CSE 410/510 Special Topics: Software Security

Instructor: Dr. Ziming Zhao

Location: Obrian 109

Time: Monday, Wednesday 5:00PM-6:20PM

Last Class

- 1. Stack-based buffer overflow
 - a. Overwrite Saved EBP.

This Class

 Stack-based buffer overflow a. Defense.

```
void printsecret(int i, int j, int k)
 if (i == 0xdeadbeef && j == 0xC0DECAFE && k == 0xD0D0FACE)
  print_flag();
 exit(0);}
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
 char buf[8];
 if (argc != 2)
  return 0;
 strcpy(buf, argv[1]);
```

crackme4

```
000012b7 <main>:
 12h7·f3 0f 1e fh
                    endhr32
                    push %ebp
 12bb:55
 12bc: 89 e5
                    mov %esp,%ebp
 12be:83 ec 08
                    sub $0x8,%esp
  12c1. 83 7d 08 02
                           cmpl $0x2,0x8(%ebp)
 12c5: 74 07
                    ie 12ce <main+0x17>
                           mov $0x0,%eax
 12c7: b8 00 00 00 00
 12cc: eb 1a
                    jmp 12e8 <main+0x31>
 12ce: 8b 45 0c
                    mov 0xc(%ebp),%eax
 12d1:83 c0 04
                    add $0x4.%eax
 12d4:8b 00
                    mov (%eax),%eax
 12d6:50
                    push %eax
 12d7:8d 45 f8
                        -0x8(%ebp),%eax
 12da:50
                    push %eax
 12db:e8 fc ff ff ff
                    call 12dc <main+0x25>
 12e0:83 c4 08
                    add $0x8,%esp
 12e3: b8 00 00 00 00
                           mov $0x0,%eax
 12e8:c9
                    leave
 12e9:c3
                    ret
 12ea: 66 90
                    xchg %ax,%ax
 12ec: 66 90
                    xchg %ax,%ax
 12ee: 66 90
                    xchg %ax,%ax
```

Arg3 = 0xd0doface

Arg2 = 0xcodecafe

Arg1 = 0xdeadbeef

4 bytes

RET = printsecret

000012c6 <main>:</main>	
12c6· f3 0f 1e fh	endhr32
12ca: 8d 4c 24 04	lea 0x4(%esp),%ecx
12ce: 83 e4 f0	and \$0xfffffff0,%esp
12d1:ff 71 fc	pushl -0x4(%ecx)
12d4:55	push %ebp
12d5:89 e5	mov %esp,%ebp
12d7:51	push %ecx
12d8:83 ec 14	sub \$0x14,%esp
12db:89 c8	mov %ecx,%eax
12dd:83 38 02	cmpl \$0x2,(%eax)
12e0:74 07	je 12e9 <main+0x23></main+0x23>
12e2: b8 00 00 00 00	mov \$0x0,%eax
12e7: eb 1d	jmp 1306 <main+0x40></main+0x40>
12e9:8b 40 04	mov 0x4(%eax),%eax
12ec: 83 c0 04	add \$0x4,%eax
12ef: 8b 00	mov (%eax),%eax
12f1: 83 ec 08	sub \$0x8,%esp
12f4: 50	push %eax
12f5: 8d 45 f0	lea -0x10(%ebp),%eax
12f8: 50	push %eax
12f9: e8 fc ff ff ff	call 12fa <main+0x34></main+0x34>
12fe: 83 c4 10	add \$0x10,%esp
1301:b8 00 00 00 00	mov \$0x0,%eax
1306:8b 4d fc	mov -0x4(%ebp),%ecx
1309:c9	leave
130a:8d 61 fc	lea -0x4(%ecx),%esp
130d:c3	ret

000012c6 <main>:</main>	
12c6: f3 0f 1e fh	endhr32
12ca: 8d 4c 24 04	lea 0x4(%esp),%ecx
12ce: 83 e4 f0	and \$0xfffffff0,%esp
12d1:ff 71 fc	pushl -0x4(%ecx)
12d4:55	push %ebp
12d5:89 e5	mov %esp,%ebp
12d7:51	push %ecx
12d8:83 ec 14	sub \$0x14,%esp
12db:89 c8	mov %ecx,%eax
12dd:83 38 02	cmpl \$0x2,(%eax)
12e0:74 07	je 12e9 <main+0x23></main+0x23>
12e2:b8 00 00 00 00	mov \$0x0,%eax
12e7: eb 1d	jmp 1306 <main+0x40></main+0x40>
12e9:8b 40 04	mov 0x4(%eax),%eax
12ec: 83 c0 04	add \$0x4,%eax
12ef: 8b 00	mov (%eax),%eax
12f1: 83 ec 08	sub \$0x8,%esp
12f4: 50	push %eax
12f5: 8d 45 f0	lea -0x10(%ebp),%eax
12f8: 50	push %eax
12f9: e8 fc ff ff ff	call 12fa <main+0x34></main+0x34>
12fe: 83 c4 10	add \$0x10,%esp
1301:b8 00 00 00 00	mov \$0x0,%eax
1306:8b 4d fc	mov -0x4(%ebp),%ecx
1309:c9	leave
130a:8d 61 fc	lea -0x4(%ecx),%esp
130d:c3	ret

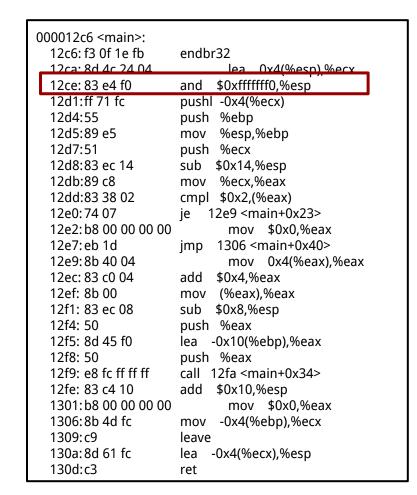
Argv[1]

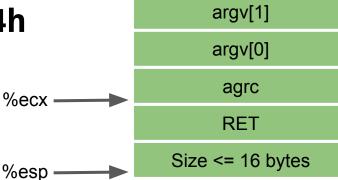
argv[0]

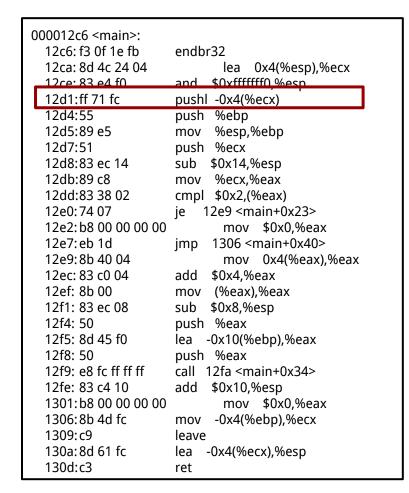
argv[0]

argv[0]

RET







argv[1]

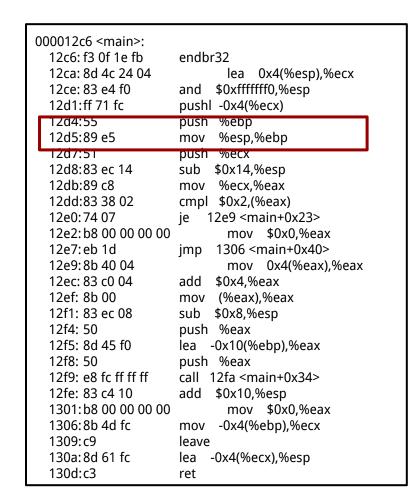
argv[0]

agrc

RET

| Size <= 16 bytes

RET

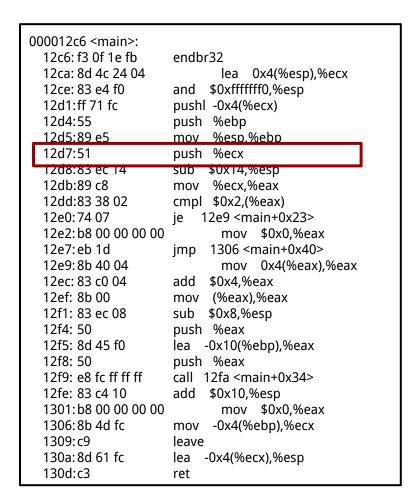


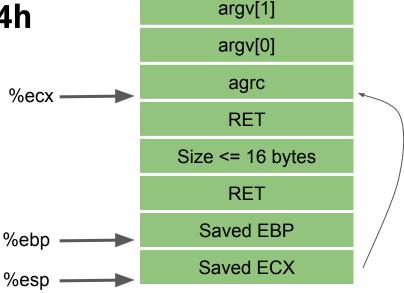
 me4h
 argv[1]

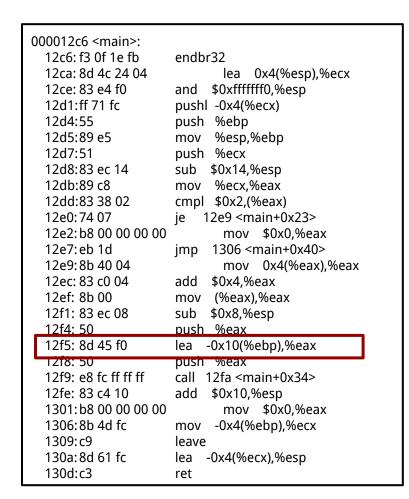
 %ecx
 agrc

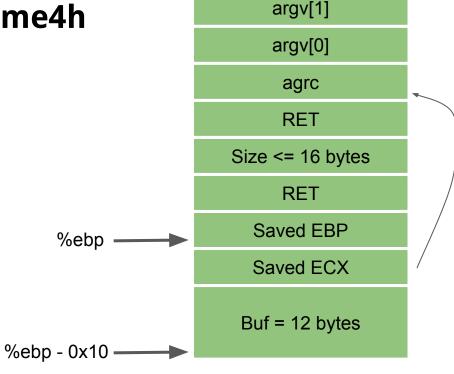
 RET
 Size <= 16 bytes</td>

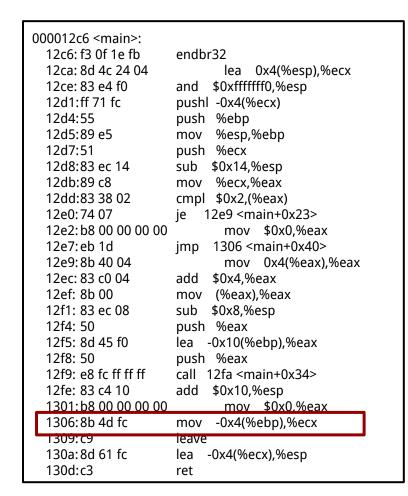
 RET
 Saved EBP

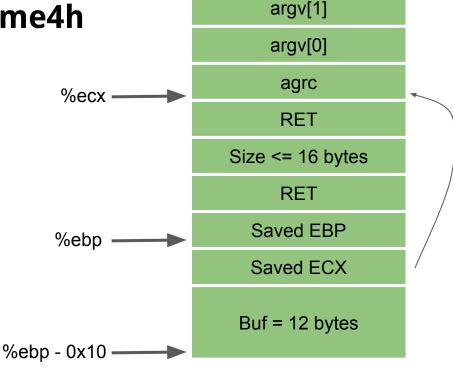


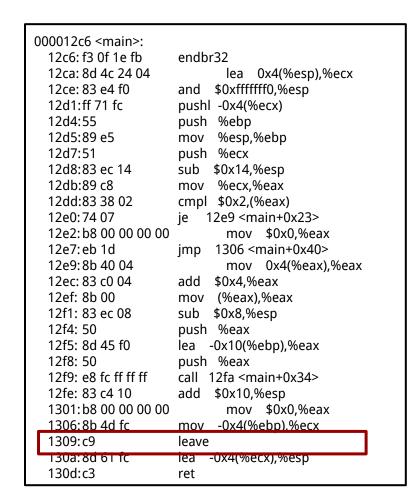


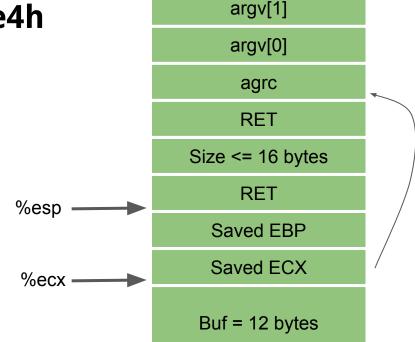


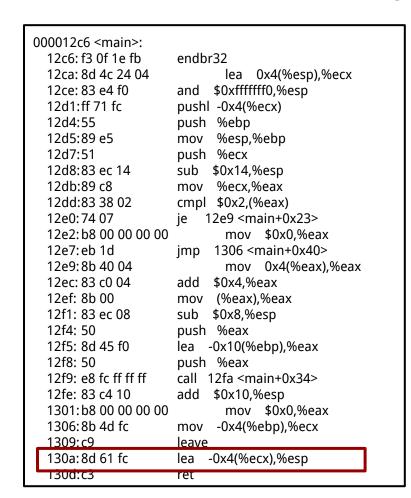


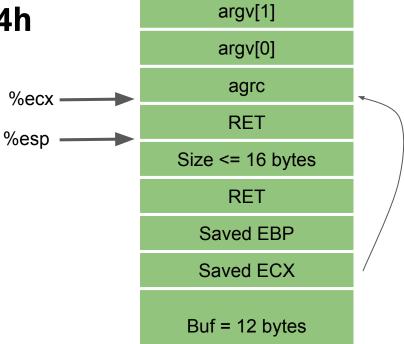




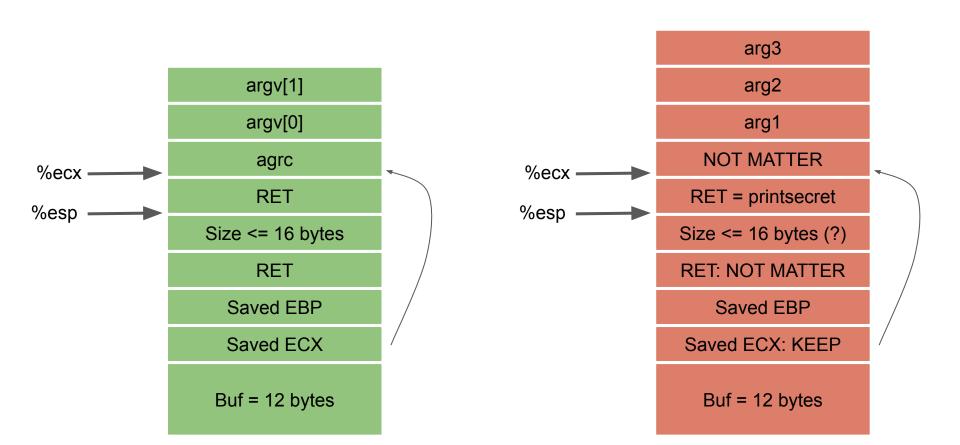








Crackme4h Craft the exploit



crackme464

```
000000000001200 <printsecret>:
  1200:f3 0f 1e fa
                     endbr64
                     push %rbp
  1204:55
 1205:48 89 e5
                     mov
                           %rsp,%rbp
 1208:48 83 ec 10
                             sub $0x10,%rsp
  120c: 89 7d fc
                           %edi.-0x4(%rbp)
                     mov
 120f: 89 75 f8
                           %esi,-0x8(%rbp)
                     mov
 1212:89 55 f4
                     mov %edx,-0xc(%rbp)
 1215:81 7d fc ef be ad de cmpl $0xdeadbeef,-0x4(%rbp)
 121c: 75 32
                     ine 1250 <printsecret+0x50>
  121e:81 7d f8 fe ca de c0
                             cmpl $0xc0decafe,-0x8(%rbp)
 1225:75 29
                         1250 <printsecret+0x50>
                     ine
                             cmpl $0xd0d0face,-0xc(%rbp)
 1227:81 7d f4 ce fa d0 d0
  122e:75 20
                     ine 1250 <printsecret+0x50>
  1230:48 8d 3d d9 2d 00 00
                                                       # 4010 <s>
                             lea 0x2dd9(%rip),%rdi
                                                                          Return to here!!
 1237.e8 6d ff ff ff
                     cally 11a9 <decrypt>
 123c: 48 89 c6
                           %rax,%rsi
                     mov
 123f: 48 8d 3d c2 0d 00 00
                             lea 0xdc2(%rip),%rdi
                                                     # 2008 < IO stdin used+0x8>
 1246:b8 00 00 00 00
                             mov $0x0.%eax
  124b:e8 50 fe ff ff
                             callq 10a0 <printf@plt>
 1250: bf 00 00 00 00
                             mov $0x0,%edi
 1255: e8 56 fe ff ff
                             callq 10b0 <exit@plt>
```

Conditions we depend on to pull off the attack of returning to shellcode on stack

- 1. The ability to put the shellcode onto stack (env, command line)
- 2. The stack is executable
- 3. The ability to overwrite RET addr on stack before instruction **ret** is executed or to overwrite Saved EBP
- 4. Know the address of the destination function

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Data Execution Prevention (DEP, W⊕X, NX)

Defense 1:

Harvard vs. Von-Neumann Architecture

Harvard Architecture

The Harvard architecture stores machine instructions and data in separate memory units that are connected by different busses. In this case, there are at least two memory address spaces to work with, so there is a memory register for machine instructions and another memory register for data. Computers designed with the Harvard architecture are able to run a program and access data independently, and therefore simultaneously. Harvard architecture has a strict separation between data and code. Thus, Harvard architecture is more complicated but separate pipelines remove the bottleneck that Von Neumann creates.

Von-Neumann architecture

In a Von-Neumann architecture, the same memory and bus are used to store both data and instructions that run the program. Since you cannot access program memory and data memory simultaneously, the Von Neumann architecture is susceptible to bottlenecks and system performance is affected.

Older CPUs

Older CPUs: Read permission on a page implies execution. So all readable memory was executable.

AMD64 – introduced NX bit (No-eXecute in 2003)

Windows Supporting DEP from Windows XP SP2 (in 2004)

Linux Supporting NX since 2.6.8 (in 2004)

Modern CPUs

Modern architectures support memory permissions:

- PROT_READ allows the process to read memory
- **PROT_WRITE** allows the process to write memory
- PROT_EXEC allows the process to execute memory

gcc parameter -z execstack to disable this protection

```
ziming@ziming-XPS-13-9300:~/Dropbox/myTeaching/System Security - Attack and Defense for Binaries UB 2020/code/overflow6$ readelf -l of6
Elf file type is DYN (Shared object file)
Entry point 0x1090
There are 12 program headers, starting at offset 52
Program Headers:
  Type
                Offset VirtAddr
                                    PhysAddr
                                               FileSiz MemSiz Flq Aliqn
 PHDR
                0x000034 0x00000034 0x00000034 0x00180 0x00180 R
                                                                   0x4
                0x0001b4 0x000001b4 0x000001b4 0x00013 0x00013 R
 INTERP
                                                                   0x1
      [Requesting program interpreter: /lib/ld-linux.so.2]
 LOAD
                0x000000 0x00000000 0x00000000 0x003f8 0x003f8 R
                                                                   0x1000
 LOAD
                0x001000 0x00001000 0x00001000 0x002d4 0x002d4 R E 0x1000
                0x002000 0x00002000 0x00002000 0x001ac 0x001ac R
 LOAD
                                                                   0x1000
 LOAD
                0x002ed8 0x00003ed8 0x00003ed8 0x00130 0x00134 RW 0x1000
 DYNAMIC
                0x002ee0 0x00003ee0 0x00003ee0 0x000f8 0x000f8 RW
                                                                   0x4
 NOTE
                0x0001c8 0x000001c8 0x000001c8 0x00060 0x00060 R
                                                                   0x4
 GNU PROPERTY
                0x0001ec 0x000001ec 0x000001ec 0x0001c 0x0001c R
                                                                   0x4
                AVARAGE AVARAGE AVARAGE AVARAGE AVARAGE D
 GNU_STACK
                0x000000 0x00000000 0x00000000 0x00000 0x00000 RWE 0x10
  UNO RELIGO - VAUVEGO VAVVOJEGO VAVVOJEGO VAVVILO VAVVILO R VAI
ziming@ziming-XPS-13-9300:~/Dropbox/mvTeaching/System Security - Attack and Defense for Binaries UB 2020/code/overflow6S readelf -l of6nx
Elf file type is DYN (Shared object file)
Entry point 0x1090
There are 12 program headers, starting at offset 52
Program Headers:
 Type
                Offset VirtAddr PhysAddr FileSiz MemSiz Fla Alian
                0x000034 0x00000034 0x00000034 0x00180 0x00180 R
 PHDR
                                                                  0x4
 INTERP
                0x0001b4 0x000001b4 0x000001b4 0x00013 0x00013 R
                                                                  0x1
     [Requesting program interpreter: /lib/ld-linux.so.2]
 LOAD
                0x000000 0x00000000 0x00000000 0x003f8 0x003f8 R
                                                                   0x1000
 LOAD
                0x001000 0x00001000 0x00001000 0x002d4 0x002d4 R E 0x1000
 LOAD
                0x002000 0x00002000 0x00002000 0x001ac 0x001ac R
                                                                  0x1000
 LOAD
                0x002ed8 0x00003ed8 0x00003ed8 0x00130 0x00134 RW 0x1000
```

0x4

0x4

0x10

0x002ee0 0x00003ee0 0x00003ee0 0x000f8 0x000f8 RW 0x4

0x0001c8 0x000001c8 0x000001c8 0x00060 0x00060 R

0x0001ec 0x000001ec 0x000001ec 0x0001c R

UXUUZUUB UXUUUUZUUB UXUUUZUUB UXUUUSC UXUUUSC K

0x000000 0x00000000 0x00000000 0x00000 0x00000 RW

AVABLE AVABBASERS AVABBASERS AVABLES AVABLES D

DYNAMIC

GNU STACK

CNIL DELDO

GNU PROPERTY

GNU_EH_FKAME

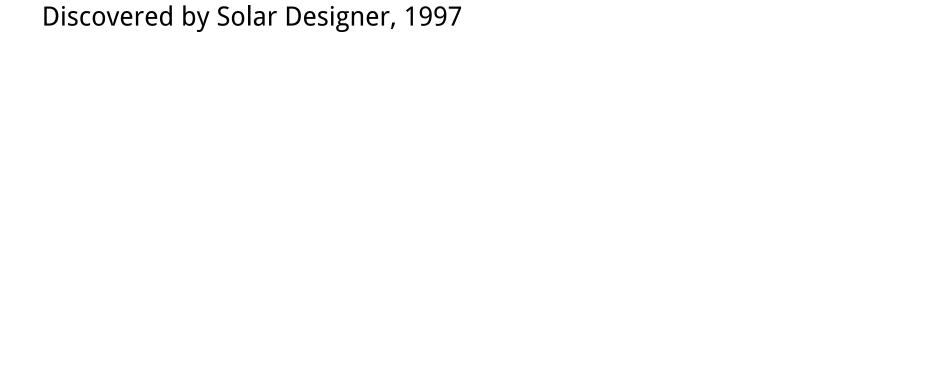
NOTE

What DEP cannot prevent

Can still corrupt stack or function pointers or critical data on the heap

As long as RET (saved EIP) points into legit code section, W⊕X protection will not block control transfer

Ret2libc 32bit Bypassing NX



Ret2libc

Now programs built with non-executable stack.

Then, how to run a shell? Ret to C library **system("/bin/sh")** like how we called printsecret() in overflowret

Description

The C library function **int system(const char *command)** passes the command name or program name specified by **command** to the host environment to be executed by the command processor and returns after the command has been completed.

Declaration

Following is the declaration for system() function.

int system(const char *command)

Parameters

command – This is the C string containing the name of the requested variable.

Return Value

The value returned is -1 on error, and the return status of the command otherwise.

Buffer Overflow Example: code/overflowret4 32-bit (overflowret4_no_excNry_32)

```
int vulfoo()
{
  char buf[30];

  gets(buf);
  return 0;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
  vulfoo();
  printf("I pity the fool!\n");
}
```

Conditions we depend on to pull off the attack of ret2libc

- 1. The ability to put the shellcode onto stack (env, command line)
- 2. The stack is executable
- 3. The ability to overwrite RET addr on stack before instruction **ret** is executed or to overwrite Saved EBP
- 4. Know the address of the destination function and arguments

Control Hijacking Attacks

Control flow

 Order in which individual statements, instructions or function calls of a program are executed or evaluated

Control Hijacking Attacks (Runtime exploit)

- A control hijacking attack exploits a program error, particularly a memory corruption vulnerability, at application runtime to subvert the intended control-flow of a program.
- Alter a code pointer (i.e., value that influences program counter) or, Gain control of the instruction pointer %eip
- Change memory region that should not be accessed

Code Injection Attacks

Code-injection Attacks

 a subclass of control hijacking attacks that subverts the intended control-flow of a program to previously injected malicious code

Shellcode

- code supplied by attacker often saved in buffer being overflowed traditionally transferred control to a shell (user command-line interpreter)
- machine code specific to processor and OS traditionally needed good assembly language skills to create – more recently have automated sites/tools

Code-Reuse Attack

Code-Reuse Attack: a subclass of control-flow attacks that subverts the intended control-flow of a program to invoke an unintended execution path inside the original program code.

Return-to-Libc Attacks (Ret2Libc)
Return-Oriented Programming (ROP)
Jump-Oriented Programming (JOP)

Exercise: Overthewire /maze/maze2

Overthewire

http://overthewire.org/wargames/

- 1. Open a terminal
- 2. Type: ssh -p 2225 maze2@maze.labs.overthewire.org
- 3. Input password: fooghihahr
- 4. cd /maze; this is where the binary are
- 5. Your goal is to get the password of maze3

Attacker's Goal

Take control of the victim's machine

- Hijack the execution flow of a running program
- Execute arbitrary code

Requirements

- Inject attack code or attack parameters
- Abuse vulnerability and modify memory such that control flow is redirected

Change of control flow

- *alter a code pointer* (RET, function pointer, etc.)
- change memory region that should not be accessed

Overflow Types

Overflow some *code pointer*

- Overflow memory region on the stack
 - overflow function return address
 - overflow function frame (base) pointer
 - overflow longimp buffer
- Overflow (dynamically allocated) memory region on the heap
- Overflow function pointers
 - stack, heap, BSS

Other pointers?

Can we exploit other pointers as well?

- Memory that is used in a value to influence mathematical operations, conditional jumps.
- 2. Memory that is used as a **read pointer** (or offset), allowing us to force the program to access arbitrary memory.
- 3. Memory that is used as a **write pointer** (or offset), allowing us to force the program to overwrite arbitrary memory.
- 4. Memory that is used as a **code pointer** (or offset), allowing us to redirect program execution!

Typically, you use one or more vulnerabilities to achieve multiple of these effects.

Defenses

- Prevent buffer overflow
 - A direct defense
 - Could be accurate but could be slow
 - Good in theory, but not practical in real world
- Make exploit harder
 - An indirect defense
 - Could be inaccurate but could be fast
 - Simple in theory, widely deployed in real world

Examples

- Base and bound check
 - Prevent buffer overflow!
 - A direct defense
- Stack Cookie
 - An indirect defense
 - Prevent overwriting return address
- Data execution prevention (DEP, NX, etc.)
 - An indirect defense
 - Prevent using of shellcode on stack

Spatial Memory Safety – Base and Bound check

- char *a
- char *a_base;
- char *a_bound;
- a = (char*)malloc(512)
- a base = a;
- a bound = a+512
- Access must be between [a_base, a_bound)
- a[0], a[1], a[2], ..., and a[511] are OK
- a[512] NOT OK
- a[-1] NOT OK

Spatial Memory Safety – Base and Bound check

Propagation

- char *b = a;
 - b base = a base;
 - b_bound = a_bound;
- char *c = &b[2];
 - c_base = b_base;
 - c_bound = b_bound;

Overhead - Based and Bound

- +2x overhead on storing a pointer
 - char *a
 - char *a_base;
 - char *a_bound;
 - +2x overhead on assignment
 - char *b = a;
 - b_base = a_base;
 - b_bound = a_bound;
 - +2 comparisons added on access
 - c[i]if(c+i >= c base)
 - if(c+i < c_bound)

SoftBound: Highly Compatible and Complete Spatial Memory Safety for C

Santosh Nagarakatte Jianzhou Zhao Milo M. K. Martin Steve Zdancewic

Computer and Information Sciences Department, University of Pennsylvania

santoshn@cis.upenn.edu jianzhou@cis.upenn.edu milom@cis.upenn.edu stevez@cis.upenn.edu

Abstract

The serious bugs and security vulnerabilities facilitated by C/C++'s lack of bounds checking are well known, yet C and C++ remain in widespread use. Unfortunately, C's arbitrary pointer arithmetic,

dress on the stack, address space randomization, non-executable stack), vulnerabilities persist. For one example, in November 2008 Adobe released a security update that fixed several serious buffer overflows [2]. Attackers have reportedly exploited these buffer-overflow vulnerabilities by using bapper ads on websites to redi-

HardBound: Architectural Support for Spatial Safety of the C Programming Language

Joe Devietti*

University of Washington devietti@cs.washington.edu

Colin Blundell

University of Pennsylvania blundell@cis.upenn.edu

Milo M. K. Martin

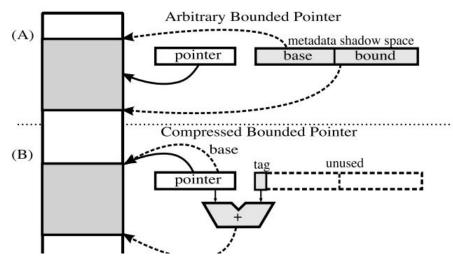
University of Pennsylvania milom@cis.upenn.edu

Steve Zdancewic

University of Pennsylvania stevez@cis.upenn.edu

Abstract

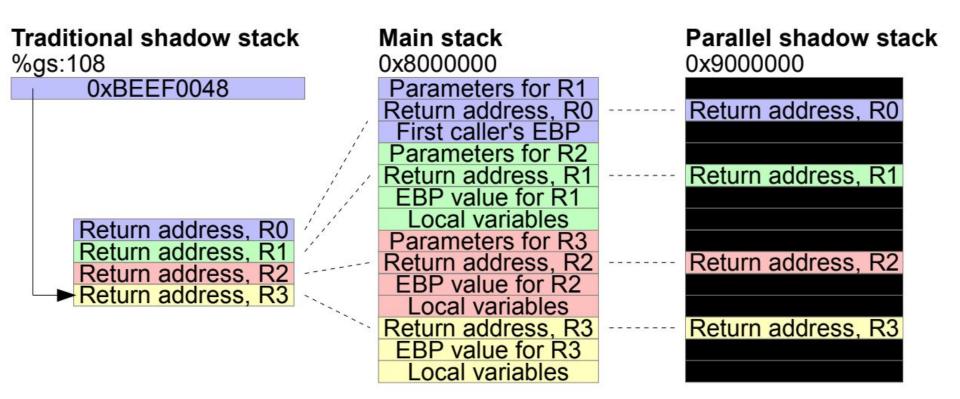
The C programming language is at least as well known for its absence of spatial memory safety guarantees (*i.e.*, lack of bounds checking) as it is for its high performance. C's unchecked pointer arithmetic and array indexing allow simple programming mistakes to lead to erroneous executions, silent data corruption, and security vulnerabilities. Many prior proposals have tackled enforcing spatial safety in C programs by checking pointer and array accesses. However, existing software-only proposals have significant drawbacks that may prevent wide adoption, including: unacceptably high runtime overheads, lack of completeness, incompatible pointer representations, or need for non-trivial changes to existing C source code and compiler infrastructure



ASPLOS 09

Defense-2: Shadow Stack

Shadow Stack



Traditional Shadow Stack

```
SUB $4, %gs:108  # Decrement SSP

MOV %gs:108, %eax # Copy SSP into EAX

MOV (%esp), %ecx # Copy ret. address into

MOV %ecx, (%eax) # shadow stack via ECX
```

Figure 2: Prologue for traditional shadow stack.

```
MOV %gs:108, %ecx # Copy SSP into ECX
ADD $4, %gs:108 # Increment SSP
MOV (%ecx), %edx # Copy ret. address from
MOV %edx, (%esp) # shadow stack via EDX
RET
```

Figure 3: Epilogue for traditional shadow stack (overwriting).

Traditional Shadow Stack

```
MOV %gs:108, %ecx
ADD $4, %gs:108
MOV (%ecx), %edx
CMP %edx, (%esp) # Instead of overwriting,
JNZ abort # we compare
RET
abort:
HLT
```

Figure 4: Epilogue for traditional shadow stack (checking).

Overhead - Traditional Shadow Stack

If no attack:

6 more instructions

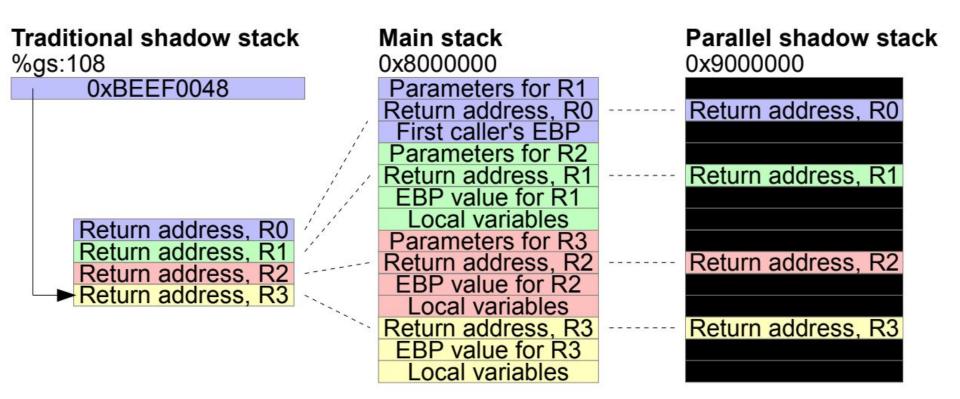
2 memory moves

1 memory compare

1 conditional jmp

Per function

Shadow Stack



Parallel Shadow Stack

POP 999996 (%esp) # Copy ret addr to shadow stack SUB \$4, %esp # Fix up stack pointer (undo POP)

Figure 7: Prologue for parallel shadow stack.

ADD \$4, %esp # Fix up stack pointer PUSH 999996(%esp) # Copy from shadow stack

Figure 8: Epilogue for parallel shadow stack.

Overhead Comparison

The overhead is roughly 10% for a traditional shadow stack.

The parallel shadow stack overhead is 3.5%.





Defense-3: Stack cookies; Canary

specific to sequential stack overflow

USENIX

StackGuard: Automatic Adaptive Detection and Prevention of Buffer-Overflow Attacks

Abstract:

This paper presents a systematic solution to the persistent problem of buffer overflow attacks. Buffer overflow attacks gained notoriety in 1988 as part of the Morris Worm incident on the Internet. While it is fairly simple to fix individual buffer overflow vulnerabilities, buffer overflow attacks continue to this day. Hundreds of attacks have been discovered, and while most of the obvious vulnerabilities have now been patched, more sophisticated buffer overflow attacks continue to emerge.

We describe StackGuard: a simple compiler technique that virtually eliminates buffer overflow vulnerabilities with only modest performance penalties. Privileged programs that are recompiled with the StackGuard compiler extension no longer yield control to the attacker, but rather enter a fail-safe state. These programs require *no* source code changes at all, and are binary-compatible with existing operating systems and libraries. We describe the compiler technique (a simple patch to gcc), as well as a set of variations on the technique that trade-off between penetration resistance and performance. We present experimental results of both the penetration resistance and the performance impact of this technique.

StackGuard

A compiler technique that attempts to eliminate buffer overflow vulnerabilities

- No source code changes
- Patch for the function prologue and epilogue
 - Prologue: push an additional value into the stack (canary)
 - Epilogue: check the canary value hasn't changed. If changed, exit.

Buffer Overflow Example: code/overflowret4

```
int vulfoo()
{
  char buf[30];

  gets(buf);
  return 0;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
  vulfoo();
  printf("I pity the fool!\n");
}
```

With and without Canary 32bit

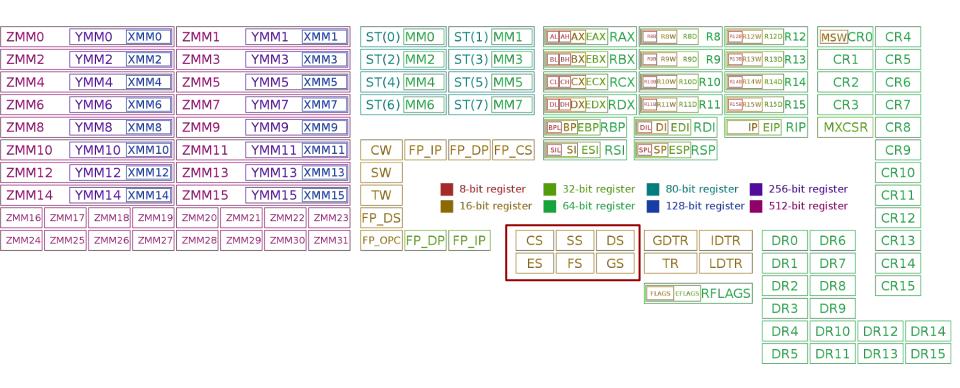
or4nx

or4

```
000011ed <vulfoo>:
 11ed:f3 0f 1e fb
                     endbr32
 11f1: 55
                     push %ebp
 11f2: 89 e5
                     mov
                           %esp,%ebp
 11f4: 53
                     push %ebx
 11f5: 83 ec 34
                     sub
                          $0x34,%esp
 11f8: e8 64 00 00 00
                            call 1261 < x86.get pc thunk.ax>
 11fd: 05 d7 2d 00 00
                            add $0x2dd7.%eax
 1202:83 ec 0c
                          $0xc,%esp
  1205:8d 55 d0
                            lea -0x30(%ebp),%edx
  1208:52
                     push %edx
  1209:89 c3
                           %eax.%ebx
                     mov
  120b:e8 70 fe ff ff
                            call 1080 <gets@plt>
 1210:83 c4 10
                          $0x10,%esp
  1213: b8 00 00 00 00
                            mov $0x0.%eax
 1218:8b 5d fc
                           -0x4(%ebp),%ebx
                     mov
 121b:c9
                     leave
  121c: c3
                     ret
```

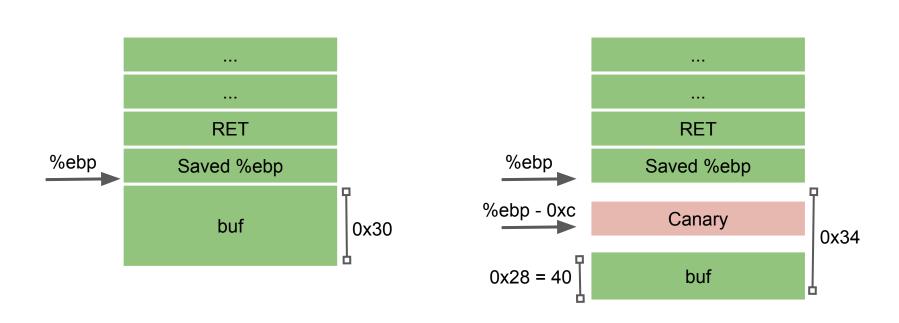
```
0000120d <vulfoo>:
  120d:f3 0f 1e fb
                     endbr32
  1211:55
                     push %ebp
  1212:89 e5
                     mov %esp,%ebp
                     push %ebx
  1214:53
  1215:83 ec 34
                     sub $0x34,%esp
  1218: e8 81 00 00 00
                            call 129e < x86.get pc thunk.ax>
  121d:05 b3 2d 00 00
                            add $0x2db3.%eax
  1222:65 8b 0d 14 00 00 00
                            mov %gs:0x14,%ecx
  1229:89 4d f4
                           %ecx,-0xc(%ebp)
                     mov
  122c: 31 c9
                          %ecx.%ecx
  122e:83 ec 0c
                          $0xc,%esp
  1231:8d 55 cc
                         -0x34(%ebp),%edx
                     push %edx
  1234:52
  1235:89 c3
                     mov %eax.%ebx
  1237: e8 54 fe ff ff
                            call 1090 <gets@plt>
  123c: 83 c4 10
                     add $0x10,%esp
  123f: b8 00 00 00 00
                            mov $0x0.%eax
  1244:8b 4d f4
                           -0xc(%ebp),%ecx
                     mov
  1247:65 33 0d 14 00 00 00
                            xor %gs:0x14,%ecx
  124e:74 05
                        1255 <vulfoo+0x48>
  1250:e8 db 00 00 00
                            call 1330 < stack chk fail local>
  1255:8b 5d fc
                           -0x4(%ebp),%ebx
                     mov
  1258:c9
                     leave
  1259:c3
                     ret
```

Registers on x86 and amd64



With and without Canary

or4 or4nx



With and without Canary 64bit

or464nx

or464

```
000000000001169 <vulfoo>:
  1169:f3 0f 1e fa
                     endbr64
 116d:55
                     push %rbp
 116e:48 89 e5
                     mov
                           %rsp,%rbp
  1171:48 83 ec 30
                            sub $0x30,%rsp
 1175:48 8d 45 d0
                                -0x30(%rbp),%rax
                            lea
 1179:48 89 c7
                     mov %rax,%rdi
 117c: b8 00 00 00 00
                            mov $0x0,%eax
  1181:e8 ea fe ff ff
                     callq 1070 <gets@plt>
  1186:b8 00 00 00 00
                            mov $0x0,%eax
 118b:c9
                     leaveg
  118c: c3
                     reta
```

```
000000000001189 <vulfoo>:
  1189:f3 0f 1e fa
                      endbr64
                      push %rbp
  118d:55
  118e:48 89 e5
                           %rsp,%rbp
                      mov
  1191:48 83 ec 30
                             sub $0x30,%rsp
  1195:64 48 8b 04 25 28 00
                             mov %fs:0x28.%rax
  119c: 00 00
  119e:48 89 45 f8
                             mov %rax,-0x8(%rbp)
  11a2:31 c0
                     xor %eax.%eax
                             lea -0x30(%rbp),%rax
  11a4:48 8d 45 d0
  11a8:48 89 c7
                            %rax.%rdi
                      mov
  11ab: b8 00 00 00 00
                             mov $0x0.%eax
  11b0:e8 db fe ff ff
                             callq 1090 <gets@plt>
                             mov $0x0.%eax
  11b5:b8 00 00 00 00
  11ba:48 8b 55 f8
                             mov -0x8(\%rbp),\%rdx
  11be:64 48 33 14 25 28 00
                             xor %fs:0x28,%rdx
  11c5: 00 00
  11c7: 74 05
                        11ce <vulfoo+0x45>
  11c9: e8 b2 fe ff ff
                             callq 1080 < stack chk fail@plt>
  11ce: c9
                      leaved
  11cf: c3
                      retq
```

Overhead - Canary

If no attack:

6 more instructions

2 memory moves

1 memory compare

1 conditional jmp

Per function

%gs:0x14, %fs:0x28

A random canary is generated at program initialization, and stored in a global variable (pointed by %gs, %fs).

Applications on x86-64 uses FS or GS to access per thread context including Thread Local Storage (TLS).

Thread-local storage (TLS) is a computer programming method that uses static or global memory local to a thread.

Pwngdb command *tls* to get the address of tls

Data Structure https://code.woboq.org/userspace/glibc/sysdeps/x86_64/nptl/tls.h.html

Canary Types

- Random Canary The original concept for canary values took a pseudo random value generated when program is loaded
- Random XOR Canary The random canary concept was extended in StackGuard version 2 to provide slightly more protection by performing a XOR operation on the random canary value with the stored control data.
- Null Canary The canary value is set to 0x00000000 which is chosen based upon the fact that most string functions terminate on a null value and should not be able to overwrite the return address if the buffer must contain nulls before it can reach the saved address.
- Terminator Canary The canary value is set to a combination of Null, CR, LF, and 0xFF. These values act as string terminators in most string functions, and accounts for functions which do not simply terminate on nulls such as gets().

Terminator Canary

0x000aff0d

\x00: terminates strcpy

\x0a: terminates gets (LF)

\xff: Form feed

\x0d: Carriage return

Evolution of Canary

StackGuard published at the 1998 USENIX Security. StackGuard was introduced as a set of patches to the GCC 2.7.

From 2001 to 2005, IBM developed ProPolice. It places buffers after local pointers in the stack frame. This helped avoid the corruption of pointers, preventing access to arbitrary memory locations.

In 2012, Google engineers implemented the -fstack-protector-strong flag to strike a better balance between security and performance. This flag protects more kinds of vulnerable functions than -fstack-protector does, but not every function, providing better performance than -fstack-protector-all. It is available in GCC since its version 4.9.

Most packages in Ubuntu are compiled with -fstack-protector since 6.10. Every Arch Linux package is compiled with -fstack-protector since 2011. All Arch Linux packages built since 4 May 2014 use -fstack-protector-strong.

ProPolice

int foo() { int a; int *b; char c[10]; char d[3]; b = &a;strcpy(c,get_c()); *b = 5;strcpy(d,get_d()); return *b;

RET Saved %ebp a b c

Default Layout

RET Saved %ebp Canary c d a

ProPolice

Bypass Canary

-fstack-protector

Bypass Canary

- 1. Read the canary from the stack due to some information leakage vulnerabilities, e.g. format string
- 2. Brute force. 32-bit version. Least significant is 0, so there are 256³ combinations = 16,777,216

If it take 1 second to guess once, it will take at most 194 days to guess the canary

Bypass Canary - Apps using fork()

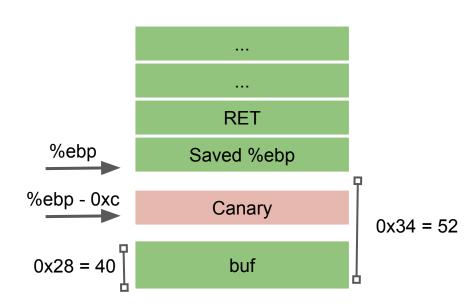
- 1. Canary is generated when the process is created
- 2. A child process will not generate a new canary
- 3. So, we do not need to guess 3 bytes canary at the same time. Instead, we guess one byte a time. At most 256*3 = 768 trials.

code/bypasscanary

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
char g buffer[200] = \{0\};
int g read = 0;
int vulfoo()
        char buf[40]:
        FILE *fp;
        while (1)
                fp = fopen("exploit", "r");
                if (fp)
                         break:}
        usleep(500 * 1000);
        g read = 0;
        memset(g_buffer, 0, 200);
        g_read = fread(g_buffer, 1, 70, fp);
        printf("Child reads %d bytes. Guessed canary is %x.\n",
g_read, *((int*)(&g_buffer[40])));
```

```
memcpy(buf, g_buffer, g_read);
        fclose(fp);
        remove("exploit");
        return 0;
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
        while(1)
                 if (fork() == 0)
                         //child
                         printf("Child pid: %d\n", getpid());
                         vulfoo();
                         printf("I pity the fool!\n");
                         exit(0);
                 else
                         //parent
                         int status;
                         printf("Parent pid: %d\n", getpid());
                         waitpid(-1, &status, 0);
```

bc



Canary: 0x??????00

Demo

- 1. Assume ASLR is disable.
- 2. To make things easier, we put the shellcode in env variable.
- 3. Write a script to guess the canary byte by byte.
- 4. Send the full exploit to the program

```
export\ SCODE=\$(python\ -c\ "print\ '\x90'*500\ +\ '\x31\xc0\x50\x68\x2f\x2f\x73\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x89\xc1\x89\xc2\xb0\x0b\xcd\x80\x31\xc0\x40\xcd\x80''')
```