

PA193 - Secure coding principles and practices

LABS: Language level vulnerabilities:
Buffer overflow, type overflow, strings



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```
// Note: GCC and MSVC uses different memory alignment
// Try "12345678DevilEvecosia" as a password for gcc build
// Try "1234567812345678Devil I am. Ha Ha" as a password for MSVC debug build

void demoBufferOverflowData() {
    int unused_variable = 30;
#define NORMAL_USER      'n'
#define ADMIN_USER       'a'
    int userRights = NORMAL_USER;
#define USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH 8
    char userName[USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH];
    char passwd[USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH];

    // print some info about variables
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "userName", userName);
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "passwd", passwd);
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "unused_variable", &unused_variable);
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "userRights", &userRights);
    printf("\n");

    // Get user name
    memset(userName, 1, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH);
    memset(passwd, 2, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH);
    printf("login as: ");
    fflush(stdout);
    gets(userName);

    // Get password
    printf("%s@vulnerable.machine.com: ", userName);
    fflush(stdout);
    gets(passwd);

    // Check user rights (set to NORMAL_USER and not changed in code)
    if (userRights == NORMAL_USER) {
        printf("\nWelcome, normal user '%s', your rights are limited.\n\n", userName);
        fflush(stdout);
    }
    if (userRights == ADMIN_USER) {
        printf("\nWelcome, all mighty admin user '%s'!\n", userName);
        fflush(stdout);
    }

    // How to FIX:
    //memset(userName, 0, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH);
    //fgets(userName, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH - 1, stdin);
    //memset(passwd, 0, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH);
    //fgets(passwd, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH - 1, stdin);
}
```

Setup

- Create new Visual Studio 2015 Project
 - File->New->Project->VisualC++->Win32 Console app
 - Turn off ‘Precompiled header’ and ‘SDL checks’
- Paste BufferOverflow.cpp from IS instead of project’s main file
- Try to compile (disable warning on gets() function)
 - `#define _CRT_SECURE_NO_WARNINGS`
- Insert breakpoint (begin of `demoBufferOverflowData()`) – F9
- Run program in debug mode – F5
- Execute next step of program – F10
- Display memory
 - Debug → Windows → Memory
 - Program must be in debugging session and running!

```

void demoBufferOverflowData() {
    int unused_variable = 30;
#define NORMAL_USER      'n'
#define ADMIN_USER       'a'
    int userRights = NORMAL_USER;
#define USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH 8
    char   userName[USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH];
    char   passwd[USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH];

    // print some info about variables
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "userName", userName);
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "passwd", passwd);
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "unused_variable", &unused_variable);
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "userRights", &userRights);
    printf("\n");

    // Get user name
    printf("login as: ");
    gets(userName);

    // Get password
    printf("%s@vulnerable.machine.com: ", userName);
    gets(passwd);

    // Check user rights (set to NORMAL_USER and not changed in code)
    if (userRights == NORMAL_USER) {
        printf("\nWelcome, normal user '%s', your rights are limited.\n\n", userName);
    }
    if (userRights == ADMIN_USER) {
        printf("\nWelcome, all mighty admin user '%s'!\n", userName);
    }
}

```

Variable containing current access rights

Array with fixed length (will be overwritten)

Help output of address of local variables stored on the stack

Reading username and password (no length checking)

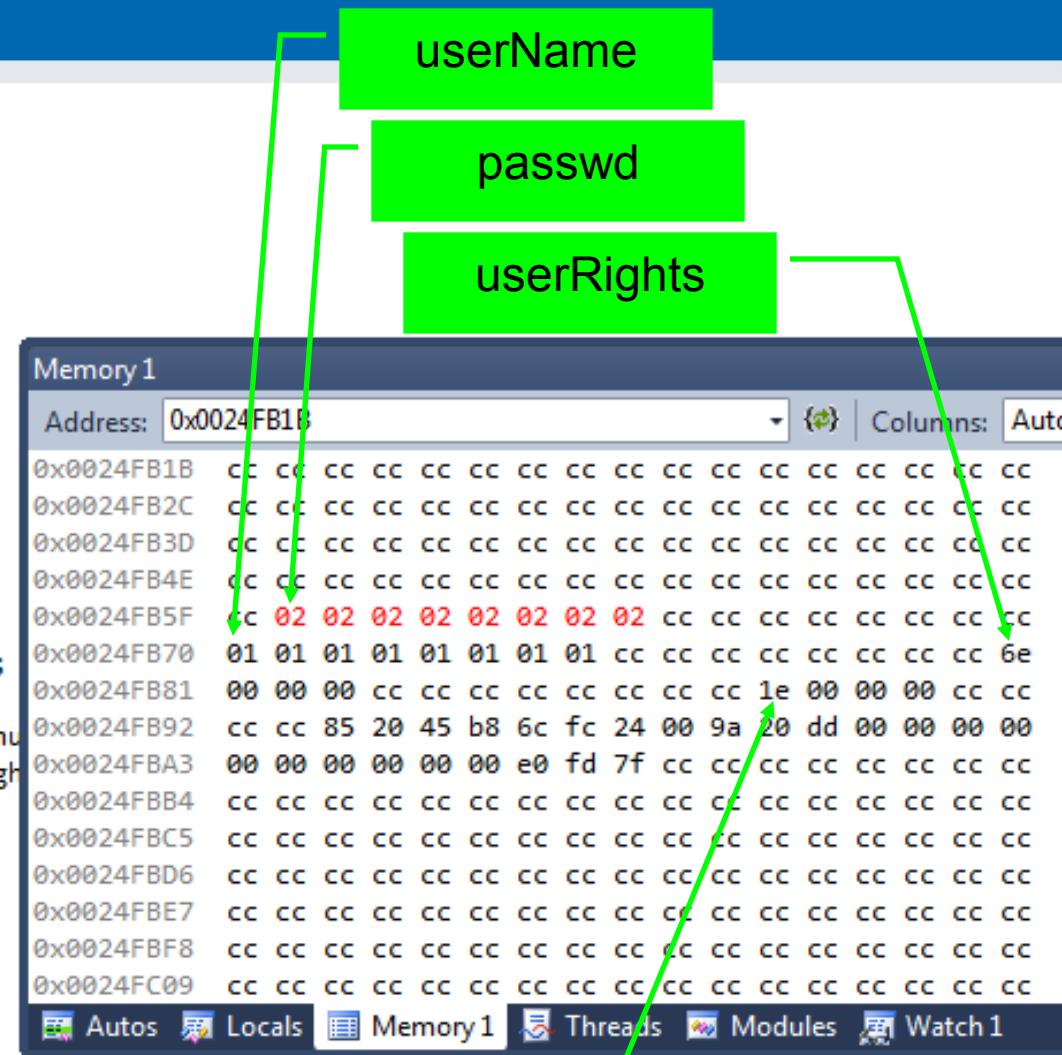
Print information about current user rights

Data in memory

```
void demoBufferOverflowData() {
    int unused_variable = 30;
#define NORMAL_USER      'n'
#define ADMIN_USER       'a'
    int userRights = NORMAL_USER;
#define USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH 8
    char   userName[USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH];
    char   passwd[USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH];

    // print some info about variables
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "userName", userName);
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "passwd", passwd);
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "unused_variable", &unus
    printf("%-20s: %p\n", "userRights", &userRigh
    printf("\n");

    // Get user name
    memset(userName, 1, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH);
    memset(passwd, 2, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH);
    printf("login as: ");
    fflush(stdout);
```



unused variable

Running without malicious input

The screenshot shows a debugger interface with several windows:

- Global Scope**: Shows the C code for `demoBufferOverflowData()`. It includes logic to get user input for `user_name` and `passwd`, and to check user rights. A green arrow points from the `user_name` variable in the global scope to the `userRights` variable in the memory dump.
- Memory1**: A hex dump window showing memory starting at address `0x0013FA03`. The dump shows the user input ('petr...') followed by a large amount of null bytes ('cc'). A green arrow points from the `passwd` variable in the global scope to the null byte sequence in the memory dump.
- Output**: A terminal-like window showing the program's output:

```
##### demoBufferOverflowData #####
userName          : 0013FA58
passwd           : 0013FA48
unused_variable   : 0013FA74
userRights        : 0013FA68

login as: petr
petr@vulnerable.machine.com: test

Welcome, normal user 'petr', your rights are limited.
```

Running with malicious input – userName

```
// Get user name
memset(userName, 1, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH);
memset(passwd, 2, USER_INPUT_MAX_LENGTH);
printf("login as: ");
fflush(stdout);
gets(userName);

// Get password
printf("%s@vulnerable.machine.com: ", userName);
fflush(stdout);
gets(passwd);

// Check user rights (set to NORMAL_USER and
if (userRights == NORMAL_USER) {
    printf("\nWelcome, normal user '%s', your",
        fflush(stdout);
}
if (userRights == ADMIN_USER) {
    printf("\nWelcome, all mighty admin user",
        fflush(stdout));
}
```

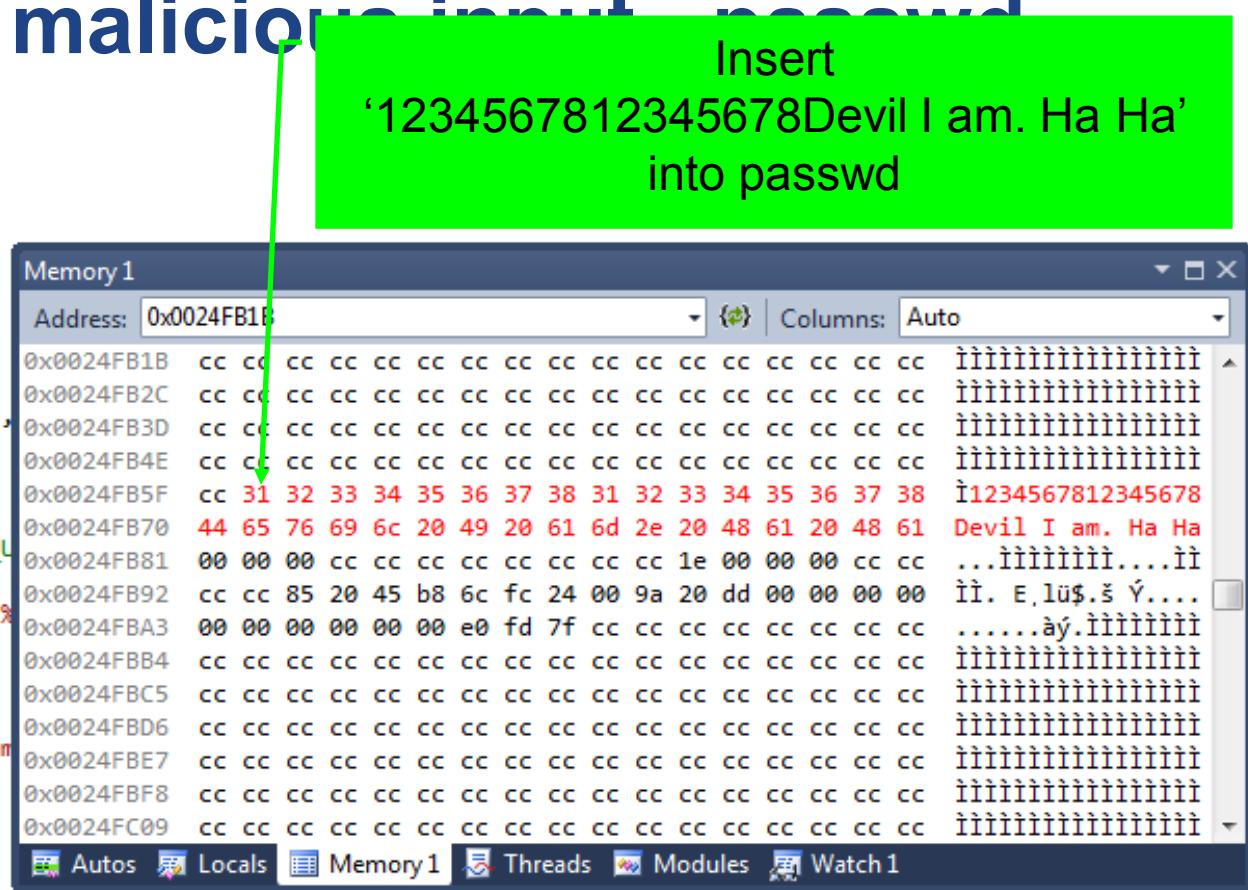
Running with malicious input

```
printf("login as: ");
fflush(stdout);
gets(userName);

// Get password
printf("%s@vulnerable.machine.com: ",
fflush(stdout);
gets(passwd);

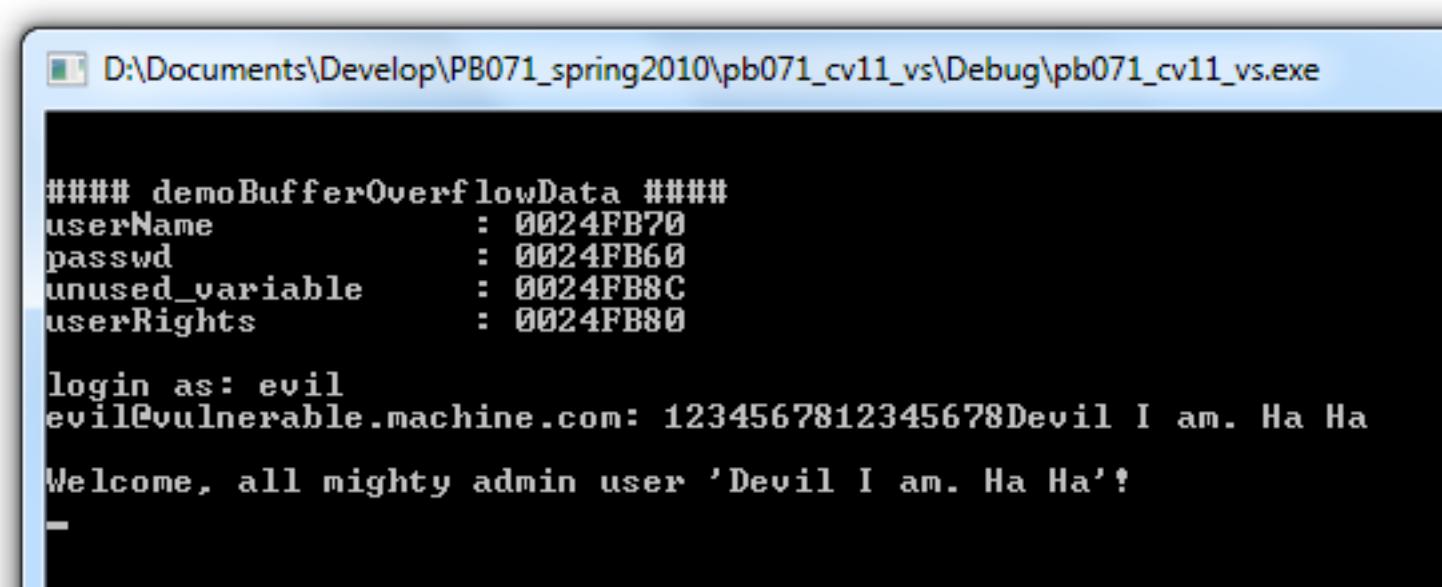
// Check user rights (set to NORMAL_USER)
if (userRights == NORMAL_USER) {
    printf("\nWelcome, normal user '%s'\n",
fflush(stdout);
}
if (userRights == ADMIN_USER) {
    printf("\nWelcome, all mighty admin '%s'\n",
fflush(stdout);
}

// How to FIX:
```



- Too long password overflow `userName` and `userRights`

Running with attacker input - result



D:\Documents\Develop\PB071_spring2010\pb071_cv11_vs\Debug\pb071_cv11_vs.exe

```
##### demoBufferOverflowData #####
userName          : 0024FB70
passwd            : 0024FB60
unused_variable   : 0024FB8C
userRights        : 0024FB80

login as: evil
evil@vulnerable.machine.com: 1234567812345678Devil I am. Ha Ha
Welcome, all mighty admin user 'Devil I am. Ha Ha'!
-
```

Questions (debug mode)

- How are `userName`, `password` and `userRights` positioned in memory?
- How you will find memory location (address) of `userRights` variable?
- How many bytes you need to write into `userName` variable to change `userRights` ?
- Can you get admin rights by changing `userName` only?

Questions (debug mode)

- Why is program throwing debugger exception when finishing function demoBufferOverflowData()?
- How program was able to detect memory corruption?
- Why 0xcc bytes are here? How you can type 0xcc into terminal?
- Can you get admin rights without raising runtime exception (*memory around userName variable corrupted*) when leaving demoBufferOverflowData()?
- Where you can find return address?
- What should be the return address value?
 - Try R-Click -> Go to Disassembly

Questions (release mode)

- Release mode, /GS on
 - What is memory layout with respect to debug mode?
 - Can you still execute buffer overflow and change userRights?
 - What is the value of canary word?
- Release mode, /GS off
 - What is the influence of /GS disabled?
 - What is the impact on addresses of variables?
 - Can you be admin in Release? Why?

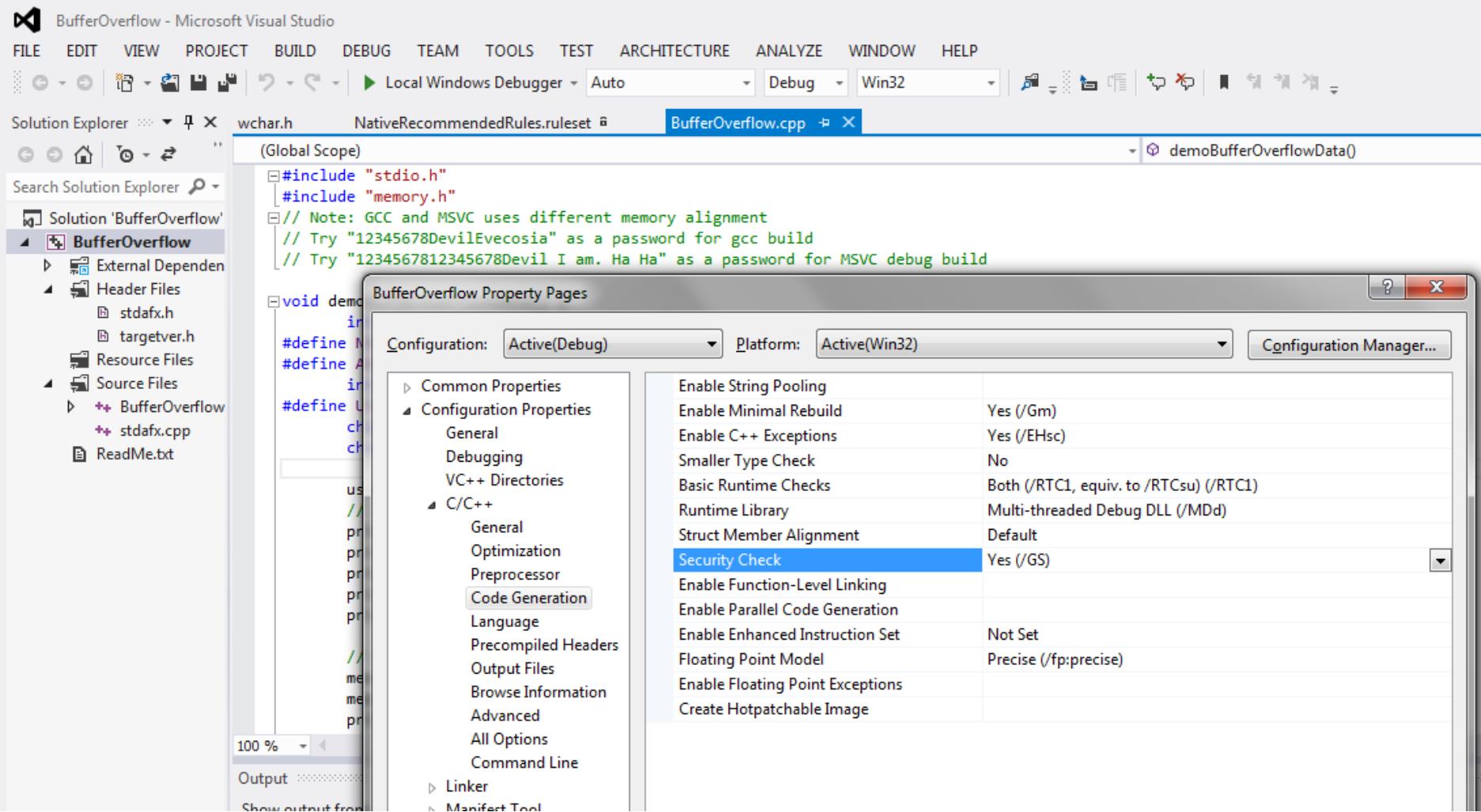
Lab – compiler protections

- GCC (e.g., QT Creator) & MSVC (Visual Studio)
 - list of compiler flags, release mode
- Compile program with/without compiler protection
 - bufferoverflowdemo.cpp::demoBufferOverflowData()
 - download from IS materials
 - return pointer smash behavior (crash, exception)
- Disassembly display of resulting binary
 - instruction-wise mode in IDE (Visual Studio), OllyDbg
 - existence of canary word (function with/without GS buffer)
- Display address of variable, function...
 - run program multiple times – memory randomization (ASLR)

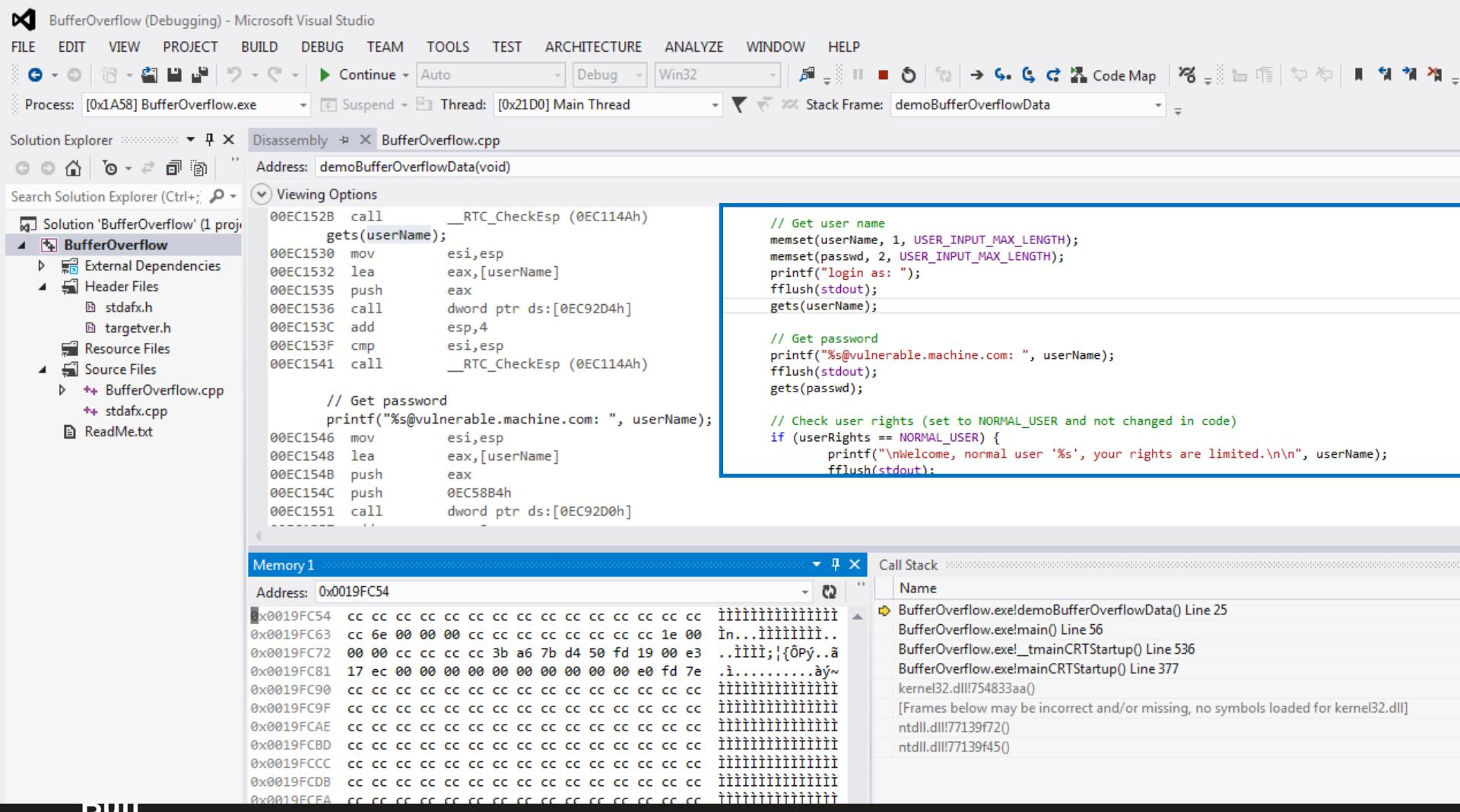
Compiler flags

- Locate all flags discussed during lecture
- Visual Studio Projects Settings
- Observe memory layout for stack frame with and without the flag
 - what is changing?
 - what is missing?

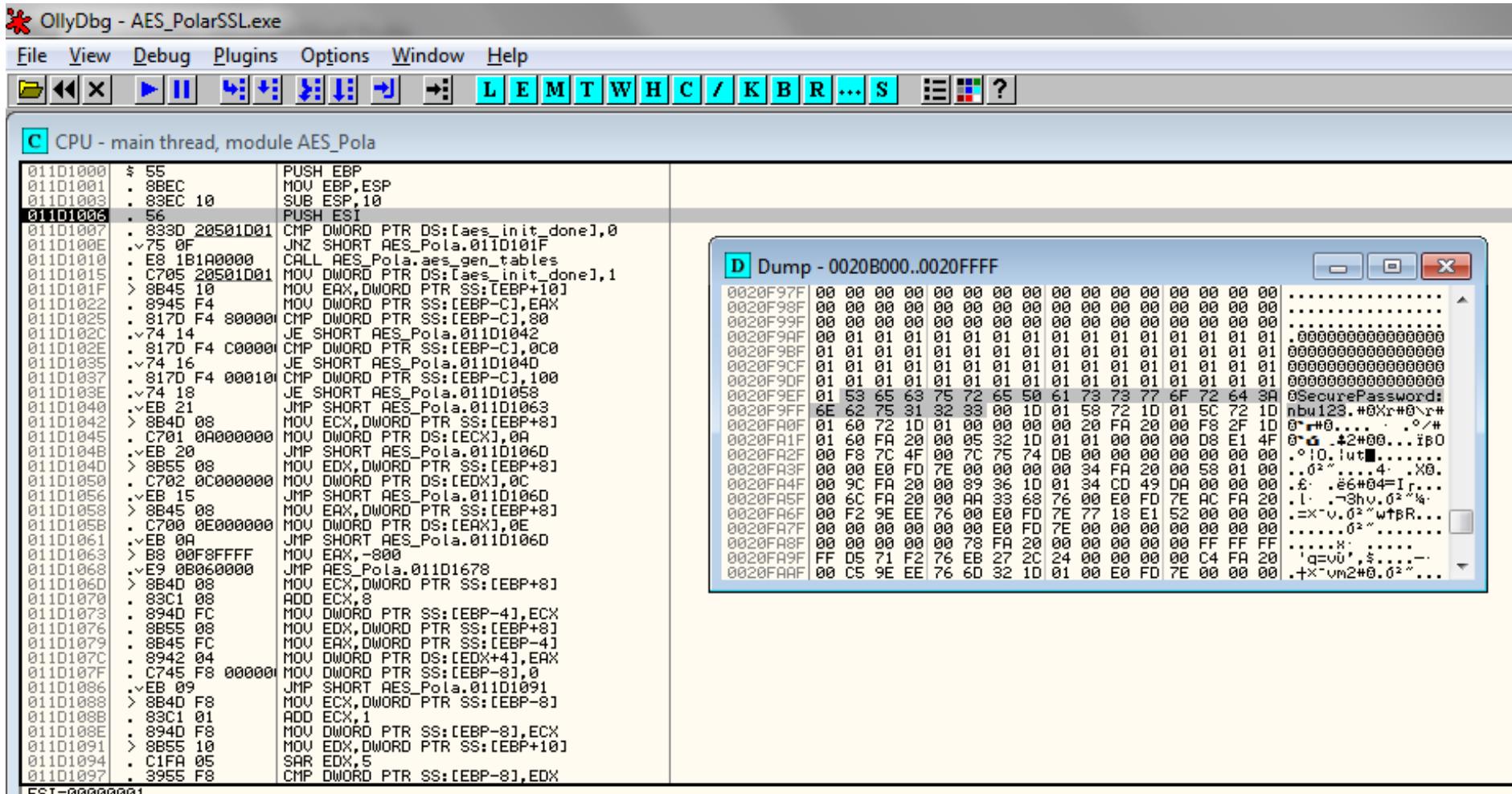
Compiler settings for /DEP and /ASLR



Deeper look into disassembly



Deeper look into disassembly (cont.)



BinScope Binary Analyzer

- Download Microsoft SDL's Binscope
 - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=11910>
- Run BinScope Binary Analyzer (cmd or GUI)
 - `binscope.exe`
 - `binscope.exe /o results.xml targetApp.exe`
- Run on the binaries produced with different compiler settings
 - `/GS...`

Homework

- No homework this week, work on parser project
 - Implementation presentation till 13.10. (your seminar)
- What should you have already:
 - Formed group confirmed with me
 - Format for parsing confirmed with me
 - Setup Github repository for project
 - And link send to me!

**OPTIONAL: IF YOU LIKE TO
HAVE MORE FUN!**

Exploiting exercises

- Protostar image (<http://exploit-exercises.com>)
 - pre-prepared virtual machine
 - <http://exploit-exercises.com/protostar> (task description)
- **Important:** site now not available, use this link:
 - <https://web.archive.org/web/20140922114755/http://exploit-exercises.com/protostar>
 - Or protostar.zip in IS
- Login credentials: user / user; root / godmode
- Challenges stored in /opt/protostar/bin/ directory
 - stack0-7
- Run it, supply malformed input leading to crash
- Think about how to fix the source code

Protostar virtual image with exercises

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STACK LEVELS

- Stack 0**
- Stack 1
- Stack 2
- Stack 3
- Stack 4
- Stack 5
- Stack 6
- Stack 7

FORMAT STRING LEVELS

- Format 0
- Format 1
- Format 2
- Format 3
- Format 4

HEAP LEVELS

- Heap 0
- Heap 1

Protostar stack0

About

This level introduces the concept that memory can modify program execution. This level is at /opt/protostar/bin/stack0

Source code

```

1#include <stdlib.h>
2#include <unistd.h>
3#include <stdio.h>
4
5int main(int argc, char **argv)
6{
7    volatile int modified;
8    char buffer[64];
9
10   modified = 0;
11   gets(buffer);
12
13   if(modified != 0) {
14       printf("you have changed the 'modified' variable\n");
15   } else {
16       printf("Try again?\n");
17   }
18}

```

Discussion

5 comments