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Objective C static code analysis

Unique rules to find Bugs, Vulnerabilities, Security Hotspots, and Code Smells in your OBJECTIVE C code

All rules 315

Vulnerability 10

Bug 75

Security Hotspot 18

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Quick Fix 13

Tags

Search by name...

"memset" should not be used to delete sensitive data

Vulnerability

POSIX functions should not be called with arguments that trigger buffer overflows

Vulnerability

Function-like macros should not be invoked without all of their arguments

Bug

The address of an automatic object should not be assigned to another object that may persist after the first object has ceased to exist

Bug

"pthread_mutex_t" should be unlocked in the reverse order they were locked

Bug

"pthread_mutex_t" should be properly initialized and destroyed

Bug

"pthread_mutex_t" should not be consecutively locked or unlocked twice

Bug

Functions with "noreturn" attribute should not return

Bug

"memcpy" should only be called with pointers to trivially copyable types with no padding

Bug

Stack allocated memory and non-owned memory should not be freed

Bug

Closed resources should not be accessed

Bug

Dynamically allocated memory should be released

Bug

Changing working directories without verifying the success is security-sensitive

Analyze your code

Security Hotspot Critical cwe owasp

The purpose of changing the current working directory is to modify the base path when the process performs relative path resolutions. When the working directory cannot be changed, the process keeps the directory previously defined as the active working directory. Thus, verifying the success of `chdir()` type of functions is important to prevent unintended relative paths and unauthorized access.

Ask Yourself Whether

- The success of changing the working directory is relevant for the application.
- Changing the working directory is required by `chroot` to make the new root effective.
- Subsequent disk operations are using relative paths.

There is a risk if you answered yes to any of those questions.

Recommended Secure Coding Practices

After changing the current working directory verify the success of the operation and handle errors.

Sensitive Code Example

The `chdir` operation could fail and the process still has access to unauthorized resources. The return code should be verified:

```
const char* any_dir = "/any/";
chdir(any_dir); // Sensitive: missing check of the return value

int fd = open(any_dir, O_RDONLY | O_DIRECTORY);
fchdir(fd); // Sensitive: missing check of the return value
```

Compliant Solution

Verify the return code of `chdir` and handle errors:

```
const char* root_dir = "/jail/";
if (chdir(root_dir) == -1) {
    exit(-1);
} // Compliant

int fd = open(any_dir, O_RDONLY | O_DIRECTORY);
if(fchdir(fd) == -1) {
    exit(-1);
} // Compliant
```

See

- [OWASP Top 10 2021 Category A1](#) - Broken Access Control
- [OWASP Top 10 2017 Category A5](#) - Broken Access Control
- [MITRE, CWE-252](#) - Unchecked Return Value
- [man7.org](#) - `chdir`

Available In:

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<div>Freed memory should not be used</div> <div> Bug</div>
<div>Memory locations should not be released more than once</div> <div> Bug</div>
<div>Memory access should be explicitly bounded to prevent buffer overflows</div> <div> Bug</div>
<div>Printf-style format strings should not lead to unexpected behavior at runtime</div> <div> Bug</div>
<div>Recursion should not be infinite</div> <div> Bug</div>
<div>Resources should be closed</div> <div> Bug</div>
<div>Hard-coded credentials are security-sensitive</div> <div> Security Hotspot</div>
<div>"goto" should jump to labels declared later in the same function</div> <div> Code Smell</div>
<div>Only standard forms of the "defined" directive should be used</div> <div> Code Smell</div>
<div>Switch labels should not be nested inside non-switch blocks</div> <div> Code Smell</div>