

# Hacking Techniques & Intrusion Detection

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# # whoami

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- Ali Al-Shemery
- Ph.D., MS.c., and BS.c., Jordan
- More than 14 years of Technical Background (mainly Linux/Unix and Infosec)
- Technical Instructor for more than 10 years (Infosec, and Linux Courses)
- Hold more than 15 well known Technical Certificates
- Infosec & Linux are my main Interests

# **Software Exploitation**

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# **Debugging Fundamentals for Pentesters**

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# Outline – Part 2

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- Debugger
  - GDB
  - Immunity Debugger
- Debuggers Offer?
- Popular Debuggers?
- Which to use?
- Example: Debugging auth.c using gdb

# Debugger

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- A computer program that lets you run your program, line by line and examine the values of variables or look at values passed into functions and let you figure out why it isn't running the way you expected it to.

# Debuggers Offer?

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- Debuggers offer sophisticated functions such as:
  - Running a program step by step (single-stepping mode),
  - Stopping (breaking) (pausing the program to examine the current state) at some event or specified instruction by means of a breakpoint,
  - Tracking the values of variables,
  - Tracking the values of CPU registers,
  - Attach to a process,
  - View the process's Memory map,
  - Load memory dump (post-mortem debugging),
  - Disassemble program instructions,
  - Change values at runtime,
  - Continue execution at a different location in the program to bypass a crash or logical error.



# Popular Debuggers?

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- GNU Debugger (GDB)
- Microsoft Windows Debugger (Windbg)
- OllyDbg
- Immunity Debugger
- Microsoft Visual Studio Debugger
- Interactive Disassembler (IDA Pro)

# Immunity Debugger

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- A powerful new way to write exploits, analyze malware, and reverse engineer binary files.
- It builds on a solid user interface with function graphing, and a large and well supported Python API for easy extensibility.

Did you read that? Python 😊

Address	Size	Owner	Address	Module	Active
<b>CPU - main thread, module putty</b>					
0044777F	6A 60	PUSH 60			
00447781	68 B8744600	PUSH putty.004674B8			
00447786	E8 E91E0000	CALL putty.00449674			
00447788	BF 34000000	MOV EDI, 34			
00447790	8BC7	MOV EAX, EDI			
00447792	E8 2908FFFF	CALL putty.00444FC0			
00447797	9365 E8	MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-18], ESP			
00447799	8B64	MOV ESI, ESP			
0044779C	893E	MOV DWORD PTR DS:[ESI], EDI			
0044779E	56	PUSH ESI			
0044779F	FF15 88024500	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<&KERNEL32.GetVersionI GetVer			
004477A5	8B4E 10	MOV ECX, DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+10]			
004477A8	890D 64D24600	MOV DWORD PTR DS:[46D264], ECX			
004477AE	8B46 04	MOV EAX, DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+4]			
004477B1	A3 70D24600	MOV DWORD PTR DS:[46D270], EAX			
004477B6	8B56 08	MOV EBX, DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+8]			
004477B8	8915 74D24600	MOV DWORD PTR DS:[46D274], EBX			
004477BF	8B76 0C	MOV ESI, DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+C]			
004477C2	81E6 FF7F0000	AND ESI, 7FFF			
004477C8	8935 68D24600	MOV DWORD PTR DS:[46D268], ESI			
004477CE	83F9 02	CMP ECX, 2			
004477D1	74 0C	JE SHORT putty.004477DF			
004477D3	81CE 00800000	OR ESI, 8000			
004477D9	8935 68D24600	MOV DWORD PTR DS:[46D268], ESI			
004477DF	> C1E9 08	SHL EAX, 8			
004477E2	> 83C2	ADD EAX, EDX			
004477E4	A3 5CD24600	MOV DWORD PTR DS:[46D26C], EAX			
004477E9	> 33F6	XOR ESI, ESI			
004477EB	56	PUSH ESI			
004477EC	8B3D 80024500	MOV EDI, DWORD PTR DS:[<&KERNEL32.GetMod pModule kernel32			
004477F2	FF07	CALL EDI			
004477F4	66:8138 4D5A	CMP WORD PTR DS:[EAX], 5A4D			
004477F9	75 1F	JNZ SHORT putty.0044781A			
004477FB	8B46 3C	MOV ECX, DWORD PTR DS:[EAX+3C]			
004477FE	83C3	ADD ECX, EAX			
00447800	8139 50450000	CMP DWORD PTR DS:[ECX], 4550			
00447806	75 12	JNZ SHORT putty.0044781A			
00447808	0FB741 18	MOVZX EAX, WORD PTR DS:[ECX+18]			
0044780C	3D 0B010000	CMP EAX, 10B			
00447811	74 1F	JE SHORT putty.00447832			
00447813	3D 0B020000	CMP EAX, 20B			
00447818	74 05	JE SHORT putty.0044781F			
0044781D	> 8775 E4	MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-1C], ESI			
0044781F	> EB 27	JMP SHORT putty.00447846			
00447821	> 83B9 84000000	CMP DWORD PTR DS:[ECX+84], 0E			
00447826	> 76 F2	JBE SHORT putty.0044781A			
00447828	33C0	XOR EAX, EAX			
0044782A	39B1 F8000000	CMP DWORD PTR DS:[ECX+F8], ESI			
00447830	EB 0E	JMP SHORT putty.00447840			
00447832	> 8379 74 0E	CMP DWORD PTR DS:[ECX+74], 0E			
00447836	> 76 E2	JBE SHORT putty.0044781A			
00447838	3347	XOR EAX, EAX			
0044783A	> 39B1 E8000000	CMP DWORD PTR DS:[ECX+E8], ESI			
00447840	> 0F95C0	SETNE AL			
00447843	> 8945 E4	MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-1C], EAX			
00447846	> 56	PUSH ESI			
00447847	> E8 73270000	CALL putty.00449FBF			
0044784C	> 59	POP ECX			
0044784D	> 85C0	TEST EAX, EAX			
0044784F	> 75 21	JNZ SHORT putty.00447872			
00447851	> 8945 E4	MOV DWORD PTR DS:[46D268], 1			
00447853	> 75 05	JNZ SHORT putty.0044785F			
0044785A	> E8 15430000	CALL putty.0044BB74			
0044785F	> 6A 1C	PUSH 1C			
00447861	> E8 97410000	CALL putty.0044B9FD			
00447866	> 68 FF000000	PUSH 0FF			

Address	Message
0044777F	Immunity Debugger v1.73 : NOAR BUGS. * Need support? visit <a href="http://forum.immunityinc.com/">http://forum.immunityinc.com/</a> *
0044777F	File 'C:\Programme\PUTTY v0.60\putty.exe'
0044777F	[16:10:43] New process with ID 00001F44 created
0044777F	Main thread with ID 000010F0 created
0044777F	Modules C:\Programme\PUTTY v0.60\putty.exe
0044777F	72F70000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\NLS\NLSPOOL.DRV
0044777F	76330000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\IMM32.dll
0044777F	76350000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\comdlg32.dll
0044777F	76AF0000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\WINMM.dll
0044777F	773A0000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\WinSxS\x86_Microsoft.Windows.Common-Controls-6595b6414ccf1df6_6.0.2600.5512_x-ww_35d4ce83\COMMON-CONTROLS.dll
0044777F	77BE0000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\msvcrt.dll
0044777F	77D00000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\ADVAPI32.dll
0044777F	77E50000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\RPCRT4.dll
0044777F	77EF0000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\GDI32.dll
0044777F	77F40000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\SHLWAPI.dll
0044777F	77FC0000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\Secur32.dll
0044777F	7C900000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\kernel32.dll
0044777F	7C910000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\ntdll.dll
0044777F	7E360000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\USER32.dll
0044777F	7E570000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\SHELL32.dll
0044777F	6F900000 Modules C:\PROGRAM\1\Sophos\SOPHOS\1\SOPHOS\1.DLL
0044777F	[16:10:43] Program entry point
0044777F	768B0000 Modules C:\WINDOWS\system32\PSAPI.DLL
0044777F	0045B250 Const Found: RES Owner: putty.exe - Section: .rdata
0044777F	770CA036 Const Found: SHA1 Owner: ADVAPI32.dll - Section: .text
0044777F	7C94A0DF Const Found: SHA1 Owner: ntdll.dll - Section: .text
0044777F	00428335 Const Found: SHA1 Owner: putty.exe - Section: .text
0044777F	0045D5F8 Const Found: BLOWFISH Owner: putty.exe - Section: .rdata
0044777F	0045FF34 Const Found: SHA256 Owner: putty.exe - Section: .rdata
0044777F	0045F5C Const Found: SHA512 Owner: putty.exe - Section: .rdata
0044777F	5F816783 Const Found: MD5 Owner: SOPHOS\1.DLL - Section: .text
0044777F	77DB7246 Const Found: MD5 Owner: ADVAPI32.dll - Section: .text
0044777F	7C9493E8 Const Found: MD5 Owner: ntdll.dll - Section: .text
0044777F	77F6D2AC Const Found: MD5 Owner: SHLWAPI.dll - Section: .text
0044777F	00422CFF Const Found: MD5 Owner: putty.exe - Section: .text

Address	Hex dump	ASCII
0046A000	00 00 00 00 5E CE 44 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....^fD.....
0046A010	56 63 44 00 73 BE 44 00 27 CD 44 00 00 00 00 00	Ucd,s#D,=D.....
0046A020	00 00 00 00 FC 63 44 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	....?cD.....
0046A030	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
0046A040	03 00 00 00 04 04 45 00 68 01 46 00 01 00 00	...R+E.hIF.....
0046A050	9C 04 45 00 00 01 46 00 02 00 00 00 94 04 45 00	...E.hIF.....E

# Which to use?

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- IMO there is no exact answer to this question, it's a matter of comfort!
- Choose the debugger comfortable for you and helps you with your debugging process.

# Example – Auth.c

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- What does auth.c do?
  - It takes the first argument from the command line,
  - It then passes this argument to a basic authentication function for checking,
  - If the argument is the correct password, it prints a success message,
  - If the argument isn't the correct password, it prints a failure message.
- There is a bug in the code!
- Let's try to discover it.

# Auth.c using gdb

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- gdb is a command line debugger, not very user friendly, but very powerful.
- First we need to compile auth.c, then run auth from within gdb.
- Use gcc:
  - gcc -ggdb -O0 auth.c -o auth

# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- Start auth from within gdb:
  - `gdb auth`
- Run it with no arguments
  - `(gdb) run`
- This will give us a Segmentation fault.
- The program now crashes!
- Let's find what made the program crash.

# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- We need to reconstruct the frames on the stack.
- The frames will show us the function calling sequence.
- Use the gdb command “backtrace”  
(gdb) backtrace
- If you examine the output of the command you will find that the crash happened after calling the `auth()` function (frame #1)!



# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- We need to check the instructions in the code where it has crashed.
- EIP points to the last instruction executed.
- We need to examine the memory and EIP:
- To do that we will use the “x” to display memory contents:  
`(gdb) x/5i $eip`
- What does all that do????

# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- “x” is used to display memory content in various formats,
- “i” is used for displaying instructions (disassembly),
- “5” is the number of instructions to display.

*Check next slide for “x” formats.*

# “x” – Examine Memory

x / <count> <format> <unit>

Format	Description
x	hexadecimal
d	decimal
o	octal
t	binary
i	instructions
s	string
c	character
u	unsigned

Unit	Description
b	bytes
w	words (4 bytes)

# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- The fault occurred at this instruction:  
`(gdb) x/10i $eip`  
`cmp al, BYTE PTR [edx]`
- `cmp al, BYTE PTR [edx]` compares `al` with the byte at the memory address stored within `edx`.
- There doesn't seem to be an error here!
- Wait, let's inspect the register `edx` and see what does it hold?

# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

---

- Let's inspect the local variables and arguments.
- We can use the gdb “**info locals**” and “**info args**” commands:

**(gdb)** info locals

No symbol table info available

**(gdb)** info args

No symbol table info available

# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- That means there is no debugging information. (Re-compile to resolve!)
- Quit gdb:  
`(gdb) q`
- Recompile with debugging information enabled:  
`gcc -g auth.c -o auth`
- The `-g` informs the compile to include symbolic debugging information within the compiled binary.

# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- Let's load auth in gdb again:  
\$ gdb auth
- Now we can list the program code which is available from the debugging information.
- For that we use the gdb “list” command:  
(gdb) list
  - Press Enter if not all the code is shown.

# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- If you remember the program crashed when calling the auth() function.
- Let us setup a break point. We can use the gdb “break” command:
  - (gdb) break 13
- Now run the program:
  - (gdb) run
- The process execution is suspended when it reaches our breakpoint. This is how we made gdb control the execution process!



# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- Let us check the arguments values.
- We can use the gdb “print” command for inspecting variables.
  - (gdb) print argv[1]
- argv[1] is the argument passed to the auth function. And as you can see it’s value is 0x0 which is a NULL pointer!
- Continue the execution with the gdb command “continue”:
  - (gdb) continue

# Auth.c using gdb - Cont.

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- Now if we inspect the registers using the gdb command “info registers” we see that edx is holding 0x0 (the NULL pointer).
  - (gdb) info registers
  - (gdb) x/5i \$eip
- This is what is causing the crash, as the program is comparing to a NULL pointer!

# Auth.c using gdb – Summary

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- Using gdb we managed to discover the bug in our code.
- All we need to do to solve this problem is check for the number of given arguments before calling the auth() function!

*as simple as that!*

# Load Configurations

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- Tired of always setting your GDB configurations?
- Use the `-x` file
- Add your configurations to a file such as `gdb.config` and then:
  - `gdb -x gdb.config auth`

# Quit GDB Debugging

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- Just press 'q' !

# References (1)

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- Papers/Presentations/Links:
  - ShellCode, <http://www.blackhatlibrary.net/Shellcode>
  - Introduction to win32 shellcoding, Corelan, <http://www.corelan.be/index.php/2010/02/25/exploit-writing-tutorial-part-9-introduction-to-win32-shellcodeing/>
  - Hacking/Shellcode/Alphanumeric/x64 printable opcodes, [http://skypher.com/wiki/index.php/Hacking/Shellcode/Alphanumeric/x64\\_printable\\_opcodes](http://skypher.com/wiki/index.php/Hacking/Shellcode/Alphanumeric/x64_printable_opcodes)
  - Learning Assembly Through Writing Shellcode, <http://www.patternsinthevoid.net/blog/2011/09/learning-assembly-through-writing-shellcode/>
  - Shellcoding for Linux and Windows Tutorial, <http://www.vividmachines.com/shellcode/shellcode.html>
  - Unix Assembly Codes Development, <http://pentest.cryptocity.net/files/exploitation/asmcodes-1.0.2.pdf>
  - Win32 Assembly Components, <http://pentest.cryptocity.net/files/exploitation/winasm-1.0.1.pdf>

# References (2)

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- Papers/Presentations/Links:
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  - Writing shellcode for Linux and \*BSD, <http://www.kernel-panic.it/security/shellcode/index.html>
  - Understanding Windows's Shellcode (Matt Miller's, aka skape)
  - Metasploit's Meterpreter (Matt Miller, aka skape)
  - Syscall Proxying fun and applications, csk @ uberwall.org
  - X86 Opcode and Instruction Reference, <http://ref.x86asm.net/>
  - Shellcode: the assembly cocktail, by Samy Bahra, <http://www.infosecwriters.com/hhworld/shellcode.txt>

# References (3)

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- Books:
  - Grayhat Hacking: The Ethical Hacker's Handbook, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition
  - The Shellcoders Handbook,
  - The Art of Exploitation, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition,
- Shellcode Repositories:
  - Exploit-DB: <http://www.exploit-db.com/shellcodes/>
  - Shell Storm: <http://www.shell-storm.org/shellcode/>
- Tools:
  - BETA3 - Multi-format shellcode encoding tool, <http://code.google.com/p/beta3/>
  - X86 Opcode and Instruction Reference, <http://ref.x86asm.net/>
  - bin2shell, <http://blog.markloiseau.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/bin2shell.tar.gz>