

# Introduction

CS642:

Computer Security



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Computer security:  
**understanding** and **improving** the behavior of  
computing technologies in the presence of **adversaries**



Target/victim  
computing  
systems



Attackers



Security  
engineers

## Computer systems:

- Operating systems
- Networks / Internet
- Web (2.0)
- Software applications
- iPhones
- Embedded systems
- ...

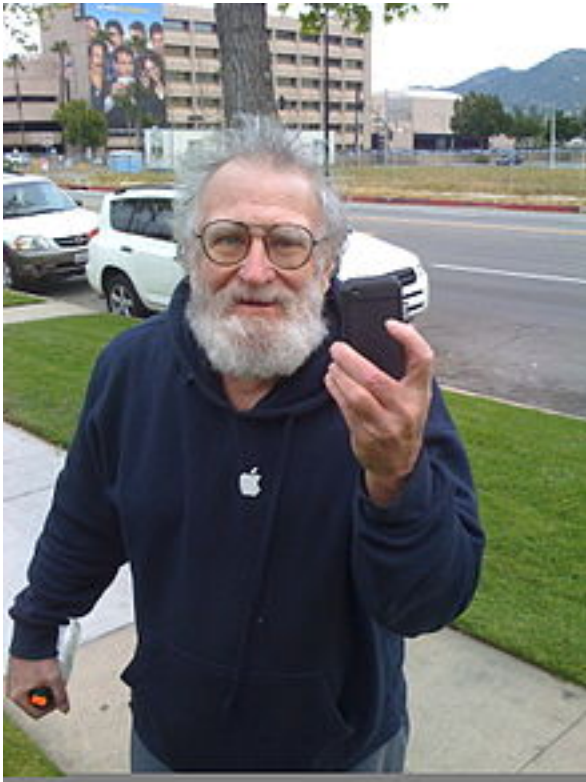
We will not even attempt to be exhaustive

# Security goals

- Confidentiality
  - data not leaked
  - encryption, access controls
- Integrity
  - data not modified
  - message integrity checks, access controls
- Authenticity
  - data comes from who we think it does
  - digital signatures, passwords
- Availability
  - services operating when needed
  - redundancy

## Adversaries:

- “31337” script kiddies
- Criminals
- “hacktivists”
- Dissidents (if you are an oppressive regime)
- Nation states
- ...



# John “Captain Crunch” Draper

Phreaking

## **Targets:**

AT&T phone system

## **Escapades:**

- > 2600Hz Cap’n Crunch whistle
- > Blue box
- > Worked at Apple, taught Wozniak and Jobs

## **Read more:**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Draper](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Draper)



## Kevin “Condor” Mitnik

Free LA bus rides, breaking into corporate systems

### **Made off with:**

- > 1 year prison, 3 years supervision
- > Consulting career
- > Book deal

### **Read more:**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kevin\\_Mitnick](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kevin_Mitnick)



## Julian “Mendax” Assange

Hacker in early 90’s  
Wikileaks

### **Targets:**

- > Nortel
- > USAF 7<sup>th</sup> Command

### **Made off with:**

- > Nothing

### **Read more:**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julian\\_Paul\\_Assange](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julian_Paul_Assange)





## Albert “soupnazi” Gonzalez

Committed various electronic crimes while also a FBI/USSS informant

### **Targets:**

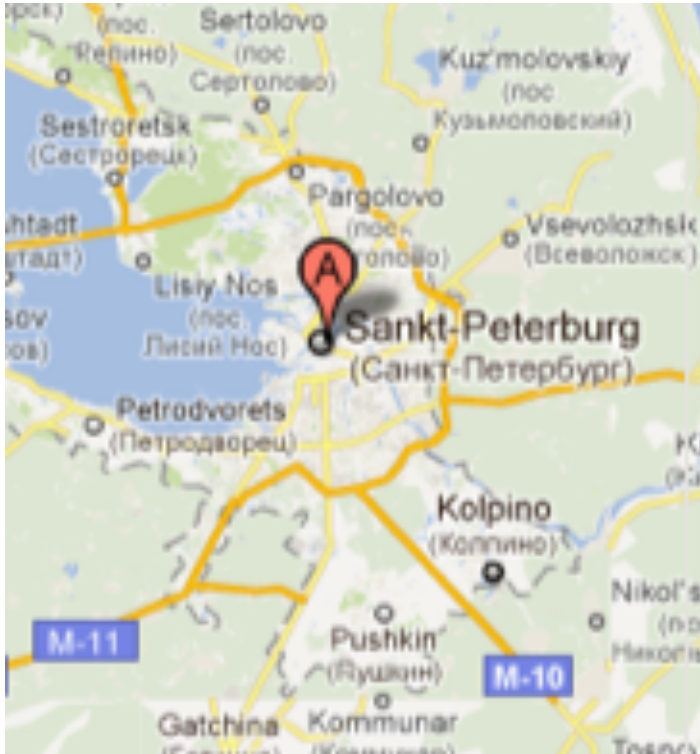
Heartland Payment Systems, TJX, others

### **Made off with:**

- > 130,000,000 credit card numbers
- > \$2mil in cash
- > 15-20 years in jail

### **Read more:**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albert\\_Gonzalez](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albert_Gonzalez)



## Russian Business Network

St. Petersburg Internet hosting company involved in numerous criminal activities

Started as legitimate ISP (2006)

Hosts malware, spammers, phishing sites

Alleged operator of Storm botnet

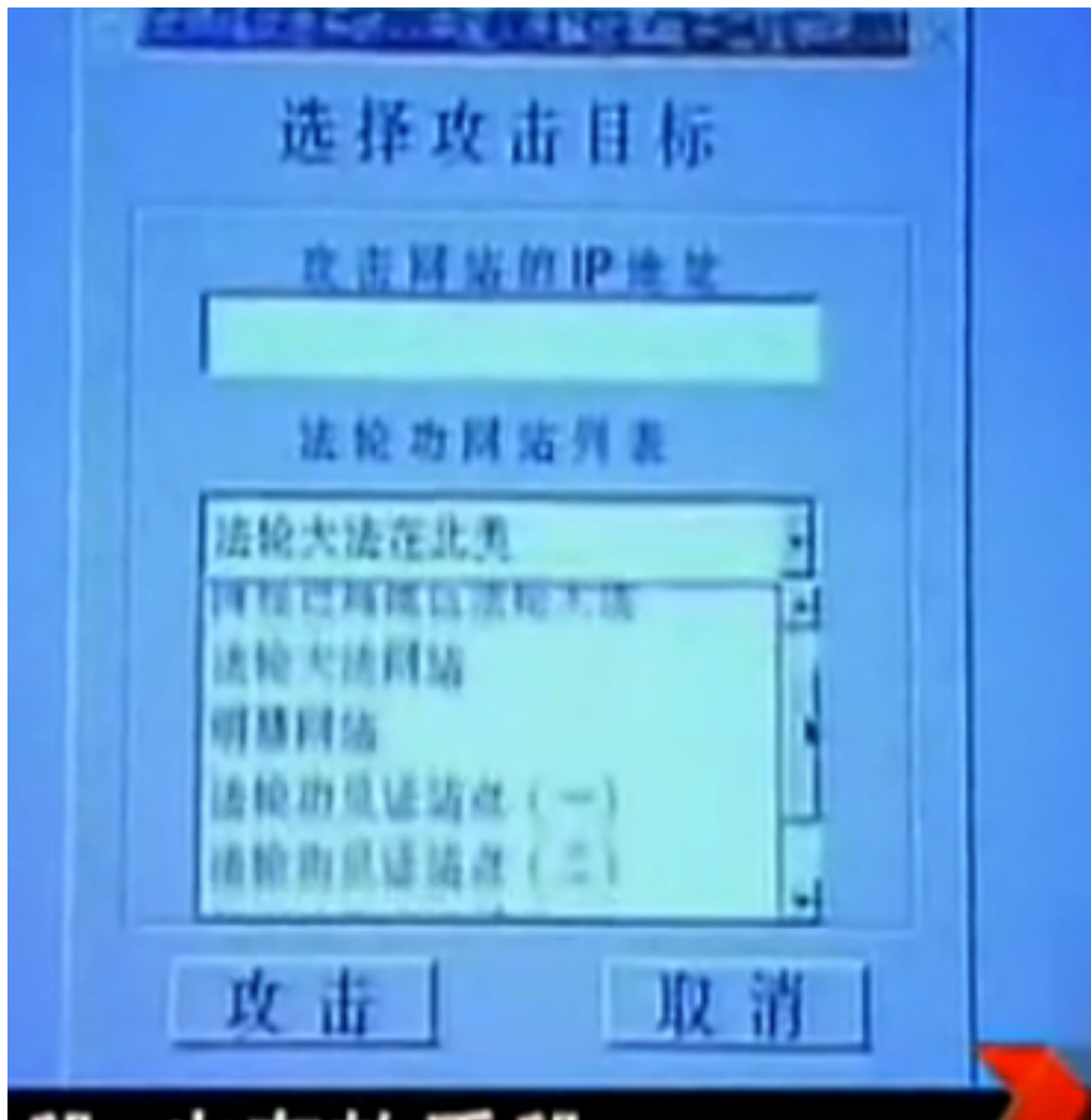
Accused of involvement in DoS on Estonia

### **Makes off with:**

> Supposedly ~\$150mil per year

### **Read more:**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian\\_Business\\_Network](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_Business_Network)





## People's Liberation Army and/or Chinese government

Widely accused of participating in attacks against Falung Gong websites, US companies

Google said China originated attacks in Operation Aurora

Great Firewall of China



## US Cyber Command

USCYBERCOM plans, coordinates, integrates, synchronizes and conducts activities to: direct the operations and defense of specified Department of Defense information networks and; prepare to, and when directed, **conduct full spectrum military cyberspace operations in order to enable actions in all domains, ensure US/Allied freedom of action in cyberspace** and deny the same to our adversaries.



Google

2010: "Highly sophisticated and targeted attack"

RSA

Earlier this year:  
"Advanced persistent threat"

SECURITY™

Earlier this year:  
Bad crypto = cracked PS3  
PSN is down

SONY



Heartland

amazon.com

SYM  
dards

Microsoft®

# Themes in this course

- Understanding threats
- Security evaluations (thinking like an attacker)
- Defensive technologies
- Advancing our technical skills
  - x86 assembly, low-level programming
  - networking
  - cryptography
  - web security



# Anatomy of an example attack in 2011



<http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2011/02/anonymous-speaks-the-inside-story-of-the-hbgary-hack.ars/1>

# Anonymous vs HBGary



rootkit.com

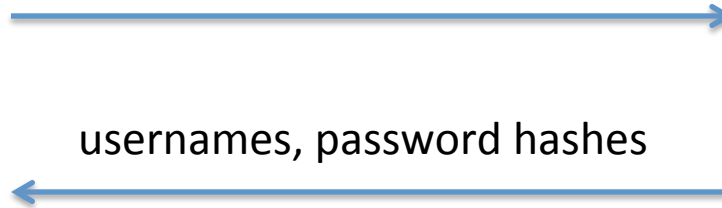


hbgaryfederal.com

Ran by Greg Hoglund,  
owner of HBGary / HBGary Federal

# Anonymous vs HBGary

<http://www.hbgaryfederal.com/pages.php?pageNav=2&page=27>



hbgaryfederal.com

Runs a CMS

SQL injection attack

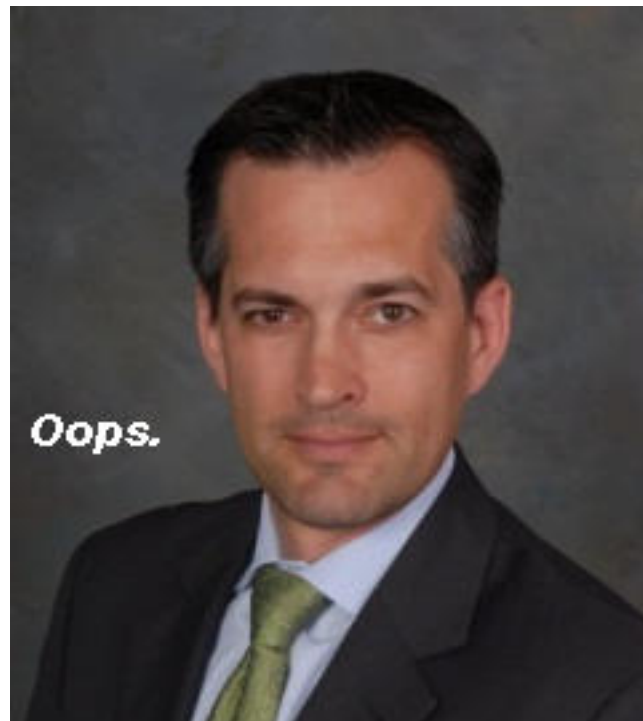
$h = \text{Hash}(pw)$

Given  $h$ , recover  $pw$  by brute force attack  
if  $pw$  is “simple” enough

Aaron Barr's (CEO of HBGary) and Ted Vera (COO) had passwords only 6 digits, lower case letters and numbers

JohntheRipper easily inverts hashes of such passwords

<http://www.openwall.com/john/>



# Anonymous vs HBGary



login: ted  
password: tedrox12



This gave user level account

Exploit a privilege escalation vulnerability  
in the glibc linker on Linux

hbgaryfederal.com

Runs a CMS

<http://seclists.org/fulldisclosure/2010/Oct/257>

Now have root access on hbgaryfederal.com (and more?)  
Delete gigabytes of data, grab emails, take down phone system

# Anonymous vs HBGary



login: aaron  
password: aaronb34



google apps

This gave access to Aaron's gmail account,  
since he used same password here

Aaron was administrator for companies' email  
on google apps

Runs a CMS

Read Greg Hوجلund's emails

# Anonymous vs HBGary

From: Greg

To: Jussi

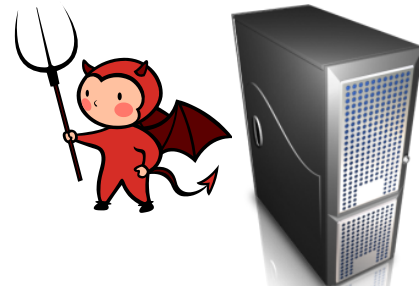
Subject: need to ssh into rootkit

im in europe and need to ssh into the server. can you drop open up firewall and allow ssh through port 59022 or something vague?

and is our root password still 88j4bb3rw0cky88 or did we change to 88Scr3am3r88 ?

thanks

“social engineering”



rootkit.com

# Recap:

- SQL injection
- Password cracking
- Privilege escalation via setuid program
- Social engineering

Web security

Crypto / OS  
security

Low-level  
software security

You are on your  
own



# This course: 4 parts

- Low-level software security
- Network security
- Cryptography
- Web, E-crime, cloud/virtualization, hardware, ethics/law

# We will learn how systems break

Security currently is an arms race between attack and defense

Security engineers must understand attack vectors in order to improve systems' security

# “The price of greatness is responsibility”

Winston Churchill

Black hat:

cracker, a criminal



Grey hat:

sometimes criminal, or at least “bending the law”

White hat:

ethical hacker, working within legal framework to perform security evaluations

# Being a script kiddie is easy ... and stupid

The screenshot shows the Metasploit website interface. At the top left is the Metasploit logo, a blue shield with a white 'M' and the word 'metasploit' in lowercase. To the right of the logo is a search bar with the text 'Search'. Below the logo is a navigation bar with several menu items: a home icon, 'LEARN MORE', 'DOWNLOAD METASPLOIT', 'GET SUPPORT', 'STAY UPDATED', and 'GET INVOLVED'. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail 'Home > Browse Exploits' and a large heading 'Browse Exploit & Auxiliary Modules'. Below the heading is a paragraph of text: 'The Metasploit Project hosts the world's largest database of quality assured exploits, including hundreds of remote exploits, auxiliary modules, and payloads. You can even review the [Metasploit Framework source code](#) of any module - or write your own.' Below this text is a section titled 'Search for modules' with five search input fields: 'Open Source Vulnerability DataBase ID', 'Bugtraq ID', 'Full Text Search', 'Common Vulnerabilities Exposures ID', and 'Microsoft Security Bulletin ID'. A blue button labeled 'SEARCH MODULES >' is positioned at the bottom right of the search section.

metasploit®

Stay Update

Search

Home > Browse Exploits

## Browse Exploit & Auxiliary Modules

The Metasploit Project hosts the world's largest database of quality assured exploits, including hundreds of remote exploits, auxiliary modules, and payloads. You can even review the [Metasploit Framework source code](#) of any module - or write your own.

### Search for modules

Open Source Vulnerability DataBase ID

Bugtraq ID

Full Text Search

Common Vulnerabilities Exposures ID

Microsoft Security Bulletin ID

SEARCH MODULES >

# Reverse engineering and Zero days

Vulnerability/Exploit	Value	Source
“Some exploits”	\$200,000 - \$250,000	Gov’t official referring to what “some people” pay [9]
Significant, reliable exploit	\$125,000	Adriel Desautels, SNOsoft [11, 22, 13]
Internet Explorer	\$60,000 - \$120,000	H.D. Moore [22]
Vista exploit	\$50,000	Raimund Genes, Trend Micro [24]
“Weaponized exploit”	\$20,000-\$30,000	David Maynor, SecureWorks [18]
ZDI, iDefense purchases	\$2,000-\$10,000	David Maynor, SecureWorks [18]
WMF exploit	\$4000	Alexander Gostev, Kaspersky [26]
Microsoft Excel	≥ \$1200	Ebay auction site [21, 25]
Mozilla	\$500	Mozilla bug bounty program [4]

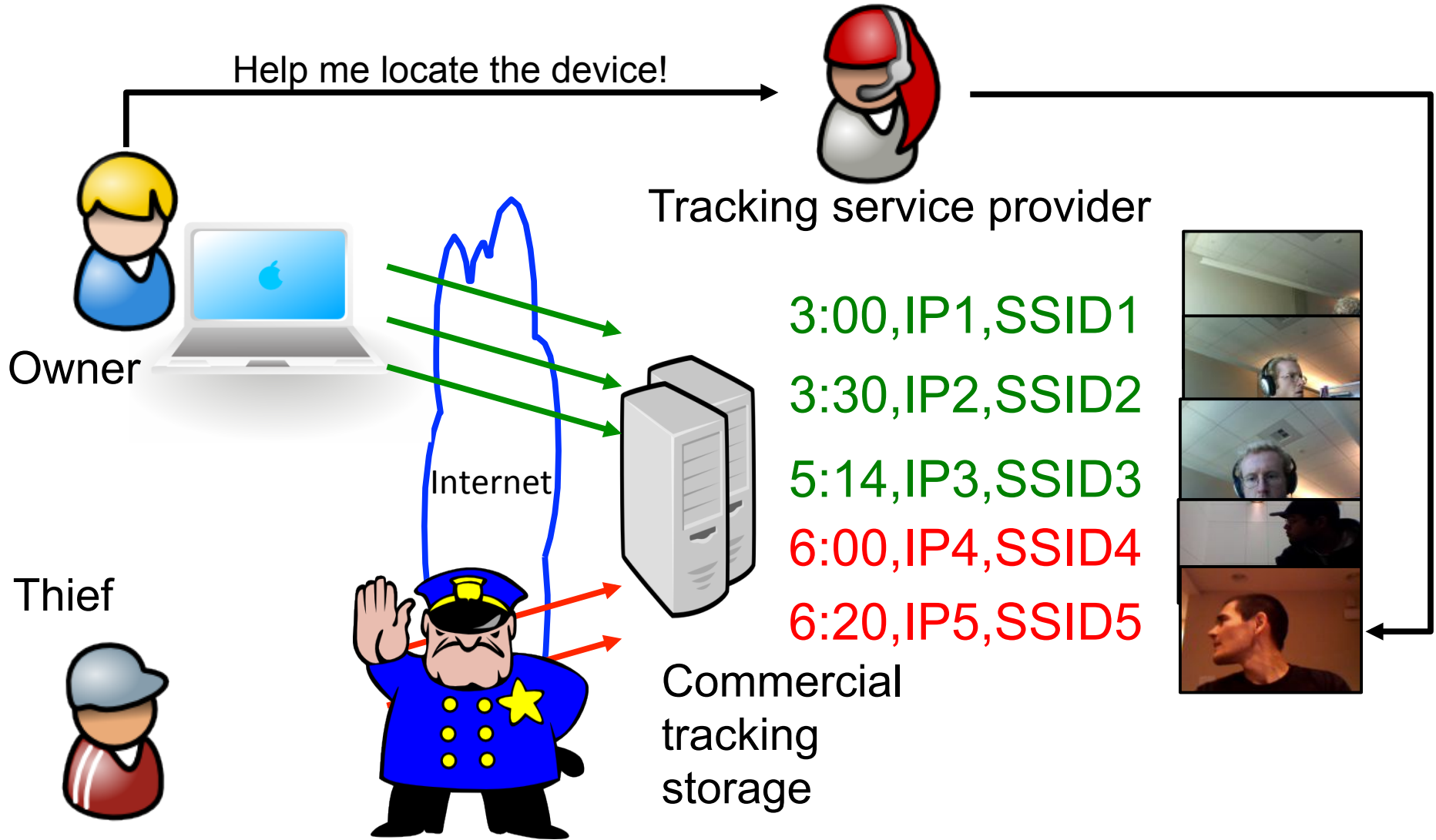
Table 1: Estimates on exploit values.

The Legitimate Vulnerability Market. Inside the Secretive World of 0-day Exploit Sales  
by Charlie Miller

# The law and ethics

- Abuse of security vulnerabilities
  - is against University of Wisconsin policies.
  - I will report anyone who “crosses the line” to the relevant university authorities**
  - runs afoul of various laws.
- Abuse of security vulnerabilities is unethical
  - Think about what you’re doing and the price it has on yourself, the victims, and society in general

# Ethics, the law, and strange situations





<http://thisguyhasmymacbook.tumblr.com/post/5821960131/guy-driving-away-with-my-macbook>



# Ethics, the law, and strange situations

“Couple Can Sue Laptop-Tracking Company for Spying on Sex Chats”

<http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2011/08/absolute-sued-for-spying/>

**Absolute**<sup>®</sup>  
Software

**LO**  **JACK**<sup>®</sup>  
**Get it. And get it back.**<sup>™</sup>

# Rules of thumb

- When in doubt ... don't.
  - Come ask me
- You must have explicit (written) permission from a system owner before performing any penetration testing
  - Homework assignments will generally be on your own system
  - We will give explicit permission to hand us exploits for us to test

# Responsible disclosure

- **Full disclosure** means revealing everything about a vulnerability including an example exploit
- **Responsible disclosure** (generally) refers to ensuring potential victims are aware of vulnerabilities before going public

# CERT/CC process (2000)

- Reporter notifies CERT
- CERT notifies vendor
- 45 days later, CERT makes vulnerability public
- CERT acts as (potentially anonymous) communications channel between reporter/  
vendor

- ▶ [Extended submission deadline for: The 6th International Conference for Internet Technology and Secured Tran](#)  
09-04  
Call for papers (call for papers is gmail com)
- ▶ [Pranian Group e107 Cross Site Scripting Vulnerabilities](#) 2011-09-04  
ehsan\_hp200 hotmail com
- ▶ [TTW \(ricetta.php?id\) Remote SQL injection Vulnerability](#) 2011-09-04  
ehsan\_hp200 hotmail com
- ▶ [Abarkam \(detail.php?input\) Remote SQL injection Vulnerability](#) 2011-09-03  
ehsan\_hp200 hotmail com
- ▶ [MaiNick \(ricetta.php?id\) Remote SQL injection Vulnerability](#) 2011-09-03  
ehsan\_hp200 hotmail com

<http://www.securityfocus.com/archive/1>

<b>Vulnerability Class</b>	<b>Channel</b>	<b>Implemented Capability</b>	<b>Visible to User</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Full Control</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Direct physical	OBD-II port	Plug attack hardware directly into car OBD-II port	Yes	Small	Yes	Low
Indirect physical	CD	CD-based firmware update	Yes	Small	Yes	Medium
	CD	Special song (WMA)	Yes*	Medium	Yes	Medium-High
	PassThru	WiFi or wired control connection to advertised PassThru devices	No	Small	Yes	Low
	PassThru	WiFi or wired shell injection	No	Viral	Yes	Low
Short-range wireless	Bluetooth	Buffer overflow with paired Android phone and Trojan app	No	Large	Yes	Low-Medium
	Bluetooth	Sniff MAC address, brute force PIN, buffer overflow	No	Small	Yes	Low-Medium
Long-range wireless	Cellular	Call car, authentication exploit, buffer overflow (using laptop)	No	Large	Yes	Medium-High
	Cellular	Call car, authentication exploit, buffer overflow (using iPod with exploit audio file, earphones, and a telephone)	No	Large	Yes	Medium-High

Checkoway et al.  
**Comprehensive Experimental  
 Analysis of Automobile  
 Attack surfaces**



# Administrative stuff

- <http://pages.cs.wisc.edu/~rist/642-fall-2011/>
- Homework assignments (ugrad: 70%, grad: 50%)
- Final (ugrad: 20%, grad: 20%)
- Project (ugrad: extra credit, grad: 20%)
- Participation (ugrad: 10%, grad: 10%)

# Homeworks

- Problems may allow teams of up to 2
- Separate write-ups
  - Clearly indicate who teammate is (if any)
- Collaboration policy:
  - no collaboration with people outside team
  - using the web for general information is encouraged
  - Googling for answers to questions is not
  - Cheating will be reported to university authorities



# Final

- Still figuring this out
- Either will be a take home final or in-class

# Project

- Grad students are required to do a term project culminating in a short presentation last week of term
- Broad scope. Aim is to get your feet wet in research:
  - Literature review on some topic of interest
  - In-depth analysis of some computing system
  - Be creative
  - I'll announce deadline for project proposals soon

# Participation

- Speak up in class
- Be prepared to comment on readings. My suggestion:
  - Skim readings before class
  - Read in depth selectively later

# Other courses at Wisconsin

- CS 435 (Prof. Bach, last term)
  - “Intro to cryptography”
  - Basic primitives, comp number theory
- CS 838 (Prof. Ristenpart, Spring 2011)
  - “Applied cryptography”
  - Graduate level focus on design of cryptographic algorithms that are used in practice
  - Theory as applied to design



# A warm up: security principles

Saltzer and Schroeder.

The protection of information in computer systems.

Proceedings of the IEEE, 1975

- 1) Economy of mechanism
- 2) Fail-safe defaults
- 3) Complete mediation
- 4) Open design
- 5) Separation of privilege
- 6) Least privilege
- 7) Least common mechanism
- 8) Psychological acceptability

# Economy of mechanism



# Fail-safe defaults

```
isAdmin = true;
try {
    codeWhichMayFail();
    isAdmin = isUserInRole( "Administrator" );
}
catch (Exception ex) {
    log.write( ex.toString() );
}
```

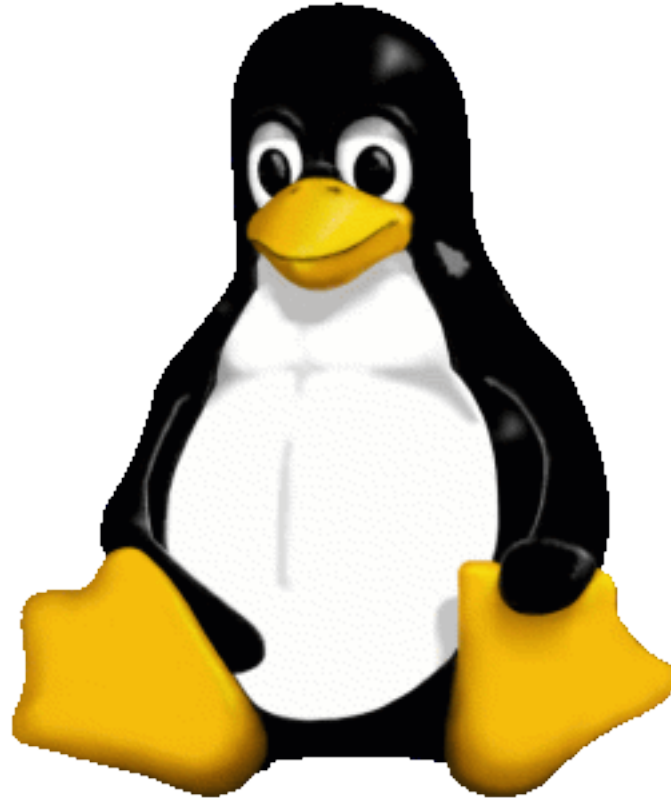
(Example from [https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Secure\\_Coding\\_Principles](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Secure_Coding_Principles))



# Complete mediation



# Open design (avoid “security by obscurity”)



# Separation of privilege





# Least common mechanism (isolation)



# Psychological acceptability (consider human factors)



# Principles from 1970's

- Do you think they are relevant today?
- A bit... abstract
- Reasonable guidelines