

# Vulnerability Assessment and Secure Coding Practices for Middleware

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## Part 2 Roadmap

- **Part 1: Vulnerability assessment process**
- **Part 2: Secure coding practices**
  - Introduction
  - Handling errors
  - Numeric parsing
  - ISO/IEC 24731 intro
  - Variadic functions
  - Buffer overflows
  - Injections
  - Directory traversal
  - Integer
  - Race conditions
  - File system issues
  - Canonical form
  - Privileges
  - Command line
  - Environment
  - Denial of service
  - Information leaks
  - Memory allocators
  - General engineering
  - Compiler warnings



# Vulnerability Types

- Description of vulnerability
- Signs of presence in the code
- Mitigations
- Safer alternatives

# Handling Errors

- If a call can fail, always check for errors  
**optimistic error handling (i.e. none) is bad**
- When error is detected
  - Handle locally and continue
  - Cleanup and propagate the error
  - Exit the application
- All APIs you use, or develop, that can fail need to be able to report errors to the caller
- Using exceptions forces error handling

# Numeric Parsing

## No Error Indication

- `atoi`, `atol`, `atof`, `scanf` family (with `%u`, `%i`, `%d`, `%x` and `%o` specifiers)
  - Out of range values results in unspecified behavior
  - Non-numeric input results in 0
  - Use `strtol`, `strtoul`, `strtoll`, `strtoull`, `strtof`, `strtod`, `strtold` which allow error detection

## Correct Numeric Parsing

```
char *endptr;
long longVal;

errno = 0;                /* clear to detect all errs */
longVal = strtol(s, &endptr, 10);
if (errno == ERANGE)
    {ERROR("overflow");}
if (endptr == 0)           /* errno is EINVAL */
    {ERROR("non-numeric");}
if (errno != 0)
    {ERROR("other error");}
if (*endptr != '\0')      /* parse ok, optional errors */
    {ERROR("non-numeric at end");}
if (isspace(*s))
    {ERROR("space at beginning");}
```

# Correct Numeric Parsing in C++

- **iostream inserter's**
  - Type safe
  - All errors set stream to failed (test with `!is`)
  - Use `istringstream` to parse a string

```
istringstream is("123 87.32");
is >> i >> f;
if (!is) {ERROR("parse error");}
```
- **Boost's `lexical_cast<T>(s)`**
  - <http://www.boost.org>
  - Throw's `bad_lexical_cast` exception on failure



41



## Missing Error Detection

- `strcat`, `strcpy`, `strncat`, `strncpy`, `gets`, `getpass`, `getwd`, `scanf` (with `%s` or `% [...]`, without width specified)
  - Unable to report if buffer would overflow (not enough information present)
  - Only secure in rare case where files or strings are verified for secure values before use
  - **Never use these**



42



# ISO/IEC 24731

## Extensions for the C library: Part 1, Bounds Checking Interface

- Functions to make the C library safer
- Meant to easily replace existing library calls with little or no other changes
- Aborts on error or optionally reports error
- Very few unspecified behaviors
- All updated buffers require a size
- <http://www.open-std.org/jtcl/sc22/wg14>



43



## ISO/IEC 24731: Run-time Constraints

- Property of the arguments that must be true at call time
- Violations handled by callback
  - default is to abort
- Common run-time constraints
  - `rsizet` parameter type
    - size of the buffer or amount to copy
    - violation if `size > RSIZE_MAX`
    - catches large size caused by integer overflow
  - Buffer pointers not `NULL`
  - `dst` buffer too small for operation
    - usually a violation (`snprintf` truncates)



44



# Variadic Functions

- C functions that can take a variable number of parameters
- Not type safe
- Common variadic functions
  - `printf`, `scanf`, `syslog` families
    - never take the format string from the user
    - use compile time constants for format string
    - use compiler warnings
    - in C++, use iostreams instead
  - `exec1` family
  - `open` with `O_CREAT` (3rd argument is the mode)

# Buffer Overflows

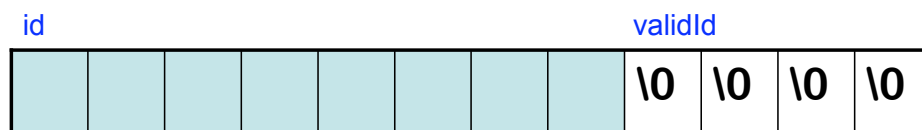
- Description
  - Accessing locations of a buffer outside the boundaries of the buffer
- Common causes
  - C-style strings
  - Array access and pointer arithmetic in languages without bounds checking
  - Off by one errors
  - Fixed large buffer sizes (make it big and hope)
  - Decoupled buffer pointer and its size
    - If size unknown overflows are impossible to detect
    - Require synchronization between the two
    - Ok if size is implicitly known and every use knows it (hard)

# Why Buffer Overflows are Dangerous

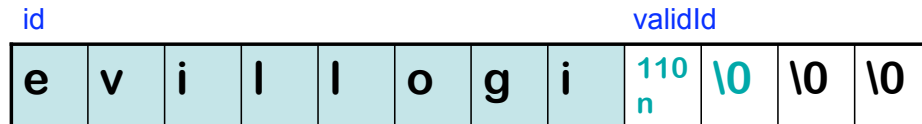
- An overflow overwrites memory adjacent to a buffer
- This memory could be
  - Unused
  - Code
  - Program data that can affect operations
  - Internal data used by the runtime system
- Usual sign is a crash
- Specially crafted values can be used for an attack

## Buffer Overflow of User Data Affecting Flow of Control

```
char id[8];  
int  validId = 0;  /* not valid */
```



```
gets(id);  /* reads "evillogin" */
```



```
/* validId is now 110 decimal */  
if (IsValid(id)) validId = 1;  
if (validId)  
    {DoPrivilegedOp();} /* gets executed */
```

# C-style String Design Flaws

- Null terminated array of characters
- Represented by a pointer to this array
- Not a proper type, just a convention
- Only language support is string literals
  - Initialize a char array
  - Create array containing a constant string literal
- Problems
  - Null may be missing
  - Pointers are difficult to use correctly
  - Size of buffer is kept externally from pointer if at all
  - Many common operations are expensive
  - Can't have a string with a null in it



49



## Buffer Overflow Danger Signs: Missing Buffer Size

- **gets**, **getpass**, **getwd**, and **scanf** family  
(with **%s** or **% [...]** specifiers without width)
  - Impossible to use correctly: size comes solely from user input
  - Alternatives

Unsafe	Safe
<code>gets(s)</code>	<code>fgets(s, sLen, stdin)</code>
<code>getcwd(s)</code>	<code>getwd(s, sLen)</code>
<code>scanf("%s", s)</code>	<code>scanf("%100s", s)</code>



50





# Buffer Overflow Danger Signs: scanf family

- Max field can not be taken from an argument
  - \* width suppresses assignment
- **%nc** does not null terminate
- **%ns** and **%n[...]** require a buffer of size **n+1**
- Requires manual coordination of format string, number and types of arguments, and result

Example: 3 items must be coordinated

```
char big[100], small[10];  
int r, j;  
r = scanf("%99s %9s %d", big, small, &j);  
If (r == EOF) ERROR("EOF")  
If (r != 3) ERROR("bad line");
```

## strcat, strcpy, sprintf, vsprintf

- Impossible for function to detect overflow
  - Destination buffer size not passed
- Difficult to use safely w/o preflight checks
  - Checks require destination buffer size
  - Length of data formatted by printf
  - Difficult & error prone
  - Best incorporated in the function

### Proper usage: concat s1, s2 into dst

```
If (dstSize < strlen(s1) + strlen(s2) + 1)  
    {ERROR("buffer overflow");}  
strcpy(dst, s1);  
strcat(dst, s2);
```

# Buffer Overflow Danger Signs: Difficult to Use and Truncation

- `strncat(dst, src, n)`
  - `n` is the maximum number of chars of `src` to append (trailing null also appended)
  - *can overflow if* `n >= (dstSize - strlen(dst))`
- `strncpy(dst, src, n)`
  - Writes `n` chars into `dst`, if `strlen(src) < n`, it fills the other `n - strlen(src)` chars with 0's
  - If `strlen(src) >= n`, `dst` is not null terminated
- Truncation detection not provided
- Deceptively insecure
  - `n` is not a static value, same check required as `strcat`

## Safer String Handling: C-library functions

- `snprintf(buf, bufSize, fmt, ...)` and `vsnprintf`
  - Truncation detection possible (`result >= bufSize` implies truncation)
  - Can be used as a safer version of `strcpy` and `strcat`
  - Officially doesn't exist until C99 standard

Proper usage: concat `s1`, `s2` into `dst`

```
r = snprintf(dst, dstSize, "%s%s", s1, s2);  
If (r >= dstSize)  
    {ERROR("truncation");}
```

## Safer String Handling: BSD's `strlcpy` and `strlcat`

- `strlcpy(dst, src, size)` and `strlcat(dst, src, size)`
  - `size` is always the size of the `dst` buffer
  - Returns number of chars required
  - `result >= size` indicates truncation
  - `dst` always null terminated, except `strlcat` where `dst` is not terminated
  - Can read outside `src` if not null-terminated
  - Not universally implemented (not in linux)

## Safer String Handling: BSD's `strlcpy` and `strlcat`

### Proper usage: concat `s1`, `s2` into `dst`

```
/* safe to just check errors at last call */
(void)strlcpy(dst, s1, dstSize);

r = strlcat(dst, s2, dstSize)
if (r >= dstSize) {
    if (r == dstSize && dst[r] != '\0') {
        /* this should not happen as
           strlcpy will always terminate */
        ERROR("unterminated dst");
    } else {
        ERROR("truncation");
    }
}
```

# ISO/IEC 24731: string and memory functions

- Very easy to convert typical unsafe code
  - Add **`_s`** to function name
  - Add destination buffer size parameter

## Proper usage: concat s1, s2 into dst

```
/* program will abort on error */  
strcpy_s(dst, dstSize, s1);  
strcat_s(dst, dstSize, s2);
```

# Preventing Buffer Overflows in C++

- Don't use pointers, C-style string, or C-arrays
- **`std::string`**
  - Buffer, length and current size are encapsulated together
  - Dynamically sized
  - Provides many useful and efficient methods
- **`std::vector<>`**
  - Dynamically sized array
  - Safe except **`operator[]`** (use **`at`** method for safety)
- **`std::array<>`** (new in C++ TR1)
  - Fixed size array

## Proper usage: concat s1, s2 into dst

```
dst = s1 + s2;
```

# Potential Problems with C++ Strings

- System call and libraries expect C-strings
  - `c_str` method will return a constant C-string pointer
  - Valid only until string is modified
  - Nulls are allowed
    - Truncated at first null when converted to C-string
    - If tests are done on C++-string and used as a C-string these may be different
    - Same problem in other languages such as Perl
- Denial of service if length not restricted



59



# Injection Attacks

- Description
  - A string constructed with user input, that is then interpreted by another function, where the string is not parsed as expected
    - Command injection (in a shell)
    - Format string attacks (in printf/scanf)
    - SQL injection
    - Cross-site scripting or XSS (in HTML)
- General causes
  - Allowing metacharacters
  - Not properly quoting user data if metacharacters are allowed



60



# SQL Injections

- User supplied values used in SQL command must be validated, quoted, or prepared statements must be used
- Signs of vulnerability
  - Uses a database mgmt system (DBMS)
  - Uses SQL commands created at run-time
- Do not use SQL fragments from user
  - create parsable language
  - securely translate to limited SQL

## SQL Injection Attacks

- Dynamically generated SQL without validation or quoting is vulnerable

```
$u = " ' ; drop table t --"
$sth = $dbh->do("select * from t where u = '$u'")
-- select * from t where u = ' ' ; drop table t --'
```

- Quoting values is safe if done correctly

```
$u = " \\' ; drop table t --";      # perl eats one \
$u =~ s/'/'/'/g;                  # quote (' -> '')
$sth = $dbh->do("select * from t where u = '$u'")
-- select * from t where u = ' \\' ; drop table t --'
```

- What is correctly? Previous example is correct in standard SQL, but incorrect in systems that allow \-escapes

# SQL Injection Mitigations

- Best to **use prepared statements**

```
$sth = $dbh->do("select * from t where u = ?", $u)
```

- Use library functions to perform quoting

```
$sth = $dbh->do("select * from t where u = "  
    . $dbh->quote($u) )
```

- Other SQL safe practices

- Views can be used to limit access to data
- Stored procedures can help, but not if they dynamically create and execute SQL
- Restrict rights of database account to minimum required

# Command Injections

- User supplied data used to create a string that is interpreted by command shell such as **/bin/sh**
- Signs of vulnerability
  - Use of **popen**, or **system**
  - **exec** of a shell such as **sh**, or **cs****h**
- Usually done to start another program
  - That has no C API
  - Out of laziness

# Command Injection Mitigations

- Check user input for metacharacters
- Quote those that can't be eliminated or rejected
  - replace single quotes with the four characters, `'\''`, and enclose each argument in single quotes
- Beware of program argument injections, allowing arguments to begin with `" – "` can be dangerous
- Use `fork`, drop privileges and `exec` for more control
- Avoid if at all possible
- Use C API if exists

## Perl Command Injection Danger Signs

- `open(F, $filename)`
  - Filename is a tiny language besides opening
    - Open files in various modes
    - Can start programs
    - dup file descriptors
  - If `$userFile` is `"rm -rf /|"`, you probably won't like the result
  - Use separate mode version of open to eliminate vulnerability



# Perl Command Injection Danger Signs

- Vulnerable to shell interpretation

```
open (C, "$cmd|")      open (C, "-|", $cmd)
open (C, "|$cmd")      open (C, "|-", $cmd)
`$cmd`                 qx/$cmd/
system($cmd)
```

- Safe from shell interpretation

```
open(C, "-|", @argList)
open(C, "|-", @cmdList)
system(@argList)
```

## Eval Injections

- A string formed from user supplied input that is used as an argument that is interpreted by the language running the code
- Usually allowed in scripting languages such as Perl, shells, and SQL
- In Perl `eval($s)` and `s/$pat/$replace/ee`
  - `$s` and `$replace` are evaluated as perl code

# Format String Injections

- User supplied allowed to create format strings in `scanf` or `printf`
- `printf(userData)` is insecure
  - `%n` can be used to write memory
  - large field width values can be used to create a denial of service attack
  - Safe to use `printf("%s", userData)` or `fputs(userData, stdout)`
- `scanf(userData, ...)` allows arbitrary writes to memory pointed to by stack values
- ISO/IEC 24731 does not allow `%n`

# Directory Traversal

- Description
  - When user data is used to create a pathname to a file system object that is supposed to be restricted to a particular set of paths or path prefixes, but which the user can circumvent
- General causes
  - Not checking for path components that are empty, `" . "` or `" . . "`
  - Not creating the canonical form of the pathname (there is an infinite number of distinct strings for the same object)
  - Not accounting for symbolic links

# Directory Traversal Mitigation

- Use `realpath` or something similar to create canonical pathnames
- Use the canonical pathname when comparing filenames or prefixes
- If using prefix matching to check if a path is within directory tree, also check that the next character in the path is the directory separator or `'\0'`

# Integer Vulnerabilities

- **Description**
  - Many programming languages allow silent loss of integer data without warning due to
    - Overflow
    - Truncation
    - Signed vs. unsigned representations
  - Code may be secure on one platform, but silently vulnerable on another, due to different underlying integer types.
- **General causes**
  - Not checking for overflow
  - Mixing integer types of different ranges
  - Mixing unsigned and signed integers

# Integer Danger Signs

- Mixing signed and unsigned integers
- Converting to a smaller integer
- `size_t` is unsigned, `ptrdiff_t` is signed
- Using a built-in type instead of the API's typedef type
- Not assigning values to a variable of the correct type before data validation, so the validated value is not the same as the value used

# Race Conditions

- Description
  - A race condition occurs when multiple threads of control try to perform a non-atomic operation on a shared object, such as
    - Multithreaded applications accessing shared data
    - Accessing external shared resources such as the file system
- General causes
  - Using threads without proper synchronization including non-thread (non-reentrant) safe functions
  - Performing non-atomic sequences of operations on shared resources (file system, shared memory) and assuming they are atomic
  - Signal handlers

# File System Race Conditions

- A file system maps a path, name of a file or other object in the file system, to the internal identifier (device and inode)
- If an attacker can control any component of the path, multiple uses of a path can result in different file system objects
- Safe use of path
  - eliminate race condition
    - use only once
    - use file descriptor for other uses
  - verify multiple uses are consistent

## Race Conditions Checking File Properties

- Use the path to check properties of a file, and then open the file (also called time of check, time of use TOCTOU)
  - **access** followed by **open**
    - Safe to just set the effective ids and then just open the file
  - **stat** followed by **open**
    - Safe to **open** the file and then **fstat** the file descriptor

# Race Condition File Attributes

- Using the path to create or open a file and then using the same path to change the ownership or mode of the file
  - Best to create the file with the correct owner, group, and mode at creation
  - Otherwise the file should be created with restricted permissions and then changed to less restrictive using `fchown` and `fchmod`
  - If created with lax permissions there is a race condition between the attacker opening the file and permissions being changed

# Race Condition Creating a File

- Want to atomically check if file exists and create if not, or fail if it exists
- Common solution is to check if file exists with `stat`, then `open` if it doesn't
- Open a file or create it if does not exist
  - `creat(fname, mode)`
  - `open(fname, O_CREAT|O_WRONLY|O_TRUNC, mode)`
- Must use `O_CREAT|O_EXCL` to get desired property
- Never use `O_CREAT` without `O_EXCL`

# Race Condition Creating a File

- `open` also fails if the last component of the path is a symbolic link when using `O_CREAT|O_EXCL`
- `fopen` **never** uses `O_EXCL`
  - Only use for read mode
  - For append or write modes use `open` and `fdopen` to create a `FILE*` from a file descriptor
- C++ iostreams never use `O_EXCL`
  - No standard way to get iostream from fd
  - Use non-standard extension
  - Use library that can create a stream from a fd, such as <http://www.boost.org/libs/iostream>

# Safely Create or Open a File

- If you want to open or create like `O_CREAT` without `O_EXCL` use the following:

```
f = open(fname, O_CREAT|O_EXCL|O_RDWR, mode);  
if (f == -1 && errno == EEXIST) {  
    f = open(fname, O_RDWR)  
}
```

- Better still use safefile library
  - <http://www.cs.wisc.edu/mist/safefile>  
James A. Kupsch and Barton P. Miller, “How to Open a File and Not Get Hacked,” 2008 Third International Conference on Availability, Reliability and Security (ARES), Barcelona, Spain
  - Does the above and much more

# Race Condition Temporary Files

- Temporary directory (`/tmp`) is the bad part of town for the file system
- Any process can create a file there
- Usually has the sticky bit set, so only the owner can delete their files
- Ok to create true temporary files here
  - Created, immediately deleted, and only accessed through the original file descriptor
  - Storage vanishes when file descriptor is closed
- Safe use of `/tmp` directory
  - create a secure directory in `/tmp`
  - use it to store files



81



# Race Condition Temporary Files

- `mktemp`, `tmpnam`, or `tempnam`, then `open`
  - Return filename that does not exist
  - a race condition exists if `O_EXCL` is not used
- Use `mkstemp` which returns the filename and a file descriptor to the opened file (use `umask` to restrict privileges)
- To create a directory use `mkdtemp` if available or the following:

```
for (int j = 0; j < 10; ++j) {
    strcpy(path, template);
    if (mktemp(path) == NULL) {ERROR("mktemp failed");}
    if (mkdir(path) != -1 || errno != EEXIST) {
        break;
    }
}
```



82





# Race Condition Examples

- Your Actions

```
s=strdup("/tmp/zXXXXXX")
tempnam(s)
// s now "/tmp/zRANDOM"

f = fopen(s, "w+")
// writes now update
// /etc/passwd
```

## Safe Version

```
fd = mkstemp(s)
f = fdopen(fd, "w+")
```

time

- Attackers Action

```
link = "/etc/passwd"
file = "/tmp/zRANDOM"
symlink(link, file)
```



83



## Non-canonical Forms

- If one value can be encoded in multiple different forms they must be converted to a unique canonical form before comparison
  - Paths: use (device, inode) pair, or convert to a canonical form using realpath
  - Usernames and groups: use uid and gid
  - utf: convert to utf-32 or canonical form
  - HTML & URL encoded: decode
  - Case insensitive: convert to all lower (some languages lose info if converted to upper)



84



# Non-canonical Forms

- In weakly typed language, such as a shell or Perl, where a value can be a number or string use the correct comparison operator
  - Comparing numbers lexically is bad
    - `"100" le "2"`
    - `"000" ne "0"`
  - Comparing strings numerically is bad
    - `"111111" > "9sdf1kj"`
    - `"000" == "0abc"`
    - `"xyz" == "abc"`

# Not Dropping Privilege

- Description
  - When a program running with a privileged status (running as root for instance), creates a process or tries to access resources as another user
- General causes
  - Running with elevated privilege
  - Not dropping all inheritable process attributes such as uid, gid, euid, egid, supplementary groups, open file descriptors, root directory, working directory
  - not setting close-on-exec on sensitive file descriptors

# Not Dropping Privilege: `chroot`

- `chroot` changes the root directory for the process, files outside cannot be accessed
- Only root can use `chroot`
- Need to `chdir("/")` to somewhere underneath the new root directory, otherwise relative pathnames are not restricted
- Need to recreate all support files used by program in new root: `/etc`, libraries, ...

## Insecure Permissions

- Set `umask` when using `mkstemp` or `fopen`
  - File permissions need to be secure from creation to destruction
- Don't write sensitive information into insecure locations (directories need to have restricted permission to prevent replacing files)
- Executables, libraries, configuration, data and log files need to be write protected

# Insecure Permissions

- If a file controls what can be run as a privileged users that can update the file are equivalent to the privileged user
  - Owned by privileged user
  - Owned by administrative account
    - No login
    - Never executes anything, just owns files
- DBMS accounts should be granted minimal privileges for their task

# Trusted Directory

- A trusted directory is one where only trusted users can update the contents of anything in the directory or any of its ancestors all the way to the root
- A trusted path needs to check all components of the path including symbolic links referents for trust
- A trusted path is immune to TOCTOU attacks from untrusted users
- safefile library
  - <http://www.cs.wisc.edu/mist/safefile>
  - Determines trust based on trusted users & groups

# Command Line

- **Description**
  - Convention is that `argv[0]` is the path to the executable
  - Shells enforce this behavior, but it can be set to anything if you control the parent process
- **General causes**
  - Using `argv[0]` as a path to find other files such as configuration data
  - Process needs to be `setuid` or `setgid` to be a useful attack



91



# Environment

- **Description**
  - A program's environment is a list of strings that a program is allowed to interpret. Libraries are also allowed to use the environment to alter their behavior. Since changes to the environment can alter the execution of a program, library code, and spawned programs, the environment must be carefully controlled.
- **General causes**
  - Not sanitizing the environment
  - Allowing user input to alter the environment
  - Not fully specified as to what happens when multiple values with the same name, or value without '=' in it



92



# Environment Mitigation

- Record needed values of the environment, sanitize them, clear the environment, add only necessary values, discard others
- Don't make assumptions about size of values
- Don't allow code from the user to set environment
- Use `execle` or `execve` to start a process with user supplied environment variables
- Use `setenv` instead of `putenv`

# Environment Mitigation

- **PATH**: list of directories to search for executables given as just a name
  - Only used by `execle` and `execvp`
  - Use `execle` or `execve` and full paths
  - Set **PATH** to something safe `/bin:/usr/bin`
- **LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH**: list of directories to search for shared libraries, could be used to inject a library into your process
- Many others

# Denial of Service

- **Description**
  - Programs becoming unresponsive due to over consumption of a limited resource or unexpected termination.
- **General causes**
  - Not releasing resources
  - Crash causing bugs
  - Infinite loops or data causing algorithmic complexity to consume excessive resources
  - Failure to limit data sizes
  - Failure to limit wait times
  - Leaks of scarce resources (memory, file descriptors)

# Information Leaks

- **Description**
  - Inadvertent divulgence of sensitive information
- **General causes**
  - Reusing buffers without completely erasing
  - Providing extraneous information that an adversary may not be able to otherwise obtain
    - Generally occurs in error messages
    - Give as few details as possible
    - Log full details to a database and return id to user, so admin can look up details if needed

# Information Leaks

- **General causes (cont.)**
  - Timing attacks where the duration of the operation depends on secret information
  - Lack of encryption when using observable channels
  - Allowing secrets on devices where they can't be erased such as swap space (use `mlock`) or backups

## General Software Engineering

- **Don't trust user data**
  - You don't know where that data has been
- **Don't trust your own client software either**
  - It may have been modified, so always revalidate data at the server.
- **Don't trust your operational configuration either**
  - If your program can test for unsafe conditions, do so and quit
- **Don't trust your own code either**
  - Program defensively with checks in high and low level functions
- **KISS - Keep it simple, stupid**
  - Complexity kills security, its hard enough assessing simple code



## Let the Compiler Help

- Turn on compiler warnings and fix problems
- Easy to do on new code
- Time consuming, but useful on old code
- Use lint, multiple compilers
- gcc: **-Wall, -W, -O2, -Werror, -Wshadow, -Wpointer-arith, -Wconversion, -Wcast-qual, -Wwrite-strings, -Wunreachable-code** and many more
  - Many useful warning including security related warnings such as format strings and integers

## Let the Perl Compiler Help

- **-w** - produce warning about suspect code and runtime events
- **use strict** - fail if compile time
- **use Fatal** - cause built-in function to raise an exception on error instead of returning an error code
- **use diagnostics** - better diagnostic messages

# Perl Taint Mode

- Taint mode (-T) prevents data from untrusted sources from being used in dangerous ways
- Untrusted sources
  - Data read from a file descriptor
  - Command line arguments
  - Environment
  - User controlled fields in password file
  - Directory entries
  - Link referents
  - Shared memory
  - Network messages
- Environment sanitizing required for **exec**



101



## Books

- Viega, J. & McGraw, G. (2002). *Building Secure Software: How to Avoid Security Problems the Right Way*. Addison-Wesley.
- Seacord, R. C. (2005). *Secure Coding in C and C++*. Addison-Wesley.
- Seacord, R. C. (2009). *The CERT C Secure Coding Standard*, Addison-Wesley.
- McGraw, G. (2006). *Software security: Building Security In*. Addison-Wesley.
- Dowd, M., McDonald, J., & Schuh, J. (2006). *The Art of Software Assessment: Identifying and Preventing Software Vulnerabilities*. Addison-Wesley.



102





# Questions

<http://www.cs.wisc.edu/mist>



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