# Introduction to Computer Security

Discussion 2

# Question 1 Software Vulnerabilities

For the following code, assume an attacker can control the value of basket, n, and owner\_name passed into search\_basket.

This code contains several security vulnerabilities. **Circle** *three* **such vulnerabilities** in the code and briefly explain each of the three on the next page.

```
struct cat {
2
      char name [64];
3
      char owner [64];
4
      int age;
5
  };
  /* Searches through a BASKET of cats of length N (N should be less
     than 32). Adopts all cats with age less than 12 (kittens).
     Adopted kittens have their owner name overwritten with OWNER_NAME
      . Returns the number of kittens adopted. */
  size_t search_basket(struct cat *basket, int n, char *owner_name) {
      struct cat kittens [32];
9
       size_t num_kittens = 0;
10
       if (n > 32) return -1;
11
12
      for (size_t i = 0; i \le n; i++) {
           if (basket[i].age < 12) {</pre>
13
14
               /* Reassign the owner name. */
15
               strcpy(basket[i].owner, owner_name);
               /* Copy the kitten from the basket. */
16
               kittens[num_kittens] = basket[i];
17
               num kittens++;
18
               /* Print helpful message. */
19
20
               printf("Adopting kitten: ");
               printf(basket[i].name);
21
               printf("\n");
22
23
           }
24
       /* Adopt kittens. */
25
       adopt_kittens(kittens, num_kittens); // Implementation not shown
26
27
      return num kittens;
28 }
```

1.	Explanation:
2.	Explanation:
3.	Explanation:
Desc	ribe how an attacker could exploit these vulnerabilities to obtain a shell:

### Question 2 Hacked EvanBot

Hacked EvanBot is running code to violate students' privacy, and it's up to you to disable it before it's too late!

```
#include < stdio.h>
  void spy_on_students(void) {
      char buffer[16];
5
      fread (buffer, 1, 24, stdin);
6
  }
7
8
  int main() {
9
      spy_on_students();
10
      return 0;
11
```

The shutdown code for Hacked EvanBot is located at address Oxdeadbeef, but there's just one problem— Bot has learned a new memory safety defense. Before returning from a function, it will check that its saved return address (rip) is not 0xdeadbeef, and throw an error if the rip is 0xdeadbeef.

Clarification during exam: Assume little-endian x86 for all questions.

Assume all x86 instructions are 8 bytes long. Assume all compiler optimizations and buffer overflow defenses are disabled.

The address of buffer is 0xbffff110.

Q2.1 (3 points) In the next 3 subparts, you'll supply a malicious input to the fread call at line 5 that causes the program to execute instructions at Oxdeadbeef, without overwriting the rip with the

	value 0xdead	dbeef.				
	•	, .	U	e assembly instru e instruction shou		ne instruction? x86 nax) is fine.
Q2.2	(3 points) The second part of your input should be some garbage bytes. How many garbage byt do you need to write?					
	O(G) 0	O (H) 4	O(I) 8	(J) 12	<b>(</b> K) 16	(L) —
Q2.3	(3 points) Whe.g. \x12\x3		bytes of your in	nput? Write your	answer in Projec	et 1 Python syntax

Page 3 of 6

Q2.4	(3 points) When does your exploit start executing instructions at 0xdeadbeef?
	(G) Immediately when the program starts
	$\bigcirc$ (H) When the main function returns
	$\bigcirc$ (I) When the spy_on_students function returns
	$\bigcirc$ (J) When the fread function returns
	○ (K) ——
	(L) ——

# Question 3 I Understood that Reference!

Consider the following vulnerable C code:

```
void vulnerable(int start, char *ptr) {
       ptr[start] = ptr[3];
 3
       ptr[start + 1] = ptr[2];
 4
       ptr[start + 2] = ptr[1];
5
       ptr[start + 3] = ptr[0];
6
7
  void helper(int8_t num) {
9
       if (num > 124) {
10
           return;
11
12
       char arr[128];
       fgets (arr, 128, stdin);
13
14
       vulnerable(num, arr);
15 }
16
17 int main(void) {
18
       int y;
19
       fread(&y, sizeof(int), 1, stdin);
       helper(y);
20
21
       return 0;
22 }
```

#### Assume that:

- You are on a little-endian 32-bit x86 system.
- There is no other compiler padding or saved additional registers.

Write your answer in Python 2 syntax (just like in Project 1).

	RIP of main
	SFP of main
	RIP of vulnerable
	SFP of vulnerable
	question, assume that the RIP of main is located at <code>0xbfffdc0c</code> and that your is located at <code>0xef302010</code> .
In the next two subp	earts, construct an exploit that executes your malicious shellcode.
Q3.2 (5 min) Provide	an input to the variable <b>y</b> in the <b>fread</b> in <b>main</b> .
	only, you may write a decimal number instead of its byte representation.
For this subpart	
For this subpart	
	an input to the variable arr in the fgets in helper.
	an input to the variable arr in the fgets in helper.