

Dependencies

- Probably 90% of commercial application make use of Open Source Software
- Open Source is great but....
- Node.js is quickly becoming a leading framework for web development
- Some features of node's repository are concerning from the security point of view



Azer Koçulu

A fairly anonymous developer at that time decided to "Liberate" his modules following a disagreement with NPM staff.

Among them was a module named Left-Pad



The Left-pad Saga



silkentrance commented on Mar 22

When building projects on travis, or when searching for left-pad on npmjs.com, both will report that the package cannot be found.

Here is an excerpt from the travis build log

```
npm ERR! Linux 3.13.0-40-generic
npm ERR! argv "/home/travis/.nvm/versions/node/v4.2.2/bin/node" "/home/travis/.nvm/versions/node/v4
npm ERR! node v4.2.2
npm ERR! npm v2.14.7
```

npm ERR! 404 Registry returned 404 for GET on https://registry.npmjs.org/left-pad

npm ERR! 404 'left-pad' is not in the npm registry. npm ERR! 404 You should bug the author to publish it (or use the name yourself!)

npm ERR! 404 'left-pad' is not in the npm registry.

npm ERR! 404 You should bug the author to publish it (or use the name yourself!)

```
npm ERR! Please include the following file with any support request:
npm ERR! /home/travis/build/coldrye-es/pingo/npm-debug.log
make: *** [deps] Error 1
```

The Left-Pad Saga

- Left-Pad was used by ~40 npm modules up to 370 now
 - including React and Babel (used by FB, AirBnB and others)

- First of all Azer is no longer anonymous.
- He actually triggered and important discussion within the community:
 - Should an author be able to un-publish his work without a process?
 - What happens to the available module names?





npm- Node.js Package Manager

- NPM is the node.js open source package manager, command-line client, and a centralized registry of Node.js modules
- "Find, share, and reuse packages of code from hundreds of thousands of developers"
- Over 435,000 modules used by over 6.5 million developers



Some points to note about npm registry

- Semantic Versioning npm encourages the use of <u>semver</u>, or semantic versioning.
 - Dependencies are not locked to a certain version by default.

For any dependency, the dependency author can push a new version of the package.

Upgrade

Some points to note about npm utility

- Persistent authentication npm utilizes persistent authentication to the npm server.
 - Users are not logged out until they manually do so
 - Typing 'npm install' may allow any module to execute arbitrary publish commands



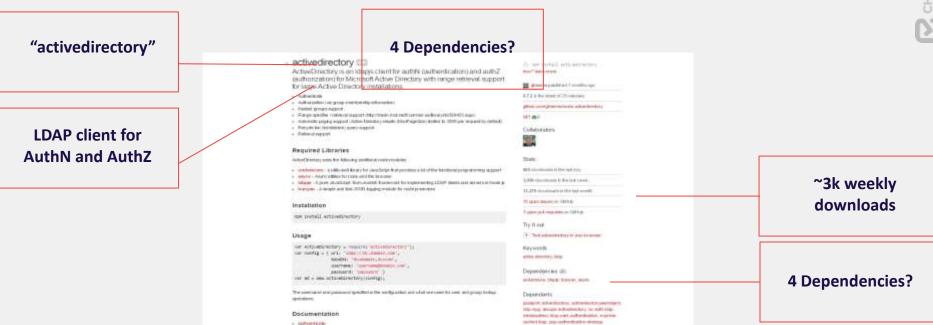
Some points to note about npm repo

- Centralized registry NPM utilizes a centralized registry
 - Typing npm publish ships your code to this registry server, where it can be installed by anyone.

Lets look at an example: activedirectory

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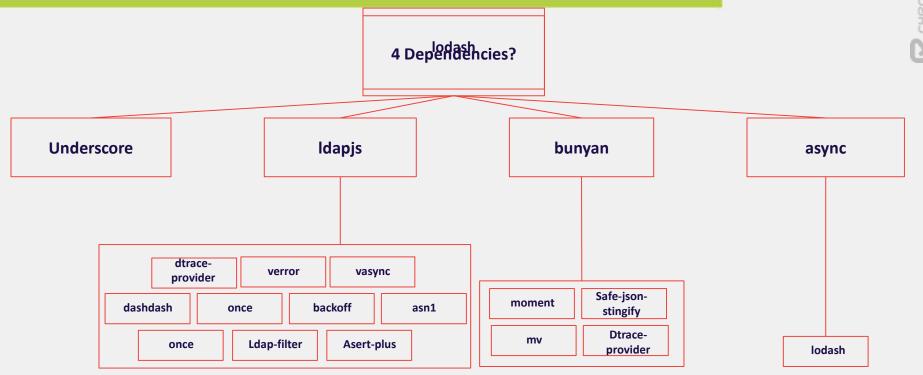
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DESIGNATION OF THE PERSON NAMED IN

So simple - npm install <module name>





4+10+4+1=19

Iodash

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42,866,114 downloads last month!

O Dependencies?

~71k Dependents!

lodash v4.15.0

O Star 18,317 O Fork 1,776

A modern JavaScript utility library delivering modularity, performance, & extras.

Follow @bestiejs

```
_.assign({ 'a': 1 }, { 'b': 2 }, { 'c': 3 });

// → { 'a': 1, 'b': 2, 'c': 3 }

_.map([1, 2, 3], function(n) { return n * 3; });

// → [3, 6, 9]
```



Ways to cause damage

- Create a useful module
 - Use good old marketing
 - Update it after it gets adoption
- Create a module named similarly to another popular module (Typo attacks)
 - Packages are identified by names (No unique identifier/key)
- Take control of a legit account
- Create a self replicating worm



- Socially engineer a npm module owner to npm install an infected module on their system.
- Worm creates a new npm module



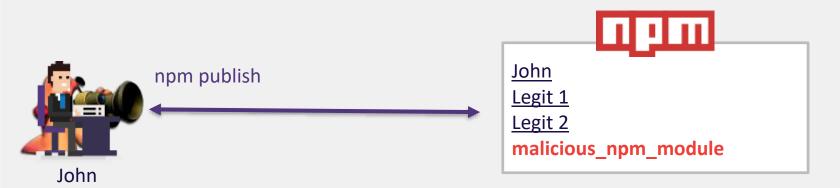
```
"start": "node create malicious_npm_module",
    "predeploy": "echo im about to deploy",
    "postdeploy": "echo ive deployed",
    "prepublish": "coffee --bare --compile --output
lib/foo src/foo/*.coffee"
```

Full reports by Sam Saccone

Creating a self replicating NPM worm (Persistent Auth)



Worm sets lifecycle hook on the new module to execute the worm on any install Worm publishes the new module to the user's npm account

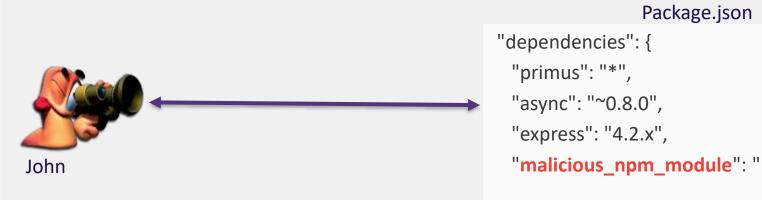


Full reports by Sam Saccone



Worm walks all user's npm modules (publish permissions) and adds new module as a dependency in package.json.

Worm publishes new versions to each of the modules with a "bugfix" level semver bump.



Full reports by Sam Saccone



```
return function middleware (req, res, next) {
    // Strip any null bytes from the url
    while(req.url.indexOf('%00') !== -1) {
       req.url = req.url.replace(/\%00/g, '');
    }
```

What we did

- Scan for security issues
 - Top 50 popular packages
 - Top 50 dependent-upon packages
 - Other popular packages
- Analyze results
- Responsible Disclosure
 - Contact dev
 - Wait for patch
 - Publish



Top 50 NPM packages

Packages people 'npm install' a lot



browserify

browser-side require() the nod... 13.0.1 published 4 months ago by jmm



The grunt command line interf... 1.2.0 published 5 months ago by vladikoff



bower

The browser package manager 1.7.9 published 5 months ago by



gulp

The streaming build system 3.9.1 published 7 months agu by



grunt

The JavaScript Task Runner 1.0.1 published 5 months ago by shame



express

Fast, unopinionated, minimali... 4.14.0 published 3 months ago by diminalson



npm

a package manager for JavaSc... 3.9.6 published 3 months ago by zkat.



cordova

Cordova command line interfa... 6.2.0 published 4 months ago by stevegil



forever

A simple CLI tool for ensuring ... 0.15.2 published 4 months ago by

https://www.npmjs.com/

Most depended-upon packages

lodash

Lodash modular utilities. 4.15.6 published 4 weeks ago by idelton

request

Simplified HTTP request client. 2.74.0 published 2 months ago by sirriov

async

Higher-order functions and common patt... 2.0.1 published 2 months ago by megawac

underscore

JavaScript's functional programming help... 1.8.3 published a year ago by jashkenas

express

Fast, unopinionated, minimalist web fra... 4.14.0 published 3 months ago by dougwhon.

commander

the complete solution for node is comm... 2.9.0 published 11 months ago by zhiyelee

bluebird

Full featured Promises/A+ Implementatio... 3.4.6 published a week ago by esaltie

a chalk

Terminal string styling done right. Much ... 1.1.3 published 5 months ago by qui

@ debug

small debugging utility 2.2.0 published a year ago by too fall nate

https://www.npmjs.com/

Scan for security issues

PROJECT NAME	LAST SCAN DATE	TEAM	LOC
acorn-master	6/22/2016	CxServer\SP\Company\npm project	97564
ansi-regex-master	6/22/2016	CxServer\SP\Company\npm project	414
esprima-master	6/22/2016	CxServer\SP\Company\npm project	75907
inherits-master	6/23/2016	CxServer\SP\Company\npm project	47
<u>isarray-master</u>	6/23/2016	CxServer\SP\Company\npm project	25
lodash-master	6/23/2016	CxServer\SP\Company\npm project	128337
object-keys-master	6/23/2016	CxServer\SP\Company\npm project	419
private-master	6/23/2016	CxServer\SP\Company\npm project	198
	ge size: All		

What is wrong with this picture?

```
46
47
     return function middleware (req, res, next) {
       // Strip any null bytes from the url
50
51
       while (reg.url.indexOf('%00') !== -1) {
         req.url = req.url.replace(/\%00/g, '');
53
54
       // Figure out the path for the file from the given url
55
       var parsed = url.parse(reg.url);
       try
         decodeURIComponent(req.url); // check validity of url
58
        var pathname = decodePathname(parsed.pathname);
59
60
       catch (err) {
61
         return status[400] (res, next, { error: err });
63
64
       var file = path.normalize(
            path.join(root,
66
               path.relative(
                 path.join('/', baseDir),
                 pathname
```

Scan Results Severity	Re	sults	Gra	ph							
JavaScript		✓ Result State ▼		✓ Result Severity ▼		√ Assign to User	- ▼ Ø Co	Ø Comments ↓ Save Scan Subset		Ø Open Ticket	
▼ ③ High		id	Direc	Status	Source Folder	Source Filename	Source Line	Source Object	Destination Folde	Destination Filer	n Des
Reflected_XSS (2 : Found) (?)		1	9	New	\node-ecs	ecstatic.js	51	indexOf	\node-ecs	ecstatic js	51
▼ ▲ Medium Server_DoS_by_loop (2 : Found) (?)		2	g [©]	New	\node-ecs	ecstatic.js	52	replace	\node-ecs	ecstatic.js	51

What is wrong with this picture?

ecstatic

```
return function middleware (req, res, next) {

// Strip any null bytes from the url
while(req.url.indexOf('%00') !== -1) {
  req.url = req.url.replace(/\%00/g, '');
}
```

- 150k weekly downloads
- **263** other npm packages are dependent on ecstatic

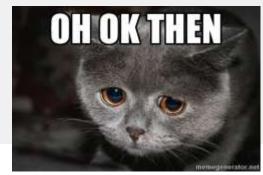
Developer Response



- PoC:
 - 22kb payload 1 sec lag
 - 35kb payload 3 sec lag
 - 86kb payload server crashed

http://www.checkmarx.com/%00%00%00%00%00%00 (...)

Developer Response



```
return function middleware (reg, res, next) {
 // Strip any null bytes from the url
  // This was at one point necessary because of an old bug in url.parse
     See: https://github.com/ifhbrook/node-ecstatic/issues/16#issuecomment-3039914
     See: https://github.com/ifhbrook/node-ecstatic/commit/43f7e72a31524f88f47e367c3cc3af710e67c9f4
  // But this opens up a regex dos attack vector! D:
    Based on some research (ie asking #node-dev if this is still an issue),
  // it's *probably* not an issue. :)
 while (req.url.indexOf('%00') !== -1) {
   reg.url = reg.url.replace(/\%00/g, '');
```

Other Scan Results

Command Injection

- Variable from user input was used as an argument for an OS command.
- Dev response: "The flaw exists because the original author used it... A possible solution is to delete the vulnerable file".

Other Scan Results

- Command Injection
- Stored XSS
- Denial of Service by Loop
- Denial of Service by Regex (ReDoS)
- CSV Injection
- Insecure Randomness
- Open Redirect



- Check if there are any hooks: npm show \$module scripts
- Inspect module's code and check out its dependencies
- Don't allow scripts to execute automatically: npm install –ignorescripts
- Use npm shrinkwrap to lock down your own dependencies
- Sometimes it's better to write your own functions!
- Analyze your own code together with its dependencies!
- Enable 2FA and/or log out!



Be a Safe Corporate User!

- Run a local NPM Registry
- Replicate official registry ... or not
- Prevent installing from main registry



