

# Week 14: Lecture A

## What's Next? Life After CS 4440

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

# Announcements

- **Project 4: NetSec** released
  - **Deadline: Thursday** by 11:59PM

## Project 4: Network Security

**Deadline: Thursday, December 5 by 11:59PM.**

Before you start, review the [course syllabus](#) for the Lateness, Collaboration, and Ethical Use policies.

You may optionally work alone, or in teams of **at most two** and submit **one project per team**. If you have difficulties forming a team, post on **Piazza's Search for Teammates** forum. Note that the final exam will cover project material, so you and your partner should collaborate on each part.

The code and other answers your group submits must be entirely your own work, and you are bound by the University's Student Code. You may consult with other students about the conceptualization of the project and the meaning of the questions, but you may not look at any part of someone else's solution or collaborate with anyone outside your group. You may consult published references, provided that you appropriately cite them (e.g., in your code comments). **Don't risk your grade and degree by cheating!**

Complete your work in the **CS 4440 VM**—we will use this same environment for grading. You may not use any **external dependencies**. Use only default Python 3 libraries and/or modules we provide you.

## Project 4 Progress

Working on Part 1



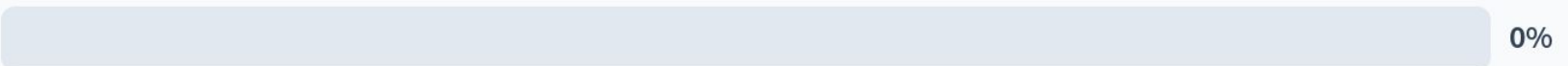
Finished Part 1, working on Part 2



Finished both Part 1 and Part 2



None of the above



# Final Exam

- **Save the date: 1–3PM on Tuesday, December 10**
  - **CDA accommodations:** schedule exam via CDA Portal
- **High-level details** (more to come):
  - One exam covering all course material
  - Similar to project/quiz/lecture exercises
- **Cheat Sheet**
  - **One 8.5"x11" paper** with handwritten/typed notes on **both** sides
  - **Suggestion:** Don't just use someone else's—you'll learn better making **your own!**
  - **Suggestion:** Don't just paste lecture slides—you'll learn better by **writing/typing** it!



# Practice Exam

- **Practice Exam** released
  - See **Assignments** page on the CS 4440 website
- **Final lecture** will serve as a **review session**
  - Solutions discussed **in-class only**—don't skip!

CS 4440

Introduction to Computer Security

## Practice Exam

This practice exam is intended to help you prepare for the final exam. It does **not** cover all material that will appear on the final. We recommend that you use this practice exam to supplement your preparation, in addition to going over your lecture notes, quizzes, and programming projects.

This practice exam has no deadline and will not be graded. However, you will get the maximum benefit out of this exam review by treating it **as if it were the real exam**: you may refer to your two-sided 8.5"×11" cheat sheet, but allow yourself only 2 hours to complete the exam.

The final lecture will serve as an in-class review session covering the solutions to this practice exam. **Solutions to this practice exam will be discussed in-class only—do not skip this lecture!**

1. **Cryptography.** Alice and Bob, two CS 4440 alumni, have been stranded on a desert island for several weeks. Alice has built a hut on the beach, while Bob lives high in the forest branches. They plan to communicate silently by tossing coconuts over the treeline.

Compounding Alice and Bob's misfortune, on this island there also lives an intelligent, literate, and man-eating panther named Mallory. The pair can cooperate to warn each other when they see the animal approaching each others' shelters, but they fear that Mallory will intercept or tamper with their messages in order to make them her next meal. Fortunately, Alice and Bob each have an RSA key pair, and each knows the other's public key.

- (a) Design two protocols that leverage RSA, such that Alice can securely transmit a message to Bob whilst upholding (1) message *confidentiality* and (2) message *integrity*.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Practice Exam

- Practice Exam review
  - See [Assignment 1](#)
- Final lecture will serve as a **review session**
  - Solutions discussed

To get the most out of this, treat it just **as you would the Final Exam**

Last lecture (**Thursday, Dec. 5th**) will go over the exam review solutions

**Solutions won't be posted online.**

(Reminder: attendance/participation makes up **5%** of your course grade)

Introduction to Computer Security

### Practice Exam

is intended to help you prepare for the final exam. It does **not** cover all material for the final. We recommend that you use this practice exam to supplement your review by going over your lecture notes, quizzes, and programming projects.

The practice exam has no deadline and will not be graded. However, you will get the maximum benefit out of this exam review by treating it as if it were the **real exam**: you may refer to your two-sided 8.5"x11" cheat sheet, but allow yourself only 2 hours to complete the exam.

We will have an in-class review session covering the solutions to this practice exam. The practice exam will be discussed in-class only—**do not skip this lecture!**

---

Alice and Bob, two CS 4440 alumni, have been stranded on a desert island. Alice has built a hut on the beach, while Bob lives high in the forest and can communicate silently by tossing coconuts over the treeline.

Due to Alice and Bob's misfortune, on this island there also lives an intelligent, listening panther named Mallory. The pair can cooperate to warn each other of an animal approaching each others' shelters, but they fear that Mallory will intercept or tamper with their messages in order to make them her next meal. Fortunately, Alice and Bob each have an RSA key pair, and each knows the other's public key.

They want to use protocols that leverage RSA, such that Alice can securely transmit a message whilst upholding (1) message *confidentiality* and (2) message *integrity*.

# End-of-semester Course Evals

- **I want your feedback!**
  - 3rd time teaching this course 😊
  - **Help me improve the class!**
- Due by **December 19th**
  - <https://scf.utah.edu>
  - **Please please please!**



# End-of-semester Course Evals

- I want your feedback!
  - 3rd time teaching this course 😊
  - Help me improve the class!

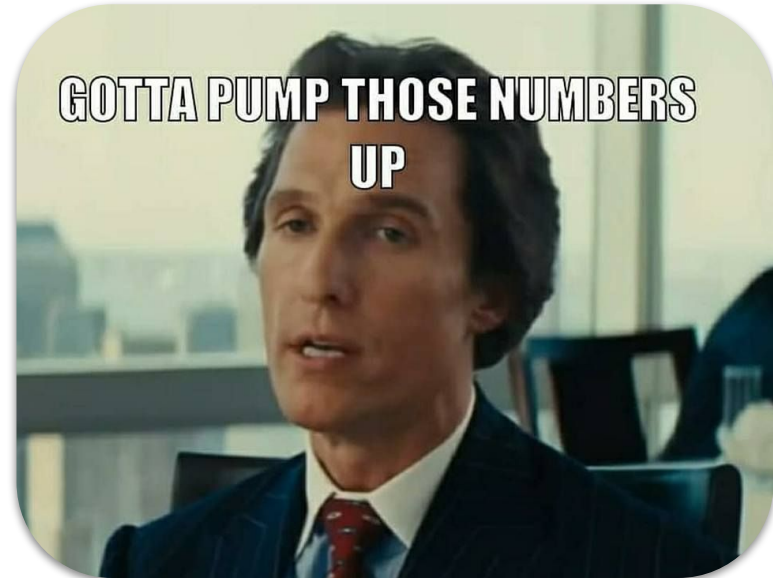
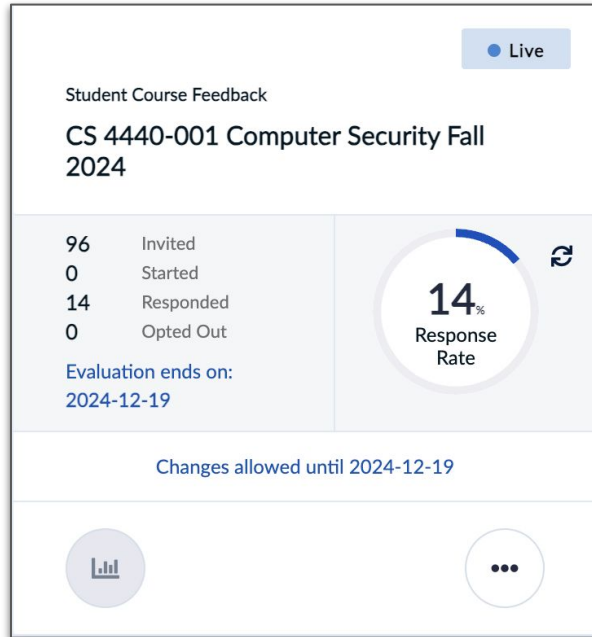
- Due by Dec 15
  - <https://s>
  - Please pl

If 85% of the class (82 of 96 students) submits an eval, we will add **5 points of extra credit** to your Participation grades!

HELP ME HELP YOU



# End-of-semester Course Evals



# End-of-semester Course Evals



# Announcements

A poster for the ACM End of Semester Social. The background features a stylized mountain range in shades of gray and black, with red and white abstract shapes overlaid. The text is primarily in red and white. A QR code is located in the top left corner.

RSVP  
For  
Pizza

**ACM**  
— AT THE —  
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

**End of Semester Social**

Thursday, Dec 5  
5 PM, MEB 3515

**Free Pizza!**

Talk about club  
opportunities for the Spring

# Questions?



# Last time on CS 4440...

Election Cybersecurity

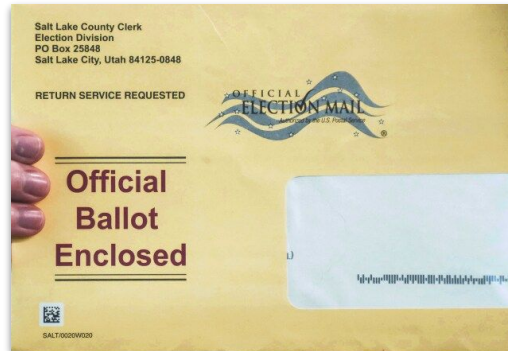
# Requirement #1: Integrity

- **Goals:** outcome matches voter's **intent**
  - Votes are cast as intended
  - Votes are counted as cast



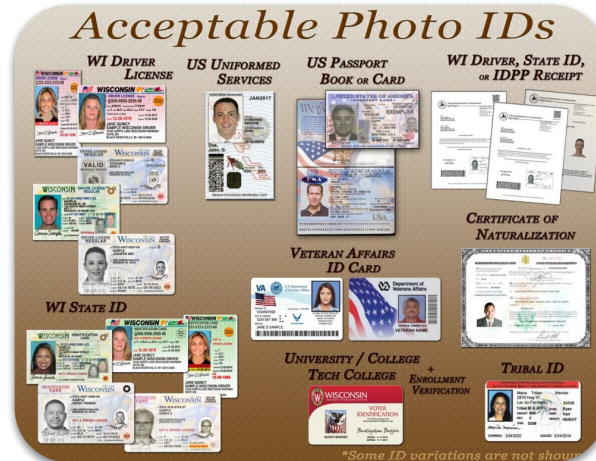
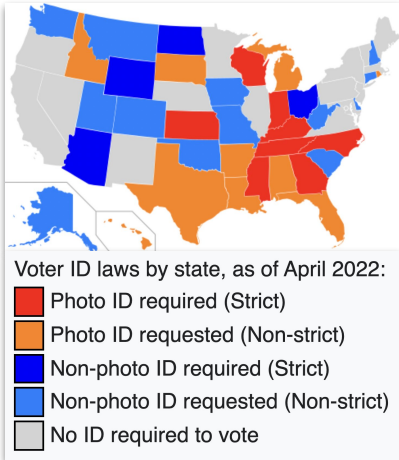
# Requirement #2: Confidentiality

- **Goals:** nobody can figure out **how** you voted
  - ... even if you try to prove it to them



# Requirement #3: Authentication

- **Goals:**
  - Only **authorized voters** can cast votes
  - Each voter can cast **at most one** vote

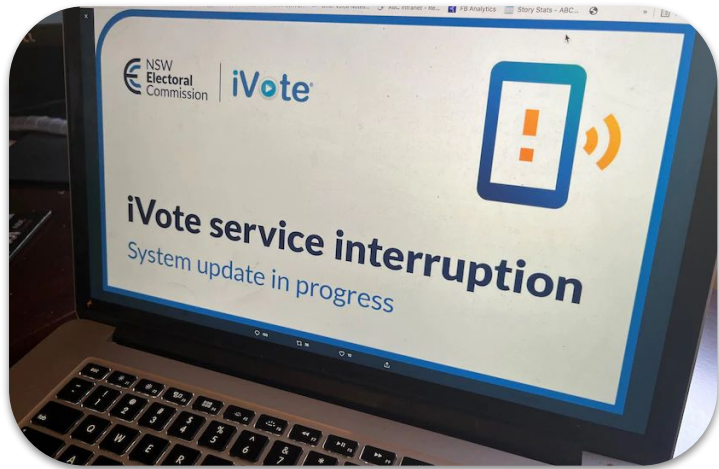




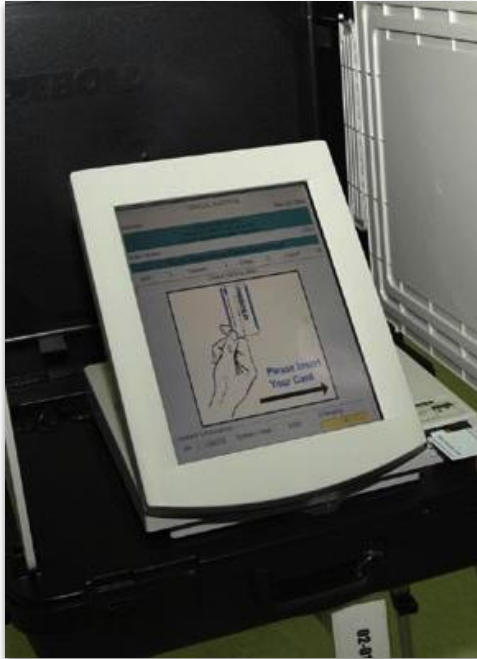
# Requirement #4: Availability

## Goals:

- All authorized voters have **opportunity** to vote
- System is able to **accept all votes** on schedule
- System can produce results in a **timely manner**



# Computer-based Voting Devices



DRE Machine



Optical Scanner

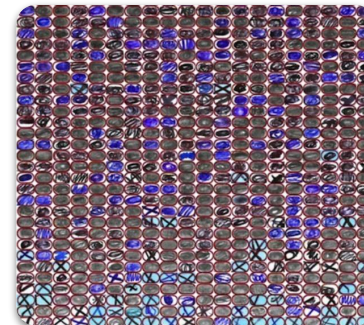
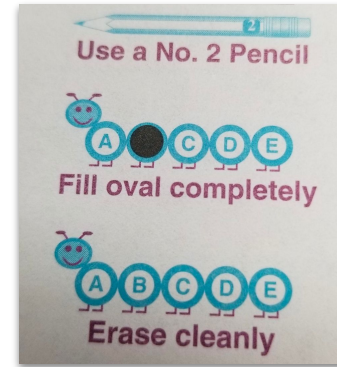
## Attacks on computer-based voting?

Nobody has responded yet.

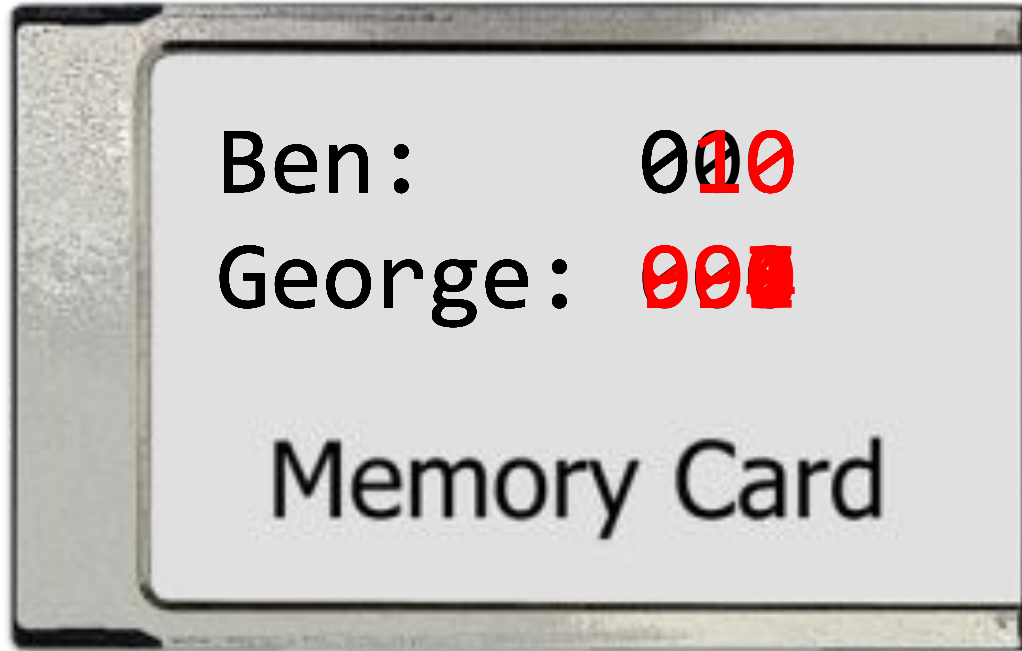
Hang tight! Responses are coming in.



# Ballot Tampering Attacks



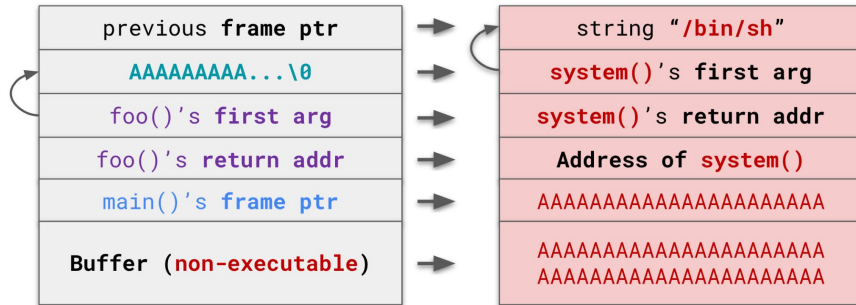
# Memory Corruption Attacks



# Memory Corruption Attacks

## Return-oriented Programming (ROP)

Use code gadgets to achieve functionality



### Can DREs Provide Long-Lasting Security? The Case of Return-Oriented Programming and the AVC Advantage

Stephen Checkoway  
*UC San Diego*

Ariel J. Feldman  
*Princeton*

Brian Kantor  
*UC San Diego*

J. Alex Halderman  
*U Michigan*

Edward W. Felten  
*Princeton*

Hovav Shacham  
*UC San Diego*

#### Abstract

A secure voting machine design must withstand new attacks devised throughout its multi-decade service lifetime. In this paper, we give a case study of the long-term security of a voting machine, the Sequoia AVC Advantage, whose design dates back to the early 80s. The AVC Advantage was designed with promising security features: its software is stored entirely in read-only memory and the hardware refuses to execute instructions fetched from RAM. Nevertheless, we demonstrate that an attacker can induce the AVC Advantage to misbehave in arbitrary ways—including changing the outcome of an election—by means of a memory cartridge containing a specially-formatted payload. Our attack makes essential use of a recently-invented exploitation technique called *return-oriented programming*, adapted here to the Z80 processor. In return-oriented programming, short snippets of benign code already present in the system



The AVC Advantage voting machine we studied.

(which does not include the daughterboard) in machines decommissioned by Buncombe County, North Carolina, and purchased by Andrew Appel through a government auction site [2].

# Code Insertion Attacks



**Replacement Access Keys**

- 2 keys that allow easy service access to the Tally Printer and replacement battery compartment

GS-567311-1000 **\$5.90** USD per set  
**\$6.90** CAD per set

Enter a quantity

[add to your order ▶](#)

**ORDER BY PHONE 800.769.3246**

# Code Insertion Attacks

```
*****
President of the United States
RACE # 0
# Running                2
# To Vote For            1

# Times Counted          5
# Times Blank Voted      0
# Times Over Voted       0
# Number Undervotes      0
George Washington        2
Benedict Arnold          3
*****
WE, THE UNDERSIGNED,
DO HEREBY CERTIFY THE
ELECTION WAS CONDUCTED
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
```

President of the United States



George Washington  
Framers Party



Benedict Arnold  
Redcoat Party



# Voting Machine Security

LILLY HAY NEWMAN SECURITY 09.28.18 11:04 AM

## VOTING MACHINES ARE STILL ABSURDLY VULNERABLE TO ATTACKS



BILL CLARK/GETTY IMAGES

WHILE RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE operations in the 2016 US presidential elections focused on misinformation and targeted hacking, officials have scrambled ever since to shore up the nation's vulnerable election infrastructure. New research, though, shows they haven't done nearly enough, particularly when it comes to voting machines.

## Voting Machine Manual Instructed Election Officials to Use Weak Passwords

A vendor manual for voting machines used in about ten states shows the vendor instructed customers to use trivial, easy to crack passwords and to re-use the passwords when changing log-in credentials.

SHARE



TWEET



Image: Shutterstock

States and counties have had two years since the 2016 presidential election to educate themselves about security best practices and to fix security vulnerabilities in their election systems and processes. But despite widespread concerns about election interference from state-sponsored hackers in Russia and elsewhere, apparently not everyone received the memo about security, or read it.

An election security expert who has done risk-assessments in several states since

### Latest



**The Socialist Memelords Radicalizing Instagram**

16 minutes ago



**This Guy Wants to Open a DIY Tesla Repair Shop**

an hour ago



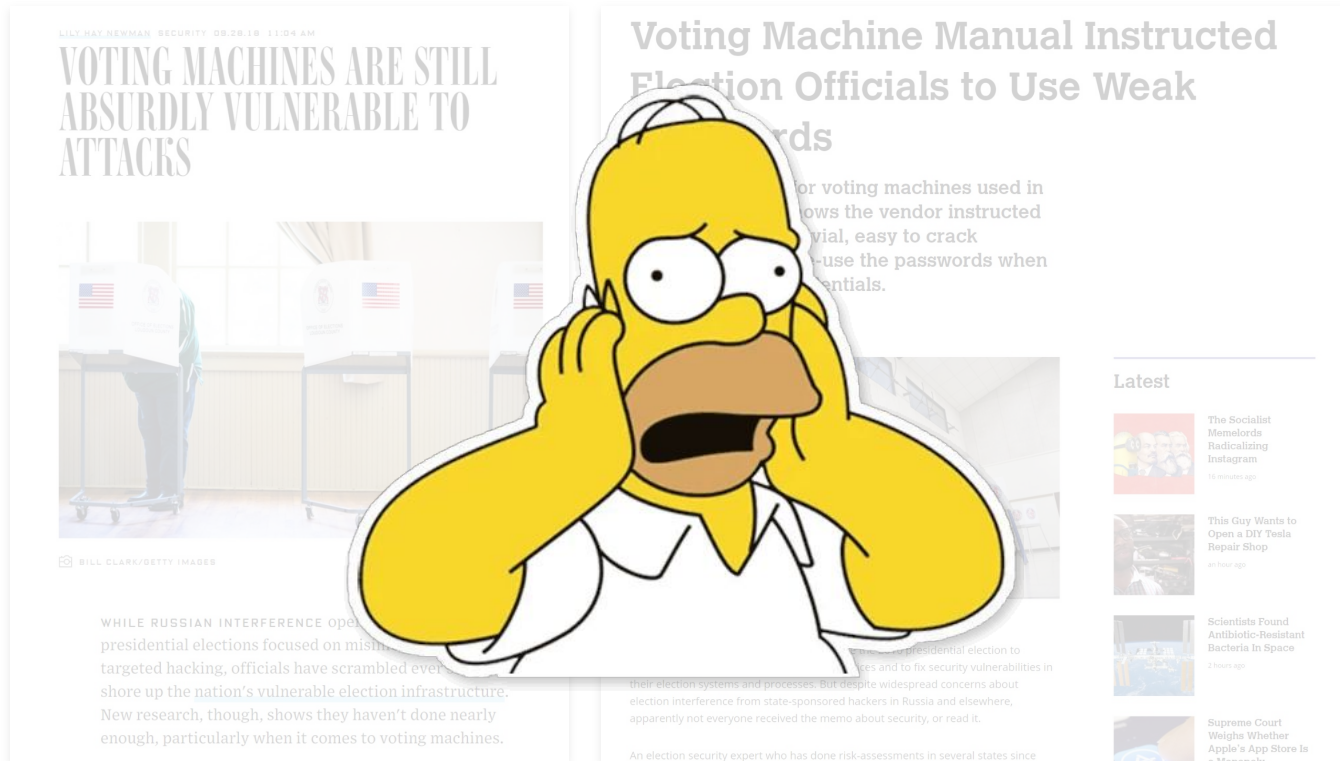
**Scientists Found Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria In Space**

2 hours ago



**Supreme Court Weighs Whether Apple's App Store Is a Monopoly**

# Voting Machine Security



The image is a collage of news snippets and a cartoon character. On the left, a news article snippet from 'LILLY RAY NEWMAN SECURITY 08/26/18 11:04 AM' has the headline 'VOTING MACHINES ARE STILL ABSURDLY VULNERABLE TO ATTACKS'. Below it is a photo of a person at a voting machine. On the right, another news snippet has the headline 'Voting Machine Manual Instructed Election Officials to Use Weak Passwords'. Below it is a photo of a person at a voting machine. In the center, a cartoon of Homer Simpson is shown with a shocked expression, his hands to his ears. On the far right, there is a 'Latest' section with three news items: 'The Socialist Memelords Radicalizing Instagram', 'This Guy Wants to Open a DIY Tesla Repair Shop', and 'Scientists Found Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria In Space'. At the bottom, there is a small caption: 'An election security expert who has done risk-assessments in several states since...'

LILLY RAY NEWMAN SECURITY 08/26/18 11:04 AM

## VOTING MACHINES ARE STILL ABSURDLY VULNERABLE TO ATTACKS

PHOTO: BILL CLARK/GETTY IMAGES

WHILE RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE OPERATED in the 2016 presidential elections focused on mismanaging the process, targeted hacking, officials have scrambled ever since to shore up the nation's vulnerable election infrastructure. New research, though, shows they haven't done nearly enough, particularly when it comes to voting machines.

## Voting Machine Manual Instructed Election Officials to Use Weak Passwords

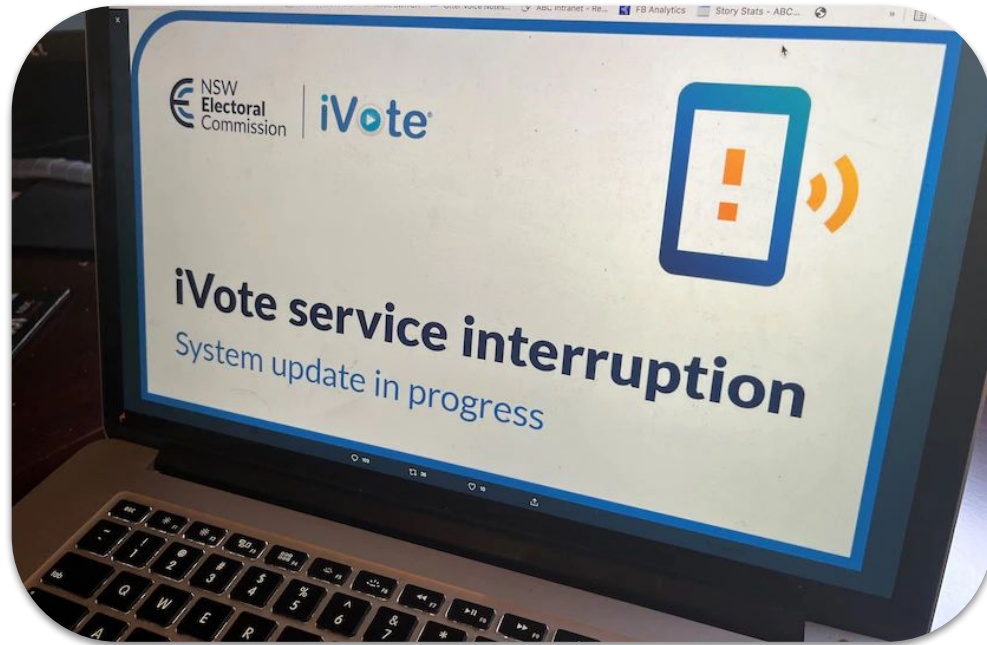
For voting machines used in the 2016 election, the vendor instructed officials to use weak passwords, easy to crack. The manual also instructed officials to use the passwords when they were not needed.

### Latest

- The Socialist Memelords Radicalizing Instagram 18 minutes ago
- This Guy Wants to Open a DIY Tesla Repair Shop 41 hours ago
- Scientists Found Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria In Space 3 hours ago
- Supreme Court Weighs Whether Apple's App Store Is a Monopoly

An election security expert who has done risk-assessments in several states since...

# Internet-based Voting Security



# Internet-based Voting Security



# Questions?



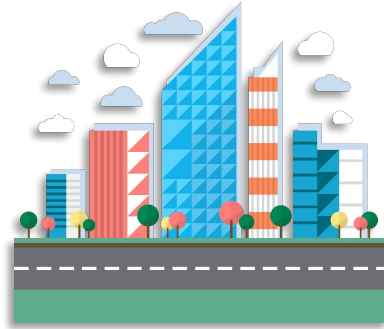
# This time on CS 4440...

The Security Ecosystem  
Bug Bounty Programs  
Capture-the-Flag  
Career Paths

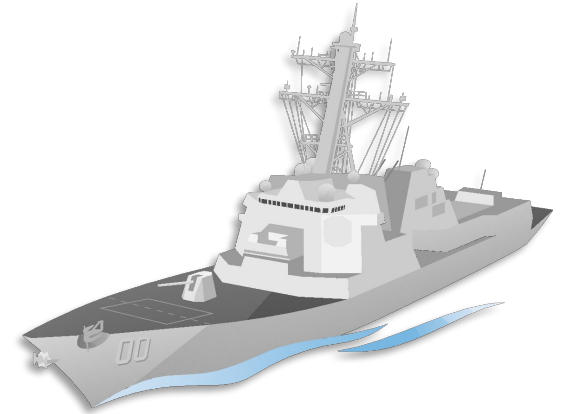
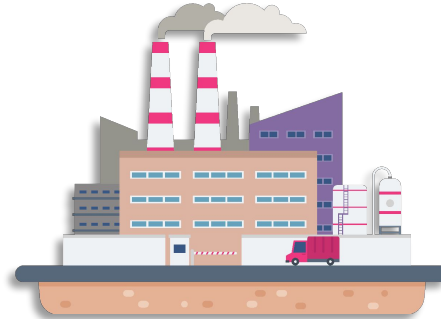
# Our world depends on software...



Personal  
Technology

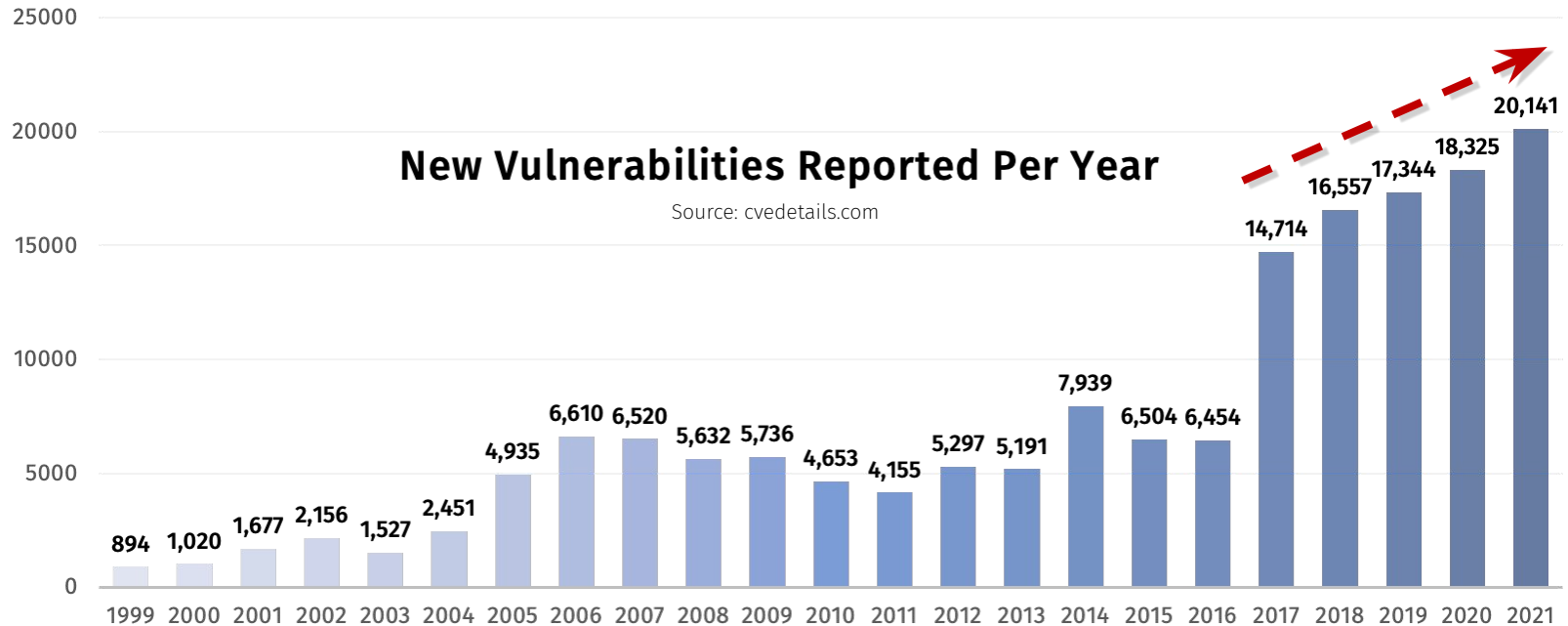


Infrastructure & Industry



Military and  
Government

# ... and software security is a *nightmare*





# ... and software security is a *nightmare*



Amnesty says NSO's Pegasus used to hack phones of Palestinian rights workers

'A cyber-attack disrupted my cancer treatment'

Cyber-attack hits UK internet phone providers

New vulnerabilities Reported Per Year

Source: cvedetails.com



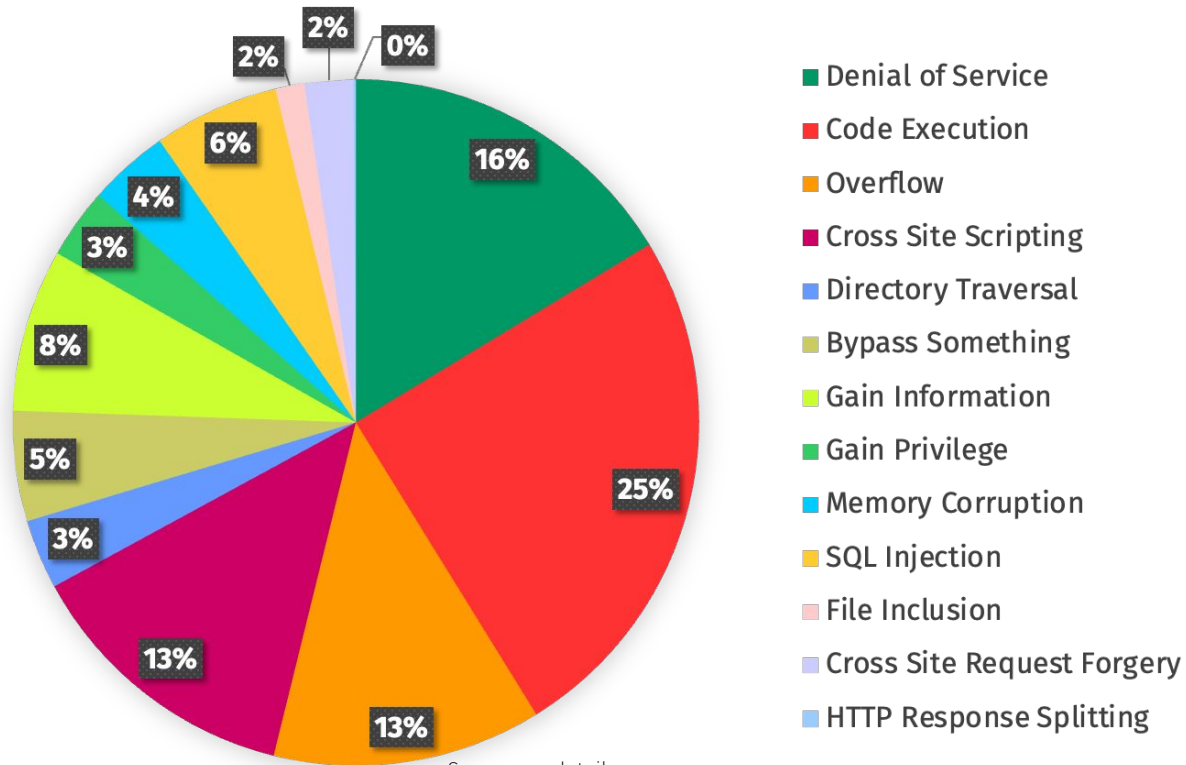
Solarwinds hackers are targeting the global IT supply chain, Microsoft says

Janesville school district hit by ransomware attack

New York subway hacked in computer breach linked to China



# Software Security Vulnerabilities



Source: cvedetails.com

# Attacks are getting more sophisticated...

**1997**  
Function ptr  
hijacking

**1997**  
Ret-2-Libc  
attacks

**1996**  
Stack  
overflows

**1972**  
First known  
overflows

**1998**  
Heap  
overflows

**1998**  
StackGuard  
bypasses

**1999**  
Format  
strings

**2002**  
Integer  
overflows

**2007**  
Heap  
grooming

**2005**  
Ret oriented  
programming

**2005**  
Hardware DEP  
bypasses

**2002**  
ASLR  
bypasses

**2007**  
Null pointer  
dereference

**2007**  
Double  
frees

**2009**  
Heap  
spraying

**2010**  
JIT  
spraying

**2021**  
Zero-click  
exploits

**2016**  
Data oriented  
programming

**2014**  
Call oriented  
programming

**2011**  
Jmp oriented  
programming

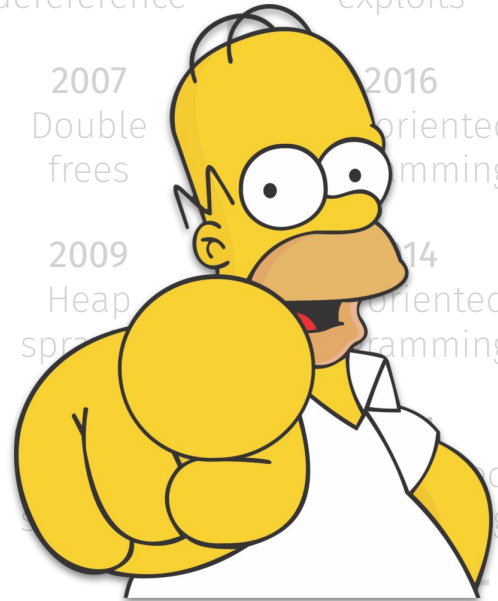
*What's  
next?*



# Attacks are getting more sophisticated...

Who will be at the **frontlines** of stopping the next attack?

**YOU**



1991  
Function  
hijacking

1997  
Ret-2-Libc  
attacks

1996  
Stack  
overflows

1972  
First known  
overflows

1998  
StackGuard  
bypasses

1999  
Format  
strings

2002  
Integer  
overflows

2005  
Ret oriented  
programming

2005  
Integer  
D  
byp

2002  
ASLR  
bypasses

2007  
Double  
frees

2009  
Heap  
spray

exploits

2016  
Ret oriented  
programming

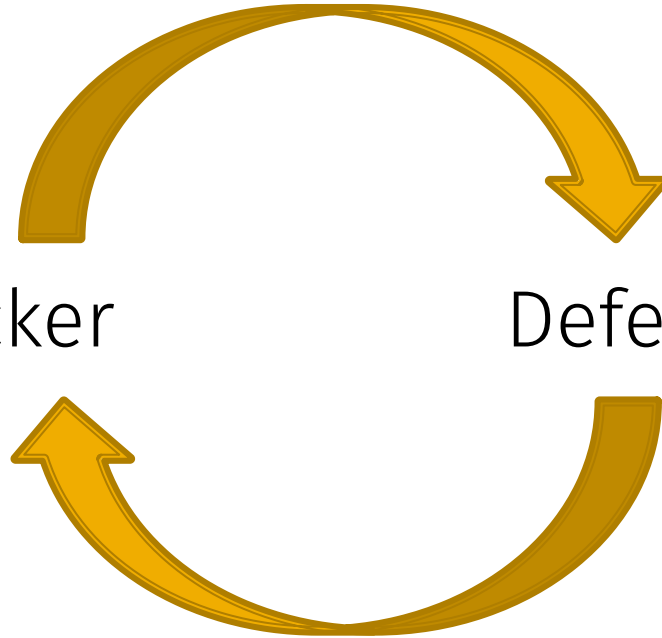
2014  
Ret oriented  
programming

2014  
Ret oriented  
programming

# Choose your side!



Attacker



Defender



# Laws and Ethics

- **If you perform attacks, do so ethically!**
  - Federal/state laws criminalize computer intrusion, wiretapping, or other abuse
  - Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA)
  - You can be sued or go to jail
- **Ethical attacker scenarios:**
  - Career as a **Penetration Tester**
  - **CTF competitions** (join **UTAHSEC** too!)
  - Become a **Security Researcher**



# Bug Bounties

# Why find and report bugs?



- You want to **save the world**





# Why find and report bugs?

**syzbot** Linux ▼

 **Open [1053]** ≡ Subsystems  **Fixed [4464]**

Title
<a href="#">WARNING in ext4 iomap_overwrite_begin</a> <span>ext4</span>
<a href="#">WARNING in usbtmc ioctl/usb_submit_urb (2)</a> <span>usb</span>
<a href="#">WARNING: bad unlock balance in l2cap_disconnect_rsp</a> <span>bluetooth</span>
<a href="#">KASAN: slab-out-of-bounds Read in v4l2_compat_put_array_args(2...)</a>
<a href="#">general protection fault in reset_interrupt (3)</a> <span>block</span>
<a href="#">KASAN: stack-out-of-bounds Read in ntfs_set_inode</a> <span>ntfs3</span>
<a href="#">general protection fault in folio_wait_stable</a> <span>fs</span> <span>mm</span>
<a href="#">general protection fault in squashfs_page_actor_init_special</a> <span>squashfs</span>
<a href="#">general protection fault in ext4_write_begin</a> <span>ext4</span>
<a href="#">WARNING in floppy_interrupt (2)</a> <span>block</span>
<a href="#">WARNING: bad unlock balance in l2cap_bredr_sig_cmd</a> <span>bluetooth</span>
<a href="#">KASAN: wild-memory-access Read in hfsplus_bnode_dump</a> <span>hfs</span>
<a href="#">WARNING in udf_free_blocks</a> <span>udf</span>
<a href="#">KASAN: invalid-free in hfs_btree_close</a> <span>hfs</span>

As of May 2022, ClusterFuzz has found 25,000+ bugs in Google (e.g. [Chrome](#)) and **36,000+** bugs in over **550** open source projects integrated with [OSS-Fuzz](#).

Summary + Labels ▼
Heap-buffer-overflow in cid_parser_new ClusterFuzz Reproducible
Heap-buffer-overflow in Mac_Read_sfnt_Resource ClusterFuzz Reproducible
Heap-buffer-overflow in archive_le16dec ClusterFuzz Reproducible
Heap-buffer-overflow in archive_le16dec ClusterFuzz Reproducible
Out-of-memory in freetype2_fuzzer ClusterFuzz Reproducible
Heap-buffer-overflow in ps_check_extra_glyph_name ClusterFuzz Reproducible
Heap-buffer-overflow in xmlDictComputeFastKey ClusterFuzz Reproducible
(size_t)BIO_write(in, buf, len) == len ClusterFuzz Reproducible
Heap-buffer-overflow in tt_size_select ClusterFuzz Reproducible
Heap-buffer-overflow in tt_size_select ClusterFuzz Reproducible

# Why else find and report bugs?

- You want the **notoriety** of finding a new bug



# Why else find and report bugs?

## Who reported Meltdown?

Meltdown was independently discovered and reported by three teams:

- [Jann Horn](#) ([Google Project Zero](#)),
- [Werner Haas](#), [Thomas Prescher](#) ([Cyberus Technology](#)),
- [Daniel Gruss](#), [Moritz Lipp](#), [Stefan Mangard](#), [Michael Schwarz](#) ([Graz University of Technology](#))

new bug

## Who reported Spectre?

Spectre was independently discovered and reported by two people:

- [Jann Horn](#) ([Google Project Zero](#)) and
- [Paul Kocher](#) in collaboration with, in alphabetical order, [Daniel Genkin](#) ([University of Pennsylvania](#) and [University of Maryland](#)), [Mike Hamburg](#) ([Rambus](#)), [Moritz Lipp](#) ([Graz University of Technology](#)), and [Yuval Yarom](#) ([University of Adelaide](#) and [Data61](#))

# Why *else* find and report bugs?

- You love the thrill of **breaking stuff**



# Why else find and report bugs?

## Smashing The Stack For Fun And Profit

Aleph One

[aleph1@underground.org](mailto:aleph1@underground.org)

`smash the stack' [C programming] n. On many C implementations it is possible to corrupt the execution stack by writing past the end of an array declared auto in a routine. Code that does this is said to smash the stack, and can cause return from the routine to jump to a random address. This can produce some of the most insidious data-dependent bugs known to mankind. Variants include trash the stack, scribble the stack, mangle the stack; the term mung the stack is not used, as this is never done intentionally. See spam; see also alias bug, fandango on core, memory leak, precedence lossage, overrun screw.

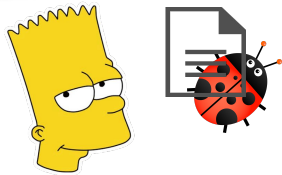
## Hacking GraphQL for Fun and Profit — Part 1 — Understanding GraphQL Basics

## hacking for fun and profit

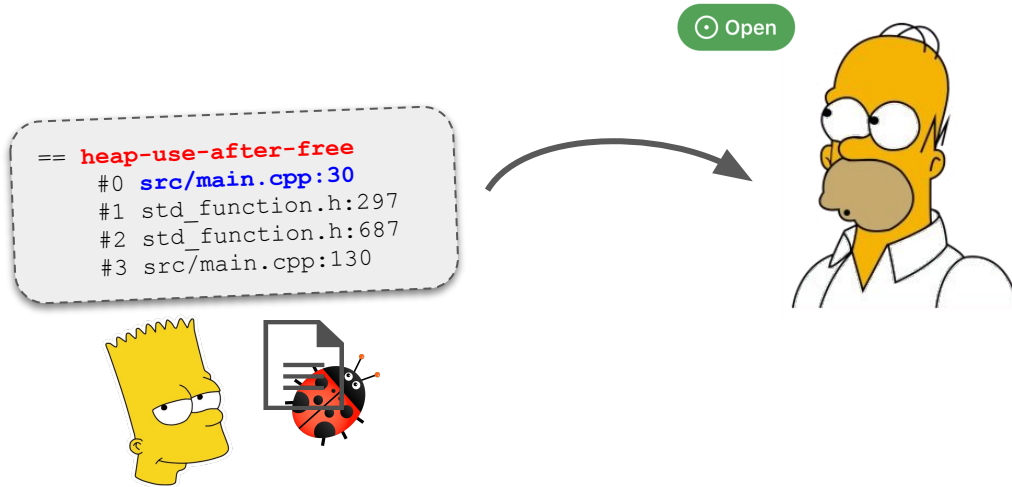
As terms borrowed from classic American westerns, often inhabited by black-hatted villains and white-hatted heroes, a "black hat" cracker describes someone who breaks into a computer system or network with malicious intent; a "white hat" is a cracker who identifies a security weakness in a computer system or network so that the system's owners can fix the breach before it is exploited. White-hat cracking is a hobby for some while others provide their services for a fee. The paid white-hat cracker may work as a consultant or be a permanent employee on a company's payroll.

# Disclosing Bugs Responsibly

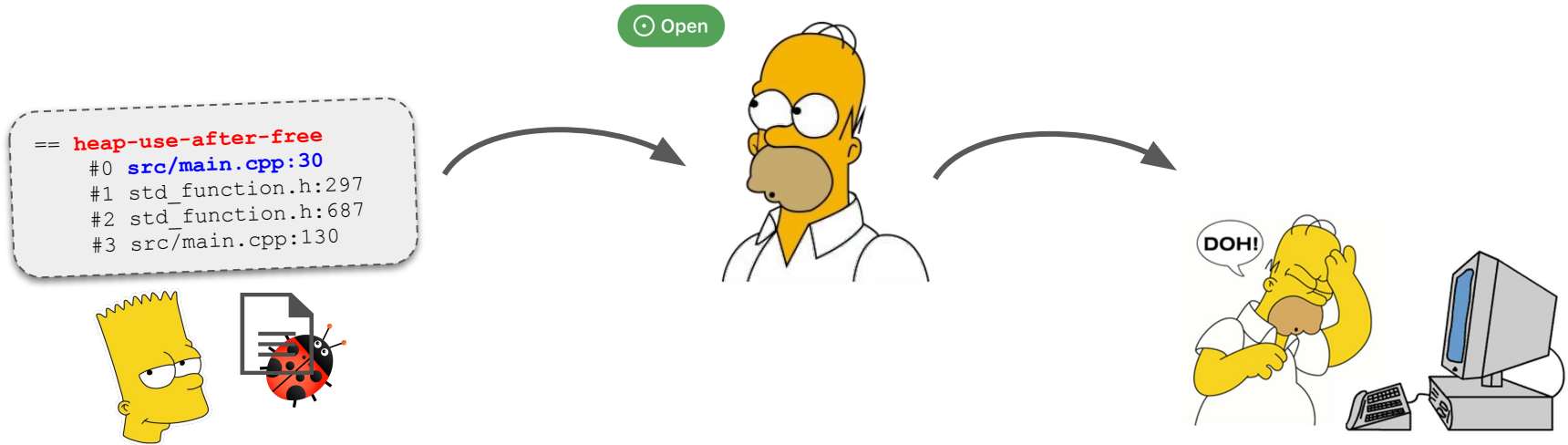
```
== heap-use-after-free
#0 src/main.cpp:30
#1 std_function.h:297
#2 std_function.h:687
#3 src/main.cpp:130
```



# Disclosing Bugs Responsibly

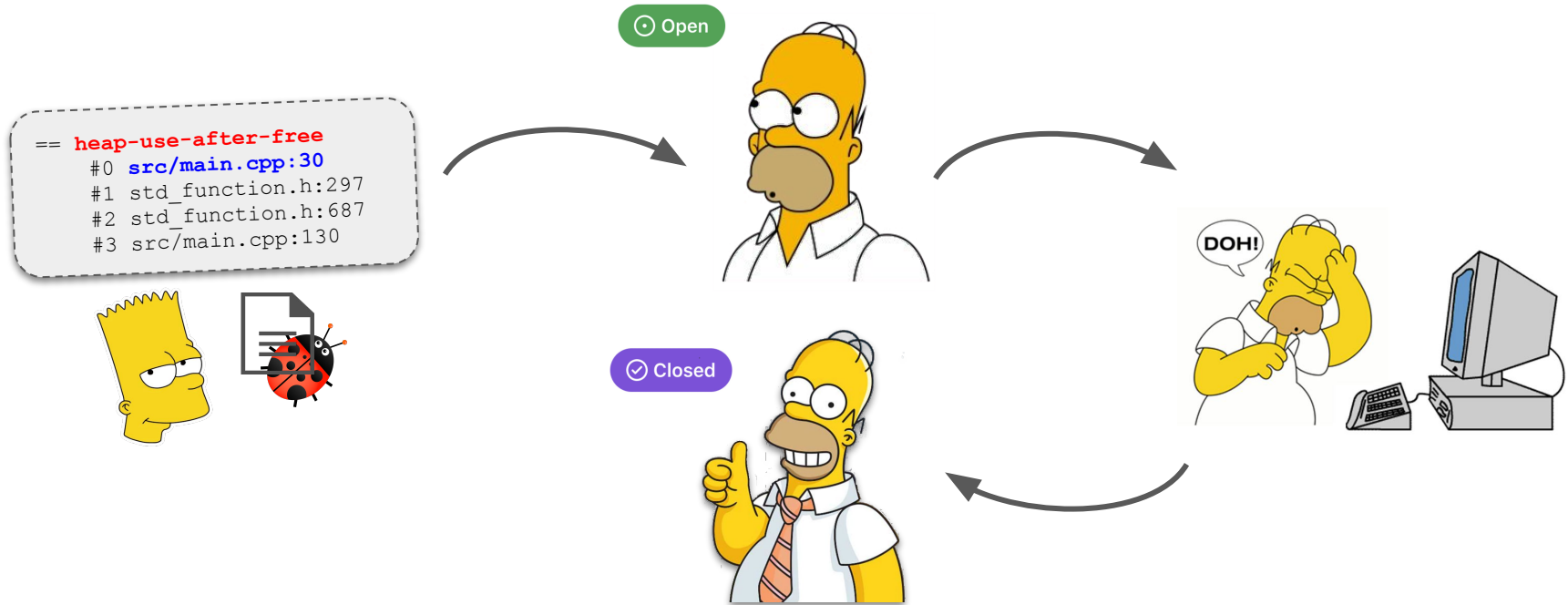


# Disclosing Bugs Responsibly

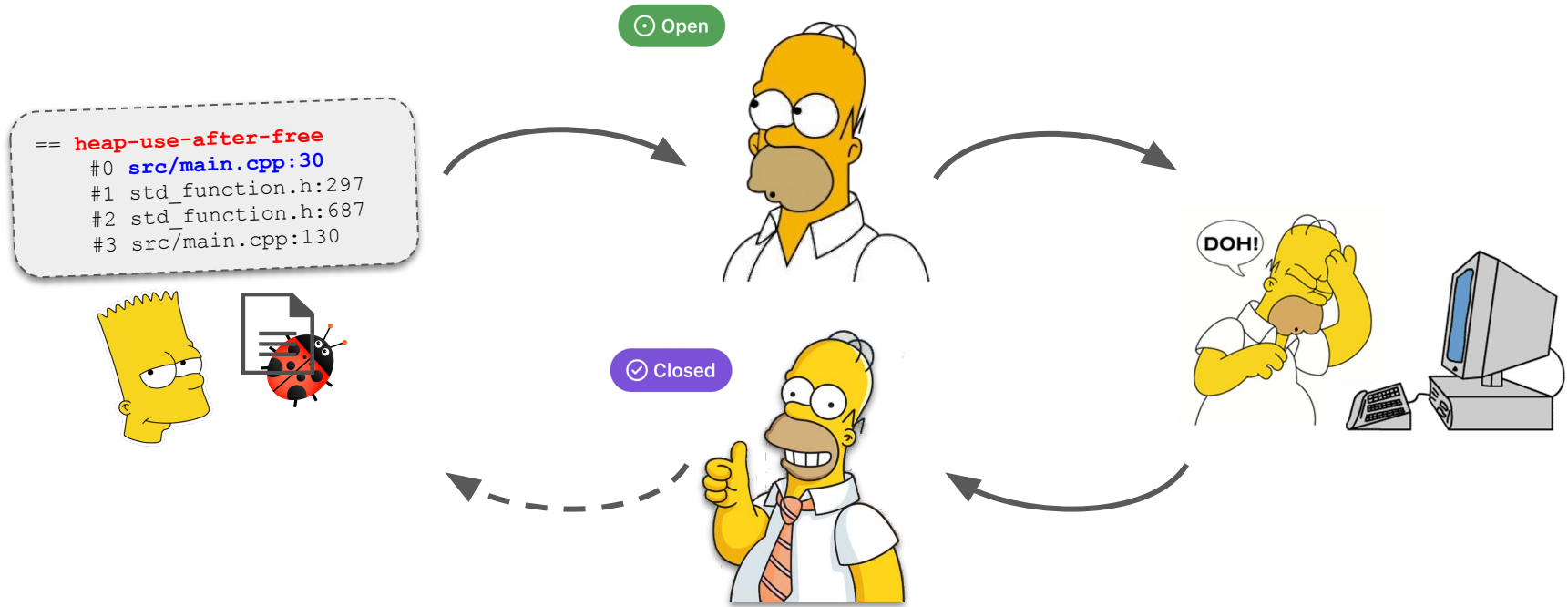




# Disclosing Bugs Responsibly

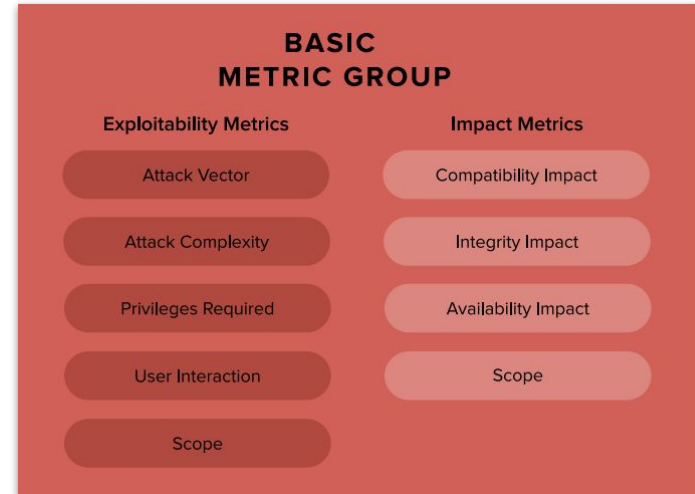


# Disclosing Bugs Responsibly



# What developers love...

- **Proof-of-concept test cases**
  - Devs need to reproduce your bug
  - Perform their own severity analysis
    - Limited time and resources
    - Fix most severe ones first
    - E.g., MS Patch Tuesday
  - Help them improve their test suites



# What developers love...

## ■ Actionable insights

- **Basic:** build information
  - E.g., compiler, version, OS, etc.
  - Only report bugs in the latest version!
- **Good:** crashing source lines, PoCs
- **Better:** root cause analysis
  - E.g., *Missing a check on chunk X*
  - You'll need to get your hands dirty
- **Best:** proposed patches
  - May be a back-and-forth battle



# What developers love...

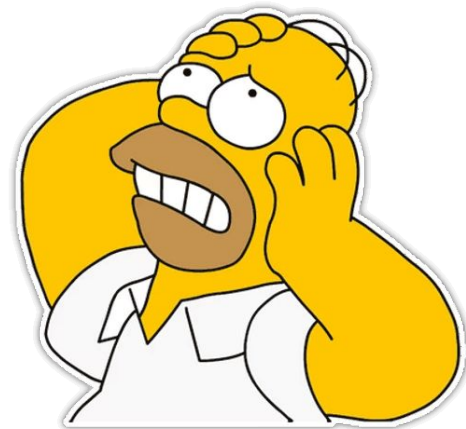
- **Follow-up testing**
  - Initial fixes may be incomplete
  - Re-run your fancy fuzzer
  - **Open-source your fancy fuzzer**

Product	Vulnerability exploited in-the-wild	Variant of...
Microsoft Internet Explorer	CVE-2020-0674	CVE-2018-8653* CVE-2019-1367* CVE-2019-1429*
Mozilla Firefox	CVE-2020-6820	Mozilla <a href="#">Bug 1507180</a>
Google Chrome	CVE-2020-6572	CVE-2019-5870 CVE-2019-13695
Microsoft Windows	CVE-2020-0986	CVE-2019-0880*
Google Chrome/Freetype	CVE-2020-15999	CVE-2014-9665
Apple Safari	CVE-2020-27930	CVE-2015-0093
* vulnerability was also exploited in-the-wild in previous years		

Source: Deja Vulnerability by Google Project Zero

# What developers *hate*...

- **Little (or unhelpful) information**
  - No PoC test cases or stack traces
  - Bugs on obsolete versions
    - E.g., *I installed this via apt-get*
  - Spamming tons of bug reports
    - Duplicate bug reports
    - Already-reported bugs



# What developers *hate*...

- **Selfish resumé padding**
  - Requesting CVE assignment without first asking them
    - Common in academic papers
    - Reviewers are partially to blame



# What developers hate...

- **Selfish resumé padding**
  - Requesting CVE assignment without first asking them
    - Common in academic papers
    - Reviewers are partially to blame
  - **Developers can (and do) dispute CVEs**



[CVE-2023-43784](#) \*\* DISPUTED \*\* Plesk Onyx 17.8.11 has accessKeyId and secretAccessKey fields that are related to an Amazon AWS Firehose component. NOTE: the vendor's position is that there is no security threat.

[CVE-2023-42261](#) \*\* DISPUTED \*\* Mobile Security Framework (MobSF) <=v3.7.8 Beta is vulnerable to Insecure Permissions. NOTE: the vendor's position is that authentication is intentionally not implemented because the product is not intended for an untrusted network environment. Use cases requiring authentication could, for example, use a reverse proxy server.

[CVE-2023-39852](#) \*\* DISPUTED \*\* Doctormms v1.0 was discovered to contain a SQL injection vulnerability via the \$userid parameter at myAppointment.php. NOTE: this is disputed by a third party who claims that the userid is a session variable controlled by the server, and thus cannot be used for exploitation. The original reporter counterclaims that this originates from \$\_SESSION["userid"]=\$\_POST["userid"] at line 68 in doctors\doctorlogin.php, where userid under POST is not a session variable controlled by the server.

[CVE-2023-39851](#) \*\* DISPUTED \*\* webchess v1.0 was discovered to contain a SQL injection vulnerability via the \$playerID parameter at mainmenu.php. NOTE: this is disputed by a third party who indicates that the playerID is a session variable controlled by the server, and thus cannot be used for exploitation.



# What developers *hate*...

- **Weaponizing and selling an exploit**
  - A huge underground economy
    - Nation-state actors
    - Cyber-criminal gangs



# What developers *hate*...

- **Weaponizing and selling an exploit**
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  - **Don't do this**



# What developers hate...

- **Weaponizing and selling an exploit**
  - A huge underground economy
    - Nation-state actors
    - Cyber-criminal gangs
  - **Don't do this**
    - Likely to end up in bad hands regardless of who brokered it



*Hacks Raise Fear  
Over N.S.A.'s Hold  
on Cyberweapons*

# What developers *hate*...

## ■ Weaponizing and selling an exploit

- A huge underground economy
  - Nation-state actors
  - Cyber-criminal gangs
- **Don't do this**
  - Likely to end up in bad hands regardless of who brokered it
  - Authoritarian regimes use these all the time for **evil acts**
  - You are very likely causing people to get hurt (**or worse**)



*Hacks Raise Fear  
Over N.S.A.'s Hold  
on Cyberweapons*

Pegasus: UAE placed  
spyware on Khashoggi's  
wife's phone months  
before murder

# Practice saying NO!

## ■ Weaponizing and selling an exploit

- A huge underground economy
  - Nation-state actors
  - Cyber-criminal gangs

- Don't
  - end up in bad hands
  - of who brokered it
  - an regimes use these
  - for **evil acts**
  - are likely causing people
  - (or worse)



I have a... *lucrative*... proposition for you regarding the **0-day** bug you've found...



# Practice saying NO!

## Weaponizing and selling an exploit

- A huge underground market exists for selling exploits
  - Nation-state actors
  - Cyber-criminals
- Don't do it!
  - Like a bad person, you can be used by bad hands
  - If you've no brokered it
  - Many regimes use these
  - for evil acts
  - Very likely causing people
  - (reverse)

**NO!**



I have a... *lucrative*... proposition for you regarding the **0-day** bug you've found...




# Why else find and report bugs?

- You want that **money!**



# Bug Bounties

- **Get paid to find bugs!**




**USAA**  
We proudly serve millions of military members and their famil...

🚩 \$100 - \$6,000 per vulnerability

🛡️ Partial safe harbor

[Submit report](#) ☆ 📧




**OpenAI**  
OpenAI is an AI research and deployment company. Our mission ...

🚩 \$200 - \$6,500 per vulnerability

★ Up to \$20,000 maximum reward

🛡️ Partial safe harbor


[Submit report](#) ☆ 📧



**Cash App**  
Help Secure Cash App

🚩 \$150 - \$8,000 per vulnerability

[Submit report](#) ☆ 📧



**Verisign**  
Verisign

🚩 \$100 - \$10,000 per vulnerability

🛡️ Partial safe harbor

👤 Solo-Only

[Submit report](#) ☆ 📧



# Bug Bounty Programs

- **Where programs are advertised:**
  - BugCrowd: <https://bugcrowd.com/>
  - HackerOne: <https://www.hackerone.com/>
- **Not all bugs receive a bounty!**
  - Must be reproducible by devs
  - Higher-severity = more \$\$\$
  - Adjudication up to the dev



# Developers are people, too

- Data suggests that fixing bugs is a really tough job

It turns out that repairing broken code isn't most developers' favorite activity.

**26%**

would rather  
spend time  
paying bills

**21%**

would rather  
go to  
the dentist

**20%**

would rather  
spend time  
with in-laws

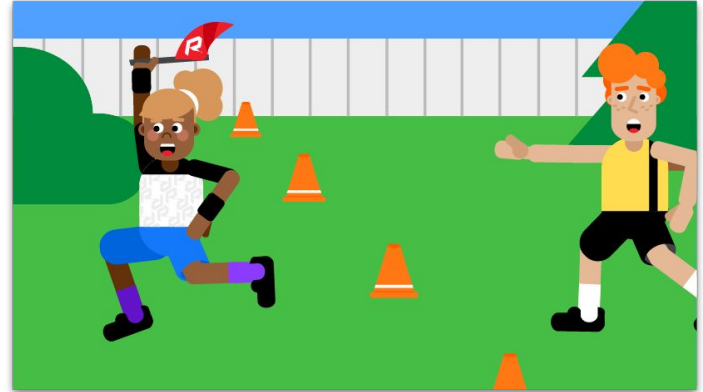
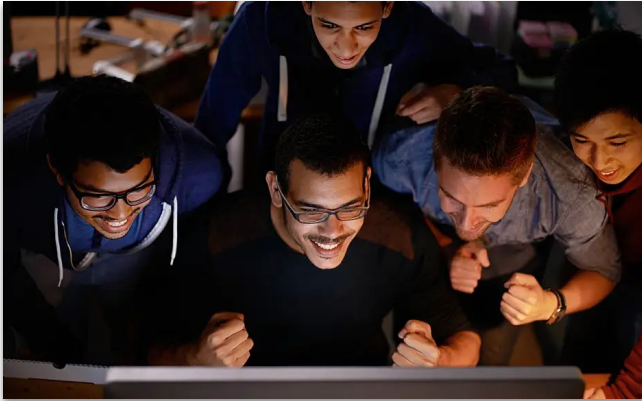
- **Treat developers with courtesy, respect, and patience**

Source: <https://content.rollbar.com/hubfs/State-of-Software-Code-Report.pdf>

# Capture-the-Flag (CTF)

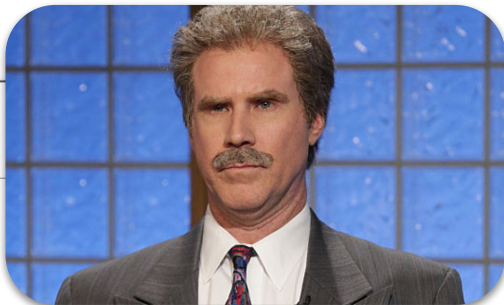
# What is CTF?

- **CTF = “Capture the Flag”**
  - Competitive cybersecurity events
  - For educational purposes, prizes, etc.
  - **Takes skill to win!**



# Styles of CTF: Jeopardy

- **Jeopardy:** solve the most challenges to win
  - **Score the most points** in allotted time



## EscapeMe

### Problem

```
host : escapeme.chal.ctf.westerns.tokyo
port : 16359
```

[EscapeMe.tar.gz](#)

Update(2018-09-01 10:22 UTC):

```
$ uname -a
Linux pwnable-escapeme 4.15.0-1017-gcp #18-Ubuntu SMP Fri Aug 10 10:13:17 UTC
$ lsb_release -a
No LSB modules are available.
Distributor ID: Ubuntu
Description:    Ubuntu 18.04.1 LTS
Release:        18.04
Codename:       bionic
```

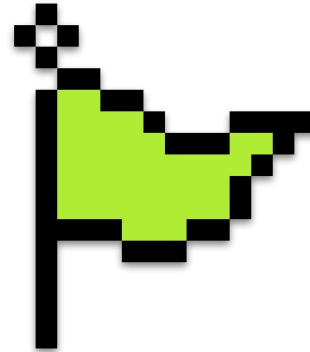
Update(2018-09-01 10:30 UTC):

Hint for flag2: check carefully how physical memory of kernel managed.

Web	Crypto	Forensics	Reverse	Misc	Pwn
1	165	100	50	50	50
150	150	150	100	100	150
204	150	150	150	165	200
203	200	200	200	150	250
206	257	200	300	200	323
318	334	250	300	300	440
325	400	347	400		
	430	350			

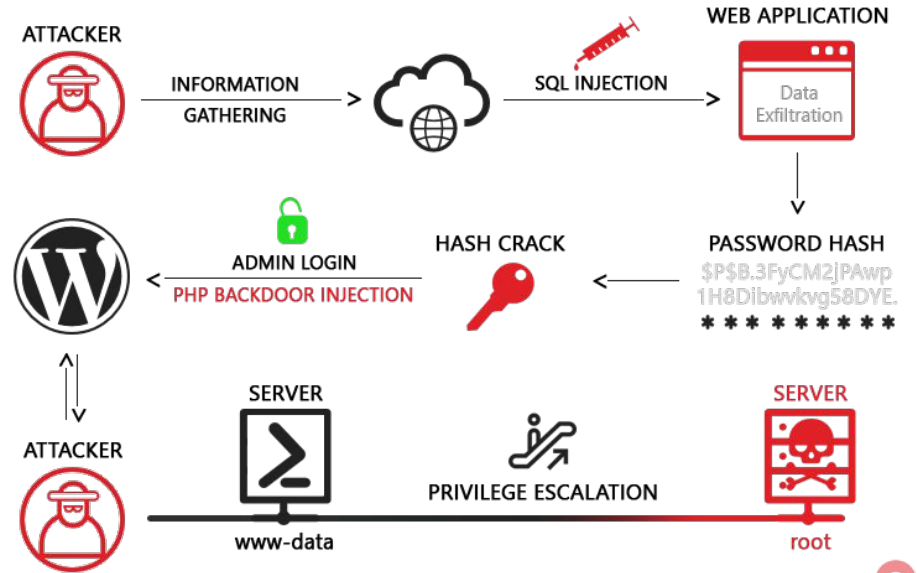
# Jeopardy Scoring

- Maximum points in the beginning
  - Incentivizes **“first blood”** (i.e., first to solve)
  - **Score decreases as more solve it**
    - Harder challenges weighted higher
    - Easier challenges weighted lower
  - **Submit the flag (when you find it)!**
    - Usually an obvious string
    - E.g., `ucc{b3_r34dy_f0r_$pr1ng23}`



# Jeopardy Challenges

- **Web:** web security
  - **Examples:**
    - SQL injection
    - Cross-site scripting
    - Request forger
    - Password cracking
    - ...
  - Find the flag!



# Jeopardy Challenges

- **RE:** reverse engineering

- Figure out what this weird binary executable does
  - Then find the flag!

- **Examples:**

- Windows EXEs
- Linux ELFs
- iOS/Android apps
- Weird/esoteric formats
  - Xbox game files
  - ...

The image shows a side-by-side comparison of assembly and decompiled code. On the left, the assembly is shown in a window titled 'IDA'. On the right, the decompiled code is shown in a window titled 'DECOMPILER'. The assembly code includes instructions like `sub_8048C7:`, `sub_8048B18+442j`, `mov [esp+28h+var_24], offset _unzip ;`, `xor eax, eax`, `test esi, esi`, `setnz al`, `mov edx, 1`, `mov ds: dword_804FBAC, edx`, `lea eax, [eax+eax+1]`, `mov ds: dword_804F780, eax`, `mov eax, ds: dword_804FFD4`, `mov [esp+28h+var_28], eax`, `call _strstr`, `test eax, eax`, and `je loc_804C4F1`. The decompiled code shows a loop that checks for the string "UNZIP" and increments a counter `dwor_804FBAC`. It also includes a calculation `dwor_804F780 = 2 * (v9 != 0) + 1;` and a comparison `dwor_804F780 = (v9 != 0) + 1;`. The decompiled code is written in C and includes comments like `if ( strstr(dwor_804FFD4, "unzip") || strstr(dwor_804FFD4, "UNZIP") )`.



# Jeopardy Challenges

- **RE: reverse engineering**
  - Figure out what this weird binary executable does
    - Then find the flag!
  - **Tools of the trade:**
    - Decompilers
      - IDA Pro, Ghidra
    - Disassemblers
      - Objdump, angr
    - Custom tools!



```
[n3] ~/n:binutils-2.39/bin/objdump -d --disassembler-color=color $(which ls) | tail -n 30
4d6cc5: 31 ff                xor     %edi,%edi
4d6cc7: c5 f8 77            vzeroupper
4d6cca: e8 11 1c ff ff     call   4c88e0 <quotearg_n_style_colon>
4d6ccf: 49 89 c4            mov     %rax,%r12
4d6cd2: e8 49 22 f3 ff     call   408f20 <__errno_location@plt>
4d6cd7: 4c 89 e1            mov     %r12,%rcx
4d6cda: 48 8d 15 9a 4a 01 00 lea    0x14a9a(%rip),%rdx        # 4eb77b <time_spec+0x104b>
4d6ce1: 31 ff                xor     %edi,%edi
4d6ce3: 8b 30                mov     (%rax),%esi
4d6ce5: 31 c0                xor     %eax,%eax
4d6ce7: e8 d4 27 f3 ff     call   4094c0 <error@plt>
4d6cec: eb 8d                jmp     4d6c7b <wc_lines_avx2+0x18b>
4d6cee: e8 ad 22 f3 ff     call   408fa0 <__stack_chk_fail@plt>
4d6cf3: 66 2e 0f 1f 84 00 00 cs nopw 0x0(%rax,%rax,1)
4d6cfa: 00 00 00            nopl   (%rax)
4d6cfd: 0f 1f 00            nopl   (%rax)

0000000004d6d00 <atexit>:
4d6d00: f3 0f 1e fa        endbr64
4d6d04: 48 8b 00            mov     0x5e2fd(%rip),%rdx      # 535088 <__dso_handle>
4d6d0b: 31 ff                xor     %edi,%edi
4d6d0d: 4c 8b 00            mov     408610 <__cxa_atexit@plt>

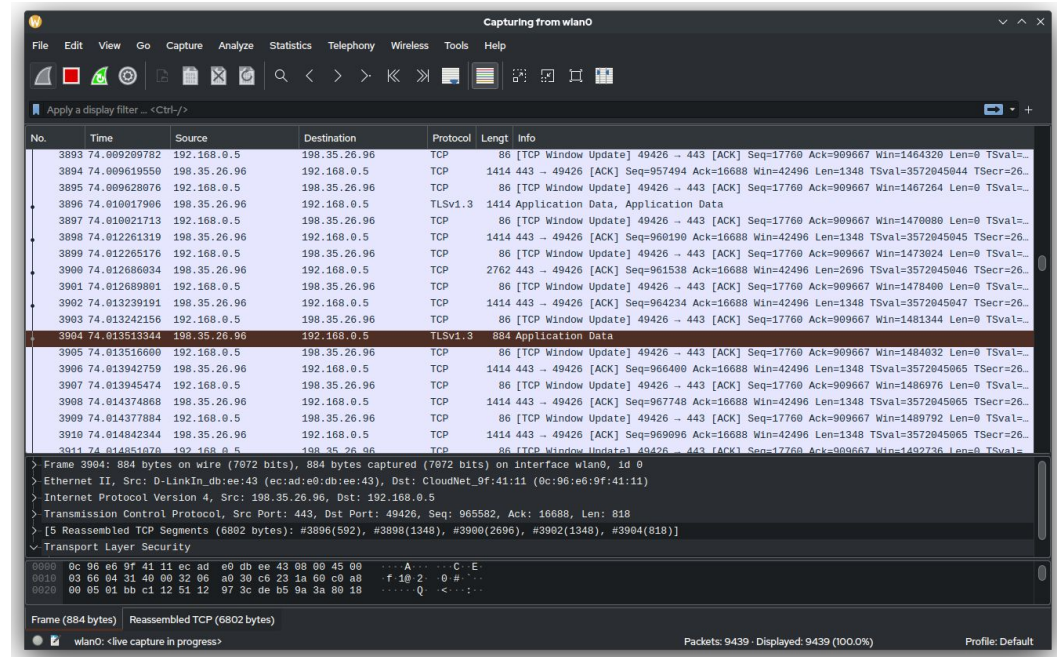
assembly of fn1:
0000000004d6d00 <fn1>:
4d6d00: f3 0f 1e fa        i>:
4d6d04: 48 8b 00            0 f3 1e fa
4d6d0b: 31 ff                48 ec 08
4d6d0d: 4c 8b 00            4c c4 08
4d6d10: c3                  c3

[n3] ~/n:binutils-2.39/bin/objdump -d --disassembler-color=color $(which ls) | tail -n 30
```

**GHIDRA**

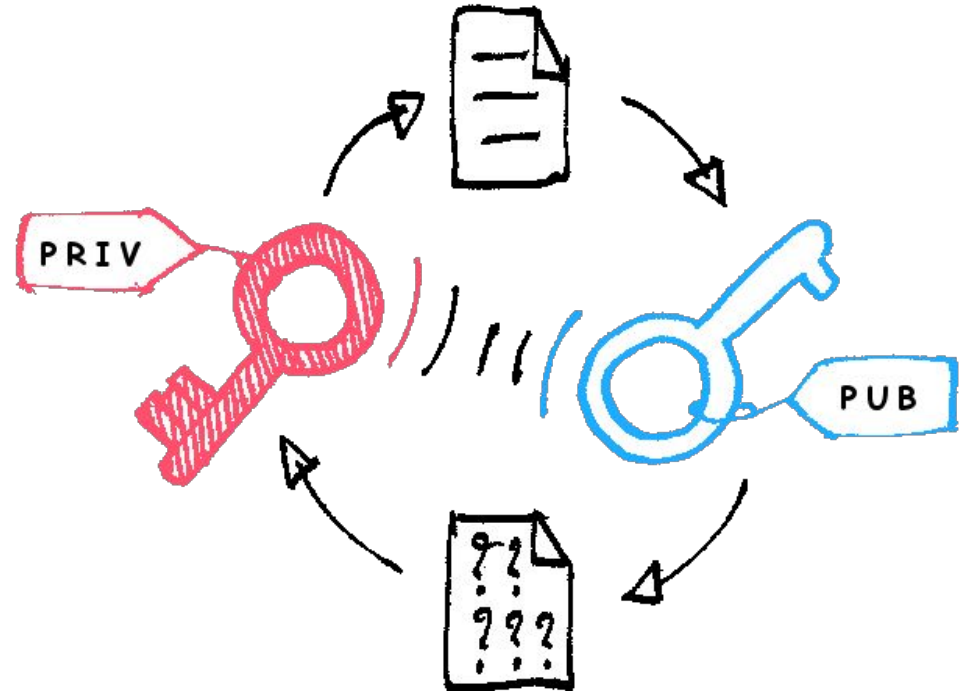
# Jeopardy Challenges

- **Net:** network security
  - Analyze network traffic
    - Then find the flag!
  - **Tools of the trade:**
    - Wireshark
    - Others?



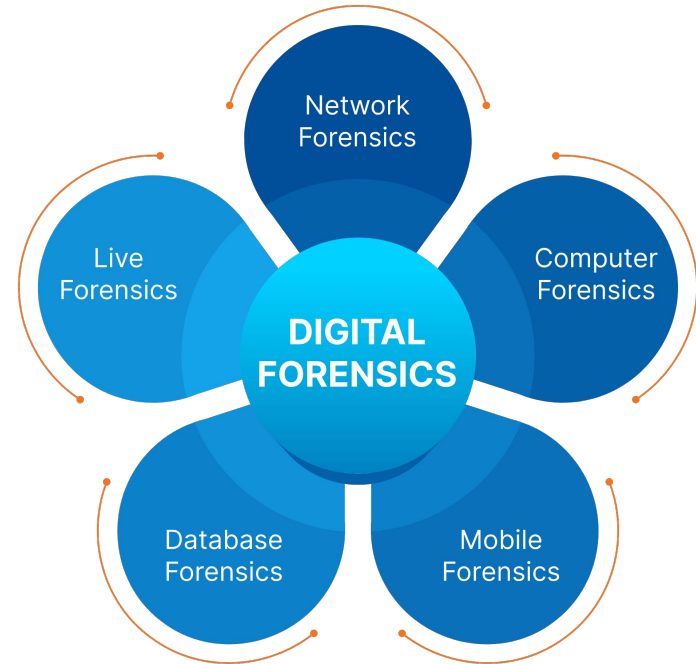
# Jeopardy Challenges

- **Crypto:** cryptography
  - Undo this crypto, find the flag!
  - **Examples:**
    - Ciphers
    - Public-key crypto
    - Signature forgery
    - ...
  - **Tools of the trade:**
    - Usually hand-coded stuff
    - Lots of math!!!



# Jeopardy Challenges

- **Forensics:** digital forensics
  - Find the hidden flag
  - Mimics digital CSI investigations
- **Examples:**
  - File system dumps
  - Memory dumps
- **Tools of the trade:**
  - The Sleuth Kit
  - ...



# Jeopardy Challenges

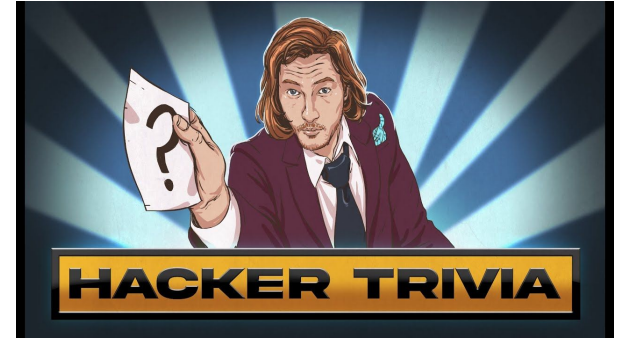
- **Pwn: exploitation**
  - Find the program's bug
  - Figure out how to exploit (*pwn*) it!
- **Examples:**
  - Stack/heap overflows
  - Spawning a root shell
  - Control-flow redirection
- **Tools of the trade:**
  - Debuggers (GDB), RE tools
  - **CS 4440 Project 2** provides a great intro to exploitation

```
-----registers-----
EAX: 0x0
EBX: 0x0
ECX: 0x42424242 ('BBBB')
EDX: 0xf7fa989c --> 0x0
ESI: 0xf7fa8000 --> 0x1d9d6c
EDI: 0xf7fa8000 --> 0x1d9d6c
EBP: 0x0
ESP: 0xffffd2fc --> 0xf7de8b41 (<_libc_start_main+241>: add esp,0x10)
EIP: 0x80491e3 (<main+77>: lea esp,[ecx-0x4])
EFLAGS: 0x282 (carry parity adjust zero SIGN trap INTERRUPT direction overflow)
-----code-----
0x80491e0 <main+74>: pop ecx           Loads ECX - 4 to ESP.
0x80491e1 <main+75>: pop ebx
0x80491e2 <main+76>: pop ebp
=> 0x80491e3 <main+77>: lea esp,[ecx-0x4]  → This is why our value changes.
0x80491e6 <main+80>: ret              To make ESP turn 0x42424242
0x80491e7: xchg ax,ax      we will actually need to send
0x80491e9: xchg ax,ax      0x42424242+4 so when this
0x80491eb: xchg ax,ax      instruction executes, ESP will
                                     be 0x42424242.
-----stack-----
0000| 0xffffd2fc --> 0xf7de8b41 (<_libc_start_main+241>: add esp,0x10)
0004| 0xffffd300 --> 0xf7fa8000 --> 0x1d9d6c
0008| 0xffffd304 --> 0xf7fa8000 --> 0x1d9d6c
0012| 0xffffd308 --> 0x0
0016| 0xffffd30c --> 0xf7de8b41 (<_libc_start_main+241>: add esp,0x10)
0020| 0xffffd310 --> 0x1
0024| 0xffffd314 --> 0xffffd3a4 --> 0xffffd548 ("/tmp/baby")
0028| 0xffffd318 --> 0xffffd3ac --> 0xffffd552 ("LANG=en_US.UTF-8")
-----
Legend: code, data, rodata, value

Breakpoint 2, 0x80491e3 in main ()
gdb-peda$
```

# Jeopardy Challenges

- **Misc/Trivia:** random questions
  - Hackers love their trivia
  - Usually the flag isn't obvious
    - You might have to type it out
  - **Examples:**
    - Old hacker movies
    - Mr. Robot ARG
  - **Tools of the trade:**
    - Google, YouTube, etc.



# Competitions

- Events happen **all the time**
  - See [CTFTime.org](https://CTFTime.org)
- Competition **weight**:
  - How much the event counts to “rankings”
- Team limits:
  - Many have no limits
  - Others cap at **n** players



CTF Events

All Now running Upcoming Archive Format Location Restrictions 2023

Name	Date	Format	Location	Weight	Notes
<a href="#">MHSCTF 2023 (Online)</a>	01 Feb., 17:00 UTC – 14 Feb. 2023, 22:00 UTC	Jeopardy		0	48 teams will participate
<a href="#">DiceCTF 2023</a>	03 Feb., 21:00 UTC – 05 Feb. 2023, 21:00 UTC	Jeopardy	On-line	36.70	109 teams will participate
<a href="#">LA CTF 2023</a>	11 Feb., 04:00 UTC – 12 Feb. 2023, 22:00 UTC	Jeopardy	On-line	0.00	42 teams will participate
<a href="#">HackTM CTF Quals 2023</a>	18 Feb., 12:00 UTC – 19 Feb. 2023, 12:00 UTC	Jeopardy	On-line	0.00	20 teams will participate
<a href="#">pbctf 2023</a>	18 Feb., 14:00 UTC – 20 Feb. 2023, 02:00 UTC	Jeopardy	On-line	36.94	48 teams will participate
<a href="#">hxp CTF 2022</a>	10 March, 16:00 UTC – 12 March 2023, 16:00 UTC	Jeopardy	On-line	100.00	19 teams will participate
<a href="#">DaVinciCTF 2023</a>	11 March, 08:00 UTC – 12 March 2023, 20:00 UTC	Jeopardy	On-line	29.26	6 teams will participate
<a href="#">Insomni'hack 2023</a>	24 March, 18:00 UTC – 25 March 2023, 04:00 UTC	Jeopardy	SwissTech Convention Center (Lausanne)	23.14	8 teams will participate

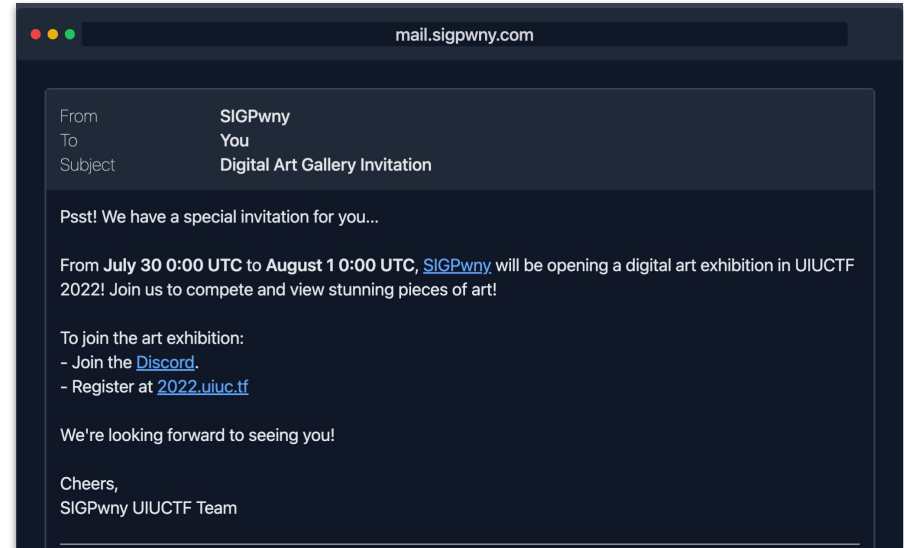
# Competitions

## ■ Many schools host their own

- RPI
- Purdue
- OSU
- UIUC
- CMU
- ...
- **University of Utah!!!** (eventually)

## ■ Who creates and hosts challenges?

- The event organizers!





# Competitions

- **DEFCON CTF Finals**
  - The **Super Bowl** of CTF
    - Happens in Vegas during DEFCON hacker conference
  - Only top CTF teams invited
    - Win qualifier tournaments
  - **Our goal is to make it (and win)!**



# How do I get good at CTF?

- **Attend UtahSec meetings**
  - “Let’s solve this CTF challenge” will be a frequent meeting topic
- **Read challenge write-ups**
  - Detailed solutions
- **Practice practice practice!**
  - Join the team and come learn!
- **Take CS 4440: Intro to Security**
  - An overview of many CTF-style topics



# Careers in Cybersecurity

# So you've taken CS 4440... what now?

- **Do you find cybersecurity interesting?**
  - If so, consider a **career** in cybersecurity!

# So you've taken CS 4440... what now?

- **Do you find cybersecurity interesting?**
  - If so, consider a **career** in cybersecurity!
- **Some possible career paths:**
  - The **Ethical Hacker**
  - The **Practitioner**
  - The **Researcher**



# Careers in Cybersecurity: The Ethical Hacker

# What is Pen-Testing?

## Why Pentesting Is Now a Necessity – and How To Leverage it Effectively

*Here's a look at why pen tests are now a priority, how this process works, and what companies can do to make the most of their pentesting efforts.*



Doug Bonderud Technology Writer

January 20, 2023



The global penetration testing, or pentesting, market is already [worth more than \\$1.8 billion](#), and experts predict a 15.97% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) over the next five years.

This investment makes sense. Here's why: attack surfaces are growing in tandem with expanding cloud networks and mobile device environments, thus making it easier for attackers to find and exploit unknown vulnerabilities.

Red Team agents use disguises, ingenuity to expose TSA vulnerabilities



# What is Pen-Testing?

- Basically, a company hires you to **hack** them





# What is Pen-Testing?

- **Basically, a company hires you to **hack** them**
  - Test their **physical** security
    - Pick the locks on their front entrance
    - Trick employees into letting you inside
  - Test their **web and network** security
    - Impersonate the CEO in a phishing email
  - Test their **application** security
    - Exploit a widely-known-yet-unpatched bug



# Becoming a Pen-Tester

- **Figure out your security niche(s)!**
  - **What topics interest you the most?**
    - Physical
    - Forensics
    - Application
    - Web / Network
    - Communications
    - Open-src Intelligence
  - **Master your niche and apply!**
    - Internships are great to start
    - Be ready to learn on the job!



# Learn from the Pros



**big think**

## Kevin Mitnick: How to Troll the FBI | Big Think

647K views • 9 years ago

 Big Think 

Kevin David Mitnick (born on August 6, 1963) is a computer security co

 CC

2:29

# Ethical Hacking

- **Other ways to ethically hack:**
  - Participate in bug bounties
  - Submit third-party bug reports
  - Work to improve security tools



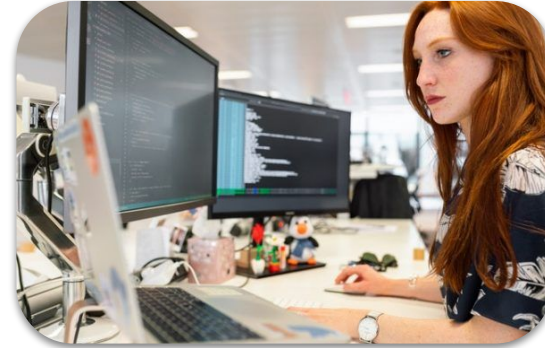
# Careers in Cybersecurity: The Practitioner

# Cybersecurity Practitioners

Security  
Operations  
Specialist



Software &  
Hardware  
Tester



Information  
Technology  
Manager



Computer  
Forensic  
Technician



# Becoming a Security Practitioner

## ■ Education

- **CS 4440**—security fundamentals
- Many **trade-school** programs too
- Specialized **degree programs**



# Becoming a Security Practitioner

## ■ Education

- **CS 4440**—security fundamentals
- Many **trade-school** programs too
- Specialized **degree programs**

## ■ Certifications

- E.g., **CISSP**, **CompTIA**, **CISA**





# Becoming a Security Practitioner

## ■ Education

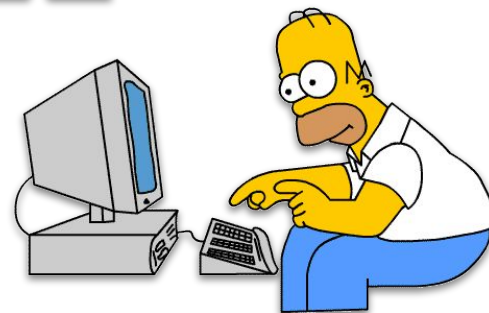
- **CS 4440**—security fundamentals
- Many **trade-school** programs too
- Specialized **degree programs**

## ■ Certifications

- E.g., **CISSP**, **CompTIA**, **CISA**

## ■ Tools & techniques of the trade

- E.g., for testing—**fuzzing**
- E.g., for forensics—**SleuthKit**
- E.g., for netsec—**WireShark**/**Snort**



# Careers in Cybersecurity: The Researcher

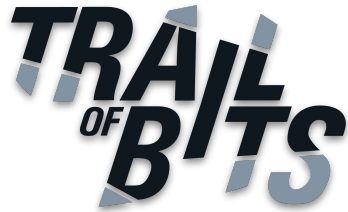
# What is research?

“**Creative** and **systematic** work undertaken to increase the stock of **knowledge**”

- **Examples:**
  - New **techniques** that improve bug-finding capabilities
  - New **attacks** that exploit microarchitectural leakage
  - New **methodologies** to evaluate fuzzer’s effectiveness
  - **And an infinite wealth more!**

# Research Labs

Industrial  
Labs



National  
Labs/FFRDCs



Academic  
Labs



# How can I get a career in research?

1. Become an **enthusiast**
  - Find your favorite topic(s)
  - Get involved in research!
    - University labs
    - Internships



# How can I get a career in research?

## 1. Become an **enthusiast**

- Find your favorite topic(s)
- Get involved in research!
  - University labs
  - Internships

## 2. Go to grad school and **get a PhD**

- Your job will be conducting research
  - The “worker bees” of labs



# What is a PhD?

- “**D**octorate of **P**hilosophy”—proof that you can **conduct** and **lead** research

This



Also  
this



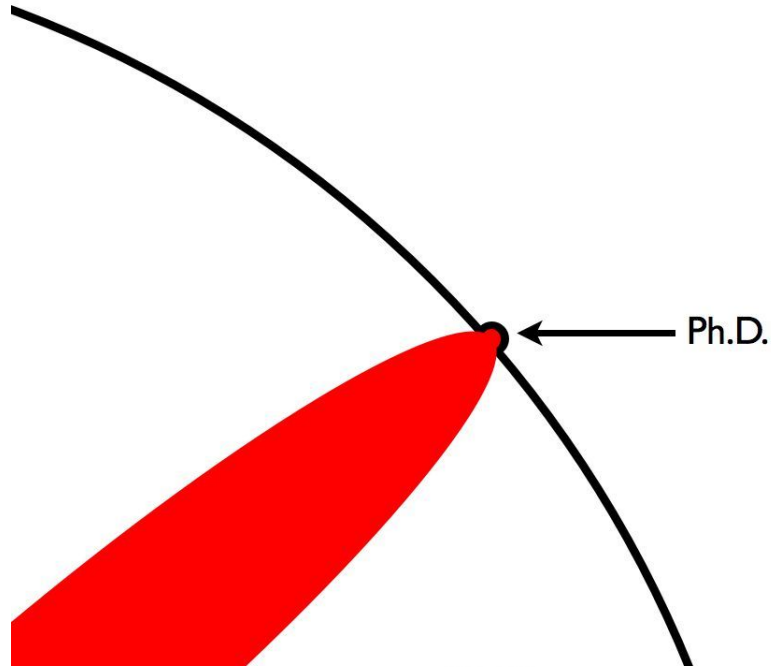
# Why get a PhD?

- **What you get out of it:**
  - A fancy piece of paper
  - A prefix to your name ;)
  - Author **cutting-edge** work
  - **Expertise** in some topic



# Why get a PhD?

- **What you get out of it:**
  - A fancy piece of paper
  - A prefix to your name ;)
  - Author **cutting-edge** work
  - **Expertise** in some topic
- **Circle = all knowledge**
  - **Blue** = grade school
  - **Green** = high school
  - **Pink** = your Bachelor's
  - **Red** = your Master's



# Undergrads can do research too!

## Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP)

## Summer Program for Undergraduate Research (SPUR)

SPUR is a nationally competitive opportunity that provides undergraduate students with an intensive 10-week summer research experience under the mentorship of a University of Utah faculty member. The program provides opportunities to gain research experience in a variety of disciplines.



[Home](#) [Instructors](#) [Projects](#) [Apply](#)



## REU Site: Trust and Reproducibility of Intelligent Computation

**Applications are now welcome** from undergraduate students at all levels (US Citizens, Permanent Residents) to be selected for a 10-week NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates Traineeship held from June 1st till August 4th, 2023. The traineeship will be offered at the campus of the University of Utah, in the Kahlert School of Computing, located near the majestic Wasatch Mountain ranges. The application deadline is April 15, 2023, and *we expect to fund only about 10 REUs*. The selected students will earn a stipend of \$7,200 for this period, and will additionally be compensated for airfare, room and board.

# Security/Privacy Research @ UofU



**Sneha Kasera**  
Networks



**Sameer Patil**  
Human Factors



**Mu Zhang**  
Mobile / IoT



**Jun Xu**  
Software / Systems



**Anton Burtsev**  
Kernels



**Stefan Nagy**  
Software / Systems



**Pratik Soni**  
Cryptography



**Luis Garcia**  
CPS / Drones



**Guan hong Tao**  
ML / AI Security

# Questions?



# Next time on CS 4440...

Course Wrap-Up  
Exam Review—show up!