 00 00 00 f2 f2 f2 f2 f2 00 00 00 00
0x10007fff7120: 00 f2 f2 f2 f2 f2 f8 f8 f8 f8 f8 f8 f2 f2 f2 f2
0x10007fff7130: 00 00 00 00 00 00 f2 f2 f2 f2 00 00 00 00 00 00

```

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
==1833==ABORTING
```

## Timeline

2022-02-14 - Vendor Disclosure

2022-02-16 - Public Release

## CREDIT

Discovered by Claudio Bozzato of Cisco Talos.

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