

# Before we start:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/PentesterLab/codereview-php
```

```
$ git clone https://github.com/PentesterLab/codereview-golang
```

```
https://github.com/snyff/Talks/blob/master/Intro Code Review Owasp BA.pdf
```



# Web Security Code Review Workshop

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## ABOUT ME:

- Founder and CEO of PentesterLab
- Ex: Pentester, Code Reviewer, AppSec Engineer





- Online Platform to Learn Code Review and Web Hacking / Web Penetration Testing
- Online Live Training Sessions on Web Security Code Review



# This WorkShop

- Introduction
- Routing
- Patterns
- CVE Analysis
- CVE-2008-1930
- Conclusion
- Hands-On Code Review



# INTRODUCTION

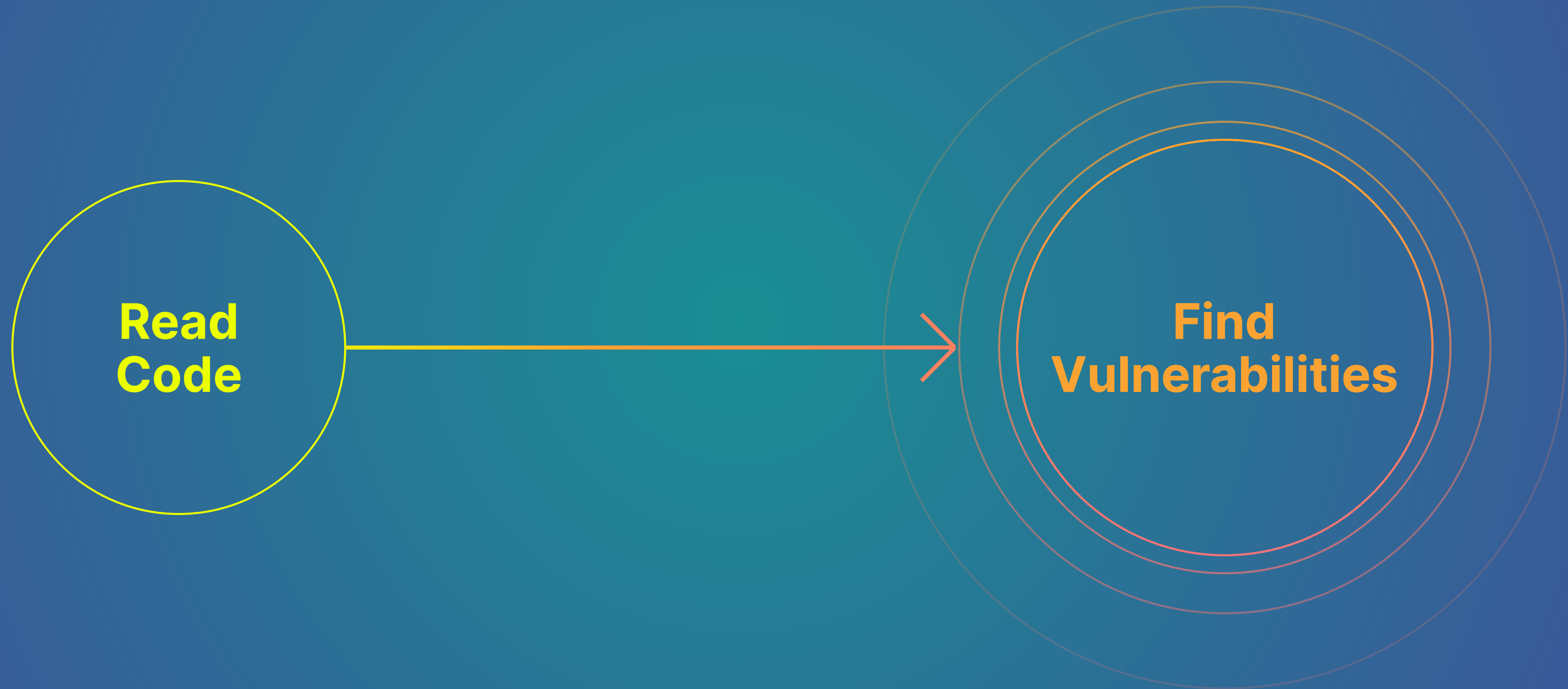


# Security Code Review is in demand

- Ability to find complex bugs
- Ability to find bugs that scanners can't find
- Ability to review changes prior to deployment (Agile, AppSec)
- Ability to find new classes of vulnerabilities
  
- Powerful skill for:
  - Developers
  - Penetration Testers
  - Security Engineers
  - Vulnerability Researchers / Exploit writers
  - QA/Test Engineer

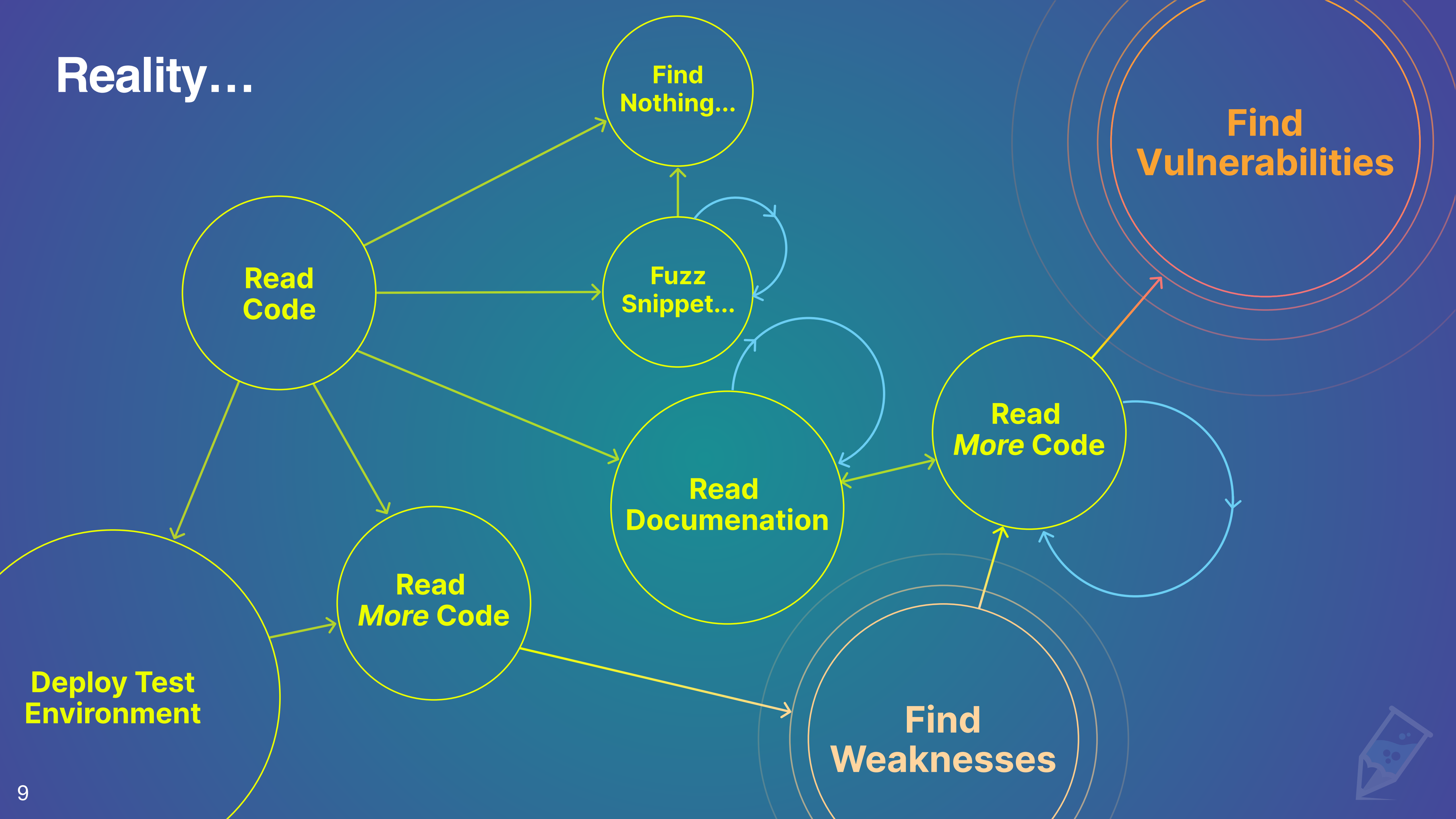


# Expectations...





# Reality...



# Security Code Review...

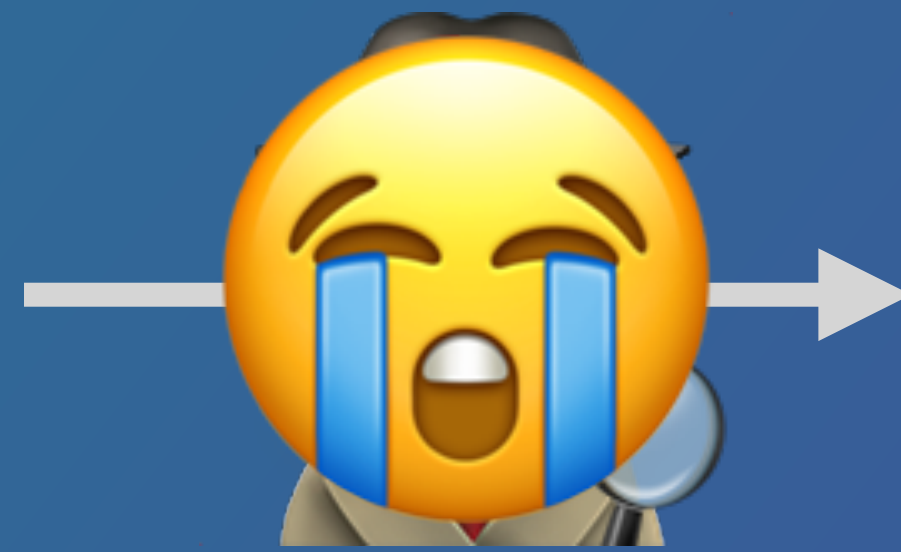


Source Code



Tooling  
(SAST, Grep, AI, ...)

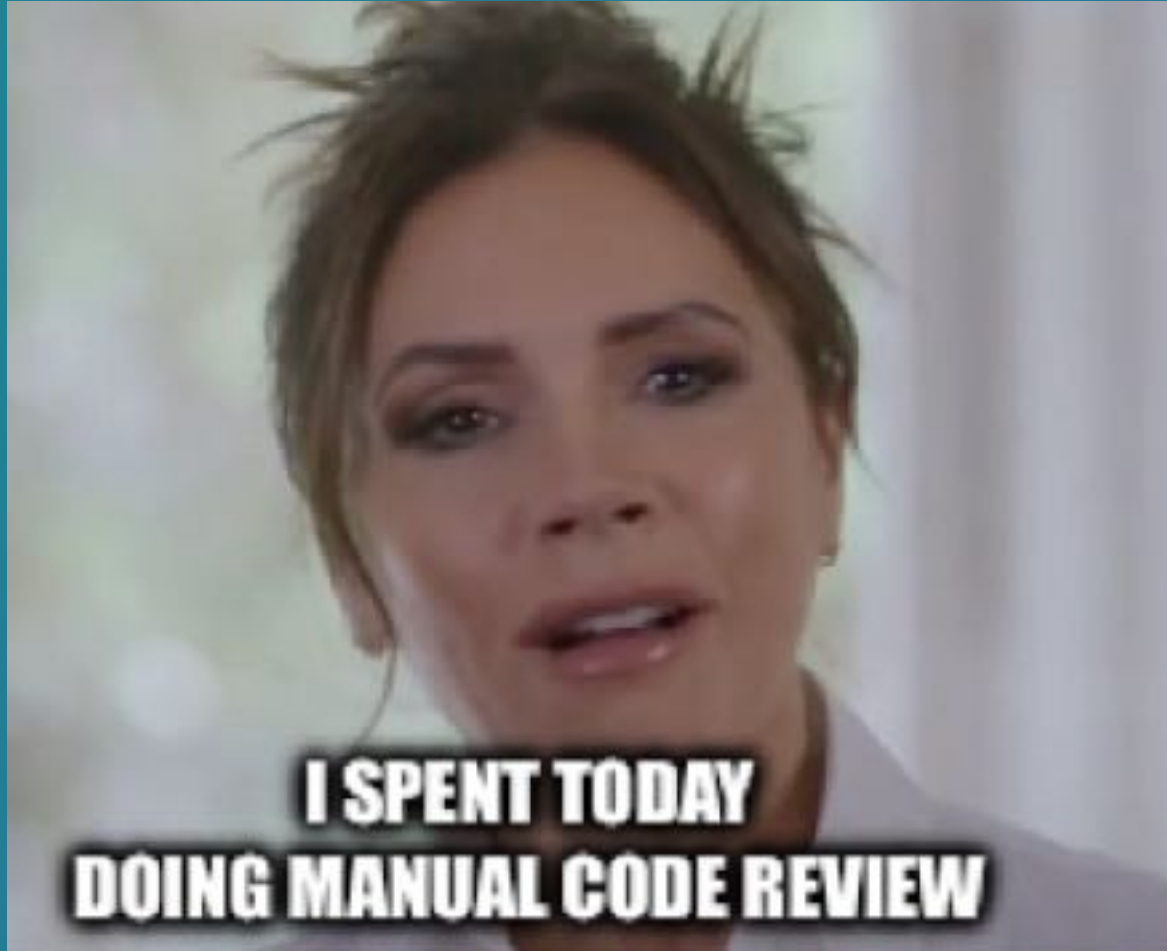
- ....
- ....
- ....
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- ....
- ....



XSS  
 SQL Injection

- ....
- ....
- ....
- ....
- ....
- ....
- ....
- ....
- ....
- ....




A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a white collared shirt, is speaking. The background is a bright window with greenery outside.


**I SPENT TODAY  
DOING MANUAL CODE REVIEW**

A man with short brown hair is peeking from behind a white vertical panel. He has a slight smile and is looking towards the woman.

**BE HONEST.**

The woman is speaking, looking slightly to her right. The background is the same bright window.

**I'M  
BEING HONEST.**

The man is peeking from behind the panel, looking directly at the woman with a questioning expression.

**WHAT DID  
YOU ACTUALLY DO?**

The woman is speaking, looking directly at the man. The background is the same bright window.

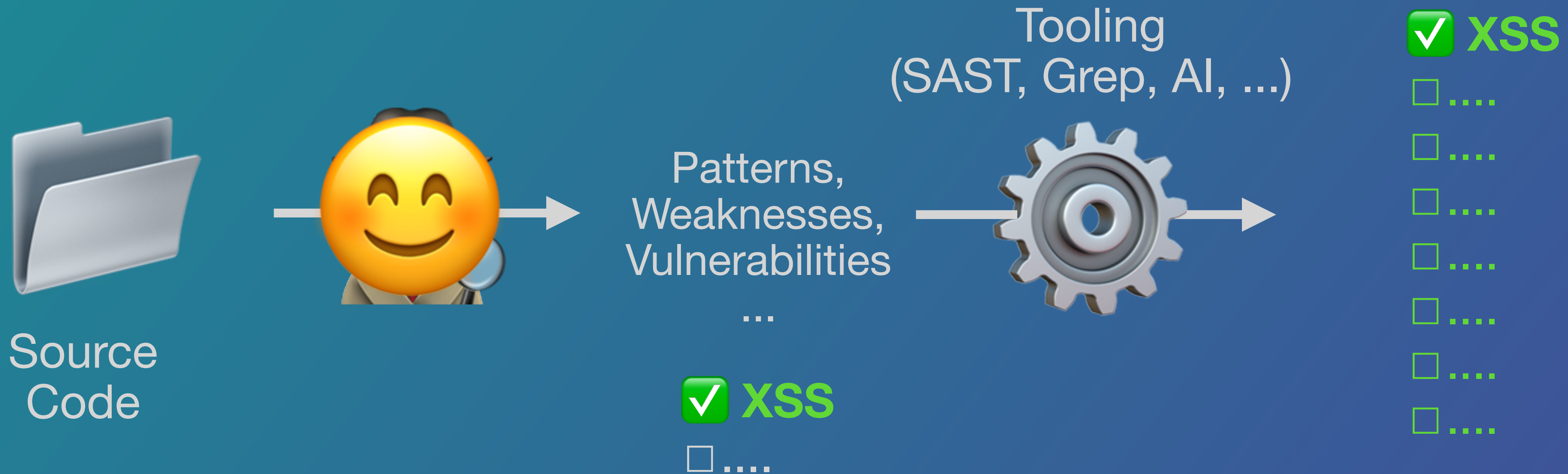
**I RAN GREP A  
FEW DOZEN TIMES**

The man is peeking from behind the panel, looking down with a satisfied or thoughtful expression.

**THANK YOU.**



# Security Code Review...



One of the main advantages of this approach is that it helps identify “unknown unknowns” — issues that automated tools may overlook.



# Should you know the language?

A good rule of thumb is that you need to know things that developers don't know:

- Something about a format used?
- A way to bypass a filter?
- Something about threat modelling?
- Something about the language?

The more things you know that the developers don't, the more likely you are to find vulnerabilities



# Should you know how to write code?

- It definitely helps!
- You don't need to be a "real" developer but knowing how applications are developed will speed up your work
- The more code you write, the more likely you are to guess:
  - What mistakes developers will make?
  - What shortcuts developers will take?
- The less you know, the more patient you will have to be



# Threat modeling

- Key component of code review
- If you don't know what can go wrong, you don't know what to check for
- Knowing about common bug classes for each type of feature or application is key
- Threat modeling gives "direction" to your review



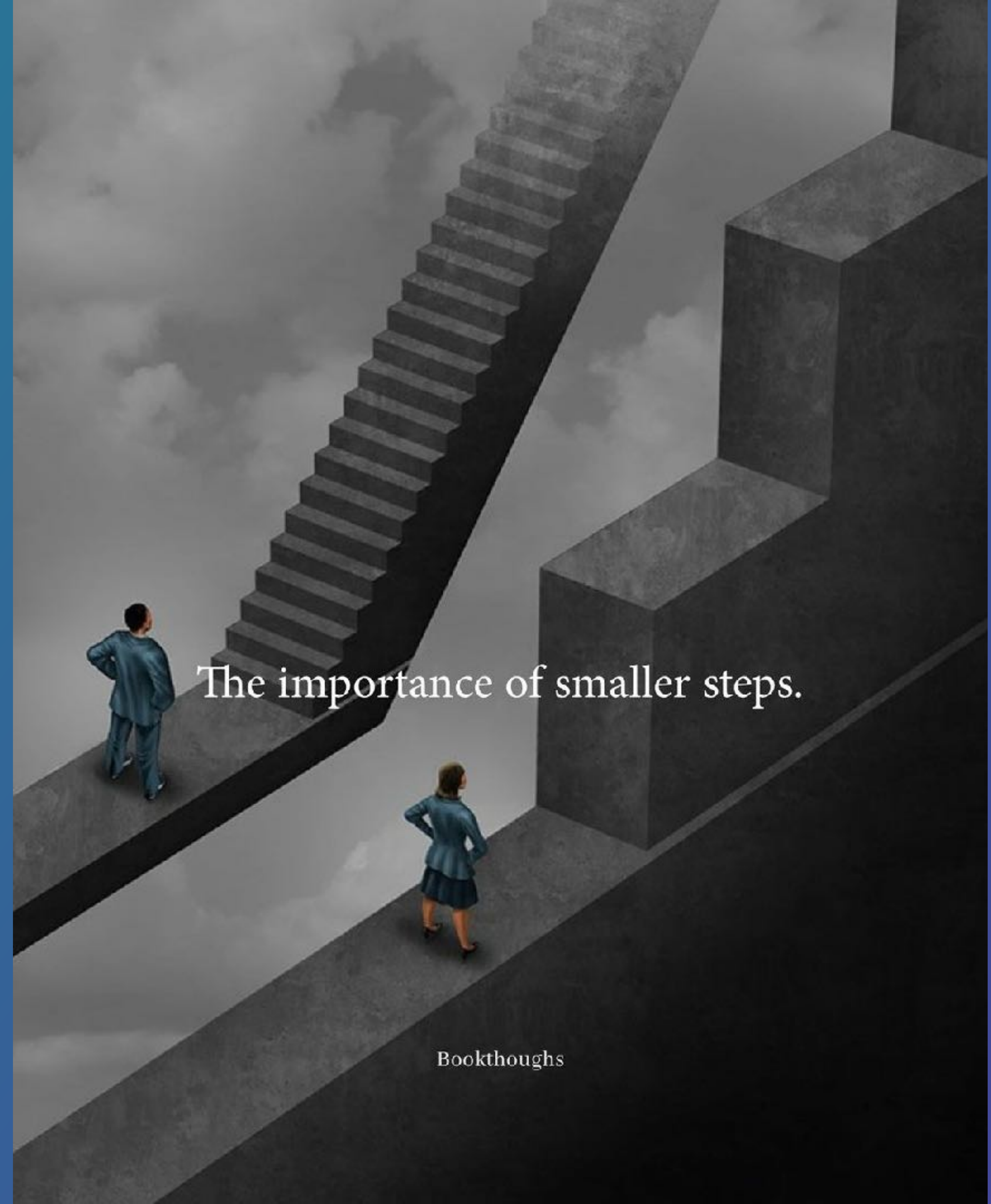
# Threat modeling: How to learn?

- There are many methodologies for threat modeling
- For web security code reviews, your best options are to:
  - Read pentest reports
  - Read bug bounty findings and write-ups
  - Follow research presented at conferences
  - Analyze CVE





# Picking your targets to learn...



# Picking your targets to learn...

- You need to find targets that are not too easy
- You need to find targets that are not too hard
- You need to find targets that allow you to grow
- You need to find targets to build resilience



# Picking your targets to learn...

1. Snippets
2. Diff from known/public vulnerabilities/CVE
3. Small or simple Libraries
4. Bigger or more complex Libraries
5. Small Applications
6. Larger Applications
7. Hard Targets



# Defining Success in Security Code Review

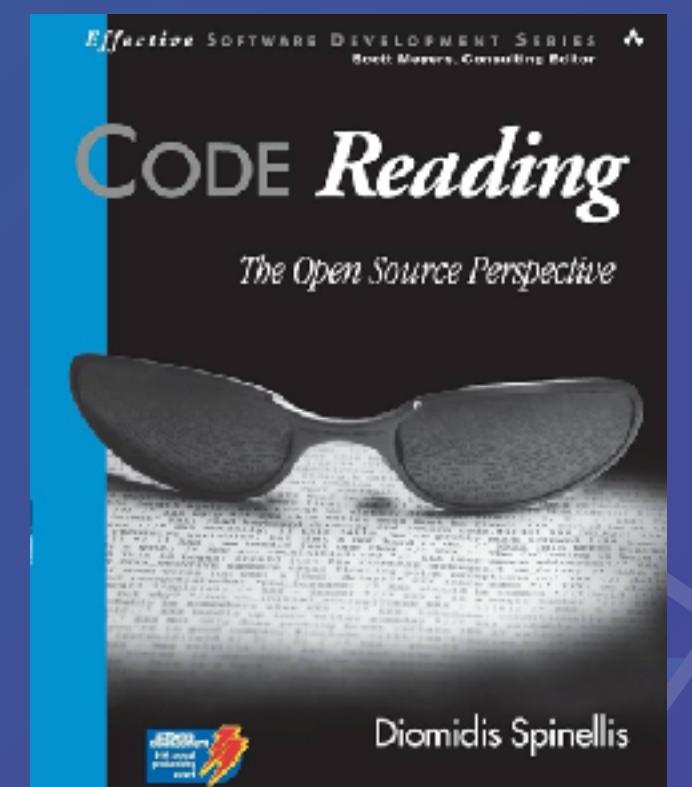
- You don't want to base your success based on the number of vulnerabilities you find or the impact of the vulnerabilities you find (especially when learning)
- Success should be based on:
  - Your progression in understanding a codebase
  - Learning ways a check or filter is implemented
  - Finding small weaknesses or potential improvements
  - Understanding complex patterns
  - Discovering new patterns (with and without security implications)



# READING CODE



*"An hour of code reading can save you a minute of reading the documentation"*



# READING THE CODE



## Notice:

- Things that are unusual
- When people reinvent the wheel
- Sketchy code
- Complexity
- Unchecked return values
- Checks:
  - What are they trying to prevent?
  - Are they preventing it properly?
  - Is there something else they should take care of but they don't?



# Reading code

- Every time you encounter a new function or method:
  - Read the documentation
  - Look for potential security improvements and issues
  - "Fuzz" it (REPL or docker)
  - Keep notes

*\*Bonus point for doing this over multiple versions of the same method/function...*



# Routing





# Routing?

How an application maps:

<https://...../foo/1234/bar> to actual code...

- And what is the impact on
  - What you need to review?
  - How you will perform your review?
- Multiple ways to define routing: FS, programmatically, configuration



# File System based

- Very common with (old, small, pure, immature) applications (mainly PHP)
- Accessing `/index.php` is mapped to running the code in the file `[WEBROOT]/index.php`
- Any file in the web root can potentially be accessed.
- The file's extension or the file's location will decide if the file gets:
  - interpreted/executed: the result of the execution is returned to the client.
  - served: the content of the file is returned to the client.



# Programmatically defined

- Code is used to map a route to code

```
package handler

import (
    "net/http"

    "github.com/gin-gonic/gin"
)

func GetRouter() *gin.Engine {
    router := gin.Default()

    router.GET("/", Welcome)
    router.POST("/register", Signup)
    router.POST("/login", Login)

    private := router.Group("/")
    private.Use(Authmiddleware())
    private.GET("/admin/user", Dashboard)
    private.GET("/send", SendMail)
    private.POST("/validate", validate)

    return router
}
```

# PATTERNS...



# Patterns

*When the sage points at the moon, the fool looks at the finger.*

- **A lot of issues in security are completely independent of the programming language**
- **In this section, we are going to explore patterns with implementation in multiple programming languages**
- **Make sure you focus on the pattern**



# Filter -> Modify -> Use

- The code does three things:
  1. Filters for malicious values
  2. Modifies the value
  3. Uses the value

CAN WE REINTRODUCE SOME  
OF THE FILTERED VALUES BACK  
USING THE MODIFICATION?



# Filter -> Modify -> Use



```
static String validateFileName( String filename )
    throws Exception {
    if( filename == null || filename.trim().isEmpty() ) {
        throw new Exception("Empty File Name");
    }
    final String[] splitpath = filename.split( "[/\\\\\\]" );
    filename = splitpath[splitpath.length-1];

    filename = filename.trim();

    // If file name ends with .jsp or .jspx,
    //the user is being naughty!
    if( filename.toLowerCase().endsWith( ".jsp" ) ||
        filename.toLowerCase().endsWith( ".jspx" ) ) {
        throw new Exception("Dangerous extension");
    }

    // Remove any characters that might be a problem.
    return filename.replaceAll("([#'\\"])", "" );
}
```



# Filter -> Modify -> Use



```
static String validateFileName( String filename )
    throws Exception {
    if( filename == null || filename.trim().isEmpty() ) {
        throw new Exception("Empty File Name");
    }
    final String[] splitpath = filename.split( "[/\\\\\\]" );
    filename = splitpath[splitpath.length-1];

    filename = filename.trim();

    // If file name ends with .jsp or .jspx,
    //the user is being naughty!
    if( filename.toLowerCase().endsWith( ".jsp" ) ||
        filename.toLowerCase().endsWith( ".jspx" ) ) {
        throw new Exception("Dangerous extension");
    }

    // Remove any characters that might be a problem.
    return filename.replaceAll("([#'\\"])", "" );
}
```

1





# Filter -> Modify -> Use



```
static String validateFileName( String filename )
    throws Exception {
    if( filename == null || filename.trim().isEmpty() ) {
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    }
    final String[] splitpath = filename.split( "[/\\\\\\]" );
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    filename = filename.trim();

    // If file name ends with .jsp or .jspx,
    //the user is being naughty!
    if( filename.toLowerCase().endsWith( ".jsp" ) ||
        filename.toLowerCase().endsWith( ".jspx" ) ) {
        throw new Exception("Dangerous extension");
    }

    // Remove any characters that might be a problem.
    return filename.replaceAll("( [?#'\\";] )", "" );
}
```

1

2



# Filter -> Modify -> Use



```
static String validateFileName( String filename )
    throws Exception {
    if( filename == null || filename.trim().isEmpty() ) {
        throw new Exception("Empty File Name");
    }
    final String[] splitpath = filename.split( "[/\\\\\\]" );
    filename = splitpath[splitpath.length-1];

    filename = filename.trim();

    // If file name ends with .jsp or .jspx,
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    if( filename.toLowerCase().endsWith( ".jsp" ) ||
        filename.toLowerCase().endsWith( ".jspx" ) ) {
        throw new Exception("Dangerous extension");
    }

    // Remove any characters that might be a problem.
    return filename.replaceAll("( [?#'\\";] )", "" );
}
```

1

2

**hack.jsp#**



# Filter -> Modify -> Use



```
public static String cleanName(String name) {
    return Normalizer.normalize(
        HtmlUtil.encode(
            name.replace(" ", "_")
                .replace("&", "")
                .replace("(", "")
                .replace(")", "")
                .replace(",", "")
                .replace("+", "_"), HtmlUtil.ENCODING_TEXT), Normalizer.Form.NFC);
}
```



# Filter -> Modify -> Use



```
public static String cleanName(String name) {  
    return Normalizer.normalize(  
        HtmlUtil.encode(  
            name.replace(" ", "_")  
                .replace("&", "")  
                .replace("(", "")  
                .replace(")", "")  
                .replace(",", "")  
                .replace("+", "_"), HtmlUtil.ENCODING_TEXT), Normalizer.Form.NFC);  
}
```

**Filter**



# Filter -> Modify -> Use



```
public static String cleanName(String name) {  
    return Normalizer.normalize(  
        HtmlUtil.encode(  
            name.replace(" ", "_")  
                .replace("&", "")  
                .replace("(", "")  
                .replace(")", "")  
                .replace(", ", "")  
                .replace("+", "_"), HtmlUtil.ENCODING_TEXT), Normalizer.Form.NFC);  
}
```

**Modify!**



# Filter -> Modify -> Use



```
public static String cleanName(String name) {  
    return Normalizer.normalize(  
        HtmlUtil.encode(  
            name.replace(" ", "_")  
                .replace("&", "")  
                .replace("(", "")  
                .replace(")", "")  
                .replace(",", "")  
                .replace("+", "_"), HtmlUtil.ENCORE_TEXT), Normalizer.Form.NFC);  
}
```

The modification may reintroduce things the code filtered...



# Filter -> Modify -> Use



```
- return java.text.Normalizer.normalize(
-     HtmlUtil.encode(
-         name.replace(" ", "_")
-             .replace("&", "")
-             .replace("(", "")
-             .replace(")", "")
-             .replace(",", "")
-             .replace("+", "_")
-             .replace(".", " "), HtmlUtil.ENCODE_TEXT), Normalizer.Form.NFC);
+ return HtmlUtil.encode(Normalizer.normalize(name, Normalizer.Form.NFC)
+     .replace(" ", "_")
+     .replace("&", "")
+     .replace("(", "")
+     .replace(")", "")
+     .replace(",", "")
+     .replace("+", "_"),
+     HtmlUtil.ENCODE_TEXT);
```

**Normalize then filter/escape**



# Matching is hard

*Ends with, contains, starts with...*

- When matching strings without using a Regular Expression, a lot of people get confused on what they are trying to achieve.
- "ends with", "contains", "starts with" may feel like they work similarly for the happy path but they rarely do in reality.





# Matching is hard

*Ends with, contains, starts with...*



```
isLibCurlDomain := strings.Contains(u.UserEmail, "@libcurl.so")
```



# Matching is hard

*Ends with, contains, starts with...*



```
isLibCurlDomain := strings.Contains(u.UserEmail, "@libcurl.so")
```

[louis@libcurl.so.pentesterlab.com](mailto:louis@libcurl.so.pentesterlab.com)



# Not matching the correct value...

*Ends with, contains, starts with...*



```
func authMiddleware(next http.Handler) http.Handler {
    return http.HandlerFunc(func(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request) {
        tokenString := r.Header.Get("Authorization")

        claims := &Claims{}

        token, err := jwt.ParseWithClaims(tokenString, claims, func(token *jwt.Token) (interface{}, error) {
            return jwtKey, nil
        })

        if err != nil {
            http.Error(w, "Invalid token", http.StatusUnauthorized)
            return
        }

        if !token.Valid {
            http.Error(w, "Invalid token", http.StatusUnauthorized)
            return
        }

        if !strings.Contains(r.URL.String(), "health") && claims.Username != "admin" {
            http.Error(w, "You don't have access to the key", http.StatusUnauthorized)
            return
        }

        next.ServeHTTP(w, r)
    })
}
```



# Not matching the correct value...

*Ends with, contains, starts with...*



```
func authMiddleware(next http.Handler) http.Handler {
    return http.HandlerFunc(func(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request) {
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        if err != nil {
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            return
        }

        if !token.Valid {
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            return
        }

        if !strings.Contains(r.URL.String(), "health") && claims.Username != "admin" {
            http.Error(w, "You don't have access to the key", http.StatusUnauthorized)
            return
        }

        next.ServeHTTP(w, r)
    })
}
```



# Not matching the correct value...

*Ends with, contains, starts with...*



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        }

        if !token.Valid {
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            return
        }

        if !strings.Contains(r.URL.String(), "health") && claims.Username != "admin" {
            http.Error(w, "You don't have access to the key", http.StatusUnauthorized)
            return
        }
        next.ServeHTTP(w, r)
    })
}
```

**r.URL.String() vs r.URL.Path**



# Reinventing the wheel!

- Never a good idea (always a bad idea when dealing with crypto)
- For most common operations, programming languages provide built-in functions or methods, such as:
  - String manipulations: uppercase, lowercase, split, cut
  - File manipulations: getting the file extension from a filename, extracting the filename from a path, etc.
- When developers write their own versions, they're likely to overlook odd edge cases that the built-in functions already handle
- Compare the built-in source code with the code written by the developers!



# Play Session Injection



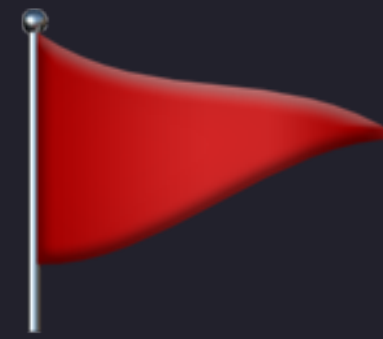
```
void save() {  
    [...]  
    try {  
        StringBuilder session = new StringBuilder();  
        for (String key : data.keySet()) {  
            session.append("\u0000");  
            session.append(key);  
            session.append(":");  
            session.append(data.get(key));  
            session.append("\u0000");  
        }  
        String sessionData =  
            URLEncoder.encode(session.toString(), "utf-8");  
        String sign = Crypto.sign(sessionData,  
                                   Play.secretKey.getBytes());  
    }  
}
```



# Play Session Injection



```
void save() {  
    [...]  
    try {  
        StringBuilder session = new StringBuilder();  
        for (String key : data.keySet()) {  
            session.append("\u0000");  
            session.append(key);  
            session.append(":");  
            session.append(data.get(key));  
            session.append("\u0000");  
        }  
        String sessionData =  
            URLEncoder.encode(session.toString(), "utf-8");  
        String sign = Crypto.sign(sessionData,  
            Play.secretKey.getBytes());  
    }  
}
```



**They are  
reinventing a  
serialiser**





# Play Session Injection



```
void save() {  
  [...]  
  try {  
    StringBuilder session = new StringBuilder();  
    for (String key : data.keySet()) {  
      session.append("\u0000");  
      session.append(key);  
      session.append(":");  
      session.append(data.get(key));  
      session.append("\u0000");  
    }  
    String sessionData =
```

Session: {"key1": "value1", "key2": "value2"}

becomes "\x00key1:value1\x00\x00key2:value2\x00"



# Play Session Injection



```
void save() {  
    [...]  
    try {  
        StringBuilder session = new StringBuilder();  
        for (String key : data.keySet()) {  
            session.append("\u0000");  
            session.append(key);  
            session.append(":");  
            session.append(data.get(key));  
            session.append("\u0000");  
        }  
        String sessionData =
```

Session: {"username": "louis", "email": "louis@pentesterlab.com"}

becomes "\x00username:louis\x00\x00email:louis@pentesterlab.com\x00"



# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\\u0000([^\:]*):([^\u0000]*)\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
                                    Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```



# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\\u0000( [^:]*):( [^\u0000]*)\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**They loop through the elements in the session**



# Play Session Injection

```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\u0000(?:[:]*)([^\u0000]*)\u0000");
    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

They loop through the elements in the session

"\x00key1:value1\x00\x00key2:value2\x00" becomes:

"\x00key1:value1\x00" => session.put("key1" , "value1")

"\x00key2:value2\x00" => session.put("key2" , "value2")



# Play Session Injection



```
public void put(String key, String value) {
    if (key.contains(":")) {
        throw new IllegalArgumentException(
            "Character ':' is invalid in a session key.");
    }
    [...]
    if (value == null) {
        data.remove(key);
    } else {
        data.put(key, value);
    }
}
```



# Play Session Injection



```
public void put(String key, String value) {  
    if (key.contains(":")) {  
        throw new IllegalArgumentException(  
            "Character ':' is invalid in a session key.");  
    }  
    [...]   
    if (value == null) {  
        data.remove(key);  
    } else {  
        data.put(key, value);  
    }  
}
```



**No checks to prevent separators (':' or NULL BYTE) in the value**



# Play Session Injection



```
public void put(String key, String value) {  
    if (key.contains(":")) {  
        throw new IllegalArgumentException(  
            "Character ':' is invalid in a session key.");  
    }  
    [...]  
    if (value == null) {  
        data.remove(key);  
    } else {  
        data.put(key, value);  
    }  
}
```

**As a client, we most likely only have access to the value.**





# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\\u0000([^\:]*):([^\u0000]*)\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**username=[USER-CONTROLLED]**



# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\\u0000( [^:]* ): ( [^\u0000]* )\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**username=louis**



# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\\u0000( [^:]* ): ( [^\u0000]* )\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**username=louis => session.put("username", "louis")**



# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\\u0000( [^:]* ): ( [^\u0000]* )\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if (firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes()))) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**username=louis => session.put("username", "louis")  
=> "\\x00username:louis\x00"**



# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\\u0000([^\:]*):([^\u0000]*)\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}

username=louis\x00\x00username:admin
```



# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\u0000(?:[^\u0000]*)\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**username=louis\x00\x00username:admin**

**=> session.put("username", "louis\x00\x00username:admin")**



# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\u0000(?:[^\u0000]*):([\u0000]*)\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**username=louis\x00\x00username:admin**

**=> session.put("username", "louis\x00\x00username:admin")**

**=> \x00username:louis\x00\x00username:admin\x00**



# Play Session Injection



```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\u0000(?:[^\u0000]*):([\u0000]*)\u0000");

    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

**username=louis\x00\x00username:admin**

**=> session.put("username", "louis\x00\x00username:admin")**

**=> \x00username:louis\x00\x00username:admin\x00**





# Play Session Injection

```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\u0000(?:[^\u0000]*)\u0000");
    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if (firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

They loop through the elements in the session

`\x00username:louis\x00\x00username:admin\x00` becomes

`"\x00username:louis\x00"` => `session.put("username", "louis")`

`"\x00username:admin\x00"` => `session.put("username", "admin")`



# Play Session Injection

```
public static class Session {
    static Pattern sessionParser =
        Pattern.compile("\u0000(?:[^\u0000]*)\u0000");
    [...]

    String value = cookie.value;
    int firstDashIndex = value.indexOf("-");
    if(firstDashIndex > -1) {
        String sign = value.substring(0, firstDashIndex);
        String data = value.substring(firstDashIndex + 1);
        if (sign.equals(Crypto.sign(data,
            Play.secretKey.getBytes())) {
            String sessionData = URLDecoder.decode(data, "utf-8");
            Matcher matcher = sessionParser.matcher(sessionData);
            while (matcher.find()) {
                session.put(matcher.group(1), matcher.group(2));
            }
        }
    }
}
```

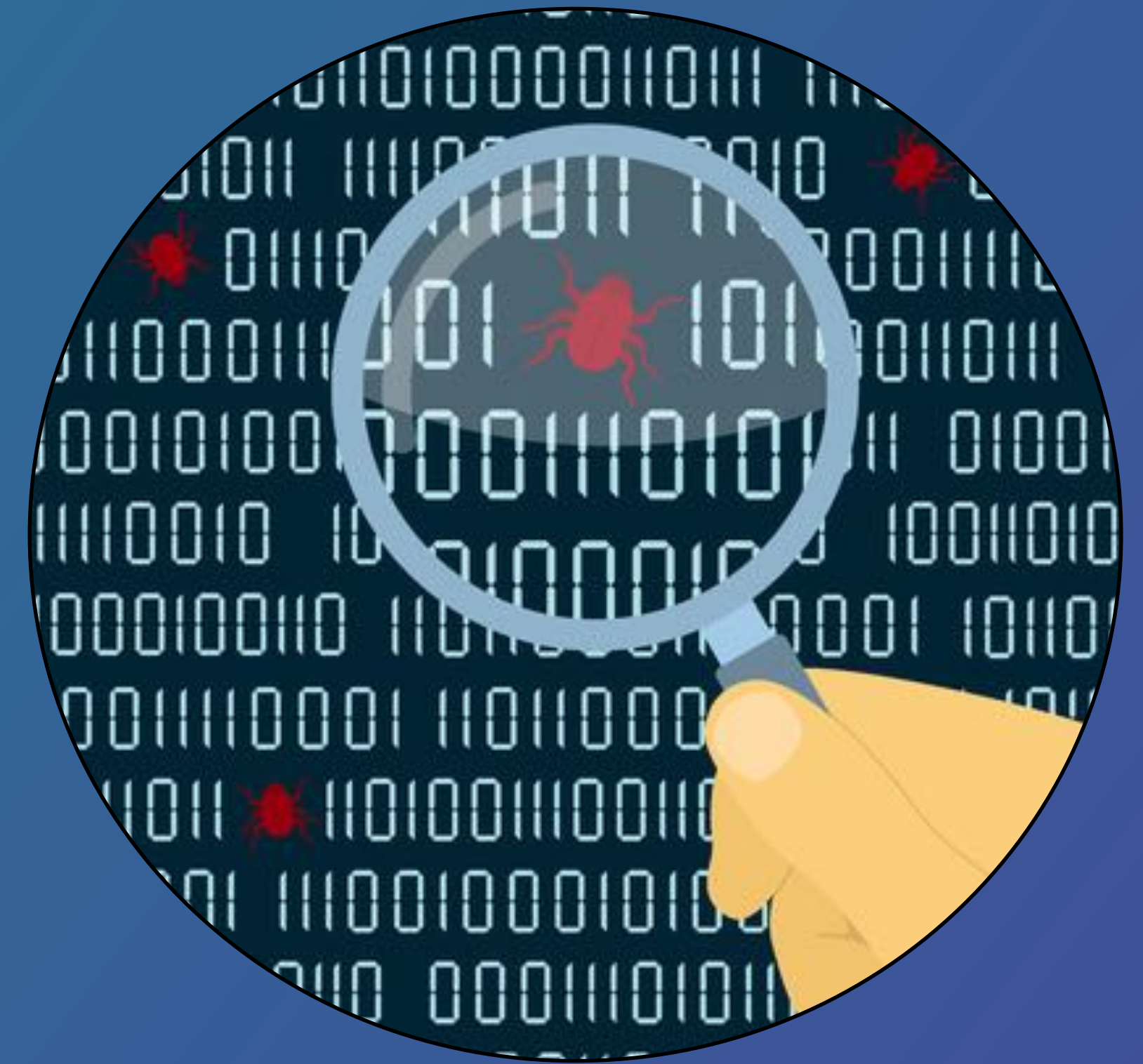
They loop through the elements in the session

`\x00username:louis\x00\x00username:admin\x00` becomes

`"\x00username:louis\x00"` => `session.put("username" , "louis")`

`"\x00username:admin\x00"` => `session.put("username" , "admin")` (OVERWRITE)

# CVE ANALYSIS



# Why?



- Deliberate practice
- Learning new patterns
- Learning how to fix issues
- Find incomplete patches



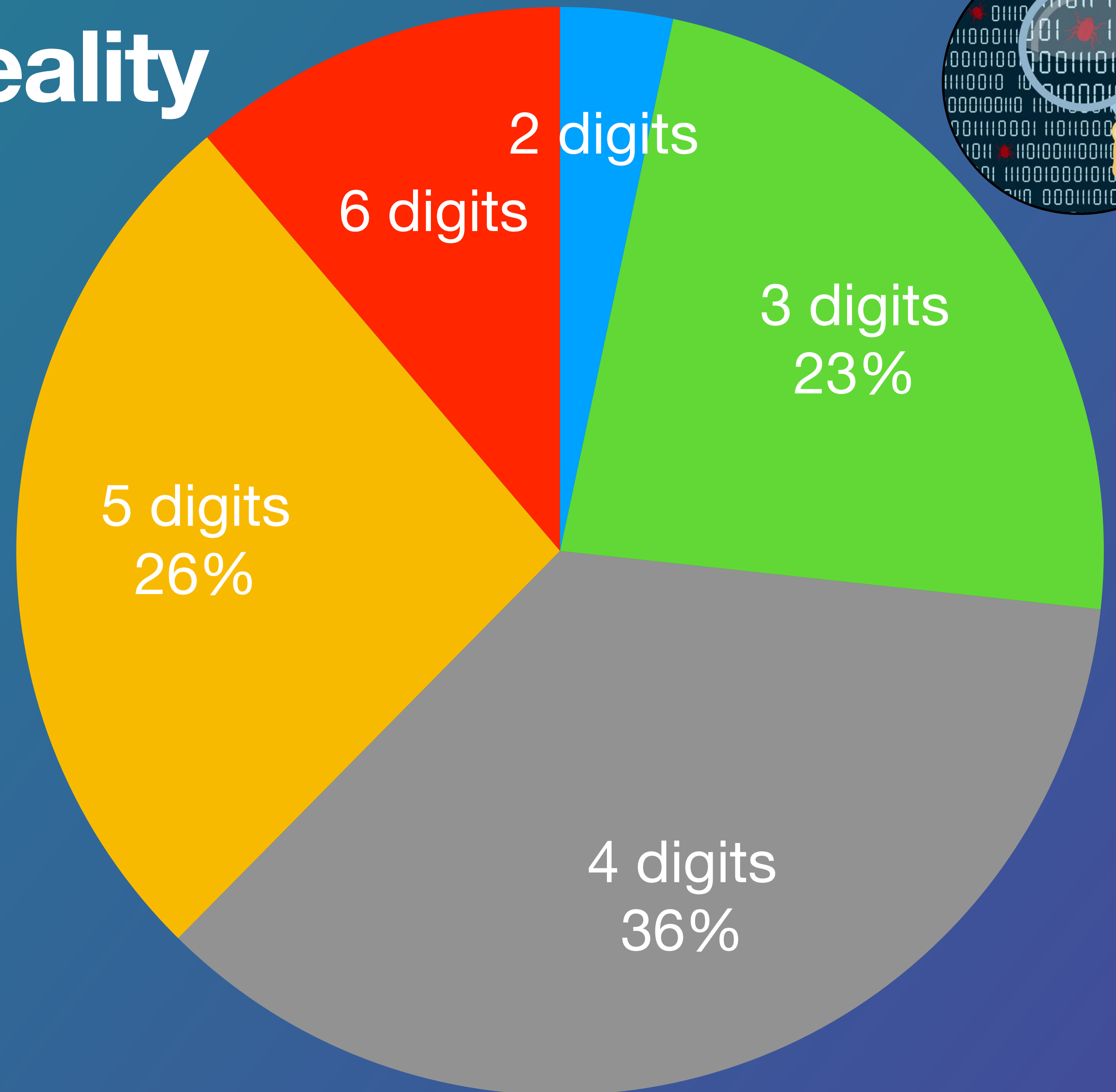
# Analysing CVE (Code Review)

- Read the advisory!
- Clone the repository
- Find the tag for the vulnerable and fixed versions
- Extract a patch/diff
- Analyse the patch/diff:
  - What does the vulnerable code look like?
  - What does the fix look like?
  - Is this properly fixed?
  - More vulnerabilities in the same area?



# Expectations vs Reality

575 CVEs (diff based on vulnerable version versus patched version):



# Expectations vs Reality



[VULNERABLE ]   [PATCHED]

[VULNERABLE ]    [PATCHED]

[VULNERABLE ]     [PATCHED]

[VULNERABLE ]      [PATCHED]

[VULNERABLE ]       [PATCHED]



# Methodology





# Analysing CVE (Code Review)

<https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero/security/advisories/GHSA-fgxv-gw55-r5fq>

## Authorization Bypass Through User-Controlled Key in go-zero

**Critical** kevwan published GHSA-fgxv-gw55-r5fq 2 weeks ago

Package

 [github.com/zeromicro/go-zero](https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero) (Go)

Affected versions

< v1.4.4

Patched versions

None

Severity

**Critical** 9.1 / 10



# Analysing CVE (Code Review)

<https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero/security/advisories/GHSA-fgxv-gw55-r5fq>



```
$ git clone https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero/security/
```



# Analysing CVE (Code Review)

<https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero/security/advisories/GHSA-fgxv-gw55-r5fq>

```
● ● ●  
$ git clone https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero/  
  
$ cd go-zero  
  
$ git tag
```



# Analysing CVE (Code Review)

<https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero/security/advisories/GHSA-fgxv-gw55-r5fq>

## Authorization Bypass Through User-Controlled Key in go-zero

**Critical** kevwan published GHSA-fgxv-gw55-r5fq 2 weeks ago

Package	Affected versions	Patched versions	Severity
<a href="https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero">github.com/zeromicro/go-zero</a> (Go)	< v1.4.4	None	<b>Critical</b> 9.1 / 10

```
$ cd go-zero
```

```
$ git tag
```

```
$ git diff v1.4.3...v1.4.4
```



```
$ git clone https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero/
```

```
$ cd go-zero
```

```
$ git tag
```

```
$ git diff v1.4.3...v1.4.4
```

```
$ git diff v1.4.3...v1.4.4 | grep -i cors
```

```
$ git tag
```

```
$ git diff v1.4.3...v1.5.1 | grep -i cors
```

# Analysing CVE (Code Review)

<https://github.com/zeromicro/go-zero/security/advisories/GHSA-fgxv-gw55-r5fq>



```
$ git diff v1.4.3...v1.5.1 | grep -i cors
@@ -535,3 +535,91 @@ func TestServer_WithCors(t *testing.T) {
snyff@snyffs-Air go-zero % git diff v1.4.3...v1.5.1 | grep cors
diff --git a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
--- a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
+++ b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
diff --git a/rest/internal/cors/handlers_test.go b/rest/internal/cors/handlers_test.go
--- a/rest/internal/cors/handlers_test.go
+++ b/rest/internal/cors/handlers_test.go
    "github.com/zeromicro/go-zero/rest/internal/cors"
```



```

% git diff v1.4.3...v1.5.1 rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
diff --git a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
index e2a64b74..133b47dd 100644
--- a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
+++ b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
@@ -77,12 +77,19 @@ func checkAndSetHeaders(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request,
origins []string
}

func isOriginAllowed(allows []string, origin string) bool {
-   for _, o := range allows {
-       if o == allOrigins {
+   origin = strings.ToLower(origin)
+
+   for _, allow := range allows {
+       if allow == allOrigins {
+           return true
+       }
+
+       allow = strings.ToLower(allow)
+       if origin == allow {
+           return true
+       }
+
+       if strings.HasSuffix(origin, o) {
+       if strings.HasSuffix(origin, "."+allow) {
+           return true
+       }
}
}

```



```

% git diff v1.4.3...v1.5.1 rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
diff --git a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
index e2a64b74..133b47dd 100644
--- a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
+++ b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
@@ -77,12 +77,19 @@ func checkAndSetHeaders(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request,
origins []string
}

func isOriginAllowed(allows []string, origin string) bool {
-   for _, o := range allows {
-       if o == allOrigins {
+   origin = strings.ToLower(origin)
+   for _, allow := range allows {
+       if allow == allOrigins {
+           return true
+       }
+       allow = strings.ToLower(allow)
+       if origin == allow {
+           return true
+       }
-       if strings.HasSuffix(origin, o) {
+       if strings.HasSuffix(origin, "."+allow) {
+           return true
+       }
}
}

```

**They wanted to allow an origin and all subdomains of the origin...**





```

% git diff v1.4.3...v1.5.1 rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
diff --git a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
index e2a64b74..133b47dd 100644
--- a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
+++ b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
@@ -77,12 +77,19 @@ func checkAndSetHeaders(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request,
origins []string
}

func isOriginAllowed(allows []string, origin string) bool {
-   for _, o := range allows {
-       if o == allOrigins {
+   origin = strings.ToLower(origin)
+   for _, allow := range allows {
+       if allow == allOrigins {
+           return true
+       }
+       allow = strings.ToLower(allow)
+       if origin == allow {
+           return true
+       }
-       if strings.HasSuffix(origin, o) {
+       if strings.HasSuffix(origin, "."+allow) {
+           return true
+       }
}

```

**They actually allowed all hostnames ending with the origin**



```

% git diff v1.4.3...v1.5.1 rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
diff --git a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
index e2a64b74..133b47dd 100644
--- a/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
+++ b/rest/internal/cors/handlers.go
@@ -77,12 +77,19 @@ func checkAndSetHeaders(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request,
origins []string
}

func isOriginAllowed(allows []string, origin string) bool {
-   for _, o := range allows {
-       if o == allOrigins {
+   origin = strings.ToLower(origin)
+   for _, allow := range allows {
+       if allow == allOrigins {
+           return true
+       }
+       allow = strings.ToLower(allow)
+       if origin == allow {
+           return true
+       }
-   if strings.HasSuffix(origin, o) {
+   if strings.HasSuffix(origin, "."+allow) {
+       return true
+   }
}

```

**They actually allowed all hostnames ending with the origin**

**[pentesterlab.com](http://pentesterlab.com) -> [hackedbypentesterlab.com](http://hackedbypentesterlab.com)**



# Analysing CVE (Code Review)



```
$ git show v1.4.3:rest/internal/cors/handlers.go > handlers.go-before
```



# Analysing CVE (Code Review)



```
$ git show v1.4.3:rest/internal/cors/handlers.go > handlers.go-before
```

```
$ git show v1.5.1:rest/internal/cors/handlers.go > handlers.go-after
```



# CVE-2008-1930





```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
```



```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {  
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {  
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )  
            return false;  
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];  
    }  
}
```



```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {  
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {  
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )  
            return false;  
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];  
    }  
}
```

```
list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);
```

```
$expired = $expiration;
```





```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )
            return false;
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];
    }

    list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);

    $expired = $expiration;

    // Allow a grace period for POST and AJAX requests
    if ( defined('DOING_AJAX') ||
        'POST' == $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] )
        $expired += 3600;
}
```



```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )
            return false;
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];
    }

    list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);

    $expired = $expiration;

    // Allow a grace period for POST and AJAX requests
    if ( defined('DOING_AJAX') ||
        'POST' == $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] )
        $expired += 3600;

    if ( $expired < time() )
        return false;
}
```



```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )
            return false;
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];
    }

    list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);

    $expired = $expiration;

    // Allow a grace period for POST and AJAX requests
    if ( defined('DOING_AJAX') ||
        'POST' == $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] )
        $expired += 3600;

    if ( $expired < time() )
        return false;

    $key = wp_hash($username . $expiration);
```



```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )
            return false;
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];
    }

    list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);

    $expired = $expiration;

    // Allow a grace period for POST and AJAX requests
    if ( defined('DOING_AJAX') ||
        'POST' == $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] )
        $expired += 3600;

    if ( $expired < time() )
        return false;

    $key = wp_hash($username . $expiration);
    $hash = hash_hmac('md5', $username . $expiration, $key);
```



```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )
            return false;
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];
    }

    list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);

    $expired = $expiration;

    // Allow a grace period for POST and AJAX requests
    if ( defined('DOING_AJAX') ||
        'POST' == $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] )
        $expired += 3600;

    if ( $expired < time() )
        return false;

    $key = wp_hash($username . $expiration);
    $hash = hash_hmac('md5', $username . $expiration, $key);

    if ( $hmac != $hash )
        return false;
}
```



```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )
            return false;
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];
    }

    list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);

    $expired = $expiration;

    // Allow a grace period for POST and AJAX requests
    if ( defined('DOING_AJAX') ||
        'POST' == $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] )
        $expired += 3600;

    if ( $expired < time() )
        return false;

    $key = wp_hash($username . $expiration);
    $hash = hash_hmac('md5', $username . $expiration, $key);

    if ( $hmac != $hash )
        return false;

    $user = get_userdata_bylogin($username);
    if ( ! $user )
        return false;

    return $user->ID;
}
```



admin:1353464343:16849b89783b5918a41bbd29a3c4bbf6

admin  
1353464343  
16849b89783b5918a41bbd29a3c4bbf6

**hmac(admin1353464343)**

```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )
            return false;
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];
    }

    list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);

    $expired = $expiration;

    // Allow a grace period for POST and AJAX requests
    if ( defined('DOING_AJAX') ||
        'POST' == $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] )
        $expired += 3600;

    if ( $expired < time() )
        return false;

    $key = wp_hash($username . $expiration);
    $hash = hash_hmac('md5', $username . $expiration, $key);

    if ( $hmac != $hash )
        return false;

    $user = get_userdata_bylogin($username);
    if ( ! $user )
        return false;

    return $user->ID;
}
```

admin1:1353464343:1ba7d82099dd6119781b54ecf8b79259

admin1  
1353464343  
1ba7d82099dd6119781b54ecf8b79259

**hmac(admin11353464343)**

```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )
            return false;
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];
    }

    list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);

    $expired = $expiration;

    // Allow a grace period for POST and AJAX requests
    if ( defined('DOING_AJAX') ||
        'POST' == $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] )
        $expired += 3600;

    if ( $expired < time() )
        return false;

    $key = wp_hash($username . $expiration);
    $hash = hash_hmac('md5', $username . $expiration, $key);

    if ( $hmac != $hash )
        return false;

    $user = get_userdata_bylogin($username);
    if ( ! $user )
        return false;

    return $user->ID;
}
```



admin**1**:1353464343:1ba7d82099dd6119781b54ecf8b79259  
admin:**11353464343**:1ba7d82099dd6119781b54ecf8b79259

admin  
11353464343  
**1ba7d82099dd6119781b54ecf8b79259**

hmac(admin11353464343)

hmac(admin**11353464343**)

```
function wp_validate_auth_cookie($cookie = '') {
    if ( empty($cookie) ) {
        if ( empty($_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE]) )
            return false;
        $cookie = $_COOKIE[AUTH_COOKIE];
    }

    list($username, $expiration, $hmac) = explode('|', $cookie);

    $expired = $expiration;

    // Allow a grace period for POST and AJAX requests
    if ( defined('DOING_AJAX') ||
        'POST' == $_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'] )
        $expired += 3600;

    if ( $expired < time() )
        return false;

    $key = wp_hash($username . $expiration);
    $hash = hash_hmac('md5', $username . $expiration, $key);

    if ( $hmac != $hash )
        return false;

    $user = get_userdata_bylogin($username);
    if ( ! $user )
        return false;

    return $user->ID;
}
```

# The Fix



```
● ● ●  
- $key = wp_hash($username . $expiration);  
- $hash = hash_hmac('md5', $username . $expiration, $key);  
+ $key = wp_hash($username . '|' . $expiration);  
+ $hash = hash_hmac('md5', $username . '|' . $expiration, $key);
```

**Lesson learned:**  
**Always include a delimiter between values  
when signing data.**



CONCLUSION 🤔



# Assumptions!

*Developers, yours, ...*







*“All important targets require substantial initial investments before discovering and consistently discovering vulnerabilities.”*

*- Silvio Cesare*



**If you create software, you  
may have as many CVEs as you want**



**And don't forget to  
add them all to your CV!**



# Keeping in touch



<https://pentesterlab.com/>



<https://pentesterlab.com/live-training/>



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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/snyff/>



[@PentesterLab](#) and [@snyff](#)





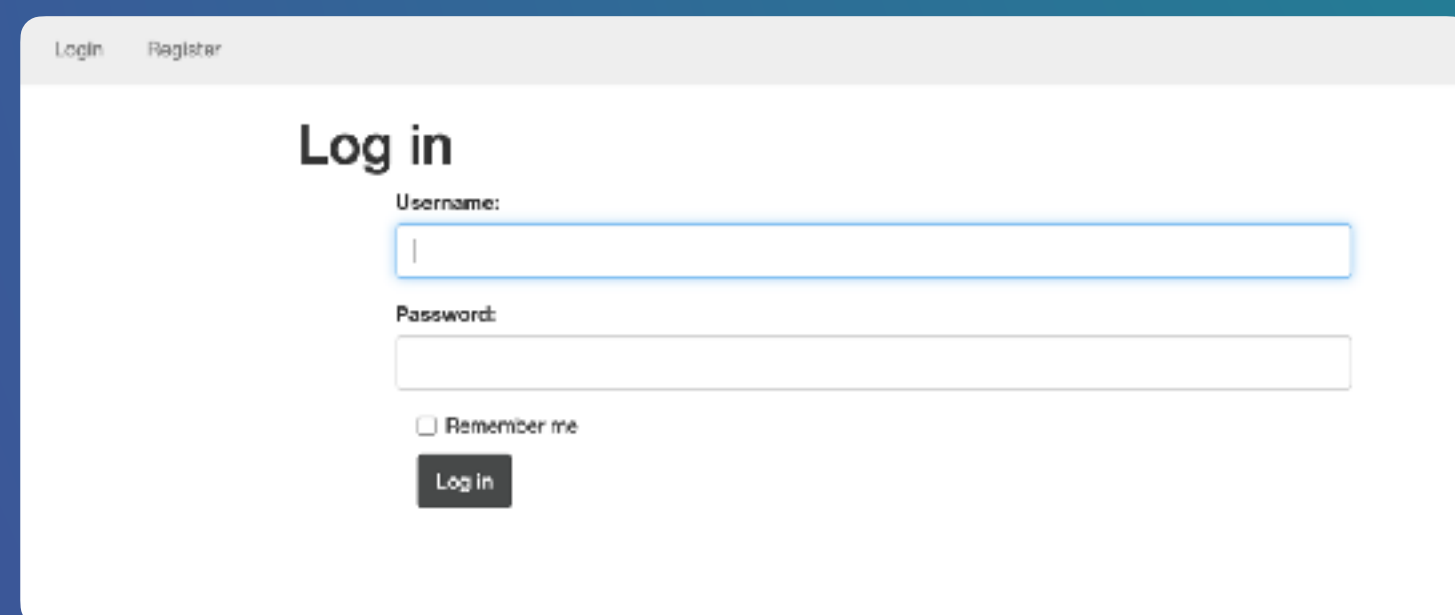
# Conclusion

- Practice makes perfect
- There are still **\*\*PLENTY\*\*** of bugs to be found
- Keep notes!
- Now it's time to review some code!



# Hands-On 🤝

- One application written in both Golang and PHP:
  - PHP: <https://github.com/PentesterLab/codereview-php>
  - Golang: <https://github.com/PentesterLab/codereview-golang>
- A lot of vulnerabilities...



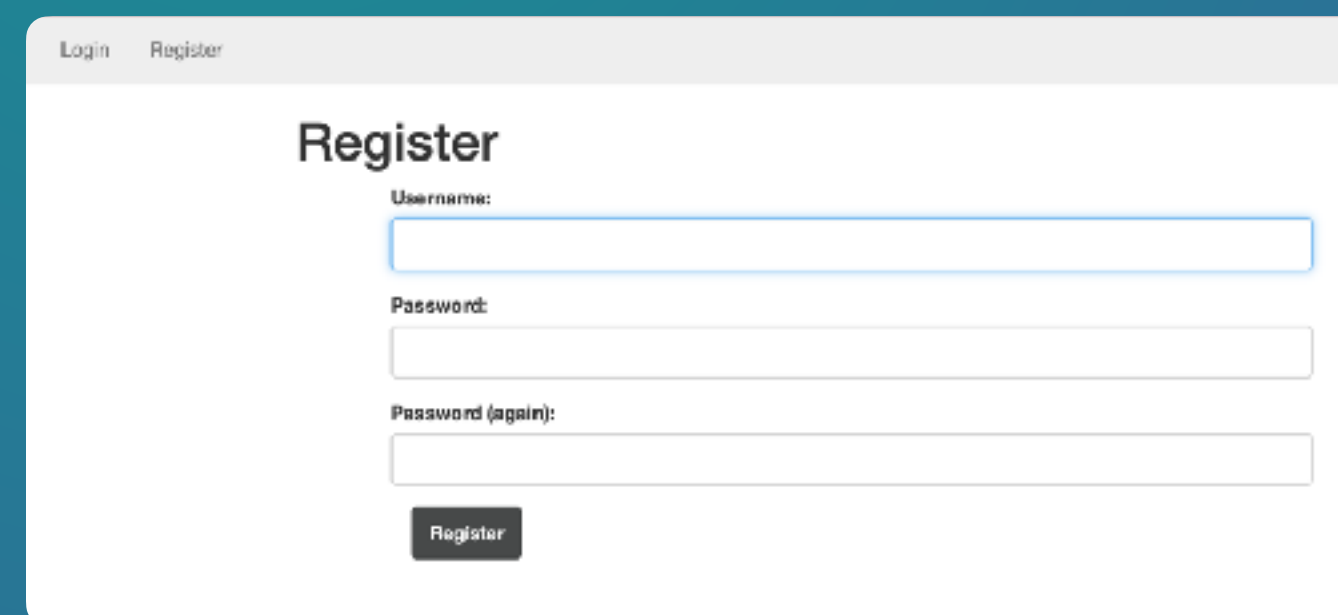
Log in Register

### Log in

Username:

Password:

Remember me



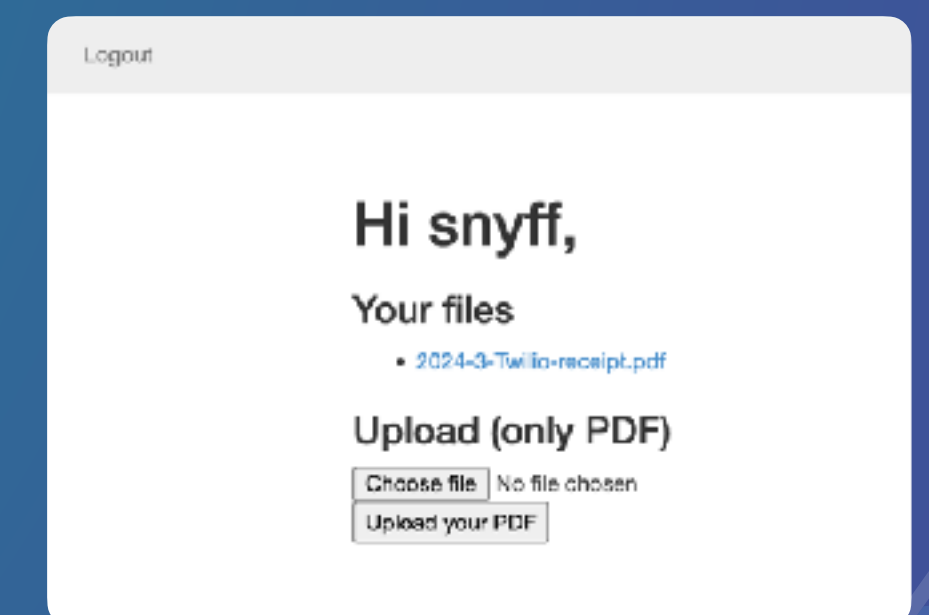
Login Register

### Register

Username:

Password:

Password (again):



Logout

## Hi snyff,

Your files

- 2024-3-Twilio-receipt.pdf

Upload (only PDF)

No file chosen



# Hands-On 🤝: Code Review!

Login Register

## Register

Username:

Password:

Password (again):

Register

Login Register

## Log in

Username:

Password:

Remember me

Log in

Logout

## Hi snyff,

Your files

- [2024-3-Twilio-receipt.pdf](#)

Upload (only PDF)

Choose file No file chosen

Upload your PDF

