CSE 484 / CSE M 584: Computer Security and Privacy

Spring 2017

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Thanks to Dan Boneh, Dieter Gollmann, Dan Halperin, Yoshi Kohno, John Manferdelli, John Mitchell, Vitaly Shmatikov, Bennet Yee, and many others for sample slides and materials ...

What's Wrong With This Picture?

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Course Staff

- Instructor:
  - Franziska Roesner (Franzi)
- TAs:
  - Viktor Farkas, Garrett Marconet, Jared Moore, Chris Nakovski

- How to reach us: cse484-tas@cs.washington.edu

Waitlist / Overload Instructions

- If you are not yet enrolled:
  - Overload request link: http://tinyurl.com/m9eg43b
  - Code word: <redacted>
  - Honor system: Please don't share this code word with students who did not attend class.

Quiz Sections and Office Hours

- Quiz sections:
  - Thursday, 1:30-2:20pm, JHN 175
  - Thursday, 2:30-3:20pm, JHN 175
- Office hours
  - Franzi: Wednesday 12-1pm, CSE 654
  - Others: TBD

Prerequisites (CSE 484)

- Required: Data Structures (CSE 326) or Data Abstractions (CSE 332)
- Required: Hardware/Software Interface (CSE 351) or Machine Org and Assembly Language (CSE 378)
- Assume: Working knowledge of C and assembly
  - One of the labs will involve writing buffer overflow attacks in C
  - You must have detailed understanding of x86 architecture, stack layout, calling conventions, etc.
- Assume: Working knowledge of software engineering tools for Unix environments (gdb, etc)
- Assume: Working knowledge of Java and JavaScript

Prerequisites (CSE 484)

- Strongly recommended: Computer Networks; Operating Systems
  - Will help provide deeper understanding of security mechanisms and where they fit in the big picture
- Recommended: Complexity Theory; Discrete Math; Algorithms
  - Will help with the more theoretical aspects of this course.

Prerequisites (CSE 484)

- Most of all: Eagerness to learn!
  - This is a 400 level course.
  - We expect you to push yourself to learn as much as possible.
  - We expect you to be a strong, independent learner capable of learning new concepts from the lectures, the readings, and on your own.

Course Logistics (CSE 484)

- Lectures: MWF: 10:30-11:20am ;
  Sections: Thurs: 1:30-2:20pm and 2:30-3:20pm
- Security is a contact sport!
- Labs (45% of the grade)
  - Labs involve a lot of programming
  - Can generally be done in teams of 3 students (see specific lab descriptions for details)
- Homework (25% of grade)
- Participation and in-class activities (10% of the grade)
- Final project (20% of the grade)

Course Logistics (CSE M 584)

- Same as before, but…
- Labs (42% of the grade) [-3%]
- Homework (22% of grade) [-3%]
- Research readings (10%) [+10%]
- Participation and in-class activities (10%)
- Final (16% of the grade) [-4%]

Late Submission Policy

- 3 free late days, no questions asked
  - Cumulative, throughout the quarter
  - Use however you wish (all at once, 3x1, …)
- After that, late assignments will be dropped 20% per calendar day.
  - Late days will be rounded up
  - So an assignment turned in 26 hours late will be downgraded 40%
  - See website for exceptions -- some assignments must be turned in on time

Participation Grade

- In-class activities (like the one from today!)
  - You'll have (at least) 3 free in-class days (for travel etc.)
- Regular contributions to class forums
  - Don't be silent for 9 weeks and then make 10 posts on the last day of the quarter
- In class: harder in a large class, but worth it!

Course Materials

- Textbook:
  - Daswani, Kern, Kesavan, "Foundations of Security"
  - Additional materials linked to from course website
- Attend lectures
  - Lectures will not follow the textbook and will cover a significant amount of material that is not in the textbook
  - Lectures will focus on "big-picture" principles and ideas
- Attend sections
  - Details not covered in lecture, especially about homeworks and labs

Other Helpful Books (Online)

- Ross Anderson, "Security Engineering"
  - Focuses on design principles for secure systems
  - Wide range of entertaining examples: banking, nuclear command and control, burglar alarms
- Menezes, van Oorschot, and Vanstone, "Handbook of Applied Cryptography"
- Many many other useful books exist, not all online

Other Books, Movies, …

- Pleasure books include:
  - Little Brother by Cory Doctorow
    - Available online here http://craphound.com/littlebrother/download/
  - Cryptonomicon and REAMDE by Neal Stephenson
  - The Art of Intrusion and The Art of Deception by Kevin Mitnick
  - Many more -- please feel free to post your favorites on the forum!
- Movies include:
  - Hackers
  - Sneakers
  - Die Hard 4
  - WarGames
  - Many more -- please feel free to post your favorites on the forum!
- Historical texts include:
  - The Codebreakers by David Kahn
  - The Code Book by Simon Singh

Guest Lectures

- We will have a few guest lectures throughout the quarter
  - Useful to give you a different perspective: research, industry, law enforcement, government, legal
  - Most already scheduled, others TBD

Ethics

- To learn to defend systems, you will learn to attack them. You must use this knowledge ethically.

- In order to get a non-zero grade in this course, **you must electronically sign the "Security and Privacy Code of Ethics"** form by 11:59pm on Mon, April 3.

Mailing List

multi_cse484a_sp16@uw.edu

- Make sure you're on the mailing list
  - We'll send a test mail after class; everyone enrolled should receive it
- URL for mailing list on course website
- Used for announcements

Forum

- We've set up a forum for this course to discuss assignments
  - https://catalyst.uw.edu/gopost/board/franzi/43904
- Please use it to discuss the homework assignments and labs and other general class materials
- You can also use it to exercise the "security mindset"
  - (Including discussions of movies, books, and security in the real world)

Labs

- General plan:
  - 3 labs (timeline TBD, tentative date on website)
    - First lab out approximately next Monday
  - Submit to Catalyst system (URL on website)
  - Groups of up to three generally allowed (check each project page for details)
- http://courses.cs.washington.edu/courses/cse484/17sp/assignments.html

Labs

- First lab: Software security
  - Buffer overflow attacks, double-free exploits, format string exploits, …
- Second lab: Web security
  - XSS attacks, SQL injection, …
- Third lab: Mobile security
  - Android

Homework

- 2 or 3 homeworks distributed across the quarter (tentative dates on website)
  - http://courses.cs.washington.edu/courses/cse484/17sp/assignments.html

- Do now: sign ethics form!

Final Project

- **No midterm or final exam!**
- Instead: **12-15 min video** about a security/privacy topic of your choice
  - Groups of up to 3 people
  - Security is a broad field, and this class can't remotely cover everything – this is your chance to explore a security or privacy topic in more detail!
  - Multiple checkpoint deadlines throughout quarter
- Details: http://courses.cs.washington.edu/courses/cse484/17sp/project/final.html

What Does "Security" Mean to You?

- See worksheet, Q1
- (Feel free to answer Q3 now too)

How Systems Fail

Systems may fail for many reasons, including:

- Reliability deals with accidental failures
- Usability deals with problems arising from operating mistakes made by users
- Security deals with intentional failures created by intelligent parties
  - Security is about computing in the presence of an adversary
  - But security, reliability, and usability are all related

Challenges: What is "Security"?

- What does security mean?
  - Often the hardest part of building a secure system is figuring out what security means
  - What are the assets to protect?
  - What are the threats to those assets?
  - Who are the adversaries, and what are their resources?
  - What is the security policy?
- Perfect security does not exist!
  - Security is not a binary property
  - Security is about risk management

Current events, security reviews, and other discussions are designed to exercise our thinking about these issues.

Two Key Themes of this Course

1. How to **think** about security
   - The "Security Mindset" – a "new" way to think about systems
2. **Technical aspects of security**
   - Vulnerabilities and attack techniques
   - Defensive technologies
   - Topics including: software security, cryptography, malware, web security, web privacy, smartphone security, authentication, usable security, anonymity, physical security, security for emerging technologies

What This Course is Not About

- Not a comprehensive course on computer security
  - Computer security is a broad discipline!
  - Impossible to cover everything in one quarter
  - So be careful in industry or wherever you go!
- Not about all of the latest and greatest attacks
  - Read news
- Not a course on ethical, legal, or economic issues
  - We will touch on these issues, but the topic is huge
- Not a course on how to "hack" or "crack" systems
  - Yes, we will learn about attacks … but the ultimate goal is to develop an understanding of attacks so that you can build more secure systems

Theme 1: Security Mindset

- Thinking critically about designs, challenging assumptions
- Being curious, thinking like an attacker
- "That new product X sounds awesome, I can't wait to use it!" versus "That new product X sounds cool, but I wonder what would happen if someone did Y with it…"

- Why it's important
  - Technology changes, so learning to think like a security person is more important than learning specifics of today
  - Will help you design better systems/solutions
  - Interactions with broader context: law, policy, ethics, etc.

Example

Learning the Security Mindset

- Several approaches for developing "The Security Mindset" and for exploring the broader contextual issues surrounding computer security
  - Homework #1
    - Current event reflections and security reviews
    - May work in groups of up to 3 people (groups are encouraged – **lots of value in discussing security with others!**)
  - In class discussions and activities
  - Participation in forums (e.g., critiquing movies)

Security: Not Just for PCs

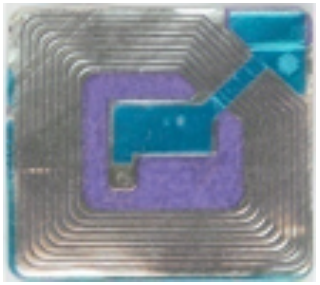
smartphones

voting machines

EEG headsets

medical devices

wearables



RFID

mobile sensing platforms

cars

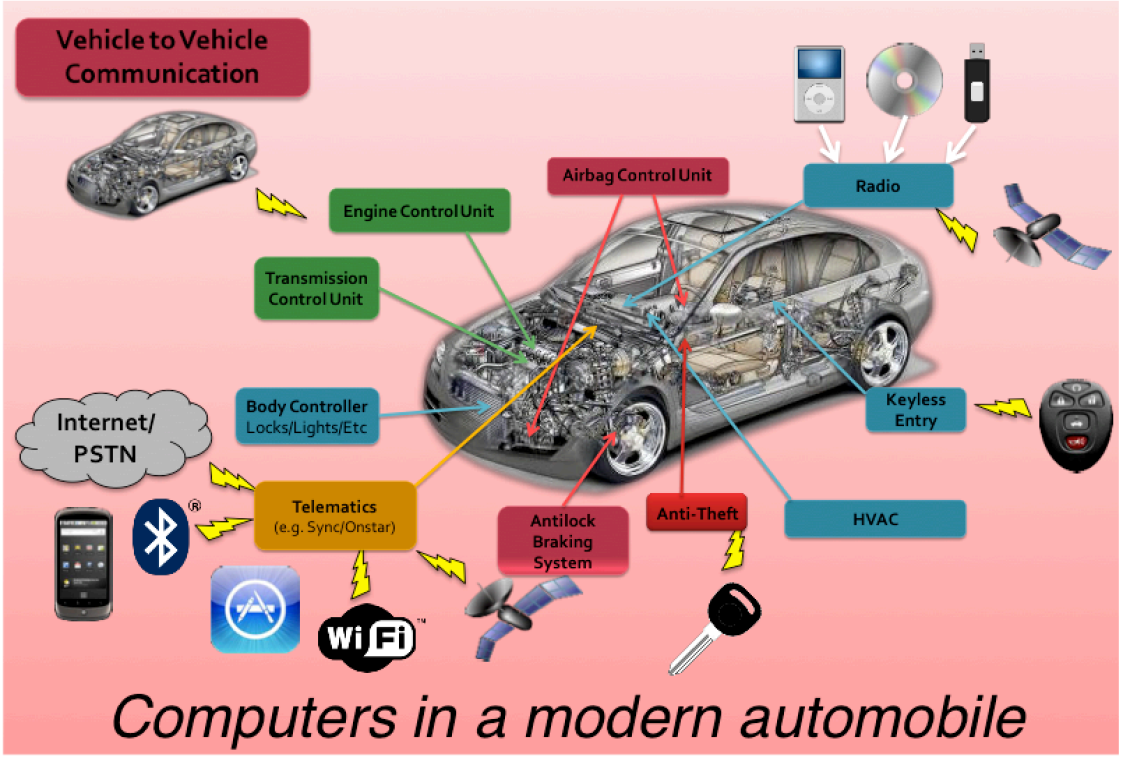
game platforms

airplanes

Example: Modern Automobiles

Modern automobiles contain dozens of computers.

Those computers control nearly everything in the car, including locks, lights, brakes, the engine, the airbags, etc.



Who might want to attack? Why, and how?

Practicing Security Mindset

- See worksheet, Q2

To Do

- Ethics form (due Mon April 3 – do it now!)
- Homework #1 (due Fri April 7)
  - Start forming groups (e.g., use discussion board) and thinking about events and technologies you'd like to review.