

Secure Software Development

Defensive Programming

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1. Defense-in-Depth
2. Defensive Programming Overview
 - Safety Concepts
 - Secure Data Flow
 - Secure Control Flow
 - General Principles
 - Improve Code Quality
3. Summary & Outlook



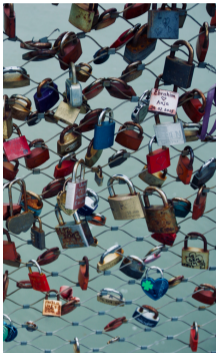
Defense-in-Depth



👉 Understand the attacker's perspective



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- 👍 Defend on all layers
 - The weakest link will break first

Attacker's perspective

-  Vulnerability discovery
-  Exploitation
-  Privilege elevation

Defender's perspective




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-  **Vulnerability prevention** (today)

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- 🔍 **Vulnerability prevention** (today)
- 👤 Exploit prevention (next time)
- 🔑 Privilege minimization (next time)



Attacker's perspective

Vulnerability discovery

- buffer/integer overflow, use-after-free, format strings, type confusion

Exploitation

- Data corruption, shellcode, code reuse, ROP, return-to-libc

Privilege elevation

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Defender's perspective

Vulnerability prevention

- Code quality, memory safety, type safety, error handling ...

Exploit prevention

- Compiler/runtime defenses, hardware defenses

Privilege minimization

- System call filtering, sandboxing, virtualization





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 - Model-based Testing, Verification and Testing



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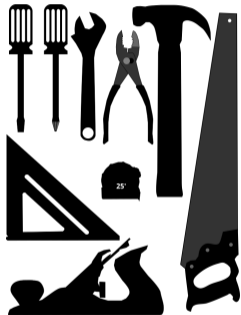


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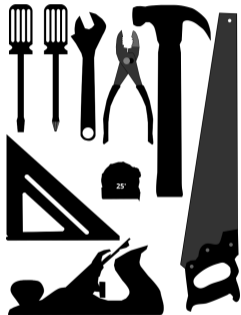


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- ▣ Overall goal II: Make exploitation as hard as possible (System hardening)

Defensive Programming Overview

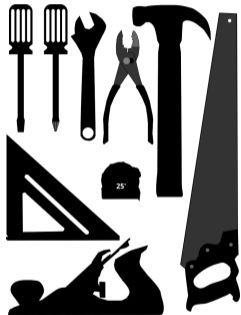


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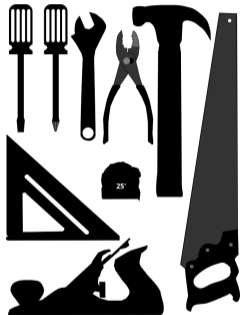
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- ▮ Memory safety



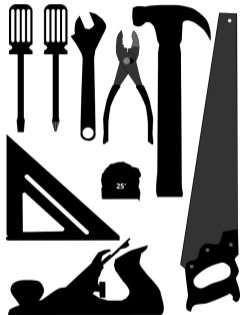
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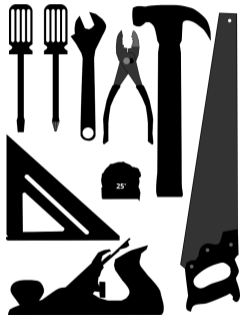
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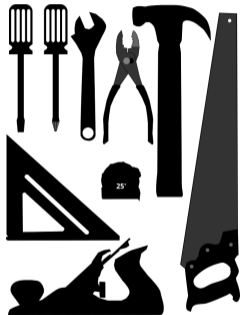
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- ❏ Secure data flow



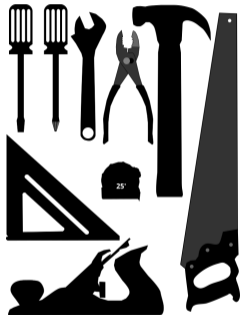
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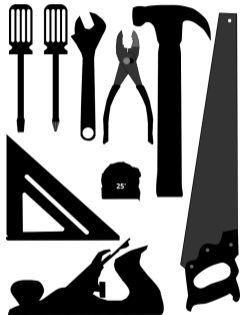
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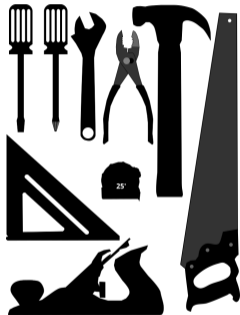
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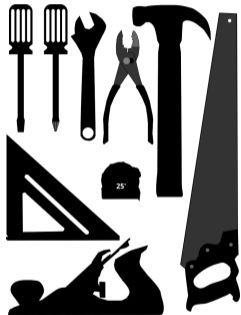


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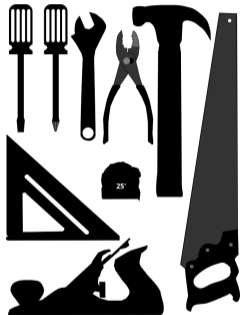


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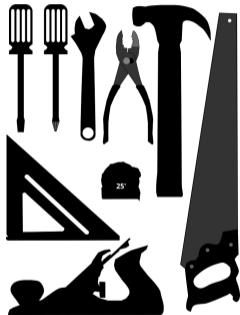


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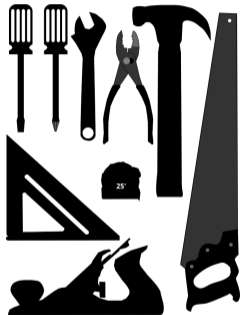


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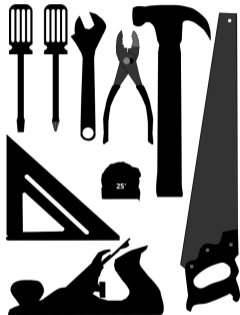


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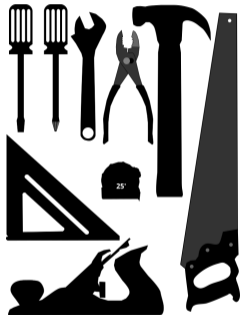


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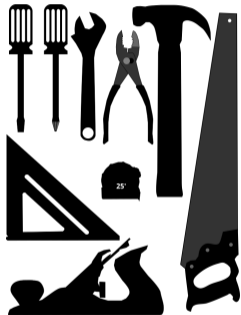


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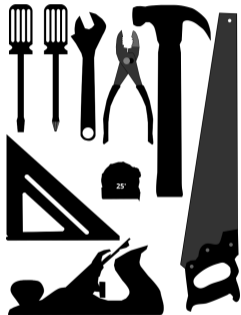


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 - Memory-safe languages: Compiler can optimize out unnecessary bounds checks



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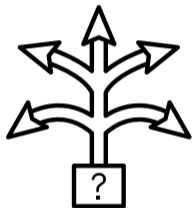
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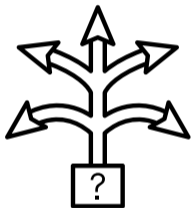
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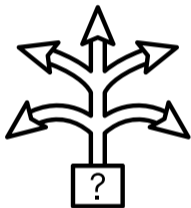
- Avoids use-after-free (UAF)

```
memset(ptr, 0, size); free(ptr); ptr = NULL;
```



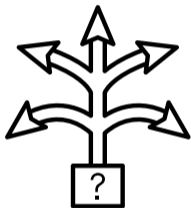


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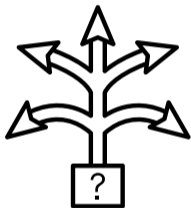
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- Avoid C++ `reinterpret_cast`

- General concept





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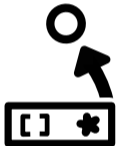
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- ☹ Typically consume 2–5 times more memory per pointer



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int y = ...;  
long long x = y + 2;    // int-addition might overflow  
long long x = (long long)y + 2LL;
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```
int x = ...;
if (x > SHORT_MAX) error();
short y = (short)x;
```

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👉 Examples:



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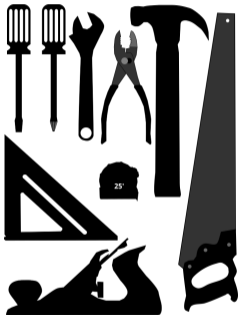
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👋 Unsequenced modifications:

```
int f(int i) {  
    return i++ + i++; /* undefined behavior: two unsequenced  
                      modifications to i */  
}
```





Sub-goals

- ▣ Memory safety
- ▣ Type safety
- ▣ Integer safety
- ▣ **Secure data flow**
 - **Input sanitization**
- ▣ Secure control flow
 - Error handling

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 - Better: Check *every* input
- 👍 **Input sanitization**

JAVA SERIALIZATION BUG CROPS UP AT PAYPAL

by **Michael Mimoso**

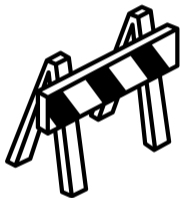
 Follow @mike_mimoso

January 28, 2016 , 9:04 am

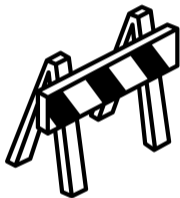
Stepankin said he was able to execute arbitrary shell commands on PayPal servers by taking advantage of insecure Java object deserialization. He wrote in a [blog post](#) that he was able to access PayPal's production servers.

"I realized that I could execute arbitrary OS commands on manager.paypal.com web servers and moreover, I could establish a back connection to my own internet server and, for example, upload and execute a backdoor," he wrote. "[As a] result, I could get access to production databases used by manager.paypal.com application."

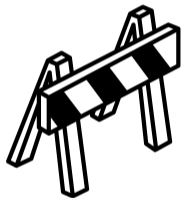
"I just read `"/etc/passwd"` file by sending it to my server as a proof of the vulnerability," he wrote.



🚩 Goal: sanitize dangerous input

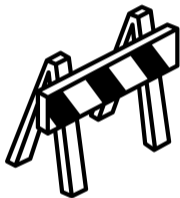


- 🚩 Goal: sanitize dangerous input
 - Detect and reject



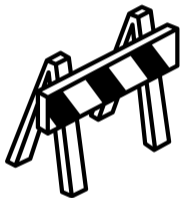
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- Filtering



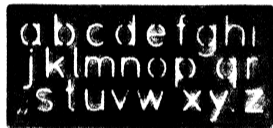
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- Character escaping

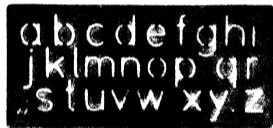


- 🚩 Goal: sanitize dangerous input
 - Detect and reject
 - Filtering
 - Character escaping
 - **Use existing sanitizers wherever possible!**

👉 Issue: equivalent representations make sanitization a pain



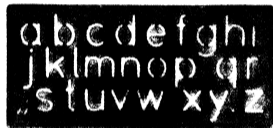
👉 Issue: equivalent representations make sanitization a pain

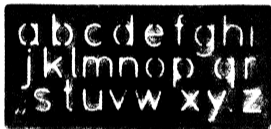


Example: equivalent Unix paths

```
/proc/self/maps  
~/../../../../proc/self/maps  
~/../../../../../../../../proc/1/maps  
/proc/1/./maps  
/proc/1/./././././maps  
/proc/././proc/1/maps  
...
```

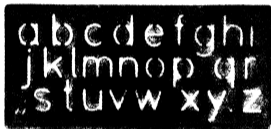
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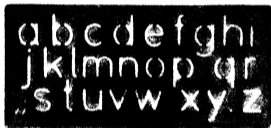
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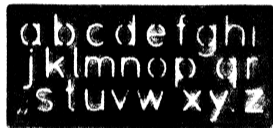
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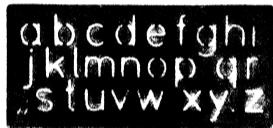
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- `./etc/passwd --> /home/ssd/etc/passwd --> ALLOW`



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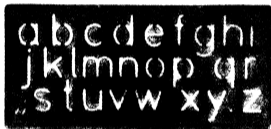
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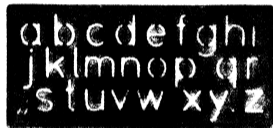
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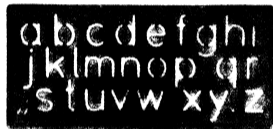
- Resolve symlinks:

- `mylink-to-passwd --> /etc/passwd --> DENY`



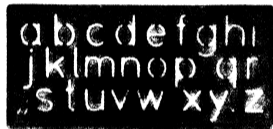
More issues to consider

👉 Newlines: `\r\n` vs. `\n`



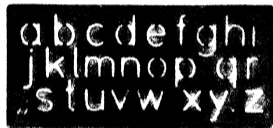
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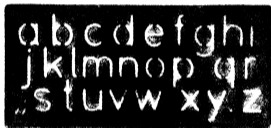
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Please enter your username: Dr.'whoami'  
User Dr.Gruss created.
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- 👍 **Escaping before Interpretation!**



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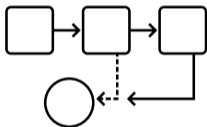
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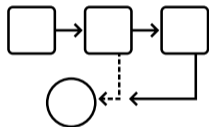
👍 Use existing libraries

IMPACT

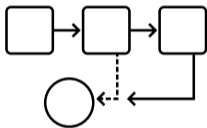
Secure Control Flow



- Return error codes



- Return error codes
- Exception handling



- Return error codes
- Exception handling
- Goto



```
1 FILE* f = fopen("report.log", "a");
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 - Exceptions
 - If there's nothing you can do in case of an error
 - In particular cleanup routines `fclose`, `munmap`, `(free)`



```
1 FILE* f = fopen("report.log", "a");
2 if (NULL == f) { perror("Unable to open file"); return; }
3 assert(0 > fprintf(f, "Server started\n"));
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👉 Compiler might optimize out asserts (line 3)

- `fprintf` is never executed!
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👍 Never use `assert` to check for actual error codes



```
1 char* tmp = realloc(buffer, newsize);  
2 if (NULL == tmp) { return REALLOC_FAILED; }
```


```
1 char* tmp = realloc(buffer, newsize);  
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```

What if newsize is 0?



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A black and white icon of a broken glass, consisting of a square frame containing a silhouette of a glass with a jagged crack running through it.

The `realloc()` function returns a pointer to the newly allocated memory, which is suitably aligned for any built-in type and may be different from `ptr`, or `NULL` if the request fails. If `size` was equal to `0`, either `NULL` or a pointer suitable to be passed to `free()` is returned. If `realloc()` fails, the original block is left untouched; it is not freed or moved.

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👍 Make sure your own functions return proper error codes

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <errno.h>
#include <string.h>
FILE* f = fopen("foo", "rb");
if(f == NULL) {
    //prints:
    //Error Number: 2 No such file or directory
    fprintf(stderr, "Error Number: %d %s", errno, strerror(errno));
    exit(errno);
}
```





- Exceptions can make your code clean

Image source: <https://www.viva64.com/en/b/0426/>



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<http://sunnyday.mit.edu/nasa-class/Ariane5-report.html>

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try
{
    MyClass* a = new MyClass();           // std::bad_alloc exception
    MyClass& b = dynamic_cast<MyClass&>(c); // std::bad_cast exception
}
catch (std::exception& e)
{
    std::cout << "Exception: " << e.what() << std::endl;
}
```

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👉 Exceptions do not save you from thinking through all possibilities



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- 👍 Specify which exceptions your function throws
 - This must include exceptions your function does not catch
- 👍 Catch exceptions at the correct location
 - `main` is likely the wrong location
- 👍 Watch out for information leakage if your webserver publicly dumps the exception trace ;)



💡 Idea: use `goto` as a C-replacement for exceptions



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- 💡 Idea: use `goto` as a C-replacement for exceptions
 - Write cleanup error code only once
- 👉 Use `goto` for nothing else
 - Only jump forward, not backward



```
char *resourceA = NULL;
FILE *resourceB = NULL;
void *resourceC = MAP_FAILED;
int err = SUCCESS;

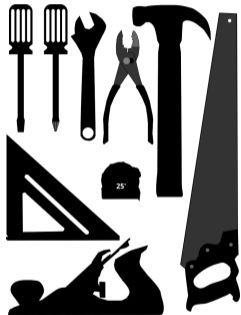
resourceA = malloc(10);
if (NULL == resourceA) {
    err = ERROR_A; goto failed;
}
resourceB = fopen(...);
if (NULL == resourceB) {
    err = ERROR_B; goto failed;
}
resourceC = mmap(...);
if (MAP_FAILED == resourceC) {
    err = ERROR_C; goto failed;
}
return SUCCESS;
```



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resourceC = mmap(...);
if (MAP_FAILED == resourceC) {
    err = ERROR_C; goto failed;
}
return SUCCESS;
```

```
failed:
    if (MAP_FAILED != resourceC) {
        munmap(resourceC);
    }
    if (NULL != resourceB) {
        fclose(resourceB);
    }
    free(resourceA);
    return err;
```



Sub-goals

- ▣ Memory safety
- ▣ Type safety
- ▣ Integer safety
- ▣ Secure data flow
 - Input sanitization
- ▣ Secure control flow
 - Error handling

General principles

- Choose appropriate language
- Improve code quality:
 - Coding standard
 - Source code reuse
 - Assumptions
 - Documentation
 - Testing & Assertions
 - Compiler assistance



- Important characteristics



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 - Performance



- Important characteristics
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 - Features



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- C, C++



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 - High performance
 - Memory safety and type safety by design



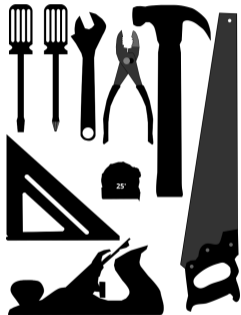
- C, C++
 - High control, high performance
 - Inherently unsafe in many aspects
 - Important use cases
 - C: Low-level kernel/embedded development
 - C++: High-performance application development
 - Maintenance of legacy code
 - Education
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- App / Web development: look out for other languages ...



Sub-goals

- ▣ Memory safety
- ▣ Type safety
- ▣ Integer safety
- ▣ Secure data flow
 - Input sanitization
- ▣ Secure control flow
 - Error handling

General principles

- Choose appropriate language
- **Improve code quality:**
 - **Coding standard**
 - **Source code reuse**
 - **Assumptions**
 - **Documentation**
- Testing & Assertions
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💡 Idea: By improving code quality we



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- Make code more comprehensible to us and to outsiders



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```
int readPassword(const char* path_password) {
    if (NULL == path_password) {
        return ERROR;
    }
    FILE* file_password = fopen(path_password, "r");
    if (NULL != file_password) {
        return ERROR;
    }
    ...
}
```

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 - Copy macro parameters if used multiple times. It might be a statement with side effects e.g., `i++`



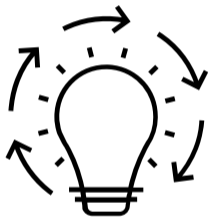


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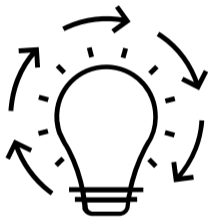


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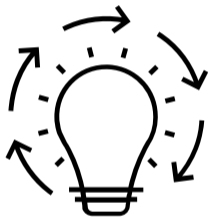
```
#define CHECK_RETURN_ON_ERROR(stmt, err_msg) do { \  
    int result = (int)(stmt); \  
    if (result < 0) { \  
        printf("CHECK failed with %d: %s", result, (err_msg)); \  
        return result; \  
    } \  
} while(0)
```



👉 “Do not rewrite your own \$THING”, especially

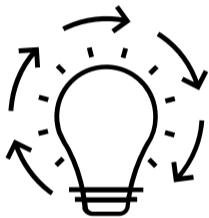


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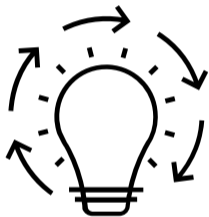
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- Stackoverflow/Copilot should be taken with care

[ADVISORIES](#)[OPERATING SYSTEM](#)[APPLICATION SECURITY](#)[NETWORK](#)[TOOLS](#)

One ring to rule them all – Same RCE on multiple Trend Micro products

📅 October 8, 2017 👤 Mehmet Ince ➦ Research

One ring bug to rule them all – Widgets of Trend Micro's Products

Most of the Trend Micro's products have a widgets for administrator web page. Although core system written with Java/.NET, this widget mechanism had implemented with PHP. That means, they somehow need to put PHP interpreter on product whenever they decided to use widgets. Which makes it a perfect spot to what we need: a single code base, exist across the different product and awesome way to implement reliable exploit once we have an vulnerability.

For the reasons that I've mentioned above, I performed a code audit for widget system of **Trend Micro OfficeScan** product. Result is quite interesting as well as unfortunate for me. I've found 6 different vulnerability but only 2 of them is **Oday**.

[...]

Conclusion

First of all, I would like to say again, this command injection vulnerability has been patched by Trend Micro for both of these products. If you are a Trend Micro user or your organisation is using any of these products, hurry up! Patch your system.

Having same code base on different products is not something bad. I just wanted to point out that one bug within your framework can cause a massive trouble.



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- E.g., Ariane 5 reused code from old rocket without checking its assumptions



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👉 Know undefined behavior of your programming language

<https://wiki.sei.cmu.edu/confluence/display/c/CC.+Undefined+Behavior>

See no. 51, 52, 53...

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http://www.pixelbeat.org/programming/gcc/static_assert.html
 - 😊 Finally, C11 has native support for static asserts

```
static_assert(sizeof(int) == 4, "int must be 4 bytes");
```




- Write documentation



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 - Functional behavior



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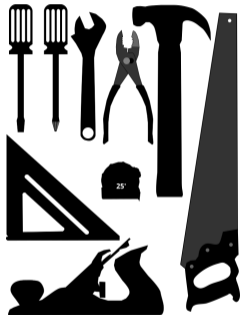
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Sub-goals

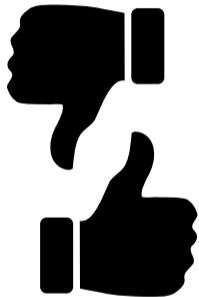
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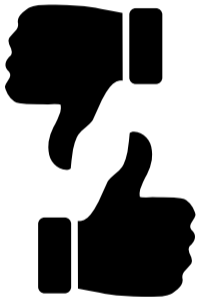
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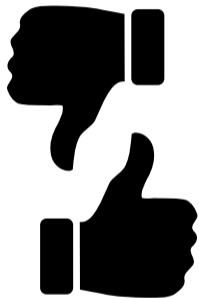
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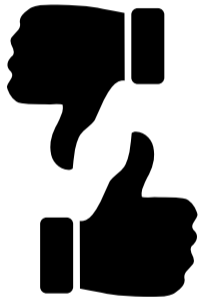
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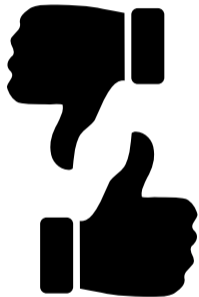
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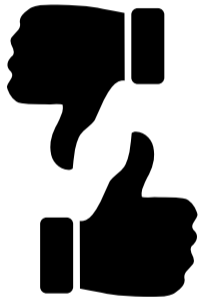
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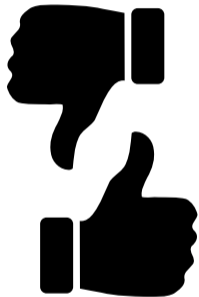
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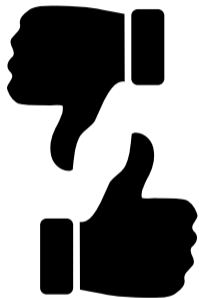
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 - `-DNDEBUG` compiler flag
- 👋 Do not rely on asserts for security!



```
#define TYPE_A 0
#define TYPE_B 1
#define TYPE_MAX 2

typedef struct {
    unsigned int type;
    size_t pos;
    int data[100];
} struct_t;

void internal_print(struct_t* s) {
    assert(s->type < TYPE_MAX); // type must always be valid
    size_t s_len = sizeof(s->data) / sizeof(s->data[0]);
    assert(s->pos < s_len); // pos must always be smaller than len
    for (size_t i = 0; i < s->pos; i++) {
        printf("Data: %d\n", s->data[i]);
    }
}
```



- Compile with `-Wall -Wextra -Wconversion -pedantic` and fix all warnings



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Fortify

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- Compiler adds extra checks to detect buffer overflows
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- Not always possible



- CERT C Programming Language Secure Coding Standard



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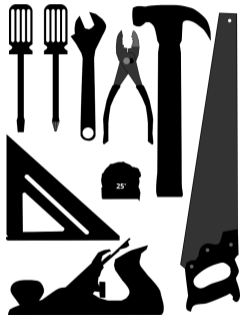


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Summary & Outlook

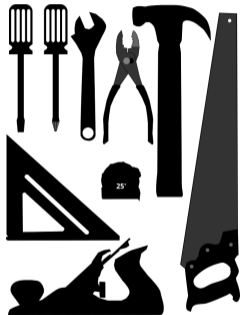


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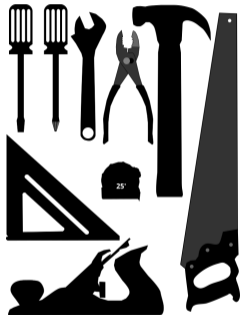


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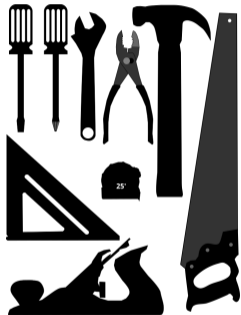


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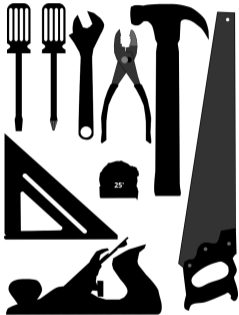


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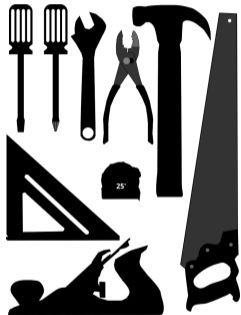


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Attacker's perspective

- 🔍 Vulnerability discovery
- 👤 Exploitation
- 🔑 Privilege elevation

Defender's perspective

- 🔍 Vulnerability prevention (today)
- 👤 **Exploit prevention** (next time)
- 🔑 **Privilege minimization** (next time)

Questions?

If you build it, they will come



Yeah, I'm just
writing the code now.

