

# ./level7



Decompiled file with *Ghidra*:

```
char c[80];

void m(void *param_1, int param_2, char *param_3, int param_4, int param_5)
{
    time_t currentTime;

    currentTime = time(NULL);
    printf("%s - %d\n", c, currentTime);

    return;
}

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    int *intPtr1;
    void *data;
    int *intPtr2;
    FILE *fileStream;

    intPtr1 = (int *)malloc(8);
    *intPtr1 = 1;
    data = malloc(8);
    intPtr1[1] = data;

    intPtr2 = (int *)malloc(8);
    *intPtr2 = 2;
    data = malloc(8);
    intPtr2[1] = data;

    strcpy((char *)intPtr1[1], argv[1]);
    strcpy((char *)intPtr2[1], argv[2]);

    fileStream = fopen("/home/user/level8/.pass", "r");
    fgets(c, 0x44, fileStream);
    puts("~~");

    return 0;
}
```

Upon examination, we discern the objective of this level.

The `.pass` file is opened, its contents are read, and then stored in a *global variable* named `c`. The sole method to access `c` is via the `printf` in the `m()` function, which the `main` doesn't invoke. Noticing that after the data is fetched into the `c` variable, there's only one function call, our strategy will be to replace that `puts()` with `m()` to display the file's contents on *stdout*.

We have four consecutive calls to `malloc(8)`. The first and third allocations create space for *integer pointers*. In both, the first integer is used as an id, while the second integer stores the address of a newly allocated memory block. These blocks are immediately allocated after by the second and fourth `malloc` calls, respectively, holding generic data. After these allocations, `strcpy()` is set to transfer our command-line arguments into these blocks.

```
strcpy((char *)intPtr1[1], argv[1]);
strcpy((char *)intPtr2[1], argv[2]);
```

The goal is clear: exploit the *overflow* from the first argument to modify the address stored in `intPtr2[1]`. This way, the next `strcpy()` will write the second argument's value to our desired address.

Now we just need the GOT entry for `puts()` and the address of the `m()` function:

```
08049928    14 a0 04 08    addr    <EXTERNAL>::puts
0x80484f4    <m>
```

Heap *before* and *after* buffer overflow:

					bookkeeping	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	&puts
00	00	00	01	&data		00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	00	01	00	00	00	10	&data
[0]		[1]		0		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	prev_size		size		[0]		[1]			
intPtr1						data							bookkeeping				intPtr2					

