

## Computer Security

### Assignment#5: Smart Contract Reentrancy Attack Lab

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1. **Environment setup:** I picked the smaller containers in output-small/ directory. I ran the docker commands, which is currently showing on left. Also, installed the web3 library, shown on right.

```
must wait for others"
as152h-Ethereum-POA-4-Signer-10.152.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:18:11.004] B
lock sealing failed          err="signed recently, must wait
t for others"
as153h-Ethereum-POA-6-BootNode-Signer-10.153.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:18:
11.019] Block sealing failed  err="signed recently,
must wait for others"
as151h-Ethereum-POA-2-Signer-10.151.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:18:26.016] B
lock sealing failed          err="signed recently, must wait
t for others"
as152h-Ethereum-POA-4-Signer-10.152.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:18:26.021] B
lock sealing failed          err="signed recently, must wait
t for others"
as154h-Ethereum-POA-8-Signer-10.154.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:18:41.003] B
lock sealing failed          err="signed recently, must wait
t for others"
as151h-Ethereum-POA-2-Signer-10.151.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:18:41.008] B
lock sealing failed          err="signed recently, must wait
t for others"
as150h-Ethereum-POA-0-BootNode-Signer-10.150.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:18:
56.006] Block sealing failed  err="signed recently,
must wait for others"
as154h-Ethereum-POA-8-Signer-10.154.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:18:56.024] B
lock sealing failed          err="signed recently, must wait
t for others"
as153h-Ethereum-POA-6-BootNode-Signer-10.153.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:19:
11.002] Block sealing failed  err="signed recently,
must wait for others"
as150h-Ethereum-POA-0-BootNode-Signer-10.150.0.71 | WARN [04-06|17:19:
11.034] Block sealing failed  err="signed recently,
must wait for others"

[04/06/23]seed@VM:~/../victim$ pip3 install web3
Collecting web3
  Downloading web3-6.1.0-py3-none-any.whl (570 kB)
    |████████████████████████████████████████| 570 kB 2.2 MB/s
Collecting websockets>=10.0.0
  Downloading websockets-11.0-cp38-cp38-manylinux_2_5_x86_64.manylinux
  _2_17_x86_64.manylinux2014_x86_64.whl (129 kB)
    |████████████████████████████████████████| 129 kB 8.3 MB/s
Requirement already satisfied: requests>=2.16.0 in /usr/lib/python3/di
st-packages (from web3) (2.22.0)
Collecting hexbytes>=0.1.0
  Downloading hexbytes-0.3.0-py3-none-any.whl (6.4 kB)
Collecting eth-hash[pycryptodome]>=0.5.1
  Downloading eth_hash-0.5.1-py3-none-any.whl (9.0 kB)
Collecting lru-dict>=1.1.6
  Downloading lru_dict-1.1.8-cp38-cp38-manylinux_2_5_x86_64.manylinux1
  _2_17_x86_64.manylinux2014_x86_64.whl (29 kB)
Collecting eth-account>=0.8.0
  Downloading eth_account-0.8.0-py3-none-any.whl (102 kB)
    |████████████████████████████████████████| 102 kB 10.9 MB/s
Collecting protobuf>=4.21.6
  Downloading protobuf-4.22.1-cp37-abi3-manylinux2014_x86_64.whl (302
  kB)
    |████████████████████████████████████████| 302 kB 7.9 MB/s
Collecting aiohttp>=3.7.4.post0
  Downloading aiohttp-3.8.4-cp38-cp38-manylinux_2_17_x86_64.manylinux2
  014_x86_64.whl (1.0 MB)
    |████████████████████████████████████████| 1.0 MB 8.9 MB/s
Collecting eth-abi>=4.0.0
  Downloading eth_abi-4.0.0-py3-none-any.whl (28 kB)
Collecting jsonschema>=4.0.0
  Downloading jsonschema-4.17.3-py3-none-any.whl (90 kB)
```

Some intermediate output for running the containers.

```

Creating as160r-router0-10.160.0.254 ...
Creating as152r-router0-10.152.0.254 ...
Creating output-small_f1d53a66de3c35d8a921558f3b4bdbbd_1 ...
Creating output-small_cfee3a34e9c68ac1d16035a81a926786_1 ...
Creating as161h-host_0-10.161.0.71 ...
Creating as3r-r104-10.104.0.3 ...
Creating as161h-host_0-10.161.0.71 ... done
Creating output-small_f1d53a66de3c35d8a921558f3b4bdbbd_1 ... done
Creating as4r-r102-10.102.0.4 ...
Creating output-small_cfee3a34e9c68ac1d16035a81a926786_1 ... done
Creating as12r-r104-10.104.0.12 ...
Creating as153h-Ethereum-POA-6-BootNode-Signer-10.153.0.71 ... done
Creating as150h-Ethereum-POA-0-BootNode-Signer-10.150.0.71 ...
Creating as12r-r101-10.101.0.12 ... done
Creating as153h-Ethereum-POA-7-10.153.0.72 ...
Creating as162h-host_1-10.162.0.72 ...
Creating as2r-r102-10.102.0.2 ... done
Creating as153r-router0-10.153.0.254 ... done
Creating as4r-r100-10.100.0.4 ... done
Creating as154h-Ethereum-POA-8-Signer-10.154.0.71 ... done
Creating as164h-host_0-10.164.0.71 ... done
Creating as103rs-ix103-10.103.0.103 ... done
Creating as102rs-ix102-10.102.0.102 ... done
Creating as3r-r103-10.103.0.3 ... done
Creating as150h-Ethereum-POA-1-10.150.0.72 ... done
Creating as152h-Ethereum-POA-4-Signer-10.152.0.71 ... done
Creating as164h-host_1-10.164.0.72 ... done
Creating as163h-host_0-10.163.0.71 ... done
Creating as4r-r104-10.104.0.4 ... done
Creating as164r-router0-10.164.0.254 ... done
Creating as154h-Ethereum-POA-9-BootNode-10.154.0.72 ... done
Creating as151h-Ethereum-POA-3-BootNode-10.151.0.72 ... done

```

```

Creating as4r-r104-10.104.0.4 ... done
Creating as164r-router0-10.164.0.254 ... done
Creating as154h-Ethereum-POA-9-BootNode-10.154.0.72 ... done
Creating as151h-Ethereum-POA-3-BootNode-10.151.0.72 ... done
Creating as162h-host_0-10.162.0.71 ... done
Creating as163h-host_1-10.163.0.72 ... done
Creating as161h-host_1-10.161.0.72 ... done
Creating as151r-router0-10.151.0.254 ... done
Creating as160h-host_0-10.160.0.71 ... done
Creating as160h-host_1-10.160.0.72 ... done
Creating as100rs-ix100-10.100.0.100 ... done
Creating as104rs-ix104-10.104.0.104 ... done
Creating as154r-router0-10.154.0.254 ... done
Creating as163r-router0-10.163.0.254 ... done
Creating as101rs-ix101-10.101.0.101 ... done
Creating as152h-Ethereum-POA-5-10.152.0.72 ... done
Creating as3r-r100-10.100.0.3 ... done
Creating as2r-r101-10.101.0.2 ... done
Creating as150r-router0-10.150.0.254 ... done
Attaching to as161h-host_0-10.161.0.71, output-small_f1d53a66de3c35d8a921558f3b4bdbbd_1, as151h-Ethereum-POA-2-Signer-10.151.0.71, output-small_cfee3a34e9c68ac1d16035a81a926786_1, as153h-Ethereum-POA-6-BootNode-Signer-10.153.0.71, as154h-Ethereum-POA-8-Signer-10.154.0.71, as12r-r101-10.101.0.12, as150h-Ethereum-POA-1-10.150.0.72, as103rs-ix103-10.103.0.103, as164h-host_0-10.164.0.71, as102rs-ix102-10.102.0.102, as153h-Ethereum-POA-7-10.153.0.72, as150h-Ethereum-POA-0-BootNode-Signer-10.150.0.71, as162h-host_1-10.162.0.72, as163h-host_0-10.163.0.71, as12r-r104-10.104.0.12, as160r-router0-10.160.0.254, as164h-host_1-10.164.0.72, as3r-r104-10.104.0.3, as2r-r100-10.100.0.2, as152h-Ethereum-POA-4-Signer-10.152.0.71, as4r-r102-10.102.0.4, as152r-router0-10.152.0.254, as161r-router0-10.161.0.254, as162r-router0-10.162.0.254, as2r-r102-10.102.0.2, as4r-r100-10.100.0.4, as154h-Ethereum-POA-9-BootNode-10.154.0.72, as153r-router0-10.153.0.254, as151h-Ethereum-POA-3-BootNode-10.151.0.72, as163h-host_1-10.163.0.72, as160h-host_0-10.160.0.71, as162h-host_0-10.162.0.71, as3r-r103-10.103.0.3, as164r-router0-10.164.0.254, as161h-host_1-10.161.0.72, as104rs-ix104-10.104.0.104, as100rs-ix100-10.100.0.100, as4r-r104-10.104.0.4, as160h-host_1-10.160.0.72, as152h-Ethereum-POA-5-10.152.0.72, as101rs-ix101-10.101.0.101, as3r-r100-10.100.0.3, as163r-router0-10.163.0.254, as151r-router0-10.151.0.254, as154r-router0-10.154.0.254, as150r-router0-10.150.0.254, as2r-r101-10.101.0.2

```

## 2. Task 1: Getting Familiar with the Victim Smart Contract

- (a) Compiled the `ReentrancyVictim.sol` contract. The output shows the `bin` and `abi` files generated.

```
[04/06/23]seed@VM:~/.../contract$ solc-0.6.8 --overwrite --abi --bin -o . ReentrancyVictim.sol
Compiler run successful. Artifact(s) can be found in directory ..
[04/06/23]seed@VM:~/.../contract$ ls ReentrancyVictim.*
ReentrancyVictim.abi ReentrancyVictim.bin ReentrancyVictim.sol
[04/06/23]seed@VM:~/.../contract$
```

- (b) deploying the victim contract:

[illegible]

- (c) I ended up depositing 10 ether first, and then 30 ether. Hence, the screenshot shows both transactions. The total balance is 40 ether.

[illegible]

- (d) Since I deposited 40 ether, I will now withdraw 15 ether, instead of 5 ether (as instructed). The final amount is 25 ether. This is to make sure the assignment tasks are consistent (if this amount is needed in the future).

[illegible]

### 3. Task 2: The Attacking Contract

The attack contract has been deployed:

[illegible]

#### 4. Task 3: Launching the Reentrancy Attack

The attack is launched.

[illegible]

We can see that the victim contract has 0 balance (it had 25), while the attacker contract has 26 balance (25 stolen from the victim contract, 1 was deposited while calling the `attack()` method).

[illegible]

I tried sending money to another account, specifically to `web3.eth.accounts[2]` from the sender account `web3.eth.accounts[1]`. However, I get the following error:

```
[04/12/23] seed@VM:~/.../attacker$ python3 cashout.py
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "cashout.py", line 17, in <module>
    recipient_acct = Web3.to_checksum_address(web3.eth.accounts[2])
IndexError: list index out of range
```

I can guess that there are only two accounts at the given node, so I end up getting an index error that there is no account. I suspect that no such account was created when creating the emulator, hence it seems to me out of scope of the assignment to try to add another account and recompile everything. I also tried some other IP addresses to see if another node is available with an account to send to, but I kept getting errors like `web3.exceptions.ContractLogicError: execution reverted`. I believe I can skip this part, as major part where we try to steal money is done.



## 5. Task 4: Countermeasures

I made the required countermeasure change and then rerun the attack. Here are some initial steps to deploy and fund the victim contract:

[illegible]

then, I deployed the attack contract and tried to launch the attack. However, it was unsuccessful. Part of the error trace is shown below;

[illegible]

The last few lines of the trace might be more helpful. This error message "Failed to send Ether!" is printed in the withdraw method in the victim smart contract when `msg.sender.call` return `false` in the `sent` variable.

```

File ~/home/seed/.local/lib/python3.8/site-packages/web3/eth/eth.py, line 292, in estimate_gas
    return self.estimate_gas(transaction, block_identifier)
File ~/home/seed/.local/lib/python3.8/site-packages/web3/module.py, line 68, in caller
    result = w3.manager.request_blocking(
File ~/home/seed/.local/lib/python3.8/site-packages/web3/manager.py, line 232, in request_blocking
    return self.formatted_response(
File ~/home/seed/.local/lib/python3.8/site-packages/web3/manager.py, line 197, in formatted_response
    apply_error_formatters(error_formatters, response)
File ~/home/seed/.local/lib/python3.8/site-packages/web3/manager.py, line 73, in apply_error_formatters
    formatted_resp = pipe(response, error_formatters)
File ~/home/seed/.local/lib/python3.8/site-packages/web3/manager.py, line 666, in cytoolz.functoolz.pipe
    return cytoolz.functoolz.c_pipe
File ~/home/seed/.local/lib/python3.8/site-packages/web3/_utils/method_formatters.py, line 762, in raise_contract_logic_error_on_revert
    raise ContractLogicError(response["error"]["message"])
web3.exceptions.ContractLogicError: execution reverted: Failed to send Ether!

```