

self-replicating malware

# Changelog

Corrections made in this version not in first posting:

1 Feb 2017: slide 12: `cmpq` corrected to `test`

28 Feb 2017: slide 7: REX prefix's first nibble is `0100`

# RE assignment

assembly reading practice

due Friday

# last time

executable formats

using Linux as example, but concepts same elsewhere

started x86 encoding

why?

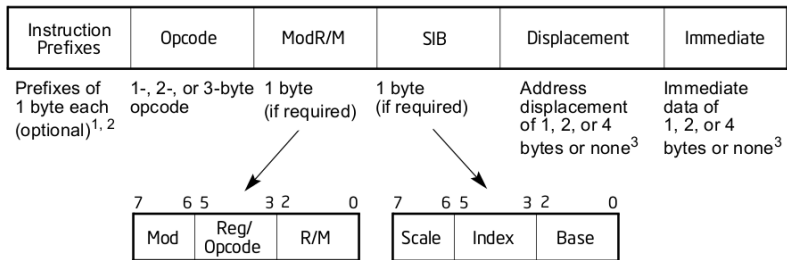
manipulating machine code

malware does it

a little bit on assignments

want you to have option besides “use objdump blindly”  
on assignments

# overall encoding



1. The REX prefix is optional, but if used must be immediately before the opcode; see Section 2.2.1, “REX Prefixes” for additional information.
2. For VEX encoding information, see Section 2.3, “Intel® Advanced Vector Extensions (Intel® AVX)”.
3. Some rare instructions can take an 8B immediate or 8B displacement.

**Figure 2-1. Intel 64 and IA-32 Architectures Instruction Format**

# x86 encoding example (1)

pushq %rax encoded as 50

5-bit opcode 01010 plus 3-bit register number 000

pushq %r13 encoded as 41 55

41: REX prefix 0100 (constant), w:0, r:0, s:0, b:1

w = 0 because push is never 32-bit in 64-bit mode

55: 5-bit opcode 01010; 3-bit reg # 101

4-bit reg # 1101 = 13

## x86 encoding example (2)

addq 0x12345678(%rax,%rbx,2), %ecx

03: opcode — add r/m32 to r/m32

8c: ModRM: mod = 10; reg = 001, r/m: 100  
reg = 001 = %ecx (table)  
SIB byte + 32-bit displacement (table)

58: SIB: scale = 01, index = 011, base = 000  
index 011 = %rbx; base 000 = %rax;

78 56 32 12: 32-bit constant 0x12345678

## x86 encoding example (3)

addq 0x12345678(%r10,%r11,2), %rax

4b: REX prefix 0010+w:1, r:0, s:1, b:1

03: opcode — add r/m64 to r64 (with REX.w)

84: ModRM: mod = 10; reg = 000, r/m: 100

reg = 0000 = %rax

SIB byte + 32-bit displacement (table)

5a: SIB: scale = 01, index = 011, base = 010

with REX: index = 1011 (11), base = 1010 (10)

78 56 32 12: 32-bit constant 0x12345678



## x86 encoding example (3)

addq 0x12345678(%r10,%r11,2), %rax

4b: REX prefix 0010+w:1, r:0, s:1, b:1

03: opcode — add r/m64 to r64 (with REX.w)

84: ModRM: mod = 10; reg = 000, r/m: 100

reg = 0000 = %rax

SIB byte + 32-bit displacement (table)

5a: SIB: scale = 01, index = 011, base = 010

with REX: index = 1011 (11), base = 1010 (10)

78 56 32 12: 32-bit constant 0x12345678

## x86 encoding example (4)

movq %fs:0x10,%r13

64: FS segment override

48: REX: w: 1 (64-bit), r: 1, s: 0, b: 0

8b: opcode for MOV memory to register

2c: ModRM: mod = 00, reg = 101, r/m: 100  
with REX: reg = 1101 [%r12]; r/m = 100 (SIB  
follows)

25: SIB: scale = 00; index = 0100; base = 0101  
no register/no register in table

10 00 00 00: 4-byte constant 0x10

# x86: relative and absolute

addresses in `mov/lea` are **absolute**

address appears directly in machine code

```
mov foo, %eax:
```

```
8b 04 25 (address of foo)
```

except `mov foo(%rip), ..., etc.`

addresses in `jmp` are **relative**

```
jmp skip_nop; nop; skip_nop: ...:
```

```
eb 01 (jmp skip_nop)
```

```
90 (nop)
```

```
(skip_nop:)
```

value in machine code **added** to PC

addresses in `call` are relative

# x86-64 impossibilities

**illegal:** `movq 0x12345678ab(%rax), %rax`  
maximum 32-bit displacement  
`movq 0x12345678ab, %rax` okay  
extra `mov` opcode for `%rax` only

**illegal:** `movq $0x12345678ab, %rbx`  
maximum 32-bit (signed) constant  
`movq $0x12345678ab, %rax` okay

**illegal:** `pushl %eax`  
no 32-bit push/pop in 64-bit mode  
but 16-bit allowed (operand size prefix byte 66)

**illegal:** `movq (%rax, %rsp), %rax`  
cannot use `%rsp` as index register  
`movq (%rsp, %rax), %rax` okay

# instruction prefixes

REX (64-bit and/or extra register bits)

VEX (SSE/AVX instructions; other new instrs.)

operand/address-size change (64/32 to 16 or vice-versa)

LOCK — synchronization between processors

REPNE/REPZ/REP/REPE/REPZ — turns instruction into loop

segment overrides

# string instructions (1)

```
memcpy: // copy %rdx bytes from (%rsi) to (%rdi)
        test %rdx, %rdx
        je done
        movsb
        subq $1, %rdx
        jmp memcpy
done:   ret
```

movsb (move data from string to string, byte)

mov one byte from (%rsi) to (%rdi)

increment %rsi and %rdi (\*)

cannot specify other registers

## string instructions (2)

```
memcpy: // copy %rdx bytes from (%rsi) to (%rdi)
        rep movsb
        ret
```

rep prefix byte

repeat instruction until %rdx is 0

decrement %rdx each time

**cannot** specify other registers

**cannot** use rep with all instructions

## string instructions (3)

`lodsb, stosb` — load/store into string

`movsw, movsd` — word/dword versions

string comparison instructions

`rep movsb` is still recommended on modern Intel  
special-cased in processor?



# exploring assembly

compiling little C programs looking at the assembly is nice:

```
gcc -S -O  
    extra stuff like .cfi directives (for try/catch)
```

or disassemble:

```
gcc -O -c file.c (or make an executable)
```

```
objdump -dr file.o (or on an executable)
```

d: disassemble

r: show (non-dynamic) relocations

# exploring assembly

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gcc -S -O  
    extra stuff like .cfi directives (for try/catch)
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```
gcc -O -c file.c (or make an executable)  
objdump -dr file.o (or on an executable)  
    d: disassemble  
    r: show (non-dynamic) relocations
```

# assembly without optimizations

compilers do **really silly things** without optimizations:

```
int sum(int x, int y) { return x + y; }
```

sum:

```
    pushq   %rbp
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
    movl    %edi, -4(%rbp)
    movl    %esi, -8(%rbp)
    movl    -4(%rbp), %edx
    movl    -8(%rbp), %eax
    addl    %edx, %eax
    popq    %rbp
    ret
```

instead of gcc -O version:

sum:

```
    leal   (%rdi,%rsi), %eax
    ret
```

# assembly reading advice

don't know what an instruction does: look it up!

machine code: start with assembler/objdump  
might need to edit addresses, etc.

remember calling conventions

function/variable names (if present) help

try to name values in registers, on stack  
based on context  
“input size” not “rax”

# self-replicating malware

attacker's problem:

getting malware to **run where they want**

some options:

connect to machine and install it there

send to someone

convince someone else to send it to someone

# self-replicating malware

attacker's problem:

getting malware to **run where they want**

some options:

connect to machine and install it there

send to someone

convince someone else to send it to someone

**all automatable!**

# recall: kinds of malware

viruses — infects other programs

worms — own malicious programs

trojans — useful (looking) program that also is malicious

rootkit — silent control of system

# viruses: hiding in files

get someone run your malware?

program they already want to run

to spread your malware?

program they already want to copy

trojan approach: create/modify new program

simpler: modify already used/shared program



# virus prevalence

## viruses on commercially sold software media

from 1990 memo by Chris McDonald:

### 4. MS-DOS INFECTIONS

SOFTWARE	REPORTING LOCATION	DATE	VIRAL INFECTION
a. Unlock Masterkey	Kennedy Space Center	Oct 89	Vienna
b. SARGON III	Iceland	Sep 89	Cascade (1704)
c. ASYST RTDEM002.EXE	Fort Belvoir	Aug 89	Jerusalem-B
d. Desktop Fractal Design System	Various	Jan 90	Jerusalem (1813)
e. Bureau of the Census, Elec. County & City Data Bk., 1988	Government Printing Office/US Census Bureau	Jan 90	Jerusalem-B
f. Northern Computers (PC Manufacturer shipped infected systems.)	Iceland	Mar 90	Disk Killer

### 5. MACINTOSH INFECTIONS

SOFTWARE	REPORTING LOCATION	DATE	VIRAL INFECTION
----------	--------------------	------	-----------------

a. NoteWriter	Colgate College	Sep 89	Scores and nVIR
---------------	-----------------	--------	-----------------

# early virus motivations

lots of (but not all) early virus software was “for fun”

not trying to monetize malware  
(like is common today)

hard: Internet connections uncommon

# Case Study: Vienna Virus

Vienna: virus from the 1980s

This version: published in Ralf Burger, “Computer Viruses: a high-tech disease” (1988)

targetted COM-format executables on DOS

## Diversion: .COM files

.COM is a **very simple** executable format

no header, no segments, no sections

file contents loaded at fixed address `0x0100`

execution starts at `0x0100`

everything is read/write/execute (no virtual memory)

# Vienna: infection

uninfected

```
0x0100:
    mov $0x4f28, %cx
    /* b9 28 4f */
0x0103:
    mov $0x9e4e, %si
    /* be 4e 9e */
    mov %si, %di
    push %ds
    /* more normal
       program
       code */
....
0x0700: /* end */
```

infected

```
0x0100: jmp 0x0700
0x0103: mov $0x9e4e, %si
...
0x0700:
    push %cx
    ... // %si ← 0x903
    mov $0x100, %di
    mov $3, %cx
    rep movsb
    ...
    mov $0x0100, %di
    push %di
    xor %di, %di
    ret
...
0x0903:
    .bytes 0xb9 0x28 0x4f
...
```

# Vienna: “fixup”

0x0700:

```
push %cx // initial value of %cx matters??  
mov $0x8fd, %si // %si ← beginning of data  
mov %si, %dx // save %si  
    // movsb uses %si, so  
    // can't use another register  
add $0xa, %si // offset of saved code in data  
mov $0x100, %di // target address  
mov $3, %cx // bytes changed  
/* copy %cx bytes from (%si) to (%di) */  
rep movsb
```

...

```
...  
// saved copy of original application code  
0x903: .byte 0xb9 .byte 0x28 .byte 0x4f
```

# Vienna: “fixup”

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push %cx // initial value of %cx matters??  
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add $0xa, %si // offset of saved code in data  
mov $0x100, %di // target address  
mov $3, %cx // bytes changed  
/* copy %cx bytes from (%si) to (%di) */  
rep movsb  
...
```

...

// saved copy of original application code

```
0x903: .byte 0xb9 .byte 0x28 .byte 0x4f
```

# Vienna: “fixup”

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add $0xa, %si // offset of saved code in data  
mov $0x100, %di // target address  
mov $3, %cx // bytes changed  
/* copy %cx bytes from (%si) to (%di) */  
rep movsb
```

...

```
...  
// saved copy of original application code  
0x903: .byte 0xb9 .byte 0x28 .byte 0x4f
```



# Vienna: return

0x08e7:

```
pop %cx // restore initial value of %cx, %sp
xor %ax, %ax // %ax ← 0
xor %bx, %bx
xor %dx, %dx
xor %si, %si
// push 0x0100
mov $0x0100, %di
push %di
xor %di, %di // %di ← 0
// pop 0x0100 from stack
// jmp to 0x0100
ret
```

question: why not just jmp 0x0100 ?

# Vienna: infection outline

Vienna **appends** code to infected application

where does it read the code come from?

how is code adjusted for new location in the binary?  
what linker would do

how does it keep files from getting infinitely long?

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# quines

exercise: write a C program that outputs its source code

(pseudo-code only okay)

possible in any (Turing-complete) programming language  
called a “quine”

# clever quine solution

```
#include <stdio.h>
char*x="int main(){
    printf(p,10,34,x,34,10,34,p,34,10,x,10);
}";
char*p="#include <stdio.h>%c
char*x=%c%s%c;%cchar*p=%c%s%c;
%c%s%c";
int main(){
    printf(p,10,34,x,34,10,34,p,34,10,x,10);
}
```

some line wrapping for readability — shouldn't be in actual quine

# clever quine solution

```
#include <stdio.h>
char*x="int main(){
    printf(p,10,34,x,34,10,34,p,34,10,x,10);
}";
char*p="# printf to fill template:
char* 10 = newline; 34 = double-quote;
%c%s% x, p = template/constant strings
int main(
    printf(p,10,34,x,34,10,34,p,34,10,x,10);
}
```

some line wrapping for readability — shouldn't be in actual quine

# clever quine solution

```
#include <stdio.h>
char*x="int main(){
    printf(p,10,34,x,34,10,34,p,34,10,x,10);
}";
char*p="#include <stdio.h>%c
char*x=%c%s%c;%cchar*p=%c%s%c;
%c%s%c";
int main(){
    printf(p,10,34,x,34,10,34,p,34,10,x,10);
}
```

template filled by printf

some line wrapping for readability — shouldn't be in actual quine

# dumb quine solution

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    char buffer[1024];
    FILE *f = fopen("quine.c", "r");
    size_t bytes = fread(buffer, 1,
                          sizeof(buffer), f);
    fwrite(buffer, 1, bytes, stdout);
    return 0;
}
```

a lot more straightforward!

but “cheating”



# Vienna copying

```
mov $0x8f9, %si // %si = beginning of virus data
...
mov $0x288, %cx // length of virus
mov $0x40, %ah // system call # for write
mov %si, %dx
sub $0x1f9, %dx // %dx = beginning of virus code
int 0x21 // make write system call
```

# Vienna copying

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**how is code adjusted for new location in the binary?**

what linker would do

how does it keep files from getting infinitely long?

# Vienna relocation

very little use of absolute addresses:

- jumps use relative addresses (value to add to PC)

virus uses `%Si` as a “base register”

- points to beginning of virus data

- set very early in virus execution

set via `mov $0x8fd, %Si` near beginning of virus

# Vienna relocation

```
// set virus data address:
0x700: mov $0x8f9, %si
        // machine code: be f9 08
        // be: opcode
        // f9 08: immediate
...
// %ax contains file length (of file to infect)
mov %ax, %cx
...
add $0x2f9, %cx
mov %si, %di
sub $0x1f7, %di // %di ← 0x701
mov %cx, (%di) // update mov instruction
...
```

# Vienna relocation

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// set virus data address:
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mov %cx, (%di) // update mov instruction
...
```

# Vienna relocation

edit actual code for mov

why doesn't this disrupt virus execution?



# Vienna relocation

edit actual code for mov

why doesn't this disrupt virus execution?  
already ran that instruction

# Vienna relocation

```
0x700: mov $0x8f9, %si
...
// %ax contains file length
//      (of file to infect)
mov %ax, %cx
sub $3, %ax
// update template jmp instruction
mov %ax, 0xe(%si) // 0xe + %si = 0x907
...
mov $40, %ah
mov $3, %cx
mov %si, %dx
add $0xD, %dx // dx ← 0x906
int 0x21 // system call: write 3 bytes from 0x906
...
0x906: e9 fd 05 // jmp PC+FD 05
```

# Vienna relocation

```
0x700: mov $0x8f9, %si
...
// %ax contains file length
//      (of file to infect)
mov %ax, %cx
sub $3, %ax
// update template jmp instruction
mov %ax, 0xe(%si) // 0xe + %si = 0x907
...
mov $40, %ah
mov $3, %cx
mov %si, %dx
add $0xd, %dx // dx ← 0x906
int 0x21 // system call: write 3 bytes from 0x906
...
0x906: e9 fd 05 // jmp PC+FD 05
```

# Vienna relocation

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0x700: mov $0x8f9, %si
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// %ax contains file length
//      (of file to infect)
mov %ax, %cx
sub $3, %ax
// update template jmp instruction
mov %ax, 0xe(%si) // 0xe + %si = 0x907
...
mov $40, %ah
mov $3, %cx
mov %si, %dx
add $0xD, %dx // dx ← 0x906
int 0x21 // system call: write 3 bytes from 0x906
...
0x906: e9 fd 05 // jmp PC+FD 05
```

# alternative relocation

could avoid having pointer to update:

```
000000000000000000 <next-0x3>:  
  0:   e8 00 00                call   3 <next>  
    target addresses encoded relatively  
    pushes return address (next) onto stack  
000000000000000003 <next>:  
  3:   59                        pop    %cx  
    cx contains address of the pop instruction
```

why didn't Vienna do this?

# Vienna: infection outline

Vienna **appends** code to infected application

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how is code adjusted for new location in the binary?

what linker would do

**how does it keep files from getting infinitely long?**

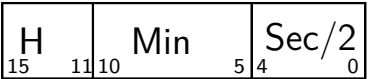
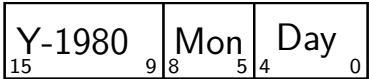
# Vienna: avoiding reinfection

scans through active directories for executables

“marks” infected executables in **file metadata**  
could have checked for virus code — but slow

# DOS last-written times

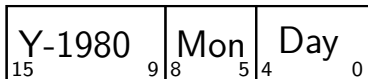
16-bit number for date; 16-bit number for time





# DOS last-written times

16-bit number for date; 16-bit number for time



Sec/2: 5 bits: range from 0–31  
corresponds to 0 to **62** seconds

Vienna trick: set infected file times to **62** seconds  
need to update times anyways — hide tracks

# virus choices

where to put code

how to get code ran

# virus choices

where to put code

how to get code ran

# where to put code

considerations:

- spreading — files that will be copied/reused
- spreading — files that will be ran
- stealth — user shouldn't know until too late

# where to put code: options

one *or more* of:

replacing executable code

after executable code (Vienna)

in unused executable code

inside OS code

in memory

# where to put code: options

one *or more* of:

replacing executable code

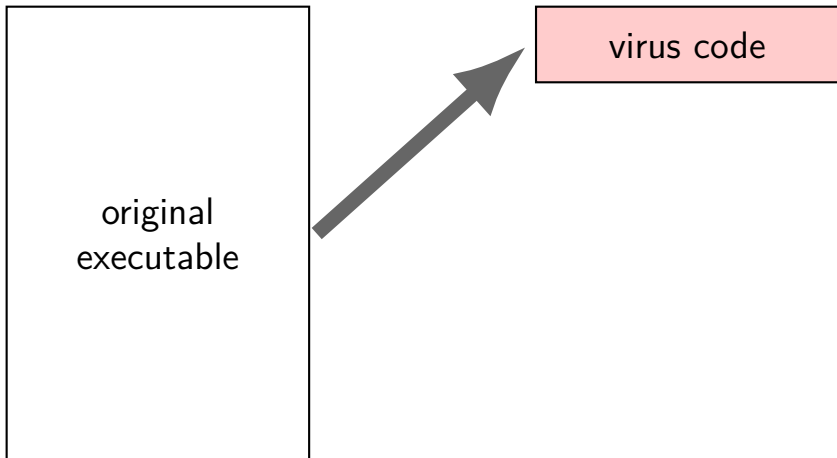
after executable code (Vienna)

in unused executable code

inside OS code

in memory

# replace executable



# replace executable?

seems silly — not stealthy!

has appeared in the wild — ILOVEYOU

2000 ILOVEYOU Worm

- written in Visual Basic (!)

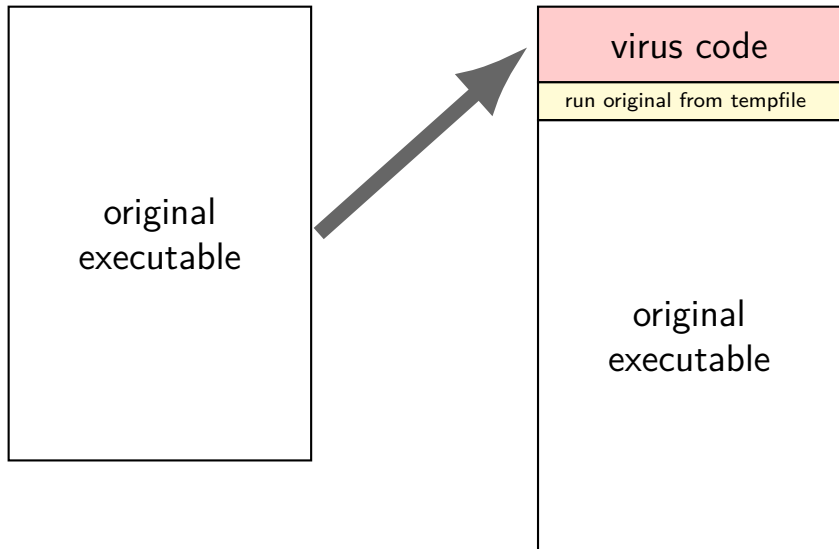
- spread via email

- replaced lots of files with copies of itself

huge impact



# replace executable — subtle



# where to put code: options

one *or more* of:

replacing executable code

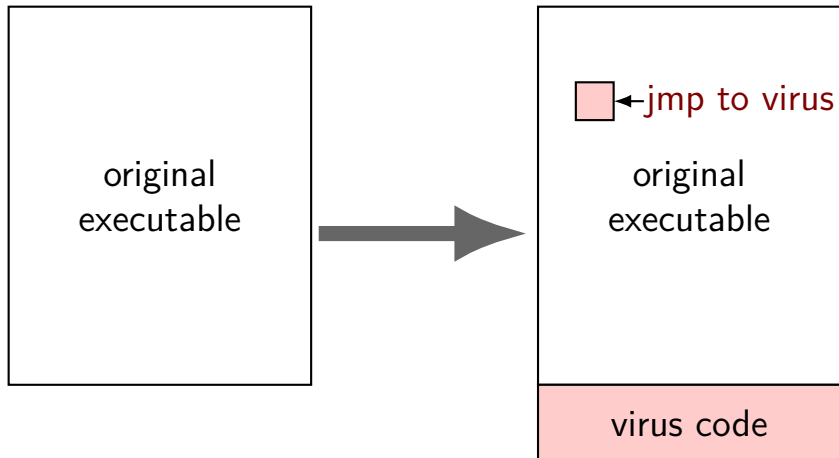
after executable code (Vienna)

in unused executable code

inside OS code

in memory

# appending



# note about appending

COM files are very simple — no metadata

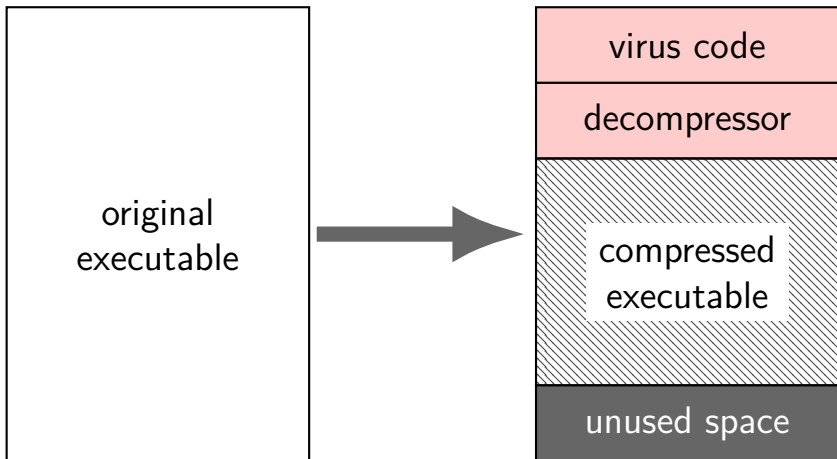
modern executable formats have length information  
to update

- add segment to program header

- update last segment of program header (size + make it executable)

# compressing viruses

file too big? how about **compression**



# where to put code: options

one *or more* of:

replacing executable code

after executable code (Vienna)

in unused executable code

inside OS code

in memory

# unused code???

why would a program have unused code????

# unused code case study: /bin/l

unreachable no-ops!

```
...
403788:      e9 59 0c 00 00      jmpq 4043e6 <__spr
40378d:      0f 1f 00            nopl  (%rax)
403790:      ba 05 00 00 00      mov  $0x5,%edx
...
403ab9:      eb 4d              jmp  403b08 <__spr
403abb:      0f 1f 44 00 00      nopl 0x0(%rax,%rax)
403ac0:      4d 8b 7f 08        mov  0x8(%r15),%r1
...
404a01:      c3                retq
404a02:      0f 1f 40 00        nopl 0x0(%rax)
404a06:      66 2e 0f 1f 84 00 00  nopw %cs:0x0(%rax,%r
404a0d:      00 00 00
404a10:      be 00 e6 61 00      mov  $0x61e600,%es
...
```



# why empty space?

Intel Optimization Reference Manual:

**“Assembly/Compiler Coding Rule 12. (M  
impact, H generality) All branch targets should be  
16-byte aligned.”**

- better for instruction cache (and TLB and related caches)

- better for instruction decode logic

- function calls count as branches for this purpose

# other empty space

unused dynamic linking structure

unused debugging/symbol table information?

unused header space

recall — header loaded into memory!

# other empty space

unused dynamic linking structure

unused debugging/symbol table information?

unused header space

recall — header loaded into memory!

# dynamic linking cavity

.dynamic section — data structure used by dynamic linker:

format: list of 8-byte type, 8-byte value  
terminated by type == 0 entry

Contents of section .dynamic:

```
600e28 01000000 00000000 01000000 00000000 .....
... several non-empty entries ...
600f88 f0ffff6f 00000000 56034000 00000000 ...o....V.@.....
    VERSYM (required library version info at) 0x400356
600f98 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 .....
    NULL --- end of linker info
600fa8 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 .....
    unused! (and below)
600fb8 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 .....
600fc8 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 .....
600fd8 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 .....
600fe8 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 .....
```

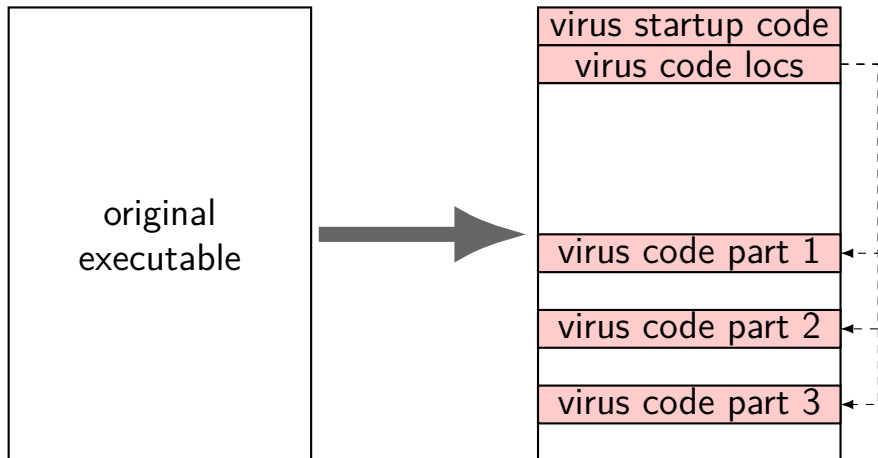
# is there enough empty space?

cavities look awfully small

really small viruses?

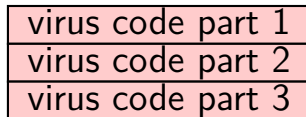
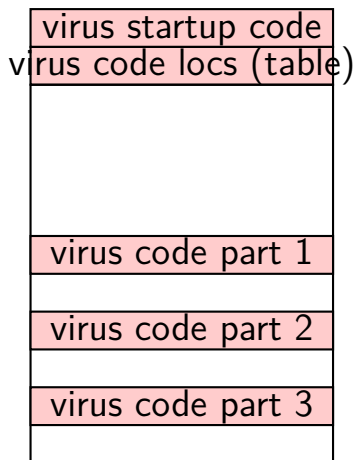
solution: chain cavities together

# case study: CIH (1)



# case study: CIH (2)

in memory:



# CIH cavities

gaps between sections

- common Windows linker aligned sections

- (align = start on address multiple of  $N$ , e.g. 4096)

- (normal Linux linker doesn't do this...)

reassembling code avoids worrying about splitting instructions



# where to put code: options

one *or more* of:

replacing executable code

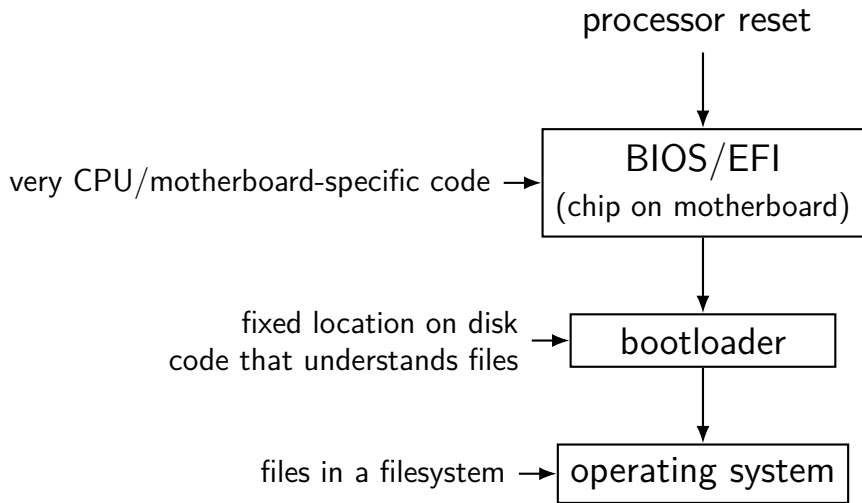
after executable code (Vienna)

in unused executable code

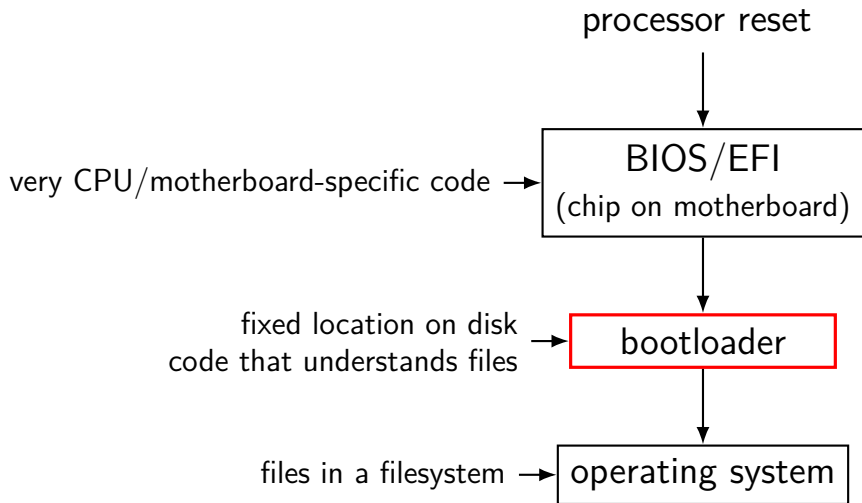
inside OS code

in memory

# boot process



# boot process



# bootloaders in the DOS era

used to be common to boot from floppies

default to booting from floppy if present  
even if hard drive to boot from

applications distributed as bootable floppies

so bootloaders on all devices were a target for viruses

# historic bootloader layout

bootloader in **first sector** (512 bytes) of device

(along with partition information)

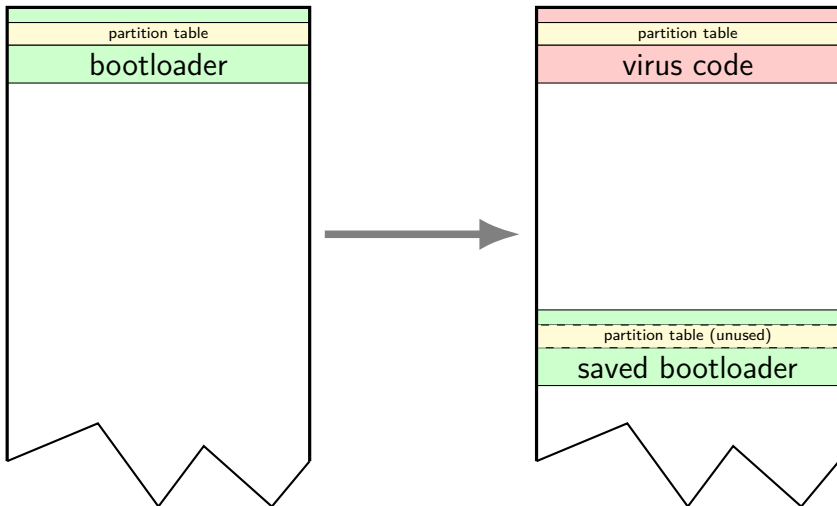
code in BIOS to copy bootloader into RAM, start running

bootloader responsible for disk I/O etc.

some library-like functionality in BIOS for I/O

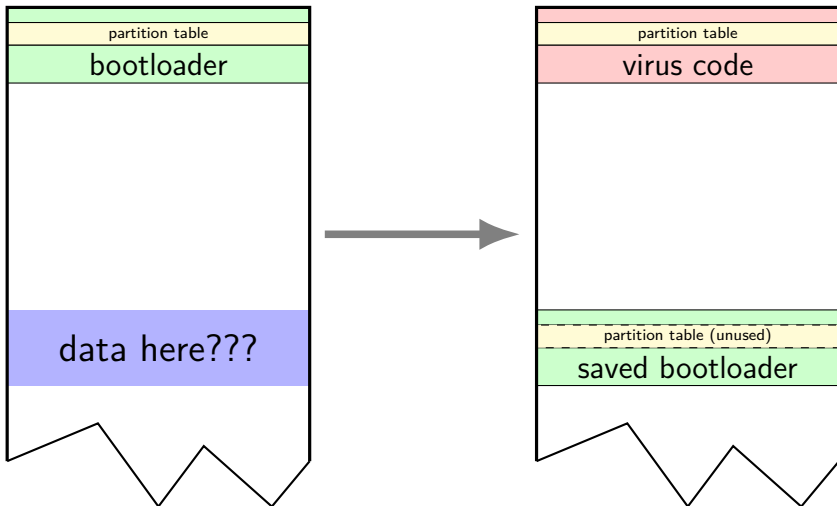
# bootloader viruses

example: Stoned



# bootloader viruses

example: Stoned



# data here???

might be data there — risk

some unused space after partition table/boot loader  
common

(allegedly)

also be filesystem metadata not used on smaller  
floppies/disks

but could be wrong — oops



# modern bootloaders — UEFI

BIOS-based boot is going away (slowly)

new thing: UEFI (Universal Extensible Firmware Interface)

like BIOS:

- library functionality for bootloaders
- loads initial code from disk/DVD/etc.

unlike BIOS:

- much more understanding of file systems
- much more modern set of library calls

# modern bootloaders — secure boot

“Secure Boot” is a common feature of modern bootloaders

idea: UEFI/BIOS code checks bootloader code, fails if not okay

requires user intervention to use not-okay code

# Secure Boot and keys

Secure Boot relies on cryptographic signatures

idea: accept only “legitimate” bootloaders

legitimate: known authority vouched for them

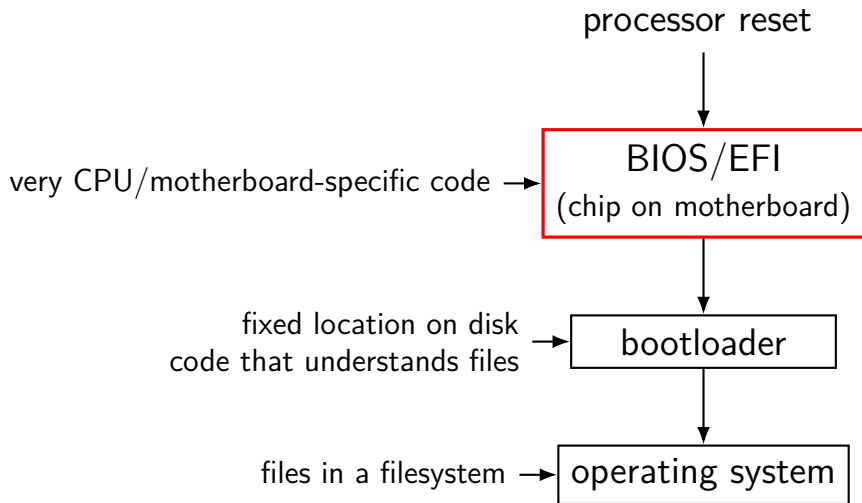
user control of their own systems?

in theory: can add own keys

what about changing OS instead of bootloader?

need smart bootloader

# boot process



# BIOS/UEFI implants

infrequent

BIOS/UEFI code is very non-portable

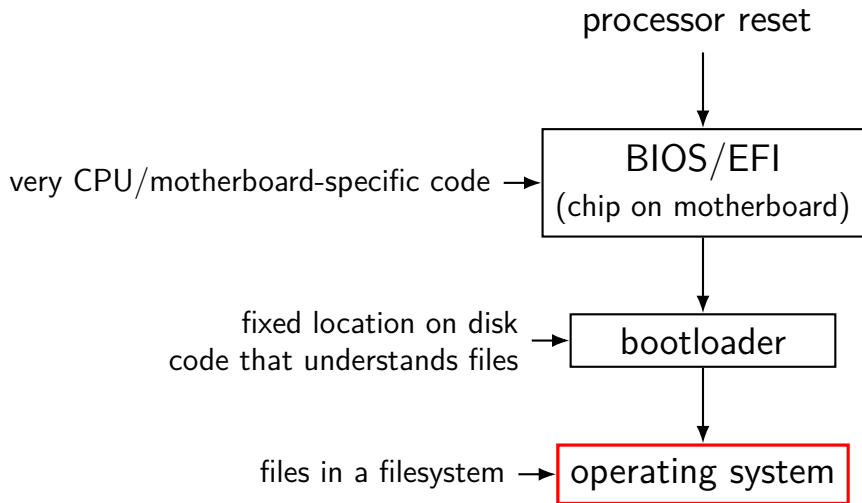
BIOS/UEFI update often requires physical access

BIOS/UEFI code sometimes requires cryptographic signatures

...but very hard to remove — can reinstall other malware

reports that Hacking Team (Milan-based malware company) had UEFI-infecting “rootkit”

# boot process



# system files

simplest strategy: stuff that runs when you start your computer

add a new startup program, run in the background  
easy to blend in

alternatively, infect one of many system programs  
automatically run

# memory residence

malware wants to keep doing stuff

one option — background process (easy on modern OSs)

also stealthy options:

- insert self into OS code

- insert self into other running programs

more commonly, OS code used for hiding malware  
topic for later





# virus choices

where to put code

how to get code ran

# invoking virus code: options

boot loader

change starting location

alternative approaches: “entry point obscuring”

edit code that's going to run anyways

replace a function pointer (or similar)

...

# invoking virus code: options

boot loader

change starting location

alternative approaches: “entry point obscuring”

edit code that's going to run anyways

replace a function pointer (or similar)

...

# starting locations

```
/bin/ls:      file format elf64-x86-64
/bin/ls
architecture: i386:x86-64, flags 0x00000112:
EXEC_P, HAS_SYMS, D_PAGED
start address 0x00000000004049a0
```

modern executable formats have 'starting address' field

just change it, insert jump to old address after virus code

# invoking virus code: options

boot loader

change starting location

alternative approaches: “entry point obscuring”

edit code that's going to run anyways

replace a function pointer (or similar)

...

# run anyways?

add code at start of program (Vienna)

return with padding after it:

404a01:	c3	retq	
404a02:	0f 1f 40 00	nopl	0x0(%rax)
	<i>replace with</i>		
404a01:	e9 XX XX XX XX	jmpq	YYYYYYY

any random place in program?

just not in the **middle of instruction**

# challenge: valid locations

x86: probably don't want a full instruction parser

x86: might be non-instruction stuff mixed in with code:

```
do_some_floating_point_stuff:
    movss float_one(%rip), %xmm0
    ...
    retq
float_one: .float 1
```

floating point value one (00 00 80 3f) is not valid machine code

disassembler might lose track of instruction boundaries



# finding function calls

one idea: replace calls

normal x86 call FOO: E8 (*32-bit value: PC - address of foo*)

could look for E8 in code — **lots of false positives**  
probably even if one excludes out-of-range addresses

# really finding function calls

e.g. some popular compilers started x86-32 functions with

foo:

```
push %ebp           // push old frame pointer  
// 0x55  
mov %ebp, %esp    // set frame pointer to stack  
// 0x89 0xec
```

use to identify when e8 refers to real function  
(full version: also have some other function start  
patterns)

# remember stubs?

```
0000000000400400 <puts@plt>:
 400400:      ff 25 12 0c 20 00          jmpq    *0x200c12(%rip)
          /* 0x200c12+RIP = _GLOBAL_OFFSET_TABLE_+0x18 */
 400406:      68 00 00 00 00          pushq  $0x0
 40040b:      e9 e0 ff ff ff          jmpq   4003f0 <_init+0x28>
  replace with:
 400400:      e8 XX XX XX XX          jmpq  virus_code
 400405:      90                      nop
 400406:      68 00 00 00 00          pushq  $0x0
 40040b:      e9 e0 ff ff ff          jmpq   4003f0 <_init+0x28>
```

in known location (particular section of executable)

# invoking virus code: options

boot loader

change starting location

alternative approaches: “entry point obscuring”

edit code that's going to run anyways

replace a function pointer (or similar)

...

# stubs again

```
00000000000400400 <puts@plt>:
 400400:      ff 25 12 0c 20 00          jmpq   *0x200c12(%rip)
          /* 0x200c12+RIP = _GLOBAL_OFFSET_TABLE_+0x18 */
 400406:      68 00 00 00 00          pushq  $0x0
 40040b:      e9 e0 ff ff ff          jmpq   4003f0 <_init+0x28>
```

don't edit stub — edit initial value of  
\_GLOBAL\_OFFSET\_TABLE

stored in data section of executable

originally: pointer 0x400406; new — virus code

# relocations?

```
hello.exe:      file format elf64-x86-64
```

## DYNAMIC RELOCATION RECORDS

OFFSET	TYPE	VALUE
00000000000600ff8	R_X86_64_GLOB_DAT	<code>__gmon_start__</code>
00000000000601018	R_X86_64_JUMP_SLOT	<code>puts@GLIBC_2.2.5</code>
<b>replace with:</b>		
00000000000601018	R_X86_64_JUMP_SLOT	<code>_start + offset_of_virus</code>
00000000000601020	R_X86_64_JUMP_SLOT	<code>__libc_start_main@GLIBC_2.2.5</code>

tricky — usually no symbols from executable in dynamic symbol table

(symbols from debugger/disassembler are a different table)

Linux — need to link with `-rdynamic`

# relocations?

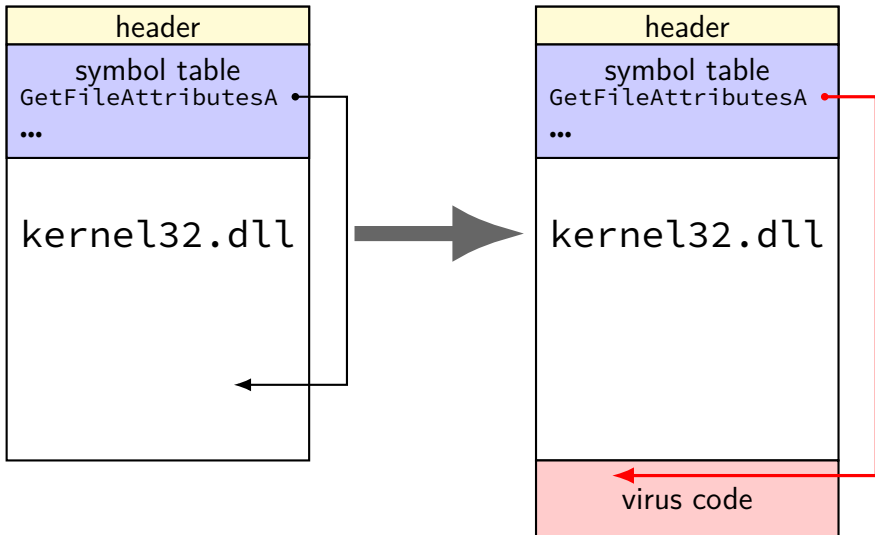
hello.exe: file format elf64-x86-64

## DYNAMIC RELOCATION RECORDS

OFFSET	TYPE	VALUE
00000000000600ff8	R_X86_64_GLOB_DAT	<code>__gmon_start__</code>
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<b>replace with:</b>		
00000000000601018	R_X86_64_JUMP_SLOT	<code>_start + offset_of_virus</code>
00000000000601020	R_X86_64_JUMP_SLOT	<code>__libc_start_main@GLIBC_2.2.5</code>

but...same idea works on shared library itself

# infecting shared libraries





# summary

how to hide:

- separate executable
- append
- existing “unused” space
- compression

how to run:

- change entry point
- or “entry point obscuring”:
- change some code (requires care!)
- change library

# 32-bit ModRM table

r8( <i>r</i> ) r16( <i>r</i> ) r32( <i>r</i> ) mm( <i>r</i> ) xmm( <i>r</i> ) (In decimal) /digit (Opcode) (In binary) REG =		
Effective Address	Mod	R/M
[EAX] [ECX] [EDX] [EBX] [---] <sup>1</sup> [---] <sup>2</sup> disp32 <sup>2</sup> [ESI] [EDI]	00	000 001 010 011 100 101 110 111
[EAX]+disp8 <sup>3</sup> [ECX]+disp8 [EDX]+disp8 [EBX]+disp8 [---]+disp8 [EBP]+disp8 [ESI]+disp8 [EDI]+disp8	01	000 001 010 011 100 101 110 111
[EAX]+disp32 [ECX]+disp32 [EDX]+disp32 [EBX]+disp32 [---]+disp32 [EBP]+disp32 [ESI]+disp32 [EDI]+disp32	10	000 001 010 011 100 101 110 111
EAX/AX/AL/MM0/XMM0 ECX/CX/CL/MM1/XMM1 EDX/DX/DL/MM2/XMM2 EBX/BX/BL/MM3/XMM3 ESP/SP/AH/MM4/XMM4 EBP/BP/CH/MM5/XMM5 ESI/SI/DH/MM6/XMM6 EDI/DI/BH/MM7/XMM7	11	000 001 010 011 100 101 110 111

# SIB table

Table 2-3. 32-Bit Addressing Forms with the SIB Byte

r32 (In decimal) Base = (In binary) Base =			EAX 0 000	ECX 1 001	EDX 2 010	EBX 3 011	ESP 4 100	[*] 5 101	ESI 6 110	EDI 7 111
Scaled Index	SS	Index	Value of SIB Byte (in Hexadecimal)							
[EAX] [ECX] [EDX] [EBX] none [EBP] [ESI] [EDI]	00	000 001 010 011 100 101 110 111	00 08 10 18 20 28 30 38	01 09 11 19 21 29 31 39	02 0A 12 1A 22 2A 32 3A	03 0B 13 1B 23 2B 33 3B	04 0C 14 1C 24 2C 34 3C	05 0D 15 1D 25 2D 35 3D	06 0E 16 1F 26 2E 36 3E	07 0F 17 1F 27 2F 37 3F
[EAX*2] [ECX*2] [EDX*2] [EBX*2] none [EBP*2] [ESI*2] [EDI*2]	01	000 001 010 011 100 101 110 111	40 48 50 58 60 68 70 78	41 49 51 59 61 69 71 79	42 4A 52 5A 62 6A 72 7A	43 4B 53 5B 63 6B 73 7B	44 4C 54 5C 64 6C 74 7C	45 4D 55 5D 65 6D 75 7D	46 4E 56 5E 66 6E 76 7E	47 4F 57 5F 67 6F 77 7F
[EAX*4] [ECX*4] [EDX*4] [EBX*4] none [EBP*4] [ESI*4] [EDI*4]	10	000 001 010 011 100 101 110 111	80 88 90 98 A0 A8 B0 B8	81 89 91 99 A1 A9 B1 B9	82 8A 92 9A A2 AA B2 BA	83 8B 93 9B A3 AB B3 BB	84 8C 94 9C A4 AC B4 BC	85 8D 95 9D A5 AD B5 BD	86 8E 96 9E A6 AE B6 BE	87 8F 97 9F A7 AF B7 BF
[EAX*8] [ECX*8] [EDX*8] [EBX*8] none [EBP*8] [ESI*8] [EDI*8]	11	000 001 010 011 100 101 110 111	C0 C8 D0 D8 E0 E8 F0 F8	C1 C9 D1 D9 E1 E9 F1 F9	C2 CA D2 DA E2 EA F2 FA	C3 CB D3 DB E3 EB F3 FB	C4 CC D4 DC E4 EC F4 FC	C5 CD D5 DD E5 ED F5 FD	C6 CE D6 DE E6 EE F6 FE	C7 CF D7 DF E7 EF F7 FF

**NOTES:**

1. The [\*] nomenclature means a disp32 with no base if the MOD is 00B. Otherwise, [\*] means disp8 or disp32 + [EBP]. This provides the