

Leaving No Input Unsanitized

Gabriel Aubut-Lussier

Problem description

What

- Processing untrusted input is what most applications do
- Input validation failures may lead to security vulnerabilities
- It's hard to get ~~right~~ perfect

Why

- Had plans to implement a REST API in C++
- Knew beforehand there would be multiple inputs
- Knew beforehand I would screw up somewhere sometime

How

1. Deny direct access to the input
2. Enumerate inputs in a declarative style
3. Provide a generic request handler

Usage example

```
using Shipping = InputDesc<CustomerInfo,  
                           HeaderParam<"client">,  
                           JSON>;  
  
using Billing = InputDesc<CustomerInfo,  
                          BodyParam,  
                          QueryString>;
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C++20's
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Simplified to serve as
slide code

```
RequestHandler<Shipping, Billing> handler {  
    [](auto shippingInfo, auto billingInfo) {  
        cout << shippingInfo << '\n'  
            << billingInfo << '\n';  
    }  
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Generic request handler

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template <typename InputDescription,  
         typename Callable>  
Response HandleRequest(Request req,  
                       Callable process)  
{  
    return GetRawInput<InputDescription>(req)  
        .and_then(ValidateInputs)  
        .and_then(process)  
        .or_else(RespondBadRequest);  
}
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- Strong semantic type validation handled by this template

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```
template <typename T>
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// Requires a specialization for user-defined types
template <>
std::optional<CustomerInfo>
Validate<CustomerInfo>(std::string_view rawInput) {
    // Validation code here
    if (success) return CustomerInfo{/* [...] */};
    return std::nullopt;
}
```

Let's generalize

- **argc**, **argv** and **envp**(arguments to **main**)
- **read** (syscall)
- Etc.

Conclusion

- Meet me in the hallways to discuss this idea
- Try it : <https://github.com/Dalzhim/SecureRequestHandler>