

Software and System Security 1 – Overview

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Module Software and System Security 1 (SWS1-EN)

- **Lecturers**

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- We are part of the **Information Security Research Group** at the Institute of Applied Information Technology (InIT, www.zhaw.ch/init)
→ If you are interested in doing further work in information security, don't hesitate to contact us
 - E.g., bachelor thesis, MSE positions, research positions,...
 - For details, see the final three slides of this slide set and the InIT website

- **Learning platform:** Moodle, moodle.zhaw.ch

- Primary source of information, schedule, module materials

Goals

The overall goal of this module is that you learn to **develop secure software and systems**. In particular, you will acquire the following skills:

- You understand the overall **secure software development lifecycle** and the security activities that must be employed during the different phases; and you can apply these activities to any given software development process.
- You are capable of **designing secure systems** by defining appropriate security requirements and by integrating suitable security controls into a system design.
- You are capable of **developing secure systems**. For this, Java will be used as the example language and technology, but most what you learn can directly be applied to other languages and technologies.
- You know methods and tools to **detect security vulnerabilities in implemented systems** and you can apply these methods and tools to find and exploit vulnerabilities on your own. This is called penetration testing.
- You know methods to **analyze the security of a system design** and you can apply these methods to uncover conceptual security vulnerabilities. This is often identified as threat modeling.

Lecture Topics (1)

1. Introduction to Software Security
 - Motivation, examples, terminology
2. Secure Development Lifecycle
 - Security activities during a secure software development lifecycle
3. Software Security Errors
 - Overview of security-relevant software errors and detailed discussion of some typical examples such as buffer overflows
4. Java Security
 - Components of the Java library to implement cryptographic operations and secure communication in Java programs (JCA, JSSE)
5. Fundamental Security Principles
 - General but very important security guidelines you should always keep in mind when thinking about security during software development

Lecture Topics (2)

6. Web Application Security Testing

- How to find and exploit vulnerabilities in web applications

7. Developing Secure Traditional Web Applications

- How to design and develop secure web applications that follow a traditional architecture (i.e., monolithic, code mainly runs server-side)

8. Developing Secure Modern Web Applications

- How to design and develop secure web applications that follow a modern architecture (i.e., single page applications that use REST based microservices and lots of JavaScript code in the browser)

9. Security Requirements Engineering and Threat Modeling

- Methods to define the right security requirements and to uncover conceptual security vulnerabilities in a security architecture / design

10. Security Risk Analysis

- Methods to rate the risk (severity) of vulnerabilities

Lab Topics (1)

1. Secure File Storage Service

- Analyze and fix a simple but very insecure file storage service program to see how even simple programs can easily contain serious vulnerabilities

2. Buffer Overflow Attacks

- Find and exploit different types of buffer overflow vulnerabilities in C programs

3. Cryptography in Java

- Develop a program to authenticate, integrity-protect and encrypt files using various cryptographic algorithms

4. Security Testing a Webshop Application

- Find and exploit vulnerabilities in an e-shop web application that was developed by security-unaware students

Lab Topics (2)

5. Security Testing Tools

- Experiment with a static code analysis tool and a vulnerability scanner to learn about the possibilities and limitations of automated testing tools

6. Developing Secure Web Applications and RESTful Web Services: Extending Marketplace

- Extend a Jakarta EE application discussed in the lecture with additional functions and implement the right security measures

7. Security Requirements Engineering and Threat Modeling

- Analyze a given scenario for conceptual security vulnerabilities and propose appropriate security requirements

The Information Security Research Group at InIT

- 5 professors/lecturers, 8-10 researchers/senior researchers, 4-6 master students



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Software Security

Modeling, realization, and analysis of software systems that fulfill a number of security requirements

- Analysis of software systems by means of (automated) security testing
- Improving the quality, efficiency and reproducibility of security testing
- R&D of novel security mechanisms and protocols with focus on domain-specific functionality

Cyber Attacks and Defense

Modeling, analysis, and realization of cyber attacks and of defensive measures

- Threats related to the introduction and use of new technologies (e.g., 5G/6G)
- Improvement of the defense posture (e.g., using OSINT)
- Applications of machine learning for cyber defense
- Understanding and mitigating the human factor

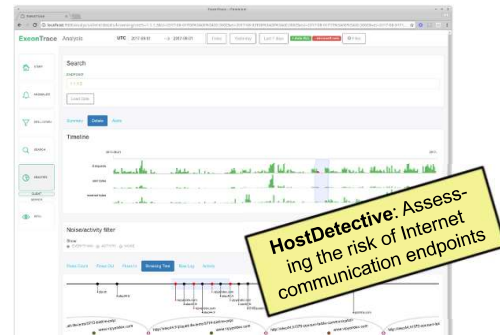
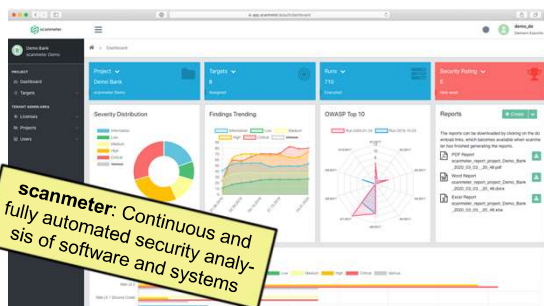
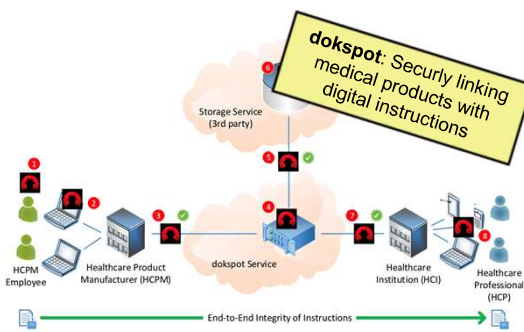
Contact Information of Professors/Lecturers in the Information Security Research Group:

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- Dr. Stephan Neuhaus, neut@zhaw.ch (lecturer)
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Websites of InIT and Information Security Research Group:

- InIT: www.zhaw.ch/init
- Information Security Research Group: www.zhaw.ch/de/engineering/institute-zentren/init/information-security/

The Information Security Research Group – Project Examples



The Information Security Research Group – Project Examples

MAMI: Allow Internet middleboxes to classify and shape traffic securely

Path Transparency Observatory

PTO

An open-source, public repository for measuring path transparency and its impact on new and existing Internet services.

MAMI: Design and operate public-facing data repository and evaluation

What is Path Transparency?

Given the increasing deployment of middleboxes in the Internet, we are evaluating the protocol stack that makes it difficult to deploy new protocols or protocol extensions. The data provided by the observatory assists in quantifying impairments on path transparency when traffic is altered or routed differently on a network path based on the protocol stack in use.

