

# Securing Open Source

Adapting Secure Software Practices to Open Source Projects

Alex Beaver  
alexbeaver.com  
/in/alex-beaver

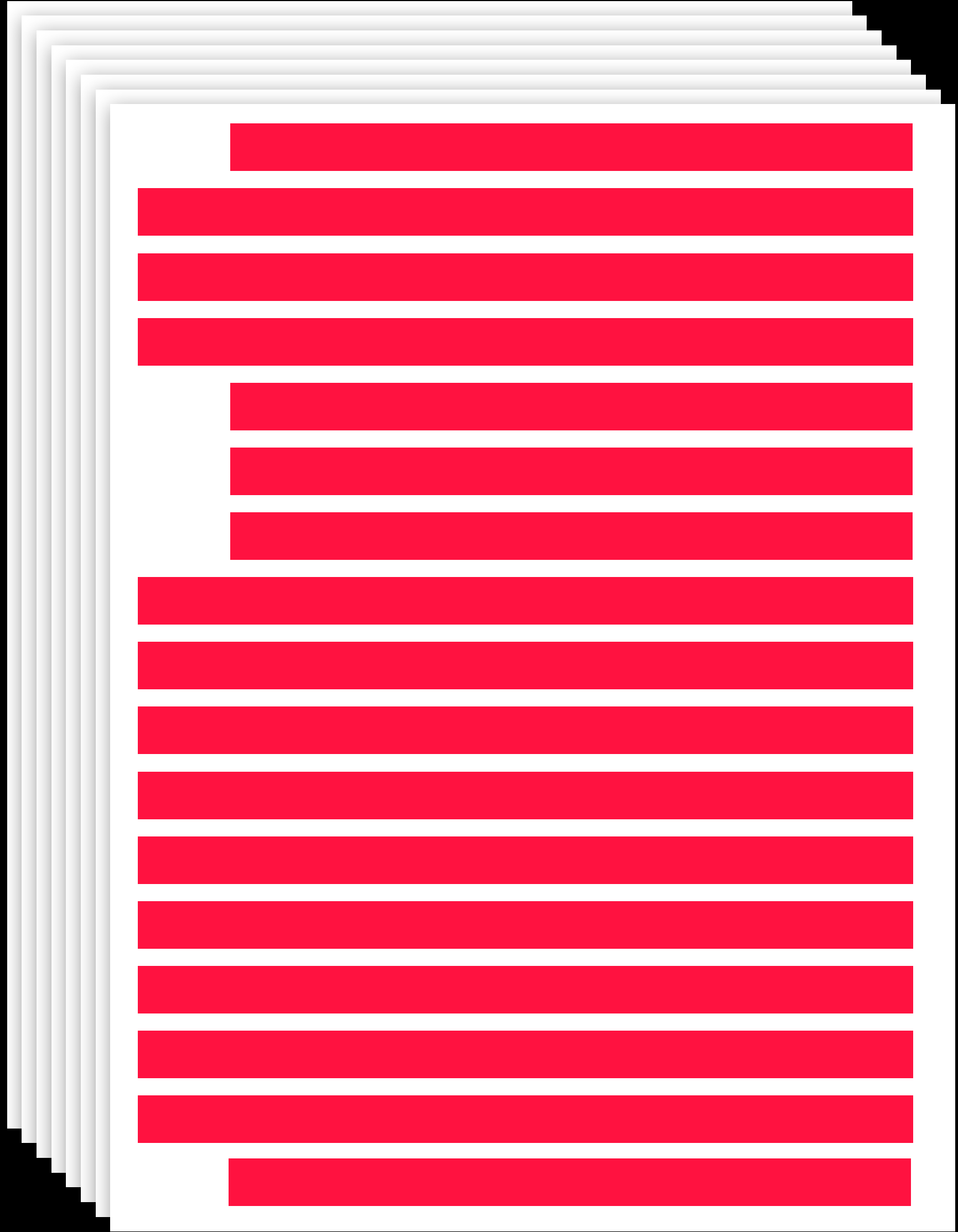


4 JUL LOG 4 JUL

4 JUL LOG 4 JUL

4 JUL LOG 4 JUL

POLICIES  
STANDARDS  
BEST PRACTICES



WHAT SHOULD FOSS  
MAINTAINERS TO DO  
TO SECURE PROJECTS?



# Phases

How do you write a secure app?

What policies should FOSS projects use to guide security?

What tools can help maintainers with security?



1

FOSS vs  
Enterprise

2

Application  
Development

3

Release  
Management



DEVELOP SECURE SOFTWARE



# DEVELOP SECURE SOFTWARE

SOFTWARE

TRAINING

PENTESTS

SDLC

PSIRT





FOSS maintainers have fewer  
resources and less control  
than enterprises



1

FOSS vs  
Enterprise

2

Application  
Development

3

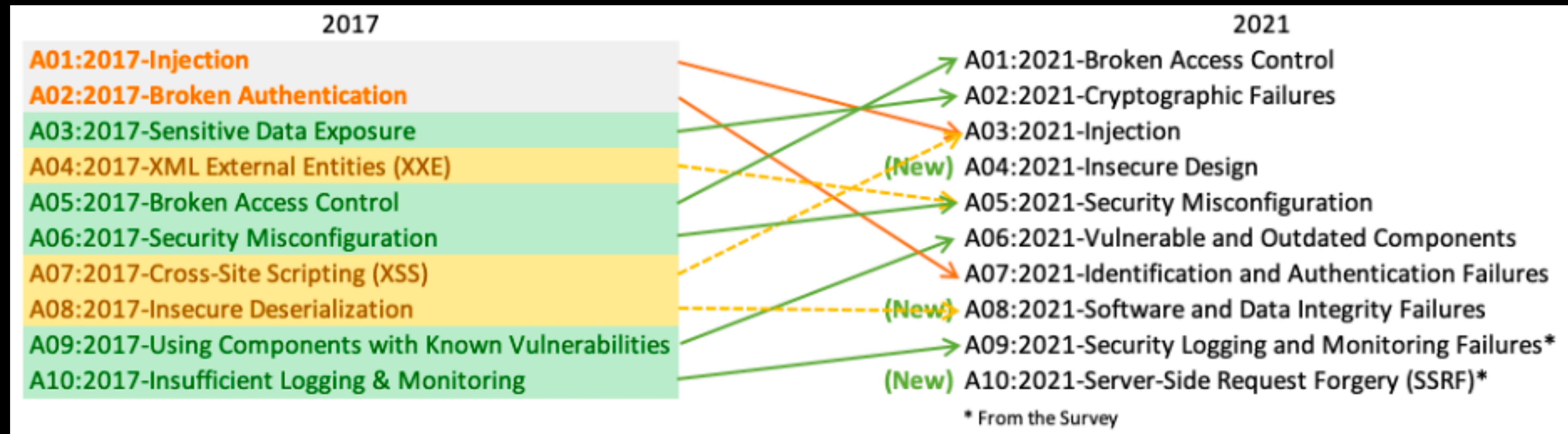
Release  
Management



Software Design:  
Vital to Secure Software  
Hard to Verify



# Baselines



[beave.rs/owasp10](https://beave.rs/owasp10)





# tensorflow

An Open Source Machine Learning Framework for Everyone

tensorflow

<https://github.com/tensorflow/tensorflow>

Version 2.15.0

Provide Feedback



## Package information

- Visibility: public
- Forks count: 89,000
- Stars count: 178,000
- Default branch: master
- Open issues count: 2,050
- Watchers count: 7,690

- Contributors: 300
- Blog: <http://www.tensorflow.org>
- Public Repos Count: 109

### Trusty Score

5

10

Repo Activity Score

6.9

Author Activity Score

How do we calculate this score?  
We use statistical analysis to rate packages from 0-10. Higher ratings typically indicate safer packages.

[Learn More](#)

### Provenance

The Python ecosystem does not support source of origin or build provenance verification, so Trusty is unable to verify that the package is related to its claimed repository.

### Shared Repositories

Possible StarJack attack for package "tensorflow" The following packages list the same repository.

[View full packages list →](#)

### Similarly Named Packages

All Clear. We were not able to locate packages with similar names.

- tensorplot (Score 1.7)
- tensorflow1 (Score N/A)
- ytensorflow (Score N/A)
- tensorflowjs (Score N/A)

[Notice at collection](#) [Your Privacy Choices](#)

# Static AST

Looks at source code

Builds a model of the flow

Looks for known vulnerable patterns

High false positive rate

*GitHub Code Scanning*

# Dynamic AST

Runs the application and looks for vulnerabilities

Fuzzing, Injection, etc.

Looks for likely vulnerabilities

May miss coverage

*GitLab DAST, OWASP ZAP*



1

FOSS vs  
Enterprise

2

Application  
Development

3

Release  
Management



Some of the greatest risks to FOSS security are at release

Track/Level	Requirements
Build L0	(none)
Build L1	Provenance showing how the package was built
Build L2	Signed provenance, generated by a hosted build platform
Build L3	Hardened build platform

## Build L1: Provenance exists

Summary	Package has provenance showing how it was built. Can be used to prevent mistakes but is trivial to bypass or forge.
Intended for	Projects and organizations wanting to easily and quickly gain some benefits of SLSA—other than tamper protection—without changing their build workflows.
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Software producer follows a consistent build process so that others can form expectations about what a “correct” build looks like.</li> <li>• <b>Provenance</b> exists describing how the artifact was built, including the build platform, build process, and top-level inputs.</li> <li>• Software producer distributes provenance to consumers, preferably using a convention determined by the package ecosystem.</li> </ul>
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Makes it easier for both producers and consumers to debug, patch, rebuild, and/or analyze the software by knowing its precise source version and build process.</li> <li>• With <b>verification</b>, prevents mistakes during the release process, such as building from a commit that is not present in the upstream repo.</li> <li>• Aids organizations in creating an inventory of software and build platforms used across a variety of teams.</li> </ul>
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provenance may be incomplete and/or unsigned at L1. Higher levels require more complete and trustworthy provenance.</li> </ul>

# SLSA

# Dependabot

Dependabot alerts / #72

## Babel vulnerable to arbitrary code execution when compiling specifically crafted malicious code #72

Dismiss alert

**Open** Opened 2 months ago on @babel/traverse (npm) · rngame/package-lock.json

Upgrade @babel/traverse to fix 1 Dependabot alert in rngame/package-lock.json

Upgrade @babel/traverse to version 7.23.2 or later. For example:

```
"dependencies": {
  "@babel/traverse": ">=7.23.2"
}
```

```
"devDependencies": {
  "@babel/traverse": ">=7.23.2"
}
```

Create Dependabot security update

Package	Affected versions	Patched version
@babel/traverse (npm)	< 7.23.2	7.23.2

### Impact

Using Babel to compile code that was specifically crafted by an attacker can lead to arbitrary code execution during compilation, when using plugins that rely on the `path.evaluate()` or `path.evaluateTruthy()` internal Babel methods.

Known affected plugins are:

- @babel/plugin-transform-runtime

Severity

**Critical** 9.3 / 10

CVSS base metrics	
Attack vector	Local
Attack complexity	Low
Privileges required	None
User interaction	None
Scope	Changed
Confidentiality	High
Integrity	High
Availability	High

CVSS:3.1/AV:L/AC:L/PR:N/UI:N/S:C/H/I:H/A:H

Tags

Runtime dependency Patch available

Weaknesses

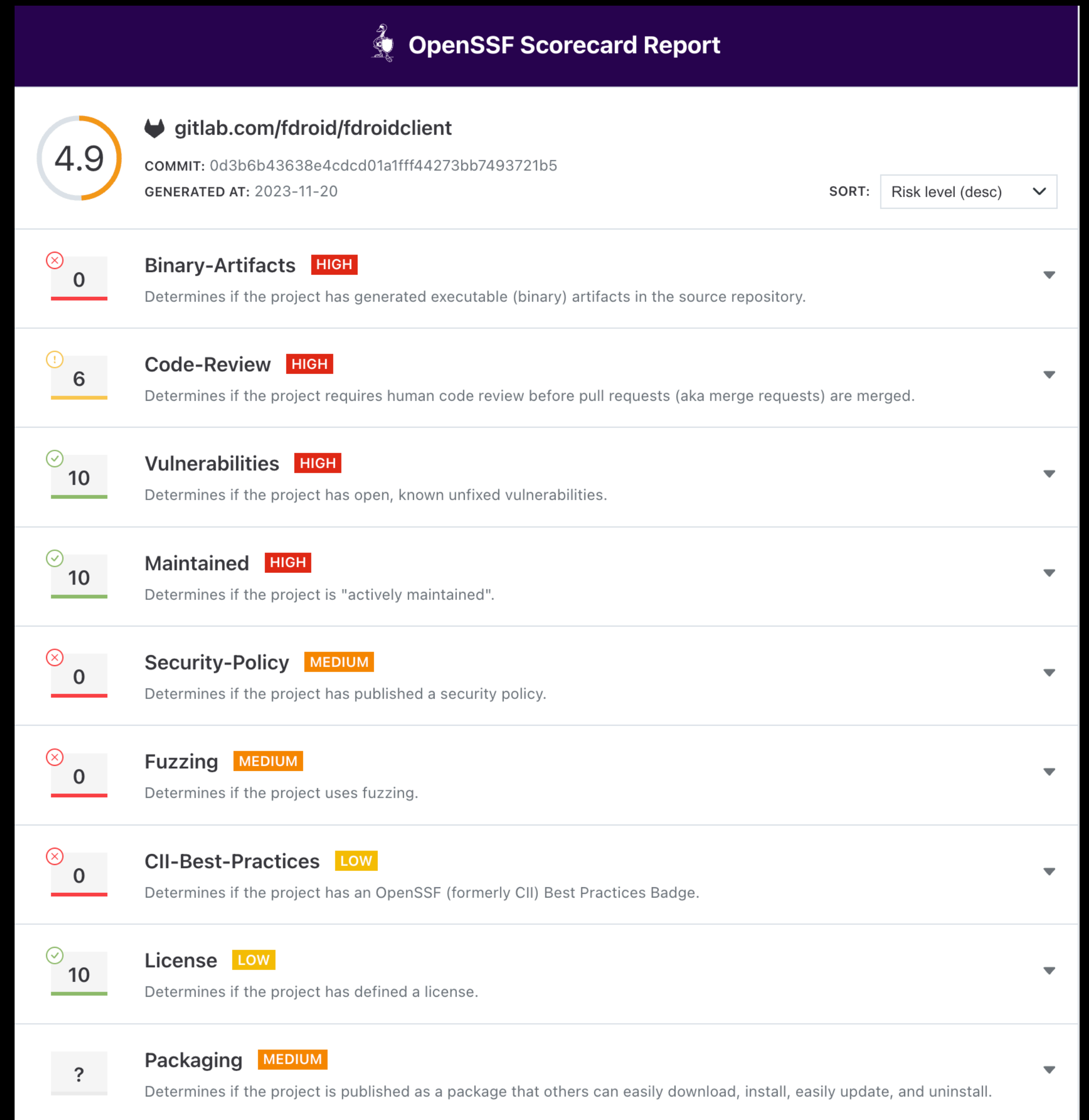
CWE-184

CWE-697

CVE ID

CVE-2023-45133

# OpenSSF Scorecard

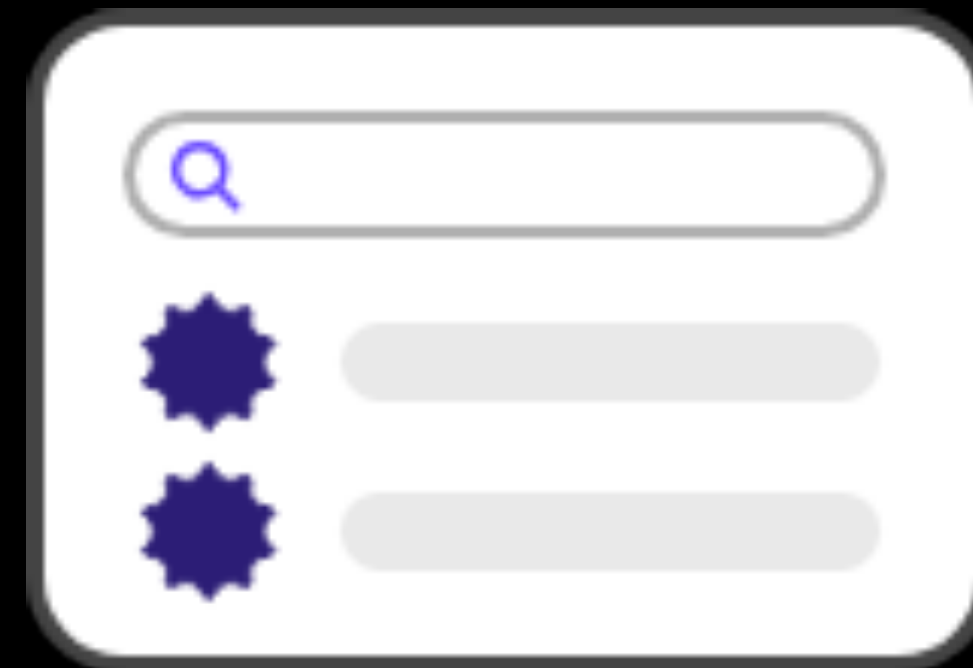


<https://securityscorecards.dev/viewer/?uri=gitlab.com/fdroid/fdroidclient>

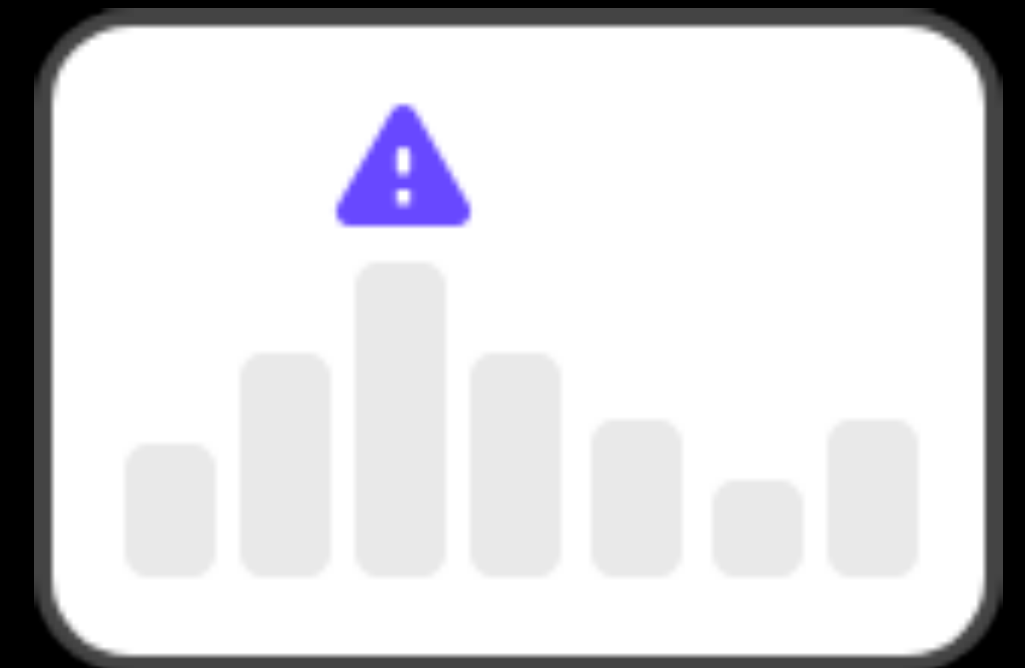
# Sigstore



Sign



Verify



Monitor

1

FOSS vs  
Enterprise

2

Application  
Development

3

Release  
Management



# Next Steps

How is AI going to help or hurt secure development?

Are there open source alternatives to the proprietary software mentioned?

Is there any way that maintainers can help contributors with secure design?



[alexbeaver.com](http://alexbeaver.com)

Connect With Me

 [/in/alex-beaver](https://www.linkedin.com/in/alex-beaver)

 [@alexcbeaver](https://twitter.com/alexcbeaver)