Lecture 29: Non-Robust and Non-Secure Software

Date: December 4, 2013 Homework Due: Dec. 6 at 5:00pm

- 1. Review sessions and final exam
 - a. Review sessions:

Monday, Dec. 9, from 2pm-3pm in 1 Wellman;

Tuesday, Dec. 10, from 10am-11am in 1006 Giedt

- b. Final exam: Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 10:30am-12:30pm in 1 Wellman
- 2. What does "secure" mean?
- 3. What do you look for?
- 4. Basic requirements
 - a. Paranoia
 - b. Defending against stupidity
 - c. Showing only that which the user needs to see
 - d. Assume anything can happen, and guard against undesirable things
- 5. What does the program depend on?
 - a. Network access: what happens if it can't connect to the network?
 - b. User settings: are these easy to do?
 - c. Files: what files (intermediate, input, output, does it use?
 - d. How does it handle contradictory settings?
 - e. Other dependencies, especially on what the user/system/administration does not control?
- 6. Does the program do what you expect?
 - a. Is it clear what the program is to do under all circumstances?
 - b. What happens when you give it lots of input or use it on large data sets?
 - c. What happens if you give it no input when it expects some?
 - d. What happens if you try to exceed some limit?
- 7. What happens if you give it strange input?
 - a. Does it handle "meta-characters" properly?
 - b. Does it check for and handle bad characters, or does it check for good characters?
 - c. What happens if the input is malformed?
- 8. Does it interact with other programs?
 - a. What happens if the other program is not present?
 - b. What happens if it malfunctions?
 - c. Will the programs deadlock?
 - d. Does the result depend on the order in which the programs interact, and if so, is that ordering enforced?
- 9. What does it do if something "impossible" happens?
 - a. A system database returns an unexpected value (or no value)
 - b. A network connection is broken before it shuts down
 - c. A configuration file or database is corrupted