

Let me secure that for you!

Appsec AU, 9 Sept 2017

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Imstfu.com | @LetMeSecureThat

This talk is not about RedShield!

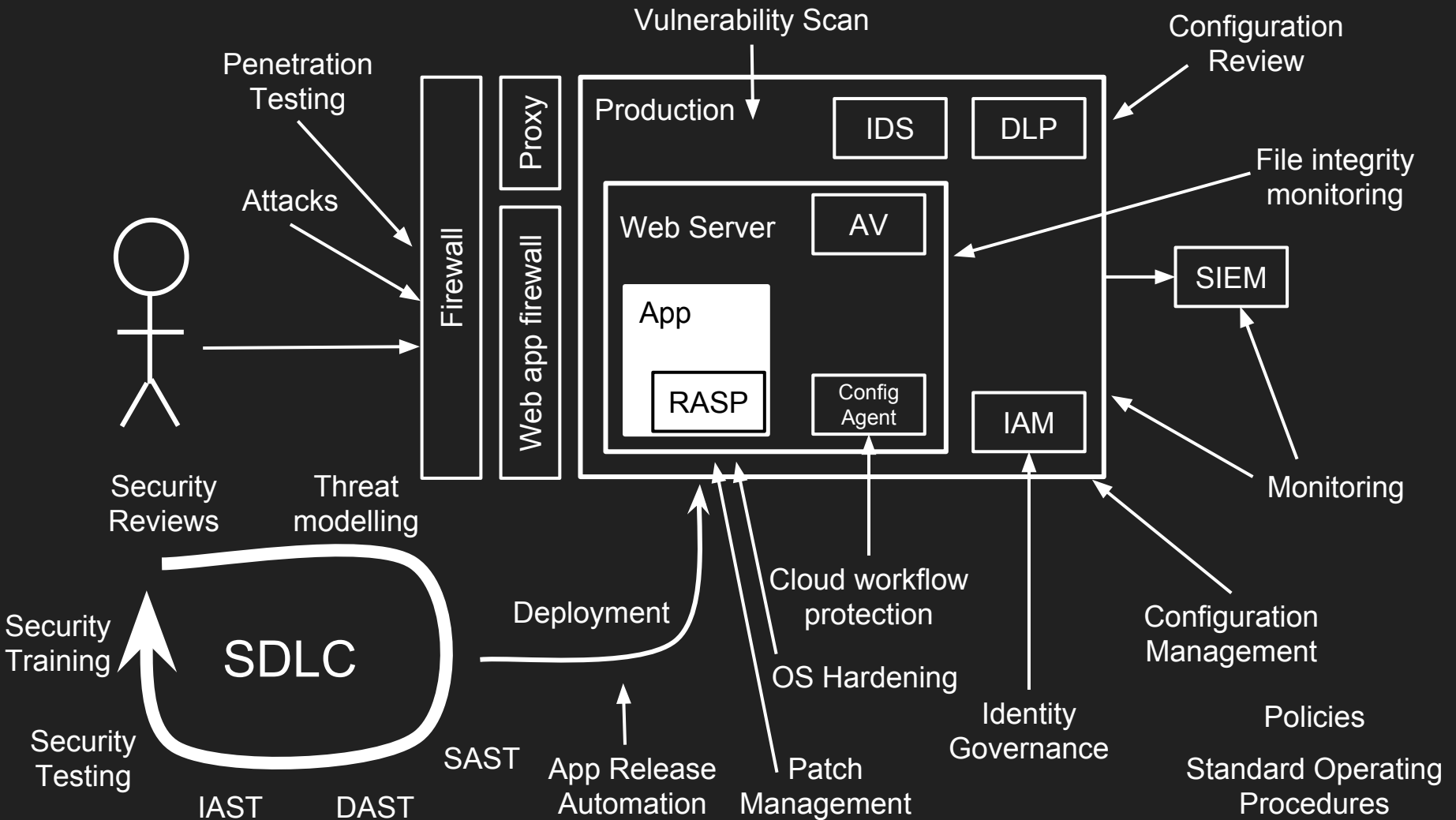
“We are the world's first web application shielding-with-a-service cybersecurity company.”

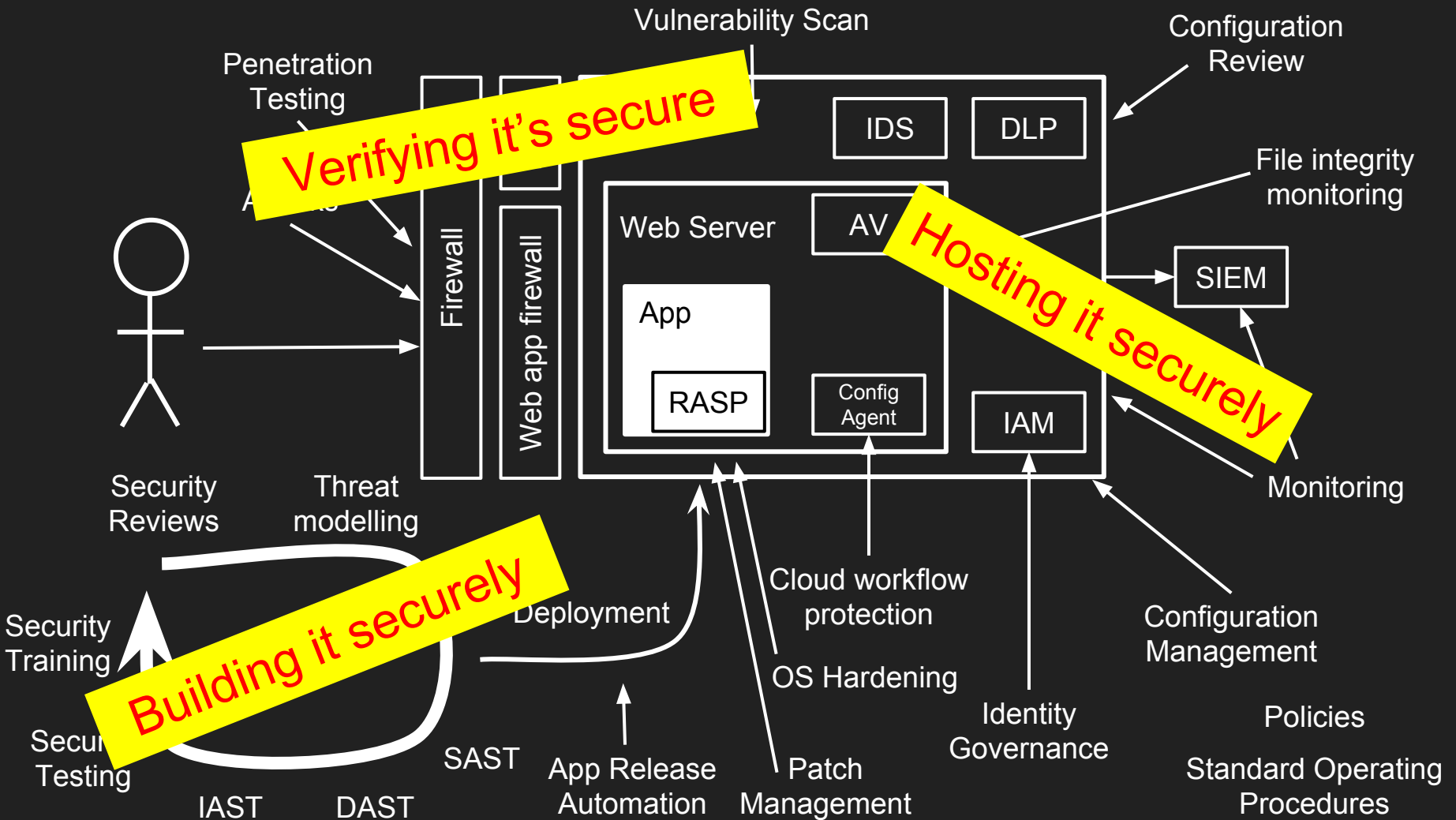
- RedShield don't use ModSecurity or node.js
- We wrap a service around virtual patching
- How does virtual patching work?
- Can it be done “DIY”?

Not an advertisement!



Building a secure web app



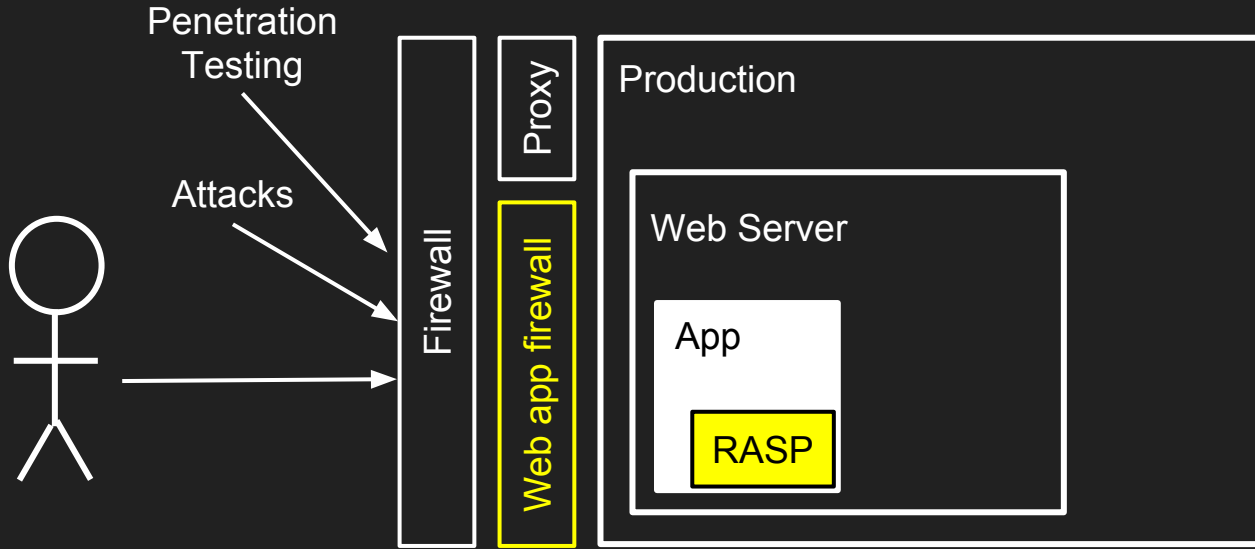


Approximate cost:
\$4.2m

Building a secure web app



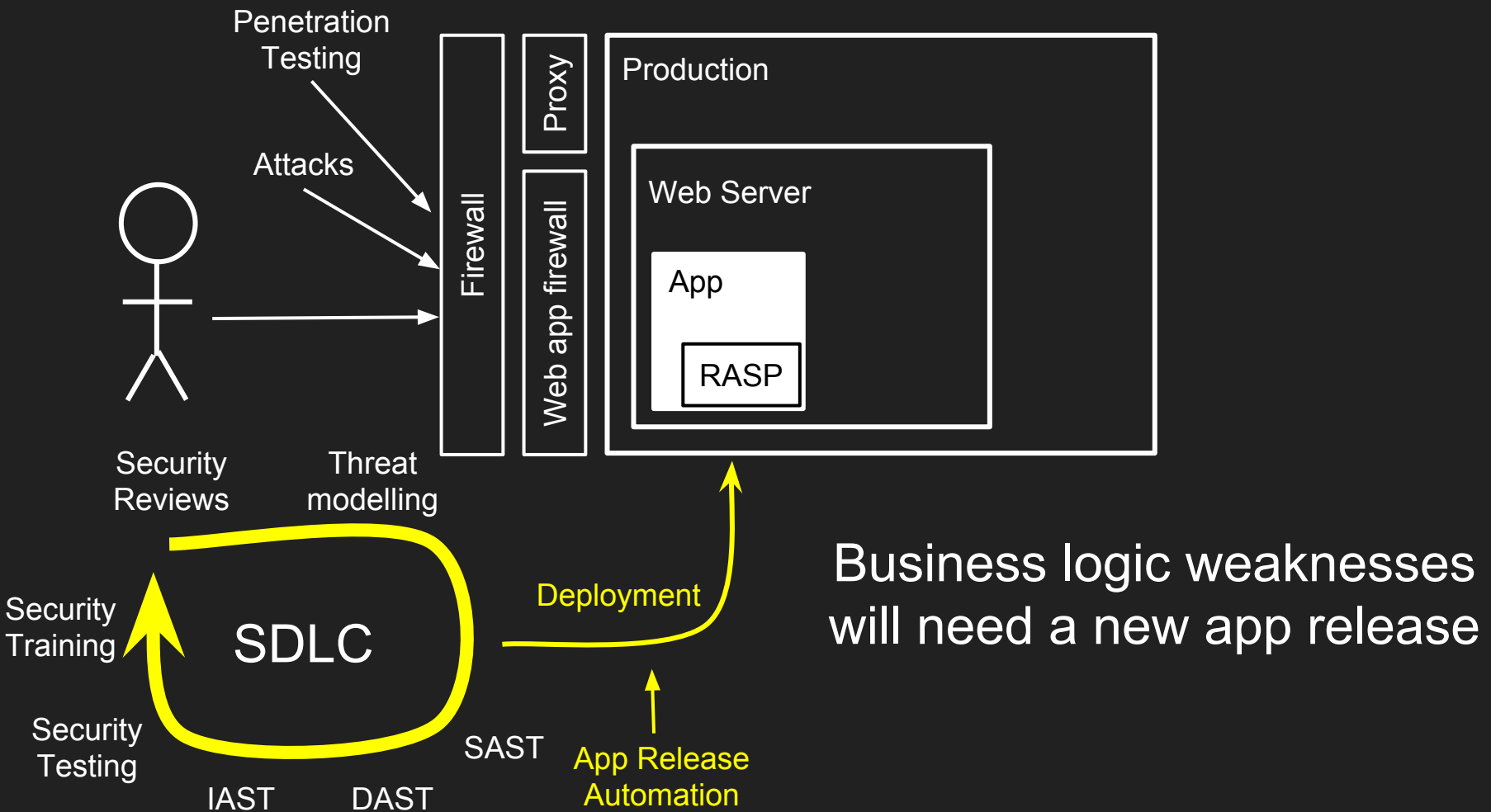
But what if there are bugs?



The WAF might stop signature-based attacks

business logic

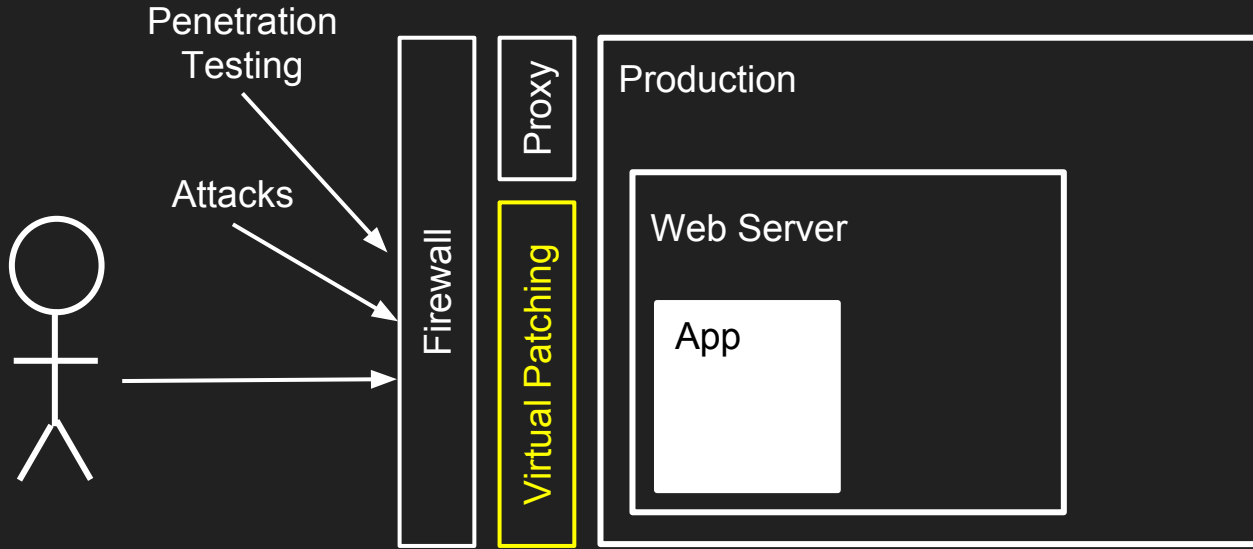
But what if there are bugs?
^



The cost of releasing updated software

- Divert team from current projects
 - Branch, merge, build, test
 - Release management, change review board
 - Release
-
- Timeframe from discovery to release?
 - Do you even have the source code?
 - What “process” do you need to shortcut?

Patch the issues without
touching underlying website



Replace the “WAF” with a more capable layer...

“Let me secure that for you!”

Virtual Patching

*“ prevent the exploitation
of a known vulnerability ”*

Virtual Patching

An agile security approach

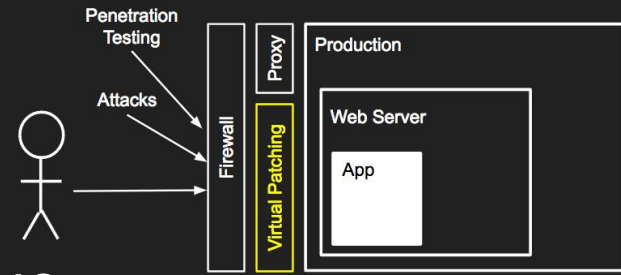
Available to security teams in lieu of software development

React quickly while waiting for the cleanup

Our Virtual Patching Approach

Understand *how to exploit* the security issue

Only patch *known vulnerabilities or weaknesses*



Avoid over-patching or doing things that will cause issues:

- Learning mode, tuning, false positives
- Large blocklists
- Focus *only* on the script, page or parameter affected

Our Virtual Patching Approach

Choose an approach:



Block - if you're not worried about the user's experience

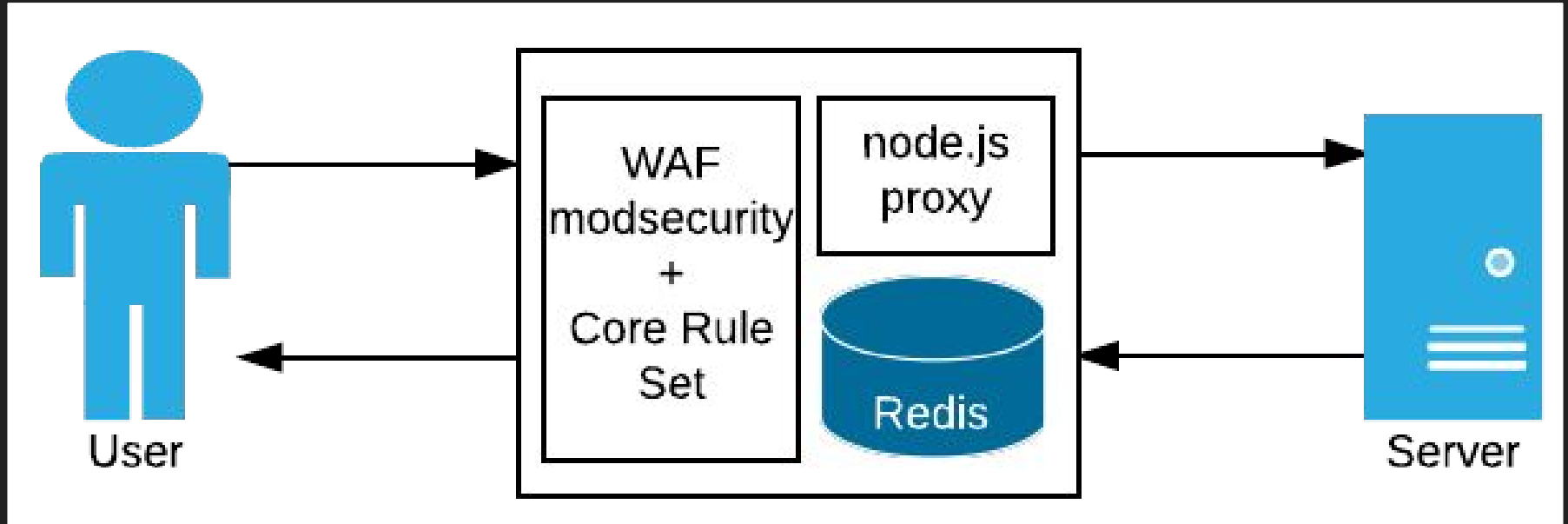
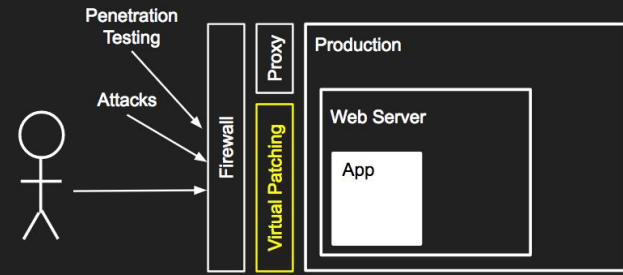
Redirect - send the user to an error page

Transform - change request or response to make safe

Validation - if you want to give helpful messages to guide users to enter correct values

Alert - so you know if there's an attack

“Let me secure that for you!”



WAF ALERT!!!!

Our users hate our WAF because they're blocked by false positives

“ Our developers hate our WAF because it slows them down ”

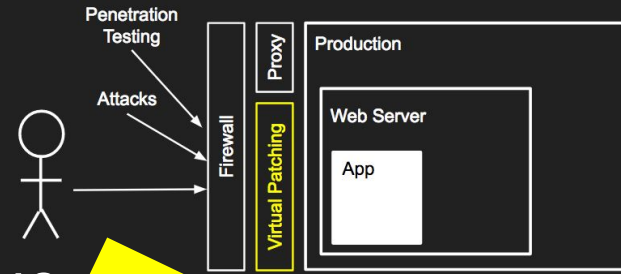
Our sysadmins hate our WAF because it requires constant tuning

Our security team hate our WAF because it doesn't block real vulnerabilities

Our Virtual Patching Approach

Understand *how to exploit* the security issue

Only patch *known vulnerabilities or weaknesses*

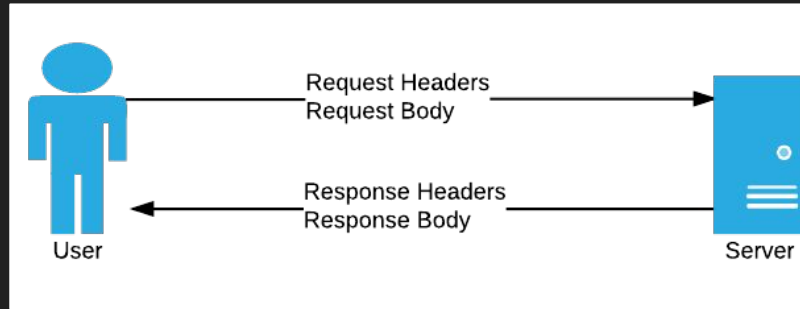


Recap

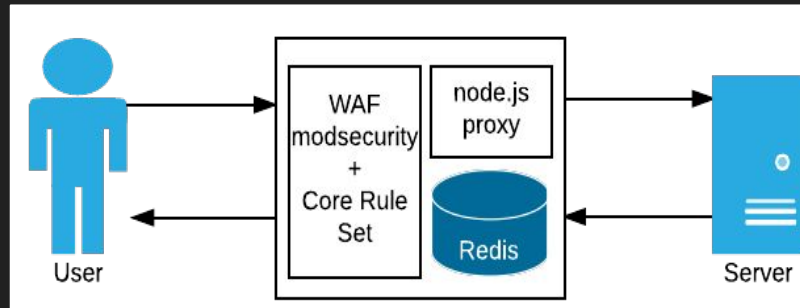
Avoid over-patching or doing things that will cause issues:

- Learning mode, tuning, false positives
- Large blocklists
- Focus *only* on the script, page or parameter affected

[Pause to demo a vulnerable website]



www.dev.0-days.net



lmstfu.dev.0-days.net

Our site has multiple vulnerabilities and weaknesses

OWASP Top 10:

- Access to admin urls
- Purchase negative quantities
- SQL injection in product search
- Cross-site scripting in product comments
- Cross-site request forgery in product comments

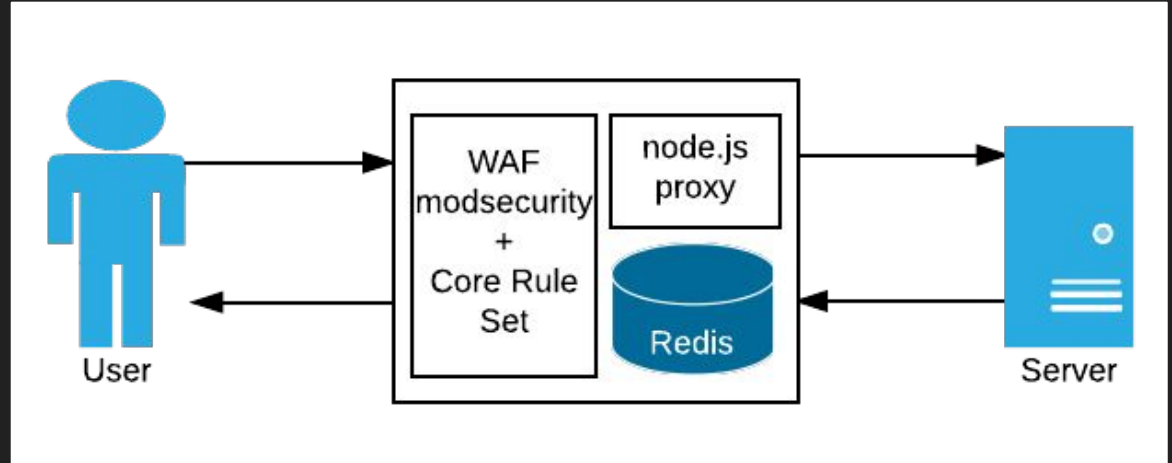
Business-logic vulnerabilities:

- Viewing other people's orders
- Jumping past the payment screen
- Disclosure of credit card numbers
- Password weaknesses

“Let me secure that for you!”

ModSecurity

- Open-source web app firewall



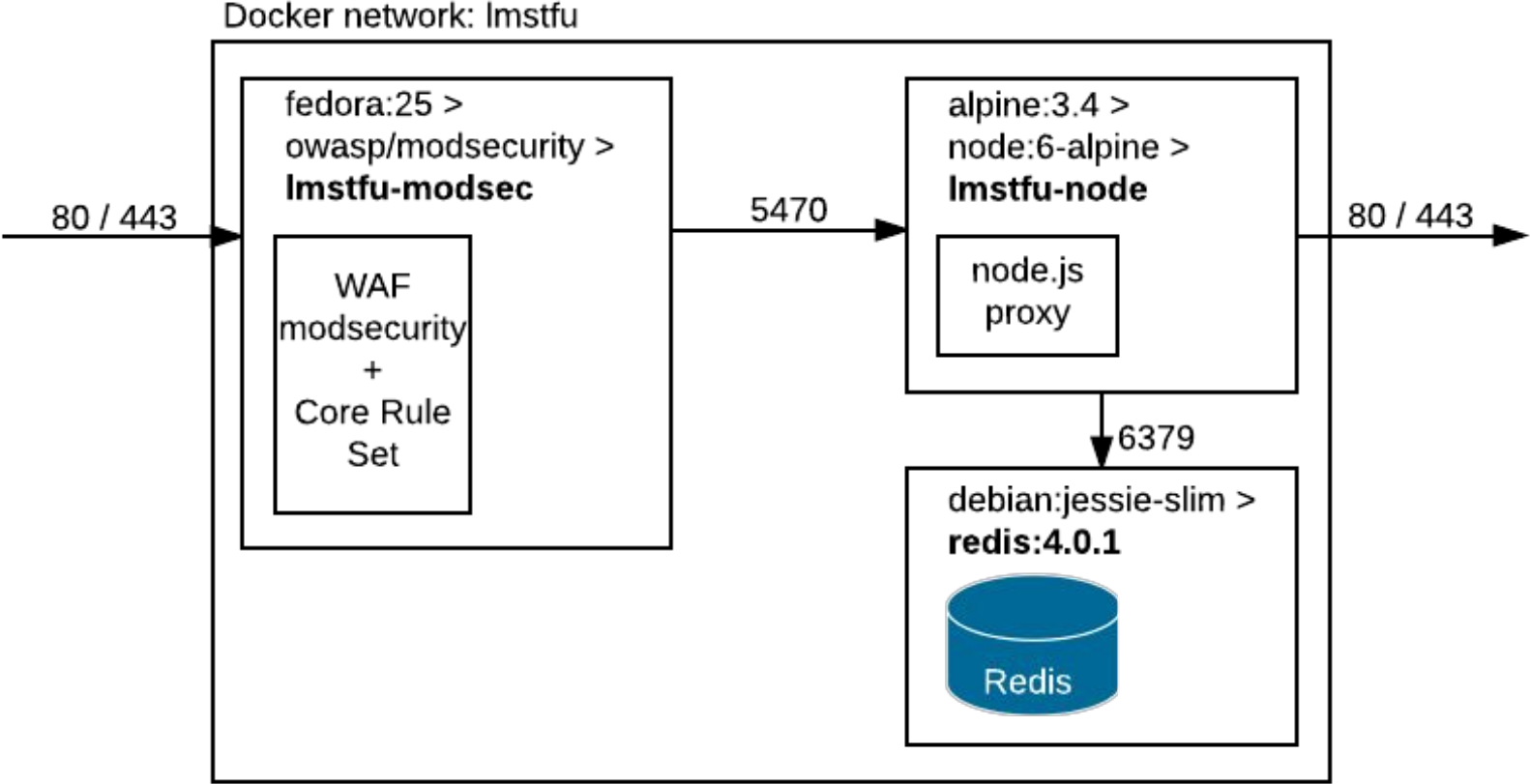
OWASP Core Rule Set

- Signatures for common OWASP attacks

Node.js

- Fast, flexible, event-driven
- State storage in redis

Docker



Demo of Imstfu setup

ModSecurity

- Originally an Apache httpd module
- v2.9.2 also supports IIS and nginx (instabilities)
- v3.0.0RC rewritten into libmodsecurity + connector
 - Not all features supported yet
- Doesn't do much out of the box
 - Safe to enable in DetectionOnly mode



```
[[root@677152b32509 modsecurity.d]# wc modsecurity.conf
226 1176 8441 modsecurity.conf
[[root@677152b32509 modsecurity.d]# cat modsecurity.conf
# -- Rule engine initialization -----

# Enable ModSecurity, attaching it to every transaction. Use detection
# only to start with, because that minimises the chances of post-installation
# disruption.
#
SecRuleEngine DetectionOnly

# -- Request body handling -----

# Allow ModSecurity to access request bodies. If you don't, ModSecurity
# won't be able to see any POST parameters, which opens a large security
# hole for attackers to exploit.
#
SecRequestBodyAccess On
```

OWASP ModSecurity Core Rule Set

Ruleset for common attacks:

- SQL Injection (SQLi)
- Cross Site Scripting (XSS)
- Local File Inclusion (LFI)
- Remote File Inclusion (RFI)
- Remote Code Execution (RCE)
- PHP Code Injection
- HTTPoxy
- Shellshock
- Session Fixation
- Scanner Detection
- Metadata/Error Leakages
- GeoIP Country Blocking



OWASP
ModSecurity
Core Rule Set
THE 1ST LINE OF DEFENSE

Tuned to avoid false positives

OWASP ModSecurity Core Rule Set

`crs-setup.conf.example` - configure mode, paranoia level

Look at requests

`REQUEST-901-INITIALIZATION.conf`
`REQUEST-903.9001-DRUPAL-EXCLUSION-RULES.conf`
`REQUEST-903.9002-WORDPRESS-EXCLUSION-RULES.conf`
`REQUEST-905-COMMON-EXCEPTIONS.conf`
`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-SESSION-FIXATION.conf`

Look at responses

`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`

Is this an attack?

`REQUEST-949-BLOCKING-EVALUATION.conf`
`RESPONSE-959-BLOCKING-EVALUATION.conf`
`RESPONSE-980-CORRELATION.conf`

Anatomy of a SecRule

```
SecRule VARIABLES OPERATOR [ACTIONS]
```

```
SecRule REQUEST_FILENAME
```

*ARGS, ENV, FILES, IP, PATH_INFO, REMOTE_ADDR, REQUEST_COOKIES, REQUEST_URI,
REQUEST_HEADERS, ...*

<http://lmstfu.com/SecRuleLayout>

Anatomy of a SecRule

```
SecRule VARIABLES OPERATOR [ACTIONS]
```

```
SecRule REQUEST_FILENAME "@rx /order/details/" \
```

@rx, @streq, @beginsWith, @contains, @gt, @lt,

Anatomy of a SecRule

```
SecRule VARIABLES OPERATOR [ACTIONS]
```

```
SecRule REQUEST_FILENAME "@rx /order/details/" \  
    "id:11101,phase:1,deny,log,\  
"
```

Phases:

1) Request headers, 2) Request body, 3) Response headers, 4) Response body, 5) Logging

<http://lmstfu.com/SecRuleLayout>

Anatomy of a SecRule

```
SecRule VARIABLES OPERATOR [ACTIONS]
```

```
SecRule REQUEST_FILENAME "@rx /order/details/" \  
    "id:11101,phase:1,deny,log,\  
    t:none,t:lowercase,t:normalisePath,\  
    msg:'Blocking access to %{MATCHED_VAR}'"
```

SecRule chaining

Logical AND between rules:

```
SecRule ARGS:p "@rx test1" \  
    id:2000,chain,...
```

```
    SecRule ARGS:q "@rx test2"
```

More complex flow control

SecMarker **IF**

```
SecRule &ARGS:admin "@gt 0" \  
    "id:2000,pass,nolog,skipAfter:ELSE"
```

SecMarker **THEN**

```
SecRule ARGS:p "@rx K1" "id:2001,block,log"  
SecAction "id:2003,pass,nolog,skipAfter:END"
```

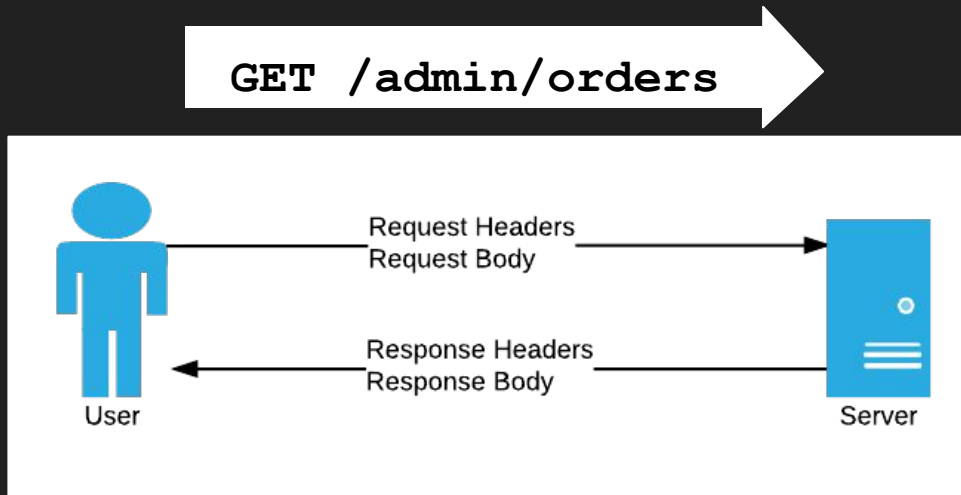
SecMarker **ELSE**

```
SecRule ARGS:p "@rx K3" "id:2003,block,log"
```

SecMarker **END**

Demo of modsecurity

Block a URL



Modify Request + Response:

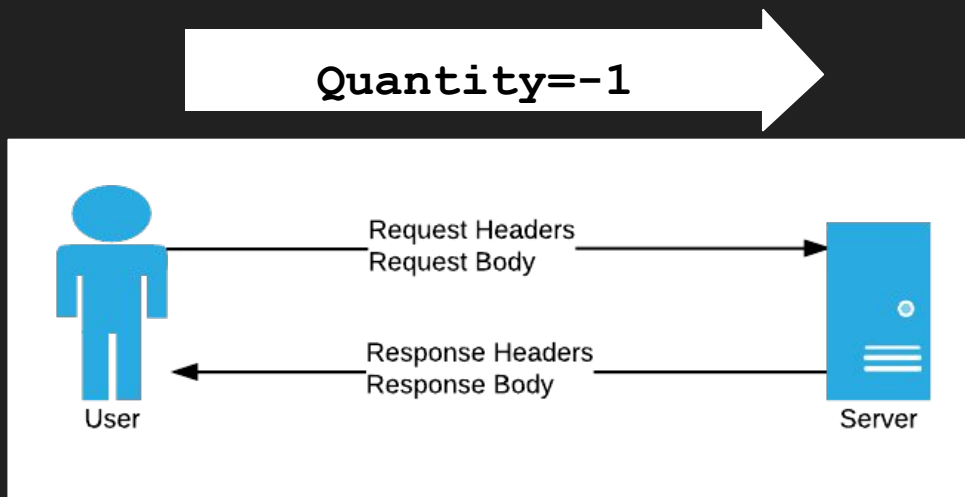
- Inspect Request Headers
 - Is it the right url?

Take action:

- Reject

```
SecRule REQUEST_FILENAME "/admin/orders" \  
  "id:11101,phase:1,deny,log,\  
  t:none,t:lowercase,t:normalisePath,\  
  msg:'Blocking access to %{MATCHED_VAR}'"
```

Validating a parameter



Modify Request + Response:

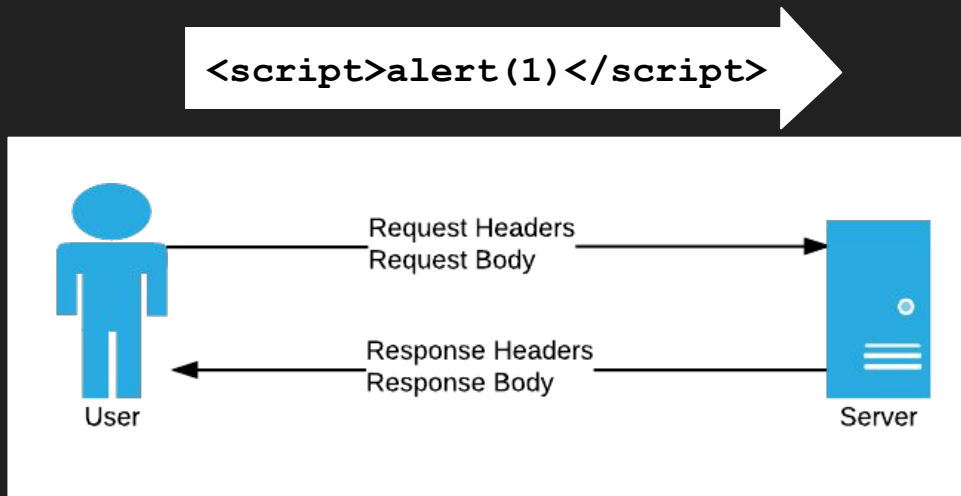
- Inspect Request Headers + Body
 - Is parameter a positive number?

Take action:

- Reject

```
SecRule ARGS:/^ProductChoices\[.*\].Quantity$/ "!@rx ^\d+$" \  
  "id:10050, phase:2, pass, log, \  
  t:none, t:removeWhitespace, \  
  msg:'Invalid quantity entered: %{MATCHED_VAR}'"      (V15)
```

XSS in the input?



Modify Request + Response:

- Inspect Request Headers + Body
 - Does parameter look like XSS?

Take action:

- Reject

```
# Configure-Time: Only test XSS for the Comment parameter
```

```
SecRuleUpdateTargetByID 941100-941999 "ARGS:Comment"
```

```
# See V15
```


Blocking XSS

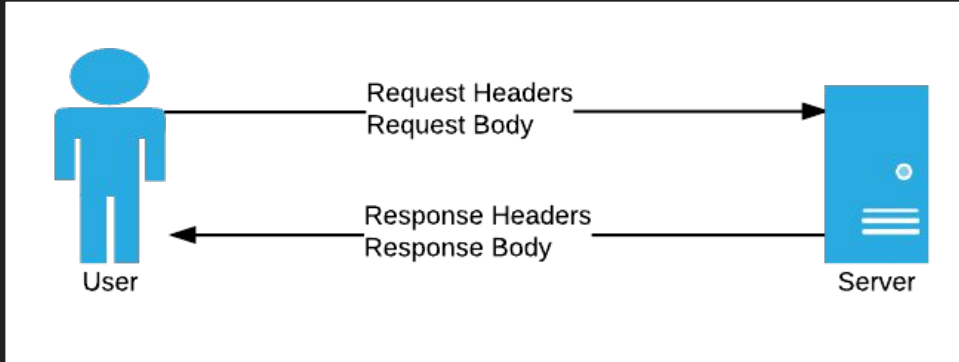
ModSecurity also uses libinjection for XSS and SQLi detection

Guns and Butter: Towards Formal Axioms of Validation
Hanson and Patterson

...formally proved that for any regex validator, we could construct either a safe query which would be flagged as dangerous, or a dangerous query which would be flagged as correct

SQL injection in the input?

' OR 1==1 --



Modify Request + Response:

- Inspect Request Headers + Body
 - Does parameter look like SQLi?

Take action:

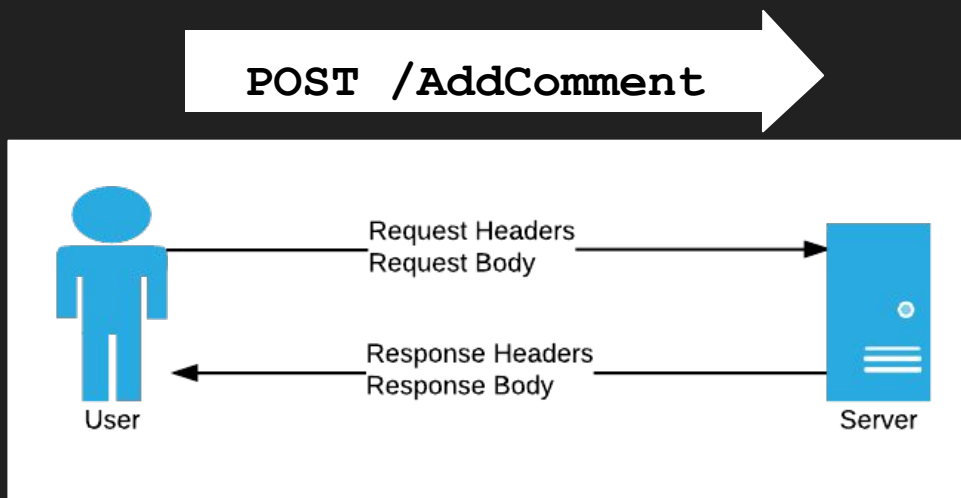
- Reject

```
# Configure-Time: Only test SQLi for the SearchTerm parameter
```

```
SecRuleUpdateTargetByID 942100-942999 "ARGS:SearchTerm"
```

```
# See V17
```

Cross-Site Request Forgery



```
# If no token exists:  
# - Create a CSRF token using ModSecurity  
# - Send the token as a cookie  
# - Add the token to the form post using inserted  
  javascript  
# - On POST, check if the cookie value matches the posted value  
See V16
```

Modify Request + Response:

- Inspect Request Headers + Body
 - Is the referrer wrong?
 - Is the origin wrong?
 - Is there a valid CSRF token?

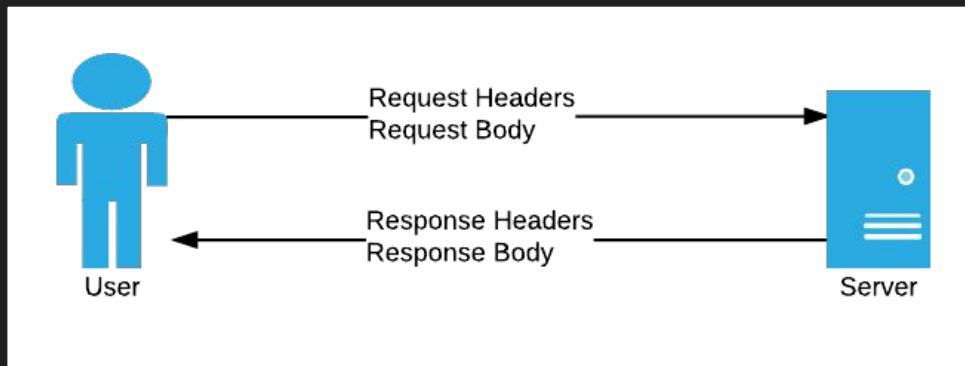
Take action:

- Reject

Missing headers and cookie flags

Modify Request + Response:

- Alter Response Headers
 - Set cookie flags
 - Add new headers



Set-Cookie: a=b

```
Header edit Set-Cookie "(?i)^(.AspNetCore.Antiforgery.(?:(!httponly).)+)$" "$1; HttpOnly"
```

See V13

Why do we use ModSecurity + CRS?

Good, low false positive set of XSS and SQLi rules

Efficient processing and blocking

Allows simple things to be done *relatively* easily

Can be extended to do complex things, but it gets complicated fast!

Limitations of ModSecurity

- Hard to capture *program state*
- Limited manipulation of the response body
 - Hard to remove sensitive data, add validation text etc
- Daunting syntax
- Extensible via Lua, but not many examples

How do we keep state in web apps?

Client-side:

- URL
- Cookies
- Hidden Fields

Server Side:

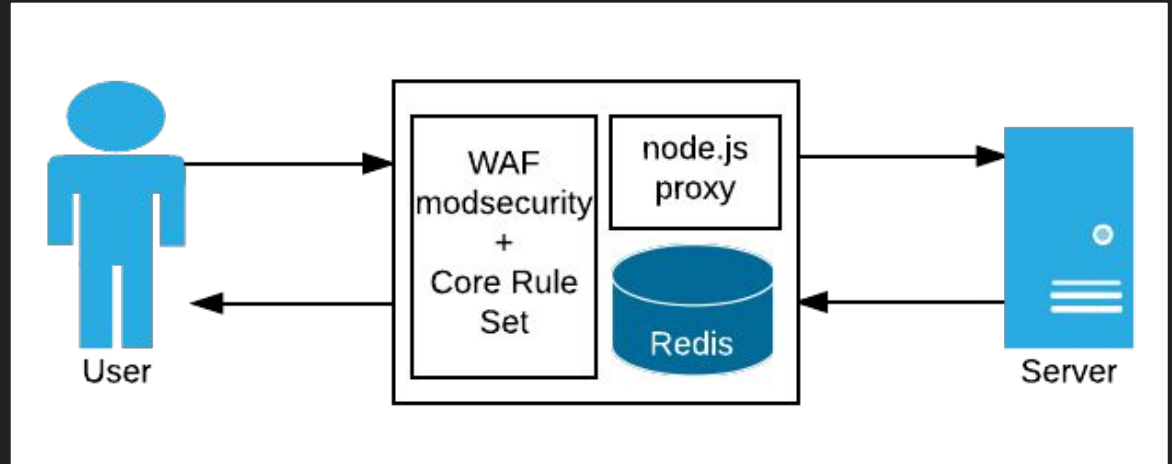
- In memory
- On disk
- Databases
- “Web farm” state servers

State storage needs to survive reboots and protect against tampering

“Let me secure that for you!”

node.js proxy

- Business logic
- Storing state in redis
- Transforming HTML



Redbird, http-proxy, harmon, trumpet

Redbird

- Wraps http-proxy with extra features



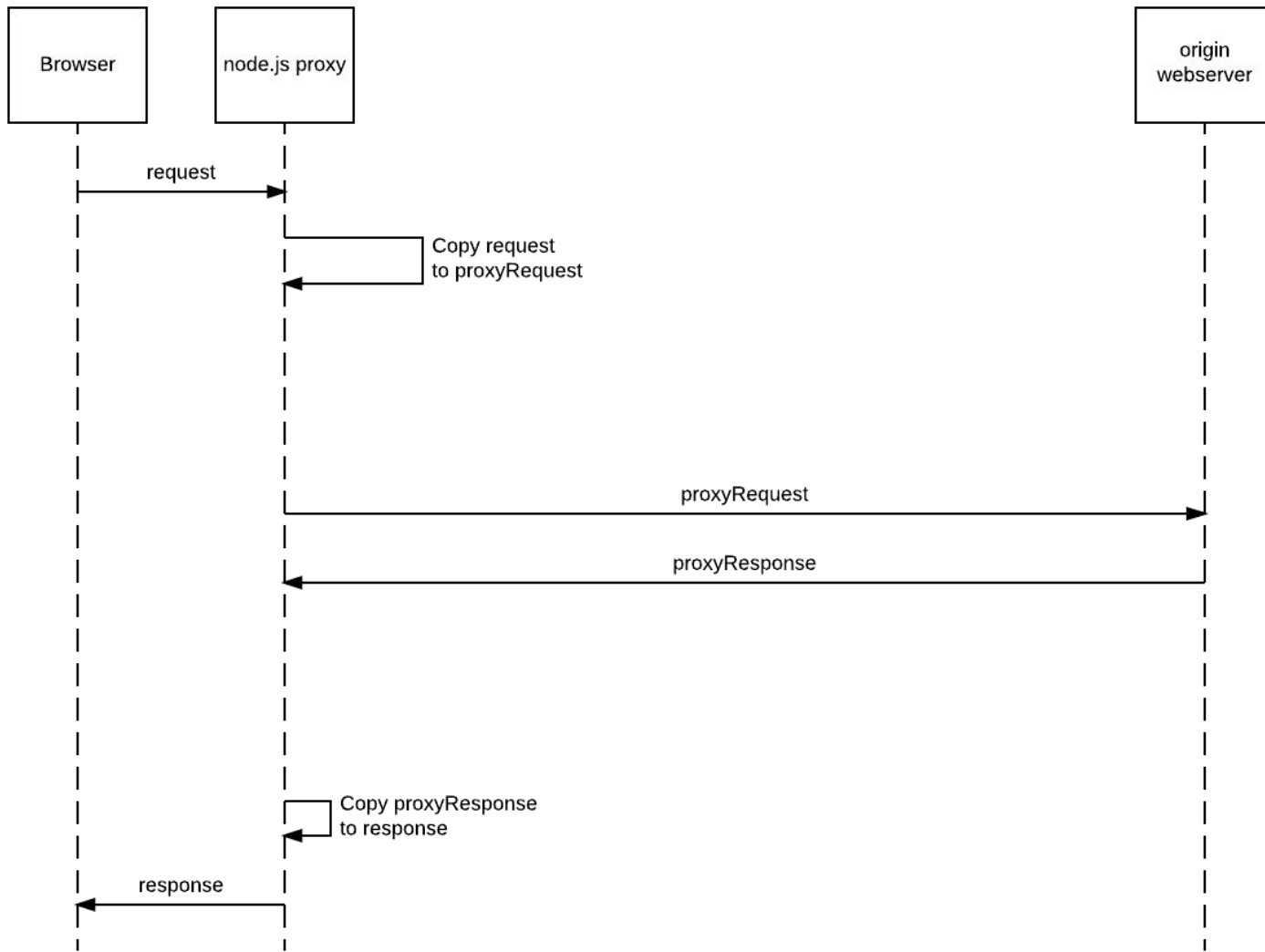
Harmon

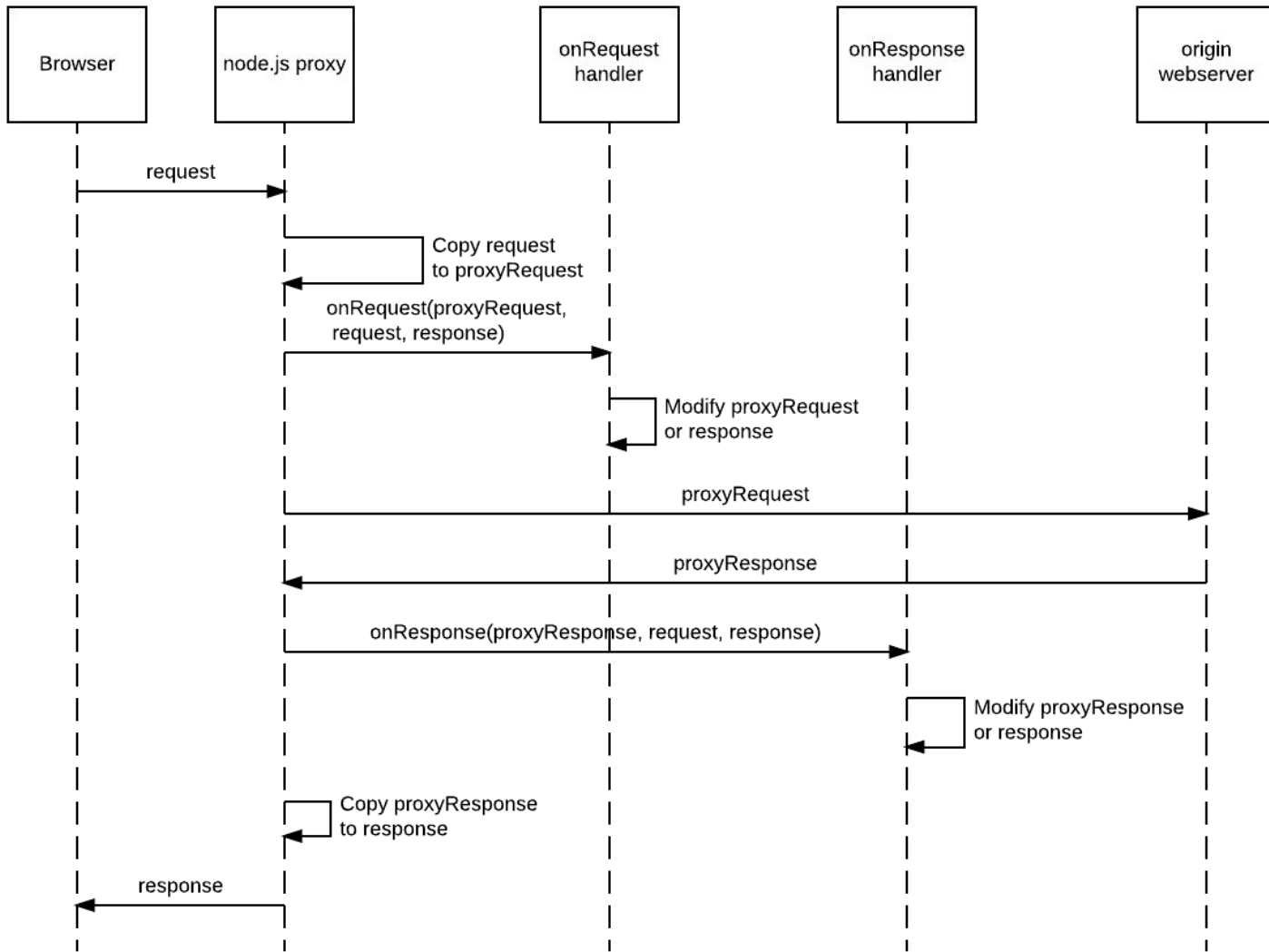
- Uses trumpet for streaming HTML manipulation

160+ node modules!



Search www.npmjs.com for Redbird, http-proxy, harmon, trumpet



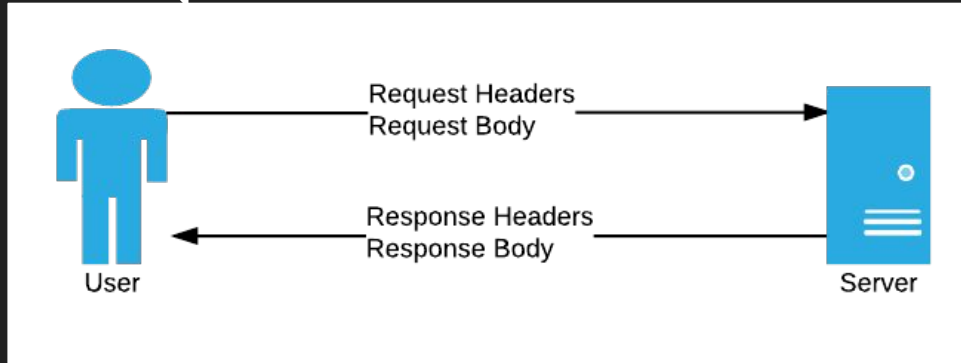


Demo - More complex vulnerabilities

View other people's orders

`GET /Order`

`Orders 1,2,3,5`



`GET /Order/Details?id=14`

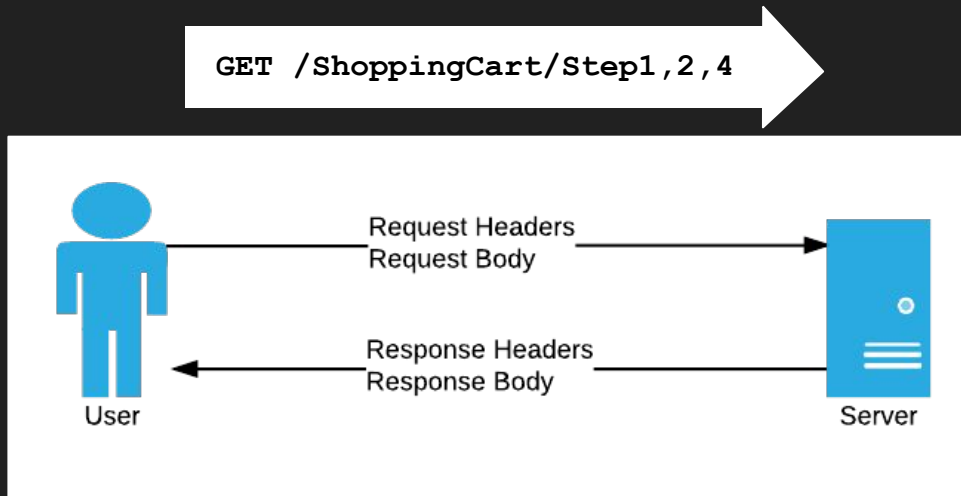
Modify Request + Response:

- Inspect the response to the “My Orders” request
- Store all the user’s orders persistently
- Check requests for order details to make sure the user can access

Take action:

- Block

Skip the payment step and get free orders



Modify Request + Response:

- Keep track of which steps have submitted successfully
- Check no step is missed

Take action:

- Redirect to Step1

HTML Manipulation

```
simpleselect.query = 'input[type=password]';  
  
simpleselect.func = function (node) {  
  
    node.setAttribute('autocomplete', 'off');  
  
}
```



User

Request
Request

Response
Response

Server

<html>

Other examples

- Password strength checking
- HTML manipulation
- Tamper-protection on hidden fields
- Changing validation rules and messages
- XML / json inspection
- API protection

Why use node.js proxy?

Javascript is the language of the internet

Fast, scalable, mature

Often used for node.js load balancing

Performant HTML manipulation

Limitations of node.js proxy

- Asynchronous programming is hard
- Still need modsecurity + CRS for signatures
- Lot of overlaps with modsecurity - which tool is the right one?

Virtual Patching is a thing

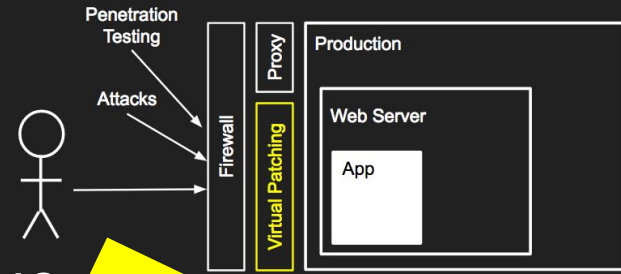
Another tool to add to your toolbelt

Prepare the infrastructure in advance

Our Virtual Patching Approach

Understand *how to exploit* the security issue

Only patch *known vulnerabilities or weaknesses*

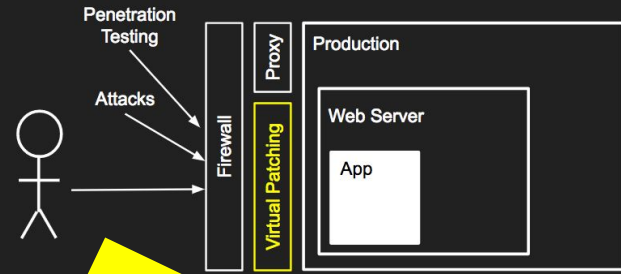


Recap

Avoid over-patching or doing things that will cause issues:

- Learning mode, tuning, false positives
- Large blocklists
- Focus *only* on the script, page or parameter affected

Our Virtual Patching Approach



Only patch *known vulnerabilities or weaknesses*

Recap

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- We wrap a service around virtual patching
- How does virtual patching work?
- Can it be done “DIY”?

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Appsec AU, 9 Sept 2017

Kirk Jackson | @kirkj
Imstfu.com | @LetMeSecureThat