

CS356: Shellcode

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As of April 5, 2022





Questions about homework?

Exploitation: AMD64 Call Stack

```

void foo(long c1, long c2, long c3, long c4,
         long c5, long c6, long c7) {
    long c8 = 8;
    bar(c7, c8);    ← RIP
}

foo(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7);

```

RDI: 1 RSI: 2 RDX: 3 RCX: 4 R8: 5 R9: 6

| | | | |
|-----|------------|------------------------|--------------|
| RSP | Low addr. | 0x0000000000000000 | Padding |
| | | 0x0000000000000008 | Local c8 |
| | | 0x00007fffffff00000000 | Saved RBP |
| | | 0x0000000000004011bd | Return addr. |
| | High addr. | 0x0000000000000007 | Seventh arg. |
| | | ... | |

- ▶ Stack grows from high to low addresses (down)
- ▶ First six args. in registers RDI, RSI, RDX, RCX, R8, and R9
- ▶ Subsequent args. on stack
- ▶ Return value on stack
- ▶ Local variables on stack (i.e., array bytes go towards return address)



Shellcode: Exercise

- 1 Get `https://www.flyn.org/courses/cs356-2022-fall/schedule/stack`.
- 2 Get `https://www.flyn.org/courses/cs356-2022-fall/schedule/stack.c`.
- 3 Draw a picture of the stack when this program is executing its `foo` function; assume the instruction pointer is set to one of the instructions related to the program calling `printf`.
- 4 Indicate each stack byte's value.
- 5 Place a label to the right of each stack word indicating the purpose of its bytes.
- 6 Place a label to the left of ranges of bytes indicating
 - where you would write shellcode for a stack-smashing attack,
 - where you would overwrite the return address and with what value you would overwrite it, and
 - anything else in particular you would need to overwrite.



Return Fun: Shellcode Demonstration

Cause `service-shellcode` (sanitized) to terminate with a exit code of 42.

Important: GDB disables a feature called ASLR to aid in reproducibility. Your “live” code will need to make use of the leaked buffer and bp.

- 1 Determine stack layout using `gdb`.
- 2 Write shellcode in assembly (examples and `/usr/include/asm/unistd_64.h`).
- 3 Compile with `gcc -nostartfiles -nostdlib -o shellcode shellcode.S`, and view with `objdump`; gather shellcode bytes.
- 4 Run `./shellcode` to test.
- 5 Build: `shellcode | spacer | bp | &buffer` with `echo "\x48..." >exploit`

Important: a full solution to the shellcode project needs to use a string input file path. Refer to the project instructions for why this causes a problem and to find a solution.



Board work: `%rbp` trick

What if you don't know the address of a buffer on the stack?



Shellcode: NOP Sled



What if you don't know the address of a buffer on the stack? Guess!

```
\x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90
\x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90
\x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90
\x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90
\x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 \x90 SHELL CODE...
```



Jumping somewhere around here is good enough for government work!





SW Security 2: Countermeasure: Stack Canaries (1998)

- 1 Generate a random value r when loading program.
- 2 Place r on stack at beginning of each function.
- 3 Check that r is unchanged before returning; crash if changed.

| | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| RSP | 0x7fffffff d1e0 | 0x002144454b434148 | buf bytes 7-0 |
| | 0x7fffffff d1e8 | r | Stack canary |
| RBP | 0x7fffffff d1f0 | 0x00007fffffff daf0 | Saved RBP |
| | 0x7fffffff d1f8 | 0x00000000004017d5 | Return addr. |
| | | ... | |

To compile with stack canaries: `gcc -fstack-protector -o foo foo.c`

```
1   mov    -0x8(%rbp),%rax
2   sub    %fs:0x28,%rax
3   je     0x401264 <read_a_bit+254>
4   callq 0x401030 <__stack_chk_fail@plt>
```



Software Security 2: Defeat: Stack Canaries (1998)

- 1 Generate a random value r when loading program.
- 2 Place r on stack at beginning of each function.
- 3 Check that r is unchanged before returning; crash if changed.

| | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| RSP | 0x7fffffff d1e0 | 0x002144454b434148 | buf bytes 7–0 |
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| RBP | 0x7fffffff d1f0 | 0x00007fffffff daf0 | Saved RBP |
| | 0x7fffffff d1f8 | 0x00000000004017d5 | Return addr. |
| | | ... | |

Defeat:

- 1 Find a bug that leaks the canary (e.g., see Aquinas fsv).
- 2 Write back r during course of buffer overflow (see Aquinas canary).



Shellcode: Read Primitive

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <stdlib.h>

4 int main(void)
5 {
6     printf(getenv("EDITOR"));
7 }
```



- ➊ Add a no-execute bit to the kernel data structures that describe memory.
- ➋ Modify the processor to enforce the no-execute bit.
- ➌ Mark stacks and other regions as no-execute.

Kills 1990s-style shellcode.

To compile without no-execute bit protection (it is on by default):

```
gcc -zexecstack -o foo foo.c
```



SW Security 2: Countermeasure: AMD64 NX Bit (2000)

- ➊ Add a no-execute bit to the kernel data structures that describe memory.
- ➋ Modify the processor to enforce the no-execute bit.
- ➌ Mark stacks and other regions as no-execute.

Defeat:
Use return-to-libc.
How to set parameter registers on AMD64?

Defeat:

Use return-oriented programming (see Aquinas rop).

- ➊ Find useful bits of code that already exist in the program.
- ➋ Build a wild stack that drives the processor through the useful bits of code.

Useful code includes things like this:

- ▶ `pop rdi; ret`
- ▶ `pop rsi; ret`

Why?



- ① Generate a random value r when loading program.
- ② Layout program in memory at offset r .

Makes it difficult to guess addresses required by attacks, such as the address of a buffer or the address of a function you want to return into.

Globally disable ASLR (as root):

```
echo 0 >/proc/sys/kernel/randomize_va_space
```

Debuggers often disable ASLR:

```
[user@host]$ gdb foo
(gdb) show disable-randomization
Disabling randomization of debuggee's virtual address space on.
(gdb) set disable-randomization off
```



- ① Generate a random value r when loading program.
- ② Layout program in memory at offset r .

Defeat:

- ① Find a bug that leaks the offset or a relative address.
- ② Dynamically use offset or relative addresses in exploit.

Please refer to the course website for reading and homework assignments.

<http://www.flyn.org/courses/cs356-2022-fall/schedule>