

Fuzzing and finding vulnerabilities using AFL/WinAFL

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Overall Agenda

- Introduction
- Part I
 - Vulnerabilities, Fuzzing process, crash triage, root cause analysis.
- Part II
 - Fuzzing Using AFL on Linux
- Part III
 - Fuzzing Using WinAFL on Windows
- Conclusion



About Me

- Security Researcher @ McAfee
 - Vulnerability, exploit, malware analysis.
- Fuzzing and bug hunting.
 - Have around 24 CVEs in my name.
 - MSRC 2018-19 Most Valuable Researcher.
 - MSRC Q1 2020 Top Contributing Researcher.
- Blogs:
 - https://www.mcafee.com/blogs/author/hardik-shah/
- Twitter:
 - @hardik05



Agenda for Part I

- Vulnerabilities
 - Different Types of Vulnerabilities.
 - Integer overflow/Underflow
 - Stack/Heap Overflow
 - OOB Read/Write
 - Use After Free/ Double Free
 - Manually Identifying the vulnerabilities in C Program.
- What is Fuzzing?
 - Need for Fuzzing
 - Types of Fuzzers
 - Fuzzing a program Process
- Crash analysis.
 - Crash Triage
 - Root cause
- Reporting issues to vendor/Bug Bounty



Vulnerability

- Bug in the software.
 - Ex: if you send get request where uri length is more then 1000 bytes of data to a web server, it will crash.
- Can be used to perform various unwanted activities:
 - Remote code execution someone can execute malicious code.
 - Denial of service can crash the software or entire system.
 - Privilege Escalation from local account to admin account.
- How they can be used in malicious activity?
 - Leads to system compromise, ransomware, trojan, botnet, bitcoin miners, data theft etc.
 - Industry effect data theft, loss of productivity.
- Common types of vulnerabilities
 - Integer overflow/underflow, stack/heap overflow, out of bound read/write, use after free, double free

Can be converted to Exploits



Different Types of Vulnerabilities



Integer Overflow

- What it is?
- Vulnerability in integer data types, the way in which they store data.
- Example:
 - unsigned int j;
 - Int i;
 - Size of integer = 4 bytes

 - 2^32
 - Signed vs unsigned?
 - MSB is used for signedness.

 - Max value for signed int = 0x7FFFFFF
 - Max value for unsigned int = 0xFFFFFFFF
- What happens in this case?
 - Int i;
 - Unsigned int j;
 - i = 0xFFFFFFFF + 1
 - Result will become 0, carry 1 bit will be truncated.
 - i = 0x7FFFFFFFF + 1
 - Result will become -0x80000000 (negative number)

```
int var1, var2;
    1955
    1956
```

```
11111111111111111111111111111111111
                                         + 1
 Integer overflow, very small number as carry will be truncated.
  Will become 0 in this case.
int size1 = var1+ var2;
char* buff1=(char*)malloc(size1);
memcpy(buff1,data,sizeof(data));
   1954 static int MP4 ReadBox rdrf( stream t *p stream, MP4 Box t *p box )
          uint32_t i_len;
    1961 MP4GET4BYTES(i_len);
          if( i_len > 0 )
    1962
    1963
            uint32 ti;
    1964
            p_box->data.p_rdrf->psz_ref = malloc( i_len + 1);
    1965
           for( i = 0; i < i len; i++ )
    1966
    1967
             MP4 GET1BYTE( p box->data.p rdrf->psz ref[i] );
    1968
```

Ref: https://mailman.videolan.org/pipermail/vlc/2008-March/015488.html



Integer Underflow

- What it is?
 - Size of integer = 4 bytes
 - Signed vs unsigned?
 - Range for signed int= -0x80000000 to 0x7FFFFFF
 - Range for unsigned int = 0 to 0xFFFFFFF
- What happens in this case?
 - Int i;
 - i = -0x80000000 1 = 0x7FFFFFF
 - i = highest possible positive number.

- -0x80000000 1 =

- 1

01111111111111111111111111111111111

- integer underflow, very large number.
- Change in signedness. (-) to (+)

```
int var1, var2;
```

int size1 = var1 - var2; \rightarrow integer underflow

char* buff1=(char*)malloc(size1);

memcpy(buff1,data,sizeof(data));



Stack overflow/Heap Overflow

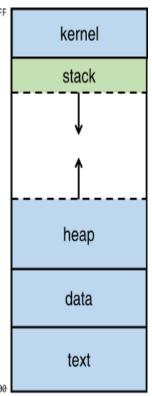
- Stack Overflow
 - Local variable are stored in Stack
 - Finite size
 - Overflow in local variable, can corrupt other data on stack.
 - Example:

```
    Function foo(){
        char var1[8];
        char var2[100];
        memcpy(var1,var2,sizeof(var2)); → stack
        overflow
```

```
/** Sender name is set to max length of MAX_CNAME (128), line: 446 **/
char new_sender_name[MAX_CNAME];

/** name_length is read from the RTSP header, line: 489 **/
int8_t name_length = rtcp_sdes_get_name_length(buf);

/** memcpy new_sender_name with name_length bytes, line: 525 **/
memcpy(new_sender_name, buf + RTCP_SDES_SIZE, name_length);
```



- Heap Overflow
 - Dynamic memory allocation
 - Allocated from heap
 - Overflow in heap can corrupt other data in heap.
 - Example:

```
Char *var1 = (char*) malloc(8);

Char var2[100];

memcpy(var1,var2,sizeof(var2));

→ heap overflow
```

Ref and Img credits:

https://www.coengoedegebure.com/buffer-overflow-attacks-explained/https://hackerone.com/reports/489102



Out of bound Read/Write

- Stack Out of Bound Read/Write
 - Memory access or write operation at beyond the allowed limits of Stack memory.
 - Can cause access violation.
 - Example:
 - char a[10];
 - char b;
 - b=a[100]; →OOB Read
 - a[100] = 'c'; → OOB Write

McAfee[™]

Ref: https://github.com/libgd/libgd

- Heap Out of Bound Read/Write
 - Memory access or write operation at beyond the allowed limits of heap memory.
 - Can cause access violation.
 - Example:
 - char* a = (char*)malloc(10);
 - char b;
 - b=a[100]; → OOB read
 - a[100] ='c'; →OOB Write

Use After Free/Double Free

- Use After Free
 - Using a memory after it has been freed.
 - Can cause program crash or unexpected behavior.

Ref: https://www.asmail.be/msg0055359936.html



Double Free

- Freeing allocated memory multiple time.
- Can cause program to crash.
- Example:

```
char *buff = (char*)malloc(10);
free(buff);
free(buff); → double free!
```

What we have learned So far?

Different types of vulnerabilities

Integer overflow/underflow, stack/heap buffer overflow, use after free, double free



Hands on: Manually Identify Vulnerabilities!

```
struct Image
    char header[4];
    int width;
    int height;
    char data[10];
int size1 = img.width + img.height;
                                                  Integer Overflow
char* buff1=(char*)malloc(size1);
memcpy(buff1,img.data,sizeof(img.data));
free(buff1);
int size2 = img.width - img.height;
char* buff2=(char*)malloc(size2);
                                                  Integer underflow
memcpy(buff2,img.data,sizeof(img.data));
lif (size1/2==0){
                                                  Double Free
    free(buff1);
∃else{
=if(size1 == 123456){
                                                  Use After Free
    buff1[0]='a';
```



Bug Hunting and Fuzzing



Bug hunting.

- Manual code audit.
 - Takes lot of time. Very slow.
 - Not possible to cover all the code paths.
 - Large code base, not possible for a single person to do audit.
 - Not very productive.
 - Things can be missed.
 - Can not cover all the scenarios.

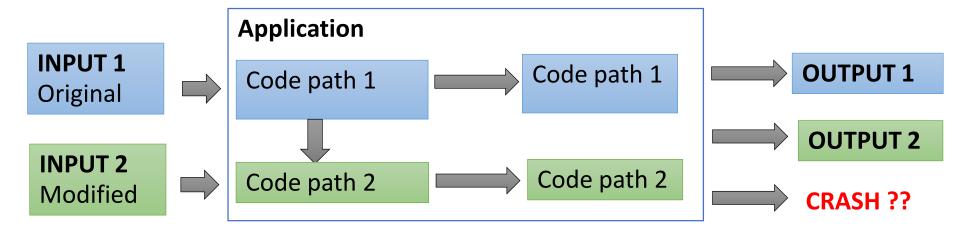
Automated

- Automate bug finding. Very fast.
- Can cover most of the code paths.
- No need to worry about size of the code.
- Can be done by an individual.
- Can be automated further to notify about crashes, issues.



What is fuzzing?

- Process of automated bug finding in program.
 - 1. Feed input to program.
 - 2. Monitor for crashes.
 - 3. Save crashing test case.
 - 4. Generate new test case.
 - 5. Go to 1.





Types of Fuzzers



Dumb Fuzzers

- Random input
- No understanding of file format/network protocol is required.
- Can take lot of time (depending up on your luck).
- Example: radmasa



Generation Fuzzer

- Create input based on predefined structure.
- Requires understanding of file format.
- Requires understanding of network protocol.
- Example: peach, sulley



Coverage Guided Fuzzer

- Monitors program flow by using instrumentation
- No knowledge of file format is required.
- Mutates file and check for new code path coverage/crash
 - New Code path -> Add to Queue
 - Crash -> Save the input ©
- Example: AFL, WinAFL, HonggFuzz, libfuzzer
- pulling jpeg out of thin air:
 - https://lcamtuf.blogspot.com/2014/11/pulling-jpegs-out-of-thin-air.html
 - \$ mkdir in_dir
 - \$ echo 'hello' >in_dir/hello
 - \$./afl-fuzz -i in_dir -o out_dir ./jpeg-9a/djpeg



What we have learned So far?

Fuzzing and bug hunting

Different types of fuzzers – dumb, generation, coverage guided



Coverage & Instrumentation



Basic blocks and Coverage

- Basic block
 - consecutive lines of code with no branches.
 - Entry point control comes to this basic block.
 - Exit point control goes to another basic block.
- Code Coverage

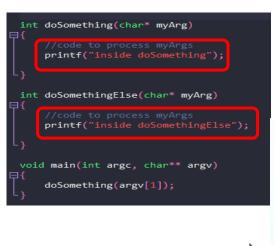
```
int x,y;
x=0;
y=0;
z=0;
if(x>z)
    x++;
    y = y+ 1;
else
    x++;
    y= y-1;
```

```
[rsp+98h+var_98], rdx
               [rsp+98h+var 90], rcx
               [rsp+98h+var 88], rax
               rcx, 0E399h
               afl maybe log
               rax, [rsp+98h+var 88]
               rcx, [rsp+98h+var 90]
               rdx, [rsp+98h+var_98]
               rsp, [rsp+98h]
               rsp, 18h
               argc, [argv+8]
               rax, fs:28h
               [rsp+18h+var 10], rax
       moν
               rax, rdi
               rax, 3
               byte ptr [rax+7FFF8000h], 0
               short loc 1348
<u></u>
                                               🗾 🚄 🖼
        rsp, [rsp-98h]
        [rsp+0B0h+var B0], rdx
                                                loc 1348:
        [rsp+0B0h+var_A8], rcx
                                                                       ; char **
                                                argv = rsi
        [rsp+0B0h+var_A0], rax
                                                       asan report load8
        rcx, 0C8FBh
        _afl_maybe_log
        rax, [rsp+0B0h+var_A0]
        rcx, [rsp+0B0h+var_A8]
        rdx, [rsp+0B0h+var_B0]
        rsp, [rsp+98h]
        rdi, [argv+8] ; filename
        ProcessImage
        rax, [rsp+18h+var_10]
        rax, fs:28h
        short loc 134D
```



Instrumentation?

- How to trace the program execution at runtime?
 - Basic add printf in the code and debug.
 - Doesn't provide much data
 - Need to do manual work.
- If source code is available.
 - Compile time instrumentation
 - Adds instrumentation code at compile time.
 - Can automate things like coverage measurement, Removes manual efforts.
- If source code is not available.
 - Runtime instrumentation
 - Add instrumentation code at runtime.

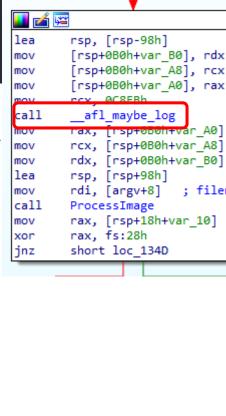


running application

hardware platform

client

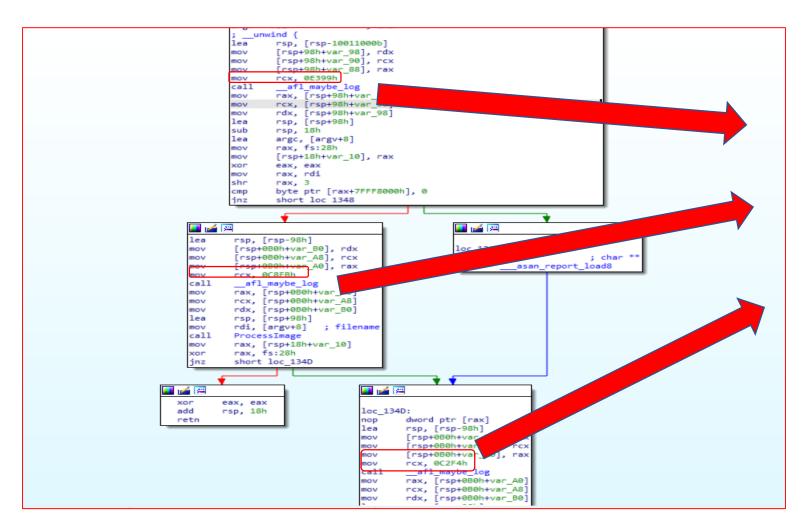
DynamoRIO



; filename



AFL Binary Instrumentation



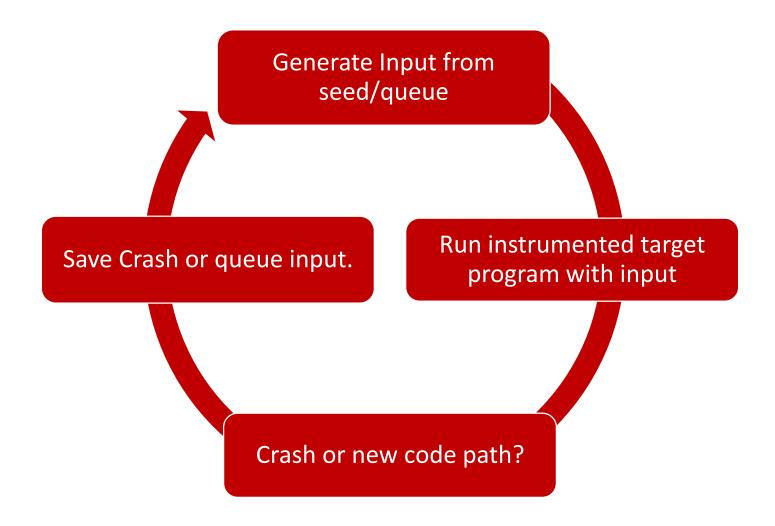
- random, unique id for each block.
- 2. __afl_maybe _log
- 3. Afl will maintain coverage bitmap based on this.



Fuzzing Process



Coverage Guided Fuzzing





Corpus Collection

- A good file corpus will help to discover paths in short amount of time.
- Use regression/test case corpus if available for the software/libs.
- Use availble corpus files.
 - Ex:
 - https://lcamtuf.coredump.cx/afl/demo/
 - http://samples.ffmpeg.org/
- Search github
- Search google



Corpus Minimization

- Having a large corpus is good or bad?
 - What is file size is too large?
 - Bitflip/byteflip will take lot of time.
 - 10MB = **10485760** Bytes
 - What If many files trigger same code path?
 - Fuzzer will spent unnecessary cycles on going through them.
- Need to Minimize input corpus
 - Filter out the files which doesn't result in new path.
 - Filter out large files.
- How?
 - afl-cmin –i input –o mininput -- ./program @@



Crashes->rootcause->Vulnerability

- Root cause analysis
 - We found a crash now what?
 - Which field in file?
 - What value in the field?
 - Which condition in program?



Vulnerability!!

- 1-2 crashes
 - Manual sorting
- Hundred or Thousands of crashes?
 - How to Triage them?
 - Crashwalk, atriage, afl-collect



What we have learned So far?

Instrumentation, fuzzing process, corpus collection, root cause



Reporting to Vendors/Bug Bounty

- Report to vendor first.
- Vendors have a security@vendor.com email address.
- Do not publicly disclose your finding.
- You may get rewarded for your crashes.



