

## Chapter

# Software Security

↳ Software security is simply a collection of methods used to protect computer programs and the sensitive information handled by them against malicious attacks. It covers a wide range of functions to safeguard software and its correlated data privacy, accuracy and accessibility respectively.

↳ [Reln betn Security & Dependability]

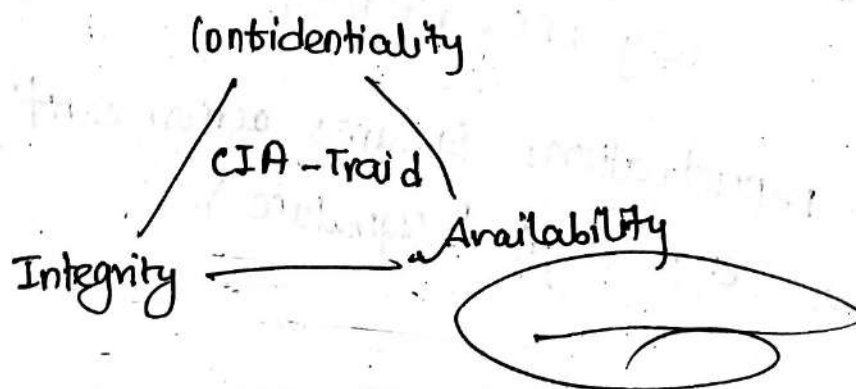
## Relationship betn security and ~~availability~~ Dependability

→ Dependability means the system performs correctly and reliably overtime (includes reliability, availability, safety, maintainability, integrity)

Security is a subset of dependability focusing on confidentiality: prevent unauthorized access.

Integrity: prevent unauthorized modification.

Availability: The system is available 24/7 for intended users.



A system cannot be fully dependable without security.

Example: If a banking system is reliable but not secure (hackers can steal money), it can't be considered reliable.

### Security Requirements for Dependable Systems

Security Requirement ensures that dependable systems stay functional under attack. The security requirements for dependable systems are:

- i) Authentication: Verify user's identity (e.g. password, biometrics)
- ii) Authorization: Limit access to resources based on user's rights
- iii) Confidentiality: Protect sensitive data from unauthorized access.
- iv) Integrity: Ensure data is accurate and unaltered.
- v) Availability: Prevent service disruption (e.g. DDOS Attack)
- vi) Non repudiation: Ensures action can't be denied later (e.g. digital signature)

## Secure systems Design Principles

Design principle help build secure systems from the start.

<u>Principle</u>	<u>Description</u>
least of privilege	Give minimum access necessary
fail state defaults	Default should be deny access unless explicitly allowed
Economy of mechanism	Keep design of simple to avoid hidden flaws
complete mediation	check every access request
open design	Security should rely on secrecy of design.
seperation of Duties	Divide critical tasks among different peoples or components
Defense in depth	multiple layers of security control
Psychological Acceptability	Security measure should not hinder usability.

# Security Testing and Assurance Techniques

↳ Testing and assurance ensures that system is actually secure:

- Penetration Testing / Ethical Hacking

→ simulated attack to find vulnerabilities.

- Static Analysis

→ Analyze the source code for vulnerabilities (without running the program)

- Dynamic Analysis

→ Analyze the program while it's running to find the issues

- formal verification

→ Use mathematical methods to prove correctness and security.

- Security Audit

↳ manual reviews of security policies, system design and implementation.

- Fuzzy Testing

↳ Input random data to detect crashes or unexpected behavior.

## Common Vulnerabilities and ~~attack vectors~~

- i) Buffer ~~overflow~~ overflow  
→ writing more data <sup>than</sup> a buffer can hold
- ii) SQL injection  
→ Inserting ~~set~~ malicious SQL queries
- iii) Cross-site ~~executing~~ Scripting (XSS)  
→ Injecting malicious scripts into the web pages.
- iv) Cross-site request Forgery (CSRF)  
→ Forcing user to execute unwanted actions
- v) Insecure Authentication  
→ Use ~~p~~ <sup>weak</sup> with password policies or login mechanism
- vi) ~~mis~~ mis configuration  
→ poor security settings (e.g. default password)

## common attacks

- i) ~~phising~~ Phishing  
→ Trick users to give credentials
- ii) malware  
→ Software that damages or steals data
- iii) Social Engineering  
→ manipulating people to gain access.  
Intersecting Communication

iv) Denial of service (DOS)

→ overloading system to make service unavailable.