COMP3236 v1: April 29, 2021

# Assignment 3: Software Hijacking

Week 9

Your third assignment is on software hijacking, which is bases on Lab 4. The assignment is an individual assignment and is worth 25% of the module marking. You will be assessed on your ability to carry out a successful exploitation of the software.

### Marks Breakdown

- 5 Marks Decompile the application and figure out:
  - 1 Marks: Which function checks the license. (write the function name only)
  - 2 Marks: When this function is run. (Code and explain the sequence)
  - 2 Marks: How the license key is checked? (What makes a valid license?) (Code and explain the sequence)
- 5 Marks Generate an unpatched key to enable app (check value). (Flag and explain process)
- 5 Marks Patch the application to disable online license checks. (Flag and explain process)
- 5 Marks Patch the application to enable the advanced features. (Flag and explain process)
- 5 Marks Patch the application to remove reporting metrics. (Code and explain the sequence)

#### **Submission Instructions**

Please Submit your solution to this form

#### **Deadline**

The assignment deadline is on 13 of May 2021.

## **Experimental Setup**

You will need to use the same Virtual Machine or Vagrant image you used for the previous laboratory.

Download the lab6 application from the following URL:  $\frac{\text{https://git.soton.ac.uk/comp6236/lab6/-/raw/master/lab6-app.zip} {\text{https://git.soton.ac.uk/comp6236/lab6/-/raw/master/lab6-app.zip}$ 

Use Ghidra and a hex editor of your choice to reverse engineer the binary and complete the steps above.

You may find the following Assembly instruction reference useful: http://ref.x86asm.net/coder64.html