



Exercise on Mitigating Common Vulnerabilities

Path Traversal

Mitigating Path Traversals

Exercise: Attempt to patch the handler to ensure that path traversals do not succeed

```
@GET
@Path("/lfi-string-concat")
public byte[] lfiStringConcat(@QueryParam("x") String filename) throws IOException {
    var path = DIR + filename;
    FileInputStream fis = new FileInputStream(path);
    return fis.readAllBytes();
}
```

Attempt #1

```
@GET
@Path("/lfi-string-concat")
public byte[] lfiStringConcat(@QueryParam("x") String filename) throws IOException {
    var path = DIR + filename;
    if (!path.startsWith(DIR)) {
        throw new RuntimeException(" ... ");
    }
    FileInputStream fis = new FileInputStream(path);
    return fis.readAllBytes();
}
```

Ineffective: The string "\$DIR/../../" still starts with \$DIR

Attempt #2

```
@GET
@Path("/lfi-string-concat")
public byte[] lfiStringConcat(@QueryParam("x") String filename) throws IOException {
    var path = DIR + filename;
    if (!new File(path).getAbsolutePath().startsWith(DIR)) {
        throw new RuntimeException(" ... ");
    }
    FileInputStream fis = new FileInputStream(path);
    return fis.readAllBytes();
}
```

Ineffective: The function `getAbsolutePath()` returns a string that still contains `../` and begins with `$DIR`.

Attempt #3

```
@GET
@Path("/lfi-string-concat")
public byte[] lfiStringConcat(@QueryParam("x") String filename) throws IOException {
    var path = DIR + filename;
    if (!new File(path).toPath().normalize().startsWith(DIR)) {
        throw new RuntimeException(" ... ");
    }
    FileInputStream fis = new FileInputStream(path);
    return fis.readAllBytes();
}
```

Works:

- [.normalize\(\)](#) expresses the path without ".."-elements.
- [.startsWith\(\)](#) is now executed on a *Path* object, which also ensures that "\$DIRxyz/file.txt" does not match.