

Secure Software Development – SSD

Assignment Defensive Programming

06.12.2023

Winter 2023/24, www.iaik.tugraz.at/ssd

Defensive Programming

Since you're now an **expert in fixing and exploiting bugs**,
it is important to know how to **avoid** them.



- Mistakes happen everywhere
- Especially in low-level C code
 - Look at the defenselets
- It is up to you to write better, safer code

- What does the following code do?
`!ErrorHasOccured() ??!?! HandleError();`
- Error handling, but what is the `??!?!` operator?
`#define MAGIC(e) (sizeof(struct { int:-!!(e); }))`
- It is **magic** of course! What is `:-!!` though?
- Such code is unreadable and easily causes bugs

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/7825055/what-does-the-operator-do-in-c>

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/9229601/what-is-in-c-code>

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/652788/what-is-the-worst-real-world-macros>



- Implement software in a secure manner
 - Use good coding style
 - Use defensive programming principles
 - Do proper error handling
 - Write your own tests
- Become a better software-engineer

Task: Defensive Programming



Defensive-Programming Part 1:

Deadline: 14th of January 23:59 (14.01.2024)

Tag: defensive

Next KU dates (possible to ask assignment questions):

13.12.2023 / 20.12.2023 / 10.01.2024



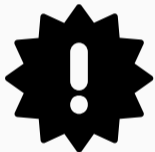
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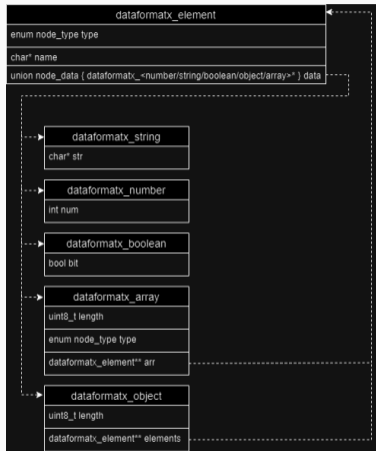
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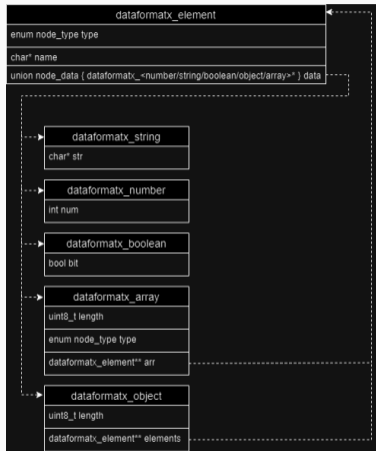
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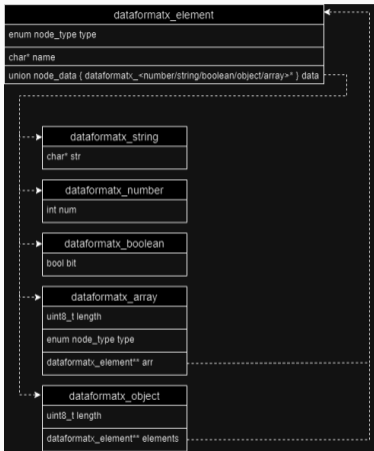
- Upstream: `https://extgit.iaik.tugraz.at/sase/practicals/2023/exercise2023-upstream.git`
 - `defensive/docker.sh`



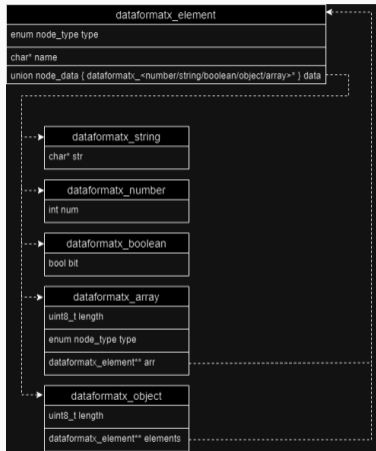
- Library to handle our own dataformat
 - Load/Write to/from files (already implemented)
 - Working with structure (add, remove, create, free nodes)
 - Handle values of nodes (set, get, merge, split, replace)
- Assignment: Implement remaining functionality



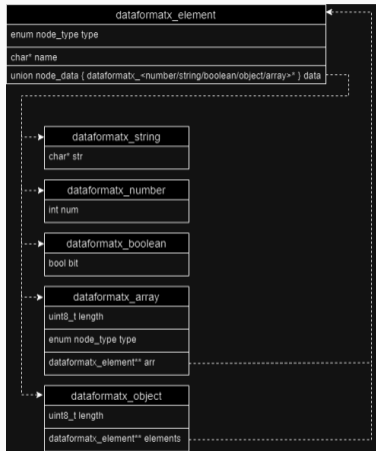
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- Implement the remaining functions in a secure manner!
- Make sure the functions adhere to the documentation
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 - Compiler warnings
 - **Static code analysis** (cppcheck/scan-build)
 - **Valgrind**, **address-sanitizer**, etc.
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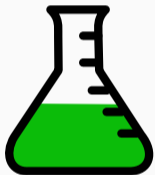
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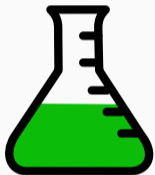


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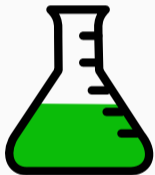
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- They are correct but do not cover all edge cases!
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- Think of corner cases
 - NULL pointers, integer overflows, out of mem, ...
- Good coverage yields **bonus points** (if above 50%)

Overall branch coverage	Bonus points
$65\% \leq cov < 70\%$	1
$70\% \leq cov < 80\%$	2
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$90\% \leq cov < 95\%$	4
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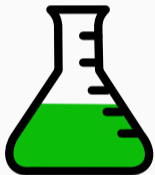
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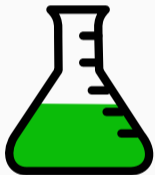
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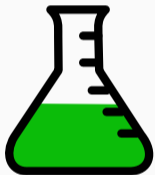
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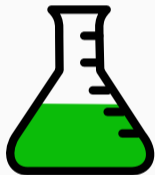
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We test your submission against our own test suite.

Implementation flaws or issues will (in addition to failed testcases) **globally reduce points**, regardless of whether exploitable or not!

- **-5 points per issue**
 - Hard program crash, segfault and similar
 - Memory corruptions/leaks, use after free, use of uninitialized memory
 - other stuff reported by valgrind, address sanitizer & co
 - Format string vulnerability, integer overflow, ...
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