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using Blackboard!**

Lecture 5 – Various Software Vulnerabilities

[COSE451] Software Security

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Spring 2024

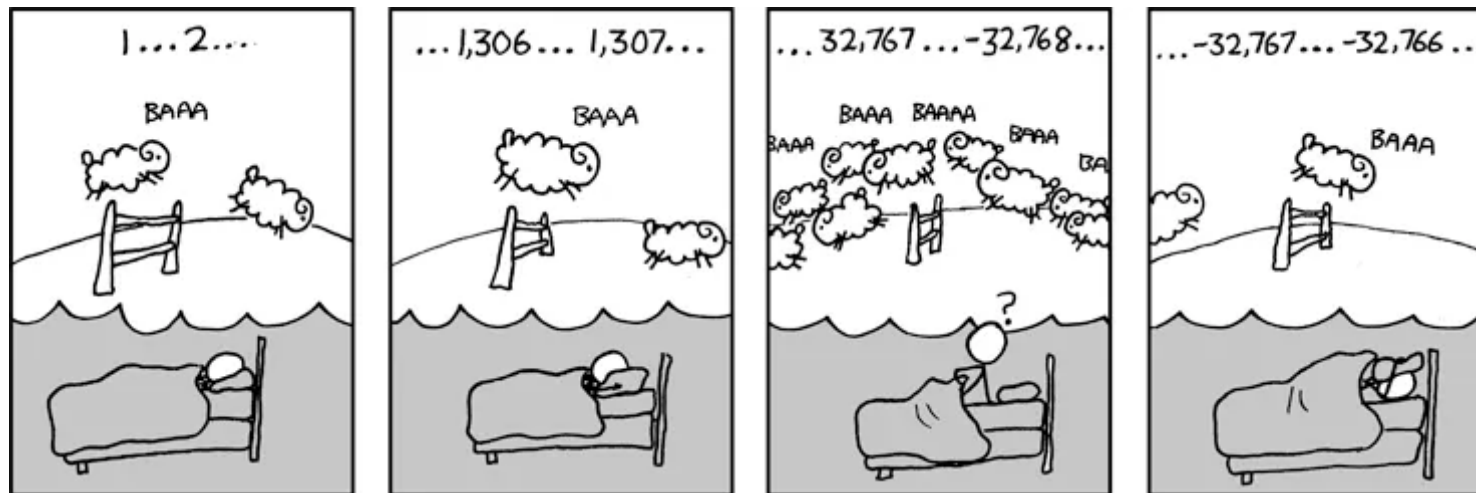
Overview

- **Various Software Vulnerabilities**
 - Integer overflow/underflow
 - Command injection
 - Path traversal

Integer overflow/underflow

- **Integer overflow/underflow**

- A value exceeding the maximum (minimum) value for an integer data type results in a sudden change to a very small (large) value



Integer overflow/underflow

- Integer overflow/underflow

Data structure	Range
char	0 ~ 65535 ('\u0000' ~ '\uffff')
byte (1 byte)	-128 ~ 127 ($-2^7 \sim 2^7 - 1$)
short (2 bytes)	-32,768 ~ 32,767 ($-2^{15} \sim 2^{15} - 1$)
int (4 bytes)	-2,147,483,648 ~ 2,147,483,647 ($-2^{31} \sim 2^{31} - 1$)
long (8 bytes)	-9,223,372,036,854,774,808 ~ 9,223,372,036,854,775,807 ($-2^{63} \sim 2^{63} - 1$)
float (4 bytes)	1.4E-45 ~ 3.4E38 ($1.4 * 10^{-45} \sim 3.4 * 10^{-38}$)
double (8 bytes)	4.9E-324 ~ 1.8E308 ($4.9 * 10^{-324} \sim 1.8 * 10^{308}$)

Integer overflow/underflow

- **Integer overflow/underflow**

- Signed int: 4 bytes (32 bits)

- MIN: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000

- MAX: 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111

Integer overflow/underflow

- **Integer overflow/underflow**

- Signed int: 4 bytes (32 bits) - **WRONG**

- MIN: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000

- MAX: 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111

- The first **bit** represent the sign (0: positive, 1: negative)

Integer overflow/underflow

- **Integer overflow/underflow**

- Signed int: 4 bytes (32 bits)

- MIN: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000

- MAX: 0111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111

- = $2^{31} - 1 = 2,147,483,647$

Integer overflow/underflow

- **Integer overflow/underflow**

- Signed int: 4 bytes (32 bits)

- MIN: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000

- MAX: 0111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111

- = $2^{31} - 1 = 2,147,483,647$

- MAX+1: 1000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000

- = $-2^{31} = -2,147,483,648$

Integer overflow/underflow

- Integer overflow/underflow

- Example

```
1 #include<stdio.h>
2
3 void main(){
4     int max = 2147483647;
5     int min = -2147483648;
6
7     int underflow = -2147483649;
8     int overflow = 2147483648;
9
10    printf("MAX: %d\n", max);
11    printf("Overflow: %d\n==\n", overflow);
12
13    printf("MIN: %d\n", min);
14    printf("Underflow: %d\n", underflow);
15 }
```

Integer overflow/underflow

- Integer overflow/underflow

- Example

```
1 #include<stdio.h>
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3 void main(){
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13    printf("MIN: %d\n", min);
14    printf("Underflow: %d\n", underflow);
15 }
```

```
seunghoonwoo@ubuntu:~$ ./int_over_under_flow
MAX: 2147483647
Overflow: -2147483648
==
MIN: -2147483648
Underflow: 2147483647
```

Integer overflow/underflow

- **Integer overflow/underflow**

- A vulnerability discovered in a popular smart contract

```
1  function transferProxy (address from, address to, uint
    value, uint fee) {
2    if (balance[from] < fee + value) revert ();
3
4    if (balance[to] + value < balance[to] ||
5        balance[msg.sender] + fee < balance[msg.sender])
6        revert ();
7
8    balance[to] += value;
9    balance[msg.sender] += fee;
10   balance[from] -= value + fee;
11 }
```

Integer overflow/underflow

- **Integer overflow/underflow**

- Related CWEs

- CWE-190: Integer Overflow or Wraparound (14)
 - CWE-191: Integer Underflow (Wrap or Wraparound)
 - CWE-197: Numeric Truncation Error
 - CWE-369: Divide by Zero
 - CWE-680: Integer Overflow to Buffer Overflow

* **Highlighted** numbers: the rankings of the top 25 most dangerous Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE) entries in 2023

Integer overflow/underflow

- **Integer overflow/underflow**

- Real-world example: CVE-2020-14147 in Redis

- An in-memory database software
 - One of the most popular C software on GitHub (rank 4 as of Feb. 2024)

WOOSEUNGHOON committed on Feb 10, 2020

```
deps/luasrc/luas_struct.c
@@ -89,12 +89,14 @@ typedef struct Header {
89 89 } Header;
90 90
91 91
92 - static int getnum (const char **fmt, int df) {
92 + static int getnum (lua_State *L, const char **fmt, int df) {
93 93     if (!isdigit(**fmt)) /* no number? */
94 94         return df; /* return default value */
95 95     else {
96 96         int a = 0;
97 97         do {
98 +         if (a > (INT_MAX / 10) || a * 10 > (INT_MAX - (**fmt - '0')))
99 +         luaL_error(L, "integral size overflow");
98 100         a = a*10 + (**fmt++) - '0';
99 101     } while (isdigit(**fmt));
100 102     return a;

```

Integer overflow/underflow

- **Integer overflow/underflow**

- How can we prevent integer overflow/underflow attacks?

1. Correct input validation (important)

2. Using GCC compile options

- E.g., GCC `-ftrapv`

- Generating traps for signed overflow on addition, subtraction, multiplication operations

Command injection

- **Sometimes it is more convenient to utilize pre-existing software rather than writing code from scratch for certain functionalities**
 - E.g., if we want to print the contents of a file, use the system's cat function
- **C/C++ utilizes the `system` function**
 - E.g., `system("cat /etc/passwd")`

5

Improper Neutralization of Special Elements used in an OS Command ('OS Command Injection')
[CWE-78](#) | CVEs in KEV: 23 | Rank Last Year: 6 (up 1) ▲

16

Improper Neutralization of Special Elements used in a Command ('Command Injection')
[CWE-77](#) | CVEs in KEV: 4 | Rank Last Year: 17 (up 1) ▲

Command injection

- Using system functions

- Pros

- Easily utilize the software already installed (e.g., cat)

- Cons

- The arguments of the function are passed as shell commands: this can yield critical attacks

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <stdlib.h>
3
4 int main() {
5     char command[100];
6
7     printf("Enter input: ");
8     fgets(command, sizeof(command), stdin);
9     system(command);
10
11     return 0;
12 }
```



```
seunghoonwoo@seunghoonwoo-virtual-machine:~$ ./injection
Enter input: cat /etc/passwd
root:x:0:0:
daemon:x:1:
bin:x:2:2:b
sys:x:3:3:s
```

Command injection

- **Injection**

- Injecting malicious data into a program to execute it as system commands, code, database queries, etc.

- **Command injection**

- Executing user input as system commands
- Arbitrary commands may be executed if user input is not properly validated

* Command1 | Command 2: The output of command1 is passed as input to command2, connecting and executing both commands.

Command injection

Meta characters	Description	Example
\$	Shell environment variables	<pre>\$ echo \$SHELL /bin/bash</pre>
&&	Executing the next command after the previous command execution	<pre>\$ echo hello && echo bye hello bye</pre>
;	Command separators	<pre>\$ echo hello ; echo bye hello bye</pre>
	Command piping*	<pre>\$ ls grep injection injection.c</pre>
*	Wildcard (Used for string pattern matching)	<pre>\$ echo .*local .profile</pre>
`	Command substitution	<pre>\$ date 2024. 03. 26. (Tue) 23:19:15 KST \$ current_date=`date` \$ echo "The current date is \$current_date." The current date is 2024. 03. 26. (Tue) 23:19:17 KST.</pre>

* Command1 | Command 2: The output of command1 is passed as input to command2, connecting and executing both commands.

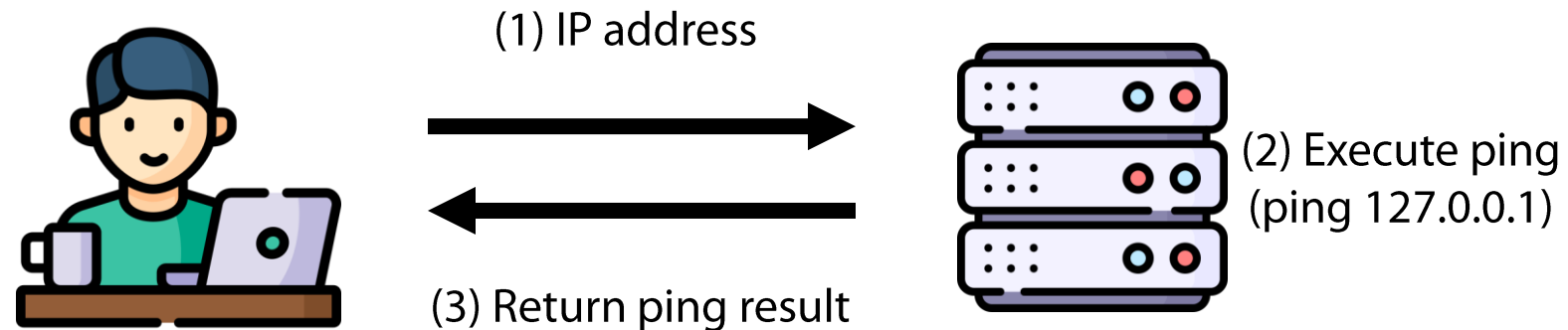
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Command injection

- **Example**

- A server that executes a ping command and returns the results
 - A user enters an IP address



Command injection

- **Example**

- A server that executes a ping command and returns the results
 - A user enters an IP address

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <stdlib.h>
3 #include <string.h>
4
5 int main() {
6     char head[50] = "ping ";
7     char command[100];
8
9     printf("Enter IP: ");
10    fgets(command, sizeof(command), stdin);
11    system(strcat(head, command));
12
13    return 0;
14 }
```

Command injection

- **Example**

- A server that executes a ping command and returns the results
 - A user enters an IP address

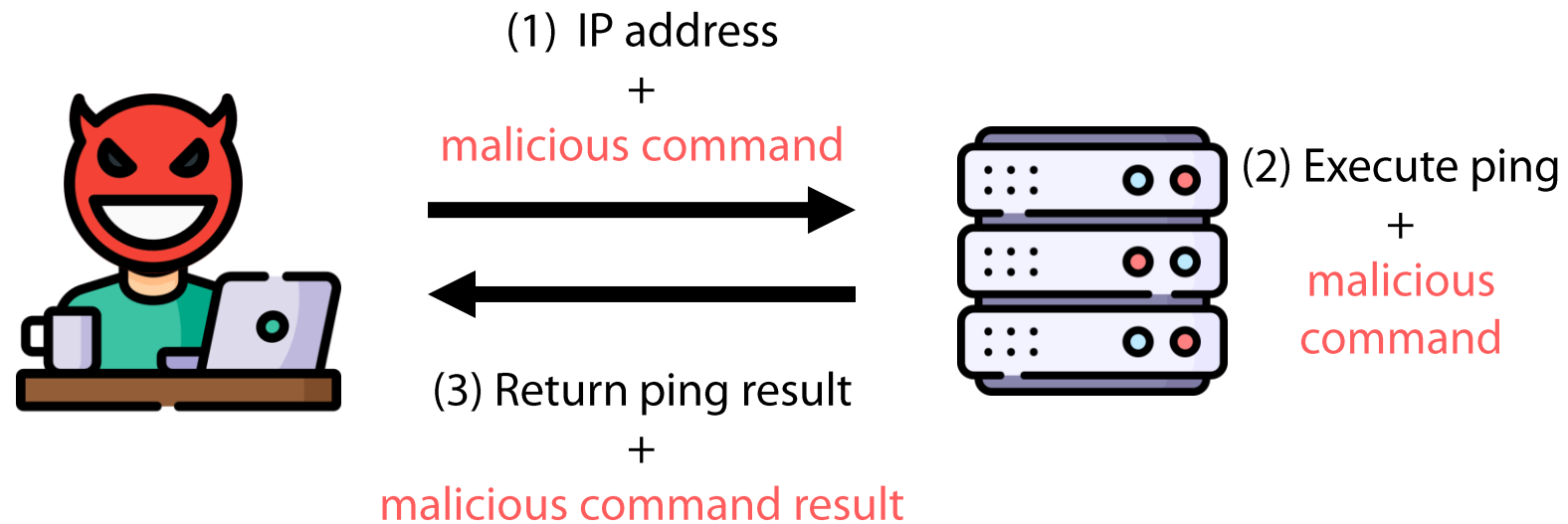
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5 int main() {
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8
9     printf("Enter IP: ");
10    fgets(command, sizeof(command), stdin);
11    system(strcat(head, command));
12
13    return 0;
14 }
```

```
seunghoonwoo@seunghoonwoo-virtual-machine:~$ ./ping_server
Enter IP: 127.0.0.1
PING 127.0.0.1 (127.0.0.1) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.034 ms
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.042 ms
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.038 ms
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=4 ttl=64 time=0.034 ms
^C
--- 127.0.0.1 ping statistics ---
4 packets transmitted, 4 received, 0% packet loss, time 3060ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.034/0.037/0.042/0.003 ms
```

Command injection

- **Example**

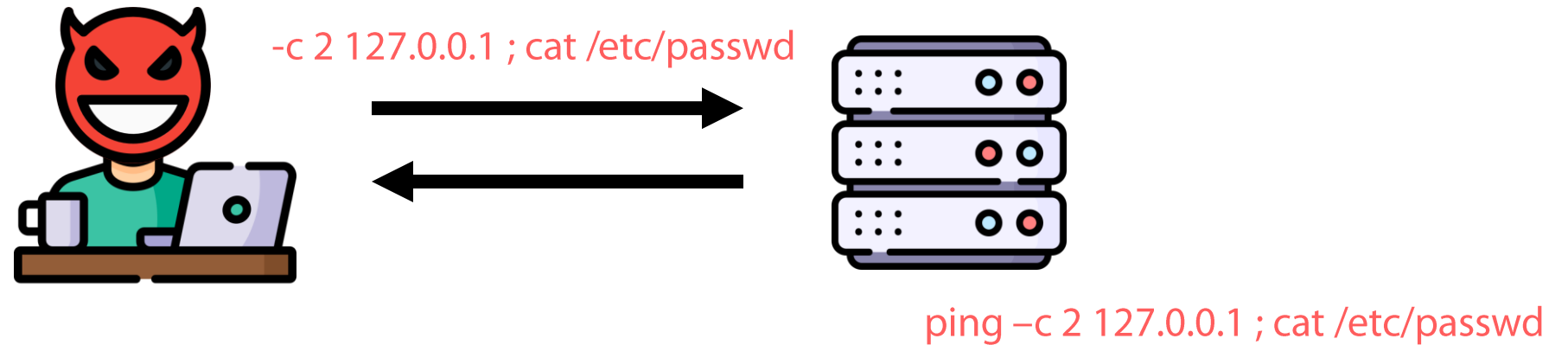
- Command injection



Command injection

- **Example**

- Command injection



Command injection

- **Example**
 - Command injection

```
seunghoonwoo@seunghoonwoo-virtual-machine:~$ ./ping_server
Enter IP: 127.0.0.1 ; cat /etc/passwd
PING 127.0.0.1 (127.0.0.1) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.033 ms
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.038 ms

--- 127.0.0.1 ping statistics ---
2 packets transmitted, 2 received, 0% packet loss, time 1000ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.033/0.035/0.038/0.002 ms
root:x:0:0:root:
daemon:x:1:1:daem
bin:x:2:2:bin:/t
```

Command injection

- **How can we prevent command injection attacks?**

1. Correct input validation (important)
2. Limits system calls
3. Principle of Least Privilege
 - Running a program with root privileges should be avoided as much as possible
 - Necessary permissions should only be granted when required

Path traversal

- **We can access the file system to read data from any file or write data to a file**
- **When exposing a service that accesses the local file system,**
 - Restrictions must be placed on the file paths that can be accessed

Path traversal

- **Two types of paths**

- Absolute path

- Connect all directory names from the root directory ('/') to the file
 - An absolute path is unique to that file
 - E.g., /home/seunghoonwoo/Desktop/target

- Relative path

- Path to another file relative to the current directory
 - E.g., ./target, ../target, ../../target

Path traversal

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <stdlib.h>
3 #include <string.h>
4
5 void read_file(const char *filename) {
6     char buffer[100];
7     FILE *file = fopen(filename, "r");
8     if (file != NULL) {
9         while (fgets(buffer, sizeof(buffer), file) != NULL) {
10             printf("%s", buffer);
11         }
12         fclose(file);
13     } else {
14         printf("Failed to open file.\n");
15     }
16 }
17
18 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
19     if (argc != 2) {
20         printf("Usage: %s <filename>\n", argv[0]);
21         return 1;
22     }
23
24     char filepath[100] = "/home/seunghoonwoo/Desktop/";
25     strcat(filepath, argv[1]);
26     read_file(filepath);
27     return 0;
28 }
```

Path traversal

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <stdlib.h>
3 #include <string.h>
4
5 void read_file(const char *filename) {
6     char buffer[100];
7     FILE *file = fopen(filename, "r");
8     if (file != NULL) {
9         while (fgets(buffer, sizeof(buffer), file) != NULL) {
10            printf("%s", buffer);
11        }
12    }
13    else {
14        printf("Failed to open file\n");
15    }
16 }
```

```
seunghoonwoo@seunghoonwoo-virtual-machine:~$ cat /home/seunghoonwoo/Desktop/test
Hello Software Security!
```

```
seunghoonwoo@seunghoonwoo-virtual-machine:~$ ./path_traversal "test"
Hello Software Security!
```

```
17
18 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
19     if (argc != 2) {
20         printf("Usage: %s <filename>\n", argv[0]);
21         return 1;
22     }
23
24     char filepath[100] = "/home/seunghoonwoo/Desktop/";
25     strcat(filepath, argv[1]);
26     read_file(filepath);
27     return 0;
28 }
```

Path traversal

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
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5 void read_file(const char *filename) {
6     char buffer[100];
7     FILE *file = fopen(filename, "r");
8     if (file != NULL) {
9         while (fgets(buffer, sizeof(buffer), file) != NULL) {
10            printf("%s", buffer);
```

```
seunghoonwoo@seunghoonwoo-virtual-machine:~$ ./path_traversal "../../../etc/passwd"
root:x:0:0:root:
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:
bin:x:2:2:bin:
sys:x:3:3:sys:
```

```
16 }
17
18 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
19     if (argc != 2) {
20         printf("Usage: %s <filename>\n", argv[0]);
21         return 1;
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23
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25     strcat(filepath, argv[1]);
26     read_file(filepath);
27     return 0;
28 }
```


So what do security experts do?

From this slide, it won't appear on the exam



White (hat) hacker

- Also known as ethical hackers
- Use their skills to improve cybersecurity
- Typically work for organizations, governments, or security firms to identify vulnerabilities in systems, networks, and applications



Black (hat) hacker

- Hacking for malicious purposes
- Intent to steal data, disrupt systems, or cause harm
- Exploit vulnerabilities in networks, websites, or software for personal gain, financial profit, or simply to cause chaos

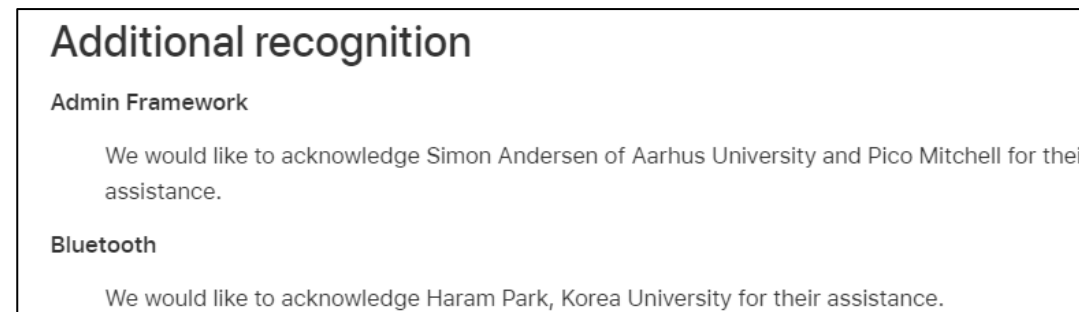
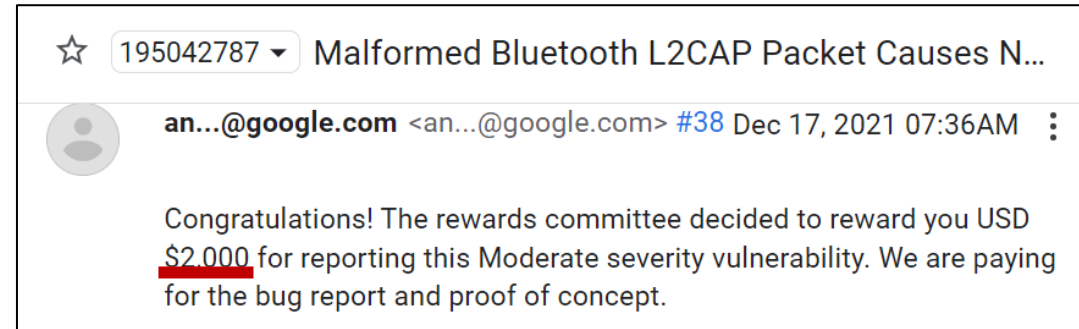
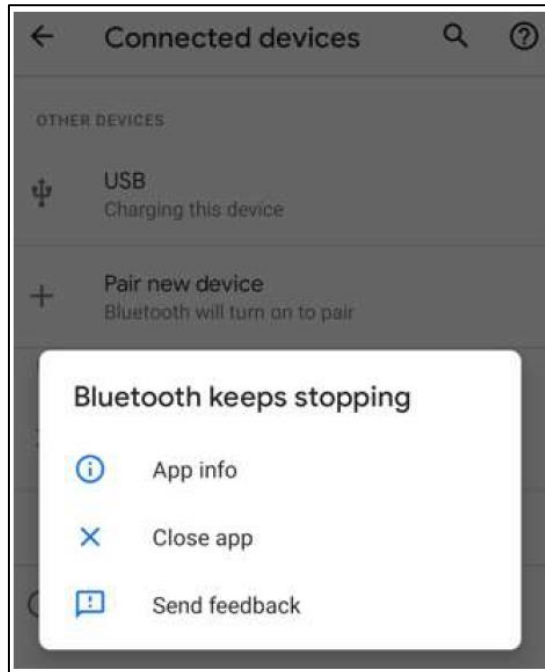
So what do security experts do?

- **Bug bounty program**

- Offers rewards for discovering security vulnerabilities in an organization's or company's systems or software (e.g., Google, Samsung, Naver, etc.)
- Security experts with diverse expertise participate
- Providing monetary rewards

So what do security experts do?

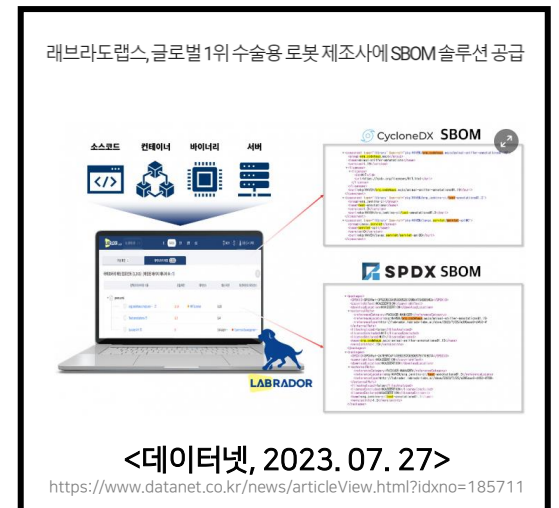
- **Bug bounty program**



(tvOS, watchOS, iOS, iPadOS, macOS Monterey)

So what do security experts do?

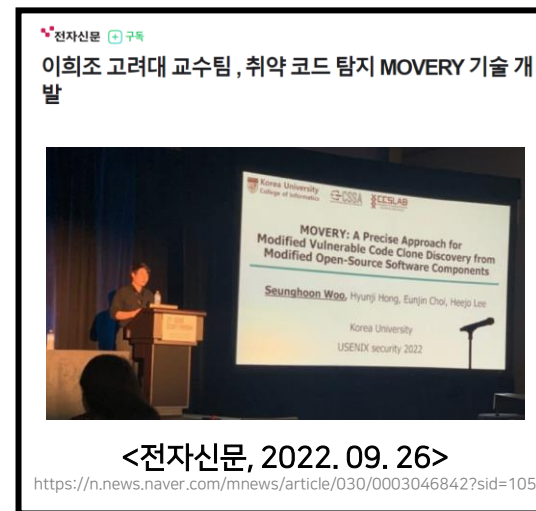
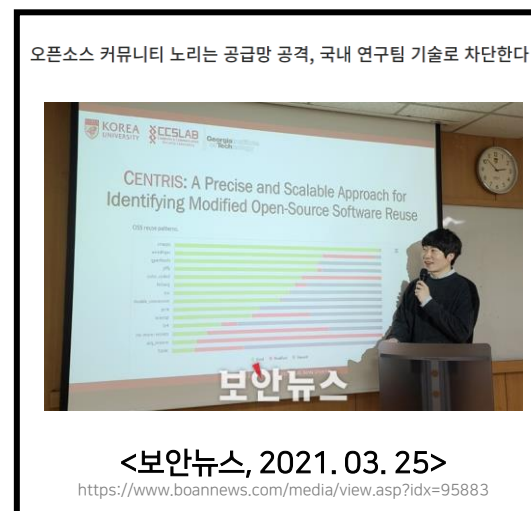
- **Research on security**
 - Detecting vulnerabilities (in an automated way)
 - Fuzzing, static analysis, etc.
- **Establishing security policies**
- **Implementing security solutions**
 - E.g., Labrador labs (<https://labradorlabs.ai/>)
- **Penetration testing**
 - Ethical Hacking



So what do security experts do?

• Software Security & Privacy Lab

- <https://ssp.korea.ac.kr/>
- Conducting various research on software security
 - Vulnerability discovery
 - Supply chain security
 - Open-source software security
 - Software composition analysis



So what do security experts do?

- **Misunderstanding..**
 - Security-related jobs have low salaries



So what do security experts do?

- **Misunderstanding..**

- Security-related jobs have low salaries

- Security graduate school colleagues I worked with

- Hxuxdxi 4+ colleagues
 - Sxmxuxg 3+ colleagues
 - Lx 2+ colleagues
 - Nxvvr 2+ colleagues
 - Sx hxnxx 1 colleague
 - Kxkxo bank 1 colleague



열심히 하면 똑같이 대기업 갑니다..

Next Lecture

- **Practical exercises (4/1, 4/3)**
 - Actual vulnerability trigger practices
 - Main: stack and heap buffer overflow
 - Other attacks
 - You need to prepare
 - Laptop
 - Environment setup (refer to PPT on Blackboard)