How safe am I? Choosing the right security tool for the job!

There is an abundance of security tools out there: network scanners, dynamic and static analysis tools, fuzzing tools, etc. However, it is not always easy to determine which tool is best at finding what, and choosing the wrong security tools can not only result in providing useless results, but also result in creating an excessive burden for the organization trying to clear "false positives." In this session, you will learn about the many types of security tools available to your organization, how to select the proper tools, and how to use these tools in the most effective fashion to assess your on-premises and cloud security posture.

Session ID CON6303



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CON6303

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Safe Harbor Statement

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Program Agenda

- Challenge: too many things, too little time!
- Testing new deployments: finding misconfigurations and proper use of pen-testing
- Testing new code: using dynamic analysis
- Testing new code: using static analysis
- 5 Conclusion and call to action!

How Safe Am I?

- It is very important to periodically assess your security posture...
 - -Security testing should not be performed solely against new deployments
 - Periodic testing against the whole production environment will help detect "creeping problems" such as unwanted configuration changes and unpatched vulnerabilities
 - —And then... Do you really know what vulnerable components may be used throughout your environment?
 - Newly-deployed and existing systems may make use of obsolete and vulnerable components (e.g., OpenSSL, GNU Bash, etc.)

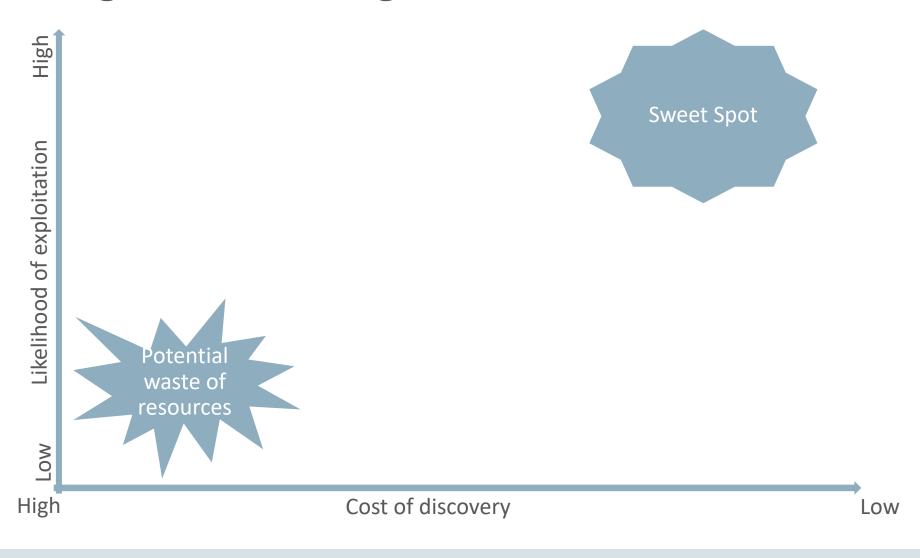
How Safe Am I?....Really, How Safe Am I?

- ...But production requirements are resource and time-consuming
 - Security testing takes the backseat to production
 - Time-to-market considerations often result in rushing new applications without proper testing
 - Operation staff may feel that security testing is the responsibility of the corporate security and audit staff
 - While hoping that nothing is found on the next security audit!!!



Challenge: "Getting the Best Bang for Your Bucks!"

Obviously, you want to spend your security testing resources finding likely exploitable vulnerabilities at the lowest possible cost.



How Easily Can You Find Security Issues?

	Known vulnerabilities	Errors and misconfigurations	Hidden vulnerabilities and new vectors (i.e., 0-days)
Examples	 Unpatched vulnerabilities Known vulnerable components Publicly-disclosed vulnerabilities 	 Default account passwords Use of vulnerable protocols (e.g., obsolete crypto) Improper permissions (files, user privileges) 	 New exploit vectors (e.g., exploit of undocumented interfaces) New and previously undisclosed vulnerabilities
How can they typically be found?	Inventory scans / patch discoveryLeaked informationNetwork scanners	Network scannersReview product deployment specs.Pen testing	Static analysis / code reviewDynamic testing/FuzzingExpert "hacking" skills
Who can typically find them?	AdministratorsAuditorsPen testers	AdministratorsAuditorsPen testers	Users of static/dynamic analysis toolsExpert hackers



Challenge: the Picture for Traditional IT Shop

Pen-testing and ethical hacking engagements will yield various benefits based on a number of factors.

Likelihood of exploitation

High

Dynamic Analysis (web applications)

Traditional vulnerability scanners (known CVEs and misconfigurations / network-based)

Traditional vulnerability scanners (known CVEs and misconfigurations / host-based)

Dynamic Analysis (fuzzing against protocols that are not publicly exposed)

Static Analysis

Source code review (by human / third-parties)

High

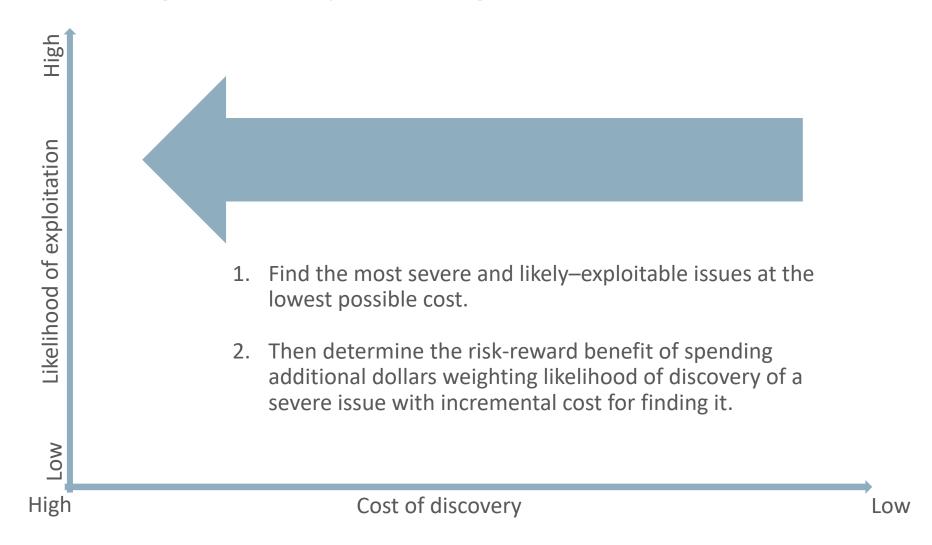
Low

Cost of discovery

Low



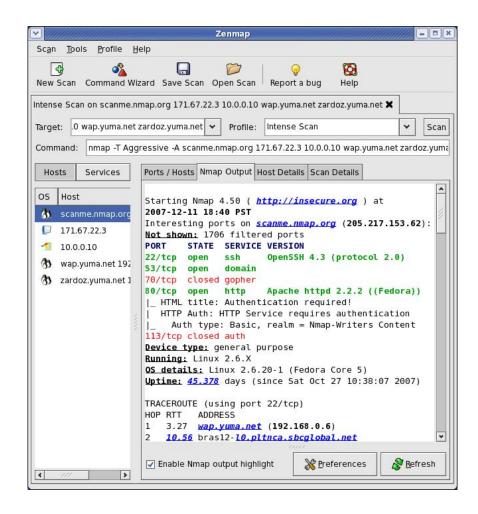
Challenge: Prioritizing Security Testing Activities?





Start With the Basics! Network Scanning Tools

- Widely-available tools (e.g., NMAP) allow script-kiddies to quickly detect vulnerable systems
- Helps define "best" payload
- ... And don't forget Google!
 - inurl:"viewerframe?mode=motion"
 - inurl: "admin.php"
 - Etc.



Go After Known Bugs!

- Generally, publishing security patches means:
 - Vulnerabilities become quickly known to potential attackers
 - Weaponization begins
 - "Nearby" vulnerabilities are identified
 - Weaponized attack scripts will be published with configurable payloads
- Continued use of unpatched vulnerable components creates critical risks
 - Script kiddies can attack and can select payloads
- Many "Patch Inventory Tools" can report lack of applied, published fixes in specific products distributions or their components
- Increasing numbers of industry groups demand quick deployment of published security fixes



Use of Patch Inventory Tools and Facilities

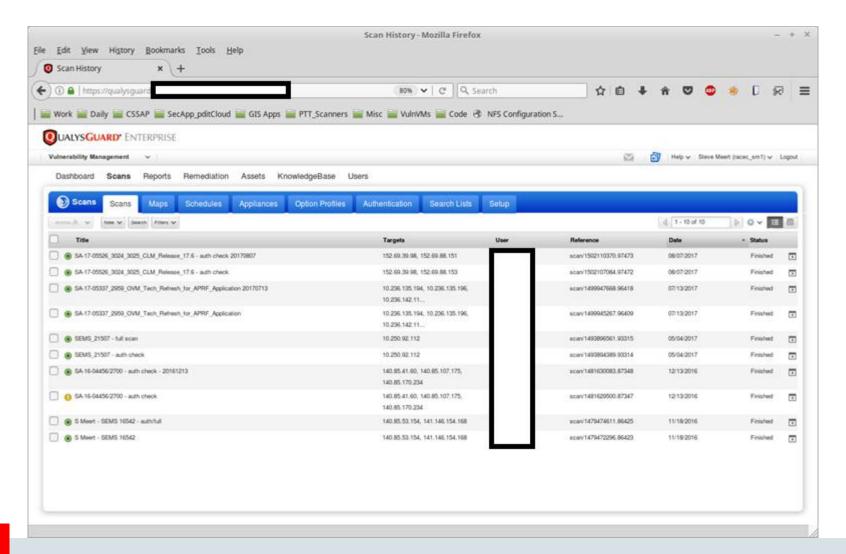
- Reports of published fixes that have not been applied
 - Both full products and internal components
 - Biggest bang for the buck: Easy remediation and high risk due to public knowledge
 - Published fixes are attacker focus, especially in widely used components
- But, many patch inventory tools are new and have significant issues
 - False negatives (i.e. not comprehensive)
 - False positives due to poor identification of component release versions
 - "False positives" because component defects are not exploitable via the application

Product Misconfigurations Are Significant Risks

- After applying published security fixes, next address misconfiguration
- Bad actors read security guides to identify best attack strategies
 - Attackers know that users often fail to follow the recommended configuration advice
 - Vendors respond by providing "secure by default" deployments
 - For compatibility reasons, sites sometimes change defaults to less secure and obsolete configurations – these should be remediated as soon as possible
 - Quick and dirty configuration changes made for interoperability, quick enhancement or testing reasons often have very high risk factors
- Configuration issues can be as easily exploitable as known vulnerabilities
 - Less than secure deployments made for compatibility reasons are chronic targets
 - Sometimes the customer base must be inconvenienced (e.g. white lists)



Patch and Configuration Tools





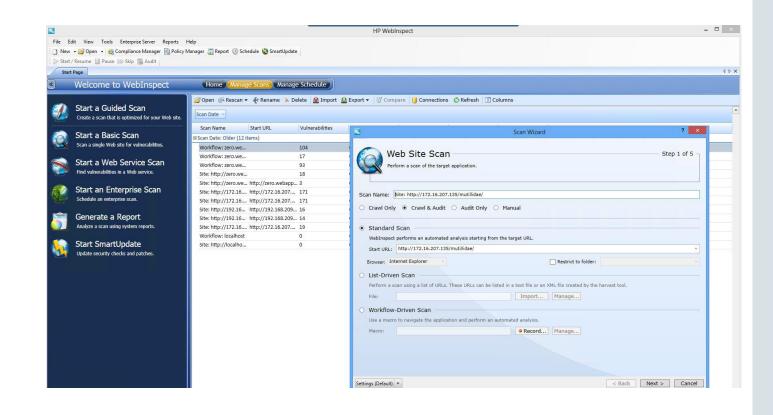
A Few Words About Pen-Testing

- Prior sections discussed patch application and correcting configurations
 - All customers can apply published fixes and correct their product configurations
 - No experts required!!!
- Some customers have expertise and resources to employ comprehensive static and dynamic tests while others will rely on pen-testers (consultants)
- For customers with expertise and resources, best testing sequence is:
 - Dynamic tests first (discussed next)
 - Static tests next
 - Finally Penetration Testers should be employed (pen-testers should always be used, but more on that later)



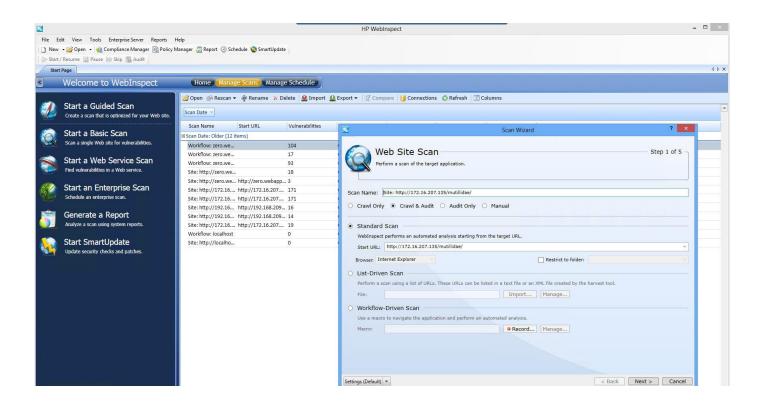
Dynamic Testing

- Test should be against actual deployment configurations
- Tests can be generic not specific to applications
 - Fuzzers (Both network and UI)
 are a subset of this category
 - Configuration testers (e.g., SSLv2 not allowed)
 - Urgency is high since exploiter
 can run such tools also



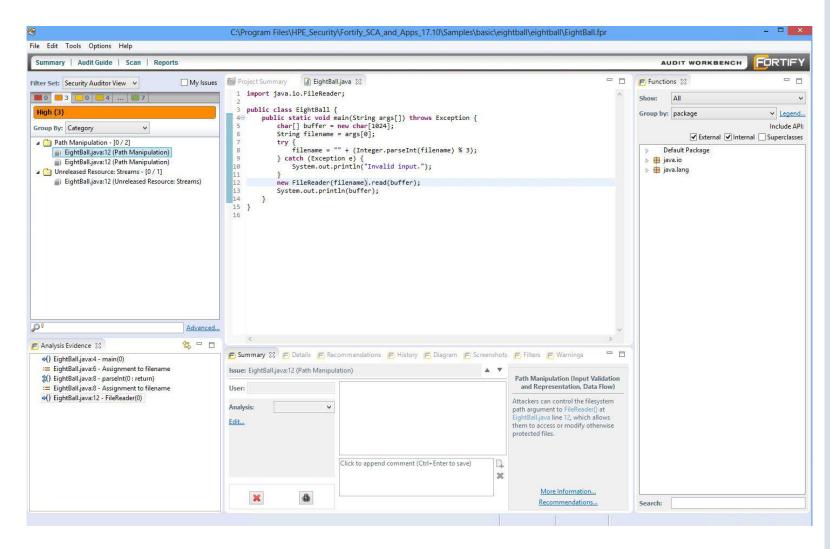
Dynamic Testing, cont.

- Tests can be specific to an application and to detect regressions
 - Include regression tests (does application still fix security errors)
 - Can have specialized instrumentation to detect load, lock conflict or other issues
 - Can be run as part of change check-in (recommended)



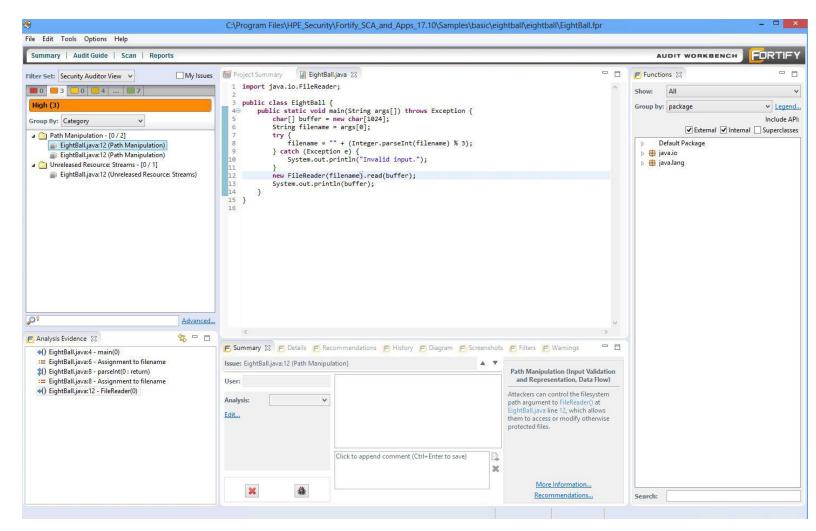
Static Testing

- Analysis of source code
 - requires source code be available
- Tools can be expensive
 - Some tools require lots
 of expert IT
 customization to become
 effective
 - False positive can be major issue until IT gains expertise for use



Static Testing, cont.

- But, static testing is much less expensive per vulnerability discovered than pen-testers or code review
- Exploiters can't perform static testing unless they have source available



Penetration Testing

- Pen testing can be a very valuable exercise
 - If performed against a deployment that closely mirrors your production environment
 - If performed after patches applied and configuration is secure
 - If performed after vulnerabilities discovered by automated means are remediated (which pen-testing organizations can run on behalf of customers)
- Pen testing can yield high-value findings
 - Complex attacks involving multiple components may be difficult to uncover with automated tools but may be discovered by penetration testers
 - New vulnerabilities not yet discoverable via automated tools may be discovered
 - Again, all organizations should employ pen-testers



What should you do if you think you have discovered a security bug in an Oracle product?

For Customers

- One SR per vulnerability with proof of concept (POC)
- Security tools reports should be verified (e.g., through POC) before submitting SR
- POC not required for published fixes in 3rd party components known to be part of product (POC is self-evident)

For Researchers

- Contact secalert us@oracle.com
 - We encourage use of encryption via our public key http://www.oracle.com/technology/deploy/security/alerts.htm

