

CPS 475/575 Secure Application Development

Lecture 6 – Secure Client Socket Programming in C

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Buffer Overflows vs. Format String Vulnerabilities

| | $\mid Buffer \ Overflow$ | Format String |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| public since | mid 1980's | June 1999 |
| danger realized | 1990's | June 2000 |
| number of exploits | a few thousand | a few dozen |
| considered as | security threat | programming bug |
| techniques | evolved and advanced | basic techniques |
| visibility | sometimes very difficult to spot | easy to find |