



# For my next trick... hacking Web2.0

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**OWASP**  
**Day**  
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## **...before we start**

- Feel free to ask questions
- Do ask questions
- Read the paper for getting better understandings

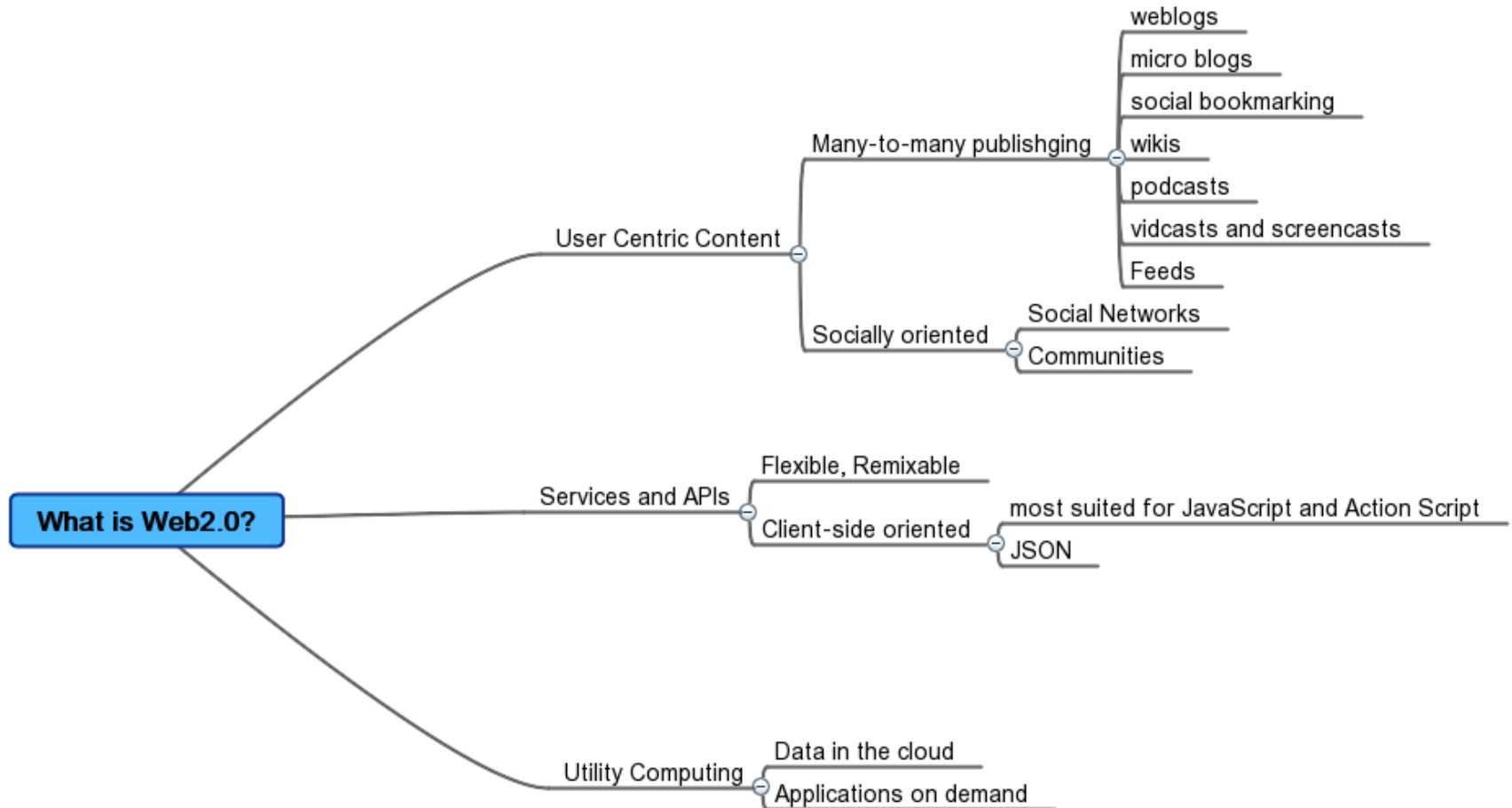


# What is Web2.0?

- Marketing buzzword
- Invented by O'Reilly Media in 2003
- Wikis, Blogs, AJAX, Social Networks, Collaboration
- APIs, SOA (Service Oriented Architecture)
- Data in the Cloud
- Applications on Demand



# ...a Web2.0 Mindmap

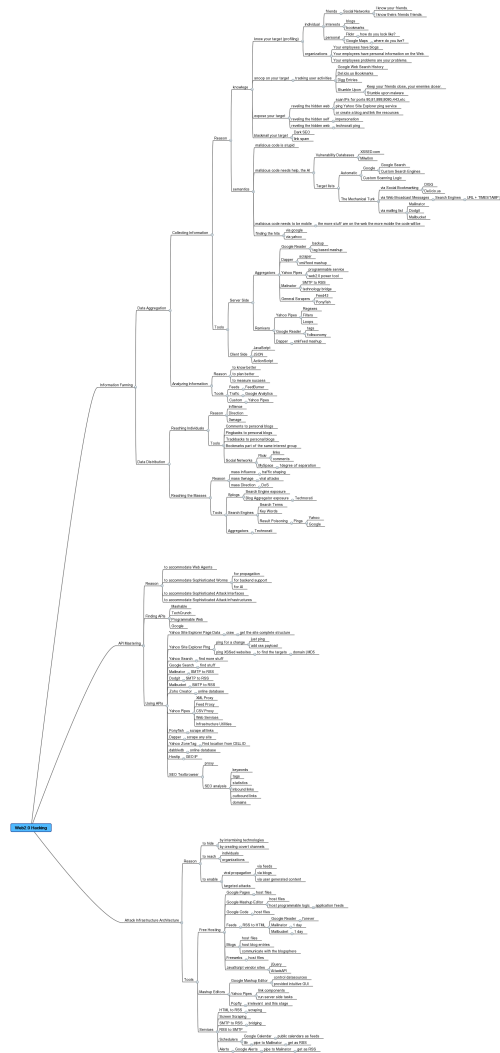


# Why Web2.0 hacking?

- Data Management
- Information Leaks
- Live Profiling
- Information Spamming
- Service Abuse
- Autonomous Agents
- Distribution
- Attack Infrastructures



# ...a Web2.0 Hacking Mindmap



# The Paper

- 5 fictional stories with technology that is real
- Learn by example
- KISS (Keep it Simple Stupid)
- Problems with no solutions





# The Stories

## ■ MPack2.0

- ▶ Attack Infrastructures

## ■ Wormoholic

- ▶ Autonomous Agents

## ■ Bookmarks Rider

- ▶ Distribution

## ■ RSS Kingpin

- ▶ Information Spamming

## ■ Revealing the hidden Web

- ▶ Service Abuse



# MPack2.0

## ■ The Story:

- ▶ Kr0nx runs a Malware Construction Kit
- ▶ He constantly needs to find better ways to keep the Kit on-line
- ▶ Google Mashup Editor to the rescue

## ■ The Technology:

- ▶ AJAX
- ▶ ATOM Feeds
- ▶ SVN (Subversion)



# MPack2.0 :: The Tool

The screenshot displays the Google Mashup Editor interface in Mozilla Firefox. The browser address bar shows `http://editor.googlemashups.com/editor`. The page title is "messenger" and the URL is `http://messenger.googlemashups.com`. The interface includes a navigation bar with "Editor", "Feed Browser", and "Sandbox" tabs, and a "Published Apps" section. The main area is a code editor with the following content:

```
1 <gm:page title="Messenger" authenticate="true">
2 <h1>Renaissance Expositions Messenger</h1>
3 <p>Click one of the buttons below to perform an operation.
4
5 <gm:list id="data" data="{app}/messages" template="templat
6
7 <gm:template id="template">
8   <ul repeat="true">
9     <li><gm:text ref="atom:title"/></li>
10  </ul>
11 </gm:template>
12
13 <input type="button" value="Create" onclick="create()" />
14 <input type="button" value="Read" onclick="read()" />
15 <input type="button" value="Update" onclick="update()" />
16 <input type="button" value="Delete" onclick="del()" />
17
18 <script>
19   var gpathTitle = new GPath("atom:title");
20
21   function create() {
22     var d = google.mashups.getObjectById('data').getData();
```

On the right side, there is a "Projects" panel with a tree view showing "My Projects" containing "Backframe", "GME Phishing Demo", "messenger", "SECDB", "Social Unit", "TStore", and "XSSDB", along with "Samples". Below it is a "Files" panel showing "index.gml". The footer of the editor includes copyright information: "©2007 Google - Terms of Use - Privacy Policy - Google Code".



# MPack2.0 :: The Plan

- Write the client by using the CRUD example
- Link the member's feeds with the global application feed
- Upload the JavaScript attack libraries
- Link the libraries to the application feed
- Control via Subversion
- Instantiate the application as many times as you wish



# MPack2.0 :: The Code

```
<gm:page title="MPack2.0" authenticate="true">
<h1>MPack2.0</h1>
<p>Add Software to install.</p>

<gm:list id="data" data="{app}/software" template="template"/>

<gm:template id="template">
<ul repeat="true">
<li><gm:text ref="atom:title"/></li>
</ul>
</gm:template>

<input type="button" value="Create" onclick="create()"/>
<input type="button" value="Read" onclick="read()"/>
<input type="button" value="Update" onclick="update()"/>
<input type="button" value="Delete" onclick="del()"/>

<script>
var gpathTitle = new GPath("atom:title");

function create() {
var d = google.mashups.getObjectById('data').getData();
var e = d.createEntry();
gpathTitle.setValue(e, prompt('URL:', ''));
d.addEntry(e);
}

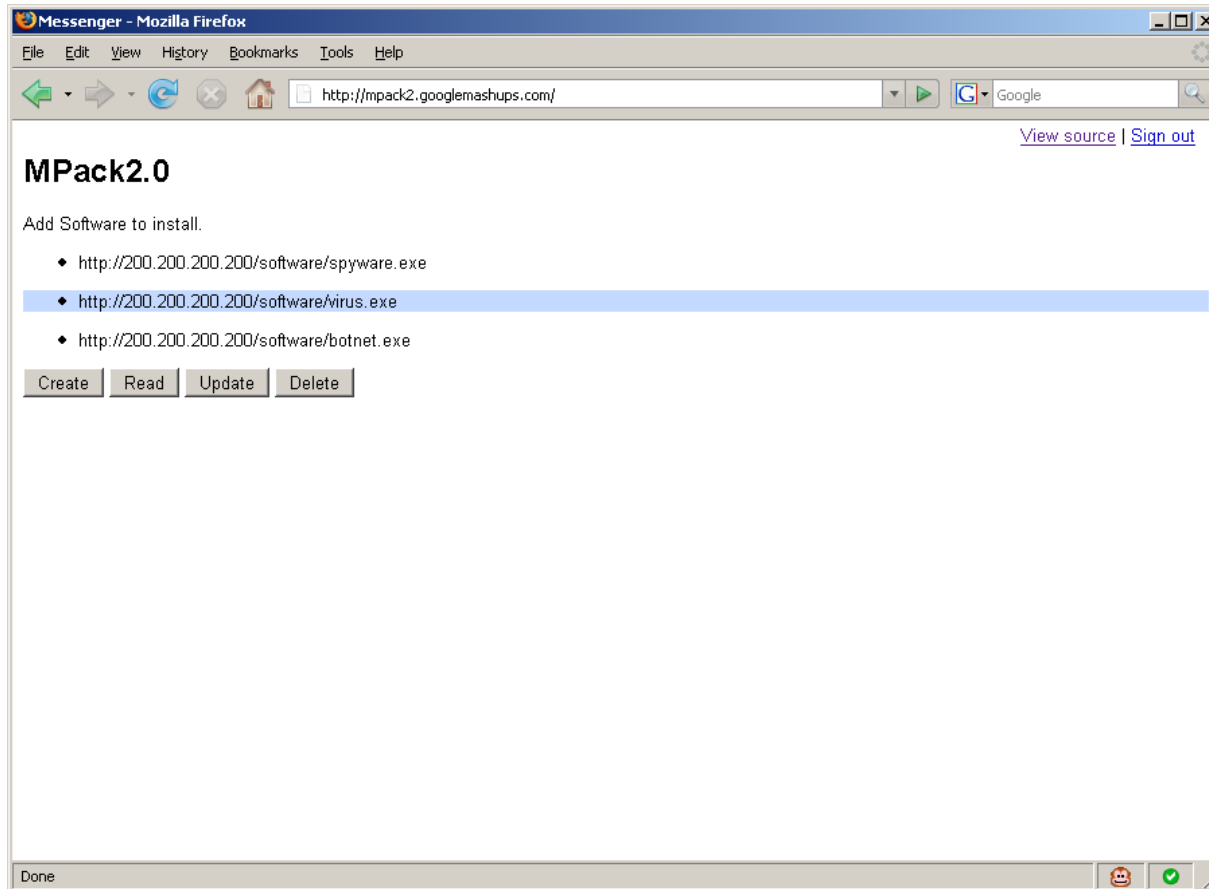
function read() {
var e = google.mashups.getObjectById('data').getSelectedEntry();
if (!e) { alert('Select an item'); return; }
var d = google.mashups.getObjectById('data').getData();
alert(gpathTitle.getValue(e));
}

function update() {
var e = google.mashups.getObjectById('data').getSelectedEntry();
if (!e) { alert('Select an item'); return; }
var d = google.mashups.getObjectById('data').getData();
gpathTitle.setValue(e, prompt('New title:', gpathTitle.getValue(e)));
d.updateEntry(e);
}

function del() {
var e = google.mashups.getObjectById('data').getSelectedEntry();
if (!e) { alert('Select an item'); return; }
var d = google.mashups.getObjectById('data').getData();
d.removeEntry(e);
}
</script>
</gm:page>
```



# MPack2.0 :: The Result



# MPack2.0 :: The Conclusion

- Malware Construction Kits such as MPack and WebAttacker are widely used to compromise hundreds of thousands machines per day.
- They require access to Web servers with support of server-side scripts
- We fight them by informing the ISPs about their presence and by blacklisting malicious IP blocks



# MPack2.0 :: The Conclusion

- Google Mashup Editor is one of the most vivid Web2.0 technologies
- Developers can write complex Server-side/Client-side software by using only AJAX.
- Database like functionalities are ready to use
- Applications can be easily backed up and redeployed from local or remote source code repositories





## **MPack2.0 :: ...therefore**

- These types of services can be easily abused for malicious purposes
- They can host malicious software that can compromise client machines
- They can host software to control botnets
- Google cannot be blocked as it is one of the biggest service providers
- The platform is suitable for all kinds of malicious purposes



# Wormoholic

## ■ The Story:

- ▶ Excerpts of a fictional presentation

## ■ The Technology:

- ▶ JavaScript
- ▶ Feeds
- ▶ Aggregators
- ▶ Social Sites
- ▶ Services
- ▶ Search Engines

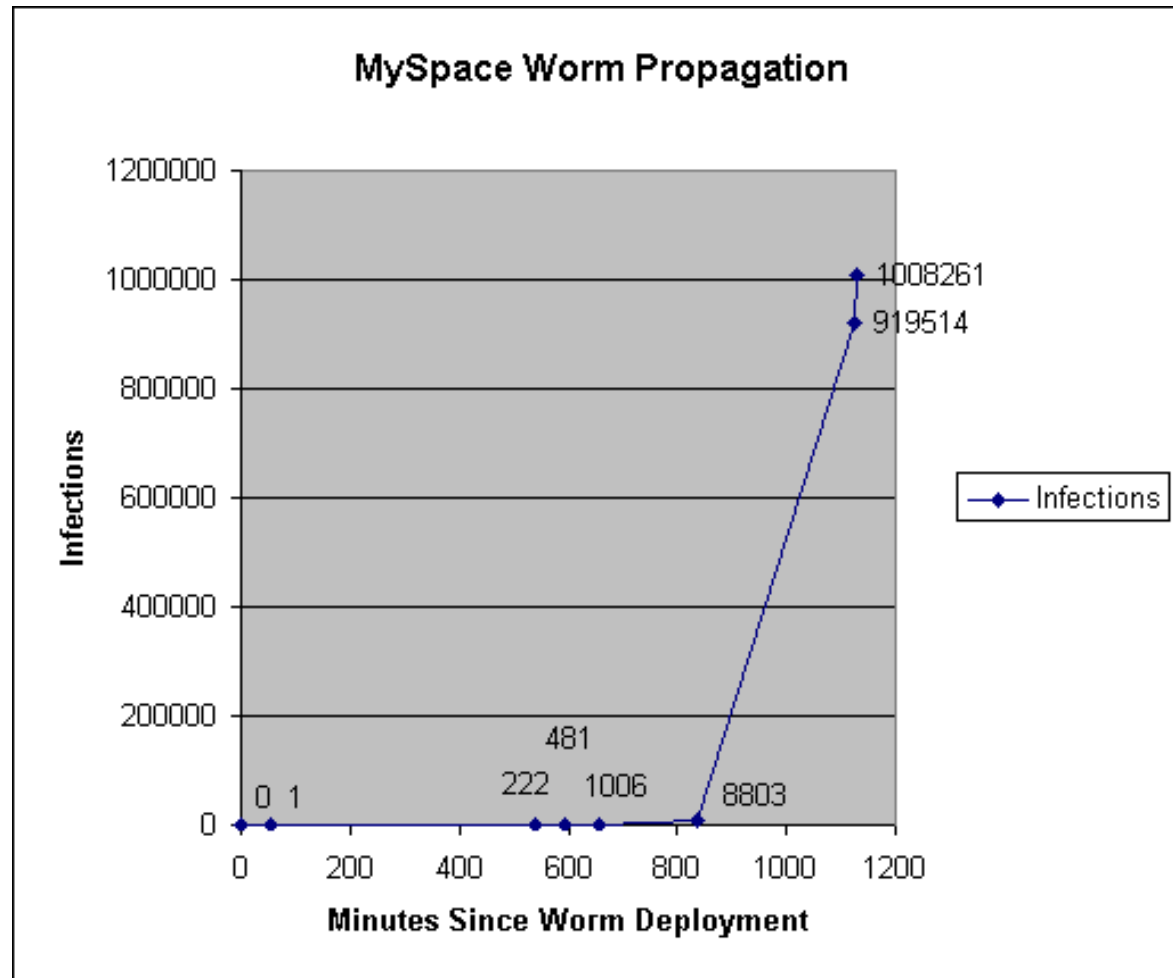


# Wormoholic :: Why it matters?

- Samy is one of the fastest spreading worms over seen
- It could have been used for malicious purposes
- Software of this type can reach audience larger than traditional viral attacks
- Attackers can create botnets instantaneously



# Wormoholic :: Samy



# Wormoholic :: Covert Channels

- Obfuscate feed path

- Purpose:

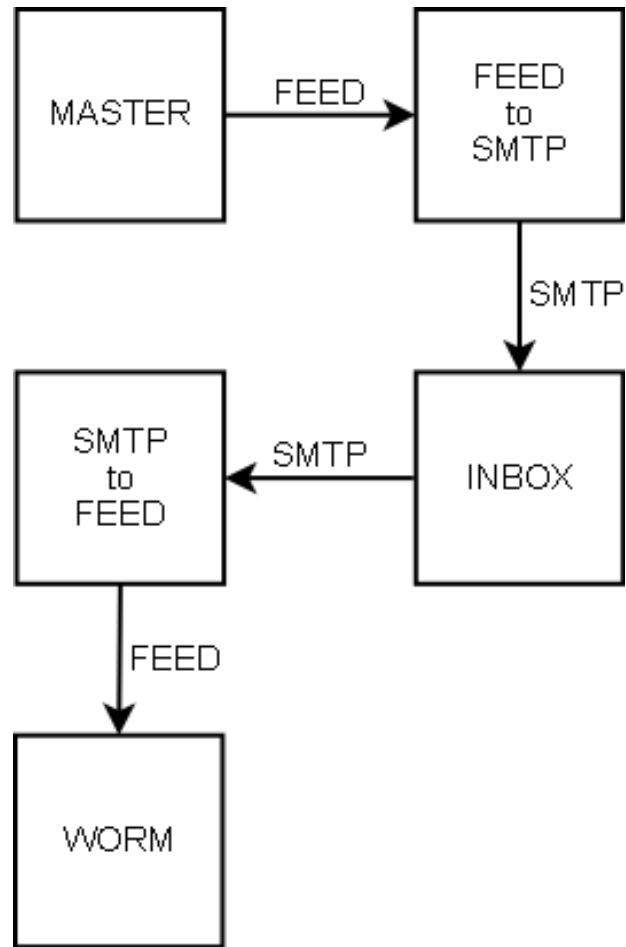
- ▶ To monitor
- ▶ To hide worm control channel
- ▶ To control

- Technology:

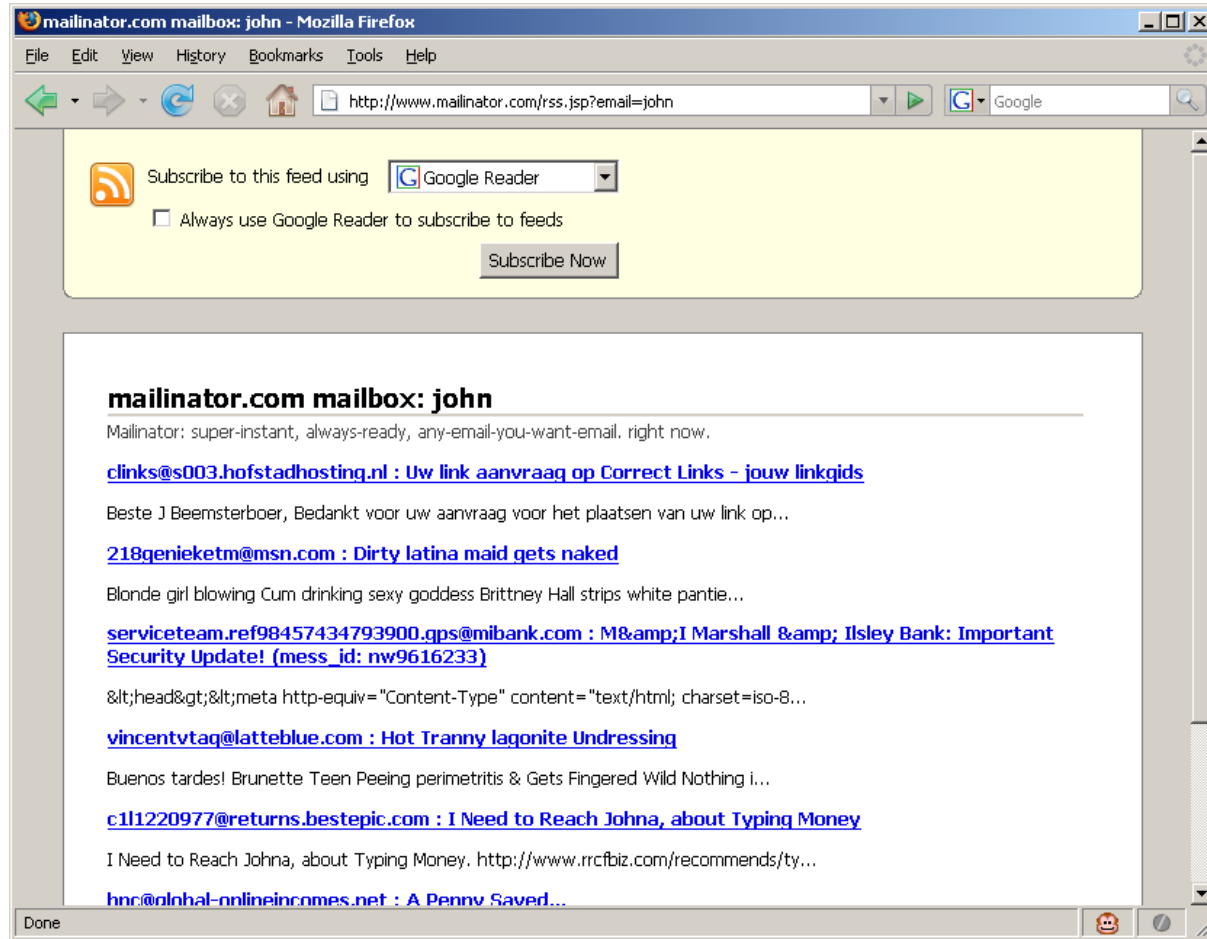
- ▶ Feed Readers (Google Reader, etc)
- ▶ Mixers (Google Reader, Yahoo Pipes, etc)
- ▶ Forwarders (RSS to Mail, Mail to RSS)



# Wormoholic :: The Covert Diagram



# Wormoholic :: Mailinator Forwarder



# Wormoholic :: The Mechanical Turk

- What is it?

- ▶ Dumb machine that looks smart

- Applied to malware!

- ▶ Dumb viral code that looks smart

- What is the trick?

- ▶ Syndication
- ▶ Automatic Discovery



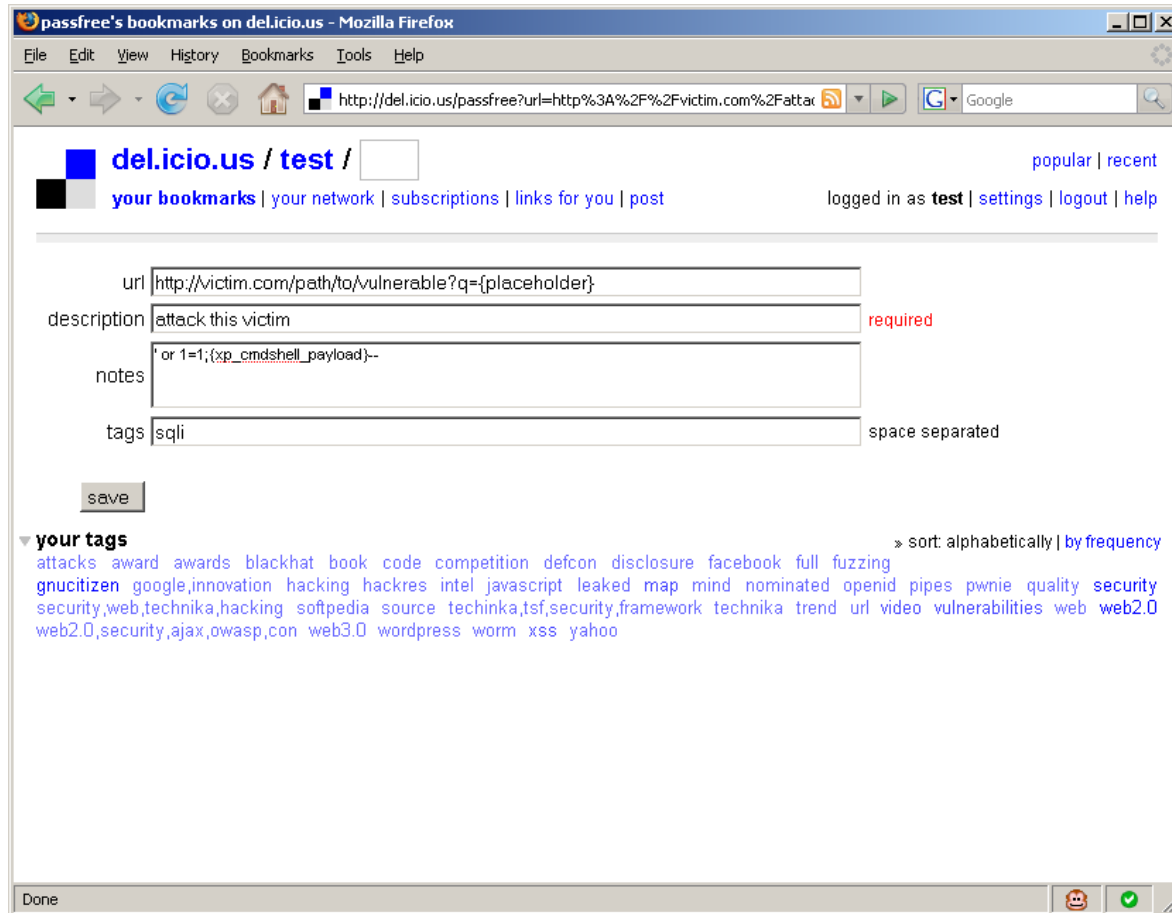


# Wormoholic :: Syndication

- Bookmarking sites can hold the description of the attack
- The data can be contributed by multiple authors
- The data can be consumed as a feed or any other syndication mechanism



# Wormoholic :: Syndication Example

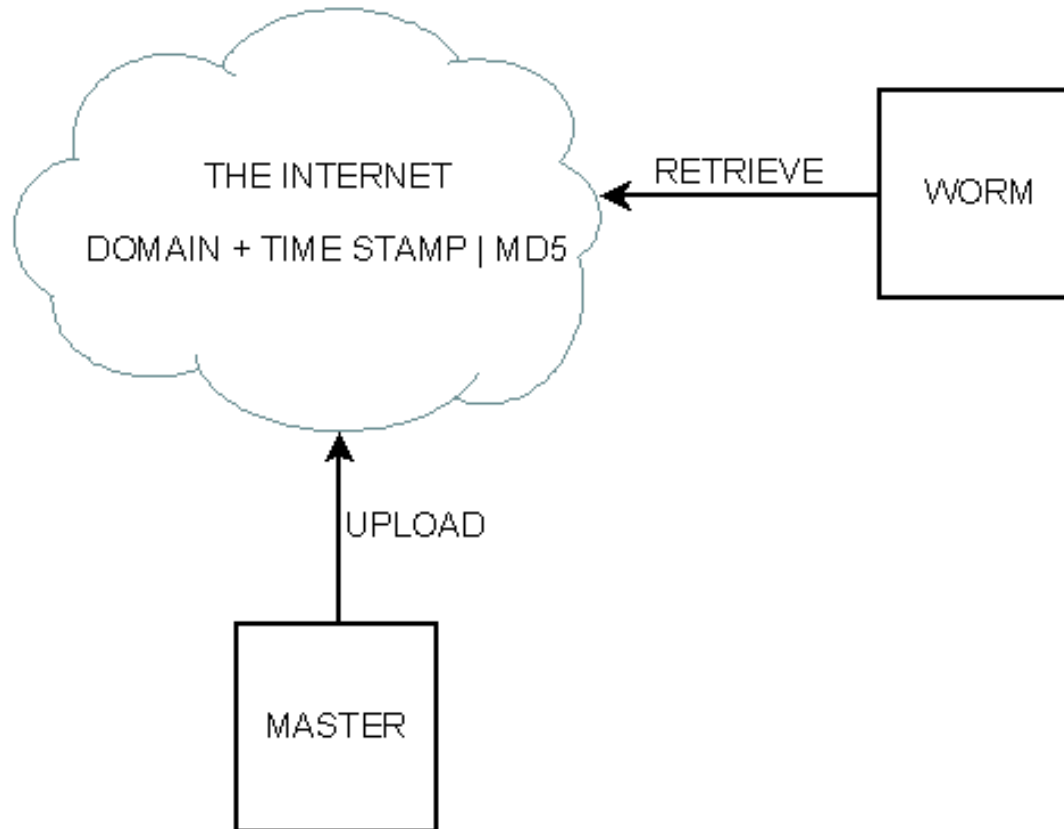


# Wormoholic :: Automatic Discovery

- Search Engines can deliver messages to surface agents in a distributed manner
- Cannot be easily prevented
- AJAX Search APIs to the rescue
- Queries are sometimes very very very generic
- Example:
  - ▶ The master says: **WORM DOMAIN + FUTURE TIME STAMP | MD5**
  - ▶ The worm looks for: **CURRENT DOMAIN + CURRENT TIME STAMP | MD5**



# Wormoholic :: Message Broadcasting Diagram

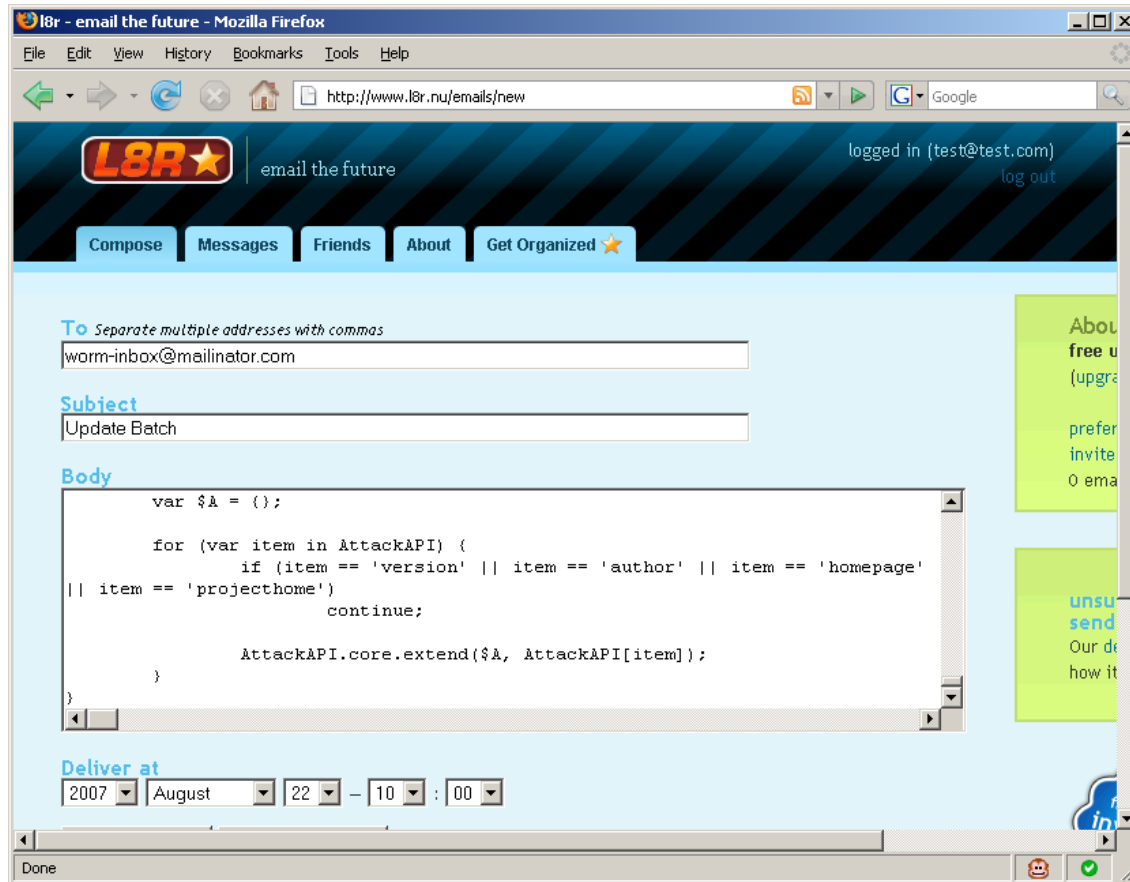


# Wormoholic :: Scheduling and Logical bombs

- Actions can be taken at given time
- Mimics traditional logical bombs but a lot more powerful when mixed with AJAX
- Time management services are freely available on the Web:
  - ▶ Google Calendar
    - Calendars are available as feed
  - ▶ L8R
    - Can schedule future e-mails
    - Messages can be taken out as a Feed



# Wormoholic :: L8R



# Wormoholic :: Push down target discovery

- Find patterns in targets
- Configure server to look for these targets
  - ▶ Use legitimate service like Google Search, Yahoo Search and the all mighty Google Alerts
- Push the results to worms



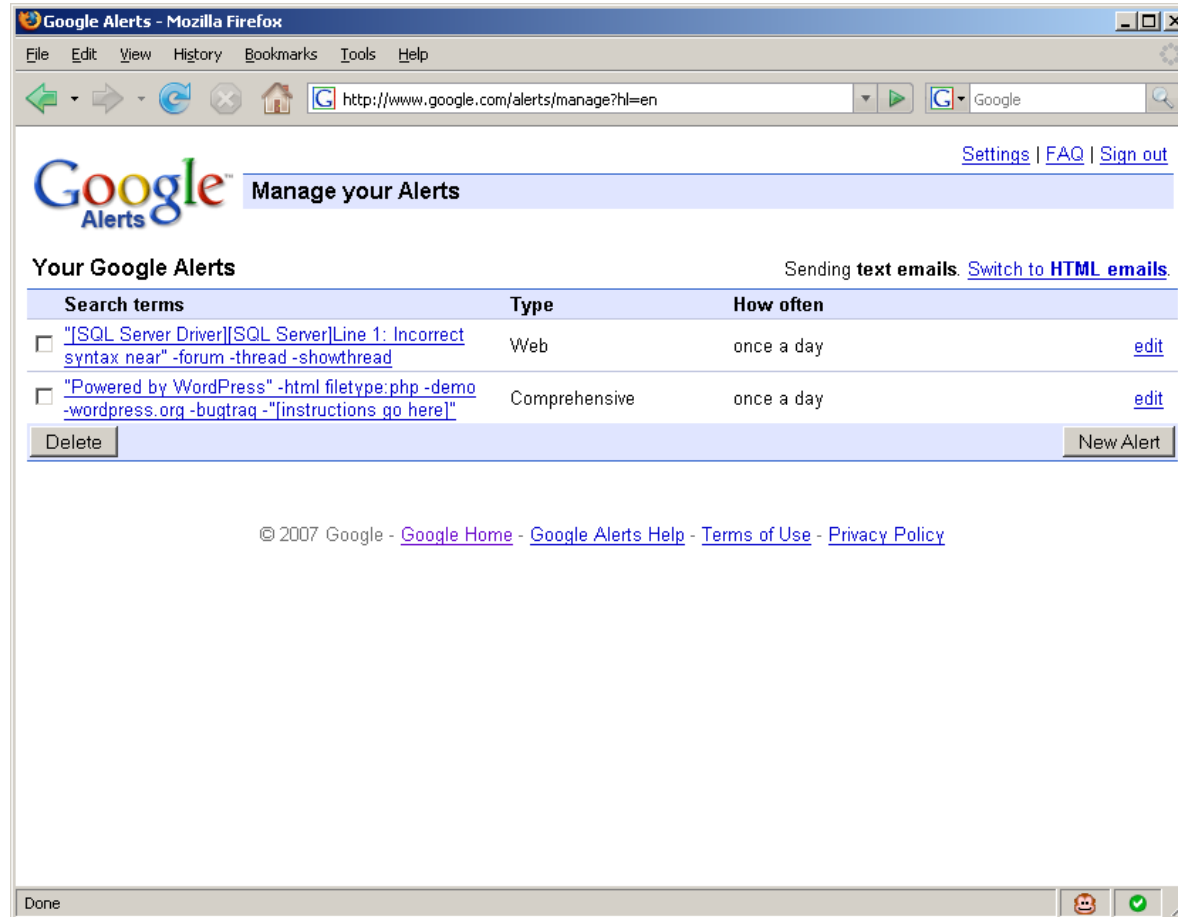
# Wormoholic :: Google Alerts

- Place strategic Google Dorks into the alerting system
- Supply payload within the dork body:
  - ▶ "Powered by WordPress" -html filetype:php -demo -wordpress.org -bugtraq -"[instructions go here]"
- Forward Google Alert emails to any mail client that can export to feed, such as Malinator, DodgIt and Mailbucket
- Consume the result with the surface agent
- Hide





# Wormoholic :: Google Alerts Interface



The screenshot shows the Google Alerts management interface in Mozilla Firefox. The browser window title is "Google Alerts - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar shows the URL "http://www.google.com/alerts/manage?hl=en". The page header includes the Google Alerts logo and the text "Manage your Alerts". There are links for "Settings", "FAQ", and "Sign out".

Under the heading "Your Google Alerts", there is a note: "Sending text emails. [Switch to HTML emails.](#)".

Search terms	Type	How often	
<input type="checkbox"/> "[SQL Server Driver][SQL Server]Line 1: Incorrect syntax near" -forum -thread -showthread	Web	once a day	<a href="#">edit</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> "Powered by WordPress" -html filetype:php -demo -wordpress.org -bugtraq -"[instructions go here]"	Comprehensive	once a day	<a href="#">edit</a>

At the bottom of the table area, there are buttons for "Delete" and "New Alert".

At the bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice: "© 2007 Google - [Google Home](#) - [Google Alerts Help](#) - [Terms of Use](#) - [Privacy Policy](#)".

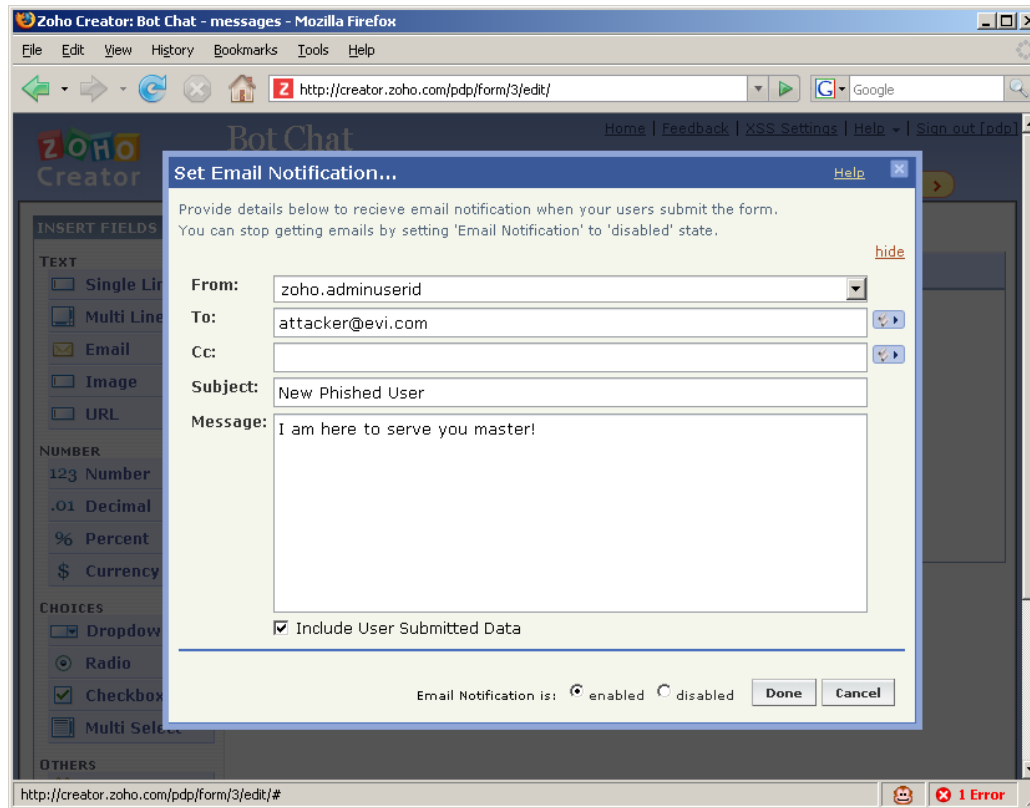


# Wormoholic :: Data storage

- Web2.0 has many services (DabbleDB, Zoho Creator), which allow you to create AJAX applications powered by a backend database
- These services are completely legitimate but can be abused for malicious purposes
- Example:
  - ▶ Viral code communication systems
  - ▶ Easy phishing infrastructures
    - Phish credentials, Upload to database, Send confirmation e-mail, All via AJAX



# Wormoholic :: Zoho Creator

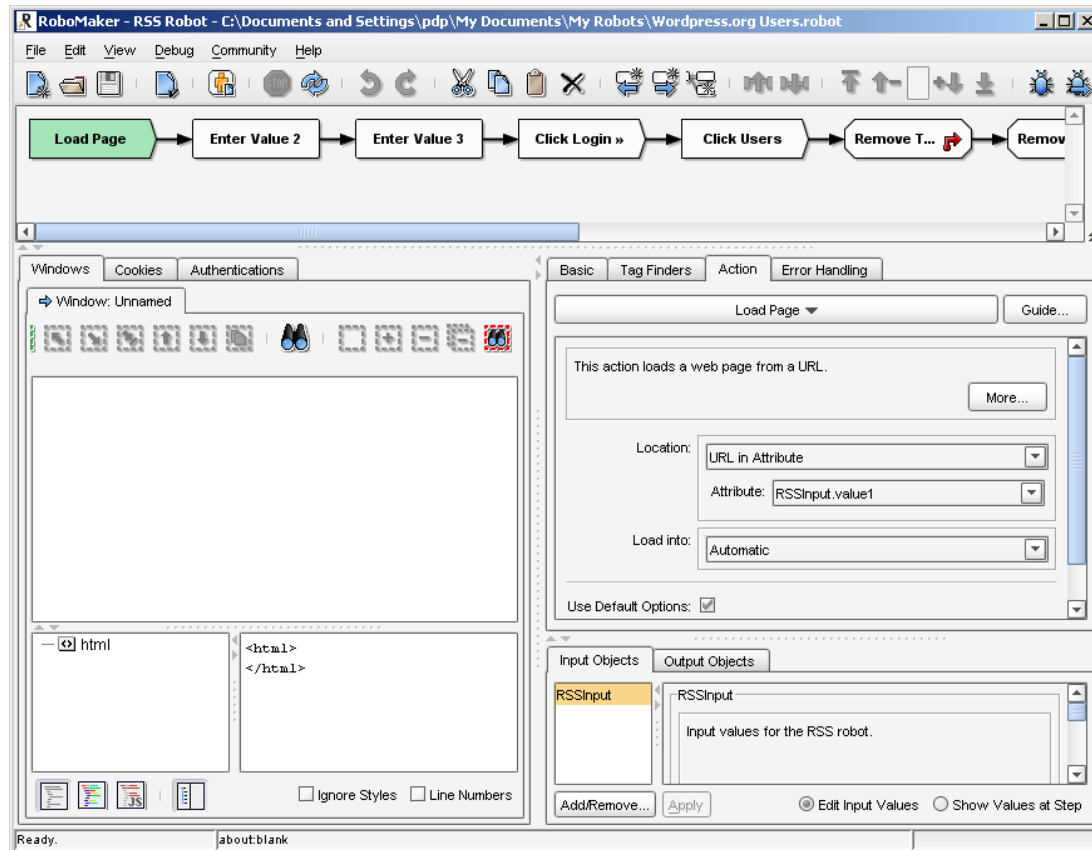


# Wormoholic :: Robots

- Web2.0 centric
- Work where JavaScript fails
- Most vivid members:
  - ▶ Dapper
    - Scrapper
  - ▶ Openkapow
    - Can scrape
    - Can spider
    - Can perform basic and form based authentication
    - Can call XML-RPC and SOAP services
    - Can execute JavaScript (server-side)



# Wormoholic :: Openkapow



# Wormoholic :: Robot Exploits

- Services like Dapper and Openkapow allow attackers to write exploits and deploy them on-line
- Once a target is identified, attackers will ping the robot to do the dirty job
- Robots can be invoked from client-side JavaScript and ActionScript
- Examples:
  - ▶ Wrote one that exploits Wordpress SQL Injection
  - ▶ There is one at Openkapow that logs into any Wordpress and dumps account details



# Wormoholic :: The Conclusion

- You've seen Samy?
- You've seen Yamaner?
- It could have been worse!



# Bookmarks Rider

## ■ The Story:

- ▶ Two ways to make money:
  - By Ad-jacking
  - By hooking users on a botnet

## ■ The Technology:

- ▶ Social Bookmarking Services
- ▶ Javascript
- ▶ XSS





# Bookmarks Rider :: State and Persistence

- What is state?
- What is persistence?
- How to use bookmarks to create semi-persistent state
- Why social bookmarks:
  - ▶ Because they are social
  - ▶ Because people like to click on them

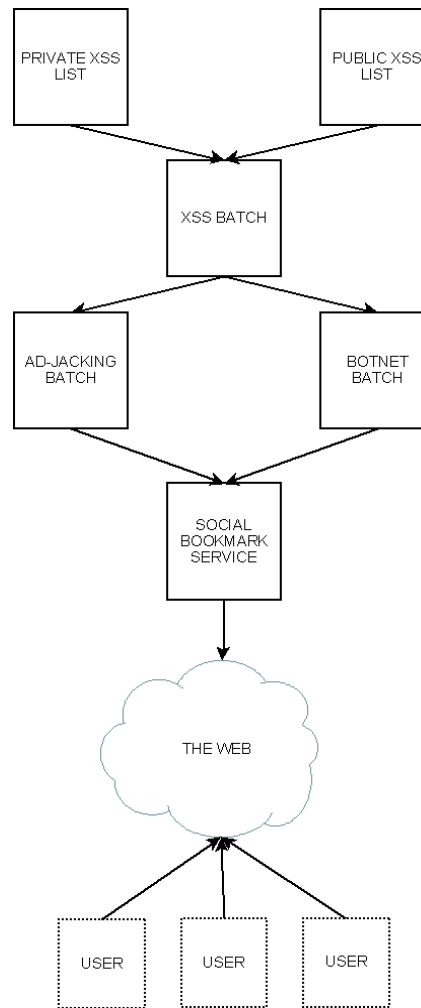


# Bookmarks Rider :: The Trick

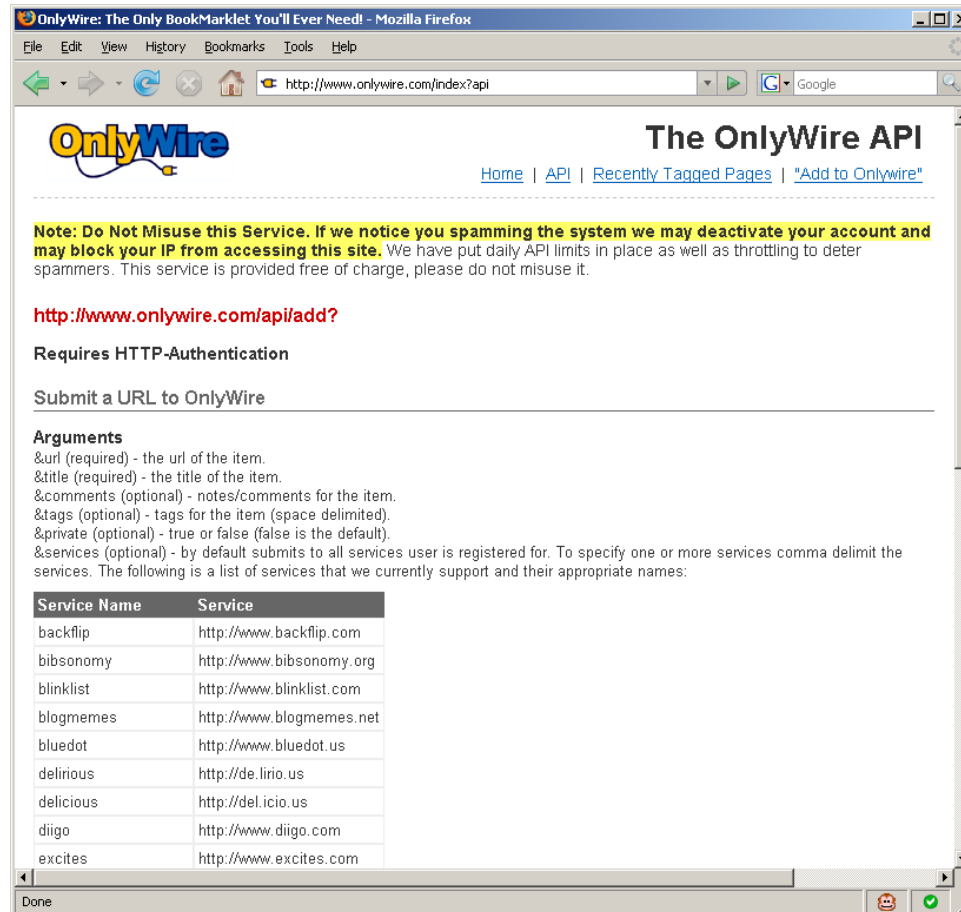
- Find a bunch of XSS vulnerabilities
- Get even more from database like XSSDB.com
- Write two types of payloads:
  - ▶ One to exploit Ad-Jacking
  - ▶ One to exploit the Client
- Send the bookmarks across all social bookmarking sites
- You can use services such as OnlyWire



# Bookmarks Rider :: Process Diagram



# Bookmarks Rider :: OnlyWire



The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window with the title "OnlyWire: The Only BookMarket You'll Ever Need! - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar shows the URL "http://www.onlywire.com/index?api". The page content includes the OnlyWire logo, navigation links for Home, API, Recently Tagged Pages, and "Add to OnlyWire". A prominent note in yellow text warns against spamming the service. Below this, there is a red link to "http://www.onlywire.com/api/add?". The page also states that it requires HTTP authentication and provides a section for submitting a URL to OnlyWire. Under the "Arguments" section, several query parameters are listed with their descriptions. At the bottom, a table lists supported services and their corresponding URLs.

**OnlyWire** The OnlyWire API  
[Home](#) | [API](#) | [Recently Tagged Pages](#) | ["Add to OnlyWire"](#)

**Note: Do Not Misuse this Service. If we notice you spamming the system we may deactivate your account and may block your IP from accessing this site.** We have put daily API limits in place as well as throttling to deter spammers. This service is provided free of charge, please do not misuse it.

<http://www.onlywire.com/api/add?>

Requires HTTP-Authentication

Submit a URL to OnlyWire

**Arguments**  
&url (required) - the url of the item.  
&title (required) - the title of the item.  
&comments (optional) - notes/comments for the item.  
&tags (optional) - tags for the item (space delimited).  
&private (optional) - true or false (false is the default).  
&services (optional) - by default submits to all services user is registered for. To specify one or more services comma delimit the services. The following is a list of services that we currently support and their appropriate names:

Service Name	Service
backflip	http://www.backflip.com
bibsonomy	http://www.bibsonomy.org
blinklist	http://www.blinklist.com
blogmemes	http://www.blogmemes.net
bluedot	http://www.bluedot.us
delirious	http://de.lirio.us
delicious	http://del.icio.us
diigo	http://www.diigo.com
excites	http://www.excites.com



# Bookmarks Rider :: Conclusion

- Attackers can steal vulnerable sites ad revenue
- Attackers can take advantage of the attacked site status and popularity in order to exploit unaware visitors
- Services such as OnlyWire can distribute hundreds of thousands of links a day
- Social sites and bookmarks are also listed in Google and Yahoo search index
  - ▶ Check GNUCITIZEN



# RSS Kingpin

## ■ The Story:

- ▶ Is about splogging

## ■ The Technology:

- ▶ Blogs
- ▶ Feeds
- ▶ Trackbacks
- ▶ Pingbacks
- ▶ Aggregators



# RSS Kingpin :: What is sploggin?

- Splogging is SPAM logging
- It is applicable to Blogs
- It is applicable to data aggregators
- Splogging is suitable to get a large user base
- The user base will subscribe to the splog feeds and redistribute the content even further



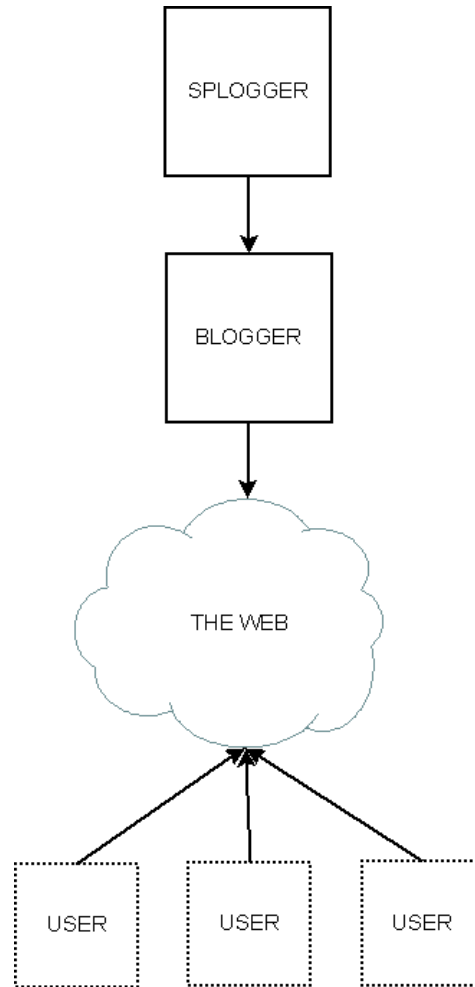
# RSS Kingpin :: Why Splogging?

- To control
- To reach
- To distribute
- For magnitude





# RSS Kingpin :: Splogging in Action



# RSS Kingpin :: How to Splog?

## ■ For Wordpress:

- ▶ Learn python
- ▶ Learn the XML-RPC python bindings

## ■ For Blogger:

- ▶ Learn python
- ▶ Learn the GData python bindings



# RSS Kingpin :: Conclusion

- Attackers can easily distribute malware to millions of machines
- Attackers can easily control splog networks through RSS and ATOM
- Splogging is easy and really hard to fight against
- Splogging = Botnet



# Revealing the hidden Web

## ■ The Story:

- ▶ John needs to penetrate Krenos Network
- ▶ He has one week time to find as much as possible about the target

## ■ The Technology:

- ▶ XML
- ▶ Yahoo My Web Search
- ▶ Yahoo Site Explorer PageData
- ▶ Yahoo Site Explorer Ping



# Revealing the hidden Web :: The Trick

- Get the range of Ips
- Do light scan and discover Web services
- Make sure that you are looking for weird ports such as 8001, 8080, 8888, etc.
- Compile a list of URLs
- Use Yahoo Site Explorer service to ping each URL
- Wait for Yahoo Spider to crawl the hidden resources



# Revealing the hidden Web :: The Trick

- Bulk upload all URLs into Yahoo My Web search service
- Query for interesting data



# Revealing the hidden Web :: Another trick

- Spam search engines by:
  - ▶ Making use of Dark SEO techniques with:
    - Blogger
    - Google Pages
- Spam social bookmarking sites
- Spam social sites
- Wait for search engines to spider
- Query



# Revealing the hidden Web :: Conclusion

- Legit services can be abuse for malicious purposes
- Attackers can harvest data by making use of powerful infrastructures in undesired ways
- All it is required is a little bit of imagination from the attacker's side
- Everything else is free





## **...more**

- Profiling targets by watching their Web activities
- Snoop onto targets
- GEO Position Mobile phones
- GEO Position individuals
- More service abuse
- More vulnerabilities
- More Insecure



# Conclusions

- Web2.0 security is not only about AJAX
- In Web2.0, security problems are not necessarily data validation problems
- Sometimes, it is irrelevant whether servers are vulnerable or not. The data can be retrieved anyway
- Non-executable stacks and other types of software security features are only helpful when attackers want to compromise your computer. Your data is still on the Web



# More Conclusions

- It is all about who has the information
- It is all about who can find the information
- Information is everything. It is the most valuable digital asset
- Web2.0 makes attackers lives a lot easier
- Web2.0 is not bad but new security problems will emerge
- When must learn how to see to the general picture

