

# Adding more Security To your Testing and Automating

Saucecon 2021, Alan Richardson

@EvilTester, EvilTester.com

# Security Testing:

- a highly technical set of skills,
- a wide domain of knowledge,
- a long time to learn and practice.

# Any Hacks for doing more faster?

**Yes.**

**Augment and Extend our  
current approaches.**

# That doesn't mean you shouldn't learn Security Testing

It just isn't the fastest way to add  
security into your process

# **I did learn Security Testing (Some)**

**Loved it. Interesting. Challenging.  
Deep Dive into Technology.**

# Because I could Test & Automate & Code

I could see overlap and natural extensions.

# A Natural Extension to Technical Exploratory Testing

**If you are already:**

- Using Dev Tools.**
- Using Proxies.**
- Reading HTML & JS.**
- Pushing the Edge Cases.**
- Bypassing the validation.**
- etc.**



# A Natural Extension to Automating

If you are already:

- Writing reusable Abstraction Layers.
- Combining Libraries and tools.
- Data Parameterising your Execution paths.
- Auto Generating Test Data.
- Monitoring Logs.
- etc.

# On Learning Security Testing

You already know  
the technology.

Next learn  
vulnerabilities and  
exploits.



# RoadMaps

- [portswigger.net/web-security](https://portswigger.net/web-security)
- [www.hacker101.com](http://www.hacker101.com)
- [github.com/sundowndev/hacker-roadmap](https://github.com/sundowndev/hacker-roadmap)
- [github.com/onlurking/awesome-infosec](https://github.com/onlurking/awesome-infosec)
- [github.com/ericpqqmor/security-study-plan](https://github.com/ericpqqmor/security-study-plan)

# Practice

- Bug Bounties:
  - [hackerone.com](https://hackerone.com)
  - [bugcrowd.com](https://bugcrowd.com)
  - [yeswehack.com](https://yeswehack.com)
- OWASP Vulnerable Web Applications Directory

**But... this all takes a lot of  
time**

# How can we add more security to our Testing and Automating?

# What does more Security mean?

- More secure system.
- More Job Security.
- More trust in our automated execution.
- More chance of finding security issues early.

**Does that mean we have to "Shift Left"?**

**I do not like the term "shift left".**



**I do not want to shift left.**

**I just want to... test.**

**And do it at the time that's best.**

**In a dev process where testing's enmeshed.**

**I do not want to shift right.**

**I want a process that brings all problems to light.**

**"Secure Software" is not a sound bite.**

**Quality Software is Secure, and built with foresight.**

P.S. my book of  
Children's  
Poetry is  
available now:

[thereAreHats.com](http://thereAreHats.com)

# There are hats....

Poems for children



Alan Richardson

# What makes Testing and Security Testing hard?

- Where to aim?
- When to stop?
- Unknowns.

# Chasing unknowns is expensive

## Important, but expensive.

## **Building in - is easier to answer**

- Have you added coverage of SQL Injection? Y/N**
- Has the coverage been reviewed by AppSec? Y/N**
- Have you fuzzed it with common SQL Injection Payloads? Y/N**
- Any issues found from that? Y/N**

**Explore gaps in the coverage where Unknowns still exist.**

# Security Do's, Don'ts

# Security Do's, Don'ts

- Do not reduce the security of your application to make it easier to test
  - e.g. automatable captchas, url param config (?nocaptcha=true)
- Do internalize your test environment
  - unsecured test environments on easy to find subdomains
- Do secure your test environment if public



# Risks to Consider

- **Security risks of live testing**
  - **test users with extensive permissions**
  - **test users with easy to guess usernames and passwords**
  - **leaving test users lying around in the environment**
- **Using Security Testing Tools without knowing Security Testing**

**Add additional tooling to  
augment existing testing  
and automating**

# Tooling

- Adding passive security testing into your process
  - Running automated API/GUI execution through a security proxy
  - Exploratory Testing through a proxy
    - proxy config browsers and API tooling
- OWasp ZAP can passively scan traffic we proxy through
  - But can also scan using WebDriver

# Proxy Tool Scanning

- Point all test traffic through a proxy
- It 'passively' scans as you test
- check the results
- run an active scan later
- check the results

# Running Proxy With Selenium

- **Install Owasp ZAP**
- **Configure browsers with the Dynamic Certificate**
- **Configure Selenium To Run with Proxy**

# Running Proxy With Selenium

```
Proxy proxy = new Proxy();  
proxy.setHttpProxy("127.0.0.1:8080");  
proxy.setSslProxy("127.0.0.1:8080");  
ChromeOptions options = new ChromeOptions();  
options.setCapability("proxy", proxy);  
driver = new ChromeDriver(options);
```

# OWASP ZAP

- **Passive Scan for Vulnerabilities**
- **Build Sitemap during scan (visited, found)**
- **Active Scan - crawls and adds params**
- **Save session file as 'proof' of coverage**
- **Inspect sitemap for missing coverage**

# Active Scan Config



Active Scan

ScopeFilterInput VectorsCustom VectorsTechnologyPolicy

Injectable Targets:

☒ URL Query String & Data Driven Nodes

☒ Add URL Query Parameter?

☒ POST Data

☒ URL Path (could slow down testing)

☒ HTTP Headers (could slow down testing)

☐ All Requests

☒ Cookie Data (could slow down testing)

☒ Enable Script Input Vectors

Built-in Input Vector Handlers:

☒ Multipart Form-Data

☒ XML Tag/Attribute

☒ JSON

☒ Google Web Toolkit

☒ OData ID/Filter

☒ Direct Web Remoting

Parameters shown here will be ignored by the Scanner, if both the wildcarded URL and the specified location match.

URL ^	Where	Name
*	Any	(?i)ASP.NET_SessionId
*	Any	(?i)ASPSESSIONID.*
*	Any	(?i)PHPSESSID
*	Any	(?i)SITESERVER
*	Any	(?i)sessionid

☐ Remove Without Confirmation

?

Start ScanResetCancel

# Using Proxy Tools for Exploratory Testing

- Feed your browsers/API Tooling through proxy
- Test
- Revisit requests made, study, fuzz
- Save session file as 'proof' of coverage
- AJAX Spider - uses WebDriver to 'crawl' site in browser
- Fuzz Individual requests

Contexts

- Default Context

Sites

- https://thepulper.herokuapp.com
  - GET:/
  - apps
    - pulp
      - GET:/
      - api
        - POST:authors({"id": "7
        - books
          - PUT:95
  - gui
  - jslibs
  - v001
  - v003
  - v009
  - v010
  - v011
  - GET:favicon.ico
  - GET:robots.txt

# Automated Scan

This screen allows you to launch an automated scan against an application – just enter its URL below and press 'Attack'.

Please be aware that you should only attack applications that you have been specifically given permission to test.

URL to attack:

Use traditional spider: ☐

Use ajax spider: ☒ with

Progress: Manually stopped

Header: Text Body: Text

HTTP/1.1 200 OK  
Connection: close  
Date: Tue, 30 Mar 2021 13:10:32 GMT  
Set-Cookie: JSESSIONID=node0fn9ywwel2x0og8gwqyyzn32112.node0;  
Path=/;Secure;HttpOnly  
Expires: Thu, 01 Jan 1970 00:00:00 GMT  
Content-Type: application/json  
Access-Control-Allow-Origin: \*  
Access-Control-Allow-Headers: \*  
Server: Jetty(9.4.z-SNAPSHOT)  
Via: 1.1 vegur

```
1 {"data":{"books":[{"id":"95","title":"The Devil\u0027s PlaygroundNnkEKedY","publicationYear":1941,"seriesId":"Jan, 1941hNNEwNPC","authors":[{"id":"9","name":"Evelyn Coulson"}],"series":{"id":"1","name":"Doc Savage"},"publisher":{"id":"1","name":"Street And Smith"}}],"logs":{"amended":{"books":[{"id":"95"}]}}}
```

Processed	Id	Req. Timestamp	Method	URL	Code	Reason	RTT	Size Resp. Header	Size Resp. Body	Highest Alert	Note	Tags
●	2,901	30/03/21 14:10:48	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	23 ms	172 bytes	714 bytes	Low		
●	2,902	30/03/21 14:10:48	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	24 ms	187 bytes	1,272 bytes	Low		
●	2,903	30/03/21 14:10:48	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	25 ms	187 bytes	7,910 bytes	Low		
●	2,904	30/03/21 14:10:48	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	27 ms	187 bytes	4,445 bytes	Low		
●	2,905	30/03/21 14:10:48	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	75 ms	187 bytes	3,725 bytes	Low		
●	2,906	30/03/21 14:10:49	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	44 ms	161 bytes	11,297 bytes	Medium		
●	2,907	30/03/21 14:10:49	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	23 ms	173 bytes	1,960 bytes	Low		
●	2,908	30/03/21 14:10:49	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	26 ms	187 bytes	7,910 bytes	Low		
●	2,909	30/03/21 14:10:49	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	28 ms	172 bytes	714 bytes	Low		
●	2,910	30/03/21 14:10:49	GET	https://thepulper.herokuapp.com/apps/pulp/...	200	OK	26 ms	187 bytes	1,272 bytes	Low		

**Proactive steps to  
improve security that are  
easier to adopt than  
learning to Hack**

# Learn basic secure coding

**Gotchas related to the languages and libraries in use:**

- Static Analysis tooling can help with this**
- 1 vulnerability in your code can be exposed by 100 'hacking approaches'**
- 1 vulnerability might be fixable with 1 change**

# Learn to spot what causes the issues

# Security Testing Lessons learned to improve our automating

**We use Direct Object Reference to make our automating faster.**

- IDOR - Insecure Direct Object References**

**We parameterize our automated execution.**

- Fuzzing with insecure payloads**

# Evaluate your Automating and Testing for Security

- Does your automation setup users, permissions, data easily?
- What are the security controls around that?
- Can anyone do it? == Insecure
- What permissions do you need? == Principle of least Privilege
- Do you mix HTTP and GUI? How? Sharing cookies? API headers? Is API access same as GUI



# Adding More Security

- Security Testing is great to learn, but takes time.
- Overlap between Security Testing, Exploratory Testing, Automating
- Same tooling used
- Add to existing process.
- Finding issues in code, is easier than finding them in running app.

**Security Testing is a means to an end.**

**We can start at the source, then augment and extend.**

# Roll The End Credits...

## Learn to "Be Evil"

- [www.eviltester.com](http://www.eviltester.com)
- [@eviltester](https://twitter.com/eviltester)
- [www.youtube.com/user/EviltesterVideos](https://www.youtube.com/user/EviltesterVideos)

## About Alan Richardson

- [www.compendiumdev.co.uk](http://www.compendiumdev.co.uk)
- [uk.linkedin.com/in/eviltester](https://uk.linkedin.com/in/eviltester)

## Follow

- **Linkedin - @eviltester**
- **Twitter - @eviltester**
- **Instagram - @eviltester**
- **Facebook - @eviltester**
- **Youtube - EvilTesterVideos**
- **Pinterest - @eviltester**
- **Github - @eviltester**
- **Slideshare - @eviltester**

## BIO

Alan is a test consultant who enjoys testing at a technical level using techniques from psychotherapy and computer science. In his spare time Alan is currently programming a **multi-user text adventure game** and some **buggy JavaScript games** in the style of the Cascade Cassette 50. Alan is the author of the books "**Dear Evil Tester**", "**Java For Testers**" and "**Automating and Testing a REST API**". Alan's main

## Related Reading & Videos

- **Integrating E2E and Application Security Testing**  
by Abhay Bhargav
- **Confessions of an Accidental Security Tester** by  
Alan Richardson