

PRACTICAL SECURITY IN COMPUTER GAMES

by `gynvael.coldwind//vx`
Confidence 2.0, Warsaw 2009



Hispacec

<http://hispacec.com>

<http://virustotal.com>

Gynvael Coldwind

Vexillum

<http://vexillum.org>



**Is there anyone from the
game industry here with us
?**

**If so, please, do not throw
heavy objects in my
direction**

No, light objects are not OK

**Why should we care about
some stupid games?**



Why should we care about some stupid games?

Games are normal apps

Why should we care about some stupid games?

Games are normal apps



Multi player (network) games are normal network apps

Game vs Web Browser



Game vs Web Browser

✓ **Connects to foreign servers**

- **game management server**
- **game hosting servers**
- **other game peers**
- **resource servers**

Game vs Web Browser

- ✓ Connects to foreign servers
- ✓ Downloads foreign content
- GUI layouts
- animated ads
- various scripts
- maps, images, sfx, savegames

Game vs Web Browser

- ✓ **Connects to foreign servers**
- ✓ **Downloads foreign content**
- ✓ **Supports many resource types**

Game vs Web Browser

- ✓ **Connects to foreign servers**
- ✓ **Downloads foreign content**
- ✓ **Supports many resource types**
- ✓ **Executes foreign scripts**

Game vs Web Browser

- ✓ **Connects to foreign servers**
- ✓ **Downloads foreign content**
- ✓ **Supports many resource types**
- ✓ **Executes foreign scripts**
- ✓ **Uses various protocols**

Why should we care about some stupid games?

Games are normal apps



Multi player (network) games are normal network apps

Why should we care about some stupid games?

Games are normal apps



Multi player (network) games are normal network apps



Most (every?) network apps have vulnerabilities

Over 30 vulnerabilities* in network apps in just one week (10-16 Nov)

*SecurityFocus.com

Why should we care about some stupid games?

Games are normal apps



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Most (every?) network apps have vulnerabilities



Vulnerabilities present a threat

What threat?

Botmasters do not exploit games...

What threat?

Botmasters do not exploit games... yet

What threat?

Two ways to become a zombie!

- drive-by download
- scan and exploit

What threat?

Three ways to become a zombie!

- drive-by download
 - scan and exploit
- user downloads game-related malware
(PPKK)

**Who plays these games
anyway?**



Who plays these games anyway?

kids

Who plays these games anyway?

kids

your employees at home

Who plays these games anyway?

kids

your employees at home

your employees at work

Who plays these games anyway?

kids

your employees at home

your employees at work

your clients

Who plays these games anyway?

kids

your employees at home

your employees at work

your clients

your employer

Who plays these games anyway?

kids

your employees at home

your employees at work

your clients

your employer

your family

Who plays these games anyway?

kids

your employees at home

your employees at work

your clients

your employer

your family

Who plays these games anyway?

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Know any of these people?

Ever got a pendrive from them?

Ever executed an app they gave you?

Some random stats

PC game sales: \$1.1 billion
Console game sales: \$6.2 billion
(in USA in 2004)

**There are over 20,000 Internet cafes in
South Korea**

**World of Warcraft had over 11.5 million
subscriptions (December 2008)**

Some random stats

Games are becoming more and more popular

E-sport and progaming

WCG 2009

GF: 600 players in Chengdu, China

**Poland WCG 2009 eliminations:
27,000 fans watching online**

**Do game makers care
about security?**





**Do game makers care
about security?**

YES THEY DO!

Do game makers care about security?

YES THEY DO!

- anti-cracking (anti-piracy) security

**reverse engineering, cracking/keygens,
making copies of DVD/CD disk**

Do game makers care about security?

YES THEY DO!

- **anti-cracking (anti-piracy) security**
- **anti-cheating security**

wallhacks, maphacks, bots

Do game makers care about security?

YES THEY DO!

- anti-cracking (anti-piracy) security
 - anti-cheating security
 - game-logic security

10 iron + 1 smiths hammer

->

+1 sword, - 10 iron

Do game makers care about security?

What about “standard” anti-vulnerability stuff ?

Do game makers care about security?

What about "standard" anti-vulnerability stuff ?

Yes... ehm.. maybe?

Well, it's bad because frame-rate is low because of it. And it takes coders too much time. And... who exploits games anyway?

A brief walk through popular multiplayer games

Let's see how the game security looks like...

Some bugtraq, some research...

Research == let's look for an exception

$$P = \text{MIN}\left(\frac{\text{Number of DoS found}}{\text{Time spent testing (h)}}, 0.9\right)$$

A brief walk through popular multiplayer games

Tools:

SilkProxy
(simple scriptable proxy)

ExcpHook
(kernel-level exception monitor)

GDB, strace

Doom 2 (1994)

by id Software



Doom 2 (1994)

by id Software

"Shareware registrations turned in \$100,000 per day immediately after the release

Doom II's initial release was 600,000 copies. The supply intended to last one quarter, but only lasted one month."

<http://doom.wikia.com/wiki/Sales>

Doom 2 (1994) by id Software

Test setup:



black sheep wall
and kill packet

StarCraft (1998) by Blizzard Entertainment



StarCraft (1998)

by Blizzard Entertainment

Over 9,000,000 copies sold (over 4,000,000 in South Korea).

Who knows how many downloaded...

Many "master servers" (called "battle.net servers"). For example, on ICCUP there are over 60,000 players registered.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/ICCUP>

StarCraft (1998)

by Blizzard Entertainment

**One of few pro gaming games
(players earn up to 200,000\$ per year)**

Very popular, even after 11 years

StarCraft (1998)

by Blizzard Entertainment

“Have Stim? No, Shield!”

**Buffer overflow in map (UMS) loader found
by Deathknight 4 years go.**

**What was the community response
for a remote buffer overflow?**

StarCraft (1998)

by Blizzard Entertainment

“Have Stim? No, Shield!”

**Buffer overflow in map (UMS) loader found
by Deathknight 4 years go.**

“A new glitch found by Deathknight, a buffer overflow, has opened new limitless possibilities for the UMS map making with Starforge, making Starcraft map editing far superior to even Warcraft3 editing.”

<http://sc.gosugamers.net>

StarCraft (1998)

by Blizzard Entertainment

“Have Stim? No, Shield!”

**Buffer overflow in map (UMS) loader found
by Deathknight 4 years go.**

It was patched by version 1.13b

***“The UMS community did lose a useful tool, as
the bug permitted them some nifty legitimate
UMS functionality.”***

<http://sc.gosugamers.net>

StarCraft (1998)

by Blizzard Entertainment

SecurityFocus:

* BID=25478, Blizzard Entertainment StarCraft Brood War Minimap Preview Remote Denial of Service Vulnerability, Gynvael Coldwind

Brief testing results:

black sheep wall
black sheep wall

Unreal Tournament (1999) by Epic Games



Unreal Tournament (1999)

by Epic Games

Based on Unreal engine.

**Up to date the master server is online, and
there are still around a 100 populated
game server.**

Unreal Tournament (1999) by Epic Games

SecurityFocus:

BID=5148, Server DoS Amplifier Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma

**BID=9840, Server Engine Remote Format String Vulnerability,
Luigi Auriemma**

BID=6770, Memory Consumption DoS, Luigi Auriemma

BID=6775, URL Directory Traversal Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma

BID=10670, Memory Corruption Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma

BID=6771, Multiple Players DoS Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma

BID=6773, Packet Amplification DoS Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma

Brief testing results:

UnrealTournamen...	5024	50	1 255 044 K
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Quake 3 (1999) by id Software



Source: random site found via google images

Quake 3 (1999)

by id Software

Over 4,000,000 copies sold

**Over 27,000 player online
(checked few days ago)**

Release as open source

Many games based on this engine

Quake 3 (1999)

by id Software

SecurityFocus:

BID=3123, Possible Buffer Overflow Vulnerability, Coolest

BID=12976, Message Denial of Service Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma

BID=12534, Infostring Query Remote DoS Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma

BID=18777, Multiple Stack Buffer Overflow Vulnerabilities, RunningBon

BID=18685, Multiple Vulnerabilities, Luigi Auriemma

BID=18271, CL_ParseDownload Remote Buffer Overflow Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma (**huffman decompr in size vs out size**)

BID=17857, remapShader Command Remote Buffer Overflow Vulnerability, landser

Older quake

BID=90, Quake Server Backdoor Vulnerability, Mark Zielinski

Quake 3 (1999)

by id Software

Luigi Auriemma website:

Format string in the Doom 3 engine through PunkBuster, Luigi Auriemma

Files overwriting through Automatic Downloading (directory traversal)

Counter-Strike (1999) by Valve Software



Counter-Strike (1999) **by Valve Software**

Over 4,200,000 copies sold

**Over 1,000,000 players playing on
dedicated servers**

**Pro-gaming
(WCG 2009, Again takes the gold)**

Based on Half-life engine

Counter-Strike (1999)

by Valve Software

SecurityFocus:

BID=2476, Halflife Map Command Buffer Overflow Vulnerability, Stanley G. Bubrowski

BID=27159, Half-Life Counter-Strike Login Denial of Service Vulnerability, Maxim Suhanov

BID=26077, Counter-Strike 1.6 Multiple Remote Vulnerabilities, Nemesis (web based? code exec, xss, info disc.)

BID=8651, HLSW RCON Console Password Disclosure Weakness, Alexander 'xaitax' Hagenah, Adrian 'p0beL' Waloschyk (plaintext)

Urban Terror (2000)

by Silicon Ice / Frozen Sand



Urban Terror (2000)

by Silicon Ice / Frozen Sand

**Counter-strike-like mod for Quake 3
Running on ioQuake3 open source
compilation.**

Free to download and play

**Over 82,000 players online on dedicated
servers**

Urban Terror (2000)

by Silicon Ice / Frozen Sand

Brief testing results:

Black
Sheep
Wall

Unreal Tournament 2004 by Epic Games



Unreal Tournament 2004

by Epic Games

Over 11,000,000 copies sold

Over 13,000 players online

Unreal Tournament 2004

by Epic Games

SecurityFocus:

BID=30427, Unreal Tournament 2004 NULL Pointer Remote Denial of Service Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma

Brief test results:

black sheep wall

Battlefield 2142 (2006)

by DICE



Battlefield 2142 (2006)

by DICE

Over 24,000 players online

Previous version was sold in over 1,200,000 copies in 4 weeks, and over 2,200,000 in one year.

No info on this version :(

Battlefield 2142 (2006)

by DICE

SecurityFocus:

No bugs reported.

Previous game versions:

BID=11838, Multiple Games Remote DoS Vulnerability, Luigi
Auriemma

Luigi's home page:

Battlefield 2/2142 invisible Fake Players DoS 0.1.1

Brief test results:

black sheep wall

COD4 Modern Warfare (2007) by Infinity Ward

Secure the M1A2 Abrams tank stranded in the bog.
Objectives Updated.
Eliminate enemy force

CALL OF DUTY 4
MODERN WARFARE
Pre-Release Demo



Marine: Contact right! Contact right!

Marine: Ambush!

Marine: The enemy is in position! We have to move forward!

SE S SW W

67m

COD4 Modern Warfare (2007) by Infinity Ward

Over 13,000,000 copies sold

Over 10,000 players online

**And... nothing reported.
Simple tests also show nothing.**

COD4 Modern Warfare (2007) by Infinity Ward

Over 13,000,000 copies sold

Over 10,000 players online

And... nothing reported.

Simple tests also show nothing.

UPDATE: there are vulns after all!

COD4 Modern Warfare (2007) by Infinity Ward

SecurityFocus:
No bugs reported.

Luigi Auriemma website (server bugs):
"Attempted to overrun string in call to va()" DoS
(this is a feature, not a bug!)

"callvote map" Denial of Service (Buffer Overflow)

remote server crash due to a memcpy() with a
negative size value
(stats packet id 7)

Unreal Tournament 3 (2007) by Epic Games



Unreal Tournament 3 (2007) by Epic Games

State of art 3D engine

Over 1,000,000 copies in 3 months

Over 7000 players online

Unreal Tournament 3 (2007) by Epic Games

SecurityFocus:

BID=31272, Epic Games Unreal Tournament 3 UT3 WebAdmin
**Directory Traversal Vulnerability (due to a "fix" in the library,
INI vs ini)**, Luigi Auriemma

BID=30430, Unreal Tournament 3 Denial Of Service And Memory
Corruption Vulnerabilities, Luigi Auriemma

Brief test results:
some black sheep wall

My holiday photos



My holiday photos



My holiday photos



Crysis (2007) by Crytek



Crysis (2007)

by Crytek

State of art 3D engine

Over 1,000,000 copies in 3 months

About 1000 players online

Crysis (2007)

by Crytek

SecurityFocus:

BID=28039, **Crysis Username Format String Vulnerability**, LONGPOKE<ATOM> (`_vsnprintf(4096, message);` from disconnect packet error message from the user)

BID=29720, Crysis 'keyexchange' Packet Information Disclosure Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma

BID=29759, **Crysis HTTP/XML-RPC Service Remote Denial of Service Vulnerability**, Luigi Auriemma (yes, crysis has a small HTTP server, however it's activated manually, NULL ptr, packet over 4k)

BID=35735, Crysis HTTP/XML-RPC Service Access Violation Remote Denial of Service Vulnerability, Luigi Auriemma (no params in RPC)

Crysis (2007)

by Crytek

BID=29720, Crysis 'keyexchange' Packet Information Disclosure Vulnerability
Luigi Auriemma

[...] containing a "KeyExchange1 with no connection" error message followed by usually 16 lines of internal logs which include various real-time informations like IP addresses, nicknames and status of the clients (which so can be disconnected through spoofed disconnect packets), details about PunkBuster like paths, screenshots, bans, checks and GUIDs of the players, status of the Gamespy SDK (stats, failed cdkey checks, communication with the master server and so on) and other plus or less sensitive informations.

Modern Warfare 2 (2009) by Infinity Ward



Modern Warfare 2 (2009)

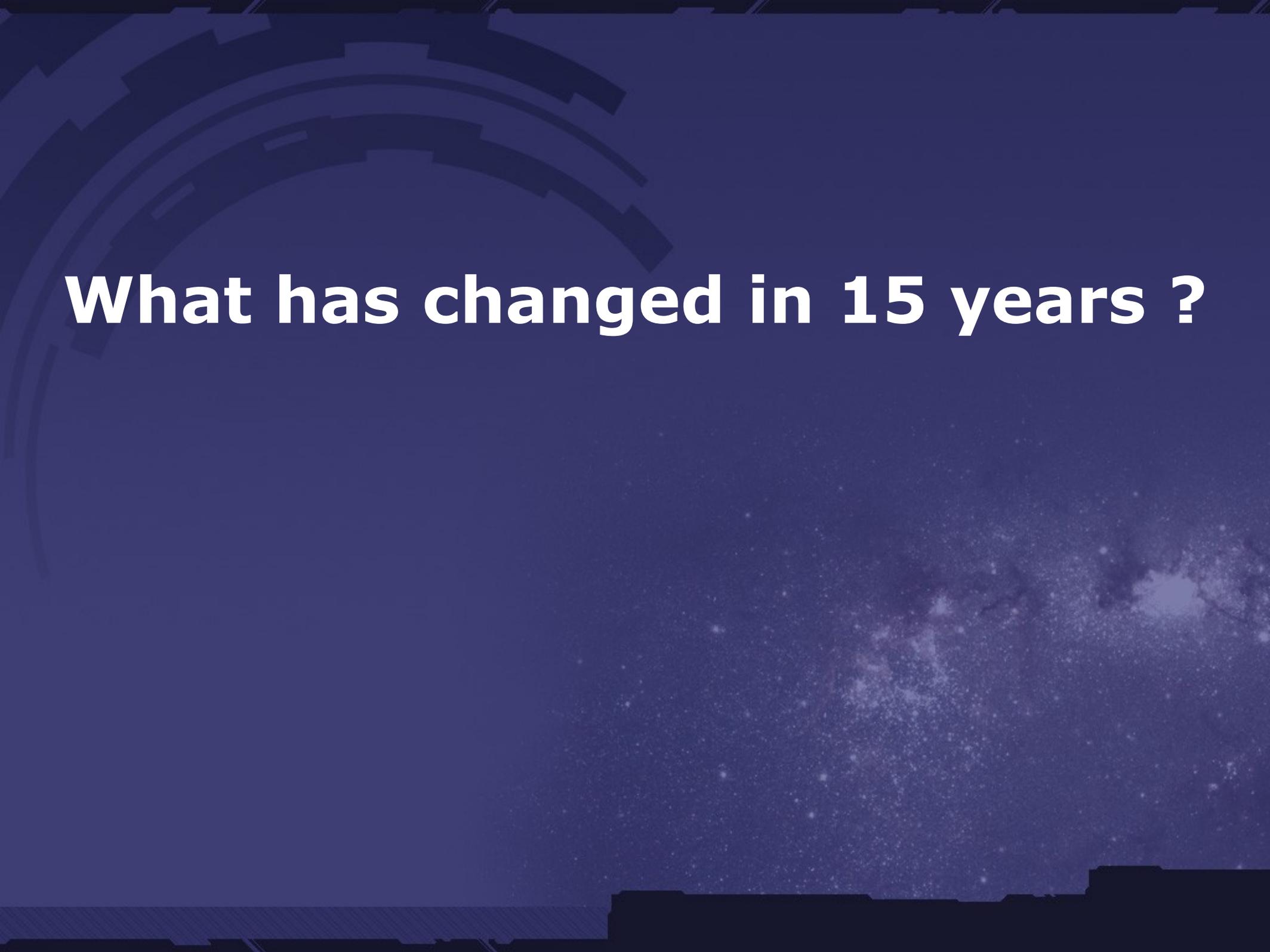
by Infinity Ward

Released 9 days ago

Sold 4,700,000 copies in 24 hours

No dedicated servers

No KNOWN vulnerabilities... yet



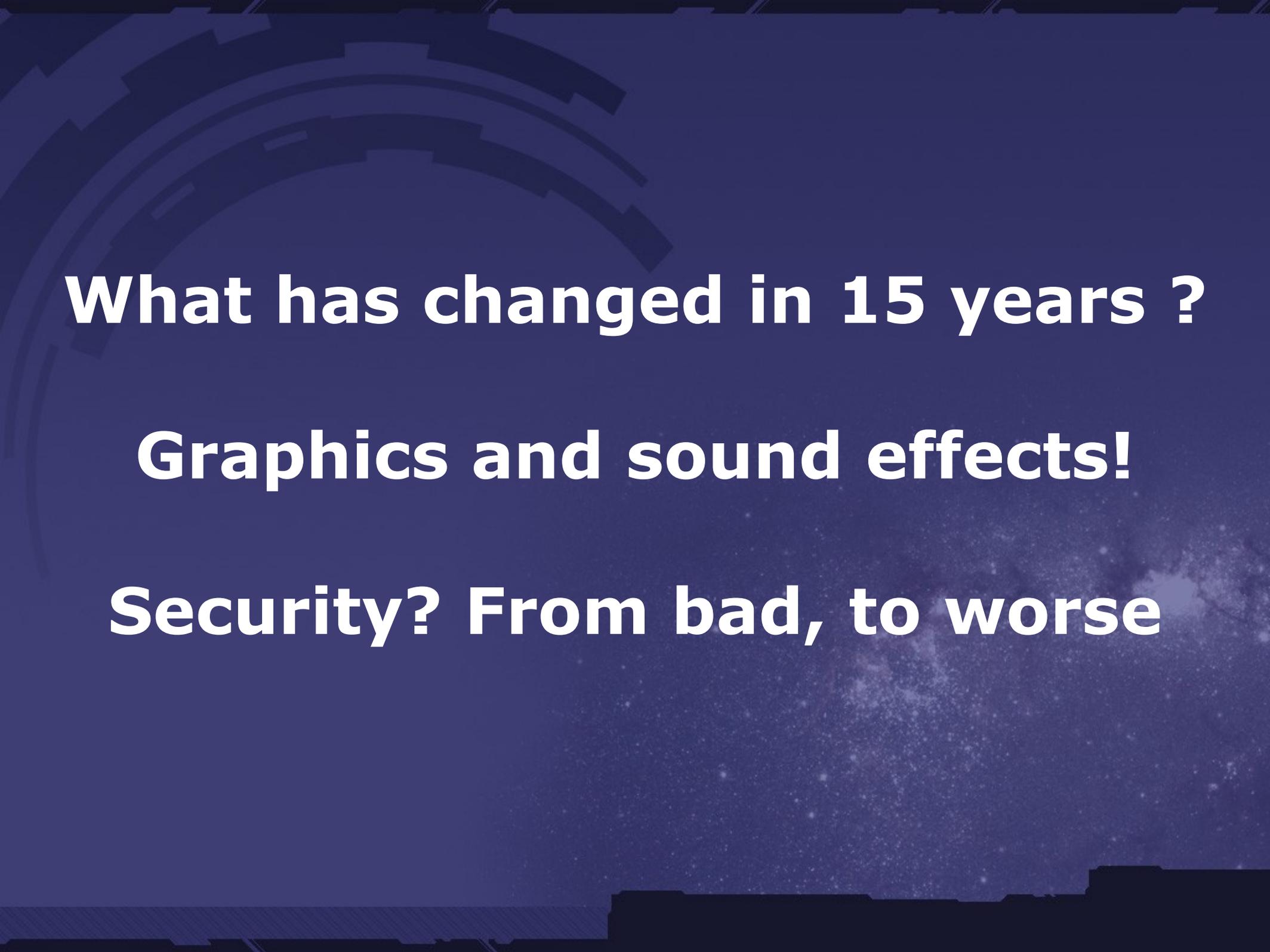
What has changed in 15 years ?



193
66

100





What has changed in 15 years ?

Graphics and sound effects!

Security? From bad, to worse

Best vector of attacks:

1. data file loaders:

- images**
- sounds**
- 3D models**
- maps**
- packfiles**
- save games**
- replays**

Best vector of attacks:

Standard web browser / VM language like stuff - look for things the programmer was too lazy (or he put too much trust in the docs) to check.

Best vector of attacks:

- 2. network protocols**
 - player to player**
 - player to master server**
 - player to game host**
 - player to resource host**
 - player to update host**

both UDP and TCP

Best vector of attacks:

3. scripting engines

- API
- VM

Best vector of attacks:

4. player

- custom_skins.zip.exe
- patch_1_45.exe
- wallhack.exe

**There are several million players
out there.**

**Wonder when the malware
(zombie/worm) community will
start to get interested in them
(in another way then stealing
tibia accounts ;p)**



Thank you for your attention

Questions?

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