Foundations of Software Assurance

Paul E. Black Software Quality Group Software and Systems Division



16 June 2016



NGTNational Institute of Standards and Technology • U.S. Department of Commerce

Outline

- Software Assurance Reference Dataset (SARD)
- Bugs Framework (BF)

Software Assurance Reference Dataset (SARD)

http://samate.nist.gov/SARD/

Software Assurance Reference Dataset (SARD)

SRD Home View / Download Search / Download More Downloads Submit Test Suites	
Extended Search [] Source Code Search	
Number (Test case ID):	Weakness Code Complexity
Description contains :	- Any CWE-485: Insufficient Encapsulation - CWE-388: Error Handling - CWE-389: Error Conditions, Return - CWE-254: Security Features
Bad/Good: Any	E-CWE-227: Failure to Fulfill API Contrac
Language : Any	
Status : Candidate 🗹 Approved 🗹	CWE-398: Indicator of Poor Code Qua
Weakness: Any	
Code complexity : Any	-CWE-415: Double Free
Date: ● Any ○ Before ○ After (Format: M/d/Y) use the calendar (next icon).	← CWE-416: Use After Free

- Public repository for software assurance test cases with known vulnerabilities
- Over 140 000 cases in C, C++, Java, PHP, C#, and Python
- Contributions from NSA/CAS, IARPA, Fortify, TELECOM Nancy, Defence R&D Canada, Klocwork, MIT Lincoln Laboratory, Praxis, Toyota, Secure Software, etc.

http://samate.nist.gov/SARD/

What is Static Analysis?



What is Static Analysis?



• Examine source code or binary for weaknesses, adherence to guidelines, etc.

How to Test Static Analyzers?















Approximations

 Collect millions of tool warnings for open source software from

SATE.

- Manually analyze hundreds of reported bugs (CVEs) to establish ground truth.
- Publish Juliet test suite: hundreds of thousands of synthetic test cases with known bugs.



SARD Content

- Contributions also from Kratkiewicz, MIT Lincoln Laboratory, Praxis, etc.
- NSA Juliet 1.2 over 86 000 small, synthetic test cases in C, C++, and Java, covering 150 bug classes
- IARPA STONESOUP Phase 3 15 000 cases based on 12 web apps with injected bugs from 25 classes
- 1276 test cases from Toyota
- Test cases from Static Analysis Tool Exposition (SATE)
- 2000 PHP cases developed at TELECOM Nancy









Other SARD Content

- Zitser, Lippmann, & Leek MIT cases
 - 28 slices from BIND, Sendmail, WU-FTP, etc.
- Fortify benchmark 112 C and Java cases
- Klocwork benchmark 40 C cases
- 25 cases from Defence R&D Canada
- Robert Seacord, "Secure Coding in C and C++" 69 cases
- Comprehensive, Lightweight Application Security Process (CLASP) 25 cases
- 329 cases from our static analyzer suite

Outline

- Software Assurance Reference Dataset (SARD)
- Bugs Framework (BF)

http://samate.nist.gov/BF/

The Bugs Framework (BF) is a precise descriptive language for bugs.

Precise Medical Language

• Medical professionals have terms to precisely name muscles, bones, organs, conditions, diseases, etc.



Current Bug Descriptions Have Problems

- Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE)
 - Definitions are imprecise and inconsistent.
 - Coarse grained: bundling attributes, attacks, etc.
 - Uneven coverage: some combinations not given all.
- Software Fault Patterns (SFP)
 - Does not include upstream causes or consequences.
 - Based solely on CWEs.
- Semantic Templates
 - Does not distinguish many types of fault, weakness, location, or consequence.
 - Only cover two classes.

What is the Bugs Framework?

- It is a set of classes of bugs.
- Each bug class has
 - Causes
 - Attributes of a fault
 - Consequences
- Causes and consequences are directed graphs.
- BF uses precise terminology.

Bugs Framework Classes

- Injection (INJ), e.g.
 - SQL injection
 - OS injection
- Control of Interaction Frequency (CIF), e.g.
 - Limit number of login attempts
 - Only one vote per voter
- Information Exposure (IEX), e.g.
 - Password leak
- Buffer Overflow (BOF)



- Access:
 - Read, Write.



- Access:
 - Read, Write.
- Boundary:
 - Below (before, under, or lower), Above (after, over, or upper).



- Access:
 - Read, Write.
- Boundary:
 - Below (before, under, or lower), Above (after, over, or upper).
- Location:
 - Heap, Stack, BSS (uninitialized data), Data (initialized), Code (text).



- Access:
 - Read, Write.
- Boundary:
 - Below (before, under, or lower), Above (after, over, or upper).
- Location:
 - Heap, Stack, BSS (uninitialized data), Data (initialized), Code (text).
- Magnitude (how far outside):
 - Small (just barely outside), Far (e.g. 4000).



- Access:
 - Read, Write.
- Boundary:
 - Below (before, under, or lower), Above (after, over, or upper).
- Location:
 - Heap, Stack, BSS (uninitialized data), Data (initialized), Code (text).
- Magnitude (how far outside):
 - Small (just barely outside), Far (e.g. 4000).
- Data Size (how *much* is outside):
 - Little, Huge.



- Access:
 - Read, Write.
- Boundary:
 - Below (before, under, or lower), Above (after, over, or upper).
- Location:
 - Heap, Stack, BSS (uninitialized data), Data (initialized), Code (text).
- Magnitude (how far outside):
 - Small (just barely outside), Far (e.g. 4000).
- Data Size (how *much* is outside):
 - Little, Huge.
- Reach (one-by-one or arbitrary):
 - Continuous, Discrete.



Buffer Overflow: Causes



Buffer Overflow: Consequences



What is BF Good For?

- Precisely explain why techniques work in some cases and not others.
- More clearly describe vulnerabilities (e.g. Heartbleed, Shellshock, and Ghost).
- Help programmers write better code, because they understand weaknesses more clearly.
- Accurately state the classes of bugs that software assurance tools cover (and do not cover).

Example 1: BF Explains Techniques

- Canaries
 - A canary is extra memory above and below an array with unusual values, e.g., 0xDEADBEEF
 - Useful with attributes
 - Write Access
 - Small Magnitude
- Address Space Layout Randomization (ASLR)
 - Allocate arrays randomly about memory
 - Useful with attributes
 - Heap Location
 - Stack Location limited

Example 2: Heartbleed





from http://xkcd.com/1354/ 33

Example 2: Heartbleed

Heartbleed buffer overflow is:

- caused by Data Exceeds Array, specifically Too Much Data
- because of Input not Checked Properly
- where there was a *Read* that was *After* the end, *Far* outside
- in a Continuous read of a Huge number of bytes
- from an array in the Heap
- that may be exploited for *Information Exposure*
- when enabled by Sensitive Information Uncleared Before Release (CWE-226).

"The (1) TLS and (2) DTLS implementations ... do not properly handle Heartbeat Extension packets, which allows remote attackers to obtain sensitive information from process memory via crafted packets that trigger a buffer over-read, as demonstrated by reading private keys, ..." (CVE-2014-0160)

