Intro to x64 Reversing



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Before we begin...

- This presentation assumes you can reverse x86 code
- You might learn something even if you can't, so don't leave
- If I go to fast, yell at me
- Find a mistake, I drink
- THERE WILL BE A QUIZ!
 - If you answer wrong, you drink

Agenda

- Intro / History of x64
- The x64 Platform
- Microsoft x64 ABI
- SysV x64 ABI
- Tools for reversing x64

x64 reversing challenges

- If you're used to reversing 32 bit x86 code, x64 can be confusing at first
- Easy parts
 - Instructions are mostly the same as you're used to
 - There are a few more registers
- Hard parts
 - Calling convention is totally different
 - Debugging optimized code can be tricky

Name soup!

- AMD
 - x86-64
 - AMD64
- Intel
 - IA-32e
 - EM64T
 - Intel 64
- Oracle/Microsoft
 - x64

- BSD amd64
- Linux kernel x86_64
- GCC amd64
- Debian/Ubuntu amd64
- Fedora/SuSE x86_64
- Solaris amd64

Note: IA-64 is Itanium, NOT x86-x64!

History of x64

- **1999** AMD announces x86-64
- 2000 AMD releases specs
- 2001 First x86-64 Linux kernel available
- 2003 First AMD64 Operton released
- 2004 Intel announces IA-32e/EM64T, releases first x64 Xeon processor
- 2005 x64 versions of Windows XP and Server 2003 released
- 2009 Mac OS 10.6 (Snow Leopard) includes x64 kernel
- 2009 Windows Server 2008 R2 only available in x64 version
- **2010** 50% of Windows 7 installs running the x64 version
- **2011** 40% of Steam users in April 2011 HW survey use Win7 x64

The x64 Platform

What is x64?

- Extension to 32 bit x86 x64 "long mode"
 - Can address up to 64 bits (16EB) of virtual memory*
 - Can address up to 52 bits (4PB) of physical memory**
- 64 bit general purpose registers RAX, RBX, ...
 - 8 new GP registers (R8-R15)
 - 8 new 128 bit XMM registers (XMM8-XMM15)
- New 64 bit instructions: cdqe, lodsq, stosq, etc
- Ability to reference data relative to instruction pointer (rip)

^{*} Limited by processor implementation, most only support 48 bits now...

^{**} Intel currently supports 40 bits of physical memory

Long mode

- 64 bit flat (linear) addressing
 - Segment base is always 0 except for Fs and Gs
 - Stack (ss), Code (cs), Data (ps) always in the same segment
- Default address size is 64 bits
- Default operand size is 32 bits
 - 64 bit operands (RAX, RBX, ...) are specified with "REX prefix" in the opcode encoding
- 64 bit instruction pointer (RIP)
- 64 bit stack pointer (RSP)

Canonical addresses

- Current implementations only support 48 bit linear addresses
- Canonical form means most significant bit of address is extended to bit 63
 - Bits 0-47 are the address, bits 48-63 are the same as bit 47
- Windows uses high addresses for kernel, low addresses for user mode
- Non-canonical address access results in #GP

Bit 63 Bit 0

0xfffffffffffffffff

Canonical High Part

0xFFFF800000000000

0xffff7fffffffffff

Non-canonical Address Range

 $0 \times 0000800000000000$

0x00007FFFFFFFFFFF

Canonical Low Part

 $0 \times 0000000000000000$

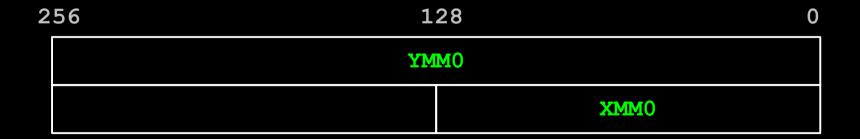
48 bit canonical address ranges

x64 registers

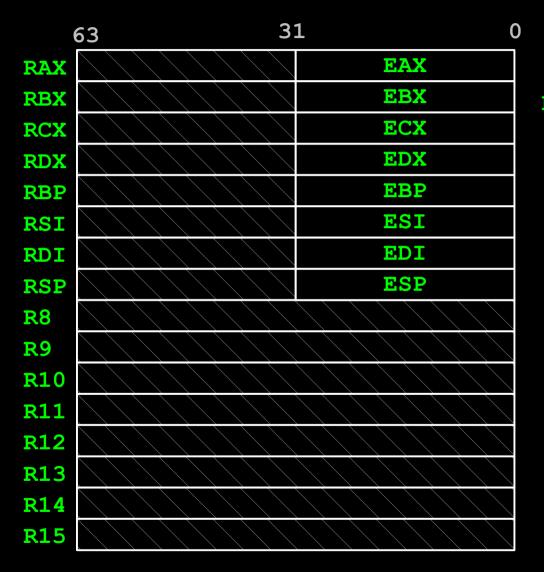
- 32 bit registers extended to 64 bits
 - eax → rax
 - $ebx \rightarrow rbx$
 - esp → rsp
- 8 additional 64 bit registers
 - r8, r9, r10, ... r15
- 8 additional 128 bit XMM (SSE) registers
 - xmm8, xmm9, ... xmm15
 - Used for vector and floating point arithmetic

Intel/AMD AVX

- AVX is Advanced Vector eXtension
- Adds 8 256 bit registers
 - ymm0-ymm7
- Low 128 bits of AVX registers overlap with XMM (SSE) registers
 - xmm0-xmm7
- Also a few new instructions
- First CPUs with AVX were the Intel Sandy Bridge processors released Q1 2011



x64 Registers

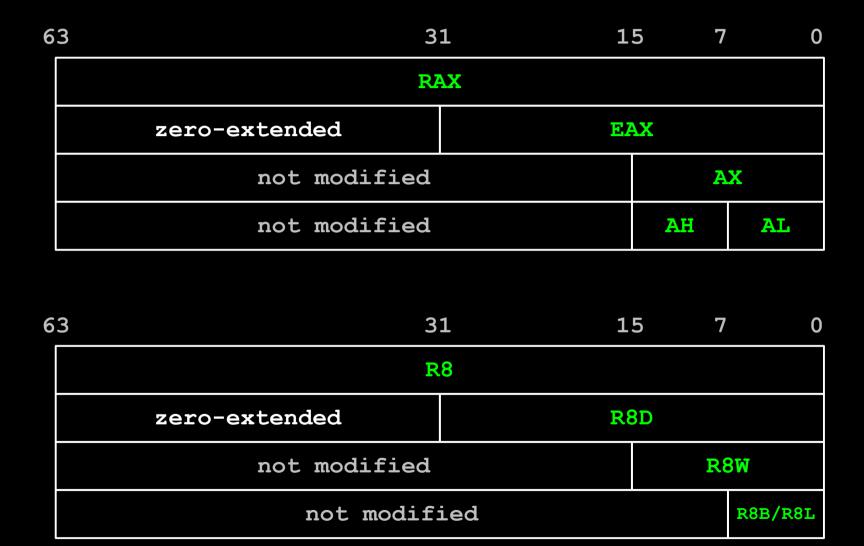




NOTE: Top half of RFLAGS is reserved, always 0

= new in x64

Register operation in x64 mode



- How many bits is R9D?
- How many bits is RSP?
- How many bits is R12W?
- How many bits is R10B?
- How many bits is R16?

- How many bits is R9D? 32
- How many bits is RSP?
- How many bits is R12W?
- How many bits is R10B?
- How many bits is R16?

- How many bits is R9D? 32
- How many bits is RSP? 64
- How many bits is R12W?
- How many bits is R10B?
- How many bits is R16?

- How many bits is R9D? 32
- How many bits is RSP? 64
- How many bits is R12W? 16
- How many bits is R10B?
- How many bits is R16?

- How many bits is R9D? 32
- How many bits is RSP? 64
- How many bits is R12W? 16
- How many bits is R10B?
- How many bits is R16?

- How many bits is R9D? 32
- How many bits is RSP? 64
- How many bits is R12W? 16
- How many bits is R10B?
- How many bits is R16? Not a register...

What's in RAX after each instruction?

MOV RAX, 111111111111111h

INC AL

INC AX

INC EAX

What's in RAX after each instruction?

INC AX

INC EAX

What's in RAX after each instruction?

What's in RAX after each instruction?

What's in RAX after each instruction?

64 bit instructions

- CDQE Convert doubleword to quadword (sign-extend EAX into RAX)
- CMPSQ Compare qword at RSI with qword at RDI
- CMPXCHG16B Compare RDX:RAX with m128
- LODSQ Load gword at address RSI into RAX
- MOVSQ Move qword from address RSI to RDI
- MOVZX zero-extend doubleword to quadword
- **STOSQ** Store **RAX** at address **RDI**
- **SYSCALL** Fast system call, replacement for **SYSENTER**
- SYSRET Fast system call, replacement for SYSEXIT

RIP-relative addressing

- Instruction-pointer-relative operands only used for jumps/branches in x86
 - Can't access EIP register explicitly in instructions
- Can be used for data access in x64 now:
 - mov rax, qword ptr [rip+0x1000]
- Faster loading of position-independent code
 - Windows: Fewer base relocations in PE files
 - Linux: No GOT pointer setup in function prologue
 - No pre-linking and no performance hit for ASLR on x64

RIP-relative addressing

IDA has "Explicit RIP addressing" mode in analysis options so you can see when rip-relative addresses are used:

```
0000000140001000 ; int stdcall WinMain(HINSTANCE hInstand
0000000140001000 WinMain proc near
0000000140001000
0000000140001000 arg 0= gword ptr 8
0000000140001000 arg 8= gword ptr
0000000140001000 arg 10= gword ptr 18h
0000000140001000 arg 18= dword ptr 20h
0000000140001000
0000000140001000 mov
                         [rsp+arg 18], r9d
                         [rsp+arg 10], r8
0000000140001005 mov
000000014000100A mov
                         [rsp+arg 8], rdx
                         [rsp+arg 0], rcx
000000014000100F mov
                         rsp, 28h
0000000140001014 sub
0000000140001018 xor
                         r9d, r9d
                                         ; uType
                                         : "Hi!"
                         r8, Caption
000000014000101B lea
                                         : "Hello there!"
0000000140001022 lea
                         rdx, Text
0000000140001029 xor
                         ecx, ecx
                                         : hWnd
000000014000102B call
                         cs:MessageBoxA
0000000140001031 xor
                         eax, eax
0000000140001033 add
                         rsp. 28h
0000000140001037 retn
0000000140001037 WinMain endp
0000000140001037
```

```
0000000140001000 ; int stdcall WinMain(HINSTANCE hInstan
0000000140001000 WinMain proc near
0000000140001000
0000000140001000 arg 0= qword ptr 8
0000000140001000 arg 8= gword ptr
0000000140001000 arg 10= gword ptr
0000000140001000 arg 18= dword ptr
0000000140001000
                         [rsp+arg 18], r9d
0000000140001000 mov
                         [rsp+arg 10], r8
0000000140001005 mov
                         [rsp+arg 8], rdx
000000014000100A mov
                         [rsp+arg 0], rcx
000000014000100F mov
0000000140001014 sub
                         rsp. 28h
0000000140001018 xor
                         r9d, r9d
                                         : uType
                         r8, [rip+7FDEh]; "Hi!"
000000014000101B lea
                         rdx, [rip+7FDFh]; "Hello there!"
0000000140001022 lea
0000000140001029 xor
                         ecx, ecx
                         qword ptr [rip+5197h]
000000014000102B call
0000000140001031 xor
                         eax, eax
0000000140001033 add
                         rsp. 28h
0000000140001037 retn
0000000140001037 WinMain endp
0000000140001037
```

Application Binary Interface

- The ABI describes how to call functions
 - Passing parameters
 - Return value
 - Stack frame
 - Exceptions
- "Calling convention"
- There are two widely used x64 ABIs:
 - Microsoft's x64 ABI (Windows)
 - SysV x64 ABI (Linux, BSD, Mac)

Microsoft x64 ABI

Microsoft x64 ABI

- There's only one calling convention (no cdecl/stdcall/fastcall)
- Calling convention modeled after fastcall
 - First 4 parameters passed in registers, rest on stack
 - Return in RAX or XMM0
- Some registers are considered volatile across function calls, some are not
 - A function needs to save non-volatile registers if it uses them

MS x64 ABI: Parameters & Return

- First four parameters passed in registers
 - RCX, RDX, R8, R9 for integers
 - XMM0, XMM1, XMM2, XMM3 for floats
 - For variable arguments (varargs), floating point values are stored in the floating point and integer registers!
 - 1:1 correspondence between parameters and registers
 - i.e., Parameter 2 is always RDX or XMM1
 - Any parameter > 8 bytes passed by reference (no splitting)
- Additional parameters on stack
- Return value in RAX or XMM0
 - XMM0 used for floats, doubles, and 128 bit types (__m128)

MS x64 ABI: struct parameters

- If a struct can be packed into 8 bytes, it's passed in a register
 - Or on the stack if it's the 5th+ argument
- All structs over 8 bytes are passed by reference
- Caller allocates space and copies the struct before passing to the callee
 - This is to avoid problems with the callee modifying the caller's copy

MS x64 ABI: Parameters

Calling a function:

Inside called function:

```
; [rsp] holds return address
mov [rsp+8h], ecx ; 1st param
mov [rsp+10h], edx ; 2nd param
mov [rsp+18h], r8 ;3rd param
mov [rsp+20h], r9 ;4th param
code
; 5th parameter is [rsp+28h]
; 6th parameter is [rsp+30h]
sub rsp, 28h
; now 1st parameter is [rsp+30h]
```

Yellow = integers

Green = floats

Cyan = both

MS x64 ABI: Params example

printf("%i %f %i %i %f\r\n", 1, 2.0, -4, 60, 5.5);

```
.text:0000000140001000 ; int cdecl main(int argc, const char **argv, const char **envp)
                                                               ; CODE XREF: tmainCRTStartup+1361p
.text:00000000140001000 main
                                       proc near
                                                                ; DATA XREF: .pdata:ExceptionDirlo
.text:0000000140001000
.text:0000000140001000
                                       = dword ptr -18h
.text:0000000140001000 var 18
.text:0000000140001000 var 10
                                       = gword ptr -10h
.text:0000000140001000 arg 0
                                       = dword ptr 8
.text:0000000140001000 arg 8
                                       = gword ptr 10h
.text:0000000140001000
.text:0000000140001000
                                                [rsp+arg 8], rdx
                                       mov
.text:0000000140001005
                                                [rsp+arg 0], ecx
                                       mov
.text:0000000140001009
                                                rsp. 38h
                                       sub
                                               xmm0, cs:five point five
.text:000000014000100D
                                       movsd
                                               [rsp+38h+var 10], xmm0; 6th param is float 5.5, stored on the stack
.text:0000000140001015
                                       movsd
                                               [rsp+38h+var 18], 3Ch; 5th param is the integer 60, stored on the stack
.text:000000014000101B
                                       mov
.text:0000000140001023
                                               r9d, OFFFFFFFCh; 4th param is the integer -4, stored in r9d
                                       mov
                                               xmm2, cs:two point oh; 3rd param is the float -2.0, stored both in xmm2 AND r8
.text:0000000140001029
                                       movsd
.text:0000000140001031
                                               r8, xmm2
                                       movq
                                                                ; 2nd param is the integer 1, stored in edx
.text:0000000140001036
                                                edx. 1
                                       mov
                                               rcx, format str; "%i %f %i %i %f\r\n"
.text:000000014000103B
                                       lea
                                               printf
.text:0000000140001042
                                       call.
.text:0000000140001047
                                               eax, eax
                                       xor
.text:0000000140001049
                                       add
                                                rsp, 38h
.text:000000014000104D
                                       retn
.text:000000014000104D main
                                       endp
```

MS x64 ABI: struct paramexample

```
typedef struct {
      int64 a;
       int64 b;
  } abstruct:
mint func(abstruct ab) {
     printf("%i %i\n", ab.a, ab.b);
      ab.a = 9:
      return 0;
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
      abstruct ab:
     ab.a = 3:
      ab.b = 5:
      func(ab);
     printf("%i %i\n", ab.a, ab.b) mov
      return 0:
```

In this example, the structure is passed by reference, but a new copy is created on the stack for the called function

```
[rsp+78h+ab.a], 3; set local variable ab.a to 3
mov
        [rsp+78h+ab.b], 5; set local variable ab.b to 5
mov
       rax, [rsp+78h+new ab]; get offset to area on stack for a copy
lea
                       ; of local variable ab
       rcx, [rsp+78h+ab]; load ecx with address of local variable ab
lea
       rdi, rax
                       ; put stack address of ab copy in edi (destination)
       rsi, rcx
                       ; put stack address of ab in esi (source)
                        ; set ecx (count) to 16, the size of the struct
       ecx, 10h
                        ; perform copy operation to move 16 bytes
rep movsb
                        : from edi to esi
       rcx, [rsp+78h+new ab]; load ecx (first parameter) with address
                       ; of copy of ab struct
call.
        func
                       ; call function with single parameter in ecx
```

POP QUIZ #3

 What registers are used for the first four integer parameters of a function?

 True/False: If a structure has two 64 bit values, it can be passed to a function split across two registers (i.e., r8 and r9)

POP QUIZ #3

 What registers are used for the first four integer parameters of a function?

```
ECX, EDX, R8, R9
```

 True/False: If a structure has two 64 bit values, it can be passed to a function split across two registers (i.e., r8 and r9)

POP QUIZ #3

 What registers are used for the first four integer parameters of a function?

ECX, EDX, R8, R9

- True/False: If a structure has two 64 bit values, it can be passed to a function split across two registers (i.e., r8 and r9)
 - FALSE!

MS x64 ABI: Volatile registers

- Some registers are volatile and can be destroyed by functions
 - RAX, RCX, RDX, R8, R9, R10, R11
 - You can't rely on them being the same after calling a function (the compiler might be able to...)
- Some registers are non-volatile and must be saved by functions that use them
 - RBX, RBP, RDI, RSI, R12, R13, R14, R15
 - You can rely on them being the same after calling a function
 - A function that needs these registers must save them to the stack and pop them off before returning

MS x64 ABI: The stack

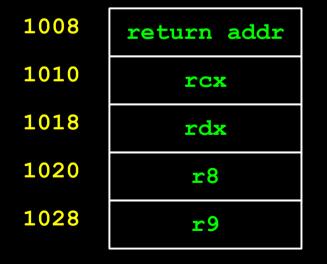
- Function prologue needs to allocate stack space for saved registers, local variables, arguments to callees
- Parameters are always at bottom of stack, right above return address
 - There's always space for 4 parameters, even if they're not used (home space)
- Stack is always 16 byte aligned
 - This means address ends in zero hex
 - Except within prologue
 - Unless the function doesn't call any other functions
- All memory beyond RSP is volatile (could be used by the OS or a debugger)
- No frame pointer (i.e., no mov rbp, esp in prologue) unless stack is dynamically allocated (alloca)

MS x64 ABI: Stack home space

- Caller's prologue allocates stack space for arguments to callees
- For non-leaf functions, space for four arguments is always allocated (4 * 8 bytes = 32 = 0x20)
 - sub esp, 0x20
 - Keep in mind that after this instruction, stack needs to be aligned on 16 byte boundary (end in 0 hex)
 - So you'll usually see sub esp, 0x28 instead
- In debug code, the callee usually puts the register parameters there in the prologue
- In optimized, code, all bets are off, callee can do whatever it wants

MS x64 ABI: Stack diagram

```
13FDB1080 ; int stdcall WinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance, HINSTANCE hPrevInstance, LPSTR lpCmdLine, int nShowCmd)
13FDB1080 WinMain
                          proc near
                                                  ; CODE XREF: tmainCRTStartup+14Flp
13FDB1080
                                                  : DATA XREF: .pdata:000000013FDC000Clo
13FDB1080
13FDB1080 lpText
                          = gword ptr -18h
13FDB1080 hInstance
                          = gword ptr 8
13FDB1080 hPrevInstance
                          = gword ptr 10h
13FDB1080 lpCmdLine
                          = aword ptr
13FDB1080 nShowCmd
                          = dword ptr 20h
13FDB1080
                                  [rsp+nShowCmd], r9d
13FDB1080
                          mov
13FDB1085
                                  [rsp+lpCmdLine], r8 : save caller's parameter registers even
                          mov
                                                  ; though it's not totally necessary here,
13FDB1085
                                                  ; but it can help with debugging...
13FDB1085
13FDB108A
                                  [rsp+hPrevInstance], rdx
                          mov
                                  [rsp+hInstance], rcx
13FDB108F
                          mov
```



```
(rsp)
(rsp+08) hInstance
(rsp+10) hPrevInstance
(rsp+18) lpCmdLine
(rsp+20) nShowCmd
```

```
13FDB1080
13FDB1080
                                  [rsp+nShowCmd], r9d
                          mov
                                  [rsp+lpCmdLine], r8; save caller's parameter registers even
13FDB1085
                          mov
                                                  ; though it's not totally necessary here,
13FDB1085
                                                  ; but it can help with debugging...
13FDB1085
                                  [rsp+hPrevInstance], rdx
13FDB108A
                          mov
                                  [rsp+hInstance], rcx
13FDB108F
                          mov
                                                  ; save 0x38 bytes on stack for callee args,
13FDB1094
                                  rsp, 38h
                          sub
                                                  ; local var, and alignment
13FDB1094
                                  r9d, 4
                                                  ; 4th argument in r9
13FDB1098
                          mov
                                                  ; 3rd argument in r8
13FDB109E
                                  r8d, 3
                          mov
                                                  ; second argument in edx
13FDB10A4
                                  edx, 2
                          mov
                                                  ; first argument in ecx
13FDB10A9
                                  ecx, 1
                          mov
13FDB10AE
                          call
                                  get string
                                  [rsp+38h+lpText], rax; return value from get string is in rax,
13FDB10B3
                          mov
                                                  ; save it as local variable lpText
13FDB10B3
```

OFF		(man)	hama anaga
0FD0	ecx home	(rsp)	home space
OFD8	edx home	(rsp+08)	home space
OFE0	r8 home	(rsp+10)	home space
OFE8	r9 home	(rsp+18)	home space
0FF0	lpText	(rsp+20)	lpCmdLine
OFF8		(rsp+28)	???
1000	<u>ž</u> i	(rsp+30)	???
1008	return addr	(rsp+38)	(return to _tmainCRT
1010	rcx	(rsp+40)	hInstance
1018	rdx	(rsp+48)	hPrevInstance
1020	r8	(rsp+50)	lpCmdLine
1028	r9	(rsp+58)	nShowCmd

MS x64 ABI: Stack diagram

```
13FDB1000 ; int __cdecl get_string(int arg_a, int arg_b, int arg_c, int arg_d)
13FDB1000 get string
                        proc near
                                               ; CODE XREF: WinMain+2Elp
                                               ; DATA XREF: .pdata:ExceptionDirlo
13FDB1000
13FDB1000
                      = dword ptr -38h
13FDB1000 var 38
                     = dword ptr -30h
13FDB1000 var 30
                      = dword ptr -28h
13FDB1000 var 28
13FDB1000 var 18
                       = gword ptr -18h
                     = dword ptr 8
13FDB1000 arg a
13FDB1000 arg b = dword ptr 10h
                       = dword ptr 18h
13FDB1000 arg c
13FDB1000 arg d
                        = dword ptr 20h
13FDB1000
                                [rsp+arg d], r9d
13FDB1000
                        mov
                                [rsp+arg c], r8d
13FDB1005
                        mov
                                [rsp+arg b], edx
13FDB100A
                        mov
13FDB100E
                                [rsp+arg a], ecx
                        mov
                                rsp, 58h
13FDB1012
                         sub:
```

MS x64 ABI: Stack diagram

OFD8 return addr (rsp) home space OFE0 ecx (rsp+08) arg_a OFD8 edx (rsp+10) arg_b OFE0 r8 (rsp+18) arg_c OFE8 r9 (rsp+20) arg_d OFF0 IpText (rsp+28) lpCmdLine OFF8 (rsp+30) ??? 1000 (rsp+38) ??? 1008 return addr (rsp+40) (return to _tmainCRT) 1010 rcx (rsp+48) hInstance 1018 rdx (rsp+50) hPrevInstance 1020 r8 (rsp+58) lpCmdLine 1028 r9 (rsp+60) nShowCmd				
OFD8 edx (rsp+10) arg_b OFE0 r8 (rsp+18) arg_c OFE8 r9 (rsp+20) arg_d OFF0 1pText (rsp+28) lpCmdLine OFF8 (rsp+30) ??? 1000 (rsp+38) ??? 1008 return addr (rsp+40) (return to _tmainCRT) 1010 rcx (rsp+48) hInstance 1018 rdx (rsp+50) hPrevInstance 1020 r8 (rsp+58) lpCmdLine	0FD8	return addr	(rsp)	home space
OFEO r8 (rsp+18) arg_c OFE8 r9 (rsp+20) arg_d OFFO (rsp+28) lpCmdLine OFF8 (rsp+30) ??? 1000 (rsp+38) ??? 1008 return addr (rsp+40) (return to _tmainCRT) 1010 rcx (rsp+48) hInstance 1018 rdx (rsp+50) hPrevInstance 1020 r8 (rsp+58) lpCmdLine	0FE0	ecx	(rsp+08)	arg_a
<pre>0FE8</pre>	0FD8	edx	(rsp+10)	arg_b
OFFO	0FE0	r8	(rsp+18)	arg_c
<pre>0FF8</pre>	OFE8	r9	(rsp+20)	arg_d
1000	OFFO	lpText	(rsp+28)	lpCmdLine
1008 return addr (rsp+40) (return to _tmainCRT) 1010 rcx (rsp+48) hInstance 1018 rdx (rsp+50) hPrevInstance 1020 r8 (rsp+58) lpCmdLine	OFF8	???	(rsp+30)	???
1010 rcx (rsp+48) hInstance 1018 rdx (rsp+50) hPrevInstance 1020 r8 (rsp+58) lpCmdLine	1000	***	(rsp+38)	???
1018 rdx (rsp+50) hPrevInstance 1020 r8 (rsp+58) lpCmdLine	1008	return addr	(rsp+40)	(return to _tmainCRT)
1020 r8 (rsp+58) lpCmdLine	1010	rcx	(rsp+48)	hInstance
	1018	rdx	(rsp+50)	hPrevInstance
1028 r9 (rsp+60) nShowCmd	1020	r8	(rsp+58)	lpCmdLine
	1028	r9	(rsp+60)	nShowCmd

MS x64 ABI: Stack Example #2

- Optimized code
- Note that the WinMain parameters are not saved in their home space
- Also note that 0x28 bytes of stack space are still reserved for the parameters to MessageBoxA

```
.text:0000000140001000 ; int stdcall WinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance, HINSTANCE hPrevInstance, LPSTR lpCmdLine,
                                                                ; CODE XREF: tmainCRTStartup+14Flp
.text:0000000140001000 WinMain
                                        proc near
                                                                ; DATA XREF: .pdata:ExceptionDirlo
.text:0000000140001000
                                                rsp, 28h
.text:0000000140001000
                                        sub
                                               r8, Caption
                                                                : "Hi!"
                                        lea
.text:0000000140001004
                                                rdx, Text
                                                                : "Hello there!"
.text:000000014000100B
                                        lea
                                                r9d, r9d
                                                                ; uType
.text:0000000140001012
                                        xor
                                                ecx, ecx
                                                                : hWnd
.text:0000000140001015
                                       xor
.text:0000000140001017
                                       call
                                               cs:MessageBoxA
                                                eax, eax
.text:000000014000101D
                                        xor
                                                rsp, 28h
.text:000000014000101F
                                        add
.text:0000000140001023
                                        retn
.text:0000000140001023 WinMain
                                        endp
```

System V x64 ABI

System V x64 ABI

- Used by Linux, BSD, Mac, others
- Totally different than MS x64 ABI
 - Also totally different than GCC's x86 Linux ABI
- Calling convention uses many registers:
 - 6 registers for integer arguments
 - 8 registers for float/double arguments
- Some registers considered volatile and can change across function calls, others must be saved by the callee

SysV ABI: Parameters

- First available register for the parameter type is used
- 6 registers for integer parameters
 - RDI, RSI, RDX, RCX, R8, R9
- 8 registers for float/double/vector parameters
 - XMM0-XMM7
- No overlap, so you could have 14 parameters stored in registers
- struct params can be split between registers
- Everything else is on the stack
- RAX holds number of vector registers (XMMx)

SysV ABI: Parameter sequence

- Examples!
- int func1(int a, float b, int c)
 - rax func1(rdi, xmm0, rsi)
- float func2(float a, int b, float c)
 - xmm0 func2(xmm0, rdi, xmm1)
- float func3(float a, int b, int c)
 - xmm0 func3(xmm0, rdi, rsi)
- Notice anything interesting about func1 and func3?

SysV ABI: Parameter example #1

printf("%i %i %f %i %f %i\n", 1, 2, 3.0, 4, 5.0, 6);

```
.text:00000000004004F4; int cdecl main(int argc, char **argv)
.text:00000000004004F4
                                       public main
.text:000000000004004F4 main
                                       proc near
.text:000000000004004F4
.text:000000000004004F4 var 10
                                       = aword ptr -10h
                                       = dword ptr -4
.text:00000000004004F4 var 4
.text:00000000004004F4
.text:00000000004004F4
                                                          ; save rbp
                                       push
                                               rbp
                                               rbp, rsp ; make rbp stack frame pointer
.text:00000000004004F5
                                       mov
                                                               ; clear space for saving 2 volatile registers
.text:00000000004004F8
                                               rsp. 10h
                                       sub
                                               [rbp+var 4], edi ; save 1st parameter on the stack
.text:00000000004004FC
                                               [rbp+var 10], rsi; save 2nd parameter on the stack
.text:00000000004004FF
                                       mov
                                               eax, offset format; "%i %i %f %i %f %i\n"
.text:0000000000400503
                                       mov
                                               xmm1, cs:five point oh ; put 6th argument (5.0) in xmm1
.text:00000000000400508
                                       movsd
                                               xmm0, cs:three point oh; put 4th argument (3.0) in xmm0
.text:00000000000400510
                                       movsd
                                                               ; put 7th argument (6) in r8d
.text:00000000000400518
                                               r8d, 6
                                       mov
                                               ecx, 4
                                                                ; put 5th argument (4) in ecx
.text:0000000000040051F
                                       mov
                                               edx, 2
                                                               ; put 3rd argument (2) in edx
.text:00000000000400523
                                       mov
.text:0000000000400528
                                               esi, 1
                                                               ; put 2nd argument (1) in esi
                                       mov
                                                               ; put 1st argument (format string) in rdi
.text:000000000040052D
                                               rdi, rax
                                       mov
                                                               ; eax holds number of SSE registers used (2)
.text:0000000000400530
                                               eax, 2
                                       mov
                                               printf
.text:0000000000400535
                                       call.
.text:0000000000040053A
                                       leave
.text:000000000040053B
                                       retn
.text:000000000040053B main
                                       endp
```

SysV ABI: Parameter example #2

```
typedef struct {
   int a, b;
   double d;
} structparm;

structparm s;

int e, f, g, h, i, j, k;
long double ld;
double m, n;
   m256 y;
```

```
RDI: e XMM0: s.d [RSP+0]: ld

RSI: f XMM1: m [RSP+16]: j

RDX: s.a,s.b YMM2: y [RSP+24]: k

RCX: g XMM3: n

R8: h

R9: i
```

```
extern void func (int e, int f, structparm s,
    int g, int h, long double ld, double m,
    _m256 y, double n, int i, int j, int k);
func (e, f, s, g, h, ld, m, y, n, i, j, k);
```

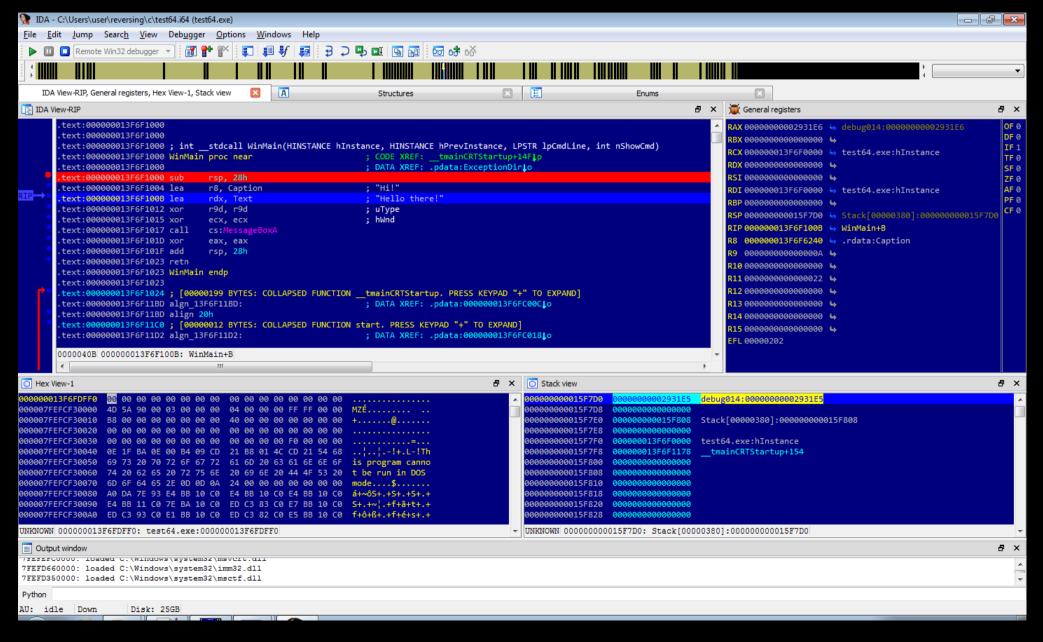
(This example is from the SysV x64 ABI specs)

SysV ABI: The stack

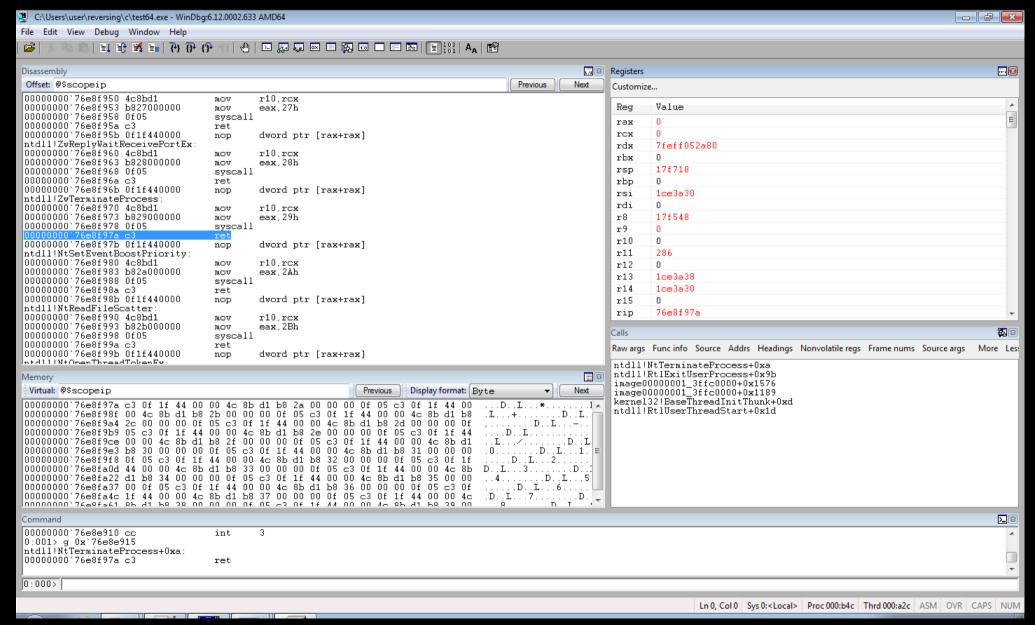
- Nothing new here, except changes due to 64 bit platform
- Aligned on 16 byte boundaries
- GCC still uses RBP as a frame pointer by default
- No required home space like MS's ABI
 - Sometimes parameters are saved on the stack
 - It's in local variables and not behind the return address
- Functions can use stack space up to RSP+256
 - Beyond that is the RED ZONE

x64 Reversing Tools

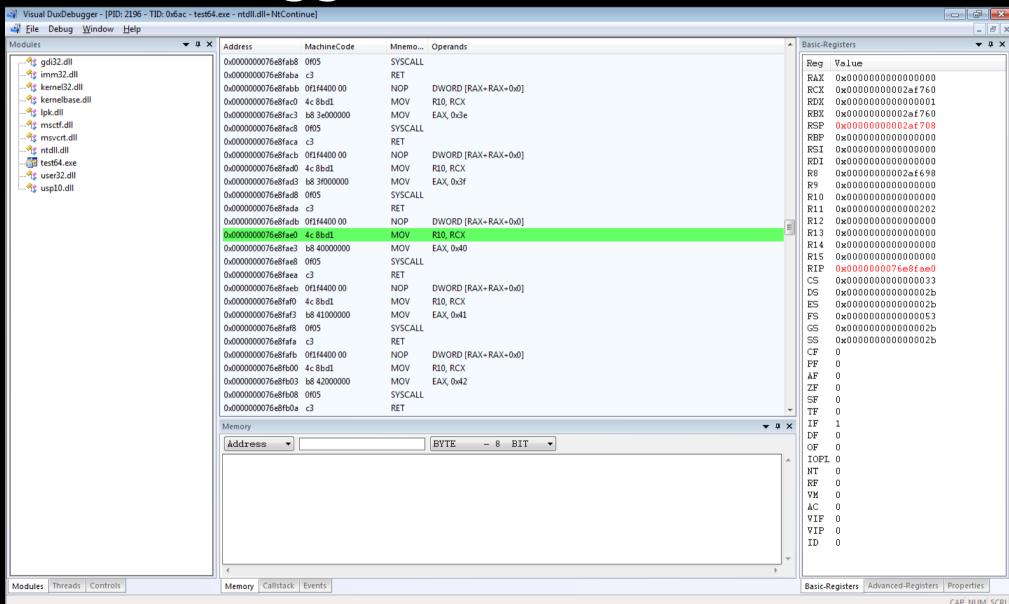
Tools for x64 Reversing: IDA



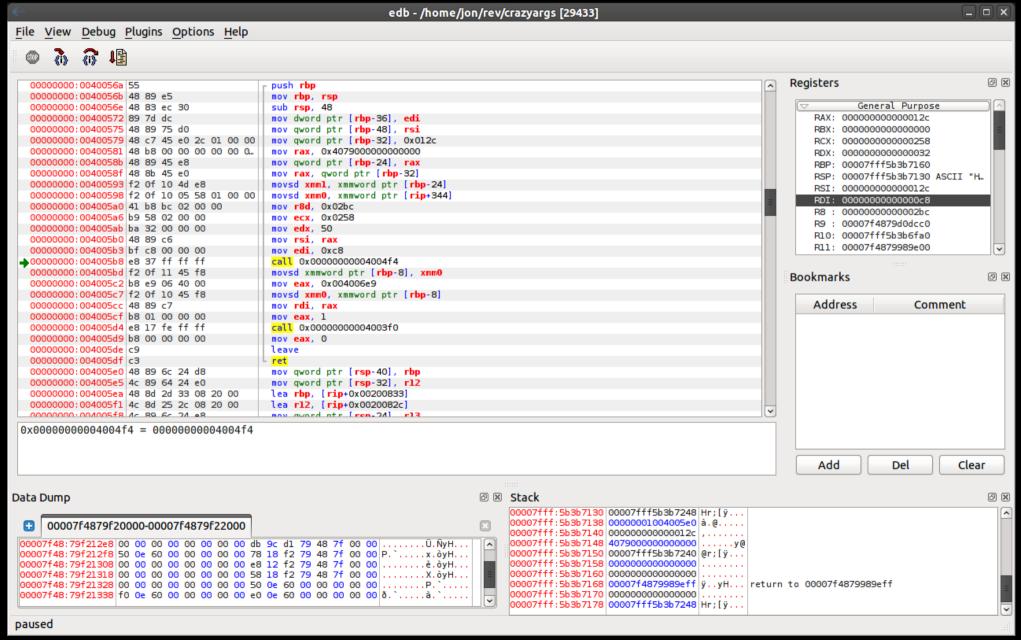
Tools for x64 Reversing: Windbg



Tools for x64 Reversing: Visual DuxDebugger



Tools for x64 Reversing: edb



Other reversing tools for x64

- Dynamic instrumentation
 - PIN
 - DynamoRIO
- Virtual machines
 - BOCHS
 - QEMU
- That thing @msuiche is working on
- vdb/vtrace

How to get better at reversing

- Take a binary, any binary, but smaller is probably easier
- Reverse it all
 - Name every function, parameter, and variable
 - Comment almost every line of assembly
 - Do this without running it, unless you absolutely have to
- You'll be a pro in no time!
- Also, read the Rolf Rolles interview in HITB 005

x64 References!

- x64 architecture
 - Intel Architecture Software Development Manuals: http://www.intel.com/products/processor/manuals/
 - AMD Architecture Programmer's Manuals: http://developer.amd.com/documentation/guides/pages/default.aspx
- MS x64 ABI
 - x64 Software Conventions: http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/7kcdt6fy%28VS.80%29.aspx
 - X64 Deep Dive: http://www.codemachine.com/article_x64deepdive.html
- SysV x64 ABI
 - System V Application Binary Interface: http://www.x86-64.org/documentation/abi.pdf

Questions?

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