



# Linux Interactive Exploit Development with GDB and PEDA

Long Le  
[longld@vnsecurity.net](mailto:longld@vnsecurity.net)

# Workshop Setup (1)

- Virtual machine
  - VMWare / VirtualBox
  - Ubuntu 10.04+ Live CD ISO
  - Internet connection (NAT/Bridge)
- Install Ubuntu packages
  - Required packages

```
$ sudo apt-get install nasm micro-inetd
```
  - Optional packages

```
$ sudo apt-get install libc6-dbg vim ssh
```

# Workshop Setup (2)

- PEDA tool
  - Download peda.tar.gz at: <http://ropshell.com/peda/>
  - Unpack to home directory  
`$ tar zxvf peda.tar.gz`
  - Create a “.gdbinit”  
`$ echo “source ~/peda/peda.py” >> ~/.gdbinit`
- Workshop exercises
  - Download bhus12-workshop.tar.gz at:  
<http://ropshell.com/peda/>
  - Unpack to home directory  
`$ tar zxvf bhus12-workshop.tar.gz`

# Workshop Setup (3)

- Temporarily disable ASLR

```
$ sudo sysctl -w kernel.randomize_va_space=0
```

- Allow ptrace processes

```
$ sudo sysctl -w kernel.yama.ptrace_scope=0
```

# Demo: Sample Exploit Development session with GDB

# GDB or not GDB?

- Standard debugger on \*nix
- Not ExDev oriented
  - Lack of intuitive interface
  - Lack of smart context display
  - Lack of commands for ExDev
  - GDB scripting is weak
- Python GDB
  - Since GDB 7.0
  - Powerful scripting API (v7.2+)

# PEDA Introduction

- Python Exploit Development Assistance for GDB
- Python GDB init script
  - GDB 7.x, Python2.6+
- Handy commands for exploit development
  - Self help manual
  - Auto-completion of commands, options
- Framework for writing custom commands

# PEDA features

- Memory operations
- Debugging helpers
- Exploit helpers
- Utilities

# Exploit Development with PEDA

# Exploit Development Process

- Occupy EIP
- Find the offset(s)
- Determine the attack vector
- Build the exploit
- Test/debug the exploit

# Occupied EIP, what next?

- Find the offset(s)
- Where is my buffer? Any register points to it?

# Attack vector (1)

- Any exploit mitigation in place?
  - NX
  - ASLR
  - PIE
  - RELRO
  - CANARY

# Attack vector(2)

- Find ways to code execution
  - ret2any: return to any executable, known place
    - stack
    - data / heap
    - text
    - library (libc)
    - code chunk (ROP)
  - control input buffer
    - stack pivoting

# Build the exploit

- Payload
  - Shellcode
  - ret2any payload
- Wrapper
  - Exploit skeleton

# Test and debug the exploit

- Check for limitation
  - Badchars
  - Buffer size
- Check for runtime affects
- Modify/correct the exploit

# Demo & Practices

- Buffer overflow exploit
- Format string exploit
- PEDA commands explanation and usage

# PEDA Commands

# Prepare input buffer

- pattern create

```
pattern create 2000  
pattern create 2000 input
```

- pset arg

```
pset arg '"A"*200'  
pset arg 'cyclic_pattern(200)'
```

- pset env

```
pset env EGG 'cyclic_pattern(200)'
```

# Context display

- Registers

context reg

- Code

context code

- Stack

context stack

# Runtime info

- Virtual memory mapping

`vmmmap`

`vmmmap binary / libc`

`vmmmap 0xb7d88000`

- Register / address

`xinfo register eax`

`xinfo 0xb7d88000`

- Stack / memory

`telescope 40`

`telescope 0xb7d88000 40`

# Search for input buffer

- pattern offset

pattern offset \$pc

- pattern search

pattern search

# jmp/call search

- jmpcall

jmpcall

jmpcall eax

jmpcall esp libc

# Generate shellcode/nopsled

- gennop

```
gennop 500
```

```
gennop 500 "\x90"
```

- shellcode

```
shellcode x86/linux exec
```

- assemble

```
assemble
```

# Exploit wrapper

- skeleton

```
skeleton argv exploit.py
```

- Use with GDB

```
set exec-wrapper ./exploit.py
```

# Memory search

- `searchmem / find`

`find "/bin/sh" libc`

`find 0xdeadbeef all`

`find "..\x04\x08" 0x08048000 0x08049000`

- `refsearch`

`refsearch "/bin/sh"`

`refsearch 0xdeadbeef`

- `lookup address`

`lookup address stack libc`

- `lookup pointer`

`lookup pointer stack ld-2`

# ASM / ROP search

- **asmsearch**

```
asmsearch "int 0x80"
```

```
asmsearch "add esp, ?" libc
```

- **ropsearch**

```
ropsearch "pop eax"
```

```
ropsearch "xchg eax, esp" libc
```

- **dumprop**

```
dumprop
```

```
dumprop binary "pop"
```

- **ropgadget**

```
ropgadget
```

```
ropgadget libc
```

# ELF headers / symbols

- elfheader / readelf
  - elfheader
  - elfheader .got
  - readelf libc .text
- elfsymbol
  - elfsymbol
  - elfsymbol printf

# ret2plt / ROP payload

- payload

```
payload copybytes
```

```
payload copybytes target "/bin/sh"
```

```
payload copybytes 0x0804a010 offset
```

# Other memory operations (1)

- dumpmem

```
dumpmem libc.mem libc
```

- loadmem

```
loadmem stack.mem 0xbffdf000
```

- cmpmem

```
cmpmem 0x08049000 0x0804a000 data.mem
```

- xormem

```
xormem 0x08049000 0x0804a000 "thekey"
```

- patch

```
patch $esp 0xdeadbeef
```

```
patch $eax "the long string"
```

```
pattern patch 0xdeadbeef 100
```

```
patch (multiple lines)
```

# Other memory operations (2)

- strings

```
strings
```

```
strings binary 4
```

- hexdump

```
hexdump $sp 64
```

```
hexdump $sp /20
```

- hexprint

```
hexprint $sp 64
```

```
hexprint $sp /20
```

# Other debugging helpers (1)

- pdisass

```
pdisass $pc /20
```

- nearpc

```
nearpc 20
```

```
nearpc 0x08048484
```

- pltbreak

```
pltbreak cpy
```

- deactivate

```
deactivate setresuid
```

```
deactivate chdir
```

- untrace

```
untrace
```

# Other debugging helpers (2)

- **stepuntil**

```
stepuntil cmp  
stepuntil xor  
nextcall cpy  
nextjmp
```

- **tracecall / ftrace**

```
tracecall  
tracecall "cpy,printf"  
tracecall "-puts,fflush"
```

- **traceinst / itrace**

```
traceinst 20  
traceinst "cmp,xor"
```

# Other debugging helpers (3)

- **waitfor**

```
waitfor
```

```
waitfor myprog -c
```

- **snapshot**

```
snapshot save
```

```
snapshot restore
```

- **assemble**

```
assemble $pc
```

```
> mov al, 0xb
```

```
> int 0x80
```

```
> end
```

- **procinfo**

```
procinfo
```

```
procinfo fd
```

# Config options

- pshow
  - pshow
  - pshow option context
- pset option
  - pset option context "code,stack"
  - pset option badchars "\r\n"
- Edit lib/config.py for permanent changes

# Python GDB scripting with PEDA (1)

- Global instances
  - `pedacmd`:
    - Interactive commands
    - Return nothing
    - e.g: `pedacmd.context_register()`
  - `peda`:
    - Backend functions that interact with GDB
    - Return values
    - e.g: `peda.getreg("eax")`
- Utilities
  - e.g: `to_int()`, `format_address()`

# Python GDB scripting with PEDA (2)

- Getting help

```
pyhelp peda  
pyhelp hex2str
```

- One-liner / interactive uses

```
gdb-peda$ python print peda.get_vmmmap()
```

```
gdb-peda$ python  
> status = peda.get_status()  
> while status == "BREAKPOINT":  
>     peda.execute("continue")  
> end
```

# Python GDB scripting with PEDA (3)

- External scripts

```
# myscript.py
def myrun(size):
    argv = cyclic_pattern(size)
    peda.execute("set arg %s" % argv)
    peda.execute("run")
```

```
gdb-peda$ source myscript.py
gdb-peda$ python myrun(100)
```

# Extending PEDA (1)

- PEDA structure
  - PEDA class
    - Interact with GDB
    - Backend functions
  - PEDACmd class
    - Interactive commands
  - Utilities
    - Config options
    - Common utils
    - External libraries

# Extending PEDA (2)

- Special functions
  - `PEDA.execute()`
  - `PEDA.execute_redirect()`
  - `PEDACmd._is_running()`
  - `PEDACmd._missing_argument()`
  - `utils.execute_external_command()`
  - `utils.reset_cache()`

# Extending PEDA (3)

- Writing new interactive command

```
=class PEDACmd():
    ...
=| def mycommand(self, *arg):
=|     """
=|         First line of docstring is the description of command
=|         Usage:
=|             MYNAME arg1 arg2
=|     """
=|     # get the arguments
=|     (arg1, arg2) = normalize_argv(arg, 2)
=|     # raise exception if missing argument
=|     if not arg1:
=|         self._missing_argument()
=|     # check if attached to running process
=|     if not self._is_running():
=|         return
=|     # use PEDA backend functions
=|     pid = peda.getpid()
=|     # generate output
=|     msg("My command: %d" % pid)

=|     return
```

# Future plan

- More platforms
- ARM support
- Integration
  - IDA
  - libheap
  - libformat
  - CERT's exploitable

# Thank you!