

Common Pitfalls in Securing Web Applications

Iskandar Setiadi

HENNGE, K.K.

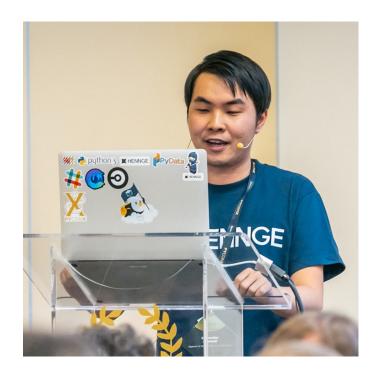




Introduction



Iskandar Setiadi

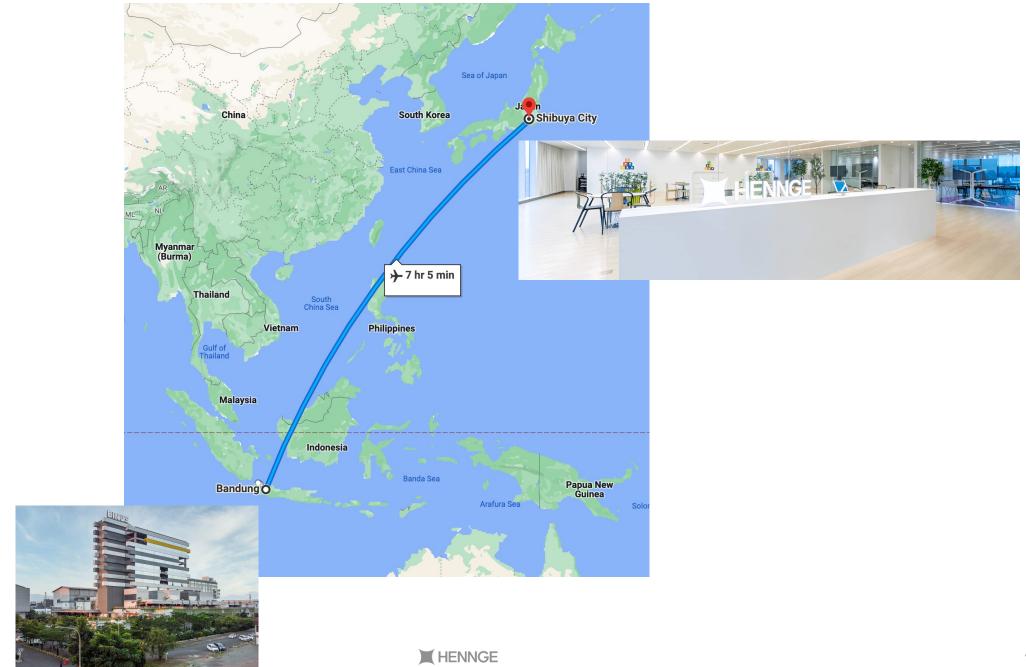




- From Jakarta, Indonesia
- Graduated from ITB in 2015 (IF' 11)
- HENNGE, K.K. based in Tokyo, Japan
- Software Engineer → Division Manager

```
    PyCon ID
        Speaker: 2017, 2019, 2023
```

Other PyCons (as Speaker)
 Japan (+ Reviewer, Sprint sponsor)
 Malaysia
 Hong Kong
 Italy



Why PyCons?





Security Incidents



Indonesia

In Indonesia, there's much less transparency on cyber security compared to other countries. Is it caused by system error? Or human error (e.g.: social engineering)?

- 31 million Indonesian passport data leakage by "Bjorka" (2022) → no post-mortem analysis
- 91 million users data leakage on Tokopedia platform (2020) → no post-mortem analysis
- 13 million users data leakage on Bukalapak platform (2015-2017) → no post-mortem analysis
- Security vulnerabilities at Gojek platform (2016) which leads to users data leakage because of unchecked Authorization header → Post-mortem: https://blog.gojek.io/security-vulnerabilities-lifecycle-at-gojek/

World

In the United States, transparency is prioritized and we can learn easily from past incidents.

- 5.4 million Twitter (X) account handles and phone numbers were leaked because of **design**flaw: Submitting an email address will return associated phone number tied to the account →

 https://privacy.twitter.com/en/blog/2022/an-issue-affecting-some-anonymous-accounts
- 140+ million personal data leakage on Equifax platform (2017) because of unpatched vulnerability CVE-2017-5638 on Apache Struts2 → https://investor.equifax.com/news-events/press-releases/detail/237/equifax-releases-details-on-cybersecurity-incident
- More lists: https://haveibeenpwned.com/PwnedWebsites

"Security is only as strong as the weakest link"



Weakest Link

From the examples on previous slides:

- Design flaw
- Unchecked authorization header
- Unpatched known vulnerability (CVE)



A lot of security incidents are caused by a pretty straightforward trick.

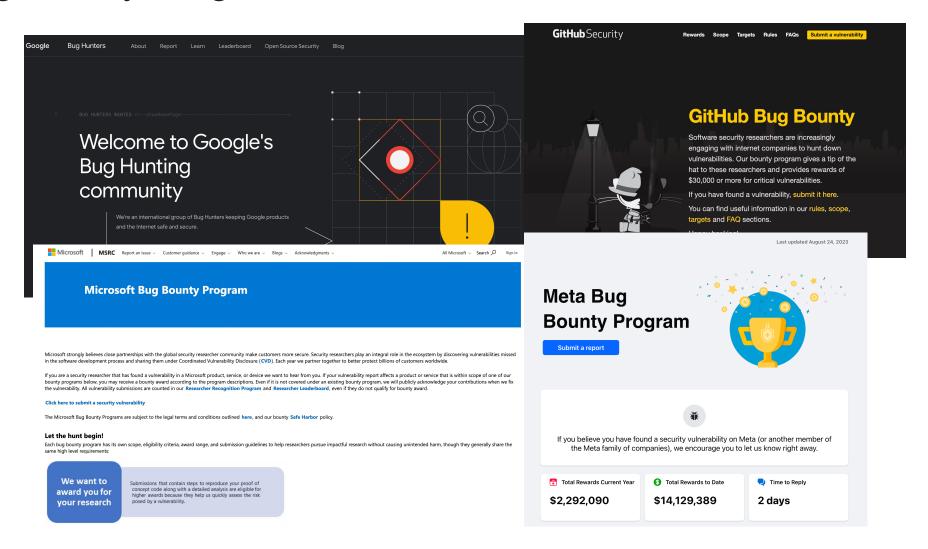
Is your system safe?

"No"

Does your system have...
monitoring for suspicious activities?
regular security checks?
real-time up-to-date dependencies?
attacker who tried to get in?

The absence of evidence is not the evidence of absence

Bug Bounty Programs







Common Pitfalls



Let's build a security wall!

```
def idp initiated(request):
    saml_client = app.saml_client
    authn_response = saml_client.parse_authn_request_response(
        request.form.get('SAMLResponse'),
        entity.BINDING_HTTP_POST)
    if authn_response is None:
        return text('Not authorized')
    authn_response.get_identity()
    user_info = authn_response.get_subject()
    username = user_info.text
    if request.form.get('RelayState'):
        response = redirect(request.form.get('RelayState'))
    else:
        response = redirect('/')
    response.cookies['user_id'] = username
    response.cookies['user_id']['httponly'] = True
   if not app.config_object.is_local:
        response.cookies['user_id']['secure'] = True
```

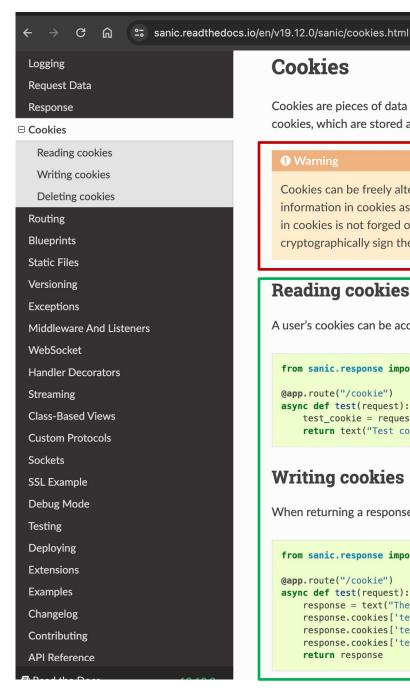
return response



Wait a minute...

I have followed the framework documentation to read & write cookies ✓
I have set "httponly" and "secure" attributes ✓
It should be safe, right?

Name	Value
user_id	iskandar.setiadi@hennge.com



Cookies

Cookies are pieces of data which persist inside a user's browser. Sanic can both read and write cookies, which are stored as key-value pairs.

• Warning

Cookies can be freely altered by the client. Therefore you cannot just store data such as login information in cookies as-is, as they can be freely altered by the client. To ensure data you store in cookies is not forged or tampered with by the client, use something like itsdangerous to cryptographically sign the data.

← But we rarely read this part

← We often immediately read this part

```
Reading cookies
A user's cookies can be accessed via the Request object's cookies dictionary.
  from sanic.response import text
  @app.route("/cookie")
  async def test(request):
     test_cookie = request.cookies.get('test')
     return text("Test cookie set to: {}".format(test_cookie))
Writing cookies
When returning a response, cookies can be set on the Response object.
  from sanic.response import text
  @app.route("/cookie")
  async def test(request):
     response = text("There's a cookie up in this response")
     response.cookies['test'] = 'It worked!'
     response.cookies['test']['domain'] = '.gotta-go-fast.com'
     response.cookies['test']['httponly'] = True
     return response
```

Fortunately, I store users' info in Redis. I'm safe!

Let's analyze...

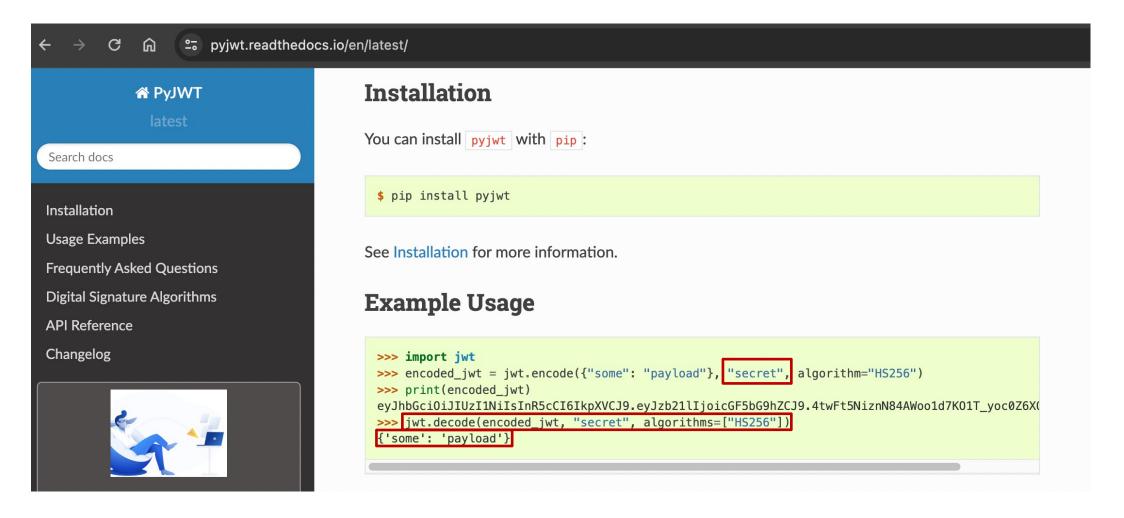
```
Name
                                                             Value
                                                             71eb9e22-3325-482b-aeba-b8ef477ea241
   verified email
async def get_valid_email_address_from_cookie(
    link: models.Link,
    cookie_id: Optional[str] = None,
) -> Optional[str]:
    if cookie_id is None:
        return None
    if link.valid_email_addresses is None:
        return None
    email_addresses = await reader_aredis_client.smembers(
        f"verified_emai({cookie_id}_{\ink.domain_id}"
    for email_address in email_addresses:
        email_address = email_address.decode()
        for pattern in link.valid_email_addresses:
            if check_valid_email(pattern, email_address):
                return email_address
    return None
```

No one can bruteforce UUID! Unless ...

```
Name
                                                              Value
   verified_email
async def get_valid_email_address_from_cookie(
    link: models.Link,
    cookie_id: Optional[str] = None,
) -> Optional[str]:
    if cookie_id is None:
        return None
    if link.valid_email_addresses is None:
        return None
    email_addresses = await reader_aredis_client.smembers(
        f"verified_emai {cookie_id}_{Dink.domain_id}"
    for email_address in email_addresses:
        email_address = email_address.decode()
        for pattern in link.valid_email_addresses:
            if check_valid_email(pattern, email_address):
                return email_address
    return None
```

Let's sanitize cookie value and store it as JWT. I'm safe!

Common Mistakes



Common Mistakes

- Weak signing key such as "secret"
 - For public Github projects, common issue is pushing this secret to the codebase
- JWT is decoded but signature is not validated (PyJWT enforces validation by default but there are a few libraries out there which don't follow proper standards)
- Payload contains private / sensitive information
- JWT is issued but other cookies are issued for simplifying implementations and these other cookies are not signed

Examples

Encoded PASTE A TOKEN HERE

eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.ey JlbWFpbCI6Imlza2FuZGFyLnNldGlhZGlAaGVub mdlLmNvbSIsInN5c3RlbV9zZWNyZXQiOiJzZWNy ZXQiLCJpYXQiOjE2OTk3OTM1NTV9.Xi3RZgvURL Bmef2DEs_p0U0toCU-lHlpah8gBrWcBYU

Decoded EDIT THE PAYLOAD AND SECRET

```
HEADER: ALGORITHM & TOKEN TYPE

{
    "alg": "HS256",
    "typ": "JWT"
}

PAYLOAD: DATA

{
    "email": "iskandar.setiadi@hennge.com",
    "system_secret": "secret",
    "iat": 1699/93555
}
```

Ν	ame	Value	
	user_id	iskandar.setiadi@hennge.com	
•	session	eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NilsInR5cCl6lkpXVCJ9.eyJlbWFpbCl6lmlz	

That's all, right?
I'm safe...?

So far, we only discussed about the session cookie (/ in local storage) issuance part.

What's about the process in-between?

SAML assertion signature is not validated

A single line is all that matters.

```
0/5
                                                                                            674
try:
                                                                                                            try:
   saml_response = response_factory(xmlstr,
                                                                                                                saml_response = response_factory(xmlstr,
                                                                                            675
                                    client.config,
                                                                                                                                                 client.config,
                                                                                            676
                                    service_url,
                                                                                            677
                                                                                                                                                 service_url,
                                    outstanding_queries_cache,
                                                                                            678
                                                                                                                                                 outstanding_queries_cache,
                                    timeslack=300,
                                                                                            679
                                                                                                                                                 timeslack=300,
                                    decode=False,
                                                                                            680
                                                                                                                                                 decode=False,
                                    asynchop=True,
                                                                                            681
                                                                                                                                                 asynchop=True,
                                                                                            682 +
                                                                                                                                                 want_assertions_signed=True,
                                                                                                                                                 allow_unsolicited=True)
                                    allow_unsolicited=True)
                                                                                            683
```

SAML is hard, don't reinvent the wheel when it's possible

Github

I reported this to Github security via Hackerone on 16th of January. It was acknowled 31st with GHE vers

Timeline

- 2017-01-10: Incorrect XML Signature validation vulnerability discovered and rer.
- 2017-01-10: Report acknowledged
- 2017-01-11: Report triaged
- 2017-01-12: Mitigation released with v. 2.8.6 and bounty awarded
- 2017-01-16: XSW vulnerability discovered and reported
- 2017-01-16: Report acknowledged and triaged
- 2017-01-27: Asked for update on mitigation/release
- 2017-01-31: Mitigation released with v. 2.8.7 and bounty awarded

Full SAML Implementation Assessment

Following the above reports I received a research grant in order to continue looking in extend that the agreed timeframe and my off-work availability allowed) security audi suggestions/recommendations about the implementation in order to minimize the p

Outro

I enjoyed finding and writing these so I hope if you made it through to the end, you did too. Working with the Github Security guys was a bliss and I can verify first hand that their approach towards their bounty program is as serious and as cool as they describe it on their recent blog post





On Breaking SAML: Be Whoever You Want to Be

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¹Horst Görtz Institute for IT-Security, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany ²Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG. Künzelsau-Gaisbach, Germany {Juraj.Somorovsky, Joerg.Schwenk, Marco.Kampmann, Meiko.Jensen}@rub.de, Andreas.Mayer@wuerth.com

Abstract

The Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) is a widely adopted language for making security statements about subjects. It is a critical component for the development of federated identity deployments and Single Sign-On scenarios. In order to protect integrity and authenticity of the exchanged SAML assertions, the XML Signature standard is applied. However, the signature verification algorithm is much more complex than in traditional signature formats like PKCS#7. The integrity protection can thus be successfully circumvented by application of different XML Signature specific attacks, under a weak adversarial model.

In this paper we describe an in-depth analysis of 14 major SAML frameworks and show that 11 of them, including Salesforce, Shibboleth, and IBM XS40, have critical XML Signature wrapping (XSW) vulnerabilities. Based on our analysis, we developed an automated penetration testing tool for XSW in SAML frameworks. Its feasibility was proven by additional discovery of a new XSW variant. We propose the first framework to analvze such attacks, which is based on the information flow between two components of the Relying Party. Surprisingly, this analysis also yields efficient and practical

1 Introduction

The Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) is an

dard, this shall be achieved by using XML Signatures, which should either cover the complete SAML assertion, or an XML document containing it (e.g. a SAML Authentication response).

However, roughly 80% of the SAML frameworks that we evaluated could be broken by circumventing integrity protection with novel XML Signature wrapping (XSW) attacks. This surprising result is mainly due to two facts:

- Complex Signing Algorithm: Previous digital signature data formats like PKCS#7 and OpenPGP compute a single hash of the whole document, and signatures are simply appended to the document. The XML Signature standard is much more complex. Especially, the position of the signature and the signed content is variable. Therefore, many permutations of the same XML document exist.
- Unspecified internal interface: Most SAMI frameworks treat the Relying Party (i.e. the Web Service or website consuming SAML assertions) as a single block, assuming a joint common state for all tasks. However, logically this block must be subdivided into the signature verification module (later called RPsig) which performs a cryptographic operation, and the SAML processing module (later called RPclaims) which processes the claims contained in the SAML assertion. Both modules have different views on the assertion, and they typically only exchange a Boolean value about the validity of the sig-

ig manually for a couple of the aforementioned companies reveals that

Paper that explains a lot of attack vectors

- telefonika
- Caltex Australia
- Georgia State University
- Japan Airlines
- Santa Clara County
- · City of Chicago, IL
- British Airways

others have their domains set as federated and thus were vulnerable. Additionally, some random checks against high profile targets showed organizations across various sectors use federated SSO with their Office365 subscriptions. Some prominent examples are in the list below

- Microsoft (well, duh)
- Vodafone
- British Telecommunications plc
- Verizon
- International Monetary Fund
- Royal Dutch Shell
- The Daily Mail
- Novartis Pharma AG
- Pfizer
- Toyota Motor North America Cisco
- IBM
- Intel
- Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC)
- KPMG
- Scania AB

retty easy to automate this and check against company domain name lists to identify potential targets, but we did not have the time nor the ion to do so.



aforementioned issue fell within the scope of the Online Service bug b anty program and as such has been rewarded and acknowledged by Microsoft on

- https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/dn469163
- https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/cc308589.aspx

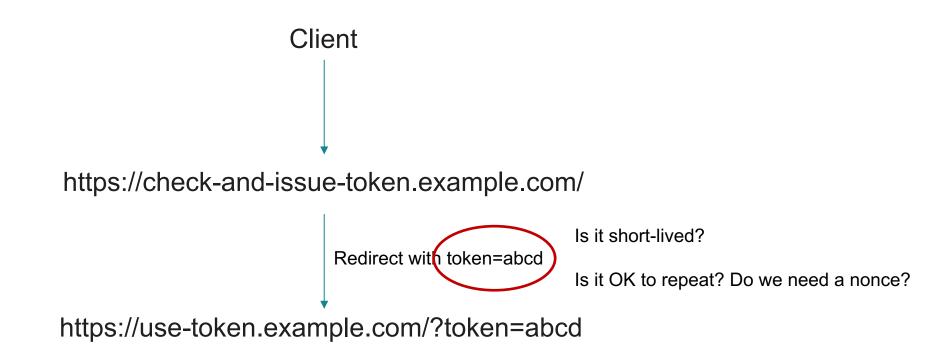
Microsoft



Developers: "Let's make our system as generic as possible by supporting A, B, C, etc!"



Replay attack in microservices



OK, I understand common pitfalls in AuthN/Z process. What's next?

Broken Access Control (Object Level Authorization) → #1 in OWASP

Validation is only implemented on the front-end component

```
function EmployeeExportCsvController($rootScope, $scope, $uibModal, $location) {
    if ($rootScope.user.admin == true) {
        // Code to export all users to CSV file here
    } else {
        $location.path('/');
    }
};
```

Broken Access Control (Object Level Authorization) → #1 in OWASP

- User role is not validated properly
 - User can access admin's route
 - Unauthenticated user can access endpoints that should be protected ->

Vulnerability #1 Ride History Data Leak You can get a list of all rides taken of any user using this API endpoint including the exact GPS co-ordinates. The Authorization token is present but is not being used for validation. https://api.gojekapi.com/gojek/v2/customer/v2/history/551925748 Work manish \$ curl -H 'Host:api.gojekapi.com' -H 'Accept:*/*' -H 'X-Location:' -H 'Authorization:Bearer -H 'X-User-Locale:en_ID' -H 'Accept-Encoding:gzip;q=1.0, compress;q=0.5' -H 'Accept-Language:en-ID' -H 'X-App -H 'User-Agent:GO-JEK/2.17.1 (com.go-jek.ios; build:2.17.2.0; iOS 10.0.2) Alamofire/3.5.1' -H 'Connection:keep-alive' -H -H 'X-AppVersion:2.17.1' 'https://api.gojekapi.com/gojek/v2/customer/v2/history/551925710?l X-UniqueId: % Total % Received % Xferd Average Speed Time Time Dload Upload Total 0 177 0 --:--: 0:00:06 --:--: 236 "name": "Jalan Durian Raya, Rawa Buaya, Kota Jakarta Barat, Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta, Indonesia, Jalan Durian Raya, Rawa Buaya, Kot a Jakarta Barat, Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta, Indonesia". "latLong": "-6.1636313,106.7379723", "address": "Jalan Durian Raya, Rawa Buaya, Kota Jakarta Barat, Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta, Indonesia, Jalan Durian Raya, Rawa Buaya, Kota Jakarta Barat, Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta, Indonesia", "distance": 0 "name": "Jalan Haji Cokong, Kecamatan Setiabudi, Kota Jakarta Selatan", "latLong": "-6.216352800000001,106.8321648", "address": "Jalan Haji Cokong, Kecamatan Setiabudi, Kota Jakarta Selatan", "distance": 0 "name": "Jl. H. Cokong, Karet, Kota Jakarta Selatan, Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta, Indonesia, Jl. H. Cokong, Karet, Kota Jakarta Selata Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta, Indonesia", "latLong": "-6.2147895,106.8328642", "address": "Jl. H. Cokong, Karet, Kota Jakarta Selatan, Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta, Indonesia, Jl. H. Cokong, Karet, Kota Jakarta Sel tan, Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta, Indonesia",

Broken Access Control (Object Level Authorization) → #1 in OWASP

- Multi-tenancy is not implemented properly
 - User can access resources from other tenants (a.com user can access b.com resources)

Allowed

Not allowed

Resource object is not tied to a user properly

Transaction ID: 1234

User: A

Tenant: example.com

Transaction ID: 2345

User: B

Tenant: example.com

: /api/example.com/transaction/1234

: /api/example.com/transaction/2345 → not checked

Malicious user input

Image upload vulnerability (ImageMagick) affecting Bukalapak, Tokopedia, and many other vendors in 2016

Write-up by Herdian Nugraha →

https://id.techinasia.com/talk/bagaimana-sayahack-situs-besar-indonesia-dengan-gambar (CVE-2016-3714)

Lesson learned:

- Never trust user's input
- Keep up-to-date with zero-day vulnerabilities

Bagaimana Saya Meretas Bukalapak, Tokopedia, dan Sribu dengan Gambar

Pada suatu hari, ada seorang pemuda yang sedang *browsing* sana-sini mencari barang di <u>Bukalapak</u>. Rasa iseng mulai menggelitik pemuda tersebut setelah melihat fitur File Upload di laman profil. Pikiran pemuda tersebut langsung mengarah pada celah yang baru sebulan ditemukan oleh <u>Nikolay Ermishkin</u>, yaitu celah <u>ImageTragick</u>, sesuatu yang pernah pemuda tersebut bahas di Botani CTF.

Kunjungi https://www.bukalapak.com/users/(USER ID KAMU)/edit? section=general untuk mengunggah payload.

<u>myLapak</u>		Akun	Alamat	Lapak	Pengiriman	Rekening Bank	Le
Jual Barang	Data Anda selalu rahasia dan	tidak akan k	ami beritahu	kan kepada	a pihak ketiga.		
Ringkasan Akun	Informasi Umum						
Barang Dijual							
Barang Tidak Dijual	Foto profil	K					
Barang Favorit	60x60 piksel	T					
Label Barang							
Langganan	Nama	Herdian N	lugraha				
	Yessend takin	11 .	tuni	- 1	076 -		

 $Upload\ payload\ yang\ telah\ dibuat\ dan\dots voila!$

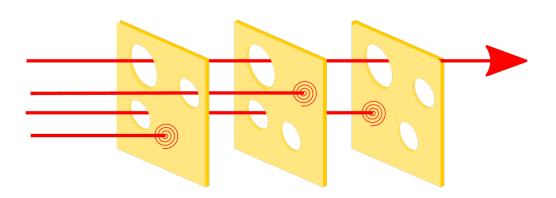
Update: Saat ini saya telah direkrut <u>Bukalapak</u> sebagai Security Engineer.



There are a lot of possible cases to check!

Swiss cheese model in PPT

- People
 - Awareness of best security practices (this part)
- Process
 - QA and regular security checks
- Technology
 - Automating tests (will be explained later)

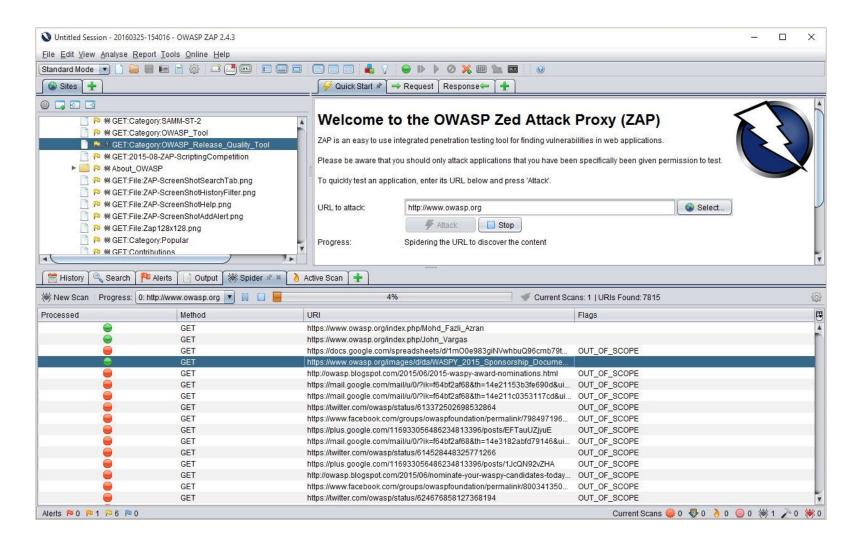




Tools

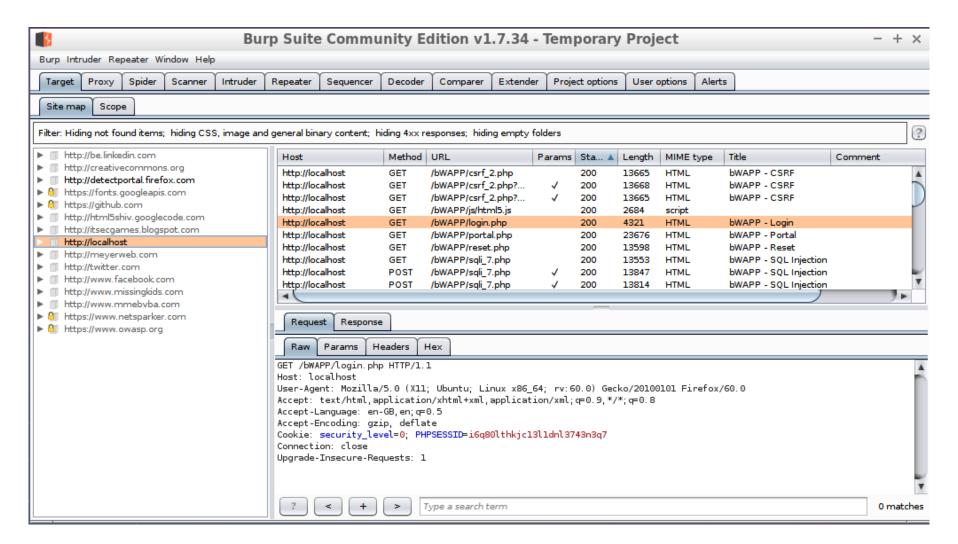


OWASP ZAP

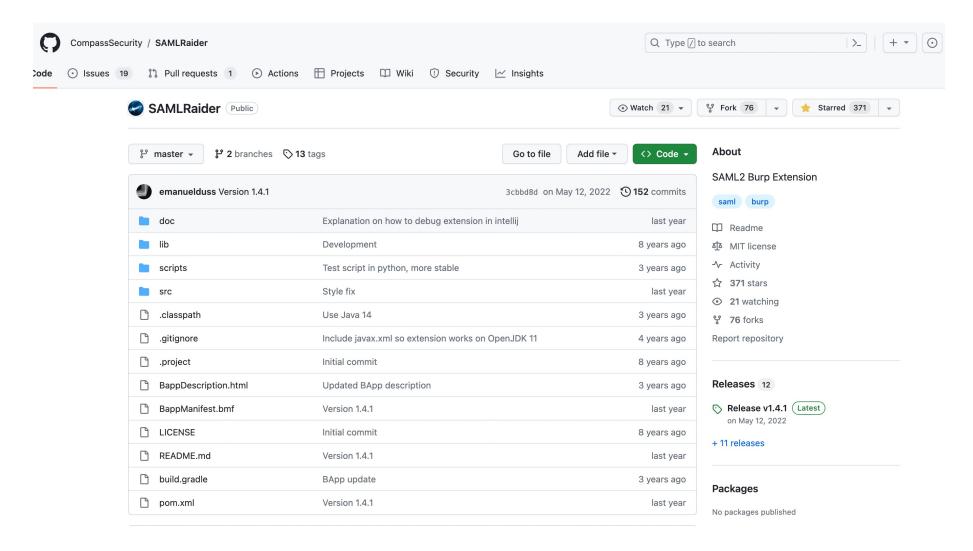




Burp Suite



SAMLRaider (Burp Extension)





Core Feature	Burp Suite	OWASP ZAP		
Automation	Offers both automated and semi-automated processes	Uses an automation framework to give users more flexibility		
Coverage	An impressive range of built-in features ensures your system has comprehensive coverage	Testers need to use add-ons to increase coverage		
Scalability	Designed to scale up to large-scale testing engagements	Very scalable but has some limitations		
Accuracy	Highly accurate and minimal false positives produced	Very accurate but there are limitations to the scope of the scanner		
Cost	Three available editions: Community (Free), Professional (\$449/year), and Enterprise (starts at \$8,395/year)	Free		

Nuclei

Useful for testing known CVEs & famous open source projects (Airflow, Grafana, Kibana, Prometheus, etc)

2. Run on your targets

```
cat staging-apps.txt
https://staging.example.com
https://staging.admin.example.com
https://staging.crm.example.com
https://api-staging.example.com
https://internal.example.com
https://build-app.example.com
https://demo.example.com
https://preprod.backend-api.example.com
nuclei -t amazon-mww-secret-leak.yaml -l staging-apps.txt
 projectdiscovery.io
[WRN] Use with caution. You are responsible for your actions
[WRN] Developers assume no liability and are not responsible for any misuse or damage.
[INF] Loading templates...
[INF] [amazon-mww-secret-leak] Amazon MWS Auth Token leak (@puzzlepeaches) [medium]
[INF] Using 1 rules (1 templates, 0 workflows)
[amazon-mww-secret-leak] [http] [medium] https://internal.example.com
[amazon-mww-secret-leak] [http] [medium] https://build-app.example.com
[amazon-mww-secret-leak] [http] [medium] https://staging.admin.example.com
```



openapi-fuzzer

If you're using frameworks that support OpenAPI (e.g.: FastAPI), you can also use Fuzzer tools to test the behavior of your application.

While it's mainly used for checking functionalities correctness, it could also potentially detect incorrect logic that might lead to security holes.

OpenAPI fuzzer @



Black-box fuzzer that fuzzes APIs based on OpenAPI specification. All you need to do is to supply URL of the API and its specification. Find bugs for free!

METHOD	PATH	STATUS	MEAN (μs)	STD.DEV.	MIN (μs)	MAX (μs)
GET	auth/token/accessors/	ok	230	76	163	1037
POST	auth/token/create	ok	435	78	316	941
POST	auth/token/create-orphan	ok	476	94	366	1175
POST	auth/token/create/{role_name}	ok	446	250	156	3037
GET	auth/token/lookup	ok	331	67	260	900
POST	auth/token/lookup	failed	341	38	286	444
POST	auth/token/lookup-accessor	ok	395	122	300	1840
GET	auth/token/lookup-self	ok	346	54	284	643
POST	auth/token/lookup-self	ok	388	186	301	2970
POST	auth/token/renew	failed	375	96	279	831
POST	auth/token/renew-accessor	ok	417	167	321	2744
POST	auth/token/renew-self	ok	383	99	280	1275
POST	auth/token/revoke	failed	322	21	287	367
POST	auth/token/revoke-accessor	ok	389	85	310	963
POST	auth/token/revoke-orphan	failed	369	69	286	592
POST	auth/token/revoke-self	ok	357	85	262	1053
GET	auth/token/roles	ok	225	41	180	456
GET	auth/token/roles/{role_name}	ok	308	176	128	2338
POST	auth/token/roles/{role_name}	ok	466	245	135	1845
DELETE	auth/token/roles/{role_name}	ok	308	163	123	1788
POST	auth/token/tidy	ok	311	38	258	487
GET	cubbyhole/{path}	ok	208	57	131	650
POST	cubbyhole/{path}	ok	274	214	122	3227
DELETE	cubbyhole/{path}	ok	295	124	126	716
POST	identity/alias	ok	366	96	261	1085
GET	identity/alias/id	ok	209	34	163	388
GET	identity/alias/id/{id}	ok	320	144	123	810
POST	identity/alias/id/{id}	ok	360	198	121	2119
DELETE	identity/alias/id/{id}	ok	329	171	120	1252
POST	identity/entity	ok	388	134	312	2316
POST	identity/entity-alias	ok	363	33	314	508
GET	identity/entity-alias/id	ok	200	29	166	417
GET	identity/entity-alias/id/{id}	ok	324	184	129	2263





Lesson Learned



Try to break your own system before someone else breaks it

Try to minimize reinventing the wheel Focus on delivering value & solving real problems

Apply principle of least privilege Minimize attack surface when it's possible

No monitoring ≠ no security incident Always be ready for incident (runbook, incident response team, etc)

Keep up-to-date with security news (Zero-day vulnerability)

Last but not least, Human is often the weakest link Raise awareness, reduce social engineering attack

AI: Threat? Opportunity? Both?

- Threat
 - Don't trust Al-generated code (e.g.: Copilot) blindly
 - New attack vectors generation
 - Phishing
 - GAN
 - and many more

- Opportunity
 - Automate security checks (e.g.: Firewall, threat analysis)
 - Automate code tests generation

57 Twitter

freedom holicx

Portfolio

<u>freedomofkeima.com</u>

O Instagram

freedomofkeima

Github

freedomofkeima

Facebook

iskandarsetiadi

in LinkedIn

<u>iskandarsetiadi</u>

HENNGE is hiring!

Mid-career



Internship



This slide is also available at https://freedomofkeima.com/pyconid2023.pdf



Upcoming Next

Room 4 Beginnter EN

Automating Victory: Beating Browser Games with Accessible Python

Jon Gaul

Game Automation



Terima kasih!

Hatur nuhun!

Thank you!

ありがとうございます!

