



# YES, NOW YOU CAN PATCH THAT VULNERABILITY TOO!

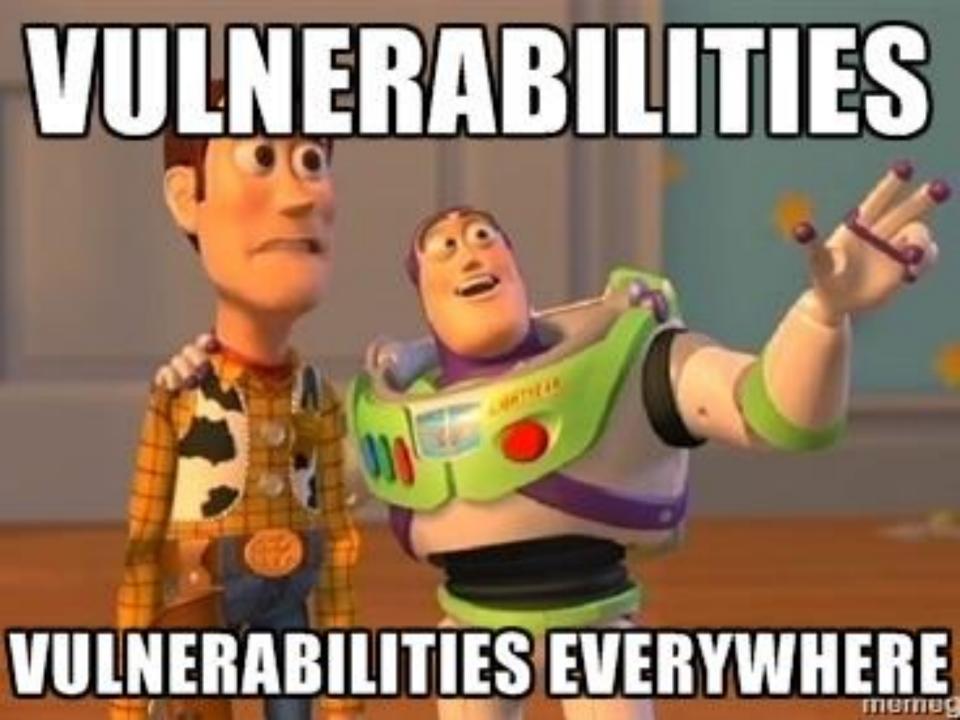
Mitja Kolšek, CEO, ACROS Security & Opatch co-founder

### THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

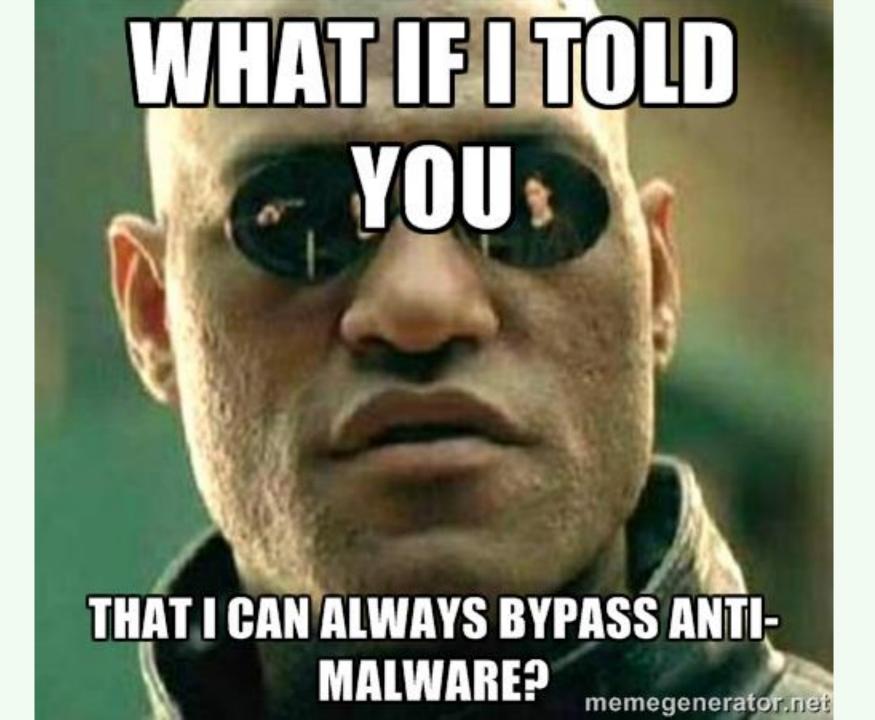


- 15 years of finding and reporting vulnerabilities
- The same types of bugs again and again
- New exploit mitigations, new bypasses
- Few vendors proactively look for vulnerabilities
- Critical security fixes are not being applied
- Feels like being a problem instead of a solution
- Nobody is happy (except the attackers)









# I CAN BREAK INTO ANY CORP NETWORK (BUT I SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO)



- Pick any browser/reader/player vulnerability with a public PoC younger than 2 months
- 2. Prepare an exploit
- 3. Mutate the exploit until VirusTotal doesn't detect it any more
- 4. Phish until you're in





### **RESEARCHER'S DILEMMA**



- Privately report to vendor (and risk anger, silence or lawsuit)
- 2. Publish (and risk anger or lawsuit)
- Sell it (and risk prosecution)
- 4. Shelve it (what's the point of your work then?)





# PATCHING IS A HARD PROBLEM

### A HARD PROBLEM

### **SOFTWARE VENDORS**

- monopoly on patching
- direct and opportunity costs
- deploying fixes is costly
- have better things to do

### **USERS**

- hate downtime
- updating = risk breakage
- not updating = risk ownage

### **SECURITY RESEARCHERS**

- constant conflict with vendors
- considered part of the problem





# REINVENTING SOFTWARE PATCHING

### REINVENTING SOFTWARE PATCHING



Take less than a minute to install a small piece of software that will apply tiny security patches in the same way for all applications.

Then apply and remove patches instantly without disturbing users or admins.





# DEMO NO REBOOT, NO RELAUNCH



# TECHNOLOGY HOW IT WORKS

### **FUNCTION HOOKING ON STEROIDS**

```
e8 9c 4f e5 ff
                              0040f79ch ←
                      call
8b f0
                              esi,eax
                      mov
46
                      inc
                              esi
8d 85 ac fd ff ff
                      lea
                              eax, [ebp-254h]
33 c9
                              ecx,ecx
                      xor
ba 04 01 00 00
                     mov
                              edx, 104h
e8 63 aa e4 ff
                      call
                              00405278h
53
                     push
                              ebx
8d 85 ac fd ff /ff
                      lea
                              eax, [ebp-254h]
50
                     push
                              eax
```

Relocatable instructions (anywhere in the code, not just at the beginning of a function)

We want to inject patch code after this call



e8 9	c 4f	<b>e</b> 5	ff		call	0040f79ch
8b f 46 8d 8	0 5 ac	fd	ff	ff	mov inc lea	esi,eax esi eax,[ebp-254h]
e8 6 53	9 4 01 3 aa 5 ac	e4	ff	ff	xor mov call push lea	ecx,ecx edx,104h 00405278h ebx eax,[ebp-254h]
50					push	eax

```
e8 9c 4f e5 ff call 0040f79ch
xx xx xx xx imp PATCH
xx xx xx xx ; leftovers
CONTINUE:
33 c9
                 xor
                       ecx,ecx
ba 04 01 00 00
            mov
                       edx, 104h
e8 63 aa e4 ff
            call
                       00405278h
53
               push ebx
8d 85 ac fd ff ff lea eax, [ebp-254h]
50
               push eax
```

```
PATCH:
                    ; PATCH CODE
XX XX
XX XX
                    ; PATCH CODE
Xx xX
                    ; PATCH CODE
8b f0
                        esi,eax
                    mov
46
                    inc
                            esi
8d 85 ac fd ff ff
                    lea
                            eax, [ebp-254h]
XX XX XX XX
                    jmp
                            CONTINUE
```

### **DEFINING A PATCH**



- 1. Module hash
- 2. Offset of the patch inside the module
- 3. Patch code



### PATCH SOURCE CODE



```
MODULE PATH "C:\vulnerable app\app.exe"
PATCH ID 87235
VULN ID 993
patchlet start
 PATCHLET ID 1
 PATCHLET OFFSET 0x0000b979
 N ORIGINALBYTES 5
 code start
   xor eax, eax
 code end
patchlet end
```



### WHAT CAN BE PATCHED



- Unchecked buffers
- Numeric over/underflows
- Use after free
- Double free
- Uninitialized variables
- Format strings
- Binary planting / DLL injection
- Data patching
- (many others)



# WHAT CAN'T BE PATCHED (or not that easily)



- Scripted (to-be-compiled) code
- Design flaws
- Windows kernel (PatchGuard)
- Apps that actively refuse to be patched





# MICROSCOPIC CURES FOR

# SECURITY HOLES



# PATCHING DEMO INTEGER OVERFLOW

```
array extra(JSContext *cx, ArrayExtraMode mode, uintN argc,
            isval *vp)
   JSObject *obj;
   jsuint length, newlen;
   jsval *argv, *elemroot, *invokevp, *sp;
   JSBool ok, cond, hole;
   JSObject *callable, *thisp, *newarr;
   jsint start, end, step, i;
   void *mark;
   obj = JS THIS OBJECT(cx, vp);
   if (!obj || !js GetLengthProperty(cx, obj, &length))
       return JS FALSE;
   switch (mode) {
     case REDUCE RIGHT:
       start = length - 1, end = -1, step = -1;
       /* FALL THROUGH */
```





```
array extra(JSContext *cx, ArrayExtraMode mode, uintN argc,
            isval *vp)
   JSObject *obj;
   jsuint length, newlen;
   jsval *argv, *elemroot, *invokevp, *sp;
   JSBool ok, cond, hole;
   JSObject *callable, *thisp, *newarr;
   jsint start, end, step, i;
   void *mark;
   obj = JS THIS OBJECT(cx, vp);
   if (!obj || !js GetLengthProperty(cx, obj, &length))
       return JS FALSE;
   switch (mode) {
     case REDUCE RIGHT:
       start = length - 1, end = -1, step = -1;
       /* FALL THROUGH */
```



array extra(JSContext \*cx, ArrayExtraMode mode, uintN argc,

```
6b6ab96b 56
                      push
                              esi
                      lea edi, [esp+1Ch]
6b6ab96c 8d7c241c
6b6ab970 894c242c
                      mov dword ptr [esp+2Ch],ecx
6b6ab974 e807240000
                   call js GetLengthProperty
6b6ab979 83c404
                   add esp,4
6b6ab97c 85c0
                    test eax, eax
6b6ab97e 0f84b1ce0a00
                    je
                              "return JS FALSE"
```

```
void *mark;

obj = JS_THIS OBJECT(cx, vp);

if (!obj || js_GetLengthProperty(cx, obj, &length))
    return JS_FALSE;

switch (mode) {
    case REDUCE_RIGHT:
        start = length - 1, end = -1, step = -1;
        /* FALL THROUGH */
```



```
6b6ab96b 56
                          push
                                  esi
6b6ab96c 8d7c241c
                          lea
                                  edi, [esp+1Ch]
                                  dword ptr [esp+2Ch],ecx
6b6ab970 894c242c
                          mov
6b6ab974 e807240000
                          call
                                  js GetLengthProperty
6b6ab979 83c404
                          add
                                  esp,4
6b6ab97d 85c0 🛦
                          test
                                  eax,eax
6b6ab97e 0f84b1ce0a00
                                  "return JS FALSE"
                          je
                 After the call, array length is in
                        dword ptr [edi]
    Suitable bytes for overwriting
```



```
6b6ab96b 56
                         push
                                  esi
6b6ab96c 8d7c241c
                         lea
                                  edi, [esp+1Ch]
6b6ab970 894c242c
                         mov
                                  dword ptr [esp+2Ch],ecx
6b6ab974 e807240000
                         call
                                  js GetLengthProperty
6b6ab979
                                  dword ptr [edi],7FFFFFFh
                          and
6b6ab979 83c404
                         add
                                  esp,4
6b6ab97c 85c0
                         test
                                  eax, eax
                                  "return JS FALSE"
6b6ab97e 0f84b1ce0a00
                         jе
```

We reset the top bit and keep the length below MAX\_INT

Relative offset from start of module js3250.dll = B979h



6b6ab96b 56 6b6ab96c 8d7c241c 6b6ab970 894c242c 6b6ab974 e807240000	push lea mov call	esi edi,[esp+1Ch] dword ptr [esp+2Ch],ecx js_GetLengthProperty
6b6ab979  DONE:	cmp jbe and call	<pre>dword ptr [edi],7FFFFFFFh  DONE dword ptr [edi],7FFFFFFFh  PIT_ExploitBlocked</pre>
6b6ab979 83c404 6b6ab97c 85c0 6b6ab97e 0f84b1ce0a00	add test je	esp,4 eax,eax "return JS_FALSE"

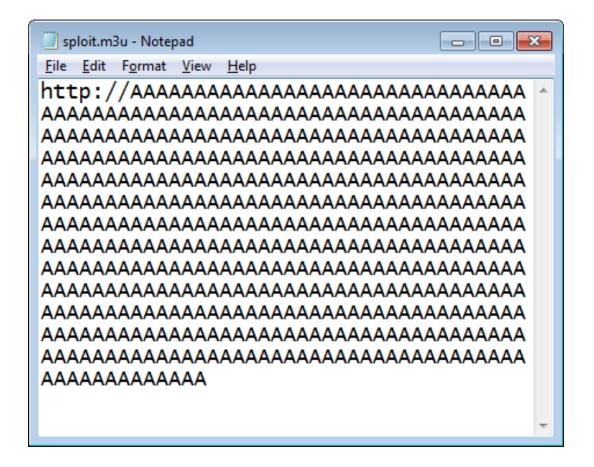
We want to display a warning to the user





# PATCHING DEMO BUFFER OVERFLOW







```
005ba7fa 53
                        push
                                ebx
                        ; ebx points to source buffer (line)
005ba7fb e89c4fe5ff
                        call kernel32!lstrlenW
                        ; eax is the length of the line
005ba800 8bf0
                        mov
                                esi,eax
005ba802 46
                        inc esi
                        ; esi is the length of the line + 1
005ba803 8d85acfdffff
                        lea eax, [ebp-254h]
                        xor ecx,ecx
005ba809 33c9
005ba80b ba04010000
                        mov edx, 104h
005ba810 e863aae4ff
                        call zero-ize destination buffer
005ba815 53
                        push
                                ehx
                        ; ebx points to source buffer (line)
005ba816 8d85acfdffff
                                eax, [ebp-254h]
                        ; eax points to destination buffer
                         ; which only has 104h bytes on stack
005ba81c 50
                        push
                                eax
005ba81d e8624fe5ff
                                kernel32!1strcpyW
                        call
```

Suitable bytes for overwriting

We want to shorten source buffer before this call



```
005ba815 53

push ebx

; ebx points to source buffer (line)

005ba816 8d85acfdffff

lea eax,[ebp-254h]

; eax points to destination buffer

; which only has 104h bytes on stack

005ba81c 50

push eax

005ba81d e8624fe5ff

call kernel32!lstrcpyW
```



```
005ba815 53
                        push
                                 ebx
                         ; ebx points to source buffer (line)
005ba816
                         cmp esi,104h ; esi is line length + 1
                        jbe DONE
                        mov word ptr [ebx+208h],0
                         call PIT ExploitBlocked
DONE:
005ba816 8d85acfdffff
                        lea
                                eax, [ebp-254h]
                         ; eax points to destination Auffer
                         ; which only has 104h bytes on stack
005ba81c 50
                        push
                                 eax
005ba81d e8624fe5ff
                        call
                                kernel32!1strcpyW
                                We cut the source buffer short
                                   by terminating it with a O
```

Relative offset from start of module AllPlayer.exe = 1ba816h





# GUIDELINES

HOW TO FIX WITHOUT BREAKING



- 1. Find a good place for patching
- 2. Don't break anything
- 3. Change as little code as possible
- 4. Execute as rarely as possible
- 5. Test security and functionality



# Find a good place for patching

- Cover all vulnerable execution paths (but ideally nothing else)
- Relocated original code must not be a target of calls or jumps
- Relocated original code must be easily relocatable (nothing that uses relative offsets)



## Don't break anything

- Make no assumptions about how your patched code can be reached (instead, make sure using dissassemblers, code analysis tools)
- Preserve functionality
   (don't cut off vulnerable code unless that's the only possible solution)
- Make sure there are no side-effects (changed registries, changed flags)



# Change as little code as possible

- Less code = fewer errors
- Less code = easier reviewing and testing
- Less code = less execution overhead
- Less code = less chance of race condition



# **Execute as rarely as possible**

- Avoid patching inside loops
- Sanitize user input at the beginning of an execution tree to cover all branches

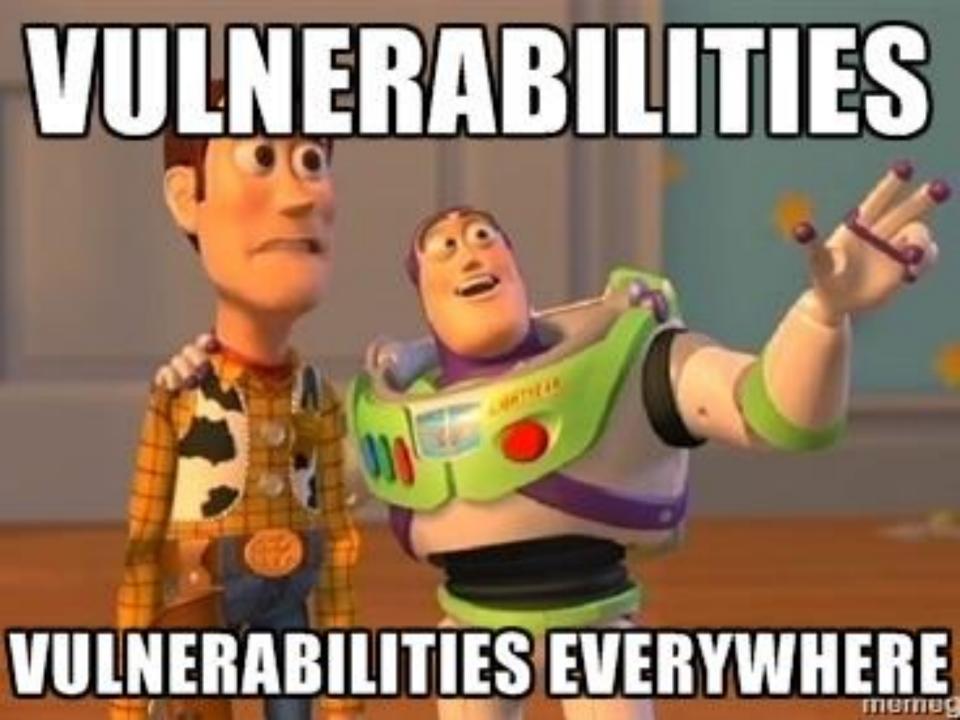


# **Test security and functionality**

- PoCs and exploits should be blocked
- Legitimate use cases of the patched functionality should have exactly the same behavior as before









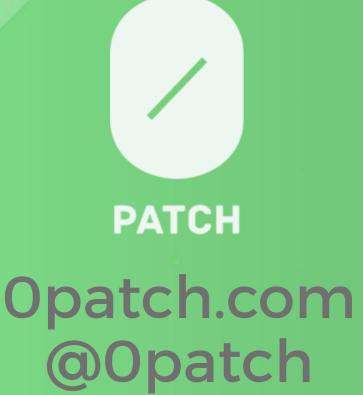


# **BETA ACCOUNTS**

SEND YOUR EMAIL AND WE'LL CREATE
AN ACCOUNT FOR YOU

support@Opatch.com





# **THANK YOU!**

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