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# Securing GraphQL APIs

with  STACKHAWK



GraphQL Galaxy  
Conference

# \$ whoami

## Scott Gerlach

- CSO/Co-Founder StackHawk, Inc
- CISO @SendGrid - 3 years
- Sr. Security Arch @GoDaddy - 9 years
- Husband, Dad, Brewer, Golfer, tinkerer
- @sgerlach
- [linkedin.com/in/scott-gerlach-kaakaww](https://www.linkedin.com/in/scott-gerlach-kaakaww)



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# Advantages of GraphQL v. Rest API

Data Aggregation

Single Endpoint / Many Calls

Validation and Type Checking

Gateway and Micro-Services



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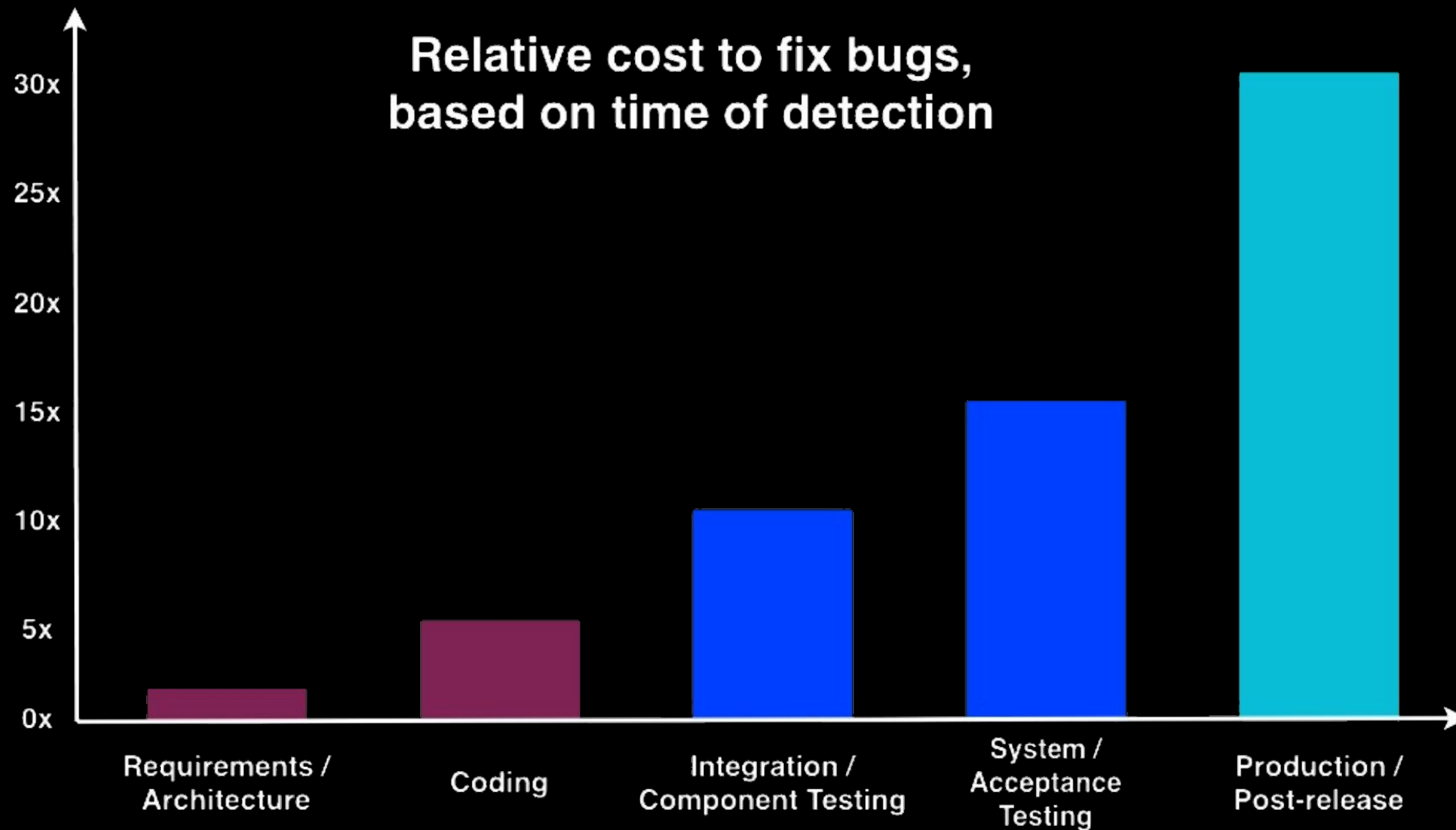
# What GraphQL Doesn't Do

Write Code for You

Magically Secure Code You Write



# The Cost of Fixing Security Bugs



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**Umm, isn't that what testing is for**

YES!

That is exactly why you write functional, unit and integration tests!

Failing tests you can check before you commit code, and having those tests back you up in CI/CD is the cheap way!

But how do you test for security bugs?





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# How can you use this Awesome New Tech

And avoid the trappings of Security Bugs





# **Dynamic Application Security Testing (DAST)**



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# Why DAST

- **No Language Dependency:** Works on the running app without regard to what language in which it's written
- **Context of how the application works:** Test the running application with bad inputs to see how it behaves
- **Lower False Positive Rates:** If DAST finds a security bug in the application, it almost certainly exists.



# Find/Triage/Fix Security Bugs

StackHawk allows you to:

Find Security Bugs in your application

Triage those findings and be able to reproduce them

Manage those findings and have the scanner remember settings between scans

Bring developer attention to “New” findings in the app.

Results for scan id 72fe2e44-f1b5-4f8a-b542-539fcf415011

Scan results for http://localhost:3000

-----  
Criticality: New/Triaged

High: 0/2    Medium: 22/0    Low: 49/0  
-----

1) **Remote OS Command Injection**

Risk: **High**

Cheatsheet: [https://github.com/OWASP/CheatSheetSeries/blob/master/cheatsheets/OS\\_Comm](https://github.com/OWASP/CheatSheetSeries/blob/master/cheatsheets/OS_Command_Injection.md)

Paths (1):

[False Positive] POST /graphql

2) **SQL Injection**

Risk: **High**

Cheatsheet: [https://github.com/OWASP/CheatSheetSeries/blob/master/cheatsheets/SQL\\_Inj](https://github.com/OWASP/CheatSheetSeries/blob/master/cheatsheets/SQL_Injection.md)

Paths (1):

[Assigned] POST /graphql

3) **Cross-Domain Misconfiguration**

Risk: **Medium**

References: [http://www.hpenterprisesecurity.com/vulncat/en/vulncat/vb/html5\\_overly\\_pe](http://www.hpenterprisesecurity.com/vulncat/en/vulncat/vb/html5_overly_permissive_cors.html)

Paths (19):

[New] POST /graphql

[New] POST /graphql

[New] POST /graphql

[New] POST /graphql

[New] POST /graphql

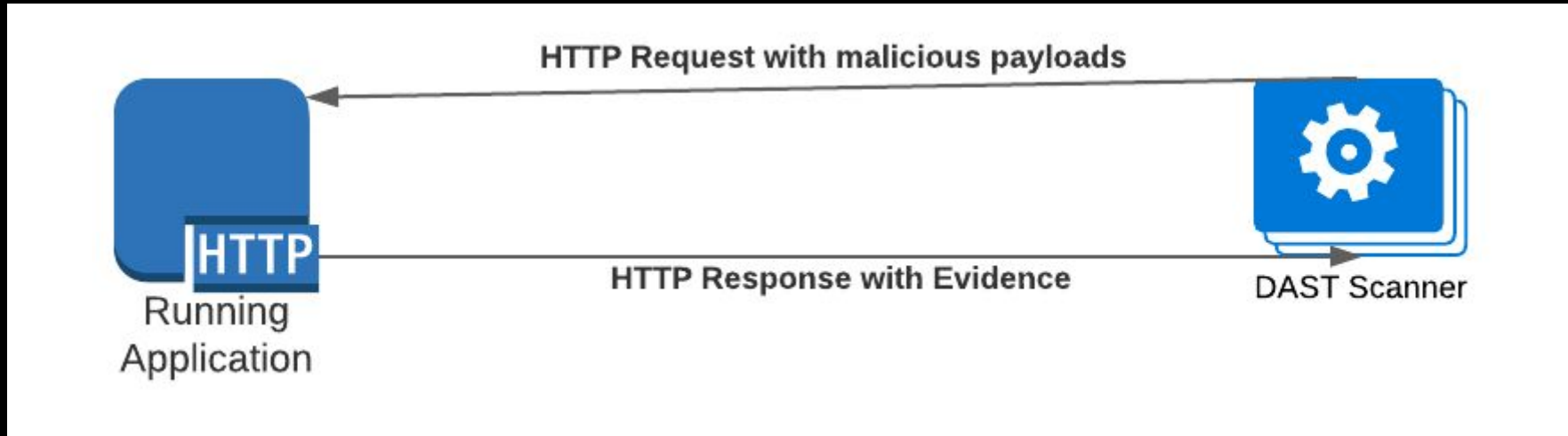
... 14 more in details

4) **HTTP Only Site**

Risk: **Medium**



# How it Works



## **Finds things like:**

SQL and OS Injection

Cross-Site Scripting Problems

Cookie Safety

Content Security Policy Problems

and other Web Application Security issues



# StackHawk Config

Simple YAML Configuration

Highlighted lines is all it takes

Stored with the project so CI can use it

Highly repeatable results

```
1  ✓ app:
2    applicationId: a919a264-de99-4087-b3b4-5939104caf9f
3    env: Development
4    host: http://localhost:3000
5
6  ✓ graphqlConf:
7    enabled: true
8    schemaPath: /graphql
9    requestMethod: POST
10   uriMaxLength: "4000"
11   maxDepth: "7"
12  ✓ introspection:
13     requestsPerCycle: "10"
14     requestDelay: "1000"
15   batchQueries: false
16   operation: ALL
17   filePath: ""
```



# StackHawk in CI/CD

## Integrations



Atlassian Bamboo



AWS Code Services



Azure Pipelines



CircleCI



Concourse CI



GitHub Actions



GitLab



Jenkins



Travis CI



# StackHawk in CI/CD - Today GitHub Actions

## Integrations



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Travis CI



# Example - Vulnerable Code

- post.js
- user.js
- seeders
- static
  - assets
    - 1
  - secret
- app.ts
- LICENSE
- package.json
- README.md
- run.sh
- tsconfig.json
- yarn.lock
- .dockerignore
- .gitignore
- docker-compose.yml
- docker-entrypoint.sh
- Dockerfile
- README.md
- stackhawk.yml

```
13      },
14      stderr: {
15        type: GraphQLString
16      }
17    }
18  })
19
20  export var SecretMutation: GraphQLFieldConfig<any,any,any> = {
21    type: CommandOutputType,
22    args: {
23      command: {
24        type: GraphQLString
25      }
26    },
27    resolve: async (_root: any, args: any, _info: any) => {
28      let command = args.command;
29      let results = await exec(command);
30      return results;
31    }
32  }
33
```





# Example - GitHub Actions

```
1  name: HawkScan
2  on:
3    push:
4    pull_request:
5  jobs:
6    hawkscan:
7      name: HawkScan
8      runs-on: ubuntu-latest
9      steps:
10         - name: Clone repo
11           uses: actions/checkout@v2
12         - name: Docker Build
13           run: SERVER_PORT=3000 docker-compose build
14         - name: Run GraphAPI
15           run: SERVER_PORT=3000 docker-compose up -d
16         - name: Run HawkScan
17           env:
18             API_KEY: ${secrets.HAWK_API_KEY}
19           run: >
20             docker run -v $(pwd):/hawk -t --network vuln-graphql_default
21             -e API_KEY="${API_KEY}"
22             stackhawk/hawkscan stackhawk.yml stackhawk-github.yml
```



# Example - The Scan Results

```
{"query":"query user($id:ID) { user(id:$id) { id username firstName lastName } }","variables":{"id":"1"}}
{"query":"query post($id:ID) { post(id:$id) { id title content public } }","variables":{"id":"1"}}
{"query":"query search($query:String) { search(query:$query) { id title content public } }","variables":{"query":"KaaaKaww"}}
... 1 additional URLs
Spider complete
Spider Crawled 4 URLs:
http://localhost:3000
  http://localhost:3000/graphql
  http://localhost:3000/robots.txt
  http://localhost:3000/sitemap.xml
Active Scan {'policy': 'c45e2369-6dd4-4b0f-bbd2-b9cc0c3cd228', 'target': 'http://localhost:3000'} complete
Hawk Scanned 5 URLs:
https://localhost
  http://localhost:3000
  http://localhost:3000/graphql
  http://localhost:3000/robots.txt
  http://localhost:3000/sitemap.xml
Results for scan id 5d073bff-7d2d-4906-b90a-d49c2662146d
Scan results for http://localhost:3000
-----
Criticality: New/Triaged
  High: 1/1    Medium: 22/0    Low: 46/0
-----
1) Remote OS Command Injection
  Risk: High
  Cheatsheet: https://github.com/OWASP/CheatSheetSeries/blob/master/cheatsheets/OS\_Command\_Injection\_Defense\_Cheat\_Sheet.md
  Paths (1):
    [New] POST /graphql
2) SQL Injection
  Risk: High
  Cheatsheet: https://github.com/OWASP/CheatSheetSeries/blob/master/cheatsheets/SQL\_Injection\_Prevention\_Cheat\_Sheet.md
  Paths (1):
    [Assigned] POST /graphql
```



# Example - Now with a GraphQL-like Interface

Cheatsheet  
[https://github.com/OWASP/CheatSheetSeries/blob/master/cheatsheets/OS\\_Command\\_Injection\\_Defense\\_Cheat\\_Sheet.md](https://github.com/OWASP/CheatSheetSeries/blob/master/cheatsheets/OS_Command_Injection_Defense_Cheat_Sheet.md)

☐ Actions

Display All 1 - 1 of 1

	Path	Status	Method
<input type="checkbox"/>	/graphql	New	POST

Request Headers

POST http://localhost:3000/graphql HTTP/1.1  
User-Agent: HawkScan/2.0; StackHawk, Inc. (https://www.stackhawk.com)  
Pragma: no-cache  
Cache-Control: no-cache  
Content-Length: 184  
Accept: application/json  
Content-Type: application/json  
Host: localhost:3000

Cookie Parameters

connect.sid=s%3AzsFmi0SKelNa8KaE2KCqXRHzTVYKL8zp.Y3Dzzup21htdWZivRlg7cUkGuYO

Query

mutation superSecretPrivateMutation(\$command: String) {  
 superSecretPrivateMutation(command: \$command) {  
 stdout  
 stderr  
 }  
}

Variables

{  
 "command": "KaaaKaww&cat /etc/passwd&"  
}













# Example - Let's Fix It!

```
20 export var SecretMutation: GraphQLFieldConfig<any,any,any> = {  
21   type: CommandOutputType,  
22   args: {  
23     command: {  
24       type: GraphQLString  
25     }  
26   },  
27   resolve: async (_root: any, args: any, _info: any) => {  
28     let command = '';  
29     switch(args.command){  
30       case 'disk':  
31         command = 'df -h';  
32         break;  
33       case 'log':  
34         command = 'tail -15 /var/log/dpkg.log';  
35         break;  
36       default:  
37         command = 'echo sorry, you have to pick a command';  
38     }  
39     let results = await exec(command);  
40     return results;  
41   }  
42 }
```



# Example - Good To Go!

 Scans  Applications  Integrations  Invite Users	All Applications ▾		All Environments ▾		Display 10 ▾	1 - 10 of 175
	Scan	Paths	 High (Triaged)	 Med (Triaged)	 Low (Triaged)	Completed
	GraphyGrapherson Development	 5	0 — (1)	22 ▲ (0)	46 ▲ (0)	Dec 07, 2020 at 15:16 MST
	GraphyGrapherson Development	 5	1 ▲ (1)	22 ▲ (0)	46 ▲ (0)	Dec 07, 2020 at 14:40 MST
	GraphyGrapherson Development	 5	1 ▲ (1)	22 ▲ (0)	48 ▲ (0)	Dec 07, 2020 at 14:29 MST



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# Recap

- Easy to Get Started - A few YAML lines and up and running
- Works in almost every CI system. Check on EVERY PR/MR
- Intuitive triage screens - Multiple ways to address an issue
- Scanner remembers - Don't re-address findings every time
- Gets out of your way - If there's no new issues, everything proceeds as normal
- Confidence - You are not making security mistakes in the code you write



# Useful Links

- GraphQL Example - <https://github.com/sgerlach/vuln-graphql/>
- StackHawk Documentation - <https://docs.stackhawk.com>
- Signup for a Free StackHawk Developer Account @ <https://www.stackhawk.com/free-plan/>
- Twitter - @stackhawk, @sgerlach





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**Thanks!**

