A Rough Start of a Toolset for Assessing Java/J2EE Web Apps

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Overview

- Howdy! and Objectives
- First Principles/Concepts
- Issues with Existing Open Source Tools
- The start of a simple command-line web app toolset (requirements, API selection & features)
- A Non-Spectacular Demo vs Tomcat 5.0.x Admin Interface

Various command-line scripts

Crude HTML reporting

Comments/Questions

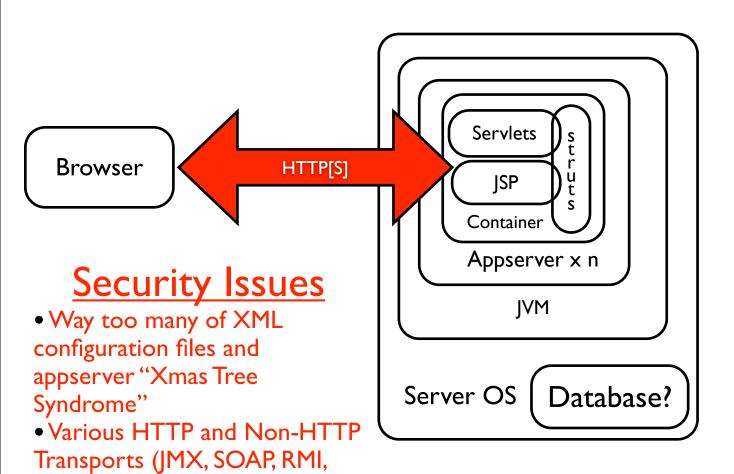
Purpose of This Talk

- Walk through the thought process on tool-set development for a Struts-based J2EE Webapp
- Provide a very superficial intro to Java/ J2EE security issues
- Selfishly sanity check of some ideas

First Principles

- I want to develop a *NIX-style toolkit (meaning: command-line) for a particular Struts-based Java Web App
- I don't have to fight (or win!) the "build vs. buy" battle
- I want to learn cool stuff along the way
- I have to steer between a quick hack and a real development project

"Simple" J2EE Component View



Web/App Servers x n (Back End)

Database x n

Various Messaging "Stuff" (MQ, JMS, SMTP)

- JMS, MQ, SMTP)Authentication/AccessControls for between components?
- And the normal OWASP stuff

Problems with Existing Free/Tools

- There is a bunch of you can do with curl for cookies and forms
- GUIs are slow (especially Swing)
- Extending, automating Webscarab is easier said than done (yeah I know about BeanShell)
- Webscarab is flaky on OSX

Bottom Line - Sometimes it is easier to build small tools from scratch that do want you want, than tweaking big tools

Rough Tool Requirements

 Build a "target database" for the app from multiple sources:

Session Information (from proxies/browsing)

Files from WEB-INF directory

- Allow automated testing (spidering, fuzzing, replay) of URIs and forms
- Conduct basic tests (and generate report) for common issues:

Appserver/Container Configuration Issues (esp. info disclosure)

Data validation (or lack thereof)

Platform Issues

 Cross-Platform Scripting Language (OSX/Linux/ Windows)

Originally though Python + Jython, but settled on pure Python 2.4.x

 Higher level HTTP client functions (cookies, forms, redirects, error codes, etc.)

Wanted to do Commons HTTPClient scripted with Jython, but ended up with Python urllib2 (bad docs!)

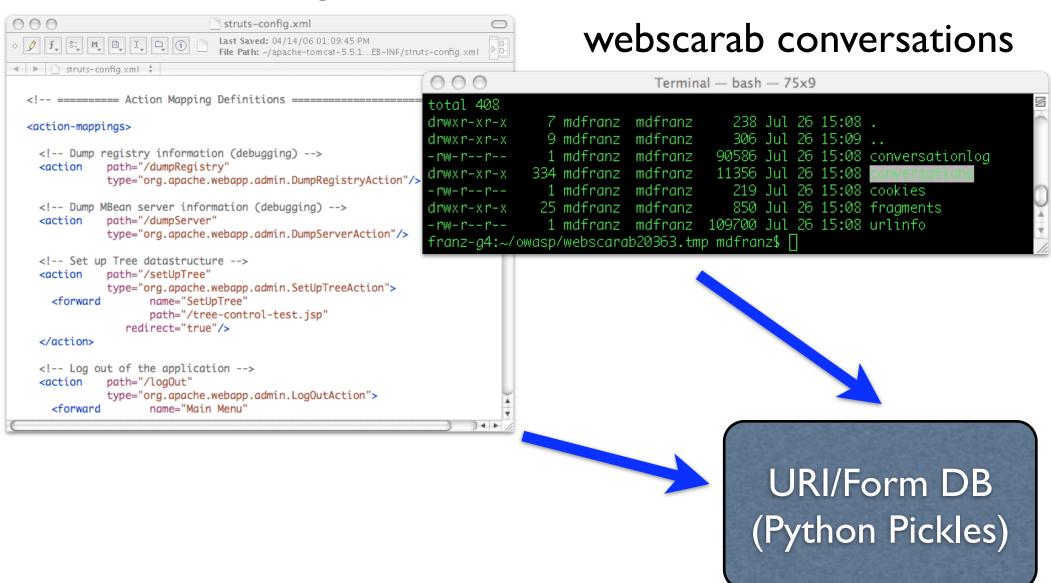
Java scripting languages (JRuby, Jython, BeanShell, etc.) are cool, but there is some pain (espcially Jython because it is more/less Python 2.2 compliant)

Current Tool Components

- I. strutsparse.py parses strutsconfig.xml and extracts URI, path, form
- 2. parsecons.py reads "Conversation" files from webscarab sessions and adds to pickles
- 3. pickles saved list of Python URI and Form objects
- 4. pscanner.py reads in pickles, logs into app (or not) and creates & injects test cases and saves HTML report

Scanner Input

struts-config.xml



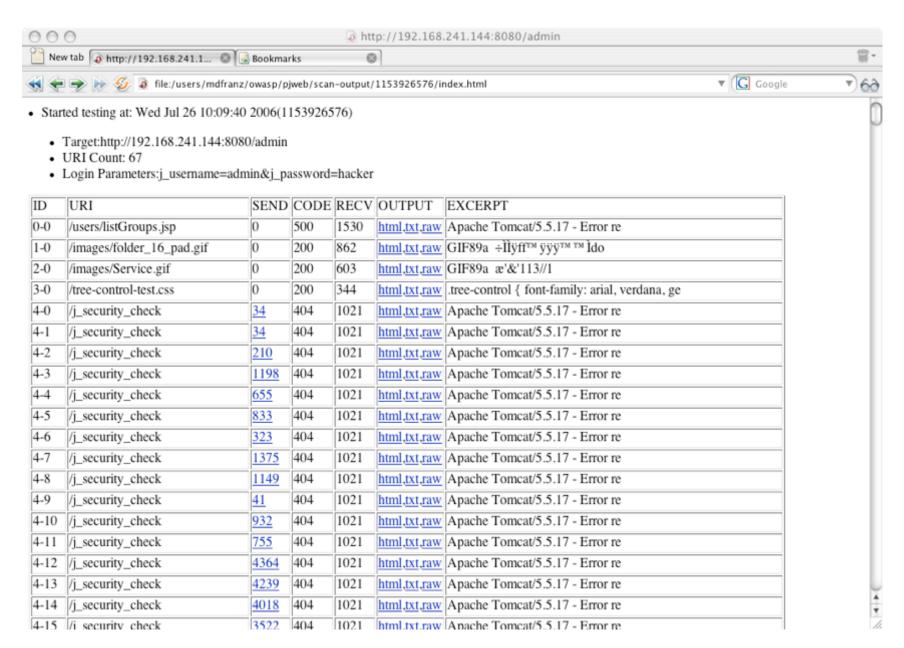
"Scanning" Functions

- URI-Crawl at various authentication levels
- Form "replay" (to Servlets/jsp) for different users
- Form mangling (based on existing sessions)

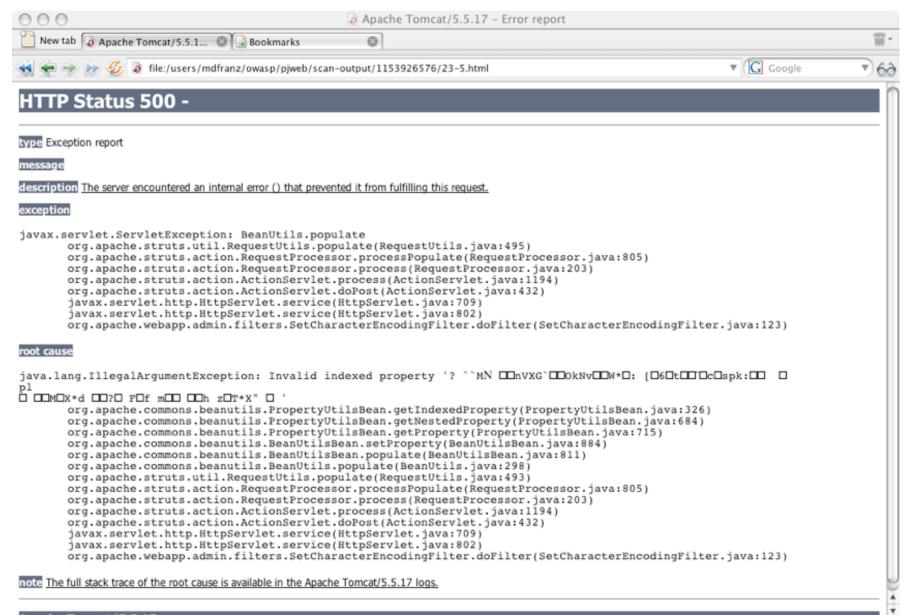
Popping Transformation

- XSS/Injection (a work in progress)
- Manual Form/URI Entry

Crude HTML Reports



A Server Response



Conclusions

 Don't be afraid to write your tools for you apps (if I can do it...)

There are decent HTTP (and above) Java/Python APIs

 Consider all sources of data for generating testcases/attacks, not just external ones (spiders & proxies)

Exploit Java (and .NET ??) "XML-hell"