Wagner Spring 2014

CS 161 Computer Security

Homework 0

Due: Friday, January 31st, at 11:59pm

Instructions. Get an EECS instructional class account from your GSI if you don't have one already. Log in. When you log in for the first time, answer the questions about your name, student ID number, etc.

Run the command register and answer the questions it asks you. (This only needs to be done once; if you've done it before, it will do nothing.) Create an empty directory, and create files q1.txt, q2.txt, q3.txt, and (optionally) q4.txt in that directory following the instructions below. To submit your homework solution, type submit hw0 from that directory. If you realize you missed anything, you can always submit again up until the submission deadline.

This homework is due **Friday**, **January 31st**, **at 11:59pm**. It *must* be submitted electronically (and not in the drop box).

Problem 1 Policy (30 points)

The aim of this exercise is to ensure that you read the course policies, as well as to make sure that you are registered in the class and have a working EECS instructional class account.

Open the course website http://www-inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs161/sp14/.

Append ?lastname=<name>&userid=cs161-xy to the URL in the address bar, where <name> is your last name (as in campus records) and cs161-xy is your class ID (with xy replaced with the two final characters of your class account). (If you have spaces or apostrophes in your last name, go ahead and type them in: they should not cause any problems.) Thus, the URL you will open is:

http://www-inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs161/sp14/?lastname=<name>&userid=cs161-xy

Please read and understand the course policies on that page. If you have any questions, please ask for clarification on Piazza.

To receive credit for having read the policies, create a text file called q1.txt and put in it the string "I understand the course policies."

Problem 2 Policy

(30 points)

You're working on a course project. Your code isn't working, and you can't figure out why not. Is it OK to show another student (who is not your project partner) your draft code and ask them if they have any idea why your code is broken or any suggestions for how to debug it?

Read the course policies carefully. Based on them, determine the answer to this question.

Create a text file called q2.txt and put your answer to this question in it. A one-word answer is fine: we do not need a detailed explanation (though you may provide an explanation if you choose).

Problem 3 Hidden Password

(40 points)

We have hidden a password on the web page you visited in Question 1. If you entered the URL correctly as above (substituting your last name and userid), you'll be able to access the password—if you know the trick.

What's the trick? You're going to have to figure that out on your own. But we'll help you out: we will share a hint on Piazza. Make sure you have set up your Piazza account (using the same name on Piazza as the University has for you in its records), which you can do by following the link provided on the course web page. Then, go look for the question on Piazza where we disclose the hint.

Once you have figured out the password, create a text file called q3.txt and put a single line in it whose contents are just the password itself. In accordance with the class policies on doing work individually, do not share the password with anyone.

Problem 4 Feedback

(0 points)

Optionally, feel free to include feedback. What's the single thing we could do to make the class better? Or, what did you find most difficult or confusing from lectures or the rest of class, and what would you like to see explained better? If you have feedback, create a text file called q4.txt with your comments.