

Ret2LibC

Code can be found here: <https://github.com/c2003-tamu/413>

Demonstration video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/tF11U6MST20>

Environment Setup

- Ensure python3 is installed
- Clone git repository
- Navigate to 413/ret2libc directory
- Run command: `echo 0 | sudo tee /proc/sys/kernel/randomize_va_space`
- Follow instructions found here: <https://davidhamann.de/2020/09/09/disable-nx-on-linux/> to disable nx for 32 bit binaries

Payload preparation

- Locate system() on your machine
 - Navigate to 413/ret2libc
 - Run command: `gdb ./bad`
 - Inside gdb:
 - Run command: `b main`
 - Run command: `r`
 - Run command: `p system`
 - Write down address found
- Find start of buffer on your machine
 - Navigate to 413/ret2libc
 - Run command: `./bad`
 - Enter arbitrary input
 - Write down address of buffer
- Input found values to payload
 - Edit file 413/ret2libc/payloads/ret2libc.py
 - Replace `system_addr` with little-endian system address
 - Replace `bin_addr` with little-endian address of start of buffer plus 38_16
 - Ex: buffer start address: 0xffffcf60, you would put 0xffffcf98 in little endian here

Exploit

- Run command: `./demo.sh`
- Press enter
- If setup correct, you will have a shell (with no \$ prompt) as seen below:

[illegible]

NOTE: The address of the buffer was simply added to ease the burden of the grader so that they do not have to step through gdb to get the values like I had to. It was not necessary in the development of the exploit.

Explanation

Essentially, we are overwriting the buffer seen here with more than it can handle:

```
void vulnerable_function(){
    char input[32];
    printf("enter your input: ");
    gets(input);
    printf("Address of buffer: %p\n", (void*)input);
    printf("you entered: %s\n", input);
}
```

We are overwriting this function's return address to the address of `system()`, which takes the next value in memory (in our case, 4 junk bytes that will cause a segfault) as where it will return to. After this, the program takes the next value in memory as its argument for the command that we would like to execute. In our case, we simply pinned `"/bin/sh"` in hex code at the end of the payload and added a pointer to this value right after the 4 junk bytes, making the vulnerable program run `system("/bin/sh")` and return to `0x41414141`.

Code Patch

To fix this vulnerability, I simply used `fgets()`, which is a function that does the same thing as `gets()`, but only reads the amount of bytes that it is told to:

```
void not_vulnerable_function(){
    char input[32];
    printf("enter your input: ");
    fgets(input, sizeof(input), stdin);
    printf("you entered: %s\n", input);
}
```

This fixes the issue by not allowing for a buffer overflow, thus making the return address of the function impossible to overwrite, as can be seen below:

```
safe, same payload, press enter to exit:  
enter your input: you entered: AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA  
exit
```