Where do security bugs come from?

MIT 6.858 (Computer Systems Security), September 23, 2015

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- MIT 18/6-3 ('03), M.Eng ('04)





Agenda



- Always think about security like a bad guy
- Vulnerabilities that have ruined some days
- Who works on security?
- How to think about defense



What is a Security Bug?

- What is security?
- Class participation: Tacos, Salsa, and Avocados (TSA)





"A system is secure if it behaves precisely in the manner intended – and does nothing more" – Ivan Arce

- Who knows exactly what a system is intended to do? Systems are getting more and more complex.
- What types of attacks are possible?

First steps in security: define your security model and your threat model

Threat modeling:T.S.A.



- Logan International Airport security goal #3: prevent banned substances from entering Logan
- Class Participation: What is the threat model?
 - What are possible avenues for getting a banned substance into Logan?
 - Where are the points of entry?
- Threat modeling is also critical, you have to know what you're up against (many engineers don't)



- People care about features, not security (until something goes wrong)
- Engineers typically only see a small piece of the puzzle
- "OMG PDF WTF" (Julia Wolf, 2010)
 - How many lines of code in Linux 2.6.32?
 - How many lines in Windows NT 4?
 - How many in Adobe Acrobat?
 - How many lines of code are touched by Google a week?



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- "OMG PDF WTF" (Julia Wolf, 2010)
 - How many lines of code in Linux 2.6.32?
 - 8 12.6 million
 - How many lines in Windows NT 4?
 - 11-12 million
 - How many in Adobe Acrobat?
 - 15 million
 - How many lines of code are touched by Google a week?
 - 15 million



Bad Engineering Assumptions





- Two modes of operation: image and radiation treatment
- Intended invariant: in radiation treatment mode, a protective focusing shield must be in place





```
Shield code was something like:
//global persistent variable, single byte value
ub1 protectiveShield; //zero if shield isn't needed
•••
//do we need a shield?
if(treatmentMode) then
{
       protectiveShield++;
} else {
       protectiveShield = 0;
}
if(protectiveShield) {
       putShieldInPlace();
} else {
       removeShield();
}
```

Therac-25



- Flawed assumption: protectiveShield would always be non-zero in treatment mode
- Impact: people actually died

Therac-25



- Flawed assumption: protectiveShield would always be non-zero in treatment mode
- Impact: people actually died
- My classmate's conclusion: "I learned to never write medical software"



Bad Assumptions

HOW APPLE AND AMAZON SECURITY FLAWS LED TO MY EPIC HACKING





- Amazon allows you to add a credit card or email address with name, email address, physical address
- Amazon allows you to send a password reset to a registered email address
- Amazon lets you see the last four digits of registered credit card numbers
- Apple grants account access with the last four digits of a registered credit card (D'oh!)
- Gmail reset to Apple account



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Conclusion: components that affect your system are often beyond your control (Facebook, Amazon, Apple). Consider the full threat model.



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Question: is your personal email account password stronger or weaker than your online banking passwords?

Designing Systems



Think like a security researcher:

- What assumptions are being made?
- Which assumptions are wrong?
- What can you break if the assumption is wrong?



- Tricking an authority into letting you do something you shouldn't be able to do
- Most security problems could fall under this broad definition







"How to Shop for Free Online" (security researcher and academic)

- Three-party payment systems (Cashier as a Service):
 - Merchant (seller)
 - Payment provider
 - Cheater User
- Communication between parties go through the user

^{*} http://research.microsoft.com/pubs/145858/caas-oakland-final.pdf











- The merchant thinks something ties the payment amount to the transaction
- Impact: shopping for free
- Solutions?
- Read the paper, lots of things can and do go wrong



Bad assumptions == security bugs







POST /target HTTP/1.1

Host: example.com

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv: 14.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/14.0.1

Cookie: sessionid=d8e8fca2dc0f896fd7cb4cb0031ba249

username=tom&password=hunter2

HTTP



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Traffic Analysis. Huge Field



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HTTP



POST /target HTTP/1.1

Host: example.com

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv: 14.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/14.0.1

Cookie: sessionid=d8e8fca2dc0f896fd7cb4cb0031ba249

username=tom&password=hunter2

HTTP





Attacker Can Control





username=tom&password=hunter

HTTP



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Cookie: sessionid=d8e8fca2dc0f896fd7cb4cb0031ba249

sessionid=a



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195 Bytes



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00000B0	31	62	61	32	34	39	OD	0A	0D	0A	01	61					1ba249a

187 Bytes



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Cookie: sessionid=d8e8fca2dc0f896fd7cb4cb0031ba249

sessionid=d



Offset(h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	OD	0E	0F	
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00000060	57	4F	57	36	34	ЗB	20	72	76	ЗA	31	34	2E	30	29	20	WOW64; rv:14.0)
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186 Bytes



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Cookie: sessionid=d8e8fca2dc0f896fd7cb4cb0031ba249

sessionid=da



POST /target HTTP/1.1

Host: example.com

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv: 14.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/14.0.1

Cookie: sessionid=d8e8fca2dc0f896fd7cb4cb0031ba249

sessionid=da

188 Bytes



POST /target HTTP/1.1

Host: example.com

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv: 14.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/14.0.1

Cookie: sessionid=d8e8fca2dc0f896fd7cb4cb0031ba249

sessionid=d8

187 Bytes

Fighting CRIME

- Browsers disabled TLS compression
- SPDY revised so request secrets are compressed in a separate context







Stuxnet (gov't / security researcher)





- [worm [rootkit [rootkit [sabotage]]]]
- Five zero-day vulnerabilities
- Two stolen certificates
- Almost surgically targeted
- Eight propagation methods
- Partridge in a malware pear tree

Stuxnet





http://www.eset.com/resources/white-papers/Stuxnet_Under_the_Microscope.pdf

The Target



- Mixed MS Windows environment = Redundant
- Not exploiting memory corruption = *Reliable*
- Target: Iranian air-gapped networks operating centrifuges to enrich nuclear material (Natanz)
- How can you get a foot in the door? USB keys





USB Vulnerability

Zero-Day* Vulnerabilities:

- MSI0-046 (Shell LNK / Shortcut)
- MSI0-061 (Print Spooler Service)
- MSI0-073 (Win32K Keyboard Layout)
- MS08-067 (NetPathCanonicalize()), (Patched) http://www.phreedom.org/blog/2008/decompiling-ms08-067/
- MSI0-092 (Task Scheduler)
- CVE-2010-2772 (Siemens SIMATIC Static Password)

MSI0-046 (Shell LNK/Shortcut)

airbnb

- You know, shortcuts and such
- Where does the icon come from?
- Loaded from a CPL (Control Panel File) specified by the user
- A CPL is just a DLL
- USB keys have attack DLL and a shortcut referencing the DLL
- Plugging in the USB stick leads to arbitrary code execution





Flaw: we should run a user-specified DLL to display an icon for a shortcut?!

But I'm not Admin!



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MS10-073 (Win32K Keyboard Layout)



- Keyboard layouts can be loaded into Windows
- In XP, anyone can load a keyboard layout (later version only allow admins)
- Integer in the layout file indexes a global array of function pointers without proper bound checking
- Call any function, but I want to call *my* function...



- How do we call attack code?
- Find the pointer to the global function array
- Find a pointer into user-land (modifiable by your program)
- Inject your attack code there
- Call the modified function (runs as SYSTEM)



Flaws: improper bound checking on the keyboard layout function index and allowing standard users to specify layouts



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- Standard users can create and edit scheduled tasks (XML)
- After a task is created, a CRC32 checksum is generated to prevent tampering
- ... CRC32 ...



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crc32

Google Search I

I'm Seeling Lucky

Was that so hard?

CRC32





CRCs are specifically designed to protect against common types of errors on communication channels, where they can provide quick and reasonable assurance of the integrity of

Enhance!



CRCs and data integrity

[edit]

CRCs are specifically designed to protect against common types of errors on communication channels, where they can provide quick and reasonable assurance of the integrity of messages delivered. However, they are not suitable for protecting against intentional alteration of data. Firstly, as there is no authentication, an attacker can edit a message and recompute the CRC without the substitution being detected. This is even the case when the CRC is encrypted, one of the design flaws of the Wired Equivalent

"However, [CRCs] are not suitable for protecting against intentional alteration of data." – Wikipedia (Cyclic redundancy check)



- Created task as normal user, record CRC32 value
- Modified user definition in the task to LocalSystem
- Take CRC32 of the task XML, pad until the CRC32 matches original



- Created task as normal user, record CRC32 value
- Modified user definition in the task to LocalSystem
- Take CRC32 of the task XML, pad until the CRC32 matches original
- ?????
- Profit!



MSI0-092 (Task Scheduler)



Flaw:





"Our job is to read one more sentence in the man page than the developer did." – Chris Palmer (former iSECer)

- Be really curious
- Think about how components interact with each other



Zero-Day* Vulnerabilities:

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- MSI0-092 (Task Scheduler)
- CVE-2010-2772 (Siemens SIMATIC Static Password)



- Enumerates printer shares
- Connects to printer and asks to print two files to SYSTEM32
- Should fail?! Printer should connect as Guest, which shouldn't have privilege to create files in SYSTEM32



- "//We run as system because in XP the guest account doesn't have enough privilege to do X/Y/Z"
- Stuxnet payload is dropped



- How do we execute? Enter the MOF
- MOF files are basically script files
- A process monitors the following directory for new files and executes them: Windows\System32\wbem\mof\
- MOF file executes the Stuxnet payload



Flaws:

- Printer spooler runs as SYSTEM (highest privilege) and allows arbitrary files to be written to arbitrary places
- File creation leads to arbitrary code execution


Zero-Day* Vulnerabilities:

- MSI0-046 (Shell LNK / Shortcut)
- MSI0-061 (Print Spooler Service)
- MSI0-073 (Win32K Keyboard Layout)
- MS08-067 (NetPathCanonicalize()), (Patched)

http://www.phreedom.org/blog/2008/decompiling-ms08-067/

- MSI0-092 (Task Scheduler)
- CVE-2010-2772 (Siemens SIMATIC Static Password)



 Known, patched (recent) vulnerability that allowed you to drop a payload and schedule it for execution

Flaws:

- Unpatched systems
- RPC flaw that allows unauthorized remote users to schedule tasks

Rootkits



- Goal: maintain control in secret
- Two stolen certificates:
 - Signs MrxCls.sys: launches Stuxnet on boot
 - Signs MRxNet.sys: hides Stuxnet filesystem objects and hooks new filesystem objects





HammerTime



Zero-Day* Vulnerabilities:

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- Stuxnet is targeted for the Natanz Nuclear Facility
 - Targets a configuration with six centrifuge cascades in a very specific configuration
 - Attacks specific controllers/hardware used at Natanz
 - Certainly had a test environment
- Where did the intelligence come from?

When and Where?



President Ahmadinejad's homepage! Here he is at Natanz. Wait, what's that on the screen?







Full resolution photos?? ENHANCE!

IR-1 cascade model

RCG	G 1								2						3						4							5								6							
Line 1			Ð		Ð	Ð	Ð		\oplus	Ð	Ð	\oplus	Ð	Ð	Ð	Ð	0	Ð	Ð	Ð	\oplus	0	0	Ð	Ð	Ð	•	Ð	0	Ð	Ð	\oplus	Ð	Ð	\oplus	•	Ð	Ð	\oplus	•	Ð	Ð	Ð
Line 2	•	•	0	Ð	0	•	Ð	•	0	0	0	Ð	0	Ð	Ð	Ð	Ð	\oplus	\oplus	Ð	\oplus	0	\oplus	Ð	Ð	Ð	0	\oplus	\oplus	Ð	Ð	\oplus	Ð	0	0	•	0	0	0	0	Ð	\oplus	Ð
Line 2	•	•	Ð	0	0	Ð	Ð	•	0	•	•	0	\oplus	Ð	•	\oplus	•	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	•	\oplus	Ð	Ð	\oplus	•	\oplus	•	Ð	•	\oplus	Ð	\oplus	•	•	•	•	\oplus	•	Ð	\oplus	•
Line 4			\oplus		\oplus	\oplus	\oplus		\oplus	0	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	0	0	\oplus	0	\oplus	Ð	\oplus	\oplus	0	\oplus	Ð	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	0	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	0	\oplus	\oplus	Ð						
Row	43	42	41	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Stage	1	2	3 4		5			6		7				1		9				10							11				12					13			.4	15			

RCG: Rotor Control Group, a group of up to 28 centrifuges

Stage: Enrichment stage, with the general flow direction from right to left

Row: Row number of a centrifuge quadruple, corresponding to the floor markings

When and Where?



Don't get too 'Merica on me, we do it too...





- Siemens' controllers for centrifuges run WinCC
- WinCC SQL database servers
 - Connect using a hardcoded password
 - Loads Stuxnet as binary into a table
 - Executes binary as a stored procedure



- Step7 DLL is renamed and replaced with an attack DLL
- If the PLC matches the desired profile, it's infected
- Breaks centrifuges by spinning them in weird ways while reporting everything is fine



Stuxnet: Fun Facts



- Black Market value of these vulns... probably millions
- Probably set back Iran's nuclear program by years
- Stolen code signing certificates actually signed the virus to make it look legitimate
- Virus phoned command and control centers to gather data, update, and presumably limit the scope of infection
- Whodunit?
- Learn more:
 - <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOwMW6agpTl</u>
 - <u>http://go.eset.com/us/resources/white-papers/Stuxnet_Under_the_Microscope.pdf</u>
 - <u>http://www.symantec.com/content/en/us/enterprise/media/security_response/whitepapers/w32_stuxnet_dossier.pdf</u>
 - <u>http://www.digitalbond.com/2012/01/31/langners-stuxnet-deep-dive-s4-video/</u>
 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsXe2Gr2e3Q</u>



You're too young to get this reference



Flame (Stuxnet's Cousin)



- Spyware
- Does crazy things like:
 - Get all the GPS tags from all your photos
 - Get your contact list from any Bluetooth attached phone
 - Screenshots, keystroke logging, audio recording



- MD5 is broken because you can find collisions
- Specifically, chosen-prefix collision
- Demonstrated to be feasible in 2008 to generate a rogue CA (<u>http://marc-stevens.nl/research/papers/CR09-</u> <u>SSALMOdW.pdf</u>)
- Attack required 3 days running on 215 PS3s to find a collision
- Everyone panics, CAs stop using MD5 entirely



- Microsoft forgot about one Microsoft Terminal Server still issuing MD5 certificates
- Attackers devised a new way to find MD5 collisions
- Harder challenges, I ms time window to get the right timestamp
- Created an arbitrary MS root certificate for signing anything



- Microsoft forgot about one Microsoft Terminal Server still issuing MD5 certificates
- Attackers devised a new way to find MD5 collisions
- Harder challenges, I ms time window to get the right timestamp
- Created an arbitrary MS root certificate for signing anything
- Like Windows Updates

Flame (Stuxnet's Cousin)



- ''Oh Hai! I'm a Windows Update server!''
- ''Oh Hello, I need an update.''
- ''Here, have delicious delicious Flame!''
- ''You silly goose, this is signed by MS! I'll install it!''



Recent history

Elon Musk's Plans for Sending 1 Million People to Mars for \$500,000 Each.





Former NSA Director Michael Hayden says much the same thing:

If Hayden had had the ability to get the equivalent Chinese records when running CIA or NSA, he says, "I would not have thought twice. I would not have asked permission. I'd have launched the star fleet. And we'd have brought those suckers home at the speed of light." The episode, he says, "is not shame on China. This is shame on us for not protecting that kind of information." The episode is "a tremendously big deal, and my deepest emotion is embarrassment."

(Excerpt from Bruce Schneier's CryptoGram)



TECH SECURITY

SIM Card Company Says the NSA Probably Hacked It

Dan Kedmey | Feb. 25, 2015

But it denies the NSA got access to billions of people's mobile communications

One of the world's largest manufacturers of SIM cards has acknowledged evidence of security agency attacks on the company's internal networks, but it's denying that American and British intelligence agents







ANDY GREENBERG SECURITY 07.06.15 10:26 AM

HACKING TEAM BREACH SHOWS A GLOBAL SPYING FIRM RUN AMOK

FEW NEWS EVENTS can unleash more schadenfreude within the security community than watching a notorious firm of hackers-for-hire become a hack target themselves. In the case of the freshly disemboweled Italian surveillance firm Hacking Team, the company may also serve as a dark



- Sold vulnerabilities to people with money (sometimes oppressive regimes)
- They were hacked
- ~half-dozen flash 0-days found and other vulns

Firefox





Yesterday morning, August 5, a Firefox user informed us that an advertisement on a news site in Russia was serving a Firefox exploit that searched for sensitive files and uploaded them to a server that appears to be in Ukraine. This morning Mozilla released security updates that fix the vulnerability. All Firefox users are urged to update to Firefox 39.0.3. The fix has also been shipped in Firefox ESR 38.1.1.

The vulnerability comes from the interaction of the mechanism that enforces JavaScript context separation (the "same origin policy") and Firefox's PDF Viewer. Mozilla products that don't contain the PDF Viewer, such as Firefox for Android, are not vulnerable. The vulnerability does not enable the execution of arbitrary code but the exploit was able to inject a JavaScript

Firefox



• Nomnoms, gimme your SSH keys

Stagefright (July/August)



- Vulnerability in Android
- Multi-media library used by everything
- Fuzzing doesn't look good
- Full RCE (on old versions of Android)

Stagefright (July/August)



- Vulnerability in Android
- Multi-media library used by everything
- Fuzzing doesn't look good
- Full RCE (on old versions of Android)
- Mitigated (partially?) by ASLR



- **RD:** "What up! I'm a keyboard"
- Your laptop: "Hi keyboard, I'm a computer, let me know what human wants to do."

HOME / USB RUBBER DUCKY / USB RUBBER DUCKY DELUXE





- **RD:** "What up! I'm a keyboard"
- Your laptop: "Hi keyboard, I'm a computer, let me know what human wants to do."
- **RD:** "Human seems to be installing some malware."
- Your laptop: "Who am I to question human?!"

Chrome extensions



- Chrome is dope. Use Chrome and enable "click to play"
- You are now safer than 95%
- Use a password manager, you're now safer than 99.9%



Chrome extensions



- Chrome is dope. Use Chrome and enable "click to play"
- You are now safer than 95%
- Use a password manager, you're now safer than 99.9%
- Installing random extensions ruins all of the above







Apple scrambles after 40 malicious "XcodeGhost" apps haunt App Store

Outbreak may have caused hundreds of millions of people to download malicious apps.

by Dan Goodin - Sep 21, 2015 7:40am PDT





Xcode Ghost



- Malicious version of Xcode
- Automatically injects malware into builds
- Used by real dev of real popular apps
- Lots of deployment in China (why?)
- Phishing capability and collects basic device data



I Love Security, What's Next?

- Ethics in security
- Possible Careers





Ethics in Security

 Big ethical debates used to be: Responsible vs Full Disclosure







Ethics in Security

 Big ethical debates used to be: Responsible vs Full Disclosure





• Debate has shifted to:

Disclosure vs Selling Weapons






• Shape your job around your ethical standpoint, not vice versa



- Shape your job around your ethical standpoint, not vice versa
- Write security relevant software



- Shape your job around your ethical standpoint, not vice versa
- Write security relevant software
- Write (more) secure software



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- Write security relevant software
- Write (more) secure software
- Be a criminal
- Academia
- Independent researcher
- Pen testing
- Help me fight bad guys



Who looks for security bugs?

- Criminals
- Security Researchers
- Pen Testers
- Governments
- Hacktivists
- Academics
- Defenders



Criminals



- Goals:
 - Money (botnets, CC#s, blackmail)
 - Stay out of jail
- Thoroughness:
 - Reliable exploits
 - Don't need 0-days (but they sure are nice)
- Access:
 - Money
 - Blackbox testing



Security Researchers



- Goals:
 - Column inches from press, props from friends
 - Preferably in a trendy platform
- Thoroughness:
 - Don't need to be perfect, don't want to be embarrassed
- Access:
 - Casual access to engineers
 - Source == Lawyers



• Goals:

- Making clients and users safer
- Finding vulns criminals would use
- Thoroughness:
 - Need coverage
 - Find low-hanging fruit
 - Find high impact vulnerabilities
 - Don't fix or fully exploit
- Access:
 - Access to Engineers
 - Access to Source
 - Permission







Governments



- Goals:
 - Attack/espionage
 - Defend
- Thoroughness:
 - Reliable exploits
- Access:
 - Money
 - Talent
 - Time



Hacktivists



- Goals:
 - Doing something "good"
 - Stay out of jail
- Thoroughness:
 - Reliable exploits
 - Don't need 0-days
- Access:
 - Talent
 - Plentiful targets



Academics



- Goals:
 - Finding common flaws and other general problems
 - Developing new crypto
 - Make something cool and useful
 - Make everyone safer
- Thoroughness:
 - Depth in area of research
- Access:
 - Creating new things
 - Blackbox



Techniques



- With access:
 - Source code review
 - Engineer interviews
 - Testing in a controlled environment
- Without access:
 - Blackbox testing
 - Fuzzing (give weird inputs, see what happens)
 - Reverse Engineering
 - Social Engineering

Ethics in Security



- A single iOS 0-day sold for a purported 500k
- Most profitable way to be a hacker is likely to sell exploits
- Be afraid, be very afraid (tin foil available up front)
- But remember, there are many ways to make money by being unethical, you still shouldn't do it



Defense wins championships



Landscape



- People are selling 0-day vulnerabilities all over the place
- Companies are relying on unaudited open source software incredibly ubiquitously
- Bad things happen all the time
- Users are prone to error and phishing
- People love clicking on everything, or plugging in USBs





• Security must work within this landscape

Modern security: Perimeter



- Spend some energy here:
 - Patch your stuff fast when security issues come up
 - Sprinkle 2FA on everything you care about
 - Don't get taken down by DDoS ransom artists, be ready.
 - Train your employees
 - Basic controls: review, static analysis, run your own checks of your security like an attacker would
 - Push Chrome usage/password managers/click to play

Modern security: small incidents



- Make incidents small:
 - Did I mention 2FA on everything? Yeah, everything
 - Encrypt your sensitive data and separate the key from the data (transparent data encryption isn't good)
 - Limit access to a minimal set
 - Audit and monitor access for anomalies
 - Backup your stuff (coder space)
 - Segment your stuff



- Detect and stop
 - Know what's normal.
 - Instrument every host as well as your network
 - Invest in tuning signal so you know what looks weird
 - Have a plan
 - Look for indicators of compromise and stop them:
 - Persistence
 - Command/Control
 - Lateral movement



• Security engineers: know a lot about security. Do pen testing, design review, and bring security to the rest of the employees.



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- Software engineers: write security software. Work on encrypting our sensitive data more security, improving access controls/auditing, making it easier to write secure software.



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- Intrusion Detection specialist: create signals that look for indicators of compromise (IOC) across all laptops, hosts, and internal equipment.



- Security engineers: know a lot about security. Do pen testing, design review, and bring security to the rest of the employees.
- Software engineers: write security software. Work on encrypting our sensitive data more security, improving access controls/auditing, making it easier to write secure software.
- Intrusion Detection specialist: create signals that look for indicators of compromise (IOC) across all laptops, hosts, and internal equipment.
- Analysts: Front-lines of security, look at signal from IDS folks, tune rules, and investigate issues.



- Incident Response team: the "oh sh*t" crew. Something looks pretty bad, don't know what's going on. Call these people.
- Tools: security is about customization, create custom security tooling and open source it.
- Network security engineers: design better network layout and segmentation.
- Security operations: manage users, operationalize security.
- Internal policy folks.
- Collaborate with everyone in the organization. Give security a try!



Thanks!

- paul.youn@airbnb.com
- Career fair booth! Be there.
- Go to a small company:
 - Startup like Airbnb
 - NCC Group pen testing
- Go Dubs!

References



- Help from NCC Group on previous versions of slides.
- References:

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