

Assignment 4

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Readers

This report is written on the assumption that the reader have a good understanding of the course material.

Documentation

I have made illustration on how I have used the different static analysers and in addition to these figures, I have also explained the process in natural language

Short on benefits and weaknesses by static analysis

- + Can run on incomplete code
 - + can run in a big project
 - + less time consuming than manual auditing (which requires an expert)
 - Need users to apply rules. A security flaw not covered in a rule will not be discovered by the analyser.
 - Users need to apply priority to rules
 - Will get false negatives (false sense of security)
- [1, pages 106,108-109]

Shark Cage article

I will refer to this article in this report, but it will not show up in the sources list in the end of the document. This is because the article is missing information on the authors, year and so on.

Review strategy

My strategy for this review is to first understand the specification for the SharkCage application, gain a basic understanding for the Pascal programming language and prioritize the time I will spend on auditing each source file by its overall importance.

I also need to make decisions on how much time I will dedicate to different parts of this assignments, this is because I work alone and have no prior experience with auditing source code. This might reflect the end result.

prioritise tasks

I will classify the vulnerabilities found by the categories in table 1. The column costly to change is a category that both specification and design falls under. This is because flaws here will ultimately cause the need for a lot of rework.[2, page 110]. Next category is the high importance where the Cage Admin module belongs. I think that prioritizing this module over the others makes sense, because this module is tasked with recording the shared secret, deciding who will be granted access to the trusted path and configuring (in other words: the more important stuff). This scheme is made so that I know how I should divide my time in the auditing process. Which scheme I will use (if any) to communicate the different severity levels of the SharkCage application security flaws, will be based upon feedback from the analyser.

Table 1: Vulnerabilities categories

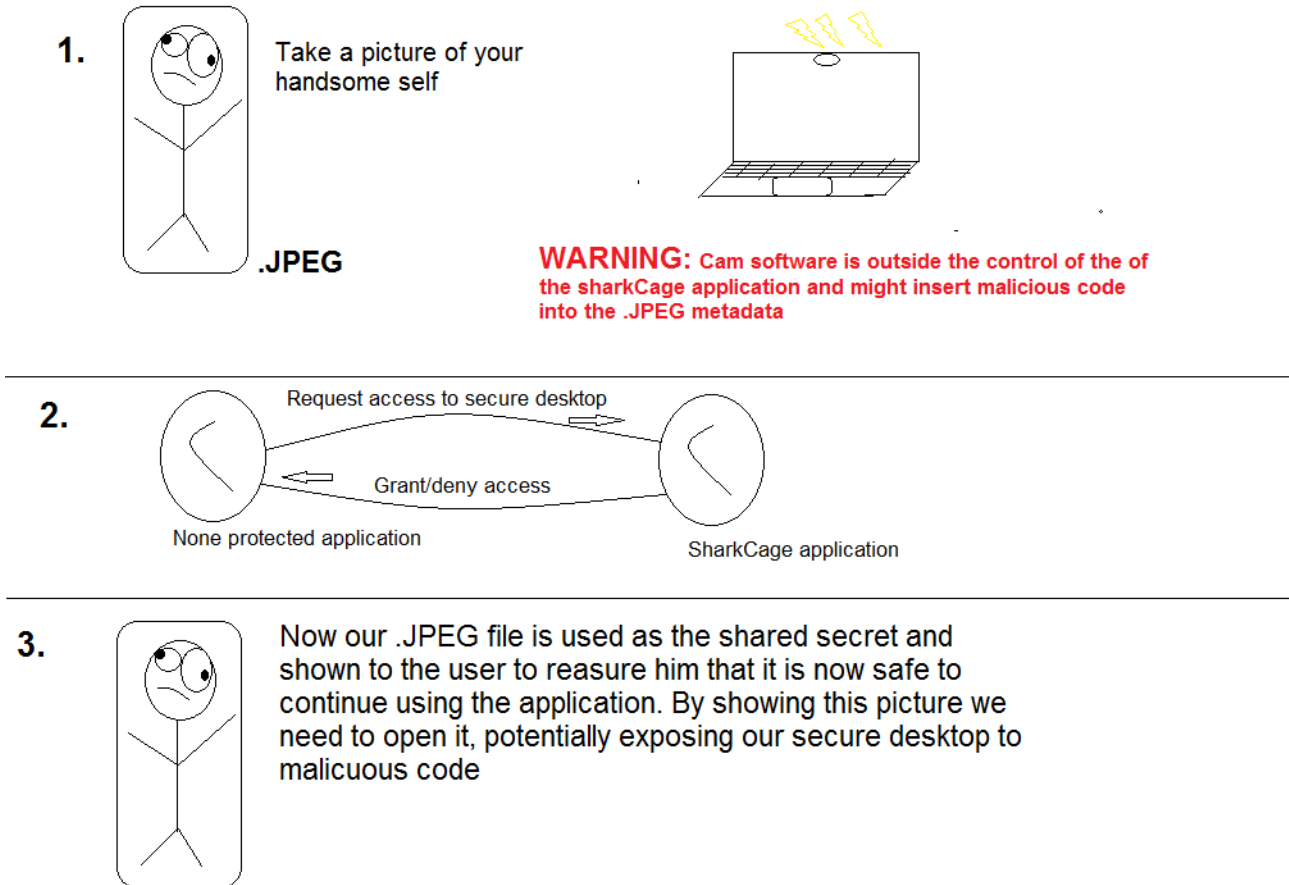
Costly to change	high importance	lower importance
Specification and design(article)	Cage Admin	other modules

Possible design flaw

The SharkCage article talks about a possible design implementation where the integrated camera on your laptop will provide the means for the protected application and SharkCage to share a secret. While this sounds great on paper, the integrated camera on your laptop is also controlled by software/code that is outside the SharkCage control.

Let's imagine that the authors have the intention to have the cam driver process and the protected application kept in separate desktop (isolated from each other). After the picture of your handsome self has been captured by the cam, the rights to this file have been limited to SharkCage and the protected application. So far so good right? Well what if our trust in the cam software was misplaced and this software inserted malicious code into the picture file (e.g. JPEG). This scenario is within the realm of possibility, as inserting malicious code in metadata has been done before[3]. In figure 1 I try to illustrate how this scenario might play out.

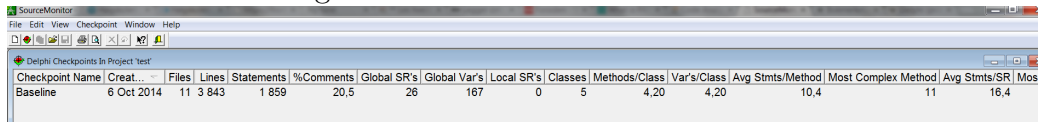
Figure 1: Design flaw: step by step



Use of the source Monitor analyser

This program scans though the selected Pascal files (*.ps) and outputs a baseline containing multiple different metrics on the code e.g. how many lines of comment, how many statements etc. Later baselines can be compared with previous ones and provide the programmers with information relevant to the quality of the software being developed (see figure 2). This information alone do not provide me with a lot of information regarding security flaws, but I will use this in combination with other analysers.[4]

Figure 2: Source monitor: Baseline

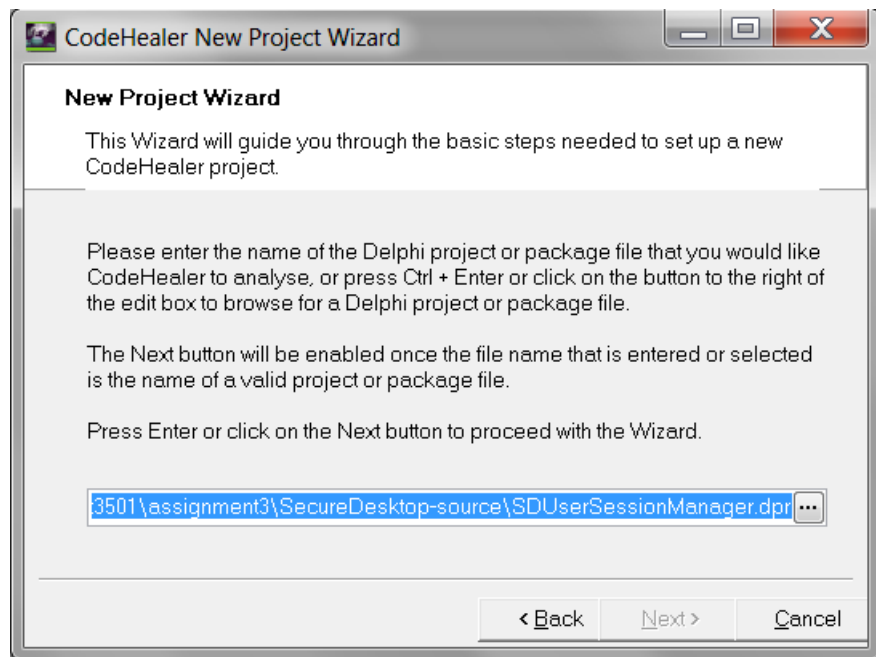


Checkpoint Name	Created	Files	Lines	Statements	%Comments	Global SR's	Global Var's	Local SR's	Classes	Methods/Class	Var's/Class	Avg Stmt's/Method	Most Complex Method	Avg Stmt's/SR	Most
Baseline	6 Oct 2014	11	3 843	1 859	20.5	26	167	0	5	4.20	4.20	10.4	11	16.4	

Code healer

The application that keeps on giving (do not work). See the wonderful application in figure 3. As you can see the wizard do not work :) [5]

Figure 3: Code Haler (The healer that got ebola)

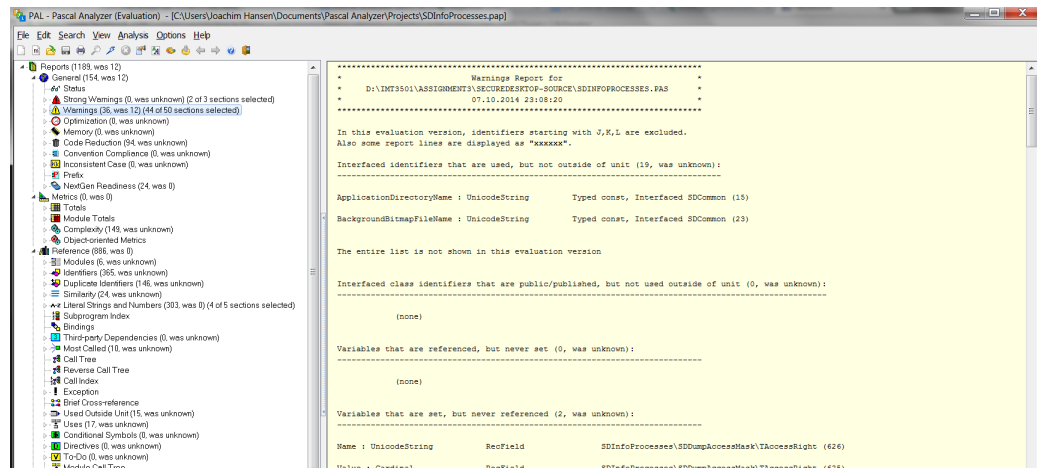


PAL Pascal Analyser

This software seems to be everything that I could wish for. It has extensive technical documentation of what its different levels of warnings means, call tree, classes, third party dependencies and so on[6]. The only problem here is that it's not free. The evaluation program only provides a small subset of the information the full version would show and this is far from enough to get

any use of the program. My only remaining choice seems to be to audit the code manually or using grep (which is free). Because I refuse to use money on buying software to pass this assignment (see figure 4). [7]

Figure 4: PAY 39.99



Search for spesific strings

I will use an application called Windows grep which gives me the utilities like that off the UNIX command with the same name (without 'windows' off course). "probably the simplest and most straightforward approach to static analysis is the UNIX utility grep" - [quote] Gery McGraw in the book Software secuity [1, page 110]. With this application you are also able to use regex statements (like in grep - e in UNIX) With this application you are also able to use regex statements (like in grep - e in UNIX). In windows grep you are presented with a wizard that helps you choose which sets of folders and files extensions you want to search in. The program will then show which folders and files matched your query, you can then click each individual files and see what in the file matched and get the line number. I my case I used the assignment folder and .PS extension. I search first for .exe files to see if the program is depended on other prosesses. Several programs is used by the SharkCage application e.g. calc.exe and notepad.exe. The shark cage application is not only trusting these executable files, but any third party API they might use (notion of transetive trust) [8, page 19]. See figure 5. My second query was to seach for .dll, I did this becouse dll injection is a common infection vector [9] see figure 6. I could also have used a regex

expression to check for hard coded values as well as if functions actually gets called in the code. By just taking a quick look at the code, you will see that there is a lot of hard coded values. This can result in unexpected results if not MR pro programmer is very dislinied. There is also alot of hard coded paths which could be exploited (see figure 7)

Gary McGraw also describes the downside with the use of grep: "Grep is rather lo-fi becousue it dosen't understand anything about the files it scans. Comments, string literals, declerations, and function calls are all just part of the stream of characters to be matched against" [1, page 110]

Figure 5: .exe

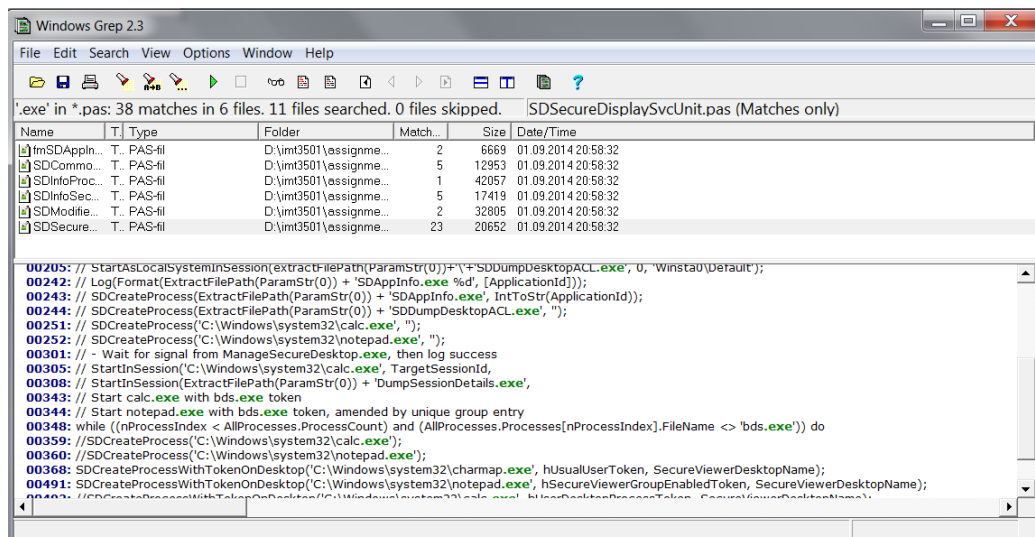


Figure 6: .dll

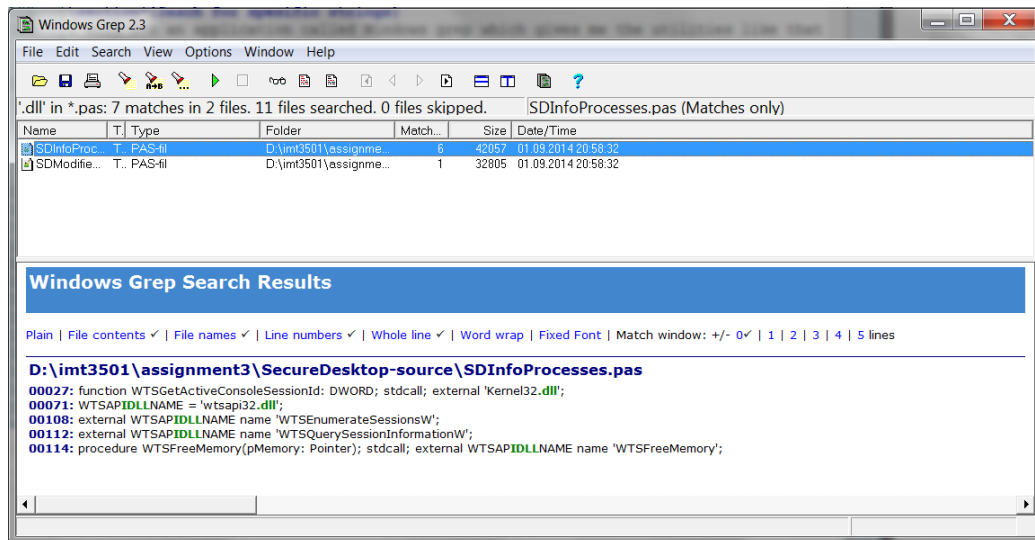
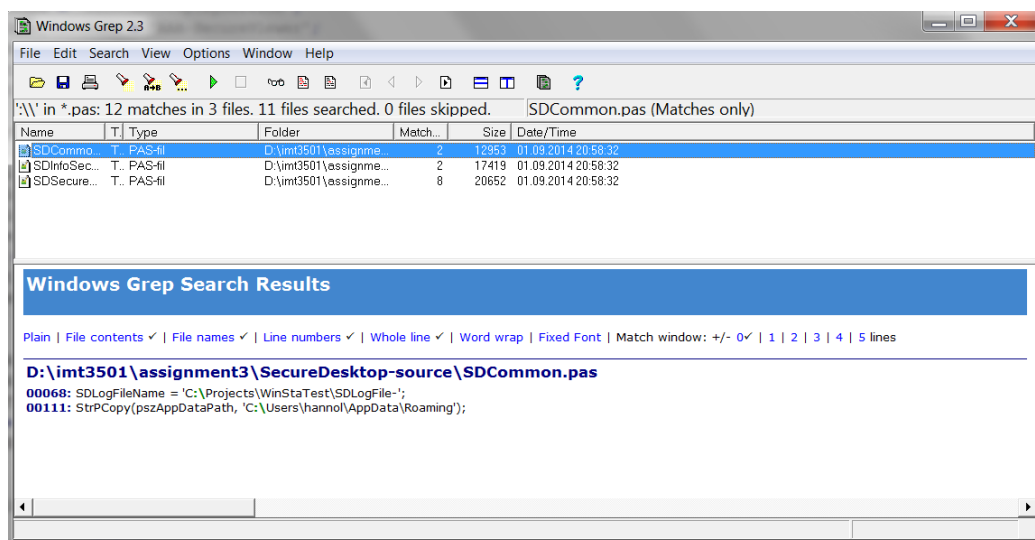


Figure 7: Hard coded paths



What to modify? (conclusion)

I would replace absolute paths with relative paths, and hard coded values with CONSTANT. I recommend dropping the possibility of using the integrating camera to generate the shared secret. And perhaps the use a CAPTICA instead, that the SharkCage application controls(the shark cage application also mention this technology) . The program should not place blind trust on .dll and .exe file extensions.

Bibliography

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