

Problem 2 - (25 pts) Bypassing Memory Safety Features

Consider the following code snippet:

```
1  void foo(void) {
2      char foobuf[256];
3      fgets(foobuf, 257, stdin);
4  }
5
6  void bar(void) {
7      foo();
8  }
9
10 void main(void) {
11     char * buf = (char *) malloc(128);
12     fgets(buf, 128, stdin);
13     printf("%p", buf);
14     bar();
15 }
```

C

Assume the following:

- **ASLR is enabled.**
- All other memory safety features disabled.
- Assume ASLR will always randomize the value of the saved base pointer of foo to have a LSB in the inclusive range 0x20 - 0xf8.
- You can represent the output of printf on line 13 with a variable ADDRESS. This is an 8-byte, little-endian byte string.
- You can represent shellcode with a variable SHELLCODE, which has a maximum length of 120 bytes.
- *Note: SFP = saved frame pointer = saved base pointer (rbp)*

Answer the following questions:

1. **(6pts)** Complete the following stack diagram assuming the program is paused at line 3 (before fgets is called).

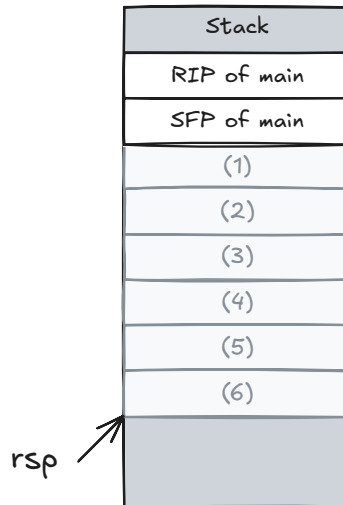


Figure 1: Stack state at line 3

2. **(8pts)** Provide the byte string inputs to fgets on line 12 and fgets on line 3 that will lead to shellcode execution. You can craft these inputs using Python syntax. For example:

```
1 >>> b'\x31' * 8 + b'\x0b\xad\xc0\xde'
2 b'11111111\x0b\xad\xc0\xde'
3 >>> ADDR = b'\x00\x00\x7f\xff\xff\xff\x80\x80'
4 >>> ADDR + b'\xc0\xde'
5 b'\x00\x00\x7f\xff\xff\xff\x80\x80\x00\xc0\xde'
```

py

3. **(11pts)** Explain why this exploit is only guaranteed to work if the saved base pointer of foo has a LSB in the range 0x20 - 0xf8.

Solution:

1. The stack diagram should look as follows:

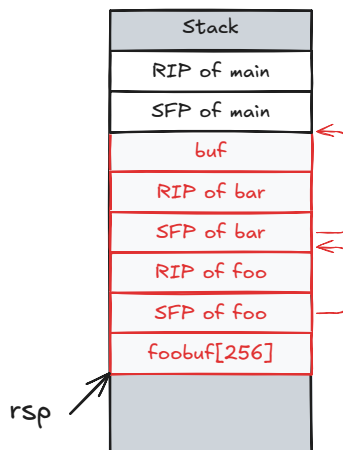


Figure 2: Stack state at line 3

2. The inputs that lead to shellcode execution are as follows:

- For line 12 fgets:

```
1 SHELLCODE
```

py

- For line 3 fgets:

```
1 ADDRESS * 32
```

py

ADDRESS is 8 bytes. We're repeating it 32 times => filling up 256 bytes with the same address.

3. How this exploit works: we overwrite the LSB of foo's SFP with the null terminator.

Because the LSB is in the range 0x20 - 0xf8, this points the SFP into 'foobuf' (where we have put our repeated ADDRESS). This exploit is only guaranteed to work when foo's SFP has a LSB in the range 0x20 - 0xf8 because this is the only range for which overwriting the LSB with 0 is guaranteed to give us control over the effective return address of bar using foobuf (when the function unwind happens, it will point to ADDRESS -> the place in the heap where we put SHELLCODE). There are 4 possible values less than 0x20 that foo's SFP could take that would lead to different outcomes:

- overwriting 0x00 with 0 would do nothing
- overwriting 0x08 with 0 would point the modified SFP to foo's saved RIP, which leads to uncontrollable behavior.
- overwriting 0x10 with 0 would point the modified SFP to itself— also uncontrollable behavior.
- overwriting 0x18 puts us in foobuf, but this still doesn't give us control of the effective return address of bar, only bar's SFP.

Still, even with ASLR, the odds of exploit are pretty high.