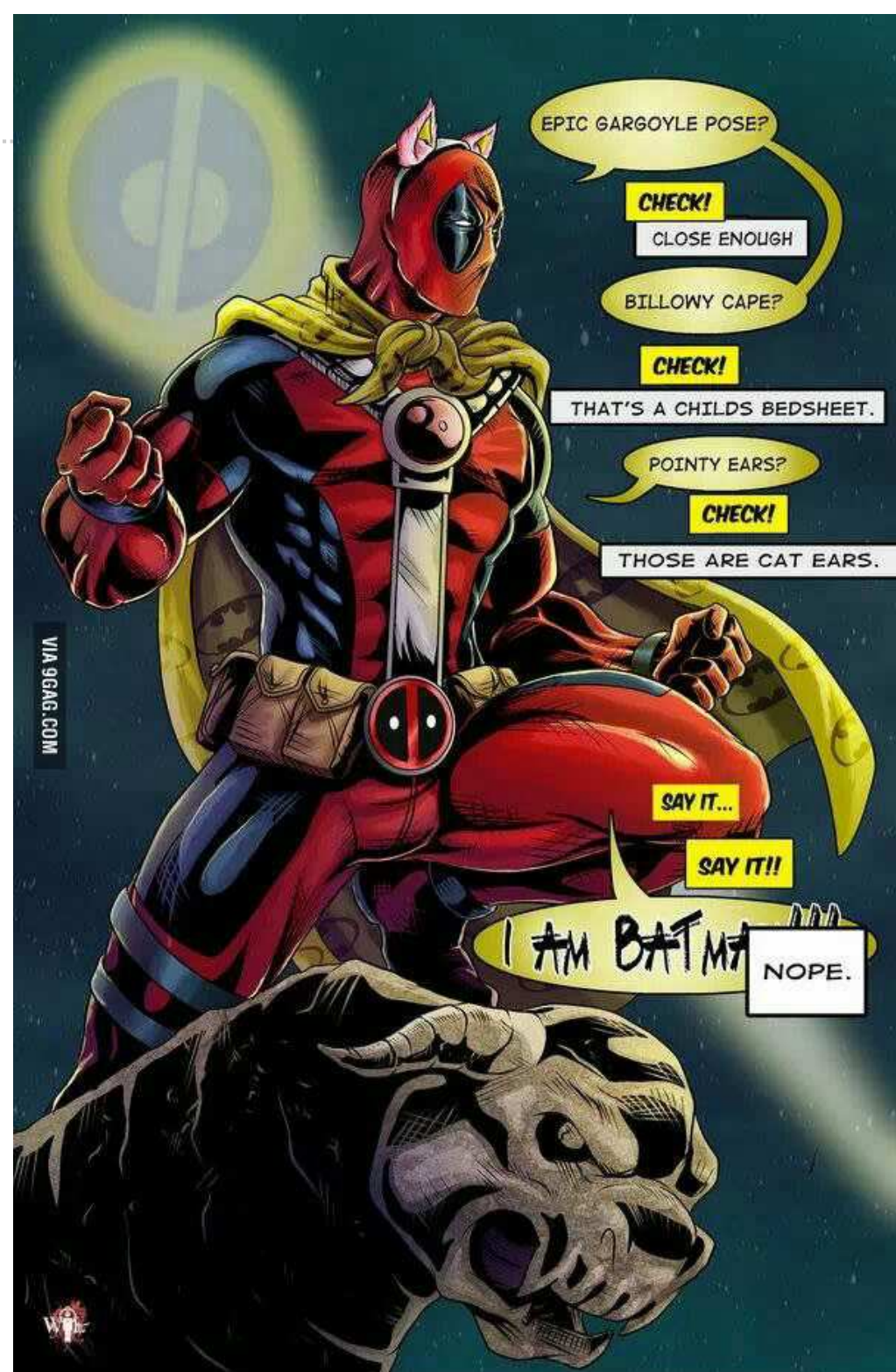


Linux Exploit Mitigation

Dobin Rutishauser
V1.3, March 2016





At Compass Security since 2011

Spoke at OWASP Zürich, BsideS Vienna

On the internet:

- ✦ www.broken.ch, www.haking.ch, www.r00ted.ch, phishing.help
- ✦ @dobinrutis
- ✦ github.com/dobin

To understand exploit mitigations

Need to understand exploit techniques

I'll lead you all the way, from zero

In 45 minutes!

- ◆ Content of 8 hours for BFH
- ◆ It will get very technical
- ◆ Not possible to:
 - ◆ Cover all the topics
 - ◆ And be easy to understand
 - ◆ And handle all the details
- ◆ This should give more of an ... overview
- ◆ Don't worry if you don't understand everything

Overview of the presentation

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1. Memory Layout
2. Stack
3. Exploit Basics
4. Exploit Mitigation
 - DEP
 - Stack Protector
 - ASLR
5. Contemporary Exploiting
6. Hardening
7. Container
8. Kernel

Attacker wants:

- ◆ Execute his own code on the server
 - ◆ `rm -rf /`
 - ◆ Connect-back shellcode
 - ◆ `echo "sysadmin::" >> /etc/passwd`



Attacker needs:

- ✦ Be able to upload code to execute
- ✦ Be able to hijack instruction flow

Memory Corruptions

Buffer Overflow

- ◆ strcpy / strcat / memcpy
- ◆ Write past allocated buffer
- ◆ Minimum: 1 byte (off by one)

Alternative: Arbitrary Write

- ◆ Can write certain memory area
- ◆ Not in scope in this presentation



Morris Worm in 1988, overflow in sendmail and finger

Around year 2000: Golden age of remote exploits

Team Teso (formatstring vulnerabilities)

- ✦ PHP, Apache, telnetd, wu-ftpd, qpopper, ...

w00w00 (heap overflows)

- ✦ Efnet ircd, norton antivirus, AOL messenger, unixware stuff

Gobbles (putting the lulz in)

- ✦ Apache Scalp

ADM (high quality exploits)

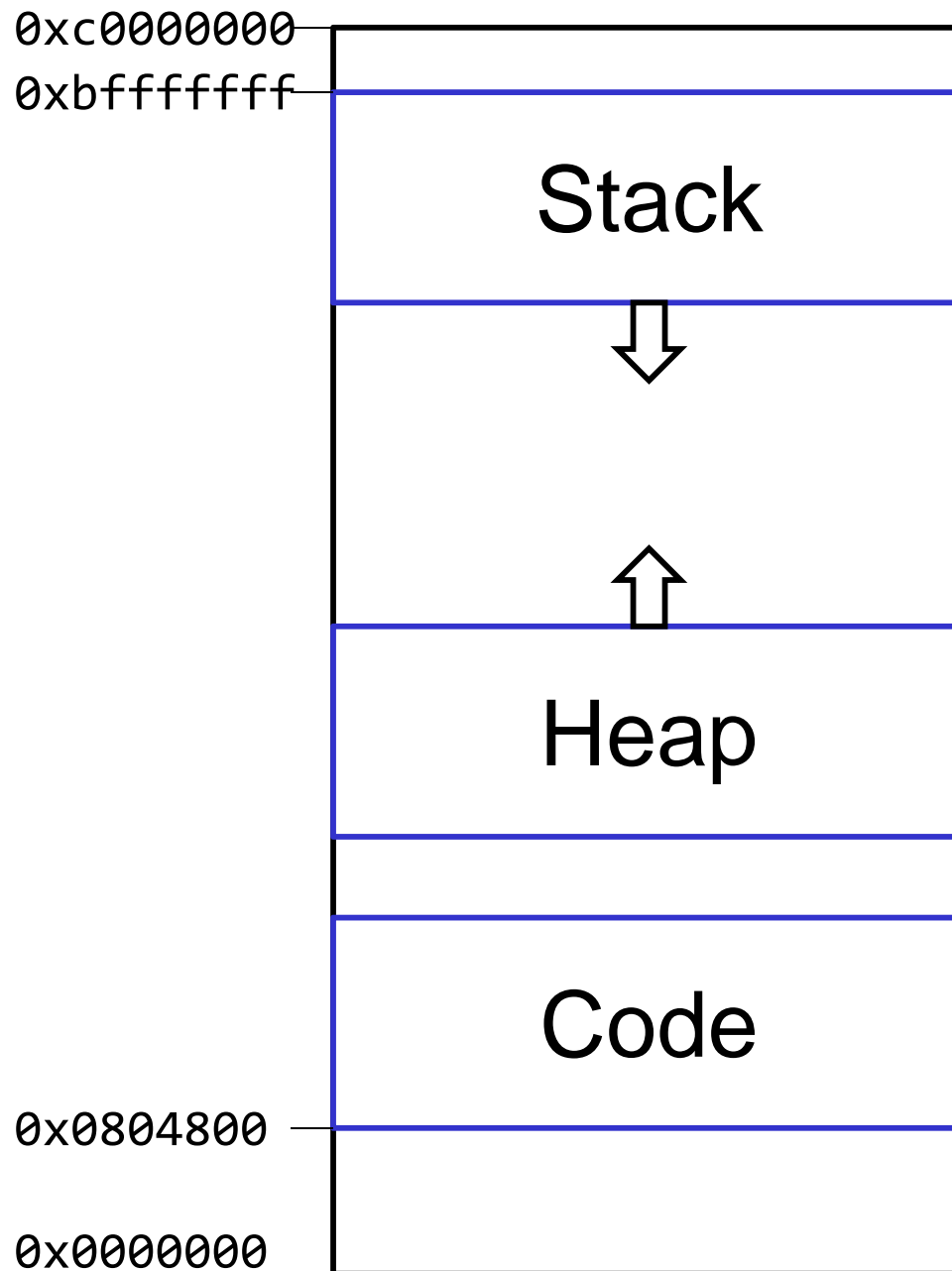
- ✦ Bind, wu-imapd, ...

Userspace Memory Layout

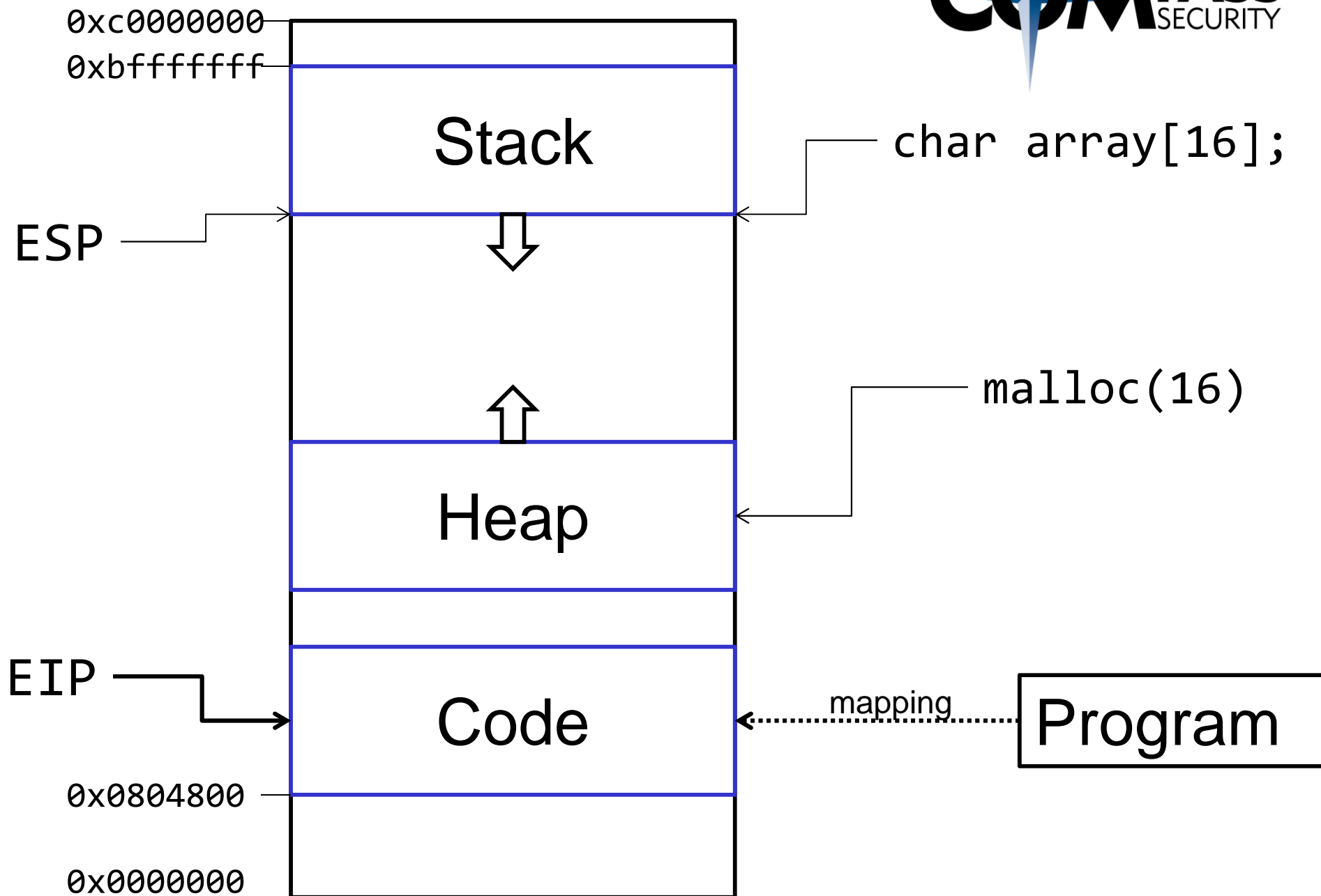
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Process Memory Layout



Process Memory Layout



Stack

- ✦ There's one contiguous memory region containing the stack for the process
- ✦ LIFO – Last In, First Out
- ✦ Contains function local variables
- ✦ Also contains: **Saved Instruction Pointer (SIP)**
- ✦ Current function adds data to the top (bottom) of the stack

Heap

- ✦ There's one contiguous memory region containing the heap
- ✦ Memory allocator returns specific pieces of the memory region
- ✦ For `malloc()`
- ✦ Also contains: heap management data

Code

- ✦ Compiled program code



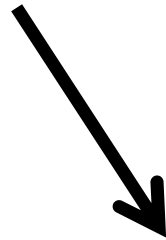
Stacks

How do they work?

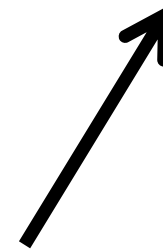
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push



pop



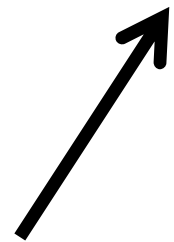
Stack



0x10000



0x00010



push



pop

Stack



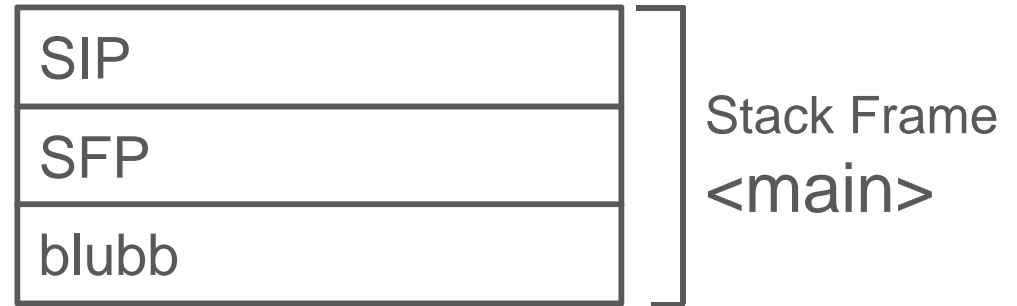
```
void main(void) {  
    int blubb = 0;  
    foobar(blubb);  
    return;  
}
```

```
void foobar (int arg1) {  
    char compass1 [];  
    char compass2 [];  
}
```

Stack Layout



Saved IP (&__libc_start)
Saved Frame Pointer
Local Variables <main>



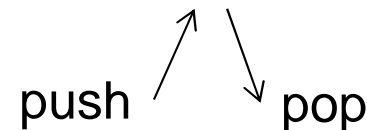
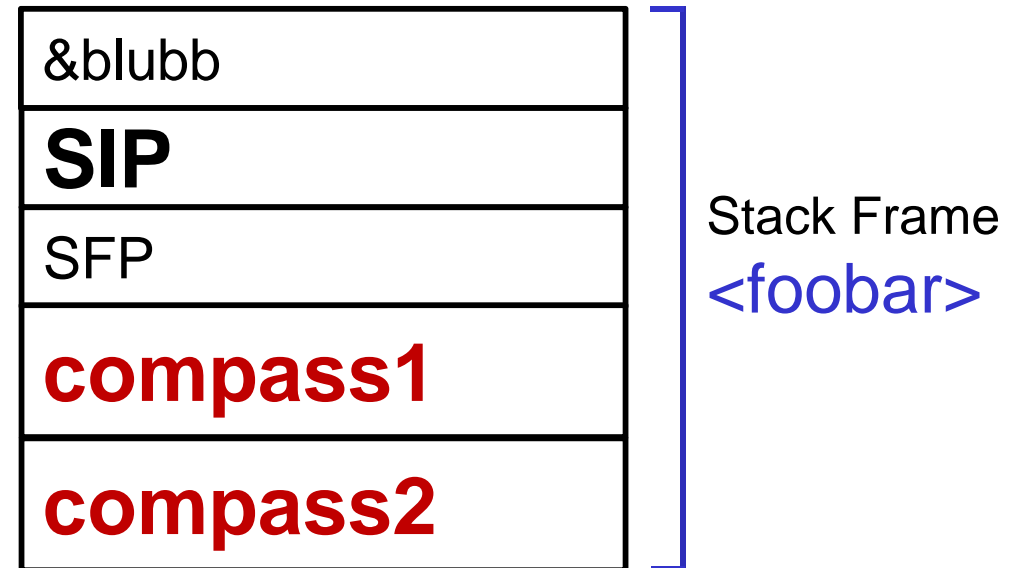
Argument arg1 for <foobar>

Saved IP (&return)

Saved Frame Pointer

Local Variable 1

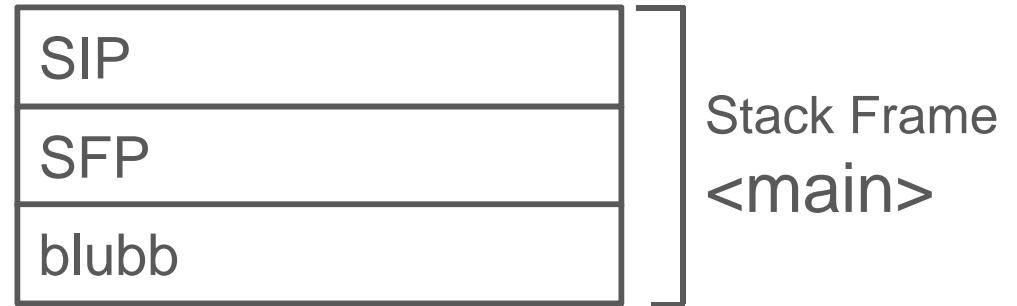
Local Variable 2



Stack Layout



Saved IP (&__libc_start)
Saved Frame Pointer
Local Variables <main>



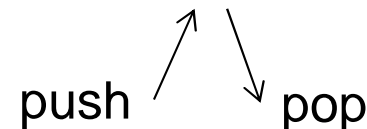
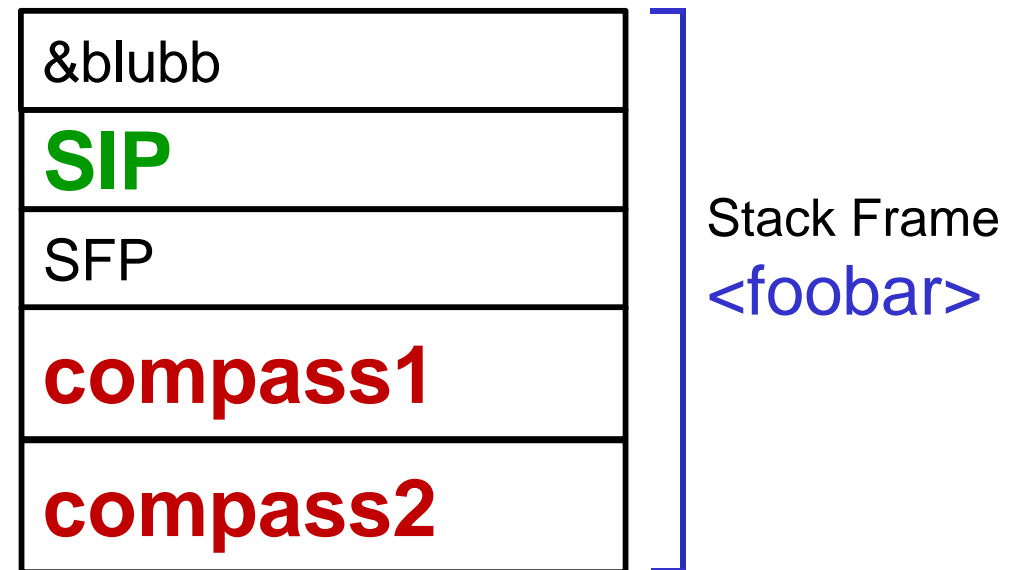
Argument arg1 for <foobar>


Saved IP (&return)

Saved Frame Pointer

Local Variable 1

Local Variable 2



```
void main(void) {  
    int blubb = 0;  
    foobar(blubb);  
    return;  SIP  
}
```

```
void foobar (int arg1) {  
    char compass1 [ ] ;  
    char compass2 [ ] ;  
}
```

SIP: Stored Instruction Pointer

- ★ Copy of EIP
- ★ Points to the address where control flow continues after end of function
 - ★ (return, ret)
- ★ Usually points into the code section

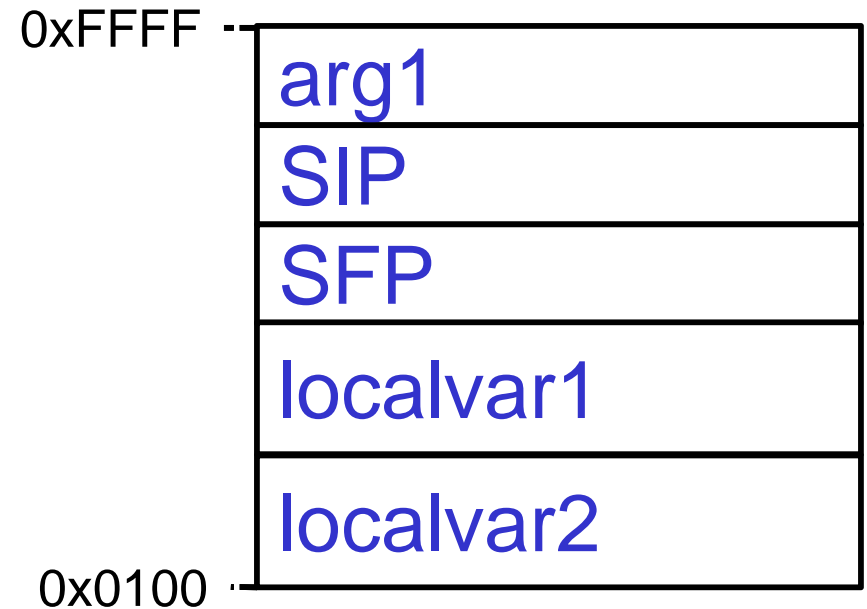
Stack Layout



Writes go up



Stack grows down



push

pop

Recap! Memory Layout



User data is on the stack

Also: important stuff is on the stack (Instruction Pointer, SIP)

Stack grows down ↓

Writes go up ↑



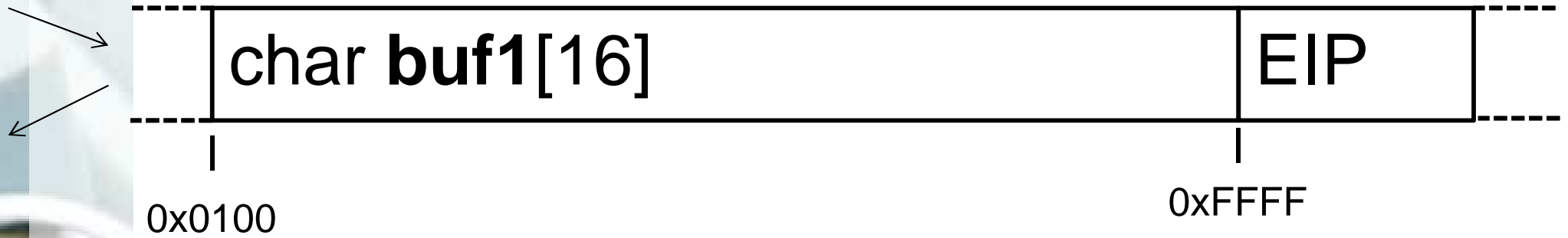
Stack Overflow Exploitation

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- Program execution **HIGHLY** predictable/deterministic
 - Which is kind of surprising
- Stack, Heap, Code all start at the same address
- Same functions gets called in the same order
 - And allocate the same sized buffers
- “Error/Overflow in function X”, every time:
 - Same call stack
 - Same variables
 - Same registers

Buffer Overflow Basic Layout





```
strcpy(buf1, "AAAA AAAA AAAA AAAA");
```



(0xFF12 = address of previous function)



Write up



```
strcpy(buf1, "AAAA AAAA AAAA AAAA BBBB");
```



Attacker can **call any code** he wants
But: What code?

Problem: In-band signaling

- ✦ Control data
- ✦ User data

Like old telephone networks

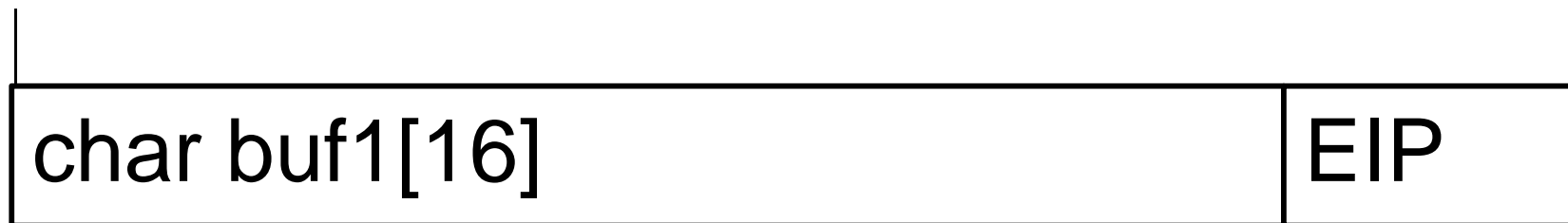
- ✦ 2600 hz: Indicate line is free
- ✦ With a 2600hz tone, you could phone anywhere, for free
- ✦ Oups, accidentally created Legion of Doom

Return to Stack:

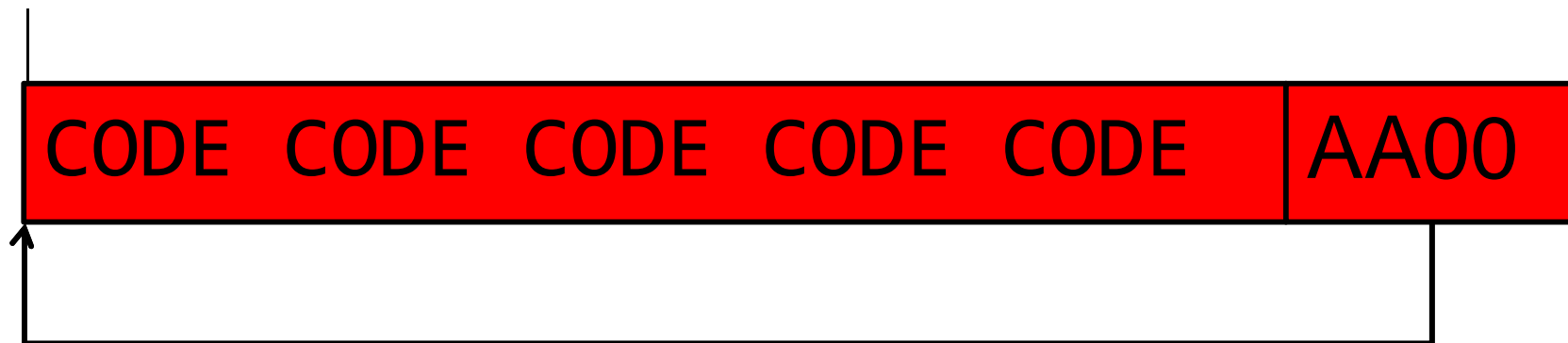


Jump to buffer with shellcode

0xAA00



0xAA00



Jump to buffer with shellcode

How is shellcode formed?

Short description of shellcode

Shellcode!

```
08048060 <_start>:
8048060: 31 c0          xor     %eax,%eax
8048062: 50            push   %eax
8048063: 68 2f 2f 73 68 push   $0x68732f2f
8048068: 68 2f 62 69 6e push   $0x6e69622f
804806d: 89 e3         mov     %esp,%ebx
804806f: 89 c1         mov     %eax,%ecx
8048071: 89 c2         mov     %eax,%edx
8048073: b0 0b         mov     $0xb,%al
8048075: cd 80         int     $0x80
8048077: 31 c0         xor     %eax,%eax
8048079: 40           inc     %eax
804807a: cd 80         int     $0x80
```

```
char shellcode[] = "\x31 \xc0\x50 \x68\x2f\x2f\x73"
"\x68 \x68\x2f\x62\x69\x6e \x89"
"\xe3 \x89\xc1 \x89\xc2\xb0\x0b"
"\xcd\x80\x31 \xc0\x40\xcd\x80";
```

Recap! Stack Overflow Exploit

Write past buffer on stack

Overwrite sIP

Point sIP to beginning of buffer

Place shellcode in buffer

Shellcode will be executed!



A vertical decorative image on the left side of the slide shows a close-up of a computer keyboard with a yellow padlock resting on one of the keys. A solid dark blue vertical bar is positioned to the left of the keyboard image.

Exploit Mitigations

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- DEP
- Stack Canary
- ASLR

Exploit Mitigation: DEP

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DEP – Data Execution Prevention

- Aka: No-Exec Stack
- Aka: W^X (Write XOR eXecute)(OpenBSD)
- Aka: NX (Non-Execute) Bit

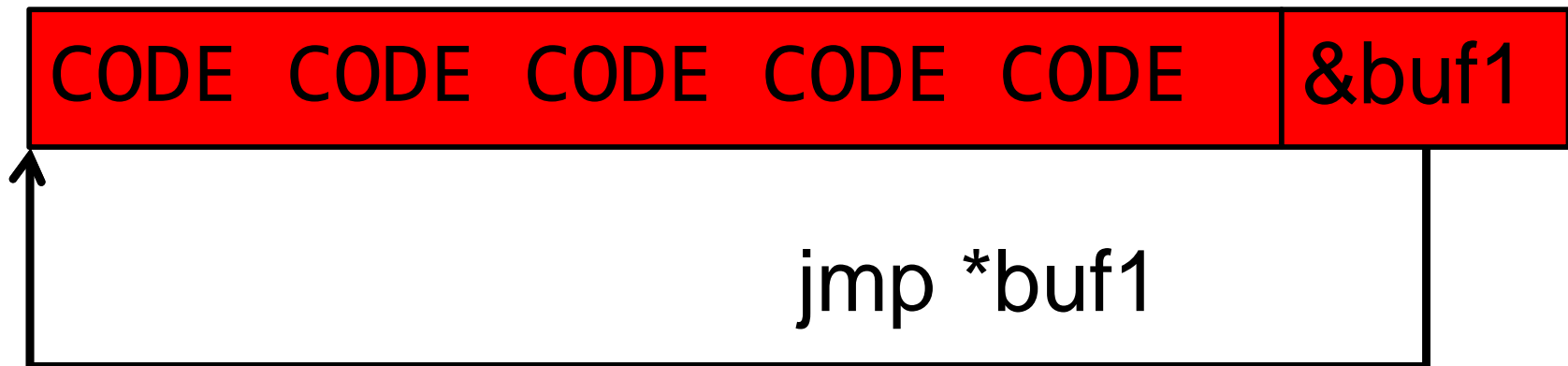
AMD64 (x86-64) introduced NX bit in HW

- Intel 32 bit architecture (starting from 80386) “saved” Xecute bit
- For 32 bit, need PAE (Physical Address Extension, 32->36bit)
- Or kernel patches like PaX

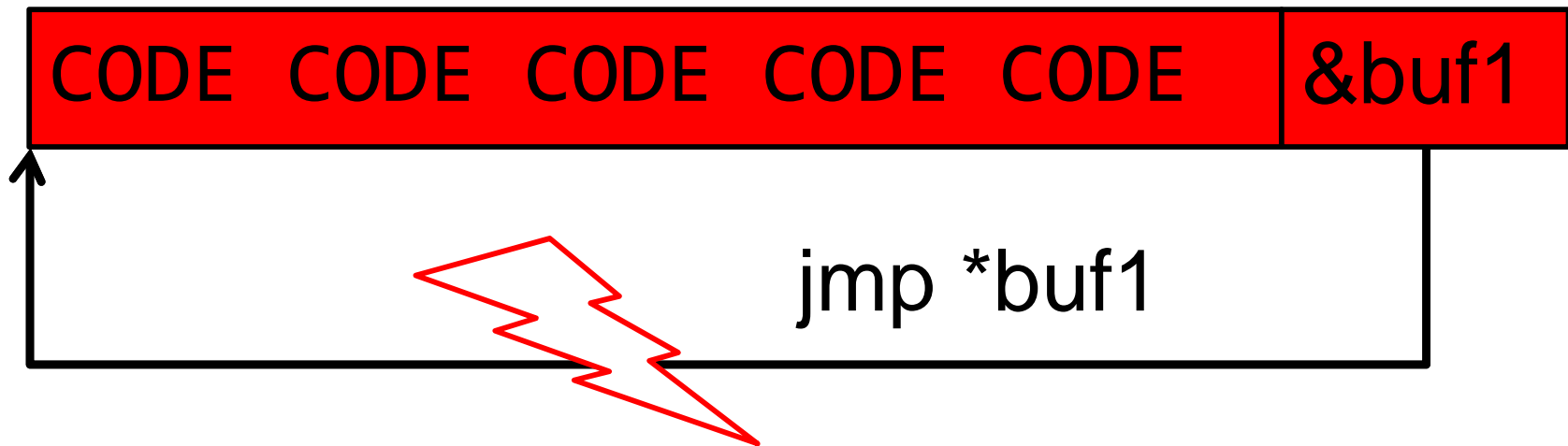
Linux:

- Support in 2004, Kernel 2.6.8, default

Permissions: **rwX**



Permissions: rw-



“Segmentation Fault”

Read Only Stack



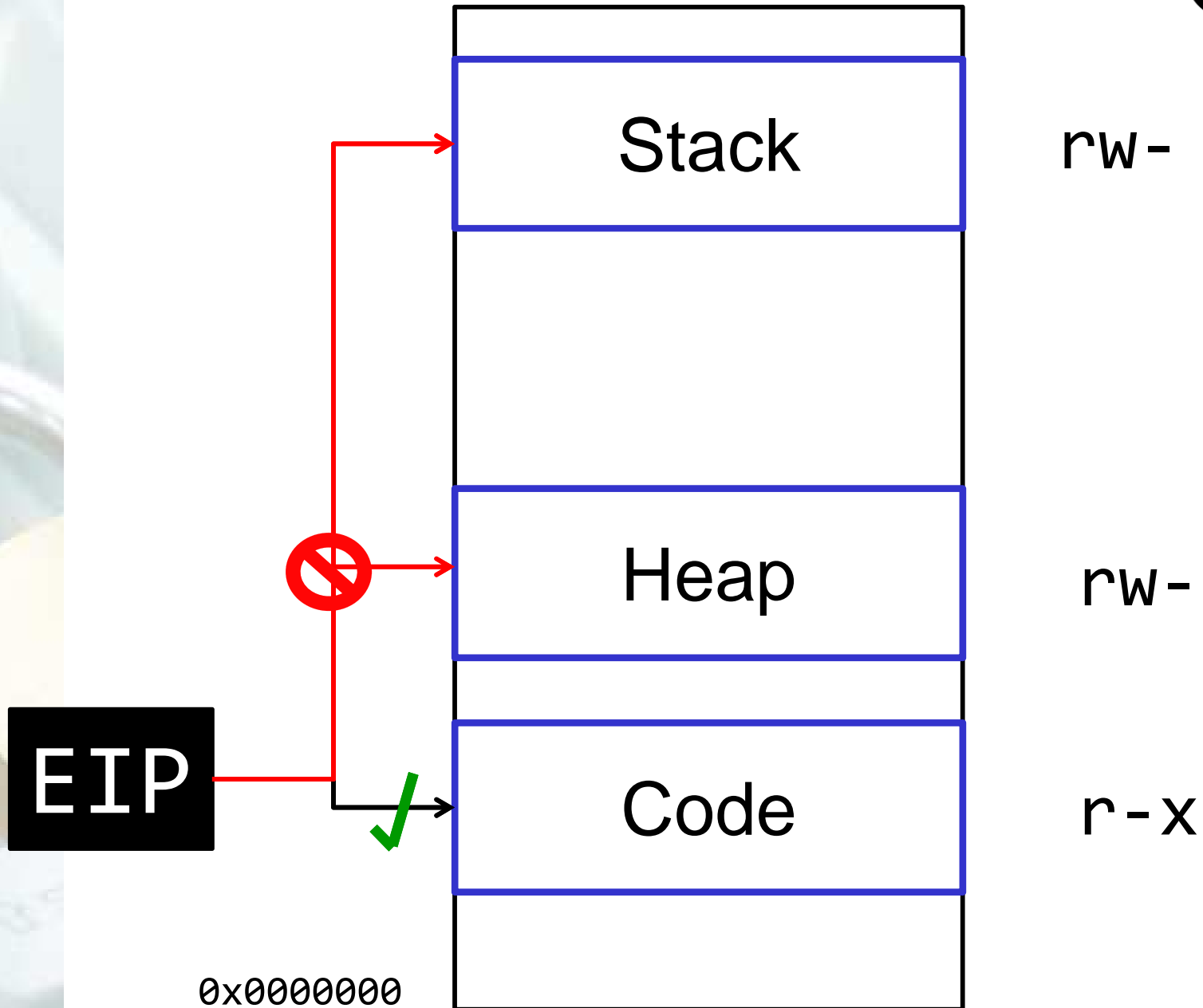
Program Headers:

```
Type          Offset      VirtAddr    PhysAddr    FileSiz MemSiz  Flg Align
PHDR          0x000034   0x08048034  0x08048034  0x00120 0x00120 R E  0x4
INTERP       0x000154   0x08048154  0x08048154  0x00013 0x00013 R   0x1
  [Requesting program interpreter: /lib/ld-linux.so.2]
LOAD          0x000000   0x08048000  0x08048000  0x005d0 0x005d0 R E  0x1000
LOAD          0x000f14   0x08049f14  0x08049f14  0x00100 0x00108 RW  0x1000
DYNAMIC       0x000f28   0x08049f28  0x08049f28  0x000c8 0x000c8 RW  0x4
NOTE         0x000168   0x08048168  0x08048168  0x00044 0x00044 R   0x4
GNU_EH_FRAME 0x0004d8   0x080484d8  0x080484d8  0x00034 0x00034 R   0x4
GNU_STACK    0x000000   0x00000000  0x00000000  0x00000 0x00000 RW  0x4
GNU_RELRO    0x000f14   0x08049f14  0x08049f14  0x000ec 0x000ec R   0x1
```

Program Headers:

```
Type          Offset      VirtAddr    PhysAddr    FileSiz MemSiz  Flg Align
PHDR          0x000034   0x08048034  0x08048034  0x00120 0x00120 R E  0x4
INTERP       0x000154   0x08048154  0x08048154  0x00013 0x00013 R   0x1
  [Requesting program interpreter: /lib/ld-linux.so.2]
LOAD          0x000000   0x08048000  0x08048000  0x005d0 0x005d0 R E  0x1000
LOAD          0x000f14   0x08049f14  0x08049f14  0x00100 0x00108 RW  0x1000
DYNAMIC       0x000f28   0x08049f28  0x08049f28  0x000c8 0x000c8 RW  0x4
NOTE         0x000168   0x08048168  0x08048168  0x00044 0x00044 R   0x4
GNU_EH_FRAME 0x0004d8   0x080484d8  0x080484d8  0x00034 0x00034 R   0x4
GNU_STACK    0x000000   0x00000000  0x00000000  0x00000 0x00000 RWE 0x4
GNU_RELRO    0x000f14   0x08049f14  0x08049f14  0x000ec 0x000ec R   0x1
```

DEP: Memory Layout



Read Only Stack

```
compass@ubuntu:~/bof$ cat shellcode.c
int main(void)
{
    char shellcode[] =
        "\x48\x31\xd2"                // xor    %rdx, %rdx
        "\x48\xbb\x2f\x2f\x62\x69\x6e\x2f\x73\x68" // mov    $0x68732f6e69622f2f, %
rbx
        "\x48\xc1\xeb\x08"            // shr    $0x8, %rbx
        "\x53"                        // push  %rbx
        "\x48\x89\xe7"                // mov    %rsp, %rdi
        "\x50"                        // push  %rax
        "\x57"                        // push  %rdi
        "\x48\x89\xe6"                // mov    %rsp, %rsi
        "\xb0\x3b"                    // mov    $0x3b, %al
        "\x0f\x05";                    // syscall

    (*(void (*)()) shellcode)();

    return 0;
}
compass@ubuntu:~/bof$ gcc shellcode.c -o sh && ./sh
Segmentation fault (core dumped)
compass@ubuntu:~/bof$ gcc -z execstack shellcode.c -o sh-execstack && ./sh-execstack
$ id
uid=1000(compass) gid=1000(compass) groups=1000(compass),4(adm),24(cdrom),27(sudo),30(dip),46(plugdev),108(lpadmin),124(sambashare)
$
```

Exploit Mitigation – DEP

- ◆ Makes it impossible for an attacker to execute his own shellcode
- ◆ Code: eXecute (no write)
- ◆ Heap, Stack: Write (no execute)

- ◆ No-no: Write and Execute
 - ◆ Sometimes necessary
 - ◆ Interpreted Languages
 - ◆ E.g. Java
 - ◆ Or JavaScript
 - ◆ Ähem *Browser* ähem



Exploit Mitigation – Stack Protector

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- Aka:
 - SSP: Stack Smashing Protector
 - Stack Cookie
 - Stack Canary
- Secret value in front of control data
- Generated per-process
 - Not per-function

Exploit Mitigation – Stack Protector



| | |
|---------------|-----|
| char buf1[16] | EIP |
|---------------|-----|

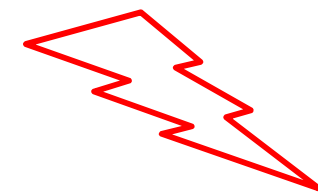
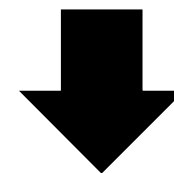
| | |
|---------------|-----|
| char buf1[16] | EIP |
|---------------|-----|

| | | |
|---------------|--------|-----|
| char buf1[16] | secret | EIP |
|---------------|--------|-----|

| | | |
|---------------|--------|-----|
| char buf1[16] | secret | EIP |
|---------------|--------|-----|

| | | |
|---------------|-------|------|
| char buf1[16] | 55667 | FF12 |
|---------------|-------|------|

| | | |
|---------------------|------|------|
| CODE CODE CODE CODE | BBBB | AA00 |
|---------------------|------|------|



“Segmentation Fault”

BBBB != 55667

Stack Protector

- ◆ GCC patch
 - ◆ First: StackGuard in 1997
 - ◆ Then: ProPolice in 2001, by IBM
- ◆ Finally: Re-implement ProPolice in 2005 by RedHat
 - ◆ introduced in GCC 4.1
 - ◆ -fstack-protector
- ◆ Update: Better implementation by Google in 2012
 - ◆ -fstack-protector-strong
- ◆ Enabled since like forever by default
 - ◆ most distributions
 - ◆ most packages



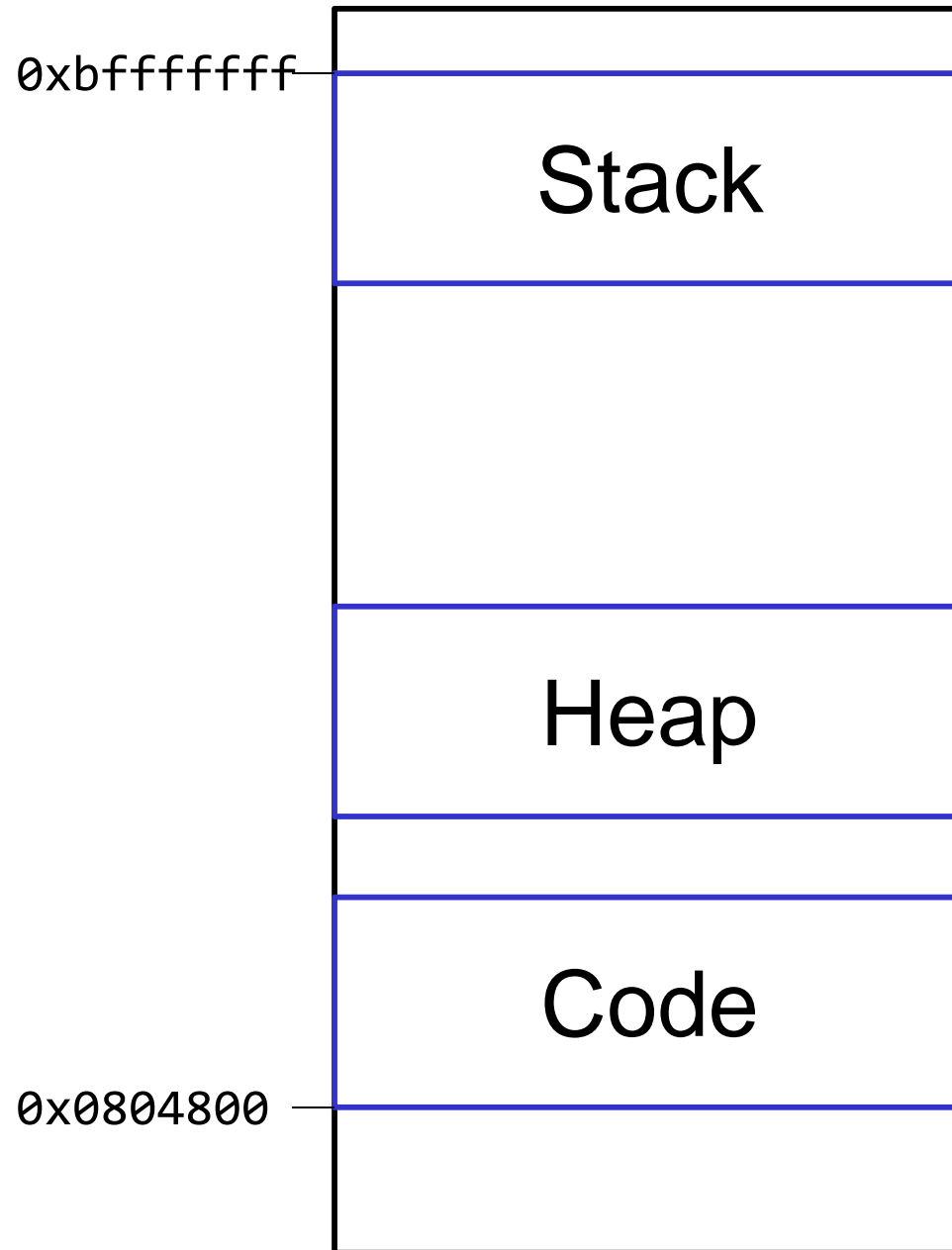
Exploit Mitigation: ASLR

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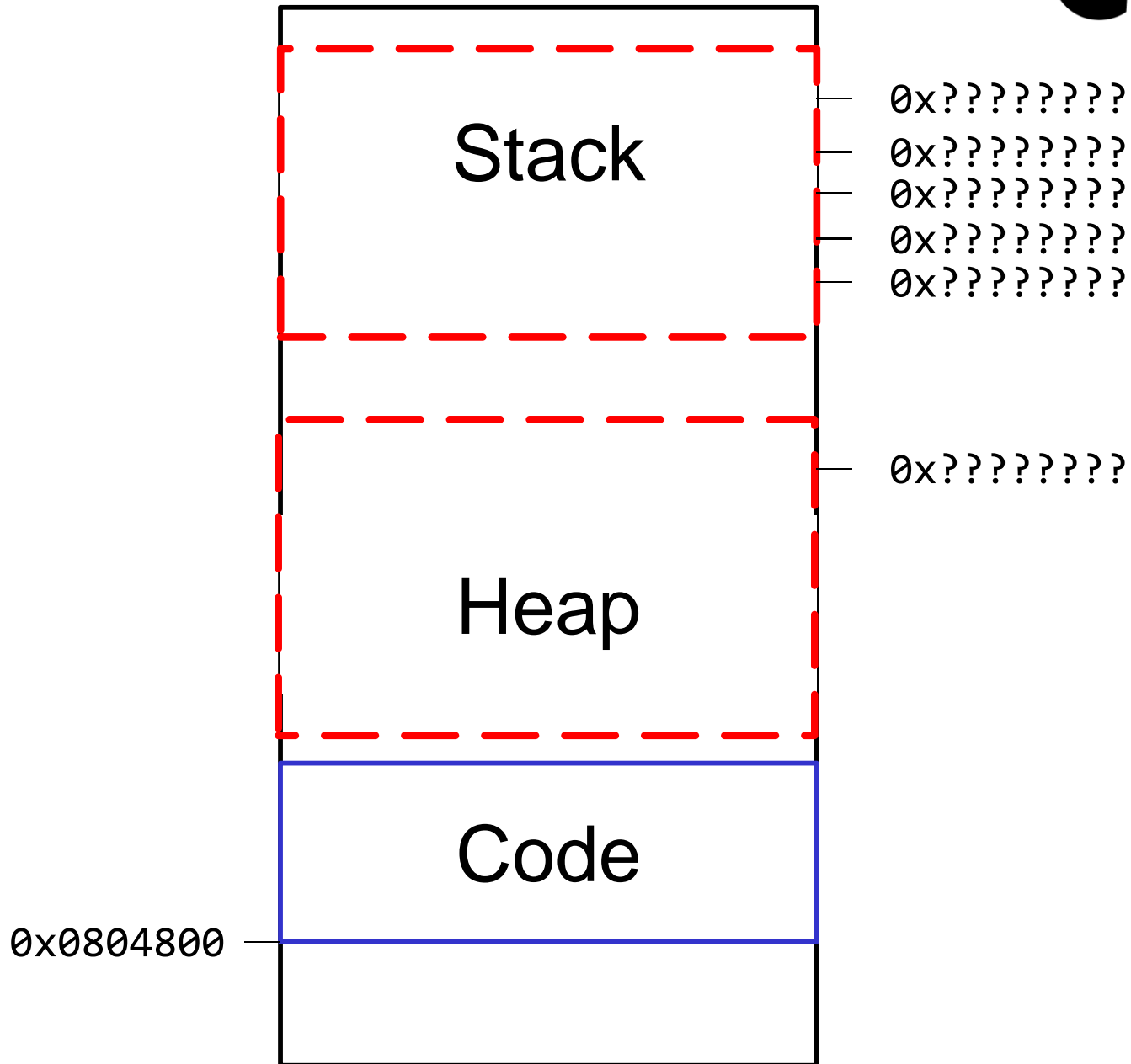
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- Code execution is surprisingly deterministic
- E.g. Network service:
 1. fork()
 2. Parse incoming data
 3. Buffer Overflow is happening at module X line Y
- On every exploit attempt, memory layout looks the same!
 - Same stack/heap/code layout
 - Same address of the buffer(s)
- ASLR: Address Space Layout Randomization
 - Introduces randomness in memory regions

Memory Layout



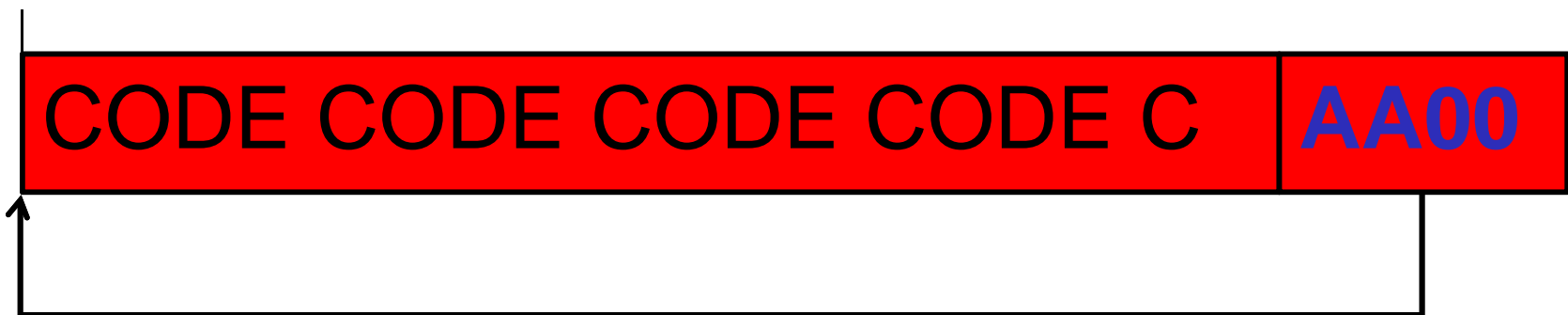
Memory Layout



0xAA00



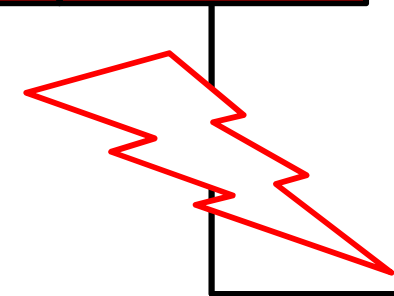
0xAA00



0xBB00



0xBB00



“Segmentation Fault”

AA00 != BB00

Randomness is measured in entropy

- ◆ Several restrictions
 - ◆ Pages have to be page aligned: 4096 bytes = 12 bit
- ◆ Very restricted address space in x32 architecture
 - ◆ ~8 bit for stack (256 possibilities)
- ◆ Much more space for x64
 - ◆ ~22 bit for stack

Re-randomization

- ◆ ASLR only applied on `exec()`
 - ◆ With some bugs...
- ◆ Not on `fork()`

Recap! ASLR

Randomize Memory Layout

Attacker can't call/reference

- ◆ what he cant find

Default ASLR randomizes:

- ◆ Writeable locations
- ◆ Stack
- ◆ Heap



Stack canary: detects/blocks overflows

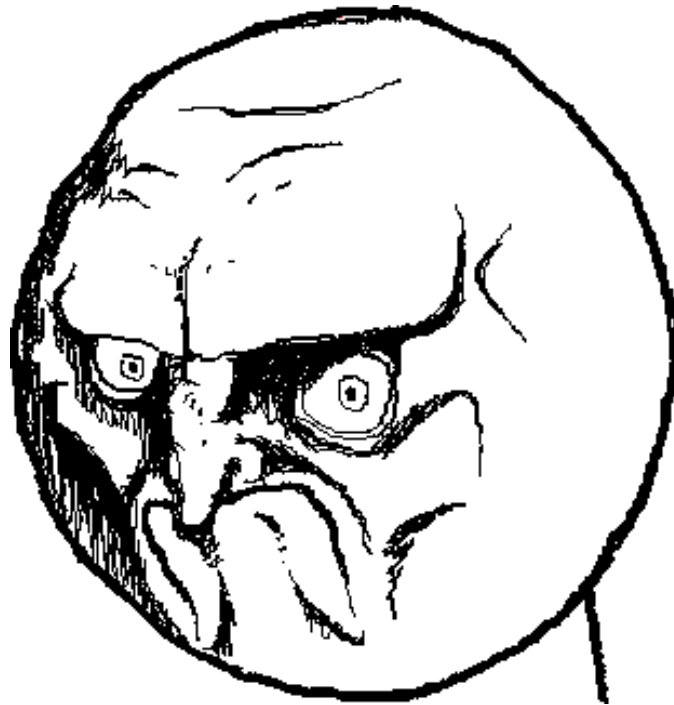
DEP: makes it impossible to execute uploaded code

ASLR: makes it impossible to locate data

Stack canary, DEP, ASLR...
so many protections...
now I'm secure!

Time for beer and pizza!





NO.

A vertical decorative strip on the left side of the slide shows a close-up of a computer keyboard with a yellow padlock resting on one of the keys.

This was the simple part...

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Contemporary exploiting

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Contemporary exploiting

Defeating: Stack Canary

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- Stack canary protects only **overflows**
- Arbitrary write!

```
char array[16];  
array[userIndex] = 0;
```
- Also: Heap is not protected
- Also: Local Vars (function ptr) not protected

Exploiting: Stack Canary



Or... just bruteforce it!

- ★ 32 bit value, so $2^{32} \approx 4$ billion possibilities?
- ★ Example: 0x42A1B2C3

| | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| AAAAAAAA | 0x42 | 0xA1 | 0xB2 | 0xC3 |
|----------|------|------|------|------|

| | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| AAAAAAAA | 0x41 | 0xA1 | 0xB2 | 0xC3 |
|----------|------|------|------|------|

A -> Crash

| | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| AAAAAAAA | 0x42 | 0xA1 | 0xB2 | 0xC3 |
|----------|------|------|------|------|

B -> No crash

| | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| AAAAAAAA | 0x42 | 0x41 | 0xB2 | 0xC3 |
|----------|------|------|------|------|

BA -> crash

| | | | | |
|----------|------|------|------|------|
| AAAAAAAA | 0x42 | 0x42 | 0xB2 | 0xC3 |
|----------|------|------|------|------|

BB -> crash

- So: not $2^{32} = 4$ billion possibilities
- But: $4 * 8 = 4 * 256 = 1024$ possibilities
 - 512 on average

Exploiting: Stack Canary



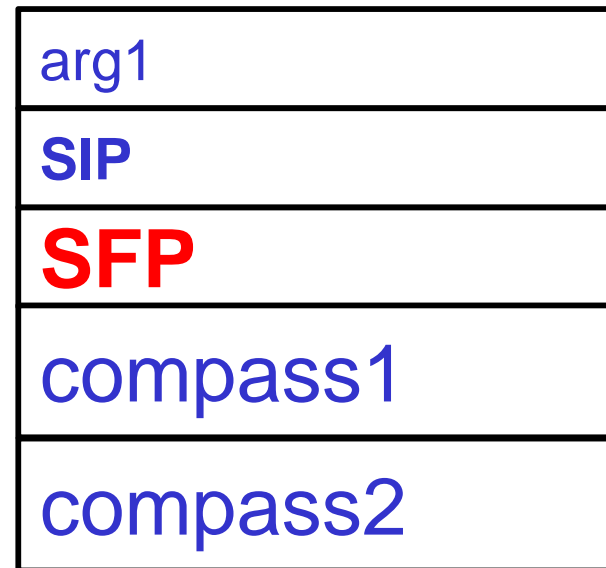
I lied a bit!

Argument for <foobar>

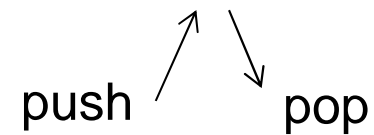
Saved IP (&main)

Saved Frame Pointer

Local Variables <func>



Stack Frame
<foobar>



Recap: Defeating Stack Canary



- Defeat ASLR for free, because brute force sFP 😊
- Conclusion: Stack Canary is can be brute forced, or just circumvented



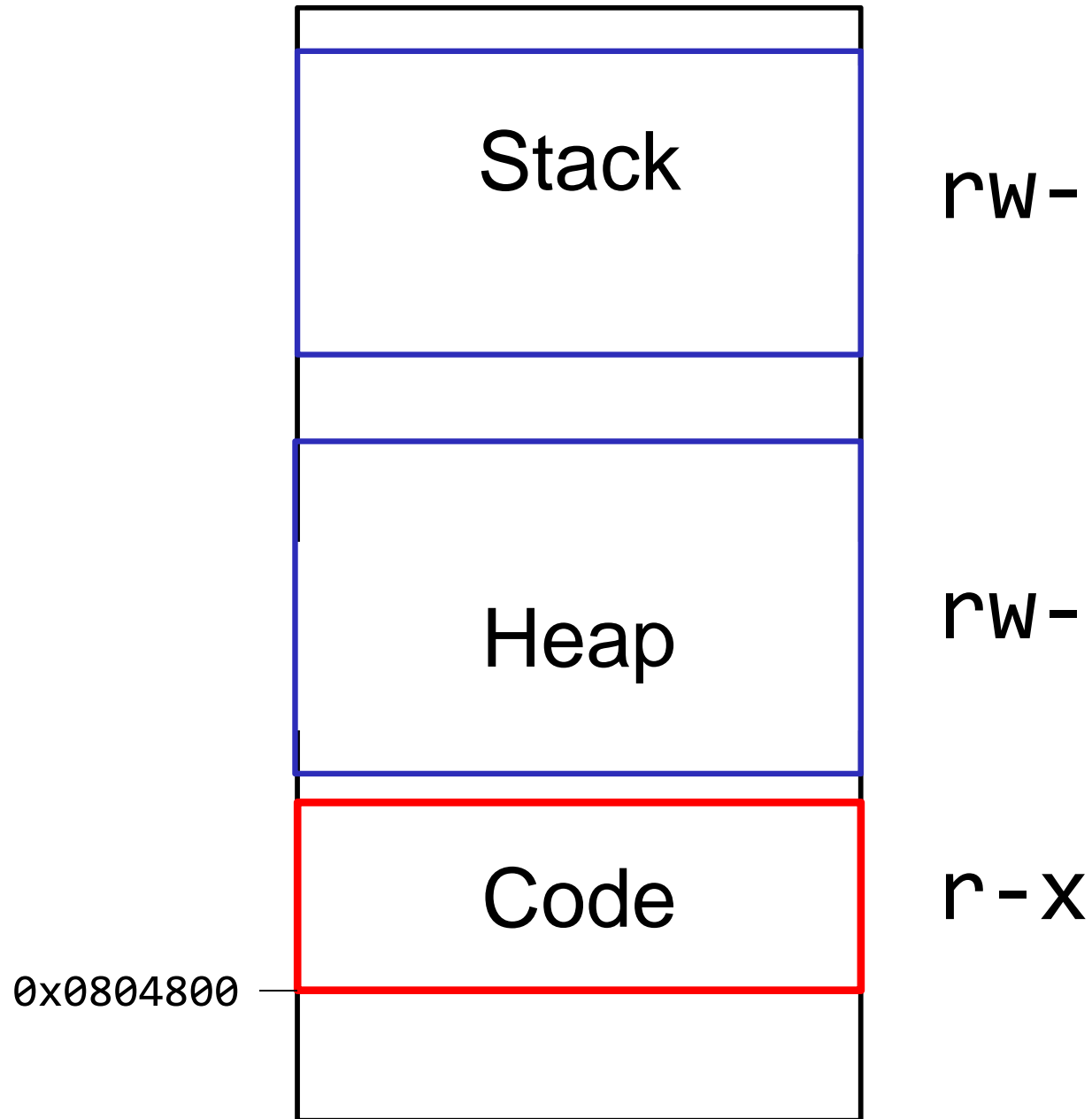
Contemporary exploiting

Defeating: DEP

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Exploiting: DEP - Memory Layout



- DEP does not allow execution of our own code
- But what about existing code?
- Code from binary, followed by a RET
 - Called "gadgets"
- Return Oriented Programming

ROPgadget

```
0x000000000000440608 : mov dword ptr [rdx], ecx ; ret
0x0000000000004598b7 : mov eax, dword ptr [rax + 0xc] ; ret
0x000000000000431544 : mov eax, dword ptr [rax + 4] ; ret
0x00000000000045a295 : mov eax, dword ptr [rax + 8] ; ret
0x0000000000004a3788 : mov eax, dword ptr [rax + rdi*8] ; ret
0x000000000000493dec : mov eax, dword ptr [rdx + 8] ; ret
0x0000000000004a36f7 : mov eax, dword ptr [rdx + rax*8] ; ret
0x000000000000493dc8 : mov eax, dword ptr [rsi + 8] ; ret
0x00000000000043fbcb : mov eax, ebp ; pop rbp ; ret
0x0000000000004220fa : mov eax, ebx ; pop rbx ; ret
0x000000000000495b90 : mov eax, ecx ; pop rbx ; ret
0x000000000000482498 : mov eax, edi ; pop rbx ; ret
0x000000000000437c11 : mov eax, edi ; ret
0x00000000000042cfa1 : mov eax, edx ; pop rbx ; ret
0x00000000000047d484 : mov eax, edx ; ret
0x00000000000043de7e : mov ebp, esi ; jmp rax
0x000000000000499461 : mov ecx, esp ; jmp rax
0x0000000000004324fb : mov edi, dword ptr [rbp] ; call rbx
0x000000000000443f34 : mov edi, dword ptr [rdi + 0x30] ; call rax
0x0000000000004607e2 : mov edi, dword ptr [rdi] ; call rsi
0x00000000000045c71e : mov edi, ebp ; call rax
0x000000000000491e33 : mov edi, ebp ; call rdx
0x0000000000004a7a2d : mov edi, ebp ; nop ; call rax
0x00000000000045c4c1 : mov edi, ebx ; call rax
```

ROPgadget

ROPgadget.py --ropchain

ROP chain generation

- Step 1 -- Write-what-where gadgets

```
[+] Gadget found: 0x806f702 mov dword ptr [edx], ecx ; ret
[+] Gadget found: 0x8056c2c pop edx ; ret
[+] Gadget found: 0x8056c56 pop ecx ; pop ebx ; ret
[-] Can't find the 'xor ecx, ecx' gadget. Try with another 'mov [r], r'
```

```
[+] Gadget found: 0x808fe0d mov dword ptr [edx], eax ; ret
[+] Gadget found: 0x8056c2c pop edx ; ret
[+] Gadget found: 0x80c5126 pop eax ; ret
[+] Gadget found: 0x80488b2 xor eax, eax ; ret
```

- Step 2 -- Init syscall number gadgets

```
[+] Gadget found: 0x80488b2 xor eax, eax ; ret
[+] Gadget found: 0x807030c inc eax ; ret
```

- Step 3 -- Init syscall arguments gadgets

```
[+] Gadget found: 0x80481dd pop ebx ; ret
[+] Gadget found: 0x8056c56 pop ecx ; pop ebx ; ret
[+] Gadget found: 0x8056c2c pop edx ; ret
```

- Step 4 -- Syscall gadget

```
[+] Gadget found: 0x804936d int 0x80
```

- Step 5 -- Build the ROP chain

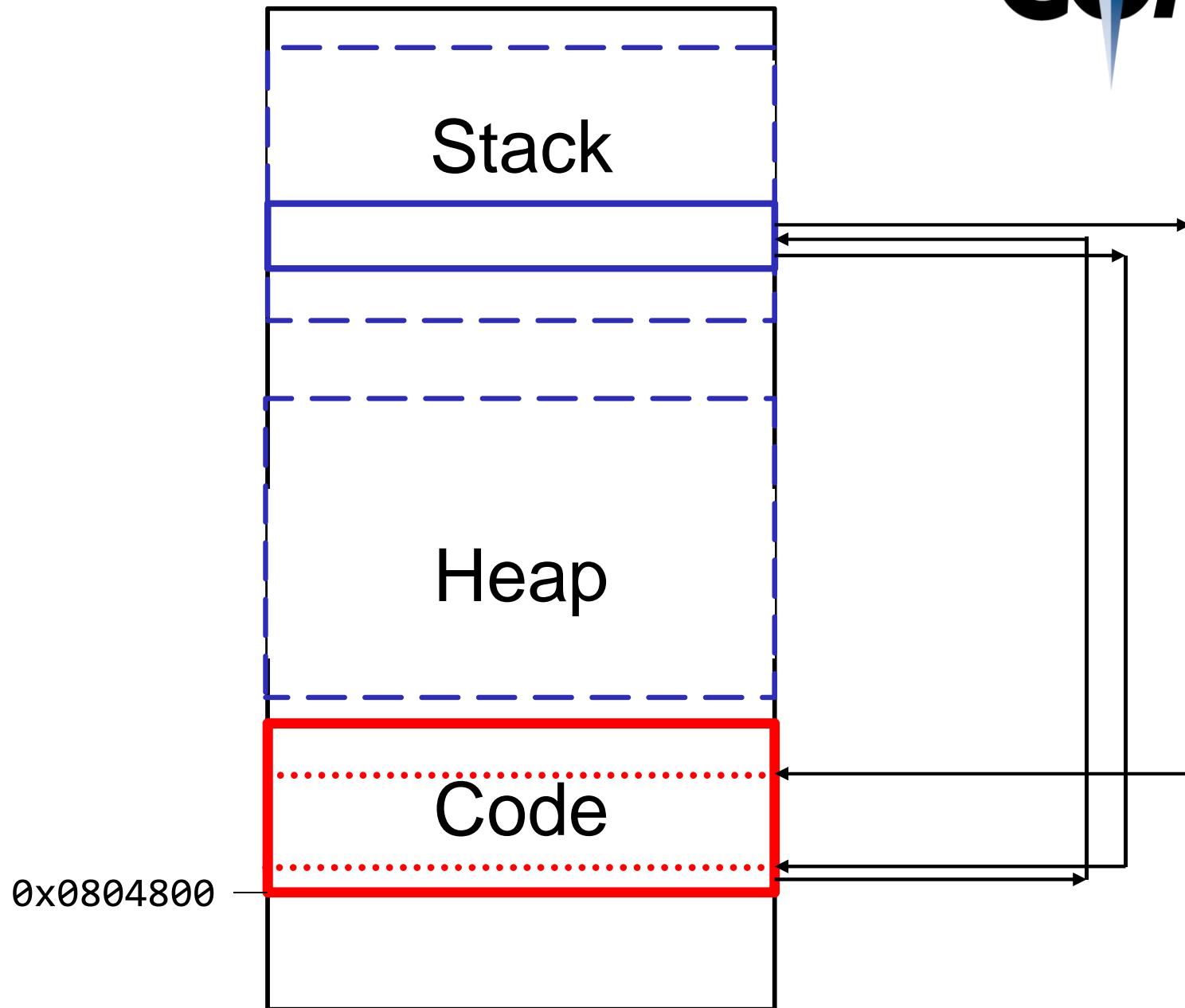
```
#!/usr/bin/env python2
# execve generated by ROPgadget v5.2
```

```
from struct import pack
```

```
# Padding goes here
p = ''
```

```
p += pack('<I', 0x08056c2c) # pop edx ; ret
p += pack('<I', 0x080f4060) # @ .data
p += pack('<I', 0x080c5126) # pop eax ; ret
p += '/bin'
p += pack('<I', 0x0808fe0d) # mov dword ptr [edx], eax ; ret
p += pack('<I', 0x08056c2c) # pop edx ; ret
p += pack('<I', 0x080f4064) # @ .data + 4
p += pack('<I', 0x080c5126) # pop eax ; ret
p += '//sh'
```

Exploiting: DEP - Memory Layout



Stager:

- Allocate new RWX memory
- Copy rest of shellcode to newly allocated memory
- Execute it (jmp)
- Profit

Recap: Anti-DEP



Conclusion:

Code section is not randomized

Just smartly re-use existing code



Contemporary exploiting

Defeating: ASLR

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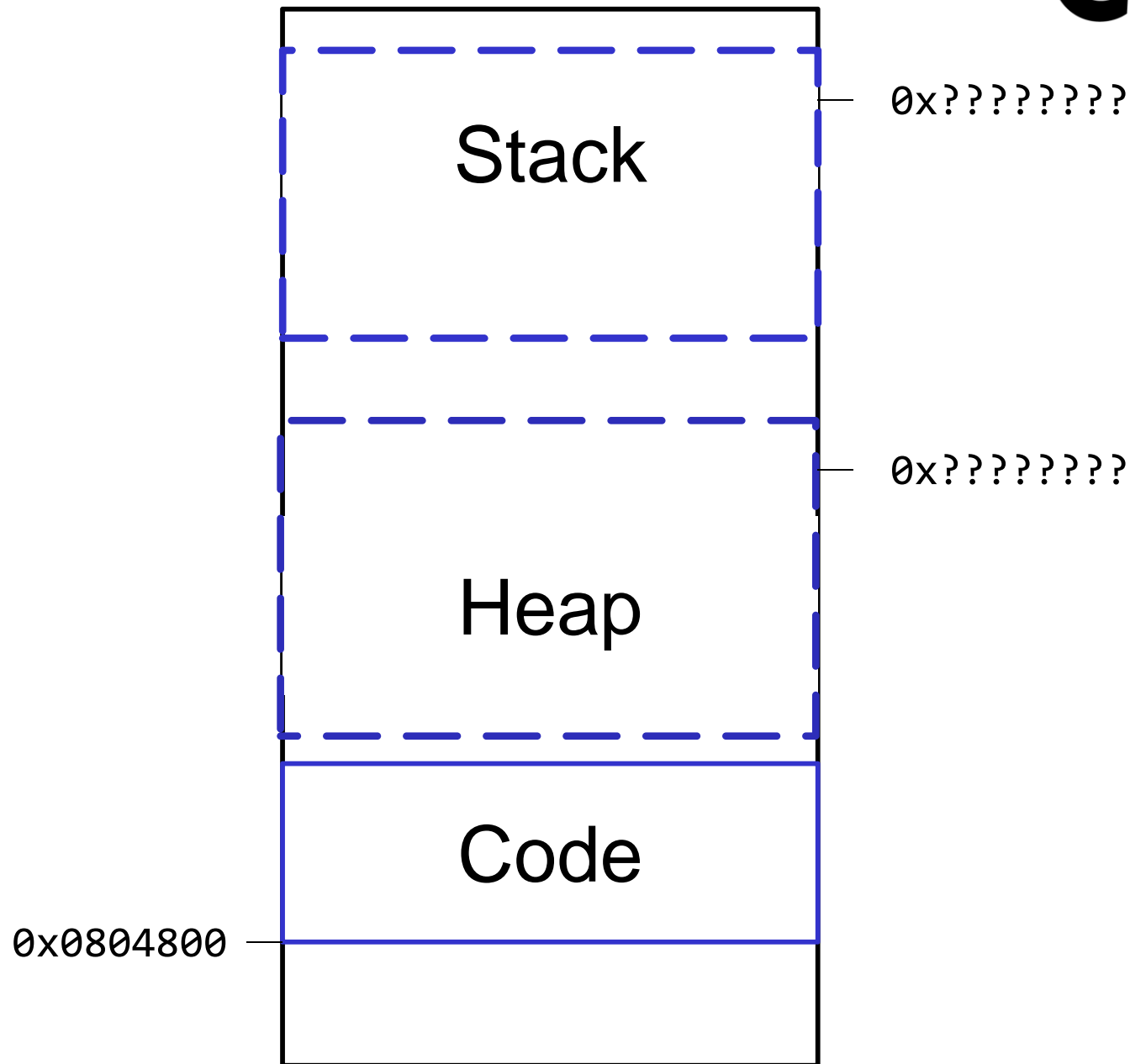
Exploiting: ASLR



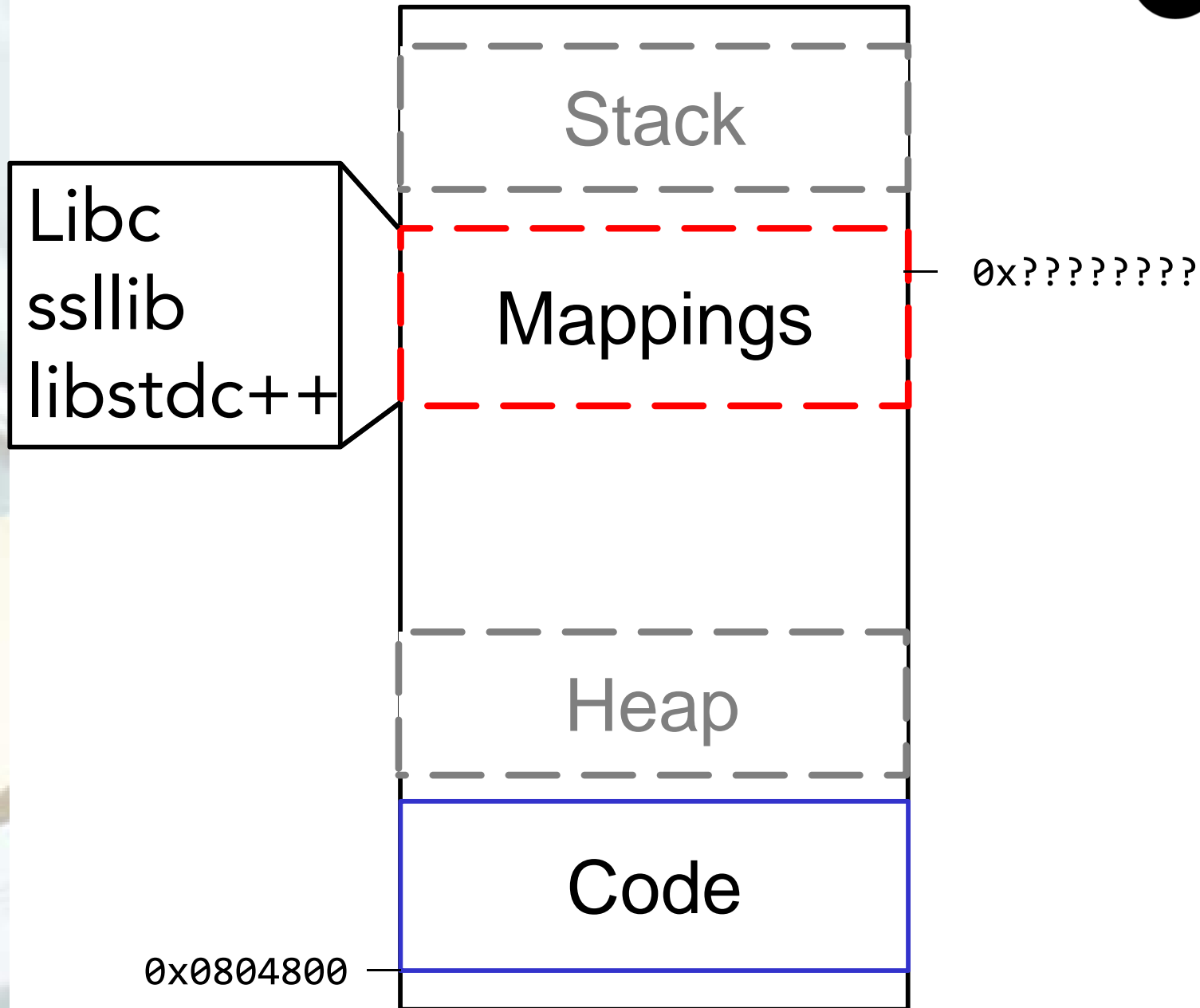
I lied... again



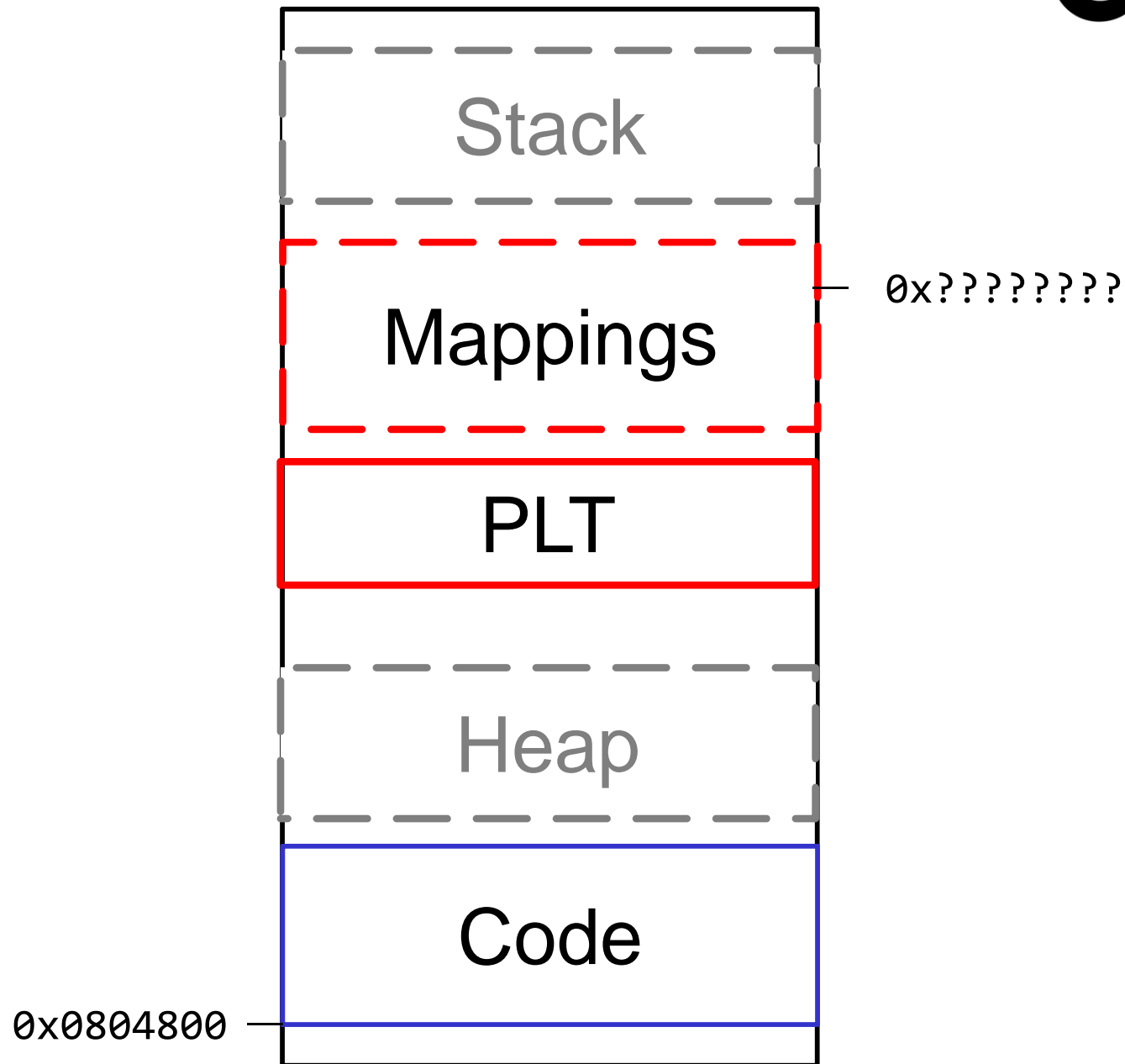
Exploiting: ASLR – Memory Layout



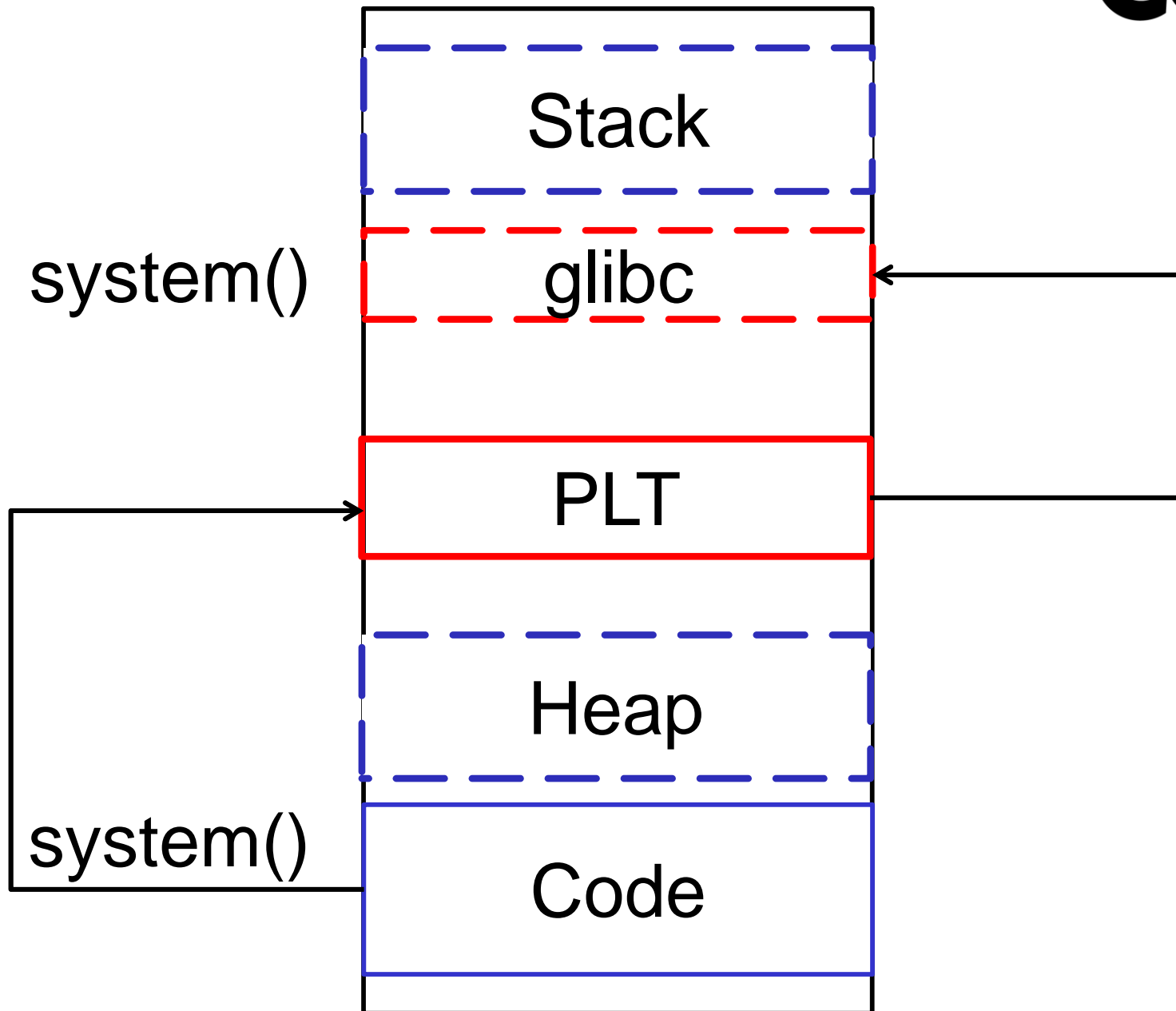
Exploiting: ASLR – Memory Layout



Exploiting: ASLR – Memory Layout



Exploiting: ASLR – Memory Layout

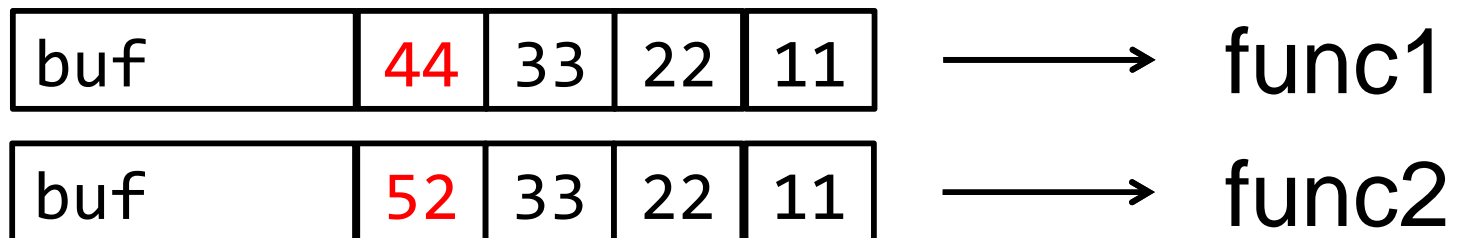


- Defeats ASLR
- Also defeats DEP in one go 😊
- Just do:
 - EIP = &system@plt
 - arg = &meterpreter bash shellcode
- `system("/bin/bash nc -l -p 31337")`

Other ASLR exploits:

- ◆ Partial RIP overwrite

- ◆ little endianness: 0x11223344



Other ASLR exploits:

- ◆ NOP sleds
 - ◆ As often used with JavaScript
 - ◆ Heap spray a few megabytes...

NOP NOP NOP NOP ... CODE



Anti-ASLR:

- ◆ Find static locations (like PLT)
- ◆ Mis-use existing pointers
- ◆ Spray & Pray

All three exploit mitigations can be defeated by black magic

Easily

Is there a solution?

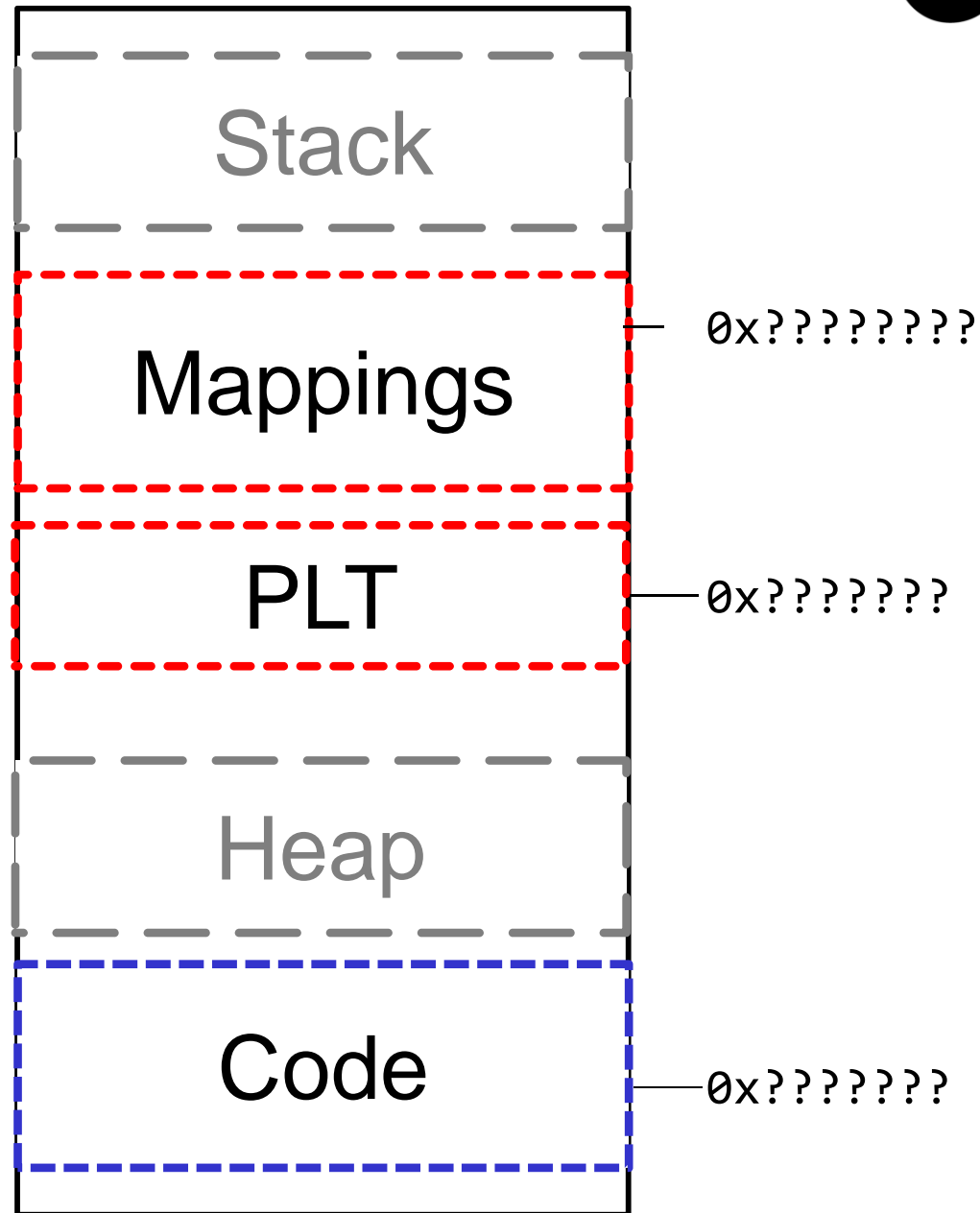
The solution to all problems... PIE



- **Fix:**
 - Compile as PIE
 - PIE: Position Independent Executable
 - Will randomize Code and PLT, too

- **Note:**
 - Shared libraries are PIC
 - (Position Independent Code)
 - Because they don't know where they are being loaded

Exploiting: ASLR for code: PIE





Ok ok, everything is now ASLR'd
and secure
Can I get my pizza now?



[the cake is a lie]

ASLR assumes attacker can't get information

What if they can?

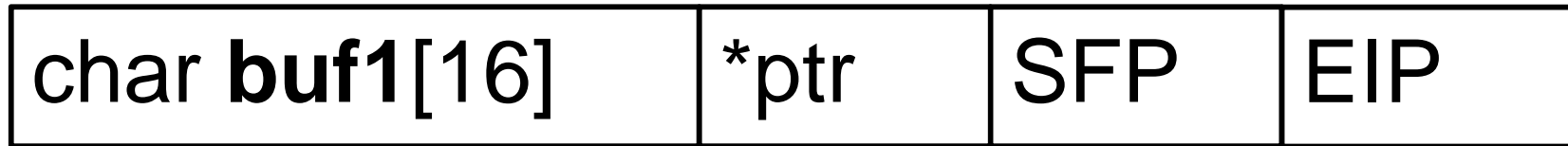
Meet: Memory Leak

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|-----|-----|
| char buf1 [16] | *ptr | SFP | EIP |
|-----------------------|------|-----|-----|

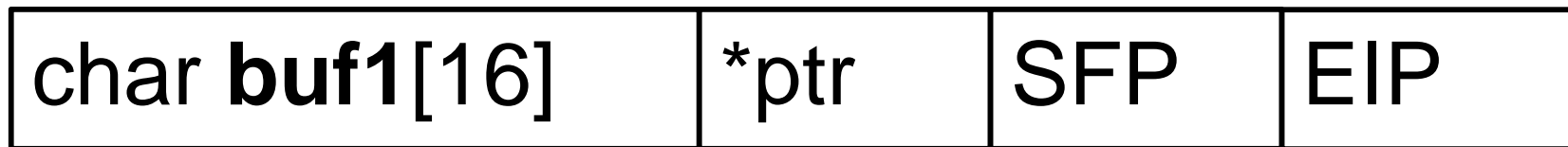
```
send(socket, buf1, sizeof(int) * 16, NULL);
```

Oups, attacker got 64 bytes back

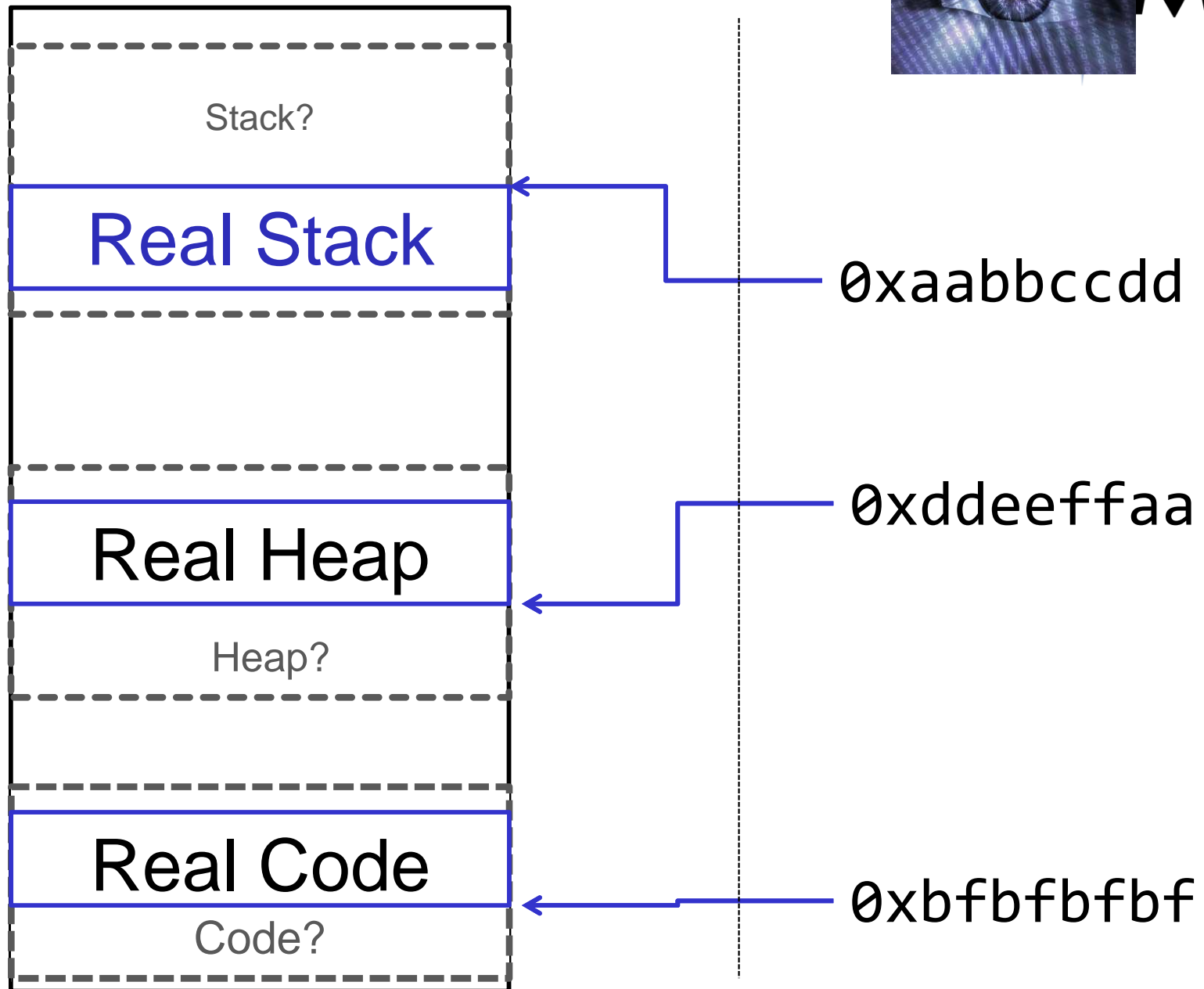
- ✦ Pointer to stack, code, heap
- ✦ Can deduce base address



```
send(socket, buf1, sizeof(int) * 16, NULL);
```



Exploiting: ASLR for code: PIE



Enable ALL the mitigations (DEP, ASLR w/PIE, Stack Protector)

Defeat ALL the mitigations:

- ✦ ROP shellcode as stager to defeat DEP
- ✦ Information leak to defeat ASLR
- ✦ Non sIP-based stack-overflow vulnerability

| | Stack Canary |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Stack Overflow | Green |
| Inter-Chunk Heap Overflow | Red |
| Arbitrary Write | Red |
| Use After Free | Red |
| Type confusion | Red |

Comparison



| | DEP | ASLR | DEP + ASLR | PIE + DEP + ASLR |
|------------------------|-------|--------|------------|------------------|
| Shellcode | Green | Yellow | Green | Green |
| Shellcode + Heap Spray | Green | Red | Green | Green |
| Shellcode + Info Leak | Green | Red | Green | Green |
| Ret2libc | Red | Green | Green | Green |
| Ret2plt | Red | Red | Red | Green |
| Ret2plt + Infoleak | Red | Red | Red | Orange |
| ROP | Red | Red | Red | Green |
| ROP + Info Leak | Red | Red | Red | Red |



There are multiple Exploit Mitigations

All fail with the right vulnerability

But: They make exploit development harder

Somewhat

As shown in CTF's at hacker cons, vulns can be identified and a reliable exploit developed in a few hours

- ◆ While being drunk
- ◆ Int3pids, dragon sector, shellphish, etc.
- ◆ Tomorrow, 17:30, Insomnihack Geneve

A vertical decorative image on the left side of the slide shows a close-up of a computer keyboard with a yellow padlock resting on one of the keys. A solid dark blue vertical bar is positioned to the left of the keyboard image.

Linux Hardening

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Enable DEP:

- ★ **Default** since like forever
- ★ (for old cpus: kernel.exec-shield = 1)
- ★ To disable for a binary: gcc -z noexecstack

Enable ASLR:

- ★ **Default** since like forever
- ★ /proc/sys/kernel/randomize_va_space = 2

Enable Stack protector:

- ★ -fstack-protector (**Default**)
- ★ -fstack-protector-all (ALL Functions)
- ★ -fstack-protector-strong (Better)

More Compiler options:

- ✦ `-D_FORTIFY_SOURCE=2`
 - ✦ `FORTIFY_SOURCE` provides (lightweight) buffer overflow checks for the following functions:
 - ✦ `memcpy`, `mempcpy`, `memmove`, `memset`, `strcpy`, `stpcpy`, `strncpy`, `strcat`, `strncat`, `sprintf`, `vsprintf`, `snprintf`, `vsnprintf`, `gets`.
 - ✦ Compile time warnings
 - ✦ **Default** in Ubuntu
- ✦ `Formatstring`
 - ✦ **Default** in Ubuntu
 - ✦ `-Wformat -Wformat-security`
- ✦ `Full Static Relocation`:
 - ✦ **Default** in Ubuntu
 - ✦ `-Wl,-z-,relro -Wl,-z,now`
- ✦ `Position independent code`
 - ✦ **NOT Default** in Ubuntu (*performance penalty*)
 - ✦ `-pie -fPIE`

Ubuntu Packages Compiled as PIE



| Source package | 8.04 LTS | 9.04 | 9.10 | 10.04 LTS | 10.10 | 11.04 | 11.10 |
|----------------------|----------|------|------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| openssh (native) | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| apache2 | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| bind9 | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| openldap | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| postfix | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| cups | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| postgresql-8.3 | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| samba (native) | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| dovecot | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| dhcp3 | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| ntp | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| amavisd-new | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| squid | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| cyrus-sasl2 | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| exim4 | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| nagios3 | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| nagios-plugins | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| xinetd | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| ipsec-tools | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| mysql-dfsg-5.1 | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| evince | -- | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| firefox | -- | -- | -- | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| gnome-control-center | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | yes | yes |
| tiff | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | yes | yes |
| totem | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | yes | yes |
| qemu-kvm | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | yes |
| pidgin | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | yes |

Check: Checksec



| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|---------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| init | 1235 | Full RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | PIE enabled |
| dbus-launch | 1436 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| dbus-daemon | 1453 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| dbus-daemon | 1454 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| upstart-event-b | 1465 | Full RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | PIE enabled |
| window-stack-br | 1471 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| upstart-dbus-br | 1486 | Full RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | PIE enabled |
| upstart-dbus-br | 1488 | Full RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | PIE enabled |
| upstart-file-br | 1497 | Full RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | PIE enabled |
| ibus-daemon | 1503 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| unity-settings-bamfdaemon | 1517 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| at-spi-bus-laun | 1523 | Full RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | PIE enabled |
| gnome-session | 1524 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| dbus-daemon | 1529 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| gvfsd | 1533 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| ibus-dconf | 1538 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| ibus-ui-gtk3 | 1539 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| ibus-x11 | 1542 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| gvfsd-fuse | 1545 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| at-spi2-registr | 1555 | Full RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | PIE enabled |
| pulseaudio | 1645 | Full RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| ibus-engine-sim | 1692 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| metacity | 1775 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| dconf-service | 1781 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| gnome-panel | 1819 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| indicator-appli | 1835 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| unity-fallback-indicator-bluet | 1836 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| indicator-bluet | 1837 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| vmtoolsd | 1839 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| polkit-gnome-au | 1841 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| nautilus | 1848 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| nm-applet | 1852 | Partial RELRO | Canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| initctl | 1853 | Full RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | PIE enabled |
| indicator-messa | 1858 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |
| indicator-power | 1863 | Partial RELRO | No canary found | NX enabled | No PIE |

Check: Paxtest



| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Executable anonymous mapping | : Killed |
| Executable bss | : Killed |
| Executable data | : Killed |
| Executable heap | : Killed |
| Executable stack | : Killed |
| Executable shared library bss | : Killed |
| Executable shared library data | : Killed |
| Executable anonymous mapping (mprotect) | : Vulnerable |
| Executable bss (mprotect) | : Vulnerable |
| Executable data (mprotect) | : Vulnerable |
| Executable heap (mprotect) | : Vulnerable |
| Executable stack (mprotect) | : Vulnerable |
| Executable shared library bss (mprotect) | : Vulnerable |
| Executable shared library data (mprotect) | : Vulnerable |
| Writable text segments | : Vulnerable |

Check: Paxtest

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Anonymous mapping randomization test | : 28 quality bits (guessed) |
| Heap randomization test (ET_EXEC) | : 13 quality bits (guessed) |
| Heap randomization test (PIE) | : 28 quality bits (guessed) |
| Main executable randomization (ET_EXEC) | : 28 quality bits (guessed) |
| Main executable randomization (PIE) | : 28 quality bits (guessed) |
| Shared library randomization test | : 28 quality bits (guessed) |
| VDSO randomization test | : 11 quality bits (guessed) |
| Stack randomization test (SEGMEXEC) | : 28 quality bits (guessed) |
| Stack randomization test (PAGEEXEC) | : 28 quality bits (guessed) |
| Arg/env randomization test (SEGMEXEC) | : 20 quality bits (guessed) |
| Arg/env randomization test (PAGEEXEC) | : 20 quality bits (guessed) |
| Randomization under memory exhaustion @~0 | : 28 bits (guessed) |
| Randomization under memory exhaustion @0 | : 28 bits (guessed) |
| Return to function (strcpy) | : return addr has NULL byte |
| Return to function (memcpy) | : Vulnerable |
| Return to function (strcpy, PIE) | : return addr has NULL byte |
| Return to function (memcpy, PIE) | : Vulnerable |

Advanced Linux hardening

The non-standard stuff

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Grsecurity

Uses PaX

- ✦ Kernel patch
- ✦ Improved DEP and ASLR
- ✦ For userspace
- ✦ And kernelspace protection (e.g. SMAP emulation)
- ✦ Better randomness, more randomness

Also provides:

- ✦ Chroot hardening
- ✦ Hide /proc stuff
- ✦ Ptrace restrictions
- ✦ Kernel module loading restrictions
- ✦ RBAC (Role Based Access Control)

Ok I now know everything, pizza?



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A vertical decorative strip on the left side of the slide features a close-up photograph of a computer keyboard with a yellow padlock resting on one of the keys. The background of the slide is white, and a horizontal dotted line is visible near the top.

Container

Linux Container

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Relevant?

- ✦ TEH CLOUD

Container: All container share the same kernel

- ✦ LXC
- ✦ Docker
- ✦ FreeBSD Jails (since March 2000)
- ✦ Solaris Zones
- ✦ Obsolete: Vserver, openvz

Virtualization: Each guest has his very own kernel

- ✦ Vmware, virtualbox, kvm, ...
- ✦ Not covered here

RBAC's

- ✦ SELinux (redhat), Apparmor (Suse), ...
- ✦ Not covered here

- Chroot is not a container
 - Path restriction only
 - But: Can access other processes, the kernel, IPC, etc.

```
compass@ubuntu:~$ sudo chroot /var/chroot
root@ubuntu:/# cd root/
root@ubuntu:/root# ./w00t -0 --dir /nonexisting
clssic
[+] creating /nonexisting directory
[+] chrooting to /nonexisting
[+] change working directory to real root
[+] chrooting to real root
root@ubuntu:/# ls /
bin    cdrom  etc    initrd.img  lib64    media
boot  dev    home   lib          lost+found  mnt
root@ubuntu:/# █
```

LXC/Docker: Use namespaces for containerization

- ◆ Restrict view/access of certain processes

Linux provides the following namespaces:

| Namespace | Constant | Isolates |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| IPC | CLONE_NEWIPC | System V IPC, POSIX message queues |
| Network | CLONE_NEWNET | Network devices, stacks, ports, etc. |
| Mount | CLONE_NEWNS | Mount points |
| PID | CLONE_NEWPID | Process IDs |
| User | CLONE_NEWUSER | User and group IDs |
| UTS | CLONE_NEWUTS | Hostname and NIS domain name |

Lxc container cannot:

- Interact with host processes
- Access root file system
- Access special devices (block, network, ...)
- Mount filesystems
- Execute special ioctl's

Lxc container can access:

- /proc: certain files
- /sys: certain files
- Do a lot of other stuff

LXC container share their Kernel... Wait – what about Kernel security?

Userspace vs. kernelspace

A vertical decorative image on the left side of the slide shows a close-up of a computer keyboard with a yellow padlock resting on one of the keys. A solid blue vertical bar is positioned to the left of the keyboard image.

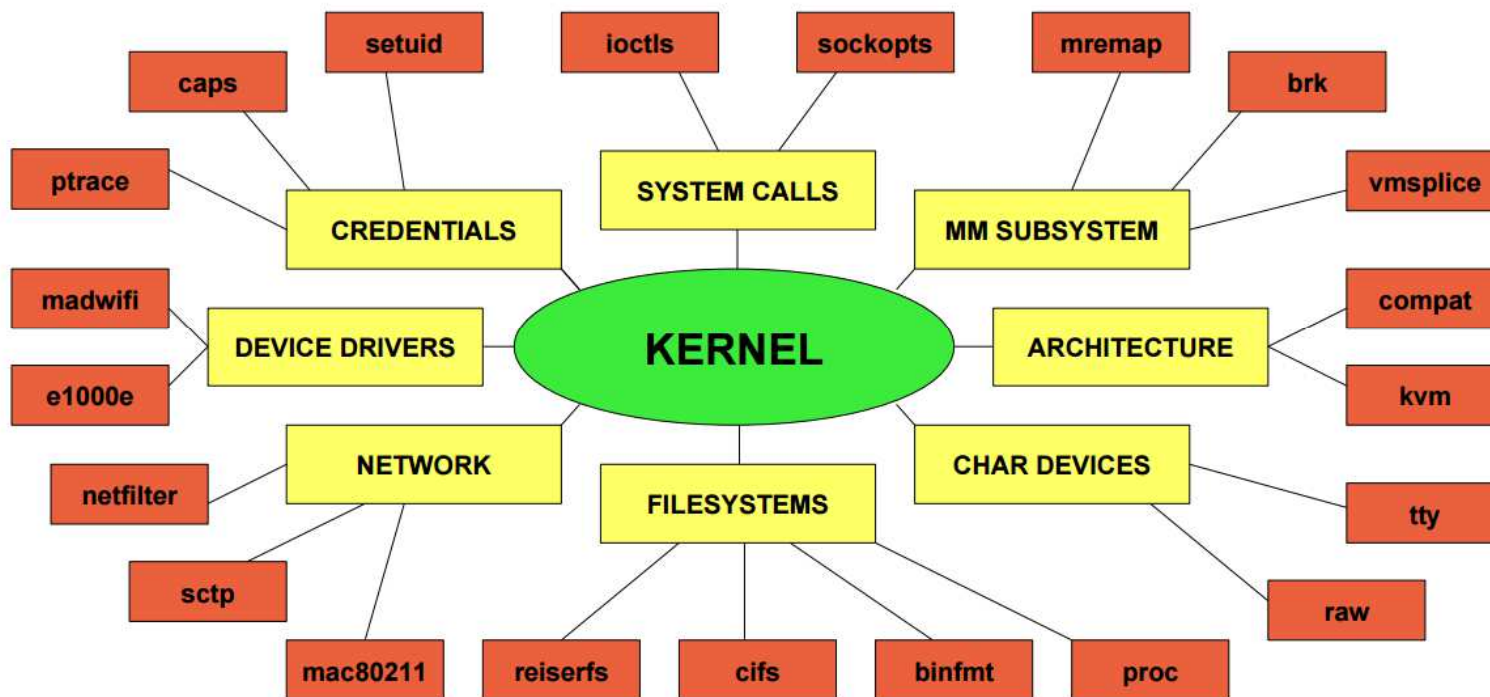
Linux Kernel

Protecting the kernelspace

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Kernel Attack Surface



Contrary to popular belief, most vulns are *not* in device drivers.

Linux Kernel Syscalls



| | | |
|--|--|--|
| 38 sys_rename | 108 sys_tstat [sys_newtstat] | 178 sys_rt_sigqueueinfo (2.2+) |
| 39 sys_mkdir | 109 sys_olduname [sys_uname] | 179 sys_rt_sigsuspend (2.2+) |
| 40 sys_rmdir | 110 sys_iopl | 180 sys_pread (2.2+) |
| 41 sys_dup | 111 sys_vhangup | 181 sys_pwrite (2.2+) |
| 42 sys_pipe | 112 sys_idle | 182 sys_chown (2.2+) |
| 43 sys_times | 113 sys_vm86old | 183 sys_getcwd (2.2+) |
| 44 sys_prof [sys_ni_syscall] | 114 sys_wait4 | 184 sys_capget (2.2+) |
| 45 sys_brk | 115 sys_swapoff | 185 sys_capset (2.2+) |
| 46 sys_setgid | 116 sys_sysinfo | 186 sys_sigaltstack (2.2+) |
| 47 sys_getgid | 117 sys_ipc | 187 sys_sendfile (2.2+) |
| 48 sys_signal | 118 sys_fsync | 188 sys_getpmsg [sys_ni_syscall] |
| 49 sys_geteuid | 119 sys_sigreturn | 189 sys_putpmsg [sys_ni_syscall] |
| 50 sys_getegid | 120 sys_clone | 190 sys_vfork (2.2+) |
| 51 sys_acct | 121 sys_setdomainname | |
| 52 sys_umount2 [sys_umount] (2.2+) | 122 sys_uname [sys_newuname] | |
| 53 sys_lock [sys_ni_syscall] | 123 sys_modify_ldt | |
| 54 sys_ioctl | 124 sys_adjtimex | |
| 55 sys_fcntl | 125 sys_mprotect | |
| 56 sys_mpx [sys_ni_syscall] | 126 sys_sigprocmask | |
| 57 sys_setpgid | 127 sys_create_module | |
| 58 sys_ulimit [sys_ni_syscall] | 128 sys_init_module | |
| 59 sys_oldolduname | 129 sys_delete_module | |
| 60 sys_umask | 130 sys_get_kernel_syms | |
| 61 sys_chroot | 131 sys_quotactl | |
| 62 sys_ustat | 132 sys_getpgid | |
| 63 sys_dup2 | 133 sys_fchdir | |
| 64 sys_getppid | 134 sys_bdflush | |
| 65 sys_getpgrp | 135 sys_sysfs | |
| 66 sys_setsid | 136 sys_personality | |
| 67 sys_sigaction | 137 sys_afs_syscall [sys_ni_syscall] | |
| 68 sys_sgetmask | 138 sys_setfsuid | |
| 69 sys_ssetmask | 139 sys_setfsuid | |

So, what about the Linux Kernel?

ASLR: **No**

- ✦ kASLR
- ✦ Since Kernel 3.14
- ✦ Disabled by default in most distributions
- ✦ Weaker than userspace (less entropy)
 - ✦ But: crash in kernel is very noticeable

DEP: **Yes**

- ✦ But some pages are W & X...
 - ✦ Because of X86 (BIOS etc.)
 - ✦ Therefore, not so useful

Stack Protector: **YES**

FORTIFY_SOURCE: **YES**

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 2012: Ivy Bridge | (e.g. i7 48xx, 49xx) |
| 2013: Haswell | (e.g. i7 47xx) |
| 2014: Broadwell | (e.g. i7 56xx, 55xx, 58xx, 59xx) |
| 2015: Skylake | (e.g. i7 65xx, 66xx, 67xx, 68xx, 69xx) |

SMEP: Supervisor Mode Execution Protection

- ✦ Deny Kernel execution from userspace memory (ret2usr)
- ✦ Since Kernel 3.0
- ✦ Needs CPU support: Ivy Bridge ++
- ✦ Enabled by default in modern distributions
- ✦ Workaround: In-kernel ROP
- ✦ `cat /proc/cpuinfo | grep smep`

SMAP: Supervisor Mode Access Prevention

- ✦ Deny Kernel direct access to userspace memory
- ✦ Since Kernel 3.7
- ✦ Needs CPU support: Broadwell ++
- ✦ Enabled by default in modern distributions

From: Linus Torvalds <torvalds@linux-foundation.org>
Newsgroups: fa.linux.kernel
Subject: Re: [stable] Linux 2.6.25.10
Date: Tue, 15 Jul 2008 02:28:23 UTC
Message-ID: <fa.FocnvcnLqG7kPaYdjYdPJfSdhjc@ifi.uio.no>

On Tue, 15 Jul 2008, pageexec@freemail.hu wrote:

>
> so guys (meaning not only Greg but Andrew, Linus, et al.), when will you
> publicly explain why you're covering up security impact of bugs? and even
> more importantly, when will you change your policy or bring your process
> in line with what you declared?

We went through this discussion a couple of weeks ago, and I had absolutely zero interest in explaining it again.

I personally don't like embargoes. I don't think they work. That means that I want to fix things asap. But that also means that there is never a time when you can "let people know", except when it's not an issue any more, at which point there is no `_point_` in letting people know any more.

So I personally consider security bugs to be just "normal bugs". I don't cover them up, but I also don't have any reason what-so-ever to think it's a good idea to track them and announce them as something special.

So there is no "policy". Nor is it likely to change.

Linus

From: Linus Torvalds <torvalds@linux-foundation.org>
Newsgroups: fa.linux.kernel
Subject: Re: [stable] Linux 2.6.25.10
Date: Tue, 15 Jul 2008 16:14:00 UTC
Message-ID: <fa.a8PYBfKwFq0F16ls/kFjBfKbV44@ifi.uio.no>



On Tue, 15 Jul 2008, Linus Torvalds wrote:

>
> So as far as I'm concerned, "disclosing" is the fixing of the bug. It's
> the "look at the source" approach.

Btw, and you may not like this, since you are so focused on security, one reason I refuse to bother with the whole security circus is that I think it glorifies - and thus encourages - the wrong behavior.

It makes "heroes" out of security people, as if the people who don't just fix normal bugs aren't as important.

In fact, all the boring normal bugs are way more important, just because there's a lot more of them. I don't think some spectacular security hole should be glorified or cared about as being any more "special" than a random spectacular crash due to bad locking.

Security people are often the black-and-white kind of people that I can't stand. I think the OpenBSD crowd is a bunch of masturbating monkeys, in that they make such a big deal about concentrating on security to the point where they pretty much admit that nothing else matters to them.

To me, security is important. But it's no less important than everything **else** that is also important!

Linus

http://yarchive.net/comp/linux/security_bugs.html

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/sf/business/2015/11/05/net-of-insecurity-the-kernel-of-the-argument/>

Infrastructure people

- ✦ Don't know they are there, except when something breaks

8 stable kernel trees!

- ✦ And Distros have their own stable kernels...

Actively hide security fixes in commit messages

- ✦ And they are honest about this

Distros in charge of security

- ✦ Is this good or not?

Conclusion:

- ✦ Important security fixes are maybe not backported to stable kernels

Reduce features!

- ◆ Make menuconfig
- ◆ Remove:
 - ◆ Drivers
 - ◆ CVE-2016-2384: arbitrary code execution due to a double-free in the usb-midi linux kernel driver
 - ◆ Features
 - ◆ Protocols

Use grsecurity / PaX

Use current CPU

Enable kASLR

Seccomp-bpf

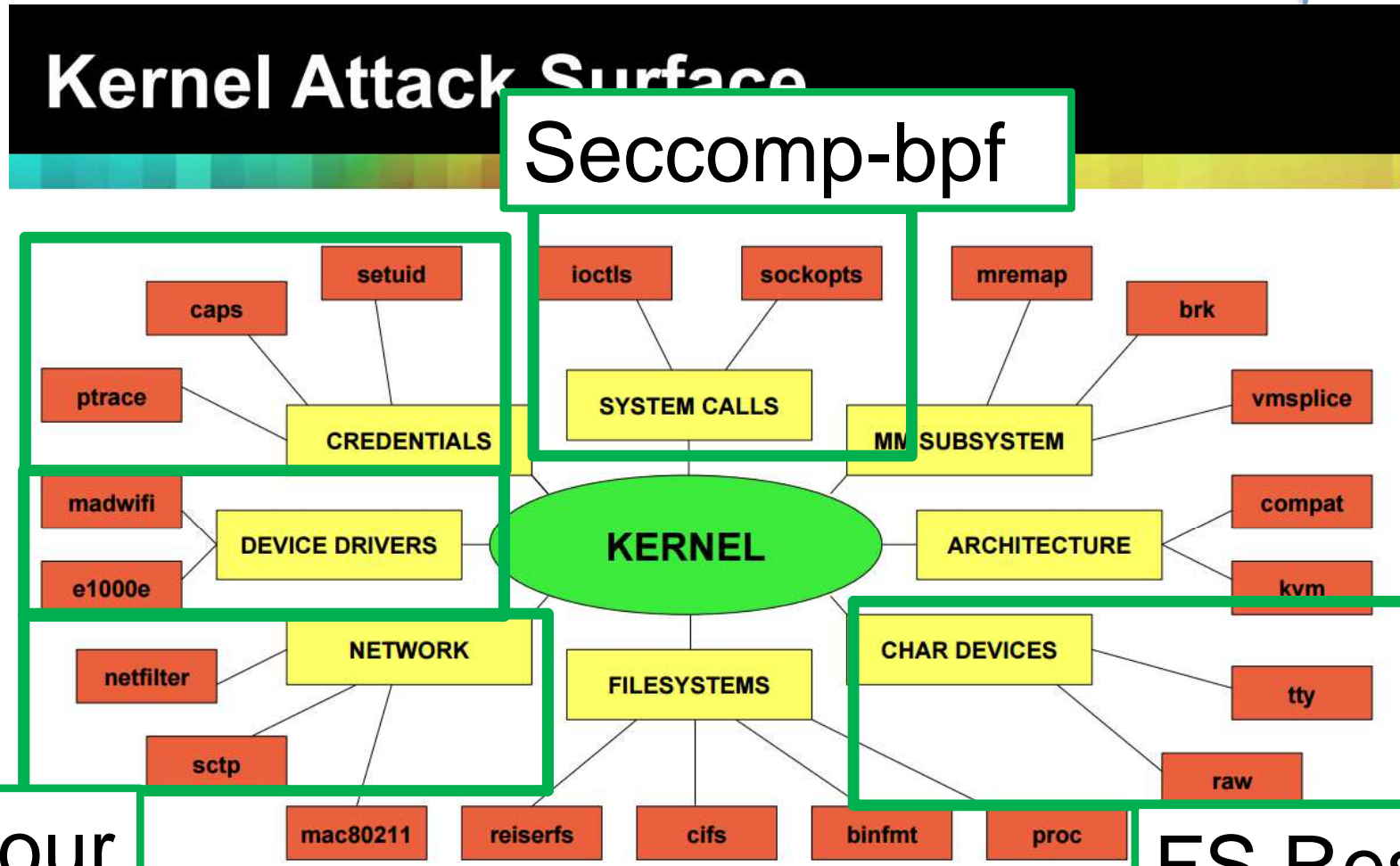
- ★ Seccomp: Since Kernel 2.6.12 (2005)
- ★ Seccomp-bpf: Since Kernel 3.5 (2012)
- ★ Whitelist (blacklist) system calls
 - ★ E.g. `exit()`, `read()`, `write()`, ...
- ★ Who cares?
 - ★ Chrome-Flash, Chrome-Renderer, vsftpd, OpenSSH, Firefox, Tor, ...

FS hardening

- ✦ /proc
- ✦ /sys
- ✦ /dev/[zero, null, urandom]
- ✦ Nothing else

AppArmour

- ✦ "additional restrictions on mounts, socket, ptrace and file access. Specifically restricting cross-container communication."



Contrary to popular belief, most vulns are not in device drivers.

Recap! Linux Kernel



Container share same Kernel

Kernel is not very secure



Conclusion

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Fax +41 55 214 41 61
team@csnc.ch
www.csnc.ch

Want more security?

- ◆ Compile everything as **PIE**

Even more?

- ◆ **Grsecurity** Kernel patch

More Kernel security?

- ◆ Strip kernel of features
- ◆ Seccomp-bpf

-> Or better: Ask your distribution to do it! <-

Recap! Recap!



The good news:

Most companies get owned by web vuln's anyway

- ◆ SQL injection
- ◆ Shell upload

Or social engineering...



Questions?

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When I'm quick:
More slides (backup slides)

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Clang is a C/C++ frontend for LLVM

Has Control Flow Integrity!

- ✦ -fsanitize=cfi
- ✦ Mostly helps against type confusion attacks

- ✦ -fsanitize=cfi-cast-strict: Enables strict cast checks
- ✦ -fsanitize=cfi-derived-cast: Base-to-derived cast to the wrong dynamic type.
- ✦ -fsanitize=cfi-unrelated-cast: Cast from void* or another unrelated type to the wrong dynamic type.
- ✦ -fsanitize=cfi-nvcall: Non-virtual call via an object whose vptr is of the wrong dynamic type.
- ✦ -fsanitize=cfi-vcall: Virtual call via an object whose vptr is of the wrong dynamic type.
- ✦ -fsanitize=cfi-icall: Indirect call of a function with wrong dynamic type.

Blind ROP

- ✦ Brute force all ROP gadgets
- ✦ Based on replies (Crash, Freeze, No Crash)
- ✦ No need to know anything about the process (don't even need binary!)

Sigreturn oriented programming

- ✦ Use signal handler to invoke code
- ✦ Does not need as many gadgets as normal ROP (just "syscall; ret")

Clang Compiler



Frontend for LLVM (compiles C to LLVM IR)

SafeStack

- ✦ -fsanitize=safe-stack
- ✦ Split stack into safe- (SIP etc.) and unsafe stack

- Detects memory corruption bugs
- Heavy performance penalty
- Do not use in production!
 - <http://www.openwall.com/lists/oss-security/2016/02/17/9>

```
Date: Wed, 17 Feb 2016 23:19:21 +0100
From: Szabolcs Nagy <nsz@...t70.net>
To: oss-security@...ts.openwall.com
Subject: Address Sanitizer local root
```

There is an alarming trend that Address Sanitizer and related compiler instrumentations from compiler-rt are used as a hardening solution and run in production.