ASLR - Address Space Layout Randomization

- The OS randomize the location (random offset) where the standard libraries and other elements are stored in memory
- Harder for the attacker to guess the address of a lib-c subroutine
- Disabling ASLR protection on Linux
 \$ sysctl kernel.randomize_va_space=0
- Bypassing ASLR protection: Brute-force attack to guess the ASLR offset
- Bypassing ASLR protection: Return-Oriented-Programming (ROP) exploit use instruction pieces of the existing program (called "gadgets") and chain them together to weave the exploit

PIC/PIE - Position Independent Code/Executables

Without PIC/PIE

code is compiled with absolute addresses and must be loaded at a specific location to function correctly

With PIC/PIE

code is compiled with relative addressing that are resolved dynamically when executed by calling a function to obtain the return value on stack