Reflection

Felix Tanaka (z5478466)

November 4, 2024

1 Reflection

Overall, I feel like I achieved what I set out to do in this assignment. I have always been really interested in how safe or not computers are at their core. As can be seen in the report, I mainly explore what can be done once root privileges have already been obtained. The biggest issue, as discussed in the report, was finding a new method to aquire the addresses of system calls. I managed to overcome it by spending many hours researching and reading other people's solutions and combining them.

I think one of the most interesting things that I learnt from this project is that there are always more than one way to get around things. This was especially demonstrated in the system call address issue, but for a lot of the methods I used, I found various ways to do them. An example of that is all the ways to hook system calls. I think that this perfectly demonstrates how it's never just as easy as fixing one thing and saying you've fixed everything when it comes to that problem.

Another large challenge that I faced was that a lot of the functionality that I wanted to implement was quite difficult. As a result of this, I had to rely heavily on learning from guides and following along with examples of code. I had to figure out a way to learn and implement what I wanted to without plagiarising other people's code. I managed to overcome this by spending lots of time researching and finding opinions and solutions from multiple people. Having more approaches to a problem and a better understanding of it meant that I was better equipped to come up with a solution myself, or at least a variation of a solution.

I think what changed me the most was having to look deeply into specific areas. I have learnt that it is far more valuable to understand something than to just copy some code and move on.