1 Introduction

To get started, use this invitation link

https://classroom.github.com/a/n-w2vnVl to create your turn-in repository. git clone the repo to your the machine you will be working on, and run make pick-C or make pick-rust in the resulting folder.

2 Watch your language

Texas school district 666 needs your help in protecting their minors from harmful content. Specifically, if a program tries to write "evolution" to any file descriptor, they want it to instead write "GOD".

Your solution needs to work on unmodified system binaries, such as cat and echo, so we will implement a shared library to intercept writes and replace all occurrences of the offensive term. School district administration will ensure that the LD_PRELOAD environment variable is appropriately set when installing your fix. For now, intercepting only calls to write will be sufficient.

2.1 Preparation (50%)

Changing the behavior of the write() system call wrapper has implications beyond saving children's innocent minds. Because many functions that write to a file descriptor make use of this wrapper function, it can be difficult to debug problems in its implementation. Specifically, if it doesn't work, you can't print. And probably neither can gdb. Makes it hard to debug things.

As an intermediate step, create a shared library libsafeprep.so, which provides a new function safewrite() that takes arguments exactly like the write() system call wrapper.

The function safewrite() replaces every occurrence of the word evolution (lower-case only) in the passed in buffer, with the word GOD. It writes the new buffer using the standard write() function. It is not important whether it calls write() once or several times per call to safewrite().

Test libsafeprep.so by linking it with the provided safecat.c file. safecat works like cat, but uses safewrite() instead of write() to write its output.

2.2 Turn-in Instructions

In the C folder, include a file safe which, when compiled with gcc --shared safeprep.c -o libsafeprep.so produces a shared library. When linked with safecat.c it produces a program that replaces every instance of the word "evolution" with the word "GOD" for every line of input before it is printed back to stdout.

2.2.1 Rust version

In the Rust folder, include a crate safeprep which, when built with cargo build produces a shared library safeprep.so. When linked with safecat.o (compile this from safecat.c with the command gcc -c safecat.c it produces a program that replaces every instance of the word "evolution" with the word "GOD" for every line of input before it is printed back to stdout.

2.3 Real Implementation (50%)

Having successfully implemented safewrite() in libsafeprep.so, create a shared library libsafe.so that implements a function write that works just like safewrite(). However, while safewrite() can call write() to create output, this won't work for write(): you'd end up with infinite recursion. Instead, use use dlsym() get a pointer to the original write function. You may have to fight the syntax for function pointers to make this pointer useful.

To test libsafe.so, run the target program with an LD_PRELOAD prefix like this:

LD_PRELOAD=libsafe.so cat darwin.txt

2.4 Turn-in Instructions

In the C folder, include a file safe.c which, when compiled with gcc --shared safe.c -ldl -o libsafe.so produces a shared library. When used with LD_PRELOAD=./libsafe.so cat, the library modifies the operation of cat so that every instance of the word "evolution" is changed to the word "GOD" for every line of input before it is printed back to stdout.

2.4.1 Rust version

In the Rust folder, include a crate safe which, when built with cargo build produces a shared library libsafe.so. When used with LD_PRELOAD=./libsafe.so cat, the library modifies the operation of cat so that every instance of the word "evolution" is changed to the word "GOD" for every line of input before it is printed back to stdout.

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