

ASSEMBLY BOMB LAB

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Introduction

This report on Tian Lab's Starter Task [Assembly Bomb Lab](#) contains the following:

- The reverse-engineered logic
- Assembly snippets with annotations.
- Control flow diagrams (e.g., loops, conditionals) describe each phase's flow.
- Key observations (e.g., how you identified the input validation logic).
- Methodology of how I approached each problem.

This report was written by Ethan Lim of UCLA.

System Information

- Virtual Machine: Oracle VirtualBox
- Operating System: Ubuntu (Linux-based, user-friendly)
- Configuration:
 - Base memory: 6949 MB
 - Processors: 4
 - Boot Order: Hard Disk, Optical, Floppy
 - EFI: Enabled
 - Acceleration: Nested Paging, KVM Paravirtualization
- Reverse Engineering Tool: Ghidra 11.4.2

General Methodology

The primary approach to defusing each phase involved:

- Identifying the code blocks responsible for returning `true` (indicating successful defusal)
 - Examining constraints within these blocks
 - Deriving input values that satisfy these constraints
-

Phase 1: String Comparison Against Hidden String

Decompiled Code

```
bool FUN_00101378(char *param_1)
{
    int iVar1;

    iVar1 = strcmp(param_1, "Were located at 63-129 in Engineering IV");
    return iVar1 == 0;
}
```

Explanation

For the function to return **True**, **iVar1** must equal 0, which occurs only when the input string exactly matches the hardcoded string. Thus, the input must be:

```
Were located at 63-129 in Engineering IV
```

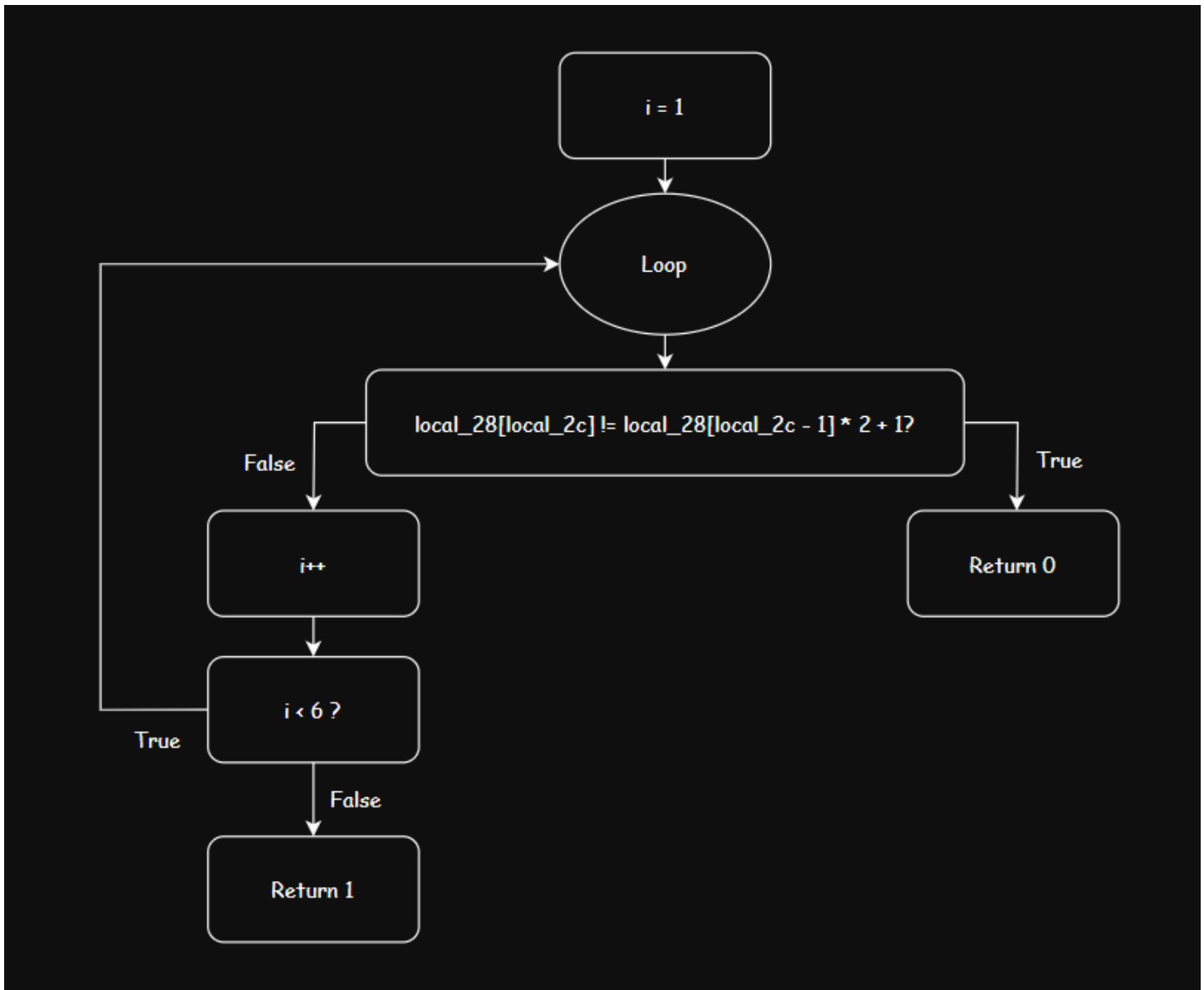
Phase 2: Arithmetic Sequence Validation

Decompiled Code

```
undefined8 FUN_001013b0(undefined8 param_1)
{
    int iVar1;
    undefined8 uVar2;
    long in_FS_OFFSET;
    int local_2c;
    int local_28[2];
    undefined1 local_20[4];
    undefined1 local_1c[4];
    undefined1 auStack_18[4];
    undefined1 auStack_14[4];
    long local_10;

    local_10 = *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
    iVar1 = __isoc99_sscanf(param_1, "%d %d %d %d %d %d", local_28, local_28 + 1,
local_20, local_1c, auStack_18, auStack_14);
    if (iVar1 == 6) {
        if (local_28[0] < 1) {
            uVar2 = 0;
        }
        else {
            for (local_2c = 1; local_2c < 6; local_2c = local_2c + 1) {
                if (local_28[local_2c] != local_28[local_2c - 1] * 2 + 1) {
                    uVar2 = 0;
                    goto LAB_00101476;
                }
            }
            uVar2 = 1;
        }
    }
    else {
        uVar2 = 0;
    }
LAB_00101476:
    if (local_10 != *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28)) {
        __stack_chk_fail();
    }
    return uVar2;
}
```

Flow Diagram



Explanation

The function reads six integers from the input, separated by spaces. These integers are assigned to the variables `local_28`, `local_28 + 1`, `local_20`, `local_1c`, `auStack_18`, and `auStack_14`. `__isoc_sscanf` returns the number of input items that were successfully matched and assigned, and hence the first condition will be met.

```
if (iVar1 == 6) {...}
```

The first integer (`local_28[0]`) must be at least 1, as verified by the check:

```
if (local_28[0] < 1) {
    uVar2 = 0;
}
```

Although `local_28` has been defined to only have two elements, the for-loop loops through the array 5 times, starting from the second element. This, along with the consecutive declarations of `local_28`, `local_28 + 1`, `local_20`, `local_1c`, `auStack_18`, and `auStack_14`, suggest that these variables collectively form a six-element array due to how the compiler laid out the stack.

The loop then iterates from index 1 to 5, ensuring the arithmetic relation:

```
local_28[i] = local_28[i-1]*2+1local\_28[i]
             = local\_28[i - 1] \times 2 + 1local_28[i]
             = local_28[i-1]*2+1
```

Holds true. Or, more commonly:

$$x = x_{n-1} * 2 + 1$$

If any element violates this, the function returns false. Therefore, the valid input consists of six integers that follow this recursive formula. A valid example input is:

```
1 3 7 15 31 63
```

Phase 3: Switch-Case Logic with String Matching

Decompiled Code

```
bool FUN_0010148c(undefined8 param_1)
{
    int iVar1;
    long in_FS_OFFSET;
    bool bVar2;
    int local_20;
    char local_1a[10];
    long local_10;

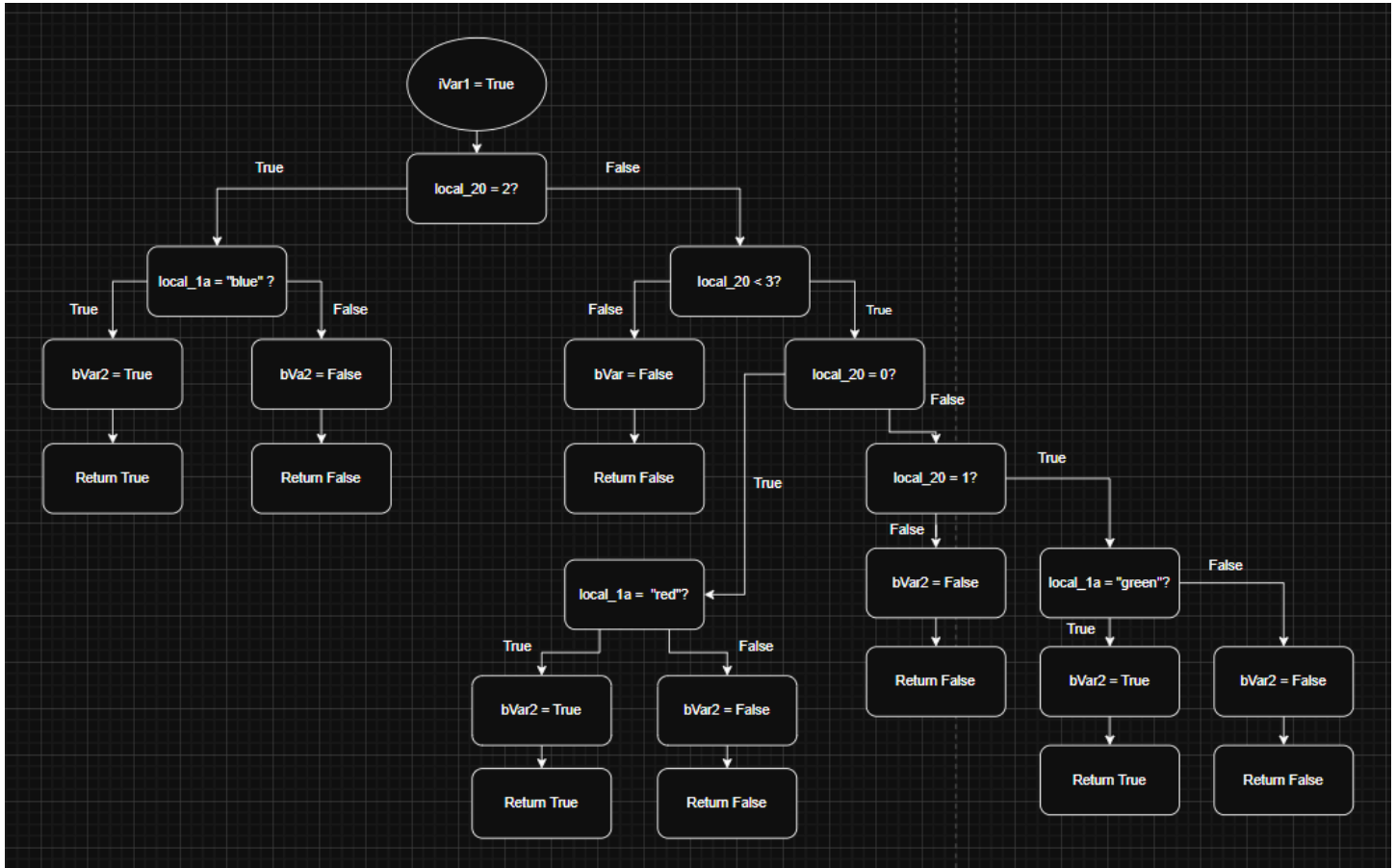
    local_10 = *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
    iVar1 = __isoc99_sscanf(param_1, "%d %9s", &local_20, local_1a);
    if (iVar1 == 2) {
        if (local_20 == 2) {
            iVar1 = strcmp(local_1a, "blue");
            bVar2 = iVar1 == 0;
        }
        else {
            if (local_20 < 3) {
                if (local_20 == 0) {
                    iVar1 = strcmp(local_1a, "red");
                    bVar2 = iVar1 == 0;
                    goto LAB_00101554;
                }
                if (local_20 == 1) {
                    iVar1 = strcmp(local_1a, "green");
                    bVar2 = iVar1 == 0;
                    goto LAB_00101554;
                }
            }
        }
        bVar2 = false;
    }
    else {
        bVar2 = false;
    }
LAB_00101554:
    if (local_10 == *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28)) {
```

```

    return bVar2;
}
__stack_chk_fail();
}

```

Flow Diagram



Explanation

This function expects the input to contain a digit followed by a string. It uses `__isoc99_sscanf` to parse these two components into `local_20` (integer) and `local_1a` (string).

The function returns true by way of this only if the input matches one of the following conditions:

- If the digit is `2`, the string must be `"blue"`.
- If the digit is `0`, the string must be `"red"`.
- If the digit is `1`, the string must be `"green"`.

Any other input causes the function to return false, resulting in the bomb exploding. Therefore, valid inputs for this phase are:

```
2 blue  
0 red  
1 green
```

Phase 4: Recursive Function Analysis

Decompiler Code:

```
bool FUN_001015b6(undefined8 param_1)
{
    int iVar1;
    long in_FS_OFFSET;
    bool bVar2;
    int local_14;
    long local_10;

    local_10 = *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
    iVar1 = __isoc99_sscanf(param_1, &DAT_001020e1, &local_14);
    if (iVar1 == 1) {
        if ((local_14 < 0) || (0x14 < local_14)) {
            bVar2 = false;
        }
        else {
            iVar1 = FUN_0010156a(local_14);
            bVar2 = iVar1 == 0x37;
        }
    }
    else {
        bVar2 = false;
    }
    if (local_10 != *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28)) {
        __stack_chk_fail();
    }
    return bVar2;
}
```

Explanation:

Phase 4 accepts a single decimal integer input, indicated by the `__isoc99_sscanf` call with format specifier, `DAT_001020e1` which specifies `"%d"`.

	DAT_001020e1			XREF[2]:
001020e1 25	??	25h	%	FUN_001015b6:001015dd(*)
001020e2 64	??	64h	d	FUN_001015b6:001015e4(*)
001020e3 00	??	00h		

This integer, stored in `local_14`, must be within the range 0 to 20 (0x14) inclusive; otherwise, the function returns false.

If the input passes this check, it is passed to the recursive function `FUN_0010156a`:

```
int FUN_0010156a(int param_1)
{
    int iVar1;

    if (param_1 < 0) {
        param_1 = -1;
    }
    else if (1 < param_1) {
        iVar1 = FUN_0010156a(param_1 - 1);
        param_1 = FUN_0010156a(param_1 - 2);
        param_1 = param_1 + iVar1;
    }
    return param_1;
}
```

FUN_0010156a ← Declaration			XREF[5]:	0010159a(c), 001015a9(c), FUN_001015b6:0010161b(c), 001022d4, 0010246c(*)
0010156a	f3 0f 1e fa	ENDBR64		
0010156e	55	PUSH RBP		
0010156f	48 89 e5	MOV RBP,RSP		
00101572	53	PUSH RBX		
00101573	48 83 ec 18	SUB RSP,0x18		
00101577	89 7d ec	MOV dword ptr [RBP + local_1c],EDI		
0010157a	83 7d ec 00	CMP dword ptr [RBP + local_1c],0x0		
0010157e	79 07	JNS LAB_00101587		
00101580	b8 ff ff	MOV EAX,0xffffffff		
	ff ff			
00101585	eb 29	JMP LAB_001015b0		
LAB_00101587			XREF[1]:	0010157e(j)
00101587	83 7d ec 01	CMP dword ptr [RBP + local_1c],0x1		
0010158b	7f 05	JG LAB_00101592		
0010158d	8b 45 ec	MOV EAX,dword ptr [RBP + local_1c]		
00101590	eb 1e	JMP LAB_001015b0		
LAB_00101592			XREF[1]:	0010158b(j)
00101592	8b 45 ec	MOV EAX,dword ptr [RBP + local_1c]		
00101595	83 e8 01	SUB EAX,0x1		
00101598	89 c7	MOV EDI,EAX		
0010159a	e8 cb ff	CALL FUN_0010156a ← Recursive Call		undefined FUN_0010156a()
	ff ff			
0010159f	89 c3	MOV EBX,EAX		
001015a1	8b 45 ec	MOV EAX,dword ptr [RBP + local_1c]		
001015a4	83 e8 02	SUB EAX,0x2		
001015a7	89 c7	MOV EDI,EAX		
001015a9	e8 bc ff	CALL FUN_0010156a ← Recursive Call		undefined FUN_0010156a()

This function computes the nth Fibonacci number recursively. The phase expects the Fibonacci number corresponding to the input index to equal `0x37` (decimal 55). This occurs when the input is 10. In reverse-engineering logic,

local_14 must be 10. local_14 is assigned by param_1. param_1 must be equal to 10.

Thus, the valid input to defuse Phase 4 is:

```
10
```

Activation of the Secret Phase

The secret phase triggers when the substring "SMARTT" appears at `&DAT_001040a0`, detected by:

```
pcVar1 = strstr(&DAT_001040a0, "SMARTT");
if (pcVar1 != (char *)0x0) {
    puts("\n!!! Secret phase triggered !!!");
    FUN_00101b87(FUN_0010191f, "Secret Phase");
}
```

And is otherwise skipped if `pcVar1` is null `((char *)0x0)`.

Recall that the format specifier in Phase 4 was also an address of a pointer (`&DAT_001020e10`), suggesting a pointer's significance in activating the secret phase. Exploring the binary, let's look into `FUN_00101b87`, the function in main that takes in each phase as an argument.

```
void FUN_00101b87(code *param_1, undefined8 param_2)
{
    int iVar1;
    undefined8 uVar2;
    uint local_14;

    local_14 = 5;
    printf("\n--- %s ---\n", param_2);
    while( true ) {
        if (local_14 == 0) {
            FUN_00101289();
            return;
        }
        printf("%s (%d tries left): ", param_2, (ulong)local_14);
        uVar2 = FUN_00101301();
        iVar1 = (*param_1)(uVar2);
        if (iVar1 != 0) break;
        puts("Incorrect input. Try again.");
        local_14 = local_14 - 1;
    }
    printf(">>> %s defused! <<<\n", param_2);
    return;
}
```

Specifically, let's explore `FUN_00101301`, whose result is being assigned to `uVar2`.

```
undefined * FUN_00101301(void)
{
    char *pcVar1;

    pcVar1 = fgets(&DAT_001040a0,100,stdin);
    if (pcVar1 == (char *)0x0) {
        puts("Error reading input or EOF reached.");
        FUN_00101289();
    }
    pcVar1 = strchr(&DAT_001040a0,10);
    if (pcVar1 != (char *)0x0) {
        *pcVar1 = '\0';
    }
    return &DAT_001040a0;
}
```

Note how this function saves each phase's input in `&DAT_001040a0`. Since `__isoc99_sscanf` in Phase 4 only scans the initial decimal integer and ignores trailing characters, appending `"SMARTT"` directly after 10 both satisfies Phase 4 and stores `"SMARTT"` in `&DAT_001040a0`, allowing us to activate the secret phase.

Therefore, entering:

```
10SMARTT
```

As Phase 4's input will activate the secret phase.

Secret Phase

Decompiler Code:

```
undefined8 FUN_0010191f(undefined8 param_1)
{
    int iVar1;
    undefined8 uVar2;
    long in_FS_OFFSET;
    uint local_18;
    uint local_14;
    long local_10;

    local_10 = *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
    iVar1 = __isoc99_sscanf(param_1, "%d %d", &local_18, &local_14);
    if (iVar1 == 2) {
        if ((local_14 + local_18 == 0x7a69) && ((local_14 ^ local_18) == 0x11)) {
            uVar2 = 1;
        }
        else {
            uVar2 = 0;
        }
    }
    else {
        uVar2 = 0;
    }
    if (local_10 != *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28)) {
        __stack_chk_fail();
    }
    return uVar2;
}
```

Explanation:

The secret phase expects two decimal integers separated by a space, confirmed by the format specifier `"%d %d"` in the `__isoc99_sscanf` call.

The two integers, stored in `local_18` and `local_14`, respectively, must satisfy these constraints simultaneously:

- Sum equals `0x7a69` (hexadecimal), or 31337 decimal.
- Bitwise XOR equals `0x11` (hexadecimal), or 17 decimal.
- Assembly Annotation:

0010196a	8b 55 f0	MOV	EDX,dword ptr [RBP + local_18]
0010196d	8b 45 f4	MOV	EAX,dword ptr [RBP + local_14]
00101970	01 d0	ADD	EAX,EDX
00101972	3d 69 7a	CMP	EAX,0x7a69
	00 00		
00101977	75 14	JNZ	LAB_0010198d
00101979	8b 55 f0	MOV	EDX,dword ptr [RBP + local_18]
0010197c	8b 45 f4	MOV	EAX,dword ptr [RBP + local_14]
0010197f	31 d0	XOR	EAX,EDX
00101981	83 f8 11	CMP	EAX,0x11
00101984	75 07	JNZ	LAB_0010198d
00101986	b8 01 00	MOV	EAX,0x1
	00 00		

Formally:

```
local_18 + local_14 == 31337
(local_18 ^ local_14) == 17
```

Solving this analytically is challenging and gruesome, however a simple brute-force Python script with time complexity $O(n^2)$ can be used for efficiency.

```
# 7A69 (hex) = 31337 (decimal)

should_break = False

for local_14 in range(0, 31337):
    for local_18 in range(0, 31337):
        if (local_14 + local_18 == 0x7a69) and ((local_14 ^ local_18) == 0x11):
            print(f"local_14: {local_14}, local_18: {local_18}")
            should_break = True
            break
    if should_break:
        break
```

Output:

```
local_14 = 15660, local_18 = 15677
```

Thus, the first valid solution is:

```
15660 15677
```

Inputting these two integers separated by a space resolves the secret phase.

Phase 5: Bitwise/Array Transformations

[Impossible]

Decompiled Code:

```
bool FUN_0010163f(char *param_1)
{
    int iVar1;
    size_t sVar2;
    long in_FS_OFFSET;
    bool bVar3;
    int local_24;
    char local_20[15];
    undefined1 local_11;
    long local_10;

    local_10 = *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
    builtin_strncpy(local_20, "arishem", 8);
    sVar2 = strlen(param_1);
    if (sVar2 == 7) {
        for (local_24 = 0; local_24 < 7; local_24 = local_24 + 1) {
            if ((param_1[local_24] < 'a') || ('z' < param_1[local_24])) {
                bVar3 = false;
                goto LAB_00101735;
            }
            local_20[(long)local_24 + 8] = (char)(param_1[local_24] ^ 0x42U) % '\x1a' + 'a';
        }
        local_11 = 0;
        iVar1 = strcmp(local_20 + 8, local_20);
        bVar3 = iVar1 == 0;
    } else {
        bVar3 = false;
    }
LAB_00101735:
    if (local_10 != *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28)) {
        __stack_chk_fail();
    }
    return bVar3;
}
```

Analysis:

The goal of this function is to compare a transformed version of the input string with the hardcoded string "arishem". The transformation is done using a bitwise XOR followed by modulo and offset operations. If the transformed result matches "arishem", the function returns true.

Input Constraints:

- The input must be exactly 7 lowercase characters. This is enforced by the following condition inside the loop:

```
if ((param_1[i] < 'a') || ('z' < param_1[i])) {  
    bVar3 = false;  
    goto LAB_00101735;  
}
```

- Each character is transformed using:

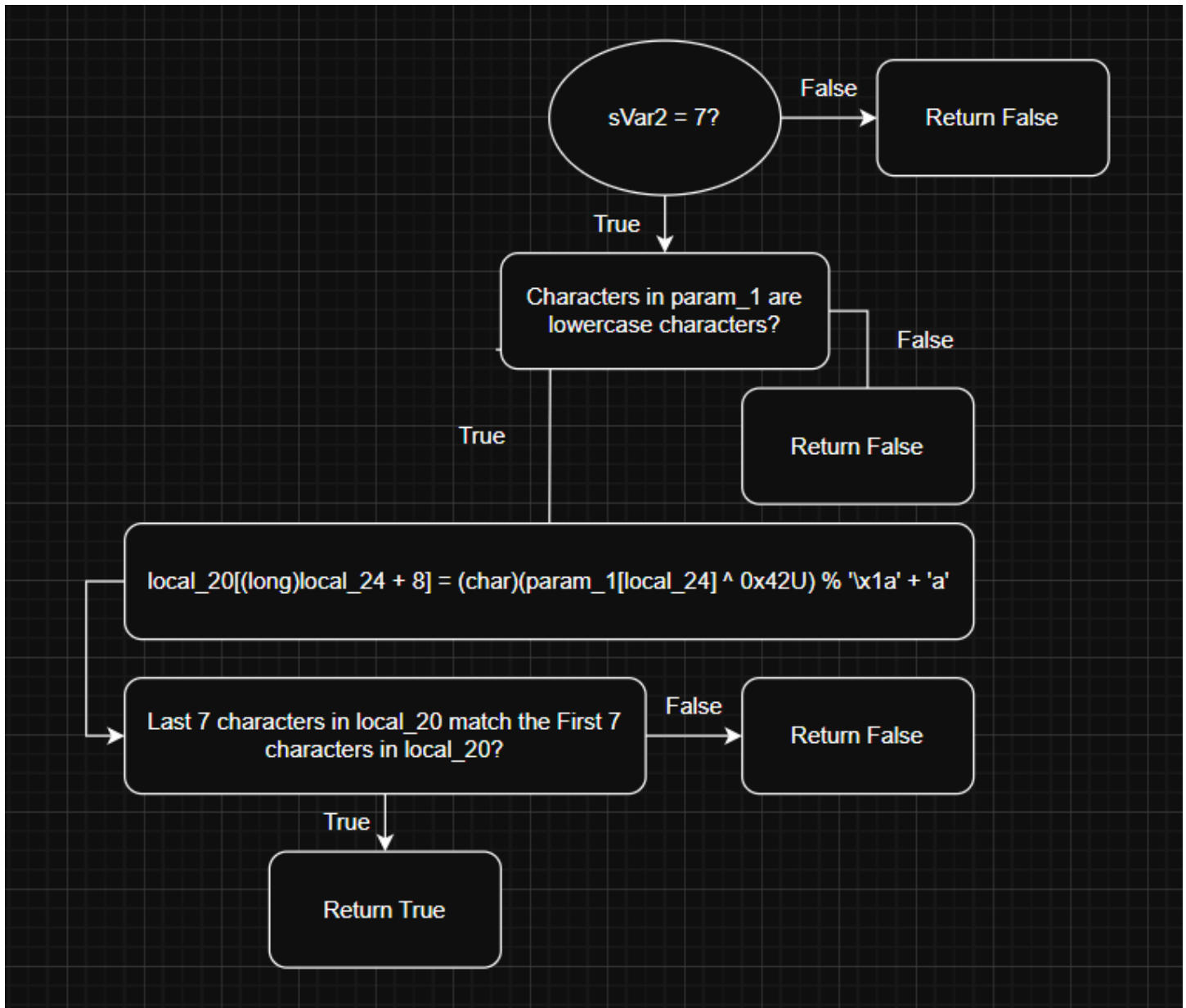
```
local_20[i + 8] = (char)(param_1[i] ^ 0x42U) % 0x1a + 'a';
```

This transforms the character using:

```
output_char = ((ASCII(input_char) XOR 66) % 26) + 97
```

The comparison is then made between the transformed 7 characters and the static string "arishem" stored in the first half of the local_20 array.

Flow Diagram



Reverse Engineering Attempt:

To reverse this logic, the goal was to find an input string such that each transformed character matched the corresponding character in "arishem". We first rearrange the transformation equation to

```
output_char - 97 = ((ASCII(input_char) XOR 66) % 26)
```

The following code in C++ was used for calculations:

```

#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

int main()
{
    int result;

    for (int i = 97; i < 123; i++) {
        result = (i ^ 66) % 26;
        cout << "When param_1[] is " << i << " (character '" << (char)i << "'), " <<
"(i ^ 66) % 26 = " << result << "\n";
    }
}

```

Output:

```

When param_1 is 97 (character 'a'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 9
When param_1 is 98 (character 'b'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 6
When param_1 is 99 (character 'c'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 7
When param_1 is 100 (character 'd'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 12
When param_1 is 101 (character 'e'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 13
When param_1 is 102 (character 'f'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 10
When param_1 is 103 (character 'g'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 11
When param_1 is 104 (character 'h'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 16
When param_1 is 105 (character 'i'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 17
When param_1 is 106 (character 'j'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 14
When param_1 is 107 (character 'k'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 15
When param_1 is 108 (character 'l'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 20
When param_1 is 109 (character 'm'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 21
When param_1 is 110 (character 'n'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 18
When param_1 is 111 (character 'o'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 19
When param_1 is 112 (character 'p'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 24
When param_1 is 113 (character 'q'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 25
When param_1 is 114 (character 'r'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 22
When param_1 is 115 (character 's'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 23
When param_1 is 116 (character 't'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 2
When param_1 is 117 (character 'u'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 3
When param_1 is 118 (character 'v'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 0
When param_1 is 119 (character 'w'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 1
When param_1 is 120 (character 'x'), (i ^ 66) % 26 = 6

```

When param_1 is 121 (character 'y'), $(i \wedge 66) \% 26 = 7$
When param_1 is 122 (character 'z'), $(i \wedge 66) \% 26 = 4$

The table below summarizes the analysis:

Target Char	ASCII	ASCII - 97	Desired Result from $(x \wedge 66) \% 26$	Valid Input ASCII	Valid Input Char
'a'	97	0	0	118	'v'
'r'	114	17	17	105	'i'
'i'	105	8	8	—	— (no solution)
's'	115	18	18	110	'n'
'h'	104	7	7	99	'c'
'e'	101	4	4	122	'z'
'm'	109	12	12	100	'd'

There is no lowercase character that produces the transformation result needed for 'i'. Therefore, there is no valid input that satisfies the full transformation.

The transformation logic used in this phase makes it unsolvable under the given constraints. Specifically, there is no lowercase input character that produces the transformed value corresponding to 'i' in "arishem". Therefore, Phase 5 is mathematically impossible.

Bypassing Phase 5

Binary Patching:

Since it is impossible to satisfy the transformation constraint in Phase 5, the decision was made to bypass this phase using binary patching.

Steps Taken:

1. Patch **FUN_0010163f** to Always Return Success:
 - Apply the following patched instructions, starting four bytes after:

```
MOV EAX, 1
RET
```

- This forces the function to always return **true**.

Before:

The screenshot shows the Immunity Debugger interface. The left pane displays the assembly for `FUN_0010163f`. The right pane shows the decompiled C++ code for the same function. The assembly includes instructions like `ENDBR64`, `PUSH RBP`, `MOV RBP, RSP`, `SUB RSP, 0x30`, `MOV qword ptr [RBP + local_30], RDI`, `MOV RAX, qword ptr FS:[0x28]`, `MOV qword ptr [RBP + local_10], RAX`, `XOR EAX, EAX`, and `MOV RAX, 0x6d656873697261`. The decompiled code shows a function that takes a character pointer `param_1` and performs various operations, including a loop that checks for the character 'a'.

After:

The screenshot shows the Immunity Debugger interface after patching. The left pane displays the patched assembly for `FUN_0010163f`. The right pane shows the decompiled C++ code for the same function. The assembly includes instructions like `LAB_0010163d`, `LEAVE`, `RET`, `MOV EAX, 0x1`, and `RET`. The decompiled code shows a function that takes a character pointer `param_1` and returns 1, indicating success.

2. Patch FUN_001012b9:

- Same approach as above, but starting with the function.

Before:

The screenshot shows the Immunity Debugger interface. The left pane displays the assembly listing for the function FUN_001012b9, starting with a CALL instruction to <EXTERNAL>:exit. The right pane shows the decompiled C++ code, which includes a ptrace call and a conditional exit based on the ptrace result.

```
Listing: bomb-students
001012b4 00 00          CALL     <EXTERNAL>:exit
001012b6 e8 c7 fe      CALL     <EXTERNAL>:exit
001012b8 ff ff      CALL     <EXTERNAL>:exit

-- Flow Override: CALL_RETURN (CALL_TERMINATOR)

*****
* FUNCTION
*****
undefined FUN_001012b9()
  <UNASSIGNED> <RETURN>
  XREF[3]: F
  C

001012b9 f3 0f 1e fa  ENDBR64
001012bd 55          PUSH     RBP
001012be 48 89 e5     MOV     RBP, RSP
001012c1 b9 00 00     MOV     ECX, 0x0
001012c6 ba 00 00     MOV     EDX, 0x0
001012cb be 00 00     MOV     ESI, 0x0
001012d0 bf 00 00     MOV     EDI, 0x0
001012d5 b8 00 00     MOV     EAX, 0x0

Decompile: FUN_001012b9 - (bomb-students)
1 void FUN_001012b9(void)
2
3
4 {
5     long lVar1;
6
7     lVar1 = ptrace(PTRACE_TRACEME, 0, 0, 0);
8     if (lVar1 == -1) {
9         puts("Debugger detected. Exiting...");
10        FUN_001012b9();
11    }
12    return;
13}
14
```

After:

The screenshot shows the Immunity Debugger interface after patching. The assembly listing now shows a MOV instruction for EAX with value 0x1, followed by a RET instruction. The decompiled code shows the function returning 1.

```
Listing: patched_bomb
*****
* FUNCTION
*****
undefined FUN_001012b9()
  <UNASSIGNED> <RETURN>
  XREF[3]: FUN_00101c4
  0010122ac, 00

001012b9 b8 01 00     MOV     EAX, 0x1
001012be c3          RET

001012bf 89          ??      89h
001012c0 e5          ??      E5h
001012c1 b9          ??      B9h
001012c2 00          ??      00h
001012c3 00          ??      00h
001012c4 00          ??      00h
001012c5 00          ??      00h
001012c6 ba          ??      BAh
001012c7 00          ??      00h
001012c8 00          ??      00h
001012c9 00          ??      00h
001012ca 00          ??      00h
001012cb be          ??      BEh
001012cc 00          ??      00h

Decompile: FUN_001012b9 - (patched_bomb)
1 undefined8 FUN_001012b9(void)
2
3
4 {
5     return 1;
6 }
7
```

3. Disable ptrace Anti-Debugging Check:

- Locate the thunk function for ptrace, typically at ptrace:00101170(T).
- Replace its contents with:

```
XOR EAX, EAX
RET
```

- This disables debugger detection by always returning 0.

Before:

```

*****
*                               *
*                               *
*****
thunk long ptrace(__ptrace_request __request, ...)
|thunked-Function: <EXTERNAL>::ptrace
long      RAX:8      <RETURN>
__ptrace_reque... EDI:4      __request
<EXTERNAL>::ptrace
XREF[2]:  ptrace:00101170(T),
          ptrace:00101174(c), 00103fc0(*)
00105058      ??      ??

```

After:

```

*****
*                               *
*                               *
*****
thunk long ptrace(__ptrace_request __request, ...)
|thunked-Function: <EXTERNAL>::ptrace
long      RAX:8      <RETURN>
__ptrace_reque... EDI:4      __request
<EXTERNAL>::ptrace
XREF[1]:  00103fc0(*)
→ 00105058      ??      ??

```

4. Recompile Patched Binary:

- Export the patched binary from the disassembler and save it.
- Execute this version for Phase 6 and beyond.

Phase 6: Linked List Traversal and Reordering

Decompiled Code:

```
undefined8 FUN_0010174b(undefined8 param_1)
{
    int iVar1;
    undefined8 uVar2;
    long in_FS_OFFSET;
    int local_90;
    int local_8c;
    int local_88[2];
    undefined1 local_80[4];
    undefined1 local_7c[4];
    undefined1 auStack_78[4];
    undefined1 auStack_74[12];
    int local_68[8];
    long local_48;
    undefined *local_40;
    undefined *local_38;
    undefined *local_30;
    undefined *local_28;
    undefined *local_20;
    undefined *local_18;
    long local_10;

    local_10 = *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
    local_48 = 0;
    local_40 = &DAT_00104060;
    local_38 = &DAT_00104050;
    local_30 = &DAT_00104040;
    local_28 = &DAT_00104030;
    local_20 = &DAT_00104020;
    local_18 = &DAT_00104010;
    iVar1 = __isoc99_sscanf(param_1,"%d %d %d %d %d %d",local_88,local_88 + 1,local_80,
        local_7c, auStack_78, auStack_74);

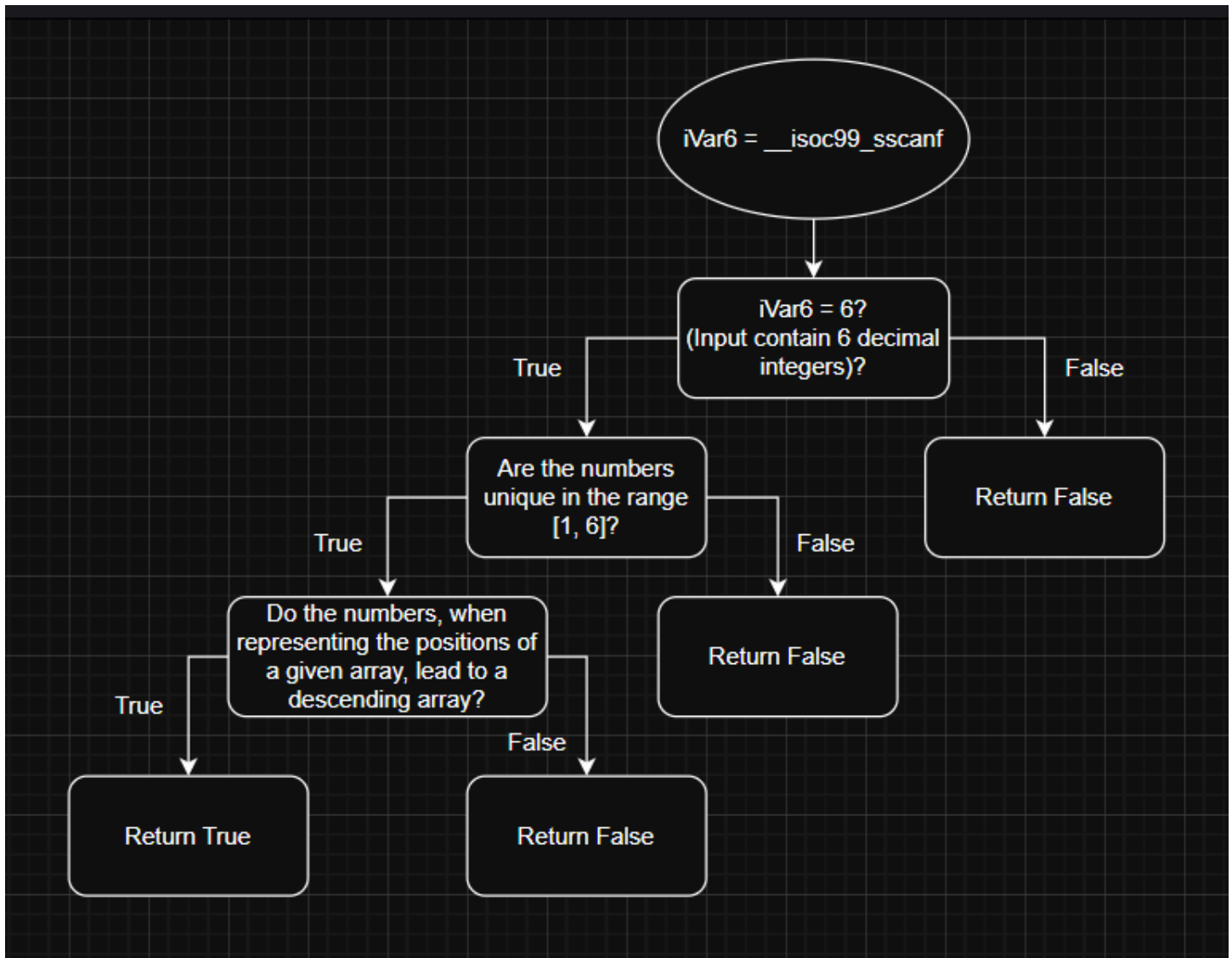
    if (iVar1 == 6) {
        local_68[0] = 0;
        local_68[1] = 0;
        local_68[2] = 0;
        local_68[3] = 0;
    }
}
```

```

local_68[4] = 0;
local_68[5] = 0;
local_68[6] = 0;
for (local_90 = 0; local_90 < 6; local_90 = local_90 + 1) {
    if (((local_88[local_90] < 1) || (6 < local_88[local_90])) ||
        (local_68[local_88[local_90]] != 0)) {
        uVar2 = 0;
        goto LAB_00101909;
    }
    local_68[local_88[local_90]] = 1;
}
for (local_8c = 0; local_8c < 5; local_8c = local_8c + 1) {
    if (*(int *)(&local_48)[local_88[local_8c]] + 4) <
        *(int *)(&local_48)[local_88[local_8c + 1]] + 4)) {
        uVar2 = 0;
        goto LAB_00101909;
    }
}
uVar2 = 1;
}
else {
    uVar2 = 0;
}
LAB_00101909:
if (local_10 != *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28)) {
    __stack_chk_fail();
}
return uVar2;
}

```

Flow Diagram:



Analysis

Phase 6 evaluates a sequence of 6 integers. These integers are used as indices to traverse an array of structures, with the constraint that the resulting traversal must follow a strictly descending order based on the second field (i.e., offset `+4`) of each structure.

Input Parsing

The function expects 6 space-separated integers passed as a string:

```
__isoc99_sscanf(param_1, "%d %d %d %d %d %d", local_88, local_88 + 1, local_80, local_7c, auStack_78, auStack_74)
```

Each of the six integers is written into contiguous memory starting at `local_88`. Despite only `local_88[0]` and `local_88[1]` being directly declared, the next four values `local_80`, `local_7c`, `auStack_78`, and `auStack_74` are stored in variables immediately following `local_88`, making `local_88` functionally a 6-element decimal-integer array.

Stack:

Higher memory addresses

local_88[0]	(int)	<- first element
local_88[1]	(int)	
local_80	(int)	
local_7c	(int)	
auStack_78	(int)	
auStack_74	(int)	<- sixth element

Lower memory addresses

Constraints

Constraint 1: Valid and Unique Values Between 1 and 6

```
if (((local_88[local_90] < 1) || (6 < local_88[local_90])) ||  
    (local_68[local_88[local_90]] != 0)) {  
    uVar2 = 0;  
    goto LAB_00101909;  
}
```

- Each value must be between 1 and 6 (inclusive).
- No duplicates are allowed. A flag array `local_68` ensures each value is used only once.

This implies the input must be a permutation of [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6].

Constraint 2: Descending Comparison of Structure Values

```
if (*(int *)((&local_48)[local_88[i]] + 4) < *(int *)((&local_48)[local_88[i+1]] + 4))
{
    uVar2 = 0;
    goto LAB_00101909;
}
```

This accesses the second field (offset +4) of each structure using the index provided in `local_88`. These structure pointers are pre-initialized:

```
local_48 = 0;
local_40 = &DAT_00104060;
local_38 = &DAT_00104050;
local_30 = &DAT_00104040;
local_28 = &DAT_00104030;
local_20 = &DAT_00104020;
local_18 = &DAT_00104010;
```

These form a lookup array from indices 1 to 6:

Index	Pointer	+4 Offset Value (hex)	+4 Offset Value (decimal)
1	DAT_00104060	0x01F4	500
2	DAT_00104050	0x00C8	200
3	DAT_00104040	0x0064	100
4	DAT_00104030	0x0190	400
5	DAT_00104020	0x012C	300
6	DAT_00104010	0x0258	600

How to calculate, using example `DAT_00104060`:

DAT_00104060			
00104060	01	??	01h
00104061	00	??	00h
00104062	00	??	00h
00104063	00	??	00h
00104064	f4	??	F4h
00104065	01	??	01h
00104066	00	??	00h
00104067	00	??	00h

00 00 01 F4 in little-endian format; 0x01F4 in hexadecimal format. To convert to decimal:

$$1 * 16^2 + 15 * 16^1 + 4 * 16^0 = 256 + 240 + 4 = 500$$

To pass the second for-loop, the values at offset +4 of each pointer (dereferenced by the permutation indices) must be in descending order.

So we want:

```
value_at_index[local_88[0]] >= value_at_index[local_88[1]] >= ... >=
value_at_index[local_88[5]]
```

Using the values:

Index	Value at +4
6	600
1	500
4	400
5	300
2	200
3	100

This results in the correct input:

```
6 1 4 5 2 3
```

This is a valid permutation of [1–6] and produces descending values at the +4 offset of each structure.

Phase 7 — Surprise !!

Decompiled Code:

```
bool FUN_00101a3b(undefined8 param_1)
{
    int iVar1;
    long in_FS_OFFSET;
    bool bVar2;
    uint local_38, local_34, local_30;
    uint local_2c, local_28, local_24;
    int local_20;
    uint local_1c, local_18;
    int local_14;
    long local_10;

    local_10 = *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28);
    iVar1 = __isoc99_sscanf(param_1, "%d %d %d", &local_38, &local_34, &local_30);
    if (iVar1 == 3) {
        local_2c = FUN_001019a8(local_38, 1);
        local_28 = FUN_001019a8(local_34, 2);
        local_24 = FUN_001019a8(local_30, 3);

        if ((local_2c == local_28) || (local_2c == local_24) || (local_28 == local_24)) {
            bVar2 = false;
        } else {
            if (((int)local_28 < (int)local_2c && (int)local_2c < (int)local_24) ||
                ((int)local_24 < (int)local_2c && (int)local_2c < (int)local_28)) {
                local_20 = 1;
            } else {
                local_20 = 0;
            }

            if (local_20 == 0) {
                bVar2 = false;
            } else {
                local_1c = local_30 & local_24 | local_38 & local_2c | local_34 & local_28;
                local_18 = local_30 ^ local_38 ^ local_34 ^ local_2c ^ local_28 ^ local_24;
                local_14 = local_18 + local_1c;
                bVar2 = local_14 == 0x93;
            }
        }
    }
    else {
```

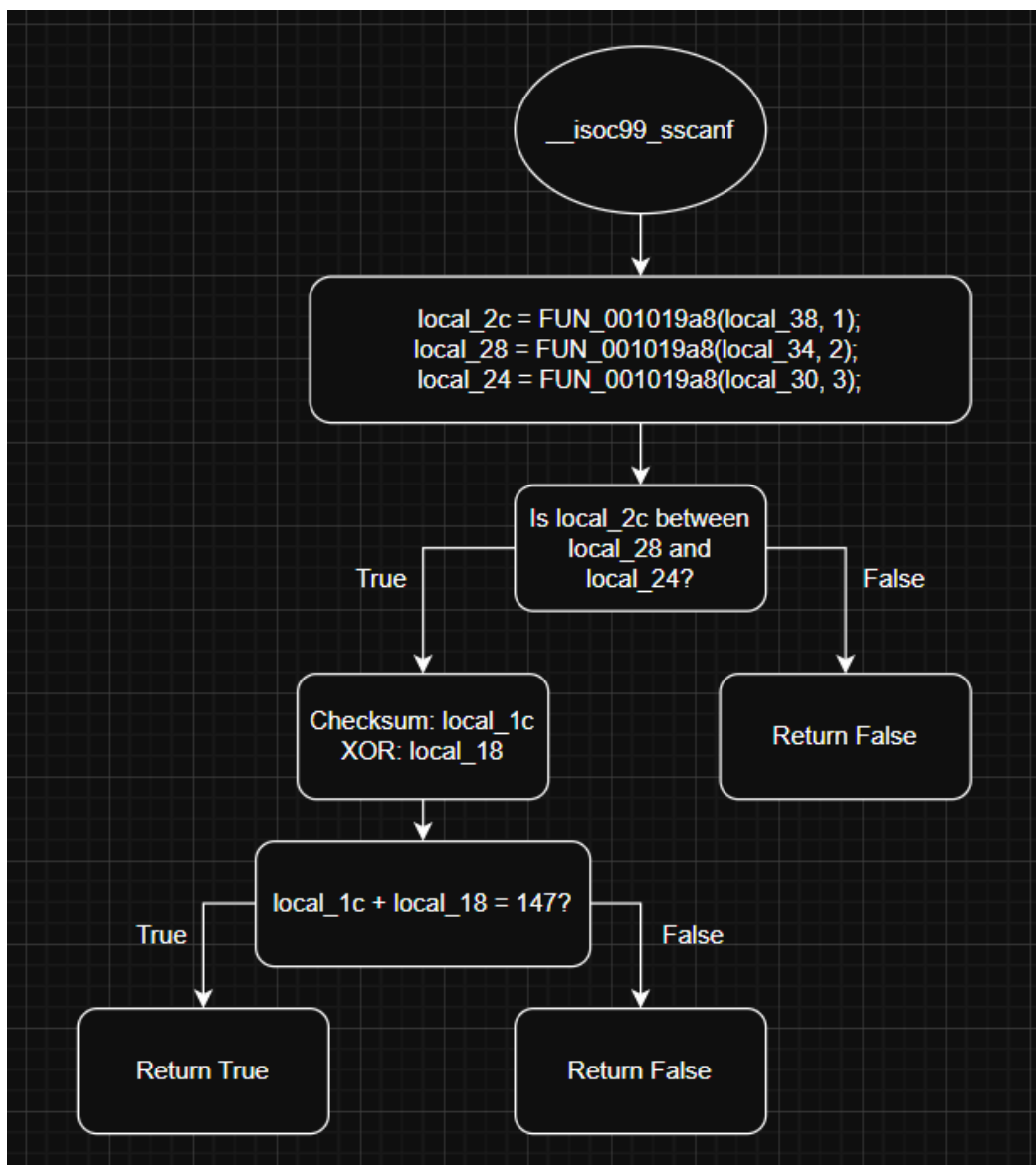
```

    bVar2 = false;
}

if (local_10 != *(long *)(in_FS_OFFSET + 0x28)) {
    __stack_chk_fail();
}
return bVar2;
}

```

Flow Diagram:



Analysis:

This phase takes three space-separated decimal integers as input. These values undergo a series of custom transformations and logical operations, followed by multiple conditional checks involving:

- Value uniqueness
- Strict ordering
- Bitwise AND and XOR arithmetic

Ultimately, the program verifies whether the computed checksum equals a target constant (**0x93** or decimal **147**).

Input Parsing

```
__isoc99_sscanf(param_1, "%d %d %d", &local_38, &local_34, &local_30);
```

- Inputs: **local_38**, **local_34**, **local_30**
- All values are integers, parsed from the string **param_1**.

Constraints and Conditions

Constraint 1: All transformed values must be unique

```
if (local_2c == local_28 || local_2c == local_24 || local_28 == local_24) {  
    bVar2 = false;  
}
```

Constraint 2: Ordering

```
if ((local_28 < local_2c < local_24) || (local_24 < local_2c < local_28)) {  
}
```

This implies **local_2c** must be between **local_28** and **local_24**.

Constraint 3: Bitwise Operations

```
local_1c = local_30 & local_24 | local_38 & local_2c | local_34 & local_28;  
local_18 = local_30 ^ local_38 ^ local_34 ^ local_2c ^ local_28 ^ local_24;  
local_14 = local_18 + local_1c;  
bVar2 = (local_14 == 0x93);
```

The total sum of the bitwise XOR of all six values, plus a bitwise AND/OR hybrid, must equal 147.

Brute-force Search Strategy

Python Script

```
def FUN_001019a8(param_1, param_2):

    if param_2 == 3:
        return param_1 / 4 + param_1 * 5

    if param_2 < 4:
        if (param_2 == 1):
            return param_1 ^ 0x2a

        if (param_2 == 2):
            return (param_1 + 0x11) % 0x65 ^ 0xf

    print("Error: Invalid round_id in oracle_transform.")

    return 0;

target_value = 0x93
break_time = False

for local_38 in range(0, 100):
    local_2c = FUN_001019a8(local_38, 1)
    for local_34 in range(0, 100):
        local_28 = FUN_001019a8(local_34, 2)
        for local_30 in range(0, 100):
            local_24 = FUN_001019a8(local_30, 3)

            local_30 = int(local_30)
            local_24 = int(local_24)
            local_38 = int(local_38)
            local_2c = int(local_2c)
            local_34 = int(local_34)
            local_28 = int(local_28)

            if (local_24 < local_2c and local_2c < local_28) or (local_28 < local_2c
```

```

and local_2c < local_24):
    if (local_30 & local_24 | local_38 & local_2c | local_34 & local_28) +
(local_30 ^ local_38 ^ local_34 ^ local_2c ^ local_28 ^ local_24) == target_value:
        print(f"{local_38} {local_34} {local_30}")
        break_time = True
        break
    if break_time:
        break
if break_time:
    break

```

Brute-force Key Elements:

- Iterates all combinations of `local_38`, `local_34`, and `local_30` from 0 to 99
- Applies the three custom transformations
- Checks all constraints in order
- Stops at first valid match
- Time complexity: $O(n^3)$ in worst case (up to 1 million iterations)

Output:

```
0 84 42
```

The above numbers correspond as such:

```

local_38 = 0
local_34 = 84
local_30 = 42

```

Final Answer:

```
0 84 42
```

Solutions

phase_inputs.txt

```
Were located at 63-129 in Engineering IV  
1 3 7 15 31 63  
2 blue  
10SMARTT  
15660 15677  
  
6 1 4 5 2 3  
0 84 42
```