

EECS 588

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# M Computer and Network Security

## Introduction

January 12, 2016  
Alex Halderman



# Today's Class



- Welcome!
- Goals for the course
- Topics, what interests you?
- Introduction to security research
- Components of your grade
- Legal and ethical concerns



# Who am I?



**J. Alex Halderman**

CSE Prof.

Web: <https://jhalderm.com>

Email: jhalderm@eecs

Office: 4717 Beyster

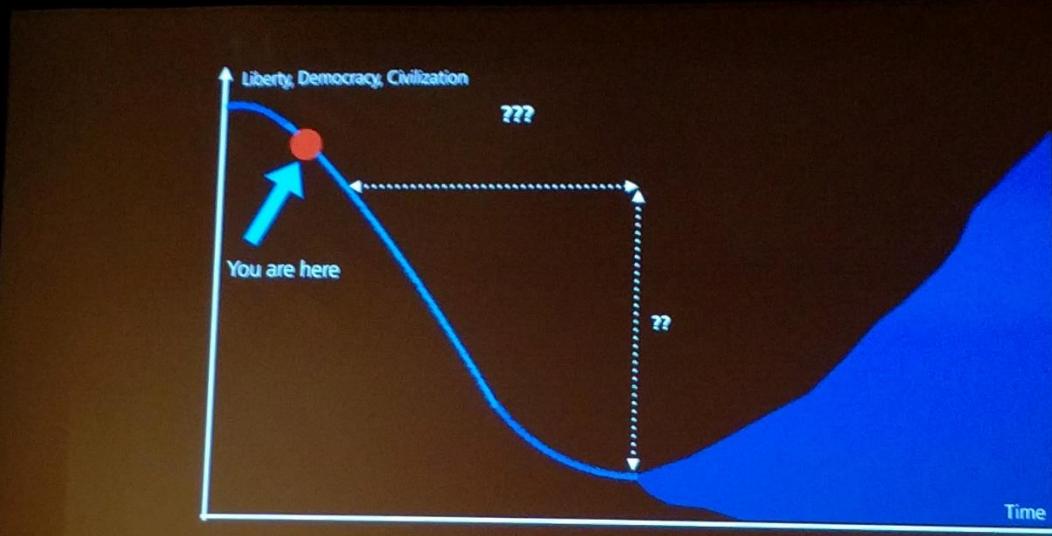
Hours: TuTh 3:30-4:30  
or by appointment

Mobile: 609-558-2312

# How I spent my winter vacation

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# How I spent my winter vacation

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**Pyro**  
★ FIREWORKS ★ FEU D'ARTIFICE ★

# Qualitätsfeuerwerk für zündende Begeisterung

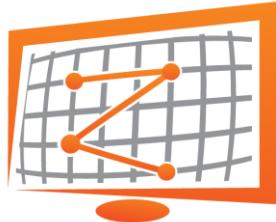
# Feuerwerk

ab dem 29. Dezember

[www.pyro-partner.de](http://www.pyro-partner.de)



# My Work: Internet-wide Security Intelligence



# zmap

an [open-source tool](#) that can port scan the entire IPv4 address space from just one machine in minutes



Daily global scans track [millions of vulnerable devices](#), new security threats



Our notifications increased rate of Heartbleed patching by [50% worldwide](#)

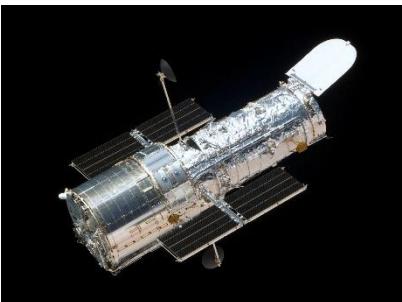
# My Work: Real-world Cryptography



## Cold-Boot Attack

breaks all full-disk encryption products,  
inspired new subfield of crypto theory

Best Student Paper, *Usenix Security 2008*



## Mining Ps and Qs

insufficient entropy compromises  
RSA and DSA keys in millions of devices

Best Paper Award, *Usenix Security 2012*



## Imperfect Forward Security

new TLS attack threatens 8% of the web,  
NSA might tap 66% of VPNs using HPC

Highest-rated Submission, *ACM CCS 2015*

# My Work: Encrypting the Entire Web

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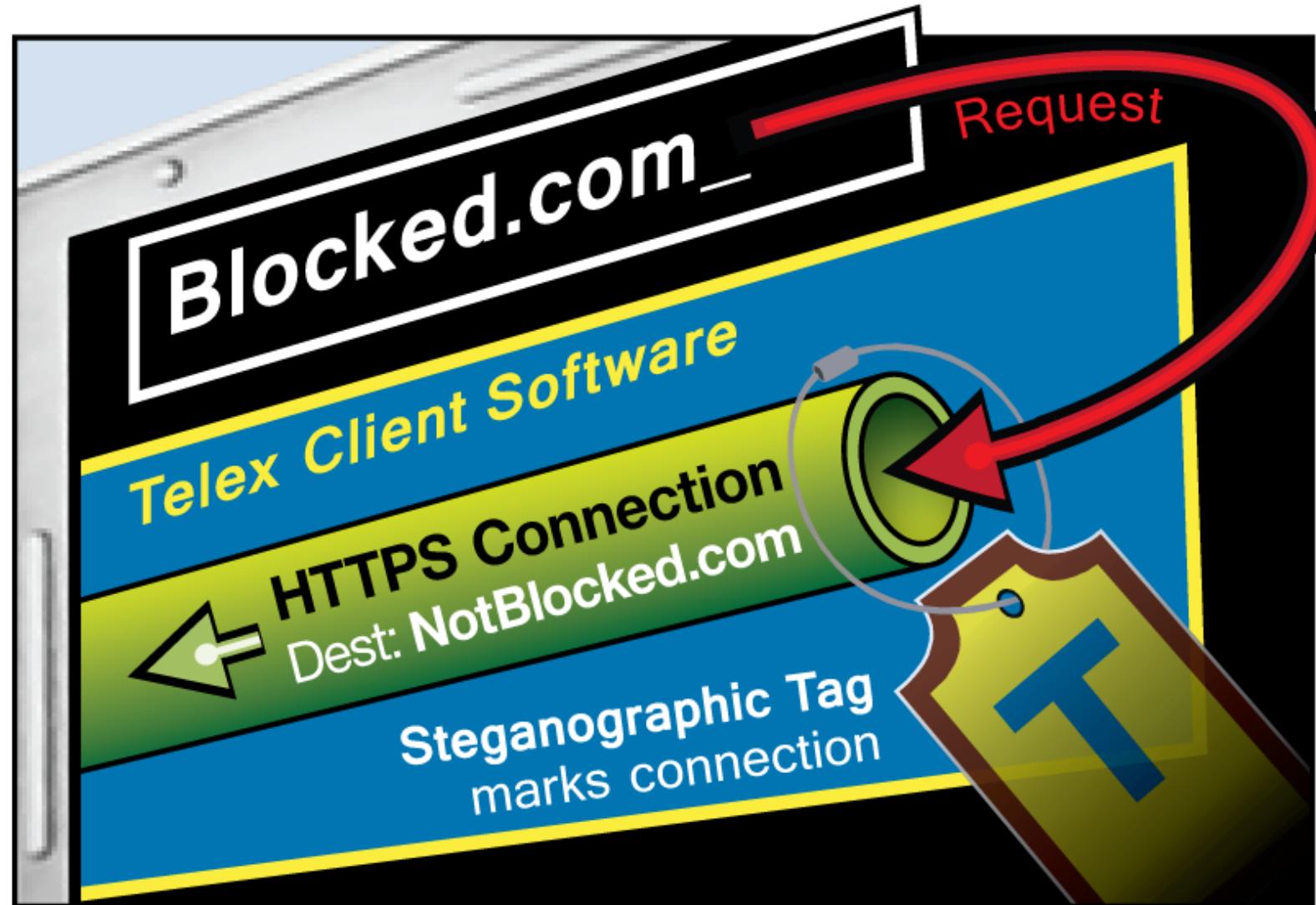
A free, automated, HTTPS certificate authority  
to help encrypt the entire web

Let's  
Encrypt



# My Work: Censorship Resistance

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# My Work: Internet Voting

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The screenshot shows the homepage of the District of Columbia Digital Vote-by-Mail Service. At the top, it says "District of Columbia Digital Vote-by-Mail Service". Below that, the title "DC General Election November 2, 2010" is prominently displayed. A sub-header reads "The service offers two options:" followed by two numbered sections: "Physical Ballot Return" and "Digital Ballot Return". The "Physical Ballot Return" section includes instructions for mailing completed ballots. The "Digital Ballot Return" section explains the process of voting online and returning the ballot electronically. At the bottom, there is a note about overseas and military voters, a thank you message, and the "District of Columbia Board of Election and Ethics" logo.

## Washington, D.C.

First open-source online voting in U.S. general election  
In public test, U-M team took <48 hours to change all votes

The screenshot shows the Estonian e-voting website. The main headline is "You can vote now in Internet!". Below it, a timer indicates "Voting ends in 5 days, 5 hours, 24 minutes, 50 seconds". A sub-section provides information about the "Digital Ballot Return" option, stating that from October 10 to 16, voters can vote online and return their ballots electronically. It also links to a "Read more" section on how to vote. The page is in both English and Estonian.

## Estonia

Over 30% of Estonian voters cast their votes online

We showed that foreign powers could hack in and steal elections

The screenshot shows the login page for iVote. The header says "LOG IN TO iVote®". Below it, a message asks users to enter their iVote number and PIN. It notes that an 8-digit iVote Number was provided by the New South Wales Electoral Commission after registration. A field is provided for entering the iVote number.

## Australia

Largest-ever online election with 250,000 voters

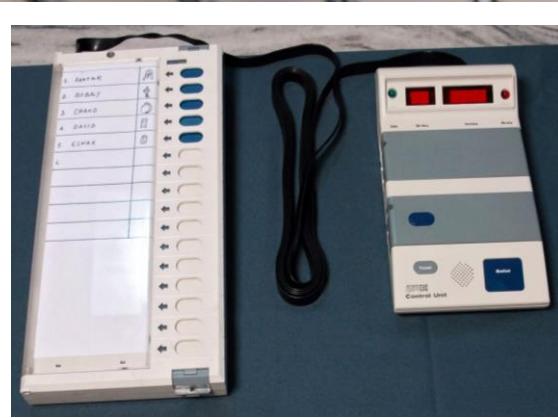
We reported flaws that could have altered the outcome

# My Work: Embedded Systems Security

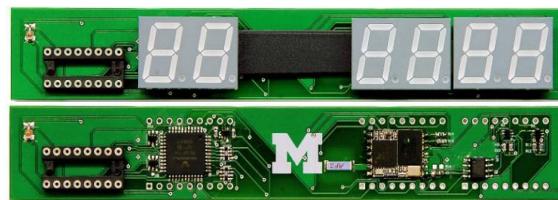
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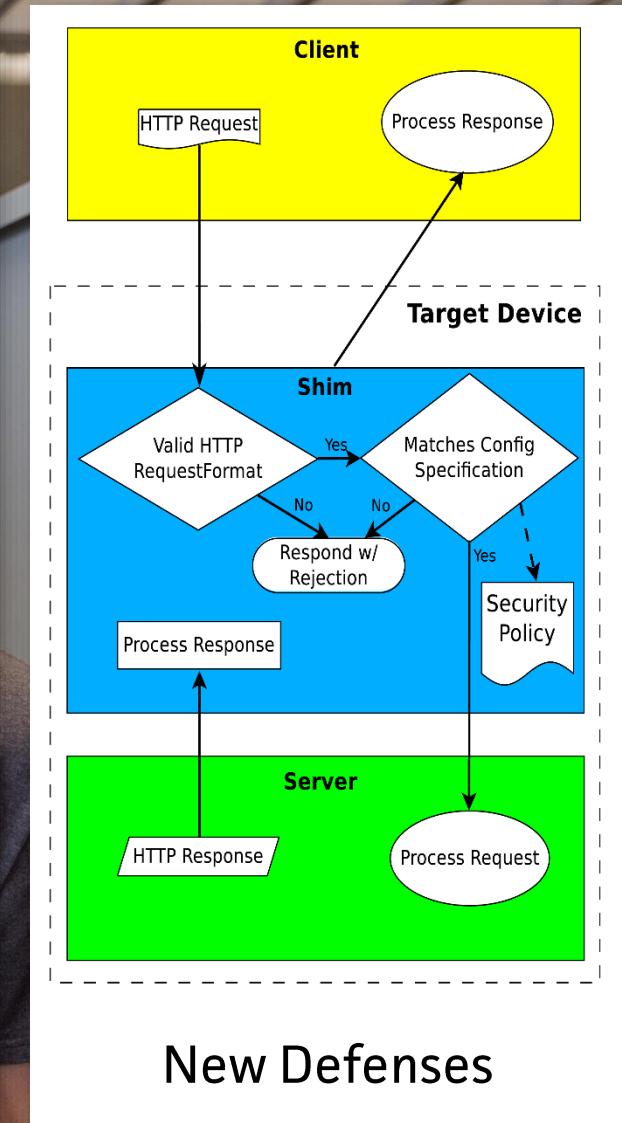
Traffic Infrastructure



Voting Machines



TSA Airport Scanners



New Defenses

# Goals for this Course



- Gain hands-on experience
  - Building secure systems
  - Evaluating system security
- Prepare for research
  - Computer security subfield
  - Security-related issues in other areas
- Generally, improve research, writing, and presentation skills
- Learn to be a 1337 hax0r, but an ethical one!

# Getting In, Getting an A



Waitlist?

Prereqs:

EECS482 or EECS489 or grad standing

*We'll grant everybody overrides, but can't  
guarantee hard work will bring success,  
unless you have the prerequisites.*



# Computer & Network Security

EECS 588 – Winter 2016

[Overview](#) | [Schedule](#) | [Readings](#) | [Attack Presentations](#) | [Course Project](#)

**Professor:** [J. Alex Halderman](#)

Office hours: TuTh 3:30–4:30, 4717 Beyster, or by appointment

**Credits:** 4. This course counts towards meeting software quals requirements.

**Prerequisites:** EECS 482 Operating Systems, EECS 489 Networking (recommended), or grad standing.  
Success in this course requires a mature understanding of software systems.

**Lectures:** TuTh 1:30–3:30, 1690 Beyster

**GSI:** [Travis Finkenauer](#) (4828 Beyster, meetings by appointment)

**Forum:** We'll use [Piazza](#) for online discussion and announcements.

For administrative issues, email [eecs588@umich.edu](mailto:eecs588@umich.edu).

**Resources** [Security Research at Michigan](#)

[Security Reading Group](#)

[CSE CTF Club](#)

This intensive research seminar covers foundational work and current topics in computer systems security. We will read research papers and discuss attacks and defenses against operating systems, client-side software, web applications, and IP networks. Students will be prepared for research in computer security and for security-related research in other subareas, and they will gain hands-on experience designing and evaluating secure systems.

## **Building Blocks**

The security mindset, thinking like an attacker, reasoning about risk, research ethics

Symmetric ciphers, hash functions, message authentication codes, pseudorandom generators

Key exchange, public-key cryptography, key management, the SSL protocol

## **Software Security**

Exploitable bugs: buffer overflows and other common vulnerabilities – attacks and defenses

Malware: viruses, spyware, rootkits – operation and detection

Automated security testing and tools for writing secure code

Virtualization, sandboxing, and OS-level defenses

## **Web Security**

The browser security model

Web site attacks and defenses: cross-site scripting, SQL injection, cross-site reference forgery

Internet crime: spam, phishing, botnets – technical and nontechnical responses

## **Network Security**

Network protocols security: TCP and DNS – attacks and defenses

Policing packets: Firewalls, VPNs, intrusion detection

Denial of service attacks and defenses

Data privacy, anonymity, censorship, surveillance

## **Advanced Topics**

Hardware security – attacks and defenses

Trusted computing and digital rights management

Electronic voting – vulnerabilities, cryptographic voting protocols



# Getting to Know You



- Who are you?
- What topics interest you?
- What would you like to learn in this course?

# What is Computer Security?



Math?

Engineering?

Philosophy?

Natural  
Sciences?

# Meet the Adversary



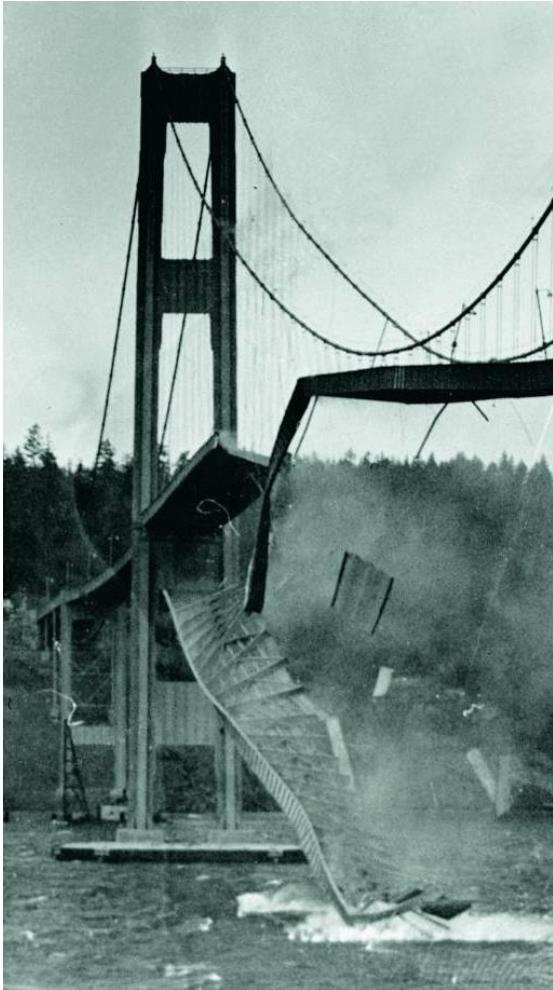
“Computer security studies how systems behave in the presence of an *adversary*.”

- \* An *intelligence* that actively tries to cause the system to misbehave.



# What's the Difference?

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# Why is Security its own Area of CS?



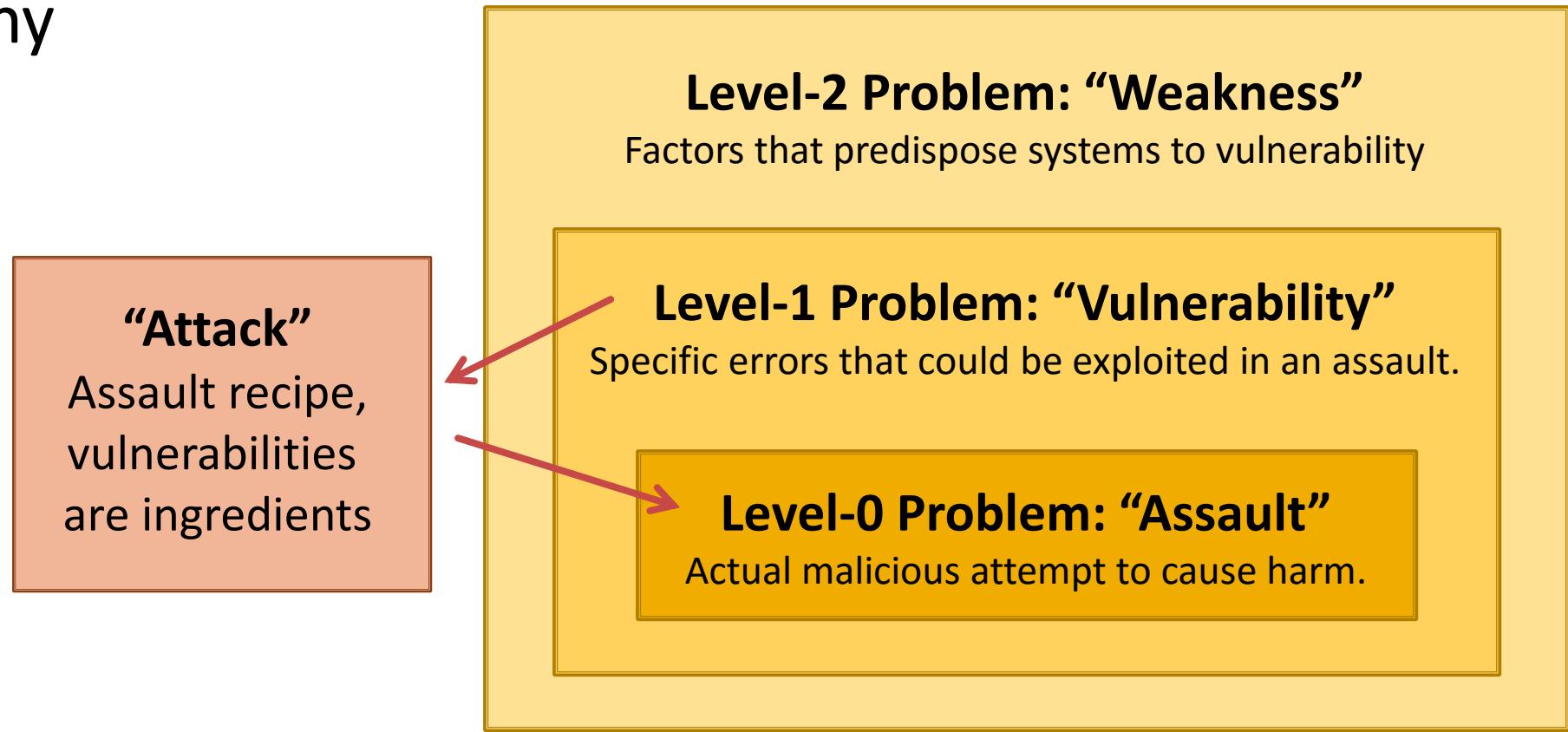
# Who does Security Research?



- Academia
- Industry
- Military
- Hobbyists
  
- Bad guys...

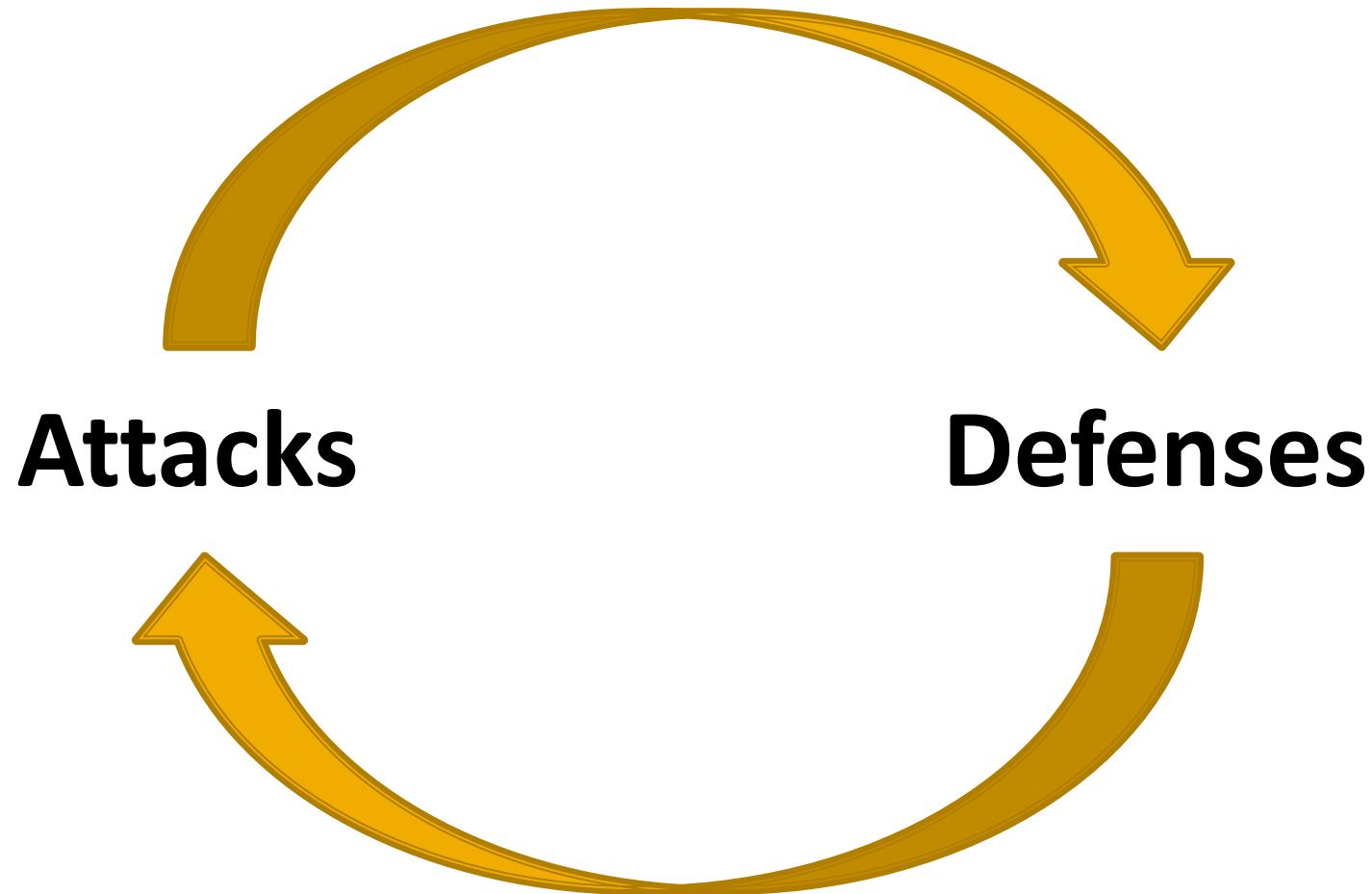
# “Insecurity”?

## Hierarchy



# High-Level Approaches

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# Why Study Attacks?



Identify vulnerabilities so they can be fixed.

Create incentives for vendors to be careful.

Learn about new classes of threats.

- Determine what we need to defend against.
- Help designers build stronger systems.
- Help users more accurately evaluate risk.

# Thinking Like an Attacker



- Look for weakest links – easiest to attack.
- Identify assumptions that security depends on.  
Are they false?
- Think outside the box:  
Not constrained by  
system designer's  
worldview.

Practice thinking like an attacker:  
For every system you interact with, think  
about what it means for it to be secure, and  
image how it could be exploited by an attacker.



# Exercises



- Breaking into the CSE building?

# Exercises

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- Stealing my password



# Exercises

- What are some security systems that you interact with in everyday life?



# Thinking as a Defender

- Security policy
  - What are we trying to protect?
  - What properties are we trying to enforce?
- Threat model
  - Who are the attackers? Capabilities? Motivations?
  - What kind of attack are we trying to prevent?
- Risk assessment
  - What are the weaknesses of the system?
  - What will successful attacks cost us?
  - How likely?
- Countermeasures
  - Costs vs. benefits?
  - Technical vs. nontechnical?

Challenge is to think rationally and rigorously about risk.

*Rational paranoia.*

# Exercises



- Should you lock your door?
  - Assets?
  - Adversaries?
  - Risk assessment?
  - Countermeasures?
  - Costs/benefits?

# Exercises



- Using a credit card safely?

# Secure Design



- Common mistake:  
Trying to convince yourself that the system is secure
- Better approach:  
Identify the *weaknesses* of your design and focus on correcting them
- Secure design is a *process*  
Must be practiced continuously; can't be retrofitted

# Where to Focus Defenses



- *Trusted components*

Parts that must function correctly for the system to be secure.

- *Attack surface*

Parts of the system exposed to the attacker

- Complexity vs. security?

# Selfie Time!



To: [eecs588@umich.edu](mailto:eecs588@umich.edu)

Subject: <*your\_uniqname*>



- > What name should we call you?
- > What's your year and major?
- > What would you like to learn in 588?

3 minutes. Go!

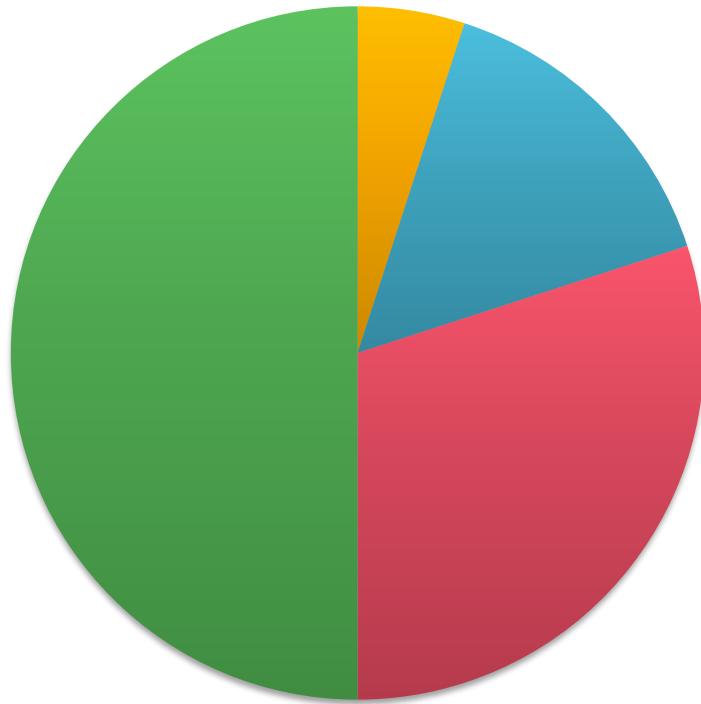
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  - Evaluating system security
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# Grading

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- Class Participation (5%)
- Paper Responses (15%)
- Attack Presentation (30%)
- Research Project (50%)

No exams, no problem sets!

# Class Participation (5%)



- ~2 required papers for discussion in each session  
(other readings optional but recommended)
- Come prepared to contribute!
- Full points for speaking up and contributing substantial ideas
- Lose points for being silent, missing class, Facebook, etc.

# Paper Responses (15%)

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Brief written response to each paper (~400 words)

- In the first paragraph:  
State the problem that the paper tries to solve; and  
Summarize the main contributions.
- In one or more additional paragraphs:  
Evaluate the paper's strengths and weaknesses;  
Discuss something you would have done differently if you had written the paper; and  
Suggest interesting open problems on related topics.

# Attack Presentation (30%)



- *With a partner*, choose a specific attack from recent research and implement a demonstration
- Give a 15 minute presentation:
  - (1) describe the attack
  - (2) talk about how you implemented it, give a demo
  - (3) discuss possible defenses
- Course schedule will list topics later today
- Each group send me ratings for each choice by 5pm Friday

# Research Project (50%)



In groups, investigate new attack/defense/tool

*Aim for a publishable workshop paper.*

Components (more detail on website):

- Preproposal presentation
- Project proposal
- Project checkpoint
- Workshop-style presentation in class
- Final workshop-style report

# Communication



Course Web Site

<https://eecs588.org>

*schedule, reading list, reading response submission*

Piazza

*announcements, discussion, find a partner or group*

Email Us

[eecs588@umich.edu](mailto:eecs588@umich.edu)

*administrativa, suggestions, questions, concerns*

- **Don't be evil!**
  - Ethics requires you to refrain from doing harm
  - Always respect privacy and property rights
  - Otherwise you will fail the course
- Federal/state laws criminalize computer intrusion, wiretapping
  - e.g. Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA)
  - You can be sued or go to jail
- University policies prohibit tampering with campus systems
  - You can be disciplined, even expelled

# Your Assignments...



First paper discussion Thursday (2 MD5 papers)

See course site for required reading (*under construction*)

**submit written responses via [eecs588.org](http://eecs588.org) by start of class!**

Find a partner and rate the topics for attack presentation;

**updated topic list available tomorrow;**

**email topic ratings by 5pm on Friday**

Start thinking about your course project;

Form a group, present topic idea February 18 in class