



Insecure Deserialization

/b1twis3

Overview

- Process of converting an object into a format that can be stored then restored later or transmitted over the network
- Deserialization refers to the opposite
- Why? To store, restore or transmit
- Nowadays JSON, before that, it was XML.

Overview

- Binary Formats: Java, Python (pickle) and C++
- Readable Formats: Yaml, XML, JSON, PHP and SOAP



PHP

1. `serialize()`: takes a PHP object and convert it to a specific string format [demo0.php]
2. `unserialize()`: takes specific string format and convert it into a PHP object [demo1.php]
3. `phar://` -> PHAR is deserialized



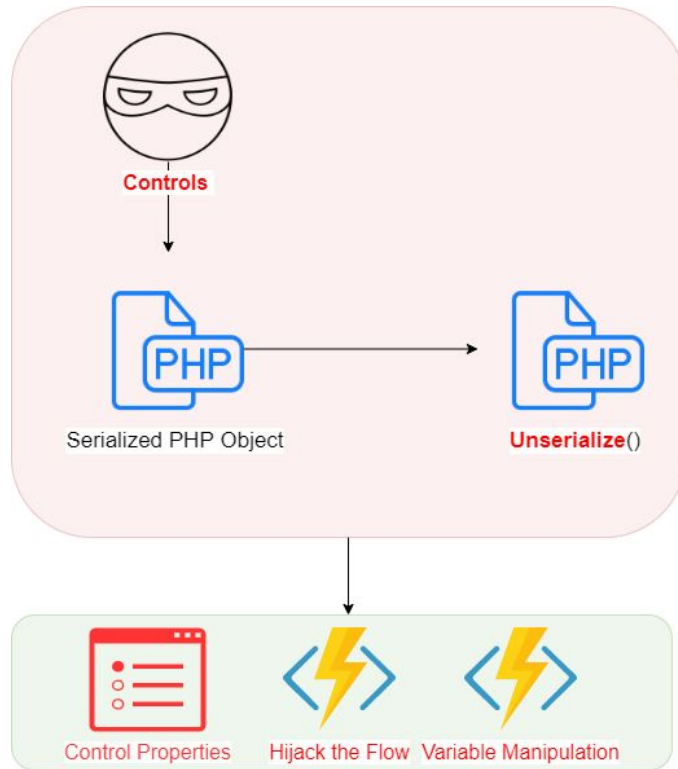
PHP (Insecure)

Magic Methods

The function names `__construct()`, `__destruct()`, `__call()`, `__callStatic()`, `__get()`, `__set()`, `__isset()`, `__unset()`, `__sleep()`, `__wakeup()`, `__serialize()`, `__unserialize()`, `__toString()`, `__invoke()`, `__set_state()`, `__clone()` and `__debugInfo()` are magical in PHP classes. You cannot have functions with these names in any of your classes unless you want the magic functionality associated with them.

`unserialize()`: calls `__wakeup()` & `__destruct()`

PHP (Exploitation)





PHP (Variable Manipulation)

[demo2.php]



PHP (RCE)

1. demo3.php
2. demo4.php
3. <https://hackerone.com/reports/415501>



PHP (PHAR)

Global Phar manifest format

Size in bytes	Description
4 bytes	Length of manifest in bytes (1 MB limit)
4 bytes	Number of files in the Phar
2 bytes	API version of the Phar manifest (currently 1.0.0)
4 bytes	Global Phar bitmapped flags
4 bytes	Length of Phar alias
??	Phar alias (length based on previous)
4 bytes	Length of Phar metadata (0 for none)
??	Serialized Phar Meta-data, stored in <u>serialize()</u> format
at least 24 * number of entries bytes	entries for each file



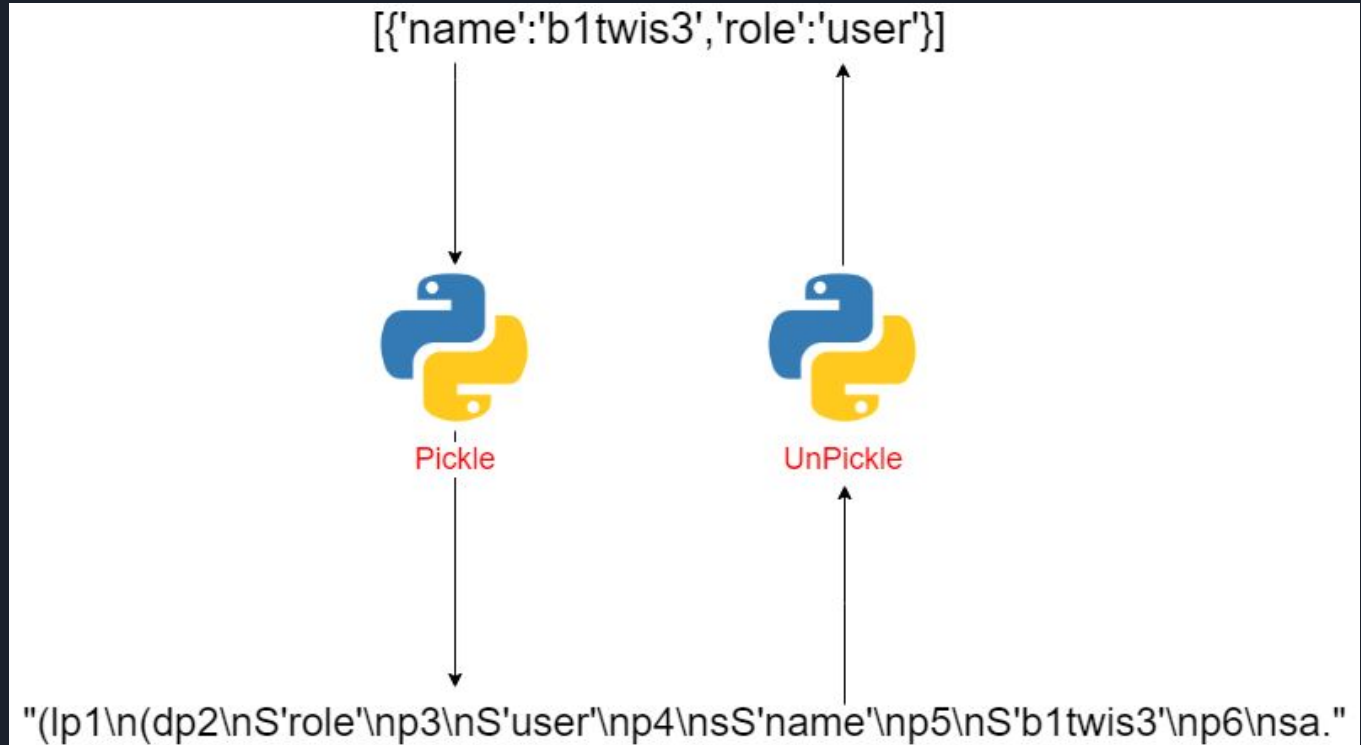
PHP (PHAR)

1. demo_phar1.php
2. Walking through CVE-2018-19274 write-up by Daniel Timofte

<https://www.ixiacom.com/company/blog/exploiting-php-phar-deserialization-vulnerabilities-part-2>

Note: PHP filesystem functions **deserialize** metadata through phar://.

Python



```
import pickle/c_pickle/_pickle/marshal [demo5.py]
```

Python

```
[{'a': 'test'}, {'name': 'b1twis3', 'user': 'admin'}]
```



yaml (serialize)

```
- {a: test}  
- {name: b1twis3, user: admin}
```



yaml (unserialize)

```
import yaml #PyYAML [demo6.py]
```



Python (`__reduce__`)

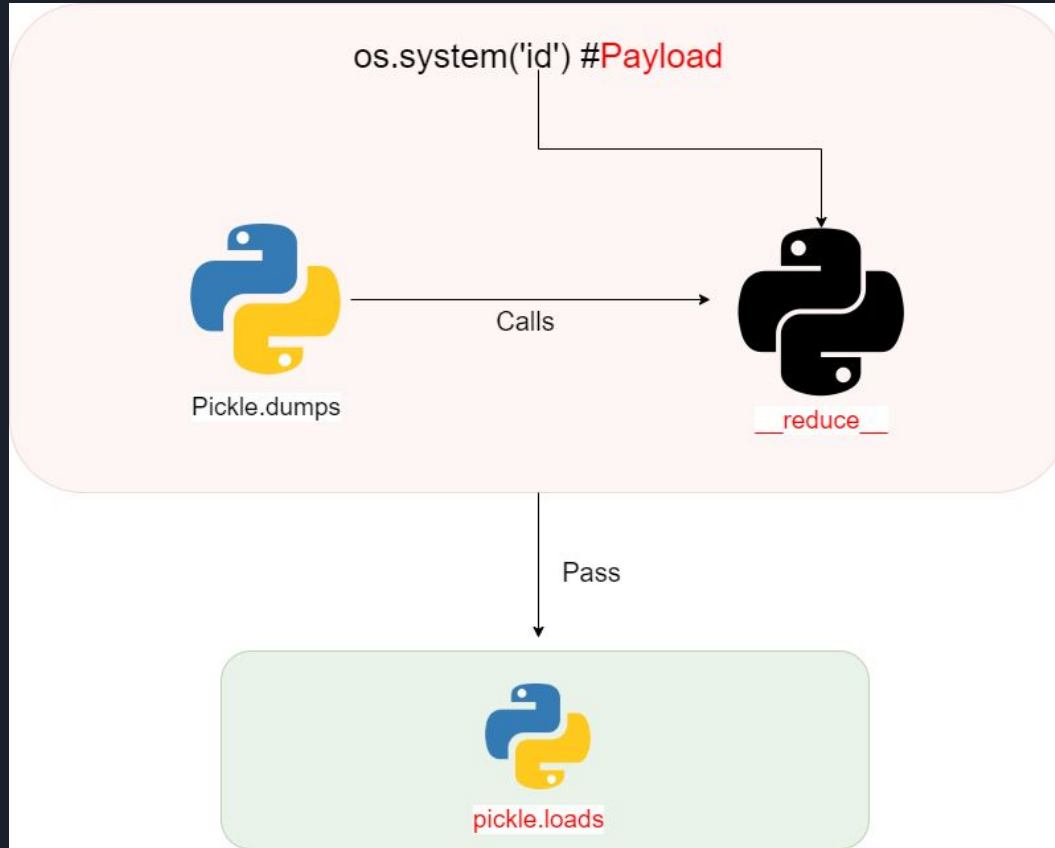
Intended for how to reconstruct (unpickle) objects

`object.__reduce__()`

The interface is currently defined as follows. The `__reduce__()` method takes no argument and shall return either a string or preferably a tuple (the returned object is often referred to as the “reduce value”).

If a string is returned, the string should be interpreted as the name of a global variable. It should be the object’s local name relative to its module; the pickle module searches the module namespace to determine the object’s module. This behaviour is typically useful for singletons.

Python (Exploitation)



-demo7.py

- app

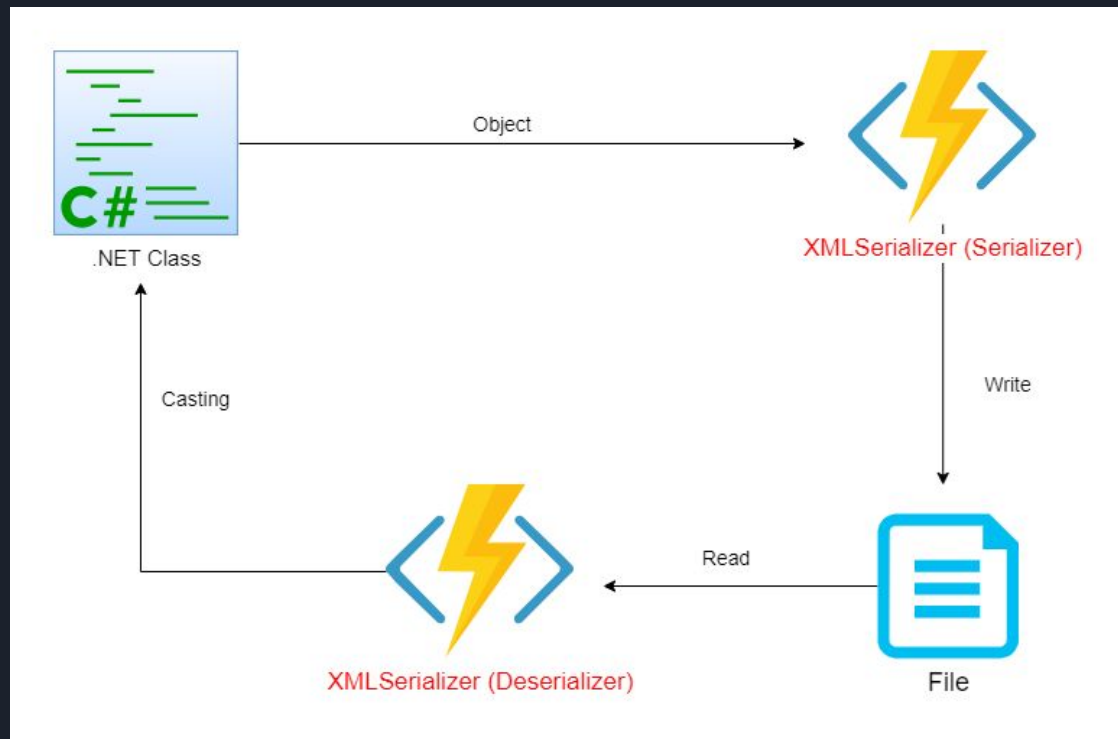


.NET

1. .NET XML Serializer
2. .NET Formatters
3. .NET JSON Serializer

.NET

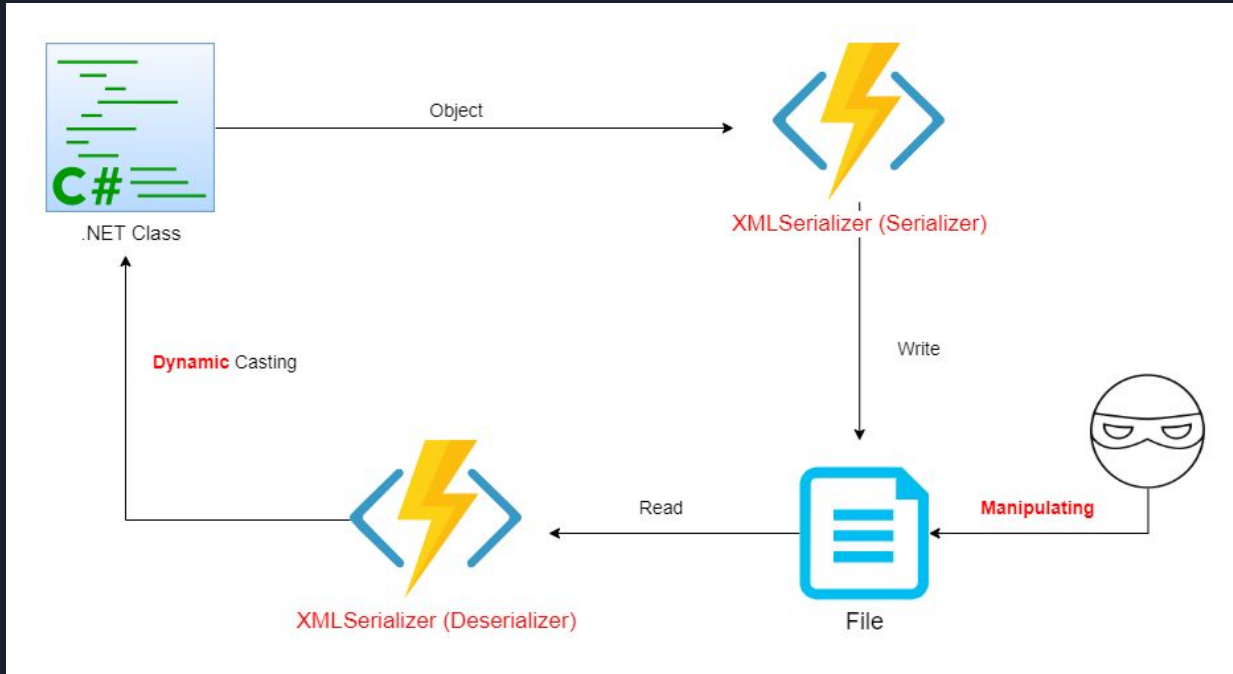
.NET XML Serializer



- Project1.cs
- Project2.cs

.NET

.NET XML Serializer



-Project3.cs
-Project4.cs



Java

1. java.io.Serializable Interface [writeObject() and readObject()]
2. Starts with base64(r00) or ACED0005
3. Content-type: application/x-java-serialized-object

```
00000000 ac ed 00 05 73 72 00 04 55 73 65 72 2e 4c a3 08 |....sr..User.L..|
00000010 05 ae ff f2 02 00 02 49 00 03 61 67 65 4c 00 04 |.....I..ageL..|
00000020 6e 61 6d 65 74 00 12 4c 6a 61 76 61 2f 6c 61 6e |namet..Ljava/lan|
00000030 67 2f 53 74 72 69 6e 67 3b 78 70 00 00 00 1e 74 |g/String;xp....t|
00000040 00 07 62 31 74 77 69 73 33                          |..b1twis3|
00000049
```

JavaDemo1.java & JavaDemo2.java



Java

How it goes wrong?

```
bitwis3@DESKTOP-F1MQQJF:~/CodeReviewCS/serlization/java$ java JavaDemo3 hamid
::Session generated::
bitwis3@DESKTOP-F1MQQJF:~/CodeReviewCS/serlization/java$ java JavaDemo4 session.txt
name = hamid
role = user
[+] Login Successful: hamid
bitwis3@DESKTOP-F1MQQJF:~/CodeReviewCS/serlization/java$ java JavaDemo3 b1twis3
::Session generated::
bitwis3@DESKTOP-F1MQQJF:~/CodeReviewCS/serlization/java$ java JavaDemo4 session.txt
name = b1twis3
role = admin
[+] [Admin] Login Successful: b1twis3
bitwis3@DESKTOP-F1MQQJF:~/CodeReviewCS/serlization/java$
```

JavaDemo3.java & JavaDemo4.java