

CS 542 – Introduction to Software Security

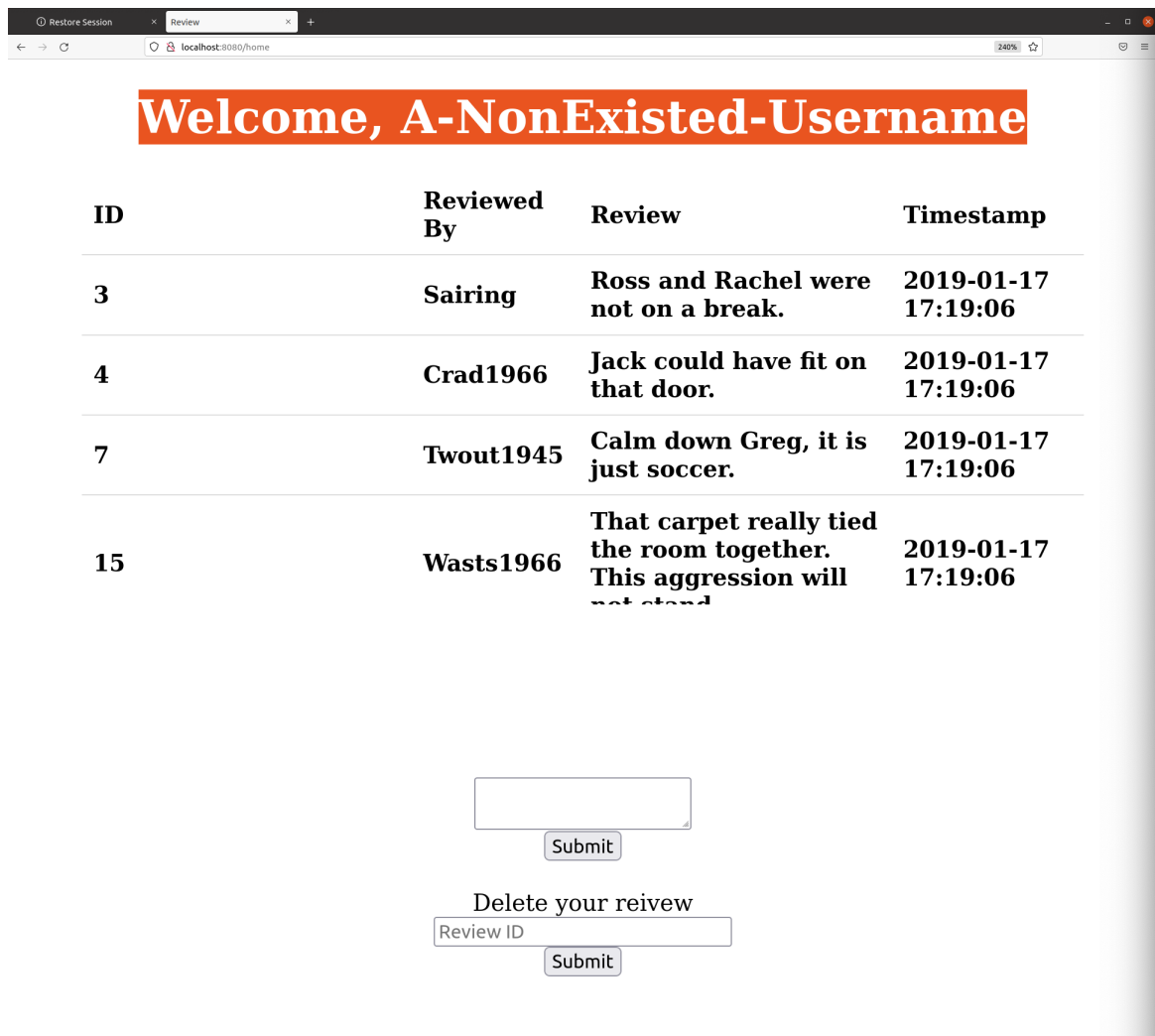
Exercise on Vulnerability Assessment using FPVA (Part2)

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1 Vulnerability 1

This screenshot shows how we attack the login system by exploiting the login SQL vulnerability. We can easily login with a username that does not exist in the user database at all.



1.1 Full details

The login function does not use a prepared statement to execute the query. To be able to attack the system, we can enter a password that, when inserted into the SQL query, will ensure that the WHERE clause is always satisfied. We can achieve it by passing in ' OR 'a' = 'a. The first single quote will match the one in the query and allow us to introduce a new OR logic term. The

statement 'a' = 'a' will always be true. Therefore, the WHERE clause is always true, the returned count will always be greater than 0 and the SQL query will always be executed without errors. Therefore, a user can login with any username even though it does not exist.

1.2 Cause

The root cause is that the programs parse the attacker's input, which allows unexpected result to be generated. The attacker can close the previous single quote and add malicious input.

1.3 Proposed fix

We mitigate by using the Prepared Statement. We put two question mark placeholders for username and password in the query. Then, we set the input values with setString() function. In this way, the input is not parsed so that the user is not allowed to interact with the SQL query. The malicious input will only be treated as a strange string.

1.4 Actual Fix

As proposed. Below is the code scripts.

```
1 package security.servlets;
2
3 import java.io.IOException;
4 import javax.servlet.http.HttpServlet;
5 import javax.servlet.http.HttpServletRequest;
6 import javax.servlet.http.HttpServletResponse;
7 import javax.servlet.http.Cookie;
8 import javax.servlet.ServletException;
9 import java.sql.SQLException;
10 import java.sql.ResultSet;
11 import java.util.UUID;
12
13 import security.helper.SqlQuery;
14 import security.helper.Config;
15 import security.helper.CookieHelper;
16
17 import java.sql.Connection;
18 import java.sql.DriverManager;
19 import java.sql.Statement;
20 import java.sql.PreparedStatement;
21
22 /**
23  * This class handles the login logic in the /login route.
24  *
25  * @author kivolowitz
26  */
27 public class LoginServlet extends HttpServlet {
28
29     /**
30      * (non-Javadoc)
31      * This method is invoked whenever a get request is sent to jetty with a
32      * url of
33      * /login.
34      * It will check for existing cookies. If there are some and they are valid
35      * then the user
36      * is redirected to their home page. If the cookies are invalid or missing,
37      * they
38      * are redirected
39      * to sign in.
40      *
41      * @param HttpServletRequest request - request to be handled
42      */
43 }
```

```

41     * @param HttpServletResponse response - response to be returned
42     */
43     @Override
44     public void doGet(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
45         throws ServletException, IOException {
46         if (CookieHelper.checkCookies(request))
47             response.sendRedirect("/home");
48         else
49             response.sendRedirect("/index.html");
50     }
51     /*
52     * (non-Javadoc)
53     * Most likely this servlet will be activated via a post request. The
54     * submit
55     * button on index.html triggers a post
56     * request which should have username and password data. If the username or
57     * password are null or empty strings, the
58     * user will be prompted to reattempt logging in.
59     *
60     * A simple sql query checks whether or not the user should be
61     * authenticated.
62     * The database is stored in /WEB-INF/db/application.db.
63     * The usernames and passwords are stored as plaintext in the USERS table
64     * of the
65     * database.
66     *
67     * A successful login will create two cookies, a cookie named "username"
68     * with
69     * the value being the username, and a
70     * cookie named the value of username, with a random UUID as the session
71     * token.
72     * Those together form the authentication
73     * method for this application. The details of the session ID (the cookie
74     * containing the UUID) will be written into
75     * the server's filesystem under /WEB-INF/cookies/<username>.txt. Those
76     * cookies
77     * are then added to the response and
78     * returned to the user, redirecting them to /home which will then check
79     * the
80     * validity of the cookies.
81     *
82     * @param HttpServletRequest request - request to be handled
83     *
84     * @param HttpServletResponse response - response to be returned
85     */
86     @Override
87     public void doPost(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
88         throws ServletException, IOException {
89         String username = request.getParameter("username");
90         String password = request.getParameter("password");
91         if (username == null || username.equals("") || password == null ||
92             password.equals("")) {
93             response.sendRedirect("/index.html");
94             return;
95         }
96
97         // String sqlQuery = "SELECT COUNT(*) AS count FROM USERS WHERE
98         // USERNAME == '"
99         // + username + "' AND password == '" + password + "'";

```

```

93
94      // This code block is how we did to mitigate the SQL Injection
          Vulnerability.
95      // We use the PreparedStatement module by importing java.sql.
96      // PreparedStatement; This will reserve spaces in the query statement
          for data input and make the SQL parse the original query without
          the input data from the user. And then later compare the input from
          the user with the database we have.
97      // We put two question mark placeholders for username and password in
          the query. Then, we set the input values with setString().
98      //In this way, the input is not parsed so that the user is not allowed
          to interact with the SQL query. The malicious input is simply a
          strange string.
99
100      String DB_URL = "jdbc:sqlite:/home/user/Desktop/EXERCISES/5.0.1_FPVA/
          jetty/webapps/root/WEB-INF/db/application.db";
101      PreparedStatement pstmt = null;
102      try {
103          Connection c = DriverManager.getConnection(DB_URL);
104          pstmt = c.prepareStatement("SELECT COUNT(*) AS count FROM USERS
          WHERE USERNAME = ? AND password = ?");
105          pstmt.setString(1, username);
106          pstmt.setString(2, password);
107      } catch (Exception e) {
108      }
109
110      boolean login = false;
111      SqlQuery sql = new SqlQuery();
112
113      try {
114          // ResultSet results = sql.query(sqlQuery);
115          // System.out.println(pstmt);
116
117          ResultSet results = pstmt.executeQuery();
118          String queryString = results.getStatement().toString();
119          System.out.println(queryString);
120
121          if (results.getInt("count") > 0)
122              login = true;
123      } catch (SQLException e) {
124          request.setAttribute("error", e.toString());
125          request.getRequestDispatcher("/WEB-INF/jsp/error.jsp").forward(
              request, response);
126          return;
127      }
128      if (login) {
129          try {
130              Cookie cookieSession = new Cookie(username, UUID.randomUUID().
                  toString());
131              Cookie cookieUsername = new Cookie("username", username);
132              cookieSession.setMaxAge(Config.TIMEOUT);
133              cookieUsername.setMaxAge(Config.TIMEOUT);
134              response.addCookie(cookieSession);
135              response.addCookie(cookieUsername);
136              CookieHelper.writeCookie(cookieSession, username);
137              response.sendRedirect("/home");
138              System.out.println("Logged in successfully");
139          } catch (Exception e) {
140              request.setAttribute("error", e.toString());
141              request.getRequestDispatcher("/WEB-INF/jsp/error.jsp").forward(
                  request, response);
142              return;
143          }
144      }

```

```
144         } else {  
145             response.sendRedirect("/index.html");  
146         }  
147         sql.close();  
148     }  
149 }
```

2 List of bugs

1. Any user can delete reviews owned by others without permission/authorization. In principle, users can only delete those reviews added by themselves.

3 Code exploration

Delete review and insert review do not lead SQL injection vulnerability since they have used PreparedStatement in the SQLQuery.java.