

x86 Software Reverse-Engineering, Cracking, and Counter-Measures



Lab: RE bingo

Environment Needed:

- Linux Virtual Machine (Recommend Ubuntu)

Links for any tools are available in the github under 'Tools'

Introduction

- In this lab, we will examine numerous programs to determine what control flow and compiler settings each uses. Correctly analyzing all programs will allow us to open the lockbox.zip at the end of each challenge.
 - Each program contains three functions: main(), key_check(), and do_stuff(). main() calls key_check, key_check() calls do_stuff, and do_stuff() performs several no-ops ("nop" instructions). key_check() contains the control flow to analyze.
 - Five types of control flow are used: if statements, if-else statements, do-while loops, switch statements, and for-loops. Note that there are no while loops, only do-while loops. In each key_check() function uses exactly one control flow construct.
 - Each program is compiled with optimization or no optimization, and with symbols or stripped symbols.
 - As always, the primary goal is to complete part I of the lab. If you solve part I, tackle part II for a more in depth challenge and practice.
1. Use objdump to examine the first program in the part_i directory (the program name '1'). Determine what control flow construct is being used by key_check, whether the program is optimized or not optimized, and whether symbols are stripped or not stripped.
 2. Write down your determination as follows:
 - a. "i" for an if statement,
 - b. "e" for an if-else statement,
 - c. "w" for a do-while loop,
 - d. "s" for a switch statement,
 - e. "f" for a for loop,
 - f. then append "x" if the program symbols are stripped,

