

# Lab 1: Reverse engineer assembly code

## Purpose

The learning objective of this lab is for students to become familiar with assembly code and practice basic reverse engineering. This skill will become useful later in the course when you will work with exploits and try to understand their behavior at the level of machine code.

## Task 1:

Write C-pseudocode for assembly code shown below. You should be able to recognize specific C-constructs such as assignments, loops, conditionals and functions.

```
01: push    ebp          ...
02: mov     ebp, esp
03: mov     eax, [ebp+8]
04: sub     eax, 41h
05: jz short loc_caseA
06: dec     eax
07: jz short loc_caseB
08: dec     eax
09: jz short loc_caseC
10: mov     al, 5Ah
11: movzx  eax, al
12: pop    ebp
13: retn
14: loc_caseC:
15: mov     al, 43h
16: movzx  eax, al
17: pop    ebp
18: retn
...
19: loc_caseB:
20: mov     al, 42h
21: movzx  eax, al
22: pop    ebp
23: retn
24: loc_caseA:
25: mov     al, 41h
26: movzx  eax, al
27: pop    ebp
28: retn
```

## Task 2:

Write C-pseudocode for assembly code shown below. You should be able to recognize specific C-constructs such as assignments, loops, conditionals and functions.

```

01: cmp edi, 5
02: ja      short loc_10001141      ...
03: jmp    ds:off_100011A4[edi*4]
04: loc_10001125:
05: mov    esi, 40h
06: jmp    short loc_10001145
07: loc_1000112C:
08: mov    esi, 25h
09: jmp    short loc_10001145
10: loc_10001133:
11: mov    esi, 39h
12: jmp    short loc_10001145
13: loc_1000113A:
14: mov    esi, 10h
15: jmp    short loc_10001145
16: loc_10001141:
17: mov    esi, [esp+0Ch]
18: ...
19: off_100011A4:
20: dd offset loc_10001125
21: dd offset loc_10001125
22: dd offset loc_1000113A
23: dd offset loc_1000112C
24: dd offset loc_10001133
25: dd offset loc_1000113A

```

## Task 3:

The code below calls a function. What type of calling convention is being used? What are the fundamental operations of the call convention you have identified?

```

01: 00401002 mov  edi, ds:printf
02: 00401008 xor   esi, esi
03: 0040100A lea   ebx, [ebx+0]
04: 00401010 loc_401010:
05: 00401010 push  esi
06: 00401011 push  offset StrFormat      ; "%d\n"
07: 00401016 call   edi                  ; printf
08: 00401018 inc   esi

```

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09: 00401019 add esp, 8
10: 0040101C cmp esi, 0Ah
11: 0040101F jl short loc_401010
12: 00401021 push offset aEnd ; "end\n"
13: 00401026 call edi ; printf
14: 00401028 add esp, 4

```

## Task 4:

The assembly code shown below belongs to a C-function called from main(). The function takes two parameters: a pointer to an array and the length of the array. Assume that when the function is called the first argument points to a byte array containing the following values in sequence: 21, 7, 0, 16, 10, 12, 18. The second argument is set to the length of the array, that is equal to value 7 in this case.

Write C-pseudocode for assembly code shown below. You should be able to recognize specific C-constructs such as assignments, loops, conditionals and functions.

The *puts()* function called at offset 0x6D5 prints out a word from the English language. What word is it? The only argument to *puts()* is pushed on the stack on the line before.

```

.text:00000627 ; ||||||| S U B R O U T I N E |||||||
.text:00000627
.text:00000627 ; Attributes: bp-based frame
.text:00000627
.text:00000627     public _Z1fPhj
.text:00000627 _Z1fPhj proc near ; CODE XREF: main+53↑p
.text:00000627
.text:00000627 var_5C = dword ptr -5Ch
.text:00000627 var_50 = dword ptr -50h
.text:00000627 var_4C = dword ptr -4Ch
.text:00000627 var_47 = dword ptr -47h
.text:00000627 var_43 = dword ptr -43h
.text:00000627 var_3F = dword ptr -3Fh
.text:00000627 var_3B = dword ptr -3Bh
.text:00000627 var_37 = dword ptr -37h
.text:00000627 var_33 = dword ptr -33h
.text:00000627 var_2F = word ptr -2Fh
.text:00000627 var_2D = byte ptr -2Dh
.text:00000627 var_2C = byte ptr -2Ch
.text:00000627 var_C = dword ptr -0Ch

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.text:00000627 var_4          = dword ptr -4
.text:00000627 arg_0          = dword ptr 8
.text:00000627 arg_4          = dword ptr 0Ch
.text:00000627
.text:00000627      push ebp
.text:00000628      mov  ebp, esp
.text:0000062A      push ebx
.text:0000062B      sub  esp, 64h
.text:0000062E      call  __x86_get_pc_thunk_bx
.text:00000633      add  ebx, 199Dh
.text:00000639      mov  eax, [ebp+arg_0]
.text:0000063C      mov  [ebp+var_5C], eax
.text:0000063F      mov  eax, large gs:14h
.text:00000645      mov  [ebp+var_C], eax
.text:00000648      xor  eax, eax
.text:0000064A      mov  [ebp+var_47], 'DCBA'
.text:00000651      mov  [ebp+var_43], 'HGFE'
.text:00000658      mov  [ebp+var_3F], 'LKJI'
.text:0000065F      mov  [ebp+var_3B], 'PONM'
.text:00000666      mov  [ebp+var_37], 'TSRQ'
.text:0000066D      mov  [ebp+var_33], 'XWVU'
.text:00000674      mov  [ebp+var_2F], 'ZY'
.text:0000067A      mov  [ebp+var_2D], 0
.text:0000067E      sub  esp, 4
.text:00000681      push 20h      ; size_t
.text:00000683      push 0       ; int
.text:00000685      lea   eax, [ebp+var_2C]
.text:00000688      push  eax      ; void *
.text:00000689      call  _memset
.text:0000068E      add   esp, 10h
.text:00000691      mov   [ebp+var_50], 0
.text:00000698
.text:00000698 loc_698:           ; CODE XREF: _Z1fPhj+A5↓j
.text:00000698      mov   eax, [ebp+var_50]
.text:0000069B      cmp   [ebp+arg_4], eax
.text:0000069E      jbe   short loc_6CE
.text:000006A0      mov   edx, [ebp+var_50]
.text:000006A3      mov   eax, [ebp+var_5C]
.text:000006A6      add   eax, edx
.text:000006A8      movzx eax, byte ptr [eax]
.text:000006AB      movzx eax, al
.text:000006AE      mov   [ebp+var_4C], eax
.text:000006B1      mov   edx, [ebp+var_4C]
.text:000006B4      mov   eax, [ebp+var_50]
.text:000006B7      add   eax, edx

```

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```
.text:000006B9      movzx eax, byte ptr [ebp+eax+var_47]
.text:000006BE      lea    ecx, [ebp+var_2C]
.text:000006C1      mov    edx, [ebp+var_50]
.text:000006C4      add    edx, ecx
.text:000006C6      mov    [edx], al
.text:000006C8      add    [ebp+var_50], 1
.text:000006CC      jmp    short loc_698
.text:000006CE ; -----
.text:000006CE
.text:000006CE loc_6CE:           ; CODE XREF: _Z1fPhj+77↑j
.text:000006CE      sub    esp, 0Ch
.text:000006D1      lea    eax, [ebp+var_2C]
.text:000006D4      push   eax      ; char *
.text:000006D5      call   _puts
.text:000006DA      add    esp, 10h
.text:000006DD      mov    eax, 0
.text:000006E2      mov    ecx, [ebp+var_C]
.text:000006E5      xor    ecx, large gs:14h
.text:000006EC      jz    short loc_6F3
.text:000006EE      call   __stack_chk_fail_local
.text:000006F3
.text:000006F3 loc_6F3:           ; CODE XREF: _Z1fPhj+C5↑j
.text:000006F3      mov    ebx, [ebp+var_4]
.text:000006F6      leave
.text:000006F7      retn
.text:000006F7 _Z1fPhj endp
```