

MISP CORE DEVELOPMENT CRASH COURSE

HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE THE PHP

CIRCL / TEAM MISp PROJECT



MISP PROJECT



2022-09-13

MISP core development crash course

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SOME THINGS TO KNOW IN ADVANCE...

- MISP is based on PHP 7.3+
- Using the MVC framework CakePHP 2.x
- What we'll look at now will be a quick glance at the structuring / layout of the code

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- separation of business logic and views, interconnected by controllers
- main advantage is clear separation of the various components
- lean controllers, fat models (kinda...)
- domain based code reuse
- No interaction between Model and Views, ever

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└ MVC frameworks in general

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- Config: general configuration files
- Console: command line tools
- Controller: Code dealing with requests/responses, generating data for views based on interactions with the models
- Lib: Generic reusable code / libraries
- Model: Business logic, data gathering and modification
- Plugin: Alternative location for plugin specific codes, ordered into controller, model, view files
- View: UI views, populated by the controller

└ Structure of MISP Core app directories

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- Each public function in a controller is exposed as an API action
- request routing (admin routing)
- multi-use functions (POST/GET)
- request/response objects
- contains the action code, telling the application what data fetching/modifying calls to make, preparing the resulting data for the resulting view
- grouped into controller files based on model actions
- Accessed via UI, API, AJAX calls directly by users
- For code reuse: behaviours
- Each controller bound to a model

└─ Controllers - scope

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- pagination functionality
- logging functionality
- Controllers actions can access functionality / variables of Models
- Controllers cannot access code of other controller actions (kind of...)
- Access to the authenticated user's data
- beforeFilter(), afterFilter() methods
- Inherited code in ApplicationController

└─ Controllers - functionalities of controllers

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■ Components = reusable code for Controllers

- ▶ Authentication components
- ▶ RestResponse component
- ▶ ACL component
- ▶ Cidr component
- ▶ IOCImport component (should be moved)

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- Handling API responses (RestResponseComponent)
- Handling API requests (IndexFilterComponent)
- auth/session management
- ACL management
- CRUD Component
- Security component
- important: quertString/PyMISP versions, MISP version handler
- future improvements to the export mechanisms

└─ Controllers - additional functionalities

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- Handling API requests (IndexFilterComponent)
- auth/session management
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- ▶ finding subsets of data
- ▶ altering existing data
- ▶ inherited model: AppModel
- ▶ reusable code for models: Behaviours
- ▶ regex, trim

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■ Hooks / model pipeline for data creation / edits

- ▶ beforeValidate() (lowercase all hashes)
- ▶ validate() (check hash format)
- ▶ afterValidate() (we never use it)
- ▶ could be interesting if we ever validated without saving)
- ▶ beforeSave() (purge existing correlations for an attribute)
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└─ Model - hooking pipeline (add/edit)

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■ Hooks for deletions

- ▶ beforeDelete() (purge correlations for an attribute)
- ▶ afterDelete() (zmq)

■ Hooks for retrieving data

- ▶ beforeFind() (modify the find parameters before execution, we don't use it)
- ▶ afterFind() (json decode json fields)

└ Models - hooking pipeline (delete/read)

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- code to handle version upgrades contained in AppModel
- generic cleanup/data migration tools
- centralised redis/pubsub handlers
- (Show example of adding an attribute with trace)

└─ Models - misc

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- templates for views
- layouts
- reusable template code: elements
 - ▶ attribute list, rows (if reused)
- reusable code: helpers
 - ▶ commandhelper (for discussion boards), highlighter for searches, tag colour helper
- views per controller

└ Views - scope and structure

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- layouts
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- views per controller

- ajax views vs normal views
- data views vs normal views vs serialisation in the controller
- sanitisation h()
- creating forms
 - ▶ sanitisation
 - ▶ CSRF

└ Views - Types of views and helpers

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- data views vs normal views vs serialisation in the controller
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- Mostly in genericElements
- Preparing the move to Cake4
- Important ones
 - ▶ Form - generate forms in a standardised way (/add, /edit, etc)
 - ▶ IndexTable - index lists using Field templates (/index, etc)
 - ▶ SingleViews - key-value lists with child elements (/view, etc)
 - ▶ Menues - to be refactored, see Cerebrate

└ Views - Generators

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- Located in app/Lib
- Code that is to be reused across several layers
- Important ones
 - ▶ Dashboard - Dashboard widget backend code
 - ▶ EventReport - Report generation
 - ▶ Export - MISP -> external format converter modules
 - ▶ Tools - List of generic helper libraries - examples:
 - Attachment, JSON conversion, random generation, emailing, sync request generation
 - Kafka, ZMQ, AWS S3, Elastic integration, PGP encryption, CIDR operations

General reusable libraries

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- creator vs owner organisation
- distribution levels and inheritance (events -> objects -> attributes)
- shorthand inherit level
- sharing groups (org list, instance list)
- correlation distribution
- algorithms for safe data fetching (fetchEvents(), fetchAttributes(),...)

└─ Distribution

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- funtional testing
- Github actions
- impact scope
 - ▶ view code changes: only impacts request type based views
 - ▶ controller code changes: Should only affect given action
 - ▶ model code changes: can have impact on entire application
 - ▶ lib changes: can have affect on the entire application
- Don't forget: queryACL, change querystring

└─ Testing your code

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