Radare from A to Z

extended edition

pancake // r2con2016
@trufae

Introduction

What Am I Doing Here?

- What is r2?
- How to use the shell
- Analyzing
- Debugging
- Patching
- Scripting

Why Radare2?

- It’s free and opensource
- Runs everywhere (Windows, Mac, Android, Linux, QNX, iOS, ..)
- Easy to script and extend with plugins
- Embeddable
- Grows fast
- Supports tons of file-formats
- Handles gazillions of architectures
- Easy to hack
- Commandline cowboy-friendly
- Great community and even better leader
- Collaborative

What is Radare2?

- **Reverse Engineering**
  - Analyze Code/Data/..
  - Understanding Programs
- **Low Level Debugging**
  - Similar to olly
  - Multi-platform, and support for remote
- **Forensics**
  - File Systems
  - Memory Dumps
- **Assembler/Disassembler**
  - Several architectures
  - Multiplatform
- **And more!**

History

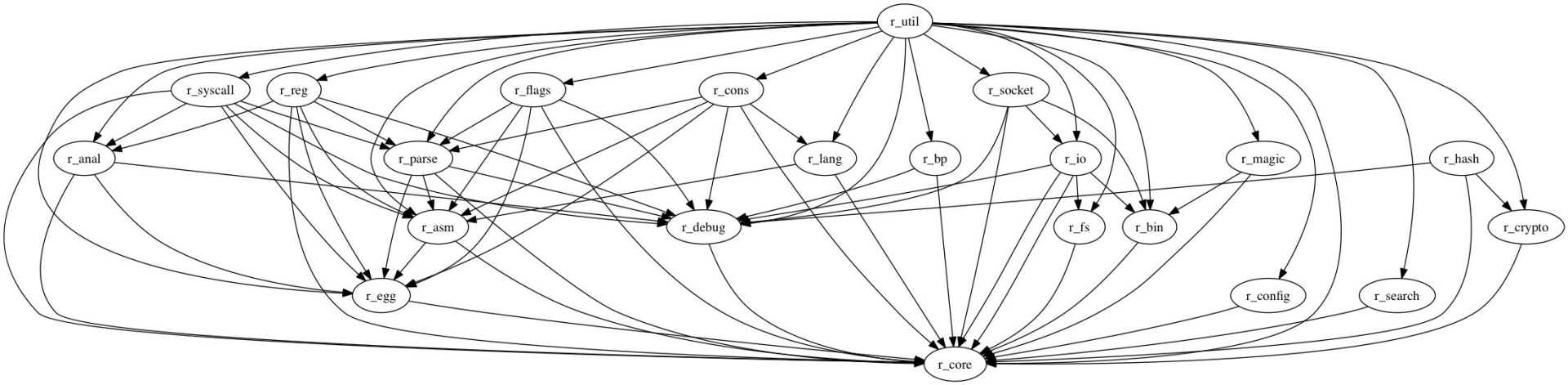
Radare was born in 2006 (hey this is 10 years!) as a forensic tool for performing manual and interactive carving to recover some files from disk or ram.

It quickly grew adding support for disassembler, debugger, code analyzer, scripting, …

And then I decided to completely rewrite it to fix the maintainance and monolithic design problems.

The framework

```
$ make depgraph.png
```



Libraries

RIO abstracts input-output and layouts

RFS abstracts filesystem and partitions access

RBin parses the structure and detects parameters.

RAsm disassembles the code if any

RAnal analize and emulate to identify functions and refs

RUtil provide common helper functions

REgg generate shellcodes ready to be injected

RDiff find differences between two sources

RCore uses them all!

Tools

Radare2 is composed by some core libraries and a set of tools that use those libraries and plugins.

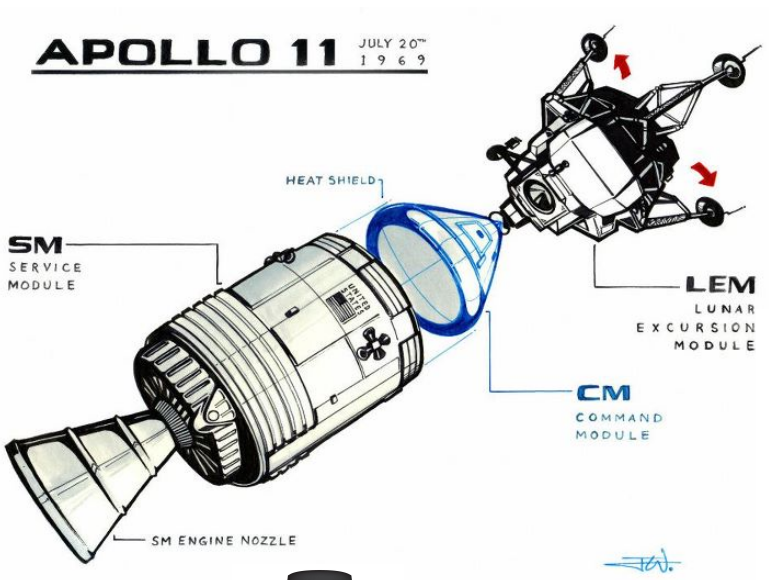
radare2	**r2pm**	**rarun2**	**ragg2**
rabin2	**radiff2**	**rax2**	**rahash2**
rasm2	**rafind2**	**r2agent**	**rasign2**

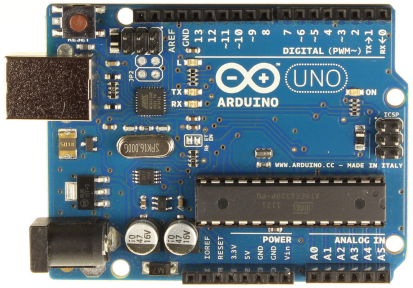
Tools

- Show how code is organized in r2
- Quick example of every tool.
- Use rax2, rabin2, rasm2, ...
- Manpages

(DEMO)

What can I inspect?





Targets

R2 can open any file or device via RIO which may access it from the local filesystem or remotely via rap:// http:// r2pipe:// or any other available protocol.

- Executables / Libraries
- Firmwares
- Filesystems
- Raw memory dumps

UNIX like

R2 is a big project that does a lot of stuff. This is not much unix-like, but it aims to be modular, pluggable and scriptable.

- use of pipes |
- Use of redirections >
- Use of backticks ‘
- Internal filtering ~
- Abstracted io to handle everything as a file
- pipeable from the shell
- Textual representations
- Simple command structure
- Autodocumented (man, ?)
- Almost a posix shell with ls, cp, cat, ed..)

But First.. A Poll!

(who are you?)

Which is your main OS?

Do you know assembly?

How's your UNIX foo?

Did you used r2 before?

Installation

(always use git)

PROTIP: Installing radare2 is the recommended method to use it.

How To Install Radare2

There are several binary distributions of radare2

- LiveCD (unmaintained)
- OSX package (on every release)
- Windows Installer (and nightly builds)
- BSD || GNU/Linux (Gentoo, ArchLinux, Void, ..)
- Use the Cloud Web user interface (http://cloud.rada.re)
- Android app and Cydia package (iOS)
- Chat with the @r2bot on Telegram

Coming soon: PPA/Windows from Travis/AppVeyour

Installing from Git

```
$ git clone https://github.com/radare/radare2
$ cd radare2
$ sys/install.sh
```

This will install r2 system-wide using symlinks (faster and handier for development, but risky on a shared machine)

```
$ sys/user.sh
```

Installing from Git

Notice that r2 build system is based on:

- ACR (auto-conf-replacement)
- Handmade Makefiles

Plugins can be chosen with ./configure-plugins

- Random documentation in doc/ directory
- Several useful scripts in sys/

Package Management

We can install r2 via r2pm and get rid of our r2 dir

$ r2pm -i radare2

$ rm -rf radare2

You can also install other programs, plugins and scripts with it. Everything in your home by default

Package Management

Some of the most interesting packages:

- Yara 3
- RetDec decompiler (@nighterman)
- Keystone - assemble instructions
- Unicorn - code emulator
- Native Python bindings
- AGC - Apollo 11 CPU
- Duktape (Embedded javascript)
- Radeco decompiler (@sushant94)
- Baleful (SkUaTeR)
- r2pipe apis for NodeJS, Python, Ruby, C#, ...
- Vala/Vapi/Valabind/Swig/Bokken/…
- r2frida

Basic Commands

`Seeking`

Change current position, accepts flags, relative offsets, math ops. Use @ for temporal seeks.

`Printing`

Show current block (b) bytes, instructions, metadata, analysis, ...

`Writing`

Write string, hexpairs, file contents, instructions, etc..

Some r2 Command Line Flags

```
-h           # get help message
-a <arch>    # specify architecture (RAsm Plugin name)
-b <bits>    # specify 8, 16, 32, 64 register size in bits
-c <cmd>     # run command
-i <script>  # include/interpret script
-n           # do not load rbin info
-L           # list io plugins
```

Spawning an R2 Shell

The `r2` command is a symlink for `radare2`:

```
$ r2 -          # alias for `radare2 malloc://1024`
$ r2 --         # open r2 without any file opened
$ r2 /bin/ls    # open this file in r2
$ r2 -d ls      # start debugging
```

Files

R2 IO abstract the access to what's provided by an IO plugin, this layer allows to:

- Load multiple files and map them at virtual addresses
- Define sections to virtualize the memory layout
- Handle write cache to avoid modifying the original files
- Write operations by default are done in the target
- Specify different permissions to each section (rwx)

Use the `o` command to manage the files.

In The Shell

Syntax of the commands:

```
> [repeat][command] [args] [@ tmpseek] [; ...] [# comment]


> 3x                # perform 3 hexdumps
> pd 3 @ entry0     # disasm 3 instructions at entrypoint
> x@rsp;pd@rip      # show stack and code
```

The Internal Grep

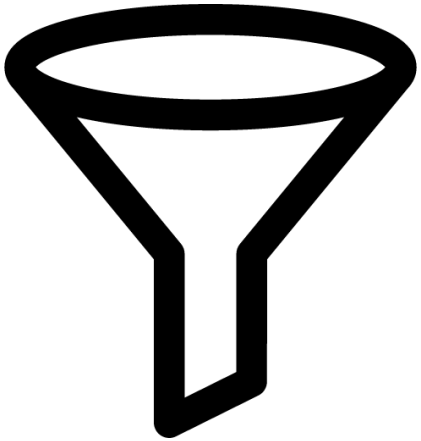
As long as r2 is portable, it doesn't depends on other programs, so there are some basic unix commands, as well as an internal grep/less.

```
> pd~call

> is~test

> is~?

> ~??           # show help
```

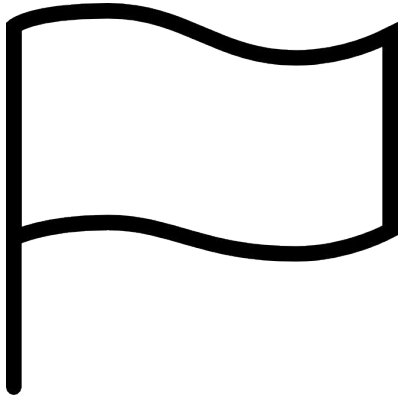


Flags and Calculations

Flags are used to specify a name for an offset.

Math expressions evaluate those names to retrieve a number.

```
> ? 1+1
> f foo = 1024    vs    f bar @ 1024
> ? foo+123
> ? [123]
> ?v
```



Help

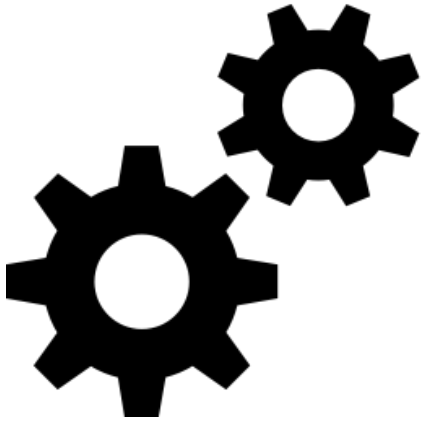
The ? Command is used here for evaluating math expressions, but it have many more functionalities. See that with ???

- prompt the user ?i
- Show only the value ?v
- Resolve nearest flag+ delta ?d
- Conditional execution ??
- Echo messages ?e
- Benchmark commands ?t
- Clippy! ?E

Configuration

Almost everything in r2 can be configured with ‘e’.

```
> e asm.
> e asm.arch=?
> e??rop
> e* > settings.r2
> . settings.r2
```



Printing Bytes

R2 is an block-based hexadecimal editor. Change the block size with the ‘b’ command.

p8	print hexpairs
px	print hexdump
pxw/pxq	dword/qword dump
pxr	print references
pxe	emojis

Structures

pf - define function signatures

Can load include files with the t command.

010 templates can be loaded using 010 python script.

Load the bin with r2 -nn to load the struct/headers definitions of the target bin file.

Use pxa to visualize them in colorized hexdump.

Structures

(DEMO)

- Parse mach0 header
- Use macho.h
- Use r2 -nn

Disassembling

(and printing bytes)

Disassembling
is the “art” of
translating bytes into
meaningful instructions.

---

rasm2

Disassembling and assembling code can be done with pa/pad or using the rasm2 commandline tool.

```
$ rasm2 -L
```

```
$ rasm2 -a x86 -b 64 nop
```

(demo)

Disassembling Code

There are different commands to get the instructions at a specific address.

pd/pD	**disassemble N bytes/instructions.**
pi/pI	**just print the instructions**
pid	**print address, bytes and instruction**
pad	**disassemble given hexpairs**
pa	**assemble instruction**

Disassembling Code

> e asm.emu=true emulates the code with esil and

> agv/agf. render ascii art or graphviz graph

Seek History s- (undo) s+ (redo)

Use u and U keys to go back/forward in the visual seek history.

Patching Code

The ‘w’ command allows us to write stuff

- Open with r2 -w (by default is readonly except debugger)
- VA/PA translations are transparent
- Sometimes we will need to use r2 -nw to patch headers
- The w command also allows to write assembly
- Wx in hexpairs
- wxf

DEMO: patch simple crackme program

Dumping and Restoring

Dump to file

```
> pr 1K > file
```

```
> wt file 1K
```

```
> y 1K
```

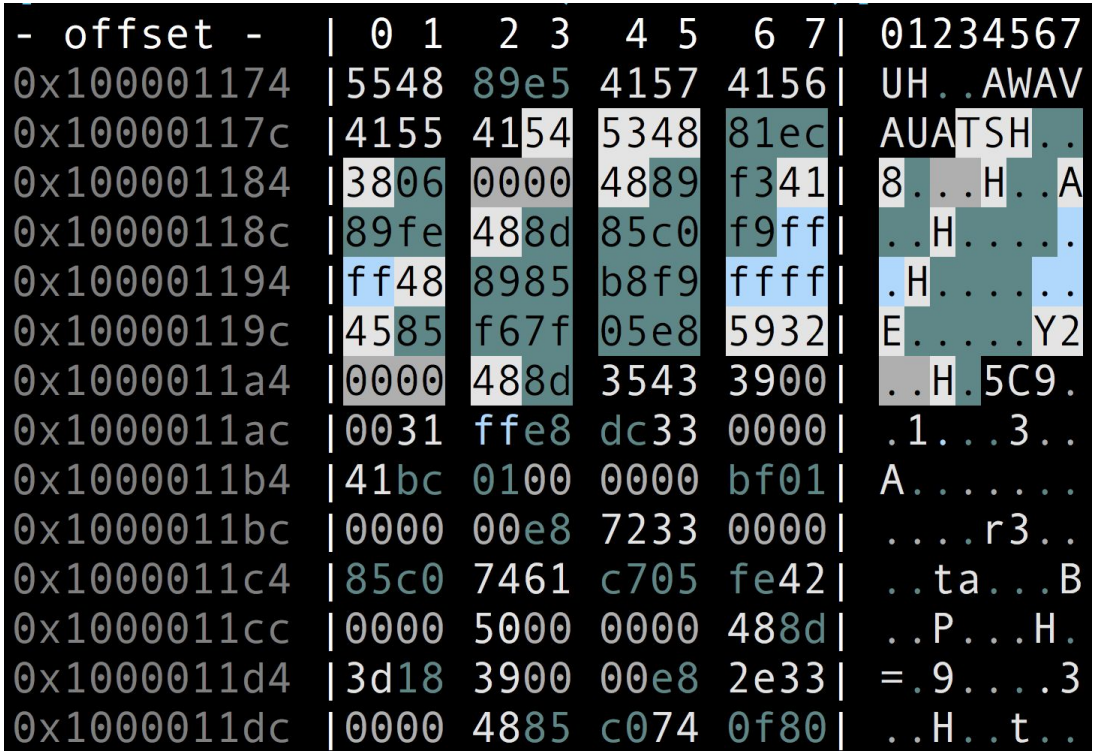
Restoring

```
> wf file @ dst
```

```
> yy @ dst
```

Copy

```
> yt 1K @ dst
```



Decompilation

Better disassembly

There are other disassembler modes in r2.

```
> e asm.emustr=true
> e asm.pseudo=true
> pds
> pdc
```

Decompilers for radare2

Decompiling is not just showing the disassembly in a better way. It requires understanding what the code does, emulating it, removing dead code, and perform several optimizations and mix it with type information to get a C like output.

- **Boomerang** unmaintained
- **Snowman** planned
- **Retdec** supported, but online
- **Radeco** wip (gsoc)

Decompiler Demo

(DEMO)

- Use retdec to decompile functions of a program
- Done by nighterman

User Interface

- WebUI
- Bokken
- Visual Mode
- Visual Panels
- Commandline
- R2Pipe
- Colors!

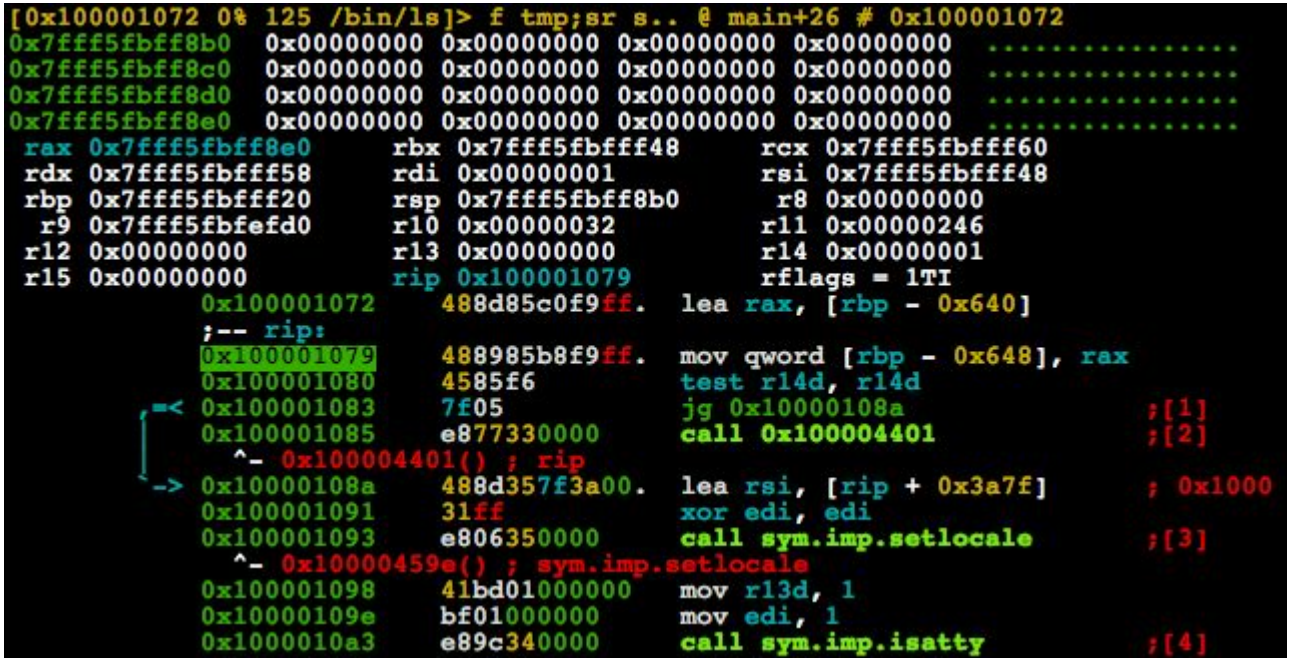
Colors!

```
> e scr.color=true
> e scr.rgb=true
> e scr.truecolor=true
> e scr.utf8=true
```


```
> ecr     # Random colors
> eco X   # Color palette
> VE      # visual color theme editor
```

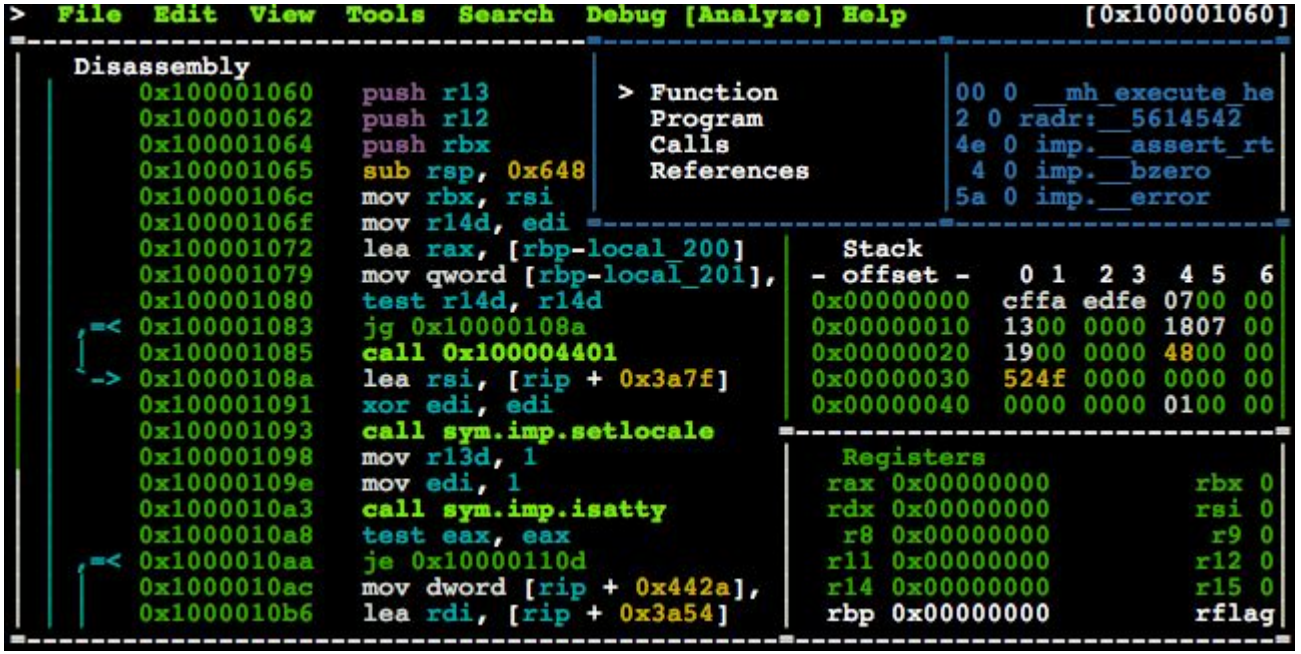
Visual Mode

Type V and then change the view with ‘p’ and ‘P’



Visual Panels

Press ‘!’ in the Visual mode

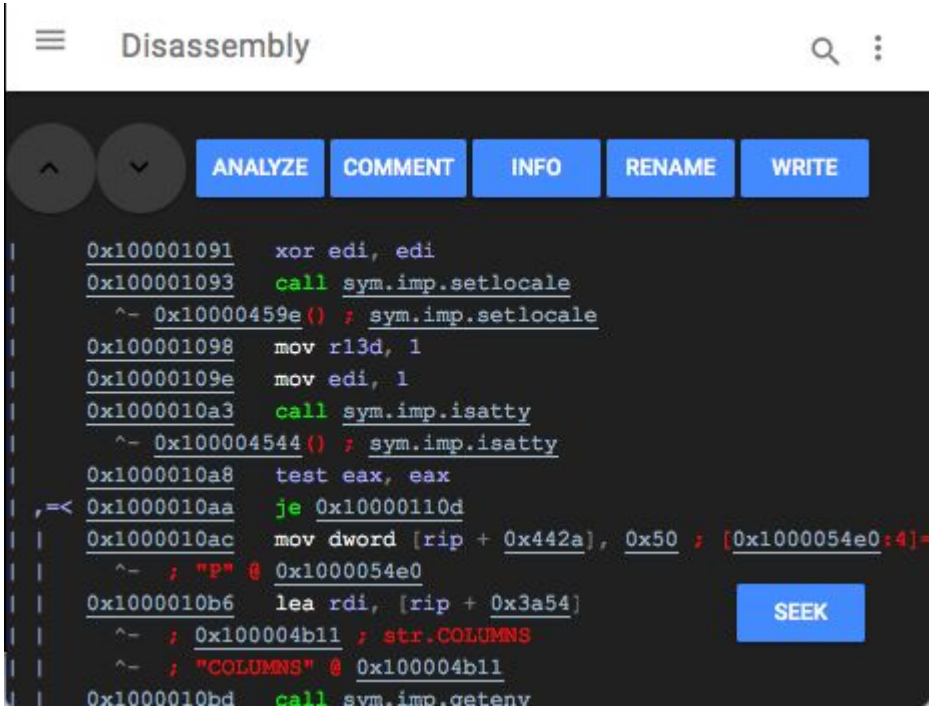


Web User Interface

Start the webserver with =h

Launch the browser with =H

See /m /p /t and /enyo



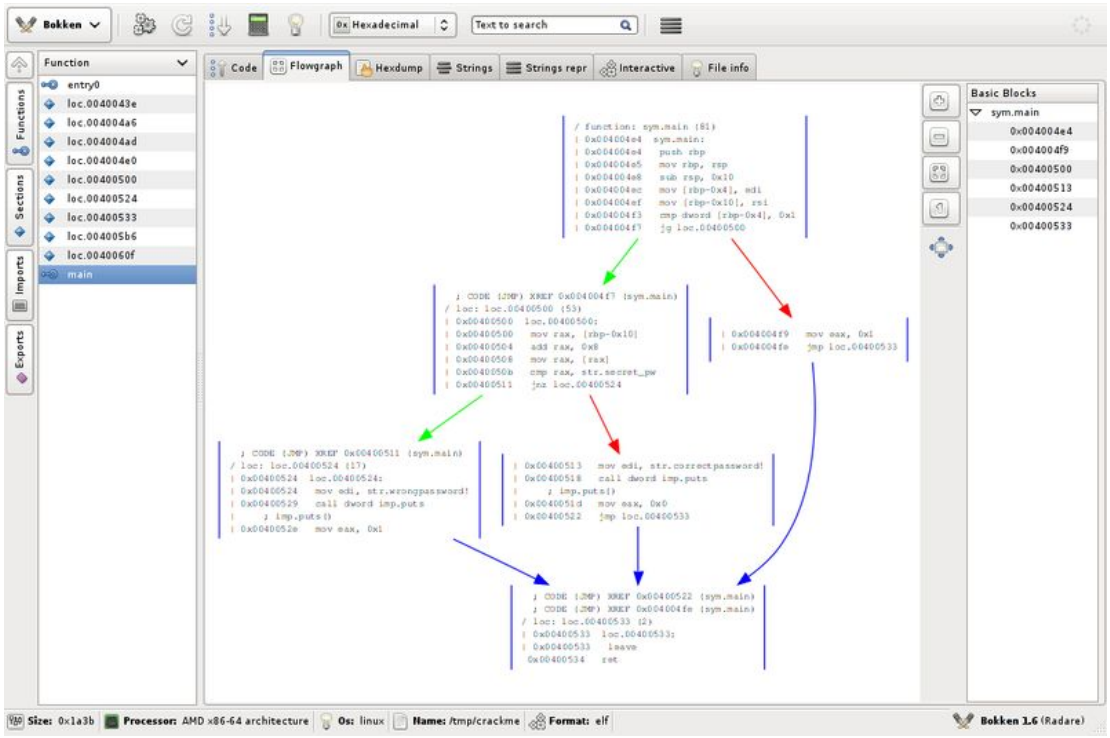
Bokken

Native Python/Gtk GUI

Binaries for Windows

Runs on OSX/Linux too

Author: Hugo Teso



Deeper Look into the Visual Mode

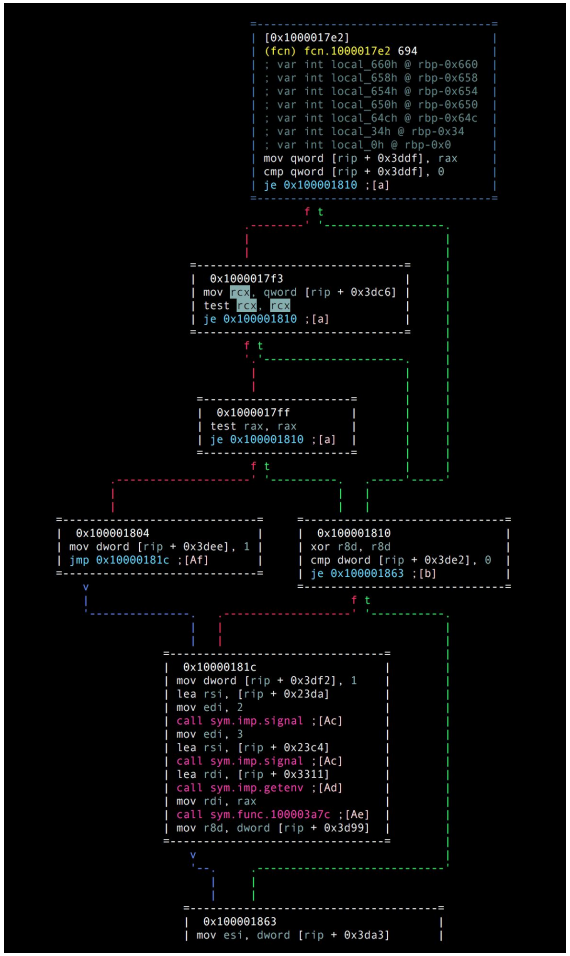
Visualization

- Toggle Colors (C)
- Highlight stuff with (/)
- Setting new commands on top and right with = and |
- <space> toggle between graph and disasm

Deeper Look into the Visual Mode

Navigation

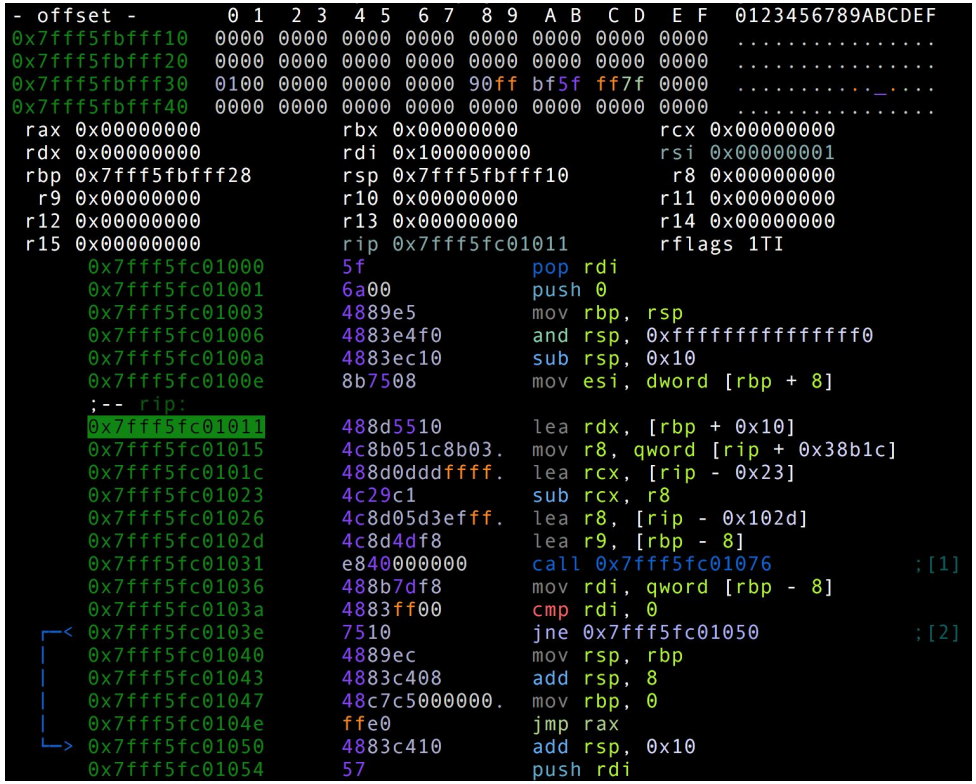
- Cursor Mode (Vc)
- HUD (V_)
- Resize Hexdump with []
- Add comments (;)
- Undo/Redo seek (u/U)
- Find next/prev hit/func/.. With n/N
- Basic Block Graphs



Deeper Look into the Visual Mode

Debugging

- Debugger integration
  - Seek to PC (.)
  - Step (s) or StepOver (S)
  - Set breakpoints with ‘b’
- Change stack settings



Deeper Look into the Visual Mode

Editing stuff

- Bit Editor (Vd1)
- Increment/Decrement bytes (Cursor + +/- keys)
- Select ranges bytes to copy/paste
- Define flags
- Interactive writes
  - A : rewrite assembly in place
  - I : insert hex/ascii stuff

Binary Info

(parsing file formats)

RBin detects file type and parses the internal structures to provide symbolic and other information.

RBin Information

```
$ rabin2 -s
> is
> fs symbols;f
```

Symbols	Relocs	Classes	Entrypoints
Imports	Strings	Demangling	Exports
Sections	Libraries	SourceLines	ExtraInfo

RBin Information

All this info can be exported in JSON by appending a ‘j’.

```
$ r2 -nn /bin/ls
> e scr.hexflags=9999
> pxa
```

(DEMO)

Rebasing Symbols

Check binary information to see if its relocatable by checking the “pic” field in rabin2 -I

Symbols represent public intormation of name=address. This is exported symbols from the binary or library, the imports in the plt, the function information of mach0 binaries, methods in java/dalvik binaries, etc..

Those can be rebased with:

$ rabin2 -B 0x800000 /bin/ls

Imports

The imports are the functions that must be resolved by the runtime linker from the libraries linked to allow the program run.

On windows binaries, imports specify the library where the symbol must be found so its reflected in its name:

```
$ rabin2 -i
```

Classes and methods

R2 does name demangling by default. (e bin.demangle=false)

The information of classes and methods can befound in:

- objc metadata
- Class/Dex
- Symbol name with :: separators
- C++ Vtables

Sections

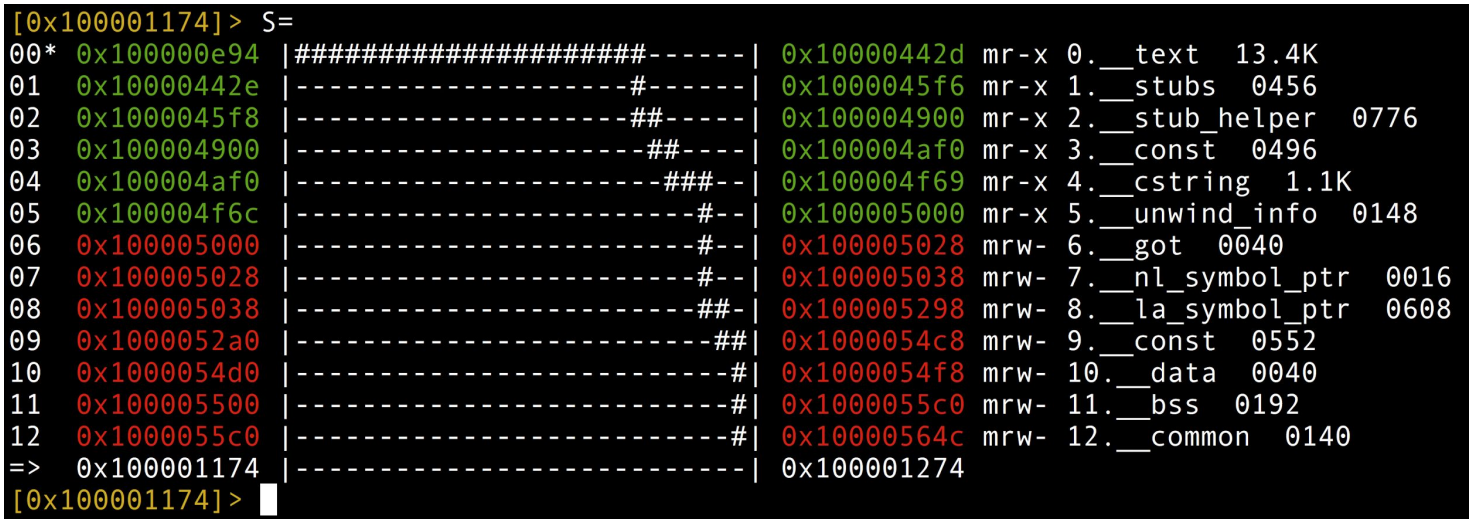
Some of them are mapped and some others don't. Executables use to provide the information duplicated. One simplified for the loader and another for analysis, exposing swarf information, annotations, etc

> iS

> .iS*

> S=

> S-*



Hashing Sections

Rahash2 allows us to compute a variety of checksums to a portion of a file, a full file or by blocks.

$ rahash2 -a md5 -s “hello world”

$ rahash2 -a all /bin/ls

$ rabin2 -SK md5 /bin/ls

$ rahash2 -L

- Also supports encryption/decryption
- As well as encoding/decoding

Entropy

The entropy is computed by the amount of different values in a specific block of data.

- **Low entropy** = plain/text
- **Middle entropy** = code
- **High entropy** = compressed / encrypted

There are other methods to identify

- **p=e**
- **p=p**
- **p=0**
- **...**

Strings

Strings can be stored in different places inside the binaries:

- In .rodata section
- Inside the .text (code)
- In headers (interpreter, libraries, symbol names, ..)

Also, we can find strings in a variety of file types:

- Raw memory dump
- Hard disk image
- Known file format
- Debugged process
- Emulated code to find references or construct strings
- Encoded (base64, utf16, …)
- Encrypted

Strings

So we have different commands depending on that:

```
$ rabin2 -z      # strings from .rodata (default in r2)
$ rabin2 -zz     # strings in full file
$ rabin2 -zzz    # dont map once, useful for huge files like 1TB
```

Radare2 will load the strings by default, which is sometimes not desired, see the following vars:

```
> e bin.strings=false
> e bin.maxstrbuf=32M
```

Scripting

(automation)

The art of automating actions in r2 using your favourite programming language (or not).

Scripting

- **Shellscript (batch mode)**
  - Use ‘jq’ to parse json output
  - Send commands via stdin
- **Bindings (full api)**
  - Also supports Python, Java, ...
- **Plugins**
  - Loaded from home and system directories
- **R2Pipe scripts**
  - spawn/pipe/http/...
  - C / C++QT / C#/.NET / Erlang / Haskell / Lisp / NodeJS / Python / Perl / Ruby / Rust / Go / Swift / Java / Nim / Perl / Vala...
  - Interpreted with ‘.’ command

Using R2Pipe For Automation

R2 provides a very basic interface to use it based on the cmd() api call which accepts a string with the command and returns the output string.

```
$ pip install r2pipe

$ r2 -qi names.py /bin/ls

$ cat names.py
```

Other uses of r2pipe

R2pipe provides also the ability to expose an API to implement plugins in alternative languages. Right now only for Python and NodeJS. But it can be easily ported to other languages.

- Syscall implementations for ESIL
- IO plugins via r2 r2pipe://”node …”
- Asm plugins via r2 -i asmArch.js

Running r2pipe scripts with the . command

R2pipe Performance

If you are worried about using r2pipe instead of the native API. It must also care about other aspects like maintainability, portability, stability, etc

- Pipe + JSON parsing is faster than FFI
- Textual representation, easy to debug
- Native language objects and idiomatic access to fields
- There are many different r2pipe backends
  - http is slow
  - rap a bit faster
  - spawn and doing pipes
  - native (dlopen+dlsym(r_core_cmd_str))

R2pipe On BigData

Using async programming with r2pipe allows us to split the user interface to the logic of the program which results in more responsiveness.

R2 can not execute more than one command at a time so if a long process is happening it will queue the rest.

For this cases we must consider splitting the process into smaller operations to avoid huge replies that may fail depending on transport and long operations that will make r2 eat all cpu.

Analyzing Code

(and graphing)

Analyzing is the “art” of understanding the purpose of a sequence of instructions.

Analyzing From The Metal

R2 provides tools for analyzing code at different levels.

ae emulates the instruction (microinstructions)

ao provides information about the current opcode

afb enumerate basic blocks of function

af analyzes the function (or a2f)

ax code/data references/calls

Analyzing the Whole Thing

Many people is used to the IDA way: load the bin, expect all xrefs, functions and strings to magically appear in there.

This is the default behaviour, which can be slow, tedious, and 99% of the time we can solve the problem quicker with direct and manual analysis.

Run `**r2 -A**` or use the **‘aa’** subcommands to achieve this.

- **aa**
- **aaa**
- **aaaa**

Low Level Anal Tweaks

Use the anal hints command to modify instruction behaviours by hand.

```
> ahs 1 @ 0x100001175
```

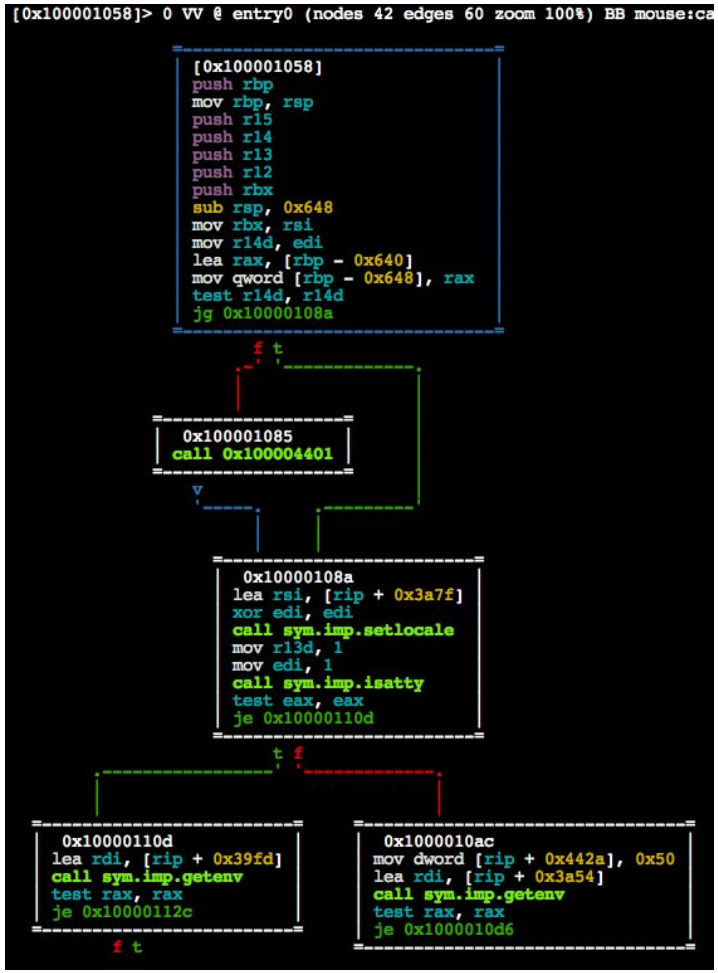
(DEMO) Jump in the middle of instruction

Searching for code

We can search for some specific code in a binary or memory.

- **/R [expr]** search for ROP gadgets
- **/r sym.imp.printf** find references to this address
- **/m** search for magic headers
- **Yara** identify crypto algorithms
- **/a [asm]** assemble code and search bytes
- **/A [type]** find instructions of this type
- **/c [code]** find strstr matching instructions
- **/v4 1234** search for this number in memory
- **pxa** disasm all possible instructions
- **e asm.emustr=true** pD $SS @ $S~Hello

Graphing Code



Functions can be rendered as an ascii-art graph using the ‘ag’.

Enter visual mode using the V key

Then press V again (or spacebar) to get the graph view.

Graphing Code

The graph view is the result of the agf command and it permits to:

- Move nodes
- Zoom in/out
- Relayout
- Switch between different graph modes
  - Callgraph
  - Overview

Graphing Code

R2 can also use graphviz, xdot or web graph to show this graph to the user, not just in ascii art.

```
> agv
```

```
> ag $$ > a.dot
```

Show how to export function and basic block information.

Signatures

(and graphing)

Signatures is the "art" of identifying functions by looking at byte patterns.

Preludes

There are many ways to identify functions inside a binary, one of them is using signatures to find the beginning of them. The aap command will run different search patterns depending on arch/bits/os:

- **aap** - function preludes

It is also possible to perform searchs with /x and run a command on each offset:

We can also use strings as signatures and use /

```
> /x 898989
```

```
> pd 5 @@ hit*
```

Signatures

The signatures define a more fine-grained view of the function. Which excludes the parts of the instruction that can vary depending on compilation time. This is similar to how IDA FLIRT signatures work, and in fact we also support them via the zF command

```
$ r2 -A static-bin
```

```
> zg lebin > lebin.r2
```

```
> zo lebin.r2
```

```
> z/ $$
```

Future Signatures

Radiff2 allows to find differences in code by trying to find two functions that match and compares them internally.

Ideally the signatures should support graph metrics matching and intermediate language reductions.

- Afi
- Calling convention
- Number of arguments
- Number of local variables
- Number of exit points
- Cyclomatic Complexity
- ...

References

The code and data is referenced by ref and xref structs, using the axt command we can inspect them.

Finding references to strings is an important task and r2 have different commands that may help on the analysis.

```
> aav
> aae
> /r
> pD $SS @ $S~Hello
```

BinDiffing

(and graphing)

Finding differences
between two binaries
looking for bugfixes.

Checking differences

Being able to identify what is different from two files is important, there are many ways to do that:

- At byte level
- With delta diffing
- Permit some % of aproximation
- At code level (function, basic block, ..)

Lets try that:

- radiff2 -x fileA fileB
- two column hexdump in r2 (cc $$ @ $$+1)
- DEMO: radiff2 with all the modes
- Creating a patch with -r

Finding the Change

DEMO: Identify what is different between two executables

Create a patch, analyze the changes...

- **radiff2 -r fileA fileB**

Applying the patch:

- **r2 -qwni patch.r2 orig**

Debugging

(and emulation)

R2 supports native debugger for Linux, BSD, XNU and Windows.

But there's more!

What Is Debugging?

R2 is a low level debugger (not a source debugger).

It provides much more low level information than source debuggers use to provide. Doesn’t competes with GDB/LLDB.

Basic Actions for a debugger are:

ds	**step**	**db**	**breakpoint**	**dr**	**show regs**
dso	**step over**	**dcu**	**continue-until**	**dx**	**code-inject**
dc	**continue**	**dm**	**memory-maps**	**dd**	**file-desc**

...

The state of the process

The process state is represented by this information:

- **Memory (maps, dm)**
- **Registers**
- **Threads (shared memory, unique regs)**
- **File Descriptors**

This state can be saved and restored with the dmp command.

IO != Debug

R2 have different plugins to interact with external resources like processes.

- IO plugins abstract the access to reading memory
- RDebug shares a link with IO to set breakpoints, memory,.

We can open a process or debug it:

```
$ r2 -d vs r2 dbg://
```

We can also debug ourselves:

```
$ rarun2 r2preload=true program=/bin/cat
```

```
$ r2 self://
```

Registers

Retrieved with the dr command

- Store last two states to colorize diffs
- Imported into r2 as flags .dr*
- Special register names for generic ones PC, SP, …
- Change its value with dr regname=value
- Debug registers are accessed with the drx command
- Register profiles define how are they stored

Memory

The memory in the process is organized in maps. Those are virtual regions of memory that can be a map of a file or just allocation for the heap.

Each page have its permissions and sometimes an associated name that allows us to identify which library is in there.

We can change those permissions to force page fault exceptions and emulate

> pxr @ rsp

> dm

> dms (memory snapshots)

ASLR and Rarun2

Rarun2 is a tool that allows us to spawn a process with a specific environment and configuration. It is ideal to construct reproducible runs without much hassle.

ASLR is the ability of the linker to map the binaries on different virtual addresses on each run. Some systems allow to disable this feature and rarun2 can do that.

```
$ rarun2 aslr=no program=./test
```

```
$ r2 -e dbg.profile=test.rarun2 -d test
```

Stack and Heap

Stack is where the function frame is stored, we can check local variables values in there.

- Return address stored in the stack
- Reconstruct backtrace with dbt command
- e dbg.btalgo=?
- pxr @ rsp

Heap is dynamically allocated by request of the program and is structured and not lineal like code or stack is.

- dmh command (only available on Linux for now)
- There are several implementations, a single process can have more than one heap, even per-thread.

Threads

A process can raise different signals:

- New thread created (clone)
- New process spawned (fork)
- New library loaded (windows)
- Syscall executed (dcs)
- Signal received (dck / dk / dko)
- Is dead (di)

File Descriptors

The kernel will expose the filedescriptors opened by the process. R2 allows to enumerate and do different things by injecting code in the target process.

- open a new file
- Dup2 to replace one filedescriptor
- Close a file

This code injection functionality can be useful for other places and its exposed in dx command.

Injecting code

This code injection functionality can be useful for other places and its exposed in dx command.

Inject code to spawn a shell generated by ragg2

```
$ ragg2-cc -a x86 -b 64 -k darwin -x h.c

$ r2 -d ls

> dx e900000000488d3516000000bf01000000b80400000248c7c206..

$ ragg2 -B cc -x
```

Remote Debugging

R2 supports WINDBG, GDB and native remote protocols. But, as long as r2 runs everywhere it is recommended to use it in place.

For example:

```
$ lldbserver /bin/ls
```

```
$ r2 -d gdb://localhost:7363/
```

ESIL

ESIL stands for Evaluable Strings Intermediate Language.

A forth-like language (stack based language) using comma as a tokenizer and used for emulating and analyzing code.

Widely used for decrypting malware routines and analyzing shellcodes and other payloads.

```
mov eax, 33        =>       33,eax,=
```

ESIL

The anal plugins provide an esil expression for every instruction that represents what it is doing internally.

This way it is possible to emulate an instruction and get some metrics out of it:

- Which registers are read, or write
- Which memory is accessed
- It is modifying the stack?
- Branch prediction
- ...

ESIL

Esil can be also used to construct search keyword or rules.

And even used with the debugger for assisted and prediction of conditional branches.

Also helpful for software watchpoints emulated with steps + esil emulation to stop before executing the offending instruction.

(DEMO)

Development

Development

Show how to find easy bugs in github

How code is structured

Rebuilding for testing doesn’t requires a full rebuild or reinstall. Just type make in the working directory.

- sys/install.sh installs with symlinks
- env.sh to run from build directory
- sys/user.sh to install at user’s home

But First.. A Poll!

(who are you?)

How many know git?

Do you know C?

Do you GDB/LLDB?

Be social!

R2 is WYSIWYF

What You See Is What You Fix.

Many times, bugs in r2 can be identified and fixed faster than opening a browser and describing the issue.

- Learn to use valgrind, asan, lldb/gdb, eprintf
- Report in a proper way
  - Provide reproducer (files, commands, steps)
  - Paste version number (we only fix bugs in master)
  - Show backtraces, valgrind logs, register states, disasm..

Debugging The Bug

Once a crash is found, we first need to identify where is this happening.

- Grep for previous messages
- Analyze the backtrace and variable values
- See register values and offending asm instruction
- Add eprintf messages around the lines to see whats going on

Identify The Kind Of Bug

- Overflow (valgrind/asan will help a lot)
- Null Dereference (memreads to <1000 usually are)
- DoubleFree (MALLOC_OPTIONS=g / valgrind)
- Format String
- Logic bugs (missbehaviour)
- Integer Overflows (negative or huge values)
- Heap exhaustion

Using Grep

Ctags is a nice solution but needs to be regenerated every time we change the code, grep may find where is the code you are looking for faster. A consistent coding style matters.

$ git grep # faster than system's grep only in repo files

- **^R_API** get public apis
- **StructName;** typedef definition of that struct
- **^static** find static methods
- **fcn(** function definition
- **fcn (** function calls
- **"cmd"** where is this r2 command implemented
- **%llx** find non-portable code
- **XXX** stuff known to be wrong
- **TODO** things to be done

Using Git

At first Git is a bit overwhelming for all the new commands that must be learned, but once passed, you will memorize the most common commands.

- **tig**
- **git diff**
- **git cherry-pick**
- **git clean -xdf**
- **git reset --hard @^^**
- **git clone ..**
- **git checkout -b branchname**
- **git add**
- **git commit -a -m …**

Squashing and Rebasing

Merging from master branch while developing in a separate branch is a bad idea because it makes the history messy.

The way to properly rebase your commits into master is:

```
$ git log | grep ^commit | cut -d ‘ ‘ -f 2 > commits
$ git reset --hard @^^^
$ git pull master
$ for a in `tac commits` ; do git cherry-pick $a ; done
```

Pull requests

The way to contribute in Github is via a pull request, which triggers Travis and AppVeyour services to do new builds and run the whole testsuite to find any regression.

- Allows to do commenting in code review.
- Can be done from the web clicking the pencil button

Merge / **Squash**

Regressions Testsuite

The testsuite is a trivial piece of radare2 that serves as a way to ensure that the behaviour is stable and is not segfaulting.

- Test fuzzed binaries
- Useful for other projects
- Assemble/disassemble instructions
- Run commands and compare output
- The Unit testsuite verifies the C apis

Finding Regression Point

Build every commit of r2 until it is able to run a test script without errors.

$ r2-v

```
$ r2-v
Using R2_MASTER /Users/pancake/prg/radare2/libr/util/../..
Using COPIES /Users/pancake/prg/r2-v
Usage: r2-v [cmd] ([arg])      - Radare2 Version Manager
  init                 initialize r2-v repository
  cur                  show current commit
  head                 show last commit
  ls                   list all build
  log                  show log history with marks and notes
  use [commit]         build and install this commit
  up                   build and install previous commit
  down                 build and install next commit
  rm [commit]          remove build
  reset                reset/remove all notes
  good | bad           mark current commit as good or bad
  note [commit] [msg]  add note for given commit
$
```

Your First Bugfix

Check for the “easy” label in github. One of them would be to fix esil expressions. Let’s check this out:

```
$ r2 /bin/ls
> aae
0x1000042a8 esil_eq: invalid parameters
> s 0x1000042a8
> ao~esil
esil: r15,4,*,,r14d,=
```

Writing A Test

(DEMO)

- Edit any file under t* directories in the r2r repo
- r2r stands for radare2-regressions
- Add a demo test.

Congratulations!
You Are Now A DevRev!

Questions?

\o.

EOF