4. Exercises

ASI36

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1 Introduction

This exercise sheet uses AFL to fuzz small C programs. Here are some external resources to help you use the tool

Tutorials on AFL
- `https://fuzzing-project.org/tutorial3.html`
- `https://labs.nettitude.com/blog/fuzzing-with-american-fuzzy-lop-afl/`
- `https://www.evilsocket.net/2015/04/30/fuzzing-with-afl-fuzz-a-practical-example-a`
- `https://research.aurainfosec.io/hunting-for-bugs-101/`

Important command-line options
- `AFL_SKIP_CPUFREQ=1`
- `AFL_USE_ASAN=1`

Since AFL depends very much on randomness, it is important to run the experiments multiple times to draw conclusions. If you find something once, you might just have been lucky; if you find it 90% of the time on a consequent number of runs, it's another matter.

2 Magic bytes

Let's consider the following program.

```c
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <signal.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <fcntl.h>

void crash()
{
    raise (SIGSEGV);
}

#define BUFSIZE 1024

int main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    char inp[BUFSIZE] = { 0 };
    if (argc > 1)
    {

        int f = open(argv[1], O_RDONLY);
        read(f, inp, BUFSIZE);
        int in = atoi(inp);
        if (in == 0xdeadbeef) {
```

```
                printf("Aaargh!\n");
                crash();
            }
            printf("You lose\n");
            return 0;
        }
        printf("Please, at least one arg !\n");
        return 0;
}
```

- Fuzz this program for 5 minutes *with an empty seed*. Did you find a crash?
- Fuzzers include a fair bit of randomization, maybe you just were not lucky. Now rerun this for 5 more minutes (and maybe once more).

  Did you find a crash this time?
- Try out fuzzing with non-empty seeds.
  - Try with the expected solution – it should fin the crash right away.
  - Give smaller and smaller prefixes to the solution. When does the fuzzer not reach the target anymore ?
- Rewrite the program so that it is semantically equivalent to the original program (no loss of functionality) but so that the fuzzer can reach the buggy path *with an empty seed*.

3 Hard-to-find events

```c
# include <stdio.h>
# include <stdlib.h>
# include <string.h>
# include <unistd.h>
# include <fcntl.h>

int f, *p, *p_alias;
char inp[10], *buf[5];

#define KO (-1)
#define OK 0

void bad_func(int *p) {
    free(p);
}

int benign_func(int *p) {
    if (inp[2] == 'F' && inp[3] == 'o' && inp[4] == 'o') {
        free(p);
        return KO;
    }
    return OK;
}

void func() {
    if (inp[1] == 'A') {
        bad_func(p);
        if (inp[2] == 'F' && inp[3] == 'u' && inp[4] == 'z') {
            *p = 1;
        } else {
            p = malloc(sizeof(int));
            p_alias = p;
            if (benign_func(p_alias) == -1) return;
            *p_alias = 1;
            free(p);
        }
    }
```

```
}

int main (int argc, char *argv[]) {
    f = open(argv[1], O_RDONLY);
    read(f, inp, 10);

    if (inp[0] == 'U') {
        p = malloc(sizeof(int));
        p_alias = p; // p_alias points to the same area as p
        func();
    }
    return OK;
}
```

1. Find and explain the vulnerability contained in this program.
2. Run the fuzzer multiple times (5 minutes) on the above program. Did you find any crash ? If not, can you guess why ?
3. Recompile your program with `AddressSanitizer` activated, and fuzz it again, multiple times. Do you find crashing inputs ?