

- 1. Last time
- 2. Stack smashing, cont'd
- 3. Protection and security in Unix
  - Intro
  - setuid
  - TOCTTOU ("time of check to time of use")
  - Other thoughts

## 2. Arms race

defenders:  $\underline{W} \wedge \underline{X}$

response: ROP

defenders: hide the binary

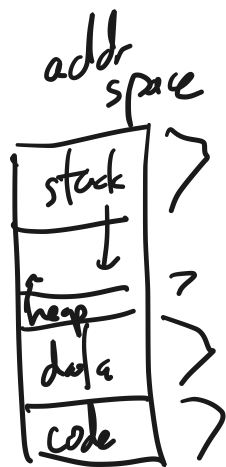
response: BROP

defenders: use ASLR

response: BROP :

defenders: use canary values

response: BROP



BROP:

⇒ Bittau et al,

IEEE S&P

"Hacking Blind"

## 3. Protection and security in Unix

### A. Intro

... (see id group id)

mwaltrsh = 357(?)

\$ echo ..

\$ cat

UIDs, GIDs (user id, group id)

A process has one user ID and one or more group IDs

Files and directories are access-controlled

- Saw this in lab 2 (ls).
- System stores  $\forall$  each file who owns it
- Where is the info stored?

```

$ ls -l
-rwxr-xr-x 1 user file
...

```

Special user: uid 0, called root, treated by kernel as the administrator

UID 0 <sup>root</sup> has all permissions: can read any file, do anything

Certain things only root can do:

- mounting file systems
- set clocking
- halting machine
- change process's user or group id

B. setuid

ex: how do you users change their password?

\$ passwd

/etc/passwd  
/etc/shadow

A prog. can be "setuid"

\$ echo 'ls' red uid: mwaldfish  
effective uid: mwaldfish

\$ passwd real uid: mwalsh  
effective uid: root

Ex: passwd

su : changes to new user ID if correct passwd is typed

## Example attacks

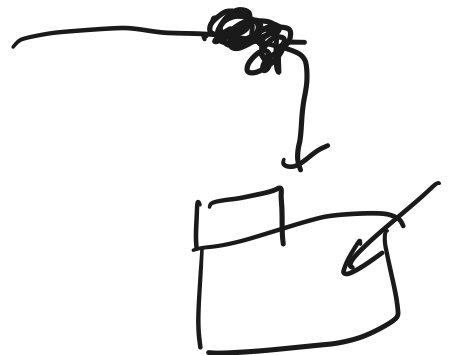
- close fd2
- exec passwd()

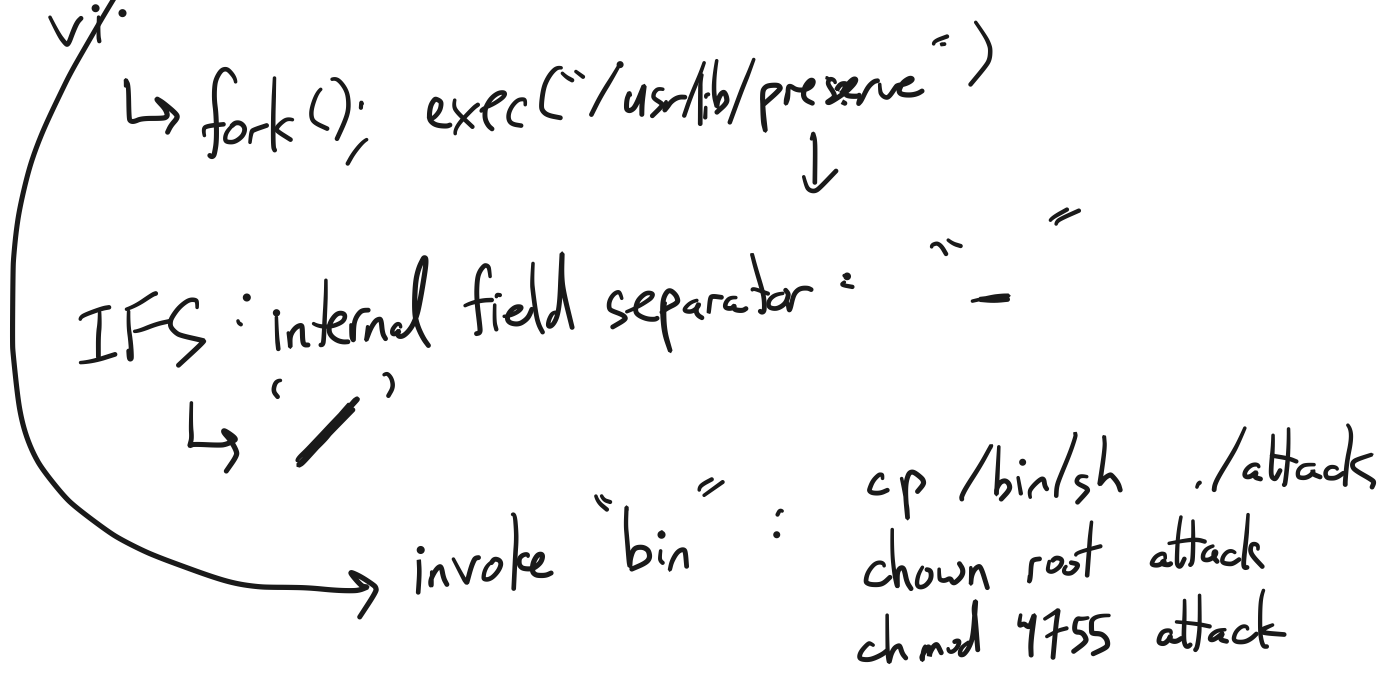
```
close(2);  
exec("/sbin/passwd");
```

```
passwd() {  
    fd ← open("/etc/passwd", ...)  
    * fprintf(stderr, "Err msg\n", 2);  
}
```

- Old days: "preserve" =  
setuid root

preserve:  
system("/bin/mail");





C. TOCTTOU

\$ prog X

Ex: prog setuid-root  
 it needs to log to some file, specified by the invoker of the prog.

prog:

```

  argv[1]
  ↓
  fd = open(logfile, O_CREAT | O_WRONLY | O_TRUNC, 0666);
  red uid: attacker $ prog /etc/passwd
  → effective uid: root
  
```

goal: open succeeds only if real uid has permission

```

  if (access(logfile, W_OK) < 0) // check real user id
  return ERROR;
  
```

return error;  
fd = open(logfile, O\_CREAT, ...) // check effective user id

time prog

attacker  
creat("/tmp/X");

check access("/tmp/X") → OK

unlink("/tmp/X");  
symlink("/etc/passwd", "/tmp/X");

logfile  
open("/tmp/X", O\_CREAT, ...)

↳ b/c root does have privilege over /etc/passwd, this "succeeds" and trashes the password file.