CS165 – Computer Security

Control Flow Defense and ROP Oct 19, 2021

Agenda

Canary / Stack Cookies



Data Execution Prevention (DEP)
/No eXecute (NX)



Address Space Layout Randomization (ASLR)

Agenda

Canary / Stack Cookies



Data Execution Prevention (DEP)
/No eXecute (NX)



Address Space Layout Randomization (ASLR)



Other Non-randomized Sections

• Dynamically linked libraries are loaded at runtime. This is called *lazy binding*.

- Two important data structures
 - Global Offset Table
 - Procedure Linkage Table

commonly positioned statically at compile-time

```
printf("hello ");
...
printf("world\n");
...
```

```
<printf@plt>: jmp GOT[printf]
```

```
GOT
...
<printf>: dynamic_linker_addr
```

```
LIBC

<dynamic_printf_addr>:
...
```

```
printf("hello ");
...
printf("world\n");
...
```

```
<printf@plt>: jmp GOT[printf]
```

```
GOT
...
<printf>: dynamic_linker_addr
```

```
LIBC

<dynamic_printf_addr>:
...
```

```
printf("hello ");
...
printf("world\n");
...

GOT
...
<printf>: dynamic_linker_addr
Transfer control to
PLT entry of printf
```

```
LIBC

<dynamic_printf_addr>:
...
```

```
printf("hello ");
...
printf("world\n");
...
```

```
<printf@plt>: jmp GOT[printf]
GOT
<printf>: dynamic_linker_addr
               Linker
```

clibC <dynamic_printf_addr>: ...

```
printf("hello ");
...
printf("world\n");
...
```

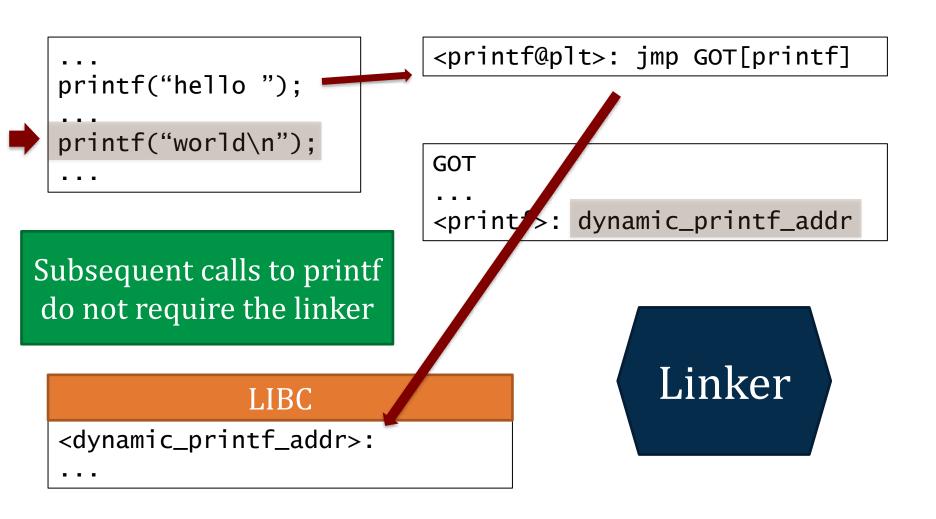
```
<printf@plt>: jmp GOT[printf]
```

```
GOT
...
<printf>: dynamic_printf_addr
```

Linker fills in the actual addresses of library functions

```
LIBC
<dynamic_printf_addr>:
...
```





Exploiting the linking process

 GOT entries are really function pointers positioned at known addresses

• **Idea:** use other vulnerabilities to take control (e.g., format string)

```
printf(usr_input);
...
printf("world\n");
...
```

```
<printf@plt>: jmp GOT[printf]
```

```
GOT
...
<printf>: dynamic_linker_addr
```

```
LIBC
<dynamic_printf_addr>:
...
```



```
printf(usr_input);
...
printf("world\);
...
```

```
<printf@plt>: jmp GOT[printf]
```

```
GOT
...
cprintf>: dynamic_linker_addr
```

Use the format string to overwrite a GOT entry

```
LIBC
<dynamic_printf_addr>:
...
```



```
printf(usr_input);
...
printf("world\);
...
```

```
<printf@plt>: jmp GOT[printf]
```

```
GOT
...
<printf>: any_attacker_addr
```

Use the format string to overwrite a GOT entry

```
LIBC
<dynamic_printf_addr>:
...
```



```
<printf@plt>: jmp GOT[printf]
printf(usr_input);
printf("world\n");
                             GOT
                             <printf>: any_attacker_addr
   The next invocation transfers
   control wherever the attacker
  wants (e.g., system, pop-ret, etc)
               LIBC
<dynamic_printf_addr>:
```

Quiz

- What defenses can defeat the GOT Hijacking attack?
 - Canary, DEP/NX, ASLR?

```
1 #include <unistd.h>
2 void main(int argc, char ** argv) {
      char *name[2];
3
      name[0] = "/bin/sh";
4
5
      name[1] = NULL;
      system(name[0]);
6
7
      exit(0);
8 }
80483c4 <main>:
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           55
                                    push
                                            %ebp
80483c5:
           89 e5
                                    mov
                                            %esp,%ebp
         83 e4 f0
80483c7:
                                            $0xfffffff0,%esp
                                    and
           83 ec 20
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           ff 25 b0 95 04 08
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                                            *0x80495b0
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                                           80482cc < init+0x30>
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                                            *0x80495b4
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                                    push
80482f7:
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                                    фmр
```

```
1 #include <unistd.h>
                                               root@debian:~# readelf -x 23 a.out
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                                               Hex dump of section '.got.plt':
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      name[0] = "/bin/sh";
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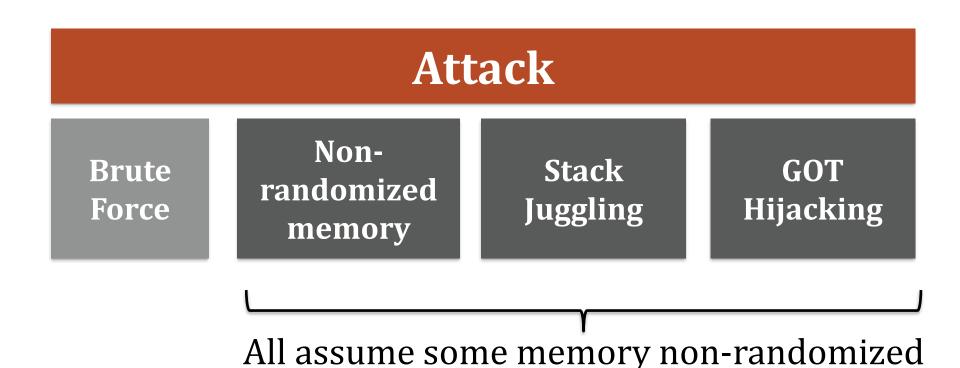
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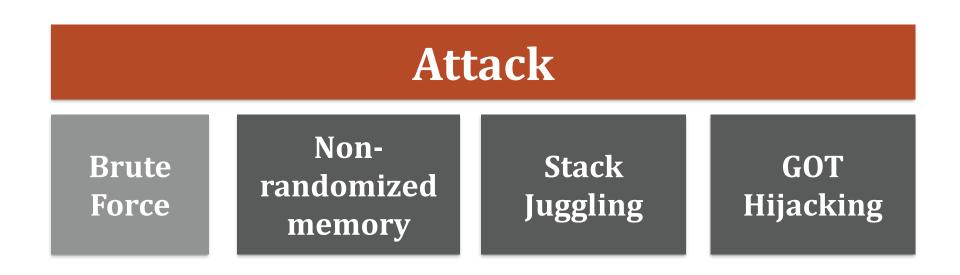
Many other techniques

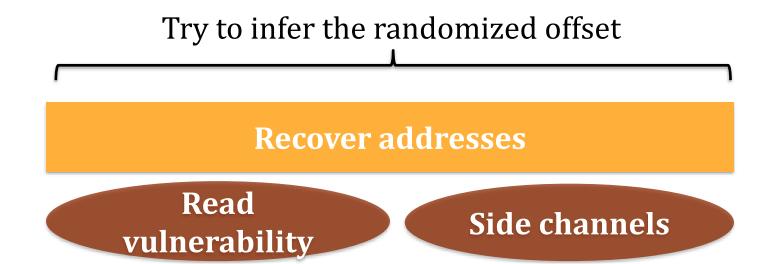
- ret2bss, ret2data, ret2heap, ret2eax
- string pointer
- ret2dtors
 - overwriting dtors section

How to attack with ASLR?



How to attack with ASLR?





Example: using format string vulnerability

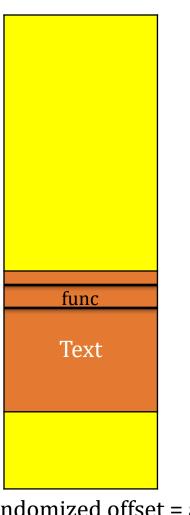
- View (a, a+64k) to locate specific sequence of instructions
 - Infer $\mathbf{r_1}$



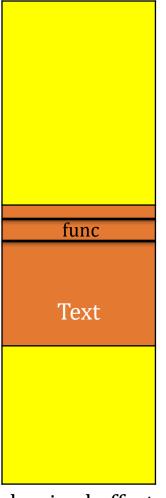
Program

- Code
- Uninitialized data
- Initialized data

Example: using CPU cache side channel

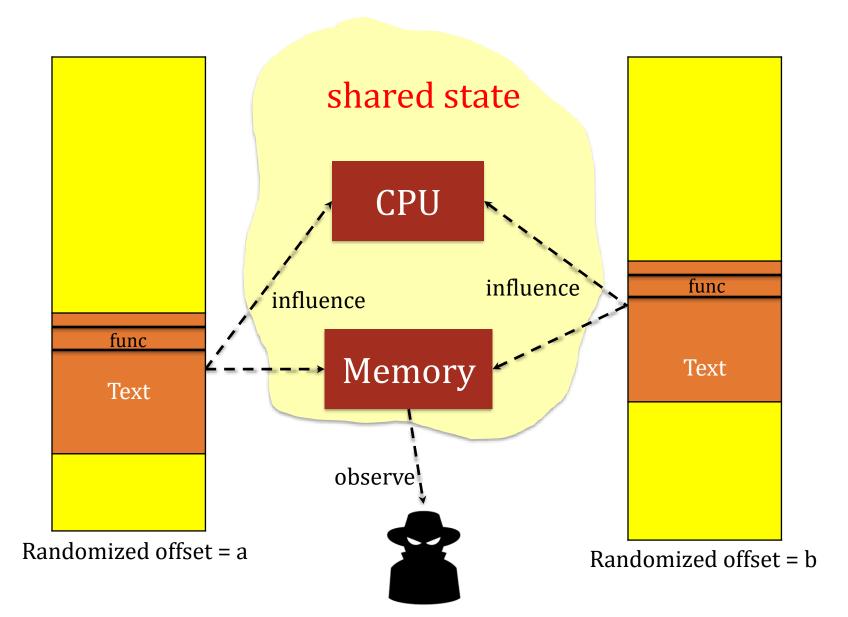


Randomized offset = a

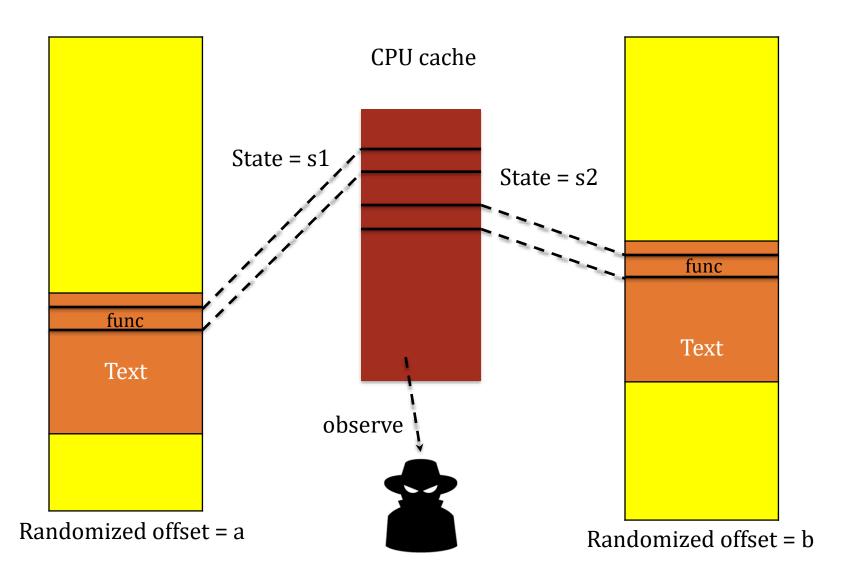


Randomized offset = b

Example: using CPU cache side channel



Example: using CPU cache side channel



The Security of ASLR

Optional Reading:

On the Effectiveness of Address-Space Randomization by Shacham et al, ACM CCS 2004

Agenda

Canary / Stack Cookies



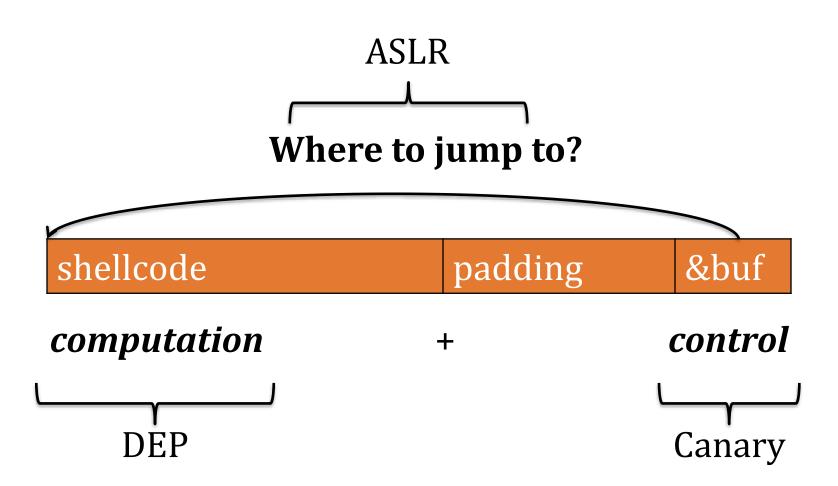
Data Execution Prevention (DEP)
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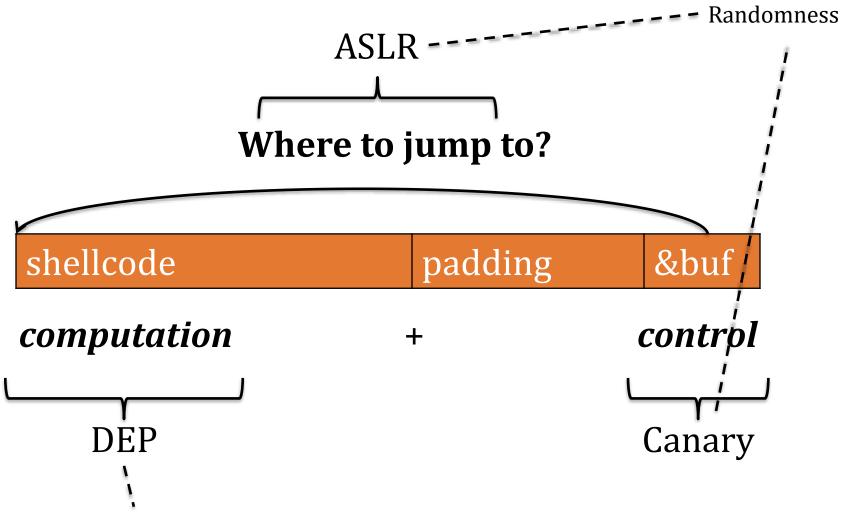
Address Space Layout Randomization (ASLR)



Summary



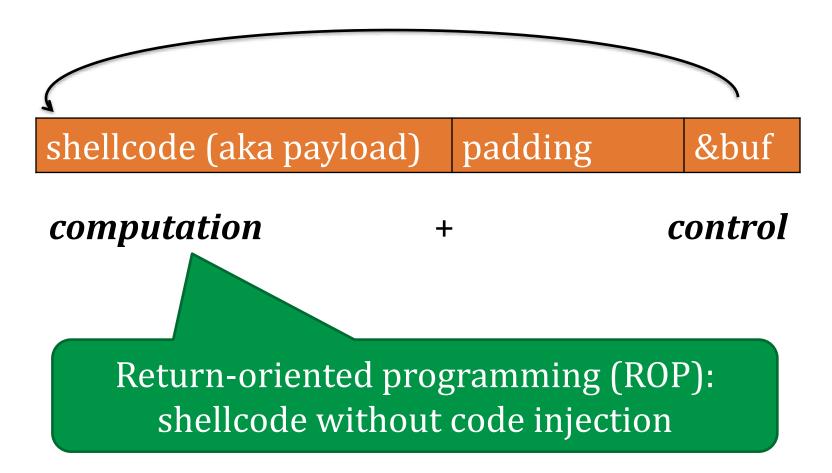
Summary



Eliminating "Mixing of data and code"

Return-Oriented Programming (ROP)

Control Flow Hijack: Always control + computation



Acknowledgement: Some slides from David Brumley, Ed Schwartz, Kevin Snow, and Luci Davi

Agenda

ROP Overview

Gadgets

Disassembling code

Agenda

ROP Overview



Gadgets

Disassembling code

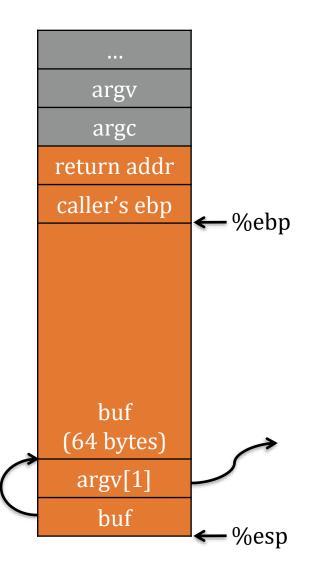
Motivation: Return-to-libc Attack

Bypassing DEP!

Overwrite return address with address of libc function

- setup fake return address and argument(s)
- ret will "call" libc function

No injected code!

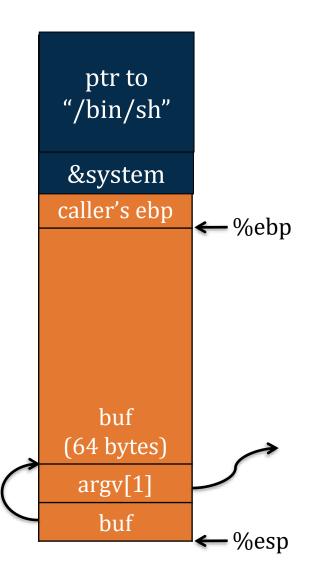


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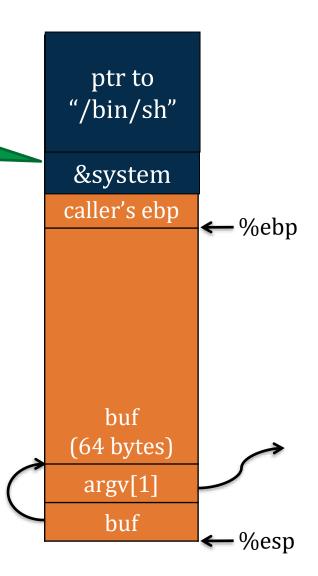
Motivation: Return-to-libc Attack

ret transfers control to system, which finds arguments on stack

Overwrite return address with address of libc function

- setup fake return address and argument(s)
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No injected code!



Have to defeat ASLR

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But system() may not be linked, or perhaps we need more than just system()

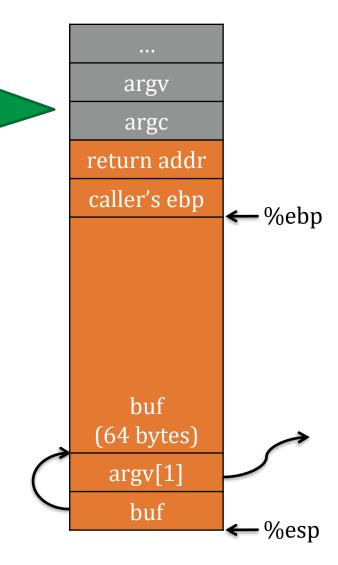
Have to defeat ASLR

But system() may not be linked, or perhaps we need more than just system()

ROP to the rescue:
A generalization of ret2libc

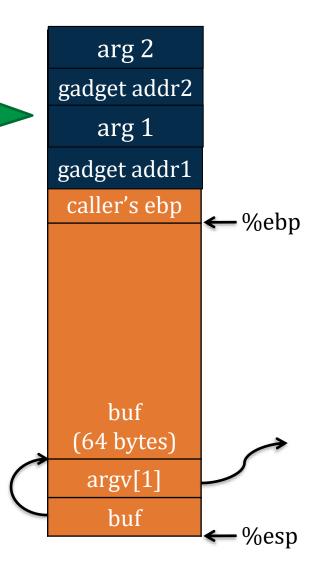
Return-Oriented Programming (ROP)

Need to find an instruction sequence, aka *gadget*, with esp



Return-Oriented Programming (ROP)

Need to find an instruction sequence, aka *gadget*, with esp



Return Oriented Programming Techniques

Geometry of Flesh on the Bone, Shacham et al, CCS 2007

The New Yr

Saturday, January 6, 2007

Daily Blog Tips awarded the

Last week Darren Rowse,
from the famous
Problogger blog,
announced the winners of
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and Predictions". Among

the Daily Blog Tips is attracting a vast audience of bloggers who are looking to improve their blogs. When asked about the success of his blog Daniel commented that

Ren follo imp

The that related

the

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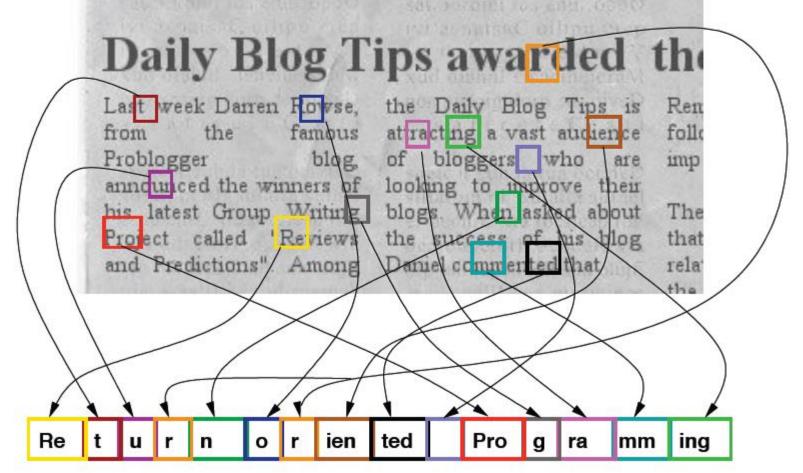
the

Ren

follo

The New Y1

Saturday, January 6, 2007



ROP Programming: Key Steps

- 1. Disassemble code
- 2. Identify *useful* code sequences as gadgets
- 3. Assemble gadgets into desired shellcode

 Idea: We forge shell code out of existing application logic gadgets

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- Requirements:
 vulnerability + gadgets + some unrandomized code

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- Requirements:
 vulnerability + gadgets + some unrandomized code
- History:
 - No code randomized: Code injection
 DEP enabled by default: ROP attacks using libc gadgets publicized ~2007
 - Libc randomized
 ASLR library load points
 Today: Windows 7/10 compiler randomizes text by default,
 Randomizing text on Linux not straightforward.

Agenda

ROP Overview



Gadgets

Disassembling code

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ROP Overview



Gadgets



Disassembling code

There are many

semantically equivalent

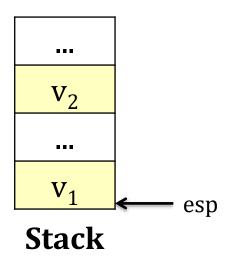
ways to achieve the same net

shellcode effect

Equivalence

Mem[v2] = v1

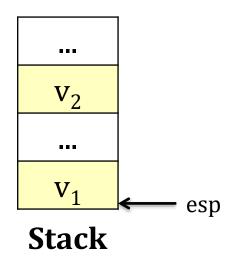
Desired Logic



Equivalence

Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Logic

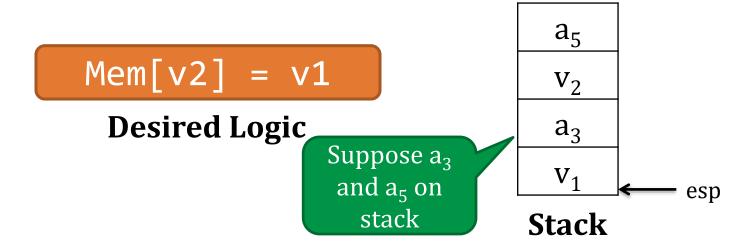


 a_1 : mov eax, [esp]

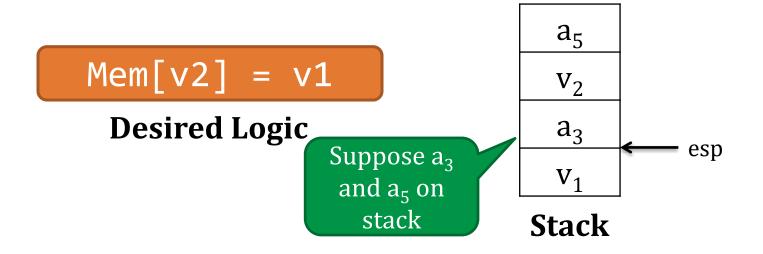
 a_2 : mov ebx, [esp+8]

a₃: mov [ebx], eax

A gadget is any instruction sequence ending with ret



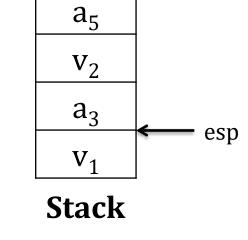
eax	
ebx	
eip	a_1



eax	\mathbf{v}_1
ebx	
eip	a ₁

Mem[v2] = v1

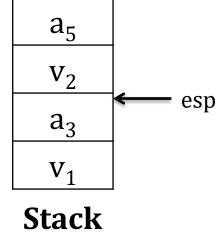
Desired Logic



$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} \text{eax} & & v_1 \\ \text{ebx} & & & \\ \text{eip} & & a_1 \end{array}$$

Mem[v2] = v1

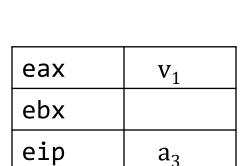
Desired Logic

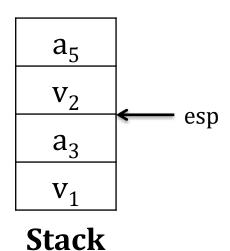


$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} eax & v_1 \\ ebx & & \\ eip & a_3 & & \end{array}$$

Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Logic





a₂: ret

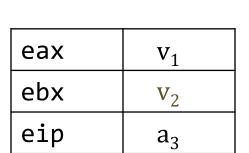
a₃: pop ebx;

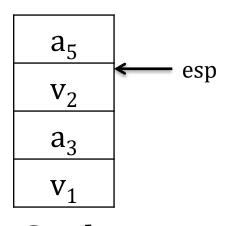
 a_4 : ret

 a_5 : mov [ebx], eax

Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Logic





Stack

a₂: ret

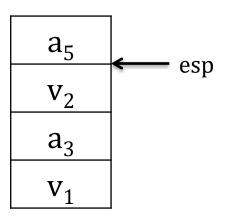
 a_4 : ret

 a_5 : mov [ebx], eax

Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Logic

eax	v_1
ebx	v_2
eip	a_4



Stack

a₂: ret

a₃: pop ebx;

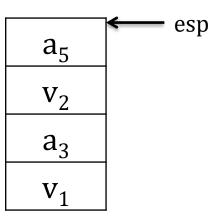
a₄: ret

 a_5 : mov [ebx], eax

Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Logic

eax	\mathbf{v}_1
ebx	v_2
eip	a ₅



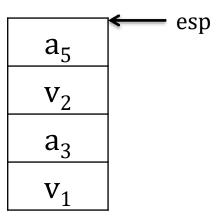
Stack

$$a_5$$
: mov [ebx], eax

Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Logic

eax	v_1
ebx	v_2
eip	a ₅



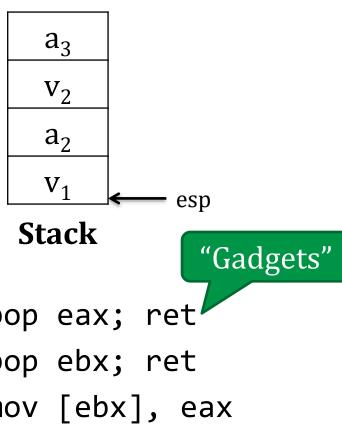
Stack

$$a_5$$
: mov [ebx], eax

Equivalence

Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Logic

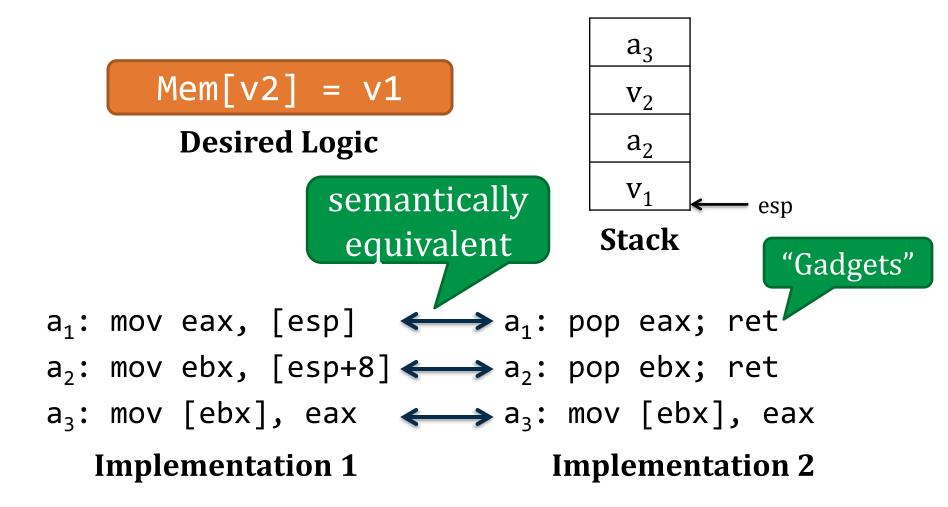


a₁: pop eax;

a₂: pop ebx; ret

a₃: mov [ebx], eax

Equivalence



Equivalence

No need to be

contiuous!

Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Logic

 a_3 v_2 a_2 v_1

Stack

a₁: pop eax; ret

• • •

 a_3 : mov [ebx], eax

• •

a₂: pop ebx; ret

a₁: pop eax; ret

a₂: pop ebx; ret

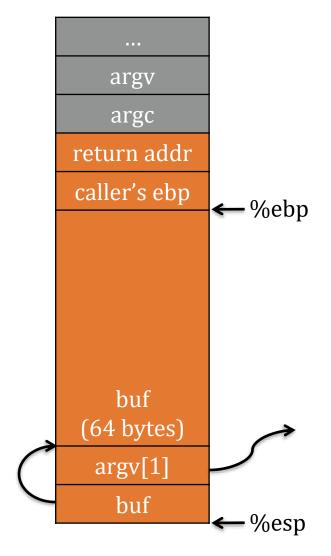
 a_3 : mov [ebx], eax

Implementation 2

Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Shellcode

- Find needed instruction gadgets at addresses a₁, a₂, and a₃ in *existing* code
- Overwrite stack to execute a₁, a₂, and then a₃



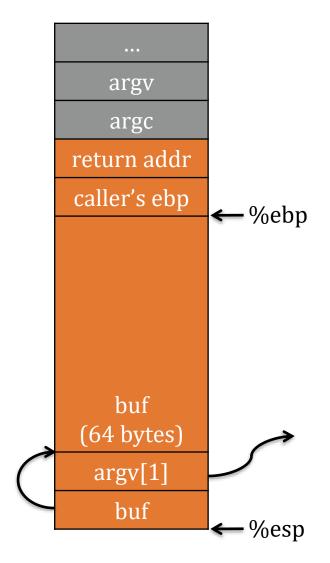
Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Shellcode

a₁: pop eax; ret

a₂: pop ebx; ret

 a_3 : mov [ebx], eax



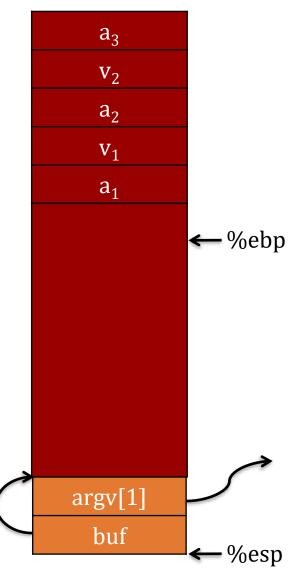
Mem[v2] = v1

Desired Shellcode

a₁: pop eax; ret

a₂: pop ebx; ret

 a_3 : mov [ebx], eax



 $Mem[v2] = \overline{v1}$

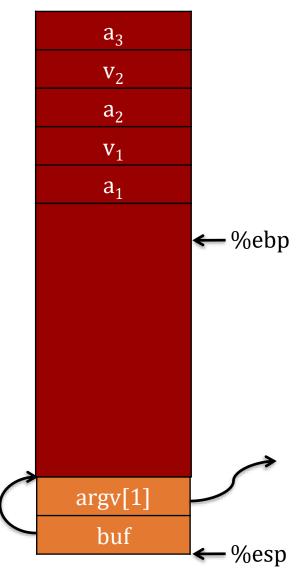
Desired Shellcode

a₁: pop eax; ret

a₂: pop ebx; ret

 a_3 : mov [ebx], eax

Desired store executed!



Quiz

```
void foo(char *input){
   char buf[512];
   ...
   strcpy (buf, input);
   return;
}
```

Draw a stack diagram and ROP exploit to pop a value 0xBBBBBBBBB into eax and add 80.

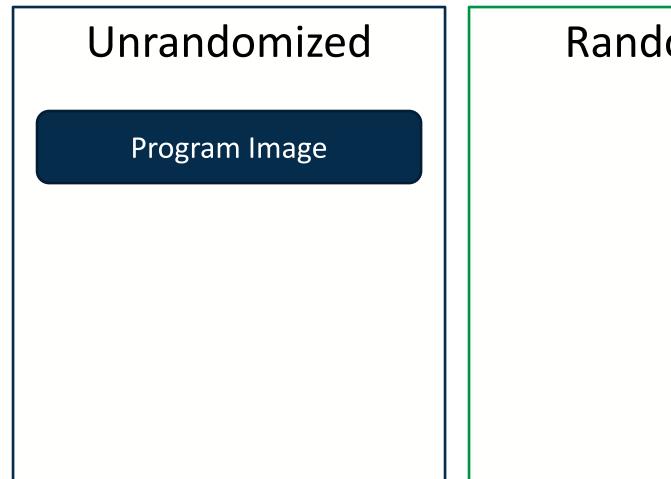
```
a<sub>1</sub>: add eax, 0x80; pop ebp; reta<sub>2</sub>: pop eax; ret
```



Quiz

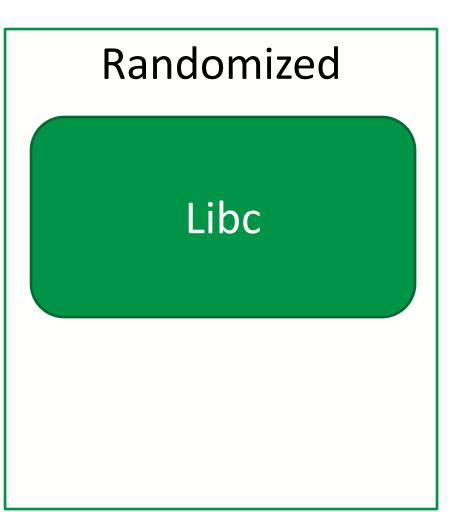
```
void foo(char *input){
                                                <data for
                                                pop ebp>
    char buf[512];
                                                   a_1
                                              0xBBBBBBBB
    strcpy (buf, input);
    return;
                                                   a_2
                                               saved ebp
a_1: add eax, 0x80; pop ebp; ret
                                                   buf
a<sub>2</sub>: pop eax; ret
                                  gadget 1
                                   + data
            Overwrite buf
                                                  gadget 2
                 AAA ...' a₂ 0xBBBBBBBB a₁
```

Unrandomized Randomized

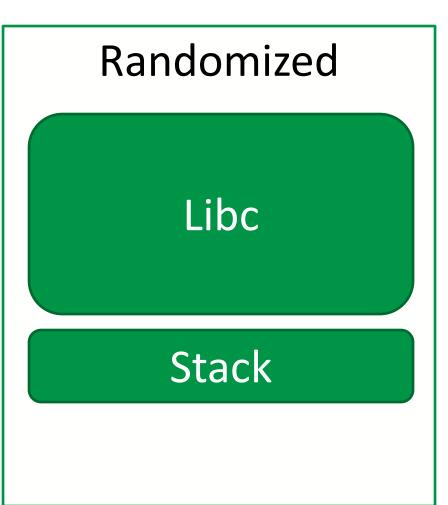


Randomized

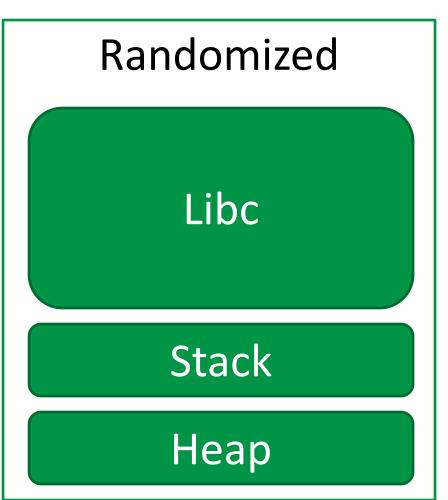




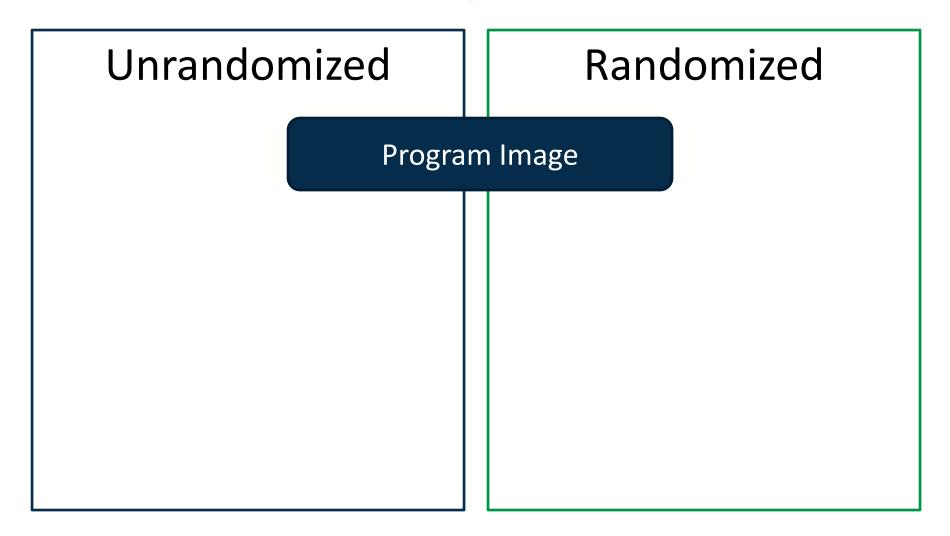


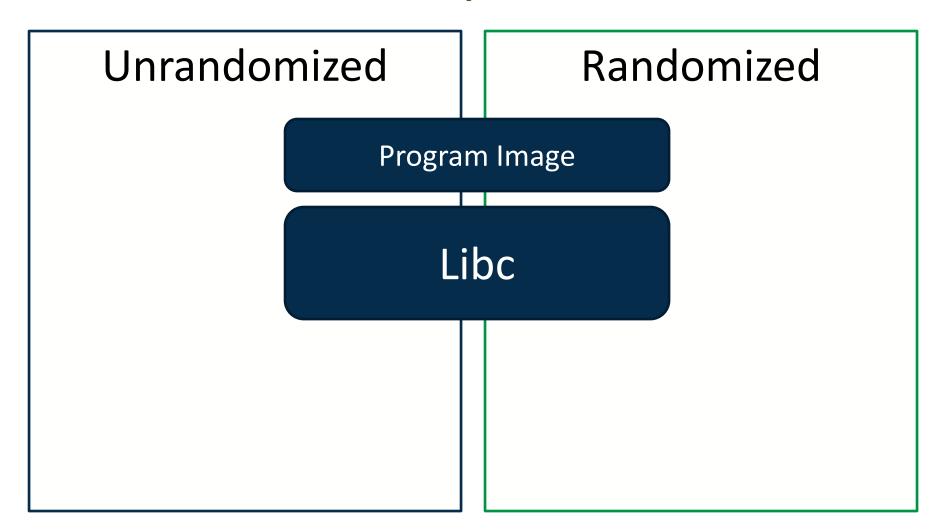


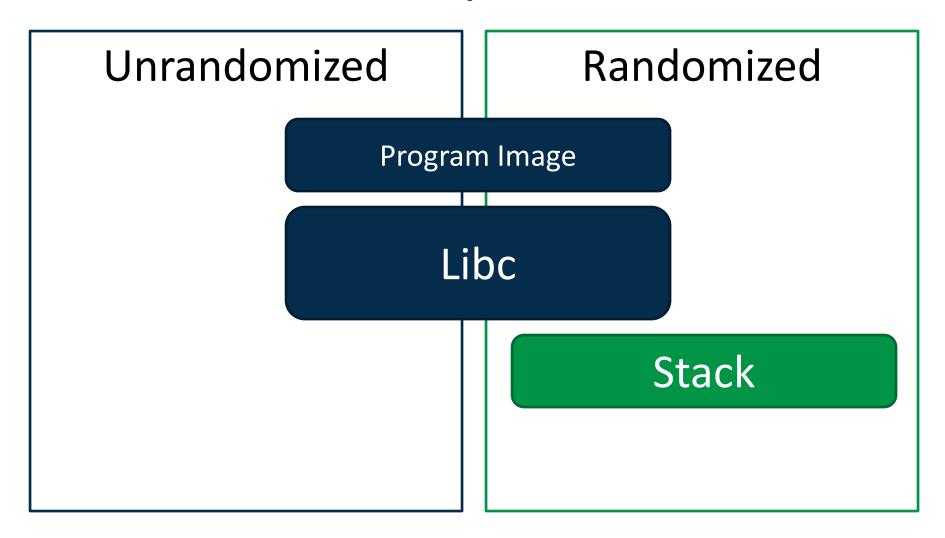


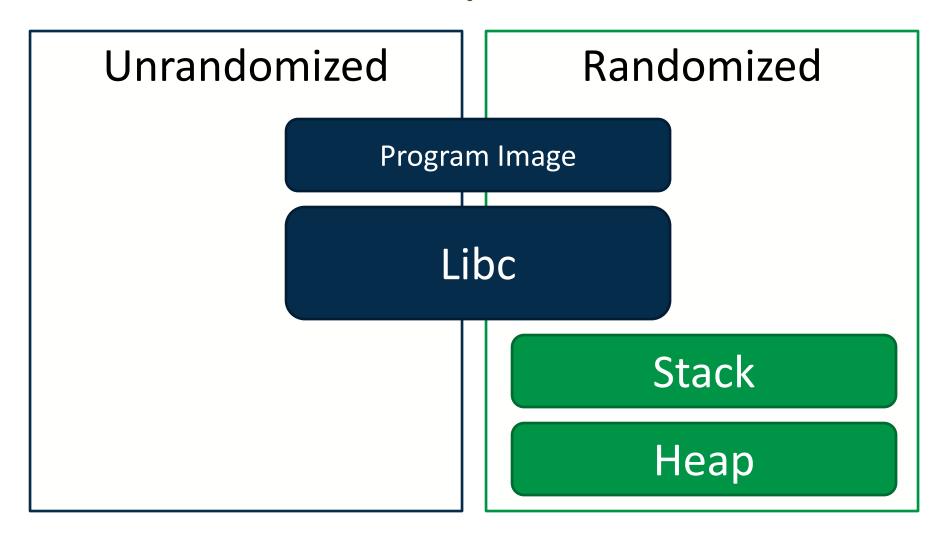


Unrandomized Randomized









Agenda

ROP Overview



Gadgets



Disassembling code

Agenda

ROP Overview



Gadgets

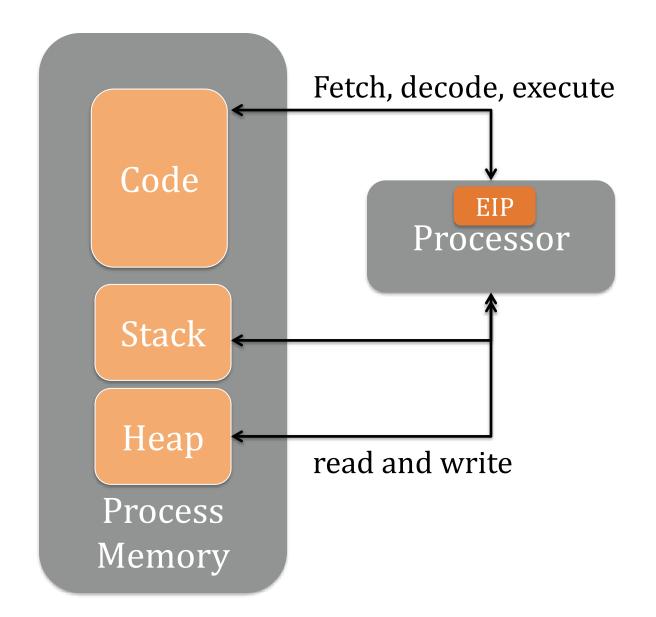


Disassembling code



Or the ambiguity in decoding x86 instructions gives more potential to ROP!

Recall: Execution Model



<u>Disassembly</u>

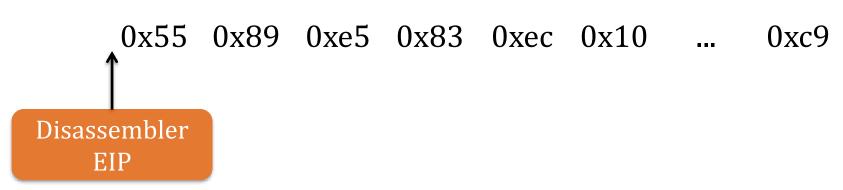
Address

```
83 ec 10
 3:
                       $0x10,%esp
                sub
                       0xc(%ebp),%eax
 6: |
    8b 45 0c
                mov
 9:
    03 45 08
                add
                       0x8(%ebp),%eax
    03 45 10
                add
                       0x10(%ebp), %eax
 c:
 f:
    89 45 fc
                       %eax,0xfffffffc(%ebp)
                mov
    8b 45 fc
12: I
                       0xfffffffc(%ebp), %eax
                mov
15: l
    83 e0 01
                       $0x1, %eax
                and
18: I
    84 c0
                test
                       %al,%al
1a: |
    74 03
                jе
                       1f <even sum+0x1f>
                       0xfffffffc(%ebp)
    ff 45 fc
1c: |
                incl
1f:
    8b 45 fc
                       0xfffffffc(%ebp),%eax
                mov
22:
    c9
                leave
23:
    c3
                ret
```

Executable instructions

Disassemble

Executable Instructions



Algorithm:

- 1. Decode Instruction
- 2. Advance EIP by len

Executable Instructions

0x55 0x89 0xe5 0x83 0xec 0x10 ... 0xc9

Disassembler EIP

Algorithm:

- 1. Decode Instruction
- 2. Advance EIP by len

PUSH—Push Word, Doubleword or Quadword Onto the Stack

Opcode*	Instruction	64-Bit Mode	Compat/ Leg Mode	Description
FF /6	PUSH r/m16	Valid	Valid	Push r/m16.
FF /6	PUSH r/m32	N.E.	Valid	Push r/m32.
FF /6	PUSH r/m64	Valid	N.E.	Push r/m64. Default operand size 64- bits.
50+rw	PUSH r16	Valid	Valid	Push <i>r16.</i>
50+rd	PUSH r32	N.E.	Valid	Push <i>r32</i> .
50+rd	PUSH r64	Valid	N.E.	Push r64. Default operand size 64-bits.

Executable Instructions

0x55 0x89 0xe5 0x83 0xec 0x10 ... 0xc9

Disassembler EIP

PUSH—Push Word, Doubleword or Quadword Onto the Stack

Opcode*	Instruction	64-Bit Mode	Compat/ Leg Mode	Description	
FF /6	PUSH r/m16	Valid	Valid	Push r/m16.	
FF /6	PUSH r/m32	N.E.	Valid	Push r/m32.	
FF /6	PUSH r/m64	Valid	N.E.	Push <i>r/m64</i> . Default operand size 64-bits.	
50+rw	PUSH r16	Valid	Valid	Push <i>r16.</i>	
50+rd	PUSH r32	N.E.	Valid	Push <i>r32</i> .	
50+rd	PUSH r64	Valid	N.E.	Push r64. Default operand size 64-bits.	

Algorithm:

- 1. Decode Instruction
- 2. Advance EIP by len

Table 3-1. Register Codes Associated With +rb, +rw, +rd, +ro

byte register			wo	rd regist	er	dw	ord regis	ter	quadword register (64-Bit Mode only)			
Register	REX.B	Reg Field	Register	REX.B	Reg Field	Register	REX.B	Reg Field	Register	REX.B	Reg Field	
AL	None	0	AX	None	0	EAX	None	0	RAX	None	0	
CL	None	1	CX	None	1	ECX	None	1	RCX	None	1	
DL	None	2	DX	None	2	EDX	None	2	RDX	None	2	
BPL	Yes	5	BP	None	5	EBP	None	5	RBP	None	5	
		-										

Executable Instructions

0x55 0x89 0xe5 0x83 0xec 0x10 ... 0xc9

Disassembler EIP

PUSH—Push Word, Doubleword or Quadword Onto the Stack

Opcode*	Instruction	64-Bit Mode	Compat/ Leg Mode	Description
FF /6	PUSH r/m16	Valid	Valid	Push r/m16.
FF /6	PUSH r/m32	N.E.	Valid	Push r/m32.
FF /6	PUSH r/m64	Valid	N.E.	Push r/m64. Default operand size 64-bits.
50+rw	PUSH r16	Valid	Valid	Push r16.
50+rd	PUSH r32	N.E.	Valid	Push <i>r32</i> .
50+rd	PUSH r64	Valid	N.E.	Push r64. Default operand size 64-bits.

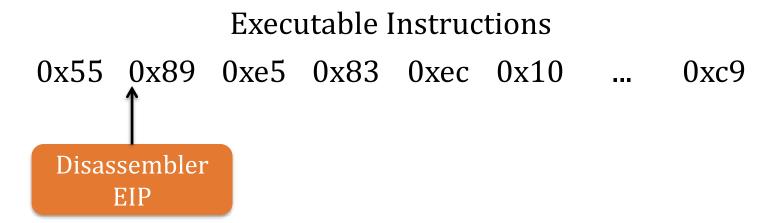
Algorithm:

1. Decode Instruction

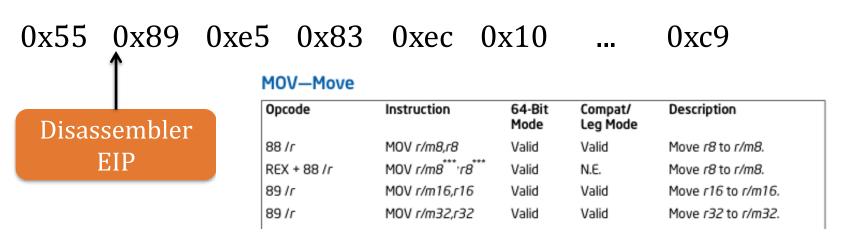
2. Advance EIP by len

Table 3-1. Register Codes Associated With +rb, +rw, +rd, +ro

byte register			wor	d registe	er	dw	ord regis	ter	quadword register (64-Bit Mode only)		
Register REX.B Reg Field		Register	REX.B	Reg Field	Register	REX.B	Reg Field	Register	REX.B	Reg Field	
AL	None	0	AX	None	0	EAX	None	0	RAX	None	0
CL	None	1	CX	None	1	ECX	None	1	RCX	None	1
DL	None	2	DX	None	2	EDX	None	2	RDX	None	2
BPL	Yes	5	BP	None	5	EBP	None	5	RBP	None	5



Executable Instructions



Executable Instructions

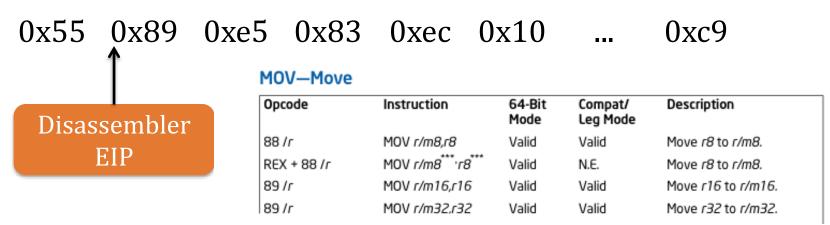


Table 2-2. 32-Bit Addressing Forms with the ModR/M Byte

r8(/r) r16(/r) r32(/r) mm(/r) xmm(/r) (In decimal) /digit (Opcode) (In binary) REG =			AL AX EAX MMO XMMO 0 0	CL CX ECX MM1 XMM1 1 001	DL DX EDX MM2 XMM2 2 010	BL BX EBX MM3 XMM3 3 011	AH SP ESP MM4 XMM4 4 100	CH BP EBP MM5 XMM5 5 101	DH SI ESI MM6 XMM6 6 110	BH DI EDI MM7 XMM7 7 111
Effective Address	Mod	R/M		Value	of Mod	IR/M By	rte (in l	lexade	cimal)	
[EAX] [ECX]	00	000 001	00 01	08 09	10 11	18 19	20 21	28 29	30 31	38 39

...

EAX/AX/AL/MM0/XMM0 ECX/CX/CL/MM/XMM1 EDX/DX/DL/MM2/XMM2 EBX/BX/BL/MM3/XMM3 ESP/SP/AH/MM4/XMM4 EBP/BP/CH/MM5/XMM5	11	000 001 010 011 100 101	C0 C1 C2 C3 C4 C5	C8 C9 CA CB CC	D0 D1 D2 D3 D4 D5	D8 D9 DA DB DC	E0 E1 E2 E3 E4 E5	E8 E9 EA EB EC	F0 F1 F2 F3 F4 F5	F8 F9 FA FB FC FD
---	----	--	----------------------------------	----------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------

Executable Instructions

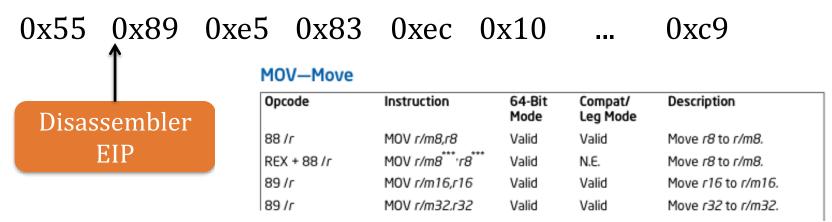


Table 2-2. 32-Bit Addressing Forms with the ModR/M Byte

r8(/r) r16(/r) r32(/r) mm(/r) xmm(/r) (In decimal) /digit (Opcode) (In binary) REG =			AL AX EAX MMO XMMO 0 0	CL CX ECX MM1 XMM1 1 001	DL DX EDX MM2 XMM2 2 010	BL BX EBX MM3 XMM3 3 011	AH SP ESP MM4 XMM4 4 100	CH BP EBP MM5 XMM5 5 101	DH SI ESI MM6 XMM6 6 110	BH DI EDI MM7 XMM7 7 1111
Effective Address	Mod	R/M		Value	of Mod	IR/M By	rte (in l	lexade	cimal)	
[EAX] [ECX]	00	000 001	00 01	08 09	10 11	18 19	20 21	28 29	30 31	38 39

...

push ebp
mov %esp, %ebp

Executable Instructions

0x55 0x89 0xe5 0x83 0xec 0x10 ... 0xc9

Disassembler EIP

Algorithm:

- 1. Decode Instruction
- 2. Advance EIP by len

push ebp
mov %esp, %ebp

Executable Instructions

0x55 0x89 0xe5 0x83 0xec 0x10 ... 0xc9

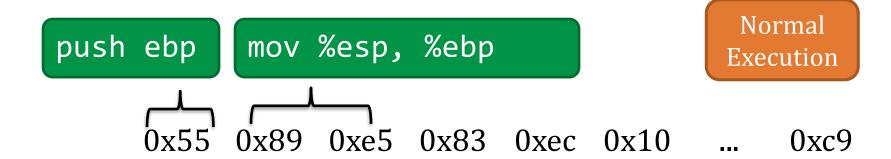
Disassembler EIP

Algorithm:

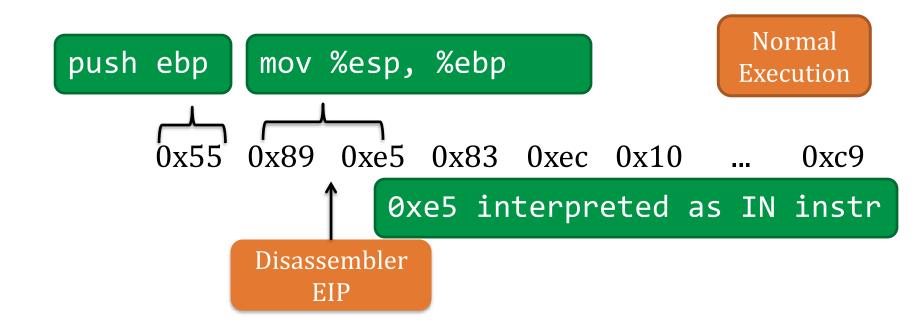
- 1. Decode Instruction
- 2. Advance EIP by len

push ebp
mov %esp, %ebp

Disassemble from any address



Disassemble from any address



It's perfectly valid to start disassembling from <u>any</u> address.

All byte sequences will have a unique disassembly

Mem[v2] = v1

Semantics

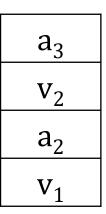
 a_3 V_2 a_2 V_1

```
a<sub>1</sub>: pop eax; ret
a<sub>3</sub>: mov [ebx], eax
a<sub>2</sub>: pop ebx; ret
```

Gadgets

Mem[v2] = v1

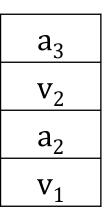
Semantics



 Shacham et al. manually identified which sequences ending in ret in libc were useful gadgets

Mem[v2] = v1

Semantics

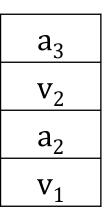


- Shacham et al. manually identified which sequences ending in ret in libc were useful gadgets
- Common shellcode was created with these gadgets.

Mem[v2] = v1

Semantics

a₁: pop eax; ret
...
a₃: mov [ebx], eax
...
a₂: pop ebx; ret
Gadgets



- Shacham et al. manually identified which sequences ending in ret in libc were useful gadgets
- Common shellcode was created with these gadgets.
- Everyone used libc, so gadgets and shellcode universal

Recap: ROP [Shacham et al.]

- 1. Disassemble code
- 2. Identify *useful* code sequences as gadgets <u>ending in ret</u>
- 3. Assemble gadgets into desired shellcode

Agenda

ROP Overview



Gadgets



Disassembling code



Agenda

ROP Overview



Gadgets



Disassembling code



Looking ahead

- Still need to beat ASLR
- What about remote attacks?

Blind ROP

- Hacking Blind -- 2014
- "It is possible to write remote stack buffer overflow exploits without possessing a copy of the target binary or source code, against services that restart after a crash.
- This makes it possible to hack proprietary closed-binary services, or open-source servers manually compiled and installed from source where the binary remains unknown to the attacker

Agenda

ROP Overview



Gadgets



Disassembling Code



Hacking Blind: BROP



Questions

