

# NSFW

## Smart Contract Vulnerabilities and Vyper

Souradeep Das  
Next Tech Lab,  
Ex- UC Berkeley Blockchain Lab





Hi!  
I'm **Dave!**

# How far has Ethereum come in 4 years?

Total addresses

**>50m**

Daily active users

**95.54k**

24h transactions

**1.58m**

Smart Contracts

**>1m**

Business logic coded as software had been automating and revolutionising the world around us, unless ...

A hacker stole \$31M of Ether — how it

it means

COINTELEGRAPH

QUARTZ

UNDER SIEGE

Ethereum Classic is under

M

Chain.Cloud company blog

Parity Multisig Hacked. Again

WIRED

SUBSCRIBE

FINLEY BUSINESS 06.18.16 04:30 AM

50 MILLION HACK JUST SHOWED  
IT WAS ALL TOO HUMAN

CRYPTOSLATE

ACADEMIA ADOPTION ANALYSIS CRYPTO EXCHANGES CULTURE HACKS ICOS INTERVIEW MINING OPINION

coindesk



Smart Contracts will radically change the world, but what tends to get lost in the noise is that **coding a smart contract is extremely challenging**

*“One bad programmer can easily create two new jobs a year”*

~David Parnas

About

34,200

Ethereum Smart Contracts are vulnerable to hacking due to poor coding that contains bugs

**1 in 20 Smart Contracts**

A walk down the  
memory lane -  
Solidity  
Vulnerabilities

*“We are  
products of our  
past, but we  
don't have  
to be prisoners  
of it.”*

*~Rick Warren*

# 1. Arithmetic Overflows/ Underflows



**PoWHC**

# Vulnerability

Can occur when a fixed size variable is required to store a number that is outside the range of the variable's type.

Ex- `uint8 a = 0;`  
`a=a+257; // a=1`

```
mapping(address => uint) public lockTime;

function increaseLockTime(uint _secondsToIncrease) public {
    lockTime[msg.sender] += _secondsToIncrease;
}

function withdraw() public {
    require(balances[msg.sender] > 0);
    require(now > lockTime[msg.sender]);
    msg.sender.transfer(balances[msg.sender]);
    balances[msg.sender] = 0;
}
```

## ***PoWHC***

Ponzi scheme smart contract called **Proof of Weak Hands Coin** by 4chan  
**866 ether** was liberated due to the vulnerability

## ***Preventive Techniques***

Use **OpenZeppelin's SafeMath** Library which has functions to replace math operators like addition, subtraction and multiplication

## 2. Default Visibilities



### **Parity Wallet First Hack**

# Vulnerability

The default visibility specifier for smart contracts are **'public'**.

The issue comes when developers mistakenly **ignore visibility specifiers** on functions which should be private (or only callable within the contract itself)

```
function withdrawWinnings() {
    // Winner if the last 8 hex characters of the address are 0.
    require(uint32(msg.sender) == 0);
    _sendWinnings();
}

function _sendWinnings() {
    msg.sender.transfer(this.balance);
}
```

## *Parity First Hack*

Functions were accidentally left public, an attacker was able to call these functions, **resetting the ownership** to the attacker.

About **\$31M worth of Ether** was stolen from primarily three wallets



## *Preventive Techniques*

Always **specify the visibility** of all functions.

Solidity shows **warnings** for functions with no explicit visibility set



Lets create

**Dave Token**

**Buy Token**

**Transfer Token**

**Check Balance**



1 Ether = 1 DaveToken

```
pragma solidity ^0.5.2;
```

```
contract DaveToken {  
    mapping(address => uint) balances;
```

```
    function buyToken() payable public {  
        balances[msg.sender] += msg.value / 1 ether;  
    }
```

```
    function sendToken(address to, uint amount) public {  
        require(balances[msg.sender] - amount >= 0);  
        balances[msg.sender] -= amount;  
        balances[to] += amount;  
    }
```

```
    function balanceOf(address acc) public view returns (uint) {  
        return balances[acc];  
    }
```

```
}
```

# Challenge 1

<http://tiny.cc/souradeep>



# 3. DAO Hack



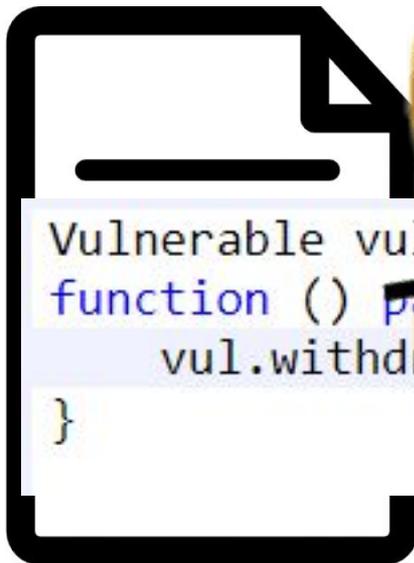
## Re-entrancy

# Vulnerability

Car

Acc  
the

The



```
Vulnerable vul (to an unk  
function () pa (vuladd)  
vul.withd  
}
```

```
mapping (
```

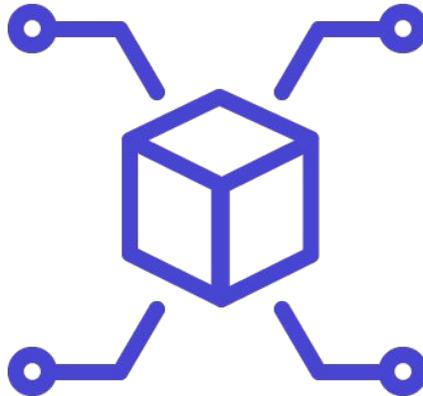
```
function
```

```
uint amountToWithdraw = userBalance  
require(msg.sender.call.value(amountToWithdraw));  
// At this point, the caller's code is executed, and can call withdrawBalance again  
userBalances[msg.sender] = 0;
```

```
}
```

On June 17th 2016, The DAO was hacked and **3.6 million Ether (\$50 Million)** were stolen using the reentrancy attack.

Ethereum Foundation issued a critical update to rollback the hack. This resulted in Ethereum being **forked into Ethereum Classic** and Ethereum.



# Preventive Techniques

Use **transfer()** function instead of **call.value()** for sending ethers  
- only sends **2300 gas** - not enough for re-entering

Ensure all logic that changes **state variables** happen before ether is sent out of contract

Adding **Mutex** as a state variable to lock the contract

## 4. Delegatecall



### **Parity Wallet Second Hack**

# Vulnerability

Delegatecall **overrides** the second contract's storage with the storage of the calling contract.

Can lead to changing the owner of the first contract by changing the **first contracts storage**.

```
function pwn() public {
    owner = msg.sender; // Save msg.sender to slot 0
}

function() public {
    if(delegate.delegatecall(msg.data)) {
        this;
    }
}
```

## ***Parity Second Hack***

**Library contract** for multisig wallet had this vulnerability

User could get access to library contract and could call the **kill()**  
**function**

And the contract suicided

## ***Preventive Techniques***

Use **'library'** keyword for implementing library contracts

Build state-less libraries so that contracts are **not self destructible**



Lets create an  
**Ether Pool!**

- Players will have to contribute to smart contract (Pool)
- The player with most contributions over time is chosen as the Leader
- The Leader has control of all the funds

**Contribute**

**Withdraw All**



Only < 0.001 Eth

# Challenge - 2

```
pragma solidity ^0.4.18;
```

```
import 'zeppelin-solidity/contracts/ownership/Ownable.sol';
```

```
contract DaveGame is Ownable{
```

```
    mapping(address => uint) public contributions;  
    constructor() public {  
        contributions[msg.sender] = 1000 * (1 ether);  
    }
```

```
    //the person who has most contributions becomes the owner
```

```
    function contribute() public payable {  
        require(msg.value < 0.001 ether);  
        contributions[msg.sender] += msg.value;  
        if(contributions[msg.sender] > contributions[owner]) {  
            owner = msg.sender;  
        }  
    }
```

```
    //withdraw contracts balance
```

```
    function withdraw() public onlyOwner {  
        owner.transfer(this.balance);  
    }  
    //fallback function  
    function() payable public {  
        require(msgs.value > 0 && contributions[msg.sender] > 0);  
        owner = msg.sender;  
    }
```

```
// fallback function
function() payable public {
    require(msg.value > 0 && contributions[msg.sender] > 0);
    owner = msg.sender;
}
```

Two Conditions :

- 1) msg.value>0
- 2) senders contribution should be greater than zero



## 5. Denial of Service (DoS)



**GovernMental**

# Vulnerability

Making the contract **inoperable** for some time or permanently

Attacker can **prevent other transactions** from being included by placing computationally intensive transactions with a high enough gas price

```
function invest() public payable {
    investors.push(msg.sender);
    investorTokens.push(msg.value * 5); // 5 times the wei sent
}

function distribute() public {
    require(msg.sender == owner); // only owner
    for(uint i = 0; i < investors.length; i++) {
        // here transferToken(to,amount) transfers "amount" of tokens to the address "to"
        transferToken(investors[i], investorTokens[i]);
    }
}
```

## ***Governmental Hack***

Contract required the deletion of a large mapping in order to withdraw the ether. The deletion of this mapping had a **gas cost that exceeded** the block gas limit at the time, and thus was not possible to withdraw the 1100 ether. The ether was finally obtained with a transaction that used **2.5M gas**

## ***Preventive Techniques***

Avoid looping that can be **artificially manipulated** by external users

Favour Pull over Push Payments

## 6. Unchecked CALL Return Values



**Etherpot**

# Vulnerability

The state of the contract can have **inconsistencies** when the send() function fails and is used without checking the response

**Doesn't revert** the state when send() fails

```
function withdraw(uint256 _amount) public {
    require(balances[msg.sender] >= _amount);
    balances[msg.sender] -= _amount;
    etherLeft -= _amount;
    msg.sender.send(_amount);
}
```

## ***Etherpot contract***

Smart contract lottery, send function was **unchecked**.

Could indicate the user has been sent funds even when the **send function fails**

Primary downfall due to incorrect use of blockhashes

## ***Preventive Techniques***

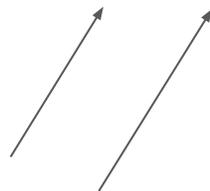
Use transfer(), which reverts the state if the external transaction fails

Favour Pull over Push Payments





To create a  
**wallet**



**Store Money**

**Withdraw**

```
pragma solidity ^0.5.2;
```

```
contract DaveWallet {  
    Wallet[] public wallets;  
  
    struct Wallet {  
        address owner;  
        uint amount;  
    }  
}
```

```
function addMoney() public payable {  
    wallets.push(Wallet({  
        owner: msg.sender,  
        amount: msg.value  
    }));  
}
```

```
function withdraw() public {  
    for (uint i; i<wallets.length; i++) {  
        if (wallets[i].owner==msg.sender && wallets[i].amount!=0) {  
            msg.sender.transfer(wallets[i].amount);  
            wallets[i].amount=0;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

# Challenge 3

```
function withdraw() public {
    for (uint i; i<wallets.length; i++) {
        if (wallets[i].owner==msg.sender && wallets[i].amount!=0) {
            msg.sender.transfer(wallets[i].amount);
            wallets[i].amount=0;
        }
    }
}
```

The **length of the array** can be increased by **dummy transactions**

**When the Block gas limit exceeds withdraw will not be possible**

# 7. Time manipulation



**GovernMental**

# Vulnerability

**block.timestamp** or **now** can be manipulated by miners if they have some incentive to do so.

The timestamp **should not be** a base for the contract logic

```
function play() public {  
    require(now > 1521763200 && neverPlayed == true);  
    neverPlayed = false;  
    msg.sender.transfer(1500 ether);  
}
```

## ***GovernMental***

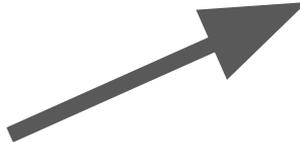
Also prone to the timestamp vulnerability

Contract **paid out** to player that joined last. **Miners** could manipulate the time slightly to break the game.

## ***Preventive Techniques***

Block.timestamp **should not be** used for generating random numbers

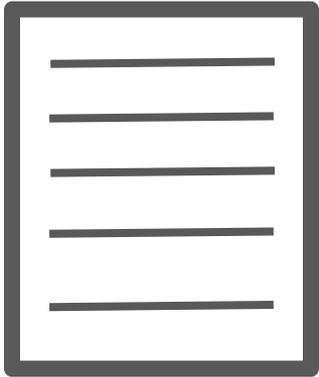
**Block.number** could be used instead for time-sensitive logic indirectly



Dog Charity



Contract



# Challenge 4

```
pragma solidity ^0.5.2;

contract Shallow {

    address owner;
    mapping (address => uint) deposits;
    //constructor
    function Shallow() public payable {
        owner = msg.sender;
        deposits[owner] = msg.value;
    }
    //deposit to contract
    function donate() public payable {
        deposits[msg.sender] += msg.value;
    }
    //Owner can withdraw all the donations
    function withdrawDonations() public {
        require(msg.sender == owner);
        msg.sender.transfer(address(this).balance);
    }
}
```

```
contract Shallow {  
  
    address owner;  
    mapping (address => ui  
  
    //constructor  
    function Shallow() pub  
        owner = msg.sender  
        deposits[owner] = msg  
}
```



**This actually happened!**

Dynamic Pyramid changed its name somehow didn't rename the constructor

## ***References***

- OpenZeppelin
- ConsenSys
- Loom Network
- Dr Adrian Manning

# Best Practices and Design Patterns

*“Every great  
design begins  
with an even  
better story”*

*~Lorinda Mamo*

# Circuit Breakers

Circuit Breakers are design patterns that allow contract functionality to be stopped. **Freezing the contract** would be beneficial for reducing harm before a fix can be implemented.

For example, if a bug has been found, you may stop users from depositing while allowing people to withdraw

```
contract CircuitBreaker {
  bool public stopped = false;
  modifier stopInEmergency { require(!stopped); _; }
  modifier onlyInEmergency { require(stopped); _; }
  function deposit() stopInEmergency public { ... }
  function withdraw() onlyInEmergency public { ... }
}
```

# Speed Bump

Speed Bumps are useful when malicious events occur as it gives the owner time to act accordingly.

DAO had a speed bump, but no recovery options was present. Hence, speed bumps should be used with circuit breakers.

```
contract CircuitBreaker {
    bool public stopped = false;
    modifier stopInEmergency { require(!stopped); _; }
    modifier onlyInEmergency { require(stopped); _; }
    function deposit() stopInEmergency public { ... }
    function withdraw() onlyInEmergency public { ... }
}
```

# ***Fail Early Fail Loud***

Check for errors in the beginning of the function

```
//Bad code, do not emulate
```

```
function silentFailIfZero(uint num) public view returns (uint){  
    if(num != 0){  
        return num;  
    }  
}
```

```
function throwErrorIfZero(uint num) public view returns (uint){  
    require(num != 0);  
    return num;  
}
```

## ***require(), assert(), Or revert() ?***

```
if(msg.sender != owner) { throw; }
```

Can be written as -

- `if(msg.sender != owner) { revert(); }`
- `assert(msg.sender == owner);`
- `require(msg.sender == owner);`

## ***Difference between assert() and require()***

assert() uses all of the gas sent with the transaction

require() return the gas if an error is encountered

Then, why should i use assert() ?

It should be considered a normal and healthy occurrence for a require() statement to fail.



When an assert() statement fails, something very wrong and unexpected has happened, and you need to fix your code.



# ***revert()***

1. Allows to return a value or an error message

```
revert('Something bad happened');
```

```
require(condition, 'Something bad happened');
```

2. Refund the remaining gas to the caller

When a contract throws it uses up any remaining gas.

This can result in a very generous donation to miners, and often ends up costing users a lot of money.

# Checks-Effects-Interaction Pattern

1. Functions should start with checks in the beginning (if any)  
    require(), assert(), revert()
2. Changes to state variables or In-contract execution
3. Interaction/ Calling functions of other contracts

```
function auctionEnd() public {  
  
    // 1. Checks  
    require(now >= auctionEnd);  
    require(!ended);  
  
    // 2. Effects  
    ended = true;  
  
    // 3. Interaction  
    beneficiary.transfer(highestBid);  
}
```

# Auditing Tools

*“Be sure you  
put your  
feet in the right  
place, then  
stand firm”*

*~Abraham Lincoln*

# ***SmartCheck***

Online Static Code analyzer

# ***Solgraph***

Generates a DOT graph that visualizes function control flow of a Solidity contract and highlights potential security vulnerabilities

# ***Mythril***

Reversing and bug hunting framework for Ethereum

# ***Oyente***

Static analysis tool for finding common vulnerabilities

# ***Surya***

Visual outputs and information on contract structure

# ***Securify***

Online Audit tool for static analysis

## ***OpenZeppelin Libraries***

OpenZeppelin is a framework of re-usable smart contracts for Ethereum

Tested, secure smart contract libraries, reduces the risk of vulnerabilities

Includes libraries for ERC-20, ERC-721, SafeMath etc

## ***Ethereum Package Manager (EthPM)***

EthPM is essentially npm for Ethereum contracts

Several secure smart contract packages

Better to use pre-written verified and secure code.



Zeppelin Solutions

# Vyper- The secure smart contract language



*“Every sunset  
brings the  
promise of a  
new dawn”*

*~Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Vyper is a Python 3 derived programming language for Ethereum Smart contracts, and an alternative to Solidity.

## Principles

**Security:** It should be possible and natural to build secure smart-contracts in Vyper.

**Language and compiler simplicity:** The language and the compiler implementation should strive to be simple.

**Auditability:** Vyper code should be maximally human-readable. Simplicity for the reader is more important than simplicity for the writer.

# Goals

**Bounds and overflow checking**

**Support for signed integers and decimal fixed point numbers**

**Strong typing:** support for units (e.g. timestamp, timedelta, seconds, wei, wei per second, meters per second squared).

**Small and understandable compiler code**

Vyper was not created to replace Solidity, it was created for having a secure smart contracting solution.

There are certain things which Vyper cannot do, that Solidity can!

# Vyper vs Solidity

Vyper doesn't have-

- Modifiers
- Inheritance
- Inline assembly
- Function overloading
- Recursive calling
- Infinite-length types

Get started with Vyper at **<https://vyper.online/>**

# Show time

Lets learn to write a smart contract in Vyper!



# Devcon5 On-Chain Ticket Sale

*Posted by Devcon Team on August 22, 2019*

## Provably Fair Sale

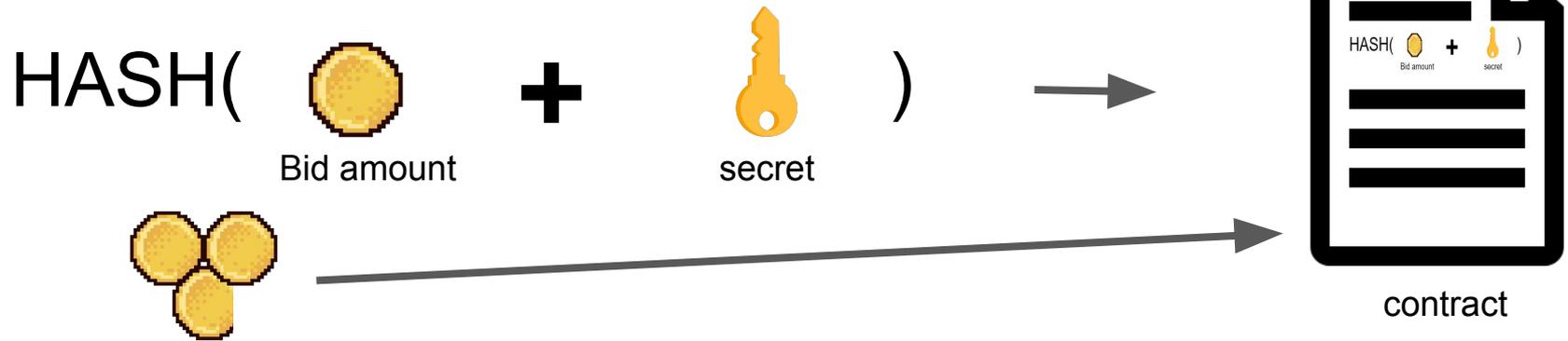
Raffle: August 22-24

## Ticket Auction

Bidding: Aug. 27-29 (Reveal: Aug. 30 - Sep. 2)

- **50 Tickets available for auction**
- **Your Bid is secret until everyone finishes bidding**
- **Top 50 bids win tickets**

## 1st Phase - Bid



## 2nd Phase - Reveal

After Bidding is over -->



## ***3rd Phase - Withdraw/ Refund***

Excess money for Masking, refunded

### **Winners :**

Refund extra money after deducting bid amount

### **Non-Winners :**

Refund the whole amount



Thanks!



Contact Me:

**souradeep.tech**

dsouradeep2@gmail.com

 : souradeep-das

 : souradeep-das

 : thedeepdas

YOU FOUND A STAR

Speaker Track



dropparty.tech

