



Battling Geologic Time:

Code Scanning & Open Source Tools

SOURCE Seattle — Oct. 15, 2015

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[deadliestwebattacks.com]

Phrack 49

“Smashing...”

```
void function(char *str) {
    char buffer[16];

    strcpy(buffer, str);
}

void main() {
    char large_string[256];
    int i;

    for( i = 0; i < 255; i++)
        large_string[i] = 'A';

    function(large_string);
}
```

> 10 Lines of Code

Windows XP ~**45M**

Bash 4.3 ~**99K** C

OpenSSL trunk ~**240K** C & ~**74K** ASM (!?)

Firefox trunk ~**4.5M** C++ & ~**2.8M** JavaScript

Linux 2.6 ~**6.3M** C ... v3.18 ~**10M** C ... v4.2 ~**11M** C

From Trivia to Toil

Focus on quality of code, not quantity.

Rate of change is as crucial as number of lines.

Build code with SDLC, build habits with security feedback.

Apply feedback to rescan old code with new patterns.

The Red Squigggle is ^{sort of} Nigh

```
void function(char *str) {
    char buffer[16];

    strcpy(buffer, str);
}

void main() {
    char large_string[256];
    int i;

    for( i = 0; i < 255; i++)
        large_string[i] = 'A';

    function(large_string);
}
```

Show Spelling and Grammar ⌘:
Check Document Now ⌘;

✓ Check Spelling While Typing
Check Grammar With Spelling
✓ Correct Spelling Automatically

```
$(document).ready(function() {
    var x = (window.location.hash.match(/^#([\^\/].+)$/) || [])[1];
    var w = $('a[name="' + x + '", id="' + x + '"]');
});
```

```
$stmt = "grant all on *.* to foo\@\".$h.\" identified by 'dr0wss4P'";
```

The End is ^{still} Nigh



```
/* Read type and payload length first */  
hbtype = *p++;  
n2s(p, payload);  
pl = p;
```

```
/* Read type and payload length first */  
if (1 + 2 + 16 > s->s3->rrec.length)  
    return 0; /* silently discard */  
hbtype = *p++;  
n2s(p, payload);  
if (1 + 2 + payload + 16 > s->s3->rrec.length)  
    return 0; /* silently discard per RFC 6520 sec. 4 */  
pl = p;
```

Scan the Scannable

API use & misuse (cppcheck, valgrind)

Style violations (warnings as errors)

Syntax, semantics (one translation unit)

Concrete vs. Context

Practical Extraction

PCRE C API (<http://pcre.org>)

pcre_study

PCRE2!

JIT

python-pcre (<https://github.com/awahlig/python-pcre>)

c++11 <regex> (<http://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/regex>)

Tweaks

Work in a single character encoding (UTF-8).

Explicit quantifiers avoid pathological cases.

(?|(Branch reset)|with|(sub)-(groups)) optimizes a single pattern vs. loops over many small ones.

Quantified Performance

```
diff --git a/lib/core/settings.py b/lib/core/settings.py
index 303c10c..150c71d 100644
--- a/lib/core/settings.py
+++ b/lib/core/settings.py
@@ -345,7 +345,8 @@ REFLECTED_VALUE_MARKER = "__REFLECTED_VALUE__"
REFLECTED_BORDER_REGEX = r"^[A-Za-z]+"

# Regular expression used for replacing non-alphanumeric characters
-REFLECTED_REPLACEMENT_REGEX = r".+"
+# Prefer bounded quantifier over + for performance
+REFLECTED_REPLACEMENT_REGEX = r".{1,500}"

# Maximum number of alpha-numerical parts in reflected regex (for
speed purposes)
REFLECTED_MAX_REGEX_PARTS = 10
```

Patterns vs. Parsing

Accommodating valid syntax, whitespace

```
foo\s*\([\s\r\n]*[^\)]*\)
```

Handling quoted strings, balancing quotes, and
“escape \” sequences\\””

```
['"].*?['"]
```

```
'[^']*'|"[^"]*"
```

Two Wrongs, Not Right

How to annoy a security person:

Expect to build SQL with string concatenation

How to annoy a developer:

Expect to find SQL injection with regexes
without false positives

All Benefit (Some Bother)

Comprehensive (yet complex)

Fast (when bounded)

Good enough (except when they aren't)

Patterns aren't always parsers

<https://github.com/facebook/pfff>

Programmable Foundation from Facebook

Group of tools built on a shared code base for conducting various types of code analysis against various languages.

```
$ ./configure  
$ make depend  
$ make
```

OCaml



Strongly typed, without lots of type decorations

Encourages functional programming

```
(* this is a comment *)
```

```
let foo = val
```

```
let bar = ref ""
```

```
!bar
```

OCaml Match

```
let lang = ref "php"
```

```
let create_ast file =
```

```
  match !lang with
```

```
  | ("c" | "c++") ->
```

```
    ...
```

```
  | "java" ->
```

```
    ...
```

```
  | "js" ->
```

```
    ...
```

```
  | _ ->
```

```
    failwith ("unsupported language: " ^ !lang)
```

OCaml Match Many

```
let patterns, query_string =  
  match !pattern_file, !pattern_string, !json_file, !use_multiple_patterns with  
  | "", "", "", _ ->  
    failwith "I need a pattern; use -f, -r, or -args"  
  | file, _, _, true when file <> "" ->  
    read_patterns file, "multi"  
  | _, s, _, true when s <> "" ->  
    failwith "cannot combine -multi with -e"  
  | _, _, file, _ when file <> "" ->  
    read_json_patterns file, "json args"  
  | _ -> raise Impossible
```

Matching Option Types

```
let string_or_nothing s =
```

```
  match s with
```

```
  | None -> ""
```

```
  | Some s -> string s
```

lang_php/matcher/**php_vs_php.ml**

Scan ~~Text~~ Code

```
// curl_setopt(&handle, CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYPEER, 0);  
curl_setopt(&handle, CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYPEER, 1 /*don't set to zero!*/);  
curl_setopt(&handle, CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYPEER, /* 0 */ 1);  
curl_setopt( &handle , CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYPEER , 1 ) ;  
curl_setopt(&handle,  
            CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYPEER,  
            1);
```


Syntactical Grep

```
sgrep -e 'password' .
```

```
sgrep -e 'bar(...)' .
```

```
sgrep -e 'curl_setopt(...,CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYHOST,1)' .
```

```
sgrep -e "ini_set('open_basedir', ...)" .
```

```
sgrep -e "X = 'password'" -pvar X .
```

```
sgrep -e 'bar(X, ...)' -pvar X .
```

Abstract Syntax Tree

Functions

Arguments

Literals

Class names, methods

Types (strings, integers, Booleans)

Type Coercion (PHP)

```
curl_setopt($h, CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYHOST, true);  
curl_setopt($h, CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYHOST, 1);
```

regex

```
curl_setopt\([^,]+,\s*CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYHOST\s*,\s*((?i>true|1)\s*\)
```

```
curl_setopt(..., CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYHOST, true)
```

sgrep

```
X(..., CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYHOST, true)
```

Creating an Isomorphism

```
false == 0  true == 1
           true == 2
```

```
lang_php/matcher/php_vs_php.ml
```

```
let is_bool_vs_int b i =  
  match b, i with  
  | "false", "0" -> true  
  | "true", n when n <> "0" -> true  
  | _ -> false
```

Generating ML

```
$ ./pfff -dump_php_ml tests/php/sgrep/boolean_vs_int.php
```

```
[StmtList(  
  [ExprStmt(  
    Call(Id(XName( [QI(Name(("curl_setopt", i_1)))])),  
      (i_2,  
        [Left(Arg(IdVar(DName(("ch", i_3)), Ref(NoScope)))); Right(i_4);  
          Left(Arg(Id(XName( [QI(Name(("CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYHOST", i_5)))]))));  
            Right(i_6); Left(Arg(Id(XName( [QI(Name(("true", i_7)))])))]),  
              i_8)), i_9);  
    ExprStmt(  
      Call(Id(XName( [QI(Name(("curl_setopt", i_10)))])),  
        (i_11,  
          [Left(Arg(IdVar(DName(("ch", i_12)), Ref(NoScope)))); Right(i_13);  
            Left(Arg(Id(XName( [QI(Name(("CURLOPT_SSL_VERIFYHOST", i_14)))]))));  
              Right(i_15); Left(Arg(Sc(C(Int(("1", i_16)))))],  
                i_17)), i_18)]); FinalDef(i_19)]
```

Hints for php_vs_php.ml

Harnessing meta_var

Match many functions and one argument

Bring back regex capabilities

```
sgrep -e 'X(...)' -mvar_match 'X,foo\|bar' tests/php/sgrep/
```

A String

```
ini_set('X', true)
```

```
X
```

```
allow_url_fopen
```

```
expose_php
```


Not a String

`X('!...')`

X

`eval|passthru|popen|system`

`lang_php/matcher/php_vs_php.ml`

```
(* MPS: iso when argument *isn't* a hard-coded string. *)
| A.Sc(A.C(A.String("!...", info_string))), e when not (is_concat_of_strings e)->
  return (
    A.Sc(A.C(A.String("!...", info_string))),
    e
  )
```

Patterns for Finding Flaws

This and that

This, but not that

A string

Not a string

```
{  
  "name" : "bar",  
  "lang": "php",  
  "version": 1,  
  "pattern": "X(bar)",  
  "pattern_verify": "",  
  "pattern_reject": "",  
  "metavar_match": {"X": "urldecode"}  
}
```

Abstracting Behavior

Write security checks instead of code

`sgrep -args <json file>` ←

```
{  
  "name" : "bar",  
  "lang": ["php"],  
  "version": "1.0",  
  "pattern": "bar"  
}
```

`sgrep -json` →

```
{  
  "name": "bar",  
  "version": 1,  
  "file": "/Users/mike/src/pfff/tests/php/unsugar/xhp.php",  
  "linenum": 5,  
  "start_column": 17,  
  "end_column": 17,  
  "linetext": [ "    return self::BAR;" ]  
}
```

Many Patterns, One AST

```
sgrep pattern file
```



```
let ast = create_ast file in  
  let sgrep pattern = sgrep_ast pattern ast in  
  List.iter sgrep patterns
```

Navigating Pfff

lang_*

analyze

matcher

parsing

pretty

./tests/{lang}/sgrep

Problems for Future Fixes

Data flow analysis

Tainted variables, sanitization functions

Extend scope beyond translation unit

The World of Tomorrow

Coding in Future Tense

llvm, clang

Compile to intermediate representation

Address, Memory, Thread Sanitizers

-fsanitize=integer

-fsanitize=undefined



Code

Clean

Passes linter

No dead paths

Readable

Written for humans

Reasonable

Testable

Confidence in
changes

Emergent Security

Handle large code bases across numerous repos under rapid change

Relatively easy to deploy and integrate

Produces accurate, actionable results

SDLC Touch Points

Configuration files

Stored secrets

Dynamically generated code

Compilation

Dependencies & versioning

Package signing

TODO: *FIXME*

sgrep for code, regex for text, parsers for XML
(HTML, etc.)

Integrate with build process

Curate checks

Dive into pfff

OCaml is initially daunting, but ultimately rewarding

Thank You!

References

<http://phrack.org/issues/49/14.html#article>

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows/history#T1=era6>

<http://cppcheck.sourceforge.net>

<http://valgrind.org>

<https://github.com/facebook/pfff>

<https://github.com/mutantzombie/pfff> (experiments)

A Few ^{1,023,705} More Words

British Library has added public domain images on Flickr.

<https://flic.kr/p/hUBkRN>

<https://flic.kr/p/hPYqyy>

<https://flic.kr/p/i8DSiY>