



OWASP
AppSec EU
Belfast

8th to 12th
of May
2017

Waterfront
Conference
Center

Christian Folini / @ChrFolini
Introducing the OWASP ModSecurity
Core Rule Set 3.0



Seat Belts

Defense in Depth • 1st Line of Defense

The Plan for Today

- What is a WAF / what is ModSecurity?
- What is the Core Rule Set 3.0 (CRS3)
- Installation (Demo)
- Burp Research Results
- Important Groups of Rules
- Anomaly Scoring / Thresholds
- Paranoia Levels / Stricter Siblings
- Sampling Mode
- Handling of False Positives
- Predefined Rule Exclusions



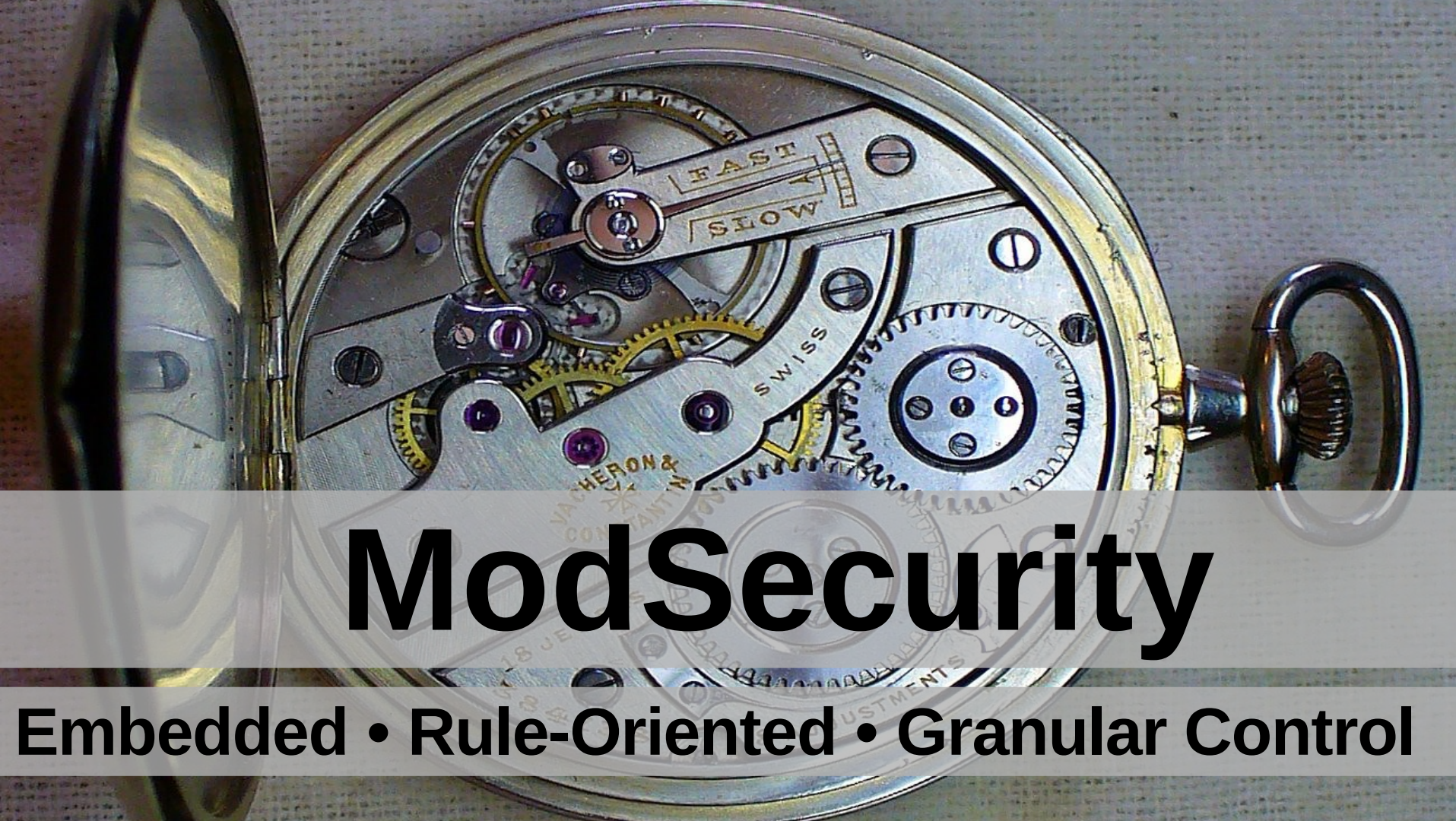
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WAF SETUPS

Naïve • Overwhelmed • Functional



ModSecurity

Embedded • Rule-Oriented • Granular Control

includes
DR. FOULI'S
PARANOID MODE



BASED UPON A TRUE STORY!

CRS3

OWASP ModSecurity Core Rule Set v3.0

DIRECTED BY
CHAIM SANDERS

STARRING

WALTER HOP AS REGEX WIZARD, CHAIM SANDERS

ORIGINAL CAST BY OFER SHEZAF AND RYAN BARRETT. ALSO STARRING CHRISTIAN FOULI, FRANTZISKA BÜHLER, @EMPHAZER, RYAN BARRETT, FELIX ZIMMERLE,
MANUEL LEGS, VLADIMIR KVAROV, CHRISTIAN PERON, @YGRAEK, @TOBY78, @JAMMUSE, MATT KOCIA, ACHIM HOFFMANN, HAZIN AHMED, TIOEL ZINDEL



COMING SOON TO A SERVER NEAR YOU!



Installation



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Clone the repository:

```
$> git clone  
https://github.com/SpiderLabs/owasp-modsecurity-crs
```

Copy the example config:

```
$> cp crs-setup.conf.example crs-setup.conf
```

Include in server config (depending on path):

Include /etc/httpd/modsec.d/owasp-modsecurity-crs/crs-setup.conf

Include /etc/httpd/modsec.d/owasp-modsecurity-crs/rules/*.conf

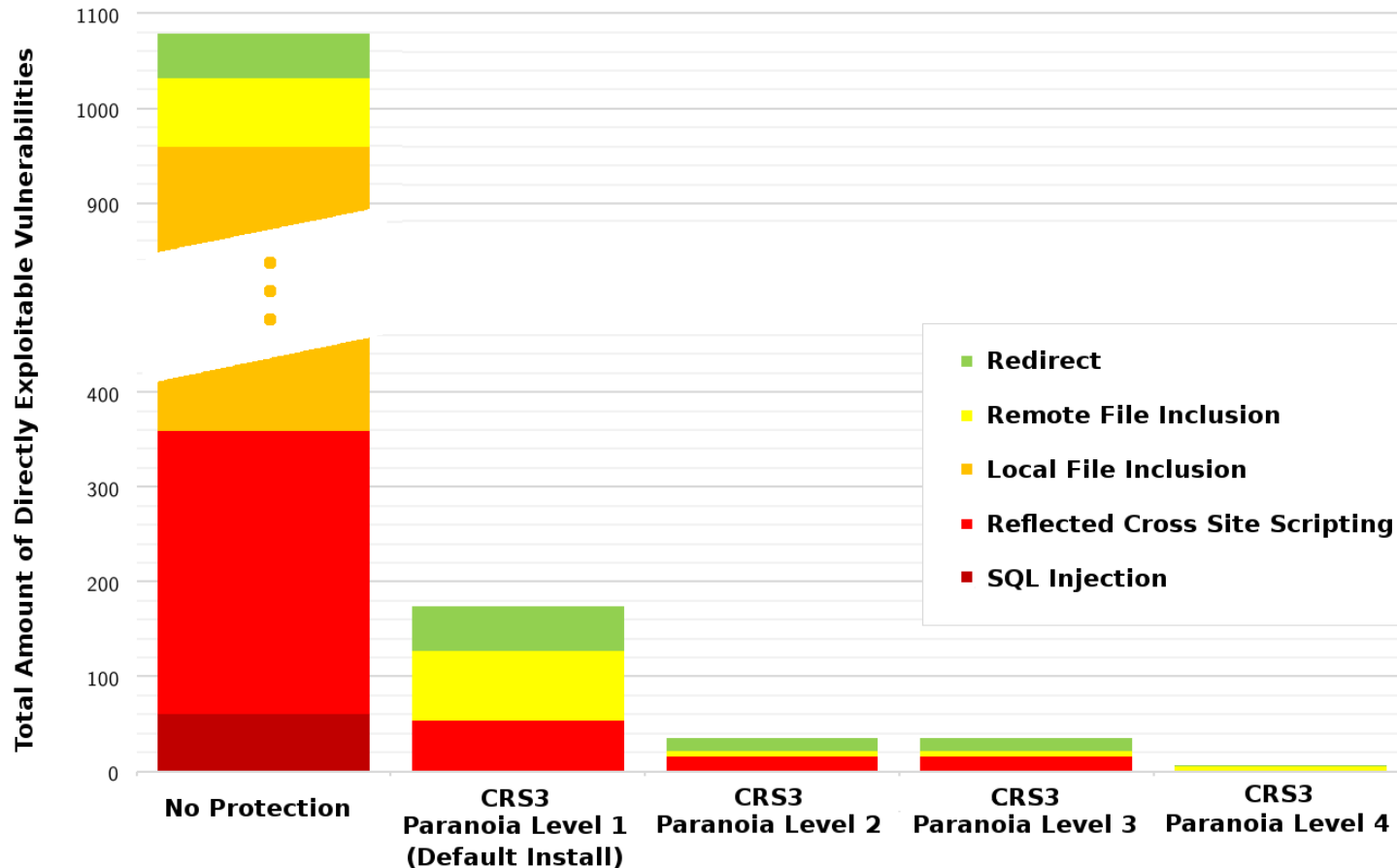


Burp vs. OWASP ModSecurity Core Rule Set 3.0



Research based on 4.5M Burp requests.

Burp vs. OWASP ModSecurity Core Rule Set 3.0



CRS3 Default Install

Redir.: 0%

RFI: 0%

LFI: -100%

XSS: -82%

SQLi: -100%

Research based on
4.5M Burp requests.

Important Groups of Rules



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Rules Targetting the Request

REQUEST-910-IP-REPUTATION.conf
REQUEST-911-METHOD-ENFORCEMENT.conf
REQUEST-912-DOS-PROTECTION.conf
REQUEST-913-SCANNER-DETECTION.conf
REQUEST-920-PROTOCOL-ENFORCEMENT.conf
REQUEST-921-PROTOCOL-ATTACK.conf

REQUEST-930-APPLICATION-ATTACK-LFI.conf
REQUEST-931-APPLICATION-ATTACK-RFI.conf
REQUEST-932-APPLICATION-ATTACK-RCE.conf
REQUEST-933-APPLICATION-ATTACK-PHP.conf
REQUEST-941-APPLICATION-ATTACK-XSS.conf
REQUEST-942-APPLICATION-ATTACK-SQLI.conf
REQUEST-943-APPLICATION-ATTACK-SESS-FIX.conf

REQUEST-949-BLOCKING-EVALUATION.conf



Important Groups of Rules



Rules Targetting the Response

RESPONSE-950-DATA-LEAKAGES.conf

RESPONSE-951-DATA-LEAKAGES-SQL.conf

RESPONSE-952-DATA-LEAKAGES-JAVA.conf

RESPONSE-953-DATA-LEAKAGES-PHP.conf

RESPONSE-954-DATA-LEAKAGES-IIS.conf

RESPONSE-959-BLOCKING-EVALUATION.conf

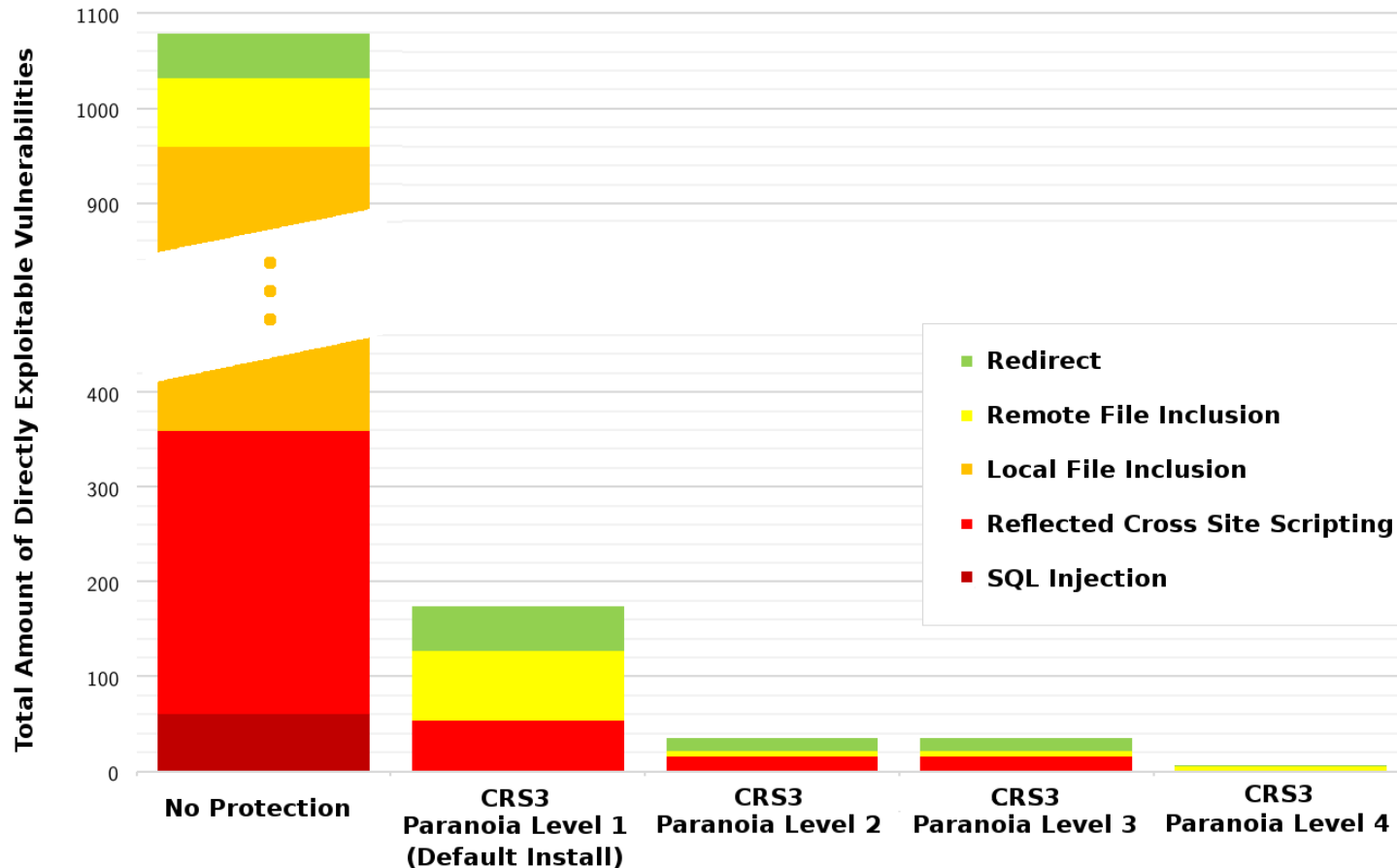




Anomaly Scoring

Adjustable Limit • Blocking Mode • Iterative Tuning

Burp vs. OWASP ModSecurity Core Rule Set 3.0



CRS3 Default Install

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Paranoia Levels



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Paranoia Level 1: Minimal amount of False Positives

Basic security

Paranoia Level 2: More rules, fair amount of FPs

Elevated security level

Paranoia Level 3: Specialised rules, more FPs

Online banking level security

Paranoia Level 4: Insane rules, lots of FPs

Nuclear power plant level security



Paranoia Levels

Example: Protocol Enforcement Rules

Paranoia Level 1: 31 rules

Paranoia Level 2: 7 rules

Paranoia Level 3: 1 rule

Paranoia Level 4: 4 rules



Stricter Siblings



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Example: Byte Range Enforcement

Paranoia Level 1:

Rule 920270: Full ASCII range without null character

Paranoia Level 2:

Rule 920271: Full visible ASCII range, tab, newline

Paranoia Level 3:

Rule 920272: Visible lower ASCII range without %

Paranoia Level 4:

Rule 920273: A-Z a-z 0-9 = - _ . , : &



Sampling Mode



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Limit CRS Impact During Proof of Concept

- Define sampling percentage n
- Only $n\%$ of requests are funnelled into CRS3
- $100\%-n\%$ of requests are unaffected by CRS3



False Positives

False Positives will haunt you from PL2

- Fight FPs with Rule Exclusions
- Follow Tutorials at <https://www.netnea.com>
- Download Cheetsheet from Netnea

MODSECURITY CHEATSHEET

RULE EXCLUSIONS / TUNING OF FALSE POSITIVES

RULE EXCLUSIONS

ENTIRE RULES

STARTUP TIME

WHEN STARTING SERVER WHEN RELOADING SERVER

PLACE AFTER CRS INCLUDE

SecRuleRemoveById
SecRuleRemoveByTag

SecRuleRemoveById 942100,...
SecRuleRemoveByTag "attack-sqli"

RUN TIME

WHEN EXAMINING A REQUEST PLACE BEFORE CRS INCLUDE

ctl:ruleRemoveById
ctl:ruleRemoveByTag

"...,ctl:ruleRemoveById:920300"
"...,ctl:ruleRemoveByTag:attack-sqli"

PARAMETER IN RULES

STARTUP TIME

WHEN STARTING SERVER WHEN RELOADING SERVER

PLACE AFTER CRS INCLUDE

SecRuleUpdateTargetById
SecRuleUpdateTargetByTag

SecRuleUpdateTargetById 942100 IARGS:password
SecRuleUpdateTargetByTag "attack-sqli" IARGS:password

RUN TIME

WHEN EXAMINING A REQUEST PLACE BEFORE CRS INCLUDE

ctl:ruleRemoveTargetById
ctl:ruleRemoveTargetByTag

"...,ctl:ruleRemoveTargetById:942100:ARGS:password"
"...,ctl:ruleRemoveTargetByTag:attack-sqli:ARGS:password"

Predefined Rule Exclusions



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Enable Rule Exclusions for Specific Applications

Currently Supported:

- Wordpress (Default install)
- Drupal (Core)

In the Queue:

- Typo3 (Default Install)
- Piwik (Default Install)

... contributions welcome!



Roundup CRS3



- 1st Line of Defense against web attacks
- Generic set of blacklisting rules for WAFs
- Prevents 80% of web attacks with minimal FPs
- Gives you granular control on indiv. parameters





Contact me at: christian.folini@netnea.com



ModSecurity / CRS Tutorials: <https://www.netnea.com>

ModSecurity / CRS Courses: <https://feistyduck.co.uk>

ModSecurity Handbook: <https://feistyduck.co.uk>

Voucher for book (40% of release price): AppSecEU

MODSECURITY HANDBOOK

The Complete Guide to the Popular
Open Source Web Application Firewall

SECOND
EDITION



Christian Folini
Ivan Ristić

