

From 08dd37c35ec5e64e26aacb8514437f54708f7fd1 Mon Sep 17 00:00:00 2001
 From: Toddr Bot <toddbot@rinaldo.us>
 Date: Mon, 16 Mar 2026 22:16:11 +0000
 Subject: [PATCH] fix: off-by-one heap buffer overflow in st_serial_stack
 growth check

When `st_serial_stackptr == st_serial_stacksize - 1`, the old check
 (`stackptr >= stacksize`) would not trigger reallocation. The subsequent
`++stackptr` then writes at index `stacksize`, one element past the
 allocated buffer.

Fix by checking `stackptr + 1 >= stacksize` so the buffer is grown
 before the pre-increment write.

Add a deep nesting test (600 levels) to exercise this code path.

Fixes #39

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```
---
Expat/Expat.xs | 2 +-
t/deep_nesting.t | 22 +++++
2 files changed, 23 insertions(+), 1 deletion(-)
create mode 100644 t/deep_nesting.t
```

```
diff --git a/Expat/Expat.xs b/Expat/Expat.xs
index 5f9b193..0226a24 100644
--- a/Expat/Expat.xs
+++ b/Expat/Expat.xs
@@ -514,7 +514,7 @@ startElement(void *userData, const char *name, const char **atts)
 }
 }

- if (cbv->st_serial_stackptr >= cbv->st_serial_stacksize) {
+ if (cbv->st_serial_stackptr + 1 >= cbv->st_serial_stacksize) {
     unsigned int newsize = cbv->st_serial_stacksize + 512;
```

```
Renew(cbv->st_serial_stack, newsize, unsigned int);
diff --git a/t/deep_nesting.t b/t/deep_nesting.t
new file mode 100644
index 0000000..8237b5f
--- /dev/null
+++ b/t/deep_nesting.t
@@ -0,0 +1,22 @@
+BEGIN { print "1..1\n"; }
+
+# Test for deeply nested elements to exercise st_serial_stack reallocation.
+# This catches off-by-one errors in the stack growth check (GH #39).
+
+use XML::Parser;
+
+my $depth = 600;
+
+my $xml = '';
+for my $i (1 .. $depth) {
+    $xml .= "<e$i>";
+}
+for my $i (reverse 1 .. $depth) {
+    $xml .= "</e$i>";
+}
+
+my $p = XML::Parser->new;
+eval { $p->parse($xml) };
+
```

3/29/26, 8:37 AM

```
+print "not " if $@;  
+print "ok 1\n";
```