

## Demonstration of unsafe string concatenation in C using `strcat()`

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main() {
    char s1[] = "security";
    char s2[15] = "software";
    char s3[10] = "";

    printf("Before strcat operations...\n");
    printf("s1: \"%s\" size: %zu length: %zu\n", s1, sizeof(s1), strlen(s1));
    printf("s2: \"%s\" size: %zu length: %zu\n", s2, sizeof(s2), strlen(s2));
    printf("s3: \"%s\" size: %zu length: %zu\n", s3, sizeof(s3), strlen(s3));

    strcat(s2,s1);          // append s1 to s2
    strcat(s3,s1);          // append s1 to s3
    strcat(s3,s2);          // append s2 to s3

    printf("After strcat() operations...\n");
    printf("s1: \"%s\" size: %zu length: %zu\n", s1, sizeof(s1), strlen(s1));
    printf("s2: \"%s\" size: %zu length: %zu\n", s2, sizeof(s2), strlen(s2));
    printf("s3: \"%s\" size: %zu length: %zu\n", s3, sizeof(s3), strlen(s3));
}
```

Let's assume the storage for arrays `s1`, `s2`, and `s3` is allocated in the order of declarations in the source code (high memory address to low memory address).

**Step 1: Show the stack frame contents BEFORE call to `strcat` function (left table on next page)**

**Step 2: Use the before call stack frame contents to determine the output produced by the first three print statements.**

**Step 3: Show the stack frame contents AFTER call to `strcat` function (right table on next page)**

**Step 4: Use the after call stack frame contents to determine the output produced by the last three print statements.**

### Stack frame (before call to strcat)

[illegible]

### Stack frame (after call to strcat)

	High address	RA (4 bytes)
	CFP →	PFP (4 bytes)
s1[8]		
s1[0]		
s2[14]		
s2[0]		
s3[9]		
Low address s3[0]		