# System Security fiche

#### Pierre Colson

## January 2023

## Contents

Side Channels & Tempest	1
Architectural Support for Security	4
Trusted Execution Environment	7
Memory vulnerabilities and Exploits	10
Memory Defenses	12
Detection and Prevention	13

 ${\bf Markdown} \ {\bf version} \ {\bf on} \ {\it github}$ 

Compiled using pandoc and  $gpdf\ script$ 

## Side Channels & Tempest

- Compromising Emanations: Physical signals related to digital activity; break the assumption of higher-level abstractions; Root cause of many attacks
- **Tempest**: Passive leakage of plaintext information (E.g., video on screen)
  - Video Signal
    - \* Signal in wire/connector/etc. not well shielded
    - \* Current in wires generates EM waves
    - \* Modulated with the pixel values
- Soft Tempest: Active version of Tempest; leakage used to exfiltrate data
  - Vide Signal
    - \* Signal in wire/connector/etc. not well shielded
    - \* Current in wires generates EM waves
    - \* Modulated with the pixel values
    - \* Use to transmit data
    - \* Or to add noise Tempest leakage
    - \* Possible with many other sources of leakage (e.g. memory access)
- **Side Channels**: Use leakage to attack cryptographic implementation (Only in proximity, with few exceptions)
- Type of *pysical leakage*: Execution time, Power, Magnetic and electromagnetic, optical, thermal, acoustic and vibrational, reflection of injected signals
- Type of attack: Passively recover plaintext, Actively exfiltrate data; attack cyrptographic implementation
- Symmetric encryption for confidentiality
  - Stream cypher

- \* Process a message bit by bit (byte by byte)
- \* KeyStream = PseudoRandomBitStreamGenerator(seed)
- \* CyphertextStream = KeyStream + PlaintextStream
- Block cypher
  - \* Process a message block by block (EAS, DES)
  - \* Plaintext might need padding
  - \* Plaintext + Key = BlockCipher
  - \* All block cipher leads to the cipher text
  - \* There is different way to concatenate block cipher
  - \* Electronic CodeBlock (ECB, insecure)  $C_1 = P_1 \bigoplus K$ ,  $C_2 = P_2 \bigoplus K$ , ...
  - \* Cipher Block Chaining (CBC)  $C_1 = (P_1 \bigoplus IV) \bigoplus K$ ,  $C_2 = (P_2 \bigoplus C_1) \bigoplus K$ , ...
- Symmetric crypto for authentication
  - Message Authentication Code (MAC)
  - Shared key between A and B
  - A sends to B message M + MAC where MAC = MACFunction(M, K)
- · Asymmetric crypto for confidentiality
  - A and B exchange a key pair via a trusted channel
  - A wants to send M to B, she sends:  $C = Encryption(Pu_B, M)$  where  $Pu_B$  is B's public key
  - B decrypts the message as follow:  $M' = Decryption(Pr_B, C)$  where  $Pr_B$  is B's private key
- · Asymmetric crypto for authentication
  - A send to B message M and Signature S, where  $S = Encryption(Pr_A, M)$  where (A's private key)
  - B verifies the signature by checking:  $Decryption(Pu_A, S) = M$  where  $(Pu_A \text{ is } A\text{'s public key})$
- Combine the best of two: Asymmetric key exchange + Symmetric encryption
- Security of cryptographic algoritms
  - We *model* system and possible attackers
  - Security properties are valid under certain assumptions
- Side Channel concrete example
  - **Timing**: Measure execution time
    - \* Classic timign attack against RSA
    - \* Remote attack are possible
    - \* Modern example of remote attack onc cryptocurrencies
  - **Power** Measure some physical quantity influenced by execution
    - \* Simple Power Analysis (SPA)
    - \* Differential Power Analysis (DPA)
    - \* Correlation Power Analysis (CPA)
- Reminder on **RSA** 
  - Key generation
    - 1. Chose numbers p, q such that p and q are prime and  $p \neq q$
    - 2. Compute n = pq
    - 3. Compute  $\Phi(n) = (p-1)(q-1)$
    - 4. Chose e such that e and  $\Phi(n)$  are relative prime and  $1 < e < \Phi(n)$
    - 5. Compute d as such that  $de \mod \Phi(n) = 1$
    - 6. Public key  $PU = \{e, n\}$
    - 7. Private key  $PR = \{d, n\}$
  - Encryption
    - \* Plaintext m < n
    - \* Ciphertext  $C = m^e \mod n$
  - Decryption
    - \* Ciphertext C
    - \* Plaintext  $m = C^d \mod n$
  - Signature
    - \* Plaintext m < n
    - \* Signature  $s = m^d \mod n$
  - The security of RSA is based on two hard problems

- \* The RSA problem, i.e., computing the  $e^{th}$  root of m modulo n from  $C = m^e \mod n$
- \* FActoring large numbers into smaller primes
- Exponentiation is implemented using Square and multiply
  - Problem 1
    - \* Key dependant branching
    - \* Execution time depends on the key d, if bit i of d is 0 is will be faster than if bit i of d is 1
  - Problem 2
    - \* Montgomery used for modular multiplication because it is more efficient
    - \* Montgomery execution time  $T_{mont}$  depends on the plaintext m; there is a reduction step done only if necessary

#### • Countermeasures

#### • Constant time

- Relatively easy for specific cases
  - \* E.g., modular multiplication without conditional reduction
- Generic protection is hard
  - \* Identify and elininate all dependencies of time with plaintext and key
  - \* Can have performance issues

## · What if we artificially add noise

- An attacker just need more measurements to dig the signal out of the noise
- Masking: Can we make it impossible for the attacker to guess
  - Mask with random number C different for each message:
    - \*  $md \mod n \to [(m.X)d \mod n].[(X^{-1})d \mod n] \mod n$
  - Intuitively, given m and  $d_i$  the attacker cannot guess slow/fast any more

#### • A logic gate

- Electronic component that implements a logic operator (not, and, nand, or, xor)
- Stateless (Combinatorial)
- Together with memory elements it is used to implement finit state machines
- MOS transistor: electronic switch
- Logical gate can be implemented with MOS
- Data dependency: There are physical phenomena that create a data dependency between logic values and their transitions and the power consumption of the circuit

### • Measure

- We can measure the power consumption and observe these phenomena
- Signals are small, many measurements and statistical analysis are often needed
- Model: we know how it works: given some logic data manipulated by the software/hardware, we can predict the corresponding power consumption

#### • Countermeasures

- Problem: There is a data dependency (of some order) between plaintext, key and the power
- Add noise
  - \* Desyncronize ther traces
  - \* Inject random noise
  - \* Defeated with better signal processing and more measurements
- Try to balance the hardware
  - \* Filtering shielding (Filtering is not perfect, expensive, can be tempered)
  - \* Make a processor where every instruction/operands consumes the same power (Not easy and expensive)
- $-N^{th}$  order masking
  - \* Multiply each data with a random variable
  - \* This algorithmically breaks the dependecy making it impossible to guess the intermediate value

#### • EM side channel

- Currents flowing in cables produce EM signals
- Clock might act as a carrier
- Emissions from localized areas, are not all overall power consumption

## • Sound side channel

- Currents in certain capacitors make them vibrate and produce sounds
- We don't always need a physical access
- Tamper resistant systems take the bank vault approach
  - Prevention of break in
- Tamper responding systems use the burglar alarm approach
  - Real-time detection of intrusion and prevention of access to sensitive data
- Tamper evident system are designed to ensure that is a break-in occurs, evidence of the break in is left behind
  - Detection of intrusion

## **Architectural Support for Security**

- Application security: Requirements
  - Launch-time integrity: correct application was started or loaded
  - Run-time isolation: no interference from malicious software, peripherals
  - Secure persistent storage
- OS Security: Privilege rings
  - Ring 3: applications
  - Ring 2: Device drivers
  - Ring 1: Device drivers
  - Ring 0: Kernel
  - Currently, only  $ring \theta$  and ring 3 are used
  - CPU tracks the current privilege level CPL using two register bits
  - Main uses: limiting access to privileged instructions, I/O-ports
  - Legacy use: kernel memory protection
  - Privilege in Modern OS (only two levels)
    - \* Level 0 for the kernel
    - \* Level 3 for users
- Calls across Privilege Rings
  - 1. Before **syscall**, put argument into registers
  - 2. Issue syscall  $\rightarrow$  CPU changes privilege level and calls Hook
  - 3. Hook performs access policy checks and validates arguments
  - 4. Kernel performs the requests action
  - 5. Return to the application
- Discretionary Access Control (Linux Security Model)
  - A means of restricting access to objects based on the identity of subjects and/or groups to which
    they belong. The controls are discretionary in the sense that a subject with a certain access
    permission is capable of passing that permission to any other subject
- Users and Groups
  - A user-account (user, uid)
    - \* Represents someone capable of using files
    - \* Associated both with human and processes
  - A group-account (group, gid)
    - \* Is a list of user-accounts
    - \* Users have a main group
    - \* May also belong to other groups
- Permissions
  - A file has owner and group id
  - A process has owner and group id
  - Kernel verifies permissions before executing system calls
    - \* If owner uid = 0(root), everything in allowed
    - \* Otherwise the uid and gid of the process and object are compared in this order and permission for the operation is searched based on owner, group, and other rights
- A basic transaction, wherein a *subject* (user or process) attemps some action (read, write, execute)

against some object (file, directory, special file)

- setuid bit means program run with same privileges as owner
  - No matter who executes it
- setgid bit means run with same privileges as a member of the group which owns it
  - Again regardless of who executes it
- Password are changed using the program /bin/passwd
- Real UID (RUID): UID of the user running the program
- Effective UID (EUID): UID of uer with whose privileges the program runs
- getuid() returns RUID
- geteuid() returns EUID
- setuid(uid) set UID
  - If EUID == root, set EUID and RUID
  - If not root, sets EUID if certain conditions are met
- setruid(uid) set RUID
- seteuid(uid) set EUID
- fork() functions shall create a new process. The new process (child process) shall be an extact copy of the calling process (parent process)
- Linux uses a DAC security model but Mandatory Access Control (MAC) imposes a global security policy on all users
  - User may not set controls weaker than policy
  - Normal admin done with accounts without authority to change the global security policy
  - but MAC systems have been hard to manage

#### • SE linux

- In SELinux, all access must be explicitly granted
- Allows no acces by default, regardless of the linux user/groups ids
- There is no default superuser in SELinux unlike the root in standard linux
- Each individual subject and object in SELinux is governed by a **security context** being a:
  - \* User individual user (human or daemon)
  - \* Role like a group, assumed by user
  - \* Domain (type) a sandbox being a combination of subjects and objects that may interact with each other
  - \* this model is called **Type enforcement (TE)**
- Decision making
  - \* **Access** decisions: when subject do things to objects that already exist, create new things in expected domain
  - \* Transition decisions: invocation of processes in different domains than the one in which the subject process is running; creation of objects in defferent types (domains) than their parents domain; transitions must be authorized by SELinux policy
- Access in granted by specifying access from a subject type (that is, a damain) and an object type using an allow rule
- A domain transition is allowed only when the following three conditions are tue
  - \* The process' new domain type has entrypoint access to executable file type
  - \* The process' current domain type has execute access to the entry point file type
  - \* The process' current domain type has transition access to the new domain type

#### • Paging-based Security

- Security-relevant data in page table entries
- Supervisor bit: if set, this page is accessible only in ring 0 (isolates OS from applications)
- RW bits: to distinguish between read-only and writeable pages
- Non executable (NX) bit: if set, the page is not executable (prevents run-time code injection)

## • Virtual address space

- Every process has its own virtual address space
- Kernel address space is protected with the supervisor bit

#### Firewire DMA

- Key idea: Access RAM is tightly controlled by the CPU, but this can be circumvented through

#### **DMA** (Direct Memory Access)

- Firewire technology allow for fast communication speeds between devices, use DMA
- The attacker uses a Firewire cable to connect to a (locked) PC and issue a DMA request to fetch the contents of RAM
- Later on, can look in the collected data and leak keys and other passwords

#### • BadUSB

Key idea: change a USB device controller to mimic another device class

### • DMA remapping

- Setup by the OS, similar to MMU
- Control DMA access to physical memory
- OS trust assumptions
  - Intel Managment Engine
  - BIOS/UEFI
  - Periferical firmware
  - etc.

#### • Physical access Attacks are harder to defend for the OS

- Remove the hard drive from a machine left unattended
- Boot from a USB key and copy the data out/change the password
- Trivial (and possibly broken) solutions:
  - \* Prevent booting from an external source from the BIOS (Broken; we can reset the bios by removing the battery)
  - \* Protect the BIOS with a password (Broken; we can reset the bios by removing the battery)
  - \* Partial/Full disk encryption
  - \* Data hiding

## · Disk encryption

- Simple approach: use password only
  - \* The disk is encrypted with a key that is protected using a user-privided password
  - \* Problem: password can be brute-forced
- Better approach: leverage a secure element
  - \* The disk key encryption is stored in a secure element
  - \* Example: Trusted Platform Module (TPM) chip on motherboard

## • Cold Boot Attack Process

- Normal operation
  - \* The user logs with a password
  - $\ast$  The disk encryption key is kept in RAM when the computer is locked
- Attack process
  - \* Attacker opens the machine to expose the RAM chips
  - \* Remove power
  - \* Cool down RAM (dust-sprayer upside down (-50 degree), LN2 (-192 degree))
  - \* Plug RAM module to another (acquisition) platform
  - \* Recover key
- Cold Boot Attack: Countermeasures
  - Erase key from memory on every (controlled) suspend
    - \* User needs to type in password often
    - \* Does not help sudden power loss
  - Prevent booting from external media
    - \* Does not prevent DRAM component transfers
  - Physical protection
    - \* Components that respond to enclosure opening or low temperatures
    - \* Expensive for commodity systems
  - Avoid placing the key in memory
    - \* Performs encryption in disk controller
    - \* Requires architectural changes

#### • TPM Support

- Secure boot: OS boots only if the chain of trust is valid
- Authenticated boot: System records chain of trust but the OS boots even if the chain of trust
  in invalid
- **UEFI** instead of BIOS
- Hardware-supported OS-based Application Security

	Hardware support for OS-based Security
CPU	Privilege rings
	Memory Management Unit
Chipset	DMA Remapping tables
Periferals	Trusted Platform Module
	Normal HDD with OS-enforced access control

- Runtime Attacks: Typical Attacks
  - Buffer overflows
  - Format string
  - Double free
  - Use-after-free
- Runtime Attacks: Mitigation Techniques
  - Non-executable pages (NX)
    - \* Attackers used to place shell code in normal data pages/stack
    - \* Stack should not be executable
    - \* Mark all pages that do not contain code as Non-executable (NX)
    - \* Hardware support required
    - \* Mark all pages with executable code as read-only
    - \* Not always possible

#### - Stack canaries

- \* Add random stack canaries
- \* To overwrite the return pointer, the stack canary must also be overwritten
- \* Check the value before jumping to return address
- \* Can prevent some attacks
- \* Assumes the attacker cannot read memory

## - Address space layout randomization (ASLR)

- \* Return to libc: overwrite return pointer with address of exec(/bin/sh)
- \* What if we move the binary by a few MB in its virtual address space?
- \* The location of exec will be unknown to the attacker
- \* Implemented in all major operating systems
- \* KASLR (linux) also defends against Meltdown
- \* Broken if the attacker can read memory (separate info leak exploit)

## - Control flow integrity

- \* Generate all legal control flow transfers
- \* Verify every transfer at runtime
- \* Straight forward for direct-control transfers
- \* Static destination addresses
- \* Forward edges: switch statements, indirect calls, etc.
- \* Backward edges: returns

## Trusted Execution Environment

- Defense in depth:
  - Small Trusted Computing Base (TCB)
  - Even if the OS/Hypervisor are comprised, code/data can be protected
- Confidential computing:

- Client can verify what is running on remote system; operator cannot violate the integrity of the execution
- Operator cannot see the code/data of the client
- Enforced in Hardware (typically via special CPU instructions or co-processor)
- We need to trust the HW manufacturers: Intel, AMD
- Vulnerable to some side channel attack
- Computing Systems Trust Model
  - The **Trusting Computing Base** (TCB) is the set of software and hardware components that need to be trusted for an application to execute securely
  - For instance, the TCB of a banking application includes the Operating System, the CPU, the DRAM chips, the disk . . .
    - \* If any of these are malicious the execution integrity and confidentiality cannot be guaranteed
  - Other applications are not in the TCB
  - In principle, they can be malicious and the OS (with hardware support) still provides isolation to other benign apps
    - \* However some exploit can lead to privilege escalation
  - Trusted Execution Environment (TTEs) usually aim to reduce the TCB needed to execute applications
- **Isolation** (defense in depth and confidential computing)
  - CPUs traditionally enforce isolation between permission levels
  - More privileged levels control and can modify less privileged levels
- Intel SGX Isolate 'small' Apps into enclaves
  - Design choice
    - \* Create isolated environments at the application level, called **enclaves**
    - \* Enclaves are isolated from all the other software in the system OS/Hypervisor
  - Resists a physical attacker (cold boot attack, bus tapping, etc)
    - \* Everything outside the CPU die is untrusted
    - \* The CPU die is assumed to be secure
  - The OS and the Hypervisor are still in charge of managing virtual memory and interrupts
  - The CPU keeps track of whether it is currently executing in enclave-mode and which enclave is executing
  - Memory reads to enclave memory when not in enclave mode always return 0xff
  - Trying to read another enclave memory returns Oxff
  - Similarly, not authorized memory writes fail silently
  - Enclaves can read/write the memory to their untrusted app
  - New component on the CPU takes care of securing memory, the Memory Encryption Engine (MEE)
  - The CPU is trusted, so data resides in the cache in plain text
  - While the content of memory pages is protected by SGX and the MEE, page metadata is not, metadata includes:
    - \* Access permissions of a page
    - $\ast$  Accessed bit: whether a memory page was recently accessed
    - \* Dirty bit: whether a memory page was recently written

#### - Controlled Channel attacks

- \* The os can remove execute or read/write access to memory page
- \* This trigger an exception which contains the address of the memory page that was being accessed
- \* This reveals enough information
- \* Information from the accessed/dirty bits are also enough to leak information

#### - Side Channel attacks

- \* Enclaves share resources with other applications in the system: cache, core execution units, branch prediction structure
- \* Monitoring utilization of these resources from another application leaks information

#### • AMD SEV: Isolate entire VMS

- Design choices:
  - \* Isolate Virtual Machine from Hypervisor. VMs can execute code on ring 3,2 and 1
- Resists low skilled physical attacker (cold boot, but not bus tampering)
  - \* Everything outside the CPU die is untrusted
- Comparison with SGX
  - \* SEV encrypts data that leaves the CPU die
  - \* However, it does not store a MAC tag together with the data (data in memory is not authenticated)
  - \* Like SGX, SEV keeps track of the different isolated environments with HW prinitives
  - \* While unauthorized writes cannot happen from the CPU, if memory is corrupted some other way VMs will read the wrong value from memory
- Key management
  - \* SEV uses an ARM co-processor to manage the different encryption key for each VM
  - \* At VM creation a new key is created in the co-processor to encrypt the VM memory
  - \* Each new VM has a different encryption key

#### • ARM TrustZone: The tale of two world

- Design choices:
  - \* Have two separate isolated execution environments. These are referred to as the Non secure and the Secure world
- No physical attacker
  - \* Communication to peripherals is assumed to be trusted
- The memory is partition between the Secure and Non-Secure world
- The Secure world can read/write the Non-Secure world memory, but the Non-Secure world is restricted to its own memory
- The TrustZone Address space is controller (TZASV) is a hardware component that is used to configure which ranges of memory belong to which world
- Only the secure world can configure the TZASV
- Memory is separated at the physical layer. That is there are two separate physical address ranges, one for the secure world and one for the non-secure world
- The CPU keeps track of which world in currently executing

## • AMD SEV

- Advantages:
  - \* Tolerate strong physical attacker, only CPU in TCB
- Disadvantages:
  - \* Memory and interrupt management performed by OS
  - \* Application need to be adapted to run inside an SGX enclave
  - \* Only small applications possible

## • AMD SEV

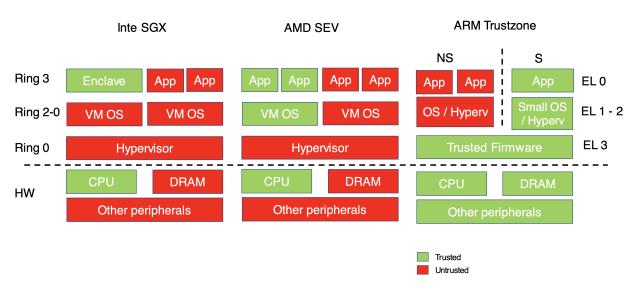
- Advantages:
  - \* Applications do not need to specifically adapted to run in an isolated SEV environment
- Disadvantages:
  - \* Resilience against physical attackers varies depending on the SEV version
  - \* Memory management perfromed by hypervisor

#### • ARM TrustZone:

- Advantages:
  - \* No page/interrupt management by untrusted code, infrastruture (partially) supports secure state
  - \* Availability guarantees for sedure world possible
- Disadvantages:
  - \* No physical attacker
  - \* Only one protected state
  - \* All software runnin before and under software in secure world need to be trusted
  - \* Secure state is often locked for use by device vendors and not generally open for application

#### developpers

• Trusted Isoltation Environments Trust Model summary



- Bootstrapping trust (Attestation/Secure boot) (confidential computing)
  - The isolation provided by TEEs is a useful primitive
  - However secret need to get into the TEE somehow
  - How do we make sure that we are sending secret to the right TEE and not the malicious OS
  - The main way to prove the authenticity of a TEE:
    - \* Secure boot check that at each boot stage, only trusted software is loaded
    - \* Remote attestation
- Remote Attestation
  - Different Enclaves and keys involved
  - CPU measures the enclave and signs it hash
  - Enclave invokes measurement, OS is suspended, CPU measures and returns the the signed hash
  - This can be done so that client creates a secure channel into the enclave
- Sealing storage (defense in depth and confidential computing)
  - Enclave has no direct access to disk or IO / no access to persistent storage
  - No access to trusted clock, limited support for counters
  - Can do **sealing** store encrypted confidential data on disk
    - \* This data is encrypted and MACed with enclave and processor specific keys
- Remote Attestation
  - During manufacturing, two keys are burned into the CPU
    - \* Fused Seal key is used as Processor's secret
    - \* Provisionning key serve as a proof for remote platform
    - \* Remote platform issues an Attestation key which is encrypted and stored for future use
- To prevent attestation key from leaking the platform's identity, Intel introduces the **EPID** scheme
  - **EPID**: digital signature scheme with anonymity properties
    - \* One group public key corresponds to multiple private keys
    - \* Each unique private key can be used to generate a signature
    - \* Signature can be verified using the group public key
    - \* A signature cannot be linked to a private key

# Memory vulnerabilities and Exploits

- x86 Machine Model
  - Both code and data are represented as numbers

- Little endian: least significant bytes is put at lower addresses
- Stack grows down, other memory accesses move up
- · OS Model
  - Ring-0,runs on behalf of every process
  - Context switches
    - \* On an interrupt, CPU switches control to ring-0
    - \* Ring-0 (OS) sets CR3 to another process, then iret
- Stack organization:
  - Function parameters
  - Return address
  - Saved Frame Pointer
  - Function's data
- Integer Overflow
- Use after free
- Double free
- Format string vulnerabilities
- Upcasting: From a derived class to its parent class
- Downcasting: From a parent class to one of its derived classes
- Upcasting is always safe, but downcasting is not
- Hardware does not give memory and type safety
- Control oriented Exploits
  - Goals: Divert or Hijack Control Flow
  - Main tricks:
    - \* Corrupt code pointers
    - \* Corrupt non-code pointer
  - Outcome:
    - \* Code injection
    - \* Code reuse
- Data oriented Exploits
  - Goal: Hijack Data flow
  - Outcomes: Privilege escalation, Data leakage
- Code injection: A memory exploit that hijacks control to jump to attacker's data payload
  - Requirements
    - \* Write attack payload in memory
    - \* Have Attack Payload Be Executable
    - \* Divert control-flow to payload
- Code pointers: A memory address, the value of which is deirectly used as a control-flow transfer (in machine code) under benign inputs
  - Code pointer injection: Forging the runtime value of a code pointer to an invalid one
- Type safety for Code Pointers
  - Enforce that code pointers point to code-segment only
  - Enforce that control transfers use code pointers
  - Defeats code injection
- Code reuse: A memory exploit that hijack contro to jump to attacker's controlled code address
  - Requirements
    - \* Have attack payload be excutable
    - \* Divert control flow to payload
  - Type safety of code pointers in not enough
  - The idea:
    - \* Attacker hijacks control flow
    - \* Jumps back to the code segment
- Control flow integrity: Each control transfer jumps to a statically known set of locations
- · Data flow switching
  - Manipulate data flows for exploits

- Goal:
  - \* Information leakage
  - \* Privilege escalation
- Constraints:
  - \* Keep the control flow same
  - \* Prevent abrupt termination

#### • Defense goals

- Complete memory safety
- Prevent memory writes
- Protect all pointers
- Protect code pointers
- Prevent bad control flow transfers
- Protect arbitrary parts/region of memory
- Protect data-flow patterns
- Complete Type safety
- Don't protext, simple randomize

## Memory Defenses

- Complete Memory Safety: Access memory in an intended way
- Fault isolation: Each module only accesses pre-determined data/code
- No foreign code: Execute only predetermined code
- Control flow integrity: Control transfers are to legitimate points only
- System call sandboxing: Access only a subset of system calls
- (Code) pointers/Data integrity: Ensure (code) pointers/date have valid values
- Data flow integrity
- Non-executable Data/DEP
  - Setting regions of memory non-executable
  - Use NX bit
  - Defense qoal: Prevents Foreign code injection
- Software Fault Isolation
  - Goal: Fault isolation
    - \* Confine read/write to certain region M
    - \* This goal is also called address sandboxing (Access memory segments statically verified)
  - Attacker controls all memory values in M
  - Mechanism: Inline instrumentation of D
  - Limit all memory acces to region M
  - Trusted Computing Base (TCB): The trusted codebase for ensuring security properties
  - Smaller the TCB, the better the design
- Inline Reference Monitors: Control flow integrity
  - Follow the statically determine CFG at runtime
  - CFI blocks all control flow hijacking exploits
- Randomized tags: Control flow integrity; Each code block must start with a tag
  - The tag should be a random, secure value
  - If f can jump to block g, h, ... then these blocks, should have the same tag
- Address Space Layout Randomization (ASLR)
  - Assumption: The attacker can write arbitrary places
  - Defense goal: Attacker can't predict location accessed in attack
  - Mechanism:
    - \* At load time, randomize stack, code, bss, etc.
    - \* Randomize heap location at runtime
- Instruction Set Randomization (ISR)
  - Goal: Randomize machine instruction encoding, to defeat foreign code injection
- Stack Canaries

- Secret Data values, to protect corruption of nearby data
- Check: the random canary value is OK at ret
- Guard Pages
  - Defense: Guard Pages
    - \* Certain pages with NR, NW, NX inserted
  - Assumption:
    - \* Attacker can only write linearly
    - \* All written values are not used in dereferences
- Code Checking Tools
  - Tools checking for vulnerabilities using static source code analysis
- Safe Language and Coding
  - Use bug-finding techniques
  - Safe code techniques
  - Use safe libraries

## **Detection and Prevention**

- Information Flow Policies Non interference
  - Differentiate programs with good information flows
  - Non interference: 'A program is non interfering iff any executions, started with the same L-Inputs, generate the same L-Outputs'
- Bell-LaPadula: No read up, no write down
- Kinds of Information flow
  - **Direct**: use legitimate channels for data transfer
  - Indirect: use channels not intended for data transfer
  - **Explicit**: created by the occurrence of an event/action
  - **Implicit**: created by the absence of a specific event/action
- Application of Taint-tracking
  - A kind of Information Flow Technique
  - Runtime Detection/Prevention
    - \* Controle flow hijacking
    - \* Non control data corruption
    - \* XSS, SQL, Command injection
    - \* User Kernel Pointer Bugs
  - Off line Analysis
    - \* Malware Analysis
    - \* Privacy-leaking Android apps
  - $-f:X\to Y$ 
    - \* X has some bits in which are private
  - Aims to detect: Does an output Y reveal some private X
- Soundness & Completeness
  - Goal: Given P prove that P satisfies C
  - Complete: Identifies all safe Ps
  - **Sound**: If P is claimed safe, it does not satisfy P (?)
- In practice choose 3 between **Sound**, **Complete** and **Termination**
- Static tracking
  - Relies on CFG/DFG
  - Advantages
    - \* No false negative
- Dynamic tracking
  - Dataflow at runtime
  - Advantages
    - \* Can have FPs
    - \* But lower FP

### • Uncertity and Entropy

- Shanon Entropy

$$H(X \mid Y = y) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P[X = x \mid Y = y] \log \frac{1}{P[X = x \mid Y = y]}$$

- Initial uncertity = Information leaked + Remaining uncertity  $(H[X] = I[X;Y] + H[X \mid Y])$
- Symbolic Execution
  - Check Safety Properties (Model)
- Dynamic Symbolic Execution
  - The main idea: Analyze One Execution Path
    - \* Run the program under one concrete input
    - \* Collect the values of all variables at each executed statement. This information often called an 'execution trace'
    - \* Mark certain inputs as symbolic
    - \* Track the relationship between variables in the execution trace and symbolic inputs as a formula
    - \* At symbolic branch conditions, assert that the condition evaluates to the value in the execution trace
    - \* Calculate Symbolic Formula for path constraints: The logically comjunction of all the symbolic constraints
  - Symbolic input: Values captured with symbolic formula
  - Branch constraints: A symbolic formula capturing the values that make the branch condition evaluate a specific value
  - Path constraints: A formula over the symbolic inputs that encodes all branch decisions taken up to a certain program point
  - Execution path space: All paths in the program, each captured by its path constraints
  - Feasible path A path which has a satisfiable symbolic formula, there exists one assignement of values to its symbolic variables that make formula 'True'
- Testing software for bugs
  - Blackbox testing: no analysis
  - Greybox testing:
    - \* Lightweight analysis
    - \* Coverage
  - Whitebox testing:
    - \* Heavyweight analysis
    - \* Path conditions
- Fuzzing
  - Automatically generate test cases
  - Random
  - Grab & mutate
  - Grammar based
- Greybox fuzzing
  - Guide input generation toward a goal
    - \* Guidance based on lightweight program analysis
  - Three main steps:
    - \* Randomly generate inputs
    - \* get feedback from previous executions
  - What code is covered? Mutate inputs that have covered new code
- American Fuzzy Lop
  - Simple yet effective fuzzing tool
  - Targets C/C++ programs
  - Inputs are, e.g., files read by the program
  - Widely used in industry, in particular, to find security-related bugs

## • Measuring Coverage

- Different coverage metrics
  - \* Line/statement/branch/path coverage
- Here: Branch coverage
- Branches between basic blocks
- Rationale: Reaching a code location not enough to trigger a bug, but state also matters
- Compromise between
  - \* Effort spent on measuring coverage
  - \* Guidance it provides to the fuzzer

#### • Detecting new Behaviours

- Inputs that trigger a new edge in the CFG: Considered as new behaviour
- Alternative: Consider new paths
  - \* More expensive to track
  - \* Path explosion problem

## • Evolving queue of inputs

- Maintain queue of inputs
  - \* Initially: Seed inputs provided by user
  - $\ast$  Once used, keep input if covers new edges
  - \* Add new inputs by mutating existing input

## • Mutation operators

- Goal: Create new inputs from existing inputs
- Random transformation of bytes in an existing input
- Bit flips with varying lengths and stepovers
- Additions and substraction of small integers
- Insertion of known interesting integers
- More tricks for fast fuzzing
  - Time and memory limits
    - \* Discard input when execution is too expensive
  - Prunning the queue
    - \* Periodically select subset of inputs that still cover every edge seen so far
  - Prioritize how many mutants to generate from an input in the queue
- In-application Isolation Techniques
  - Page table protection
  - Software bounds checks
- Pointer authentication: Ensure pointers in memory remain unchanged
  - General purpose hardware primitive approximation pointer integrity
  - Adds pointer authentication Code into unused bits of pointer
  - Keyed, tweakable MAC from pointer address and 64-bits modifier
  - PA keys protected by hardware, modifier decided where pointer created and used
  - Prevent arbirtrary pointer injection
    - \* Modifiers do not need to be confidential
    - \* Visible or inferable from the code section/binary
    - \* Keys are protected by hardware and set by kernel
    - \* Attacker cannot generate PACs